



COTTAGE GROVE PARKS, RECREATION AND
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
12800 RAVINE PARKWAY SOUTH
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 7:00 PM

December 11, 2023

1. Call to Order & Reading of Mission
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes
 - A November 13, 2023
5. Open Forum
6. Presentations
 - A Winter Programs and Events
7. Action Items
 - A Mississippi Dunes Park Naming
 - B Kingston Park Building Concept Design
 - C E-Recreational Equipment Education Messaging
8. Presentation of Information
9. Action Updates
 - A Community Garden
10. Donation Acknowledgements
11. Staff Reports and Educational Material
 - A Reports and Educational Material
12. Commission Comments
13. Council Comments
 - A City Council Agendas
14. Adjournment
15. Workshop



Minutes

City of Cottage Grove

Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission Meeting

November 13th, 2023

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Cottage Grove Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission Meeting was held on November 13th, 2023.

I. Optional Workshop

- a. Kingston Park Building Conceptual Design Stakeholder Review: 6pm in Council Chambers (Commissioner Attendance Optional)

II. CALL TO ORDER & READING OF MISSION

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm at City Hall

III. Roll Call

Members Present: Susannah Brown, Adam Larson, Kelly Glasford, Debra Gustafson, Samantha Crabtree, Breck Miller, Justin Waterman

Members Absent: Shane Waterman & David Olson

Others Present: Zac Dockter Parks & Recreation

IV. Approval of Agenda

A Motion to approve agenda made by Commissioner J. Waterman. Seconded by Commissioner Crabtree. Agenda approved.

V. Approval of Minutes

A Motion to approve minutes from August 14th & September 11th 2023 meeting made by Commissioner Gustafson. Seconded by Commissioner Glasford. Minutes approved.

VI. Open Forum-None - None

VII. Presentations

a. Community Gardens

- i. The last community garden in Cottage Grove was removed back in 2001. In 2021 the Commission expressed a desire to reestablish a community garden.
- ii. Ignatius Kadoma and Daryl Verhoeven introduced themselves as the Committee of Hope Gardens & acknowledged community members who attended this evening. The effort of this committee is to “Bringing a Diverse Group of People Together in Harmony with Nature.” This group is extremely passionate about gardening/farming, people in need of space to grow a family sized garden, & willing to do work needed to be successful gardeners. They are asking for permission to establish one or more community gardens within the city and obtain agreement with the city to plow/till the area in the spring and fall as well as an agreement by the city to provide a water supply at the location. After discussions with Zac about possible locations and visiting those parcels, the Committee would like to utilize the area at Meadowgrass Park. It provides a large amount of space approximately 200ft x 50ft. The gardening season typically begins in early May which the Committee would have the city plow slightly before the season begins as well as end of season in October. Daryl explained the spirit of the garden and what it means for those who are involved.
 1. Commissioner Brown asked if the community garden is only for the core group, or would it be open to additional community members? Daryl stated that the initial outline would be that this group would be helping to decided who will be in or not. At this point the group has not decided or had further discussions as they wanted to hear the Commissions’ thoughts on their presentation. Commissioner Brown inquired about storage for tools and managing waste removal. The Committee invited their Master Gardner Ed M. who represents the Washington County Master Gardeners stated that the recent budget meeting allotted for \$2,000 for storage, tools, fertilizer etc. Daryl stated that the committee is hoping to be able to obtain spickets and tap into the water tower. However, Zac had suggested a water tank be on site. Commissioner Larson asked for the definition of a “family sized garden”. Ed said it is approximately a 9x14 plot and averages 120lbs of vegetables are produced and harvested.

Commissioner Glasford asked if families want to become involved but have no experience in gardening, will there be an opportunity to learn? Daryl stated the gardeners are extremely collaborative and are willing to help and share their knowledge. The Committee invited the representative from the Washington County Emerging Farmers Division to advise the commission of what they offer and resources they have to those community members that have no experience. Commissioner Crabtree inquired about the possibility of a fee charge for the plots. She wanted to know what that money would be used for. Ignatius said that for the most part it would be used for the cost of water, but with all the resources and grants available there may not even be a need to collect fees. Commissioner Larson asked about fence requirements. Ed stated that most gardens need a 6ft fence (to keep out deer) as well as chicken wire fence at the bottom. It would cost about \$3,000 to build, however there are grants available to cover this cost and many other costs as well. Next, Alyssa Wolf, from the Washington County Public Health Department, discussed her involvement in the grant that Ed referred to. The grant Alyssa has been working on for 7 years is "The Statewide Health Improvement Partnership" or (SHIP). This is funded through MDH, and there has been money earmarked for this coming season for Cottage Grove. Commissioner Crabtree mentioned that Cottage Grove does have the matching fund grant that could be put towards this as well. Zac looking for the commission to give direction on continued conversation and then dive in deeper into details and logistics, and perhaps be able to start the garden in the spring 2024. The commission agreed to move forward and expressed gratitude towards the committee for their presentation this evening.

VIII. Action Items

a. Mississippi Dune Park Naming

- i. Mississippi Dunes Reserve is the current name for the new open space park located at the old Mississippi Dunes golf course Looking for an additional/permanent name for the park. Looking for a recommendation to present at the November council meeting. Commissioner Olson (who was not in attendance) submitted a

letter to Zac with his thoughts and concerns on the naming process that Zac read aloud to the commission. Dave's main objective was that this is an incredibly significant naming process that has a lot of community involvement. He believes that the commission should spend more time on thoughtfully naming the park. The commission agreed with Dave's suggestion. Commissioner Brown motioned to table this topic until the December meeting. Commissioner Glassford seconded. Motioned carried. Commissioner Crabtree suggested that we provide an online survey for the community for input. Zac will discuss with the communications team to take care of that.

b. 2024 Playground Replacements-

There will be three replacements for 2024. A community survey was sent out to surrounding neighborhoods for the following parks: Nina's Granada & West Draw. Each survey contained 4 different designs and color options.

