

Legislation Text

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Park and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Date: November 20, 2014

To: Park and Recreation Advisory Board

From: Brian Erickson, P.E., Interim Public Works Director/City Engineer

Subject:
Meadows Park

Action Requested:

The Northfield Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) will review information presented at the community meeting held on November 19, 2014.

Summary Report:

At their October meeting, the PRAB reviewed and discussed the upcoming City Council work session on Meadows Park. The City Council then discussed their vision for Meadows Park with the SRF Consulting and Paul Miller Design, Inc. (SRF/PMDI) at their October 28 work session. The goal of the discussion was:

1. Provide policy level direction to overall park development process and timeline.
2. Provide policy level direction to staff and advisory board as to what the park is visioned to be come.

At the work session staff discussed the background on the project to date and gave a brief overview of the community plans (i.e. Comprehensive Plan; Parks, Open Space and Trail System Plan; Comprehensive Transportation Plan Update, etc.) that influence the development of the park. SRF/PMDI then presented some ideas on what the park could become. Finally, a detailed timeline was presented for completing the work needed on the park. A copy of the presentation is attached. Councilors discussed a number of ideas for the park including:

- Desired amenities
- Phasing of the implementation
- Completion of road system
- A need to address stormwater concerns

In preparation for the November 19, 2014 Community Meeting, staff and SRF/PMDI have been meeting to discuss how Council direction is implemented into the plan along with gathering of information from the community. Since this meeting will be held the day prior to the PRAB meeting, results are not included in the packet, but will be presented at the meeting.

Alternative Options:

Implementation of the master plan is a requirement of this acquisition. If the land is not put to its intended use or is abandoned, then the City would have two options:

1. Purchase the property at the then present market value with approval of the county board.

2. Authorize the conveyance of the land or part of the land not required for an authorized use to the State of Minnesota.

Financial Impacts:

The financing for the consultant has been included in the Park Fund 2014 - 2018 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) in the amount of \$20,000. The 2015 - 2019 CIP will be discussed with City Council on November 25 where funding for the park improvement will be discussed.

Tentative Timelines:

See attached timeline for detailed information.

OVERVIEW OF PARK PLANNING PROCESS FOR MEADOWS PARK

<u>STEPS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>RESPONSIBILITY</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
<u>PART 1. PLANNING REVIEW</u>			<u>IDENTIFY ISSUES</u>
A. Initial meeting with staff	COMPLETE	Staff/SRF/PMDI	
B. Gather Site Background	IN PROGRESS	SRF/PMDI	
C. Establish Vision and Goals	IN PROGRESS	Staff/SRF/PMDI	
D. Prepare Base Map	IN PROGRESS	SRF/PMDI	
E. Site Issues Plans	IN PROGRESS	SRF/PMDI	
<u>PART 2. COMMUNITY/BOARD/COMMISSION INPUT</u>			<u>GATHER INPUT/VISION</u>
A. Meet with City Council	OCT. 28, 14*	Staff/SRF/PMDI	
B. Attend meetings with partner groups	NOV 1, 14 – JAN 30, 15	Staff/SRF/PMDI	
C. Meet with Park & Recreation Advisory Board	NOV. 20, 14; JAN 15, 15	PRAB/Staff/SRF/PMDI	
D. Meet with Planning Commission	DEC 2014	PC/Staff/SRF/PMDI	
E. Community meeting(s)	NOV. 19, 14; JAN 21, 15	Staff/SRF/PMDI	Central Location TBD
<u>PART 3. PARK MASTER PLAN</u>			<u>PREPARE CONCEPTS</u>
A. Establish Design parameters, property line – sketch plans	NOV. 6, 14 – Dec 5, 14	SRF/PMDI	
B. Develop alternative design concepts	NOV. 6, 14 – Dec. 31, 14	SRF/PMDI	
C. Board review	JAN 2 – 30, 15	Boards/Staff/SRF/PMDI	GATHER INPUT
D. Review with City Staff and City Council	JAN 2 – 30, 15	Council/Staff/SRF/PMDI	
E. Refine concept alternatives into preferred master plan	FEB 2 – FEB 27, 15	SRF/PMDI	PREPARE FINAL PLAN
F. Prepare preliminary cost estimate	FEB 2 – APRIL 3, 15	SRF/PMDI	
G. Prepare maintenance plan	FEB 2 – APRIL 3, 15	SRF/PMDI	
H. Present final master plan to City Council	APR 14, 15	SRF/PMDI	PRESENT MASTER PLAN
<u>PART 4. BUDGET FORMATION</u>			<u>FUND MASTER PLAN</u>
A. Formulate FY General Parks Budget (2016/2017 & beyond)	MAY 2015	PW/Admin	
B. CIP Amendment (Construction)	MAY 2015	PW/CD/Admin	
C. Present Recommendations to City Council	JUN 2015	PW	
D. Preliminary Plan & Financing Approved by Council	JUL 2015	PW	

