



# Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

September 03, 2024

7:00 PM

Fridley Civic Campus, 7071 University Avenue N.E.

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## Agenda

### Call to Order

### Roll Call

### Approval of Agenda

### Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. August 5, 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

### Open Forum

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

### New Business

2. Jubilee Park and Oak Hill Park Community Engagement Summaries

### Old Business

### Staff Reports

3. Springbrook Nature Center Report
4. Fridley Parks and Recreation Division Report
5. Park Maintenance and Construction Report

### Adjournment

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

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



# AGENDA REPORT

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**Meeting Date:** September 3, 2024

**Meeting Type:** Parks and Recreation Commission

**Submitted By:** Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

## **Title**

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August 5, 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

## **Background**

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Attached are the meeting minutes of the August 5, 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission.

## **Financial Impact**

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None.

## **Recommendation**

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Staff recommends approval of the August 5, 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes.

## **Attachments and Other Resources**

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- August 5, 2024 Parks and Recreation Minutes.

## **Vision Statement**

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



# Park Commission Meeting

August 5, 2024

7:00 PM

Fridley City Hall, 7071 University Avenue NE

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## Minutes

### **Call to Order**

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

### **Present**

Luke Cardona  
EB Graham  
Peter Borman  
Suad Maow  
Don Whalen

### **Absent**

Tim Kirk  
Ken Schultz

### **Also Present**

Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

### **Approve Parks & Recreation Commission Agenda for August 5, 2024**

*Motion by Commissioner Cardona to approve the August 5, 2024 meeting agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Graham. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Approve Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes**

*Motion by Commissioner Cardona to approve the March 4, 2024, May 6, 2024 and June 3, 2024 meeting minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Whalen. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Open Forum**

No comments.

### **New Business**

1. Parks and Recreation Commission 2024 Goals and Workplan Review

Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director, stated that he wanted to provide an opportunity to review the workplan to see what has been accomplished and what may be a focus for the remainder of the year. He reviewed highlights of what has been completed from the workplan as well as items still planned to be completed this year.

Chair Borman asked if there was a request from the Lions Club received, related to the fee structure for the Moore Lake community building. Mr. Maher commented that staff followed up with that request to share the structure, which includes a nonprofit rate, and the organization was comfortable with that nonprofit rate. He noted that through that process staff was able to develop a form and process for that.

Commissioner Whalen asked if there have been any issues with park takeovers. Mr. Maher commented that there has been a trend in the metro with a few hundred young people gathering at parks, which can lead to negative behaviors. He commented that the Fridley Police have been involved in the metro issue and public safety and park staff continue to monitor for that type of incident.

Commissioner Graham asked if the City has received any feedback on the Moore Lake rental fees. Mr. Maher replied that the rental numbers have been good, and he has not received any specific feedback on the fees being too high.

## 2. Commons Park Recreation Building Discussion

Mr. Maher commented that a mutually agreeable resolution was achieved with FYSA related to sports fields. He reviewed the vision for Commons Park, the existing Commons Park conditions, and provided an overview of the planning status for the project. He displayed an updated concept for the park along with the additional field development at Community Park.

Commissioner Cardona asked the additional cost for the converted fields at Community Park. Mr. Maher was unsure but noted that the City staff can complete that work in-house rather than contracting out. He confirmed that the updated concept for Commons Park fits within the project budget. He noted that the grants the City has received for the project assist with meeting that goal. He stated that the Park System Improvement Plan recommendations for Community Park included developing the backside of the park for multi-use fields. He confirmed that all improvements at Commons Park would fit within the City owned property and would not encroach onto School District property.

Chair Borman commented that he also likes the added parking on that side.

Mr. Maher reviewed the next steps for the Fridley and FYSA partnership. He also provided details on the recreation building service delivery and updated elements of the concept plan.

Commissioner Maow asked if grants are being pursued for the indoor playground. Mr. Maher replied that has not been something they have had time or opportunity to make a priority as of yet, as the inside of the building plan has been rapidly evolving. He stated that staff will continue to look for grant opportunities as he anticipated that element would be a few years out.

Chair Borman asked if part of the reason for the downsizing is due to increasing costs for materials and labor since the plan was originally designed. Mr. Maher confirmed that there has been a significant increase that staff have seen in bids since the conceptual design of the project. He stated that grants or donations would most likely be the funding source for an indoor playground element.

Commissioner Whalen commented that it is nice to have the foresight ahead of time and perhaps it could be incorporated in the future.

Chair Borman asked if there was organized soccer happening at Commons Park, or whether the activity was mostly practice and neighborhood games. Mr. Maher stated that the City was previously striping for soccer but that has moved to Community Park and the City is no longer striping or renting space for formal soccer use at Commons Park. He stated that there are groups that meet there for a practice or pick-up game, but they are not renting the space.