1. Nina's Park

a. Top Choice- Design 2

b. Top Color Choice - Ocean

The survey had a lot of feedback regarding accessibility options. Design 2 does not have those features, however. Zac explained each design does have different variations of accessibility options such as a transfer station, and we can upgrade/change the design with reserved funds to better reflect the commission's vision. Commissioner Crabtree expressed the importance of adding accessibility to design 2. Zac stated that he can bring back to the vendor the modifications the commission has requested. A motion to explore design 2 with additional accessibility modifications in the color "ocean" was made by Commissioner Crabtree. Commissioner Larson seconded. Motion carried.

2. Granada Park

a. Top Choice: Design 2

Zac noted that we made modifications to this park in 2015 and added some components that will remain.

b. Top Color Choice: Electric Blue

The commission had many comments about different aspects of each design, between climbing structures, flow, separate "tot" structures, platforms & stairs.

Zac also noted that all playground proposals are

required to have swings (even if not pictured). Commissioner Brown had each Commissioner state their two favorite choices. After much discussion about different variations the commission decided to look into Design 4 with the addition of a climbby rope thingy. The commission discussed which colors would fade quicker as well as a recommendation from Zac to keep a similar color scheme matching the existing equipment (balance beam, maypole, etc.). Commissioner Glasford motioned for design 4, with modifications discussed and the color “forest”. Commissioner Gustafson seconded. Motion passed.

3. West Draw Park

- a. Top Choice: Design 4
- b. Top Color Choice: Electric Blue
- c. Commissioner Crabtree requested a shade option to be added to design 4. All commissioners were excited about design 4 that brings different equipment then we have seen before. Commissioner Crabtree motioned for design 4 in electric blue with additional shade. Commissioner Larson seconded. Motioned passed.

c. E-Recreational Equipment

- i. The commission previously voted to allow E-Bikes on trails but would like to be able to educate the public on usage and safety. Zac presented information from the State’s interpretation of E-bike laws as well as various signage examples to educate the public about speed, trail etiquette etc. Commissioner Brown would like to implement a pilot program in a high traffic area to get the opinion of the public. Zac will take the commission’s choices for signage back for design and return with options at the next meeting.

IX. Presentation of Information

X. Action Updates

a. Cannibas/Tabacco Use in Public Spaces

- i. Zac presented a summary of the joint commission meeting for the Commission to review, stating that these ordinances are currently in effect.

XI. Donation and Acknowledgements-None

XII. Staff Reports & Educational Materials

a. The following were submitted for the commission's review:

- i. **Recreation Update**
- ii. **Parks Update**
- iii. **Ice Arena Update**
- iv. **River Oaks Update**
- v. **Dave Olson Washington County Park Minutes**

XIII. Commission Comments-None

XIV. Council Comments-None

XV. Adjournment- Motioned by Commissioner Larson & seconded by Commissioner Crabtree. Meeting Adjourned at 8:10pm

To: Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission
From: Zac Dockter, Parks and Recreation Director
Cc:
Date: November 27, 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

Commissioner Olson provided an additional list of names to staff (via email in December) for Commissioner consideration. Those names include:

1. Harold Kernkamp Park (First CG Mayor)
2. Cottage Grove Mississippi Landing Park
3. Mayor's Park
4. Dunes Landing in Cottage Grove
5. Cottage Grove Landing on the Mississippi
6. Dunes Park on the Mississippi River
7. Mississippi River Park in Cottage Grove
8. Grey Cloud Dunes Park in Cottage Grove
9. Cottage Grove Park on the Mississippi
10. The River Landing in Cottage Grove

At the August, September and November 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 – Third review of name options
December – Commission park naming recommendation to City Council
January – 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.

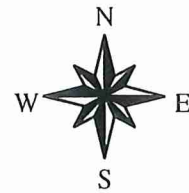
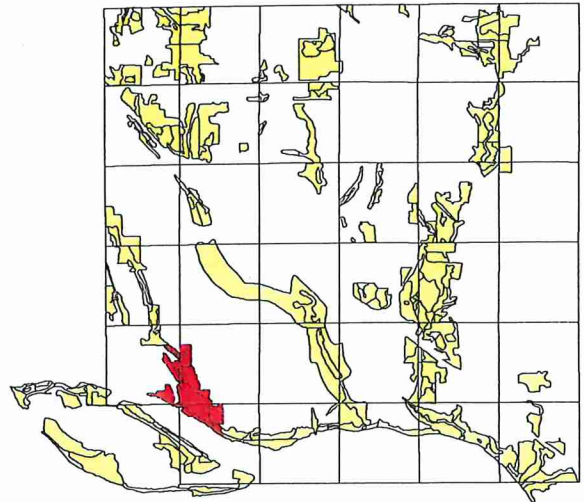
City of Cottage Grove Natural Resource Inventory

