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INTRODUCTION

Special Use Parks are some of the jewels in the BREC system. These parks and/ or facilities are typically devoted to one unique recreational opportunity. BREC has something for everyone from Cultural Facilities such as the City Gallery, Farr Park Equestrian Center, and Magnolia Mound Plantation to the Liberty Lagoon Aquatic Center and Dog Parks to BREC Golf Courses. These facilities often draw citizens from throughout the parish and beyond. Some of these facilities have been shown to have positive economic impacts on the parish as they also serve as tourist attractions.

For example, soccer tournaments hosted at Burbank Soccer Complex, bring participants from nearby states. The Athletic Facility has seen multiple enhancements at through the years from improved vehicular access to new wayfinding signage to improved soccer field lighting.

Additionally, the Baton Rouge Zoo has been a popular destination for decades attracting families and groups from all over the region to discover the animal kingdom up-close. The Zoo is one of many separate destinations in Greenwood Community Park. The Park is being reimagined into a cohesive destination park that entices visitors into the heart of the recreational space that reveals grand gateway into a new modernized Zoo.

The popularity with BREC's Special Use Parks and Facilities has created challenges and opportunities for BREC to think out of the box in order to keep pace innovative programs through planning and design to site construction. BREC strives to provide exceptional facilities for all citizens of East Baton Rouge Parish and beyond to enjoy.













BREC PLANNING & ENGINEERING IYP2 PORTFOLIO

Burbank Park is a Special Use Athletic Facility featuring a large soccer complex with 25 full size soccer fields which has played host to regional tournaments. The 247.84-acre park also features baseball fields, a dog park, and fishing pond.

There were multiple enhancement park projects since 2015 beginning with asphalting the back loop access drive to improve vehicular circulation. A new wayfinding signage was installed throughout the recreation site and a new monument park sign sits at the park entrance. Sport field enhancements include irrigation for eight ball fields, and soccer field lighting.



- 2015: Asphalt Back Loop Drive
- 2015: Site Assessment + Boundary Survey (NRM)
- 2016: Fishing Pond Accepted into LDWF Geaux Fish Program (NRM)
- 2017: Signage Replacement
- 2017: Multi-Use Fields + Irrigation
- 2019: Championship Fields
- 2020: Soccer Field Lighting
- 2021: New Water Infrastructure
- 2021: New Highway Park ID Signs
- 2023: Soccer Field Additions





CENTRAL SPORTS PARK ATHLETIC FACILITY

PHASE I: Improvements included two entry drives: an entrance from hooper road and an entrance from Lovett Road; infrastructure: electrical, sewer, plumbing, water, and drainage; park amenities: five ball fields with lighting and backstops; lake system - 4 lakes total; concrete walking path around main lake; approximately 340 parking spaces; lighting in parking lots; concession building with restrooms.

PHASE II: Capital Outlay – Site Improvements included two additional ball fields with lighting and backstops; four multi-use fields; approximately 330 parking spaces and new playground.

PHASE III: Capital Outlay – Site Improvements included additional utilities for a new modular concession building with restrooms located near field #1 and a prefabricated metal building for a new BREC maintenance shop.

PHASE IV: Capital Outlay - Synthetic turf fields consisted of retrofitting four baseball fields 2, 4, 5 and 6 with artificial turf for the infield area of each respective field.

Phase V: Capital Outlay - Synthetic turf fields phase II consisted of retrofitting three baseball fields 1, 3, and 7 with artificial turf for the infield area of each respective field. The second component consisted of installing shade structures over the existing baseball field bleachers.



- 2015: Laser Grading of Multipurpose Field, Sod + Irrigation
- 2015: Phase II Improvements
- 2016: Phase III Improvements
- 2020: Synthetic Turf Fields
- 2022: Synthetic Turf Fields Phase II
- 2022: Biodiversity Assessment Report
- 2023: Bleacher Shade Structures





HARTLEY/VEY SPORTS PARK ATHLETIC FACILITY

Hartley/Vey Sports Park is on Oak Villa Boulevard between South Choctaw Drive and Greenwell Springs Road. The Park has been renovated with a state-of-the-art ball field complex containing eight lighted ball fields and a concession center. In 2016 irrigation was installed on eight baseball fields. Situated across the street is a "passive use" neighborhood park with a small basketball court, an open shelter, and a large open space for play.

