



# Rochester Hills

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## Master

**File Number: 2016-0019**

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**Type:** Project

**Status:** To Council

**Version:** 1

**Reference:** 2016-0019

**Controlling Body:** City Council  
Regular Meeting

**File Created Date :** 01/13/2016

**File Name:** Riverbend Park Presentation

**Final Action:**

**Title label:** Presentation and Request for Adoption of the Riverbend Park Strategic Framework Plan; Ralph Nunez, Design Team Plus

### Notes:

### Sponsors:

### Enactment Date:

**Attachments:** 012516 Agenda Summary.pdf, Riverbend Park Presentation.pdf

### Enactment Number:

**Contact:** PLA 656-4660

### Hearing Date:

### Drafter:

### Effective Date:

## History of Legislative File

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
1	City Council Regular Meeting	01/25/2016					

## Text of Legislative File 2016-0019

### Title

Presentation and Request for Adoption of the Riverbend Park Strategic Framework Plan; Ralph Nunez, Design Team Plus

### Body

**Whereas**, the residents of the City of Rochester Hills passed a dedicated Parks Millage in the 1980's that enabled the City to purchase several parcels for the development of parks serving residents, team sports, and as many leisure activities as the community desired, and

**Whereas**, the City of Rochester Hills, as part of this park acquisition program, purchased a 70 acre parcel fronting on Hamlin Road and bounded on the north by the Clinton River and said parcel is heavily wooded with varying degrees of steep to moderate terrain and has become known as Riverbend Park, and

**Whereas**, Ralph Nunez, a Professional Land Designer and Professor of Design at Lawrence Tech University approached the City of Rochester Hills in 2012 in regard to structuring a senior Architectural and Landscape Architectural design project at a City park and the City proposed the undeveloped Riverbend Park, and

**Whereas**, the Professor organized 18 students into 4 different design teams that conducted a 3 month period doing research, spending a weekend overnight at the park identifying strengths and opportunities and developing varying plans for how the Park might be refined and developed and then presented these plans to the City of Rochester Hills Planning Commission, and

**Whereas**, the presentation drawings of the LTU students were placed on display in City Hall and the Mayor presented the plans to a resident who became so interested in the park that he pledged \$1 million to begin the implementation process and this pledge is attributed to the Steve and Vivian Stolaruk Foundation and with that pledge the City Council provided monies to commence with the pre-Engineering, Permitting with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, and

**Whereas**, the Mayor was invited to present this Riverbend Park program and effort to the U.S. Conference of Mayors program known as the Mayors Institute of City Design where the nationally recognized professionals provided advice and guidance that included the City seeking the services of a professional design firm to pull all the creative ideas along with additional ones together and document the ideas in a strategic plan to commence with the implementation of the elements for the Park, and

**Whereas**, the City of Rochester Hills commenced with a Request for Proposals from firms throughout the nation to select a firm to complete this task and selected Design Team + based in Birmingham, Michigan and this firm began their work in the Spring of 2015 by organizing a Steering Committee comprised of representatives of recreational, environmental, elementary and high schools and colleges and universities, and conducted numerous public input meetings and submitted to the City of Rochester Hills the Riverbend Park Strategic Framework Plan for the City Council's consideration and adoption.

**Resolved**, that the Rochester Hills City Council hereby adopts the Riverbend Park Strategic Framework Plan as the guide for moving into the Implementation Phase of the Park's development; and

**Be It Further Resolved**, that the Riverbend Park Strategic Framework Plan will be included in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan update and placed on file with the MDNR.