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

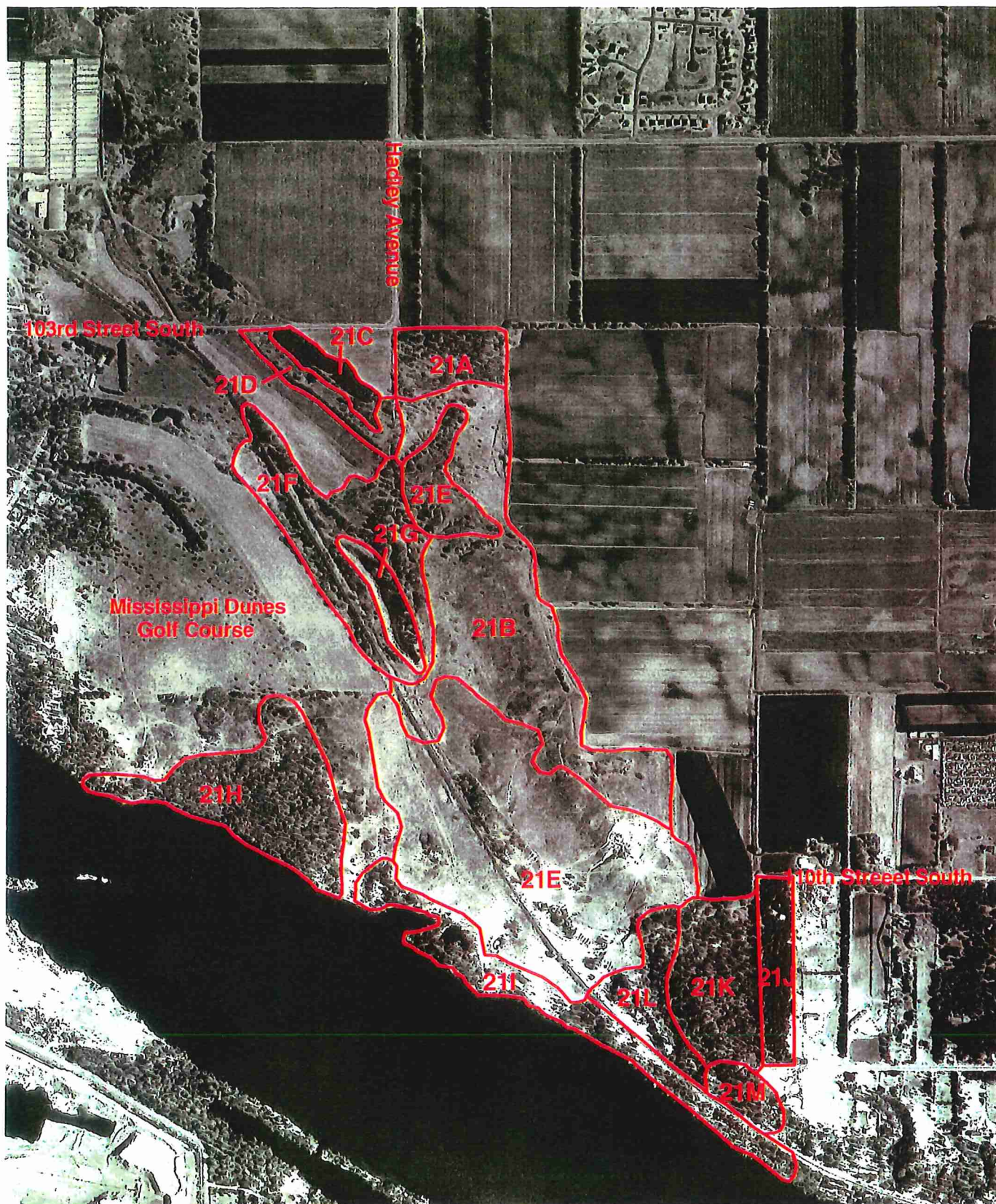
SITE 21



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-race (*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, panicked 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

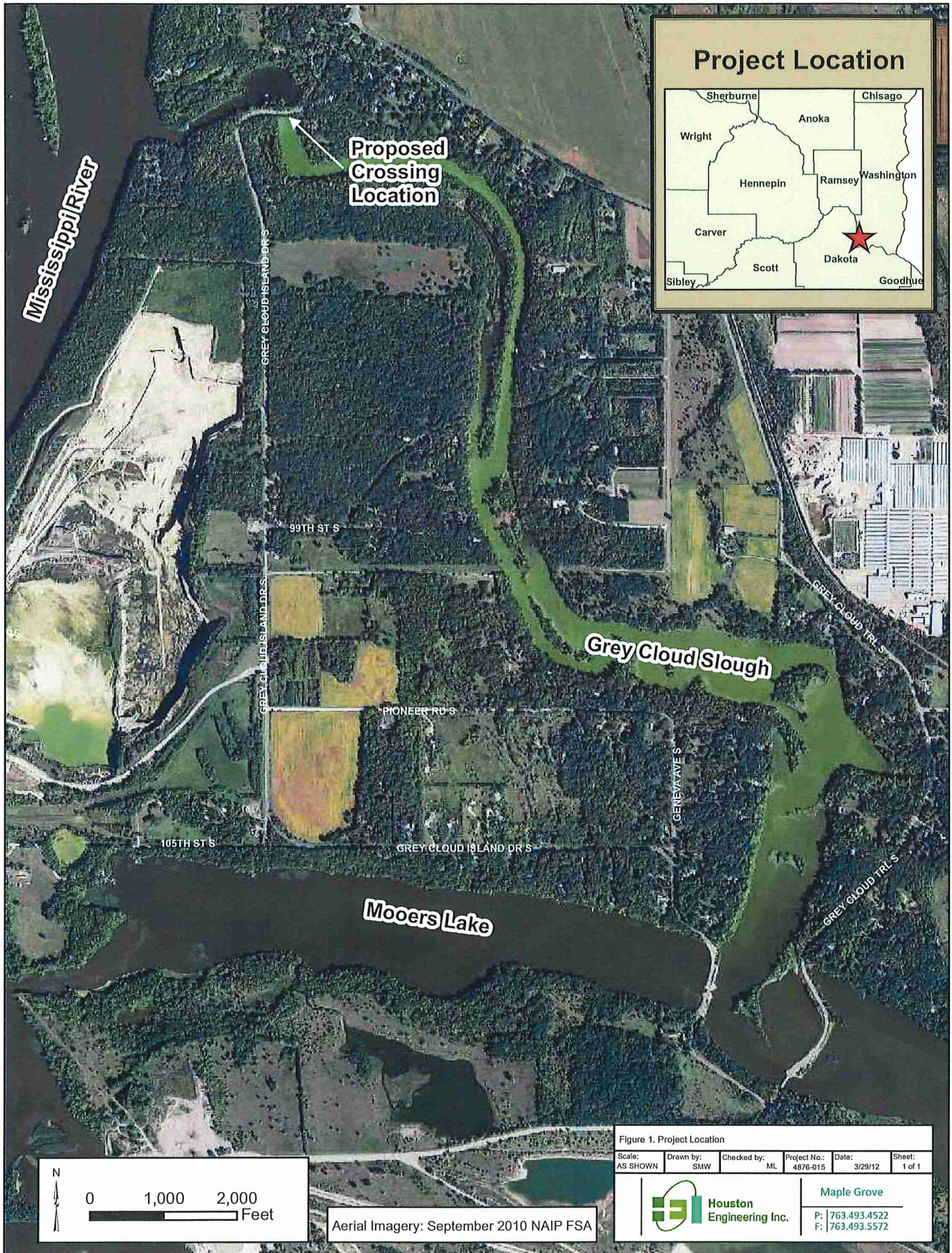
Community 21L is an oak woodland-brushland. The canopy is dominated by bur oak, pin oak, trembling aspen, green ash, black cherry, and basswood. The shrub layer contains bur oak, pin oak, staghorn sumac, tatarian honeysuckle, and prickly ash. The ground cover is dominated by kentucky bluegrass and also 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.

