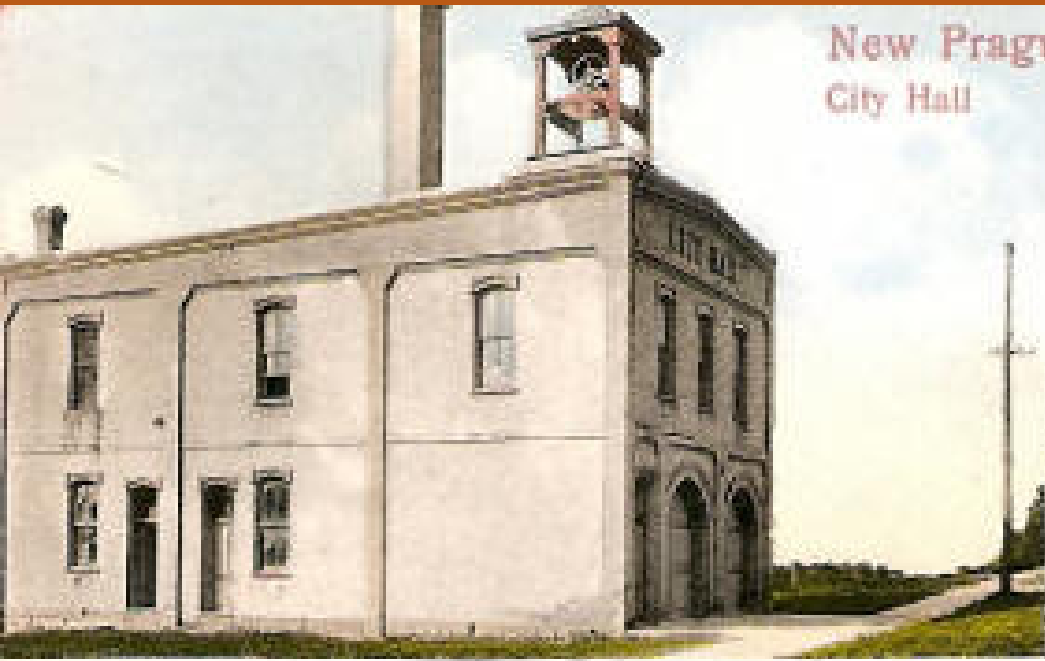


New Prague

MINNESOTA



New Prague, Minn.
City Hall



Z. C. B. J. Opera House



New Prague Flouring Mill Co.



