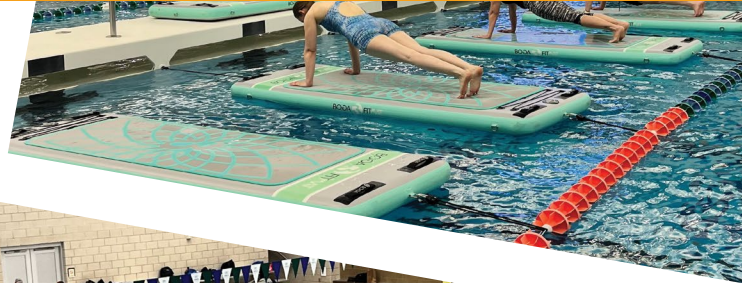


# ANNUAL REPORT

2022



Explore! Connect! Play!



CITY OF  
SIOUX FALLS  
PARKS & RECREATION

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Dear Citizens of Sioux Falls,

Our nationally accredited parks and recreation system witnessed thrilling projects and activities that captured the attention and enthusiasm of our community in 2022. Allow us to highlight a few remarkable endeavors that are poised to create a lasting impression on both our parks and recreation system and our city!

Preparing to support the unprecedented growth of our community we restructured the administration division of our parks and recreation department. The restructuring provides lanes focused on strategic planning, park development, recreational programming, third party agreements, customer service, and team member engagement.

Partnerships are vital to our providing recreational opportunities and experiences to Sioux Falls. The following are a few happenings and achievements from our partners that we're proud to share. The Great Plains Zoo and The Butterfly House & Aquarium announced plans to merge becoming one organization, Great Bear Ski Valley set record attendance, Levitt at the Falls realized attendance of nearly 2,000 in-person per show totaling over 100,000 visitors for the season and Landscapes Unlimited continued success in managing golf courses leading to an agreement extension.

Operationally we weathered multiple storms including two derechos reaching winds in excess of 70 mph in May and July. These weather events were followed by one of our harshest winters in recent memory. I tip my cap in admiration to our operations crew for their grit and endurance in maintaining our spaces and ensuring safety through these trying seasons. Through it all our team continued the tradition of setting up winter wonderland at Falls Park which realized over 80,000 vehicles in under 2 months.

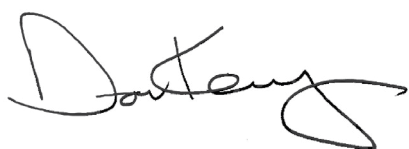
Our recreation division launched a mobile recreation unit which improved wellness access to underserved neighborhoods bringing activities and games nearly to your front door. Each mobile recreation unit stop interacted with approximately 30 visitors serving over 1,600 people for the season. Overall, our recreation team provided nearly 1,000 classes in addition to supporting our athletics partners, theater partners, supervising ice rinks, open swim, swimming lessons and more. Beyond classes our aquatic attendance continued to impress with Midco® Aquatic Center achieving an annual attendance of 222,000 visitors breaking the previous record of 219,000 set in 2017. June and July remain our busiest months serving nearly 35,000 per month.

The mentioning of aquatics has me excited to talk about our future which is being shaped by multiple community engagement sessions. These sessions are helping us determine the design of multi-generation recreation centers for tomorrow. Our goal is to better serve kids and families in Sioux Falls year-round. We look forward to continuing these conversations as we prepare to scale for the growth of Sioux Falls in years ahead.

Other developments in 2022 include investments in skateboarding through a partnership with Let's Skate Sioux Falls, a new neighborhood park named Majestic Meadows in southeast Sioux Falls, continued planning of Jacobson Plaza which will provide our community our first refrigerated ice ribbon, and renovations for Hayward Park including restrooms, a dog park, new playground, shade structures, and a splash pad.

The years ahead will be revolutionary for our parks and recreation system, and I couldn't be more excited to deliver for you.

Onward,



Don Kearney, Director of Parks & Recreation

The Sioux Falls Parks and Recreation Board is a seven-member board. Each member is appointed for a five-year term and is eligible for reappointment to a second consecutive five-year term. Members are appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the City Council. Officers are elected from the board and include the president, vice president, and secretary. Regular meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month, with a quorum of four board members being necessary for a meeting. Members shall not hold any elective office in the government of the city.

Duties include initiating, reviewing, and making recommendations for ordinances, policies, and rules governing the use of the city's public parks, swimming pools, and other facilities, including the golf courses.

**Parks and Recreation Mission Statement**

To enhance the quality of life by providing safe and enjoyable experiences through people, programs, places, and partnerships.

**Parks and Recreation Vision Statement**

To provide a comprehensive mix of high-quality parks and recreation programs, facilities, and services that contribute to a quality of life that is unparalleled in the region.

**Core Values**

Sioux Falls Parks and Recreation is committed to this set of Core Values. These are our highest priorities, deeply held beliefs, and core fundamental driving forces. Adopting these values guides us in sustaining a thriving parks and recreation system for our community.

- **Collaboration**—We believe in cultivating partnerships to maximize the quality of the parks and recreation system.
- **Resilience**—We accomplish our goals by developing a resilient, committed workforce that can adapt and thrive.
- **Engagement**—We promote a culture of interactive participation and authentic, respectful communication.
- **Excellence**—We are passionate about the delivery of exceptional experiences in every aspect of our work to fulfill our mission and vision.
- **Continuous Improvement**—We focus on innovation to continuously improve our programs, facilities and services.

**2022 Mayor and Council Members**

Mayor Paul TenHaken

David Barrabco (May 2022)\*\*

Sarah Cole (May 2022)\*\*

Janet Brekke (Elected May 2022) \*

Christine M. Erickson (Elected May 2022) \*

Alex Jensen

Rich Merkouris (May 2022) \*\*

Rick Kiley (Elected May 2022)\*

Greg Neitzert

Marshall Selberg

Curt Soehl

Pat Starr

\* Incoming \*\* Term Concluded

**Parks and Recreation Board as of year end 2022**

Jim Stavenger President

Ann Nachtigal Vice President

Mike Begeman Secretary

Rick Weber

Mick Conlin

Brooke Wegener

Teresa Cauwels

**Parks and Recreation Administration**

Don Kearney Director

Kelby Mieras Park Operations Manager

Jackie Nelson Parks & Recreation Administrative Manager/Interim Recreation Manager

Tory Miedema Park Development Specialist

Mike Patten Park Development Specialist



**Nationally Accredited Parks and Recreation Agency**

CAPRA accreditation is a distinguished mark of excellence for park and recreation agencies and is a measure of an agency's overall quality of operation, management, and service to the community. The National Recreation and Park Association research team estimates that there are approximately 14,000 parks and recreation agencies nationwide, of which 1 percent, or 192, have earned national accreditation. Sioux Falls Parks and Recreation is proud to be one of these elite agencies since 2010.



