

City of Ramsey
Agenda
Park and Recreation Commission
Thursday, May 9, 2019
6:30 pm
Ford Brook Park, 5459 180th Avenue NW
(North side of 180th Avenue near Fluorine Street NW)
In the event of inclement weather, meeting will move to City Hall

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Citizen Input**
- 3. Approve Agenda**
- 4. Approve Minutes**
 1. Approve the following meeting minutes.
 1. Park and Recreation Commission meeting minutes dated April 11, 2019.
- 5. Commission Business**
 1. Conduct 'Listening Session' within the neighborhood on proposed renovations for Ford Brook Park
- 6. Commission/Staff Input**
- 7. Adjournment**

Park and Recreation Commission

4. 1.

Meeting Date: 05/09/2019

Submitted For: Mark Riverblood, Engineering/Public Works

By: MaryJo Warner, Engineering/Public Works

Information

Title:

Approve the following meeting minutes.

1. Park and Recreation Commission meeting minutes dated April 11, 2019.

Purpose/Background:

Purpose: To review and approve meeting minutes.

Background: Attached are the meeting minutes.

Notification:

Observations/Alternatives:

Funding Source:

n/a

Recommendation:

Action:

Motion to approve the following meeting minutes.

1. Park and Recreation Commission meeting minutes dated April 11, 2019.

Attachments

Minutes

Form Review

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
Mark Riverblood	MaryJo Warner	05/03/2019 10:18 AM
Grant Riemer	Grant Riemer	05/03/2019 10:52 AM
Form Started By: MaryJo Warner		Started On: 05/02/2019 10:45 AM
Final Approval Date: 05/03/2019		

**PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
CITY OF RAMSEY
ANOKA COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The Ramsey Park and Recreation Commission conducted a regular meeting on April 11, 2019, at Ramsey City Council Chambers, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW.

Commission Members Present: Chair Shane Bennett
 Vice Chair Brandon Sis
 Commissioner Trixy Barnes
 Commissioner Nathan Barten
 Commissioner Russell Bayer
 Commissioner Jennifer Leistico
 Commissioner Jennifer Shoemaker

Commission Members Absent: None

Also Present: Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Mark Riverblood

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bennett called the Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed to the Commission three new members: Trixy Barnes, Jennifer Shoemaker, and Nathan Barten.

2. CITIZEN INPUT

There was no citizen input.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Sis, seconded by Commissioner Barnes, to approve the Park and Recreation Commission meeting agenda as presented

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chair Bennett; Commissioners Sis, Barnes, Barten, Bayer, Leistico, Shoemaker. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

4.01: Approve Park and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Leistico, seconded by Commissioner Bayer, to approve the March 14, 2019, Park and Rec Commission meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chair Bennett; Commissioners Leistico, Barnes, Barten, Bayer, Shoemaker, Sis. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

5. COMMISSION BUSINESS

5.01: Consider Land Acquisition North of Sunfish Lake Park

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood presented an overview of the possible land acquisition north of Sunfish Lake Park. There are 3.6 acres for sale currently. Recently, a member of the Ramsey Environmental Policy Board asked that the Park and Rec Commission review the parcel in question for possible inclusion in Sunfish Lake Park. In examining the parcel, staff has concluded it is not on the Commission's list for potential acquisition. The current list price is approximately \$400,000. There are other parcels that have been previously identified that should be added to the park system, so it is staff's recommendation not to investigate this parcel any further. He also noted that if that parcel was considered for further development in the future, the Commission would have an opportunity to look at it again as part of a subdivision process. It is possible, for example, that a trail could occur there as part of a subdivision process.

Commissioner Sis asked who is the current landowner.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood responded he is unsure who the current landowner is.

Commissioner Sis asked whether the landowner would be amenable to expanding the current park facilities.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood responded it may be usable as a play area or a parking area.

Commissioner Sis asked how long the property has been on the market.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood indicated he is not sure the length of market time; the property is listed at higher than the assessed value, which is not unusual.

Commissioner Bayer asked about the land's zoning and its buildable area.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood pointed to the staff report for some of that information, noting that the buildable area would not be significant. However, additional staff research can be put into it, if the Commission desires.

Commissioner Bayer commented that the particular park has heavy kayak and canoe usage, and he asked whether the City could build something that could be used by the City and residents.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood indicated that later in the meeting, capital improvements will be discussed. One capital improvement is canoe/kayak system for Lake Itasca. Sunfish is so well used for canoes and kayaking, and there about 1,700 people with proximity cards who have access to the system today. It is so well used that last fall, the existing parking lot was expanded to accommodate residents. Conceivably, more kayaks and canoes could be added to the 36 acres lake, though caution should be exercised not to crowd it. He noted that an investment would be better applied to lake Itasca, which does not have parking or a canoe/kayak system. Those factors are what led to the staff's recommendation.

