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NOTE: COMISSIONERS WILL BE CONTACTED BY STAFF PRIOR TO THE MEETINGS TO ASSESS ATTENDANCE. FAILURE TO RESPOND BY NOON ON THE DAY OF THE SCHEDULED MEETING WILL BE CONSIDERED AN ABSENCE AND MAY RESULT IN CANCELLATION OF THE MEETING DUE TO LACK OF A QUORUM. (952-472-0603 or admin@cityofmound.com)

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION

AGENDA

6:30 P.M. Regular Meeting
City Council Chambers
5341 Maywood Road, Mound, MN
Thursday, May 8, 2025

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1. Call to Order	
2. Roll Call	
3. Approval of Agenda	
4. Approve minutes from the 4-10-2025 Meeting	1
5. Comments and Suggestions from Citizens Present (No more than 3 minutes allowed per speaker)	
6. Follow Up Items from Joint POSC/CC Meeting A. 2025 POSC Personal/Commission Priorities B. Chester Park Rename	
7. Adopt a Green Space Program A. Application B. Letter to Adopters – Upcoming Changes	9
8. Recreational Programs Discussion A. Playground Passport B. Pop Up Park Playdates	
9. Summer Meetings Schedule	15
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11. Reports: Staff Updates: City Council Representative: Commissioner Comments:	

12. Next Meeting: June 12, 2025
Tentative Discussion Items: Park Visit Discussion
Lost Lake Commons: Phase II
13. Adjourn

**PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION (POSC) MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 10, 2025**

The Mound Parks and Open Spaces Commission met on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers at the Centennial Building.

Present: Chair Joanna Kahn, and Commissioners Travis Mills, Tyler Pieper, Kim Blievernicht, and City Council Representative Sherrie Pugh.
Absent: None.
Others Present: Deputy City Manager, Maggie Reisdorf, Public Works Director, Ryan Prich, City Engineer, Matt Bauman, Landscape Designer Casey Bleakly, Public Works Park Lead, Jordan Lemmerman.
Public Present: Nick Karls (5246 Piper Road, Mound), Jenna Soule (3188 Tuxedo Blvd, Mound), Nate Geyen (5201 Piper Road), and Joe Grey (2350 Harbor Place).

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

2. **Roll Call**

Present: Chair Kahn and Commissioners Mills, Pieper, Blievernicht, and City Council Representative Pugh.

Absent: None.

3. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Blievernicht to approve the agenda as amended, second by Mills; Motion carried 5-0.

4. **Approve Minutes from 3-13-2025 Meeting**

Motion by Blievernicht to approve the 3-13-2025 meeting minutes, second by Pugh. Motion carried 5-0.

5. **Comments and Suggestions from Citizens Present**

NA.

6. **Chester Park**

Reisdorf introduced this item to the POSC. She informed that the playground at Chester Park is on the city schedule for replacement in 2025. She noted that in 2024 a letter was sent to neighbors of the park inviting them to attend the December POSC meeting for a “kick off” event for the project. Reisdorf stated that those who attended that meeting and were interested in being contacted for future meetings on the topic were asked to provide their contact information. She said they were invited to this meeting to continue the discussion on the project.

Prich stated that Chester Park is across the street for Al and Alma’s Dinner Club in Mound and that the business uses the park regularly. He noted that they have adopted the park as well as part of the City’s “adopt an open space program”. Prich informed that the current playground was installed in 1989 and due to aging and safety concerns, it needs to be replaced. Prich went into detail about the proposed improvements to the park that would be made and what would remain on site. He noted that the dedicated park benches would remain on site, and the wall that surrounds the playground area would stay. He explained that state law requires the city to make ADA accessibility upgrades any time significant updates are made to parks. Prich said that the current sand around the current playground will be moved to the lake beach and replaced with an engineered wood fiber to meet accessibility standards. He noted as well that the public sidewalk leading to the playground will be replaced and graded to meet accessibility standards and will also include the addition of a pedestrian access ramp from the street.

Prich explained that the City of Mound reached out to three different companies to solicit for playground designs. He stated that he provided specifications, and a budget for each company to

stay within. Prich said he asked for two playground designs from each of the three companies. Prich said that due to current regulations for playground and the requirement to have specific “zones” around each type of play structure, there is not enough room for swings to be included in the design.

