

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S OCTOBER 2015 REPORT- COMMUNICATIONS TO BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS**

### **Parks Superintendent's Monthly Report Summary (September/October 2015)**

- Concert held on Friday, October 2 at Breese Stevens reaching new maximum capacity of 7,400. The venue continues with heavy use from high school football and soccer groups.
- Overall attendance at Olbrich Botanical Gardens is up 4,500 guests from this time last year (through August).
- Mall Concourse expansion area began in September included University Ave from Frances to Lake Streets and the extension of Gilman St.
- New Sunday farmers' market on the Square (1/4 E. Wash to Wisconsin).
- Volunteer work at Hudson Park (Friends of Hudson Park), Elvehjem and Heritage sanctuaries (working with Operation Fresh Start).
- EAB treatments concluded in September meeting the goal of treating all ash street trees that met treatment criteria.

#### Recent and soon-to-be happening events

- Irwin A. & Robert D. Goodman Skatepark ribbon cutting – September 10
  - Trucks & Treasures – September 12
  - Learn to Skateboard in the newly opened Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Skatepark at Central Park – September 24
  - Over 120 attended the Zimbrick Honda Moonlight Movie at Elvehjem Park- Sept. 25
  - Talking Spirits Cemetery Tour at Forest Hill – Sunday, October 11
  - Stargazing at Elver – October 12
  - Russ's last official conservation guided tour – October 14 at Owen
  - Hayrides & Hikes – Saturday, October 17 at Cherokee Marsh North Unit
  - Freakfest – October 31 on State St.
  - Shelter reservation (2016) Lottery Day – November 10.
- Next Park Commission Meeting – November 18, 2015.

### **WRITTEN REPORT OF SUPERVISOR'S ACTIVITIES**

#### **EAST PARKS – CRAIG KLINKE, SUPERVISOR**

2015 has been an excellent year for plant growth. Everything from grass to weeds to perennials have been growing consistently steady all year. As a result, our crews have spent a lot of time mowing, trimming, and pulling weeds. A significant portion of our work in September revolved around plant growth.

The athletic season is starting to slow down. Fall softball is gradually fading out as is youth soccer. Breese Stevens continues to receive heavy use from high school football and soccer groups as well as special events such as Fighting Bob and the Avett Brothers concert. We have spent a significant portion of time preparing for those events and getting the field converted back over to be ready to use for athletic events. While we aren't working on routine athletic field maintenance, we have been aerating and overseeding fields. Soon we will finish the work we began on Demetral #3.

We had another volunteer day at Hudson Park in September. We focused on removing and treating invasive and undesirable species on the east end of the park. We sowed the slope with rye to get a quick cover crop and we will do a dormant seeding of shade tolerant woodland understory plants later this fall. We will, likely, have two more volunteer days there this year.

The mower shop has been working on equipment as seasonals have been leaving and is starting to get equipment ready for winter. We received bus stop additions from Metro and will be adding those stops to our plowing routes.

#### **CENTRAL PARKS & MALL CONCOURSE– LISA LASCHINGER, SUPERVISOR**

##### **Central Parks:**

With the end of summer and start of fall, we are seeing and feeling a change in the seasons. Throughout the month of September, the grass grew very quickly, and we struggled to keep up, as we found ourselves understaffed with seasonals once the students returned to school despite having interviewed several times this fall. The last event at Central Park, Isthmus' Oktoberfest wrapped up with few issues. We did some project work at James Madison Park cleaning up the Lincoln School hill and borders on both ends of the park. We have been working on stump grubbing behind the Parks Arborist crew and working overtime on weekends and some evenings to keep up with the stumps. The grass has started to slow finally, and with the drop in temperatures we will likely become very busy over the next couple of weeks with leaf mulching. Fall softball leagues have begun wrapping up for the season, but football is still going strong at Penn, Thut and Waunona.

As we head into October, we will be busy with a number of fall activities. We will begin our field aeration and fall mowing operations. In addition, we will be facilitating regular hayrides. We will be doing a major renovation at Bowman baseball. Our mechanics have begun pulling in machines to begin switching them over for winter use. We plan to have our current seasonal staff working with us through the end of the month. Our Landscape Maintenance Workers are starting to gear up for the fall planting season by staking tree sites and starting to call Digger's Hotline, as our trees will be arriving the week of October 19. Beginning the second half of the month, we will be pulling in tables and barrels. The majority of our shelters will be winterized for the season as well.

