



CITY OF ANN ARBOR 2007-2012 PARK MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS MILLAGE

CAPITAL PROJECTS: **WHAT ARE CAPITAL PROJECTS?**

Capital Projects are major construction projects that keep the park system safe, accessible and protect the structural integrity of buildings, playgrounds, game courts, paths and other park amenities. Projects are prioritized for safety, accessibility, level of use, age, and geographical distribution. A needs assessment for the entire park system was completed as part of the 2011-2015 Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan update. This evaluation is used as a guide to plan and budget construction projects for the duration of the millage.

RECREATION FACILITIES:

Capital projects at recreation facilities include major renovations to protect and preserve infrastructure, to improve customer experience by replacing aging amenities, to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and to keep up to date with current recreational trends. Some of the projects completed during this millage cycle include:



Skating at Buhr Park Ice Arena.

Buhr Pool and Ice Arena – The ice arena refrigeration system was replaced and a new rink floor was constructed, the steel structure was painted to preserve the structure and improve aesthetics, and a new entry was constructed to provide barrier free access.

Fuller Pool – Shade structures were constructed on the pool deck, and planters and seat walls were constructed at the entrance to enhance appearance as well as provide additional sitting areas.

Veterans Memorial Pool and Ice Arena – Locker rooms were renovated to provide a clean, fresh appearance, a dehumidification system was installed in the ice arena to improve air quality and ice conditions, and a shade structure was constructed on the pool deck.

Farmers Market – Lighting was replaced, the shed structures were painted, and the electrical service was upgraded to improve the experience for both the vendors and visitors.

Kempf House – This historic house was renovated, including barrier free access, structural improvements to the basement, window restoration, and painting of the exterior.

Leslie Park Golf Course – Cart paths and bridges were replaced on the golf course to provide better access for golfers. New restrooms were installed on the course.

Cobblestone Farm – Landscaping and walks were upgraded at the entry to the barn, new lighting was installed at the barn and historic house as well as along the service drive, the customer service center and bridal changing rooms were renovated, the wood flooring in the barn was replaced, and the catering kitchen was renovated.

Planned Improvements for the 2012 Construction Season include: renovations to Gallup Livery, dock area, and park entrance.

MILLAGE REVENUE FUNDS PARK
MAINTENANCE PROJECTS AND
IMPROVEMENTS THROUGHOUT THE
CITY OF ANN ARBOR PARKS SYSTEM



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COMMUNITY WIDE PARKS:

These larger regional parks generally contain game courts, athletic fields and picnic shelters, play areas roads and parking lots, and restrooms. Capital improvements involve replacement and renovation of these park amenities as they age over time. Examples of completed projects include:

Fuller Park – athletic fields were renovated throughout the park, and involved rebuilding the fields, upgrading irrigation and installing fences to be able to better keep the fields in prime condition.

Gallup Park – the vehicle bridge was restored, the play area was replaced with a river themed playground, and a restroom was installed near the picnic shelters.

Argo Park and Canoe Livery – the Argo Cascades were constructed, providing a new amenity for boating, as well as eliminating the canoe portage, boat storage was upgraded, and a new teen camp space was constructed, including a boardwalk bridging a rain garden.

Veterans Memorial Park – tennis courts were rebuilt, and the parking lot on Jackson Road renovated, as well as the paths along Maple Road.

Buhr Park – pathways were replaced connecting to the park from Essex and from Easy Street, and included installation of new rain gardens. The service drive to Cobblestone was replaced, and a landscaped area was created with benches for event guests.

West Park – the bandshell, pathways, basketball court, tennis courts, entry stairs, parking lot, and pergola were renovated.

Planned Improvements for the 2012 Construction Season include: Veterans Memorial Park, Southeast Area Park, and West Park will see significant renovations to their softball and baseball fields and Buhr Park will have its entry roads and parking lots reconstructed, along with additional pathway connections and stormwater management features added.



Argo Cascades at Argo Canoe Livery on the Huron River.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS:

Most neighborhood parks include a play structure, pathways, park furniture and landscaping, and they generally serve residents who live within ¼ mile from the park. Playgrounds are typically replaced on a 15-20 year cycle depending on their condition and compliance with the ADA. Pathways, park furniture and landscaping are often upgraded at the same time.



Playground at Wheeler Park.

Playgrounds replaced over the last six years include: Bader, Beckley, Frisinger, Riverside, Wellington, Wheeler, Winewood Thaler, Marybeth Doyle, Evergreen, Gallup, Leslie, South Maple, Garden Homes, Lansdowne, Sylvan, and Brookside.

Along with the playgrounds, landscaping, pathway improvements, and park furniture were installed at most of the above mentioned parks, with pathway improvements at Beckley including the connection through Fairview Cemetery, Wellington, Evergreen and Redwood.

Planned Improvements for the 2012 Construction Season include: Placid Way and South University Parks.