



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND ASSETS

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

GREG FISCHER

MAYOR

VANESSA D. BURNS

Director

November 3, 2022

Mr. Jay Luckett  
Planner II  
Planning & Design Services

RE: Maple St Alley Closure 22-STRCLOSUREPA-0024 Justification Statement

Mr. Luckett,

Louisville Metro Public Works & Assets, in partnership with MSD, have submitted an application for the closing of an alley bounded by Anderson St, S 22<sup>nd</sup> St, Maple St & S 23<sup>rd</sup> St. This closure is the first step in the process for the creation of the Maple St Park

More than a decade after intense flash flooding throughout Louisville's central core, southern and western portions, one of the hardest hit areas in the West End—the California Neighborhood—is celebrating the creation of a 20-acre park. On August 8, 2022, FEMA granted approval for MSD to transition 114 properties—all permanently conserved as greenspace—to the city, which is working with the Parks Alliance to transform this vacant land into a vibrant public park serving hundreds of area residents. This achievement is the result of residents, Louisville MSD, Louisville Parks and Recreation and the Parks Alliance of Louisville working together to achieve this goal.

Following catastrophic flooding on August 4, 2009, MSD acquired these parcels through a federal Hazard Mitigation Grant, a program that enabled homeowners who chose to participate to sell their property at pre-flood value and relocate from the low-lying Maple Street area. FEMA's approval of the land transfer and phase I design plan allows the first phase of park construction to begin later this year.

All of the properties abutting the proposed closure are owned by MSD and will be used in accordance with the FEMA hazard mitigation grant.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Brown, PE  
Assistant Director  
Louisville Metro Public Works & Assets

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