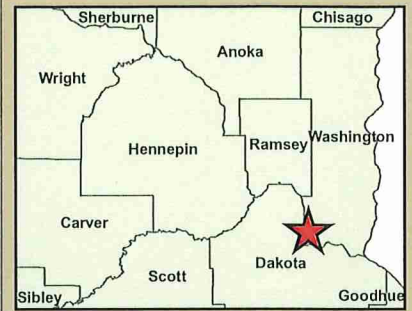
Community 21M

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.



Project Location



Proposed
Crossing
Location

Mississippi River

Grey Cloud Slough

Mooers Lake



0 1,000 2,000
Feet

Aerial Imagery: September 2010 NAIP FSA

Figure 1. Project Location

Scale:	Drawn by:	Checked by:	Project No.:	Date:	Sheet:
AS SHOWN	SMW	ML	4876-015	3/29/12	1 of 1



Maple Grove

P: 763.493.4522
F: 763.493.5572

To: Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission
From: Zac Dockter, Parks and Recreation Director
Cc:
Date: November 27, 2023
Subject: Kingston Park Building Design Concept Review

Introduction

During budget proceedings this past summer, City Council directed staff to begin concept design planning for the replacement of the Kingston Park pavilion. The City hired Oertel Architects in August to work on the project. At this time, no specific timeline for building construction has been set.

Background

Kingston is one of Cottage Grove's most heavily utilized parks in the community. It is home to sports events/tournaments, festivals, celebrations and more each year. The current pavilion is considerably undersized to service these large gathering. The following directives were the basis of planning for a new park building design:

1. Significantly increase restroom capacity
2. Retain and/or grow picnic sheltering space
3. Add a programming room
4. Add storage space for events
5. Add a serving kitchen/concession space
6. Create a unique exterior design differing from current park buildings

The staff team worked with Oertel Architects team in September and October to develop a preliminary floor plan and concept design. Those plans were shared with park users considered to be key stakeholders in November. Stakeholder feedback was generally favorable with a couple key requests for consideration:

1. Expanding kitchen/serving window
2. Thorough review of power supply and logistics for all events

Included with this report are the conceptual designs and floor plan. Commissioners are asked to review and provide feedback. After Commission review, the project team will make modifications to the plans as necessary and present the revised concept plans to City Council for further direction.

Action Requested

Provide direction on Kingston Park building concept plans.

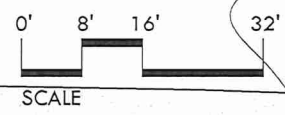


KINGSTON PARK
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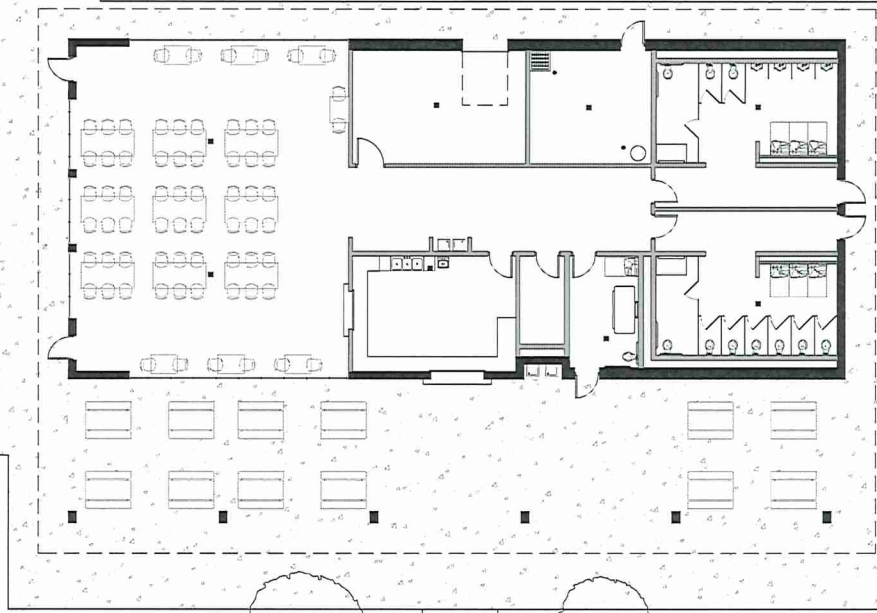
NOVEMBER 6 2023



