

SUPERINTENDENT'S MARCH 2017 REPORT

COMMUNICATIONS TO BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

Parks Superintendent's Monthly Report Summary
February / March 2017

- Forestry and Parks Construction staff assisted the conservation crew with reducing and removing large woody debris from the canopy thinning operation conducted on the 5th Addition parcel in the southwest portion of Cherokee Marsh - North Unit. This included a few windblown trees as well as logs and crowns from trees that had been felled as part of the savanna restoration there.
- Conservation staff also focused on forestry mowing and invasive woody species control at Cherokee Marsh North Unit and Owen Conservation Park.
- Conservation Supervisor, Paul Quinlan worked with the general parks supervisors to review and approve a UW Madison research proposal to collect DNA data from squirrels in parks throughout the city.
- The ice skating season came to an early end with warmer temp in February.
- Supervisors are beginning the process of hiring seasonal positions and newly created Parks Worker positions.
- The park arborist crew has been working on removing ash trees from the Yahara Golf Course.
- Forestry specialists have been following up ash replacement inspections as well as preparing for spring planting and reserving trees for fall planting.
- With the Capitol Square construction looming, benches, trash cans, and bike racks were easily moved to prep for the 3 month long project.
- Staff conducted and participated in internal training for forklift operation, CPR and other heavy machinery.
- Staff are continuing to work with the skate park volunteer group to open and close the skate park so it can be enjoyed for an extended season.
- Olbrich Botanical Gardens saw another increase in visitors over last year and the previous 5 years. The Winter Concert Series is continuing on Sunday afternoons in March.
- Staff are coordinating several upcoming events for volunteers – Earth Day Challenge, Dog Park Cleanup Day and Winter Disc Golf Course Cleanup Day.
- The Parks Division has contracted with Isthmus Architects to prepare a facility plan for Breese Stevens Field. The facility plan will assess potential improvements to the stadium and field area based on criteria provided by Big Top Events and Parks staff. A draft facility plan is anticipated in early March 2017 for staff final review.

WRITTEN REPORT OF SUPERVISOR'S ACTIVITIES EAST PARKS – CRAIG KLINKE, SUPERVISOR.

Ice season came to an end quickly this year as record breaking high temperatures swept across southern Wisconsin. We've already taken the hockey boards down at Tenney and will soon be converting the shelters back to reservable spaces. On a positive note, the warm weather has afforded us opportunities to get early starts on necessary projects to get us ready for spring. We've been working on pruning oak trees, pruning trees in managed meadows, putting tree guards on newly planted trees to protect them from mower/trimmer damage, picking up fallen brush, and picking a lot of trash off of our boulevards and parking lots. We've also been breaking down winter equipment to get it ready for mowing season and helping Forestry out by providing them brush truck drivers. Once this warm spell ends, we'll be back into the shops to work on repairing hockey goals, picnic tables, benches, and painting new trash cans. The park arborist crew has been working on removing ash trees from the Yahara Golf Course.

We are quickly approaching our busiest time of the year. In March we'll be spending a lot of time interviewing for seasonal positions, our newly created (and highly anticipated) Parks Worker positions, and our vacant Athletic Leadworker position. Before we know it we'll be installing soccer fields, repairing plow damage, and getting ready for spring softball. We'll also be working on overseeding as many areas as possible as well. The dog parks, in particular, have suffered from heavy use during the warm days and have a lot of mud/turf issues to recover from.

CENTRAL PARKS & MALL CONCOURSE – CHAD HUGHES, SUPERVISOR

Central Parks

Warm temperatures in February cut our ice skating season short this year. With record highs on some days though we were able to get outside and perform a lot of park and median cleanup that we usually can't get to until March. Our LMW's spent most of their time with the arborists removing ash trees at Yahara golf course and along Paunack bike path. Picnic tables, trash cans and hockey boards got a fresh coat of paint. We also had a chance with the good weather to do some dormant pruning of trees and bushes. The end of the month gave us an ice and snow storm to remind us it is still February in Wisconsin.

Looking forward to March, we have a very busy month. We will be conducting interviews for seasonal positions and our new Parks Worker positions, both of which are slated to start in April. We are also doing internal training for forklift operation, CPR and other heavy machinery. We will continue repairing and maintaining equipment and painting tables and trash cans in anticipation of spring. Our LMW's will continue with EAB removals and prepare for their spring tree plantings. We are working with the skate park volunteer group to open and close the skate park so it can be enjoyed for an extended season.

Mall Maintenance:

Warm weather was a standard for the month of February, with little to no snow removal throughout the month. Sidewalk sweeping, winter debris cleaning, and bus shelter washing were able to be done on a regular basis. With the Capitol Square construction looming, benches, trash cans, and bike racks were easily moved to prep for the 3 month long project. Winterfest, the only downtown major event, was moved to Elver Park for the first time in its history. It will be just a matter of time for the other events to start up in the Mall Concourse area.

March will be a transition time for the Mall getting ready for the spring. Seasonal banners will be changed from winter to spring, the snowflake lights have been taken down, and the winter bough displays will be removed. The St. Patrick's Day Parade will kick off the events for the month, with March Madness basketball games coming as well.

