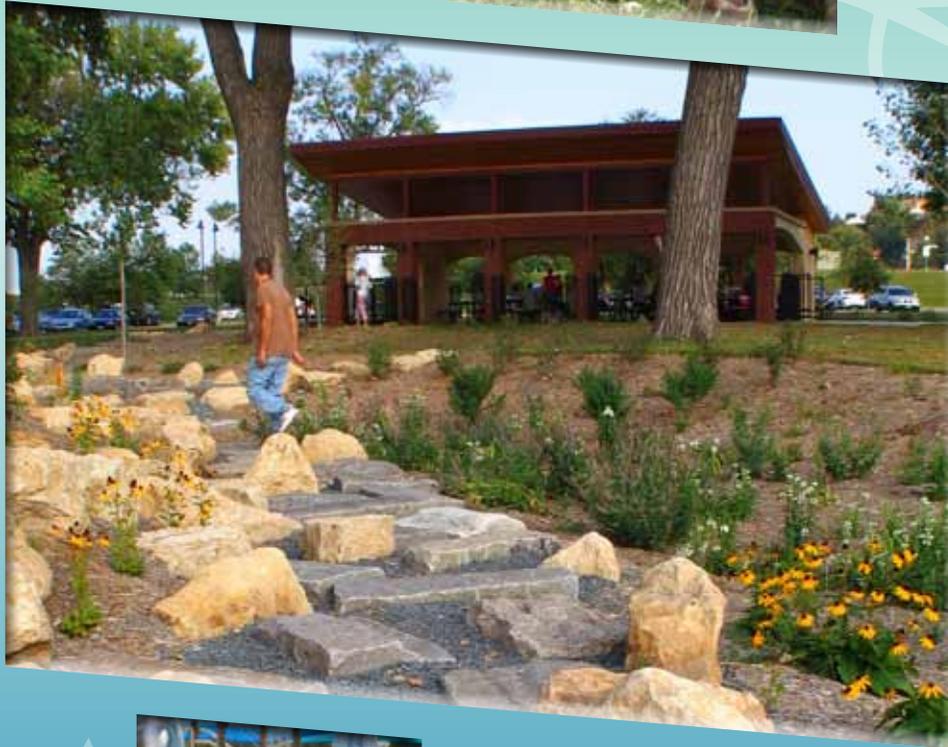


Saint Paul Parks and Recreation

2009 ANNUAL REPORT



**Helping to Make Saint Paul
The Most Livable City in America**

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

A national leader, Saint Paul's commitment to preserving green space and creating new recreational opportunities for all of our residents is second to none. With many natural amenities to enjoy, Saint Paul continues to be the most livable City in America. In the last year, we implemented the first ever "green" moss filtration system for our Aquatic Centers, reducing chemical usage by half; secured several grants from the 3/8 amendment; created a management program to deal with the Emerald Ash Borer Infestation that will help protect Saint Paul trees for years to come; secured several land donations for new projects including the future Pedro's Park and the Koch Mobil site at the planned Victoria Park location and, after a decade of planning and work, we completed Phase II renovations at Harriet Island.



From our nationally recognized parks system to placid lakes, a zoo and conservatory, a baseball stadium, and an amphitheater, Saint Paul Parks and Recreation serves the needs of many interests, including the afterschool educational needs of our children. It is my honor to present our 2009 Annual Report for the Department 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

We are in a time of great economic, environmental, and demographic change. Our Parks and Recreation services and amenities have never been in more demand. We have made tough but innovative decisions throughout our system. Utilizing our Vision Plan and community input, we re-organized and re-partnered some low-use facilities in our Recreation Services Section and focused on quality over quantity throughout our entire system. This change has certainly affected staff and users, but the success is in the results, and our participation and attendance numbers have increased significantly.



Our Recreation Services Section is just one example of how we have used innovative decision making to change our system to a more sustainable model of service delivery. In the past year, we've endured some significant changes, but with those changes have come significant accomplishments, and we are proud to display these accomplishments throughout this report.

Similar to this past year, 2010 will also test our Parks and Recreation Department with significant challenges and change. Over the next year, Saint Paul residents will see our Department facilitate a system planning project that will lay-out where our system is going in the future, Buzz and Neil will return to their new home as we celebrate the opening of the Polar Bear Odyssey exhibit and our role in extending the learning day for Saint Paul youth will continue to expand.

Our award winning Parks and Recreation Department is not done changing. This past year's successes have demonstrated the importance of our Department's willingness to embrace change. As we continue to work to serve the residents of Saint Paul, we will continue to be innovative in our decision making and will continue helping make Saint Paul the Most Livable City in America.

Sincerely,



Mike Hahm, 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 III
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

2009 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 at 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 and 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 resident 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 Resident Participation
 - a. Involve residents 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



Awards / Recognition

Saint Paul Parks and Recreation

- ★ Awarded an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer for the third consecutive year to continue work on Horticulture Academy/Eco Ranger curriculum and to create a link for graduates to the local green industry for employment and career development.
- ★ Awarded a MN GreenCorps member from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to serve as an Urban Forestry Specialist to help preserve and protect Minnesota's environment while training a new generation of environmental professionals.
- ★ Awarded a \$125,000 Conservation Partners Legacy grant from the MN DNR to be initiated in 2010 for restoration of high quality oak woodland along Mississippi River Boulevard and at Crosby Farm Regional Park.
- ★ Recommended for a \$218,000 LCCMR grant to develop and construct the Como Woodland Outdoor Classroom slated to begin in 2010.
- ★ Recipients of two Minnesota Parks and Recreation Association (MRPA) *Awards of Excellence* in the Sustainability category for the Como Shuttle and the Pool Green Initiative. The Pool Green Initiative also won the Tommy Johnson Award, the highest award possible for being innovative, futuristic, and revolutionary in establishing future trends. The Pool Green Initiative featured the nation's first two municipal pool sphagnum moss filtration system projects at the Highland Park Aquatic Center and the Great River Water Park.
- ★ American Society of Landscape Architects - MN: Merit Awards
 - Raspberry Island
 - Two Rivers Overlook Park
- ★ American Society of Landscape Architects - MN: Honor Award
 - Parks and Recreation Vision Plan



COMO PARK ZOO & CONSERVATORY

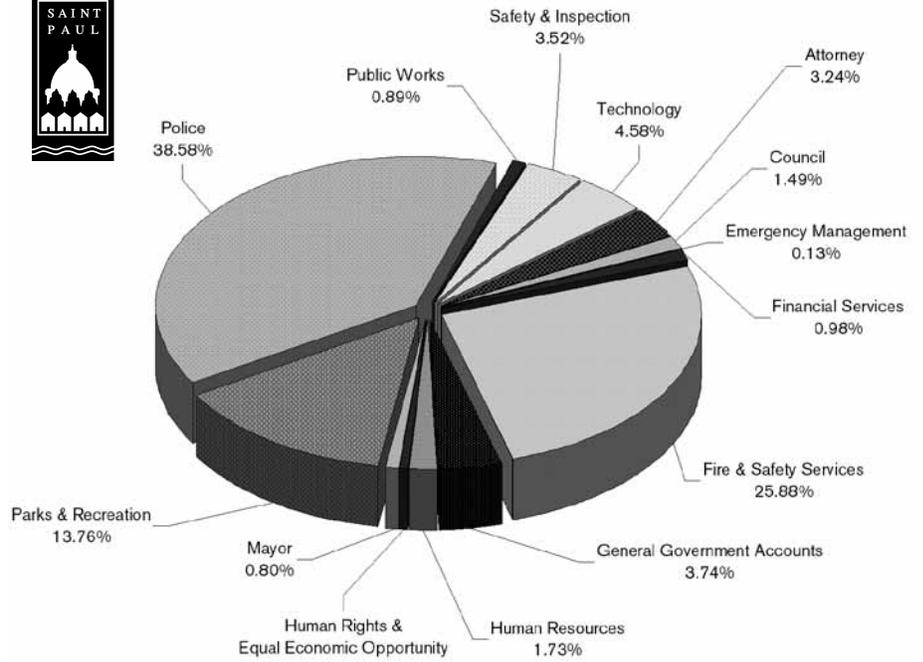
- ★ Received the City Pages Award for the *Best Place to Wander Indoors* for the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory.
- ★ The Marjorie McNeely Conservatory participated in the Orchid Show at the 2009 Minnesota State Fair garnering the First Place Award for overall exhibit, along with:
 - 15 - 1st Place ribbons
 - 11 - 2nd Place ribbons
 - 6 - 3rd Place ribbons
- ★ Recipients of the Best Tiger Watching "*Best of*" Award from Mpls/St. Paul Magazine
- ★ Winner of the 2009 Nickelodeon Parent's Pick Awards '*Best Tourist Spot*' in the Twin Cities. After being nominated in early June, online voting indicated that Como Zoo is indeed the '*Best Tourist Spot*' in the cities. Users of Nickelodeon's online ParentConnect site were invited to vote daily during the race, and ultimately determined who would receive the awards. Como Park also gained its own praise in the Nickelodeon race - the destination was voted '*Best Playground or Park*' in Minneapolis/St. Paul.



