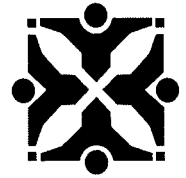


# City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201



**Agenda Item Number:** R 181-14  
**Department Source:** Parks and Recreation  
**To:** City Council  
**From:** City Manager & Staff  
**Council Meeting Date:** October 6, 2014  
**Re:** Downtown Optimist Park Improvements

## Documents Included With This Agenda Item

Council memo, Resolution/Ordinance

**Supporting documentation includes:** Park Plans, Excerpts from Minutes

## Executive Summary

The Parks & Recreation Department is requesting Council authorization to proceed with improvements to Downtown Optimist Park. As identified in the FY-2015 CIP, staff is proposing renovations to the park including replacing the existing small shelter, playground equipment, and park signs and making related ADA improvements. The total project budget is \$50,000, with funding provided by the 2010 Park Sales Tax. The project will be bid through the City's Purchasing Department and will be completed using a combination of contract and force account labor. Construction of amenities is scheduled to begin fall 2014 with an anticipated completion date of spring 2015.

## Discussion

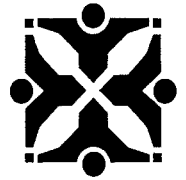
Downtown Optimist Park is a 0.5 acre neighborhood park, located at 100 East Forest Avenue, and features a playground, small shelter, basketball court and swingset. The park was originally on Columbia Public School property at Hickman High School. When the school determined a need for additional outdoor space, the park was moved to its current location. The most current redevelopment of the park was completed in 1990 with funds from the Community Development Block Grant. Throughout the existence of the park, the Optimist Club has assisted the Parks and Recreation Department in the development of the park as well as providing funds for recreation activities for the youth of the community.

In May 2014, park planning staff began the process of identifying possible improvements to the park property and discussed necessary changes to improve ADA accessibility and general park use. After park staff prepared initial design plans, an interested parties meeting was held at the Downtown Optimist Club on August 16, 2014 to gather feedback regarding the plans. Park staff met with six individuals at the meeting and then presented the proposed plans to a group of 15 citizens in attendance at the Ridgeway Neighborhood Association meeting.

After the completion of the interested parties meeting, park staff introduced the proposed improvements to the Parks & Recreation Commission at their September 18, 2014 meeting. After discussion of the project, the Commissioners voted to recommend the proposed improvements to the

# City of Columbia

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park. A copy of the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting minutes are included as supporting documentation. After considering all citizen comments and the P&R Commission recommendation, staff believes that proposed improvements at Downtown Optimist Park represents a consensus of park users and staff.

The proposed improvements at Downtown Optimist Park will include the construction of a new 18' X 18' small shelter in the same location as the present shelter and the replacement of the existing playground and swingset. Park staff will also construct a new park sign, make landscaping improvements and add 2 to 4 new trees to add shade throughout the park. All necessary ADA improvements to the park including new sidewalks to improve park access and connect different park amenities will be completed during the park renovation. A plan showing the proposed improvements to the park is included with this Council memo.

The park improvements at Downtown Optimist Park are included in the City's FY15 Capital Improvement Program budget, with site construction scheduled to begin this fall 2014. Staff anticipates that the improvements will be completed by summer 2015. All work and materials will be bid through the City's Purchasing Department and will be completed using a combination of contract and force account labor.

## Fiscal Impact

**Short-Term Impact:** The total project cost for the improvements in \$50,000 and is funded by the 2010 Park Sales Tax. Park staff does not anticipate any additional maintenance costs at the existing park property due to the improvements.

## Vision, Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Vision Impact: Parks, Recreation and Greenways

Strategic Plan Impact: Health, Safety and Wellbeing

Comprehensive Plan Impact: Mobility, Connectivity, and Accessibility, Livable & Sustainable Communities

## Suggested Council Action

Approve the Council legislation setting a public hearing for the proposed project. Following the public hearing, approve the ordinance authorizing the project to proceed.

## Legislative History

None

  
Department Approved

  
City Manager Approved

## A RESOLUTION

declaring the necessity for construction of improvements at the Downtown Optimist Park; stating the nature of and the estimate of the cost of the improvement; providing for payment for the improvement; providing for compliance with the prevailing wage law; and setting a public hearing.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council deems the construction of improvements at the Downtown Optimist Park, necessary to the welfare and improvement of the City. Specific improvements include construction of a new small shelter to replace an existing shelter, replacement of the existing playground equipment, installation of new signage and landscaping, and construction of new sidewalks to improve park access and provide a connection to the related park amenities.

