



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA ITEM

Prepared By: <i>Allie Polsfuss, City Administrator</i>	Meeting Date: <i>03/12/2026</i>	Item Name: <i>Park Sponsorship/ Donations</i>
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BACKGROUND

At the time of the Disc Golf Course expansion, the Committee and Council discussed the use of disc golf hole sponsorships as a way to generate revenue for the course.

OVERVIEW

Since that discussion, the disc golf course expansion has received some opposition. As a result, staff has begun exploring other options instead of coordinating a sponsorship program given the lack of broad Council support.

That said, we explored alternative funding mechanisms and consulted with legal counsel regarding the City's ability to accept donations designated for park improvements and recreational enhancements. Legal counsel confirmed there are no legal concerns, provided that:

- The Council formally accepts all donations, and
- Funds are used solely for their stated and intended purpose.

To facilitate donations, staff proposes establishing a City-managed Venmo or PayPal account dedicated to park and recreation enhancements. A QR code linking directly to the City's donation account would be generated and displayed at City parks and trails. Donation totals would be reported at Parks Committee meetings to ensure transparency. Staff will coordinate with the Finance Department to establish the account in the spring and develop appropriate signage for placement throughout the park system.

Additional Information

It is important to note that the City's budget should continue to be sufficient to maintain operations, improvements, and ongoing maintenance at all City-owned parks and amenities without reliance on donations or a direct revenue source. While some cities require user fees for park access, municipal parks are generally funded by taxpayers and intended to provide free recreational opportunities for residents and visitors.

Implementing a user fee specifically for the disc golf course would likely create an administrative burden that exceeds potential revenue and could present enforcement challenges. If there is Council interest in exploring a user fee in the future, staff can revisit the topic at that time.

We believe allowing donation acceptance at all of our parks is a great way to start.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Committee discuss the concept of establishing a donation program for park improvements and enhancements.