



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

May 26, 2021
6:30 PM

The May 26, 2021 Parks and Rec Commission will be meeting at:

House Park

2616 4th Avenue East
North St. Paul, MN 55109

Also live via Zoom

Zoom meeting can be accessed via:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81609668742?pwd=QW1vdllUZUZRB25ybFlxbVVHSWhUZz09>

Passcode: 955169

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099 or +1 253 215 8782 or
+1 346 248 7799 or +1 669 900 6833

Webinar ID: 816 0966 8742

Passcode: 955169

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/keFqpjXx6W>

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

III. Adopt Agenda

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. April 28, 2021 Meeting Minutes

V. Meeting Open to Public

Note: This is a courtesy extended to persons wishing to address the council who are not on the agenda. A completed public comment form should be presented to the Deputy Clerk prior to the meeting; presentations will be limited to 3 minutes. This session will be limited to 15 minutes.

VI. Public Hearings

VII. New Business

- A. Music in the Parks
- B. Air Force Jr ROTC Volunteer Hours

VIII. Old Business

- A. Update on Sponsor for old PCU park
- B. Pickleball Sign at Silver Lake Park
- C. Update on Park Improvement Plan
- D. Signs in the Parks

IX. Upcoming Events

X. Reports from Staff

XI. Reports from Commissioners & Park Liaisons

XII. Adjournment

XIII. Commission Business

The next regularly scheduled Parks & Recreation Commission meeting is June 23, 2021

**CITY OF NORTH ST. PAUL
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
April 28, 2021
6:30 PM**

North St Paul –via zoom

The City of North St. Paul has moved all of its public meetings online effective August 4, 2020. The move to online meeting access via Zoom ensures compliance with the Governor’s Emergency Executive Order and face covering mandate while providing our City Council members, staff and residents with safe and comfortable access to public meetings. Access information and links to meetings are available at northstpaul.org. This change to online meeting access will remain in effect until further notice. (Stat. 13D.02 subd. 4)

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. ROLL CALL

Lloyd Grachek, Chair
Laura Greenlee-Karp, Vice Chair
Larry Amsden
Heather Haas (absent - excused)
Ingrid Koller
Sue Springborn
Nancy Thorsen
Sarah Zahradka
Arthur Alvarez, Jr.

Council Liaison:	Tim Cole
Staff:	Jill Officer
	Lisa Ritchie
	Ron Ritchie

ADOPT AGENDA

On motion by Commissioner Zahradka, seconded by Commissioner Springborn with all present voting aye, motion carried to adopt the agenda.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve the March 24, 2021 regular meeting minutes

On motion by Commissioner Greenlee-Karp, seconded by Commissioner Grachek with all present voting aye, motion carried to approve the March 24th meeting minutes.

V. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

No one from the public attended

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

VII. COMMISSION BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS

A. New Business:

1. Sponsorship for the old Postal Credit Union park

Lloyd indicated Postal Credit Union sponsored a sign that is still up and should be updated/replaced with a new sponsor. Sue Springborn inquired about what the requirements were. Lloyd stated that he would look into this and work with Lisa to gather the information on the requirements.

2. The discussion of considering new/additional bands for music in the park

was tabled as Heather was absent but the commission did indicate that it would be nice to have event changed to two times per month. Laura stated that she is willing to help coordinate if needed.

3. Pickleball reservations

The commission discussed placing a sign in the appropriate park(s) for allocating/limiting time for pickleball use per a recommendation from a citizen. A motion was made by commissioner Koller to purchase and install a sign that reads: Priority Pickleball Court / Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri and Sat 9:00AM to 11:00 AM. Commissioner Thorsen seconded the motion.

4. Rotary Park Signage Status

The commission previously made a motion to approve up to \$4000 for a sign. Jill is currently researching vendors and is looking for quotes on signage.

5. Election of Officers

Commissioner Koller made a motion to keep the same officers in place. Chair, Lloyd Grachek and Vice-Chair, Laura Greenlee-Karp. Commissioner Springborn seconded the motion with all present voting aye, motion carried to elect Chair, Lloyd Grachek and Vice-Chair, Laura Greenlee-Karp for 2021.

B. Upcoming Events:

C. Short Term Projects:

- i) Park Improvement plan – The commission discussed priorities for Hause Park. Whether it be tennis courts, pickleball courts, volleyball, badminton or basketball. Commissioner Cole suggested the commission complete and present the Park Improvement Plan before moving forward with any projects exceeding \$30,000. The commission agreed to “table” the Hause Park discussion for now.

D. Long Term Projects:

- i) Review/Discussion: Establish 2023 - 2025 priorities
2 – 3 year priorities were set and agreed upon
- ii) Review/Discussion: Establish 2026 (+) priorities
3 - 5 year priorities were set and agreed upon
The commission discussed the possibility of a Splash Pad in the downtown area or a park. Commissioner Zahradka stated that she has always had a vision for a Splash Pad in the downtown area to draw families into the downtown area. The commission indicated natural play equipment would be a great asset to Southwood Park. Commissioner Zahradka stated the equipment at Silver Lake will need to be replaced at the end of its 20-year life span.

VIII. REPORTS FROM STAFF:

Lisa reported that per Scott Duddeck, League of Minnesota Risk Control will be doing an annual evaluation of all parks in the upcoming months.

Lisa reminded the commission that public meetings must be accessible to all and should be considered when selecting a location for meetings in the parks.

Sue Springborn stated she had visited Northwood Park and found the fence around the water tower is no longer there. Ron Ritchie gave a bit of history and indicated the computer equipment that is easily accessible belongs to a cell phone provider. The commission all agreed this is a potential hazard. Commissioners Alvarez and Koller stated their concerns on a potential liability. Commissioner Springborn made a motion to notify City Council and recommend placing a fence around the water tower. Commissioner Koller seconded the motion with all present voting aye, motion carried to recommend a fence be installed around the water tower at Northwood Park.

IX. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS & PARK LIAISONS

Park Liaison Tim Cole announced:

- Robbie's scout project was approved by Council and all commissioner are willing to donate to the project.
- The proposed benches and table were also approved by council.
- The PRC meetings need to wrap up within 60-90 minutes rather than the 120(+) that they have been going.
- Air Force Jr ROTC is looking for volunteer hours for park clean up – this will be discussed at the next PRC meeting.
- Tim proposed moving the meetings to the parks for the summer.

X. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Commissioner Zahradka, seconded by Commissioner Koller with all present voting aye, motion carried to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Next meeting: May 26th at Hause Park 6:00PM

Exhibit A

We are getting requests from other groups. The Parks Commission may want to reconsider who/how they select their groups, or consider adding additional nights...I know Oakdale has weekly concerts.

I've responded to this person and asked them to reach out to us with more information.



THU, JUL 15 AT 7 PM CDT

Music in the Park: North St. Paul w/ Matt & Laurel

North Saint Paul, MN

4 Going · 45 Interested

 12

1 Comment

 Like

 Comment

 Share



Zack Farmer
Who do I contact to inquire about getting my band involved in Music in the Park? I'm a NSP resident and would love to play for the community.

Like · Reply · 2h



Comment as City of North St. Paul



Details

-  49 people
-  Even St. P.
-  Casey
-  Thursday PM C
-  Price
-  Public

MUSIC IN

We are th
perform s
to today f
... See Mo

Music

Privacy · Term
Facebook © 2

COURT RULES

- Use proper equipment
- No food or glass containers
 - No pets allowed
- No bicycles, skateboards or rollerblades
- Children must have supervision

PRIORITY PICKLEBALL HOURS:

MON, WED, FRI AND SAT 9:00AM - 11:00AM

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BY YOUR DONATIONS

Thank you for your donations. With your help it
makes these and future projects possible.

To make a tax deductible contribution,



or if you have any questions,
please call us at: 651-747-2411
www.northstpaul.org



Improvement	Priority	Timeline	Owner	Estimated Project Costs	Status	Notes:
tennis court rehabilitation, ADA Walkway	1A			\$ 100,000		Need updated bid - WSB was \$100K
survey neighborhood for options: pickle, basketball, volleyball or badminton	1B				Done	Need to confirm this would work
pickle, basketball, volleyball, badminton	1B					Need to confirm this would work
signage for all parks	2			\$ 32,000	Approved by Council Aug 2020	All parks that were rehabbed
update warming house/bathrooms to rentable structure	3A					This will be a big ticket item - Should be prioritized highly - Continue to work on grant for this.
Gaga Ball	3B					
fencing on north side -repair/replace	Done					
removal of brick structure	Done					
need input from public	low					Empty lot - Butterfly garden? - Plant trees and picnic table
light on walking path by east structure	low					Ron spoke to Electric Director - this will be happening
signage for award winning tree	No					
update/maintenance on hockey rink	Public Works					Boards in bad shape; not maintained. - Pressure washed and painted
bench		ASAP		\$ 1,500	Approved by Council	Closer to the playground - There may be one in the NE corner
bench		ASAP		\$ 1,500	Approved by Council	
benches, picnic table		ASAP		Bench: \$1500 / Picnic Table \$1200	Approved by Council	
signage						Info from the Rotary needed
dog park, pickle ball, splash pad- need clear idea	1					
securing lifeguards	2					
Needs green space	3					
repaneling of garbage cans -Eagle Scout project	4					
splash pad - play structure (Location TBD)	5					
Natural Play Equipment	6					
ideas: butterfly garden, trees, benches	7					
replace open air shelter to match other city shelters	8					
exercise equipment by parking lot, small equipment toward upper part of park	1					
basketball court repaved	2					
open air shelter by ball field	3					
playground equipment for older kids	4					
Playground Equipment - nearing 20 yr lifespan built 2006	5					

Chapter 10

Parks



CHAPTER 10: PARKS

IN THIS CHAPTER

In this chapter, park benefits are described, a system of classifying parks is presented, and the City's parks are inventoried. Park issues are presented based on an analysis. Park policies are listed from which a plan and program are derived.

