Director's Report
August 2022

Riverfront Project

- I had a progress meeting for the Riverwalk on July 27. The contractor informed us that the steel for the bridge has not been milled. The project is on hold until the remediation on the Millfab and DPW sites is taken care of.
- I'm still waiting for updated cost estimates from REP for the River Park. They were waiting on Strand to provide costs for electrical (Strand's electrical engineer has been on vacation).
- Public notice letters have been sent by the Army Corps of Engineers to upstream riparian property owners. This is part of the permitting process for the 404 Clean Water permit.
- I was looking into ways to help pay for marketing the River Park. Darren Bush from Rutabaga told me to look into JEM grants from the WI Department of Tourism.
  I reached out to their grants coordinator and setup a meeting for August 10. The JEM grant program has a Destination Marketing grant that I thought would be a good fit, but it's centered on bringing people to a region during the shoulder seasons. We could possibly co-op with other outdoor recreation based attractions.
  A better fit for us is their New Event grant. This would help us get a river festival started. It provides 75% funding the first year, 50% for the second year, and 25% for the third year. The maximum award is $39,550.
- We don't have any drawings of the entire project area nor the features. I reached out to Blake Theisen who did the drawings for the Riverwalk and Doug Hursh from Potter-Lawson (Curt Brink's team) to get costs. I'm waiting to hear back from them. The drawings are needed to help promote the area. We should have a booth at Canoecopia this coming spring to start getting the word out to recreational paddlers. Booth materials (backdrop, table, chairs, table cover, and printed materials) should be under $4,000.
- I had a progress meeting for the Riverwalk on August 10. The contractor is still waiting for the bridge to be made. He said the best case scenario for delivery is the end of September now. They will be processing a change order for completion date and changing it to May 2023. This is due to the remediation timeline for the redevelopment site. We received an extension on our grants until the end of June 2023.

Virgin Lake Trail

- I had a progress meeting with MSA. They were in hold mode until the geotechnical report came back.
- Director Scheel informed me that Roby Rd would be getting re-done in 2023. Due to the new trail alignment going through Virgin Lake Park, they would put a new curb cut in where the trail crossing would be for the road project.

51 West Master Plans

- MSA attended the July 28th Gazebo Musikk to gain additional public input. They presented the two drafts of each park.

Recreation & Youth Center

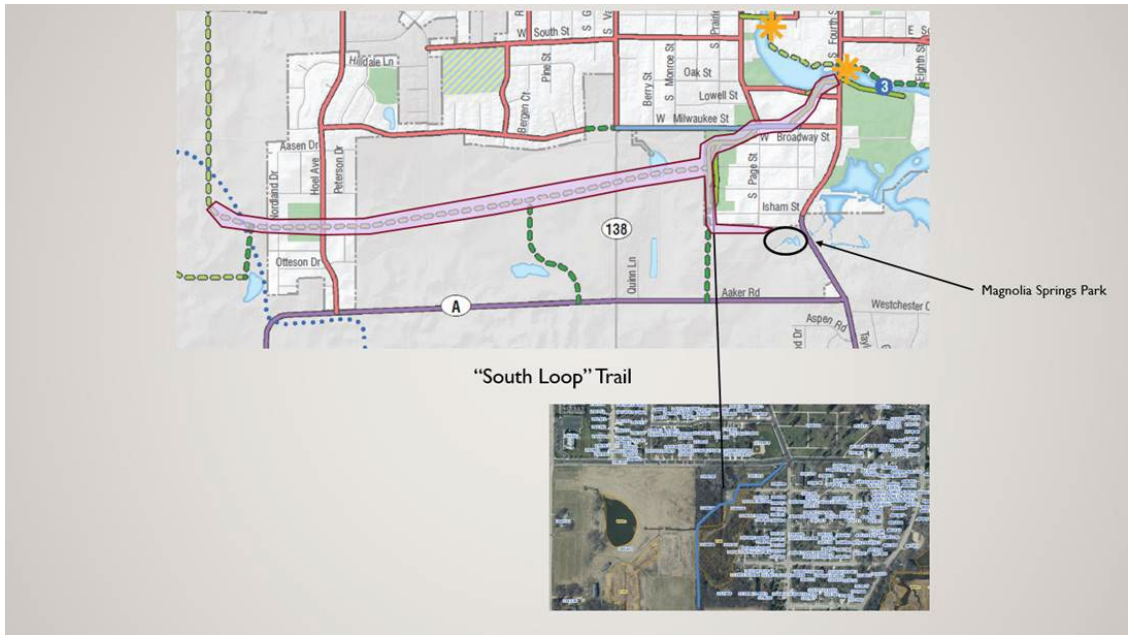
- The first movie night was on July 29. We partnered with the Library to run the events to share the staffing workload. The movie on July 29 was Lego Batman and the Library made the movie

interactive which was well received. There were about 150 people there. We expect the crowds to increase as the word gets out and the movies start earlier (they start at dusk).

- Gazebo Musikk continues to see crowds of 300-350 people. Tom Veek is the head volunteer of the friends group and puts a lot of effort into the events.
- I completed the annual report for the Youth Center. This is needed by the County for funding.
- I completed the monthly report for the Youth Center.

Misc.

- I met with MSA on July 22 to discuss the "South Loop" Trail through Lowell Park. The trail would transverse through a large area that are wetland indicators which will require a wetland delineation. This will be determine if and how much boardwalk is needed. The trail is an essential link to the south to the Mandt Park/River Park area.



- I had a meeting with Cummins volunteers on July 27. They will be working on utilizing the remaining boardwalk and providing a viewing platform on the River Trail near the Osprey interpretive sign.
- The bike pump and repair station have been delivered.
- Holly Salimes started working for us in the Rec Assistant position. She is doing a great job and will be missed when she leaves in September to go back to UW-L.
- I was on vacation the week of August 1st.
- We received a proposal from Hunden Strategic Partners to complete a Sports, Recreation, and Aquatics Market, Financial Feasibility, and Economic Impact Study. The study will perform a needs assessment to see if the City needs a sports complex, and recreational and aquatics amenities. Based on the findings they will determine what is financially feasible; both start-up costs and operationally. This is needed because of the community park that is planned in the Linnerud/Stoughton Trailer property. It's different than a CORP in that it is more financial driven and specific.

Director's Report
August 2022

- I had a meeting with the cell tower company on June 11. We toured the area where the cell tower would be placed and they are hopeful that it will work. They will complete a wetland delineation for the area. If they do place the cell tower there, they would fix the road leading to it. There are tree roots that have broken through the asphalt.
- We received the grant contract from WisDOT for the River Trail planning.