



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

November 07, 2022

7:00 PM

**Fridley Civic Center - 7071 University Avenue
N.E.**

AGENDA

Call to Order

Approval of Agenda

Roll Call

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- [1.](#) October 3, 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

New Business

- [2.](#) Parks and Recreation – Staff Introductions Skyler Ruetz
- [3.](#) Anoka County Parks Staff Presentation on Rice Creek West Regional Trail Corridor Engagement Findings

Old Business

Staff Reports

- [4.](#) Springbrook Nature Center Report
- [5.](#) Fridley Parks and Recreation Division Report
- [6.](#) Park Maintenance and Construction Report

Adjournment



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: November 7, 2022

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Title

October 3, 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

Background

Attached are the meeting minutes of the October 3, 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the October 3, 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes.

Attachments and Other Resources

- October 3, 2022 Parks and Recreation Minutes.

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

October 3, 2022

7:00 PM

Fridley Civic Campus, 7071 University Avenue N.E.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Borman called the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

EB Graham
Peter Borman
Ryan Gerhard
Ken Schultz
Suad Maow (arrived at 7:07 p.m.)
Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director
Scott Hickok, Community Development Director

APPROVE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 3, 2022

MOTION by Commissioner Graham to APPROVE the October 3, 2022 meeting agenda. SECONDED by Commissioner Schultz. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

APPROVE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

2. Approve Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes of September 6, 2022

MOTION by Commissioner Schultz to APPROVE the September 6, 2022 meeting minutes. SECONDED by Commissioner Graham. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

3. Locke Park Joint Powers Agreement Between the City of Fridley and Anoka County

Scott Hickok, Community Development Director, provided background information on the joint powers agreement between the City and Anoka County which began in 1980 and the roles each entity took on. He noted that the entities have been discussing the agreement and the ability for Fridley to take back the maintenance and programming of the parks identified in the agreement. He stated that Anoka County Commissioners are in support of that action and noted that Fridley would continue to use the land as maintained park and trail. He reviewed the legislation that would be

necessary to allow the City to recoup its costs for maintenance and upkeep, which is currently paid to Anoka County.

Chairman Peter Borman asked who maintains the trails that are in Locke Park now. The County should as park of the commitment through the JPA, but that is one of the issues that has brought this matter to the fore. The level of maintenance has been the subject of discussion.

Commissioner Schultz asked whether the City would choose to move forward if the legislation were not passed, how other communities are reimbursed for maintenance completed. Mr. Hickok replied that the City would still move forward regardless of the legislation in order to get control of maintenance and programing and explained how other communities are reimbursed by other entities.

Mayor Lund provided additional input on implementing agencies. He explained that the City would like to do more than what is being done by Anoka County in the parks mentioned. Mayor Lund continued that he has spoken with County Commissioners, as well as Reva Chamblis Metropolitan Council Member. In both cases Lund iterated that he is looking for their support in not objecting when they approach the legislature for new words in the Implementing Agencies law. The change in the law as described by the mayor would be five additional words, *and the city of Fridley*, after the list of other Implementing Agencies listed currently.

Chairman Borman asked for, and received, clarity on the maintenance responsibility of the regional trail segments both within the mentioned parks and outside of those areas. The Commission asked if it has been determined as to the amount Anoka County receives for these parks. Mr. Hickok confirmed that Anoka County does not breakdown the funds allocated in that manner but explained that the City would develop a five-year maintenance plan with specific costs identified.

Commissioner Maow, asked, so I understand this, we could say we own our own stuff, and we want to do our own thing with it, do I have that correct. Staff responded yes, not to change the use, just to maintain, and program in a manner that meets our standard.

Chairman Borman asked how much money are we talking about? Mayor Lund responded that in a recent discussion he had with the County \$1.2M had been given to the County, but it was earmarked for projects elsewhere and not Fridley.

Mayor Lund asked the commissioners if there was anyone who would object to moving forward with dissolving the JPA. While all agreed with the action to dissolve the JPA, E.B. Graham said, I would be disappointed if we didn't. Commissioner Gerhard said he thought it was a good idea.

The Commission supported moving forward with the dissolution of the JPA.

4. Moore Lake Park Update

Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director, provided an update on the Moore Lake Park process and recapped that community meeting that was held onsite. He reviewed the themes identified from resident conversations and presented different playground options. He reviewed the revised site plan as well as additional updates and considerations.

MOTION by Commissioner Graham to ENDORSE the playground concept shown in the presentation as "Option B". SECONDED by Commissioner Schultz. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

5. 2023 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Dates

Mr. Maher presented the proposed 2023 meeting dates for the Commission.

MOTION by Commissioner Schultz to ADOPT the 2023 meeting schedule as presented. SECONDED by Commissioner Graham. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

6. Springbrook Nature Center Report

Mr. Maher provided an overview of the report including recent events and programming and upcoming events.