Prich reviewed the following playground information:

Flagship/Landscape Structures

Option 1: \$50,411: Not installed, no wood fiber. State Contract Price.
\$62,624.35: Installed with wood fiber.

Option 2: \$37,813: Not installed, no wood fiber. State Contract Price.
\$57,421.35: Installed with wood fiber.

MN/WI Playground/GameTime

Option 3: \$42,621.63: Installed with wood fiber.

Option 4: \$51,922: Installed with wood fiber

Northland Recreation/Little Tykes

Option 5: \$39,983.50: Installed with wood fiber

Option 6: \$39,995.90: Installed with wood fiber

Prich stated that once the playground equipment is ordered, it can take between 6 – 10 weeks for it to arrive.

Prich noted that there has been a request to rename the park as a memorial park to former resident and business owner Jay Soule. He showed the POSC an example of a memorial plaque that could be placed at the park. He reviewed color options for the playground equipment.

Blievernicht asked about the current playground equipment and the removal process.

Prich explained that the Public Works Department would go in and remove the current equipment. He noted that they would also prepare the site for the new equipment with an excavator. Prich talked about moving the sand that currently sits in the playground area to the nearby beach. He informed that, according to state law, an engineered wood fiber needs to be placed instead of sand as a way to make the playground and park ADA accessible.

Prich reviewed the desired installation schedule and the how the city would need to coordinate schedules with contractors and the nearby restaurant to get the playground installed and park improvements made in a manner that is least disruptive to the area. Prich noted that the city’s intention is to limit as much as possible the disruption to the neighboring business and residential properties.

Nate Geyen (5201 Piper Road) resident and owner of Al and Alma’s Dinner Club, mentioned his support for changing the park name to be a memorial to Jay Soule. He asked for clarification on the improvements that are proposed for the public sidewalk and the sidewalk access ramp.

Prich explained that to make the sidewalk ADA accessible and to meet necessary standards, the sidewalk needs to be dug up and replaced with an accessible ramp at the street entrance, expanded in size, and graded properly to meet accessibility standards. He noted that the grading needs to be less than a 2% grade.

Geyen expressed concerns about the construction period and the time period in which the sidewalk would be closed. He stated that the sidewalk is used for business guests to get from the restaurant to the boats on the lake.

Prich stated that the city would be in contact with Geyen to make sure there was ongoing discussion, communication and coordination.

Geyen stated that he like playground #6 that was presented. He recommended that the POSC pick nautical colors like blue and grey.

Prich reviewed the blue, white and grey colors options from the playground company.

Geyen asked that the city maintain as much green space as possible as he grew up near the park and as a kid remembered enjoying the green space at the park.

Prich stated that all green space would be maintained except for a little bit that is needed for the sidewalk expansion.

Jenna Soule (3188 Tuxedo Blvd) and former owner of the Al and Alma's Dinner Club, thanked that city staff for keeping them involved in the park discussion and planning and for inviting them again to the POSC meeting. Soule stated that she liked playgrounds #5 and #6. She said that they aren't overpowering, have some shade elements, and wouldn't impact the view of the lake. She noted that she is not in favor of a playground that would tower over the space and obstruct the view of the lake. She agreed with using nautical colors. She thanked the POSC for considering the park memorial for her late husband, Jay Soule.

Nick Karls (5246 Piper Road, Mound), informed that he agrees with picking a park design that has a lower profile and keeps the site line open to the lake. He expressed support for changing the name to Jay Soule park and recommended that the POSC consider the name change. He explained that he understands that the name Chester in Chester Park may have community significance. He noted that it is worth looking into and taking that into consideration.

Pugh noted that there was an old grocery store in the community that had Chester in the name. Pugh explained that the POSC needs to talk about the name change suggestion more. She stated that she didn't believe the city had a policy in place that provided guidance on the matter. Pugh referenced other recent discussions though on park names; referencing the Eli Hart Memorial Playground. Pugh stressed the importance of maintaining the city's important history that many community members don't know about.

Karls stated that he understood maintaining the city's history. He noted that he is going to reach out the Westonka History Museum to research more information on the history of the park. He explained that a memorial plaque would be great, but that renaming the park would mean a bit more.

