

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

June 06, 2022 7:00 PM Locke County Park, Main Shelter - 840 71st Ave NE

AGENDA

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. May 2, 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

New Business

- 2. Moore Lake Park Community Building Update
- 3. Anoka County Parks Rice Creek West Regional Trail Master Planning Process
- 4. 2022-2022 Parks and Recreation Goals Development

Old Business

Staff Reports

- <u>5.</u> Springbrook Nature Center Report
- <u>6.</u> Fridley Parks and Recreation Division Report
- 7. Park Maintenance and Construction Report

Adjournment



Meeting Date: June 6, 2022 **Meeting Type:** Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Community Services Director

Title

May 2, 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

Background

Attached are the meeting minutes of the May 2, 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

Staff recommend the approval of the May 2, 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes.

Attachments and Other Resources

May 2, 2022 Parks and Recreation Minutes.



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

May 2, 2022 7:00 PM

Fridley Civic Campus, 7071 University Avenue N.E.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRESENT

Mike Heintz

EB Graham

Peter Borman

Ryan Gerhard

Ken Schultz

Mike Maher, Community Services Director

Cody Rossetti, Springbrook Nature Center Interpretive Program Coordinator

APPROVE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA FOR MAY 2, 2022

MOTION by Commissioner Schultz to APPROVE the May 2, 2022 meeting agenda. SECONDED by Commissioner Borman. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

APPROVE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

2. Approve Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes of April 4, 2022

MOTION by Commissioner Graham to APPROVE the April 4, 2022 meeting minutes. SECONDED by Commissioner Schultz. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

3. Deer Management 2021-2022 Season Summary Report

Mike Maher, Community Services Director, reported that the 2021-2022 deer management season has come to a close and reviewed the report and results of the season with the Commission.

There were no questions from the Commission.

4. Parks Capital Investment Program Recommendation

Mr. Maher provide an overview on the Capital Investment Program and noted that each year the Commission is asked to recommend a capital investment program for park improvement and acquisition and for public recreation activities for the ensuing year. He reviewed the current approved five-year CIP, the park CIP strategy, and related improvements and cost estimates within the Park System Improvement Plan. He noted that it is anticipated that the funding for the Park System Improvement Plan could be approved by the Council in the next two months. He stated that staff recommends that the Commission endorse the document.

MOTION by Commissioner Borman to RECOMMEND the proposed expenditures outlined in the "Fridley Parks Estimate Table_Preferred_2022" document be used as the basis for development of the 2023 Parks CIP. SECONDED by Commissioner Schultz. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

5. Park System Improvement Plan Summary Report and Resolution of Approval

Mr. Maher stated that this is an eight-to-ten-year plan with about \$30,000,000 in improvements. He noted that the Council will go through additional steps to inform the public of the anticipated funding for the plan. He provided a brief summary of the schedule for the first seven parks and noted that staff will refine the capital investment program timeline throughout the year.

The Commission asked how regular park maintenance would be factored in. Staff explained that a hybrid model would be developed and would include unanticipated improvements.

OLD BUSINESS

STAFF REPORTS

6. Springbrook Nature Center Report

Mr. Maher provided an overview of recent activity at Springbrook Nature Center and upcoming events.

7. Park Maintenance and Construction Report

Mr. Maher reviewed the written report with the Commission.

The Commission discussed the importance of treating and/or addressing trees impacted by Emerald Ash Borer.

8. Fridley Parks and Recreation Division Report

Mr. Maher provided updates on recreational programing and registration levels. He also provided updates on available staff positions and new staff members. He highlighted the upcoming events for Earth Week and the Environmental Fun Fair at Springbrook on May 7th.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Graham made the MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m., SECONDED by Commissioner Borman. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Staple Recording Secretary



Meeting Date: June, 6, 2022 **Meeting Type:** Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Community Services Director

Title

Moore Lake Park Community Building Update

Background

As part of the Park System Improvement Plan, which has been reviewed and endorsed by the Parks and Recreation Commission, a community building is planned for Moore Lake Park. This project and other improvements at Moore Lake Park are scheduled to begin in 2023. The City of Fridley has enlisted the services of Ortel Architects for building design. Based on preliminary feedback provided by staff of expected uses of the community building for renal, events, classes, programs and park amenities, four layout concepts were shared with staff. These concepts will be refined to two and presented to the City Council at a conference meeting on June 13th. Commissioners are welcome to attend that meeting.

