

Project Outline – Standards for Skating Rinks in Madison Parks

Project Description (Describe what is being proposed, why the project is needed)

This project will study and make recommendations regarding the number, siting, and operations of skating rinks in Madison parks including community and neighborhood parks and the Adopt Ice program. The Park Commission called for this study at its December 11, 2014 meeting. This project is prompted by the perceived demand for ice skating rinks and for adding new rinks to the 'Adopt' program.

Outcome (Research, Recommendation to Park Commission, Written Report, etc.)

Recommendations, focusing on a system that values and promotes ice skating, ensures equitable geographic rink availability, and recognizes budgetary realities. Propose revisions to ordinances, if needed.

Action Plan (List the major steps and timeframes you will follow to complete this project)

1. Research (spring/summer 2015)
 - historical skating rinks availability,
 - rink typologies,
 - the impact of recent policy/operational decisions,
 - current location and utilization of Madison rinks,
 - estimate various costs associated with rink maintenance,
 - review 'Adopt' program and staff/volunteer/user experiences.
2. Staff research and presentations to LRP in early summer 2015.
3. Info forum with 'Adopt' volunteers in mid-summer 2015 to gauge interest, issues, concerns.
4. Further study, discussion by committee.
5. Draft written report, present proposal to LRP in early Fall and recommend to PC as findings dictate by mid-Fall, 2015.
6. Implement approved recommendations in Winter, 2015/16.
7. Monitor Winter, 2015/15 and report Spring 2016.

Internal/External Resources Need for This Project (List the resources)

Internal: Parks Planning staff, Park rangers, Park Operations staff, Community Services staff

External: Neighborhood associations; 'Adopt' volunteers, skating public