



CITY OF WEST ST. PAUL

1616 HUMBOLDT AVENUE, WEST ST. PAUL, MN 55118

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2016 AT 5:30PM HARMON PARK NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

1. Roll Call

2. Adopt Minutes

- 2.A. Approve May 10, 2016 Minutes
Documents: [MAY 10.PDF](#)

3. New Business

- 3.A. Proposed Bike Lane Discussion
Documents: [6-14-16 BIKE LANE DISCUSSION.PDF](#), [6-14-16 PROPOSED ON STREET BIKE LANES.PDF](#)

4. Old Business

- 4.A. Art Park Update
The City Council will discuss the attached budget and proposal for the art park at Monday, June 13th's OCWS.
Documents: [COUNCIL REPORT - ART PARK BUDGET UPDATE.PDF](#)

5. Other

6. Adjourn

MINUTES
WEST ST. PAUL PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
May 10, 2016

Park & Rec. Members Present: Bonnie Bellows, Brad Erickson, Brandi Hoffman, Mike Petrasek, Bob Gausman, Dave Lynch

Non-voting Members Present: Clpn. Jenny Halverson, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director, Dave Schletty; Parks and Public Works Secretary, Sharon G. Hatfield

1. **REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES**

Chair Petrasek Called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm. The March 8, 2016 minutes were approved.

2. **NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER, BRAD ERICKSON**

Brad Erickson of Ward I introduced himself to the committee. He has lived in West St. Paul for seventeen years and has two daughters. He would like to be involved in the community.

3. **EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT/MILKWEED PLANTING**

Dave Schletty said that there is an Eagle Scout from Troop 248 who would like to plant milk weed in one to three parks in West St. Paul. The scout is very interested in helping insects thrive and creating a habitat in city parks. He has approached Dodge Nature Center regarding the project. Dodge Nature Center said that they have too many projects. Dave Napier steered the scout to City of West St. Paul. Schletty asked if the committee had any suggestions for the project.

Lynch asked if the milkweed needs maintenance. (Milkweed does not need maintenance; it will reseed itself.) It would not be a good plant for the Art Park because it is not pretty. It is better-looking in a wild area. The best time to plant would be the “end of the season.” Lynch said that the east shoreline of the Mud Lake would be a good area. The north side of the sledding hill in Marthaler Park would be a good area as well. Schletty remarked that the scope of the project has not been determined yet. The scout is a freshman; he has a few years to complete the project. The concept for the project still needs to be approved by the Boy Scouts.

4. **ART PARK/OAKDALE BUTLER LOT**

Schletty drew a plan for the Art Park. In order to save money, Schletty said that city staff will excavate the lot themselves, put in the sidewalk and build a patio surrounded by a curving path on the lot. (It would cost eighteen thousand dollars to grade and remove all the debris from the Art Park.) The art light boxes could be installed anywhere on the lot. The lot will lose the unhealthy maple tree located toward the center; two trees will replace it.

The committee discussed the plans for the Art Park. Clpn. Halverson likes the curving path; she would still like to have the path lit with fiber optics. Schletty will call St. Paul Regional Water Service regarding the “water hook-up.” The plot will need extra drainage work. Rain water will settle in the center of the plot without a “drainage fix.” City staff plan to start

work on the Art Park in early summer. Staff would like to roll in the cost of the landscaping into the Robert Street Project in order to reduce costs. Member Lynch asked if installing rain gardens would help the drainage problem. Schletty replied that rain gardens would incur extra excavation costs.

Halverson commented that [this work] was just a start for the park. Member Hoffman remarked that "This is great." Petrasek said, "Get 'er done." Schletty made a comment about finding out the foundation leftover from the demolished house. The city needs to find out who demolished it; West St. Paul or the bank.

5. **THOMPSON OAKS GOLF COURSE**

Lynch asked if this was the last year for the golf course. Schletty replied yes. The future of the golf course is dependent on YMCA decisions as well. Presently there are four people employed to maintain the golf course and seven people hired for the Club House. These are seasonal staff employed from March until October. They are hourly employees.

6. **MARTHALER PARK PLANS**

Lynch asked if there were anything new with the Marthaler Park plans. Schletty said yes and no. It is dependent on the Robert Street Project and funding. The city may have no park projects if there is no funding. It may be better to flip-flop the Sports Complex project with the Marthaler Project and finish the Sports Complex project in 2017. (The streets around Marthaler Park are going to be improved in 2017.) The city also plans to coordinate the roundabout project (Wentworth and Oakdale) with the Sports Complex plans.

The budget for the Marthaler Park Project is one million seven hundred thousand dollars. The improvements include building new shelter areas and may include installing an amphitheater and a fishing pier. Member Bellows asked about the new park entrance signs and if they would include the West St. Paul logo. Schletty showed two versions of the new signs. The more expensive sign featured the logo in the pier-inset.

7. **CITY EVENTS**

- a. **Arbor Day**-This Friday, the city will celebrate Arbor Day at the Garlough Environmental Fair. The fair time is 5-7 pm.
- b. **City Open House**-The City Open House will be Wednesday, May 18. Bellows remarked that the West St. Paul Days events are not clearly listed on our website. Schletty said that because West St. Paul Days are run by a volunteer group, not by the city. The group has a West St. Paul Days website. Schletty will ask the website manager to put a link to the events on the city website.
- c. **Easter Celebration**- Bellows asked how the Easter Celebration went. Schletty reported that there was a lighter crowd this year. Schletty moved the celebration to the TPAC room. Dave Lynch and his wife (the Easter Bunny) were there to volunteer. Schletty said that Alisha Blades has been hired to be the new program coordinator.

8. **OTHER**

- a. **Buckthorn Removal-Member** -Gausman suggested a new way to get rid of buckthorn in the parks using tryclopypyr. Removing buckthorn will encourage more

deer and turkeys and other wildlife in the parks. Dakota County is presently using the herbicide. Schletty said that park maintenance staff cannot take on this type of project. It would need to be undertaken by a volunteer group. Halverson said that city staff would need to see how much the removal would cost. (The costs for the herbicide would be about ten thousand dollars.)

- b. Bicycle and Walker Awareness** -Hoffman “challenged the committee” to create a Bike Pedestrian Awareness Group. There have been too many car accidents involving bikers and walkers. Hoffman would like to have more education on bike and pedestrian safety done. Lynch added that bikers and walkers need to be educated as well. He said, “White lines don’t stop cars.” Hoffman said that the city needs safer routes to schools. Ideas included education on the city website and the newsletter. Gausman said that this endeavor would be a good fit for the Environmental Committee. Petrasek mentioned a video made for teenagers regarding this topic. Hoffman said that a video already exists probably.
- 9. ADJOURNMENT**
The committee members adjourned at 6:20 pm. The next Park and Recreation Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 14, 2016 at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon G. Hatfield

TO: Parks & Recreation Committee
FROM: Assistant Parks & Rec Director
DATE: June 14, 2016
SUBJECT: Proposed Bike Lane Discussion



City of West St. Paul

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

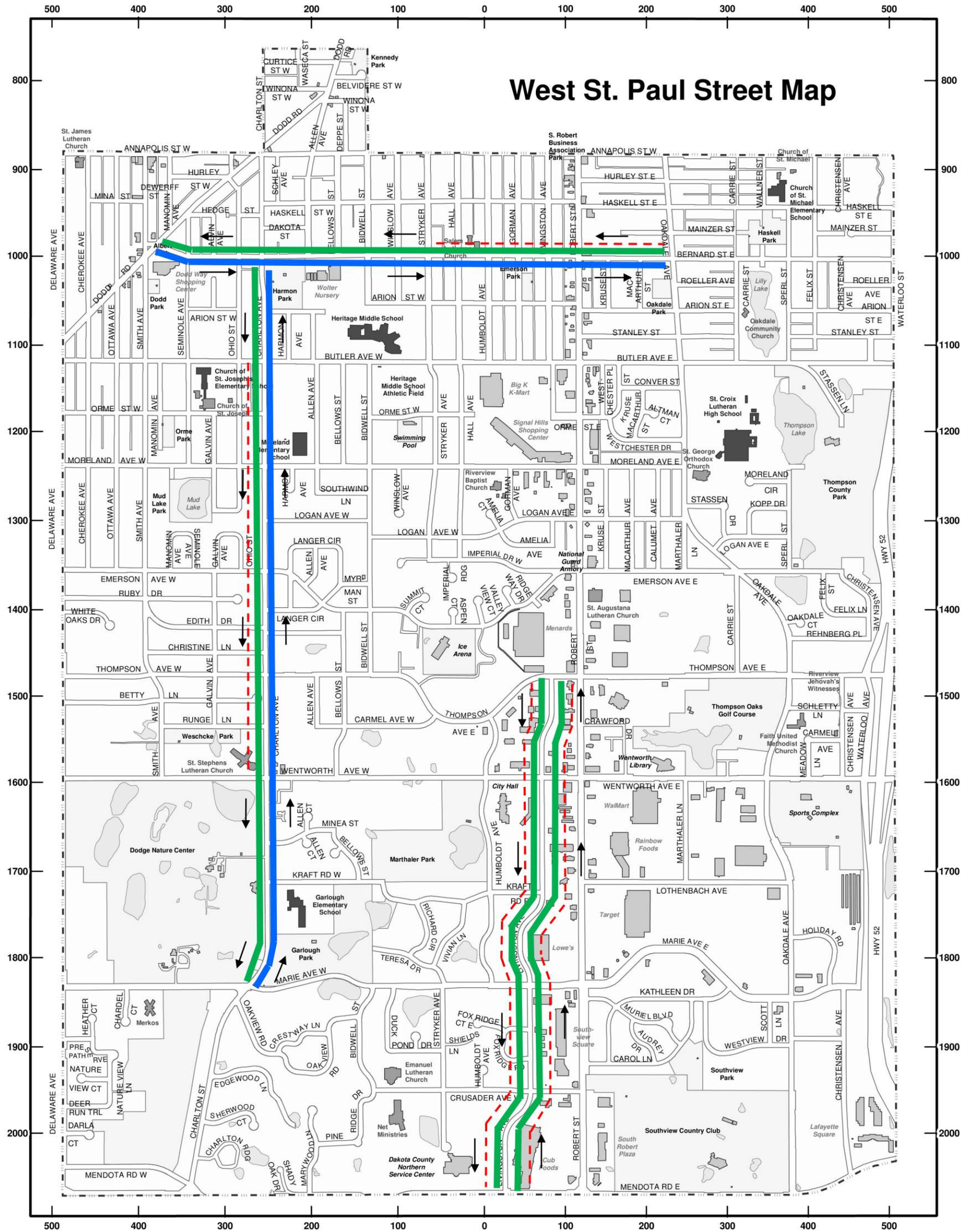
The Committee has worked in the past on developing a bicycle and pedestrian master plan which the City Council approved in 2014. The Council is slowly implementing this plan with current and future road reconstruction projects and will be considering the establishment of a City-wide assessment district for assisting with financing new sidewalk/trail areas. In the meantime, staff is looking to move forward with some other aspects of the plan, mainly on-road bike lanes, which are very low cost improvements. Staff has researched and discussed a few main east/west and north/south corridors, in which we could fairly easily reconfigure to add either a bike lane or sharrow (shared bike and motor vehicle lane). A few citizen bike enthusiasts will be in attendance at the meeting to discuss the proposal (attached).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff would like the Committee to discuss the proposal and make a recommendation to Council regarding it.

Attachments: Diagrams of proposed bike lanes and sharrows

Proposed On-Street Bicycle Facilities



West St. Paul Street Map

- Designated Striped Bike Lane
- Shared Bike/Drive Lane
- - - Remove On-Street Parking
- ← Cyclist Direction of Travel



TO: Mayor and City Council
THROUGH: Matt Fulton, City Manager
Ross Beckwith, Park & Rec/PW Dir.
FROM: Dave Schletty, Asst. Parks & Rec. Dir.
DATE: June 13, 2016
SUBJECT: Art Park Discussion Update

City of West St. Paul

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

A concept and budget for the Art Park at Oakdale Ave and Butler Ave was discussed at the last OCWS. At that time staff informed the City Council that the approved 2016 budget of \$20,000 was not significant to complete all the desired elements in the park. The Council directed staff to remove a number of “wish list” items from the budget and reevaluate the remaining items. The summary of this new itemized budget is listed below. With a few compromises and modifications staff now believes they can complete the project within the \$20,000 budget. Some of these changes include using LED photo boxes and run them with solar power, eliminating fiber optics in sidewalk and using a glowing crushed aggregate finish instead, reducing the number of initial plantings and adding more landscaping in future years, and possibly removing the retaining wall around the patio area and replacing it with a sloped hill planted with native grasses and pollinator friendly plants. This budget includes the retaining wall and a cost of about \$4000, and staff recommends removing it, for the alternate listed above, if other project items come in over budget.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The itemized budget is listed below:

- Lot Survey (completed) \$954.00
 - Site Prep (excavation, disposal, topsoil, prep, retaining wall) \$6746.00
 - Concrete Walk/Patio (possibly with glowing aggregate) \$8000.00
 - Landscaping (trees, flowers, native pollinator plantings) \$800.00
 - Solar Powered LED Light/Photo Boxes \$3500.00
- Total \$20,000.00**

		Amount
Fund:	413	
Department:	45000	
Account:	40530	\$20,000.00

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council discuss the concepts for the Art Park and approve them along with the budget.