



**City of North St. Paul
Parks & Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting Agenda**

**October 25, 2023
6:30 PM**

The Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting will be conducted on **October 25, 2023** at 6:30 p.m. The meeting location is the City Council Chambers of City Hall, located at 2400 Margaret St., North St. Paul.

The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting will also be meeting by interactive TV under Minn. Stat. 13D.02. Members of the public are permitted to attend the meeting in person. However, it is encouraged to participate in the meeting remotely. Instructions can be found below.

The **October 25, 2023 Zoom meeting can be accessed**

via: <https://tinyurl.com/NSPparksandrec>

(from a PC, Mac, tablet, iPhone or Android device)

or by phone at 1-929-205-6099,

Participants accessing the meeting by phone please use the following meeting ID:
81609668742

The Parks & Recreation Commission Zoom meeting will be 'open to the public to listen in, but will be muted from contributing at all times with the exception of a Public Hearing and open to the public forum.

Please join the meeting early to test your audio and video settings. If you join via a device and your audio is not working, you may need to use the dial-in phone number option in order to be heard.

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

Lloyd Grachek, Chair
Laura Greenlee-Karp, Vice Chair
Ingrid Koller
Sue Springborn
Sarah Zahradka
Arthur Alvarez, Jr.
Cassidy Schweer, Council Liaison

STAFF

Jill Officer

III. Adopt Agenda

IV. Approval of Minutes

- A. Approval of September 2023 meeting minutes

V. Meeting Open to Public

This Open Forum is an opportunity for persons to address the Parks and Recreation Commission on items not on the agenda. A completed public comment form should be presented to the staff liaison prior to the meeting. Comments will be limited to 3 minutes per person. While the Commission may ask clarifying questions of the speaker, no formal action by the Commission or discussion will be held on these items.

VI. Commission Business, Action Items & Recommendations

- A. Park Rental Policy recommendation
- B. Silver Lake Improvement Association -donor plaque location
- C. Peace Pole at Rotary Park -location

VII. Reports from Staff

- A. CIP review
- B. Park and Open Space Plan

VIII. Reports from Commissioners & Park Liaisons

- A. Commissioner reinstatement interest -2 commissioners

IX. Adjournment

The next regularly scheduled Parks & Recreation Commission meeting is November 15, 2023 at 6:30 pm at City Hall. Note this is the 3rd week in November.



To	Date
Parks & Recreation Commissioners	October 25, 2023
Agenda Placement # IV.A	
Approval of Minutes	
Subject	
Approval of September 2023 meeting minutes	
Background/Facts	
Recommended Action	
Attachments	

1. PRC September 27 meeting minutes

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Officer, Community Services Rep

September 27, 2023

6:30 PM

The September 27, 2023 Parks & Rec Commission meeting was held in the Sandberg Room of North St. Paul City Hall, 2400 Margaret Street, North St. Paul MN 55109

I. Call to Order

Chair Lloyd Grachek called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM

II. Roll Call

Lloyd Grachek, Chair - present

Laura Greenlee-Karp, Vice Chair - absent

Ingrid Koller - present

Sue Springborn - present

Sarah Zahradka - present

Arthur Alvarez, Jr – absent

Council Liaison: Cassidy Schweer - absent

Staff: Jill Officer – present

III. Adopt Agenda

On motion to adopt the agenda by Commissioner Koller, seconded by Commissioner Zahradka, with all present voting aye (4-0), motion carried to adopt the agenda.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. On motion to approve the August 2023 meeting minutes by Commissioner Zahradka, seconded by Commissioner Koller, with all present voting aye (4-0), motion carried to approve the minutes.

B. On motion to approve the August 23, 2023 Arts and Culture Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission joint meeting minutes by Chair Grachek, seconded by Commissioner Zahradka, with all present voting aye (4-0), motion carried to approve the minutes.

V. Meeting Open to Public

David Nelson expressed his concern regarding the condition of Southwood Park. He suggested various solutions to the buckthorn issue including using goats and the availability of a grant through the DNR. He also requested a copy of residents' responses from the Park Survey.

Chair Grachek suggested Mr. Nelson bring his concerns to the Southwood Nature Preserve Group. Commissioner Koller requested more information on the use of goats. Mr. Nelson explained that an electric fence is installed and the goats are moved to a new section each week to allow for buckthorn removal.

VI. Public Hearings - None

No public hearing scheduled.

VII. Commission Business, Action Items & Recommendations

A. Southwood Nature Preserve Policy

Parks and Recreation Staff Jill Officer stated this policy was written to clarify the required actions needed to do work in the preserve. She also noted the policy will go through Public Works Director Ron Ritchie. Commissioner Zahradka suggested the Southwood Task Force be made aware of this policy. The task force is aware of the policy.

On motion by Chair Grachek, and seconded by Commissioner Zahradka, with all present voting aye, (4-0), the motion carried to recommend to City Council acceptance of the Southwood Nature Preserve Policy.

B. Review and Recommendations on Park Rental Policy and 2024 Fees

Ms. Officer provided a brief review of past policies and park fees. Commissioner Koller recommended a monetary penalty if time frame is violated. Commissioner Zahradka suggested a payment of another day if more time is needed for an event. Ms. Officer noted those are in place and also noted the closing times of the park bathrooms and the park themselves.

The Parks and Recreation Commission discussed changes to the alcohol use and fee policy. It was suggested to add an additional deposit when having alcohol and if not followed the loss of deposit. Ms. Officer suggested an increase in the deposit amount. The Commissioner expressed their concern regarding the increase and wondered if it would deter people from using the park. They also discussed the prospect of adding a request for tables or chair set up on the rental form.

Commissioner Zahradka suggested looking into the park rental system being able to accept deposits 6 weeks before the event so as not to hold money for so long. The Commission reiterated there is no smoking in public parks. There was also discussion among the Commission regarding Hause Park and Casey Lake's key code. When not picked up on time, Public Works is called to allow entry.

The Commission agreed to maintain the current fee status.

VIII. Old Business

There was no Old Business.

IX. Reports from Staff

A. Park and Open Space Plan

Ms. Officer noted the completed public outreach survey and stated Community Development Director Brandy Howe will provide more information and results of the survey at the next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. The Commission discussed ways to reach more residents.

B. Park and Recreation Commission Open Seat – Requesting Applications

Ms. Officer noted the application is online if they know of anyone interested.

C. Update from Public Works – Maintenance in Parks

Ms. Officer provided an update on the woodchips at Casey Lake, planted grass and permits for reroofing the buildings in the parks.

Commissioner Zahradka discussed the Art Show and recommended a better venue for next year. She suggested looking at ADA accessibility during this event. The Commission provided solutions such as closing the parking lot, moving it to a downtown venue, or closing the streets.

Chair Grachek noted the parade was a great success but did run out of candy again. He noted Star Watch was great but there was concern regarding a City street light near the ball field. He thanked Commissioner Springborn for her work on Star Watch. Ms. Officer inquired about charging a small fee next year. Commissioner Springborn suggested keeping the event free of charge.

Commissioner Springborn commented on an event at the historical museum regarding the Reiff family. Commissioner Springborn suggested possible future event locations could be at the Museum.

Ms. Officer noted after the next City Council meeting, Ms. Howe will provide the Arts and Culture Commission's budget as well as the Parks and Recreation Commission's budget.

X. Reports from Commissioners & Park Liaisons

A. There were no reports from Commissioners or Park Liaison.

XI. Adjournment

On motion by Commissioner Zahradka, seconded by Commissioner Koller, with all present voting aye (4-0), motion carried to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM

Next Park and Recreation Meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2023 at City Hall in the Sandberg Room; 2400 Margaret St, North St Paul, MN 55109



To	Date
Parks & Recreation Commissioners	October 25, 2023
Agenda Placement # VI.A	
Commission Business, Action Items & Recommendations	
Subject	
Park Rental Policy recommendation	
Background/Facts	
Recommended Action	
Attachments	

1. Park Rental Policy Update for 2024_BH

Respectfully submitted,



**NORTH
ST. PAUL**
extraordinary.

PARK RENTAL POLICY

Approved ____, 2023

FACILITIES AND RATES

The City of North St. Paul has two enclosed facilities and three open-air shelters available for rent by the public. Park facilities are available to North St. Paul residents and non-residents at reasonable rates.

Facility	Amenities	Capacity
Casey Lake pavilion 	- Indoor pavilion space as well as outdoor patio with picnic tables is included with the reservation - Kitchen equipped with fridge, sink, microwave - Restrooms - Seating for 95	215 people* (seating for 95)
Hause Park pavilion 	- Indoor pavilion space as well as open air shelter is included with the reservation - Kitchen equipped with fridge, sink, and microwave - Restrooms	49 people (seating for 30)
Colby Hills open air shelter 	Port-a-potty is available from May through September	N/A
Northwood open air shelter 	Port-a-potty is available from May through September.	N/A
Silver Lake open air shelter 	A park restroom building is available	N/A
*Note: Reservations with 150+ people in attendance that serve alcohol shall adhere to the police security policy (see page 5).		

Rental Rates	
Casey Lake pavilion	Weekend Reservations Friday / Saturday / Sunday and Holidays \$300.00 Residents + \$350.00 deposit \$400.00 Non-Residents + \$350.00 deposit Weekday Reservations Monday – Thursday \$200.00 Residents + \$300.00 deposit \$250.00 Non-Residents + \$300.00 deposit
Hause Park pavilion	Full Day Rental – Resident \$150.00 + \$150.00 deposit Full Day Rental – Non-Resident \$200.00 + \$150.00 deposit
Colby Hills shelter	Full Day Rental – Resident \$50.00 + \$50.00 deposit Full Day Rental – Non-Resident \$65.00 + \$50.00 deposit
Northwood shelter	Full Day Rental – Resident \$50.00 + \$50.00 deposit Full Day Rental – Non-Resident \$65.00 + \$50.00 deposit
Silver Lake shelter	Full Day Rental – Resident \$50.00 + \$50.00 deposit Full Day Rental – Non-Resident \$65.00 + \$50.00 deposit
Alcohol deposit	An additional \$150 deposit is collected at the time of booking for events planning to have alcohol. This is returned along with the building deposit after inspection of the building. If you do not pay the alcohol deposit at booking and evidence of alcohol containers is found inside, the \$150 will be deducted from your building deposit refund. See also police security policy for parties greater than 150 people on page 5.
No fees shall be waived for any group except for City-sanctioned or City-sponsored events.	

RESERVATIONS

Any person or group wishing to reserve a North St. Paul park facility must complete a rental application online at <https://northstpaul.org/1049/Park-Rentals> and pay the appropriate fee and damage deposit to the City of North St. Paul. Payments can be made online, or by cash or check at the North St. Paul City Hall located at 2400 Margaret Street, North St. Paul, MN 55109. Staff uses reasonable judgment when accommodating rental requests.

Facility Tours

One ½ hour facility tour is allowed per reservation. Additional facility tours will be assessed a \$50 per visit fee. Tours are during normal business hours when the facility is available.

Priority Scheduling

- City residents shall have first priority to rent facilities. Resident registration will start on December 1 at 8 a.m. for the following year; non-resident registration will begin a month later on January 2 at 8:00 a.m. If the first day of registration falls on a day City Offices are closed, registration will start the next business day.
- Only one reservation will be accepted each day for each facility.
- The City shall have first priority for use for all governmental activities, including maintenance.

Deposits

Damage deposits must be paid with your reservation. Additional deposits are collected for events where alcohol is served. Deposits are refunded within 2-4 weeks after the rental upon the return of the key and inspection of the building. All refunds are paid by a check made payable and mailed to the applicant on the reservation. See the section on Renter Responsibilities on page # on how your deposit may be impacted.

Building Access

- **Casey Lake.** Key codes for the Casey Lake pavilion will be posted in the applicant's online Park & Recreation account and emailed to the account holder 1 week prior to the rental. It is the renter's responsibility to follow up with City staff during normal business hours for the key code, if necessary. If the renter needs to call after-hours or weekend staff for access, a charge of \$150 will be incurred. This fee is based on the on-call staff member coming out to open the building for the rental.
- **Hause Park.** Building keys for the Hause Park pavilion must be picked up from City Hall the business day prior to your rental. Keys must be returned the next day to City Hall or its afterhours drop box. Failure to return the key will result in the loss of the entire damage deposit or the cost to replace the lockset, whichever is greater. Failure to pick up the key resulting in an after-hours or weekend staff call will result in loss of deposit. This fee is based on the on-call staff member coming out to open the building for the rental.

Refunds and Cancellations

If the applicant cancels their rental within 13 days from the date of their reservation, they will forfeit their rental fees. All cancelled reservations are subject to a \$25 administrative fee for cancellations. Weather related refunds are only issued when North St. Paul schools, places of worship, and/or local businesses are closed by snow, ice or other severe weather conditions for the entire day or at the discretion of the City Manager. Weather related closures can be found on WCCO, KARE11, KSTP, and KMSP Fox 9.

Police Security

Reservations with 150+ persons in attendance that plan to consume alcohol must reserve the facility at least six weeks in advance of their reservation and will be required to hire an off-duty North St. Paul Police Officer or Reserve Officer at the overtime Patrol Officer rate as listed in the fee schedule at a three-hour minimum. The City, in its discretion, may waive the police presence requirement based on review of applicant submittal.

Denial/Revocation

Rentals will be approved, denied, or revoked at the sole discretion of the City Manager. The City will not deny or revoke rental on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, disability, sex, sexual orientation, or status with regard to public assistance. The City will not deny or revoke rental on the basis of content or viewpoint, except to the extent allowed by law. The City may deny or revoke rental on any other reasonable basis, including, but not limited to, previous rental by the same group or individual which resulted in damage, disruptive behavior, or violation of law. Approving a rental is not an endorsement by the City of that individual's or group's views.

RENTER RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Reservations are valid for park hours 7 a.m. – 11 p.m. only.
2. All reservations must be cleaned up and out of the park building by 11:00 p.m. or they will automatically forfeit their deposit.
3. The renter is required to stack and rack all tables and chairs, and remove personal equipment at the conclusion of the rental.
4. Renter is responsible for cleaning the kitchen and all areas utilized, including wiping off tables & chairs, sweeping, taking care of spills, spot mopping floors, placing garbage and recyclables in appropriate bins and removing all decorations, personal equipment, etc.
5. The facility is expected to be left in the same condition the renter found it.
6. The City of North St. Paul is not responsible for any equipment or other items left at Park Facilities at any time. Place all trash and recycling receptacles near the main entrance.
7. The renter will be held responsible and billed for any unnecessary clean-up, losses or damages above and beyond your deposit as well as be subject to loss of rental privileges. This includes, but is not limited to bio-hazard clean-up when necessary.

