

PARKS & RECREATION

Steve McDaniel, Director

Fort Wayne Board of Park Commissioners

William Zielke, President

Justin Shurley, Vice-President

Cory Miller, Commissioner

Rick Briley, Commissioner

Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation Department

The Parks and Recreation Department maintains over 2,800 acres of public park land and provides numerous recreation facilities, programs and services for the Fort Wayne community. The Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation Department was created in 1905 when the Indiana General Assembly adopted the Cities and Towns Law. The Parks and Recreation Department is administered by a four-member bipartisan Board of Park Commissioners. Each commissioner is appointed by the Mayor and serves a four-year term. The Park Board reviews and approves the annual budget, approves expenditures, holds regular public meetings as required by law and approves the awarding of all contracts

Finance and Support Services Division

The Finance and Support Services Division is responsible for the financial accounting, program registration, facility reservation, budgeting, purchasing, payroll and administrative functions of the department.

Marketing Division

The Marketing Division is responsible for the public relations, publications, promotions, grant writing, service quality, strategic planning, market research, corporate sponsorship and other marketing/planning functions.

Parks Division

The Parks Division is responsible for operation and maintenance of the park land and facilities, vehicle and machinery operation and upkeep, building repairs and maintenance, construction and engineering.

Parks Planning and Development Division

The Parks Planning and Development Division is responsible for short- and long-term planning, park and street trees, public gardens and flower beds, park landscaping, operation of the greenhouse, special projects, and riparian. The Division is also responsible for the operations and programming of the Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory.

Recreation Services Division

The Recreation Services Division is responsible for most of the recreational programs and facilities operated by the department. Facilities include: three public golf courses, two driving ranges, disc golf courses, tennis centers, tennis courts, pickleball courts, multipurpose athletic fields, basketball courts, ball diamonds, soccer fields, three aquatic centers, splash pads, boat launches, day camps, campground, dog parks, Community Center, Riverfront Park, Skate Park, Lifetime Sports Academy, Salomon Farm, Lindenwood Nature Preserve, and the Hurshtown Reservoir. The Division also manages the McMillen Community Center, three youth centers, and the summer playground program. The Division hosts a number of citywide and cultural events, offers competitive and instructional programs in athletics and outdoor recreation, and art programs, runs a travel program for seniors, families and adventure travelers and offer classes covering a variety of special interests for pre-school through older adult.

Foellinger Theatre Division

The Foellinger Theatre Division is responsible for the operations and programming of the Foellinger Theatre.

Zoo Division

The Fort Wayne Children's Zoo Division is operated under an operating agreement between the Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation Department and the Fort Wayne Zoological Society.

