

Planning Committee Meeting
Wednesday, September 23, 2026; 8:00 a.m.
Fargo Parks Sports Center
Alex Stern Boardroom

Present: Zoe Absey, Vicki Dawson, Joe Deutsch, Susan Faus, Jayne Gust, Dave Bietz, Tony Schmitt, Tyler Kirchner, Broc Lietz, Rocky Papachek

Public Comment: Members of the public were afforded the opportunity to discuss issues with the Board. There were none.

Review and Approve the Back Forty Developers Agreement

Tyler Kirchner, presenter

- The proposed agreement would create a pedestrian-access easement for a trail connection that represents one segment of a larger planned shared-use trail loop extending from the Fargo Parks Sports Center.
- The developer can count the easement toward open-space requirements; the park district would maintain the trail, while landowners handle surrounding landscaping and upkeep.
- An architectural review board and agreement provisions are intended to help protect the trail and guide future connections.

The committee recommends moving this to the full board and placing it on the Regular Agenda for consideration and approval.

Review and Request to Solicit Bids for the 2027 Park District Projects

Tyler Kirchner, presenter

- Tyler reviewed the Projects list for 2027.
- Discussion of 2027 Pavement Improvement Projects. Some items were described as alternates that could be deferred if bids exceed the budget.
- 2027 Playground Replacement Projects, we finished up community engagement on the 15th and that results were to construct Traditional Playground Structures.
- Edgewood Golf Improvement Project is for irrigation and green renovations. Only the river pump will be installed in 2027. Remaining project components such as irrigation and green renovations are scheduled for 2028.

The committee recommends moving this to the full board and placing it on the Consent Agenda for consideration and approval.

Permission to Apply for an Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Grant Opportunity for Lindenwood Park Campground Improvements

Tony Schmitt, presenter

- Tony discussed applying for an ORLP grant for an approximately \$4 million campground renovation, with a potential \$2 million park-district match.

- The project components would include a replacement of the existing asphalt roadways and campsites, upgraded electrical pedestals and water spigots to each campsite, and comfort station, fencing, sanitary dump station, lighting, and accessibility improvements.
- The board's commitment is still to be considered at the October meeting.

The committee recommends moving this to the full board and placing it on the Regular Agenda for consideration and approval.

Review the Resolutions for Plans and Specifications, Advertise for Bids, and Acceptance of Bids for Park Improvement District No. 2026-1 and Park Improvement District No. 2026-2 and review Protests

Broc Lietz, presenter

- Broc discussed the next steps in the process for the next set of resolutions for creating park improvements for Madelyn's Meadows and Selkirk.
- There was discussion of the three protests that were received.

The committee recommends moving this to the full board and placing it on the Regular Agenda for consideration and approval.

Other

Meeting adjourned at 9:31 am.

Minutes submitted by Carmen Johnson, Executive Assistant