

Roseville Parks and Recreation
Commission Meeting
Tuesday August 4, 2015
8:00 P.M.

Roseville City Hall
2660 Civic Center Drive

Note: Meeting Time of 8:00 P.M. due to Night to Unite

AGENDA

1. Introductions
2. Public Comment Invited
3. Approval of Minutes of June 2, 2015
4. Review Langton Lake Park in Relation to Twin Lakes Area
5. Follow up on Joint Meeting with the City Council
6. Update on Cedarhom Golf Course Review
7. Confirm September Meeting Date
8. Consider Rescheduling Future August Meetings
9. Staff Report
10. Other
11. Adjournment

Roseville Parks and Recreation
“Building Community through People, Parks and Programs”
www.ci.roseville.mn.us

Be a part of the picture....get involved with your City....Volunteer.
For more information, contact Kelly at kelly.obrien@ci.roseville.mn.us or 651-792-7028.
or check our website at www.cityofroseville.com
Volunteering, a Great Way to Get Involved!

To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Lonnie Brokke
Date: July 27, 2015
Re: Notes for Commission Meeting on **Tuesday, August 4, 2015 at 8:00 p.m.**

*****PLEASE NOTE MEETING TIME IS AT 8:00 PM DUE TO NIGHT TO UNITE**

1. Introductions

2. Public Comment Invited

3. Approval of Minutes of the June 2, 2015 Meeting

Enclosed is a copy of the minutes of June 2, 2015. Please be prepared to approve or amend.

Requested Commission Action: Approve/amend meeting minutes of June 2, 2015.

4. Update on Langton Lake Park as it relates to the potential adjacent Twin Lakes Development

Langton Lake Park and how it works with any future nearby development in the Twin Lakes Area has been an ongoing topic of discussion by previous and current Parks and Recreation Commission members.

In your packet is a memo and information provided by Community Development Director Mr. Paul Bilotta to facilitate a discussion on park dedication and how you might see a potential development work with Langton Lake Park.

As development occurs, there has been an ongoing desire to ensure the naturalness of the park while still providing viable and pleasing connections.

Mr. Bilotta will be at your meeting to share his information and gather your thoughts so that when potential developments come to his department, there is an understanding from a Parks and Recreation perspective.

Requested Commission Action: Discuss Langton Lake Park as it relates to potential nearby development.

5. Follow up Discussion on the joint meeting with the City Council

This is an opportunity for you to review the joint meeting with the City Council that occurred on Monday, June 15, 2015. Included in your packet are the minutes of that meeting for your reference.

Requested Commission Action: Discussion.

6. Update on Cedarholm Golf Course Review

Commission representatives Chair Stoner and members Holt and Gelbach have continued to meet with staff to discuss the golf course information and status and will provide a verbal update to you at the meeting and ask for your thoughts.

Requested Commission Action: Discussion.

7. Confirm September Meeting Date

Your September meeting is Tuesday, September 1, 2015. Occasionally, you have had a tour on this night or have chosen another day of the month to have the tour. At this time of year, daylight is limited so if you decide you would like to go on a driving tour that evening, I

would suggest that you go a bit earlier, say 5:30 or 6 p.m. so it can wrap up prior to sunset which is 7:50 p.m.

It has been suggested that the meeting be held on that Tuesday, September 1 at the regular time of 6:30 p.m. at Sandcastle Park and staff can provide a virtual tour which would provide an overview on the status of the Renewal Program to you. The Sandcastle Park Building has been reserved.

Requested Commission Action: Finalize September meeting.

8. Consider Rescheduling Future August Meetings

This item was requested to be on the Agenda by Commission Member Becker-Finn. Specifically, she would like to discuss rescheduling future August meetings for a different day of the week to avoid conflicts with Night to Unite/National Night Out.

9. Staff Report

10. Other

11. Adjournment

**ROSEVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES FOR
JUNE 2, 2015
ROSEVILLE CITY HALL ~ 6:30pm**

PRESENT: Becker-Finn, Bogenholm, Diedrick, Doneen, Gelbach, Heikkila, Holt, Newby,
O'Brien, Stoner
STAFF: Anfang, Brokke
OTHERS: Roger Hess Jr.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

2. ROLL CALL/PUBLIC COMMENT

No initial public comment at this time.

- Community member Roger Hess Jr. joined the commission meeting for the follow up discussion on the Cedarholm Golf Course.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MAY 5, 2015 MEETING

May 5, 2015 minutes approved with a clarification by Nancy O'Brien for the reporting listed on line 62.

- On May 5 2015, O'Brien inquired as to whether staff has studied the time spent by Golf Course personnel on tasks away from the course and elsewhere in the parks & recreation system as well as, the amount of time being spent on work being done by other parks & recreation staff at the golf course.

4. PARK DEDICATION – 2715 LONG LAKE ROAD

Brokke briefed the commission on the identified property. What makes this park dedication discussion unique is that it deals with a CIC (Common Interest Community). Proposed work at this property triggers a park dedication discussion because the property owner is expanding the existing foot print resulting in a replat of the property.

- Commission discussed what criteria trigger discussions on park dedication.

Commission Recommendation:

- Motion by Holt, second by Gelbach, to recommend the Council accept cash in lieu of land for park dedication on the 2715 Long Lake Road redevelopment.
- Motion passed unanimously.

5. FOLLOW UP TO THE CEDARHOLM GOLF COURSE TOUR

Following a brief introduction by Chairman Stoner the Commission moved right into questions. Commissioners inquired into;

- profit & loss discussions
- how we can make the GC work from a property management perspective
- who the golf course users are
- ways to absorb costs into the greater City budget

Commissioners also spoke toward;

- looking at the big picture for the golf course and addressing financial considerations beyond just capital needs
- recognizing the golf course's true value to our community
- recognizing the level of financial deficit over the past few years

Community member Hess Jr. commented on how the GC has 3000 unique users annually and wondered if other sports programs offered by Parks & Recreation fully cover maintenance cost like the GC is expected to do as an enterprise fund.

Brokke assured commissioners that staff have been monitoring operations over the years and has a good understanding of revenues and expenses. Staff responded to Hess' inquiry in that adult sports cover their direct costs and in many cases generate additional revenue that is used by the Parks & Recreation budget to supplement maintenance costs.

Commission Recommendation:

Commissioners agreed that this topic needs to be reviewed and discussed by a smaller group, a task force of sorts, who can delve into understanding the operations and needs, report back to the Commission and make recommendations to the Commission for consideration.

- Jerry Stoner, Dave Holt & Phil Gelbach agreed to serve on the Commission Task Force and set a preliminary meeting with staff for Monday, June 8.

6. PREPARE FOR JOINT CITY COUNCIL/COMMISSION MEETING

Commissioners discussed potential agenda items for the upcoming joint meeting with the council. In recent years commissioners have shared the responsibility of presenting/speaking with the Council. Commissioners agreed on the following;

- Stoner to talk about Commission community outreach effort from the past year
- Newby will address deer management efforts
- Doneen will speak about SW Roseville development, Tamarack Park status and Natural Resource Management efforts & sustainability
- Becker-Finn will provide an overview of park building operations
- Holt will update the Council on Golf Course findings

Commissioners will meet at 6pm on June 15 for final coordination before the Council meeting.

7. PARK AND RECREATION RENEWAL PROGRAM STATUS

Brokke reviewed the current status of the renewal program.

- Pleased to report that items continue to move into the completed column of the project tracking report.
- A community build playground project took place at Oasis Park on May 30. About 30 people took part in the volunteer program and helped to assemble a good number of playground pieces.
- The next community build playground project is scheduled for June 27 at Bruce Russell Park.
- Work on the west fields at Evergreen Park continues to move along. Work on the east fields will begin this fall.
- The bridges in Villa Park and the boardwalk at the Nature Center are completed and being enjoyed by many.
- The tennis courts that were rebuilt last fall have been completed with final color coat and lines. The courts at Evergreen Park have a second set of lines to allow for Pickleball play.
- The Natural Resource Management program has involved a great number of volunteers in recent months. In April over 300 seedlings were planted in Villa Park by volunteers, in May, volunteers worked at Willow Pond. The next natural resource volunteer Saturday is June 20.
- Work has begun at the Disc Golf Course at Acorn Park. The course will be closed the last 2 weeks in June through July 4.

100 8. **STAFF REPORT**

101 Anfang updated the Commission and Community on the following:

- 102 • City-Wide Garage Sale this weekend (June 4-6) Over 100 community members are
- 103 participating in this year's garage sale.
- 104 • The Lego Movie is being shown at the OVAL on Friday night, June 5 at 7:30pm.
- 105 • Discover Your Parks events begin June 24 at Acorn Park
- 106 • Puppet Wagon stops begin the week of June 23
- 107 • Rosefest activities take place June 25-29 & July 4. This is the 25th anniversary of Roseville's
- 108 Rose Parade.
- 109 • Summer Performances in the Park begin June 14 at the Frank Rog Amphitheatre in Central
- 110 Park. The summer concert season kicks off with the annual Central Park Blues fest.

111 9. **Other**

- 112 • Dave Holt mentioned that the State's largest Butternut tree in Reservoir Woods made the
- 113 local news recently.

114 Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

115 Respectfully Submitted,
116 Jill Anfang, Assistant Director
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Community Development Department

Memo

To: Lonnie Brokke, Director of Parks and Recreation

From: Paul Bilotta, Community Development Director

Date: 7/28/2015

Re: Langton Lake Park issues

The past year has been a very busy one in the area of Twin Lakes planning processes with substantial changes proposed both in land use controls and the extension of Twin Lakes Parkway to Fairview Avenue.

As part of that process, there were some large meetings to seek open ended input from the community and some of the input received related to the two parks that are contained in the neighborhood, particularly Langton Lake Park.

The summary document of comments can be found online at the following location:

<http://www.ci.roseville.mn.us/DocumentCenter/View/17192>

The park references are in the open ended questions portion (pp. 19-48).

Other reference materials related to Twin Lakes planning can be found at the following location:

<http://www.ci.roseville.mn.us/2787/Twin-Lakes-Active-Projects>

In the discussions with the City Council that have followed the public input process, Community Development Staff brought forward that the public had provided comments related to wanting to explore possible expansion of Langton Lake Park. The City Council referred the issue to the Parks and Recreation Commission for review and guidance.

In addition, Community Development Staff is actively working on economic development activities in the area and there is a desire to proactively analyze any park expansion needs so that we can work cooperatively to try to obtain these park needs in any future negotiations with developers. These sorts of items are much easier to accomplish if they are identified on the front end and can sometimes be difficult if they aren't addressed until the Parks and Recreation Commission first sees a proposal for a preliminary plat. We want to do what we can to avoid putting the Parks and Recreation Commission in that sort of difficult position, if possible.

Finally, as part of the zoning regulation updates that are proposed, there is proposed to be an update to the regulating plan for the area. The regulating plans are general guides to assist in ensuring the form of future development is flexible but coordinated with general design principles. Some of the elements that directly impact the City's parks include:

1. Identification of future trail connections
2. Identification of park buffer areas
3. Identification of potential park expansion areas

At present, these items are identified based on past plans and at a conceptual level. If the Parks and Recreation Commission has additional input to refine these items, we can work them into the plans and economic development activities.

We would like to come before your commission at the August meeting to introduce these topics. We anticipate providing a short, high level overview and will gladly take whatever input we can at that meeting, but we understand some of these issues may take further study before the Commission can provide formal feedback in the future.

We have attached a few documents that may be useful for understanding some of the history in the area. The Twin Lakes web page listed above also has an "Archives" section where we have stored a number of the previous plans for additional reference purposes.

Attachments:	A:	Proposed Regulating Plan
	B:	Proposed Pathways Plan
	C:	1988 Land Use Guide Plan
	D:	1996 Comp Plan Amendment
	E:	2001 Master Plan
	F:	2004 Stakeholders Plan
	G:	2007 AUAR
	H:	2010 Parks and Recreation System Master Plan

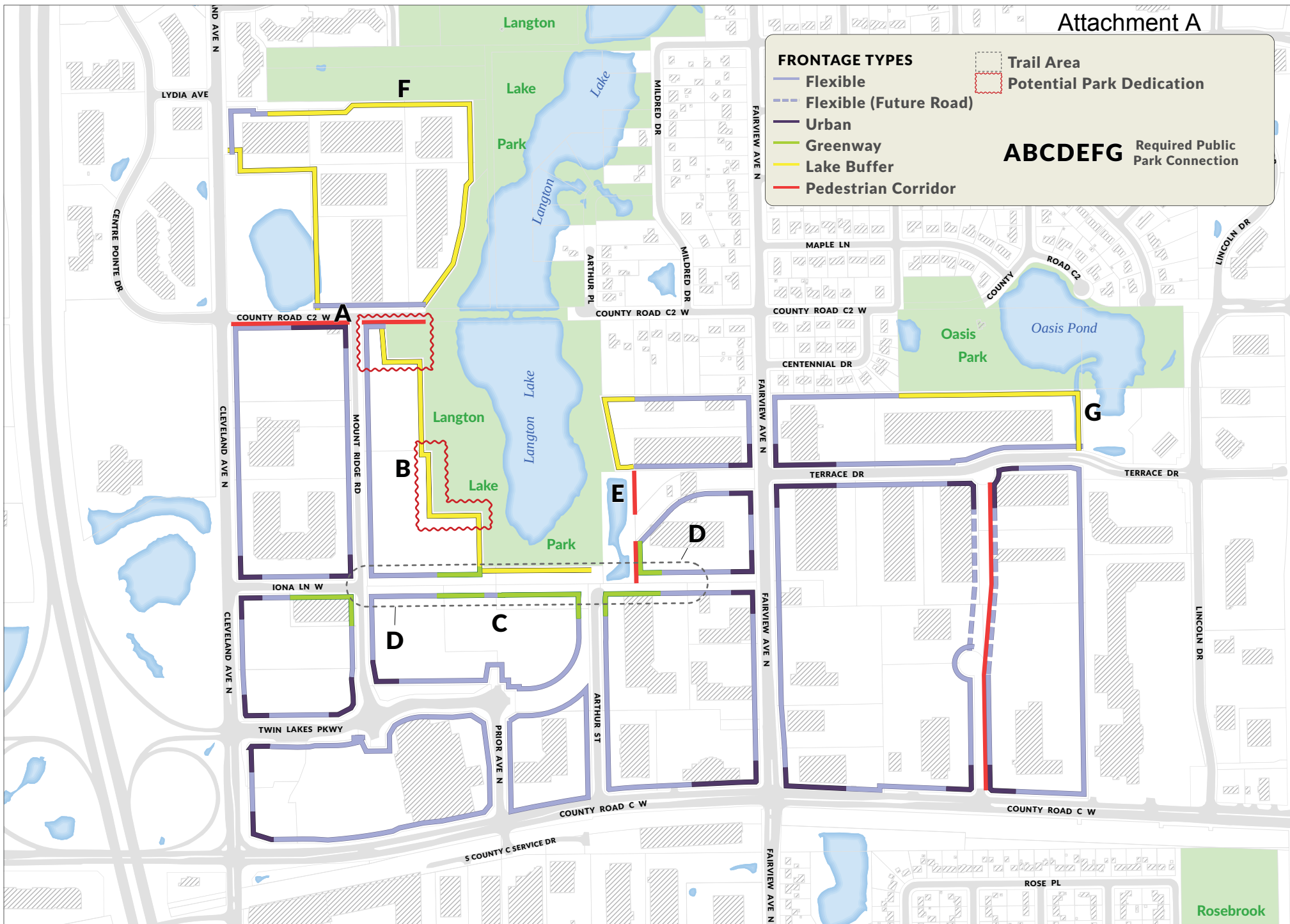
FRONTAGE TYPES

- Flexible
- Flexible (Future Road)
- Urban
- Greenway
- Lake Buffer
- Pedestrian Corridor

