

City of Ramsey
Agenda
Park and Recreation Commission
Thursday, January 12, 2023
6:30 pm
Council Chambers, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW

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 dated November 10, 2022.
5. **Commission Business**
 1. Consider Removal Without Replacement of the Flintwood Terrace Boardwalk
 2. Recap of 2022 Recreation Programming
6. **Commission/Staff Input**
 1. Commission/Staff Input
7. **Adjournment**

Park and Recreation Commission

4. 1.

Meeting Date: 01/12/2023

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 dated November 10, 2022.

Purpose/Background:

Purpose: To review and approve meeting minutes.

Background: Attached are the meeting minutes for review.

Notification:

Observations/Alternatives:

Funding Source:

n/a

Recommendation:

To review and approve meeting minutes dated November 10, 2022.

Action:

Motion to approve meeting minutes dated November 10, 2022.

Attachments

Minutes

Form Review

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
Mark Riverblood	Mark Riverblood	01/06/2023 10:25 AM
Bruce Westby	Bruce Westby	01/06/2023 11:06 AM
Brian Hagen	Brian Hagen	01/06/2023 02:22 PM
Form Started By: MaryJo Warner		Started On: 01/04/2023 10:29 AM
Final Approval Date: 01/06/2023		

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

The Ramsey Park and Recreation Commission conducted a regular meeting on November 10, 2022, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Commission Members Present: Chair Shane Bennett
 Vice Chair Brandon Sis
 Commissioner Nathan Barten
 Commissioner Dean Olson

Commission Members Absent: Commissioner Jennifer Leistico
 Commissioner Justin Loss
 Commissioner Brian Walker

Also Present: City Council Liaison Debra Musgrove
 Parks & Assistant Public Works Director Mark Riverblood
 Assistant City Engineer Joe Feriancek
 Recreation Specialist Marla Martinez-Flynn

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bennett called the Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. CITIZEN INPUT

None.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

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

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chair Bennett; Commissioners Sis, Barten, and Olson. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioners Leistico, Loss, and Walker.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

4.01: Approve Park and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Barten, seconded by Commissioner Olson, to approve the following Park and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes:

- Park and Recreation Commission meeting date October 13, 2022

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chair Bennett; Commissioners Barten, Olson, and Sis. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioner, Leistico, Loss, and Walker.

5. COMMISSION BUSINESS

5.01: Consider the 2023-2032 Parks Capital Improvement Plan

Parks & Assistant Public Works Director Riverblood stated that tonight they will focus on the parks projects within the CIP, narrowing the discussion to those proposed for 2023. He explained the purpose of the CIP, noting that many projects are opportunity driven. He reviewed the five-year parks CIP projects and noted that part of the CIP process to weighing projects to determine which projects deliver the best return on investment. He provided details on trail connections, noting that sometimes a development project will require the developer to provide a trail connection which triggers the City to complete adjacent connections. He noted that there are areas in the community which do not have trails or parks in their neighborhoods and therefore connections have been identified that would connect those communities to area parks and amenities. He noted that some projects and/or trail connections carry forward to future years in order to look for the best opportunity to move forward in conjunction with development.

Assistant City Engineer Feriancek provided details on the Central Park parking lot reconstruction project including the project goals, how the project will be timed around the demands of the facility, and the general parking lot design guidelines. He reviewed the preliminary layouts that are being considered noting that staff would like input from the Commission on the different options. He summarized the staff observations as well as input staff would like from the Commission on different elements.

Chair Bennett commented that he likes the concept of angled spots for safety but also acknowledged the increased demand for parking during high traffic events. He stated that perhaps there are alternatives working with PACT that can help to offset that. He stated that he also liked the addition of trees buffering the parking lot to prevent people from parking in the green space while also providing some shade options for patrons in the park. He stated that his biggest concern would be for the stall count, noting that he would not want that limited too far to the point it would create parking issues within the park.

Commissioner Sis commented that he has not been to the park when the lot is completely full but echoed the preference for the angled stalls. He also echoed that the green space would be a good element along with adding shade. He commented that working with PACT would also mitigate the loss of stalls that could occur from the angled concept. He stated that he would prefer to remove the island and keep using directional flow.

Commissioner Olson stated that he also prefers the angled parking and echoes the comments of the other members. He noted that angled stalls also provide easier backing for trucks and larger vehicles and increases visibility when backing out.

Chair Bennett noted that it also forces people to pull into the spot rather than backing in.

Commissioner Barten commented that he angled parking also increases pedestrian safety as they can anticipate the direction traffic will be moving.

Civil Engineer II Feriancek stated that staff will be bringing this forward to the Public Works Committee at its next meeting and then forward to City Council.

Commissioner Sis asked if there is directional signage for the different fields, noting that he has trouble finding their assigned field at the park.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Director Riverblood commented that the City has tried that at Elmcreech, and it did not work well. He noted that typically the association or tournament host provides that diagram on its website or a flyer for the event.

Chair Bennett commented that typically users learn to identify the fields after becoming familiar with the park.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Director Riverblood stated that the addition of the 65 stalls that were added a few years ago has helped significantly. He stated that the proximity of the PACT lot will also be helpful for users of the fields on that side once the City is able to finalize that shared parking agreement. He agreed that the angled stalls assist in avoiding conflicts between drivers and/or drivers and pedestrians. He stated that when the park is short on parking, that tends to be a result of poor programming management, rather than just being a few stalls too short.

Commissioner Sis asked if sewer and water would be extended with the 161st project.

Assistant City Engineer Feriancek replied that they would bring a stub to the east end of Central Park in case there is a future need. He stated that all of the park systems currently function well at this time, but that stub would provide a future option if something were to go wrong.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Director Riverblood commented that the wells and septic currently at the park are working well and therefore would not be replaced with a sewer and water connection at this time.

Chair Bennett noted that this was a good list of CIP projects and appreciated that they continue to look for opportunity driven projects to work congruently with development opportunities for the best value. He stated that he also likes the playground replacement program. He stated that this list includes improvements through multiple different methods and is a well-rounded list of different types of projects across the city.

