



## **Park Board Meeting**

**Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 @ 6 pm**

**Location: Whitefish City Hall, 418 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Whitefish**

### **Agenda**

#### **A. Call to Order**

#### **B. Changes to the February 10, 2026 Agenda**

#### **C. Approval of January 13, 2026 Minutes**

**D. Public Comments** (This time is set aside for the public to comment on items that are either on the agenda, but not a public hearing or on items not on the agenda. City officials do not respond during these comments but may respond or follow up later on the agenda or at another time. The Park Board Chair has the option of limiting such communications to three minutes depending on the number of citizens who want to comment and the length of the meeting agenda.)

#### **E. Committee Reports**

- a. Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee – Jim
- b. Tree Advisory Committee – Terri
- c. WSFF Board – Thomas
- d. WAG Board – Bruce

#### **F. Presentations**

#### **G. Public Hearings**

#### **H. Old Business**

#### **I. New Business**

- a. Consideration to approve conceptual design for a Cow Creek Pocket Park
- b. Consideration to approve Glacier Twins MOU revisions
- c. Consideration to recommend Council approval of the Glacier Twins lease revisions
- d. Review of department projects, priorities, and proposed FY27 CIP

#### **J. Other Items**

#### **K. Items from Parks and Recreation Department**

- a. Administrative Report
- b. Recreation Coordinator Report
- c. Maintenance Report
- d. Community Services Coordinator Report

#### **L. Correspondence**

#### **M. Items from the Park Board**

#### **N. Adjourn**

### **Distribution List**

Melissa Hartman, President  
Frank Sweeney, City Council Representative  
Terri Dunn, Park Board Member  
Bruce Aronson, Park Board Member  
Maria Butts, Director of Parks and Recreation

Jim DeHerrera, Vice President  
Giuseppe Caltabiano, City Council Alternate Representative  
Thomas Shea, Park Board Member  
Emily Butler, Park Board Member  
Jennie Bradford, Operations Specialist

## **Park Board Meeting Minutes January 13, 2026**

**Park Board Members Present:** Giuseppe Caltabiano (Council Alternate), Terri Dunn, Bruce Aronson, Emily Butler, Thomas Shea, Jim DeHerrera, Melissa Hartman

**Park Board Members Absent:** Frank Sweeney

**City Staff:** Maria Butts, Jennie Bradford, Carla Belski

**Guests:** NA

- A. Call to Order at 5:59 p.m.
- B. Changes to the January 13, 2026, Agenda. None
- C. Approval of October 21, 2025, Minutes. Motion to approve by Member Caltabiano and seconded by Vice Chair DeHerrera. All ayes.
- D. Public Comments: Steve Riddle spoke on behalf of Libby Riddle, owner of Montana Boards, whose written public comment was included in the packet. He spoke to electric assist hand launch watercraft and how it is a new and emerging type of watercraft that does not compete with but compliments the existing paddleboard concessionaire at City Beach. He spoke about the low impact of this equipment, and that this is a mobile appointment business where no storage or concession space is needed. In addition to rentals, Montana Boards provide jet board, paddleboard and yoga board lessons. Montana Boards operates from April through October, including the shoulder season when other outfitters are closed. He concluded that Montana Boards would provide accessible equipment to a wide range of people at City Beach and in doing so would allow their small business to contribute meaningfully to community.

Julio Delgato of 630 Karrow Ave, Whitefish spoke to the current use of Memorial Park field. He spoke to the challenges the Whitefish High School encountered in wanting to use the Twins Stadium, noting the Twins wanted to charge them \$6,000 for baseball and \$7,000 for football. Julio shared he previously came to the City and learned of the lease agreement between the City and the Twins for 55 years for \$1 / year, with ability to for the Twins to sublet for a price of their choosing. He added that the Twins get most of the proceeds from the cell tower located on the field. He shared there are so many other programs that could benefit from that money. Julio said he was told the only way this iron clad lease could be revoked is if it was shown that the Twins were breaking the agreement. He has asked the Twins to show him their books, but they won't. In review of the Twins annual report, Julio commented that it almost never changes, the same expenditures are listed year after year. Julio also stated their numbers are inflated. He shared he coached the Twins for 20 years, and the current level of baseball is lower than it was when he coached. Nowadays, team travel is limited, and there are not any overnight expenses. Julio stated the Twins aren't held accountable and that no one has gone to see what they've done. He shared it

used to be that other organizations and even the public could use the stadium, and they have been allowed to privatize it. Julio stated the only way the Twins will show him their books is if Park Board or the City asks them for it. Julio respectfully asked that the board let him look into it, and requests that Memorial Park field be open to the public. The various groups could walk and inspect the field at the beginning of the season and if there is damage then the group involved would pay for repairs.

#### Committee Reports

- a. Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee – Vice Chair DeHerrera shared the Chief of Police spoke to the committee on the new ordinance for e-bikes. It is currently a draft but will hopefully go to council in April. The Riverbend condo situation is on-going. The mayor hasn't yet been able to meet with new director of FWP. The City has applied for a new permit.
- b. Tree Advisory Committee – Member Dunn shared nothing new to report. Director Butts shared Park and Recreation staff member Carla Belski is working with urban forestry staff Jen Sybrant and Philip Hodge on a DNRC grant to remove and replace some of our ash trees and for a public campaign with some banners downtown to educate people on how to take care of trees. Vice Chair DeHerrera shared that he saw we lost a tree in Depot Park. Member Caltabiano added the tree landed on a BNSF staff vehicle, but they are not making a claim with the City.
- c. WSFF Board – Member Shea shared they are still working on getting the new facility up and going. They are still talking about roof replacement/maintenance. Director Butts shared she has toured the facility and is aware of the issues and need for a new roof. The last meeting between the City and WSFF was left that WSFF was going to talk to their board to see if they can assist in fundraising for the roof and provide a project timeline. Director Butts added that the ice is rented out until 2027. She stated we need them to project when in the future the rink can take downtime in summer to get it replaced. She added Judah was going to do research on the cost of the roof to see if he could find a less expensive bid. Director Butts has not yet heard back from him. She shared she did email the WSFF board today as doesn't sound like everyone is on the same page and is waiting on one another, so she is restarting that communication to begin working with them again to get a timeline and funding sorted.
- d. WAG Board – Member Aronson shared the website has a webcam, with stats (temperature, wind, and UV index). Another webcam will be installed facing north towards big mountain. Aronson expressed confusion as to why the temporary snow removal sign that WAG installed was not permitted. Director Butts explained to Member Aronson that the sign that needs to go through the same process as any other sign, according to our sign plan. She added the reason for this is that we don't have a mix of different signs in our parks and that all signs in parks are approved by the board. Member Aronson asked why the snow removal responsibilities at the dog park have landed on WAG. Director Butts shared WAG has

always volunteered snow removal and that part of the agreement of the paths going in is the board agreeing to do snow removal. Member Aronson shared the unapproved signs are down.

**E.** Presentations: NA

**F.** Public Hearings: NA

**G.** Old Business: NA

**H.** New Business:

a. Review of City Beach Commercial Permit Fee Schedule and Permit Quotas

- Consideration to approve permit quotas.
- Consideration of recommending City Council approval of fee schedule.