# Table of Contents

Director's Message .....	<b>i</b>
Officials .....	<b>ii</b>
Overview .....	<b>1</b>
Recreation Division .....	<b>2</b>
Cultural Arts .....	<b>2</b>
Aquatics .....	<b>3-4</b>
Athletics .....	<b>5</b>
Outdoor Ice Rinks .....	<b>6</b>
Community Centers/Enlarged Gyms .....	<b>7</b>
Special Events .....	<b>8</b>
Volunteers .....	<b>8</b>
Greenway Recreation Trail .....	<b>9</b>
Park System .....	<b>10-11</b>
Park Operations .....	<b>12</b>
Partnerships .....	<b>13-16</b>
Sioux Falls Golf .....	<b>13</b>
Falls Overlook Café .....	<b>13</b>
Mary Jo Wegner Arboretum & East Sioux Falls Historic Site .....	<b>14</b>
Great Bear Recreation Park .....	<b>14</b>
Great Plains Zoo & Delbridge Museum of Natural History .....	<b>14</b>
Levitt Shell Sioux Falls .....	<b>15</b>
Falls Park Visitor Center .....	<b>16</b>
Administration .....	<b>17-18</b>
Organizational Chart .....	<b>19</b>
Park System Map .....	<b>20-21</b>

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Parks and Recreation Statistics	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Park Land Acres	3,190.5	3,349.3	3,346	3,373.6	3,392.13	3,393.42
Parks and Recreation Full-Time Employees	75	77	76	78	78	79
Operating Annual Budget	\$18,108,812.15	\$17,989,803	\$19,539,085	\$20,159,065	\$20,634,480	\$23,801,260
Capital Improvement Annual Budget	\$3,962,450	\$6,819,800	\$6,039,800	\$5,281,500	\$5,708,500	\$6,219,500
City Limits Area (Square Miles)	78.21	78.94	79.81	80.12	81.38	83.34
Population Estimate	183,200	187,200	190,750	195,850	202,600	208,900

Developed Parks	2019	2020	2021	2022
Regional Park	11	11	11	11
Community Park	14	14	15	15
Neighborhood Park	27	27	26	26
Nature Park	5	5	5	5
Plaza Park	5	5	5	5
Greenway Park	4	4	4	4
School Parks	14	14	15	15
<b>Total Parks</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>81</b>

Other Sites	2019	2020	2021	2022
Undeveloped Park Site	13	13	13	13
Support Site	3	3	3	3
Golf Course	3	3	3	3
Community Center	5	5	5	5
Enlarged Gym	3	3	4	4
<b>Total Other</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>28</b>

\*COVID-19

\*\*COVID-19, performances were not held at the Levitt at the Falls

\*\*\*Estimate

Acres by Type	2019	2020	2021	2022
Developed Acres	2,633.2	2,633.2	2,644.14	2,644.31
Undeveloped Acres	183.5	211.1	218.72	219.84
Golf Course Acres	470.45	470.45	470.45	470.45
Support Site Acres	58.8	58.8	58.8	58.8
<b>Total Acres</b>	<b>3,346</b>	<b>3,373.6</b>	<b>3,392.13</b>	<b>3,393.42</b>

Sioux Falls Parks and Recreation Patrons	2019	2020*	2021	2022
Midco® Aquatic Center (indoor)	204,692	93,006	188,418	221,722
Aquatics (outdoor)	182,156	0*	162,079	196,633
Athletic Events	975,904	17,044	820,402	815,731
U.S.S. South Dakota Battleship Memorial	8,632	0*	11,039	9,004
Falls Park Visitor Center	193,281	99,544	186,622	166,140
Great Bear Recreation Park	38,933	44,319	48,044	49,080
Great Plains Zoo & Museum	230,984	172,111	246,753	202,746
Levitt at the Falls	58,430	0**	66,148	106,228
Mary Jo Wagner Arboretum	18,252	1,746	1,929	8,050
Outdoor Campus	100,000***	100,000***	100,000***	100,000***
Butterfly House Aquarium	86,190	48,230	87,162	86,132
Community Centers and Gyms	192,628	129,557	149,355	176,555
Park Shelter Usage	62,269	72,693	83,692	92,892
Playground Programs	9,021	5,257	4,311	4,910
Outdoor Skating Rinks	8,297	10,893	7,988	9,422
Sioux Falls Golf—Rounds of Play	84,408	97,351	104,525	105,998
Special Events in Parks	294,686	58,549	155,729	189,245
Weddings on Park Property	6,388	4,852	7,658	8,911
<b>Total Attendance</b>	<b>2,755,151</b>	<b>955,152</b>	<b>2,431,854</b>	<b>2,549,399</b>



The Recreation division of Sioux Falls Parks and Recreation provides recreational and educational programs and services as well as wellness programs aimed at enriching the lives of residents of Sioux Falls and surrounding communities of all ages and abilities.

The Recreation division promotes health and wellness for all ages and abilities through the facilities it operates and program opportunities.



Tot Lot	2017	2018	2019	2020*	2021	2022
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>1,244</b>	<b>1,814</b>	<b>1,531</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,384</b>	<b>1,135</b>
Number of Locations	2	2	2	0	2	2

Summer Playground Program	2017	2018	2019	2020*	2021	2022
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>9,944</b>	<b>10,700</b>	<b>7,490</b>	<b>5,257</b>	<b>4,311</b>	<b>4,910</b>
Number of Locations	15	15	15	25	12	12

Mobile Recreation Unit	2019	2020*	2021	2022
<b>Attendance</b>	-	-	-	<b>1,664</b>
Number of Stops	-	-	-	60

Theater in the Parks	2017	2018	2019	2020*	2021	2022
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>2,634</b>	<b>3,369</b>	<b>2,109</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,037</b>	<b>1,903</b>
Rain Dates	0	0	0	0	0	1
Performances	16	18	15	0	15	14

Storyland Children's Theatre	2017	2018	2019	2020*	2021	2022
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>21,588</b>	<b>14,785</b>	<b>12,695</b>	<b>4,181**</b>	<b>12,115</b>	<b>11,019</b>
Rain Dates	1	2	7	0	1	3
Performances	31	31	24	16	31	29

\*COVID-19 \*\*4 weeks—typically 8

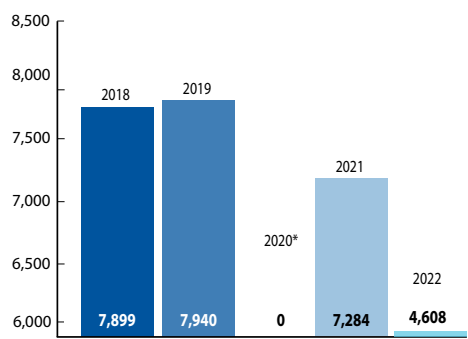
<b>Mondays at McKennan</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020*</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>6,357</b>	<b>6,055</b>	<b>5,415</b>	<b>4,850</b>	<b>4,892</b>	<b>6,763</b>
Rain Dates	1	0	0	0	1	1
Performances	8	8	8	7	7	7

<b>Outdoor Swimming Lessons</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020*</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Enrollment</b>	<b>1,546</b>	<b>1,444</b>	<b>1,335</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,316</b>	<b>1,207</b>
Total Classes Available	170	170	170	0	170	170
Lesson Revenue	\$28,880	\$26,965	\$23,717	0	\$23,215	\$21,163

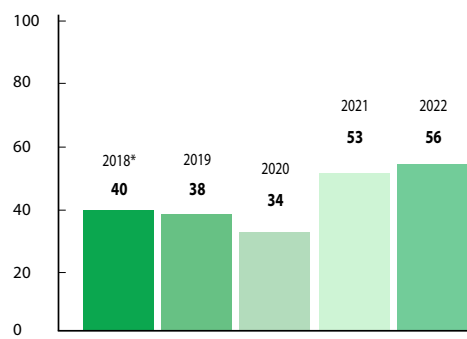
<b>Indoor Swimming Lessons</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020*</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Enrollment</b>	<b>1,685</b>	<b>1,739</b>	<b>1,452</b>	<b>383**</b>	<b>1,071</b>	<b>1,106</b>
Total Classes Available	174	196	196	83**	196	196
Lesson Revenue	\$51,705	\$73,880	\$61,305	\$15,844**	\$58,153	\$60,798

