



COTTAGE GROVE PARKS, RECREATION & NATURAL RESOURCES

November 13, 2023

12800 RAVINE PARKWAY SOUTH
COTTAGE GROVE, MINNESOTA 55016
COUNCIL CHAMBER- 7:00 PM

- 1 Optional Workshop
 - A Kingston Park Building Conceptual Design Stakeholder Review- 6pm in Council Chambers (Commissioner Attendance Optional)
- 2 Call to Order & Reading of Mission
- 3 Roll Call
- 4 Approval of Agenda
- 5 Approval Of Minutes
 - A August 14, 2023 Minutes
 - B September 11, 2023 Minutes
- 6 Open Forum
- 7 Presentations
 - A Community Gardens
- 8 Action Items
 - A Mississippi Dunes Park Naming
 - B 2024 Playground Replacements
 - C E-Recreational Equipment
- 9 Presentation of Information
- 10 Action Updates
 - A Cannabis/Tobacco Use in Public Spaces
- 11 Donation Acknowledgements
- 12 Staff Reports and Educational Material
 - A Recreation Update
 - B Parks Update
 - C Ice Arena Update
 - D River Oaks Update
- 13 Commission Comments

A Commission Comments

14 Council Comments

A City Council Agendas

15 Adjournment

Parks Commission Meeting August 14

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Commission Larson. Chair Brown and Vice Chair Crabtree were both absent from the meeting and as the next most senior member on the committee, Commission Larson conducted the meeting.

Approval of the Agenda motion made by Dave and seconded by Debra.

Approval of the Minutes by Shane and seconded by Dave.

7A. RC Track Proposal – The commission heard from a group of volunteers looking to build a RC track at Pine Coulee Park. The group led by Craig Huerta spoke about the potential track, costs, maintenance, and funding sources. The group has done research and explored other tracks and have a solid proposal to create a track in Cottage Grove. They are also seeking funding to help build the track. A motion made by Commissioner Deb to support the RC Group which allows them to continue developing and creating the RC track along with a matching funds from the commission up to \$2000.00. Kelly seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

7B. Bike Park Matching Funds Request – The Bike Park Volunteer Group as requested matching funds for improvements towards reshaping and realigning jump lines at the park. This work has already been completed. Dave made a motion to approve the \$2500 matching funds for the Bike Park. Shane seconded and motion passed.

The commission has asked that when future funding requests are made, a brief history of past donations is also included along with the request. This will help give a better overview of current budget and history of donations.

7C – Park Naming Request – Mississippi Dunes Reserve –

Commission is looking to explore potential names for new park located at the former Mississippi Dunes Golf Course. Current list includes the following two names.

1 Mississippi Dunes Park Reserve

2. Mississippi Landing Park Reserve

Dave added Mississippi Dunes Landing as another potential name. Other naming suggestions should be emailed to Zac within the next two weeks. No further action needed at this time.

7D. The City acquired the former Mississippi Dunes Golf Course. The site would benefit from restoration and removal of invasive species. The MN Department of Natural Resources Conservation Partner Legacy grant program can help with native habitat restoration. The grant is designed by the DNR. Commissioner Dave made a motion to authorize staff to apply for MN DNR Conservation Partners Legacy grant in the amount up to \$215,000 to support prairie /native landscaping at Mississippi Dunes Park Reserve. Kelly seconded. Motion passed.

7E. Mississippi Dunes Signage – Commission reviewed the signs and had no concerns or suggestion for changes.

8A. Information regarding September Commission was given. The meeting will be a joint meeting with the Public Services Commission to discuss two items.

1. Cannabis use in public spaces.
2. Electronic recreation vehicles

Meeting will be held either September 18 or 25th. **Kari will verify date.**

9. Action Updates-

Staff shared updates on the following topics.

1. Mississippi Dunes Reserve Progress
2. Oltman MS Project
3. Ice Arena Solar Project

Mississippi Dunes Reserve is a work in progress to prepare for a potential Sept 1 opening. Park staff have lots of tree debris and tree removal along with trail markings and numerous other tasks before it opens to the public. They are working hard to make it happen.

Oltman MS project is moving forward since the grant application was approved. The site will see new trails, playground and three Lacrosse fields. Plans are being finalized and then work will begin.

Ice Arena Solar Project was approved by City Council. Approximately, 800 solar panels will be added to the West Rink. The solar power will be used onsite to cut energy costs over the next 25-30 years. Saving approximately 1.4-1.5 million in savings.

13A. Councilmember Tony informed group that the budget process is wrapping up for 2024.

Motion to adjourn the meeting from Dave and seconded by Kelly at 7:58. Motion passed.

Commission would like to thank Adam for leading the meeting tonight.

City of Cottage Grove Joint Commission Meeting
Public Services and Parks, Recreation & Natural Resources
Cottage Grove City Hall
September 11, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

A Joint Meeting of the Public Services Commission and Parks, Recreation & Natural Resources Commission was held at Cottage Grove City Hall, 12800 Ravine Parkway South, Cottage Grove, Minnesota, on Monday, September 11, 2023.

1. Call to Order

Chair Lisa Kons called the Joint Commission Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Chair Kons stated Roll Call had been taken.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Samantha Crabtree made a motion to approve the agenda; Commissioner Dave Olson seconded. Motion carried: 15-0.

4. Discussion Items

A. Adult Use Cannabis Regulation

Kori Land, City Attorney, spoke on this topic. There is a lot we're trying to digest from the City Attorney world, because the legislature threw a lot at us in the last few months without a lot of guidance. So, that's why it's coming to you.

As you know, a year ago the State adopted the CBD regulations, which we figure out and regulated. We put it in the City Code where you have to be licensed to sell these products; we put it in Zoning, the places where you can do those kinds of things and activities, as it's more than just the retail, it's also the manufacturing, etc. But these are under 0.3% THC, which is technically nonintoxicating, but it's still a regulated product. Anything over 0.3% THC is considered intoxicating, legalized cannabis. So, that's kind of the division line.

What we have on our books today is all under 0.3% THC, so, we're talking about CBD. It used to be called CBD, this year they named it low potency, so, it's all wonderfully confusing. Last year's ordinances are still valid and enforceable, but they have nothing to do with public use or penalties, other than what's outside of our ordinance.

On the last day of this year's legislative session, there's a 320-page document that legalizes adult use cannabis. It sets up an agency that's going to regulate this, the business side of things, but that agency isn't going to be set up until January 2025. So, in the meantime, we have a lot of people who want to buy and sell this stuff, but they can't technically do it until they're licensed.

There are a few things that are legal today: Use of adult use cannabis is allowed; there are very specific places where you can use it, but there's no penalty if you violate that. That's one thing we're going to talk about tonight. It's also illegal to use, whether it's under or over 0.3%, if you're under age 21; you cannot use those products, but, again, there's no penalty in the law for that use. So, right now, all our police can do is go out there and say please, stop; you're under age 21, so, please stop, but there's no way to enforce that.

When we addressed this with the Council, we were talking about sort of the business side of things and what we needed to do, and they adopted a moratorium on the business side. We also brought up the public space, public use topic, and no penalty for both adults and those under age 21. They said we need to hear from these two commissions because a lot of cities are saying we don't want them in our parks, and other cities are saying we don't want them anywhere the general public is allowed. So, we need to get information from you on if the City should consider prohibiting the public use; it is technically prohibited now, but it's not penalized. So, first, we would have to adopt an ordinance that specifically says it is prohibited in public places and define what public places means; secondly, we adopt a penalty for that. That's the first part; the second part that we'll discuss is whether or not we should adopt a penalty if they're under age 21 because, again, while it is illegal under the law, there's no penalty under the law, unlike Underage Consumption. If you are underage and you consume alcohol, it is an automatic misdemeanor punishable by a minimum fine of \$100; obviously, the maximum is a year in jail and up to \$1,000 fine, but that rarely happens. Usually, it's the \$100 fine. So, we'll discuss those two topics separately.

As was noted in the memo, there are three places where public use of adult use cannabis is allowed: 1) A private residence, in your home or in your back yard. 2) Curtilage is the legal term for anywhere that is your property, even if it's outside. So, your front sidewalk, your driveway, your back yard are all legal. 3) Someone else's private property with their permission is also legal, or a business that has been licensed for onsite consumption. Remember, that's not going to happen until January 2025; so, there is currently no place that is licensed for onsite consumption of the 0.3% THC or more.

You can find these 0.3% or less THC beverages currently being sold at liquor stores and being sold in bars and restaurants with an on-sale liquor license because they are under the 0.3% THC. So, they're not adult use cannabis, or not the adult legalized cannabis, they are considered the low potency CBD that were adopted a year ago. Nobody can sell the over 0.3% THC on sale, for onsite consumption, but again, there's no penalty for it.

We are suggesting adopting a definition for saying where it is prohibited; the Statute uses Public Place, which she thinks is a difficult term to understand. So, she separated Public Place from Public Property, because those are two different things. Public Place: Anywhere that is accessible to the general public. So, that's a parking lot, any retail shopping center or retail store open to the public, an office building, a medical building, an insurance office, any place that is open to the general public is a public place. Within that, we separately defined Public Property: Anything owned or controlled by the City; so, City-owned buildings like City Hall, and that also means the parking lots. It can also be *controlled* by the City, so that can be sidewalks, trails, parks, places that maybe we don't own title to, but that we have control over. So, a sidewalk adjacent to a residential neighborhood is part of the Right-of-Way. We may not own it, as there isn't a title to the roads, but we have it platted as a Right-of-Way in the plat that's officially owned by the City and is under our control. So, anything in the Right-of-Way would be considered Public Property.

Looking at the two definitions, we're asking you to discuss first of all, is it appropriate to specifically have an ordinance that prohibits it so that we can have a penalty or not; if you say as a group, we don't think we should, then we move on to the next topic. If you think there should be an ordinance, then we should discuss what that penalty should be. The legislature has specifically said if a City decides to penalize it for using it inappropriately, in an inappropriate place, it can be no more than a petty misdemeanor. A petty misdemeanor is not a crime, there's no criminal history, it's like getting a parking ticket. It doesn't show up on anybody's criminal record because it's a petty misdemeanor, maximum penalty is \$300. She's heard cities' fees range anywhere from \$25 to \$300, or sometimes it's a graduating scale if you're caught more than once in a 12-month period.

So, first time it's \$25, the next time it's \$50, the next time it's \$100, maybe it doubles each time if it's within a certain timeframe.

Attorney Land stated she'll take questions or told the commissioners to just feel free to discuss. Questions followed from the commissioners, as follows:

- Are the definitions she's given us for Public Places and Public Property consistent throughout our existing ordinances. Attorney Land replied there isn't an ordinance for this, so we're making it up. It was asked if there are other places in our ordinances where we use these terms and they mean something else. Attorney Land replied she didn't think we used these terms exactly like this; so, this will be unique. We don't call things Public Property, we say members of the public or locations or public use, but we don't define Public Property or use those phrases of Public Place, for sure, and she believes we don't use Public Property either. So, she doesn't think we'll be inconsistent with anything.
- How does this penalty compare to our current alcohol ordinance; he assumes that ordinance has more of a penalty than what we're talking about if we were to mirror it on our alcohol ordinances. Attorney Land replied what's really unique is that alcohol violations are all covered under State law, so we don't have to have an ordinance on it other than licensing the businesses. So, we license on sale and off sale liquor licenses, and there are certainly some kind of nuisance ordinances we might have, but, again, State law covers most things related to alcohol, so we don't have to. So, this is very, very unique.
- The alcohol use in our parks today is governed by State law. Attorney Land replied there's no ordinance on it at all, we don't have an ordinance that you can't use alcohol in parks. State law doesn't care, it's up to the individual City.
- Do we know what our neighboring cities are doing for this. Attorney Land stated she didn't do a survey because it changes daily. She'd say that most cities are adopting a prohibition; she has not heard of a city that's not, that's choosing to allow it. Most want a way to regulate it and then penalize it; otherwise, again, it's completely unenforceable to just go up to people and ask them to please stop.

Council Member Olsen told the commissioners that Attorney Land serves as a City Attorney for other cities, too, not just us. She also has a group of city attorneys with whom she communicates regularly to answer questions like what's everybody else doing. As Council Members, we also have access to information from the League of Minnesota Cities, Metro Cities Board, etc., and what's pretty clear, based on at least what he's read, is the vast majority of communities are moving quickly toward some sort of prohibition. As Attorney Land mentioned earlier, the fine lines are where are we going to prohibit this because the State Statute is clearly not going to help us; so, we have our own ordinance authority to be able to do that. Bloomington just came to the table with a pretty strict ordinance about restrictions. One of the things we have to think about is not only do we have parks, but we have golf courses and the Ice Arena; those are all City-controlled entities, so, how does that look. Every community is a little bit unique, but what's consistent is they are all looking for some way to figure out how a prohibition will work until this new State agency comes online in 2025.

- Has the League has suggested anything; do they have any templates yet that could be followed. Attorney Land replied no, they are leaving it up to the cities to decide, and that's the guidance that they're giving us.
- She read through the documents from the State, and she thought it said something in reference to anything in an area where minors would be present, that's illegal. Attorney Land

replied that is true; the law prohibits that there is no minor present, even from smoking or vaping. That's in the State law, but again, there's no penalty for that.

- Backing up to that, though, you can currently drink in our parks, correct? And, so, how would you do that; while the majority of people smoke it, there are a lot more people who are using edibles or drinking it. So, why can you smoke and drink in our parks, but we would say that you couldn't use those other things? Attorney Land stated the smoking and vaping of cannabis affects other people, and that's really the only part we're talking about with the legalized cannabis. It's just smoking and vaping because that's the part that is noticeable. I don't know what you're drinking, I don't know what's in anybody's water bottle, I have no idea.

Council Member Olsen told the commissioner the Council talked about that, we discussed how we wanted to approach it. One approach we discussed was if we wanted to make this more about a public health ordinance and include smoking; in addition to the cannabis products, the tobacco products as well. There was a time when a friend in the Parks Department actually came before the Council with a smoking cessation recommendation; at that time, the Council chose to continue to allow smoking in the parks. He was one of the people who voted for that, as he didn't want to prohibit smoking because he felt a personal grievance issue. If you want to look at this from a different angle, and consider it a public health related issue, then you could potentially consider those things. She said she felt if you were to regulate smoking, then you would also have to include this, and said she can't stand those people who are smoking at soccer games.

- Typically, a public place has a predetermined location for smoking, like at Target, for example, you can't stand and smoke at their front door. Here is something like that for the public place, and then for parks, would it be the same thing, predetermined locations? Attorney Land replied certainly that's an option. One thing she brought up is we can sell cigars and other tobacco products at the golf course because a lot of people smoke them at golf courses. So, that's a real thing to think about as you're contemplating all of this.
- This is actually like regulation of it; is it worth it to talk about legally. Attorney Land stated obviously, it will be complaint based. Frankly, by the time the officer gets there the person is long gone anyway. So, it's really going to be in the moment, if the officer is there, witnessing the behavior; that's the only time that it's actually going to come into play because they can't obviously always be patrolling in the parks.
- Ideally, it's keeping the honest people honest, like you said, at the soccer games where those kids are always there. So, that's a situation where personally, he's like yeah, we need to properly think of something. But, yeah, if we have reason to call the police, they get there after they get done doing all the other calls, and the person is going to be gone.
- Chair Kons stated the one question she's been receiving a lot is who's going to be the marijuana police in our City. I have cities calling me asking me about what do we do with this law, but the downside effect is they're getting tons and tons of calls about people smelling marijuana. So, to that point, it's \$25 or \$100, and do they have to dispatch somebody to that call; if we set an ordinance, then it is her thought process that if I smell marijuana, I can call the police. So, now do we have this volume of calls coming in because everyone smells marijuana in a public space. She just wanted to throw that out there; she totally understands why we want to do this, but then do we have the staff.

Council Member Olsen stated for those Parks people here who do not know Lisa Kons, she's the Chair of the Public Services, and she works for the State of Minnesota in Public Safety. So, when she says people are calling her, that's what she's talking about.

- Chair Kons said that's a huge concern, so, she doesn't know how you deal with that; are those call volumes going to go down? Absolutely, but once this ordinance comes out and people learn of it, now all of a sudden you have an issue.
- Another commissioner stated on the flip side, though, we should be hearing from our Public Safety; is it a problem that we don't have a new ordinance, and that it's going to include smoking. She does think they'd be concerned about call volume burdens.

Council Member Khambata stated he was at the park today with his kids, and thought about if it would be a concern with somebody who was smoking a cigar or smoking marijuana, for that matter; he doesn't know that he would be bothered by it, as much as he would having a similar experience at a Wild game, if there's a clearly drunk person next to him and his kid, and he feels like he can't do anything about the situation. So, he thinks the orderly vs. disorderly aspect is already covered, he would mitigate it as a parent. I wouldn't be making it about the law. If they were sitting right next to him, he might ask them to move, and if they don't, then as an adult, he can decide to go play somewhere else with his kid. He thinks if people were intoxicated and they were being unruly, that's the point as a parent where he might want to get some sort of intervention from a police officer. He doesn't think he would be calling the police because he smelled marijuana. Because, quite honestly, every concert and every hockey game he's been to for the last five years, he's smelled marijuana. So, that's his two cents worth.

- With the THC Commission from the State coming in January 2025, in your opinion, do you think that they will handle anything that isn't covered in regards to prohibition in a public place. Attorney Land replied she thinks they will just deal with the businesses, she doesn't think they're going to touch this. They intentionally overlooked the penalty first. He stated he just wanted to make sure we weren't going to develop something for 13 months. Attorney Land replied, well, that's the limbo land we're in right now is the 13 months of trying to enforce the CBD ordinance.
- Another commissioner stated he does think, though, there's an element of the public health piece. He gets what Council Member Khambata is saying about the disorderly conduct, but we all have the right to be in an environment where we can choose to take care of ourselves. If you're constantly subjected to that, he doesn't know how you'd balance that, but it's definitely a thought.

Council Member Olsen stated it's worth noting that 70% of the families who live in the City of Cottage Grove have children under the age of 18 living at home. We're a very family-oriented community in terms of our populace. So, there is some validity, as Council Member Khambata mentioned earlier, as to we really put a lot of emphasis and pride in our parks and our public spaces and our families like to take advantage of those things. How do we deter anything that might change that type of family thing.

- When she was property managed, she got stuck in a lot of positions where she felt that she couldn't do anything. It was like things that were happening that were out of her control and how uncomfortable it was, but she still couldn't change her position. If she started having an occurrence like he was saying, if you go to this area and somebody was smoking and was causing an issue or making you feel uncomfortable, she would call the police, and then they'll monitor that area. And then it's like they're not coming every single time it's happening, but if there's something that keeps occurring, we know that this is the spot that people are comfortable making uncomfortable decisions. So, it's their right to call the police if they cannot, correct? Attorney Land replied well, if the police were there and witnessed it,

obviously that's the ideal situation because they'd be able to see the violation right there. The same commissioner stated she doesn't know, this kind of makes her feel like that's where we're at; it's like we're just stuck here, trying to keep everybody safe, but we can't move away. So, she doesn't know, maybe somehow if we eliminate that in our comfort zone, maybe.

- This had totally been in place now for a little over a month, month and a half, so what kind of issues have we seen with the City. What are the things that administrators are being faced with because he doesn't want to make a problem if we don't have a problem either. He knows it's kind of early in this, and we have winter just around the corner; he asked does there have to be a rush to get it done before fall, right now? That's kind of where his head is right now. Attorney Land replied just to throw out kind of a timeline, realizing the only thing that we know right now is you can smoke it, but you have to grow it yourself. You can't buy it anywhere, unless it's out of state; so, if you bring it in from another state, there's nothing we can do about that, but you can't buy that product in the State of Minnesota right now. A commissioner stated you can buy it on the reservations; there's three of them. Council Member Khambata stated he drove through the reservation and he saw like a fully operational shop. Attorney Land stated you are correct, she stands corrected; any reservation will sell you their marijuana, that is true. So, you can get it if you have access to those places, but at a retail shop in a regular city, it's not allowed, you cannot. So, it probably isn't super prevalent yet, but it will be in the future.
- Has the School District started any conversation about it, like about school property, etc. Attorney Land stated it's prohibited on school property. Council Member Olsen stated he had a chat with a member of the School Board about this issue last week, and one of the things they're trying to figure out is distance from schools, like we do with some of the other substances that we have. He doesn't know if the State law covered this with the schools, but he didn't think so. The commissioner stated no, it just said the school and grounds. Schools, prisons, and there's some other stuff that was mentioned. He stated that's one of the things that they were wrestling with.
- There's a Federal law that prohibits tobacco consumption within 50 feet of the door. Attorney Land stated Federal law has the Clean Indoor Air Act, so that obviously regulates the indoor use, and cannabis is covered by that. So, you can't smoke tobacco because of the Clean Indoor Air Act, and you can't smoke cannabis either. She doesn't remember what the distance requirement is from a front door, but certainly inside the building it is prohibited. The commissioner stated it used to be the City had moved from 50 feet; Attorney Land replied that was another era, so she doesn't know.

Attorney Land stated we appreciate the feedback and all of the different perspectives on it; you don't have to come to a conclusion or a decision. Obviously, we can take that back to the Council, as they do have to make the decision.

Council Member Olsen stated the reason we're here is because there is a cross section of the public, regardless of the issue that you're dealing with, that's going to feel a certain way; and then there's another cross section of the public that's going to feel a different way, and those two things are often in conflict. As citizens and as advisory commissioners, one of the things that he thinks is critical for us as Council Members is to listen clearly to what you're hearing, your advice, your points of view. You're out in the public every day, just like we are, but these advisory commissions are there for that purpose. You are advocates to us for the general public and you're advocates from us to the general public, and we want to make sure that this is a truly collaborative effort, regardless of how it turns out. He can speak for the entire Council, that's a unanimous thing as far as us being here. Because we don't want to just arbitrarily put something in an ordinance without really getting

the feedback that we need to understand whether it's even necessary. If it's necessary, what should it cover and what shouldn't it cover. There's a lot of ways to slice this, so, your help would be very much appreciated.

- Has the Council been approached at all with issues? Council Member Olsen replied yes, we get emails and phone calls all the time. She asked about what, about public consumption? Council Member Olsen replied about the smell and the public consumption in our parks, it seems like they just want to know. He said he was at the park with his kids and that actually happened.
- And that's been in the last 45 days because he didn't understand the answer to the question earlier, about the activity seen since the law changed. He didn't understand the answer to that question. So, these emails have been since the 1st of August? Council Member Olsen replied yes. The commissioner said but prior to the 1st of August you weren't getting them? Council Member Olsen replied no. He said thank you, he just wanted to understand that. His opinion is that we should have an ordinance. Council Member Olsen stated yes, the complaints never stop, they just kind of change form and fashion.
- How many people in this room think that there should be an ordinance, as he certainly does. Now, should it be restricted, like super restrictive, he doesn't think so, but there has to be something, right?
- The Minneapolis parks went smoke free, and they made it very similar; there's no real penalty, you're not going to get caught, they're just kind of policing it. The biggest impact it had was on the employees, and it gave the employees the ability to say, hey, you can't smoke here, get out of here. The other part was the complaint was now the employees had to go across the street to smoke. So, there was no real winning that, but. Council Member Olsen stated that's commonplace with businesses; somebody mentioned Target earlier, you can't smoke out front. That's not just for the public, that's for the employees, that's a fact. Trust him, he's a retail guy, so he knows about that.

Council Member Khambata stated he thinks from the discussions that we've had on Council, the challenging aspect of this is we can't put any actual punitive recourse attached to it; we can ask somebody to leave, but there's currently no penalty. If we criminalize it to whatever extent we can, then we're paying an officer, who's making probably more than any ticket would be anyway, a pretty good amount of money to go out and politely ask somebody to leave. So, for the time and effort involved, and then again, once it's criminalized, now people are like hey, you're not supposed to do that, you're not listening, I'm going to call the cops. So, basically, we're giving people a reason to complain if nothing gets done even though we can't do anything, technically. So, he thinks whatever we do it should be meaningful and done as a deterrent without being so burdensome to City staff and to people. He knows people who get frustrated simply because somebody's doing something wrong; they're not affected in any way, but because they know that somebody is breaking a rule, that's enough for them to want to complain. Another neighbor was parking in front of a fire hydrant, so, he came over and personally asked me which of us should call the police. I suggested why don't we just ask them to move the vehicle. So, there's going to be those type of people where they're going to be upset about the simple fact that somebody's breaking the rule, and then they're going to ask for a solution. Then there are people who are being borderline disorderly, and that's more for a police officer; then there are circumstances where maybe it's better off just giving them a little bit of redirection. He thinks what the legislature did, knowingly or unknowingly in this aspect, was put all of us in this room in really a position where we don't want to be: We're being asked to fix a problem because we're commissioners or because we're councilmen, but we also don't have any teeth; there's no teeth attached to the law that we can

utilize as tools, like we would normally do as City administrators. The law says we can go up to here, so we have discretion on if we want to be easy or if more enforceable in our implementation, but the law gave us teeth should we choose to use them. In this scenario, the law didn't really give us any teeth. So, he's frustrated because he feels like he really wants to fix this and wants to find something that's meaningful; but everything we do like to somebody who is savvy and knows that there is no real penalty as of right now, they're just going to say no, I'm not going to stop that, and then everyone involved in that specific situation will just become more frustrated. So, he thinks some sort of passive intervention might be in our best interests right now. Some signage, specific zones, something like that where we can kind of direct if somebody was going to do something unpleasant, at least do it over here, away from kids type of thing.

