HARRISON WEST A Neighborhood on the National Register of Historic Places Since 1976



CCAD STUDENTS, HARRISON WEST WORKING FOR ART IN PARK Harrison West, Short North neighbors to select art for new riverfront park

Submited by MATTHEW WILLIAMS HWS Parks Committee

HARRISON WEST is one neighborhood that is really serious about its art.

The Harrison West Society has teamed with the Columbus College of Art and Design for a student competition for five art pieces to be installed in Harrison Park, our newest park, located on the east bank of the Olentangy River.

"The entire committee felt that using student art would resonate with the community. We approached the Columbus College of Art and Design because it is among the foremost art schools in the country, and it's chock full of talent," Art Committee Chair Matthew Williams explained.

"We contacted local artist Steve Bush, who teaches at CCAD. When Steve agreed to organize the competition at the school, the project took off."

\$15,000 in prize money

The five winning designs will earn \$3,000 each from the Harrison West Society.

Harrison West and its neighbors will vote on the first two works of art at a community open house and reception on February 28, 2009.

The competition and installation of the five art pieces will take approximately two years.

Harrison Park will occupy 4.3 acres along the Olentangy River in Harrison West.

In addition to public art, the park will feature a gazebo and a playground for children. The park is part of a multirecreational trail that will link with existing parks along the river, making it one piece of the larger riverfront park system.

The Harrison West Society invites our Short North neighbors to vote on two art proposals for Harrison Park, currently under construction in Harrison West on the east bank of the Olentangy.

You will be voting on art created by Columbus College of Art and Design students through a competition coordinated by the Harrison West Society and the faculty and administration of CCAD. Winners will be awarded \$3,000 for their designs.

Voting will take place at an open house from noon until 8:00 p.m. on February 28, 2009 at the Harrison Park Community Center.

After the voting, everyone is invited to a reception from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. in

order to celebrate the completion of the first phase of the project.

Money for the awards is being raised through grant applications and private donations. The Short North Foundation has agreed to accept and manage donations for the art.

See HARRISON PARK on page 8

Harrison West Annual Holiday Party

Friends & Neighbors,

I would like to take this special time of year to thank you all for being our friends, our community leaders, and our awesome neighbors. Each and every one of you plays a special role in the substance and vitality of our lives and neighborhoods. Bravo to your dedication and beloved spirit that has made Harrison West, and the entire Short North such a special place to live.

HARRISON WEST SOCIETY

Please see if you can join us for some Holiday Cheer on Thursday, December 18th, 6:00 p.m., at the Harrison Park Center, 575 West First Avenue, for our annual Holiday Party.

Best Wishes for the Holiday Season, Rob Harris

HOLIDAY PARTY Thursday, December 18th 6 PM Harrison Park Center 575 West First Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43215

Bring a side dish to share with friends & neighbors Beverages will be provided

Meeting minutes

November 19, 2008

Submitted by TIM BLEDSOE, HWS Secretary

Following are unofficial Harrison West Society meeting minutes for November 2008. Official minutes are available on our website.

Call to order 7:00 p.m.

- Quorum present: 20
- Membership: 321

Meeting minutes

• October minutes were presented. Motion to accept made by Matthew Williams; seconded. Passed.

Treasurer's report

- + \$2,328.40 Checking
- + \$4,593.28 Savings
- \$2,689.61 CDs

• Insurance policy needs financial audit report.

Annual HWS holiday party

The Harrison West Society Social Committee proposed a motion to hold the annual HWS Holiday Party on Thursday, December 18 from 6:00-10:00 p.m. at the Harrison Park Center. The Society will go into joint agreement with Wagenbrenner Development to work together on providing drinks and reservation of the center. We proposed to do a potluck this year to bring us 'back home for the holidays.' We requested funds not to exceed \$500.00 and the support to obtain corporate sponsors of our neighborhood event. Motion was made by Tim Bledsoe; seconded by Nick Kentris. Passed.

Harrison Park Art Fund motions

• The HWS Parks Committee moved that the Harrison West Society join with the Short North Foundation in the effort to raise funds for the Harrison Park Art Fund. In addition to helping raise funds, the Short North Foundation has expressed a willingness to serve as the fiduciary agent who will receive and manage donations to the Fund and to serve as general counsel on the project.

