

# **Brockton Community Park**

## IDEAS FOR A PROGRAM TO BUILD A BEAUTIFUL PARK FOR ALL THE RESIDENTS OF TRILOGY AT RIO VISTA

Presented by the Friends and Neighbors of Brockton Park





#### The Advantages of a Planned Park...

**IT HAS BECOME APPARENT** to the residents of Trilogy, as well as to the HOA, that the large areas of grass that exist in our community have become a liability. They are tremendous waterwasters and are of little use to the majority of property owners.

Some folks feel these areas should be allocated to the various clubs that request space, as needed. But eventually the disadvantages of this idea would become obvious—before long you'd have a confusing mix of spaces, resembling a county fair.

Trilogy residents deserve better. We, the friends and neighbors of the Brockton/Rutland park area would like to suggest a planned park, tentatively called the **Brockton Community Park**. This is one of the largest areas of grass at TRV. It should be re-imagined by talented landscapers who have the knowhow to create a beautiful park.

Take a look at the photo below, known by some as "Frontier Park" because it is next to a switching station for Frontier Communications, on the corner of Summerset and Black Diamond Drive.



"FRONTIER PARK" – A park of minimalist design. The pergola in the middle, with its slender latticework on top, provides little shade in the middle of the day.

This space was inappropriate for a house, so Shea put in something "quick and dirty." Yes, it's better than an empty lot, but the "park" is just uninviting,



and we have yet to see anyone using it. The pergola is so cheaply made, some of the wood in the latticework is already beginning to warp. Is this what the bean counters have in mind for Brockton Park?



**THERE IS NO DENYING** that the original builders of Trilogy at Rio Vista had a vision that this facility should be a place of beauty. And it truly is that. From the grand entrance at Summerset Road to the scenic lakes throughout, TRV has always presented the highest standards of landscaping design.

So it makes sense for us to continue these high standards when the opportunity to build a new park comes along. Such a park should have the same visual appeal as the rest of Trilogy.

**BUT CAN WE AFFORD IT?** That's the big question. Are we aspiring to a Mercedes on a Yugo budget? This is, after all, not a backyard landscaping project. It's a public park!

Obviously, we need some creative thinking here. To make **Brockton Community Park** come alive, we must break the project down into smaller, more affordable increments. And we'll need the HOA to take a leap of faith and get on board with us. It won't be easy, but we think it can be done.





### Brockton Community Park— An Idea Whose Time Has Come?



**OKAY, YOU DECIDE.** To anyone who is reading this—what would you rather see when you're strolling or driving down Summerset or Brockton Place: the grassy expanse at left, or the park envisioned in the photo illustration below?

**Next Question:** Is there a way this park can be constructed within our existing budgetary constraints?

It is an idea worth investigating. Is there a realistic plan that would make such a park possible? (See next page).



**VIEW FROM BROCKTON PLACE** looking toward Summerset, one of many design possibilities. Some trees have been removed to better visualize

distant objects. This photo illustration was created using existing trees, bushes, groundcover, benches, etc. that were photographed here at Trilogy.



#### 🌬 🏶 🗣 Seven Steps to a Finished Park 🦠



THE BEST WAY TO TACKLE a big project is to break it up into smaller pieces. The Friends and Neighbors of Brockton Park would like to suggest the following seven steps to make this park a truly beautiful addition to Trilogy at Rio Vista:



Try to determine the number of clubs or recreational facilities that would comfortably fit into the park. Take into account anticipated participants, area needed, aesthetics, noise factor, etc.



Once approval is received from the HOA, contact a professional landscaper/park designer and show our ideas. Get a price estimate for his/her services. If possible, get a rough estimate for steps 3 to 6.



Begin grading, including the proper rises along the edge of the park. Talk to Shea about letting us have some of the dirt they are piling up for future use in the new sections.



Install a water service piping system and a drainage facility. At this point, if costs are escalating, we might have to think again about the need for drinking fountains, but proper drainage is a must.



Have the walkway paved. This would likely be one of the major expenses of the project. It might be necessary to pave only half the park at a time. Or to even design a shorter walkway.



Install shade trees, bushes, flowers and other plantings, plus a minimal grass area, per the professional landscaper's recommendations. Time to complete this phase can be extended into Step 7.



One by one, construct the various clubs and/or recreational facilities that were approved in Step 1. Finishing touches would include signage, installation of benches, dog cleanup stations, etc.

**CLOSING THOUGHTS:** A suggestion has been made to offer commemorative plaques to Trilogy residents, with their family name or the name of a loved one inscribed for the donation of a bench, a decorative fountain, outdoor tables, etc.

We welcome your thoughts or suggestions on how we can move this project forward. Participation from Trilogy residents will truly help to make this **Brockton Community Park.** 

Perhaps the most difficult part of getting started will be Step 1-choosing which clubs or facilities would be appropriate for the park. Requests have been made for a basketball court or other sports facilities. Please remember that this is a residential area with homeowners who are 55+. Most of us would not appreciate having a sports arena in our backyard.

That said, there are guite a number of low-impact activities here at TRV that would fit nicely into this park. In the end, it will be the Trilogy HOA that must determine which features would prevail.





These ideas respectfully submitted by

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