

# Missouri RiverFront Revitalization

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

YEAR 2020-2024

SIZE 200 acres

USE Waterfront promenade, marina, beach, sports facilities, ice rink, performance pavilion, nature trails, play structures, event lawns, and pedestrian bridge



“ I believe this is one of the most significant projects in Omaha’s history. It reflects the generosity of donors, the beauty of the riverfront, and our faith in the future. The parks are a destination for our citizens and visitors. We will attract new talent, new convention business, and new events.”

– JEAN STOTHERT, MAYOR OF OMAHA

- + Resilient design navigates flood risks and other challenges of building at the water’s edge
- + Creates new experiences for engagement and interaction with the waterfront
- + Emphasis on discovery, recreation, and play
- + Creates reprieve and comfort within a site exposed to harsh climates
- + Regional destination catalyzes further economic growth, tourism, and local investment

The RiverFront Revitalization transforms 200 acres along the Missouri River with activated public spaces that reinforce connections between the river and downtown Omaha. The project began as a two-year master planning effort and culminated in the phased construction of three new parks: Gene Leahy Mall, Heartland of America Park, and Lewis and Clark Landing.





More than 2.5 acres of water were removed from a sunken lagoon at the center of the park, and the entire site was regraded to create open access at the street edges. The result is an active destination that is visited both day and night.



#### MAJOR AWARDS

- 2024 Urban Land Institute (ULI)  
Americas Award of Excellence  
Urban Open Space
- 2024 Congress for the New Urbanism  
Award of Merit
- 2024 Fast Company  
Innovation by Design, Urban Design
- 2023 Metropolis Magazine  
Planet Positive Award
- 2023 American Society of Landscape Architects  
National Honor Award  
Gene Leahy Mall

“ [Gene Leahy Mall] links appropriately to the surrounding open spaces and community edges while gracefully dividing the land into unique and meaningful places. The grand gestures are well-scaled, highly social, and memorable.”

- 2023 ASLA HONOR AWARD JURY CITATION