

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING • MINUTES

City Hall Council Chambers, 33 East Broadway Avenue, Meridian, Idaho Wednesday, October 16, 2024 • 5:30 p.m.

The Meridian Parks & Recreation Commission is a volunteer citizens' group that is created and empowered to advise the City on issues relating to park facilities and recreation programs of the City. Their mission is to gather input from staff and other qualified personnel on issues relating to the creation and design of public parks and open spaces; to listen to public input; and to provide advice and recommendations on parks and recreation related matters to the Mayor and City Council.

Roll-Call Attendance

Commission Chair Mandi Roberts called the meeting to order at approximately 5:38 p.m. MPR Administrative Assistant II Rachel Myers took roll-call attendance as follows:

X Mandi Roberts, Chair

X Jennifer Bobo

O Jo Greer

X Elle Hood

X Brienne Sandow

X Dom Gelsomino, Vice Chair

O Terry Dennington

X Alan Helms

X John Nesmith

Others present were: MPR Department staff—Parks and Recreation Director Steve Siddoway, Parks Superintendent Mike Barton, Recreation Manager Garrett White, Pathways Projects Manager Kim Warren, Marketing Coordinator Shelly Houston, Administrative Assistant II Rachel Myers, and Deputy City Attorney Emily Kane. Along with Lance Fish with ZGA Architects.

Adoption of the Agenda

Commission Vice Chair Dom Gelsomino entertained a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Commissioner Alan Helms moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Brienne Sandow seconded. All were in favor of the motion.

Approval of the Minutes

1. August 14, 2024 Regular Meeting September 11, 2024 Special Meeting - MPR Facilities Tour

Commission Vice Chair Dom Gelsomino entertained a motion to adopt the minutes as presented. Commissioner John Nesmith moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Alan Helms seconded. All were in favor of the motion.

Announcements

2. Upcoming Events - Shelly Houston, MPR Marketing Coordinator

- Meridian Art Party was lovely in Kleiner Park, first year in that location.
- Three different Concerts on Broadway. Smoke and heat affected the first two, third had great attendance.
- Upcoming events flyer (attached to these meeting minutes).
 - Trunk or Treat located in City Hall Plaza and parking lot, along with Broadway on 10/24/2024. 80 decorated trunks will be handing out candy.
 Free to attend, we just ask that attendees consider bringing \$1 or a can food item per child to donate to Meridian Foodbank.
 - Veterans Day ceremony on November 11th at 11 am at Rock of Honor Veterans Memorial in Kleiner Park.
 - Christmas Parade is December 6th beginning at 7 pm. Please consider joining us on the float, families are invited as well. We would like an RSVP at the November meeting for the number joining please.
 - Children's Winterland Festival is December 7th in Meridian Homecourt this year instead of Boys and Girls Club. Free to attend but encouraging donations for Meridian Foodbank.

Commission Feedback:

- **Mandi Roberts** Are dogs allowed on parade float? *Yes, well-behaved dogs on leash are welcome.*
- Alan Helms Who is going to be at the Veterans Day celebration? Would like to extend an invitation to a few veteran's organizations he's involved with. Joint effort between our local American Legion, the VFW, and other local service organizations. Will last about 45 minutes. Likely with a prayer, pledge of allegiance, and featured speaker. Anyone's welcome, it's free to attend.

3. MPR Commission Meeting Time - Steve Siddoway, MPR Director

• Discussing possibly moving the meeting time to 4 p.m. It would work better for John Nesmith's schedule, and works for Jo Greer and Terry Dennington that were not able to attend tonight's meeting. Works for staff and would get everyone home earlier.

Commission Feedback:

- Alan Helms Has a flexible schedule, so okay with either time.
- **Dom Gelsomino** either time works for him, usually done with work by 3.
- **Brienne Sandow** there would be traffic benefits, so in support of the change.
- **Elle Hood** school is out by 2:15 so would like the change for better traffic.
- **Jennifer Bobo** it works just fine.
- Mandi Roberts that's unanimous then.

 Will check with Emily to confirm if there's any logistics needed to move meeting time to 4 p.m. and will change the time as soon as practical.

