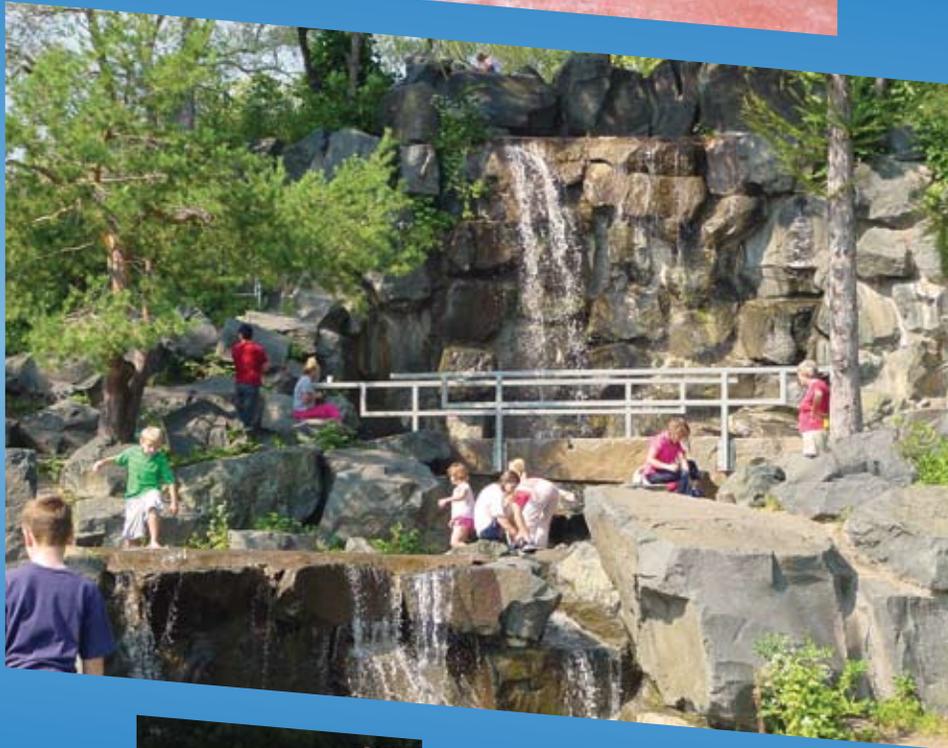


Saint Paul Parks and Recreation

2007 ANNUAL REPORT



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

The residents of the City of Saint Paul are fortunate to have the quality of staff and leadership that we have in the Division of Parks and Recreation. Our Parks and Recreation services have set high standards for other cities to follow. More than a luxury, our Parks and Recreation Centers are a vital part of the city's infrastructure, providing healthy, safe, and enjoyable spaces for our 4-season lifestyle while also giving children opportunities to extend their school day with high quality learning and social afterschool programs. The work of the Division staff helps build our sense of community and shows that there is More to Life in the Most Livable City in America.

It is my honor to present our 2007 Annual Report for the Division of Parks and Recreation. This summary of activities, programs, services and facilities reinforces that Saint Paul Parks and Recreation is among the best in the entire country.

Sincerely,



Christopher B. Coleman
Mayor

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

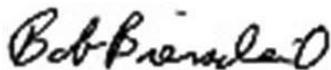
This report highlights the many achievements of Parks and Recreation in 2007. The new Oxford Aquatic/Jimmy Lee Recreation Center was substantially completed with a grand opening scheduled for Spring 2008, two new artificial outdoor skating rinks were added with a third scheduled for 2008, Lewis Park was reconstructed, after school programming was expanded and a re-energized health and wellness effort began.

There are also many challenges left to accomplish and we are dedicated to do the very best in the years ahead. Working with a dedicated citizens committee and very competent PED staff, we will be presenting a new Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan this summer, for citizen review and comment. We are also finalizing a new Vision Plan which will be the mechanism to help implement the Comprehensive Plan. In addition to the Comprehensive Plan and Vision Plan, Parks & Recreation is going through the national re-accreditation process.

Work on a variety of new projects will begin in 2008, including the new Polar Bear Odyssey at the Como Zoo, a new bonsai garden at the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory, new programming for Active Living Saint Paul, expansion of an exciting youth camping program in Lilydale Park and the new portable climbing tower will be featured throughout the city.

All of this is to help make Saint Paul the Most Livable City in America. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any suggestions, questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Bob Bierscheid, CPRP, Director



CITY OF SAINT PAUL ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Christopher B. Coleman
Deputy Mayor Ann Mulholland

CITY OF SAINT PAUL CITY COUNCIL

WARD 1 COUNCILMEMBER Melvin Carter
WARD 2 COUNCILMEMBER Dave Thune
WARD 3 COUNCILMEMBER Pat Harris
WARD 4 COUNCILMEMBER Russ Stark
WARD 5 COUNCILMEMBER Lee Helgen
WARD 6 COUNCILMEMBER Dan Bostrom
WARD 7 COUNCIL PRESIDENT Kathy Lantry



Saint Paul Parks and Recreation

2007 Annual Report

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Saint Paul Parks and Recreation

“Our Promise To You”

The staff of Saint Paul Parks and Recreation promises to cheerfully and respectfully serve you. We will provide access to quality programs and clean and safe facilities with timely and effective service. We will listen to your suggestions and concerns and respond to the best of our abilities.

Mission:

To help make Saint Paul The Most Livable City in America, Saint Paul Parks and Recreation will, facilitate the creation of active lifestyles, vibrant places and a vital environment.

Vision Statement

Saint Paul Parks and Recreation will make Saint Paul The Most Livable City in America by:

- Responding creatively to change
- Innovating with every decision, and
- Connecting the entire city.

Statement of Benefits of Saint Paul Parks and Recreation:

- Fosters human development and supporting education
- Strengthens community image and a sense of place
- Promotes economic development in Saint Paul
- Protects, sustains and revitalizes environmental resources
- Increases cultural unity and building community relationships
- Strengthens safety and security
- Provides the essential support service for park and recreational experiences

Core Functions Statement

1. Development and Operation of the Como Campus.
 - a. Provide for major community wide natural resource education and appreciation experiences
 - b. Present unique recreation opportunities for all segments of the community
2. Development of Unique Recreational Opportunities and Protection of Natural Resources in the National Great River Park (Mississippi River Corridor)
 - a. Coordinate the numerous plans that have been developed by a multitude of agencies / community organizations
 - b. Carefully plan and add special recreational experiences.
3. Implementation and Maintenance of Quality Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces
 - a. Allow for structured, unstructured, active and passive recreation opportunities.
 - b. Ensure safety & usability of community investments
4. Development, Operation and Facilitation of Recreation, Arts and Special Events Programming and Facilities that Meet the Needs of the Community within the Established Resources.
 - a. Operate a system that is responsive to citizen needs, incorporates national trends and is flexible in the use of maximizing available resources.
 - b. Provide facilities that serve the needs of the entire community.
5. Development and Support of Specialized Facilities and Programs that are Substantially Self-Supporting
 - a. Allow for city wide participation and non-resident fee support
 - b. Provide for more stable revenue source
 - c. Encourage popular special events
6. Protection and Enhancement of Natural Resources
 - a. Master Plan Management of Resource Areas
 - b. Restoration of Degraded Areas.
7. Encourage Citizen Participation
 - a. Involve citizens in design and delivery of programs and facilities
 - b. Encourage community collaboration and involvement.
8. Develop and promote education opportunities, job preparedness and leadership development for the youth in Saint Paul
 - a. Second Shift Initiative
 - b. Como Campus education programs, Community Education and Youth Job Corps



Award Winners



☀ Como Zoo and the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory were awarded the Best Place for Family Fun in the June issue of *Saint Paul Illustrated*.