INTRODUCTION

Parks, open spaces and trails and associated open water, lakes and wetlands contribute significantly to North St. Paul's image. Enhancing the City's image is addressed in Visions and Goals.

Park and open spaces provide opportunities for recreation and scenic views, break-up the development pattern, and some are critical to the drainage system such as Casey Lake Park, Silver Lake Park, and Southwood Nature Preserve.

The City of North St. Paul will continue to identify the changes in demographics and needs within the community to make sure the current trends of parks, open spaces and trails adapt to the City's changing population.

WHAT WE HEARD

Parks and open spaces are a cherished part of the North St. Paul Community. During the Community Cafes, residents spoke to us about their ideas, concerns and priorities regarding the parks system. The highlights from those discussions are as follows:

- A new park/open space amenity is needed downtown
- Accessibility in parks and access to parks should be a priority
- Trails all the way around Casey and Silver Lakes
- Suggestions for recreational programming included:
 - Adult organized game leagues
 - Tennis/racquet courts
 - Cross country ski trails
 - Kids sports
 - Soccer or lacrosse fields

CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

Parks, open spaces and trails are divided into categories based on a combination of function and size. Table 8-1 is the classification system.

Park Inventory

According to the 2016 Met Council land use data, 173 acres are park, recreational, or preserve land, and 10 acres are in golf course. No portion of the Regional Parks System falls within North St. Paul. Table 8-2 provides an inventory of the parks and open spaces. Several of the City's most important parks are described below. The City also completed a Park Improvement Plan in 2013. This document outlines all the amenities in each park and identifies a timeline for when each one should be updated.

Silver Lake Park

This park, donated by Henry Castle in 1889, is located on the south side of Silver Lake. In early years, a broad boulevard was graded around the entire lake. The steamboat Morton docked on the south shore and transported people across the lake for 25 cents. Concerts, boating, swimming and winter recreation (including construction of a 40-foot high ice palace in 1893), were some of the principal uses of the park in the 1800s. The park now provides picnic areas and facilities, a swimming beach, play equipment, tennis, and volleyball courts, fishing pier, restrooms and trails.

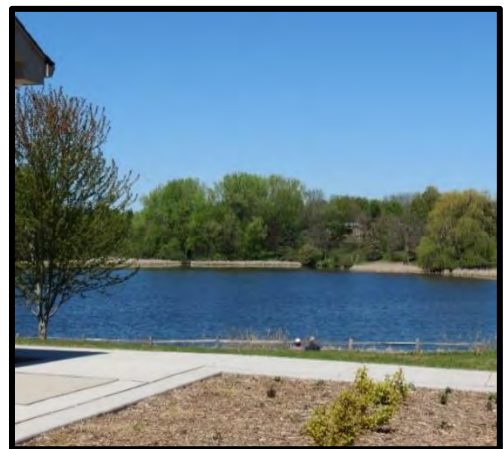


FIGURE 10-1 SILVER LAKE PARK

Casey Lake Park

This community park was purchased in 1961 and is on land originally owned by Hugh Casey. This is the City's largest park – 36 acres, of which 13.5 is in water. Major activities are picnicking and recreation. Recreational activities include: baseball, softball, hockey and general skating, volleyball, exercising, walking and enjoyment of the natural wildlife area and a fishing pier. Two recreational buildings are located on the site as well as the new addition of Janie's playground in 2016.



FIGURE 10-2 CASEY LAKE PARK

Northwood Park

This 6.5 acre park was part of a 134 acre purchase by the Northwood Company which opened a golf course on the property in 1915. The name of the golf course changed from Northwood Country

Club and Golf Course to Woodlawn Golf Course. The course was sold to a developer in the early 1940s. The caddy house was moved to Colby Hills Park. The City obtained part of the park in 1946 and purchased the remainder in 1958. The water tower was constructed in 1960. The park provides playground equipment, picnic areas, a ball field, skating rink and a warming house.



FIGURE 10-3 NORTHWOOD PARK

**Table 10-1
CLASSIFICATION OF PARKS, OPEN SPACES AND TRAILS**

	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	USUAL SERVICE AREA	APPROX SIZE	EXISTING PARKS
NEIGHBORHOOD	Mini-Park	Small park providing a specialized service for special age groups or, at times, providing a special space for a broader group.	½ mile	1 acre	- Country Club Park - Central Park (Downtown)
	Neighborhood Park or Neighborhood Playground	Park area for intense active use by the abutting neighborhood – usually involving play of outdoor sports and craft activities.	¼ to ½ mile	4-12 acres	- Colby Hills Park - Dorothy Park - Hause Park - Northwood Park - Polar Park - Tower Park
	Trail	A facility for pedestrians and bikes to be used for enjoyment or to provide access to neighborhood areas and facilities, businesses and downtown.	Varies	5-8+ feet wide	
CITY WIDE	Community Park	Usually a natural park area for a variety of active and passive recreation, including swimming, picnicking, hiking, and outdoor sports.	City	20-100 acres	- Casey Lake Park - Silver Lake Park
	Play Fields	Park area for intensive, usually highly organized athletic activity, lighted fields, parking, bleachers, and other equipment for watching usually provided or planned.	Citywide, usually 1 per 3-4 neighborhoods	10-40 acres	- McKnight Field
	Special Purpose	Park area established and maintained to provide a special service, that usually dominates the entire park. Examples: Historic site, nature center (where the natural flora and fauna are to be preserved.)	Citywide	Varies	- Veterans Park - Southwood Nature Preserve - Rotary Park
NEIGHBORHOOD AND CITY WIDE	Open Spaces	Park area that essentially remains undeveloped to serve as an area for drainage, water storage, or that may contain tails, wetland, poor soil, and/or natural vegetation that is to be left open.	Varies	Varies	- Environmental Learning Center - Pond between 6 th and 7 th Streets north of South Avenue - Urban Ecology Center
REGION	Special Parks	Park area that provides space and facilities for active and passive recreation, including golf courses.	Metro	100+ acres	- Goodrich Golf Course
STATE	Trail	A facility for pedestrians and bikes to traverse and enjoy.	Varies	5-8+ feet wide	- Gateway State Trail

Table 10-2 PUBLIC PARKS, OPEN SPACES AND TRAILS		
NAME or LOCATION	TYPE	ACRES
CITY PARK and OPEN SPACE		
Casey Lake Park	Community park	32.81
Central Park	Mini park	0.23
Colby Hills Park	Neighborhood park	0.85
Country Club Park	Mini park	0.19
Dorothy Park	Neighborhood park	0.90
Environmental Learning Center	Open space	12.79
Hause Park	Neighborhood park	2.96
McKnight Field	Play field	21.52
Northwood Park	Neighborhood park	6.42
Polar Park	Neighborhood park	2.83
Rotary Park	Special purpose park	2.17
Silver Lake Park*	Community park	6.99
Southwood Nature Preserve	Special purpose park	26.08
Tower Park	Neighborhood park	2.67
Urban Ecology Center**	Open Space	25.89
Veterans Park	Special purpose park	1.15
	SUBTOTAL	146.45
RAMSEY COUNTY		
Goodrich Golf Course***	Golf course	9.93
STATE		
Gateway State Trail***	Trail	22.79
	GRAND TOTAL=	182.69

*The lake is 76 acres, almost all of which is within the City.

**Excluding 2.5 acres in the Gateway State Trail.

***Only the portion in North St. Paul.

Source: Met Council 2016 Existing Land Use GIS Data

McKnight Field

This community play field has 21.52 acres and is used primarily for organized sports and picnics. The fields include: baseball (1), softball (4), T-ball (2), and tennis courts (8). Also provided are a recreation/concession building, shelter building, warming house, picnic tables and drinking fountains. The park is located adjacent to the North High School.