PARKS
 Dept # 0121
 2023 BUDGET COMPARISON

	2021 ACTUAL	2022 ACTUAL THRU 30-Jun-2022	2022 REVISED BUDGET THRU 30-Jun-2022	2023 SUBMITTED	\$ INCREASE (DECREASE) FROM REVISED TO 2023	% CHANGE FROM REV TO 2023
5111 WAGES	7,797,204		8,651,211	9,070,516	419,305	
5125 OVERTIME PREMIUM	135,176		98,000	138,000	40,000	
5131 PERF - EMPLOYERS SHARE	719,691		784,969	838,261	53,292	
5132 FICA	501,695		595,078	599,616	4,538	
5134 LIFE MEDICAL & HEALTH INSURAN	1,965,000		1,764,000	1,778,000	14,000	
5136 UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION	8,380		8,750	9,244	494	
5137 WORKERS COMP INSURANCE	61,097		61,691	71,244	9,553	
513A PERF - EMPLOYEES/PD BY CITY	192,822		210,258	224,531	14,273	
513R RETIREES HEALTH INSURANCE	135,000		112,000	126,000	14,000	
5161 WAGE SETTLEMENT/SEVERANCE PAY	63,574		—	—	—	
5162 ACCRUED WAGES ADJ	18,387		—	—	—	
5180 TOOL ALLOWANCE	—		—	—	—	
Total 5100	\$11,598,025	\$ 5,386,660	\$ 12,285,957	\$ 12,855,412	\$ 569,455	4.64%
5213 COMPUTER SUPPLIES	43,195		23,020	20,400	(2,620)	
5219 OTHER OFFICE SUPPLIES	28,837		51,416	21,250	(30,166)	
5231 GASOLINE	84,035		112,000	130,950	18,950	
5232 DIESEL FUEL / FUEL OIL	121,054		138,800	170,500	31,700	
5233 OIL	9,303		10,500	13,000	2,500	
5234 TIRES & TUBES	31,948		22,111	33,000	10,889	
5239 OTHER GARAGE & MOTOR SUPPLIES	21,785		25,100	25,100	—	
5241 MEDICAL & SURGICAL SUPPLIES	23,548		27,800	27,800	—	
5243 RECREATION SUPPLIES	130,475		221,058	220,675	(383)	
5245 LANDSCAPE & GRNHOUSE SUPPLIES	236,570		226,000	243,000	17,000	
5246 HOUSEHOLD & CLEANING SUPPLIES	96,067		91,850	91,850	—	
5247 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPLIES	1,376		2,350	2,350	—	
5261 BLDG REPAIR & MAINT MATERIALS	217,898		148,250	201,900	53,650	
5262 VEHICLE REPAIR PARTS	65,147		72,000	72,000	—	
5263 OTHER EQUIPMENT REPAIR PARTS	225,157		206,000	206,000	—	
5271 GRAVEL	11,365		12,000	15,000	3,000	
5272 BITUMINOUS MATERIALS	—		500	500	—	
5273 SAND	—		500	500	—	
5274 SALT	12,331		31,000	31,000	—	
5291 SMALL TOOLS	19,216		24,000	24,000	—	
5293 PAINT	13,603		13,350	13,350	—	
5299 OTHER MATERIALS & SUPPLIES	155,134		131,952	147,400	15,448	
Total 5200	\$ 1,548,045	\$ 795,149	\$ 1,591,558	\$ 1,711,525	\$ 119,967	7.54%
5312 MEDICAL SERVICES	698		4,500	4,500	—	
5314 CONSULTANT SERVICES	1,600		2,500	2,500	—	
5315 APPRAISALS & INSPECTIONS	1,336		850	850	—	
5316 RECREATIONAL SERVICES	114,791		219,050	219,050	—	
531H BANK SERVICE CHARGES	39,825		23,500	27,500	4,000	
531K SEMINAR FEES	16,179		17,800	20,600	2,800	
5321 FREIGHT EXPRESS & DRAYAGE	130		—	—	—	
5322 POSTAGE	52,776		51,700	49,475	(2,225)	
5324 TRAVEL EXPENSES	19,525		26,600	26,600	—	
5326 MILEAGE	2,279		2,000	2,000	—	
532C CELL PHONE	2,669		2,400	2,400	—	
5331 PRINTING OTHER THAN OFFC SUPPL	48,688		64,048	70,000	5,952	
5332 PUBLIC OF LEGAL NOTICES/ADVTER	14,865		12,450	16,450	4,000	
5333 PHOTOGRAPHY & BLUEPRINTING	—		500	500	—	
5342 LIABILITY INSURANCE	160,081		165,708	201,708	36,000	
5351 ELECTRICITY	603,170		623,100	623,100	—	