The Short North Foundation will not be responsible for performing any physical labor for the competition, managing it, or publicizing it. Those duties will be solely the responsibility of the Harrison West Society. The fund will conclude on May 1, 2010, with all remaining funds being returned to the office of the Harrison West Society Treasurer.

Motion was made by Matthew Williams; seconded by Bob Mangia. Passed.

• The Harrison West Society Executive Committee moved that the Harrison West Society donate \$1,000.00 to the Harrison Park Art Fund.

The Harrison West Society Parks Committee, under the direction of Veda Gilp and Debbie Colvin, raised the funds through advertising sponsorships for the 2006 Summer Garden Tour. The funds were always earmarked for use toward a community park, so we feel that allocating it to support the Harrison Park Art Fund is an appropriate use.

Motion was made by Veda Gilp; seconded by Nick Kentris. Passed.

• The HWS Communication Committee moved that 25% of future newsletter profits be allocated on a quarterly basis toward the Harrison Park Art Fund, not to exceed the \$15,000.00 total for award payments (five awards at \$3,000.00 each).

Motion was made by Rob Harris; seconded by Pastor Richard Morris. Passed.

• The HWS Parks Committee moved that the Society conduct a Harrison Park Art Fund open house during which residents and business owners of the Short North neighborhoods are invited to review submissions to the art competition and vote for their favorite designs.

In addition, board members of the Harrison West Society, Short North Foundation and Friends of Goodale Park; and officers of the Victorian Village Society and Italian Village Society are invited to review and vote on submissions.

The two designs with the most votes will be constructed and installed in Harrison Park. The open house will run from noon until 6 p.m. on February 28, 2009 and will be followed by reception from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m.

Both functions will be held in the Harrison Park Center, which has been reserved through the generosity of Wagenbrenner Development.

It is expected that during the open house, three to five works will be presented in each of two categories, with one winner to be selected in each of the two categories.

Motion was made by Matthew William;, seconded by Bob Mangia. Passed.

• The HWS Social Committee Chair moved that the Society provide drinks and light refreshments (not to exceed \$500.00)



St Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

Weekend Masses Sunday 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Masses During the Week Tuesday through Friday 6 p.m.

386 Buttles Avenue





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NationalCity.com



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December 2008

at the Harrison Park Art Fund reception following the open house noted previously.

Motion was made by Tim Bledsoe; seconded by Nick Kentris. Passed.

Columbus budget presentation

Gary Cavin, representing the city of Columbus, spoke about the 2009 budget. He explained the shortfall in tax collection and how the budget may be cut. There has been a committee formed to come up with the best solutions to fill the budget shortfall. Findings will be released in February.

Flytown presentation

A presentation, headed by Kathy Spatz, Columbus of Recreation and Parks, was given with members of the Flytown. They wish to move the Flytown historic marker, presently in Goodale Park, to Wheeler Park.

They presented a conceptual drawing of the marker with surrounding brick walls. We suggested they contact Godman Guild for they were a big part of the Flytown.

The Society has offered to work with the group in the future.

Battelle

Dee Dee Monaco and Charles Thomas, from Battelle Security, were in attendance to discuss how Battelle is handling local crime issues and the homeless that reside along the Olentangy.

They said that there was not much crime on their property. They also spoke about how Battelle cooperated with OSU and local area businesses to let each other know what problems were occurring in and around the area.

It was an interesting and informative discussion and we look forward to continue

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our working relationship with Battelle in the future.

Crime report

Police Officer Smith discussed how low the crime rate is in our area. Even with the spike in recent weeks regarding theft from vehicles, other crime is virtually non-existent and we still have one of the lowest crime rates in the city.

The homeless on the river bank was brought up by a member. Officer Smith said the problem is that if they don't want help they can't be forced to leave the area for no crime has been attributed to them. Erica Clark Jones is the representative from the city when it comes to the homeless and Officer Smith said he would have a meeting with her.

Adjournment 9:00 p.m.



HARRISON WEST NEWS

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HARRISON WEST SOCIETY PO BOX 163442 COLUMBUS OH 43216-3442

www.harrisonwest.org **WEB** newsletter@harrrisonwest.org **EMAIL**

Monthly meeting

The Harrison West Society meets the third Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m., at Harrison Park Community Center, 575 West 1st Avenue.