Urban Ecology Center

This is a 25.89 acre special purpose park. The wetland is part of an old farm which became a sod farm around 1950. The park is a wetland restoration and nature center. The plan includes a modified wetland with a multi-cell wetland treatment system to improve water quality, native grasses, wild flowers and an

overlook hill made from materials excavated to create the basin and channel. This diverse wetland and upland plant community is used for environmental education and enjoyment.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Listed below is a list of some of the special events the Parks and Recreation Commission coordinates annually in the Parks:

Spring Egg Hunt
Silver Lake SPLASH
Southwood Prairie Days
StarWatch
Trick or Trick Trail
Summer Concert Series
Movie on Main
Fire and Ice
Veterans Day at Veterans Park

The City collaborates with local athletic associations to offer sports programming for youth in the parks, offers adult softball leagues and contracts with a variety of groups to offer programming for residents such as preschool classes, adult driving courses and gun safety.

Additionally, the City rents open aired shelters, enclosed park shelters and athletic fields throughout the park system.

ISSUES AND NEEDS

Maintaining and improving parks, trails and open spaces is an on-going program/activity which has considerable demand on the City's human and financial resources. Recreation is important in the lives of most people. The expectation is that as public interest in outdoor recreation and open space changes, the City will make some changes to the system. And because the City is essentially developed, there is little opportunity to expand the system without incurring land acquisition costs.

The results from the Community Cafés state that the public would like to preserve and invest in existing recreational spaces, parks and lakes as well as improve upon trail connections throughout the city as currently outlined in Chapter 2. The City will monitor the demographic makeup of the community and how it will influence the future programming of the park and open space system by utilizing community outreach platforms such as online portals, regular public engagement opportunities and booths at organized community events.

Parks, open spaces and trails can be designed and used to achieve the communities active living goal. More specific issues and needs are listed below.

Water

Water is a key component to most of the City's parks. It intrigues people, attracts specific wildlife, and, in some cases, can be used for recreation such as boating, swimming and fishing. However, the ability to enjoy these activities is affected by the quality of the water.

The City's concern with water quality is more fully addressed in the Water Management Plan.

Image

Parks, trails and open spaces must be functional and aesthetically pleasing. This helps achieve the City's goal.

Gateway State Trail

Add supporting amenities including modern restroom facilities.

Optimum Use

Because there is little opportunity to expand the size of the park system at a reasonable cost, achieving optimum use of the existing parks and open spaces is a challenge which needs to be addressed.

Downtown

Develop a downtown park as part of the downtown redevelopment.

Unimproved and Under-Improved Parks

Some parks are unimproved, under-improved or somewhat obsolete in equipment layout and/or function. This includes: Colby Hills Park and Polar Park.

Enhancements and Replacement

Several parks need to be enhanced. Some equipment and buildings are aging to the point where replacement needs to be considered. Since this Comprehensive Plan extends to the year 2040, virtually all parks and open space will need some improvement. All city tennis courts need to be resurfaced. This improvement will be a substantial cost.

Links

Use parks, trails and open spaces to establish links to neighborhoods, community facilities, Silver Lake, and to downtown is critical to establishing more community cohesiveness, identity and a more favorable image.

Small Parks

A couple parks are small, making it difficult to establish a park presence on the sites along with a meaningful use of benefits. These parks may need special attention to reconfigure, reuse or otherwise modify the park. Example could include Colby Hill Park. The right-of-way between the two parcels comprising Colby Hill Park could be converted to park use.

Active Living

Park, open space and trails are important to active living components. Parks, trails, benches, play equipment and scenic walks to bus stops, schools, downtown and other places of interest can be an alternative transportation mode.

POLICIES

The policies which follow are based on the inventory, issues and needs, the City's vision and goals, especially Parks, Open Space, and Trails Goal which is **"Enhance and expand the park, open space and trail system to ensure that all have access to quality community facilities and programs."**

1. **Balance System** – Provide and maintain a balanced system of parks, trails and open spaces which provides a wide variety of opportunities for the diverse needs of the community.
2. **Enhancement** – Enhance the system through making functional and aesthetic improvements and by expanding the system into redevelopment areas.
3. **Preservation** – Preserve and protect the natural amenities especially the lakes, ponds, drainageways, woods and desirable flora and fauna.
4. **Water Bodies** – Refer to *"Surface Water Management Plan"*
5. **Trails** – Construct, maintain and enhance trails throughout the community to:
 - a. **Link** – Link neighborhoods to the community and to provide access to community facilities.
 - b. **Image** – Use trails and the links to improve the City's image and identity, to provide more cohesiveness, and to enhance the appearance of nearby development.
 - c. **Access** – Use trails to provide an alternative transportation mode and to provide a safe space for walking, biking and jogging.
6. **Urban Ecology Center and Environmental Learning Center** – Preserve and enhance these parks as environmental/educational parks and initiate practices which foster native species and their associated habitats.

7. **Environmental Learning Center** –

- a. Continue to plant and improve the site with native species.
- b. Consider adding a peripheral trail.

8. **Park-School** – Promote shared use of park and open spaces where schools and parks are adjacent or nearby such as:

- a. McKnight Field and North High School
- b. Southwood Nature Preserve and Cowern Elementary School and the open space adjacent to the school.
- c. Richardson Elementary & Community fields
- d. Cowern Elementary School forest

9. **Identity** – Improved parks, trails and open spaces to give neighborhoods and the City more identity.

10. **Hause Park**– Make this park a neighborhood focal point because of their relationship to the street system and the neighborhood in which they are located. Improvements are currently underway at the indoor park shelter.

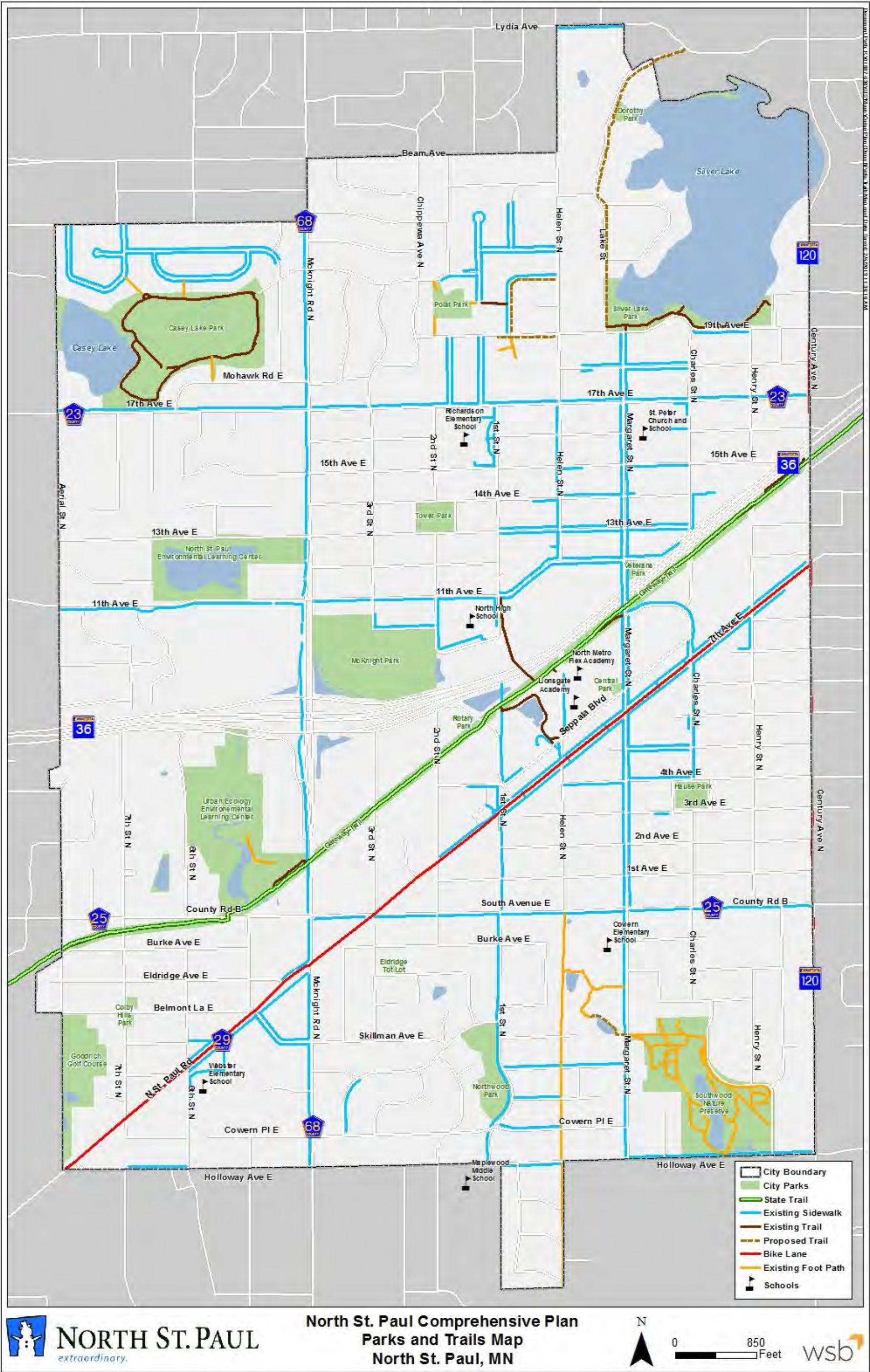
11. **Silver Lake Park, Casey Lake Park** – Preserve and enhance these parks as community parks with diverse opportunity for active and passive recreation and develop a trail link between these parks.

