



Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Advisory Board

December 3, 2015

Agenda Packet

**PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL RESOURCES
ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 3, 2015, 7 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
231 W. EVERGREEN AVENUE, PALMER
www.cityofpalmer.org**



CHAIR	Helene Antel
VICE CHAIR	Jan Newman
BOARD MEMBER	Stephanie Allen
BOARD MEMBER	Jo Ehmann
BOARD MEMBER	Dot Helm
BOARD MEMBER	Meggie Aube-Trammell
BOARD MEMBER	Ed KESSLER

AGENDA

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Pledge of Allegiance
- D. Approval of Agenda
- E. Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - 1. Regular Meeting of November 5, 2015
- F. Audience Participation
- G. Unfinished Business
 - 1. Discussion of memorial policy and donated bench and table specifications
- H. New Business
 - 1. Develop concepts for Bicycle Rack Competition
 - 2. Discuss recreational facilities and trails mapping and signs
 - 3. Partnerships for Forum on Economic Impacts of Recreational Facilities and Trails
- I. Board Member Comments
- J. Adjournment



Minutes
November 5, 2015

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY BOARD
CITY OF PALMER, ALASKA
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015
7:00 P.M. - COUNCIL CHAMBERS

A. CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the City of Palmer Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Advisory Board was called to order by Chairperson Helene Antel at 7:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL:

Present and constituting a quorum were Board Members:

Helene Antel, Chair
Jo Ehmann
Jan Newman
Dot Helm
Meggie Aube-Trammell

Excused absence:

Stephanie Allen, Vice Chair

Unexcused absence:

Edward Kessler

Also present were:

Sandra Garley, Community Development Director
Pam Whitehead, Recording Secretary

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: led by Director Garley.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda was approved as amended, moving forward item H2, Presentation on Borough Parks, out of time courtesy to the presenter. There were no objections.

H. NEW BUSINESS: [per Amended Agenda]

2. Presentation on Borough Parks by Hugh Leslie.

Hugh Leslie, Mat-Su Borough Recreation and Library Services Manager, addressed the Board explaining the responsibilities of what is actually the Community Development Department consisting of two divisions – Land Management and Recreation and Library Services. It is an extremely diverse department, different from others, because not only are they parks and recreation in the traditional sense but also responsible for the five Borough libraries. Mr. Leslie provided a handout and described the Indoor and Outdoor Recreational Facilities and programs offered by the Ice Rink, Libraries, and Pools (which are attached to the schools). He talked about all the Parks and Trails located within the Borough, including public lake accesses, and described ongoing and future projects. Other responsibilities that fall under the recreation division of the department include

community enrichment grants, trail use permits, film use permits, Borough gym, 10 facilities from Talkeetna to Big Lake to Sutton. His division consists of 26 full-time and 80 part-time staff that adjusts seasonally. They also work with volunteer groups.

Board member questions and further discussion ensued. The Board thanked Mr. Leslie for his time and presentation.

E. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The minutes of the October 1, 2015 Regular Meeting were approved as amended to reflect Mr. Kessler's absence as unexcused.

Board Member Newman moved, seconded by **Board Member Aube-Trammell**, to amend the minutes to reflect Board Member Kessler's absences as unexcused. It was pointed out that Mr. Kessler has been absent from the past three regular meetings (September, October, November); additionally, board members expressed concern that they were not operating as a full board without his participation.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT: Carried Unanimously.

VOTE ON MOTION AS AMENDED: Carried Unanimously.

Upon inquiry, Ms. Garley discussed procedure for appointment of a new board member.

F. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

There were no members of the audience wishing to speak on a topic not on the agenda.

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Discussion of Bicycle Rack Designs and Memorial Policy.

Following the October meeting, Board members Aube-Trammell and Newman worked with city staff on draft bicycle rack specifications. After reviewing information on what makes a good bicycle rack, they developed the specifications that have been preliminarily incorporated into the draft Memorial Policy. The draft policy is in the packet for the Board's review and comment along with information on bicycle racks and information on bike rack design competitions.

Board members Aube and Newman reported on their research. They determined that a good bike rack should have two points of contact. The two design options chosen appear at page 23 of the packet, Custom Logo Racks, which are attractive, functional, and provide an opportunity for personalization. Further discussion and questions ensued re procedure to ask for a joint meeting after the first of the year with the city council to present the Memorial and Donation Policy which would include the selected bike racks. The consensus was to seek a date in February, 2016.

The Board continued review of the policy giving Ms. Garley direction for content discussing benches, trees, donation plaques, font size, banners (consensus to delete section on banners), need more information on interpretive signs (important that interpretive, wayfinding, park signs, and other donated signs be consistent and follow

the same theme). Ms. Garley will bring back a revised Policy with the discussed specifications to the next meeting. In addition, the Board discussed a bike rack design competition as a great way to engage the community by incorporating something unique. Competition parameters and criteria will be a topic for the next meeting.

H. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Annual Election of Chair and Vice Chair.

Following nomination, moved by Newman, seconded by Ehmann, Board member Helene Antel was unanimously re-elected as Chair for the ensuing term.

Following nomination, moved by Aube-Trammell, seconded by Helm, Board member Jan Newman was unanimously elected Vice Chair for the ensuing term.

Chair Antel noted that the Board thanks Stephanie Allen for her previous service as Vice Chair.

3. **Resolution 15-003**: Supporting Designation of Area along the Railroad Right-of-Way North of the Depot as a New Grow Palmer Garden Area.

The proposed Resolution was in the packet for the Board's review. Ms. Garley noted that the Board of Economic Development passed a similar resolution.

Board Member Aube-Trammell moved, seconded by **Board Member Helm**, for approval of Resolution No. 15-003, supporting designation of the area along the Railroad Right-of-Way north of the Depot as a New Grow Palmer Garden Area.

