



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

May 02, 2022

7:00 PM

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

AGENDA

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- [1.](#) April 4, 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

New Business

- [2.](#) Deer Management 2021-2022 Season Summary Report
- [3.](#) Parks Capital Investment Program Recommendation
- [4.](#) Park System Improvement Plan Summary Report and Resolution of Approval

Old Business

Staff Reports

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

Adjournment



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: May 2, 2022

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Community Services Director

Title

April 4, 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

Background

Attached are the meeting minutes of the April 4, 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

Staff recommend the approval of the April 4, 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes.

Attachments and Other Resources

- April 4, 2022 Parks and Recreation Minutes.

Vision Statement

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



PARK COMMISSION MEETING

April 4, 2022

7:00 PM

Fridley Civic Campus, 7071 University Avenue N.E.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRESENT

Mike Heintz
EB Graham
Eric Evanson
Peter Borman
Ken Schultz
Shanna Larson
Mike Maher, Community Services Director

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Commissioner Larson to APPROVE the April 4, 2022 meeting agenda as amended to add a New Business, Item 5, Election of Officers. SECONDED by Commissioner Graham. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of March 7, 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

MOTION by Commissioner Evanson to APPROVE the March 7, 2022 meeting minutes. SECONDED by Commissioner Borman. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

2. Review of First Draft of Final Park System Plan Document

Mike Maher, Community Services Director, stated that the information included in the packet is the same draft that was reviewed by the Commission with the City Council at the March 28th meeting.

The Commission commended staff for the excellent work with the earlier presentation. Questions were raised as to when the Council would take formal consideration of the plan and whether any feedback has been received.

Mr. Maher stated that there has not yet been follow-up discussion on the plan since the presentation and he was unsure when action would be taken on the plan.

3. City of Fridley Memorial/Tribute Guidelines for Park System

Mr. Maher commented that there has been successful implementation at Springbrook which allows for people to commemorate a loved one or event throughout sponsorship of certain items. He presented a concept that would potentially expand that opportunity throughout the parks system.

The Commission supported this concept, provided additional sponsorship ideas, and suggested additional marketing of the program. Questions were raised related to vandalism and useful life the sponsored items, noting that information would be helpful to share with donors in order to set accurate expectations.

Mr. Maher noted that he would incorporate the feedback received and bring it back to the Commission for consideration in the future.

4. Outdoor Facility Rental Guidelines and Fees Draft

Mr. Maher presented an updated draft of the outdoor field and facility rental guidelines and fees.

The Commission asked questions for clarity and provided some suggestions on field maintenance and use. Additional questions were asked related to fees.

Mr. Maher noted that a section will be added related to special use.

It was noted that there are not fees included for soccer tournaments. A suggestion was also made to convert softball fields at a park to soccer fields to perhaps increase use.

5. Election of Officers

It was noted that the Commission typically elects officers in April/May and suggested that February would be more appropriate in the future as that is the first meeting of the year and new members would have joined the group.

Commissioner Larson made the MOTION to move the election of officers to February beginning in 2023, SECONDED by Commissioner Graham. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

STAFF REPORTS

6. Fridley Parks and Recreation Division Report

Mr. Maher provided an update on recent activity of the parks and recreation division, recreational programming, and recruitment for vacant parks positions. The Commission recognition event will be held at Springbrook Nature Center on April 18th.

7. Springbrook Nature Center Report

Mr. Maher provided an overview of the report highlighting collaborations with local schools. He also advised of available staffing and volunteer opportunities.

8. Park Maintenance and Construction Report

Mr. Maher reviewed the report and encouraged interested candidates to apply for seasonal park maintenance positions.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Larson made the MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m., SECONDED by Commissioner Schultz. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Staple
Recording Secretary



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: May 2, 2022

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Community Services Director

Title

Deer Management 2021-2022 Season Summary Report

Background

The City of Fridley operates a limited deer population management program. This program involves population survey work completed by helicopter followed by DNR permitting if population exceeds recommended levels. The City contracts the management with the USDA Wildlife Services Division. Work has completed for the 2021-2022 permit season and a summary report of the management activities is attached.

Financial Impact

The City has budgeted \$5,000 annually for deer management.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Commission make a motion to accept the report.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Deer Management Summary 2021-2022

Vision Statement

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

2021-2022 Deer Management Report

Prepared by Mike Maher
Community Services Director
April 14, 2022



2021-2022 Deer Management Report

Summary of Deer Management Preparation

In response to citizen feedback and an increase in deer-vehicle collisions in the City of Fridley, the City Council approved a Deer Management Plan in September of 2019. In addition to the development of the management plan, several important steps were taken with the partners listed below prior to management activity including:

1. Completion of an aerial deer population survey:

Michael Goodnature | Natural Resources Manager Parks (2021 survey)
 Ramsey County
 Parks & Recreation Department
 2015 Van Dyke Street
 Maplewood, MN 55109-3796
 651-748-2500 x 347
www.ramseycounty.us

Quinn Palar | Natural Resources Specialist (2022 survey provided in-kind)
 Anoka County Parks
 763-324-3413
 1350 Bunker Lake Blvd NW
 Andover, MN 55304
anokacountyparks.com

2. Receipt of a permit from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources:

Scott Noland
 Area Wildlife Manager | Division of Fish and Wildlife
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
 5463-C West Broadway Avenue
 Forest Lake, MN 55025
 Phone: 651.539.3307
 Fax: 651.296.5202
 Email: scott.noland@state.mn.us
mndnr.gov

3. Contracting the USDA Wildlife Management division to conduct the management work:

Ben Welinski
 Wildlife Specialist
 USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services
 644 Bayfield St. Suite 215

St. Paul, MN 55107
 Office: (651) 224-6027
 Fax: (651) 224-4271

4. Permission was granted to conduct management on Anoka County park land. The staff contact with Anoka County was:

Andy Soltvedt
 Operations & Visitor Services Manager
 Anoka County Parks
 763-324-3404
 550 Bunker Lake Blvd NW
 Andover, MN 55304

5. Cummins Power Generation corporate property was not used for 2021-2022 management but has been used in the past and may be used in the future. The staff contact is:

George Mbuthia
Facilities Manager
 Global Integrated Services – Facilities
 Cummins Power Systems
 1400 73rd Avenue NE, Fridley, MN 55432 U.S.A

6. An official notification was posted on the City of Fridley website alerting residents of the upcoming management activity.

Summary of Deer Management Process

Overall responsibility of the deer management process was overseen by Mike Maher, Director of Community Services. Sargent Nick Steiger was assigned as the Public Safety Liaison.

Sgt. Steiger and Mike Maher worked with USDA Wildlife Services staff member Ben Welinski to determine proper areas for the USDA team to conduct their work that were close to high deer population densities, were large enough to work in and had appropriate topography to include an earthen backdrop for shooting into.

