



AGENDA
BIG LAKE PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

JANUARY 26, 2026

6:00 p.m.

- 1) CALL TO ORDER**
- 2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 3) ROLL CALL** (Members: S. Creighton, K. Hanson, K. Noding, L. Odens, D. Peterson, M. Weber, J. Webster)
- 4) OPEN FORUM**
- 5) ADOPT PROPOSED AGENDA**
- 6) APPROVE MEETING MINUTES**
 - 6A. Approve Regular Parks Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2025
- 7) BUSINESS**
 - 7A. Mitchell Farms Park Survey Results
 - 7B. 2026 Chair and Vice-Chair Positions
 - 7C. Current Balance of Funds Update
 - 7D. Staff Updates
 - 7E. Strategic Plan Standing Item
- 8) COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORTS**
- 9) OTHER**
- 10) ADJOURN**
 - a) February Parks Advisory Committee Meeting is Cancelled**
 - b) Next Parks Advisory Committee Meeting: March 23, 2026**

Disclaimer: This agenda has been prepared to provide information regarding an upcoming meeting of the Big Lake Parks Advisory Committee. This document does not claim to be complete and is subject to change.

Notice of City Council Quorum: A quorum of the City Council members may be present at this Big Lake Parks Advisory Committee meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. No action will be taken by the City Council.



AGENDA ITEM

Big Lake Parks Advisory Committee

| | | |
|---|---|------------------------------|
| Prepared By: <i>Corrie Scott, Recreation and Communication Coordinator</i> | Meeting Date: 1/26/2026 | Item No. 6A |
| Item Description: <i>November 17, 2025 Parks Advisory Committee Regular Meeting Minutes</i> | Reviewed By: <i>Norm Michels, Streets, Parks, and Fleet Superintendent</i> | |
| | Reviewed By: <i>N/A</i> | |

ACTION REQUESTED

Approve the November 17, 2025 Big Lake Parks Advisory Committee Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The November 17, 2025 Parks Advisory Committee Regular Meeting Minutes are attached for review.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

11-17-25 Parks Advisory Committee Regular Meeting Minutes

**PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

NOVEMBER 17, 2025

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Creighton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Committee Members present: Scott Creighton, Kameron Hanson, Kim Noding, Megan Weber, and Jeff Webster. Committee Members absent: Lisa Odens and Doug Peterson. Also present: Streets, Parks, and Fleet Superintendent Norm Michels, Finance Director Deb Wegeleben, and Recreation and Communication Coordinator Corrie Scott.

5. OPEN FORUM

Vice-Chair Creighton opened the open forum at 6:01 p.m. No one came forward.

Vice-Chair Creighton closed the open forum at 6:01 p.m.

4. ADOPT AGENDA

Committee Member Webster motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Committee Member Kameron, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee Member Noding motioned to accept the October 27, 2025 Parks Advisory Committee minutes as presented. Seconded by Committee Member Weber, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

7. BUSINESS

7A. CURRENT BALANCE OF FUNDS UPDATE

Wegeleben reviewed the current city budget pertaining to parks. Wegeleben stated that she included information regarding operating costs and asked the PAC if they would like that information included in future packets. Noding asked about the \$811,000 total on page 5 and what will be deposited in 2026. Wegeleben stated that in 2026 there will be \$100,000 deposited into the

CIP Fund with \$9,000 going toward the CIP allocated for trails and \$5,000 to playground equipment. She clarified that it is the same as the previous year. She stated that governmental accounting is different than general accounting. Noding asked if the Capital Transfers under expenditures is going toward building parks. Wegeleben confirmed that the section referred to is for building parks rather than maintaining. Noding asked about Bluff Park needing to be replaced in 2028. Michels stated that Bluff Park is tentatively scheduled to be replaced in 2028, but that it depends on the condition of the playground equipment when it gets closer. Noding asked if there is a way to allocate certain funds for a certain park when the playground equipment needs replacement. Wegeleben stated that it is best to leave that fund more generalized because the condition of playground equipment can vary from year to year. Creighton asked about the operational budget from previous years. Weber asked about personnel costs. Wegeleben stated that all personnel costs are paid for through the general fund.

7B. STAFF UPDATES

Scott reviewed the status of various programs and recreation taking place in the community's parks. She stated that she will get the Mitchell Farms Park survey finalized and mailed to residents with the November utility bills. She stated that she will also post this online as it was requested at the last meeting, but that the survey will then be open to those who do not live within Big Lake. She stated that there will be a question at the beginning of the survey asking if the person taking the survey is a Big Lake resident. Scott stated that the survey will be open until January 1, 2026 and at the January meeting staff will present the survey findings. She stated that there will also be a discussion on a general park survey at either the January or February meeting.

Scott reviewed that over 200 people attended the kickoff for the Winter Farmers Market on November 15 and that 40 families participated in free pictures with Santa. She stated that this was lower than last year, but that the Santa pictures were moved from December to November and they are considering moving it back to December next year. She reviewed that the Holiday Lighting Contest registration is open until December 8th and voting will take place from December 9th – 14th. Webster asked about the Santa Parade. Michels stated that the parade will take place along with the Tree Lighting event near the ice skating rinks on December 7th.

Michels reviewed the status of current park projects and maintenance in the community. He stated that staff is working on tree trimming and dead tree removal. He stated that they are wrapping up mulching parks and two semi trucks came in with playground equipment being stored at Public Works. He stated that one more semi truck load will come in over the winter as well.

Noding asked about park playground equipment removal. Michels stated that playground equipment has been taken down for Lakeside, Lake Ridge, Mitchell Farms, and Shores of Lake Mitchell Parks. He stated that footings will be removed by Public Works staff in the spring.

Noding stated that there were many requests for a baby swing and asked if it is possible to swap one of the regular swings with a baby swing at one or more of the new playgrounds. Michels stated that the cost would be relatively low and the swings that were already purchased can be stored and used for replacements when the need arises.

7C. STRATEGIC PLAN STANDING ITEM

Michels reviewed the 2026-2028 Strategic Plan and asked for the PAC to recommend revisions as needed. Weber asked why Mitchell Farms Park was moved to 2027. Michels stated that the Strategic Plan is a working document that is subject to change based on direction from City Council and many other variables. Weber asked about the skate park being in the timeline for 2026. Michels stated that at this point, he received Council direction to research skate parks, but that it hasn't formally been approved yet and could also change. Noding stated that there is also a possibility for grants. Michels stated that the City is working with a grant writing company for a few proposed projects.

Weber stated that the PAC was hoping to see Mitchell Farms Park move forward in 2026. Michels stated that staff is still working on receiving community feedback through a survey in 2026. Scott stated that the 2024-2026 Strategic Plan for instance changed significantly from year to year and that the 2026-2028 Strategic Plan was proposed to keep goals more realistic. Michels stated that the monthly timeline was removed for that reason, because vendor timelines, staff schedules, and other variables significantly impact month to month operations. He also stated that City Council meetings are going from twice a month to once a month, which may impact timelines. Scott stated that the more broad timelines are simpler for staff to keep updated.

Weber asked if rather than one park occupying one year if they could be broken down into multiple years. She stated for instance that Mitchell Farms Park surveying will take place in 2026. Scott stated that she can easily make those changes for certain parks that are spanning more than one year from start to finish. Michels stated that he isn't comfortable surveying the public until Council has directed staff to research a certain project. Creighton asked if a survey regarding the skate park could go out to the public. Noding asked if the skate park can be included in the Mitchell Farms Park survey. Scott stated that because the skate park isn't proposed for Mitchell Farms Park, that it should be included in a separate survey. She stated that a discussion on future surveys will be brought to the January meeting.

Noding stated that there were some misconceptions from the public at the Council meeting regarding usage of Mitchell Farms Park. She stated that she doesn't want to see amenities removed from existing parks without consulting the public. Michels stated that Council asked him to rate the current parks based on usage that their staff sees on a daily basis and at the time Mitchell Farms Park was used less than other neighborhood parks. He stated that this could likely be because of playground condition over the years and that there is now an opportunity to put other equipment into Mitchell Farms Park that may encourage even more usage. He stated that the equipment at

Mitchell Farms Park needed to be removed and hopefully going forward a plan can be approved before a park gets to the point of removal. He stated that grant funding may make it so the City Council approves some type of equipment sooner. Noding stated that after receiving community feedback in a survey it may change the proposed amenities and that could also reduce the cost of updating Mitchell Farms Park. Michels stated that he has seen parks in Shoreview built for a older kids, but that other ages were using the playground equipment as well.

Weber stated that feedback is an important tool to bring forward along with recommendations from the PAC to City Council rather than after approval by City Council has been made. Scott stated that there are also ways to word a survey that make it clear that a park hasn't been approved for updated amenities or equipment replacement, but that staff and the PAC are doing research. Michels stated that Council needs to give formal direction for staff time to be used on surveying the residents. Creighton asked if formal direction has been given from City Council regarding the skate park and if it can be included in a survey. Michels confirmed that Council has directed staff look into skate park replacement. Wegeleben stated that Council has formally directed staff to do research on the parks and trails system as a whole and that separate amenities can be brought up within that general parks and trails survey.

Weber asked about the process for Council approval to research playground replacement for a park such as Bluff Park. Michels stated that once the condition of a park gets to a certain point and staff can no longer purchase replacement parts, then staff asks Council for support to research playground replacement. He stated that there is a small piece of playground equipment that is no longer able to be replaced, but that it doesn't impact the park to a point that the entirety of equipment needs to be removed at this point. Creighton asked about the ice skating rinks. Michels stated that the ice skating rinks are not a costly amenity to move, but that it needs to go to Council for support prior to staff doing any research or surveying.

Noding stated that grant funding does need a concept plan and some commitment from the City prior to submitting an application. She stated that there are organizations in other communities such as the Lions that have helped to fund parks. She asked how the City could partner with organizations. Wegeleben stated that staff cannot solicit for donations, but that a sponsorship for a program with some type of benefit to the sponsor is different. Creighton asked if there can be sponsorships for parks or amenities in parks. Wegeleben confirmed that a community organization can sponsor a park or amenity. Hanson asked if the PAC can put together some type of a sponsorship letter and send it to local organizations. Wegeleben stated that if the PAC would like to draft a letter staff can have the City attorney review it. Scott stated that organizations have a limited budget and sometimes will decide only to sponsor one program per year, so it is best to ask organizations that aren't currently sponsoring Music in the Park or Farmers Market as it could affect those budgets. Noding stated that there are other organizations that the City may not have partnered with yet. Noding asked if there is a current concept plan for Mitchell Farms Park that can be used so organizations know what they are sponsoring. Michels stated that it will depend on the feedback from the Mitchell Farms Park survey and that there may be the need for a different type

of amenity based on what the community says. Wegeleben stated that organizations do have limited budgets and sponsorships will not likely cover the full cost of the originally approved playground equipment, but that every small amount helps. Webster asked about the splash pad and if it is still in play. Michels stated that there isn't funding for a splash pad at this time, but that it will continue to be considered as directed by City Council. He stated that a splash pad will come with substantial annual maintenance costs. He also stated that feedback from the community through surveys could affect the interest in a splash pad from the Council.

Michels stated that the December PAC meeting is cancelled. Noding stated that her position is appointed each year, so she is unsure if she will be reappointed as the PAC liaison in 2026. Creighton reminded the PAC to RSVP for the Joint Committee meeting.

8. **COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORTS** – None.

9. **OTHER** – None.

10. **ADJOURN**

Committee Member Hanson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Seconded by Committee Member Weber, unanimous ayes, meeting adjourned.



AGENDA ITEM

Big Lake Parks Advisory Committee

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|--|---|------------------------------|
| Prepared By: <i>Norm Michels, Streets, Parks, and Fleet Superintendent</i> | Meeting Date: 1/26/2026 | Item No. 7A |
| Item Description: <i>Mitchell Farms Park Survey Results</i> | Reviewed By: <i>Corrie Scott, Recreation and Communication Coordinator</i> | |
| | Reviewed By: <i>N/A</i> | |

ACTION REQUESTED

Discuss survey findings and make a formal recommendation to Council, requesting for further discussion and a timeline to replace playground equipment at Mitchell Farms Park.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The Mitchell Farms Park survey was mailed along with the monthly water bill to City of Big Lake residents in late December. It also was published for the general public on Facebook and the City’s website. The deadline to complete the survey was January 1, 2026, and 259 individuals completed the survey with 249 who confirmed they are Big Lake residents.

Attached are two sets of survey results with one including all public responses and the other only including feedback from those who confirmed they are a City of Big Lake resident. Now that community feedback collection has taken place, the PAC has an opportunity to make a formal recommendation to Council, requesting for further discussion and a timeline to replace playground equipment at Mitchell Farms Park.

If recommended for further discussion by Council, staff will bring the item forward at an upcoming Workshop and include the Mitchell Farms Park survey results for their review.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

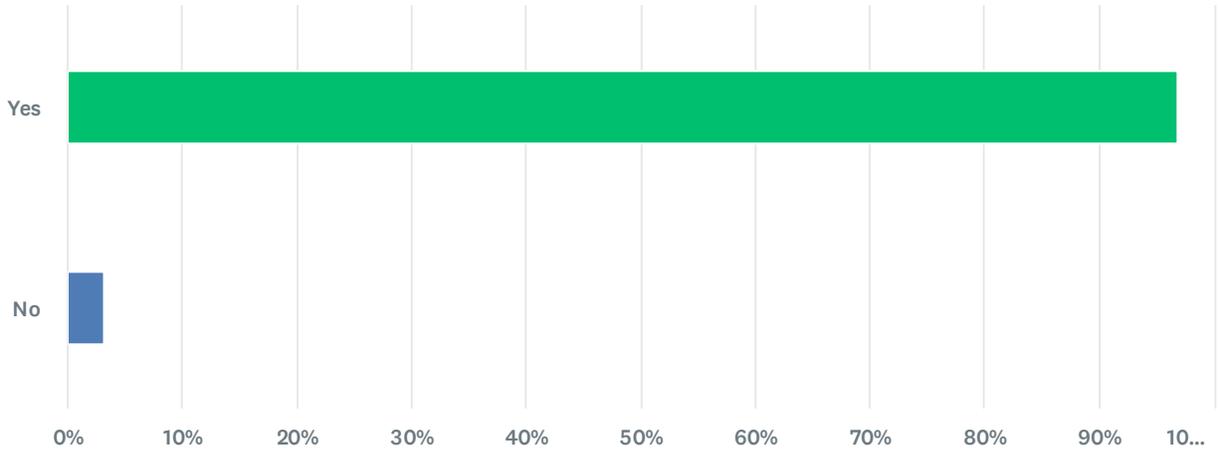
Discuss survey findings and make a formal recommendation to Council, requesting for further discussion and a timeline to replace playground equipment at Mitchell Farms Park.

ATTACHMENTS

- Mitchell Farms Park Survey Results with Non-residents included
- Mitchell Farms Park Survey Results with only residents included

Q1 Are you a current Big Lake resident?

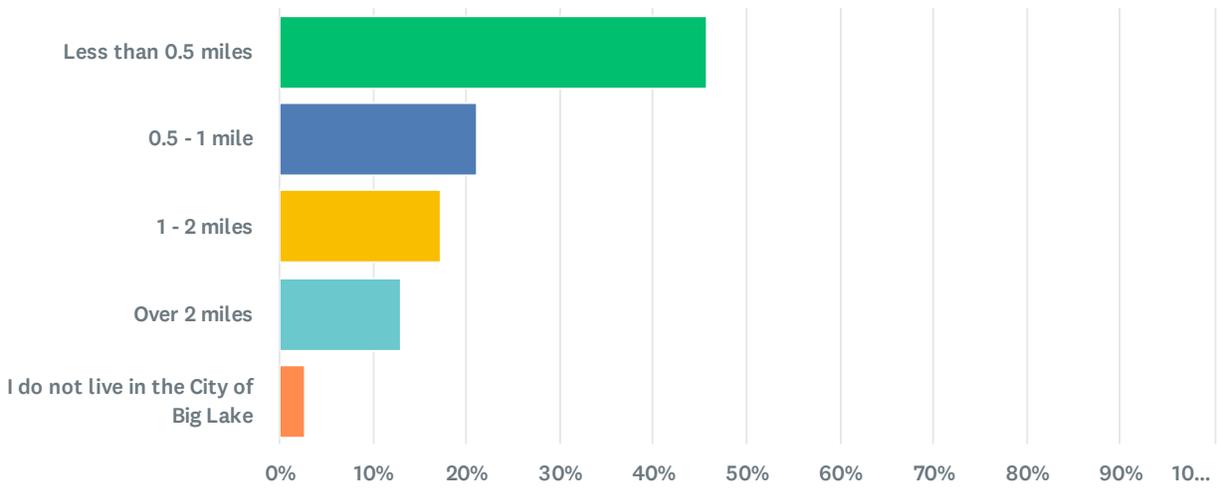
Answered: 259 Skipped: 4



| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|--|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Yes | 96.91% | 251 | ... |
| ● No | 3.09% | 8 | ... |
| Total | | 259 | |

Q2 How far do you live from Mitchell Farms Park?

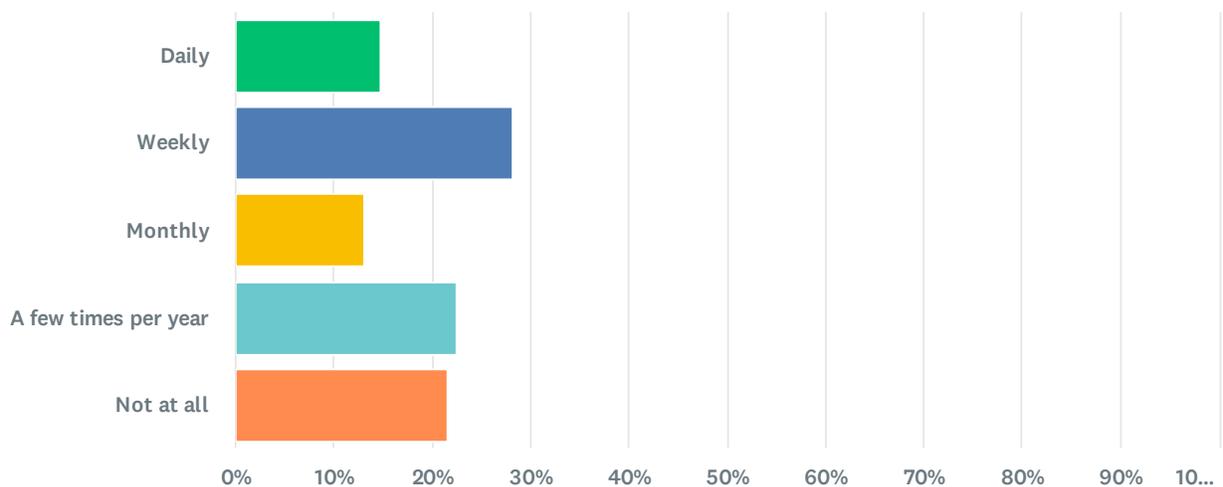
Answered: 260 Skipped: 3



| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|---|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Less than 0.5 miles | 45.77% | 119 | ... |
| ● 0.5 - 1 mile | 21.15% | 55 | ... |
| ● 1 - 2 miles | 17.31% | 45 | ... |
| ● Over 2 miles | 13.08% | 34 | ... |
| ● I do not live in the City of Big Lake | 2.69% | 7 | ... |
| Total | | 260 | |

Q3 How often did you visit Mitchell Farms Park in 2025?

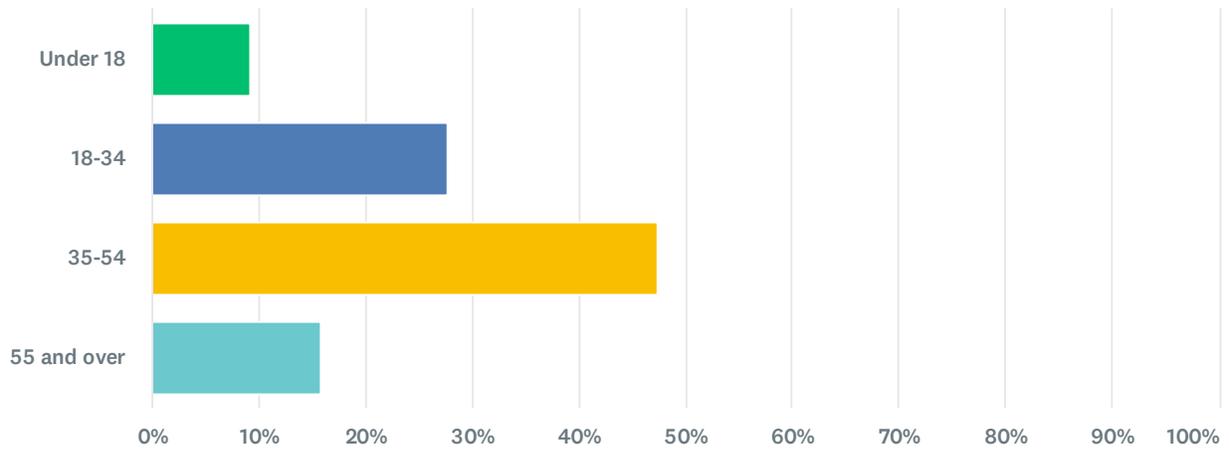
Answered: 259 Skipped: 4



| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Daily | 14.67% | 38 | ... |
| ● Weekly | 28.19% | 73 | ... |
| ● Monthly | 13.13% | 34 | ... |
| ● A few times per year | 22.39% | 58 | ... |
| ● Not at all | 21.62% | 56 | ... |
| Total | | 259 | |

Q4 What is your age group?