New Business

- 4. New Meridiam Community Center Schematic Plan Garrett White, MPR Recreation Manager
 - Garrett recognized Lance Fish with ZGA Architects in the audience. He and his team have been awesome to work with.
 - Garrett shared community center plan via Power Point. Copies of the slides are attached to these meeting minutes.

Commission Feedback:

- Alan Helms Do you have the capital estimate yet to build it?
 - Still working with Lance and his team on the costs.
 - I can see this being popular on the weekends.
 - We want to get it open as soon as possible with current staff and then expand from there. It will still be used in the evenings with access control like we do at our current community center or Bay 6.
- **Mandi Roberts** I wonder if another revenue generating possibility might be renting out spaces for outside groups, it seems like we have a lack of those type of facilities. It was part of our vision in the early version years ago. The direction we received from Council at that time was not to try to be an event center.
 - Operational costs did not include staffing, right?
 - Correct, we are trying to open it with existing staff.
 - Can you go into more detail on how impact fees work?

The city collects impact fees based on all of the building permits that are pulled based on square footage. Our current balance is about 19 million dollars. That money is used both to build facilities and buy future land for facilities. In terms of order of magnitude, this project is in order of 15 million dollars. The rest of our current fund balance will be used to buy land in northwest Meridian.

5. Future Parks - Steve Siddoway, MPR Director

• Steve shared a future parks presentation via PowerPoint. Copies of the slides are attached to these meeting minutes.

Commission Feedback:

- **Alan Helms** On the HOA parks, are people allowed in those parks that don't live in the neighborhood?
 - They are private property; it's up to the subdivision.
- Mandi Roberts I think it's great to focus on this hybrid approach to continue to look for all the opportunities, but really serve the bigger needs through the regional parks as the first tier. I also think it's important to think of new unique opportunities that the community is lacking in.

6. MPR Facilities Tour Debrief - Steve Siddoway, MPR Director

 Our last meeting was the parks tour. We welcome any feedback on what you liked, or anything you would change for next year. This is an annual event that happens each September. • After the tour Council President Cavaner suggested splitting the tour up to spread out the good news. In the spring we usually do a pathways tour, and the facilities tour in the fall. We may try to do a park tour opportunity in the spring instead if there aren't new pathways to see. If you have any wishes to go see something in more detail, we may work on it as a spring option.

Commission Feedback:

- **Dom Gelsomino** I thought it was great. We covered the things that are important and it's always a good opportunity to reconnect.
- **Elle Hood** I really liked going to Homecourt. We have talked about it so much, but I had no idea what it was.
- Mandi Roberts I enjoy it as an opportunity to just connect with everyone that's on staff. We don't always see everyone unless they're giving their reports. Just to talk with people and learn about what they do every day and to be able to knowledgeably understand all the different facilities we have is important.

Old Business ~ NONE

Workshop ~ NONE

7. Staff Reports

Steve Siddoway -

- Busy time of year for us with the end of a fiscal year and start of the next.
- Internally we're doing performance evaluations for all staff.
- Mike and I attended the NRPA Conference last week and participated in some good sessions there. One that I particularly liked was on the loneliness epidemic and parks role in helping build connections.

Mike Barton -

- We have a crew out working on greening up the Hillsdale Park expansion and it will be finished this fall.
- Ten Mile Road medians that are north of the interstate are being redone. Roundabout landscaping at Locust Grove and Amity that is currently just rock will have irrigation and plants added to it.
- Ustick Road has two widening projects that are in the works. Ustick from Linder to Ten Mile, and then Ustick from Ten Mile to Black Cat. We'll do a design and a budget for that next fall and then go in and landscape that.
- Linder Road is in design for the overpass and Linder Road widening. There's medians and art, and landscaping on that project.
- The golf course has restroom projects. There are two sites for this year. Site A is across from the clubhouse and B is over by Black Cat on the number 9 tee. Site A is going to kick off in a week with foundation and utilities. The buildings are going to show up in January. Site B is more of a challenge since we have to grab sewer that is 22 feet deep. Black Cat Road will be closed for a couple of days for that. Sites C and D are in the works.

• We have a restroom at the trailhead that's going in that we are getting prices and Geotech on.

Commission Feedback:

• Alan Helms – Regarding the new restroom at hole 9, can you explain exactly where that's going in? I'm curious if it's close to homes there.