- Chair Kons stated with raising the fine, if we set a City ordinance that makes this a misdemeanor, does that go on their record. Attorney Land replied yes, but it can't be a misdemeanor. Chair Kons stated it can't be a misdemeanor, so we can't increase the fine more than a petty misdemeanor, is that right? Attorney Land replied that's correct, \$300 is the maximum. Chair Kons stated okay, she thought we were talking about making it more than that. Attorney Land stated that was the second part of the conversation where we were talking about those Under 21; if you're Under 21 and consuming an illegal product, there's no penalty for that either. But the vaping and smoking in public, public places, violating the law, can only be a petty misdemeanor. And that is non-criminal, it's basically a civil penalty, and doesn't go on anyone's record.

Deputy Director of Public Safety/Police Captain Greg Rinzel stated to be very clear, a small amount of marijuana was decriminalized years ago, and it's since been a petty misdemeanor. He's been doing this for 28 years, and it's been a petty misdemeanor as long as he can remember. So, this isn't really a lot of new, it's just a lot of different.

- If people want to go sit in the park and drink a beer or smoke a cigarette or go smoke a joint or whatever, then we're telling those people that they can't do that, there are fines against it. She says people say that a lot about smoking, like they can't smoke in a restaurant anymore, so then they'll go drink a beer. So, should we get it into that type of a situation where it's like okay, if we're going to do it for CBD or should it be smoking all around? Council Member Olsen stated that's a valid concern.
- Another stated that's what she was thinking; is there a reason why we need to treat smoking or vaping of cannabis separately from smoking or vaping tobacco? Is there a public health reason why they can't be the same? Attorney Land replied no, but she would caution this on the definitions of Public Places vs. Public Property. You don't see no smoking in public places, ever. You see no smoking at public property, so in parks, specifically, you'll see no smoking in the parks. So, you could, if you wanted to throw it in as an option, let's just focus on parks for both topics. Like she said, there are a lot of cities that are including all places generally accessible to the public; so, anyplace that's open, like parking lots and sidewalks, to the public that they're also prohibiting cannabis.
- If we were to do a smokefree parks thing, how would that affect the golf course? Council Member Olsen stated a golf course isn't a park; Attorney Land yes, it technically is under the definition. So, you would have to think about it as to whether or not you would want to prohibit just tobacco, and we certainly can do cannabis, or maybe you allow both, she doesn't know in the golf course. A golf course is kind of a separate, unique park, if you will, because it separates people. You're in a group of people that you know, it's not like you

have random people walking around that don't know each other. Typically, you know your foursome.

- Does Council gets complaints about people smoking at the golf course? Council Member Olsen replied no. They pay for the privilege to be there. She asked do they get complaints about people smoking cigarettes? Council Member Olsen stated no, he doesn't get complaints. Captain Rinzel stated it's not a violation. The same commissioner stated it's not a violation, though, to smoke marijuana either, so that's why she's asking. Have you gotten complaints about people smoking a cigarette at Kingston Park, or? Council Member Olsen stated we get more complaints about the parks than we do about the golf course, just in general, because the ratio of use is significantly different. He thinks part of that is families go to parks, and it's a free service, and they want to be able to enjoy that space without having to breathe in those other things. He thinks people go to the golf course with a different expectation; they go to either eat, or perhaps have a cocktail, or golf, or all three. They pay for the privilege to be there, it tends to be a much greater percentage of strictly adult clientele; so, it's sort of a different animal. The same commissioner stated she understood that, she meant if we do smokefree or prohibit the use of smoking cannabis, if we do that Citywide, then if we do incorporate tobacco as well, she's wondering how that would potentially affect the sale of cigars, etc.

Council Member Olsen stated he thought if we did a public health survey for a smokefree ordinance and made that focused upon parks and trails, etc., he doesn't know if we could carve out something for the golf course based on the way it's defined.

Attorney Land stated if you said we wouldn't recommend including the golf course, she'll figure out a way of excepting it, whether we remove it from the definition of a public park, that might be the simplest way to do it. As Council Member Olsen said, you have to pay something to just go hang out at the golf course, whether it's to play or eat or drink.

Council Member Khambata asked if the tobacco element is different from the cannabis simply because the consumption of the cannabis at a certain point, you become impaired; you can't drive, etc. You can smoke a pack of cigarettes and you can still get in a car and drive, you can't do that with cannabis. So, to him, they are a little different, they're not apple to apple, because you have that impairment piece.

- A commissioner stated they did some different research showing that some people with nicotine become impaired, and it's absolutely similar to cannabis. But that's the same with cannabis, somebody could take one dose of something and I take the same dose, and we both have completely different reactions to it. It's like anything, like alcohol.
- Council Member Khambata asked Commissioner Larson with the Minneapolis parks going smokefree, do you guys have any feedback from law enforcement regarding service calls or volume of service calls? He replied he doesn't work there anymore, but he can say that we had Park Police. Our Park Police had a schedule, and there was kind of a hotline, so they were always in the parks; so, it wasn't really that they were calling Dispatch on smoking. Council Member Khambata stated so you wouldn't say that there was a disproportionate impact immediately following that; he replied no, not really. To be honest, a lot of people weren't smoking in the parks; there wasn't a big problem with it.
- Are there statistics from other states that have had this for a long time that could help. Council Member Khambata replied every state does it a little differently, at least from what he's heard. Attorney Land stated she's seen that most cities do prohibit it in public parks.

- Chair Kons stated our law is so much different than anywhere else. We went all in when this law was passed, we actually took marijuana off of the Schedule I list, and we don't call it a drug anymore in Minnesota; we're unique in that fashion. So, it's hard to go to other states for information because in order to do that, you have to have the same parallel laws. So, you really have to go through them with a fine-toothed comb to say okay, what happened here because this is our law; unfortunately, that's not the law in other states. We see a lot of public consumption in other states, but cities and counties have the ability to set ordinances, it's just like any other law. If you go over to South Dakota, they don't have primary laws for a lot of things, but there's a lot of cities that say in our city, you're not going to text and drive, in our city, you're going to wear your seatbelt.
- Is the intent to try to develop something today? Attorney Land replied no, it's just to get your feedback. So, if Council Members feel like we got enough, we can move on to her second question.
- The only thing that's been rolling in his head, just to think out loud, was ordinance vs. a statement. Can a City, instead of putting it in an ordinance, have more of a health statement? You know, thinking of our water, how we're fixing our wells. Can we have more of a public health statement that goes out, here's why we feel you shouldn't do it vs. going out and saying you can't do it, because we can't do anything about it. He doesn't know if that could be an option. Attorney Land replied she doesn't think it's fair to say we can't do anything about it because we can; we will have a penalty. And for those that continue to violate, because there are those that will continue to violate and tell the Police Department I don't care, you're not going to do anything to me. Well, we can finally go out and say here's your ticket. So, without anything in our books, there isn't anything we can do. A resolution, while great with lots of nice, flowery words, is unenforceable. So, if we want to have the option of having a penalty, you have to have an ordinance in the books.

Council Member Olsen asked before we transition, can we maybe hear from Parks & Rec Director Zac Dockter and Jim Fohrman, Parks Superintendent, in terms of what you guys are seeing out in the parks or what they're hearing from the public. Has there anything been brought to you from your team in the parks?

Director Dockter stated he doesn't hear a lot of complaints, he probably has a few emails recently, in the last 45 days, of people smoking marijuana on a trail; why do I have to be around that? But otherwise, typically, from his perspective, we don't get a lot of complaints about smoking of tobacco or marijuana, but Jim can speak more about that.

Jim stated no, we don't see it a lot. We had one where the person got really upset about it, and there was one at Highlands. There was something at the Skate Park where we had a call; they're hiding their stuff in the Skate Park and whatever, and there's a whole team down there, but other than that, no. We haven't had any issues or people complaining when we're in the parks at all.

Director Dockter said the same with cigarettes, too. Looking back, the world has just changed; smoking cigarettes around kids is not really socially acceptable anymore, and it's not socially acceptable in a restaurant, or wherever. So, people have just adapted. We'll also sometimes see grandpa tucked away by the trees at 50 yards from the playground, smoking a cigarette; and, usually, nobody cares about that particular situation. He sees more of that.

- Wondered if our biggest issue in the park setting is going to be those young people, under 21, who can't do it at home because they know they're going to get in trouble with mom and dad, so they're going to go somewhere else. She doesn't think we're going to have 28- or 30-year-olds sitting at the park doing it; they're probably going to be at home.

Council Member Olsen agreed, and stated that's a great transition to Attorney Land's next topic.

- A commissioner said she thinks she's seen signage in our parks about certain limitations on smoking, around the Splash Pad and when people rent the pavilions and things. Do we have anything like that? Director Dockter stated that's inside the buildings only; outside of the buildings, there are no regulations. The commissioner asked not around the Splash Pad; Director Dockter stated that might be referring to the building, but typically we don't regulate anything outside. Maybe it's at the overhang of the building. Director Dockter stated that's what he's wondering, but otherwise he doesn't think so; he's never 100% sure. Jim stated we don't have anything posted outdoors.

Attorney Land stated full disclosure, she believes in punishing the children. It's under 21, so, we're not necessarily talking about juveniles; if you're between 18 and 21, you are an adult. She believes the Underage Consumption law she thinks should be consistent with your Underage Cannabis. That's her two cents, you can choose to do or recommend whatever you want, but there's no penalty in the law; again, that was intentional, that's with smoking and vaping as well. She believes that if you're going to enforce Underage Consumption of Alcohol, which is intoxicating, you should be able to enforce Underage Consumption of Cannabis, which is also intoxicating.

- Are there any good tests for it right now; that's what he keeps hearing in the workplace is there's no good test if I can smell it on you. There's no real good test that would show it, like a breathalyzer. Council Member Khambata stated there is for officers, for like DUIs, but it's not enforceable, it's like strictly volunteer. He thinks he read it in the Star Tribune, there are states starting to work on something along the lines of like a field sobriety test for that. Chair Kons stated there's an oral fluid pilot project that's going on right now, and that'll happen for a year, as it was passed this legislative session. But part of that pilot project, because it's a pilot project, also means if you get pulled over, you have to agree to the oral fluid test. So, we'll find out more in a year, and we do have to report back to the legislature after one year of the pilot study.

Attorney Land stated she's not so much concerned about the driving, maybe we should be, but it's more the public use and the juveniles in the park, who are using it, and all the officers can say is stop. So, she thinks we again need to have something on the books so it makes it enforceable if the officers see them with it. That is going to be if the officer actually walks up on the juveniles while they're smoking.

- Since it's 21 or younger, how do you determine who is 21 and younger, because they look very old these days. Attorney Land stated she'll leave that to the officers to figure out, whether they ask for ID or try to get voluntary admissions. So, it would be somebody making the call who's assuming they're under 21, and then the police officer has to get there and identify them. Attorney Land stated again, a lot of it is going to be inadvertent contact, that they're in the right place at the right time.
- Captain Rinzel stated the other big issue is nobody's testing. The BCA doesn't test for it, so we have a prohibition against using something that we can't test to determine whether it is something; it's a little bit difficult to enforce that, unfortunately. Council Member Olsen stated we would have to utilize a private lab; Captain Rinzel said and then we'd have to pay for that. Attorney Land stated but that's only if somebody challenges it.
- It's been a few years since he's had a minor consumption ticket for alcohol, and he knows the difference, but is that on a graduating scale in terms of fine or is it just a fine? Attorney

Land replied it's just a misdemeanor; she said she thinks it's up to the judge, and it's a minimum of \$100. Captain Rinzel stated it's on the payables list now, so you can just walk in and pay the citation; it's payable, just like a speeding ticket. It might have a graduated fee if there are things like law library fees; however, it used to be court required, and now it's a payable. To be a payable like that, it's essentially a City Ordinance violation. It's a low impact, administratively. He said we just don't want to go down the road where a judge throws out your ordinance because they can; so, we don't want to be that department that has one of those tickets get challenged and we lose every one of them. It was asked do you only write them if you see them? Captain Rinzel stated the Underage Consumption is very easy; I saw you drinking alcohol or beer, you have stary, glossy, bloodshot, watery eyes, consistent with somebody who's been drinking alcohol. Smoking weed, I walk out and I have no idea; they have bloodshot and glassy eyes, but say, no, I was standing next to this person. Plus, did we physically observe it? There's no test available right now, so there's no way for me to get proof beyond a reasonable doubt; there's probable cause, which is what I need to write the citation in the beginning. Proof beyond a reasonable doubt is what we try to hold ourselves to if we're going to send this to court, because judges and attorneys aren't willing to take it forward without knowing they're going to win. So, that's why those cases just don't get charged.

- Chair Kons said unfortunately, in Minnesota, there's just no case law right now. So, there's going to be a lot of attorneys on both sides of the fence. She serves on some Strategic Planning Committees and there's always case law; to Captain Rinzel's point, no one is going to want to stick their neck out to be the first case law that's going to rise up in the court system. Council Member Olsen stated we got our body cameras for that reason; we wanted case law to exist to work out some of the bugs before we went to using the body cameras.

Attorney Land stated as a former prosecutor, she would say wait until you have the evidence in front of you, see them smoking it, now you don't need to send it to a lab.

Council Member Khambata noted Captain Rinzel had mentioned to him that he hadn't written a citation for Underage Consumption of Alcohol in quite a long time; he asked if the presence of that ordinance is enough of a deterrent in his mind, or is it just not a big enough issue. He asked Captain Rinzel when he was previously writing them, was he like hey, get out of here, you guys need to disperse, or I can use these tools against you; I can write Underage Consumption if you don't leave. How do you practically implement or utilize an Underage Consumption ordinance; he's assuming you just weren't writing a ton of them, ever, because of the practical difficulty of like having to observe somebody drinking. When most people see a cop coming, they're probably going to ditch it.

Captain Rinzel replied a lot of times you'd get the testing that was available. We used to write Underage Consumption tickets on house parties; we'd sit there and write 60 tickets, that was commonplace on house parties when he was a newer officer. It's just everything evolved; he thinks we'll see more people smoking marijuana with their buddies, playing Xbox at their houses, separately, than you will happen on a party with everyone smoking marijuana. It's just the dynamics of how kids interact now have changed immensely. You don't have huge house parties anymore; graduations are really the only time we have any issues with Underage Consumption in large groups. It just doesn't, it's an odd dynamic, he can't figure it out, but we used to have them a lot more often. So, it's really hard to compare the two of them.

- With the ordinance for the under 21, do we have to have an ordinance for Citywide if we have an ordinance for under 21. Attorney Land asked if she meant are these two ordinances connected; she replied yes. Attorney Land replied no. So, we could potentially just have an ordinance for the under 21 with a penalty and not have a Citywide one? Attorney Land replied yes.
- Do we need a new ordinance for the Under 21, or can you just add cannabis to the current one? Attorney Land stated there is no ordinance; the Underage Consumption is a State law. He said but we could mirror what State law is; Attorney Land stated yes, that's what she's suggesting is we just mirror what it is for Underage Consumption. He stated she would have his support to go forward with that.
- What about the fine? Attorney Land stated it can be up to \$1,000, but Council can set the fine. It would be a payable, so we'd just add it to the payables list, whatever amount you decide. It should be enough to be a significant hit.
- Is there a repercussion for multiple offenses? Is there a plan for multiple Underage Consumption offenses? Attorney Land replied she thinks that we probably could write it that way; she doesn't know that there is for alcohol. She couldn't find a State law on it that says there is. A commissioner stated in Wisconsin, there actually was a graduated scale, but he thought it was within a certain timeframe as well. Captain Rinzel stated he thought that was their State Statute also, whereas this is different, it's a City Ordinance. If we have a City Ordinance violation for somebody who lives in Thief River Falls, he has no idea how many Underage Consumption violations they may or may not have had or how many marijuana violations, or anything. He thought we'd have difficulty enacting that because it's not a statute, it's an ordinance. Ordinances that we have steps on are if you're selling to underage people, and there's a step process for the licensure, and other things. But for a situation like this, he would strongly recommend we just go with something, and then we stick with that because the courts aren't going to like manipulating that, one way or the other. What is the crime; the same thing, a petty misdemeanor or misdemeanor, and this is the fine. So, it stays cleaner.
- Essentially, we have to develop what we see fit as a prohibitive amount of money. Council Member Olsen stated the idea of the citation is to change the behavior, whether it's a driving citation or something else; and we want it to be enough that it will have that person hopefully change their behavior moving forward.
- You want it to be enough so mom and dad have to become involved. I don't know too many 16-year-olds that can drop \$1,000 for smoking marijuana.

Council Member Khambata stated he doesn't know too many adults who would be happy about having to pay a \$1,000 for a fine like that.

- Can we use the State Statute for selling to underage, like selling alcohol to underage, to prosecute whoever provided legal cannabis to the underage consumer? Attorney Land replied it is illegal for anyone to provide legal adult use cannabis to anyone underage. Council Member Olsen stated we already established the ordinances on that. Commissioner stated so, we have that covered already, so we don't have to worry about that. Attorney Land stated from a retail perspective, we for sure do. With State law, she doesn't recall if they have a penalty for selling to underage, but she would imagine that they do.

Attorney Land stated so she saw a lot of head nods. Council Member Khambata stated this is a focus group, so he asked how much of a penalty would be prohibitive for a younger person?

- A commissioner stated he wanted to know about a penalty to use; it spreads a lot throughout the school, so you'll hear of kids using it or distributing it. He knows not many kids like to speak up for it, so he thinks if there was a penalty for it, it would crack down on that a lot and make kids feel safer at school. Council Member Olsen stated he thinks he's right; he said that was a very good piece of feedback.

Council Member Khambata stated now, if you got caught with it, how much of a fee would be really, really uncomfortable for you, \$100, \$200? He appreciated the good feedback of kids not wanting to speak out against that.

- For people who have older kids, do you as a parent talk to kids about marijuana as much as you talk to your kids about alcohol? Most responded yes; one said they talked about it yesterday. Despite her talking to kids about it, they used it anyway. An important point, too, is unfortunately we have parents who smoke it whose teenagers are going to think it's okay, especially now that it's legal; so, now this teenager is going to potentially get a citation when they sit at home and smoke marijuana illegally with their parents.

Captain Rinzel said there's a program at the Youth Service Bureau; so, if you're under age 18, there is a course offered for offenders. So, for the high school age kids and young adults, he doesn't see us writing a plethora of citations for this. The judges will only kick those back and say they need to go to the Youth Service Bureau for education and then probably the Chemical Assessment Program, which you're required to pay for and attend; the parent also has to attend, so that tends to be more of a larger sum than the fine associated with it. He thinks you're really concentrating on the 18- to 21-year-olds, where we have no more mechanisms, as we do with minors, to change that behavior, other than a financial burden. We have very good messaging from the County Attorneys relative to minors; so, if it's a first offense, they're going to the Chemical Assessment Program. If it's a second offense within less than six months, maybe they're getting a citation, but most likely they're going through the Chemical Assessment Program again. So, it's really geared to the under 18; so, the penalty that you're talking about here is really for the 18- to 21-year-olds.

- It was asked what is the typical fine for a speeding ticket. Captain Rinzel replied he hasn't written those lately, but it's right around \$140, but there's also a law library fee, so he'd guess it's right around \$200. The commissioner asked if the other commissioners thought \$200 was going to correct behavior for 18-to-21-year olds.
- A commissioner replied she thought that it might be enough of an irritation because then if they don't pay it, what are the consequences? Attorney Land replied they can get their driver's license revoked for failure to pay fines. The commissioner said, so they have to make that decision, is it really worth smoking this weed outside, or should I just stay in the house. She knows they're not supposed to do it at all, but can we really stop this individual from not smoking? Probably not. So, realistically, how do we at least keep it so that they have more control over where they do it. But she thinks they're going to go and do whatever they want, that's her opinion. Captain Rinzel stated if you roll through a stop sign or disobey any traffic laws, that's one thing, but is this more egregious than a traffic violation. What's the tipping point on what you do; everyone's going to have a different opinion. The commissioner stated he's just trying to draw a parallel to that, essentially the amount of the fine; he doesn't know what the fine should be, \$500? Captain Rinzel asked what's the Underage Consumption citation on a payable fine that it mirrors; there is no difference, as they're both intoxicating chemicals, whether it's alcohol or marijuana. Just for the sake of we're not choosing one thing over another; there's one group that tends to drink and one

group that tends to smoke marijuana, and there's no difference. If you do either of those, that's the fine.

Council Member Olsen stated we talked at our last Council meeting about the 0.3% beverages. He asked if this would cover that as well. For the 18-to-21, if they're found in violation by smoking this substance, there's going to be a fine, a citation issued. We're talking about mirroring the Underage Consumption; is it Underage Consumption for them to drink the 0.3% THC beverages? Attorney Land replied they can't drink anything containing under 0.3% THC or drink anything over 0.3% THC; it's illegal for anyone under 21 to have anything that has THC in it. Now, it's no longer called CBD, it's now relabeled as low potency.

Director Dockter stated we still have two agenda items tonight, so asked if commissioners had any last comments. He asked the Council Members if they had received some direction on this topic. Council Member Olsen replied he thought we had some. Council Member Khambata stated there's a consensus on an ordinance and there's a consensus on some sort of fine, but thought we're undecided at this point on the value of that fine. His input is he thinks we should mirror the existing ordinance on Underage Consumption because it seems fair, and we don't want to look like we're targeting anybody. It also makes challenging that fine or that ordinance a lot more difficult if it mirrors something that's already established.

Council Member Olsen asked Director Dockter if we could do a show of hands on the first topic; who is in favor of some sort of ordinance prohibiting use or smoking in the parks and potentially in public places, like trails and things?

- A commissioner asked if it's just for the CBD or is it smoking everything? Attorney Land replied it's just for the THC; we're not talking about general tobacco.

Council Member Olsen stated we're not talking about tobacco, but that could be part of the conversation if we wanted to approach it from a total public health perspective. Speaking politically, that might be the safer way to go. What he's curious about is how many feel as though there should be some sort of ordinance in place prohibiting that use in our parks and trails and places where families congregate. Council Member Olsen stated he can't count them all, it kind of looks half and half to him. Director Dockter stated he counted 10 to 5.

Council Member Olsen stated at our next Council Meeting, or shortly thereafter, we're going to meet and have another conversation about this, so we very much value the input while we're here. We want to be sensitive to the fact that there are slices of the population that are going to feel really strongly one way and another group of people who are going to feel really strongly the other way. Of course, we're the ones in the middle who get to decide, but it's always helpful to have your input and kind of a general consensus of what we're looking at. Council Member Olsen asked Attorney Land if that was helpful for her; she replied yes, very.

- A commissioner stated obviously, the adults get the information, not really the children; is there a way to put a program or update together to bring to the schools, or at least maybe just the high school, so that they know what they're facing and like what's out there. She's sure they're confused as well about what the laws are, so, just kind of keep them on track; so, they can make their own decisions without completely being oblivious to what the whole picture is, because all they might know is they can smoke weed. Council Member Olsen replied that's good feedback. She stated it's just something to think about, and she didn't mean to get off topic.

Council Member Olsen stated we would need to partner with the School District and their communications team, but that's something we do often, so, it's good feedback. He thinks absolutely that's the right thing to do.

Director Dockter stated along with that, you may wake up tomorrow, read a newspaper article, and change your mind. So, you have email addresses for me, Ryan, Greg, Council Members; if there's anything, please do not hesitate to use that as a tool. We all want to keep hearing information because his opinion seems to change almost daily.

Council Member Olsen stated if there's more that they want to discuss, that maybe they didn't feel comfortable discussing in front of the group, please reach out to Council Member Khambata or me, or both of us. Council Member Olsen gave his cell phone number, 612-845-3524; he said they can call him anytime, he'd love to hear more of their feedback.

B. Electric Vehicles

Director Dockter stated the world is changing rapidly around us, and maybe we're not keeping up with it in terms of what our ordinance says and how we regulate some of these new technologies emerging with recreational vehicles. There are electric scooters and electric bicycles, and we're only going to define a handful of those today, the most common ones that we're seeing. As you know, whatever we have today, there's going to be a bunch of new technology in the future; so, it's going to change constantly. We're going to ask the commissions today what do you see out in the public, what are you hearing about any concerns, particularly on the trails and in the parks and on the roadways, and how they interact with the public around them.

Some of the most common technology we're seeing out on the roads and in the recreational system are Ebikes, with typically 2 or 3 wheels with a seat, and they don't have signaling devices, though some have little brake lights. He thinks it's important that we understand that the State actually classifies them into three types of Ebikes:

Class 1: Is electric assisted, meaning you still have to pedal in order to keep it going; they're limited to about 20 MPH and there's also kilowatts for the motor that can go on there as well.