WEST PARKS & FOREST HILL CEMETERY – LAURA BAUER, SUPERVISOR

Forest Hill Cemetery:

March 2017 began at Forest Hill with no snow cover except for what remains of a light snowfall which fell on the last Friday of the month. The bare ground enables staff to begin picking up the winter's fallen branches; as soon as the ground thaws and dries out they will begin running the sweepers to pick up any leaves that fell or blew in since last autumn. Sod damaged by plows will also be replaced.

Burials continue, with current frost conditions dictating whether frost heaters need to be used. In March we generally expect to need to lay plywood for driving and walking on. It's a tedious month in that respect, but we see the end of winter coming and we look forward to spring.

Forest Hill will host an internal forklift training day for West Parks staff on the first of the month. The yard around our cold-storage yard is an ideal area for that training – it's fairly isolated, access is limited, and there are plenty of items to move around.

In regular cemetery business, during the month of January there were six full-size burials, one cremains burial, two entombments, and three inurnments at the mausoleum. There were also four full size grave lots and 1 cremation lot sold.

Summit Maintenance:

The Madison Winter Festival moved to Elver Park for the first time this year. Organizers had been making and stockpiling snow since the beginning of the winter, which was fortunate as the weekend of the 18th & 19th saw beautiful weather and record warm temperatures. As the previous two weeks had been very warm as well, virtually all the winter's snow was gone. Festival events were reorganized and rerouted, everyone seemed to maintain a positive attitude, and the event was declared a success in spite of the weather. Runners seemed very happy to compete in shorts and t-shirts in February.

As noted above, all of our snow cover is gone and the top inches of ground thaw on every sunny day. This makes it difficult to drive into parks to deliver equipment and pick up brush, and difficult to drive over terraces to get to sidewalks or bike paths if we should need to plow them. Everyone hopes for an early spring and drier ground, though we know it's still very early and that may be wishful thinking.

All of our ice rinks closed the weekend of February 11th & 12th, and the hockey boards at Elver and Westmorland have been taken down. It was an extremely short and frustrating season. The sled hill at Elver is currently bare, but because it only requires a few inches of snow, the hill could possibly reopen for a while in March.

March is traditionally a transitional time for parks. We switch over our equipment from "winter" to summer", we spend time repairing, painting, and delivering picnic tables, benches, and trash barrels. We do whatever we need to do to get parks ready for summer again, and we do it with a very flexible schedule that allows for rainy days, late-season snowfalls, and otherwise changeable weather conditions.

We will also be doing a lot of interviewing this month, both for seasonal employees and for the new Parks Worker positions.

CONSERVATION – PAUL QUINLAN, SUPERVISOR

Weather conditions were suitable for grooming ski trails during the first week of February, then warmer temperatures put an early end to ski season. However, this allowed us to accomplish some major conservation-related tasks.

After a recent moratorium on burning brush piles, we secured a permit from the fire department and were able to dispose of brush and tree limbs that had been cleared at Cherokee Marsh – North Unit. We also attempted to burn some brush that had been cut at Prairie Ridge in the fall, but found it was still too green, so we piled and staged the material so it will be ready for a second attempt in the future.

Forestry and Parks Construction staff assisted the conservation crew with reducing and removing large woody debris from the canopy thinning operation conducted on the 5th Addition parcel in the southwest portion of Cherokee Marsh - North Unit. This included a few windblown trees as well as logs and crowns from trees that had been felled as part of the savanna restoration there.

We rented a forestry mower for a week, and staff was very accommodating in adjusting their schedules to help ensure we used all the run-time allowed under the rental agreement. They were able to mow approximately 24 acres at Cherokee Marsh South Unit. This included dense stands of buckthorn and honeysuckle, dogwood clones in a prairie restoration area, and excess tree and shrub regeneration in newer savanna restoration areas where fuel conditions (grass and forb densities) do not yet allow sufficient fire intensity to maintain the habitat with prescribed burns alone. Owen Conservation Park was also a focus of forestry mowing and invasive woody species control, with Tallgrass Restoration beginning work on a small contract there.

We did some minor hand cutting of invasive woody species at Prairie Ridge and Stricker's Pond, and then began to work on maintaining and storing snow grooming equipment and re-outfitting our UTVs. Porta-potties were removed from ski trailheads at Elver, Odana, and Olin-Turville.

Engineering began work on a new storm water pond at the intersection of Wheeler Road and Bonner Lane at Cherokee Marsh – South Unit. I worked with the general parks supervisors to review and approve a UW Madison research proposal to collect DNA data from squirrels in parks throughout the city. Lisa Laschinger and I presented a draft revision of the Land Management Standards document to the Habitat Stewardship Subcommittee at their meeting on February 21. Finally, I worked with several Parks staff and volunteers, began updating burn plans, and applied for a prescribed burn permit in preparation for the upcoming spring burn season.

