

Park Improvements  
Report as of 6-19-09  
Submitted by: Melody Sweat

The Park Department's focus most of this month has been construction of Phase I of the Monon Trail and dealing with Mother Nature, Phase II Monon ROW Acquisition, Westfield in Bloom; and Quaker Park Splash Park.

## **TRAILS**

### **Monon Trail (146<sup>th</sup> to 156<sup>th</sup>)**

The Grand Opening of the Monon Trail/Alyn Bernell Mile was a huge success. We estimated 250 people attending. Thanks to everyone who helped make this event so great. Landscaping is continuing and should be complete prior to this meeting. The lighting is to be install midweek. We are still waiting in the final signs: the gateway sign and mile markers as well as the crosswalk signage. We will do a preliminary walk through late next week.

### **Monon Trail (Viking Meadows)**

Neil Van Trees will release the bid package on Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> for this section of the trail. Plans are to have it built by mid August.

### **Monon Trail North**

We should be finalizing four additional donations (AgReliant, Alvis Family, John Menonna and Jeff Delello) in the next couple weeks. The appraisals for Custom Concrete are done. I have prepared the paperwork and waiting for review. Also, the paperwork for CK Properties, South Park Investments and Teamm Realty are waiting for review. Neil and Pete White are working on the Kamin property design.

### **Midland Trace Trail**

Matt Skelton has been working with Synthesis and EHMT on an umbrella agreement to get the hydraulic modeling done for the bridge over Cool Creek. We should have something back from Synthesis in the next couple weeks. This will moves us ahead to be able to apply for all necessary permits for the bridge project.

### **Cool Creek Trail**

I have a meeting set up with Eric Strickland with Kite Development in regarding to building the Cool Creek Trail through their 146<sup>th</sup> Street development to connect to Cool Creek Park and the Carmel Cool Creek Trail.

## **PARKS**

### **Shelter Rentals**

Shelter rentals at the three parks is going well and generating funds for future picnic table and trash receptacle purchases.

### **Freedom Trail Park**

We missed the deadline to submit to be on the School Board Meeting Agenda for June. We are shooting for July. The purpose of this is to transfer the land at both Freedom Trail and Asa Bales Park to the City. Part of this process will include the stoning of the Cross Country Trails and the schools commitment to long term maintenance of these trails.

Legal council is working with WYSI and the Schools regarding the lease/use agreement and financing of the concession/restroom building planned for the park. Other items regarding the site plan at Freedom Trail Park will be coordinated with DPW and park staff on the road and parking lot construction, installing the berms and prairie plantings.

All grass and flowers are planted. We should have the 7 large trees planted next week.

I am continuing to work with playground designers for the play ground and will have a conceptual plan in place this summer.

### **Simon Moon Park**

The sledding hill continues to develop although the dirt deliveries have been slow. Hopefully that will pick up.

### **Asa Bales Park.**

We have experienced more vandalism at the park. A fence was broken and has been repaired. The broken slide will be removed this week and the opening insert will be installed.

We are still putting together the numbers for irrigation at Asa Bales North and Quaker Park. I will present this to Bruce Hauk in late June.

### **Quaker Park**

Quaker Park's flower beds are looking great.

The Splash Park has been an ongoing maintenance problem. It continues to have readings all over the board. We have had three bad tests and now have a major leak. The feature that is leaking has been shut down and will require major repair after the season. The feature that that needed repair before the park opened this year, the "Spin & Spill" will be returned this Monday for Texas. It was covered under warranty. The utility and park staff will install it before the park opening on Tuesday. Dealing with recycled water at the splash park is a nightmare. I hope to convert it to fresh water when we tear the concrete up to do the other repairs after the season.

**Liberty Park**

I have reviewed all documents on file for Liberty Park and the wetland mitigation project. I spoke with Anne Altor, Williams Creek and Eric Strickland, Kite Development. Anne is the person who is monitoring the wetland project. She is aware of the dead trees and shrubs and plans to replace them this fall at the proper planting time. I will be meeting Eric Strickland to discuss the plan for this site on July 8<sup>th</sup>.

Eric will be providing me with the finalized documents which we do not seem to have on file.

**Other Projects****Westfield in Bloom (WIB)**

Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup> is the day WIB will be judging the entry into this year's competition. Our Judges are Nancy Hittle, Hittle Landscaping, Jim Gapinski, Heartland Growers and Suzanne Stevens, Hamilton County Master Gardeners and Tree Steward's. We have over 40 entries in this year's contest.