



Agenda

Minnetonka Park Board

Wednesday, June 1, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. Minnetonka
Community Center - Minnehaha Room

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

_____ Isabelle Stroh

_____ Korey Beyersdorf

_____ James Durbin

_____ Chris Gabler

_____ David Ingraham

_____ Ben Jacobs

_____ Katie Semersky

_____ Chris Walick

3. Reports from Staff

4. Approval of Minutes

A) April 6, 2022

5. Citizens wishing to discuss items not on the agenda

6. Special Matters

7. Business Items

A) 2023-2027 Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

B) E-bike usage - Lone Lake Park Multi-Use
Mountain Bike Trail

8. Park Board Member Reports

9. Information Items

10. Upcoming Park Board Agenda Items

11. Adjournment

Board Vision:

A city with outstanding parks and recreational opportunities within a valued natural environment.

Board Mission:

The mission of the Minnetonka Parks & Recreation Board is to proactively advise the city council, in ways that will:

- Protect & enhance Minnetonka's natural environment
- Promote quality recreation opportunities and facilities
- Provide a forum for citizens interested in our parks, trails, athletic fields and open space.



**Minutes
Minnetonka Park Board
Wednesday, April 6, 2022**

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

Park board members present: Korey Beyersdorf, James Durbin, Chris Gabler, David Ingraham, Ben Jacobs, Katie Semersky, Isabelle Stroh and Chris Walick.

Staff members in attendance: Kathy Kline, Matt Kumka, Kelly O'Dea, Christine Petersen, Sara Woeste and Leslie Yetka.

Gabler called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

3. Reports from Staff

Recreation Director Kelly O'Dea introduced Park and Trail Project Manager Matt Kumka, and Natural Resources Program and Outreach Coordinator Christine Petersen. Also, O'Dea informed the board that in the upcoming meeting agenda, e-bikes at Lone Lake Park was listed as a business item. Staff decided they needed to do more research on e-bikes. It will likely be coming back as a business item at the June or August park board meeting.

4. Approval of Minutes

Walick moved, Jacobs seconded a motion to approve the meeting minutes of March 2, 2022 as submitted. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

5. Citizens wishing to discuss items not on the agenda

There were none.

6. Special Matters

There were none.

7. Business Items

A. Parks, Open Spaces and Trails (POST) System Plan Approval

Assistant Recreation Director Sara Woeste gave the report.

Walick thought it was incredible.

Ingraham complimented the amount of public input. He thought it was a great document and that the executive summary was pretty comprehensive.

Semersky asked if the city council has seen it yet.

Woeste replied that they haven't officially seen it but it will be presented to the council after the park board recommends it to move forward.

Semersky confirmed that park board saw it first and then it goes to council.

Woeste answered that is correct.

Semersky was very supportive of the whole initiative. She thanked staff for adding the executive summary. It was very helpful for certain audiences to get that section.

Durbin thought it was fantastic.

Jacobs commented that staff has done a lot of great work and it turned out really nice.

Durbin thanked them for the executive summary. It will be helpful especially for a new park board member.

Walick moved, Jacobs seconded a motion to approve sending the POST Plan to the city council. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

B. Natural Resources Education and Outreach Plan

Petersen gave the report.

Ingraham liked the presentation and asked how many have signed up for tomorrow's resilience program.

Petersen responded that their limit is 40 and they were about halfway to that. However, she hasn't had an update on registrations from Blue Thumb recently. They were about halfway full before *The Memo* went out and before an email blast from Natural Resources went out on the first of the month. Peterson stated that if it doesn't fill, staff will find additional ways to reach out to people. A possibility would be to reach out to people who took the Planting for Pollinators workshop last year. They didn't have as much engagement on the cost-share grant that was part of that program possibly due to last year's drought; she is hoping they can offer that opportunity to some other folks.

8. Park Board Member Reports

Stroh commented that the park board talked about getting information on the tennis court usage in parks. She spoke to Tennis Program Manager Felicia Raschiatore at the Williston Fitness Center. Raschiatore described how she and other coaches during lockdown surveyed most of the city's parks and looked at their usage. She sent Stroh a few reports that pertained to the tennis courts and there were about 10 parks that might be of interest. Meadow, Gro Tonka and Lone Lake parks all have high-usage. All of those parks, along with Woodgate Park, are used for the Junior Tennis in the Parks program that the city offers.

- Meadow Park has two tennis courts and houses are quite a distance from them. The courts are very popular and there is good parking.

- Gro Tonka Park has three tennis courts, houses are close to the park with good parking.
- Junction and Linner parks have two courts, houses are close to the courts and they are in poor shape with a small amount of parking.
- Covington Park has two courts that are used sparingly, they are very close to the houses with minimal parking.
- Oberlin Park has two courts, average condition, lots of parking, only houses on one side and there is a basketball court there.
- Wilson has two tennis courts, very close to the houses with ample parking.
- Spring Hill has two tennis courts used sparingly, very close to houses with minimal parking.
- Woodgate has two tennis courts used often, very close to houses with ample parking.

Most of these parks have two courts and Stroh thinks they could be used for pickleball.

Gabler asked if she got any information back on pickleball.

Stroh responded that she didn't.

Gabler replied that they are packed and he frequently hears that we need more courts.

Semersky was in Eden Prairie two weeks ago for a meeting at the Civic Center. She got there early and noticed the Round Lake Skate Park that is right across the street. It was 37 degrees outside and 10 kids were there around 6 p.m.; half of them were teenagers and half of them were younger. About half of the kids had scooters and the other half had skateboards. It's located on the north side of Eden Prairie which is pretty close to Minnetonka. It got her attention as an observation that kids were out there even in the cold weather.

Durbin commented that the request for proposal went out for the skate board park feasibility and questioned when it is expected to come in.

Kumka thought he should receive them next Friday. They went out to a variety of consultants who do recreation style planning. He thought they went out to six consultants in total. Staff will receive the proposals from them and assess whether or not they are qualified. They are looking to get the study done this year.

9. Information Items

O'Dea responded to Stroh and Semersky's comments from the park board member reports. O'Dea stated that during COVID, some of our facilities were closed and staff members were available to do assessments at the parks. That is where the information came from on how busy the courts were. It was good information to have because there are 30 or more tennis

courts. As far as the skate park, staff is looking into visiting a skate park in a different city on the tour next month. Eden Prairie is close and could be similar to something we would like.

Summer Registration

O'Dea gave the report.

Cullen Smith Property Update

Kumka gave the report.

Ingraham said it was impressive. He hasn't gone into the property but from either Essex Road or maybe Stone Road you get a pretty good view.

O'Dea said the Cullen Smith property is another site staff is looking at visiting on the tour.

Gabler went back to the tennis courts evaluation discussion and thought it would be interesting to go back now on a non-COVID year and see if that was just a one-off because nothing else was open or if the tennis courts are still being used. He wasn't sure if it would be possible to do that this year, but he thought it would be interesting to compare.

Natural Resources Annual Update

Natural Resources Manager Leslie Yetka gave the report.

Ingraham asked if the gravel bed nursery is going in behind the water treatment plant.

Yetka replied that there are tennis courts, an open area and then the water treatment. She believed it is going in that open area.

Ingraham commented that there is a good milkweed patch there so it is a tradeoff.

Yetka said they will make sure they are watching the milkweed and that they aren't disturbing it too much.

Gabler said every time a restriction or ordinance gets put in place, he always questions if we foresee any unintended consequences. We kind of target the big developers but what happens if a homeowner wants to improve their property. He questioned if there are any unintended consequences if they start taking down trees or what should they do before.

Yetka responded that it's not too much of a change for single family homeowners, except there is some protection now. Before, the tree protection ordinance did not apply to single family housing but it does now. One discussion with the planning committee was to make sure this ordinance wasn't depressing any development in our city. As applications come in, staff has been looking at the old ordinance and how it gets applied differs from the new ordinance. We haven't had a situation yet where a development hasn't gone through because of the tree protection ordinance. She thinks part of that is because there is quite a bit of flexibility that's in the ordinance to actually allow staff to work with a developer and they can work with the landowner in making sure that they are protecting the right trees in the right places. Then during the whole development process, there are some checks and balances where developers can just work with staff much more than they could in the past. It

is more restrictive but we also have more flexibility. It sounds counterintuitive but overall it has been working well.

Gabler asked when looking at the life cycle of a tree, when it is planted, how do you know when it is time to replace it?

Yetka said it depends on the tree species because some are longer lived than others. One thing staff has talked about and is in the Natural Resource Master Plan, is this idea of offering tree audits. This would be another incentive where either a forester or a contractor that we contract with can talk to a landowner and give them an inventory of the trees that they have on their property. They could also give landowners advice on what trees are nearing their life cycle so they can consider replacing them. If a tree is diseased, they could give advice on how to handle it and also how to protect their trees. It is hard for staff to answer those questions without knowing what people have, however, they do want to offer that service because a lot of people have those kinds of questions.

Gabler thought that if you stick that right next to a restriction on taking down trees that people will look at it first. He thought that would be awesome because he knows of a few places just in his neighborhood and nobody knows.

Semersky thought it would be really nice if the city recommended a few contractors. She added that a lot of forestry places will go to your house but you don't know if they are giving you a good recommendation. Some might tell you to take everything down so they can make money.

Yetka and Petersen replied that there is a list of tree companies that they have approved on the website and that is done every year. We don't certify or license them and staff can't recommend one company over another but we can provide a list of those that are doing business already in the city. She suggested to tell people they should be hiring certified contractors.

Petersen added that for each contractor, staff asks them what services they provide. She doesn't believe they have ever asked if they do assessments of that kind but she thinks it would be worthwhile. She also added that this is kind of an opportunity to expand their volunteer program. Similar to Master Naturalists and Master Gardeners, there are existing tree care advisors who are certified, who as volunteers could provide some of that service. Staff does education through the tree sale about buckthorn replacement, ash replacement and focusing on the idea of the right tree in the right place.

Winter Farmer's Market Summary

O'Dea gave the report.

Semersky asked if the vendors were pleased and if there was enough business to make it worth their while.

O'Dea thought for most of them, it was worth their while. Staff heard from some of the vendors that it was a little slower than past years. In the past, especially in November and December when people were shopping for gifts, they would see about 500 people. He thought 325 was still a decent amount of people.

Durbin asked if we still have a full-time farmers market coordinator.

O'Dea replied that we do and Bonnie Hanna-Powers is still the farmers market manager. He mentioned that he found out some good news today. Hanna-Powers applied for a grant and she received the grant. It was kind of related to COVID so we have dollars that we can spend next year. It was more of an equity grant to make sure people had access to farmers markets.

Beyersdorf asked why we are doing the summer markets on Tuesdays opposed to having them on the weekend.

O'Dea responded that staff looks at other cities and what they are doing.

Woeste added that we are typically spreading the vendors out.

Beyersdorf said she does craft fairs so she was wondering.

O'Dea mentioned that at times last year, the attendance was 700 – 1,000 people, so he thought for most of the vendors it was worth their while.

Winter Rinks Summary

O'Dea gave the report.

Beyersdorf asked if we have signs at the warming houses.

Woeste didn't think signs were at every park. The information was listed on the website and in the brochure.

10. Upcoming Park Board Agenda Items

O'Dea gave the report.

11. Adjournment

Walick moved, Jacobs seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Kline

Kathy Kline
Recreation Administrative Coordinator

**Minnetonka Park Board Item 7A
Meeting of June 1, 2022**

Subject:	Review of the 2023-2027 Capital Improvement Program
Park Board related goal:	Enhance long-term Park Board development
Park Board related objective:	Review and recommend Capital Improvements Program for 2023-2027 related to parks, trails & open space
Brief Description:	Review, discuss and recommend the proposed 2023 – 2027 Capital Improvement Program to the city council

Background

Annually, the park board is asked to review and recommend the park and trail related items that are included in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to the city council. The CIP is the city's five-year plan to provide and maintain public facilities for the residents and businesses of Minnetonka, balanced against constraint of available resources. Projects included are ranked to determine their funding priority. Priority rankings include:

1. Projects necessary for public health and safety, or to meet legal mandates.
2. Projects which help maintain or make existing systems more efficient. Cost benefits and coordination with related projects will be considered.
3. Projects expanding existing systems, providing new services, or for general community betterment.

