

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

CITY OF DAVENPORT, IOWA

Thursday, September 18, 2025; 4:30 PM

City Hall | 226 West 4th Street | Council Chambers

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - August 2025 Meeting Minutes
- III. Public Comment
- IV. Old Business
- V. New Business
 - A. Board Elections
 - B. Staff Introduction: Amy Soliz
 - C. FY27 Park Development Project Slate
- VI. Staff Reports
 - A. Staff Report
 - B. Riverfront Improvement Commission Report
- VII. Advisory Time/Suggestions for Future Agenda Items
- VIII. Next Meeting Date and Location
 - A. October 16, 2024 in City Hall Council Chambers at 4:30pm
- IX. Adjournment



**Parks and Recreation Advisory
August 21, 2025
Meeting Minutes**

Board Members Present: Coiner, Kefauver, Meyer, Peterson, Powers, Schertz, and Shareef
Staff Present: Chad Dyson, Becca Niles, William Fisher, Theresa Hauman, Amy Soliz, and Troy Evans
Location: Council Chambers, City Hall 226 W 4th Street
Meeting Video: [PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD 08.21.2025](#)

Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve the July 2025 meeting minutes presented by Schertz and seconded by Kefauver. Motion Passes 6-0

Public with Comment:

- None

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Admi Services Update
- FY27 Park Development Presentation (See attached document)
- Park Advisory Board Nominations
 - Chair
 - Vice-Chair
 - Secretary
 - Riverfront Improvement Commission Liaison

Reports:

- Director Report-Verbal
- Staff Report-Written
- RIC Report- Verbal

Park Advisory Board Time: See Video

Adjournment: 5:31 pm Motion to adjourn presented by Schertz and seconded by Kefauver. Motion Passes 6-0

DAVENPORT PARKS AND RECREATION PARK DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PROPOSED PROJECTS

**FY
27**

PREPARED FOR
Park Advisory Board
PRESENTED
August 21, 2025



INTRODUCTION

CHAD DYSON, DIRECTOR
Department of Parks and Recreation

PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT PROCESS

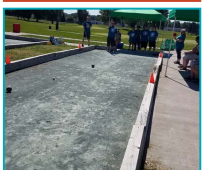
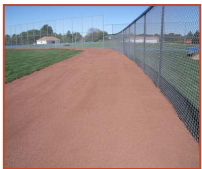
- PAB PRESENTATION
- SCORES DUE
- FINAL PROJECT SLATE PRESENTED TO PAB
- FINAL PROJECT SLATE PRESENTED TO COUNCIL
- FUNDING AVAILABLE
- PURCHASING & BID PROCESS BEGINS

Each year Davenport Parks and Recreation is awarded \$350,000 in Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) funding for the Park Development Program. This funding is used for projects, equipment, and special requests not typically covered by general funds or the operating budget.

Over the years this program has replaced playgrounds, enhanced park amenities, updated facilities, purchased equipment, created new program opportunities, and more.

FY PARK DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM 26 APPROVED PROJECTS

PROJECT	DIVISION	COST
Baseball Improvements	Park Operations	\$27,000
Bocce Ball Court Renovations	Recreation	\$50,000
Green Acres Park Playground Replacement	Park Operations	\$65,000
Pickleball Court Improvements	Park Operations	\$60,000
Recreation Trail Safety Improvements	Recreation	\$20,000
Sand Volleyball Court Improvements	Park Operations	\$20,000
Slattery Park Playground Replacement	Park Operations	\$85,000
Park Development Fund		\$350,000
Total Project Costs		\$327,000
Difference		+\$23,000



FY PARK DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM 27 PROPOSED PROJECTS

PROJECT	DIVISION	COST
Aquatics PA and Sound Systems	Recreation	\$34,146
Centennial Park Playground Replacement	Operation	\$90,000
Epoxy Coating for Aquatics Facilities	Recreation	\$44,000
Golf Course Pond Fountains	Golf	\$26,000
Jefferson Park Playground Replacement	Operation	\$85,000
Shade Structure at Veteran's Memorial Park	Operation	\$34,000
SoloRider ADA Golf Carts	Golf	\$36,000
Water Fountain Conversion	Operation	\$30,000
Park Development Fund		\$350,000
Total Project Costs		\$379,146
Difference		-\$29,146

AQUATICS PA AND SOUND SYSTEMS

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Currently, neither of our Aquatic Centers have working sound systems. For public announcements, safety concerns megaphones are used by aquatic managers and no sound system is available. This request is for 2 ANCHOR Audio Bigfoot (X2 HH-HH) @ 5399.00 = 10798.00, 2 BEA2-R Beacon Supplemental Speaker with wireless link to main speaker @ 3299.00 = 6598.00 that comes with 2 microphone and 2 headset pacs. 4 Submerible Aquatic Wireless System-headset @ 4249.00 = 16996.00. And accessories to have them usable by staff.