OLBRICH BOTANICAL GARDENS – ROBERTA SLADKY

Visitor comment:

“Olbrich is aswame.” Eva – age 8, 2/3/2017 (we think she meant awesome)

January 2017 Numbers

OBG Attendance (counted from 9 – 4 only + event participants)	2017	2016	Previous 5 yrs avg
January 1 - 31	11,104	10,674	10,362
YTD January 31	11,104	10,674	

OBG City of Madison Major Revenue Categories (unaudited)	YTD 1/31/17	YTD 1/31/16
Bolz Conservatory Admission YTD	\$3,640	\$3,374
Room Rentals YTD*	\$5,432	\$3,961
Catering Percentage Revenue YTD**	\$798	\$476
TOTAL YTD	\$9,870	\$7,811

*accrued at time of booking – up to 21 months before the rental date, ** accrued on a monthly basis following each catered rental

March 2017 Public Events at Olbrich Botanical Gardens call **608-246-4550** for more information or visit www.olbrich.org/events

Bolz Conservatory Exhibit -- Maria Sibylla Merian: The Suriname Expedition 1699 – 1701,

through March 5, 2017. (Maria has been receiving international attention – 300 years after her ground-breaking scientific work in Suriname -- from the NY Times, the University of Wisconsin Special Collections as well as a special exhibition and symposium in Amsterdam this year -- *Changing the Nature of Art and Science. Intersections with Maria Sibylla Merian*)

Winter Concert Series, Sundays, 2 – 3 pm

March 5 – **The Krause Family Band**, Folk/Americana

March 12 – **Midnight Voices**, female a cappella

March 19 – **Tani Diakite & the Afrofunkstars**, Wasulu music

March 26 – Botanical Boogie (dancing encouraged) -- **Dimensions in Sound**, classic big band

Olbrich's Spring Flower Show: Banquets of Blooms, March 11 – 26, 10 am – 4 pm

Bolz Conservatory CLOSED for Maintenance, March 13 – 24

Olbrich Book Club: **A Summer of Hummingbirds** by Christopher Benfrey, Sunday, 3/26, 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Spring Flower Show Plant Sale, March 27, noon – while supplies last

Cocktails in the Conservatory featuring **DJ Urbane**, March 31, 7 – 11 pm

Education – February 2017 classes and programs 608/246-4550 for information/registration or visit <http://www.olbrich.org/education/classes.cfm>

Wellness at the Gardens

Gentle Kripalu Hatha Yoga, 5 Mondays, Mar 6 – Apr 10, 5:30 pm – 6:45 pm

Tai Chi Meditation, 8 Mondays Jan 30 – Mar 20, 6 – 7 pm

Growing & Blending Herbal Teas, Thu, Mar 16, 6:30 – 8 pm

Natural Skin Care – Inside & Out, Wed, Mar 22, 6:30 – 8 pm

Classes & Workshops for Adults

Top Fifty Plants for Birds in Wisconsin, Sat, Mar 4, 1 - 2:30 pm,

Zentangle With Patterns in Nature, Sun, Mar 4, 1 – 4 pm

Organic Landscape Maintenance Practices, Tues, Mar 7, 6:30 – 8 pm

Eat Locally All Year: Planning a High-Yield Garden, Wed, Mar 8, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Selecting & Growing Tropical Orchids, Sat, Mar 11, 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Basic Handmade Book Structures, Sun, Mar 12, 10 am – 4:30 pm

Weave a Dishcloth, Tues, Mar 14, 6 – 8:30 pm

A Healthy Lawn for a Healthy Community, Tues, Mar 14, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Introduction to Home Cheese Making, Sat, Mar 18, 11 am – 5 pm

Proficient Pruning Workshop, Sat, Mar 18, 1 – 3 pm
Gardens of Stone, Tues, Mar 21, 6:30 – 8 pm
Garbage Into Gold, Thu, Mar 23, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
You CAN Draw! For the Absolute Beginner, Sat, Mar 25, 10 am – 4 pm
Creating & Maintaining a Gravel Garden, Wed, Mar 29, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
Herbs for Form Function, & Fun in Your Landscape, Thu, Mar 30, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Learn & Play Together

Toddler Story & Stroll: (ages 2 – 4 with an adult)

Exploring Our World:

Over in the Arctic, Tues, Mar 14, 10 – 11 am
Going Around the Sun, Tues, Mar 21, 10 – 11 am
Over in a River, Tues, Mar 28, 10 – 11 am

Entomology Extravaganza (ages 3 – 10 with adult) Sat, Mar 4, 10 – 11 am

I Wonder ... Series (grades K – 3 with adult)

What is the Arctic?, Fri, Mar 24, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

FORESTRY – MARLA EDDY

Forestry Section	Total Trees	Total Hours
Cycle Pruning	122	72
Pruned by Request	428	582
Small Tree Pruning Cycle	1,061	521
Tree Removal	34	75
Ash Preemptive Removals	181	649
Storm Work/Hangers		5

*partial data provided because of report due date.

Both east and the west unit were able to put some significant time into small tree cycle pruning. Request pruning work was done for both Streets Division and upcoming engineering projects. Also east unit continued ash preemptive removals in the east moorland neighborhood.

Forestry specialists have been following up ash replacement inspections as well as preparing for spring planting and reserving trees for fall planting. For the upcoming engineering reconstruction season they are assisting design engineers and provided up to date information on the street tree inventory for the project limits. Private developments have come in at a steady pace which forestry specialist reviews the proposed plan as it relates to street tree removal and/or replacement. Finally, they are working on work order entries for upcoming ash preemptive removals.