Class 2: Assisted bicycle is capable of propelling the bicycle without the rider actually pedaling, so now you can just push the button and it goes by itself; you can either bike or just push the button. It also typically goes up to about 20 MPH.

Class 3: Electric assisted bicycle is the same type of concept as Class 1, but it can go up to 28 MPH, so it's got a larger motor in it, but you also have to pedal this one.

One thing we actually were looking at as we were studying this topic is that the State Statute does say that no person under the age of 15 shall operate an electric-assisted bicycle; we didn't even know that until we started studying this topic. We all know that that's happening in our community; people under age 15 are using those pieces of equipment. We're just trying to figure out do we care or not; if we do, what do we do about it?

Golf Carts and All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs): Other emerging recreational trends are golf carts and ATVs, but there are different types of golf carts. There are those used at the golf course, which don't have turn signals or brake lights, and no signs that warn people that you have slow-moving traffic; those typically move about 10-15 MPH. Obviously, technology has changed and people are really invested in their golf carts, as you can get as high as 30 MPH on specialty designs. Many of those fancier golf carts have signaling devices, brake lights, and there are certain communities that are allowing them. He knows Prescott, WI, uses a permitting or licensing system, and there need to be certain tags on the units, but then they can drive on the roads; they're not the only community.

ATVs and a lot of four wheelers can obviously reach some pretty extensive speeds of 40-60 MPH, and typically they are automatically equipped with signaling devices for people traveling around on them.

State Statute: A neighborhood electric vehicle or a median speed electric vehicle may not be operated on a street or highway with a speed limit greater than 35 MPH, except to make a direct crossing of that street to get from Point A to Point B. A person may operate a three-wheel neighborhood electric vehicle without a two-wheel vehicle endorsement, provided they have a driver's license.

Director Dockter stated Attorney Land will speak about our current ordinance.

Attorney Land stated in case you didn't know, we went through about a two-year process of revising the entire City Code, piece by piece. And this is one of the areas that we specifically studied because it is, as Director Dockter said, an emerging area with new definitions. Every time we think we have it figured out, they come out with a new regulation that we needed to know. So, we tried to adopt something that would be adaptable as they change State law; because if you're too specific in your ordinance, based on what the State law is today, we know it's going to be different tomorrow. So, currently in the City of Cottage Grove, we have a general definition for recreational vehicles that includes all things that are tiny, which have either a gas motor or an electric motor; all of those things are to be considered a recreational vehicle. We, as a general statement, prohibit all of them in our roads and sidewalks and trails and parks except for the ones that are regulated by State law, specifically: Motorized foot scooters, electric-assisted bicycles, and electric personal assisted mobility devices. Because they're so special, we don't want to try to contradict what State law allows. So, generally speaking, electric or gas-powered scooters, minibikes, motorcycles, go carts, hovercraft, snowmobiles, ATVs, and dune buggies, all of those are prohibited on our City streets, sidewalks, and trails; except for the motorized foot scooters, electric-assisted bicycles, and electric personal assisted mobility devices, which means electric foot scooters are specifically to follow bike laws. So, generally, if you can ride a bike, you can ride a motorized foot scooter on all roads, totally allowed, but not on sidewalks; trails are totally fine, as are bicycle trails, those are allowed. They do not require any licensing or registration, so you can own one without having to tell anybody about it, and it is regulated by State law.

Segways: Under State law those are an electric assisted mobility device because it has two wheels; so, those are special, and those can go on the road, up to 30 MPH, but no faster than a speed limit of 30 MPH. They can also be on a sidewalk, on a bike path, and again, no license or registration. So, we're not going to try to regulate it; as State law says it's allowed, we can't prohibit it.

Golf Carts: The rule on golf carts is they can be on the roadway, up to 35 MPH only. Sidewalks and bike paths, but not if they take up more than half of the space; they have to have a passing area to have two golf carts on the same path. They have to be licensed and registered, just like a car, or they're not legal to be on the road. So, if you see people driving a typical golf cart, like you find on a golf course, on a road, that's illegal. Captain Rinzel stated he doesn't think you could easily fit two golf carts on a trail; Attorney Land stated you cannot, we already tried it.

Attorney Land stated that you can drive any of these things on your own property; you own your own property, and we're not going to come on your property and tell you that you can't.

Ryan Burfeind, Public Works Director, stated he's going to talk about our different types of trails in town and how they're designed because if we're going to talk about what should be used on them,

it's important to know how we design them and what we design the use for; those are recreational and transportation trails.

Transportation Trails: Are generally located in the road Right-of-Way, along 80th Street, along Jamaica Avenue, etc. We follow a very specific design, the MnDOT Bikeway Facility Design Manual, so that actually tells us how to design that trail in the Right-of-Way so it has a 20 MPH design; so, it's a safe design for a bike, a scooter, etc. to go 20 MPH and not run off the road or hit someone coming around the corner too fast. It looks at how steep is it, how sharp are the curves, are there sight lines, is there a clear zone because we don't want a street sign one foot off the trail that you're going run right into if you run off the trail. We generally plow almost all of our transportation trails all winter so they can be used year round.

Recreation Trails: These are generally located in parks, open spaces, those around Hamlet Pond, etc. They are often in very heavily-wooded areas, and we do try to follow the Bikeway Design standards; that's not really possible throughout because being in a wooded area we're trying to reduce tree loss, and there might be some very desirable trees in the park that we don't want to take down. Just like the wetlands, we're not going to run a bike trail through a wetland. While we try to do our best to follow the Bikeway Design standards, it's not commonplace to follow them to a tee. That's why they don't really have a 20 MPH rating as we design and build those. We plow some of them, as some are very important, some are nice connections from one neighborhood to another, so we'll plow them in the winter. A lot of them are simply too steep or too windy to safely have them plowed in the winter. They're not designed for higher speeds with sight lines and stopping, so that's really important because we're going to talk about where should we use these things. One is clearly designed for 20 MPH and that 20 MPH means something; you see certain bikes that are limited to 20 MPH. You can buy a scooter that can probably go faster, but for companies that rent them, those are all 20 MPH scooters, some are even less, maybe 15 MPH. That does mean something for these recreational trails, as they really aren't designed with that kind of speed in mind. All of our trails are 8 feet wide; in the memo, he talked a little bit about if we can stripe the trails, but they have to be at least 10 feet wide to do that. Some very high-use trails, not those that we typically have in Cottage Grove, are actually 15 feet wide, a 10-foot section that's striped two ways for bike traffic, and then they'll have a separate 5-foot section for walking. That's very expensive, and that's really for regional corridors, not something we'd typically have here.

Director Burfeind displayed a map for a visual. He noted all the red on that is our transportation trails, and they're generally straight lines, they're following our main roads; all the yellow are the recreational trails. So, we have a lot in town, which is a great resource, but it's a lot to manage when we're talking about trying to prohibit use on some of them.

Another topic is can we really do trail signage on how we use the trails. Let's say the commission, as we talk about this topic over time, decides certain things are prohibited; how do you do that? On every single trail, are we posting this is prohibited? Or is it just an ordinance, and is that really enforceable? In the past, there was discussion on speed limits. He's seen very rarely where they actually paint the speed limit on the trail, 10 or 15 MPH; that's very hard to enforce. First of all, there aren't speedometers on a bike, are you going 12 or are you going 16? And if there is an issue, if you call the cops, that person is going to be long gone. So, sometimes those can generate a lot more calls because people see the 10 MPH and a bike flies by them; they get frustrated by it, so, the cops get called. That's why we really haven't done that; sometimes you'll see speed limits on regional trails and such.

Director Burfeind stated why we're here tonight is to acknowledge that this is a trending thing; more and more people have electric scooters or electric bikes, so, it's going to become more

commonplace. That's one of the major talking points; he doesn't know if we want ATVs and things like that on our trails. They never have been, and nothing's changed. Golf carts can be driven on a road if they follow certain rules, speed limit is 35 or under. Our trails here really aren't designed for that width in mind, but because it is an evolving topic, what are the challenges that we have seen or could be experiencing because there are more and more of these items on our streets and trails. There's some industry drivers to this discussion, but we kind of see this as a multistep process; it's not something that we're going to answer tonight, but we would like to get the commissions' feedback, and if there's more information that you need from us to make informed decisions on this. So, this is probably multiple meetings, not necessarily always joint meetings; it might be separate discussions on different topics of the roads and trails. Tonight is a chance to gather information and for us to provide more information to you. Director Burfeind stated he'll open it up for questions and discussion.

- Have we had any accidents or serious complaints, or is this just kind of preemptive? Director Dockter stated there are complaints on the Parks side. He doesn't know of any serious accidents, but Captain Rinzel mentioned one that was because of speed. Captain Rinzel said that was with a bicycle at Hamlet Park; we were talking about speeds, and he remembered he had a fatal accident with a bike. A bicycle went around a corner too fast, and he put the pedal down; if you're not wearing a helmet, you can hit your head. So, we kind of had a huge discussion on speed, but basically dangerous is dangerous, disorderly is disorderly; it doesn't matter what it is.

Director Burfeind said he would say this discussion is mostly preemptive. It's to try to get feedback or should we treat any of these vehicles differently; bikes are definitely the most regulated, you can tell because they have different classifications. Then you've got the one wheels and the electric skateboards; there are a lot of different things out there.

- A commissioner stated she bikes our trails, as well as the regional trails, and she thinks for the most part we can coexist pretty well with any bike. Most people seem pretty responsible; stereotypically, it seems the older group that wouldn't be able to bike and now they're getting into Ebikes. She doesn't see a huge issue; if anything, it kind of opens up the space and allows them to use it, as it's generally a positive thing for anyone to bike. Maybe as she gets older, she will have one. She doesn't think we should make it too restrictive because she thinks there's a lot of value in allowing those, too, if it's not a problem.

Council Member Khambata stated he thinks where interactions might be problematic is where you've got shared-use trails, where you've got walking and you've got especially Ebikes; because 20 MPH is cruising on a pedal bike. There's not a lot of people biking that are maintaining 20 MPH, whereas 20 MPH on an Ebike is a fun cruise. He thinks proper etiquette is a big determining factor on whether those interactions are impactful or not. He has a friend whose teenage son has an Ebike, and he told him that's cool, I enjoy riding Ebikes, I ride one every chance I get; the teen said yeah, there's some app that will make this thing go 30. So, it's like we're going to have probably isolated incidents where people are trying to reach the limit of what the Ebikes can do, but maybe just communicating some proper trail etiquette will probably mitigate a lot of adverse interactions with people riding these types of vehicles.

- She asked if there were Park Police in Minneapolis; the male commissioner replied yes, but Minneapolis has a separate Park Police, which is like a precinct out of the Minneapolis Police. She asked if we have anything like that. Council Member Olsen replied no, at one

point in time, we had bicycle cops during the summer months who were out on the trails quite a bit. As things have evolved, we've gotten away from that he thinks to a large degree and moved more towards the ATVs, etc. When it comes to parks, primarily it's the patrol officers who are patrolling the parks, or sometimes there are C.S.O.s who also drive through there. Having just that vehicle in the vicinity, driving through, is oftentimes a pretty good deterrent, but we don't have police officers who are specifically assigned to parks. Captain Rinzel stated we do park checks that are documented, and our parks are patrolled a lot, so, we don't have any dedicated position; we only have 44 officers, so. She stated she was just wondering because she feels like that's one of our concerns. With the parks and the marijuana and with the biking trails, she's just wondering if those can be monitored so that we can deal with that rather than waiting for issues. Captain Rinzel stated we have to identify whether it's illegal, then what action we want to take. The last thing you want is police officers getting involved in Use of Force incidents related to smoking on a trail, or failure to identify, or something where a non-criminal becomes a criminal event and somebody goes to jail. Then the headline reads, "Cottage Grove Police Use Force on Someone for Smoking in a Park." That's not intending to be a good headline that we want to embrace, if at all possible, but you're right. That's why he thinks it's important that we have these discussions; what is the penalty, is it a penalty, and how do you want your Police Department to interact with those types of behaviors? He thinks that's why with the statute there is no penalty right now; the State of Minnesota doesn't want police departments doing anything with it. He thinks that's why they left it that way.

Council Member Khambata stated he thinks, especially on the Ebikes, he's not so sure on the scooters, but as somebody who just spent a good amount of time bike shopping, electric bikes are not easily identifiable anymore. A lot of them look like normal bikes, so, any sort of prohibition on that is going to be pretty ambiguous and difficult to enforce.

- A commissioner stated he thinks at some point you're going to have to do something; you can't allow a vehicle going, because it's only going to get faster. People are going to work on this, not 20 MPH, it's 30. His perspective is he had an ATV and he sold it now. Sometimes on a trail, we were both on the same trail, depending on the season, but then they are segregated at a lot of times because that trail was meant for an ATV because of the speed, compared to a snowmobile. So, he doesn't see why it would be inappropriate with our trail system to say hey, not more of a speed; a vehicle that goes X amount of speed should not be allowed on this trail vs. another one. He doesn't know if you can do that through any type of signage like that. Another commissioner asked but how much is that going to cost? He replied to him, it's not about riding. If somebody goes down an ATV trail with a snowmobile, personally, it would be pretty hard to get caught. In this situation here, he thinks it's more for the citizens not to get hit by a bike going so fast, and keeping that vehicle off that route. She stated she agrees; she thinks that we probably do need that signage. So, if we want to put a sign up, what did you say it was, \$3,000? If we want to put a sign up for what can be done there, she was just wondering is that going to go into our budget. She's not saying that's a wrong thing, but she just wants to know if that's something that could stop us from making sure that people are safe on the right trails. Director Burfeind stated a standard sign, with a sign post, is like \$300; he thinks the hard part is where do you put them? Because when you look at this map, our trail system, which is great, is so extensive and there's so many entry points, that's what could be very challenging. But if we don't do that, no one's going to go into our ordinance and read our ordinance to say I can't use a Class 3 bike on 80th Street. He thinks it is important that none of our trails are designed to be safe over 20 MPH. Like

Council Member Khambata said, that's really moving on a bike. That was kind of designed that way because you're pushing hard on a bike if you're going 20 MPH, sustained, let alone 28 on a Class 3 Ebike.

Captain Rinzel stated he thinks we would have to classify the speed, not the Class of the bike; if I drive a Ferrari, it can go 200 MPH, and I can still drive it even though the speed limit is 65. So, we'd have to set a speed; we wouldn't say no Class 3 bikes on this trail. If they're driving it with due care and they're driving the same speed as a Class 1 or 2, why are they not being allowed to operate this; it's not related to what it can do, it's what it is doing.

Director Burfeind stated yes, it's still the same vehicle, it's still a two-wheel bike, that's just the same size as any other bike.

Captain Rinzel stated there was a Tour de France racer at Hamlet Park, a guy riding on a Schwinn 10-speed bike, that died in the accident. And it didn't matter if he was on an Ebike or a scooter, the fact that he had an accident was because he was going too fast around the corner, regardless of what it was.

- Our current signage restricts motorized vehicles, so we'll see signs that say, "Motorized Vehicles Are Not Allowed on this Trail," and then there are people going by on their assisted bikes or on their motorized scooters. She wonders if it might be helpful, rather than saying "No Motorized Vehicles," but either having a speed or defining a motor. She loves seeing more people on the trails, she thinks assisted devices really open up to a wider population, whether it's seniors or differently abled people, but she doesn't want to discourage people from using them. She thought our signs need to be consistent with what we accept for use and to kind of help people also know what to expect when on the trail. Because if you've got your toddlers wandering around, looking at every stick and bug, and you've got somebody else coming by faster, it's helpful to know that that's a possibility; that that can come along and you might not expect it.

Director Burfeind said for those "No Motorized Vehicles" those came from a different era; the biggest thing is those really focused on cars. He knows there's one that's an easy cut through, up by Timber Ridge, there's a short trail that connects Granada Avenue to Timber Ridge, and it's so easy to cut through there. So, he thought they preemptively put those in, and they've been there as long as he's been here. Nowadays, only with the car issues, we generally put in what's called bike lanes or that the trail is only about four-feet wide, and we can still unlock and open it for maintenance, but it physically prevents the cars. But you're right, we have those two areas of town where it says, "No Motorized Vehicles."

Captain Rinzel stated the definition of a bicycle includes motorized bicycles, electric Ebikes, not the old school where you put a motor on the back and started it up; they're still illegal, but bicycle by definition includes Class 1, 2, and 3 bikes, which are allowed by statute now on State trails.

- Which set of trails on the yellow are wooded, are they all? Director Burfeind replied, largely, yes. So, could we look at getting, with a snowmobile and ATV analogy, tons of volunteers out there. The signage isn't on a stick, it's on a tree, along with the caution signs, curve coming, those type of things. So, if you were to allow it, you could help prevent any accidents with where the blind spots are or the approaches. He thinks maybe that's an opportunity for somebody to look at, too. Again, he just remembers when the Bike Park came into fruition, that was volunteers that brought that in; could that be some of the solution? Director Burfeind replied that's something we could look at.

- She thought it might help, too, because from a user perspective, she doesn't necessarily know if she's on a red trail or a yellow trail, because the asphalt trails all kind of look the same. Director Burfeind agreed. Captain Rinzel stated that's to differentiate and we could make an ordinance that says you can't be on a recreation trail, but you can be on a transportation trail; he didn't know the difference. Director Burfeind stated he didn't think that would be enforceable, but. He didn't know there was a difference until Director Burfeind defined it, so, he thanked him for that. Director Burfeind stated most of these trails are because they are designed differently, but there's a coverage; someone can't say this trail was designed improperly with the recreation ones. So, it's understanding you're on this recreational trail that's been provided, and just standard practice, they wind through the woods, they do different things, it's very normal.
- A commissioner asked Captain Rinzel if he thinks it should be like a set speed for all the trails; she asked if she understood him correctly, like the red trails vs. the yellow trails? Captain Rinzel replied he's sure he didn't say anything, honestly, other than due care; he didn't articulate what that was, the due care. If you go on some of those trail systems, in the power easement, and there's a sight line for a mile. If you feel like it and you crack that thing open and you're going 28 MPH and no one's around, does it really matter? He just struggles with passing ordinances or laws that are almost impossible, just because they think they should do something. It's not the right approach.
- Another commissioner stated let alone like some of those red trails, like you can see all the sights, and many of those people are going 20 MPH or more; like today, we saw a whole peloton at the County Fair, so it's like we stayed home.

Council Member Khambata stated so in downhill skiing, they will place ski patrol to enforce and you have to ski in control, and you have to yield to the person in front of you always. So, if you're a Master Skier, you can ski 60 MPH down the trail and bear it down the hill if there's no one in front of you. But if there's somebody in front of you and you hit them, you're liable because you are supposed to ski in control at all times, and you must always yield to the person in front of you. Would it be more practical to just set like a base value, you said ride with due care, and yield to the person in front of you; can we do something like that? A commissioner said but they're all going in the same direction, downhill. Council Member Khambata said he thinks that's how they mitigated that. No, they're not riding in any lines, people are going in all different directions, but those two simple rules allow people or instruct people to self regulate.

- We don't pull people over and ticket them for biking on the sidewalks now, right? We're not a very big bikeable city, so when you look at the trails, if he were to send his kid out to bike somewhere, they're likely to be on the sidewalk where they'd be along the pavement or road or something. Even our Bike Park, to get to a Bike Park, you wouldn't be able to bike without going on sidewalks and things like that to get there. Captain Rinzel replied they're all legal to ride on the sidewalks; there's nothing illegal about that. Attorney Law stated the electric ones are not, under State law, they are not legal on the sidewalks but are legal on biking paths.

Council Member Khambata stated he will say riding on the roads in Minneapolis is really unnerving, especially when you're sharing that space with cars. So, he thinks most people would gravitate towards riding as far away from the cars as possible.

Council Member Olsen asked Director Burfeind to clearly define the difference between a “sidewalk” vs. a City trail so that people understand the differences, because they’re pretty important.

Director Burfeind stated a lot of times it comes down to the width. You think of sidewalks as being concrete in general in our town; of course, sidewalks are all 5- and 6-feet wide, and our trails are all 8-feet wide. And we actually have some areas where we have issues with what’s under the ground, and it’s actually a concrete trail. For us, the sidewalk would be those narrower facilities, which you can really see in our commercial area, because that’s where we have the gaps. It’s easy installing it to most places we want on the trail, but not directly. On 80th Street, there’s a sidewalk across the bridge; there’s no way to get across the bridge without a sidewalk.

- So, technically an Ebike is not allowed to ride across the bridge because it’s a concrete sidewalk? Is that what the State law says? Captain Rinzel said he and Director Burfeind had this discussion, and he and Attorney Land are having a debate over the Statute and our City Ordinance. Director Burfeind stated eventually he thinks we have to be clearer in our ordinance, as he doesn’t know that our ordinance is very clear on what is a sidewalk and what is a trail. As an engineer, our trails are 8-feet and bigger, our sidewalks are 6-feet and smaller. If we were to regulate between the two, we’d have to have a clearer ordinance that states that.
- A commissioner stated it might be easier to just go around the room and people say if they’re comfortable with Ebikes and scooters sharing the recreational trail system. He thinks that’s kind of what, we’re trying to give some direction; so, should be regulating this, or are we okay the way it is today, which is they’re pretty much allowed.
- Attorney Land stated we totally allow Ebikes and scooters. She stated you could just say we’re going to have non-motorized trails, you could do that, and then nobody gets to ride Ebikes or scooters, and then you’d have to put a sign up. Director Dockter stated he thinks that’s the big thing; do you want motorized vehicles on those systems, do you want a speed limit, or are you okay with the way it is and that’s self regulation with public education?
- A commissioner stated she’s fine with the speed limit, if that’s the recommendation, and she wouldn’t want to try to prohibit it at this time. Another commissioner asked do we have a consensus? He doesn’t think we do. He thinks we’re running down a very convoluted trail if you’re going to try to regulate.

Council Member Khambata stated he was recently in North Carolina, and we did Ebikes, and their trail systems were quite extensive and they allowed everything on them. He thinks it’s a matter of educating and having some signage, common courtesies, things like that.

- A commissioner said she thinks if we’re getting to a place of having accidents, it would be proper to have signage, but they should be allowed. Especially for those who maybe aren’t from the City or they just moved here. She also feels like if we’re not really having any issues, we can probably come back to it; if we are seeing more issues, let’s deal with it then.
- Another commissioner stated he thinks they should be there. He just thinks there’s an opportunity with signage. We’re not talking big signs, we’re talking little signs.
- Another said she agrees with the signage and a speed limit, and not restricting it.
- She has her traffic safety hat on and agrees that they have a place on our trail system, but agrees 20 MPH or faster is the potential of really serious damage to a person and/or somebody else. If there’s a way to sign that or a way to put speed limits, she doesn’t know if that’s only true on the Ebikes. So, to invest in that, she’s not so sure is the right answer,

but she thinks we have to do some sort of education if we're going to allow them to be on the trail system with other people.

- Another stated she thinks we need clarification as to what the current ordinance or whatever the rule is because if we don't know, it's pretty reasonable to expect that others in our community don't know. So, having some clarification and education, but not fines or anything like that.

Director Dockter stated just to be clear, that's kind of what we're trying to do today; whether it's this meeting plus another meeting, at some point we would come back with an ordinance or some policy changes that clarify everything so we can get rid of some of the nonsense that's in there.

- Some parks have those bigger signs with information on them. She asked how much does something like that cost, if we were to just put those at like major entrance points. Director Dockter replied those are \$800-\$1,000. She stated they're meant for people to read. Director Dockter stated we'd be better off with the steel sign posts; they'd be much more efficient. She stated it doesn't have to be like every 30 feet, or nailed on trees every 10 feet, because no one's reading those as they're zooming by. Director Dockter stated we have No Motorized Vehicle signs on the trails.
- Another commissioner stated he feels like we should allow these vehicles on our trails. He's troubled by the safety issues; although he's encouraged to hear that we're not having a rash of accidents, he thinks there's a lot of them out there. He also thinks there's tons of reckless bike riders. So, he struggles with giving our law enforcement an unattainable goal with some sort of a regulation; a speed limit sounds pretty good, but really, we're going to put up traffic control on our park system? He thinks it sounds kind of nice, but I don't think we're going to do it. Maybe it's recommended speeds, and the signage and everything, he kind of like those ideas, but he's also worried about us executing on that. It seems like a lot of stuff to try to accomplish. So, he's really torn, although he clearly feels like we need to allow these, at least the Ebikes that are apparently being defined by the State as bicycles. He thinks we're going to have to allow them on our trails.
- He wouldn't change anything right now. He understood the speed limit, but agrees we're not going to be able to regulate it. We should encourage people to get out and use the trails and use the bikes, and he's been walking out there all the time, too, and he doesn't feel in any danger of getting hit.
- With little kids, she feels a little bit different. In the past, before being on the commission, half the things we discussed she had no idea about them, and she's lived here for like 12 years. So, how many other people know about these things? She definitely thinks Ebikes should be allowed, but she wonders if there could be a recommendation; it sounds like it's not safe to go over 20 MPH on the trail system. She'll see people out with their headsets on, and they're not really signaling that they're behind you, and if you have small kids, to her, it's still a little bit unsafe. She thinks it's great because there are older people or different abled people being able to enjoy our park system, and that's great. Her only concern is over 20 MPH.
- He would also agree to allow their use; to him, it boils down to their behavior, operating safely under the conditions present. It's hard for him to think about how we would regulate to a speed when these bikes don't have a speedometer. For a police officer to manage that, are you going to sit there with your radar gun and watch people come down the trails? How do we go down this behavioral path, how do we get people to understand the speed limits and how to operate them; that's what it boils down to.