Two locations were identified for management under this permit, The Rice Creek Regional Trail corridor in Locke County Park, and Springbrook Nature Center, a City of Fridley Park. Sites were baited with feed piles maintained by the USDA. Their team held controlled hunts at night using sighted rifles equipped with night-vision technology.

Summary of Deer Management Results

In total, DNR permitting allowed for the City of Fridley to remove up to 30 deer as part of the management program for 2021-2022. USDA contractors were able to remove 12 deer across the two sites.

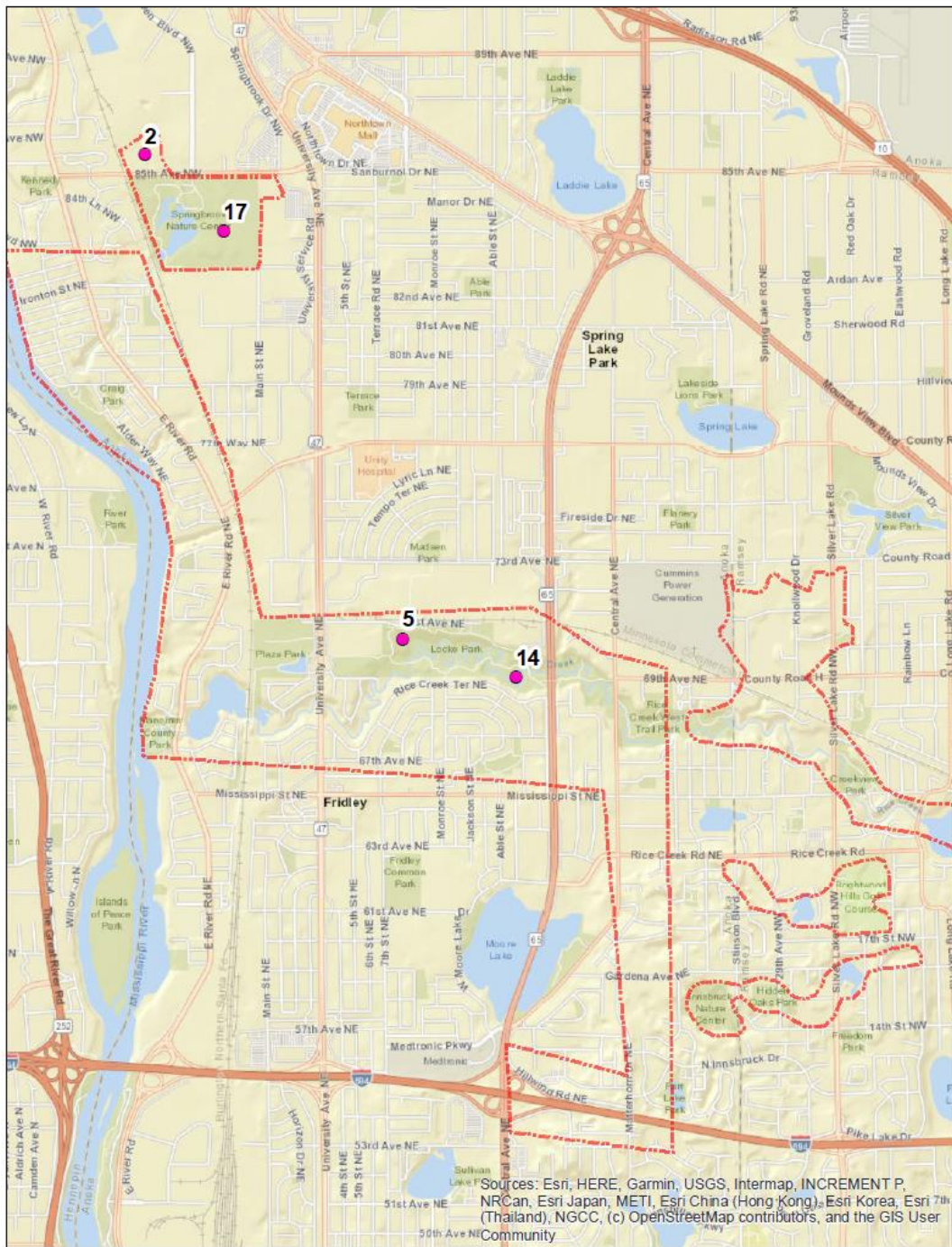
Several lessons were learned that can be applied to future management efforts:

1. It is my recommendation to adopt an ordinance prohibiting feeding of deer in the City of Fridley. There seemed to be a correlation between people feeding deer and reports of deer being a nuisance by neighbors.
2. A number of residents that reside on Heather Place continue to reach out to express concern about deer damage to their landscaping. Conducting management directly behind their homes was evaluated by USDA staff and deemed impractical.
3. Effectiveness of program is inconclusive based on population surveys.

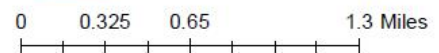
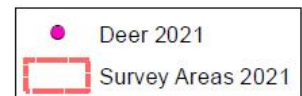
2020-2021 Deer Harvest Data

Date	DNR Permit #	Age	Sex	Harvest Loc	Tag #	# Male Fetus	# Female Fetus	# Unknown Fetus	Recipient
3/3/2022	32666	A	F	6 Rice Creek	1003292			2	Karen Orginaztion of Minnesota
3/3/2022	32666	A	M	6 Springbrook	1003293				Karen Orginaztion of Minnesota
3/3/2022	32666	A	M		1003294				Karen Orginaztion of Minnesota
3/10/2022	32666	A	M		1003295				Karen Orginaztion of Minnesota
3/10/2022	32666	A	M		1003296				Karen Orginaztion of Minnesota
3/17/2022	32666	A	M		1003297				Karen Orginaztion of Minnesota
3/17/2022	32666	A	M		1003298				Karen Orginaztion of Minnesota
3/17/2022	32666	A	M		1003299				Karen Orginaztion of Minnesota
3/17/2022	32666	A	M		1003520				Karen Orginaztion of Minnesota
3/17/2022	32666	A	M		1003521				Karen Orginaztion of Minnesota
3/17/2022	32666	A	M		1003522				Karen Orginaztion of Minnesota
3/22/2022	32666	A	F		1003523		2		Karen Orginaztion of Minnesota

Deer Surveys (following pages):



Ramsey County Deer Survey 2021
Fridley / Springbrook nature center
2/22



Fridley Survey Area



Parcel Information:

Approx. Acres:
Commissioner:

Plat:

Anoka County GIS

1:38,400

Date: 2/14/2022

Owner Information:

86 total deer

Disclaimer: Map and parcel data are believed to be accurate, but accuracy is not guaranteed. This is not a legal document and should not be substituted for a title search, appraisal, survey, or for zoning verification.