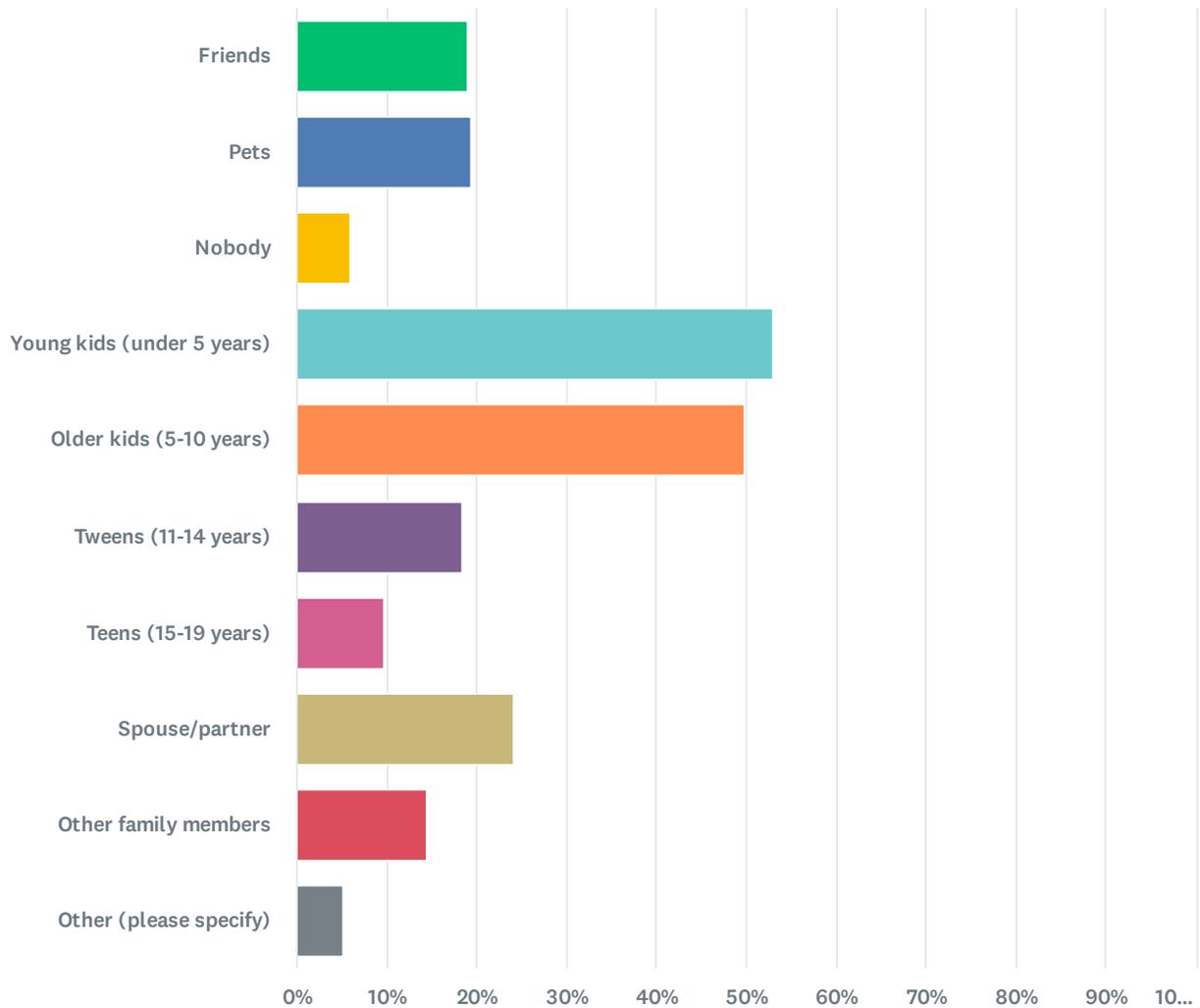
Answered: 260 Skipped: 3



| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Under 18 | 9.23% | 24 | ... |
| ● 18-34 | 27.69% | 72 | ... |
| ● 35-54 | 47.31% | 123 | ... |
| ● 55 and over | 15.77% | 41 | ... |
| Total | | 260 | |

Q5 On a usual visit to Mitchell Farms Park, who are you with? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 249 Skipped: 14



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| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Friends | 18.88% | 47 | ... |
| ● Pets | 19.28% | 48 | ... |
| Total | | 249 | |

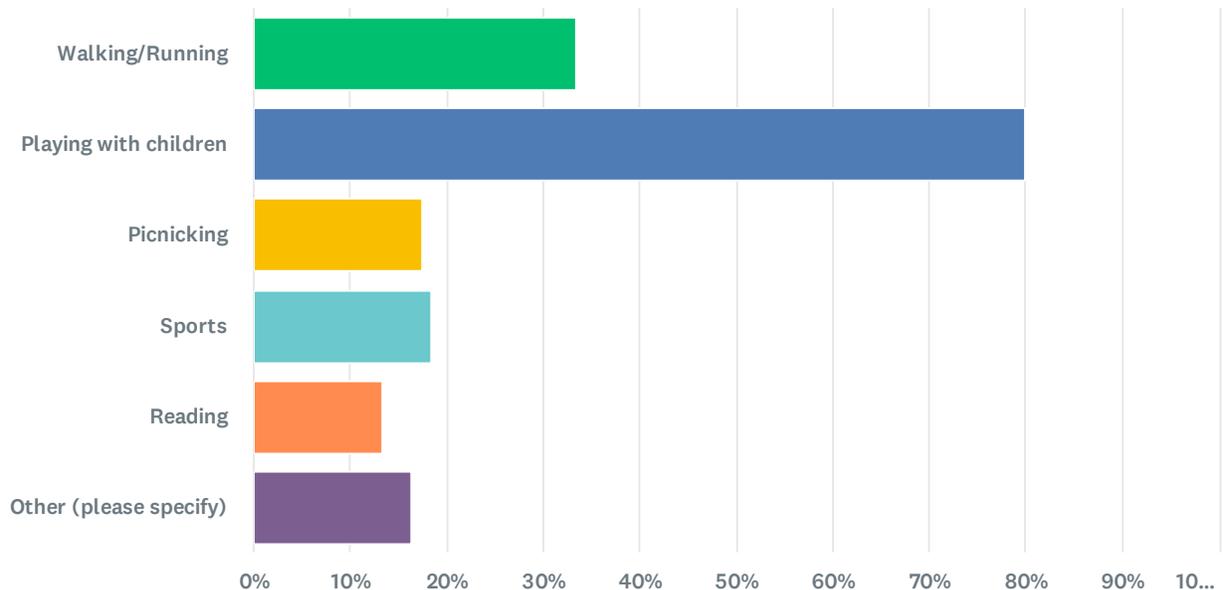
Mitchell Farms Park Survey

| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|---|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Nobody | 6.02% | 15 | ... |
| ● Young kids (under 5 years) | 53.01% | 132 | ... |
| ● Older kids (5-10 years) | 49.80% | 124 | ... |
| ● Tweens (11-14 years) | 18.47% | 46 | ... |
| ● Teens (15-19 years) | 9.64% | 24 | ... |
| ● Spouse/partner | 24.10% | 60 | ... |
| ● Other family members | 14.46% | 36 | ... |
| ● Other (please specify) Show responses | 5.22% | 13 | ... |
| Total | | 249 | |

| # | OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY) | DATE |
|----|--|---------------------|
| 1 | I bring my grandchildren to the park | 12/3/2025 10:44 AM |
| 2 | I never visit the park and DO NOT plan to pay for it | 11/30/2025 7:01 PM |
| 3 | I've never been there. | 11/30/2025 12:05 PM |
| 4 | Not applicable | 11/26/2025 5:49 PM |
| 5 | I was there once | 11/26/2025 3:16 PM |
| 6 | I have not visited this park. | 11/26/2025 1:55 PM |
| 7 | never go | 11/26/2025 1:44 PM |
| 8 | I didn't know this park existed | 11/26/2025 1:12 PM |
| 9 | Never go there | 11/25/2025 11:34 AM |
| 10 | Friends children that played with children in the neighborhood ages 6, 7, 9 11 & 12 was my age group | 11/23/2025 3:29 PM |
| 11 | I do not visit the park. I believe in making things better for our children in the community. | 11/22/2025 8:49 AM |
| 12 | Neighbors | 11/21/2025 5:09 PM |
| 13 | My daycare children. Usually 8+ kids at once | 11/21/2025 7:09 AM |

Q6 What activities do you typically engage in at Mitchell Farms Park? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 240 Skipped: 23



| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|---|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Walking/Running | 33.33% | 80 | ... |
| ● Playing with children | 80.00% | 192 | ... |
| ● Picnicking | 17.50% | 42 | ... |
| ● Sports | 18.33% | 44 | ... |
| ● Reading | 13.33% | 32 | ... |
| ● Other (please specify) Show responses | 16.25% | 39 | ... |
| Total | | 240 | |

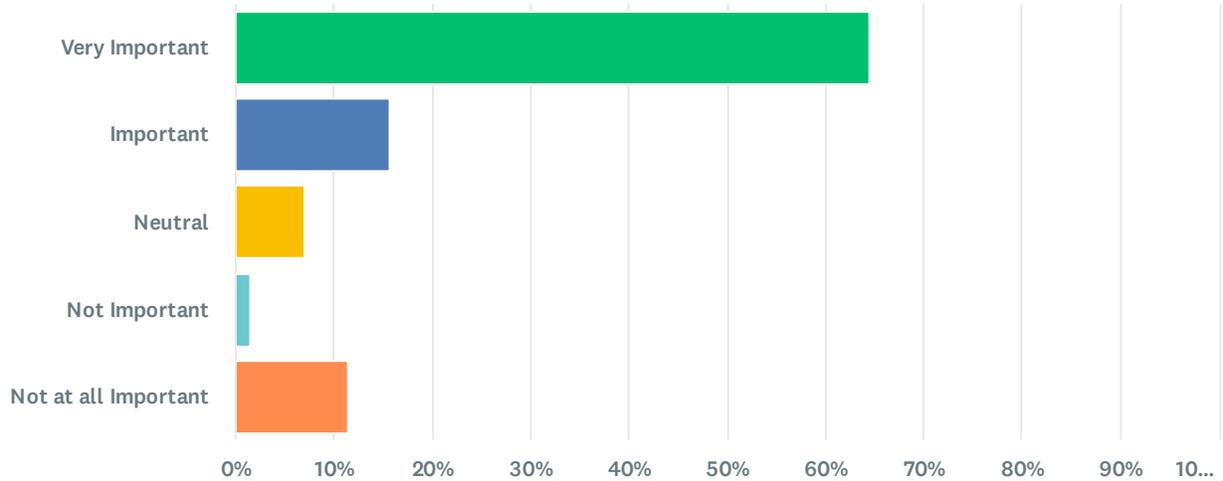
| # | OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY) | DATE |
|---|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Cleaning up the area as needed | 12/8/2025 8:46 PM |
| 2 | taking our cats out on a leash | 12/3/2025 3:02 PM |

Mitchell Farms Park Survey

| | | |
|----|--|---------------------|
| 3 | None | 11/30/2025 7:01 PM |
| 4 | Having fun on the swings and the playground with my friends, nieces, nephews and friends children. | 11/30/2025 5:22 PM |
| 5 | Sitting children | 11/30/2025 5:00 PM |
| 6 | None | 11/30/2025 12:05 PM |
| 7 | None | 11/29/2025 12:13 PM |
| 8 | visiting friends with kids | 11/27/2025 8:02 PM |
| 9 | Not applicable | 11/26/2025 5:49 PM |
| 10 | I wasn't aware of the park | 11/26/2025 4:23 PM |
| 11 | Nothing | 11/26/2025 3:16 PM |
| 12 | Walking my dog and sitting enjoying | 11/26/2025 3:08 PM |
| 13 | Playground | 11/26/2025 2:30 PM |
| 14 | I have not visited this park. | 11/26/2025 1:55 PM |
| 15 | never go | 11/26/2025 1:44 PM |
| 16 | Swinging, climbing, sliding | 11/26/2025 1:09 PM |
| 17 | Playground!!! | 11/26/2025 12:16 PM |
| 18 | Walk around with the dog | 11/26/2025 12:10 PM |
| 19 | I didn't know this park existed | 11/26/2025 12:04 PM |
| 20 | Playing with pet | 11/26/2025 11:40 AM |
| 21 | Watching Grandchildren | 11/25/2025 6:16 PM |
| 22 | Never go there | 11/25/2025 11:34 AM |
| 23 | RELAXING | 11/24/2025 6:13 PM |
| 24 | Football | 11/23/2025 4:45 PM |
| 25 | Just sitting on the bench | 11/23/2025 4:36 PM |
| 26 | Playing games on playground really enjoying the kids in the neighborhood who kids are similar ages as our. | 11/23/2025 3:29 PM |
| 27 | Playing on the playground | 11/21/2025 6:44 PM |
| 28 | Play with dogs | 11/21/2025 6:04 PM |
| 29 | Playing tag on the equipment with kids | 11/21/2025 11:40 AM |
| 30 | Swinging and jungle gym | 11/21/2025 10:42 AM |
| 31 | Playing with my kids on the park pushing them on swings | 11/21/2025 10:34 AM |
| 32 | Playground - playing tag, workouts. | 11/21/2025 9:55 AM |
| 33 | A visit to the area | 11/21/2025 8:25 AM |
| 34 | Playground | 11/21/2025 8:11 AM |
| 35 | Playground | 11/21/2025 7:53 AM |
| 36 | monkey bars, swings, literally anything that comes with a park. | 11/21/2025 7:37 AM |
| 37 | Geo games | 11/21/2025 7:23 AM |
| 38 | Watching kids enjoy being kids | 11/21/2025 7:21 AM |
| 39 | Playing on the playground before you tore it down | 11/21/2025 7:12 AM |

Q7 How important is it to you to have playground equipment in Mitchell Farms Park?

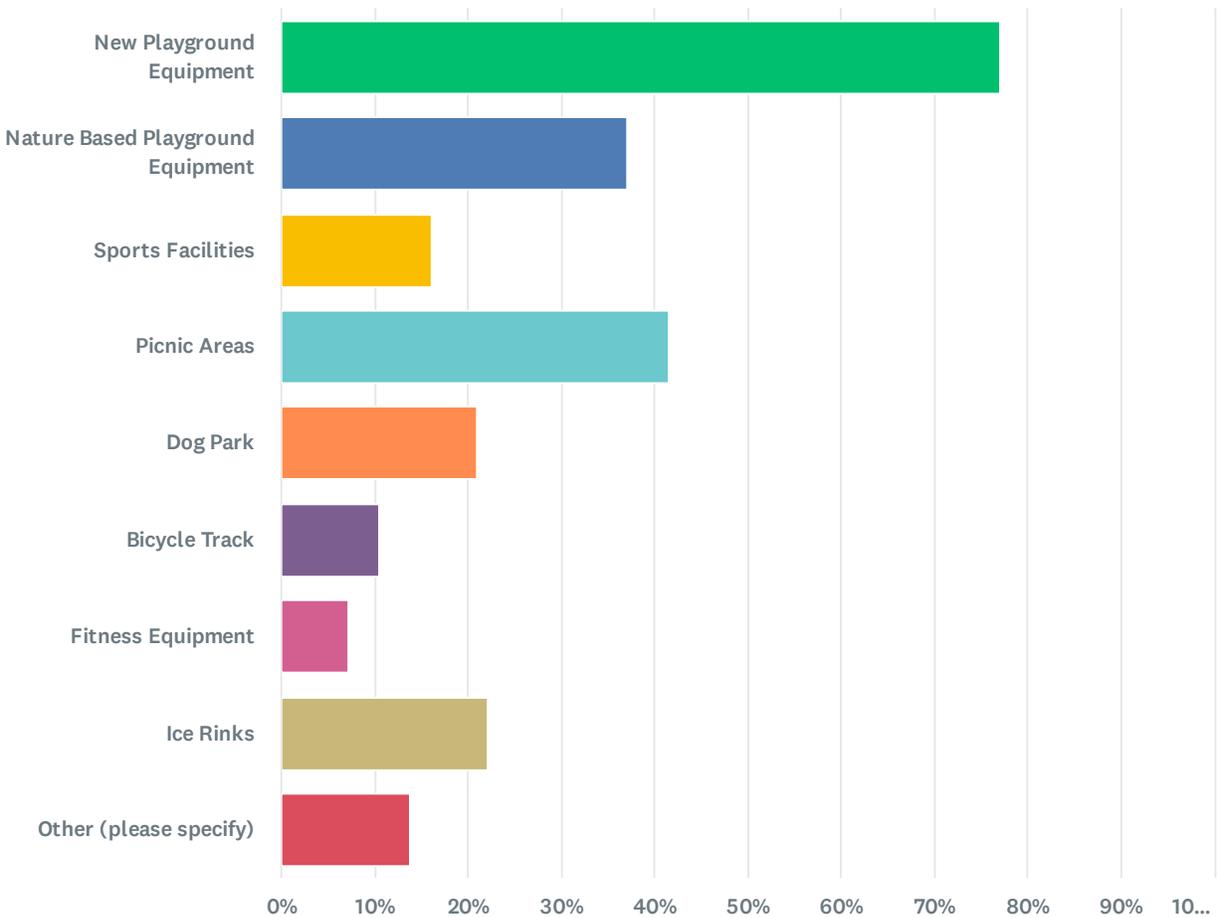
Answered: 256 Skipped: 7



| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Very Important | 64.45% | 165 | ... |
| ● Important | 15.63% | 40 | ... |
| ● Neutral | 7.03% | 18 | ... |
| ● Not Important | 1.56% | 4 | ... |
| ● Not at all Important | 11.33% | 29 | ... |
| Total | | 256 | |

Q8 What new amenities would you like to see added to Mitchell Farms Park, considering a limited budget? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 248 Skipped: 15



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| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|---|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● New Playground Equipment | 77.02% | 191 | ... |
| ● Nature Based Playground Equipment | 37.10% | 92 | ... |
| ● Sports Facilities | 16.13% | 40 | ... |
| Total | | 248 | |

Mitchell Farms Park Survey

| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|--|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Picnic Areas | 41.53% | 103 | ... |
| ● Dog Park | 20.97% | 52 | ... |
| ● Bicycle Track | 10.48% | 26 | ... |
| ● Fitness Equipment | 7.26% | 18 | ... |
| ● Ice Rinks | 22.18% | 55 | ... |
| ● Other (please specify) Show responses | 13.71% | 34 | ... |
| Total | | 248 | |

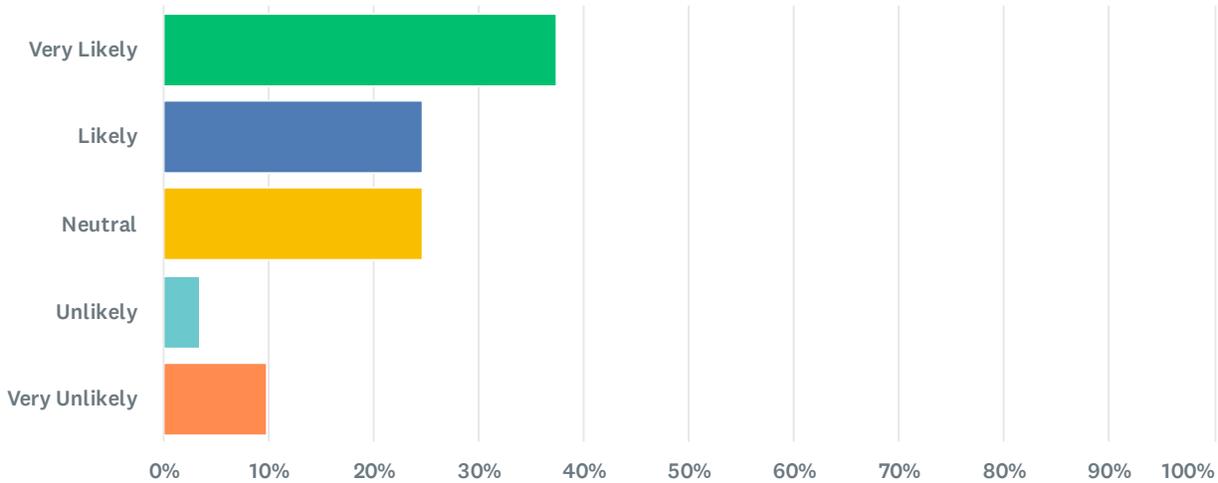
| # | OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY) | DATE |
|----|---|---------------------|
| 1 | Make sure the new park is safe & no high up openings | 12/12/2025 11:03 PM |
| 2 | Before the equipment was torn out there were people there daily. After the equipment was torn out it is nearly unused. Now we are in winter and in the past there were still some kids that would be there. Sadly this space is now unused. | 12/8/2025 8:46 PM |
| 3 | NOT a bicycle track (unless it's just connecting the path to Kenabec Street) | 12/3/2025 2:58 PM |
| 4 | Nothing, I think Big Lake has a lot of other Parks | 11/30/2025 7:01 PM |
| 5 | Pickle ball | 11/30/2025 6:38 PM |
| 6 | Pickle Ball courts, Canopy | 11/30/2025 5:22 PM |
| 7 | Pickle Ball Court | 11/30/2025 5:00 PM |
| 8 | Nothing. Leave it empty. | 11/30/2025 12:05 PM |
| 9 | None | 11/29/2025 12:13 PM |
| 10 | Basketball court and soccer field nets | 11/26/2025 9:36 PM |
| 11 | pickle ball court!! | 11/26/2025 2:37 PM |
| 12 | More swings and handicap accessible | 11/26/2025 2:30 PM |
| 13 | none | 11/26/2025 1:44 PM |
| 14 | A infant/ toddler swing would've been nice when my kids were little.. one of the reasons we chose our house 14 years ago was the closeness to the park. Also plenty of benches for moms to sit on to watch kids. | 11/26/2025 1:09 PM |
| 15 | Pickleball | 11/26/2025 11:54 AM |
| 16 | None. A lot of us do not want this town to grow. | 11/25/2025 4:06 PM |
| 17 | None | 11/25/2025 11:34 AM |
| 18 | It was a nice medium size playground that oddly enough always seemed to have a couple kids to play with even though there was not much for parking. My group of kids seemed always like that playground because of the lack of drama. | 11/23/2025 3:29 PM |
| 19 | Equipment that suits school age Kids! | 11/22/2025 5:06 PM |

Mitchell Farms Park Survey

| | | |
|----|--|---------------------|
| 20 | My two boys will be of age soon to ride bikes and we have no side walks in the neighborhood. Bike track would be lovely for safety reasons! | 11/21/2025 9:40 PM |
| 21 | Basketball | 11/21/2025 6:34 PM |
| 22 | If get new equipment please look at some equipment that could be accessible for all kids. Especially those with mobility issues | 11/21/2025 2:57 PM |
| 23 | Baby swings please! | 11/21/2025 2:38 PM |
| 24 | Skate park!! | 11/21/2025 1:39 PM |
| 25 | Rubber ground | 11/21/2025 1:37 PM |
| 26 | Anything there would be better than nothing | 11/21/2025 1:03 PM |
| 27 | Advocating for children's with disabilities the importance of an INCLUSIVE playground for children with disabilities and not just an ADA accessible | 11/21/2025 11:45 AM |
| 28 | Indoor bathroom | 11/21/2025 11:44 AM |
| 29 | A lot of kids played on the equipment there but there are a lot of kids in the neighborhood who would benefit from having a basketball to play on in addition to having equipment. With all of the parks in this town there is only one out door basketball court and thats at the lake. | 11/21/2025 11:06 AM |
| 30 | A basketball court would be used by so many! | 11/21/2025 10:14 AM |
| 31 | Budget was supposed to include equipment replacement. Fitness equipment would be nice for parents who come with children. | 11/21/2025 9:55 AM |
| 32 | Baby swings | 11/21/2025 9:00 AM |
| 33 | Splash pad | 11/21/2025 7:15 AM |
| 34 | More than 1 infant/toddler bucket swing. Toddler play area | 11/21/2025 7:06 AM |

Q9 How likely are you to support funding for new amenities at Mitchell Farms Park?

Answered: 256 Skipped: 7



| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|---|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Very Likely | 37.50% | 96 | ... |
| ● Likely | 24.61% | 63 | ... |
| ● Neutral | 24.61% | 63 | ... |
| ● Unlikely | 3.52% | 9 | ... |
| ● Very Unlikely | 9.77% | 25 | ... |
| Total | | 256 | |

Q10 Do you have any other comments or suggestions regarding the City of Big Lake's Parks and Trails system?

Answered: 120 Skipped: 143

| # | RESPONSES | DATE |
|----|---|---------------------|
| 1 | No | 12/10/2025 12:02 PM |
| 2 | Taking this community amenity out without a plan was terrible and based on false information. You could have knocked on my door and asked if the space was used or not. The time for this survey was in 2024. The planning for eventual replacement of the equipment should have started 25 years ago when the developers complied with city requirements and funded the build. The city council vote to deny funding failed the mitchell farms community, especially when we are told the funds are available. If the funds are marked for parks, thats what it must be used for. The parks committee already had a plan so fund it and get the equipment replaced. Charlie West | 12/8/2025 8:46 PM |
| 3 | This park should have been maintained 17 yrs ago when we moved in, but the city decided to nothing and now removed the equipment that should have been upgraded in 2008. Shame on you! Now fix it. It's a neighborhood park. | 12/6/2025 10:34 PM |
| 4 | Most of the parks are very outdated, equipment has been either broken or vandalized. Trails could use attention. | 12/4/2025 7:00 PM |
| 5 | Why did you wait until after you ripped out the playground to survey residents. | 12/4/2025 5:14 PM |
| 6 | I used this park when I was a kid, now I have a one year old we were looking forward to play on it more as she gets the skills needed to use it | 12/4/2025 8:49 AM |
| 7 | I have been living at this location since 1999 and am very pissed that there was never any discussion with the property-owners before tearing out the playground equipment. Also, the condescending comments by the city leaders in the local paper after the fact just show the total distain they have for their constituents. | 12/4/2025 8:41 AM |
| 8 | It is disappointing that a 30-year-old neighborhood park is being looked at as a burden. It is not the high profile high use lakeside Park by the water, but it being dismissed represents a shift by two council members in the mayor to prioritize publicity and visibility over daily enjoyment in a neighborhood park by the local youth. Next year in the elections, I'm sure this will come up that two council members and the mayor thought a vacant lot was better than a functioning park. | 12/4/2025 4:59 AM |
| 9 | Since we live right next to the park we see how often it is used. I would say approximately one or less set of kids/family come per day and about 25% of the time it is a group of tween/teenagers who scream, play loud music, and graffiti the play equipment surfaces. There has been a small child on a dirt bike that rides in circles in the summers wrecking the grass. The soccer nets are used heavily in the spring. Basketball hoops used maybe 2 times per month? Horseshoe pit never used. The swing set area is lightly used until the pit area is filled with thorny weeds each year, then no one ventures in there. There is at least one or two people who throw a disc golf disc from one end of the park to the other a couple times per week in nice weather (I'm sure they might appreciate 1 or 2 disc golf "goals" to aim for). Since there is no formal parking lot for this park, families have to park on side streets or walk/bike in to reach the park. Despite the fact we live right next to the park, we did not receive this survey in the mail. Fortunately another Big Lake resident received it and informed us. | 12/3/2025 3:02 PM |
| 10 | I live next to the park, so I get to see and hear what's going on most days. The playground is really well used, so it would be sad to not have anything. I think the typical ages are infant-PreK with parents and groups of 6-12 year olds on their own. Maybe you could cut costs by focusing on equipment for younger kids and a swing set for older kids? The soccer nets are used almost every day during the summer, so please keep them! There are also frisbee golf players there often. Please DON'T encourage kids to ride dirt bikes in the park by adding a track or trail loop. They are very noisy, and I've seen them nearly run into children before. | 12/3/2025 2:58 PM |