BREC Sports Turf Maintenance crews were housed at Maplewood Park prior to the 2016 Flood. The new Maintenance Facility replaces the Maplewood facility as well as reorganize and improve the existing facility at Hartley/Vey Sports Park at Oak Villa.

- 2016: Baseball Field Irrigation Improvements
- 2022: Synthetic Turf Fields and Lighting
- 2023: Maintenance Facility Phase 1







MEMORIAL SPORTS COMPLEX ATHLETIC FACILITY

Memorial Sports Complex is adjacent to Interstate 110 in downtown Baton Rouge. It features Memorial Stadium that hosts local high school football games and Pete Goldsby Field baseball stadium. In 2012 the field was completely renovated with a new drainage system and turf creating a more durable and safer playing surface for athletes.

BREC to construct a Community Safe Room at Memorial Sports Complex with funding made possible through FEMA grant. This facility will house City-Parish government emergence services during catastrophic events such as tropical storms to better serve the regional community.

When not serving in an emergency capacity, the facility will be a community recreation center containing a gymnasium, activity room and flex space.

The Request for Qualifications is underway for professional architectural design services with design and construction documents phase to follow in 2025.

PROJECT DATE

- 2012: Field Renovations
- 2020: New Stadium Lights
- 2022: Memorial Safe Room Schematic
 Design + FEMA application
- 2024: Memorial Safe Room RFQ







WHLC ARCHITECTURE © 2018

MEMORIAL PARK SPORTS ACADEMY + SAFE ROOM

OLYMPIA FIELD ATHLETIC FACILITY

Olympia Stadium is located within Perkins Road Community Park. It was originally constructed in 1970 with a seating capacity of 9000 people. Many local high school football games have been played in the stadium through the decades. On special occasions, it is used for major special events.

In IYP1 the field was completely renovated with a new drainage system and turf creating a more durable and safer playing surface for athletes.

In IYP2 Olympia Stadium underwent extensive repairs to the steel frames and concrete seating structure to extend the life of the facility so that it can continue to host many sporting events in the future. In 2022, the existing fence was replaced with a new black vinyl chain link fence providing a more aesthetically appearance along the perimeter of the stadium.

- 2018: Olympia Stadium Restoration
- 2022: Fence Replacement





TENNIS ATHLETIC FACILITIES

BREC has five tennis centers, each housing its own pro shop, that provide several programs to the community, including tennis instruction, school athletic programs, youth and adult league play and tournaments. There are also approximately 72 tennis courts located at neighborhood parks throughout East Baton Rouge Parish where patrons can play tennis at no charge.

Many improvements have been made at tennis facilities throughout the Parish. Jefferson Highway Park features two renovated tennis courts thanks to Quality Court Industries. The courts were resurfaced, and new nets and windscreens installed.

With the growing popularity in pickleball, tennis courts at Greenwood Community Park were converted into twelve lighted pickleball courts. Now the facility offers youth and adult pickleball programs and hosts tournaments.

In 2024, renovations were underway to five tennis courts and six pickleball/ youth courts at Highland Community Park. The project includes grading and subsurface drainage improvements, renovated tennis courts, and new court lighting.

On a smaller scale, tennis courts at a neighborhood park are typically refurbished at the time the park receives site improvements. Pickleball lines maybe added to the court(s) if it is discovered through public input, that pickleball is a popular sport in the community.











BATON ROUGE ZOO CULTURAL FACILITY

BREC's Baton Rouge Zoo opened its doors to the public in 1970. It has grown through the years attracting families and groups from all over the region to discover the animal kingdom up-close. The Zoo is one of many separate destinations in Greenwood Community Park. BREC's vision is to change this perception by creating a park that entices visitors into the heart of the recreational space that reveals grand gateway into a new modernized Zoo.

In 2019, BREC hired a design team of Sasaki, park designers and Torre Design Consortium, zoo designers, to lead the effort of reimagining Greenwood Community Park and the Baton Rouge Zoo as one cohesive destination park.

Phase I site improvements were constructed by the Lemoine Company. The aim of the first phase was to achieve the master plan's guiding principles to ensure that this first investment made sets up the Park and Zoo for long-term success.