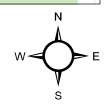
Trail Area

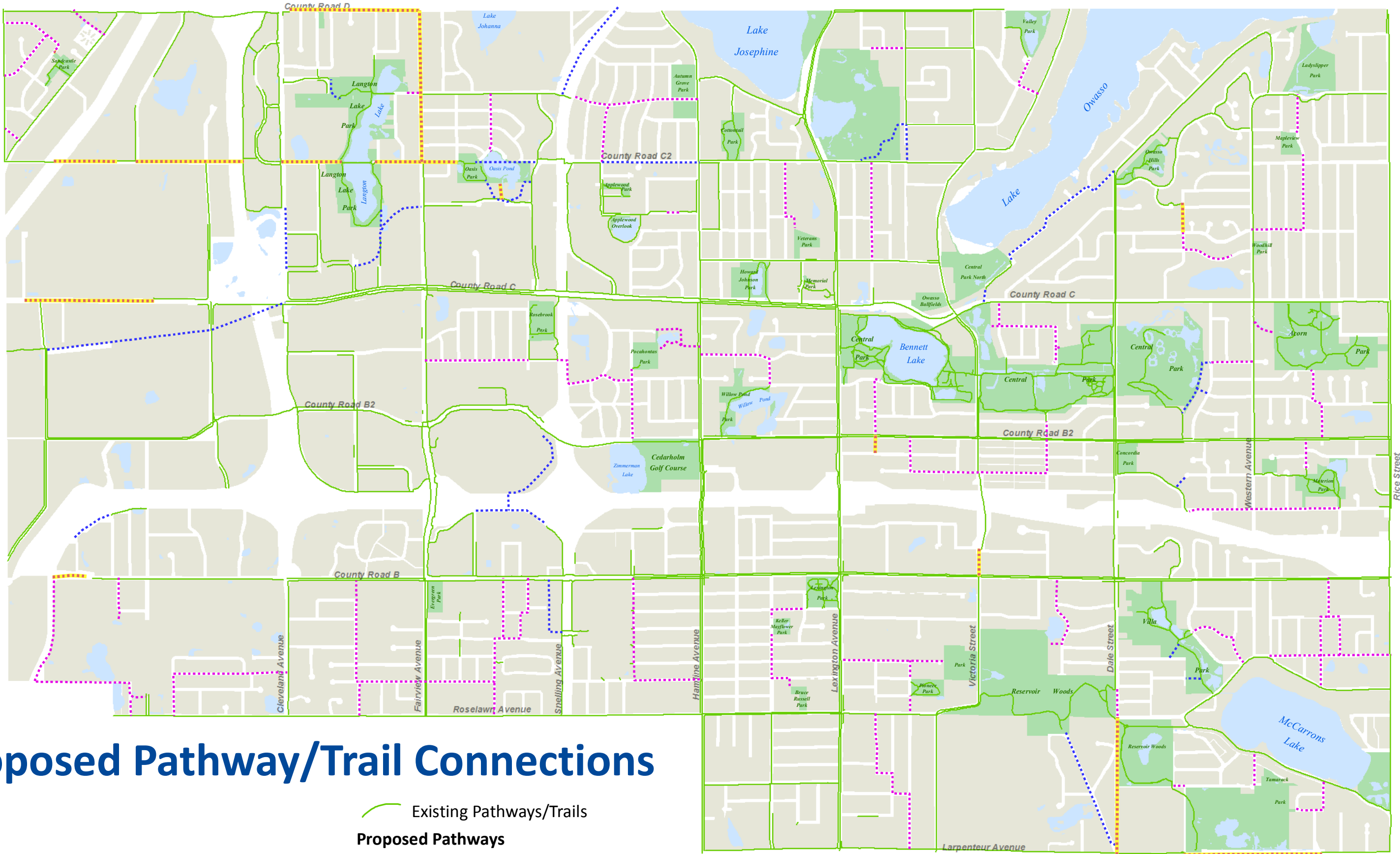
Potential Park Dedication

ABCDEFGG Required Public Park Connection



Proposed Twin Lakes Regulating Plan Expansion





Proposed Pathway/Trail Connections

- Existing Pathways/Trails
- Proposed Pathways**
 - Parks and Recreation Master Plan
 - Public Works Master Plan
 - Both Master Plans



0' 400' 600' 800'

NORTH

September 1999

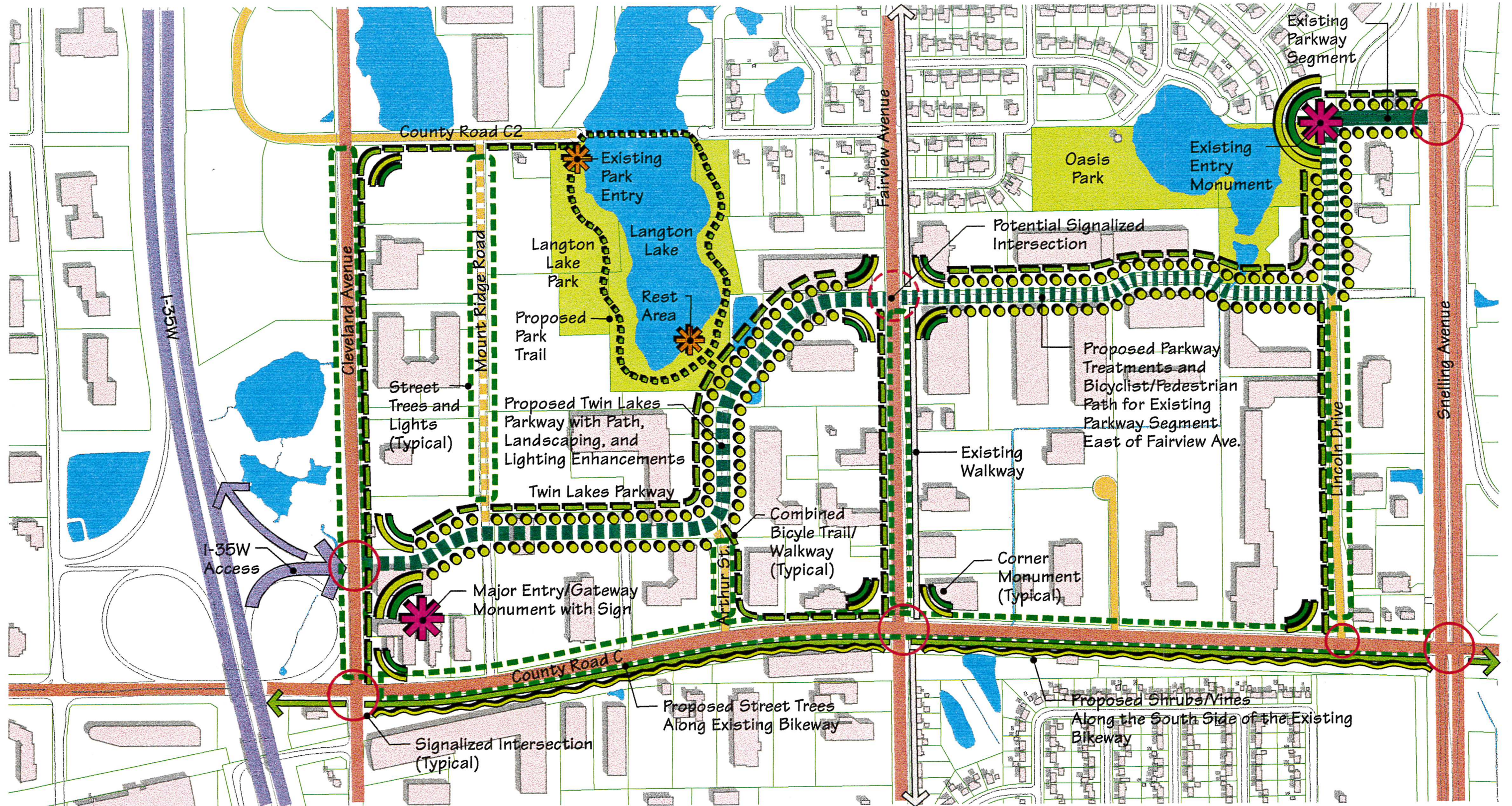


Figure 12
Recommended Urban Design Enhancement Plan

September 30, 1996

Twin Lakes Parkway Master Plan
 CITY OF ROSEVILLE, MINNESOTA



MAP 7

BRENNER AVE Attachment

AVENUE

LYDIA AVE

DRIVE

MILDRED

PLACE

ARTHUR

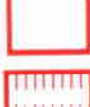
ROAD C2

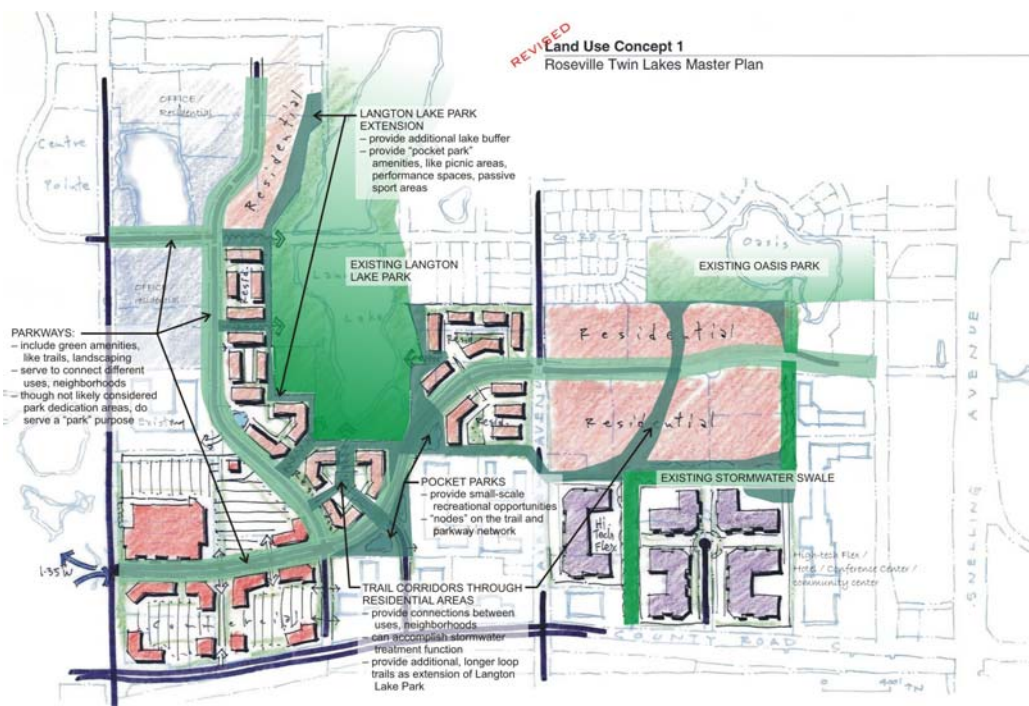
COUNTY

CLEVELAND

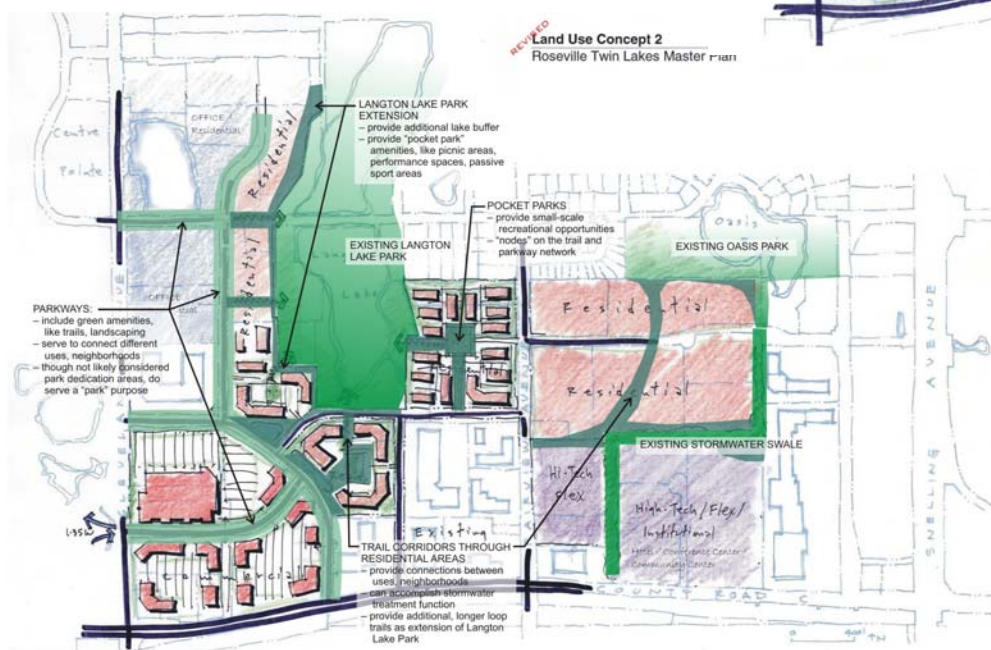
FAIRVIEW

 Proposed Trail
 Park Boundary
 City Parks (Area: 62 acres)
 RES - Residential
 NC - Neighborhood Commercial
 CC - Community Commercial
 OPC - Office
 LI - Light Industrial
 HI - Heavy Industrial
 IN - Institutional
 VAC - Vacant
 Water/Wetlands

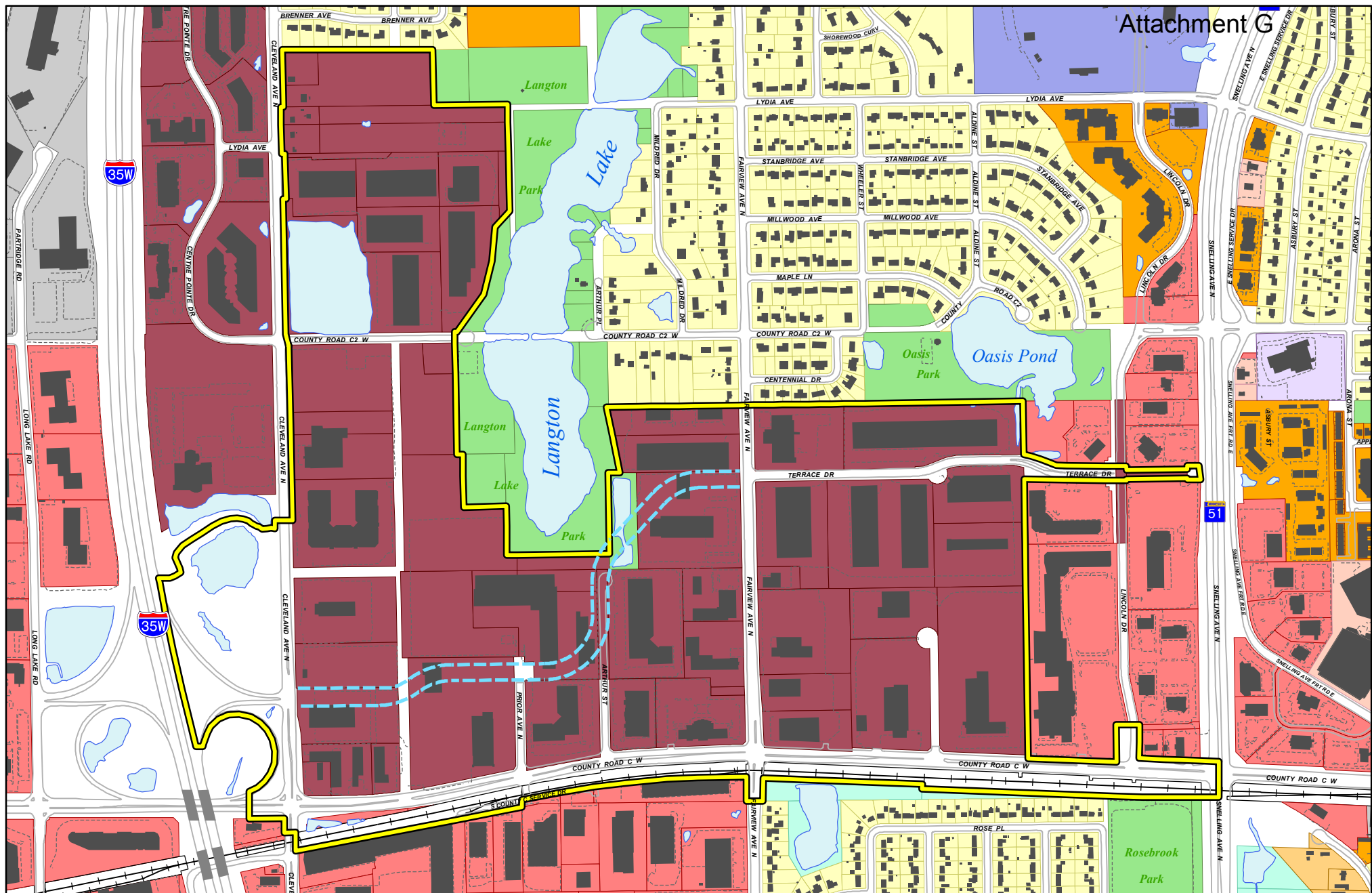
 Soccer Field
 Parking Lot
 Softball Field
 Shelter
 Play equip.
 Fishing Pier



Park Layout Example: Concept 1



Park Layout Example: Concept 2



Twin Lakes AUAR Update

Figure 6.2: Comprehensive Plan

ROSEVILLE

Prepared by:
Community Development
June 2007

Data Sources:
Ramsey County GIS (6/4/2007)
City of Roseville

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| B - Business | LB - Limited Business |
| BP - Business Park | LR - Low Density Residential |
| CH - Church | MR - Medium Density Residential |
| GC - Golf Course | P - Park |
| HR - High Density Residential | ROW/RR - Right of Way/Railroad |
| I - Industrial | SC - Shopping Center |
| IN - Institutional | W - Water Ponding |

- Twin Lakes AUAR Boundary
- Twin Lakes Parkway
- Railroad
- Water
- Parking Areas

0 200 400 600 800 Feet

This map is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey and is not intended to be used as one. This map is a compilation of records, information and data located in various city, county, state and federal offices and other sources regarding the area shown, and is to be used for reference purposes only. The City does not warrant that the Geographic Information System (GIS) Data used to prepare this map are error free, and the City does not represent that the GIS Data can be used for navigational, tracking or any other purpose requiring exacting measurement of distance or direction or precision in the depiction of geographic features. If errors or discrepancies are found please contact 651-732-7081. The preceding disclaimer is provided pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §461.03, Subd. 21 (2000), and the user of this map acknowledges that the City shall not be liable for any damages, and expressly waives all claims, and agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the City from any and all claims brought by User, its employees or agents, or third parties which arise out of the user's access or use of data provided.