Main Street looking East

RECREATION NEEDS STUDY
City Council Work Session
November 6, 2023

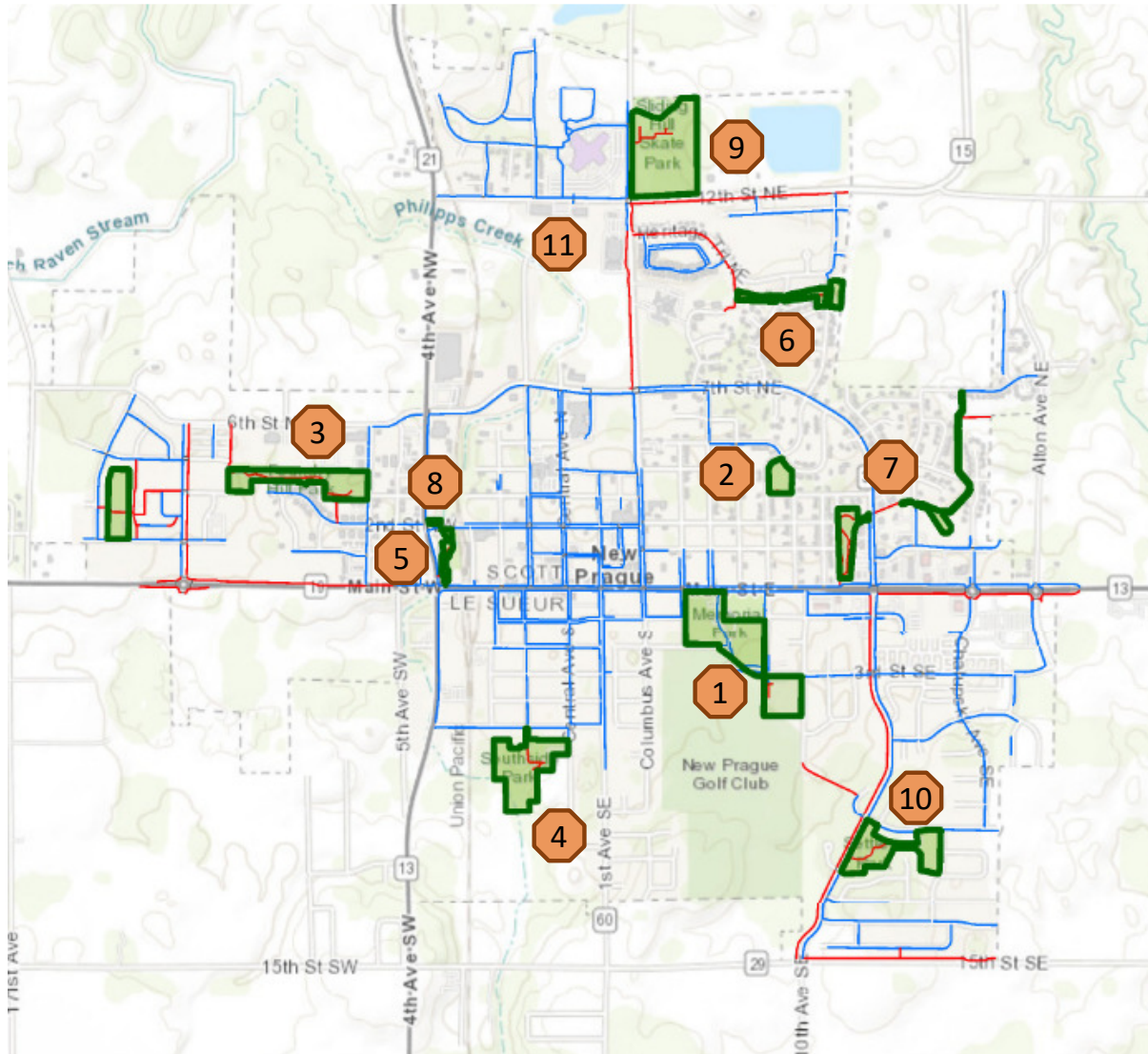


1. Existing Inventory
2. City Field Condition and Usage Report
3. Conclusions/ Recommendations
4. Questions/ Discussion

Existing Inventory