A defining feature of the site design includes the relocation of the Zoo's entrance into the heart of the park, where a dramatic arrival sequence guides visitors to a new entrance. The Zoo improvements will also feature a dramatic new orientation plaza with an interactive fountain; a new giraffe exhibit and feeding platform where kids of all ages can get up close and personal to the giraffes; a new underwater pygmy hippo exhibit; new birds of prey aviaries, and a new Jaguar/Bear exhibit.



- 2015: Small Cat Exhibit Demolition
- 2015: Entry Path Lights + Pavilion Power Upgrade
- 2015: Education Area Mews
- 2017: Exhibit Barrier Improvements
- 2018: Demolition, New Exhibits + Site Improvements
- 2019: Small Projects Exhibit + Site Improvements
- 2019: Master Plan Greenwood
 Community Park & BR Zoo
- 2020: Schematic Design Greenwood
 Community Park + BR Zoo
- 2020: Selection Of Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) for Greenwood Community Park + BR Zoo
- 2020: Wayfinding Package
- 2021: Greenwood/Zoo Phase 1 Design
 Development + Construction Drawings
- 2022: Bobcat Exhibit
- 2024: Greenwood/Zoo Phase 1 Complete

BATON ROUGE GALLERY CULTURAL FACILITY

Baton Rouge Gallery, located in the historic City Park field and bath house is an exhibition space that is over 2,800 sqft. BRG features the work of current artist members including photographers, painters, sculptors, stained-glass artists, printmakers, ceramicists, multi-media, and installation artists.

The gallery is a partnership between BREC and BRG Center for Contemporary Art that works together to make quality art accessible to the community for more than 30 years.

BREC is in planning efforts with Baton Rouge Gallery to expand upon the physical space being occupied by BRG that will allow for increased and improved services to Baton Rouge's artists, visitors, and residents.

This space may include a variety of amenities including but not limited to enhanced exhibition space, educational offerings led by professional and teaching artists, a mixed-use lecture hall auditorium or performance space, a café/ restaurant, a museum-quality store, and artist studio spaces.

The Center for Contemporary Art will continue to elevate our capital region, make it a more attractive and enjoyable place to call home, and bolster Louisiana and Baton Rouge alike.

PROJECT DATE

 2024: Planning + Analyst of Historic Building





Cohn Arboretum is a 16-acre tract of land used for the preservation and study of flora. The site features a fruit orchard, ponds, paved walking paths and teaching garden for children with disabilities. The original Laurens Henry Cohn, Sr. home built in 1924 still stands on the site.

In 2021 the home was completely renovated with new electrical, plumbing, new interior fixtures, and mill work. Care was taken to preserve the original craftsman style building.

- 2021: Cohn Arboretum House Abatement
- 2021: House Renovation





FARR PARK EQUESTRIAN CENTER CULTURAL FACILITY

BREC's Farr Park Equestrian Center is one of the area's largest and most versatile centers for horse enthusiasts. It features indoor and outdoor arenas, 256 stalls, a cross-country event course, horse trails and RV campground. The facility is located on River Road just two miles from the LSU campus and six miles from downtown Baton Rouge. Many renovations have taken place in the past few years starting with the renovation of the indoor Arena office and Arena restrooms.

In 2016, a new Remote Control Airplane Flight Field was developed for remote control airplane enthusiast. It is located along River Road at Farr Park south pasture to be used by Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) certified members to practice, host events and programs; and provide training to others that want to learn the hobby.

In 2022, improvements to the indoor equestrian arena was completed. Due to the proximity to the Mississippi River, water seepage was an ongoing issue during high river events. The project consisted of laying down a Geosynthetic Clay Liner with "French" underdrains system and a sump pump to mitigate groundwater seepage.

- 2015: Indoor Arena Office Renovations
- 2016: RC Airplane Field
- 2017: Indoor Arena Restroom Renovation
- 2017: Sewer Improvements
- 2017: RC Airfield + Drainage
- 2022: Oxidation Pond Closure
- 2022: Indoor Arena Drainage Improvements Phase 1







HIGHLAND ROAD OBSERVATORY CULTURAL FACILITY

The Highland Road Park Observatory is located on the south side of BREC's Highland Road Park. The observatory houses a state-of-the-art 20-inch reflecting telescope and an all accessible 16-inch reflecting telescope.