- He thought educating the youth would be a good investment because he knows a lot of kids in his school will use those as transportation to school; he thinks they'll be the ones on the trail that will choose to max out the speed rather than others in town. He knows his teacher last year mentioned that she rode an Ebike to school, so he assumes that she's not going to go 28 MPH. He thinks it's more the kids that will be careless, so, for him, education would be a good investment.

Council Member Khambata stated that Captain Rinzel is not the only one here who's thought about putting a gas engine on a bicycle; he is also guilty of that. He worries as a Council Member about creating interactions with police that are opportunities for Use of Force complaints and opportunities for adverse interactions with law enforcement. The same with the THC laws, as a citizen, he doesn't want people bothering him if he's not doing anything wrong. He thinks the useful intent of any sort of ordinance would be to be able to have some level of recourse for a complaint-driven interaction. If somebody is speeding around my neighborhood and they almost hit my kid or somebody's coming around a corner and they're messing up the trail; he sees whatever type of corrective actions in which City personnel would be involved would need to be corrective or complaint driven. Basically, just giving City staff or police officers something to say hey, this is the limit to what you're doing, not to proactively go out and try to write speeding tickets for kids on bikes. With that in mind, every bike he's ever ridden didn't have a speedometer; he's a nerd, so all of his bikes have speedometers on them even though they don't have any motors. If they try to give me a ticket, I could say no, I was only going 18 MPH. The fact that we already don't have an epidemic of people getting hurt or don't have an epidemic of complaints, we don't want to create a situation where there are people who are going to complain have leverage to complain with. We also want to protect people and their kids, and he thinks it's about creating some more parity between people who are using the trails, so the people who are walking don't feel intimidated or scared by people cruising by, so no one's going to get hit, that sort of thing. Whatever moves forward should be with that in mind, not to proactively pester people, but just correct the behavior. Again, there's no real bad behavior to speak of that we'd have to mitigate. We just have to make sure that we don't have people speeding down the trails or hurting each other or themselves.

Council Member Olsen stated when Captain Rinzel started the conversation, he made a point about it's going to be really hard to identify a certain speed; instead, we should define it differently. Captain Rinzel stated it should include due care, reasonable behavior. Council Member Olsen stated he also talked about disorderly; hopefully, if they're on an Ebike, that's probably something that we need to avoid. Everybody who spoke about it's going to be tough to determine whether somebody is at or over the speed limit, that's a very valid point, it's going to be difficult to do. So, is there a happy medium in there someplace? He's not sure, but that's the point of the dialogue was to try to figure this out. As the proliferation of these type of vehicles continues, are people going to actually evolve into a state of respecting the other people who are on the trails, who might not be using those vehicles, or is that something that needs to be enforced. That's the challenge.

- Stated if we use like due care, would that be too subjective for enforcement? Captain Rinzel replied that's a Basic Speed law; it doesn't say anything but just too fast for existing conditions. Essentially, this could mirror the Basic Speed law from the Statute if you want to keep it simple; it's just too fast for the existing conditions. So, if you're going around a corner and you're going sideways, and there are kids walking along the trail, it's too fast for the existing conditions; it's not reasonable and it's not prudent and it's

unsafe. How do we prove that? That's a whole other field: There might be videos, or other things that are going on, like two Ebikes racing up the trails since they'll want a blind intersection and try to catch air. That's not reasonable or prudent, so, it's outside of the due care part. There is already language on that, but it's very hard to prove. We will educate, but 98% of the time the education doesn't seem to be prohibitive the longer it's on the books. That's the way he looks at it.

- What are other cities doing? Do they have any rules, do we know? Captain Rinzel replied he has not heard from any agencies. Director Dockter stated he's reached out to some, but there's not a lot on trails. She asked is there a law out there? Attorney Land replied there's absolutely zero consistency. Director Dockter stated he thinks most cities are where we're at; they know they need to do something, but they don't know what. She stated other than larger cities, like Minneapolis, as that's something that has to be dealt with. Director Dockter stated those cities are the ones that typically have a lot more biking on city streets.

Captain Rinzel said he thought the other question was the foot scooters, electric; are they fine? We're kind of looking for that direction, too, what's the definition of a recreation vehicle? We all know what an ATV is, they shouldn't be on those. He thinks everyone kind of agrees on those. You have a foot scooter, you've got a skateboard with a motor, and all of those other electric-assisted devices. Is that just all what's good for the goose is good for the gander? Or anything is good as long as it's reasonable and prudent? Or do we start separating out, because what's the next fad, because there will be another. We'd hate to write an ordinance that's constantly changing, that's why this reasonable and prudent is kind of all encompassing. It doesn't matter what you're on, if you're driving like an idiot, we're going to address it. That's the way he looks at it, it's the most simplistic minded; with law enforcement, we like simplistic.

- Stated she thinks we all agree, it's the safety of our community; the increase in crashes and injuries to toddlers was on the national news this morning. We want to encourage active living, we want to encourage people to go out, but we still don't want people to get hurt, so how do we do both safely?
- The whole part of the ordinance is to make sure that everybody's safe. If we're going to try to buckle down on marijuana or we don't want this, is that more of a personal thing or is that more of a safety thing? If we're sticking the safety part of it in the conversation of the Ebikes and these trails, we just had death come up, and that didn't once come up in the marijuana conversation. She thinks that this shouldn't be taken lightly just because we want people biking around, too; maybe we should give consideration that we've had death in this conversation. If the education piece is allowing signs, then we did our part in letting the community know.

Council Member Olsen stated one of the most challenging things we deal with on the City Council, and he thinks it's the same for staff, is getting our message out and truly connecting with the people we need to connect with relative to a given issue. It is a monumental task, and it requires constant vigilance on our behalf with respect to what media are we using, where do we go, when do we go there. The young man, Justin, spoke about us coming to the schools to educate people; that's a really good piece of feedback because we've got to meet people where they are, as not everybody's on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter. We have public meetings regularly with everybody here, but this is an ongoing challenge for us. We issue the *Cottage Grove Reports* and sometimes through SWCTC we'll do educational videos about certain things; but we're always going to hear, "I didn't know, you never communicated that to me," when we communicated it many different ways to try

to get it to them. So, if we're going to go down that path of education, which isn't a bad path to go down, one of the things we're going to have to work on is how do we make that real for people. That's going to be the challenge.

Director Dockter stated we've been getting good conversation, and we got really good direction on the topics. So, it's our job to go back and take this in, digest it, and come back to you guys with something. If there are no other comments, we'll look for the Public Service Commission to adjourn.

C. Mississippi Dunes Park Naming

Director Dockter stated the commissioners don't need to make a formal recommendation tonight, but you can either add to the names, delete them, or ask him to provide some additional information; otherwise, we'll bring it to the next meeting, and you can make an official recommendation to the City Council.

It was asked if they could choose to move forward with both of these names and make a recommendation at the November meeting; Director Dockter replied yes. He asked if they were thinking Mississippi Dunes Landing was one name. A male commissioner stated they'd talked about that, but maybe he was mistaken; Director Dockter stated we can add anything we want to the list tonight.

It was asked if we added it tonight, and we decided we wanted to keep that, then we could make a formal recommendation at this meeting. Director Dockter replied he would rather have them add any potential names tonight because you can always not vote for them next time.

Chair Brown stated we currently have Mississippi Dunes Park Reserve, Mississippi Landing Park Reserve, and let's add the additional Mississippi Dunes Landing Park Reserve. A male commissioner stated he thought they had left off the Park Reserve on that one, just Mississippi Dunes Landing.

Why was Mississippi Landing even under consideration? Director Dockter replied that came from the original developer, that was the name of their neighborhood. A male commissioner stated he thought Landing was the name of the bar; he was told no, that was Doc's Landing, which maybe had something to do with it. He thought maybe there was going to be a boat launch there; another stated yes, that was part of the conversation.

Commissioner Crabtree stated so, Mississippi Dunes Landing is another option; Director Dockter replied he's adding that option now. Her neighbor had suggested Grey Cloud Channel Park because that's the channel way and it's Grey Cloud Island. Director Dockter asked for someone to make a motion to add Grey Cloud Channel Park and Mississippi Dunes Landing to the list of names.

Commissioner Crabtree made a motion to add Grey Cloud Channel Park and Mississippi Dunes Landing to the list of potential park names; Commissioner Larson seconded.

Director Dockter stated there should be discussion, then we'll call a vote. Lengthy discussion ensued: Isn't that lake called Mooers? We have Hazen P. Mooers Park. Is that lake out from the park? Director Dockter stated it's most often associated with the lake on the other side of the bridge, but some people do refer to that water, but most often it's referring to the lake on the other side of the culvert. With this Mississippi Dunes would it be better to be consistent with what people already kind of refer to that property as, or do we want to start something different to move away from the legacy of the golf course? We brought that up last time, and we were kind of told it goes beyond the golf course, the legacy of that name, the Dunes. Director Dockter stated dunes is more scientific than historical; that's largely why the SNA is there. With Mississippi Dunes, are they talking about sand or are they talking about the golf course. One said the golf course, another said the sand; he

doesn't know about others, he can't speak for them. Another said they're talking about the special attributes of the golf course, that was previously discussed. Director Dockter stated those dunes are very significant in terms of that name. Cottage Grove Dunes was suggested; stated that would be totally unique. Maybe we should just go with the four that we have on the list so far.
Motion carried: 8-0.

6. Adjournment

Commissioner Crabtree made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner D. Olson seconded.
Motion carried: 8-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Minutes transcribed by J. Graf and reviewed by Kari Reubish.



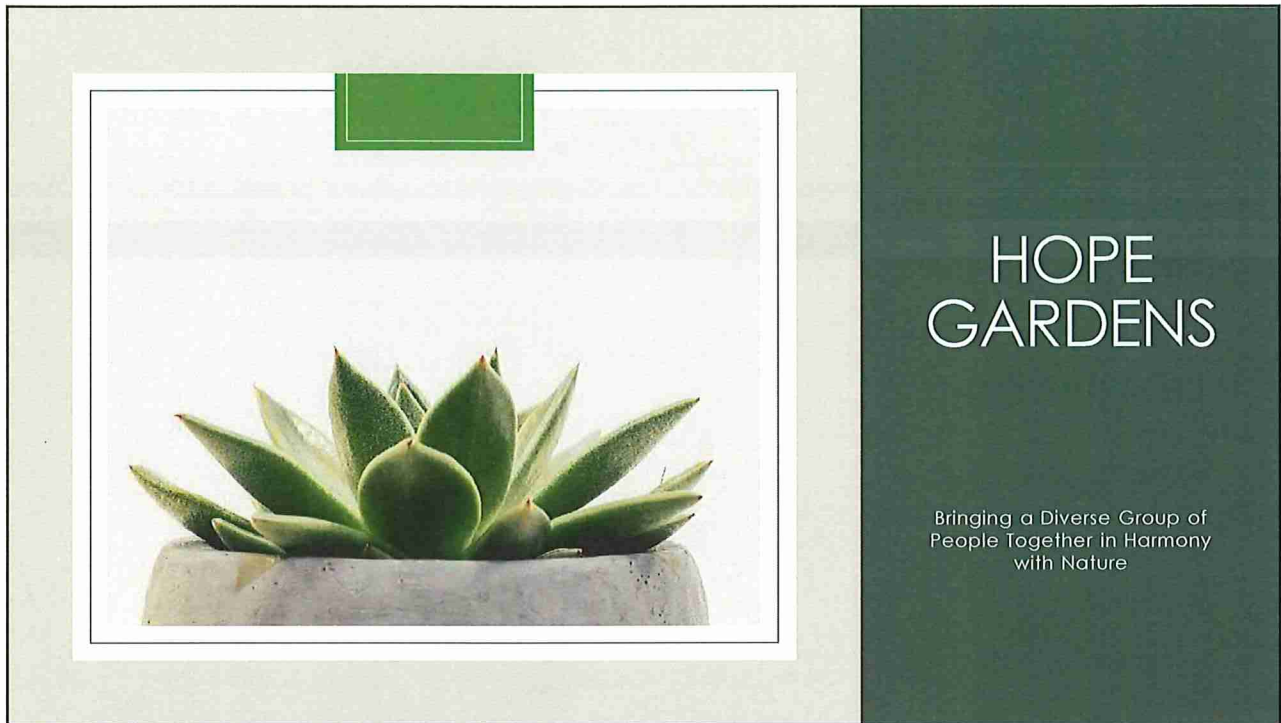
To: Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission
From: Zac Dockter, Parks and Recreation Director
Cc:
Date: October 25, 2023
Subject: Community Garden

Introduction/Background

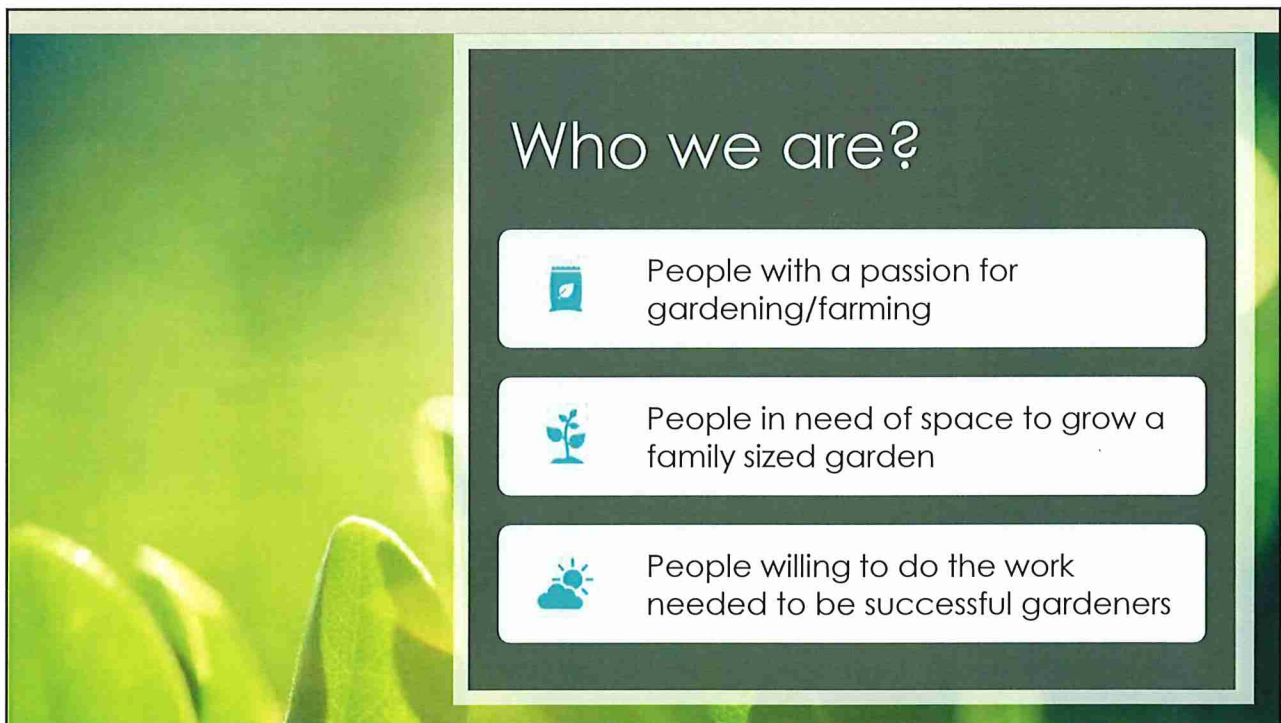
A group has approached Parks and Recreation staff regarding interest in starting a community garden. They will present their findings to Commissioners at the November meeting (their presentation slide deck is included with this report). Staff has met with the group several times to discuss past and present work on community gardens in Cottage Grove while also discussing comparables from other communities. As recently as 2021, the Commission expressed openness to the idea of community gardens but desired to see a grass-roots effort from the community to justify the need and carry the project forward.

Action Requested

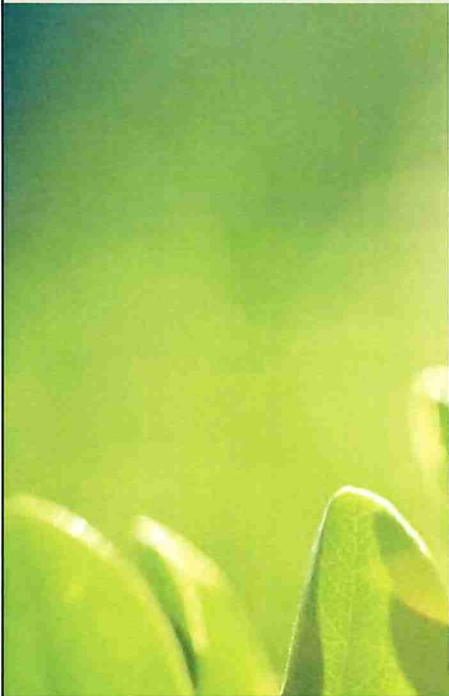
Receive information and provide staff direction.



1



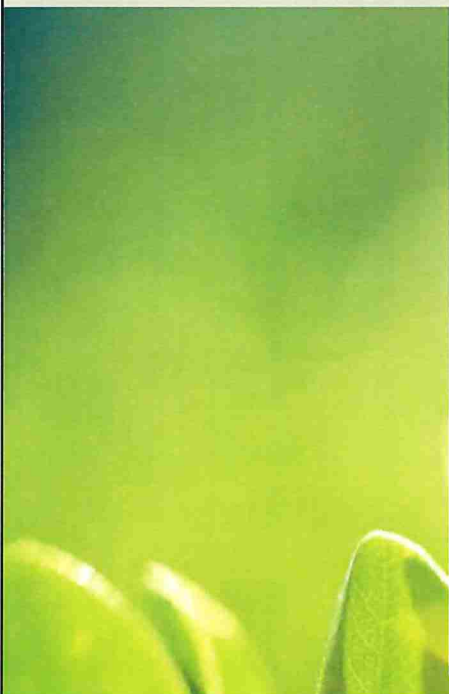
2



What are we asking?

-  Permission to establish one or more community gardens
-  Agreement by the City to plow/till the area in the Spring and Fall
-  Agreement by the City to provide a water supply at the location

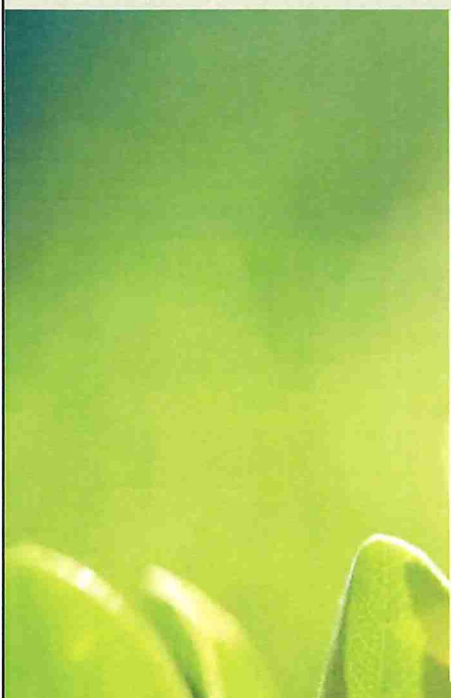
3



Where?

-  Parks & Recreation Shared Several Parcels
-  Committee Visited The Parcels and Ranked Them In Key Areas
-  Meadowgrass Park

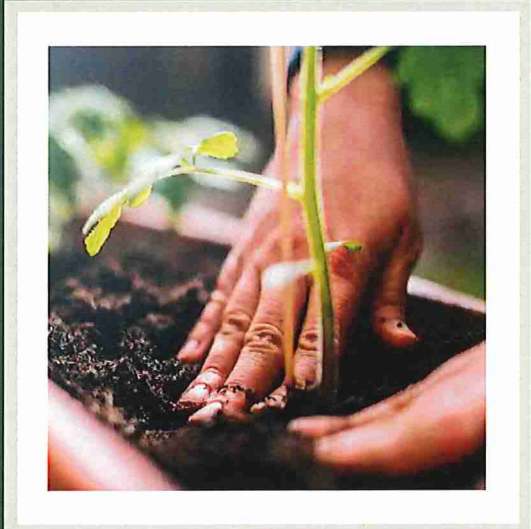
4



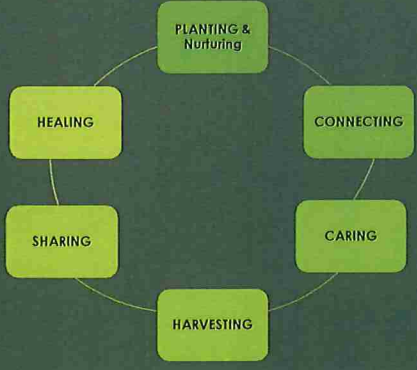
When?

-  Gardening Season is typically from early May to end of October
-  Plowing would be slightly before opening and slightly after closing

5



THE SPIRIT OF THE COMMUNITY GARDEN



```

graph TD
    A[PLANTING & Nurturing] --- B[CONNECTING]
    B --- C[CARING]
    C --- D[HARVESTING]
    D --- E[SHARING]
    E --- F[HEALING]
    F --- A
  
```

6

To: Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission
From: Zac Dockter, Parks and Recreation Director
Cc:
Date: September 12, 2023
Subject: Park Naming Request – Mississippi Dunes Reserve

Introduction/Background

The City acquired a portion of the former Mississippi Dunes Golf Course and is recommending to start the process of officially naming the park. The City's Park Naming Policy is included with this report to aid Commissioners in processing the request.

The Park Naming Policy advises that the Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission discuss the merit of naming applications or a list of names as prepared by staff. No formal application for this site has been made. Staff presents the following names which have been developed over the past two meetings with the Commission:

1. Mississippi Dunes Park Reserve
2. Mississippi Landing Park Reserve
3. Mississippi Dunes Landing Park
4. Grey Cloud Channel Park

At the August and September meetings, Commissioners reviewed the list of names and made no formal recommendation. The naming process may sequence as follows:

August – Initial naming review

September – Secondary review of name options

November – Commission park naming recommendation to City Council

December – Council resolution approving name

At this time, Commissioners may make a formal recommendation to Council to name the park or table the item and request more time or information for the process.

Action Requested

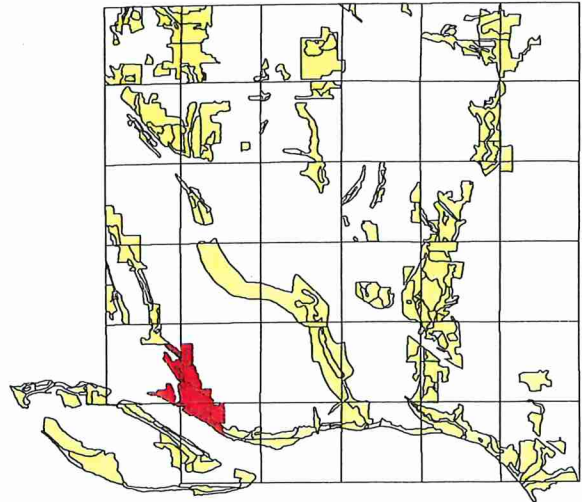
Recommend a park name for the site currently referred to as Mississippi Dunes Reserve.