Conclusion

My recommendation is to continue an active deer management program for the City of Fridley to include annual population monitoring and at minimum, bi-annual deer management through ongoing partnership with the USDA Wildlife Services. In addition, resident feedback and deer-auto collisions should continue to be closely monitored.

I will continue to work with our communications staff to provide education to residents on wildlife related issues such as deer feeding, goose management and the role of coyotes in an urban/suburban landscape. I would recommend an annual budget allocation of \$10,000 for deer surveys and management to allow for additional time for USDA staff to harvest deer. The past several years, we have been permitted to remove up to 30 deer but due to time constraints, 11-12 deer were harvested each year. Past expenditures for surveys and management have been \$5,000-\$6,000 annually.

An annual budget of \$10,000 would allow for a more expansive effort and would help to determine if management efforts are effective at lowering the deer population across the City of Fridley. Current harvest numbers do not appear to be impacting population trends. Residents do seem to appreciate that the City is undertaking some effort to manage the deer population.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: May 2, 2022

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Community Services Director

Title

Parks Capital Investment Program Recommendation

Background

Per City of Fridley Municipal Code Title 1 – General Provisions, Chapter 105 – Commissions, The [Parks and Recreation] Commission shall each year, prior to June 1, recommend a capital investment program (CIP) for park improvement and acquisition and for public recreation activities for the ensuing year.

Financial Impact

Recommendations from the Parks and Recreation Commission will be taken into consideration by staff and Council as the Parks CIP is proposed for 2023 and future years.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Commission pass a motion recommending the proposed expenditures outlined in the "Fridley Parks Estimate Table_Preferred_2022" document be used as the basis for development of the 2023 Parks CIP. This assumes that Council authorizes a funding mechanism for the Park System Improvement Plan and that implementation of the Plan follows the sequencing recommended in the document.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Five-year Parks CIP Summary Presentation
- Fridley Parks Estimate Table_Preferred_2022

Vision Statement

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



Five-year Parks Capital Investment Program

Five-year outlook of how the City will
invest in parks through the Capital
Investment Program

Capital Investment Program Overview

- The City of Fridley uses the Capital Investment Program (CIP) as a long-term strategy for improving the infrastructure of the City by planning-ahead for expenses that are not included in the operational budget
- Capital Investment occurs in a variety of funds across the City including Streets, Storm Water, Water, Sanitary Sewer, Capital Equipment (vehicles, etc.), IT Projects, Buildings, Liquor, and Parks
- In our park system, larger-ticket items such as playgrounds, bridges, boardwalks or new courts are budgeted in the five-year CIP which is reviewed and approved each year by the City Council
- Typically, the annual Parks CIP budget has ranged from \$300,000 - \$600,000 allowing mostly for maintenance



Parks and Recreation Commission Recommendation

Item 3.

Per City of Fridley Municipal Code

Title 1 – General Provisions

Chapter 105 – Commissions

The [Parks and Recreation] Commission shall each year, prior to June 1, recommend a capital investment program for park improvement and acquisition and for public recreation activities for the ensuing year.



Current Approved Five-year CIP

Parks Capital	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Total
Civic Campus Park/Plaza Improvements	\$25,000					\$25,000
Master Plan Improvements (planning and design)	\$300,000					\$300,000
SNC Boardwalk Replacement	\$30,000	\$10,000				\$40,000
Playground Equipment Replacement	\$80,000					\$80,000
Grant Matching	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$250,000
Park System Maintenance	\$150,000					\$150,000
SNC Security Upgrades	\$40,000					\$40,000
SNC Parking Lot				\$25,000		\$25,000
Total	\$675,000	\$60,000	\$50,000	\$75,000	\$50,000	\$910,000

Park CIP Strategy with Park System Improvement Plan Pending

- 2022 allocations were made to allow for planning and design for first round of park improvements if Park System Improvement Plan (PSIP) is approved.
- Most 2023 – 2026 projects were deferred in anticipation of approval of the Park System Improvement Plan and associated funding.
- A separate eight to ten-year draft CIP lays out cost for park improvements that were identified as priorities in the Park System Improvement Plan for \$30 million in funding.
- See document 016927_Fridley Parks Estimate Table_Preferred-2022 for detail (included in Commission Meeting Packet)

	PARK DESCRIPTION	2023		2024		2025		2026		2027		2028	
		Design	Const.	Design	Const.	Design	Const.	Design	Const.	Design	Const.	Design	Const.
	COMMUNITY												
	Commons					\$1,595,990.00			\$4,787,970.00		\$4,787,970.00		
D	Community												
	Moore Lake	\$497,500.00			\$2,985,000.00								
	NEIGHBORHOOD												
D	Altura												
	Briardale									\$50,272.50			\$385,422.50
X	Craig												
	Creekridge												
	Creekview	\$44,857.50	\$343,907.50										
	Ed Wilmes	\$32,418.75	\$248,543.75										
	Edgewater	\$108,340.00			\$650,040.00								
D	Farr Lake												
	Flanery					\$148,970.00			\$893,820.00				
	Glencoe									\$12,375.00	\$90,750.00		
	Hackmann Circle											\$39,900.00	\$292,600.00
	Harris Lake												
	Innsbruck NC												
	Jay												
	Jubilee					\$30,251.25			\$221,842.50				
D	Locke Lake												
	Logan			\$73,338.00			\$440,028.00						
	Madsen			\$585,050.00			\$3,510,300.00						
	Meadowlands												
	Oak Hill							\$19,267.50	\$141,295.00				
D	Plaza												
	Plymouth Square			\$50,550.00			\$387,550.00						
D	Ray Thompson LL												
X	River Edge Way												
	Riverview Hts							\$114,870.00			\$689,220.00		
	Ruth Circle									\$325,860.00			\$1,955,160.00
	Skyline	\$71,107.50			\$521,455.00								
	Springbrook												
	Summit Square											\$28,030.00	\$308,330.00
	Sylvan Hills	\$60,165.00			\$461,265.00								
	Terrace												
D	W. Moore Lake												
	Subtotals:	\$814,388.75	\$592,451.25	\$708,938.00	\$4,617,760.00	\$1,775,211.25	\$4,337,878.00	\$134,137.50	\$6,044,927.50	\$388,507.50	\$5,567,940.00	\$67,930.00	\$2,941,512.50
	YEARLY TOTALS:		\$1,406,840.00		\$5,326,698.00		\$6,113,089.25		\$6,179,065.00		\$5,956,447.50		\$3,009,442.50

Estimates and Funding

Conceptual Estimates

- 8–10-year Improvements = \$30.2 M
- Deferred Improvements = \$21 M
 - **Total: \$51.1M**

*NOTE: High level estimates meant for initial budgeting and do not account for unknown factors that will affect actual costs.

