



Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

October 07, 2024

7:00 PM

Fridley Civic Campus, 7071 University Avenue N.E.

Agenda

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- [1.](#) September 3, 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

Open Forum

The open forum allows the public to address the Commission on subjects that are not on the Regular Agenda. The Commission will accept feedback or questions from the public and asks that comments are limited to five minutes or less.

New Business

- [2.](#) Springbrook Nature Center Pumpkin Night In the Park
- [3.](#) Commons Park Site Plan Review
- [4.](#) Non-Profit Fee Waiver Request
- [5.](#) Scholarship Program Report

Old Business

Staff Reports

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

Adjournment

Accessibility Notice:

- If you need free interpretation or translation assistance, please contact City staff.

- Si necesita ayuda de interpretación o traducción gratis, comuníquese con el personal de la ciudad.
- Yog tias koj xav tau kev pab txhais lus los sis txhais ntaub ntawv dawb, ces thov tiv tauj rau Lub Nroog cov neeg ua hauj lwm.
- Haddii aad u baahan tahay tarjumaad bilaash ah ama kaalmo tarjumaad, fadlan la xiriir shaqaalaha Magaalada.

Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in any City of Fridley services, programs or activities. Hearing impaired persons who need an interpreter or other persons who require auxiliary aids should contact CityClerk@FridleyMN.gov or (763) 572-3450.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: October 7, 2024

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Title

September 3, 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

Background

Attached are the meeting minutes of the September 3, 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the September 3, 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes.

Attachments and Other Resources

- September 3, 2024 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
September 3, 2024
7:00 PM
Fridley City Hall, 7071 University Avenue NE

Minutes

Call to Order

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

Present

Luke Cardona
EB Graham
Peter Borman
Tim Kirk
Ken Schultz
Don Whalen

Absent

(Commissioner Suad Maow moved residence out of Fridley and was no longer eligible to serve as a Commissioner. There is one vacant position as this meeting was held.)

Also Present

Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Approve Parks & Recreation Commission Agenda for September 3, 2024

Motion by Commissioner Cardona to approve the September 3, 2024 meeting agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Graham. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes for August 5, 2024

Motion by Commissioner Kirk to approve the August 5, 2024 meeting minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Graham. The motion passed unanimously.

Open Forum

No comments.

New Business

1. Jubilee Park and Oak Hill Park Community Engagement Summaries

Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director, stated that there are two parks proposed for construction in 2025, which would be in addition to the Commons Park project. He reviewed the engagement that was completed for both Jubilee and Oak Hill parks. He noted the proximity of the parks to each other and noted that because they are both smaller parks, they could be complimentary to one another. He presented two concepts for each park, noting that in one concept the parks would contain equipment for all ages while in the other concept one park would have equipment for younger children and the other park would have equipment for older children.

Commissioner Whalen referenced pole features shown in concept two for Jubilee and believed that children would be tempted to climb those which could be a liability risk. Mr. Maher commented that line of equipment is widely used, and he was not familiar with any injuries that have occurred, although acknowledged that it could seem tempting to climb.

Commissioner Shultz asked if there was feedback from the community about focusing each park for different age groups, recognizing that some families have both younger and older children. Mr. Maher commented that in concept two, Oak Hill would be designed for ages 2-7 while Jubilee would be designed for ages five to 12. He recognized that a family with a 12-year-old and two-year-old may not have full options for play at either park.

Chair Borman stated that during the public engagement, it seemed there was a large desire for swings at Oak Hill, while swings were not desired for Jubilee. He stated that it seemed the public input supported older children play opportunities at Jubilee while Oak Hill desired things geared more at younger children.

Commissioner Graham commented that she likes the shade provided in option one and asked if there are trees onsite. Mr. Maher commented that both locations have shade trees.

Commissioner Shultz asked if there was a request for basketball. Mr. Maher commented that it was included in the concept and there were no requests to remove it. He commented that the focus for tonight is solely on the playground equipment, as the basketball feature will remain.

The Commission discussed the different concepts noting that option one is more traditional whereas option two is more modern. It was noted that it is important to have variety within the park system and even though the equipment may be geared for certain ages, kids will still find a way to play.

Motion by Commissioner Schultz to recommend option 2 for Jubilee Park and Oak Hill Park. Seconded by Commissioner Whalen. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Commissioner Schultz commented that his wife recently held an event at the Moore Lake Community Building, and it was a great experience. He stated that the overall park use was also great to see, noting a slight challenge with parking as both lots were full, and people were parked on Central as well. He stated that it was great to see the increased use in the park.

Staff Reports

2. Springbrook Nature Center Report

Mr. Maher commented that it was a great summer with the day camp programs and provided a summary of the written report. He advised of the upcoming Pumpkin Night in the Park event scheduled for October 19th.

Commissioner Shultz asked if the day camp revenue generates a profit. Mr. Maher explained that Springbrook Nature Center operates under its own enterprise fund and there is a special tax levy dedicated to Springbrook. He explained that program revenue fills in the funding gap between what is generated by the levy and what is needed for operations.

3. Fridley Parks and Recreation Division Report

Mr. Maher provided a brief review of the information provided in the report, highlighting recreational programming and recent events.

4. Park Maintenance and Construction Report

Mr. Maher reviewed the progress on park improvement projects and park maintenance activities.

Commissioner Cardona commented that it has been a great year for parks and recreation and thanked Mr. Maher and his team of staff for their efforts.

Unfinished Business

None

Adjournment

Commissioner Kirk made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Graham. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Maher, Staff Liaison



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: October 7, 2024

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Cody Rosetti, Interpretive Coordinator

Title

Springbrook Nature Center Pumpkin Night In the Park

Background

Cody Rosetti will attend the commission meeting to promote Springbrook Nature Center's Pumpkin Night In the Park. Cody would like to share volunteer opportunities for the event as well.

This year's PNITP takes place on Saturday, October 19th from 5-9 pm

Financial Impact

Recommendation

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: October 7, 2024

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Title

Commons Park Site Plan Review

Background

Commons Park building and site planning are in the design development phase, with construction expected to begin in July of 2025. The design team includes HCM Architects, HKGi Landscape Architects, Bolton and Menk for Engineering, RJM as Construction Managers, and Flagship Recreation/Landscape Structures for play equipment.

Central to the park design will be an interconnected complex featuring a park building, parking, splash pad, inclusive playground, and winter recreation area. The construction of this “hub” will be managed by RJM while other phases on the project such as the northern athletic fields and parking will be managed by city staff.

The “hub” development will occur in the current location of three ball fields. A plan has been approved by the City Council to relocate the fields with two new fields going on the north end of Commons Park and a third being converted from a softball field at Community Park. Community Park will also be modified to include additional turf for expansion of soccer fields. This plan has been endorsed by the Fridley Youth Sports Association (FYSA). Two of the new fields are shown in detail on the updated Commons Park site plan.

Staff will provide an overview of the latest draft versions of the park building and park site and answer questions from the Commission.

In addition to the updated site and building design process, planning is underway for an inclusive playground and splash pad. A \$500,000 State of Minnesota grant has been received for the playground and a matching grant of \$350,000 has been awarded by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Outdoor Recreation Grant Program for the splash pad.

Updates to the play equipment and site designs were made to reflect trends in community feedback gathered at events held August 20th and September 3rd as well as an online survey which was open from August 26th to September 10th.

Vision Statement

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

Financial Impact

The Commons Park project total budget is \$11-12 million. Construction Managers RJM are currently completing an updated project budget to reflect updated building and site plans.

Recommendation

None

Attachments and Other Resources

- 9-25-2024 Commons Park Feedback Summary
- 9-25-2024 Updated Commons Park Site Concept Plan

Vision Statement

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



Commons Park Feedback Summary

9/12/2024 Final Report – DRAFT





Commons Park Feedback Summary

Background

The development of the current Commons Park design has been the result of a robust community engagement effort that began in 2019. In 2021, WSB was hired by the City of Fridley to create a comprehensive Park System Improvement Plan (PSIP).

Several versions of draft concept plans were developed as part of the PSIP process, with a final concept plan and alternative plan being published in the final document.

The 2022 concept plan, shown in the PSIP, was endorsed by a resident task force comprised of 17 community members. This plan, however, required partnership with Fridley Public Schools to co-develop several amenities such as ballfields, improved tennis courts and parking areas.

Partnership with Fridley Public Schools was explored but the City and school district were not able to develop a mutually agreed-upon plan for development of the larger Commons Park complex and school district properties. As a result, the City of Fridley engaged in discussion with the local youth sports association, FYSA, to discuss options for athletic facilities in Commons Park. These discussions led to significant changes to the 2022 concept plan in order to include amenities identified by the City and FYSA as project priorities.

Updated 2024 concept plans for the park layout, playground and splash pad were developed and presented to residents at a series of engagement events and online survey opportunities. This document contains a summary of comments received by the city during the following engagement opportunities:

- August 20th Commons Park Engagement Event (50 individuals engaged)
- August 20th Fridley City Hall Touch-a-Truck and Concert (100 individuals engaged)
- September 3rd Open House (25 individuals engaged)
- Online survey available August 26 to September 10 (30 surveys received)

Comments by Category:

Playground Equipment

- Most excited about climbing features and tall slides
- Rock climbing wall. Incorporate into an existing end.
- Most excited about: all of the swings. Both of the slide structures look really cool.
- Would love equipment with smooth edges, uses large motor. Doesn't put off a lot of odors (no mulch tires). Use soft footings.



Commons Park Community Feedback

09/2024

Item 3.

- More swings.
- What is that enclosed area that looks space agey?
- More swings. Ninja course items that can be for older kids and younger kids.
- Is there an area at all for sand/sensory play? Or is that maybe not a good idea as could clog up the splash pad when going back and forth.
- For playground materials, please consider wood chips with limited rubber pathways for those with latex allergies/sensitivities
- I would suggest visiting local schools and daycare facilities and asking these questions to children that will likely use the playground the most.
- Find more options for older kids with autism. Larger swings.
- Zip line
- Workout equipment for grown-ups
- Most excited about: It looks like this play area will be handicap accessible.
- Want the big rock back
- We would like more spinning things and climbing structures.
- We love the washboard type slides
- We also appreciate the rubberized surface for accessibility
- Would love to see a zipline. Our kids love it!
- We have a high sensory seeking son who needs to climb. He loves playground equipment that looks like ships, houses, or towers to help jumpstart his imagination.
- Love the inclusive swing for our niece in a wheelchair
- Shade sails covering the playground
- Most excited: Soft safety surfacing
- To optimize play for all hours, consider sails for shade or similar options
- Could a toddler playground be a little further away from the other playground?
- Like fun shapes of equipment
- More exclusive (inclusive?) design so all people with varying abilities can play. Zip lines.
- I don't see equipment that can be used by someone in a wheelchair
- More space for little kids
- Little kids' playground could be bigger



Commons Park Community Feedback

09/2024

Item 3.

- Make sure there are enough baby swings – there is only one at Moore Lake and often have to wait
- What do you like best: playground, splash pad, picnic area
- Include fencing along playground area that is closest to the busy street
- Include the giant saucer swings that can hold an adult or a kid – they are great
- More for toddlers with shade
- Most excited about climbing structures
- Most excited about: Swings, musical instruments, and shade canopies
- Include a swing for adults and children to use together
- Do not like climbing tube – only one way in or out. Kids could feel trapped and have a panic attack if unable to get out
- Invite parents with kids in the target range of this proposed playground and get the kids input.
- One issue I could foresee is playground equipment typically being wet from play by kids that are moving back and forth between the splash pad and the playground. That would be a quick play killer for kids in dry clothes, if you would have to get your clothes wet from other people's swimsuits to play. Maybe other parks have dealt with this and found ways to instill a culture of keeping wet clothes in the splash pad area. Separating them by a good distance is probably the first step.
- Like best: The shaded areas! We visit a playground by the same company in Shoreview and our daughter quickly finds the equipment too hot in summer to keep playing. The large structures look very interesting and unique
- Suggest: More shade, over toddler area and swings? From the images, everything looks very close together, could be spaced more generously.
- It's hard to tell from the pictures, but there might be an age gap for kids who are 3/4/5 ish. They will have no interest in the tiny toddler structure, but the next biggest set of slides almost seems too tall -- can't tell from the pictures how big they are or how you climb up...
- It seems like the playground area has gotten a lot smaller and should be bigger
- Like best: towers and slides
- Add monkey bars
- On the taller tower, add a tunnel or bridge to another platform that is not as high
- It might be intimidating for young kids who are too big for the smaller toddler playground/slides. Basically, it looks really tall for 4–6-year-olds to use



Commons Park Community Feedback

09/2024

Item 3.