COMMUNITY SERVICES SUMMARY – CLAIRE OLEKSIK

Warner Park Community Recreation Center – Jacob Tissue

- Warner Family Fun Nights - WPCRC have been very successful in our 3rd year of Family Fun Nights. They have become a staple of the Northside. Upcoming Dates:
 - Friday, March 10
 - Friday, April 14
- WPCRC Advisory Committee Update
 - Last Meeting – Thursday, January 26 (NO QUORUM)
 - Next Meeting - Thursday, March 23
- SpringFest Art and Craft Fair
 - Saturday, April 1, 9:00am-3:00pm
- Jacob is working with Mike Sturm on getting the materials ready for the RFP for planning WPCRC expansion.

Chad Norquist, WPCRC Operations, has been asked to lead sustainable facility efforts at the Goodman Complex; including the aquatic center, maintenance facility, and outbuildings. Chad will work with the facilities crew to determine cost saving measures and develop a energy plan that makes sense for Parks. He has done excellent work on WPCRC energy consumption and has lead efforts in retrofitting all of your mechanicals and their usage.

Customer Service/Front Desk - Joanne Austin

Annual and Daily Permits Processed								
2017 Totals, as of 2/27/2017*			2016 Totals			2015 Totals		
	Annual	Daily		Annual	Daily		Annual	Daily
Disc Golf	284	185	Disc Golf	1,443	6,173	Disc Golf	1,422	7,195
Dog	3,220	93	Dog	8,065	543	Dog	7,177	547
Lake	626	26	Lake	4,339	5,161	Lake	4,123	5,159
XC Ski	1,280	398	XC Ski	1,318	476	XC Ski	1,828	550

*Parks began processing 2017 permits on December 1, 2016. Customers being able to purchase permits online has been a huge success.

Gift Certificates Processed		
2017	2016	2015
38 (\$1,386)	137 (\$9,585)	200 (\$8,306)

2017 Shelter Reservations

We are currently working on a reservation software upgrade. We are quickly learning this new system and will have an update on all currently reserved shelters in our next report. We are happy to report that even with the challenges of working in this upgraded system all is going well, including online shelter reservations.

Recreation Services - Tracey Hartley, Recreation Services Coordinator

Learn To Series

Learn to Skate – Vilas Park, 1602 Vilas Park Dr.

Led by Volunteer, Nichole Kraemer

Saturday, February 4, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

31 Registered; 24 Attended

Learn to Skate – John Wall Pavilion Shelter, Tenney Park, 402 N. Thornton Ave
Led by Volunteer, Nichole Kraemer
Saturday, February 11, 10:00 – 11:00 AM
50 Registered; 21 Attended

Learn to Snowshoe – Elver Park, 1250 McKenna Blvd.
Partnered with REI Madison
Sunday, February 12, 10:00 – 11:30 AM
20 Registered; 10 Attended

Learn to Cross Country Ski – Elver Park, 1250 McKenna Blvd.
Partnered with MadNorSki (Included in Madison's Winter Festival)
Sunday, February 19, 10:00 -11:30 AM
29 Registered; 20 Attended



Learn to Stargaze – Warner Park, 2930 N. Sherman Ave.
Partnered with UW Space Place
Monday, March 13, 7:30 – 8:30 PM
11 Registered

Learn to Stargaze – Elvehjem Park, 1202 Painted Post Dr.
Partnered with UW Space Place
Monday, April 10, 8:00 – 9:00 PM
4 Registered

Learn to Stargaze – James Madison Park, 614 E. Gorham St.
Partnered with UW Space Place
Monday, September 18, 7:00 – 8:00 PM
3 Registered

Learn to Stargaze – Rennebohm Park, 115 N. Eau Claire Ave.
Partnered with UW Space Place
Monday, October 9, 7:00 – 8:00 PM
2 Registered

Groove and Glides

Friday, February 17th at Tenney Park from 6:00 – 8:00 PM – CANCELLED
Friday, February 24th at Elver Park from 6:00 – 8:00 PM - CANCELLED

Candlelight Snowshoe Hike

Saturday, February 11th at Aldo Leopold Nature Center from 4:30 – 8:00 PM - CANCELLED

Daddy Daughter Dance

Saturday, February 4, 3:00 – 5:00 PM & 6:00 – 8:00 PM
Warner Park Community Recreation Center, 1625 Northport Dr.
102 Couples Registered
102 Couples Attended
Music In Motion booked as DJ
Celebrations Entertainment booked for photo booth



Fishing Expo

Friday, February 24 – Sunday, February 26
Friday: 4:00 PM – 9:00 PM, Saturday: 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM, Sunday: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Alliant Energy Center – 1919 Alliant Energy Center Way
Set up information tables, kids fishing game & sold Lake Access Permits
8 Lake Access Permits sold

Phone Call	0													0
Trespass	0													0
Total reports	871	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		843
2016 Parks Ranger calls for service														
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec		Year to date
Animal Complaint	22	37	106	54	21	54	53	14	12	12	11	5		401
Assist Citizen	10	8	4	11	28	97	60	19	16	8	6	4		271
Assist Fire/Police	1	3	4	4	7	35	23	14	7	7	0	1		106
Check Person	12	24	16	17	20	49	71	29	15	9	9	9		280
Check Area	127	126	238	180	495	815	916	979	979	696	573	505		6629
Behavioral Ban	0	0	1	2	1	3	8	6	6	5	0	0		32
Damage to property	3	8	10	6	5	24	35	3	8	5	2	0		109
Drug Investigation	1	0	1	1	3	9	8	4	12	1	0	0		40
Graffiti complaint	0	2	2	6	3	11	15	9	2	6	3	2		61
Intoxicated Person	2	3	0	0	0	2	7	1	2	2	0	1		20
Information	126	89	65	39	66	217	196	92	110	114	46	44		1204
Liquor Law Violation	11	11	16	11	16	25	22	8	5	2	0	0		127
No permanent Address issue	3	0	0	4	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0		11
Noise complaint	0	2	1	3	2	6	9	7	2	1	0	0		33
Parking Complaint	19	20	14	21	32	67	89	6	12	13	4	3		300
Phone Call	1	8	0	0	5	12	4	0		0	0	1		31
Trespass	1	3	0	0	4	0	3	2	2	2	0	0		17
Total reports	339	344	478	359	708	1426	1522	1194	1190	883	654	575		8894