It's where if you putt on number 8 and go on the cart path to get to the number 9 tee, it's right there. Not close to the homes. It's centrally located, 20 feet from the pond's edge.

Garrett White -

- Working on program fees across the board in the recreation side for golf, Homecourt, pool, to our programs in general.
- Fields & external events Skyler has been working on FY25 summer schedule for all our parks. He has cornhole leagues going and there's a disc golf Halloween tournament at Kleiner Park.
- Pool still being used by swim teams. Willow is starting to program in next year's schedule for summer for swim lessons and with swim teams. Looking to add an adult and baby class. Scheduling CPR and AED certification classes for all our Parks staff that need to be trained.
- Events Working on Trunk-or-treat and Christmas parade.
- Sports Today was the deadline for winter volleyball registrations. Coed is already full with a waitlist. Fall volleyball season is still going, and registrations are open for winter basketball. Holiday Classic Volleyball Tournament is planned to help raise money for Christmas gifts for Headstart families.
- Homecourt busy all day long with pickleball, basketball, and volleyball. Last year in
 just day passes we had 48,000 daily check-ins throughout the approximate 340 days
 Homecourt was open. That doesn't include the memberships we offer, or the AAU
 teams that use the facility in the evenings. Replacing the HVAC units soon that they
 budgeted for to help with the condensation issues.

Commission Feedback:

- Alan Helms For Lakeview, are they going to increase the rates there? Steve will be presenting at Council next Tuesday the fee increases for discussion. We compared to 10 other comparable courses and used the mid-point to base our new prices on. We've heard those other courses may also be increasing their prices in the spring. Our costs have gone up about 4%.
- **Mandi Roberts** Hearing about the other volleyball teams that got turned away makes me sad. As we think about increasing our parks staff, there will be continued demand for recreational spaces too.
 - We are looking for more gym space and working with the schools. We value the recreational side of our programs as well.

Kim Warren -

• The Locust Grove sidewalks between McMillan and Chinden are pretty well complete concrete wise. Last week the contractor was working to get irrigation repaired before water went off. We'll continue to replace trees into the spring.

- The pathway master plan update has been on hold for a couple of weeks. We had some internal questions about maintenance and some of the long-term implications of some of the things we want to do. We will be meeting with our consultant tomorrow to make sure we are on course with what's realistic.
- Rail with Trail is just west of city hall. Met with Community Development department on the project to get their input. It is on schedule for us to bid it for irrigation work in fall 2025.
- We have a new project west of McDermott Road for the pathway that we are going to build that is going to go under State Highway 16. We have contacted a civil engineering consultant to get a scope and fee for that work so we can design over the winter and bid in the spring. It's a missing gap that will connect to add miles along the Fivemile Creek.

Next meeting November 13, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

8. Future Meeting Topics - Mandi Roberts

• **Steve Siddoway** – Focusing on number 8 of the commission goals, if anybody knows of another group that you'd like to hear from, let us know.

Adjourn

Commission Chair Mandi Roberts entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commission Chair Dom Gelsomino moved to adjourn. Commissioner Alan Helms seconded. The vote was unanimous and in favor of the motion.

Γhere being no further business, the meeting	adjourned a	at approximat	ely 6:56 p.m.
APPROVED:			
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MANDI ROBERTS, CHAIR	DATE

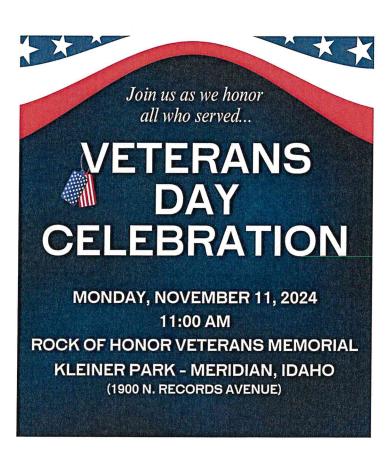
DOM GELSOMINO, VICE CHAIR

/sdh

Attachments:

- 1) Flyer: Upcoming Events, and Save the Date Shelly Houston (2 pages)
- 2) PowerPoint: Meridian Community Center Garrett White (5 pages)
- 3) PowerPoint: Future Parks Presentation Steve Siddoway (9 pages)









You and Your Family Members are invited to ride on the Meridian Parks and Recreation Commission float during this year's Winter Lights Parade!