Parks and Recreation staff Carla Belski presented on the enclosed fee proposal document in the packet and requested feedback from the Park Board.

- a) Day and Season Passes: Staff Belski shared she wanted to complete the improvements at City Beach before requesting more in fees and the project was completed this fall to the tune of \$220,000. She shared this will help with launching larger boats and the facilitation of the AIS program. They will continue performing decontaminations free of charge, and they do not charge for inspections, even if the watercraft is not launching in Whitefish Lake. Member Caltabiano asked Staff Belski to remind him if the gazebos and facilities already have resident and non-resident fee. Staff Belski responded they all do except for City Beach. Vice Chair DeHerrera sought clarification on the definition of resident and staff Belski shared this refers to a Montana State resident and they use the boats state registration to determine this. Staff Belski added it would be quite arduous to differentiate between city, county, Flathead Valley etc. Member Caltabiano shared this would only be possible if we used newer technology. Staff Belski said she is currently only using Civic Rec for managing commercial permits and hasn't moved to using this for day or season passes as it is a multistep process. Member Caltabiano shared you could offer a 5% discount for pre-purchased passes. Member Dunn felt this was a very reasonable assessment of fee increases. Member Caltabiano asked staff Belski if she had data on the % of resident and non-resident users from last year. Staff Belski said she has this information for AIS inspections but wouldn't know if they bought day or season passes. Member Caltabiano suggested adding this information into the report council will receive at the work session. Staff Belski shared the majority of small fishing boats launch at State Park, not City Beach, and that the feedback she has received is that many residents feel an increase is fair. Another consideration is that other communities may charge for boat trailer parking and that wouldn't be feasible here. Chair Hartman shared monies not raised through this process come out of tax revenue so having people pay something for a benefit they are utilizing seems reasonable.
- b) Commercial Permits: Vice Chair DeHerrera asked how the new categories with limits compared with where we are currently. Staff Belski shared that aside from the high

use category the quotas allow for some growth. Staff Belski added that she may try these quotas this coming year and then make some adjustments. Solid data would help to give us better numbers. Director Butts added if council approves the fees, the Park Board can decide if we want to change quotas after Carla reports back. It is just the approval of fees that go to council.

c) Dock Service Providers: creating windows for delivery.

In terms of recommendations, Director Butts suggested we first look at day and season pass fees. Chair Hartman shared her only feedback would be to increase non-resident rates, otherwise the proposed increases seem very reasonable. Member Dunn said she would like to make proposal to approve the fees for this year with a review at the end of the season to amend it, if necessary. Member Shea voiced his agreement to adjust the resident rate down and non-resident rate up. Staff Belski added one of the reasons for the \$15 rate is that most people don't carry a lot of one-dollar bills and making change is a challenge. Member Butler shared she felt \$15 is reasonable for a resident and added we could always raise the non-resident fee next year. Vice Chair DeHerrera made a motion to approve the day and season pass fee schedule as proposed. Seconded by Member Dunn. All ayes.

Commercial Permit Fees: Vice Chair DeHerrera made a motion to approve the commercial permit fees as presented and revisit them after the first season. Seconded by Member Dunn. All ayes.

Dock Service Provider Hours: Member Dunn motioned to approve the suggested windows as presented. Seconded by Member Caltabiano. All ayes.

I. Other Items: NA

J. Items from Parks and Recreation Department

- a. Administrative Report: Director Butts wanted to bring to board's attention that we did invoice Oktoberfest and Stumptown Get Down for turf repairs. We are going to look at it again in the spring. Director Butts did have RPA assess Depot Park and the water is draining properly. It would be a significant challenge to change the drainage off of the tent. Director Butts shared she let Oktoberfest know there are some floor panel resources available in the valley and asked them about the feasibility of putting floor panels under the tent and in high traffic areas. She has asked that they report back to staff and has not heard back yet.
- b. Recreation Coordinator Report: NA
- c. Maintenance Report: Director Butts shared graffiti has been particularly common in the O'Shaughnessy and Parking Garage restrooms, but Police are using camera footage to help identify those responsible. She also shared that she placed a pamphlet on the dais with information on how to report a non-emergency crime. The Police Department is urging the public to use this for reporting purposes.
- d. Community Services Coordinator Report: NA

- K.** Correspondence: Letter in packet from a resident regarding Soroptimist Park, specifically dogs off leash approaching children and pet owners not picking up after them. Member Aronson suggested adding to the sign that there is a dog park and a QR code for users to know where it is. Director Butts indicated there seems to be a need for dog park on the north side of the viaduct and asked Member Aronson to speak with WAG about dog park #2. Director Butts thinks Crestwood Park could be a good place. It is currently undeveloped parkland. It would need a fence and parking access. Chair Hartman shares she knows of some places where there are certain hours that dogs are allowed off leash but knows this doesn't solve the problem of owners not picking up after their pets. Director Butts said dogs are allowed off leash at WAG and within the river corridor because that is FWP.
- L.** Items from the Park Board: Vice Chair DeHerrera made a motion to approve Avery Soronson as the Whitefish High School Representative on the Pedestrian and Bicycle Path Advisory Committee. Seconded by Member Caltabiano. All ayes. Director Butts shared that the City is currently working on negotiations of the MOU with the Glacier Twins and that it will be presented next month.
- M.** Adjourned at 7:57 pm. Approved by Member Dunn and seconded by Vice Chair DeHerrera.

**WSFF Board Meeting**

Wednesday, January 14, 2026 12:30pm - 2:30pm, Ice Rink Conference Room

**[DRAFT - NOT BOARD APPROVED]**

Agenda Topics
Call to order: 12:35
Public Comment (20 minutes): Steve and Felicia Fox - lobbying for more ice time, offered to expand shooting area to east WAHA - Brian Merewitz, Paul Taylor, Shawn Baker - reiterated concerns in letter dated 1/9/2026.
Approve Last Meeting's Minutes ( <a href="#">Minutes Archive</a> ) - approved December minutes
Attendance: Sarah Fitzgerald, Jack Fallon, Ryan Ulvin, Ben Heslop, Matt Daniels
Old business <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● New Rink Facility</li><li>● Roof Leaks/Stumptown Ice Den Roof replacement<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Artisan Roofing provided a detailed estimate</li><li>○ Short-term facility shut down may be necessary during install</li><li>○ Jack will deliver proposal to Maria Butts</li></ul></li><li>● CD Information - reinvest per 3-month ladder strategy. Motion approved</li><li>● Weapon open carry policy within Stumptown Ice Den<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Jack will send out revised language</li></ul></li><li>● WAHA concerns about independent adult hockey user groups<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Discuss at work session</li></ul></li><li>● Concessions area remodel - nothing new</li><li>● WSFF special work session 2/4 11am<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Sarah will circulate an agenda</li></ul></li></ul>
New business - <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Stumptown ATM in lobby - Motion approved.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Greg will coordinate with Paul Taylor, Glacier Payments</li></ul></li><li>● Expand shooting area into curling equipment area</li></ul>
Manager's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Security cameras</li><li>● Sound system replacement</li><li>● Maintenance issues - replace compressor</li></ul>
User Group Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● GSA<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Successful holiday ice show</li><li>■ Improvements needed to access loft storage area</li></ul></li><li>● GHA - girls jamboree, battle of the border</li><li>● WAHA - winter league, tournament season, fundraising to support giving back to</li></ul>

community

- Curling - no update
- Other -

Treasurer's Report - John P absent, email update provided

Previous months financials -

[Balance Sheet](#)