7. Fridley Parks and Recreation Division Report

Mr. Maher reviewed the report and provided a summary of programming opportunities for both youth and adults.

8. Park Maintenance and Construction Report

Mr. Maher reviewed the written report highlighting recent maintenance and construction activity in the parks.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Gerhard made the MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m., SECONDED by Commissioner Maow. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Staple
Recording Secretary



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: November, 7, 2022

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Title:

Parks and Recreation – Staff Introductions Skyler Ruetz

Background

Skyler Ruetz joined the Recreation Division on September 12th in the role of Program Specialist. Skyler has been working closely with the After-school Program and will be working on a variety of Special Events as well. She graduated with a degree in Rehabilitation Services/Recreational Therapy from the University of Wisconsin – Stout in May. During her time at college she worked as the Intramural Sports Supervisor and this past summer was an Intern for the City of Shoreview Parks and Recreation Department. The Recreation team is thrilled to have Skyler on board, her positive energy and friendly attitude has already been a huge asset to the team and programs!

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Focus on Fridley Strategic Alignment

☒ Vibrant Neighborhoods & Places	☒ Community Identity & Relationship Building
☐ Financial Stability & Commercial Prosperity	☒ Public Safety & Environmental Stewardship
☐ Organizational Excellence	

Attachments and Other Resources

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: November, 7, 2022

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Title:

Anoka County Parks Staff Presentation on Rice Creek West Regional Trail Corridor Engagement Findings

Background

Four miles of the Rice Creek West Regional Trail run through the City of Fridley connecting Manomin Park, Locke Lake Park, Plaza Park, Community Park, and Locke Park. The Regional Trail and several parks are operated under a Joint Powers Agreement between Anoka County and The City of Fridley. Anoka County is nearing completion of a community engagement process to gather feedback on the Rice Creek West Regional Trail Corridor and wishes to share the findings with the City and to gather additional feedback from the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Focus on Fridley Strategic Alignment

☒ Vibrant Neighborhoods & Places	☒ Community Identity & Relationship Building
☐ Financial Stability & Commercial Prosperity	☒ Public Safety & Environmental Stewardship
☐ Organizational Excellence	

Attachments and Other Resources

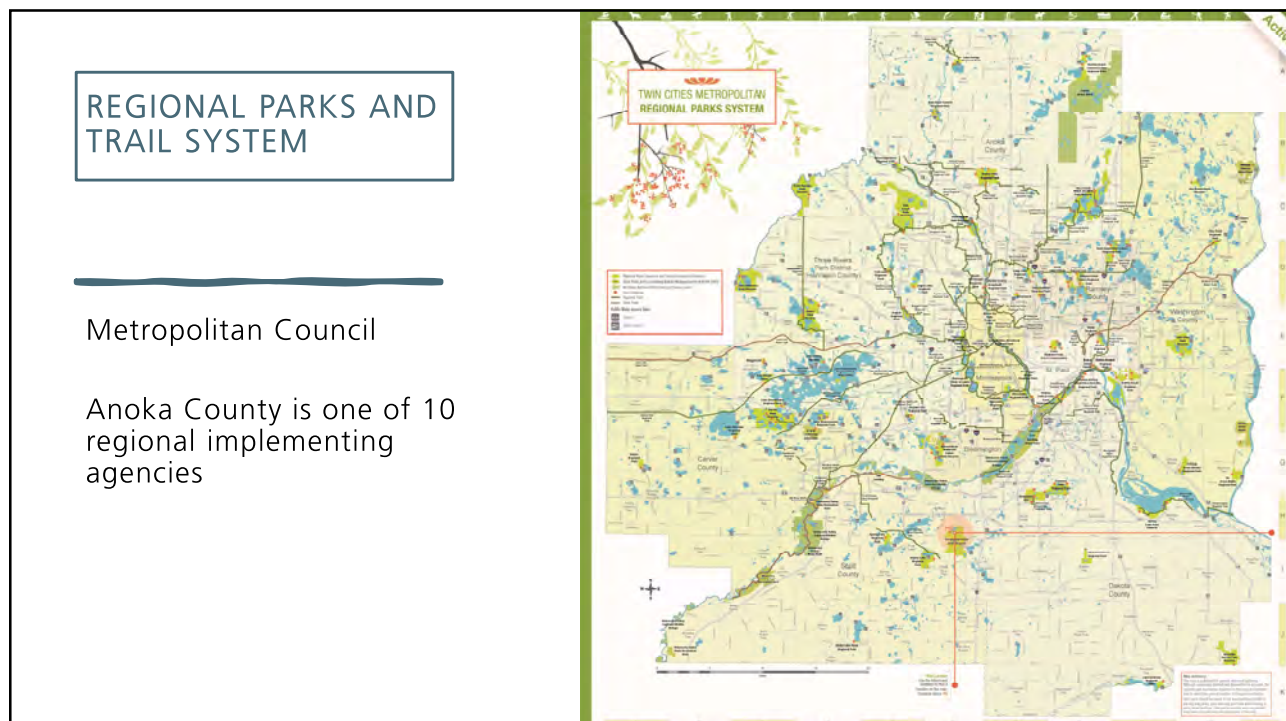
- Rice Creek West Regional Trail Corridor Engagement Findings presentation