City Inventory

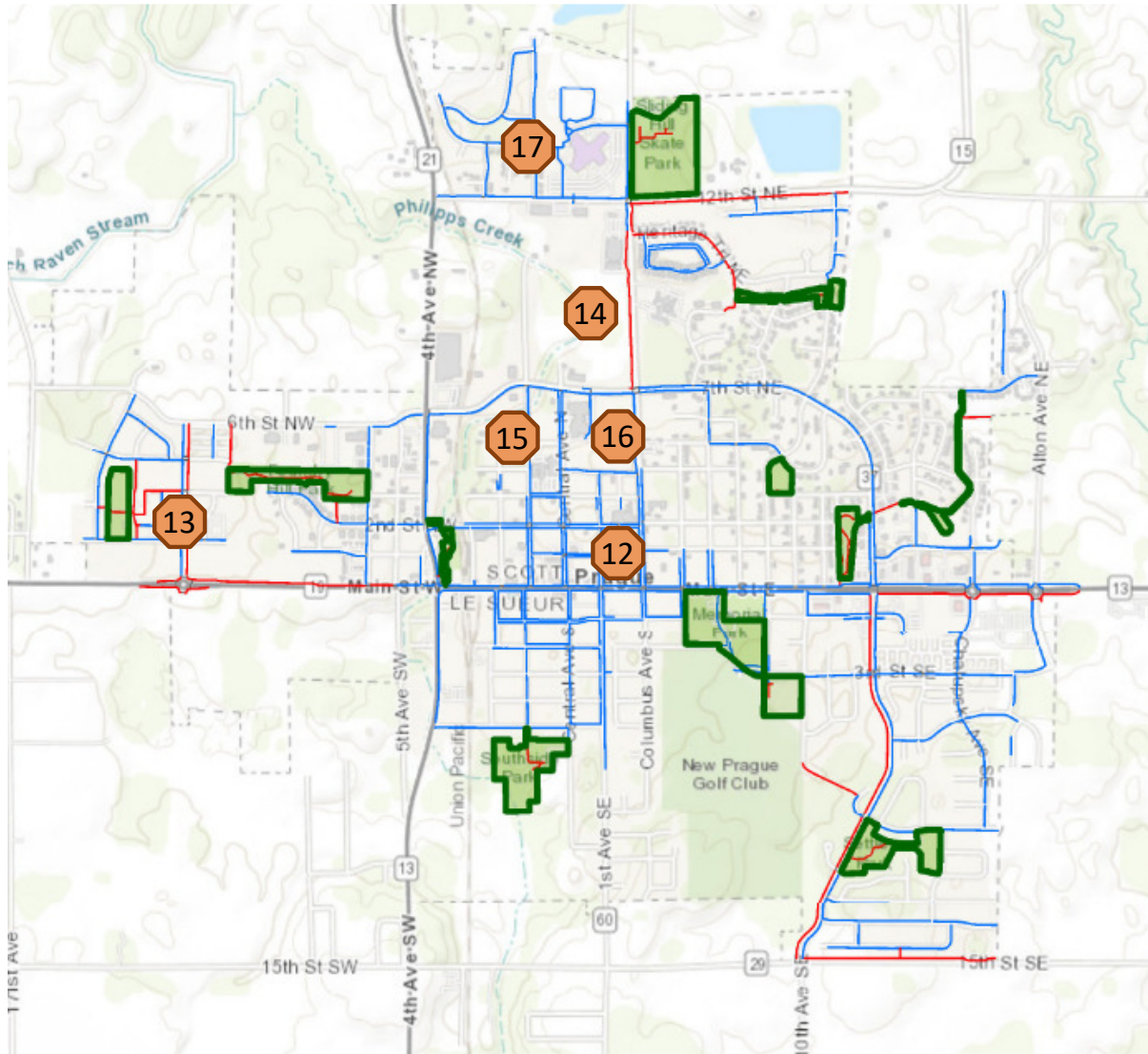
1. Memorial Park
2. Northside Park
3. Foundry Hill Park
4. Southside Park
5. Phillip's Park
6. Heritage Park
7. Greenway Park
8. Yackly Cabin Park
9. Sliding Hill Skate Park
10. Settlers Park
11. Community Center



