

**Sochacki Park JPA Governance Policy Board
Meeting April 16, 2018 4:00 p.m.
Brookview Center
North Bassett Creek Room
200 Brookview Parkway
Golden Valley, MN 55426**

Proposed Meeting Agenda

1. Roll call
2. Approval of the minutes from the October 16, 2017 Meeting (*attached*)
3. Election of new Chair
4. Review of Programming:
 - a. 2017 Programming
 - b. Planned 2018 Programming
5. 2018-2022 Sochacki Park Improvement Plan
6. Roundtable thoughts
7. Setting the date for the next meeting

REQUEST FOR SOCHACKI JPA BOARD ACTION

Meeting Date: 04/16/2018

Business Item: **New**

Item Number: **2018-01**

Agenda Item: Minutes of the October 16, 2017 Sochacki Joint Powers Board Meeting

Operation Committee's Recommendation:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 16, 2017, SOCHACKI JOINT POWERS BOARD MEETING.

Minutes Attached.

DRAFT Minutes
Sochacki Park JPA Governance Policy Board Meeting
October 16, 2017, 4:00 p.m.
Three Rivers Administrative Center – Board Room
Plymouth, MN

Meeting called to order by Mayor Harris at 4:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members present:

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

Operations Committee present:

Boe Carlson, Three Rivers
Jonathan Vlaming, Three Rivers
Timothy Cruikshank, Golden Valley
Rick Birno, Golden Valley
Marcia Glick, Robbinsdale
Tom Marshall, Robbinsdale

Others present:

Caroline Miller, Blue Line Extension Project Office (BPO) – Metro Transit
Nick Landwer, Blue Line Extension Project Office (BPO) – Metro Transit
David Davies, Blue Line Extension Project Office (BPO) – Metro Transit
Jim Jaglo, President of the Sochacki BMX club

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 8, 2016**
Board members approved.
2. **Bottineau LRT Update (BPO staff)**
 - 90% plans by December of 2017, 100 % plans in April 2018.
 - Construction staging in Sochacki will begin in 2019. BPO expects heavy use of Sochacki in 2019 and 2020. Exact timing is not known until the contractor is hired.
 - LRT open to use in 2022
 - North staging area will be scraped and capped with two-feet of clean fill. The fill requires a permanent wetland impact mitigated through wetland banking. The result will be a clean dry area for the planned central dog park.

3. Planned approach for soil testing

- Staff proposed that testing be done in planned high use areas prior to development of those areas, and that mitigation, if needed, be addressed as part of the development project. JPA members agreed that this was a satisfactory approach.

4. BMX Area

- Jim Jaglo discussed his role in taking care of the BMX site within the park. Robbinsdale has put together a group of citizens to take care of the BMX area. Jim is president of that group. The League of Minnesota Cities provides liability insurance for the site.
- Jim typically visits the BMX site three times a week to check for new hazards. He sees a big variety of jumps being made by kids. He indicated that the site is popular – it has people using it nearly every time he is there. He has also seen Loppet excursions to the site.
- Jim is concerned about the site if he were to ever not be able to take care of it, or if he had to move.
- JPA members discussed the merits of a more formal site that reflects BMX standards, versus a site created by the kids themselves. That discussion also identified that there is a formal BMX site being developed by the Loppet in Theodore Wirth Park. It was agreed that the BMX site needs further discussion and public input prior to any proposal to redevelop the site into a formal BMX facility.

5. Dog Park

- Robbinsdale proposed that an interim dog park be developed in the grassy north part of the park. Staff estimated the cost for fencing to be approximately \$8,000. JPA members instructed staff to further discuss the proposal at the Operations Committee and to report back to the JPA with a recommendation at their next meeting.

