



AGENDA
PARKS, RECREATION & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
MEETING

June 4, 2025 - 6:00 PM
Lake Marion Conference Room

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. May 21, 2025 Meeting Minutes
3. Citizen Comments
4. Discussion Items
 - a. 2025 SWPPP Public Meeting | Presentation
 - b. Draft Electric Bike Policy
 - c. Lake Marion Greenway Alignment Review
5. Staff Report
6. Other Business
 - a. 2025 Park Tour Date Survey
7. Adjourn

**CITY OF LAKEVILLE
PARKS, RECREATION & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
May 21, 2025**

Committee Chair Weberg called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Lake Marion Conference Room.

Members Present: Holly Weberg, Steve Henneberry, Daniel Volkosh, Shahid Nadeem, Pat Sauer, Vicki Schwartz, Renee Brekken, Saima Ali

Members Absent: Mark Engler

Staff Present: Parks and Recreation Director Joe Masiarchin, Environmental Resources Manager Mac Cafferty

1. Approval of April 16, 2025 minutes

A motion was made by Sauer, seconded by Schwartz to approve April 16, 2025 minutes as written.

Ayes: unanimous

2. Committee Member Introductions

Committee members introduced themselves to new members and shared their background with the committee.

3. Citizen comments

No citizens were present.

4. Reserve at Cedar Creek Preliminary Plat

Recreation Manager Susan Johnson provided an overview of the Strategic Planning Workshop that staff from Recreation, Heritage Center, advisory committee members and members of the Active Adults completed. The workshop was facilitated by Aurora Consulting who also met with staff on a third day to develop an implementation plan. The two-day workshop started with a discussion of the departments' current reality including staffing, programs offered, facilities, membership and other items. The second day identified future goals and where the department would like to be over the next five years. The 12-month implementation plan that was developed includes a variety of action items that have been assigned to staff members for completion.

Committee Discussion:

- Cafferty explained the required tree replacement ordinance and where buffers are required. The current ordinance requires the developer to complete a tree inventory but does not dictate the replacement of trees that are removed. The inventory includes anything that is six feet or larger and no less than two and a half inches in diameter, the health of the trees is also taken into consideration. The committee asked what the purpose was of the inventory of there is not a requirement to preserve or replace the trees. At this time, the only trees that are

remaining are in the wetland on the site. Committee members were concerned about the number of health trees that are being removed.

- Committee members discussed the option to include recommendations in their motion to the Planning Commission and City Council. Staff indicated that this is in the purview of the committee to make recommendations of this type. Committee Member Sauer lives near this development and shared that this area of the City does not have a lot of trees in the area and would like to recommend an exception in this for instance with the tree removal plan.

Motion was made by Sauer, seconded by Schwartz to recommend to City Council approval of the Reserve at Cedar Creek Preliminary Plat with recommendations to review the existing healthy trees on site and make a greater effort to preserve the screening along the north, south and west borders and make consideration for enhanced screening with new, diverse planting along the same borders.

Ayes: Unanimous

5. 2025 Park Tour

The most recent park tour was hosted in 2023; committee members were asked to share their requests for what parks they would like to visit as part of this year's tour. Staff will build a route from the committee's recommendations and send a handful of dates for the tour to occur.

Proposed Locations:

- Cherryview Park
- Orchard Lake Park and Beach
- Quail Meadows Park
- Aronson/Quigley Sime/Village Creek Parks
- Grand Prairie Park
- Avonlea Neighborhood
- Wayside Park
- East Community Park
- Hasse Arena
- Spyglass Park
- King Park
- Conservation Areas

6. Lake Marion Greenway Trail Status Report & Update

Project team meetings have been taking place over the last few months with preliminary planning of the route, trailheads and other components. An open house on the project will be hosted by WSB on June 1 at the John Hennen Pavilion. The committee is encouraged to attend and provide feedback on the project. A postcard announcing the open house will be sent out to adjacent neighbors of the project and others who have been identified as shareholders.

7. Updated Leash Law Discussion

City Council recently reviewed the existing ordinance pertaining to the restraint of dogs and some changes have been proposed by staff. Included in the proposed ordinance is

the removal of the canine good citizen allowances and the addition of designated off leash dog areas in some parts.

Potential off-leash locations outside of the designated dog park at Ritter Farm Park would only include non-fenced open space that is not utilized for athletic decks. Staff has received requests to allow dogs on skating rinks during the off season, only dirt/grass rinks would be considered in this for instance. Committee Member Brekken shared that some surrounding communities offer this and recommended that staff reach out to other cities for more information, staff will explore further. Staff also shared that the option for a second designated dog park has been considered with East Community Park Phase II being a potential option. Committee Member Henneberry expressed support for a second designated dog park location. Some committee members shared concerns over the length of dog leashes allowed to be 25 feet, staff will share this with the council. This is an ongoing discussion that will come back to this committee for review.

8. Staff Report

The deadline for proposals for the 2026-2036 Parks System Master Plan closed on the 20th. Staff received five proposals from various consultants and has begun reviewing them. Consultant interviews are set to begin next week; a consultant will be selected by June 10.

Motion was made by Henneberry, seconded by Weberg to adjourn the April 16, 2025 meeting.

Ayes: unanimous

9. Adjourn

Meeting 7:45 p.m.



