

PRK35 Keewaydin Park Implementation

Project Details:

Project Start Date: June 1, 2019
Submitting Department: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
Contact Person: Adam Arvidson
Department Priority: 4
Contact Phone Number: 612-230-6470
Website: www.minneapolisparcs.org

Project Location:

Address: 3030 East 53rd Street
City Sector: south
Affected Neighborhoods: Keewaydin
Affected Wards: 12

Project Description:

This project will implement a variety of recreational improvements at Keewaydin Park in the Nokomis East neighborhood area, as called for in the South Service Area Master Plan. The requested funding in 2020 is the second part of funding requested in 2019 for a single phase one implementation of the master plan. The exact improvements to be implemented are likely to be the construction of new play areas on park property, including a true outdoor climbing wall—the first of its kind in the Minneapolis park system. Funding will also likely decommission the existing wading pool, which is located on Minneapolis Public Schools property and is beyond its useful life. Final decisions will be made through involvement of the community in a scoping exercise once the project initiates.

The master plan calls for moderate changes at Keewaydin, driven in part by the fact that some park amenities were constructed decades ago on school property. At that time, this was an appropriate choice, but school expansion has created a cramped situation around the existing wading pool and play area. The master plan calls for decommissioning the wading pool and providing no aquatics in this park (it is very close to Lake Nokomis and to other parks with wading pools). Instead, a more significant play area would be built, to include a major climbing wall. Other elements in the master plan call for increased field space, decommissioning of two ball diamonds, and implementation of walking loops in the park.

Keewaydin Park improvements are a stand-alone project because the total multi-year request is greater than \$1,060,000. The scale of certain projects suggests they should be considered individually by CLIC.

Purpose and Justification:

Keewaydin Park phase one implementation is a project funded by the 20-year Neighborhood Parks and Streets Program. Under this program, MPRB has developed an empirical equity metric for ranking neighborhood parks based on community and park characteristics. A park's score and resultant ranking determines when a park receives an allocation in MPRB's CIP, while service area master plans determine what amenities are desired by the community and then implemented. During implementation of equity metrics into the new CIP, MPRB decided to honor previous allocations in the CIP, regardless of ranking, in order to keep its promise to the community. Keewaydin previously had allocations for a playground renovation and wading pool upgrade. Based on master planning, that allocation was changed to a play area-only allocation (climbing wall included), but it remained in the CIP.

The exact facilities to be implemented will be determined through a participatory community process by which users and residents can help decide what is built in the park in phase one. The Keewaydin Master Plan does not envision extraordinary change, so it is likely implementation will focus on play areas and decommissioning of the wading pool.

Project Visuals and Map:



Project Cost Breakdown

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Updated On 15 Apr, 2019

	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	Future Needs
Construction Costs	\$ 530	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Design and Project Management	75	0	0	0	0	0
General Overhead	25	0	0	0	0	0
Total	\$ 630	\$ 0				

Department Funding Request

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Revenues

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Expand All	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	Future Needs
▶ Bond Activity	\$ 630	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total	\$ 630	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0

Partnerships

Have Grants for this Project been secured?

No grants nor other outside funding will be applied to this project.

Describe status and timing details of secured or applied for grants or other non-City funding sources:

Not applicable.

Describe any collaborative arrangements with outside project partners, including who they are and what their role is with the project:

Not applicable.

Planning

State Law Chapter 462.356 (Subd. 2) requires review of all capital improvements for compliance with the comprehensive municipal plan. Chapter 13, Section 4 of the City Charter requires Location and Design Review for the purpose of approving the sale of bonds for these projects.

Describe how the project is consistent with the adopted City/Park Board comprehensive plans and how the project implements goals and policies as stated in the adopted plans, including specific policy references:

Projects funded with these dollars are consistent with the following direction of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board comprehensive plan:

Vision Statement: Dynamic parks that shape city character and meet diverse community needs.

Goal: Park facility renewal and development respects history and focuses on sustainability, accessibility, flexibility and beauty.

Strategy: Integrate sustainable practices, ecological design for landscapes, and green building techniques into new construction and renewal of all amenities, giving priority to those practices that meet or exceed established standards, improve ecological function, and minimize long-term maintenance and operating costs.

Strategy: Implement a sustainable, long-term renewal plan based on a complete inventory of the system, life-cycle cost analysis, and condition assessment of all park facilities.

Strategy: Build or renew facilities to meet or exceed standards for accessibility.

Relevant City of Minneapolis Comprehensive Plan Polices, from the Minneapolis 2040 Plan:

Policy 78 Park Design and Programming: Improve the design and programming of parks to better serve a changing population.

Policy 53 Quality of Life: Perpetuate a high quality of life for Minneapoltians that includes safe, open, and welcoming cultural and social institutions, as well as natural and built infrastructure. Especially applicable is Action Step 53c: Maintain and enhance the many built, historic, arts, and natural environmental assets throughout the city to promote and strengthen communities.

Policy 83 People with Disabilities: Ensure people with disabilities and their families are visible, active, and values members of the community. Especially applicable is Action Step 83h: Increase accessibility of public infrastructure and public amenities.

Provide the date that Location and Design Review was conducted for the project, the outcome of that analysis and the date formal action was taken by the Planning Commission:

Location and Design Review for this project will take place in the spring or summer of the funding year.

Economic Development

Will the project contribute to growth in the city's tax base? No

Describe the economic development impact of the project:
None

Does the project support redevelopment opportunity that without the project would be infeasible?
No.

Transportation

Is the proposed project on an existing or planned transitway, transit route, or high-volume pedestrian corridor? If yes, provide details on how the project will improve the transit and/or pedestrian experience.
No.

Does the proposed project anticipate multi-modal enhancements (sidewalks, bicycle or transit facilities)? Provide details.
No. All improvements will take place within an existing park area.

Is the right-of-way constrained and do you anticipate that modes of travel will be competing for space? Provide details, is there potential for innovative design options? Provide details
No. All improvements will take place outside of right-of-way, within an existing park area.

Operating Impacts

Operations & Capital Asset Maintenance: \$16,500/year
Is this request for new or existing infrastructure? New, to replace existing
What is the expected useful life of the project/Improvement? 20 years
Year that Operating Incr/(Decr) will take effect? 2021
What is the estimated annual operating cost increase or (decrease) for this project? \$0
Any Prior Year Remaining Bond Authorizations? No
Prior Year Remaining Bond Authorizations: Not applicable

Describe how operating cost increases or decreases were determined and include details such as personnel costs, materials, contracts, energy savings, etc:

Increases in operating costs are possible depending on which amenities are implemented. The South Service Area Master Plan included calculations on likely operations increases for each element included in the master plan. Once project scoping is complete, MPRB staff will consider likely cost increases and incorporate them into existing operations budgets or will address increases through MPRB's annual budgeting process. Because this project is most likely to implement new pay areas and decommission a wading pool, operating costs will actually decrease.

If new infrastructure, discuss how the department/agency will pay for the increased annual operating costs:
Not applicable.

For new infrastructure, describe the estimated timing and dollar amount of future capital investment required to realize the full expected useful life of the project:
Not applicable.

Project Coordination

Describe completion status for ongoing projects and how and when the department/agency plans to use the prior year remaining bond authorizations:

The 2019 bond authorization will be used in concert with this request to complete a single project.

If this is a new project, describe the major project phases and timing anticipated for completing the project:

Project scoping, including community engagement, will initiate in 2019, once funding becomes available. The community engagement and design process will likely continue throughout 2019, with construction taking place in 2020 and possibly into early 2021.

Scalability/Funding Allocation Flexibility – discuss any flexibility to increase or decrease funding among the years in the five-year plan and the most that could be spent in a given year:

Moving funding from year to year will affect staff ability to implement projects. Delaying this project will invariably delay other park improvement projects called for in the CIP.

Minneapolis Goals and Strategic Direction

Minneapolis is a growing and vibrant world-class city with a flourishing economy and a pristine environment, where all people are safe, healthy and have equitable opportunities for success and happiness. Below is a description of how this project meets each of the City's Goals. Below is a description of how this project meets each of the City's Goals.

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Public Safety

Collaborative and community-inclusive strategies to ensure safety for all members of our community:
Construction projects in parks improve safety throughout Minneapolis's parks, ensuring they are inviting and allow for healthful activities. They decommission outdated facilities and replace them with new ones that meet current safety and accessibility standards and expectations.

Housing

The City prioritizes equitable access to safe, stable, accessible, and affordable housing to eliminate racial disparities in housing:
Park improvements relate to housing in that they are sometimes identified as a gentrifying force in neighborhoods. The alternative, however, of not improving parks would do a disservice to those that use them. MPRB is committed to working with the City to identify and address potential park-related gentrification and displacement, in order to contribute to stable neighborhoods with excellent park service. Though Keewaydin Park does not sit in a neighborhood threatened with gentrification, MPRB will strive to be aware of these forces in all neighborhoods.

Economic Development

The City prioritizes economic inclusion so that all workers and families are supported and People of Color, Indigenous and Immigrant (POCII)-owned businesses in all sectors can thrive.

Quality of life is a critical aspect in a business's decision to relocate to, remain in, or expand in Minneapolis. City residents consistently rate parks as having extremely high importance to their quality of life. Therefore, park renewal to maintain quality and incorporate desired amenities can contribute significantly to business retention and recruitment, including among under-represented groups.

Public Services

The City prioritizes reliable and equitable access to high-quality public services.

Though semi-autonomous, MPRB strives for the same efficiency, transparency, and responsibility as stated in the City's goal. MPRB follows the City's purchasing procedures to ensure fair selection of services and detailed in-house project-by-project accounting ensures each project has a carefully managed budget. MPRB involves the public extensively in the scoping and design of park projects and provides detailed and extensive notifications during construction. Because the Keewaydin Park master plan was driven by community involvement, implementation of that plan will allow the public to recreate daily and in ways that meet each individual's particular needs. Furthermore, the implementation of a climbing wall in Keewaydin will create a unique facility that is physically challenging and will allow for social interaction.

Environmental Justice:

The City prioritizes sustainable practices and renewable resources to equitably address climate change while restoring and protecting our soil, water and air.

All park projects are executed with an eye to facility longevity and sustainability. MPRB strives to improve environmental performance and reduce waste with every construction project. Facility renewal and implementation of new amenities are important in meeting current and future needs for park infrastructure, which is a critical aspect of the city. Most park master plans, including Keewaydin's, call for reduction of turf grass and naturalized areas for pollinator habitat and air quality enhancement. When major projects like this one are implemented, this is an opportunity to plant additional trees, convert lawn to more sustainable ground surface, and reconsider stormwater management on park sites. All of the options will be considered as aspects of the project.

Built Environment & Transportation:

The City prioritizes high quality neighborhoods, streets, infrastructure and equitable access to multimodal transportation in all parts of the City through thoughtful planning and design.

Ensuring high quality parks communicates investment in people's lives, no matter where they come from. In many cases, neighborhoods are physically and socially centered on their parks. Improving the park will improve the neighborhood. Keewaydin is a fairly typical neighborhood park which also sits adjacent to a school. Area residents regularly visit the park by foot and by bicycle. Improvements here will show a commitment to high quality public infrastructure.

Public Health:

The City Prioritizes positive youth development so that all children can grow healthy and safe:

Improving park facilities and adding desired amenities can increase health and quality of life for neighborhood residents of every age, ability level, economic status, race, ethnicity, and national origin. At Keewaydin, the implementation of various types of play, including traditional, nature, and climbing, will allow options for people of a variety of ages and abilities, especially youth. This unique facility will offer the fun, challenge, and strenuous activity that builds healthy brains, bodies, and habits.

Arts and Culture:

The City prioritizes arts and culture as important part of inclusive economic development and placemaking in our communities:

MPRB seeks to incorporate the arts into projects when it can, by partnering with the City of Minneapolis's public art program. Even without the specific inclusion of art in park improvements, however, creative and inspiring design is a key part of the park improvement process. In addition, parks often sit at the cultural center of communities, whether people are visiting the park for an art class, participating in spontaneous cultural experiences, attending a cultural event, or simply interacting with peers from different backgrounds in the park.

Additional Information

Add any additional information you feel is important for the CLIC committee, Mayor, City Council members or the general public to know about this potential project and why it should be approved:

No additional information provided.

Capital Long-Range Improvement Committee (CLIC) Evaluation Results

Include summary of CLIC findings and whether they recommend moving forward with the project.