<b>Pool Attendance</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020*</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Midco® Aquatic Center	219,055	209,218	204,692	93,006	188,418	221,722
Drake Springs Family Aquatic Center	48,289	45,910	47,898	0	55,615	35,395
Frank Olson Pool	13,278	14,827	16,627	0	Closed	17,582
Kuehn Pool	26,668	37,553	25,942	0	18,921	26,538
Laurel Oak Family Aquatic Center	36,528	38,510	36,723	0	40,993	46,043
McKenna Wading Pool	18,001	19,509	14,223	0	Closed	25,539
Pioneer Spray Park	—	—	—	0	—	—
Terrace Park Family Aquatic Center	43,167	43,668	40,654	0	45,226	45,536
<b>Total</b>	<b>404,986</b>	<b>409,195</b>	<b>386,759</b>	<b>93,006</b>	<b>350,497</b>	<b>418,355</b>

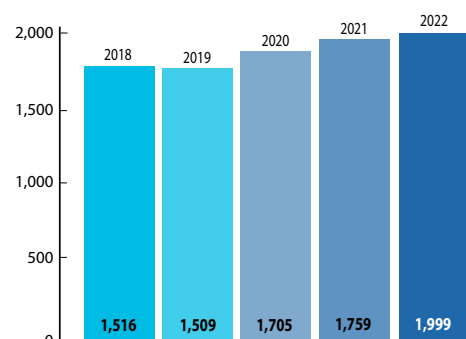
**Swim Pass Sales (By Year)**



**Summer Passes**  
\*COVID-19



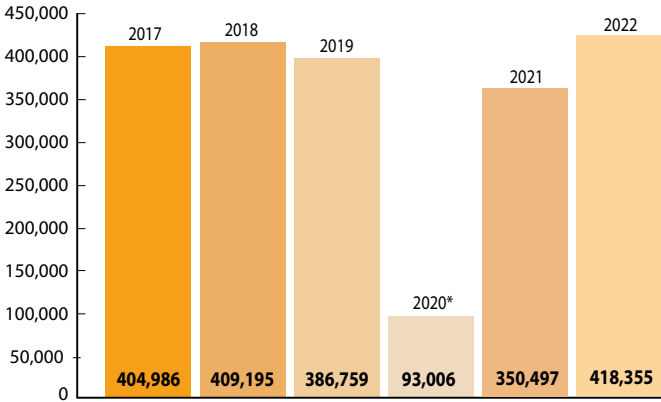
**Fall/Winter/Spring Passes**  
\*Pass structure change



**Annual Passes**

\*COVID-19 \*\*Winter & Fall sessions only due to





Pool Attendance Totals Per Year

\*COVID-19

**6,663**  
Total Passes Sold (2022)





Athletic Partners Participants	2017	2018	2019	2020*	2021	2022
Adult Soccer	660	811	811	626	480	542
Adult Softball	4,191	4,595	4,260	3,931	4,155	4,000
Amateur Baseball	50	50	50	0	0	15
Lacrosse	168	160	116	125	176	137
Rugby	—	400	400	0	25	25
Swim Teams	245	277	399	206	361	636
Tennis	1,484	1,165	1,114	1,125	1,496	1,500
Ultimate Frisbee	113	113	115	0	93	108
Youth Baseball	3,460	3,392	3,341	2,290	3,800	3,261
Youth Football	2,652	2,862	2,935	1,762	1,932	2,226
Youth Soccer	6,740	6,100	5,000	2,558	4,890	5,427
Youth Softball	3,896	3,640	3,709	1,655	2,954	2,558
<b>Total Participants</b>	<b>23,659</b>	<b>23,565</b>	<b>22,250</b>	<b>14,278</b>	<b>23,625</b>	<b>20,435</b>

Program participation only, does not include tournaments.

\*COVID-19



Participants of Athletic Programs Offered by Parks and Recreation	2017	2018	2019	2020*	2021	2022
Adult Basketball	1000	830	860	750	850	900
Adult Kickball	774	667	612	0	432	540
Adult Sand Volleyball	440	408	536	248	384	504
Adult Winter Volleyball	1,888	1,864	1,824	1,768	1,896	2,056
Track	2,082	1,318	2,211	0	1,414	1,808
Youth Triathlon	196	233	172	0	139	127
<b>Total Participants</b>	<b>6,450</b>	<b>5,320</b>	<b>6,215</b>	<b>2,766</b>	<b>5,114</b>	<b>5,935</b>

\*COVID-19



Outdoor Ice Skating	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Total Skate Days	41	64.5	60	58	38	40

**9,422**  
Ice Skating Attendance\*

**40**  
Number of Ice Skating Days

- ◆ 2 Outdoor Hockey Rinks
- ◆ 6 Outdoor Ice Skating Rinks

Rink Attendance	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Campus	870	1,070	849	957	424	471
Frank Olson	883	1,047	632	926	452	743
McKenna	1,346	1,507	1,238	1,755	1,225	1,451
Memorial*	3,473	4,520	2,010	3,654	2,375	2,819
Sherman*	1,279	1,629	1,269	1,802	550	1,063
Tuthill	3,000	3,100	2,299	2,756	2,962	2,875
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,851</b>	<b>12,873</b>	<b>8,297</b>	<b>10,893</b>	<b>7,988</b>	<b>9,422</b>

\*Hockey rink location



Community Center & Enlarged Gym Attendance	2017	2018	2019	2020*	2021	2022
Kenny Anderson Community Center	36,778	35,777	32,853	20,569	26,434	30,950
Kuehn Community Center	38,690	31,464	32,251	24,595	26,845	31,308
MariCar Community Center	31,187	28,799	23,935	16,240	20,485	25,258
Morningside Community Center	64,435	63,860	60,638	38,109	43,843	54,635
Oyate Community Center	26,957	27,621	26,624	17,043	18,324	20,609
Laura Wilder Enlarged Gym	5,680	5,793	5,602	4,285	3,606	4,106
Memorial Enlarged Gym Middle School**	2,032	2,024	2,195	1,669	1,615	1,618
Terry Redlin Enlarged Gym	4,005	4,484	4,477	3,625	4,884	4,742
Fred Assam Enlarged Gym	5,335	4,389	4,053	3,422	3,359	3,329
<b>Total Attendance</b>	<b>215,099</b>	<b>204,220</b>	<b>192,628</b>	<b>129,557</b>	<b>149,355</b>	<b>176,555</b>

\*COVID-19

\*\*Used only for league play



### Top Special Events Based on Attendance

Sioux Falls Parks and Recreation plays a major role in the success of some of the city’s best known events. The department is primarily responsible for facility and park rentals, and assists event organizers in navigating the City’s special events application and permitting process. The public reserves Parks and Recreation facilities for family celebrations, sports activities, classes, corporate functions, and leisure activities.

A special event application is required for events or activities that are open to the public, held outdoors on public property, a City street, downtown, or in a City park. An application must be received no later than 60 days before a proposed event. Our goal is to assist the event planners in coordinating the services needed from the City of Sioux Falls to ensure the event is safe and successful.

