

Park Planning Capital Project Update January, 2013

Bryant Community Center

- A design to connect the existing community center to the house that was purchased will be underway this winter.

Clinton Park

- A public meeting was held in September to discuss renovations to the park. The tennis courts and basketball courts are going to be rebuilt. A new pathway along Stone School will connect to the park features. Design is underway.

Cobblestone Farm

- The roofs on the Cobblestone Farm barn and the historic house are being repaired. A contractor has been selected, and the project was approved by City Council. Work will be completed in February and March.

Esch Park

- A public meeting was held in September to discuss renovations to the park. The pathways and game court surface will be repaved, and the project will include barrier free access to the play area. Design is complete, and the project is out for construction bids.

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.
- A second grant was awarded by the MDNR to do preliminary engineering to renovate the boat launch. Design is complete, and a grant to have the project constructed will be prepared by April 1, 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, with a bid for installation going out this month.

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.

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 until spring, 2013 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.
- A dog run area is being proposed for the area on Chapin where the house was demolished.

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. The issue is still being debated by neighbors.