

WACONIA PARK BOARD MEETING AGENDA



Thursday, August 21, 2025
6:30 PM

VISION STATEMENT

A thriving, connected community with deep roots: a great place to live for a lifetime.

MISSION STATEMENT

A city that leads, serves, and governs to enhance the quality of life for all community members.

CHAIR: LACEY SHAW
MEMBER: THOMAS ADAMINI
MEMBER: LEAH SOLTIS
MEMBER: BEN STRASHEIM
MEMBER: TAMI PETERSON
ALTERNATE: LUCAS REINERS

**NOTE: TO ENSURE THAT YOU ARE PRESENT FOR ITEMS OF INTEREST,
PLEASE BE PRESENT AT 6:30 P.M.**

Those with items on the agenda should reach out to their staff contact. Others who wish to participate in the meeting, please contact the City Administrator, Shane Fineran at 952-442-3100 or sfineran@waconiamn.gov to make certain that you are called upon during the meeting.

- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**
- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - 1) Approve the July 24, 2025, Park Board Meeting Minutes
- 4. REGULAR BUSINESS**
 - 1) **Dog Park**
 - 2) **Park Facility Capital Investment Plan**
Discussion & Direction
- 5. STAFF PARK ITEMS UPDATE**
- 6. BOARD UPDATES & QUESTIONS**

7. ADJOURN

UPCOMING MEETINGS



REQUEST FOR PARK BOARD ACTION

Meeting Date: August 21, 2025	
Item Name: 3.1. Approve the July 24, 2025, Park Board Meeting Minutes	
Originating Dept: Administration	
Presented By: Brenda Jurek	
Previous Council Action: None	
Item Type:	Regular Session
RECOMMENDATIONS/COUNCIL ACTION/MOTION REQUESTED: Approve the July 24, 2025, Park Board Meeting Minutes	
EXPLANATION OF AGENDA ITEM: Approve the July 24, 2025, Park Board Meeting Minutes	
ATTACHMENTS: 1. July 24, 2025 Park Board Meeting Minutes	
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:	ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:
Funding Sources & Uses:	Planning Commission:
Budget Information:	Park Board:
_____ Budgeted	Personnel Committee:
_____ Non-Budgeted	Other:
_____ Amendment Required	

**CITY OF WACONIA
JULY 24, 2025**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Regular Meeting of the Waconia Parks & Recreation Board in the City Council Chambers was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Shaw.

Park Board Members Present: Thomas Adamini, Lacey Shaw, Ben Strasheim, Tami Peterson, Leah Soltis

Park Board Members Absent: Lucas Reiners

Council Liaison: None

Staff Present: Shane Fineran

Guests: None

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to Approval of Agenda made by Park Board Member Adamini, seconded by Park Board Member Strasheim.

MOTION CARRIED.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to Approval of March 20, 2025 Minutes made by Park Board Member Adamini, seconded by Park Board Member Strasheim.

MOTION CARRIED.

1) Approve the March 20, 2025, Parks and Recreation Board Minutes

4. REGULAR BUSINESS

Shane Fineran presented an overview of the prior neighborhood survey and the resulting design concepts created by Flagship Recreation. Based on the feedback, three initial design options were proposed. All options are currently over budget, so phasing the project may be necessary.

Design Options:

Option 1: Features two separate play structures, a swing bank, sport court, and a seating area.

Option 2: Like Option 1, but with a larger swing bank and a more open-space layout. It

also includes a sport court and seating area.

Option 3: Includes several play structures but the smallest tot structure. Simpler swings are proposed.

Seating: Pederson suggested all options should include more seating.

Budget Concerns:

- Soltis raised the question of what could be done immediately to start the project within budget, possibly combining structures.
- Pederson asked about modular options – starting with a base structure that could be expanded in the future.

Preferences:

- Shaw and Pederson prefer Options 1 and 3.
- Fineran proposed combining the layout of Options 1 and 3 with the sport court design from Option 2.
- Strasheim & Pederson: Both requested a revised plan that:
 1. Merges Options 1 and 3 conceptually.
 2. Fits within the current budget.
 3. It can be built in one phase, with flexibility for future additions.