Roseville's parks and recreation system includes 30 parks, 679 acres of city-controlled park lands, and numerous facilities. The Parks and Recreation Department in Roseville offers more than 1,850 program and services in those parks and facilities, and hosts events that engage the entire community. Roseville residents also benefit from two Ramsey County parks located within their community.

**ORDINANCE 1278
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING
TITLE THREE, SECTION 1103.07
PARK DEDICATION**

THE CITY OF ROSEVILLE ORDAINS:

Section 1103.07 of the Roseville City Code is amended to read as follows:

1103.07: PARK DEDICATION:

- A. Condition To Approval: As a condition to the approval of any subdivision of land in any zone, including the granting of a variance pursuant to Section 1104.04 of this Title, when a new building site is created in excess of one acre, by either platting or minor subdivision, and including redevelopment and approval of planned unit developments, the subdivision shall be reviewed by the Park and Recreation Commission. The commission shall recommend either a portion of land to be dedicated to the public for use as a park as provided by Minnesota Statutes 462.358, subdivision (2)(b), or in lieu thereof, a cash deposit given to the City to be used for park purposes; or a combination of land and cash deposit, all as hereafter set forth.
- B. Amount To Be Dedicated: The portion to be dedicated in all residentially zoned areas shall be ten percent (10%) and five percent (5%) in all other areas.
- C. Utility Dedications Not Qualified: Land dedicated for required street right of way or utilities', including drainage, does not qualify as park dedication.
- D. Payment in lieu of dedication in all zones in the city where park dedication is deemed inappropriate by the City, the owner and the City shall agree to have the owner deposit a sum of money in lieu of a dedication. The sum shall be reviewed and determined annually by the City Council by resolution. (Ord. 1061, 6-26-1989)
- E. Park Dedication Fees may, in the City Councils sole discretion, be reduced for affordable housing units as recommended by the Housing and Redevelopment Authority for the City of Roseville.

Ordinance 1278 Effective date. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication

Passed by the City Council of the City of Roseville this 24th day of February, 2003.



**Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
City Hall Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive
Monday, June 15, 2015**

1. Roll Call

Mayor Roe called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. Voting and Seating Order: Willmus, Laliberte, Etten, McGehee, and Roe. City Manager Patrick Trudgeon and City Attorney Mark Gaughan were also present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approve Agenda

McGehee moved, Etten seconded approval of the agenda as presented.

Roll Call

Ayes: Willmus, Laliberte, Etten, McGehee, and Roe.

Nays: None.

4. Public Comment

Mayor Roe called for public comment by members of the audience on any non-agenda items.

a. John Kysylyczyn, 3083 Victoria Street

Mr. Kysylyczyn spoke in response to public comments made at the June 8, 2015 City Council meeting related to organized trash collection. Mr. Kysylyczyn addressed the alleged misinformation provided as part of those comments; opining that it was unfortunate for a handful to resort to misinformation or a lack of accurate data in order to support their viewpoint. From his perspective Mr. Kysylyczyn reviewed previously attempted legislation and subsequent adoption of the current bipartisan legislation adopted allowing a process for local government to pursue organized trash collection being mindful of the interests of all parties.

Mr. Kysylyczyn further addressed information provided by a citizen showing cost comparisons for the City of Maplewood, pointing out his understanding of the methodology of that survey and lack of scientific administration in those results, and therefore not accurately supporting the comparison data. Mr. Kysylyczyn also noted information provided by the statistically accurate survey and similar responses performed in the communities of Roseville, Shoreview and Fridley, administered by Decision Resources, all showing that the public does not support organized trash collection or not having a choice in selecting their trash haulers.

Mr. Kysylyczyn cautioned the City Council, when information is brought forward to them, that they challenge those presenting the data to share all information accurately before the City Council comes to any conclusions on an issue.

Recess

Mayor Roe recessed the meeting at approximately 7:03 p.m., and reconvened at approximately 7:05 p.m.

11. Presentations

a. Joint Meeting with Parks and Recreation Commission

Mayor Roe welcomed Commissioners to this quarterly meeting. Present representing the Commission were Chair Jerry Stoner and Commissioners Jamie Becker-Finn, Lee Diedrick, Randall Doneen, Philip Gelbach, David Holt, Luke Heikkila, Terrance Newby, and Nancy O'Brien.

Chair Stoner opened discussion up with introductions and welcoming the three newly-appointed commissioners. As detailed in the RCA, Chair Stoner briefly reviewed community outreach activities undertaken by the Commission since last meeting with the City Council.

Commissioner Newby highlighted several project activity items, noting the Commission's ongoing comprehensive involvement in the Park & Recreation Renewal Program; their review of fees/users of various park buildings and operations; and the City Council-requested review of the deer population and their recommendations to address that concern.

Commissioner Doneen reviewed work plan items anticipated for the upcoming year, some of which had been lagging behind due to other Renewal Program activities and now needing to be addressed. Among those issues, Commissioner Doneen addressed limited real estate and/or partnership available in SW Roseville for additional park and green space; public safety issues at Tamarack Park needing to be addressed; and natural resource restoration project needs and investment in long-term management. Commissioner Doneen noted these activities would all require significant community involvement and more input by the Commission.

Commissioner Becker-Finn reviewed the status of park building operations, reporting that all buildings were now substantially completed, with the next step to track their operations and fine-tune fee schedules as applicable based on their use.

Commissioner Holt reported on the Commission's review of Cedarholm Golf Course operations and recommendations as detailed in Attachment A to the RCA. Commissioner Holt noted deferred maintenance issues and the bigger picture, as well as the review and report by the Finance Commission on this Enterprise Fund and Financial Summary from 2010 – 2014 as provided by Finance Director Chris Miller and staff.

Commissioner Holt asked the City Council to consider why this continued to operate as an Enterprise Fund given other valuable assets in Park & Recreation pro-

gramming that were not (e.g. ballfields) and how depreciation expenses affected funding. Commissioner Holt noted the Commission's desire to explore the big picture for this program not currently taxpayer funded. In reviewing surrounding communities and inner-ring suburbs such as Roseville, Commissioner Holt noted the unique and valuable asset provided by the golf course, serving to increase the City's tax base and of importance to the community as well. Commissioner Holt asked consideration by the City Council in the possibility of bringing the golf course back into the Parks & Recreation fold versus as a standalone Enterprise Fund.

Commissioner Holt also thanked the City Council for increasing the frequency of these joint meetings, and expressed hope that they were also of benefit to the City Council. Commissioner Holt noted the Commission's appreciation of the additional direction and focus they provided in their oversight of park and recreation activities and events.

Mayor Roe thanked Commissioners for their update, and opened discussion to individual Councilmembers.

Councilmember Willmus thanked the Commission for the information they offered. In his personal consideration of the position of the skating center or golf course, Councilmember Willmus advised that he looked at them as amenities that served the entire community, holding those services and amenities on a par with emergency and public works services. Councilmember Willmus opined that they all represented an important aspect for a healthy community.

Councilmember Willmus noted his willingness to hold ongoing discussions about how to improve things, but for him personally the bottom line was that he may not consider such services as necessarily being revenue generators, but of community value. Councilmember Willmus noted this was similar to the correlation between recreation or open space properties adding value for contiguous adjacent private properties.

Councilmember Willmus sought further consideration by the Commission on how to address park dedication fees for redevelopment projects that may not allow for or include available property.

Referencing his past service on the Parks & Recreation Commission, Councilmember Willmus noted their review of fees, and asked for an update from the Commission and fine-tune review of all fees going forward, including comparisons with other communities.

Commissioner Holt advised that this had been done internally by the Commission and offered to provide it to the City Council at the next joint meeting.

Councilmember McGehee asked Commissioner Doneen regarding properties still available in SW Roseville.

Commissioner Doneen responded that, for various reasons, the Commission chose not to move forward on either of the two available properties at this time.

Chair Stoner concurred, noting that one parcel was more favorable than the other given its size and how it was laid out based on what could be fit on either parcel (e.g. ballfields).

Councilmember McGehee clarified that, when she considered a park in her area, she was not specifically considering its use as a ballfield, but green space to provide an opportunity for family activities, not necessarily organized or formal activities. Councilmember McGehee opined that there were many such amenities available in the community.

Councilmember McGehee suggested the Commission's consideration of partnering with the City of Falcon Heights with their community park already in that area and providing many amenities, and already used by a majority of SW Roseville residents already. Given the recent completion and integration of the pathway, Councilmember McGehee expressed her preference for that partnership option versus acquiring more land; and asked that the Commission think more broadly and make links with neighboring communities.

Councilmember McGehee asked Commissioner Becker-Finn about how a determination was made for those paying fees (e.g. civic or neighborhood groups) and private uses. Councilmember McGehee provided a recent anecdotal example of apparent disparities, and her understanding of the intent for building use by residents.

As a newer member of the Commission, Commissioner Becker-Finn advised that she was not on board when fees were determined.

Chair Stoner provided the fee structure and intent for use of buildings by residents, considering use by resident groups as a loss and theoretically compensated with non-resident fees.

At the request of Councilmember McGehee, Commissioner O'Brien clarified that the fees depended on the function and how the event is defined – whether exclusive to a particular association or open to the public.

Commissioner Stoner noted this is the general intent, and obviously each case was given consideration.

Commissioner Doneen noted that this had received considerable discussion by the Commission, and advised that City staff attempted to question each use or event specifically to make a judgment call as applicable. Commissioner Doneen noted that the Commission continued to monitor fees to determine if this is the right system and how it was working, and admitted some revisions may be required going forward with more experience.

In light of civic and community engagement, Councilmember McGehee suggested considering specific areas, not necessarily the entire city, and those activities that should be free if open and available for the public.

Commissioner Becker-Finn noted that part of the issue may involve the information shared when booking an event or activity and how to define where the line is, suggesting this may need to be further clarified on the website. Commissioner Becker-Finn asked the City Council's consideration that this is new territory, with most of the buildings only having been available for booking since April, and feedback will continue to inform the process and necessary revisions. Based on the feedback she'd received to-date, Commissioner Becker-Finn stated most were finding the City's rental fees reasonable, given their comparison with other private facilities not offering as many amenities.

Councilmember McGehee requested additional information from the Commission on the formula or differential between resident and non-resident fees; with Commissioner Becker-Finn responding that it varied depending on the building itself and its capacity as well as the day of the week for the booking.

Specific to the golf course, Councilmember McGehee expressed her frustration in deferring maintenance (e.g. roof repairs/replacement), similar to that of fire stations and old park buildings, and the apparent common theme across the City to defer maintenance long enough that a new building was required.

While it may not be specific only to Park & Recreation facilities, Councilmember McGehee opined that the City had been remiss in addressing ongoing maintenance issues, thus the implementation of the asset management software program. Councilmember McGehee spoke in support of the golf course as a nice amenity for the community, and her lack of support in selling the property, at least without further study. Councilmember McGehee spoke in further support for continuing to have the golf course operate as an Enterprise Fund, opining that the Oval and skating center should do so as well, to provide a separate picture of their finances, making the bookkeeping aspect cleaner. Councilmember McGehee opined that this would be another area of interest for her in defining the fee differential to address actual costs and provide a more sustainable financial footing and recommendations from the Commission on how best to get there. Councilmember McGehee opined that the twenty-year Parks & Recreation capital improvement program (CIP) was out of line with other departments (e.g. twenty baseball fields

operating without fee and allowing athletic organizations complete and priority use of those fields for the most part). Councilmember McGehee expressed her wish that the Commission would look toward making those fields available to residents for their personal use versus their potential loss as an amenity.

Commissioner Holt took issue with Councilmember McGehee's misperception about deferring maintenance of park facilities, referencing the previous dedication of funds for maintenance through the Parks Improvement Program (PIP). Commissioner Holt noted previous City Councils reallocating those funds to other areas of city operations; and therefore, the Parks & Recreation Department no longer had funds available for necessary maintenance. Commissioner Holt clarified that it was not the Commission's or Department's desire for new or different styled buildings, but simply to address those deferred maintenance decisions, and grow the program back. As mentioned in previous meetings, Commissioner Holt restated the Commission's and his personal appreciation of this City Council once again setting aside funding to maintain assets; and respectfully requested that those funds remain in place to avoid future issues.

In reference to previous City Council decision-making specifically related to deferred maintenance issues, Mayor Roe suggested that there were no deferrals intended to seek new facilities, but rather not enough information was provided for them to make informed decisions and with their efforts to keep tax levies low. In the last few years, Mayor Roe opined that this City Council has made a concerted effort to keep an eye on community assets; and stated everyone at the table – the City Council and Commission – were all responsible to move those efforts forward in a positive way. Mayor Roe stated that the goal should be to make it clear what all was involved in order to make better decisions, including long-term CIP listings and periodic updates, allowing current information on which playground, equipment, or items need replacing or repairs at any given time.

Councilmember McGehee expressed her hope that this would actually be accomplished, even though she found this City Council majority continuing to dig into reserves annually rather than fully funding the CIP. Councilmember McGehee noted that the PIP suffered the same fate and expressed concern that this may occur with the CIP as well. Councilmember McGehee expressed her interest in sustaining assets and not losing any gains already made with the decision-making of future City Councils.

Councilmember Etten thanked the Commission for their report and the specific areas addressed, providing a recent anecdotal experience and teaching opportunity he and his son experienced on the boardwalk. Councilmember Etten also noted the community service opportunities after renovations he'd participated in and the favorable comments he'd heard about improved lighting at various facilities in addition to accessibility and amenities in new bathroom facilities.

Councilmember Etten echoed some of the comments of Councilmember Willmus regarding park dedication fees, opining that while lot lines may not change, new density may occur, and questioned how park dedication worked into that type of redevelopment. Councilmember Etten suggested legal counsel may need to weigh in about how and when those fees may kick in as Roseville continued to redevelop.

Regarding the club house at Cedarholm Golf Course, Councilmember Etten agreed that the current building was in rough shape with continued deferral of roof maintenance on the CIP depending on the future of the facility. However, Councilmember Etten opined it may prove another positive situation, and while the Commission reviews its future, may also prove a positive asset as a year-round facility for community use.