Officers

President Rob Harris president@harrisonwest.org

Vice President Mary Funk vicepresident@harrisonwest.org

Secretary Tim Bledsoe secretary@harrisonwest.org

Treasurer Dick Montgomery treasurer@harrisonwest.org

Editorial and advertising

Editorial Dwight Phelps newsletter@harrsonwest.org

Advertising Pastor Richard Morris newsletter@harrsonwest.org

Advertising deadline is the third Friday of the month preceding publication month.

Email ads as PDF or TIF files in grayscale. The *Harrison West News* reserves the right to decline any advertising that does not meet editorial and advertising guidelines.

Publication

The *Harrison West News* is distributed on the second Saturday of each month by **Reliable Advertising & Distributing Co.**, P.O. Box 8027, Columbus, Ohio 43201-0027, (614) 294-1629.

HWN is printed by **Cyrus Printing**, 1146 North 4th Street, Columbus, OH 43201-3604, (614) 421-9900.

The *Harrison West News* is produced by an all volunteer staff, and while accuracy is paramount, the reader is advised that the Harrison West Society, Inc. is not responsible for errors.

Newsletter volunteers

HWN is looking for volunteers to contribute articles. Email **newsletter@harrsonwest.org**.



GIANT EAGLE EYES ARENA DISTRICT **Big bird migrating south?**

Submitted by ROB HARRIS, HWS President

HARRISON WEST—On October 13, 2008, members of the Harrison West Society executive committee met with Boyce Safford, Development Director of the city of Columbus, to discuss the future relocation of the Thurber Village Giant Eagle supermarket.

Giant Eagle is planning to move their Thurber Village store to another location, possibly in the Arena District, as part of their goal to double the store size, which they say can't be done in their existing Thurber Village site.

Columbus is offering Casto Development Harrison West's tax increment financing (TIF) toward construction of a parking garage—and various other road and utility work-for their relocation in the Arena District.

Residents of the Short North have questioned the appropriateness of using tax dollars to benefit a private corporate entity. Columbus has responded that the Arena District parking structure will be a public garage, though final details have not been ironed out.

In addition, the city said it is offering TIF incentives in an attempt to keep the store within the city boundaries. Without the TIF incentive, they argue, Giant Eagle could relocate the store to the Grandview Yard development on the former site of the Big Bear Grandview warehouse; which is not in the city.

Residents have expressed a legitimate concern that having to wade into the traffic in an area saturated with sports and entertainment complexes will turn a weekly trip to the grocery store into a major headache.

Though the proposed move is a short one-just a few blocks south—the relocation will create major access issues and have a negative financial impact on our neighborhood. The physical barrier wall of the interstate and the forboding and dangerous on-andoff ramp intersection crossings will serve as a barrier to our pedestrian oriented neighborhood.

The Thurber Village site is in our TIF district, so the taxes that Giant Eagle pays at their current location contribute directly to infrastructure improvements in our neighborhood, including our parks.

When the store relocates to the Arena District, the taxes they pay will support Arena District projects instead, and we will see a significant drop in yearly TIF funds for our neighborhood.

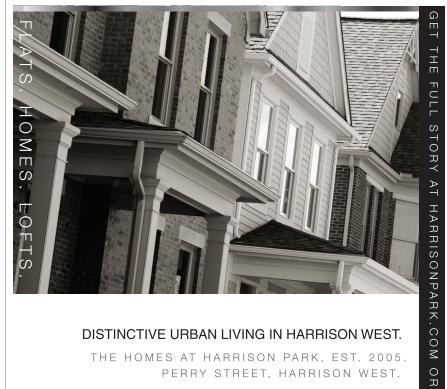
The Harrison West Society has expressed its concerns to the city. While we strongly support free enterprise, and agree that businesses are entitled to relocate, we also recognize that the loss of a convenient, neighborhood grocery store will do significant harm to our community. In the same spirit of free enterprise, the Society has requested that any agreement between Columbus and Giant Eagle, Inc. not include a noncompete clause. Excluding such a clause will allow another grocery store to move into the Thurber Village location.