Funding Recommendations

- Determined by the Park System Improvement Plan Financing Advisory
- \$20 million abatement bond

Schedule for First Seven Parks

Moore Lake

- Community Outreach (May 2022)
- Design & Permitting (May 2022)
- Contracting (Dec. 2022)
- Construction & Inspection (May 2023)
- Park Open (Aug. 2024)

Neighborhood Parks

- Ed Wilmes (May 2022-July 2023)
- Creekview (May 2022-Aug. 2023)
- Skyline (May 2022-Oct. 2023)
- Edgewater (May 2023-Oct. 2024)
- Plymouth Square (July 2023-Oct. 2024)
- Sylvan (July 2023-Nov. 2024)



Capital Investment Program Timeline

5-2-2022	CIP Request Forms released to Departments Parks and Recreation Review of Proposed Parks CIP
5-20-2022	CIP Request Forms due to Finance Department
6-17-2022	Proposed 2023 – 2027 CIP Released to Council
6-27-2022	Proposed CIP Discussion with Council
9-12-2022	Discuss Proposed 2023 Budget, including CIP, with City Council
10-7-2022	CIP Changes and Revisions due to Finance Dept.
11-18-2022	Final CIP Changes due to Finance Dept.
12-12-2022	City Council Adopts 2023 Budget and 2023-2027 CIP

Park System Improvement Plan Timeline

4-23-2022	Town Hall Meeting presenting resident update on PSIP
4-25-2022	Present final Park System Improvement Plan document to Council
May-June	Determine timeline and amounts for bonding. Seek Council approval and hold public hearing(s)
6-17-2022	Proposed 2023 – 2027 CIP Released to Council with PSIP additions
6-27-2022	Proposed CIP Discussion with Council (with PSIP additions)
9-12-2022	Discuss Proposed 2023 Budget, including CIP, with City Council
10-7-2022	CIP Changes and Revisions due to Finance Dept.
11-18-2022	Final CIP Changes due to Finance Dept.
12-12-2022	City Council Adopts 2023 Budget and 2023-2027 CIP with PSIP additions



Action: Recommendation for 2023 Park CIP

- Staff recommends that the Commission entertain a motion to recommend the CIP detailed for the year 2023 in the presented document 016927_Fridley Parks Estimate Table_Preferred-2022
- Are there other needs within the Fridley park system that the Commission would recommend be addressed in the 2023 CIP?

Questions?



PARK DESCRIPTION		2023		2024		2025		2026		2027		2028		2029		2030		
		Design	Const.	Design	Const.	Design	Const.	Design	Const.	Design	Const.	Design	Const.	Design	Const.	Design	Const.	
	COMMUNITY																	
	Commons					\$1,708,390.00		\$5,125,170.00		\$5,125,170.00								\$11,958,730.00 ATTEMPT TO ADD PLAYGROUND IF BUDGET ALLOWS
D	Community																	\$0.00
	Moore Lake	\$915,000.00		\$5,490,000.00														\$6,405,000.00
																		\$0.00
	NEIGHBORHOOD																	\$0.00
D	Altura																	\$0.00
	Briardale									\$51,022.50		\$391,172.50						\$442,195.00
X	Craig																	\$0.00
	Creekridge											\$37,458.75	\$287,183.75					\$324,642.50
	Creekview	\$45,607.50	\$349,657.50															\$395,265.00
	Ed Wilmes	\$32,793.75	\$251,418.75															\$284,212.50
	Edgewater	\$110,340.00		\$662,040.00														\$772,380.00
D	Farr Lake																	\$0.00
	Flanery					\$152,970.00		\$917,820.00										\$1,070,790.00
D	Glencoe																	\$0.00
	Hackmann Circle											\$40,650.00	\$298,100.00					\$338,750.00
	Harris Lake													\$62,830.00		\$361,272.50		\$424,102.50
	Innsbruck NC													\$29,630.00	\$355,560.00			\$385,190.00
	Jay													\$179,630.00				\$179,630.00
	Jubilee					\$31,001.25		\$227,342.50										\$258,343.75
D	Locke Lake																	\$0.00
	Logan			\$74,338.00		\$446,028.00												\$520,366.00
	Madsen			\$421,050.00		\$2,526,300.00												\$2,947,350.00
D	Meadowlands																	\$0.00
	Oak Hill					\$19,642.50	\$144,045.00											\$163,687.50
D	Plaza																	\$0.00
	Plymouth Square	\$51,300.00		\$393,300.00														\$444,600.00
D	Ray Thompson LL																	\$0.00
X	River Edge Way																	\$0.00
D	Riverview Hts																	\$0.00
	Ruth Circle									\$178,860.00		\$1,073,160.00						\$1,252,020.00
	Skyline	\$71,482.50	\$524,205.00															\$595,687.50
D	Springbrook																	\$0.00
	Summit Square									\$28,155.00	\$309,705.00							\$337,860.00
	Sylvan Hills	\$61,290.00		\$469,890.00														\$531,180.00
	Terrace															\$49,665.00	\$364,210.00	\$413,875.00
D	W. Moore Lake																	\$0.00
	Subtotals:	\$1,287,813.75	\$1,125,281.25	\$495,388.00	\$7,015,230.00	\$1,912,003.75	\$3,116,373.00	\$0.00	\$6,270,332.50	\$258,037.50	\$5,434,875.00	\$78,108.75	\$2,049,616.25	\$92,460.00	\$535,190.00	\$49,665.00	\$725,482.50	\$30,445,857.25
	YEARLY TOTALS:		\$2,413,095.00		\$7,510,618.00		\$5,028,376.75		\$6,270,332.50		\$5,692,912.50		\$2,127,725.00		\$627,650.00		\$775,147.50	\$30,445,857.25



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: May 2, 2022

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Community Services Director

Title

Park System Improvement Plan Summary Report and Resolution of Approval

Background

The Park System Improvement Plan, developed by consultant WSB, lays out a roadmap for systematic improvements across the City of Fridley's park system. A recommended implementation plan shows priorities for park improvements that fit within a \$30 million budget that was established by the City Council. The Council accepted Resolution 2022-36 (Approving Park System Improvement Plan Final Report and Authorizing Staff to Begin Implementation of the Plan) at their April 25, 2022 meeting.

Financial Impact

The Plan acknowledges the recommendation of the Finance Task Force to consider issuance of \$20 million in tax abatement bonds with an additional \$10 million in City funds being used to achieve the \$30 million budget for implementation of the Park System Improvement Plan.

Recommendation

No action is required by the Commission at this time as the Plan has been accepted directly by the City Council.