Staff Suggested Priority Rankings

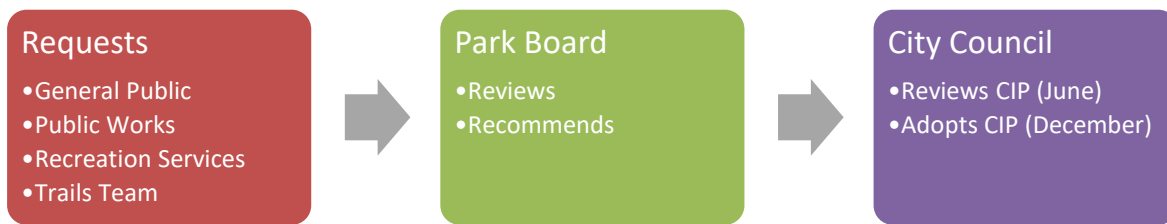
In addition to the three priority rankings established by the city council, staff has established suggested guidelines on prioritizing the scheduled and unscheduled projects in the following order:

1. All park board recommended and city council adopted agreements (city-owned and non-city owned) be funded as agreed upon.
2. Rehabilitation of existing trails in order to maintain a preventative and proactive maintenance system.
3. Park and Trail Investment Plan projects based upon a 30-year asset inventory are completed to prevent deferred, emergency, or corrective repairs. This category would include city athletic fields.
4. Building and structure related projects are completed to protect the investment of each respective facility.
5. Park Habitat Stewardship Plan projects are completed based on the 20-year restoration phasing schedule identified in the Natural Resources Master Plan to increase high quality habitat in the parks.
6. Expansion of the trail system by selecting highly rated segments from the Trail Improvement Plan.
7. Expansion of the park system by the acquisition or acceptance of land that has park and recreational value, especially to areas that are currently underserved or lacking access to the existing system.
8. Planning and system studies that would provide the research and planning materials to benefit the public, staff, park board and city council on matters pertaining to the park, trails, open space and recreational needs of the city.
9. Expansion of the trail system by the construction of miscellaneous trail links not identified through the Trail Improvement Plan, but petitioned to the city.
10. Non-city owned athletic field improvements and expansion.
11. Non-city owned park and trail amenities petitioned to the park board and city council.

It is staff’s intent that these priorities remain flexible in order to adapt in the event that specific or prospective projects become available. By establishing guidelines, and not a specific policy, there remains the opportunity to take advantage of available grants, external partnerships, or acquisition that otherwise would be limited by a defined policy.

CIP Process

The 2023-2027 CIP is being proposed for review and comment by the park board at the June 1, 2022 meeting. There are certain project funding levels that the status of is unknown at this time and require further deliberation and discussion, especially with the City Council at their upcoming Study Session on June 20, 2022. However, it is appropriate that the Park Board review the draft CIP projects and make a recommendation to the City Council. By providing feedback and direction, it will benefit staff and the City Council on the priorities of the parks and trails projects as they deliberate the 5-year policy document.



The city council will review the CIP at the June 20 study session and adopt at a later date in the calendar year.

In addition to CIP requests from staff and residents, staff look at a handful of established planning documents that help guide projects that are included in the CIP. Some of those documents are listed below.

- Parks, Open Space and Trails (POST) Plan

In April of 2022, the Park Board and City Council approved the updated Parks, Open Space and Trail (POST) System Plan. The plan is a 15 to 20 year road map for planning and implementing park improvements. The plan offers guiding principles, recommendation, priorities and tools to ensure the Minnetonka park system is relevant and functional into the future. Priority initiatives identified in the POST plan that are included in the 2023-2027 CIP include planning/design and construction for a potential new or upgraded skate park, master planning of: Purgatory Park, Big Willow Park, Cullen Nature Preserve, Meadow Park, Jidana Park, Civic Center Park and Victoria-Evergreen Park, an unfunded future recreational pool, additional trails to be constructed following the Trail Improvement Plan schedule, and a future unfunded park in Opus.

- Natural Resource Master Plan

The Natural Resources Master Plan (NRMP) is a high level plan adopted by the City Council on December 20, 2021 to guide natural resources management and protection efforts throughout the city. Strategies identified in the NRMP include ecological restoration in parks and other public spaces, ongoing management of invasive species, increasing plant diversity, trees and woodland protection, climate adaptation, education and training, technical assistance, and incentives for adoption of best practices. The NRMP specifically identifies a 20-year schedule for habitat restoration in high priority parks and other significant city-owned open space areas (e.g. Cullen

Nature Preserve). Park prioritization is based on select criteria as identified in the NRMP, which can be adapted over time. The proposed 2023-2027 CIP includes funding for Phase I of the habitat restoration plan identified in the NRMP, including both initial restoration efforts and ongoing maintenance. Additional funding for a forestry mower is included to increase staff ability to conduct large-scale restoration work in the parks.

- Community Facility & Programming Space Study

The Community Facility & Programming Space study led by Recreation Services was finalized in March 2019. The study was presented to the Minnetonka City Council on March 4, 2019 and to the Minnetonka Park Board on March 6, 2019. The outcomes of the study included recommendations to better serve the recreational needs of the community along with a list of maintenance needs at city facilities. Many of the maintenance items identified are included in the Capital Improvement Plan or operational budget.

- Trail Improvement Plan

The Trail Improvement Plan is a multi-year plan created to enhance the city's trail and sidewalk system and consists of unscheduled and unfunded trail segments. This list encompasses approximately 50 miles of new trail or missing link segments. Cost estimates for the construction of those segments exceed \$80 million when it is assumed the work does not coincide with a larger roadway project. This category also accounts for the existing trail system that requires ongoing maintenance and rehabilitation. In 2018, the City Council approved the implementation of a gas franchise fee and an increase in the electrical franchise fee, with the use of those revenues dedicated to trail construction.

Staff continues to recommend delaying the Baker Road trail segments from Minnetonka Boulevard to County Road 62. Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) has worked to complete a master plan with city staff participation for new Eagle Lake and Bryant Lake Regional Trails, which includes the Baker Road segments as well as the Rowland Road – Baker Road to SWLRT Trail. TRPD has completed the master planning process for these trails and is now in the process of securing funding.

In 2020, staff was successful in securing a Regional Solicitation Grant through the Metropolitan Council for the Hopkins Crossroad Trail, for an amount of \$2,300,000. This grant award will advance the construction of past trail segment #18, Hillside Lane - Hopkins Crossroad to Tanglen Elementary, in 2024 along with the planned Hopkins Crossroad Trail.

- Park Investment Plan

The park investment plan looks forward 30 years and projects the lifecycle of existing amenities in the park system. This plan was established as a result of a previous park board goal to develop a funding mechanism for future capital needs. This schedule tracks all infrastructure installed in the park system and projects a future cost and replacement schedule. Those costs are then combined and scheduled during the five-year CIP window. Funding for a skate park feasibility study was included in the 2022 CIP based on recent interest from the community and the park board to pursue the potential for an upgrade to the current skate park at Glen Lake or the addition of a new skate park in an alternate location. CIP dollars are included in 2023 and 2024 for design and construction.

A variety of improvements are scheduled over the next five years to city owned athletic fields. These upgrades include field improvements, safety netting and lighting upgrades to extend play and increase safety. Staff have also included a number of projects in the CIP as unfunded. These projects have been identified through staff, residents or studies as future needs. At this time, funding has not been allocated for the projects.

Discussion Points

- **Does the Park Board recommend any changes or re-prioritization to the proposed CIP projects?**
- **Does the Park Board recommend the addition of any projects to the proposed CIP (funded or unfunded)?**
- **Does the Park Board recommend the deletion of any projects in the proposed CIP?**

Recommended Park Board Action: Review and discuss the proposed 2023-2027 CIP and make recommendations regarding any changes, additions or deletions to the proposed projects to the city council.

Attachments

1. 2023-2027 Proposed CIP Park and Trail Improvement Pages - DRAFT

2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

Contact Natural Resources Manager

Type Maintenance

Useful Life

Category Park Improvements/Refurbish

Priority 3 Expansion of New/Existing

Project #	Park-23301
Project Name	Plant Pest Program

Description (Include Scheduling and Project Status)

This program funds asset-related costs associated with the arrival of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) insect.

In 2014, the city initiated the EAB Management Plan to begin to address the anticipated effects of EAB infestation. The city has hired additional staff to assist with the implementation of EAB management for both public and private trees. The first full year of the program was in 2015. Phase 2 of the EAB Management Plan began in 2019 after discovery of the EAB within the city boundary.

Justification/Relationship to Plans and Projects

The Emerald Ash Borer is an insect now present in Minnetonka that will eventually kill most native ash trees. As a result, the city has a pro-active management program that deals with the anticipated costs of the infestation. These costs include tree removal, stump grinding, reforestation, chemical treatments and public education.

Beginning in 2022, CIP funds specific to the EAB Management Program were expanded to include all plant pests to account for overlap of staff efforts and funds associated with those efforts. Funds will be used to purchase equipment to manage EAB. In addition, the equipment will be used for tree removal related to other existing or emerging pests/diseases (oak wilt, Dutch elm disease, etc.), removal of risk trees, and tree pruning along the right-of-way and on city property as well as reforestation. Funds will continue to be used to hire contractors to remove diseased trees that city field crews cannot remove.

This plan is related to Council Policy 8.3 (Plant Pest Program) and is coordinated with other forestry-related programs.

2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

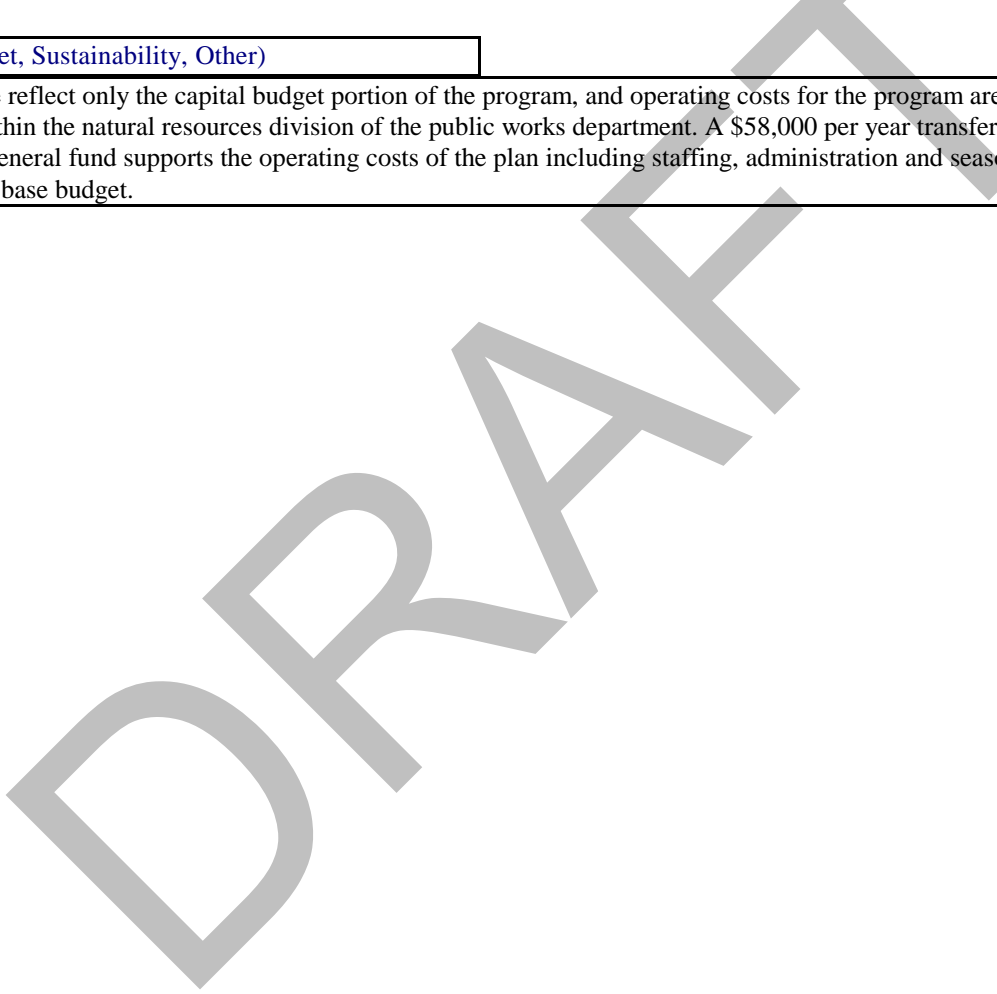
Contact Natural Resources Manager

Expenditures	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Construction/Maintenance	180,000	186,000	192,000	198,000	209,000	965,000
Total	180,000	186,000	192,000	198,000	209,000	965,000

Funding Sources	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Forestry Fund	180,000	186,000	192,000	198,000	209,000	965,000
Total	180,000	186,000	192,000	198,000	209,000	965,000

Impacts (Budget, Sustainability, Other)

The costs above reflect only the capital budget portion of the program, and operating costs for the program are budgeted in the general fund within the natural resources division of the public works department. A \$58,000 per year transfer from the forestry fund balance to the general fund supports the operating costs of the plan including staffing, administration and seasonal employees above its general fund base budget.