Existing Inventory

School Facilities

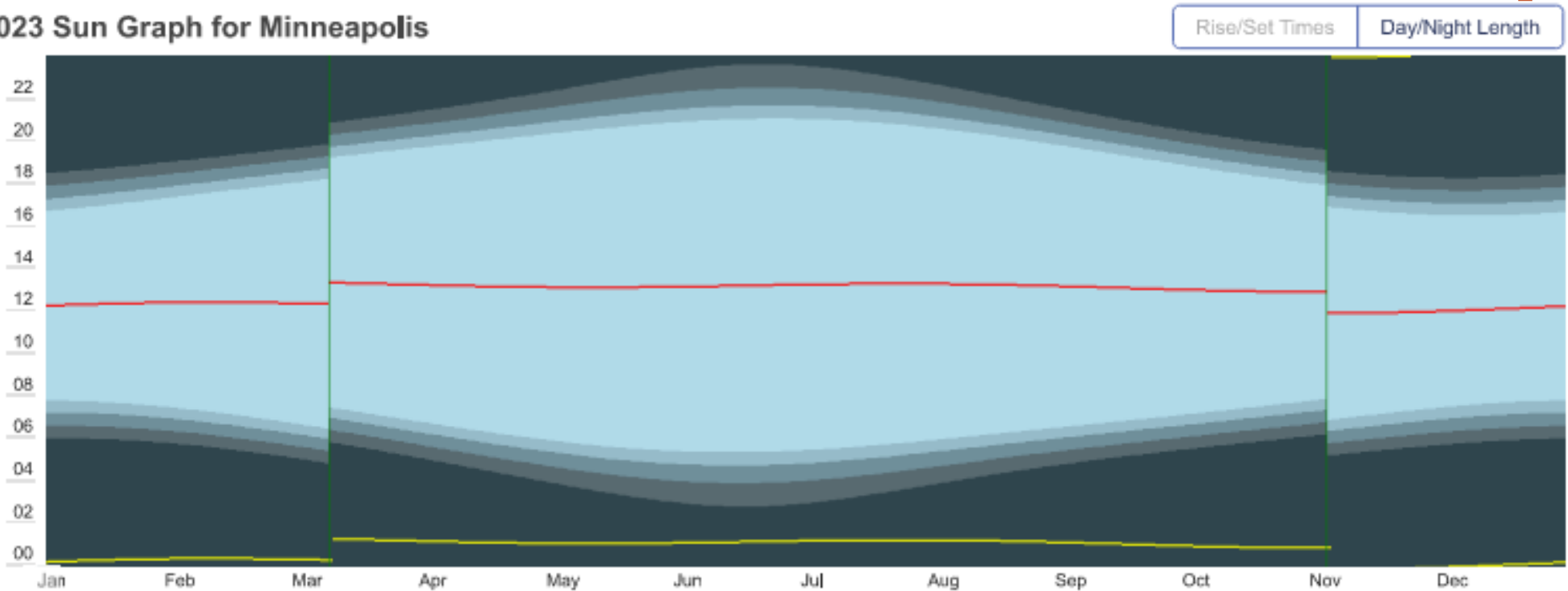
- 12. St. Wenceslaus
- 13. Raven Stream Elem.
- 14. Falcon Ridge Elem.
- 15. Central Ed./ CAC
- 16. Middle School
- 17. High School





Field Usage Data

2023 Sun Graph for Minneapolis



City Outdoor Field Usage

- Scheduling starts in in the Spring around April and ends in the Fall by October.
- Prime time field reservation is typically from 6 pm to 8 pm Monday through Friday.
- Sunrise in April is typically around 7:00 am and sunset is around 8:00 by mid month. Daylight hours peaks in mid summer, with sunset being around 9:00 pm. By October, sunset is around 7:00 pm.
- Prime fields – ones that are maintained at a higher level are also more desirable.



Field Usage Data

City Field Usage Data 2022

Month	Daylight Hours	Memorial Park	Northside Park	Foundary Hill Park	Settler's Park North	Settler's Park South	Southside Park	Southside Park (2019)
April	405	32	16	30	16	0	0	48
May	461	136	40	32	44	112	0	150
June	466	184	34	26	34	108	0	144
July	471	64	16	15	18	50	0	24
August	435	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
September	375	288	0	0	0	0	0	0

City Field Usage Data 2023

Month	Daylight Hours	Memorial Park	Northside Park	Foundary Hill Park	Settler's Park North	Settler's Park South	Southside Park	Southside Park (2019)
April	405	16	0	16	0	0	0	48
May	461	18	12	38	11	147	0	150
June	466	77	10	36	8	147	0	144
July	471	14	2	16	5	67	0	24
August	435	42	0	0	0	0	0	0
September	375	19	0	0	0	0	0	0



Existing Inventory

Memorial Park Facility Observations

- Concrete in the bleacher/spectator area is in good condition and was installed in 2010.
- Much of the park drains to the ballfields.
- There is some uneven grades in the field.
- There is some erosion across the infield due to drainage.
- Grass maintenance is needed.
- Parking lots are in good condition.
- Pavilion is in good condition.
- Restrooms are dated and not appealing.