12. **Water Quality** – Refer to “Surface Water Management Plan”

PLAN AND PROGRAM

The programming for the future park and open space systems will be guided by information continuously gathered from key leaders and stakeholder groups such as athletic and cultural associations, Lions Club, Business Association, and other specific user groups. There will be greater efforts to obtain information and solicit input from the public at community functions such as the summer Car Shows, public open houses, surveys, etc. The demographic trends and characteristics of the City of North St. Paul will need to be periodically reviewed and interpreted while integrating the information that is received from the various community functions previously noted.

The plan for parks, open spaces and trails is illustrated in the North St. Paul Transportation Plan Draft Parks and Trails Map on the following page.



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Program

The program consists of the following:

1. **Improve Water Quality** – Improve the water quality in the lakes, ponds and creeks within the parks or which flow into the parks and open spaces by:
 - Erosion Control – Strictly require erosion control measures on all construction sites and on other sites with similar activities.
 - Plans – Applying proper site planning and construction of improvements which foster protecting or improving water quality.
 - Education – Provide on-going education to the public about the impact of fertilizers, chemicals, and outdoor waste have on water bodies.
 - Buffers – Establish vegetation buffers adjacent to water bodies with some exception, e.g. swimming beach at Silver Lake.
 - Chloride Infiltration – Protect water bodies from the effects of chloride from road salt through education and advocacy about de-icing alternatives.
2. **Park Equipment and Surfacing (All Parks)** – Since 2008, all but two parks have had replaced and upgraded play equipment. Following the completion of the remaining two parks, upgrading and replacing equipment becomes necessary.
3. **Casey Lake Park** - Extend the park and trail system along the south and west side of Casey Lake.
4. **Urban Ecology Center** – Continue to implement the restoration plan. Consider construction of a shelter/educational building.
5. **Silver Lake Park** – Maintain and upgrade the park on an on-going basis. Expand the park and extend the trail on the east shore (a segment of the Lakes Links Trail network) if the area is redeveloped/ re-platted. Enhance connection between Silver Lake Park, Dorothy Park, and Joy Park.
6. **McKnight Field** – Continue to provide a high level of maintenance and make improvements as appropriate.
7. **Gateway State Trail** – Protect this trail, enhance its appearance by making it more park-like, and use it effectively to support redevelopment.
8. **Colby Hills Park** –
 - Replace playground equipment.

- Develop a new neighborhood park plan. Consider converting the street between the two park parcels to park use.

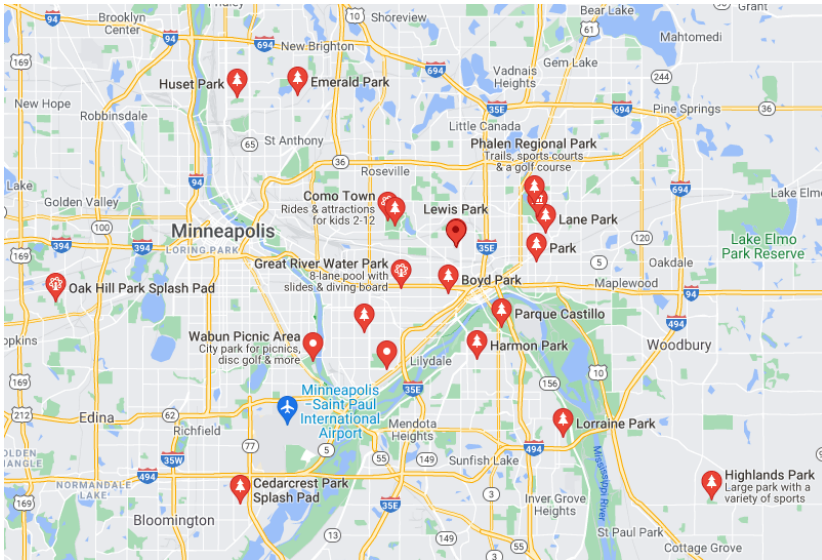
9. **Dorothy Park** – Maintain and make minor upgrades when the trail is constructed.
10. **Hause Park** – Maintain and upgrade to keep the park the neighborhood focal point.
11. **Polar Park** – Maintain and upgrade to keep the park the neighborhood focal point.



FIGURE 10-6 DOROTHY PARK

12. **Tower Park** – Maintain and upgrade to keep the park the neighborhood focal point.
13. **Southwood Nature Preserve** – Maintain facilities, improve the creek bed by encouraging natural habitat and removal of debris. Consider additional uses.
14. **Northwood Park** – Maintain and upgrade the facilities and park land on an ongoing basis. Construct a new shelter building.
15. **Environmental Learning Center (Spirit Basin)** – Make the drainage basin located between 11th and 13th Avenues more park-like by constructing a perimeter trail, and increase the number, size and types of native species while reducing potential erosion.
16. **Veterans Park** – Maintain and upkeep park.
17. **Country Club Park** – Consider alternatives including maintaining and upgrading the park, or selling the land to build a house.
18. **Central Park**– Modify and upgrade consistent with changes on Seppala and downtown redevelopment.
19. **Rotary Park** – Maintain and upkeep park; consider adding modern restrooms.
20. **Cowern Elementary School – Southwood Park Link (Proposed)** – Prepare a plan, acquire property, improve the site by protecting the creek and natural amenity and construct a trail from Helen Street and the school site to Margaret Street.
21. **Proposed Trails** – Construct the proposed trails as generally shown on the plan.
22. **Park Master Plan** – Develop a Master Plan for all the park land within the City.

23. **ADA Compliance Plan** – Develop a plan for all parks to be compliant with the American Disabilities Act and accessible for all.
24. **West End** – Develop a neighborhood park as residential development occurs in the West End Housing and Redevelopment District.
25. **Wayfinding and Navigation** – Design a strategy that provides better wayfinding and navigation to and from parks and trails.



Current splash pad locations- Only 3 listed for east metro –one in W St Paul, one in Cottage Grove and one in Woodbury

Maple Grove splash pad

Swimming pool –tank, recirculating, daily maintenance, person on site

2014 -\$1.2 million, concrete \$200,000

Crystal Water fountain system

Damin Farber, Global Specialty



Becker Park, Crystal, MN opened in 2020

John Elholm- 763-531-0052

Flow through system

\$100,000

Playground \$650,000

Vortex

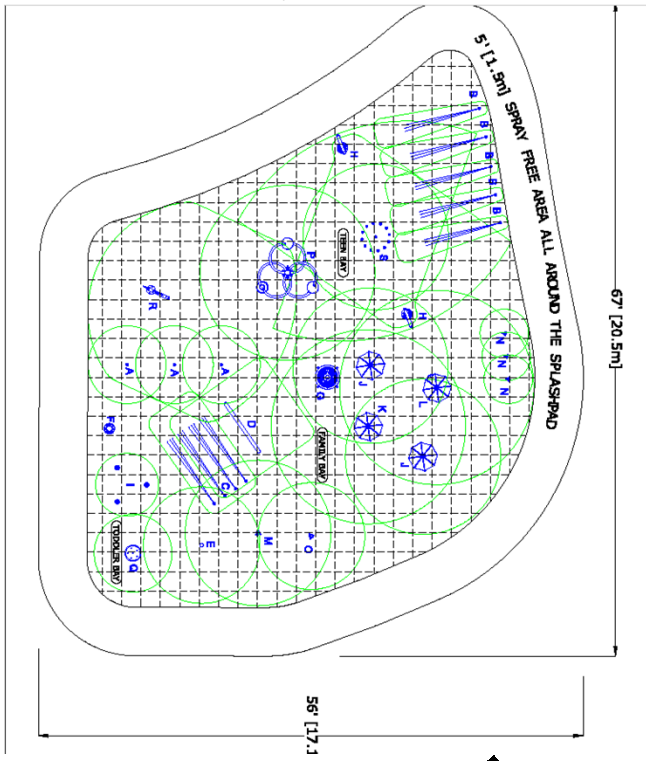


Harmon Park –West St Paul, \$225, 000 in 2014.