Attachments and Other Resources

- April 25, 2022 City Council Summary Presentation for Park System Improvement Plan
- Resolution No. 2022-36 Approving Park System Improvement Plan and Authorizing Staff to Begin Implementation of the Plan

Vision Statement

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



Park System Improvement Plan

Resolution 2022-36

Approving Park System Improvement Plan Final Report and Authorizing Staff to Begin Implementation



Chapter 1: Introduction

- Park System Improvement Plan Purpose
- Background
- Fridley's Park System
- Anoka County Park System
- School District

Purpose and Background

Purpose

- To provide a roadmap to guide redevelopment of park infrastructure and capital investment planning
- To respond to resident feedback that parks and trails are valued and there is a need for modernization
- To integrate park development with related plans such as 2040 Comprehensive Plan and Active Transportation Plan

Background

- Fridley is a fully-developed community
- Water access in Mississippi River and Rice Creek
- Fridley is a “transportation powerhouse” providing easy access yet resulting in physical barriers of railways, highways, etc.
- Anoka County Parks and school district properties also serve residents

Fridley's Park System

- 38 parks totaling 295 acres of park land
- Athletic facilities such as tennis, soccer, softball, volleyball, etc.

2040 Comprehensive Plan Goals:

- Park and rec opportunities for all
- Meet needs and interests of residents by keeping pace with changing trends
- Year-round bike/walk opportunities
- Protect our natural resources
- Promote Fridley as a river community



Chapter 2: Community Feedback and Recreation Trends

- Community Feedback
- Recreation Trends
- Fridley Findings

Community Feedback



Online and Social Media

- Polco Surveys
- Social Poinpoint
- Online Story Map



Stakeholder Meetings

- LISC Workshops
- Athletic Associations
- School Districts
- Anoka County
- Resident Task Forces



Community Events

- Town Hall
- Night to Unite
- Park Popup Events

Recreation Trends

Community
Gathering Spaces



Unique and
Customizable
Experiences



Open to All Users,
Through All
Seasons



Protection and
Interaction With
Natural Resources



Active Living and
Healthy
Communities



Fridley Community Findings



The top five requested amenities in the Social Pinpoint and Polco surveys were expanded and improved walking loops, improved playgrounds, water features, improved picnic shelters and park buildings with community gathering rooms.

The LISC workshops report identified values relating to our park system including informed users, active living, social connections and wellness/nature. Specific amenities listed were improved wayfinding, access to water for recreation, multi-use buildings and public art.



What Does Fridley Want?



Improved
Playgrounds
& Amenities



Gathering
Spaces



Year-Round Use
& Connectivity



Unique
Amenities and
Experiences

Chapter 3: Needs Assessment

- Demographics
- Park Metrics
- Focus Initiatives

Demographics

Demographic Findings

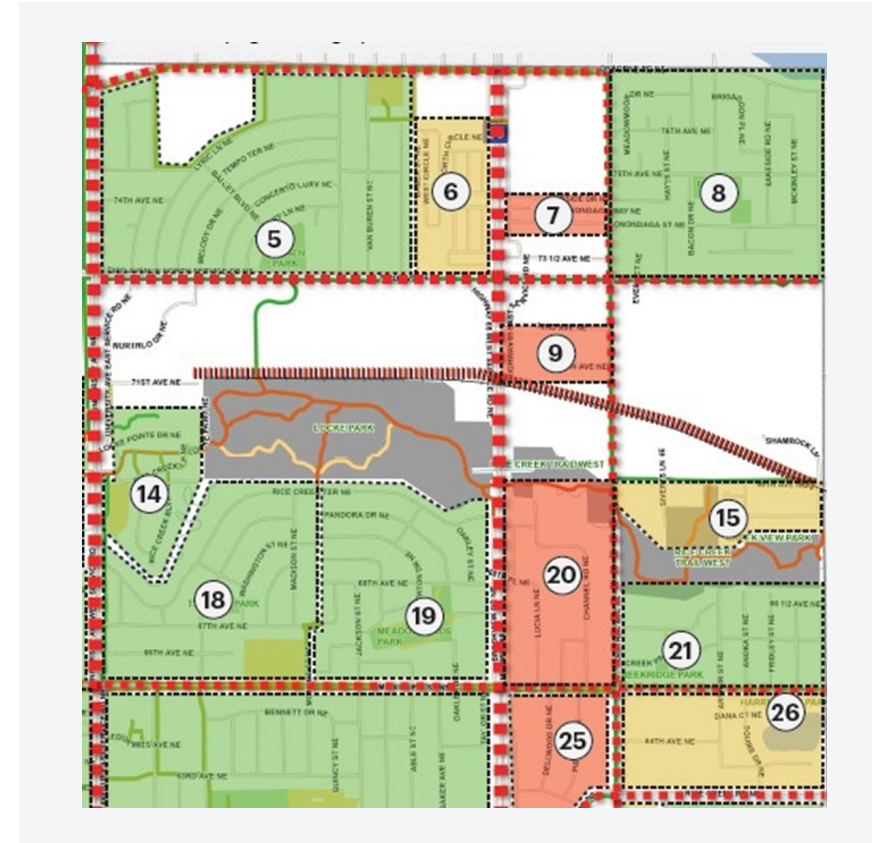
The existing demographics of Fridley were identified and evaluated in terms of locations of higher density populations, lower income populations and percentage of minority populations. This allows a better understanding of potential locations for underserved populations compared against the existing park distribution and quality.



Park Metrics

Parks Analysis

- Park Level of Service
- Park Service Areas
- Access & Barriers
- Underserved Populations



Focus Initiatives

1. Enhance the Unique Identity of Community Parks

- Community gathering and outdoor recreation focus at Moore Lake Park
- Year-round recreation focus at Commons park with improved skating, sledding, dedicated pickleball courts, splash pad and inclusive play area



2. Update Amenities Throughout the Park System

- **Updated Playgrounds** (23 new playgrounds with destination Inclusive Playground at Commons Park)
- **Splash Pad** (Commons Park)
- **Park Buildings** (Commons Park, Moore Lake, many shelters added to the park system, expanded recreation programs)
- **Public Art** (Partnership and sponsorship opportunities)

Focus Initiatives

3. Increase Connectivity Within Fridley's Park System

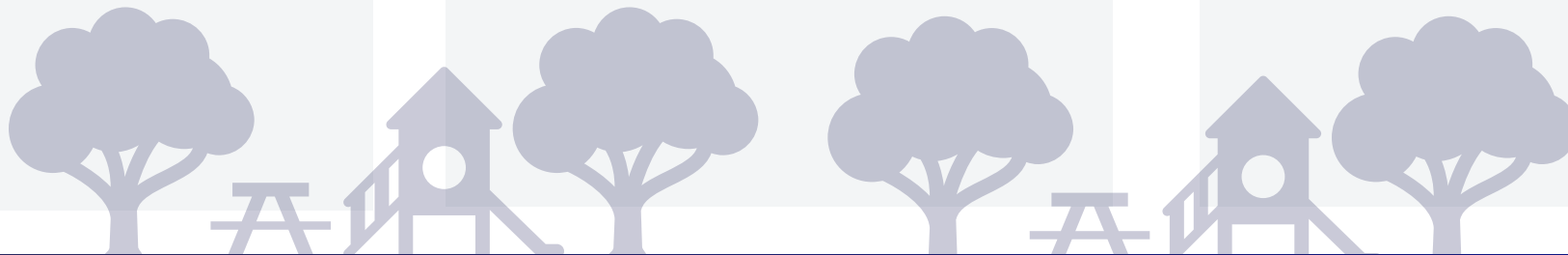
- Wayfinding and Connectivity
- Branding
- Expanded trail loops

4. Environmental Stewardship

- Pollinator-Friendly Lawns and Nature-Based Play
- Shoreline Restoration
- Stormwater features, rain gardens

5. Maintenance

- Select lower-maintenance materials
- Create routine maintenance schedules
- Volunteer efforts such as Adopt-a-Park



Chapter 4: Park System Plan and Recommendations

- Overview
- Park Standards
- Park Plan and Recommendations

Park Plan and Recommendations

Improvement Plan Document Provides for Each Park:

- Description
- Planning Background
- Recommendations
- Priority Level
- Concept Plan



Item 4.