FACILITY USAGE SPECIFICATIONS

Fees and rental specifications will be periodically reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Commission and staff to ensure the policy is adequately meeting the needs of the community and City. City Staff may use their discretion on questions or concerns not specifically laid out in this document.

Alcohol

Per City Ordinance, alcohol shall not be consumed after 9:00 p.m. No glass containers please. An additional \$150 deposit is collected at the time of booking for events planning to have alcohol. This is returned along with the building deposit after inspection of the building. If you do not pay the alcohol deposit and evidence of alcohol containers is found inside, the \$150 will be deducted from your building deposit refund.

Decorations

All decorations must be put up and taken down without damaging walls, woodwork, floors, ceilings, or blinds. Prohibited items: Nails, tape, tacks, staples, 3M command strips and screws. Glitter and confetti are also prohibited. Do not hang decorations from the sprinkler heads or ceiling fans. White mounting

putty is permissible but must be completely removed after use. With the exception of food warmers (sternos) no open flame devices are allowed, which includes candles, hurricane lamps, lanterns, etc. The renter must remove all decorations before leaving the space by 11pm.

Food Trucks and Food Vendors

Up to two food trucks are allowed per reservation. All food vendors and food trucks must have a current City vendor license on file. A list of current vendors is available from the Community Development Department. At Casey Lake Park, food trucks may be parked on the sidewalk in between the Pavilion and neighboring smaller building and in the motorcycle parking space with the serving window facing the sidewalk only. At Hause Park, food trucks may be parked on the street with the serving window facing the park. Food trucks must not block access to buildings.

Inflatables/Moon Bounces

Unless it is a City sponsored event, inflatables/moon bounces are not allowed.

Special Licensing

Sale of alcohol or special events that are open to the public will require a special event permit and corresponding insurance and may require a MN Department of Health license if applicable (proof of license must be provided).

Tents

Only 10' X 10' pop-up tents are allowed. Up to two tents may be permitted per reservation. Tents must be secured with sand bags or weights. Staking tents into the ground is not allowed.

Video Surveillance

Premises are under video surveillance. Compliance with rental terms may be enforced through review of video surveillance.

PROHIBITIONS

Not all prohibited items are listed. Please call City Hall with questions.

- **Animals.** Pets are not allowed in enclosed park shelters; service dogs are welcome.
- **Dance Wax.** Dance wax or any other types of dancing compounds are not allowed.
- **Decorations.** Nails, tape, tacks, staples, 3M command strips and screws. Glitter and confetti are also prohibited.
- **Fireworks.** No fireworks may be discharged on City-owned property including parks, ball fields, parking lots or other similar properties owned by the City of North St. Paul.
- **Flames.** No open flame devices are allowed, which includes candles, hurricane lamps, lanterns, etc.
- **Smoking/Tobacco/Cannabis.** Smoking, e-cigarettes and the use of tobacco and cannabis products is strictly prohibited in North St. Paul parks and in all park facilities.
- **Water Balloons.** Water balloons are prohibited in city parks.



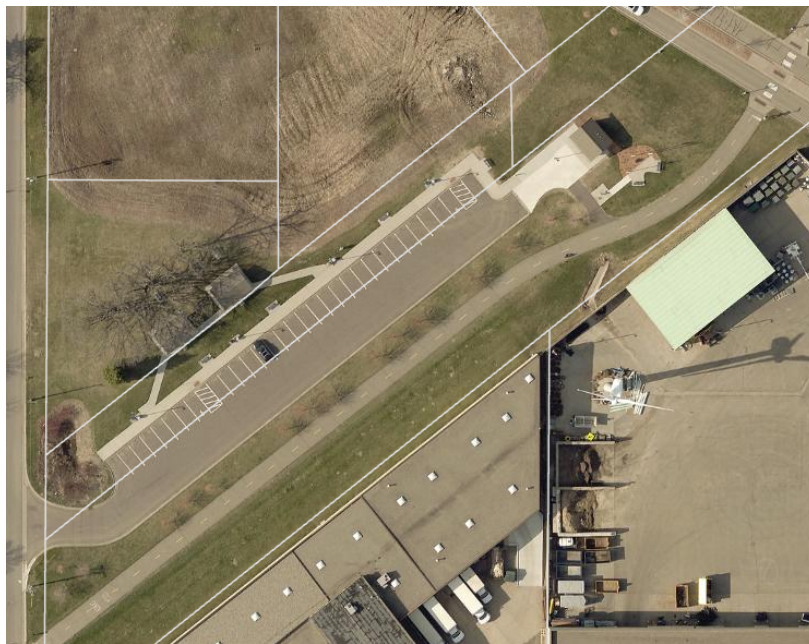
To	Date
Parks & Recreation Commissioners	October 25, 2023
Agenda Placement # VI.C	
Commission Business, Action Items & Recommendations	
Subject	
Peace Pole at Rotary Park -location	
Background/Facts	
Recommended Action	
Attachments	

1. Peace Pole location

Respectfully submitted,



Peace Pole- 6' tall x 4" square





To	Date
Parks & Recreation Commissioners	October 25, 2023
Agenda Placement # VII.A	
Reports from Staff	
Subject	
CIP review	
Background/Facts	
Recommended Action	
Attachments	
1. Parks Commission 10.25.23 2. PARK BUDGET 3. Park Dedication Financial Plan 4. Park Capital Financial Plan 5. Parks CIP	

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel Winek, Finance Director



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

October 25, 2023

City of North St. Paul



THANK YOU!

- **Cassidy Schweer, Council Representative**
- **Lloyd Grachek, Chair**
- **Laura Greenlee – Karp, Vice Chair**
- **Arthur Alvarez, Commission Member**
- **Ingrid Koller, Commission Member**
- **Sue Springborn, Commission Member**
- **Sarah Zahradka, Commission Member**
- **Jill Officer, Administrative Assistant**



AGENDA

- **PARK & RECREATION FUNDING - 2024**
- **PARK FINANCIAL PLANS – 2024 - 2033**
- **PARKS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN – 2024 - 2033**



PARK & RECREATION FUNDING - 2024

- **Operating Funds**
 - **General Fund**
 - **Building Maintenance Fund**
- *** Community Event Fund**
- **Park Dedication Fund – “Capital Fund”**
- *** Park Fund – “Capital Fund”**



PARK FINANCIAL PLANS – 2024-2033

- **Park Dedication Fund**
- **Park Fund**



PARKS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

- **Parks Capital Improvement Plan 2024 – 2033**



Questions and Discussion

Questions and Discussion



CITY OF NORTH ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA
COMMUNITY EVENT FUND
SUMMARY OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION
2024 BUDGET

						Variance from 2023 Budget to	
	2020 Actual	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2024 Proposed Budget	2024 Budget Increase (Decrease)	
REVENUES							
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	-	11,923	12,275	12,500	13,000	500	4%
AD VALOREM TAXES	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	51,817	-	-	-	-	-	0%
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
OTHER	384	243	4,165	-	-	-	0%
OTHER TAXES	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
PERMITS	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
FINES	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
LICENSES	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
TOTAL REVENUES	52,201	12,166	16,440	12,500	13,000	500	4%
EXPENDITURES							
PERSONNEL	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
SUPPLIES	-	600	-	-	-	-	0%
CONTRACTURAL SERVICES	-	5,713	22,891	17,500	30,750	13,250	76%
CAPITAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
TRANSFERS	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	-	6,313	22,891	17,500	30,750	13,250	76%
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	52,201	5,853	(6,451)	(5,000)	(17,750)		



CITY OF NORTH ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA
COMMUNITY EVENT FUND
REVENUES - LINE ITEM DETAILS
2024 BUDGET

GENERAL LEDGER CODE				2020 Actual	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2024 Proposed Budget
RECREATION - OUTSIDE PROGRAMS	15 R	3643		0	11,923	12,275	12,500	13,000
TOTAL CHARGES FOR SERVICES				-	11,923	12,275	12,500	13,000
TOTAL AD VALOREM TAXES				-	-	-	-	-
TRANSFER FROM OTHER FUNDS	15 R	3992		51,817	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				51,817	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL				-	-	-	-	-
MARKET VALUE ADJUSTMENT	15 R	3800		-105	-666	-1,959	0	0
INVESTMENT INCOME	15 R	3801		488	659	864	0	0
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	15 R	3809		0	250	260	0	0
MISCELLEANEOUS REVENUE (NT)	15 R	3899		0	0	5,000	0	0
TOTAL OTHER				384	243	4,165	-	-
TOTAL OTHER TAXES				-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL PERMITS				-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS				-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL FINES				-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL LICENSES				-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL				52,201	12,166	16,440	12,500	13,000



CITY OF NORTH ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA
COMMUNITY EVENT FUND
EXPENDITURES - LINE ITEM DETAILS
2024 BUDGET

GENERAL LEDGER CODE				2020 Actual	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2024 Proposed Budget
TOTAL PERSONNEL SERVICES				-	-	-	-	-
Operating Supplies	15 E	4120		0	600	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLIES				-	600	-	-	-
General Contract/Consulting Services	15 E	4300		0	0	401	0	13,000
Miscellaneous	15 E	4630		0	5,713	22,490	17,500	17,750
TOTAL CONTRACTUAL SERVICES				-	5,713	22,891	17,500	30,750
TOTAL CAPITAL				-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL TRANSFERS				-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL				-	6,313	22,891	17,500	30,750

Item	Description	Funding Request	New or Ongoing	Justification
1	Autumn Arts Festival	\$6,000	Ongoing	Developing a city event that has something for all ages.
2	Fire & Ice	\$100	Ongoing	
3	Concerts in the Park	\$1,500	Ongoing	
4	Star Watch	\$450	Ongoing	
5	Food Truck Night	\$1,500	Ongoing	
6	Fall Round Up Parade	\$2,500	Ongoing	Community wide event featuring our businesses, schools and local organizations.
7	National Night Out	\$500	Ongoing	Community wide safety open house highlighting the City's police and fire departments while providing public safety resources
8	Touch a Truck Night	\$500	Ongoing	Community event to show case the City's equipment and staff
9	Veteran's Day	\$100	Ongoing	Support and promotion for programming at Veterans Park
10	Memorial Day	\$50	Ongoing	Support and promotion for programming at Veterans Park
11	POW/MIA Walk	\$100	Ongoing	Support and promotion for programming
12	Movie in the Park	\$1,500	New	Popular event to bring families and the community together
13	Fire Safety Demonstration	\$500	New	Hosted demonstrations in a City park to educate people in fire safety including how to deploy a fire extinguisher, how to prevent burns etc. Use National Fire Safety program resources. Bring in county demonstration resources.
14	Snowman Parade	\$500	New	Have local school children decorate snowmen and have them displayed along the downtown where everyone could view them and vote for their favorites. The winner could receive a prize and their classroom a visit from the Mayor and the North St. Paul snowman.
15	Chase Away the Snowman 5k	\$1,500	Revisited	St. Peter previously hosted a 5k in the early spring to chase winter away. Consider bringing the event back as a city promotion to encourage health and fitness.
16	Coffee with Council	\$100	New	Invite area seniors to City Hall for coffee and conversation with the City Council members. Include some a brief educational topic at each gathering.
17	Beach Party	\$100	New	Host a calypso type band to play at Silver Lake Park and have the Watershed provide training and activities to educate people about the lake, water safety demonstrations, canoe races, fishing with the cops. Etc.
18	History Trivia/Medallion Challenge	\$250	New	Feature clues in the City newsletter, website and social media channels on North St. Paul History to educate our residents on a where they live and the services provided by the City of North St. Paul. Contest winners could receive the existing snowman award already created by the City and recognition at a City Council meeting.
Total Budget Request		\$17,750.00		



CITY OF NORTH ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA
PARK FUND
SUMMARY OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION
2024 BUDGET

					2024 Proposed	Variance from 2023 Budget to	
	2020 Actual	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	Budget	2024 Budget Increase (Decrease)	
REVENUES							
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	19,785	49,630	74,300	63,225	80,225	17,000	27%
AD VALOREM TAXES	-	-	-	-	36,042	36,042	0%
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	-	0%
OTHER	11,041	7,771	(2,721)	4,600	5,500	900	20%
OTHER TAXES	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
PERMITS	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
FINES	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
LICENSES	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
TOTAL REVENUES	130,826	157,401	171,579	167,825	221,767	53,942	32%
EXPENDITURES							
PERSONNEL	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
SUPPLIES	1,271	45	-	-	-	-	0%
CONTRACTURAL SERVICES	5,354	4,160	2,050	2,000	2,100	100	5%
CAPITAL	26,485	4,592	-	250,000	177,058	(72,942)	-29%
TRANSFERS	65,000	-	80,000	80,000	65,000	(15,000)	-19%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	98,110	8,797	82,050	332,000	244,158	(87,842)	-26%
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	32,717	148,604	89,529	(164,175)	(22,391)		



CITY OF NORTH ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA
PARK FUND
REVENUES - LINE ITEM DETAILS
2024 BUDGET

GENERAL LEDGER CODE				2020 Actual	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2024 Proposed Budget
CANOE RENTALS	63 R	3629		175	425	225	225	225
PARK RENTAL FEES	63 R	3630		19,610	49,205	74,075	63,000	80,000
TOTAL CHARGES FOR SERVICES				19,785	49,630	74,300	63,225	80,225
CURRENT PROPERTY TAX	63 R	3011		0	0	0	0	36,042
TOTAL AD VALOREM TAXES				-	-	-	-	36,042
TRANSFER FROM OTHER FUNDS	63 R	3992		0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				-	-	-	-	-
STATE LGA	63 R	3523		100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL				100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
MARKET VALUE ADJUSTMENT	63 R	3800		68	-4,277	-16,639	0	0
INVESTMENT INCOME	63 R	3801		3,183	4,222	7,953	0	0
DONATIONS	63 R	3803		4,190	2,126	1,365	1,000	1,000
PARK ADVERTISING	63 R	3805		3,600	5,700	3,900	3,600	4,500
MISCELLENEOUS REVENUE (NT)	63 R	3899		0	0	700	0	0
TOTAL OTHER				11,041	7,771	(2,721)	4,600	5,500
TOTAL OTHER TAXES				-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL PERMITS				-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS				-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL FINES				-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL LICENSES				-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL				130,826	157,401	171,579	167,825	221,767



CITY OF NORTH ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA
PARK FUND
EXPENDITURES - LINE ITEM DETAILS
2024 BUDGET