Existing Inventory

Memorial Park

Recommendations

- Study overall drainage and enhance drainage around fields.
- Re-seed and install irrigation to improve turf.
- Chain-link fencing should be 8' tall with top and bottom rail.
- Upgrade field lighting – it is in the play area.
- Provide new backstops and netting.
- Consider concrete slabs in player areas.
- Add other amenities, i.e.: flagpole, scoreboard, batting cages, etc.



Existing Inventory

Memorial Park

Field Usage Summary

- Consistent usage by the New Prague Youth Baseball Association (NPYB) from mid-April to mid-July.
- South field is used by Youth Football in the fall (September)
- Prime time hours are typically 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm M-F.
- These fields have lights and could be scheduled later in the evenings.
- Fields are available for scheduling between 8:00 am and 10:00 pm (14 hrs./ day).
- In 2023, they were scheduled for approximately 700 hours between April and July. Assuming approx. 1,200 available hours, this equates to 58% usage.





CITY OF NEW PRAGUE
RECREATION NEEDS STUDY

Usage Data – South Field

MEMORIAL PARK - SOUTH FIELD APRIL 2023								MEMORIAL PARK - SOUTH FIELD MAY 2023							
Time	Sunday 4/2	Monday 4/3	Tuesday 4/4	Wednesday 4/5	Thursday 4/6	Friday 4/7	Saturday 4/8	Time	Sunday 5/7	Monday 5/8	Tuesday 5/9	Wednesday 5/10	Thursday 5/11	Friday 5/12	Saturday 5/13
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CITY OF NEW PRAGUE
RECREATION NEEDS STUDY

Usage Data – South Field

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Time	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Time	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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CITY OF NEW PRAGUE
RECREATION NEEDS STUDY

Usage Data – South Field

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Time	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday 8/1	Wednesday 8/2	Thursday 8/3	Friday 8/4	Saturday 8/5	Time	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday 9/1	Thursday	Friday 9/1	Saturday 9/2
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Existing Inventory

Northside Park

Facility Observations

- Park and playground are in fair, but useable condition.
- Basketball court is new, summer 2023.
- Drintile has been installed in the ball field, but the left field appears to drain better.
- There is no bottom rail on the fence.
- The backstop is a bit short and small and does not have a bottom rail.
- Infield is in good condition
- Turf is in fair condition, there are some weeds and bare areas.





Existing Inventory

Northside Park

Recommendations

- Confirm field drainage and correct if desired.
- Replace the backstop with a more appropriate size one with rails.
- Consider adding chain-link extensions for player safety.
- Adding an irrigation system would enhance the turf area.
- Topdress and overseed the drainage swale, and poor turf grass in the outfield.
- Consider additional site amenities as budget allows (flagpole, scoreboards, batting cages, etc.)



Existing Inventory

Northside Park Field Usage Summary

- Consistent usage by youth baseball from mid-April to mid-July.
- No scheduled use after mid-July.
- Prime time hours are typically 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm M-F.
- During that period, fields are scheduled approximately 106 hours.
- There are no field lights, which limits usage to daytime hours.
- Assuming approx. 1,350 daylight hours between mid-April to mid-July, this would equate to approximately 8% usage.





