

# Permanent Funding for Our Community Parks and Recreation Programs

Park Advisory Board  
City Council Presentation

April 17, 2017

# 7 Parks = 138 Acres



# Current Funding and Maintenance Methods

## Funding

- Recreational Program Fees: Program Driven and limited to revenue that covers program costs only
- Building Permits (Use Fund): Relies upon building of homes and businesses to collect nominal fee at \$300.00/per
- General Fund: Objective, “budget available” source and annual renewal not guaranteed

## Maintenance

- Backlog of Maintenance of facilities following “minimum” or emergency approach
- No assured responsiveness to issues (vandalism, storm damage)
- Pull from other departments
- Limited to no community enhancement, improvements or community event support

# 2017 Park Objectives

## (Funded by General Fund)

- **2017 CIP Items:** Conway Trail Improvements: \$2,000.00  
Foundation Park Drive/Drainage: Estimated \$55,000.00  
(actual \$4,000.00 3 catch basins, in-house)  
Park Ponds Maintenance Contract: \$4,000.00/annually  
Shelter House Roof Repair/Replacement: \$2500.00 annually (ongoing)  
Foundation Park Softball Field/Parking Lot Drainage: \$3,000.00  
Dead Tree Removal: \$2,500.00 (ongoing)  
Park Master Planning/Pinning for Borders: \$10,000.00  
Municipal Park Diamond Improvements: \$1,100.00  
Karr Park Shelter Inspection: \$500.00  
Citizen's Park Parking Lot Improvements: \$5,500.00  
Total 2017: \$150,000.00      Total 2016: \$164,000.00
- **Programs at Status Quo:**  
Youth Soccer, Adult Softball, Partnered Community Events
- **Deferred Maintenance and Minimal/Basic Upkeep**



# Comparison

## Current

- Annual Unknown; General Fund
- Deferred or “Emergency” Maintenance
- “Emergency Personnel”; Ineffective Use of Alternate Department Personnel
- Unfunded/Volunteer Driven Resident Desires and Needs
- Community Events Managed and Supported by Volunteer Groups
- Program Fees carry “Program” Will Need to Increase

## Levy

- Permanent Funding Source
- Proactive Maintenance
- Planned, Identified Personnel (1 FT, 1PT)
- Projects Identified, Set Aside Funding or Matching Funds for Grants
- Community Events Managed By City
- Program Fees Remain Affordable for Participants

# Levy Objectives

- Permanent Funding Source for Parks and Programs
- Planning, Providing, Preparing, Personnel
- Answering Resident's and Community Needs (Survey Items)
- Attracting Businesses, Employees and Homeowners
- Does not answer question of large scale projects but may permit 'set aside' for grant matching
- .75mil levy provides \$252,000.00 annually

\*\*\*Nov levy passes: Money Available January 2018:

May levy passes: Money Available January 2019

## Historical Information:

**Fall 2016 Park Survey:** 74% would support a .75 mil park levy, major priorities were clean, safe and up to date; with 42% noted walking trails and bike paths were urgent needs in our community

**2008 Planning/Zoning Commission:** Improving parks was essential to influencing property values in a positive way.

**1998 Mayor's Adhoc:** Trails, bike paths and a recreation center were cited as key objectives for our community comprehensive plan.

## Where will .75mil be Used?

Personnel :	\$100,000.00
Maintenance/Projects:	\$152,000.00
Total:	\$252,000.00

\$100,000.00 valuation= \$26.25







Conaway Trail Repairs



Citizen's Park Improvement



Liberty Park Improvement



Municipal Park Trail

# Sample Maintenance and Improvement Plan for Freedom Park (This would be Created for Each Park)

## Freedom Park Improvements

### Maintenance and Repair:

1. Parking lot needs regraded and another 2 inches of stone put on top, min.
2. Fill in pot holes at entrance drive.
3. Fill in walkways at fence, adjacent to parking lot.  
Fill in walkways where the fence is divided to get from the parking lot to the tot lot and to the shelter house and to the fields. There is standing water in the main walkway to the tot lot and the shelter. These could be mulch.
4. Mulch new trees from last year and previously planted trees.
5. Trim evergreens and other trees.
6. Put another finish coat on new benches. Finish coat is already wearing off.
7. Clean up dead trees; remove them.
8. Taylor Road side planting areas: Mulch needs to be freshened and we need to plant grass where there's no grass growing.
9. Mulch in tot lot needs another layer.
10. Taylor Road planter area: there's been a tree removed and now there is a great big mulch spot with nothing growing. Plant another tree or turn it back into grass.
11. Beautification at park entrance:
  - a. Define drive way with treated 4x4 on either side of drive way to separate driveway from grass.
  - b. Correct areas where no grass is growing.

## Freedom Park Improvements

### Master Plan Related:

1. Walking Path around the park.
2. Pole Mounted Security Lighting- include entranceway and entire parking lot.
3. Construct a path to connect to the new 2018 Taylor Road path.
4. Install concrete entrance drive with head walls with curbs at drainage pipe. Leave parking area gravel.
5. Expand Tot Lot climbers.
6. Expand the green space area to the south and southeast as much as possible.
  - a. Considerations:
    - i. If we expand the level field south, towards the neighborhood, we will likely need some type of fence.
    - ii. Southside trees are planted too far away from the edge creating an unusable space to the south of the trees. The trees need to be moved when this area is expanded and if this area is not expanded, move the trees when the drainage is corrected.
7. Correct drainage in the park:
  - a. Install drainage around tot lot and shelter.
  - b. Fix the field drainage. Multiple wet areas. There appears to be a high spot along the east boundary between the open space in the park and the adjacent farmers field blocking drainage to the drainage structure. Some areas of the park are not usable due to drainage issues and standing water.
  - c. Relocate the evergreen trees to the south, extending the available green space by 25-30? feet.
  - d. Fix the drainage at the road front adjacent to Havens Corner and adjacent to Taylor Rd.
8. Move Shelter and install a softball field/soccer. Install an equipment storage shed. Ball field to have pole mounted lighting.





The Park Advisory Board respectfully requests that a Council workshop be scheduled in May to address the Parks and their future.