GENERAL LEDGER CODE				2020 Actual	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2024 Proposed Budget
TOTAL PERSONNEL SERVICES				-	-	-	-	-
Operating Supplies	63 E	4120		1,271	45	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLIES				1,271	45	-	-	-
General Contract/Consulting Services	63 E	4300		1,875	4,160	2,050	2,000	2,100
Planning Services	63 E	4303		1,019	0	0	0	0
General Service Fees	63 E	4310		2,460	0	0	0	0
TOTAL CONTRACTUAL SERVICES				5,354	4,160	2,050	2,000	2,100
Polar Park Sidewalk	63 E	4746		13,660	0	0	0	0
Improvements Other Than Buildings	63 E	4750		12,825	4,592	0	250,000	177,058
Loss/Disposal/Abandonment	63 E	4799		0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL CAPITAL				26,485	4,592	-	250,000	177,058
Transfer to other Funds	63 E	4992		65,000	0	80,000	80,000	65,000
TOTAL TRANSFERS				65,000	-	80,000	80,000	65,000
TOTAL				98,110	8,797	82,050	332,000	244,158



CITY OF NORTH ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA
PARK DEDICATION CAPITAL PROJECT FUND
TEN YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN

	2020 Actual	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Estimate	2024 Estimate	Estimate 2025	Estimate 2026	Estimate 2027	Estimate 2028	Estimate 2029	Estimate 2030	Estimate 2031	Estimate 2032	Estimate 2033
REVENUES														
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
AD VALOREM TAXES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER	46,368	121,655	1,366	10,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER TAXES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PERMITS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FINES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LICENSES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL REVENUES	46,368	121,655	1,366	10,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
						0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
EXPENDITURES														
PERSONNEL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SUPPLIES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CONTRACTURAL SERVICES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CAPITAL	-	-	-	-	255,300	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DEBT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TRANSFERS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	-	-	-	-	255,300	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	46,368	121,655	1,366	10,000	(255,300)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	75,911	122,279	243,934	245,300	255,300	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ENDING FUND BALANCE	122,279	243,934	245,300	255,300	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CASH FLOW														
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	46,368	121,655	1,366	10,000	(255,300)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DEDUCT:														
CAPITAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DEBT SERVICE - PRINCIPAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ADD:														
BONDS ISSUED	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DEPRECIATION	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CHANGES FROM CASHFLOW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CHANGES FROM CASHFLOW	(231)	(507)	(536)	1,274	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TRANSFER IN/OUT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CASH - BEGINNING OF YEAR	75,911	122,048	243,196	244,026	255,300	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CASH - END OF YEAR	122,048	243,196	244,026	255,300	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TARGET MIN. WORKING CAPITAL	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
OVER (UNDER) TARGET WORKING CAPITAL	72,048	193,196	194,026	205,300	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)



CITY OF NORTH ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA
PARK CAPITAL PROJECT FUND
TEN YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN

	Other Revenues Transfers					3.00% 3.00% 3.00% 3.00% 3.00% 3.00% 3.00% 3.00%									
	Addition of 0.55% levy increase per year (\$36,042)														
	2020 Actual	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2024 Estimate	Estimate 2025	Estimate 2026	Estimate 2027	Estimate 2028	Estimate 2029	Estimate 2030	Estimate 2031	Estimate 2032	Estimate 2033	
REVENUES															
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
AD VALOREM TAXES	-	-	-	-	36,042	72,084	108,126	144,168	180,210	216,252	252,294	288,336	324,378	360,420	
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	
OTHER	30,826	57,401	71,579	67,825	85,725	88,297	90,946	93,674	96,484	99,379	102,360	105,431	108,594	111,852	
OTHER TAXES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
PERMITS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
FINES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TRANSFERS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL REVENUES	130,826	157,401	171,579	167,825	221,767	260,381	299,072	337,842	376,694	415,631	454,654	493,767	532,972	572,272	
4.00% 4.00% 4.00% 4.00% 4.00% 4.00% 4.00% 4.00%															
EXPENDITURES															
PERSONNEL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
SUPPLIES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CONTRACTURAL SERVICES	-	-	-	2,000	2,100	2,184	2,271	2,362	2,456	2,554	2,656	2,762	2,872	2,987	
CAPITAL	33,110	8,796	2,050	-	177,058	500,000	44,200	191,000	210,200	-	-	280,000	1,265,000	1,260,000	
DEBT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TRANSFERS	65,000	-	80,000	80,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	98,110	8,796	82,050	82,000	244,158	567,184	111,471	258,362	277,656	67,554	67,656	347,762	1,332,872	1,327,987	
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	32,716	148,605	89,529	85,825	(22,391)	(306,803)	187,601	79,480	99,038	348,077	386,998	146,005	(799,900)	(755,715)	
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	284,099	316,815	465,420	554,949	640,774	618,383	311,580	499,181	578,661	677,699	1,025,776	1,412,774	1,558,779	758,879	
ENDING FUND BALANCE	316,815	465,420	554,949	640,774	618,383	311,580	499,181	578,661	677,699	1,025,776	1,412,774	1,558,779	758,879	3,164	
CASH FLOW															
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	32,716	148,605	89,529	85,825	(22,391)	(306,803)	187,601	79,480	99,038	348,077	386,998	146,005	(799,900)	(755,715)	
DEDUCT:															
CAPITAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
DEBT SERVICE - PRINCIPAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ADD:															
BONDS ISSUED	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
DEPRECIATION	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CHANGES FROM CASHFLOW	24,007	(10,135)	(7,080)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CHANGES FROM CASHFLOW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TRANSFER IN/OUT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CASH - BEGINNING OF YEAR	289,740	346,463	484,933	567,382	653,207	630,816	324,013	511,614	591,094	690,132	1,038,209	1,425,207	1,571,212	771,312	
CASH - END OF YEAR	346,463	484,933	567,382	653,207	630,816	324,013	511,614	591,094	690,132	1,038,209	1,425,207	1,571,212	771,312	15,597	
TARGET MIN. WORKING CAPITAL	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	
OVER (UNDER) TARGET WORKING CAI	296,463	434,933	517,382	603,207	580,816	274,013	461,614	541,094	640,132	988,209	1,375,207	1,521,212	721,312	(34,403)	

North St Paul, Minnesota
Capital Improvement Plan
 2024 thru 2033

PROJECTS BY FUNDING SOURCE

Source	#	Priority	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
034 Park Dedication Fund													
Hause Park Tennis Court Rehab, Walkway and Trails	PARK-23-010	1	255,300										255,300
034 Park Dedication Fund Total			255,300										255,300
063 Park Fund													
McKnight Fields Master Planning	PARK-23-004	1	60,000										60,000
Hause Park Tennis Court Rehab, Walkway and Trails	PARK-23-010	1	12,558										12,558
Casey Lake Hockey Rink Replacement	PARK-23-014	5					210,200						210,200
Casey Lake Open Air Shelter	PARK-23-015	5			44,200								44,200
Downtown Park Master Plan (2475 7th Ave E)	PARK-23-017	3	32,900										32,900
Polar Park Improvements	PARK-23-018	5				191,000							191,000
Northwood Improvements	PARK-23-020	5								280,000	1,265,000	1,260,000	2,805,000
West End Passive Park	PARK-24-001	2	40,000										40,000
Casey Lake Parking Lot	PAVE-23-020	3	31,600										31,600
McKnight Field Parking Lot	PAVE-23-021	3		500,000									500,000
063 Park Fund Total			177,058	500,000	44,200	191,000	210,200			280,000	1,265,000	1,260,000	3,927,458
GRAND TOTAL			432,358	500,000	44,200	191,000	210,200			280,000	1,265,000	1,260,000	4,182,758

Capital Improvement Plan
North St Paul, Minnesota

2024 *thru* 2033

Project #	PARK-23-010
Project Name	Hause Park Tennis Court Rehab, Walkway and Trails

Department	Community Development
Contact	Community Development Director
Type	Maintenance
Useful Life	15
Category	Parks, Playgrounds, Paths, Open Space
Priority	1 Critical

Description
Replace existing tennis court with pickleball courts and install new ADA-compliant walkways to the courts and existing playground, open air shelter, and indoor pavilion.
Justification
The project will replace a dilapidated and undersized single tennis court with four pickleball courts that will better serve area demographics and recreational demand. Hause Park currently lacks accessible connections to recreation amenities. The project will provide ADA-compliant sidewalk connections from Charles Street to the courts, playground, open-air shelter, and indoor pavilion. The project was recommended and prioritized in the 2020 Park Improvement Plan.

Expenditures	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
Construction	462,250										462,250
Total	462,250										462,250
Funding Sources	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
063 Park Fund	12,558										12,558
Grant Funding	194,392										194,392
034 Park Dedication Fund	255,300										255,300
Total	462,250										462,250

Capital Improvement Plan

2024 thru 2033

North St Paul, Minnesota

Project #

PARK-23-004

Project Name

McKnight Fields Master Planning

Department

Parks and Recreation

Contact

Community Development Director

Type

Plan/Study

Useful Life

Category

Parks, Playgrounds, Paths, Open Space

Priority

1 Critical

Description

Prepare a master plan for McKnight Fields to evaluate existing conditions, identify community recreational needs for this site, and recommend future improvements and associated cost estimates.

Justification

The 2020 Park Improvement Plan recommends recommended a master plan be completed to include a thorough assessment of the age and condition of existing buildings and amenities to fully understand the replacement needs. The planning process should consider potential additional amenities that may be appropriate to add at this site, as well as potential reconfiguration of some of the amenities for improved access, circulation and programmed usage. A corresponding estimate of probable costs for the improvements should be prepared in order to adequately budget for improvements.

Expenditures	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
Professional Services	60,000										60,000
Total	60,000										60,000

Funding Sources	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
063 Park Fund	60,000										60,000
Total	60,000										60,000

Capital Improvement Plan
North St Paul, Minnesota

2024 *thru* 2033

Project #PARK-23-014

Project NameCasey Lake Hockey Rink Replacement

DepartmentCommunity Development

ContactCommunity Development Director

TypeReplacement

Useful Life20

CategoryParks, Playgrounds, Paths, Open Space

Priority5 Future Consideration

Description

Replace and relocate the hockey rink closer to the eastern parking lot.

Justification

The hockey rink has poor orientation and is in poor condition and a long distance from any parking. The PIP recommends this as a short term project to be completed within 1-5 years (from 2022).

Expenditures	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
Construction					210,200						210,200
Total					210,200						210,200

Funding Sources	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
063 Park Fund					210,200						210,200
Total					210,200						210,200

Capital Improvement Plan

North St Paul, Minnesota

2024 *thru* 2033

Project #	PARK-23-015
Project Name	Casey Lake Open Air Shelter

Department	Community Development
Contact	Community Development Director
Type	Replacement
Useful Life	20
Category	Parks, Playgrounds, Paths, Open Space
Priority	5 Future Consideration

Description	
Rebuild an existing shelter that is past its useful life.	
Justification	
Shelter is in past its useful life.	

Expenditures	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
Construction			44,200								44,200
Total			44,200								44,200
Funding Sources	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
063 Park Fund			44,200								44,200
Total			44,200								44,200

Capital Improvement Plan
North St Paul, Minnesota

2024 *thru* 2033

Project #	PARK-23-017
Project Name	Downtown Park Master Plan (2475 7th Ave E)

Department	Parks and Recreation
Contact	Community Development Director
Type	Plan/Study
Useful Life	
Category	Parks, Playgrounds, Paths, Open Space
Priority	3 Important

Description	
Prepare a master plan to install amenities at the city-owned lot in the downtown located at 2475 7th Avenue East. Per the 2022 Park Improvement Plan, park improvements at this location may include public art, playground, and/or a gathering place.	
Justification	
This location is in close proximity to many new downtown residents that don't presently have access to a neighborhood park. This park can serve as a dual/function for the city--provide recreational space for the city and be a welcoming gateway to the downtown.	

Expenditures	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
Construction	32,900										32,900
Total	32,900										32,900
Funding Sources	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
063 Park Fund	32,900										32,900
Total	32,900										32,900

Capital Improvement Plan
North St Paul, Minnesota

2024 thru 2033

Project #

PARK-23-018

Project Name

Polar Park Improvements

Department

Community Development

Contact

Community Development Director

Type

Replacement

Useful Life

15

Category

Parks, Playgrounds, Paths, Open Space

Priority

5 Future Consideration

Description

The PIP recommends an internal trail loop, expanded playground equipment, and new site furnishings including benches, picnic tables, grills, and bike racks.

Justification

Project recommended by the PIP.

Expenditures	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
Construction				191,000							191,000
Total				191,000							191,000

Funding Sources	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
063 Park Fund				191,000							191,000
Total				191,000							191,000

Capital Improvement Plan
North St Paul, Minnesota

2024 thru 2033

Project #	PARK-23-020
Project Name	Northwood Improvements

Department	Community Development
Contact	Community Development Director
Type	Maintenance
Useful Life	25
Category	Parks, Playgrounds, Paths, Open Space
Priority	5 Future Consideration

Description
The PIP recommends the following improvements to Northwood Park: replace hockey rink boards, replace warming house, replace open air shelter, replace basketball hoops, install gaga pit, and replace tables, grills, and benches.
Justification
The park shelter was built in 1980 and is at the end of its useful life. The basketball court is in poor condition. The warming house is at the end of its useful life.

Expenditures	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
Construction								280,000	1,265,000	1,260,000	2,805,000
Total								280,000	1,265,000	1,260,000	2,805,000
Funding Sources	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
063 Park Fund								280,000	1,265,000	1,260,000	2,805,000
Total								280,000	1,265,000	1,260,000	2,805,000

Capital Improvement Plan
North St Paul, Minnesota

2024 thru 2033

Project #	PARK-24-001
Project Name	West End Passive Park

Department	Community Development
Contact	Community Development Director
Type	New/Expansion
Useful Life	20
Category	Parks, Playgrounds, Paths, Open Space
Priority	2 Very Important

Description	Total Cost \$40,000
Develop a passive park on city-owned property along the east side of 3rd Street between 7th Avenue and the Gateway State Trail. The site is narrow, sloped, and wooded, which makes redevelopment less feasible. A small, minimally developed natural area is proposed that could include walking path connectivity to the townhome residences to the west and the neighborhood to the east. small, nature-focused play area might be included to provide safe and convenient play place for nearby residents.	
Justification	
Passive open space recommended in the Redevelopment Master Plan to serve new residents at M&I Townhomes, Anchor View Apartments, and existing residents in the vicinity.	

Expenditures	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
Construction	30,000										30,000
Professional Services	10,000										10,000
Total	40,000										40,000
Funding Sources	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
063 Park Fund	40,000										40,000
Total	40,000										40,000

Capital Improvement Plan
North St Paul, Minnesota

2024 thru 2033

Project #

PAVE-23-020

Project Name

Casey Lake Parking Lot

Department

Street Maintenance

Contact

Public Works Director

Type

Maintenance

Useful Life

10

Category

Pavement Preservation

Priority

3 Important

Description

Mill & overlay is a street maintenance technique that requires the removal of the top layer (2") of a street by the grinding action of a large milling machine. After the top layer is removed, a new layer of bituminous pavement is put in its place.