There was brief discussion in support. Ms. Garley will make the minor spelling correction and call Chair Antel when it is ready for signature.

VOTE ON MOTION: Carried Unanimously.

I. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Board Member Newman advised that she will not be able to attend the December 3 meeting in person but would be available to call in. She also commented that it would be good to somehow invite the public to come to monthly meetings and provide input; to let the public know the Board is open to suggestions. Ms. Garley said she would provide something to the Events section in addition to the published agenda in the Frontiersman.

Board Member Aube-Trammell inquired if there were any updates on the Park near the Middle School? Ms. Garley reported she is still working on it; expects to further report in February.

Chair Antel commented that she is excited to be on this board; that it is a productive

board and everyone gets along well.

Board Member Helm commented that maps to parks are fairly easily available on RGS online, however, the City needs an account. She suggested the Board keep it in mind to consider how to do it. She asked for it to be a topic for a future agenda.

Chair Antel would like to take on the general subject of how to get people to see our outdoor recreational opportunities as a form of economic development; that perhaps we could hold a forum on the topic or invite a speaker or the public to come and talk to us about what they see as the future of the development of outdoor recreational opportunities and economic development in the area. **Board Member Helm** informed that the Trails and Parks Foundation is starting to do something along the lines of economic impact of parks and trails. Brief further discussion ensued.

Board Member Newman attended the International Economic Development Conference in Anchorage including a session on developing an outdoor recreational branding to your community. She thinks Palmer is ripe for this. She will bring in some material obtained at the conference for future discussions.

Further discussion evolved into giving thought to sponsoring a forum for education of the community encouraging outdoor recreational economic growth and how to do it. It was suggested the topic should be added to the agenda for the joint meeting with the city council.

J. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Helene Antel, Chair

Sandra Garley, Community Development Director



**Unfinished
Business**

CITY OF PALMER

Parks, Recreation & Outdoor Facilities Memorial and Donation Policy

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines, standards and procedures for the installation and care of donated park improvements, either as a result of a cash or physical property donation. These donations may include, but are not limited to, park benches, picnic tables, bicycle racks, trees, monuments, banners, interpretive signs, public art, and other types of park and trails accessories. This policy does not apply to buildings or land. The City desires to encourage donations while at the same time manage aesthetic impacts and mitigate on-going maintenance cost.

Donations will be incorporated into upcoming or ongoing park improvement projects. The development of public facilities is expected to be the result of careful planning and quality construction. In addition, public facilities are expected to be maintained to a standard acceptable to the community.

Guidelines established by this policy will apply to all donations made after the effective date of this policy. This policy is also designed to provide guidelines for individuals or groups should they desire to decorate, landscape or adorn a donation, such as a tree, bench, or picnic table on city owned or city maintained property.

Standards established by this policy will apply to purchased equipment, installation techniques, donation plaques, decoration and long term care of all donations made after the adoption of this policy. Materials and design of such donations shall be reviewed and approved by the Palmer Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Advisory Board (the Board).

STANDARDS FOR DONATIONS

Acquisition or Purchase: The City and the community have an interest in ensuring that park and trail elements purchased and installed be of high quality related to style, appearance, durability and ease of maintenance. The Board will be responsible for review and approval of material and design of all park elements.

Appearance and Aesthetics: The City and the community have an interest in ensuring the best appearance and aesthetic quality of their public facilities. Park elements and/or their associated donation acknowledgments should reflect the character of the park or facility. Prior to installation, the Board must determine that all park elements will be installed in such a manner that will not substantially change the character of a facility or its intended use.

Cost: The City has an interest in ensuring that the donor covers the full-cost of the purchase, installation, and maintenance for the expected life cycle of donated park elements. A separate fee schedule is maintained in which the City will detail costs for donations, installation,

and maintenance. The City also has an interest in ensuring that ongoing maintenance costs do not negatively impact the resources available for maintenance of other City park facilities. Consequently the City will assess, at the time of purchase, a charge sufficient to cover anticipated ongoing maintenance of donated park elements during their expected life expectancy.

Maintenance: Donated park elements and/or their associated donation plaques, become City property. Accordingly, the city has the duty to maintain the donation only for the expected life cycle of the donation. (See Section __ for more information on life cycle.) If current information is on file, donor will be informed and given the opportunity to take further action at the expiration of the original life cycle.

Repair: The community has an interest in ensuring that all park elements remain in good repair. In addition, the public has an interest in ensuring that the short and long-term repair costs are reasonable. Repair parts and materials must be readily available. Donated park elements must be of high quality to ensure a long life, be resistant to the elements, wear and tear, and to acts of vandalism.

PROCEDURE FOR MAKING A DONATION

The City's Community Development office will manage all donations located on City park property, with the assistance of the Parks Maintenance Crew.

Application: The donor must contact the Community Development office to determine whether a donation may be accepted based upon criteria contained in this policy. If a donation can be accepted, the donor will complete an application form. Applications are available through the mail or in- person at the Community Development office.

CRITERIA FOR ACCEPTANCE

Park Plan: To accept donation of a park element for a specific park facility, a park plan must exist showing the available locations for park elements. If no plan exists then a donation may be made to another facility. If a plan exists, but does not identify a particular park element proposed for donation, the City may accept the donation under certain conditions. Under this circumstance the donation must 1) meet a true need of the facility, 2) not interfere with the intended current or future use or function of the facility and 3) not require the relocation of other equipment or infrastructure to accommodate the donation. In the opinion of the City, a facility may be determined to be fully developed and the opportunity for donations would not be available.