Cost-Saving Ideas:

- Reduce the amount of sidewalk to reallocate funds towards play structures.
- Consider an all-ages play structure with swing banks and simplified site work.

Funding:

1. Discussed using PIR cash and Park Dedication CIP funds to support the project.

Next Steps:

- Present two refined options at a neighborhood meeting for feedback.
- Develop a plan that uses \$150K for the play structure, focusing on concepts from Options 1 and 3.
- Reserve \$100K for grading and sport court.
- Ensure the plan stays within the \$250K budget, while allowing for future enhancements.

1) Island View Estates Park Concepts

5. STAFF PARK ITEMS UPDATE

Mike was not present. Nothing to report

6. BOARD UPDATES & QUESTIONS

Soltis – Memorial Park Concept:

- Soltis suggested exploring the idea of creating a memorial park concept.
- The vision includes stepping stones or stone-type memorials that individuals can purchase in memory of a loved one.
- Further discussion will be needed to identify a location, establish guidelines for the memorials, and outline potential costs and funding sources.

Shaw – Pedestrian Safety Concern at Cedar Point Park:

- Shaw reported a pedestrian safety concern brought to her attention at Cedar Point Park.
- The issue is related to a hill with a blind spot at a corner, creating a potential collision risk for pedestrians.
- She suggested installing a pedestrian crossing or warning sign in the area to improve visibility and safety.

7. ADJOURN

Motion to Adjourn made by Park Board Member Adamini, seconded by Park Board Member Soltis.

MOTION CARRIED.

Adjourn 7:30

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Lacey Shaw, Chair

ATTEST: _____
Brenda Jurek, Administrative Specialist



REQUEST FOR PARK BOARD ACTION

Meeting Date:	August 21, 2025
Item Name:	4.1. Dog Park
Originating Dept:	Administration
Presented By:	
Previous Council Action:	
Item Type:	Regular Session
RECOMMENDATIONS/COUNCIL ACTION/MOTION REQUESTED:	
EXPLANATION OF AGENDA ITEM:	
<p>The City Council has expressed their desire to see a dog park developed in the community. Currently, the parks capital investment plan does not identify dog park development in the next 10 years. Options for the Park Board to consider are adding this amenity to the park facilities' capital investment plan, so resources are programmed when a viable opportunity arises and/or to consider this as an amenity that the park board would recommend being developed as development occurs.</p>	
<p>Elements for consideration for a successful dog park include:</p>	
<p>1. Location - areas not in high demand for human-use only or underutilized spaces are often acceptable as dog parks; non-traditional locations also decrease the chance of conflict with traditional park users. A well-located park is also a benefit to the broader community as it reduces the tendency for people to take dogs off leash where they are typically not permitted. Size is an important factor in determining a successful park, with 3 to 5 acres in a municipal setting proving to be ideal. While smaller parks can be built, the number of them would likely need to be multiplied to not create an overburdened amenity, which could create degraded surfacing, unmanageable trash and feces, etc. Parking is also important as studies have shown that 95% of users drive to the park.</p>	
<p>2. Sanitation - a plan and budget for routine and frequent maintenance is also necessary. Adequate signage at the entrance and throughout a park stating rules and expectations for animal owners to clean up after themselves leads to better compliance. Adequate supplies such as disposable bags and refuse containers also need to be provided.</p>	
<p>3. Noise - proximity to residential areas can create concerns over noise, privacy, and barking. It is suggested not to locate directly adjacent to residential properties, and, if so, to buffer with plantings, fencing, or earner berms. Concentrating exit/entrance points and more highly utilized areas of the park at the farthest point possible from residential properties is recommended.</p>	
<p>While the current park system does not currently have any of these elements noted to create a successful park, these are all things that could be incorporated into future park development and/or areas of the City that would be considered non-traditional.</p>	
<p>Staff have developed a concept of a parcel along Airport Road in conjunction with future infrastructure development that might meet some of the recommendations. This parcel would be at the southwest corner of the future roundabout of Airport Road and the CSAH 92 extension.</p>	