Budget Summaries

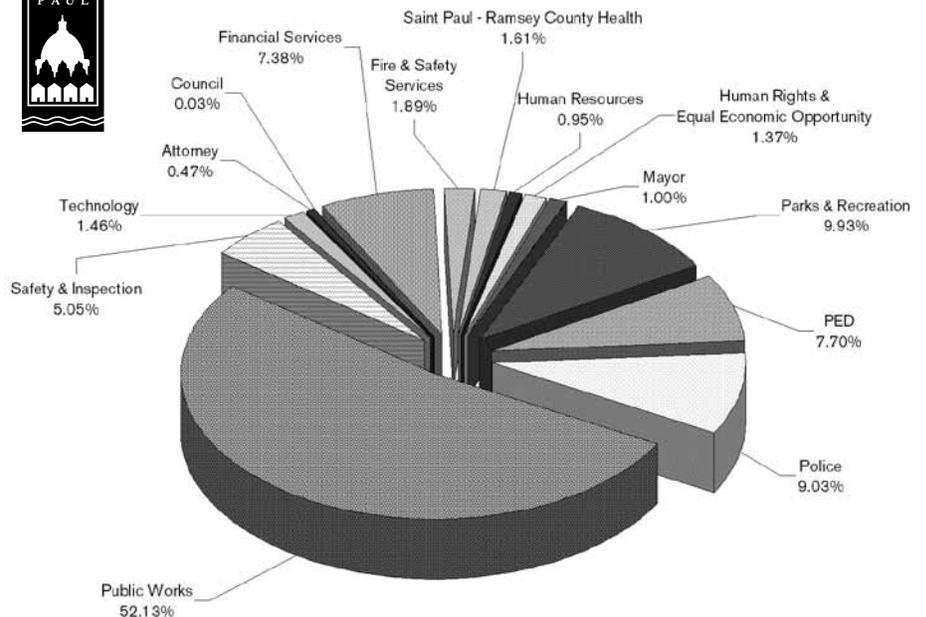
City of Saint Paul 2009 Adopted General Fund Budget - \$197,655,427

Attorney	\$6,399,367
Council	\$2,946,606
Emergency Management	\$250,723
Financial Services	\$1,931,503
Fire & Safety Services	\$51,161,056
General Government Accounts	\$7,393,068
Human Resources	\$3,422,423
Human Rights & Equal Economic Opportunity	\$1,353,742
Mayor	\$1,577,488
Parks & Recreation	\$27,189,480
Police	\$76,256,271
Public Works	\$1,765,560
Safety & Inspection	\$6,955,635
Technology	\$9,052,505



City of Saint Paul 2009 Adopted Special Fund Budget - \$256,084,583

Attorney	\$1,193,682
Council	\$82,306
Financial Services	\$18,888,850
Fire & Safety Services	\$4,841,779
Saint Paul-Ramsey County Health	\$4,115,828
Human Resources	\$2,437,000
Human Rights & Equal Economic Opportunity	\$3,498,777
Mayor	\$2,569,763
Parks & Recreation	\$25,422,557
PED	\$19,720,043
Police	\$23,127,576
Public Works	\$133,497,934
Safety & Inspection	\$12,944,015
Technology	\$3,744,473

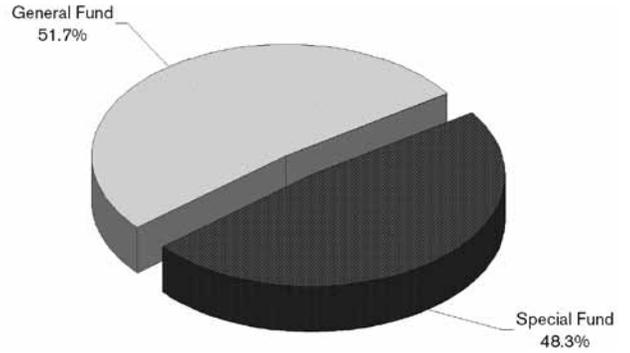


Saint Paul Parks and Recreation

2009 Adopted Budget - \$52,612,037

General Fund Adopted: \$27,189,480

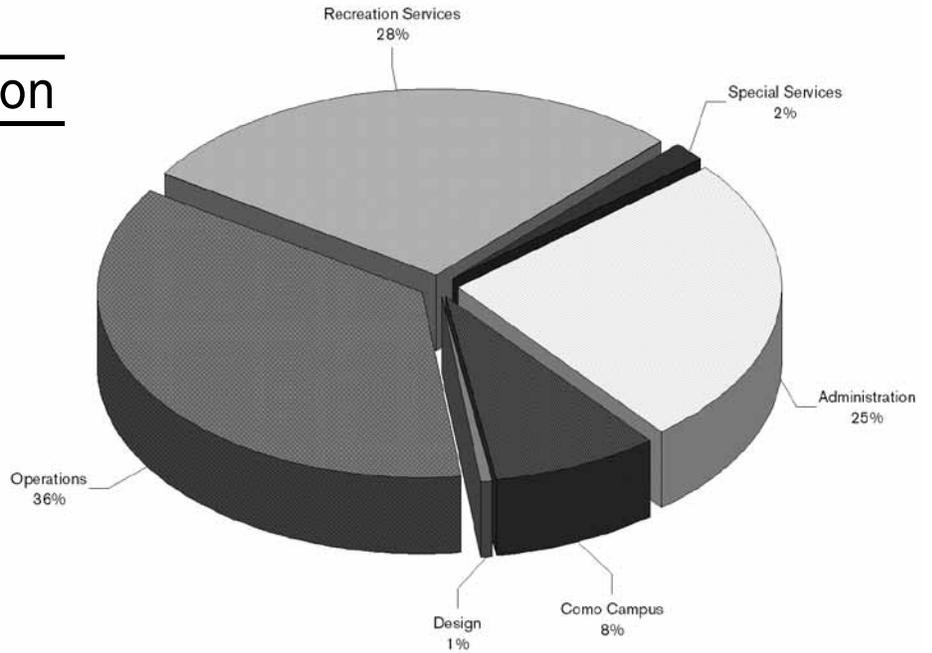
Special Fund Adopted: \$25,422,557



2009 General Fund – \$27,189,480

Saint Paul Parks and Recreation

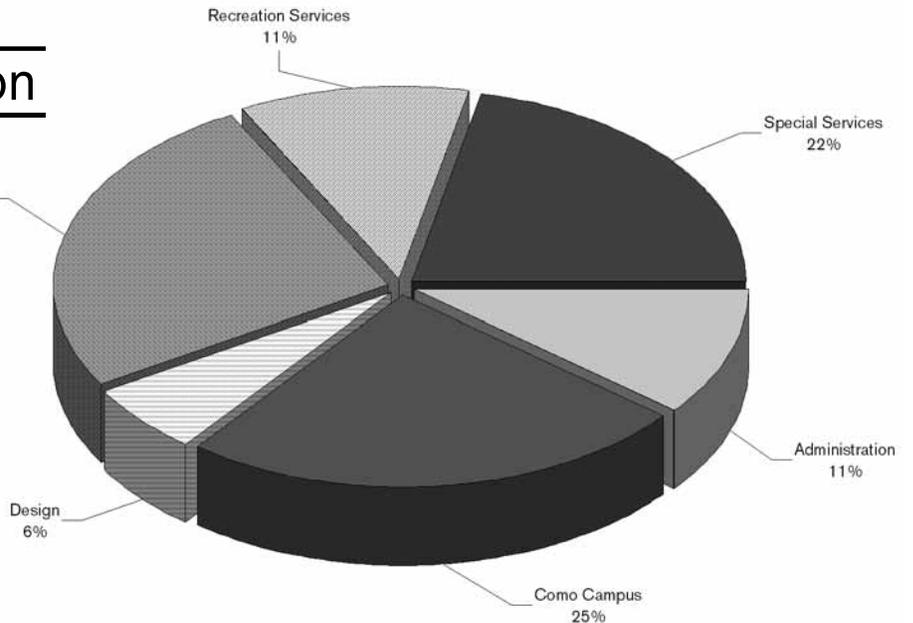
Administration	\$6,899,293
Como Campus	\$2,217,353
Design	\$178,704
Operations	\$9,792,378
Recreation Services	\$7,683,853
Special Services	\$417,899