The old Observatory residence located across Highland Road from the Observatory site was demolished in 2020 due to poor structural condition.

Future plans are to include a new facility to house overnight guests on the Observatory grounds during special events.

PROJECT DATE

• 2020: Observatory Residence Demolition





INDEPENDENCE BOTANICAL GARDENS CULTURAL FACILITY

The Independence Botanical Gardens is a public garden dedicated to horticultural education, recreation and nature studies located in BREC's Independence Community Park. Phase 1 Expansion creates a new entry for the Botanical Gardens from the East Baton Rouge Parish Main Library and BREC's Independence Café.

The butterfly and parterre garden features a formal contemporary style that complements the architecture of the library and café while expanding the formal geometry of the rose garden. The rich materials, furnishings, lighting, and attention to detail help set the tone for subsequent garden phases.

- 2017: Botanical Garden Phase 1 Expansion
- 2017: Botanical Garden Phase 1 Planting
- 2018: Botanical Garden Branding Signage



INDEPENDENCE PARK THEATRE CULTURAL FACILITY

Independence Park Theatre is located in Independence Community Park near the Main Library. The theatre has a seating capacity of 800 with state-of-the-art sound and lighting equipment. In addition, the theatre has two smaller conference rooms that can accommodate groups of 50-100.

The Theatre lobby received improvements that included a reconfigured box office with concessions and merchandise cabinet. With the construction of the Maintenance/ Volunteer Building behind the Theatre, additional storage area was provided for stage props.

To improve parking at the site, the concrete parking lot was expanded with subsurface drainage, tree plantings and irrigation.

- 2015: Independence Community Park Phase III - Parking Lots
- 2018: Independence Community Park -Maintenance/Volunteer Building
- 2019: Theatre Lobby Improvements



















BREC PLANNING & ENGINEERING IYP2 PORTFOLIO

KNOCK KNOCK CHILDREN'S MUSEUM CULTURAL FACILITY

BREC and Knock Knock Children's Museum executed a cooperative endeavor agreement, which established a community public-private partnership to build an early learning children's museum as well as establish early education outreach programs for children and families in our community.

Through this cooperative endeavor, BREC has provided a site for Knock Knock on a 6-acre site atop a hill in City-Brooks Community Park. In addition, BREC provided \$3 million for the museum's design and construction.

Work of the Project included construction of a 26,218 sf three story children's museum building and associated site improvements.



PROJECT DATE

• 2017: Knock Knock Children's Museum







MAGNOLIA CEMETERY CULTURAL FACILITY

Magnolia Cemetery has been a Baton Rouge cemetery since 1852 and is bound by Main and Florida Street. It was listed in the National Register for Historic Places in 1985. The property is owned by the City-Parish and is under administration by BREC.







MAGNOLIA MOUND CULTURAL FACILITY

BREC's Magnolia Mound Plantation is a rare survivor of the vernacular architecture influenced by early settlers from France and the West Indies. The structures featured on the property include a Historic House Museum, an Open-Hearth Kitchen, Quarter House, and Overseer's House. Additional structures include the Hart House, and LaGrange Reception Area.

In 2016 the Turner Family Visitor Center with a Museum Shop opened to visitors. Additional site improvements include the installation of historic Pieux cypress fencing throughout the site. The Hart House project consisted of ADA accessibility upgrades, and renovation to two existing restrooms, a glass-enclosed room, and providing a central HVAC system for the building.

- 2017: Historic Pieux Cypress Fencing Project
- 2018: Hart House Renovation + ADA Entrance
- 2020: New Fountain Garden + Storage Shed









BEAVER CREEK GOLF COURSE

BREC's Beaver Creek Golf is an outstanding public golf facility designed by Craig Schreiner and Associates in 2002. It is located on the plains of northeast corner of East Baton Rouge Parish featuring a windswept front nine and a sheltered back nine that meanders through protected wetland areas. Beaver Creek Golf Course features a large practice facility designed to enhance golfers' desires to improve each aspect of their game. A PGA Tour style driving range, large putting green, and a short game area provides the amenities typically found at other famous venues.