Donation Plaques: Donation plaques, as approved by the Board, are to be directly affixed to the donation and/or, are to be made of bronze and purchased through the City. Donator plaques will be a maximum 5 x 7 or 2 x 18 (pending application) inches in size, utilize "cheltenham light" lettering and numbers, have a leatherette background, be of light brown type "A" color (subject to change, due to availability) and manufactured by a City approved

Attached to draft are some examples

vendor to ensure highest quality, life and durability. In cases where bronze plaques are not feasible, the Board may approve alternative types. The Board must approve all text and graphics for donation plaques.

In park bench applications the donation plaque will be affixed to the front of the seat back of the bench.

In picnic table applications the donation a plaque will be affixed to the table top.

In tree installation applications the donation plaque will be installed on a post, mounted on the tree or on a stone next to the base of the tree.

Notification: It shall be the responsibility of the donor to provide the Community Development office with a current address for purposes of notification regarding their donation. For the purposes of notification, the City will send a certified letter to the donor, notifying the donor of changes related to the status of their donation (i.e. a need to remove, relocate, or comply with conditions set forth in this policy).

PARK BENCHES, PICNIC TABLES, & BICYCLE RACKS

Park benches, picnic tables, bicycle racks, and playground components may be placed in locations approved by the Board in accordance with an available site plan. Items donated must be of a product approved by the Board, and these items become City property at time of purchase.

Bicycle Specifications:

Bicycle Rack Dimensions

Height:	36" max. – 30" min.
Materials:	Stainless steel or galvanized round or square pipe [2-3/8 in OD, 0.154-inch wall, Schedule 40 steel pipe] [1-5/8 inch OD, 0.140 wall Schedule 40 steel pipe]
Safety:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Comply with ADA Standards – no overhangs or protrusions that could be difficult for visually impaired in the walkway or that may cause tripping hazard; 2. Minimum 10" gap at the bottom of the rack to allow space for pedal; 3. Space gaps on the rack shall be larger than 9" and smaller than 3.5"
Locking:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Must provide minimum of two-point connection between the bicycle frame and the rack; 2. Locking points must be a minimum of 1 inch and a maximum of 4 inches

Required Bicycle Rack Clearances on Sidewalks

Description	Minimum Clearance (feet)	Object
Bicycle Rack Clearances from other Sidewalk Objects	0	In-ground utility pull box – allow enough room to remove cover
	2	Tree or tree well; newspaper rack; trash can; curb cut/driveway
	6	Bicycle rack (along curb)
	3	Bicycle rack (parallel to other rack)
	5	Fire hydrant; stand pipe (near entrances)
	10	Building entrance
	5	Street light pole; Traffic sign pole
Bicycle Rack Clearances from Parking Spaces	2	Parallel car parking
	5	Perpendicular car parking

Sidewalk Width Requirements for Bicycle Parking

Description	Minimum Clearance (feet)	Location
Curbside bicycle rack	9	Between curb face and building or café seating leaving (leaving 6' walkway)
Building side bicycle rack	1	Between bicycle rack and building

Bench Specifications:

6-ft. contour wooden park bench with back - heavy duty 2-3/8" O. D. pipe frame with 2" x 4" planks with 8 slats of untreated pine, or pressure-treated planking options.

6-Ft. wooden park bench without back - heavy duty 2-3/8" O. D. pipe welded framework and brace 1-5/16" O. D. pipe with 2" x 4" wood planks; finished seat dimensions 15"w by 18" h.

Picnic Table Specifications:

6-ft. or 8-ft. rectangular expanded metal table with backless bench supported with a 2-3/8" O.D. steel tubing frame to create a sturdy base.

Options:

The Board may approve alternative sizes and types of park bench or picnic table based on the location proposed and the City's needs.

TREES

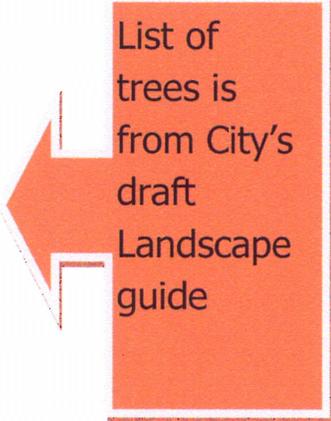
Landscaping and plant selection for park facilities is critical due to the wind conditions and winter weather in Palmer. Accordingly, the size and specie of tree or trees donated shall be limited to those determined by the City. Trees will only be accepted for areas that have access to public water supply in place.

Coniferous Trees – Minimum calipher = 1"

Abies spp.	Fir
Larix laricina, L. spp.	Larch
Picea pungens	Spruce
Pinus spp.	Pine

Deciduous Trees – Minimum calipher = 1"

Acer ginnala, rubrum, tataricum	Amur Maple
Acer rubrum	Red Maple
Amelanchier sp.	Serviceberry
Betula papyrifera	Paper Birch
Crataegus spp.	Hawthorne
Fraxinus spp.	Ash
Malus spp.	Crab
Populus balsamifera	Cottonwood
Populus tremuloides	Aspen
Prunus spp.	Cherry, Chokecherry, Almond, etc.
Quercus spp.	Oak
Salix spp.	Willow
Tilia spp.	Linden
Sorbus spp.	Mountain Ash



List of trees is from City's draft Landscape guide

Prohibited Plant Species

Acer platanoides	Norway Maple
Aegopodium podagraria.	Bishop's Weed
Berberis sp.	Barberry
Caragana arborescens	Siberian Peashrub
Eleagnus sp	Russian Olive
Euonymus alatus	Burning Bush
Fallopia japonica	Japanese Knotweed
Ligistrum sp	Privet
Lonicera japonica	Japanese Honeysuckle
Polygonum sp	Knotweed
Populus alba	White Poplar
Prunus padus	European Bird Cherry
Rosa multiflora	Multiflora Rose
Sorbaria sorbifolia	False Spirea

Sorbus aucuparia	European Mountain-ash
Viburnum opulus	European Cranberrybush

MONUMENTS

Upright monuments or monuments resembling those typically found in cemeteries may not be installed at any City park facility. Exceptions to this policy are monuments installed by the City commemorating the history and/or dedication of a park facility.

