

SUPERINTENDENT'S MARCH 2015 REPORT- COMMUNICATIONS TO BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

WRITTEN REPORT OF SUPERVISOR'S ACTIVITIES

EAST PARKS – CRAIG KLINKE, SUPERVISOR

February was a great month for those who love to skate. All of our rinks were open for the entire month and were in exceptionally good condition. Several people have taken the time to call, write a letter, or thank us in person for the work that was done this season. The forecast for March is, finally, looking warmer. Soon we will be shutting the rinks down and moving on to other projects.

Preemptive ash removals began in February in Parks on the north side. In 2.5 weeks we removed 88 trees. Ash removal will continue into March. We will, also, begin grubbing stumps once the ice season is over. Other projects that will begin once ice season is over include:

- Painting barrels
- Repairing and painting benches, tables, and hockey boards
- Converting equipment back to summer use
- Scouting ahead for ash removals
- Administratively preparing for the spring season

CENTRAL PARKS & MALL CONCOURSE– LISA LASCHINGER, SUPERVISOR

Central Parks:

The winter continues to be relatively dry in terms of precipitation, but very cold. Our ice season kept going strong all month with very few major issues. We struggled early with random holes developing in the Vilas lagoon that would then allow water to come to the surface and create some sizeable rough spots. After several weeks of flooding and finally building thick enough ice, we were able to bring out our new planer, which is much smaller and much more user-friendly than the original to help us restore the ice. The crews put forth excellent effort all season long. Our snow removal business was fairly slow, due to the lack of significant accumulations, which allowed us to concentrate heavily on our ice rink work.

Our ice season continues to go strong well into the first full weekend of March. With warmer temps in the forecast, we're anticipating removing hockey boards and wrapping up our ice operations beginning the second week. As spring approaches, we'll continue repairing our picnic tables, paint barrels as well as get out into the parks to start picking up litter. If we have time, we will repair and paint the hockey boards for next season. In addition, we'll be concentrating more of our efforts on EAB preemptive removals. We will be conducting our seasonal interviews at the beginning of the month, and hopefully having our workforce lined up by end of the month. We continue to plan for and look forward to spring, as it is right around the corner!

Mall/Concourse Maintenance

The large snow storm at the beginning of February kept the crews busy for quite some time cleaning the walks and detailing all of the nooks and crannies within our area. Prior to Winter Festival, we organized the first, and maybe only, major haul-out of snow in which we removed piles from both the Capitol Square and State Street overnight. In addition, crews worked throughout the day to haul snow from the side streets around the Square. We continued to pick walks and provide trash and recycling services as usual. Winter Festival was held mid-month, but did not seem to cause any major issues for the crew, as extreme cold temps kept many spectators from coming out to take in the festivities. We saw a bit more excitement towards the end of the month with several rallies, but all were fairly small and very manageable in size. In addition, committees were very active this month with the Philosopher Stone and Ad Hoc Public Restroom Committees moving closer to and making recommendations and the Street Use Committee coming back to full strength.

As we move into March, we continue to manage the snow and ice as necessary. We also prepare for spring, as we will switch gears very quickly as weather dictates. We will resume regular sidewalk sweeping as conditions warrant. We anticipate large crowds for the St. Patrick's Day festivities. We will begin more regular cleaning of the bus shelters as temperatures allow us. We're looking forward to the spring that is fast-approaching.

WEST PARKS & FOREST HILL CEMETERY – LAURA BAUER, SUPERVISOR

Forest Hill Cemetery:

Forest Hill staff was unusually busy this past February, with 10 full-size burials and 3 cremation burials.

The Forestry section has very graciously removed a number of trees in the cemetery this winter. We had a number of both deciduous and coniferous trees that were dead or very nearly dead within the sections. The trees were of such a size that they had to be taken down in stages, often by climbers, to avoid damaging headstones and

monuments. This is beyond the scope of the General Parks' abilities, and we're very grateful that the ground was hard enough, that the snow was sparse, and that Forestry could find the time to help us.

