

Park Planning Capital Project Update October, 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 revised the scope of work, as well as provided a detail to revise the fencing to allow for additional space on the walkway. Relocation of the fencing on the outside of the rails is being considered.

Bluffs Park

- The project includes construction of a new entry at the recently purchased Elk's property. Construction is underway.

Buhr Park

- The entry road and parking lots were renovated to replace deteriorated surfacing and improve stormwater drainage, and new pathways were constructed to improve pedestrian circulation. Construction is complete although there are still some landscaped areas that are being reseeded.

Clinton Park

- A public meeting was held on September 26th at Cobblestone Farm to discuss renovations to the park. The tennis courts and basketball courts are going to be rebuilt, and the playground redesigned. 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. Specifications are being completed, and the project will be bid this fall.

Esch Park

- A public meeting was held on September 26th at Cobblestone Farm to discuss renovations to the park. The pathways and gamecourt surface will be repaved, and the play area replaced to include barrier free access. Design is underway.

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 was considered by the Commission for Art in Public Places, and they will be funding part of the project.

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 agreement needs to be 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 are being 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 is still being repaired.

Landscaping at Recreation Facilities

- A major donation was received for tree and landscape work, and designs are nearly complete for plantings at the recreation facilities. Rotary is sponsoring installation of Bryant, Northside and the Senior Center, and volunteers will be planting Fuller. The Senior Center and Bryant are complete, and the rest will be planted next spring, with a bid for installation going out mid-winter.

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 includes construction of a barrier free path to the raptor enclosures as well as new pathways to connect the structures. Construction is underway.

Placid Way Park

- Improvements included replacement of the play area, as well as additional park furniture and landscaping. Work 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 underway.

South University Park

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

Veterans Memorial Park

- The roof over the ice arena has been leaking, and repairs to leaks will be done for the winter while a structural analysis of the building and design for new roof structure is completed.
- The baseball field renovations are underway.

West Park

- There have been several issues with the underground storm system that was constructed as part of the renovation project. Work is nearly complete.
- The baseball field is slated to be renovated this fall.

Windemere Park

- The tennis courts at Windemere Park have deteriorated due to poor sub-soil conditions and are scheduled to be replaced in 2013. A public meeting was held, and a new location that is acceptable to the neighborhood needs to be chosen as the soils under the court are not suitable for new construction. A second public meeting was held on October 8th in the Gallup Park meeting room and the project will be discussed at the PAC meeting.