INTERPRETIVE & OTHER DONATED PARK SIGNS

Interpretive and other donated park signs as approved by the Board and that are consistent with any adopted City way finding standards may be installed at sites that are appropriate for describing the history, geology, environment, and flora and fauna of a particular area. Interpretive signs shall be of a size that is in keeping with the character of the site. Interpretive signs shall be of a design that meets requirements for access to the disabled. Interpretive signs shall be designed in such a manner that is consistent with other interpretive signs on the site. Interpretive signs shall be constructed of materials that are of high quality, vandal resistant, and able to withstand harsh environmental conditions.

PUBLIC ART

Donated public art is subject to full review by the Board. The Board shall forward their recommendation as to the acceptance of the proposed art to City Council for final action.

OTHER DONATIONS

There may be other donations possible, other than those expressly listed or contained within this policy. The Board may, at their discretion, review any donation proposal and forward a recommendation. The City may accept those donations subject to approval by the City Council.

CONDITIONS

Installation: Installation of donated park elements will be scheduled at a time and date as determined by Parks Maintenance Crew so as not to unnecessarily interfere with routine park maintenance activities.

Placement of the memorial or equipment may not pose a safety risk to the users of the public space or impede mowing, drainage or public access.

Removal and/or Relocation: This section applies to both existing and new donations. The City reserves the right to remove and/or relocate donated park elements and their associated donation acknowledgments/memorial plaques, when they interfere with site safety, maintenance or construction activities. In accordance with previously stated procedure in this

policy, the City will send a registered letter to each identifiable donor notifying the donor of any action related to the disposition of the donation. In certain situations, such as safety or emergency situations, the notification may be made after the action taken. In the event a donation must be permanently removed, the City will seek an alternative location consistent with this policy. If no such location can be found, the information contained on the memorial may be, at the donor's request, located on a memorial plaque set aside for this purpose at a designated location.

MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

The long term care and maintenance of donated park elements is important to both the donor and the City.

Life Cycle Care Fund: The establishment of the Life Cycle Care Fund ensures that the City will care for the donation for the estimated life of the donation, or until such time the City determines that the memorial donation must be removed and/or relocated for unforeseen circumstances. The establishment of a Life Cycle Care Fund applies to all donated park elements installed after the adoption of this policy.

The fund is established with the intent of providing a regular revenue source dedicated and sufficient to reasonably maintain future donations for the duration of their expected life cycle. The cost of a donation will include the cost of purchase and installation, and the funds estimated to be sufficient, based upon the expected life cycle, for maintenance of the donated item. The expected life cycle, routine maintenance and element costs are identified in a separate schedule. This schedule is maintained administratively and may be modified from time to time to ensure that sufficient resources are available to maintain donations.

Accordingly, the City will determine the level of maintenance required for the donated property based upon available budget funding and the type of care needed to reasonably maintain the donation.

At the end of the life-cycle term, the donor may choose to extend the life-cycle term by paying for the current value of a new donation and its associated maintenance cost. The City reserves the right to seek a new donor for the donation at the end of the established life cycle should the original donor choose not to renew the donation, or if the City has not been able to contact the original donor.

COMMON FONTS USED ON CAST PLAQUES

Cheltenham Light

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

1234567890

Times New Roman

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

1234567890

Gouldy Old Style

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

1234567890

Palatino

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

1234567890

Helvetica

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

1234567890

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Home (/Default.aspx) > Learn About... (/LEARN-ABOUT/default.aspx) > Bronze Plaque Characteristics > Background Colors

Bronze Plaque Background Color

GENERAL

The background of most bronze plaques is painted to provide a pleasing contrast to the highlighted areas and may be painted with standard or optional (extra cost) finishes pictured below. Custom-matched (PMS) painted colors can also be provided. Additionally, natural chemical patinas and simulated painted patinas are available on bronze plaques.

Due to variances in the way web browsers display colors and the variations caused by monitors, the quality and accuracy of the displayed colors can not be verified.

Standard Painted Color

Light Oxide Stain



Dark Oxide Stain



Dark Green



Sandblast Bronze



Sandblast Aluminum

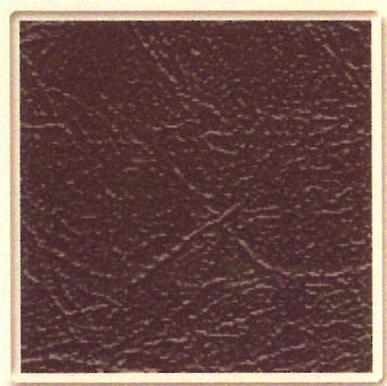


Home (/Default.aspx) > Learn About... (/LEARN-ABOUT/default.aspx) > Bronze Plaque Characteristics > Background Textures

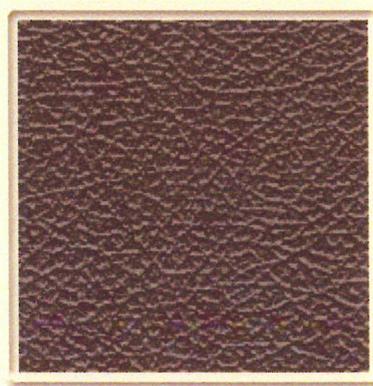
Bronze Plaque Background Textures

GENERAL

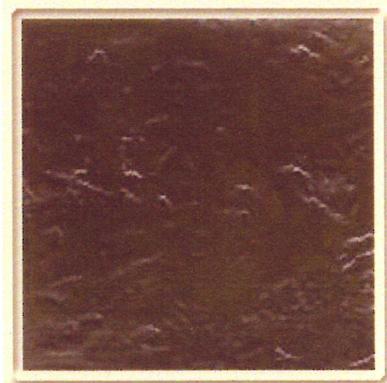
All bronze plaques are manufactured with a background texture selected from the 4 textures below;