- |                             |                                    |                                 |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Avera Race</b>           | <b>GermanFest</b>                  | <b>Riverfest</b>                |
| <b>Cinco de Mayo</b>        | <b>Innoskate</b>                   | <b>Sidewalk Arts Festival</b>   |
| <b>Festival of Bands</b>    | <b>Parade of Lights</b>            | <b>St. Patrick’s Day Parade</b> |
| <b>Festival of Cultures</b> | <b>Pride Festival &amp; Parade</b> |                                 |

Citywide Special Events	2017	2018	2019	2020*	2021	2021
Event Applications Processed	88	94	111	89	115	132
<b>Estimated Attendance</b>	<b>306,840</b>	<b>276,845</b>	<b>294,686</b>	<b>58,549</b>	<b>155,729</b>	<b>189,245</b>
Number of Parks Utilized as Host Site	68	72	86	26	75	99
Number of Days—Lighting of the Falls					32 days rented	13 days rented

\*COVID-19

Sioux Falls Parks and Recreation thanks the countless individuals and the many groups, organizations, and businesses that support us in meeting our mission—to contribute time, talents, and resources to enhance City of Sioux Falls Parks and Recreation, programs, parks, and facilities. Through the City’s values, we work hard to achieve the vision our citizens set for us, working in partnerships based on safety, teamwork, innovation, character, and respect. The City of Sioux Falls has one of the best park systems in the country, and our volunteers are a big reason why. This is especially true of this past couple of years, saving the department over \$80,000 in labor costs in 2021 alone. Although the numbers are impressive, they do not fully represent what volunteers help us accomplish. Volunteers play an important role in helping us stay connected to the community and the people we serve. We value the skills, input, and passion volunteers bring to Sioux Falls Parks and Recreation, and consider ourselves lucky to work with such amazing people.

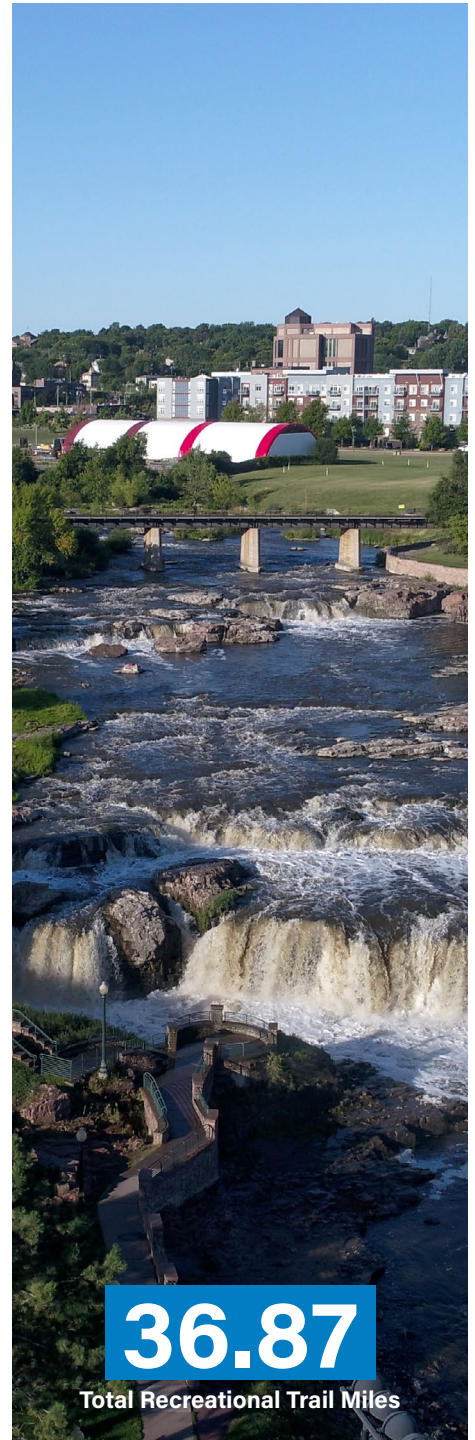


Volunteers	2019	2020*	2021	2022
Number of Volunteers	1,207	514	1,901	1,465
Number of Volunteer Hours	2,821.00	779.25	3,746	2,926
Volunteer \$ Value	\$58,400.61	\$16,598.23	\$80,268.88	\$76,355.00

\*COVID-19

Greenway Recreation Trail Main Loop	Section Miles
Falls Park to Tenth Street	.89
Tenth Street to Cliff Avenue Bridge at 13th Street	.63
Cliff Avenue Bridge to 18th Street Bridge	.93
18th Street Bridge to 26th Street	.68
26th Street to Cliff Avenue Bridge to Minnesota Avenue Bridge	1.87
Cliff Avenue Bridge to Minnesota Avenue Bridge	1.31
Minnesota Avenue Bridge to Western Avenue Bridge	1.26
Western Avenue Bridge to 41st Street Bridge	1.36
41st Street Bridge to Golf Course Bridge	1.42
Golf Course Bridge to 12th Street	.70
12th Street to Madison Avenue	1.05
Madison Avenue to Russell Street	.50
Russell Street to Maple Street Bridge	.49
Maple Street Bridge to Minnesota Avenue	3.15
Minnesota Avenue to Falls Park	2.89
<b>Total Main Trail Loop Miles</b>	<b>19.13</b>

Paved Trails	
Main Loop	19.13
Falls Park to Lien Park	1.25
Beadle Greenway	1.30
Pasley Park Entrance to 49th Street	1.54
Diamond Creek Trail Spur	0.50
57th Street to RR Bridge	0.43
Oxbow Greenway	0.43
Dunham/Legacy Spur (west bank)	4.80
Cherry Creek Trail Corridor (Skunk Creek)	1.25
Veterans Parkway Trail	4.22
<b>Total Recreation Trail Miles</b>	<b>36.87</b>



**Park Access Points**

Sherman Park Trail Access	0.31	Riverdale Park Trail Access	0.39
Elmen Trailhead Access	0.30	26th Street Trail Access	0.05
Elmwood Park Trail Access	0.10	Pasley Park Trail Access	0.05
10th Street Trail Access	0.19	Spencer Park Trail Access	0.21
Cherry Rock Trail Access	0.11	Tomar Park Trail Access	0.22
18th Street Trail Access	0.09	<b>Subtotal (Miles)</b>	<b>2.02</b>

Outdoor Basketball Courts	No.
Bakker Park	1
Beadle Greenway Park	1
Bryant Park	1
Dan Dugan Park	1
Dunham Park	1
Emerson Park	1
Fred Dawley Park	1
Galway Park	0.5
Glenview Park	1
Granite Valley Park	0.5
Hayward Park	2
Heritage Park	1
Jefferson Park	0.5
Kenny Anderson Park	2
Kuehn Park	2
Lacey Park	1
Laurel Oaks Park	2
Lewis Park	1
Linwood Park	1
Lions Centennial Park	1
Majestic Meadows	2
Marion Park	1
McKenna Park	0.5
Meldrum Park	1
Memorial Park	1
Menlo	0.5
Morningside Park	1.5
Pioneer Park	1
Platinum Valley Park	2
Prairie Meadows Park	2
Prairie Trail Park	1
Riverdale Park	1
Southern Vistas Park	2
Spellerberg Park	0.5
Terrace Park	1.5
Thelin Park	1
Town One Park	1
Whispering Woods South Park	2
Whittier Park	0.5
Willow Ridge Park	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>47.5</b>

Indoor Basketball Courts	No.
Fred Assam Enlarged Gym	2
Kenny Anderson Community Center	2
Kuehn Community Center	2
Laura Wilder Enlarged Gym	2
MariCar Community Center	2
Morningside Community Center	2
Oyate Community Center	2
Terry Redlin Enlarged Gym	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>