Summit Maintenance:

Just when it started to feel like we would struggle the entire year with the ice rinks, February turned frigid and we were able to get everything into very good shape. It was cold enough even for the water truck, so we were able to build a lot of ice on the land rinks. We're hopeful that the thick ice will be able to withstand a couple of warm days and make it through the first weekend of March, after which the temperatures are predicted to be in the 50s. We'll then take the hockey boards down immediately; when boards are still up this late in the year year, it suddenly becomes a race to take them down before the ground around the stakes thaws and they fall into the mud.

The time between the ice season and the start of the mowing season will see the West Parks crews concentrating on ash removals. We plan to start with trees that won't be adoptable, to allow individuals to adopt if they wish, but eventually we'll be addressing all ashes. On bad weather days we'll repair and paint picnic tables and benches.

We're also thinking about athletic fields. Games start in April, so as soon as conditions allow, we'll be marking corners in preparation for laying out soccer fields, as well as readying the softball diamonds for play. We're getting a large order of athletic field supplies and material together so that everything will be ready to go when the weather allows.

CONSERVATION – RUSS HEFTY

February went down in the record books as the 8th coldest beating out last year's cold spell. The cold weather did help preserve our snow cover. Fresh snow was in short supply. In spite of these conditions we were able to continue cross country skiing viable at Elver in the wooded areas. We used our snow making capabilities to add snow to the Elver sledding hill to provide continued safe recreational opportunities.

Parks Construction crew completed construction of a new trail / service drive in the 5th addition area of Cherokee Marsh. Cold, frozen ground provided perfect conditions to haul in gravel needed for this project. Later this year a new parking lot will be installed nearby. This will provide the public access to the park area just north of the Cherokee Golf Course.

Cold weather has slowed planned tree canopy reduction projects at Owen and Cherokee Marsh parks. Hopefully some warmth will come our way in March.

OLBRICH BOTANICAL GARDENS – ROBERTA SLADKY

Little signs of spring are everywhere – especially the sights, sounds, and smells of Olbrich's Spring Flower Show. The Spring Flower Show takes two full weeks to set up – and that doesn't include the months to grow the right plants and plan the theme and develop concepts for props. While its fun to watch it develop, its more fun to see the enjoyment on young and old as they get a taste of true spring in early March.

Tropical Explorer School Program just completed several weeks of school visits – students learn about the tropical forest habitat and how it compares to Wisconsin's temperate forest habitat.

Volunteers were recognized in February and thanks to them, Olbrich Botanical Gardens received 26,480 hours in 2014. 334 individuals gave 25 hours or more in the year! Thank you volunteers!

Visitor comment:

2/17/2015 "You do a great job! I tell my college class that the best place for a winter date is right here at Olbrich! Love the people and the conservatory!." Larry M.

January Numbers

OBG Attendance (counted from 9 – 4 only + event participants)	2015	2014	Previous 5 yrs average
January 1 - 31	11,002	10,331	10,334
YTD January 31	11,002	10,331	
Total Member Households (individuals*) January 31			

**based on the number of membership cards issued*

OBG City of Madison Major Revenue Categories (unaudited)	YTD 1/31/2015	YTD 1/31/2014
Bolz Conservatory Admission YTD	\$4,175	\$4,920
Room Rentals YTD*	\$8,555	\$9,468
Catering Percentage Revenue YTD**	\$1,561	\$3,189
TOTAL YTD	\$14,291	\$17,577

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

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

Winter Concert Series, Sundays, 2 – 3 pm unless noted

Mar 1 – **Rodney Hanson**, *Sculptural Percussion*

Mar 8 – Botanical Boogie: **Ladies Must Swing**, 2 – 3:30 pm (\$2 admission at the door)

Mar 15 – **Trisis**, *Vintage Harmonies*

Mar 22 – **JP Cyr & His Radio Wranglers**, 2 – 3 pm, \$1 suggested donation

Mar 29 – Botanical Boogie: **Vivo**, 2 – 3:30 pm (\$2 admission at the door)