☀ On August 9, Saint Paul Mayor Chris Coleman and Fire Chief Bob Morrison presented MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS to Como Park Zoo and Conservatory employees Mike Thell, Dao Lee, and Jennifer Gleason for their acts above and beyond the call of duty. This is the highest award given by the Saint Paul Fire Department. On May 13, 2007, before fire department paramedics arrived, these people administered Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and shock treatment with an Automatic Electronic Defibrillator (AED) to a visitor in cardiac arrest at the Como Park Zoo and Conservatory. These actions aided in saving the visitor's life.

☀ Mayor Coleman and Chief Morrison also presented LETTERS OF COMMENDATION to Lue Vang, Panu Her, Patty Dee, and Kasia Ellsworth for their roles in retrieving the life-saving equipment, calling 9-1-1, and keeping the dispatcher informed during this crisis.

☀ Como Volunteer Frank Krmpotich was recognized as a 2007 Hands on Twin Cities "Be the Change" Award winner in February.

☀ *Minnesota Bride* magazine selected Como Park Zoo and Conservatory as a finalist in the category of Best Outdoor Wedding and or Reception Site in the annual "best of" issue.

☀ *Stressfree Living* magazine recognized Como Park Zoo and Conservatory as a Top Ten Stressfree Destination in 2007.

☀ The Como Campus "Gardening Gals" team for Get Fit Twin Cities won runner up in the minutes of activity division. They will be presented their award on Saturday, June 2.

☀ 2007 was an eventful year for awards and recognition for Blooming Saint Paul and Parks and Recreation's horticulture staff.

☀ Minnesota Recreation and Park Association presented an "award of excellence - sponsorship category" to the Blooming Saint Paul Hanging Basket program. The presentation was before the City Council on July 18th.

☀ Saint Paul City Council awarded a resolution to recognize those who have made the Blooming Rice Street program a success. The recognition went to the "Division of Parks and Recreation, and namely Mark Granlund, Arts and Gardens Coordinator," as well as North End Community Foundation and Linder's Greenhouses.

☀ Saint Paul Parks & Recreation was recognized for successfully hosting the 2007 Minnesota State Parks & Recreation Annual Conference.

☀ Minnesota State Horticulture Society awarded a Minnesota State Fair Grand Champion Ribbon to the Blooming Saint Paul program for an educational display about the benefits of greening projects in an urban setting. The display was on exhibit during the Fair's potted plant and succulent show and included five very large hanging baskets from downtown and display boards.

☀ The Garden Club of America gratefully acknowledged the significant contribution to Civic Improvement by Mark Granlund for his many accomplishments directed at beautifying the City of Saint Paul. The certificate of recognition was delivered at a Saint Paul Garden Club luncheon on August 15th.

☀ The Saint Paul Garden Club awarded a \$4,000 grant to the Blooming Saint Paul program for planting the Kellogg Boulevard medians

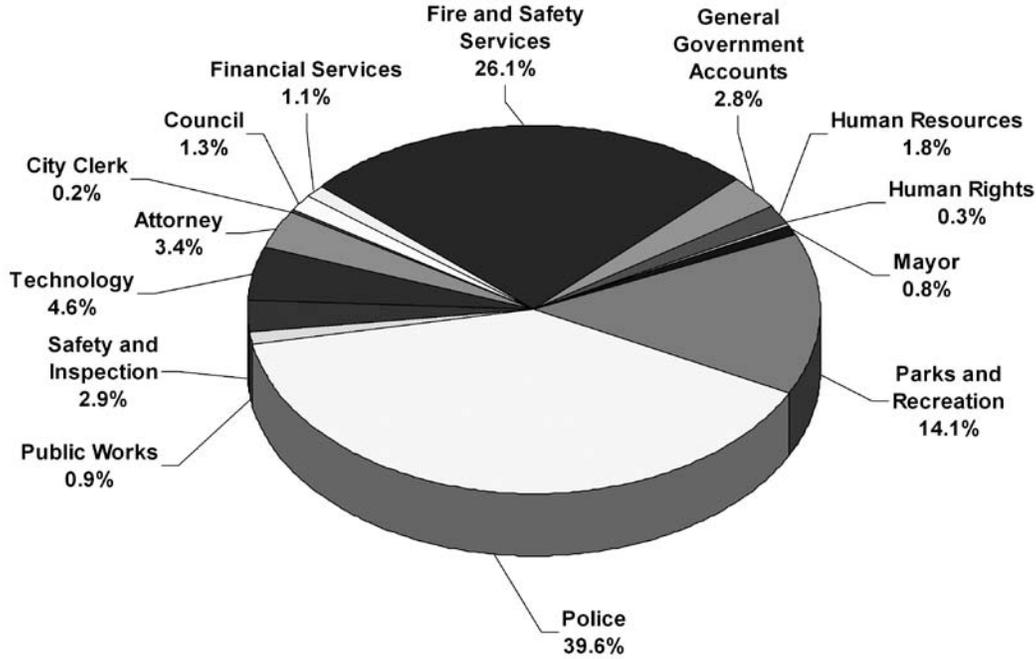
☀ The article "Blooming Saint Paul Initiative - Impacts of Urban Gardening", written by horticulture staff member Dani Pratt, was featured in the November 2007 issue of the Minnesota Nursery and Landscape Association's magazine, *The SCOOP*. Dani is also on the MNLA Public Relations Committee.

☀ Youth Job Corps (YJC) received a certificate of appreciation for contributions in making Saint Paul one of the 100 best communities for young people.



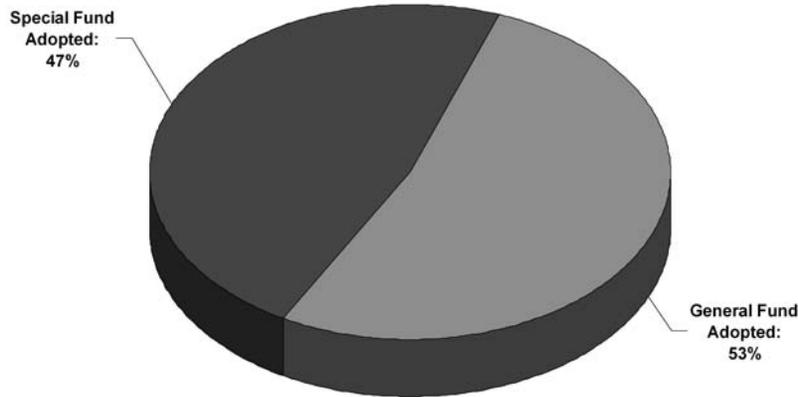
Budget Summaries

City of Saint Paul 2007 Adopted General Fund Budget - \$171,908,169



Attorney	\$5,772,924	Human Rights	\$532,865
City Clerk	\$302,402	Mayor	\$1,456,446
Council	\$2,316,057	Parks and Recreation	\$24,236,154
Financial Services	\$1,932,082	Police	\$68,019,378
Fire & Safety Services	\$44,805,399	Public Works	\$1,628,464
General Government Accounts	\$4,837,134	Safety and Inspection	\$5,061,804
Human Resources	\$3,070,622	Technology	\$7,936,438