### 3. 2024 Resident Survey Result Summary for Parks and Recreation

Mr. Maher reported that the resident survey was completed in the last two months and the full summary of results is available on the City website. He provided details on the survey methodology, demographics, and other results from the survey.

Chair Borman commented that after the parks revitalization process is completed, he would be interested in a parks specific survey to gain input from residents about the improvements. Mr. Maher commented that staff will look at that option, along with other more informal options to gain resident feedback.

### 4. Proposed 2025 Meeting Dates of the Park and Recreation Commission

Mr. Maher stated that the proposed meeting dates for 2025 was included in the Commission packet and reviewed that with the Commission.

*Motion by Commissioner Graham to approve the Parks and Recreation Commission 2025 meeting schedule as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Maow. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Old Business**

Commissioner Cardona acknowledged the work of Brian Strand, noting that he will be missed.

**Staff Reports**

## 5. Springbrook Nature Center Report

Mr. Maher provided an overview of the report including summer camp activity, roundabout construction progress, and expansion of the nature-based play area and other programming that is possible through the receipt of grant funds. He advised of an upcoming concert on August 13<sup>th</sup> at the Springbrook amphitheater.

## 6. Fridley Parks and Recreation Division Report

Mr. Maher provided an update on recent and upcoming activities, events, and programming opportunities. He noted that the fireworks and movie night has been rescheduled to August 16<sup>th</sup>. He also noted some instances of vandalism that staff have addressed. He also provided details on the accessible access into the Moore Lake building.

## 7. Park Maintenance and Construction Report

Mr. Maher provided an overview of the staff report highlighting recent park maintenance and construction progress.

**Unfinished Business****Adjournment**

*Commissioner Cardona made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Whalen. The motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Maher, Staff Liaison



# AGENDA REPORT

**Meeting Date:** September 3, 2024

**Meeting Type:** Parks and Recreation Commission

**Submitted By:** Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

## Title

Oak Hill and Jubilee Park Community Engagement Summaries

## Background

Oak Hill and Jubilee Parks will be improved in 2025 and both park meetings and online surveys have been conducted to get feedback from residents. Two playground concepts were shown for each park as well as the park concept plan.

In both cases, residents favored the playground concepts equally. Detailed summaries are included for each park that include feedback and comments gathered in person and online. If the Commission would like to make a recommendation on the playground concepts or park sites, the age range for each playground design should be taken into account as well as the playground style as the two small parks are just a few blocks apart and both serve the same neighborhood.

## Financial Impact

Both park projects are fully funded through general obligation bonds issued to fund the Park System Improvement Plan. Staff does plan on applying for community development block grant funds for both projects but moving ahead with the projects is not dependent on grant funding.

## Recommendation

Given that public feedback was split evenly, staff recommends that the Commission recommend either option 1 for both parks or option 2 for both parks as they will be complimentary on user age groups and general design style.

## Attachments and Other Resources

- Oak Hill Park Community Engagement Summary
- Jubilee Park Community Engagement Summary