6. Need for interim plans and actions not tied to the Bottineau LRT project.

- JPA members expressed concerns that the Bottineau project might be delayed, resulting in all plans for Sochacki being stuck on hold indefinitely. JPA members instructed staff to develop an interim plan for programming and development over the next five years. The interim plan should not be dependent on the Bottineau LRT project moving forward. Staff will bring that plan forward for consideration at the next JPA meeting.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for late January of 2018, dependent on JPA members' schedules.

REQUEST FOR SOCHACKI JPA BOARD ACTION

Meeting Date: 04/16/2018

Business Item: New

Item Number: 2018-02

Agenda Item: 2018-2022 Sochacki Park Improvement Plan

Operation Committee's Recommendation:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2018-2022 SOCHACKI PARK IMPROVEMENT PLAN

At their October 2017 JPA Board Meeting, the Board directed the Operations Committee to develop a 5-year improvement plan for Sochacki Park in a way such that improvements could occur independent of the Bottineau LRT project. There was concern that the LRT project could be delayed, resulting in lost momentum of the Sochacki Partnership.

Staff has developed a 2018-2022 Sochacki Park Improvement Plan (***Reference 1***). The plan follows the intent of the original JPA agreement – to provide nature-based recreation and programming opportunities. The proposed projects will enhance the regional programming opportunities at Sochacki, and will improve both the natural resources of the park as well as the nature-based recreation opportunities in the park.

The plan identifies 38 actions. Highlights of the plan include:

- Interim dog park to be developed in the northern grassy area of the park in early summer of 2018,
- Non-paved trail improvements,
- Dock improvements,
- Learning center with restrooms and drinking water,
- ADA-accessible path from the learning center to a water learning platform on Rice Lake
- Water quality and vegetation improvements, and
- Annual major programming event (Sochacki Expo).

As outlined in the JPA Agreement, Three Rivers is responsible for capital improvements. The expected cost of Three Rivers' improvements is \$635,000, and is proposed to be funded in the draft 5-year Capital Improvement Plan for Three Rivers to be considered for approval by its Board in June of 2018. The JPA's partnership with the Bottineau LRT (BLRT) leverages this investment with an additional \$2.5+ million of projects paid for by the BLRT.

2018-2022 Sochacki Park Improvement Plan

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
BLRT				
Planning and outreach	Construction (tentative)	Construction (tentative)	BLRT Products: 18. Trail underpass to Wirth Park 19. N/S Paved Trail** 20. Remediation & Prep for Central Dog Area 21. Remediate southern programming area soils 22. Improved parking 23. Road rebuild 24. Water line installed 25. Screening vegetation**	
Programming				
1. Ongoing programming 2. Reach out to Sacred Heart, Lakeview & RMS schools 3. Sochacki Expo	7. Ongoing programming* 8. Sochacki Expo*	14. Ongoing programming* 15. Sochacki Expo*	26. Ongoing programming*	34. Ongoing Programming 35. Sochacki Expo to celebrate improvements and launch of interactive art. 36. Interactive art nodes installation begins (\$25,000 annually)
Capital Improvements				
4. Interim Dog Park in North Area (\$10,000)	9. Non-paved trail improvements in non-BLRT impacted sector (\$25,000)		27. Learning Center, water & bathrooms \$400,000 28. Grimes Pond water learning station** 29. ADA path from Center to learning station (\$75,000)	
	10. S pond northern dock rebuild (\$35,000)		30. Centrally located Dog Park – Fencing, gates and water supply (\$25,000)	
	11. Basset Creek shore access improvements (\$15,000)		31. Non-paved trails improvements in rest of park (\$25,000)	
Natural Resources Stewardship				
5. Develop Vegetation Plan	12. Vegetation improvements TBD	16. Vegetation improvements TBD	32. Vegetation improvements TBD	37. Vegetation improvements TBD
6. Develop Water Quality Plan	13. WQ improvements TBD	17. WQ improvements TBD	33. WQ Improvements TBD	38. WQ Improvements TBD

* 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 do the rest.

Sochacki Park Improvements 2018 -2022

April 3, 2018