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT – JANET SCHMIDT

Planning and Development – January 2017

Bowman Field Baseball Backstop Netting Poles – South Side

The replacement of the Bowman baseball diamond backstop was originally scheduled to start in early May with completion by April 12, 2017. As Parks staff began working with the low bid contractor, Containment Systems out of Birmingham, Alabama, it became clear they were not prepared to complete the work as defined in the contract documents. The Parks Division is in the process of terminating their contract and awarding the work to the subsequent low bidder, Joe Daniels Construction. The work will be rescheduled to occur in the fall of 2017 to avoid the up-coming baseball season.

Forest Hill Cemetery – Near West Side

Cemetery staff and consultants are working on a design and required permits that will address infrastructure needs at the cemetery. Improvements will include the irrigation system upgrades, storm water management improvements and reconstruction of the road system in the cemetery. Staff is also working on a policy paper to be presented to the Landmarks Commission for approval regarding the tree replacement procedures at the cemetery. Phase 1 improvements for the irrigation and storm sewer and drainage are tentatively scheduled for summer of 2017.

Central Park – Near East Side

The City is working with WisDOT and FHWA on acquiring properties located on E. Wilson and Baldwin Streets which would complete the land acquisition for that quadrant of the park. Funds are available from a federal earmark, which would pay for the majority of the land costs. Acquisition of the properties is anticipated in late spring or early summer of 2017.

Improvements to Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park – North Unit – North Side

Final work on the lay-down of gravel for the parking lot & walking path along with the installation of a security gate and kiosk items will start up once again in March along with finish grading and restoration seeding of the berms and stormwater detention pond.

Garver Feed Mill – East Side

Parks staff continues to work with the development team to resolve issues and work on obtaining final zoning approvals. City staff has contracted with SCS Engineers to provide environmental services including soil sampling and a material management plan for managing the contaminated soils on the site.

Tenney Park Shoreline – Near East Side

Shoreline reconstruction and reconstruction of the bike path is complete. Landscaping and invasive plant removal along the shoreline through a separate Public Works Contract began in April of 2016. Hundreds of shrubs, acres of native seed, tens of thousands of native wetland and savannah herbaceous plants, and over 150 new trees were planted in April, May and June of 2016. Invasive plant removals will continue through December 2017, along with dormant native seeding.

Brittingham Park Accessible Playground – Isthmus/Central

Staff held meetings with the neighborhood on November 21st to review proposals previously vetted by Parks staff working with the city's accessibility coordinator. The neighborhood selected equipment for the main structure along with several stand-alone pieces that will all be placed on the first poured-in-place rubber playground surface in the Parks system. This project is anticipated to be bid beginning on March 17th and opened on April 7th. Construction on the project is anticipated to begin in early June.

Brittingham Park Community Garden Playground – Isthmus/Central

The neighborhood has selected 5-12 age range equipment in lime green and purple from Landscape Structures for the Community Garden playground replacement. Plans and specs are anticipated to be bid in April 2017 as part of the 2017 – Group 2 contract.

Allied Drive Improvements – South Side

Site plan review through city agencies was completed at the end of February a contract to construct the open-sided sun shelter at the park is currently advertised for bid and is anticipated to be opened on March 10th. The installation of the asphalt path and basketball court at the park will be the next project advertised for bid followed closely by the construction of the park's playground anticipated to be bid in April with the 5 other sites as part of the 2017 Playgrounds – Group 2 contract. The acrylic color coating of the basketball and four square courts will done under a separate contract.

Breese Stevens Facility Plan – Isthmus/Central

The Parks Division has contracted with Isthmus Architects to prepare a facility plan for Breese Stevens Field. The facility plan will assess potential improvements to the stadium and field area based on criteria provided by Big Top Events and Parks staff. A draft facility plan is anticipated in early March 2017 for staff final review.

Demetral Park Adult Fitness – East Side

Parks staff anticipates submitting a permit to the WiDNR for construction on the landfill site in late March. The location and equipment has been selected. This project is anticipated to be installed in late summer 2017.

Esther Beach Park Improvements – South Side

Phase I of the Esther Beach Park Master Plan Implementation includes construction of the new restroom building and associated site work has begun. The contract has been awarded to the low bidder Joe Daniels Construction at \$428,888.00 and is under construction with completion by May 25, 2017. The Engineering Division completed construction of a raingarden and riprap outfall as part of the Phase I improvements for Esther Beach Park in October. Phase II of the Esther Beach Park Master Plan Implementation includes upgrading stormwater facilities, shoreline repair, construction of a new canoe/kayak boat launch and reconstructing the existing parking lot. Phase II Improvements were awarded to the low bidder Drax, Inc. at \$238,112.00. The construction of Phase II Improvements are anticipated to begin in June 2017 and be complete by fall 2017.