Justification

It is recommended that you mill and overlay a parking lot every 15-20 years to improve its longevity.

Expenditures	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
Construction	31,600										31,600
Total	31,600										31,600

Funding Sources	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
063 Park Fund	31,600										31,600
Total	31,600										31,600

Capital Improvement Plan
North St Paul, Minnesota

2024 thru 2033

Project #

PAVE-23-021

Project Name

McKnight Field Parking Lot

Department

Street Maintenance

Contact

Public Works Director

Type

Maintenance

Useful Life

10

Category

Pavement Preservation

Priority

3 Important

Description

Mill & overlay is a street maintenance technique that requires the removal of the top layer (2") of a street by the grinding action of a large milling machine. After the top layer is removed, a new layer of bituminous pavement is put in its place.

Justification

It is recommended that you mill and overlay a parking lot every 15-20 years to improve its longevity.

Expenditures	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
Construction		500,000									500,000
Total		500,000									500,000

Funding Sources	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	Total
063 Park Fund		500,000									500,000
Total		500,000									500,000



To	Date
Parks & Recreation Commissioners	October 25, 2023

Agenda Placement # VII.B

Reports from Staff

Subject

Park and Open Space Plan

Background/Facts

Staff has been working over the summer to collect background data and survey results for the Park and Open Space Master Plan. The first chapters have been prepared for review by the PRC (see enclosed).

Recommended Action

N/A

Attachments

1. Park Master Plan_DRAFT_10-25-2023
2. Survey Summary

Respectfully submitted,

City of North St. Paul

Parks Open Space Master Plan

Draft: October 2023



Acknowledgements

City Council

John Monge, Mayor
Tim Cole, Council Member
Jason Nordby, Council Member
Cassidy Schweer, Council Member
Lisa Wong, Council Member

Parks and Recreation Commission

Lloyd Grachek, Chair
Laura Greenlee-Karp, Vice Chair
Arthur Alvarez, Commissioner
Ingrid Koller, Commissioner
Sue Springborn, Commissioner
Sarah Zahradka, Commissioner
Cassidy Schweer, Council Representative

Community Development Staff

Brandy Howe, Community Development Director
Jill Officer, Parks and Recreation Commission Liaison

01

INTRODUCTION

SECTION CONTENTS

- » Introduction
- » Plan Purpose
- » Related Planning Efforts
- » Role of Parks and Recreation Commission
- » Vision and Guiding Principals

INTRODUCTION

North St. Paul is located on the east side of Ramsey County in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Our fully built-out community occupies just 3.1 square miles but enjoys 146 acres of parks and open space, including three nature preserves and two recreational lakes. Parks contribute to our community's quality of life by providing residents and visitors numerous recreational opportunities as well as land and water to enjoy nature.

North St. Paul is an evolving city, with an increasingly dense and diverse population of people from different backgrounds and countries. As density increases, so does demand on the park system. This 2023 plan looks to determine if the system adequately provides for North St. Paul's diverse and growing population and to identify how to equitably and thoughtfully apply its resources to provide quality park access for all residents wishing to utilize the park system.

PLAN PURPOSE

A park and open space master plan lays out an organizational framework for improving parks and recreation facilities to better serve the public. If referred to regularly by staff and officials, it helps ensure the City responsibly manages its park system. Specifically, this plan is intended to:

- Offer guiding principles, recommendations, priorities to ensure our park system is relevant and functional into the future.
- Outline recommendations based on community input as well as analyses of demographic changes, future trends and the City's current park system.
- Provide guidance and rationale for capital improvement planning for our parks.
- Be a 10-year road map for the maintenance and improvement of our parks and open spaces to meet the needs of the City's growing and changing population.

Additionally, completion of this report improves the city's ability to qualify for key funding opportunities, such as DNR grant funding available from the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF).

Our Promise

As citizens and customers, our residents deserve the best possible service, programs, and facilities. We, the North St. Paul Parks and Recreation Commission, promise to do everything within our duties to cheerfully and respectfully serve you by providing clean, safe facilities; enjoyable, safe programs; and timely and effective services, which includes listening and responding to your suggestions and concerns.

RELATED PLANNING EFFORTS

This document incorporates and refines the park and recreation-related findings and recommendations presented in the 2022 Park Improvement Plan, 2040 Comprehensive Plan, and other city-approved planning documents. Key plans, reports, and surveys that helped inform and guide the development of this plan include:

- » 2040 North St. Paul Comprehensive Plan
- » 2022 Park Improvement Plan
- » 2022 Redevelopment Master Plan
- » 2022 Housing Needs Assessment
- » 2018 ADA Transition Plan
- » 2011 Living Streets Plan
- » Bike North St. Paul (date unknown)
- » Ramsey County Parks & Recreation System Plan, 2018
- » Minnesota Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2020-2024



Why Plan?

One of the key reasons for a park and open space plan is to take a critical look at facilities and services and ask hard questions about performance.

- *Are they still relevant?*
- *Are they meeting the needs and priorities of the community?*
- *Is the city investing an appropriate level of resources into them?*

Addressing these questions can ensure the City can responsibly and equitably appropriate resources to ensure our parks continue to improve the quality of life in North St. Paul.



VALUE OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Residents and visitors value our parks and trails for many reasons: to walk a dog, ride a bicycle, play sports, or engage in a wide variety of other recreational activities. These activities lead to health benefits by providing contact with nature, opportunities for physical activity, and social interaction. Open space areas also offer habitat for wildlife and absorb stormwater runoff. A well-designed and maintained park system contributes to quality of life for residents. It can also increase property values in the community and enhances the City's ability to attract new residents and foster economic development.

ROLE OF THE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

The North St. Paul Parks and Recreation Commission was established in 1978 in recognition of the importance of adequate, useful and attractive parks, open spaces, trails and to promote public health and active living, provide for leisure activities, maintain property values and sustain a high quality of life in the community. The Parks and Recreation Commission is a seven-member commission that serves in an advisory capacity to the City Council. The duties of the Parks and Recreation Commission are to:

- » Prepare operating policies and procedures for use of parks.
- » Give due regard to the city's Comprehensive Plan as it relates to parks, open space and trails in its recommendations to City Council.
- » Make recommendations to City Council related to parkland dedications, recreation programming, and park and trail improvements.

This Commission welcomes comments, recommendations and input from the community to help maintain and improve our park facilities.

VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPALS

The Parks and Recreation Commission's vision is to:

- » Enhance and expand the parks, trails, and open space system to ensure that all have access to quality community facilities.
- » Protect and enhance the lakes, wetlands, woods and wildlife, and promote actions, practices and developments which will sustain the environment. Become more resilient to climate change through climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- » Promote community stewardship through an involved and informed citizenry.
- » Achieve a functional, aesthetic, and balanced park system that includes pedestrian-friendly sidewalks and trails, local streets, collectors, arterials, a freeway, and transit.



02

OUR COMMUNITY

SECTION CONTENTS

- » Our City
- » Demographics
 - Population
 - Households
 - Age
 - Race
 - Income and Poverty
- » Housing Development Trends

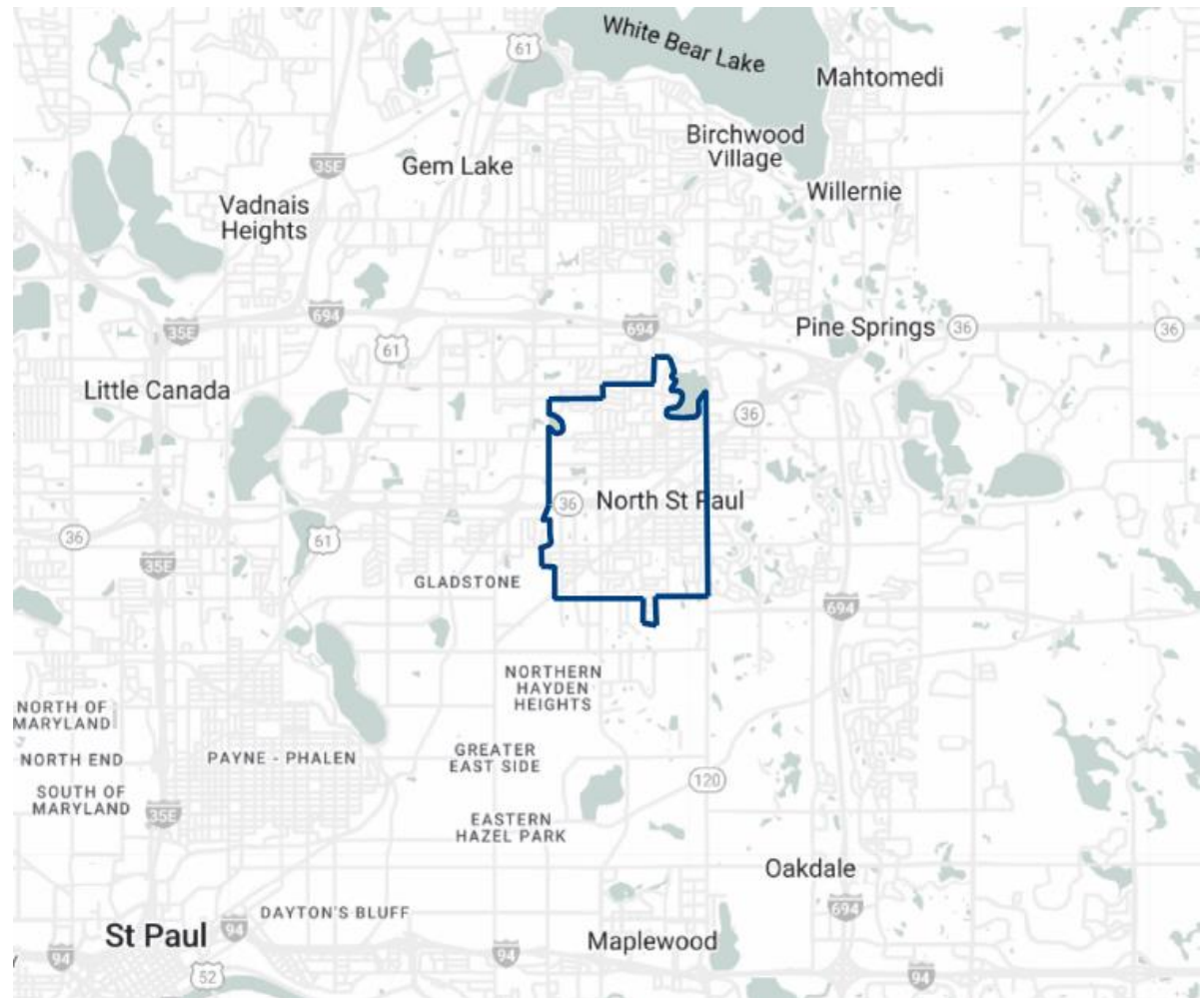
OUR CITY

North St. Paul is a city of 3.1 square miles located on the near east side in the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

It is different from its neighboring suburbs that are composed primarily of new developments. North St. Paul is a distinct city with a history as a small industrial village that is now fully built out. The City is known for its industrial and blue-collar roots, but also its abundance of parks, schools, and churches for a city of its size, as well its distinct downtown.

As a community, North St. Paul seeks to become more “urban.” By investing in progressive infrastructure improvements and more compact development, it will strive to preserve its small-town character while ensuring that future projects adhere to a quality design standard and aesthetic character.

North St. Paul is a town with a great quality of life that embraces its small-town character while recognizing its place in the larger region.



» Regional Proximity

Situated on the near east side in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, North St. Paul is connected to the thriving metropolitan region, and appreciates how this enhances residents' access to a diversity of jobs, cultural and recreational opportunities, quality health care, and higher education opportunities.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Any discussion about park planning must be based on an understanding of the community that the system serves. The following pages examine demographic data of the City.

Population

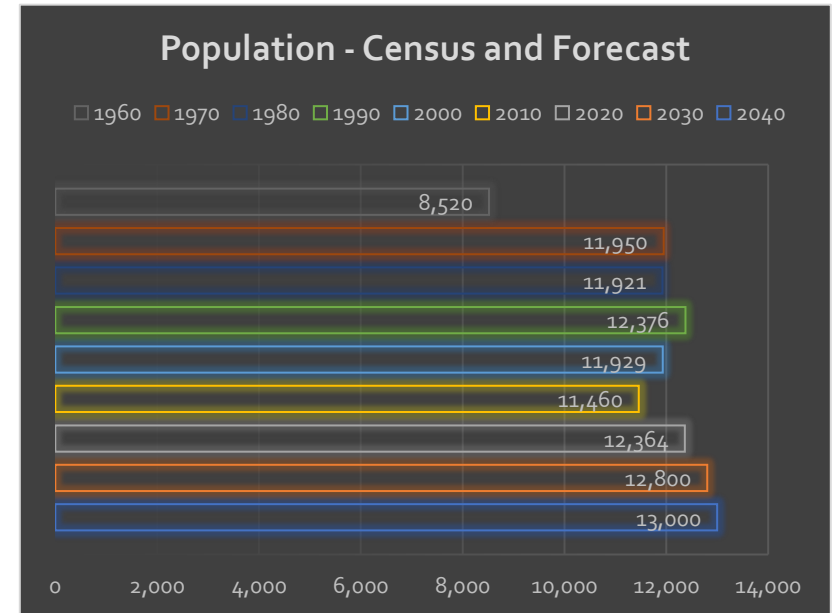
As of the 2020 Census, the City's population was 12,800. North St. Paul's population has remained relatively steady since 1970, and, according to the Metropolitan Council, the population is expected to remain steady with only a slight increase by the year 2040. These trends may relate to the built-out nature of the City of North St. Paul; however, numerous larger-scale multifamily redevelopments have occurred and continue to occur in the City's core that may increase North St. Paul's population beyond that which is forecast to occur.