Indoor Volleyball Courts	No.
Fred Assam Enlarged Gym	3
Kenny Anderson Community Center	3
Kuehn Community Center	3
Laura Wilder Enlarged Gym	3
MariCar Community Center	3
Memorial Middle School	3
Morningside Community Center	3
Oyate Community Center	3
Terry Redlin Enlarged Gym	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>

Pickleball Courts	No.
Riverdale Park	6
Menlo Park	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>

Tennis Courts	No.	Type
Frank Olson Park	3	Asphalt
Kuehn Park	8	Concrete
Laurel Oak Park	10*	Concrete
Lewis Park	2	Concrete
McKenna Park	8	Concrete
Pioneer Park	1	Concrete
Spellerberg Park	2	Concrete
Terrace Park	2	Concrete
Tomar Park	12	Concrete
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	

\*2 regulation courts/8 quick-start courts



Sand Volleyball Courts	No.	Type
Cherry Rock Park	4	League/Picnic
Dunham Park	1	Picnic
Elmwood Park	1	Picnic
Kuehn Park	1	Picnic
Lewis Park	1	Picnic
Riverdale Park	4*	League/Picnic
Spellerberg Park	1	Picnic
Terrace Park	2	Picnic
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	

\*6 pickleball courts are also available.

Softball Fields	No.	Age	Type
Burnside Park	3	Youth/Adult	Slow-Pitch
Dunham Park	20	Youth	Fast-Pitch
Frank Olson Park	11	Youth	Fast-Pitch
Harmodon Park	8	Adult	Slow-Pitch
Jefferson Park	1	Youth	Fast-Pitch/Slow-Pitch
Kenny Anderson Park	4	Adult	Slow-Pitch
Kuehn Park	2	Youth/Adult	Slow-Pitch
McCarty Park	10	Youth	Slow-Pitch
Morningside Park	2	Youth	Fast-Pitch
Sherman Park	9	Adult	Fast-Pitch/Slow-Pitch
St. Lambert Fields	2	Youth	Fast-Pitch
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>		

Soccer Fields	No.	Age
Farm Field	1	Youth/Adult
Lions Centennial Park	12	Youth
Kenny Anderson Park	2	Youth/Adult
Memorial Park	2	Youth/Adult
Sherman Park	1	Youth/Adult
Spencer Park	12	Youth
Tomar Park	10	Youth/Adult
Yankton Trail Park	21	Youth/Adult
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	

\*All soccer fields can accommodate spring and fall league play.

Multi-Use Sports Fields	No.
Sanford Sports Complex	10
Riverdale	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>

Baseball Fields	No.	Age
Cherry Rock Park	2	Youth
Elmwood Park	6	Youth
Harmodon Park	7	Youth/Adult
Pasley Park	7	Youth
Terrace Park	9	Youth
Kuehn Park	2	Youth
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	



**Other City Property Maintenance**



Other City property consists of City-owned Lots, right-of way areas, drainage ways and detention ponds. The combined acreage of these 679 separate locations is around 1,864 acres. All of these locations are throughout the 75-plus square miles of the City of Sioux Falls. Maintenance consists of mowing up to a 12-foot buffer, where accessible once every 7 to 10 days and multiple spot sprayings for noxious weeds throughout the growing season. In the fall they do a complete spraying of the property as weather allows on each location. This crew is a custom to gaining new properties each year and on average they will receive around 20-30 acres.

City crews also maintain all landscaped medians within the city, which currently stands at over 26 miles. This consists of around 29-plus acres of turf grass and 8 plus acres of landscaped planting beds. These landscaped beds have well over 20,000 different varieties of plants and shrubs. Maintenance consists of mowing all 149 locations twice a week during the growing season along with plant, shrub, and tree care year-round. 89 of these locations have an irrigation system, and crews monitor these systems to make sure they are running as programmed. Parks staff is constantly looking for ways to help reduce maintenance costs and unneeded water consumption. As the city grows and streets are re-done, landscaped medians have become more and more popular.

<b>Forestry Report</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Removal of Diseased/Dead Trees—Street Trees	338	316	233	141	129	109
Removal of Diseased/Dead Trees—Private Trees	168	121	125	179	275	216
EAB Ash Tree Removal from Parks	—	530	458	550	425	270
EAB Street Tree Removals	—	—	1,947	2,523	2,349	2,114
Permits Issued for the Removal of Street Trees	39	50	41	42	88	57
Emergency Tree Removals	57	52	29	78	136	307
Arborist Licenses—City Licensing Program	38	60	65	78	75	74

<b>Park Plantings</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Trees and Shrubs Planted	181 in 18 parks	201 in 17 parks	197 in 17 parks	522 in 36 parks	430 in 20 parks	445 in 18 parks
Annual Flowers Planted	19,000	23,800	20,670	5,764	15,415	20,404
Perennial Flowers Planted	765	6,400	859	1,339	1,208	1,512

<b>Nuisance Trees</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Complaints	200	126	168	172	185	102
In Violation	179	120	139	136	168	85
Trimmed by City	12	4	9	7	21	0

<b>Project T.R.I.M.</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Properties Surveyed (M)	10.9	12.6	11.9	13.2	10.0	9950
Properties Needing Trimming (M)	3.4	3.0	3.0	3.4	2.5	2.2
Trimmed by City	123	126	126	111	146	120



## Sioux Falls Golf

In January 2018, the City of Sioux Falls partnered with Landscapes Golf Management to operate the three public City courses that include Elmwood, Prairie Green, and Kuehn Park. The fifth season of this agreement continued to bring new players to the game both young and old. The City courses saw record growth in season passes, rounds played, and customer satisfaction ratings. These results earned LGM a five year extension to continue managing the City courses through 2027. Elmwood is the only 27-hole golf course in Sioux Falls and received a multi-million-dollar renovation in 2018 to give this historic course a more modern look. In 2022, *Golf Week Magazine* named Prairie Green the third best public course in the state (Second in 2021). Kuehn Park is the area's only public executive course featuring a fast and fun par 30 track that is perfect for all skill levels. Sioux Falls Golf also provides year-round activities by hosting nearly 80 group outings, hundreds of lessons, numerous fun events, and around 50 banquet parties throughout the year. For more information, visit [SiouxFallsGolf.com](http://SiouxFallsGolf.com).



## Falls Overlook Cafe

The quartzite building standing on the east bank of the Falls of the Big Sioux River is the Sioux Falls Light and Power Company building, completed in 1908. The building housed three 500-kilowatt hydroelectric generators and used the dam and the millrace from the Queen Bee Mill. In subsequent years, the plant added additional coal-fired steam generators. The plant was abandoned in 1974 and donated to the City in 1977. Before remodeling took place to create the Falls Overlook Cafe, the building was in similar condition as when it was first constructed. The Falls Overlook Cafe serves a variety of family-friendly foods, farm-fresh ice cream, beverages and snacks. Reservations are available for private events, which can be booked year round. Guests can enjoy dining inside and outside with a view of the falls. Historic exhibits are displayed inside the building. In addition, the Cafe has other Sioux Falls and South Dakota merchandise available for purchase. Other special events are scheduled throughout the year, including wine-tasting dinners, the Winter Wonderland kick-off celebration, and live music events throughout the spring-fall seasons. The Falls Overlook Cafe opened in 2005 and is operated under a management agreement between the City of Sioux Falls and Stensland Enterprises, Inc.