Regarding whether or not to incorporate it in the General Fund or continue operations as a separate Enterprise Fund, Councilmember Etten recognized the cross-purposes of staff and difficulty in sorting revenue and expenses out accordingly. Given that consideration, Councilmember Etten opined that it made sense to make that operation part of the broader community offerings versus a separate Enterprise Fund, such as License Center operations with staff dedicated specifically and only to that particular effort.

Councilmember Etten clarified discussion about the two parcels in SW Roseville, noting that one parcel was not actually for sale and the owner was not interested in selling, and potential acquisition of the other parcel fell through when a different offer had been received. As a former Chair of the Commission, Councilmember Etten noted the positive advances made, particularly in the recent completion of the path along County Road B. Councilmember Etten also clarified that there already existed a shared agreement with the City of Falcon Heights and that a positive collaboration was in place and continued to be part of the process for ongoing improvement for the SW area of Roseville.

Councilmember Laliberte thanked the Commission for their work to-date, recognizing it had been a busy few years for them, requiring lots of oversight for staff and the Commission on the various Renewal Program projects. As a recent participant of one of the Playground Build projects, Councilmember Laliberte stated she highly recommended it for resident involvement.

Councilmember Laliberte spoke in support of those areas of focus laid out by the Commission in their report, and encouraged them to continue their out-of-the-box thinking for each of those work plan initiatives, and to not limit themselves to a particular piece of land in SW Roseville but to consider all options. Councilmember Laliberte shared the public safety concerns for Tamarack Park, opining it needed to be addressed on a number of different levels.

Regarding natural resource restoration, Councilmember Laliberte noted her previous forwarding of information on Buckthorn mitigation.

Regarding Cedarholm Golf Course, Councilmember Laliberte agreed that it was a valuable asset for the community; and expressed her interest in figuring out how to make it work and continuing as an asset for residents and non-residents alike; and her interest in hearing recommendations from the Commission. Pending that additional information, Councilmember Laliberte advised that she had no initial thoughts on the advantages or disadvantages of it remaining an Enterprise Fund, even though she appreciated the transparency and segregation of data provided by such a funding designation and for the guidance it provided. If the Commission recommended moving forward with course improvements or a new building, Councilmember Laliberte suggested looking into kick starter funding as part of that scenario to help solve part of the funding problem.

Councilmember Laliberte expressed her interest in continuing these periodic joint meetings.

Councilmember Laliberte encouraged the Commission to take advantage of C-TV Channel 16 as an additional opportunity to promote the golf course, skating center and park buildings; and to do a better job to highlight those amenities with that media source.

Councilmember Willmus expressed his disagreement with Commissioner Holt and Councilmember Etten about moving the golf course from a separate Enterprise Fund to the City's Recreation Fund. Councilmember Willmus stated that he found segregation of an Enterprise Fund to be illuminating and providing greater detail. Councilmember Willmus noted that the Ice Arena operated as an Enterprise Fund until construction of the Oval.

Councilmember Willmus echoed the comments of Councilmember Laliberte in improving marketing for park and recreation activities and events through as many options as are possible.

Regarding park dedication fees, Councilmember Willmus noted the triggers under State Statute, and asked that the Commission be cognizant of that during their review.

Mayor Roe briefly addressed park dedication fees, and its current limited use for sustainability for infrastructure and rehabilitation efforts in the park areas, as well as statutory allowances for acquisition of or improvement of parks. Mayor Roe advised that he had already broached this subject with staff, and suggested looking at policy recommendations to address use of the current park dedication fund and available dollars, and to determine if those funds should be segregated for the

specific purpose of acquisition and improvements, as well as addressing new funding as it became available and how it should be distributed. Mayor Roe advised that he had provided his personal recommendations to Mr. Brokke. Mayor Roe further suggested that the Commission take this opportunity to partner with the Finance commission to look at broader financial policies to find consistency across the board and how the Parks & Recreation Endowment Fund may be improved going forward.

Mayor Roe noted his support of partnership opportunities, especially in SW Roseville and engagement of stakeholders. Mayor Roe suggested the Parks & Recreation Commission consider engaging the Community Engagement Commission on those efforts and how best to accomplish them in their focus role of community engagement and a process to involve those stakeholders. With the SE area of Roseville already successfully involved in such a focus, Mayor Roe suggested SW Roseville and Tamarack would fit into such a process as well.

Whether or not to retain the golf course as an Enterprise Fund or not, Mayor Roe stated he had no opinion. However, if funding is broader than actual users and subsidized by the users of the rest of the park system, Mayor Roe noted the need to acknowledge that and determine the mechanism and allocation of those funds, and better understand and be comfortable with that process. If the City subsidized golf course operations, Mayor Roe opined that it made sense if tax dollars were to go toward that facility, those funds could also be used for other purposes as well.

Regarding the golf course as an Enterprise Fund, Chair Stoner recognized and appreciated the bookkeeping compartmentalization available, which was initially very helpful. However, Chair Stoner opined this fell apart when looking at revenue and expenses on a line by line basis, when for instance, the golf course's two FTE's worked outside the golf course and how to allocate things track their time year-round. Chair Stoner noted this also involved equipment purchases if a truck was used across the park system, not just exclusively by the golf course and how to depreciate those dollars among multiple uses. Chair Stoner opined that it got to the point where it became difficult to track and keep it a real Enterprise Fund as originally intended, thus creating the concerns of the Commission in continuing it as an Enterprise Fund.

Commissioner Holt noted that the Commission was simply beginning to explore these issues, and intended to perform further research and return to the City Council at the next joint meeting to seek their direction, if the City Council ordained that study.

Without disagreement, Mayor Roe noted the City Council was charging the Commission to proceed with their research and study on the golf course operation. Mayor Roe stated he'd rather have a good understanding of how the operation was shared, similar to that outlined in other departments.

Chair Stoner confirmed direction to the Commission to look at the fee schedule across the board for buildings, services and programs for uniformity.

Mayor Roe clarified expectations for the Commission to provide a report recommending a specific written policy on resident versus non-resident fees and how those fees were based from a policy standpoint; as well as how they compared to peer communities; and whether or not continuing the golf course as an Enterprise Fund or how to accurately track accounting procedures was preferable, and pros and cons for each scenario.

Councilmember Laliberte asked for an update on the department's participation in and implementation of the asset management program.

Parks & Recreation Director Lonnie Brokke responded that the program had been implemented by the Department, with current tracking of all full-time staff, allowing balancing of staff time and helping to identify specific goals. Mr. Brokke advised that the equipment components was loaded and tracking was just being initiated now, as well as that for buildings and parks, with replacement buildings implemented first and allowing for contractor schedules to be incorporated for maintenance and replacement items.

Councilmember McGehee expressed her overarching goal for sustainability versus making money; and her interest in a policy on subsidizing programming in addition to sustaining assets.

Councilmember Etten expressed his personal concern with the park dedication fee comments by Mayor Roe and how to divvy funds up, noting the lack of a guaranteed and ongoing funding stream, or varying at the least. Councilmember Etten noted the fund had basically been at "zero" the last ten years and was only now starting to become more substantial, making it hard to attribute it to the CIP when varying so greatly.

Mayor Roe clarified that his recommendation was not to budget incoming park dedication fees annually, but to have policies in place to make decisions in a more informed way from a stewardship viewpoint for the overall park system. If and when funds were transferred from an acquisition, Mayor Roe noted those funds would be in the bank and a policy in place to take advantage of them, recognizing a nexus between increased park system users and faster and greater wear and tear on that system.

Mayor Roe thanked Commissioners for attending, their ongoing work and comments provided; as well as welcoming the Commission's newest members.

Recess

Mayor Roe recessed the meeting at approximately 8:15 p.m., and reconvened at approximately 8:23 p.m. Given the time, and with no dissension from his colleagues, Mayor Roe amended the agenda to first meet with the HRA and then move to budget discussions.

End of joint meeting with PR Commission

15. Business Items – Presentations/Discussions

a. Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA) Strategic Planning Discussion

Mayor Roe welcomed Commissioners and thanked them for these quarterly meetings and improved communications between the two bodies.

Chair Dean Maschka and Commissioners Susan Elkins and Dan Wall were present, along with Councilmember/HRA member Jason Etten. Community Development Director and Acting HRA Executive Director Paul Bilotta was also available as needed; and HRA Consultant Barbara Raye was present as a precursor to upcoming HRA strategic planning efforts.

Chair Maschka briefly reviewed accomplishments and programs of the HRA since the last joint meeting and as detailed in the RCA dated June 15, 2015. Chair Maschka opined that to-date, the HRA has demonstrated novel, creative ideas and working models on which to build; and had available to it time to dig into those issues that is not readily available to the City Council.

However, Chair Maschka noted the current “elephant in the room,” which he attributed to the Dale Street Project, which fortunately remained successful. As part of the HRA’s upcoming discussion at the strategic planning meeting, Chair Maschka noted the need to openly and honestly discuss what went wrong with that process, its timeline and missing metrics in performing due diligence. Chair Maschka noted that the way the project had been removed from the HRA’s auspices had been very disconcerting, and recognized that the City Council had come close to a mass resignation of acting Commissioners serving on the HRA, creating various and unfortunate communication issues and misperceptions.

As a result, Chair Maschka questioned what the ongoing HRA role and use of their full authority was from the perspective of the City Council, whether it should remain fully functioning or become a non-essential entity. If the City Council was uncomfortable with the statutory authority of the HRA and levy ability, which seemed to be creating some tension, Chair Maschka suggested the City Council may wish to fill that role itself rather than second-guessing the efforts of the HRA. By its very nature, Chair Maschka noted that the HRA filled in where the private market place didn’t work.

Chair Maschka noted another area of concern was in the role of the HRA’s Executive Director and current status as a City of Roseville employee while the HRA paid the entire salary for the position without having any say or input in as-

West St. Paul considers redeveloping city-owned Thompson Oaks Golf Course

West St. Paul is looking at other options for its golf course as it tries to revitalize Robert Street.

By [Jessie Van Berkel](#) Star Tribune

JULY 1, 2015 — 11:14PM



RICHARD TSONG-TAATARII

at the Thompson Oaks Golf Course in West St. Paul, Harriet Anderson, 75, left, was “blessed” by playing partner Pat Tiller, 90, after Anderson sank a putt.

As golfers teed off at Thompson Oaks Golf Course on a recent sunny afternoon, West St. Paul City Council members a couple blocks away discussed a plan for the busy Robert Street corridor that could include transforming the municipal course. Into what? They’re not yet certain.

The closure and redevelopment of golf courses is a well-documented trend. Twenty-eight courses have closed in Minnesota over the past decade, according to the Minnesota Golf Association. Thompson Oaks faces the usual problems — financial struggles, a lack of interest among young people and too much competition — but its closure would be a fairly unusual move.

Only two of the 28 courses that closed were municipally owned, according to Minnesota Golf Association data. One of those, in Edina, remained parkland.

West St. Paul is taking soil borings at the course this summer to help determine what could be built on the site, and how much it would cost. While the city doesn't yet know what it will do with the property, selling the rare swath of open land to developers is among the options.

Council Member John Bellows said the city is still “doing our homework” but he would like to see mixed-use development. Mayor Dave Meisinger said he wants senior housing. Both men said the lake on the site should be incorporated into any project.



The golf course, prime open property in West St. Paul, could be repurposed, and the city is waiting for soil tests before moving ahead.

“It’s not even worth kicking the can around,” Council Member Ed Iago said, until the city knows about the quality of the soil and any potential contamination.

West St. Paul officials are zeroing in on a few key areas along Robert Street as they try to revitalize the lackluster commercial corridor.

The city is in the midst of a controversial \$41.9 million reconstruction of 2½ miles of the roadway. Redeveloping the land around it to keep and attract residents and business is the next step.

The nine-hole Thompson Oaks course is in one of those key areas called Town Center. It includes the golf course, a nearby YMCA, library and

other properties along Robert Street. The River to River Greenway trail eventually will run through the area.

The golf course is one of many moving pieces in the Robert Street plan, Andrew Dresdner, a senior associate with the Cunningham Group, told council members Tuesday. The group is contracting with the city to update the plan.

“What is the future of golf in the region?” Dresdner asked. “Is it going to remain a golf course?”

Thompson Oaks has seen a drop-off in use. People played 5,053 fewer rounds of golf there in 2014 than they did in 2005, according to course income statements. Over the past 10 years, West St. Paul has subsidized course use at an average rate of \$7 per round, the statements show.

But it is not as bad off as other city-owned courses in Minnesota, according to state auditor’s office data on municipal golf course enterprise funds. Thompson Oaks ended the 2013 budget year with a deficit of \$23,993. The median course had a loss of \$80,440.



At the Thompson Oaks Golf Course in West St. Paul, Pat Tiller, 90, walks toward the practice green to warm up. This site might be one of the few municipal golf courses that could be repurposed as a possible town center

‘Political hot potato’

The city has not met with community members on the golf course’s future yet, because “there would be more questions than answers,” Meisinger said. Officials will provide information to residents throughout the process, Bellows said.

“Repurposing the golf course would be a significant community issue. Communication will be critical with the current golfing community, surrounding residential and business property owners, and the general public,” staff wrote in an April memo to the City Council.

In other cities, people have formed nonprofits to lobby cities to save golf courses. Eagan City Council members even received a death threat from an angry citizen over the vote to allow development at the Parkview Golf Club, which was a privately owned course.

“It’s hard to make everyone happy in these types of situations,” said Ann Kattreh, Edina’s parks and recreation director. Edina closed its municipal Fred Richards Golf Course last year and is turning it into a park.

Municipal golf courses “can be a political hot potato because they are precious,” Minnesota Golf Association spokesman Warren Ryan said. And the future of such courses is not always based on financial statements, he said.

“It’s not just about whether they’re making money or not,” Ryan said. “It’s about what sort of services they provide their users.”

Keller Golf Course in Maplewood sees revenues jump since renovation

By Sarah Horner
shorner@pioneerpress.com

POSTED: 07/16/2015 12:01:00 AM CDT | UPDATED: ABOUT 13 HOURS AGO



The new clubhouse at Keller Golf Course was part of a \$12.2 million renovation of the Maplewood course and its facilities. (Pioneer Press: Ben Garvin)

Golfers are swarming Keller Golf Course since it reopened last summer, and Ramsey County has the numbers to prove it.

Revenues have shot up about \$400,000 since the Maplewood course first debuted the results of its costly two-year makeover last July, according to county staff. Meanwhile, the new and improved course has earned two awards from national golf publications.

"From the day we (reopened), we've been booked from dawn to dusk every day.... We had to close early last year because the course was getting loved to death," said Jon Oyanagi, Ramsey County's director of parks and recreation. "People are just really excited to get out there and see the new course."

Renovations cost taxpayers about \$12.2 million. About \$4 million went toward rebuilding all of the 86-year-old course's greens, including reseeding all of its grass and adding new drainage and irrigation systems.

The project's architect, Richard Mandell, preserved the course's unique layout.

The rest of the money paid for a new clubhouse, pro shop and parking lots.

Despite raising fees, the county has sold about 32,000 green fees for the course since reopening July 19, helping the course bring in about \$1.3 million over the last year, according to Mark VanGerpen, a spokesperson for Ramsey County's parks and recreation department.

By comparison, it brought in about \$920,000 in 2009. Revenues had fallen to about \$820,000 at the aging course by the end of 2012, just before it closed for renovations.

The overhaul's impact on the course's bottom line helped earn it Golf Inc.'s Renovation of the Year award in the California-based magazine's July/August edition.

Twenty-two courses -- most from within the United States -- were entered in the decade-old competition and the publication gave nods to the 2014 projects that "transformed aging courses, making them more playable, eye-catching and efficient," according to the digital and print magazine's article announcing this year's winners.



Members of the Keller Women's Golf Club discuss aspects of the newly renovated Keller Golf Course in Maplewood on Tuesday, July 15, 2014. President Jan Sherman, left, past president JoAnn Hernandez and past president Maureen Murphy, all of Little Canada, drove the course as a dry run for tours they'll be offering during "grand reopening" festivities taking place this week. (Pioneer Press: Dave Orrick)

Keller, which is owned and operated by Ramsey County, beat out courses in Thailand, Florida and Indonesia to earn the magazine's top honors among public golf courses. Los Angeles' Brentwood Country Club won in the private course category.

