

## **Sochacki JPA Board Meeting**

Monday April 22, 2019 5 PM  
Robbinsdale City Hall

### **AGENDA**

1. Roll Call & Welcome to new staff:
  - a. Ryan Parks – Robbinsdale
  - b. Luke Skinner – Three Rivers
  - c. Wendi Weirich – Three Rivers
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 16, 2018 JPA Board Meeting
3. Bottineau LRT Project
4. 2018 and 2019 Capital Improvement Projects:
5. 5-Year Sochacki CIP: 2019-2023
6. BMX recommendation
7. Programming Update
8. Operations Update
9. JPA Summer Tour

**REQUEST FOR SOCHACKI JPA BOARD ACTION**

Meeting Date: TBD

Business Item: New

Item Number: 2019-01

**Agenda Item: Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 16, 2018 JPA Board Meeting**

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Operation Committee's Recommendation:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 16, 2018, SOCHACKI JOINT POWERS BOARD MEETING.

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Minutes Attached.

**DRAFT Minutes**  
**Sochacki Park JPA Governance Policy Board Meeting**  
**April 16, 2018, 4:00 p.m.**  
**Brookview Center**  
**Golden Valley, MN**

Roll Call

Board Members present:

Larry Fonnest – Council Member, Golden Valley  
Pat Backen, Robbinsdale City Council  
John Gunyou, Chair, Three Rivers Board  
Dan Freeman, District 3 Commissioner, Three Rivers

Board Members Absent:

Shep Harris – Mayor, Golden Valley  
Regan Murphy – Robbinsdale

Operations Committee present:

Boe Carlson, Three Rivers  
Timothy Cruikshank, Golden Valley  
Marcia Glick, Robbinsdale

Others present:

Jonathan Vlaming, Three Rivers  
Rick Birno, Golden Valley  
Tom Marshall, Robbinsdale  
Denis Hahn, Three Rivers  
Patty Maher, Three Rivers

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 16, 2017**  
Board members approved.
2. **Election of the New Chair**  
Board members agreed to rotate the Chair position each Year. Gunyou made a motion to appoint Larry Fonnest as Chair, second by Freeman. Motion carried.
3. **Review of Programming**
  - Denis Hahn and Patty Maher provided an overview o the 2017 and 2018 programs, including:
    - About 100 program participants total
    - Explorer Camps – two week long camps in the park
    - Walk when the Moon is Full – offered four times
    - Birding by Bike
      - Snowshoeing
      - Birding
      - Sochacki Expo (June 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018).

- Discussion highlights
  - Events/programs marketed through Three Rivers/Golden Valley/Robbinsdale websites and brochures. Also cross-promote with Crystal and New Hope will explore working with local Cable News.
  - Programming staff from the three partners will continue to work together to grow the programming.
  - Weather is a factor in participation.
  - Focus has been more on family programming, as that has historically been the biggest market. Will continue to develop and market programming for seniors

#### 4. **5-Year Capital Improvement Plan**

- Jonathan Vlaming provided a handout and overview of the proposed 5-year CIP for Sochacki. Discussion included:
  - Board members were supportive of the 5-year plan, and recognized that it would need to be flexible as issues and opportunities arise.
  - Impacts of the BLRT project on the plan if the LRT is delayed were discussed. Board members indicated it would be preferable to not delay park improvements if possible, even if the LRT project is delayed.
  - Staff will provide the 5-year improvement plan to the public for review at the Sochacki Expo, and may suggest refinement based on the public feedback received.
  - Board members agreed that an interim dog park in the northern area is desired. Robbinsdale will take the lead on construction. Three Rivers will provide funding and will then operate the dog park.
  - Motion to approve the 5-Year CIP was approved unanimously.

