



**Parks and Recreation Board Agenda
Department of Public Services
851 South Eton-Conference Room
Tuesday, December 5, 2023
6:30 PM**

- I. Call to order**
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Announcements, Introductions of Guests & Chairpersons Comments**
- IV. Open To The Public for Items Not On the Agenda** *(two minutes per person)*
 - No one may speak a second time until everyone in the audience has spoken.
 - The chairperson may alternate speakers pro & con on issues being discussed.
- V. Approval of the minutes of: November 14, 2023***(regular meeting)*
- VI. Unfinished Business**
- VII. New Business-** *Written and submitted by 5pm Monday at the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena, one week prior to the meeting.*
- VIII. Miscellaneous Communications**
 1. Letter received from Bob Gibbs, dated October 24, 2023
- IX. Reports From Staff**
 1. Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update
- X. Items for Next Meeting**
 1. Nomination of 2024 Parks and Recreation Board Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson at the January 9, 2024 meeting
- XI. Adjournment**

Individuals requiring accommodations, such as interpreter services, for effective participation in this meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at (248) 530-1880 at least one day in advance of the public meeting.
Las personas que requieren alojamiento, tales como servicios de interpretación, la participación efectiva en esta reunión deben ponerse en contacto con la Oficina del Secretario Municipal al (248) 530-1880 por lo menos el día antes de la reunión pública.
(Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964).

*If you cannot attend the meetings, please contact Connie Folk at the Birmingham Ice Arena (248) 530-1642.
Minutes are available for review at the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena, 2300 East Lincoln, Birmingham, MI 48009*

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MISSION STATEMENT

The Parks and Recreation Board strives to provide opportunities for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration for present and future generations of residents and visitors through stewardship of natural, cultural and recreational resources. By continuously elevating the beauty and quality of the parks and recreation system of Birmingham, the Parks and Recreation Board will promote health and wellbeing, and strengthen the community.

Should you have any statement regarding the above, you are invited to attend the meeting in person or virtually through
ZOOM: <https://zoom.us/j/98191466679> **Meeting ID:** 981 9146 6679
You may also present your written statement to:
City of Birmingham, Parks and Recreation Board
851 South Eton, Birmingham, Michigan 48009 prior to the meeting.

**PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 14, 2023**

Heather Carmona, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm at 851 South Eton.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Heather Carmona
Jessica Einstein
Sarah Kupczyk
Pam Graham
Anne Lipp
John Rusche
Steve Sweeney

MEMBERS ABSENT: Susan Collins

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Katie Glasier, Seaholm High School

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT: Archie Reynolds, Seaholm High School

ADMINISTRATION: Carrie A. Laird, Parks and Recreation Manager
Leah Blizinski, City Planner
Connie J. Folk, Recreation Coordinator

PRESENTERS: Paul Urbiel, McKenna

GUESTS: Rebecca Brinn, Lilly Brinn, Bob Gibbs,
Joe Wrobel and Brandon Wynn

ANNOUNCEMENTS, INTRODUCTIONS OF GUESTS & CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS:

No items presented

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

Lilly Brinn who attends Roeper School and presented to the Parks and Recreation Board a proposed Little Library for Adams Park for her Girl Scout Silver award. The Girl Scout Silver Award is the highest award a Girl Scout and gives the chance to show that you are a leader who is organized, determined, and dedicated to improving your community. L Brinn told the board that she could submit her plans for review.

PM Laird stated there are two little libraries, one at Booth and one at Barnum and adding another would be fantastic to the City of Birmingham park system. The next steps would be to share the location of placement at Adams Park and then present to the Parks and Recreation Board.

PM Laird stated that the Department of Public Services does provided maintenance to the existing little libraries.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

It was moved by Rusche, seconded by Graham, to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, October 3, 2023, regular meeting as submitted.

Ayes, Heather Carmona, Jessica Einstein,
Pam Graham, Sarah Kupczyk, Anne Lipp,
John Rusche and Steve Sweeney

Nays, None
Absent, None

It was moved by Einstein, seconded by Lipp, to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, October 24, 2023, special meeting as submitted.

Ayes, Heather Carmona, Jessica Einstein,
Pam Graham, Sarah Kupczyk, Anne Lipp,
John Rusche and Steve Sweeney

Nays, None
Absent, None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

No items presented

NEW BUSINESS:

Revised 2024 Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Dates

IAFS Folk presented to the Parks and Recreation Board the revised 2024 Parks and Recreation Board meeting dates for approval.