Parks and Recreation 2007 Adopted Budget - \$46,129,406



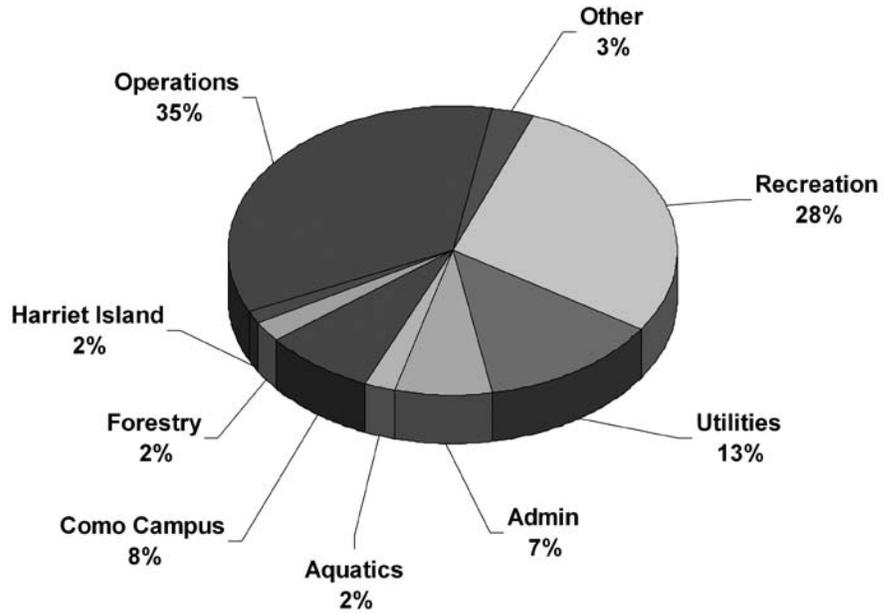
General Fund Adopted:	\$24,236,154
Special Fund Adopted:	\$21,893,252



SAINT PAUL PARKS AND RECREATION

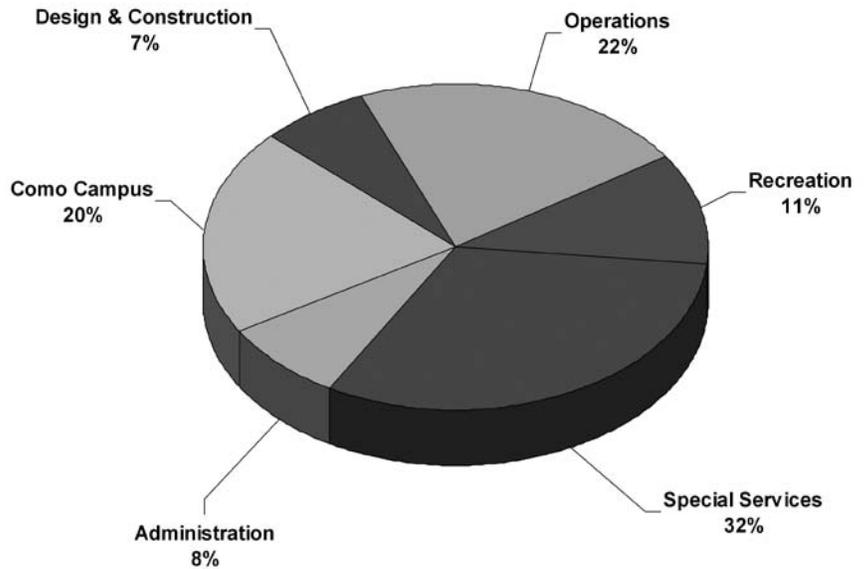
2007 General Fund – \$24,236,154

Administration	\$1,714,402
Aquatics	\$513,800
Como Campus	\$1,945,303
Forestry	\$525,300
Harriet Island	\$376,271
Operations	\$8,387,501
Other	\$739,805
<i>Design Center</i>	
<i>Park Safety</i>	
<i>Municipal Stadium</i>	
<i>GIS Support</i>	
Recreation	\$6,865,424
Utilities	\$5,168,348



2007 Special Fund – \$21,893,252

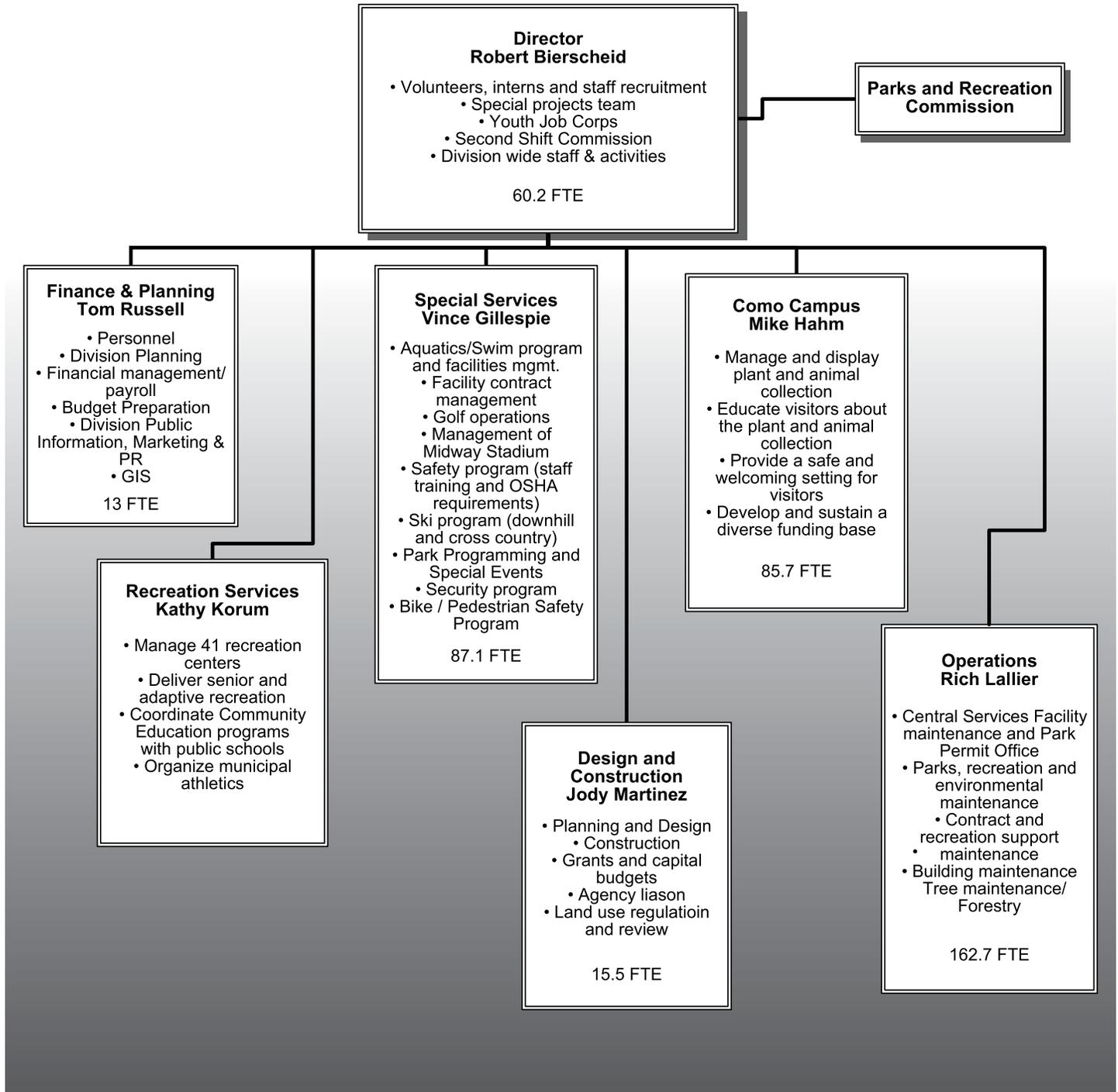
Administration	\$1,791,405
<i>Accounting and Payroll</i>	
<i>Administration</i>	
<i>Parks Commission</i>	
<i>Parks Security</i>	
Como Campus	\$4,450,569
<i>Como Zoo</i>	
<i>Marjorie McNeely Conservatory</i>	
<i>Zoo and Conservatory Heating</i>	
<i>Campus Support Services</i>	
Design & Construction	\$1,551,710
Operations	\$4,743,297
<i>Parks and Recreation Trades</i>	
<i>Parks Maintenance</i>	
<i>Equipment Maintenance</i>	
<i>Support Maintenance</i>	
<i>Park Permits</i>	
<i>Forestry</i>	
Recreation	\$2,398,025
<i>Programming</i>	
<i>Municipal Athletics</i>	
Special Services	\$6,958,246
<i>Harriet Island</i>	
<i>Aquatics</i>	
<i>Golf</i>	