Motion by Commissioner Sis, seconded by Commissioner Barten, to recommend a 2023-2032 Parks Capital Improvement Plan to the City Council as presented.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chair Bennett; Commissioners Sis, Barten, and Olson. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioners Leistico, Loss, and Walker.

5.02: 2022-2023 Ice Skating Season – Periodic Warming House Closures Expected

Parks & Assistant Public Works Director Riverblood commented the labor market in public works continues to be lacking employees noting that they have not been able to fully staff the regular public works positions or seasonal positions. He stated that they currently have two applicants for the warming house attendants and therefore if they cannot get more workers, they would prioritize the Central Park rink. He stated that staff is working on the development of a schedule for warming house staffing, noting that they may prioritize the weekends rather than weekday evenings. He noted that the rink attendants do count the number of people using the warming houses and reviewed the decreasing trends of use. He noted that trend informs them in various ways and supports that perhaps it would not be much of an impact to have the warming houses closed during certain times. He noted that perhaps the rink at Ramsey Elementary is eventually removed if that rink is not utilized rather than continuing to invest in something that is not being well used.

Commissioner Sis asked if warming house operations could be automated to some degree alleviating the pressure on staffing.

Parks & Assistant Public Works Director Riverblood stated that they have used an honor system in the past with mixed results. He noted that not having an attendant lends itself to more mischief teen activity which then does not lend itself towards an inviting situation for younger children.

6. COMMISSION/STAFF INPUT

Parks & Assistant Public Works Director Riverblood stated the report highlights different upcoming recreational programs. He noted that often the Commission does not hold a December meeting if there are not actionable items and at this time, there are not any items scheduled.

7. ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chair Bennett; Commissioners Barten, Sis, and Olson. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioner Leistico, Loss, and Walker.

The Park and Recreation Commission meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Riverblood
Parks & Assistant Public Works Director

Drafted by Amanda Staple
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.

Meeting Date: 01/12/2023

By: Mark Riverblood, Engineering/Public Works

Information

Title:

Consider Removal Without Replacement of the Flintwood Terrace Boardwalk

Purpose/Background:

Over the Winter of 2004-05 city staff constructed a 300' foot long boardwalk in Wetland #114P parallel to the existing bituminous trail in the park. The purpose was threefold—one to access the sanitary sewer manhole within the wetland for maintenance purposes (denoted in the attached Location Map as 'Gravity PO121'. Second, to provide visual and physical access to the open water areas of the pond for area trail users—and third, as unique recreational amenity with the swinging bench overlooking the water, which was popular for birders and people relaxing on their longer walks.

The boardwalk had served its intended purpose well for 15+ years, however during recent Winters, ice-loading has shifted and strained the 4" x 4" support posts, kinking them significantly under the 8' wood deck. Additionally, many of the wood boards are decayed and broken apart or missing, (photos within second attachment). Due to overall condition of the boardwalk, it is no longer repairable and thus the purpose of this case is for the Commission to issue a recommendation on the disposition of the boardwalk—removal and replacement, or removal without replacement.

Notification:

Observations/Alternatives:

For evaluation and to inform the Commission on the disposition of the boardwalk, staff obtained a quote for the removal and disposal of the existing boardwalk by a contractor, which was \$12,000. Replacement of the boardwalk (following removal) would be in excess of \$94,000. While the boardwalk was a valued amenity when in good condition, presently it is not fully functional and may be considered an eyesore and potentially a hazard.

In light of the above, the Commission may find it is in the public's interest to remove the boardwalk without replacement—as there are future boardwalk projects in the city where an approximate \$100k in new boardwalk investments may provide more utility and connections, with the third attachment representing one example.

Funding Source:

The funding required on this topic depends on what is proposed—removal costs if performed by Public Works staff may be able to be accommodated by the 2023 parks General Fund Budget (no special authorization), if performed by a contractor, the Capital Replacement Fund would be the logical source, *if* the boardwalk is to be replaced.

If the boardwalk is to be replaced, again, the Capital Maintenance Fund would be the primary funding source, perhaps with some Sanitary Sewer Utility funds, as the boardwalk was useful to access the manhole in the wetland.

Recommendation:

Staff's recommendation is to remove the boardwalk utilizing in-house resources, understanding that the boardwalk could be replaced at a later date if it is determined to be a worthwhile expenditure.

Action:

Motion to recommend to City Council the removal of the boardwalk without replacement.

Or,

Motion of other.