Financial Impact

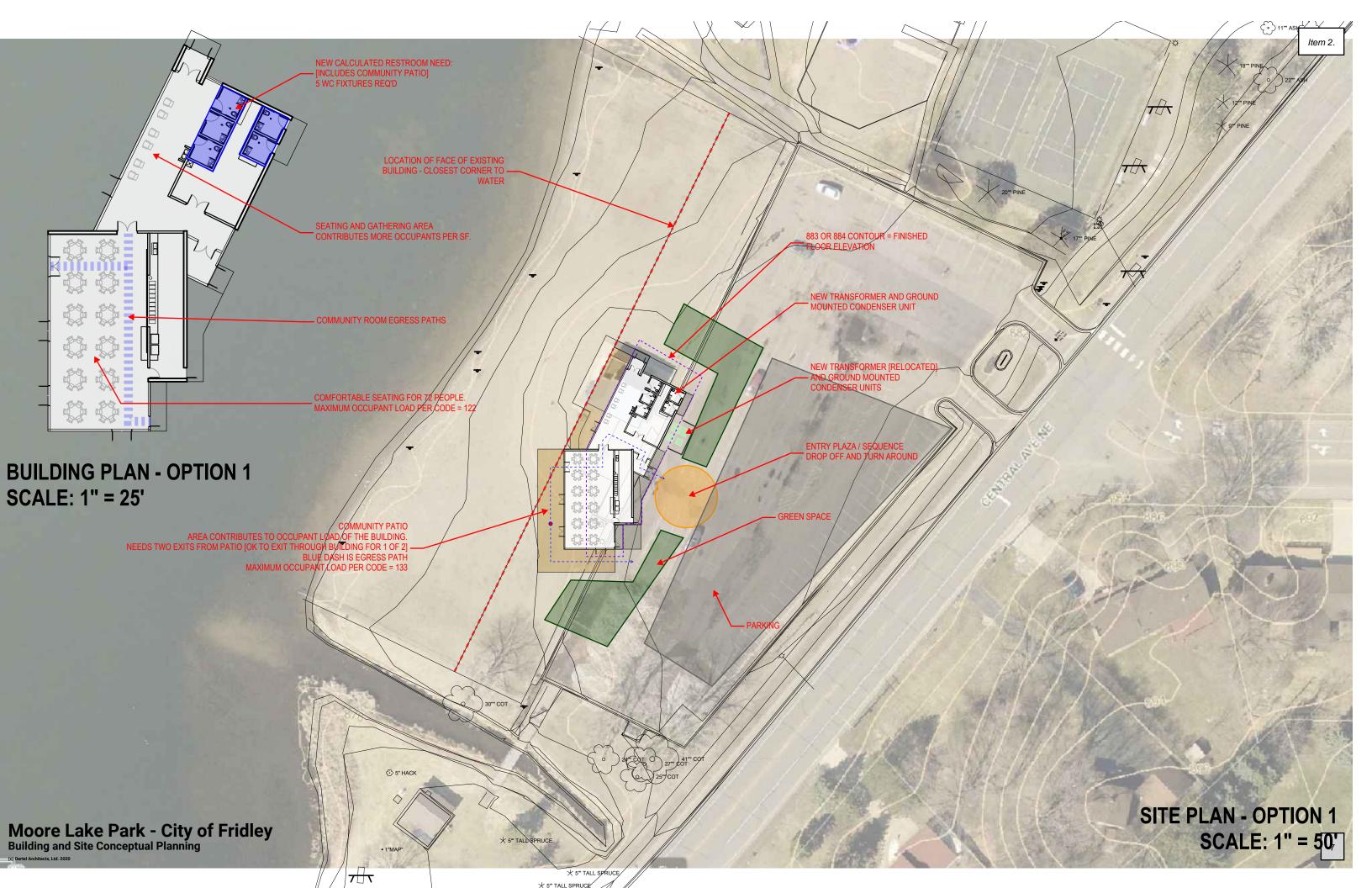
None

