

Elmwood Central Park Planning Survey

These ideas were generated during a community meeting (07/16/09) regarding the future of Central Park and its relationship to the community. Please select your favorite six (6) ideas/suggestions, where #1 is your favorite, #2 is your second favorite, and so on up to #6. Return this survey to Farmers State Bank or Elmnet Office.

NOTE: Ideas 30, 32, and 34 are deliberately not included as they were grouped together with identical ideas.

Top 6	IDEAS
	1. Replant trees native to Illinois, as an educational opportunity for the community and school.
	2. Make all plans available in City Hall so individuals, families, and organizations can "adopt" a tree as financial support for Central Park.
	3. Plan and plant flower garden in Northeast corner of Central Park.
	4. Establish a tree nursery somewhere in the community to grow trees for availability of the community as needed: e.g., replacing damaged trees, as an educational opportunity, to place in right-of-way for new homes, etc.
	5. Prepare and execute a Master Plan for Tree Management that considers the entire community: Central Park, other city parks, and road right-of-way.
	6. Allow community to vote for different types of tree that might be planted in Central Park.
	7. Plan for Central Park include broader economic development for the Central Business District.
	8. Assure that the Pioneers statue is the focal point and that its aesthetics are considered in any plans.
	9. Planning for Central Park considers and accommodates annuals festivals and events.
	10. Include a water feature.
	11. Plant white oaks (Illinois State Tree) and disease resistant Elm trees.
	12. Assign Central Park re-planting to a committee established by City Council; should include local businesses.
	13. Replant trees as they were and keep it the planting plans simple.
	14. Use the Elmwood Community Foundation as a coordinating and donations organization.
	15. Develop a City-appointed Tree Management Advisory Committee consisting of citizens who have special experience, expertise, and interests in planting and maintaing of trees/plantings; will advise the City, and work with community and professional arborists.
	16. To highlight the Pioneers statue, include plantings around the statue that including plants that would have been present when the pioneers were here, such as native prairie grasses, flowers, etc.
	17. Preserve the natural and seasonal changes from the trees - leave Central Park natural during the fall and spring, and after changes from storm damage.
	18. Bury or hide utilities and utility access features (used for festivals, etc.) to not interfere with Central Park aesthetics.
	19. Assure trees at full growth won't endanger the statue.
	20. Utilize arborists and landscape experts to assist with planning for Central Park.
	21. Allow the community offer a list of potential members for Tree Management Advisory Committee.
	22. Contract an arborist, on an on-going basis, to monitor health of trees, assess damaged and diseased trees, and recommend care.
	23. Establish an Elmwood Park District.
	24. Investigate federal, state, and private grants/loans to help support Central Park and other Tree Management efforts.
	25. Develop a Master Plan for Central Park: not too big, simple and pristine; to also include trees, flowers, and grass.
	26. Involve youth groups - FFA, school - on any committees.
	27. The City, committees, and/or advisory groups more readily and routinely communicate plans and decisions to the community with respect to parks and tree management.
	28. Plant mature trees.
	29. When restoring Central Park, involve Boy Scouts.
	31. Construct a Donor Wall, or some such specified location for recognition of contributions: do not "sell" plaques for individual trees to donors.
	33. Establish a Donor Sidewalk, allowing contributors to "buy a brick" to support Central Park; donors would be able to have their names or other messages etched into the bricks installed in the Park.
	35. Construct a brick pathway to and around the Pioneers statue, using a Donor Sidewalk Program (related to Idea # 33).
	36. Include other local, historic artifacts (light posts, other Lorado Taft statues, etc.) in Central Park.
	37. Create a central fund to accept donations private donations to support Elmwood Tree Management.