

BONS SECOURS UNITY PROPERTIES

TREE INSTALLATION AT PACIFIC AND UNITY PARKS IN WEST BALTIMORE

AWARDED AMOUNT

\$15,200.00

NUMBER OF TREES

32



PROJECT SUMMARY

The Pacific Park on long vacant and abandoned land in West Baltimore is a component of the Saratoga Corridor Open Space Plan. This area of Baltimore lacks green space and outdoor gathering and recreational spaces for residents. The Plan was developed by the surrounding communities, church partners, and Bon Secours Unity Properties to establish green gateways into the neighborhood and to improve public space along W. Saratoga Street, which is a major transit corridor that includes a MARC train station. Kirby Lane Park on W. Saratoga St. between Monroe and Fulton, almost completed, was the first component of the plan.

Community leaders who planned and built Kirby Lane Park will bring their experience to Pacific Park, just one block west. A resident of this block of W. Saratoga Street, Remo Burnett, a skilled tradesman and amateur football player, will act as community project leader. Mr. Burnett has skillfully organized Pacific Park's residents and has helped neighbors install porches, clear vacant lots, and cut down dying trees. He is a key member of the team that will implement and steward Pacific Park. He will be supported by the neighborhood association, Fayette Street Outreach, and Bon Secours. In summer 2020, Pacific Park residents successfully organized and fundraised to clear the site and remove five large dead trees that were an eyesore and risked disruption of the power supply to the community.

Because the location is interior to the square block of 1900-1932 W. Saratoga St., 1900- 1957 W. Mulberry St., 300-324 N. Monroe St., and 300-325 N. Payson St., Pacific Park's design provides park front views for each resident. The design creates solutions to resident's needs by providing parking for the residents who lost parking when a bike lane was added to the street and by adding post and rail fencing that defines the spaces and protects the park from abandoned cars and dumping. The park design includes flower gardens, natural play equipment, picnic areas, benches, a central lawn flanked by trees for free play or leisure, and a running path and work out pads that will support the workout culture of neighborhood residents.

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