"There was a lot done with a fairly decent amount of capital, but at the same time, they were on a budget and the judges were just very impressed that the architect was able to go so far with this budget," said Laura Martin, the associate editor of Cypress Magazines, which publishes Golf Inc.

She added that Mandell's design really helped "unify the course."

"One judge described everything as having a meaning and a purpose ... I thought that was a nice way to sum it up," Martin said.

Golf Magazine also recognized Keller as having the "Best U.S. Municipal Renovation of 2014," back in January, according to county staff.

"We knew this was a special project, and it's really had tremendous results, so it's nice to get that validation from national publications," Oyanagi said.

Acknowledging that the course's honeymoon period likely won't last forever, Oyanagi said he thinks the course will still sustain its increased revenues into the future.

"There are just so many holes that you find yourself standing there, saying, 'Wow.' I think that will keep people coming back," Oyanagi said.

The Keller course is by far the most popular of the five operated by the county, with the others yielding less than \$1 million a year in revenue, Oyanagi said.

Sarah Horner can be reached at 651-228-5539. Follow her at twitter.com/hornsarah.

Footgolf growing in popularity in Twin Cities

The sport marries golf and soccer and appeals to families and players of all skill levels.

By [LIZ ROLFSMEIER](#)

JULY 15, 2015 — 10:55AM



LIZ ROLFSMEIER, SPECIAL TO THE STAR TRIBUNE In a round of footgolf at Inver Wood Golf Course in Inver Grove Heights, Elliott Gonsioroski kicked the ball just shy of the cup as Sam Nord watched.

Minnesota's first footgolf course opened in April 2014. Now, less than two years later, there are 21 courses operating statewide, according to Maciek Gralinski, the founder of FootGolf Minnesota.

The game's rules mirror those of golf, except that players kick a regulation soccer ball into a 21-inch hole. Courses install the cups off the greens, and to protect the courses, soccer cleats aren't allowed.

Elliott Gonsioroski, of Inver Grove Heights, playing recently at the Inver Wood Golf Course, said he found the sport "a lot less mentally demanding" than golf. Gonsioroski played for the first time at the Bloomington course last spring.

"It was just really, really fun," he said. "Soccer is a flat surface. This is just all kinds of levels. Sometimes, the ball goes nowhere near [where] you thought it would go."

Gralinski, who has consulted on the design for about half the courses in the state, cited various reasons for its growth.

Courses like that it brings in extra revenue without many start-up costs or much additional maintenance. Players, he said, like that it appeals to all skill levels.



Anders Otness, 11, of Rosemount, teed off in a game of footgolf at Inver Wood Golf Course in Inver Grove Heights.

“You don’t need to be a soccer player to kick the ball,” he said.

Julie Watrud, co-owner and manager of the Apple Valley Golf Course, said they installed their nine-hole foot golf course early this season after receiving calls from people who had played at other courses.

“It’s been so many families,” she said, adding that in some groups of players some will golf while others play footgolf alongside them.

The sport originated about 10 years ago in Europe, and according to Gralinski, the inventor is up for debate. Word has it that a retired soccer player went to golf courses and kicked the ball to the greens. “As long as the ball touched the flag, that was in the hole,” he said. “It kind of took off all over.”

When, in 2012, the first official footgolf world cup was held in Hungary, there were five or six courses in the United States. At last count, he said, there are 421 footgolf courses nationwide.

The sport is good news for golf courses that have struggled to attract players in recent years. According to Warren Ryan, communications director of the Minnesota Golf Association, numbers of golfers have been down for years. In 2005, he said, there were 30 million golfers, and in 2013, he said, that had plummeted to 24.7 million golfers.

Ryan and club managers attribute the decline to the economy, a generational shift in interests and dual-income families having less time.

Ryan said the common saying in the industry is that golf “takes too long, costs too much, and it’s too hard.”



Anders Otness, 11, of Rosemount, kicked his ball into the cup during a round of footgolf at Inver Wood Golf Course in Inver Grove Heights.

Helping keep numbers up

Inver Wood Golf Course manager Matt Moynihan said golfing numbers have been down since 2001. Now, his course gets about 50 people per week playing footgolf, which helps.

Sloan Wallgren of the Mendota Heights Par 3 said it installed the footgolf course last year right after Labor Day, and the course has had an additional 1,500 customers this season since mid-May, due to the sport.

“And they’re buying pop and candy bars, so it’s really helping increase our revenue this year,” he said.

Footgolf typically plays a little faster than golf, which can mean that footgolfers often need to play through regular golfers.

Some courses set aside special hours, like Inver Grove Heights, where footgolfers play from noon to 5 p.m. on weekdays, slower times for golfers. In Mendota Heights, footgolf is off limits on most weekdays due to golf leagues.

However, most courses intermingle the two sports, said Gralinski, which has caused some friction.

“The major issue where there’s problems is people who are new to this, meaning the footgolfers, and they don’t know the rules and etiquette of golf,” said Gralinski.

Jesse VanRiper, head pro at Majestic Oaks Golf Course in Andover, where they’ve had about 675 rounds of footgolf played this season, said they now talk etiquette to everyone who signs up for a tee time. Now on their second season, he said, they are considering doing leagues next year.

An entry point to golf?

At Brookland Golf Park in Brooklyn Park, course manager John Lindman said they have had about 190 total footgolfers this year. They tried to launch a league night this June and didn’t have enough interest but will try again starting in August.

Lindman said he hopes the sport encourages young people to eventually pick up a golf club. “It’s a nice avenue for people,” he said, “kind of an entry point.”

Warren said he’s a bit skeptical about that. “They are similar,” he said, “but they are pretty different.”

“I don’t know if it will be a fad or a trend that continues,” he said.

Still, some courses have already rebranded themselves.

“We’re a dual-purpose course,” said Watrud. “We’re not just a golf course.”

Liz Rolfsmeier is a Twin Cities freelance writer and photographer.

holstj

JUL. 15, 15

9:15 AM

"I tell ya, golf courses and cemeteries are the biggest wastes of prime real estate"

- Al Czervik

UMD1983
JUL. 15, 15
8:01 AM

If it gets people off the couch and doing something active, great! It's not going to be the end of golf any more than snowboarding was the end of skiing.

ronpat
JUL. 14, 15
7:19 PM
Duh.

holmes66
JUL. 14, 15
6:42 PM

What an insult to golf, the greatest game. This thing was invented by desperate golf course operators looking for revenue via gimmicks.

macrosteles
JUL. 14, 15
7:13 PM

@holmes66 Golf courses are dying for revenue. Either the "greatest game" needs to change or you have to accept that other activities that produce revenue are needed to subsidize the "greatest game". Personally I'd like to see conventional golf try some things out - several courses I know of have used 15 inch holes upon occasion to get beginners started. Some will be experimenting with other hole sizes to speed things up.

holmes66
JUL. 15, 15
7:36 AM

@macrosteles @holmes66 Golf does not need to change. If you need a 15 inch hole, you need a different hobby. You must be a terrible player to say something like that. Golf will always have beginners who struggle and learn the game. The game does not need gimmicks to grow. The only problem is too many courses. The game itself is fine.

kajoigh
JUL. 15, 15
11:07 AM

@holmes66 @macrosteles I agree with both of you! For the serious golfer - leave the game alone. However golf courses can serve multiple purposes, thus generating add'l revenues. I used to host the "2-club Turmoil" tournament each year. A gimmick golf tournament with goofy golf challenges on every hole. Golfers and non-golfers LOVED this tournament. It also generated good revenue for the course. So I vote for keeping the regular game as is, but expand your creativity for revenue generation. Without it, we will eventually lose more courses.

ROSEVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
2015 ANNUAL CALENDAR

<u>Day/Month</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Tuesday, January 6	6:30 p.m.	Regular Meeting – City Hall
Tuesday, February 3	6:30 p.m.	Regular Meeting -City Hall
Tuesday, March 3	6:30 p.m.	Regular Meeting -City Hall
Tuesday, April 7	6:30 p.m.	Regular Meeting -City Hall
Tuesday, May 5	6:30 p.m.	Regular Meeting -City Hall
Tuesday, June 2	6:30 p.m.	Regular Meeting –City Hall
Monday, June 15	6:00 p.m.	Joint Comm./City Council Meeting
JULY		NO MEETING
Tuesday, August 4	8:00 p.m.	Regular Meeting-City Hall
Tuesday, September 1	6:30 p.m.	Regular Meeting-City Hall
Tuesday, October 6	6:30 p.m.	Regular Meeting -City Hall
Thursday, November 5 th	6:30 p.m.	Regular Meeting-City Hall
Alternate date because of general Election for Roseville Schools is on Tuesday, November 3		
Tuesday, December 1	6:30 p.m.	Regular Meeting -City Hall

CITY OF ROSEVILLE
PARKS AND RECREATION RENEWAL PROGRAM
PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT
July 30, 2015

PROJECT NAME	START DATE	STATUS	COMMENTS
A. BUILDING REPLACEMENT/SITE			
Lexington Park	5/2014	100 % complete	Open House completed- Punch list items remaining and spring site work
Sandcastle Park	6/2014	100 % complete	Open House completed- Punch list items remaining and spring site work
Villa Park	6/2015	100 % complete	Open House completed January 28, 2015 –punch list items and spring site work
Autumn Grove Park	9/ 2014	100 % complete,	Open House completed March 25, 2015 – punch list items and spring site work
Oasis Park	9/ 2014	100 % complete	Open House completed April 23, 2015 – punch list items and spring site work
Rosebrook Park	9/ 2014	100 % complete	Open House completed April 22, 2015 – punch list items and spring site work
B. SHELTER REMODEL			
CP FOR Parks – DALE STREET	9/2014	100% complete	Spring completion planned
CP Foundation - WEST	9/2014	100% complete	Spring completion planned
CP Ballfields	9/2014	100% complete	Spring completion planned
C. SKATING CENTER REPAIRS			
Painting of Exterior	8/2014	100 % complete	
Replace exterior doors on Arena		100% complete	
Block Work			2015 project
Vestibule Improvements			2015 project
D. HANC			

PROJECT NAME	START DATE	STATUS	COMMENTS
Exterior Work	6/2014	100 % complete	Punch list items only
Interior Work	11/2014	100 % complete	Open House completed March 26, 2015 – punch list items only
Boardwalk	11/2014	100 % complete	Installation complete – now adjusting
E. BRIDGE REPLACEMENT			
Villa Park	7/2014	100 % complete	3 bridges installed April, 2015
F. LIGHTING SYSTEMS REPLACEMENT			
Lake Bennett Trail	6/2014	100% complete	
Courts in conjunction w/ project			See courts
Autumn Grove Park rink lights		100% complete	Install fall 2014
Lexington Park rink lights		100% complete	Install fall 2014
Villa Park rink lights		100% complete	Install fall 2014
Sandcastle Park rink lights			Install fall 2014
G. COURT REFURBISHMENT/SITE			
Acorn Park	2015		Resurface only
Autumn Grove Park	2015		To be started soon
Bruce Russell Park	9/2014	100 % complete	Complete and playable, color coat to be done in spring 2015
Evergreen Park	9/2014	100 % complete	Complete and playable, color coat to be done in spring 2015
Howard Johnson Tennis Court	7/2014	100 % Complete	Complete and playable, color coat to be done in spring 2015
Pocahontas Park Tennis Court	7/2014	100 % Complete	Complete and playable, color coat to be done in spring 2015
Sandcastle Park	2015		
H. FIELD IMPROVEMENTS			
CP Victoria #2, 4, 5, & 6	8/ 2014	100 % complete	Complete and playing leagues – punch list items remaining
CP Victoria #1 & 3			2015 fall project
Evergreen Park # 1, 2 (west)	4/2015		2015 project – well underway
Evergreen Park # 3,4	8/2015		2015 project –fall project
CP Legion			2015 project –fall project

PROJECT NAME	START DATE	STATUS	COMMENTS
I. IRRIGATION IMPROVEMENTS			
Acorn Park			Contractor approval 1/26/15
Autumn Grove Park			Was alternate—is not planned
CP Dale Street			Contractor approval 1/26/15
CP Lexington			Contractor approval 1/26/15
CP Victoria			Started with in house staff
Evergreen Park			Contractor approval 1/26/15
Langton Lake Park			Contractor approval 1/26/15
Lexington Park			Started with in house staff
Rosebrook Park			Contractor approval 1/26/15
J. NATURAL RESOURCES			
Grants			\$ in grants applied for 1-26-15 awarded and approved \$146,376
1. Interpretive Signage			
All Parks		Core Project	
2. Lake Restoration			
CP Lexington		Grant Approach	
3. Native Landscaping			
Autumn Grove		Grant Approach	
4. Pond Buffer Restoration			
Keller Mayflower Park		Grant Approach	
Howard Johnson Park		Grant Approach	
5. Prairie Reconstruction			
CP Dale Street East		Core Project	
Acorn Park		Core Project	
6. Prairie/Savanna Restoration			
Reservoir Woods		Core Project	
Applewood Overlook		Grant Approach	
7. Shoreline Restoration			
CP Lexington		Core Project	
Langton Lake Park		Core Project	
Reservoir Woods		Grant Approach	
Oasis Park		Core Project	
Willow Pond Park		Core Project	
8. Stream Restoration			

PROJECT NAME	START DATE	STATUS	COMMENTS
Oasis Park		Grant Approach	
9. Water Quality Improvements			
CP Dale East		Grant Approach	
10. Wetland Restoration			
CP Dale East		Grant Approach	
CP North		Grant Approach	
CP Victoria East		Grant Approach	
Langton Lake Park		Core Project	
Reservoir Woods Parks		Core Project	
Villa Park		Core Project	
Ladyslipper Park		Core Project	
Acorn Park		Grant Approach	
Willow Pond Park		Grant Approach	
Owasso Hills Park		Grant Approach	
Pocahontas Park		Grant Approach	
Valley Park		Grant Approach	
11. Woodland/Forest Restoration			
CP Dale East		Core Project	HANC project 2-21-15
CP Lexington		Core Project	
CP North		Grant Approach	
CP Victoria East		Grant Approach	
Langton Lake Park		Grant Approach	
Reservoir Woods Park		Core Project	
Villa Park	9/29/14	Core Project	
Ladyslipper Park		Grant Approach	
Oasis Park		Grant Approach	Volunteer effort only at this point
Acorn Park		Core Project	
Applewood Park		Grant Approach	
Willow Pond Park		Grant Approach	Volunteer effort at this point
Materion Park		Grant Approach	
Cottontail Park		Grant Approach	
Pioneer Park		Grant Approach	
Pocahontas Park		Grant Approach	
Valley Park		Grant Approach	
Tamarack Park		Grant Approach	
Rosebrook Park		Grant Approach	
Autumn Grove Park		Grant Approach	
Woodhill Park		Grant Approach	
Evergreen Park		Grant Approach	
Owasso Hills Park		Grant Approach	
K. DISC GOLF COURSE			
Improvements	Fall 2014	90 % complete	2014 & 2015 project

PROJECT NAME	START DATE	STATUS	COMMENTS
			Design complete Marking course Equipment ordered
L. PATHWAYS/SIDEWALKS			
County B2 and Victoria		100% complete- restoration to be finished in spring	10/2014 completion - 4 benches installed - Punch list items
County B		100% complete	10/2014 completion
VARIOUS PARKS			
Pocahontas Park		100% complete	10/2014 completion
Howard Johnson Park		100% complete	10/2014 completion
Langton Lake Park		100 % complete	
Upper Villa Park			2015 project
Mapleview Park			2015 project
Evergreen Park			2015 project
M. PLAYGROUNDS			Community build emphasis
Acorn Park	Fall 2014	100% complete	Community Build 10/25/2014
Bruce Russell Park			2015 project – Community Build complete
CP Lexington			2015 project – Community Build Scheduled September 26
CP Victoria West			2015 project – Community Build scheduled September 26
CP Victoria East- Ballfields	Fall 2013	100 % complete	- Overhead netting
Howard Johnson Park	Spring 2014	100% complete	Community Build
Langton Lake Park at C2	Summer 2014	100% complete	
Langton Lake Park at Ballfields	Fall 2014	100 % complete	Community Build
Mapleview Park			2016 project
Materion Park	Spring 2014	Complete	Community Build
Oasis Park			2015 project –playground out- Community Build completed on May 30, 2015
			2016 project-

PROJECT NAME	START DATE	STATUS	COMMENTS
Tamarack Park			neighborhood discussions to occur prior
Upper Villa Park			2016 project
N. PROPERTY ACQUISITION			
Hamline and Lydia – Moundsview property		Closing occurred 1/21/15	Will be capping wells and reviewing landscape work to be done to make it usable
SW Roseville			Need to identify property and/or improvements

Green- project underway

Orange – prep work being done

Red- not started

Purple - complete – with punch list items

TBC= To Be Completed

REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Date: 7/20/2015
Item No.:

Department Approval

City Manager Approval



Item Description: Park Building Use Report

BACKGROUND

This park building use report is at the request of the City Council in order to provide an update on the first six months of use and operations of the six Roseville Park Buildings.