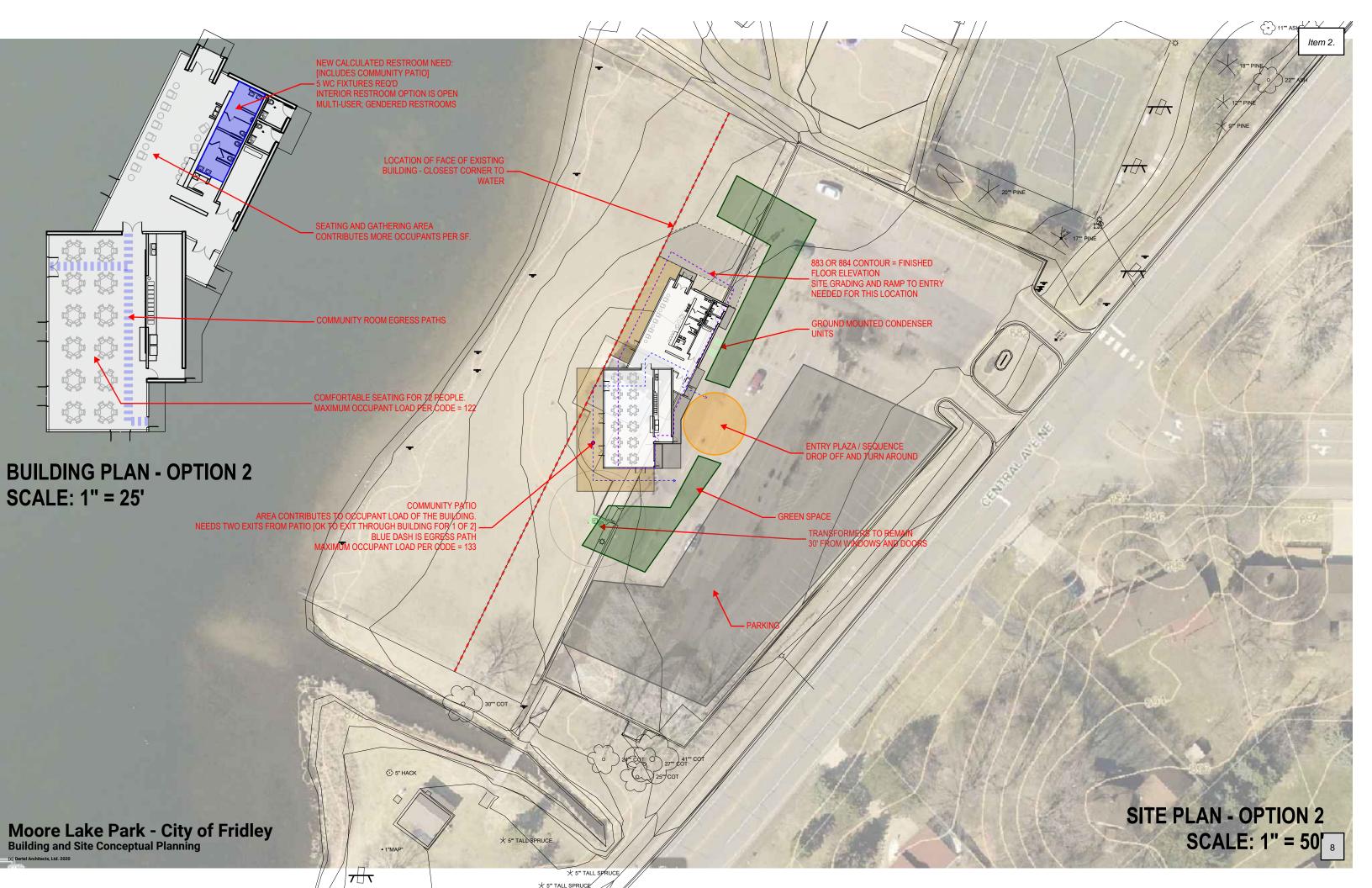
Recommendation

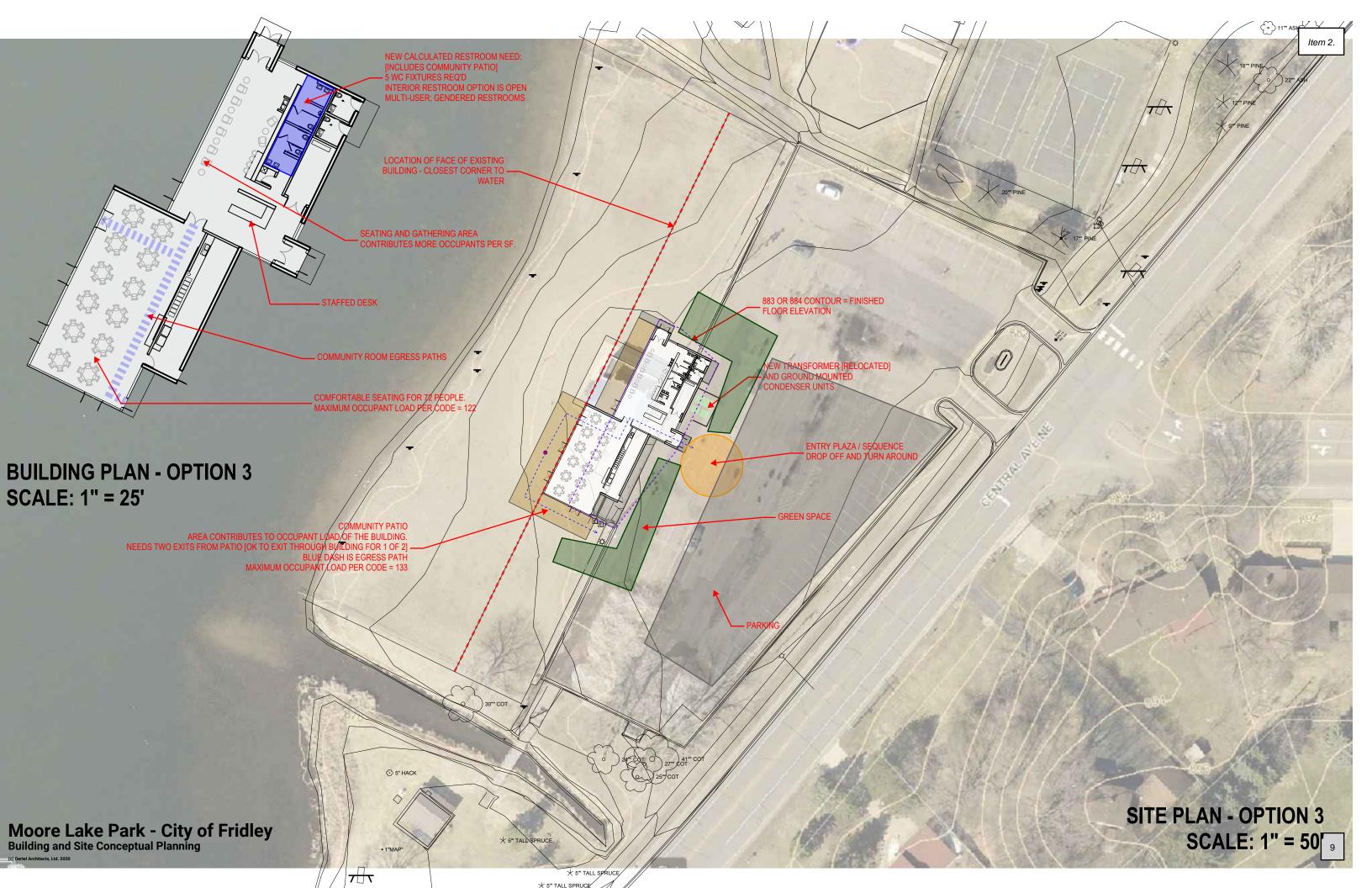
No action is needed at this time. This is an informational item for the Commission.