Households

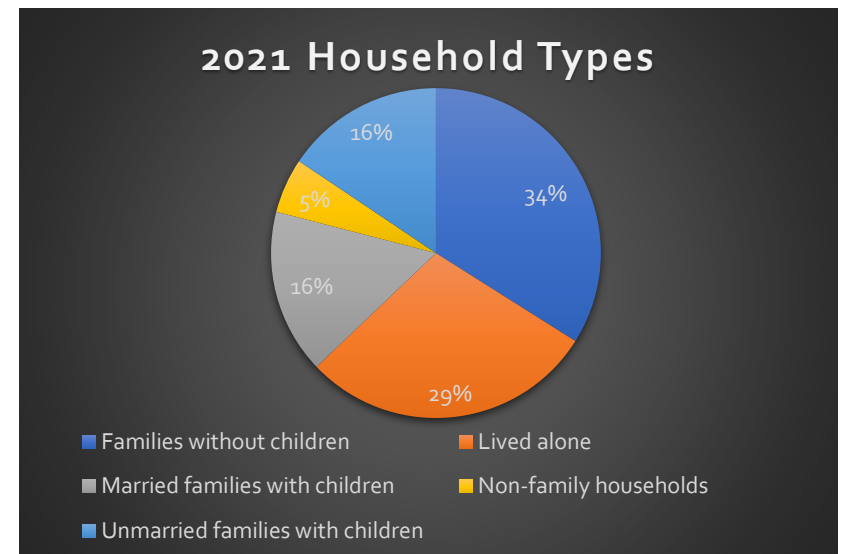
There are 4,593 households in North St. Paul with an average household size of 2.68. Of the total households, 32% are families (married or unmarried) with children; 34% are families without children; 29% live alone; and 5% are nonfamily households (living arrangements with unrelated people). This means that nearly one third of the City's households have children under 18.

Educational Attainment

In 2021, 90% of North St. Paul residents 25 and older have a high school diploma or higher; 27% have a bachelor's degree or higher; and over 5% a graduate or professional degree. Comparatively, 91% of Ramsey County residents have earned high school diploma or higher and 44% have a bachelor's degree or higher.



Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Metropolitan Council projections



Data Source: American Community Survey, 2021

Age Characteristics

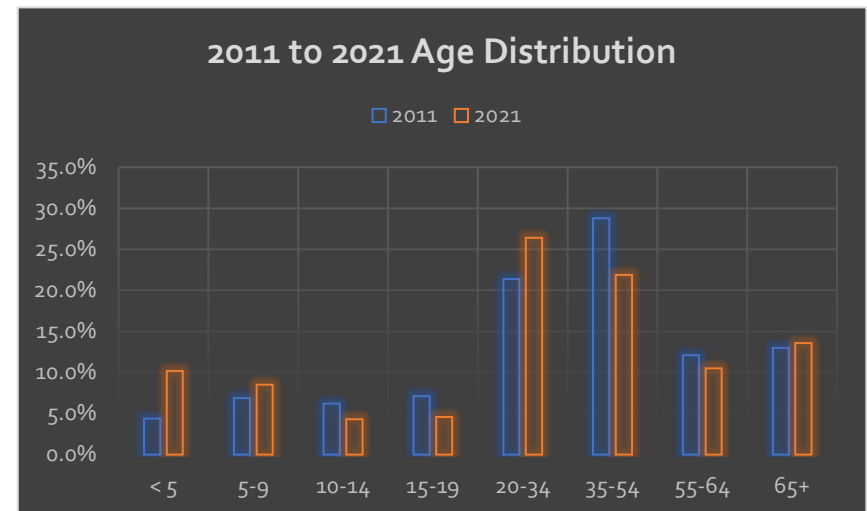
While there is a significant share of older residents in the city, North St. Paul's population is becoming younger overall. Between 2011 and 2021, the share of those aged 19 and below increased by 3%, whereas the 55+ population decreased by 1% during the same period. Presently the largest demographic is those aged 25-34, who are in their child rearing years, which suggests another period for growth in the younger demographic for the next 10+ years to come.

Age is a factor that comes into play when planning for recreational spaces. Senior users may desire facilities that facilitate social interaction or provide physical support, such as benches or wheelchair accessibility. Similarly, small children have much different needs than even elementary school aged children or those in middle or high school.

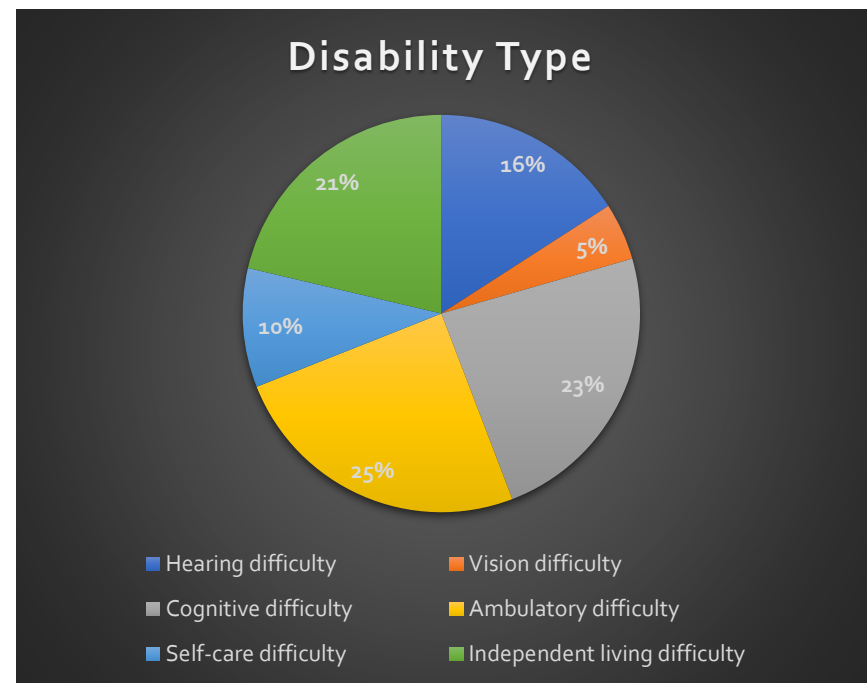
Disability Characteristics

Approximately 13% of North St. Paul's population reported a disability in the American Community Survey. Comparatively, 12.9% of Ramsey County residents reported a disability. According to the Census Bureau, disabilities range from ambulatory (difficulty walking or climbing stairs), hearing, and vision to independent living and cognitive difficulties.

As this plan is developed, the needs of all residents should be considered and planned for. Universal-design is intended to make public spaces truly public by providing equal opportunity not only for persons with disabilities, but a variety of situations, such as a parent pushing a stroller, a person on crutches, a person with arthritic knees.



Data Source: American Community Survey, 2021



Data Source: American Community Survey, 2021

Income and Poverty

North St. Paul's median household income is \$71,528. In comparison, the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area median household income is \$80,485 and the average median household income of Ramsey County is \$70,518. The poverty rate in North St. Paul is 9.4%, which is comparable to the state at 9.3%, but lower than the national poverty rate of 15.4%. Consideration of how well our City's parks and recreation system serves residents with limited incomes will be an important consideration when developing the system implementation plan.

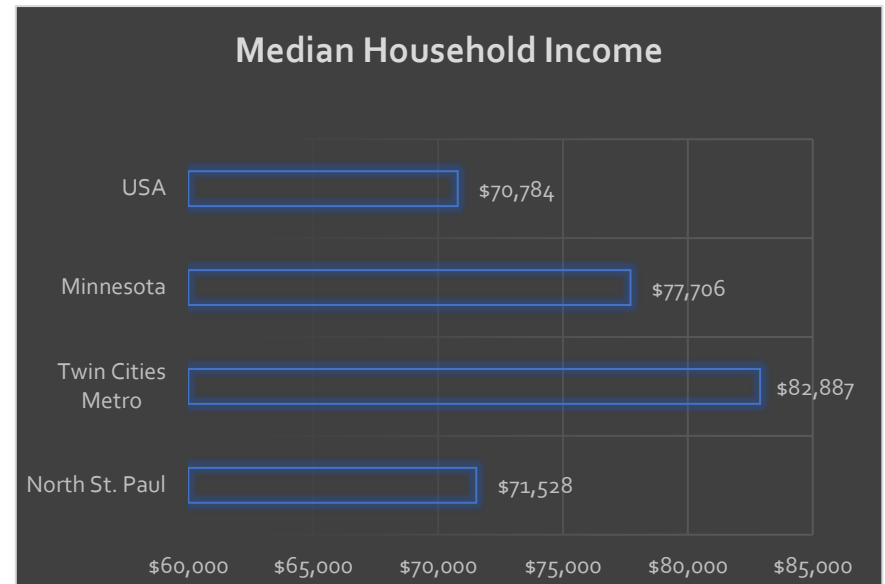
Race Characteristics

North St. Paul's population is also becoming increasingly more diverse. In 2010, white residents accounted for 81% of the City's population. In 2020, the white residents account for 64% population, Asians are 15%, and African American's are 10% of North St. Paul's residents.

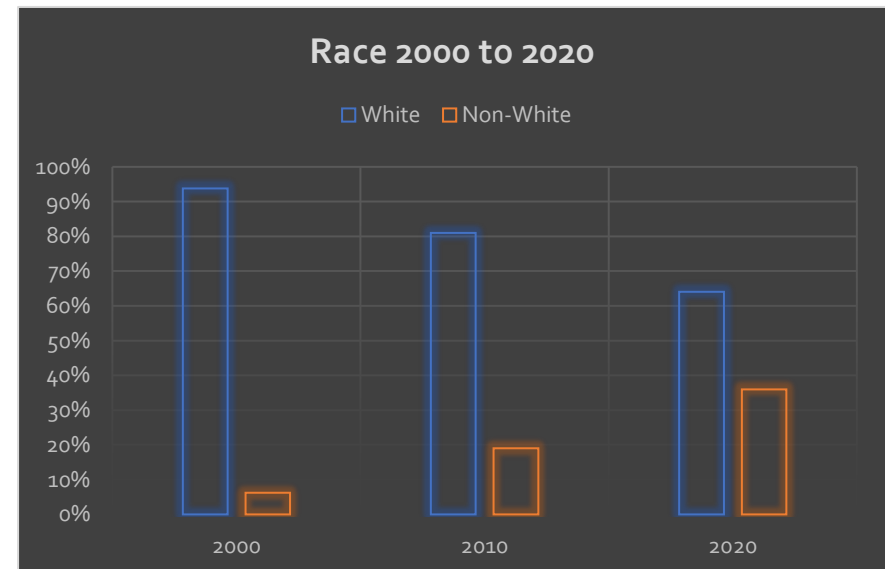
School District 622, which serves 10,770 students in grades K-12 in the cities of North St. Paul, Maplewood, and Oakdale, is also very diverse. Diverse student populations make up about 60% of the student body. At least 57 different languages are spoken by ISD-622 students and their families. English, Hmong, Spanish, and Somali are some of the most frequently spoken languages.¹

These demographic changes may require a shift in how parks are planned and programmed.

¹Minnesota Department of Education, ISD-622 District Demographics.



Data Source: American Community Survey, 2021



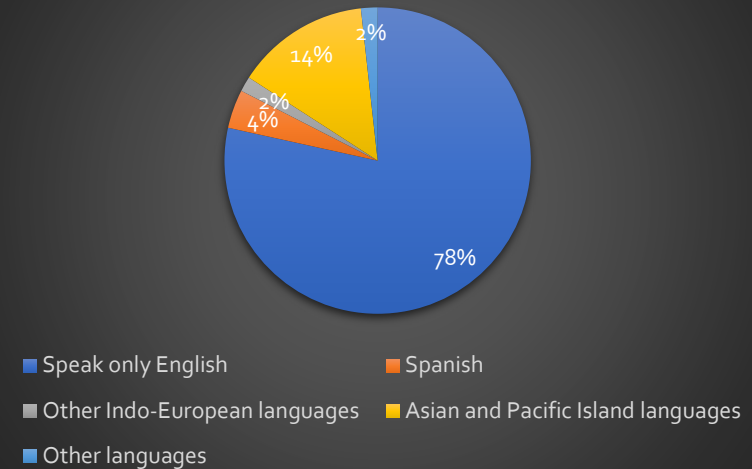
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census

Language and Nationality

While the majority (78%) of North St. Paul residents speak English as their first language, 22% of households speak a language other than English at home. Nearly 12% of North St. Paul's overall population is foreign born. Of these, 59% were born in Asia, 20% from Africa, 19% from South and Latin America, 2% from Oceania, and less than 1% from Eastern Europe. Immigrants are bringing a variety of new traditions from across the world into our City and neighborhoods.

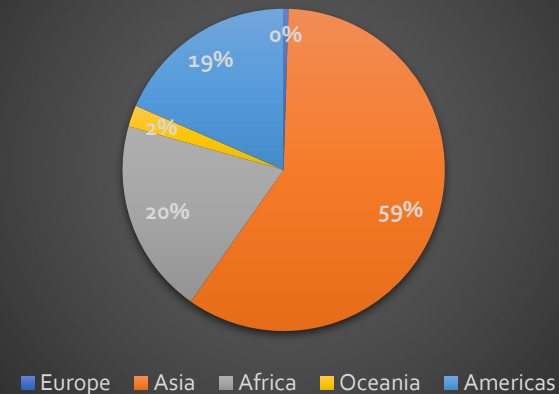
Europe	Romania	7
Asia	China	64
	Japan	9
	Korea	8
	Burma	40
	Laos	351
	Philippines	11
	Thailand	180
	Vietnam	193
Africa	Ethiopia	106
	Kenya	21
	Cameroon	37
	Other East Africa	10
	Morocco	1
	Sudan	13
	Liberia	36
	Nigeria	59
Oceania	Australian and New Zealand Subregion	31
Americas	Belize	145
	Guatemala	20
	Mexico	102

Languages Spoken at Home



Data Source: American Community Survey, 2021

Place of Birth



Data Source: American Community Survey, 2021



HOUSING DEVELOPMENT TRENDS

In a city of only 3.1 square miles, there is a premium on maintaining the parks and open space areas. While our city isn't growing, the population is expanding which has a profound impact on our parks and ability to provide quality recreational amenities.

Recent Development

There has been a significant amount of investment and redevelopment in North St. Paul over the past ten years, particularly in the area closest to the downtown. The projects listed below have contributed an additional 563 new dwelling units since 2015. Each of these new dwelling units places an increased demand on the City's park and recreational system.

- » Polar Ridge senior living facility was completed in 2015. The facility has 39 units of senior independent living, 54 units of senior assisted living and 21 units of memory care.
- » Suite Living senior facility opened in 2020 with 18-units of senior assisted living and 14-units of memory care.
- » In 2021, M&I Homes completed construction of Gateway at McKnight, a 100-unit townhome neighborhood with direct access to the Gateway Trail and walking distance to downtown amenities.
- » The 128-unit Anchor View Apartments, 20% of its units contribute to the city's affordable housing stock, was constructed in the site formerly known as Anchor Block in 2021.
- » The three-story Sentinel Building was constructed on the former City Hall site and adjoining parcels in 2022. This structure is an 89-unit, market-rate apartment building on a prominent corner in the downtown.
- » Construction of the last of the 18 new townhomes were completed on 7th Street and Kari Lane as of 2024.