City of Cottage Grove Natural Resource Inventory

SITE 21 COMMUNITY LEGEND

COMM. #	COMMUNITY	ACRES	RANK	LOCAL VALUE
21A	Mixed Hardwood Forest	8.0	NA	0
21B	Old Field/Gravel Pits	47.4	NA	0
21C	Conifer Plantation	3.9	NA	2
21D	Old Field	5.4	NA	1
21E	Dry Prairie	74.3	AB	6
21G	Emergent Marsh/Wet Meadow	4.5	B	6
21F	Lowland Hardwood Forest	24.8	D	3
21H	Mesic Oak Forest	24.1	D	5
21I	Lowland Hardwood Forest	19.0	C	5
21J	Conifer Plantation	7.7	NA	5
21K	Mesic Oak Forest	16.0	CD	5
21L	Oak Woodland-Brushland	9.7	C	6
21M	Mesic Oak Forest	4.0	BC	5
		Total: 248.8		

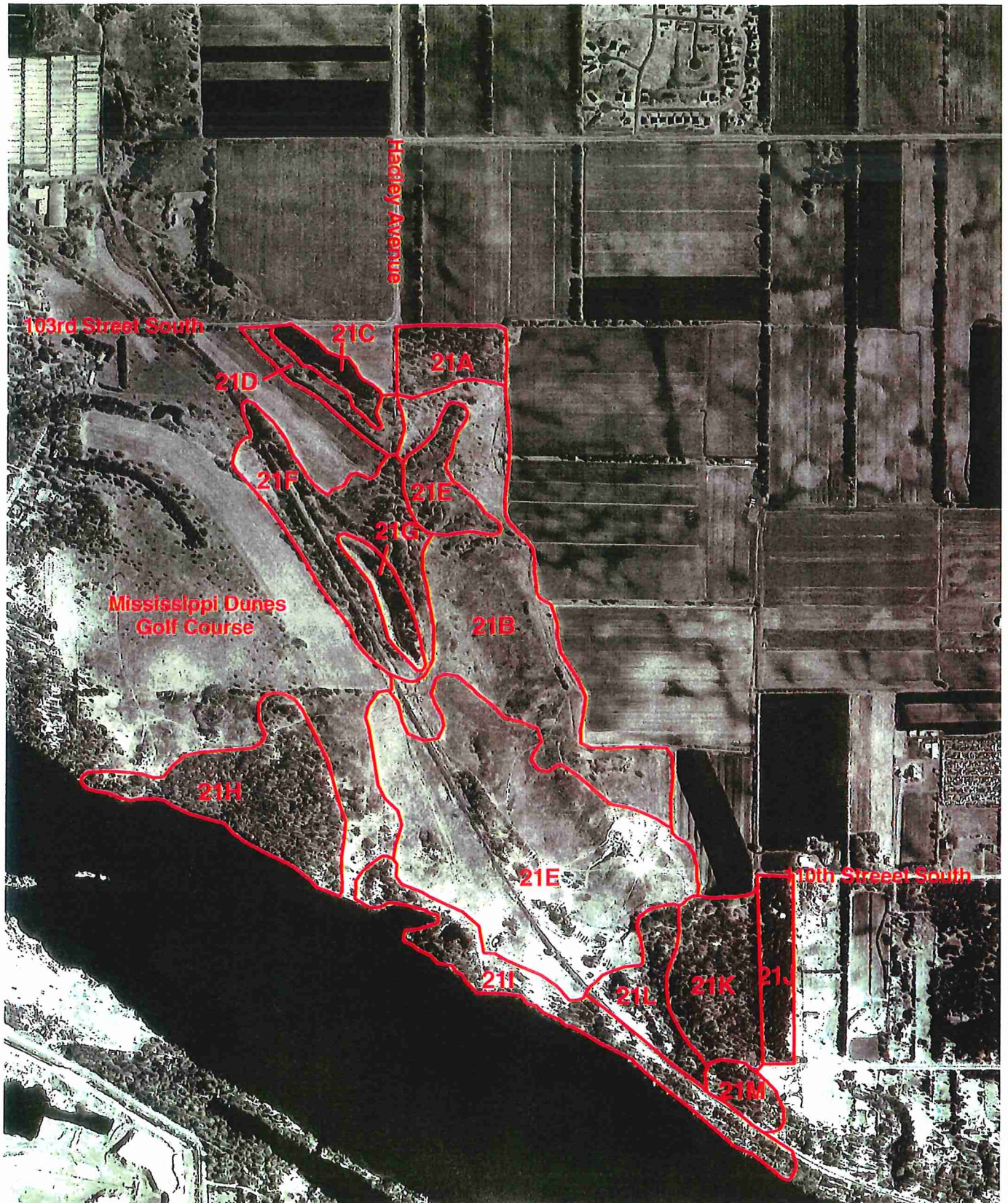
SITE 21



1000 0 1000 Feet



Natural Resources Inventory Report (1998)



SITE 21 SUMMARY

(13 communities, 248.8 acres)

Location

Site 21 is located north of the Mississippi River and south of 103rd Street South.

Landforms, Soils, and Geology

Site 21 is gently to moderately steep sloping, consisting of excessively drained and somewhat excessively drained, moderately coarse and coarse textured soils with the majority being derived from eolian sand over thin to thick sand and gravel on dolomite bedrock.

Local Value

The average local value is 3.8, the highest value is six and the lowest is zero.

Natural Resource Values

Site 21 contains the largest prairie in the City of Cottage Grove . This prairie (21E) also has the highest quality ranking of any natural community in the City. The MNDNR is negotiating with Ashland Oil Company (landowner) to purchase much of this site for a DNR Scientific Natural Area. In addition to the prairie, Site 21 also contains a good diversity of moderate to good quality forest, savanna and wetland communities. For these reasons, the natural community integrity value is high.

Wildlife values are also high due to the proximity of this site to the Mississippi River and diversity of good quality natural communities. Site 21 contains six state listed plant species including sea beach needle grass (*Aristida tuberculosa*, state special concern), hill's thistle (*Cirsium hillii*, state special concern), illinois tick-trefoil (*Desmodium illinoense*), long-bearded hawkweed (*Hieracium longipilum*), louisiana broom-rape (*Orobanche ludoviciana*, state special concern) and purple sand grass (*Triplasis purpurea*, state special concern). There are also several official and unofficial records of threatened and endangered snakes including blue racer (*Coluber constrictor*) and bullsnake (*Pituophis melanoleucus*). Community 21E is also listed by mapped by the MNDNR Natural Heritage Program. As such, Site 21 has high rare feature values.

SITE 21 COMMUNITY DESCRIPTIONS

Community 21 A

Community 21A is a mixed hardwood forest. The canopy layer is dominated by green ash and box elder. The shrub layer is primarily made up of prickly gooseberry and red-berried elder. White snakeroot is a common forb found on this site.

Community 21B

Community 21B is an old field with scattered gravel pits. Woody species include siberian elm and sumac. Non-woody species found on this site are smooth brome, kentucky bluegrass, and stiff goldenrod.

Community 21C

Community 21C is a conifer plantation containing red pine.

Community 21D

Community 21D is an old field.

Community 21E

Community 21E is a dry prairie sand-gravel subtype. This site has been extensively surveyed by the MNDNR County Biological Survey (CBS). The DNR listed this site as a high quality sand prairie of statewide significance. All of the threatened and endangered plant species listed in the general description for site 21 are present in this community. This prairie contains areas of sandy dunes dominated by sand reed grass and little bluestem. Other dominant grasses include big bluestem, side oats gramma, june grass porcupine grass and sand drop-seed. Herbaceous species observed include long-bearded hawkweed, silky prairie clover, leadplant, prairie blazingstar, and prairie smoke.

Disturbance Indicators: The major disturbance is the use of ATV's, which have caused significant erosion on the upper slopes of the prairie. Invasion by exotic grasses such as Kentucky bluegrass and smooth brome has also occurred in areas adjacent to the agricultural fields. Dumping of construction materials and yard debris has also occurred along the road which runs along the top of the prairie slope.

Community 21F

Community 21F is a lowland hardwood forest. The canopy is dominated by american elm, box elder, and green ash. The shrub layer consists of prickly ash, tatarian honeysuckle, smooth sumac, and american elm. Common ground cover species are white snakeroot, poison ivy, common milkweed, virginia creeper, white avens, and smartweed. There are a lot of dead elm snags standing and fallen. These snags provide good cavity nesting habitat for wildlife.

Disturbance Indicators: Nonnative shrubs and weedy groundcover plants are common throughout this community.

Community 21G

Community 21G is a high quality emergent marsh/wet meadow. The site contains open water with a sedge meadow fringe. Graminoid species include lake sedge, rice cutgrass, reed canary grass, river bulrush, prairie cordgrass, wool grass, and cattail. Herbaceous species observed include spotted touch-me-not, boneset, water smartweed, pinkweed, canada goldenrod, nodding beggars-tick, water dock, blue vervain, virginia meadow mint, sensitive fern, and black-eyed susans.

Disturbance Indicators: Reed canary grass in the primary management problem in this wetland.

Community 21H

Community 21H is a mesic oak forest. This site is located within the golf course. At one time, this community was mapped as a maple basswood forest by the MNDNR CBS but has since been extensively cleared for the Mississippi Dunes Golf Course. In many areas the shrub understory has been completely removed along with many of the understory tree species to create a park-like setting for the golf course. What remains of the canopy is dominated by red oak, bur oak, and bitternut hickory. In areas that have a shrub layer, dominant species include nonnative species such as buckthorn and tatarian honeysuckle. Also in the shrub layer, is choke cherry, prickly ash, prickly gooseberry, red-berried elder, and riverbank grape. Ground cover species include virginia creeper, virginia stickseed, white avens, white snakeroot, bristly greenbriar, bedstraw, solomon's seal, and sweet cicely.

Disturbance Indicators: Extensive logging of understory tree species and invasion by nonnative shrubs such as buckthorn and tatarian honeysuckle.

Community 21I

Community 21I is a lowland hardwood forest located along the Mississippi River. The canopy is dominated by bur oak, red oak, pin oak, basswood, green ash, and eastern cottonwood. The subcanopy is dominated by bitternut hickory and basswood. Dominating the shrub layer are nonnative species such as tatarian honeysuckle and native species such as prickly ash, prickly gooseberry and red-berried elder, green ash, choke cherry, black currant, bur oak, basswood, red osier dogwood, staghorn sumac, riverbank grape and bitternut hickory. Common ground cover species include white snakeroot, panicled aster, canada goldenrod, equisitum, hoary vervain, wood sorrel, poison ivy, geranium, and solomon's seal. Located along the river are jewelweed, reed canary grass, stinging nettle, black willow, spotted touch-me-not, and wild mint.

Disturbance Indicators: This community is in many places pinched between the railroad tracks and the Mississippi River and is therefore quite narrow with little interior area. Nonnative shrubs are common in the shrub layer.

Community 21J

Community 21J is a conifer plantation. The canopy is dominated by scotch pine, jack pine, and red pine. Shrubs consist of red-berried elder, green ash, tatarian honeysuckle, choke cherry, bur oak, and staghorn sumac. Ground cover is sparse and mostly made up of needle duff.

Community 21K

Community 21K is an mesic oak forest. The canopy is dominated by green ash, bur oak, hackberry, basswood, black cherry, and trembling aspen. The subcanopy contains green ash, american elm, box elder, and bitternut hickory. The shrub layer consists of choke cherry, tatarian honeysuckle, prickly gooseberry, and prickly ash. Common ground cover species include burdock, white snakeroot, and virginia stickseed. The site has some standing and fallen snags. These snags are good habitat for cavity nesting species.

Disturbance Indicators: Most of this site has experienced logging and grazing in past years. Nonnative shrubs are common.

Community 21L

Community 21L is an oak woodland-brushland. The canopy is dominated by bur oak, pin oak, trembling aspen, green ash, black cherry, and basswood. The shrub layer contains bur oak, pin oak, staghorn sumac, tatarian honeysuckle, and prickly ash. The ground cover is dominated by kentucky bluegrass and also contains little bluestem, june grass, and forbs. Forbs include leadplant, virginia creeper, jack-in-the-pulpit, and white snakeroot. This community has scattered large diameter bur oaks with grassy openings. A ravine containing basswood is found on site.

Disturbance Indicators: This community contains many species characteristic of oak savanna, but due to a lack of fire, has become overgrown with trees and shrubs. Prescribed burns on the adjacent prairie should be allowed to burn into this area to remove woody species and nonnative graminoids.

Community 21M

Community 21M is a mesic oak forest. The canopy is dominated bur oak, red oak, and northern pin oak. Other canopy species include green ash, black ash, hackberry, and basswood. The subcanopy consists of gray dogwood, bur oak, green ash, prickly ash, american elm, bitternut hickory, and black cherry. The shrub layer contains american hazel, bur oak, red raspberry, gray dogwood, and prickly ash. Common ground cover species include white snakeroot, aster species, virginia stickseed, virginia creeper, enchanter's nightshade, and prickly gooseberry. The site is of moderate quality and has fairly good regeneration of oak.

Disturbance Indicators: Problem threatening the site is the use of ATV and trail bikes. The use of ATV and bikes causes soil erosion and compaction, which results in an invasion of nonnative species.



Figure 1. Project Location

Scale: AS SHOWN	Drawn by: SMW	Checked by: ML	Project No.: 4876-01S	Date: 3/29/12	Sheet: 1 of 1
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Maple Grove

P: 763.493.4522
F: 763.493.5572

Aerial Imagery: September 2010 NAIP FSA



To: Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission
From: Zac Dockter, Parks and Recreation Director
CC:
Date: November 1, 2023
Subject: West Draw, Granada and Nina's Parks Playground Replacements (2024)

Introduction/Background

The 2024 budget includes funding for replacement of the West Draw, Granada and Nina's Parks playground equipment. All are neighborhood parks which carry a budget of \$70,000 per unit. All three units are to include a concrete border, safety surfacing and a 6' park bench on a concrete slab within each project budget.

Four playground proposals per park have been received from four different companies. All designs were put into an online survey to gauge community response on the proposals. Survey links were put on postcards and mailed directly to residents in the adjacent neighborhoods. The survey data is included with this report.

Although surveys certainly help guide the conversation on choosing a playground, the Commission should choose the playground options it feels best serve the recreational needs of the neighborhood, community, and visitors.

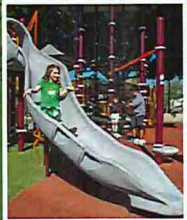
Staff Recommendation

Provide direction for new playground options at West Draw, Granada and Nina's Parks.

NINA'S - LSI - Design 1



RINGTANGLE



SLIDEWINDER



VIBRA CHIMES



JIGJAG CLIMBER



SWINGS



DIGIRIDER
BEAR



DITTY
METALLOPHONE



RING PULL



CYLER



LOLLILADDER



BLENDER
SPINNER



SADDEE
SPINNER



WEE PLANET
CLIMBER



KETTLE
DRUM

Nina's - Little Tikes - Design Z



Nino's - Miracle - Design 3

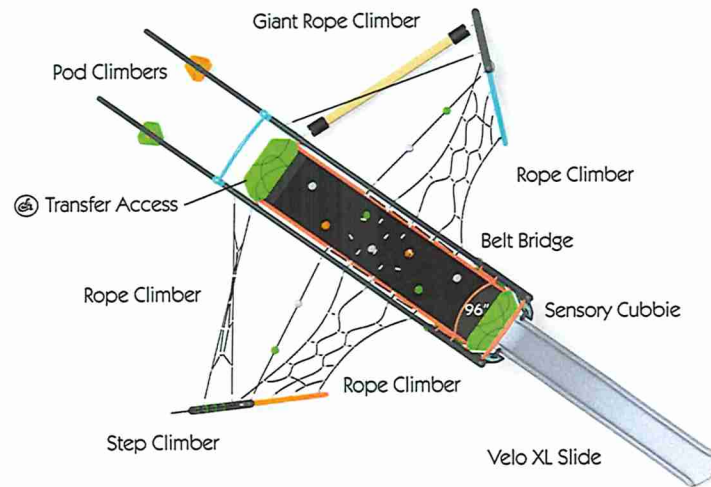


Nina's - Burke - Design 4



ST. CROIX
RECREATION
funplaygrounds.com

Burke
PLAY THAT MOVES YOU.



NINA'S PARK
City of Cottage Grove

Nina's Park Survey – 67 Responses

1. Of the above playgrounds for Nina's Park, which option would be your top choice?



Design 1

28%



Design 2

49%



Design 3

19%



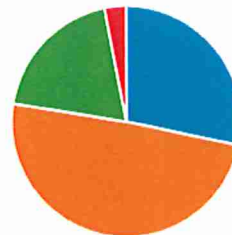
Design 4

3%

1. Of the above playgrounds for Nina's Park, which option would be your top choice?

More Details

● Design 1	19
● Design 2	33
● Design 3	13
● Design 4	2



2. From the following color options, which would be your top 2 choices for Nina's Park?



Chameleon

12%



Electric

21%



Enchanted

8%



Forest

16%



Meadow

14%



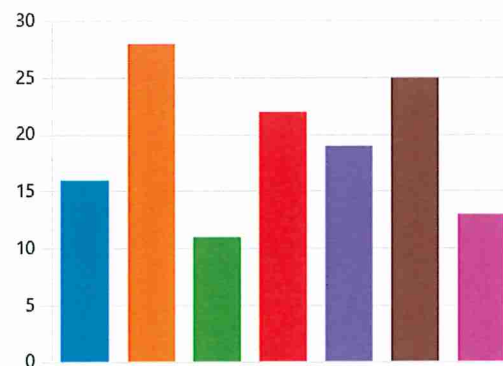
Ocean

19%

2. From the following color options, which would be your top 2 choices for Nina's Park?

[More Details](#)

Chameleon	16
Electric	28
Enchanted	11
Forest	22
Meadow	19
Ocean	25
Spruce	13



1	anonymous	We have 5 grandchildren that we take here and also park further down 76th. (which also needs to be updated) Shaded area would be helpful. Thanks
2	anonymous	None
3	anonymous	This park does not need to be changed. The equipment is hardly ever used. It is manly a hangout for older kids. No change.
4	anonymous	Bring back the old covered wagon play structure!!!! It's important to have a color that blends into the neighborhood. The colors on the playground at Hearthside Park are hideous. Thank you for putting in the time for public input with multiple designs!
5	anonymous	Please make sure the playground is accessible for all children including handicapped kids so the can swing and slide.
6	anonymous	Have benches for the parents to sit on. And maybe a picnic table.
7	anonymous	There should be benches around the parameter to sit on to watch your children/grandchildren.
8	anonymous	Will the ground covering be wood chips or rubber for handicap accessibility?
9	anonymous	Needs a mix of things for older kids and younger kids—lots of new families with all ages of kids in the neighborhood
10	anonymous	No further comments
11	anonymous	More stations to play
12	anonymous	Accessibility for disabled kids.
13	anonymous	Artificial turf like at CG Elementary
14	anonymous	We need more little kid play ground options in our neighborhood
15	anonymous	Would like a light added to the playground if possible. There is a lot of activity after dark and it would be good to be able to see who is in the park.
16	anonymous	An area close to the park for adults to sit.
17	anonymous	This is going to be great for the community

22	anonymous	It's important to me that the playground will be usable by kids of all ages, from toddler to elementary aged - so I was looking for the option that provided something for everyone! I liked the first option, but the equipment seemed to only focus on older children. Looking forward to the final result.
23	anonymous	.
24	anonymous	The designs were nice and hard to make a choice. They were all nice.
25	anonymous	This has always been a wonderful neighborhood park! We have lived in the neighborhood for 30+ years and our entire family is from CG. Overall I feel it would be important for the color of the play structure to blend in with the neighborhood (not bright colors) ex: hunter green, tan, brown. Also, the drum and other misc. musical features that make noise would not be welcomed well by the neighbors. These items would do better in an area where the playground is in a more open area vs right in backyards (ex: Kingston or West Draw Parks). The City of CG should also look into playground equipment from St. Croix Recreation in Stillwater. Their products are much better quality than what Flagship Recreation offers from Landscape Structures. If this playground is redone I would really like to see that the City keeps up on the wood fiber levels
31	anonymous	Please make the equipment enjoyable for multiple ages
32	anonymous	basketball court would make it even better
33	anonymous	We love all the sensory options! We also suggest a zip line that is low enough for kids to reach, and a hammock would be great! Thanks for your hard work on this!
34	anonymous	Na
35	anonymous	Na
36	anonymous	Love this
37	anonymous	I utilized my 5 and 7 year olds for input. They did suggest adding swings to option 4 because you HAVE to have swings at a park. 4 was the consensus top choice but one also liked option 1 and the other liked option 2. Both thought option 3 was too small, they want a BIG park.
38	anonymous	This is great
39	anonymous	A drinking fountain would be very nice

45	anonymous	Hello! We live off of Ideal and absolutely love walking to Nina's Park every week. I had a hard time choosing between Design 2 and 3. The only thing that I'd have differently (that isn't on any of the 4 designs) would be 2 toddler swings. Our other walking distance park (Ideal) doesn't have 2, so it was nice that Nina's did. Thank you so much for taking care of our city's resources! We love our Cottage Grove parks :)
46	anonymous	Please have hard plastic/material swings to sit on and not the soft rubber swings that squish your hips. Thank you.
47	anonymous	Option 1 is best because it's not clustered as a giant glob of activities. It lets kids run from one structure to another; use their imagination more; easier for parents to keep an eye out. A repair won't shut down the whole playground.
48	anonymous	Three please.
49	anonymous	Design 3
50	anonymous	Nothing additional.
51	anonymous	We love the variety of option 1, and we feel kiddos of all abilities and sizes will be able to enjoy that much.
59	anonymous	i like the park how it currently is, please choose the first design if any, the fourth is my least favorite, as it reminds me of the new hidden valley park playground, which no longer has much to do at, due to the lack of standing space on the playground equipment.
60	anonymous	Nothing
61	anonymous	As someone who lives directly across the street from the park and working from home, I can personally attest that the park is utilized daily. There is a group that has special needs kids that use it once or twice a week. I believe the first plan allows the most variety and would draw more people to Nina's park. It is a great place for the neighborhood families to bring their kids and I see cars coming and going so others love the park as well. Thanks for allowing me to share my feedback as this upgrade will really make the park a great experience
62	anonymous	I like #1 the best.
63	anonymous	Thank you!!!!
64	anonymous	An observation in design 4 - seems to be more geared towards older kids and not necessarily younger ones

GRANADA - LSI - Design 1



SLIDEWINDER



CANYON CLIMBER



SNAKE CLIMBER



TRACING PANEL



SWINGS



CURVA SPINNER



STORE PANEL



MATCH 4 PANEL



POD CLIMBER



LOGO CLIMBER



DOUBLE SWIRL SLIDE



WIGGLE LADDER

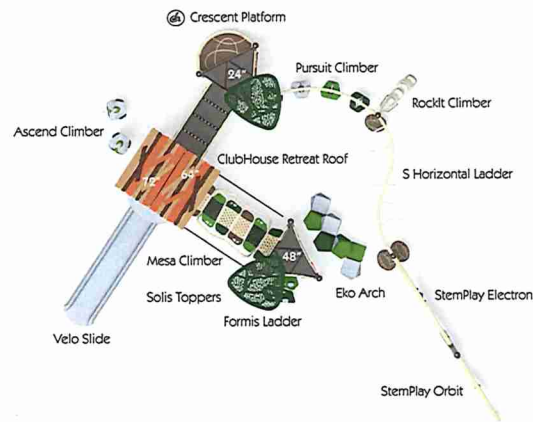
GRANADA - Little Tikes - Design 2



GRANADA - MIRACLE - DESIGN 3



Granada - Burke - Design 4



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Burke
PLAY THAT MOVES YOU.

GRANADA PARK
CITY OF COTTAGE GROVE

Granada Park Survey – 43 Responses

1. Of the above playgrounds for Granada Park, which option would be your top choice?



Design 1

23%



Design 2

37%



Design 3

23%



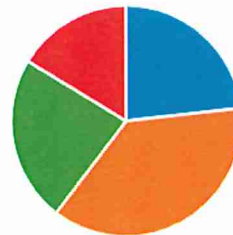
Design 4

16%

1. Of the above playgrounds for Granada Park, which option would be your top choice?

[More Details](#)

● Design 1	10
● Design 2	16
● Design 3	10
● Design 4	7



2. From the following color options, which would be your top 2 choices for Granada Park?



Chameleon

16%



Electric

27%



Enchanted

9%



Forest

16%



Meadow

6%



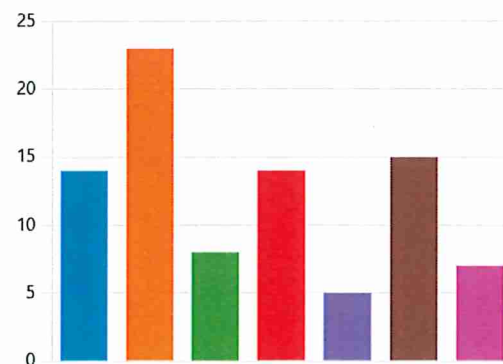
Ocean

17%

2. From the following color options, which would be your top 2 choices for Granada Park?

[More Details](#)

Chameleon	14
Electric	23
Enchanted	8
Forest	14
Meadow	5
Ocean	15
Spruce	7



1	anonymous	Granada park is my children's favorite park and they use it daily. Many older children use this park so select the equipment best for grade school and up. They love the climbing wall and it should stay.
2	anonymous	Please add some more pickle ball courts :)
3	anonymous	We have a 3 year old right next to the park. Lots of climbing/variety would be great! I think option 2 is bad, but the other three all work!
4	anonymous	Thank you for changing it.
5	anonymous	Children need play time. [REDACTED] Fix this problem as the children are the future.
6	anonymous	"I like the climbing wall & balance beam" - Connor Olson
7	anonymous	great that the park is getting a refresh
8	anonymous	Extra benches for parents/gaurdians might be nice, too
9	anonymous	Look forward to the new playground, thank you city of CG
11	anonymous	A basketball hoop and pad would be great. Closest to get to are Heritage/Hamlet & Pine Hill. Local option would be great.
12	anonymous	Bathroom, seating area, water fountain
13	anonymous	Pickleball courts
14	anonymous	Add the spinny thing you hang on
15	anonymous	Please do not remove any of the trees that are there now. They add to the beauty of the park.. Adding more trees would be nice for shade. Please add permanent benches for families to sit on.
16	anonymous	No mulch or sand. Use the ground cover that is soft
17	anonymous	Ice rink in the field next to park
18	anonymous	I would appreciate the pickle ball start on weekends at 8:30 instead of 7:00 in the morning. I would love to sleep with my windows open and not hear pickle ball. Thank you for your consideration.
19	anonymous	Like them all.
20	anonymous	Adding No Parking signs for residents across from park. Pickle ball players disrespect the homeowners within area, parking I front of mail boxes, driveways and fire hydrant.
21	anonymous	Add more swings. And higher slides.
22	anonymous	Big slides. Twisty slides.