JUSTIFICATION

This would allow us to provide a nice sound system experience for our patrons, and make needed public service announcements regarding safety, weather policies and procedures as needed. Due to the age and wear of the wiring on each site, we feel the BIGFOOT systems will be the most cost effective options, that also can be used elsewhere by our department off season. This also allows us to not have to pay for installation, rewiring, and allows for various uses for the equipment off season.

PROJECT BUDGET

\$34,146



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DIVISION
Recreation

CENTENNIAL PARK PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Installation of a playground to replace a 20 year old structure.

JUSTIFICATION

Replacing this 20-year-old playground is a necessary step to ensure the safety and positive play experience of the community. Age has caused deterioration of the equipment leading to safety concerns. Many of the features have become obsolete, making them difficult to repair or replace. A new playground would provide the opportunity to use modern, flood-resistant materials that can better withstand the challenges of being along the riverfront.

PROJECT BUDGET

\$90,000



6

DIVISION
Park Operations

EPOXY COATING FOR AQUATICS FACILITIES

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

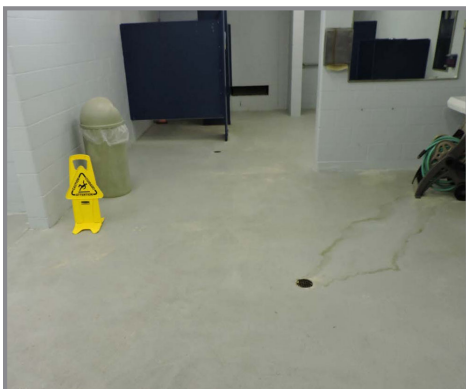
Cover the restroom, locker room, and changing room floors with an epoxy finish.

JUSTIFICATION

Epoxy flooring offers numerous benefits to enhance safety, durability, and aesthetics. The slip resistant surface will reduce the risk of accidents, the epoxy coating is resistant to water and chlorine providing longevity to the floors, and this type of finish is offered in multiple colors and finishes allowing for customization of the floor to match each facilities design theme.

PROJECT BUDGET

\$44,000



7

DIVISION
Recreation

GOLF COURSE POND FOUNTAINS

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Purchase replacement pond fountains for golf course irrigation ponds.

JUSTIFICATION

The 3 golf course fountains currently operating are either not working, not working efficiently or have reached the end of their effective and expected life. These replacements would enhance the ponds performance and aesthetics with the latest technology and efficiency for golf pond operations. These fountains are also aerators that maintain water quality for the irrigation systems.

PROJECT BUDGET

\$26,000



8

DIVISION
Golf

JEFFERSON PARK PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Installation of a playground to replace a 15 year old structure.

JUSTIFICATION

This playground has deteriorated due to time, weather, and regular use. Wear and tear items will soon lead to safety hazards. Its replacement is essential to ensure the continued safety and positive play experience of the community's children. A new playground will incorporate modern safety standards and provide a fresh, inviting space for families to gather.

PROJECT BUDGET

\$85,000



9

DIVISION
Park Operations

SHADE STRUCTURE AT VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PARK

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Two shade structures will be installed over the memorial brick display at Veteran's Memorial Park.

JUSTIFICATION

This project will provide cover for a memorial brick display that will be installed in the summer of 2025. The cover will not only provide shade for visiting veterans, but protect the memorial bricks that will be on display.

PROJECT BUDGET

\$34,000



10

DIVISION
Park Operations

SOLO RIDER ADA GOLF CARTS

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Purchase two (2) SoloRider Golf Carts for golfers with various mobility disabilities.

JUSTIFICATION

Provide the city golf course(s) with a SoloRider golf cart. SoloRider is engineered and built with our passion to keep players with a diverse range of challenges and disabilities in the game of golf. From seniors who experience challenges walking, through to veterans with multiple disabilities.

PROJECT BUDGET

\$36,000



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DIVISION
Golf

WATER FOUNTAIN CONVERSION

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Upgrade 24 of the water fountains in Parks and Recreation facilities to add bottle filler features.