Leatherette



Pebbled
(limited to 30" x 40")



Travertine



Sculptured

HELPFUL HINTS



BSA EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT
GATE AND WALL REPAIRS PROVIDED BY
CHRISTOPHER CASSEL

2008

SECOND BLOOMING

Duncan Lewis



To honor the generosity of
MR. AND MRS.
A. TAB WILLIAMS, JR.
AND FAMILY

This Bench is Dedicated in honor
of all the 5th Grade Teachers

2013 Graduating Class



Planted in Memory of
BILL SKINNER
August, 2004







Color Options



Dark Brown



Blue



Black



Burgandy



Light Brown



Red



Green



White





New Business

City of Palmer Bicycle Rack Design Competition

The City of Palmer and the Palmer Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Advisory Board is pleased to announce a design competition for new creative bicycle racks.

The City wants to promote cycling as a sustainable, mainstream transportation option in Palmer and seeks a unique design that will add both visual appeal to the functional utility of new bicycle racks.

Concept

- ⊕ Designs that reflect the history and character of Palmer are preferred
- ⊕ Designers are tasked to revision the standard bicycle rack
- ⊕ There will be two categories of bicycle racks
 1. Racks for two bicycles
 2. Racks that secure three or more bicycles

Dimensions & Materials

- ⊕ Height: 36" max – 30" minimum
- ⊕ Materials: Stainless steel or galvanized round or square pipe [2-3/8 in OD, 0.154-inch wall, Schedule 40 steel pipe] [1-5/8 inch OD, 0.140 wall Schedule 40 steel pipe]

Safety

- ⊕ To comply with ADA Standards, designs must have no sharp edges and no overhangs or protrusions that could be difficult for visually impaired in the walkway or that may cause tripping hazard;
- ⊕ Minimum 10" gap at the bottom of the rack to allow space for pedal;
- ⊕ Space gaps on the rack shall be larger than 9" and smaller than 3.5"

Locking

- ⊕ Racks must provide minimum of two-point connection between the bicycle frame and the rack;
- ⊕ Locking points must be a minimum of 1 inch and a maximum of 4 inches

Installation & Fabrication

- ⊕ Design rack for permanent installation into a concrete surface, with a minimum 10 year life expectancy

DRAFT for Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Advisory Board Review

- ⊕ Rack will be installed on sidewalk and requires surface mount hardware with permanent anchored bolts and tamper resistant fasteners
- ⊕ Fabrication will be coordinated by the City Department of Public Works
- ⊕ Cost of production must be considered in overall design and shall not exceed \$250 for a two bicycle rack; a higher production cost is allowable for racks of 3 or more bicycles
- ⊕ Design must include space for a small plaque for the name of the designer and the name of the sponsor who will provide the rack installation
 - Designer: _____
 - Funded by: Name of sponsoring individual or business

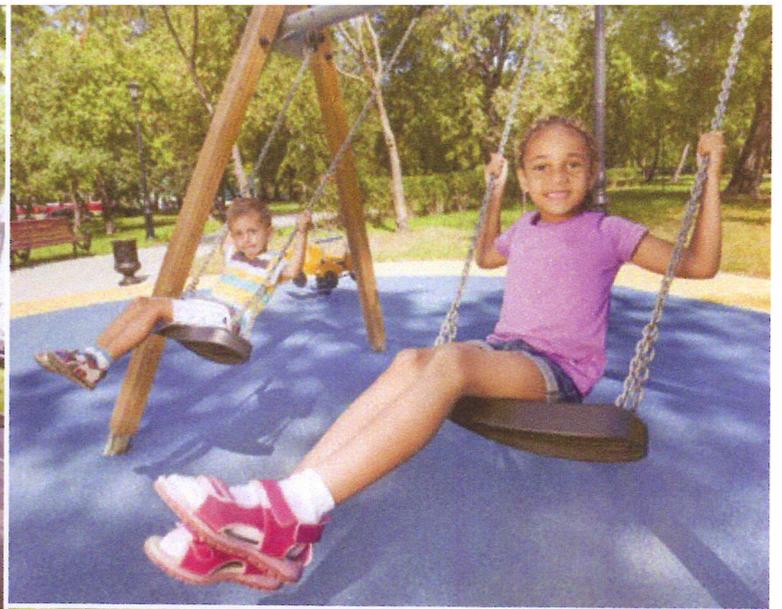
Submission

Submissions accepted from _____, 2016 to _____, 2016

- ⊕ All submitted designs must include:
- ⊕ A complete description of the design including a schematic drawing
- ⊕ Description of the materials to be used in construction of the rack
- ⊕ Estimated cost to build (do not include installation cost)
- ⊕ Designer's full name, email address, and phone number
- ⊕ Bicycle rack must be an original design created by the competition entrant

Prizes

The first place winner in each category will see their design installed in downtown Palmer and will receive \$_____. The second place winner will win \$ _____.



The Economic Impact of Local Parks

An Examination of the Economic Impacts of Operations and
Capital Spending on the United States Economy

Executive Summary



National Recreation
and Park Association

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KEY FINDINGS

America's local and regional public park agencies generated nearly
\$140 BILLION IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY
and supported almost
1 MILLION JOBS
from their operations and capital spending alone in 2013.