Penn Park Shelter Replacement – South Side

The project received final approval from the Urban Design Commission on January 11, 2017. A fourth and final public input meeting was held on January 19, 2017, with neighborhood representatives confirming the final design direction. Parks staff and Destree Design are in the process of completing construction drawings for bidding. The project will be bid in two phases, one for the shelter and restroom portion of the project and a second phase for the site work and parking lot improvements. The first bid package is anticipated to be released in early-March, with site package following later in the month.

2016 Fall Parks Division and Water Utility Landscaping Contract – City Wide

Work under this contract by Greener Valley Landscaping in 2017 will be maintenance at the (14) parks, (1) golf course and (1) water utility well site where plants were installed in 2017. Maintenance and watering of the plants installed under this contract will continue through December 1, 2017.

2016 Parks Division Rain Garden Management Contract – City Wide

Work under this contract in 2017 will be maintenance of the installation sites through the 2017 growing season. And possible revisits, for ongoing invasive control, to the change order sites at James Madison, Merrill Springs and Warner Park sites.

Emerald Ash Borer Mitigation – City Wide

Staff is developing a GIS-based mapping database to inventory all ash trees removed in the City of Madison park system. Installation of new trees to replace removed ash trees is underway. Living Landscapes, LLC was awarded both of the fall and spring tree installation contracts that were opened at the end of November. The trees included in these contracts replace approximately 2/3 of those removed due to EAB infestation. Work to install the trees at six parks including Brittingham, Demetral, Olbrich, Reindahl, Sycamore and Warner Parks were completed in June and work to install trees at Elver, Garner, Goodman, Marshall, Olin, Thut and Vilas Parks was completed at the end of October. Both of the contracts include a maintenance year (2017) to help ensure establishment of the trees.

Sugar Maple Park – Far West Side

Rough grading work at the site began in July along with the installation of stormwater lines and inlets. A new path and half basketball court and sun shelter will be constructed with this project. Paving of the path and half basketball court were completed in November. Due to a backlog with the playground equipment supplier, the remaining work will not be completed until early spring.

Waldorf Park Master Planning and Preliminary Park Development – West Side

Site and grading plans are being developed with rough grading and drainage improvements anticipated occurring in late spring of 2017. Construction of park amenities and improvements is scheduled throughout the summer of 2017. The construction of the playground at the park will be part of the 2017 – Group 2 contract, which is anticipated to be bid in April.

Goodman Ice Rink (Franklin Field) - Central/South

Staff is working on design to modify and replace the lighting at the existing ice rink at Goodman (Franklin Field). Work will include replacement of the existing lights with new electric and poles, modifying the existing outlet structure to Wingra Creek used to drain the rink, and possible demolition of the existing warming shelter. Design is complete and construction is anticipated to begin in early summer of 2017 on the storm sewer pipe and lighting.

Staff has designed and bid a public works contract for the rehabilitation of the storm sewer draining the ice rink and replacement of the control valve. The storm sewer project has been bid and the City has selected R.P. Cattell Inc as the contractor. Start work is expected in June 2017 and cost is \$33,325.00.

A public informational meeting was held Jan 18th, 2017. At the meeting the storm drain pipe and lighting were discussed and no objections were encountered. There was opposition to removal of the warming shelter without replacement. At this time staff will investigate alternatives to shelter removal and schedule another PIM to discuss.

Park and Open Space Plan – City Wide

Staff has begun the data collection and engagement for the 2018-2022 Park and Open Space Plan (POSP) Update. This phase of the POSP includes participating in the engagement process of Imagine Madison; focus group meetings with neighborhood/community centers and youth through partnerships with the University of Wisconsin Madison Department of Landscape Architecture and Public Health; coordinating volunteer efforts for field validated System for Observing Play and Recreation in Communities – which has resulted in over 500 observations; review of existing facility uses and reservations; surveys and discussions with existing recreational organizations; and online and paper comment cards at park events as well as nine (9) libraries, thirteen (13) community centers and the senior center to gather input on recreation preferences.

Staff has held 3 out of 5 Community Visioning Sessions. These sessions were held on January 31, 2017 (Warner Park Recreation Center), February 6, 2017 (Whitehorse Middle School) and February 13, 2017 (The Village on Park). Two additional Community Visioning Sessions will be held on March 1, 2017 (Alicia Ashman Library) and March 23, 2017 (Central Library).

Staff will be hosting three Park and Open Space Plan workshops in March, April/May that will focus on specific issues related to the park system.

Staff has issued a recreational league use survey to over 130 organizations that reserve parks facilities.

Staff has also issued a community-wide survey. This survey was made available online on January 27, 2017 and will be open until the end of March. To date, the survey has received over 1200 responses.

The Park and Open Space Plan implementation strategy outline was presented to the Long Range Planning Subcommittee on June 28, 2016 with an update provided on September 1, 2016 and October 20, 2016.

Tenney Park (Island Playground) – Central/East

Staff held a playground workshop on November 19th to talk about Tenney Park playground replacement. This project will be combined into a contract with other playgrounds and bid out for construction in 2017 (Group 3 Playground Contract). Staff held a second public input meeting to review playground designs on January 18th. Plans and specs are anticipated to be bid in May 2017.