### **Mall Maintenance:**

September brought on the expansion area to the Mall Concourse. Busy areas include the stretch of University Avenue from Frances to Lake Street, and extension of Gilman Street areas. Priorities included adding weeding, sidewalk sweeping, and trash collection into routines to make the transition efficient. The light pole project is getting near completion. Sanding, priming, and painting the base of every pole on the capitol square and State Street will be complete by early October. Sanding and painting of the bus shelters on State Street is in full gear, and all of the shelters on State will be complete by mid October. Sidewalk powerwashing has continued throughout the month, including cleaning expansion area on University Avenue, which hasn't been cleaned in years, and will be a challenge. Turf beds on the square were aerated, overseeded and fertilized to help their recovery from summer and fall events.

Mall Concourse events are starting to wind down. Taste of Madison was successful once again this year and with minimal grease cleanup from vendors. Ironman had nice weather and a good turnout. Both events had extra staff to help with facilitating and cleanup of the events. September saw the end of "Live on King St." and "Top of State" weekly programs. Three UW home football games in a row kept the weekend crews busy with cleanup. Saturday's farmer's market has a rival. The new Sunday farmer's market started in September with minimal people occupying about ¼ of the square from East Washington to Wisconsin Avenue.

October will see our biggest event of the year, the annual Freakfest, and extra staff will be on hand to make sure that the event is safe and successful again. Leaves are starting to collect on the sidewalks, so we are starting our leaf cleanup routine which will include the expansion area. Wrapping up the bus shelter painting on State is a priority and will be complete by mid October. The sidewalk washing will continue in the expansion area, particularly University Avenue.

## **WEST PARKS & FOREST HILL CEMETERY – LAURA BAUER, SUPERVISOR**

### **West Parks/Summit Maintenance:**

The restoration project at the Nakoma Park stairs is nearly finished as well. After a summer of very heavy construction traffic in the park, the stairs are once again usable, the area has been reseeded, and the trailer with remaining rock will soon be leaving. This is another project that we expect to last the remainder of our lifetimes.

The Stevens Street playground has reopened after being closed for much of the summer for equipment replacement. Both sets of play structure have been replaced, along with the basketball hoop. Unfortunately the built-in picnic table beloved by the neighborhood was not replaced. Regular benches and picnic tables have been added instead.

West Parks has finished grubbing, filling, and seeding stumps from EAB removals over the summer. There will very likely be more removals over the winter, but for now we're caught up. We've started a list of parties interested in adopting ash trees next year, as it's too late to do any more treatments in 2015.

Staff is doing some final grass cutting and trimming before we begin to concentrate on mulching leaves. Mulching is minimal in some of the newer parks, but quite substantial in older parks with large trees, such as Nakoma and Hoyt. We're exploring the possibility of using the nearby cemetery baler to bale leaves at these two parks so that we can remove some of the leaves from the parks altogether. We find that some mulched leaves can be very beneficial to the turf, but that after a point it becomes counter-productive. Too much of a good thing actually smothers the grass.

We also have supplies and hardware to replace some of the "no dumping" and parks rules signs that have disappeared in recent years. We don't know where they're going, but we're going to use tamper-resistant hardware in hopes that they're more permanent this time around.

Our tractor-mounted flail mower will soon be very busy cutting in various prairie restoration areas. We have an extensive list of areas in need, in order to control invasive species and aid restoration efforts. We're hoping for a long and relatively dry autumn, in hopes of addressing everything on our list.

### **Forest Hill Cemetery:**

In the month of September, there were 15 interments – 9 full-size burials and 6 cremains burials. There were also two cremains entombments. Three full-size lots, one cremains lot, and three mausoleum niches were sold.

Restoration work has been completed on the Catlin Chapel. It now has a beautiful slate roof which looks very appropriate on the building. This roof should last for many, many years; none of us expect to see it replaced again in our lifetimes.

The Talking Spirits Cemetery Tour takes place again the second week of October this year. It is a very interesting and informative 90-minute walking tour with local actors, in costume, portraying Civil War soldiers and citizens. School groups attend during the week, and the tour is open to the public on Sunday, October 11. Forest Hill staff is concentrating their mowing and trimming efforts in the areas featured in the tour, so that the cemetery can be showcased to its full advantage.

In the coming weeks we expect the colors to begin turning and the leaves to begin falling. It's at that time that we'll switch our operation over to "fall cleanup". Decorations will be removed from graves and annual and perennial plants cut down in order to facilitate more efficient leaf blowing and baling. The bales will be left, as usual, in the cemetery for public pick-up.