#### 5. **BMX Area discussion**

- BMX area soils will be tested.
- Discussion on possible impacts to Sochacki if the BMX area was improved to be a regional level facility. Impacts could include lack of adequate parking, duplication with facilities in Theodore Wirth Park, and the loss of the “kid-built” aspect of the current BMX facility.
- Board members asked staff (Tom) to monitor use at the site to gauge how heavily it is currently being used.

#### 6. **Next Meeting**

- Desire for the next meeting to be a site tour
- Meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM

**SOCHACKI JPA BOARD INFORMATION ITEM**

Meeting Date: 04/22/2019

Business Item: New

Item Number: 2019-02

**Agenda Item: Bottineau LRT Project: Status Update**

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Operation Committee’s Recommendation:

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

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**Bottineau LRT Project Status**

The project is in a holding pattern while the negotiations between the BNSF Railroad and Metropolitan Council continues. There was a meeting the week of April 8<sup>th</sup> between BNSF executives, the Council Chair and the Governor’s Chief of Staff. Negotiations are continuing.

The most recent Schedule is shown below. This will likely need to change. Construction was slated to start in 2020. At the earliest, it would likely start in 2021.

**Project Update**

Milestone	Schedule as of 9/7/17	Schedule as of 8/31/18
Civil Design proceed to 100% Plans	Jan 2018	Aug 2019
Complete Critical 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party Agreements	May 2018	Oct 2019
Submit Final <u>FFGA</u> Application to FTA	May 2018	Oct 2019
Complete 100% Civil Plans and Specifications	April 2018	Dec 2019
Issue Civil Package #1 Invitation for Bids	May 2018	Jan 2020
FTA Approves <u>FFGA</u>	Oct 2018	March 2020
Issue Civil Package #1 Notice to Proceed	Oct 2018	May 2020
Begin Revenue Service	Q3 2022	Q3 2024

- Maintains project budget at \$1.536B



**Land Acquisition Cost to Sure Payment Agreement**

BPO asked that Three Rivers complete some portions of the original list of JPA requirements for BPO use of the park for staging construction. In exchange, BPO would provide adequate funding for Three Rivers to complete those requirements. BPO has indicated that the appropriate funding mechanism for funding would be a Land Acquisition Cost to Sure payment through Right-of-Way funds to the landowner (City of Robbinsdale) at a value equal to or above the cost incurred by Three Rivers to complete those requirements. The specific projects and anticipated costs to be completed by Three Rivers are shown below. The cost estimate reflects anticipated inflation and a 20 percent contingency.

The next step in this process is to develop the Agreement between the City and the BPO. A second agreement between the City and Three Rivers will also be needed. If the projects are completed for a total cost less than the rent agreement amount, it is proposed that the remaining funds be used to help fund additional projects identified in the approved Sochacki Capital Improvement Program.

Staff has discussed this with the BPO office and will meet in Mid-June to start drafting the agreements. BPO would like to finalize the agreement by the end of 2019.

**BPO Projects to be completed by Three Rivers:**

	<b>Project</b>	<b>Estimate of Cost<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Notes</b>
1a.	Paved trail replacement from Central Parking lot to Bonnie Lane	\$840,000	~ 4,800 feet of 10' trail
1b.	Reinstall benches	\$28,000	5 benches reinstalled with concrete pads
2.a	Revegetation/screening	\$231,000	Up to 650 trees with two years of water and maintenance needed for success. Exact areas of screening TBD in Vegetation Plan (2019). Areas include staging areas, and the eastern boundary of the park where feasible. Includes soil amendments as needed and some invasive species removal as needed.
2.b	Revegetation, edge restoration along N Rice Lake in south staging area	\$71,400	1/2-acre pollinator & rain garden plus two years maintenance for success
3a.	Construction of Water Education Platform in N Rice Lake	\$35,000	Similar to MAC Nature Area platform, but larger.
3b.	ADA Access to platform	\$245,000	700' path to meet grade requirements, plus assumed retaining walls needed
4	Tree Removal compensation	\$16,000	Inventory identifies 152 trees in staging areas to be removed.
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$1,466,400</b>	

<sup>1</sup>. Adjusted for inflation and includes contingency

## **SOCHACKI JPA BOARD INFORMATION ITEM**

Meeting Date: 04/22/2019

Business Item: New

Item Number: 2019-03

### **Agenda Item: 2018 and 2019 Capital Improvement Projects**

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#### Operation Committee's Recommendation:

#### INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

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##### 2018: Dog Park

The 2018 CIP called for development of an interim dog park at the northern end of the park. The City of Robbinsdale managed the project, with funding reimbursed by Three Rivers at a total cost of about \$10,000. The dog park opened for use last fall. There is no charge to use the dog park. Three Rivers maintenance staff are responsible for upkeep and maintenance of the dog park.

##### 2019: Trail Repair and Benches

The original plan for 2019 included

- Non-paved trail improvements in non-BLRT impacted sector
- South pond: northern dock rebuild
- Bassett Creek shore access improvements

However, since the last CIP was approved, it was learned that an old section of trail just north of Bonnie lane was experiencing regular flooding after rains. In addition, public input at the Sochacki Expo identified a strong interest by the public in providing benches along the trail.

The Operations Committee agreed that it would be more beneficial to the park users to focus 2019 investments on fixing the trail and providing benches. The 2019 CIP budget of \$75,000 is being directed towards the fixing the trail, and if there are enough remaining funds, staff will then proceed with rebuilding the dock on the South Pond. The trail repair should be out to bid in May.

Five benches along the trail from the central parking lot south to Bonnie Lane will also be installed in late spring. Staff is in the process of determining the best places to put them. Funding for the benches comes from an internal Three Rivers donations fund. They will be installed by Three Rivers staff later this spring.

**REQUEST FOR SOCHACKI JPA BOARD ACTION**

Meeting Date: 04/22/2019

Business Item: **New**

Item Number: **2019-04**

Agenda Item: 2019-2023 Sochacki Capital Improvement Plan

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Operation Committee's Recommendation:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2019-2023 SOCHACKI CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

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The Operations Committee reviewed and discussed the 2019-2023 Capital Improvement Plan (**Reference 1**) at their January 2019 meeting.

The primary change in the CIP is the assumption that the BLRT project will be starting in 2021 instead of 2019. This results in moving the projects from 2021 to 2023. The 2019 projects were also updated as discussed in Item 2019-03.

Each year the 5-year CIP will be updated and presented to the JPA Board for approval.



## 2019-2023 Sochacki Park Improvement Plan

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>BLRT</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning and outreach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction Start (tentative)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction (tentative)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction Completing (tentative)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BLRT Products:</li> <li>Trail underpass to Wirth Park</li> <li>N/S Paved Trail**</li> <li>Remediation &amp; Prep for Central Dog Area</li> <li>Remediate southern programming area soils</li> <li>Improved parking</li> <li>Road rebuild</li> <li>Water line installed</li> <li>Screening vegetation**</li> </ul>
<b>Programming</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing programming</li> <li>Sochacki Expo</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing programming*</li> <li>Sochacki Expo*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing programming*</li> <li>Sochacki Expo*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing programming*</li> <li>Sochacki Expo*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing Programming</li> <li>Sochacki Expo to celebrate improvements and launch of interactive art.</li> <li>Interactive art nodes installation begins (\$25,000 annually)</li> </ul>
<b>Capital Improvements</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trail repairs</li> <li>Benches</li> <li>S Pond dock rebuild (if funds are available)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>S Pond dock rebuild and/or</li> <li>Non-paved trails improvements west of existing trail</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learning Center, water &amp; bathrooms \$400,000)</li> <li>Grimes Pond water learning station**</li> <li>ADA path from Center to learning station (\$75,000)</li> <li>Centrally located Dog Park – Fencing, gates and water supply (\$25,000)</li> </ul>
<b>Natural Resources Stewardship</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop Vegetation Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vegetation improvements TBD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vegetation improvements TBD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vegetation improvements TBD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vegetation improvements TBD</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop Water Quality Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WQ improvements TBD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WQ improvements TBD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WQ Improvements TBD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WQ Improvements TBD</li> </ul>