- Incorporate more natural trees to naturally shade the area during hot MN summers. Not just around the edges but actually in the middle of the space. To shade it.
- More benches in and around (hopefully shaded for rest areas.)
- More natural aspects, even if it's natural colors.
- Do not put up that two tower hexagon structure, this will be a place for vandalism and misuse. Current commons park has had several enclosed slides taken down (I assume for that reason). That structure is a beacon for misuse. And possibly a safety concern if little ones are not able to get out easily on their own, it looks like a small, enclosed space hard for older guardians to help young ones.
- See above, that double hexagon fully enclosed structure doesn't look accessible to all. Please consider older parents or guardians with mobility issues that may not be able to help. And structures that have high potential for closure due to vandalism or misuse.
- Tube slides and structures have not lasted long in the current space. Please reconsider more open or natural options better suited for our community. And others that will come to this "destination" playground.
- Please work on more natural design elements and incorporate shade and rest areas. Consider all disabilities including CP, dwarfism, mobility issues, hearing impairments, etc.
- Please also consider ALL seasons, how will the enclosures be in 100 degrees. Vs icy/slick surfaces in winter.
- I appreciate the playground options for bigger and smaller kids
- I appreciate the type of ground that is being used. Moore Lake has woodchips and I'm not a fan of woodchips, sand, or rubber pieces for a playground.
- The green and tan hexagon feature is cool
- Some parks have developed a 40-yard dash track which is a cool concept
- More overhead shading would be nice to have as well
- The big slide could be a bit bigger
- More benches for seating
- Perhaps more play activities that don't require sliding or climbing for very young kids. Like musical notes, tik-tac-toe, etc.

Playground Feedback Summary Themes

Inclusive Play: Comments indicate a strong emphasis on ensuring the playground accommodates all individuals, including those with disabilities. This includes requests for features such as inclusive swings, equipment designed for individuals on the autism



spectrum, and accessibility considerations for different mobility needs. Additionally, there are calls for designs that expand opportunities for ages 2-5 and may incorporate multi-generational experiences.

Shade and Safety: Many comments highlight the importance of providing adequate shade and safety features. Suggestions include incorporating shade sails or natural tree cover to protect from the sun, using soft, rubberized surfaces to enhance access and prevent injuries, and ensuring equipment has smooth edges to avoid accidents. There is also concern about keeping wet and dry play areas separated to maintain a safe and enjoyable experience.

Splash Pad

- Used most: The things that have water coming down (waterfall style, trees)
- Just interested in seeing how close it is to the actual park - easy for parents to see both?
- Perhaps for the splash pad to be partially fenced in
- More options for smaller children
- Springbrook Nature Center has a lever you can pull to produce water. Perhaps more features that require manual work to produce water
- Spouts that shoot up from the ground
- Seating around the edges
- Seating, lockers and cubbies for splash pad
- What do you like best: The splash pad!
- What do you like best: The splash pad!
- This is large area, have you considered and ways to slow or stop the children from running through entire space? Slipping from running is a big safety issue.
- Please incorporate more seating and shade on the surrounding areas. Current design only has four shade canopy's and as sun moves through the day, these will be taken by just 4 families.
- If this is to be a "destination" park, consider how to better accommodate all visitors. People will come and want an area to set up with snacks or picnic. This is not seen on current planning area.
- Best to incorporate space where families can set up between playground and splash pad to watch their children in both areas at the same time. So, make sure line of site with shades or trees that provide enough shade, and benches take this into account.
- Like slide bucket splash



- Like best: slide and water gun. Anything that is more interactive than just being rained on
- Slides and water guns will be used most
- Consider more ground jet features at different heights that repeat in a pattern to add play and visual interest – adds value for adults as it serves as a fountain
- Slide will be used most
- Include fencing to keep small children contained
- Needs more shade and water cannons. Add more picnic tables with shade
- What do you like best: splash pad
- Make larger
- I don't love the splash pad at Commons I would rather see it by city hall or the baseball fields. I think it will be mistreated or wrecked with the minimal supervision.
- I think Commons has enough items at this park. Splash pad would be better by City Hall where it has lots of eyes on it.
- Add more fountains to the floor and make sure there is a spot where kids can play with water but not be rained on or hit with a water gun (for more timid children)
- All will be used. No suggestions to improve.
- Geysers and rain umbrellas area great for young and old alike
- Include more shade and seating areas
- I don't know much about splash pads, but this looks like a great addition for hot summer days.
- Like best: Slide!!! That's a big draw for our kid. Arrays of water spouts from ground.
- It looks like a nice splash pad
- Where are the parents sitting that are supposed to be watching their children? How close are the bathrooms?

Splash Pad Summary Themes

Safety and Accessibility: There is a significant focus on ensuring the splash pad is safe and accessible for all users. This includes suggestions for incorporating fencing to keep users contained, reducing slipping hazards from running, and providing adequate shade and seating around the splash pad. There is also interest in features that are interactive and engaging, such as water guns and slides, as well as ground jets at various heights.

Integration and Convenience: Many comments emphasize the need for the splash pad to be well-integrated with the surrounding park amenities. This includes ensuring that the splash pad is easily visible from other areas, has ample seating and shade for parents, and provides



spaces for families to set up snacks or picnics. There are also requests for features that allow parents to monitor children playing in both the splash pad and playground areas simultaneously, which may conflict with comments to separate them to keep play equipment from getting wet and possibly slippery or to have users in the playground without proper footwear.

Program and Activity Suggestions

- Fridley recreation soccer, flag football, sand volleyball, baseball, adult leagues (pickle ball, basketball)
- Community-wide events/celebrations
- 49er days and other events (winter festival, spring event, fall event, etc.)
- Concerts in the park
- Dance classes for kids and adults
- Public Ice Skating/sledding
- Adult classes in: Tai Chi, soft ball, and volleyball
- Classes for kids
- Community Events/Family Fun (festivals, the showing of movies, music performances)
- Yoga, Zumba, outdoor fitness
- Would be nice if City provided concessions during baseball games
- Farmers Markets, Food Truck Festivals, Concerts, Holiday Festivals (Christmas Tree and Menorah lighting.)
- Outdoor guided exercise would be a great addition for the surrounding community but I'm unsure of the logistics of something like that.
- Yard games leagues like bags, ladder golf, bocce ball
- Warming house where you can rent skates
- Art in the park class
- Tween and teen afterschool programs geared toward kids who are not already professional athletes at the age of 8. My kids don't play on sports teams, but they need to get outside and get exercise.
- Zumba, Couch to 5K, Parkour for Dummies, Couch Potato Fitness, etc
- Pickleball lessons, kids intramural sport teams using all sporting options.
- Create a healthy and welcoming hangout for youth with activities in the building.
- Movie nights in the park. Trunk-or-Treat. Skating lessons or clinic in the winter (all ages and levels). An art fair where everyone gets a square of the sidewalk to color with chalk.
- Also, a community garden plot would be amazing to incorporate.



Program and Activity Summary Themes

Diverse Recreational and Sports Opportunities: There is a strong interest in offering a wide range of recreational activities and sports programs for all ages. This includes traditional sports like soccer, baseball, and volleyball, as well as adult leagues for pickleball and bag toss. There are also suggestions for classes in various activities such as Tai Chi, yoga, and dance, as well as community-based sports leagues and lessons for both kids and adults.

Community Events and Social Activities: Many suggestions focus on enhancing community engagement through a variety of events and activities. These include seasonal festivals, concerts in the park, movie nights, farmers markets, and food truck festivals. The emphasis is on creating opportunities for community members to come together, enjoy social events, and participate in family-friendly activities. There is also interest in adding unique features like a community garden, public art, art classes, and interactive events such as Trunk-or-Treat.

Shade and Park Shelters

- Please keep the big trees – 2 votes of the same.
- I think the overall design looks great. I see some added shade structures for the pickleball courts great idea! I'm curious will there be shaded structures around the playground area?
- Shaded seating areas around the playground
- Glad to see more parking, plenty of trees for shade and sidewalks to walk on
- Love splash pads. Add some shade covered areas. Also shade covered areas for people watching the splash pad.
- Skin cancer is on the rise, and it starts from over exposure in childhood.
- Make sure there's options to sit/ stand in shade. Make sure slides don't get hot which because of tubes probably won't 😊
- Rentable shelter closer to playground
- Add a picnic Pavilion in the green space if you aren't going to add a 3rd ball field

Shade and Park Shelter Summary Themes

Incorporation of Shade Structures: There is a strong emphasis on adding and maintaining shaded areas throughout the park, including around the playground, splash pad, and seating



areas. Suggestions include keeping existing big trees for natural shade and adding more shaded structures to protect both play areas and gathering spaces.

Health and Comfort Considerations: The importance of protecting visitors from excessive sun exposure is highlighted, with a focus on preventing skin damage and ensuring comfortable play and seating areas. This theme also addresses concerns about keeping playground equipment, such as slides, from becoming too hot.

Proximity to Play Areas: There is a desire for park shelters, such as rentable pavilions, to be located closer to playgrounds to enhance convenience for families and provide easy access to shaded, comfortable areas near play zones.

Additional Shelter Options: Suggestions include adding more picnic pavilions or shelters in green spaces, especially if other planned amenities, like a third ball field, are not included. This indicates a need for more covered, communal spaces within the park.

Security and Lighting

- More than one streetlight
- What is the plan for safety? As a neighbor in the north side we get a lot of people who congregate at the parking lot. Will there be someone to close it out at night and gate it shut? FRIDLEY PD??
- Suggest adding lighted paths and lighting fields and courts

Security and Lighting Summary Themes

Enhanced Lighting: There is a strong focus on increasing lighting throughout the park, including adding more streetlights, lighted paths, and lighting for fields and courts to improve visibility and safety.

Safety and Security Measures: Concerns are raised about managing safety, particularly regarding people congregating in parking lots. Suggestions include implementing measures such as closing and gating the parking lot at night and involving local police for added security.

General Site Layout

- I like your plans for a building on 61st. I HATE the parking lot and bases ball fields on 63rd Ave. The current residents that use Commons Park are playing volleyball and soccer not base ball.
- It seems like we are spending a lot of money to move already existing things around (ball fields, ice rink, etc).



Commons Park Community Feedback

09/2024

Item 3.

- There are so many paths that I don't think are needed. We could have more green space for pick up volleyball, sports practices, community Ed. Besides soccer, the people who use the green space are respectful, kind and are not bad for the neighbors who are adjacent to commons.
- What will visibility be from park to splash pad? When going to others some are easy for parents to see both parks when they have groups of kids (maybe having seating in between parks instead of trees, or have them adjacent). It seems the "play" area are maybe not totally visible from one another. Maybe switch the hammock area and the playground so parents feel safer with littles there.
- In the winter how will people be able to get to top of sledding hill. With parking at the top this year most people prefer to park up there instead of having to walk over and up hill to get to sledding.
- If there is not a lot of events at the north end why do we need so much parking right now? With any events we have we rarely see parking fill up as is. People park on streets, 63rd, over at community center...
- It would be nice to have an indoor-outdoor space like a pavilion.
- - This could also include a bandshell or stage with space for seating for concerts
- Parking still feels a bit limited
- Ensure there is more space for seating throughout the park
- Basketball courts fill up in the community so it would be nice to have at least 2 full basketball courts (if not more).
- It would also be nice to have another volleyball court
- Additional restrooms on the other side of the park near the volleyball or football field.
- Like best: I love the walking paths to get to different parts of the park. I love how accessible the playground is from the parking lot which also includes a building, splash pad, etc.
- The design feels more organized and intentional overall
- I appreciate the additional parking spaces
- I like the way the area offers many opportunities for varying uses, such as: inclusive equipment, sports fields, multiuse areas, areas for seasonal use, and picnic areas.
- Playground closer to parking and community center
- More swings – kids still love to swing.
- Most excited about musical play and shade
- Make sure there is enough seating in heavily used areas, such as near the playground, splash pad, fire pit.
- Native plants, esp. used in "stormwater opportunity areas"



Commons Park Community Feedback

09/2024

Item 3.

- Adding shade to the event lawn may make holding events there more comfortable.
- Playground not so close to street. Keep warming house and be useable in winter.
- Additional walking paths and community spaces. Several walking paths come to a dead end. It would be great to have paths that are all connected.
- Bathrooms open in spring, summer, fall
- I like that there's more parking and restrooms. I also like that there's a picnic area, a fire pit, and more trees too.
- It would be nice to see a larger sidewalk path around the entire park to create a "walking loop." It would be great to see some adult outdoor exercise equipment or stretching/strengthening stations. Since this park is near the middle school and high school, some challenge course (parkour) opportunities would be nice. Plenty of seating and shaded spaces near the playground. It would be great to see some "porch swings" around the park too!
- Please incorporate more natural play spaces. These are a big draw for families looking for less metal/plastic play structures. But more imaginative play in nature. NATURE not grass "lawn space"
- This is a good change! Parks need to be about more than just organized sports such as baseball. A park with a variety of amenities serves a wider crowd and becomes a center for all people to socialize and exercise.
- Consider pedestrian bridge over 61st from park to community center
- I like that the design looks to be more of a community gathering space than it currently is. The removal of some of the baseball fields is the right move.
- Add a small skatepark. Since this is close to a high school and a middle school, I feel a skatepark would give kids of another age group and demographic an area for activities
- Like best: It looks like there will still be a small open field for activities
- Is there a new spot for the warming house and will you still fill the hockey rink?
- Like best: The walking/bike paths with trees added. And if the "storm water opportunity" becomes a MN native pollinator garden, that would be something in line with the cities claim to be "Pollinator Friendly Fridley."
- Better access to sledding hill and ice rink looks like you're taking away the main access road to directly access rink and sledding hill
- Have you considered bike racks for neighbors that would be biking to use playground and splash pad?
- Have you considered the distance one can get from the sledding hill? From the map there's a MAJOR concern someone could run into the corner of your restroom



- building. It's too close to the bottom of the hill. We've seen kids make it to the second ball field from the hill in its current state.
- Also, taking out the warming house, which was supposed to house free skates, is a downside. Although that house was NEVER open for our family to take advantage of those donated skates. And with the rink set SO far back without direct access to, will it be maintained for winter use. Ice rinks in winter can be a big draw and it looks like it's (along with winter activities) have been giving the lowest consideration.
 - Please focus on ALL year uses for the park. Not just a fancy new building and splash pad.