Mitchell Farms Park Survey

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|----|---|---------------------|
| 11 | Accommodation for electric scooters. The reality is that they are in common use and will only become more prevalent. They get kids outside and exploring and are a legitimate means of transportation. | 12/2/2025 4:43 PM |
| 12 | What is the cost? | 12/1/2025 10:14 AM |
| 13 | I feel the city isn't responsible for providing playground equipment to any development. People can buy their own equipment for their children | 11/30/2025 10:24 PM |
| 14 | I do not think Big Lake needs another park, and I do not plan to pay for it. | 11/30/2025 7:01 PM |
| 15 | Would like a splash pad somewhere! An ice rink would be great too. | 11/30/2025 6:24 PM |
| 16 | See about ways to keep the paved trails cleaner to avoid injuries | 11/30/2025 5:22 PM |
| 17 | We still see the neighborhood kids showing up at the park to throw a ball around or hang out. We know that they miss the equipment. | 11/30/2025 5:00 PM |
| 18 | I don't NOT want to fund this park at all!!!! Our taxes are to high already!!!! | 11/30/2025 12:05 PM |
| 19 | Stop overspending of residents hard earned tax paying dollars. Find ways to cut our city's spending | 11/30/2025 8:24 AM |
| 20 | I love this park so much!! | 11/28/2025 6:12 PM |
| 21 | All skaters in Big lake have to commute to other cities to support their figure skaters and hockey players. | 11/27/2025 10:58 PM |
| 22 | You should have known this was going to cause upset residence. | 11/27/2025 8:02 PM |
| 23 | Don't randomly take a playground away from a whole neighborhood of kids who regularly use it without replacing it! You don't live in the neighborhood and don't know how often it's used. Maybe talk to the damn people who do live in the neighborhood before you do some dumb shit like that. | 11/27/2025 4:09 PM |
| 24 | The city gets plenty of tax money to budget for new equipment. You don't just tear down the old with no plan to replace it. What a joke. The city should be ashamed of itself. | 11/27/2025 11:06 AM |
| 25 | More soccer nets please and basketball hoops | 11/26/2025 9:36 PM |
| 26 | Dog park unless you put up crosswalks with flashing lights. Otherwise that spot sucks for a park. | 11/26/2025 6:31 PM |
| 27 | Please figure out how to use the taxes the city already has for this park. I dont speak for all residents, but definitely a few, myself included, we are getting irritated with a new tax being asked of us every year. I am happy though the last few have been voted on, but I suspect the city will get its money whether we vote yes or no. | 11/26/2025 5:34 PM |
| 28 | This is the dumbest thing I have seen the city do in all my years living here. | 11/26/2025 5:34 PM |
| 29 | Do not replace with dog park. | 11/26/2025 5:32 PM |
| 30 | It looks to be strictly a small neighborhood park with limited access. | 11/26/2025 4:23 PM |
| 31 | We pay taxes out the ass. Build a new park. | 11/26/2025 3:29 PM |
| 32 | There are many parks in big Lake. Some are not that far from Michell Farms Park. It would be nice to have some variety in our parks. | 11/26/2025 3:16 PM |
| 33 | If we get a dog park that would be amazing and I would be willing to contribute for that. | 11/26/2025 3:08 PM |
| 34 | Was very sad to see Mitchell farms playground gone when I went there with grandkids. | 11/26/2025 2:30 PM |
| 35 | As a 25 year resident of Big Lake, I find these playgrounds to be very important for young families. Having raised three sons here, we utilized many of the community parks. | 11/26/2025 1:55 PM |
| 36 | just make lakeside park bigger and better they are literally minutes apart. as for an ice rink just put on one either of the two lakes in town and maintain that | 11/26/2025 1:44 PM |
| 37 | Do NOT raise our taxes!!! It's kind of a crap small town with high fancy city taxes already. Total rip off to live here just to be near family & friends. But every park needs kids activities...duh, no brainer. | 11/26/2025 1:11 PM |

Mitchell Farms Park Survey

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| 38 | As long as the park funding isn't crazy exorbitant I am willing to vote for it. Splash pads would be nice if we had one available. (With adequate parking) Also the one park across town has the hang glider was popular with my kids having one close to home would be amazing. | 11/26/2025 1:09 PM |
| 39 | Have more things to do for kids and families, a splash pad in big lake would be nice too as not all kids can swim in the lake . | 11/26/2025 12:29 PM |
| 40 | To take away a park that has been there for YEARS is extremely sad. Kids in the neighborhood are there DAILY!! The kids do not attend city meetings so image how they felt to get off the bus that day and rush to their favorite spot w/ friends to see an empty lot of dirt - their playground GONE!!! If we want kids to be outside and not on screens, they need a place to go! Extremely disappointing that it even has to have gone this far as a new park would be a no brainer - our neighborhood/community children deserve a replacement park of some sort!!! With some struggling for basic needs let alone extra 'fun', these kids need a place to play FREE of charge, for some this may be their only 'fun' thing to look forward to! | 11/26/2025 12:16 PM |
| 41 | Personally I've never seen a kid at this park. My kids and their friends don't play there due to the little kids peeing on everything. I'd like to see this park turn into a dog park | 11/26/2025 12:10 PM |
| 42 | We pay enough taxes. All these parks and trails should be maintained... | 11/26/2025 12:04 PM |
| 43 | Need to add access to play sports. Baseball field and basketball courts | 11/26/2025 11:43 AM |
| 44 | No | 11/25/2025 11:14 PM |
| 45 | I have lived in Big Lake since 1977, does the park have another name or be specific as to the location. I couldn't tell you where it is. | 11/25/2025 8:39 PM |
| 46 | Who gives a shit about your park | 11/25/2025 7:45 PM |
| 47 | I understood that playgrounds were required in developments. Has there been a change to that stipulation. I presume that the equipment was unsafe or that the local area development wanted something else there. // There are several area playgrounds that I routinely took my grandchildren to during good weather. As far as suggestions I have seen a large, enclosed building set up for skate boarding and sections for a playground (think huge barn) however, personnel were required during daylight hours so fights, drugs, and other improper things didn't take place. | 11/25/2025 6:16 PM |
| 48 | Yes, how about make handi cap accessible as well. No wood chips, you need the rubber ground and things for wheelchair bound kids. Sensory | 11/25/2025 5:04 PM |
| 49 | Taxes have doubled since I move here in 2003. The larger the town grows the more my neighbors and I dislike it. | 11/25/2025 4:06 PM |
| 50 | should have never taken the park down in the first place. | 11/24/2025 8:43 PM |
| 51 | It's about time the council asked the residents their opinion about our city, the parks, SIDEWALKS, and areas in our city. The council is supposed to be the voice of the people, NOT the Dictator of the city. | 11/24/2025 6:13 PM |
| 52 | It does seem like we have numerous parks in Big Lake for a city of this size. | 11/24/2025 3:00 PM |
| 53 | A survey or notice at the very least would have been better BEFORE the playground was taken down. I was there 3 weeks beforehand and the only thing wrong with the park was the picnic table needing refinishing. | 11/23/2025 4:25 PM |
| 54 | I'm curious about question nine as why it's asking for me to fund on top of what I normally am paying for taxes in my town. I was also concerned with how sudden it was gone. If it was a safety concern , I understand it being removed but why was there nothing at the park posting that it was a safety concern? it's not like it was deemed hazardous and removed that same day. For me, it makes it seem suspicious. Why the mayor removed it in the first place without telling us , and then on top of that, not wanting to replace it or even get an estimate to tell us what it would cost. From what i'm understanding , the park originally planned to put here the council determined to relocate , leaving kids in this area without an option. And because you chose to relocate this playground set. These kids will only be in this age group for a short time. It seems wrong to make them have to wait multiple years for a new playground when the funds have been collected and should have been allocated to replace existing equipment rather than trying to expand a different park. | 11/23/2025 3:29 PM |
| 55 | The Playground at the beach is also very important to us, as well as the one on County road | 11/23/2025 12:49 PM |

Mitchell Farms Park Survey

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| | 73. Thank you for your kind consideration. | |
| 56 | Cancel the new city hall and use the funds to upgrade all the parks in Big Lake | 11/23/2025 9:19 AM |
| 57 | I hope that the park can be replaced equal or better to what was originally there. | 11/22/2025 9:07 PM |
| 58 | This playground was used a lot by me and the neighborhood kids. We should make some ADA friendly as well. | 11/22/2025 8:56 PM |
| 59 | These local neighborhood parks are a huge reason we chose to move here years ago. Kids use them constantly. | 11/22/2025 5:06 PM |
| 60 | FYI, the thistles were terrible around the swing-set area. We loved the big yellow toddler swing that was shaped like an egg!!! Anything that resembles what was already there would be lovely! Thank you for listening! | 11/22/2025 11:56 AM |
| 61 | Quit wasting money and deliver on the promise of a park being there with equipment. | 11/22/2025 7:16 AM |
| 62 | Install a camera and make it known. | 11/22/2025 5:54 AM |
| 63 | Add Natural Butterfly attracting plants ex: Milkweed. Bench's for reading, make playground area shaded or shaded spots. Porta potty present. Free Little Library | 11/22/2025 3:06 AM |
| 64 | Really think it's a big thing to keep parks in the town & updated safety stuff. Also give something for bigger kids to do. Instead of finding trouble. | 11/21/2025 11:16 PM |
| 65 | Bring my younger siblings here all the time to play with friends and let them run around and have fun. It's either play at the park or sit at home on the tablets. Being outside is way better! Bring back our park! | 11/21/2025 10:10 PM |
| 66 | When it comes to playground equipment, I would love to see baby/toddler swings. There are none of these in this location of big lake. And I have to drive to the park near where cambo flare was or Monticello to have access to these swings. Families have children of all ages and there should be something geared to the younger children too. | 11/21/2025 9:40 PM |
| 67 | Quit tearing down all parks that keep kiddos out of trouble, I understand that vandalism happens but not everything needs to be torn down all at once and make your citizens feel like they have to go to other towns to enjoy a place where kids can play in nature. | 11/21/2025 8:43 PM |
| 68 | Where is all the money going? Why isn't maintenance being done to prevent complete failure? | 11/21/2025 8:26 PM |
| 69 | Our kids love going to all the different parks in Big Lake! | 11/21/2025 6:53 PM |
| 70 | Mitchell farms park should be replaced equal or better. A dog park wouldn't make sense because it's right next to other houses and the chaos between dogs would be overwhelming. Nobody's going to go to a natural park. | 11/21/2025 6:49 PM |
| 71 | I hope we can have a playground that is equal or better than what we had originally. | 11/21/2025 6:44 PM |
| 72 | My kids were VERY upset the park is gone and I 100% support putting one back in. There are a ton of families within a mile of the park with young kids. | 11/21/2025 6:34 PM |
| 73 | Rock wall, zip line, swings are top pick items at a park. Also would be nice for a few picnic benches, and a tree or two | 11/21/2025 6:04 PM |
| 74 | Hoping for a splash pad and handicap accessible park! | 11/21/2025 5:55 PM |
| 75 | I do not currently use this park as my kids are adults now. But we have lived just down the block from this park their whole life. We used this park daily when they were young. Sad that the families in this neighborhood could potentially not have this. | 11/21/2025 5:50 PM |
| 76 | My kids live going to the park in our development. Stupid idea to remove it when we have so many younger children here. They all love playing at the park with their friends. Please bring it back! | 11/21/2025 5:40 PM |
| 77 | If they will be replacing the playground equipment. Having shade structures is also very important to me. | 11/21/2025 5:02 PM |
| 78 | We need our park back for the kids. | 11/21/2025 2:52 PM |
| 79 | we need a couple nice ball fields in our community. the school is holding our fields hostage and we need more available for our kids to use. | 11/21/2025 2:44 PM |

Mitchell Farms Park Survey

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| 80 | This is a small park but is the only one in this part of the neighborhood. Kids need a safe place to play outside. This park has been well loved and used. | 11/21/2025 2:19 PM |
| 81 | Love the bike track idea. We are very sad the skate park is gone and have no where to ride our BMX or mountain bikes together. However just a playset would be awesome for the little ones. Thanks big lake! | 11/21/2025 1:54 PM |
| 82 | We are still very disappointed that there is no talk of replacing the skate park!! Big Lake prides themselves on their parks and trail systems. Removing structures doesn't make sense in the midst of all the current and growing neighborhoods we have. How about a splash park?!?! Dreaming I know, but It would be great if we could have a City Dog Park since the current space at Lions Park is not a priority of the township at all. It's embarrassing compared to all the neighboring town dog parks. I'm sure there are grants and other things that could be re-prioritized to make these improvements happen. Thank you for taking these ideas into consideration! | 11/21/2025 1:39 PM |
| 83 | We utilize many of the parks and playgrounds in the area. If there was something set up to donate to so a playground would be put in/help in the future, id be more than happy to contribute | 11/21/2025 1:03 PM |
| 84 | Thank you for caring! Love all our parks. | 11/21/2025 1:00 PM |
| 85 | Im all for improving the local community but put the money towards school referendums that we can't pass, or improve big lake back that everyone pays an ungodly amount of money to park the truck and trailers there, have seen no upgrades to that park, only took away the skate park. There are plenty of other parks in the area. | 11/21/2025 11:52 AM |
| 86 | Wrights crossing park has had broken playground equipment for 3+ years. That park needs to be redone. I live 3 houses down from it and go to it every day with my kids in the summer. | 11/21/2025 11:44 AM |
| 87 | We have lots of kids in this development that play at this park. It needs to be replaced and soon. These kids miss it. We have 9 kids between 3 houses that played here daily when the weather is nice. | 11/21/2025 11:40 AM |
| 88 | We moved in to Mitchell Farms over 5 years ago and were very excited that there was a park a few houses away that we could take our granddaughter to. Now I have another granddaughter and we went there several times with them and their moms, my daughters. My granddaughter was very sad when it was taken down with no notice, and so were many others! | 11/21/2025 11:37 AM |
| 89 | I'm curious if residents near the other parks that are going to be replaced have been asked to fund the parks in their neighborhoods??? If funding is needed to replace all the parks, that should be distributed among all the residents equally. | 11/21/2025 11:11 AM |
| 90 | Our city is lacking the funding and resources needed to truly invest in our youth. This community has so much potential, yet time and again opportunities for our kids are taken away or denied, while other initiatives slip through without question. I believe it's time we prioritize our future not just your wallets. I fully support raising taxes and dedicating funding to amenities that strengthen opportunities for our youth, because investing in them is investing in the long-term health and success of our city. | 11/21/2025 11:06 AM |
| 91 | I have lived near this park for 25 years and was very sad it was removed. I can see the park from my house and I know it is heavily used by children in this neighborhood. I'm sure they are all very sad that the park is gone. I served on the park committee in the early 2000s and they did a great job of establishing a fantastic park system for our community. I hope they keep it up. | 11/21/2025 10:42 AM |
| 92 | I don't understand we are just going to rip down all the parks and possibly not rebuild them? Our kids need somewhere to play. Maybe don't make a new city council that none of us want and build awesome parks for our children. | 11/21/2025 10:34 AM |
| 93 | Please start building the parks that we vote for and also continue to funding for repairs to the parks. It's the biggest black eye that even baseball fields and etc are unplayable. Also make these sports facilities playable for the associations to use. | 11/21/2025 10:25 AM |
| 94 | I really hope it gets figured out before next summer. The kids in our development were beyond crushed. Many came home from school in tears after seeing it tore down while riding on the school bus. My son told me that so many kids on the bus were crying and so sad about it. | 11/21/2025 10:14 AM |
| 95 | Buy it now! Must get a discount when you are buying for several playgrounds and the cost will | 11/21/2025 10:12 AM |

Mitchell Farms Park Survey

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| | only go up ! | |
| 96 | The neighborhood needs a park. My kids are older and don't use it much but have used it a ton over the past years. It would be very sad for other kids to not have that opportunity. | 11/21/2025 10:05 AM |
| 97 | Build nice icerinks there to replace the crap ones the city doesn't maintain | 11/21/2025 10:05 AM |
| 98 | This park specifically is tucked into the backyards of several neighboring properties. Dog park would bring issues with more barking, fleas, and poop smell. Bike park would be bad as we have neighborhood kids with motorized bikes and 4 wheelers that would be tearing up the park. Concrete tube like snuffy's is asking for a cracked skull... There are daycares and many children who utilized the previous equipment heavily, so that makes the most sense. | 11/21/2025 9:55 AM |
| 99 | It is a designated park so should be maintained. If nit - stop taking park fees. | 11/21/2025 9:44 AM |
| 100 | Some equipment for younger kids, around a year, with small obstacles to climb or slide down. Baby swings. Benches/ stroller stations. No wood chips as they cause slivers and poke when they get into shoes | 11/21/2025 9:31 AM |
| 101 | Funding should be included with the taxes we already pay, not to mention the money that is set aside in the designated fund as well as money that is collected for the parks dedication fee form developers. We pay taxes to pay up keep and upkeep should be done at not extra expenses. | 11/21/2025 9:00 AM |
| 102 | I really enjoy the bike trails/sidewalks around town for running and biking. I would like to have free parking at lakeside park, metered parking deters a lot of local users. Would be great to see more youth programming using our park spaces. | 11/21/2025 8:52 AM |
| 103 | We Loved this park. It was my son's favorite park and we were there daily (if not multiple times a day). It is within walking distance of our home and just ideal. My son was very sad to see the old park go but hopefully it will be replaced. | 11/21/2025 8:49 AM |
| 104 | Take a trip to west bridge monti park big and made for multiple age groups Zip line | 11/21/2025 8:40 AM |
| 105 | I would suggest long term budgets for replacing worn and aging equipment. These playgrounds don't become unsafe overnight, I realize they have a life expectancy but during that time there should be a plan/budget in place so that 15year down the road when they need replacement funds are available. Instead now we keep ripping playgrounds out with no plans or budget to replace. Someone is not doing their job. | 11/21/2025 8:30 AM |
| 106 | Just hope yall replace these playgrounds. Its bad enough kids dont have much to do other then being on their tablets and stuff. Taking away these places just adds to that. | 11/21/2025 8:29 AM |
| 107 | I would like money be spent on connecting bike trails around the city. | 11/21/2025 8:11 AM |
| 108 | Not even putting playground as an option in what do you do at the park is ridiculous and completely leading question. This survey design is absolutely horrible and follows no survey standards. The city needs to be accountable and fix the mistake they made instead of putting it on the residents. | 11/21/2025 7:53 AM |
| 109 | This park is a huge part of our neighborhood— I can't stress enough how valuable it is to the children in our neighborhood. | 11/21/2025 7:43 AM |
| 110 | There are many playgrounds on this side of the city, one of which is only 4 blocks from Mitchell Farms. | 11/21/2025 7:42 AM |
| 111 | perhaps a better research option than too late surveys and "thinking" nobody uses the equipment. a great way to show the community that you don't live in it, and if you do, you don't pay enough attention as council members. | 11/21/2025 7:37 AM |
| 112 | Fence around the park for those that have children that have special needs and elope | 11/21/2025 7:32 AM |
| 113 | Parks are so kids can be outside and have fun. Don't take that away and force them to be inside on a screen. | 11/21/2025 7:21 AM |
| 114 | Honestly I bring my child to Monticello and Becker because they have better playgrounds. Very excited to have newer playgrounds in our own town we can go to instead | 11/21/2025 7:16 AM |
| 115 | NO skate park!!!!!!!!! Put money towards splash pad. | 11/21/2025 7:15 AM |
| 116 | While I don't take my kids to this park often, it's the only park within walking distance of their | 11/21/2025 7:10 AM |

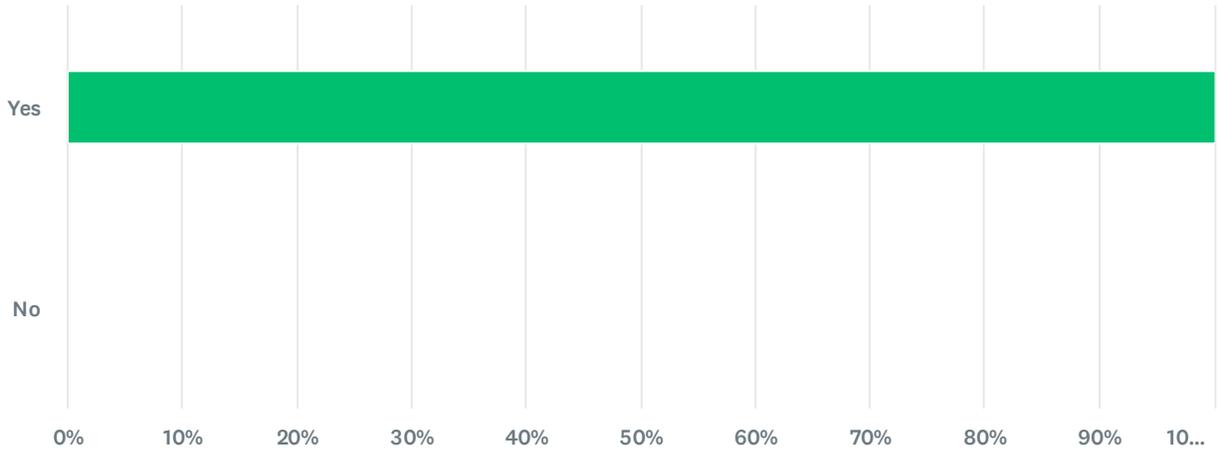
Mitchell Farms Park Survey

dad's house. I hate to see them lose that walkability to a park.

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| 117 | <p>I think Mitchell farms park would be a great spot for a younger child playground. There are no spaces for preschoolers and toddlers to play on equipment that is appropriate for them. Including infant swings would be great as well. Adding more than 1 picnic table. But overall, I think not taking all the parks away would be great! GET THE SKATE PARK BACK!!!! You can't complain because kids are getting into trouble when you are taking away the things they use for entertainment. We have the space and population to make the city an amazing place for all families and children, but we don't. We don't need a new city hall. That money could be spent much more wisely. I've lived here for 13 years and never set foot in the city hall. It seems like a waste of resources. Do better!</p> | 11/21/2025 7:09 AM |
| 118 | <p>More baby swings at parks.</p> | 11/21/2025 7:07 AM |
| 119 | <p>Pretty sure you could use the excess funds from the Parks Upgrade Grant you received. Instead of hanging onto it and maybe replacing a different park that doesn't really need it.</p> | 11/21/2025 7:07 AM |
| 120 | <p>More playgrounds need to be friendly for younger kids, and/or not have as many openings in the rails for something like fire poles etc. platforms leading to slides or near somewhere with an opening need to be a little bigger so children have ample space to move their body into the appropriate standing or sliding position.</p> | 11/21/2025 7:06 AM |

Q1 Are you a current Big Lake resident?

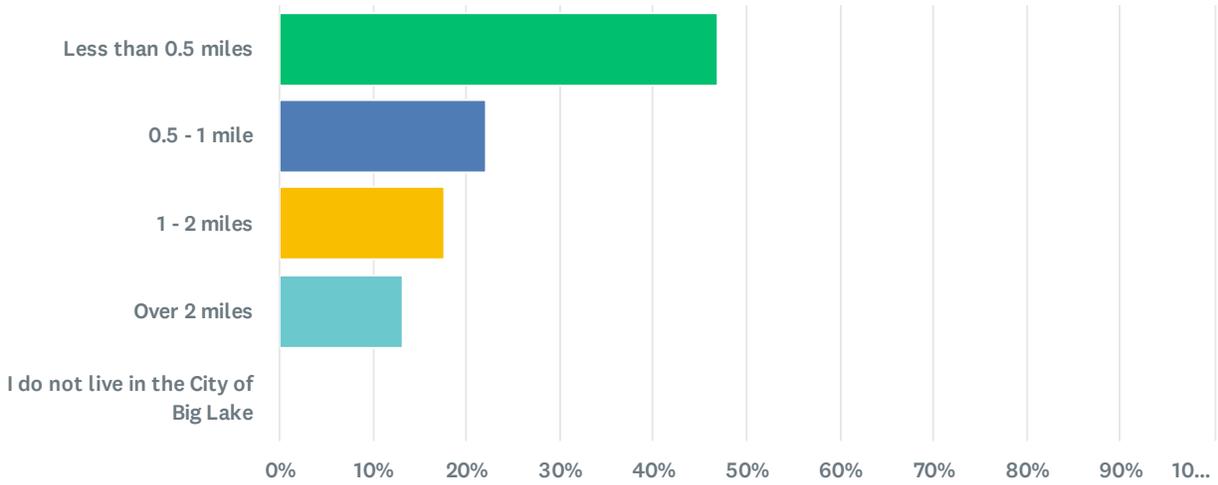
Answered: 249 Skipped: 0



| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Yes | 100.00% | 249 | ... |
| ● No | 0% | 0 | ... |
| Total | | 249 | |

Q2 How far do you live from Mitchell Farms Park?

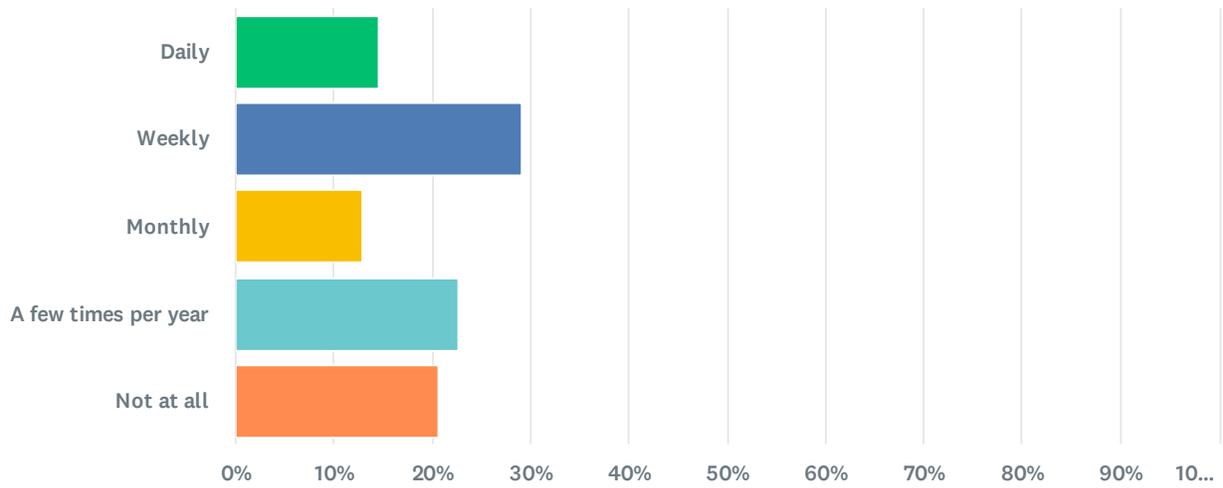
Answered: 249 Skipped: 0



| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|---|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Less than 0.5 miles | 46.99% | 117 | ... |
| ● 0.5 - 1 mile | 22.09% | 55 | ... |
| ● 1 - 2 miles | 17.67% | 44 | ... |
| ● Over 2 miles | 13.25% | 33 | ... |
| ● I do not live in the City of Big Lake | 0% | 0 | ... |
| Total | | 249 | |

Q3 How often did you visit Mitchell Farms Park in 2025?