[P&L](#)

Adjourn - 2:07

Next meeting - February 11, 2026

### **Distribution List**

#### **WSFF Board Members and Staff**

Jack Fallon (President) - Community At Large Rep [Term Expires: 10/2025]  
Sarah Fitzgerald (Vice President) - Community At Large Rep [Term Expires: 10/2027]  
Ryan Ulvin (Secretary) - Glacier Hockey Rep (GHA) [Term Expires: 10/2026]  
Matt Daniels (Treasurer) - Adult Hockey Rep (WAHA) [Term Expires: 10/2025]  
Ben Heslop - Glacier Skate Rep (GSA) [Term Expires: 10/2026]  
Thomas Shea - Whitefish City Parks & Rec Rep [Term Expires: 10/2027]  
Frank Sweeney - Whitefish City Council Rep [Term Expires: 10/2027]  
Greg Harms - General Manager  
John Piedemonte - Financial Services

#### **Community Members/Others**

Aly Wells - Adult Hockey Rep (WAHA)  
Jenn Irwin - GSA Director  
Amanda Hayes - GHA Executive Director  
Maria Butts - City of Whitefish Parks Director  
Jennie Bradford - City of Whitefish Parks Office Manager  
Greg Esakoff  
Judah Gersh  
Scott Kelley



February 2, 2026

To: Park Board Members

From: Maria Butts, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services

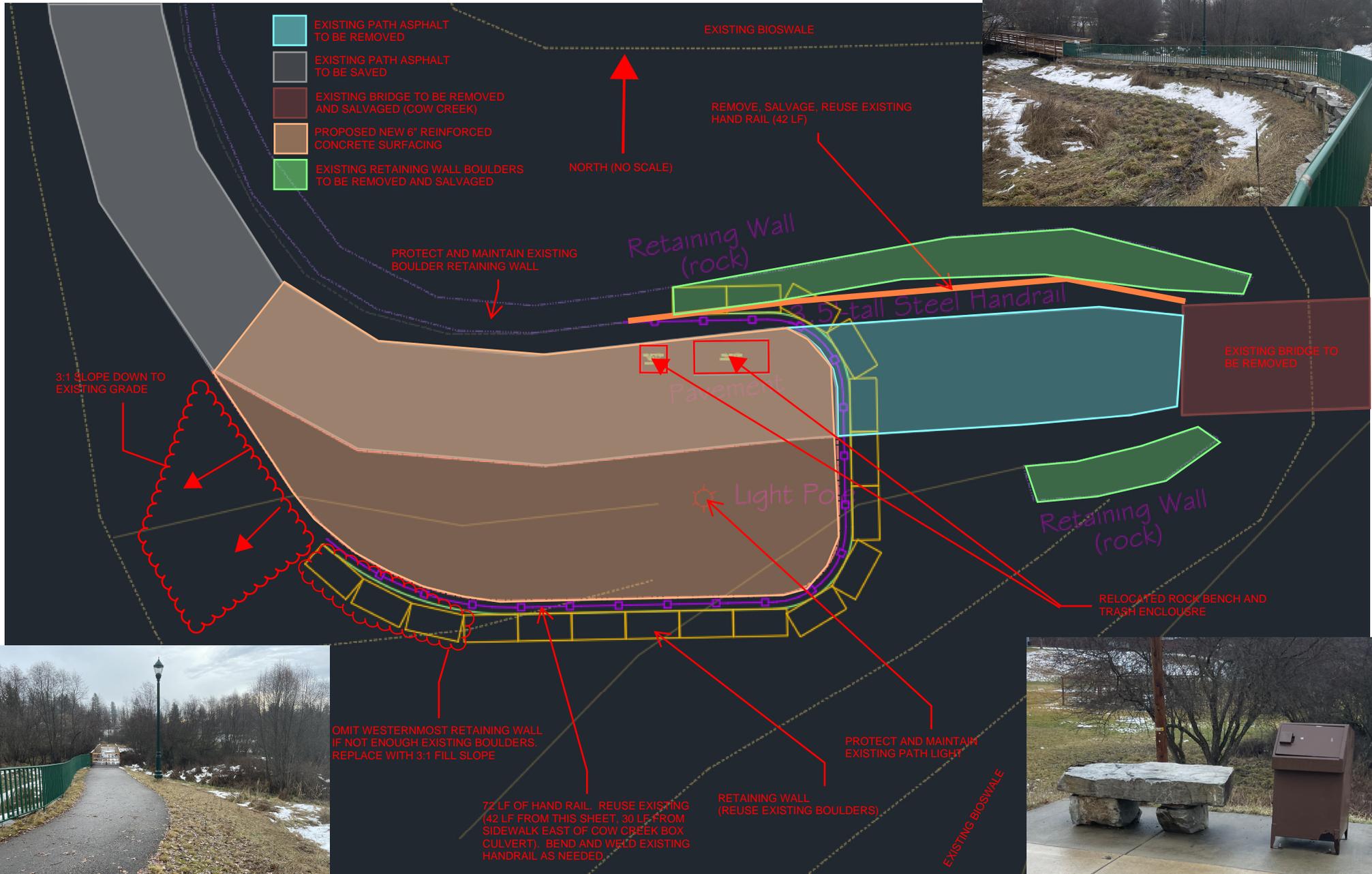
Re: Consideration to approve conceptual design for Cow Creek Pocket Park

I have been working with Public Works Director, Craig Workman, and Brandon Theis of Civil Solutions on the removal of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street pedestrian bridge, adjacent sidewalk widening, and park area restoration project. The removal of the pedestrian bridge and the widening of the adjacent sidewalk will be completed with the Armory Road project. Once the bridge is removed, the land on both sides of the bridge will need to be reclaimed and repurposed.

Brandon and I have been working on a conceptual plan for a pocket park on the western side of Cow Creek. The plan includes protecting and maintaining the existing boulder retaining wall and path light. We plan to place fill along the southwestern portion of the path to create a community space with benches and possibly picnic tables. Additionally, the space will be defined by the extension of the green handrailing. We plan to reuse components of the existing path, such as the stone bench and metal garbage can. The space on the eastern side of the bridge will be returned to a natural state.

This evening, Brandon is here to go over his conceptual design, answer questions, and seek feedback.