Local and regional park agencies' *operations spending* created nearly

\$80 BILLION

in total economic activity and supported nearly

660,000 JOBS.



Local and regional park systems' *capital spending* led to about

\$59.7 BILLION

in economic activity income and more than

340,000 JOBS.



ABOUT THE STUDY

We already know parks are important contributors to their towns, cities and regions. Thousands of local park and recreation facilities throughout the United States promote healthy, prosperous and connected communities every day. Millions of people personally benefit from their local and regional park agencies in many ways – gathering places to meet with friends and family, open spaces to exercise and reap the benefits of clean air and water, and community resources where one can connect to others and nature.

The benefits that local and regional parks bring to their communities are well demonstrated with the National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) Three Pillars:



CONSERVATION

Parks are dedicated to preserving natural resources in the community. Local and regional parks play a leadership role in protecting open space, connecting children to nature and providing education and programming that help communities engage in conservation practices.



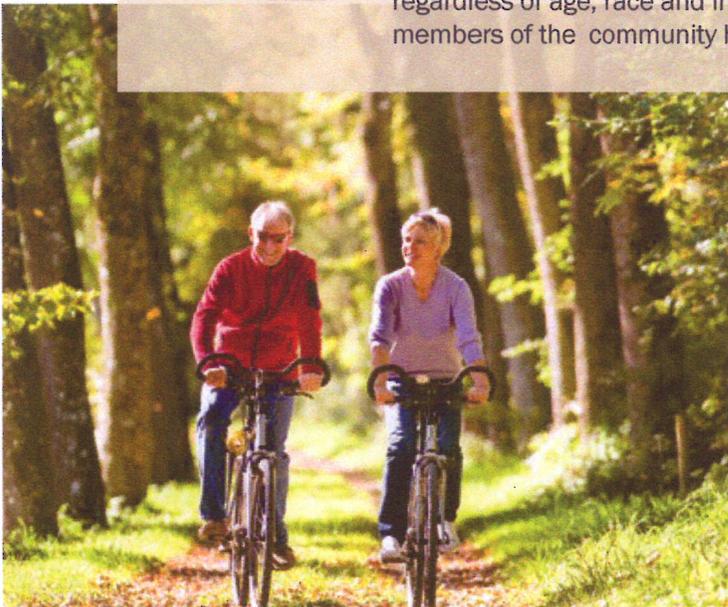
HEALTH & WELLNESS

Local and regional parks are on the forefront of improving the health and wellness of their community's citizens. Beyond promoting physical activity with their vast networks of open space, athletic facilities and trail systems, local and regional parks combat poor nutrition, hunger, obesity and physical inactivity.



SOCIAL EQUITY

Local and regional parks are treasured resources that are available to everyone, regardless of age, race and income. Local and regional park agencies ensure that all members of the community have access to open space and recreational opportunities.



But, beyond these critical contributions to society, local and regional parks are also a source of significant economic activity. So, just how much of an economic contribution do local and regional parks make to the economy?

A number of local and regional park agencies have estimated the value of the economic activity their system has had on their local community, focusing on spending, tourism and property values. Until now, however, there has been no national study to estimate the economic contribution of the spending of the thousands of local and regional park agencies throughout the nation make on the U.S. economy.

In 2015, NRPA joined forces with the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University to estimate the impact of spending by local and regional park agencies on the U.S.

economy. The study focused exclusively on the direct, indirect and induced effects local and regional park agencies' spending have on economic activity, with analysis based on data compiled from both the U.S. Census Bureau and NRPA.

This is a summary of the key results from the study. Read the full report, which includes estimates of the economic impact of different types of park facilities, at www.NRPA.com/parkeconreport.

U.S. ECONOMIC IMPACT

Combining Census Bureau survey data with information in PRORAGIS, local and regional park agencies had an estimated \$32.3 billion in operations spending and provided more than 356,000 direct jobs in 2013. This spending and labor income ripples throughout the economy, taking the form of park and recreation employees spending their paychecks and park and recreation agency vendors hiring workers and buying products and services to serve their clients.

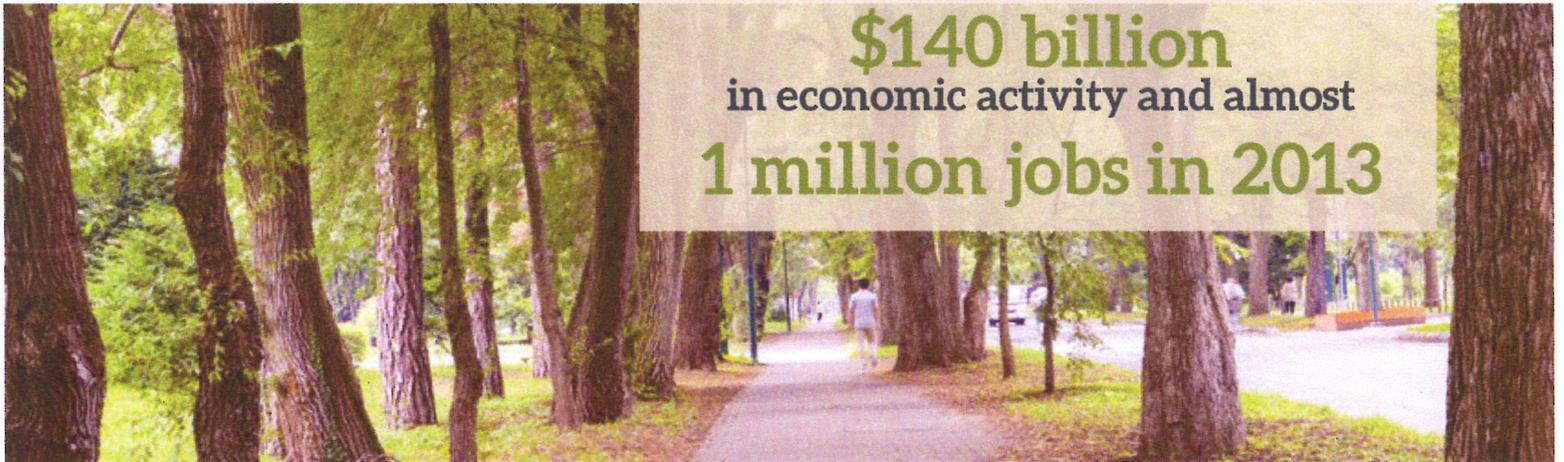
As a result, the operations spending expands into almost \$80 billion in total economic activity, which boosted gross domestic product (GDP) by \$38.8 billion and supported almost 660,000 jobs that paid in excess of \$24 billion in salaries, wages and benefits across the nation.