Brigham Park Playground - East

Staff held a playground workshop on November 19th to talk about Brigham Park playground replacement. This project will be combined into a contract with other playgrounds and bid out for construction in 2017 (Group 3 Playground Contract). Staff held a second public input meeting to review playground designs on December 21st. Plans and specs are anticipated to be bid in May 2017.

Lake Edge Park Playground - East

Staff will held playground workshop on November 19th to talk about Lake Edge Park playground replacement. This project will be combined into a contract with other playgrounds and bid out for construction in 2017 (Group 3 Playground Contract). Staff held a second public input meeting to review playground designs on January 10th. Plans and specs are anticipated to be bid in May 2017.

McGinnis Park Playground - East

Staff will held a playground workshop on November 19th to talk about McGinnis Park playground replacement. This project will be combined into a contract with other playgrounds and bid out for construction in 2017 (Group 3 Playground Contract). Staff held a second public input meeting to review playground designs on January 23rd. Plans and specs are anticipated to be bid in March 2017.

Zook Park Playground - West

Staff held a playground workshop on October 19th to discuss the playground replacements at Baxter, Westmorland, Sunset and Zook Parks. A second neighborhood input meeting was held on December 7th to review the playground design options specific to Zook Park. Meeting attendees selected a 5-12 age range play structure from Playworld for the park. This project will be done in-house with Parks Construction staff.

Sunset Park Playground - West

Staff held a playground workshop on October 19th to discuss the playground replacements at Baxter, Westmorland, Sunset and Zook Parks. A second public input meeting was held on December 15th to review the playground design options specific to Sunset Park. Meeting attendees selected a 5-12 age range play structure from Playcraft Systems for the park. The neighborhood anticipates raising an additional \$9,000 to add a small, nature-based play area to the overall playground replacement project. This project will be bid for construction in 2017 as part of the Group 1 Playground Contract. Plans and specs are anticipated to be released for bidding in March 2017.

Westmorland Park Playground - West

Staff held a playground workshop on October 19th to discuss the playground replacements at Baxter, Westmorland, Sunset and Zook Parks. A second public input meeting was held on January 10th to review the playground designs specific to Westmorland Park. Meeting attendees selected a 5-12 age range play structure from Landscape Structures Systems for the park. The neighborhood anticipates raising an additional \$15,000 to add a nature-based play area to the overall playground replacement project. This project will be bid for construction in 2017 as part of the Group 1 Playground Contract. Plans and specs are anticipated to be released for bidding in March 2017.

Baxter Park Playground - South

Staff held a playground workshop on October 19th to discuss the playground replacements at Baxter, Westmorland, Sunset and Zook Parks. A second public input meeting is scheduled for February 1 to review the playground designs specific to Baxter Park. This project will be bid for construction in 2017 as part of the Group 1 Playground Contract. Plans and specs are anticipated to be released for bidding in March 2017.

Bordner Park Playground – West

Staff held a playground workshop on November 3rd to discuss the playground replacements at Bordner, Country Grove and Wexford Parks as well as the new playground coming to Waldorf Park. A second public input meeting was held November 17th to review the playground designs specific to Bordner Park. This project will be bid for construction in 2017 as part of the Group 2 Playground Contract. Plans and specs are anticipated to be released for bidding in April 2017.

Country Grove Park Playground – West

Staff held a playground workshop on November 3rd to discuss the playground replacements at Bordner, Country Grove and Wexford Parks as well as the new playground coming to Waldorf Park. A second public input meeting was held December 1st to review the playground designs specific to Country Grove Park. This project will be bid for construction in 2017 as part of the Group 2 Playground Contract. Plans and specs are anticipated to be released for bidding in April 2017.

Waldorf Park Playground – West

Staff held a playground workshop on November 3rd to discuss the playground replacements at Bordner, Country Grove and Wexford Parks as well as the new playground coming to Waldorf Park. A second public input meeting was held December 6th to review the playground designs specific to Waldorf Park. This project will be bid for construction in 2017 as part of the Group 2 Playground Contract. Plans and specs are anticipated to be released for bidding in April 2017.

Wexford Park Playground – West

Staff held a playground workshop on November 3rd to discuss the playground replacements at Bordner, Country Grove and Wexford Parks as well as the new playground coming to Waldorf Park. At the workshop session, Wexford was represented by a single resident and as such, a second or “re-do” of the workshop meeting was held December 15th to go over the items originally discussed at the workshop. Happily, this second session had over 30 attendees and a follow-up meeting was held January 19th to review the playground designs specific to Wexford Park. This project will be bid for construction in 2017 as part of the Group 2 Playground Contract. Plans and specs are anticipated to be released for bidding in April 2017.

Reynolds Tennis- Near East

Staff issued a Request for Quotation for a modular athletic court surfacing for the existing tennis courts at Reynolds Park. The contract was awarded to CDC Holdings Co – Sport Court WI for \$50,013.50. Staff presented this project at the Tenney Lapham Neighborhood Association Meeting on September 8, 2016. This court will be installed in spring 2017.