The small number of households in the Arena District cannot alone support a Giant Eagle store of the proposed size. Such a store will only survive if our community shops there. It's in our power to convince Giant Eagle that relocating our grocery store to the Arena District will prove to be an unfortunate move both for them and for us.

The Harrison West Society encourages residents in our community to write to Giant Eagle, Inc. to protest the planned move and to encourage them to maintain their presence in the Thurber Village Shopping Center.

GIANT EAGLE INC

101 Kappa Dr • Pittsburgh PA 15238 (800) 553-2324 TOLL FREE (412) 968-1617 FAX



DISTINCTIVE URBAN LIVING IN HARRISON WEST.

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HARRISONPARK FLATS. HOMES. LOFTS.

CITY, REDEFINED.

BY CALLING ERIC AT 488.0671

A PROUD MEMBER OF THE HARRISON WEST SOCIETY

short North Supporting Cast · Lodging Victorian Village Guest House

Background

When we were dating almost 20 years ago, Jeff and I stayed in many bed and breakfasts, small historic inns and guest houses. Jeff lived in Eastern Pennsylvania and I lived in Columbus and we would often plan trips to meet half way in between. These experiences were at the root of my desire to someday own an inn or bed and breakfast.

In 2003, we stayed at a guest house in Burlington, Vermont and it, too, was a huge inspiration for what we have created, because it was a loft apartment above a garage, in an historic neighborhood near downtown Burlington and the University of Vermont.

We considered creating such a space above our detached garage in Upper Arlington, but the city would not accommodate our request. That is when we started looking at Victorian Village.

When we moved to the Village in 2004, we wanted a property that would allow us to build a carriage house—something that one day might become our "guest house" venture. When renovating our house on Neil Avenue, we built the new carriage house in our back yard, which included an apartment on the second floor.

Starting the business

In the spring of 2008, Jeff and I began to lay the ground work for opening a guest house as a business. My motivation was three-fold: I was tapping into my long-held desire to run this type of a business, modeled after places we had stayed in our travels over the years. Second, after living in Victorian Village for four years, I really wanted to become more a part of this business community and to own and grow a business that would help support other businesses in the area and the Short North Arts District. Third, I was interested in starting a business that I could get up and running while maintaining my "day" job in the banking industry.

In June 2008, Victorian Village Guest House was opened for our first guests.

Since then, we have had the pleasure of hosting a variety of guests, most of whom have come to Columbus and the Short North as a tourist destination. They are coming because they love historic neighborhoods or are interested in the galleries and unique shops of the Short North. We also have had a number of guests who used to live here and are returning to the neighborhood and Columbus to visit friends and family.



VICTORIAN VILLAGE GUEST HOUSE

Lisa Craig Morton, Owner 1149 Neil Avenue • 43201 (614) 294-2819

EMAIL

info@victorianvillageguesthouse.com

WEBSITE

www.victorianvillageguesthouse.com

FROM THE SHORT NORTH ARTS DISTRICT Parking 101: Driving or cycling

Where to park your car?

Some areas of the Short North require residential parking permits. Make sure you look for signs designating these zones. Parking is all the easier when you know your options!

Meters are available:

the length of N. High Street (from Nationwide Boulevard to Fifth Avenue),
on Park Street (from Buttles Avenue to Vine Street),

on Goodale Street (West of Park Street) bordering Goodale Park, and
around the North Market.

City lots are located at:

• 630 N. High Street (by Union Station Video Cafe)

• N. High Street at E. Lincoln Street (across from RJ Snapper's and Rigsby's)

• N. High Street at E. 2nd Avenue (across from The Lamp Shade and Counter Culture)

• 1155 N. High Street (by Magnolia Thunderpussy and Skully's)

Garages and additional parking located at:

• Convention Center on Goodale Street (East of High Street),

Arena District off Nationwide Boulevard,
OSU South Campus Gateway at 11th and

- High Street, and
- 775 N. High Street behind Axis Nightclub

Where to park your bike?

As part of our green incentive, we have added 41 bike bollards to encourage cyclist to come out. Some stores and restaurants also offer special deals to patrons who bike in the Short North. As we study cycling trends in the area and determine where bike parking is most needed we will add more bollards.