## Vision Statement

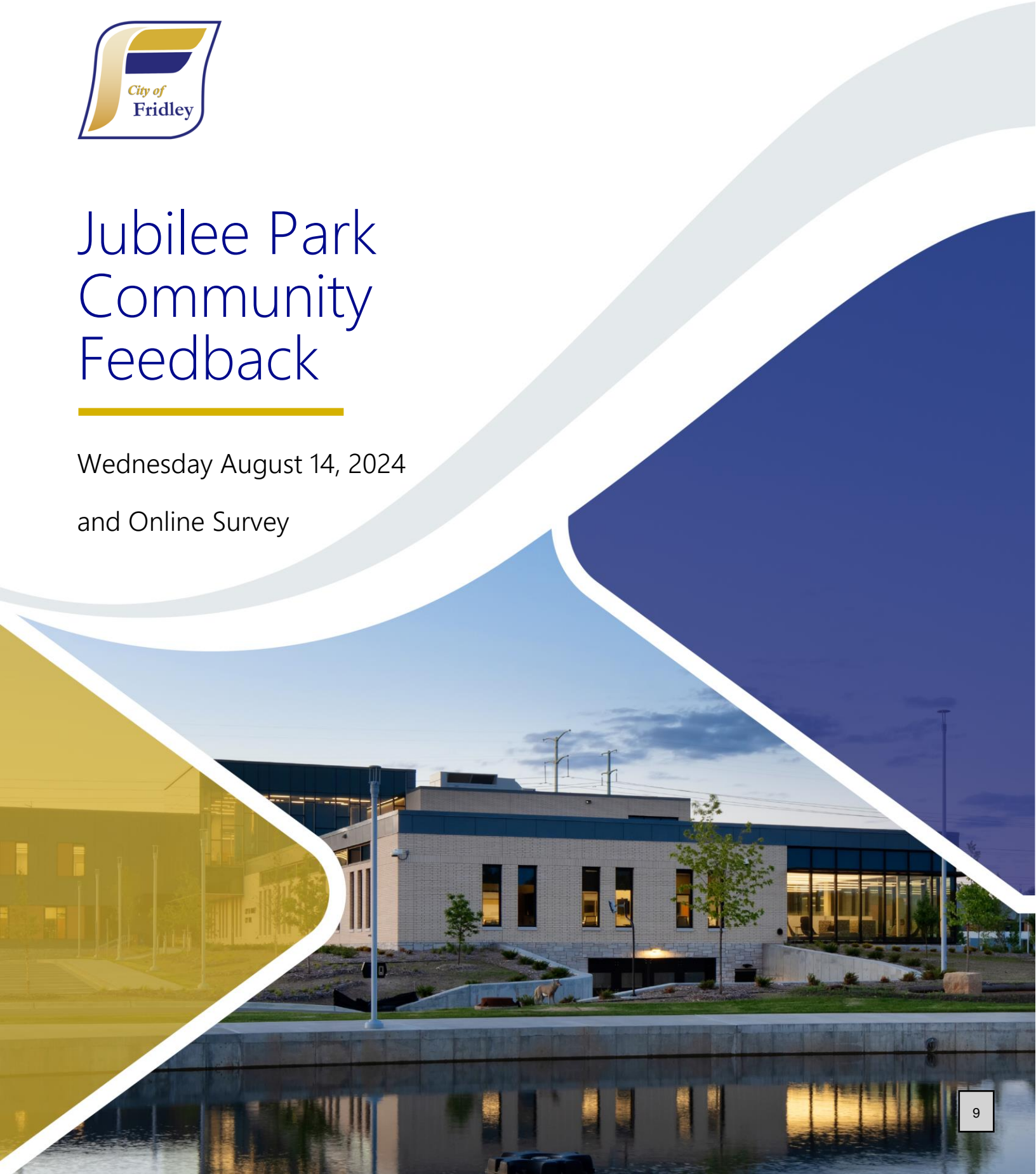
We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.





# Jubilee Park Community Feedback

Wednesday August 14, 2024  
and Online Survey





## Jubilee Park Community Feedback – Wednesday, August 14, 2024

**Attendance:** 16 with 3 submitted online surveys

### Playground Equipment

- Would like swings in the playground and a big slide.
- Two votes for Monkey Bars

### Security and Lighting

- There needs to be visibility from the street to the park, no bushes along the street.
- Make sure shelter is visible from the street. There are substance abuse half way houses on our block and people use Jubilee park for drug transactions.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS & ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE COSTS:

General recommendations include redevelopment of the site with a focus on providing complementary types of recreation from Oak Hill for expanded recreation opportunities within these neighborhoods to meet broader needs and demographics.

Recommendations include:

- Landscape enhancements
- Basketball half court with striping overlay for hopscotch and 4-square (consider keeping height at 8 feet to deter adult use)
- Unique shelter or shade structure with seating beneath it
- Unique or challenge equipment that feels more artistic
- Public art / gateway features
- Trail / walk connections
- Security light

The estimate of probable costs for completing the recommendations shown range from approximately \$207,000 to \$260,000.

Specific assumptions and exclusions:

- Does not account for unknown site factors (poor soils, drainage concerns, etc.)
- Does not include utilities

**PRIORITY LEVEL:** LOW MEDIUM HIGH

This park, in conjunction with Oak Hill, helps to serve multiple neighborhoods that contain underserved populations, and is ranked high.





# Jubilee Park Community Feedback

## Jubilee Park

5334 - 5TH STREET NE

**PARK TYPE:** MINI PARK  
**SIZE:** 0.4-ACRES  
**RESIDENTS SERVED:** 486+253  
**SPECIAL USES:** NONE

**DESCRIPTION:**  
This park services neighborhoods #36 and #37 in conjunction with Oak Hill Park, which has redundant types of recreation. It has more of an alley on one side with a chain link fence that detracts from the overall character and contains a playground with a bench, a walk connection and a picnic table.

**EXISTING PARK FEATURES:**

- Playground
- Bench
- Picnic Table



## Playground Concept 1 Received 4 Votes

- More trees, less bushes.