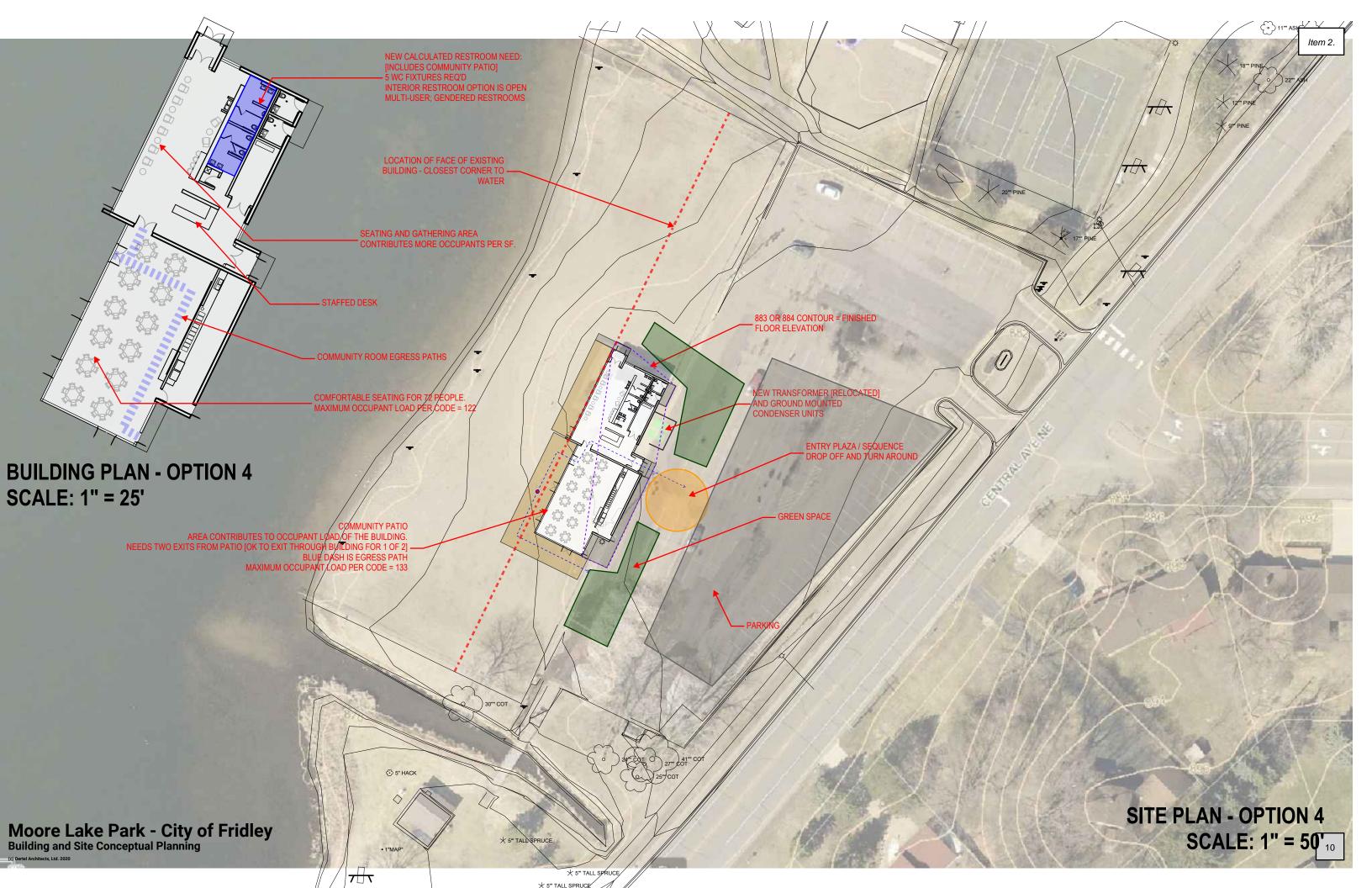
Attachments and Other Resources

2022.05.20_Moore Lake Community Building SD Plan Options_Site_Concept.pdf











Meeting Date: June, 6, 2022 **Meeting Type:** Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Community Services Director

Title

Anoka County Parks Rice Creek West Regional Trail Master Planning Process

Background

Anoka County is in the process of gathering community input that will be used to guide the development of an updated master plan for the Rice Creek West Regional Trail, which runs through several parks in Fridley including Locke County Park, Community Park, Plaza Park, and Locke Lake Park. The Fridley Council has developed a vision statement for Locke County Park along with a document outlining components that were listed in Anoka County's 1979 Master Plan document and Joint Powers Agreement and the Fridley City Council desires for fulfillment of components in each document. These City-owned parks are managed cooperatively by Fridley and Anoka County under the Joint Powers Agreement. Karen Blaska, Anoka County Parks Planner, will present the Master Plan process and as well as gather input from the Commission.