### Mary Jo Wegner Arboretum

The City has an agreement with the Wegner Arboretum Society to manage the 145-acre site. The Mary Jo Wegner Arboretum and East Sioux Falls historic site is an accredited arboretum featuring colorful gardens, wetlands, natural plants, and nature trails. The City performs all grounds maintenance and building repair and maintenance. The society provides year-round activities, including group outings, picnics, site tours, weddings, education classes, and facility rentals. 2022 brought 56 rentals with an estimated total attendance of 7,400 people. In addition, there were 650 entries in the guest book compared to 215 last year representing 26 states. Frosty Frolics was hosted in January in cooperation with Sioux Falls Parks and Recreation. Snowshoes were offered to snow enthusiasts for their snowshoeing enjoyment on well-marked trails. Well over 100 people attended this free event. To learn more about the Mary Jo Wegner Arboretum, visit [maryjowegnerarboretum.com](http://maryjowegnerarboretum.com).



### Great Bear Recreation

Great Bear offers more than 220 acres of unlimited year-round fun and excitement just minutes away from downtown Sioux Falls. As the largest park in the Sioux Falls Parks & Recreation department, Great Bear features winter sports activities for the whole family. The park is home to 14 downhill trails, a terrain park, the Kirby Family Tubing Park, and cross country and snow shoeing trails that provide fun and excitement for all skill levels. During the summer months, Great Bear provides the perfect setting for hiking, jogging, bird watching or enjoying a picnic on our four-mile trail system. Our location also provides the perfect setting for outdoor weddings, corporate retreats, family reunions, and other private parties.





## Great Plains Zoo & Delbridge Museum of Natural History

The Great Plains Zoo & Delbridge Museum of Natural History is owned and operated through a partnership between the City of Sioux Falls and the Sioux Falls Zoo & Aquarium Board of Directors (SFZA). The City of Sioux Falls owns the infrastructure, land, and all assets associated with the zoo and museum and maintains the grounds in and around the facility. SFZA operates the zoo, which includes animal care and wellness, animal habitats, education programming. SFZA maintains the grounds within the exhibit. SFZA is a nonprofit 501c3 organization dedicated to furthering the mission and development of the Great Plains Zoo & Butterfly House and Aquarium. The Great Plains Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) and features over 600 animals representing 127 species. The 45-acre park offers a quality zoo experience fostering appreciation for the natural world while also offering fun activities including our Savannah Express Train and Sanford Family Carousel. Come and see our recently renovated black bear and brown bear exhibits, award winning snow monkey habitat, or visit our rare rRhinos exhibit featuring the endangered black rhinoceros and learn how Great Plains Zoo works with conservation efforts in Namibia to save this amazing animal from extinction. The zoo also includes the Delbridge Museum of Natural History, a one-in-the-world collection of 150 mounted animals including 38 "vanishing species." To learn more about the Great Plains Zoo & Delbridge Museum of Natural History, visit [greatzoo.org](http://greatzoo.org).



## Levitt at the Falls

Levitt at the Falls is a national-scope nonprofit organization with a mission to build community through music. Levitt's programming is centered at the Levitt Shell Sioux Falls, an outdoor music venue located in the heart of downtown Sioux Falls in Falls Park West. The Levitt serves as a gathering place for our diverse community, fosters social interactions among people of all ages and backgrounds, and ensures access to professional performing arts to everyone through a season of 50 free concerts offered each summer, featuring acclaimed artists in a wide range of music genres. In July of 2022, Levitt at the Falls partnered with the Smithsonian Museum of American History and USA Skateboarding, as well as local partners Let's Skate, Downtown Sioux Falls, the Sioux Falls Arts Council, and Rehfeld's Art & Framing, to serve as a host site for Innoskate Sioux Falls, a multi-day national festival exploring the intersection of skateboarding, music, and creativity. The 2022 Levitt season served over 106,000 audience members through 50 free concerts, the Innoskate festival, and Levitt In Your Neighborhood community outreach programming. An additional 92,000 community members experienced Levitt concerts online through live streaming. To learn more about Levitt at the Falls, visit [levittsiouxfalls.org](http://levittsiouxfalls.org).





## Falls Park Visitor Center

The City of Sioux Falls Parks and Recreation department contracts with Experience Sioux Falls (ESF) to manage the Falls Park Visitor Information Center (VIC). The VIC sits at the north end of the 128-acre park. The City's Parks & Recreation department is responsible for care of all ground maintenance, building repair, and general upkeep of the area. ESF is responsible for all hiring, training, inventory, and management of the VIC. Since opening the VIC in 2000, it has become the information hub for the thousands of visitors choose to visit our city. In 2022, the VIC was able to track 166,140 guests from 48 states and 29 foreign countries. Each year thousands of locals and visitors alike flock to the park during winter months as well. ESF is very appreciative of the partnership with Parks and Recreation Department and thanks them for all they do to keep our parks so beautiful and welcoming to visitors. To learn more about the Falls Park Visitor Information Center, visit [experiencesiouxfalls.com](https://www.experiencesiouxfalls.com).



## **ADMINISTRATION SUMMARY FOR 2022**

The Parks and Recreation Administration office at 231 North Dakota Avenue is the headquarters for Park Operations, Recreation, Park Planning & Projects, and Administrative personnel. The department has 79 full-time employees.

Park Operations includes park maintenance, forestry, other City properties maintenance, and central services. Light mechanical repairs to equipment, scheduling of specialized maintenance equipment, distribution of supplies, and carpentry work are all functions completed by this team. Forestry crews perform tree trimming and removal throughout the park system and enforce the street tree ordinance and non-parkland management, including downtown trees, boulevards, and drainage ways. The city is divided into four park districts, each having a District Supervisor who is accompanied by Park Caretakers (assigned as crew leaders) and Park Technicians who assist with daily maintenance of the neighborhood and community parks located within their district boundary. Park Operations are supported by six other report-to-work locations (remote park shops) across the park system.

Recreation Division oversees the Midco® Aquatic Center, five community centers, six ice rinks, five outdoor pools, one wading pool, three enlarged gyms, athletic programs, leagues, classes, programs, camps, fitness opportunities, theater, and concerts. The division consists of a Recreation Manager, four Recreation Program Coordinators, and five Recreation Program Specialists.

Park Planning & Projects Division directs the implementation of the Parks and Recreation System Plan for parks and facilities through planning, budgeting, staffing, coordination of property acquisition, design, project management, and development of all city parks, trails, greenways, athletic fields, landscape and streetscape elements, park buildings and other facilities. The division also leads the capital improvement Program (CIP) for the department. The Division consists of two Park Development Specialists.

The Administrative Division oversees strategic planning, third party agreements and contracts, customer experience, team member engagement, volunteers, community outreach and special events. The Division consists of an Administrative Manager as well as a Recreation Program Coordinator that manages volunteers, community outreach and citywide special events and two City Services Technicians who provide resident and visitor support as well as assist with internal department needs.

In 2022 the Park Planning and Projects Division was restructured to add a Divisional Manager. The Division is now made up of a Park Planning & Projects Manager and two Park Development Specialists. In addition, the Administrative Division was reorganized to remove the Administrative Manager job title and replace with an Assistant Director. The Assistant Director now oversees strategic planning, third party agreement and contracts, customer experience, and team member engagement to include oversight of the City Services Technicians whereas the Recreation Manager supervises the Recreation Program Coordinator that manages volunteers, community outreach and special events.