**CONSERVATION – RUSS HEFTY**

The conservation crew worked with Operation Fresh Start to rebuild trails at Elvehjem and Heritage Sanctuaries. The trail surface at Heritage Sanctuary was improved by adding crushed limestone on the entire trail system (nearly 2,000 ft.). A new trail was built at Elvehjem, and crushed limestone added to trails that had eroded. The OFS crew hauled and spread over 100 tons of crushed limestone to complete these projects! This is in addition to the trail projects that were completed earlier this summer at Prairie Ridge and Cherokee Marsh-Mendota Unit with the OFS crews. The partnership with Operation Fresh Start benefits park users (providing improved trail surfaces) while providing meaningful work experience for the youth in the program.

The conservation crew also worked on exotic species control targeting oriental bittersweet at Knollwood and Owen parks. They worked on exotic shrub control at Heritage Prairie as part of an oak savanna restoration project.

Contractors sprayed exotic plant species at Owen, Woodland Hills, and North Cherokee (5<sup>th</sup> addition) as part of ongoing efforts to restore oak savanna habitat in those parks.

**OLBRICH BOTANICAL GARDENS – ROBERTA SLADKY**

**Visitor comment:**

09/27/2015 *"Thank you! Every time I visit, the garden has become more beautiful – every corner carefully designed for optimum splendor. Our city is truly blessed!"*

**August 2015 Numbers**

| <b>OBG Attendance</b> (counted from 9 – 4 only + event participants) | <b>2015</b>    | <b>2014</b>    | <b>Previous 5 yrs average</b> |
|--|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| August 1 - 31  | 42,213         | 41,077         | 35,510                        |
| YTD August 31  | 205,893        | 201,349        |                               |
| <b>Total Member Households (individuals*) June 30</b>                | 6,507 (10,482) | 6,314 (10,085) |                               |

*\*based on the number of membership cards issued*

| <b>OBG City of Madison Major Revenue Categories</b> (unaudited) | <b>YTD 8/31/2015</b> | <b>YTD 8/31/2014</b> |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| Bolz Conservatory Admission YTD                                 | \$55,067             | \$54,200             |
| Room Rentals YTD*   | \$88,903             | \$94,009             |
| Catering Percentage Revenue YTD**                               | \$15,330             | \$14,894             |
| <b>TOTAL YTD</b>  | <b>\$159,840</b>     | <b>\$163,103</b>     |

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

**September 2015 Public Events at Olbrich Botanical Gardens** call **608-246-4550** for more information

**Bolz Conservatory Exhibit – Integrated Pest Management**, through Oct 25

**GLEAM: Art in a New Light** evening viewing in Sept and Oct on Wed, Thu, Fri, from 7:30 – 10:30 pm

**Fall Bulk Mulch Sales** Saturdays, Sept 19 & 26, October 3 & 19, 9 am – 1 pm

**Education – October 2015** classes and programs 608/246-4550 for info/registration or visit [www.olbrich.org](http://www.olbrich.org)

**Wellness at the Gardens**

Yoga, Mondays 5:30 pm – 6:45 pm and Thursdays 7:30 – 8:45 am (drop in OK)

Tai Chi Meditation, Mondays, Mondays, Sep 14 – Oct 19, 6 – 7 pm

and/or Oct 26 – Nov 30

### Classes & Workshops for Adults

Warli Folk Art of India on Terracotta Pots, Wed, 10/7, 6:30 – 8:30 pm  
Wild Food & Wild Medicine: Focus on Fall Roots, Thu, 10/8, 6:30 – 8:30 pm  
Restoring Your Woodland to Health, Tues, 10/13, 6:30 – 8:30 pm  
Gardening for Hummingbirds, Wed, 10/14, 6:30 – 8:30 pm  
Coptic Stitch Book Binding, Sat, 10/17, 1 – 5 pm  
Rain Gardens: Designing for Function & Beauty, Tues, 10/20, 6:30 – 8 pm  
Planting When the Roots are Wrong, Thu, 10/22, 1:30 – 3:30 pm  
Admitting You're Hooked: Overwintering Tender Perennials, Thu, 10/22, 6:30 – 8:30 pm  
Introduction to Calligraphy Workshop, Sat, 10/24, 10 am – 4:30 pm  
'Black Magic' Pastel, Sun, 10/25, 10 am – 4 pm  
Wet-felted Laminate (nuno) Scarflette, Sun, 10/25, 1 – 4 pm  
Bulbs for Spring Color, Tues, 10/27, 6:30 – 8:30 pm  
Calligraphy: The Art of Written Forms Workshop, Tues, 10/27 & 11/3, 6:30 – 8:30 pm  
What's Bugging Your Tree? Wed, 10/28, 6:30 – 8 pm

### Learn & Play Together

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

**Wind**, Fri, Oct 16, 10 – 11 am

**Owls**, Fri, Oct 23, 10 – 11 am

**Pumpkins**, Fri, Oct 30, 10 – 11 am

### Girl Scout Programs

**Plant, Water, Grow!** Sat, Oct 17, 10 – 11:30 am

Grades: K-1 (Daisy Scouts)

This hands-on program provides an opportunity for Daisy Scouts to discover the world of plants and gardening, to make connections between insects flowers, and gardens, and to create a mini-garden to take home. Activities can be applied toward the **Watering Can Award**.