Organization Chart



Total: 558.7 Full Time Equivalents





Parks and Recreation Commission

Purpose

The purpose of the Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Commission is to advise City officials on matters of city-wide and long-range importance to the parks and recreation system.

Members

- Carrie Wasley, Chair
- Thomas Byrne
- Erick Goodlow
- Thomas Kayser
- Therese Kelly
- Paul Middleton
- Wendy Moylan
- Peter Pha



Goals

The Commission adopted five equally-prioritized goals for 2007:

- Goal One: Engage members, public and staff in significant planning issues i.e. Comprehensive Plan, Ford Site, Recreation Programming Plan, Strategic Plan Como Parking, CIB Plan, Invest Saint Paul.
- Goal Two: Support, provide oversight and evaluate Recreation Services reorganization.
- Goal Three: Support environmental stewardship initiatives in the parks and recreation system
- Goal Four: Provide significant Input on the Development of improved park security.
- Goal Five: Promote and preview significant parks and recreation initiatives including hosting the 2007 MRPA Conference, administering the 2008 Star of the North Games, 2008 CAPRA Re-accreditation

Resolutions

In pursuit of its goals, the Commission passed 20 resolutions which it forwarded to the Mayor and City Council. Included among the 20 were:

- 07-02: which endorses the 2007-2011 Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan
- 07-06: which endorses the Como Park Zoo and Conservatory Donor Recognition Plan
- 07-16: which approves the relocation of the Phalen Village wetland to parkland on Johnson Parkway.
- 07-18: to appoint a Pathways Task Force to study the rules, regulations, enforcements procedures, processes and public information for use of the pathways

Membership

The Commission consists of nine at-large Saint Paul residents appointed by the Mayor and approved by City Council. Members serve staggered three-year terms.

Meetings

The Commission holds meetings on the second Wednesday of every month at Saint Paul Parks and Recreation facilities.

Como Park Zoo and Conservatory



For over 100 years, families have come to Como Park Zoo and Conservatory together to create lifetime connections with animals and plants. Como Park Zoo and Conservatory is more than a great destination, it's an inspiring place that teaches children compassion and care for animals, plants and the planet Earth. It feeds people's spirits, their need for time together as a family, and their connection to community, nature and the world.



**COMO PARK
ZOO & CONSERVATORY**

As Como Park Zoo and Conservatory embarks on a 20 year master plan, adding world-class animal habitats and award winning plant collections, the tradition continues. Como Zoo and the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory is a place for individuals and families to come together, slow down and enjoy one another, as well as the natural world around them.

There is much more to do at Como Park Zoo and Conservatory than simply walk through the Como Zoo habitats and Marjorie McNeely Conservatory garden collections. Como is an experimental learning center that engages visitors in a multitude of encounters of animals, plants and cultures!

Meet the Keepers of the Gardens and Zoo!

Did you know that you can meet a gardener and zookeeper every day? Each day a different topic is featured and guests learn about the day to day operations of running Como Zoo and Marjorie McNeely Conservatory. In 2007, more than 550 keeper and gardener talks were conducted to an audience of over 7,500 guests.

Animal Enrichments & Training

Daily enrichment activities and training programs are provided to the animals to provide regular stimulation and to encourage natural behaviors and curiosity. Some days you may see the orangutans interacting with new toys or the polar bears foraging for treats in a log.

Volunteer Interpreters

Volunteer interpreters are stationed throughout the Zoo and Conservatory every day of the year to help answer your questions and teach you about our collections. In 2007, Como had 1,194 volunteers that donated a total of 47,787 hours of their time and talent to the Como Park Zoo and Conservatory. This amounts to 23 full time equivalents to supplement the work of Como staff.

Education Programs

Como is a platform for interaction and learning about nature. Since 2002, the education programs at Como Park Zoo and Conservatory have grown more than 600%. Over 21,000 people participated in fee-based education program in 2007 with camp programs increase 38% and Adult Discovery Series class up 59%.



Interactive Programming

Como hosted multiple ways to interact with guests. Sparky the Seal Lion Shows celebrated 51 years of performances at Como Zoo in 2007. This past year Sparky embarked on a trip down the Mississippi River. Sparky learned about the states the river travels through, conservation efforts along the river and even some of the animals along the river. Sea Island was home to a daily sea lion demonstration. Story Time occurred every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, kids learned fun facts about plants and animals, and were even visited by a costumed character.

Como Zoo

Polar Bear Odyssey, the new polar bear habitat is on time and budget with a scheduled completion in 2010. Polar Bear Odyssey meets or exceeds the most recent versions of the USDA Marine Mammals Act, Association of Zoos and Aquariums Polar Bear Standards and the Canadian Polar Bear Protection Act. Construction will begin this spring.

Como welcomed a number of new animals this past year including Chino, a rehabbed, injured sea lion from California and the birth of Baby "O", a male Sumatran orangutan via cesarean section- a medical first for the historic Saint Paul Zoo. The baby's successful birth is the result of a partnership that merged the skills of Como Zoo's zookeepers and veterinarians from University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine, along with medical staff from University of Minnesota Children's Hospital, Fairview including two OB-GYN physicians. Other additions include twin tamarin monkeys, Dall's Sheep, and reindeer.