West Draw-LSI-Design 1



CLUBHOUSE



FIREPOLE



CORKSCREW



SINGLE WAVE
SLIDE



TALK TUBES



SADDLE
SPINNER



LOOP ARCH



SWINGS



SLIDE WINDER



BUBBLE
PANEL

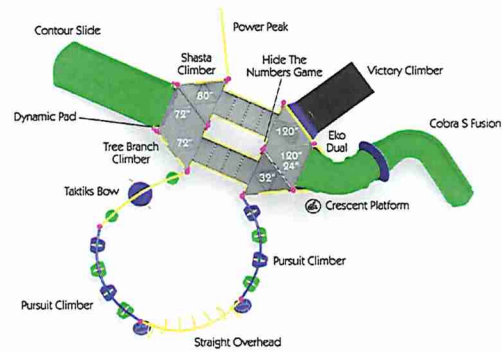
West Draw - Little Tikes - Design 2



West Draw - Miracle - Design 3



West Draw - Burke - Design 4



West Draw Survey – 55 Responses

1. Of the above playgrounds for West Draw Park, which option would be your top choice?



Design 1

4%



Design 2

17%



Design 3

20%



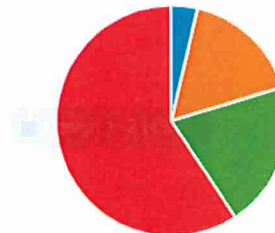
Design 4

59%

1. Of the above playgrounds for West Draw Park, which option would be your top choice?

[More Details](#)

● Design 1	2
● Design 2	9
● Design 3	11
● Design 4	32



2. From the following color options, which would be your top 2 choices for West Draw Park?



Chameleon

17%



Electric

35%



Enchanted

10%



Forest

10%



Meadow

3%



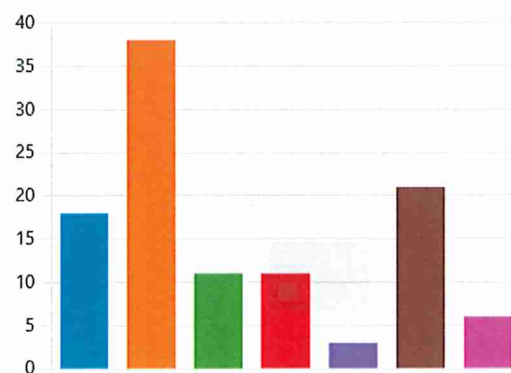
Ocean

19%

2. From the following color options, which would be your top 2 choices for West Draw Park?

[More Details](#)

● Chameleon	18
● Electric	38
● Enchanted	11
● Forest	11
● Meadow	3
● Ocean	21
● Spruce	6



2	anonymous	Rubber mulch or mat underneath.
3	anonymous	None
4	anonymous	My kids love option 4 because it's so different, but would love to also have a few swings or a tire swing. A zip line swing would be AWESOME too! Thank you.
5	anonymous	I would rather have either design 3 or 4, but majority for 4.
6	anonymous	I go to this park, or used to when I was younger, but now that it is going to be replaced I would love to go. I love design 4. It would be so much more fun! Compared to what it is now. I live across the street from it so it would be a great new addition!
7	anonymous	Looks good. All options look good but 4 looks amazing for kids to play on.
12	anonymous	Any chance to add another slide to that design? Option 3/4 are the best. Most anything will be an update to the playground
13	anonymous	Be sure the park has swings. Thank you!
14	anonymous	More ninja warrior type obstacles.
15	anonymous	Monkey Bars
16	anonymous	I'm excited to see the updates
17	anonymous	Thanks for giving us the opportunity to provide feedback!
18	anonymous	Like the park design. Was really hoping to having a bigger park than the one we have now. Also wondering if there will be the rubber floor like Woodridge?
19	anonymous	Thank you for updating this playground! Even though my own kids are too old, the next generation will love it!
20	anonymous	Hamburger
21	anonymous	Definitely swings and monkey bars. Wood chips vs. rubber preferably. Right now the wood chips are full of huge prickly weeds. Those need to not be there. 😊
22	anonymous	No
23	anonymous	Drinking fountain, 3 light's surrounding playground, lights in the park cabana.
24	anonymous	Skating rink
25	anonymous	None
26	anonymous	Nothing to add
27	anonymous	Put in a basketball court
28	anonymous	Hopefully it can be for little and big kids.
29	anonymous	O
30	anonymous	The options look good.
31	anonymvous	Little shelter area with shade and tables

39	anonymous	Replace mulch with rubber surface on ground
40	anonymous	Replace mulch on ground with rubber flat surfaces.
41	anonymous	Great selections to enhance the park
42	anonymous	Kids 5-12 in this neighborhood are everywhere and we need something geared to older children in the community.
43	anonymous	None
44	anonymous	I love the climbing/warp wall. That would be a good option for the slightly older children also
45	anonymous	All choices seem rather basic. Perhaps add a tire swing or merry go round?
46	anonymous	A combination of having something like 2 & 4 would be nice to appeal to a wider age range, plus the area has the room, but I feel that a younger age playground is more beneficial to the area since the older kids tend to already be at the bike park portion. It would be great to have basketball hoops/tennis courts combos to help appeal to all ages.

To: Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission
From: Zac Dockter, Parks and Recreation Director
CC:
Date: October 25, 2023
Subject: E-Recreational Equipment Safety Measures

Introduction/Background

At the September Co-Commission meeting between the Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources and Public Services Commissions, the topic of electronic recreational vehicle equipment use in the community was discussed. Staff's summary of the conversation, as it pertains to parks and trails, is as follows:

1. Use of electronic recreational vehicles should be allowed in parks and on trails to foster this growing trend in outdoor recreation.
2. Educational efforts to curb dangerous behavior on electronic recreational vehicles should be considered. Some common ideas shared by Commissioners for terminology include:
 - a. Maximum speed of 20MPH
 - b. Use due care for the safety of all trail users
 - c. Always yield to the person in front of you
 - d. Shared trail system; be aware of dangerous conditions and other users

Detailed minutes of the August meeting are included within this meeting packet and may provide additional and valuable context to the discussion.

With this report, staff has provided some example signage currently being used on trail systems. Once staff gets direction on verbiage choices for an educational program, we will begin designing a strategy to engage with the community. Communication methods most likely would include signs, educational video, social media postings, CG Connect emails, Newsletter, newspaper and more.

Staff Recommendation

Provide feedback regarding safety measures for electronic recreational devices in parks and on trails.

E-Bike specific
discussion found
on pages 6-7.

Understanding Minnesota Bicycle and EBIke Law

Starting August 1, 2023 newly revised statutes for bicyclists take effect. There are several significant changes that police, cyclists and motorists need to be aware of. Remember by statute a bicycle is a vehicle, and the operator of the bicycle is essentially a driver. No driver license is required. Cyclists have the right to operate on the roadway, in a bicycle lane which is part of a roadway, on the shoulder – which is not considered part of a roadway – on a path alongside a roadway, or in some instances upon a sidewalk. Sidewalk riding is forbidden in business districts by statute and may be prohibited by ordinances elsewhere. Most traffic laws apply to operators of bicycles except those which by their very nature cannot apply.

Some statutes apply to cyclists on bikeways, in particular in regard to providing an audible warning of some sort before passing others on a bikeway. Many bikeways may not even be within a public highway. A "Bikeway" means a bicycle lane, bicycle path, bicycle route, shared use path, or similar bicycle facility, regardless of whether it is designed for the exclusive use of bicycles or for shared use with other transportation modes.

For years one of the most confusing statutes was §169.222 Subd. 4 which said, "Every person operating upon a roadway shall ride as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway except under the following situations:" It then listed exceptions which contained 3 times more words than the initial sentence. Many motorists, cyclists and even police only remembered the first sentence.

Many people thought it meant that a cyclist had to ride as close to the right side of the roadway as possible, somehow inferring that they needed to move over so cars could pass them within the same traffic lane. But it didn't – right of way laws always give right of way to the road user ahead. *With the exception of emergency vehicles* they never require anyone to pull over to "make room!" The old statute mimicked the law regarding slow moving vehicles. SMVs are required to stay far to the right so they are easier to see around to pass. Unlike a horse drawn buggy or a farm tractor pulling an implement, bicyclists, even riding two abreast, are easy to see around.

The cyclist on a roadway has the right of way over an overtaking motorist. Yet, if a cyclist is riding near the middle of the traffic lane many motorists get upset, and sometimes hostile, thinking the cyclist is doing something illegal.

The exceptions to riding on the right of the roadway were, and continue to be WHEN:

- 1) overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction,
- 2) preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway,
- 3) reasonably necessary to avoid conditions that make it unsafe to continue along the right side, including fixed or moving objects, vehicles, pedestrians, animals, surface hazards and narrow-width lanes,
- 4) operating on the shoulder of a roadway or in a bicycle lane,
- 5) operating in a right-hand turn lane before entering an intersection. (This section is new)

The term narrow-width lane is defined as a lane which is too narrow for a motor vehicle and a bicyclist to operate safely and legally side by side within the same lane.

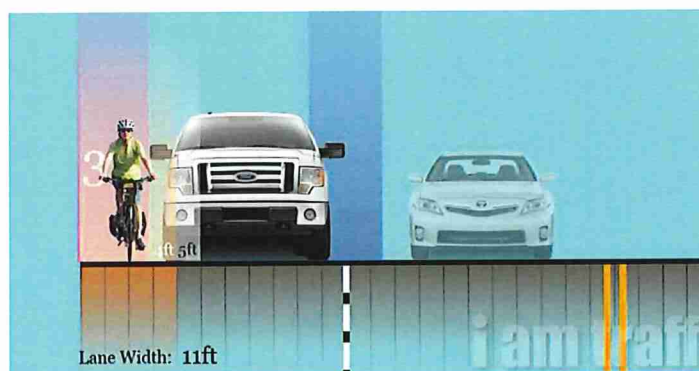
Let me provide some guidance. The minimum operating space necessary for a bicyclist is 4 feet. That allows for the width of the bicycle and rider in addition to the normal side by side

movement that takes place while balancing. It also allows some room to accommodate small movements a cyclist may make avoiding rocks, debris, or other objects in their path. In accordance, the minimum design standard for a bicycle lane is 4 feet wide. Whether the roadway is 11-12 feet wide, the cyclist requires a minimum 4 feet of it.

Next, an additional minimum of 3 feet of space is required for the motorist to fulfill the passing requirement of §169.18 Subd. 3 (3) which requires “safe clearance, in no case less than three feet, when passing a bicycle or individual...” That adds a minimum 3 feet more to the space required. Those requirements have excluded 7 feet of the traffic lane from overtaking traffic. Most motor vehicles are at least 6 feet wide from mirror to mirror. Trucks are obviously wider; a Ford F-150 pickup is roughly 8 feet wide mirror to mirror. The reality is it's virtually impossible for most motor vehicles to pass a cyclist safely and LEGALLY within the same lane unless the lane is at least 14 feet wide.

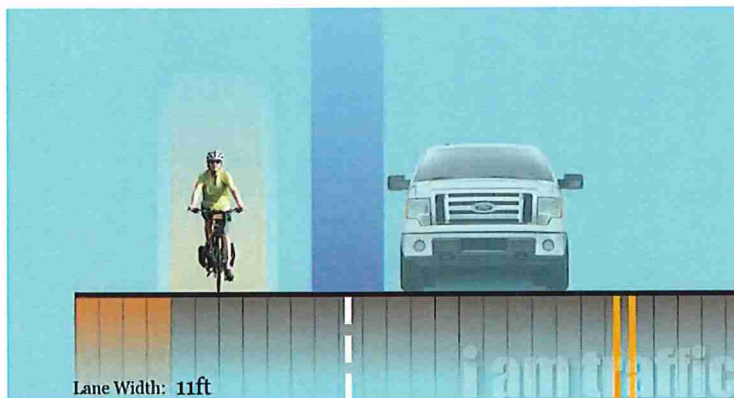
The following illustrations may make it clearer. The four-foot operating space required by the cyclist is shaded below the cyclist. The minimum 3 feet passing clearance is indicated by shading above the road surface. These illustrations are created to scale.

Lane Sharing





Lane Control



Graphics from <https://cyclingsavvy.org/lane-width-space/>
Keri Caffery – artist

To avoid close passes, which are one of the most feared actions cyclists experience, cyclist training and learned experience is to move more towards the center and to control the lane. That makes it clear to overtaking motorist that there is no room to pass them in that lane. The overtaking motorist needs to pass in an alternate lane. Several years ago the statute was amended to allow a motorist to pass a cyclist over a double yellow center line if safe to do so. A motorist may have to wait a short time, but passing a slower moving cyclist takes less time and distance than passing another motorist does. The revised §169.222 Subd. 4 (a) now says, “A person operating a bicycle is not required to ride as close to the right-hand curb or edge when:” and it then lists the exceptions shown earlier.

When passing a bicycle §169.18 Subd 5 (c) also says “a motor vehicle may be driven to the left side of the roadway to safely overtake a bicycle under the following circumstances:

- (1) the bicycle is proceeding in the same direction as the motor vehicle;
- (2) the driver of the motor vehicle either (i) provides a safe clearance distance, in no case less than the greater of three feet **or one-half the width of the motor vehicle**, or (ii) completely enters the left lane of the highway;”

Occasionally a motorist will pass a bicycle while 'splitting a lane,' meaning the car is straddling the lane divider. They do so to avoid completely changing into an alternate lane. They may do so out of hostility, anger or even inattention. If a cyclist is controlling the traffic lane by riding near its center, it's not unheard of for a motorist to pass them closely – intentionally – while splitting the traffic lane. If that occurs it is likely a violation of this provision.

Bicyclists may ride on the shoulder if they wish. That usually means it is paved, clear of debris, and rumble strips. A shoulder is not considered part of the roadway. If they do ride on the shoulder, they must ride the same direction as adjacent traffic. Riding a bike against the flow of traffic, especially approaching an intersection, increases a cyclist's likelihood of a crash with a motorist by nearly 300 percent.

Bicyclists may ride on a sidewalk where it is permitted. Business districts are forbidden by statute. A person operating a bicycle on a sidewalk is legally considered a pedestrian, and beholden to all of the pedestrian laws under §169.21. They often travel 2-3 times the normal speed of a true pedestrian and as result might not be seen by motorists scanning the corner area for pedestrians at or near an intersection. They are not beholden to any rules of direction, and they are only a few feet from the area a wrong way cyclist would be riding. Their likelihood of a crash at an intersection is equally high unless they slow to pedestrian speed. §169.21 Subd 2 Absence of Signals includes the language "No pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle which is so close that it is impossible for the driver to yield. This provision shall not apply under the conditions as otherwise provided in this subdivision." This addresses pedestrians and sidewalk cyclists who dart out from the corner or into a crosswalk. Contrary to what people may think, riding a bicycle on a sidewalk is not usually safer than riding on the roadway – especially at intersections.

Cyclists may ride in a Bicycle Lane if it is available. A bicycle lane is a legal and exclusive lane, which is usually part of the roadway. It must be denoted through signs or roadway marking that it is a bike lane. It is normally not useable by motorists, except when they are parking legally adjacent to the bicycle lane or are making a right turn across one. See §169.19 Subd.1 (g) for specifics.

Cyclists do not have to ride in a Bicycle Lane or upon the shoulder, even if they are available to use. The cyclist's experience, riding style, speed, type of bike and destination may all be factors in where they choose to be and where they feel safest. Statutes allow persons operating a bicycle to ride upon the shoulder or in the bicycle lane if they don't feel safe riding upon the roadway. I have friends who have complained that while driving around the Minneapolis lakes they are slowed by cyclists riding on the roadway, and not using the bike path. "They have very expensive bike paths they are supposed to ride on," they tell me. Serious cyclists who ride fast don't want to ride on those paths where the speed is restricted to 10 mph, and it is filled with every variety of cyclist, scooter and pedestrian. For them it is dangerous and the speed limit prohibitive to their style. They want to be able to go fast, and in many cases they can reach and maintain the posted 25 mph limit on the roadway around the lake. §160.263 provides more statutory information on bicycle lanes, routes and paths for those interested.

Minnesota just instituted a modified "Idaho Stop Law" which allows a bicyclist to treat a Stop Sign as a Yield sign. In the new §169.222 Subd. 4a. The bicyclist approaching a Stop Sign "must slow to a speed which allows for stopping before entering the intersection or crosswalk." If there is no vehicle or pedestrian "in the vicinity" which presents "a collision hazard during the

time the bicycle operator would occupy the intersection," the bicyclist may proceed through without stopping.

Some cyclists, and perhaps even some police officers, wrongly believed that a cyclist had to come to a complete stop, which they thought meant putting a foot down to the ground and to wait before proceeding. §169.20 Subd 3 (Right of Way) addresses Stop Signs. Nowhere does it require a foot be placed on the ground – try that in your pickup truck – nor does it specify a length of time the vehicle must remain stopped. The cessation of movement could be only an instant depending on any approaching traffic that must be yielded to. The new 4a provision only formalizes what has been common practice for a long time. If a cyclist blows past a Stop Sign - pedaling at high speed without slowing – they're still in violation.

The original "Idaho Stop Law" also allows cyclists to treat a red semaphore signal as a Stop Sign, meaning they can ride through the intersection if it is clear to do so. That is NOT the law in Minnesota, however. For many years Minnesota law has had an Affirmative Defense for persons operating bicycles and motorcycles for whom the semaphore signal will not change. Bikes made of non-ferrous material like aluminum, titanium or carbon fiber will not be picked up by in-road sensors. After meeting certain requirements listed in §169.06 Subd. 9 they may proceed through an intersection, if safe to do so, in technical violation of the traffic light. If they are cited, the statute provides them an affirmative defense. As a result, people operating bicycles must still stop for red signals and wait for green ones. Anything else is still a violation.

Many cyclists, believing they needed to stay far to the right, would ride straight through an intersection even while using a Right Turn Only Lane (RTOL). That illegal behavior confused drivers and resulted in a number of crashes. On occasion cyclists riding along the shoulder of a high-speed roadway (45 mph+) experience the shoulder suddenly turn into a RTOL. In order to stay within the law the cyclist has to try to move left into the high-speed traffic, which may not have time to react to a slower speed cyclist. Many cyclists would stay on the left most portion of the RTOL and ride through the intersection. That action is now made legal. 169.222 Subd 4 (f) now says " Notwithstanding section 169.06, subdivision 4, a bicycle operator may cross an intersection proceeding from the leftmost one-third of a dedicated right turn lane without turning right. It's unlikely this behavior would have resulted in a citation, but it can be an issue when investigating and reporting a collision.

Another significant change, to eliminate confusion, is 169.222 Subd 4 (c). Previous language made it illegal to ride bicycles "more than two abreast and they shall not impede normal reasonable traffic." That is very subjective to be sure. Two abreast cyclists can slow traffic behind them but persons riding single file can't? Groups of cyclist often ride two abreast to shorten their group, to control one lane and to get through intersections faster. Police cycling classes ride like that too. It now reads "Persons riding bicycles upon a roadway or shoulder must not ride more than two abreast, and on a laned roadway, shall ride within a single lane."

While statutes have not changed regarding bicycle equipment, it is important that police officers know and enforce them, especially at night.

1. Bicycles are required to have a working headlight at night. Even an inexpensive one will likely meet the requirement to be visible 500 feet away. A white front reflector is not a legal substitute for a headlight.
2. A bike must have reflectors in certain areas: a red reflector on the rear which is visible between 100 and 600 feet from behind. If the reflector is sagging or misaimed, it will not work effectively. A rear taillight in lieu of a rear reflector is in full compliance with the law.

3. Pedals - The reflective surfaces shall include reflective materials on each side of each pedal to indicate their presence from the front or the rear. Some styles of bicycle pedals are designed in a way that reflectors cannot be mounted to them. In that case some sort of reflectorized material should be worn around the lower leg, ankle or on the shoes. "Pedal reflectors" which move in a predictable and highly visible up and down manner are some of the best reflectors to clearly identify the presence of a bicyclist ahead to overtaking motorists.
4. Each side of the bike must have a minimum of 20 square inches of reflective material. Often reflectors are placed in the spokes or wheels, and as they turn they effectively meet the required 20 inches.
5. Bicycles are required to have working brakes. Either a rear or front and rear brakes which can make the wheel skid on clean, dry, level pavement is required. Some bikes have a direct, or fixed, drive. They are easy to identify. When the tires are turning so are the pedals and crankarms. They cannot coast, and they could actually be ridden backwards. Often times they have no brakes. In order to be legal the rider of the fixed gear – or fixie – must be able to use his pedals, legs and technique to stop the rear wheel and make it skid on clean, dry, level pavement. That actually requires some skill and strength.

Electric Assist Bikes

Electric Assist bicycles, aka eBikes, are gaining huge popularity. EBikes are legal when they fall within the definition set by statute. Most eBikes sold in bike shops do. Others, however, exceed the limits set by statute and fall outside the definition. The statutes only address electric assist bikes which fall under this definition: "Electric-assisted bicycle" means a bicycle with two or three wheels that:

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

Briefly, Class 1 and Class 3 eBikes have to be pedaled in order to activate any assistance from the motor. A Class 1 bike must cease assistance at 20 mph. A Class 3 bike must cease assistance at 28 mph. A Class 2 bike can assist the operator through either pedaling or by use of a throttle control. If an eBike is moving swiftly down the road and the operator isn't pedaling, it's likely a Class 2 with a throttle. A Class 2 must cease assistance at 20 mph. Everything in terms of speed and assistance is ultimately determined by the software. If the software is modified the limits on the speed can be too

A legal eBike, for use on MN roadways and bikeways, cannot have motor power output of over 750 watts. There are many so-called "eBikes" in use which exceed that. Some look more like motorcycles, some don't have functional pedals. The speed they are going while riding can certainly be a giveaway at times as to its power level and conformance. The market is flush with new products trying to enter the "eBike" market. This is where discretion, curiosity and your own personal subject knowledge are necessary and useful.

169.222 Subd 6a addresses electric assist bicycles, eBikes. For the most part the laws regarding eBikes are identical to those for regular bicycles. The biggest difference is – NO person under the age of 15 shall operate an electric assist bike. Lastly, local or trail ordinances can be passed to control eBike use on their facilities.

Motorized Bicycles

Motorized Bicycles use a gas engine and should not be confused with an electric assist bicycle. They don't seem to be a common conveyance in Minnesota. In the event you encounter one, or have questions, §169.223 is completely dedicated to motorized bicycles.

Understanding the current statutes regarding operation of bicycles on the roadway can help make the roadway safer for everyone. It can also make your job easier if you are involved in an enforcement action or get called to a crash involving a cyclist where it is important to know and understand the bicycle and eBike law.

Kirby Beck retired from Coon Rapids PD. He is IPMBA Police Cyclist Instructor #2 and currently works as a Bicycle Safety Expert and Consultant for attorneys and insurance companies involved in civil lawsuits emanating from a bicycle related injury or death.



E-BIKE (ELECTRIC BICYCLE) - A BATTERY-POWERED MOTOR TO GIVE YOU A CHEEKY BOOST WHEN YOU NEED IT

SPIN THE PEDALS TO POWER AN E-BIKE

THE LOW DOWN ON E-BIKES

ENJOY EVEN MORE OF THE GREAT OUTDOORS

LAUGH IN THE FACE OF HILLS & HEADWINDS

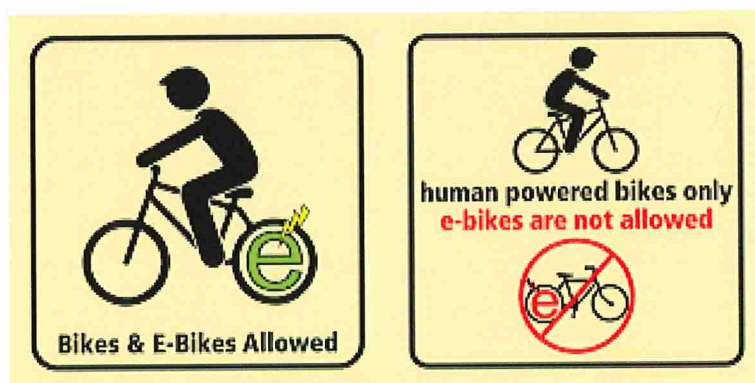
BUILDING CONFIDENCE & ABILITY

MAKES CYCLING ACCESSIBLE TO MORE FOLK

ALL TYPES OF E-BIKES FROM HYBRID TO OFF-ROAD

YAY











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Pilot Program on this trail.



