

Park Planning Capital Project Update March 2012

Argo Dam Walkway

- An engineering consultant completed a feasibility study of widening the walkway over Argo Dam. A ten foot wide path is possible but costly.

Beckley Park

- Improvements included replacement of the playground structure, additional picnic tables and trees, replacement of the pathway through the park and alongside Fairview Cemetery, and a new bocce ball court. The project is essentially complete except for some lawn restoration.

Bluffs Park

- Plans are underway to create a new entry at the recently purchased Elk's property. A public meeting was held February 15 at City Hall to discuss the project. Work will take place this summer.

Buhr Park

- The entry road and parking lots will be renovated to replace deteriorated surfacing and improve stormwater drainage. New pathways to connect the facilities in the park and improve pedestrian circulation will be a part of this project. Construction will take place in spring/fall of 2012 with the project phased to allow the facilities to remain open during construction. The project was approved by City Council.

Cobblestone Farm

- The historic buildings were assessed by an architect to prioritize future renovations projects and a report was completed.

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. Work is being done in conjunction with the DDA. Two public meetings were held and improvement items prioritized. A final design will be completed this winter.

Gallup Park

- Design for renovation of the livery, the entry road and pathway, and the dock area is complete. The goals for the project include improving barrier free access and safety and will include redesign of the entry to the Livery, new 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.
- A second grant was awarded by the MDNR to do preliminary engineering to renovate the boat launch. Design is underway.

Hunt Park

- Access steps were constructed along Daniel Street next to the retaining wall. The project is complete except for final grading and planting.

Island Park

- The Greek Revival Shelter and the historic bridge are being restored to address deterioration due to wildlife and water damage. The project includes replacement of all the wood trim and repair of the concrete. The roof was replaced in October. The project is under construction, with the trim replacement complete. Finish painting and stucco work will take place in the spring, 2012.

Landscaping at Recreation Facilities

- A major donation was received for tree and landscape work, and an RFP will go out shortly for landscaping companies to plant and maintain flower beds at the recreation facilities.

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. Work will include construction of a barrier free path to the raptor enclosures.

Placid Way Park

- A public meeting was held to discuss improvements to the park and a survey was sent to park neighbors. Improvements will include replacement of the play area, as well as additional park furniture and landscaping. Bids were received, and the project is proposed for the April 16th Council agenda.

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.
- A public meeting was held to discuss improvements, and a concept plan was developed. The work will be done in conjunction with repair work to Canal Street by Public Services.

Senior Center

- The project will include construction of a new restroom and renovation of two existing restrooms to make them barrier free restrooms. The project is scheduled for May, 2012

Skate Park

- A grant was received for design and construction of a Skate Park in Veterans Memorial Park. The request for proposal is being developed for design work.

South University Park

- A public meeting was held on January 10, 2012 to discuss improvements to the park using donated funding. Improvements will include a pathway through the park, landscaping, and a refurbished ½ basketball court. The project is out for bid.

Veterans Memorial Park Ice Arena

- A solar shade structure on the pool deck is being funded by a grant from the Energy Office. The project is complete except for the solar panels, which are being implemented under separate contract.
- The concrete plaza adjacent to the ice arena (north of the existing entry plaza) has been converted to a rain garden to accept water from the arena roof. The project is being handled by Systems Planning and the County Water Resources Commission and being funded through the State Revolving Loan Fund.
- The athletic flooring in the lobby and ice arena is scheduled to be replaced. The construction project will most likely take place in the summer/fall 2012.
- The roof over the ice arena has been leaking, and major repairs will be scheduled for summer, 2012.

West Park

- There have been several issues with the underground storm system that was constructed as part of the renovation project. These are being addressed and will be resolved during May/June 2012. Public meetings were held in January and February to inform the public of progress and receive input.
- The tennis courts are currently under construction. Due to poor weather, the paving will start again in spring, 2012 as soon as weather permits.
- The historic pergola as well as the planting and sitting area on Miller Ave will be renovated in Spring, 2012. The project was approved by City Council.

Winewood Thaler Park

- Renovations included a new play area, reconstructed half basketball court, benches, landscaping, walks, and sand play area. The project is complete except for restoration.