Site Layout Summary Themes

Optimizing Space and Access: There is a significant focus on optimizing the park's layout to balance different needs and improve accessibility. This includes concerns about the placement of parking, playgrounds, and athletic amenities, as well as ensuring visibility and connectivity between different areas like the splash pad and playground. Suggestions include having more green space for informal activities, improving access to the sledding hill, and adding walking paths or loops that connect all park areas.

Diverse Community Needs: Feedback emphasizes the importance of catering to a varying range of community needs and activities. This includes adding more amenities such as additional courts, restrooms, and seating areas, as well as considering indoor-outdoor spaces like pavilions for events. There is also interest in enhancing the park's role as a community gathering space by incorporating features for teens like a skatepark/challenge course, better access to winter activities, and spaces for informal play and exercise.

Miscellaneous

- I think we will open this park up to more people from all over, but lose some of the natural Fridley people that we see right now. I live right there and did not get any reach out or inquiry about thoughts on it. We have kids and need more than just it being in a newsletter to know what is going on.
- At Community Park, put netting over the main building reaching to the top of the backstop to make it safer for dropping foul balls. Thanks for the baseball fields!
- Are you really asking for the community feedback or are you just moving forward with the plans drawn up?
- What is this going to cost the taxpayers? What will the ongoing insurance be with the splashpad? How/when will the construction take place and traffic be affected?



Commons Park Community Feedback

09/2024

Item 3.

- Splash pad could go to a different park in a less congested area. The baseball fields are far apart from each other. You've increased the traffic behind the homes on 63rd Ave. That additional parking lot to get to the 2nd baseball field increases the area for trouble to congregate and the congestion in that area will be terrible. Is there any close parking for people carrying hockey gear to the rink?
- Restroom building at the bottom of the sledding hill is dangerous
- Fencing around water treatment not welcoming – no barbed wire
- Site design comment: Keep park the way it is for our youth sports!!
- Why move playground, pavilion, and ballfields? Seems like it would save money to just spruce them up and leave in the same place
- Not thrilled with the park building, picnic area being right in front of my house.
- Hopefully a NOISE level will be implemented. Right now, when people use the park, picnic area they often play loud music, boom boxes that reverberate for hours at a time, especially the bass part. Hopefully when space is rented in future that a mention about music levels is given to the renters.
- Bathrooms to be accessible during operating hours such as hours the splash pad will be running.
- I think the park/open field areas get very busy during the warm months. To crowded if you could say the least. I hope the new layout helps organize the current programs that happen at commons park.
- Opportunities for community art that might represent our diverse city
- Remove fireplace unless it will be staffed
- Maybe some outdoor stationary exercise equipment would get more use. It would also be nice if you could work with the school and extend the path on the north side of the park, further to the east.
- Also do we really think a bunch of hippies are going to be hanging hammocks up in "hammock grove"? I like an excuse to plant more trees, but the use of this areas seems a bit silly.
- As the parent of a toddler, I love that the playground equipment will be updated. Right now, there is enough rust to cause concern. I also love the addition of a splash pad and all of the shade elements throughout the park.
- Really appreciate the great work of Fridley city to make sure community residents have excellent opportunities for recreation, coming together, and are welcoming. All the little neighborhood parks are awesome too.

Miscellaneous Comment Summary Themes



Community Engagement and Concerns: There were comments requesting additional community engagement and opportunities to address concerns about the park's changes. There are also worries about potential issues with redevelopment such as increased traffic, noise levels, and the adequacy of amenities like parking and restrooms.

Design and Practicality Issues: Multiple comments suggested inefficiency or lack of understanding of why existing amenities like ballfields would be moved. Some comments asked for additional clarification on cost to taxpayers or operational costs of the splash pad.

Athletic Facilities

- I am glad the sand volleyball is remaining. Would be nice if the building is staffed or a part of the community center.
- Are there pickle ball courts and tennis? If so I like that
- The addition of pickle ball courts is great too
- Thank you for the baseball fields
- Is it possible to make the NW corner ballfield have 90 ft. bases too? That would also accommodate high school C team and JV.
- Very excited about the pickleball courts! If possible, can you do the courts that have a fence between each court?
- Very excited about the pickleball
- Keep open spaces for soccer please and frisbee games
- 2nd vote for open space for soccer
- Seems like a waste to tear out two baseball/softball fields and replace them in other places.
- Consider turf on ballfields.
- Like best: pickleball courts
- Like best: keeping baseball fields – both should have lights
- Add third ballfield with lights
- Like best: The additional parking and maintaining the baseball fields.
- I am not loving the baseball field. I feel there is lots of baseball fields in Fridley. I would rather see a place for soccer, ultimate frisbee, rollerblading, exercise or stretching equipment or a skate park. Unorganized sports options
- Do we really need 6 pickleball courts? Do we feel these will all get used?
- Like best: pickleball courts



- Suggest one more ball field
- Happy that some baseball fields got salvaged, but felt they were fine right where they were. Eliminating #3 I was ok with because it wasn't used that often.
- I like that you're keeping at least two ball fields. I hope one is for baseball and the other is softball?
- Are the courts for tennis too?
- I would like to continue to see it used for cross country skiing. Maybe winter activities.

Athletic Facility Summary Themes

Support for Pickleball and Baseball Facilities: Many comments express excitement about the pickleball courts, with specific requests for features such as fencing between courts. The preservation of baseball fields is also valued, with some suggestions for additional improvements like lighting and turf.

Desire for Diverse and Flexible Sports Spaces: Feedback highlights a desire for a variety of athletic facilities beyond just baseball and pickleball. There are calls for more open spaces for soccer, ultimate frisbee, and other unorganized sports, as well as suggestions for adding facilities like a skate park, exercise equipment, or additional ballfields. Some respondents would like to see tennis be an available option in the park as well.

Parking

- Make more parking on 61st Ave. and if the Hockey rinks are to stay in current stop a warming house closer to the rinks/
- I do not want to see a road and parking lot behind the houses on 63rd Ave. Get rid of the new road and parking lot on 63rd Ave
- It seems like we are losing a ton of our green space to more parking, a drop off circle (maybe put a parking spot up from reserved for drop off and put lot right up to the building) and paths.
- The sledding hill needs to be accessible from the top
- Why isn't there a road/parking at the top of the sledding hill? I'm not sure people are going to walk there.
- Suggest more parking
- Accessibility of distance to main play areas for older and disabled. You've set back the playground and splash pad to be a long walking distance from the actual parking spaces. This will prohibit some from being able to use without a great deal of effort.
- Like best: more parking
- Please keep



Commons Park Community Feedback

09/2024

Item 3.

- I love everything about this new Commons Park except the road and parking lot behind my house. Which you got an earful from others about.
- Can you please evaluate the negative impact of the new road/parking lot on our property values of the houses along 63rd Ave.
- Code 205.07.03 Parking – 25 feet from residence
- Hopeful that safety will be front of mind with placement and the parks location to 7th street which can get busy. Also, when cars are parked along the street there are risks of children running into the street without being seen. If the park increases users, this could be a safety concern.
- Happy to see more parking
- I live on 63rd Ave and would be disappointed to have a road and parking lot added in my backyard!!
- What do you like best: The splash pad!
- Do not add extended road with parking on north side! Please!
- It looks to be a place you want people to come. There is not enough parking
- Safety - Has a Risk Assessment been created for adding a road/parking lot so close to residential properties along 63rd Ave, on the north side of Commons Park?
- Living on the park for 28 years we see that it gets used - which is GREAT! We also see volleyballs, soccer balls, footballs, wiffle balls, frisbees, you name it, flying around, bouncing and rolling to where the road and lot will now reside - greatly increasing the safety risk for the people in the park and those driving the cars. (and homeowners walking out their backyards, kids joyfully playing and running through the park, etc.)
- Noise - Has the impact on Fridley residents been evaluated due to the noise increase on the north side of Commons which would result from a new road/parking lot? Instead of a peaceful park behind our homes, there would now be cars coming through at all hours of the day and into the evening. Noisy vehicles, speeding traffic, car chirps/alarms, and crowds of people hanging out, coming and going < 75 feet from our bedroom windows.
- Please consider a few double long parking spots and not offsetting them for more access for extra-long vehicles / trailers. Also please consider a planted pollinator area and installing a bat house.
- Property Values - has someone evaluated the negative impact on property values of the homes adjacent to the new road/lot? It would make these homes much less desirable in having a major street (63rd) on one side and a busy road/parking lot on the backside (less desirable than having another residential property adjacent to the



back property line). Would Fridley compensate affected homeowners for lost property values?

- Summary ask: Please reconsider the placement of the parking lot - Consider somewhere further away from residential properties, ideally back near where it is at the top of the hill. It would be a very central location to get to many areas of the park.
- As it is in the current plan, how would people get to the ice rink, the sledding hill, the basketball court, tennis courts (I know that is school property), the open field area by the ice rink in the summer - there just isn't a convenient way to get to those places. In the winter, assuming no paths will be plowed, it would be very difficult for people/parents/little kids to get from a parking lot to the top of the sledding hill and the ice rink. I understand the concerns around the water treatment area, though it seems that a road could still pass through if parking was far enough away - also - if the second/northern ice rink is going away, you could use that area for parking. Not really any closer than the lot along 61st that abuts the water treatment area.

Parking Summary Themes

Concerns About Parking and Road Placement: There is significant concern about the planned road and parking lot on 63rd Ave, particularly from residents who live nearby. Many comments express a desire to avoid a "road" and parking lot behind their homes due to potential negative impacts on property values, noise, and safety. Additionally, there are concerns about the loss of green space and the potential for increased traffic and congestion in residential areas.

Accessibility and Convenience of Parking: Feedback highlights a need for improved parking accessibility throughout the park. There are requests for more parking spaces, particularly near key areas like the sledding hill and play areas. Some respondents are worried about the distance between parking and main attractions, which could be challenging for older adults, disabled visitors, and families with young children. Suggestions include placing parking closer to important facilities and ensuring convenient access to various park features.

