



Memo

To: City Council

From: Ryan Dennison, Parks & Recreation Director

cc: Peter Brixius, City Manager

Date: 3/31/2023

Re: Woodbury Park Improvement Projects

Woodbury Park is the most frequented and utilized park within the City of Craig parks system. Woodbury Park hosts numerous recreation programs throughout the year, as well as various athletic tournaments. Throughout the course of time, park infrastructure has become dated and does not meet current needs of the community.

Since 2021, the City of Craig has made an increased effort in updating park infrastructure to better serve the recreation needs of the community. The restroom/pavilion, playground, backstop replacement and the renovation of existing bathrooms into a maintenance shop, all have made an immediate impact in park usage and increased overall satisfaction at the park. Many of these improvement projects align with recommendation from the 2019 Craig Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Trails Master Plan.

In 2022, design and engineering efforts were instituted by the City to create a more functional and desirable park experience around the core area of the new restroom/pavilion at Woodbury. The current surface material is asphalt millings that migrate throughout the park causing significant maintenance issues. The current surface material is hard to navigate for users with mobility issues and is overall aesthetically unpleasing. The new design will incorporate concrete pathways in addition to numerous landscaping hatches that complement the area well, making it a highly desirable place to recreate.

One project goal for Woodbury Park for 2023 was to consolidate the remaining infrastructure updates into one large comprehensive project and primarily fund implementation through grant support. Although grant funding did not transpire as originally planned, the project is still in a good position to be implemented this year as many of these projects have already been competitively bid, excluding the baseball dugouts, and are ready to be initiated at a moment's notice pending funding approval.

These improvements include acquiring six acres of vacant land adjacent to Jake's Field for future park expansion, construction of concrete pathways and landscaping around the restroom/pavilion, replacing the remaining baseball backstops, and installing parking lot lighting. Dugouts are currently being designed and engineered and will be a planned improvement for next year's budget.

The budgeted amount for the Woodbury Park Improvements Project is currently \$615,000 with the Conservation Trust Fund (CTF) and Lieu of Land restricted accounts contributing most of the funding, at a sum of \$459,305.91. CTF funding was expended earlier this year to acquire the forementioned six acres of property in the amount of \$166,006.27. With an updated total project cost of \$651,250 the remaining balance needed to complete the project in full is \$36,250. Therefore, we are asking the City Council to provide approval of a resolution in the amount of \$36,250.

Fully completing the Woodbury Park Improvements Project in 2023 will provide the community of Craig a premiere park that better fits their recreational needs and more readily benefits visitor attraction. Lastly, we anticipate that delaying project implementation will negatively impact overall project costs, so we would like to take advantage of current pricing and scheduling.