**Every Drop Counts**, Sat, Oct 17, 12:30 – 2 pm

Grades: 2 – 3 (Brownie Scouts)

Scouts will make a personal connection with ways that water is important in their lives. They will learn about the water cycle through an interactive demonstration, create various waterways and landforms, explore ways pollution impacts our lives, and more. Activities can be applied towards **LOVE Water Award** and will prepare scouts for **SAVE Water** and **SHARE Water Awards**.

### FORESTRY – MARLA EDDY

| Forestry Section         | Total Trees | Total Hours |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Cycle Pruning            | 371         | 310         |
| Pruned by Request        | 110         | 666         |
| Small Tree Pruning Cycle | 0           | 0           |
| Tree Removal             | 249         | 832         |
| Ash Preemptive Removals  | 96          | 280.75      |
| Storm Work/Hangers       |             | 107.25      |
| Tree Watering            |             | 65.5        |

Emerald Ash Borer treatments ended in the early part of September. We accomplished the goal of treating all ash street trees that met the treatment criteria for the remaining half of the city. The forestry section did a fantastic job as team to meet this goal.

In September only the West unit was able to perform cycle pruning. No small tree pruning cycle occurred east or west. East focused primarily on request pruning. West unit had more tree removals in their work queue.

Forestry specialists have been preparing for the upcoming fall planting in October. The work includes checking sites for tree replacements where trees were removed (both from dead trees found and ash preemptive removals). Engineering projects also kept specialists busy.

## RANGER REPORT – JOSH SCHMITT

During the month of August things are in full swing and there certainly is a lot of activity in the parks. Park Rangers responded to or self initiated 831 calls in the month of August. This was the highest number of calls ever recorded in any given month. The call volume can be attributed to having more Park Rangers on staff, having more people in the park and an increased number of contacts in our dog on leash pilot program parks. Staff performed 370 foot patrols of parks or an average of about 12 per day that resulted in contacts. These patrols are critical to our visibility and success in preventing any negative issues from gaining a foot hold. As August winds down we are looking forward to the kids beginning school and catching our breath a bit.

### 2015 Parks Ranger – Calls for service

| Month                      | Jan       | Feb       | Mar       | Apr        | May        | June       | July       | Aug        | Sept     | Oct      | Nov      | Dec      | Year to date |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|
| Animal Complaint           | 6         | 7         | 6         | 8          | 25         | 36         | 34         | 50         |          |          |          |          | 172          |
| Assist Citizen             |           |           |           | 7          | 20         | 18         | 37         | 17         |          |          |          |          | 99           |
| Assist Fire/ Police        |           |           |           | 2          | 5          | 5          | 21         | 6          |          |          |          |          | 39           |
| Check Person               |           |           |           | 13         | 49         | 26         | 47         | 40         |          |          |          |          | 175          |
| Check Area                 | 29        | 26        | 41        | 57         | 169        | 212        | 186        | 370        |          |          |          |          | 1090         |
| Behavioral Ban             | 0         | 0         | 4         | 6          | 5          | 8          | 8          | 10         |          |          |          |          | 41           |
| Damage to property         | 3         | 0         | 2         | 10         | 15         | 14         | 6          | 12         |          |          |          |          | 62           |
| Drug Investigation         | 0         | 1         | 1         | 3          |            | 3          | 3          | 3          |          |          |          |          | 14           |
| Graffiti complaint         | 4         | 2         | 7         | 5          | 6          | 7          | 2          | 12         |          |          |          |          | 45           |
| Intoxicated Person         | 0         | 1         | 5         | 3          | 1          | 0          | 4          | 3          |          |          |          |          | 17           |
| Information                | 7         | 4         | 5         | 28         | 73         | 103        | 126        | 198        |          |          |          |          | 544          |
| Liquor Law Violation       |           |           |           | 5          | 10         | 16         | 9          | 25         |          |          |          |          | 65           |
| No permanent Address issue | 4         | 3         | 3         |            |            |            |            | 17         |          |          |          |          | 27           |
| Noise complaint            |           |           |           | 5          | 3          | 3          | 4          | 12         |          |          |          |          | 27           |
| Parking Complaint          | 9         | 9         | 6         | 15         | 43         | 42         | 45         | 44         |          |          |          |          | 213          |
| Phone Call                 | 0         | 0         | 0         | 6          | 21         | 10         | 2          | 4          |          |          |          |          | 43           |
| Trespass                   | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1          | 1          | 0          | 4          | 8          |          |          |          |          | 14           |
| <b>Total reports</b>       | <b>62</b> | <b>53</b> | <b>80</b> | <b>174</b> | <b>446</b> | <b>503</b> | <b>538</b> | <b>831</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>2377</b>  |