FRIDLEY COMMONS PARK

PARK SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PLAN

100% SD PACKAGE | SEPTEMBER 2024

Table of Contents

Illustrative Plan 3

Paving 6

Lighting 9

Landscaping12

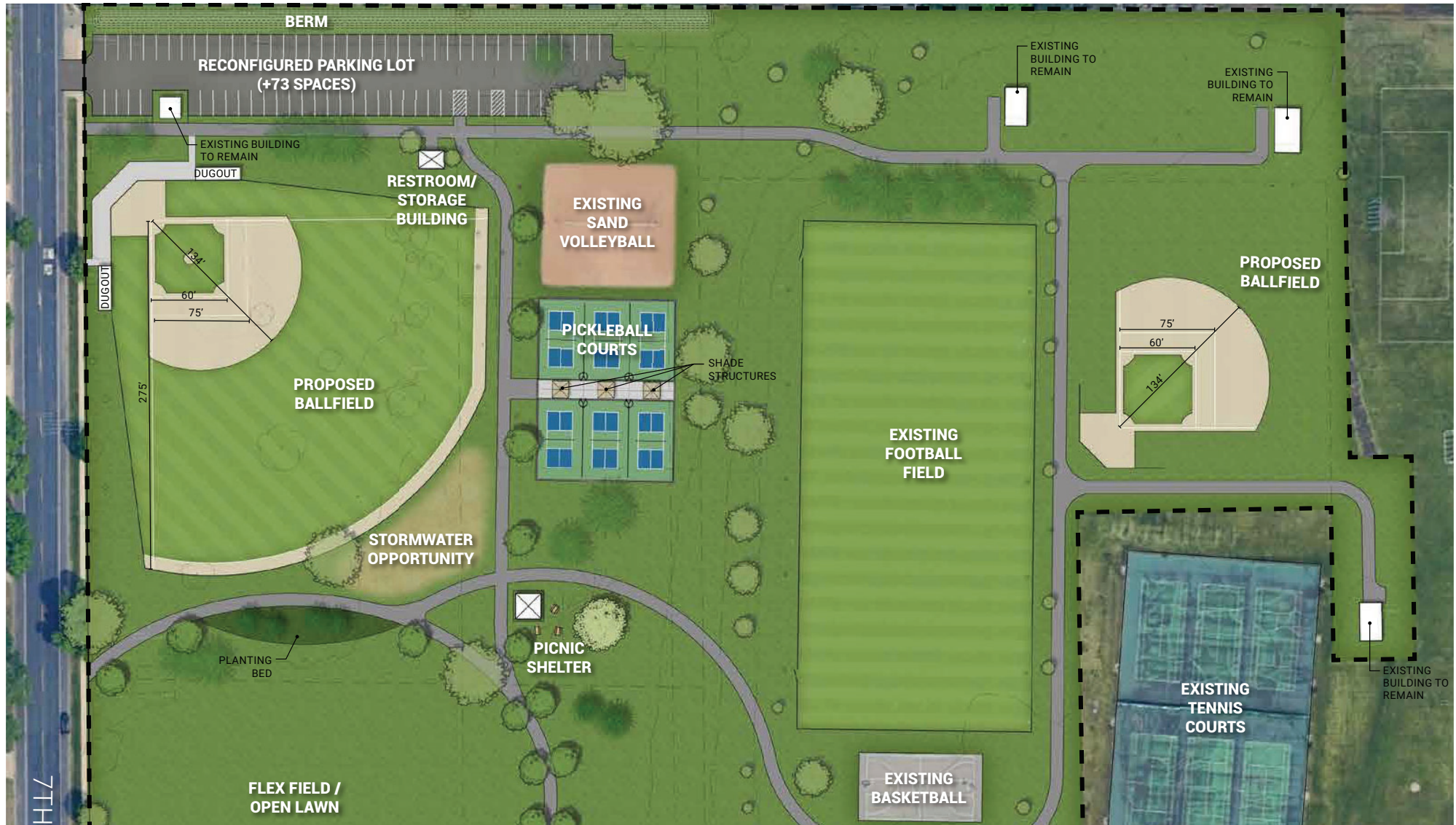
Fencing15

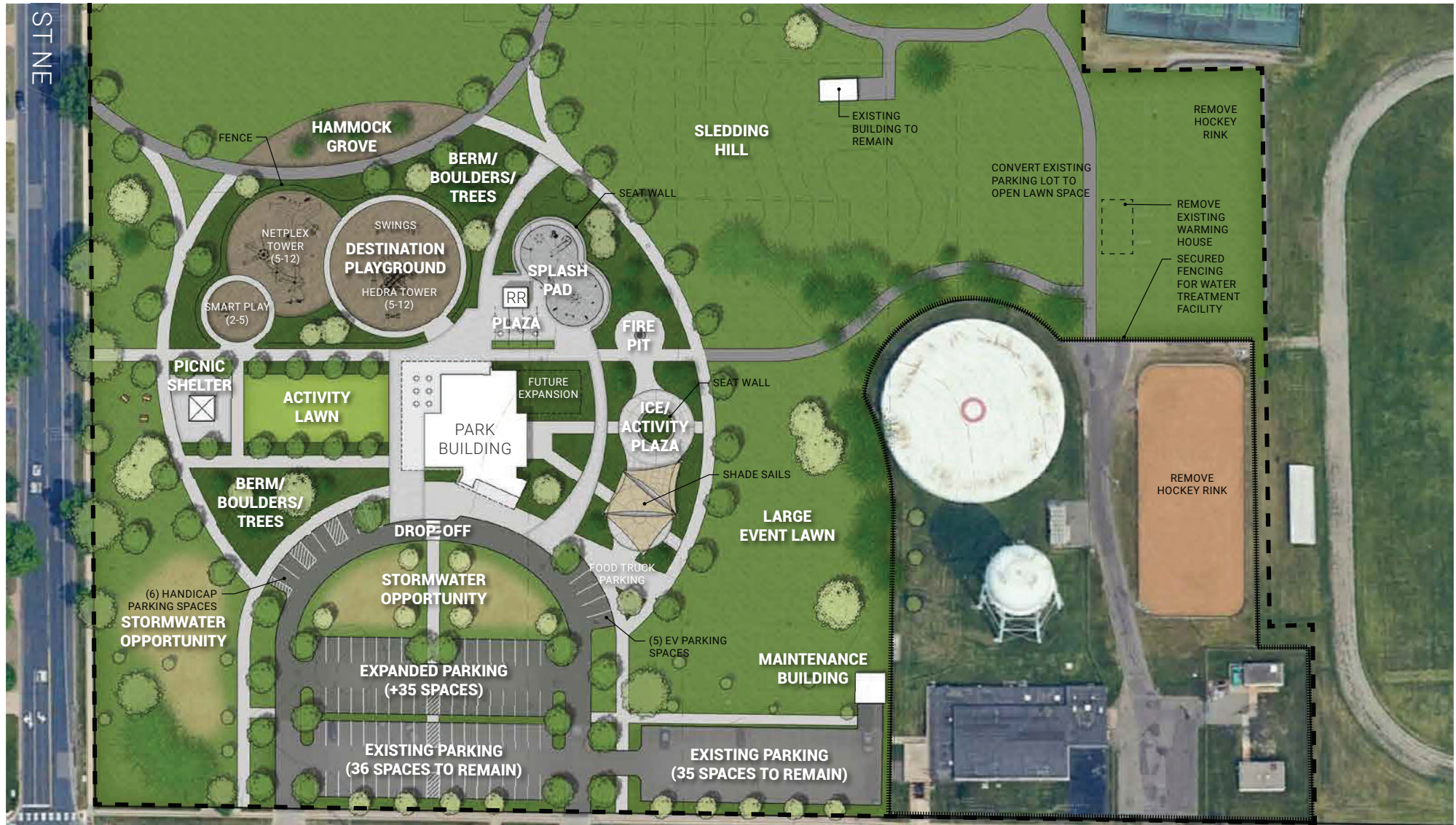
Site Furnishings17



Illustrative Plan





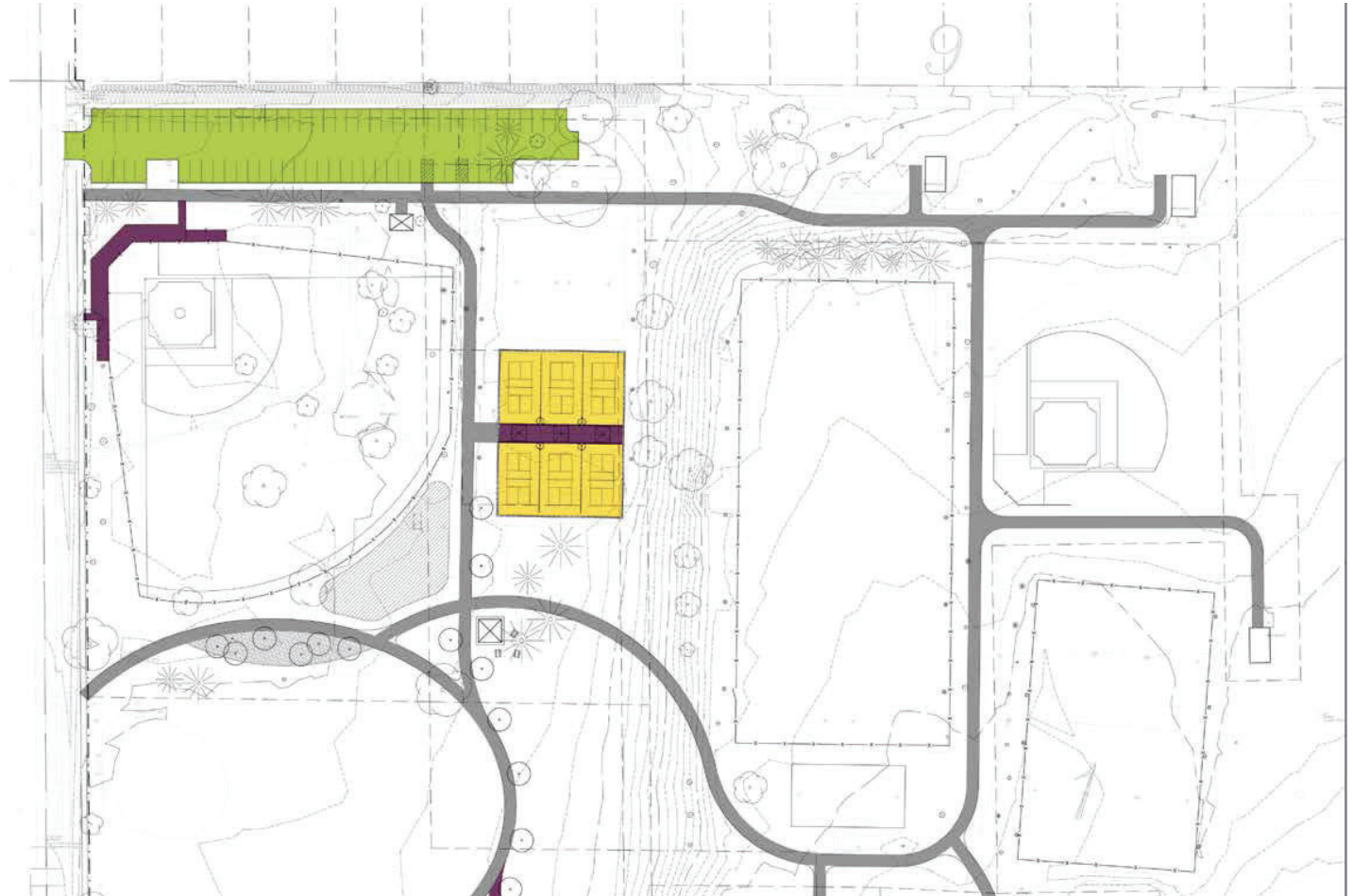


Paving Diagram (north)

LEGEND:

COLOR TYPE

	Asphalt Parking Lot (New)
	Asphalt Parking Lot (Existing)
	Asphalt Trail
	Color Coated Asphalt
	Standard Concrete
	Decorative Concrete
	Concrete for Splash Pad
	Poured-In-Place + Engineered Wood Fiber
	Structural Concrete
	Engineered Wood Fiber Mulch

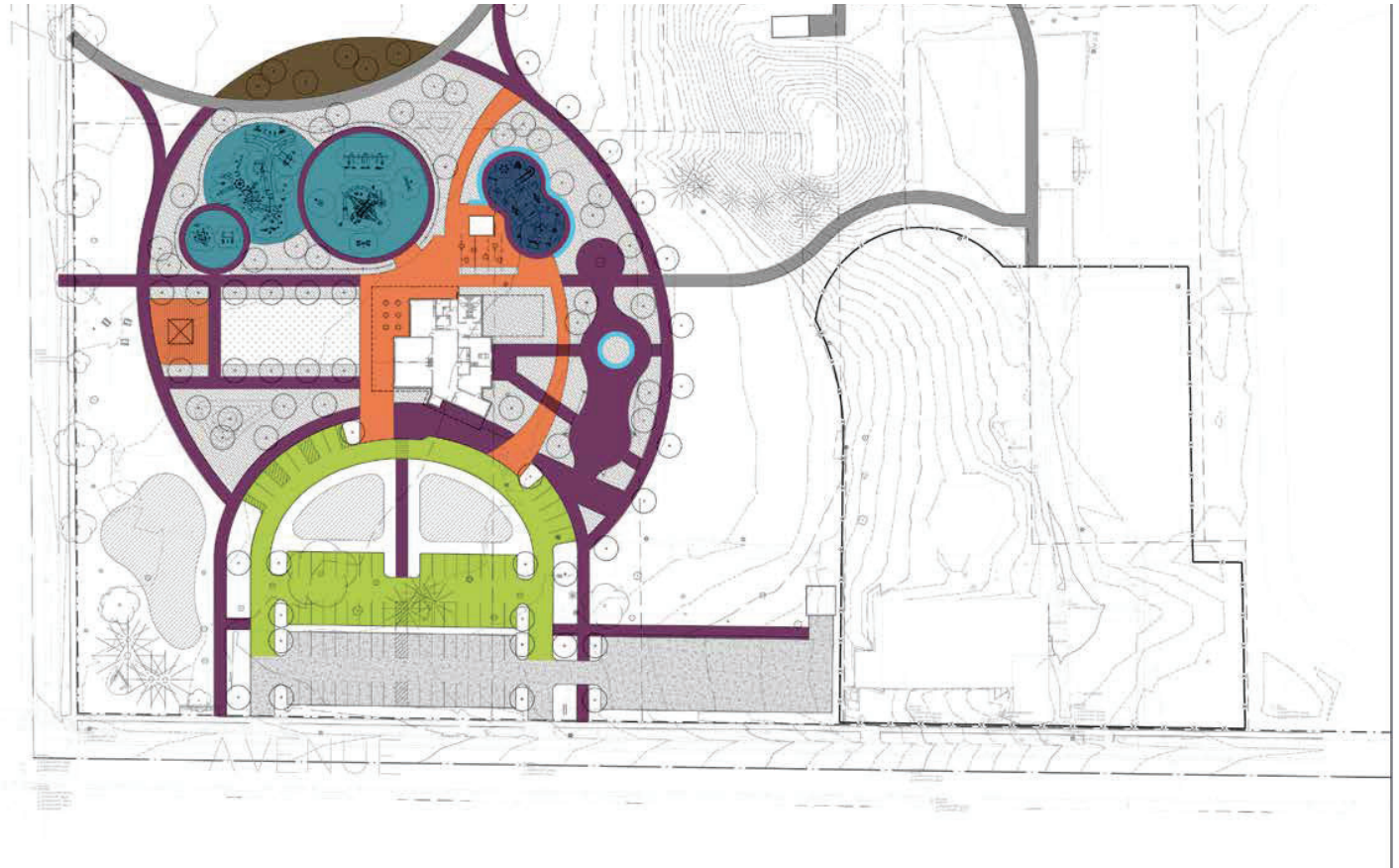


Paving Diagram (south)

LEGEND:

COLOR TYPE

	Asphalt Parking Lot (New)
	Asphalt Parking Lot (Existing)
	Asphalt Trail
	Color Coated Asphalt
	Standard Concrete
	Decorative Concrete
	Concrete for Splash Pad
	Poured-In-Place + Engineered Wood Fiber
	Structural Concrete
	Engineered Wood Fiber Mulch



Paving Materials

NOTE: BMI to confirm based on geotechnical report



Asphalt Parking Lot (New)

Drive aisle and parking bays for new parking lot. Assumes 12" Class 5 base material, 2" base course, 1.5" wear course, curb and gutter, painting/markings.