# COW CREEK BRIDGE REMOVAL PROJECT "POCKET PARK" CONCEPT BY BMT ON 1/22/26



Pocket Park Cost Options				
Option 1 - Keep Existing Asphalt & Add Gravel Surfacing				
Unit Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Total Price
Crushed Base Course Gravel (12" Thick)	20	CY	\$60.00	\$1,200.00
<b>Option 1 Total =</b>				<b>\$1,200.00</b>
Option 2 - Remove Asphalt & Install New Concrete				
Unit Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Total Price
Additional Asphalt Removal	375	SF	\$3.00	\$1,125.00
6" Reinforced Concrete with 6" Crushed Base Course Gravel	90	SY	\$150.00	\$13,500.00
<b>Option 2 Total =</b>				<b>\$14,625.00</b>



# MEMO

February 2, 2026

To: Park Board Members

From: Maria Butts, Director, Parks, Recreation and Community Services

Re: Consideration to approve the Amendment to the Glacier Twins Verizon MOU

## **History**

The Park Board and the Glacier Twins entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Park Board of Commissioners on August 29, 2014, to address the specifics of the construction of a Verizon tower within the Twins' leased area and for establishing the parties' understanding concerning the City's receipt of anticipated revenue from payments received from Verizon for the tower under a license agreement. After the original agreement came to the end of its term, the City and Glacier Twins renegotiated the terms of the MOU, and a new MOU came into effect February 1, 2022.

The City's license with Verizon expired in January 2025, and the City Attorney renegotiated the terms of the agreement with Verizon, which changed the amount of funds received by the City as well as the term of the license agreement.

Upon successful renegotiation of the terms with Verizon, the City found it necessary to also update the Glacier Twins MOU to be in line with the new terms of the Verizon license agreement.

Amendments to the MOU include the following:

1. **TERM** - The term was changed to be in line with the term of the Verizon agreement. The renewal clause provides an option for the Twins to renew the MOU for another five-year term, unless Verizon or the City terminates or fails to renew the Second Amendment to the License Agreement.
2. **MAINTENANCE PLAN** – The method in which the Twins submit the Maintenance Plan and seek approval of funding has been revised to create transparency and accountability. Though the Twins will still submit an annual Maintenance Plan to the Park Board, the plans will provide an explanation of how the funds will be used in the following fiscal year and will provide “itemized details of anticipated expenditures associated with the facility such as utility costs, maintenance projects, or capital improvement projects anticipated to be completed and paid for using Verizon funds within the following fiscal year.” Additionally, the Twins will request distribution of the funds by providing “invoices paid by the Glacier Twins or invoices to be paid by the Glacier Twins for items identified in the approved Maintenance Plan. Any deviations from the approved Maintenance Plan must be approved by the Park Board before the Glacier Twins request funds from the City.”  
Additionally, if the Twins cannot spend all of the funds within the fiscal year, or they wish to accumulate funds for a larger purchase, the City will hold funds in the Memorial Park Account for up to five fiscal years, unless an extension is approved by the Park Board.
3. **NON-PROFIT QUALIFICATION** – In addition to maintaining their 501 c3 status, the Twins will be required to provide the City with a copy of their Form 990 tax returns filed with the IRS by April 30<sup>th</sup> of each year.

The City Manager, City Attorney, and I have been working with the Glacier Twins on the amendment to this MOU, and all parties are in support of your approval of the amendment.

## **Amendment to Memorandum of Understanding**

This Amendment to Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into by and between the City of Whitefish and the Whitefish Board of Park Commissioners, 418 E. 2nd Street, PO Box 158, Whitefish, MT 59937 (City), and Glacier Twins American Legion Baseball, Inc., Roosevelt Post No. 108, a Montana non-profit corporation, PO Box 2007, Whitefish, MT 59937 (Glacier Twins).

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 02-51, the City approved a long-term lease and construction agreement with Glacier Twins for the construction and use of a community baseball stadium located on the northeast corner of Memorial Park; and

WHEREAS, the City subsequently reached a license agreement with Gold Creek Cellular of Montana Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless which allowed Verizon to construct and maintain a cellular tower on the portion of Memorial Park leased by the Glacier Twins; and

WHEREAS, on August 29, 2014, the City and the Glacier Twins entered into a MOU to provide annual disbursements of the funds received from Verizon under the license agreement to the Glacier Twins for maintenance of the leased baseball stadium; and

WHEREAS, the five-year term of the original MOU expired on August 28, 2019; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, the Glacier Twins and the City entered into another MOU providing for disbursements of the funds received by the City from Verizon; and

WHEREAS, in January of 2025, the City's license agreement with Verizon expired; and

WHEREAS, the City and Verizon have entered into a Second Amendment to License Agreement for the Use of City Property which will change the amount of funds received by the City as well as the term of the license agreement; and

WHEREAS, both parties desire to amend their 2022 MOU to be consistent with the terms of the Second Amendment to License Agreement for the Use of City Property and to achieve transparency in the disbursement of the funds received by the City from Verizon.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE 2022 MOU BETWEEN THE GLACIER TWINS AND THE CITY IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) The "TERM" provision of the MOU is replaced by the following provision:

TERM: This MOU begins on the date of signing thereof and is effective through February 1, 2030, unless Verizon or the City terminate the Second Amendment to License Agreement for the Use of City Property at an earlier date. The City grants the Glacier Twins an option to renew this MOU for one (1) five (5) year term unless Verizon or the City

terminate or fail to renew the Second Amendment to License Agreement for the Use of City Property.

- (2) The “MAINTENANCE PLAN” provision of the MOU is replaced by the following provision:

MAINTENANCE PLAN: The Glacier Twins will submit on an annual basis, no later than November 1st of each year, an annual report, budget, and proposed maintenance plan (Maintenance Plan) for the City Park Board's review. Maintenance Plans must include itemized details of anticipated expenditures associated with the facility such as utility costs, maintenance projects, or capital improvement projects anticipated to be completed and paid for using Verizon funds within the following fiscal year.

The Glacier Twins may, no more than monthly, request in writing distributions of the Verizon funds held in the Memorial Park Account from the City. Such requests must be accompanied by invoices paid by the Glacier Twins or invoices to be paid by the Glacier Twins for items identified in the approved Maintenance Plan. Any deviations from the approved Maintenance Plan must be approved by the Park Board before the Glacier Twins request funds from the City.

Any Verizon funds spent that do not comply with the approved Maintenance Plan must be returned to the City within 30 days.

If the Glacier Twins do not spend all the Verizon funds in a fiscal year, the City will hold the funds in the Memorial Park Account for potential projects in future years. However, Verizon funds not expended within five fiscal years will be retained by the City and used for other maintenance or improvements to Memorial Park, unless an extension is approved by the Park Board. The Maintenance Plan must explain how the funds are proposed to be used in the following fiscal year(s).

- (3) The following sentences are added at the end of the “NON-PROFIT QUALIFICATION” provision of the MOU:

The Glacier Twins must submit a copy of its Form 990 tax returns filed with the Internal Revenue Service to the City by April 30<sup>th</sup> of each year.

- (4) All remaining terms of the 2022 MOU between the Glacier Twins and the City remain in full force and effect.

Whitefish Board of Park Commissioners

Glacier Twins American Legion  
Baseball, Inc., Post No. 108 and 72

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa Hartman, Chair

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, President

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The City of Whitefish

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dana Meeker, City Manager

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# MEMO

February 2, 2026

To: Park Board Members

From: Maria Butts, Director, Parks, Recreation and Community Services

Re: Consideration to recommend approval of the Amendment to the Glacier Twins Long-Term Lease of Memorial Park

## **History**

Since 1936 a community baseball stadium has existed on the northeast corner of Memorial Park. Over the past sixty years, the Glacier Twins (Twins) have completed several capital improvement projects on the land for the purpose of American Legion baseball practice and games. Though the Glacier Twins had leased the land from the City in years past, in October of 2002, the City entered into a long-term lease with the Twins, leasing 10 acres of Memorial Park and permitting the Twins to construct a new stadium grandstand. Effective January 1, 2003, the base term for this lease was twenty-five years, giving the Twins the option to automatically renew it for two consecutive terms of fifteen years each.