Sunken Garden Flower Shows

Since 1915, the seasonal flower shows have been apart of the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory. Watch as the Flower Shows change from day to day and season to season. Autumn mums were featured through November. The Holiday Flower Show ran December 1 through mid-January with a celebration of hundreds of poinsettias. The winter blues were washed away at the Winter Flower Show February to mid-March 16 and spring came to life March thru April. Summer was greeted in May and said goodbye at the end of September.

Marjorie McNeely Conservatory

A new aquatic garden debuted this summer at Como, along with the Victoria water platters that returned with new enhancements. The new water garden included over 55 species of submerged, marginal and floating plants in the 140,000 gallon pool outside the Visitor Center. The new water garden display featured individual planters that combine textures, colors, and heights of aquatic and bog plants to create an artistic design, which any home water gardener can take inspiration from and use in their own masterpieces.

The Horticulture staff of the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory entered 40 plants in the 2007 State Fair Orchid Show; 11 first place ribbons, 9 second place ribbon, 6 third place ribbons and two special awards, "Best Exhibit" and "Best Species Plant".

Initial work has begun on the new Japanese Gardens design plans. The project will create a themed walkway from the Conservatory to the Japanese Garden, along with an exhibit area to showcase Como's Bonsai Collection.



Other Como Park Zoo and Conservatory Highlights

The voluntary donation program continues to demonstrate the public's support for Como with an annual donation of \$1,068,935 in 2007, an 8.4% increase over 2006. The donations are used to improve Campus facilities and represents 17% of the total operating budget.

On May 14, Como hosted the Explore Minnesota and the Metro Area Convention and Visitor's Bureau kick off to National Tourism Week, along with some help from the orangutans. The event was attended by media and the tourism industry.

The Marjorie McNeely Conservatory hosted more than 340 events and weddings. The Visitor Center hosted more than 197 rentals of meetings, events, parties and receptions, an increase of 5% in 2007.

The 2007 annual donation to Como Park Zoo and Conservatory from the Como Zoo and Conservatory Society was over \$1.2 million. Contributions support three initiatives: 1) annual programs and improvements, 2) education and 3) visionary capital improvements.

Lancer Catering, through its amusement, food, and catering programs at Como, annual commission was \$527,607.

Como Zoo and Conservatory Society

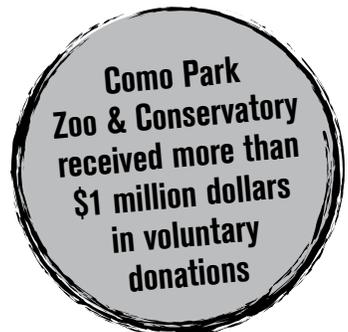
The Como Zoo and Conservatory Society sponsor three major fundraisers each year, Sunset Affair, ZooBoo and Bouquets. Sunset Affair was held in July and guests contributed over \$100,000 to Como Park Zoo and Conservatory for expanded gardens at the Visitor Center entrance and renovations to the Sparky Amphitheater. ZooBoo had a record breaking attendance year in 2007, with more than 24,000 guests and 800 volunteers enjoying the 5 nights of the event. Over 450 guests enjoyed Bouquets: An evening of Wine and Flowers held in the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory in November.



Japanese Lantern Lighting Festival

The Como Park Lantern Lighting Festival encompasses Japanese tradition—through music, dance, crafts, martial arts and lanterns. The Marjorie McNeely Conservatory grounds offer a backdrop to live entertainment in the Como Ordway Memorial Japanese Garden and on the main stage. Entertainment includes taiko drumming, kotos (Japanese sitars), shakuhachis (bamboo flutes) and martial arts demonstrations to name a few. The

Festival showcased the Como Ordway Memorial Japanese Garden and the Japanese culture with partners, the Japan America Society of Minnesota and the Saint Paul Nagasaki Sister City Committee. Despite a soggy weekend that washed most of the event out, over 1,400 guests did enjoy the happenings.





Special Services



AQUATICS

Aquatics is responsible for the Como Outdoor Pool, Highland Park Aquatic Center, Phalen Beach, and Great River Water Park. Oxford Pool was closed during 2007 for remodeling as part of the larger Great River Water Park and Jimmy Lee Recreation Center project.

- The newly renovated Highland Aquatic Center re-opened in 2007 to dramatic increases in revenue and attendance.
- The Red Cross Sailing Program at Lake Phalen enrolled 34 adult participants.
- Swim lessons attracted 1900 children. 75% used online registration.
- General admission increased at all outdoor pools.
- The Aquatics section hosted many special events, including Saint Paul Swim Classic, Swim Meet at Highland Park Aquatic Center, Dragon Fest at Lake Phalen, and Lake Phalen Triathlon.

Great River Water Park is set to open in May 2008



WELLS FARGO WINTER SKATE

Over 15,000 guests enjoyed free skating at the Wells Fargo WinterSkate Rink located across from Rice Park in downtown Saint Paul during the 2006-2007 season. The setting was truly magical nestled amongst the lighted trees for the holidays. Rice Park featured a record setting 86' tree which was the cornerstone of the Winter Wonderland display welcoming guests at the Ordway who were going to see "White Christmas."



SKI PROGRAM

Parks and Recreation offers cross country and downhill ski and snowboarding opportunities to the public. Ski trails are located in Como, Highland and Phalen Parks.

- The Como Park Ski Center provided cross country ski lessons to 100 students, downhill ski lessons to 564 students and snowboard lessons to 147 students.

GOLF



Municipal golf courses owned and operated by Saint Paul Parks and Recreation include Highland National, Como and Phalen 18 hole courses, and the Highland 9 hole course.

- Implementation of the new point of sale and tee-reservation system that was introduced in 2006 was incorporated throughout the golf program. The new system integrates the tee sheet with sales, ultimately increasing accountability and providing improved information for reporting and marketing
- The First Tee youth golf/life skills program continued to raise over \$100,000. More than 800 youth were served by the program.

- The August windstorm blew through the center of Phalen GC downing over 80 trees. Many staff responded quickly to the damage, having the course ready to play within a week.
- The family golf program was full each week it was scheduled.

The renovation of holes 3 and 11 at Como Golf Course was completed. The project was part of the Capital Region Watershed District's flood mitigation plan. The 2 new holes are greatly improved.

A golf consultant was brought in to examine the program and local market. A report is due in winter of 2008.



Two new Park Security vehicles were added to the fleet in 2007. These new vehicles are part of a scheduled replacement program through the City fleet services and are replaced every 3 - 4 years. The vehicles are equipped with special light bars for security functions and directional arrows for traffic control, have parks radios mounted inside and list the ParkWatch number on the rear tailgate.

SECURITY

2007 marked the first full year of Park Security staff issuing citations for dogs off leash, failure to remove feces and illegal parking on park land. The year-end totals are:

Illegal parking:	235
Dog off leash:	27
Failure to remove feces:	3
Total citations:	262

Park Security also added a new security function within the recreation services section. Dollars provided by the Metropolitan Council Operation and Maintenance fund allow for a Park Security Officer to patrol the eastern corridor recreation centers with a focus on Dayton's Bluff, Arlington and Duluth & Case. This function has resulted in enhanced cooperation with police, the identification and subsequent arrest of several youths involved in criminal activity, the identification and deterrent of graffiti and overall improvement with on-

site behavior of those attending the recreation centers. There are plans to expand this function throughout the other corridors in 2009.

