A Guide to Pop-Up Parks™

Including recommended permitting methods, layouts, installation descriptions, safety Provisions, materials and more.

Presented by Bison Innovative Products
www.bisonip.com  1-800-333-4234
Pop-Up Park™ is a noun, the love child of underutilized parking spaces and raised architectural platforms to create newly habitable public zones. Also “parklets” or “ped plazas”.

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What is a Pop-Up Park™?

- Pop-Up Park™s are typically created by reclaiming a car-designated zone for pedestrian use.
- Level platforms are built on top of existing pavement and are populated with planters, railing, benches, furniture and other accessories.
- Many parks offer seating areas, gardens, bike parking, exercise and other amenities.
- Parks can vary in size from a one-car parking space of about 150 sf to many spaces linked together, to a whole block or lane or reclaimed portion of a lot.

Pop-Up Park™ History

- First recognized in San Francisco and New York in programs like “Pavement to Parks”.
- In some cases, these parks were defined as a “removable” to expedite design review, permitting, and construction.

Why should I consider a Pop-Up Park™?

- Low installation & maintenance costs
- Frequently paired with nearby business to help with their use and upkeep.
- Parks can be hosted or sponsored by a local groups and organizations that pays to design and build them and agrees to keep them maintained.
- Can be installed in a way that does not require reconfiguring the streetscape, doing much demolition, or altering utilities.
- Are usually small scale, affordable, flexible, and often temporary or mobile.

How much does a Pop-Up Park™ cost?

- Cities should expect to spend about $25,000 on a Pop-Up Park™ including fees, construction, labor and materials for a small park taking up two regular car sized parking spaces.
- Businesses and public entities often help with donations and sponsorships.
Ideal Locations for Pop-Up Parks™

- Usually on side streets with low vehicular traffic that is restricted to slow speeds, often one-way.
- Locate at least 20 feet down the street from an intersection.
- Neighborhoods with pre-existing community support for public areas.
- Identified target community or business steward.
- Slope of street is less than 5% grade.
- Surrounding attractions that can encourage people to use space.
- Continuous existing curb for easy access from the sidewalk.
- A place where potted landscaping would thrive.
- High visibility from inside of adjacent businesses – for safety and support of patrons in the park.
- Existing shade trees/structures.
- Existing street lights for safety and egress.
- Verify vehicular sight lines for each location.

Other Design Considerations

- Don’t use more than 6 feet of a typical 8 foot width of parking spot.
- Design the park to so that park users can see out and others outside of the park can see in.
- Make the park feel like a public space: include signage and differentiate furniture from nearby cafes.
- Secured railings should be provided along the street side of the platform.
- Bollards or planters should be provided on each end of the park. Wheel stops are also recommended.
- The floor of the park cannot change levels and should conform to ADA standards for accessibility.
Example process for park implementation by the City of Oakland, CA:

2. Interested parties respond to the notice with preliminary design sketches, demonstrated community support and evidence of maintenance capability, and $150 application fee.
3. City of Oakland selects sites that can move forward.
4. Design Review process begins and the city reviews plans checking for basic safety guidelines.
5. Public notice of future parklet is posted for 17 calendar days.
6. If no concerns are raised during the public notice period, a Noticing Permit is granted.
7. Applicants apply for encroachment permit with $1,100 fee with full construction drawings.
8. Once encroachment permit is granted, applicants can begin construction.

The city requires the following of a parklet sponsor:

1. Keep all plants in good health.
2. Keep park free of debris.
3. Adequately maintain the surface.
4. Sweep out debris from under the park as needed.
5. Once a year before the rainy season power wash under the park.
6. Provide evidence of at least $1 million in general liability insurance naming the City of Oakland as additional insured.

Policy recommendations to Cities wishing to install parks:

1. Identify under utilized spaces in priority development areas.
2. Provide design guidelines to promote safety in an easy-to-follow format.
3. Encourage creative and community appropriate design.
4. Streamline the permitting process.
5. Designate a lead staff person to respond to questions.
6. Streamline maintenance requirements.

Things to Keep in Mind When Planning a Park:

- Cleaning agreements.
- Snow removal.
- Landscaping & planter maintenance agreements.
- Furniture upkeep & daily maintenance like removing trash.
- Graffiti removal.
- Cleaning out cavity underneath park.
- Making sure permanent elements are secured to withstand storm-water and wind stresses.
- Requesting partnership businesses to include the park in their business insurance policy.
EXAMPLE INSTALLATION PHOTOS

Site selection and survey.

Set pedestals roughly 2 feet apart.

Level with Versadjust pedestal slope compensator and install bracing.

Completed bracing, Anchor to curb and road base.

Install planter support brackets if needed.

Install fascia boards, planters, & railing.

Place furniture and enjoy!
# BISON POP-UP PARK™ MATERIALS

## Stock Ipe Hardwood and Porcelain Tiles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tile Type</th>
<th>Image</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24”x48” Ipe EcoTile, Smooth Texture</td>
<td>![Tile Image]</td>
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<tr>
<td>24”x24” Ipe Tiles Smooth Texture</td>
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<td>24”x24” Ipe Tiles Ribbed Texture</td>
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<tr>
<td>24”x24” FSC Tiles, Call for Availability Lt Heather Grey</td>
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<tr>
<td>24”x24” Porcelain, Sand Stone</td>
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<tr>
<td>24”x24” Porcelain, Charcoal</td>
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## Aluminum Bison Cube™ Planters & Benches

Recycled aluminum Bison Cube™ planters with powder coated and zinc finishes, irrigation sleeves and drain holes standard. Available in the following sizes in stock. Custom sizes and colors also available.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Image</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24”x24”x20”</td>
<td>![Planter Image]</td>
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<tr>
<td>48”x24”x36”</td>
<td>![Planter Image]</td>
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<tr>
<td>24”x24”x36”</td>
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<tr>
<td>48”x24”x20”</td>
<td>![Planter Image]</td>
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Ipe Hardwood Cubes and tops also available.
EXAMPLE 90 DEGREE LAYOUTS

- **TWO STANDARD PARALLEL PARKING SPOTS, 8'X24' EA.**
  - 62 2X2 TILES - 300 SF

- **ONE STANDARD PARALLEL PARKING SPOT, 8'X24'**
  - 36 2X2 TILES - 150 SF

- **STANDARD PULL-IN PARKING SPOT, 8'X18'**
  - 32 2X2 TILES - 150 SF

- **WHEEL STOP**
- **PLANTER BOX**
- **PEDESTAL SUPPORTS**

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EXAMPLE DIAGONAL LAYOUTS

STANDARD 45 DEG PARKING SPOT, 9’X18’

STANDARD 60 DEG PARKING SPOT, 9’X18’
References & More Information:


2010 Product Picks by Architectural Record their Bison Pop-Up Park™ Architectural Record - Special Construction & Exterior Improvements - Bison Pop-Up Park™

Wallpaper* Top 200-Parklets, San Francisco – San Francisco’s Parklet wins Top 200 Award from Wallpaper* Magazine, which features the Bison street deck and landscaping system.

Sunset’s “The top 100 ideas, people, places and things that are making life in the West better right now.” Sunset, February 2011, p. 35.
“Pop-Up Park”s, Parklets, Ped plazas, Hell strips. Call ‘em what you want – but isn’t it marvelous what pavement can become when a community pulls together?...” Bison’s street deck system (Bison Pop-Up Park™) is utilized in San Francisco’s Parklet.