Chair Bennett stated the Commission has not had discussion around this and does not have plans to do something different from the stated goals and priorities of the park and trail system. Additionally, this parcel would probably have to be acquired out of the park trust fund. If \$300,000 to \$400,000 is invested out of the park trust, that can impact the ability to execute on other projects that are much higher priority that the Commission already has plans for. He likes the idea of the land being developed, with possibly some fees coming back to the park and trails fund. He would rather move forward with other pre-planned projects.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood added that he has talked to the Realtor of the property, and so the seller is fully aware the Commission is considering this tonight. The opportunity certainly exists for the landowner exploring its use for park.

Commissioner Leistico stated this purchase would be a lot of money for something that Commission has not previously considered a priority.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood also noted that the Environmental Policy Board is keeping its eyes on the park and trail system, because it is such an important part of the natural resource preservation. He acknowledged the Board for thinking about the park system.

Motion by Commissioner Sis, seconded by Commissioner Bayer, to take no action at this time, but to keep the land in question on the Commission's radar for the future.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chair Bennett; Commissioners Sis, Bayer, Barnes, Barten, Leistico, Shoemaker. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

6. COMMISSION/STAFF INPUT

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood reported on the City's recreation programs for the spring and summer, noting the marketing materials and website are continually being updated. He noted the skating statistics have slowly declined over the years, and those numbers will continue to be monitored. He also provided an update on the Capital Improvement Plan for the park and trail system, including the improvements at Pearson Park, where the Commission is scheduled to meet in July. He also noted that staff met with a sound engineer for the purposes of adding speakers to the Amphitheatre. Permanently mounted speakers would tremendously help with sound quality during park events.

Chair Bennett reminded the public to stay off the ballfields until they are released by the City, because the fields can be ruined for the entire season if they are used prematurely. He also noted that the outdoor meeting schedule begins next month at Ford Brook Park.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Sis, seconded by Commissioner Leistico, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chair Bennett; Commissioners Sis, Leistico, Bayer, Barnes, Barten, Shoemaker. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

The Park and Recreation Commission meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Riverblood
Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent

Drafted by Allison Burr
TimeSaver off Site Secretarial, Inc.

Meeting Date: 05/09/2019

By: Mark Riverblood, Engineering/Public Works

Information

Title:

Conduct 'Listening Session' within the neighborhood on proposed renovations for Ford Brook Park

Purpose/Background:

The purpose of this case is to hear from the neighbors of Ford Brook Park, their thoughts on a proposed 'renovation' for the park—to include various aspects and improvements, but primarily the replacement (in some manner) of the decades old play equipment in the park.

Some of the existing playquipment (small jungle gym, overhead ladder, slide and swing) were salvaged in the 1970's from a previous use and installed at Ford Brook, following the subdivision's development. Additionally, the playground surface (pea gravel) and border, together with the concrete climber/tube 'snake' were installed by city staff in the late 1980's. The playground should be considered for replacement, and to bring it into compliance with both the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); and the Consumer Products Safety Commission CPSC guideline's for playground safety. Accordingly, this project has been identified with the Park's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for several years, and presently shown in 2020.

Notification:

The attached flyer has been mailed to the larger neighborhood (approximately 74 homes) around the park (Ramsey and Nowthen) inviting their comments, ideas and observations on the park.

Observations/Alternatives:

It should be noted that the Rum River Central Regional Park is about a mile to the east at the intersection of CSAH #27 and CSAH #7 and has many amenities, including a fairly elaborate modern playstructure.

One unique feature of this neighborhood park in Ramsey (Ford Brook), is that it's northern border is the City of Nowthen, and includes approximately 19 Nowthen homes within proximity to Ford Brook. For this reason, Staff has previously extended an informal invitation to the Nowthen Lions and the City of Nowthen to consider the renovation of the park as a cross-border community project.

Attached is a site location map, and also pictures of existing conditions at Ford Brook.

Funding Source:

Discussing improvements for the park at this time does not obligate any funding per se, rather, it may help inform any decision on the return on investment replacing the playground equipment may yield.

There may be multiple funding sources at the time funding is authorized (construction), however the primary funding source is anticipated to be Ramsey's Capital Maintenance Fund, (formerly known as the Park Maintenance Fund).