1 SITE PLAN



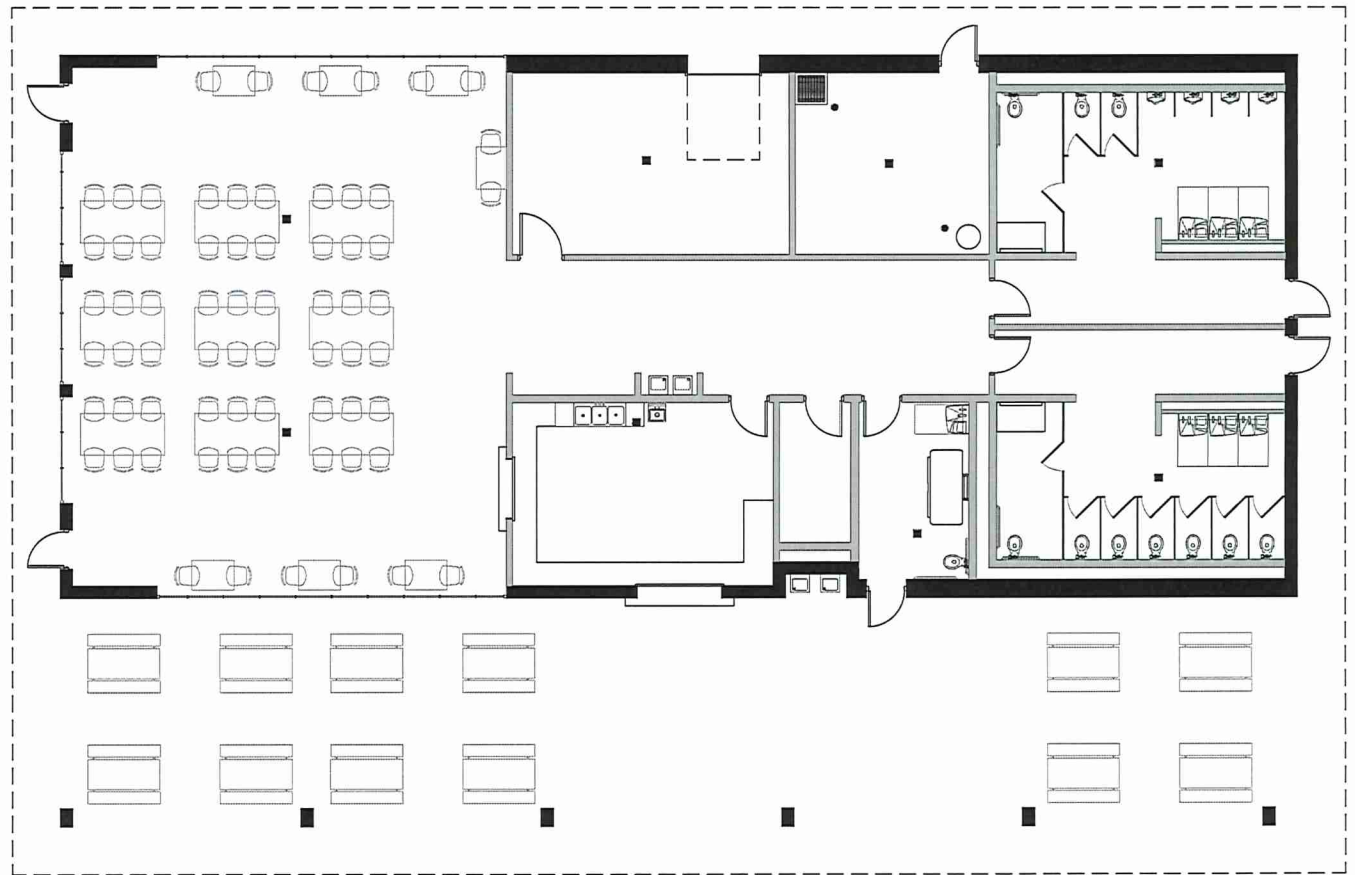
1/16" = 1'-0"



KINGSTON PARK
RENDER PACKET

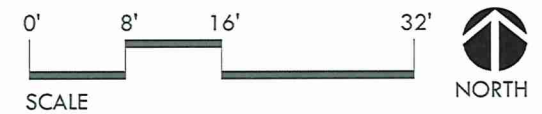
NOVEMBER 6 2023





1 FLOOR PLAN B

3/32" = 1'-0"



KINGSTON PARK
RENDER PACKET

NOVEMBER 6 2023





KINGSTON PARK
RENDER PACKET

NOVEMBER 6 2023





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KINGSTON PARK
RENDER PACKET

NOVEMBER 6 2023



To: Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission
From: Zac Dockter, Parks and Recreation Director
CC:
Date: November 30, 2023
Subject: E-Recreational Equipment Safety Measures

Introduction/Background

At its' November meeting, the Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission discussed educational measures that could be used to increase safety of all trail users in our park system. A key part of the conversation was to identify messaging and signage that can be used to clearly articulate the usage expectations/rules. Staff used Commissioner feedback to create five draft images/messages that could be used for signage, social media postings, CG Connect emails, Newsletter, maps and more as part of an educational campaign. Those images are included with this report.

Staff Recommendation

Provide feedback and/or direction on the draft signage/messaging.

Pilot Program on this trail.

**ELECTRIC
BIKES
ALLOWED**



**SPEED
LIMIT
15 MPH**

**NO
ELECTRIC
SCOOTERS**



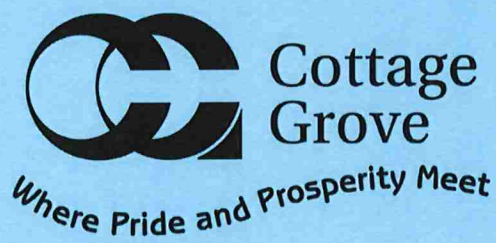
All trail rules apply.

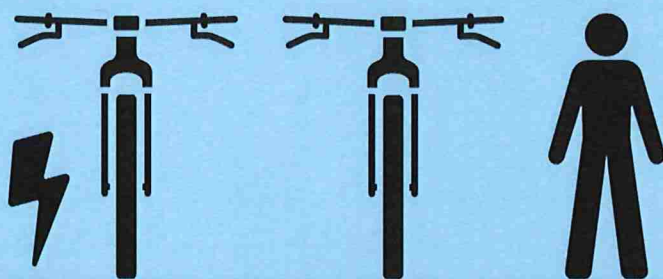


**PLEASE
SELF MONITOR
YOUR SPEED**



**DO NOT EXCEED
15 MPH**





SHARE THE TRAIL





**SPEED
LIMIT
15 MPH**

TRAIL SPEED

SLOW DOWN



- **PEDESTRIANS HAVE THE RIGHT OF WAY**
- **STAY RIGHT, PASS LEFT WITH CAUTION**
- **USE AUDIBLE SIGNAL**



To: Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission
From: Jordan Hirman, Facility Services Manager
CC:
Date: December, 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

- Minor Officials scheduled for High School home games.
- Assigned CGHA ice time per level on scheduling software.
- Invoiced current advertisers for yearly fees.
- Sold 200 tickets for Halloween Bash skating event held on October 25th which was sold out.
- Hosted CGHA Turkey Tournament with 28 teams registered.
- Marketed Winter Skate School Lessons.
- Hosted open night for East Ridge Boys hockey with 390 people in attendance.
- Hosted Park Boys hockey opening night with 800 people in attendance.
- Installed two sets of exterior doors on CG Logistics Rink.
- Finished Warming Room bathroom remodel.