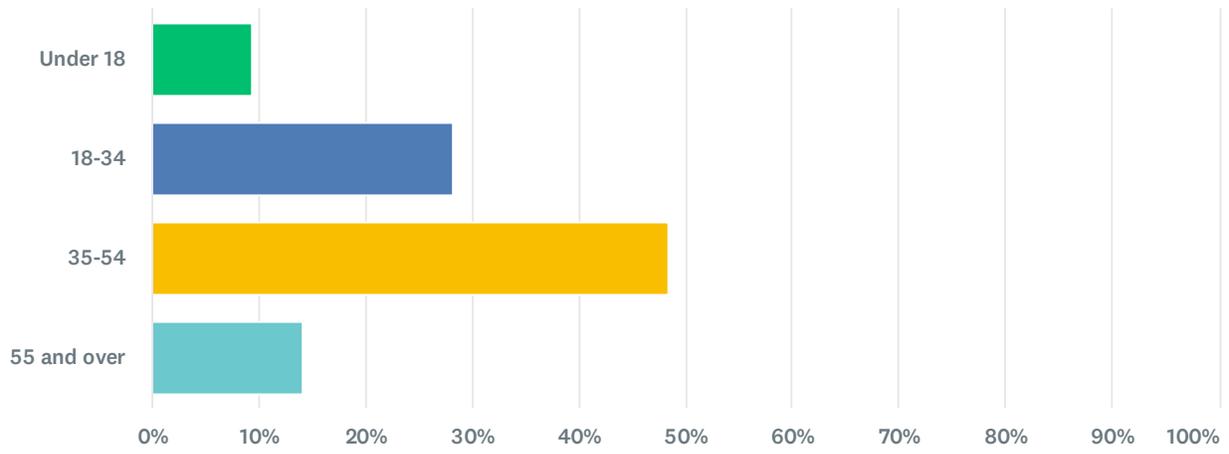
Answered: 247 Skipped: 2



| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Daily | 14.57% | 36 | ... |
| ● Weekly | 29.15% | 72 | ... |
| ● Monthly | 12.96% | 32 | ... |
| ● A few times per year | 22.67% | 56 | ... |
| ● Not at all | 20.65% | 51 | ... |
| Total | | 247 | |

Q4 What is your age group?

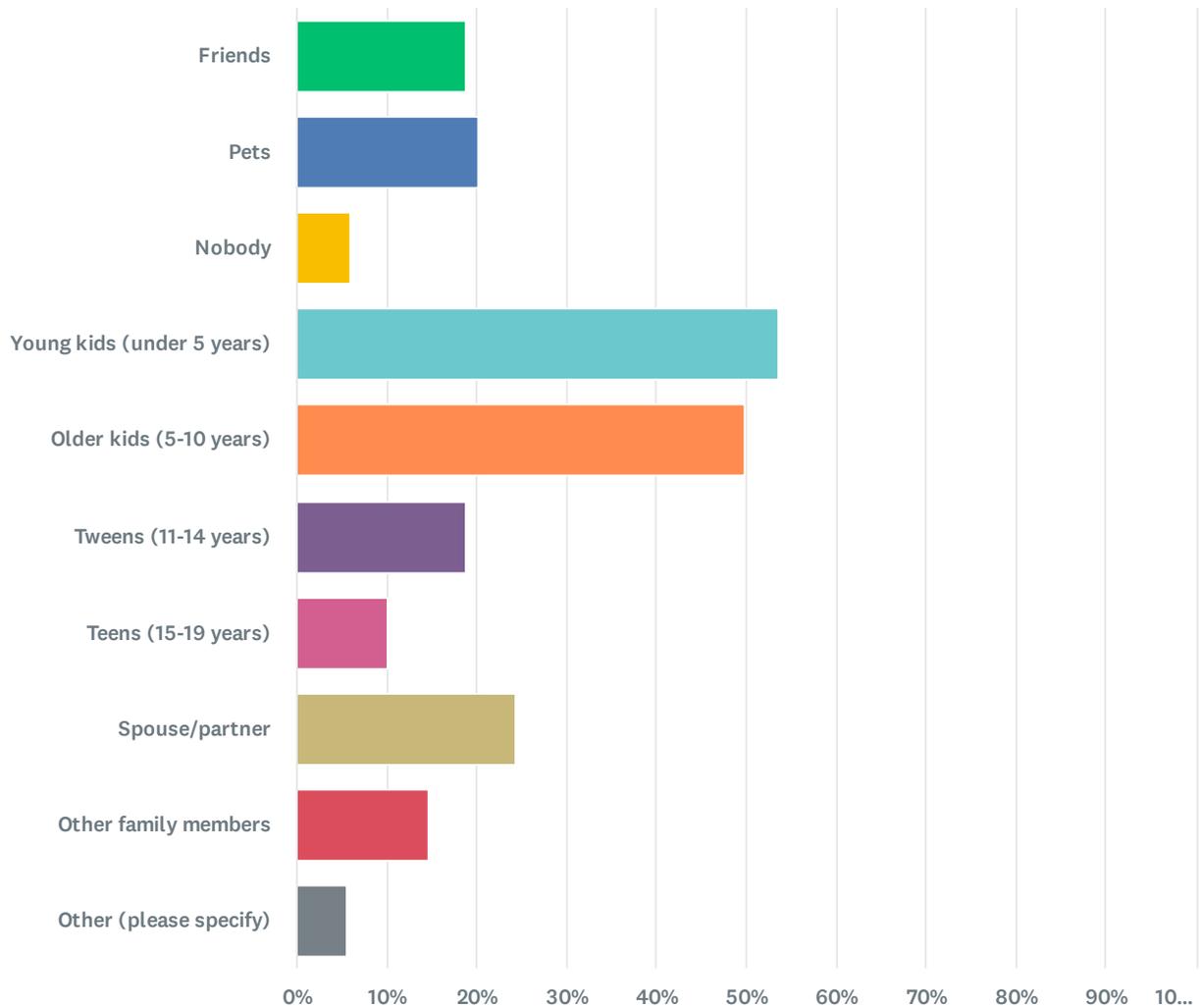
Answered: 248 Skipped: 1



| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Under 18 | 9.27% | 23 | ... |
| ● 18-34 | 28.23% | 70 | ... |
| ● 35-54 | 48.39% | 120 | ... |
| ● 55 and over | 14.11% | 35 | ... |
| Total | | 248 | |

Q5 On a usual visit to Mitchell Farms Park, who are you with? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 239 Skipped: 10



^ Collapse

| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|--|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Friends | 18.83% | 45 | ... |
| ● Pets | 20.08% | 48 | ... |
| Total | | 239 | |

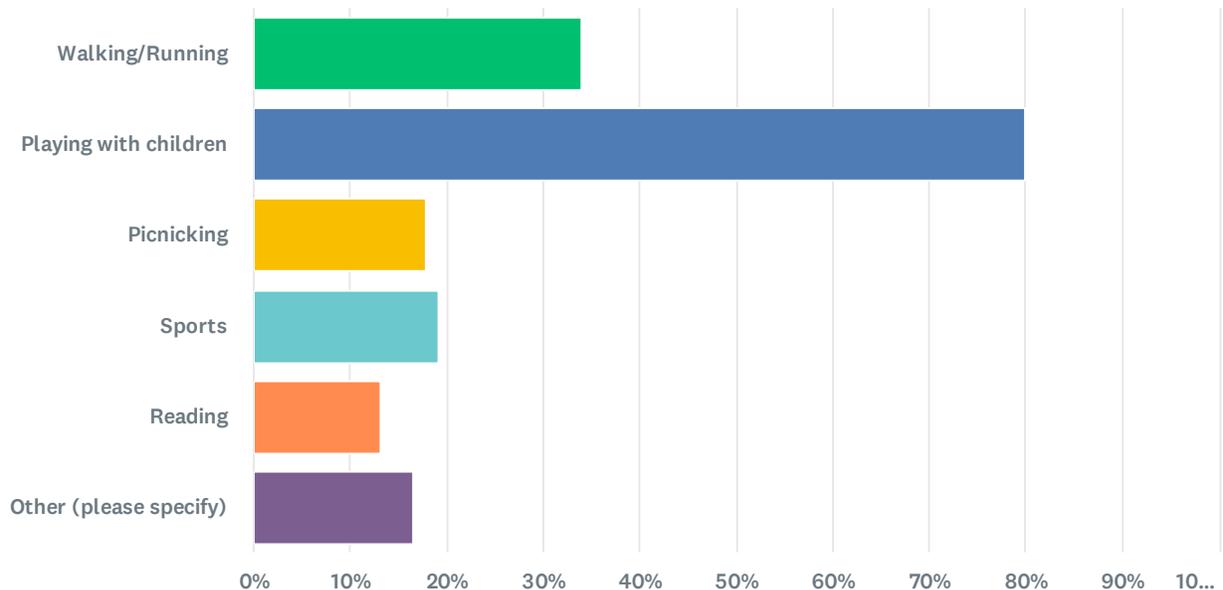
Mitchell Farms Park Survey

| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|---|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Nobody | 5.86% | 14 | ... |
| ● Young kids (under 5 years) | 53.56% | 128 | ... |
| ● Older kids (5-10 years) | 49.79% | 119 | ... |
| ● Tweens (11-14 years) | 18.83% | 45 | ... |
| ● Teens (15-19 years) | 10.04% | 24 | ... |
| ● Spouse/partner | 24.27% | 58 | ... |
| ● Other family members | 14.64% | 35 | ... |
| ● Other (please specify) Show responses | 5.44% | 13 | ... |
| Total | | 239 | |

| # | OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY) | DATE |
|----|--|---------------------|
| 1 | I bring my grandchildren to the park | 12/3/2025 10:44 AM |
| 2 | I never visit the park and DO NOT plan to pay for it | 11/30/2025 7:01 PM |
| 3 | I've never been there. | 11/30/2025 12:05 PM |
| 4 | Not applicable | 11/26/2025 5:49 PM |
| 5 | I was there once | 11/26/2025 3:16 PM |
| 6 | I have not visited this park. | 11/26/2025 1:55 PM |
| 7 | never go | 11/26/2025 1:44 PM |
| 8 | I didn't know this park existed | 11/26/2025 1:12 PM |
| 9 | Never go there | 11/25/2025 11:34 AM |
| 10 | Friends children that played with children in the neighborhood ages 6, 7, 9 11 & 12 was my age group | 11/23/2025 3:29 PM |
| 11 | I do not visit the park. I believe in making things better for our children in the community. | 11/22/2025 8:49 AM |
| 12 | Neighbors | 11/21/2025 5:09 PM |
| 13 | My daycare children. Usually 8+ kids at once | 11/21/2025 7:09 AM |

Q6 What activities do you typically engage in at Mitchell Farms Park? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 230 Skipped: 19



| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|---|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Walking/Running | 33.91% | 78 | ... |
| ● Playing with children | 80.00% | 184 | ... |
| ● Picnicking | 17.83% | 41 | ... |
| ● Sports | 19.13% | 44 | ... |
| ● Reading | 13.04% | 30 | ... |
| ● Other (please specify) Show responses | 16.52% | 38 | ... |
| Total | | 230 | |

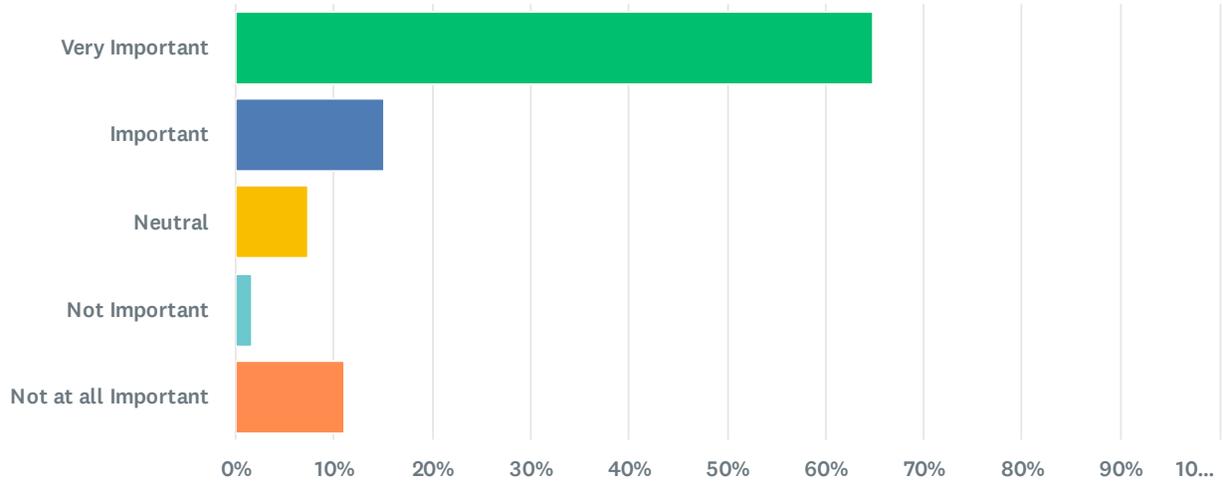
| # | OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY) | DATE |
|---|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Cleaning up the area as needed | 12/8/2025 8:46 PM |
| 2 | taking our cats out on a leash | 12/3/2025 3:02 PM |

Mitchell Farms Park Survey

| | | |
|----|--|---------------------|
| 3 | None | 11/30/2025 7:01 PM |
| 4 | Having fun on the swings and the playground with my friends, nieces, nephews and friends children. | 11/30/2025 5:22 PM |
| 5 | Sitting children | 11/30/2025 5:00 PM |
| 6 | None | 11/30/2025 12:05 PM |
| 7 | None | 11/29/2025 12:13 PM |
| 8 | visiting friends with kids | 11/27/2025 8:02 PM |
| 9 | Not applicable | 11/26/2025 5:49 PM |
| 10 | I wasn't aware of the park | 11/26/2025 4:23 PM |
| 11 | Nothing | 11/26/2025 3:16 PM |
| 12 | Walking my dog and sitting enjoying | 11/26/2025 3:08 PM |
| 13 | I have not visited this park. | 11/26/2025 1:55 PM |
| 14 | never go | 11/26/2025 1:44 PM |
| 15 | Swinging, climbing, sliding | 11/26/2025 1:09 PM |
| 16 | Playground!!! | 11/26/2025 12:16 PM |
| 17 | Walk around with the dog | 11/26/2025 12:10 PM |
| 18 | I didn't know this park existed | 11/26/2025 12:04 PM |
| 19 | Playing with pet | 11/26/2025 11:40 AM |
| 20 | Watching Grandchildren | 11/25/2025 6:16 PM |
| 21 | Never go there | 11/25/2025 11:34 AM |
| 22 | RELAXING | 11/24/2025 6:13 PM |
| 23 | Football | 11/23/2025 4:45 PM |
| 24 | Just sitting on the bench | 11/23/2025 4:36 PM |
| 25 | Playing games on playground really enjoying the kids in the neighborhood who kids are similar ages as our. | 11/23/2025 3:29 PM |
| 26 | Playing on the playground | 11/21/2025 6:44 PM |
| 27 | Play with dogs | 11/21/2025 6:04 PM |
| 28 | Playing tag on the equipment with kids | 11/21/2025 11:40 AM |
| 29 | Swinging and jungle gym | 11/21/2025 10:42 AM |
| 30 | Playing with my kids on the park pushing them on swings | 11/21/2025 10:34 AM |
| 31 | Playground - playing tag, workouts. | 11/21/2025 9:55 AM |
| 32 | A visit to the area | 11/21/2025 8:25 AM |
| 33 | Playground | 11/21/2025 8:11 AM |
| 34 | Playground | 11/21/2025 7:53 AM |
| 35 | monkey bars, swings, literally anything that comes with a park. | 11/21/2025 7:37 AM |
| 36 | Geo games | 11/21/2025 7:23 AM |
| 37 | Watching kids enjoy being kids | 11/21/2025 7:21 AM |
| 38 | Playing on the playground before you tore it down | 11/21/2025 7:12 AM |

Q7 How important is it to you to have playground equipment in Mitchell Farms Park?

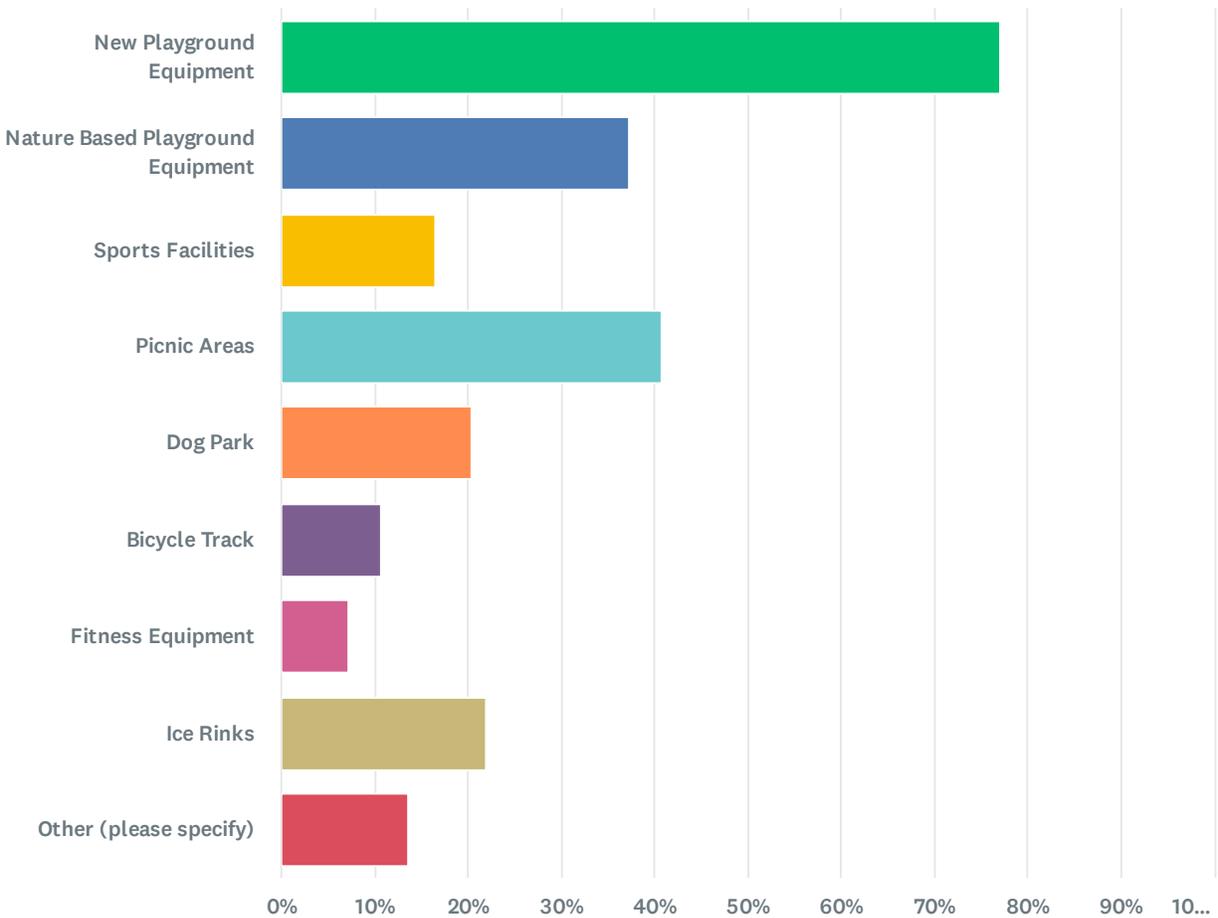
Answered: 245 Skipped: 4



| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Very Important | 64.90% | 159 | ... |
| ● Important | 15.10% | 37 | ... |
| ● Neutral | 7.35% | 18 | ... |
| ● Not Important | 1.63% | 4 | ... |
| ● Not at all Important | 11.02% | 27 | ... |
| Total | | 245 | |

Q8 What new amenities would you like to see added to Mitchell Farms Park, considering a limited budget? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 236 Skipped: 13



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| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|---|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● New Playground Equipment | 77.12% | 182 | ... |
| ● Nature Based Playground Equipment | 37.29% | 88 | ... |
| ● Sports Facilities | 16.53% | 39 | ... |
| Total | | 236 | |

Mitchell Farms Park Survey

| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|--|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Picnic Areas | 40.68% | 96 | ... |
| ● Dog Park | 20.34% | 48 | ... |
| ● Bicycle Track | 10.59% | 25 | ... |
| ● Fitness Equipment | 7.20% | 17 | ... |
| ● Ice Rinks | 22.03% | 52 | ... |
| ● Other (please specify) Show responses | 13.56% | 32 | ... |
| Total | | 236 | |

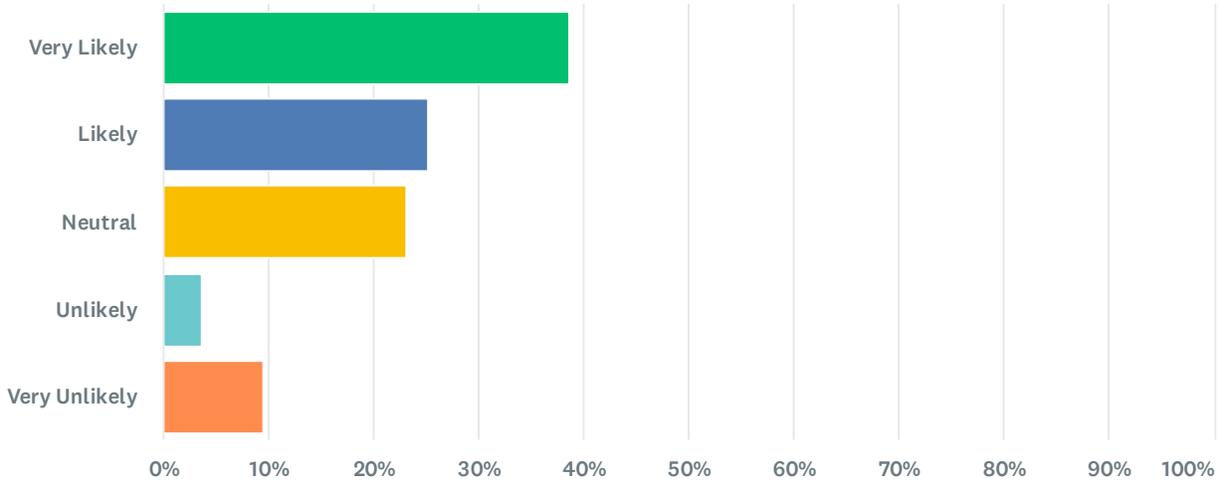
| # | OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY) | DATE |
|----|---|---------------------|
| 1 | Make sure the new park is safe & no high up openings | 12/12/2025 11:03 PM |
| 2 | Before the equipment was torn out there were people there daily. After the equipment was torn out it is nearly unused. Now we are in winter and in the past there were still some kids that would be there. Sadly this space is now unused. | 12/8/2025 8:46 PM |
| 3 | NOT a bicycle track (unless it's just connecting the path to Kenabec Street) | 12/3/2025 2:58 PM |
| 4 | Nothing, I think Big Lake has a lot of other Parks | 11/30/2025 7:01 PM |
| 5 | Pickle ball | 11/30/2025 6:38 PM |
| 6 | Pickle Ball courts, Canopy | 11/30/2025 5:22 PM |
| 7 | Pickle Ball Court | 11/30/2025 5:00 PM |
| 8 | Nothing. Leave it empty. | 11/30/2025 12:05 PM |
| 9 | None | 11/29/2025 12:13 PM |
| 10 | Basketball court and soccer field nets | 11/26/2025 9:36 PM |
| 11 | pickle ball court!! | 11/26/2025 2:37 PM |
| 12 | none | 11/26/2025 1:44 PM |
| 13 | A infant/ toddler swing would've been nice when my kids were little.. one of the reasons we chose our house 14 years ago was the closeness to the park. Also plenty of benches for moms to sit on to watch kids. | 11/26/2025 1:09 PM |
| 14 | Pickleball | 11/26/2025 11:54 AM |
| 15 | None. A lot of us do not want this town to grow. | 11/25/2025 4:06 PM |
| 16 | None | 11/25/2025 11:34 AM |
| 17 | It was a nice medium size playground that oddly enough always seemed to have a couple kids to play with even though there was not much for parking. My group of kids seemed always like that playground because of the lack of drama. | 11/23/2025 3:29 PM |
| 18 | Equipment that suits school age Kids! | 11/22/2025 5:06 PM |
| 19 | My two boys will be of age soon to ride bikes and we have no side walks in the neighborhood. | 11/21/2025 9:40 PM |

Mitchell Farms Park Survey

| | | |
|----|--|---------------------|
| | Bike track would be lovely for safety reasons! | |
| 20 | Basketball | 11/21/2025 6:34 PM |
| 21 | If get new equipment please look at some equipment that could be accessible for all kids. Especially those with mobility issues | 11/21/2025 2:57 PM |
| 22 | Baby swings please! | 11/21/2025 2:38 PM |
| 23 | Skate park!! | 11/21/2025 1:39 PM |
| 24 | Rubber ground | 11/21/2025 1:37 PM |
| 25 | Anything there would be better than nothing | 11/21/2025 1:03 PM |
| 26 | Indoor bathroom | 11/21/2025 11:44 AM |
| 27 | A lot of kids played on the equipment there but there are a lot of kids in the neighborhood who would benefit from having a basketball to play on in addition to having equipment. With all of the parks in this town there is only one out door basketball court and thats at the lake. | 11/21/2025 11:06 AM |
| 28 | A basketball court would be used by so many! | 11/21/2025 10:14 AM |
| 29 | Budget was supposed to include equipment replacement. Fitness equipment would be nice for parents who come with children. | 11/21/2025 9:55 AM |
| 30 | Baby swings | 11/21/2025 9:00 AM |
| 31 | Splash pad | 11/21/2025 7:15 AM |
| 32 | More than 1 infant/toddler bucket swing. Toddler play area | 11/21/2025 7:06 AM |

Q9 How likely are you to support funding for new amenities at Mitchell Farms Park?