Friday, December 6, Storey Park

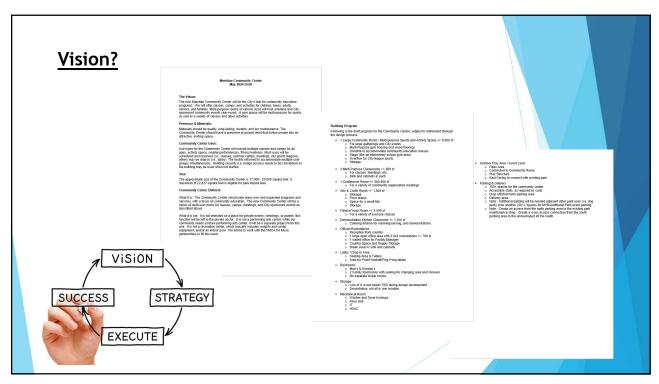
The parade begins moving at 6:50 pm

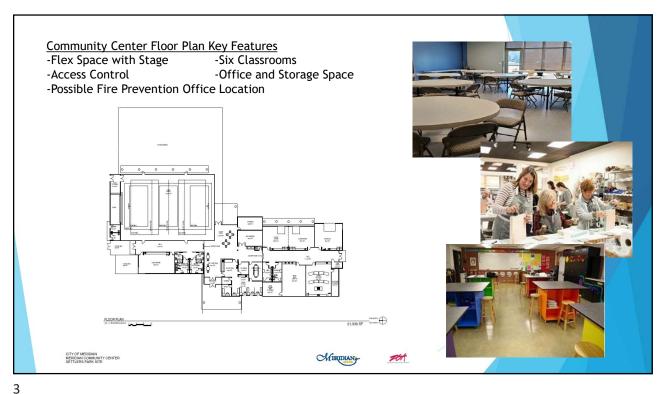
Note: You may gather inside the Meridian Pool office in Storey Park prior to boarding your float if you wish. We recommend that you <u>arrive by 6:30 pm if not sooner.</u>

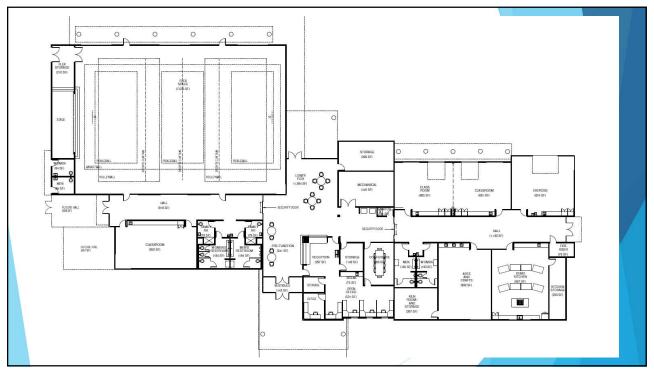
Please give yourself ample time to navigate traffic, find a parking spot, and locate your float.

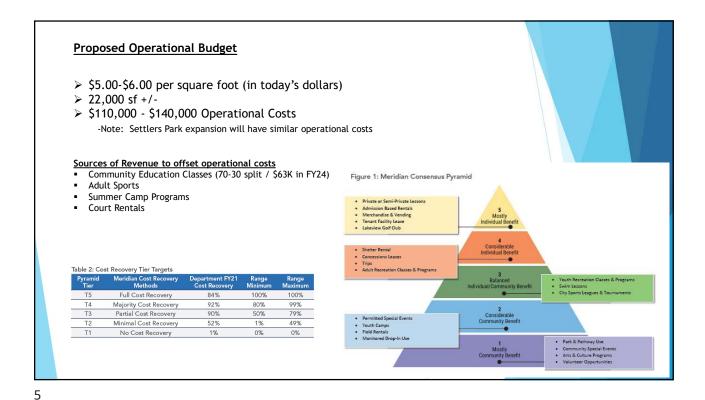
We will provide you with your float entry number and the name and cell phone number of your parade host when we get closer to the event.