In addition to the long-term lease with the City, the Twins entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Park Board of Commissioners on August 29, 2014, to address the specifics of the construction of a Verizon tower within the Twins leased area. In December of 2025, the City and Verizon entered into a Second Amendment to the License Agreement, which extended the license granted to Verizon for the tower for five years beginning February 1, 2025, and set annual rent. Recent negotiations with the Glacier Twins propose to align the term with the new Verizon license term, add transparency to the transfer of Verizon funds from the City to the Twins, and to require the Twins to submit annual tax returns to the City.

In addition to the MOU amendments, the Twins and City staff saw opportunities to update, bring transparency to, and clarify the original intent of the agreement with an amendment to the long-term lease agreement.

## **Current Report**

There are three amendments to the lease that are requested of the Council.

1. **OPTION TERM:** The term has been updated to reflect language that is more in line with the standards of the City's recent lease agreements. The new language "grants to the TWINS the option to renew this Lease for two (2) consecutive terms of fifteen (15) years each, commencing after expiration of the Base Term, upon the written approval of both parties. At the termination of the final option term, the parties may meet to discuss whether to further extend the term of the Lease." Additionally, if the TWINS cease to utilize the STADIUM and STADIUM LAND for baseball or related programs for more than one year, the CITY may terminate the lease.
2. **MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION:** This section has been updated to allow the CITY to "perform an inspection of the STADIUM and STADIUM LAND upon request with 48 hours written notice. If the STADIUM or STADIUM LAND is found to fall below acceptable standards, the CITY will notify the TWINS within 24 hours of inspection. The TWINS must address any unacceptable conditions within thirty (30) working days (five calendar days if safety is involved) of receiving notification. If the TWINS fail to respond, they will be invoiced for the CITY's staff time and any supplies or materials cost that is necessary to restore accepted maintenance standards."

3. USE: This section has been updated to standardize and provide transparency of the Twins sublease agreements with other entities. It states that the Twins will have priority for use of the land and facility; however, when they are not utilizing the land/facility, “first priority will be given to the Whitefish School District followed by the public and area non-profits.” When subleasing to the Whitefish School District, the Twins will sub-lease to the Whitefish School District for “school sanctioned athletic programs at a fee that recuperates the costs of utilities (lights, electric, sewer, water, garbage), maintenance required to be performed by the TWINS during the sub-lease term (equipment, labor, materials), and any repairs caused by damage occurring from the use,” and that they “will make a meaningful effort to provide access to the public at no or a break-even cost.” However, this amendment also considers that “the TWINS are not obligated to sublease the STADIUM or STADIUM LAND to any entity or entity with employees/contractors, including the Whitefish School District, directly competing with its program.” This Twins will also make a “meaningful effort to provide access to the public at no or a break-even cost.” In order to provide transparency of pricing, the Twins “will establish a schedule of rates charged to non-profits for use of the STADIUM and STADIUM LAND that is fair and equitable for similar types of use. With its annual report to the CITY, the TWINS will submit a list of sub-leases entered into in the prior year and the rates charged for each.” Finally, the Twins “may limit use of the STADIUM and STADIUM LAND if field conditions present threat of excessive damage to the facilities due to weather conditions.” However, they “may not unreasonably deny Whitefish School District access.” This section replaces the Section 14 of the Lease Agreement, “Sublease to Whitefish School District No.44.”

The City Manager, City Attorney, and I worked through the amendment to the lease agreement with the Glacier Twins, and all parties have agreed to bring these revised terms forward to you for consideration to recommend final approval by the City Council.

Sincerely,  
Maria Butts  
Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Director

**Amendment to Lease Agreement and Amendment to Glacier Twins Long-term Lease of Stadium Land at Memorial Park**

This Amendment to Lease Agreement and Amendment to Glacier Twins Long-term Lease of Stadium Land at Memorial Park is entered into by and between the City of Whitefish, 418 E. 2nd Street, PO Box 158, Whitefish, MT 59937 (CITY), and Glacier Twins American Legion Baseball, Inc., Roosevelt Post No. 108, a Montana non-profit corporation, PO Box 2007, Whitefish, MT 59937 (TWINS).

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 02-51, the CITY approved a Lease Agreement with the TWINS for the use of a community baseball stadium located on the northeast corner of Memorial Park; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution 22-08, the CITY approved an Amendment to Glacier Twins Long-term Lease of Stadium Land at Memorial Park which amended Sections 6 (Insurance) and 10 (Use) of the Lease Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the parties desire to further amend the Lease Agreement and the Amendment to Glacier Twins Long-term Lease of Stadium Land at Memorial Park to address various concerns raised by members of the community, provide transparency, and ensure public access.

NOW, THEREFORE, the CITY and the TWINS agree as follows:

- (1) Provision 4 of the Lease Agreement is replaced by the following provision:

OPTION TERM: The CITY grants to the TWINS the option to renew this Lease for two (2) consecutive terms of fifteen (15) years each, commencing after expiration of the Base Term, upon the written approval of both parties. At the termination of the final option term, the parties may meet to discuss whether to further extend the term of the Lease.

If the TWINS cease to utilize the STADIUM and STADIUM LAND for baseball or related programs for more than one year, the CITY may terminate this Lease.

- (2) Provision 9 of the Lease Agreement is replaced by the following provision:

MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION: Throughout the term of this Lease, the TWINS shall maintain the STADIUM in good condition and shall not allow any unsafe condition to exist thereon. The CITY may perform an inspection of the STADIUM and STADIUM LAND upon request with 48 hours written notice. If the STADIUM or STADIUM LAND is found to fall below acceptable standards, the CITY will notify the TWINS within 24 hours of inspection. The TWINS must address any unacceptable conditions within thirty (30) working days (five calendar days if safety is involved) of receiving notification. If the TWINS fail to respond, they will be invoiced for the CITY's staff time and any supplies or materials cost that is necessary to restore accepted maintenance standards.

- (3) Section 10 of the Amendment to Glacier Twins Long-term Lease of Stadium Land at Memorial Park is replaced by the following provision:

USE: The TWINS shall have exclusive rights to use the STADIUM and STADIUM LAND as it deems necessary to conduct its programs. The TWINS may also use the facilities for special events and fundraisers with an approved City special event permit for any activities other than those directly related to the sport of baseball. Use of the facilities by other organizations or entities shall require the approval of the TWINS and the Whitefish Park Board with provisions for use defined in a sub-lease agreement.

The TWINS will have priority for use of the STADIUM and STADIUM LAND. When the STADIUM and STADIUM LAND are not being used by the TWINS, first priority will be given to the Whitefish School District followed by the public and area non-profits.

The TWINS will sub-lease the STADIUM and STADIUM LAND to the Whitefish School District for school sanctioned athletic programs at a fee that recuperates the costs of utilities (lights, electric, sewer, water, garbage), maintenance required to be performed by the TWINS during the sub-lease term (equipment, labor, materials), and any repairs caused by damage occurring from the use.