- » Most recently, construction has begun on the redevelopment of the former Lillie Newspaper site and adjoining parcels with an 82-unit, market rate apartment building.

Housing Forecast

In 2022, the City of North St. Paul engaged Maxfield Research and Consulting, LLC to prepare a housing study that calculated the anticipated housing demand to occur between 2022 and 2030 for the following products. Several construction projects have been initiated since the completion of that study. The remaining demand is shown based on permits pulled or development approvals.

	2022-2030	2022-2023	
	DEMAND	Planned/Built	DEMAND
PRODUCT	No. Units	No. Units	No. Units
Market rate rental	455	82	373
Affordable rental (60-80% AMI)	164	0	164
Subsidized rental	36	0	36
For sale single family	57	17	40
For sale multifamily	243	0	243
Senior			
Active adult ownership	62	0	62
Active adult rental	105	0	105
Active adult affordable	78	0	78
Independent living	64	0	64
Assisted living	36	0	36
Memory care	24	0	24



Sentinel Apartments



Suite Living Senior Care

Key Findings

- North St. Paul provides 12 parks/open space areas in a city of just 3.1 square miles.
- The City's population is stable, but growing slowly. It is also becoming increasingly more diverse. Understanding what residents value and consider to be quality of life amenities should be a key factor in park planning.
- A third of the City's households have children, but there is also a growing senior population as those aged 35-54 transition to the next demographic category. Parks need to be accessible to all residents and contain amenities of interest to various age groups.
- The City's median income is comparatively lower than the Twin Cities metropolitan area as well as the state of MN. This plan must consider how to provide a park system to serve all residents, particularly those that most need access to outdoor recreation.
- Almost 12 percent of the City's population is foreign born, bringing in cultures and traditions from 21 countries and five continents. Again, consider how our changing demographics will influence park planning.
- Approximately 13% of North St. Paul's population reported a disability, such as ambulatory (difficulty walking or climbing stairs), hearing, and vision to independent living and cognitive difficulties. Work toward including universal-design in all parks—meaning facilities that are intended to make public spaces truly public.

03

OUR PARKS AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEM

SECTION CONTENTS

- » Park Inventory
- » Community Parks
- » Neighborhood Parks
- » Nature Preserves
- » Trails
- » Other Park Systems

PARK INVENTORY

The following chart presents and inventory of the total acreage and existing amenities and facilities at each of North St. Paul's parks and open space areas.

	ACRES	UNDEVELOPED	BALLFIELDS	BASKETBALL	BEACH	BIKE FIX-IT STATION	BOCCEBALL	CANOE STORAGE	EXERCISE EQUIPMENT	FISHING PIER	GRILL	HOCKEY RINK	ICE RINK	NATURAL AREAS	PICKLEBALL/TENNIS	PICNIC TABLES	PLAYGROUND	PUBLIC RESTROOM	SAND VOLLEYBALL	SHELTER (ENCLOSED)	SHELTER (OPEN AIR)	VETERAN'S MEMORIAL	WALKING TRAILS
CENTRAL PARK	0.2	x																					
COUNTRY CLUB PARK	0.2	x																					
DOWNTOWN LOT	0.3	x																					
COLBY HILLS	0.5										x					x	x				x		
DOROTHY PARK	0.9							x								x	x						
HAUSE PARK	2.1		x	x							x				x	x	x			x	x		
NORTHWOOD PARK	5.6		x	x							x	x	x			x	x				x		
POLAR PARK	2.3										x						x						
TOWER PARK	2.2			x							x					x	x		x		x		x
CASEY LAKE PARK	42.1		x							x	x	x				x	x		x	x			x
MCKNIGHT FIELDS	14.9		x												x						x		
SILVER LAKE	5.3				x					x	x				x	x	x		x		x		
ROTARY PARK	2.8					x										x		x			x		x
SOUTHWOOD	28.0													x		x							x
ENVIRO. LEARNING	13.8	x																					
URBAN ECOLOGY CENTER	24.3													x									x
VETERAN'S MEMORIAL	0.6																					x	
TOTAL ACRES	146.2																						

COMMUNITY PARKS

Casey Lake Park 2089 17th Avenue E

Casey Lake is a 42-acre community park established in 1960. Casey Lake Park boasts a highly scenic natural setting along Casey Lake and was ranked as the favorite of all North St. Paul parks in an online survey in 2023.

Casey Lake is the City's largest park. The park has a variety of active and passive outdoor recreation amenities as well as an abundance of open space and natural areas. Amenities include a fishing pier, grills picnic tables, four ballfields, hockey rink, sand volleyball, open air shelters, and a half mile of walking trail around the lake. Additionally, the park features an indoor park pavilion, the Fire Department's Booya building, and "Janie's Playground," a whimsical playground area named in honor of 18-month old Janie Zahradka who loved going to the park with her parents.

"I think Casey Lake Park is a prime example of a wonderful park. It has so much to offer and is cared for so well."

~North St. Paul resident



Casey Lake Pavilion



Janie's Playground

AMENITY	DESCRIPTION	CONDITION	IMPROVEMENT SCHEDULE
Aeration system	Installed in 2013	Condition?	
Ballfields	» Field 1, Lower Casey Field¹, is a youth baseball field with 70' bases and a 50' pitching rubber. Field 1 features fencing, backstop, bleachers, and a dugout. Field 1 also has night lighting upon reservation. » Field 2, Upper Casey Field, is a youth baseball field with 60' bases and 50' pitching rubber. Field 2 features fencing, backstop, and bleachers. » Field 3, Middle Casey Field, is a youth baseball field with 65' bases and 50' pitching rubber » Field 4 is a softball field with throw down bases and either 38' or 50' pitching rubber.	» In 2017, the Minnesota Twins donated \$25,000 toward improvements to Field 1. » What was improved? » Current condition of other fields?	
Booya Building	» In 1981, the North St. Paul Fire Department and North St. Paul Athletic Association built the Booya and storage building. With volunteer help and funding from the two groups, the building was completed and given to the City with a 99-year lease issued to each group for their respective parts of the building. » The Booya building was renovated in 2016. » This building hosts a variety of events including the annual firefighter's Booya. » The NSPAA still uses the building for equipment storage.	Condition?	
Fishing Pier	The fishing pier was installed in 2015.	Condition?	Plan for replacement by 2040.
Hockey Rink	The hockey rink has poor orientation (what does this mean?) and is in poor condition. What's the issue with it?	Condition?	
Park Sign	A new monument park sign installed in 2023. The electronic message monument sign installed at the 17 th Avenue park entrance in 2018.		» Nonelectric monument sign has a 10-year warranty; the anticipated replacement schedule is 15-20 years. » Electronic
Pavilion	The indoor pavilion was rebuilt in 2016. This ADA-accessible building features a catering kitchen, indoor seating for 120, outdoor picnic tables, restrooms, and Wi-Fi. The pavilion is reservable for residents and nonresidents.	Condition?	
Picnic Area(s)	Numerous picnic tables and grills are located within the park.	Condition?	

AMENITY	DESCRIPTION	CONDITION	IMPROVEMENT SCHEDULE
Playgrounds	» Janie's Playground is located on the south side of the park next to the Pavilion and south parking area. This playground was constructed in 2014. » The Upper Playground is located on the northeast side of Casey Lake Park and can be accessed via Shawnee Drive as well as the walking trail. This playground was installed in 20##.	Condition?	» Commercial grade playgrounds can last 15-20 years. » Plan to update Janie's playground between 2029 and 2034. » Plan to update the Upper Playground between ## and ##.
Walking Trail	A 1-mile asphalt walking trail meanders through the park was constructed in 1989. The Public Works Department resurfaced half of the trail in 2023.	The Public Works Department replaced approximately ½ mile of this trail in 2023. The remainder is planned for replacement in 2024.	Once reconstruction is completed, the trail will last ## years.

¹Also known as Jerry Bell Field, a lifelong North St. Paul resident and former President of the Minnesota Twins Baseball Club.



Casey Lake paved trail



Casey Lake Field No. ##?

Casey Lake Park Issues

- » Field 3 is located opposite of and overlapping with Field 4. When one field is in use, the other cannot be used for play. At time of further improvements to Fields 3 & 4, the infields could be relocated for optimal orientation for play.
- » Lots of trash at Hause park.
- » Hornet's nest in play equipment last year at Casey Lake.
- » Parties at Casey Lake Park can get out of hand. Pot smoking, drinking, and trash all over parking lot and no police presence.
- » Improved maintenance of paths and eliminating weeds from Casey Lake.
- » The lake - invasive cattails and weeds - continues to be a concern (moving toward becoming a swamp).
- » More native plants and a fix for the green algae on Casey Lake. I know it is not dangerous but it has ruined the look of our park.
- » The Casey entrance off McKnight literally has drug deals several times a week. Silver Lake feels unsafe after 6pm which is still quite early. That's just a few examples.
- » The surface weeds in Casey Lake are unsightly and the lake level is too low to permit weed harvesting. Raise the lake level.

Casey Lake Park Opportunities

- » The hockey rink could be moved closer to the eastern parking lot in order to orient the rink north-south and improve proximity to parking.
- » Add warming house building with restrooms and open-air shelter.
- » Pave the rink to allow for multiple year-round uses.
- » A new playground or natural play features could be relocated in the center near the ballfields for better proximity to the ballfield users.
- » Add one or two picnic shelters near the relocated playground and ballfields.
- » Develop cross-country ski trails.
- » Add new exercise equipment along trails.
- » safety fence to block kids from road (Casey lake).
- » New playground area at northwest Casey Lake Park where the old "jungle gym" was taken out.
- » Put the park in Casey park or another area where it is most used.

Casey Lake

According to Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District (RWMWD) the 11-acre Casey Lake is the headwaters of Kohlman Creek and therefore the headwaters of the Phalen Chain of Lakes. Nearly half of its shores are located within Casey Lake Park.

In 2007, the City of North St. Paul realigned the walking path to expand the shoreline buffer and approached the RWMWD for assistance with ecological restoration along 900 feet of shoreline to reduce shoreline erosion, improve water quality, increase habitat value, create water access, and enhance the overall health of the Casey Lake ecosystem. To achieve this, RWMWD opted to introduce a wide variety of native grasses, sedges, and wildflowers to stabilize the shoreline and add aesthetic appeal throughout the year.

In 2013, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources partnered with the City and RWMWD to restore Casey Lake and to help intercept nutrients in runoff before they enter the lake. Also, in 2013, a pond draw-down killed all of the invasive carp in Casey Lake. The reduction of carp caused a dramatic improvement in water clarity. In the spring of 2013, the DNR stocked bluegills and bass in Casey Lake to keep carp levels low and improve the fishery. An aeration system has been installed to keep native game fish alive over the winter months when oxygen in the water can reach critically low levels.

In 2021, RWMWD harvested aquatic plants to continue to maintain a healthy water quality. Notably, duckweed is not one of the plants that is harvested because it does not have a negative impact on water quality.



Casey Lake and fishing pier



Casey Lake restored shoreland

Silver Lake Park

2601 19th Avenue E.

Silver Lake Park is the 2nd most favorite and 2nd most frequented park in North St. Paul. This park is located on the south end of Silver Lake on land originally donated by Henry Castle in 1889. The land donation stipulates that it only used used for public park facilities, which assures that this park will continue to be a feature amenity for residents into the future.

Silver Lake Park is a linear park with a variety of recreation amenities including picnic spaces and a very popular swimming beach. This 5.3-acre park features also features a large playground area, tennis/pickleball courts, sand volleyball court, restroom and shower facility, walking path, and an open-air shelter.

Silver Lake Park has an accessible fishing pier that is sponsored by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. The City has worked with the MN DNR to help provide native landscapes to improve water quality and enhance the overall appearance of the park for visitors.



AMENITY	DESCRIPTION	CONDITION	IMPROVEMENT SCHEDULE
Beach	No lifeguards are on duty at the beach; however, this was a service provided by the City until [REDACTED].	Condition?	
Fishing Pier	First fishing pier built in 1987 on the south side of the lake. It was reconstructed at its current location in 2014.	Condition?	
Park Sign	New park sign installed in 2023		
Picnic Area(s)	Grills and picnic tables are located throughout the park.	Condition?	
Pickleball/ Tennis Courts	Tennis courts were installed in the 1970s. A pickleball overlay was painted onto the courts in 20##.	Condition?	
Playground	The playground equipment on the east side of the park was installed in 2006. The west side playground equipment was installed in 2015.	Condition?	
Public Restroom	The restroom building was constructed in ####. The building was repainted and a mural was painted on three sides in 2023 (muralist Taylor Berman). There are also port-a-potties located within the park.	Condition?	
Sand Volleyball	A sand volleyball court is located on the east side of the park.	Condition?	
Shelter	The open-air shelter was built in 2015.	Condition?	
Walking Trail	First built in 1987. New lighting along the trail was installed in 2023.	Condition?	

Issues

- » Add trail connections as necessary for improved accessibility.
- » More unique or challenging playground pieces could be considered to meet the needs of varying demographics and ages.
- » The existing restroom building should be evaluated for code compliance to determine if improvements are necessary, or if complete replacement is a better value.
- » Beach on silver lake is always dirty and has trash all over.
- » Silver Lake feels unsafe after 6pm which is still quite early.
- » Need to remove some invasive trees from the shoreline on Silver Lake Park.
- »

Opportunities

- » Silver Lake walking trail connection
- » Life guard for Silver Lake.
- » The newish metal slide at Silver Lake Park that replaced the one around the tree (fire slide) is SO hot in the summer. My grandson was actually burned before I could get to him. The nice thing about the one around the tree is it was shaded. I would love to see a shaded covering over the new metal slide so that it can be usable!
- »

Park and Open Space Master Plan Survey Summary

The City of North St. Paul conducted an online community survey during the summer of 2023. A total of 286 surveys were completed.