Financial Impact

None

Recommendation

None

Attachments and Other Resources

- Vision of Locke Park
- Locke Park JPA City Desires

Locke Park JPA Vision Components

The following 10 items represent unfulfilled development features of the 1979 Master Plan the City. Our desire is to have them implemented within specific timeframes.

No.	Development Feature Language	Status	City Desire	County Desire
1	Canoe Route 5 ¼ Miles	Unfulfilled	2024	
2	Restrooms	Partial	Open year round 2022	
3	Trail information Center	Unfulfilled	2023	
4	The bike and hiking trails (snowshoe and cross- country ski in winter) will be separated in most areas of the Anoka County segment of the trail.	Unfulfilled	2023	
5	the trail will have a clear zone of 4' on both sides to accommodate cross-country skiing in winter.	Unfulfilled	2023	
6	Major road crossings of trails in Fridleywith a catwalk bridge state highway 47	Unfulfilled	2025	
7	The multiple use portions of the trails will be separated by wood posts and shrub screening.	Unfulfilled	2023	
8	Other uses of the trail will include birdwatching, nature study	Unfulfilled	2022	
9	Winter maintenance activities will include snow removal from the trail parking lots, and periodic inspection of the restrooms/shelter houses.	Unfulfilled	2022	
10	Signs at the trail head locations will have hours for use posted as well as other rules	Unfulfilled	2022	

Locke Park JPA Vision Components

The following represent components for consideration in a new JPA

	Re-visioned Master Plan			
No.	Development Feature Language	Status	City Desire	County Desire
12	Trail Improvements			
13	Connect 73 rd Avenue to Park • Vehicles, pedestrians, and bikes			
14	 Signage Brand the park as a joint venture of the County and City Install trail identification signs Install identification signs at University and 73rd avenues. Improve wayfinding signage throughout park Signs to connect neighborhoods 			
15	Bridges • Replace two mainline trail bridges			

No.	Development Feature Language	Status	City Desire	County Desire
16	Natural Resource Management Remove invasive species Reforestation			
17	Maintenance Standards Adopt City maintenance standards			
18	Programming/education interpretation			
19	Amenities Indoor pavilion Doggie stations Bike stations Bike racks at pavilions Blue light push button Public Art installations			

Locke Park JPA Visioning Meeting Anoka County and City of Fridley August 30, 2021

City Vision

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

Fridley Park Vision

Fridley's Park system will increase the wellbeing of our community by providing people of all ages and abilities with opportunities for active living, social connections, wellness, and nature."

Locke Park Vision

Locke Park will achieve the City's and Park System's overall vision by providing persons of all abilities and ages the opportunity for enjoyment within a nature-based environment. Specifically, this will be achieved by:

- Actively through accessible trails, maintenance of Rice Creek, expanded nature-based programs and gathering places.
- Passively through the natural amenities of the forest, trails, creek, and interpretive opportunities.



Meeting Date: June 6, 2022 **Meeting Type:** Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Community Services Director

Title

2022-2022 Parks and Recreation Goals Development

Background

During the June 6th Commission work session, Commissioners are asked to help in developing goals for 2022 and 2023. These goals will help guide agendas for future meetings and provide direction to staff on priorities identified by the Commission. A document (attached) provides a summary of staff goals, which can be modified and enhanced by additional feedback from the Commission.

Financial Impact

None

Recommendation

None

Attachments and Other Resources

• Parks and Recreation Commission Goals 2022-2023

Parks and Recreation Commission Goals

2022-2023 Goals for the Parks and Recreation Commission

- 1. Assist in developing, reviewing, and approving updated policies for operation of Fridley Parks and Recreation including but not limited to:
 - a. Field use policy
 - b. Special use permits and policies
 - c. Rental policies of shelters and buildings including a new community building at Moore Lake Park
 - d. Recognition program for park benches and similar items
 - e. Fees for rentals, programs, and services
 - f. Fee assistance program
- 2. To serve as a resource for refinements in the planning process of the implementation of the Park System Improvement Plan.
- 3. Review and recommend a Capital Investment Program for Fridley Parks and Recreation for the year 2024.
- 4. To review programs and services offered by Springbrook Nature Center and Fridley Parks and Recreation and to provide guidance on areas for expansion or refinement.
- 5. Other items as directed by the Parks and Recreation Commission.