## **Playground 2 Received 4 Votes**

- Monkey Bars
- Tiny Soccer Field



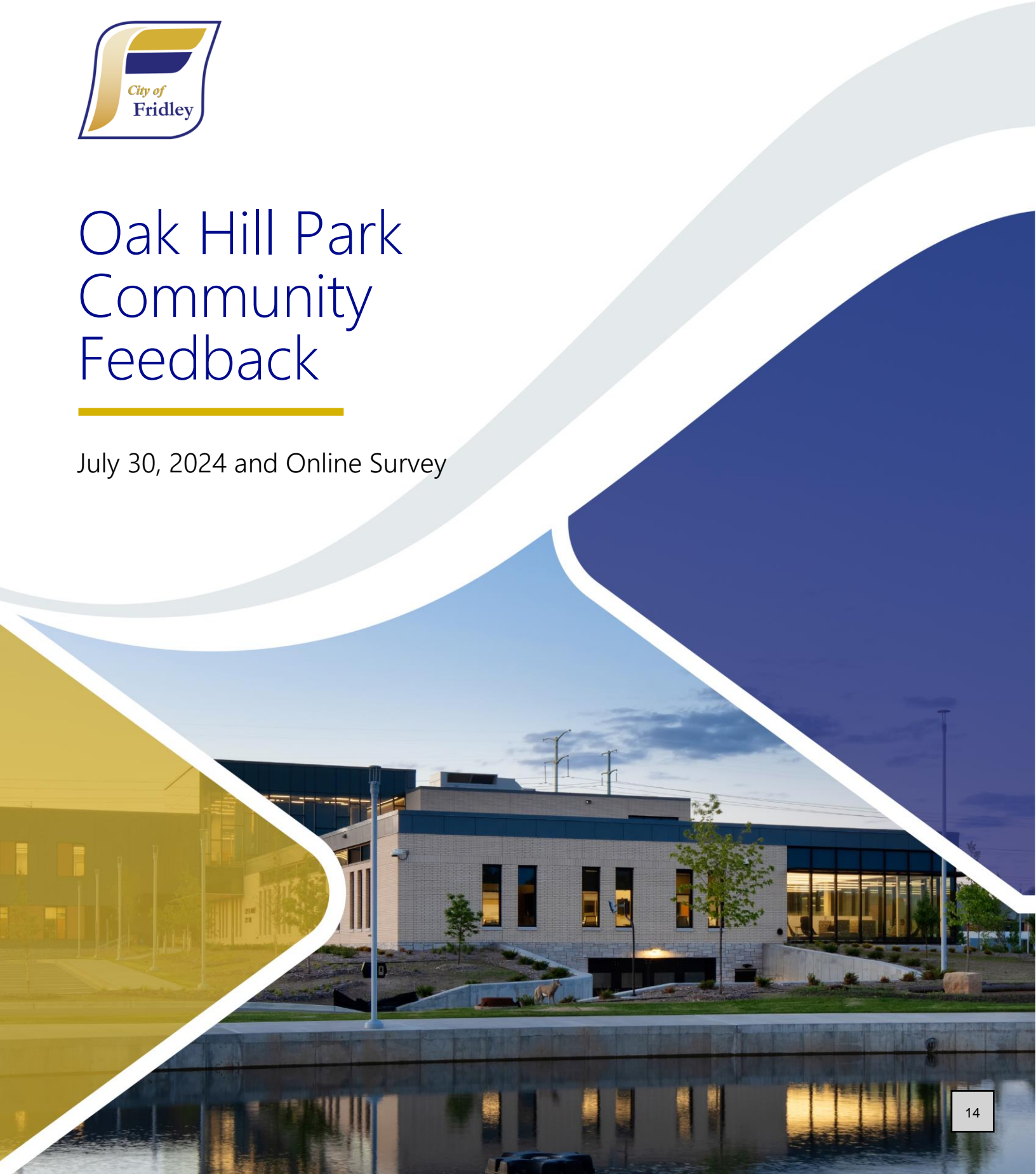
## **Motions to be Considered by the Commission**

The Commission may make a recommendation to proceed with playground option 1 or 2. The designs were equally favored by those in attendance or completing the survey. One consideration is that option 1 would allow for the inclusion of a shade structure within budget.



# Oak Hill Park Community Feedback

July 30, 2024 and Online Survey





## Oak Hill Park Community Feedback – July 30, 2024

**Attendance:** 18 with 3 submitted online surveys

### RECOMMENDATIONS & ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE COSTS:

General recommendations include redevelopment with some minor layout modifications for an improved recreational experience to be complementary to Jubilee Park.