Memorandum

To: Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Committee Members
From: Joe Masiarchin, Parks and Recreation Director
Date: May 30, 2025
Subject: Draft Electric Bike Policy

With the growing popularity of electric bikes (e-bikes), staff has noted the increased traffic of non-traditional bicycles on city sidewalks, trails and paths. The need for guidance for cyclists and pedestrians on the appropriate usage of -bikes has been identified. Residents and trail users have also expressed the need for e-bike regulations. Staff reached out to surrounding communities to determine what policies already exist. In doing so, it was determined that most municipalities refer to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resource's guidance on the usage of -bikes. Staff has included the DNR's & Dakota County's guidance and the definition that the state uses for *bicycle* in your packet for review.

Per the DNR and Dakota County, e-bikes can be ridden on any bike path or shared use path where bicycles are allowed. However, local governments may impose restrictions on specific path or trails. Using this guidance, staff has drafted an e-bike usage policy that is attached in your packet. Staff is asking for feedback from the committee and a motion to recommend approval to City Council. The policy will then be reviewed and discussed at an upcoming City Council Work Session.

**MN State Statute
Definition of Bicycle that
most organizations refer
to**

Subd. 4.Bicycle. (a) "Bicycle" means every device capable of being propelled solely by human power upon which any person may ride, having two tandem wheels, and including any device generally recognized as a bicycle though equipped with two front or rear wheels. Bicycle includes an electric-assisted bicycle, as defined in subdivision 27.
(b) "Bicycle" does not include scooters, motorized foot scooters, or similar devices.

DNR

Electric-assist or pedal-assist bicycles are allowed on state trails, or wherever normal bicycles are allowed: 2 or 3 wheels
A saddle and fully operable pedals for human propulsion
Equipped with an electric motor that has a power output of not more than 750 watts; and
Meets the requirements of a class 1, class 2, or class 3 electric-assisted bicycle:
"Class 1 electric-assisted bicycle" means an electric-assisted bicycle equipped with an electric motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.
"Class 2 electric-assisted bicycle" means an electric-assisted bicycle equipped with an electric motor that is capable of propelling the bicycle without the rider pedaling and ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.
"Class 3 electric-assisted bicycle" means an electric-assisted bicycle equipped with an electric motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 28 miles per hour.
Note that the law does not permit anyone under the age of 15 years to operate any electric-assist bike.
A motorized bicycle that does not meet the definition of an electric-assist bicycle is not allowed on state trails where motorized vehicles are prohibited.
When riding on state trails, remember to yield to pedestrians and slower trail users, and give an audible signal if passing.

**DAKOTA
COUNTY**

The speed limit on all trails is 15 mph. Bicyclists must travel in a safe manner and should expect to encounter other trail users walking, in-line skating, skateboarding, and operating electric mobility devices on the trail. Please share the trail. Bicycling with a pet on leash is not allowed. Electric-assist or pedal-assist bicycles are allowed wherever normal bicycles are allowed.

Rules and Regulations for Operation of E-bikes on City Trails, Sidewalks and Paths

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the usage and standard operating procedures of e-bikes within the City of Lakeville's trail system and applies to any City owned trails, sidewalks and paths.

Definitions

The City of Lakeville refers to Dakota County's definition of electric-assist or pedal-assist bicycles as defined by Minnesota Statutes 169.011, subdivision 27. Local government agencies are permitted to adopt their own policies on the regulation of ebikes on City owned trails, sidewalks and paths.

Class 1: The motor only assists when the rider pedals and stops assisting when the bike reaches 20 miles per hour.

Class 2: The motor can propel the bike without the rider pedaling and stops assisting when the bike reaches 20 miles per hour.

Class 3: The motor only assists when the rider pedals and stops assisting when the bike reaches 28 miles per hour.

Rules & Regulations

E-bikes are allowed on trails, sidewalks and paths wherever normal bicycles are permitted excluding trails managed for non-motorized vehicles.

- a. Must be 15 years of age or older to operate an e-bike within the City of Lakeville trails system and 16 years of age or older to operate a Class 3 e-bike where permissible
- b. Must wear a helmet while operating an e-bike
- c. Modified e-bikes that bypass its speed limit control are prohibited
- d. Obey posted trail rules such as speed limits, right of way and directional travel
- e. Be courteous to other trail users and travel at safe and reasonable speeds if no speed limit signs are posted. In the absence of speed limit signs, riders may not exceed 20 miles per hour:
 - Class 1: 20 mph
 - Class 2: 20 mph
 - Class 3: 28 mph
- f. Stay off trails that are wet, muddy or in a state that usage could cause significant damage
- g. Stay off trails, sidewalks and paths that do not have a clear e-bike usage policy
- h. Use passing techniques that don't widen the trail
- i. Class 1 e-bikes are allowed on the West Lake Marion Mountain Bike Trail, Class 2 and 3 are prohibited as this trail is managed for non-motorized usage primarily

Policy Enforcement

This policy will be enforced by City of Lakeville staff.



Memorandum

To: Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Committee
From: Joe Masiarchin, Parks and Recreation Director
Date: May 30, 2025
Subject: Lake Marion Greenway Alignment Review

The Lake Marion Greenway travels 20 miles through Burnsville, Savage, Credit River Township, Lakeville and Farmington. The Lake Marion Greenway will link the Minnesota River and Minnesota River Greenway to Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve, Ritter Farm Park, Lake Marion, Downtown Lakeville, South Creek and Downton Farmington where it will connect with the North Creek Greenway. Eventually this will be a Dakota County Greenway Trail that will be maintained by Dakota County.

The City and Dakota County contracted with WSB to complete the Lake Marion Greenway Trail Feasibility Study that focuses on the proposed trail segments within the City of Lakeville starting from Downtown Lakeville into Ritter Farm Park and ending at 185th St./County Road 60 for eventual trail connections that will extend to Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve. After visiting the site and reviewing various potential alignments, staff will be presenting a proposed alignment for discussion and review by this committee.