



NATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION *for*  
OLMSTED  
PARKS

## **National Association for Olmsted Parks Joins Milwaukee Leaders to Recognize Park Maker Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. with Street Naming**

*Media and the public are invited to a ribbon cutting and sign reveal for “Olmsted Way” on Monday, October 31 at 9 am CT near 4090 W. Vliet Street*

WASHINGTON (October 27, 2022)— The National Association for Olmsted Parks (NAOP) will join Milwaukee leaders in Washington Park to dedicate and open the Olmsted Way. This newly-named street recognizes the visionary landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted, who designed three Milwaukee Parks in addition to other famous parks in America, including Central Park and Prospect Park in New York and Jackson Park in Chicago.

NAOP President Dede Petri will join County Executive David Crowley and 15th District Milwaukee County Supervisor Peter Burgelis for the ribbon cutting and sign reveal on Monday, October 31, offering brief remarks.

Olmsted Way— previously recognized as a section of Washington Boulevard— winds through Washington Park and will help draw attention to the work and principles of its designer.

“Frederick Law Olmsted’s design of Washington Park deserves to be celebrated. The landscape architecture in the park has shaped how people have enjoyed the space for more than 130 years and will continue to shape how we enjoy it for the next 100,” said Chairwoman Marcelia Nicholson, who introduced the original resolution to name the park. “Naming this stretch of road ensures we remember this history.”

“Having Olmsted Way run through Washington Park gives us the unique opportunity to uplift a historic figure whose work was vital to the development of our parks system,” said Supervisor Burgelis, whose district includes Washington Park.

The street naming is a unique acknowledgment of Olmsted and part of the national celebration, “[Olmsted 200: Parks for All People](#),” marking the bicentennial of Olmsted’s birth in 1822. Led by the National Association for Olmsted Parks ([www.olmsted.org](http://www.olmsted.org)), Olmsted 200 has united over 120 organizations to advocate for parks and open spaces and spurred hundreds of events nationwide.

In Milwaukee alone, Olmsted 200 celebration partners— including Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum, Lake Park Friends, Milwaukee Area Cultural Landscape Alliance, The Milwaukee School of Engineering University Scholars Honors Program, Historic Milwaukee, Wild Spaces Dance Company, and the Urban Ecology Center— have hosted lectures and exhibits in honor of the bicentennial. In the past year, the area has also garnered considerable media attention for its association with Olmsted.

“This is an honor for Olmsted, but it is also an important step in recognizing the remarkable assets that Milwaukee has in Washington Park and all of its Olmsted Parks,” Petri said.

Olmsted is responsible for designing what many call Milwaukee’s “Grand Necklace of Parks” (Lake Park, Riverside Park, Washington Park) as well as Newberry Boulevard. He famously designed New York’s Central Park and Prospect Park; the U.S. Capitol; Boston’s Emerald Necklace; Atlanta’s Druid Hills; and numerous parks and landscapes in Chicago, Buffalo, Louisville, and beyond.

To learn more about Frederick Law Olmsted’s work and living legacy and the ongoing Olmsted 200 celebration, please visit [www.olmsted200.org](http://www.olmsted200.org).

To share the event on Facebook or ask questions about the event, please visit:  
<https://bit.ly/3TYYJZq>

Contacts: Dede Petri, [petridede@naop.org](mailto:petridede@naop.org) (on-site); Victoria Vanhuss, [vvanhuss@naop.org](mailto:vvanhuss@naop.org)

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