Spring Flower Show, Daily 10 am – 4 pm, March 7 through March 22

Bolz Conservatory Closed for Maintenance, March 9 – 20

Cocktails in the Conservatory, Fri, Mar 27, 7 – 11 pm \$6 cover and cash bar

Bolz Conservatory Exhibit: Light Gaps, daily Mar 21 – July 12

Spring Show Plant Sale, Mon, Mar 23, noon – 3 pm or while supplies last

Education – March 2015 classes and programs 608/246-4550 for info/registration or visit 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, Jan 26 – Mar 16, 6 – 7 pm

Meditation and Movement in the Garden, 3rd Thursday, Feb 19, Mar 19, Apr 16, May 21

Sharp Mind – Herbs and Tools, Wed, Mar 18, 6:30 – 8 pm

Classes & Workshops for Adults

Book Club Discussion Group: Orchid Fever by Eric Hansen, Sun, Mar 1, 2 pm

Plan Your Garden So You Can Eat Locally All Year, Tues, Mar 3, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Introducing Endangered and Other Plants Into Your Properties, Wed, Mar 4, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Block Printing Made Easy Workshop, Wed, Mar 4, 6 – 8:30 pm

Vegetable Garden Design Workshop: Create a Garden That Feeds Your Body + Soul, Sun, Mar 8, 10 am - 4 pm

Native Shrubs – A Symbiosis of Site, Structure, and Sanctuary, Tues, Mar 10, 6:30 – 8 pm

Basic Handmade Book Structures Workshop, Tues, Mar 10 & 17, 6:30 – 8:30 pm both days

New Tree Selections for Diversity, Wed, Mar 11, 6:30 – 8 pm

Aquaponics for Cold Weather, Sat, Mar 14, 9 am – 4:30 pm

A Healthy Lawn for A Healthy Community, Thurs, Mar 19, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Lets Create Wearable Art!, Sat, Mar 21, 1 – 5 pm

Fruit Tree Grafting, Sat, Mar 21, 1 – 3 pm

Scionwood Exchange – Saturday, Mar 21, 3 – 5 pm FREE WALK-IN

Pruning Pointers Workshop, Sun, Mar 22, 9 am, - noon

Gardening for Pollinators, Mon, Mar 23, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Kitschy Papermaking Workshop - Napkin Art in Handmade Paper, Wed, Mar 25, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

A Focus on Foliage in the Shadier Garden, Wed, Mar 25, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Hydroponics 101, Thurs, Mar 26, 6:30 – 8 pm

All About Willow, Sat, Mar 28, 10 am – noon

Rustic Willow Trellis Workshop, Sat, Mar 28, 1 – 4:30 pm

Selecting and Growing Tropical Orchids, Sun, Mar 29, 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Introduction to Painting in Soft Pastel, Sun, Mar 29, 9:30 am – 4:30 pm

Learn & Play Together

Toddler Story & Stroll: Peter Rabbit's Adventures (ages 2 – 4 with adult)

Tues, Mar 10, 10 – 11 am **OR** Fri, Mar 13, 10 – 11 am

Toddler Story & Stroll: Stories by Dianna Pulley Aston (ages 2 – 4 with adult)

A Rock is Lively, Tues, Mar 24, 10 – 11 am

An Egg is Quiet, Tues, Mar 31, 10 – 11 am

I Wonder Series grades K – 3 with adult

What Do Plants Eat? (Explore Carnivorous Plants) Fri, Mar 6, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Not open/ closed	2													2
Parking issue	9													9
Sport without reservation	0													0
Total reports	64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	64

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
Total reports	77	52	78	285	373	274	248	250	207	98	59	50	2051

2013 Park Ranger calls for service- for comparison

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year to date
Alcohol Related issues	6	3	2	10	18	23	23	8	11	8	0	0	112
Behavioral Ban	0	1	0	2	7	26	17	6	16	6	1	0	82
Check Area	26	13	10	29	55	82	152	104	66	51	41	28	657
Damage to property	4	4	0	5	4	4	6	4	4	5	3	1	44
Dog violation	6	4	18	37	34	21	11	13	4	4	7	1	160
Drugs	0	0	2	1	3	1	7	4	4	1	0	0	23
Graffiti	1	0	3	6	13	7	7	6	4	5	0	0	52