CITY OF NEW PRAGUE RECREATION NEEDS STUDY

Usage Data

NORTHSIDE PARK APRIL 2023								NORTHSIDE PARK MAY 2023							
Time	Sunday 4/2	Monday 4/3	Tuesday 4/4	Wednesday 4/5	Thursday 4/6	Friday 4/7	Saturday 4/8	Time	Sunday 5/7	Monday 5/8	Tuesday 5/9	Wednesday 5/10	Thursday 5/11	Friday 5/12	Saturday 5/13
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CITY OF NEW PRAGUE
RECREATION NEEDS STUDY
Usage Data

NORTHSIDE PARK JUNE 2023								NORTHSIDE PARK JULY 2023							
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Existing Inventory

Foundry Hill Park Facility Observations

- The ballfield was constructed using Twins Community Funds in 1999 & 2000.
- Dugouts are being constructed this fall.
- ADA access exists, but the route is confusing and should be improved.
- Fencing and backstop are in good condition. There is a gap at the bottom at the backstop.
- Overall drainage of the field is excellent.
- Aglime infield is too large for intended users (7-12 yrs.)
- Restroom facility is aging.





Existing Inventory

Foundry Hill Park Recommendations

- Study/ improve ADA route to the ballfield.
- Enhance existing backstop with top, intermediate and bottom rails.
- Consider adding chain-link extensions for player safety.
- Consider new foul ball poles integrated with fencing.
- Improve or replace restroom building.
- Adjust aglime infield to align with the age groups using the field.



Existing Inventory

Foundry Hill Park

Field Usage Summary

- Consistent usage by youth baseball from mid-April to mid-July.
- No scheduled use after mid-July.
- Prime time hours are typically 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm M-F.
- During that period, fields are scheduled approximately 106 hours.
- There are no field lights, which limits usage to daytime hours.
- Assuming approx. 1,350 daylight hours between mid-April to mid-July, this would equate to approximately 8% usage.





CITY OF NEW PRAGUE RECREATION NEEDS STUDY

Usage Data

FOUNDRY HILL PARK APRIL 2023								FOUNDRY HILL PARK MAY 2023							
Time	Sunday 4/2	Monday 4/3	Tuesday 4/4	Wednesday 4/5	Thursday 4/6	Friday 4/7	Saturday 4/8	Time	Sunday 5/7	Monday 5/8	Tuesday 5/9	Wednesday 5/10	Thursday 5/11	Friday 5/12	Saturday 5/13
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CITY OF NEW PRAGUE
RECREATION NEEDS STUDY
Usage Data

FOUNDRY HILL PARK JUNE 2023								FOUNDRY HILL PARK JULY 2023							
Time	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Time	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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Existing Inventory

Southside Park

Facility Observations

- The softball field is in a low area.
- There is a drainage swale on the north side of the field diverting water away from the field.
- There is a draitile system in the outfield.
- The backstop is short with only a center section and short wings.
- There are no sideline or outfield fences.
- There is a disc golf course at this park.
- Restroom consists of a portable accessible unit.





Existing Inventory

Southside Park

Recommendations

- Softball field is in a low area and subject to flooding.
- Replace backstop with new to provide better safety for users.
- Irrigation would improve turf quality.
- Topdress and overseed the outfield to improve poor turf areas.
- Improve spectator retaining wall seating area.
- There is room to construct a pickleball court at this site near the playground.





Existing Inventory

Southside Park Field Usage Summary

- There is no field usage in 2021 due to COVID.
- No teams came back to play here after 2021.
- In 2018 this field was scheduled for approximately 52 hours between June 1 and July 19. This equates to 3.6% field usage over this time period.
- In 2019, it was scheduled for approximately 358 hours between April 1 and July 10. This equates to 24.6% field usage during this time period.
- Primary users were St. Patrick and Comm. Ed.
- Nothing scheduled in 2023.





CITY OF NEW PRAGUE
RECREATION NEEDS STUDY
Usage Data-2019

SOUTHSIDE PARK PARK APRIL 2019								SOUTHSIDE PARK PARK MAY 2019							
Time	Sunday	Monday 4/1	Tuesday 4/2	Wednesday 4/3	Thursday 4/4	Friday 4/5	Saturday 4/6	Time	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday 5/1	Thursday 5/2	Friday 5/3	Saturday 5/4
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CITY OF NEW PRAGUE
RECREATION NEEDS STUDY
Usage Data-2019

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Existing Inventory

Sliding Hill Skate Park Facility Observations

- No ballfields or other athletic fields at this location.
- There is an archery range behind the warming house.
- There are two ice skating areas – one with dasher boards and one open area.
- The warming house appears to be in good condition but showing some deterioration around doors and windows.
- There is limited parking area available for any expanded services.
- Installing concrete has been discussed over the years.
- An outdoor amphitheater was also considered adjacent to the south.





Existing Inventory

Sliding Hill Skate Park Recommendations

- Consider adding concrete in ice skating areas.
- Developing the south portion of the site may require added parking or an accessible route/ bridge for access.
- Wind is a factor at this site. Should there be improvements such as pickleball, screening with fencing or trees would help mitigate the wind.





Existing Inventory

Settler's Park

Facility Observations

- Currently the park supports younger aged baseball and girl's softball. The park is not used for soccer.
- There are no outfield fencing. Fencing is limited to backstops – these are short.
- Overall drainage is good, drain tile has been installed in the grass areas.
- There is no irrigation present. The turf quality is fair.
- The park shelter and playground is in good condition.





Existing Inventory

Settler's Park

Recommendations

- Consider new backstops 12-14 feet in height with new fencing at fields for safety.
- Adding irrigation would improve overall turf conditions.
- Top dressing and removal of non-desired grasses would also improve overall turf conditions.
- There are no permanent restrooms at this park. There is a single ADA compliant portable restroom for park users.



Existing Inventory

Settler's Park Field Usage Summary

- Consistent usage by youth baseball from mid-April to mid-July.
- No scheduled use after mid-July.
- Prime time hours are typically 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm M-F.
- During that period, fields are scheduled approximately 382 hours.
- There are no field lights, which limits usage to daytime hours.
- Assuming approx. 1,350 daylight hours between mid-April to mid-July, this would equate to approximately 28% usage.





CITY OF NEW PRAGUE
RECREATION NEEDS STUDY

Usage Data-North Field

SETTLER'S PARK NORTH FIELD PARK APRIL 2023								SETTLER'S PARK NORTH FIELD PARK MAY 2023							
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CITY OF NEW PRAGUE
RECREATION NEEDS STUDY

Usage Data-North Field

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CITY OF NEW PRAGUE
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Conclusions/ Recommendations

RECOMMENDATIONS

The city is providing adequate facilities based on population and demographics. Field usage is low based on the data, but feedback from the survey's suggest there are inadequacies that should be considered.

- Lacrosse – With no central fields it is challenging to host tournaments. With growth, they will struggle without more fields.
- Soccer – Also noted that a dedicated central location would be beneficial. Cited availability and quality concerns.
- Pickle Ball – Noted that needs are not being met. Much of their program is supported by indoor spaces provided by the School District. Dedicated indoor and outdoor courts are desired.
- Youth Baseball – Noted that outdoor space can be limited at times.
- Many associations are looking for better and more access to indoor practice facilities and for tournaments.



Conclusions/ Recommendations

RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Collaboration

1. Collaborate with School District and Associations to improve scheduling and field use for greater efficiency and flexibility.
2. Collaborate with Associations regarding priority usage for tournaments.

A. Improvements

1. As noted in the field assessment, many of the fields could be upgraded to provide a better quality of play. This could include top dressing, removal of non-desired grasses and installation of irrigation.
2. Many of the baseball and softball fields could be improved with better fencing, dugouts, and lighting where appropriate.

A. Expansion

1. As the city population grows and participation numbers increase, adding additional outdoor fields may be warranted. Development of an outdoor sports park should be considered utilizing city owned acreage.
2. Consider construction of a dedicated recreation facility for indoor sports, fitness, and community activities.



CITY OF NEW PRAGUE
FACILITY NEEDS STUDY

Questions/ Discussion



New Prague, Minn.
City Hall



Z. C. B. J. Opera House



New Prague Flouring Mill Co.



Main Street looking East