Eight new Park Security Officers were added to the program in 2007 in full-time, part-time and temporary assignments. Some of them replaced employees who left the program and others were added as the program needs expanded.

Park Security staff provided security for the WinterSkate ice rink in downtown Saint Paul and, in response to theft and vandalism, security was

also provided at Midway Stadium. Park Security also provided continued on-site security to the former Stroh's Brewery site as part of a contract with the department of planning and economic development.

The American Queen / Mississippi Queen also made several visits to the port of Saint Paul in 2007 docking at Lambert's Landing. Park Security was responsible for coordinating all port security procedures and closing down the Sam Morgan Regional Trail during these visits.





SPECIAL EVENTS

Citywide Special events was re-organized in 2007 to allow for more focused efforts supporting the Mayors vision of the "Soul of the City." Over 30 large citywide events featuring runs, marathons, cultural celebrations, neighborhood gatherings and festivals reached over 50,000 people. Featured events included: Dragon Boat Festival, St. Paul After Hours Music Series, Flint Hills Children's Festival, Great River Energy Bicycle Festival, Twin City Hot Summer Jazz Fest, Inline Marathon, Hmong Art Festival, and The Holiday Train to name just a few.



During 2007, over 900,000 people passed through Harriet Island Regional Park. It is the host location for over 100 private events including: weddings, corporate parties, tradeshow, runs/walks, staff meetings, graduation ceremonies and formal dances. Harriet Island is also the host of 10 large public events including: Winter Carnival Wishes for the Sky, American Heart Association Start! Heart Walk, Time To Fly Run, Taste of MN, Animal Planet Expo, Irish Fair and MN Music Fest.



MIDWAY STADIUM

The mission of Midway Stadium is to operate a public multi-purpose outdoor facility in a coordinated, professional manner which is a credit to the City of Saint Paul and fulfills a wide range of needs for tenants, athletes, coaches, managers, and guests.

- The Stadium's main tenant is the Saint Paul Saints, which in its fifteenth season and its second year as a member of the American Association of Independent Baseball hosted 54 games and attracted more than 300,000 spectators.
- There were 171 events at the Stadium in 2007, and the facility was in use 71 per cent of available dates from April 3 until October 28.
- In addition to 125 baseball games, other events included a concert featuring the musical talents of Counting Crows, 32 football games, a three-day National Wheelchair Softball Tournament, seven autocross parking lot events, and a charity walk in behalf of the National Kidney Foundation.
- The Stadium's premier non-Saints event was the State Class AAA High School Baseball Tournament June 14-15, which attracted more than 8,500 spectators.

Administration - Finance & Planning

The Administration Section helped implement a variety of key changes to the Division in 2007. Some of these key changes are:

- Overall media exposure was increased by the addition of a Public Information Officer.
- A new stream-lined system of releasing information to the media was developed
- Strategic steps were taken to update the existing Marketing & Public Relations Plan and implement key emphasis points to help drive the division's goals.
- A total of over \$500,000 in free publicity was generated through the use of press releases and public service announcements to the media.
- A 25 year vision study commenced using an outside consulting agency HKGI. The study will be used beginning in 2008 to establish an overall "brand" and guiding principles to help shape the way the division delivers service the near and long-term future.
- As part of the City's dramatic website redesign, work was done behind the scenes on the overall look and feel of the Parks & Recreation website. The new website will change the way information is delivered and make it more of a service-based approach.

Two new refrigerated rinks were constructed and helped generate a significant increase in skating attendance

Design & Construction

The Design and Construction Section provides planning, design, and construction services for the development and preservation of the City's Open Space System including parks, trails, recreational/sports facilities, parkways, gardens, squares, plazas, wetlands, and environmental preserves.

Administration/Grant Management

- In 2007 the Design Section managed 5 separate acquisition projects, numerous parkland dedication reviews and over 50 planning, design and construction projects in various stages of the design process; concept creation to construction completion.

Planning

2007 planning activities included:

- Central Corridor LRT Project
- Bridges of St. Paul development
- Ford Site redevelopment
- Diamond Products site development
- Tennis Court System Plan
- Xcel De-Commissioning site plan
- Holman Field workshop and plan review



Construction Projects

A number of key construction projects were initiated in 2007 including:

- 2 outdoor refrigerated ice rinks were constructed at Phalen and North Dale Recreation Centers.
 - The refrigeration system allows expansion of the skating season
 - A third rink is planned for 2008
- 3 new artificial turf fields at McMurray Athletic Complex were completed
 - The turf fields will dramatically improve the quality of soccer space in Saint Paul
 - The flexibility of the turf will allow multiple sports to be programmed on back-to-back schedules without the need for breaks to allow the field to recover
 - In addition to the artificial turf, the baseball field has been upgraded with fencing and improved player bench areas
- The outdoor basketball court at Hamline Park was renovated and the warming and multi-purpose rooms received new updates with the help of the Minnesota Timberwolves.
- South Saint Anthony Recreation Center received a new wood gym floor thanks to the South Saint Anthony Booster Club.



Operations

Building Trades provides plumbing, electrical, carpentry, painting and heating/cooling needs for the Division and city-wide events.

- Worked with Police Department and the Department of Safety and Inspections to address 2091 graffiti complaints.
- Responded to 4,988 work order requests for service throughout the division.
- Constructed two outdoor refrigerated ice rinks for Phalen and North Dale Recreation Centers which can be used round for either hockey or in-line skating.
- Completed retrofitting lights at several facilities to significantly increase energy saving.
- Rebuilt the Gates Ajar in Como Park.

Contract Services provides maintenance services for property owned by the Department of Planning and Economic Development (P.E.D.) and the Saint Paul Port Authority, cleans properties for Neighborhood Housing & Property Improvement (N.H.P.I) and provides contractually arranged services to the Sewer Utility.

- Responded to 6,130 Department of Safety work orders, a 53% increase over last year.
- Provided property oversight (tree trimming, grass cutting, snow removal) for 160 PED properties.
- Provided maintenance for the Sewer Utilities holding ponds, lift stations and levee sites.

Forestry and Tree Management maintains Saint Paul's 127,000 public trees by using and implementing modern practices and techniques.

- Removed over 4,000 diseased public and private trees.
- Lit up eight parks throughout the City with 637,100 holiday lights and added 24 lighted deer ornaments.
- Trimmed 10,000 trees.
- Cleaned up massive storm damage and collected debris from public property for over 1/3 of the city.

Over 1,000 trees were lost in a massive summer storm, forestry helped to quickly clean up the mess

Park Maintenance

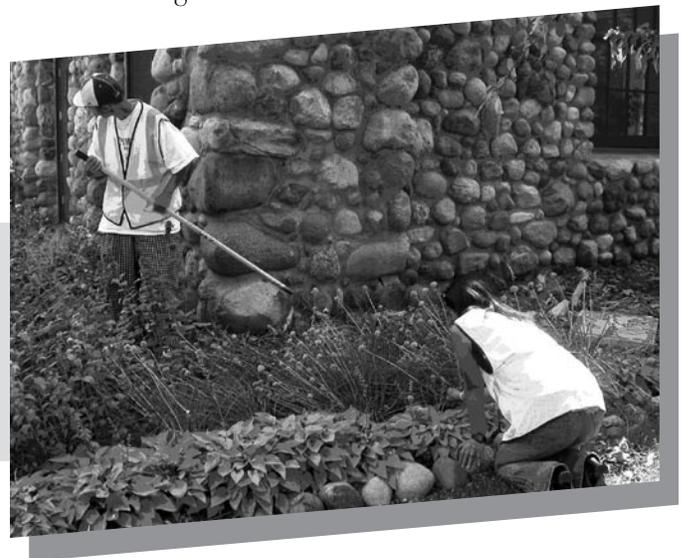
performs routine grounds and facility maintenance of regional, city, neighborhood parks, parkways, and open space. Additionally, this unit plays a primary role in preparation, management, and disassembly for programs and events that occur within these park spaces.