### 2014 Parks Ranger – Calls for service

| Month                      | Jan       | Feb       | Mar       | Apr        | May        | June       | July       | Aug        | Sept       | Oct       | Nov       | Dec       | Year to date |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| Alcohol Related issues     | 5         | 3         | 3         | 8          | 24         | 18         | 22         | 26         | 19         | 3         | 0         | 0         | 131          |
| Behavioral Ban             | 0         | 1         | 0         | 3          | 12         | 14         | 2          | 3          | 6          | 7         | 0         | 0         | 48           |
| Check Area                 | 32        | 21        | 25        | 41         | 105        | 55         | 61         | 87         | 59         | 29        | 20        | 18        | 553          |
| Damage to property         | 2         | 2         | 0         | 12         | 12         | 14         | 9          | 10         | 4          | 0         | 2         | 1         | 68           |
| Dog violation              | 6         | 4         | 24        | 100        | 62         | 38         | 30         | 18         | 27         | 17        | 5         | 6         | 337          |
| Drugs                      | 0         | 1         | 0         | 4          | 3          | 1          | 0          | 0          | 3          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 12           |
| Graffiti                   | 2         | 1         | 1         | 6          | 3          | 5          | 7          | 9          | 14         | 8         | 3         | 3         | 62           |
| No permanent Address issue | 7         | 5         | 2         | 19         | 28         | 15         | 23         | 12         | 5          | 3         | 2         | 5         | 126          |
| Incident                   | 2         | 5         | 4         | 3          | 9          | 2          | 5          | 6          | 6          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 42           |
| Maintenance needed         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 26         | 31         | 23         | 23         | 20         | 11         | 9         | 26        | 2         | 171          |
| Misc                       | 1         | 1         | 0         | 2          | 2          | 37         | 5          | 9          | 9          | 8         | 0         | 4         | 78           |
| Not open/ closed           | 8         | 6         | 5         | 17         | 27         | 26         | 27         | 22         | 22         | 7         | 1         | 1         | 169          |
| Parking issue              | 12        | 2         | 6         | 26         | 54         | 24         | 34         | 26         | 22         | 6         | 0         | 10        | 222          |
| Sport without reservation  | 0         | 0         | 8         | 18         | 1          | 2          | 0          | 2          | 0          | 1         | 0         | 0         | 32           |
| <b>Total reports</b>       | <b>77</b> | <b>52</b> | <b>78</b> | <b>285</b> | <b>373</b> | <b>274</b> | <b>248</b> | <b>250</b> | <b>207</b> | <b>98</b> | <b>59</b> | <b>50</b> | <b>2051</b>  |

## **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT – JANET SCHMIDT**

### **Central Park Skate Park**

Madison's first skatepark was officially opened on September 10th. The skatepark is substantially completed although there are outstanding punchlist items and ongoing issues regarding lien claims filed by subcontractors against the general contractor.

### **Highland Manor Park Storm Shelter**

The building is 100% complete and the contractor continues to work on punch list items. The ribbon cutting ceremony was held on August 7<sup>th</sup>. Staff received quotes for the purchase of tables and chairs for the shelter. The low bid was Interior Investments at \$19,986.80. The storm shelter and parking lot landscaping was installed in September.

### **Bowman Field Lighting Phase Two**

The four custom poles have been installed by Joe Daniels Construction, completing the lighting project. A separate project is underway to replace the baseball diamond netting and support poles to be completed prior to open of softball season in the spring of 2016.

### **Forest Hill Cemetery**

Cemetery staff and consultants are working to come up with a long range plan that will address infrastructure needs at the cemetery. Improvements will include the irrigation system upgrades, stormwater management improvements to add storm sewer as needed, and reconstruction of the road system in the cemetery. Staff is working with the consultant on modifications to the irrigation design and Engineering is working on the storm sewer design. Plans should be complete by the end of October.

### **Central Park**

The Central Park Phase 1B construction is underway. The work includes a new entry plaza adjacent to the recently completed skatepark and a pedestrian railroad crossing near the E. Wilson Street intersection with Few Street. Pervious sidewalk installation on Wilson Street will commence within the next two weeks. Completion of this phase of work is anticipated in early November.