2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

Contact Public Works Operations Man

Project #	Park-23302
Project Name	Athletic Field Improvements

Type Improvement

Useful Life

Category Park Improvements/Refurbish

Priority 2 Important-Provide Efficiency

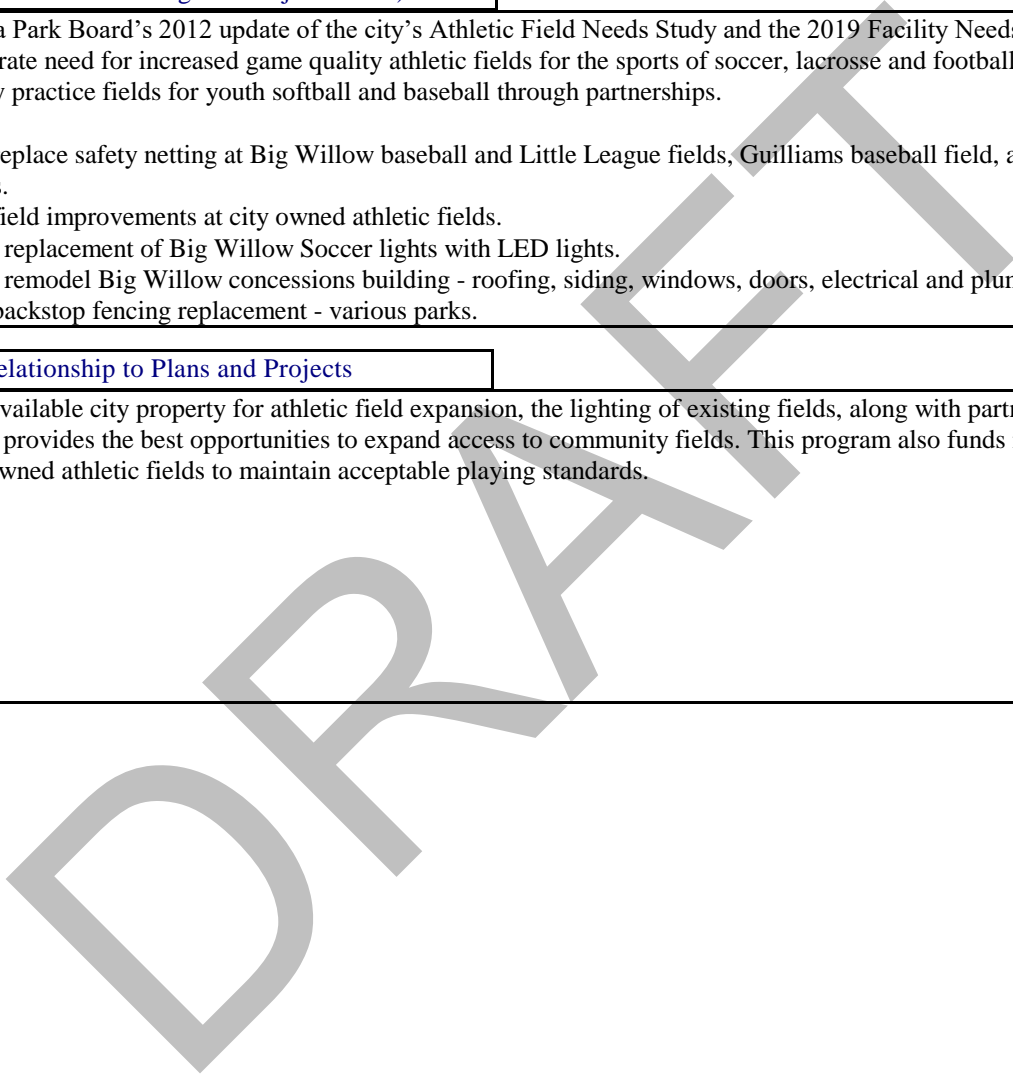
Description (Include Scheduling and Project Status)

The Minnetonka Park Board's 2012 update of the city's Athletic Field Needs Study and the 2019 Facility Needs Study continue to indicate a moderate need for increased game quality athletic fields for the sports of soccer, lacrosse and football; and increased access to quality practice fields for youth softball and baseball through partnerships.

2023: \$25,000 replace safety netting at Big Willow baseball and Little League fields, Guilliams baseball field, and safety netting at all batting cages.
2024: \$20,000 field improvements at city owned athletic fields.
2025: \$160,000 replacement of Big Willow Soccer lights with LED lights.
2026: \$100,000 remodel Big Willow concessions building - roofing, siding, windows, doors, electrical and plumbing.
2027: \$40,000 backstop fencing replacement - various parks.

Justification/Relationship to Plans and Projects

With a lack of available city property for athletic field expansion, the lighting of existing fields, along with partnerships with local school districts, provides the best opportunities to expand access to community fields. This program also funds major upgrades to dedicated city owned athletic fields to maintain acceptable playing standards.



2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

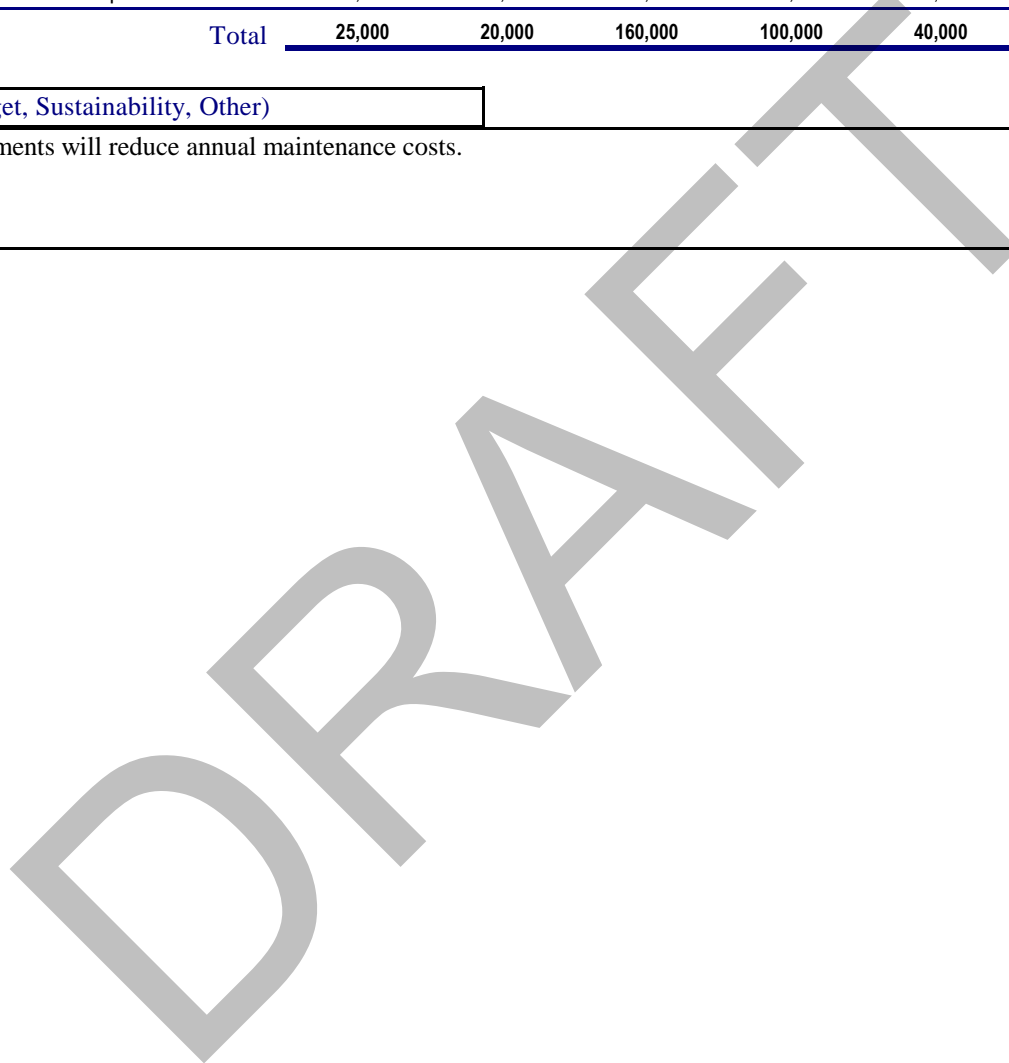
Contact Public Works Operations Man

Expenditures	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Construction/Maintenance	25,000	20,000	160,000	100,000	40,000	345,000
Total	25,000	20,000	160,000	100,000	40,000	345,000

Funding Sources	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Park & Trail Improvement Fund	25,000	20,000	160,000	100,000	40,000	345,000
Total	25,000	20,000	160,000	100,000	40,000	345,000

Impacts (Budget, Sustainability, Other)

These improvements will reduce annual maintenance costs.



2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

Contact Facilities Manager

Project # Park-23303

Project Name Burwell House Investments

Type Improvement

Useful Life

Category Municipal Buildings

Priority 1 Critical for Safety/Preserve

Description (Include Scheduling and Project Status)

The Burwell House and related structures are subject to the Historic Register of Buildings requirements as well as grant conditions from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The facilities, grounds, and adjacent parkland serve to house the artifacts of the Minnetonka Historical Society, support and provide facilities for both Administrative and Recreation programming, and hosts several special events each year.

Buildings on site include: Burwell House and Woodshed, Ice House, Cottage, and Workshop.

In 2019, a city consultant completed a facility assessment of all related structures and site. While site and grounds improvements are funded through parks and streets, this page reflects the recommended capital needs estimated in the facility assessment.

Justification/Relationship to Plans and Projects

The facility assessment noted several envelope and interior cosmetic needs. This plan now spreads the funding request over five years; eliminating large single year expenses. Immediate needs that are addressed include: interior flooring, walls, ceilings, and windows, exterior decorative trims, fascia boards, paint and railings.

Structural deficiencies are showing on the workshop and funding is included to complete a review by a structural engineer.

Financial partnerships through SHPO and other interested parties will be pursued as opportunities arise. Currently no building improvement funds are available through state resources.

2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

Contact Facilities Manager

Expenditures	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Construction/Maintenance	93,000	50,000	60,000	60,000		263,000
Total	93,000	50,000	60,000	60,000		263,000

Funding Sources	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Park & Trail Improvement Fund	93,000	50,000	60,000	60,000		263,000
Total	93,000	50,000	60,000	60,000		263,000

Impacts (Budget, Sustainability, Other)
These improvements will reduce annual maintenance costs.