In the first six months, these buildings have served as gathering spaces to celebrate birthdays, weddings, showers, retirements & going away parties, as well as, memorial services, business retreats, professional meetings, recreation programs & community information sessions.

The electronic door access system has allowed the foyer area of the buildings to be open during daytime hours for public use of the restrooms and drinking fountains. This has been a very popular feature in all park areas. By observation, overall use of the Park and Recreation system appears to be up as a result of the recent improvements.

Lexington Park opened to the community on December 16, 2014, Sandcastle opened the following day. Villa Park opened on January 28, Autumn Grove opened March 25, and Rosebrook and Oasis Parks opened April 22 & 23 respectively. All six buildings were open within eleven months of the start of construction.

Building Use Occasions:

	January – June 2015	July - December 2015	2015
Community Engagement	18	2	20
City Functions	102	74	176
Rentals	70	39	109
Total Usage	190	115	305

- *Community Engagement includes non-pay events by community organizations. These are identified as open to all Roseville residents & directly serve the City of Roseville & its residents.*
- *City Functions include recreation programs and events, and City of Roseville meetings and/or functions. These are non-pay events.*
- *Rentals include pay events. These uses are by Roseville residents and non-residents. The 2015 fee schedule is included as an attachment.*

The park buildings at Autumn Grove, Lexington, Oasis, Rosebrook, Sandcastle and Villa Parks have been popular and have been met with overwhelming positive response & appreciation. 78% of the

rental usage has been by Roseville residents. Of the 22% non-resident use, many have a Roseville connection, i.e. former resident, attend schools in Roseville, hosting party for family living in Roseville.

Financial Information:

	Revenue	Expenses
2015 Adopted Budget	\$15,400	\$103,400
2015 Actuals (thru June)	\$14,010.61	\$28,294.10

- The attached spread sheet shows an example of the tracking of building revenues & expenses.
- At this point in the year, it appears the park building operations budget numbers are on track.

Expense types include;

- Part-time staffing: facility supervision during all scheduled facility reservations
- Operational supplies: cleaning materials, trash bags
- Utilities: HVAC and lighting costs
- Cable: Wi-Fi service
- Contracted custodial services

Operating these six park buildings requires heightened facility management that involves substantial staff time. Recreation staff spends, an average of 15-25 hours each week managing the maintenance and operations of the park building. This time is spent:

- Showing facilities and communicating with community groups and rental parties on availability, fee structure, rental provisions and services provided.
- Processing reservation payments & paperwork.
- Managing part-time staff, scheduling staff, processing payroll.
- Inspecting facilities for maintenance needs.
- Coordinating custodial services & maintenance needs

In addition, the high level of use has required Park Maintenance staff to perform regular tasks to help prepare and maintain the sites.

POLICY OBJECTIVE

To provide a report on the park building operations.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS

None at this time.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Open discussion on the first six months of the park building operations.

REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION

Hear report and discuss park building operations.

Prepared by: Jill Anfang, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation

Attachments:

- A) Park Building Usage Report
- B) Park Building Financial Summary
 - a. Lexington Park Building Financial Detail Example
- C) Park Building Fee Schedule

Park Building Use Report
December 2014 - December 2015

	Autumn Grove	Lexington	Oasis	Rosebrook	Sandcastle	Villa	
December '14							
Rental							
Comm. Eng.							
City Funct.		12			9		21
January '15							
Rental		1				2	3
Comm. Eng.		2				1	3
City Funct.		29			12	12	53
February '15							
Rental		6					6
Comm. Eng.		2				1	3
City Funct.		26			12	12	50
March '15							
Rental	1	9				2	12
Comm. Eng.	1					1	2
City Funct.	5	6			5		16
April '15							
Rental	1	6			1	2	10
Comm. Eng.			3	1			4
City Funct.	8	2					10
May '15							
Rental	7	11	1	1		1	21
Comm. Eng.		1	1				2
City Funct.	5						5
June '15							
Rental	2	13	4	7	1	3	30
Comm. Eng.		3				1	4
City Funct.	13	8	8	8	8	8	53
July '15							
Rental		10	1	7	2	1	21
Comm. Eng.	1	1	1	1		1	5
City Funct.	23	18	20	20	8	15	104
August '15							
Rental		3	5	2		1	11
Comm. Eng.		1		1	1		3
City Funct.	21	4	12	15		8	60
September '15							
Rental	2	3					5
Comm. Eng.		1					1
City Funct.	22	6	6	5	5	5	49
October '15							
Rental	1						1
Comm. Eng.		1					1
City Funct.	10		1				11
November '15							
Rental							0
Comm. Eng.							0
City Funct.	8		6				14
December '15							
Rental							
Comm. Eng.							
City Funct.							

City of Roseville, Minnesota
Parks & Rec. - Buildings Summary
Fiscal Year 2015

BUILDING		January	Febuary	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTAL 2015
INCOME	Autumn Grove	-	289.38	539.72	379.69	317.39	651.01	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,177.19
	Rosebrook	-	-	200.70	459.87	567.38	538.04	168.03	-	-	-	-	-	1,934.02
	Villa	112.01	252.04	327.36	366.04	267.39	226.37	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,551.21
	Lexington	346.67	1,204.85	438.74	1,551.45	931.41	715.35	224.04	-	-	-	-	-	5,412.51
	Sandcastle	-	140.02	107.35	130.69	223.28	60.68	-	-	-	-	-	-	662.02
	Oasis	-	107.35	214.70	326.72	343.36	357.39	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,349.52
	Arboretum	-	135.36	205.37	308.03	275.38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	924.14
	TOTAL INCOME	458.68	2,129.00	2,033.94	3,522.49	2,925.59	2,548.84	392.07	-	-	-	-	-	14,010.61
EXPENDITURES														
	Autumn Grove	-	-	429.84	492.62	1,260.91	1,360.98	136.21	-	-	-	-	-	3,680.56
	Rosebrook	-	-	331.44	373.61	1,433.04	743.01	25.00	-	-	-	-	-	2,906.10
	Villa	-	535.21	2,608.03	431.52	1,322.36	748.05	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,645.17
	Lexington	-	624.10	1,959.85	650.99	1,131.51	1,146.37	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,512.82
	Sandcastle	-	850.63	2,121.47	494.93	1,197.01	809.90	102.95	-	-	-	-	-	5,576.89
	Oasis	-	-	31.25	435.69	2,075.80	485.66	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,028.40
	Arboretum	-	-	1,006.80	-	616.36	321.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,944.16
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	-	2,009.94	8,488.68	2,879.36	9,036.99	5,614.97	264.16	-	-	-	-	-	28,294.10
	INCOME OVER EXPENDITURES	458.68	119.06	(6,454.74)	643.13	(6,111.40)	(3,066.13)	127.91	-	-	-	-	-	(14,283.49)

City of Roseville, Minnesota
Parks & Rec. - Lexington Building
Fiscal Year 2015

ACCOUNTS		January	Febuary	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTAL 2015
INCOME														
				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
EXPENSE														
410000	Salaries - Regular													-
411000	Overtime Pay													-
412000	Temporary Employees		156.75	343.50	225.75	353.64	598.00							1,677.64
414000	Employer Pension		11.99	73.08	25.72	33.00	35.78							179.57
415000	Employer Insurance													-
422000	Clothing													-
424000	Operating Supplies		180.17	31.25	399.52	128.50								739.44
430000	Professional Services			1,006.80		616.37	321.22							1,944.39
431000	Telephone													-
436000	Utilities													-
	Cable		275.19	505.22			191.37							971.78
448000	Miscellaneous													-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		-	624.10	1,959.85	650.99	1,131.51	1,146.37	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,512.82
REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES		-	(624.10)	(1,959.85)	(650.99)	(1,131.51)	(1,146.37)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(5,512.82)

Community Facilities

Roseville has a many community facilities available to host meetings, small gatherings, weddings, picnics or gym activities. Info available online at cityofroseville.com/parks or from staff listed as facility use contacts. Facility rentals are popular, we recommend reserving well in advance.



Autumn Grove Park Building @ 1365 Lydia Avenue West

Park Building Rentals

Fabulous new park buildings have replaced the warming houses at Autumn Grove, Lexington, Oasis, Rosebrook, Sandcastle & Villa Parks. These buildings are available for community use & public rentals. While each facility is similar in many ways they each have features unique to the neighborhood park they call home.

Autumn Grove & Lexington Parks:

- **Gathering Room** with kitchenette, fireplace & video monitor, table seating for 48, theater seating for 60 & maximum capacity of 70.
- **Multi-purpose Room** with easy access to outdoor patio, table seating for 18, theater seating for 20 & maximum capacity of 25.

Rosebrook Park:

- **Gathering Room** with kitchenette, fireplace & video monitor, table seating for 40, theater seating for 55 & maximum capacity of 65.
- **Oasis, Sandcastle, Villa Parks:**
- **Gathering Room** with kitchenette, fireplace & video monitor, table seating for 32, theater seating for 40 & maximum capacity of 50.

For details or to make a reservation contact Jill at;
651-792-7102 or email at jill.anfang@cityofroseville.com

Facility Use Contacts

Brimhall & Central Park Community Gymnasiums
Rick - 651-792-7104

Cedarholm Golf Course & Clubhouse
Roxann - 651-792-7154

Central Park Picnic Shelters
Staff - 651-792-7006

Civic Center Campus Meeting Rooms
Kevin - 651-792-7122

Harriet Alexander Nature Center
Rick - 651-792-7104

Muriel Sahlin Arboretum
Lauren - 651-792-7106

Park Buildings @ Autumn Grove, Lexington, Oasis, Rosebrook, Sandcastle, Villa Parks
Kara - 651-792-7103

Roseville Skating Center Banquet & Meeting Rooms
Kevin - 651-792-7122

Roseville Skating Center Ice Rentals
Brad - 651-792-7121



Oasis Park Building @ 1700 West County Road C2

Park Building Rental Facilities	Rental Rate: Mon-Thurs thru October 2015		Resident Rate: Mon-Thurs thru October 2015		Rental Rate: Fri-Sun thru October 2015		Resident Rate: Fri-Sun thru October 2015		Additional Hours
Autumn Grove & Lexington Parks									
Entire Facility	\$175/5 hrs		\$125/5 hrs		\$195/5 hrs		\$150/5 hrs		\$25
Gathering Room	\$60/2 hrs	\$135/5 hrs	\$50/2 hrs	\$105/5 hrs	\$70/2 hrs	\$150/5 hrs	\$60/2 hrs	\$125/5 hrs	\$25
Multipurpose Room	\$40/2 hrs	\$95/5 hrs	\$30/2 hrs	\$75/5 hrs	\$50/2 hrs	\$100/5 hrs	\$40/2 hrs	\$75/5 hrs	\$25
Rosebrook Park									
Gathering Room	\$60/2 hrs	\$135/5 hrs	\$50/2 hrs	\$105/5 hrs	\$70/2 hrs	\$150/5 hrs	\$60/2 hrs	\$125/5 hrs	\$25
Oasis, Sandcastle & Villa Parks									
Gathering Room	\$50/2 hrs	\$115/5 hrs	\$40/2 hrs	\$90/5 hrs	\$60/2 hrs	\$135/5 hrs	\$50/2 hrs	\$115/5 hrs	\$25
Acorn Park									
Gathering Room	\$25/2 hrs	\$60/5 hrs	\$20/2 hrs	\$50/5 hrs	\$35/2 hrs	\$80/5 hrs	\$25/2 hrs	\$60/5 hrs	\$15

City of Roseville EAB Update

July 2015

In March of 2013 the headline read “Emerald Ash Borer has been confirmed in Roseville Minnesota”. The press release continued with “On March 13, 2013, emerald ash borer (EAB) was found in Roseville and then confirmed by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) a few days later. EAB is a serious invasive tree pest that attacks and kills ash trees. The adults are small, iridescent green beetles that live outside of trees during the summer months. The larvae are grub or worm-like and live underneath the bark of ash trees. Trees are killed by the tunneling of the larvae under the tree's bark.”

After the initial EAB find, the MDA conducted a late winter survey starting from the original EAB find, looking for sign of the insect on public and private ash trees. The survey work continued in a similar manner each of the next two years, 2014 and 2015.

This year, spring of 2015, the insect was found in a few new locations within the city. These finds have increased the EAB-Infestation Zone to almost the entire western half of Roseville starting at Lexington Ave. This means that most every ash tree, in the western half, is within one mile of a confirmed EAB-infested ash tree. See map XXXXXX.

The EAB-Infestation Zone, as defined by the MDA, is the area within one-mile of an infested tree. MDA uses a one mile radius based on the actions of the pest and how it spreads. The adult insect starts to emerge from the tree and fly during the summer months starting May 1 until Sept 1. The adult insect can fly several miles in one year but on average they will stay under one mile looking for a new, fresh tree to infest.

If you have an ash tree in your yard, you need know that it will become infested with EAB. You have three options: 1. treat the tree with a trunk injection of the pesticide emamectin benzoate which will kill the insect, 2. remove the tree entirely to eliminate the food source, or 3. wait until the tree has an infestation and then remove the tree between Sept 1 through May1. Best time of year to treat an ash tree is in the spring. Trunk injection treatments are recommended to be performed every two years for the life of the tree.

As the property owner, you will need to decide which option is best for you. We strongly encourage you to research the options now. Taking action is critical to the slowing the spread of the insect as well as reducing the economic impact on you and the community.

The City's Plan

The City of Roseville EAB Management Plan, using Best Management Practices for controlling emerald ash borer, requires that trees positively identified as being infested by EAB on public property be removed. Infested ash trees on public property will be removed by the city. Although some trees on public property that are considered to be in a significant location will be treated. The city is also planning to replant when and where possible.

In addition, the City's plan is similar for private property, allowing removal or treatment. However, if infested trees are found on private property and action is not taken by the property owner, the city will require that the tree be removed at the expense of the property owner.

All tree care companies who wish to trim or remove trees in the city must be licensed to work in the City of Roseville by the Department of Community Development.

For more information about EAB please review the MDA website at:

MDA website <http://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants/pestmanagement/eab.aspx> .

MnDNR website <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrials/eab/index.html>

University of Minnesota <http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/yard-garden>

Purdue University http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/EAB/pdf/NABB_DecisionGuide.pdf

If you have further questions you may contact Anita Twaroski, Forestry Coordinator, at 651-792-7142.

Sources:

INSECTICIDE OPTIONS FOR PROTECTING 4 ASH TREES FROM EMERALD ASH BORER

City Issues EAB Update

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), a serious invasive tree pest that attacks and kills ash trees, was confirmed in Roseville in March of 2013. Since then, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture has enacted a quarantine to help slow the spread of EAB to other areas. MDA is also conducting annual surveys to monitor the insect within the City.

The Spring 2015 survey revealed that the EAB has been found in a small number of new locations in Roseville. These additional locations, however, have increased the EAB-infestation zone. This increased infestation zone, defined by MDA as a one-mile radius around a confirmed EAB-infested ash tree, now includes most ash trees in the western half of the city, west of Lexington Ave.

