
[EXTERNAL] Concerns about Voigt Park HDC Application

From Dennis Archambault <dennisa645@gmail.com>

Date Tue 10/7/2025 4:59 PM

To Historic District Commission (Staff) <hdc@detroitmi.gov>; Public Spaces Planning Unit <PSPU@detroitmi.gov>; CouncilMemberSheffield <CouncilMemberSheffield@detroitmi.gov>; Joshua Roberson <Joshua.Roberson@detroitmi.gov>; Keith Butler <Keith.Butler@detroitmi.gov>; Jkinloch@waynecountymi.gov <Jkinloch@waynecountymi.gov>; Theresa Mcarleton <theresa.mcarleton@detroitmi.gov>; Aaron Goodman <aaronmg815@gmail.com>

As a resident of the Boston Edison Historic District, living close to Voigt Park, I appreciate the value of its green space and its role as a communal asset. I walk around the park frequently and have found it to be used increasingly by families and small groups, as a park should be. I am opposed to concrete paths and any non-natural resource used to make paths. There once was a diagonal path from Second/Edison to Third/Longfellow. It was a woodchip path that seemed to be fine. I have to say as a walker, the absence of walkways on the lengthy sides of the park forces walkers to walk on the street for firm walking surfaces. (You can say that there are sidewalks by the homes on either side -- hard to argue why we want to walk closer to the park -- yet that is the lure of a park: you want to be in it. I understand how a sidewalk on those sides would negatively affect the aesthetics and may not be appropriate for the park.

I think neighbors may have been provided the historic plans for the park, but I don't recall seeing them. It would be helpful to see them and honor the original intent of the landscape designer.

Dennis Archambault
645 Chicago Boulevard
Detroit, MI 48202