

AMBROSE RECREATION & PARK DISTRICT

AGENDA CATEGORY:	
BOARD MATTERS:	<u>9b</u>
CONSENT CALENDAR:	_____
PUBLIC HEARING:	_____
STUDY SESSION:	_____
_____:	_____

BOARD MEETING DATE: January 11, 2024

ITEM TITLE: Provide Staff with Direction to Present a Strategy to the Board of Directors to Update the Ambrose Park Master Plan

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board provide staff with direction regarding updating the Ambrose Park Master Plan.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no fiscal implications for providing a strategy to update the Master Plan. However, there will be fiscal implications should the Board decide to implement the strategy.

BACKGROUND:

A park master plan is a comprehensive long-range vision intended to guide a park's development and a "blue print" to set public policies regarding future facilities, programs, and uses. The District adopted a Master Plan for Ambrose Park in June, 2011. Typically, a master plan should be updated every five years. Moreover, the current Master Plan lacks comprehensive details contained in most master plans (e.g. budget, community outreach, timelines, etc.). Staff is unable to find supporting documents to the "conceptual site plan" (attachment A).

Benefits of having a comprehensive park master plan are:

1. Establishes a long-range vision

Establishing a long-range plan helps ensure that resources are used effectively, and priorities are based on the greatest community benefit. Aligning the vision of a community to the system plan helps meet the needs of the public and establishes a clear plan of action.

2. Prioritization and budgeting for Comprehensive Improvement Plans (CIP)

Priorities are established through a park planning process. From comprehensive budgets to determining a proposed timeline for implementation, developing priorities provides a better perspective of what is possible.

3. Community support

There are many ways to engage stakeholders, both in-person and virtually. Open houses, community events and online engagement methods create opportunities for public involvement. Not only does public engagement generate community support for funding, but it also provides relevant perspectives from the broader community to ensure the system plan accounts for diverse users, improves transparency and builds trust. Increased public engagement is leads to increased

future community support. of community members.

4. Potential for and promotion of partnerships

A park master plan also identify private and public partnership opportunities. This collaborative effort helps communities build and deepen existing or new relationships.

5. Grant application tools

Many grant funding applications require a public engagement process and an adopted plan. The master plan shares a clear vision and budget estimates that are based on public input. A master plan provides the necessary background information, community perspective, priorities, budgets, and exhibits necessary for grant funding applications.

6. Establish a plan for the park amenity life cycle

Establishing a strategy for completing upgrades that allow park amenities to be unique and complementary to one another will reduce the future likelihood that the park will require a full replacement. This also allows the District to budget for replacement costs not funded by park dedication dollars.

7. Aligning investment with needs

Proactive consideration of recreation trends reduces the need for further investment in downward trending park features. Current and projected recreational trends should be considered before investing into rehabilitating existing park amenities. As demographics continue to evolve, the needs for park and recreation program offerings will change.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Long, General Manager

Attachments:

A. Ambrose Park Conceptual Site Plan (2011)