Pieper said that he is in favor of the playground designs numbered 5 and 6. He said that he likes the price points of these two parks and the low profiles. He said that he liked how playground 5 was more condensed so that there would be more running room. He explained that he would prefer a playground with more shade coverage. He recommended having the colors of the playground be light colors to reduce the hotness of the playground.

Geyen noted that the park is surrounded by many trees and that the trees would help shade the playground.

Kahn expressed concern about making such a big decision this evening and wondered if more time was needed.

Mills informed that he agreed with picking a playground that has a low profile and doesn't block the view of the lake. He said he was in favor of nautical colors as well.

Blievernicht said that she was ready to make a recommendation to the City Council this evening.

Pugh stated that she was too.

Kahn said she likes the playground that has monkey bars. She said monkey bars are popular with older kids.

Soule agreed that monkey bars are popular.

Pugh also agreed that monkey bars are popular and she would like the playground to have them.

Blievernicht stated that she liked playground design 6 with the monkey bars and the combinations of slides. She said she was in support of nautical colors.

Pieper asked if there was any flexibility with the playground features and if anything could be moved or replaced with other amenities.

Prich stated that the presented playgrounds were specifically designed for the current space and parameters of the park. He said because of that, there isn't much flexibility.

Mills moved to recommend to the City Council moving forward with Playground Design number 6 from Northland Recreation/Little Tykes with nautical themed colors. Pieper seconded. All voted in favor. 5-0.

Mills recommended that the POSC discuss the name change recommendation at the next meeting.

Kahn agreed to have it on the May POSC agenda and that staff research the history of the name of the park. She explained that they need more information why Chester Park was named that.

7. **Lost Lake Commons – Phase II**

Bauman introduced this item to the POSC. He explained that Phase I of the Lost Lake Commons park was completed in 2024 with the plan to complete Phase II in 2025. He noted that concept plans have been prepared for the POSC to review for Phase II and that staff is asking that the POSC narrow down design elements for different park features. Bauman explained that the goal with some of the park features would be to include them in a community survey to get community input.

Bauman noted that Phase I is about 90% complete. He explained that the irrigation system and the growing of the grass is planned for this year. Bauman said that Phase II elements will include more of the landscaping and art features of the park. He noted that Phase III will later include the construction of a band stand, and the repaving of the nearby parking lot that is currently used for the Mound Farmers Market.

Bleakly reviewed the eight Phase II elements that the POSC would be reviewing that evening, including, elements related to the plaza, a seating area, the art walk, the art installations, the monument sign, wayfinding signage, interpretive signage, and electrical features.

Plaza and Fire Ring

Bleakly stated that this part of the project would include site grading, plaza pavement, a fire ring with seating and landscaping elements. She asked the POSC what they would like to see as far as the fire pit aesthetic and included ideas that included river rock, limestone, and/or decorative concrete for the design. Bleakly asked the POSC their thoughts on gas versus wood and if the fire pit would be used for events only and/or if it would be available for anyone to use when they want. She asked about what seating features they would like to see included.

Pugh recommended a material that is long lasting and low maintenance for the fire ring material.

Bleakly noted that concrete is likely to last the longest of all the presented materials.

Blievernicht expressed the importance of safety and asked which of the two, gas versus wood, was safer overall.

Bauman noted that there are pros and cons for both wood fires and gas fires. He stated that the city needs to decide which one it prefers.

Lemmerman asked who would supply the wood for wood fires and if supplied by the city, would it be year-round. He said that a gas fire would be easier to control overall.

Kahn expressed concern about a gas line breaking down and the maintenance of it overall. She said that she would like to see the fire pit be a year-round activity option. She noted that the reason for the location was because there is an intention to have an ice rink located nearby during the winter months. Kahn talked about people bringing their own wood to create their own fires. She asked who would clean the pit though when it needs to be cleaned.

Lemmerman explained that cleaning the fire pit wouldn't be too difficult. He did express concern about making sure a wood fire was able to be properly contained and thus not setting anything nearby on fire if it wasn't controlled well. He agreed that there are pros and cons to both gas and wood fires.

Bleakly stated that there could be educational signage nearby informing about the fire pit. She stated that if it were a gas fire, that it could be on a timer that would turn off after a certain amount of time.

Mills expressed concern about a gas fire system breaking down and the maintenance required to get it up and running again. He said that if it were to be down for too long of a time because it was broken, it could cause frustration. He said he liked the idea of wood fires better.

Pieper stated that wood fires have a different feel to them.

Joe Grey (2350 Harbor Place), representative of the Artessa Community Coop, noted that he is representing the Artessa community located nearby the park. He stated that they recently had a meeting on the park and that the community is very excited about the park and its upcoming features. Grey informed that the Artessa development has an outside gas fire feature that has been working well for their outside lounging area. He recommended that if a gas fire ring is used to include instructions nearby explaining how to use it.

Prich stated that if the city were to go with gas, a decision would have to be made on how big the fire ring would be and budget for the cost of gas. He said that the city should look into if it is possible to have a timer in place for how long the fire would run. He agreed that there are pros and cons to both gas and wood. He explained that the wood fire pits worked well for the holiday tree lighting event last year.

Pieper agreed with having some sort of control in place to control the use. He also stated that instructions would be great as well. He asked if the Fire Department has a preference over wood or gas fires. Pieper said that he liked the river rock look for the fire pit, as this theme has been used in other parts of the city.

Kahn said she liked the river rock look as well since it would tie into other parts of the city's features.

Blievernicht agreed with the river rock style.

Mills said that he was ok with the river rock. He said he just wants something that is low maintenance.

Seating Area

Bauman showed a image of several concept drawings for the seating area of the park. He noted that the current pavers are in bad shape and therefore recommends replacement and not reuse. He reviewed the seating area elements that included the plaza pavement design, site furnishings, and landscaping.

Kahn said that she liked Option 1 of the three presented.

Pieper agreed with Option 1.

Bleakly asked what kind of seating options the POSC would like to see.

Pugh asked for seating with arms to help make seating more accessible for the aging population.

Pieper asked for tables that have accessibility features.

Prich stated that tables and chairs will be movable and not mounted to the ground.

Pieper asked about having tables that have coverage from the sun, like an umbrella.

Art Walk

Bleakly reviewed three concept options for the art walk section of the park. She asked the POSC to discuss the art walk and hammock grove elements including the concrete pavement design, the art foundations, the seat block benches, the hammock posts, and landscaping.

Mills stated that he liked the option 3 design for the hammocks because they are less visible and tucked into the landscaping features more.

Pieper recommended that the city choose more native planting options if possible. He recommended maple trees and oak trees. He expressed concern about non-native options being more prone to disease and dying quicker.

Mills agreed with using native plantings.

Prich informed that native plantings can be great, but that they too can come with more maintenance and upkeep. He noted that the city's public works department has limited staff for park maintenance and that it is important to take ongoing maintenance into consideration when choosing trees and landscaping. He recommended not choosing anything too messy. He expressed concern about choosing features that will require too much maintenance and then staff struggling to maintain it adequately.

Pugh talked about relocating the tree used for the Christmas tree lighting.

Pieper recommended planting more trees in the open space of the park for shade.

Bleakly asked about the POSC's preferences for the art footing designs in which art would be installed. She reviewed several concepts that include concrete, river rock, and stone. Bleakly showed a concept of a changeable cabinet where art could be placed temporarily and changed out from time to time. She explained that it could be art from the local schools.

Pugh said that she liked the close to the ground slabs for the art installations. She said she would like to see at least one of the changeable cabinets.

Kahn liked the changeable cabinet as well for kids art from the local schools. She informed that she preferred the concrete slab for the art installations.

Pieper asked if there would be a gap between the art and the sidewalk. He expressed concern about the art being right against the sidewalk noting that people may then feel inclined to touch it. He asked if the art would be replaced over time.

Bauman said that there is a lot of unknowns at the moment as far as the art features. He said that it may be a good question for a community survey.

Grey noted that the Artesa Community expressed a desire to have art features that focused on educational and historical topics. He specifically referenced storytelling and engaging young kids into the art. Grey said that several residents of the Artesa Community have adopted the park as part of the city's Adopt a Green Space program and that they are excited to get involved and volunteer their time. Grey said that a community survey would be great.

Monument Sign

Bleakly showed a picture of the current park monument sign and noted that with the current name change, the sign needs to be updated to reflect the new name. She recommended that the POSC provide recommendations on adding in some landscaping features like plantings, stones, and flowers.

Mills recommended keeping the current sign and just changing the name section out. He agreed with adding plantings.

Wayfinding Signage

Bleakly showed images of several existing wayfinding signs in the park and their current condition. She noted that some of them are getting old and may need replacement.

Pieper liked the idea of keeping the river rock theme with the signage.

Kahn stated that she was ok with the current signs and didn't believe that the river rock elements needed to be added to the base of the signs.

Prich asked if it would be possible to rehabilitate the current signs or if they should be replaced. He noted that there were more signs in the past, but that several of them have had to be taken down because they were falling apart. He said that they are almost 25 years old.

Interpretive Signage

Bauman showed several examples of interpretive signage styles and the recommended locations for these signs for the park including topics amount Tonka Toys, Native American History, and the Andrews Sisters.

Kahn noted that the examples provided were different and based on the type of information provided. She said that she agreed that the style of the sign should reflect the type of information being provided.

Electrical

Bauman talked about electrical features for the park including pedestrian lights, flood lighting, lighted bollards, event power, and power pedestals.

Pieper recommended amber LED lighting/soft yellow to help with the bugs.

8. **Parks Visit Discussion Public Works**

Prich handed out some documents on the city's long-term capital plan for the city parks. He also provided documentation on the Public Works Department Parks Lead inspections of the city parks for their information.

9. **Top Commission/Top Individual Annual Priorities**

Tabled until next meeting.

10. **Reports**

Staff Reports: NA.

City Council Representative: NA.

Commission Comments:

POSC Commissioner Pieper: Letter to Community Education/Westonka School District. (Tabled).

11. **Next Meeting: May 8, 2025**

Tentative Discussion Items:

Parks and Open Spaces: List of Protected Spaces.

Parks and Open Spaces Program – Review Program Documents.

12. Adjourn

Mills moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 PM. Pugh seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

CITY OF MOUND
2415 Wilshire Blvd
Mound, MN 55364

TO: Parks and Open Spaces Commission

FROM: Maggie Reisdorf, Deputy City Manager

DATE: May 6, 2025

SUBJECT: Adopt-a-Green Space Program

BACKGROUND:

On an annual basis, the City of Mound partners with resident volunteers and/or service groups as part of a collaboration for the city's Adopt-A-Greenspace program.

The program seeks volunteers to assist with the maintenance and enhancement of the City Parks and Open Spaces. This program has evolved slowly in recent years due in some part to staffing limitations and general community energy.

PROGRAM GOALS:

The Parks and Open Spaces Commission is looking to:

- 1. Kick the 2025 season soon with promotional materials and advertising.**
 - a. The goal is to promote the program and get the community involved in helping with spaces that are currently not adopted.

- 2. Send letters to educate participants on upcoming changes with regards to annual/biannual applications moving forward. Should it be a one-year or two-year "commitment".**
 - a. The goal is to keep an ongoing list of up-to-date information on participants and data on which spaces are adopted and for how long.
 - b. Staff is recommending that the POSC consider at least a two-year commitment/application period for reasons related to creating and/or replacing signage at the spaces.

- 3. Offer an Opt-in option to participants to receive updates and program information via email and/or some other method.**
 - a. The goal is to regularly communicate with participants by offering tips and sharing information on what other participants are up to.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff is recommending that the Commission discuss the program's DRAFT registration/application information, and letter notifying participants of changes that will occur in 2026.

An important question will be how to do the year 2025, when to send the letter informing of changes in 2026, and when to send out applications for the 2026 year.

ATTACHMENTS:

DRAFT - Registration & Application Materials.

DRAFT - Letter to Current Participants.



2026 – 2027 SEASON
ADOPT A GREEN SPACE APPLICATION

This application form must be completed to participate in the Adopt a Green Space Program.

Please return application by _____ 2025 by either mail, email, or in person at:
City of Mound
2415 Wilshire Blvd
Mound, MN 55364,

Email: admin@cityofmound.com.

Call 952-472-0603 for additional information.