Attachments

Location Map

Boardwalk conditons

Example future boardwalk area

Circle of Ramsey gap

Form Review

Inbox

Bruce Westby

Brian Hagen

Form Started By: Mark Riverblood

Final Approval Date: 01/06/2023

Reviewed By

Bruce Westby

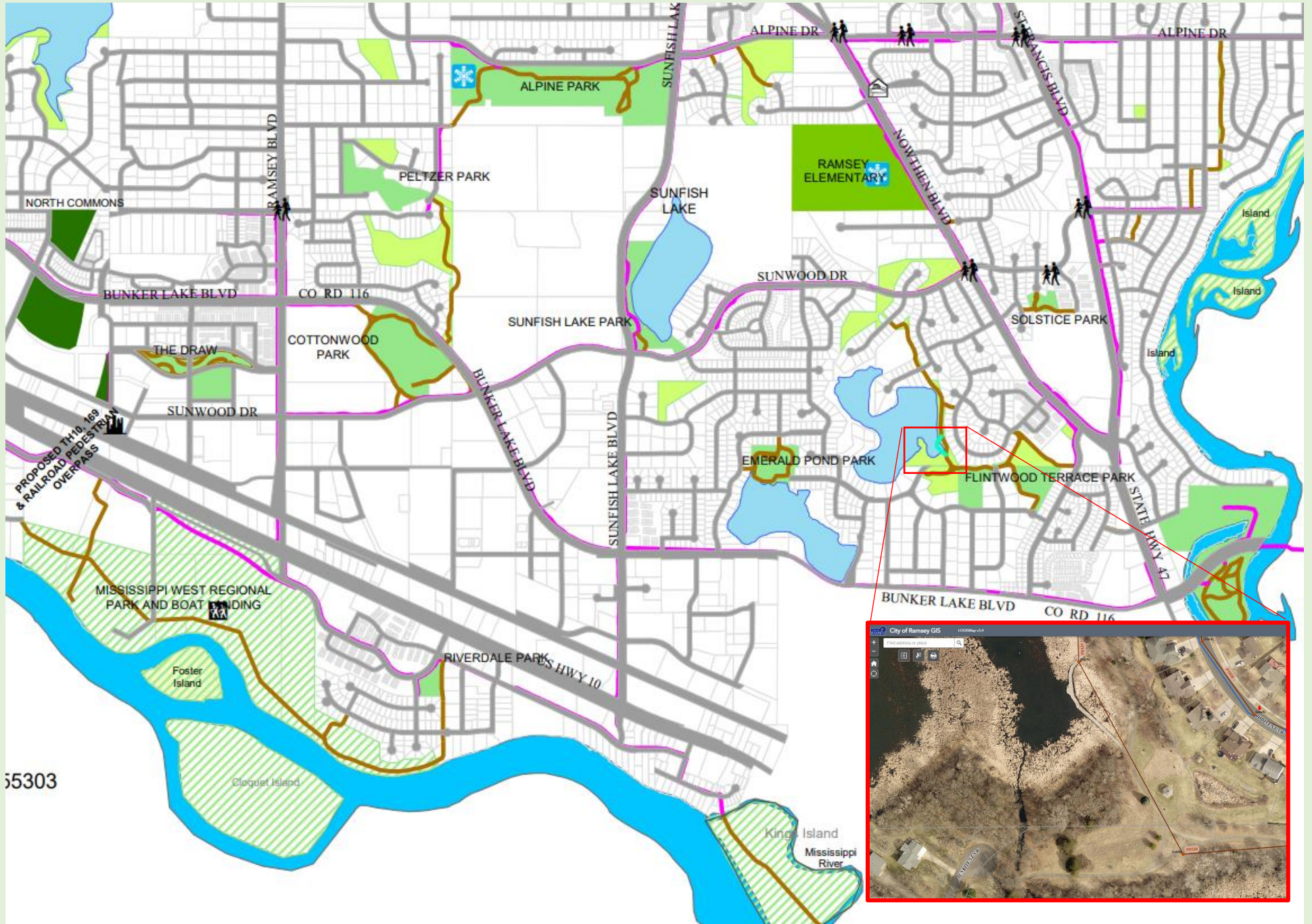
Brian Hagen

Date

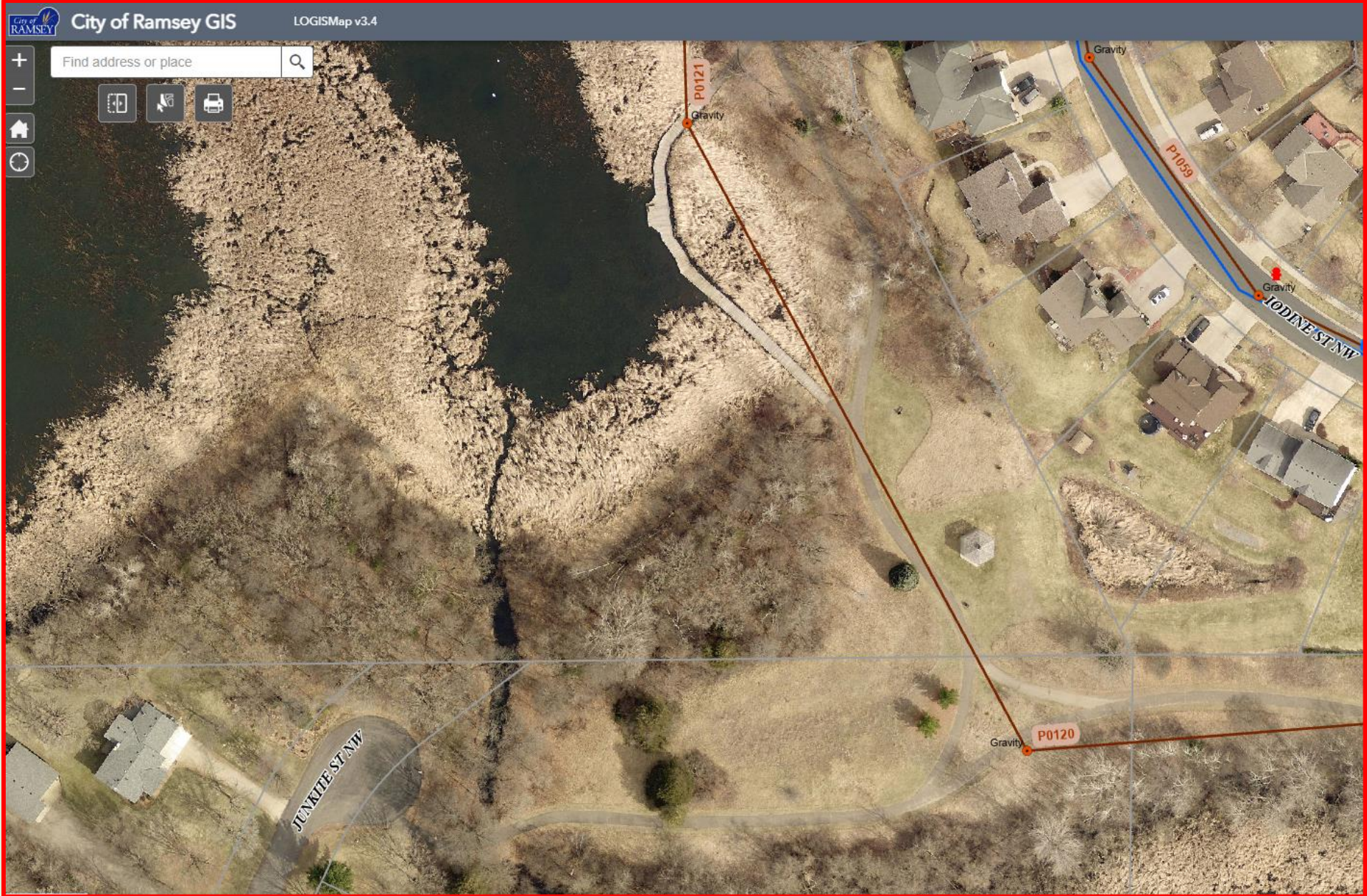
01/06/2023 11:05 AM

01/06/2023 02:21 PM

Started On: 01/03/2023 01:20 PM



55303



Boardwalk Location Map



Spring of 2005

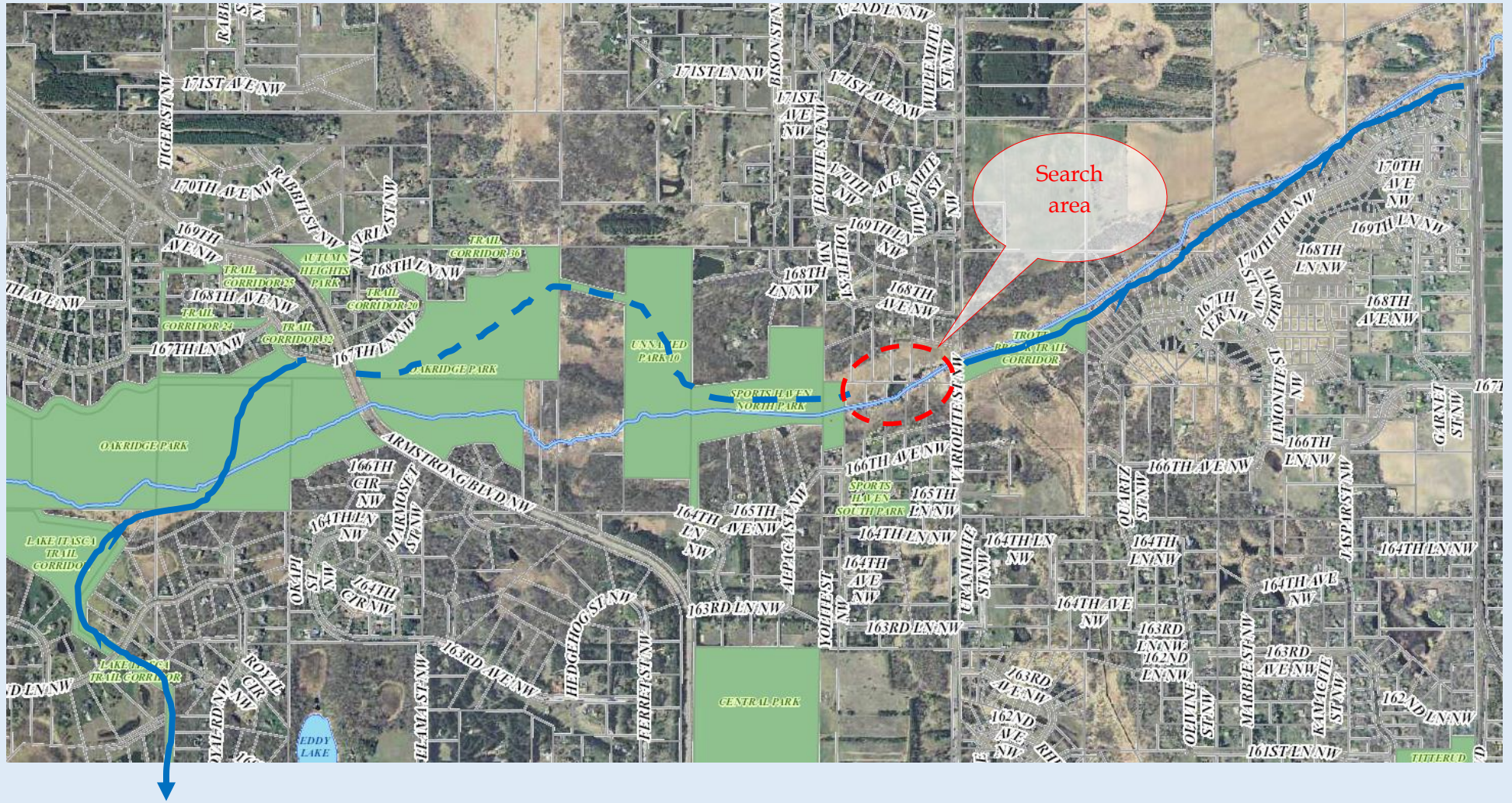
Existing Conditions 2022





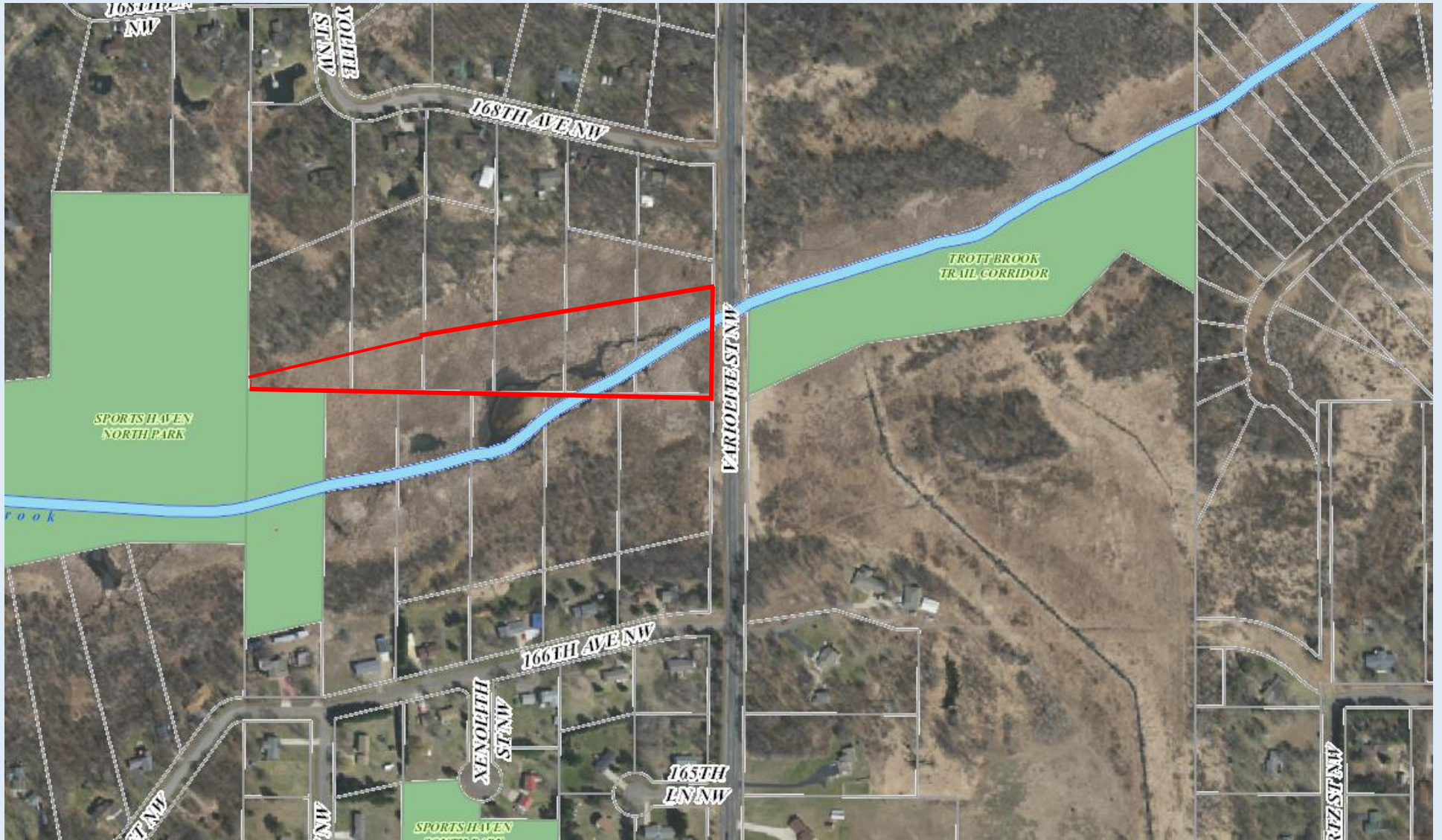


Voluntary Trail Easement Exhibit Examples