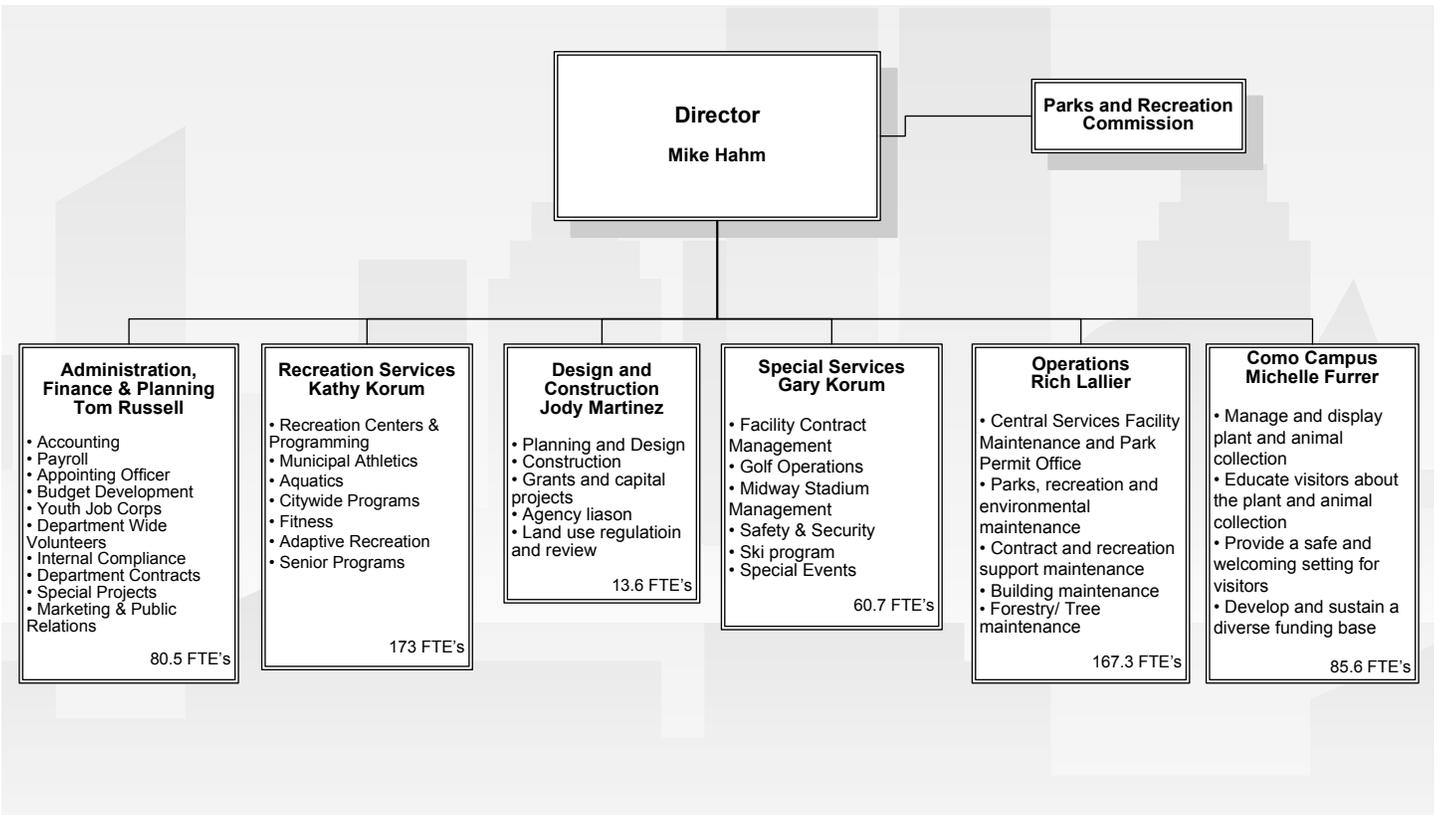
2009 Special Fund – \$25,422,557

Saint Paul Parks and Recreation

Administration	\$2,782,436
Como Campus	\$6,229,900
Design	\$1,531,528
Operations	\$6,528,470
Recreation Services	\$2,837,125
Special Services	\$5,513,098



Organization Chart



Total: 580.7 Full Time Equivalents



Parks & 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
Therese Kelly, Vice Chair
Susan Bishop
Jonathan Carter
Erick Goodlow
Paul Middleton
Betsy Mowry
Peter Phia Pha
Andrew Trcka



Goals

The Commission adopted five goals of equal priority for 2009. They are:

- **Goal One:** Engage members, public and staff in significant planning issues, i.e., Como Pool, Ford Site, Community Health and Wellness Recreation Programming Plan, Como Circulator, Invest Saint Paul, Dog Park Committee, Trails, National Great River Park.
- **Goal Two:** Support, provide oversight and evaluate delivery of Community Recreation Program.
- **Goal Three:** Provide leadership, guidance and a forum for community input for budget challenges and potential reductions.
- **Goal Four:** Support asset management and facility sustainability issues in the parks and recreation system. Participate in ongoing data based performance measurement and financial evaluation.
- **Goal Five:** Promote and preview significant parks and recreation initiatives. Participate in strategic advocacy.



Resolutions

In pursuit of its goals, the Parks and Recreation Commission passed 21 resolutions in 2009. Here are a few highlights:

- An Off-Leash Dog Area subcommittee was established. This subcommittee meets regularly to review off-leash dog issues.
- The 2009-2013 Strategic Plan for the implementation of the Division's Mission, vision and Comprehensive System Plan was adopted.
- A grant in the amount of \$125,000 was accepted from Major League Baseball to improve a field at Dunning Recreation Center.
- To encourage increased trail use, a proposal was adopted to place benches in key locations throughout Lilydale Park, along the Mississippi River and at the nearby river bluffs. Additional benches will also be located nearby the Dunedin High Rise on Saint Paul's West Side.
- A plan to develop a new Como Regional Park Pool was adopted.

Membership

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

Meetings

Parks and Recreation Commission meetings are held every second Wednesday of each month at various Saint Paul Parks and Recreation facilities. The public is always welcome to attend.

2009 MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS

Heritage & Legacy Amendment

The Clean Water, Land, & Legacy Amendment will better position Saint Paul Parks & Recreation to follow our mission of creating a vibrant environment in Saint Paul. Working with the implementing agencies of the Metropolitan Regional Parks System, Saint Paul was a leader in efforts to testify for local projects at the legislature.

On November 4, 2008, Minnesota voters approved the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment. The Minnesota Constitution was amended to:

“dedicate funding to protect our drinking water sources; to protect, enhance, and restore our wetlands, prairies, forests, and fish, game, and wildlife habitat; to preserve our arts and cultural heritage; to support parks and trails; and to protect, enhance, and restore our lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater by increasing the sales and use tax rate beginning July 1, 2009, by three-eighths of one percent on taxable sales until the year 2034.”

The Legacy Amendment increased the general sales and use tax from 6.5% to 6.875%. Proceeds are dedicated to four different funding sources.

During state fiscal year 2010, Saint Paul received \$1.765 million in funding from the Parks and Trails Fund through the Metropolitan Council to implement the following projects:

- Initiate site remediation activities to prepare Lilydale Regional Park for future recreational development.
- Update the master plan for Phalen-Keller Regional Park (last updated in 1975).
- Renovate the Joyce Kilmer Memorial Fireplace in Como Regional Park.
- Add a Volunteer Coordinator and an Education Coordinator position to support Park’s environmental and volunteer outreach efforts.

Como Park Zoo & Conservatory was awarded \$125,000 for the 2009/2010 & 2010/2011 state fiscal year for projects as part of the Legacy Amendment Arts & Cultural Heritage grants. Those projects include the introduction of a new educational animal show in the Sparky Amphitheater, Blooming Butterflies, special art exhibits and interpretive graphics in the primate and aquatic exhibits.

In 2010, Parks will receive \$125,000 in funding through the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Lessard-Sams Conservation Partners Legacy Grant program to enhance fifty-four acres of native oak woodland habitat.

Legacy Amendment funding, received through the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Forest Protection Reserve has also created a response crew within Forestry to address the emerald ash borer (EAB) infestation identified in the Saint Anthony Park neighborhood in 2009. This funding, \$722,600 in total, will allow for implementation of the City’s EAB management program.





Emerald Ash Borer

2009 Timeline

May 14, 2009:

- EAB infestation confirmed by Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) in the South Saint Anthony neighborhood of Saint Paul, the first known case of EAB in Minnesota to that point.