Vision Statement

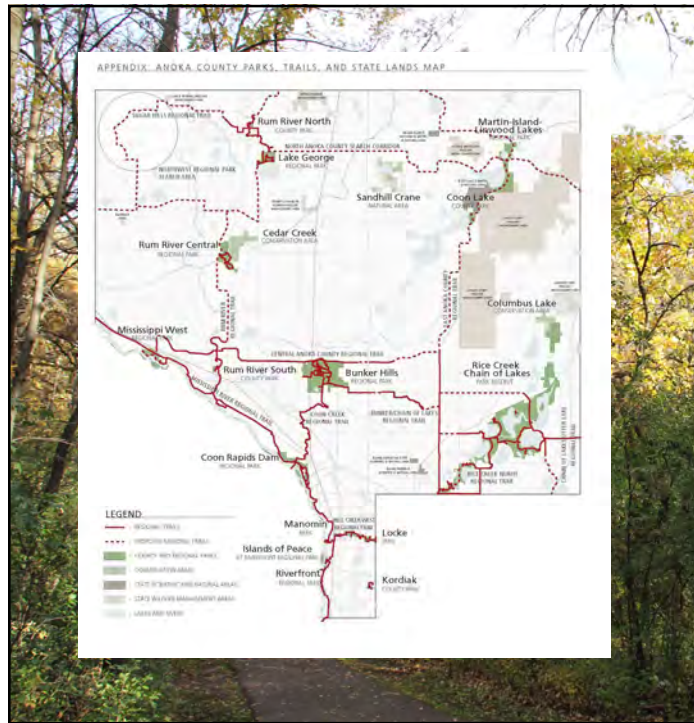
We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



1



2



ANOKA COUNTY PARKS SYSTEM

Over 11,000 acres

7 regional parks

1 park reserve

4 county parks

2 conservation areas

1 natural area

10 regional trails

Bunker Beach, Chomonix,
Wargo

anokacountyparks.com

3

3

RICE CREEK WEST REGIONAL TRAIL

Located in City of Fridley

4-mile paved trail – follows Rice Creek to Mississippi River

Connects to Long Lake Regional Park – Ramsey County

Connects to Mississippi River Trail and City of Minneapolis



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RICE CREEK WEST REGIONAL TRAIL

Existing Parks:

Locke Park (City owned)
Community Park (City/County owned)
Plaza Park (City owned)
Locke Lake Park (City owned)
Manomin Park (County owned)

Existing Amenities:

Paved Trails
Hiking Trails
Picnic Pavilions
Playgrounds
Restroom Buildings
Dog Park
Practice Archery Stand
Historic 1847 Banfill Tavern
Canoe/Kayak take-out



5

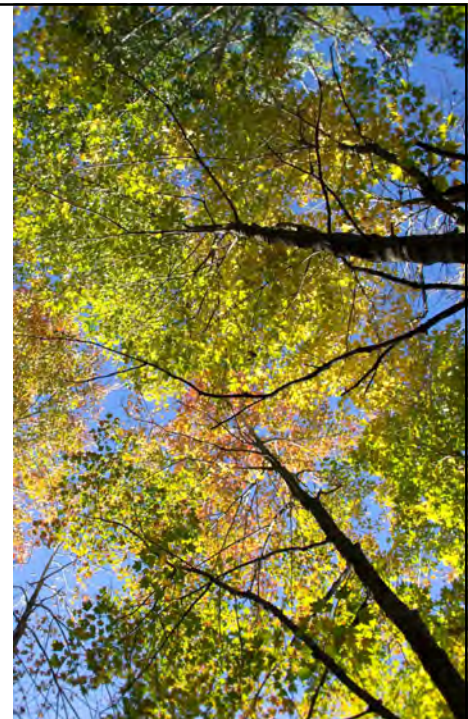
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT FINDINGS

