



STAFF REPORT

DATE: 02/19/2025

Motion

AGENDA ITEM: Sunfish Lake Park Parking Expansion

TO: PARKS COMMISSION

SUBMITTED BY: Adam Swanepoel, Assistant Public Works Director

REVIEWED BY: Marty Powers, Public Works Director

BACKGROUND:

In May of 2024 the Parks Commission heard from staff at the Sally Manzara Center regarding their concern over the parking at Sunfish Lake Park. Starting with an early spring in 2024, the number of park users exceeded its parking lot causing an overflow of vehicles. Throughout the year staff has observed parking overflowed into the drive isles of the park. The current parking lot is a gravel lot that can comfortably serve up to about 30 vehicles.

ISSUE BEFORE PARKS COMMISSION:

Would the Parks Commission like to recommend to city council the expansion of the existing parking lot Sunfish Lake Park?

PROPOSAL DETAILS/ANALYSIS

The parking lot at Sunfish Lake Park is a gravel lot which currently serves a number of attractive amenities at Sunfish Lake Park including nature trails, off road mountain biking and the Nature Center. Staff has seen the parking lot overflow up throughout the year. With additional parking the West dog park entrance, parking is still an issue typically on the weekends and in the evening hours.

Parking in this area is unmarked and users often space vehicles further apart than one would normally see in a stripped parking lot. This is mainly due to users accessing bikes, strollers and pets from their cars.

Staff is recommending the expanding the existing parking lot into two locations. The first area will add five additional parking spots and would square up the North East corner of the parking lot. The second area would consist of, removing the North end of the grass median to make for angled parking. Doing so will add up to an additional 30 parking spots.

Public Works staff would remove the black dirt gravel the new parking area and place rock boulders down the center of the angled parking to eliminate traffic driving through the angled parking spots. A berm of black dirt would remain at the north end of the island to direct traffic down the correct drive isle as well as any needed signage.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The expansion of the Sunfish Lake Park Parking lot is currently on the 2025 work plan. Expenses for this project would include public work's staff time and fuel, all gravel needed for the project is currently on hand with the public works department.

RECOMMENDATION:

“Motion to recommend to City Council the expansion of the existing parking lot Sunfish Lake Park.”