Flow through system

5.5 million gallons a year –about \$25,000

Commercial Recreation, National JPA



Highlands Park Splash Pad

Open Date: July 3, 2012
Project Cost: \$463,000 (includes site work, utility extensions, pads, features and landscaping)
Building Cost: \$150,000 (includes complete renovation/expansion of existing building)
Operational Expenses: \$7,000/yr (includes labor, overtime on weekends)(No water expenses)
Splash Pad Engineer: Stantec
Splash Pad Contractor: LS Black
Splash Pad Vendor: Vortex
Building Architect: RVK Architects
Estimate Usage: 300-400 on warm summer days. Over 23,000 annually
Season: Mid-May through mid-September
System: Flow-through system (fresh water sent to park pond)
Estimated Water Use: 70-80,000 gallons per day on peak days (less than 1% of community use)
Splash Pad Square Ft: 3,165 (does not include sidewalks or supporting areas)
Tot Pad-562 Family Pad-1,578 Teen Pad-1,025



[Key Considerations When Building a Splash Pad](#)

by [Paul Steinbach](#)

August 2014

[\(Photo courtesy of Commercial Recreation Specialists\)](#)

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They're bubbling up from Texas to Minnesota and from coast to coast as complements to traditional dry playgrounds and existing pools, as well as stand-alone aquatics amenities replacing traditional pools altogether. For many municipalities, both urban and suburban, splash pads offer a simpler, more affordable aquatics recreation alternative.

[\(Photo courtesy of Commercial Recreation Specialists\)](#) [Click to enlarge](#)

With little or no standing water (and thus no lifeguard staffing requirements), but a wide range of water-play options, splash pads represent a natural evolution of the backyard sprinkler cool-down concept. "The nice thing about splash pads in open parks is they're very cross-generational," says Ron Romens, owner and president of Commercial Recreation Specialists in Verona, Wis. "They represent a space where parents and grandparents can bring kids. The kids can play, and the moms have a cup of coffee. They don't have to be right next to the kids in case they have to grab them like in a wading pool. It's very much a social, community-building space."

But communities looking to build a splash pad still have much to think about. Here are several interconnected considerations:

[\(Photo courtesy of Commercial Recreation Specialists\)](#) [Click to enlarge](#)

Target audience: While the park-visiting experience may be multigenerational, splash pads will not serve the full range of users that a pool might, focusing instead on the toddlers-to-teens market. Serving that narrower demographic nonetheless requires variety in the form of gentle, non-intimidating sprays — even mists — for the youngest users and higher-volume sprays and dumping elements for older users.

Features: Water that jets upward out of the surface or can be manually aimed through nozzles appeal to toddlers, while teens more likely enjoy subjecting themselves to 50 gallons dumped at once. "When you design a splash pad, you really design it into zones and areas for those different ages of kids," Romens says. "So in the toddler bay, you find laminar-type flow effects, features that are low to the toddler's height, things that are easy to turn and interact with. When you get to the more active bay, now you're putting in action-reaction play features where it takes multiple kids to get a different response from the water, by stepping on different jets or by moving things around. Then you get into competitive play."

Specific features range from ground-level trenches with operable water-flow gates to animal sculptures that shoot water down from 15 feet overhead — the flow manipulated by kids pressing certain valve caps to reroute the water. The key is getting kids moving, even more than they might in a traditional pool setting, according to Ed Benck, owner of Aquatic Recreation Company LLC in Eden Prairie, Minn. "We have products that take two or three kids to really interact fully with the product, so they're getting a little bit of a workout," Benck says. "We make water tunnels that kids can run through to get them active, to get them moving around."

[\(Photo courtesy of Aquatic Recreation Company LLC\)](#) [Click to enlarge](#)

Sequencing: During typical operating hours (9 a.m. to dusk, for example), splash pads are user-activated. A child touches a bollard, which signals a controller to activate a percentage of play features for a preprogrammed period of time (say, four minutes). "So for every minute out of those four minutes, different features are coming on and off," Romens says. "By these features being sequenced at different times and at different rates, it keeps it fresh for the kids."

System type: Exactly what percentage of a splash pad's features are active at any given time often depends on a most fundamental design consideration — the type of system specified. There are two approaches to splash pad mechanics: the flow-through system and the recirculating system.

[\(Photo courtesy of Commercial Recreation Specialists\) Click to enlarge](#)

In a flow-through system, water from a potable source is pumped onto the pad and allowed to drain into a municipality's storm system or, quite often, to be repurposed as irrigation. This method requires no water treatment and testing (nor the corresponding expense and staffing expertise), but water consumed by such a system — perhaps 10 million gallons over the course of a season — tends to raise a few eyebrows, according to Benck. "We just completed a project whereby the owner said, 'Okay, I'm going to bury a tank in the ground. When that tank is full, the splash pad turns off, and we repurpose that water,'" Benck says. "So their big message to the community — and they addressed this with site signage — was that every drop of this drain-to-waste splash pad is being repurposed for landscape maintenance."

A recirculating system, meanwhile, operates more like a pool — with chemicals, filters and pumps. Water is sent to the pad from a tank roughly four to five times the system's flow rate. So if the splash pad's features are operating at the extremely high flow rate of 2,500 gallons per minute, for example, a 10,000-gallon tank is required to allow the system to properly maintain water quality. Minimum tank sizes vary by state, Benck adds. In his home state of Minnesota, 2,000-gallon tanks are required, with larger ones needed as flow rates increase. In California, the minimum tank size is 4,000 gallons.

[\(Photo courtesy of Aquatic Recreation Company LLC\) Click to enlarge](#)

In the interest of preserving water in a flow-through system, low-flow nozzles are typically specified, and perhaps only 60 percent of features are active at any given time, compared to 80 percent of features on a recirculating splash pad. Says Romens, "We could run it at 100 percent, but we like to do 80 because it's always changing it up." For these reasons, splash pads that hope to cater to a wider range of age groups by enticing teens with "big water," as Benck calls it, are likely better off with a recirculating system. "We prefer the bigger, heavier sprays with more water volume, because it's just more fun for the kids," he says.

There's another advantage to recirculating water, Benck adds. "If it's a drain-away system, their up-front costs are less, but they really compromise the play value of the splash pad, because now the kids are getting sprayed with cold municipal water, rather than a recirculating system in which the water is a more ambient temperature," he says. "It's like when you were a kid and you played with the hose at home: 'This is fun, but, man, the water's cold.'"

Benck's firm has even installed recirculating splash pads with another common pool component: mechanical heat. "We have put in splash pads with heaters, so they can extend their season. They don't use them much, but they probably use them for a couple of weeks in the spring and a couple of weeks in the fall," Benck says. "When they close the other municipal pools, they can keep the splash pad on."

[\(Photo courtesy of Commercial Recreation Specialists\) Click to enlarge](#)

Surfacing: Brushed concrete is the most common splash pad surface, enhancing the safety and overall accessibility of the amenity. That said, manufacturers of resilient synthetic surfacing have emerged in recent years with products better suited to withstand the rigors of sun, chlorinated water and bacteria compared to previous formulations. "The broom finish is more cost-effective and it's non-slip, but if the customer has it in the budget, resilient surfacing is a really good way to go, because if you do slip on the broom finish, you're going to get a raspberry," says Benck, who recommends synthetic safety surfacing, as well, in dry play areas that abut a splash pad, so mulch and sand aren't tracked into the wet areas.

Splash pads have been around in various forms for decades, but their influence in the aquatics industry continues to spread. As more municipal pools become too old to justify their upkeep, aquatics alternatives that cost a fraction of what a new pool would cost to build and maintain start to look as enticing as a 50-gallon bucket dump on a 90-degree day.

"I believe that municipalities are just starting to understand this category of recreation and how they can integrate it into overall recreation," Romens says. "And the beautiful thing about splash pads, especially in open park settings,

is there's dry play and wet play tied together. So splash pads really blend well with all the trends that I see in parks and in recreation today. I believe the category really is still in the very beginning stages as to where it will go."



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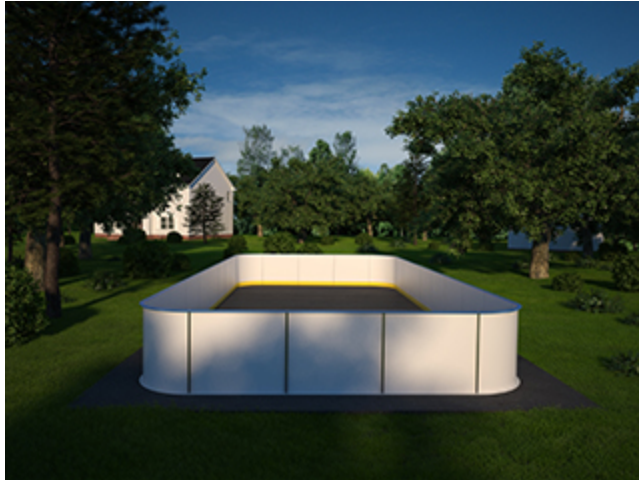
Mike Miller

sales@d1backyardrinks.com

Mobile: 612-281-8855

Toll Free: 855-355-3131

Your Project



Subsurface Size: 85' x 200'
Boards Perimeter: 88' x 200'

Location: Outdoor
Subsurface: Asphalt
Rink Type: Hockey Boards Only
Hockey Boards: Tall (42") Boards
Winter Components: Yes
Anchoring Method: Permanent

Your Rink Build

Rink Components

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Thanks,
Greg W. Smith
Gopher Sign Company
greg@gophersign.com

1310 Randolph Ave. | Saint Paul, MN., 55105
Cell: 612-986-4715*
Office: 651-698-5095 x 416
www.gophersign.com

sample:



PHALEN SOUTH END

1283 EAST SHORE DRIVE
City of Saint Paul, Parks & Recreation



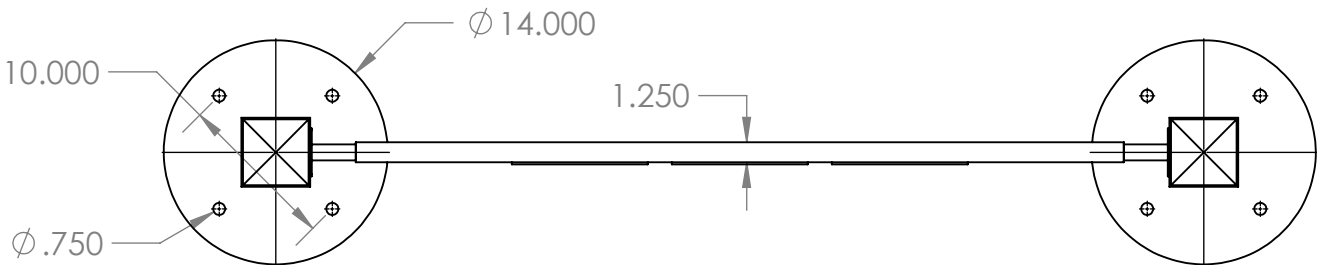
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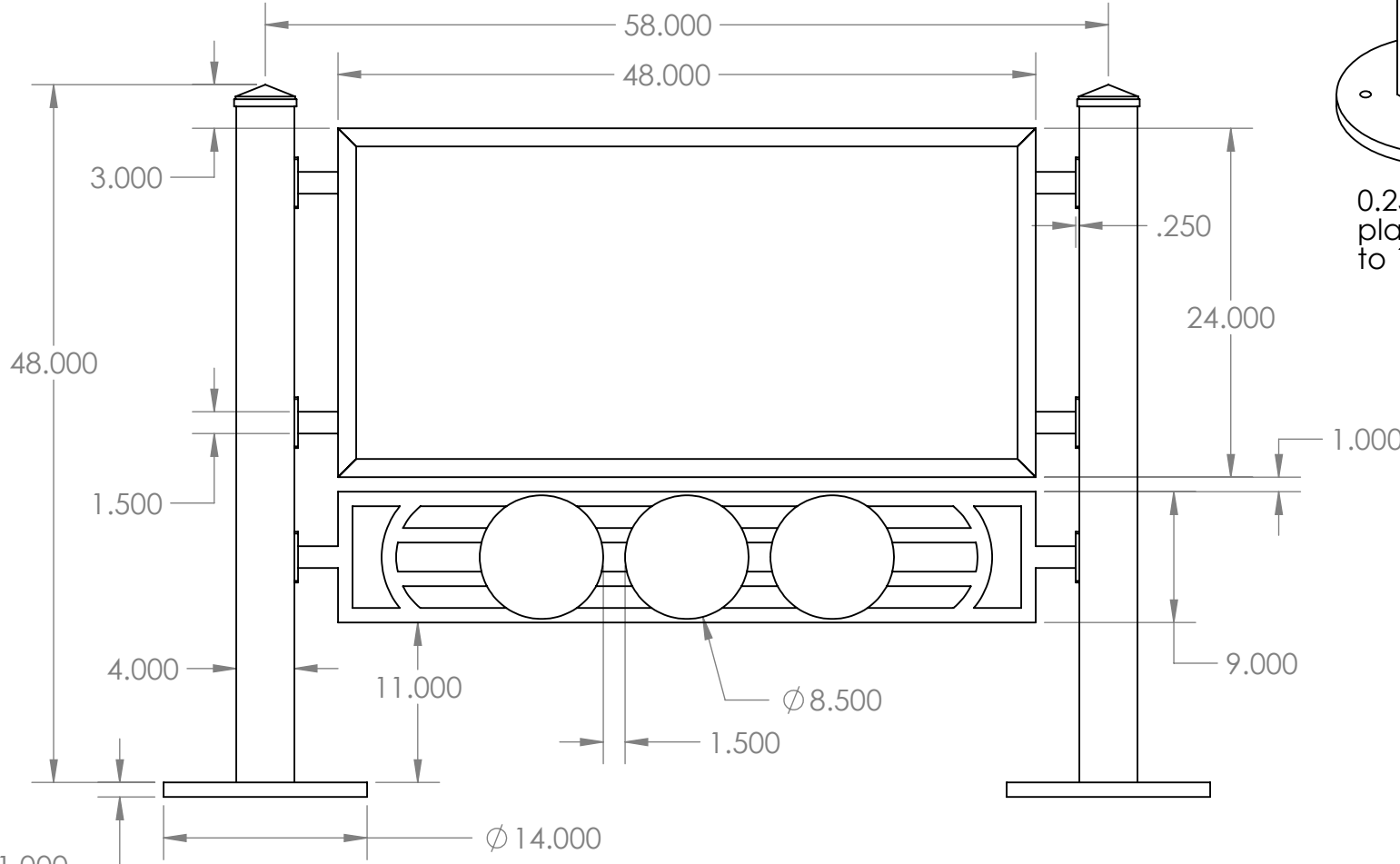
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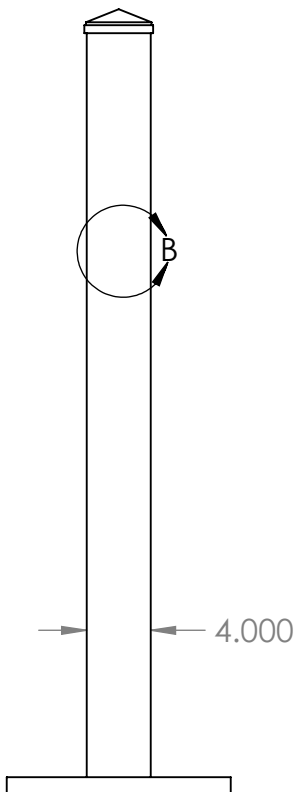
Top View



