

Park & Recreation Commission Item

March 24, 2026



Item	2025-2026 Ice Rink Season Evaluation
Item No:	G.1
Agenda Section	<u>GENERAL BUSINESS</u>
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SUGGESTED ACTION

SUMMARY

The 2025-2026 ice skating rink season ran from Wednesday, December 17 to Friday, February 13, totaling 58 operational days. The season benefited from generally favorable weather conditions, allowing for efficient ice creation early and consistent rink maintenance throughout much of the season. Warming houses and rinks were temporarily closed from December 26 through December 31 and again from January 6 through January 14 due to warm temperatures, but crews were able to quickly restore conditions once colder weather returned. As temperatures increased in early to mid-February, ice conditions deteriorated, leading to the closure on February 13.

Warming houses were available at the Chanhassen Recreation Center, Bandimere Park, and North Lotus Lake Park. Rinks at Roundhouse Park and Pioneer Pass Park were maintained but not staffed. QR codes were added at these unstaffed locations for participants to check in, providing additional insight into usage at these sites. Based on 73 responses, approximately 71% of the respondents utilized Pioneer Pass Park and 29% utilized Roundhouse Park. Most respondents reported skating in groups of two to four people, with typical visit durations ranging from one to two hours. While this data is self-reported and may vary in accuracy, it provides helpful insight into usage patterns at unstaffed locations.

Park Maintenance crews were able to regularly flood and maintain the rinks, creating quality skating conditions throughout the season while benefiting from weather conditions that reduced the need for intensive daily maintenance.

2025-2026 Recorded Participants

For monitored rinks

Location	December	January	February	Rink Totals
Bandimere	268	380	360	1,008
Chanhassen Recreation Center	501	800	706	2,007
North Lotas Lake Park	171	235	136	542
Totals	940	1,415	1,202	3,557

A total of 13 rink attendants were hired on a part-time/seasonal basis, contributing 792.5 hours. Their total wages amounted to **\$11,365.52**.

Rink Maintenance Description	Amount
Total Cost	\$28,396
Total Labor Hours	307 Hours
Labor Cost	\$18,240
Equipment Cost	\$9,977
Ice Rink Water (336,000 gallons)	\$178.76

Expenses

Expense	Amount
Temporary and Seasonal Wages	\$11,365.52
Wages	\$4,890.92
Warming House Rentals	\$28,396.00
Total	\$44,652.44

BACKGROUND

DISCUSSION

RECOMMENDATION

ATTACHMENTS

[25-26 Ice Rink Season Overview](#)

[Pioneer Pass & Roundhouse Park Check-In Process](#)

[Ice Skating Rink History](#)