DRAFT

2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

Contact Public Works Operations Man

Project #	Park-23304
Project Name	Park Investment Plan

Type Improvement

Useful Life

Category Park Development

Priority 2 Important-Provide Efficiency

Description (Include Scheduling and Project Status)

This item provides for the scheduled improvements within the park system on a 30 year schedule and includes small benches, bike racks and other amenities in addition to the projects identified below.

Staff has created a 30-year schedule guideline.

2023: Gro Tonka and Mini-Tonka Park playground equipment and safety surfacing replacement (\$165,000)
Linner and Junction Park tennis court reconstruction (\$80,000)
Engineered wood fiber installation at playgrounds (\$15,000)

2024: Reich Park tennis court reconstruction (\$55,000)
Engineered wood fiber installation at playgrounds (\$15,000)

2025: Groveland and Sunrise Ridge Park playground equipment and safety surfacing replacement (\$180,000)
Covington Park tennis court reconstruction (\$55,000)
Engineered wood fiber installation at playgrounds (\$15,000)

2026: Glen Moor and Wilson Park playground equipment and safety surfacing replacement (\$200,000)
Engineered wood fiber installation at playgrounds (\$15,000)

2027: Covington and Woodgate Park playground equipment and safety surfacing replacement (\$180,000)
Engineered wood fiber installation at playgrounds (\$15,000)

Justification/Relationship to Plans and Projects

An implementation schedule was created for the park and trail system on a 30 year basis. Improvements will be made upon final evaluation of the listed amenity in order to maintain the park and trail infrastructure. Improvements may include but are not limited to play surfaces & equipment, lighting, site furnishings and bike parking.

2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

Contact Public Works Operations Man

Expenditures	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Construction/Maintenance	260,000	70,000	250,000	215,000	195,000	990,000
Total	260,000	70,000	250,000	215,000	195,000	990,000

Funding Sources	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Park & Trail Improvement Fund	260,000	70,000	250,000	215,000	195,000	990,000
Total	260,000	70,000	250,000	215,000	195,000	990,000

Impacts (Budget, Sustainability, Other)

This rehabilitation will not increase annual maintenance costs.

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2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

Contact Park Planner

Type Improvement

Useful Life

Category Park Improvements/Refurbish

Priority 3 Expansion of New/Existing

Project # Park-23305

Project Name Trail Improvement Plan

Description (Include Scheduling and Project Status)

The Trail Improvement Plan is a multi-year plan created to enhance the city's trail and sidewalk system. New trails and walks added to the system provide safe and active connections between existing trails, parks schools and village centers. Staff will explore opportunities to include bike parking as part of trail expansion projects in village centers and at schools, as feasible and appropriate.

2023: Smetana Road - Westbrook Way to Sanibel Drive (0.9 miles)

2024: Hopkins Crossroad (CR 73) - Cedar Lake Road to Hillside Lane (0.6 miles)
Hillside Lane - Hopkins Crossroad to Tanglen Elementary (0.1 miles)

2025: Hopkins Crossroad (CR73) - Hillside Lane to Wayzata Boulevard (0.4 miles)

2026: Minnetonka Boulevard (CR5) - The Marsh to Tonkawood Road (0.8 miles)

2027: Excelsior Boulevard - Woodland Road to Clear Spring Road/CSAH 101 Library (1.0 miles)

In 2020, staff was successful in securing a Regional Solicitation Grant through the Metropolitan Council for the Hopkins Crossroad Trail, for an amount of \$2,300,000. Staff will continue to apply for future grant opportunities and local funding will be programmed to complete trail segments. Additional segments will be accelerated if grant funding is secured. Staff have also applied for construction grants from Hennepin County.

Funding for utility burial is included for trail projects that require it through electric franchise fund.

Justification/Relationship to Plans and Projects

There is strong community support for the Minnetonka Trail System as evidenced by the heavy use of the completed trail segments and inquiries received about opportunities for extensions. When completed, these trails and walkways will enable more people to use active modes of transportation, connect five community parks, adjacent communities, and allow users to travel safely throughout the city on trails physically separated from motorized vehicles.

This is an integral part of the Parks, Open Space and Trail System and the Comprehensive Guide Plans to construct the Minnetonka Trail for walkers, joggers and bicyclists of all ages and abilities.

Staff conducted an educational and community dialogue for missing trail links to assist the Park Board and City Council in recommending projects to be constructed. The city's internal trails team annually reviews and updates the Trail Improvement Plan and unscheduled segments.

The vision for trail segments uses a feasibility score made up of Community Access (40%), Nature of Use (40%), Cost Effectiveness (10%) and Degree of Construction Difficulty (10%).



Expenditures	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Construction/Maintenance	2,700,000	3,900,000	2,920,000	3,400,000	3,600,000	16,520,000
Total	2,700,000	3,900,000	2,920,000	3,400,000	3,600,000	16,520,000

Funding Sources	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Electric Franchise Fees Fund	800,000	600,000	650,000	1,000,000	1,200,000	4,250,000
Metropolitan Council		2,300,000				2,300,000
Park & Trail Improvement Fund	350,000					350,000
State of MN Bonding			1,635,000			1,635,000
Trail System Expansion Fund	1,550,000	1,000,000	635,000	2,400,000	2,400,000	7,985,000
Total	2,700,000	3,900,000	2,920,000	3,400,000	3,600,000	16,520,000

Impacts (Budget, Sustainability, Other)

A list of additional future segments that are ranked and prioritized for implementation is shown on CIP page Park-TBD2333.

Annual maintenance costs will increase by approximately \$1,500 per mile of additional trail.

Overhead utilities will be buried with trail projects, consistent with city strategic goals, as the balance of the Electric Franchise Fund allows. If the fund does not allow, only burial or relocation of poles necessary to construct the trail will be pursued.

2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

Contact Public Works Operations Man

Project # Park-23306
Project Name Trail Rehabilitation

Type Improvement

Useful Life

Category Park Development

Priority 1 Critical for Safety/Preserve

Description (Include Scheduling and Project Status)

This item provides for the rebuilding and resurfacing of existing Minnetonka Trail System and neighborhood trail connections, and replacement and expansion of trail signage and maps.

A condition rating system will be used to determine which segments will be addressed each year. Signage on the trail system will be continually updated and revised maps will be produced.

2023: Lone Lake Park, Lindsey Lane (1.2 miles)

2024: CSAH 101 - Ridgewood Rd to Hutchins Dr (1.4 miles)

2025: Cheshire Parkway, North Frontage Rd - Ridgedale Dr to CR 73, South Frontage Rd - Ridgedale Dr to CR 73. (1.7 miles)

2026: Townline Rd/CR 62 - Vinehill Rd to CR 60 (3.6 miles)

2027: Hilloway Rd, Oakland Rd - 494 to Carlson Pkwy, Hopkins Crossroad - Oberlin to 494, Lynwood Rd, Ford Park (1.6 miles)

This is an integral part of the plan to maintain the Trail System for walkers, joggers and bicyclists. The trails and walkways connect five community parks, adjacent communities and allow users to travel throughout the city on trails separated from motorized vehicles.

Justification/Relationship to Plans and Projects

There is strong community support for the Minnetonka Trail System as evidenced by the heavy use of the completed trail segments. Some of the trail sections are approaching 20 years old and have reached a condition beyond what regular maintenance can address.

Approximately 108 miles of trails are currently maintained by the city.

2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

Contact Public Works Operations Man

Expenditures	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Construction/Maintenance	75,000	75,000	75,000	120,000	120,000	465,000
Total	75,000	75,000	75,000	120,000	120,000	465,000

Funding Sources	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Park & Trail Improvement Fund	75,000	75,000	75,000	120,000	120,000	465,000
Total	75,000	75,000	75,000	120,000	120,000	465,000

Impacts (Budget, Sustainability, Other)

Future maintenance costs related to these improvements are included in annual budget.

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2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

Contact Park Planner

Type Improvement

Useful Life

Category Park Improvements/Refurbish

Priority 3 Expansion of New/Existing

Project # Park-23307

Project Name Opus Area Park Improvements

Description (Include Scheduling and Project Status)

The Opus business center is the largest employment center in Minnetonka. With the addition of proposed light rail the area will see increased opportunities for a mixture of further business and housing, driving the need for additional park and greenspaces.

Staff completed the Opus area place making and public realm design guidelines implementation plan for Opus in 2019 to guide design of the public realm, open space and a future park. Elements of the plan are being constructed by private developers, partner agencies and municipal capital projects.

2022: Construction and implementation of place making elements designed in 2021, including trail wayfinding signage and branding, and landscape material. Funding to construct these improvements is part of the same funding that was approved to begin design for 2021.

Future: Implementation of a community park/plaza space will be implemented in future years as development occurs and land can be acquired. Funding shown in 2023 will be used to acquire land and begin park improvements, as land becomes available \$15,000,000 is listed as unfunded on ParkTBD-2332 page to construct park infrastructure and amenities.

Staff will pursue grants and public private partnership opportunities to assist in financing projects. A state bonding request of \$725,000 has been submitted to the State of MN for consideration in the 2022 Legislative session.

Justification/Relationship to Plans and Projects

The Opus area is nearing 40 years old and is experiencing revitalization and redevelopment activity that has been sparked by the Green Line Extension, which will run through the business park and include the Opus LRT Station. The Opus area place making and public realm design guidelines document outlines improvements to revitalize the original Opus plan to fit today's needs and align with City planning vision. This project begins the framework for investments to provide recreational and park uses for new business and residential uses anticipated in the area. The guidelines document also recommends a series of place making efforts within Opus that reflect the areas agriculture and business park history and serve as a catalyst for building community and creating an environment supportive of development opportunities.

The project is consistent with the development of a park allowing for better access to a Neighborhood Park Service Area that is currently deficient of park and recreational uses. The creation of a gathering place for park use will also complement the vast trail network currently in place. Trail resurfacing and reconstruction will take place within Opus, as part of regular maintenance and as part of SWLRT impacted segments.

2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

Contact Park Planner



Expenditures	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Construction/Maintenance	1,450,000					1,450,000
Total	1,450,000					1,450,000

Funding Sources	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Park & Trail Improvement Fund	725,000					725,000
State of MN Bonding	725,000					725,000
Total	1,450,000					1,450,000

Impacts (Budget, Sustainability, Other)

Annual operating costs will be known when a final concept is approved.

2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

Contact Recreation Superintendent

Type Equipment

Useful Life

Category Park Improvements/Refurbish

Priority 3 Expansion of New/Existing

Project #	Park-23308
Project Name	Ridgedale Commons - Programming Equipment

Description (Include Scheduling and Project Status)

Ridgedale Commons will provide space for new recreation programs, activities and special events.