The City has enacted a Best Management Practices plan for slowing and controlling EAB. The plan requires infested trees on public property be removed, though some trees on public property considered to be in a significant location are being treated. The City is also replacing removed elm trees with different species.

Property owners located within the infestation zone who own an ash tree are being warned that the tree will become infested with EAB. Taking action now is critical to slowing the spread of the insect as well as reducing the economic impact on residents and the community.

Options for combating the infestation include treating the tree with a trunk injection of the pesticide emamectin benzoate, which kills the insect; removing the tree; or waiting until the tree has an infestation and then removing the tree between Sept 1 and May 1.

The best time of year to treat an ash tree is in the spring. Trunk injection treatments are recommended to be performed every two years for the life of the tree.

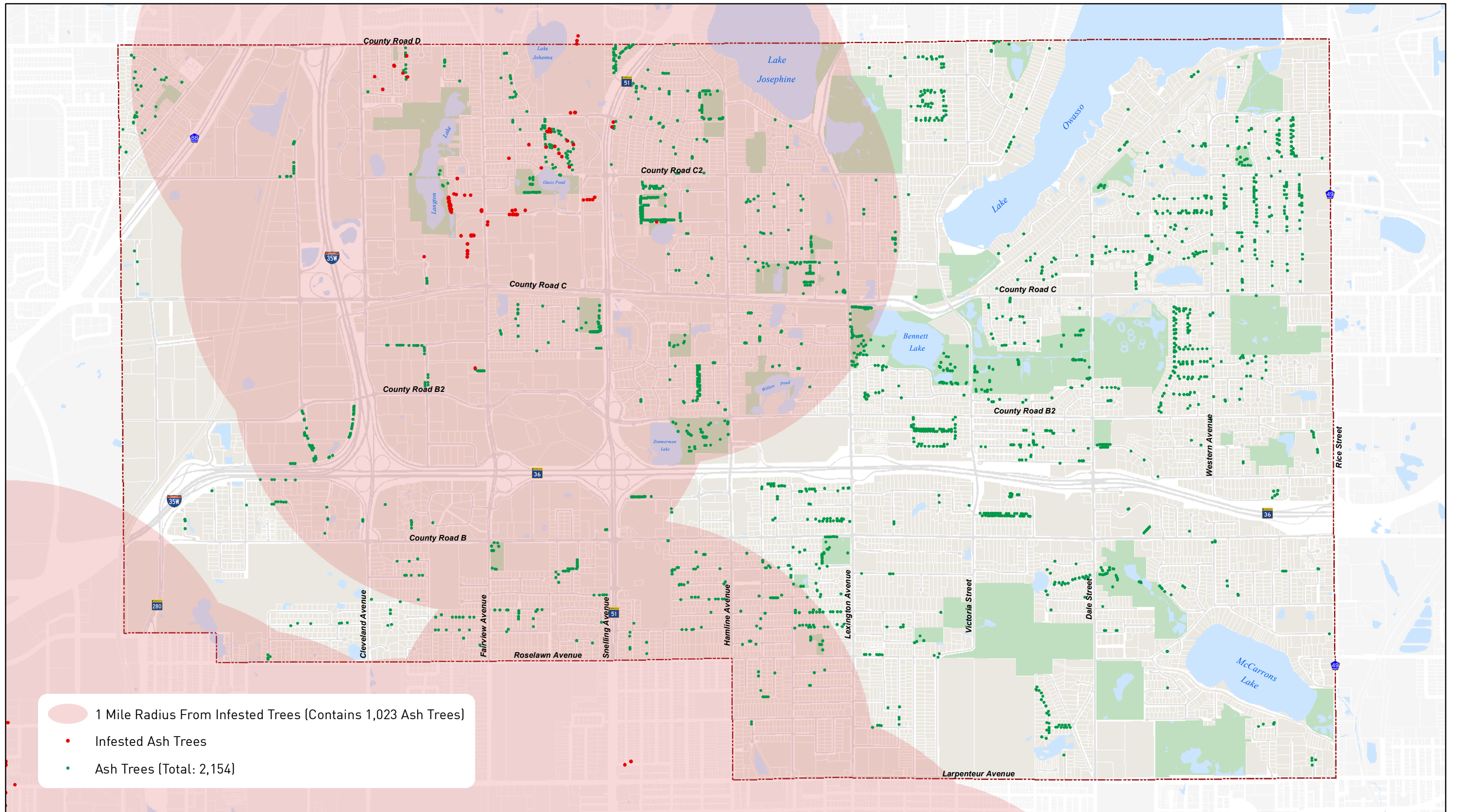
If an infested tree is found on private property and action is not taken by the property owner, the City will require the tree be removed at the expense of the property owner.

All tree care companies that trim or remove trees in the City of Roseville must be licensed. A list of licensed tree contractors can be found at www.cityofroseville.com/2720/Licensed-Tree-Contractors.

For more information about EAB in Roseville, please contact Forestry Coordinator Anita Twaroski at 651-792-7142. A map detailing the infestation zone in Roseville is located at www.cityofroseville.com/EABmap.

Additional EAB information and resources can also be found at:

- Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture: <http://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants/pestmanagement/eab.aspx>
- Minnesota DNR: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrials/eab/index.html>
- University of Minnesota: <http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/yard-garden>
- Purdue University: http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/EAB/pdf/NABB_DecisionGuide.pdf



Emerald Ash Borer Infestation Zone

Source
Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture



Prepared By:
Community Development
June 2015



Minnesota's monster trees and those who hunt them

They're abundant and where you'd least expect them; hunters wanted.

By [Tori J. McCormick](#)

MAY 25, 2015 — 8:55PM



Richard Tsong-Taatarii rtsong-taatarii@startribune.com

Big-tree hunter Riley Smith tracked down the state's biggest butternut tree in a Roseville park.

Riley Smith is a big-tree hunter. A documenter of what he calls the silent witnesses of history.

The Plymouth college student will log hundreds of miles this summer on foot, in a canoe and behind the wheel, trying to give voice to the state's largest native tree species. His summer travels could take Smith — armed with two range finders, a 100-foot tape measure, a GPS and assorted other gear — to a green space near a suburban strip mall or the remote reaches of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. His goal: hunt, find and measure a record big tree and have it placed on the state's Big Tree Registry.

"I've always been fascinated by trees. They live in one place, sometimes for centuries. They watch as generation after generation pass by and as communities grow and change around them," said Smith, 18, an urban forestry major at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. "That intrigues me. Being a big-tree hunter allows me to be a part of Minnesota's evolving natural history. That intrigues me, too."

This month, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources relaunched its Big Tree Registry program. The registry began in 1962. It was mothballed two years ago, owing to a lack of resources. "We just didn't have the staff to administer the program and not enough foresters to verify measurements," said Jennifer Teegarden, DNR forestry outreach specialist. "We now have a staff member to administer the program and an increase in the division of forestry's general funds allowed us to hire more foresters."

The program's overriding goal, Teegarden said, is to enlist as many Riley Smiths as possible to document the state's biggest trees. Her hope is the emphasis will encourage a greater appreciation for trees and their environment. Minnesota has 52 native tree species scattered across the state. A "big tree" nominee is judged on a scoring formula of three measurements: circumference, height and crown spread. An application must be filled out to nominate a tree for the registry; a DNR forester verifies nominees.

“Trees are an important part of Minnesota and its history,” Teegarden said. “The large pines and hardwoods brought pioneers to Minnesota. Although most of the large trees in Minnesota were cut down in the late 1800s and 1900s, some big trees survived. So it’s a rare opportunity to see one of the state’s largest native trees.”

Minnesota’s monsters

Four of the state’s biggest trees by species, according to Minnesota Department of Natural Resources criteria:

Eastern White Pine

214 inches • 103 feet • 84 feet

(Circumference • height • crown)

Where: Public land, Fillmore County

Red Pine (aka Norway Pine)

115 inches • 120 feet • 38 feet

Where: Public land, Itasca County

Eastern Cottonwood

*394 inches • 106 feet • 110 feet

Where: Public land, Chippewa County

Bur Oak

278 inches • 68 feet • 80 feet

Where: Private land, Olmstead County

*Highest score (528) of any native tree species

Source: Minnesota DNR

National champions

The conservation organization American Forests puts out an annual list of “champion trees.” In April it announced the 2015 roster, which had 37 new national champion and co-champion trees. There are 781 champions listed in the national registry. Conversely, there are more than 200 species without a national champion.

2015 highlights

Most champions:

Florida 133

Texas 86

Virginia 70

Arizona 69

California 53

- California has the highest number of dethroned champions, but also the most new champions and co-champions.
- Most points: A giant sequoia in California earned 1,321 points. That’s 274 feet tall, with a circumference of 1,020 inches and crown spread of 107 feet.

More info: There is a searchable tree database at: americanforests.org/bigtrees.

Teegarden said the program also helps the public with tree identification and measuring. “The program celebrates our natural resources, and the best part about it is that anyone can do it,” said Teegarden. “I’ve always had a passion for trees, particularly caring for urban trees. From the time I could climb, I was in a tree. So I believe it’s important to expose children at a young age to nature and trees to develop future natural resource stewards.”

Early questions

Smith started hunting and measuring trees when he was in eighth grade, but his fascination started much earlier. He said his parents tell stories about a curious youngster worried about trees. “There was the time when I was 3 or 4 when my parents came outside and found me crying,” said Smith. “Apparently, I was crying because the neighbors were cutting down their trees.”

On trips to the Boundary Waters as a boy, Smith said, he would ask his father countless questions about trees. About how big and old they could get. About blow downs. About fire and its effect on forests. “My interest in trees was always there,” Smith said. “I’ve always asked a lot of questions.”

As a forestry student, he can now answer his own questions. For example, what makes a big tree? “It all depends on the species, of course, but it comes down to the big factors of nutrients, sunlight, soil, water, competition for those things, and weather and outside influences,” Smith said. “A sugar maple, for instance, can spend the majority of its life in the understory before growing into the canopy. A red cedar, on the other hand, is intolerant of shade. It just all depends.”

Smith said he registered his first tree with the DNR in 2010 — a black willow found in Brooklyn Park. It measured roughly 18 feet in circumference. “It wasn’t in some pristine woodland. ... I found it about 30 feet from a parking lot in an incredibly polluted wetland,” said Smith, adding that his largest tree also is a black willow with a girth of 26 feet. He found it in Elm Creek Park Reserve in Maple Grove. “There was a learning curve for me early on because I was learning the species as I went along and got some wrong originally. It takes time. The great thing about hunting big trees is that you can find one anywhere. You can stumble on a huge tree at a shopping center.”

Smith’s favorite tree is the tamarack, which he says is the only deciduous conifer native to Minnesota. Minnesota is also home to the nation’s largest tamarack, found in 2004 on private land in Crow Wing County. It’s 71 feet tall, with a 133-inch circumference and a 60-foot crown spread. “There are so many features to the species,” he said. “They’re absolutely beautiful in the fall ... and one of its natural habitats — peat bog — is almost alien in nature because it’s so different from any other ecosystem.”

“Sense of wonder”

When Smith finishes college, his career goal isn’t so surprising. “My perfect job would probably be something like a city forester or possibly a forester for an urban park district,” he said. “I like the idea of managing the city forest for a community.”

In his spare time, he’ll be hunting for a tree that makes Minnesota’s Big Tree Registry.

“There is definitely a sense of awe and wonder for me, especially if the tree or woods is really special,” he said. “Part of the reason is because something so massive as a big tree commands respect. When you stretch your neck and look left and right but still cannot see the whole tree, it is a magical experience for me.”

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8 Great Neighborhoods

by [Amanda Lepinski](#), [Andrea Lahouze](#), and [Stephanie Wilbur Ash](#) | July 14, 2015

We love our Twin Cities metro. But we really love these particular neighborhoods. Urban, suburban, old, new, there's a 'hood for everyone here, plus the schools, history, and local flair that make each so great.



Above map by Randall Nelson; inner tube photo by JJ pixs/shutterstock.com; tulips photo by Natalia Klenova/shutterstock.com; coffee photo by Swellphotography/shutterstock.com; skates illustration by Jack Knoebber/the noun project; book photo by studioVin/shutterstock.com; bicycle illustration by Cedric Cummings/the noun project; raspberry photo by Nattika/shutterstock.com

Kenwood

Seward

Tangletown

St. Anthony Park

Summit Hill/Crocus Hill

St. Louis Park

Hopkins

Roseville

Kenwood - Minneapolis

Stately on the Lakes

Kenwood photo by Caitlin Abrams

Proudly Palatial



Homes in Kenwood were made for turn-of-the-century titans. They're filled with luxurious details.

Just southwest of downtown, between Cedar Lake Park and Lake of the Isles, near all of the urban amenities of Uptown, is arguably the most affluent of all Twin Cities neighborhoods. Kenwood is a tiny neighborhood of huge turn-of-the-century homes, all on winding streets with Minneapolis's parks and trails system weaving through. Like its most famous (fictitious) resident, Mary Richards from *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*, when you live in Kenwood you really have made it after all.

HISTORY

Lake of the Isles and its shoreline were acquired by the City of Minneapolis in 1886, and once it was dredged to become part of the famed Chain of Lakes, the stately homes went up. As early as the 1920s, residents were reticent toward overdevelopment, which is why Kenwood Park has remained virtually untouched since.

HOUSING STOCK

The stuff of Sunday drives: jumbo Mediterranean, Colonial, and Arts and Crafts, mostly built before 1939. There are a few affordable gems among the 569 residential structures, and even a few townhomes, condos, and rentals. But the median household income is nearly three times higher than the rest of Minneapolis; the average home value was more than \$400,000 in 2010. Kenwood is older, more educated, and more affluent than most of the metro.

SCHOOLS TO NOTE

Kenwood Community School

This Minneapolis public elementary is a beloved neighborhood fixture with strong parental support and a focus on the fine arts at its core. kenwood.mpls.k12.mn.us

Blake Upper School

This private, independent college prep school integrates academics, athletics, and world citizenry. The upper school is in Kenwood. blakeschool.org

Breck School

This private, Episcopal college prep school in nearby Golden Valley integrates classroom, life, and a strong spiritual component for pre-K through grade 12. breckschool.org

Benilde-St. Margaret's

Just west of Kenwood, this private Catholic college prep school for grades seven through 12 boasts 17 AP courses and students from all over the metro. bsmschool.org

LOCALS LOVE

Kenwood Park

Baseball and soccer fields, beautiful tennis courts, a beloved playground, and more than 32 acres of wild, wooded, open space. minneapolisparcs.org

Birchbark Books

National Book Award winner Louise Erdrich owns this independent “teaching bookstore,” which also sells Native American arts and jewelry. It’s cozy, intimate, and friendly for readers of all ages and backgrounds. birchbarkbooks.com

The Kenwood Restaurant

Brunch, lunch, and dinner, all done well—this chef-driven neighborhood joint feels like it’s been there forever, but it’s only been in the ‘hood since 2012. thekenwoodrestaurant.com

Minneapolis Chain of Lakes

The most defining feature of our state’s largest city, and the Kenwood neighborhood sits right on top of it. This chain of five urban lakes (and its 15 miles of circumnavigating trails) is reason enough to move here.

Seward - Minneapolis

A Collective Community

Intentionally Delicious



Birchwood cafe photo by Eliesa Johnson

Long a healthy hub, Birchwood Cafe began as a dairy in 1926, became a grocery in the '40s, and a café in 1995.

Minneapolis’s Seward is just south of 94 and east of Hiawatha. It’s a dense neighborhood, with a little more than 6,700 people in its 1-square-mile radius. That’s just how Seward likes it. This community is known for its liberal, roll-up-your sleeves approach to über-urban living. Kerry Cashman, community coordinator for the Seward Neighborhood Group, says, “We’re so close to bike trails, the Light Rail, and the river that it’s really easy to be car-less.” And the many long-time residents of Seward work to build a sense of a collective, creating a warm welcome for transplants and immigrants from other countries. “Even if you’re new to the neighborhood you have this strong sense of community,” she says.

HISTORY

Cooperation has always been a cornerstone. Seward's first cooperative, Franklin Cooperative Creamery, founded in 1919, created union jobs with fair wages and health benefits. The Seward Community Co-op grocery, a neighborhood hub since 1972, recently leased the Creamery's building for expansion. The neighborhood is also home to the oldest worker-run restaurant in the U.S., Seward Cafe.