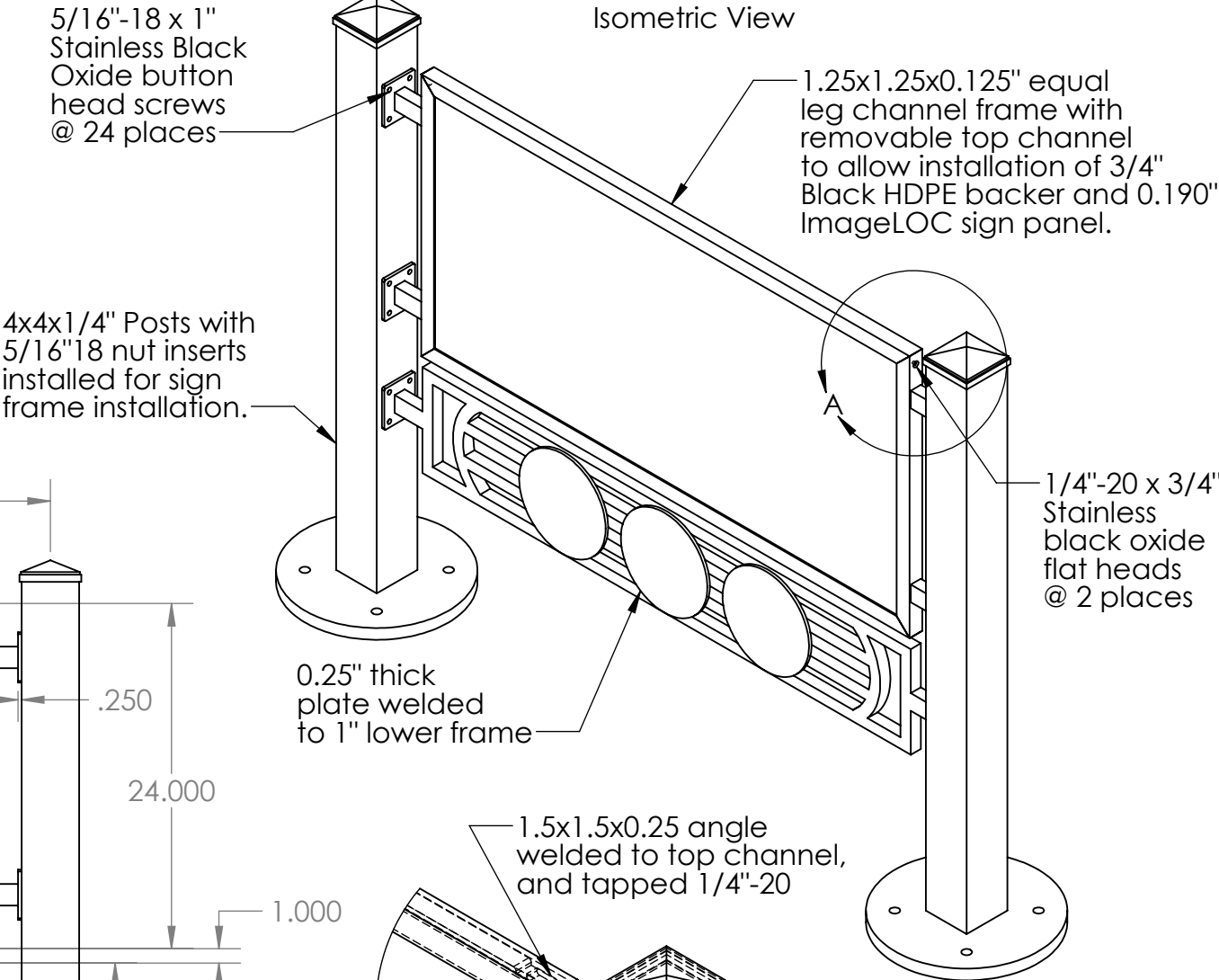
Front View



Left View



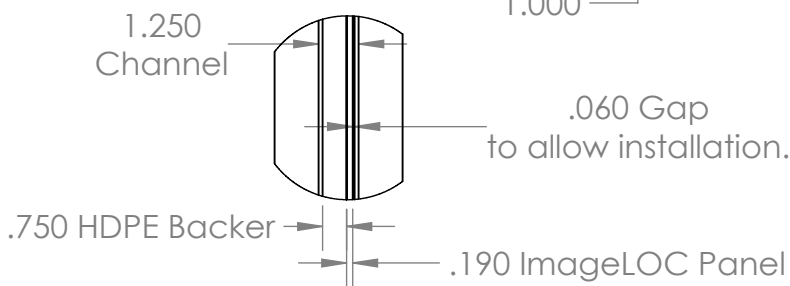
Isometric View



DETAIL A
SCALE 1 : 6

Qty. TBD

DETAIL B
SCALE 1 : 6



UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED:		NAME	DATE	-GOPHER SIGN- 103 Highway 22 E - Clear Lake, SD 57226	
DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES		DRAWN	Jonas		
TOLERANCES:		CHECKED			
FRACTIONAL ± 1/32		ENG APPR.			
ANGULAR: MACH ± 0.25°		MFG APPR.		Description: St. Paul	
BEND Angle ± 0.5°		Q.A.			
TWO PLACE DECIMAL ± 0.03		Project:	TBD		
THREE PLACE DECIMAL ± 0.015		Job #	TBD	SIZE	DWG. NO.
FINISH Textured Black Powder coat		Project: TBD		B	Park Sign Small
				SCALE: 1:12	WEIGHT:
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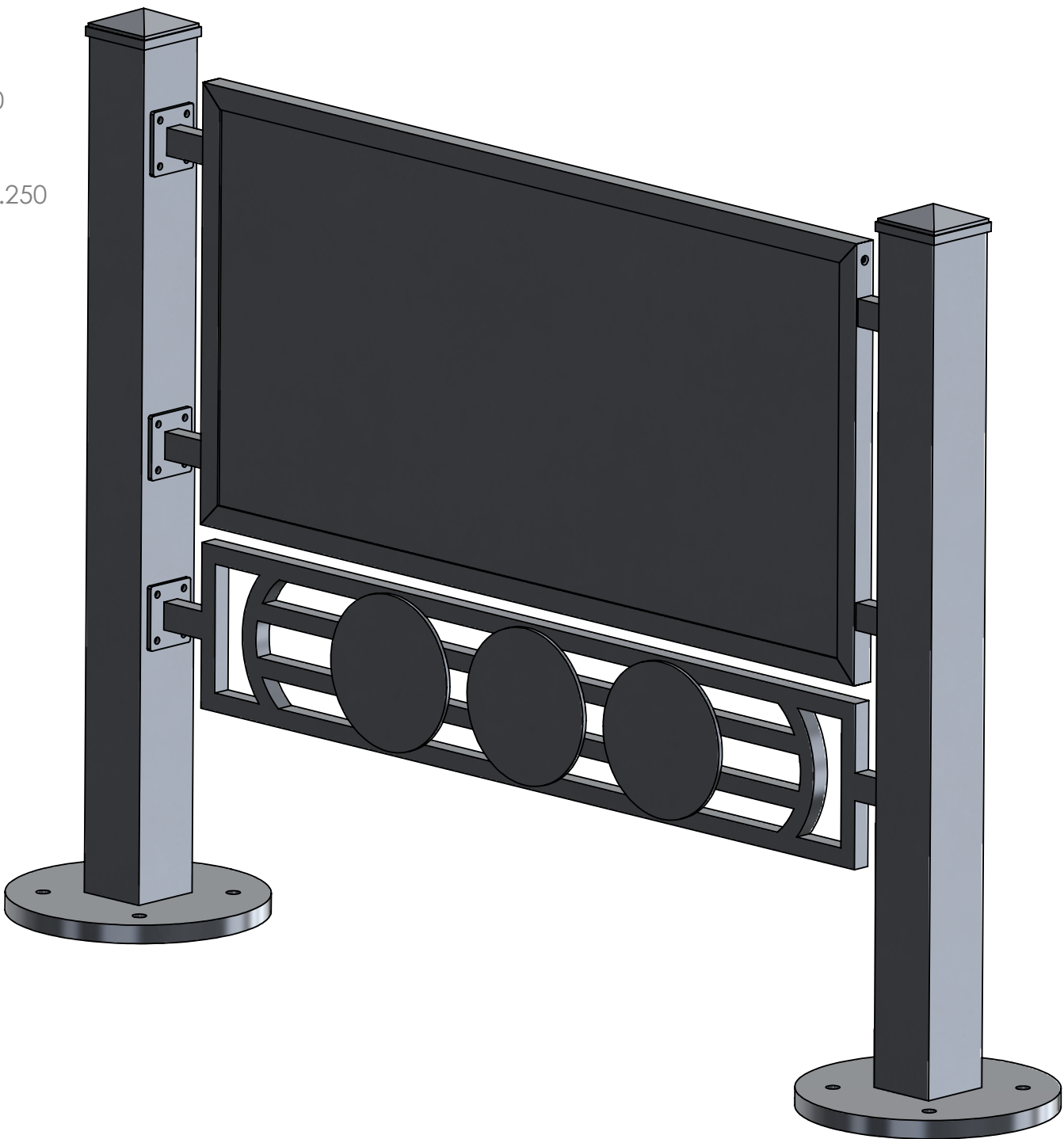
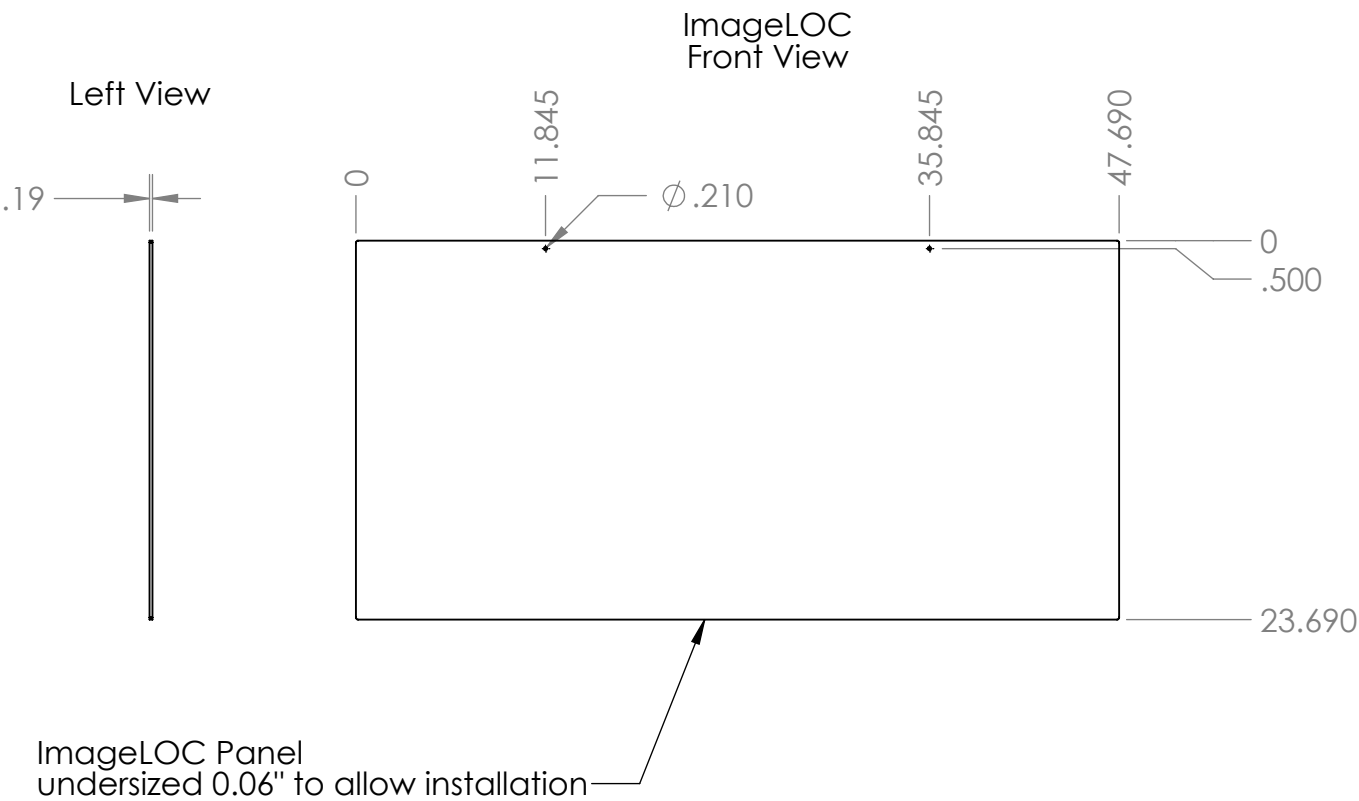
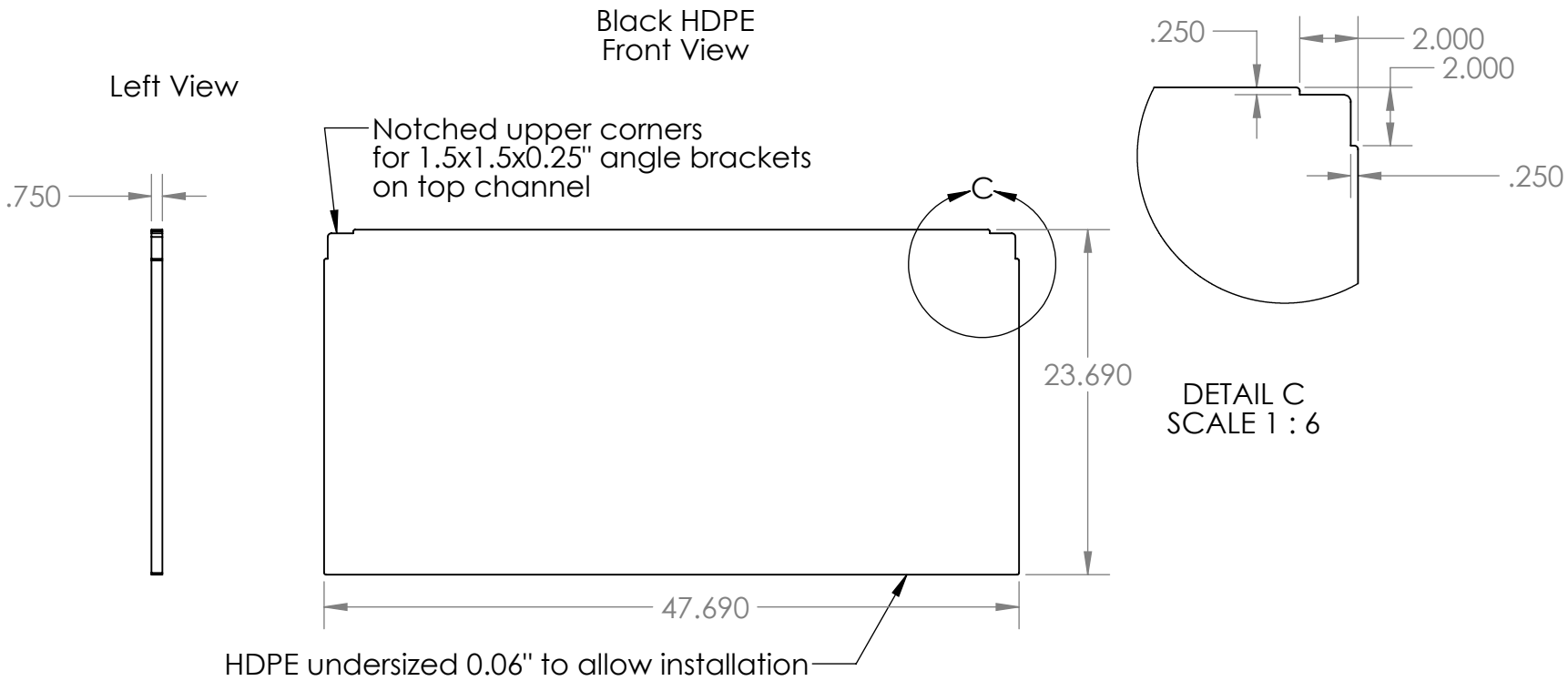
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Qty. TBD

