WE ARE CHALLENGING OUR PARK TO DO MORE, FOR MORE PEOPLE.

Public Space East mobilized last summer to deliver a project that will promote design equity, build common ground, and boost the civic and environmental health of San Antonio’s Eastside community.

The Dignowity Park Project unifies two segregated parks to create a green oasis for San Antonio’s core communities. The 9-acre hilltop haven overlooks all of the city skyline, a site is unlike any other in San Antonio.

Growing fast and increasingly diverse, no community in our city has needed a great public park more than the Eastside does now. We need to do all we can to encourage positive, face-to-face activity. The site is becoming more active each year thanks to District 2, service providers and community groups that invest in great programming. Building on what is working, the park can become a gamechanging public asset.

Despite the return of activity, our surveys show that the the park has a long way to go. An Eastpoint survey also showed that 63% of its residents did not feel parks and playgrounds were in good shape. Despite formidable improvement in recent years, 54% of residents of the Eastside Promise Zone did not feel safe walking alone in their neighborhood.

Residents old and new need safe common ground, and achieving it begins in great public spaces.

1 UNITE THE TWO PARKS.
Maximize the potential of the park by stitching two sides together across Burnet St, allowing for a generous hike & bike trail and eliminating unsafe "enclaves."

2 IT’S ABOUT THE VIEW.
The view is what people love about this place. Eliminate sky clutter, light-polluting fixtures, and design spaces for full enjoyment of the view.

3 ACTIVATE!
Make the park a regular part of everyone’s life rituals: create relevance for the elderly, families, teachers with students, performers, professionals, people-watchers and nature-lovers.

The Dignowity Park Project
A Community Vision for Lockwood & Dignowity Parks
HILLTOP PLAYSCAPE

Hilltop Playscape is one of a kind place nestled at the top of Lockwood Park, overlooking downtown San Antonio. Natural elements, sculpted landforms, engaging structures, and thoughtful, community-driven design would welcome families and neighbors to connect and discover.

“As a parent of small children, we don’t get much use out of the playground as it is. The equipment is worn out and sad... but more than that, it’s not age appropriate. We need bucket swings, regular swings, and fencing if children under 6 are going to be able to enjoy it. The biggest issue of all is the shade. By noon in the summer time, the equipment is too hot to play on.”

“An upgrade to the current playground in Lockwood Park has the potential to make the park more appealing and attractive to children, families, parents, and grandparents that live in the neighborhood. Parks are meant to be used by all generations.”

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HUMANE EDGES

Gracious, walkable edges and crossings welcome people into the park and integrate well with neighborhood streetscapes. The sidewalk is widened and lined with new trees, seating and human-scaled path lights.

Along Hackberry St., a “road diet” creates safer pedestrian access to the park by replacing one lane of traffic with low planted buffer integrated with new parking. A promenade with infrastructure for market stalls is anchored by a small snack kiosk on one end and a public restroom on the other. The bus stop is integrated with an updated shelter and B-cycle rental.

Along Olive St., new parking and a wide landscape buffer transform the sidewalk into a promenade for enjoying the skyline.

Along Nolan St., the hike & bike trail veers close to the street to offer an elevated alternative path off of heavy car traffic. Site-based art provides the park with an identity along this highly visible edge.

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