

DIRECTIONS



Meet Point: Western-most point of McCord Park (506 E 36th Street)

1. Head NW along Watson Road towards College Avenue
2. Be very careful crossing College Avenue as cross traffic does not stop.
3. Continue along Watson Road to the Watson Road Bird Preserve
4. Enter the Preserve and walk the natural walking path clockwise until you reach the place where you entered.
5. Walk back along Watson Road (on the south side of the street) to College Avenue.
6. Again, carefully cross College Avenue, but this time proceed south (left) down College to 36th Street.
7. Turn west (right) on 36th street and return to the point of origin (McCord Park)

NOTABLE SITES

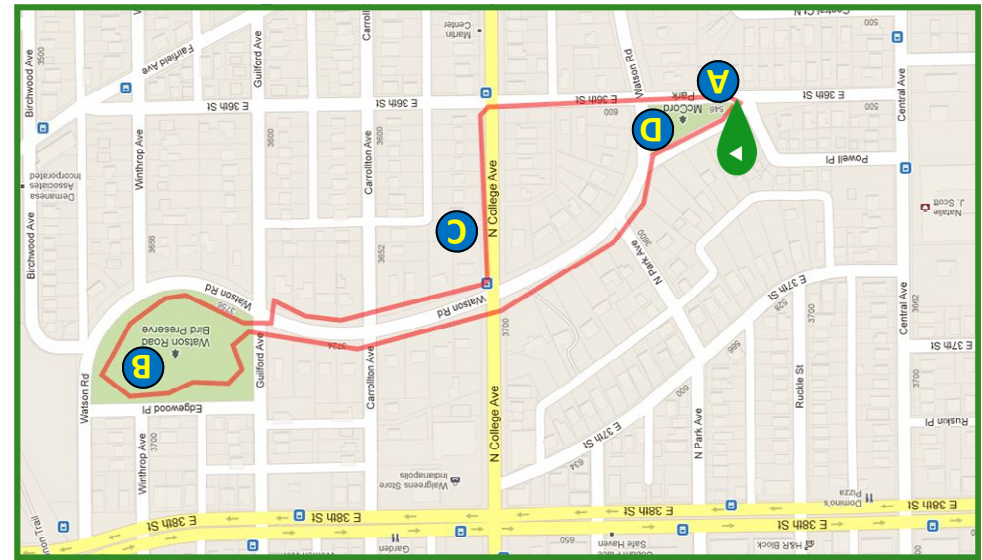
A) McCord Park— At 3600 Watson Road, McCord Park (originally Watson Park) sits on 1.6 acres of land and is an ideal location for passive recreation. The park was revitalized in 2005 and is maintained by the neighborhood. It was renamed McCord Park in 1970 after Robert McCord, a Watson Park resident who had maintained the park for many years.

B) Watson Road Bird Preserve—Established in 1925, this 4-acre park is an urban bird sanctuary. Showing as a reserved plot as early as the 1916 Baist maps, the park is kept wooded with no improvements to encourage the area's avian residents. The City's Land Stewardship team has implemented numerous improvements in recent years to promote its unique function as a bird preserve. The outer edges of the park are mowed up to the center area which is left as a woodland prairie for ground-nesting birds. A rough footpath surrounds the naturalized area. Many mature trees, including Ohio Buckeye, Black Walnut, and Northern Hackberry are spread throughout the sanctuary. Keep Indianapolis Beautiful (KIB), through their NeighborWoods program, has added more than 25 native trees over the past five years, including Chinquapin, Red Oaks, Serviceberry, and American Beech.

C) College Avenue Transportation Corridor—A succession of mass transit options have run up and down the College Avenue and Central Avenue corridors from the turn of the century including streetcars, trolleybuses, the Interurban electric rail service, and motor coaches. In 1930, for example, you could take the College Avenue streetcar (rail) line from downtown up to 63rd Street, or the Central Avenue Line up to 34th Street (then switch to the Fairground line that ran up Fairfield). Today the area is served by several Indygo bus routes including buses 4-Ft. Harrison (up Fairfield), 17-College, 19-Castleton (up Central), and 39-E. 38th Street.

D) Memorial to Officer Whitfield—The centerpiece of McCord Park is a memorial to Indianapolis Police Officer William Whitfield who succumbed to gunshot wounds suffered while chasing a suspect near the park on June 18th, 1922. The memorial, in the form of a large metal sundial and planter, was designed by Expo Design in 2005, and honors Whitfield, the first African-American law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty in the state of Indiana. More information can be found at odmp.org. In 2013, the Fraternal Order of Police erected a sign (southwest corner of Watson Road and 36th Street) to Officer Whitfield.

Walking is a fun, low-impact way to exercise, but please note that all participants on Walk Urban Indy walks agree to participate at their own risk.



Watson Park Route 1a is a 1 mile trip beginning and ending at McCord Park at the junction of 36th Street, Watson Road, and Powell Place. While most of the walk is on sidewalks, you will also get to experience the natural footpath inside the area's second park, the Watson Road Bird Preserve.

About Walk Urban Indy

WUI (pronounced woo-y) promotes the healthy enjoyment of walking in the urban neighborhoods of Indianapolis.

It's healthy, social, educational, environmental, enlightening, vigilant, and multi-generational.

*Urban walks
Along the streets where we live,
With the people who are our neighbors,
Improving our health,
While focusing on the world around us.*

Walk Urban Indy is a registered business in the State of Indiana and we are actively pursuing 501(c)(3) status. Tax deductible donations can be made through our fiscal agent, the Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center (INRC).

www.walkurbanindy.org
© 2014 Walk Urban Indy, Inc.



Walk Urban Indy
Pocket Guide

**Historic
Watson Park
Route 1a
(HWP-1a)**



The Plan

Walk Urban Indy invites you to

*Come find your feet
in an
Indianapolis neighborhood!*

TIME is the number one barrier that people list as to why they don't exercise.

Challenge Accepted.

Walking has been proven to be one of the most *popular* and *effective* prescriptions for both mental and physical well-being. Walking is also one of the simplest and least expensive ways to exercise!

So how do we make walking time-friendly in this busy world?

We cut out the middle step— we stop driving to exercise. All it takes is for us to open our front door and our walking lifestyle begins.

Walk Urban Indy's goal is to establish walk-routes varying from 1 to 3 miles in every urban neighborhood in Indianapolis.

While we are at it, we are going to provide you with a bit of information about your neighborhood - some interesting facts, sites, and history.

You chose your neighborhood for a reason—so let's get out and enjoy it!

Meet Up with us on Meetup.com!

Walk Urban Indy encourages you to grab your neighbors and establish a walking routine in your neighborhood. However, you are also welcome to join us on a led-walk— sign up for a *free* MeetUp.com account and join the **Walk Urban Indy** group.

Email: info@walkurbanindy.org
www.walkurbanindy.org
www.facebook.com/walkurbanindy
 Twitter: @walkurbanindy