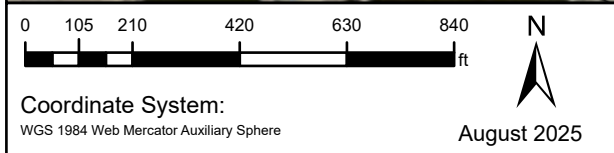
This area is currently planned to accommodate future stormwater ponding for roadway purposes as well as be the site of a future lift station, which plans are currently underway in design. The overall parcel size is approximately 9 acres, with about 5 acres of high wooded ground. Staff have prepared the attached concept to illustrate how this could be laid out, accommodating all uses for infrastructure as well as providing parking, buffering, and fencing. Theoretically, this park could be developed when the lift station is developed, possibly in 2026 at the earliest.

Staff are seeking discussion and direction from the board on their support for the dog park and approach to development of this amenity.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Airport Road Parcel
2. Airport Rd Dog Park Concept

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:	ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:
Funding Sources & Uses: Budget Information: _____ Budgeted _____ Non-Budgeted _____ Amendment Required	Planning Commission: _____ Park Board: _____ Personnel Committee: _____ Other: _____ _____



City of Waconia
201 Vine Street South, Waconia, MN 55387

Landscape_11x17





REQUEST FOR PARK BOARD ACTION

Meeting Date:	August 21, 2025
Item Name:	4.2. Park Facility Capital Investment Plan
Originating Dept:	Administration
Presented By:	Shane Fineran
Previous Council Action:	
Item Type:	Regular Session
RECOMMENDATIONS/COUNCIL ACTION/MOTION REQUESTED: Discussion & Direction	
EXPLANATION OF AGENDA ITEM:	
<p>Attached is the draft capital investment plan for park-related facilities 2026-2030. Staff are seeking discussion, direction, and recommendation for adoption in the 2026 capital investment plan for City Council consideration. All facilities noted are replacement and/or development of park facilities within the community during this period as well as the proposed funding sources. As previously requested, the Park Dedication Fund balance is \$381,763.00. The approved preliminary plan for Elm Creek will see an additional \$153,000 paid in park dedication, likely in 2025.</p>	
<p>Items of note are:</p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Playground replacements are scheduled as previously presented and proposed for the next 10 years. These are largely on a 20-year replacement cycle, with some cycles being a few years longer or shorter to maintain at least one replacement annually.2. Sudheimer Park Additions will be phased out as previously discussed by the Park Board utilizing GO Tax Abatement Bonds. In the years noted for development, the city will have abatement flexibility which will allow us to make these investments.3. Pickleball courts at Brook Peterson Park are targeted for 2027 with 6 courts noted. The number of courts will ultimately be determined based on funding, but a grant opportunity is available which could provide more funding which would allow for this development along with the programmed municipal investment and donations on hand.4. New park playground development is planned in Island View Estates, Holbrook, and Woodland Creek neighborhoods.5. City Square Park lighting is programmed to be replaced in 2026 along with the planned street reconstruction project occurring on 1st Street.6. Dog park construction is planned and will be based on the discussion and direction of the board during the August 20th meeting.7. Playground replacement is planned for Pine Hill Park in 2026.	
<p>With the programmed development and replacement of playground structures at Pine Hill Park and Island View Estates Park, staff requested that Flagship Recreation evaluate both spaces and the funding allocated for these efforts. The Pine Hill Park is a small 2-5-play structure. The play container is in good shape, thus reducing some of the potential needs in this space. Options are being evaluated so that the concepts previously reviewed by the board for Island View Estates</p>	

could be maintained in conjunction with a lower investment likely needed at Pine Hill Park than what is budgeted.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Park Board Information_CIP 2026-2035 (003)

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:	ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:
Funding Sources & Uses: Budget Information: _____ Budgeted _____ Non-Budgeted _____ Amendment Required	Planning Commission: _____ Park Board: _____ Personnel Committee: _____ Other: _____ _____