PART 5. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENT MASTER PLAN

A. Prepare RFP for Design	MAY 2015	PW
B. Advertise RFP	JUN 2015	PW
C. Award Design Services	AUG 2015	Council
D. Construction Design	AUG – NOV 2015	Consultant/PW
E. Review with Preliminary Design/Cost w/Council & PRAB	SEP 2015	Council/PRAB/PW/Consultant
F. Final Design/Cost to Council & PRAB	NOV 2015	Council/PRAB/PW/Consultant
E. Council Design Approval and Advertise for Construction Bids	DEC 15 – JAN 16	PW
F. Open Bids	JAN 2016	PW
G. Award Construction Contract	MAR 2016	Council/PW
H. Construction Start	MAY 2016	PW/Contractor
I. Construction Completion	JUL 2016	PW/Contractor

Community Plans Influencing Meadows Park

Comprehensive Plan for Northfield

- Provides Community Vision
- Provides 12 Land Development Principles
- Principle 1: The small town character will be enhanced.
 - Future areas for growth and development will reflect the essential elements of “Old Northfield” with respect to the form and pattern of development.
 - New development and redevelopment will be sensitive to pedestrians in terms of scale and walkability.
- Principle 2: The natural environment will be protected, enhanced and better integrated in the community.
 - Convenient and accessible recreational opportunities will be provided for all ages on parkland and greenspaces. These areas will be enhanced, and new areas set aside that connect people to the natural environment, and promote recreational opportunities to support active and healthy lifestyles.
- Principle 3: The preference for accommodating future growth is in infill locations, then redevelopment opportunities, and then on the edge of existing developed areas.
 - When new development occurs at the edge of the Community through annexations, it will be done with great care by creating well defined residential neighborhoods, a green edge or a well designed place for commerce, so as not to compromise the rural landscape or the small town character.
- Principle 4: New and redeveloped residential communities (areas) will have strong neighborhood qualities.
 - Neighborhoods will be walkable with pedestrian friendly streets containing sidewalks that accommodate automobiles at lower speeds and volumes that provide for bicycle mobility on the street and give priority to the pedestrian experience.
 - Community gathering areas will be integrated into new residential areas to promote opportunities for social interaction and public events.
- Principle 5: Environmentally-sensitive and sustainable practices will be integrated into new developments and redeveloped areas.
 - Compact/cluster subdivision design will be the preferred pattern of residential development in edge areas.
- Principle 6: Places with a mix of uses that are distinctive and contribute to increasing the City's overall vitality are preferred.
 - Mixed-use centers, places that mix small-scale retail, residences, offices and civic uses will become part of the new development pattern, where applicable, in the City.
- Principle 7: Neighborhood serving commercial will be small scale and integrated with the residential context.
- Principle 8: A wider range of housing choices will be encouraged – in the Community as well as in neighborhoods.

- New residential development will offer a variety of housing types and prices, including affordable and workforce housing.
- Principle 9: Rural character of certain areas of the Community will be protected.
 - The primary elements that make up this character are the rural roads, expansive agrarian views, and rural architectural vernacular.
- Principle 10: Streets will create an attractive public realm and be exceptional places for people.
 - Roadways and streets are important elements of the built environment and will strengthen the character of the setting.
 - Roadways and streets will be given greater consideration as part of future development to ensure they contribute to the neighborhood character and people-oriented functions.
 - The City will take great care in protecting the rural roadway character on the edge of the Community.
- Principle 11: Places will be better connected, in part to improve the function of the street network and also to better serve neighborhoods.
 - The street pattern will be improved to keep local traffic off major arterials, and high-speed through traffic off local streets.
 - A better connected grid or modified grid street system is the preferred network for future development and redevelopment.
- Principle 12: Opportunities will be created to walk and bike throughout the Community.
 - The design of local streets will encourage pedestrian and bicycle movement through features such as sidewalks, bike paths, narrower street widths, and quality planter and buffer strips to protect the pedestrian.
 - Sidewalks, walking trails and bike paths will be connected to public parks and other destinations, including shopping and entertainment areas.
 - Biking and other alternate forms of transportation will be provided as a viable form of transportation.

Greater Northfield Area Greenway System Action Plan

- Provides Greenway characteristics
- Northfield Township Loop identified in Meadows Park area

Gateway Corridor Improvement Plan

- Does not identify Gateway in area, but provides guidance and design principles

Comprehensive Transportation Plan Update

- Provides goals and objectives for Plan implementation
- Provides street and multimodal design guidelines
- Details Parkway concept (Ford St?)
- Future Transportation Plan designates Ford St as proposed minor collector extended to Hall Ave.

Northfield Parks, Open Space and Trail System Plan

- Identifies Local Neighborhood Trail through Meadows Park

- Identifies Northfield Township Loop destination trail in Natural Greenway Corridor

Natural Resource Inventory

Surface Water Management Plan

Spring Creek Watershed Update