No permanent Address issue	11	19	9	12	10	38	28	21	21	9	2	3		183
Incident	13	11	2	4	3	7	10	3	10	8	0	0		71
Misc	1	0	1	2	6	23	2	10	6	1	4	2		58
Not open/closed	1	8	8	18	18	21	15	22	23	25	7	12		178
Parking issue	9	20	11	12	69	50	67	41	23	19	5	0		326
Sport without reservation	0	0	1	29	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0		33
Total reports	78	83	67	167	241	303	345	243	192	143	70	47		1979

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT – KAY RUTLEDGE

Central Park Skate Park

The preconstruction meeting was held with Drax Co. and their subcontractors on February 19th. Construction is anticipated to start around March 15th with substantial completion scheduled for mid August. The contractor is providing submittal information in preparation to start construction.

Highland Manor Park

The storm shelter building is moving along. Plumbing and electrical work is on going inside the building. The building is 85% complete and scheduled to be completed in May.

Lucy Lincoln Hiestand Park Playground

Work for the 2014 Playground Improvements – Group 2 contract was awarded to Madison Commercial Landscapes for the low bid amount of \$137,466.77. Construction of this playground will begin in spring; the entire contract is anticipated to be complete by July 2015.

Fisher Street Park Playground

This playground will be replaced as part of the 2014 Playground Improvements – Group 2 contract in spring 2015. Construction of this playground will begin in spring; the entire contract is anticipated to be complete by July 2015.

Bowman Field Lighting Phase Two

Joe Daniels has removed the existing light poles at Bowman Field and they anticipate installing the new poles in 2-3 weeks. Construction completion is scheduled for early spring prior to the start of the softball season.

Forest Hill Cemetery

Working with cemetery staff and consultants to come up with a long range plan that will address infrastructure needs at the cemetery. Improvements would include the irrigation system, addressing stormwater management issues by adding storm sewer where needed and reconstruction of the road system in the cemetery. Staff will work with Engineering in 2015 to come up with designs, schedules and estimates for each project. We are also attempting to put together a landscaping policy for the cemetery.

Brittingham Park at Proudfit

Speedway Sand and Gravel was the low bid at \$47,579. A hearing for the proposed pedestrian crossing of the existing railroad crossing was held at the Office of the Commissioner of Railroads on January 27. The draft ruling was received quickly and was favorable, with very few specific conditions. The final ruling will be issued after the notice and comment period. Construction will begin in the spring.

Central Park

The Central Park Phase 1B work is scheduled for construction in 2015. Phase 1B includes a new park entry plaza and pedestrian railroad crossing near the E. Wilson Street intersection with Few Street. The crossing is currently open and operational; temporary asphalt has been installed until the full project can be implemented. Construction will be coordinated with the skate park project.

2014 Athletic Field Improvements

The consultant is now finalizing the plan for the water line improvements at Elver Park. Construction of the water line system will be completed by Park Operations staff.

Improvements to Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park – North Unit

Park Operations' construction crew completed the construction of the gravel path this month and Parks staff will be working on site plans to obtain erosion control permitting for the ongoing work at the site this summer prior to construction of the gravel parking lot in fall 2015. Design is underway for the parking lot.

Highland Manor Park Improvements

Plans and specifications were developed during December and January for the new playground, basketball court and path improvements. The contract was bid and Madison Commercial Landscapes was the low bidder at \$77,865.76. The contract award is going through the approval process and construction is scheduled to begin in May.

