



Holliday Park Meridian Arch Connector: Project Overview

Project Objective

The Meridian Arch Connector will link multiple natural and cultural resources to a variety of neighborhoods, improving accessibility for everyone who lives in or visits Indianapolis. The project will transform an underutilized public space into a central hub connecting residents to community resources that are close geographically but far apart in connectivity.

Project Overview

Through a recent strategic planning process, the Holliday Park Foundation has prioritized the need to improve connectivity and provide better access for all residents as we continue to enhance this community asset.

To that end, the Holliday Park Foundation began working with the community to identify and envision viable projects that will better connect Holliday Park with neighboring communities and cultural landmarks. We retained Storrow Kinsella Associates, a well-regarded landscape architecture and urban planning firm, to study the design and feasibility of these options. The outcome of this effort is a comprehensive plan of proposed links connecting these complementary resources to each other and to the larger community.

The scope of this grant request is the first step of this larger vision and will reimagine the 'Meridian Arch' portion of Holliday Park that sits beneath the Meridian Street Bridge on the north bank of the White River. Based on feedback gathered during public meetings, residents feel strongly that attempting to cross five lanes of high-speed traffic at the intersection of Meridian Street and 64th Street on foot or bike is virtually impossible and presents a significant barrier to accessing Holliday Park and amenities to the west from nearby neighborhoods and cultural institutions to the east.

Instead, a new multi-use path, in conjunction with a pedestrian-only nature trail and additional amenities passing under the Meridian Street bridge at that intersection, will transform the space from an uninviting barrier to a safe, inspiring passage. In addition to enhancing connectivity, the Meridian Arch Connector is designed as a unique public gathering space along the White River. Ultimately, this project will serve as the central hub for future projects that will continue to expand connectivity in the North Midtown region of Indianapolis.

Main Project Elements

- An accessible bicycle/pedestrian multi-use path, separate from existing nature trails, which will connect the Blickman Trail and neighborhoods east of Meridian to 64th Street and Holliday Park under the Meridian Street Bridge over the White River.
- A pedestrian-only nature trail passing through the space will separate walkers/hikers from cyclists and will provide a direct link to the 3+ miles of existing hiking trails in Holliday Park.
- An inviting gathering space with elements including a stage and tiered seating that can be used to view the White River and host outdoor events, environmental educational programs, etc.
- Landscaping and wayfinding signage will complete the space and help create a dramatic new east-west gateway for the community.

Holliday Park Meridian Arch Connector: Project Overview Continued

Evaluation

Number of People Served	At least 50,000 residents will utilize the space annually
Structures Achieving ADA-Compliance	Two structures (multi-use path and tiered seating area) will be ADA-Compliant
Public Events	At least four public events will be hosted annually
Volunteer Hours Contributed	At least 200 volunteer hours will be coordinated annually

Project Budget

The overall project budget is \$1.6 million dollars. This includes all aspects of final design, permitting and construction, as well as a contribution of 25% of the total budget to the Holliday Park Foundation endowment to fund on-going maintenance of the space.

*** See detailed Conceptual Level Estimate of Probable Cost on following page.*

About Holliday Park

Holliday Park encompasses 94 acres of beautiful open green spaces, picturesque trails, garden walks, river vistas and access, playgrounds, the Pavilion, Ruins and Nature Center. The Park serves over 350,000 visitors each year through children's programming, environmental education, seasonal events, and myriad opportunities to connect with nature. This free and open space provides a place for all visitors to engage with nature and build community.

About the Holliday Park Foundation

The Holliday Park Foundation began as a community-led effort to revitalize this essential public space, and now fulfills a lasting commitment to the health of the Park and the hundreds of thousands of people who visit each year. The Foundation articulates a vision, ensures a commitment to high standards, and works in partnership with the City to provide the leadership and fundraising necessary to continue to improve Holliday Park.

Supported by donors and guided by a board of directors, over the past 30 years the Foundation has invested millions of dollars to accomplish capital improvements, program enhancement and maintenance in the Park. We have built the popular Holliday Park playground and restroom pavilion, financed a master plan, renovated trails, refurbished the rock garden, organized the annual Trail Run and Rock the Ruins events, and provided marketing and financial support for educational programming. The Foundation's most significant contributions have been securing funding for the construction of the Nature Center, the renovation of the historic Ruins, and the establishment of a maintenance and operations endowment to support Holliday Park in perpetuity.

Our work never ends as the Foundation is responsible for raising hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to both preserve the park's history and secure its future. With careful consideration, planning and cooperation among the Holliday Park Foundation, Indy Parks and the greater Indianapolis community, we can achieve our goal of ensuring Holliday Park continues to be a safe, clean, green and accessible space that can be enjoyed by everyone, every day.

Meridian Arch Connector

Conceptual Level Estimate of Probable Cost

ITEM	ESTIMATE
Multi-Use Path Under Meridian St. Bridge	\$ 963,031.00
Mobilization/Demobilization	
Clearing of Right-of-Way	
Excavating/Grading	
Poured-in-Place Concrete	
Dry Stack Large Block Gravity Retaining Wall	
Underpass Safety Railing	
Path Intersection Node	
Asphalt Patching/Trail Connections to Existing	
Turf Seeding	
Contingency and Permits	
Nature Trail Underpass	\$ 279,222.00
Poured-in-Place Concrete or Dry Laid Lg. Stone Blocks	
Compacted Aggregate	
Stage, 15'x30'	
Wayfinding Signage	
Landscape Allowance	
Contingency and Permits	
Trailhead and Parking	\$ 88,964.00
Existing Pavement Demolition	
Excavating/Grading	
Expanded Parking Lot	
Concrete Curb	
Pavement Marking/Symbols	
Contingency and Permits	
Holliday Park Foundation Maintenance Endowment (25%)	\$ 310,563.00
Total Conceptual Level Probable Construction Cost	\$1,641,780.00

The Holliday Park Foundation has received a \$480,000 matching grant through the City of Indianapolis 'Indy Neighborhood Infrastructure Partnership' program and is in the process of fundraising the balance of the project cost.