## **ADMINISTRATION HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2021**

The following cyclic programs were updated to help in planning for future capital projects and maintenance:

- Park Roads and Lots Maintenance Program
- Play Court Cyclic Maintenance Program
- Bike Trail Maintenance Program
- Internal Park Trail Maintenance Program
- Play Structure Maintenance Program
- 2023-2027 CIP was approved by Park Board and presented to the Mayor and City Council for approval.
- Negotiated and completed the Jacobson Plaza gifting agreement. The plaza will include the first refrigerated ice-skating ribbon in the park system at Falls Park. Other improvements include an all-inclusive playground, dog park, and support facilities.
- Completed construction of the first 1.4 miles of the Cherry Creek bike trail corridor in northwest Sioux Falls.
- Substantially completed construction of the Hayward Park Master Plan improvements. This included a splash pad, restroom, dog park, playground, walking loop and associated improvements.
- Completed construction of the Tomar Park Tennis Complex. The complex is a 12-court facility with court lighting, shade structures, and associated improvements. The project was fully funded by the SF Tennis Association.
- Completed design of the Zoo African Exhibit expansion. This project will welcome back the lions to the Zoo and enhance the exhibit area for the meerkats.
- Continued the design and coordination of the Downtown River Greenway with the surrounding developments. Completed the majority of the federal permitting of the proposed improvements.
- Negotiated and completed the Barb Iverson Skatepark gifting agreement. The improvements will include a modern concrete and steel skatepark with bowls, grind rails, steps and other skating features.



**SPONSORSHIPS**

- **Tomar Park Naming Application** – The Sioux Falls Tennis Association (SFTA) gifted the City with ten outdoor tennis courts, lighting for twelve courts, fencing, court surface improvements, nets, poles, landscaping, and associated improvements at Tomar Park in consideration for the naming rights to the tennis complex. The complex shall be referred to as the “GreatLife Cares Foundation Tennis Complex at Tomar Park” for the life of the improvements.

**PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS**

- **Ballfield and Outdoor Aquatics Concessions Agreement & Extension**—Stensland Enterprises to operate concessions at Sherman, Harmodon, and Pasley ballfields and Terrace Park, Laurel Oak, and Drake Springs Aquatic Centers through December 31, 2025.
- **Sioux Empire Baseball Association (SEBA) Advertising Agreement Extension**—SEBA may sell advertising at the baseball complex in Harmodon Park and retain a portion of the income from the sales to be used to offset costs associated with providing youth baseball through December 31, 2027.

**GIFTING AGREEMENTS**

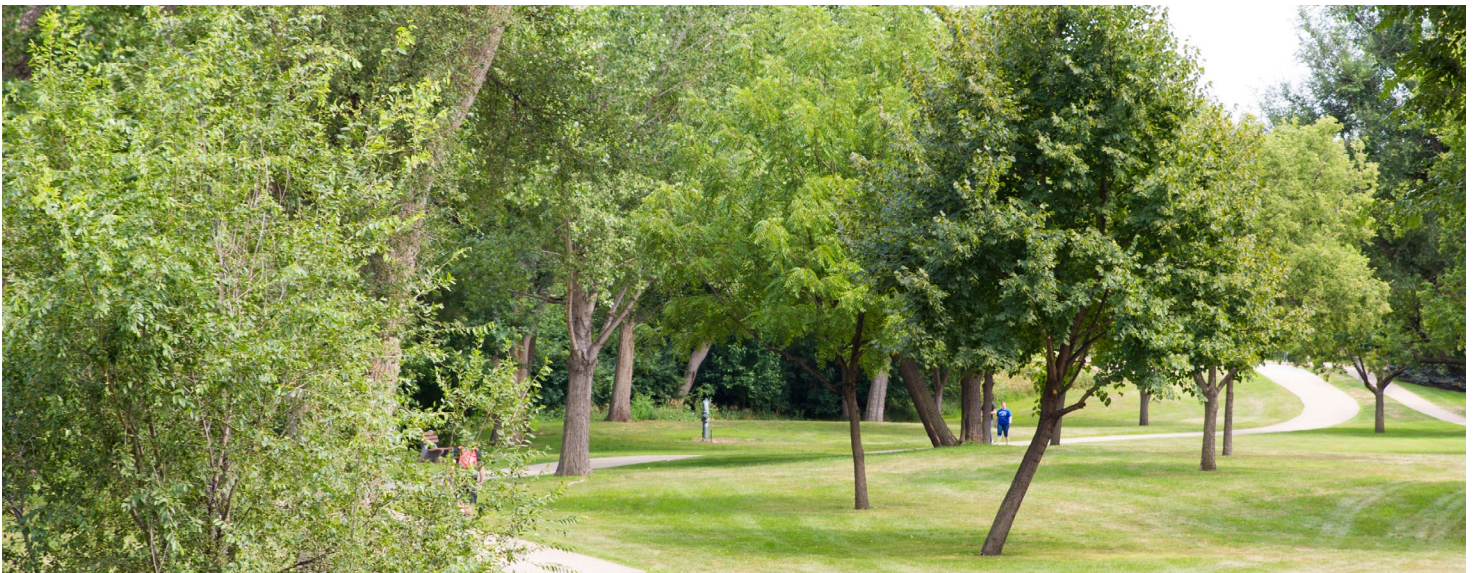
- **Jacobson Plaza Conditional Gifting & Naming Agreement**—The Jacobson Family, through SFACF, agrees to gift \$5.5 million to the City to create the Jacobson Plaza at Falls Park. Improvements may include a refrigerated ice skating ribbon, an all-inclusive playground, a warming house and food hall, a dog park, spray pad, and support facilities.
- **Nelson Park Skate Park Gifting and Naming Agreement**—The Sioux Falls Skatepark Association agrees to gift to the City of Sioux Falls up to \$1.5 million to create the Barb Iverson Skate Plaza at Nelson Park. Improvements may include a plaza space, street course, bowl zone, and associated park improvements.
- **Youth Band/Youth Summer Singers Surplus/Gifting Resolution**—Youth Band/Youth Summer Singers sheet music declared surplus by the City and gifted to the Sioux Falls School District.
- **Sioux Falls Tennis Association Donation (SFTA)**—Tomar Park Tennis Complex—SFTA agrees to gift to the City scoreboards, infrastructure to support live streaming of events, mounting locations for TVs inclusive of electrical and data connections to support tournament operations, speakers, and other public address equipment.