Staffing Plan (Monday through Friday)

Existing Staffing to Community Center

- -(1) Recreation Coordinator Promoted to Facility Manager
- -(1) Seasonal Classes & Camps Coordinator promoted to Full-Time
- -Additional existing staff will move over to assist with daytime coverage.

Access Controlled Evening and Weekend Uses

- -Community Education Classes with Instructors
- -Flex Space Use for Community Education Classes or Sports Leagues.

Future CFP Positions

-(3) Full-Time Site Supervisors



Proposed Timeline

- <u>Summer-Fall 2024:</u>
 Schematic Design
 Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting in October, 16th
- Council Check In October 22nd
- Public Outreach in November Finalize Programming Continue to develop an Operational Cost Pro Forma

- Winter 2024 Spring 2025

 Design Development / Schematic Design

 Public Outreach in February/March

 Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting in February/March

 Council Check In February/March

2025 Bid/Obligate Funds
• Council Check In - Present Construction Contract

2026 Construction

2027 Complete Construction

Community Center Open in FY28

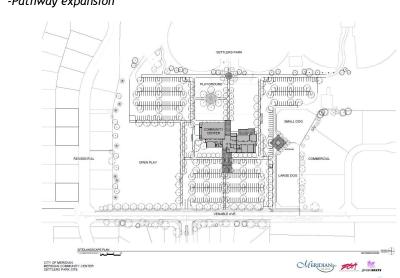


- Adjacent to Settlers Park
- For Community Center and park expansion, including additional
- Purchased from West Ada School District

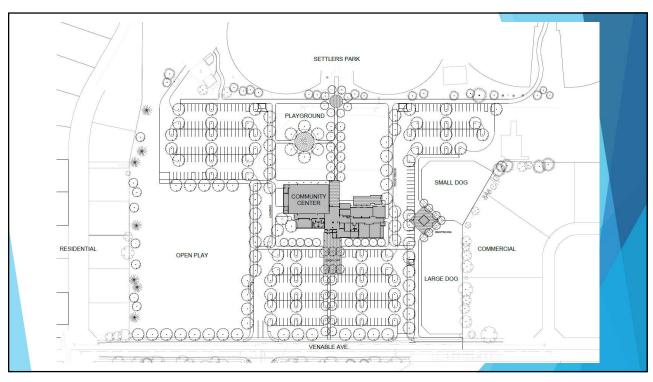
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Park Site Design Key Features

- -340 parking spaces
- -Large and Small Dog Park
- -Open Play Green Space -Community Center
- -Pathway expansion











Meridian Parks & Recreation Future Parks Presentation

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Meridian Parks & Recreation **Future Parks Presentation**

What do we have today?

- 3 Regional Parks
- 6 Community Parks
- 9 Neighborhood Parks
- 4 Special Use Parks
- 2 Sports Parks (Partnerships)

De	eveloped Parks:	
	Regional Parks:	
\Rightarrow	Discovery Park	63.190
\Rightarrow	Julius M. Kleiner Park	58.197
\Rightarrow	Settlers Park	57.737
	Community Park	2.5
\Rightarrow	Bear Creek Park	18.818
\Rightarrow	Fuller Park	23.200
\Rightarrow	Heroes Park	30.126
\Rightarrow	Hillsdale Park	9.536
⇒	Storey Park & Bark Park	17.851
\Rightarrow	Tully Park	18.675
	Neighborhood Par	As-
\Rightarrow	8th Street Park	2.783
⇒	Centennial Park	0.400
\Rightarrow	Champion Park	5.982
⇒	Chateau Park	6.700
\Rightarrow	Gordon Harris Park	11.126
⇒	Keith Bird Legacy Park	7-499
\Rightarrow	Renaissance Park	6.527