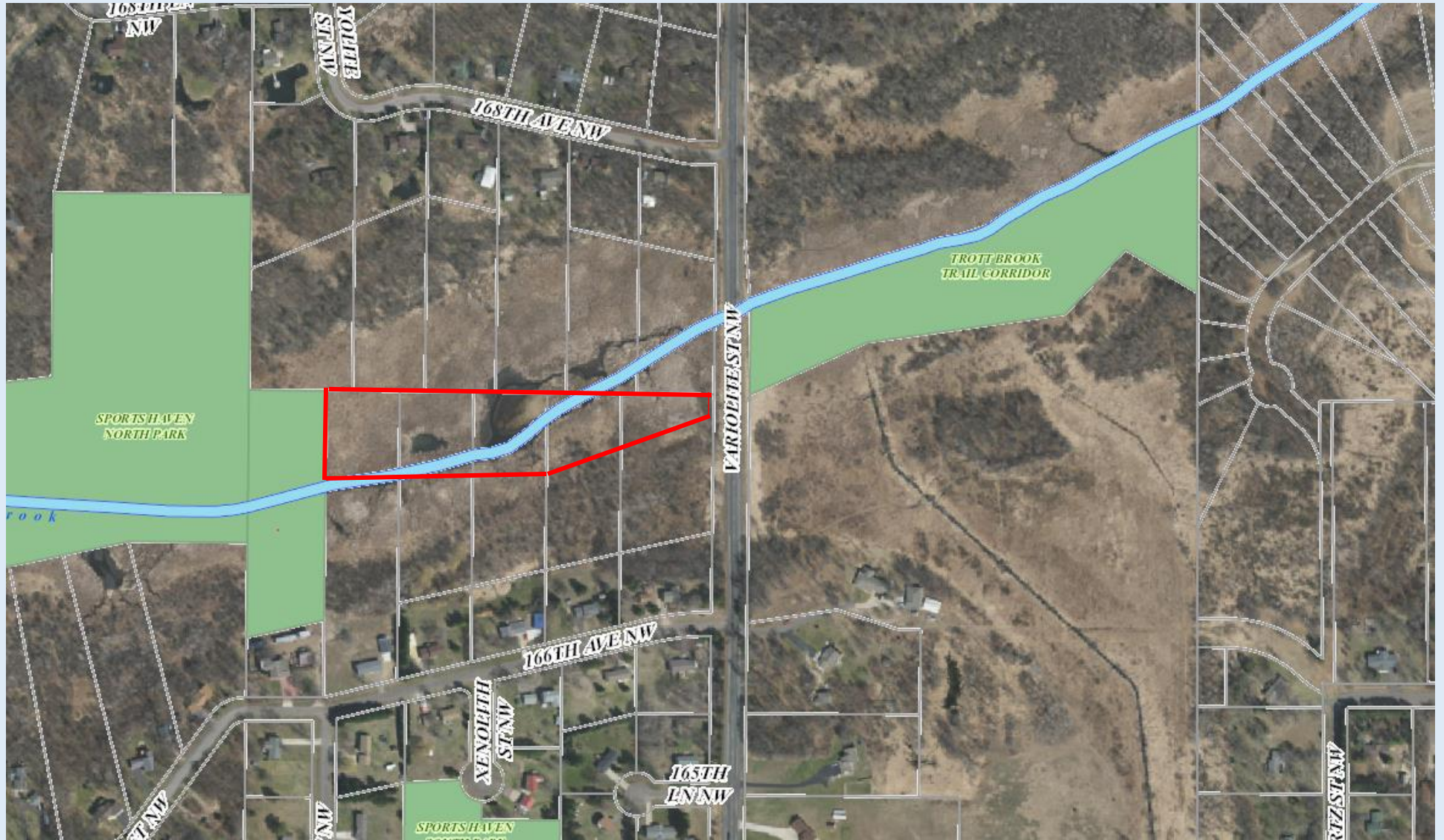


Solid line indicates trail in place

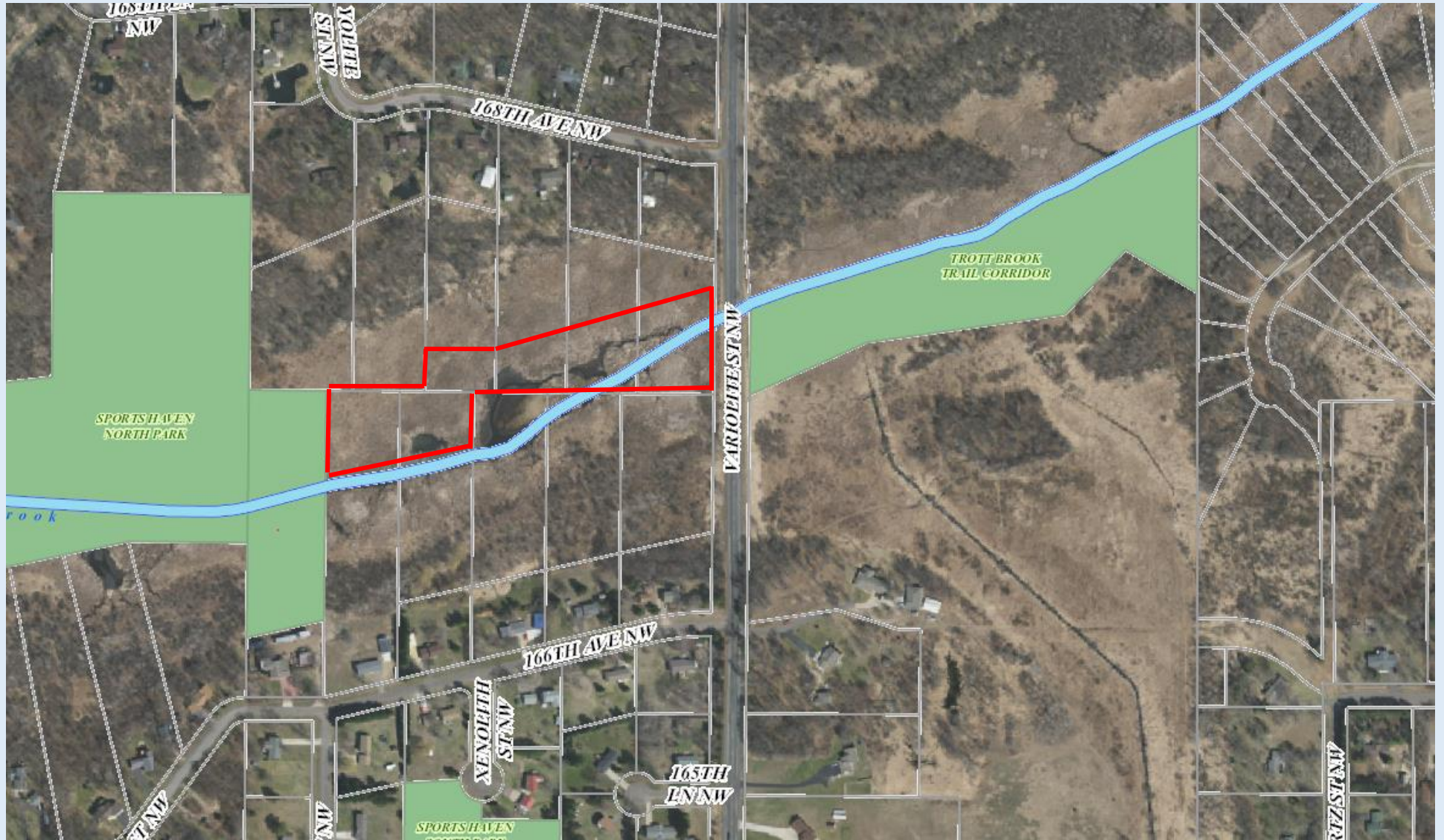
Dashed line indicates approximate alignment of future trail



Scenario 1 of approximate voluntary trail easement areas to close east to west trail gap



Scenario 2 of approximate voluntary trail easement areas to close east to west trail gap



Scenario 3 of approximate voluntary trail easement areas to close east to west trail gap

City of RAMSEY

CIRCLE OF RAMSEY GREENWAY




Meeting Date: 01/12/2023

By: Marla Martinez-Flynn, Engineering/Public Works

Information

Title:

Recap of 2022 Recreation Programming

Purpose/Background:

The purpose of this case is to provide a recap of recreation programs conducted in 2022. Staff will prepare a presentation for the meeting, which will include a brief forecast of recreation programming in 2023 as well.

Notification:

Observations/Alternatives:

Funding Source:

n/a

Recommendation:

Action:

Attachments

No file(s) attached.

Form Review

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
Mark Riverblood	Mark Riverblood	01/04/2023 12:02 PM
Bruce Westby	Bruce Westby	01/05/2023 08:48 AM
Form Started By: Marla Martinez-Flynn		Started On: 01/04/2023 11:08 AM
Final Approval Date: 01/05/2023		

Park and Recreation Commission

6. 1.

Meeting Date: 01/12/2023

By: Marla Martinez-Flynn, Engineering/Public Works

Information

Title:

Commission/Staff Input

Purpose/Background:

- Recreation Program Highlights
- Update on the Winter Skating Activity

Notification:

Observations/Alternatives:

Funding Source:

n/a

Recommendation:

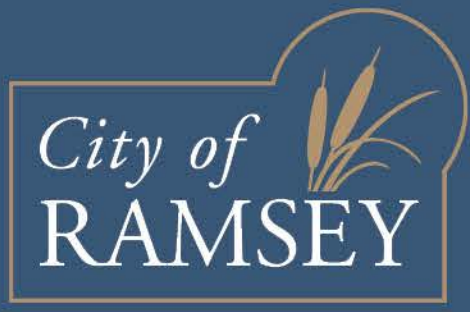
Action:

Attachments

- Storytime with a Cop
 - Winter Walking
 - Winter Cardinal Watercolor
 - Valentine Painting
 - Snowshoeing
 - Yoga
 - Line Dancing
 - Yoga Midday
 - Clay Bird in Nest
-