#### Recommendations include:

- Landscape enhancements, potentially naturalize groundcover among the oaks
- New playground equipment potentially with a natural theme to blend with surroundings
- ADA compliant playground surfacing (engineered wood fiber)
- Concrete playground border
- New realigned concrete walks to potentially remove retaining wall and to meet ADA guidelines (match up to proposed crosswalk locations)
- New seating and picnic areas
- Site furnishings with common characteristic (benches, tables, receptacles, bike racks, drinking fountain, etc.)
- New ornamental or black vinyl clad chain link fencing
- Wayfinding signs
- Security light

The estimate of probable costs for completing the recommendations shown range from approximately \$130,000 to \$165,000.

#### Specific assumptions and exclusions:

- Does not account for unknown site factors (poor soils, drainage concerns, etc.)
- Does not include utilities

**PRIORITY LEVEL:** LOW MEDIUM HIGH

This park, in conjunction with Jubilee, helps to serve multiple neighborhoods that contain underserved populations and is ranked medium with Jubilee being a higher priority in order to provide new recreation for broader user groups.



152

153

### Oak Hill Park

5391 - 7TH STREET NE

**PARK TYPE:** MINI PARK

**SIZE:** 0.3 ACRES

**RESIDENTS SERVED:** 253 - 486

**SPECIAL USES:** NONE

#### DESCRIPTION:

Mini park with a playground and picnic areas set on a hill of mature oak trees and servicing neighborhoods #37 and #36 in conjunction with Jubilee Park, which currently has redundant amenities. Due to the traffic on 7th Street, there is a chainlink fence along the park boundary.



#### EXISTING PARK FEATURES:



150

151



## Playgrounds:



Option 1, designed for ages 2-12 received 8 votes

Option 2, designed for ages 2-5, received 7 votes

Designs were intended to be complimentary to Jubilee Park, which is 2 blocks away





### Comments:

- Like idea of having Oak Hill as a park for younger age kids and Jubilee for older kids. If Oak Hill gets equipment for older kids, incorporating a piece for younger kids would be good
- General suggestion for parks – community garden and native wild forage area
- Monkey bars
- The current bucket seat is very squeaky
- There is a lot of speeding on 7<sup>th</sup> street – add speed limit sign
- Add sidewalk to playground
- Additional garbage can by playground
- Add the vibra chimes to option 1
- Suggested tree screen species – witch hazel tree, red and white oak, white cedar, juniper, wildflowers in median spaces.
- As someone with an adjacent house, the musical feature sounds annoying in option 2.
- I am concerned that the security light is going to ruin my backyard at night.
- More swings in option 1.
- Like the fun shapes and aesthetic about option two, but I am unsure on the musical feature. Depends on how it shapes up.
- I am concerned about the placement of the security light. I live in the house behind the park and worry about the light bleeding into our yard. We're already contending with a super bright security light shining into our front windows – would really not like to get it from the back yard as well.

### **Motions to be Considered by the Commission**

The Commission may make a recommendation to proceed with playground option 1 or 2. The designs were almost equally favored by those in attendance or completing the survey. One consideration is that option 1 is designed more for ages 2-12 while option 2 is designed more for ages 2-5. The equipment budget for this park is limited and one approach was to design this space for younger users while Jubilee Park, two blocks away, could serve older users.



# AGENDA REPORT

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**Meeting Date:** September 3, 2024

**Meeting Type:** Parks and Recreation Commission

**Submitted By:** Tara Rogness, Springbrook Nature Center Manager

## **Title**

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Springbrook Nature Center Report

## **Background**

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Attached is the update from Springbrook Nature Center for the September 3, 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

## **Financial Impact**

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None.

## **Recommendation**

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None.

## **Attachments and Other Resources**

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- Springbrook Nature Center Update for September 3, 2024 meeting

## **Vision Statement**

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

# Springbrook Nature Center Park & Rec Commission Report

## August Education Programs

As the summer season comes to an end, Springbrook staff works hard to finish strong. They've been excellent teachers, confidants, coordinators of fun, and conduits of imagination this summer. August teaching was almost exclusively summer camp programming, with just one offsite program added to the total.