Meeting Date: June 6, 2022 **Meeting Type:** Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Tara Rogness, Springbrook Nature Center Manager

Title

Springbrook Nature Center Report

Background

Attached is the May 2022 update from Springbrook Nature Center

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None

Attachments and Other Resources

• Springbrook Nature Center May 2022 Update

Springbrook Nature Center Park & Rec Commission Report

May Highlights

- Fridley Kindergarteners are finishing out their module with Springbrook. This year they've learned about living and non-living, habitats, and recycling. They finished their last lesson with a recycling magic trick. If you know a Kindergarten student, ask to see their trick!
- Fridley first graders finished their module as well. They've learned about life cycles, watched caterpillars turn into butterflies in their classroom, played games to simulate the life of a painted lady butterfly, and planted nectar producing plants to help their butterflies find more food in Fridley.
- Fridley Preschool Students were able to have a field trip at Springbrook in which they learned how nature recycles. They visited multiple habitats finding and observing animal signs in the prairie and decomposers (like worms, ants, beetles) in the forest turning natural waste into usable soil.
- 1st and 2nd graders at Park Terrace have been learning about a variety of topics during their afterschool enrichment programs with Naturalists Cody and Ren. Their last classes of the year finished up this month. We hope to see them again next year.
- Interpretive Program Coordinators, Dina Cyrus and Cody Rossetti are still hiring for our summer programs. Hiring has been a challenge this year, but we are confident that we will be fully staffed soon.
- We have seen a return of some of our onsite field trip schools recently. We've taught field trips for:
 Fridley ECFE, Family of Christ Preschool, Monroe Elementary, Wilshire Park Elementary, Madison
 Elementary, 3 Grace Coop, DaVinci Academy, Kids on the Move, Dayton Elementary, and St. Stephen
 Preschool.
- Environmental Fun Fair returned this year as a collaborative program with Fridley Rec and 4H. We estimate 500 people enjoyed a sunny day learning from many vendors and groups about a variety of environmental topics (gardening, macro invertebrates, water quality, solar viewing, and many more).
- Migration Celebration happened on May 14th. Nearly 150 people came to Springbrook on International Migratory Bird Day to participate in games, bird hikes, live animal presenters and more. A big thanks to Ren Carlson for organizing this great event.
- We are gearing up for a great Summer Camp season. We have some 10-12 year old and preschool spots available, check out the SNC website for more information (www.springbrooknaturecenter.org). We're excited to bring back our Junior Leader program. If you know of any teenage (13-18) volunteers that would like to come and hang out in our camp program for the week, please check our website or email Dina Cyrus (dina.cyrus@fridleymn.gov)

Upcoming this Summer

• The Summer Concert Series will take place at the Amphitheater at Springbrook this summer. We look forward to hearing from Anthony Miltich (June 14), Vinnie Rose Band (July 12), Kid Power with Rachael (August 5), and Blue Groove Bluegrass (Aug 16).

Grants

We have applied for a grant from the Xcel Energy Foundation. If awarded the grant money, we have
plans for a new interactive exhibit entitled "The Power of Prairies" that will highlight the desirable
diversity of prairies, their functions, and how we can each increase our biodiversity in our own lawns.



Meeting Date: June 6, 2022 **Meeting Type:** Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Margo Numedahl, Recreation Division Manager

Title

Fridley Parks and Recreation Division Report

Background

Attached are highlights from the Recreation Division from May 2022.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

• Recreation Division Highlights: May 2022



HIGHLIGHTS

Recreation Division: May 2022

Spring Programs

Below is a list of programs and participation numbers for the second session of Spring programs which ran from the end of April through May.

PRESCHOOL & ELEMENTARY

Soccer (3 classes)	25
T-ball (2 classes)	17
Painting	12

ADULT FITNESS & ATHLETICS

Zumba (2 classes)	16
Aqua Zumba	8
Pickleball Skills & Drills (5 - Fridley; 5 - SLP)	10
Pickleball Games & Strategies (9 - Fridley; 3 - SLP)	12
Pickleball Ladder League (11 – Fridley; 5 – SLP)	16
55+ Golf League	18
Adult Men's Softball	6 teams

ALL AGES

BOY Pay May Day	8 kits
ROX Box – May Day	(42 people)
Fridley Forward 50 K	9

Parks and Recreation Brochure

The May-April brochure was mailed to residents beginning on April 22. Staff have completed the content for the July-August brochure and it is currently being finalized with the designer.