PARKS
 Dept # 0121
 2023 BUDGET COMPARISON

	2021 ACTUAL	2022 ACTUAL THRU 30-Jun-2022	2022 REVISED BUDGET THRU 30-Jun-2022	2023 SUBMITTED	\$ INCREASE (DECREASE) FROM REVISED TO 2023	% CHANGE FROM REV TO 2023
5352 NATURAL GAS	197,856		234,016	262,016	28,000	
5353 WATER	488,011		607,027	582,027	(25,000)	
5356 SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL	36,717		49,201	46,000	(3,201)	
5361 CONTRACTED BLDG & STRUCT REPAI	190,401		207,896	215,000	7,104	
5362 CONTRACTED VEHICLE REPAIR	26,891		25,000	25,000	—	
5363 CONTRACTED OTHER EQUIPMT REPAI	143,174		119,256	118,850	(406)	
5365 JANITORIAL & LAUNDRY SERVICE	40,262		39,550	32,450	(7,100)	
5369 CONTRACTED SERVICE	630,541		1,049,904	509,983	(539,921)	
536H HEADWATERS PARK MAINTENANCE	90,000		90,000	347,500	257,500	
5371 BUILDING RENTAL	—		1,000	1,000	—	
5374 OTHER EQUIPMENT RENTAL	17,143		25,400	25,400	—	
5381 PAYMENT OF PRINCIPAL - BONDS	—		—	835,000	835,000	
5382 PAYMENT OF INTEREST - BONDS	—		—	425,877	425,877	
5391 SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DUES	6,696		19,385	19,385	—	
5393 TAXES	781		2,500	2,500	—	
5399 OTHER SERVICES AND CHARGES	93,703		95,100	97,600	2,500	
539A OPERATING TRANSFER OUT	2,382,855		2,268,849	2,201,931	(66,918)	
539B MASTER LEASE	561,293		731,151	798,069	66,918	
Total 5300	\$ 5,984,934	\$ 1,918,511	\$ 6,781,942	\$ 7,812,821	\$ 1,030,879	15.20%
Total 5400	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	—
Total	\$19,131,004	\$ 8,107,887	\$ 20,659,457	\$ 22,379,758	\$ 1,720,301	8.33%

**Parks and Recreation
2023-2027 Capital Improvement Program**

FUNDING SOURCE CODE:

PS - Private Source
PT - Property Tax
ST - State Source
ARPA - American Rescue Plan Act
Bond - 2022 General Obligation Park Bond

ITEM #	PROJECT TITLE & DESCRIPTION	Funding Source	Expenditure				
			2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
1	Master Lease Program - Trucks, Light Duty Vehicles & Equipment	PT	798,069	720,000	720,000	720,000	720,000
2	ADA Improvements	PT	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
3	Computer Equipment	PT	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
4	Office Equipment	PT	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
5	Betterments & Additions	PT	300,000	380,000	400,000	400,000	390,000
6	Resurfacing Roads\Parking Lots\Tennis Courts\Basketball Courts	PT	221,931	360,000	380,000	400,000	350,000
7	Playground Site Equipment-Variou Parks	PT	100,000	100,000	110,000	120,000	120,000
		PS	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
8	Landscaping Parks & Boulevards	PT	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
9	Various Parks - Park Signage	PT	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
10	Street Tree (EAB - Emerald Ash Borer Treatment)	PT	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
11	Street Tree Planting	PT	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
		ST	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
12	Street Tree Planting (Citizen Request Match)	PT	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000
13	Park Tree Planting (Canopy Recovery & EAB)	PT	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000
		PS	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
14	Botanical Conservatory - Glass Replacement	PT	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
15	Various Parks - Shelter/Pavilion Renovations	PT	40,000	40,000	40,000	50,000	60,000
16	Various Parks - Site Furnishing Replacement	PT	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
17	Various Parks - Energy Conservation	PT	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
18	Various Bridge Improvements	PT		50,000	100,000	100,000	—
19	Various Parks Security Improvements	PT	30,000	20,000	20,000	—	—
20	Kreager Park - Soccer Fields	PT	—	—	520,000	—	—
21	Land Acquisition	PT	250,000	250,000	—	—	—
22	Botanical Conservatory Terrace Improvements	PT	—	—	—	500,000	—
23	Monument Restoration	PT	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
24	Neighborhood Facilities - Improvements and Renovations	PT	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
25	Recreation Facilities - Improvements and Renovations	PT	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
26	Salomon Farm - Master Plan Implementation	PT	50,000	—	—	—	—
27	Salomon Farm - Various Maintenance	PT	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
28	Foster Park Golf Course Improvements	PT	—	—	—	—	250,000
29	Swinney Park - Mechanic Street Bridge Improvements	PT	500,000	370,000	—	—	—
30	Botanical Conservatory HVAC Improvements	PT	—	—	—	—	400,000
31	Franke Park Master Plan	ARPA	5,000,000	—	—	—	—
		Bond	10,000,000	—	—	—	—
		PS	3,000,000	—	—	—	—
		ST	4,600,000	—	—	—	—