HOUSING STOCK

A statistically classic Minneapolis neighborhood, Seward's housing stock is a mix of high-rises, duplexes, and single-family homes, some dating back to the turn of the century, some 1930s bungalows. The average home price is about the average for most of Minneapolis (right around \$200,000), and many people rent.

SCHOOLS TO NOTE

Minnehaha Academy

Located near the border of Seward and Longfellow, this pre-K through grade 12 Christian academy has been helping students develop both intellect and character through a rigorous liberal arts curriculum for more than 100 years. minnehahaacademy.net

South High School

Minneapolis's largest public high school offers three different small learning programs, each with its own learning mission. The school has turned out some notable alumni such as Josh Hartnett and Rachael Leigh Cook. south.mpls.k12.mn.us

LOCALS LOVE

Birchwood Cafe

This buzzing neighborhood hub wins with regulars and newbies alike, with a full and fresh menu plus beer and wine. The owners get to know their farmers who source their meat and produce, which means the items change each season. The brunch is one of the hottest seats in town, especially if you're gluten-free or vegan. birchwoodcafe.com

Milwaukee Avenue Historic District

Built in the late 19th century for low-income residents, these houses were saved from demolition in the 1970s by the neighborhood. The adorable two-block strip of houses is now on the National Register of Historic Places. milwaukeeavenue.net

West River Parkway Trail

It runs from Northeast Minneapolis to Minnehaha Park where there's even more trails. The Seward portion boasts some of the best views of the city of Minneapolis, and some of the best commuter access, too. minneapolisparcs.org

Tangletown - Minneapolis

Delightfully Off the Grid

Storybook Sweetness



Tangletown Gardens photo courtesy of Tangletown Gardens

Even the repurposed gas stations (like Tangletown Gardens) are adorable.

It's picturesque, off-the-grid living—the city grid, that is. Tangletown is aptly named: In a well-ordered city, the streets of this neighborhood tangle around each other like brambles. Located in southwest Minneapolis, between Lyndale Avenue South and 35W, and 46th and 54th streets, it's a small community of 4,300 people, mostly families, living in some of the largest (and oldest) homes in the Twin Cities. It's a coyly hidden labyrinth that bursts with charm and character.

HISTORY

In 1886, prominent Minneapolitans bought 200 acres of farmland near Minnehaha Creek for a wealthy residential development. It was a country getaway for the well-to-do—and it still feels like it. Developed all through the 1920s, it was officially known as the “Fuller” neighborhood—after feminist writer Margaret Fuller—until 1996, when it was renamed.

HOUSING STOCK

Homes are larger and more expensive here than in the rest of the Twin Cities, and often built into sloping lots on curvaceous streets. The average home price hovers around \$460,000—nearly twice the Minneapolis average. (The average household income also is twice the average.) Most homes were built between 1900 and 1940, so you'll find Tudor and Colonial Revivals, bungalows, and a few Victorians. There's even a cluster of modern Lustron metal houses. You'll also find a few midcentury gems along Minnehaha Creek. But good luck finding an apartment.

SCHOOLS TO NOTE

Washburn High School

A Minneapolis public high school with a focus on intercultural understanding and respect, active student involvement, and lifelong learning, it's also an International Baccalaureate World

School. washburn.mpls.k12.mn.us

LOCALS LOVE

Washburn Park Water Tower

It's one of the gems of Minneapolis—a medieval-looking piece of water tower art, high atop a hill. Built in 1932 by three Tangletown residents, eight sternly sculpted knights and eagles guard 1.35 million gallons of water. Nearly 100 years old and on the National Register of Historic Places, it's still used today.

Minnehaha Creek

The creek winds through the neighborhood's south side, with accompanying trails to run and bike on. It eventually finds its way to Minnehaha Falls and the Mississippi River. Tangletown's portion of the creek is a perfect halfway vantage point to trails around Lake Harriet and Diamond Lake.

Tangletown Gardens and Wise Acre Eatery

Yes, it's a full-service restaurant on every "best-of" list, and a whimsical garden center remade in an old gas station, and the hottest CSA subscription in town. But to Tangletown neighbors it's a collection of locally owned businesses fed by a 100-acre family farm and a lot of locavore love. tangletowngardens.com, wiseacreeatery.com

St. Anthony Park - St. Paul

Snug Civic Center

Lovely Learning



Muffuletta photo by Sarah Claire Ahlers

The Beaux-Arts Saint Anthony Park Library serves as a community gathering spot for kids and grownups alike.

Tucked into the northwest corner of St. Paul, between Highway 280, I-94, and the State Fairgrounds, is a hamlet of adorable proportions. It's uniquely Minnesotan (the Lutheran seminary, the campus cornfields, the eclectic bookstore), with a hip, global perspective due to its U of M proximity. It's young but by no means flyby—the 'hood is known for its civic-ness. Less than 8,000 make a community band, newspaper, charitable foundation, art festival, shared garden, and volunteer group for seniors. They're more highly educated than average, and they use their cars less, too.

HISTORY

In 1873, famous urban planner Horace S. Cleveland designed this addition to St. Paul and Minneapolis, winding the streets to the topography. The St. Anthony Park Company divided the land into smaller lots, and when the St. Paul campus of the U was established in the late 1880s, the neighborhood took off.

HOUSING STOCK

Most homes were built before 1930 (bungalow, Craftsman, and Prairie styles, mostly), except for University Grove, which sits just outside St. Anthony Park. Built for faculty and administration at the U (and still sold first to them) it's a stunning array of pricey midcentury gems, some Mondrian. As a whole, though, prices are mixed, meeting at a median of \$195,000, and half of residents rent.

SCHOOLS TO NOTE

Como Park Senior High School

A St. Paul public high school that's "large enough to offer many paths" but small enough for exploration. And the state's first school-based credit union offers great job and internship experience. comosr.spps.org/

Twin Cities German Immersion

This K through eight school, founded in 2005, has the highest MCA test scores in the state. And everyone leaves proficient in German. tcgis.org

LOCALS LOVE

Luther Seminary and Old Muskego Church

Graduates make up about one-third of ELCA Lutheran pastors. On campus is the first Norwegian Lutheran Church built in the United States. It's made of oak logs in the Norwegian style, and stands (on gorgeous grounds) as a reminder of Minnesota's immigrant heritage. luthersem.edu

Saint Anthony Park Library

A Carnegie library built in 1917, it follows the convention of placing the entrance atop a flight of stairs, to symbolize how learning elevates us. It's Beaux-Arts, and the children's library off the back has a sunny rotunda for reading. sppl.org

Muffuletta Café

It's got beer cheese soup and one of the best patios (and wine lists) in St. Paul. Like the neighborhood, old haunt Muffuletta has long been dedicated to locally sourced goodness with international flair, even before it was cool. muffuletta.com

Summit Hill/Crocus Hill - St. Paul

Grand Old Treasure



Summit avenue photo courtesy of Visit Saint Paul

It's a part of our Twin Cities that predates statehood—and it's lovingly preserved. Roughly bounded by Summit Avenue and Ramsey Street on the north, 35E on the south and east, and Ayd Mill Road on the west, it's filled with history and pedestrian-oriented shopping and dining. This is F. Scott Fitzgerald's St. Paul: gorgeous.

HISTORY

More than 200 years ago, Zebulon Pike purchased land from the Dakotah for a fort. By the time Minnesota was a state some 50 years later, prominent St. Paul families had moved up from the river to Summit Avenue mansions. The 1900s brought middle-income development, including row houses, apartments, and a streetcar that rolled along St. Clair and Grand avenues. Smart zoning and the bluffs kept the neighborhood residential. It's almost untouched since the 1920s.

HOUSING STOCK

Hello, Victorians! Summit Hill is known for its large number of old homes in a variety of turn-of-the-century styles. Preservation has been prominent since the 1960s, when mansions were rescued from flophouses or (gasp!) sitting empty. Buy a home in this neighborhood and gain entrance into a club of rehab buffs. (And pay a lot for it, too.) Luckily, condos and apartments abound; the mixed stock means the median price hovers at \$200,000.

SCHOOLS TO NOTE

St. Paul Academy and Summit School

This private, co-ed, college-prep K-12 school is a merger of two turn-of-the-century prep schools. Today it enjoys a national reputation with a focus on critical thinking and imagination. And nearly 30 percent of students are of color. spa.edu

St. Paul Central Senior High School

It's often ranked among the top 20 high schools in the state, and it's our oldest continuously operating one. It's an International Baccalaureate school too, and offers a French immersion program. central.spps.org

LOCALS LOVE

Grand Avenue

Tree-lined streets, cozy coffee shops, patio dining, and brands like Anthropologie, J.Crew, and Pottery Barn. It's world-class shopping in a small-town environment, and host to the Twin Cities' annual festival-season kickoff: Grand Old Day. grandave.com

Cathedral of St. Paul

It's the reason our capitol city isn't called Pig's Eye Settlement anymore. The mother church of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis has been in service since 1915, and is one of the nation's finest examples of Beaux-Arts architecture. cathedralsaintpaul.org

Summit Hill House Tour

Every other year, the Summit Hill Association hosts this popular walking tour, which allows the public into some of the most beautiful and historic homes and public spaces on Summit Avenue. The tour supports the community programs and civic engagement of the Summit Hill Association. summithillhousetour.com

St. Louis Park - Minneapolis

Kid-Centered Convenience



The Shops at West End photo by Mod and Company

Dubbed "The Park," this first-ring Minneapolis suburb boasts 51 parks, along with pools, trails, and ample green spaces. It's also comfortably close to everything; downtown Minneapolis and the Chain of Lakes are a 10-minute drive or less, and the airport is just 20 minutes away. The city's established Children First philosophy has landed it among the Promise Alliance's 100 Best Communities for Young People.

HISTORY

In 1886, 31 people petitioned for incorporating the Village of St. Louis Park in the hopes that it would become a boomtown. Their hopes were realized: It was home to more than 600 industrial agriculture jobs by 1890, and the world's first concrete grain elevator (now the Nordic Ware tower) in 1899. It gained official city status in 1954, and was almost entirely developed by the 1970s.

HOUSING STOCK

It's about a 60-40 own-rent split. The majority of single-family homes were built in the late 1940s and early 1950s, so renovation options abound. As St. Louis Park Mayor Jeff Jacobs puts it, "We're a middle-aged suburb going through a renaissance."

SCHOOLS TO NOTE

Calvin Christian School

This faith-based school has a K through eight location just south of SLP in Edina. In 2014 it began a new curriculum focused on teaching for transformation. calvinchristian.org

Benilde-St. Margaret's

The private, Catholic college-preparatory school for grades seven through 12 offers 17 AP courses, and attracts students from more than 30 different school districts. bsmschool.org

Park Spanish Immersion School

A Spanish immersion K through five where core classes are taught in Spanish, and specialty classes like physical education, band, and orchestra, are taught in English. slpschools.org/psi

LOCALS LOVE

Parktacular

The city's summer festival, with an array of activities—water slides, Belgian waffles, and the signature Grand Day Parade. parktacular.org

Outdoor Aquatic Park

A lap pool, four slides, a water obstacle course, and, for young kids, a water geyser, spray arches, and a whale slide. stlouispark.org/aquatic-park.html

The Shops at West End

More than 40 retail shops and restaurants converge in a rare Minnesota outdoor mall. theshopsatwestend.com

Hopkins - Minneapolis

Charm Plus Culture



Raspberry Festival photo by Katherine Harris

Named one of the friendliest towns in America by Forbes magazine, Hopkins boasts historic charm, with modern penchants that attract foodies and theater buffs. You can walk the entire city, and you (almost) never have to leave. On tiny Mainstreet alone: more than a dozen restaurants, two ice cream shops, a movie theater, a live performance center, multiple salons, and a collection of antique and retail shops. The majority of residents are younger couples and families. The most prevalent age group is 25 to 34.

HISTORY

The area grew quickly upon the 1887 establishment of the Minneapolis Threshing Machine Company (later Minneapolis-Moline), which employed most of the area's residents. The company housed employees in properties built by The West Minneapolis Land Company, many of which still stand in Hopkins today. It was incorporated as the Village of West Minneapolis in 1893, and renamed the Village of Hopkins in 1928 after Harley Hopkins, the town's first postmaster.

HOUSING STOCK

A mix of 1900s-era homes alongside newer construction, with a bevy of new apartments, condominiums, and townhomes along both sides of Mainstreet, and even more luxury apartments rising in anticipation of the METRO Green Line's 2019 arrival.

SCHOOLS TO NOTE

Hopkins High School

Ranked one of the best high schools in Minnesota, about half of students take Advanced Placement (AP) courses.hopkinsschools.org

Main Street School of Performing Arts

This tuition-free public charter high school offers a performing arts-focused education with advanced theater, art, and music courses alongside traditional curricula. msspahs.org

LOCALS LOVE

Hopkins Raspberry Festival

The raspberry fields may be gone, but Hopkins continues to celebrate its heritage in this annual July festival with more than 30 family-friendly events, including its arts and crafts fair, Golden Raspberry hunt, fireworks, car show, live music, and signature Grande Day Parade. Business folk organized the very first Raspberry Festival in 1934, making it one of the oldest-running festivals in Minnesota. raspberrycapital.com

Hopkins Center for the Arts

The performing arts venue hosts concerts, art exhibitions, and Stages Theatre Company productions, as well as a menu of community art and dance classes. hopkinsartscenter.com

Roseville - St. Paul

Green Suburban Dream

Gardens (always) Growing



Conservatory photo by Dan Thornberg/shutterstock.com

The Marjorie McNeely Conservatory is great in warm weather (and a heavenly cold-weather getaway).

Northern suburb Roseville, situated comfortably between St. Paul and Minneapolis, rarely shows you its largesse. Says Roseville mayor Dan Roe, "One of the reasons [people] live in Roseville is because it's a small-

town feel in the midst of a larger community.” And because it’s heavily peppered with commercial business, homeowners here get two major retail hubs (HarMar and Rosedale malls) and some of the lowest property tax rates in the metro. Residents also get terrific parks, many connected by walking and biking trails.

HISTORY

Named after one of the first white settlers to the region, Isaac Rose, Roseville was incorporated in 1948. It boomed with new families and businesses in the '50s and '60s—the first Target store was here, and the state's first Dairy Queen.

HOUSING STOCK

Median home value is a reasonable \$216,500, but there’s wide diversity there, including many rentals. Roseville has around 35,000 residents, most in homes or buildings built after 1940. If you’re looking for a large rambler, or a walkout on a small urban lake, look no further.

SCHOOLS TO NOTE

Roseville Area Senior High

Considered one of our state’s best schools by U.S. News and World Report, students score high in mathematics and reading. True to the city of Roseville’s nature, it has more than 2,000 students but relatively small class sizes for such a large school. isd623.org

Mounds Park Academy

An independent pre-K-12 private college preparatory school close by in St. Paul, it was one of the first Minnesota schools to give students laptops. moundsparkacademy.org

Hill-Murray School

Located in nearby Maplewood, Hill-Murray is a private Catholic Benedictine prep school for grades six through 12, and one of only 21 Minnesota schools accredited by North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Hockey fans: Steve Janaszak skated here before his 1980 Miracle on Ice days. hill-murray.org

LOCALS LOVE

Roseville Ice Arena and “The OVAL”

The Arena is a year-round mecca for athletes of all ages and all ice skating sports. There’s plenty of room with seven locker rooms and capacity for 2,000. The Guidant John Rose MN OVAL is 110,000 square feet of outdoor refrigerated ice November through March (including a 400-meter speed skating track). In warm weather, it’s a wicked skateboard park and inline skating area.

Como Park Zoo & Conservatory

Near the Roseville-St. Paul border, this free zoo includes a polar bear exhibit, a gorilla habitat, and the kid mecca Como Town, with 18 rides and attractions. For adults, gardening talks are hosted in the Majorie McNeely Conservatory nearby. comozooconservatory.org

The State’s First Dairy Queen

It still has its midcentury neon signage and angled windows. 1720 Lexington Ave. N, Roseville, dairyqueen.com