City of Waconia, Minnesota
 Capital Improvement Plan
 2026 thru 2035

PROJECTS & FUNDING SOURCES BY DEPARTMENT - PARKS FACILITIES

Department	Project #	Total Ranking	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	Total
Public Services-Parks													
Legacy Village Park Equipment Upgrades	288	75								236,000			236,000
<i>PIR Cash</i>										236,000			236,000
Future Community Park Land Purchase	348									3,000,000			3,000,000
<i>Park Ded Cash</i>										3,000,000			3,000,000
Playground Equipment Replacement - Wildhurst Park	385	70					275,000						275,000
<i>PIR Cash</i>							275,000						275,000
Playground Equipment Replacement - Fox Run Park	386	70			275,000								275,000
<i>PIR Cash</i>					275,000								275,000
Playground Equipment Replacement - Interlaken Park	387	70				275,000							275,000
<i>PIR Cash</i>						275,000							275,000
Playground Equipment Replacement - Pinehill Park	388	70	270,000										270,000
<i>PIR Cash</i>			270,000										270,000
Sudheimer Park Additions	517			185,000		175,000	180,000						540,000
<i>GO Bonds</i>				185,000		175,000	180,000						540,000
Playground Equipment Replacement - City Square Park	580								350,000				350,000
<i>PIR Cash</i>									350,000				350,000
Waterford Park Facility Improvement	597			2,000,000									2,000,000
<i>GO Bonds</i>				2,000,000									2,000,000
Upgrade Brook Peterson Park Fields 1-4 Lighting to LED	623	77		400,000									400,000
<i>PIR Cash</i>				400,000									400,000
City Square Park Shelter Replacement	711		127,900										127,900
<i>Donations</i>			127,900										127,900

City of Waconia, Minnesota
 Capital Improvement Plan
 2026 thru 2035

PROJECTS & FUNDING SOURCES BY DEPARTMENT - PARKS FACILITIES

Department	Project #	Total Ranking	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	Total
Pickleball Court Addition - 6 Courts	746			580,000									450,000
<i>Donations</i>				65,000									225,000
<i>Grant</i>				290,000									225,000
<i>PIR Cash</i>				225,000									225,000
Brook Peterson Park Field Updates - Field 1	747				220,000								220,000
<i>PIR Cash</i>					220,000								220,000
Brook Peterson Park Field Upgrades - Field 5 (Junior Varsity Baseball)	749				425,000								425,000
<i>PIR Cash</i>					425,000								425,000
Brook Peterson Park Field Updates - Field 2	763				225,000								225,000
<i>PIR Cash</i>					225,000								225,000
Brook Peterson Park Field Updates - Field 3	764					230,000							230,000
<i>PIR Cash</i>						230,000							230,000
Brook Peterson Park Field Updates - Field 4	765						235,000						235,000
<i>PIR Cash</i>							235,000						235,000
Woodland Creek 5th Play Equipment Addition	766				230,000								230,000
<i>Park Ded Cash</i>					230,000								230,000
City Square Park - Lighting & Electrical Upgrades	767		325,000										325,000
<i>429 Bonds</i>			325,000										325,000
Island View Estates Playground (New)	808		250,000										250,000
<i>PIR Cash</i>			250,000										250,000
Dog Park Construction	855		125,000										125,000
<i>PIR Cash</i>			125,000										125,000
Holbrook Development Playground (New)	870			275,000							300,000		300,000
<i>Park Ded Cash</i>				275,000							300,000		300,000

City of Waconia, Minnesota
 Capital Improvement Plan
 2026 thru 2035

PROJECTS & FUNDING SOURCES BY DEPARTMENT - PARKS FACILITIES

Department	Project #	Total Ranking	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	Total
Playground Equipment Replacement - Brook Peterson Park	866							275,000					275,000
<i>PIR Cash</i>								275,000					275,000
Playground Equipment Replacement - Clearwater Mills Park	867									275,000			275,000
<i>PIR Cash</i>										275,000			275,000
Playground Equipment Replacement - Legacy Village Park	868										300,000		300,000
<i>PIR Cash</i>											300,000		300,000
Playground Equipment Replacement - Sugarbush Park	869											275,000	275,000
<i>PIR Cash</i>												275,000	275,000
GRAND TOTAL			1,097,900	3,440,000	1,375,000	680,000	690,000	275,000	350,000	3,511,000	600,000	275,000	12,001,400