Yahara Hills Clubhouse Improvements

Park staff is working with City Facilities Management on a series of clubhouse improvement projects for Yahara Hills. Projects include roof, window and HVAC improvements. Roof construction is complete. Window replacement is next on the schedule. Bids were due on February 20th; asbestos was discovered in the window sealant and caulking so an addendum was issued to change the scope of this work and the bid date was extended two weeks. Bids are now due March 6th. Review of the 90% HVAC plans and specs is underway, with the first advertisement scheduled for March 13th. Work is planned to start on both the windows and HVAC on November 16th or possibly sooner if the golf season ends earlier, with construction planned to be completed by January 29, 2016.

Lake Edge Park Shelter

Staff is working with Facilities Management on the design/construction of the new Lake Edge Park Shelter. Parks and Facilities Management staff held a public input meeting regarding the project on December 17th; the project was well received. The site layout and colors for materials (stone, concrete block, roof and trim colors), were discussed and consensus was reached on the selections. Destree Architects is presently working on construction drawings. Construction is to start as soon as possible in spring 2015 with completion tentatively scheduled around Labor Day.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens

Work continues on building improvements at Olbrich Botanical Gardens. The projects listed below are managed by City Facilities Management in partnership with Parks staff. Hein Engineering expects to have plans and specs ready to bid for the HVAC Upgrade for Olbrich Botanical Gardens Phase I.

Garver Mill

Four submissions were received on Dec. 19th and are under review. Committee meetings began in January to evaluate the proposals. Presentations by the firms were given on January 22nd; a public hearing was held on February 26th.

Wingra Creek Parkway

Staff is working with City Engineering on the Phase 3 Wingra Creek Parkway improvements. The stretch of creek that will be improved is from the railroad bridge just south and west of Goodman Maintenance Facility to Olin Avenue (approximately 2,000 linear feet of creek). Improvements will include dredging to an approximate depth of 5 ft; creating meanders through the installation of littoral shelves; bank stabilization and a canoe launch. The contractor is about 75% complete with dredging and overall about 50% complete. This project is managed by City Engineering in partnership with Parks staff.

Tenney Park Shoreline

Staff is working with City Engineering on shoreline improvements to address erosion along the Tenney Park lagoon. A public input meeting was held on January 13th. Staff will present plans to the Park Commission on March 11th and the Landmarks Commission on March 16th. Permitting is underway and work is anticipated to start on July 6, 2015. This project is managed by City Engineering in partnership with Parks staff.

Dog Park Improvements

Improvements include fencing and paving improvements at Demetral and Warner Park, and paving improvements at Sycamore Park. Plans and specifications were approved by the Board of Public Works on February 18th and will be advertised to bid on March 6th. An RFQ for fencing improvements will be issued in March.

Nakoma Park Improvements

The stone stairs at the western entrance to Nakoma Park along Cherokee Drive are deteriorating and in need of repair. City Facilities Management is working with InSite Architects to develop restoration options for the historic stairs. The City Engineering Division also intends to make stream channel improvements in the park in 2015. City Facilities Management, City Engineering, and the Parks Division are holding a neighborhood meeting on March 10th to discuss the proposed improvements to the park.

Stevens Street Park Improvements

Replacement of the playgrounds at Stevens Street Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 1 Contract. Bids for the contract were opened on February 20th, with Madison Commercial Landscapes being the apparent low bidder at \$213,664.37. Work is anticipated to start in mid-March with contract completion around August 7th. Other improvements to the park include a new seating area and access path to the playgrounds.

Flad Park Playground

Replacement of the playground at Flad Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 1 Contract. Bids for the contract were opened on February 20th, see Stevens Street Park Improvements.

High Point Park Playground

Replacement of the playground at High Point Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 1 Contract. Bids for the contract were opened on February 20th, see Stevens Street Park Improvements.

Waltham Park Improvements

Replacement of the playground at Waltham Park is part of the 2015 Park Playgrounds – Group 1 Contract. Bids for the contract were opened on February 20th, see Stevens Street Park Improvements for results. Other improvements to the park include resurfacing the existing path system and re-building the basketball court. The re-construction of the path and basketball court is anticipated to occur in the summer of 2015 as part of the 2015 Park Paving Contract, which is out for bid right now.

