



UPDATED JANUARY 2019

# PROJECT SUMMARY

A quick summary of the Akron Parks Challenge



Cadillac Triangle Prototyping Event

## CHALLENGE GOALS

The goal of the Akron Parks Challenge is to engage communities around neighborhood parks to create active and vibrant public spaces. The Challenge asks neighborhood residents and organizations to give their ideas for improving their parks and requires them to show how they will help engage their community around the process. The selected applicants would work with the Akron Parks Collaborative to ask the neighborhood what they want and determine how the city would spend \$100,000 for improvements to their park. Partners for the 2018 Akron Parks Challenge include the City of Akron, Akron Civic Commons, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and the Akron Parks Collaborative.

The Challenge was announced in April. Sixty-eight applications were submitted, representing all ten wards. Two parks were to be selected based on a number of factors including ability to engage the community, involvement potential, equity and potential impact level.



Reservoir Park Prototyping Event

## PARKS CHALLENGE RECIPIENTS

Thanks to additional financial support from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, three parks were chosen:

- 1) Reservoir Park in Goodyear Heights
- 2) Cadillac Triangle Park in West Akron
- 3) Chestnut Ridge Park in Kenmore

# COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

Through online surveys, door to door conversations with neighbors, events to prototype ideas and talk to people, and public meetings, each neighborhood decided:



## RESERVOIR PARK

- A walking trail
- An updated playground for both toddlers and older children
- A plaza space for everyday and event use

## CHESTNUT RIDGE

- Electricity for events at the amphitheater
- Grills
- A bathroom and drinking fountain (necessary for events)
- Updated playground
- Accessible Trail from parking lot to pavilion and amphitheater



## CADILLAC TRIANGLE PARK

- A beautiful, serene seating area to relax, read, interact with neighbors
- A place where events can be held (possible structure)
- A small area for young children to play (possibly a few small climbing structures)



"This project is the catalyst that moves forward the dynamics that renovate, educate, and spark opportunities that bond neighborhoods and build strong communities. Through this public/private partnership, we are laying the foundation for a vibrant, healthy and growing community for generations to come."

— RICK BUCHANAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CADILLAC BOULEVARD NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION