

# **STAFF REPORT**

Meeting Type: City Council

Meeting Date: September 3, 2024

From: Rochelle Anderholm-Parsch, Parks and Recreation Director

Subject: Design for Meinig Memorial Park Improvements and Restoration

## **DECISION TO BE MADE:**

Review and provide further input to staff on Meinig Park improvements / restoration.

## **PURPOSE / OBJECTIVE:**

This is another opportunity for the Council to help further develop the preferred concept for Meinig Park improvements and restoration. The Council will also receive an update on the August 2024 Parks and Trails Advisory Board meeting and review refined options with staff and consultants.

## **BACKGROUND / CONTEXT:**

A master plan for Meinig Memorial Park was created in 2011, with the project going out to bid in 2017. Although it stalled at the time, the project has now been revitalized with funding allocated for the 2023-2025 fiscal year. The focus is on re-envisioning ADA accessibility, improving access for large events like Winterfest and Mt. Festival, and redeveloping Fantasy Forest, which has exceeded its useful life. The redevelopment aims to provide a safe and inclusive play experience. Additionally, erosion in "No Name Creek" has caused trail undermining, making stream and trail restoration a high priority.

Staff and Lango Hansen presented to the Parks and Trails Advisory Board on <u>July 10, 2024</u>, and again on <u>August 14, 2024</u>, to solicit recommendations on the Meinig Memorial Park improvements. Staff and Lango Hansen Landscape Architects also presented to the Council on <u>July 15, 2024</u>. Feedback from the Council was incorporated into the refined concept presented on August 14, 2024, to the Parks Board. Based on feedback from both the Parks Board and Council, the updated areas of focus are:

- 1. No Name Creek Restoration
- Fantasy Forest Playground
- 3. Pathway and Trail System
- 4. Hillside Seating
- 5. Parking Lot Improvements

It was determined that the dog park should be considered as an amenity at another location, as Meinig Park is not the best fit for the originally proposed dog park.

## **KEY CONSIDERATIONS / ANALYSIS:**

Improvements to this cherished community park are crucial. The Parks and Recreation Department has been provided with funds to design the necessary improvements, focusing on enhancing accessibility, event accommodation, and safe, inclusive play areas.

#### **BUDGET IMPACT:**

\$200,000 has been allocated for improvements and planning efforts for the rekindled design work of Meinig Memorial Park for fiscal years 2023-2025, covering the updated design and bid phases. This allocation covers the design and bid phases, and funds to address immediate safety issues.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff requests that the Council review the refined options and provide recommendations. The Council will be able to review Meinig Park options again on October 9, 2024 to finalize the preferred concept.

#### **LIST OF ATTACHMENTS / EXHIBITS:**

• Slide Presentation: Meinig Memorial Park Improvements and Redevelopment