Sunridge Park Playground Improvements

Plans and specs for the Playground Improvements – Group 2 were approved by the Board of Public Works on February 18th and will be advertised to bid on March 6, 2015.

Junction Ridge Park Playground Improvements

Staff held a second meeting to review playground designs on February 3rd. Construction of the playground is anticipated to occur in the summer of 2015 as part of Playground Contract – Group 2; see Sunridge Park Playground Improvements above for additional details. Other improvements include reconstructing the basketball court as part of the 2015 Park Paving Contract.

Demetral Park Playground Improvements

Staff held a second meeting to review playground designs on January 12, 2015. Construction of the playground is anticipated to occur in the summer of 2015 as part of Playground Contract – Group 2; see Sunridge Park Playground Improvements above for additional details.

Arbor Hills Park Playground Improvements

Construction of the playground is anticipated to occur in the summer of 2015 as part of Playground Contract – Group 2; see Sunridge Park Playground Improvements above for additional details.

Tenney Park Beach Playground Improvements

Staff held a second public input meeting to review playground designs on January 13, 2015. Construction of the playground is anticipated to occur in the summer of 2015 as part of Playground Contract – Group 2; see Sunridge Park Playground Improvements above for additional details.

Badger Park Playground

This playground has been added to the Playground Contract - Group 2 contract anticipated to be bid on March 6th with construction occurring in summer of 2015.

Bernie's Beach Park Playground

This playground has been added to the Playground Contract - Group 2 contract anticipated to be bid on March 6th with construction occurring in summer of 2015.

Brittingham Park Playground

Staff will hold a third meeting with the neighborhood in March to discuss options for the main playground area at the park. Construction of this playground as well as the Brittingham Beach playground will potentially occur in fall of 2015/spring 2016 as part of the Playground Contract – Group 3.

Owls Creek Park Master Planning

Parks staff held the first public input meeting to begin the park master plan process for Owls Creek Park on February 12th. Staff also attended a joint session at City of Madison Fire Station 13 the following week to discuss proposed improvements to Owls Creek Park. Sessions with area students will be held at LaFollette High School and Sennett Middle School in March to gain additional input from neighboring residents. A final meeting to present design concepts is anticipated to be held in April at the park.

Breese Stevens Field

Phase 2 of the synthetic turf improvements will include the installation of a 10' asphalt maintenance road around the new synthetic turf field. As a part of this contract a concrete pad will also be installed under the press box. This work will be included as a part of our annual paving contract (Park Paving 2015). An RFQ (Request for Quotes) was sent out at the end of January for the repair of some of the historic terra cotta roof tiles at Breese Stevens Field that have developed cracks. We received 3 bids with the low bid being B&B Restoration at \$22,770.00. These tiles will be repaired during the summer of 2015.

2015 Tennis and Basketball Court Resurfacing

The 2015 Tennis and Basketball Resurfacing contract has tentatively been awarded to Farhner Asphalt Sealers, LLC for the low bid of \$88,868.82. The contract award is going through the approval process and construction is anticipated to begin in May.

2015 Spring Parks Division & Water Utility Landscaping

Plans and specifications for this contract are currently out to bid and are due March 6th.

2015 Parks Division Tree Planting

Plans and specifications for this contract are currently out to bid and are due March 6th.

2015 Managed Meadows

Quotes are due March 13th for the rain garden plant installation & maintenance work at the Tenney Beach parking lot and Walnut Grove Dog Park.

Allied Drive Improvements

Working with the Allied Drive NRT (Neighborhood Resource Team) and staff on the siting of park improvements in the neighborhood as approved in the 2015 Capital Budget.

Demetral Park

Working with City Engineering staff on park and bike path improvements in the Demetral Park/Packers Avenue area.

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. John Catlin Chapel Roof Replacement - The architect will have the plans and specs ready by March 10th, with the first advertisement going out on March 13th. Bids will be received on April 10th with work to start early to mid June. Cemetery Office Re-pointing - Work to go out for bid in the next few weeks. This is a non BPW project so work could start as soon as temperature and conditions allow (late April or early May). Forest Hill Mausoleum - The proposals from the top three leading candidates have been received and were reviewed by the selection committee. Isthmus was selected as the firm that best matched the criteria. Design work should start in the next two to three weeks.

