

LETTER FROM THE Executive Director

Greetings Bloomingdale Park District Residents,

On behalf of the Bloomingdale Park Board of Commissioners and staff, thank you for your continued support of the Park District. From preserving and maintaining 172 acres of open space; updating our facilities to continue to meet our residents' needs such as the Johnston Recreation Center (JRC), the Oasis Water Park and the Bloomingdale Park District Museum; to offering hundreds of quality recreation programs each season... serving you and your family is our greatest joy!



Carrie Fullerton
Executive Director

We recently completed several projects that were made possible by the 2016 Referendum. Projects requested by the community included the JRC and Oasis Water Park, as well as improving Springfield Park to address flooding. Now we would like to hear from you about what you would like the Park District to prioritize in order to serve your leisure needs.

As a team, we are about to embark on a community-wide listening tour, focusing on the needs and desires of residents. There are many ways to let us know about what matters most to you:

- Right now, there is an ongoing survey available on the Bloomingdale Park District website www.bloomingdaleparks.org under the "About" tab, titled "Program/Class Survey." This offers residents an opportunity to give continuous feedback at any time or day of the week.
- Soon, we will be offering informal opportunities to share your ideas and feedback by having "Coffee with the Board and Executive Director" at a variety of times/days/locations. Look for the schedule on the Park District's website and social media channels. We hope that you will join us.
- In Spring 2020, we will conduct a formal community-wide survey and host focus groups and a community forum to determine Bloomingdale's most pressing recreational needs for open space and programming. From this valuable information, we will create a five-year strategic plan to carry the Park District into the future.

- If you'd like us to visit your organization to talk about what's happening at the Park District, please contact me at carrie@bloomingdaleparks.org. We'd love to come share all the exciting things happening in your parks!
- Our Board meetings are open to the public and held the third Monday of each month at 7PM at the Johnston Recreation Center (schedule is posted on the park district's website). Please join us if you have something you'd like to share with us.

Recreation Programming

Recently, we have heard from residents about some cancelled classes. We are grateful that residents shared their concerns and have analyzed why this has been necessary. We are now in the process of implementing several strategies to decrease our cancellations while continuing to deliver the programming you love.

We thank our members for their patience as we adjusted programming typically held in the JRC to satellite locations as we completed renovation of the facility. (I hope you will stop by to see the beautiful new updates if you haven't already!)

Now that we have moved back into the JRC, we need to readjust again. We believe many of our cancellations can be attributed to offering too many sections of each program at competing times, – thus attracting too few participants to each individual offering.

In this winter/spring brochure, you will see a revamp of the number of classes and sections offered that is designed to attract more participants to each individual offering. We want nothing more than for our classes and programs to run smoothly, and for residents to be proud of, and highly satisfied with, Bloomingdale Park District.

Join Us!

I hope that you will participate in one of the many feedback opportunities available to you as a resident of the Park District. Your opinions matter – they are the basis for all our future planning.

At Bloomingdale Park District, we don't just provide open space and programs; we help to create valuable experiences and memories that become the fabric of residents' lives. We don't take this responsibility lightly, and look forward to hearing from you about how we can continue to make your quality of life the best it can be!