JUSTIFICATION

This would be a valuable investment in programming health, convenience, and environmental sustainability. Integrated bottle fillers encourages users to refill their reusable water bottles, reducing single use plastics. The newer fixtures have improved water filtration systems for cleaner, better tasting water. Upgrading the fountains would demonstrate a commitment to health-conscious and eco-friendly practices, ultimately contributing to a cleaner, greener environment while providing convenient hydration options for visitors and staff.

PROJECT BUDGET

\$30,000



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DIVISION
Park Operations

HOW TO SCORE PROJECTS

1

Using this report, review each project and estimated budget.

1. Begin by...

Opening the link to the online survey (the link was emailed to you). You will enter your name for Question #1.

2

2. Then...

Rank each project in the order of **YOUR** priority, 1 being the highest and 15 being the lowest. *You can prioritize projects by sorting/dragging your favorite to the top of the list with the least favorite at the bottom)

3

3. Finally...

Submit your survey. Additional project feedback can be sent directly to Jessica or Chad via email.

Thank you!

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation
Contact Info: Chad Dyson | 563-328-7275

Action / Date
9/18/2025

Subject:
Board Elections

Recommendation:
Review, motion and vote on the nomination slate from the August 21, 2025, meeting discussion.

Background:
Nomination Slate:
Chair: Wendy Peterson
Vice Chair: Mike Schertz
Secretary: Aarsal Shareef
Riverfront Improvement Commission: Chris Meyer

Attachments:
None

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation
Contact Info: Chad Dyson | 563-328-7275

Action / Date
9/18/2025

Subject:
Staff Introduction: Amy Soliz

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:
None

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation
Contact Info: Chad Dyson | 563-328-7275

Action / Date
9/18/2025

Subject:
FY27 Park Development Project Slate

Recommendation:
Approve the Project Slate

Background:

Attachments:

1. FY27 PDF Slate and Scoring

FY27 Park Development Program Final Slate

Rank	Project	Project Cost
1	Jefferson Park Playground Replacement	\$85,000
2	Centennial Park Playground Replacement	\$90,000
3	Epoxy Coating for Aquatics Facilities	\$44,000
4	SoloRider ADA Golf Carts	\$36,000
5	Aquatics PA and Sound Systems	\$34,146
6	Shade Structure for Veteran's Memorial Park	\$34,000
7	Water Fountain Upgrades	\$26,000
Project Total		\$349,146
Total Funding		\$350,000

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation
Contact Info: Chad Dyson | 563-328-7275

Action / Date
9/18/2025

Subject:
Staff Report

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:

1. 09.2025 Staff Report

Park and Recreation Advisory Board
September 2025
Staff Report

Notable updates from Staff

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

AmeriCorps

- The new grant year has begun, and staff are actively recruiting members for the year-long service term. An additional round of recruitment will begin late winter for the spring to summer positions.
- Grant Year 25-26 is the final of the three-year grant cycle, so staff are exploring options with host sites as well as Davenport Finance staff to draft the recompetete application for a new 3- year cycle.

Customer Service & Outreach

- To better support department-wide needs, two Front Desk Clerks have been splitting their time between the typical customer service duties at The River's Edge and alternate sites.
 - Stephanie is supporting Park Operations with reservation coordination, scheduling, data entry, and inventory.
 - Kyrra is aiding coverage of the Kimberley Campus three nights a week during evening classes.

Business Functions

- Administrative staff are working on Fiscal Yer 2027 budgeting in preparation for upcoming budget meetings and work sessions with the Finance Department.

PARK OPERATIONS

Park Projects

- Staff started preparation for a native planting site at Tyler Park. The south side of the park will have an area of grass removed and a mixture of black-eyed-susan flowers, purple cone flowers, spiderwort, and various native plants will be added.
- New doors were installed at the LeClaire Park Bandshell.
- The Lindsay Park sign was on the side of a steep hill, so staff relocated the sign to a safer location for staff to maintain.

Horticulture

- Staff removed old shrubs from the west side of the Conservatory and replaced them with new landscaping.
- The rain garden at Vander Veer Botanical Park received a good fall cleaning by removing thistles and re-planting native plants.
- Staff remain busy mulching flower beds around park signs throughout the city.
- Staff closed for the season the Fejervary Learning Center located in Fejervary Park and coordinated with Public Works to trim the large trees in preparation for the holiday light display.