Other Projects

- Parks staffed the Ad Hoc Downtown Public Restroom Committee; recommendations from the Committee will be introduced to Council on March 3rd and referred to the Park Commission among other Committees.
- Staff is working with the Lucia Crest neighborhood on the installation of fruit and nut trees on the west end of Lucia Crest Park as part of a City Planning grant. The location has been approved by the Parks Superintendent; requested tree species and the management plan have been reviewed. Additional edible species approved by Habitat Stewardship and the Park Commission.

- Staff is working with City Engineering on stabilizing the shoreline along the Yahara River at East Main. These repairs are anticipated to be completed this winter by City Engineering staff; plantings will be part of the Spring Landscaping Contract.
- Staff is working on outfitting the concessions room with equipment and wi-fi for the newly completed splash park building at Reindahl Park.
- Working with Water Utility staff and the local bike polo club on the design and purchase of a pre-fabricated set of dasher boards that will convert one of the tennis courts on the roof of Reynolds Field Water Utility Well into a bike polo rink.
- An RFQ went out at the end of January for the repair of an electrical line at Warner Park Softball Complex. The primary line for diamond #2 was cut by the contractor working on the Warner Park Cunette project last fall. The repairs will be complete prior to the start of the 2015 softball season.
- Participated in Neighborhood Resource Teams and/or Neighborhood Development Plans for Owls Creek, Arbor Hills/Leopold, Allied Drive, Worthington and University/Hill Farms.

WARNER PARK COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER – JACOB TISUE

- Upcoming Events at WPCRC
 - Warner Family Fun Nights - WPCRC has hosted our new special events throughout the 2014/15 school year – Warner Family Fun Nights. We have had great responses from the community and have had between 150-250 people each night. We have served over 1,200 residents with these programs – and there are 4 more still scheduled through June.
 - March 13th – Family Beach Party (beach themed movie, games, treats, and projects)
 - April 10th – Mallards Night (baseball themed event, Mallards mascot, possible Mallards raffle & give-aways)
 - May 8 – TBD
 - June 12 – Northside Nort Night (school end celebration with Northside related info, art projects, etc)
 - Northside Empty Bowls - Guests at have their choice from a collection of more than 200 ceramic bowls handcrafted and donated by local artists, teachers and students. Soups and jambalaya prepared by local chefs and FEED Kitchen users are served with bread and other refreshments. Local businesses and organizations are involved with the collaboration of the Empty Bowls event.
 - **The Empty Bowls Project:** Empty Bowls is an international grassroots effort to fight hunger and was created by The Imagine Render Group. The basic premise is simple: Potters and other craftspeople, educators and others work with the community to create handcrafted bowls. Guests are invited to a simple meal of soup and bread. In exchange for a cash donation, guests are asked to keep a bowl as a reminder of all the empty bowls in the world. Find out more at: <http://www.emptybowls.net/>. The money raised will be donated to a local organization, in this case the FEED Kitchens. Food Enterprise and Economic Development (FEED) Kitchens is a non-profit, food business start-up on the Northside of Madison that provides community programs, pantry program assistance, and commercial space for small start-up businesses.
 - Saturday, March 14 from 4:00pm – 6:30pm
 - \$15 cash donation for the supper and to take home a one-of-a-kind bowl
 - Family Discount: \$10 for each additional bowls in same family Kids under 7 eat free if accompanied by paying adult (no bowl)
- 2015 Capital Projects
 - WPCRC has been working with Parks Planning on the 2015 Capital project of replacing the carpeting at the WPCRC. Estimates have been reviewed and carpet samples are being reviewed this week. Tom Maglio and I have been meeting to discuss details and start the process of getting the plans through the Board of Public Works. All other capital expenditures are being held off until the final costs of the carpeting replacement are determined.