Asphalt Parking Lot (Existing)

Existing parking lot to remain. Re-striping will need to occur to accommodate the expansion to the north. Some asphalt will need to be removed to provide parking islands that are intended to reduce the amount of impervious surface.



Asphalt Trail

Standard asphalt path at 10' width. Section assumes 8" Class 5 base material, 2" base course, 1.5" wear course.



Color Coated Asphalt

Color coated asphalt surface at the pickleball courts. Includes two colors (green and blue) and striping. Defined as 10" Class 5 base material, 2" base course, 1.5" wear course, painting and coating for courts, and an 18" concrete maintenance strip surrounding the perimeter.



Standard Concrete

Defined as broom finish concrete to a 5" depth and located at various widths of 6-10' throughout the site for sidewalks and plaza area connections.



Decorative Concrete

Decorative concrete with color banding, sandblasted or etched patterning and both tooled and saw cut jointing to provide visual interest, highlight circulations, and define spaces. Depth of 4" with 8" class 5 base. Included is a 10' wide portion of the paving area that runs north/south and east/west at a 6" depth to support truck/winter plow.



Concrete for Splash Pad

Reference surfacing type from splash pad vendor.



Poured-in-Place + Engineered Wood Fiber

Represents unitary rubber surfacing that will underneath most playground equipment (60%). This surface will meet all ASTM and CPSI standards related to fall height attenuation. It will also incorporate multiple color designs with specific color mixes. Section assumes 6" Class 5 base material, varying thickness of SBR material for fall attenuation, and a 0.5" to 0.75" top wear coat. The remaining surface that is not poured in place will be engineered wood fiber.



Structural Concrete Seatwall

Cast-in-place concrete seat walls at splash pad, 18"ht, 24"depth.



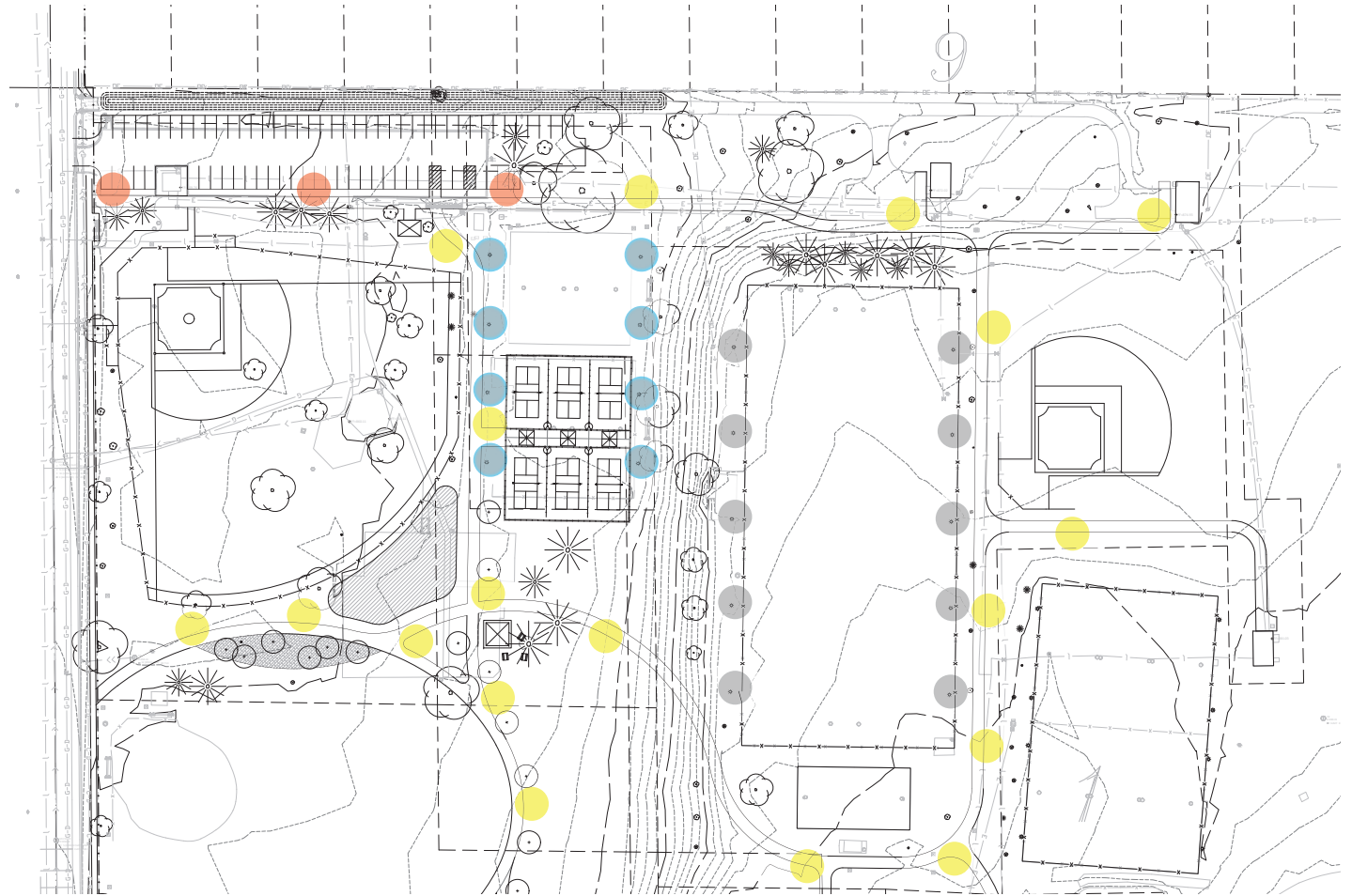
Engineered Wood Fiber

Engineered wood fiber is to be placed in the hammock area. Section assumes 12" depth.

Lighting Diagram (north)

LEGEND:

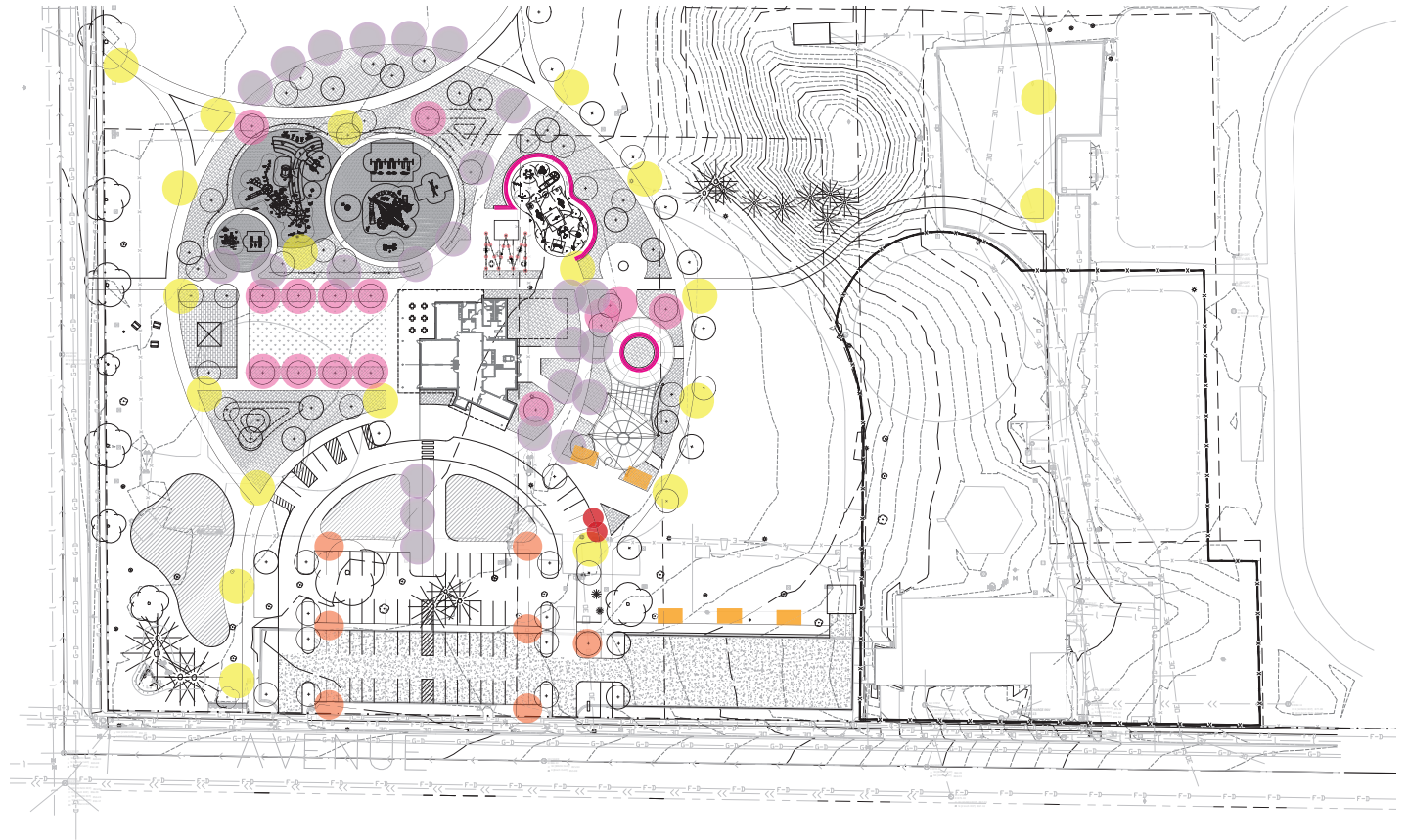
COLOR	TYPE	TOTAL
	Upgraded lights at sand volleyball and pickleball courts - resuse existing poles	8 EA
	Parking Lot Lighting	11 EA
	Pedestrian Scale Path/Area Lights	33 EA
	Bollard Walkway Lights	24 EA
	Seatwall Lights (LED Strip Lighting)	283 LF
	Overhead String Lights	120 LF/ 4 strands
	Accent/Tree Uplighting	14 EA
	Existing Site Lights (to remain)	10 EA
	EV Charging Stations	2 EA
	Electrical hook-up for Food Trucks	5 EA



Lighting Diagram (south)

LEGEND:

COLOR	TYPE	TOTAL
	Upgraded lights at sand volleyball and pickleball courts - resuse existing poles	8 EA
	Parking Lot Lighting	11 EA
	Pedestrian Scale Path/Area Lights	33 EA
	Bollard Walkway Lights	24 EA
	Seatwall Lights (LED Strip Lighting)	283 LF
	Overhead String Lights	120 LF/ 4 strands
	Accent/Tree Uplighting	14 EA
	Existing Site Lights (to remain)	10 EA
	EV Charging Stations	2 EA
	Electrical hook-up for Food Trucks	5 EA



Lighting Fixtures



Sport Court Lighting

Model: Zone Large (ZNL)

Manufacturer: LSI

Notes: Fixture only. Reuse existing poles



Parking Lot Lighting

Model: UR20 Edge-Lit Post Top

Manufacturer: Kim Lighting



Pedestrian Path/Area Light

Model: UR20 Ouro Post Top

Manufacturer: Kim Lighting (Current)

Notes: 10-14' height; meets dark sky requirements

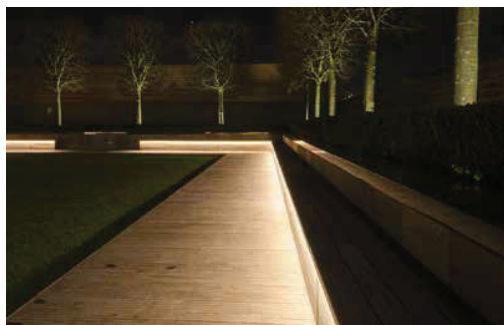


Bollard Walkway Light

Model: Outline Bollard

Manufacturer: Landscape Forms

Notes: Surface mounted; meets dark sky requirements



Seatwall Lights (LED Strip Lighting)

Model: Vertex 1000 (Outdoor)

Manufacturer: Kelvix

Notes: 14' strips, works up to -40 degrees, 3000K



Overhead String Lighting

Model: Tumbler

Manufacturer: Landscape Forms



Accent/Tree Uplighting

Model: Colt LBUL

Manufacturer: EXO

Landscaping Diagram (north)

LEGEND:

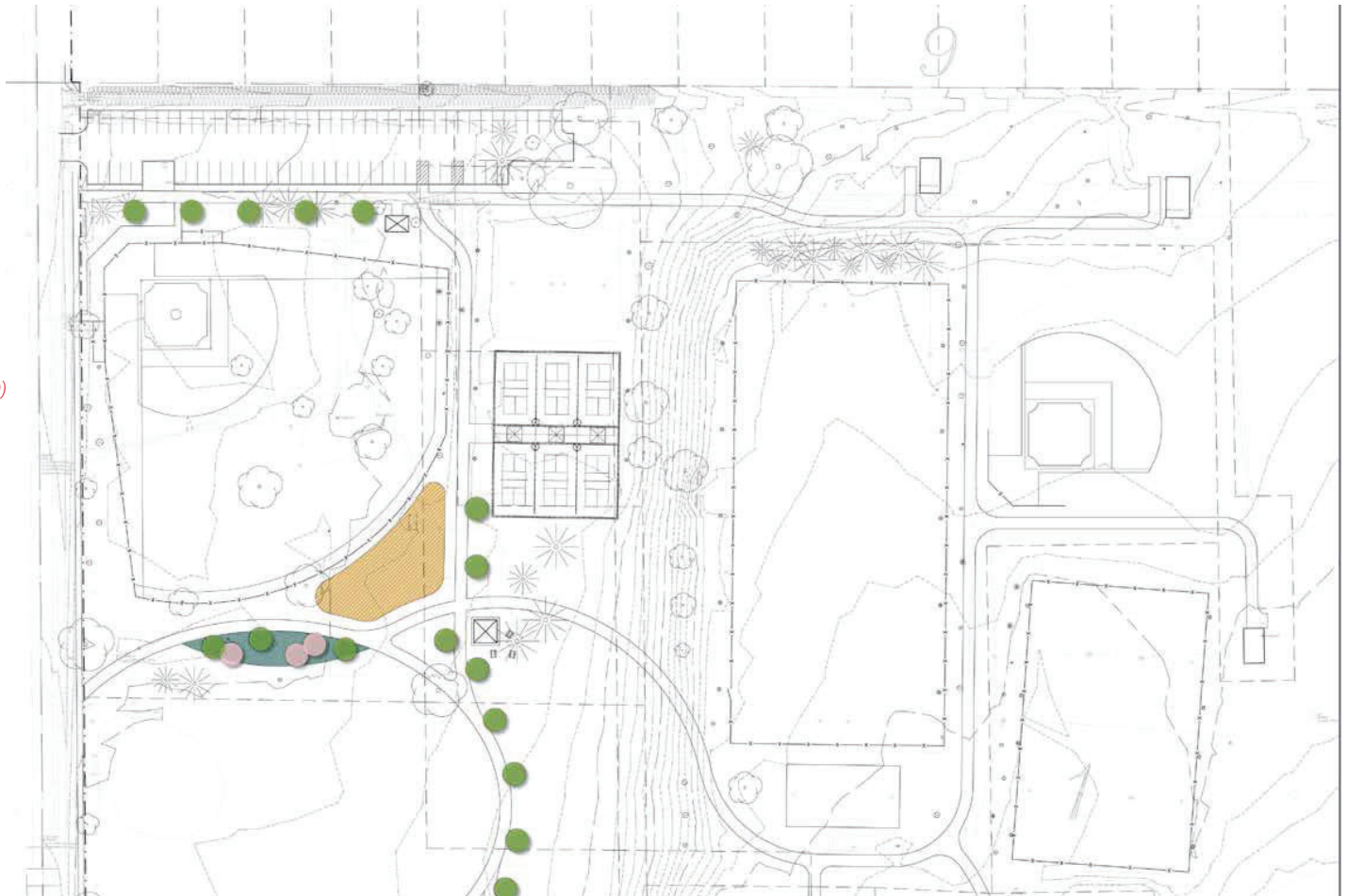
COLOR TYPE

	Landscape Bed - Irrigated
	Stormwater Planting Mix
	Sod, Drip Irrigation
	Ornamental Tree
	Shade Tree

TOTAL

15 EA
(PROPOSED)

75 EA
(PROPOSED)



Landscaping Diagram (south)

LEGEND:

COLOR TYPE

Landscape Bed - Irrigated

Stormwater Planting Mix

Sod, Drip Irrigation

Ornamental Tree

Shade Tree

TOTAL

15 EA
(PROPOSED)

75 EA
(PROPOSED)



Landscaping Materials & Precedents



Landscape Bed - Irrigated

75% Perennials - 24" OC, 25% shrubs 3-6' OC, 4" shredded hardwood mulch, 4" topsoil, drip irrigation, steel edger, accent landscape boulders



Stormwater Planting Mix



Sod, Drip Irrigation



Ornamental Trees

6' B&B



Shade Trees

2.5" Cal. B&B



Turf Restoration Area (TBD based on grading plan)

Seed Mix

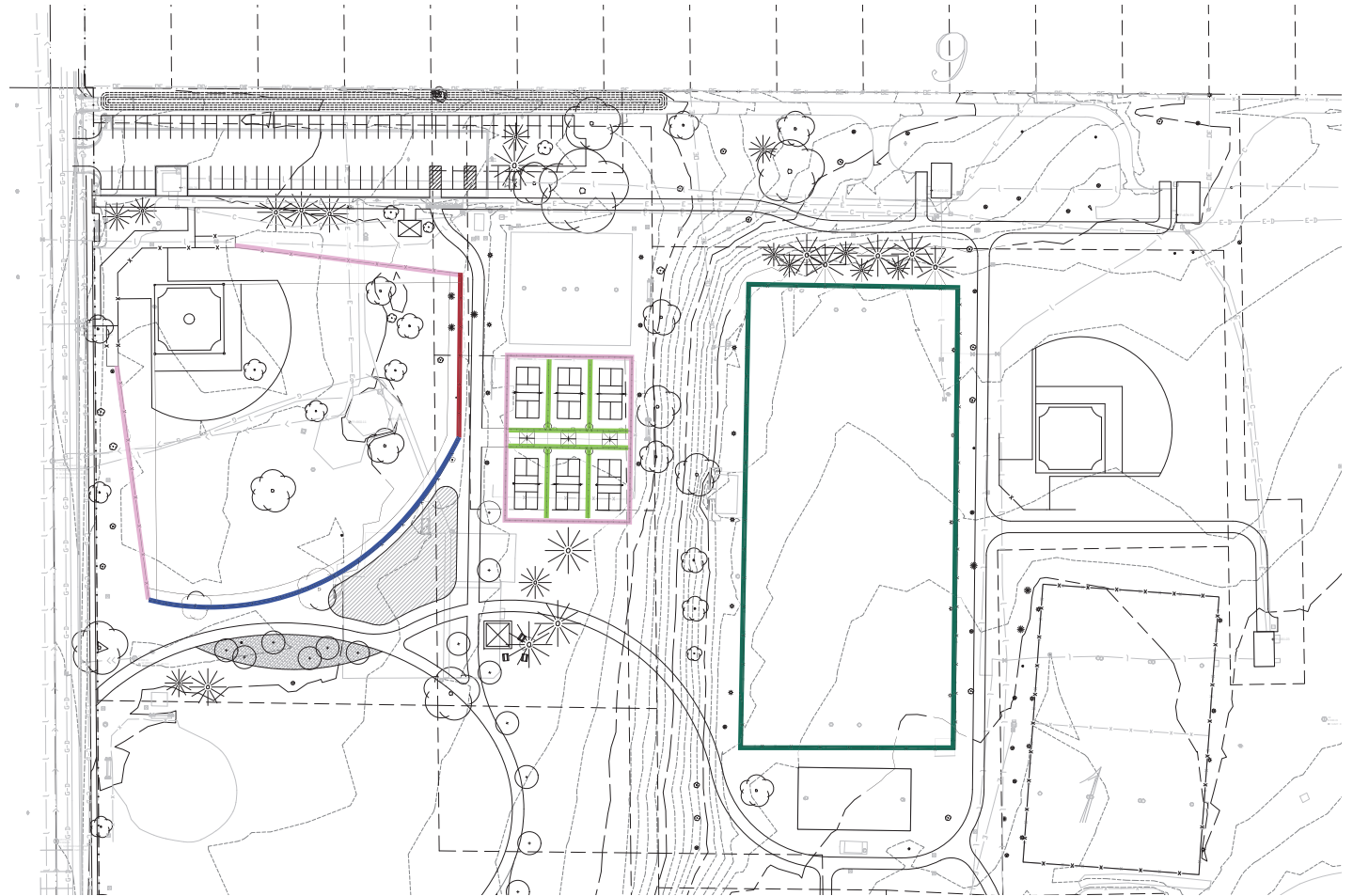
Fencing Diagram (north)

LEGEND:

COLOR	FENCE TYPE
	42" Playground Perimeter Fence
	4' Sport Fence
	6' Sport Fence
	8' Sport Fence
	10' Sport Fence



Galvanized Chainlink Fencing



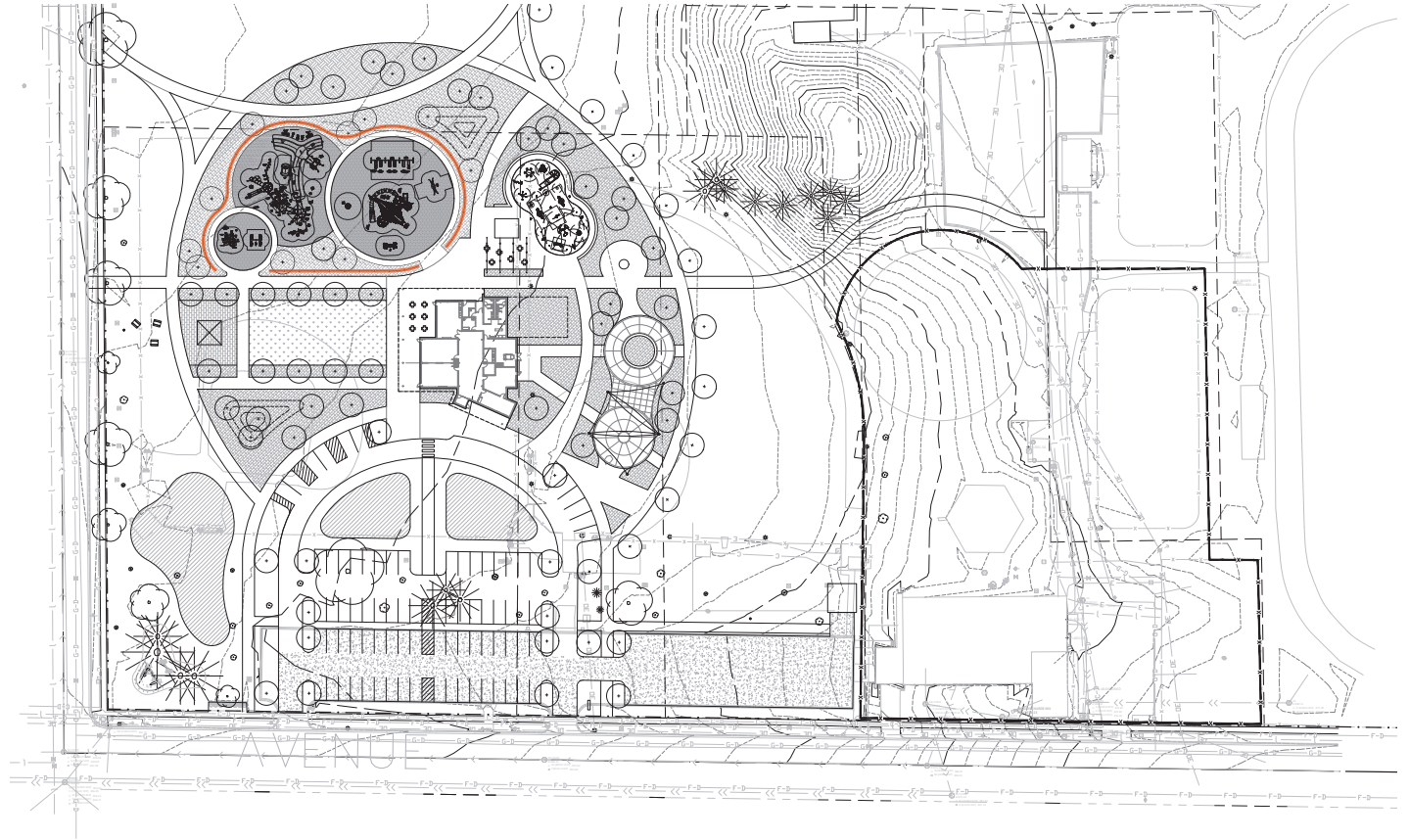
Fencing Diagram (south)

LEGEND:

COLOR	FENCE TYPE
	42" Playground Perimeter Fence
	4' Sport Fence
	6' Sport Fence
	8' Sport Fence
	10' Sport Fence