**ELECTRIC BIKES
ALLOWED**



**NO ELECTRIC
SCOOTERS**



All trail rules apply.



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**TRAIL RULES
TWO WAY TRAFFIC
SPEED LIMIT 15
STAY TO THE RIGHT
NO MORE THAN TWO ACROSS
SIGNAL WHEN PASSING
SAY "ON YOUR LEFT"
DOGS ON 6 FT. LEASH
SCOOP THE POOP**

Reorder: NHE-50802 www.ComplianceSigns.com





To: Honorable Mayor and City Council
Jennifer Levitt, City Administrator
From: Kori Land, City Attorney
Date: October 18, 2023
Subject: Ordinance Amendments regarding: Adult Use Cannabis Smoking/Vaping in Public Places, Tobacco Use in Public Parks, and Penalties for Underage Cannabis Use

BACKGROUND

In 2022, the Minnesota legislature enacted a law legalizing the sale and use of CBD (low potency cannabis), which is typically sold in the form of edibles and beverages. In 2023, the legislature legalized adult use cannabis (over .3% THC). While adult use cannabis is currently legal to use, its use is restricted to specific locations. Unfortunately, there is no penalty for violating that law. At a work session on September 5, 2023, the City Council discussed the idea of prohibiting cannabis use in public places, as well as prohibiting tobacco use in public parks, and it was determined that the questions should be forwarded to the Parks Commission as well as the Public Safety Commission to weigh in on these topics.

Another challenge that was discussed out of the new legislation is that while it is illegal for anyone under 21 to use any cannabis products, there is no penalty for underage consumption. This topic was also forwarded to the commissions for input.

On Sept. 11, 2023, the Parks Commission and Public Safety Commission held a joint meeting and discussed the prohibition of smoking/vaping of adult use cannabis in public places, the prohibition of tobacco use in city parks and the imposition of a penalty for underage use of cannabis. There were 15 members from the commissions who participated in the joint meeting. There was a good discussion about public safety's enforcement and time commitment involved, protection of the public health and the consistency of prohibiting cannabis vs. tobacco use in public places. At the end of the discussion, by show of hands, a majority of the commissioners supported the proposed ordinances. A follow-up written survey by the commissioners confirmed the responses.

PROPOSED ORDINANCES

Prohibition on Cannabis Use in Public Places

The new state law authorizes the use of adult use cannabis, but only in the following locations:

1. A private residence; or
2. Private property with permission of the owner (not a place open and accessible to the public); or
3. A business licensed by the OCM for on-site consumption. (Will not happen until 2025)

The proposed ordinance prohibits smoking/vaping of adult use cannabis in public places and on public property, which are defined as follows:

PUBLIC PLACE: Property that is generally open to or accessible by the public, and includes public property, but does not include those premises licensed by the State of Minnesota to permit on-site consumption.

PUBLIC PROPERTY: Property, real and personal, that is owned, managed, or controlled by the City, including, but not limited to: City buildings and all the land thereon, parking lots, parks, pathways and trails, and city rights-of-way consisting of both the traveled portion and the abutting boulevard, sidewalks and trails, and any City personal property, such as motor vehicles and city equipment.

A “public place” is open and accessible to the general public, such as a commercial parking lot or private sidewalk around a shopping center. It is private property, because it is not owned by the City, but there is access to it by the general public. “Public property,” on the other hand, is owned by the City or controlled by the City, such as City parks, City-owned unimproved land, sidewalks, trails and City parking lots.

The legislature specifically stated that any penalty imposed for public use could be no more than a petty misdemeanor. A petty misdemeanor is an “offense” under the law, *not a crime*. It carries no long-term criminal record or criminal history implications. A petty is punishable by a maximum \$300 fine. We have proposed a penalty in the ordinance of \$100, but the Council can adjust it as it sees fit.

Tobacco Use in Public Parks

While it is not currently an issue that garners many complaints, in order to be consistent, it was felt that tobacco smoking/vaping should also be prohibited in public parks. There is an exception in the proposed ordinance that removes River Oaks from the definition of a “public park” for purposes of tobacco use, since it is a facility that requires payment to participate and is not used in the same manner as a free, open-to-the-public City park.

Underage Use

The joint commissions discussed imposing a penalty for underage use and overwhelmingly supported a penalty that mirrors the statutory penalty for the underage consumption of alcohol. Under state law, underage consumption of alcohol is a misdemeanor with a mandatory minimum fine of \$100. It should be noted that all ordinance violations (trash, junk cars, building permit violations) are also a misdemeanor, including underage use of tobacco. The proposed ordinance provides the same penalty as the underage consumption of alcohol.

Each ordinance has been prepared separately so that each one can be considered on its own merits.

REQUESTED ACTION

Discuss the ordinances and if acceptable, move each ordinance separately for approval.

Motion to approve An Ordinance Amending Cottage Grove City Code by Enacting Title 5, Chapter 1, Section 6, Prohibiting Cannabis Use on Public Property and in Public Places

Motion to approve An Ordinance Amending Cottage Grove City Code by Amending Title 7, Chapter 3, Section 4, Prohibiting Smoking and Vaping Tobacco Products in Public Parks

Motion to approve An Ordinance Amending Cottage Grove City Code by Enacting Title 5, Chapter 1, Section 7, Underage Possession and Use of Cannabis Products



Memo

To: Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission

From: Molly Pietruszewski, Recreation Services Manager

Date: 10/24/2023

Re: Fall Project Highlight

Please feel free to call or email with any questions or comments, 651-458-3404.

September Program Highlight: Cottage Grove Fall Fury Softball Tournament

- This was a new event for the Recreation Department; we hosted 11 teams for an adult softball tournament at the Lamar Park Complex.
- Teams from the metro area participated and played all day. The winning team came up the loser's bracket to win two games late into the night for the Championship.
- Definitely an event we plan to continue and hopefully grow next year.



COTTAGE GROVE FALL FURY

- SEPTEMBER 16, 8:00AM
- 16 TEAM, DOUBLE ELIM BRACKET
- RANDOM DRAW, RECORDED SEEDING
- HIT YOUR OWN 52/300, ASA BALLS/BATS
- UNSANCTIONED BUT FOLLOWING MSF RULEBOOK
- 6-12 ARC, NO COURTSEY
- HR CONTEST AFTER 3RD ROUND

HR Contest: \$20/player, 2 per team
1. \$225 2. \$175 3. \$150 4. \$90

- BYOB
- FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL FROM 11-6P AT KINGSTON PARK (25 TRUCKS + LIVE MUSIC + BEER GARDEN) 2.7 MILES
- OPEN TO A TEAM RUNNING CONCESSIONS FOR FUNDRAISING

Tournament Registration: \$225



1. \$700
2. \$500
3. \$300
4. \$200



CONTACT:
BRAD MUCKENHIRN, RECREATION SUPERVISOR
BMUCKENHIRN@COTTAGEGROVEMN.GOV
651-458-3412

REGISTER ONLINE: WWW.COTTAGEGROVEMN.GOV/REGISTRATION



To: Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission
From: Jim Fohrman, Parks Superintendent
Date: November 2023
Subject: Park Maintenance Activity Update

Below are the projects for the Parks Maintenance division. The projects are either in the process of being completed or have been completed.

October 1-15

Aerating
Blowout irrigation
remove paddle boat and dock
Flower bed maintenance/winterizing
Phase 2 training
bring in Trash cans
Remove Paddle share trailer and clean
Prep for soccer tournament
remove shade structures
remove bases from Lamar
storage Box for gator bags and remove bags
Fall fertilizing
organize cold storage
removed water bags on trees
Defensive driving

October 16-31

Volleyball nets down
clean shed
flower beds
Blowout irrigation
remove soccer goals
Plow meeting
winterize painter
mulching leaves
water tank cleaned and stored
winterize splash pad
Tree cutting
tree trimming
storm cleanup

drinking fountains
South Ideal backfill and seeded
Mississippi Dunes work
Tree wraps installed
Pad at YSB

November 1-15

Building maintenance
Playground inspections
remove extra garbage cans
paint Peter Thompson rink
fix fencing at rinks
Woodridge netting for window protection
pumpkin chuck
stake plow routes
Tennis nets and shut lights off
lights on Trees at City Hall
Mow natural trails (Woodridge, Oakwood, Antler Ridge)
Plow equipment
rough cut: 82nd St, Hardwood Park, Pine tree valley
clean kayaks and prep trailer for snowshoes
Irrigation blowout
mulching leaves
Tree cutting
tree trimming
storm cleanup
WORK ORDERS
stump grinding and backfill

November 16-30

Building maintenance
snow fence at Lamar
Shovels for buildings
WORK ORDERS
Check hockey lights
Bring chair to city hall
Haul mulch from public works
install reels in vehicles
Rink board repair
fix hockey nets
inspect flooding hoses
Stump grinding and backfill



To: Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission
From: Jordan Hirman, Facility Services Manager
CC:
Date: November, 2023
Subject: Update on Ice Arena Activities

Below is an overview of Ice Arena Activities that are complete, projects/programs we are working on, and upcoming projects/programs:

COMPLETED PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

- Hired and trained seasonal staff
- Completed Winter Skate School lesson brochure and opened for registration
- Invoiced current advertisers for yearly fees
- Marketed Halloween Bash skating event held on October 25th
- Hosted Peewee/Bantam B1 Pumpkin Bash Tournament October 27th-29th. Concession revenue over \$5000 for the three-day tournament
- Opened the Concession Stand on October 12th
- Cottage Grove Logistics branding of the North Rink

CURRENT PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

- Scheduling ice time for outside user groups for Spring and Summer of 2024
- Assigning teams to CGHA ice time
- Hiring of Minor Officials for all three High School teams
- Fall Skate School wrapping up
- Marketing Winter Skate School lessons
- Warming Room bathrooms completion of mid-November
- Two sets of Logistics Rink exterior doors replacement in November

UPCOMING PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

- Turkey Tournament November 24th-26th
- Mite Jamboree December 8th-10th with an anticipation of 52 teams registering
- Year End Bash CGHA Bantam B2/Peewee B2 tournament December 27th through December 30th



To:	Honorable Mayor and City Council Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission
From:	Dennis Neitz, River Oaks General Manager
CC:	Zac Dockter, Parks and Recreation Director Jennifer Levitt, City Administrator
Date:	October 31, 2023
Subject:	River Oaks October 2023 Update

Introduction

River Oaks Golf Course and Event Center is a municipally owned venture that provides the following main services to our community:

1. **Golf** – River Oaks offers a beautiful 18-hole golf course and practice venue. The golf course is one of the most highly rated municipal courses in the Twin Cities due to its playability and beauty. Customer service is of the highest priority for the golf course. Leagues, lessons, tournaments, and casual play are all welcome at River Oaks.
2. **Event Center** – The event center can accommodate up to 220 guests for weddings, parties, banquets, meetings, or any other special events. Our venue can also be subdivided to provide smaller programming and/or simultaneous events. Food and beverage options are all prepared by the in-house Chef and his staff. Coordinated rentals by outside customers are a primary user group, but our staff is also vigilant in creating and promoting programs/events for the facility.
3. **Bar and Grill** – A full menu, bar, restaurant style seating and entertainment are available as well as a beautiful patio which has views of the golf course and Mississippi River Valley from May-September. Although revenue from golfers is the largest percentage of sales, Eagles is open and marketed to the public when the weather is appropriate. Off-season special events are offered to entice non-golfer patrons to visit the facility.

October Update

Golf Reporting

October showed a 8.75% decrease in sales for 2023 over 2022.

Update	2022	2023
October Revenue	\$124,160	\$113,292*
October Rounds	3,388	3,148
October Average Temperature	50.8	51.7
October Average Precipitation	.5"	4.0"

*Number not official

Golf Summary

October was a decent month for golf except for the last week. Our average golf spend in October 2023 was \$35.98 per golfer. We are getting ready for our customer appreciation event on November 2nd.

Event Center - Eagles Bar & Grill Reporting

October showed a 7.75% increase in sales for 2023 over 2022.

Update	2022	2023
October Revenue	\$78,033	\$84,051*

*Number not official

Event Center - Eagles Bar & Grill Summary

This was a balanced increase between grill revenue and event center revenue. We have a few special events coming up (Dueling Pianos, Craft Fairs, Friendsgiving Dinner, Wine Dinner, Beer Dinner and Santa Brunch)

Maintenance - Summary

Our maintenance department has been extremely busy closing the course for winter and finishing our irrigation project.

Washington County Parks and Open Spaces Commission

September 21, 2023

Agenda attached - page 2

A. July , 2023 unapproved minutes - pages 3-5

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. Land and Water Legacy Referendum Update - This is in the feasibility study phase and when that is completed there will be a report out to the Parks and Open Spaces commission.
2. Glacial Hills Regional Trail Update - West / East arterial trail from county line to William O'Brien State Park including Big Marine County Park.

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. Facility Rental Updates - the facility at Cottage Grove Ravine can be rented.
2. Equity Grant Discussion - presentation attached, pages 6-17.

D. INFORMATION / UPDATES

1. County Board Updates
2. Park Updates
3. Courthouse Restoration Tour - September 26, 2023 was really interesting.

E. Next meeting November 16, 2023. I will not be able to attend that one.



PUBLIC WORKS

Wayne Sandberg, P.E., Director, County Engineer
Frank D. Ticknor, P.E., Deputy Director

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION AGENDA

Thursday, September 21st, 2023 / 6:00 p.m.

COTTAGE GROVE RAVINE REGIONAL PARK – RAVINE LANDING

17495 Manning Trail N, Marine on St Croix, MN 55047

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - a. July 20, 2023
- V. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. Land and Water Legacy Referendum Update June/Serena (20 mi)
 - b. Glacial Hills Regional Trail Update Connor Schaefer (10 min)
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Facility Rental Updates JJ Williams (20 min)
 - b. Equity Grant Discussion Connor Schaefer (30 min)
- VII. INFORMATION / UPDATES
 - a. County Board Updates Alex McKinney (5 min)
 - b. Park Updates Alex McKinney (5 min)
 - c. Courthouse Restoration Tour Alex McKinney (1 min)
- VIII. NON-AGENDA ITEMS (OPEN DISCUSSION)
- IX. ADJOURN

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PUBLIC WORKS

Wayne Sandberg, P.E., Director, County Engineer
Frank D. Ticknor, P.E., Deputy Director

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION DRAFT MEETING MINUTES Thursday, July 20, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jim Kelly called to order the Parks and Open Space Commission (POSC) meeting at 6:13 p.m. The meeting was held near the maintenance shop at Big Marine Park Reserve in Marine on St. Croix, Minnesota.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Chair Jim Kelly, Ben Meyer, Jyneen Thatcher, Gary Severson, Anne Siess, Dave Olson, Meri Danielson, Kevin Smith

Members Absent: Corcoran Wicker, Mike Kazmerski, Michael Kraemer, Tori Dupre

Staff present: Alex McKinney, Connor Schaefer, June Mathiowetz, Serena Rath, Dan MacSwain, Stephanie Souter, Wayne Sandberg

Others Present:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Dave Olson to approve the agenda, seconded by Gary Severson. All in favor. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Change the minutes to reflect that Dave Olson was not present. Motion by Gary Severson to approve the May 18, 2023, POSC minutes, seconded by Jyneen Thatcher, after a correction is made. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Jim Kelly welcomes a new member Meri Danielson, from District 4, Cottage Grove to this commission.

Washington County Natural Resource Updates

Dan McSwain, Natural Resource Coordinator for Washington County Public Works provided a natural resource update for the parks. A copy of the report was sent in advance. The overall team consists of two Natural Resource coordinators who report to Alex McKinney. Sentenced to Serve program participants as well as temporary seasonal staff are hired to help with tree planting, noxious weed control, rain garden maintenance and other work. Other members of the team consist of local farmers who farm the crop land within the parks. Overtime, the cropland is slowly being phased out as the prairie is being established. Revenue from crop land rental goes to pay for contractor work, trees and seeding. Assistance

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is received from the Washington Conservation District for professional services to help with monitoring grant applications and habitat management plans. Dan also mentioned that he collaborates with multiple watershed districts throughout the county.

Dan presented an overview of responsibilities in four main categories: Forest/Ground, Grassland/Savanna, Plant and Wildlife and Community Partners/volunteer and staff. The draft Annual Stewardship Report was created to help measure progress. Dan asked if the committee finds the report valuable and if there are any improvements that could be made. Dave Olson commented on the importance of the report because it is focused on natural resource activities and suggests stating the goals and list the activities to show what has been accomplished. Jyneen Thatcher inquired if there is any interaction with schools. Dan responded that high school groups will approach parks for volunteer events and that is a valuable connection should be added to the report.

Conservation Grazing

Dan continued with background information on conservation grazing. Conservation grazing is the practice of using larger herbivores on the landscape to improve and maintain habitat and is important because grassland and savanna will revert to low quality habitat without disturbance. Strategic maintenance needs to be cost effective, ecologically beneficial and minimizes impact to park users and is educational. To date, the conversation on grazing was included in the 2040 comprehensive plan. The POSC requested a presentation in September of 2020 and the concept was developed further in May 2021. At that time there were ten members in support of the use of seasonal bison and one in support of cattle only. Dan stated he continues to use input from the May 2021 develop the concept.

Dan reported that he has been in touch with NorthStar, an operation used by Belwin Conservancy, as well as Dakota County, Cedar Creek, U of M and the MN Bison Herd Partnership for grazing information. A risk management process indicated the negative risks to consider such as fencing, property and injury, guest interaction with animals, and escape. For bison, Dan considers using nonelectrical woven wire fence that is currently being used by Dakota County and Cedar Creek without any issues. The concepts that had been previously proposed have been modified for Lake Elmo to include less park acreage and more border space. Dan discussed the pros and cons listed on the printed handout for six proposed grazing concepts across that included two for Lake Elmo, one for Big Marine, one for St. Croix Bluffs plus single wire fencing and no fence technology concepts. Potential funding sources are Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council and Legislative Citizens Commission on Minnesota Resources.

Dave raised concern over putting up fencing and the impact it will have on wildlife and open spaces. Ben raised the observation that fencing may be a good idea from a risk management point of view. Alex commented that grazing in the parks is still in the research and discovery and risk management phase.

PFAS/3M Settlement Update

Stephanie Souter, Senior Program Manager, Washington County Public Health, and Environment Department provided an update on PFAS. A slide deck was previously sent out to the commission members from an update given to the county board in May. Stephanie started with a brief background of PFAS and concerns regarding the chemicals. Within Washington County, there were four disposal sites that caused contamination in several private and public wells. One of the roles of this department is to

prevent any future contamination. Stephanie talked about the other federal, state, county and local agencies who are involved or play key roles with the impact of PFAS.

In 2018, a settlement between 3M and the State of Minnesota awarded \$850 million to the state. The highest priority listed in the settlement is to enhance the quality, quantity, and sustainability of drinking water in the east metro. The second priority listed is to enhance natural resources. Around 20 million dollars was set aside for the second priority. Work groups are meeting to help guide how the state will distribute the settlement money. The work groups are in the process of identifying goals. Goals they are focusing on include restore, protect, and enhance aquatic and terrestrial resources; recreational fishing improvements; and improving and enhancing recreation opportunities. The work groups will provide feedback on the process and the state will lead the projects.

Jim Kelly, who is on one of the work groups, talked about the challenge to conduct projects that has some impact on PFAS contamination in the environment but does spread or expose more wildlife to PFAS. Since there is no way to remove PFAS from the environment the alternative may be encourage usage at other waters that are not affected, possibly to create transportation to other lake and other ideas. Jim summarizes that the challenge will be how to improve access and opportunity for those who may not be able to access resources because of this contamination.

Dave Olson request further clarification on the wording on the settlement for the second priority. Stephanie offered to send the settlement link to members so they can view the specific language used.

Parks/Legislative Updates

Alex McKenney provided County Board updates. The Dunes Conservation Easement for the City of Cottage Grove was officially approved. Connor Schaefer did a workshop for Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail that now goes to the board for approval on August 1st. Legislative funding was also discussed but the topic had already been discussed with this committee at a previous meeting.

In park updates, Alex McKinney has accepted the Parks Director position.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Jim Kelly called for adjournment. Motion by Kevin Smith, seconded by Jyneen Thatcher to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m. followed by a tour of the Long Lake Conservation Area.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Denn, Acting Secretary

A large, dark maroon graphic element on the left side of the slide, consisting of a vertical bar with a jagged, torn-paper-like right edge.

Regional Parks System Competitive Equity Grant Program

Parks and Open Space Commission: 9/21/23

Agenda

- Equity Grant Program Background
- 2021 Grant Updates
- 2024 Grant Process
- Staff Considerations
- Preliminary Brainstorming Exercise
- Next Steps



Equity Grant Program



- Purpose: address disparities in park/trail system
- Provide funding to Regional Park Implementing Agencies for projects to advance equitable use of the Regional Parks and Trails System,
 - Race, Ethnicity, Income, Ability, Age, National Origin
- Cycles: 2019, 2021, 2024

2021 Grant Updates



- ~\$2M of Metropolitan Council Grants
- \$394k awarded to Washington Co.
 - Parks Coordinator with Equity Program Coordination (2 years) - \$150k
 - Parks-on-the-Go Vehicle-\$60k
 - Paddle Port Rental Equipment & Learn to Paddle Program-\$70k
 - Accessibility Improvements-\$80k
 - Learn-to-Ride bicycle program-\$34k

2021 Grant Updates



- Parks Equity Coordinator
 - Hired and established strong foundation
 - Reposting soon to continue progress
- Parks-on-the-Go Vehicle
 - Vehicle ordered, expected in 2024
 - Trailer delivered, used of programming
- Paddle Port Rental & Programming
 - Ports installed & programs at Cottage Grove Ravine RP and Square Lake Park
- Accessibility Improvements
 - Trail access, St. Croix Bluffs RP
- Learn to Ride Programs



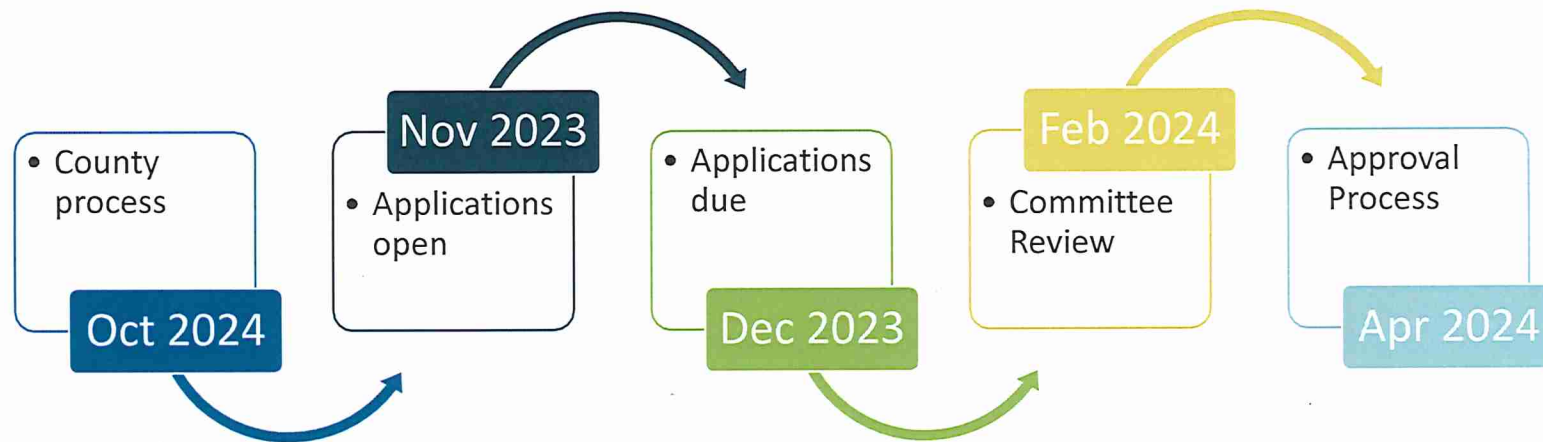
2024 Grant Process

Evaluation Criteria	Points
Impact on equitable use: - The proposal clearly identifies one or more underserved populations that the project will benefit and why they were chosen - The proposal identifies measurable equity outcomes for intended populations	20
Community partnerships: - The proposal demonstrates community involvement throughout the project by both developing new relationships and strengthening existing partnerships - The proposal demonstrates how partnerships will continue after the grant period	20
Community engagement: - The proposal demonstrates how partners and underserved populations will be engaged throughout the project and after the grant period - If the proposal includes community engagement, it clearly demonstrates how the engagement will focus on underserved populations in future planning and projects	20
Capacity building: - The proposal will increase the ability of the regional park implementing agencies and their partners to grow their skills in working with underrepresented communities - The proposal demonstrates the agency's capacity to leverage the Council's funds through non-state funds, grants, or in-kind contributions and/or the ability to continue the work after the grant period is complete	20
Programming initiatives: - The proposal was developed with the agency's outreach/education staff - The proposal clearly demonstrates how new programming efforts will affect underserved populations	20
Total Possible Points	100

