

Park Planning Capital Project Update February, 2013

Bryant Community Center

- A design to connect the existing community center to the house that was purchased will be underway this winter. A topographical survey has been completed.

Clinton Park

- The tennis courts and basketball courts are scheduled to be reconstructed summer, 2013. A new pathway was going to be included in this project, however, Public Services will be doing major work on Stone School Road in the next couple of years, and a walk would be included as part of the work within the right of way.

Cobblestone Farm

- The roofs on the Cobblestone Farm barn and the historic house are being replaced to protect the building infrastructure. Replacement of the roof on the barn is complete. Work on the house is underway.

Esch Park

- Pathways and the game court surface are being repaved as the pavement has deteriorated. A new pathway to the play area will be constructed to provide barrier free access. A contractor has been chosen, and the project will be on the City Council agenda in March.

Forest Avenue Plaza

- This plaza is located next to the Forest Ave parking structure. Funding was contributed by the developer of 601 Forest and Zaragon II to improve the plaza. Two public meetings were held and improvement items prioritized. A proposal for artwork in the plaza was considered by the Commission for Art in Public Places, but is on hold until their funding status is determined. The concrete portion of the project will be implemented in conjunction with the Forest Ave. improvements that are taking place this summer.

Gallup Park

- Design for renovation of the livery, the entry road and pathway, and the dock area is complete. The project will improve barrier free access and safety, and will include redesign of the entry to the Livery, barrier free docks for boating and fishing, renovation of the meeting room, and barrier free upgrades around the facility. A \$300,000 grant was received to implement the project, and the grant was approved by City Council. Construction bids for the project are due on February 21.
- A second grant was awarded by the MDNR to do preliminary engineering to renovate the boat launch. Design is complete, however, the grant application is being delayed as funding for the grant program is not being offered in 2013.

Island Park

- The Greek Revival Shelter and the historic bridge have been restored to address deterioration due to wildlife and water damage. The project included replacement of all the wood trim, repair of the concrete, and replacement of the roof. The shelter renovations are complete. The bridge repairs are complete, and the structure will be repainted in the spring.

Landscaping at Recreation Facilities

- A major donation was received for tree and landscape work, and designs are complete for plantings at the recreation facilities. Rotary sponsored installation of Bryant, Northside and the Senior Center, and volunteers will be planting Fuller and Buhr. The Senior Center and Bryant plantings are complete, and the rest will be planted next spring. Bids were received, and the project is scheduled for City Council agenda in March.

Leslie Science and Nature Center

- A stormwater and pedestrian circulation master plan was developed to improve the pathway system, comply with the ADA, and decrease impervious surfaces. The project included construction of a barrier free path to the raptor enclosures as well as new pathways to connect the structures. Construction is complete.
- A customer service grant was awarded to design and install a wayfinding sign for the site. Design work is underway, and the project will be complete by May.

Riverside Park

- The entry pathway and park road (Canal Street) will be improved to create better separation between pedestrians and vehicles and to replace the deteriorated asphalt. The parking lot will be relocated to the northwest side of the park to remove it from the floodway. The work will be done in conjunction with repair work to Canal Street by Public Services. This project has been delayed now until spring, 2014 because DTE needs to do work in the roadway, which would involve cutting the roadway.

Skate Park

- A MNRTF grant was received for design and construction of a Skate Park in Veterans Memorial Park. Wally Hollyday Skateparks was chosen to perform the design and construction oversight work. The consultant was approved by City Council and design work is nearly complete.

South University Park

- Improvements include a pathway through the park, landscaping, and a refurbished ½ basketball court. The project is essentially complete except for the color coating of the court.

Veterans Memorial Park

- The roof over the ice arena is in poor condition and has been leaking. An analysis of the roof was conducted to investigate its structural integrity. Replacement of the roof is scheduled for summer, 2013.
- The baseball field renovations are underway.

West Park

- Issues with the underground storm system that was constructed as part of the renovation project have been solved and the project is complete.
- The baseball field is being renovated.

Windemere Park

- The tennis courts at Windemere Park have deteriorated due to poor sub-soil conditions. Two public meetings were held to discuss a new location. PAC approved relocating the courts to the east of the existing location.