You can park your bike at:

- one of the six bollards in the parking lot next to Mac's Cafe
- one of the five bollards near the east entrance of Goodale Park
- one of the three bollards near the East side of the pond in Goodale Park
- of the pond in Goodale Par
- one of the three bollards near the North
- side of the pond in Goodale Park • one of the two bollards just of High Street on East Russell Street
- one of the two bollards just off High
- Street on West Russell Street
- one of the two bollards just off High
- Street on West Hubbard Street
- one of the two bollards just off High
- Street on West 1st Street
- one of the two bollards just off High
- Street on East 2nd Street

short north supporting cast · restaurant **Do 'Dinner' at Spinelli's Deli**

ECONOMIC DOWNTURN? Not at *Spinelli's Deli* in Victorian Village. They're expanding everything, right into Dinner!

The long-time neighborhood favorite breakfast and lunch place is serving until 9 p.m., offering up pasta and those tasty designer flatbread pizzas. Soups, salads and hot sandwiches, too. And you still can get breakfast and lunch anytime of the day.

Joe Spinelli and Bill Ward worked up their new menu with lots of guidance from their customers. In fact, Spinelli's fan Nathan Bird will be eating free pizzas for a year because he created the winning recipe in their Spinelli's Pizza contest.

It's the Sunflower Seed Chicken Caesar Flatbread Pizza.

Spinelli said they wanted specialty pizzas that were more upscale that the ordinary pep and mushroom pie.

"We figured most people would order a salad and a pizza for dinner." Spinelli added, "and that's what's happening. They're getting a meal, and many of them are eating it here, though a high percentage of our after-8 p.m. customers are headed home to the couch with their dinner."

Spinelli's Catering Division is experiencing an upturn also, according to Spinelli.

"The economy might be bad," Spinelli said, "but you cannot have a lunch meeting without lunch.

"Our catering is doing well because our value is very high. You might not be able to budget a catered meal from an expensive restaurant, but Spinelli's is just as tasty, is more fun and interesting, and is lots easier on your bottom line."

SPINELLI'S DELI

Joe Spinelli, Partner-Owner 767 Neil Avenue • 43215 (614) 563-1557

HOURS

Mon-Fri 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sat-Sun 7 a.m. to 9 a.m.

WEBSITE www.Spinellisdeli.com

Christmas concerts at the Statehouse

Visitors will be treated to a lunchhour concert as Ohio choirs and musical groups celebrate and sing the songs of the season. Musical performances are scheduled each week day at noon through December 19 in the Crypt of the Ohio Statehouse and are open to the public.

Remaining performances include:

• **12/15** Johnstown-Monroe High School Choirs and Grandview Heights High School – The Grandview Singers

• **12/16** Dublin Scioto High School Choirs

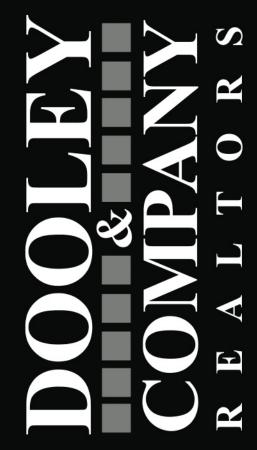
• **12/17** Walnut Ridge High School String Orchestra

• 12/18 Jackson Center High School Choir

• **12/19** Bexley High School Vocal Ensemble

www.the-village-people.com





Harrison West Society annual membership renewal

AS THE YEAR ENDS, so do memberships to the Harrison West Society.

Thank you for your support this past year.

We have a lot of exciting things planned for 2009, and we hope we can count on your support again.

Your membership fees help our Society pursue the goals of our neighborhood and allow us to hold neighborhood events that bring us together, strengthen our voice, and make ours a safe, welcoming place to live.

Plans for Harrison Park, our newest neighborhood park, are well under way and include a gazebo, public art and a playground as well as an extension of the Olentangy



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Life Insurance underwritten by Nationwide Life Insurance Compar Nationwide Mutual Insurance Com and Affiliated Companies. Home C Columbus, OH 43215-2220. River recreation path. We'll be overseeing the park's development.

