



## Vandalism & Maintenance Project Brief June 1, 2017

**Project Names:** 1. Jackson Square Park & 2. Moab Rotary Park – Moab Utah

**Project Location:** 1. Inner City Minneapolis, MN Jackson Square Rotary Park – Adjacent to Thomas Edison High School 2. Moab Rotary Park – Moab Utah near the river trail

**Date Purchased:** 1. 2010 2. 1995 – initial install - additional instruments added over multiple years

**Instruments Purchased:** 1. Jackson Square - 7 instruments 2. Moab - 22 instruments

**Project Description:** 1. The Rotary Club wanted to donate instruments to the park as an exploratory study of a music park installation. Initially Park & Rec Board staff expressed concern about this location since past data revealed a relatively high level of theft and vandalism, but the club had a theory – Music in communities reduces vandalism. They worked in conjunction with the University of Minnesota and Dr. Scott D. Lipscomb to facilitate this study. In order to capture interactions, a motion detecting video camera was installed on the roof of the YMCA across the street from the park. [See Jackson Square research results paper for further detail.](#)

2. This was the first installation of outdoor music instruments in a public park. Initially 7 instruments were installed. The response was so positive by the public, both locals and tourists, that additional instruments have continued to be added year after year. Moab has some retired instruments FHP no longer manufactures, but they are still in use and enjoyed every day. The most recent instruments added were in early 2017 bringing the total to 22 instruments. It is the oldest and largest music park in the world.

**Study Results:** 1. As confirmed by staff at Minneapolis PRB, to date, there have been zero instances of vandalism or theft regarding these instruments. In fact, the only maintenance that has been required is replacement of the mallets as they become worn. In addition, the instruments are holding up well to harsh Minnesota winters and can be played at any time of day or night.

2. Moab Rotary Park has to date experienced no vandalism and no theft. Maintenance has been done on a few of the initial instruments, drum cap replacement and mallet replacement plus some paint touch up.

**NOTE:** Freenotes does not use paint on any instruments any longer and mallets have had significant improvements. As of June 1, 2017, Freenotes provides a set of free replacement mallets for every instrument when or if needed. The overall percentage maintenance rate for all instruments sold to date is about 1%.