



## **2014 Park Commission Strategic Plan of Work**

The City of Lake Elmo Park Commission has affirmed their priorities to be: 1) Insure that our parks and trail system are constructed / maintained; 2) Provide recreational amenities that will attract more taxpayer use of public lands; 3) Create a safe environment in all our parks; 4) Serve as a review body to make sure the “open space” character development is preserved in new developments.

With the broader priorities defined, the 2014 Park Commission Strategic Plan of Work has been broken down into (6) segment; Planning & Audit; Park Development & Equipping ; Maintenance & Refurbishing; Nature & Conservation; Park Awareness; and Finance.

### **Planning & Audit**

**Mission Statement:** Through the use of diagnostics / surveys / audits, carefully plan for the proper equipping of parks and available park funding to maximize taxpayer utilization.

#### **2013-2014 Goals & Objectives**

- 1. Conduct an audit of (6) Community Parks & (8) Neighborhood Parks for utilization improvement.**
- 2. Begin the planning & fund development of the Lake Elmo Regional Trail. Complete trail plan feasibility study.**
- 3. Create the Sunfish Lake Park Task Force to address utilization, safety, forest management, nature center & education, structures and parking issues.**
- 4. Identify 5-10 potential Eagle Scout projects for park improvement.**

### **Development & Equipping**

**Mission Statement:** To construct / develop / equip appropriate park facilities to serve the community generally and neighborhoods specifically in accordance with the open space philosophy of the City.

#### **2013-2014 Goals & Objectives**

- 1. Break ground and basically equip Sanctuary Park.**
- 2. Create a mountain biking venue / cf. with Planning & Audit.**

4. Determine location for Community Park in the SE Quadrant (LE Ave – Manning)
5. Work with HOAs to create / maintain community connection trail access.

## Maintenance & Refurbishing

**Mission Statement:** To maintain and upgrade all park facilities in a manner that increases park use for a relevant experience.

### 2013-2014 Goals & Objectives

1. Refurbish (1) current playground set in a community park.
2. Establish, based on the park audit, a maintenance plan (including turf, safety & sanitation) for each City owned park.
3. Update park recreational amenities based on current trends, conditions & typical use.

## Nature & Conservation

**Mission Statement:** To promote the open space character and commitment to the environment via nature observation amenities and targeted conservation programs.

### 2013-2014 Goals & Objectives

1. Complete tree planting in Area II / Jamaca Landfill Site.
2. Improve tree maintenance at Carriage Station Park.
3. Create & \*Implement Sunfish Lake Forest Management Plan. *cf. Planning & Audit*
4. Monitor new development landscaping & tree plans; aid in the design of Village parkway & 5<sup>th</sup> Street landscape design.

## Park Awareness

**Mission Statement:** To promote through public relations & signage the utilization of City Parks.

### 2013-2014 Goals & Objectives

1. Establish through special events, publications, website, eblasts and pother promotion a park awareness plan
2. Update (contemporize) Park Signage.

## Finance

**Mission Statement:** To effectively spend parkland dedication funds to meet the objectives of each year's Strategic Plan of Work while maintaining a minimum fund balance of \$100,000.

- Funding Priorities =**
1. Trails & Pathways
  2. Revitalization of Current Parks
  3. Destination Features
  4. Establish New Parks
  5. Parking & Safety
  6. Nature & Conservation

### 2013-2014 Goals & Objectives

1. Purchase new mower, pick-up and trailer, and four-wheel utility vehicle for park maintenance (\$65,000)
2. Expend \$100,000 in the establishment of Sanctuary Park
3. Expend \$80,000 in establishment of bathroom in Reid Park
4. Expend \$8-10,000 in update of (1) playground set
5. Expend \$12,000 for LERT feasibility study
6. Expend MPCA provided funds (\$20,000) for Jamaca tree planting.