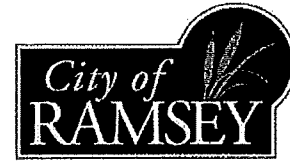


Topic Report: External Memorial Policy Scan
By: Al Haugen, Management Intern



External Policy Scan:

The purpose of this research is to analyze policies used by local units of government for accommodating and regulating private memorials on public property.

Minneapolis, MN

Memorials can take the form of benches and pavers at the Lake Harriet Band shell. Engraving on plaques may say, "in honor of..." or "celebrating the life of..." but may not say "in memory of" in an effort to avoid the feel of a cemetery. All improvements must fit into the city parks plan. The Minneapolis Parks Board is responsible for maintaining and installing all donated improvements. Time limits are placed on all donations. All donations are made through People for Parks, or Foundation for Minneapolis Parks. [\$1,250 bench with plaque, \$125 for a large paver, \$75 for a small paver]

Cambridge, MN

Donations may go toward the purchase of land, flagpoles, benches, bicycle racks, picnic tables, public art, fountains, playground equipment, and other park amenities. The city is responsible for the purchase of donated amenities, and their maintenance and installation. All donations are reviewed by the Parks Commission and accepted by the City Council. All donations should reflect the purpose of the associated park, and be congruent with objectives in the Parks Plan when applicable.

Bellingham, WA

Recognition for donations to the parks system is in the form of markers & memorial plaques. All donations need to respond to identified needs within the park system. Memorials should not be political or religious, and may be removed after their useful life-span.

Grande Prairie, AB

Benches and trees with plaques may be purchased for the city and dedicated to a person of the donor's choice. Maintenance, installation, and replacement are the responsibility of the city's parks department, and are funded by donations from individuals for benches and trees. Benches and trees are already identified needs in the parks master plan. [\$800 bench, \$500 tree]

New Hope, MN

Naming of city parks and facilities is only considered for famous American or occasion, significant financial contributor, or geographic feature. Memorials may be considered for trees, benches, flag poles, or plaques. The city accepts no responsibility for the maintenance or installation of these improvements.

Chanhassen, MN

Benches & Trees with plaques may be purchased from the city and dedicated to a person of the donor's choice. Ashes may be scattered. All donations should not detract from the primary recreational purpose of the park.