Further, local and regional park agencies also spent an estimated \$22.4 billion on capital programs in 2013. This spending led to an additional \$59.7 billion in economic activity, a contribution of \$29 billion to gross domestic product, \$19.6 billion in labor income and more than 340,000 jobs.

All together, the operations and capital spending of the nation's local and regional public park systems created \$139.6 billion in economic activity, added \$68 billion in GDP and nearly 1 million jobs with payrolls totaling \$43.8 billion.

Local and regional park agencies' \$32.3 billion in operations spending and \$22.4 billion in capital spending led to nearly

\$140 billion in economic activity and almost 1 million jobs in 2013



Economic Impacts of Local and Regional Public Parks on the United States Economy – 2013

	Operating Impacts	Capital Spending Impacts	Total Impact of Local and Regional Parks' Spending
Economic Activity (transactions)	\$79.97 billion	\$59.66 billion	\$139.63 billion
Value Added (GDP)	\$38.78 billion	\$29.17 billion	\$67.95 billion
Labor Income (salaries, wages, benefits)	\$24.18 billion	\$19.61 billion	\$43.79 billion
Employment (jobs)	658,478 jobs	340,604 jobs	999,082 jobs

Source: Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University for the National Recreation and Park Association

STATE-LEVEL ANALYSIS

Beyond measuring the economic impact local and regional parks have on the U.S. economy, the study examined the economic impacts of local and regional parks spending in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The state-level analysis followed that of the national study and considers the economic impact of local and regional park agency operations and capital spending. The estimates of total economic impacts include the direct, indirect and induced effects of agency spending to the state economy.

Economic Impacts of Local and Regional Public Parks on State Economies—2013

State	Economic Activity (Transactions)	Labor Income	Employment (Jobs)
Alabama	\$1,231,368,975	\$417,528,606	11,470
Alaska	\$265,134,937	\$108,872,161	2,092
Arizona	\$2,149,280,345	\$787,288,139	17,696
Arkansas	\$428,924,501	\$151,675,101	3,898
California	\$17,612,301,914	\$7,269,695,775	126,775
Colorado	\$4,626,619,238	\$1,723,877,013	36,247
Connecticut	\$1,107,632,241	\$417,751,961	8,439
District of Columbia	\$120,024,356	\$57,078,384	896
Delaware	\$89,921,606	\$33,946,700	724
Florida	\$7,485,741,762	\$2,705,649,730	60,801
Georgia	\$2,250,326,290	\$821,402,880	18,918
Hawaii	\$691,858,315	\$238,927,777	6,050
Idaho	\$454,217,509	\$191,932,807	3,677
Illinois	\$12,976,606,775	\$5,053,654,955	96,317
Indiana	\$1,389,670,498	\$475,290,562	11,322
Iowa	\$964,052,949	\$310,393,234	8,497
Kansas	\$963,563,756	\$306,534,784	9,123
Kentucky	\$639,712,355	\$235,487,123	5,729
Louisiana	\$1,494,830,925	\$528,867,125	12,045
Maine	\$371,882,669	\$134,109,078	3,224
Maryland	\$2,733,136,376	\$1,015,962,730	22,167
Massachusetts	\$1,096,322,748	\$447,553,157	8,149
Michigan	\$1,837,080,712	\$621,526,087	15,831
Minnesota	\$2,834,173,626	\$1,064,812,177	22,411
Mississippi	\$427,893,980	\$141,266,189	4,037
Missouri	\$2,241,684,781	\$797,733,784	18,199
Montana	\$206,687,842	\$66,401,994	1,952
Nebraska	\$461,242,866	\$158,995,140	4,150

State	Economic Activity (Transactions)	Labor Income	Employment (Jobs)
Nevada	\$1,811,550,556	\$601,196,410	14,491
New Hampshire	\$212,896,528	\$71,496,917	1,930
New Jersey	\$2,221,874,679	\$815,319,633	17,638
New Mexico	\$621,205,459	\$211,468,552	5,468
New York	\$6,289,207,072	\$2,816,457,874	43,090
North Carolina	\$3,023,768,668	\$1,071,753,103	26,278
North Dakota	\$504,269,473	\$156,685,464	4,737
Ohio	\$4,220,208,229	\$1,532,261,515	34,718
Oklahoma	\$587,643,531	\$215,268,484	4,928
Oregon	\$1,936,083,772	\$700,445,644	16,701
Pennsylvania	\$1,628,999,305	\$599,192,057	12,480
Rhode Island	\$181,624,393	\$67,479,124	1,499
South Carolina	\$1,194,136,298	\$398,101,667	11,124
South Dakota	\$357,992,328	\$121,493,158	3,278
Tennessee	\$1,690,819,194	\$620,702,417	14,577
Texas	\$6,323,030,540	\$2,350,569,439	51,190
Utah	\$2,049,226,575	\$676,403,185	18,163
Vermont	\$81,951,201	\$29,716,828	714
Virginia	\$3,742,039,883	\$1,380,790,852	30,737
Washington	\$2,376,885,949	\$898,978,144	18,021
West Virginia	\$319,531,238	\$106,401,450	2,859
Wisconsin	\$1,429,374,002	\$492,351,757	12,279
Wyoming	\$387,698,334	\$132,829,457	3,385