Recommendation:

Staff recommends hearing from residents, their thoughts and ideas for Ford Brook Park, and potentially developing and issuing an RFP for playground and related improvements at Ford Brook, while exploring partnerships for this project in 2019, for construction in 2020.

Action:

Based upon discussion, provide staff with planning direction on the disposition, character, and implementation of the 2020 Capital Improvement Plan, which projects some manner of playground replacement at Ford Brook Park.

Attachments

Ford Brook proximity to Rum Central

Existing conditions

Park and Trail User Map

project page from CIP

Circle of Ramsey Greenway

Listening Session Flyer

Form Review

Inbox

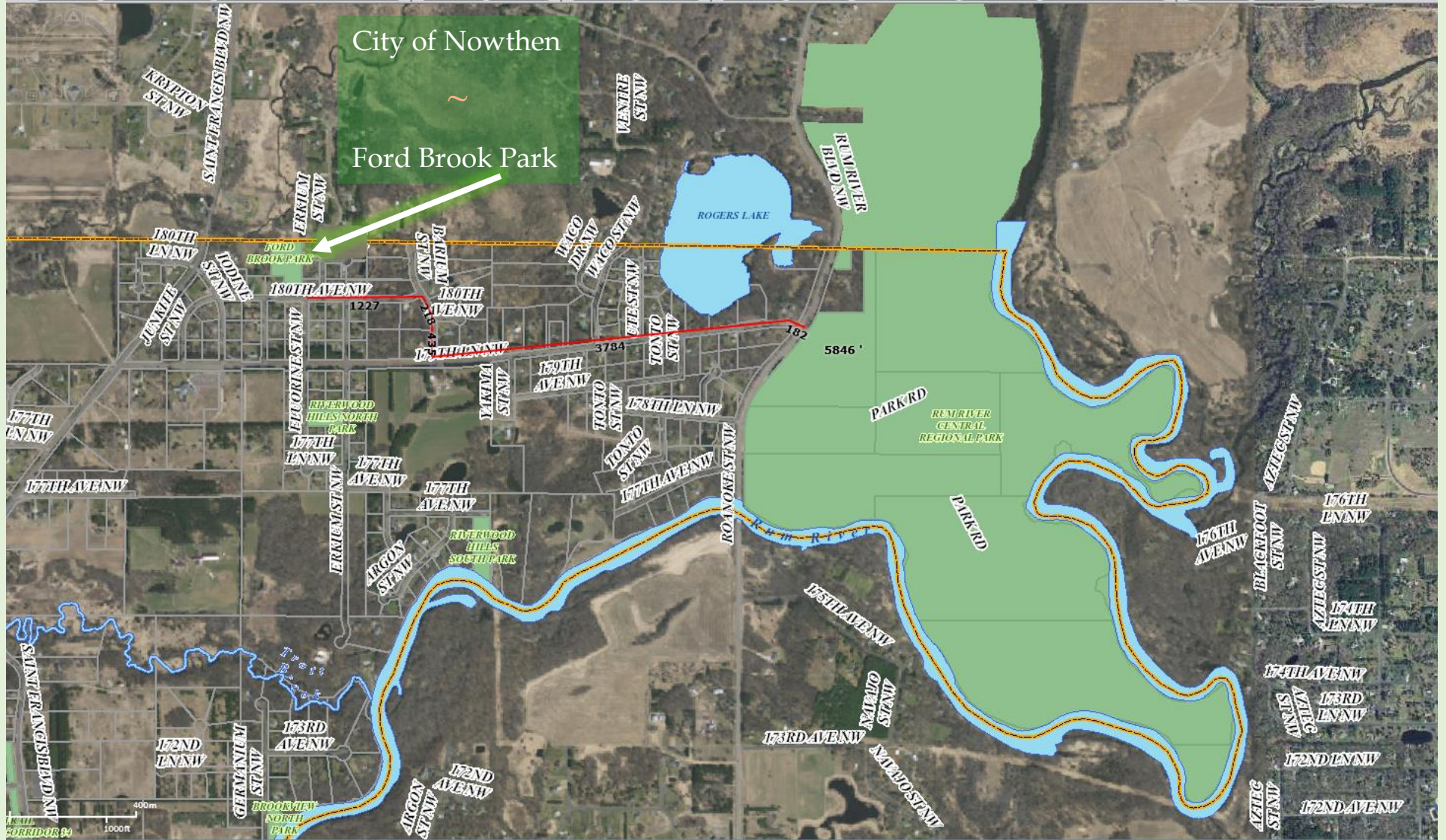
Grant Riemer
Mark Riverblood (Originator)
Grant Riemer
Form Started By: Mark Riverblood
Final Approval Date: 05/03/2019