CURRENT PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

- Scheduling ice time for outside user groups for Spring and Summer of 2024.
- Identifying CGHA District February and March tournament ice time.
- Gathering proposals for 2024 budget item for party lights on both CG Logistics and West Rinks.
- Pre-planning CGHA Mite Jamboree hosted on December 8th-10th.
- Pre-planning CGHA End of Year Bash hosted on December 27th – 30th.
- Pre-planning hosting a High School hockey game each day between December 19th through December 23rd.

UPCOMING PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

- 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.
- Multiple home High School hockey games.
- Start of Winter Skate School.
- Spring Skate School lessons registration.

INFLATION REDUCTION ACT

The effects of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 on park and recreation agencies are complex and nuanced.

Federal Funding Fosters Sustainability and Resilience

By Barbara Kapustin

From bustling city centers to rural countryside, park and recreation agencies are a ubiquitous feature of the U.S. landscape, providing vital services to communities. Park and recreation professionals comprise one of the largest groups of land managers in the nation. They are responsible for planning, managing and maintaining 11 million acres of public parks and green spaces. Additionally, they offer recreational activities, promote public health and wellness, and make communities more resilient to climate events. The challenges they face are dependent on location, as park and recreation agencies in rural and urban areas can differ greatly. Rural agencies may struggle with limited funding, staffing shortages and difficulty accessing resources, while urban agencies may face issues of overcrowding, aging infrastructure and competing land-use demands. With the recent signing of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (IRA), questions about how this law will impact park and recreation agencies in both rural and urban areas have been raised. The law is intended to have a positive impact on the economy; however, its effects on park and recreation agencies are complex and nuanced.

The goals of the IRA, signed into law by President Joe Biden in August 2022, are to advance environmen-

tal justice and invest in communities often left behind, while creating well-paying jobs and growing the

economy sustainably and equitably. The IRA also will remediate environmental harm and improve public health. As stated by the Environmental Protection Agency, this piece of legislation includes incentives to reduce renewable energy costs for organizations like Green Power Partners — businesses, nonprofits, educational institutions, and state, local and tribal organizations.

To fully understand the impact of this act, it is important to recognize its relationship with the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). Signed into law on November 15, 2021, this \$1.2 trillion investment in infrastructure modernization and repair represents a major investment in our nation's infrastructure, with a particular em-

phasis on addressing climate change, promoting sustainable development, and expanding access to outdoor recreation opportunities for all. The White House has been vocal about weatherization investments: \$50 billion has been slated to protect against droughts, heat, floods and wildfires. While the IRA's funding of these key priorities will be essential in ensuring the success of the BIL's mission to modernize and repair the nation's infrastructure, it is also important to acknowledge its potential impact on park and recreation agencies.

Impacts on Urban and Rural Communities

For urban park and recreation agencies, this program will represent a major step to expand access to outdoor recreation opportunities for residents of densely populated areas. Many urban areas lack adequate green spaces, and this can have significant impacts on public health and quality of life. For example, many communities that struggle with extreme heat would experience the cooling benefits of an increase in green spaces. By providing funding to support the development of new parks and trails and the improvement of existing green spaces, this program will help to address this issue and provide more opportunities for urban residents to enjoy the outdoors, as well as provide resilient weatherization infrastructure.

For rural park and recreation agencies, the BIL includes provisions that will support conservation and environmental stewardship efforts. One of the key provisions of the law is the establishment of a new "Rural Conservation Stewardship Program," which will provide funding to rural landowners and farmers to support the implementation of

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law offers urban park and recreation agencies opportunities to increase access to outdoor recreation and rural agencies support for conservation and stewardship efforts.



conservation practices on their land. This program will help to promote the sustainable management of rural landscapes and protect important natural resources, like waterways and wildlife habitats. Correspondingly, the BIL includes funding for a range of programs that will support the development and maintenance of recreational infrastructure in rural areas. This includes funding for the construction and improvement of rural trails and the development of new recreational amenities.

Cory Styron, director of Community Services at Los Alamos County in New Mexico, shares his experience in the park and recreation space, describing Los Alamos as "not the normal rural community" due to their history with the federal government and the Manhattan Project (tinyurl.com/yzthsjjj). The local government jurisdiction was born out of the federal land used for the Manhattan Project that was deemed not "mission critical." This continues to be the standard today as the county looks to acquire land. This relationship with the federal government has created a question from a recreational user

perspective of which land is county-owned versus federally owned, which informs everything from funding to infrastructure, maintenance and land use. In his description, Styron highlights the nuances of each community and parameters that parks and recreation professionals work within.

Overall, the IRA and BIL of 2022 represent a major investment in our nation's outdoor recreation infrastructure. By providing funding for the development of new parks and trails in urban areas and improving existing green spaces, the law will help to expand access to outdoor recreation opportunities for residents. The establishment of new conservation programs will support efforts to protect and steward rural landscapes, while making communities more resilient to extreme climate events. With these new resources, park and recreation agencies nationwide will be better equipped to provide the high-quality outdoor experiences that we rely on for physical and mental well-being, as well as economic and social development.

Barbara Kapustin is Resilience Program Manager at NRPA (bkapustin@nrpa.org).