- Maintained over 4,000 acres of parkland and 100 miles of paved off road trails, 38 tot lots, 15 picnic/rental facilities, dozens of athletic courts, and 3 maintenance shops.
- Provided service to large regional events such as; the Saint Paul Winter Carnival, Flint Hills Children's Festival, Taste of Minnesota, Hmong International Freedom Celebration, Dragon Fest, Irish Fest, and MN Wild Pond Hockey.
- Awarded Federal Recreational Trails grant that will match 1/2 the cost of a new trail vacuum sweeper beginning in Spring/Summer of 2008.

Environmental Services manages the Division's sensitive natural resources through a variety of programs, partnerships and projects.

- Logged approximately 17,800 volunteer hours valued at \$334,875.
- Planted over 8,000 native plants, grasses and wildflowers and over 2,700 native trees and shrubs.
- Utilized prescribe burning to maintain 12 acres of park property, including Como Lake, Lake Phalen and Mounds Regional Park.
- Received grants for the Spring Park Cleanup, Como Lake shoreline restoration, milfoil harvesting and the Como Outdoor Classroom.

Hosted the 21st Annual Spring Parks Cleanup which included over 1,000 volunteers and recognition ceremonies in all seven council wards.





Operations (continued)

Arts and Gardening manages the Division's public gardens and public art collection through a variety of programs, partnerships and projects.

- Maintained over 130,000 square feet of garden beds, 160 planters and 540 hanging baskets.
- Increased community support of Blooming Saint Paul program by \$32,000.
- Organized the third annual Golden Bloom Awards program for recognizing and celebrating beautiful gardens in Saint Paul with a 25% increase in participation.
- Created a maintenance program for city sculptures with Public Works.

Support Maintenance

provides support for recreation centers, parks and municipal athletics. Provides heavy equipment operators/equipment for all of Parks and Recreation.

- Increased safety and playability by regraded 20 softball fields.
- Picked up approximately 490 yards of buckthorn, 1260 yards of regular brush.
- Rebuilt a baseball field at West Minnehaha Recreation Center.
- Implemented a hazardous electronic waste collection and disposal system.

Recreation Maintenance

Provides recreation centers with the daily custodial/grounds maintenance they need to keep operating in a clean and safe environment.

- Provided maintenance, weekly inspections and safety audits at all tot lot locations.

- Maintained more than 368,000 square feet of interior building space, 248 acres of grounds, 140 ball fields, 65 soccer/football fields and 35 ice rinks.
- Assisted building trades with the installation and maintenance of two new refrigerated hockey rinks.

Equipment Services

provides acquisition, management and maintenance of small and specialized equipment/apparatus, as well as facility management for the Como Central Service Facility.

- Maintained 549 units of specialized equipment and 1,072 units of small equipment.
- Administered and coordinated 172 pieces of rolling stock vehicles.

Como Central Service Facility Storeroom provides custodial and automotive supplies and equipment for the Division.

- Utilized the M4 Fleet Management Inventory program to evaluate value, turnover and under-utilized stock to determine efficiencies.

Parks Permit Office issues reservations for picnic shelters, pavilions, open space (walks, runs, photo and video shoots, fossil hunting, ice climbing), and the Showmobile. The permit office is also responsible for customer service support for Forestry-related questions and park maintenance requests.

- Arranged for 72 Showmobile reservations and issued 1,800 park permits.



Recreation Services



SENIOR CITIZEN PROGRAMS

This program provides age-appropriate activities for people age 50 and older.

- Senior Citizen Programs organized and implemented 23 brunch club meetings, 15 trips and tours, 20 chorus performances, 17 special events, and 30 classes. In addition, the Hiking club met 30 times and the Bowling league bowled on 27 occasions.
- The downtown City Passport senior activity center received 16,454 visitors, a 18% increase over 2006.
- The Senior Citizen Program processed more than 1100 individual registrations through the automated registration system.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Community Education provides lifelong learning opportunities for all people.

- A total of 4,489 activities were held for people of all ages.
- The program attracted 58,258 activity participants and 133,768 facility use participants.
- Number of youth experiencing service learning and youth development activities was 21,627 resulting in 73,792 contact hours.
- Collaborations and partnerships were established or maintained with over 140 agencies.

ADAPTIVE RECREATION

The Adaptive Recreation Program provides a wide variety of activities for people with mental and/or physical disabilities. Activities include league sports, crafts, fitness, swimming, music, and more. The Adaptive Recreation Program also coordinates inclusion efforts, providing assessments and support when a person with special needs wants to participate in a program offered to the public.

- The Adaptive Recreation Program provided more than 37,500 hours of programming for people with disabilities or other special needs.
- The Adaptive Recreation Program hosted two training sessions for Parks and Recreation staff on the topic: *Asperger's Syndrome / ADHD: Similarities and Differences in Social Skills*.
- Programming for children with disabilities increased in 2007, with the addition of the Kid's Karate Class and the Movement and Music Class?
- The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Recreation Partnership with Communication Services for the Deaf (CSD-MN) continued to grow and thrive. The Partnership offered fitness classes for adults, Family Open Swim nights, Youth Golf Classes, and Adult Open Basketball.



MUNICIPAL ATHLETICS

Municipal Athletics provides a multitude of activities for adults and youth throughout the year. In addition, St. Paul Municipal Athletics trained and certified over 300 sports officials for our various sports leagues.



- Some of the various sports league highlights for 2007 were:
 - League sports drew 700 adult teams and 500 youth teams.
 - Tournaments drew another 250 adult teams and 200 youth teams.
 - More than 15,000 people visited the Rice/Arlington Batting Cages.
 - Municipal Athletics received a \$30,000 STAR grant to renovate the batting cages. Also, Municipal Athletics received an additional \$30,000 in renovation money from the Minnesota Twins in an effort to update the Rice/Arlington batting cages.
 - 121 teams in both softball and baseball.
 - 25,000 people were accommodated on the new turf fields at McMurray in 2007.
- NFL Hub grant activities in 2007 were:
 - Raised awareness of SPPR with the NRPA, NFL and USA Football.
 - Completed in-depth field inventory/survey of all SPPR Park & Rec facilities as they relate to youth football. Data to be used by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) and GreenPlay (consulting agency that provides services for park, recreation, open space and related agencies) to assist the NFL to understand the needs of youth football.
 - Assisted USA Football, in conjunction with the MN Vikings, with hosting its first ever Coaching School on Saturday April 21.
 - Conducted a successful youth football Stakeholders' Summit on Saturday April 28. The purpose was to bring together administrators, volunteer coaches and parents to discuss and ascertain the needs of youth football. One of the guest speakers included Bob Bierscheid.