June 2009:

- 34 public and 34 private property infested trees removed by City of Saint Paul Forestry crews. A joint powers agreement with the MDA enabled the quick response on private property (funding from MDA).
- City of Saint Paul Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan presented to City Council on June 17, 2009 by Parks & Recreation Director Mike Hahm.

July 2009:

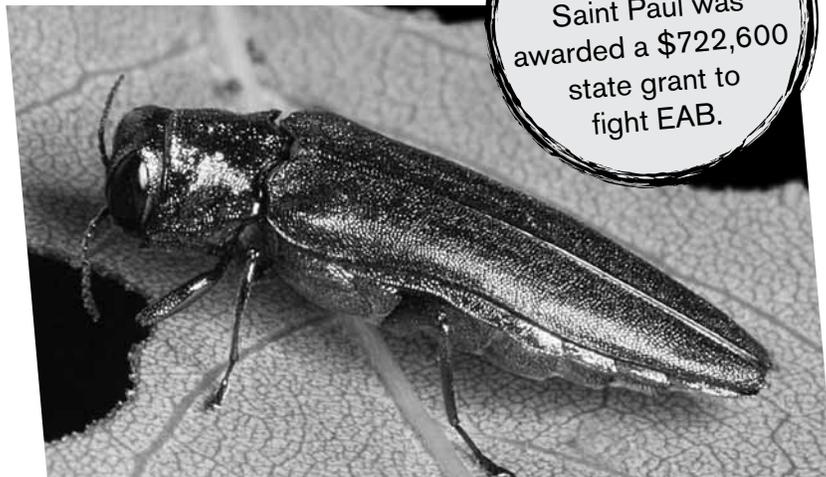
- Saint Paul Forestry presents to Saint Paul Planning Commission on EAB.
- Saint Paul submits a formal written request to MDA for \$1 million in EAB assistance.

August 2009:

- Formal State quarantine for Ramsey and Hennepin Counties signed into law by MDA.

September-December 2009:

- Saint Paul Forestry & MDA begin identifying ash trees to be removed for destructive sampling.
- Results of dendrochronological studies of infested tree samples conducted by Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ), a branch of the US Department of Agriculture, indicated that the infestation in Saint Paul dates back to 2006.
- MDA announces grant funding opportunity appropriated from the Outdoor Heritage Fund. One million dollars is available through the Forest Protection Reserve Incident Response portion of the funding.
- Saint Paul Forestry submits proposal to MDA on November 19, 2009, based on its EAB Management Plan, in the amount of \$1 million.



Did you know?

Saint Paul was awarded a \$722,600 state grant to fight EAB.

Background

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an exotic beetle that was first discovered in Michigan in July 2002, possibly having arrived several years earlier on solid wood packing material shipped from its native Asia. Without any natural predators or controls in North America, it has spread into nearby states and Canada, having killed millions of ash trees prior to its discovery in Minnesota. It is estimated that over 25% of Saint Paul's urban forest is composed of ash species and the existence of EAB is a serious development. However, the economic and environmental impact to the state will inevitably be more devastating as Minnesota has the second largest number ash in the nation, over 930 million. Thus, Saint Paul is proactively managing EAB with the goal of slowing the spread of this invasive pest.

Effects On Saint Paul

Saint Paul has an estimated 150,000 trees on public right of ways (ROW) and 300,000 trees in open space such as parks, golf courses and natural areas. The estimated number of ash trees in Saint Paul is about 25% or 35,000 ROW trees and as many as 120,000 in open space. Of the estimated 35,000 ROW ash trees many are in severe decline. Declining ash can pose a significant hazard as deadwood becomes brittle and breaks off.

Next Steps: EAB Management Plan

A long term EAB management program to slow the spread involves the following elements:

- Diseased tree ordinance update
- Chemical treatment policy update
- Continued monitoring
- Structured removal plan
- Reforestation plan
- Financing alternatives
- Communication strategies



Pedro Park

Longtime Downtown Saint Paul tenants Pedro's Luggage officially donated their property located at 10th and Robert Streets to the City in 2009. Per a donation agreement with the Pedro family, the City will convert the business' location to Park property bearing the Italian immigrant's family name within 5 years.

Supported by City Council, the park will serve as a complement to the planned Penfield project across the street. The Penfield will contain market-rate housing and a Lund's grocery store. Pedro's will provide recreation for both prospective residents and business tenants. With downtown's growing trend, the park will act as another green initiative to Saint Paul's already long list of environmentally friendly projects.

Victoria Park

The City of Saint Paul has taken on the task to transform what is currently a vacant polluted site into a park in the sparsely green West Seventh neighborhood. Previously the site of two oil tank farms, the space has been vacant since operations halted in 1995.

The Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) entered into an agreement with Exxon Mobil that provided for the transfer of the property and \$5 million in exchange for an agreement to use the land exclusively for park purposes. The \$5 million will be used for environmental remediation to allow future park redevelopment.

While the environmental remediation work is completed over the next 2 - 3 years, Parks and Recreation will lead a collaborative community process that will help plan the future uses of the property. Immediately following the conclusion of the remediation work, the former oil tank farm will be converted into almost 36 acres of Parkland property with opportunities for active recreation and various other community uses. The new one-of-a-kind asset will serve current and future Saint Paul residents for many years to come.



By the Numbers:

- 36 acres
- \$5 million in financial support
- 2-3 years of remediation



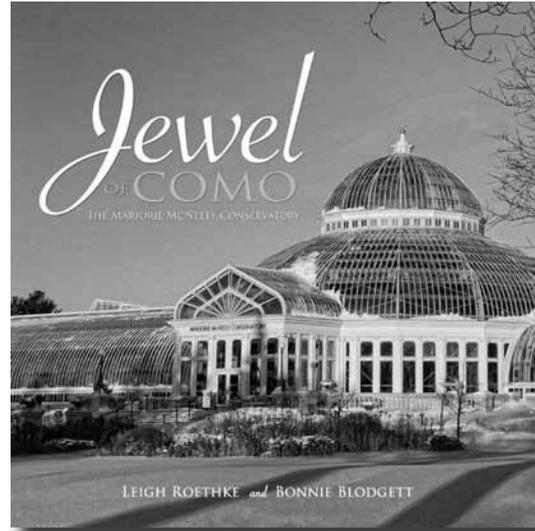
Como Park Zoo & Conservatory

Marjorie McNeely Conservatory

The beautiful coffee table book, *Jewel of Como*, was published in 2009. It celebrates one of the most beloved iconic buildings in Minnesota and, from the standpoint of horticulture and architecture, one of the most important in the world. This stunning book, published by the Afton Historical Society Press, tells the story of the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory with breathtaking photos of today as well as its rich and historic past.

The Orchid Society of Minnesota awarded the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory a \$400.00 grant in support of the Orchid collection.

Vanilla Orchid flowered for the first time in the North Garden. The flowers were cross pollinated by Horticulturist Margaret Yeakel-Twum which resulted in a developing vanilla bean.



Animal Updates

Como Zoo welcomed a baby giraffe on May 5. The calf was born early and had some complications that required him to spend some time at the Veterinary Hospital at the University of Minnesota. In August the baby giraffe returned to the University of Minnesota School of Veterinary Science for a surgery to correct a growth deformity in his leg. His successful ankle bone procedure will ensure healthy growth and development. The transport was assisted by Saint Paul Police Mounted Patrol officers.

Unfortunately, 2009 saw the passing of Harriet, the 47 year old Caribbean Flamingo, at Como Zoo. Harriet has been a fixture and crowd favorite at Como Zoo for 39 years. Harriet survived battles with cancer, as well as radiation treatments, dating back to 1998 when her right middle toe was amputated due to cancerous growth. In 2002, cancer returned and her left middle toe had to be amputated. Harriet was a celebrity in the medical world garnering national media exposure for her long battle with cancer.

Como Zoo's oldest sea lion, and the second oldest sea lion in North America, passed away at the age of 31. The average life expectancy of a sea lion is 15-25 years. Millions of people, young and old, have been entertained by this California sea lion as he starred in the "Sparky Show" from 1981 up until his retirement in 2001. In 2001 both he and his trainer, Norm Byng decided 20 years in show business was enough and passed the beach ball on to the current, and sixth sea lion to take on the coveted Sparky role, Sealia (CC) The Sea Lion. While CC has assumed the stage name Sparky, the 20 year veteran performer was actually named Sparky V.



como friends
TOGETHER WE GROW

Como Friends

Como Friends, the non-profit partner of Como Park Zoo & Conservatory, contributed over \$3.7 million for a variety of programming, support and Capital Campaign payments in 2009. Some of the special projects that would not be possible at Como without this support include Blooming Butterflies, website redesign, primate building facelift, and Marjorie McNeely Conservatory historic entrance furnishings.