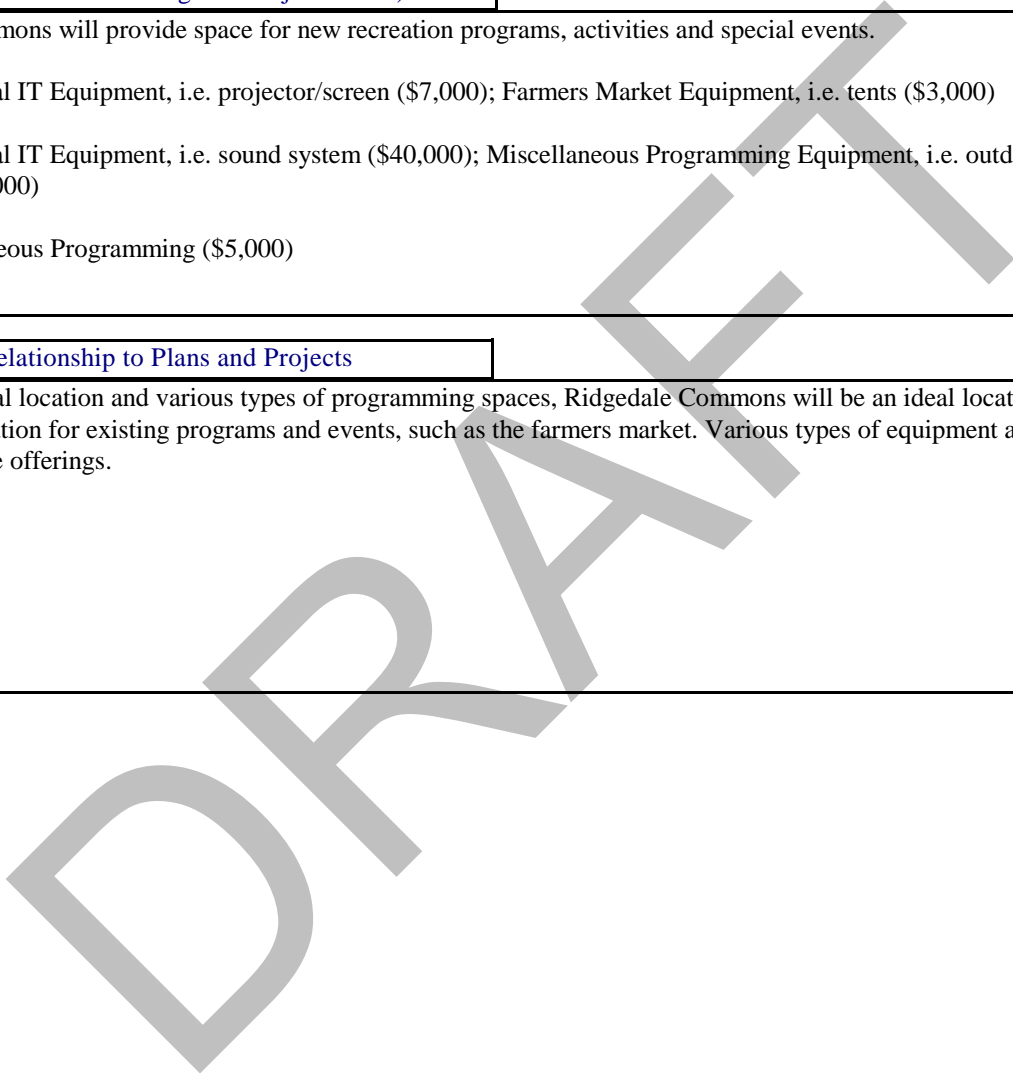
2023: Additional IT Equipment, i.e. projector/screen (\$7,000); Farmers Market Equipment, i.e. tents (\$3,000)

2024: Additional IT Equipment, i.e. sound system (\$40,000); Miscellaneous Programming Equipment, i.e. outdoor games, fitness equipment (\$2,000)

2025: Miscellaneous Programming (\$5,000)

Justification/Relationship to Plans and Projects

Due to its central location and various types of programming spaces, Ridgedale Commons will be an ideal location for new programs or as a new location for existing programs and events, such as the farmers market. Various types of equipment are needed to implement these offerings.



2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

Contact Recreation Superintendent

Expenditures	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Equip/Vehicles/Furnishings	10,000	42,000	5,000			57,000
Total	10,000	42,000	5,000			57,000

Funding Sources	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Park & Trail Improvement Fund	10,000	42,000	5,000			57,000
Total	10,000	42,000	5,000			57,000

Impacts (Budget, Sustainability, Other)

The purchase of this equipment will allow staff to provide new programs and rental space. Minimal revenues will be generated.

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2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

Contact Natural Resources Manager

Project # Park-23309
Project Name Park Habitat Stewardship Plan

Type Improvement

Useful Life

Category Park Development

Priority 1 Critical for Safety/Preserve

Description (Include Scheduling and Project Status)

Costs associated with habitat restoration and maintenance activities required to restore and maintain biodiversity and high quality habitat in natural areas. Activities include site planning, invasive plant removal, site preparation, native seeding/planting, mowing, herbicide treatments, and prescribed burning.

The following schedule constitutes Phase 1 of a 20-year restoration plan outlined in Appendix B of the NRMP. Funds will be used for restoration and maintenance activities that are guided by restoration priorities and target plant communities outlined in Appendix A of the 2021 Natural Resources Master Plan (NRMP), and any detailed habitat restoration and maintenance plans that have been developed for select parks.

2023: Purgatory Park, Hilloway Park

2024: Meadow Park, Orchard Park, Lake Rose Park

2025: Big Willow Park, Jidana Park, Green Circle Park

2026: Victoria-Evergreen Park, Kinsel Park, Minnetonka Mills Park, Civic Center

2027: Lone Lake Park, Tower Hill Park

Justification/Relationship to Plans and Projects

The City Council adopted the 2021 Natural Resources Master Plan (NRMP), which includes projected costs for restoration and maintenance of native plant communities within priority Minnetonka parks. Priority parks are identified in Table 4.2 of the plan and have restoration goals and strategies identified in Appendix A.

2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

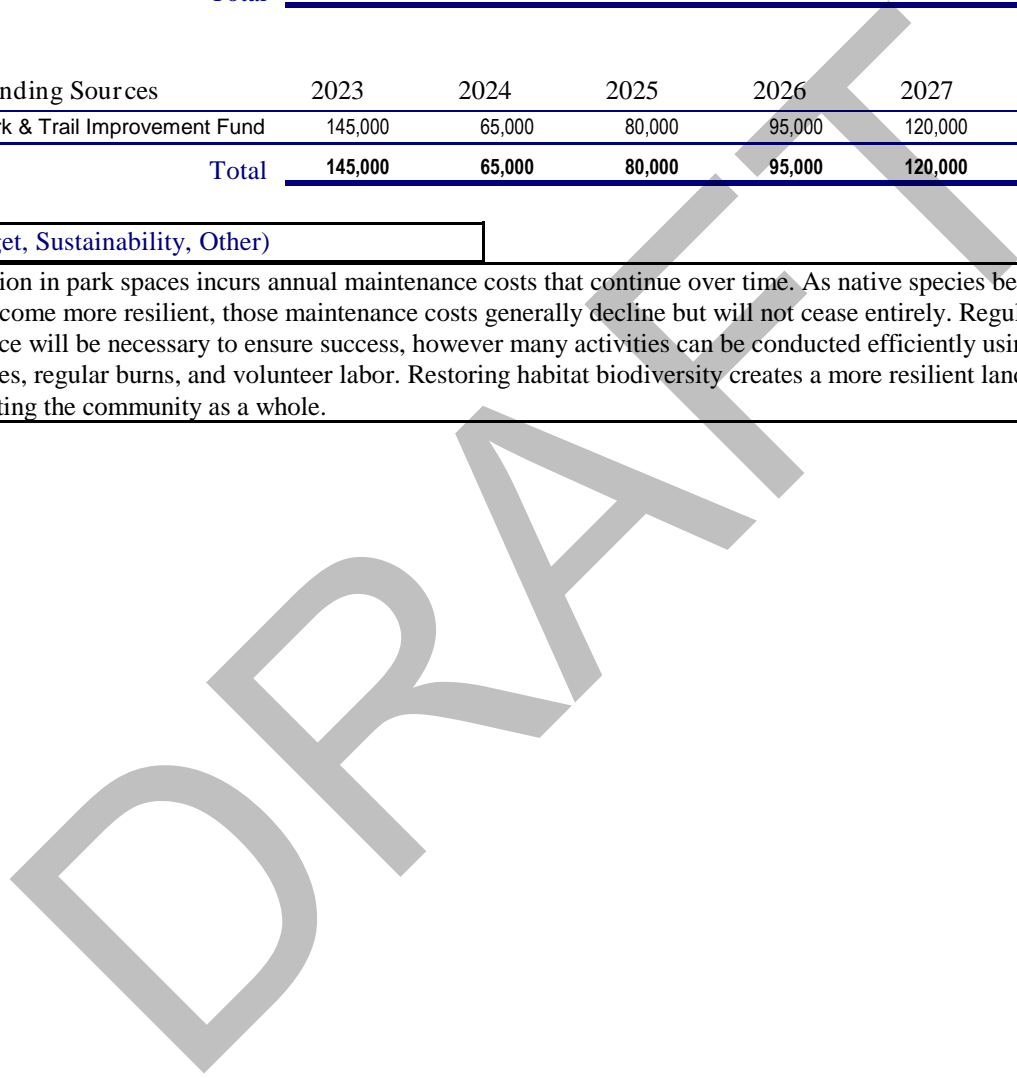
Contact Natural Resources Manager

Expenditures	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Construction/Maintenance	145,000	65,000	80,000	95,000	120,000	505,000
Total	145,000	65,000	80,000	95,000	120,000	505,000

Funding Sources	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Park & Trail Improvement Fund	145,000	65,000	80,000	95,000	120,000	505,000
Total	145,000	65,000	80,000	95,000	120,000	505,000

Impacts (Budget, Sustainability, Other)

Habitat restoration in park spaces incurs annual maintenance costs that continue over time. As native species become established and habitat areas become more resilient, those maintenance costs generally decline but will not cease entirely. Regular funding for long-term maintenance will be necessary to ensure success, however many activities can be conducted efficiently using large-scale mowing practices, regular burns, and volunteer labor. Restoring habitat biodiversity creates a more resilient landscape and park systems, benefiting the community as a whole.



2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

Contact Natural Resources Manager

Project # Park-23310
Project Name Community Forest Inventory and Management Plan

Type Improvement

Useful Life

Category Park Development

Priority 2 Important-Provide Efficiency

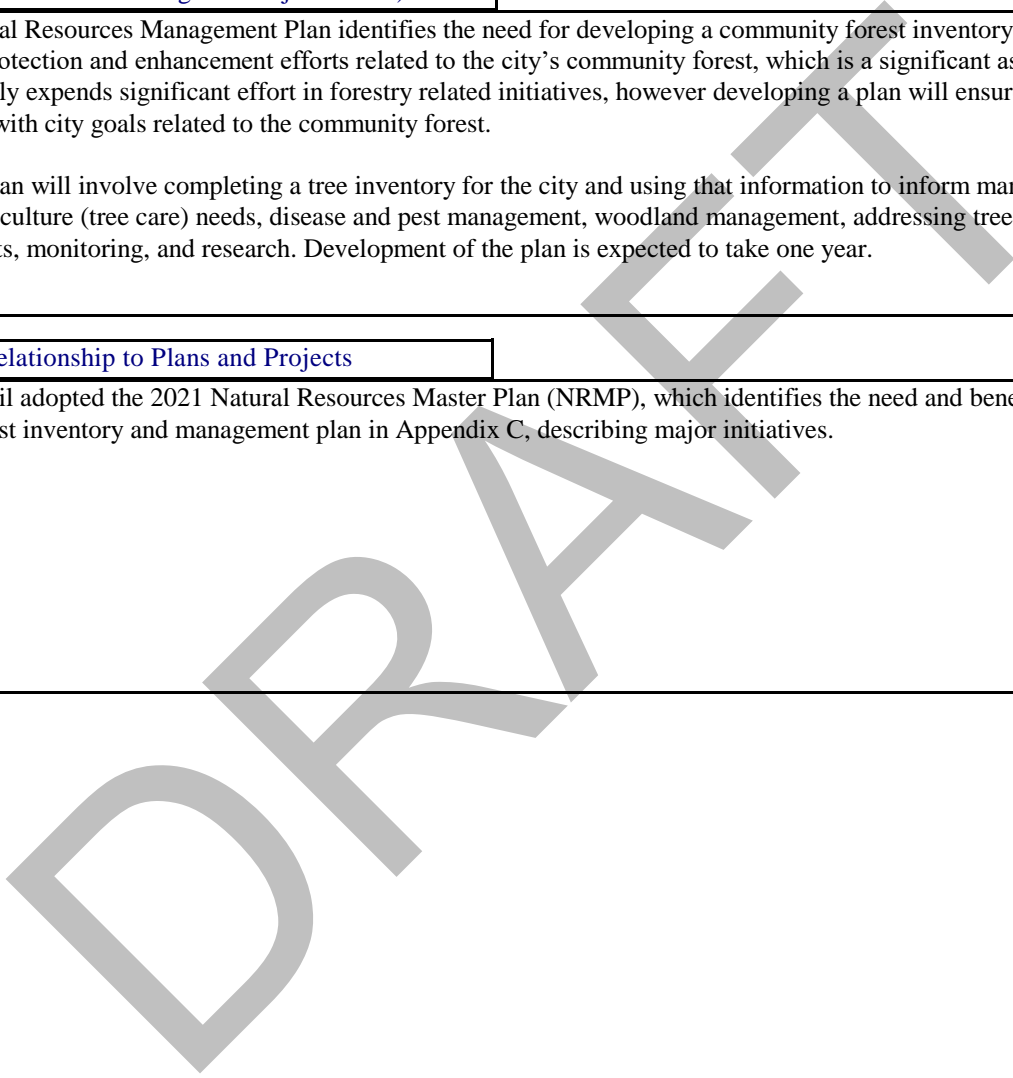
Description (Include Scheduling and Project Status)

The 2021 Natural Resources Management Plan identifies the need for developing a community forest inventory and management plan to guide protection and enhancement efforts related to the city's community forest, which is a significant asset to the community. The city currently expends significant effort in forestry related initiatives, however developing a plan will ensure that resources and activities align with city goals related to the community forest.