SECTION 2. The nature and scope of the improvement shall consist of furnishing all labor, materials, transportation, insurance and all other items, accessories and incidentals thereto necessary for the complete construction of the improvements.

SECTION 3. The estimated cost of this improvement is \$50,000.00.

SECTION 4. Payment for this improvement shall be made from Parks Sales Tax Funds and such other funds as may be lawfully appropriated.

SECTION 5. Any work done in connection with the construction of the improvement specified above shall be in compliance with the provisions of the prevailing wage laws of the State of Missouri.

SECTION 6. A public hearing in respect to this improvement will be held in the Council Chamber of the City Hall Building, 701 E. Broadway, Columbia, Missouri, at 7:00 p.m. on October 20, 2014. The City Clerk shall cause notice of this hearing to be published in a newspaper published in the City.

ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Counselor



## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS INCLUDED WITH THIS AGENDA ITEM ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Park Plans, Excerpts from Minutes



**PARK IMPROVEMENTS PLAN  
DOWNTOWN OPTIMIST PARK**

100 EAST FOREST AVENUE



**PARK DEVELOPMENT FEATURE LEGEND**

- | ID | Description  |
|----|--|
| 1  | <b>New Small Shelter</b><br>18' x 18' SQ w/ Vaulted Roof<br>(2-3) Picnic Tables, (1) Grill, (1) Trash Receptacle<br>(2) Bike Racks (4 Total Bikes) |
| 2  | <b>Renovated Playground</b><br>Approximately 1,500 SF, Ages 5-12<br>Emphasis on Climbing/Hanging Features  |
| 3  | <b>Existing Sport Court</b><br>Re-Stripe/Paint Half Court Basketball   |
| 4  | <b>Remove/Replace Sidewalk to Forest Ave.</b>  |
| 5  | <b>Extend Existing Sidewalk to Grand Ave.</b><br>Relocate/Replace Drinking Fountain Closer to Shelter  |
| 6  | <b>Relocated Drinking Fountain</b>   |
| 7  | <b>Relocated Park Bench</b>  |
| 8  | <b>Concrete Edging Around Playground</b>   |
| 9  | <b>New Landscape Planters for Park Entry</b>   |
| 10 | <b>New ADA Connections to Park Features</b>  |
| 11 | <b>Existing Trees</b>  |
| 12 | <b>Proposed Trees</b>  |



DATE: 10/20/14

1.0

Proposed Park Improvements



PARK IMPROVEMENTS PLAN  
DOWNTOWN OPTIMIST PARK

100 EAST FOREST AVENUE

\* FOR GRAPHIC PURPOSES, UTILITY POLES ARE NOT INDICATED

DATE: 10/20/14  
2.0

Proposed Park Improvements

# **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

Thursday, September 18, 7 p.m.  
ARC, 1701 W. Ash

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

**Commission Present:** Marin Blevins, Sue Davis, Bill Pauls, Dan Devine, Linda Hutton

**Commission Absent (excused):** Terry Kloeppel, Meredith Donaldson

**Staff Present:** Mike Griggs, Gabe Huffington, Tammy Miller

Blevins called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

**Agenda:** The agenda was approved on a motion by Pauls, seconded by Davis.

**Minutes:** The August minutes were approved on a motion by Devine, seconded by Pauls.

**Monthly Report:** The August monthly report was approved on a motion by Pauls, seconded by Davis.

### **Cosmo-Bethel Park Improvements**

Huffington told the Commission that about \$150,000 in Park Sales Tax funds are allocated for improvements at Cosmo-Bethel Park. This funding would be used to light the four tennis courts that do not have lights; the other eight courts are already lit. A portion of the gravel trail around the lake that washes out frequently would also be paved in concrete. This would be just a six-foot wide resurfacing and would also improve ADA access to the lake.

Hutton made a motion, seconded by Davis, that the Commission recommend approval to Council of the proposed improvements at Cosmo-Bethel Park. Motion passed, 5-0.

### **Downtown Optimist Park Improvements**

Huffington said planned improvements would include a new small shelter, renovated playground, restriped and repainted half basketball court, sidewalk improvements that would connect all features, and new landscaping.

Devine made a motion, seconded by Pauls, that the Commission recommend approval to Council of the proposed improvements at Downtown Optimist Park. Motion passed, 5-0.