



photo credit: Melissa McMaisters

# Emerald View Park has joined our family

You support a view with 1.5 million visitors each year

**T**hanks to a new partnership with Mount Washington Community Development Corporation (MWCDC) as well as the City of Pittsburgh, your support has taken us to Mt. Washington. Emerald View Park is made up of three historic parks (Grandview, Olympia and Mount Washington), wooded hillsides and the Grand View Scenic Byway. Created in 2005 and named a regional park in 2007, Emerald View boasts some of the most famous views of Pittsburgh.

**We** work to continue to implement the masterplan already in place and plan for the future. Talia Piazza, MWCDC Board

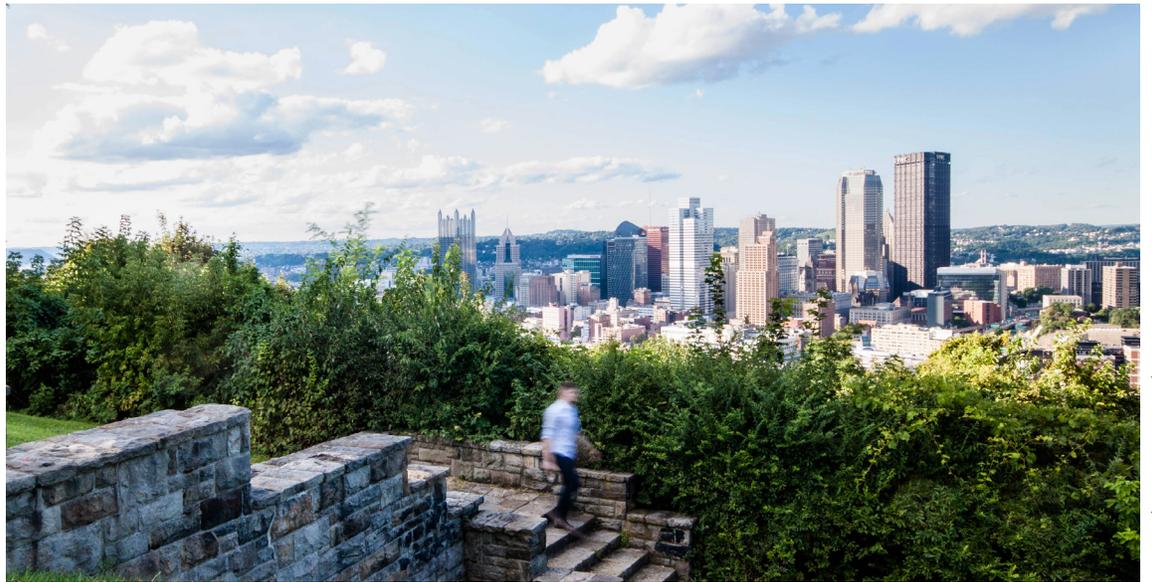


photo credit: Jeremy Marshall

*"It was time for Emerald View Park to live within the family of other regional parks"* – Kathryn Hunninen, Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy Senior Manager of Special Initiatives

Vice President and Emerald View Park Committee Chair, was an advocate in facilitating the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy's relationship with her favorite park. "Emerald View Park is truly the gem of Mount Washington. The park plays a huge role in making our

urban neighborhood a beautiful community – I'm excited to see how Emerald View Park will continue to grow and become even more of an asset for our community."

**You** can find all the amenities of the other regional parks on

the Mount. It contains 12 miles of trails which offer unique views of your beautiful city. You'll find Roving Art Cart visits, Saturday night movies and Sunday yoga. Trail guide and more information at [PittsburghParks.org/emerald-view-park](http://PittsburghParks.org/emerald-view-park).



## ENGAGE

contact Harmony Hodges at [hhodges@pittsburghparks.org](mailto:hhodges@pittsburghparks.org) or 412.682.7275 x240





Park champions like you

# Your support at work in Frick Park

## Joann Aurand has run through decades of change

**J**oann Aurand moved to Pittsburgh in 1980. She learned the city by running the trails. "Green space is so important in an urban setting. You can't just have all concrete."

She supports the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy because she's seen the transformation in her park. Work on trail restorations with rainwater drainage has made a huge impact. "It's been wonderful to have access to parts of the park that weren't accessible before." 🌿



Joann participates in Run Around the Square which benefits the Frick Environmental Center.



Programs you make possible

# Parks offer a solution to our stormwater problems

## Stormwater Management Initiatives

**W**hen as little as 1/10<sup>th</sup> of an inch of rain falls, the combined sewage system in Pittsburgh becomes overloaded and runs off into our rivers. Hard surfaces like parking lots, roof tops, and even

mowed lawns don't absorb much water. Instead of traveling through the parks where the water can be naturally filtered and absorbed, rainwater is diverted to our sewer system. In addition to

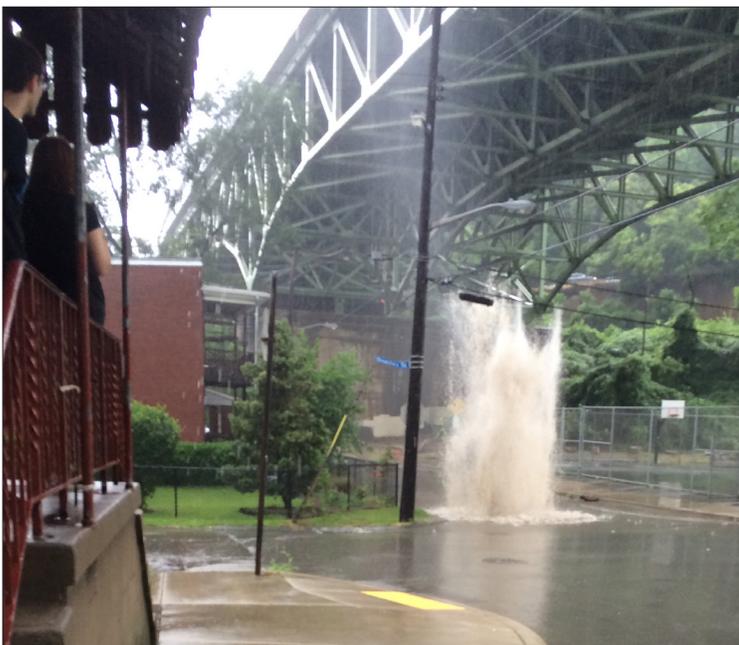
sewer overflow the cost to filter increases your water bill.

