

Blue Ribbon Parks Commission



What?

- April 2013- Mayor Coulter formed the Blue Ribbon Parks Commission
- The group has been tasked with identifying community needs as it relates to parks through a community survey
- Identify requested improvements based on community feedback
- Seek potential funding sources for recommended park improvements and bring recommendations to Council

Who?

- Jack Aronson- Garden Fresh Gourmet
- Shaun Butler- Ferndale Schools
- Jeannie Davis- Ferndale Senior Group
- Scott Helmer
- Greg Pawlica- Ferndale Community Foundation
- Cristin Spiller- Oak Park Recreation
- Brett Tillander- Boys and Girls Club
- Loyd Cureton- Department of Public Works Director
- Jill Manchik- Recreation Director

Park Survey

- Survey Finalized: May-June 2013
- Survey distributed: July-August 2013
 - City website, SurveyMonkey, Facebook, press releases, signage in parks, email newsletter
- Results Compiled: September-October 2013
- Recommendations to Council: November 2013



Park Survey- Results

- 281 Respondents
- Highest response rate (35-44yr olds) 38.7%
- Location: Quadrant 4 (South of 9 mile Road, West of Woodward) 48.9%
- 53% of respondents have children ages 5-12

Top 4 used Parks

- Geary Park
 - Martin Road Park
 - Harding Park
 - Garbutt Park
-
- Current Top Uses
 - Sporting Event (soccer, baseball, hockey, basketball)
 - Picnic/Gathering
 - Walking
 - School or Community Events

Proposed Maintenance Repairs

Repair/Maintenance	
Open Restrooms	DPW/Recreation budget
Park Safety (additional lighting)	DPW
Benches/Sitting Areas	DPW
More Trees	DPW
Additional Trash/Recycling	DPW

*Many of the above items are already being done by DPW- funds were reallocated in Spring of 2013 to Park Maintenance Budget

Proposed Amenities

New/Improved	Anticipated Cost	Potential Funding
Pool/Splash Pad		Agreement with Oak Park/Ferndale Schools
Play Structures	\$160,561.06 (5 new structures)	DNR Grant/Playground Grant
Walking Paths	\$252,579.50 (7,576 linear ft. of path in 9 parks)	DNR Grant
Dog Park	\$10,000	User Fees
Disc Golf	\$8,000-\$10,000	Private Sponsorship

Recommended Next Steps

- Secure formal agreement with City of Oak Park to utilize swimming pool- December 2013/January 2014
- Apply for DNR Grant to either replace play structures or develop walking paths- January-April 2014
- Facilitate community build project with local neighborhood group- November/December 2013
- Others?



Questions?