Shuttle Addition

Como Park Zoo & Conservatory launched an off-site parking and shuttle option May 23, 2009 with over 3,000 riders in the first weekend. The three buses feature fun designs on the vehicles' exteriors, generating buzz about Como. Como offered the shuttle Saturdays and Sundays through September.

81.4% of riders gave their shuttle experience the highest rating in overall satisfaction and 98.8% would use the Como Shuttle again on future visits. The shuttle is a transforming opportunity in Como Park's master plan to ease congestion and traffic issues.



Polar Bear Update

Como Park Zoo & Conservatory sent another teen to Churchill Canada in October to become Como's Arctic Ambassador & study polar bears through Polar Bears International Adventure Leadership Camp.

On June 3rd, 2010 Como Zoo will proudly unveil "Polar Bear Odyssey". The new World Class Exhibit will feature 13,140 square feet of outdoor polar bear living space, and a 3,260 square foot state-of-the-art holding building with large indoor bedrooms, a cub den, daylight and pools.

Research, Grants, & the Studbook

Como Zoo is home to the International Orangutan Studbook Keeper. Megan Elder, Primate Keeper and now the Studbook Keeper has published her first studbook which contains over 240 pages of global data. This is a career-long appointment which requires annual updates to the database and publications every three years. Megan also received a \$6,000 grant that will go toward a three-week professional development project in Indonesia.

At an International Orangutan Summit in Bali, she'll share her expertise as a genetic record keeper for orangutans, as well as Como's recent success with Markisa and Jaya C-section. She'll also go to Borneo for a species preservation training project run by the Borneo Orangutan Survival Foundation.

Bree Dingmann, who is heading up Como's Wyoming toad repatriation project, received an \$8,000 grant that will pay for her to attend AZA amphibian training, and provide the retrofitting necessary in the Animal Support Building to receive 40 of these critically endangered toads. It also pays for a "hibernaculum," a refrigerated hibernation chamber that will help the toads reproduce for later repatriation into the wild.



Social Media Initiatives

In an effort to connect with Zoo and Conservatory fans, Facebook and Twitter pages were set up. Fans and followers of Como's social networking sites get daily updates, behind the scenes information, and candid photos along with the ability to interact with other fans and post their own photos. Recently a fan posted a letter from her daughter asking the zoo to get dragons. While that may be a tall order for the zoo, showing photos of the new baby giraffe days before his first public appearance are just the sort of thing people can expect when becoming a fan of the site.

 Find us on
Facebook

Follow us on 
@ComoZoo



**COMO PARK
ZOO & CONSERVATORY**



Design & Construction

East Side Heritage Park

The design development and construction of a new 4.55 acre park along Phalen Boulevard was completed in the fall of 2009. East Side Heritage Park serves as a picnic area, rest stop and trail head for the Bruce Vento Regional Trail. A new picnic shelter and restroom facility together with the site work that used sustainable materials and practices helped the project meet B3 status, which is a State of MN sustainability building guideline. The interpretive signage on the park's kiosks highlights significant historical events and characters of the East Side that have had an influence on the City.

City House

Once slated for demolition and listed as one of the most endangered historic sites in Minnesota, the municipal grain terminal on the Upper Landing now serves as a unique park pavilion, interpretive center and event venue. The City House received funding in 2009 from the State Legislature for the addition of heating and restroom facilities. The new additions will help ensure the facility can be used year round. Construction is expected to be completed in 2010.

Grand Openings

Harriet Island Phase II Picnic Area

A grand opening for Phase II Renovations for Harriet Island took place in June of 2009. Harriet Island's transformation has been a 10 year process and symbolizes the revival of Saint Paul's riverfront and a return to embracing the Mississippi River as an amenity. The continuation of the Phase I promenade at the river's edge links visitors through a progression from a more formal park at the Wabasha Bridge, to smaller, more intimate spaces to the more natural side of the park that comprises Phase II. The new picnic shelter opens up to views of the river and downtown. The biofiltration area is designed to highlight the process of storm water as it flows through native plantings and rock out-croppings and winds its course to the Mississippi River.

Play Area Improvements

The newly constructed **Hamline Hague** play area hosted its grand opening in July with an overwhelming turnout. In addition to the play equipment, improvements to the park include: restoration of the historic ornamental railing, extensive perennial beds, a bench swing, and a drinking fountain.

West Minnehaha Recreation Center

play area received a facelift in 2009. Changes to the park include a reconfigured layout, the addition of new play equipment and improved access between the recreation center and the play area. New picnic tables, a bike rack, synthetic turf play-friendly surfacing, perennial plantings and a more prominent location for the existing peace pole were also provided.

Taylor Park was chosen as the recipient of play equipment that had been donated to the city when the East Side's Trinity Catholic School closed. The newly sited equipment supplements the park's existing slide and swings while new poured-in-place rubber surfacing allows access for children of all abilities.



Raspberry Island

Raspberry Island celebrated its renovations with a grand opening in 2009. Raspberry Island maximizes the unique aspect within the Mississippi River and downtown St. Paul, providing an inspiring focal point and an unparalleled waterfront experience. The layered design interlaces forms borrowed from surrounding structures with materials that reflect the heritage of the river and the island. The strong rhythm of the pedestrian path is punctuated with seating areas which align views of the river, downtown and the rest of the park. Public use of the island has been greatly enhanced while respecting the current private ownership of the adjacent boat club property.

Regional Park Master Plans Completed/Approved

Lilydale Regional Park

The development and adoption of a master plan for Lilydale Regional Park has included coordination of public and professional participation to identify the park's potential for programming and enhancement/restoration of natural features. The master plan document includes comprehensive analysis and planning for the site within the context of the Mississippi River, Pickerel Lake and the greater Lilydale/Harriet Island Regional Park and the cities of Lilydale and Saint Paul. The plan includes ecological restoration and shoreline restoration at both the Mississippi River and Pickerel Lake. Roadway, trail and way-finding improvements, stormwater treatment, wildlife viewing areas, boardwalks, an entrance to the fossil ground, and a dog park are also included in the plan. The master plan will be the basis to secure funds and ensure comprehensive development and programming.

Trout Brook

The Master Plan identifies the entire Trout Brook Regional Trail which will link Lake McCarrons County Park to the Lower Phalen Creek Valley area, including the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary and terminate at the Mississippi River, within the City of Saint Paul's Lower Landing Park. This 4.1 mile trail corridor will provide connections of regional significance between the Mississippi River, Sam Morgan Regional Trail, Bruce Vento Regional Trail, Gateway State Trail and downtown St. Paul metro area destinations to the north and east.

It will include the Trillium Nature Sanctuary which provides a trail running along the western property edge and sits approximately 10' above the valley bottom on acquired railroad right-of-way. Trillium will be developed as a Nature Sanctuary, restoring degraded and lost plant communities. Trout Brook will be daylighted and a crushed limestone nature trail will be constructed alongside the stream bed with bridge crossings. The entrance to Trillium is proposed at the corner of Maryland and Jackson and includes parking, bus drop-off, informational kiosk, restroom, picnic area, and interpretive signage. Trillium is tentatively scheduled for completion in 2014.

Operations

- Continued to work with the Real Estate Department on HVAC and Lighting upgrades to Departmental facilities to improve energy efficiency.
- Worked with Recreation Programming to move the Health East Passport Senior Center to its new location in the Allied Bank Building.
- Continued work with “Ice Commission” to develop collaboration between Programming and Operations staff, and volunteers to produce the best results at our ice skating facilities, including the newly installed refrigerated rink at Palace.
- Awarded an AmeriCorps Vista staff person for the third consecutive year to continue work on Horticulture Academy/Eco Ranger curriculum and to create a link for graduates to the local green industry for employment and career development.
- Purchased and incorporated new Davey TreeKeeper 7, a web-based tree management software system which includes the ability to provide a live time inventory of trees and work updates.
- (Tentatively) awarded another \$17,000 from DNR to continue biomass project in Mounds Park in 2010.



Building Trades

Provides plumbing, electrical, carpentry, painting, and heating/cooling needs for the Department and city-wide events.