Reviewed By

Mark Riverblood
Mark Riverblood
Grant Riemer

Date

05/03/2019 09:00 AM
05/03/2019 09:24 AM
05/03/2019 10:07 AM
Started On: 05/01/2019 11:12 AM



Ford Brook Park and Rum River Central Regional Park – 5,850' feet to the West

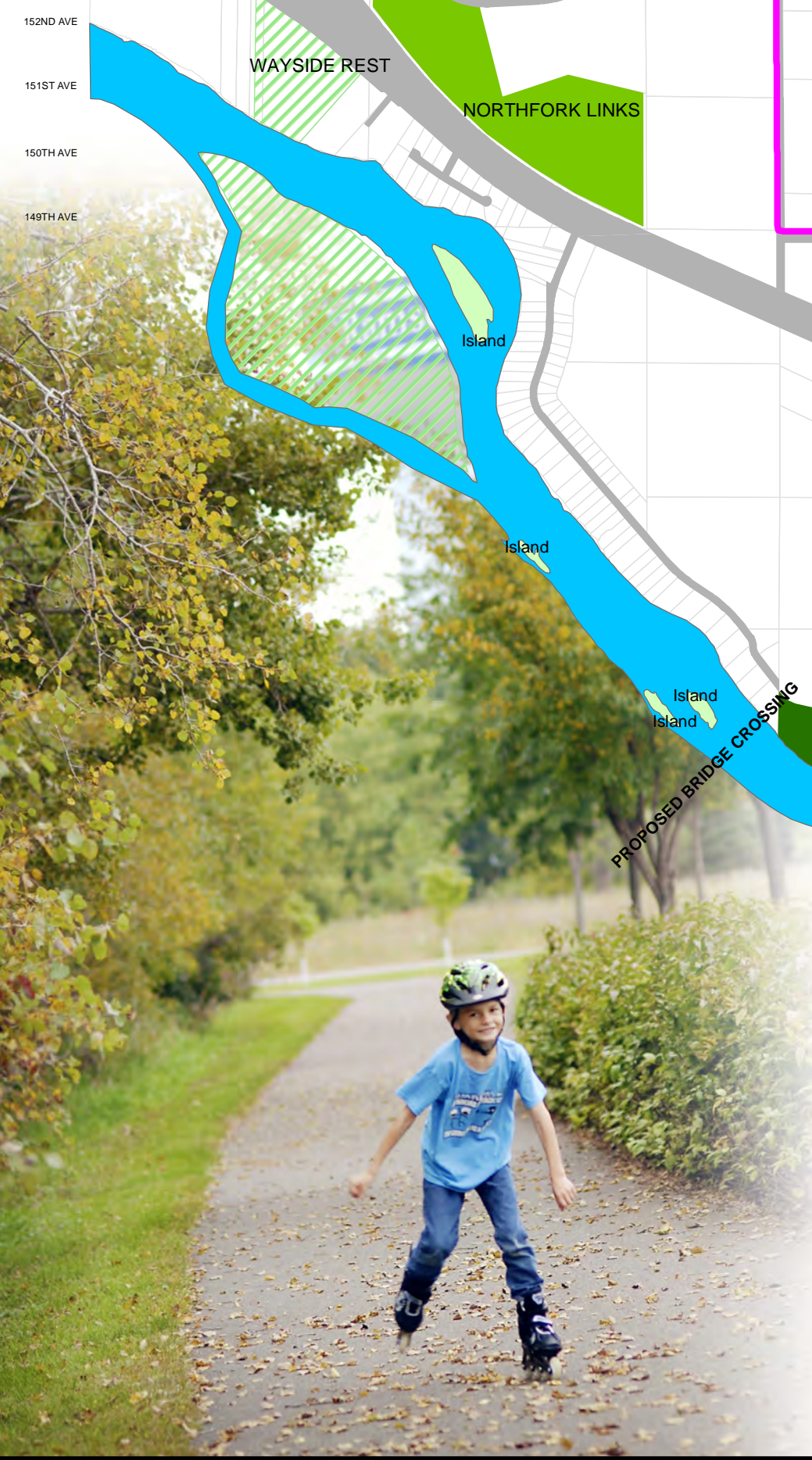