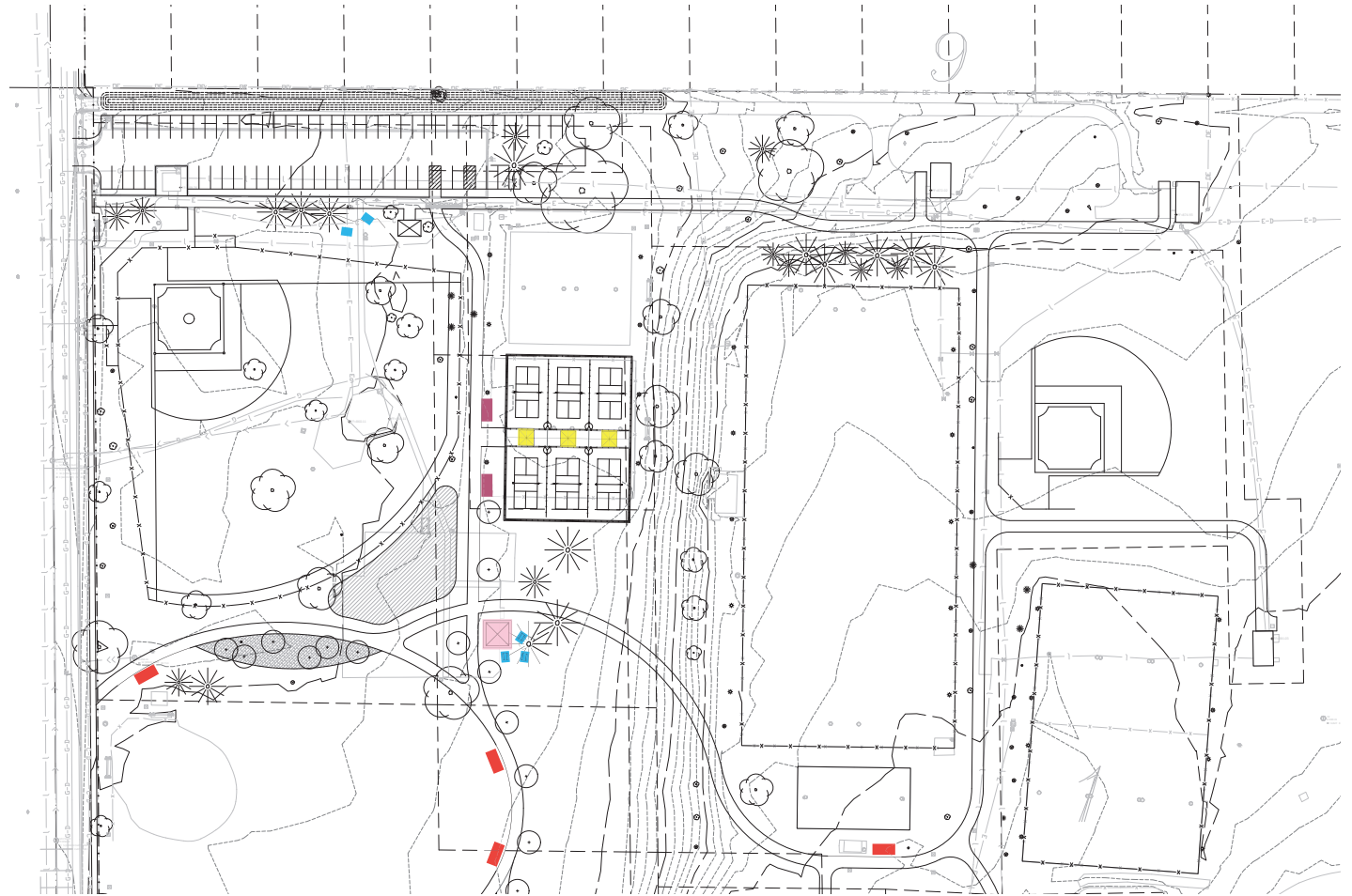
*Decorative Aluminum Playground
Perimeter Fence*



Site Furnishings Diagram (north)

LEGEND:

COLOR	FURNISHING ITEM	QTY.
	Table and Bench	8 EA
	Bistro Table	11 EA
	Bench (backless)	11 EA
	Bench (w/back)	14 EA
	Pickleball Shade Structure + Seating	3 EA
	Picnic Shelter	2 EA
	Hammock Posts	9 EA
	Fire Feature	1 EA
	Shade Sail	3 EA



Site Furnishings Diagram (south)

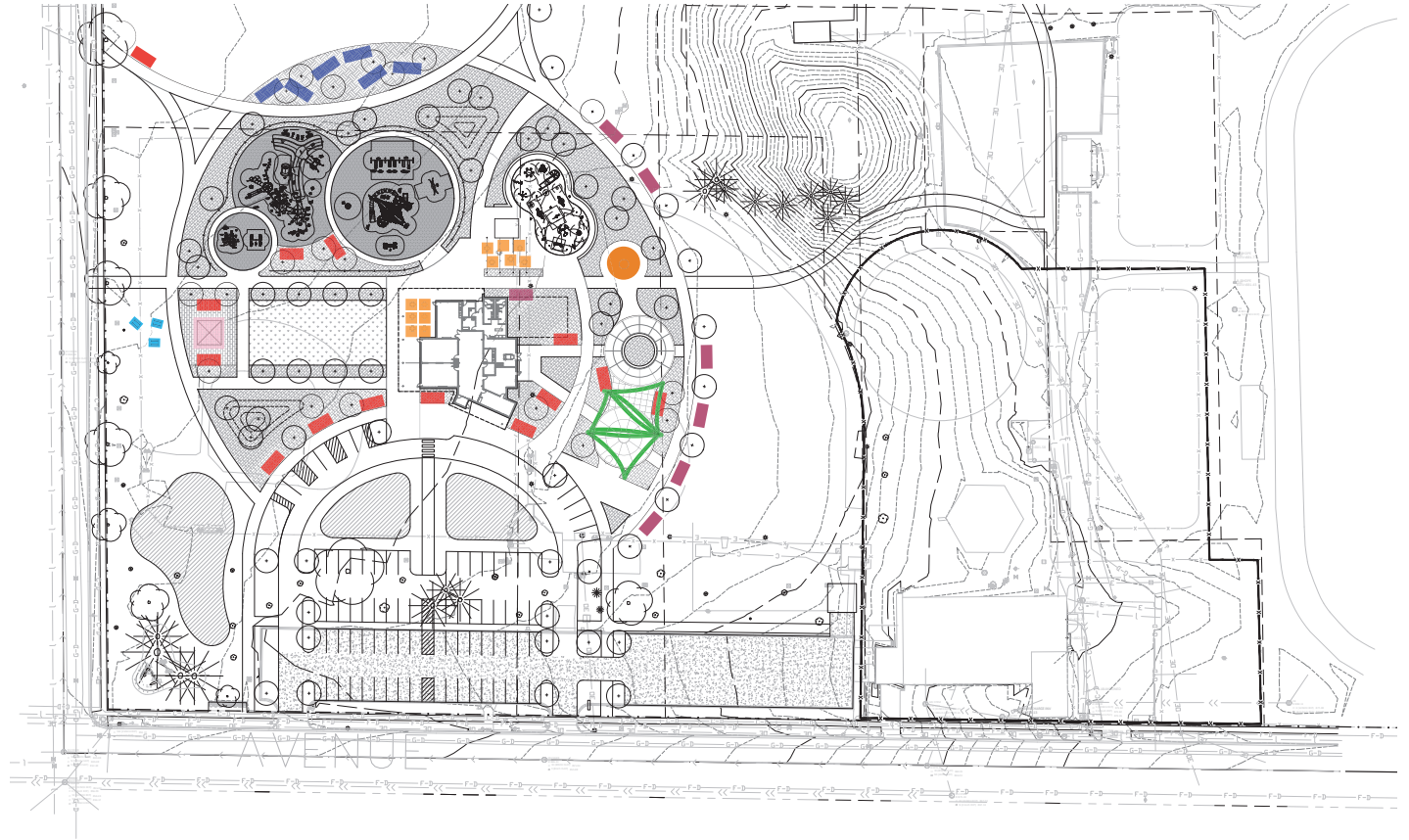
LEGEND:

COLOR	FURNISHING ITEM	QTY.
	Table and Bench	8 EA
	Bistro Table	11 EA
	Bench (backless)	11 EA
	Bench (w/back)	14 EA
	Pickleball Shade Structure + Seating	3 EA
	Picnic Shelter	2 EA
	Hammock Posts	9 EA
	Fire Feature	1 EA
	Shade Sail	3 EA



Shade Sail

Model: Skyways Triangle Sail
Manufacturer: Landscape Structures



Site Furnishings

Fixtures



Table and Bench

*Model: Vector Table Ensemble
Manufacturer: Landscape Forms
Notes: Freestanding or surface mounted*



Bistro Table and Chair

*Model: Parc Centre Table + Chair
Manufacturer: Landscape Forms*



Bench (backless)

*Model: FGP Collection; Backless 70" Bench
Manufacturer: Landscape Forms
Notes: Surface mounted*



Bench (w/ back)

*Model: FGP Collection; Backed 70" Bench
Manufacturer: Landscape Forms
Notes: Surface mounted*



Pickleball Shade Structure

*Model: Outline Bollard
Manufacturer: Landscape Forms
Notes: Surface mounted; meets dark sky requirements*



Picnic Shelter

*Model: Monoslope
Manufacturer: Polygon*



Hammock Posts

Model: Custom/contractor built



Fire Feature

*Model: Flat Top Fire Pit + Steel Logs
Manufacturer: Breck Ironworks*



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: October 7, 2024

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Title

Non-Profit Fee Waiver Request

Background

Fridley park rental facilities offer rental to non-profit organizations at the same rate as an individual resident rate. In some cases, organizations may wish to request that part or all of this rental fee be waived. The process is review by the Parks and Recreation Commission and possible recommendation to City Council. The request will appear as a consent agenda item on the Council meeting following the Commission meeting. Fees are as follows:

Rental Days	Rental Hours	Resident* and Non-profit Rate	Non-Resident rate	Damage Deposit	Optional Building Monitor**
Mon- Thurs Fri Morning	Half day 1 8 am–2 pm	Half day 1 or 2 \$150 + tax	Half day 1 or 2 \$225 + tax	\$200	\$25/hourly 2-hour minimum
	Half day 2 3 pm–9 pm				
	Full day 8 am–9 pm	Full day \$225 + tax	Full day \$337.50 + tax		
Fri Evening Saturday Sunday	Half day 1 8 am–2 pm	Half day 1 or 2 \$250 + tax	Half day 1 or 2 \$400 + tax	\$200	\$25/hourly 2-hour minimum
	Half day 2 3 pm–9 pm				
	Full day 8 am–9 pm	Full day \$375 + tax	Full day \$600 + tax		

Financial Impact

The process for request of waiver of rental fees is new and there is not a baseline to estimate the number of requests that may be made. The vast majority of rentals are for individuals, which are not

Vision Statement

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

eligible for consideration under current policy. The number of requests being made by non-profit organizations is not significant from an budgetary standpoint.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Commission waive part or all of the rental fees for both Lee Carlson Center and Mississippi Watershed Management Organization and that each application be considered separately.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Submission from Lee Carlson Center for Mental Health
- Submission from Mississippi Watershed Management Organization

Vision Statement

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



Non Profit - Facility Rental Request

Name of Organization	Lee Carlson Center for Mental Health and Well-Being
Facility or Park Requested	Moore Lake Community Building
Date(s) of Event	11/21/2024
Timeframe of Event	3-9 pm
Estimated Attendance Number	50
Purpose of Event	Lee Carlson Center for Mental Health & Well-Being's mission is to provide affordable and exceptional mental health services for families, children, youth and adults in our community. Lee Carlson Center's drop-in center for adults experiencing severe and persistent mental illness (SPMI), Bridgeview, has had arts programming as a major component of its offerings for members consistently since the program's beginning in 1985. The Bridgeview Art Show is a significant event for our members. This art show provides our members with a platform to showcase and sell their artwork and crafts. Members keep 100% of their profit. The event

is designed to promote socialization and creativity by offering our members a valuable opportunity to engage with the community and express their artistic talents. It also raises public awareness about mental illness and highlights the artistic contributions of our members. Additionally, the event underscores the importance of affordable mental health care and the essential services provided by Bridgeview.

Bridgeview members' artistic output is well-known and respected in Anoka County and beyond. Many of the individuals who participate in the art program are now displaying and selling their artwork in many places outside of Bridgeview, from outside shows to coffee shops.

Rental Fee

Our organization would like to request a waiver of the rental fee*

* Please describe reason for request to reduce or waive rental fee.

Given the profound impact and benefits this event provides for our members, we kindly request a waiver of the rental fee for your space. The fee waiver would enable us to allocate more resources directly to supporting our members and ensuring the success of the event. Your support in this matter would greatly enhance our ability to foster creativity, community engagement, and awareness of mental health issues.

Bridgeview artists live with serious and persistent mental illness, many also suffer from physical challenges. Bridgeview is a gathering space for socialization and creativity. The programs at Bridgeview empower individuals to take charge of their own well-being through many resources,

including support groups and art program. Art empowers, encourages, and gives members a sense of identity, self-esteem and self-awareness through a connectedness to their own unique artistic vision and to encouraging that of their peers.

