

Park Planning Project Update August, 2019

Argo Universal Access

- An initial public meeting was held on Thursday, February 21st at Northside Elementary to get feedback on a preliminary concept plan prior to pursuing grant funding.
- Council approved a grant application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.
- The grant application was submitted and preliminary scores are released in early fall, and final awards are determined in December.
- The Parks department met with the MDNR on site and presented to their board this past week.

Bandemer-Barton

- Consultant has been selected to perform updated feasibility study on Bandemer-Barton connection and pathway in Barton
- Initial public meeting to solicit input was held on Tuesday, February 26th at 6:30pm at Forsyth Middle School. The majority of feedback from the initial public meeting, emails and online forms has been mostly supportive of the project.
- An initial draft of the feasibility study has been completed and is under review.

Bryant Community Center

- The City and the County Office of Community and Economic Development are jointly funding renovations to the existing community center and teen center, as well as the construction of an addition that will connect to the house purchased several years ago. Planning Commission and City Council approved the site plan. The County reviewed the plans, and the contract with the County for construction funding has been executed.
- Construction is complete. A Temporary Certificate of Occupancy was issued earlier in December.
- The Community Action Network (CAN) hosted an Open House to view the new center in early January.

Buhr Park

- The existing hot water tank that serves the pool and ice rink facility was replaced.

Mack Pool

- Bids were received to replace the existing pool mechanical systems, install a UV disinfection system, and make improvements to the existing pool tile surfaces.
- Construction is underway and the new pump, sand filter, and UV treatment system have been installed. Minor repairs to the existing tile surfaces within the pool are nearly complete.
- We anticipate filling the pool and getting the new mechanical system up and running the week of August 19th, with plenty of time to spare before opening after Labor Day.

Riverside Park

- The reconstruction of the Riverside Park Boardwalk is complete. The path will be reopened upon final building inspection approval.
- Bids were received for repaving the portion of the Border-to-Border trail pathway this fall. We received a grant from Washtenaw County Parks to fund half of both projects.

Park Bridge Repairs

- Bridge assessments were done on several park bridges (Barton Nature Area, Bandemer Park, Mitchell Field, and Gallup Park) and concluded that repairs are needed in order to preserve their use & structural integrity.
- Park Operations will be able to do some of the bridge repairs in-house, while more complex work will be bid out to contractors.
- DLZ, the engineering firm who conducted the bridge assessments, is under contract to provide construction documents that will be used to guide the in-house repairs and that will be put out to bid for the contractor portion of the work.
- A 75% complete set of drawings was reviewed in July and final plans are anticipated in mid-September.
- Construction on some of the bridges is expected to begin in late 2019.

Farmer's Market Sidewall Study

- Kohler Architecture is on a standing contract with the Parks Department for on-going design services, and they are currently working on a feasibility study for adding sidewalls to the Farmers Market canopy.
- The Farmer's Market operates during the winter season and the Market Manager and vendors are interested in exploring temporary sidewall curtains to improve comfort and protect vendor's products during cold weather.
- A structural analysis of the existing Farmers Market canopy will be conducted to determine if it can support the sidewall curtains or if additional structural supports will be necessary.

Playground Renovations

- Renovations are currently planned for two playgrounds: Fuller Park and the Gallup Universal Access playground.
- Fuller Park playground will have the poured-in-place safety surfacing repaired and replaced. Several playground items will be replaced to comply with current playground safety standards.
- The Gallup Universal Access Playground is heavily used and some design changes are needed to better accommodate the use patterns and desire lines that have been created by playground users. These include adjustments to plant beds, adding rocks where plants are being trampled, adding poured-in-place playground safety surfacing, and replacing a fabric shade sail.