



TO: Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee
FROM: George Schaaf, Parks & Recreation Director
DATE: November 4, 2024
RE: October 1, 2024 Meeting

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Please find enclosed the information supporting your agenda topics for this meeting. The meeting is anticipated to last 60 minutes and will take place virtually via **Zoom Webinar**. To join the Zoom Webinar, go to <https://juneau.zoom.us/j/94184441385> or call 1-253-205-0468. **Webinar ID:** 87003674124.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Adair-Kennedy Court Improvements

Parks & Recreation staff last year proposed repainting the existing tennis and basketball courts at Adair-Kennedy Memorial Park, which are in poor condition. In response to public requests for permanent pickleball courts, the proposal included reconfiguring the courts to accommodate this activity along with tennis and basketball. Following extensive public comment, the PRAC recommended proceeding with the reconfiguration. Shortly afterward, we were contacted by a group of tennis players who (correctly) pointed out that the proposed striping plan did not include required clear zones. The project was suspended during the summer while we issued a small contract to Corvus Design to evaluate options and revise the plan.

The plan presented tonight reflects the following:

- The number of pickleball courts is reduced from six to five, with three permanent courts and two blended courts.
- The plan retains two tennis courts, one of which will be blended with two pickleball courts.
- The basketball nets will be retained.

This plan represents the best use of the space available, without requiring additional pavement or moving fences. The goal of this project is to provide some capacity for tennis and pickleball at Adair-Kennedy until a larger, purpose-built pickleball facility proposed for Jackie Renninger Memorial Park is built. When that happens, the intent is to fully replace the dedicated tennis courts at Adair-Kennedy Memorial Park.

Recommended Motion:

I move that the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee recommend that the Department proceed with the reconfiguration of courts at Adair-Kennedy Memorial Park, as shown on the revised plan.

STAFF REPORTS

Sigoowu Ye Park & Si'tuwan Park Playground Replacement Project

Plans are being finalized to replace the playgrounds at Sigoowu Ye Park and Si'tuwan Park in 2025. These two projects are part of a larger playground replacement project that also includes Steelhead Park. Sigoowu Ye Park is located in Lemon Creek at the corner of Pine Street and Patti Avenue. Si'tuwan Park is located in the Mendenhall Valley near the corner of Threadneedle Street and Kanat'a Deyi Street. These parks are in some of Juneau's most underserved neighborhoods and do not have access to other parks or playgrounds nearby.

The Si'tuwan playground was constructed in 1997 and Sigoowu Ye was built in 1999, making them the oldest playgrounds in Juneau after Bonnie Brae (built in 1995). Both playgrounds have long passed their useful lives and exceed our goal of replacing playground equipment every 15 years.

Staff and consultants from Corvus Design and RESPEC conducted on-site public meetings at both parks in 2023. These meetings were very well-attended, with over 100 people at each. The comments and feedback received at these meetings was used to inform the designs for each playground. The new equipment will provide accessible features for children of all abilities. Rubber tile surfacing will replace shredded rubber, improving impact attenuation while also improving accessibility. Low-glare, pedestrian-scale lighting also will be installed at each location, as well as updated landscaping and park furnishings like BBQ grills, benches, and picnic tables.

The estimated cost for Sigoowu Ye Park is approximately \$750,000, and CBJ was recently awarded a \$125,000 Land & Water Conservation Fund grant for this project. The estimated cost for Si'tuwan Park is about \$550,000. Funding for both parks is provided by the Parks & Playground Maintenance Capital Improvement Project, which includes General Sales Tax and voter-approved Temporary 1% Sales Tax revenues.