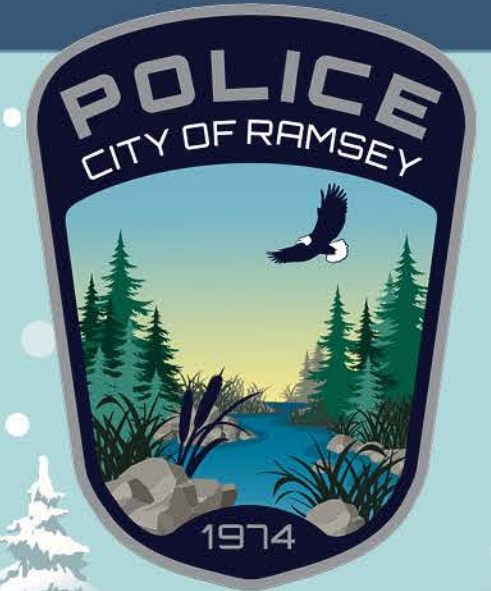
Form Review

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
Mark Riverblood	Mark Riverblood	01/04/2023 11:58 AM
Bruce Westby	Bruce Westby	01/05/2023 08:48 AM
Form Started By: Marla Martinez-Flynn		Started On: 01/04/2023 10:57 AM
Final Approval Date: 01/05/2023		



PARKS & RECREATION

in conjunction with the
Ramsey Police Department
presents



Storytime with a Cop

Thursday, January 26

5:30-7:30 p.m.

At the Central Park
Warming House and Ice Rink

7925 161st Avenue Ramsey

All are welcome
to attend this
FREE EVENT!

A Police Officer will read one of their
favorite books at 5:30 p.m.

Then it's time to lace up your skates
and join Officers on the ice.

Warm up inside the warming house
with hot chocolate.



Ramsey Parks & Recreation Presents: Winter Walking Series



Stay active this winter by walking the trails in Ramsey! Join us on the second Monday of the month December—March to walk the trails at our parks in Ramsey. Walking is a great way to spend time outdoors, improve your fitness and well-being, and meet other people. We will walk for close to an hour and participants can take breaks whenever needed. All abilities and fitness levels are welcome!

Registration is required. There is no cost for this program. The schedule of parks we will meet at will be on your registration confirmation receipt. It will also be sent via email.

Location:

We will meet at a different park in Ramsey each session

Date: 2nd Monday of the month
December—March
12/12, 1/9, 2/13, and 3/13

Time: 5:30 - 6:30pm

Registration:

CityofRamsey.com/ParkEvents

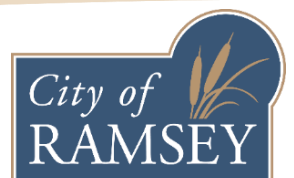
Contact:

Marla Martinez-Flynn

Recreation Specialist

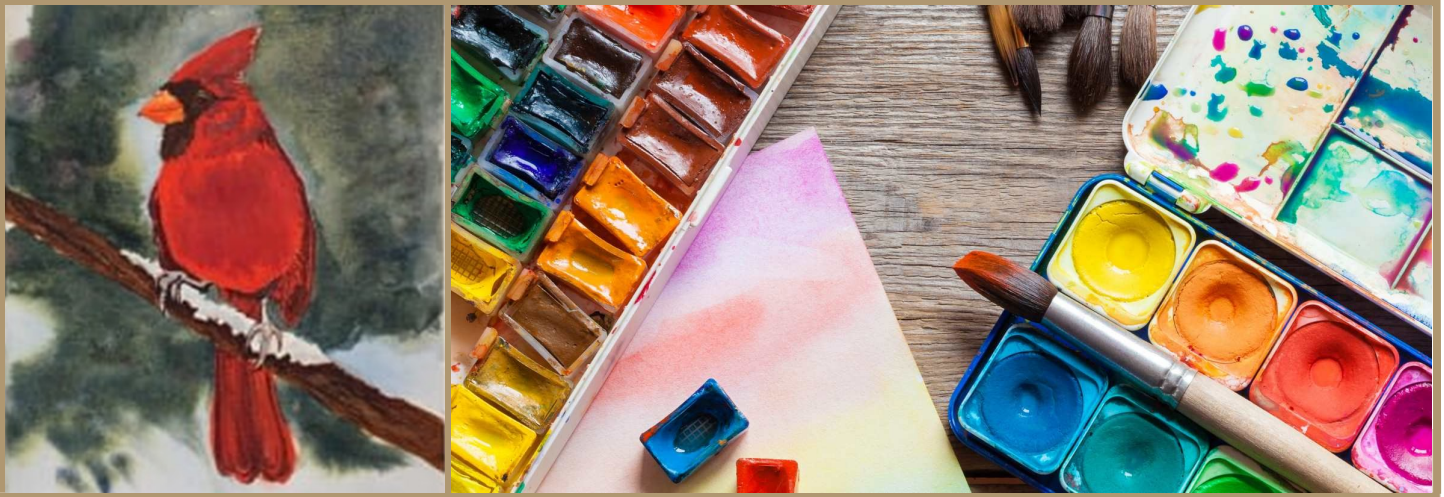
mmartinez-flynn@cityoframsey.com

763-433-9883





Ramsey Parks & Recreation Presents: Winter Cardinal Watercolor



Join us for a Winter Cardinal Watercolor Class! Watercolor is delightful, fresh, exciting, messy, delicate and tender, all at the same time. This class is well suited to any individual who wants to try out painting for the first time, or individuals who want to expand their knowledge of watercolor painting.

Registration is required, and space is limited to 15 participants. The cost is \$20 a person and includes all the materials needed to create your watercolor painting.

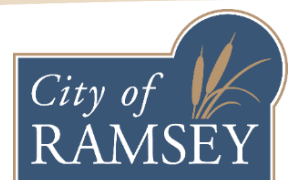
Location: Elmcrest Park
16303 Quicksilver St NW
Ramsey, MN 55303

Date: Tuesday, January 17

Time: 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Registration:
CityofRamsey.com/ParkEvents

Contact:
Marla Martinez-Flynn
Recreation Specialist
mmartinez-flynn@cityoframsey.com
763-433-9883





Ramsey Parks & Recreation Presents: Valentine Acrylic Painting at Kitchen Table



Grab your partner for a unique Valentine's Date!

