

# BUFFALO RISING

METRO

## Ellicott Park: BNMC's Linear Park

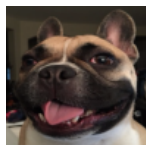
by [WCPerspective](#) March 29, 2012, 10:51 am

Although not yet completed, the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus (BNMC) Linear Park is well underway to being a leading example of what a community space should look like. So many times we are stuck with benches that look like they came from a generic design catalog. Or lighting that dates back to the 70's. No thought at all – just generic functionality. Parks are meant to inspire people to use them. They should not be an afterthought intended to fulfill the requirements of a mandate.

If you take a look at Ellicott Park, it is designed to run the length of the street, with winding walkways, thoughtful plantings, and a continuity that feels as if the park actually blends in with the streetscape. Eric Bunge, AIA Principal nARCHITECTS, PLLC has stated that “the project is a testament to the vision of BNMC; Mike Ball and Matt Enstice worked very hard to make it happen, as did Muffet Mauche-George, the project's former project manager at Foit Albert Associates (Muffett now works at TVGA). As a finalist for an “Arts Masterplan” in 2006, we proposed that a linear park should be built – we came up with the idea, and the name Ellicott Park, designed the project, and led a team of consultants on the design (SCAPE Landscape Architecture – who has designed a great planting scheme and Linnaea Tillett Lighting Design). We then worked with Buffalo local Foit-Albert Associates, who holds the contract with the city. nARCHITECTS also specifically designed the ‘Inward-Outward benches’ for the park – same with the planters, and paving, etc. Wait until you see the lights illuminated at night!”

More information information, including park layout, design, diagrams, etc. is available [here](#), though the images are out of date and show pavers which were eliminated from the design.

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Written by [WCPerspective](#)

Buffalo and development junkie currently exiled in California.



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