Type: Surveys, in-person meetings, social media

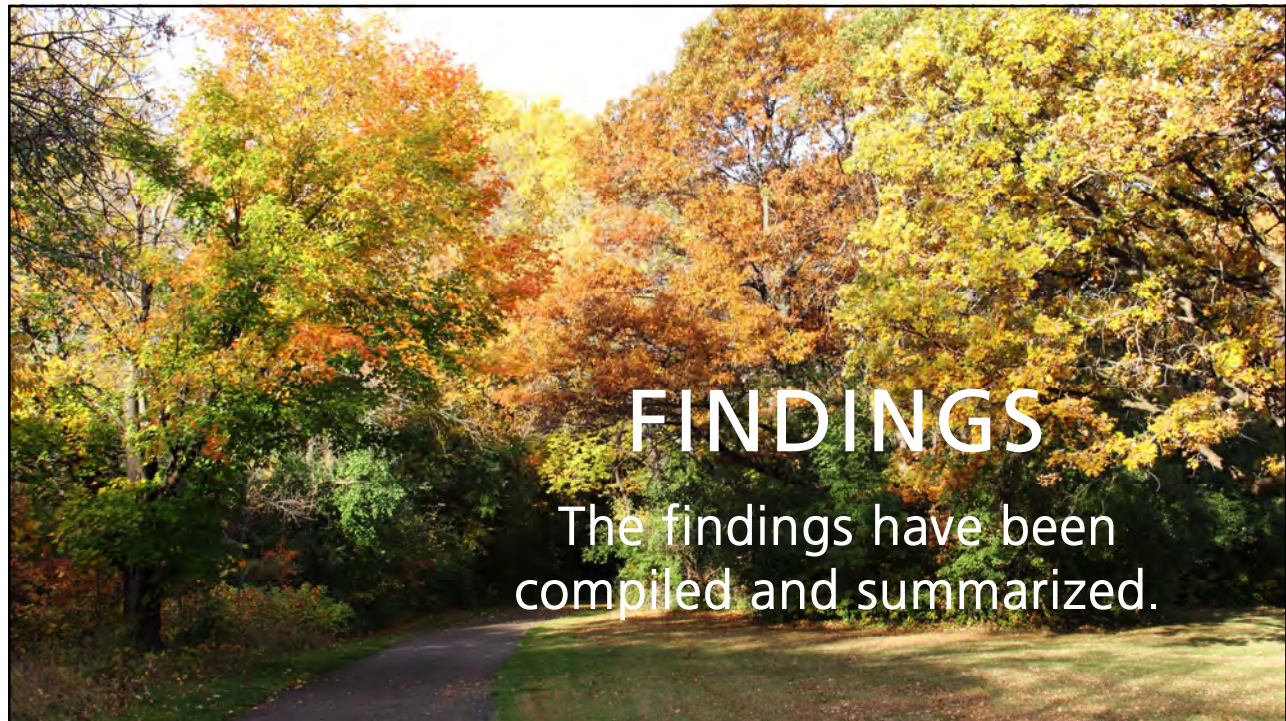
Who: City of Fridley & Commissions, Outdoor Latino, Outdoor Afro, Disability and Aging Network,

Reach: More than 16,000 people

Interactions: More than 600 people



6



7

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT THE PARK?

- Nature/Wildlife
- Trails – connections, paved, unpaved
- Location



8

BARRIERS TO VISITING

- 83% Respondents – no barriers
- 17% Respondents – yes
 - Safety
 - Road Crossings
 - Steep Grades
 - Lack of winter maintenance
 - Awareness
 - Lack of single track/mountain bike trails



9

SAFETY

- Off Leash Dogs
- Homelessness
- Crime
 - Drugs
 - Trash
 - Graffiti
 - Loitering
- Public Suggestions:
 - More security patrols
 - Add Lighting and cameras
 - More trash containers



10

TRAILS

- Steep Grades/Accessibility
 - Pave the dirt trail (Locke) for accessibility - Pave trail/don't pave even split*
 - Ensure bridges don't have "lips" on them
- Pave the dirt trails at Manomin
- Condition of asphalt
- Winter maintenance
- Vehicle conflicts at crossings
- Natural surface all along Rice Creek
- Better signage
 - Wayfinding/directions
 - Maps
 - Rules/etiquette
 - Non-emergency contact



11

WINTER

- Ensure plowed trails and packed trails are available for winter use.
- Plow more parking lots/trails
- Could do a packed loop option



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WAYFINDING/SIGNAGE

- Needs better signage
- Ensure signage tells people where the trail and connector trails go
- Provide directional signs so people don't have to get off their bikes to figure out where they are
- Better signage or designated striped bike route on road could help the on-street trail connection between Manomin Park and RCTW near Locke Lake.



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CREEK

- Clearing of debris should be addressed more often
- Canoe/Kayak access
 - Include storage racks near access points
- Visual and physical access to the creek



14

DOG PARK

- Redo gate/corral area so it is accessible
- Water
- Separate area for small and large dogs
- More benches on far side of park
- Better signage for water stations (rules) and add another water station
- Refresh wood chips more often
- Stocked dog waste stations in dog park and along trail



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PLAY

- Non-traditional structures
 - Ninja/obstacle course
 - Rope climbing elements
 - Nature Play
- Playground
 - More inclusive elements
 - Sensory elements
 - PIP surfacing

