

## [Where can Allie have her all-children's park in Temple Terrace?](#)

### **Parks**

Posted by:

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TEMPLE TERRACE — The Blain family in Temple Terrace has one goal. Establish a park in Temple Terrace that all children – no matter their physical or medical limitations – can play in without fear of getting hurt.

And while many individuals in the community have expressed their interest and willingness to help raise funds for the park, the Blains have yet to find a place for their dream park.

Renee Blain, mother of 5-year-old Allie, said that her first hope had been Linwood Park, which is currently undergoing renovations.

But she was told the park was too small for what she had envisioned. Too little parking, as well.

Then she thought of Riverfront Park, the city's newest park in the planning stages on the Hillsborough River.

At first, she was told that the park wouldn't work. Then the answer was maybe.

Now, it's a no, she said.

So where in Temple Terrace could Allie's park go?

Allie and her sister, Abbie, and their parents want to create a park suitable for children 2 to 12 with a rubber ground covering and equipment that has been adapted for children with physical disabilities.

Allie isn't handicapped in the traditional sense. She has a condition called idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura – a condition in which her spleen attacks the platelets in her blood, making clotting next to impossible. She could easily develop internal bleeding that could be fatal.

Though she runs around her house with little caution, she has to be careful when venturing out to neighborhood playgrounds. The uneven surface of mulch or the unstable surface of sand could cause her to lose her balance, causing her to take a tumble.

She also has to be careful on the slides, the swing sets, and all other playground equipment.

Allie and her mother are still working to determine what equipment exactly they want to include in the park. Once they make that determination, they should have a good idea how much money they will have to raise and just how large a place they need for the playground.

The Blains have a meeting planned with city leaders later in August to discuss the potential locations. They hope to have some idea after that.

In the meantime, if anyone has any suggestions for potential sites for Allie's park, e-mail Renee Blain at [CloudsOfHope@verizon.net](mailto:CloudsOfHope@verizon.net).

### **Learn more**

You can learn more about Allie's condition by visiting [www.CaringBridge.org/visit/allieblain](http://www.CaringBridge.org/visit/allieblain) and checking out [www.CloudsOfHope.org](http://www.CloudsOfHope.org), a Web site that Renee Blain created to spread the word about the non-profit organization that she created to not only help Allie but all children with similar illnesses.