General Park and Open Space Questions

1. Are you a resident of North St. Paul?

237 answered "yes"
44 answered "no"
5 did not respond

2. Do you own or rent your place of residence?

248 answered "own"
32 answered "rent"
6 did not respond

3. What is your favorite North St. Paul park?

121 Casey Lake Park
63 Silver Lake Park
29 Southwood Nature Preserve
22 Hause Park
10 Northwood Park
8 Tower Park
5 Veteran's Park
2 Colby Hills Park
2 Dorothy Park
2 Polar Park
1 Rotary Park

4. What North St. Paul Park do you visit most frequently?

85 Casey Lake Park
79 Silver Lake Park
41 Southwood Nature Preserve
32 Hause Park
17 Tower Park
12 Northwood
10 Polar
4 Dorothy
2 Rotary Park
2 Veteran's Park
2 All of them

- 2 None
- 1 Colby Hills Park
- 1 Snowman

5. What parks do you frequent outside of North St. Paul?

- State Parks (10)
 - o Afton State Park (4)
 - o Interstate Park
 - o William O'Brian
 - o Willow River State Park (2)
- County or Regional Park
 - o Battle Creek (12)
 - o Big Marine
 - o Crosby Farm
 - o Elm Creek (2)
 - o Hyland play area
 - o Kelly Lake
 - o Keller Park (3)
 - o Lake Elmo (22)
 - o Phalen (17)
 - o Pine Point Regional Park
 - o Ramsey County Parks (2)
 - o Square Lake Park (4)
 - o Sunfish Lake (5)
 - o Three Rivers Park District (3)
 - o Washington County Parks
 - o Whitetail Woods
- Cottage Grove Parks
 - o Cottage Grove Bike Park
 - o Woodridge Park
- Little Canada Parks
 - o Gervais Lake
 - o Spooner Park
- Mahtomedi (3)
 - o Katherine Abbot (2)
 - o Southwest Park (Aaron's Playground)
- Maple Grove Parks
 - o Central Park (2)
- Maplewood Parks
 - o Aldrich
 - o Goodrich Park (3)
 - o Hazelwood Park
 - o Hillside
- o Joy Park (4)
- o Maplewood Dog Park
- o Maplewood Heights (2)
- o Maplewood Nature Center
- o Nebraska Park
- o Robinhood (3)
- o Wakefield (6)
- Minneapolis Parks
 - o Bde Maka Ska
 - o Chain of Lakes (2)
 - o Minnehaha
- Oakdale Parks (8)
 - o Goose Pond Park
 - o Oakdale Bark Park (3)
 - o Oakdale Nature Preserve/Discovery Center (29)
 - o Walton (4)
- Roseville
 - o Central Park (4)
 - o Lake Josephine
 - o Roseville Commons
 - o Victoria West
- St. Paul Parks
 - o Arlington/Arkwright Dog park
 - o Como Park (23)
 - o Mounds Park
 - o Nathan Hale
- S. St. Paul Parks
 - o Lorraine Park
- Stillwater Parks (4)
 - o Lauderdale
 - o Northland
 - o Otto Berg Park
 - o Pioneer Park (3)
 - o Staples Park
 - o Teddy Bear Park (5)
- Shoreview Parks
 - o Shoreview Commons (10)
 - o Island Lake

- Woodbury Parks
 - o Pebble Park
 - o Shawnee Park
 - o Madison's Place (16)
 - o Woodbury splash pad
- Vadnais Heights Parks
 - o Bridgewood
- White Bear Lake Parks (5)
 - o Lakewood Hills (2)
 - o Memorial Beach Park
 - o Tamarack Nature Center (6)
 - o West Park (2)
- Other Cities
 - o Eagan
 - o Falcon Heights Community Park
 - o Hugo
 - o St. Croix area (2)
 - o Taylors Falls
 - o Waconia
- Community Centers
 - o Hayden Heights (2)
 - o Palace Center
 - o W7 Community Center
- Other
 - o Any that have a festival or music within 20 miles
 - o Dog parks all over
 - o Twins Baseball Park
 - o Vet's Camp

6. Why do you visit parks outside of North St. Paul?

- Walking paths/hiking trails (more or longer trails) (58)
- Variety or quality of amenities (30)
- Location (23)
- Playground quality, variety (16)
- Bigger, updated, or better-quality parks/facilities (15)
- Natural areas and wildlife (14)
- Dog friendly/dog park (13)
- Water park or splash pad (12)
- Beauty, views, shade (10)
- Biking / paved trails (8)
- Swimming (7)
- Accessibility (6)
- Events (6)
- Lakes or water feature, (water quality) (6)
- Team sports (baseball, basketball, pickleball) (6)
- Age appropriate equipment (5)
- Cleanliness (4)
- Safety (4)
- Quiet, less busy (4)
- Beach (3)
- Camping (2)
- Fishing (2)
- Open spaces (2)

- Vendors nearby or food/drink in park (2)
- Winter sports (sledding, cross country skiing, snowshoeing) (4)
- Zoo (2)
- Bathroom facilities
- Community center
- Disc golf
- Gathering places
- Groomed trails
- Historic significance
- Master gardener program
- Water sports (kayak, paddleboard)

7. How would you rate the physical condition of the parks in North St. Paul?

37 answered "Excellent"
 164 answered "Good"
 30 answered "Fair"
 44 answered "Neutral"
 9 answered "Poor"

8. What prevents you from visiting North St. Paul parks?

134 answered "Nothing"
 39 answered "I'm too busy"
 39 answered "The facilities I would use are not in North St. Paul"
 13 answered "No safe way to get there"
 12 answered "I don't want to go"
 6 answered "I can't go without an adult"
 5 answered "I'm physically unable to participate"

Other responses include:

- Accessibility
- A lot of the parks have broken parts and not much to do. Not a lot of sitting space, tables, etc.
- Beach on silver lake is always dirty and has trash all over.
- Extremely Poor Conditions.
- Grandkids.
- I object using to chemicals in park! It doesn't belong in public setting. Children, dogs, and humans walk (often not even seeing your tiny signs placed in one or two locations to alert people to fact chemicals have been applied). Contribute to lake bloom.
- I only go when biking or take a grandchild.
- I tend to visit nearby parks.
- I use a wheelchair and need my dogs with. Many areas are not accessible and dogs are not allowed. I would love to have a park dedicated to dogs.
- I use longer trails for hiking.
- It would be nice to have more benches and restrooms.

- Lack of activities and amenities. Need more shade.
- Lots of trash at Hause park. Hornet's nest in play equipment last year at Casey Lake.
- Most don't have good nearby parking and there's not a lot of diversity in what's offered.
- No little ones anymore, mainly use parks for walking trails now.
- No splash pad available.
- No water.
- Not as much music.
- Overgrowth of flora contribute to stickers, ticks, wild animals leave me feeling unsafe walking with dog through Southwood.
- Parties at Casey Lake Park can get out of hand. Pot smoking, drinking, and trash all over parking lot and no police presence.
- Poor quality equipment.
- Poor condition.
- Safety, cleanliness.
- Sometimes parking is full.
- Still discovering the parks in North St. Paul.
- Tennis court nearby is in disrepair.
- The basketball court at Northwood is shot and there is no dedicated pickleball.
- The feel of our town is declining and with it brings a feeling of discomfort.
- Time limitations.
- Too few shaded tables and shaded playgrounds for sun protection.
- Too small, tennis courts are in bad condition.
- Tough to get to in winter.
- Tower park needs to be renovated with more equipment and bigger for the surrounding communities. Add more toddler friendly slides, update all equipment, increase in size.
- Want a wading pool or splashpad.
- We go to north Saint Paul parks 95% of the time. We want a good park for our one year old or we are meeting someone.
- We visit every day if the weather is good.
- We visit North St. Paul parks often but wish they had more amenities.
- Would use pickle ball court in Hause if it was there.
- Tennis court nearby is in disrepair.

9. What park facilities do you use in North St. Paul?

45	answered "ballfields"	38	answered "pickleball"
26	answered "basketball"	77	answered "pavilions"
102	answered "beaches"	65	answered "shelter"
73	answered "fishing piers"	36	answered "tennis"
85	answered "grills and picnic areas"	204	answered "walking trails"
55	answered "ice rinks"	46	answered "playgrounds"

10. Have you ever rented a park facility or shelter?

82 answered "Yes"

192 answered "No"

11. What park facility would you most want in North St. Paul?

110 answered "Amphitheater"
106 answered "Community garden"
54 answered "Disc golf"
13 answered "Futsal"
30 answered "Skate Park"
23 answered "gymnasium"
49 responded "Other," listed below

Other responses:

- Splashpad (21)
- Dog park (8)
- Pickleball (8)
- Ropes course/climbing structure (3)
- Cross country ski trails (2)
- Miniature golf (2)
- Restroom buildings (2)
- I would like the army-type equipment to be replaced with an updated version of what was previously at Casey Lake Park. Having it removed without anything to replace it was a very sad shock. It was such a great space for play no matter your age. We miss it.
- New playground area at northwest Casey Lake Park where the old "jungle gym" was taken out.
- Gliders or swings for adults
- Outdoor gym
- Barefoot park
- Volleyball net at Hause Park
- Silver Lake walking trail connection
- A gazebo and evergreen tree to light up at Christmas
- Park shelter
- Event space
- Swimming pool
- Inclusive playground
- Gaga ball court
- Expanded playground with more inclusiveness. I frequent Northwood Park every day and see that there's still room for more play space by the already existing playground.
- I would love adult outdoor exercise type equipment, popular especially in East Asian countries to allow adults and seniors to be more active and have access to equipment. If you look, CA has also been incorporating these.
- Adaptive playground
- Bike trails
- Dome - multi sport complex that can be used year round
- Basketball at Hause
- Fire rings for cookouts

- Beach +trails+ adult glider
- Hiking trails
- NONE of the above for reasons stated!
- Updated hockey rink that can be a dog park in the summer at Casey.
- Walking trails

12. As the City creates its park and open space master plan, what park facilities should the City prioritize?

1. Prioritize parks and trails most in need of maintenance.
2. Prioritize neighborhood parks and trails
3. Prioritize parks and trails evenly throughout the City.
4. Prioritize the most heavily used parks and trails.
5. Prioritize parks and trails in the downtown
6. Prioritize under-used parks and trails.

13. Would you support an increase in the tax levy for park and recreational improvements or services?

- 136 answered "Yes"
- 119 answered "No"
- 11 responded that they are non-residents

14. If you support a tax levy increase for parks, what types of improvements would you like to see?

- Splashpad, wading pool, or swimming pool (13)
- Maintenance (11)
- Walking/hiking trails (10)
- Accessible/inclusive (7)
- Newer or better equipment (7)
- Basketball (6)
- Pickleball (6)
- Safety (6)
- Skate park (4)
- Bigger parks (2)
- Community center (2)
- Community garden (2)
- Dog park (2)
- Indoor playground (2)
- Sidewalks and pedestrian infrastructure to safely get to parks (5)
- Added park features so everyone can enjoy.
- Adding new amenities that will draw people to our wonderful city!
- Fixing/improving trails and playgrounds that need it.
- Amphitheater.
- Recreational staff to run programs for kids like Oakdale does.
- Better ice rink/warming house facilities.
- Better trails, new playground equipment, better bathrooms, and a pool.

- Better sports facilities.
- Clean.
- Clean up McKnight complex. Very messy and use of space is wasteful. Get rid of tennis courts that are not usable. Reconfigure parking. Possible community garden somewhere in that space
- Cleaner and safer parks and equipment for variety of children's ages and abilities. Walking paths free of obstruction and overgrowth cared for; garbage, recycling, and dog waste disposal readily available and clean. Clean and modern restroom facilities.
- Clear dead trees and keep trails in good shape. No trip hazards or rollerblade holes. Thanks for keeping them plowed in the winter.
- Community recreation, shoveling.
- Rock climbing/bouldering areas.
- Nature and recreation programs.
- Continue to improve downtown and neighborhood parks
- Recreational programming.
- Downtown park.
- Exercise equipment like Maplewood has near the YMCA and city hall.
- Family spaces.
- Grooming and Care.
- Handicapped accessible areas.
- I am seeing communities build new large parks that are a destination area. Something for NSP to be proud of.
- I feel most of us cannot afford to be taxed further. NSP taxes are higher than many surrounding cities. NSP homes/properties are declining because of this, and I believe higher taxes will only further the decline.
- I'd like to see more community events in North St. Paul such as food and game events that are kid friendly. I'd also like to see an expanded playground at Northwood Park.
- Improved lighting, landscaping, more garbage and recycling bins, updated equipment for the kids.
- Improved maintenance of paths and eliminating weeds from Casey Lake.
- Keep playground equipment accessible and safe, trash/litter pick-up, clean up graffiti regularly, year-round activities, ice-fishing, safety, skating.
- Keep Southwood natural, do not allow bikes, recreational devices.
- Life guard for Silver Lake.
- Long term planning.
- More frequent community activities, more public art
- More benches, shade trees, landscaping, youth activity opportunity
- More bike paths.
- More events at parks.
- More gathering spaces for large groups, like an amphitheater or other large open space.
- More green space and trails
- More native habitat creation and maintenance, elimination of chemicals on grasses, addition of trees, use of ORGANICS, composting, food gardens
- More native plants and a fix for the green algae on Casey Lake. I know it is not dangerous but it has ruined the look of our park.

- More options for recreation like ninja courses. A play area in downtown for kids so there is a safe spot for kids to play during the car show or other visits.
- More picnic shelters at all parks. More picnic tables for larger groups.
- More to do at parks (specifically at Hause), water park of some sort.
- More trails, more trees, more native habitat, more recycling.
- Ice rinks maintained throughout the year with warming house.
- More variety at playgrounds, more shade.
- Better landscaping, newer play equipment.
- Much larger play areas like Hyland Park or Madison's place, more walking trails, more tennis courts.
- Native plants throughout the city, more nature (trees, areas for butterflies, bees, wildlife) integrated into public spaces.
- New play equipment at tower park.
- NO MORE TAX INCREASES - TAXES ARE TOO HIGH ALREADY.
- NONE, parks are in overall good condition. Maintenance only, not new construction.
- Only for Southwood.
- Only if it went to park and rec. TEAR DOWN COMMUNITY CENTER.
- We already pay plenty in taxes.
- Play for individuals w/special needs and sensory gardens.
- Playgrounds accessible, cleanup tagging/graffiti, trash pickup, year-round activities, ice fishing/skating.
- Playgrounds.
- Redesign to add features that appeal to all user groups including seniors, those with disabilities and non-driver. Other improvements could include dispersed seating areas; flower gardens; more picnic space options; sidewalks/trails to parks without parking lots.
- Right now, I pay just under \$5,000 taxes. Can't afford to go higher.
- Shade/shelter.
- Cleanliness.
- Sidewalks to get to the parks, that's the main reason I don't really visit is I would have to drive to them because I don't feel safe walking.
- I'd like to see the downtown look more vibrant. It seems like it is going in that direction which is great.
- No wood chips, safety fence to block kids from road (Casey lake).
- Trail improvement, poop bag stations in all parks, more frequent trash pick-up.
- Trash cleanup.
- Trim back trails in NSP parks and repair/rec-chip trails.
- Update/improve bathroom facilities, places to sit/rest.
- Better use of spaces.
- Adult/senior friendly outdoor equipment that encourages mobility and strength
- Picnic areas.
- Water park someplace in the city, not in the downtown area though... too tight downtown and if you take down shops, then all you have is water park. Put the park in Casey park or another area where it is most used.