Developing a plan will involve completing a tree inventory for the city and using that information to inform management strategies, including arboriculture (tree care) needs, disease and pest management, woodland management, addressing tree equity concerns, replanting efforts, monitoring, and research. Development of the plan is expected to take one year.

Justification/Relationship to Plans and Projects

The City Council adopted the 2021 Natural Resources Master Plan (NRMP), which identifies the need and benefit of developing a community forest inventory and management plan in Appendix C, describing major initiatives.



2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

Contact Natural Resources Manager

Expenditures	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Planning/Design/Engineering	75,000					75,000
Total	75,000					75,000

Funding Sources	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Park & Trail Improvement Fund	75,000					75,000
Total	75,000					75,000

Impacts (Budget, Sustainability, Other)

There are initial up-front costs with conducting a tree inventory and developing a management plan. Implementation of the plan will guide current resource allocation and identify potential new management strategies to ensure a healthy and long-lived community forest. Once the plan is development, budget considerations will be handled through the annual budget and CIP approval process.

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2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

Contact Park Planner

Type Improvement

Useful Life 20

Category Park Improvements/Refurbish

Priority 2 Important-Provide Efficiency

Project # Park-23311

Project Name Park Master Planning

Description (Include Scheduling and Project Status)

The purpose of this program is to develop master planning documents for each of the priority parks/open spaces identified in the 2022 Parks, Open Space and Trails (POST) Plan. This master planning effort would consist of an inventory and conditions assessment of existing park features including but not limited to parking, access, structures, trails (paved and unpaved, formal and informal), and all active and passive recreational amenities. An analysis would then be performed to identify and recommend what existing park features require upgrade, redesign, or elimination and what new features could be added to meet the goals outlined in the POST Plan. This master planning effort will align with the 2021 Natural Resources Master Plan ecological restoration and management goals.

For 2023 the master planning effort at Purgatory Park will include all of the items listed above as well as special consideration towards the red barn site and dog usage.

2023: Purgatory Park

2024: Big Willow Park, Cullen Nature Preserve

2025: Meadow Park, Jidana Park

2026: Lone Lake Park

2027: Civic Center Park, Victoria-Evergreen Park

Justification/Relationship to Plans and Projects

The parks listed as a part of this project have been identified as priority sites for master planning in the POST Plan. Natural Resources management plans will be developed for the community parks as recommended by the 2021 NRMP. Several of the park listed also have on-going volunteer-led restoration efforts at various locations.

2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

Contact Park Planner

Expenditures	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Planning/Design/Engineering	75,000	115,000	75,000	115,000	115,000	495,000
Total	75,000	115,000	75,000	115,000	115,000	495,000

Funding Sources	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Park & Trail Improvement Fund	75,000	115,000	75,000	115,000	115,000	495,000
Total	75,000	115,000	75,000	115,000	115,000	495,000

Impacts (Budget, Sustainability, Other)

The costs above reflect cost associated with consultant fees to conduct the planning efforts. Additional costs associated with the improvements would be identified in future budgets and CIP.

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2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Contact Public Works Operations Man

Project #	Park-TBD2331
Project Name	Park & Open Space Purchase

Type Improvement
 Useful Life
 Category Park Development
 Priority 3 Expansion of New/Existing

Description (Include Scheduling and Project Status)

The city's open space preservation implementation strategy calls for the preservation of open space that meets certain criteria. The Park Board has previously identified certain parcels in order to expand existing parkland. The 2021 update to the POST plan and a near term future regional park search effort in collaboration with Three Rivers Park District may also inform future need, prioritization and acquisition of land to expand the park system, as appropriate.

As parcels from the prioritization list become available, they will be acquired or preserved by other means (e.g., conservation easements) based on funding availability and City Council approval. Parcels classified as urgent and high priority for open space preservation will be actively pursued.

This project is consistent with the Council Policy on an Open Space Preservation Program and the Management of Natural Resources. The city currently has appropriated in prior years and has now reserved almost \$1 million in the Community Investment Fund for park and open space purchases as opportunities arise.

Justification/Relationship to Plans and Projects

The Minnetonka Park Board developed a property acquisition list that identifies desirable parcels for purchase by the city. The list includes properties within the Minnehaha Creek Preserve and properties that are adjacent to existing city park land to serve in expanding the city's parks. This funding provides resources to purchase land identified by the Park Board. \$983,000 was previously allocated between 2013 and 2017 and is reserved for use.

In 2001 Minnetonka voters approved a \$15,000,000 bond referendum for parks renewal and open space preservation. About half of those funds were used for open space preservation and the balance for park renewal.

Prior	Expenditures	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total	Future
983,000	Land Acquisition					0	0	500,000
Total	Total					0	0	Total

Prior	Funding Sources	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total	Future
983,000	Community Investment Fund					0	0	500,000
Total	Total					0	0	Total

Impacts (Budget, Sustainability, Other)

Costs related to additional land stewardship are expected to increase dependent upon the size and environmental features of parcels acquired.

2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Contact Park Planner

Project #	Park-TBD2332
Project Name	Opus Area Park Improvements

Type Improvement

Useful Life

Category Park Improvements/Refurbish

Priority 3 Expansion of New/Existing

Description (Include Scheduling and Project Status)

The Opus business center is the largest employment center in Minnetonka. With the addition of proposed light rail the area will see increased opportunities for a mixture of further business and housing, driving the need for additional park and greenspaces.

Staff has completed Opus area place making and public realm design guidelines implementation plan for Opus in 2019 to guide design of the public realm, open space and development of a future park. Sustainable elements including but not limited to electric charging stations for vehicles, enhanced bike parking & amenities, stormwater features, restoration of natural resources system functions and edible landscapes will be pursued as appropriate.

Construction of a community park/plaza space will be implemented in future years as development occurs and land can be acquired. Funding in the amount of \$15,000,000 is currently listed as unfunded to be used for park infrastructure and amenities. Interim place making efforts and programming may be considered in the event land for a the new community park/plaza space does not become available prior to opening day of Southwest Light Rail Transit.

Staff will pursue grants and public private partnership opportunities to assist in financing projects.

Justification/Relationship to Plans and Projects

The Opus area is nearing 40 years old and is experiencing revitalization and redevelopment activity that has been sparked by the Green Line Extension, which will run through the business park and include the Opus LRT Station. The Opus area place making and public realm design guidelines document outlines improvements to revitalize the original Opus plan to fit today’s needs and align with City planning vision. This project begins the framework for investments to provide recreational and park uses for new business and residential uses anticipated in the area. The guidelines document also recommends a series of place making efforts within Opus that reflect the areas agriculture and business park history and serve as a catalyst for building community and creating an environment supportive of development opportunities.

The project is consistent with the development of a park allowing for better access to a Neighborhood Park Service Area that is currently deficient of park and recreational uses. The creation of a gathering place for park use will also complement the vast trail network currently in place. Trail resurfacing and reconstruction will take place within Opus, as part of regular maintenance and as part of SWLRT impacted segments.

Expenditures	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total	Future
Construction/Maintenance					0	0	15,000,000
Total					0	0	Total
Funding Sources	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total	Future
Park & Trail Improvement Fund					0	0	15,000,000
Total					0	0	Total

Impacts (Budget, Sustainability, Other)

Annual operating costs will be known when a final concept is approved.

2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Contact Park Planner

Project # Park-TBD2333
Project Name Trail Segments - Unscheduled

Type Improvement

Useful Life

Category Trails

Priority 3 Expansion of New/Existing

Description (Include Scheduling and Project Status)

This project involves the construction of the trails described in the table on the following page. Individual project cost estimates have increased based on recent actual project costs including Minnetonka Boulevard Trail and Ridgedale Drive Trail. A map of the unfunded potential trail locations is included for reference in the document appendix. These projects are currently unscheduled. Some trail segments may qualify for funding from outside sources, which will be pursued as appropriate.

Staff conducted an educational and community dialogue for missing trail links to assist the Park Board and City Council in recommending projects to be constructed. In 2016 the city’s internal trails team updated the feasibility score and reprioritized unscheduled segments.

The priority 1 and 2 segments along Baker Road are part of the Three Rivers Park District Bryant Lake Regional Trail. Three Rivers Park District is working to identify funding opportunities to construct the trail. Minnetonka staff, park board and city council will continue to be engaged as part of that effort and may align future municipal trail implementation and/or utility burial to complement the new regional trail.

Justification/Relationship to Plans and Projects

There is strong community support for the Minnetonka Trail System as evidenced by the heavy use of the completed trail segments and resident inquiries received about opportunities for extensions. Cost projections are based on linear foot costs and data from previous projects. Efforts to coordinate trail segment implementation with complementary major road, development or utility projects will be pursued as available and appropriate.

This is an integral part of the Parks, Open Space and Trail System and Comprehensive Guide Plans to construct the Minnetonka Trail System for walkers, joggers, and bicyclists of all ages and abilities. The latest version of the Trail Improvement Plan is available on the city’s website.

Expenditures	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total	Future
Construction/Maintenance					0	0	80,223,000
Total					0	0	Total

Funding Sources	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total	Future
Trail System Expansion Fund					0	0	80,223,000
Total					0	0	Total

Impacts (Budget, Sustainability, Other)

Although these projects are currently unfunded, a proposed funding source and timetable data are provided. The estimated project costs shown on the timetable are for independent project implementation. Costs for these trail segments could be reduced through coordination with a major roadway, utility or development project. Coordination opportunities will be pursued as available and appropriate. Annual maintenance costs will increase by approximately \$1,500/mile.

Overhead utilities will be buried with trail projects, consistent with city strategic goals, as the balance of the Electric Franchise Fund allows. If the fund does not allow, only burial or relocation of poles necessary to construct the trail will be pursued.

2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 thru 2027

Department 3-Parks, Trails & Open Space

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Contact Public Works Operations Man

Project # Park-TBD2334
 Project Name Athletic Field Improvements Unfunded

Type Improvement

Useful Life

Category Park Development

Priority 2 Important-Provide Efficiency

Description (Include Scheduling and Project Status)

The Minnetonka Park Board’s 2012 update of the city’s Athletic Field Needs Study continues to indicate a moderate need for increased game quality athletic fields for the sports of soccer, lacrosse and football; and increased access to quality practice fields for youth softball and baseball through partnerships.
 \$180,000 is included as an unfunded request for the lighting of the two existing fields at Lone Lake Park.

Justification/Relationship to Plans and Projects

With a lack of available city property for athletic field expansion, the lighting of existing fields, along with partnerships with local school districts, provides the best opportunities to expand access to community fields. This program also funds major upgrades to dedicated city owned athletic fields to maintain acceptable playing standards.

Expenditures	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total	Future
Construction/Maintenance					0	0	180,000
Total					0	0	Total

Funding Sources	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total	Future
Park & Trail Improvement Fund					0	0	180,000
Total					0	0	Total

Impacts (Budget, Sustainability, Other)

This rehabilitation will not increase annual maintenance costs.