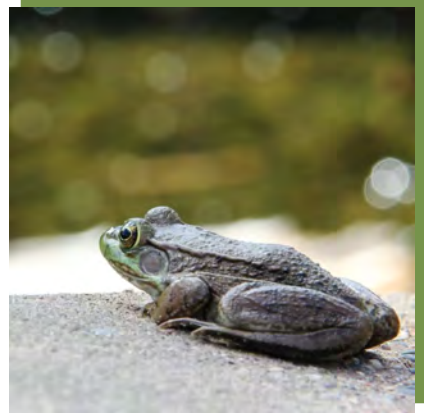


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ACTIVITIES

➤ Programming in Park

- Intro to the trail "Rice Creek West 101" walk/bike programs.
- Recreation based programs
 - Kayaking
 - Mountain biking/Fat Tire biking
- Nature based programs
 - Plant ID, birding, nature walks, etc.
 - Native American history/traditions
- Yoga/other non-equipment-based exercise programs
- Kid Activity Packets
- Exercise equipment in park/along trail



➤ Free Events

- Movies/music, food trucks
- Clean up day/Earth Day

17

MOUNTAIN BIKE/SINGLE TRACK TRAILS

➤ 75% For - 25% Against



18

WHAT SHOULD BE IMPROVED?

- Add single track trail
- More drinking fountains/trash containers
- Open restrooms/flush toilets
 - Use tech to allow access
- Archery
 - Move to east side
 - Add 50 yard range
 - Shelter for shade, bench, drinking fountain



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WHAT SHOULD BE IMPROVED?

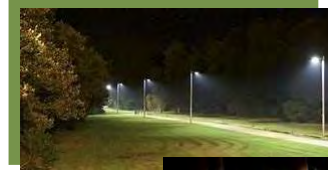
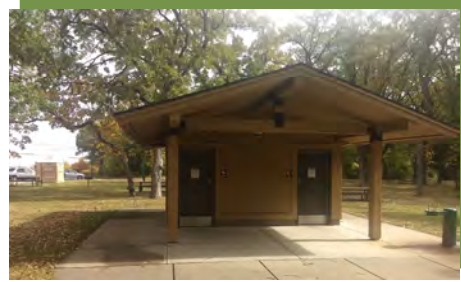
- Fishing pier/deck at Manomin
- Invasive plant removal, native restoration
- Sound/visual barrier to trails at Locke
- 69th Avenue parking lot



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WHAT DO YOU FIND BENEFICIAL IN THE PARKS?

- Access to restrooms/drinking fountains – 70%
- Plowed/packed trails – 56%
- Information (history, plants, animals, amenities, maps) – 47%
- Lighted areas in parks – 46%
- For the answer of other, the following were mentioned multiple times:
 - Natural area/trees/nature
 - Trails/bridges
 - Single track trails
 - Signage



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ANYTHING ELSE TO SHARE?

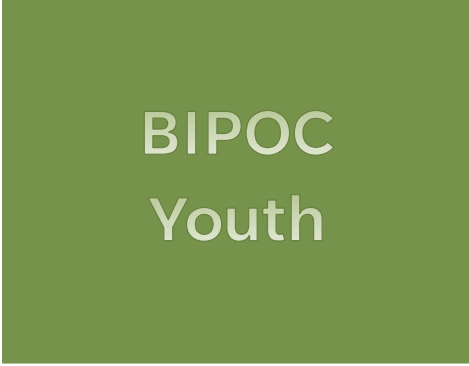
- Regarding trails
 - More maintenance on paved trails
 - Natural resource management
 - Eliminate vehicle permits for parks
 - Safe routes for ped/bikers to get around
- Better website
 - I need information on trails park amenities for kids. I would love some educational stuff for kids. Or kids activities packets something to keep them excited to be outside.



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DEMOGRAPHICS

- 11% of survey respondents were BIPOC - per US Census (2020), approx. 20% population in Anoka County is BIPOC
- 2% of survey respondents were under 18 years of age – per US Census (2020), approx. 30% of population is under 18 years of age
- Shows that we still have work to do to engage BIPOC/under 18 communities



BIPOC
Youth

23

Locke Park JPA

Visioning Meeting Anoka County and City of Fridley August 30, 2021

City Vision

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly, and stable home for families and businesses.

Fridley Park Vision

Fridley's Park system will increase the wellbeing of our community by providing people of all ages and abilities with opportunities for active living, social connections, wellness, and nature."

Locke Park Vision

Locke Park will achieve the City's and Park System's overall vision by providing persons of all abilities and ages the opportunity for enjoyment within a nature-based environment.

Specifically, this will be achieved by:

- Actively through accessible trails, maintenance of Rice Creek, expanded nature-based programs and gathering places.
- Passively through the natural amenities of the forest, trails, creek, and interpretive opportunities.

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Locke Park JPA Vision Components

The following 10 items represent unfulfilled development features of the 1979 Master Plan the City. Our desire is to have them implemented within specific timeframes.