**Number of Children Taught: 191**

**Number of Hours of Teaching: 3,648.5**



*1 Campers learn log rolling as a part of Adventure Camp*

## August Rentals & Birthday Parties

- In August, there was 1 full Pavilion Activity Center (PAC) rentals, 1 Outdoor only PAC rental, 1 indoor room rental, and 1 Amphitheater rental

## Grants

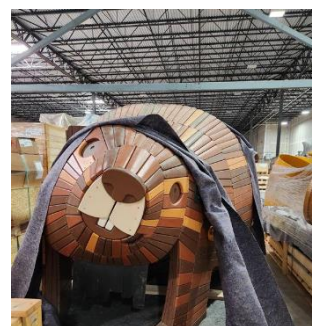
- We will begin purchasing for the Xcel Energy Foundation Grant entitled "Wild Connections in Environmental Education".
- The International Paper Foundation Grant has been submitted with a project entitled "Culture and Team Building in Nature" in which we aim to enhance our team building programming with portable low ropes challenges that will create perceived risk and aid in communication, active listening, trust, leadership, and social emotional skills in children and adults.



*2 Campers using the Stream Lab at SNC*

## Park & Building Maintenance

- 85<sup>th</sup> Avenue is under construction! This project will continue through the end of September 2024. We are communicating detours with all our camp families, renters, and partygoers via email. We are also using our social media accounts and our website to help drop in visitors to know about the detour before they arrive. Progress on this project is coming along well. I hope next month's report will let you know that the project is near completion.
- The repair of the processing board for the geothermal system that supplies heat and cooling to the staff offices has been completed.
- The SNC Foundation is looking into re-engraving pavers that have become unreadable, at this point I am waiting to hear back from our engraver.



*3 Beaver Play Sculpture arrival from Denmark*

## Upcoming Events

- The Nature Play expansion is slightly delayed. As I write this report, I am waiting for a firmer start date for the installation. The equipment is in the country (it travelled from Denmark), now installation crews are being lined up. We hope the expansion will be complete by mid-September. Keep an eye on our website and social media accounts for up-to-date information.
- Intro to Campfire Cooking, a new program, is scheduled for Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. Registration is open now! \$2 per person, ages 8 and up, children must be accompanied by an adult.

“Learn the basics of campfire cooking while being entertained by campfire stories and songs. Recipes will include an appetizer, entree, and dessert. This class is intended for people 8 years and older. All minors must be accompanied by an adult. This class is sponsored by the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation. Supplies are included.”

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

**PUMPKIN NIGHT IN THE PARK**  
 HAVE A GOURD TIME WITH THE WHOLE FAMILY!  
 SATURDAY  
 OCTOBER 19  
 5-9 PM

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

SCAN THE CODE BELOW FOR TICKETS

**\$12** ↪

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT OUR WEBSITE!  
[www.springbrooknaturecenter.org/PumpkinNight](http://www.springbrooknaturecenter.org/PumpkinNight)

City of Fridley  
**Springbrook**  
 Nature Center

LEWIN GILLES GATEWAY

**PUMPKIN CARVING**  
 OCTOBER 13 - 17

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

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

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

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

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO

City of Fridley  
**Springbrook**  
 Nature Center



# AGENDA REPORT

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**Meeting Date:** September 3, 2024

**Meeting Type:** Parks and Recreation Commission

**Submitted By:** Margo Numedahl, Recreation Division Manager

## **Title**

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Fridley Parks and Recreation Division Report

## **Background**

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Attached is the update from the Parks and Recreation Department for the September 3, 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

## **Financial Impact**

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None.

## **Recommendation**

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None.

## **Attachments and Other Resources**

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- Attached is the update from the Parks and Recreation Department for the September 3, 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

## **Vision Statement**

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



# HIGHLIGHTS

## Recreation Division: August 2024

### Summer Programs

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

#### Preschool: Ages 3-5

Soccer (4 sessions): Jul-Aug	14
T-ball (4 sessions): Jul-Aug	14
Track and Field (4 sessions): Jul-Aug	14
Games and Sports (4 sessions): Jul-Aug	12

#### Elementary – Middle School: Grades K-7

Soccer Gr. K-4 (4 sessions): Jul-Aug	14
Baseball Gr. K-4 (4 sessions): Jul-Aug	10
Tennis Gr. K-4 (4 sessions): Jul-Aug	12
Games and Sports Gr. K-4 (4 sessions): Jul-Aug	8
Track and Field Gr. K-4 (4 sessions): Jul-Aug	14
Tennis Gr. 5-7: Jul-Aug	10