COTTAGE GROVE CITY COUNCIL

November 15, 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 Recognition - Kent Griffith
Staff Recommendation: Recognize Regions Hospital EMS Clinical Supervisor Kent Griffith for over 34 years of dedicated service to the Citizens of Cottage Grove and partnership with Cottage Grove Public Safety.
 - B Proclamation - Small Business Saturday
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Small Business Saturday Proclamation.
- 7 Consent Agenda
 - A Armory Election Lease Agreement
Staff Recommendation: Accept the lease agreements with the Minnesota National Guard Armory for the 2024 election dates of March 5, August 13, and November 5, 2024.
 - B Rental License Approvals
Staff Recommendation: Approve the issuance of rental licenses to the properties listed in the attached table.
 - C Application for Low-Power FM Channel
Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends the approval for submitting the application for an LPFM permit from the FCC.
 - D Audit services for 2023 through 2025
Staff Recommendation: Authorize entering into a professional services agreement with Redpath and Company, LLC for audit services for the years ending December 31, 2023, 2024, and 2025.
 - E Summers Landing 3rd Addition Final Streets Costs & Assessments
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-139, declaring costs to be assessed and adopting assessments for Summers Landing 3rd Addition Final Streets.
 - F Appointment of Jon Pritchard to Deputy Director of Public Safety - Fire Chief
Staff Recommendation: Approve the appointment of Jon Pritchard to the position of Deputy Director of Public Safety – Fire Chief, effective Saturday, December 30, 2023.
 - G Acceptance of the Washington County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-140, supporting the Washington County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

- H Tinucci Lot Split – Minor Subdivision Approvals Extension
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-142 approving a one-year extension of the Minor Subdivision approvals for the Tinnuci Lot Split – Minor Subdivision.
- I Street Name Change – Southeast Industrial Park 3rd Addition
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-141 approving the street name change from 91st Street Alcove South to 91st Street Court South in the plat known as Southeast Industrial Park 3rd Addition.
- J Local Option Sales Tax - Special Law
Staff Recommendation: Authorize resolution approving Special Law regarding a Local Option Sales Tax for Cottage Grove and filing of the Certificate of Approval of Special Law with the Secretary of State.
- K Pine Tree Valley Park Sports Lighting Change Order
Staff Recommendation: Authorize change orders for the Pine Tree Valley Park Sports Lighting project.
- L Federal & State Transportation Lobbying Agreement
Staff Recommendation: Authorize entering into an agreement with Aurora Strategic Advisors for Federal and State lobbying services in 2024.
- M Public Works Utility and Engineering Building - Contract for Construction Management Services
Staff Recommendation: Authorize the contract for Construction Manager at Risk with a Guaranteed Maximum Price between Kraus Anderson and the City of Cottage Grove for the construction of the Public Works Utilities and Engineering building project.
- N Infrastructure Maintenance Task Force - Special Assessment Policy for Public Improvements Update
Staff Recommendation: Adopt the Infrastructure Maintenance Task Force Special Assessment Policy for Public Improvements updated on October 31, 2023.
- O CSAH 19 (Keats Avenue) and 80th Street Roundabout – Support Pursuing Local Road Improvement Program Funding from MnDOT
Staff Recommendation: Authorize Mayor Myron Bailey to sign a letter supporting Washington County’s pursuit of Local Road Improvement Program Funding from MnDOT for the CSAH 19 (Keats Avenue) and 80th Street Roundabout Project.
- P Grange Trunk Water Main Extension Project - Change Order #1
Staff Recommendation:
- Q Goodview Water Main Project - Final Payment
Staff Recommendation: Adopt resolution 2023-144 approving the final payment to Miller Excavating, Inc in the amount of \$73,899.86 for the Goodview Water Main Project.
- 8 Approve Disbursements
 - A Approve Disbursements
- 9 Public Hearings
 - A Gerlach Property - Drainage & Utility Easement Vacation
Staff Recommendation: 1) Hold a public hearing to vacate a public drainage and utility easement across the Gerlach Services, Inc. property and Gerald Gerlach property over part of Block B, plat of Cottage Grove. 2) Adopt Resolution 2023-143 vacating the public drainage and utility easement across the Gerlach Services, Inc. property and Gerald Gerlach property over part of Block B, plat of Cottage Grove.
- 10 Bid Awards
- 11 Regular Agenda
- 12 Council Comments and Requests
- 13 Workshops - Closed to Public

A DuPont and 3M Drinking Water Class Action

Staff Recommendation: Close the meeting pursuant to Minn. Stat. Section 13D.05 subd. 3 (b) for attorney-client privileged communication to discuss the potential litigation related to DuPont and 3M drinking water class action.

14 Workshops - Open to Public

A Local Option Sales Tax Community Relations/Education Services

Staff Recommendation: Receive Local Option Sales Tax community relations/education services proposals and provide direction to staff.

15 Adjournment



COTTAGE GROVE CITY COUNCIL

December 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 City Council Appointment - Monique Garza
Staff Recommendation: By motion, approve the appointment of Monique Garza as City Council Member and administer the oath of office.
 - B Recognition of Deputy Director of Public Safety/Fire Chief Redenius Retirement
Staff Recommendation: Recognize Deputy Director of Public Safety/Fire Chief Redenius's upcoming retirement.
- 7 Consent Agenda
 - A Regular Meeting Minutes - November 1, 2023
Staff Recommendation: Approve the November 1, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes.
 - B Special Meeting Minutes - November 15, 2023
Staff Recommendation: Approve the November 15, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes.
 - C Regular Meeting Minutes - November 15, 2023
Staff Recommendation: Approve the November 15, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes.
 - D Gambling License - Strawberry Fest
Staff Recommendation: Approve the single occasion gambling permit application for the Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest to conduct bingo at River Oaks Golf Course, 11099 Highway 61, Cottage Grove on February 24, 2024, at 11:00 AM.
 - E Temporary Liquor License - Cottage Grove Lions Club
Staff Recommendation: Authorize issuance of a temporary intoxicating liquor license to Cottage Grove Lions Club for the Dust 'em off Vintage Snowmobile event held at the corner of 70th and Keats Ave. (farm address 10251 70th Street) on January 6, 2024.
 - F Business License Renewals
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-146 authorizing renewal of business licenses for 2024.
 - G Approval of Rental Licenses
Staff Recommendation: Approve the issuance of rental licenses to the properties in the attached table.