Chapter 5: Implementation Plan

- Implementation Strategy
- Community Outreach and Engagement
- Proposed Schedule
- Next Steps

Preferred Implementation Strategy

The Park System Improvement Plan Refinement Advisory Committee were presented with two different implementation strategies. A **preferred final implementation strategy** was chosen (with some modifications since) and includes:

- Task force recommended Strategy #1
- Additional Community Park Considerations
- Neighborhood / special use parks



Preferred Implementation Strategy

Task Force Strategy #1

- Implements high priority community needs
- Provides meaningful improvements across the community

Additional Community Park Considerations

- **Moore Lake:** Further study indicated a building may be feasible, but the location may need to be adjusted
- Building would provide value
- **Commons Park:** Incorporation of an all-inclusive playground is warranted and would make the park more complete. Grant funds may help offset some costs



- Compliment Springbrook Nature Center as year-round community gathering spaces for Fridley
- Provide indoor restrooms for park users
- Four-season hub for recreation, education and enrichment programming
- Attractive venue for expanded services for seniors
- Indoor gathering and kitchenette spaces would support indoor/outdoor events

Preferred Implementation Strategy

Neighborhood / special use parks – additional modifications to account for additional community park costs

Ruth Circle and Madsen

- Removed full warming house building and replaced it with a group picnic shelter with restrooms
- Removed paved rink surfacing

Additional Deferred Parks

- Altura
- Glencoe
- Meadowlands
- Plaza
- Springbrook

Community Outreach and Engagement

Outreach and engagement for all the parks that will be impacted by the Park System Improvement Plan will consist of frequent interaction via digital, print, and in-person campaigns.



Outreach and Engagement Activities

Activities used for the community parks (Moore Lake & Commons):

- Community Connection newsletter promotion or informational updates/calls for participation
- Social Media campaigns and updates in the bi-weekly "Fridley For You" e-newsletter
- In-person (at the park) events specifically about the topic(s) we need feedback on such as playground themes
- Grand opening/ribbon cutting welcoming all community members

Outreach and Engagement Activities

Activities used for the 20 neighborhood parks that will be improved as part of then plan:

- Hold an in-person kick-off event at each neighborhood park inviting those living in that specific park area
- In-person (at the park) events specifically about the topic(s) we need feedback on
 - i.e., amenity location, color, lighting, play area themes, etc.
- Mailers/postcards sent to residents near each park providing information/updates and/or inviting them to kick-off events, update events, etc.
- Send staff on Night to Unite to parks that are on the upcoming construction schedule
- Nextdoor.com social media posts targeted specifically to those in and around each specific park
- Grand opening/ribbon cutting welcoming residents around the given neighborhood park

Schedule for First Seven Parks

Moore Lake

- Community Outreach (May 2022)
- Design & Permitting (May 2022)
- Contracting (Dec. 2022)
- Construction & Inspection (May 2023)
- Park Open (Aug. 2024)

Neighborhood Parks

- Ed Wilmes (May 2022-July 2023)
- Creekview (May 2022-Aug. 2023)
- Skyline (May 2022-Oct. 2023)
- Edgewater (May 2023-Oct. 2024)
- Plymouth Square (July 2023-Oct. 2024)
- Sylvan (July 2023-Nov. 2024)



Parks Starting in or after 2024

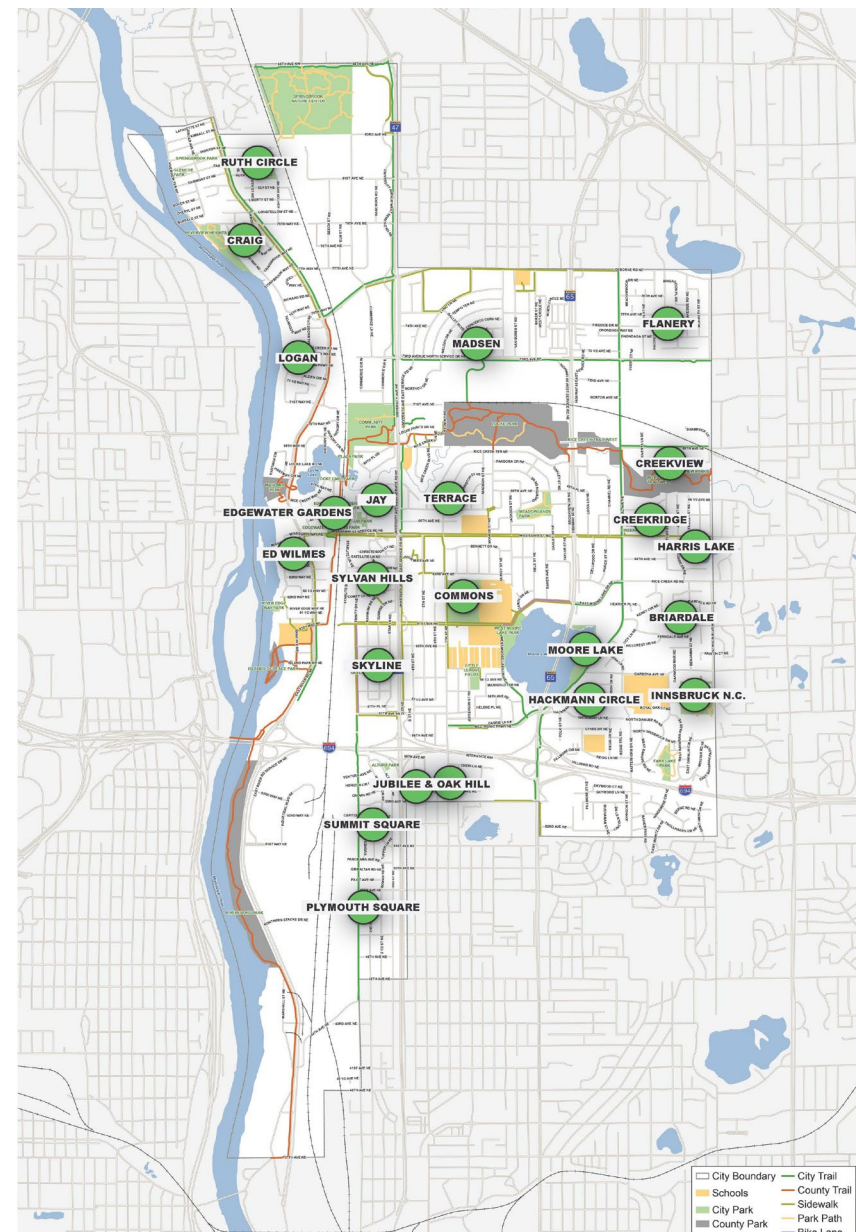
Starting in 2024	Starting in 2025	Starting in 2026	Starting in 2027	Starting in 2028	Starting in 2029
▪ Edgewater Garden ▪ Plymouth Square ▪ Sylvan Hills	▪ Logan ▪ Madsen ▪ Oak Hill	▪ Flanery ▪ Jubilee	▪ Summit Square ▪ Harris	▪ Briardale ▪ Creekridge ▪ Hackmann Circle ▪ Ruth Circle ▪ Innsbruck N.C.	▪ Jay ▪ Terrace