⇒ Reta Huskey Park

⇒ Seasons Park

8.920

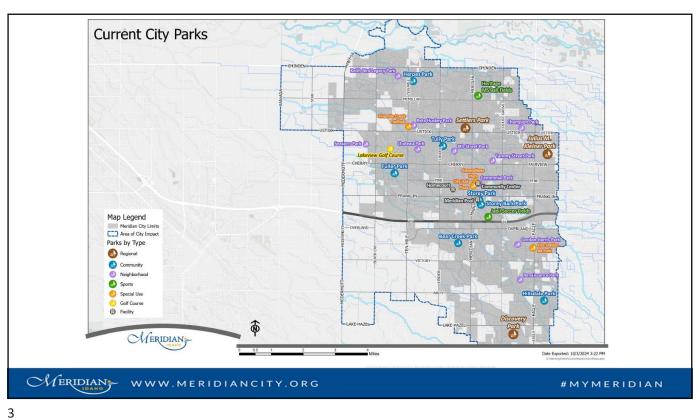
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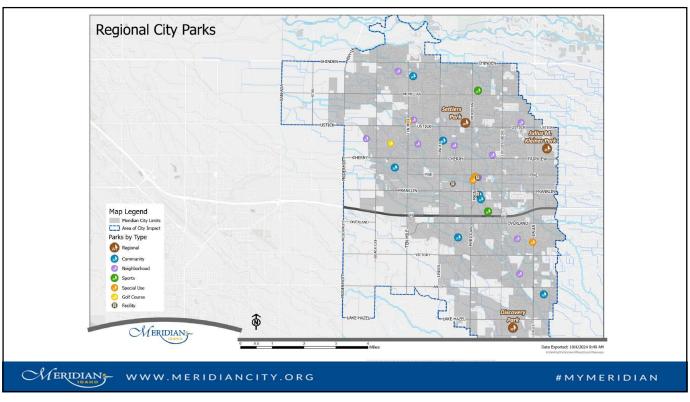
⇒ Fire Station #4 Park ⇒ Tammy Street Park ⇒ Heritage MS Ball Fields 5.611¢ ⇒ Jabil Soccer Fields Total Developed Park Acreage: 370.710

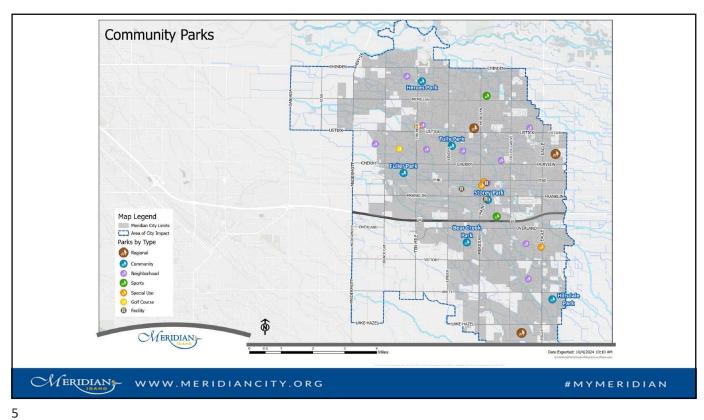
⇒ City Hall Plaza

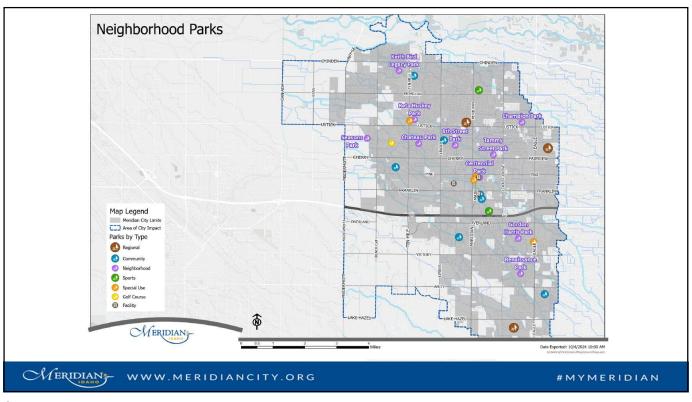
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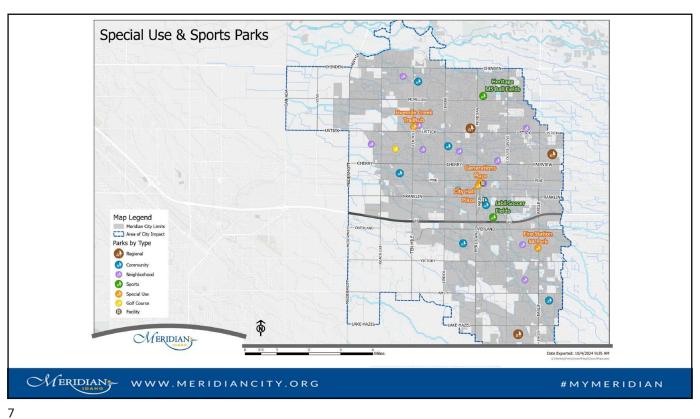
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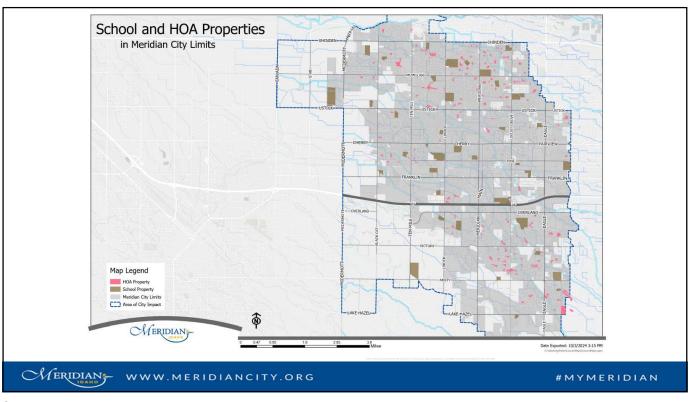