### **Improvements to Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park – North Unit**

Staff has submitted all required materials for site plan approval and City of Madison and WiDNR erosion and sediment control permits. Following site plan approval, construction of Phase I of the parking lot improvements will begin in late October. These improvements will include the gravel parking lot base and a landscape berm.

### **Yahara Hills Clubhouse Improvements**

Park staff is working with City Facilities Management on a series of clubhouse improvement projects for Yahara Hills. Window replacement and HVAC work will move forward next. Both of these contracts have been awarded to Joe Daniels Construction. Additional asbestos was found in the ceiling spray texture for the office, restroom and stairway and will be abated under a separate contract. Most of this work is planned to start after the golf season ends on November 16<sup>th</sup> (possibly sooner if the season ends earlier), with construction to be completed by late January of 2016.

### **Lake Edge Park Shelter**

Staff is working with Facilities Management on the construction of the new Lake Edge Park Shelter. The pre-construction meeting was held on August 19, 2015. The successful bidder, Joe Daniels Construction started at the end of August and as of the end of September, the underground utilities are in and the walls are 75% complete. Construction will continue through the fall and winter as weather permits.

### **Olbrich Botanical Gardens**

Work continues on building improvements at Olbrich Botanical Gardens. This phase consists of the replacement of the boilers, which is proceeding on schedule. Plumbing, venting and electrical are being run to the boilers and pumps. There was an issue with the bidding of the controls for this contract-both bidding contractors interpreted the specifications such that the City would be supplying the controls outside of the contract. A change order of \$26,837 will be processed to include the controls.

### **Garver Feed Mill**

The rezoning and CSM for the project was approved by the Council on August 4<sup>th</sup>. Draft lease conditions are being negotiated. Conversion paperwork was submitted to the DNR and has been approved. Negotiations with the Baum Development team continue. Staff will assist the developer to prepare for winter stabilization of the structure. Staff continues to work with the development team to resolve issues.

### **Wingra Creek Parkway**

All dredging, shoreline and path work was completed in June. The City issued an RFQ for trees along the creek and bids are due October 9<sup>th</sup> for planting this fall. The dredge spoils have dried out and the contractor re-mobilized in September to re-grade the pile into a soccer field. The rough grading has been completed but approval has not been given to fine grade and seed yet. The project is managed by City Engineering in partnership with Parks.

### **Tenney Park Shoreline**

Reconstruction of the bike path is completed. Shoreline restoration continues and is anticipated to be complete by mid November. Landscaping along the shoreline will begin in fall 2015 through a separate Public Works Contract. The Tenney Park Shoreline Native Vegetation Installation and Maintenance Contract, along with a contract to replace over 300 ash trees removed, was advertised to bid on August 14<sup>th</sup> and opened on September 4, 2015. The Native Vegetation contract will be awarded to Eco-Resource Consulting for the low bid amount of \$271,052.34. The Tenney Park Tree Planting contract will be awarded to Dan Larsen Landscaping for the low bid amount of \$73,974.00. This project is managed by City Engineering in partnership with Parks staff.

### **Nakoma Park Improvements**

The replacement of the historic stairs at Nakoma Park was completed on October 2. Site stabilization measures will remain in place until the slope vegetation cover is established.

### **Stevens Street Park Improvements**

Replacement of the two playgrounds at Stevens Street Park, as well as reconstruction of the basketball court, path, and fencing improvements were completed October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Badger Park Playground**

Replacement of the playground at Badger Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 Contract. Construction for the new playground at Badger Park is complete.

### **Arbor Hills Park Playground Improvements**

Replacement of the playground at Arbor Hills Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 Contract. Construction for the new playground at Arbor Hills Park began in September and is anticipated to be complete by mid October.

### **Junction Ridge Park Improvements**

Replacement of the playground at Junction Ridge Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 Contract. Construction for the new playground at Junction Ridge Park has begun and is anticipated to be complete by the end of October. Other park improvements included the reconstruction of the basketball court with new pavement which was completed under a separate contract.

### **Bernie's Beach Park Playground**

Replacement of the playground at Bernie's Beach is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 Contract. Construction for the new playground at Bernie's Beach Park is anticipated to begin in November.

### **Sunridge Park Playground**

Replacement of the playground at Sunridge Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 Contract. Construction for the new playground at Sunridge Park is anticipated to begin in November. Work for the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 2 contract is scheduled to be completed in December.