**USAGE/LEASE AGREEMENTS**

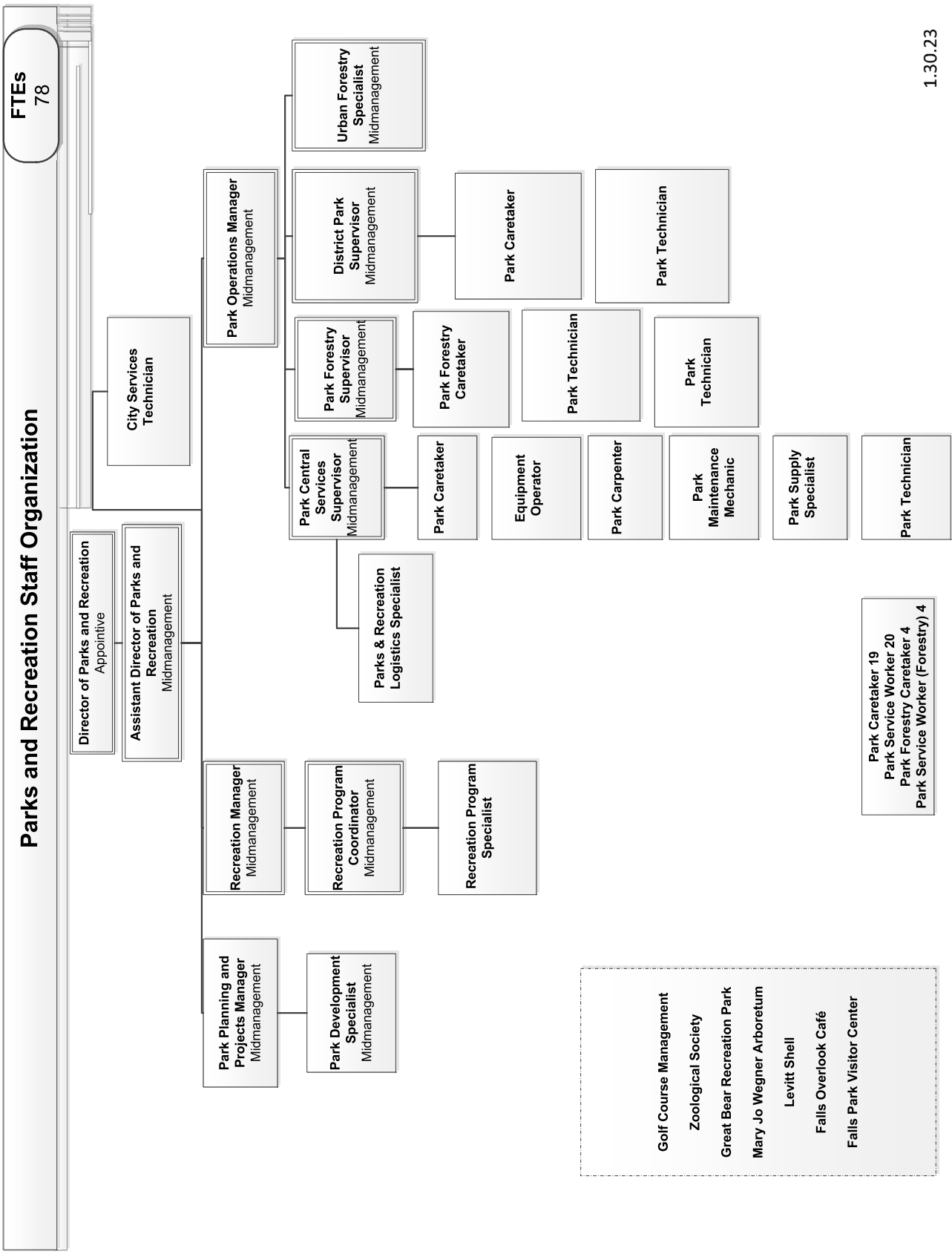
- **Sioux Falls Tennis Association Usage Agreement (SFTA)**—SFTA may conduct and be responsible for the overall operation and coordination of the tennis lessons, leagues, and public tennis tournaments at City tennis courts.
- **Downtown Farmers Market Option to Extend**—Three-year extension allowing the Downtown Farmers Market priority use of the open air shelter and vending stalls located north of Falls Park Drive within Falls Park for Farmers Market events to be held every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. from May 1 through October 31 through 2024.

**MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS**

- **Landscapes Golf Management**—The city exercised the option to renew the golf course management agreement with Landscapes Management Company for another 5 years.
- **Levitt Agreement Amendment Non-Levitt Events**—Agreement amended to transfer control of non-Levitt event rentals from Sioux Falls Parks and Recreation to Levitt at the Falls.
- **Falls Park Visitor Center**—An agreement was negotiated with Experience Sioux Falls to manage and operate the Visitor Center at Falls Park. Experience Sioux Falls provides visitor services while the City of Sioux Falls provides select utility services and maintains buildings and grounds.

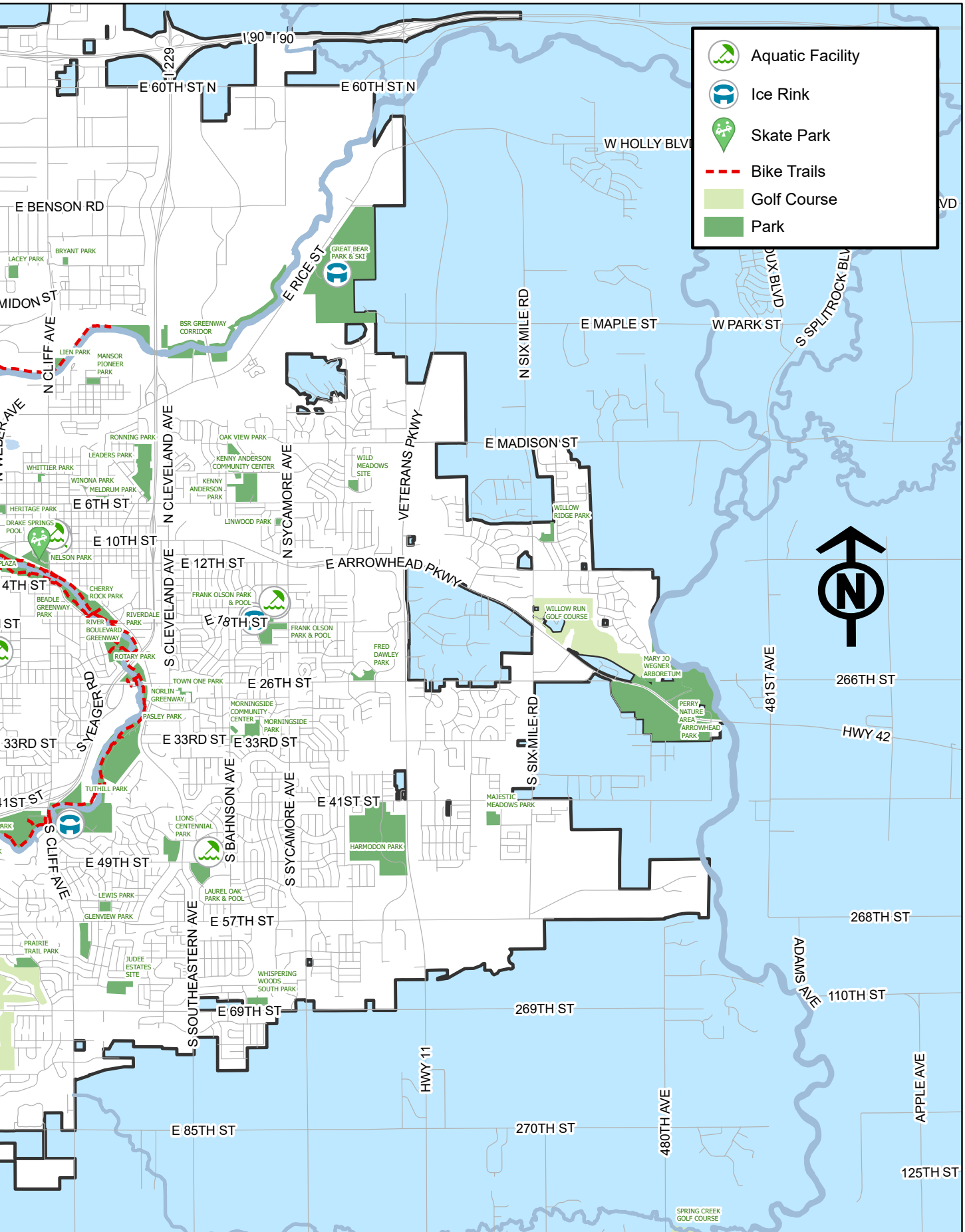






1.30.23







CITY OF  
**SIOUX FALLS**  
**PARKS & RECREATION**