General Operations & Maintenance

- Staff have been working on the reduced mowing areas around town to prepare them for winter. These areas are mown down in the spring and fall but left longer throughout the year to support healthy habitat.
- Operations staff remain busy removing camps and debris from the riverfront parks and are partnering with the Davenport Police Department to ensure the safety of the team while offering services to assist.
- A security camera was installed at the City Cemetery to help deter repeated vandalism to the maintenance shed.
- A new security fence was installed behind the Duck Creek Lodge to protect the AC units from repeated copper theft.
- New AED units were purchased for various locations throughout parks.

RECREATION

Events & Aquatics

- The following was received the day after the pools closed for the summer from an Annie Wittenmyer swim patron via email:
“Hi, I just wanted you to know that Holly and her team deserve a huge shout out. We swim all season at Annie pool and they keep it safe while allowing everyone to have fun. Holly and her team are very professional, and the pool is always clean. Thanks so much for another great summer!!”
- Through successful collaboration between Public Works and Parks and Recreation, Duck Creek Trail under Division Street received a \$205,000 grant from the Iowa Transportation Commission.
- Through positive teamwork between Parks Operations and Recreation, Fejervary Holiday Lights will be presented by Modern Woodmen of America. Staff from Modern Woodmen will not only be assisting in the

hanging of the lights, but the company will donate the cost of the removal of the lights, up to \$4,000.

Adaptive & Inclusive

- In August, staff took 2 softball teams to Grimes, IA for the Special Olympics state competition. The teams took second and third places in their respective divisions.
- The Special Olympics Flag Football began at Northwest Park. The 2 teams and skills players play each Wednesday night until the state competition in West Des Moines on September 25.
- Special Olympics Volleyball began at the Friendly House. There are 4 teams and skills players that practice each Tuesday night until the State Competition in West Des Moines on September 26.
- Hope Langrehr, a Therapeutic Recreation Intern from the University of Iowa, joined the team for the Fall semester until December 5.
- The Special Olympics SCA Thunder will have their annual meeting and awards banquet on Friday, September 19 in the Starlite Ballroom at the Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds.

Youth & Adult Sports

- Fall Soccer has 818 youth players learning skills and playing as a part of a team.
- All the indoor volleyball leagues are full, but staff are trying to find a location to play. Typically, indoor adult Volleyball is held at Smart Middle School, however, over the summer the gym floor was damaged and will not be ready to host the league until after winter break.

Davenport Junior Theatre Performing Arts

- Staff did a great job moving out of the Annie Wittenmyer Campus and hosted a Grand Opening of the Kimberly Campus on Saturday, September 6. Over 65 attendees and the media were on hand to tour and learn more about the new layout and classrooms. Feedback from attendees was positive.
- The performing arts classes have over 320 students enrolled
 - Parents and participants were excited about the space, especially the nice, larger parking lot.

The River's Edge

- Staff did an amazing job getting the second sheet of ice installed and open for use by September 4.
- The River's Edge hosted a 4-day US Ice Rink Ice Making and Painting Technologies Conference. It had over 22 attendees staying downtown and learning how to install ice.

- Staff have been working hard to fill ice rental time and plan for the season.

GOLF OPERATIONS

General Golf Course Updates

- Golf staff are preparing equipment and greens for aerification and completing fall over-seeding.

Duck Creek Golf Course

- Aerification of greens scheduled for the week of September 15.

Emeis Golf Course

- Aerification of greens completed September 7-8.

Red Hawk Golf and Learning Center

- Aerification scheduled for the week of September 22.
- Red Hawk hosted the Unified Golf and Bocce event on September 11.

COMMUNICATION UPDATES

Community Events

- Howl-O-Ween | Saturday, 10/4 | Centennial Dog Park
- Witches & Warlocks Ride | Sunday, 10/5 | Riverfront Recreation Trails
- Trunk, Treat & Trail | Saturday, 10/18 | Riverfront Recreation Trails
- Monster Glow Public Skate | Saturday, 10/25 | The River's Edge
- Halloween Parade | Sunday, 10/26 | Downtown Davenport

Community Outreach Events

Outreach opportunities for staff to be on hand to give out program and hiring information, play games with booth visitors, and hand out prizes for attendees.

- QC Expo | Tuesday, 9/23 | Bend XPO

Notable Dates

- National Parks and Recreation Association Conference 9/15-9/19 (Chad and Theresa are attending)

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation

Contact Info: |

Action / Date

9/18/2025

Subject:

Riverfront Improvement Commission Report

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:

None