We're also discussing with the city a plan to designate Harrison West as a conservation district and are weighing the benefits of becoming an area commission, a move that will help protect our neighborhood.

Development of Goudy Field continues with our Society's input.

(Did you know that Harrison West crosses Olentangy River Road?)

The Harrison Park condo community will continue to grow next year. So will our work with the city on curbing crime and calming traffic. The success of our initiatives can only be enhanced by a large, diverse, paid membership.

We are currently planning to hold our annual holiday party on December 19 at the Harrison Park Community Center.

Our community parties are always great fun; join us to meet new neighbors, rekindle

HWS volunteer opportunities

Budget Help with setting up Society budget

Membership Help recruit new members

Newsletter Advertising Work with HWN advertisers

Newsletter Distribution Help distribute HWN to area businesses

Newsletter Reporting Write and help proof articles

Parks Help oversee our local parks Planning and Development Keep friendships with old neighbors, and catch up with former neighbors who have moved away.

In the HWN...

10 YEARS AGO

VOL. IX, NO. 12

- UIRF application for (what is now) Side-by-Side Park
- Battelle landscaping presented
- Bike path between 3rd and 5th avenues announced
- Harrison West Holiday Lights
 contest

5 YEARS AGO

VOL. XIV, NO. 12

- First viewing of the new plans for the AC Humko site
- Harrison West Holiday Lights contest

track of local zoning issues

Policy Review changes to

Constitution, By-Laws and Policies Social Set up monthly programs and

special events

TIF Task Force Monitor and report

on Tax Incremental Financing events

Transportation Keep track of traffic and transportation issues

Other What is your area of interest?

HARRISON WEST SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION							
Name(s)*	Renewing Member NEW Member						
	Sustaining \$25.00 Sustaining						
	\$15.00 Household \$30.00 Patron						
Address*	\$ 5.00 Senior (60+) Other \$						
	Voting (Resident, Owner or Business in Harrison West)						
Telephone	Non-Voting (Other)						
Email	Make dues payable to Harrison West Society and mail to: HARRISON WEST SOCIETY						
*Name(s) and Address are required. Membership dues are for the calendar year.	PO BOX 163442 COLUMBUS OH 43216-3442						

Harrison Park under construction

See HARRISON WEST, SHORT NORTH NEIGHBORS... on page 1

Background information

• Money for the awards is being raised through grant applications and private donations.

• Donations to the Harrison Park Art Fund can be mailed to the Short North Foundation / 120 W. Goodale / Columbus, OH 43215. Checks should be made payable to "The Short North Foundation" and should include a notation that the money is intended for the Harrison Park Art Fund. Donations are tax deductible.

• The Harrison West Parks Committee feels strongly that the success of Side-by-Side Park in Harrison West, which includes two sculptures, demonstrates an excitement in the community for public art and has included art in the new park's design from the earliest stages of its development.

HWS JANUARY CALENDAR

28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

01/07 HWS Executive Committee meeting 01/12 *Harrison West News* publication deadline 01/21 HWS Member meeting

First Brethren Church Reaching out to all with God's Love Sunday 9:20 a.m. Sunday School

10:20 a.m.Refreshment
Gathering10:40 a.m.Morning Worship
5:00 p.m.5:00 p.m.Bible StudyTuesday6:00 p.m.6:30 p.m.Youth Meeting

Richard Morris, Pastor John and Betty Jordan, Assistants



First Brethren Church 473 West Third Avenue (614) 299-3663 • Awards for the first two art pieces will be presented at the March 18, 2009 Harrison West Society meeting.

• Harrison West is a neighborhood on the National Register of Historic Places.

• Preliminary budget for the five pieces is approximately \$70,000, most of which will come from the neighborhood TIF funds allocated to building the park. • The two members of the Park Art Committee are Matthew Williams and Veda Gilp.

• Harrison Park will become part of the Olentangy multi-recreational trail that reaches from south of Downtown to north of Worthington and links with existing parks along the river, making it a completer link of the larger metro riverfront park system.

BEFORE

From Harrison Park looking southeast on December 1, 2008. Loewendick begins removal of final structure before Harrison Park construction starts. Color photo available at **www.harrisonwest.org**.





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Ken Wightman kwight@ee.net 294-5335