- We are already levied heavily for government services (county and city) and the school district. My understanding is that the park fund receives a % of \$\$\$ for each new commercial development and there is a variety in the works and done recently.
- Wood chips and tree cleanup.
- Would love to see a playground at Rotary Park off gateway trail.
- Would only support a tax levy for spaces that can be utilized by the community for no fee.

15. Please share any additional thoughts you have about the parks and recreation facilities in the City of North St.

- I grew up in NSP and live nearby now. My kids go to school in NSP. We love the parks and want to see downtown revitalization efforts be successful! Bring in the moms, families and kids by building child-friendly activities (playground, splashpad) very close to downtown! Mac's is great! the candy shop is great! Give parents a REASON to come downtown (think of Teddy Bear Park in Stillwater!). We also love the tree program, we have trees that are special to our family in Casey Lake Park.
- Most of them are nice, they just need a little TLC.
- I want a sidewalk around the outer perimeter of southland preserve.
- I think Casey lake park is the prime example of a wonderful park. It has so much to offer and is cared for so well.
- Before you can put money toward under-utilized parks, you first need to figure out why they are underutilized.
- Turn the tennis court at house into a basketball court.
- The Twin Cities needs a second bandy rink. Would be great to partner with nearby communities to build one.
- They're bad and small.
- Southwood Preserve is beautiful and peaceful yet the overgrowth is unsafe and the paths are overgrown. If this is to restore to more native lands, it should be maintained for safe pedestrians and pets to visit. Many wild animals live in these woods so non-mulched paths should remain yet be safe from falling trees.
- I would like more places to walk without buildings and in nature.
- I have been happy with a lot of the parks I've visited around North St. Paul. If I was to suggest improvements, I think there should be a focus on maintaining smaller parks around the city, rather than putting all of our resources into one big park, so people can have a park to walk/bike to close to their homes. It seems like right now some of the local parks are being pushed to the backburner in favor of big parks like Casey Lake. For example, the tennis court at Hause Park is in pretty bad shape. Either it should be repaired, or torn down to make that space usable again. In general, I would like to see more of an emphasis on maintaining the equipment we have and thinking about maintenance costs before buying more equipment. If we can't afford the maintenance, the park would be better off without derelict equipment/facilities taking up space.
- Our kids loved ice skating in Hause Park sand volleyball would be great. Several times I see no nets set up in parks.
- Overall, excellent maintenance yet lacking in comprehensive overview of the park system as a whole. Need to connect to regional plans and opportunities too (i.e., trails to gateway, paths to Bruce Vento, bike plan).

- Concrete edge around volleyball courts is a safety hazard for players.
- Need more police patrols at dark.
- Parks are a core backbone to a community. We need to stay focused on park improvement and update existing part with more modern equipment outside of swings and slides.
- They need to have more police presence. It would be nice to see squads routinely driving through. The Casey entrance off McKnight literally has drug deals several times a week. Silver Lake feels unsafe after 6pm which is still quite early. That's just a few examples.
- The surface weeds in Casey Lake are unsightly and the lake level is too low to permit week harvesting. Raise the lake level.
- Pros-recycle bins, cons-littering.
- I love NSP.
- This is a small town. We can't expect to have everything the big City's do.
- Partner with the arts commission to beautify the parks.
- I love them!
- Most are in great shape, and I appreciate the time, money and effort that has gone into making that a reality.
- A path all around Silver Lake.
- I think you are doing a good job. But as you can tell I'm soured by the counter-productive use of lawn chemicals. Stop that! We need to pay particular attention to what will support vital habitat for pollinators, birds, and all animals.
- We should fix neighborhood streets as a first priority and then parks.
- More lighting for better security.
- Would love an off-leash dog park.
- Overall clean and fun; a variety of activities & trails available.
- I was really surprised that the recent parking re-pavement right off 7th didn't have any new trees planted. Lots of research shows that planting trees helps. Keep areas cooler. Hope the city plant more trees in the future.
- The newish metal slide at Silver Lake Park that replaced the one around the tree (fire slide) is SO hot in the summer. My grandson was actually burned before I could get to him. The nice thing about the one around the tree is it was shaded. I would love to see a shaded covering over the new metal slide so that it can be usable!
- You do a nice job with park maintenance. I cannot think of much to improve.
- Building fees are very high.
- Better facilities; futsal.
- They do not need to be fancy.
- I'm proud of North St. Paul.
- Open spaces - with open air park shelters/pavilions - parks do not need to have "amenities"
- We already have adequate parks, facilities and features. Only allocate funds for maintenance. Instead, work with the DNR to improve the Gateway Trail, overgrowth and buckthorn invasion.
- Wood chips for Southwood.
- The city will propose a levy to fund improvements to the community center and not our parks.
- Pros- recycle bins, cons-littering.
- Makes the community feel connected and gives kids activities.
- Hold events in all parks to bring attention to those residents might not know exist.

- I live on Margaret St. near Southwood Park. Many people walk their dogs past my home. I talk to quite a few people over the summer and Southwood Park often comes up wondering why the walking paths have overgrown, trees down and branches and many of those walkers have stopped walking there and say it's too bad and it was let go. Right now, there is a tree down in someone's yard. Because weeds have grown, mosquitos are terrible!
- You guys do a great job already!!! Thank you!
- Clean, well-maintained, a park in every neighborhood.
- Love the gateway trail, really would like a splash pad (see Woodbury park design).
- Poop bag stations should be at all parks!
- Much appreciate the Casey building (our family uses it on Easter) and music in the park, as well as walking trail. The lake - invasive cattails and weeds - continues to be a concern (moving toward becoming a swamp).
- Many of the smaller neighborhood parks have become hangouts for teens with nothing to do and get vandalized and never repaired so families won't go to them if they don't feel safe.
- Again, what's going on w/the Leon Lillie-proposed Silver Lake loop?
- Very well kept and maintained parks - thank you so much!
- The parks fund should be supported within the city budget and through commercial development - irritating that you ask for input on improvements only if I support a tax levy.
- Would love to see a playground at Rotary Park off gateway trail. Would be nice to see a park with a wading pool or splashpad.
- No pavement in Southwood.
- More open space, trees, quiet, fine as is.
- More sidewalk accessibility.
- Have a variety of free activities such as music, crafts and games.
- More youth spaces.
- Not accessible.
- OK as is.
- City should be doing more in up keep.
- People need parks, open spaces, places to get away close by. For many it's what they can afford. We need to stop building.
- We have a lot of parks already.
- They should be kept up better, clean trails of weeds.
- Electrical box "art covers/wraps" are a terrible eyesore! The grey/green color lends to them blending in and essentially hiding them from sight.
- Would love to see more facilities available for rental year-round with maybe reciprocity with Maplewood for cost.
- Make it cheaper for residents to rent.
- Need to remove some invasive trees from the shoreline on Silver Lake Park.
- Fond memories of wildlife and native plants.
- The beach should be maintained as in BEFORE. Roped off area, weed control, life guards at least on weekend.
- There is no need for a downtown park. We have many other nice parks in close proximity to our downtown area.
- Southwood is under served by the City, needs wood chips and downed tree removed

- I appreciate long walking trails, and would like more safe biking areas.
- Southwood used to have very nice wood chips trails and the weeds or grass mowed back. Now the buckthorn is back and downed trees should be removed. A big thank you to all the volunteers who work the Nature Preserve over the years. The city has a gem for everyone of all ages. Let's not lose it. The overlook needs to be sealed bad. Let's save what we have and not rebuild when it's too late.
- Make trails safe.
- Maintain walking trail and trim/clean out trees.
- We would love greater kayak access.
- I appreciate how well the mowers and shovelers keep the lawns and trails well maintained.
- We have lived in the city for 40 years and raised our kids here using the parks a lot over the years. They were always maintained and kept clean until the last few years. We now have grandkids and don't feel comfortable trying to walk some of the trails with them.
- Adding additional stuff only raises taxes, does not increase use.
- Colby Hills sign is incorrect. It is one Hill and was originally named Colby Hill. Somewhere along the line an "s" was added.
- All playgrounds need more shade! Thank you.
- I like Silver Lake and improvements. Need a bike trail all the way around the lake.
- Well mowed and maintained.
- Sell the community center to volleyball.
- Remove or sell the community center.
- Would really like to see pickle ball at House.
- Seems like Casey and Silver are the only ones maintained.
- The ones I visited have been upgraded recently.
- Need to better promote team youth sports in NSP.
- I said no to tax levy because it up to North St. Paul to use the funds we already pay to go towards things or find a way to utilize the space to make money. You should do something that the community to utilize Tower Park. A farmer's market space, movies in the park for the closer residence that can't just drive to the other parks. Or a community garden and farmers market spot. They didn't even add picnic tables under the shelter. That just makes it look forgotten.
- Not just for kids, conserve water.

16. What ages are represented in your household?

48 answered "ages 0-5"
 56 answered "ages 6-12"
 42 answered "ages 13-20"
 154 answered "ages 21-50"
 144 answered "ages 51+"

Community Center Questions

1. Do you view the Community Center as an asset?

172 answered "yes"
93 answered "no"
25 did not answer

2. What activities/services would you like to see in a re-imagined community center?

177 answered "gym/recreation space"
21 answered "meeting space"
22 answered "event space"
10 answered "area services"
8 answered "coffee shop"
7 answered "small business use"
27 responded "other," listed below

Other responses:

- None (6)
- Library (2)
- Sell It (2)
- All the above have been tried before. Get rid of the community center.
- I've never used the community center and don't know the services offered
- Keep it closed
- Need the walking loop
- We tried once & it didn't work
- Sell Community Center to someone that will pay taxes on the property. It will not be used enough to justify its future existence.
- Pool
- Racquet ball court
- Children's sports
- Don't see a use for this space
- Free access!
- Homeschool Coop
- I don't know enough about the community center to answer this
- Indoor walking
- None of above. Switched to Maplewood YMCA years ago because NSP Center too small (cramped), had insufficient equipment.
- None, that facility already failed once, fix the roads instead please!
- Nothing! It is not in the best interest of our town to re- open the community center. Too expensive to operate & creates too many problems. Why did the previous one close!?!
- Sell it. Was wonderful when opened and for years after. But for whatever reason less and less offered/attended and no longer an asset.
- WHY? It should not try to serve the function of a retail fitness center. Basic services only for those who are income challenged.

3. Do you currently have a gym membership or access to a work out space?

158 responded "no"
118 responded "yes"
10 did not respond

4. Tell us what services or activities you would most want to see in the community center.

- Pool/water facility (14)
- Gym (11)
- Workout facility with exercise fitness equipment and weights (9)
- Coffee Shop (6)
- Fitness classes (6)
- Activities for kids, teens, and seniors (Bingo, cards, art) (5)
- Event space (e.g. live music, art fair, dances) (5)
- Basketball (4)
- Track (4)
- Classes (3)
- Community theater (3)
- Indoor playground (3)
- Pickleball (3)
- Youth programs (3)
- Adult daycare (2)
- Class/meeting rooms (2)
- A place for the kids
- Accessibility
- Baseball
- Collaborating with Maplewood Community Center and look at Moundsvew Community Center
- Community events
- Warming house and an ice-skating rink
- Day care for struggling families that is affordable
- Delayed repairs for decades and now will take a lot to repair, city used to have coffee shop but it didn't make it
- Dump the community center. When NSP let the coffee shop go and drop the spring business show or program it went downhill and when the kids from the high school took over the coffee shop. NO GET RID OF A DEAD HORSE. Get someone who will be paying taxes and not on the cities dime. Let the new owner fix it up and bring some tax revenue to the city. Or take it down and sell the property to someone else.
- Large open space for community events, gatherings.
- Rock climbing
- Family activities would be great to increase community involvement, many of the downtown businesses cater to elderly and the older crowd and I think the focus needs to be on families with young children to keep the community going.
- children's classes and activities, community pool
- Get rid of the community center.

- Open gym, family gym hours, childcare/camp options, activities for kids, teens, families, kitchen with classes
- Hang out area, food services
- An indoor skate park would provide year-round activity for the community.
- Bandy rink, library annex, indoor and outdoor climbing space
- Basic services only for those who are income challenged. NSP should not try to be like a retail fitness center.
- Benches/tables, area businesses open longer than day hours, more variety of retail/food options, some type of grab and go food and hang out downtown, Stillwater vibe
- Bigger Library
- Currently have memberships at LA
- Fitness & Maplewood YMCA. Why do you need to compete with them? Seems like same provincialism that sank first community center! A waste of resources and money! We can't be everything to everyone!!
- Enrichment, education about environmental concerns and things residents can do about it. Things that enrich our connection to one another - learning, enrichment, art, civic engagement, importance of connections, just a few
- Family events and activities, cafe, rooftop patio, preschool, after school Programming for kids and teens, arts programming, sauna, childcare, electric car charging, bike rentals, outdoor skating rink, indoor playground for kids,
- Free access instead of needing YMCA member
- Youth sports
- I actually used the NSP gym back in the day and thought it was set up well. It would work today with the addition of quick access lockers for those coming in and out. I also currently use the NSP library and that's a nice "one stop shop" for a community center space. Don't lose the library! Relocate if needed, but don't lose it! My kids love it.
- I really don't have a strong opinion. Maybe something that brings the kids or community together like volunteer-based clubs: Odyssey of the Mind, fleece tie blanket making to donate to Children's Hospital or NSP in need, book clubs, rock climbing, astronomy, treasure hunts, etc.
- Splash pad
- Indoor green space to use in the winter, a place to go drink coffee while the toddler can play indoors (similar to Central Park in Woodbury). It's nice having a library there, too.
- Parents night out/kids night
- Little kid sports
- Maybe childcare? Camps for kids
- Meeting space rental, youth, adult and older adult programming, community Ed, county resources, soccer, pickle ball, volleyball, theater or shows.
- Nature preschool
- NONE - STOP WASTING TAXPAYER DOLLARS ON THESE FAILED PET PROJECTS, FIX THE ROADS!
- None-too expensive
- Seems like it was ok as is. But must maintain the library.
- Soccer/futsal
- Gymnastics, playground
- Teen center

- Volleyball, youth - senior - kids enrichment programming
- Community garden or space
- We do not need a community center
- We have a community center??



To	Date
Parks & Recreation Commissioners	October 25, 2023
Agenda Placement # VIII.A	
Reports from Commissioners & Park Liaisons	
Subject	
Commissioner reinstatement interest -2 commissioners	
Background/Facts	
Sarah Zahradka -term expiration of 12/31/23 Artie Alvarez -term expiration of 12/31/23	
Recommended Action	
Attachments	
None	
Respectfully submitted, Jill Officer, Community Services Rep	