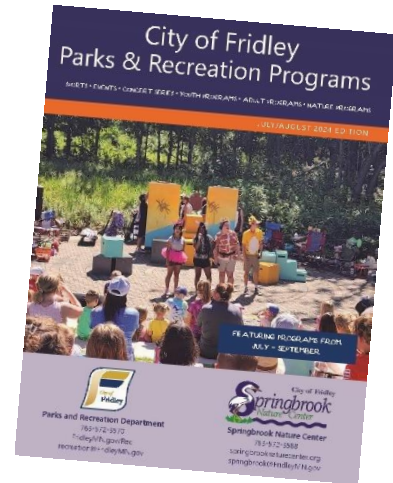
#### Adult Fitness and Athletics

Zumba (2 classes/6 sessions each): Jul-Aug	14
55+ Golf League: May-Aug	21
Pickleball for Beginners (4 sessions): Aug-Sep 6 – Fridley, 2 – SLP	8
Pickleball Live Play Coaching (4 sessions): Jul - Aug 6 – Fridley, 2 – SLP	8
Pickleball Ladder League – All Ages: May-Jul 32 – Fridley, 24 – SLP (2 leagues)	56
Pickleball Ladder League – Ages 20-35: May-Jul 23 – Fridley, 10 – SLP	33
Volleyball Coed Rec League: Jun-Aug North Metro League*: Fridley 6 teams, 9 individual	20 teams

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

### Parks and Recreation Brochure

The September/October brochure is complete and has been mailed to residents beginning on August 26.



### August Facility Rentals

#### Facility Rentals

Moore Lake Community Building	16
Shelters (Commons, Flanery, Locke, Moore Lake #5)	31
Community Park	54
Commons Park Ball Fields	1

#### Summer Concert Series

The concert series ended in August. Luke Cardona and his band, Los Rebeldes played a really fun and engaging concert at Springbrook Nature Center on August 13. 180 people enjoyed free Jonny Pops, and the community really came together to dance and enjoy time together. (One older gentleman even made free balloon animals for the kids!) Socaholix played for the final concert on August 20 at Civic Campus and along with the upbeat music, lots of the 430 people in attendance engaged by singing and dancing. Jeff Loven played the final summer concert at Moore Lake. (This was a rescheduled concert.)



#### Youth Evening Sports

The second session of evening sports wrapped up in August. Fridley Recreation offered a wide variety of sport class options for children of preschool and elementary school age including: soccer, t-ball, track and field, and a games and sports class. In addition, we offer tennis for elementary and middle school children. These programs were an introduction to the sports where participants learned fundamentals in a supportive social environment. Evening sports programs were very popular this summer with most classes full.



**Nickel Jamboree**

Nickel Jamboree returned to Commons Park on August 7. Participants enjoyed carnival games, hay rides, the bouncy castle, inflatable slide, face painting and snacks at the concession stand. A local artist volunteered to face paint this year and did an amazing job working with the event guests. Approximately 300 children and families participated in the event. In addition to our Summer ROCKS participants, groups from Spring Lake Park Parks and Recreation, and Tiger Club were able to attend and enjoy the carnival!



**Rec 'N Roll**

We had another successful summer in the parks with the Rec 'N Roll mobile! Our two interns split the onsite responsibilities of the program and did a fantastic job. Between the two of them, they visited 4 parks each week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from June 18 – August 15. Locations are Moore Lake, Creek View, Commons and Flanery Parks. We saw a record high level of participation in the program with 468 attendees playing games and creating fun crafts. Moore Lake was our most popular location with 254 total visitors. We were happy to partner with Fridley Schools Food Services again this summer to provide free snacks to all children that participated.





**Summer ROCKS (Recreation Opportunities for Creative Kids in the Summer)**

Our summer day camp, ROCKS, concluded on August 18. Participants and staff had an amazing 9 weeks of fun. Kids enjoyed morning classes (sports, STEM, art & crafts) and afternoons involved playground time, games & crafts at Commons Park, and each day ended with free time back at the Middle School. On Wednesdays in August, we had field trips and special events that included: Nickel Jamboree, Zero Gravity Trampoline Park and Shoreview Destination Playground. Each Friday in August, the kids in the 4-6 grade group went for a bike outing in the afternoon utilizing the Fridley Bike Fleet. (Special thanks to Park and Recreation Director, Mike Maher, for leading the group!) The kids had a blast and parents have shared positive feedback on the program. Both the kids and our seasonal staff shed many tears the last day as they did not want ROCKS to end!



**Sand Volleyball League**

This was our third summer offering the Sand Volleyball League with the North Metro Sports group. In total 20 teams participated in this league across Fridley, Spring Lake Park, New Brighton and Mounds View. Games were held at City Hall Park in Mounds View and Commons Park in Fridley. This was our largest volleyball league yet and we are excited to offer year-round volleyball opportunities thanks to the help of our partner cities!

**55+ Golf League**

The Fridley Golf League took place from May – August at the Brightwood Golf Course in New Brighton. The 21 participants played with partners for the season and were paired with different teams each week, giving them the opportunity to enjoy golf and meet other seniors. The season concluded on August 22 with a golf tournament and banquet featuring food, prizes and the end of season ceremony.