In 2017 the small outdoor pavilion was replaced with a new larger pavilion to better accommodate golf tournaments and events held at the golf facility.

PROJECT DATE

• 2017: Tournament Pavilion







HISTORIC CITY PARK GOLF COURSE

Located in City-Brooks Community Park, the Historic City Golf Course underwent major improvements in IYP1 with the renovation of the 9-hole golf course. Site improvements in IYP2 focused on maintaining the historic golf course with wet well upgrades to improve the irrigation system.

In 2020, the 6th Tee pedestrian bridge was restored and the weir that regulates the water level in the small pond near the 5th tee was repaired. Additionally, some of the golf cart paths were repaired and new paths added to improve the circulation around the course.

- 2015: City Park Golf Friends Supported Project Study
- 2015: Wet Well Improvements
- 2020: 6th Tee Bridge And 5th Tee Weir
- 2020: City Golf Cart Path Improvements
- 2021: Maintenance Shed Additions
- 2023: City Golf Cart Paths Phase 2







J.S. CLARK MEMORIAL GOLF COURSE

J.S. Clark Memorial Golf Course is in Greenwood Community Park and is part of phase I renovations for reimagining Greenwood Community Park and the Baton Rouge Zoo. This renovation of the 9-hole course includes lengthening J.S. Memorial Clark golf Course from an 1,861-yard par 31 course to a par 36 and approximately 3,150-yard course; making the course play similar length or greater to BREC's Webb Golf Course with the same 72par. While J.S. Clark Memorial Golf Course is being expanded and improved, Dumas Memorial Golf Course will be repurposed to other park uses.

In addition to added length, the newly updated J.S. Clark Golf Course will feature larger putting greens and a new irrigation system. Three of the course's nine greens will be adjacent to water features. The new putting greens will also have multiple holes so players can diversify when playing a second round on the nine-hole course.

- 2020: Selection of Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) for Greenwood Community Park
- 2023: JS Clark Golf Maintenance Building Expansion
- 2023: Golf Course Barrier Netting







SANTA MARIA GOLF COURSE

Santa Maria Golf Course sits on 150-acres of rolling terrain, featuring many water features and natural waterways. The 18-hole golf course has a Spanish-style clubhouse with a pro shop, conference room and fitness center.

In 2021 work was underway to replace Santa Maria golf cart bridge passing under the railroad.

In 2024 a clubhouse assessment for renovations was underway. Phase one will be re-roofing the Santa Maria clubhouse, then interior renovations will follow in 2025.

- 2022: Golf Cart Wood Bridge Replacement
- 2022: Bulkheads at Golf Course Ponds
- 2023: Golf Course Barrier Netting
- 2024: Clubhouse Re-roof Design









WEBB MEMORIAL GOLF COURSE

Webb Memorial Park and Golf Course has undergone various renovation projects over the past several years that include the construction of a new practice driving range near the Clubhouse and in 2019 a new cart barn was constructed. The project consisted of the demolition of the existing golf cart storage shed, and the construction of a new 5,000 sf facility in its place.

Additionally, several golf cart paths were repaired to improve the circulation around the course. In 2024 a clubhouse assessment for renovations was underway.

- 2018: Practice Driving Range
- 2019: New Cart Barn
- 2020: Webb Golf Cart Path Improvements
- 2023: Golf Course Barrier Netting
- 2024: Clubhouse Assessment





DOG PARKS OTHER SPECIAL USE

BREC's six Dog Parks provide parks for dogs to exercise and play off-leash in a controlled environment under the direct supervision of their owners.

Raising Cane's Dog Park was part of the major renovation of City-Brooks Community Park in 2007. The dog park has been in place for over ten years and is one of BREC's most popular and heavily used dog parks. It has endured a considerable amount of wear and tear and was in need of a renovation.

In 2017, BREC enlisted the services of Suzanne Turner and Associates to develop a master plan for the facility. The re-design builds upon the success of the original design, attempts to address maintenance, incorporating current dog park design concepts and provide new amenities. The dog park was expanded from its original size to include separate areas for large and small dogs as well as a dog washing station, additional entry points, site furnishings with increased seating, decomposed granite surfacing for erosion control, and extensive landscaping.