- Improved communications and relationship with the MN Gophers. This is demonstrated by the following two events:
 - Saturday June 23 – Youth Day Out with the Golden Gophers Football Team
 - Saturday Sep 1 – Game tickets and participation in the first ever “Victory Walk”
- Improved communications and relationship with the MN Vikings. This is demonstrated by the following events:
 - Tuesday July 17 Vikings’ Youth Football Day – Over 125 St Paul youths participated
 - Tuesday July 17 Vikings’ Youth Football Day – Paid stipends to St Paul youth coaches to assist with drills
 - \$1500.00 equipment donation by Vikings’ players Matt Birk and Brookes Bollinger
 - Hundreds of free game tickets, to St Paul youth, to five home games
 - 12U Frogtown team participating in a Vikings of Tomorrow pre-game scrimmage at the Metrodome before the Vikings-Packers Sep 30 game
- Authored grant proposal, to the NRPA, that resulted in \$4800.00 of equipment reimbursement monies. Each of the following organizations received \$1200.00: Jimmy Lee, Harding Area, North Area and Palace
- \$2252.85 of HUB funds were used to reimburse SPPR for transportation to three events: MN Gophers’ Youth Day Out and Home Opener, as well as the MN Vikings’ Youth Football Day
- Grant position raised the NRPA’s awareness of the organizations submitting applications for the NFL’s Local Area Grant. Three St Paul organizations, L.E.S., Palace Rec Center and the Northwest Corridor, received grant monies
- Began a two-year grass roots advocacy campaign to raise awareness of and monetary needs for St Paul youth football.



RECREATION CENTERS

Forty-one recreation centers and a partnership with Mt. Airy Boys and Girls Club provide the public with places to participate in sports, recreation and leisure activities.



- The recreation centers attracted 2,504,563 visitors for both drop-in and programmed activities.
- A total of 4,434 classes/activities were offered at the recreation centers. Over 25,000 people participated in these activities.
- During the 2006-07 school year, over 1000 children participated in the Rec Check program which was held at 21 recreation center sites. The Rec Check program is a free, after school program where youth, in grades 1-6, are engaged in homework help, reading, crafts, games, and physical activities.
- Through a MN Department of Education grant, a circulator bus was established on the lower eastside during the summer to provide youth with transportation to various learning sites within the community.
- In cooperation with the Mayor's Second Shift Initiative, 7 recreation centers provided free full day programming (8am-6 pm) for elementary youth during non-school days while the rest of the recreation centers offered structured activities from 1-6 pm for youth ages, 6-18.



Citywide Program Partnerships

Recreation Services welcomes opportunities to work with other agencies and organizations to share resources, staff and ideas to provide better services to the citizens of Saint Paul.

- Urban Tennis programs attracted over 3000 youth and adults.
- The Summer Breakfast and Lunch program, co-sponsored by Saint Paul Public Schools Nutrition Department, provided over 29,000 meals to youth at the recreation centers during June, July and August.
- Saint Paul Parks and Recreation continued their longstanding partnership with the Saint Paul Public Schools to provide Community Education, Night Moves and Art Moves, Youth Jobs Program, 21st Century Community Learning Center grant, Days Off School programs, Physical Education Program (PEP) grant activities, joint use facilities and funding for gym space at Jimmy Lee Recreation Center.
- Saint Paul Parks and Recreation was selected to be part of the NIKE SummerShoes program. Over 1500 pairs of football, basketball and running shoes were distributed in June to middle school and high school students to encourage them to be physically active during the summer.

Other partnerships included the MN Twins, MN Timberwolves, MN Vikings, Sajai Foundation, University of Minnesota.

Mobile Recreation Program

The mobile recreation program provides activities to youth and families at non-recreation center sites including public housing sites, passive parks and homeless shelters. The mobile recreation staff also provides program support at the recreation centers and citywide events.

- The Roaming Rec Program provided outdoor recreation activities for youth, ages 6-17, at 24 sites throughout the summer. Total attendance was 4323.
- Mobile Recreation staff provides family activities once a month at the Ramsey County Homeless Shelter. Monthly participation averages 30-50 youth and adults.
- Mobile Recreation staff led ten training sessions for recreation center staff and youth staff in the areas of arts and crafts, indoor and outdoor games, conflict resolution and methods for engaging youth in activities.
- The staff led children's activities at the six Community Day events which was part of the Mayor's Invest Saint Paul initiative. Representative from each city department was on hand to inform residents about the resources their department provides and how to access them.



2007 Events

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Bouquets | Plant Conservation Day |
| Camp Como | Bird Weekend |
| Fall Flower Show | Jr. Ranger Day |
| Holiday Flower Show | Free to be Green |
| Holiday Tea | Wolf Awareness Weekend |
| Ikebana Flower Show | Orangutan Awareness Weekend |
| Japanese Garden Tea Ceremony | Wedding Showcase |
| MN Bonsai Society Show | American Heart Association
Heart Walk |
| Spring Flower Show | Cinco De Mayo |
| Summer Flower Show | Winter Carnival |
| Valentine's Soiree | Wells Fargo WinterSkate Rink |
| Valentine's Dinner at
Conservatory | Grand Ol' Day |
| Winter Carnival Orchid Show | Taste of Minnesota |
| Winter Flower Show | Hmong Freedom Celebration |
| ZooBoo | Rondo Days |
| Giraffe Jamboree | Highland Fest |
| Spring Fling Weekend | City Picnic |
| A Million Shades of Green | Music & Movies in the Parks |
| Borneo Exhibit | Spring Parks Cleanup |



Things to look for in 2008...

- Jimmy Lee Recreation Center and Great River Water Park Grand Opening on May 31
- Como's New Blooming Butterflies Exhibit
- A rare bloom of a Corpse Flower
- Republican National Convention
- Star of the North Games
- Twin Cities Marathon

SAINT PAUL - THE MOST LIVABLE CITY IN AMERICA

Mayor Chris Coleman

Our Vision for the Future

As we stake out goals and priorities for our City's future, we start with an inherent appreciation of and love for our home. We will also have the foresight and courage to reach for new heights as we hold on to that unique sense of place. We will be guided by our core values of **cooperation, responsibility and respect**. We will be determined that no child born into disadvantage and prejudice be bound to stay there. By **mending disparities, by opening doors**, we will make sure that even our most vulnerable residents dare to hope and dream.

Our City will be a national leader for quality education, safe streets, thriving local commerce, healthy living, state-of-the-art infrastructure and eclectic character. These are the goals of Mayor Chris Coleman's administration. These are assets that will make **Saint Paul the Most Livable City in America**.



CITY OF SAINT PAUL NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY

The City of Saint Paul will not discriminate against or harass any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, religion, sex, sexual or affectional orientation, color, national origin, ancestry, familial status, age, disability or marital status with regard to public assistance.



Field Dedication at Palace Recreation Center

On April 18, the athletic fields at Palace Recreation Center were dedicated in honor of SSG James M. Wosika, Jr. who died in Iraq of wounds suffered when an explosive device detonated near his unit while on combat patrol. Wosika grew up in the Palace neighborhood and played his youth sports at the recreation center. Mayor Coleman, Councilmember Thune plus dignitaries from the military spoke at the ceremony which was attended by over 400 people. A flag pole was erected on site as a permanent memorial to SSG Wosika.