DRAFT Grant Details:

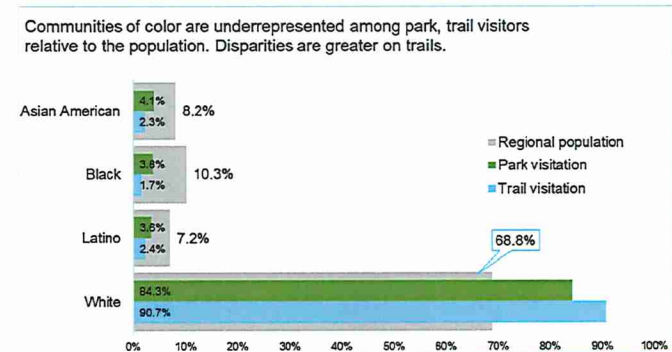
- \$658k - Capital Projects
- \$1.4M - Programming/non-capital
- Agencies may apply for multiple projects
 - \$400k max per agency (\$200k capital + \$200k non-capital)
- 3-year term + 1 year extension
- Evaluated by MC-led committee

2024 Grant Process



Staff Considerations

- Current Phase: Brainstorm/Idea
 - County staff evaluation
- Research:
 - Visitation less racially/ethnically diverse than population overall
 - Fewer young people visit parks compared with their proportion in population
 - BIPOC visitors more likely to meet up with family and friends, running, fishing, playground
 - Higher disparities for Trail use



Most popular activity	Hiking/walking is the most popular activity for all groups				
2nd most popular activity	Relax/do nothing: Age 12-44; Black, Latino, Asian American, multiple race visitors; gender nonbinary	Biking: Ages 45+, American Indian, white visitors; men		Dog walk/dog park: Women	Observe nature: Group inc. member with a disability
3rd most popular activity	Biking: Women, gender nonbinary; ages 12-44; Black, Latino, multiple races visitors	Dog walk/dog park: Ages 44-64; white visitors	Family/friend meetup: American Indian, Asian American	Observe nature: Ages 65+, men	Relax/do nothing: Group inc. member with a disability

Staff Considerations



Preliminary Brainstorm Examples

Capital projects:

- St Croix Bluffs RP Hilltop Area
- Accessible docks
- Mountain bike skills area
- Pt Douglas Park trailhead

Programming/non-capital:

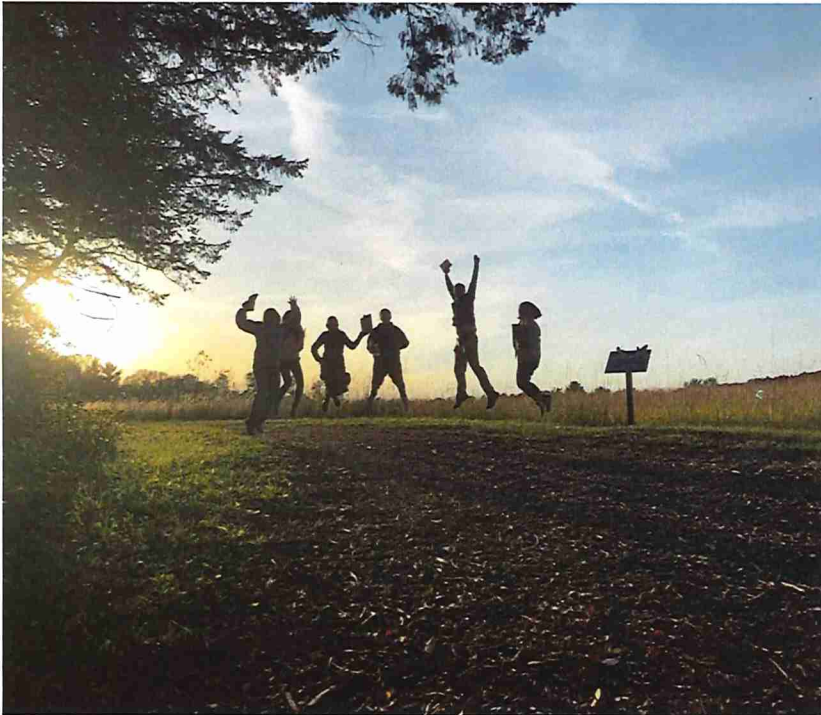
- Teen program - Wash Co Library collab
- Summer camp program support
- Water/swim safety class
- Fishing – School/youth org collab
- Marketing plan/awareness building

Preliminary Brainstorming Exercise

- What makes a project equitable?
What makes a program equitable?
- What community organizations/partners could we learn from or collaborate with?
- What ideas do you have for staff to consider?



Next Steps



- Staff Assessment
 - Eligibility, budget, capacity, etc.
- Submit Applications
- Continue Equity efforts



Connor Schaefer

Senior Planner

651-430-4303

connor.schaefer@co.washington.mn.us





COTTAGE GROVE CITY COUNCIL

September 6, 2023

12800 RAVINE PARKWAY SOUTH
COTTAGE GROVE, MINNESOTA 55016
COUNCIL CHAMBER - 7:00 PM

- 1 Call to Order
- 2 Pledge of Allegiance
- 3 Roll Call
- 4 Open Forum
- 5 Adoption of Agenda
- 6 Presentations
 - A Eagle Scout Presentation
Staff Recommendation: Present Ryley Symicek from Troop 9005 with the Eagle Scout Award.
 - B Public Safety Board Donation and Presentation
Staff Recommendation: Accept and approve the donation in the amount of \$15,000.00 for fitness equipment and K9 equipment in the amount of \$1,405.56.
- 7 Consent Agenda
 - A Special Meeting Minutes - July 26, 2023
Staff Recommendation: Approve the July 26, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes.
 - B Regular Meeting Minutes - August 2, 2023
Staff Recommendation: Approve the August 2, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes.
 - C Massage Therapy License - Stephanie Jarrett
Staff Recommendation: Authorize issuance of a Massage Therapist license to Ms. Stephanie Jarret for use at Whole Health Massage.
 - D Massage Business License - Summer Spa, LLC
Staff Recommendation: Authorize issuance of a Massage Business License to Summer Spa, LLC located at 8471 East Point Douglas Rd. So., Cottage Grove MN 55016.
 - E Massage Therapy License - Xiaomei Li
Staff Recommendation: Authorize issuance of a Massage Therapist License to Xiaomei Li for work at Summer Spa, located at 8471 East Point Douglas Road South.
 - F Rental License Approvals
Staff Recommendation: Approve the issuance of rental licenses to the properties in the attached table.
 - G Planning Commission Appointment
Staff Recommendation: Appoint Pradeep Bhat to fill an unexpired term on the Planning Commission ending on February 28, 2025.

- H Agreement for Professional Services from LE-AST Services
Staff Recommendation: Authorize executing the agreement for professional services with LE-AST Services.
- I Authorization to Order 2024 Squads
Staff Recommendation: Authorize Public Safety to order two 2024 Dodge Durango's now, and four 2024 Ford Explorer's in 2023 during the state contract pricing vehicle ordering windows.
- J Resolution 2023-116 Opting to Cease Participation in the Statewide Volunteer Firefighter Plan
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-116, terminating participation in the Statewide Volunteer Firefighter Plan effective Dec. 31, 2023 and affirming the administrative dissolution of the Cottage Grove Firefighter Relief Association.
- K Ice Arena Solar Power Service Agreement
Staff Recommendation: Authorize service agreement with Solar Connection for the installation of a roof-top solar array at the Cottage Grove Ice Arena.
- L Pine Tree Valley Park Sports Lighting Service Agreement
Staff Recommendation: Authorize service agreement with Musco Sports Lighting, LLC for the installation of a sports lighting system at Pine Tree Valley Park for the amount of \$ 55,561.00
- M Kingston Park Architect Services
Staff Recommendation: Approve agreement with Oertel Architects for building, planning and concept design services for the Kingston Park Pavillion project.
- N 100th Street Trail Easement
Staff Recommendation: Approve Trail Easement with Renewal by Andersen LLC.
- O Kwik Trip Development – Escrow Agreement
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Escrow Agreement between the City and Kwik Trip Inc. for the preparation of the Public Improvement Plans necessary for development of Lot 1, Block 2 of the Lake Flora 2nd Addition plat with minor modifications by the City Attorney.
- P DNR ReLeaf Community Forestry Grant Program
Staff Recommendation: Authorize staff to apply for the Releaf Community Forestry Grants program in the amount of \$210,000.
- Q 2024 State Bonding Request - County Rd 19A & 100th St
Staff Recommendation: Adopt resolution 2023-115 authorizing the City's application for \$12,500,000 in Capital Budget Bonding Funds for the County Road 19A/100th Street Realignment Project.
- R Thai Garden Approvals Extension
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-114 approving a one-year extension of the Site Plan Review and Planned Unit Development for Thai Garden until September 7, 2024.
- S Lake Flora 2nd Addition - Amended Preliminary Plat, Regional Pond Purchase Agreement, and Dirt Agreement
Staff Recommendation: 1) Adopt Resolution 2023-112 approving the preliminary plat to be called Lake Flora Second Addition. 2) Adopt Resolution 2023-113 approving the termination of the pond purchase agreement between the City and WAG Farms Inc. and approving the new purchase agreement between WAG Farms Inc. and the City for Outlot C, Lake Flora Second Addition. 3) Approve the Dirt Agreement between EDA and the City.

8 Approve Disbursements

- A Approve payments for the period of 07/27/2023 through 08/30/2023 in the amount of \$3,953,916.74.

9 Public Hearings

10 Bid Awards

11 Regular Agenda

A Certifying Preliminary Property Tax Levy

Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-111, Adopting the Proposed Preliminary 2023 Property Tax Levy Collectible in 2024.

12 Council Comments and Requests

13 Workshops - Open to Public

A THC Beverages at Off-Sale Liquor Establishments

Staff Recommendation: Discuss and provide direction.

B Street Reconstruction Plan

Staff Recommendation: Review, discuss, and provide input regarding the Street Reconstruction and Overlay Plan

14 Workshops - Closed to Public

15 Adjournment



COTTAGE GROVE CITY COUNCIL

September 20, 2023

12800 RAVINE PARKWAY SOUTH
COTTAGE GROVE, MINNESOTA 55016
COUNCIL CHAMBER- 7:00 PM

- 1 Call to Order
- 2 Pledge of Allegiance
- 3 Roll Call
- 4 Open Forum
- 5 Adoption of Agenda
- 6 Presentations
 - A South Washington County School Districts Informational Presentation
Staff Recommendation: Receive South Washington County School Districts presentation.
 - B Public Works & Parks Open House Overview
Staff Recommendation: Receive information about the Public Works & Parks Open House.
 - C HERO Center Open House Overview
Staff Recommendation: Receive HERO Center Open House Overview.
- 7 Consent Agenda
 - A August 16, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes.
Staff Recommendation: Approve the August 16, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes.
 - B Massage Therapist License - Sarah Crandall (The New Art of Chiropractic)
Staff Recommendation: Authorize issuance of a massage therapist license to Sarah Joy Crandall.
 - C Gambling Premises License - Permanent Pull Tabs
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Gambling Premises Permit application for the Saint Thomas Academy Alumni Association to conduct gambling at Applebee's Grill & Bar at 8380 East Point Douglas Road.
 - D Rental License Approvals
Staff Recommendation: Approve the issuance of rental licenses to the properties in the attached table.
 - E Voting Precincts and Polling Places
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-126 reestablishing election precincts and adding an 8th polling location at Cottage Grove Elementary (7447 65th Street So.) for the City of Cottage Grove, Minnesota, pursuant to Minnesota Statute Section 204B.14, subd. 1. with a legally active date of December 1, 2023.
 - F Personnel Policy
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-117, updating the Personnel Policy.

- G Historic Preservation Grant
Staff Recommendation: Accept the Certified Local Government Scholarship Grant in the amount of \$460.00 from the Minnesota Department of Administration State Historic Preservation Office.
- H Agreement for Professional Services with Keith Streff
Staff Recommendation: Authorize executing agreement for professional services with Keith Streff as the Animal Appeal Hearing Officer.
- I Assessment of Removal of Weeds on Private Property
Staff Recommendation: Hold the Public Hearing and adopt the assessment for the removal of weeds on private property.
- J 2023 Pickup Truck Order Budget Revision
Staff Recommendation: Approve revised budget amounts to purchase pickups approved with the 2023 City budget.
- K Sale of Surplus Property
Staff Recommendation: Authorize Public Works to advertise and sell surplus property on Cranky Ape and Municibid.
- L Approval to purchase 2024 Equipment
Staff Recommendation: Authorize staff to place the order for certain equipment in the 2024 Equipment Replacement, Water, and River Oaks budgets.
- M Hillside Trail Parking Restriction
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-120 restricting parking on the south side of Hillside Trail from the crosswalk pavement markings at the intersection of Hillside Trail and 83rd Street to a point 50 feet west on Hillside Trail.
- N Call for Public Hearing regarding the establishment of a Street Reconstruction and Overlay Plan
Staff Recommendation: Approve Resolution 2013-118, Calling for a Public Hearing regarding the Establishment of a Street Reconstruction and Overlay Plan.
- O 2023 Pavement Management Project – Declare Costs to be Assessed and Call for Public Hearing
Staff Recommendation: 1) Adopt Resolution 2023-121 declaring the costs to be assessed for the 2023 Pavement Management Project. 2) Adopt Resolution 2023-124 calling for a public hearing to be held on October 18, 2023 for the 2023 Pavement Management Project.
- P Kwik Trip Development - Escrow Agreement
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Escrow Agreement between the City and Kwik Trip Inc., for the preparation of the Public Improvement Plans necessary for development of Lot 1, Block 2 of Lake Flora 2nd Addition Plat with minor modifications by the City Attorney.

8 Approve Disbursements

- A Approve Disbursements

9 Public Hearings

10 Bid Awards

11 Regular Agenda

12 Council Comments and Requests

13 Workshops - Open to Public

14 Workshops - Closed to Public

15 Adjournment



COTTAGE GROVE CITY COUNCIL

October 4, 2023

12800 RAVINE PARKWAY SOUTH
COTTAGE GROVE, MINNESOTA 55016
COUNCIL CHAMBER- 7:00 PM

- 1 Call to Order
- 2 Pledge of Allegiance
- 3 Roll Call
- 4 Open Forum
- 5 Adoption of Agenda
- 6 Presentations
 - A Proclamation Honoring Hispanic Heritage Month
Staff Recommendation: Proclaim September 15 through October 15, 2023 Hispanic Heritage Month.
 - B Recognition of Rigo Aguirre - National Latino Police Officer's Association's 2023 Lifetime Award
Staff Recommendation: Recognize Commander Rigo Aguirre's accomplishment of the NLPOA Lifetime Award.
 - C Fire Prevention Week Proclamation and Fire Department Open House Overview
Staff Recommendation: Proclaim the week of October 8 to 14, 2023, as Fire Prevention Week and receive a brief presentation about the Fire Department Open House.
- 7 Consent Agenda
 - A September 6, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes
Staff Recommendation: Approve the September 6, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes.
 - B September 6, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes.
Staff Recommendation: Approve the September 6, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes.
 - C Liquor License - Bills Liquor, LLC
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Off- Sale Liquor application for Bills Liquor, LLC, located at 7155 Jorgensen Lane South #150, Cottage Grove, Minnesota.
 - D Tobacco License - Bills Liquor, LLC
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Tobacco application for Bills Liquor, LLC, located at 7155 Jorgensen Lane South #150, Cottage Grove, Minnesota.
 - E Wahington County Election Joint Powers Agreement
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Joint Powers Agreement with Washington County for elections administration.
 - F Approval of Rental Licenses
Staff Recommendation: Approve the issuance of rental licenses to the properties listed in the attached table.

- G Authorization to Apply for Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Grant
Staff Recommendation: Authorize the Fire Department to apply to the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation for a grant up to \$35,000.00.
- H Appointment of Brad Petersen to Deputy Director of Public Safety- Police Captain
Staff Recommendation: Approve the appointment of Brad Petersen to the position of Deputy Director of Public Safety – Police Captain, effective Monday, January 1, 2024.
- I Shoppes CPF Grant Approval
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Community Project Funding Grant Agreement B-22-CP-MN-0496 with the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Shoppes at Cottage View Project.
- J MN Highway Freight Grant
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-129 supporting the City's Minnesota Highway Freight Program application for the County Road 19A/100th Street Realignment Project.
- K State of Minnesota's 50 Acre Acquisition of Property
Staff Recommendation: Authorize Resolution 2023-119 supporting the acquisition of a 50-acre portion of the Gustafson property by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and inclusion in the Grey Cloud Dunes Scientific and Natural Area.
- L Hamlet Park Phase 3 Project - Final Payment
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-127, approving the final payment for the Hamlet Park Phase 3 Project to Miller Excavating Inc. in the amount of \$81,769.11.
- M 2023 Mill & Overlay Project - Final Payment
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-128 approving the final payment for the 2023 Mill and Overlay Project to Bituminous Roadways Inc. in the amount of \$27,322.28.

8 Approve Disbursements

- A Approve Disbursements

9 Public Hearings

10 Bid Awards

11 Regular Agenda

- A Declare Vacancy - Councilmember Dennis
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-130 accepting Councilmember Dennis' resignation and declaring a vacancy. Approve the appointment process outlined in the memo.

12 Council Comments and Requests

13 Workshops - Open to Public

14 Workshops - Closed to Public

15 Adjournment



COTTAGE GROVE CITY COUNCIL

October 18, 2023

12800 RAVINE PARKWAY SOUTH
COTTAGE GROVE, MINNESOTA 55016
COUNCIL CHAMBER- 7:00 PM

In accordance with the requirements of Minn. Stat. Section 13D.02, Councilmember Tony Khambata will appear remotely via interactive technology from the following public location:

Hilton Garden Inn Conference Room
101 East Hiawatha Drive
Wisconsin Dells, WI
53965

- 1 Call to Order
- 2 Pledge of Allegiance
- 3 Roll Call
- 4 Open Forum
- 5 Adoption of Agenda
- 6 Presentations
 - A Washington County Food Scrap Program
Staff Recommendation: Receive the Washington County Food Scrap Presentation.
- 7 Consent Agenda
 - A September 20, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes.
Staff Recommendation: Approve the September 20, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes.
 - B September 20, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes.
Staff Recommendation: Approve the September 20, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes.
 - C Rental License Approval
Staff Recommendation: Approve the issuance of rental licenses to the properties in the attached table.
 - D Commission Appointments
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Mayors Commission Appointments as follows: Mayor Pro Tem & Economic Development Authority - Tony Khambata, Investment Committee - Dave Thiede, and Cottage Grove Convention and Visitors Bureau Chair - Justin Olsen.
 - E Appointments to the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB)
*Staff Recommendation: Appoint Councilmember Olsen as Chairman of the CVB.
Appoint Erik Olson and Sarah Grecula to fill the two vacant positions on the CVB board.*
 - F Sergeant Positions
Staff Recommendation: Approve two additional Sergeant positions for the 2024 budget.

- G Sale of Surplus Property
Staff Recommendation: Authorize Public Safety to trade in surplus equipment to Guardian Fleet Safety.
- H Dunkin'/Baskin Robbins – Usage of SAC Credits
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-135 authorizing the use of seven of the City's SAC credits for Dunkin'/Baskin Robbins that will be located at 7584 80th Street South.
- I Utilities and Engineering Division Building – Approve Plans and Specifications and Establish a Bid Date
Staff Recommendation: Adopt resolution 2023-134 approving the plans and specifications and establishing a November 21, 2023 bid date for the Utilities and Engineering Division Building Project.
- J Glacial Valley Park - Change Order #2
Staff Recommendation: Approve Change Order #2, thereby increasing the contract amount by \$52,244.50 for a total contract amount of \$2,595,136.44.
- 8 Approve Disbursements
 - A Approve Disbursements
- 9 Public Hearings
 - A 2023 Pavement Management Assessment Hearing
Staff Recommendation: 1) Conduct the Public Hearing for the 2023 Pavement Management Project. 2) Adopt Resolution 2023-131 adopting the assessment roll for the 2023 Pavement Management Project.
 - B Tall Weeds Assessment Hearing
Staff Recommendation: 1. Hold Public Hearing. 2. Adopt resolution 2023-132, Adopting service charges for the removal of noxious weeds and plants from private property.
 - C Street Reconstruction and Overlay Plan Public Hearing
Staff Recommendation: 1. Conduct the Public Hearing for the Street Reconstruction and Overlay Plan. 2. Adopt Resolution 2023-133 Adopting a Street Reconstruction and Overlay Plan and approving the issuance of General Obligation Street Reconstruction Bonds.
- 10 Bid Awards
- 11 Regular Agenda
 - A Cannabis and Tobacco Use on Public Property & Public Places
Staff Recommendation: Discuss the ordinances and, if acceptable, move each ordinance separately for approval. 1. Motion to approve an Ordinance Amending Cottage Grove City Code by Enacting Title 5, Chapter 1, Section 6, Prohibiting Cannabis Use on Public Property and in Public Places. 2. Motion to approve an Ordinance Amending Cottage Grove City Code by Amending Title 7, Chapter 3, Section 4, Prohibiting Smoking and Vaping Tobacco Products in Public Parks. 3. Motion to approve an Ordinance Amending Cottage Grove City Code by Enacting Title 5, Chapter 1, Section 7, Underage Possession and Use of Cannabis Products
- 12 Council Comments and Requests
- 13 Workshops - Open to Public
- 14 License Revocation Hearing - Closed to Public
 - A Motion to close the meeting pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 13D.05, subdivision 2(a)(2), to consider the tobacco license revocations of Cottage Grove Tobacco LLC and Cottage Grove 4G LLC, doing business as Smoke Leaf, which will involve the discussion of active investigative data as defined in Minnesota Statute, Section 13.82, subdivision 7.
- 15 Adjournment



COTTAGE GROVE CITY COUNCIL

November 1, 2023

12800 RAVINE PARKWAY SOUTH
COTTAGE GROVE, MINNESOTA 55016

COUNCIL CHAMBER- 7:00 PM

- 1 Call to Order
- 2 Pledge of Allegiance
- 3 Roll Call
- 4 Open Forum
- 5 Adoption of Agenda
- 6 Presentations
 - A Mayor for the Day
Staff Recommendation: Appoint Mia Nemshick as acting Mayor for the day on November 1, 2023.
 - B Cottage Grove Holiday Events
Staff Recommendation: Receive the presentation outlining the upcoming holiday events within the community.
- 7 Consent Agenda
 - A Regular Meeting Minutes - October 4, 2023
Staff Recommendation: Approve the October 4, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes.
 - B Special Meeting Minutes - October 18, 2023
Staff Recommendation: Approve the October 18, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes.
 - C Regular Meeting Minutes - October 18, 2023
Staff Recommendation: Approve the October 18, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes.
 - D Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation Minutes
Staff Recommendation: Accept and place on file the minutes of the Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation from March 14, 2023; April 11, 2023; and August 8, 2023.
 - E Planning Commission Minutes - July 24, 2023
Staff Recommendation: Accept and place on file the minutes of the July 24, 2023, Planning Commission meeting.
 - F Approval of Rental Licenses
Staff Recommendation: Approve the issuance of rental licenses to the properties in the attached table.
 - G Accept Donations for 3rd Quarter 2023
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-137, accepting donations received in the 3rd Quarter 2023
 - H Sale of Surplus Property
Staff Recommendation: Authorize Public Works to advertise and sell surplus property on Municibid.

- I F150 Lease Agreement with MN Department of Administration
Staff Recommendation: Approve the lease agreement for the F150 with MN Department of Administration-Fleet Services for 5 years, 85,000 miles at an estimated rate of \$10,216.44 per year.
- J Glacial Valley Park Building - Change Order #1
Staff Recommendation: Approve Glacial Valley Park change order #1 in the amount of \$42,434.61.
- K Marathon Community Investment Grant Acceptance
Staff Recommendation: Accept and approve the Marathon Community Investment Grant in the amount of \$5,000.00.
- L Boundary Adjustment – 7560 Harkness Avenue & 7675 Hardwood Avenue
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-138 approving the boundary adjustment between 7560 Harkness Avenue South and 7675 Hardwood Avenue South.
- M Washington County CIP 2024-2028 Response Letter
Staff Recommendation: Receive the Washington County Draft 2024-2028 Capital Improvements Plan response letter.

8 Approve Disbursements

- A Approve Disbursements

9 Public Hearings

10 Bid Awards

11 Regular Agenda

12 Council Comments and Requests

13 Workshops - Open to Public

- A Fire Chief Candidate Interviews - St. Croix Room
*Staff Recommendation: Conduct the Fire Chief Candidate Interviews - **This Agenda item will be conducted in the St. Croix Room.***

14 Workshops - Closed to Public

15 Adjournment