

Legislative File No: 2016-0040 v. 2

- TO: Mayor and City Council Members
- FROM: Alan Buckenmeyer, Acting Director of Parks & Forestry Sara Roediger, Manager of Planning
- DATE: February 22, 2016

SUBJECT: 2016-2020 Parks and Recreation Master Plan

REQUEST:

The Parks and Forestry Department is requesting that Council adopt the 2016-2020 Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

BACKGROUND:

City staff has spent the past few months working on an update to the current Parks and Recreation Plan which expired at the end of 2015. The updated and City Council approved plan is due to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) by March 1, 2016 in order to be eligible for grant funding.

The 2016-2020 Master Plan provides updated recommendations from the current plan, and expands upon more recently identified priorities, many of which resulted from the recent Riverbend Park Plan that was recently adopted by City Council, in addition to other initiatives underway with the Clinton River Watershed Council as part of the Watertowns program.

Per state regulations, the plan was available for review on the City's website, City Hall, the Rochester Hills Library, the Rochester Avon Recreation Authority, and the Older Persons' Commission for 30 days. The public was also given the opportunity to voice their opinions through an online survey (which we received nearly 550 responses!) and a public hearing was held at a regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting on February 16, 2016, after which the Planning Commission adopted the plan. To reinforce the City's support of the plan and the associated park recommendations, the City Council is also asked to adopt the plan.

There have been some updates to the plan since the Public Review Draft that was provided to the Council back in January as a result of the public involvement effort and to ensure the plan meets all state requirements. A summary of key changes is provided below, and pages that were substantially modified have been provided for review by Council.

- 1. Update public involvement section and include summary of survey results
- 2. Include parkland and facility analysis
- 3. Include reference to and information on the Paint Creek Center for the Arts
- 4. Add an objective to better integrate art in parks
- 5. Update action program with updated Riverbend and Watertowns information and cost estimates
- 6. Add appropriate appendices
- 7. Minor grammatical and formatting improvements

RECOMMENDATION:

The Parks and Forestry Department recommends that Council adopt the 2016-2020 Parks and Recreation Master Plan with the attached revisions.

APPROVALS:	SIGNATURE	DATE
Department Review		
Department Director		
Mayor		
Deputy Clerk		