The sixth dog park in the BREC system is now open at Lovett Road Park in Central. The brand-new dog park has separate spaces for large and small dogs, with each providing a concrete walking loop so owners can exercise as well. Inside each loop is surfacing with decomposed granite which is designed to withstand heavy usage by dogs. Both small and large dog areas have covered pavilions with bench seating underneath. Additionally, the park includes a fenced dog wash area near the entry/exit plaza.







- Surbank Dog Park at Burbank Park
- Raising Cane's Dog Park at City-Brooks Community Park
- Raising Cane's Dog Park at Forest Community Park
- Raising Cane's Dog Park at Greenwood Community Park
- Raising Cane's Dog Park at Lovett Road Park
- Raising Cane's Dog Park at Zachary Community Park

University Lakes Phase 1: Flood Risk Reduction Construction



source: University Lakes Project





Phase 2A: Flood Risk Reduction Construction



In 2016 the University Lakes System Master Plan was completed after a lengthy process that entailed public outreach, stakeholder meetings and field investigations into the state of six bodies of water that make up the University Lakes System. If left along, the lakes will continue to gradually return to swampland, which is the natural state before the area was transformed in the 1930's.

BREC manages City-Brooks Community Park that includes City Park Lake and maintains Milford Wampold Memorial Park along the southern edge of University Lake.

BREC in conjunction with LSU, the City-Parish and University Lakes, LLS are working together to create a robust and scenic natural amenity in the heart of the City-Parish.

Phase 1 construction includes dredging and deepening City Park Lake and Erie Lake. Phase 2A includes constructing a sediment containment area surrounding the LSU Bird Sanctuary on University Lake. Phase 2B will involve dredging and deepening the remaining half of University Lake.

The sediment removed from the water bottom is then piled along the water's edge. The built-up shorelines will help capture and clean stormwater that will provide a healthy habitat infrastructure for migratory birds and aquatic wildlife. Additionally, a network of pedestrian and bike paths will be improved in some areas to make the use of the lakes safer for the community.

- 2016: Lakes Master Plan
- 2020-2021: Design Development + Construction Documentation Phase
- 2021: Construction Manager At-Risk (CMAR)
- 2024: University Lakes Project Phase 1
- 2024: University Lakes Project Phase 2A
- 2025: University Lakes Project Phase 2B







BREC PLANNING & ENGINEERING IYP2 PORTFOLIO

LIBERTY LAGOON AQUATIC CENTER OTHER SPECIAL USE

Liberty Lagoon was a part of the original Imagine Your Parks Master Plan. Phase II of the Liberty Lagoon improvements was part of Imagine Your Parks 2 Strategic Plan that included a significant park expansion with new features and amenities. The expansion also increases the maximum capacity of the park from 600 to 900 guests.

Site improvements consisted of additional deck space with shade coolbrellas and new picnic tables with umbrellas. A new concession building with additional restrooms and changing rooms featuring a secondary access entry gate and ticket window. Additional attractions include two thrillbased slides and a state-of-the-art Shockwave FlowRider surfing simulator.

In 2021 phase III consisted of pool plaster replacement in the water park; architectural building renovation and expansion to improve office space for staff in addition to new ticket service windows and line queues for patrons entering the facility.

- 2015: Attendant's Hut Extra Project
- 2017: Liberty Lagoon Phase II Flow Rider And New Slides
- 2019: Kiosk Stations
- 2021: Phase III Renovation















BREC PLANNING & ENGINEERING IYP2 PORTFOLIO

PERKINS EXTREME FACILITIES OTHER SPECIAL USE

Perkins Road Community Park Extreme Facilities include 30,000 square foot, concrete skatepark that accommodates both skateboards and bicycles as well as scooters, inline skates, and roller skates. BREC's BMX Raceway offers open track riding, and the Cycling Velodrome is an 333-meter smooth concrete cycling track which is one of only 15 in the United States.

In 2016 Extreme Plaza Drainage Improvements were completed. The work consisted of renovating subsurface drainage system, radial trench drains, bioswale rehabilitation, addition of concrete walking paths and new fencing.

Perkins Community Park will undergo master planning development involving stakeholder and public input meetings to help BREC envision the future development throughout the park.

- 2016: Extreme Plaza Drainage Improvements
- 2018: Online Public Survey
- 2024: Master Plan Development



