

“Inspiring Exemplary Cultural Landscapes”

**3.7
Special Purpose Parks**

Index of Special Purpose Parks:

10. Bates Park

11. Veterans’ Memorial Park

*The **Existing Parks and Open Space Map** on page 3-82a) depicts the parks, recreational facilities, open space and cemeteries in the City of Keller.*

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10.

Bates Park

Address: 133 Bates

Type: Special Purpose Park
Size: 0.5 Acres (Undeveloped)



Mature trees line the edge of the park, which is set in a residential neighborhood close to the historic “Old Town Keller” district. (Photo courtesy of Keller P.A.R.D.)

Comments

Develop the Bates Park Master Plan with citizen input including “Old Town Keller” merchants.

Recommended Park Elements for Bates Park

Programmed Space/Support Facilities

- Prepare and implement a design plan for the park that incorporates elements that fits the purpose of this park including signage and a park entryway.
- Design a park that strengthens the connection to the neighborhood and “Old Town” Keller.

Natural Resources/Open Space

- Implement maintenance procedures that minimize disturbance to natural areas and maximize natural plant growth.
- Implement maintenance practices that aim to protect the natural vegetation including the mature oak trees and ecology of the park.

Sustainable Opportunities

- Place preference on the use of native plantings including trees, wildflowers and grasses.
- Add educational signage, perhaps created by children, to interpret native plantings.
- For maintenance; place preference on the use of naturally fertile compost & protective mulch.

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11.

Veteran’s Memorial Park

Address: 100 North Main Street

Type: Special Purpose Park

Size: 0.3 Acres



As a place for contemplation and patriotic introspection, this well executed memorial, though highly visible, needs acoustical and visual buffering from adjacent traffic.

Comments

A well executed tribute dedicated to veteran Kellerites, the park succeeds in honoring its heroes, in a human scale design that is in itself attractive and functional to that end. However, the site does not afford the user the quiet, peace and tranquility requisite for real, meaningful connection.

Funded by the Rotary Club, Keller’s Veterans Memorial Park is highly visible to the public. The adjacent taller water tower, proudly declares the name of the city and its home team, the “Indians”. Both functions in the park are honorable and evoke much pride, and together serve as a kind of gateway to the city.

Located at the northeast corner of North Main Street and Keller Parkway, the park has great visibility; however, the proximity to vehicles severely limits opportunities for visitors’ contemplation, due to high traffic noise, fumes and privacy. Indeed, the quiet activities normally associated with such a park are hampered by the park’s location. Bounded by major vehicular arteries, North

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Main Street (Hwy. 377) and Keller Parkway (FM 1709), the site would benefit by an area more conducive to visitor contemplation, which is an integral part of a successful solution for a memorial park. Moreover, it needs additional space for expansion.

Other amenities are possible, as well. This entire corner site, including the memorial portion, would be well-suited as a celebratory home team park. As such, it could effectively inform citizens of the upcoming schedule, team record, history, and so forth, even as folks wait at traffic lights. With such a highly visible site, and plenty of noisy traffic, there’s naturally a great affinity between these adjacent functions. The circular area in the plaza has been reserved for a fountain, which would help to minimize noise from traffic.



The corner intersection of North Main Street and Keller Parkway, while providing visibility, discourages contemplation.



This park is shared with a fenced, landmark water tower, highlighting Keller’s beloved “Indians”, the home team and the Keller High School Indians’ cannon.



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Existing Amenities in Veteran’s Memorial Park	
<p>Programmed Space</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	<p>Natural Resources/ Open Space</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A
<p>Built support/ amenities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 Benches • Columns honoring war veterans • Entry sign 	

Recommended Park Improvements for Veteran’s Memorial Park

Programmed Space/Support Facilities

- In lieu of park relocation, add a landscape screen along street edges as a visual and acoustical buffer.
- Monitor growth of natural screen to achieve a solid, green buffer along the street edges.

Natural Resources/Open Space

- N/A

Sustainable Opportunities

- Place preference on the application of native plantings including trees, wildflowers and grasses.
- Introduce shade trees as part of the annual tree planting program as appropriate
- Continue to implement an integrated fertility and pest management program to minimize and/or eliminate reliance on chemicals and pesticides, and to maximize field conditions, plant health and safety; place preference on the use of naturally fertile compost and protective mulch.