It was moved by Lipp, seconded by Sweeney to approve the revised 2024 Parks and Recreation Board meeting dates as submitted.

Ayes, Heather Carmona, Jessica Einstein, Pam Graham, Sarah Kupczyk, Anne Lipp, John Rusche and Steve Sweeney

Nays, None
Absent, None

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS:

No items presented

REPORTS FROM STAFF:

Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update

Urbiel from McKenna walked through the next steps of the process:

• **30-Day Public Comment Period**

The prescribed process set forth by MDNR for recreation plans requires that the draft Plan be available to residents and stakeholders during a minimum 30-day, well-publicized public review and comment period.

After December 4th (at the end of the advertised comment period), we will synthesize any comments and work with City staff to appropriately incorporate comments into a revised draft in anticipation of City Commission consideration.

• **City Commission Consideration**

At the December City Commission meeting, the McKenna team will present the revised draft to City Commission. The required Public Hearing will also be noticed in anticipation of that meeting and take place on December 18th; the Commission may adopt the Plan that same evening.

Urbiel stated that McKenna has received comments regarding the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Gibbs has some concerns about the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and could warrant additional workshops. Gibbs stated that the plan falls short of the slated objectives. For example the parks fall short for being walkable with hard surfaces. Gibbs goes on to say how the Parks and Recreation Master Plan is not inhering to the 2040 plan.

Gibbs asked PM Laird about a detailed letter that was sent October 24, 2023. PM laird stated she would have to check, and didn't recall that particular letter.

Gibbs went on to say about the drainage issues on the pathways and how they are not walkable.

Graham asked that staff educate the Parks and Recreation Board on the different surfaces that can be used in different circumstances for the City of Birmingham park system.

Park Updates:

Adams Park

PM Laird stated that sidewalk corrections (punch list item) were completed last week. The department continues to monitor the centerpiece Elm tree (warranty item). Recently, due to signs of stress, our City staff arborist found it was planted too deep.

The landscape subcontractor for Michigan Recreational Construction (MRC) performed removal of 8 to 10 inches of topsoil to correct this. Perennials (Black-Eyed Susans) had to be removed in order to perform this work and monitor the condition of the tree.

The department will evaluate the condition of the tree in the late spring, after leaf bud.

PM Laird stated the seat backs for the see-saw and a stationary cyler for the composite structure are on order and are intended to be installed by December 31, 2023. This modification to the playground was made possible by a grant, "Play is Essential" through the mParks foundation.

PM Laird stated that preliminary designs for a centrally located donor plaque are underway. The plaque will also recognize Oakland County and mParks for the respective grants received.

DPS staff performed necessary aerification, top dressing and seeding work to the open space/soccer field area in late October.

Barnum Park

Groundwater Energy Passive System (GEPS)

PM Laird explained in order to attempt to correct drainage issues in the Sanctuary and surrounding area, the Department of Public Services (DPS) contracted with Exlterra once again to install the Groundwater Energy Passive System (GEPS®) in this location. The installation occurred November 6th through the 8th. PM Laird shared the layout installation plan.

Park Amenities-Seasonal Closures

PM Laird informed the Parks and Recreation Board that the drinking fountains in parks are no longer in operation and many have been removed for the season.

PM Laird stated that the tennis and pickleball courts will remain available through November 30th or until the first significant snowfall, whichever comes first. Nets will be removed from all locations to prevent damage from weather.

Gibbs commented on the lack of handicap accessibility to Adams Park.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

No items for next meeting

Carmona stated the next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 6:30 pm, at 851 South Eton.

Chair Carmona adjourned the meeting at 7:16 pm

Connie J. Folk, Ice Arena and Facilities Superintendent

October 24, 2023

Nick Dupuis, AICP
Director of Planning
City of Birmingham
151 Martin Street
Birmingham, Michigan 48009

Nick,

I am writing to recommend that the proposed *Park's and Recreation Master Plan* include additional, Universal Design best practices for enhanced accessibility for persons of all ages and mobility abilities.

Many city parks are large open spaces with minimal walkability. For example, Pembroke Park needs a sidewalk along its Windemere Street– north edge, to connect Eton and Edenborough Streets.

I am attaching graphics to illustrate the scale and my general suggestions for short-term improvements for Pembroke and Crestview Parks.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to discussing the Park Plan further.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Gibbs, FASLA, AICP

bob@gibbsplan.com

cc. Carrie Lard
Birmingham Parks & Recreation Manager

Birmingham Parks



Figure 1: Downtown Birmingham's 60-acre Block Grid, The Historic District's 1-acre blocks are based on the Jefferson Grid



Figure 2: Downtown Birmingham's Block Grid

Birmingham Parks



Figure 3: Crestview Park's 4-acres equates to 4 city blocks



Figure 4: Crestview divided into 3 zones walkable zones.

Birmingham Parks

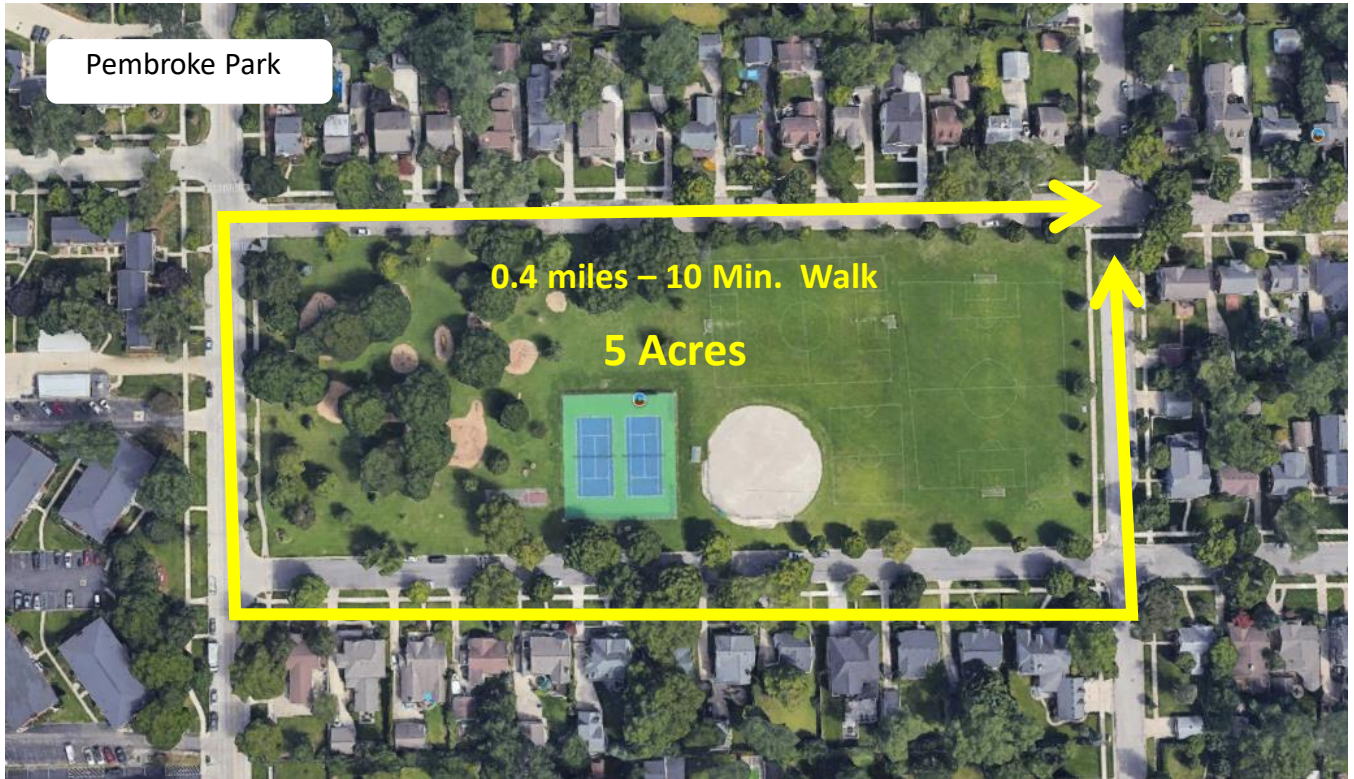


Figure 5: Pembroke Park's size equates to 5 city blocks and 0.4-mile outer edge- a 10-minute walk.



Figure 6: Pembroke Park planned into 1-acre walkable zones.

Birmingham Parks



Figure 7: Pembroke Park looking southeast from Eaton and Windemere Streets – Existing View



Figure 8: Pembroke Park looking southeast from Eaton and Windemere Streets – Proposed walkway improvement



Pembroke Park

Figure 9: Pembroke Park looking southwest from Windemere and Edenborough Streets Existing View



Pembroke Park

Figure 10: Pembroke Park looking southwest from Windemere and Edenborough Streets - Proposed walkway

Birmingham Parks



Figure 11: Barnum Park's 9-acres equates to 9 city blocks



Figure 12: Barnum Park's comparison to downtown Birmingham



MCKENNA

Memorandum

TO: City of Birmingham
FROM: Paul Urbiel, AICP, Jane Dixon, AICP, and the McKenna Team
SUBJECT: **Parks and Recreation Master Plan Draft – Public Comment Period Update at the December 5, 2023 Parks and Recreation Board Meeting**

PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN MASTER PLAN DRAFT

The draft document and instructions for providing feedback is available on the Parks Department website:

<http://www.bhamgov.org/parksmasterplan>

Attached to this memo is a summary of all comments received to date, as well as the planned revisions we propose to make to the draft document before submitting it for City Commission consideration of adoption.

We will be in attendance at your December 5 meeting to discuss and answer any questions you may have about these comments, our responses to them, or strategies for revisions.

NEXT STEPS

City Commission Consideration

At the December City Commission meeting, our team will present the revised draft to City Commission. The required Public Hearing will also be noticed in anticipation of that meeting and take place on December 18th; the Commission may adopt the Plan that same evening.

PLEASE NOTE

It is important to remember that the Plan is still in draft form, and that the public comment period and Public Hearing are yet part of the public engagement program for the planning process. We look forward to receiving further input, and welcome questions or comments at any time.

Thank you for your time, expertise, and collaboration throughout this process!

HEADQUARTERS
235 East Main Street
Suite 105
Northville, Michigan 48167

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MCKA.COM

Communities for real life.

#	DATE	PUBLIC COMMENT	MCKENNA RESPONSE / CONTEXT	TRACKED CHANGE ('DRAFT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW' -> 'DRAFT FOR ADOPTION CONSIDERATION')
1	1-Nov-23	<p><i>Thank you and team for efforts on the Parks and Rec Updated Master Plan. It is well done.</i></p> <p><i>And nice to allow feedback during this phase.</i></p> <p><i>The following suggestions / comments are relatively minor and may not be as strategic / broad as the Plan is written.</i></p> <p><i>Poppleton Park (which I live near and family uses on weekly basis)</i> <i>The ballfield area - between the parking and field itself could be improved, graded, grass, (potential lighting) at minimum expense and would improve the ball field entrance, access seating, overall quality significantly.</i> <i>There is missing sidewalk from Oxford (one house in from Rivenoak) to the ballfield and tennis courts.</i> <i>Believe there is space between existing tennis courts toward Rivenoak that could be used for additional courts (basketball, tennis, pickleball) or small soccer field or nature/sitting area.</i></p> <p><i>The addition of mini parks with vacant land seems like an idea effort to improve some open / vacant land into more useable park areas. The example in the plan of the south area of Old Woodward though as example doesn't seem like a good idea in terms of shutting/closing Old Woodward access to the south, the impact to businesses in the area, and traffic flow to/from Woodward. Believe there are easier, less (negative) impactful mini parks to develop than that example.</i></p> <p><i>The efforts and improvement at the Adams park has greatly increased use at that park. Both for the school / students and the residents. Wonderful job!</i></p>	<p>Poppleton Park: Gaps in accessible paths are mentioned in accessibility opportunities (page 77). These comments have been received by staff and will be considered when designing park improvements.</p> <p>Haynes Square: Recommendation of Birmingham Plan (2040 City-wide Master Plan). It is mentioned here because the creation of this square would address the goal of providing more, walkable park space throughout the City, but the text acknowledges that implementation of this idea is beyond the time horizon and scope of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.</p>	No change.
2	3-Nov-23	<p><i>It was great to read through such a comprehensive master plan. I was glad to see permanent restrooms on the list of action items. However, I think they are needed at Booth Park and did not see Booth Park listed in the current plans for restrooms. Permanent restrooms at Booth Park would be convenient for people at a variety of community events, including the Farmers' Market and outdoor movie screenings in the summer. I would also like to have them for when I am there with my family going on a walk or playing on the playground. Please seriously consider adding permanent restrooms to Booth Park.</i></p>	Booth Park restrooms are in process as part of current bond issue.	No change.

#	DATE	PUBLIC COMMENT	MCKENNA RESPONSE / CONTEXT	TRACKED CHANGE ('DRAFT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW' -> 'DRAFT FOR ADOPTION CONSIDERATION')
		<p><i>Pleased to see the social responsibility and environmental stewardship pervasive throughout this plan. It is wise to be planning all future projects with sustainability such as solar power and water conservation in mind.</i></p> <p><i>Especially happy to note on p.101 that under New Park Space, the properties at Eton/Lincoln and Cambridge/Buckingham (pollinator garden opportunity? Since the railroad removed all the trees along the tracks, that area is pretty raw) are being considered for additional areas of community gathering and neighborhood green space. I have a personal interest in both those areas, as well as Adams Park. Not sure if there are any metrics on the increased usage at Adams Park but my neighborhood (Birmingham Estates) bears witness. I was skeptical and hesitant but the space is fabulous and so well-suited to the needs of the community. I especially appreciate that the park is designed to be used by a wide range of individuals, the water fountain (to include dogs), and the pavilion.</i></p>		
3	3-Nov-23	<p><i>What is not working for me:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Any stationary food building at Booth Park. This violates the original intent of the donation of this land and there are plenty of places, within a few yards, where people can connect and purchase refreshments.</i> <i>2. The choice of bands for the concerts in Shain Park. Big fan of the concerts. The cover bands from last Summer were not exciting. Would like to see more local talent and variety.</i> <i>3. Wish the parks included equipment for Seniors, or at least a broader age range. With our aging population, incorporating Senior-friendly park amenities (fitness stations) and universal design principles for accessibility would be terrific. I see this is addressed in the currents plans a bit.</i> <p><i>Thank you for asking for community feedback. Thank you for your work. Overall, I am impressed and pleased by the Parks and Recs portion of the Master Plan.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Food in Booth Park: Both the Birmingham 2040 Plan and engaged stakeholders during this planning process identified the desire for food and beverage service within parks.</i> <i>2. Programming of the concerts not within the scope of this plan, comment received by staff.</i> <i>3. Adult fitness stations at strategic locations throughout the park system are identified as both a short- and long-term priority on page 121.</i> 	No change.
4	3-Nov-23	<p><i>The only comments I have at this point are:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1) There is no provision for "senior exercise" in Poppleton Park that I could find. There are a number of seniors in the Poppleton area and now with the crosswalks on Woodward to access the park from the west, I believe senior exercise should be considered.</i> <i>2) Accommodations for food trucks really worries me. I see the need for additional lighting and utility hookups, garbage and trash being continually generated, additional vehicle traffic, etc. I really see no good reason to have food trucks in our parks.</i> <i>3) I am categorically opposed to the installation of restrooms in our parks. I played for the B'Ham senior softball team for 15 years and we played in the Oakland, Macomb, Wayne counties area. I saw very, very few public restrooms built and regularly maintained to a quality standard that Birmingham should demand for these facilities.</i> <p><i>I think the plan itself is robust with many good metrics!!! And I think you and the P&R Board have a good working document. I am looking forward to what I know will be some super results as a result.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Poppleton Park: To this point, adult exercise was not mentioned in Poppleton Park, however it does have the capacity to accept this amenity and is a feasible candidate for consideration.</i> <i>2. Accommodation for food and/or beverage service is a persistent theme in the feedback received for this plan and aligns with the Birmingham Plan recommendations.</i> <i>3. Restrooms are identified as a priority in parks for accessibility, inclusiveness and general usability of the parks. Input received from this plan to this point has been on both sides of this issue, but definitively favors the addition of well-designed and well-maintained restrooms.</i> 	Add Poppleton to candidate sites for adult fitness.

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5	4-Nov-23	<p><i>From playing at and driving by the pickle ball courts, it appears as if there is significant usage of the 6 courts during both open play and when the court have reserved time.</i></p> <p><i>Certainly, more usage than what was being delivered by the tennis courts.</i></p> <p><i>This is a request for additional pickle ball courts and consideration be given to a location that could support a bubble for the cold weather.</i></p>	<p>The Board and the City staff have contemplated additional pickleball facilities, and pickleball was a frequent requested amenity in the public engagement for this plan. Birmingham exceeds the national provision of pickleball facilities as identified by the NRPA. Additional pickleball opportunities are available at partner sites and regionally.</p> <p>We agree that providing multi-use facilities at existing tennis courts is a cost-effective way to increase the availability of pickleball facilities.</p>	Add short-term action to add pickleball striping to selected existing tennis courts.
6	5-Nov-23	<p><i>I am a Birmingham resident (own two homes in the city) and I support renovations at Kenning #1 and #4. Little League is a very beneficial activity for kids and families.</i></p>	<p>This comment aligns with other feedback gleaned from the survey and commentary at Parks and Recreation Board meetings where the draft plan was discussed. A reconsideration of the design plan for Kenning Park is recommended on page 125, which is a requisite first step in completing improvements to the ballfields.</p>	No change.
7	24-Oct-23	<p><i>I am writing to recommend that the proposed Park's and Recreation Master Plan include additional, Universal Design best practices for enhanced accessibility for persons of all ages and mobility abilities.</i></p> <p><i>Many city parks are large open spaces with minimal walkability. For example, Pembroke Park needs a sidewalk along its Windemere Street– north edge, to connect Eton and Edenborough Streets.</i></p> <p><i>I am attaching graphics to illustrate the scale and my general suggestions for short-term improvements for Pembroke and Crestview Parks.</i></p> <p><i>Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to discussing the Park Plan further.</i></p>	<p>Universal accessibility, additional wheeled access and compliance with ADA, and increased walkability to and within parks is inherent to the plan's goals, objectives and actions.</p>	Add sidewalk recommendations for perimeter of parks. Add clarifying language regarding the definition of "accessible paths" and this plan's relationship to the Birmingham Plan (the 2040 Citywide Master Plan).
8	7-Nov-23	<p><i>A couple of things I noticed when reviewing the master plan document:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>•p. 84 Detention Pond (shouldn't it be "retention"?)</i> <i>•p. 94-96 demographics begin with 0-4, 5-9, 10-14, then skips to >65 (are we missing my age group?)</i> <i>•p.96 the title indicates "Population Over 65" but the legend title describes Ages 5-9 (is the data for the 5-9 or is the legend title a typo?)</i> <i>•p. 110 the bottom graphic has formatting issues (there appear to be 12 data sets, but there are 15 x-axis titles, very difficult to read)</i> 	<p>Noted and revised.</p>	Corrections made.
9	13-Nov-23	<p><i>Thank you for soliciting community feedback for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan - I really appreciate how you get citizens involved.</i></p> <p><i>I've spoken with multiple residents in our neighborhood and they were curious about the potential to have toilets installed in Adam's Park. As you're aware, Adam's Park is new and beautiful, and having a restroom would greatly enhance its usability for families.</i></p> <p><i>If a restroom is far down the list, relative to other parks, is it possible to have a porta-poty installed? They would be appreciated and a great start!</i></p>	<p>Restrooms are identified as a priority in parks for accessibility, inclusiveness and general usability of the parks. Additional capital improvements at Adams Park are not contemplated within the time horizon of this plan given the recent investment.</p>	No change. Request for temporary restrooms received by staff.

#	DATE	PUBLIC COMMENT	MCKENNA RESPONSE / CONTEXT	TRACKED CHANGE ('DRAFT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW' -> 'DRAFT FOR ADOPTION CONSIDERATION')
10	14-Nov-23	<p><i>Wow, what a comprehensive parks and rec plan! Thank you!</i></p> <p><i>I am disappointed to see that building more pickleball courts did not make it to the next 1 to 3 year plan. (unless I missed it?) I noted that that was one of the top comments regarding future needs. There seems to be many underutilized tennis courts that may be considered. Has there been any attempt to monitor use numbers?</i></p> <p><i>I am also unsure why we need to consider locking the courts??!! I know noise has been a concern, but there are efforts underway to create quieter equipment....</i></p>	<p>The Board and the City staff have contemplated additional pickleball facilities, and pickleball was a frequent requested amenity in the public engagement for this plan. Birmingham exceeds the national provision of pickleball facilities as identified by the NRPA. Additional pickleball opportunities are available at partner sites and regionally.</p> <p>We agree that providing multi-use facilities at existing tennis courts is a cost-effective way to increase the availability of pickleball facilities.</p>	<p>Add short-term action to add pickleball striping to selected existing tennis courts.</p>
11	14-Nov-23	<p><i>I am reaching out to you in regards to the proposed 2024-2028 Parks & Recreation Master Plan. I appreciate that you have opened this up for public remarks. I have taken a look at the draft proposed and I have some real concerns. Not only as a resident of the west side of Birmingham but as a veteran REALTOR® in the Birmingham market.</i></p> <p><i>Let me start out by saying I love our community! I love the robust shopping, the charming streets and the parks peppered throughout Birmingham. It's a wonderful selling feature when I'm introducing people to the area. As a parent, it has also been a HUGE asset for my family. When selecting a home in Birmingham, I specifically wanted to be close to a park.</i></p> <p><i>I have taken time to review the proposal posted on the website. This plan seems to be OVERLY weighted on the east side of town. I understand that outside guidance was received for creating this plan, taking into consideration several factors. However, I can't help but think there is a more equitable way to approach this. Three of the four parks identified within the report's first priority category are east of Woodward. The 4th park is just a few blocks west of Woodward. All of those parks have other parks close by or a school with a playground. This is a HUGE disservice to the residents and children on the west side of town. It also impacts the desirability for people wanting to come to this side of town. Potentially impacting real estate values. BOTH are a concern for me.</i></p> <p><i>I would like to encourage you to PLEASE reconsider this plan and take into consideration the Lincoln Well Park. It's one of the few parks on the west side of town. It is often visited and seems to be a true treasure to those of us living around it.</i></p> <p><i>I am asking you to please move the West Lincoln Well Park up to the FIRST PRIORITY category.</i></p>	<p>We assume this comment relates to the priorities for Universally-Accessible Playground installation. West Lincoln Well is identified to receive a new playground as part of this bond issue (as a second-priority candidate), which still might occur within the time horizon of this plan. This prioritization is based on the age of the existing equipment, condition of the existing equipment, and presence of children living in a walkable distance from the park.</p> <p>Recommended actions and policies are based on inventory of existing amenities, analysis of data and best practices, and public feedback received to date. Investment to west-of-Woodward parks is recommended throughout the action plan.</p>	<p>No change.</p>
12	16-Nov-23	<p><i>I read the master plan and am proud that the City of Birmingham values its city parks. My focus is Barnum Park. I read they want to put in "yard games". I don't think the park needs "yard games". The beauty of this open park allows for community members to create their own "games" and how to utilize the space, noting permanent is necessary. We have a playground, ball field, soccer field and enjoy the open space. I liked that we had a seasonal ice rink, although it was rarely used, if ever.</i></p> <p><i>Currently, restrooms are set up near the sidewalks. To me, they are an "eye sore". I like where the restroom are by the parking lot. Do we need them along the sidewalks?</i></p> <p><i>I would not change one thing about Barnum Park. It is quite perfect the way it is, except for the restrooms basically on the sidewalks.</i></p>	<p>It is worth noting that City-provided temporary restrooms are not near the sidewalk, and the temporary restrooms mentioned belonged to a 3rd party contractor to facilitate utility work.</p>	<p>No change.</p>

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13	24-Nov-23	<i>I live in the Pembroke Park area of the city. I have noticed the amazing improvements that Bham has made to certain parks throughout the city, namely the beautiful landscaping improvements of such parks as Barnum Park and Quarton Lake Park and others. I see that quite a bit of money must have gone into this extraordinary landscaping for these parks.</i>	Comment received by staff.	No change.		
		<i>My recommendation and expectation is that other parks (that may not be central Bham) also get this extraordinary landscaping, as it adds value to our community for everyone.</i>				
		<i>I live near Pembroke park and I see that it could use landscaping in addition to having recreational facilities (like Barnum). Howarth park could also use landscaping.</i>				
		<i>I think with this improvement in landscaping more people (of divergent ages) would visit and could enjoy the parks, landscaping and gardens.</i>				
		<i>Page 7 Change 'Bathrooms' to 'Restrooms' for document clarity and consistency</i>			Noted and revised.	Revised.
		<i>Page 7 'Transform Woodward Environment' – This may relate more to Master Plan but should include landscape along Woodward south of Lincoln to 14-Mile Rd. and trees within the median south of Chapin to 14-Mile Rd. In addition to above, LED pole lighting to match Royal Oak stretch and safer, well-lit pedestrian crossings.</i>			This plan is focused on City-owned parks and recreation facilities, not other public space or ROW.	No change.
		<i>Page 7 Increased Rouge River Connections – Agree, High priority for me</i> <i>Environmental Sustainability – Agree, High priority for me</i>				No change.
		<i>Page 10 Map Graphic – Why is Linden Trail not dark green like Booth Trail? One River / One Trail? Rouge River Trail north of Maple – why not green?</i>			Noted and revised.	Revised.
		<i>Page 22 Street Trees need more priority – timely replacement, Native species. Native Trees – more implementation, education is needed on benefits. Invasive Species Removal – Ongoing fight that will only get worse – Action Plan & Volunteer partnerships and education needs to be prioritized</i>			This plan is focused on City-owned parks and recreation facilities, not other public space or ROW.	No change.
		<i>Page 82 Public Restrooms – Why is Shain Park not at the top of the list? Heavily used central park with no permanent restrooms</i>			Restroom prioritization is focused on parks with pavilions/picnic areas, sport fields, and those away from convenient public restrooms.	No change.
<i>Page 85 Promote Native Trees Species & benefits to birds, insects, & local environment as a priority</i>	The plan discusses the benefits of native species on page 83, and recommends the development of a native planting list for future landscaping improvements on page 121.	No change.				
<i>Pages 86, 87, 91 Prioritize (with increased emphasis) Reduced Lawn Areas / Additional Native Plantings in non-recreational areas</i>	The plan discusses the benefits of native species on page 83, and recommends the development of a native planting list for future landscaping improvements on page 121.	No change.				
<i>Pages 93,129 St. James Park would be a great candidate for green infrastructure improvements</i>	Agreed.	St. James added to list of green infrastructure candidates.				
14	11/26/2023	<i>Page 96 Great Map / One River Trail – One Color?</i>	Noted and revised.	Revised.		
		<i>Page 97 Very informative map</i>		No change.		
		<i>Page 100 Maps with ages between 14 and 65? Age group evenly spread out around city? Mentioned somewhere?</i>	The walkability map of parks to the entire city is on page 92. This analysis was conducted to seek opportunities to improve equitable access to the parks, thus the age groups that most stand to benefit from easy, walkable access were studied.	No change.		
		<i>Page 101 Bike lanes in downtown - a missed opportunity Potential improvements?</i>	This plan is focused on City-owned parks and recreation facilities, not other public space or ROW.	No change.		

#	DATE	PUBLIC COMMENT	MCKENNA RESPONSE / CONTEXT	TRACKED CHANGE ('DRAFT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW' -> 'DRAFT FOR ADOPTION CONSIDERATION')
		<i>Page 101 Haynes Square Don't quite get this one! To be like Shain Park? Shain Park is in a walkable, center of downtown location – This would be adjacent to high-speed highway! Landscape improvements in existing triangle would be a plus though</i>	Recommendation of Birmingham Plan (2040 City-wide Master Plan). It is mentioned here because the creation of this square would address the goal of providing more, walkable park space throughout the City, but the text acknowledges that implementation of this idea is beyond the time horizon and scope of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.	No change.
		<i>Page 102 MoGo would be great! Near downtown connections would be a plus</i>		No change.
		<i>Pages 116-119 Goal Statements – Graphic headlines for each goal would help first time readers grasp the important but 'hard to grasp without reading multiple times' statements such as 'ACCESSIBILITY' & 'SUSTAINABILITY'</i>	Will seek opportunities to emphasize themes and goal 'key' words.	
		<i>Page 122 Shain Park Restroom should be a priority Did I miss mention of the Booth Park Restroom?</i>	Restroom prioritization is focused on parks with pavilions/picnic areas, sport fields, and those away from convenient public restrooms. The Booth restroom project is in the process of being implemented and thus is not mentioned for future planning.	
		<i>Page 123 More recycling bins throughout parks and city – Yes!</i>		No change.
		<i>Page 125 Invasive Planting Removal – Grants and volunteer partnerships need to be promoted More Native planting – Yes!</i>		No change.