Deferred parks: Altura, Farr Lake, Glencoe, Locke Lake, Meadowlands, Plaza, Ray Thompson L.L. Fields, Riverview Heights, Springbrook, West Moore Lake



Distribution of Park Improvements

- Improved Community Parks will serve all residents
- Improved neighborhood parks are near all residents and were prioritized by needs assessment



Estimates and Funding

Conceptual Estimates

- 8–10-year Improvements = \$30.2 M
- Deferred Improvements = \$21 M
 - **Total: \$51.1M**

*NOTE: High level estimates meant for initial budgeting and do not account for unknown factors that will affect actual costs.

Funding Recommendations

- Determined by the Park System Improvement Plan Financing Advisory
- \$20 million abatement bond

Next Steps

- Final City Council adoption
- Upload plan to city website and StoryMap for public review
- Submit plan for Adjacent Jurisdiction / Community Review (select agencies, neighboring communities, etc.) per Met Council requirements – 60-day time period
- City Council approves submittal to Met Council for review and adoption as addendum / amendment to the 2040 Comprehensive Plan – can take 2-3 months

Resolution No. 2022-36**Approving Park System Improvement Plan Final Report and Authorizing Staff to Begin Implementation of the Plan**

Whereas, the City of Fridley has contracted services from consultant WSB to create a Park System Improvement Plan (Plan); and

Whereas, Fridley residents have been engaged in the development of the Plan through surveys, events, Town Hall meetings, task force groups, and social media; and

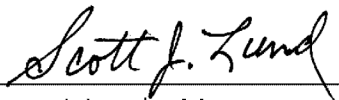
Whereas, the Plan has been developed to distribute park improvements across the Fridley community to enhance and modernize Community Parks as well as neighborhood parks; and

Whereas, the Plan includes analysis of underserved areas, barriers to parks and demographics in Fridley to propose park improvement priorities that better meet the needs of all residents; and

Whereas, the Fridley City Council received recommendations from the Park System Improvement Plan Finance and Refinement Task Force groups which have informed a plan not to exceed \$30 million dollars and a ten-year implementation; and

Now, therefore be it resolved, that the City Council of the City of Fridley hereby approves the Park System Improvement Plan Final Report and authorizes staff to begin the implementation phase of the Plan.

Passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Fridley this 25th day of April, 2022.



Scott J. Lund – Mayor

Attest:



Melissa Moore – City Clerk



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: May 2, 2022

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Tara Rogness, Springbrook Nature Center Manager

Title

Springbrook Nature Center Report

Background

Attached is the April 2022 update from Springbrook Nature Center

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None

Attachments and Other Resources

- Springbrook Nature Center April 2022 Update

Vision Statement

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

Springbrook Nature Center *Park & Rec Commission Report*

Item 5.

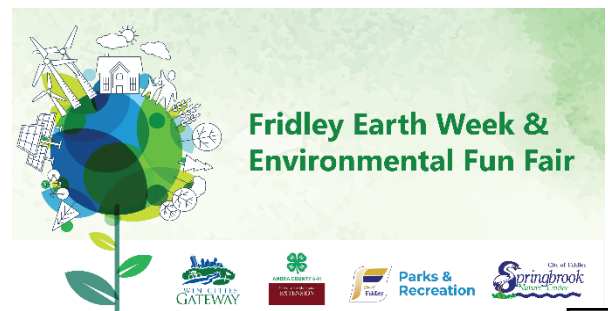
April Highlights

- Fridley 2nd graders learned about seed dispersal during their field trip to Springbrook. Highlights of the trip included: making seed balls to slingshot into the prairie (seed balls are self-contained plantable spheres with clay, compost and prairie seeds), playing seed games, and hiking the park in search of signs of spring and plants emerging from seeds.
- Fridley first graders are learning about needs of plants and animals, how animal offspring are similar but different than their parents, and life cycles of animals. Painted Lady Butterfly caterpillars will be delivered to their classrooms soon so that they can see life cycles happen in front of their eyes.
- Fridley Kindergarteners are learning about the concepts of living and non-living, habitats, and recycling in their upcoming module. Springbrook naturalists are heading in to the classroom to teach their first lessons this month.
- 1st and 2nd graders at Park Terrace have been learning about a variety of topics during their afterschool enrichment programs with Naturalists Cody and Ren.
- Interpretive Program Coordinators, Dina Cyrus and Cody Rossetti are still hiring for our summer programs. Hiring has been a challenge this year, but we are confident that we will be fully staffed soon.
- We have seen a return of some of our onsite field trip schools recently. Sunnyside and Island Lake Elementary Schools visited this month to learn about habitats and reptiles and amphibians.
- Adams Elementary teaching this month has included Kindergarten (Living and Non Living, Habitats), 2nd grade (plants and diversity) and 4th grade (rocks and minerals).
- We are gearing up for a great Summer Camp season. We have some 10-12 year old and preschool spots available, check out the SNC website for more information (www.springbrooknaturecenter.org). We're excited to bring back our Junior Leader program. If you know of any teenage (13-18) volunteers that would like to come and hang out in our camp program for the week, please check our website or email Dina Cyrus (dina.cyrus@fridleymn.gov)



Upcoming this Spring

- Environmental Fun Fair will take place on Saturday, May 7th from 10 am – 1 pm. This free program will feature a Fun Run, Interactive Educational Stations, Food Trucks, and more. This program is jointly run with Fridley Recreation and Anoka County 4H. We're excited to have the program back after a 3 year hiatus!