### Movie in the Park and Fireworks!

On Friday, August 16 we hosted Movie Night in the Park and Fireworks at Commons Park in partnership with the 49er Days Festival committee. These activities were rescheduled due to the weather in June. Approximately 400 people attended the event to enjoy music by Howie and Dave, food and treats from The Eggroll Queen food truck and Flamingo's Ice Cream, and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem movie on the big screen! Following the movie an additional crowd came to the park and nearby parking lots to view the Firework show, fun was had by all!



### Our Leaders Are Readers

The story time partnership with Anoka County Library Mississippi branch was a success this summer! Bringing out approximately 30 people for each of the three events. The program was held Civic Campus and included songs, games and story readings by our civic leaders in the Fireside Room. Following the story time our readers took participants on a tour of the Fire Department, Police Department or Council Chambers. New this year, Deputy City Clerk, Beth Kondrick, organized a mock presidential election for the kids to participate in during the Council Chambers tour. The results were a tie between Bluey and the write in candidate Barbie!

- August 1 - Mayor Lund
- August 15 - Police Department Reader Patrick Faber
- August 29 - Fire Department Reader James Lange



**Pickleball Leagues**

This summer we offered three different pickleball leagues in partnership with Spring Lake Park Parks and Recreation. Two leagues for all ages and one for 20-40 year old players. This summer was the first time we attempted a day time league which saw success at the new Moore Lake Pickleball courts. The other larger leagues were at the Fridley High School Pickleball/Tennis courts to support the leagues larger size. With more courts we were able to schedule all players at one time, creating an environment where the players in the community could meet and see each other every week. Both leagues were a success! Late summer leagues began in August and will run through September before we move back indoors to the Hayes Gym for the winter.

**Touch-A-Truck**

On August 20, before the concert, we held our annual touch-a-truck event from 5-7 p.m.! The event featured multiple vehicles from Public Works, Fridley Fire engine, Fridley Police cars, Schmit Towing truck, Voigt’s school bus, MN DOT snow plow, Allina ambulance, electric vehicles, lawn equipment, two inflatables generously donated by the Fridley Lions, food trucks and activities. A State Patrol helicopter was scheduled to land but had to abort the landing— however, many folks still enjoyed watching it come close in the sky! Kids of all ages enjoyed climbing and exploring the vehicles.

We are grateful to the Fridley Public Works staff, Rachel Workin—City of Fridley Environmental Planner, Anoka County Library Mississippi Branch, Schmit Towing, Allina EMS, Voigt’s Bus Company, Fridley Lions, MN State Patrol, Springbrook Nature Center Foundation, Rustic Chef Food Truck, and Flamingo's Ice cream for their contributions to make this event successful. We had 700+ community members in attendance and received positive feedback from many folks in the community.



### **2025 Park Improvement Plan Engagement Events**

Fridley staff held three engagement events to gather feedback on plans for next year's park improvement projects. Feedback was gathered from residents regarding plans for Oak Hill, Jubilee and Commons Parks. Summaries from the events will be presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission prior to a request for recommendations for park plans or playground designs.



# AGENDA REPORT

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**Meeting Date:** September 3, 2024

**Meeting Type:** Parks and Recreation Commission

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

## **Title**

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Park Maintenance and Construction Report

## **Background**

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Attached is the Park Maintenance and Construction report for the September 3, 2024 meeting.

## **Financial Impact**

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None.

## **Recommendation**

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None.

## **Attachments and Other Resources**

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- Park Maintenance Report for September 3, 2024 meeting

### **Vision Statement**

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



# Memorandum

Item 5.

**Date:** 8/29/2024  
**To:** Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director  
**From:** Jeff Jensen, Operations Manager, Streets, Parks, Facilities  
**DEPT:** Public Works  
**CC:** Margo Numedahl, Parks and Recreation Manager  
**RE:** Parks and Recreation Commission Report for September 3rd, 2024 Meeting

The Park Maintenance Division has been busy with shelter rentals and athletic field prep for the month of August. We have lost 23 seasonal positions this month to workers returning to school which makes regular maintenance difficult with just our full-time employees and putting projects to the side until summer rentals and field use slows down.

We do have upcoming projects including restoring the landscape in front of city hall, refreshing safety woodchips at playgrounds, helping with new playground at SNC and work in our orchard by 69<sup>th</sup> AVE.

We might also be prepping field #4 at Community Park to change to a baseball field as time permits before freeze-up.

Peterson Companies has started construction on Edgewater Gardens, Plymouth and Logan Park with an expected time of completion of six weeks. Sylvan Park is still in design phase and will probably not start construction until this winter or early spring.