Answered: 243 Skipped: 6



| Answer Choices ↓ | Percentage ↓ | Responses ↓ | |
|---|--------------|-------------|-----|
| ● Very Likely | 38.68% | 94 | ... |
| ● Likely | 25.10% | 61 | ... |
| ● Neutral | 23.05% | 56 | ... |
| ● Unlikely | 3.70% | 9 | ... |
| ● Very Unlikely | 9.47% | 23 | ... |
| Total | | 243 | |

Q10 Do you have any other comments or suggestions regarding the City of Big Lake's Parks and Trails system?

Answered: 114 Skipped: 135

| # | RESPONSES | DATE |
|----|---|---------------------|
| 1 | No | 12/10/2025 12:02 PM |
| 2 | Taking this community amenity out without a plan was terrible and based on false information. You could have knocked on my door and asked if the space was used or not. The time for this survey was in 2024. The planning for eventual replacement of the equipment should have started 25 years ago when the developers complied with city requirements and funded the build. The city council vote to deny funding failed the mitchell farms community, especially when we are told the funds are available. If the funds are marked for parks, thats what it must be used for. The parks committee already had a plan so fund it and get the equipment replaced. Charlie West | 12/8/2025 8:46 PM |
| 3 | This park should have been maintained 17 yrs ago when we moved in, but the city decided to nothing and now removed the equipment that should have been upgraded in 2008. Shame on you! Now fix it. It's a neighborhood park. | 12/6/2025 10:34 PM |
| 4 | Most of the parks are very outdated, equipment has been either broken or vandalized. Trails could use attention. | 12/4/2025 7:00 PM |
| 5 | Why did you wait until after you ripped out the playground to survey residents. | 12/4/2025 5:14 PM |
| 6 | I used this park when I was a kid, now I have a one year old we were looking forward to play on it more as she gets the skills needed to use it | 12/4/2025 8:49 AM |
| 7 | I have been living at this location since 1999 and am very pissed that there was never any discussion with the property-owners before tearing out the playground equipment. Also, the condescending comments by the city leaders in the local paper after the fact just show the total distain they have for their constituents. | 12/4/2025 8:41 AM |
| 8 | It is disappointing that a 30-year-old neighborhood park is being looked at as a burden. It is not the high profile high use lakeside Park by the water, but it being dismissed represents a shift by two council members in the mayor to prioritize publicity and visibility over daily enjoyment in a neighborhood park by the local youth. Next year in the elections, I'm sure this will come up that two council members and the mayor thought a vacant lot was better than a functioning park. | 12/4/2025 4:59 AM |
| 9 | Since we live right next to the park we see how often it is used. I would say approximately one or less set of kids/family come per day and about 25% of the time it is a group of tween/teenagers who scream, play loud music, and graffiti the play equipment surfaces. There has been a small child on a dirt bike that rides in circles in the summers wrecking the grass. The soccer nets are used heavily in the spring. Basketball hoops used maybe 2 times per month? Horseshoe pit never used. The swing set area is lightly used until the pit area is filled with thorny weeds each year, then no one ventures in there. There is at least one or two people who throw a disc golf disc from one end of the park to the other a couple times per week in nice weather (I'm sure they might appreciate 1 or 2 disc golf "goals" to aim for). Since there is no formal parking lot for this park, families have to park on side streets or walk/bike in to reach the park. Despite the fact we live right next to the park, we did not receive this survey in the mail. Fortunately another Big Lake resident received it and informed us. | 12/3/2025 3:02 PM |
| 10 | I live next to the park, so I get to see and hear what's going on most days. The playground is really well used, so it would be sad to not have anything. I think the typical ages are infant-PreK with parents and groups of 6-12 year olds on their own. Maybe you could cut costs by focusing on equipment for younger kids and a swing set for older kids? The soccer nets are used almost every day during the summer, so please keep them! There are also frisbee golf players there often. Please DON'T encourage kids to ride dirt bikes in the park by adding a track or trail loop. They are very noisy, and I've seen them nearly run into children before. | 12/3/2025 2:58 PM |

Mitchell Farms Park Survey

| | | |
|----|---|---------------------|
| 11 | Accommodation for electric scooters. The reality is that they are in common use and will only become more prevalent. They get kids outside and exploring and are a legitimate means of transportation. | 12/2/2025 4:43 PM |
| 12 | I feel the city isn't responsible for providing playground equipment to any development. People can buy their own equipment for their children | 11/30/2025 10:24 PM |
| 13 | I do not think Big Lake needs another park, and I do not plan to pay for it. | 11/30/2025 7:01 PM |
| 14 | Would like a splash pad somewhere! An ice rink would be great too. | 11/30/2025 6:24 PM |
| 15 | See about ways to keep the paved trails cleaner to avoid injuries | 11/30/2025 5:22 PM |
| 16 | We still see the neighborhood kids showing up at the park to throw a ball around or hang out. We know that they miss the equipment. | 11/30/2025 5:00 PM |
| 17 | I don't NOT want to fund this park at all!!!! Our taxes are to high already!!!! | 11/30/2025 12:05 PM |
| 18 | Stop overspending of residents hard earned tax paying dollars. Find ways to cut our city's spending | 11/30/2025 8:24 AM |
| 19 | I love this park so much!! | 11/28/2025 6:12 PM |
| 20 | All skaters in Big lake have to commute to other cities to support their figure skaters and hockey players. | 11/27/2025 10:58 PM |
| 21 | You should have known this was going to cause upset residence. | 11/27/2025 8:02 PM |
| 22 | Don't randomly take a playground away from a whole neighborhood of kids who regularly use it without replacing it! You don't live in the neighborhood and don't know how often it's used. Maybe talk to the damn people who do live in the neighborhood before you do some dumb shit like that. | 11/27/2025 4:09 PM |
| 23 | The city gets plenty of tax money to budget for new equipment. You don't just tear down the old with no plan to replace it. What a joke. The city should be ashamed of itself. | 11/27/2025 11:06 AM |
| 24 | More soccer nets please and basketball hoops | 11/26/2025 9:36 PM |
| 25 | Dog park unless you put up crosswalks with flashing lights. Otherwise that spot sucks for a park. | 11/26/2025 6:31 PM |
| 26 | Please figure out how to use the taxes the city already has for this park. I dont speak for all residents, but definitely a few, myself included, we are getting irritated with a new tax being asked of us every year. I am happy though the last few have been voted on, but I suspect the city will get its money whether we vote yes or no. | 11/26/2025 5:34 PM |
| 27 | This is the dumbest thing I have seen the city do in all my years living here. | 11/26/2025 5:34 PM |
| 28 | Do not replace with dog park. | 11/26/2025 5:32 PM |
| 29 | It looks to be strictly a small neighborhood park with limited access. | 11/26/2025 4:23 PM |
| 30 | We pay taxes out the ass. Build a new park. | 11/26/2025 3:29 PM |
| 31 | There are many parks in big Lake. Some are not that far from Michell Farms Park. It would be nice to have some variety in our parks. | 11/26/2025 3:16 PM |
| 32 | If we get a dog park that would be amazing and I would be willing to contribute for that. | 11/26/2025 3:08 PM |
| 33 | As a 25 year resident of Big Lake, I find these playgrounds to be very important for young families. Having raised three sons here, we utilized many of the community parks. | 11/26/2025 1:55 PM |
| 34 | just make lakeside park bigger and better they are literally minutes apart. as for an ice rink just put on one either of the two lakes in town and maintain that | 11/26/2025 1:44 PM |
| 35 | Do NOT raise our taxes!!! It's kind of a crap small town with high fancy city taxes already. Total rip off to live here just to be near family & friends. But every park needs kids activities...duh, no brainer. | 11/26/2025 1:11 PM |
| 36 | As long as the park funding isn't crazy exorbitant I am willing to vote for it. Splash pads would be nice if we had one available. (With adequate parking) Also the one park across town has the hang glider was popular with my kids having one close to home would be amazing. | 11/26/2025 1:09 PM |

Mitchell Farms Park Survey

| | | |
|----|--|---------------------|
| 37 | Have more things to do for kids and families, a splash pad in big lake would be nice too as not all kids can swim in the lake . | 11/26/2025 12:29 PM |
| 38 | To take away a park that has been there for YEARS is extremely sad. Kids in the neighborhood are there DAILY!! The kids do not attend city meetings so imagine how they felt to get off the bus that day and rush to their favorite spot w/ friends to see an empty lot of dirt - their playground GONE!!! If we want kids to be outside and not on screens, they need a place to go! Extremely disappointing that it even has to have gone this far as a new park would be a no brainer - our neighborhood/community children deserve a replacement park of some sort!!! With some struggling for basic needs let alone extra 'fun', these kids need a place to play FREE of charge, for some this may be their only 'fun' thing to look forward to! | 11/26/2025 12:16 PM |
| 39 | Personally I've never seen a kid at this park. My kids and their friends don't play there due to the little kids peeing on everything. I'd like to see this park turn into a dog park | 11/26/2025 12:10 PM |
| 40 | We pay enough taxes. All these parks and trails should be maintained... | 11/26/2025 12:04 PM |
| 41 | Need to add access to play sports. Baseball field and basketball courts | 11/26/2025 11:43 AM |
| 42 | No | 11/25/2025 11:14 PM |
| 43 | I understood that playgrounds were required in developments. Has there been a change to that stipulation. I presume that the equipment was unsafe or that the local area development wanted something else there. // There are several area playgrounds that I routinely took my grandchildren to during good weather. As far as suggestions I have seen a large, enclosed building set up for skate boarding and sections for a playground (think huge barn) however, personnel were required during daylight hours so fights, drugs, and other improper things didn't take place. | 11/25/2025 6:16 PM |
| 44 | Yes, how about make handicapped accessible as well. No wood chips, you need the rubber ground and things for wheelchair bound kids. Sensory | 11/25/2025 5:04 PM |
| 45 | Taxes have doubled since I moved here in 2003. The larger the town grows the more my neighbors and I dislike it. | 11/25/2025 4:06 PM |
| 46 | should have never taken the park down in the first place. | 11/24/2025 8:43 PM |
| 47 | It's about time the council asked the residents their opinion about our city, the parks, SIDEWALKS, and areas in our city. The council is supposed to be the voice of the people, NOT the Dictator of the city. | 11/24/2025 6:13 PM |
| 48 | It does seem like we have numerous parks in Big Lake for a city of this size. | 11/24/2025 3:00 PM |
| 49 | A survey or notice at the very least would have been better BEFORE the playground was taken down. I was there 3 weeks beforehand and the only thing wrong with the park was the picnic table needing refinishing. | 11/23/2025 4:25 PM |
| 50 | I'm curious about question nine as why it's asking for me to fund on top of what I normally am paying for taxes in my town. I was also concerned with how sudden it was gone. If it was a safety concern, I understand it being removed but why was there nothing at the park posting that it was a safety concern? it's not like it was deemed hazardous and removed that same day. For me, it makes it seem suspicious. Why the mayor removed it in the first place without telling us, and then on top of that, not wanting to replace it or even get an estimate to tell us what it would cost. From what I'm understanding, the park originally planned to put here the council determined to relocate, leaving kids in this area without an option. And because you chose to relocate this playground set. These kids will only be in this age group for a short time. It seems wrong to make them have to wait multiple years for a new playground when the funds have been collected and should have been allocated to replace existing equipment rather than trying to expand a different park. | 11/23/2025 3:29 PM |
| 51 | The Playground at the beach is also very important to us, as well as the one on County road 73. Thank you for your kind consideration. | 11/23/2025 12:49 PM |
| 52 | Cancel the new city hall and use the funds to upgrade all the parks in Big Lake | 11/23/2025 9:19 AM |
| 53 | I hope that the park can be replaced equal or better to what was originally there. | 11/22/2025 9:07 PM |
| 54 | This playground was used a lot by me and the neighborhood kids. We should make some ADA friendly as well. | 11/22/2025 8:56 PM |

Mitchell Farms Park Survey

| | | |
|----|---|---------------------|
| 55 | These local neighborhood parks are a huge reason we chose to move here years ago. Kids use them constantly. | 11/22/2025 5:06 PM |
| 56 | FYI, the thistles were terrible around the swing-set area. We loved the big yellow toddler swing that was shaped like an egg!!! Anything that resembles what was already there would be lovely! Thank you for listening! | 11/22/2025 11:56 AM |
| 57 | Quit wasting money and deliver on the promise of a park being there with equipment. | 11/22/2025 7:16 AM |
| 58 | Install a camera and make it known. | 11/22/2025 5:54 AM |
| 59 | Add Natural Butterfly attracting plants ex: Milkweed. Bench's for reading, make playground area shaded or shaded spots. Porta potty present. Free Little Library | 11/22/2025 3:06 AM |
| 60 | Bring my younger siblings here all the time to play with friends and let them run around and have fun. It's either play at the park or sit at home on the tablets. Being outside is way better! Bring back our park! | 11/21/2025 10:10 PM |
| 61 | When it comes to playground equipment, I would love to see baby/toddler swings. There are none of these in this location of big lake. And I have to drive to the park near where cambo flare was or Monticello to have access to these swings. Families have children of all ages and there should be something geared to the younger children too. | 11/21/2025 9:40 PM |
| 62 | Quit tearing down all parks that keep kiddos out of trouble, I understand that vandalism happens but not everything needs to be torn down all at once and make your citizens feel like they have to go to other towns to enjoy a place where kids can play in nature. | 11/21/2025 8:43 PM |
| 63 | Where is all the money going? Why isn't maintenance being done to prevent complete failure? | 11/21/2025 8:26 PM |
| 64 | Our kids love going to all the different parks in Big Lake! | 11/21/2025 6:53 PM |
| 65 | Mitchell farms park should be replaced equal or better. A dog park wouldn't make sense because it's right next to other houses and the chaos between dogs would be overwhelming. Nobody's going to go to a natural park. | 11/21/2025 6:49 PM |
| 66 | I hope we can have a playground that is equal or better than what we had originally. | 11/21/2025 6:44 PM |
| 67 | My kids were VERY upset the park is gone and I 100% support putting one back in. There are a ton of families within a mile of the park with young kids. | 11/21/2025 6:34 PM |
| 68 | Rock wall, zip line, swings are top pick items at a park. Also would be nice for a few picnic benches, and a tree or two | 11/21/2025 6:04 PM |
| 69 | Hoping for a splash pad and handicap accessible park! | 11/21/2025 5:55 PM |
| 70 | I do not currently use this park as my kids are adults now. But we have lived just down the block from this park their whole life. We used this park daily when they were young. Sad that the families in this neighborhood could potentially not have this. | 11/21/2025 5:50 PM |
| 71 | My kids live going to the park in our development. Stupid idea to remove it when we have so many younger children here. They all love playing at the park with their friends. Please bring it back! | 11/21/2025 5:40 PM |
| 72 | If they will be replacing the playground equipment. Having shade structures is also very important to me. | 11/21/2025 5:02 PM |
| 73 | We need our park back for the kids. | 11/21/2025 2:52 PM |
| 74 | we need a couple nice ball fields in our community. the school is holding our fields hostage and we need more available for our kids to use. | 11/21/2025 2:44 PM |
| 75 | This is a small park but is the only one in this part of the neighborhood. Kids need a safe place to play outside. This park has been well loved and used. | 11/21/2025 2:19 PM |
| 76 | Love the bike track idea. We are very sad the skate park is gone and have no where to ride our BMX or mountain bikes together. However just a playset would be awesome for the little ones. Thanks big lake! | 11/21/2025 1:54 PM |
| 77 | We are still very disappointed that there is no talk of replacing the skate park!! Big Lake prides themselves on their parks and trail systems. Removing structures doesn't make sense in the midst of all the current and growing neighborhoods we have. How about a splash park?!?! | 11/21/2025 1:39 PM |

Mitchell Farms Park Survey

Dreaming I know, but It would be great if we could have a City Dog Park since the current space at Lions Park is not a priority of the township at all. It's embarrassing compared to all the neighboring town dog parks. I'm sure there are grants and other things that could be re-prioritized to make these improvements happen. Thank you for taking these ideas into consideration!

| | | |
|----|--|---------------------|
| 78 | We utilize many of the parks and playgrounds in the area. If there was something set up to donate to so a playground would be put in/help in the future, id be more than happy to contribute | 11/21/2025 1:03 PM |
| 79 | Thank you for caring! Love all our parks. | 11/21/2025 1:00 PM |
| 80 | Im all for improving the local community but put the money towards school referendums that we can't pass, or improve big lake back that everyone pays an ungodly amount of money to park the truck and trailers there, have seen no upgrades to that park, only took away the skate park. There are plenty of other parks in the area. | 11/21/2025 11:52 AM |
| 81 | Wrights crossing park has had broken playground equipment for 3+ years. That park needs to be redone. I live 3 houses down from it and go to it every day with my kids in the summer. | 11/21/2025 11:44 AM |
| 82 | We have lots of kids in this development that play at this park. It needs to be replaced and soon. These kids miss it. We have 9 kids between 3 houses that played here daily when the weather is nice. | 11/21/2025 11:40 AM |
| 83 | We moved in to Mitchell Farms over 5 years ago and were very excited that there was a park a few houses away that we could take our granddaughter to. Now I have another granddaughter and we went there several times with them and their moms, my daughters. My granddaughter was very sad when it was taken down with no notice, and so were many others! | 11/21/2025 11:37 AM |
| 84 | I'm curious if residents near the other parks that are going to be replaced have been asked to fund the parks in their neighborhoods??? If funding is needed to replace all the parks, that should be distributed among all the residents equally. | 11/21/2025 11:11 AM |
| 85 | Our city is lacking the funding and resources needed to truly invest in our youth. This community has so much potential, yet time and again opportunities for our kids are taken away or denied, while other initiatives slip through without question. I believe it's time we prioritize our future not just your wallets. I fully support raising taxes and dedicating funding to amenities that strengthen opportunities for our youth, because investing in them is investing in the long-term health and success of our city. | 11/21/2025 11:06 AM |
| 86 | I have lived near this park for 25 years and was very sad it was removed. I can see the park from my house and I know it is heavily used by children in this neighborhood. I'm sure they are all very sad that the park is gone. I served on the park committee in the early 2000s and they did a great job of establishing a fantastic park system for our community. I hope they keep it up. | 11/21/2025 10:42 AM |
| 87 | I don't understand we are just going to rip down all the parks and possibly not rebuild them? Our kids need somewhere to play. Maybe don't make a new city council that none of us want and build awesome parks for our children. | 11/21/2025 10:34 AM |
| 88 | Please start building the parks that we vote for and also continue to funding for repairs to the parks. It's the biggest black eye that even baseball fields and etc are unplayable. Also make these sports facilities playable for the associations to use. | 11/21/2025 10:25 AM |
| 89 | I really hope it gets figured out before next summer. The kids in our development were beyond crushed. Many came home from school in tears after seeing it tore down while riding on the school bus. My son told me that so many kids on the bus were crying and so sad about it. | 11/21/2025 10:14 AM |
| 90 | Buy it now! Must get a discount when you are buying for several playgrounds and the cost will only go up ! | 11/21/2025 10:12 AM |
| 91 | The neighborhood needs a park. My kids are older and don't use it much but have used it a ton over the past years. It would be very sad for other kids to not have that opportunity. | 11/21/2025 10:05 AM |
| 92 | Build nice icerinks there to replace the crap ones the city doesn't maintain | 11/21/2025 10:05 AM |
| 93 | This park specifically is tucked into the backyards of several neighboring properties. Dog park would bring issues with more barking, fleas, and poop smell. Bike park would be bad as we have neighborhood kids with motorized bikes and 4 wheelers that would be tearing up the park. | 11/21/2025 9:55 AM |

Mitchell Farms Park Survey

Concrete tube like snuffy's is asking for a cracked skull... There are daycares and many children who utilized the previous equipment heavily, so that makes the most sense.

| | | |
|-----|---|--------------------|
| 94 | Some equipment for younger kids, around a year, with small obstacles to climb or slide down. Baby swings. Benches/ stroller stations. No wood chips as they cause slivers and poke when they get into shoes | 11/21/2025 9:31 AM |
| 95 | Funding should be included with the taxes we already pay, not to mention the money that is set aside in the designated fund as well as money that is collected for the parks dedication fee form developers. We pay taxes to pay up keep and upkeep should be done at not extra expenses. | 11/21/2025 9:00 AM |
| 96 | I really enjoy the bike trails/sidewalks around town for running and biking. I would like to have free parking at lakeside park, metered parking deters a lot of local users. Would be great to see more youth programming using our park spaces. | 11/21/2025 8:52 AM |
| 97 | We Loved this park. It was my son's favorite park and we were there daily (if not multiple times a day). It is within walking distance of our home and just ideal. My son was very sad to see the old park go but hopefully it will be replaced. | 11/21/2025 8:49 AM |
| 98 | Take a trip to west bridge monti park big and made for multiple age groups Zip line | 11/21/2025 8:40 AM |
| 99 | I would suggest long term budgets for replacing worn and aging equipment. These playgrounds don't become unsafe overnight, I realize they have a life expectancy but during that time there should be a plan/budget in place so that 15year down the road when they need replacement funds are available. Instead now we keep ripping playgrounds out with no plans or budget to replace. Someone is not doing their job. | 11/21/2025 8:30 AM |
| 100 | Just hope yall replace these playgrounds. Its bad enough kids dont have much to do other then being on their tablets and stuff. Taking away these places just adds to that. | 11/21/2025 8:29 AM |
| 101 | I would like money be spent on connecting bike trails around the city. | 11/21/2025 8:11 AM |
| 102 | Not even putting playground as an option in what do you do at the park is ridiculous and completely leading question. This survey design is absolutely horrible and follows no survey standards. The city needs to be accountable and fix the mistake they made instead of putting it on the residents. | 11/21/2025 7:53 AM |
| 103 | This park is a huge part of our neighborhood— I can't stress enough how valuable it is to the children in our neighborhood. | 11/21/2025 7:43 AM |
| 104 | There are many playgrounds on this side of the city, one of which is only 4 blocks from Mitchell Farms. | 11/21/2025 7:42 AM |
| 105 | perhaps a better research option than too late surveys and "thinking" nobody uses the equipment. a great way to show the community that you don't live in it, and if you do, you don't pay enough attention as council members. | 11/21/2025 7:37 AM |
| 106 | Fence around the park for those that have children that have special needs and elope | 11/21/2025 7:32 AM |
| 107 | Parks are so kids can be outside and have fun. Don't take that away and force them to be inside on a screen. | 11/21/2025 7:21 AM |
| 108 | Honestly I bring my child to Monticello and Becker because they have better playgrounds. Very excited to have newer playgrounds in our own town we can go to instead | 11/21/2025 7:16 AM |
| 109 | NO skate park!!!!!!!!!! Put money towards splash pad. | 11/21/2025 7:15 AM |
| 110 | While I don't take my kids to this park often, it's the only park within walking distance of their dad's house. I hate to see them lose that walkability to a park. | 11/21/2025 7:10 AM |
| 111 | I think Mitchell farms park would be a great spot for a younger child playground. There are no spaces for preschoolers and toddlers to play on equipment that is appropriate for them. Including infant swings would be great as well. Adding more than 1 picnic table. But overall, I think not taking all the parks away would be great! GET THE SKATE PARK BACK!!!! You can't complain because kids are getting into trouble when you are taking away the things they use for entertainment. We have the space and population to make the city an amazing place for all families and children, but we don't. We don't need a new city hall. That money could be spent much more wisely. I've lived here for 13 years and never set foot in the city hall. It seems like a waste of resources. Do better! | 11/21/2025 7:09 AM |

Mitchell Farms Park Survey

| | | |
|-----|---|--------------------|
| 112 | More baby swings at parks. | 11/21/2025 7:07 AM |
| 113 | Pretty sure you could use the excess funds from the Parks Upgrade Grant you received. Instead of hanging onto it and maybe replacing a different park that doesn't really need it. | 11/21/2025 7:07 AM |
| 114 | More playgrounds need to be friendly for younger kids, and/or not have as many openings in the rails for something like fire poles etc. platforms leading to slides or near somewhere with an opening need to be a little bigger so children have ample space to move their body into the appropriate standing or sliding position. | 11/21/2025 7:06 AM |



AGENDA ITEM

Big Lake Parks Advisory Committee

| | | |
|--|---|------------------------------|
| Prepared By: <i>Norm Michels, Streets, Parks, and Fleet Superintendent</i> | Meeting Date: <i>1/26/2026</i> | Item No. 7B |
| Item Description: <i>2026 Chair and Vice-Chair Positions</i> | Reviewed By: <i>Hanna Klimmek, City Administrator</i> | |
| | Reviewed By: <i>Corrie Scott, Recreation and Communication Coordinator</i> | |

ACTION REQUESTED

Motion to recommend appointments for Parks Advisory Committee Chair and Vice-Chair for 2026.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

In 2026, the Parks Advisory Committee Chair and Vice-Chair positions were held by Doug Peterson and Scott Creighton, respectively.