CONTACT INFORMATION
Name of Organization or Individual _____
Primary Contact Name _____
Address _____
Phone No _____ Email _____
Number of volunteers participating _____
Secondary Contact Name _____
Phone No _____ Email _____

PARK/GREEN SPACE INFORMATION
I would like to adopt the following location(s) _____ (locations listed on back)
I would like to perform the following tasks:
<input type="checkbox"/> plant and maintain flower boxes <input type="checkbox"/> prune shrubs <input type="checkbox"/> weed <input type="checkbox"/> water
<input type="checkbox"/> pick-up litter <input type="checkbox"/> spring clean-up <input type="checkbox"/> fall clean-up <input type="checkbox"/> other
Description of tasks _____
How often will you perform these tasks? <input type="checkbox"/> weekly <input type="checkbox"/> monthly <input type="checkbox"/> once <input type="checkbox"/> other
Start/End Dates* _____

***Agreements are renewed bi-annually**

I/We agree to carry out my tasks in a reasonable and safe manner. I/We acknowledge that, as an individual or sponsor of a group, I/we are volunteer(s) and are not considered to be employees of the City of Mound.

I/we further indemnify and hold harmless the City of Mound, its officers, employees or any of its agencies from all liability and claims for death, injury or property damage arising out of the performance of said work.

Signature

Date

Program Communications and Information:

By checking this box

I am **Opting In** to receive ongoing program information and notifications to the following email account. By leaving it blank, I am choosing not to receive this information and notifications.

EMAIL (If opting in): _____

Adopt-A-Green Space Locations: Parks, Beaches & Shores

Parks

Alwin Park
Avalon Park
Avon Park
Belmont Park
Bluffs Park
Carlson Park
Centerview Park
Chester Park
Crescent Park

Doone Park
Dundee Park
Edgewater Park
Highland End Park
Highland Park
Lost Lake Park
Lost Lake Commons
Philbrook Park
Seton Park
Scherven Park

Sorbo Park
Surfside Park
Swenson Park
Three Points Park
Tyrone Park
Veterans Park
Veterans Plaza
Weiland Park
Wolner Little League
Zero Gravity Skate Park

Parks – Shores

Beachside Shore
Highland End Shore
Lagoon Shore
Lakeside Shore
Ridgewood Shore

Beaches

Bluffs Beach
Canary Beach
Centerview Beach
Scherven Beach
Wychwood Beach

Adopt-A-Green Space Locations: Park Planter Boxes

Flower Boxes – Large (4 Feet x 8 Feet)

Carlson Park
Highland Park
Philbrook Park
Seton Park
Scherven Park
Swenson Park
Three Points Park

Other

Surfside Park (Depot)

Flower Boxes – Small (4 Feet x 4 Feet)

Avalon Park
Bluff Beach Park
Crescent Park
Doone Park
Dundee Park
Lost Lake Park
Sorbo Park
Tyrone Park
Veterans Park
Weiland Park

May ____, 2025

RE: Adopt A Green Space Program – 2026 Application Changes

Dear Adopt A Green Space Participant,

Thank you for your ongoing participation in the City of Mound's Adopt a Greenspace Program! Your commitment helps the City with ongoing upkeep and maintenance of our public spaces and enhances the City's public spaces environment for all to enjoy. You provide valuable services that we greatly appreciate, and you are helping to maintain high quality and beautiful spaces.

As an active participant at one of our many locations, we are reaching out to let you know that starting in 2026, the City will be requesting that participants resubmit an application every **one/two years**. This will include the **2026/2027 period**. This is in no way a strict commitment as we understand that participants may have other obligations that arise from time to time. Nonetheless, our main goal is to maintain up-to-date administrative records on the adopted locations and sites, adopter signage, and contact information.

As always, we would love to hear back from you! The City of Mound Parks and Open Spaces Commission is always looking for ways to improve. Please let us know what is going well and what areas could be improved moving forward.

One of our priorities will be to create a contact list of our participants as a way to send out regular updates and information about the program. Receiving updates is not mandatory and will be performed only if you choose to opt-in. This opt-in option will be located on the new application.

Thank you again for your participation in this program! Your hard work, dedication, and partnership is greatly appreciated.

Please email Maggie Reisdorf at Maggiereisdorf@cityofmound.com or call 952-472-0633 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Maggie Reisdorf
Deputy City Manager
City of Mound

**CITY OF MOUND
2415 Wilshire Blvd
Mound, MN 55364**

TO: Parks and Open Spaces Commission
FROM: Maggie Reisdorf, Deputy City Manager
DATE: April 8, 2025
SUBJECT: 2025 POSC Summer Meeting Schedule

BACKGROUND:

The Parks and Open Spaces Commission meets monthly on the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM.