Identified in 1979 Master Plan				
No.	Development Feature Language	Status	City Desire	County Desire
1	Canoe Route 5 ¼ Miles	Unfulfilled	2024	
2	Restrooms	Partial	Open year round 2022	
3	Trail Information Center	Unfulfilled	2023	
4	The bike and hiking trails (snowshoe and cross-country ski in winter) will be separated in most areas of the Anoka County segment of the trail.	Unfulfilled	2023	
5	...the trail will have a clear zone of 4' on both sides to accommodate cross-country skiing in winter.	Unfulfilled	2023	
6	Major road crossings of trails in Fridley...with a catwalk bridge state highway 47...	Unfulfilled	2025	
7	The multiple use portions of the trails will be separated by wood posts and shrub screening.	Unfulfilled	2023	
8	Other uses of the trail will include birdwatching, nature study...	Unfulfilled	2022	
9	Winter maintenance activities will include snow removal from the trail parking lots, and periodic inspection of the restrooms/shelter houses.	Unfulfilled	2022	
10	Signs at the trail head locations will have hours for use posted as well as other rules...	Unfulfilled	2022	

Locke Park JPA Desires

9/29/2021

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Locke Park JPA Vision Components

The following represent components for consideration in a new JPA

Re-visioned Master Plan				
No.	Development Feature Language	Status	City Desire	County Desire
11	Trail Improvements - Mainline trail made accessible - Lighted mainline trails			
12	Connect Park to creek - Create an esplanade between park and creek - Small Amphitheater			
13	Connect 73 rd Avenue to Park Vehicles, pedestrians, and bikes			
14	Signage - Brand the park as a joint venture of the County and City - Install trail identification signs - Install identification signs at University and 73rd avenues. - Improve wayfinding signage throughout park - Signs to connect neighborhoods			
15	Bridges Replace two mainline trail bridges			

Locke Park JPA Desires

9/29/2021

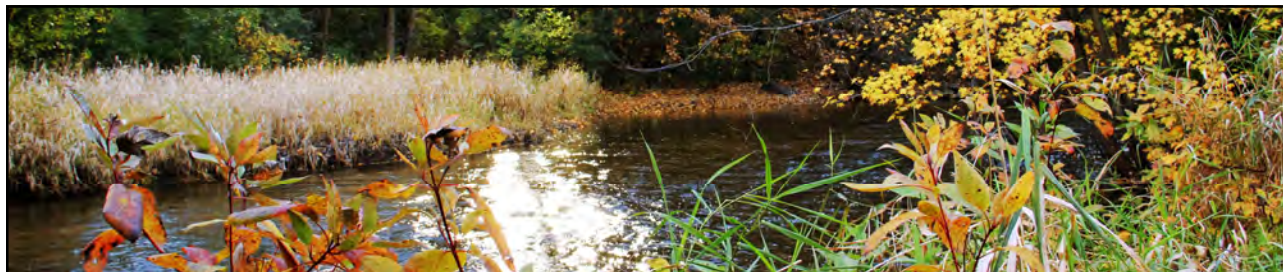
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No.	Development Feature Language	Status	City Desire	County Desire
16	Natural Resource Management - Remove invasive species - Reforestation			
17	Maintenance Standards Adopt City maintenance standards			
18	Programming/education interpretation - Interpretation trail - Pollinator gardens - Nature Play area - Mountain biking - Nordic walking - Birdwatching - Archery - Zipline			
19	Amenities - Indoor pavilion - Doggie stations - Bike stations - Bike racks at pavilions - Blue light push button - Public Art installations			

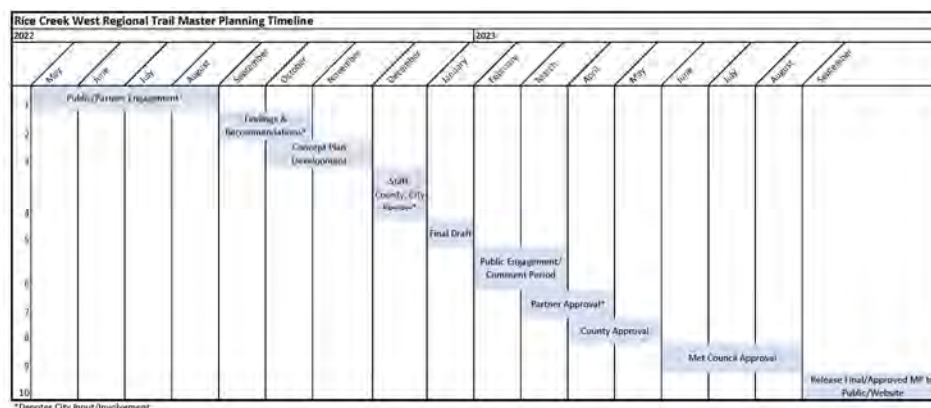
Locke Park JPA Desires

9/29/2021

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NEXT STEPS



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QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU!