Staff is asking the Committee to: 1) discuss if they would like to either volunteer for one of the positions or nominate another Commissioner; and 2) make a motion to recommend appointments to the Parks Advisory Committee Chair and Vice-Chair positions for 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Motion to recommend appointments for Parks Advisory Committee Chair and Vice-Chair for 2026.

ATTACHMENTS

Parks Advisory Committee Status of Terms

Parks Advisory Committee (PAC) Status of Terms

(Appointment Term: 3 years)

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| <u>Doug Peterson</u> Seat "A" | Original Appointment: Current Term Expires: Current Title: | 02/2016 12/31/2026 Chair |
| <u>Jeff Webster</u> Seat "B" | Original Appointment: Current Term Expires: Current Title: | 01/2025 12/31/2027 PAC Member |
| <u>Scott Creighton</u> Seat "C" | Original Appointment: Current Term Expires: Current Title: | 09/2020 12/31/2027 Vice-Chair |
| <u>Kameron Hanson</u> Seat "D" | Original Appointment: Current Term Expires: Current Title: | 02/2023 12/31/2028 PAC Member |
| <u>Megan Weber</u> Seat "E" | Original Appointment: Current Term Expires: Current Title: | 02/2023 12/31/2028 PAC Member |
| <u>Kim Noding</u> Seat "F" (City Council Member) | Original Appointment: Current Term Expires: Current Title: | 01/2025 (Appointed Annually) PAC Member |
| <u>Lisa Odens</u> Seat "G" (Planning Commissioner) | Original Appointment: Current Term Expires: Current Title: | 02/2024 (Appointed Annually) PAC Member |



AGENDA ITEM

Big Lake Parks Advisory Committee

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| Prepared By: Deb Wegeleben, Finance Director | Meeting Date: 01/26/2026 | Item No. 7C |
| Item Description: Current Balance of Funds Update | Reviewed By: Norm Michels, Streets, Parks, and Fleet Superintendent | |
| | Reviewed By: Hanna Klimmek, City Administrator | |

ACTION REQUESTED

N/A

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Parks, Playgrounds, and Trails – Funding Sources Overview

Total Available Funding: \$792,318.64

Park Development Fund 120 (Restricted Fund)

Current Balance: \$142,154.88

- *Use:* Enhancements of parks, recreational facilities, playgrounds, trails, wetlands, and open spaces.
 - Lakeside Park Playground allocation - \$540,000
 - Equipment - \$535,797.24
 - Lake Ridge Park Playground allocation - \$215,000
 - Equipment - \$211,949.92
- *Restrictions:* Cannot be used for maintenance or routine repairs.
- *Revenue Source:* Park dedication fees from development projects.
 - 2025 Park Dedication Fees: \$7,128 (Marketplace 11th Development - LGL Real Estate Investment)
 - 2025 Donations: \$0
 - 2025 Interest Earnings: \$23,856.70

Parks-Trail Maintenance CIP Fund 195 (Unrestricted Fund)

Current Balance: \$595,163.76

- *Use:* Maintenance and development of parks and trails.
 - Shores of Lake Mitchel Playground allocation- \$215,000
 - Equipment - \$211.059.08
- *Revenue Source:* Annual General Fund transfers and Interest Earnings.
- *Fund Allocations:*
 - Trail Maintenance: \$79,000
 - Park Maintenance/Development: \$413,412.44
 - Skate Rink at City Hall: \$40,000
 - Unallocated: \$62,751.32
- *2026 Approved Transfers:*
 - Trail Maintenance: \$9,000

- Park Maintenance/Development: \$100,000

Equipment & Building Replacement CIP Fund 199 (Playground Equipment Only)

Current Balance: \$55,000

- *Use:* Replacement/maintenance of existing playground equipment (like-for-like replacement only).
- *Revenue Source:* \$5,000 annual transfer from the General Fund.
- *2026 Approved transfer - \$5,000*

Skate Park and Park Improvement Funding Status Update

- State Park: No current funding allocated
 - Council directed staff on May 14 to remove existing equipment and obtain soft quotes for replacement
 - Council has directed staff to develop a plan for the skate park and seek grant funding
 - Council has entered into an agreement with a grant write to review any available funds for park and trail improvements

Key Reminders:

- **Fund 120** is restricted to enhancements and cannot be used for maintenance
- **Fund 195** and **Fund 199** can be used for maintenance, repairs, and replacements.
- **Council must decide** whether or not to proceed with the Skate Park allocation.
- **All projects and funding allocations** are pending official Council approval.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

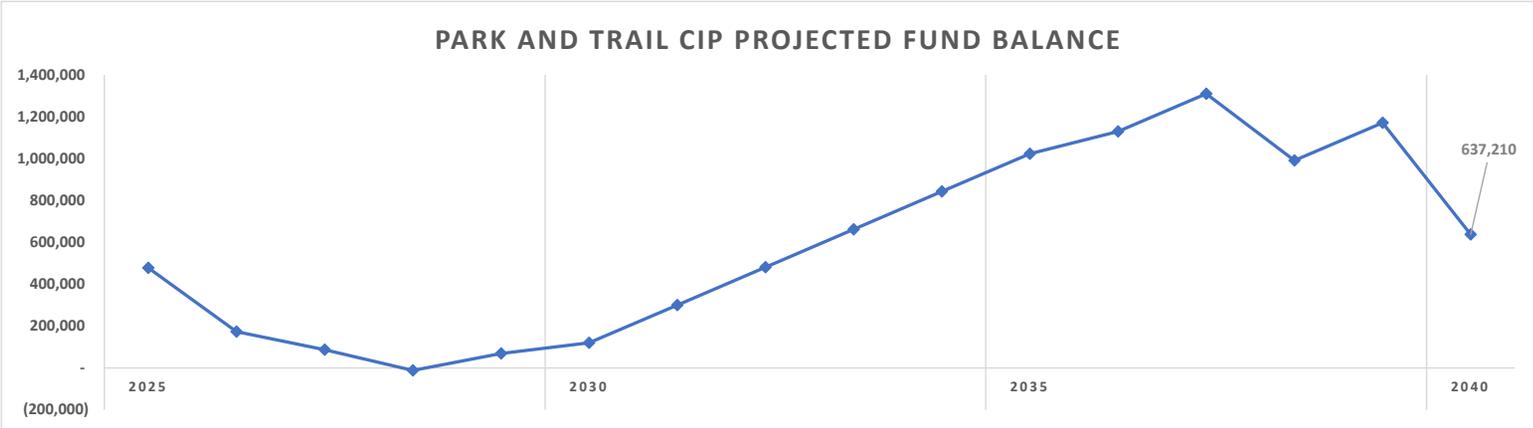
Cash flow projections

Costs per parks/trails 2022-2025

2026-2040 Parks and Trails CIP Plan

PARK AND TRAIL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

| | | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | 2032 | 2033 | 2034 | 2035 | 2036 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| FUNDING SOURCES | Beginning Balance | 1,472,292 | 1,540,460 | 477,460 | 173,460 | 87,460 | (11,790) | 68,960 | 119,710 | 300,460 | 481,210 | 661,960 | 842,710 | 1,023,460 |
| | Yearly Transfer from General Fund | 114,210 | 114,000 | 114,000 | 64,000 | 30,750 | 30,750 | 30,750 | 30,750 | 30,750 | 30,750 | 30,750 | 30,750 | 30,750 |
| | Park Dedication Fee | 159,344 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Private Donations | 25,000 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | LGA Allocation | - | - | - | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 |
| | Total Funding Sources | 298,554 | 114,000 | 114,000 | 114,000 | 80,750 | 80,750 | 80,750 | 80,750 | 180,750 | 180,750 | 180,750 | 180,750 | 180,750 |
| PROPOSED PROJECTS | New Park - Not doing yet | | ————— | unknown when this was take place | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Browns Square | 10,298 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Pickle Ball | 220,088 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Archery Range - (60K) | | ————— | 60,000 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Lakeside Park Playground | | 535,000 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Lake Ridge Park | | 212,000 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Shores of Lake Mitchell | | 215,000 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Mitchell Farms | | 215,000 | **Not approved in 2025 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Skate Park | | | 350,000 | looking for grants | | | | | | | | | |
| | Hidden Rivers Trail overlook | | | | | | | 30,000 | | | | | | |
| | Bluff Park | | | | | 180,000 | | | | | | | | |
| | Highline Park | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Hudson Woods | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Sanford Select | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Norland | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Splash Pad - (200K) | | | ————— | 200,000 | | | | | | | | | |
| | Karen Lane Trail | | | 8,000 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Highline Drive Trail | | | | | | | | | | | | | 75,000 |
| Artic Circle Trail | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Minnesota Avene Trail | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ormsbee Trail | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total Projected expenses | 230,386 | 1,177,000 | 418,000 | 200,000 | 180,000 | - | 30,000 | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| Ending Balance | 1,540,460 | 477,460 | 173,460 | 87,460 | (11,790) | 68,960 | 119,710 | 300,460 | 481,210 | 661,960 | 842,710 | 1,023,460 | 1,129,210 | |

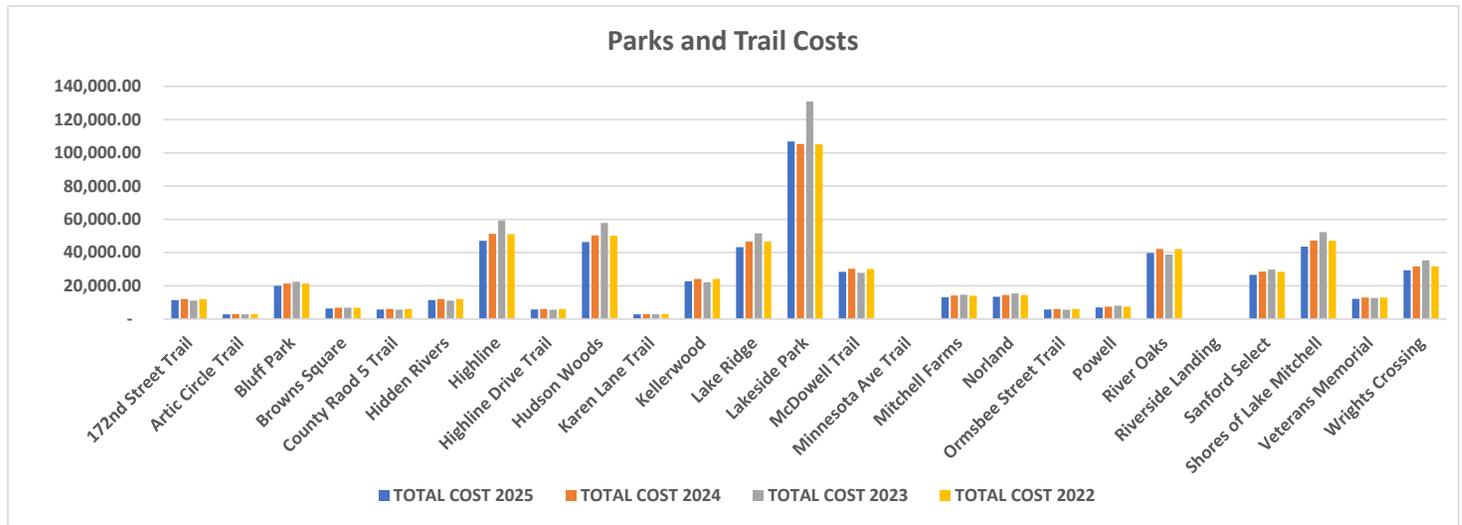


PARK AND TRAIL CAPITAL IMPROVEME

| | | 2037 | 2038 | 2039 | 2040 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| FUNDING SOURCES | Beginning Balance | 1,129,210 | 1,309,960 | 990,710 | 1,171,460 |
| | Yearly Transfer from General Fund | 30,750 | 30,750 | 30,750 | 30,750 |
| | Park Dedication Fee | - | - | - | - |
| | Private Donations | - | - | - | - |
| | LGA Allocation | 150,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 |
| | Total Funding Sources | 180,750 | 180,750 | 180,750 | 180,750 |
| PROPOSED PROJECTS | New Park - Not doing yet | | | | |
| | Browns Square | | | | |
| | Pickle Ball | | | | |
| | Archery Range - (60K) | | | | |
| | Lakeside Park Playground | | | | |
| | Lake Ridge Park | | | | |
| | Shores of Lake Mitchell | | | | |
| | Mitchell Farms | | | | |
| | Skate Park | | | | |
| | Hidden Rivers Trail overlook | | | | |
| | Bluff Park | | | | |
| | Highline Park | | 250,000 | | |
| | Hudson Woods | | 250,000 | | |
| | Sanford Select | | | | 300,000 |
| | Norland | | | | 300,000 |
| | Splash Pad - (200K) | | | | |
| | Karen Lane Trail | | | | |
| | Highline Drive Trail | | | | |
| | Artic Circle Trail | | | | 15,000 |
| Minnesota Avene Trail | | | | 50,000 | |
| Ormsbee Trail | | | | 50,000 | |
| Total Projected expenses | - | 500,000 | - | 715,000 | |
| Ending Balance | 1,309,960 | 990,710 | 1,171,460 | 637,210 | |

| Park/Trails | TOTAL COST 2025 | TOTAL COST 2024 | TOTAL COST 2023 | TOTAL COST 2022 |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 172nd Street Trail | 11,363.61 | 12,078.86 | 11,103.27 | 12,035.33 |
| Artic Circle Trail | 2,840.90 | 3,019.72 | 2,775.82 | 3,008.83 |
| Bluff Park | 19,931.15 | 21,431.73 | 22,410.86 | 21,366.44 |
| Browns Square | 6,318.37 | 6,770.34 | 6,821.33 | 6,748.57 |
| County Raod 5 Trail | 5,681.81 | 6,039.43 | 5,551.64 | 6,017.67 |
| Hidden Rivers | 11,363.61 | 12,078.86 | 11,103.27 | 12,035.33 |
| Highline | 47,182.73 | 51,268.87 | 59,423.22 | 51,138.28 |
| Highline Drive Trail | 5,681.81 | 6,039.43 | 5,551.64 | 6,017.67 |
| Hudson Woods | 46,397.64 | 50,367.43 | 57,857.26 | 50,236.83 |
| Karen Lane Trail | 2,840.90 | 3,019.72 | 2,775.82 | 3,008.83 |
| Kellerwood | 22,727.23 | 24,157.73 | 22,206.54 | 24,070.66 |
| Lake Ridge | 43,214.85 | 46,712.90 | 51,508.78 | 46,582.30 |
| Lakeside Park | 106,872.82 | 105,304.38 | 130,923.22 | 105,130.26 |
| McDowell Trail | 28,409.04 | 30,197.16 | 27,758.18 | 30,088.33 |
| Minnesota Ave Trail | - | - | - | - |
| Mitchell Farms | 13,124.76 | 14,101.03 | 14,616.10 | 14,057.50 |
| Norland | 13,485.48 | 14,515.21 | 15,335.59 | 14,471.68 |
| Ormsbee Street Trail | 5,681.81 | 6,039.43 | 5,551.64 | 6,017.67 |
| Powell | 6,954.92 | 7,501.24 | 8,091.03 | 7,479.48 |
| River Oaks | 39,772.65 | 42,276.02 | 38,861.45 | 42,123.66 |
| Riverside Landing | - | - | - | - |
| Sanford Select | 26,546.58 | 28,543.16 | 29,824.72 | 28,456.10 |
| Shores of Lake Mitchell | 43,639.22 | 47,200.17 | 52,355.25 | 47,069.57 |
| Veterans Memorial | 12,127.48 | 12,955.95 | 12,626.91 | 12,912.42 |
| Wrights Crossing | 29,305.00 | 31,710.41 | 35,326.73 | 31,623.35 |
| | 551,464.36 | 583,329.20 | 630,360.25 | 581,696.77 |

Costs per Parks/Trails 2022-2025 Recap



| Park/Trails | Mowing Time | Acres - Irrigation | Irrigation Supplies | Lake Maintenance | Lakeside Park Supplies | Water | Alloc Wages | Electrical | Alloc rest | Total Cost To Date -2025 |
|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 172nd Street Trail | 2 | | | | | | 8,502.29 | - | 2,861.33 | 11,363.61 |
| Artic Circle Trail | 0.5 | | | | | | 2,125.57 | - | 715.33 | 2,840.90 |
| Bluff Park | 3 | 1.36 | 166.95 | | | 2,574.21 | 12,753.43 | 144.57 | 4,291.99 | 19,931.15 |
| Browns Square | 1 | 0.3 | 36.83 | | | 567.84 | 4,251.14 | 31.89 | 1,430.66 | 6,318.37 |
| County Road 5 Trail | 1 | | | | | | 4,251.14 | | 1,430.66 | 5,681.81 |
| Hidden Rivers | 2 | | - | | | | 8,502.29 | - | 2,861.33 | 11,363.61 |
| Highline | 6 | 6.17 | 757.40 | | | 11,678.58 | 25,506.86 | 655.90 | 8,583.98 | 47,182.73 |
| Highline Drive Trail | 1 | | | | | | 4,251.14 | | 1,430.66 | 5,681.81 |
| Hudson Woods | 6 | 5.8 | 711.98 | | | 10,978.24 | 25,506.86 | 616.57 | 8,583.98 | 46,397.64 |
| Karen Lane Trail | 0.5 | | | | | | 2,125.57 | | 715.33 | 2,840.90 |
| Kellerwood | 4 | | - | | | | 17,004.57 | - | 5,722.66 | 22,727.23 |
| Lake Ridge | 6 | 4.3 | 527.85 | | | 8,139.04 | 25,506.86 | 457.11 | 8,583.98 | 43,214.85 |
| Lakeside Park | 8 | 12.4 | 1,522.16 | 31,839.56 | 3,267.72 | 23,470.73 | 34,009.15 | 1,318.18 | 11,445.31 | 106,872.82 |
| McDowell Trail | 5 | | - | | | | 21,255.72 | - | 7,153.32 | 28,409.04 |
| Minnesota Ave Trail | 0 | | | | | | - | | - | - |
| Mitchell Farms | 2 | 0.83 | 101.89 | | | 1,571.02 | 8,502.29 | 88.23 | 2,861.33 | 13,124.76 |
| Norland | 2 | 1 | 122.76 | | | 1,892.80 | 8,502.29 | 106.31 | 2,861.33 | 13,485.48 |
| Ormsbee Street Trail | 1 | | | | | | 4,251.14 | | 1,430.66 | 5,681.81 |
| Powell | 1 | 0.6 | 73.65 | | | 1,135.68 | 4,251.14 | 63.78 | 1,430.66 | 6,954.92 |
| River Oaks | 7 | | - | | | | 29,758.00 | - | 10,014.65 | 39,772.65 |
| Riverside Landing | 0 | | - | | | | - | - | - | - |
| Sanford Select | 4 | 1.8 | 220.96 | | | 3,407.04 | 17,004.57 | 191.35 | 5,722.66 | 26,546.58 |
| Shores of Lake Mitchell | 6 | 4.5 | 552.40 | | | 8,517.60 | 25,506.86 | 478.37 | 8,583.98 | 43,639.22 |
| Veterans Memorial | 2 | 0.36 | 44.19 | | | 681.41 | 8,502.29 | 38.27 | 2,861.33 | 12,127.48 |
| Wrights Crossing | 4 | 3.1 | 380.54 | | | 5,867.68 | 17,004.57 | 329.55 | 5,722.66 | 29,305.00 |
| Totals | 75 | 42.52 | 5,219.55 | 31,839.56 | 3,267.72 | 80,481.89 | 318,835.76 | 4,520.09 | 107,299.79 | 551,464.36 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| 2025 Cost | |
| Park Irrigation Supplies | 5,219.55 |
| Lake Maintenance | 23,326.20 |
| Lake Side Park Supplies | 3,267.72 |
| Contract for Hire - Lakeside Park | 8,513.36 |
| Water | 80,481.89 |
| Personnel | 318,835.76 |
| Electrical | 4,520.09 |
| total expenditures | 107,299.79 |
| | 551,464.36 |
| | 551,464 |

| Park/Trails | Mowing Time | Acres - Irrigation | Irrigation Supplies | Lake Maintenance | Lakeside Park Supplies | Water | Alloc Wages | Electrical | Alloc rest | Total Cost To Date -2024 |
|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 172nd Street Trail | 2 | | | | | | 8,093.93 | - | 3,984.93 | 12,078.86 |
| Artic Circle Trail | 0.5 | | | | | | 2,023.48 | - | 996.23 | 3,019.72 |
| Bluff Park | 3 | 1.36 | 347.12 | | | 2,749.45 | 12,140.90 | 216.87 | 5,977.40 | 21,431.73 |
| Browns Square | 1 | 0.3 | 76.57 | | | 606.50 | 4,046.97 | 47.84 | 1,992.47 | 6,770.34 |
| County Road 5 Trail | 1 | | | | | | 4,046.97 | - | 1,992.47 | 6,039.43 |
| Hidden Rivers | 2 | | - | | | | 8,093.93 | - | 3,984.93 | 12,078.86 |
| Highline | 6 | 6.17 | 1,574.79 | | | 12,473.60 | 24,281.80 | 983.89 | 11,954.79 | 51,268.87 |
| Highline Drive Trail | 1 | | | | | | 4,046.97 | - | 1,992.47 | 6,039.43 |
| Hudson Woods | 6 | 5.8 | 1,480.36 | | | 11,725.59 | 24,281.80 | 924.89 | 11,954.79 | 50,367.43 |
| Karen Lane Trail | 0.5 | | | | | | 2,023.48 | - | 996.23 | 3,019.72 |
| Kellerwood | 4 | | - | | | | 16,187.87 | - | 7,969.86 | 24,157.73 |
| Lake Ridge | 6 | 4.3 | 1,097.51 | | | 8,693.11 | 24,281.80 | 685.69 | 11,954.79 | 46,712.90 |
| Lakeside Park | 8 | 12.4 | 3,164.90 | 25,245.73 | 1,532.45 | 25,068.50 | 32,375.73 | 1,977.35 | 15,939.72 | 105,304.38 |
| McDowell Trail | 5 | | - | | | | 20,234.83 | - | 9,962.33 | 30,197.16 |
| Minnesota Ave Trail | 0 | | | | | | - | - | - | - |
| Mitchell Farms | 2 | 0.83 | 211.84 | | | 1,677.97 | 8,093.93 | 132.35 | 3,984.93 | 14,101.03 |
| Norland | 2 | 1 | 255.23 | | | 2,021.65 | 8,093.93 | 159.46 | 3,984.93 | 14,515.21 |
| Ormsbee Street Trail | 1 | | | | | | 4,046.97 | - | 1,992.47 | 6,039.43 |
| Powell | 1 | 0.6 | 153.14 | | | 1,212.99 | 4,046.97 | 95.68 | 1,992.47 | 7,501.24 |
| River Oaks | 7 | | - | | | | 28,328.77 | - | 13,947.26 | 42,276.02 |
| Riverside Landing | 0 | | - | | | | - | - | - | - |
| Sanford Select | 4 | 1.8 | 459.42 | | | 3,638.98 | 16,187.87 | 287.03 | 7,969.86 | 28,543.16 |
| Shores of Lake Mitchell | 6 | 4.5 | 1,148.55 | | | 9,097.44 | 24,281.80 | 717.59 | 11,954.79 | 47,200.17 |
| Veterans Memorial | 2 | 0.36 | 91.88 | | | 727.80 | 8,093.93 | 57.41 | 3,984.93 | 12,955.95 |
| Wrights Crossing | 4 | 3.1 | 791.22 | | | 6,267.12 | 16,187.87 | 494.34 | 7,969.86 | 31,710.41 |
| Totals | 75 | 42.52 | 10,852.54 | 25,245.73 | 1,532.45 | 85,960.69 | 303,522.51 | 6,780.40 | 149,434.88 | 583,329.20 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| 2024 Cost | |
| Park Irrigation Supplies | 10,852.54 |
| Lake Maintenance | 19,648.73 |
| Lake Side Park Supplies | 1,532.45 |
| Contract for Hire - Lakeside Park | 5,597.00 |
| Water | 85,960.69 |
| Personnel | 303,522.51 |
| Electrical | 6,780.40 |
| total expenditures | 149,434.88 |
| | 583,329.20 |
| | 583,329 |