**T**rees and plants in your parks need water to thrive and can naturally absorb runoff. Designing park amenities to hold and direct rainwater to water-loving plantings and more natural systems helps parks and solves problems related to sewer overflow and flooding.

**A**ll of our capital improvement works include green infrastructure and specific stormwater management plans. Projects on the horizon include McKinley Park,

Allegheny Commons, Schenley Park and Heth's Run in Highland Park. With your support, you make a meaningful contribution to solving this problem while also improving parks.

**T**he City-Wide Green First Plan is the City of Pittsburgh and the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority's plan to manage issues related to stormwater flow. Please consider supporting your Parks Conservancy's green infrastructure work by submitting your comments to the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority at [PittsburghParks.org/green-first](http://PittsburghParks.org/green-first). 🌿



Stormwater overflows the sewer system

*"In a region abundantly blessed with water we've forced it to do things it doesn't naturally do."*

- Heather Sage, PPC Director of Community Projects



You transform our cherished spaces

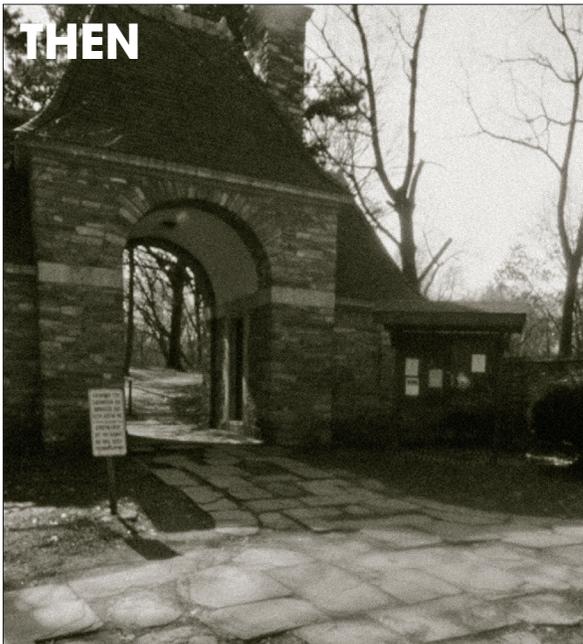
# Then and Now: Reynolds Street Gatehouse

## Your first park project

**O**ur first showcase project, the Reynolds Street Gatehouse in Frick Park, was restored in 2000. The work was guided by plans from its original architect John Russell Pope and landscape architect Innocenti & Webel.

**R**estoring the work of two such notable firms was a great opportunity. This 70 year-old structure in the French hunting lodge-style received a new clay

tile roof and historic lighting. The flanking stone walls were rebuilt, and the Gatehouse stonework and walls were cleaned and repainted. The windows, which had been bricked over, were fitted with steel window bars to replicate the originals. New cypress doors were fabricated to match Pope's handsome design as closely as possible, reusing some original hardware. The landscape was also revitalized with repaved walkways, 63 new trees and shrubs as well as lush groundcover plantings. 🌱



**THEN**



**NOW**

photo credit Jeremy Marshall

## You accomplished so much in 2016

**3** capital projects completed

- Frick Environmental Center
- Westinghouse Memorial
- August Wilson Park

- 257 new acres stewarded
- 15,212 hours of education (kids age 3-18)
- 9,618 flowers, shrubs and trees planted
- 7,651 volunteer hours



photo credit Mark Simpson



Your parks, your stories

# 20 years of support for your parks

## Ceci Sommers is one of the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy's early supporters

**C**eci Sommers has donated to support your parks every year since 1996, the year the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy was founded.

Our brownie meetings were held in Lincoln Park, I can still remember the musty, damp smell of that building."

**G**rowing up in Chicago, Ceci fondly remembers the parks of her childhood. "They were wonderful places but they needed help.

**L**ongtime friend of President and CEO Meg Cheever, Ceci was taken by the mission of the newly formed Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy. "I immediately thought of the parks that I loved in Chicago where I grew up." She knew she had to help and immediately became involved and has donated ever since.

**O**ut of 17 completed capital projects in 20 years, Schenley Plaza and Mellon Square are her



photo credit Scott Roller

Ceci's favorite park is Schenley Park

favorite. "The changes were dramatic enough to really get my attention. I also love the diversity of the visitors." Her favorite park is Schenley, simply because of convenient location. She recalls "My late husband and I often rode our bikes in the parks during the lunch hour. It allowed us to really get away from our jobs for a restorative and refreshing time out."

**W**hen asked why she still gives today, her answer is simple. "Because the work is never done. I am well aware that good things don't just happen. They need to be nurtured and tended. The Conservancy is the engine behind the maintenance, tending and care-giving and looking to the future of our parks." 🍁



Ceci (pictured left) with Marlee Myers, a founding board member of the Parks Conservancy



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