

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Parks Advisory Commission

DATE: April 19, 2016

RE: Park Advisory Commission Resolution on the FY 2017 Proposed Budget for Parks and Recreation Services and Park Operations

Attached is the Parks Advisory Commission (PAC) resolution with our recommendations for the FY 2017 Parks and Recreation Budgets.

The PAC Budget and Finance sub-committee met on March 11th with Colin Smith, Parks & Recreation Services Manager, to review the proposed budget. The sub-committee shared their work with PAC at the April 19, 2016 regular meeting and developed a final recommendation on the budget for the coming year (FY 2017).

FY 2017 is the second year of a two-year budget plan and the proposed budget deviates only slightly from the FY 2017 budget plan shared with PAC a year ago. Amendments to the revenue and expenses budgets for Argo and Gallup Canoe Liveries are the only substantive changes. The revenue budget is increased \$150,000.00 at the Liveries to reflect the actual revenue generated the past two seasons and expenses are increased by \$128,000.00 to effectively manage operations and purchase necessary inventory and materials and supplies. There are no new fees or increased fees proposed as part of the FY 2017 budget.

The outdoor ice rinks, piloted during the 2015/16 winter at Allmendinger, Burns, and Northside Parks, were successful and well received by the community. As such PAC recommends continuation of the rinks for the 2016/17 winter. Staff estimates this expense to be \$60,000.00, which is less than the \$89,000.00 allocated in the FY 2016 budget. The cost is lower as some start-up infrastructure would not need to be purchased again.

PAC recommends approving the operating budgets as proposed with one amendment, the inclusion of funding for outdoor ice rinks at Allmendinger, Burns, and Northside Parks. PAC is pleased to see an overall revenue projection increase resulting from increased participation. In addition, PAC supports the capital budgets and planned projects for 2017 that focus primarily on rehabilitating aging infrastructure, in addition to making disciplined improvements in areas such as a centrally located dog park.

PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION RESOLUTION ON THE FY 2017 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR PARKS AND RECREATION SERVICES AND PARK OPERATIONS

Whereas, a vibrant, extensive, and healthy parks system is part of every great town and city;

Whereas, Ann Arbor residents value their parks, natural areas and recreational facilities and support these amenities through their taxes and patronage;

Whereas, the Parks Advisory Commission (PAC) commends staff for their continued efforts to engage PAC members in the budget process, and in producing a budget draft that follows PAC's recommended budget priorities to sustain facilities and activities for all residents, especially children, low income residents, and seniors, particularly where these services are not otherwise available;

Whereas, the three outdoor rinks piloted over the 2015/16 winter were well received and enjoyed by the public;

RESOLVED, That PAC recommends that City Council approve the Administrator's recommended budget for Parks and Recreation Services and Park Operations as developed by staff highlighting the following items and with one amendment:

1. Increased canoe livery revenue budget resulting from increased participation. Increased canoe livery expenditure budget in order to accommodate busier operations with the goal of providing outstanding visitor experiences.
2. Capital projects that focus on rehabilitating existing infrastructure and improvements where sustainable and practicable.
3. Increase the Park Operations general fund operating budget by \$60,000.00 to fund outdoor ice rinks at Allmendinger, Burns, and Northside Parks during the 2016/17 winter.
4. If additional expenditure funds are made available to Parks through the Parks "fairness resolution" those funds should be allocated to the outdoor ice rink program.