Name Sue Vang

Phone Number (763) 639-7619

Email svang@leecarlsoncenter.org

Signature



Date Submitted 09-17-2024

I understand that in addition to this rental request application, my organization must email a copy of their Federal 501(c)(3) determination letter, or Minnesota Form ST16 (Nonprofit Exempt Status) to Recreation@FridleyMN.gov

Yes, I agree



Non Profit - Facility Rental Request

Name of Organization Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (MWMO)

Facility or Park Requested Moore Lake Community Building

Date(s) of Event October 17, 2024

Timeframe of Event 2–5 PM

Estimated Attendance Number 13

Purpose of Event MWMO Board of Commissioners retreat

Rental Fee Our organization would like to request a reduced rental fee*

* Please describe reason for request to reduce or waive rental fee. Our organization would like to request a reduced rate of the half day non profit reservation price for our government organization

Name Akadia Johnson

Phone Number (612) 746-4970

Email ajohnson@mwmn.org

Signature

A handwritten signature in dark blue ink, appearing to read 'AJ Johnson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Date Submitted 09-23-2024

I understand that in addition to this rental request application, my organization must email a copy of their Federal 501(c)(3) determination letter, or Minnesota Form ST16 (Nonprofit Exempt Status) to Recreation@FridleyMN.gov

Yes, I agree

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: October 7, 2024

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Title

Scholarship Program Report

Background

The Commission reviewed and approved a scholarship policy and application in May of 2023 and requested periodic reporting of the utilization of the program. 2024 data indicates that 40 individuals registered for programs utilizing scholarship funds for a program value of \$4,669.00, as of September 19th.

Basic parameters of the scholarship program are that the benefits are available to all who elect into them and sign off verifying that there is a need for assistance. Each individual is eligible for \$400 in program credits per year. The summer ROCKS program is not eligible for scholarships.

The request comes in October as enrollments for many of our 2025 programs are currently underway and staff would like to be able to make scholarship funds available for utilization at the beginning of the 2025 calendar year.

Financial Impact

With less than \$5,000 in scholarship funds being utilized to date in 2024, there does not appear to be a level of use that will cause financial strain to the Parks and Recreation Department and the program goal is to allow individuals to participate in programming without financial barriers.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Commission endorse continuation of the scholarship program with the understanding that there will be an annual review of program utilization.

Attachments and Other Resources

Scholarship Program Application

Vision Statement

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

[Scholarship Application \(jotform.com\)](https://jotform.com)



Fridley Parks & Recreation

7071 University Ave N.E. Fridley, MN 55432
763-572-3570 | Recreation@FridleyMN.gov | FridleyMN.gov

Who Qualifies?

Scholarship funds are available to FRIDLEY residents only. Participants must remain full-time residents of Fridley during the activities they have received scholarships for. Proof of residency or income need may be requested at the time of application. Households must have a scholarship application digitally signed and dated for each calendar year of participation in the program.

Applications must be renewed annually.

What Qualifies?

Individuals that qualify for the scholarship program will receive a subsidy for the remainder of the calendar year, applicable towards eligible recreation programs and classes.

Summer ROCKS and Adult Sports Leagues are not eligible.

Who Can Fill Out This Application?

Parent, guardians, and adults over the age of 18 can complete this application.

If you are completing this application for children, you must be their primary caregiver.

Scholarship Guidelines:

In event you can no longer participate in a registered program, we ask that you call the Recreation office at 763-572-3570 to cancel.

Staff reserves the right to cancel a program registration if an individual enrolled through scholarship does not attend classes on a regular basis without communication to recreation.

Name of Adult Completing the Application *

First Name

Last Name

Address *

Street Address

Apartment or Condo Number

City

State / Province

Postal / Zip Code

Email *

example@example.com

Phone Number *

Please enter a valid phone number.

How many children would you like to apply for scholarships for? ▼

Please call or email recreation if you have more than 4 children and would like to apply for scholarship.

How many Adults would you like to apply for scholarships for?

Please Select



By checking the box, I certify that I or my household will benefit from the City of Fridley scholarship program and that it will allow for enrollment in classes, activities, or programs that may otherwise present a financial barrier to participation. *

☐ Agree/Certify

By providing my signature, I declare that the scholarship application information provided is true and complete.

Sign Here

Powered by **Jotform Sign** [Clear](#)

In accordance with the MN Government Data Practices Act, the Recreation staff of Fridley hereby informs you that the personal information we are requesting of you and/or your children on this form is considered private. Private data is available to you and to City staff who need to have this information to administer the program – but not to the public.

Please verify that you are human *

☐

I am human





AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: : October 7, 2024

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 : October 7, 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Springbrook Nature Center Update for: October 7, 2024 meeting

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 6.

September Teaching

As the beginning of the school year kicks off, we are excited to get started with visits to our partner schools, and a return to birthday parties and rental gatherings.

Number of Children Taught: 485

Number of Hours of Teaching: 1,156.5

September Rentals & Birthday Parties

- There were 5 birthday parties in September, with themes including Reptiles, Survival, Fort Building and Eco-Pirates.
- In September, there were 2 full Pavilion Activity Center (PAC) rentals, 3 indoor room rentals, and 1 Amphitheater rental

Grants

- We will begin purchasing for the Xcel Energy Foundation Grant entitled "Wild Connections in Environmental Education" soon. Be on the lookout for new animal enclosures and equipment to make it easier to teach with animal ambassadors.
- We have been awarded a grant from The International Paper Foundation for a project entitled "Culture and Team Building in Nature" in which we aim to enhance our team building programming with portable low ropes challenges that will create perceived risk and aid in communication, active listening, trust, leadership, and social emotional skills in children and adults.

Park & Building Maintenance

- The construction continues on 85th Avenue. We are hopeful they will complete the roundabout at our driveway by Pumpkin Night in the Park (10/19). The water main component of this project has taken longer than anticipated, which has thrown off the schedule a little. We continue to communicate with our visitors, renters, program participants, and the public through email, social media accounts, and our website.
- Repairs are being scheduled for the geothermal system. It has been determined that this repair could not wait until 2025.



- The Nature Play expansion has been installed with one small error. As I write this report, I am working with the project manager and salespeople at Kompan to get that error corrected. One of the components of the Parkour course was not delivered for installation. At this point, we are figuring out where it is (in a warehouse in TX, in a fabrication warehouse in Denmark, etc.). Fridley Parks will be working on installing the safety surfacing soon. We hope to have the area ready for people to play by 9/30/24.
- Fridley Parks is working on removing the permeable pavement in the SNC parking lot and replacing it with permeable asphalt.

Upcoming Events

- Pumpkin Carving begins on October 13 and runs through October 17 (see website for more details)
- Pumpkin Night in the Park will take place on October 19 from 5-9 pm. Tickets go on sale September 1 (early bird discount available until September 15 – PNITP2024, \$2 off per ticket) Visit springbrooknaturecenter.org/PumpkinNight for more details.



PUMPKIN NIGHT IN THE PARK
HAVE A GOURD TIME WITH THE WHOLE FAMILY!

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 19
5-9 PM

- MORE THAN 1,000 GLOWING PUMPKINS
- COSTUMED CHARACTERS
- FIRE DANCERS
- KIDS DANCE DJ
- FOOD TRUCKS
- ENTERTAINING BONFIRES
- AND MORE...

SCAN THE CODE BELOW FOR TICKETS

\$12 →

TICKETS ARE LIMITED
NO SALES AT GATE
CHILDREN 2 & UNDER ARE FREE

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT OUR WEBSITE!
www.springbrooknaturecenter.org/PumpkinNight

Springbrook Nature Center
City of Fridley



PUMPKIN CARVING
OCTOBER 13 - 17

HELP CARVE MORE THAN 1,200 PUMPKINS TO LINE THE TRAILS AT PUMPKIN NIGHT IN THE PARK!

SIGN UP ON OUR WEBSITE FOR YOUR 30 MINUTE TIMESLOT. YOU WILL BE PROVIDED A GUTTED PUMPKIN, CARVING TOOLS, AND PATTERNS.

LEAVE YOUR PUMPKIN WITH US - AND SEE IF YOU CAN FIND IT ALONG THE TRAIL AT PUMPKIN NIGHT ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19 FROM 5-9 PM.

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER - CARVING TAKES PLACE OUTSIDE AT THE PICNIC SHELTER.

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO

Springbrook Nature Center
City of Fridley



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: : October 7, 2024

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Margo Numedahl, Recreation Division Manager

Title

Fridley Parks and Recreation Division Report

Background

Attached is the update from the Parks and Recreation Department for the : October 7, 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Attached is the update from the Parks and Recreation Department for the October 7, 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

Vision Statement

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



HIGHLIGHTS

Recreation Division: September 2024

Fall Programs

Below is a list of programs and participation numbers for those that took place in September.

Preschool: Ages 3-5

Soccer (6 sessions): Sep-Oct	6
------------------------------	---

Elementary – Middle School: Grades K-7

Soccer Gr. K-4 (6 sessions): Sep-Oct	22
Outdoor Games & Halloween Fun Gr. K-4 (6 sessions): Sep-Oct	19
Painting Gr. K-4 (6 sessions): Sep-Oct	18

Adult Fitness and Athletics

Zumba (2 classes/6 sessions each): Sep-Oct	16
Pickleball Intro Clinic: Sep 14 2 – Fridley, 4 – SLP	6
Pickleball Skills and Drills (4 sessions): Aug-Sep 4 – Fridley, 8 – SLP	12
Pickleball Ladder League – All Ages: May-Jul 32 – Fridley, 24 – SLP (2 leagues)	56
Pickleball Ladder League – Ages 20-35: May-Jul 23 – Fridley, 10 – SLP	33
Volleyball Leagues (Coed Rec/Comp, Women's Comp) North Metro League*: Fridley-4 teams, 3 individuals	32 teams

*North Metro Leagues are offered in cooperation with Mounds View, New Brighton, and Spring Lake Park.

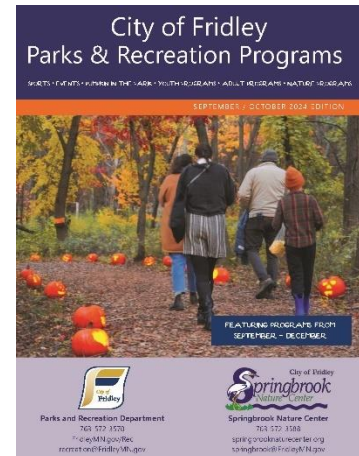
Parks and Recreation Brochure

Content for the November/December brochure is complete, and it is currently being designed.

September Facility Rentals

Facility Rentals

Moore Lake Community Building	12
Shelters (Commons, Flanery, Locke, Moore Lake #5)	13
Community Park	58
Commons Park Fields (Baseball and Football)	19



North Metro Volleyball Leagues

Indoor volleyball is back for the North Metro Sports group. We are excited to offer both competitive and recreational coed leagues as well as a competitive women's league. Games are held at the New Brighton Community Center and Highview Middle School.

Pickleball Classes

We held Pickleball Skills and Drills and a Beginner Clinic in September. The Beginner Clinic is designed to be a short and sweet introduction to pickleball over the course of one two hour class. The Skills and Drills class is the second of three classes we offer. This is a step up from the Beginner Class where players can focus on their technique and game strategy. Pickleball Skills and Drills was the first class to be moved back indoors to Hayes Elementary School Gym where three pickleball courts have been set up for future programs.

Community Park Tournament

We hosted the Perfect Game National Girls Fastpitch Tournament at Community Park on September 21-22. The 18U division played at our facility and was made up of 13 teams. This is the third year that we have hosted the Perfect Game tournament, and they enjoy using Community Park in addition to the Sand Creek Athletic Complex in Coon Rapids.

After-School Classes

The after-school programs started on September 17. Current classes offerings are Soccer, Outdoor Games & Halloween Fun and Painting for kids in grades K-4. The classes filled up right away and we scheduled an additional seasonal staff to help out so we could open enrollment to more children. Fridley Nutritional Services is again providing a free super snack to our participants. We look forward to another great year of programs at Hayes Elementary.



Community Development Block Grant Application

An application was submitted for a Community Development Block Grant for improvements to Oak Hill and Jubilee Parks. The request is for \$500,000 in federal funds for the project. This grant program is administered by Anoka County staff. Staff expects to receive notice of a possible grant award in November and will need to complete projects by mid-June of 2025.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: October 7, 2024

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 : October 7, 2024 meeting.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Park Maintenance Report for : October 7, 2024 meeting

Vision Statement

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



Memorandum

Item 8.

Date: 9/20/24
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 October 7, 2024 Meeting

The Park Maintenance Division has been continuing the weekly tasks of mowing, lining and prepping athletic fields. City-wide mowing is still in high demand with the warmer weather we have been having lately.

We finished up a replanting project at Moore Lake in hopes of establishing a better turf for now and spring.

We have been working up at SNC with the new playground and have finished up site work. Now we are putting down safety wood chips, will be reinstalling fence, and then we have turf restoration that we are hoping to complete this fall. Work is also being done to repair the impervious areas of the parking lot.

We have continued work at 61ST Ave Parklet in planting and landscaping and the same at the Civic Campus West Plaza.

Construction is wrapping up at Edgewater Gardens, Logan Park and Plymouth Square Park.