



St. Anthony Village Parks and Environmental Commission 2023 Work Plan - Draft

The Parks and Environmental Commission is a five member advisory commission, appointed by the City Council and is charged with the following duties (City Code Chapter 32, Section 32.25):

- (A) To prepare, revise, and maintain a comprehensive, long-term plan for the redevelopment of parks within the city. This plan shall be viewed as a working document that serves as a framework and reference to future redevelopment;
- (B) To make recommendations to and advise the City Council and staff regarding park and environmental issues and ideas;
- (C) To establish priorities and recommend a phasing plan and schedule for implementing innovative park and environmental initiatives improvements, renovations, and plans;
- (D) To work with other communities to explore cooperative arrangements to develop connecting routes in the form of bikeways, walking paths, and corridors of green space wherever possible;
- (E) To investigate funding sources, including requests for increases in the city budget, designated for parks, green spaces and environmental initiatives;
- (F) To seek new areas for additional parks, natural areas, walking paths, bikeways, and green space corridors;
- (G) To generate community involvement in the development of parks, environmental initiatives and their elements;
- (H) To review and recommend revisions to the operation and maintenance of city parks and environmental initiatives; and
- (I) To periodically review, re-evaluate, and update the comprehensive park and environmental initiatives plan to reflect current and future park needs of the city.

In 2023, the Parks and Environmental Commission will focus on the following items:

- Continue education & outreach in conjunction with community organizations to promote sustainability, such as:
 - Arbor Day and Tree City activities for residents and city contractors about tree diversity, climate resiliency, expanding the City's tree canopy, and proper planting techniques
 - Water conservation initiatives working with Rice Creek and MWMO watersheds, and partner with schools for water conservation poster contest
 - Use of the organics drop off site
 - Sustainability Fair at the Community Center
- Complete annual walk-through of all City parks
- Continue collaborations to enhance City green space, including with parks cleanup and pollinator plantings
- Consider endorsement of "No Mow May" campaign
- Prioritize results of parks evaluation
- Create Energy and Climate Action Plans
- Explore pedestrian & bike friendly routes for recreation and transportation
- Explore expansion of solar installation on Central Park Pavilion rooftop
- Support City's efforts to establish partnership to bring electric vehicle charging stations to public areas
- Joint meeting with the City Council and Planning Commission