



Conceptual Site Plan - Frances Smart Park Renovation

*not to scale

Frances Smart Park Renovation

Creating a Destination

Frances Smart Park is a passive park space located in the heart of Fulshear. Aside from occasional use for picnics under the existing gazebo, the approximate 1- acre park is largely underutilized. The historic 'Switch House', currently located on site, will be relocated closer to its original site near the railroad as a component of a new commercial development.

The proposed concept envisions a complete renovation of the park to create a plaza environment that could facilitate both formal events and passive visitation. A playground is included in the concept that is recommended to include conservative play elements that do not distract from other features on site.

To create a destination the concept capitalizes on the FM 359 frontage by moving parking to the rear of the property. This orientation showcases a formal plaza with a space for a memorial or public art display. During future design phases, the City will seek opportunities to create monuments, memorials, or historical components throughout the plaza area.

The proposed parking lot could be shared with future adjacent development if desired. Coordination with developers will determine the final orientation of the parking lot.



Founder's Plaza in Downtown Conroe, Texas (above and below) incorporates a mixture of paving options and formal landscape elements to create a multi-use space for events.





- New Park Features**
- Open Plays Area
 - Nature-Base Playground
 - Picnic Areas
 - Gaga Ball Pit
 - New Pavilion
 - Tennis Court
 - Pickleball Courts (3)
 - Recreation Center (Alternative Option)

Conceptual Site Plan - Irene Stern Park Renovation

*not to scale

Irene Stern Park Renovation

While already a great park, the recent acquisition of an additional acre of park land offers the opportunity for expanded recreation to the west. The goal for improvements to Irene Stern Park is to provide new amenities that aren't necessarily available at other parks and consideration of more indoor recreation activities.

The concept at left takes advantage of the new property with the addition of a walking trail that meanders through the site. A new nature-based playground is shown with a variety of unique play structures, an obstacle course, and slide built into a berm. Picnic areas and open space are also shown in the new areas of the park. Existing playgrounds are retained in this concept while new features in the area include a Gaga Ball pit, three Pickleball courts, a Tennis court, and a new pavilion. The existing storage building has been removed in this concept. Opportunities for public art will be explored that may include murals or sculptural elements on walls and spaces of proposed buildings.

The existing Community Center still has usable life left in it, however there is an opportunity to consider using the available space to develop a recreation center for a variety of indoor activities.

The existing accessory building will remain at the park until the Public Works Department acquires a replacement facility. The existing butterfly garden is planned for relocation to the new park area to the northwest.

With a reconfiguration of parking, a modest recreation facility of approximately 21,800 square feet could be developed. The space could accommodate the following amenities:

- Lobby/Reception Area
- Gymnasium
- Gym Storage
- Indoor Track (second floor, 3 lanes)
- Fitness Room
- Locker Rooms (Men's, Women's, 5 Stalls, 3 Sinks, Showers)
- Utility, Electrical, Mechanical, IT, Circulation