- Migration Celebration is back again on Saturday, May 14th. Bring the entire family to learn more about birds, their amazing adaptations, and marvel at their migratory skills. Be prepared to meet live birds, make bird crafts, go on a bird hike, and more. This event is made possible by a generous donation from the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation.

Grants

- Springbrook is working with the Recreation division on an Anoka County SHIP grant. We are excited to be looking at purchasing a fleet of bikes that will be utilized in all kinds of innovative programming across both divisions.
- We have applied for a grant from the Xcel Energy Foundation. If awarded the grant money, we have plans for a new interactive exhibit entitled "The Power of Prairies" that will highlight the desirable diversity of prairies, their functions, and how we can each increase our biodiversity in our own lawns.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: May 2, 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 April 2022.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Park Maintenance Report April 2022

Vision Statement

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



MEMORANDUM

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Jeff Jensen, Operations Manager-Streets, Parks and Facilities

DATE: April, 2022

SUBJECT April Parks Report

The Park Department has been working on prepping all summer maintenance equipment and are ready for the season. Spring trash pickup was completed on University Ave ROW and we picked up over 150 bags of trash. We are continuing to work on removing EAB trees and dead branches in all parks. Field preparation is in full swing for little league, men's softball, youth baseball and soccer. Parks also renovated Commons field #2 and converted from softball to youth baseball by installing a pitching mound, cutting back sod 6 feet, adding ag lime and grading and moving irrigation.

Jej:jej



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: May 2, 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 April 2022.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Recreation Division Highlights: April 2022

Vision Statement

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



HIGHLIGHTS

Recreation Division: April 2022

Spring Programs

The first session of Spring programs ended in April. Below is a list of programs and participation numbers for the second session of Spring programs which began on April 25.

PRESCHOOL & ELEMENTARY

Soccer (3 classes)	22
T-ball/Baseball (3 classes)	22
Painting	12

ADULT FITNESS & ATHLETICS

Zumba (2 classes)	16
Aqua Zumba	10
Pickleball Skills & Drills (5– Fridley; 5 – SLP)	10
Pickleball Games & Strategies (9– Fridley; 3 – SLP)	12
55+ Golf League	18

ALL AGES

ROX Box – April Fool's	4 kits (21 people)
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Parks and Recreation Brochure

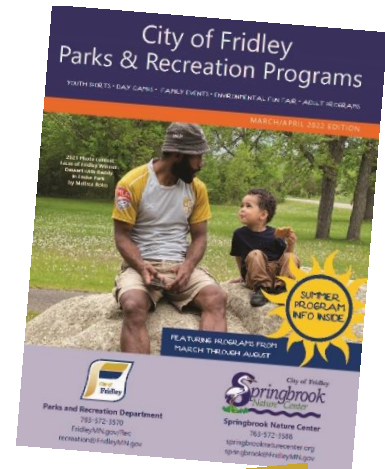
The May-April brochure was mailed to residents beginning on April 22. This brochure contains summer programs.

Summer ROCKS

The ROCKS program is full at 45 participants per week and many weeks have wait lists. We are looking forward to a fun summer!

Summer Meal Partnership

The Fridley School's Food Services will be providing FREE meals to participants in our ROCKS and Rec 'n Roll participants. School staff have been really great to work with and we are fortunate to be able to offer nutritious breakfast, lunch and snacks to youth in our programs.



55+ Golf League

The pre-season Golf League meeting was held at City Hall on Thursday, April 7th. Fourteen golfers attended to register, go over rules and socialize with others in the league.

Adopt-A-Park Kickoff and Training Event

On April 30th Recreation staff hosted the first ever Fridley Adopt-A-Park Kickoff while providing a brief training covering the rules and procedures of the program. Training revolved around volunteer responsibilities including trash clean up, weeding, and reporting vandalism. A light lunch was served to show Fridley's appreciation for the time and effort put in by Adopt-A-Park volunteers. The Adopt-A-Park program currently has 30 different individuals and groups committed to adopting Fridley parks in 2022. Registration is open for new groups or individuals interested in the program.

Recreation Team Update

On April 25th the Parks and Recreation Division of the Community Services Department promoted two employees into the role of Recreation Program Coordinator.

Jessica Nelson-Roehl joined our team in the summer of 2021 as a Customer Service Representative. She has a background in music, music education and managing the marketing, administration, and event coordination for a local mobile sauna business. Jessica's passion for music, the arts, community events and the outdoors will serve her well as she takes on this exciting new position.



Brice Richter joined the City of Fridley in 2019 as a Recreation Intern and was promoted to Recreation Specialist in 2020. Brice grew up in Wisconsin and moved to Minnesota to attend the U of M where he earned a Recreation Administration degree. He enjoys traveling, the outdoors, sports and working with youth in our community.



We will be taking a close look at the Customer Service Representative role that Jessica will be moving out of and expect to fill this position in a part-time capacity. We will be connecting with other departments and city management to be sure that we fill this position in a manner that is within our department budget and aligns with the City's larger goal of providing great customer service to our residents.

We expect Brice and Jessica to each take leadership roles in various aspects of Fridley's Parks and Recreation programs. Their efforts will help provide growth and increased capacity to impact and inspire our residents to pursue recreational opportunities, build a stronger community and improve health and well-being for our residents.

Summer Seasonal Hiring

We have been busy attending job fairs and heavily promoting our summer job opportunities. If you know of anyone you think would be interested please spread the word!

Fridley Earth Week

Fridley Earth Week kicked off on Arbor Day, April 29, and is being held now through May 7th. We encourage you to participate in a variety of activities that support a healthy environment, including: a park clean-up day, story walks, scavenger hunts, and more! Join us for Arbor Day, Hazardous Waste Drop-off Day, Bike Day, Recycling/Organics Day, Adopt-A-Drain/Park, Garden Day, Electric Vehicle Day and Energy Day. Find all of our Earth Week activities at: <https://fridleymn.gov/1602/Earth-Week>

All events lead to the [Environmental Fun Fair](#), which will be held on May 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Springbrook Nature Center.



Exhibits:

We have many different fun exhibitors bringing hands-on activities for all ages. From the International Wolf Center to Anoka County Library - there is something for everyone!

Activities:

Live Music & Animals
Bouncy House | Touch-a-Truck
Event Passport & Prizes
Crafts | Games
Food & More!

Bike Fix-It Clinic

Bring your bicycle with for a free safety check and minor repairs.



View the full list of exhibits and activities at FridleyMN.gov/FunFair or scan the QR code.

New! Fun Run or Hike - Begins at 10:30 a.m.

Your run or hike will be around a one-mile loop on the Springbrook Nature Center trails. There will be interactive activities for all ages along the way. Enjoy at your own pace!

Please bring at least one non-perishable food item to participate in the Fun Run/Hike. Donations will be given to the SACA Food Shelf.