### **Brittingham Park Playgrounds**

Parks is currently working with the Department of Civil Rights and the Racial Equity and Social Justice Initiatives Team to begin the equity analysis process for this project. More information regarding the project's next steps will be provided as the process continues; improvements to the playgrounds at Brittingham Park are on hold pending the outcome of this process.

### **Owl Creek Park Improvements**

Phase 2 of the project is currently underway – work by Madison Commercial Landscapes includes the installation of the play equipment, asphalt on the path and basketball court, installation of the basketball poles/backboards, rims and nets and miscellaneous topsoiling and seeding along the edges of the newly installed facilities. Work is anticipated to be completed in October.

### **Breese Stevens Field**

An RFQ went out for the repair of the historic roof tiles along the Paterson St side of Breese Stevens in spring. The low bid was B&B Restoration at \$22,770.00. The work was complete by the end of September. Staff also purchased an interlocking synthetic turf protection system that can be laid on the turf for protection during concerts and other functions unrelated to athletics. The system arrived on Thursday, October 1 and was in place for the October 2 concert.

### **2015 Parks Division Tree Planting**

Dan Larsen Landscaping completed installation of the coniferous trees at Sherwood Forest Park in mid-August and will be installing the remaining hardwood trees beginning in October at 13 park properties including BB Clark Beach, Blackhawk, Burr Jones, Burrows, Central, Hudson, Junction Ridge, Olbrich, Richmond Hill, Sherwood Forest, Sycamore, Warner and Wingra Parks in fall 2015. Maintenance of the trees will continue through December 1, 2016.

### **Goodman Topsoil Shed**

The Goodman Topsoil Shed construction has been completed.

### **Allied Drive Improvements**

Staff is working with the Allied Drive NRT (Neighborhood Resource Team) on the siting of park improvements in the neighborhood as approved in the 2015 Capital Budget. At their March meeting the CDA board approved the creation of a park on two of their lots in the Allied Drive neighborhood. Design development is underway, a survey has been completed and an appraisal to value the property has been received and is under review.

### **Demetral Park Path Improvements**

Staff is working with City Engineering on park and bike path improvements in the Demetral Park/Packers Avenue area. Staff met with the Alder regarding the project and a public input meeting is scheduled for October 14<sup>th</sup>. Construction is anticipated to start in spring of 2016.

### **Forest Hill Cemetery Buildings**

Work continues on building improvements at Forest Hill Cemetery. The projects listed below are managed by City Facilities Management in partnership with Parks staff. 1) John Catlin Chapel Roof Replacement: A preconstruction meeting was held in August. Work commenced the last week of August. 2) The Cemetery Office Re-pointing work is complete. 3) Forest Hill Mausoleum Restoration: Core samples of the roof were taken and showed moisture in insulation at the lower section of the roof. Moisture is believed to be coming through the deteriorated stone joints rather than the roofing membrane. 4) Design and Development Phase: Staff is still waiting for the final report from Isthmus with recommendations for scope of work. Plans and specs are planned for the fall of 2015 with work to start in the spring of 2016.

### **Playground Workshops**

Staff will hold playground workshops focusing on several park playgrounds to provide the opportunity for neighborhoods to learn and share ideas with each other. These projects are part of the 2016 Capital Budget Submission. The first playground workshop will be held on October 14<sup>th</sup> and will address playground replacement projects at Aldo Leopold Park, Rimrock Park, Midland Park, and Raymond Ridge Park. The second playground workshop is tentatively scheduled for October 28<sup>th</sup> and will address playground replacement projects at Kingston – Onyx Park, Honeysuckle Park, Sycamore, and Waunona Park. The third playground workshop is anticipated to be scheduled in November and will address playground replacement projects at Lerdaahl Park, Berkley Park, Westchester Gardens Park and Wheeler Heights Park. Staff also issued a request for proposals for playground designs from playground manufacturers for 2016 playground improvements. The City selected several manufacturers' designs including nature-based themed designs to present to neighborhoods as part of the 2016 playground design public input process.

### **Emerald Ash Borer Mitigation**

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. Planning staff have assembled two public works contracts for spring and fall of 2016 and will be advertised in early October. Bids are to be awarded in mid-November.



### **Sugar Maple Park Master Planning**

Staff will meet in early October with residents of the Birchwood Point development to review and discuss the master plan for Sugar Maple Park. If the neighborhood is supportive, the master plan will go to the Park Commission for approval in October. The City is looking into contracting with the developer, Veridian Homes, to do rough grading of the site in the fall of 2015, with the park improvement construction to be completed by the developer in the spring of 2016. The developer will receive credit for the park construction that will offset the park development fees for the plat.