- Responded to over 5,000 requests for service throughout the department.
- Collaborated with other sections in Operations to complete the outdoor ice rink at Palace Recreation Center.
- Worked with Recreation Programming and other sections to successfully transfer control of five sites to partnered agencies.
- Worked with Police and Neighborhood Housing Property Improvement departments to identify and remove over 2000 incidents of graffiti on parks and private property

Contract Services

Provides maintenance services for property owned by the Department of Planning and Economic Development (P.E.D.) and the St. Paul Port Authority, and cleans properties for the Department Of Safety and Inspections (D.S.I.) and provides contractually arranged services to the Sewer Utility.

- Completed 4,637 of 6,845 summary abatement work orders for D.S.I. Parks staff, 2,208 were completed by the property owners.
- Provided trash hauling services for 221 properties ordered by D.S.I.
- Provided property oversight, tree trimming, grass-cutting, snow-plowing, and other general maintenance services for 358 P.E.D. properties.
- Provided snow removal, grass cutting, brush cutting and removal of unwanted vegetation for the Sewer Utility’s holding ponds, lift stations, and levee sites.

Forestry and Tree Management

Maintains Saint Paul’s 150,000 right-of-way public trees and 200,000 parkland trees by using and implementing modern practices and techniques.

- The Tree Advisory Panel celebrated their 1 year anniversary. Highlights included advocating for sustainable trees to be incorporated into the Central Corridor Light Rail Project and making recommendations for the updated Street Tree Master Plan.
- Over 300 third grade students participated in the Arbor Day poster contest and staff performed 5 in-class forestry presentations.
- Surveyed the city, marking 739 private diseased and dangerous trees for later removal.





Park Maintenance

Performs routine grounds and facility maintenance of regional, city/ neighborhood parks, parkways, and open space as well as preparation, management, and disassembly for programs and events occurring in the parks.

- Maintained over 4,000 acres of parkland, 100 miles of paved off-road trails, 38 tot lots, 15 picnic/rental facilities, dozens of athletic courts, and 3 maintenance facilities.
- Provided service to large regional events such as; the Saint Paul Winter Carnival, Flint Hills Children's Festival, Dragon Fest, and Irish Fest.
- Hosted the 25th annual Spring Parks Cleanup event.
- Maintained over 100 miles of trails with the "green machine", an eco-friendly trail sweeper.
- Worked with Public Art Saint Paul and Eureka Recycling to launch public space recycling in Mears Park.
- Expanded recycling service to include picnic pavilions and shelters.

Environmental Services

Manages the Department's sensitive natural resources through a variety of programs, partnerships and projects.

- Removed woody biomass (buckthorn and other invasive species) from 39 acres of parkland and transported for energy production.
- Burned 22 acres of fire-dependent habitat (prairie savannah) thereby increasing specie and habitat diversity.
- Provided employment and education for 30 Youth Job Corps members in the Eco-Ranger program curriculum and directed another 48 youth in the Youth Outdoors program, in partnership with the Minnesota Conservation Corps.
- Awarded \$218,000 LCCMR grant to develop and construct the Como Woodland Outdoor Classroom beginning next year.
- Logged 7500 volunteer hours estimated at approximately \$150,000 or equivalent to 3.6 full-time employees.
- Secured over \$66,000 of in-kind professional labor to maintain natural areas throughout Saint Paul in coordination with partnering organizations.

Como Central Service Facility Storeroom

Provides custodial and automotive supplies and equipment for the Department.

- Increased and diversified standard inventory base to better accommodate on demand supply needs.

Arts & Gardening

Manages the Department's public gardens and public art collection through a variety of programs, partnerships, and projects.

- Maintained over 130,000 square feet of garden beds, 150 planters, and 600 hanging baskets.
- Organized the fifth annual Golden Bloom Awards program for recognizing and celebrating beautiful gardens in Saint Paul with a 100% increase in participation.
- Established a Blooming Saint Paul Advisory Panel to provide program guidance and support.
- Continued the public art maintenance program to restore and maintain the City's collection.
- Created an outdoor sonic floral installation that musically animated 30,000 flowers for the Flint Hills International Children's Festival.
- Increased community support of the Blooming Saint Paul program by \$10,000.

Support Maintenance

Provides support for recreation centers, parks, and municipal athletics. Provides heavy equipment operators and equipment for the entire Department.

- Increased rink maintenance coverage (outdoor and refrigerated rinks) resulting in improved ice conditions and increased usage.
- Picked up approximately 800 yards of buckthorn and 880 yards of regular brush.
- Rebuilt and upgraded baseball field at McMurray with new fencing, benches and playing surface.
- Increased safety and playability by regrading 10 softball fields.

Recreation Maintenance

Provides recreation centers with the daily custodial/ grounds maintenance needed to operate in a clean and safe environment.

- Introduced "green" cleaning products in daily cleaning at all recreation centers.
- Developed an "Ice Commission" (a collaborative between city staff and volunteers) to produce the best results at ice rinks including three refrigerated rinks.
- Maintained more than 360,000 square feet of interior building space, 248 acres of grounds, 140 ball fields, 65 soccer/football fields, 12 hockey rinks, and 14 general skating rinks.
- Assisted Building Trades with the installation and maintenance of the third refrigerated hockey rink.

Equipment Services

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

- Purchased 176 800Mhz radios, base stations, and vehicle mounts to replace the obsolete UHF system and improve direct communication department-wide.
- Installed 3 security cameras in the Como Central Service Facility yard improving safety and security.
- Reorganized lower parking area to streamline recycling, gain parking space and better organize aggregates.
- Started a golf cart lease program saving thousands of dollars in maintenance fees and staff time and increased revenue generating ability in golf cart rentals.
- Maintained 630 units of specialized equipment and 1,123 units of small equipment.
- Administered and coordinated 162 pieces of rolling stock vehicles.

ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE, & PLANNING

- Commenced the RFP process for the new Department automated registration and reservation system. Finalized vendor selection and began contract negotiations with the Active Network. Estimated implementation 2010.
- Publicity valued at more than \$725,000 was generated through strategic communication efforts and partnerships with the media
- Appointed several section staff to the City's new financial system (COMET) implementation. Staff made recommendations and assisted in developing plans for module implementation beginning in 2010.
- Helped secure more than \$200,000 in grants for various projects including the Jimmy Lee soccer fields and the American Veterans Memorial at Harriet Island.
- Continued managing the Toyota Partnership with activation of more than 20 events with a Toyota presence and 3 official sponsor events.
- Rolled out social networking accounts and began utilizing several web 2.0 communication initiatives to better communicate events and department programming.

Parks Permit Office

Issues permits for special events, picnic shelters, pavilions, open spaces (walks, runs, photo and video shoots, fossil hunting, and ice climbing), and Showmobiles.

- Delivered the Showmobiles (covered stages) to 45 events throughout the city.
- Issued Lilydale fossil hunting permits serving over 8,000 participants.
- Issued 2,000 permits for shelters and pavilions for variety of events ranging from large public events to small private gatherings including 80 permits for walks/runs.
- Issued permits for 40 weddings hosted in Irvine Park with approximately 3,000 people visiting.
- Issued 45 film/photo permits including a music video, an instructional get fit video and a documentary about the history of parks for Twins City Public Television.

SAINT PAUL PARKS CONSERVANCY

The Saint Paul Parks Conservancy was incorporated as a non-profit organization in 2008 to raise funds to enhance and expand parks and recreation opportunities throughout Saint Paul.



In late 2007, realizing that the City alone could not provide adequate funding for creative park enhancements, Mayor Chris Coleman and other community leaders applied for and received funding from the McKnight Foundation to help launch The Conservancy. Since achieving tax exempt status in March of 2009, The Conservancy has raised over half of the \$531,000 needed for its first project initiative—long-overdue enhancements to Lilydale Regional Park. This undeveloped parkland just a few blocks from downtown Saint Paul was a natural first choice for attention. Lilydale offers a most appealing and unique venue for expanded recreational and environmental development. In addition to raising initial funds for a gateway entrance, scenic viewing areas, and other Lilydale enhancements, The Conservancy is proving to be a successful catalyst for other public and private groups to invest in parkland improvements.

Future Conservancy projects will be pursued in partnership with other community groups and selected in light of Saint Paul Parks and Recreation goals of promoting active life styles, vibrant places, and a vital environment.



Special Services

GOLF

Municipal golf courses owned and operated by Saint Paul Parks and Recreation include Highland National and 9-Hole, Como and Phalen.

- 122,315 Golf Rounds were played in 2009.
- The Highland 9 for 9 program began in 2009 by pairing cheap golf with discounted food and beverages. Utilization rates tripled from 20% of tees being filled, to more than 65% at the program peak in mid-summer.
- Family Fun Golf, First Tee and Women's Nine and Dine program continued in 2009 with more than 500 new golfers taking part in the programs for the first time.