Adopt-A-Park Kickoff and Training Event

New recreation coordinators, Brice and Jessica welcomed ten Adopt-A-Park groups to our first annual kickoff event! The event was held on April 30th at the Springbrook Nature Center Pavilion Activity Center. Volunteers were thanked with a free hot dog lunch and games from the Rec 'N Roll mobile were







available. Groups were able to get to know each other during the social hour and a short training was provided after to remind groups of their responsibilities. Volunteers asked questions and gave suggestions at the end of the event. We had almost 40 people attend on a dreary day and we look forward to making this an annual event!

Fridley Youth Sports

Fridley/Heights Youth Soccer began on May 18th and have over 120 children in the league (85 Fridley residents)! New this year, the Parks Maintenance team created 8 youth soccer fields at Community Park. The Parks team and soccer families are all thrilled with how everything turned out and are looking forward to a great season!

Fridley Baseball Association has great numbers this year and the season started out well. They are using the Little League fields and Commons #2. The Parks Maintenance team adjusted the Commons #2 softball field so it can accommodate U12-13 baseball by creating a mound, extending the aglime and lengthening the base distances. Families are loving the new field!



Huge thank you to the city of fridley for making a field for the boys!!! The field looks awesome and the boys played great!! 6-4 winner for the home opener!! #fridleybaseball



6 comments

Summer Seasonal Hiring

We have created a great partnership with one of the career counselors at Fridley High School this year! Mr. Kiefer allowed us to come into the school, table during lunch, and come back to use his office to conduct in-person interviews with 15 students for our summer seasonal jobs. He helped prepare the students on how to fill out a job application, how to interview, and what expectations are for working for us. We are so grateful to have his partnership and plan on continuing it for any seasonal open jobs during the school year. We also attended a job fair at Spring Lake Park High School and tabled during lunch at Totino-Grace High School. In a tight job market where we were expecting to barely get our minimum number of hires (15), we have 25 students that applied and are interested in working with us! Offers were sent and job training starts June 6. We look forward to a great summer!

In addition, we are currently in the process of hiring for a Part-time Administrative Assistant and Program Specialist, and have been supporting the City Manager's Department in selecting the next Communications Manager. In total, Recreation team has been involved in 51 interviews this month!

Environmental Fun Fair

The Environmental Fun Fair returned to the City of Fridley on May 7th! This was the 3rd Environmental Fun Fair hosted at the Springbrook Nature Center. This event saw 500 total attendees engaging in hands on activities with environmental educators and local partners. In total there were over 25 exhibitor tabling stations with activities! Groups included the Bell Museum, International Wolf Center, Anoka County Master Gardeners, and more! In previous years, Anoka County 4H has led the event with the assistance of the Fridley Staff. For this year's event, the Recreation Division was the primary organizer with the assistance of Anoka County 4H, Fridley Community Development, and the Springbrook Nature Center. In addition to the exhibitor stations an interactive hike, live music, bouncy castle, local food truck Rustic Chef, event passport with prizes, and food donations were all a part of this event making it a huge success!











Meeting Date: June 6, 2022 **Meeting Type:** Parks and Recreation Commission

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

Title

Park Maintenance and Construction Report

Background

Attached is the Park Maintenance and Construction report for May 2022.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

• Park Maintenance Report May 2022

Item 7.



Memorandum

Date: June 2022

To: Parks and Recreation Commission

From: Jeff Jensen

DEPT: Operations Manager-Streets, Parks and Facilities

RE: June Parks Report

The Parks Department has been busy getting all athletic fields in shape for all leagues. We converted field #2 at Commons from a softball field to a baseball field by cutting the infield 6 feet back, moving irrigation and installing a pitching mound. We created multiple soccer fields at Community removing them from open play areas at Commons. We have cleaned and painted restrooms at Community and are working on screening for the concession stand at Little League. All groups are happy with the changes at this time. Rentals and weekend cleanup has started and we have been doing storm cleanup with branches and trees knocked down in the recent storms. We are still in need of seasonal employees so please refer anybody you know that would be interested.

Jej:jej