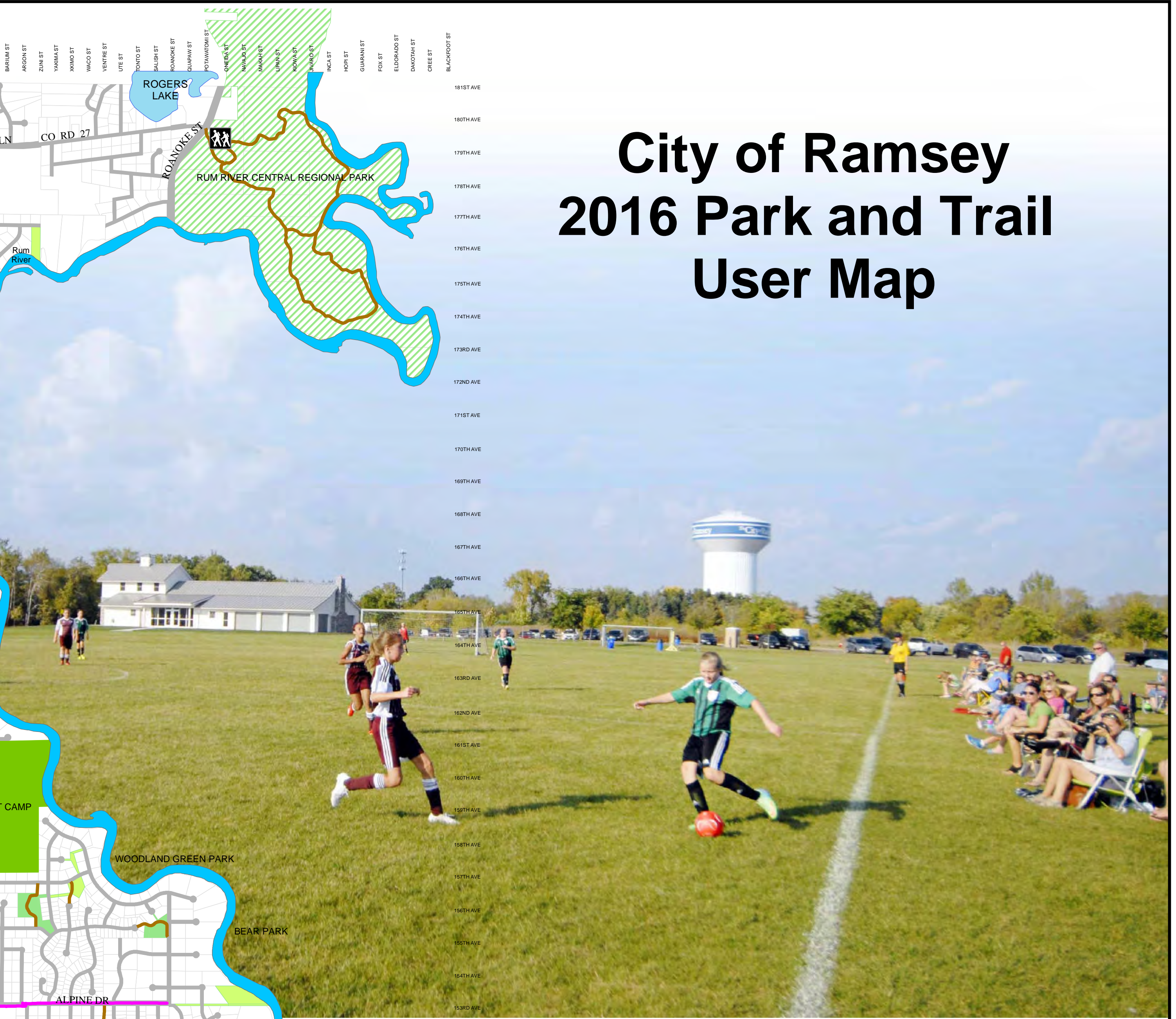
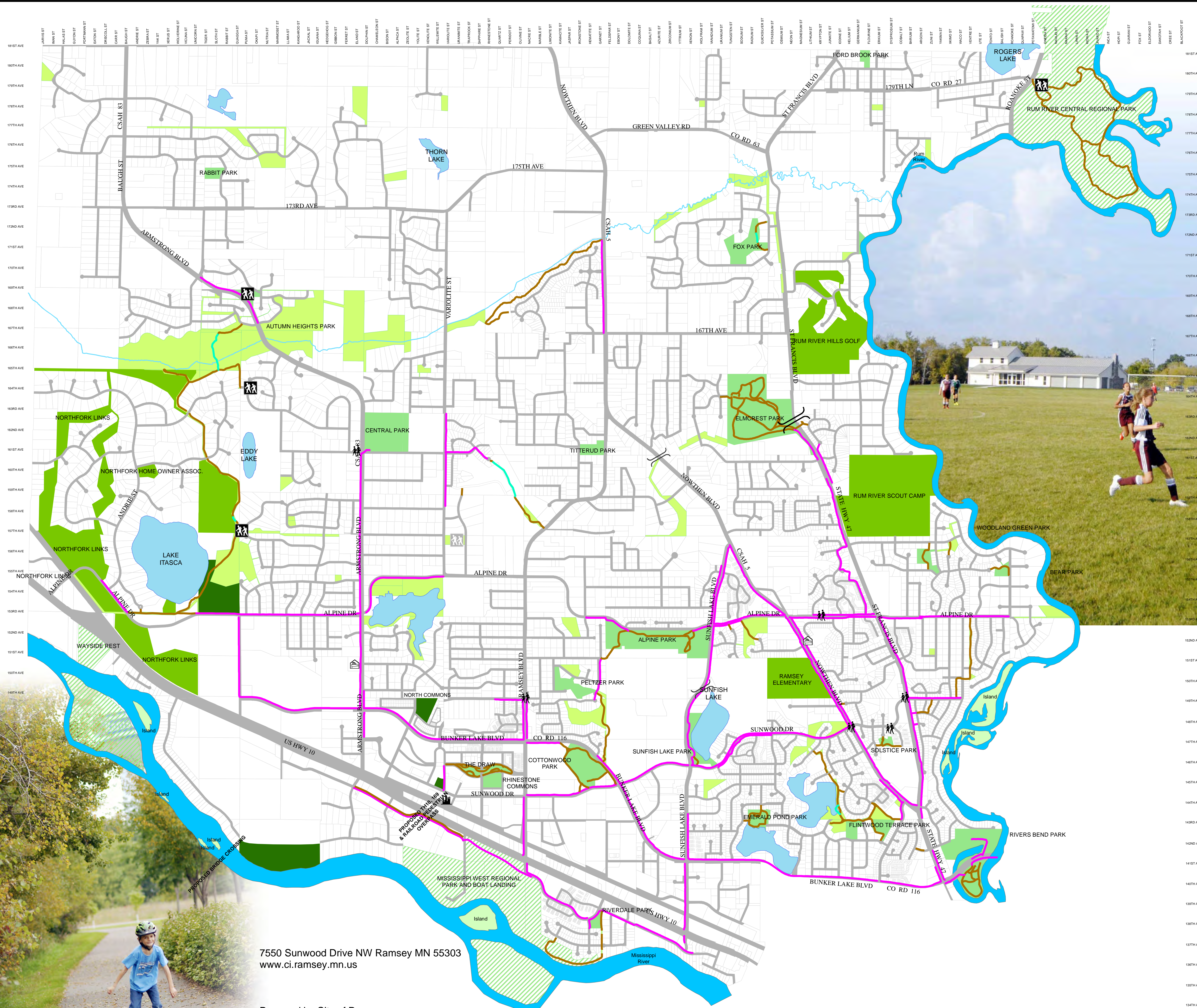
Ford Brook Park (a.k.a Snake Park)