The TWINS will make a meaningful effort to provide access to the public at no or a break-even cost.

The TWINS are not obligated to sublease the STADIUM or STADIUM LAND to any entity or entity with employees/contractors, including the Whitefish School District, directly competing with its program.

The TWINS will establish a schedule of rates charged for use of the STADIUM and STADIUM LAND that is fair and equitable for similar types of use. With its annual report to the CITY, the TWINS will submit a list of sub-leases entered into in the prior year and the rates charged for each.

The TWINS may limit use of the STADIUM and STADIUM LAND if field conditions present threat of excessive damage to the facilities due to weather conditions. The TWINS may not unreasonably deny Whitefish School District access to the STADIUM and STADIUM LAND.

- (4) Section 14 of the Lease Agreement is deleted.

- (5) All remaining terms of the 2002 Lease Agreement and the 2022 Amendment to Glacier Twins Long-term Lease of Stadium Land at Memorial Park between the TWINS and the CITY remain in full force and effect.

City of Whitefish

Glacier Twins American Legion  
Baseball, Inc., Post No. 108 and 72

By: \_\_\_\_\_ :  
Dana Smith, City Manager

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
President

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## MEMO

February 2, 2026

To: Park Board Members

From: Maria Butts, Director, Parks, Recreation and Community Services

Re: Review of FY27 CIP and consideration of Park Board's FY27 budget priorities

In your packet you will find the proposed FY27 CIP for both the Parks and Resort Tax budgets. Additionally, I have included a list of all identified park projects listed by park. This list is intended to assist you in the prioritization of capital projects. As you review this list, please consider if there are projects not listed and if all priority items are labeled as such.

In FY27, I have identified the following projects in the Parks Fund:

- Ice Den Roof Design and Bidding – Funded through Intercap Loan
- New Mower to maintain Armory Park
- Armory Roof Repairs and Paint Building
- City Beach Needs Assessment
- Replace 2000 Ford F150
- Replace Dump Trailer
- Replace Flatbed Trailer

In FY27, I have identified the following projects in the Resort Tax Fund:

- Armory Park Improvements Phase IV
- Riverbend Bike Path Connections
- Bike Path Equipment – Gator for daily maintenance
- Bike Path Maintenance, as identified in the Bike/Ped Maintenance Plan

During our meeting I will review the CIP and Parks Project List with the board, and I will seek feedback and direction from the board on the budgeting process.

### Capital Improvements FY25-FY29: Parks & Recreation Department

PROJECT INFORMATION			ESTIMATED COST PER YEAR											
#	Project Name	Description & Justification	Total Cost	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31	Cash Reserves (Parks)	Cash Reserves (Parkland Acqu. & Development)	Impact Fees	Grants	Total	Unscheduled Projects
1	Ice Den Roof	Design, Bidding, and Construction	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 1,700,000								\$ -	Intercap Loan
2	Mower	Large mower for Armory Park	\$ 55,000	\$ 55,000					\$ 50,000				\$ 50,000	
3	Armory Roof and paint building	East wing design, engineering, and construction	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000					\$ 100,000				\$ 100,000	
4	City Beach Needs Assessment	Consultant	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000					\$ 50,000				\$ 50,000	
5	Truck Replacement	Reached end of life (Replace 2000 Ford F150)	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000					\$ 60,000				\$ 60,000	
6	Dump Trailer	Reached end of life	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000					\$ 12,000					
7	Flatbed Trailer	Reached end of life	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000					\$ 12,000					
8	Truck Replacement	Reach end of life (Replace Mowing Truck, Dodge 2500)	\$ 60,000		\$ 60,000				\$ 60,000				\$ 60,000	
9	Parks Shop Expansion and Parking Improvements	Planning (Engineering and Architecture)	\$ 100,000		\$ 100,000				\$ -		\$ 100,000		\$ 100,000	
10	Memorial Park Vision Plan Implementation	Survey and Engineering	\$ 50,000		\$ 50,000				\$ 50,000				\$ 50,000	
11	Bakke Phase II Plan	Design	\$ 30,000		\$ 30,000				\$ 30,000				\$ 30,000	
12	Porta Potty Shelters	Soroptomist & Kay Beller	\$ 20,000		\$ 20,000				\$ 20,000				\$ 20,000	
13	Bakke Phase II Plan	Construction	\$ 50,000			\$ 50,000			\$ 50,000				\$ 50,000	
14	Park Shop Expansion	Additional Bathroom, break room, and office area	\$ 250,000			\$ 250,000			\$ -		\$ 250,000		\$ 250,000	
15	Asphalt behind Parks Shop	Dust Control and preservation of trucks and equipment	\$ 100,000			\$ 100,000			\$ 100,000				\$ 100,000	
16	Shuttle Bus Replacements and Wrapping	Reach end of life (Wrap new busses)	\$ 90,000				\$ 90,000		\$ 90,000				\$ 90,000	
17	Maintenance Equipment Replacement	Reach end of life	\$ 60,000				\$ 60,000		\$ 60,000				\$ 60,000	
18	Armory Park Open Space Improvement Plan	Consultant Fees	\$ 50,000				\$ 50,000		\$ 50,000				\$ 50,000	
19	City Beach Reconstruction	Consultant Fees	\$ -				\$ -	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000				\$ 200,000	
			<b>\$ 3,149,000</b>	<b>\$ 589,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,960,000</b>	<b>\$ 400,000</b>	<b>\$ 200,000</b>	<b>\$ 200,000</b>	<b>\$ 994,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 350,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,320,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

<b>Estimated Parks &amp; Recreation Cash Reserves for Capital Projects</b>	\$	601,160	\$	312,160	\$	(1,389,014)	\$	(1,380,188)	\$	(1,421,362)
<b>Transfer from General Fund</b>	\$	300,000								
<b>Parkland Development and Acquisition Fund</b>	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
<b>Impact Fees</b>	\$	-	\$	100,000	\$	250,000	\$	-	\$	-
<b>Grants/Contributions</b>	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
<b>Estimated Cash Balance Remaining for Capital Projects at Year-End</b>	\$	312,160	\$	(1,389,014)	\$	(1,380,188)	\$	(1,421,362)	\$	(1,462,536)

PROJECT INFORMATION			ESTIMATED COST PER YEAR					FUNDING SOURCES							
#	Project Name	Description & Justification	Total Cost	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31	Bonds, Loans, or Other Debt	Cash Reserves (Resort Tax)	Impact Fees	Grants	Tax Increment	Total	Unscheduled Projects
<b>Resort Tax Parks &amp; Bike Path Projects</b>															
1	Armory Park Improvements (112) LWCF Funds (454)	Phase IV of the Master Plan/engineering and construction (Evaluate Open Space in FY30) *F27= \$500,000+FY26carryover	\$ 2,650,000	\$ 875,813	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 200,000			\$ 2,233,813					
2	Bike Path Connections (349)	Kay Beller to BNSF Loop Trail (Riverbend)	\$ 650,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 200,000	\$ -			\$ 500,000					
3	Bike Path Equipment	Gator for daily maintenance	\$ 135,000	\$ 50,000						\$ 135,000					
4	Bike Path Maintenance	Based on priorities identified in the Bike Path Maintenance Plan	\$ 615,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000			\$ 550,000					
5	Snowy Mountain to Les Schwab Path	Complete the connection between Rocksund Bridge and Riversedge Park (Engineering and Construction/TA Grant)	\$ 250,000				\$ 250,000				\$ 250,000				
6	Memorial Park Vision Plan Implementation	Construction	\$ 400,000				\$ 400,000			\$ 400,000					
7	City Beach Reconstruction	Construction						\$ 1,000,000		\$ -					
<b>Parks &amp; Bike Path Projects Subtotal</b>			<b>\$ 4,700,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,175,813</b>	<b>\$ 800,000</b>	<b>\$ 850,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,000,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 3,818,813</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 250,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

