

Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation

Park Planning Updates

June 2025

Projects:

1. Asset Management Plan

- The objective of the asset management plan is to assist parks in planning for future projects - short term, medium term, and long term.
- An update on the Asset Management Plan was provided to PAC at the February 2025 session.
- Staff are working with the consultant to review findings for facilities.
- Non-Facility Data has been uploaded to the Asset Management Dashboard. Staff is reviewing and verifying findings.

2. Allmendinger Park Improvements

- Construction has begun and is expected to be completed by early July.

3. Barton / Bandemer Pedestrian Tunnel Project:

- Construction has begun and the project is expected to be completed in late fall of 2025.
- A scheduled 48-hour railroad track took place on June 3-5 allowing the concrete tunnel to be placed beneath the tracks.
- During construction, the pedestrian bridge from Huron River Drive into Barton Nature Area will be closed. Access to Barton Nature Area is available from the north west near Barton Dam.
- The gravel parking lot off Huron River Drive, just south of the pedestrian bridge, will also be closed for the duration of construction.

4. Bicentennial Park (former Southeast Area Park)

- Parks has received funding from the State of Michigan for the construction of a Splash Pad at the future Bicentennial Park.
- Michigan Recreation Construction (MRC) has been engaged as a Best Source procurement policy to act as the General Contractor on the Project. Their experience and expertise as a Splash Pad installer was recommended by Aquatix, the manufacturer of the splashpad equipment. In addition, Ann Arbor Parks has a well – documented history of successful projects with MRC, including the Gallup Universal Access Playground.
- The Bicentennial Park renaming ceremony was held on July 11th at Bicentennial Park.
- Construction is set to begin this month. Additional funding is still ongoing.

5. Bridge Replacement (Leslie Golf Course and Sylvan Park)

- Construction is anticipated for Fall of 2025
- Construction of the Sylvan Park bridge is expected in late summer/fall 2025

6. Farmers Market

- An investigation into the Farmers Market found that the foundations of the Market building were compromised. The Market Building will be shut down starting May 1, and staff will be moved to a temporary structure onsite.
- Parks is preparing to do a full market study. An RFP will be released for a consultant to do an assessment of the current market, complete community engagement, and help provide a direction for the future of the market.
- Presentations were given to PAC and PMAC (Public Market Advisory Commission in February.
- A Storage container was placed on site to begin migration from the existing Market Building. A construction trailer is also on site which will be used as a temporary office for Market Staff.
- The Farmers Market Office Building has been demolished.

7. Fuller Parking Lot and Border to Border Trail Renovation

- Patching will be performed this spring.
- Construction is not anticipated until Fall of 2025.

8. Liberty Plaza Planting

- Staff is working with InSite Design Studio to redesign the plant beds at Liberty Plaza. Plans and Bid Documents have been completed and published to the City's Procurement Page. Unfortunately zero proposals were received for the work.
- Staff is reviewing the bid package, and will be re-issuing at a future date.

9. South Maple Park Tennis Courts

- The South Maple Tennis Court project has resumed, looking at replacing the existing tennis courts with new tennis courts. Due to EGLE regulations, placing the court in the existing location is not permitted. Two options have been developed, and community engagement has started with a survey asking community members to weigh in.
- We received over 200 online survey responses and staff are analyzing results. Construction is anticipated for Spring 2025.
- Engineering documents are underway, and are expected to be bid in summer 2025, with construction anticipated in spring 2026.

10. Veterans Memorial Park Shelter Demolition

- Consultants have revised the Construction Documents, and the project will be rebid in fall of 2023, for demolition to take place in 2024.
- The Veterans Memorial Park Shelter Demolition project was rebid. Staff received one bid and are currently reviewing the proposal.
- Staff re-bid the Veterans Memorial Park Shelter Demolition, included in RFP 24-41, with the Farmers Market office building. Six proposals were received for this work, and staff are currently evaluating using the City's Best Value Procurement process.
- 21st Century Salvage was selected for the Demolition of the Veterans Memorial Park Shelter. Scheduling of this project is still being determined with the Contractor.

- The shelter has been demolished. Remaining work at Veterans Memorial Park includes irrigation work, adding an accessible path to the playground, and restoring the site with lawn.

11. West Park Bandshell

- An update on the West Park Bandshell project was given at the March PAC session. Staff introduced a recommendation to demolish the bandshell structure, and move forward with a comprehensive visioning plan for West Park as a whole. A resolution will be brought to PAC at the May Meeting, with a recommendation to demolish the bandshell structure, and move forward with a wholistic visioning process.
- Staff will be presenting a resolution to PAC to recommend to City Council to demolish the bandshell.
- Staff has been in discussions with consultants for future visioning of West Park. This work will not begin until approval has been given to demolish the bandshell.
- Park staff is also working on an activation plan for West Park that will take place throughout demolition of the bandshell and visioning of the park. The goal of activation, is to provide opportunities for the community to use the park in ways that it hasn't been done before, and to build upon the energy and moment that came from the first round of engagement.
- A survey to gather information on park activation will be published in the coming weeks.