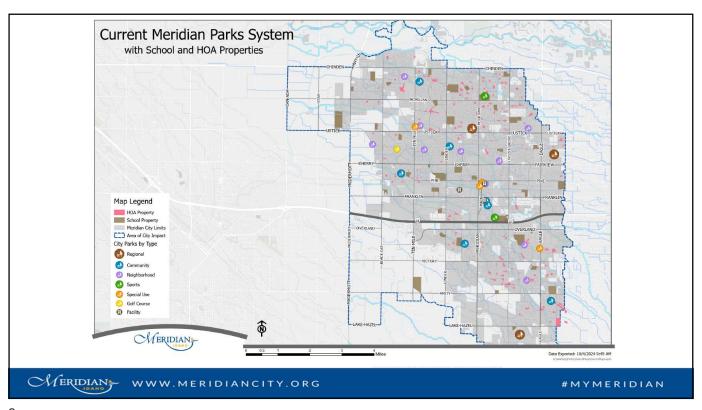


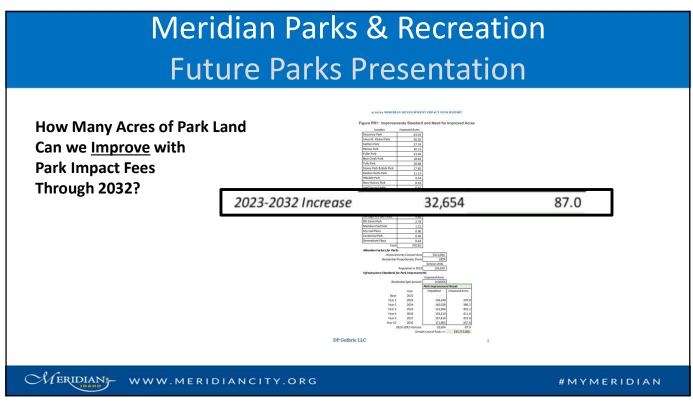


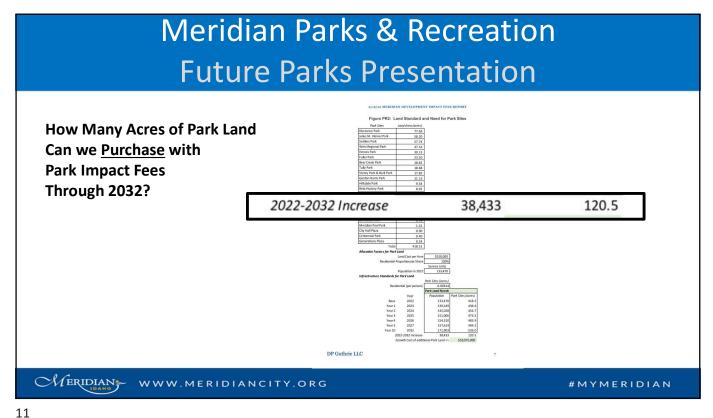












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Meridian Parks & Recreation Future Parks Presentation

Current Plan for Future Parks (CFP)

Settlers Park Expansion (11 ac.)

