

Referendum 2016 Update



The Bloomingdale Park District continues to actively plan the capital projects identified by the community as needing repair and/or improvement based upon the successful referendum in November 2016.

Updates on the projects and associated work schedules are as follows:

Springfield Park Ballfield Complex

Improving the Springfield Park ballfields to help prevent widespread flooding of fields and nearby paths is nearly complete.

Work completed in winter/spring included installation of site amenities such as:

- shaded bleachers
- player benches
- trash/recycling receptacles
- foul poles
- dugout covers
- entry archway
- accessible drinking fountain with dog bowl
- home plate/bases

Bloomingdale Baseball & Softball Association will hold its Opening Day at the renovated ballfield complex May 6. Activities, including a dedication, ribbon cutting and more starts at 10 a.m.



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Springfield Park Wetlands

Restoring the shorelines of the wetlands to address non-native, invasive species and improve stormwater management is progressing according to plan.

- The project includes the chemical and mechanical removal of invasive, non-native species such as cat tails, Phragmites, etc., followed by the establishment of native wetlands and upland species.
- Wide-area chemical applications as needed to remove the non-native invasive species. This will be followed by mowing down of all the dead invasive species.
- In the spring of 2018, new plants and seed will be installed while at the same time any emerging non-native species will be removed via chemical/mechanical methods.
- A controlled burn was held in the fall of 2017, followed by soil preparation. Seeding/planting and seed blanket to follow.
- Due to the vulnerability of the new plants, controlled burns will not occur (possibly with the exception of the more established areas) until Fall of 2018 at the earliest.
- Watering, which is called for in the specs, will not be necessary due to the timing of plantings (Fall 2017 and Spring 2018)

These processes will be repeated for two to three years until the wetlands are properly restored and the ongoing stewardship begins.

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Johnston Recreation Center

Renovating the Johnston Recreation Center to include committed space for active older adult programming, improved early childhood/preschool space, and enhanced security throughout is to begin May 2018 with a targeted completion date of Fall 2019.

- Staff is tentatively scheduled to move out of the building at the end of April, with all programs and program staff out of the building by May. June 4, 2018 is a tentative construction start date.
- The enhancements to the building include:
 - o Secure preschool wing on upper level
 - o Programming space for seniors/active adults
 - o Improved registration/front desk access
 - o Interactive play addition for preschool, rental use and birthday parties
 - o Fitness room and fitness equipment
 - o Multi-purpose/arts and crafts/kindergarten room(s)
 - o Multi-purpose room for 125+ people with adjacent covered patio
 - o Updated teaching/concessions kitchen
 - o Gymnastic Junior Gym improvements
 - o Gymnastics ventilation improvements

- o Improved gymnastics lobby/viewing area
- o Restroom in gymnastics area
- o Gymnasium: motorized divider curtain and basketball hoops
- o Gymnasium lobby/waiting area
- o Additional viewing opportunities from upper level into gymnasium
- o Infrastructure improvements including plumbing, mechanical, electrical (with added efficiencies) and fire sprinkler system
- o Family toilet rooms
- o Toilet room in every preschool room
- o Improved, modernized finishes
- o Additional natural light and skylights
- o Exterior façade improvements
- o And much, much more! Visit www.bloomingtondaleparks.org for schematics of the renovation.

Draft rendering is not final.



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Relocation Plan

Please be aware that while the Park District attempts to keep disruptions to a minimum, there may be times your favorite class or activity may be temporarily moved to an alternate location. Additionally, delays because of weather and/or other unforeseen circumstances could cause disruptions to the projected timelines.

We appreciate your patience and we urge all residents to visit our website and regularly follow us on social media (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) to stay up-to-date on our progress. Again, we are grateful for your continued support.

As stated previously, staff is tentatively scheduled to move out of the building at the end of April, with all programs and program staff out of the building by May.

Registration, Finance & Human Resources

The registration desk, along with Finance & Human Resources, are being relocated to the Museum, 108 S. Bloomingdale Road. Staff will occupy Gallery I. Gallery II will continue to remain open for exhibitions and/or rental.

Additionally, registration will be taken in the Westfield Gymnasium Office, June through August. Westfield will serve as the home base for summer camps, and pool passes also may be purchased at Westfield this summer. See page 3 for exact registration desk dates and times.

Recreation, Marketing & Communications

Recreation department staff, along with marketing and communications, as well as some part-time staff, will occupy a small space at Stratford Square Mall. Specifically, storefront F2 upstairs near where Macy's operated.

An additional programming space at Stratford Square (H23) was added this past winter. The space began hosting yoga, martial arts and drama in January.

Beginning Fall 2018, preschool classes and before and after school for preschool moves to Bloomingdale Church, 264 Glen Ellyn Road. Kindergarten Kids' Place also will be located at Bloomingdale Church.

Gymnastics classes will be relocated to the Itasca Park District Rec Center for summer 2018. See pages 43-46 for program listings.

Summer Day Camps will be held at Westfield Middle School for Summer 2018. Enter through the gymnasium behind the school.

More information on location of classes and programs will be publicized as it becomes available.

The Oasis Water Park

Updating and/or improving some recreation features at The Oasis Water Park and creation of more deck shade and deck space to begin Fall of 2018 with a targeted completion date of Summer 2019.

Summary

As responsible stewards of your tax dollars, we look forward to the completion of these projects so that ball games can be played with minimal interruption, invasive species can be removed from the wetlands, The Oasis Water Park will receive upgrades on outdated equipment, and children and adults alike who attend classes at the JRC can have adequate space for their education and enjoyment.

#LoveBloomingdaleParks