
SUMMARY OF OPPORTUNITIES

Monthly Parks Commission update – August, 2020

What are the top issues on your mind?

- Bike Path - projects out to bid and realignment
- Fall/Winter recreation planning and meeting the needs of the community

Department accomplishments and notable staffing developments since the last report?

- Reduced summer assistance at the waterfront, grounds, and cemetery divisions have required full-time staff to take on tasks and workloads more than ever before and they have been very successful in keeping our parks safe during a time of increased use.
- We have been approved to fill the Bike Path Maintenance Specialist position and will be posting the position soon.
- Our facilities team dispatched compost containers and coordinated waste collection for all park and public buildings for compliance beginning July 1.
- We are working with the DPW Water Division to share a full-time custodian position. We currently have a part-time position vacant and Water needs custodial support. The position will need approval from Board of Finance due to the change from PT to FT but will have no impact on the general fund.
- The Trees team is in the process of planting all the perennials at City Hall Park. They look amazing!
- Jen Lacey is our Coach of the Year. Check out the video we put together for her. She was originally on the schedule for our April Commission meeting which was canceled. The video allows us to get the word out to more of the community on the good work she is doing for BPRW! <https://youtu.be/tRN5LHShSUA>



COVID-19

- The Recreation team is working on fall programming in light of COVID. We have made the decision to not print a catalog but instead will provide an on-line catalog. This will help eliminate “old” information with the unknown pandemic landscape for the fall. Our on-line catalog will only have fall information in August rather than our usual fall/winter program. We will utilize the schools to help us reach K-6 youth in regards to programming along with our on-line presence. We are working with the school district and the Innovation and Technology Department to help determine the role BPRW can play this fall with the new school schedule.
- We are working with other departments on supplies to try to ensure we have at least 90 days of PPE supplies on hand prior to the start of fall.

- Champlain Senior Center started limited in-person programming the week of July 17th. Seniors may choose one of two days to attend and must pre-register. They are utilizing the larger, lower level space at the Old North End Community Center.
- Richard Bailey, our events compliance coordinator, has been working with the RRC on cooling center locations. This has been very challenging and there are no immediate solutions.
- Due to increased beach use we have needed to groom beach more than usual without the usual support of our Campground work crew.

Major upcoming events:

<http://enjoyburlington.com/events/>

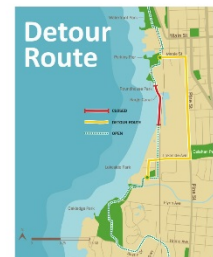
- Grazin' on the Greenway has been a successful pilot this summer. Unfortunately, there were limited trucks available so we were not able to expand the trucks at the Waterfront or provide trucks to neighborhood parks. The ice cream trucks have been the general standby and I have importantly tested them at least twice!
<https://enjoyburlington.com/event/grazin-the-greenway/>



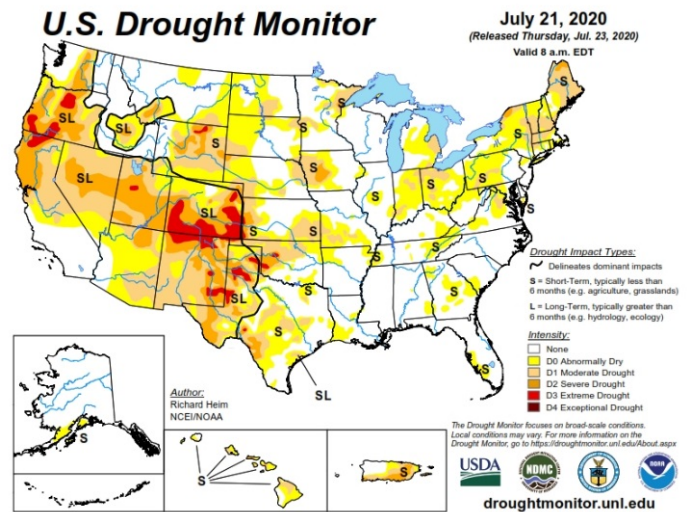
Project and Park updates

- The AARP Fitlot at Miller Recreation Center is completed and gets regular use.
- We have tentatively scheduled August 13th for a press event opening up the Bike Path from Perkins Pier to Roundhouse Point.
- The Barge Canal section of the bike path has been moving at rapid speed and is on task to the completed in late August/early September. Our contractor will move from there to the last section of 3a North which is between Roundhouse Point and the Barge Canal.
- Bike Path 3a South (Barge Canal to Harrison Ave) bids are in and we will look for approval to award the contract at the August 10th BOF and City Council meeting.
- Bike Path 3b North (Just north of Flynn at Blanchard Beach to Proctor Place) is out to bid and we will look for approval to award the contract at the August 24th BOF and City Council meeting.
- Work on the Bike Path Realignment between College Street and Maple Street continues as VTrans' plans for the rail realignment keep moving. Underground utility work at College Street for the rail portion of the project will be underway in October.
- Leddy Tennis Courts Reconstruction, Calahan Tennis Courts resealing and Starr Farm Dog Fence replacement are all under contract and awaiting scheduling to get underway in the next month
- The small restroom at the campground floor has been replaced and work continues on the North Beach Cottage. The latter project has uncovered more challenges but staff are working on the resolution.
- Lakeview Cemetery Section 8 designs have reviewed internally by staff and the Cemetery Commission. Our consultant is working on presenting a final conceptual plan based on all feedback.

**PATH
CLOSED
AHEAD**



- New fitness signs have been installed at the three fitness stations on the Greenway. The signs have been an overdue commitment to UVMVC. We will install the remaining signs as the fitness stations are built (Leddy, Starr Farm and Oakledge).
- We are experiencing a moderate drought which has required all trees and shrubs planted within the past three years to be watered regularly. This has created a drain on existing water systems due to demand and required regular repair to the irrigation systems. The Grounds crews have alternated mowing practices in order to keep grass alive. Check out Leddy softball and Calahan athletic fields for the excellent condition due to the hard work of the Grounds crew!
- We were able to support “spring” sports that are running June, July and August. The crack of the bat is heard around the city!



Recreation and Recreation Facilities Update

- We successfully Beat the Heat again, working with BED, to reduce energy consumption at Leddy during heat waves.