SECURITY

- In 2009, Park Security received 3,176 calls for service.
- 369 of these calls resulted in a citation being issued.
- Park Security was called upon to assist with numerous special events such as WinterSkate, Taste of MN, and the Irish Fair in 2009, totaling more than 2,000 staff hours.



PHALEN HOLIDAY LIGHTS

More than 10,350 vehicles and estimated 40,000 visitors enjoy a spectacular array of holiday lights and animated displays as they took an evening drive through Phalen Park in Saint Paul. The tour spanned more than a half a mile along Lake Phalen and Phalen Golf Course. The event was open for 37 days, featured the work of more than 360 volunteers and raised more than \$25,000 for 4 local charities; Second Harvest Heartland, Union Gospel Mission, Saint Paul Parks Conservancy and Under Construction. The event was a media hit being featured more than 271 times in radio, tv and newspaper coverage with more than 12,982,661 impressions.



WELLS FARGO WINTERSKATE

More than 17,500 guests enjoyed free skating at the Wells Fargo WinterSkate rink located across from Rice Park in downtown St. Paul during the winter season.

SKI PROGRAM

Como Ski Center saw a slight increase in lesson registration in 2009. Downhill ski and snowboarding lessons remained very popular, and cross country group lessons drew a little more attention this year, including a feature article in the Midway Monitor.

Parks and Recreation offers cross country and downhill ski and snowboarding opportunities on Majestic Mount Como in Como Park. Cross Country ski trails are located in Como, Highland and Phalen Parks.

Participation by the numbers:

- Cross Country - 98 students
- Downhill ski - 616 students
- Snowboarding - 182 students
- Total = 896 (up 76 from 2008)





MIDWAY STADIUM

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

- The Stadium's main tenant, the Saint Paul Saints, completed its eighteenth season and its fifth year as a member of the American Association of Independent Baseball. The Saints hosted 51 games and attracted nearly 275,000 spectators.
- There were 169 events at the Stadium in 2009, and the facility was in use 67 per cent of available dates from April 9 until October 27.
- The Stadium's premier non-Saints baseball event was the State Class AAA High School Baseball Tournament, held June 11-12, which attracted more than 4,500 spectators. Midway also hosted portions of four different high school sectional tournaments, which accounted for 21 games within a two-week period. In addition to 134 baseball games played throughout the summer, other events included 21 football games, four autocross parking lot events, a "beer fest," and charity walks on behalf of the Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota and the National Kidney Foundation.



SPECIAL EVENTS

WinterSkate

Winter Carnival

Holiday Lights at Phalen

Cultural Festivals

- IndiaFest
- Dragon Boat Festival
- Ethiopian Celebration of the Cross
- Rondo Days

Neighborhood Celebrations

- Highland Fest
- Payne Ave Fest
- Rice Street Festival
- WaterFest

Downtown Events

- Flint Hills Children's Festival
- Music in Mears
- Jazz Fest
- Classic Car Show
- Concrete and Grass

Cirque du Soleil

Extreme Makeover Home Edition

Harriet Island Events

- Wishes for the Sky
- American Heart Association (AHA) Walk/Run
- Chamber of Commerce Run
- American Diabetes Association (ADA) Bike Ride
- Saint Paul Chamber Run
- Time to Fly Run
- Taste of Minnesota
- Irish Fair



Recreation Services

THE CANVAS

The Canvas arts-based teen center opened at the Hancock Recreation Center in the summer of 2009. The Canvas was designed and implemented as a community action project of the Saint Paul Second Shift Youth Commission. Youth Commissioner's identified a wealth of sports programming for teens within the Parks and Recreation system, but felt more teens would participate in recreation centers if there were additional programming options. Youth Commissioners also believe that young people need a consistent place to come after school, as opposed to short-term workshops. To address these issues, Youth Commissioners envisioned an arts-based teen center that would be open multiple days a week and run collaboratively by Parks staff and a youth advisory council. The teen center would offer a mix of structured arts programming, drop-in activities, and homework support. The concept was enthusiastically supported by Parks and Recreation and Hancock Recreation Center was selected as the best location due to a neighborhood support of the arts and sufficient space for the youth commission's programming vision.

During the 2008-2009 school year, youth commissioners re-designed rooms at Hancock with paint, murals and new furniture. A partnership with the Hamline-Midway Coalition supported outreach efforts and mural classes as part of the re-design effort.

Programming is currently supported through a partnership with COMPAS, an arts education organization who provide an arts coordinator at the Canvas who works with young people to identify and develop arts workshops and classes.

The Canvas showcases how Parks and Recreation partners with young people and community organizations to strengthen programming and best meet the needs of the Saint Paul community.

The Canvas has received funding from the Surdna Foundation through a partnership with the Center for Democracy and Citizenship, the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs through a partnership with the Hamline-Midway Coalition, and the Saint Paul Foundation through a partnership with COMPAS.



Classes held this year include:

Workshops:

- Snap Photography
- B-Boy/ B-Girl Workshop
- Fiction Writing
- Mosaic Sign Workshop
- Rap and Hip-hop Songwriting
- West African Drum and Dance

On going classes and activities:

- Canvas Leadership
- Graphic Storytelling
- Poetry Circle
- Study Group



RECREATION CENTERS

The Recreation Services section continued its transformation in 2009 with plans being finalized to reduce and re-partner another 8 of the 33 city operated recreation centers for 2010. Utilizing partnerships and the long-term vision plan completed in 2008, the section made great progress in 2009 to focus on quality over quantity, and offer better services at a better price.

- The recreation centers attracted more than 2.85 million visitors for both drop-in and programmed activities. This is a 14% increase over 2008.
- A total of 4,617 classes/activities were offered at the recreation centers. More than 33,000 people participated in these activities. This is an almost 18% increase over 2008.
- During the 2008-2009 school year, more than 400 children participated in the Rec Check program which was offered at 12 recreation center sites. The Rec Check program is a free, after school program where youth, in grades 1-6, can engage in homework help, reading, crafts, games, and physical activities.

AQUATICS

Parks and Recreation's aquatic section includes the Highland Park Aquatic Center, Phalen Beach, and Great River Water Park at Oxford Community Center.

Great River Water Park Continues to have a steady increase in daily admissions and recreational group users. Although the Como Pool was closed for the summer of 2009 swim season, attendance continues to increase at Highland Park Aquatic Center, which is currently the only outdoor pool facility in Saint Paul.

Aquatics by the numbers:

- Swim lessons – 2,273 students (up 5.6% from 2008) 90% of students were registered online (up 20% from 2008)
- Highland Park Aquatic Center – 112,085 visitors (Memorial Day – Labor Day 2009)
- Outdoor Adventure Camp at Lake Phalen – 88 campers
- Lake Phalen Sailing program – 19 students



CITYWIDE RECREATION SERVICES

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.

Night Moves

- In 2009, 4,763 teens participated in programs at 18 sites throughout the city of Saint Paul.
- Programs offered included volleyball, basketball, recording studio, hip-hop dance, badminton, GLBT, Girls programs, and field trips for transition teens through the Adaptive Recreation program.

Urban Tennis

- In 2009, 2,789 youth (ages 5-18) participated in daily tennis lessons and life skills training at 28 sites in Saint Paul.

Citywide Recreation Services

- The Summer Food Service Program, co-sponsored by Saint Paul Public Schools Nutrition Department, provided 68,208 meals at 30 recreation centers and roaming recreation sites in 2009.



SENIOR PROGRAMS

Parks and Recreation's senior program offers a variety of activities, trips, tours, and special events for seniors, retirees, and adults over the age of 50.

- HealthEast City Passport had over 13,000 people visit the center and utilize services. In addition to the visits, City Passport had over 6,500 hours of volunteer services on various projects throughout the year.
- Recreation for Adults 50+ had over 1,000 people sign up for special events and activities including fishing, card tournaments, birding, casino trips, dinner theater, and train rides.
- The program also had 650 participants enrolled in walking groups, fitness classes and cross country ski programs.

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 program provided more than 37,124 hours of programming for people with disabilities or other special needs, including 915 hours of volunteer services.
- Programming for transition-age youth (ages 14 -22) with disabilities increased in 2008, with the addition of Spring Break Camp, as well as a growing interest from the same age group in joining sports programs.
- Other activities added in 2009 include the Focus on Fitness Challenge as well as an I Can Act class.

MOBILE RECREATION PROGRAM

- The Roaming Rec Program provided outdoor recreation activities for youth, ages 6-17, at 18 sites throughout the summer. Total attendance was 6,230 with more than 5,981 snacks being served throughout the program.
- A partnership with the Saint Paul Public Library began in 2009 as part of the mobile recreation program. A total of eight sites were visited by the book mobile and recreation staff to provide learning and recreational opportunities.
- Community outreach initiatives were enhanced by beginning to offer programming at two senior housing centers and two loaves and fishes sites.