2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 thru 2027

Department 2-Recreational Facilities
 Contact Recreation Superintendent
 Type Improvement
 Useful Life
 Category Recreational Facilities
 Priority 2 Important-Provide Efficiency

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Project #	RecF-23203
Project Name	Shady Oak Beach Improvements

Description (Include Scheduling and Project Status)

Shady Oak Beach is jointly operated by the cities of Hopkins and Minnetonka. The facility is open from June – August each summer with the revenues generated from season pass sales and daily admissions. The facility was most recently renovated in 1998. An additional renovation on the lifeguard shack was completed in 2021.

2023: Miscellaneous building/grounds maintenance (\$6,000); miscellaneous building equipment/components (\$9,000), i.e. concession equipment, patio tables and chairs
 2024: Inflatable replacement (\$10,000); parking lot mill and overlay (\$80,000)
 2025: Miscellaneous building maintenance (\$20,000)
 2026: Miscellaneous building maintenance (\$10,000)
 2027: Miscellaneous building maintenance (\$10,000)

Justification/Relationship to Plans and Projects

The joint agreement between the city of Minnetonka and city of Hopkins provides for the sharing of the operating and capital expenses of Shady Oak Beach. These expenses are split 67% city of Minnetonka and 33% city of Hopkins.

These improvements are in keeping with the efforts to maintain a quality facility.

Expenditures	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Construction/Maintenance	15,000	90,000	20,000	10,000	10,000	145,000
Total	15,000	90,000	20,000	10,000	10,000	145,000

Funding Sources	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
City of Hopkins	4,950	29,700	6,600	3,300	3,300	47,850
Park & Trail Improvement Fund	10,050	60,300	13,400	6,700	6,700	97,150
Total	15,000	90,000	20,000	10,000	10,000	145,000

Impacts (Budget, Sustainability, Other)

Maintenance costs tend to rise as facilities age. A consistent replacement schedule of older items will allow operating costs to be maintained. These capital projects will not have an effect on the facility’s annual operating costs or revenues long-term.

2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

Department 2-Recreational Facilities

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Contact Park Planner

Project # RecF-23207

Type Improvement

Project Name Skate Park

Useful Life 20

Category Recreational Facilities

Priority 3 Expansion of New/Existing

Description (Include Scheduling and Project Status)

In early 2021, a group of residents approached the Minnetonka Park Board inquiring about a new or updated skate park. The city currently owns one skate park, located in Glen Lake off of Excelsior Boulevard. This 20-year-old skate park is an older style skate park and is not heavily used.

In 2022, the city will complete a Skate Park Feasibility Study and identify a number of potential sites, along with estimated costs. The next step in the project would be to start design of a new or renovated skate park in 2023, with construction beginning the following year.

Justification/Relationship to Plans and Projects

The results of the 2019 Community Facility & Programming Space Study indicated an increase in participation levels for skateboarding.

The recent update to the Parks, Open Space and Trails (POST) Plan lists a skate park as a future priority initiative.

An increased interest in non-traditional sports, such as skateboarding have occurred recently. The Minnetonka Park Board and staff have received numerous requests for updated amenities related to skate boarding.

Expenditures	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Planning/Design/Engineering	100,000					100,000
Construction/Maintenance		900,000				900,000
Total	100,000	900,000				1,000,000

Funding Sources	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
Community Investment Fund		600,000				600,000
Grants/Partnership Funding		300,000				300,000
Park & Trail Improvement Fund	100,000					100,000
Total	100,000	900,000				1,000,000

Impacts (Budget, Sustainability, Other)

Skate parks are typically are large up front cost with minimal on-going maintenance.

2023 - 2027 Capital Improvement Plan

2023 *thru* 2027

Department 2-Recreational Facilities

City of Minnetonka, Minnesota

Contact Recreation Director

Project #	RecF-TBD2302
Project Name	Recreational Pool

Type Improvement

Useful Life 20

Category Recreational Facilities

Priority 3 Expansion of New/Existing

Description (Include Scheduling and Project Status)

The results of the 2019 Community Facility & Programming Space Study indicated the need for an additional recreational swimming pool. An additional pool would relieve pressures at the heavily used Williston Center pool.

Staff will explore opportunities for school partnerships, public/private partnerships, or leasing opportunities as options for additional pool space. Staff will also explore available funding options including pursuing state bonding.

SCHEDULING AND PROJECT STATUS:
 2023-2027: Explore opportunities
 Future: Construction/renovation of pool facility

Justification/Relationship to Plans and Projects

The results of the 2019 Community Facility & Programming Space Study indicated the need for an additional recreational swimming pool.

Swim lessons are one of the most popular and sought-after program offerings in the Recreation Department. Over the past three years, the waitlist percentage (total available openings/waitlisted participants) has been over 50%. The next highest program area is teen programming with 9%. Based on National Recreation and Parks Association standards for pools the City of Minnetonka does not meet the recommended level of service for swimming pools.

In addition to the swim lesson program, the Williston Center offers approximately 20 hours of senior-focused aquatics programming. This leaves minimal time for member use (open swim, lap swimming, etc.).

Expenditures	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total	Future
Construction/Maintenance				0		0	20,000,000
Total				0		0	Total

Funding Sources	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total	Future
Community Investment Fund				0		0	20,000,000
Grants/Partnership Funding				0		0	Total
Total				0		0	

Impacts (Budget, Sustainability, Other)

Operating expenditures to be determined based on the type of facility. The city will pursue state bonding for this project.

**Minnetonka Park Board Item 7B
Meeting of June 1, 2022**

Subject:	E-Bike Usage: Lone Lake Park multi-use mountain bike trail
Park Board related goal:	To provide quality athletic and recreational facilities and programs
Park Board related objective:	Offer a full range of programs for people of all ages, ability levels, and economic and cultural backgrounds ensuring all have the opportunity to participate
Brief Description:	Consider a rule change to allow e-bikes on the trail

Background:

On June 6, 2018, the Lone Lake Park multi-use mountain bike trail plan and study was presented to the Minnetonka Park Board. At that meeting, the park board recommended approval of the project to the city council. On August 26, 2019, the city council voted to approve the concept plan for the multi-use mountain biking trail in Lone Lake Park. Trail construction occurred in the fall of 2020 and the trail opened for use on November 4, 2020.

An annual trail update to the park board and city council was requested as part of the city council approval of the project at their August 26, 2019 meeting. On June 26, 2020, staff met with a representative from the Friends of Lone Lake Park (FLLP) and a representative from the local Minnesota Off-Road Cyclist (MORC) group to brainstorm and develop a list of metrics as well as the trail usage policy and rules. The original draft of the trail rules proposed by staff did include the allowance of e-bikes in accordance with the Minnesota State Statute. Ultimately the final decision by the group, after much discussion, was to not allow e-bikes on the trail with the understanding that this rule may be addressed or updated in the future. The agreed upon metrics, trail usage policy and rules, including the “no e-bikes rule”, were presented to the park board and approved on August 5, 2020.

E-Bikes

The current rules do not allow for the use of e-bikes on the multi-use mountain bike trail. Since the opening of the trail, staff has received complaints regarding this rule from individuals in the community who are unable to ride the trail without the assistance of an e-bike. Staff would like the Park Board to consider a change to the trail rules to allow for the use of e-bikes to provide better accessibility to all users.

Most, if not all, mountain bike trail systems in the Twin Cities metro area allow for the use of e-bikes on their mountain bike trails in accordance with the Minnesota Statutes 169.001, Subdivision 27 which states “Electric-assisted bicycle” means a bicycle with two or three wheels that:

- (1) has a saddle and fully operable pedals for human propulsion;
- (2) meets the requirements for bicycles under Code of Federal Regulations, title 16, part 1512, or successor requirements;
- (3) is equipped with an electric motor that has a power output of not more than 750 watts;
and
- (4) meets the requirements of class 1, class 2, or class 3 electric-assisted bicycle.

Three Rivers Park District, the Minnesota DNR and Dakota County all allow e-bikes on their mountain bike trails. The typical rule language used by these parks is “Electric-assist or pedal-assist bicycles are allowed wherever normal bicycles are allowed as long as they meet the definition in [Minnesota Statute 169.011, Subdivision 27.](#)”

While little research has been conducted on the impacts of e-bikes on mountain bike trails, the International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) conducted a study that concluded that class one electric mountain bikes have similar impacts to trails compared to nonelectric mountain bikes. No known research has been conducted on other classes and types of e-bikes and their potential impacts to trails.

In an effort to be more inclusive and provide accessible recreation opportunities for all abilities, staff recommends that the Park Board approve a change to the trail rules to allow for e-bikes on the Lone Lake Park multi-use mountain bike trail. Staff and volunteers monitor trail conditions on a regular basis and will continue to do so. If this rule change results in a significant negative impact to the trail condition, or if our understanding of the impacts of e-bikes changes, this rule could be revisited again at a future date.

Recommended Action:

Update the multi-use mountain bike trail administrative usage policy and rules to allow for e-bikes as defined by the Minnesota Statute 169.011, Subdivision 27.

Attachments

1. Recreation Administrative Policy: Lone Lake Park Multi-Use Mountain Bike Trail Usage
2. Emailed Feedback Regarding e-bikes

RECREATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY LONE LAKE PARK MULTI-USE MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL USAGE

Purpose of Policy: The intent of this policy is to designate the appropriate usage for the multi-use mountain bike trail at Lone Lake Park in the City of Minnetonka.

Introduction

The multi-use mountain bike trail at Lone Lake Park is the only designated mountain bike trail in the City of Minnetonka park system. This policy identifies the designated times and activities for which the trail is available for use. This policy, and any future changes to it, are subject to review and approval by the Minnetonka Park Board.

1. **Park Hours** - Per city of Minnetonka park regulations, parks will be open for use between 5:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. The multi-use mountain bike trail will be open to users during regular park hours.
2. **Seasons** – The trail may be used year round as conditions allow.
3. **Activities** – The trail may be used for mountain biking, fat-tire biking, hiking and running during spring, summer and fall as conditions allow. Winter use includes fat-tire biking and snowshoeing as conditions allow.
4. **Races** – Races are not allowed on the trail.
5. **Programs/Events** – Programs are limited to groups of 16 or less. Events are limited to two per year. Any outside programs or events must be pre-approved by the City. Special use permits for demos are not allowed.
6. **Team Practices** – Teams are required to sign up for pre-approved practice days/times set by the land manager in order to limit the number of users on site at one time. Priority will be given to local teams within 5 miles of the trail.
7. **Dogs** – Per city ordinance, dogs must be kept on a leash no longer than 6 feet when on improved trails, including the multi-use mountain bike trail. Off-leash dogs are allowed in the unimproved and unmaintained areas of the park under voice command, including the informal footpaths.
 - *Existing park users strongly desire to keep using the park to walk their dogs off leash.*
 - *Consistent rules across Minnetonka parks & trails is important.*
 - *The intent is to keep all park users, including trail users, walkers and their dogs, safe.*
 - *City Staff will continue to evaluate the interactions between trail users and dogs on the multi-use mountain bike trail and recommend changes to the park board as needed.*
8. **E-bikes** (electric-assist or pedal-assist bicycles) - E-bikes are not allowed on the multi-use mountain bike trail.

Posted Trailhead Rules

1. Open to mountain biking, fat-tire biking, trail running and hiking in the spring, summer and fall
2. Open to fat-tire biking and snowshoeing in the winter
3. Trail is closed to all users when it is wet or muddy
4. Stay on designated trail and follow directional signs
5. Do not modify the trail
6. Wear a helmet when biking
7. Control your bicycle
8. Announce your approach and yield to others
9. Slower traffic move right
10. Respect wildlife
11. Dogs must be kept on a leash no longer than 6 feet; no retractable leashes
12. No e-bikes on trail
13. Share the trail and be respectful of all users

Emailed Feedback Regarding e-bikes

From: Matt Fryxell
Sent: Friday, November 6, 2020 4:14 PM
To: Sara Woeste ; Carol HejlStone
Subject: Lone Lake Park Mountain Bike Trail - eBikes

Hello,

I was excited to try out this great new amenity today so I biked all the way over to the park to find a sign that says "no e-bikes." What is the reasoning for this? My bike is designed for the exact purpose and not allowing these will automatically skew target users of this trail to a much younger demographic.