City of Ramsey 2016 Park and Trail User Map



7550 Sunwood Drive NW Ramsey MN 55303
www.ci.ramsey.mn.us

Prepared by City of Ramsey
Revised September 2016



Legend

Park Map Symbols

- Underpass
- Proposed Underpass
- Crosswalk
- Existing Trailhead
- Fire Station
- City Hall
- Proposed Trailhead

TYPE

- OFF-ROAD (OUT OF ROW)
- BOARDWALKS
- ON-ROAD (WITHIN ROW)
- Right of Way (ROW)

Park and Open Space

- PARKS
- QUASI-PUBLIC
- REGIONAL
- PROPOSED PARK
- OPEN SPACE/ TRAIL CORRIDOR

Capital Improvement Program

2019 *thru* 2028

City of Ramsey, Minnesota

Project # 04-PARK-006
 Project Name Ford Brook Park Playground Equipment

Department Park Improvements
 Contact Unassigned
 Type Improvement
 Useful Life 20 Years
 Category Park Improvement
 Priority 4-New Addition (Med)
 Status Active

Description Total Cost \$70,000
 Ford Brook Park is north of CR 27, east of TH 47 and borders Nowthen. The new playground would be within walking distance of about 100 existing homes.

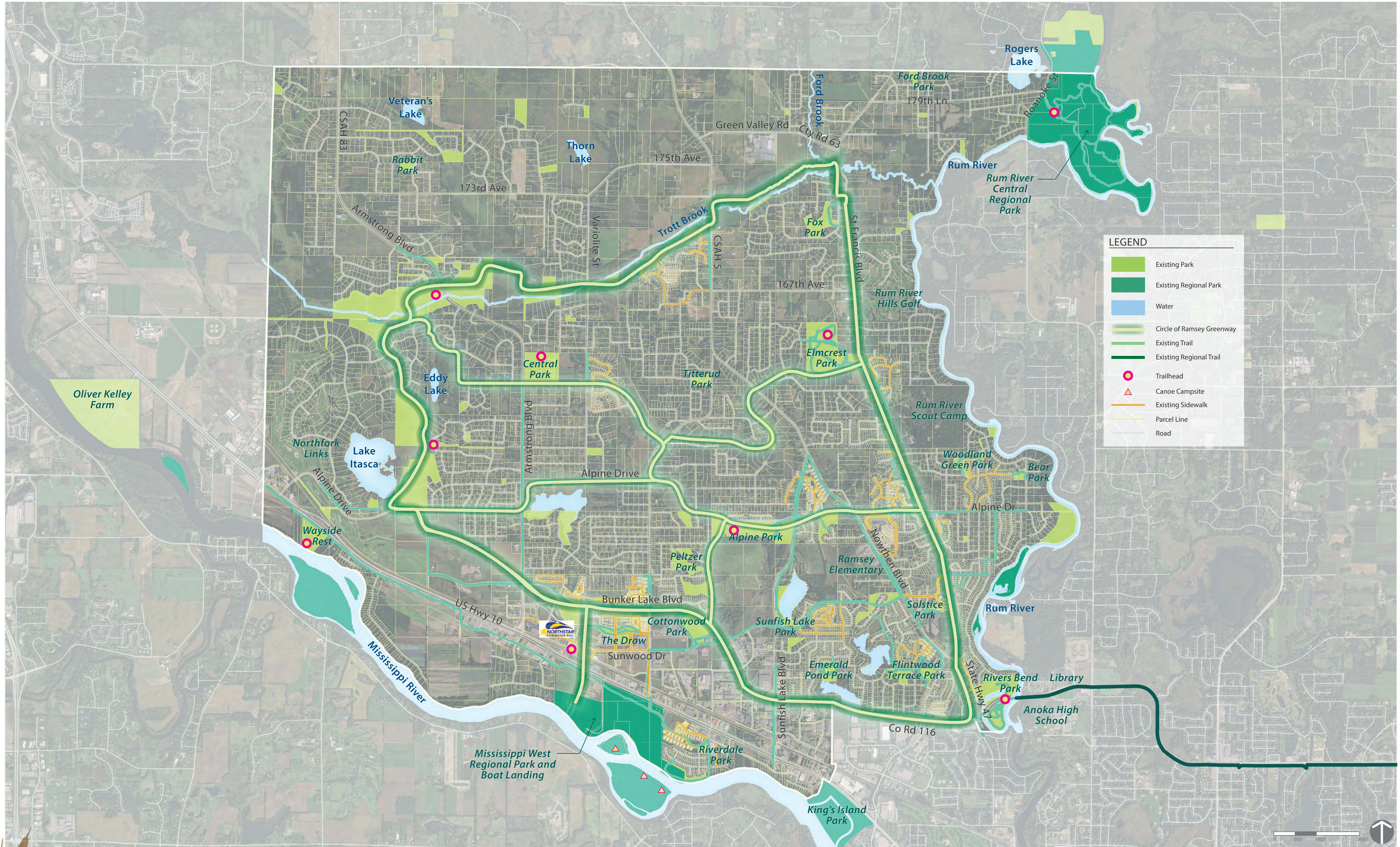
Justification
 The City has remained on a schedule of replacing existing play structures with ones that meet the Consumer Products Safety Commission guidelines for safety. This also results in a contemporary playground with more play value. City of Nowthen may be asked to participate financially.