SAINT PAUL GETTING FIT

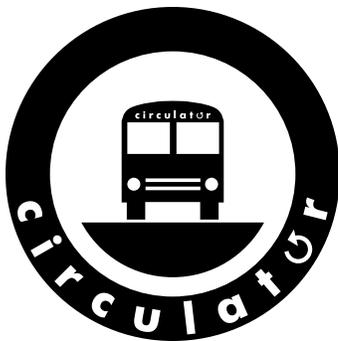
The "Active Living" Fitness Membership continued to be a big success in 2009. More than 1,700 residents took advantage of the \$30 annual fitness membership that grants unlimited access to all recreation fitness rooms and walking tracks. 50 non-residents were also granted unlimited access to the membership program through a \$60 non-resident annual rate.





REFRIGERATED RINKS

A third refrigerated rink opened at Palace Recreation Center with a celebration hosted by players from the Women's USA Hockey Team. The rinks at Palace, North Dale and Phalen Recreation Centers continued to showcase their success by hosting more than 26,000 visitors in 2009. The premium quality ice was again in high demand with several local high school hockey teams holding outdoor practices and scrimmages.



CIRCULATOR BUSES

The East Side Circulator buses provide free, safe, and accessible transportation to facilitate youth participation in learning opportunities in the Dayton's Cliff and Payne Phalen neighborhoods.

- 325 youth signed up for circulator bus passes this year, while 2,834 rides were provided between the two circulators.

MUNICIPAL ATHLETICS

Grants:

Minnesota Twins Community Fund Grant

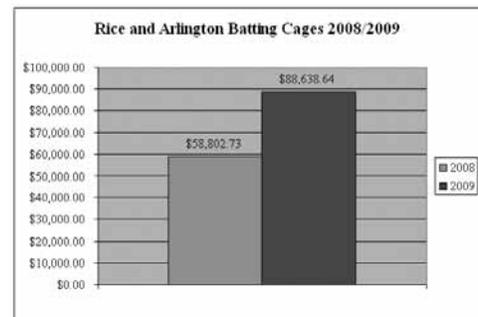
- \$50,000 annually for programming distributed to our recreation center baseball/softball program including entry fees, equipment, apparel, etc.
- \$10,000 annually for renovation of a Saint Paul baseball or softball field.
- \$5,000 funding for the "Futures" Baseball Program – Introducing the game of baseball to the Hmong/Asian and Somali communities.

Projects Completed in 2009:

- Rice/Arlington Irrigation on fields #1, 4, 5
- McMurray Baseball field
- MLB Grant – Field of Dreams at Dunning
- Tree Trust beautification project on Rice/Arlington field #6

Rice & Arlington Batting Cages by the numbers

- 55,903 batting cages tokens sold in 2009.
- 1075 hours booked in the Multi-Purpose Room in 2009.
- 68,000+ participants



Friends of Saint Paul Baseball

Friends of Saint Paul Baseball is the non-profit support group that generates private dollars to help support, maintain, and improve our baseball and softball field infrastructure. Friends of Saint Paul Baseball surpassed 1 million dollars in fundraising in 2009 which will directly aid future improvements in 2010.

Officiating Program

- Municipal Athletics provides the administration for employment, training, assigning and evaluation of 300 sports officials in our youth and adult athletic programs.



Partnerships

- MLB/Minnesota Twins
- NFL/Minnesota Vikings
- Minneapolis Park Board
- Jr. NBA/Jr. WNBA
- ASA Softball – American Softball Association
- MBA Baseball – Minnesota Baseball Association
- MYAS – Minnesota Youth Athletic Services
- MSF – Minnesota Sports Federation
- American Legion Baseball
- VFW Baseball
- Tri County Softball
- USA Broomball
- MUSA Kickball
- Saint Paul Blackhawks
- ISL – International Soccer League
- Saint Paul Outdoor Ice Commission
- Homegrown Lacrosse
- Friends of Saint Paul Baseball

2009 Events

- Minnesota Class A State Amateur Baseball Tournament
- 35 + State Baseball Tournament
- Paul Molitor Classic Youth Baseball Tournament
- Rice Street Festival Softball Tournament
- Harding Area Fast Pitch Youth Softball Tournament
- MSF Winter Carnival Broomball Tournament
- Multiple Youth and Adult Playoffs/Tournaments
- MLB Pitch, Hit and Run Competition
- NFL Punt, Pass and Kick Competition
- NBA Skills Challenge
- MUSA Kickball Tournament

Programming:

Youth

- RBI Baseball and Softball 8U – 18U
 - 1,650+ participants
- Basketball 10U – 18U
 - 1,900+ participants
- Volleyball
 - More than 690 participants
 - 10U, 12U, 14U, 18U age groups – recreational
- Football 10U – 14U
 - Tackle: 1,150 participants
 - Flag: 300 participants
- Outdoor Soccer 10U – 14U
 - 975 participants
- Indoor Soccer 10U – 12U
 - 200 participants

Total Youth participants – 6,575

Adult

- Broomball/Boot Hockey
 - 2,725 participants
- Touch Football
 - 360 participants
- Softball
 - 8,200 participants
- Basketball
 - 350 participants
- Baseball
 - 575 participants

Total Adult participants – 12,210



Events of 2009

Cultural Festivals

- IndiaFest
- Dragon Boat Festival
- Ethiopian Celebration of the Cross
- Rondo Days

Neighborhood Celebrations

- Highland Fest
- Payne Ave Fest
- Rice Street Festival
- WaterFest

Downtown Events

- Flint Hills Children's Festival
- Music in Mears
- Jazz Fest
- Classic Car Show
- Concrete and Grass

Cirque du Soleil

WinterSkate

Winter Carnival

Holiday Lights at Phalen

Extreme Makeover Home Edition

Harriet Island Events

- Wishes for the Sky
- American Heart Association (AHA) Walk/Run
- Chamber of Commerce Run
- American Diabetes Association (ADA) Bike Ride
- Saint Paul Chamber Run
- Time to Fly Run
- Taste of Minnesota
- Irish Fair

Como Zoo & Conservatory Events

- Orchid Show
- Winter Flower Show
- Woo at the Zoo
- Enchanted Evening
- Spring Fling
- Bridal Showcase
- Go Green for Gorillas - Party for the Planet
- Summer Flower Show
- Bonsai Show
- Wings of Wonder
- Sunset Affair
- Lantern Lighting Festival
- Zink
- Free to be Green
- Wolf Awareness Weekend
- Zoo Boo
- Orangutan Awareness
- Ikebana Show
- Holiday Tea
- Family New Year's Day



Things to look for in 2010...

- Como Park Zoo & Conservatory Polar Bear Odyssey Grand Opening
- Parks & Recreation System Plan
- Second Shift 2.0 – Joint Programming Options with Saint Paul Public Schools & the Saint Paul Public Library
- Payne Maryland Facility Design Completion
- Department Automated Registration & Reservation System Implementation

MAYOR CHRIS COLEMAN'S STRATEGIC PLAN

Saint Paul's residents have an inherent appreciation and love for our home. It comes from our culturally diverse and historic neighborhoods, beautiful parks, vibrant libraries and recreation centers, and thriving arts and culture – assets that define the livability for all residents. Through recent years and work, we've improved our livability with access to quality educational opportunities, safe streets, economic opportunity, and sound stewardship. We've reclaimed the Mississippi River as the lifeblood of the City. We've created an energetic, growing Downtown neighborhood and positioned our urban center to power the fortunes of the region. We're investing in our neighborhoods, preserving the texture and culture and strengthening them with stable homes and business. We are opening doors for our children to succeed in Saint Paul's future.

We will be a national leader for education, safe streets, a thriving economy, and quality living. These are the goals of Mayor Chris Coleman's administration. With them, we will build the assets that 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.

Sphagnum Moss Creates the Greatest Water

In the summer of 2009 the City of Saint Paul and Creative Water Solutions, LLC, introduced a new commercial filtration technique using Sphagnum Moss in addition to the chlorine based filtration system already in use. The initial results have been amazing. The pools all have better water quality and clarity as well as a reduction in chlorine use and cost. This makes for a more natural swimming experience as the Sphagnum Moss treated water is better for your skin, hair, swim suit, and best of all your eyes. Frequent swimmers have noted their eyes do not burn anymore and swimmers at the indoor facility note the near absence of chlorine odor. Come experience our 'great water' at Great River Water Park and Highland Park Aquatic Center to find out what everyone is talking about.