| Park/Trails | Mowing Time | Acres - Irrigation | Irrigation Supplies | Lake Maintenance | Lakeside Park Supplies | Water | Alloc Wages | Electrical | Alloc rest | Total Cost To Date -2023 |
|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 172nd Street Trail | 2 | | | | | | 7,859.95 | - | 3,243.32 | 11,103.27 |
| Artic Circle Trail | 0.5 | | | | | | 1,964.99 | - | 810.83 | 2,775.82 |
| Bluff Park | 3 | 1.36 | 123.17 | | | 5,366.39 | 11,789.92 | 266.39 | 4,864.98 | 22,410.86 |
| Browns Square | 1 | 0.3 | 27.17 | | | 1,183.76 | 3,929.97 | 58.76 | 1,621.66 | 6,821.33 |
| County Road 5 Trail | 1 | | | | | | 3,929.97 | - | 1,621.66 | 5,551.64 |
| Hidden Rivers | 2 | | - | | | | 7,859.95 | - | 3,243.32 | 11,103.27 |
| Highline | 6 | 6.17 | 558.80 | | | 24,346.04 | 23,579.85 | 1,208.56 | 9,729.97 | 59,423.22 |
| Highline Drive Trail | 1 | | | | | | 3,929.97 | - | 1,621.66 | 5,551.64 |
| Hudson Woods | 6 | 5.8 | 525.29 | | | 22,886.06 | 23,579.85 | 1,136.09 | 9,729.97 | 57,857.26 |
| Karen Lane Trail | 0.5 | | | | | | 1,964.99 | - | 810.83 | 2,775.82 |
| Kellerwood | 4 | | - | | | | 15,719.90 | - | 6,486.65 | 22,206.54 |
| Lake Ridge | 6 | 4.3 | 389.44 | | | 16,967.25 | 23,579.85 | 842.27 | 9,729.97 | 51,508.78 |
| Lakeside Park | 8 | 12.4 | 1,123.04 | 30,408.98 | 3,620.41 | 48,928.83 | 31,439.79 | 2,428.88 | 12,973.29 | 130,923.22 |
| McDowell Trail | 5 | | - | | | | 19,649.87 | - | 8,108.31 | 27,758.18 |
| Minnesota Ave Trail | 0 | | | | | | - | - | - | - |
| Mitchell Farms | 2 | 0.83 | 75.17 | | | 3,275.07 | 7,859.95 | 162.58 | 3,243.32 | 14,616.10 |
| Norland | 2 | 1 | 90.57 | | | 3,945.87 | 7,859.95 | 195.88 | 3,243.32 | 15,335.59 |
| Ormsbee Street Trail | 1 | | | | | | 3,929.97 | - | 1,621.66 | 5,551.64 |
| Powell | 1 | 0.6 | 54.34 | | | 2,367.52 | 3,929.97 | 117.53 | 1,621.66 | 8,091.03 |
| River Oaks | 7 | | - | | | | 27,509.82 | - | 11,351.63 | 38,861.45 |
| Riverside Landing | 0 | | - | | | | - | - | - | - |
| Sanford Select | 4 | 1.8 | 163.02 | | | 7,102.57 | 15,719.90 | 352.58 | 6,486.65 | 29,824.72 |
| Shores of Lake Mitchell | 6 | 4.5 | 407.55 | | | 17,756.43 | 23,579.85 | 881.45 | 9,729.97 | 52,355.25 |
| Veterans Memorial | 2 | 0.36 | 32.60 | | | 1,420.51 | 7,859.95 | 70.52 | 3,243.32 | 12,626.91 |
| Wrights Crossing | 4 | 3.1 | 280.76 | | | 12,232.21 | 15,719.90 | 607.22 | 6,486.65 | 35,326.73 |
| Totals | 75 | 42.52 | 3,850.94 | 30,408.98 | 3,620.41 | 167,778.52 | 294,748.07 | 8,328.71 | 121,624.62 | 630,360.25 |

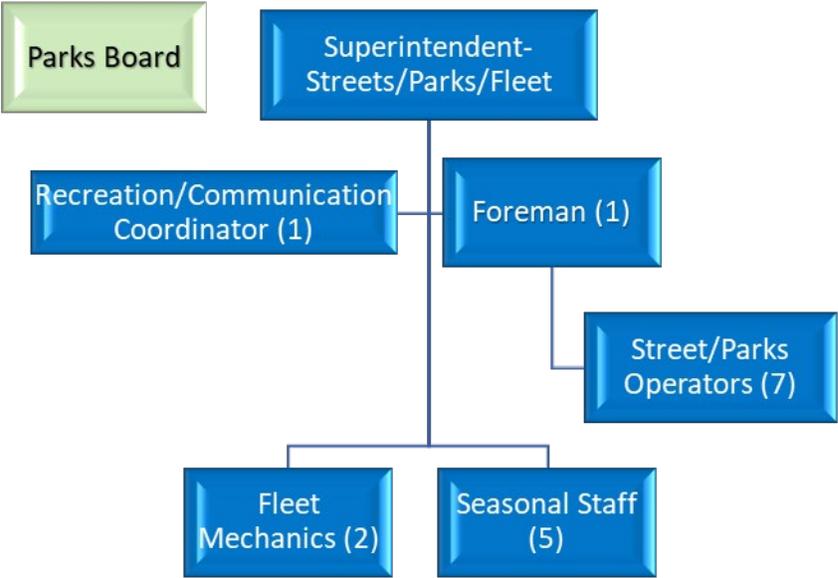
| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| 2023 Cost | |
| Park Irrigation Supplies | 3,850.94 |
| Lake Maintenance | 29,844.50 |
| Lake Side Park Supplies | 3,620.41 |
| Contract for Hire - Lakeside Park | 564.48 |
| Water | 167,778.52 |
| Personnel | 294,748.07 |
| Electrical | 8,328.71 |
| total expenditures | 121,624.62 |
| | 630,360.25 |
| | 630,360 |
| | - |

| Park/Trails | Mowing Time | Acres - Irrigation | Irrigation Supplies | Lake Maintenance | Lakeside Park Supplies | Water | Alloc Wages | Electrical | Alloc rest | Total Cost To Date -2022 |
|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 172nd Street Trail | 2 | | | | | | 8,093.93 | - | 3,941.40 | 12,035.33 |
| Artic Circle Trail | 0.5 | | | | | | 2,023.48 | - | 985.35 | 3,008.83 |
| Bluff Park | 3 | 1.36 | 347.12 | | | 2,749.45 | 12,140.90 | 216.87 | 5,912.10 | 21,366.44 |
| Browns Square | 1 | 0.3 | 76.57 | | | 606.50 | 4,046.97 | 47.84 | 1,970.70 | 6,748.57 |
| County Road 5 Trail | 1 | | | | | | 4,046.97 | - | 1,970.70 | 6,017.67 |
| Hidden Rivers | 2 | | - | | | | 8,093.93 | - | 3,941.40 | 12,035.33 |
| Highline | 6 | 6.17 | 1,574.79 | | | 12,473.60 | 24,281.80 | 983.89 | 11,824.20 | 51,138.28 |
| Highline Drive Trail | 1 | | | | | | 4,046.97 | - | 1,970.70 | 6,017.67 |
| Hudson Woods | 6 | 5.8 | 1,480.36 | | | 11,725.59 | 24,281.80 | 924.89 | 11,824.20 | 50,236.83 |
| Karen Lane Trail | 0.5 | | | | | | 2,023.48 | - | 985.35 | 3,008.83 |
| Kellerwood | 4 | | - | | | | 16,187.87 | - | 7,882.80 | 24,070.66 |
| Lake Ridge | 6 | 4.3 | 1,097.51 | | | 8,693.11 | 24,281.80 | 685.69 | 11,824.20 | 46,582.30 |
| Lakeside Park | 8 | 12.4 | 3,164.90 | 25,245.73 | 1,532.45 | 25,068.50 | 32,375.73 | 1,977.35 | 15,765.59 | 105,130.26 |
| McDowell Trail | 5 | | - | | | | 20,234.83 | - | 9,853.50 | 30,088.33 |
| Minnesota Ave Trail | 0 | | | | | | - | - | - | - |
| Mitchell Farms | 2 | 0.83 | 211.84 | | | 1,677.97 | 8,093.93 | 132.35 | 3,941.40 | 14,057.50 |
| Norland | 2 | 1 | 255.23 | | | 2,021.65 | 8,093.93 | 159.46 | 3,941.40 | 14,471.68 |
| Ormsbee Street Trail | 1 | | | | | | 4,046.97 | - | 1,970.70 | 6,017.67 |
| Powell | 1 | 0.6 | 153.14 | | | 1,212.99 | 4,046.97 | 95.68 | 1,970.70 | 7,479.48 |
| River Oaks | 7 | | - | | | | 28,328.77 | - | 13,794.90 | 42,123.66 |
| Riverside Landing | 0 | | - | | | | - | - | - | - |
| Sanford Select | 4 | 1.8 | 459.42 | | | 3,638.98 | 16,187.87 | 287.03 | 7,882.80 | 28,456.10 |
| Shores of Lake Mitchell | 6 | 4.5 | 1,148.55 | | | 9,097.44 | 24,281.80 | 717.59 | 11,824.20 | 47,069.57 |
| Veterans Memorial | 2 | 0.36 | 91.88 | | | 727.80 | 8,093.93 | 57.41 | 3,941.40 | 12,912.42 |
| Wrights Crossing | 4 | 3.1 | 791.22 | | | 6,267.12 | 16,187.87 | 494.34 | 7,882.80 | 31,623.35 |
| Totals | 75 | 42.52 | 10,852.54 | 25,245.73 | 1,532.45 | 85,960.69 | 303,522.51 | 6,780.40 | 147,802.45 | 581,696.77 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| 2022 Cost | |
| Park Irrigation Supplies | 10,852.54 |
| Lake Maintenance | 19,648.73 |
| Lake Side Park Supplies | 1,532.45 |
| Contract for Hire - Lakeside Park | 5,597.00 |
| Water | 85,960.69 |
| Personnel | 303,522.51 |
| Electrical | 6,780.40 |
| total expenditures | 147,802.45 |
| | 581,696.77 |
| | 581,697 |
| | - |



2026-2040 Parks and Trails CIP Plan



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Capital Improvement Plan & Capital Budget

To set up a capital improvement fund the City is required to formally adopt a Capital Program (CIP). The main advantage of this method of budgeting and planning is that projects can be earmarked and carried from one year to the next. For example, if it is recognized that renovation of a public building will be needed in five years, an amount can be set aside annually so the project can be funded at the end of five years. The CIP fund also allows a project to be done in phases, with funds allocated in one year for a portion of a project and then finished in later years.

The Capital Improvement Plan is a five-year planning document designed to guide decisions concerning capital expenditures. This is a planning document and, as for all planning documents, it is subject to revision in order to reflect changes in community needs and service requirements, environmental factors and Council priorities. The first year of the Plan is intended to accurately reflect that year's anticipated appropriation for major capital projects and is called the Capital Budget. The subsequent four years represents an anticipated capital need during the period as submitted and approved. The CIP must be reviewed and revised each year in order to add new projects and revise priorities.

The process of determining major capital needs and establishing a financial program extending beyond the annual budget encourages the City to examine long-range needs and allows more coherent City-wide fiscal policies. The CIP provides a basis to compare projects and provides opportunities to explore alternate funding sources, since most capital improvement requests exceed the available revenues.

Since 2016, the City has allocated all funds received from the Local Government Aid to the Capital Improvement Plan and budgets, with some additional budgeted transfers from the General Fund.

The purpose is to set up a five (5) year Capital Improvement Plan in order to establish a capital improvement fund. The main goals are:

- To ease the review of the annual capital budget through a uniform and fair process
- To invite and promote public participation in the annual budget process. This is accomplished through a reasonable, sensible and responsible approach by providing documentation, as well as advertising and scheduling public meetings.
- To link capital budget requests with the City strategic plan, adopted policies, and other approved planning documents.
- To link capital expenditures with operating budgets.
- To increase awareness, cooperation, coordination, and participation between departments, agencies, stakeholders, and other political jurisdictions.

The City of Big Lake conducts various planning processes (long-term, mid-term and short-term), to help guide the government and to ensure the decisions are made in the context of the organization as a whole and with a long-term perspective. Diligent efforts are made to insure each of these component planning processes are in concert with one another. This so called "Linkage" is paramount to ensure short-term decisions are consistent with the overriding values embodied in the mid-term and long-term planning processes adopted by the City Council. The required linkage dictates that the CIP be developed within the context of and consistent with, the City's long-term and mid-term plans.

Each element of the City's planning process has a different purpose and timeframe. The Strategic Plan, Vision, Mission, Long-Term Goals and Growth Policy are the most far-reaching in nature – 10 to 25 years. The Capital Improvement Plan and the Five-Year Financial planning are mid-term in nature – five years.

The Annual Budget and the Capital Budget are short-term – covering a one-year timeframe. The most important requisite is that they are coordinated and are in concert with one another.

Capital Planning

Capital planning refers to the process of identifying and prioritizing City capital needs for determining which capital projects should be funded in the capital budget as resources become available. Citywide planning is guided by the City’s strategic Plan and the Growth (Comprehensive Plan) Policy. These plans provide long term direction for the growth and development of the City.

Capital Planning Process

The capital improvements process provides for the identification, review, planning and budgeting of current and future capital expenditures.

All requests for capital improvement projects are reviewed, evaluated, and weighted in order to assist the City Council in selecting the projects to be funded. Department are responsible for submitting CIP requests. The adoption of a CIP by the City is strictly a statement of intent, not an appropriation of funding for projects contained within. A list of approved CIP projects will be updated on an annual basis as new needs become known or priorities change. The possibility of a project with a low priority can remain in the CIP longer than four years due to a more important project bumping ahead in the schedule for quicker implementation. On occasion, some approved projects, with a lower priority are funded in advance of projects with a higher priority, in order to meet legal requirements or when a new or identified source of funding becomes available in order to complete the project.

For the purpose of this process, “Capital”, is defined as an item or items that have an acquisition cost of at least \$5,000 and a useable life for a minimum of 3 years. This definition assists in delineating a major project or piece of equipment as a capital program, rather than routine maintenance or replacement of operating equipment.

- Replacement vehicles for the police department are included in the CIP program as indicated on the fleet replacement schedule, which is funded each year in the Capital Budget.

Capital Improvement Plan Funding

The FY 2025-2040 Capital Improvement Plan for Parks and Trails has four (4) different sources of funding. Each funding source is described below. As noted before, capital projects, unlike operating expenses which recur annually, only require one-time allocations for a given project. This funding flexibility allows the City to pursue financing and one-time revenues sources to accelerate completion of critical projects.

- **General Fund** – yearly transfers from the General Fund for future projects and for the playground equipment replacement
- **CIP Fund** – allocated fund balance of the Capital Improvements funds Parks and Trails for specific projects
- **LGA** – Local Government Aid the City received from the State
- **Park Dedication** – funds from the Park Development Fund,

Whenever the City commits to a CIP plan, there is an associated long-range commitment of operating funds. For this reason, it is important to evaluate capital commitments in the context of their long-range

operating impact. Most capital projects affect future operating budgets either positively or negatively due to an increase or decrease in maintenance costs or by providing capacity for new programs to be offered. Such impacts vary widely from project to project and, as such, are evaluated individually during the process of assessing project feasibility. The five-year financial plans also provide an opportunity to review the operating impact of growth-related future capital projects.

Culture & Recreation

Parks: The Parks Department is included in the overall public works department for the City. This department is responsible for the maintenance of various parks throughout the City. Duties include mowing, park equipment maintenance, oversight of Lakeside Park, and other maintenance activities.

The Parks Committee: appointed by the mayor and City Council. This board meets monthly to review various park-related matters and provide recommendations to aid in the decision-making of the City Council. This committee also provides long term strategic planning to identify areas within the City where resources should be committed towards existing parks or for new dedicated open space.

Parks Development Fund

The Parks development fund (120) accounts for capital improvement projects for the City's parks and trail system. There is nearly 215 acres of parkland, 20 miles of trail and sidewalk and 3.5 acres of greenway in Big Lake. The Big Lake park system includes parks with playgrounds, ball fields and picnic areas. Visitors can also enjoy beach access at Lakeside Park along with a boat landing and fishing pier.

As the City grew, developers either paid park dedication fees or donated land for the park system. The cash or land donation was (and is) based on the size of a particular development. The City developed its park system by adding general amenities, bituminous and concrete surfaces, fencing, hockey rinks, playground equipment, shelters, buildings, etc. The routine maintenance of the existing parks is funded in the General Fund.

Source of Funds

The main source of revenue for this fund is park dedication fees. Park dedication fees in prior years had attributed to one or two large developments annually. As the City reaches full development of residential parcels there are fewer parcels to develop that will be charged park dedications fees in the future, for that reason in 2018 the City established the Park & Trail Dedication fees for Commercial or Industrial development. However, for future planning, the revenue estimated is only for those developments that are in the current planning stages.

Parks and Trail Capital Improvement Fund

The Parks and Trail Capital Improvement fund (195) accounts for capital improvement projects for the City's parks and trail system. The Playground Equipment replacement fund is allocated in the Equipment/Building Improvement Capital Fund (199) for the parks department.

Source of Funds

The main source of revenue for this fund yearly transfers from the General Fund. Park dedication fees in prior years had attributed to one or two large developments annually. As the City reaches full development of residential parcels there are fewer parcels to develop that will be charged park dedications

fees in the future, for that reason in the City established the Park & Trail Capital Improvement fund and began yearly transfers.

Transfers

Beginning in 2020, the City initiated an annual transfer from the General Fund to the Parks and Trails Improvement Fund as a dedicated source for future park development. For 2026, the budget includes a transfer of \$100,000 for parks, \$9,000 for trails, and \$5,000 for playground equipment. In the 2027 concept budget, this transfer from the General Fund is reduced to \$50,000, supplemented by \$50,000 from Local Government Aid (LGA). From 2028 through 2030, the concept budgets assume \$50,000 annually from LGA, along with continued General Fund transfers of \$16,750 for parks, \$9,000 for trails, and \$5,000 for playground equipment. Beginning in 2031, the LGA contribution is projected to increase to \$150,000 annually, reducing the reliance on General Fund resources and providing a more sustainable funding base for future parks and trail improvements.

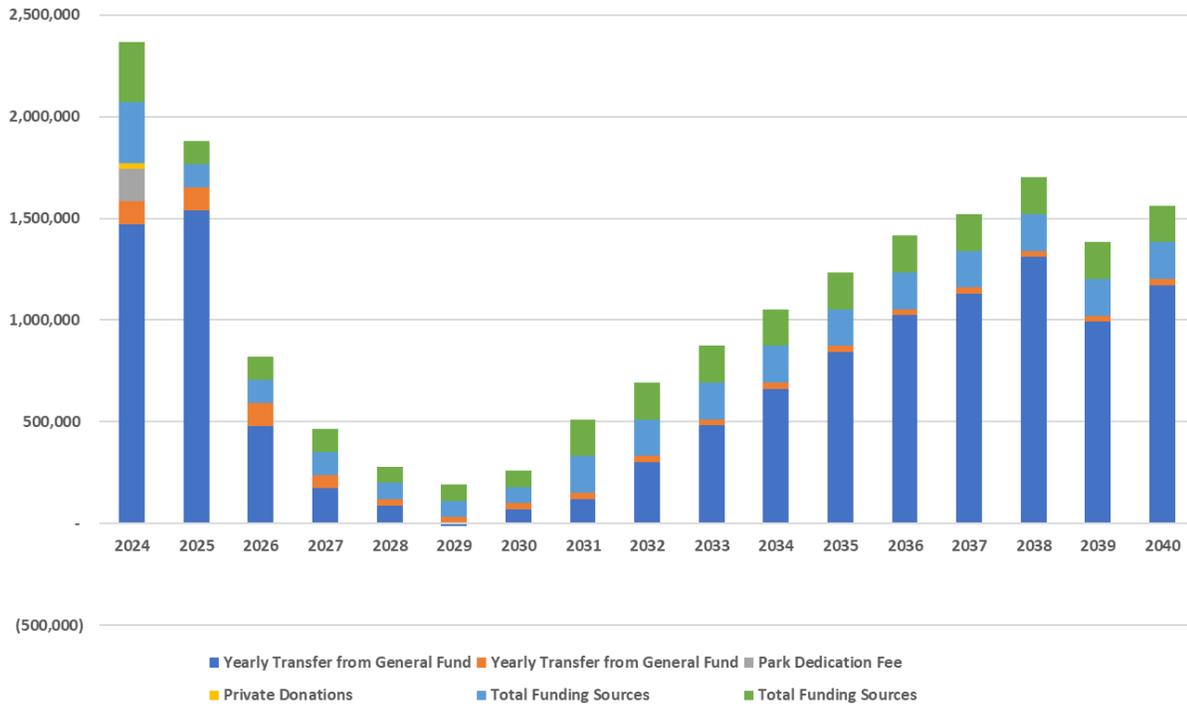
Use of Funds

The City prepares a detailed five-year capital improvement plan that outlines all planned renovations and improvement at City parks by park by project. The projects established by the Parks Board will be funded by funds available in the Park Development Fund as well as those funds in the Parks and Trail Capital Improvement Fund.

| PARK AND TRAIL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS | | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | 2032 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------------|--------------------|----------|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| FUNDING SOURCES | Beginning Balance | 1,472,292 | 1,540,460 | 477,460 | 173,460 | 87,460 | (11,790) | 68,960 | 119,710 | 300,460 |
| | Yearly Transfer from General Fund | 114,210 | 114,000 | 114,000 | 64,000 | 30,750 | 30,750 | 30,750 | 30,750 | 30,750 |
| | Park Dedication Fee | 159,344 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Private Donations | 25,000 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | LGA Allocation | - | - | - | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 |
| Total Funding Sources | | 298,554 | 114,000 | 114,000 | 114,000 | 80,750 | 80,750 | 80,750 | 180,750 | 180,750 |
| PROPOSED PROJECTS | New Park - Not doing yet | | | | | | | | | |
| | Browns Square | 10,298 | | | | | | | | |
| | Pickle Ball | 220,088 | | | | | | | | |
| | Archery Range - (60K) | | | 60,000 | | | | | | |
| | Lakeside Park Playground | | 535,000 | | | | | | | |
| | Lake Ridge Park | | 212,000 | | | | | | | |
| | Shores of Lake Mitchell | | 215,000 | | | | | | | |
| | Mitchell Farms | | 215,000 | **Not approved in 2025 | | | | | | |
| | Skate Park | | | 350,000 | looking for grants | | | | | |
| | Hidden Rivers Trail overlook | | | | | | | 30,000 | | |
| | Bluff Park | | | | | 180,000 | | | | |
| | Splash Pad - (200K) | | | | 200,000 | | | | | |
| | Karen Lane Trail | | | 8,000 | | | | | | |
| Total Projected expenses | | 230,386 | 1,177,000 | 418,000 | 200,000 | 180,000 | - | 30,000 | - | - |
| Ending Balance | | 1,540,460 | 477,460 | 173,460 | 87,460 | (11,790) | 68,960 | 119,710 | 300,460 | 481,210 |

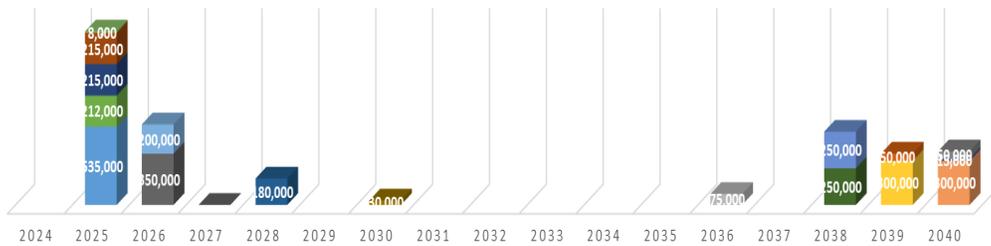
| PARK AND TRAIL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS | | 2033 | 2034 | 2035 | 2036 | 2037 | 2038 | 2039 | 2040 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| FUNDING SOURCES | Beginning Balance | 481,210 | 661,960 | 842,710 | 1,023,460 | 1,129,210 | 1,309,960 | 990,710 | 1,171,460 |
| | Yearly Transfer from General Fund | 30,750 | 30,750 | 30,750 | 30,750 | 30,750 | 30,750 | 30,750 | 30,750 |
| | Park Dedication Fee | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Private Donations | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | LGA Allocation | 150,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 |
| Total Funding Sources | | 180,750 | 180,750 | 180,750 | 180,750 | 180,750 | 180,750 | 180,750 | 180,750 |
| PROPOSED PROJECTS | Highline Park | | | | | | 250,000 | | |
| | Hudson Woods | | | | | | 250,000 | | |
| | Sanford Select | | | | | | | | 300,000 |
| | Norland | | | | | | | | 300,000 |
| | Total Projected expenses | | - | - | - | 75,000 | - | 500,000 | - |
| Ending Balance | | 661,960 | 842,710 | 1,023,460 | 1,129,210 | 1,309,960 | 990,710 | 1,171,460 | 637,210 |