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TOLERANCES:
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ANGULAR: MACH $\pm 0.25^\circ$
BEND Angle $\pm 0.5^\circ$
TWO PLACE DECIMAL ± 0.03
THREE PLACE DECIMAL ± 0.015

INTERPRET GEOMETRIC TOLERANCING PER: ANSI

Job # TBD

FINISH
TBD

NAME	DATE	-GOPHER SIGN-		
DRAWN	Jonas	103 Highway 22 E - Clear Lake, SD 57226		
CHECKED		Description:		
ENG APPR.		St. Paul		
MFG APPR.				
Q.A.				
Project:		TBD		
SIZE	DWG. NO.	REV		
B	Park Sign Small			
SCALE: 1:12		WEIGHT:	SHEET 2 OF 2	

4

3

2

1

THE CITY OF SAINT PAUL, PARKS AND RECREATION EXTERIOR SIGNAGE

Project Manager
Cheeneng Yang
651-266-6414
Cheeneng.Yang@ci.stpaul.mn.us

Project Manager/Senior Landscape Architect
Kathleen Anglo, RLA
651-266-6368
Kathleen.Anglo@ci.stpaul.mn.us



1 Regional Park Sign A



2 Regional Park Sign B



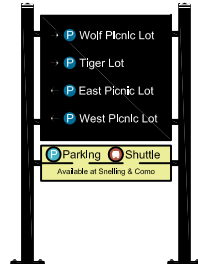
3 Park Sign - Large



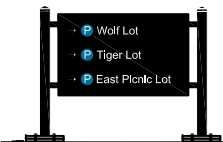
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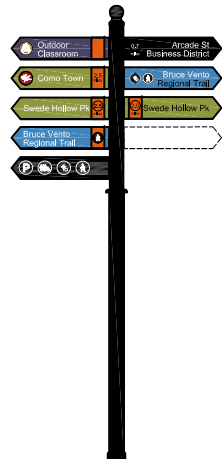
5 Wayfinding Sign A



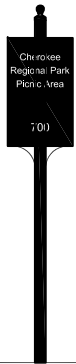
6 Wayfinding Sign B



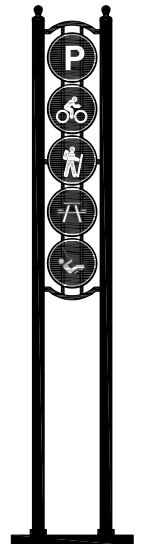
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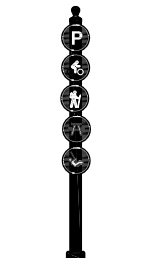
8-9 Wayfinding Sign D1 & Sign D2



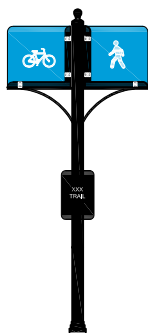
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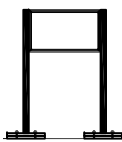
11 Wayfinding Sign F



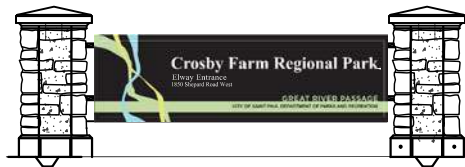
12 Wayfinding Sign G



13 Wayfinding Sign H



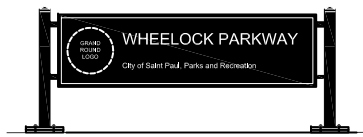
14 Interpretive Sign



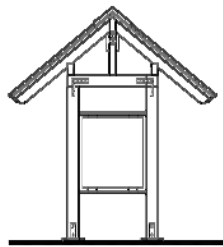
15 Great River Passage Sign



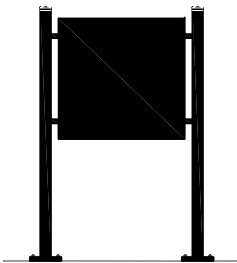
16 Great River Passage Parking Lot Sign



17 Saint Paul Grand Round Sign



18-22 Kiosk (4-Sided)



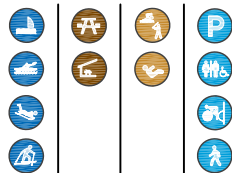
23 Kiosk (2-Sided)



24 Sign Backside Alternative



25-26 Footing & Foundation



27-28 Symbols & Typeface

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Date: 06/12/2017
Reg. No. 43242

JOB NO:
DRY: CKA SUPV. AM
DATE: 05/22/2017

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION
400 CITY HALL ANNEX
25 WEST FOURTH STREET
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

COVER SHEET
REVISIONS:

CITYWIDE SIGN FAMILY
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Imperial Park