

Park Planning Capital Project Update June 2012

Argo Dam Walkway

- An engineering consultant completed a feasibility study of widening the walkway over Argo Dam. The costs were prohibitive, and the consultant is revising the scope of work, as well as providing a detail to revise the fencing to allow for additional space on the walkway.

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 in Fall, 2012.

Buhr Park

- The entry road and parking lots are being renovated to replace deteriorated surfacing and improve stormwater drainage. New pathways to connect the facilities in the park and improve pedestrian circulation are a part of this project. Construction is well underway and is being phased to allow the facilities to remain open during construction.

Burns Park

- Cracks at the tennis courts have been repaired.
- The rain garden at the tennis courts has been 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 proposal for artwork in the plaza is being considered by the Commission for Art in Public Places.

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, but we are still waiting for the grant agreement.
- A second grant was awarded by the MDNR to do preliminary engineering to renovate the boat launch. Design is complete, and a construction grant will be prepared by April 1, 2013.

Hunt Park

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

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. The project is under nearly complete, with only finish painting remaining.

Landscaping at Recreation Facilities

- A major donation was received for tree and landscape work, and an RFP was released for a designer to provide planting plans for landscaping companies to plant and maintain flower beds at the recreation facilities. A consultant was chosen to do the design for these areas and is working on detailed designs.

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 as well as new pathways to connect the structures. Bids were received.

Placid Way Park

- Improvements will include replacement of the play area, as well as additional park furniture and landscaping. Work will start mid-June and should be complete in July.

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 and is tentatively scheduled for July, pending work by DTE.

Senior Center

- The project included construction of a new restroom and renovation of two existing restrooms to make them barrier free. The project is complete.

Skate Park

- A 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.

South University Park

- Improvements will include a pathway through the park, landscaping, and a refurbished ½ basketball court. The project was approved by City Council and work will begin in July.

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 currently under construction.

- 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 roof over the ice arena has been leaking, and 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 June/July 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. Paving of the courts is complete, and the fence is being installed. The asphalt needs to cure for one month before color coating, so will not be playable until late June/early July.
- The restoration of the historic pergola is complete.

Windemere Park

- The tennis courts at Windemere Park have deteriorated due to poor sub-soil conditions and are scheduled to be replaced in 2013. After additional soil borings are completed, a public meeting will be held to discuss options for placement.