



CITY OF ROSEBURG
MEMORANDUM



DATE: May 28, 2020
TO: Parks & Recreation Commission
FROM: Kris Ammerman, Parks & Recreation Program Manager
SUBJECT: Meeting Cancellation

A handwritten signature in blue ink, likely belonging to Kris Ammerman.

Due to the precautions being taken in light of the Coronavirus and the lack of agenda items. The Parks & Recreation Commission meeting scheduled for Wednesday, June 3, 2020 has been **CANCELLED**.

Staff has attached a brief update of parks related activities.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 1, 2020 at 8:15 a.m.

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DATE: May 28th, 2020
TO: Parks & Recreation Commission
FROM: Kris W. Ammerman, Parks & Recreation Program Manager
SUBJECT: Parks Update

COVID-19 Phase I Reopening

We have entered into Phase I of reopening our parks and open spaces. Unfortunately, Phase I does not look much different for us since we didn't ever close our parks completely under the original executive order. We were required to close certain amenities such as playgrounds, sports courts, the skate park, and the splash pad, but we were able to leave our open spaces and trails open to the public as long as social distancing could be maintained. Having said that, now that we are into Phase I, only a few of the original restrictions have been relaxed. As a result, we have either cancelled or postponed all of our summer programs until further notice from the Governor's office on what Phase II will allow.

Anecdotally, we have noticed a significant increase in the amount of people out walking, running, and riding on the multi use path, which demonstrates how vital that asset is for not only transporting folks from one place to another, but also to the overall health and wellness of the entire community. When everything else was closed at least Roseburg residents could find a bit of respite in the open spaces of their parks. The Coronavirus Pandemic along with its restrictions has put a spotlight on the importance of parks, trails, and open spaces.

Recreational Trails Program Grant Application

At its May 11th meeting City Council approved Resolution No. 2020-09 authorizing staff to apply for a Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant administered by the Oregon Parks & Recreation Department (OPRD). The project proposal for the grant is the Sunshine Trails Expansion Project that would deliver approximately 3 miles of hiking/biking trails of varying degrees of difficulty. The grant application closes on June 15th, 2020 with award notification coming at the end of the year.

Beulah Park Improvement Project

This project is moving forward albeit at a slower pace than originally expected. We have purchased and received all of the playground equipment, playground surfacing, and site amenities. However, due to COVID-19 restrictions, public works crews were unable to perform the preliminary ground work during the planned time frame. Since those restrictions have been lifted they have been busy playing catch up. Now they are into their busy season and staff is considering the next best opportunity to begin the project based on staff capacity and availability.

Stewart Park Pavilion Project

This project that will include structural upgrades, a new roof, skylights, and new lighting is in the final stages of the design phase. Staff has been working with a local consultant on the design, engineering, and construction drawings. Once the plan and cost estimates are finalized we would anticipate going out to bid for this project in the fall.

Stewart Park Natural Area Educational Kiosk

This project is in the final stages of design. Once design is finalized we should be able to deliver the project within a few weeks. This project has been completely community driven with the majority of the funding coming from a generous donation from the Umpqua Valley Audubon Society. Other partners include the Wildlife Safari Conservation Committee, the local branch of the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, and Romtec. There has been a small, but dedicated group of folks volunteering their time, expertise, and passion to drive this project forward. City staff is grateful for all of their hard work and we are looking forward to bringing this collaborative project to fruition.