

# Park & Recreation Commission Item

August 26, 2025



|                       |                                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Item</b>           | Civic Campus Programming Discussion |
| <b>Item No:</b>       | G.2                                 |
| <b>Agenda Section</b> | <b><u>GENERAL BUSINESS</u></b>      |
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## **SUGGESTED ACTION**

### **SUMMARY**

Phase 2 of the Civic Campus Project is scheduled for completion during Summer 2026. As part of this project, new destination park amenities will be incorporated into the Civic Campus space in downtown Chanhassen, including a covered performance pavilion, 4-season park building, playground, splash fountain, pickleball courts, green space, and a resurfaced skate park, in addition to the new City Hall and Senior Center building.

At their May 27, 2025, and July 22, 2025, meetings, the Park & Recreation Commission expressed a desire to focus on three strategic objectives. The first objective reflects the Commission's goal to make the Civic Campus a vibrant space for the community.

1. **Make Downtown a Magnet for Community Building:** Support efforts to create energy, draw people in, and make downtown Chanhassen and the Civic Campus a central gathering space through activation, placemaking, and events.
2. **Foster Belonging and Inclusive Recreation:** Champion programs, policies, and development of spaces, including the Chanhassen Bluffs Recreation Center, that are accessible and beneficial to all of Chanhassen's population.
3. **Steward and Enhance Community Assets:** Support the development of city parks, facilities, and trails that are well-maintained, thoughtfully expanded, and future-ready.

At their July 22, 2025, meeting, the Commission highlighted three areas of interest when working towards strategic objectives.

1. Infrastructure Development
2. Policy Matters
3. Programming

Staff would like to engage the Commission to have a discussion regarding specific matters of interest relating to the downtown Civic Campus space, with an emphasis on programming. Based on the discussion and Commission direction, staff will research and present additional information on specific programs at a future Park & Recreation Commission meeting.

## **BACKGROUND**

## **DISCUSSION**

**Strategic Objective #1: Make Downtown a Magnet for Community Building.** Support efforts to create energy, draw people in, and make downtown Chanhassen and the Civic Campus a central gathering space through activation, placemaking, and events.

Today's discussion will focus on the three Commission focus areas as they relate to Strategic Objective #1, with an emphasis on focus area #3, programming. Examples from Commissioners under each focus area are listed below:

1. Infrastructure Development (*community art, murals, painted benches, story walks, shaded seating, flexible furniture, temporary play installations*)
2. Policy Matters (*food truck policy*)
3. Programming (*pop-up events, music events, chalk walks, family art nights, all-ages fall event*)

As of August 2025, no budget has been established for infrastructure development or programming in the new Civic Campus space. Topics addressed today will be incorporated into the 2026 budget discussions, and staff will provide an update at a future Park & Recreation Commission meeting.

The goal is for the Commission to identify 3-5 specific infrastructure developments, policy matters, or programs for further research and consideration by the Commission.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

## **ATTACHMENTS**

[Chanhassen Parks & Recreation Commission Strategic Planning Framework 2025-2026](#)  
[5.27 Brainstorming Session Notes](#)