**Estimated Resort Tax Cash Reserves for Park & Bike Path Capital Projects**    \$ 786,383    \$ 825,702    \$ 866,987    \$ 910,336    \$ 955,853  
**Estimated Cash Balance Remaining for Capital Projects at Year-End**    \$ 82,865    \$ 108,567    \$ 125,554    \$ 285,890    \$ 241,743

**Parks and Recreation Project List FY26**

<b>Armory Park</b>					
<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Small Child Playground	2-5years with swings including installation	\$70,000	FY25	Resort Tax	Priority
Park Amenities	Storage Garage, Trash Cans, Mutt Mitts, and Bike Racks	\$54,000	FY25	Resort Tax	Priority
Armory Building Drainage	Construction	\$20,000	FY25	Resort Tax	Priority
WAG Park Well	Construction with Engineering	\$155,000	FY25	Resort Tax	Priority
Softball Fields	Construction with Engineering	\$920,000	FY25-FY29	Resort Tax	Upcoming Priority
ADA Restroom	Engineering and Construction	\$235,000	FY25-FY26	Resort Tax	Upcoming Priority
Playground Paths and Benches	Construction with Engineering	\$91,000	FY25-26	Resort Tax	Upcoming Priority
New Floors	Floors uneven and not ideal for indoor sports like basketball, pickleball, etc.	\$50,000	FY26	Resort Tax	Upcoming Priority
West Parking Lot	Construction with Engineering	\$350,000	FY25-FY27	Resort Tax	Upcoming Priority
Ball Field Paths	Construction with Engineering	\$35,000	FY26-FY28	Resort Tax	Upcoming Priority
Gazebos & Dodger Lane Paths	Construction with Engineering	\$350,000	FY26-FY28	Resort Tax & Sponsorships	Upcoming Priority
Pavilion	Construction with Engineering	\$445,000	FY27-FY28	Resort Tax & Sponsorships	Upcoming Priority
Picnic Table Shelters & Picnic Tables	Construction with Engineering	\$133,000	FY27-FY28	Resort Tax & Sponsorships	Upcoming Priority
Covered Benches	Construction and Engineering	\$29,000	FY27-FY28	Resort Tax & Sponsorships	Upcoming Priority
Sound Dampening	Wall Panels	\$15,000	FY25	Parks	Priority
Armory Roof & Paint Building	East Wing Construction and Engineering	\$100,000	FY27	Parks	Upcoming Priority
Armory Park Open Space	Southwestern sports field quadrant	\$200,000	FY30	Resort Tax	Need Community Input to Develop Plan
Recreation Center Expansion and Renovation	Need Plan Engineering & Construction	?		Impact Fees	Needs RFP and Bidding
	<b>Unfunded Total</b>	?			

City Beach					
Project	Description	Cost	Fiscal Year	Fund	Notes
Boat Ramp Extension	Engineering	\$43,000	FY25	PAD	High Priority
Boat Ramp Extension	Construction	\$79,000	FY26	Parks	High Priority
Inspection Station Drive Improvements	Rebuild turning lane	\$60,000	FY26	Parks	Priority
Needs Assessment	Consultant	\$50,000	FY27		Priority Will lead to need for more funding
Dynamic Gravel Beach with Sand	Engineering and Construction	\$75,000			Need Engineering Quote and Construction Quote
Eastern Deck	Redesign and Construct	?			Need a plan
Satellite Summer Camp Location	Remodel?	?			Need a plan
ADA Bathrooms and Changing Room	Design and Construction	?			Part of Needs Assessment
	<b>Unfunded Total</b>	?			

Sign Plan					
Project	Description	Cost	Fiscal Year	Fund	Notes
Completion of sign Plan	Printing, fabrication, and installation	\$25,000	FY25	PAD	High Priority
	<b>Unfunded Total</b>				

Memorial Park					
Project	Description	Cost	Fiscal Year	Fund	Notes
Implement Vision Plan	Surveying and Engineering	\$50,000	FY28	Parks	Upcoming Priority Need Consultant
Construct Vision Plan	Restrooms, irrigation, field work, gazebos	\$400,000	FY30	Resort	Upcoming Priority Need cost estimates and engineering
	<b>Unfunded Total</b>	\$450,000			

Ice Den					
Project	Description	Cost	Fiscal Year	Fund	Notes
Roof Engineering	Design, Bidding, and Project Management	\$50,000	FY25	Parks	Priority
Roof Construction		\$500,000?	FY26	Unfunded at this time.	Requires Bidding Upcoming Priority

	<b>Unfunded Total</b>	\$500,000?			
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<b>Bakke</b>					
<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Phase II – Roadside view and connection to 8 <sup>th</sup> Street	Design and Project Management	\$30,000	FY28		Need consultant
Phase II – Roadside view and connection to 8 <sup>th</sup> Street	Construction	\$50,000	FY29		Need cost estimate
	<b>Unfunded Total</b>				

<b>Soroptimist</b>					
<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Notes</b>
ADA Porta Potty Shelter	Allows time to save for permanent restroom	\$10,000	FY28	Parks	Upcoming Priority
Permanent ADA Restroom		\$300,000			Not needed for several years, if we have porta potty shelter
Soroptimist Gazebo	Replace	\$30,000			Needs engineering
Fence	Replace and add weed barrier or remove	\$30,000	FY31?		Need quote Growth Policy indicated desire of neighborhood to remove or rethink fence. Need to complete survey/study.
	<b>Unfunded Total</b>	\$370,000			

<b>Kay Beller</b>					
<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Notes</b>
ADA Porta Potty Shelter	Allows time to save for permanent restroom	\$10,000	FY28	Parks	Upcoming Priority
Permanent ADA Restroom	Engineering and construction	\$250,000			Need engineering and cost estimates
	<b>Unfunded Total</b>	\$250,000			

<b>Trailview</b>					
<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Trailhead	Design Engineering	\$30,000	FY31?		Need quote
Trailhead	Construction	\$400,000?	FY32?		Need engineering and cost estimates
	<b>Unfunded Total</b>	\$430,000?			

Riverwood					
Project	Description	Cost	Fiscal Year	Fund	Notes
Gravel Path	Design & Construction	\$10,000?			Will need permits
	<b>Unfunded Total</b>	\$10,000?			