Matt Fryxell

On Friday, November 6, 2020, 08:30:13 PM CST, Sara Woeste wrote:

Matt,

Thank you for reaching out and giving us feedback on this rule. We went through a comprehensive process to determine the rules for the trail. That process included staff research on local and national rules and trends for mountain bike trail usage, feedback from other local mountain bike trail land managers, a focus group to gather input from local mountain bikers and opponents to the project with concerns about the impacts of the trail to the environment. The rules were then drafted and presented to the Park Board who discussed and accepted the posted rules.

The decision on e-bikes was definitely one of the more difficult decisions for the Park Board to make. It was decided that e-bikes would not be allowed due to concern about potential speed of the bikes, safety for the riders and other users and lack of substantial research on the impact of e-bikes to the trail/environment.

I will document your email and desire for the use of e-bikes for this trail. We will be doing an annual review of the trail, including feedback such as yours and will report back to our Park Board and City Council each November. If we see a trend in the desire for the allowance of e-bikes, it is possible that a proposed change in the rules could be presented to the Park Board for future consideration, but it was the desire of the Park Board to start with a no e-bikes rule at this time.

Again, I thank you for your feedback and will make sure that we document your concern.



Sara Woeste | Assistant Recreation Director
City of Minnetonka | minnetonkamn.gov

14600 Minnetonka Blvd. | Minnetonka, MN 55345
Office: 952-939-8316

From: Matt Fryxell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, November 9, 2020 6:19 PM
To: Sara Woeste <swoeste@minnetonkamn.gov>
Cc: Carol HejlStone <chejlstone@minnetonkamn.gov>
Subject: Re: Lone Lake Park Mountain Bike Trail - eBikes

Sara,

Thanks for providing the background and rationale for that decision. However, seeing this rationale makes me even more disappointed and frustrated with what appears to be a misinformed decision. What is even more disturbing is that if I understand correctly, myself and fellow middle age riders that use these type of bikes will have to wait a full year until the city corrects this decision?

It seems very narrow sighted to be ignoring **one of the fastest growing types of bikes / forms of biking and one that has brought tens of thousands of people that skew to be older in age back into biking and being active..**

Here are a few basic points that I truly question the cities rationale:

- **Has anyone involved in these decision actually ridden an e-bike?** Why do you think they are the most popular form of bike for older adults - because they are safe and easy to ride!
- **Feedback from other mountain bikers** - so these results will be biased from beginning
- **Potential speed of bikes** - this has **zero** to do with e-bikes. The rider's ability and the terrain dictate speed, not a form of bike.
- **Electric assist can be turned off** - speed is no issue on a mountain bike trail as you coast going down hill AND you can turn of the electric assist which makes these bikes no different than a non-ebike.
- **E-Bikes make the ride safer** - the only time people ever use the electric assist on this type of trail is to help go up hill, when the speed is the slowest and a prime time to fall over if not going fast enough. I feel much more in control and safer on an e-bike than regular bike because of the help going up the steep hills. **Did the city speak to any current e-bike riders?**
- **Safety of the riders** - how are e-bikes any different than mountain bikes? Again, the rider dictates the safety and these are one direction trails, so how is this a safety concern to other riders? I feel significantly more safe and in control on an e-bike than mountain bike.
- **Lack of substantial research on impact of e-bikes-** exactly, why would you ban a certain type of rider and largely a certain age range as a result based on not having research on the impact of these type of bikes? Shouldn't this be the other way around, provide an inclusive trail until it is determine that it warrants being exclusive? This is backwards.

Questions:

- If the city is concerned with bike speed and safety of other riders as was mentioned as rationale for banning e-bikes on this trail, I assume the city will be banning the packs of road bike riders in large groups that pass other riders at 2-3x the speed in narrow bike trails with two way traffic? If not, you are being inconsistent.
- What happens when mountain bike riders are creating a unsafe environment, will they be banned?
Note - I don't want this to happen.
- What are the consequences of riding on these new trails with my perfectly safe e-bike?

Matt

From: Roach, Jeff <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, July 9, 2021 8:51 PM
To: Lone Lake Trail
Cc: Brian Kirk; [REDACTED]
Subject: Single-track Trail Policy Feedback

Dear Board Members of Minnetonka City Parks & Recreation,

This email has been delayed in sending now for several months. However over our recent holiday weekend I was party to a conversation that brought the below surging back from a person who was in that moment very relevant to what I'm going to say.

I want to start by thanking the Board Members for volunteering your time and the efforts to make the Minnetonka Parks be a more enjoyable experience for all, thank you.

Now to air a major disappointment. Lone Lake Single-track ["No E-bikes" policy] noted change from July 16, 2020 by Linda. I've researched every available record of meeting minutes on the subject, and the data shows very limited panel research on the subject with only four (4) cases of reference emails (2 of them in support (1) full, (1) of pedal assisted. 2 were against). Resulting in two (2) Yea and two (2) Nay was enough data to change the trail rules? I also read the recorded minutes statement of "...my neighbor has an e-bike, and it's really fast...". Seriously? How on earth can a comment like that be allowed as consideration on a decision that impacts tens of hundreds of residents?

8. E-bikes	(Electric-assist or pedal-assist bicycles) are allowed on the multi-use mountain bike trail if they meet the state's definition and requirements (subdivision 27*) and are mountain bike specific e-bikes. A motorized bicycle that does not meet this definition is not allowed.	No e-bikes of any type should be allowed. E-bikes must only be pedal assist. No throttle e-bikes should be allowed. The trail advocates and Friends of Lone Lake Park strongly recommend that no e-bikes be allowed on the trail. All e-bikes should be allowed on this trail to maximize access and equity.	Change: After hearing feedback, staff is recommending no e-bikes at this time. We received this recommendation from both advocates and opponents of the trail. There is not enough evidence about impacts to the trail by e-bikes at this time. The argument for e-bikes is that they allow for access and equity. E-bikes could be added as an approved use in the future, if desired. New language: E-bikes are not allowed on the multi-use mountain bike trail.
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The trails being damaged by e-bikes is not accurate, the amount of torque/thrust to the back wheel in high gear from a human riding a regular mountain bike is much greater than a pedal assisted e-bike, which does not spin the wheel. Are you also going to ban hydraulic brakes? My point is that far more damage is done to a trail with hard braking that causes the tires to skid on the path than can ever be done by tires spinning during acceleration. Furthermore, and most importantly, it's always the integrity of the riders that dictate any destruction or danger on the trail ways, not a type of bicycle. ALL bikes are capable of going too fast.

I would like the board to consider this comparison: A disabled veteran who loves to bike but is unable to power one on his/her own, but can enjoy the freedom when riding an e-bike. Now a person who's confined to a power assisted wheelchair who can now, on their own, enjoy areas within parks they could not have enjoyed prior. We all realize that in the US, we have federal laws to ensure all disabled have access. We spend tens of thousands of dollars on handicap regulations in all of our local projects to ensure proper access, certainly you should not need to be reminded of that. I argue that anyone with any type of disability deserves the same respect.

In closing, if even ONE person with a disability who owns an e-bike is deprived of the opportunity to enjoy a park open to the public, well it's not just a disgrace and shameful. But quite possibly a civil law suit that our city cannot afford to have on going.

I ask of this board to reverse the deny, deny, deny rule and revert back to your correct ruling in the original draft. Please remove any mention of E-bikes from the trailhead rules. It's simply wrong and discriminating.

Thank you for the consideration and opportunity to voice my concerns,

Jeffery Roach
18707 Red Cherry Cir
Minnetonka, MN 55345

From: John Knight <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 12:58 PM
To: Jesse Izquierdo <jizquierdo@minnetonkamn.gov>
Subject: Comment: Ebike Usage at Lone Park Multi-Use Mountain Bike Trail

Hi Jesse,

Per our call, I would encourage Minnetonka to update its policy for this park to allow e-bike usage, for the following reasons:

- It allows accessibility for those with diverse and varying abilities
- The current restriction is only going to create conflict between bikers by forcing regular to feel they need to "police" something that doesn't deserve "policing"
- Nearly all trails in metro, MN, US and world treat ebikes the same as regular ebikes. Recently used the 5 single track mountain bike trails at Carver Park - no ebike restrictions

- You could exclude what is called "Class III" ebikes as some trails do...but even that many trails don't exclude and it would be a difficult if not impossible enforcement challenge
- The usage of ebikes grown enormously
- There is little evidence that ebikes harm the trails any more than regular bikes, most ebikes the horsepower is only ONE horsepower
- The original city memo did allow mountain ebikes, which said "...it is currently considered best practice to allow their use."
-
- Bad behavior can be done by all, so enforcement should be on a case by case need for an individual situation - whether ebike or regular bike
- Everyone's taxes are being used to fund, so everyone should be able to use
- In summary, I believe there really is no reason to treat ebikes any different

Thanks!

jtk

John Knight
13511 Minnetonka Dr.
Minnetonka, MN 55305

**Minnetonka Park Board Item 9
Meeting of June 1, 2022**

Subject:	Information Items
Park Board related goal:	N/A
Park Board related objective:	N/A
Brief Description:	The following are informational items and developments that have occurred since the last park board meeting.

Ridgedale Commons/Crane Lake Preserve

Construction continues at Ridgedale Commons and Crane Lake Preserve. Although the supply chain issues have had an impact on construction, an end of the year completion date is still anticipated. (pictures below)



Skate Park Feasibility Study

Damon Farber Landscape Architects has been selected as the consultant to assist the City in identifying potential locations for a new skate park facility. Damon Farber is partnered with an experienced skate park design/build firm from Portland, OR called Evergreen Skateparks.

An internal team consisting of natural resources, recreation, community development, and planning staff will work with the consultant's team in the coming months and the results of the study will be presented to the Park Board later in the year.

Habitat Stewardship Program

Natural Resources Division staff will begin meeting regularly with members of the Friends of Minnetonka Parks and other habitat steward volunteers to enhance collaboration and coordination on restoration work taking place in the parks. In addition, meeting regularly with these community partners will act as a forum to discuss and gather input on other natural resource-focused items, including park restoration plans, park master plans, volunteer recruitment and training efforts, public education, monitoring efforts, and grant opportunities. Meetings will take place on the fourth Monday of each month at 12:00pm.

Members of the Park Board or other interested stakeholders are welcome to participate. Please contact Natural Resources Manger Leslie Yetka at lyetka@minnetonkamn.gov if interested in attending.

**Minnetonka Park Board Item 10
Meeting of June 1, 2022**

Upcoming 6-Month Meeting Schedule				
Day	Date	Meeting Type	Agenda Business Items	Special Notes
Wed	7/6/22	Regular	• No meeting	Holiday
Wed	8/3/22	Regular	•	
Wed	9/7/22	Regular	• Guidelines for funding special projects	
Wed	10/5/22	Regular	• Climate Action & Adaptation Plan	
Wed	11/2/22	Regular	• NR Education, Outreach and Engagement Plan • LLP Multi-use mountain bike trail annual update	Joint meeting w/council
Wed	12/7/22	Regular	•	

Other meetings and activities to note:

Day	Date	Description	Special Notes
Tues	June 7	Farmer's Market	Tuesdays – Civic Center Campus
Wed	June 8	Park Board Tour	City Hall
Fri	June 10	Shady Oak Beach	Opening Day
Thur-Fri	June 16 & 17	Theater in the Park	Matilda Jr. at 10 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.
Tues	June 21	Music in the Park	Tuesdays – Civic Center Campus
Sat	June 25	Summer Festival	

Items to be scheduled:

Park regulation ordinance – dogs/leash requirements