- H Animal Humane Society Agreement for Professional Services
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Agreement for Professional Services for Impound Housing Services 2024 between Animal Humane Society and City of Cottage Grove.
- I Lease Agreements with South East Metro Amateur Radio Club (SEMARC)
Staff Recommendation: Approve the lease agreements with SEMARC that will govern their use of pre-existing equipment on or at the West Draw Water Tower, the Highlands Water Tower, and Cottage Grove Fire Station #3.
- J MN Historical Society – Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants
Staff Recommendation: Authorize staff to apply for the Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants program in the amount of \$10,000 to be used for the creation and purchase of interpretive signs.
- K Historic Context Study – CLG SHPO Grant Application
Staff Recommendation: Authorize staff to apply for the Certified Local Government Grant program in the amount of \$30,000 to be used for the creation of a Historic Context Study on the Suburban Expansion Era (1945-1990) in Cottage Grove.
- L 2024 Convention and Visitors Bureau Budget
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Cottage Grove Convention and Visitors Bureau 2024 budget.
- M Investment Policy
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-150, Revising the Investment Policy
- N Debt Management Policy
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-151, Revising the Debt Management Policy
- O Special Deferred Assessment
Staff Recommendation: Approve Resolution 2023-148, Authorizing the deferral of a Special Assessment.
- P Budget Revisions
Staff Recommendation: Approve Resolution 2023-162, 2023 Budget Revisions
- Q Accept Donation - Pancentral CGC Holdings LLC
Staff Recommendation: Approve Resolution 2023-161, accepting a donation from Pancentral CGC Holdings LLC
- R Certify Delinquent Utility Accounts
Staff Recommendation:
- S 2024-2028 Capital Improvement Plan
Staff Recommendation: Approve the 2024-2028 Capital Improvement Plan and adopt Resolution 2023-159 amending the Comprehensive Plan 2040 to incorporate the CIP.
- T Low Zone Raw Water Main Extension Improvements Phase 1 & 2 Final Payment
Staff Recommendation: Adopt resolution 2023-155 approving final payment to McNamara Contracting, Inc for the Low Zone Raw Water Main Extension Improvements Phase 1 & 2 Project.
- U Local Option Sales Tax Community Relations/Education Services Agreement
Staff Recommendation: Approve service agreement with ICS for Local Option Sales Tax Community Relations and Education.
- V Nina's Park Playground Service Agreement
Staff Recommendation: Authorize service agreement with Power Play LT Farmington, Inc. for the purchase and installation of playground equipment at Nina's Park in the amount of \$91,695.10.

8 Approve Disbursements

- A Payments for the period of November 9, 2023, through November 29, 2023.

9 Public Hearings

- A Lake Flora 2nd Addition – Final Plat, Regional Pond Purchase Agreement, Temporary Drainage Easement, Compost Site Agreement

Staff Recommendation:

1. Hold the public hearing and adopt Resolution 2023-149 for vacation of easements as outlined in the Partial and Full Vacation Exhibit dated November 1, 2023. 2. Adopt Resolution 2023-156 approving the final plat to be called Lake Flora Second Addition. 3. Adopt Resolution 2023-157 approving the Termination of Purchase Agreement with Glendenning Farms, L.P., Joan Glendenning Kennedy Family Limited Partnership. 4. Adopt Resolution 2023-158 approving the purchase agreement with Glendenning Farms, L.P., Joan Glendenning Kennedy Family Limited Partnership and WAG Farms, Inc. 5. Approve the Temporary Drainage and Utility Easement over Lot 1, Block 2, Lake Flora Second Addition Plat. 6. Approve the agreement with Rumpca Companies, LLC. 7. Approve Memorandum of Understanding between the City and Glendenning Farms, L.P., Joan Glendenning Kennedy Family Limited Partnership, and WAG Farms, Inc. for Lot 2, Block 1 and right of entry over Outlots A and C.

10 Bid Awards

- A Utility and Engineering Building Bid Award

Staff Recommendation: 1. Adopt resolution 2023-154 awarding the contracts for the Utilities and Engineering Building, approving the Guaranteed Maximum Price Contract with Kraus Anderson and assigning certain contracts to Kraus Anderson. 2. Adopt resolution 2023-163 declaring the official intent of the City of Cottage Grove to reimburse certain expenditures from the proceeds of bonds to be issued by the City with respect to the Cottage Grove Utilities Building.

11 Regular Agenda

- A Tobacco Compliance Check Violation - Hy-Vee

Staff Recommendation: 1. Allow the business representative for Hy-Vee an opportunity to respond to the City Council regarding the tobacco compliance check violation occurring November 7, 2023. 2. Impose the scheduled penalty for the 1st violation in a 36-month period of a \$300.00 fine.

- B Liquor Compliance Check Violation - Walmart

Staff Recommendation: 1. Allow the business representative for Walmart Inc., DBA Walmart #2448 an opportunity to respond to the City Council regarding the alcohol compliance check violation occurring November 6, 2023. 2. If the representative admits to the violation or fails to attend, impose the scheduled penalty for the 1st violation in a 24-month period of a \$500.00 fine and one-day suspension, or, at the City Council's discretion, in lieu of the suspension and fine, the participation of employees in an educational program approved by the Public Safety Director within 90 days. If a representative denies the violation, schedule a contested-case hearing before an administrative law judge.

- C Property Tax Levy Payable in 2024 and adoption of 2024 Budget

Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-152, Adopting the 2023 Property Tax Levy Collectible in 2024 Adopt Resolution 2023-153, Adopting the 2024 Budget

12 Council Comments and Requests

13 Workshops - Open to Public

14 Workshops - Closed to Public

- A Performance Evaluation - Jennifer Levitt, City Administrator

Staff Recommendation: Close the meeting pursuant to MN Statute 13D.05 subd.(3)a to conduct a performance evaluation of City Administrator Jennifer Levitt.

15 Adjournment