\* If BLRT is postponed the Sochacki Expo will occur in that year

\*\* Implemented by TRPD, funded by BLRT. For the trail, TRPD will reconstruct portion from southern staging area to Bonnie LN. BLRT will d

## **SOCHACKI JPA BOARD INFORMATION ITEM**

Meeting Date: 04/22/2019

Business Item: **New**

Item Number: **2019-05**

**Agenda Item: BMX Recommendation**

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Operation Committee's Recommendation:

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

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The City of Robbinsdale conducted an environmental assessment of the soils at the BMX area. No contaminants were found.

The Operations Committee discussed the existing BMX area. The Committee recommends the following:

1. That the BMX area be treated as a local amenity developed by neighborhood kids.
2. Continue to monitor the area for safety.
3. Remove the BMX area from Sochacki reference maps since it is not an official park amenity.
4. Perhaps over time, it may be appropriate to formally upgrade the facility, but let's hold off for now.

**SOCHACKI JPA BOARD INFORMATION ITEM**

Meeting Date: 04/22/2019

Business Item: **New**

Item Number: **2019-06**

**Agenda Item: Programming Update**

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Operation Committee's Recommendation:

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

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Staff will provide an overview of 2018 Programming activities and a preview of the 2019 planned programs.

**SOCHACKI JPA BOARD INFORMATION ITEM**

Meeting Date: 04/22/2019

Business Item: **New**

Item Number: **2019-07**

**Agenda Item: Operations Update**

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Operation Committee’s Recommendation:

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

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Jonathan Vlaming has been acting as the point person for Three Rivers for Sochacki. However, his Division – Planning and Design – is not equipped to manage day-to-day park operations and maintenance. Luke Skinner’s Division is directly responsible for managing natural resources and for programming. Consequently, Three Rivers will be moving day-to-day responsibilities for Sochacki Park over to Luke and his staff. Jonathan will continue to be directly involved in working with the BPO agreements and with capital improvements.

Three Rivers Primary Contacts for:

<b><u>Operations: Policy &amp; JPA</u></b> Luke Skinner Associate Superintendent <a href="mailto:Luke.Skinner@threeriverparks.org">Luke.Skinner@threeriverparks.org</a> 763-383-2536	<b><u>Capital Projects/BPO/JPA</u></b> Jonathan Vlaming Associate Superintendent <a href="mailto:Jonathan.Vlaming@threeriversparks.org">Jonathan.Vlaming@threeriversparks.org</a> 763-694-7632
<b><u>Park Operations</u></b> Lynn Stoltzmann Director of Facility Services <a href="mailto:Lynn.Stoltzmann@threeriversparks.org">Lynn.Stoltzmann@threeriversparks.org</a> 763-559-6702	<b><u>Maintenance</u></b> Zach Conway Park Maintenance Supervisor <a href="mailto:Zach.Conway@threeriversparks.org">Zach.Conway@threeriversparks.org</a> 763-694-7767
<b><u>Programming</u></b> Wendy Weirich Director of Outdoor Recreation and Education <a href="mailto:Wendy.Weirich@threeriversparks.org">Wendy.Weirich@threeriversparks.org</a> 763-694-1160	<b><u>Natural Resources</u></b> Angie Smith Director of Natural Resources <a href="mailto:Angie.Smith@threeriversparks.org">Angie.Smith@threeriversparks.org</a> 763-694-7841

**SOCHACKI JPA BOARD INFORMATION ITEM**

Meeting Date: 04/22/2019

Business Item: New

Item Number: 2019-08

**Agenda Item: Summer Tour**

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Operation Committee's Recommendation:

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

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Identification of a good date for a bike tour of Sochacki.