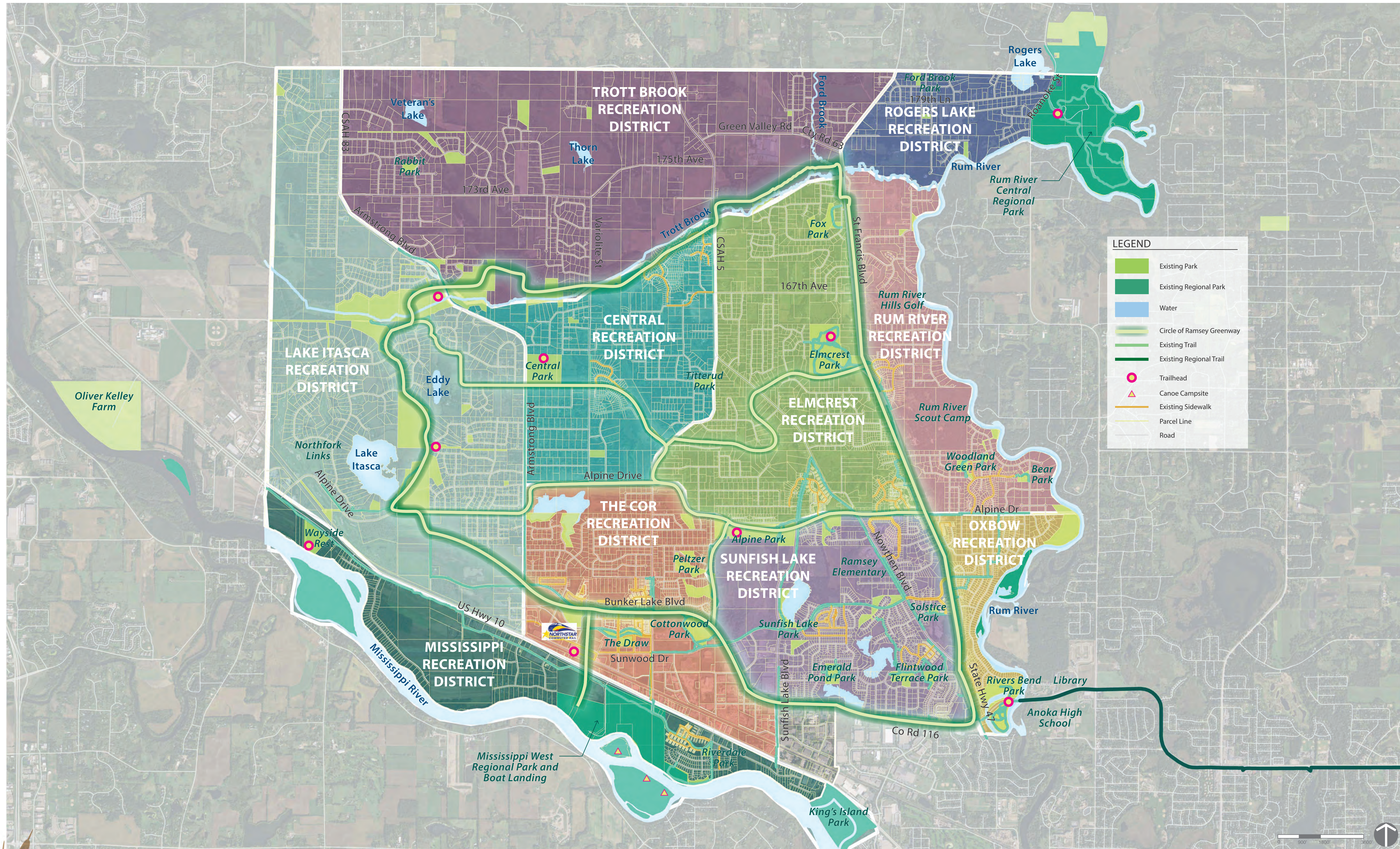
Expenditures	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total
Improvements Other than Building Cost		70,000									70,000
Total		70,000									70,000

Funding Sources	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total
Lawful Gambling Fund		50,000									50,000
City of Nowthen		20,000									20,000
Total		70,000									70,000

Note (from page 8 of the 2019-2028 Capital Improvement Plan):

Approval of the CIP by Council does not authorize spending or initiation of a given project. It does, however, provide a guide for the community for a whole array of private and public decision-making, impacted by public capital expenditures. Therefore, the CIP should receive ratification only if the Council perceives actions contemplated within the plan as reasonable and planned within justified time frames. It shall further be noted that initial project design of public infrastructure projects identified within this plan often begins two years or more prior to the date of construction.







Join the City of Ramsey for a
**Neighborhood
Listening Session**
at Ford Brook Park
Thursday, May 9, 2019
at 6:30 pm

at Ford Brook Park,
5459 180th Avenue in Ramsey

Share what amenities you'd like considered in the renovation.
In the event of inclement weather, this meeting will be moved
to City Hall.

Ford Brook Park Listening Session