Anoka County Parks

Jeff Perry, Parks Director

jeff.perry@co.anoka.mn.us

763-324-3409

Karen Blaska, Park Planner

karen.blaska@co.anoka.mn.us

763-324-3412

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AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: November, 7, 2022

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Tara Rogness, Springbrook Nature Center Manager

Title

Springbrook Nature Center Report

Background

Attached is the update from Springbrook Nature Center for the November 7, 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Springbrook Nature Center Update for November 7, 2022 meeting

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.

Park & Rec Commission Report

October Highlights

- Springbrook Naturalists have seen about 880 Fridley students this month covering such topics as: Genetic Variation within a Species (5th grade), Water Cycle (4th grade), Seed Dissection (2nd grade), Present Day and Prehistoric Food Webs (5th grade), and Water Scarcity in the World (4th grade).
- Springbrook Naturalists have seen about 420 students this month on the Nature Trail. They've learned about Nature Observation (Kindergarten), Stream Study (2nd Grade) Fungus (3rd Grade), and Constellations (3rd Grade).
- This month's rentals have included both Full PAC rentals and Indoor Only PAC rentals as well as indoor classroom rentals.
- Naturalists have also led two birthday parties this month.
- Pumpkin Night in the Park (happening on October 22nd) is setting up to be a successful community event. More than 800 volunteers are set to carve more than 1200 pumpkins. An additional 100 volunteers are set to do a variety of things such as setting up, placing pumpkins, lighting pumpkins, parking attendants, trail monitors, event take down and clean up, and MORE. We are thankful to Parks and Recreation, Police, Fire, and Public Safety for their help in making this a fun and safe event in Fridley. As of now (Oct 18), we have sold more than 2000 tickets and expect that we will sell nearly double that before the event this weekend.

Upcoming this Season

- Springbrook Naturalists will be attending (and presenting) at the Minnesota Naturalists Association conference at Long Lake Conservation Center in Palisade MN. This year's theme is "Get it Together", a nod to the first fully in person conference since 2020 and to the field's goal of inclusivity and access, skill-sharing, and networking.
- SNC is a polling location for the mid-term elections.
- Lantern Light Hikes will start in December and run through March on the second Friday of each month. Enjoy lantern lit trails, a cozy bonfire, and the great outdoors. Cost is \$5 per person, snowshoe rental available for an additional \$5 (provided there is a 3 inch base of snow).

Grants

- Xcel Energy Grant 2022 is being used to install an new exhibit: "The Power of Prairies". Dina Cyrus is getting started with graphic design, interactive element design, and is meeting with fabricators for some custom wood work for the exhibit. We look forward to a fun and educational experience.
- We have been awarded an International Paper Grant entitled "Building Aquatic and Ecological Literacy". We will put together new curriculum for onsite field trips, summer camps, scout groups, and others. We will include an additional canoe, PFDs, fishing rods and cases, miscellaneous fishing equipment and additional paddles.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: November 7, 2022

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Margo Numedahl, Recreation Division Manager

Title

Fridley Parks and Recreation Division Report

Background

Attached are highlights from the Recreation Division from October 2022.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Recreation Division Highlights: October 2022

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



HIGHLIGHTS

Recreation Division: October 2022

Fall Programs

Below is a list of programs and participation numbers for the first Fall session, which runs from September through early November.

PRESCHOOL

Soccer (2 classes)	29
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ELEMENTARY AFTER-SCHOOL

Soccer League Gr. K-1	14
Soccer League Gr. 2-4	12
Musketeers Fencing	9
Outdoor Games & Halloween Fun	22

FIELD TRIPS GR. K-5

MN Zoo (Fridley - 5, SLP - 11)	16
Afton Apple Orchard (Fridley - 4, SLP - 7)	11
Zero Gravity (Fridley - 10, SLP - 7)	17

ADULT FITNESS & ATHLETICS

Shinrin Yoku/Guided Forest Bathing	4
Zumba (2 classes)	15
Intro to Pickleball (7 - Fridley; 6 - SLP)	13
Pickleball for Beginners (7 - Fridley; 7 - SLP)	14
Pickleball Skills & Drills (2 - Fridley; 2 - SLP)	4
Pickleball Ladder League: Aug - Oct (15 - Fridley; 15 - SLP)	30
Indoor Co-Rec Volleyball: Sept - Dec (3 - Fridley; 2 - SLP; 4 - NB)	9

Parks and Recreation Brochure

The Nov/Dec brochure is complete and will be mailed to residents at the end of October. Program staff is now developing activities for the Jan/Feb brochure.



Outdoor Pickleball Wrap Up

October saw the end of the outdoor pickleball season. The Ladder League, Skills & Drills, and Intro Clinic all ended over the course of the month. Pickleball programs are in cooperation with Spring Lake Park Parks and Recreation Department. All classes and clinics were held at the Flanery Park Pickleball Courts. Due to the high number of registrations, the ladder league was held at Flanery Park as well as Terrace Park in Spring Lake Park. Moving into the winter, pickleball programs will be held indoors in the Hayes Elementary School gym.