PARKS AND TRAIL FUNDING

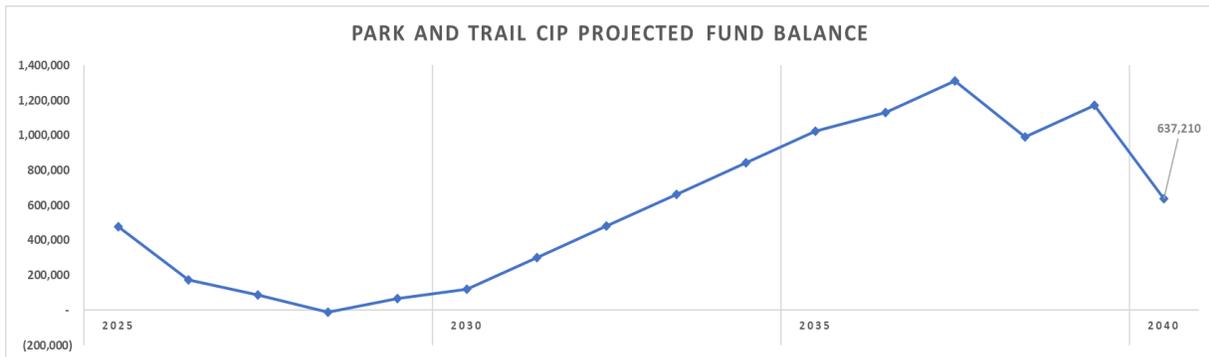


PARK AND TRAIL PROJECTS

- Lakeside Park Playground
- Hidden Rivers Trail overlook
- Highline Drive Trail
- Minnesota Avenue Trail
- Lake Ridge Park
- Bluff Park
- Norland
- Ormsbee Trail
- Shores of Lake Mitchell
- Highline Park
- Splash Pad - (200K)
- Mitchell Farms
- Hudson Woods
- Karen Lane Trail
- Skate Park
- Sanford Select
- Artic Circle Trail



PARK AND TRAIL CIP PROJECTED FUND BALANCE



| Park Replacement Plan | | | | | | 140% | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Park | Year Built | Amenities | Rating | *Year Replacement | *Replacement \$ Amount | Next Upgrade - 25 yr life | Estimate Value |
| Browns Square | 2002 | Benches – Gazebo | 1 | 2024 | 40,000 | 2049 | 56,000 |
| Lake Ridge | 1987 | Playground – Ball Field | 2 | 2025 | 225,000 | 2050 | 315,000 |
| Lakeside “old” | 1995 | Playground – Beach – Shelters | 1 | 2025 | | | |
| Lakeside “new” | 2008 | Playground – Beach – Shelters | 8 | 2025 | | | |
| Combined Lakeside | | | | 2025 | 550,000 | 2050 | 770,000 |
| Mitchell Farms | 1997 | Playground | 3 | 2025 | 215,000 | 2050 | 301,000 |
| Shores of Lake Mitchell | 1999 | Playground – Soccer | 4 | 2025 | 215,000 | 2050 | 301,000 |
| Bluff | 2006 | Playground | 4 | 2028 | 180,000 | 2053 | 252,000 |
| Hidden Rivers | 2006 | Trail – Overlook | 6 | 2030 | 30,000 | 2055 | 42,000 |
| Kellerwood | 2017 | Benches – Trail | 10 | 2036 | 5,000 | 2061 | 7,000 |
| Veterans Memorial | 2017 | Sidewalk – Benches | 10 | 2036 | 10,000 | 2061 | 14,000 |
| Highline | 2007 | Playground – Ball Field | 7 | 2038 | 250,000 | 2063 | 350,000 |
| Hudson Woods | 2010 | Playground – Frisbee Golf | 7 | 2038 | 250,000 | 2063 | 350,000 |
| McDowell | | Trail – Benches | 10 | 2040 | 5,000 | 2065 | 7,000 |
| Norland | 2015 | Playground | 8 | 2040 | 300,000 | 2065 | 420,000 |
| Sanford Select | 2016 | Playground – RC Track | 8 | 2040 | 300,000 | 2065 | 420,000 |
| Wrights Crossing | 2004 | Playground – Shelter | 8 | 2042 | 325,000 | 2067 | 455,000 |
| Powell | 2022 | Playground | 10 | 2044 | 325,000 | 2069 | 455,000 |
| River Oaks | 2019 | Frisbee Golf – Walking Path | 10 | | - | | |
| Riverside Landing | | Canoe Landing | 10 | | - | | |
| | | | | | \$ 3,225,000 | NEEDS | \$ 4,515,000 |

✓ **Park Rating is Between 1-10 (1-Needs Replacement; 10-Excellent Condition)**
 ✓ *** Columns Are Based on Estimations**

| Trail Replacement Plan | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Trail | Year Built | Amenities | Rating | *Lifespan in Years | Replacement Year | Replacement Estimate Cost |
| Karen Lane | 2008 | N/A | 8 | 25 | 2026 | 8,000 |
| Highline Drive | Unknown | N/A | 6 | 15 | 2036 | 75,000 |
| Arctic Circle | Unknown | N/A | 8 | 25 | 2040 | 15,000 |
| Minnesota Avenue | Unknown | N/A | 8 | 25 | 2040 | 50,000 |
| Ormsbee Street | Unknown | N/A | 5 | 10 | 2040 | 50,000 |
| County Road 81 | Unknown | N/A | 6 | 15 | 2046 | 75,000 |
| McDowall Trail | 2019 | benches | 10 | 30 | 2049 | 150,000 |
| County Road 5 | Unknown | N/A | 8 | 25 | 2050 | 100,000 |
| 172 nd Street | Unknown | N/A | 8 | 25 | 2050 | 100,000 |
| 166 th Street | 2022 | N/A | 10 | 30 | 2052 | 15,000 |
| 205 th Street | 2023 | N/A | 10 | 30 | 2053 | 10,000 |
| County Road 43 *tw | Unknown | N/A | 6 | 15 | 2056 | 50,000 |
| County Road 43 *tw | 2023 | N/A | 10 | 30 | 2056 | 50,000 |
| | | | | | replacement cost | \$ 748,000 |

✓ **Park Rating is Between 1-10 (1-Needs Replacement; 10-Excellent Condition)**
 ✓ *** Columns are Based on Estimations**

◆ Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) – Parks & Trails

The City’s Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) provides long-term funding for both **future park and trail development** and the **equipment needed to maintain those facilities**. This ensures the system remains sustainable as it expands.

Future Parks and Trails Projects

- Development of new park spaces and trail connections
- Upgrades to existing facilities (playgrounds, shelters, restrooms, irrigation systems)
- Expansion to meet community growth and recreational demand

Equipment Replacement and Maintenance Needs

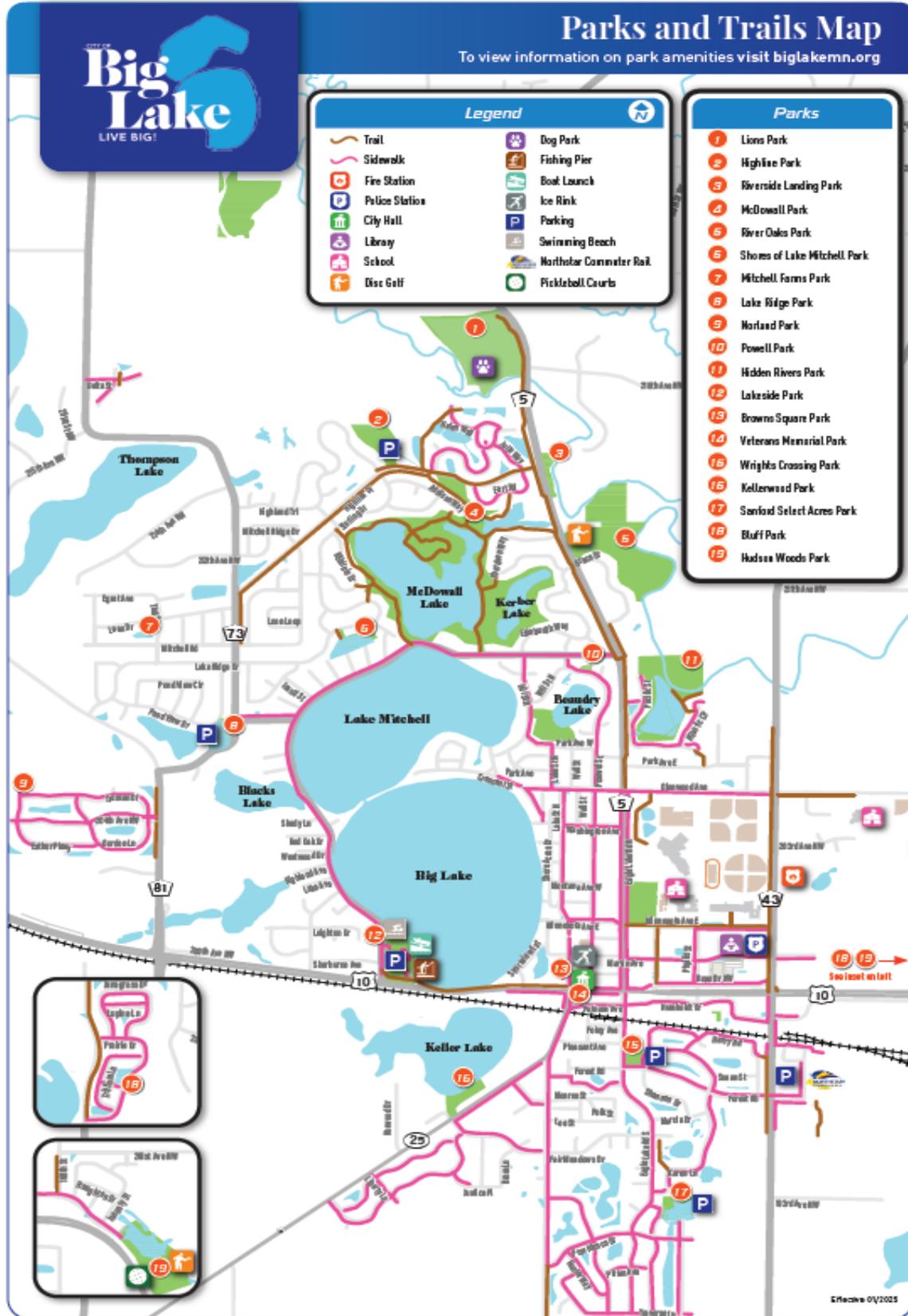
- Mowers, utility vehicles, and trailers for seasonal maintenance
- Irrigation and turf care equipment
- Snow removal and trail grooming equipment
- Replacement cycles to keep maintenance operations efficient and cost-effective

Key Point: As the City Council considers the addition of new parks or trails, the CIP must grow to cover not only construction but also the equipment and operational resources required to properly maintain them.

Parks Department CIP

| Dept | Description | Funding Source | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | 2032 | 2033 | 2034 | 2035 |
|--|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Parks Department | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Park Playground equipment replacement fund | General Fund | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| | Misc Equipment Replacement Fund | General Fund | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| 195 | Trail Maintenance Fund | General Fund | 9,000 | 9,000 | 9,000 | 9,000 | 9,000 | 9,000 | 9,000 | 9,000 | 9,000 | 9,000 |
| 195 | River Oaks Park Fund | General Fund | - | - | 16,750 | 16,750 | 16,750 | 16,750 | 16,750 | 16,750 | 16,750 | 16,750 |
| 195 | PARK MAINT - FUND 195 FCH FEE | General Fund | 100,000 | 50,000 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 195 | PARK MAINT - FUND 195 | LGA | - | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 | 150,000 |
| | Replace 2006 John Deere Tractor #306 | LGA | - | - | - | - | - | 180,000 | - | - | - | - |
| | Replace 2022 Mower | CIP Funds | - | - | - | - | - | - | 50,000 | use misc equip | - | - |
| | Replace 2008 Dump Truck #08 | LGA | - | - | - | - | 85,000 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Parks Department (General Fund) Total | | | 119,000 | 119,000 | 85,750 | 85,750 | 170,750 | 363,750 | 235,750 | 185,750 | 185,750 | 185,750 |

Parks and Trails Map



Parks Maintenance and Operations

The Parks Operating Budget ensures that adequate funds are available to maintain all existing trails and parks within the City limits. Maintenance responsibilities include mowing of all parks and trails, upkeep of public buildings located within parks, and operation of irrigation systems. The Parks operational budget is part of the General Fund and incorporates wages for seasonal staff. This includes three seasonal employees dedicated to lawn care from May through September, as well as park attendants stationed at Lakeside Park on weekends from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

A portion of full-time Streets/Parks Operator wages and associated fringe benefits are also allocated to the Parks Department budget to account for the year-round maintenance of parks and trails. Repairs and maintenance of park-related equipment and vehicles are not captured in the Parks operating budget; instead, these costs are recorded within the Fleet/Equipment Maintenance budget under specific line items tied to parks. In addition, the Parks Board’s monthly meeting stipends are included within wages.

Professional services and operations, including all utility costs associated with irrigation—and annual transfers to other funds related to parks are also budgeted within the Parks Department operating budget each year.

All revenues associated with the Parks Department are allocated directly to the department and serve to offset the amount required to be collected through property taxes. This includes daily and seasonal parking permit revenues generated at Lakeside Park. The net cost of the Parks operating budget equates to just \$0.49 per household per day, underscoring the strong value of the services provided relative to the tax impact.

In addition to the operating budget, the City’s Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) plays a critical role in ensuring the long-term sustainability of the parks system. The CIP not only addresses future development of parks and trails but also provides funding for the purchase and replacement of equipment necessary to maintain those facilities. Without appropriate equipment investment, the City would not be able to adequately maintain its park and trails system.

Should the City Council choose to increase the number of trails and/or parks, both the operating budget and the CIP need to be adjusted to reflect the additional maintenance demands. Expanding the system of parks and trails would also have a direct impact on personnel costs, as additional staff would be required to support the increased workload.

Summary Expenditure Budget

| Division/Category: | 2025-2026 | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| | 2024 Actual | 2025 Adopted Budget | 2026 Proposed Budget | \$ Change | % Change |
| | - | - | - | | (0) |
| Parks | | | | | |
| Personnel | \$ 303,522 | \$ 418,601 | \$ 396,954 | \$ (21,647) | -5.17% |
| Professional Services | 20,589 | 5,300 | 6,000 | 700 | 13.21% |
| Operations | 246,989 | 268,529 | 268,050 | (479) | -0.18% |
| Transfers to other funds | 119,000 | 119,000 | 119,000 | - | |
| Total - Parks: | \$ 690,100 | \$ 811,430 | \$ 790,004 | \$ (21,426) | -2.64% |

Big Lake Parks Advisory Committee (PAC)

The PAC Priority: To provide a safe leisure environment along with quality parks, facilities, trails, and services; to preserve and protect open land and water areas that will benefit and improve the quality of life for Big Lake residents now and in the future.

The Big Lake PAC was created by Ordinance Number 2002-03, an act of the Big Lake City Council to:

- 1. Serve as a liaison between city government and the community.*
- 2. Serve as a resource for new and existing neighborhoods, groups, and civic organizations seeking information concerning the Big Lake park system.*
- 3. To assist city government in setting open space, land acquisition and development policies.*
- 4. To serve as a body to make recommendations to the City Council relating to specific parks, trails, sidewalks, and open space development.*
- 5. To assist City Council in researching a variety of funding sources for the Capital Improvement Program and related park development.*

| Member | Seat | Term Expires |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
| Doug Peterson | Chair | Dec. 31, 2026 |
| Jeff Webster | PAC Member | Dec. 31, 2027 |
| Scott Creighton | Vice-Chair | Dec. 31, 2027 |
| Megan Weber | PAC Member | Dec. 31, 2025 |
| Kameron Hanson | PAC Member | Dec 31, 2025 |
| Kim Noding | Council Liaison | Dec. 31, 2025 |
| Lisa Odens | Planning Liaison | Dec. 31, 2025 |

City of Big Lake
160 Lake Street North
Big Lake, MN 55309
Phone: (763) 263-2107
Website: www.biglakemn.org





Recreation and Communication Coordinator Updates

1. Programming

- a. **Winter Farmers Market:** The Winter Farmers Market will take place on the Third Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at City Hall. Note that the market is collaborating with the Chamber Community Fair on March 14th from 10 a.m. -1 p.m. at Big Lake High School.
- b. **Holiday Lighting Contest:** There were 6 participants this year in comparison to 11 in 2024 and 32 people voted in comparison to 78 in 2024. Winners were announced on the City’s website and Facebook and the map was left up through the month of December for those who wanted to tour the community and view the participating lighting displays. It was suggested to leave voting open longer and offer a larger prize. Staff is planning to close the voting early in the week of the Christmas holiday.
- c. **Winter Photo Contest:** This contest helps the City add variety to pictures of the community for marketing purposes and the winner receives a prize bag! Deadline to submit pictures to cscott@biglakemn.org is March 13, 2026.
- d. **Music in the Park:** Staff is working on scheduling food trucks and seeking sponsorships for the 2026 season. Marketing will begin in March/April.
- e. **Summer Farmers Market:** Planning is underway for the 2026 Summer Farmers Market season. Staff is working on recruiting vendors and sponsors as well as scheduling music, kids’ activities, and food trucks.
- f. **Community Gardens:** Applications for the 2026 Community Gardens season opened to the public in January. If still available on March 1, additional plots will be assigned to those who requested them. There has already been increased interest this year!
- g. **Coffee with the Mayor:** This event series takes place on the second Saturday of every other month from 9-10 a.m. at Ember Coffee.
- h. **Coffee with the Chief:** This event series takes place on the first Wednesday of every other month starting in February from 9-10 a.m. at Ember Coffee.
- i. **Recycle Day:** Recycle day will take place on May 16, 2026. Staff is in the process of applying for grant funding.
- j. **Outstanding Citizen:** Nominations are being accepted for the 2026 Outstanding Citizen of the Year Award and can be found on the City’s website and at City Hall.



AGENDA ITEM

Big Lake Parks Advisory Committee

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Prepared By: Corrie Scott, Recreation and Communication Coordinator Norm Michels, Streets, Parks, and Fleet Superintendent | Meeting Date: 1/26/2026 | Item No. 7E |
| Item Description: Strategic Plan Standing Item | Reviewed By: N/A | |
| | Reviewed By: N/A | |

ACTION REQUESTED

N/A

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

As per the Parks Advisory Committee's request, staff is including the Parks Strategic Plan 2026-2028 in each regular meeting packet for reference.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Parks Advisory Committee Strategic Plan



**Big Lake Parks Advisory Committee (PAC) Strategic Plan
3-Year Perspective – 2026 through 2028**

This **Strategic Plan** provides a practical approach to the goals and activities of the Parks Advisory Committee (PAC). The purpose is to guide PAC Members and staff through Big Lake’s priorities regarding the parks and trails system. This Strategic Plan will improve the capacity to measure outcomes.

The PAC Priority: To provide a safe leisure environment along with quality parks, facilities, trails, and services; to preserve and protect open land and water areas that will benefit and improve the quality of life for Big Lake residents now and in the future.

Strategy: Prioritize maintenance, clean up, and beautification of park system.

| Work Plan Objectives | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. | <p>Perform routine maintenance (including new mulch/fill mulch projects), clean up, and beautification of the following parks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bluff • Browns Square • Hidden Rivers • Highline • Hudson Woods • Kellerwood • Lake Ridge • Lakeside • McDowall • Mitchell Farms • Norland • Powell • River Oaks • Riverside Landing • Sanford Select Acres • Shores of Lake Mitchell • Veterans Memorial • Wrights Crossing • Ice Rinks (leased space within redevelopment area) |
| | |
| 2. | Establish a working relationship with volunteer groups who would like to plant and care for flowers throughout the parks and trail system. |
| 3. | <p>Routinely take inventory of tree system and maintain trees within parks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take advantage of Sherburne County programming, if needed, to ensure a healthy tree system. • Watch for diseased trees and create plans for them (i.e., try to save them or cut and replace them) |

Strategy: Plan for and complete necessary improvements, while taking into consideration the community's wants and needs.

| 2026 | 2027 | 2028 |
|---|---|--|
| <p>Playground Installation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shores of Lake Mitchell Park • Lake Ridge Park • Lakeside Park <p>Skate Park at Lakeside Park:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with vendor to provide plans to reconstruct skate park • Get recommendation from PAC • Get approval from the City Council • Schedule project to be completed <p>Park Signage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lakeside Park Flags, Powell Park Donation, Hudson Woods Donation • Create a plan to update all general park signage with current City logo | <p>Mitchell Farms Park:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey community • Work with vendor to provide plans to reconstruct park • Get recommendation from PAC • Get approval from the City Council • Schedule project to be completed | <p>Bluff Park:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey community • Work with vendor to provide plans to reconstruct park • Get recommendation from PAC • Get approval from the City Council • Schedule project to be completed |

Strategy: Add connections and amenities to ensure the parks and trails system is growing and serving the community's wants and needs.

| 2026 | 2027 | 2028 |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Ice Rinks New Location:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey community • Choose park location • Work with vendor to provide plans/concept • Get recommendation from PAC • Get approval from the City Council • Schedule project to be completed | <p>Archery Range:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey community • Choose park location • Work with vendor to provide plans/concept • Get recommendation from PAC • Get approval from the City Council • Schedule project to be completed | <p>Brom Park:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey community • Work with vendor to provide plans/concept • Get recommendation from PAC • Get approval from the City Council |

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3. *To assist city government in setting open space, land acquisition and development policies.*
4. *To serve as a body to make recommendations to the City Council relating to specific parks, trails, sidewalks, and open space development.*
5. *To assist City Council in researching a variety of funding sources for the Capital Improvement Program and related park development.*

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| Kameron Hanson | PAC Member | Dec 31, 2028 |
| Kim Noding | Council Liaison | Dec. 31, 2026 |
| Lisa Odens | Planning Liaison | Dec. 31, 2026 |



Park Replacement Plan 2026-2028

| Park | Year Built | Amenities | Rating | *Year Replacement | *Replacement \$ Amount |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bluff | 2006 | Playground | 3 | 2028 | \$230k |
| Browns Square | 2024 | Benches – Gazebo | 10 | 2056 | \$65k |
| Hidden Rivers | 2006 | Trail – Overlook | 6 | 2030 | \$30k |
| Highline | 2007 | Playground – Ball Field | 7 | 2038 | \$200k |
| Hudson Woods | 2010 | Playground – Frisbee Golf – Pickleball | 7 | 2038 | \$200k |
| Kellerwood | 2017 | Benches – Trail | 10 | | |
| Lake Ridge | 2026 | Playground – Ball Field | 10 | 2046 | \$240k |
| Lakeside (Skate Park) | 2005 | Skate Park – Benches | *Removed | 2026 | \$300k |
| Lakeside (Playground) | 2026 | Playground – Beach – Shelters – Volleyball – Basketball | 10 | 2046 | \$550k |
| McDowall | | Trail – Benches | 10 | | |
| Mitchell Farms | 1997 | Benches – Previous Playground | *Removed | N/A | \$240k |
| Norland | 2015 | Playground | 8 | 2040 | \$240k |
| Powell | 2022 | Playground | 10 | 2044 | \$240k |
| River Oaks | 2019 | Frisbee Golf – Walking Path | 10 | | |
| Riverside Landing | | Canoe Landing | 10 | | |
| Sanford Select | 2016 | Playground – RC Track | 8 | 2040 | \$240k |
| Shores of Lake Mitchell | 2026 | Playground – Soccer | 10 | 2046 | \$240k |
| Veterans Memorial | 2017 | Sidewalk – Benches – Reader Board | 10 | | |
| Wrights Crossing | 2004 | Playground – Shelter | 8 | 2042 | \$240k |

- ✓ **Park Rating is Between 1-10 (1-Needs Replacement; 10-Excellent Condition)**
- ✓ *** Columns Are Based on Estimations**



Trail Replacement Plan 2026-2028

| Trail | Year Built | Amenities | Rating | *Lifespan in Years | *Replacement \$ Amount |
|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| McDowall Trail | 2019 | Overlook, bat house, benches | 10 | 30 | \$150,000 |
| Arctic Circle | Unknown | N/A | 8 | 25 | \$15,000 |
| Highline Drive | Unknown | N/A | 6 | 15 | \$75,000 |
| Karen Lane | 2008 | N/A | 8 | 25 | \$15,000 |
| Minnesota Avenue | Unknown | N/A | 8 | 25 | \$50,000 |
| Ormsbee Street | Unknown | N/A | 5 | 10 | \$50,000 |
| County Road 5 | Unknown | N/A | 8 | 25 | \$100,000 |
| County Road 43 | Unknown | N/A | 6 | 15 | \$50,000 |
| *two sections | 2023 | | 10 | 30 | \$50,000 |
| County Road 81 | Unknown | N/A | 6 | 15 | \$75,000 |
| 166 th Street | 2022 | N/A | 10 | 30 | \$15,000 |
| 172 nd Street | Unknown | N/A | 8 | 25 | \$100,000 |
| 205 th Street | 2023 | N/A | 10 | 30 | \$10,000 |

- ✓ **Park Rating is Between 1-10 (1-Needs Replacement; 10-Excellent Condition)**
- ✓ *** Columns are Based on Estimations**