2025 Design

2026-27 Construction

Graycliff Sub Area Park (11 ac.)

2026 Design

2027 Construction

Fields District Area Park (40 +/- ac.)

2027 Design

2028 Construction

Discovery Park Phase III (12 ac)

2028 Design

2029 Construction

Margaret Aldape Park (13+/- Dev.)

2030 Design

(70 +/- Total)

2031 Construction

West Meridian Reg. Park (47 Ac)

2032 Design

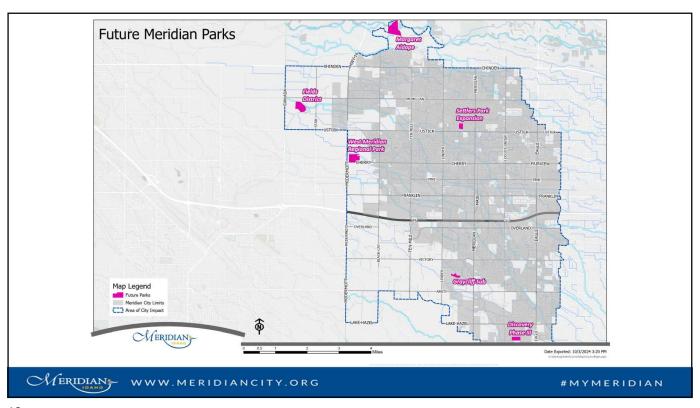
2033 Construction

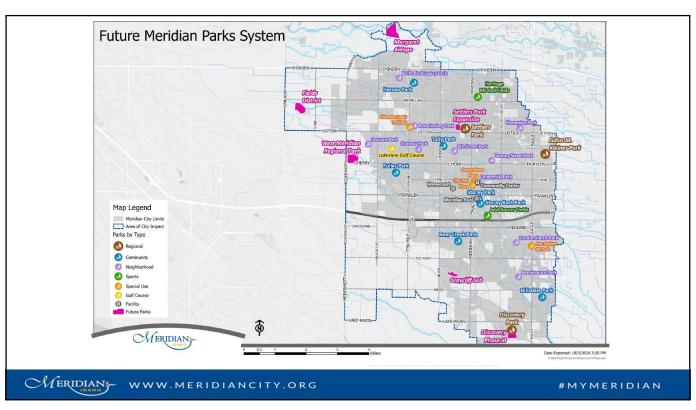
Note: Subject to Change Annually based on CFP Balancing, Budget Process, etc.

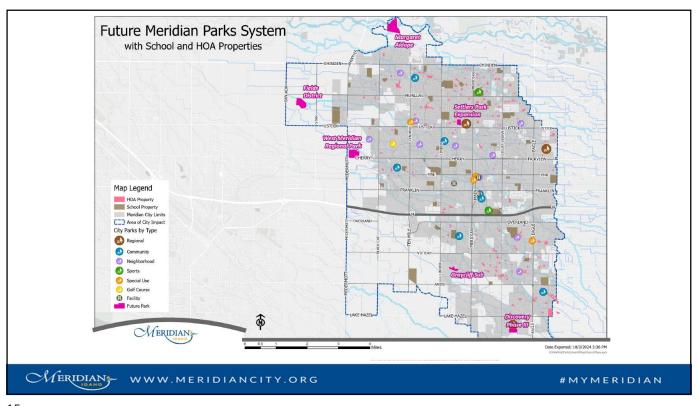


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Meridian Parks & Recreation Future Parks Presentation

- Discussion Topic
 - Does Council want the Parks Department to focus on community and regional (i.e. larger) park sizes and have the Subdivision/HOAs focus on the neighborhood (i.e. smaller) parks?

OR

– Does Council want the Parks Department to explore partnerships for parks of all sizes?

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Meridian Parks & Recreation **Future Parks Presentation**

- Recommendation
 - Hybrid: It makes sense to focus primarily, but not exclusively, on the community and regional parks. Also consider limited additional neighborhood parks where it makes strategic sense to do so for geographic distribution of public parks.

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Meridian Parks & Recreation **Future Parks Presentation**

Thank You

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