Shinrin-Yoku Forest Bathing Experience

On October 1st, four adults joined David Motzenbecker of Motz Forest Bathing Experiences at Innsbruck Nature Center for a forest bathing walk. They were guided to slow down to see and hear all of the small details that the forest offers us, a process started in Japan and known as Shinrin-Yoku. It was a very peaceful day full of introspection and mindfulness at the park, and the fall colors were beautiful!



Fall Field Trips

Field trips are back! We had some amazing trips over MEA break in partnership with Spring Lake Park Recreation. We ventured to the Minnesota Zoo to explore the amazing animals of our planet on October 19th. On October 20th, we headed to Afton Apple Orchard where we had a tour & hayride, went through the giant 15-acre corn maze, played at the playground and visited the petting zoo. Each participant took home 3 apples and a pumpkin. It was a bit chilly but we had a blast! On Friday, October 21st, we started our day carving pumpkins, and our pumpkins were placed on the trails of SNC's Pumpkin Night in the Park! The kids were excited to be able to search for their creations the next day. In the afternoon we bounced, played dodgeball, climbed and more during our adventure at Zero Gravity Trampoline Park!

After-School Classes

Our partnership with the Fridley School District continues to go well for after-school activities. Fridley Nutritional Services is providing a "super snack" for all our participants at no charge. The kids are always so hungry after school, and we are grateful to have these additional services!

Recreation Team Update

In the last four months we have welcomed two new employees to the Recreation Division!

Susan Bauer began as the Administrative Assistant on June 21st. Susan has been working part-time with a typical schedule of Monday, Wednesday and Friday. She is our first contact with the public and has been welcoming and positive in all her interactions. She started out in the middle of a busy shelter rental season and quickly picked up and made improvements to the processes. In addition, Susan has been inputting registrations and program information in the Recreation Software



Program, updating the website, preparing meeting materials and much more! Susan was previously employed with the Anoka Hennepin School District where she worked as an Attendance Secretary for Coon Rapids Middle School and School Year Secretary for Adam's Elementary. In addition, she spent a number of years working as a Communications Coordinator for Target Corporation. Susan has been an active member of the Fridley Community; she lives near Springbrook Nature Center and she and her family are frequent visitors.

Skyler Ruetz joined the Recreation Division on September 12th in the role of Program Specialist. Skyler has been working closely with the After-school Program, field trips, and will be working on a variety of Special Events as well. She graduated with a degree in Rehabilitation Services/Recreational Therapy from the University of Wisconsin – Stout in May. During her time at college she worked as the Intramural Sports Supervisor and this past summer was an Intern for the City of Shoreview Parks and Recreation Department. The Recreation team is thrilled to have Skyler on board, her positive energy and friendly attitude has already been a huge asset to the team and programs!



Minnesota Recreation and Park Association Annual Conference

Recreation Program Staff attended the Annual Minnesota Recreation and Park Association (MRPA) Conference on October 12 – 14th! Over 300 professionals from across the state were in attendance for professional development, education and networking. The conference provided numerous sessions on leadership, activities, best practices and more. Some of our staff's favorite sessions included: Lead From Where you Stand, Innovative Programming, and the ending keynote speaker, Gaelynn Lea—the ABCs of Disability. In addition, an exhibit hall consisting of over 60 vendors from playground manufacturers to registration software systems (including many vendors that have worked with us on the Park Improvement Plan), and there was even a turf painting robot!

The Recreation team came back energized to bring new program and park development ideas to the Fridley Community. In addition, many new connections with Parks and Recreation Professionals to work with to continue to develop and innovate our offerings.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: November 7, 2022

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Jeff Jensen, Operations Manager – Streets, Parks, and Facilities

Title

Park Maintenance and Construction Report

Background

Attached is the Park Maintenance and Construction report for the November 7, 2022 meeting.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Park Maintenance Report for November 7, 2022 meeting

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



Memorandum

Item 6.

Date: 11/7/2022
To: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director
From: Jeff Jensen, Operations Manager, Streets, Parks, Facilities
DEPT: Public Works
CC: Margo Numedahl, Parks and Recreation Manager
RE: Parks and Recreation Commission Report for November 7, 2022 Meeting

The Park Maintenance Department has had a busy month trying to wrap up all remaining projects before moving into the winter season. We have been cutting back all plantings in parks and road medians to prepare for winter, along with mulching leaves in all parks.

Athletics fields are mostly complete and all winterizing of our buildings and blowing out all irrigation systems is complete.

We will be moving into prepping all skating and hockey rinks to prepare for ice. We will also prepare the warming house at Commons Park.

We must sort through all nets and benches to be ready to put them at proper locations. All summer maintenance equipment will be serviced and put away for winter and then we will get all winter maintenance equipment ready to go.

We have started prepping the Moore Lake Beach House to prepare for demolition this winter as well.