Riverside					
Project	Description	Cost	Fiscal Year	Fund	Notes
ADA Restroom	To replace porta potty shelter	\$300,000	FY31?		Not needed for several years, if we have porta potty shelter
Parking lot	Engineering Redesign and pave	\$70,000			Needs engineering
Parking Lot	Construction	\$200,000			Need cost estimate
Path Lights	Solicit Public Comment				
	<b>Unfunded Total</b>	\$570,000			

Grouse					
Project	Description	Cost	Fiscal Year	Fund	Notes
Turf revitalization	Consultant	\$20,000			Need quote
Turf Revitalization	Construction	\$75,000			Need cost estimate
	<b>Unfunded Total</b>	\$95,000			

Crestwood					
Project	Description	Cost	Fiscal Year	Fund	Notes
Master Plan	RFP	\$50,000			Need consultant
Master Plan	Construction	?			Need engineering and cost estimates
	<b>Unfunded Total</b>	?			

Canoe Park					
Project	Description	Cost	Fiscal Year	Fund	Notes
Master Plan	RFP	\$50,000			Need consultant
Master Plan	Construction	?			Need engineering and cost estimates
	<b>Unfunded Total</b>	?			

O'Brien Bluffs					
Project	Description	Cost	Fiscal Year	Fund	Notes
Master Plan	RFP	\$50,000			Need consultant
Master Plan	Construction	?			Need engineering and cost estimates
	<b>Unfunded Total</b>	?			

River Lakes Park					
Project	Description	Cost	Fiscal Year	Fund	Notes
Master Plan	RFP	\$50,000			Need consultant
Master Plan	Construction	?			Need engineering and cost estimates
	<b>Unfunded Total</b>	?			

Recreation					
Project	Description	Cost	Fiscal Year	Fund	Notes
Shuttle Bus Replacements and Wrapping	Will reach end of life. Wrap new busses.	\$90,000	FY30		Upcoming Priority
	<b>Unfunded Total</b>				

Parks Maintenance					
Project	Description	Cost	Fiscal Year	Fund	Notes
Woodchipper	Replacement of old chipper	\$75,000	FY25	Parks	High Priority
Mower	Replacement mower	\$40,000	FY25	Parks	High Priority
Water Truck	Replace old truck	\$60,000	FY26	Parks	Priority
Mower	New mower to maintain Armory Park Fields	\$55,000	FY27	Parks	Priority
Truck Replacement	Replace every 5 years	\$60,000	FY28	Parks	Upcoming Priority
Asphalt Behind the Parks Shop	Preserve trucks and equipment	\$150,000 (\$50,000 Consultant & \$100,000 Construction)	FY28-FY29	Parks (Impact Fees?)	Upcoming Priority
Park Shop Expansion	Additional bathroom, break room, and office area	\$350,000 (\$50,000 Consultant & \$250,000 Construction)	FY28-FY29	Impact Fees	Upcoming Priority
Equipment Replacement	Replace every 5 years	\$60,000	FY30		Upcoming Priority
Park Shop Development	Nursery, greenhouse, seasonal housing/campground	?	?		Will need engineering and cost estimates Funding could be a challenge
	<b>Unfunded Total</b>	?			

Bike Path Maintenance					
Project	Description	Cost	Fiscal Year	Fund	Notes
Maintenance Plan	Establish Priorities and Cost Estimates	\$50,000	FY25	Resort Tax	Priority
Equipment for Bike Path Maintenance	Replace Toolcat	\$80,000	FY26	Resort	Priority
Path Maintenance Projects	Priorities will be defined in the plan	\$550,000	FY26-FY29	Resort Tax	Priority
Equipment for Bike Path Maintenance	Replace the Gator	\$50,000	FY27	Resort Tax	Priority
	<b>Unfunded Total</b>	\$0			

Bike Path Connections					
Project	Description	Cost	Fiscal Year	Fund	Notes
Riverbend	Construction	\$800,000	FY25-FY29	General Fund & Resort Tax	Priority of Bike/Ped, Resort Tax, and Council
Whitefish Yards to Skye Park Bridge Trail	Engineering Design	\$150,000	FY25	General Fund	Priority of Bike/Ped and Council
Whitefish Yards to Skye Park Bridge Trail	Construction	\$60,000	FY26	General Fund	Priority of Bike/Ped and Council
Snowy Mountain Trail to Les Schwab Path	Engineering and Construction	\$250,000	FY30	TA Grant & Resort Tax	Dependent upon success of TA Grant
	<b>Unfunded Total</b>	?			



## Park Board Administrative Report February 2026

To: Park Board

From: Maria Butts, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services

There isn't much more to report on for this month. As discussed during the meeting, I have been busy negotiating agreements with the Twins, discussing funding options for the Ice Den Roof, planning construction drawings for the Armory parking lot and open space, preparing documents for Council's consideration of the City Beach fee increases and approval of a downtown tree education banner campaign. In addition, I have been diligently studying for the Certified Parks and Recreation Professional test and preparing curriculum for three Directors School classes that I will be teaching in March.



Whitefish Parks and Recreation  
Recreation Coordinator Report

To: Park Board Members  
From: Liz Records, Recreation Coordinator  
Date: February 5, 2026

### **Recreation Programs**

Our K-4 basketball program is mid-season and running smoothly.

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade girls basketball is going well at the middle school. The four teams we have are building skills and playing games against each other on Thursday nights.

Our middle school Friday Night Ski/Snowboard program starts this week. Jersey Boys is graciously donating pizzas for dinner each week for this program again this year.

Our Toddler Open Gym is a huge hit- we have 31 kids enrolled! Mitch is doing a great job keeping them busy and the parents have requested to add dates in the fall, as well.

### **Other Programs and Projects**

Planning for summer programming is underway and we have begun recruiting our staff from last year as well as posting our positions online for new hires. We are excited about continuing to offer the staple recreation programs that our community expects such as Sk8fish, tennis, and basketball and water sports.

We have also created a Request for Proposals for Private or Small Group Lessons for qualified instructors to provide private or small group lessons for community recreation activities including, but not limited to recreational sports, cultural arts, physical fitness activities, special interest classes. That is posted on our website and due March 2, 2026

## **February 2026 Park Board**

### Maintenance Report

#### Facilities:

- City beach inspection station painting
- Toolcat maintenance/servicing
- Armory Building Maintenance
- Getting sweepers tuned up

#### Parks:

- Equipment Maintenance
- Bench install prep
- Garbage can maintenance

#### Urban Forestry:

- Tree GIS
- DNRC Grant
- Mini Forest Maintenance



To: Park Board  
From: Carla Belski  
Date: February 2026  
Subject: Community Services Report

City Beach/AIS program:

- The hiring process started for Lead and Beach Rangers. Majority of staff are returning this coming year so only filling a few spots.
- At the work session on January 21st, council members suggested higher rates for out-of-state boaters and an increase for commercial permits based on use. Proposed boat launch fees will be discussed as a public hearing at the next City Council meeting on February 17th.

Grants:

- Set up a See My Legacy Fundraising Campaign for the Skye Park River Access Project.

Whitefish Trail:

- Mailed dust abatement notification to residents on Lion Mountain Loop Road and Beaver Lake Road.
- Updated Whitefish Trail Operations Plan and circulated to WLP, FAMB, GNC, and DNRC for edits. The plan is to annually update this document by the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.