Join us at Kitchen Table where you will be guided to create a beautiful acrylic painting. This painting project will be done in a way so that you and your partner can hang your creations together to form one large painting! Each individual painting would also look wonderful when hung on it's own. This community class is open to beginners and those who have painting experience. You will be given step by step directions on creating your own beautiful piece of art. Everyone will start at the same point and at the end each canvas will be very different.

Registration is required, and space is limited to 6 pairs. The cost is \$50 per pair and includes all the materials needed. Participants must be 21+ for this event.

Location: Kitchen Table

7533 Sunwood Dr NW
Ramsey, MN 55303

Date: Saturday, February 11

Time: 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Registration:

CityofRamsey.com/ParkEvents

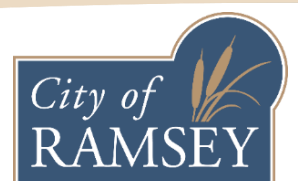
Contact:

Marla Martinez-Flynn

Recreation Specialist

mmartinez-flynn@cityoframsey.com

763-433-9883





Ramsey Parks & Recreation Presents: Snowshoeing



Experience “floating” on the snow with snowshoes! Snowshoeing is an easy-to-learn activity for all ages and is a great way to exercise while exploring the winter beauty of Ramsey. Use snowshoes to explore the parks around Ramsey. Join us for whichever sessions fit your schedule.

Registration is required for this program, and the fee is \$5 a person per session. Children 12 and under are free.

Location, Date, and Time:

Mississippi West Regional Park
Wednesday, January 25; 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Central Park
Saturday, February 11; 4:00 - 5:30 pm

Rum River Central Regional Park
Thursday, February 23; 6:00 - 7:30 pm

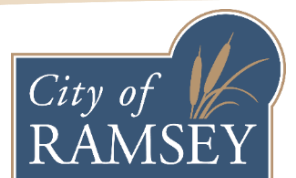
Contact:

Marla Martinez-Flynn

Recreation Specialist

mmartinez-flynn@cityoframsey.com

763-433-9883





Ramsey Parks & Recreation Presents: Gentle Movement Yoga



Gentle Movement Yoga with Jennifer

Join Jennifer in an hour-long gentle movement style yoga class where we will connect to our breath through mindful movement. All experience levels are welcome and encouraged to participate in this series.

Prepare for class:

- Bring a yoga mat, water, and a small towel
- Wear comfortable clothing and be prepared to practice barefoot

Registration is required by the second session (January 18). The first class of this series is free for those who want to try it out before committing and paying for the whole series. The fee for this series is \$25.

Location:

Public Works Building
14199 Jasper St NW
Ramsey, MN 55303

Dates: Wednesdays
January 11 - February 15

Time: 6:00 - 7:00pm

To register:

CityofRamsey.com/ParkEvents

Contact:

Marla Martinez-Flynn
Recreation Specialist
mmartinez-flynn@cityoframsey.com
(763) 433-9883



Ramsey Parks & Recreation presents:

Line Dancing



Line Dancing

Join us for a fun night of line dancing! A beginner class will be held from 6:00-6:30pm and an advanced beginner class will be held from 6:30-7:30pm. Something different is taught every week, so if you miss a class or two it is okay. Partners are not required for line dancing.

This class is instructed by Karen Ann Stark. She has over 15 years experience teaching dance. She is the former developer and choreographer of the Bootscooters Dance Team.

To prepare for class bring a water bottle and wear an outfit that is comfortable to dance in.

Registration is required, and the fee per session is \$5.

Location:

Central Park Building
7925 161st Ave NW
Ramsey, MN 55303

Dates: January 10, 24
February 7, 21

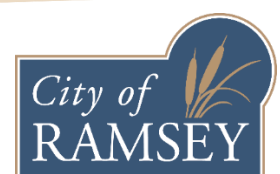
Time: 6:00pm - 7:30pm

To register:

CityofRamsey.com/ParkEvents

Contact:

Marla Martinez-Flynn
Recreation Specialist
mmartinez-flynn@cityoframsey.com
(763) 433-9883





Ramsey Parks & Recreation Presents: Gentle Movement Yoga



Gentle Movement Yoga with Jennifer

Take a break during the day by joining Jennifer in an hour-long gentle movement style yoga class. This class will focus on connect to our breath through mindful movement. All experience levels are welcome and encouraged to participate in this series.

Prepare for class:

- Bring a yoga mat, water, and a small towel
- Wear comfortable clothing and be prepared to practice barefoot

Registration is required by the second session (January 16). The first class of this series is free for those who want to try it out before committing and paying for the whole series. The fee for this series is \$25.

Location:

Affinity at Ramsey
14529 Willemite St NW
Ramsey, MN 55303

Dates: Mondays
January 9 - February 13

Time: Noon - 1:00 pm

To register:

CityofRamsey.com/ParkEvents

Contact:

Marla Martinez-Flynn
Recreation Specialist
mmartinez-flynn@cityoframsey.com
(763) 433-9883



Ramsey Parks & Recreation Presents: Clay Bird in a Nest



Join us for hands-on clay project!

Students will create their favorite bird out of clay and a nest for the birds to sit upon. This is a fun project where kids will learn to sculpt the clay, create fun texture and finish it off by painting their creation with colored underglaze. These pieces of art will then be fired at Rumriver Art Center and brought back to the library to pick up within 3 weeks.

Registration is required, and space is limited to 15 participants. The cost is \$35 a person and includes all the materials needed to create your project. This class is suitable for anyone age 8 or older. Children ages 5-7 can participate with the assistance of an adult.

Location: Central Park

7925 161st Ave NW
Ramsey, MN 55303

Date: Saturday, February 11

Time: 10:00am - 12:00pm

Registration:

CityofRamsey.com/ParkEvents

Contact:

Marla Martinez-Flynn

Recreation Specialist

mmartinez-flynn@cityoframsey.com

763-433-9883