### **Other Projects**

- Staff is working with a consultant at Tenney Park Shelter to come up with solutions to acoustic concerns inside the shelter. The consultant's have been reviewed by City Facilities Management and staff continues to explore options.
- Staff participated in Neighborhood Resource Teams and/or Neighborhood Development Plans for Owls Creek, Arbor Hills/Leopold, Allied Drive, Emerson East – Eken Park – Yahara Neighborhood Plan, Worthington and University/Hill Farms.
- Planning and Operations staff are working on playground resurfacing projects for Veterans, Carpenter-Ridgeway and Lost Creek Parks.
- Staff is developing a GIS-based mapping database to inventory facilities within parks including memorial plaques, benches, trees, etc.

### **Projects Completed in 2015**

- Lucy Lincoln Hiestand Park Playground replacement
- Electrical line replacement near the softball fields at Warner Park
- Edible landscape in Lucia Crest Park
- Fisher Street Park Playground replacement
- Reynolds Park Bike Polo installation
- Demetral Park Dog Park fencing and paving improvements
- Warner Park Dog Park fencing and paving improvements
- Sycamore Park Dog Park paving improvements
- Tenney Park Beach Playground replacement
- Demetral Park Playground replacement
- Breese Stevens Field asphalt path
- Reindahl splash park concessions
- Elvehjem Park Tennis Court Resurfacing
- Olbrich Park Tennis Court Resurfacing
- Rennebohm Park Tennis Court Resurfacing
- Waunona Park Tennis Court Resurfacing
- Westhaven Trails Park Tennis Court Resurfacing
- Warner Park Basketball Court Resurfacing
- Westhaven Trails Basketball Court Resurfacing
- Woodland Hills Park Basketball Court Resurfacing
- Demetral, Sycamore and Warner Dog Park Paving and Fencing Improvements
- 2015 Spring Parks Division & Water Utility Landscaping including new landscaping at Acewood, Droster, Hudson, Linden Grove, Kenneth Newville, Sherwood Forest Park, Tenney Park Beach, Westmorland and the Yahara River Parkway and two City of Madison Water Utility well sites, and the Tenney Park Beach parking lot and Walnut Grove Park dog park rain garden installations
- Reynolds Park bike polo court
- Highland Manor Park Improvements including the storm shelter
- Flad Park Playground replacement
- High Point Park Playground replacement
- Quann Park Tennis Court Reconstruction Phase 2
- Waltham Park Improvements completed - new basketball court, play equipment and the asphalt path were re-built.
- Worked with Warner Park Community Recreation Center staff on re-carpeting the center in 2015. The carpeting was installed at the end of August.
- Brittingham Park at Proudfit – construction of the paving and seating improvements completed however improvements for the pedestrian crossing of the rail road tracks has been delayed until 2016.

**WARNER PARK COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER – JACOB TISUE**

- Warner Family Fun Nights
  - September 11: “Local Heroes” was the theme and we showcased visits from Madison Police, Fire, and Park Rangers. Approximately 200 people attended.
  - October 2: “Star Party” was the theme and we hosted stargazing events from the UW Space Place. We have over 160 people in attendance.
  - November 13: “Hockey Night” will be the theme, showcasing the Madison Capitols hockey team with visits from their mascot and a booth set up for team. They will do giveaways and sell tickets for a special Madison Parks night at the Coliseum on December 6<sup>th</sup>.

**WPCRC Facility Usage Report – 2015**

|                    | Jan  | Feb  | March | April | May  | June | July | Aug  | YTD          | 2014          | 2013          |
|--------------------|------|------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| Facility Rentals   | 280  | 378  | 430   | 436   | 412  | 359  | 543  | 449  | <b>3287</b>  | <b>3,257</b>  | <b>2,849</b>  |
| <b>Pass Visits</b> |      |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |              |               |               |
| Exercise Room      | 3689 | 3279 | 3203  | 2533  | 2350 | 2622 | 2620 | 1766 | <b>22062</b> | <b>30,746</b> | <b>34,303</b> |
| Game Room          | 148  | 140  | 134   | 140   | 108  | 103  | 88   | 80   | <b>941</b>   | <b>1,658</b>  | <b>1,817</b>  |
| Gymnasium          | 488  | 344  | 503   | 410   | 374  | 209  | 116  | 191  | <b>2635</b>  | <b>4,290</b>  | <b>4,078</b>  |
|                    |      |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |              |               |               |

June/July numbers do not include gym usage by the MSCR Summer Camp

Game room numbers do not include multiple youth groups and organizations that use the area sealed (no cost), and all the carpet was replaced as part of the 2015 CIP (\$55,000+).