

Council Meeting: June 18, 2026	Prepared By: Jessica Christensen Buck, Parks and Recreation Manager
Topic: Parks, Recreation, and Trails Update	Action Required: Information Only

Summary

Program Coordinator: Staff welcomed the new Program Coordinator, Amelia Zdechlik, on May 18. Since starting, she has quickly become integrated into seasonal operations, taking on primary coordination responsibilities for both youth baseball and youth soccer. She has worked directly with coaches, parents, and players serving as the main point of contact and helping ensure smooth program delivery.

Heritage Park Construction: Construction progress continues throughout the park. Silt fencing has been installed to proactively prepare for the phased reopening of portions of the park, particularly in advance of the summer soccer season. Poured-in-place rubber surfacing has been installed along the playground hillside, and hydroseeding has occurred in several disturbed areas. Staff continues to encourage park users to remain off seeded areas to allow the grass to properly establish.

Grant Coordination: Staff continues coordinating with external funding partners related to the Heritage Park project. An upcoming meeting with representatives administering the Hennepin County Youth Sports Grant is scheduled for June 15. Staff has also maintained communication with the Minnesota DNR and Three Rivers Park District to continue advancing reimbursement processes associated with project funding upon completion.

Youth Soccer: Registration for the 2026 season has concluded. Program Coordinator Zdechlik has completed forming teams, coordinated referee recruitment, and compiled apparel orders. Field paint has been ordered, and Community Development staff anticipate completing field striping during the week of June 29 in preparation for the start of the season.

Wayfinding: Staff continues working with HKGi on the development of the draft wayfinding concepts included in the agenda packet. The process has included collaboration with Public Works and Communications staff to ensure consistency and alignment with the broader vision.

Events/Engagement: Staff is actively preparing for the upcoming event season and Night to Unite activities. Website updates are underway for several community events, including Bark in the Park, Trunk or Treat, and the Holiday Toy and Food Drive. Registration is currently open for neighborhood parties participating in Night to Unite 2026, with seven parties registered as of the date of this report. Vendor registration is also now available for organizations and businesses interested in participating in both Bark in the Park and Trunk or Treat.

Council Update:

June 11, 2026, City Council Meeting

- 6j. Heritage Park - Wright Hennepin Easement/Connection
 - Request for Council to approve the Wright-Hennepin line construction charge (\$53,191.80) agreement and authorize proceeding with the proposed electrical service route and associated easement location for the Heritage Park Building.
- 6k. Heritage Park - Silt Fencing
 - Request for Council direction of budget to utilize for silt fencing at Heritage Park for phased opening of portions of the park.
- 6o. Heritage Park Improvements - Pay Request #10 (Building)
 - Request for Council to approve Pay Request #10 for the Heritage Park Improvements to Valint Construction Service in the amount of \$234,989.88.
- 6p. Heritage Park Remaster - Change Order #17
 - Request for Council to approve the adjustment of the underground roof drain stubs (\$10,332.53).

Council Action