2017 Tennis and Basketball Court Improvements – City Wide

Staff is developing the plans and specifications for the 2017 Tennis and Basketball Court Improvements including the following acrylic sport courts: Burr Jones Basketball courts, Heritage Heights Park tennis courts, Vilas Park tennis courts, Westmorland Park tennis courts, Reindahl Park pickleball line painting and Waunona Park pickleball line painting. Plans and specifications were approved by the Board of Public Works on November 16, 2016, advertised to bid on January 6, 2017. Bids were opened on January 27, 2017 with Fahrner Asphalt Sealers was the apparent low bidder with a bid of \$48,419.60. Construction is anticipated to begin in May and be completed by mid-June.

2017 Parks Division Landscaping – City Wide

The 2017 Parks Division Landscaping contract received a total of three qualified bids and is anticipated to be awarded to Dan Larsen Landscaping, Inc. of Cedarburg, WI, who submitted the lowest qualified bid of \$38,056.00 for landscaping improvements and installations at the following parks: Cherokee, Glenway Golf course, Lerdahl, O.B. Sherry, Quaker, Sugar Maple, Waunona and Washington Manor. Work on the contract is anticipated to begin in early May.

2017 Parks Division Rain Garden Management – City Wide

The 2017 Parks Division Rain Garden Management contract received a total of two qualified bids at the opening on February 10th and is anticipated to be awarded to Tallgrass Restoration, LLC, who submitted the lowest qualified bid of \$22,960.39 to perform invasive species management and rain-garden and prairie species installations at the following parks: Door Creek, James Madison (at two locations) and Walnut Grove. Work on the contract is anticipated to begin in early May.

2017 Parks Division Sun Shelters Installation – West Side

The 2017 Parks Division Sun Shelters Installation contract is currently being advertised for bid and is anticipated to be opened on March 10th. The contract includes the installation of new, reservable, open-sided sun shelters at Allied, Norman Clayton and Sauk Creek Parks. Work on the contract is anticipated to begin in early May at the Allied Park site.

James Madison Park Master Plan and Shelter Design- Near East

Staff is developing a RFP for master planning and shelter building design services for James Madison Park. The RFP is anticipated to be advertised in early 2017.

Vilas Park Fishing Pier- Near West

Parks staff will be working with Building and Construction Trades Council of South Central Wisconsin to install an accessible fishing pier in Vilas Park on Lake Wingra. A public informational meeting was held January 19th to discuss the project. A location has been found, survey of the site has been conducted and staff is working on applying for required permits. Building Trades Council will be responsible for refurbishing an existing City owned pier for use on the site and they are currently working on the design.

Park Paving 2017 – City Wide

Staff is developing the plans and specifications for the 2017 Paving Contract which includes construction of paths at Waldorf Park, Allied Park, and Garner Park as well as basketball courts at Allied, Waldorf, Arbor Hills, Lerdahl, and Westchester Gardens Park. Plans and specifications are anticipated to be advertised in April.

Other Projects

- Staff is coordinating with volunteers at Glenwood Park for implementation of volunteer-led projects.
- Staff is working with Engineering for shoreline projects at Wingra and Yahara Place Park.
- Staff is coordinating emerald ash borer removals and replacements, and tracking proposed species to meet urban forest diversity guidelines in parks.
- Staff is working with the Parks Long Range Planning Subcommittee on drafting policies related to Ice Rinks and Ice Rink volunteer groups.

- Parks Staff is working with Engineering staff to site locations within park properties that may utilize photo voltaic (solar) equipment to help reduce energy costs in future years. 2016 locations included Warner Park and Yahara Hills Golf Course.
- Parks Staff will be working with Engineering on the Warner Park Lagoon Planning Grant. The first public input meeting was held in late winter of 2016.
- Gates of Heaven flooring replacement is scheduled for 2017 in conjunction with exterior improvements being completed by Engineering staff. Staff will work with the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) to determine if a more durable variety of flooring will be allowed since Gates of Heaven is on the National Register.
- Staff is working with a group of area residents interested in determining the feasibility of rehabilitating (either through adaptive re-use or restoration) the Annie Stewart Memorial fountain at Vilas Park.
- Staff is working with the University Hill Neighborhood Association to install table tennis and bench improvements as part of a grant obtained by City Planning for neighborhood improvements.
- Parks Staff will be working with Engineering on the Warner Park Breakwater and Dredging and Boat Launch Repair project.
- Parks staff is working in conjunction with Engineering, Planning and Traffic Engineering on the Blair Street/John Nolen Drive corridor plan, which also includes Law Park in the study area.
- Staff is working with the Madison Food Policy group on a report to identify potential community garden locations in the University Hills Neighborhood.
- Staff is working with the City Attorney's office on updating the Madison General Ordinances to allow for Temporary Land Use permits and Art Installation permits for private access and work in parks.
- Staff is working with Olbrich Botanical Society and Engineering for the proposed Olbrich Garden expansion.
- Staff is working with Engineering on the proposed Atwood Avenue improvements, which include improvements in Olbrich Park.
- Staff is working with Veridian Homes on concepts for a proposed park in 1000 Oaks subdivision.
- Staff is working with Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District on the design and construction of the new pump station and restroom being constructed at Marshall Park.
- Staff are working with City Planning and with residents of the Eken Park and Pennsylvania Park neighborhoods to identify projects at the respective parks that can be constructed with funding provided by Planning.

Projects Completed in 2017

- **2017 Playground Workshops – City Wide**