Source: Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University for the National Recreation and Park Association

One caution: The sum of the state-level impacts presented in the following table does not equal the national-level economic impact estimates presented in the previous section. This is not an error but reflects how the economic activity is not contained within state borders. When an agency purchases goods and service from out-of-state vendors, the economic benefit from those purchases accrue to the state where the vendor is based and not to the state where the agency is based. The state-level information above does not capture the economic activity of these "leakages." This out-of-state activity is included as a part of the national estimate of economic activity (\$139.63 billion) and employment (999,082 jobs).

METHODOLOGY

Researchers at the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University derived the operations spending estimates using the IMPLAN economic input-output model with data from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2013 Annual Survey of Public Employment & Payroll. The survey provides an estimate of the number of individuals (head count) employed by local governments' parks and recreation departments. Using the number of employees, the IMPLAN model provides an estimate of total direct output, which is treated as operations spending for the park systems. The relationship between total spending and employment is based on national averages for entities operating in the park and recreation industry and closely related activities.

The researchers derived the estimates of local and regional park agencies' capital spending from data provided by NRPA and from other publicly available resources. This provided an estimate of the average ratio of capital spending to operating spending for local and regional park agencies. Applying this ratio to the nationwide estimates of operating spending, the researchers were able to determine an estimated total for capital spending for all local and regional public park systems in the United States.

The model estimates the total effects on output, labor income, value added and employment. Output is essentially a measure of the value of transactions. Labor income includes salaries, wages and benefits. Value added is the measure most closely equivalent to gross domestic product (GDP) and includes property income, dividends, corporate profits and other measures. Employment is the number of headcount jobs. The databases used to build the economic input-output model account for full- versus part-time employment in the relevant sectors of the economy.

Input-output models provide estimates of direct, indirect and induced effects of local and regional park agency spending on the economy.

- **DIRECT** effects are the spending by local and regional park systems, whether for operations or capital spending programs and include spending for equipment, utilities, goods, services and personnel costs.
- **INDIRECT** effects capture the spending associated with the park systems' vendors. For example, a park system contracts with a local company to spray for mosquitoes. The pest control company, in turn, hires employees, purchases pesticides and contracts with a bookkeeping service. The bookkeeping service rents office space, hires workers and purchases office supplies, and so on.
- **INDUCED** effects track the employees of both the park and recreation agencies and their vendors spending their wages in the economy.



Note that as powerful as the figures presented in this report are, they are *conservative* measures of the economic impact of local and regional parks. The reason is this study exclusively focused on the economic impact of local and regional park agency *spending*. As a result, the analysis does not include the impact of:

- Visitor spending: Since this is a national study, the vast majority of local and regional park visitors are from domestic origins and therefore have a net sum zero economic impact on a national basis (although the local impacts can be significant). Example: Most of the non-local visitors to a park in one town likely came from other nearby localities or at least somewhere else in the United States.
- Other economic benefits: The research does not measure benefits that park systems generate for the environment, health/wellness and property values.
- Spending on depreciable capital spending: Estimates of capital spending in this study do not include usual spending appearing in annual budgets for depreciable assets. As a result, these estimates likely understate the total value of park system spending and their economic consequences.

KEY CONCLUSIONS

Local and regional park agencies are important assets connecting communities throughout the United States. Not only are public parks leaders in conservation, health and wellness, and social equity, they are also engines of significant economic activity and job creation in the United States.

In 2013, local and regional public park agencies generated nearly \$140 billion in economic activity and support almost 1 million jobs. Combined with studies on the state and national park systems, public parks are responsible for roughly \$200 billion in economic activity each year, touching all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

But the power of local and regional parks expands beyond the direct, indirect and induced economic impacts of their spending. Local towns, cities and counties with strong, vibrant public park systems benefit from improved health, a closer connection to nature and a greater sense of community. This leads to lower health care costs, higher property values and an overall boost in the standard of living that benefits all. Studies conducted by NRPA and other researchers find Americans across all ages, social strata and political affiliations support investments made for public parks, seeing their local parks as a valuable and essential features of their community.

Policymakers and elected officials at all levels of government need to take notice. From local officials ensuring dedicated public park funding to Congress and the White House securing the permanent authorization and funding for the Land Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), the message is clear: Investments in public parks are investments for a better tomorrow. Local and regional park spending not only turns our neighborhoods, towns and cities into vibrant, connected and healthier communities, but they also spark economic activity that ripples well beyond the initial spending to create jobs and prosperity throughout our nation.





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2016 Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Advisory Board Meetings

Meeting Date	Meeting Type	Meeting Time	Notes
January 7, 2016	Regular	7:00 PM	
February 4, 2016	Regular	7:00 PM	
March 3, 2016	Regular	7:00 PM	
April 7, 2016	Regular	7:00 PM	
May 5, 2016	Regular	7:00 PM	
June 2, 2016	Regular	7:00 PM	
July 7, 2016	Regular	7:00 PM	
August 4, 2016	Regular	7:00 PM	
September 1, 2016	Regular	7:00 PM	
October 6, 2016	Regular	7:00 PM	
November 3, 2016	Regular	7:00 PM	
December 1, 2016	Regular	7:00 PM	