Historically, if discussion and decision items of the Commission are limited, the Commission will take a break over the summer months (July, August & September) and reconvene in the fall. Special meetings can be called if needed.

Since there are some larger projects in the works, the POSC should discuss whether meeting during these months is necessary.

**CITY OF MOUND
2415 Wilshire Blvd
Mound, MN 55364**

TO: Parks and Open Spaces Commission
FROM: Maggie Reisdorf, Deputy City Manager
DATE: April 8, 2025
SUBJECT: 2025 Spring Park Review Visits

BACKGROUND:

On an annual basis, the City of Mound Parks and Open Spaces Commission Commissioners do visits to the parks to review amenities, immediate needs, and future priorities for each location.

The park locations are split between the Commissioners who then do on-site visits and complete a review assessment form for each park.

These forms are then collected by staff and reviewed by the Parks and Open Spaces Commission as a whole at a future meeting.

The exercise allows the Parks and Open Spaces Commission to visit the parks and do an independent review and provide feedback to staff on “quick fixes” that can be taken care of by the Public Works Parks Department, and to set long-term goals as well.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff is recommending that the Commission discuss the timeline and goals for the 2025 Spring Park Review Visits.

ATTACHMENTS:

Park Review Sheet.

PARK REVIEW SHEET

PARK NAME: _____

ATTRACTIONS:

REVIEWED BY:

	<u>NOTES</u>
PLAY STRUCTURE:	
USABILITY / ACCESSIBILITY:	
BENCHES / PICNIC TABLES:	
TREES / LANDSCAPING:	
MISCELLANEOUS:	

Immediate Attention Needs:

Quick and Easy Improvement Ideas:

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Group E
Belmont	Alwin	Avon	Tyrone	Avalon
Canary Beach	Philbrook	Bluffs Beach	Veterans' Plaza	Chester
Centerview Beach	Sorbo	Carlson Park	Wychwood	Doone
Crescent	Veterans'	Highland End	Zero Gravity	Dundee
Seton	Weiland	Highland	Lost lake	Sherven
Three Points	Surfside			Swenson

City of Mound – Parks and Open Spaces Commission

Westonka School District – Email/Letter Draft

Email Subject Line: Mound's parks are your classroom resource

Dear Westonka Public School staff,

The Mound Parks and Open Spaces (POSC) invites you to use Mound's parks as part of your programming and curriculum for students. We seek to elevate access to our parks and would love to accommodate future classroom activities.

Interested in hosting your class activity at our shared parks? Let us know!

The POSC can help coordinate and facilitate usage of our community resources. These parks are the property of Mound residents and thus open to the public. Please email us with any questions, ideas, or proposals, and we will assist in any way possible. {INSERT POSC/CITY OF MOUND EMAIL}

What we can do for you:

- ﷄ Help direct you to parks that may best fit your needs or requirements.
- ﷄ Assist with questions regarding availability.
- ﷄ Coordinate with city crew to facilitate your activity's schedule.
- ﷄ Document your activity to show how the community engages with our parks. This could inform future improvements or maintenance.

Mound's parks offer numerous educational opportunities:

1. **Lake Access:** 17 parks providing lake access, perfect for outdoor recreation, exploration and scientific studies. Lessons, such as the [National Park Service's "Water Quality Lesson,"](#) could take place in one of our many lake-adjacent parks.
2. **Natural Habitat:** Seven parks feature natural areas, with recent native plantings recently completed/underway in Belmont Park and Edgewater Park. Natural areas allow for scientific observation and would facilitate classroom-based biology. For example, check out this [classroom activity series on native plants from the Bureau of Land Management](#). Another fun activity could involve having students observe and document the endangered Rusty Patched Bumblebee using a system like [iNaturalist](#).
3. **Open space:** 16 parks with open space for large class or group settings on mowed and maintained lawn.
4. **Playgrounds:** 15 parks with playgrounds and spaces for young children.
5. **Sports:** Seven parks allowing for tennis/pickleball, baseball, and basketball.

Check out a full listing of parks and locations with a chart describing amenities at: <https://www.cityofmound.com/parks>. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Mound Parks and Open Spaces Commission

{Insert Signatures from POSC Members Here}