**Parks and Recreation
2023-2027 Capital Improvement Program**

FUNDING SOURCE CODE:

PS - Private Source
 PT - Property Tax
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 ARPA - American Rescue Plan Act
 Bond - 2022 General Obligation Park Bond

ITEM #	PROJECT TITLE & DESCRIPTION	Funding Source	Expenditure				
			2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Subtotals							
	PT (Property Tax)	PT	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000
	ST (State Source)	ST	4,625,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
	PS (Private Source)	PS	3,045,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000
	ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act)	ARPA	5,000,000	—	—	—	—
	Bond (2022 General Obligation Park Bond)	Bond	10,000,000	—	—	—	—
TOTAL			25,670,000	3,070,000	3,070,000	3,070,000	3,070,000

2023 – 2027
Parks & Recreation Department
Capital Improvement Program Narrative

1. Annual payment for the purchases of vehicles and equipment through the Master Lease Program.
2. ADA Improvements include buildings, restroom renovations, and site pathways.
3. Computers and point of sales hardware. This also includes software licenses for various users to be a more web based provider.
4. Office equipment in various locations and other miscellaneous equipment.
5. Betterments and Additions include: renovations to facilities including roofs, bridges, mechanical, HVAC and various other improvement projects.
6. Resurfacing roadways, parking lots, sidewalks, pathways, and athletic courts including parking lots in parks, greenways, and golf courses.
7. Removal and replacement of aging play equipment, structures and safety surfacing in parks.
8. Landscape plantings to include foundation, garden plant material replacements, and new plantings in parks and on boulevards.
9. Various Parks replacement of the existing signage in parks. Improvements include new updated directional signage and new park monument signage.
10. Treatment of over 1,000 mature ash trees that are street trees from the Emerald Ash Borer. This is an ongoing treatment system of the same trees each year while the EAB is still in the area.
11. This is an ongoing program to plant new street trees in the city replacing those trees that were removed by the EAB and natural mortality.
12. This is an ongoing program to plant new street trees. Funding to combine with homeowner contribution that was previously paid out of Council District Match.
13. This is an ongoing program to plant new trees in the city parks to build up the canopy of our system. This also includes replacement of Ash trees within our parks. This also includes our contribution to the Great Tree Canopy Comeback program.
14. Botanical Conservatory continual glass replacement for removal and replacement of roof glass over the showcase, tropical and arid houses.
15. Various Parks renovations to shelters and pavilions.
16. Various Parks replacement of site furnishings including benches, bleachers, picnic tables, grills, bike racks, trash containers, etc.
17. Energy conservation program throughout the parks looking at replacement of equipment and fixtures that would provide more efficiency and less energy usage.
18. Improvements to various road and pedestrian bridges throughout the park system.
19. Various improvements in parks to improve security in the parks such as security cameras and security systems throughout park facilities.
20. The creation of new soccer fields at Kreager Park. Expanding more soccer opportunities to the community.
21. Land acquisition to property adjacent to existing park land. Whenever there is an opportunity to acquire contiguous land the department evaluates those potential opportunities.
22. Improvements to the outdoor terrace area at the Botanical Conservatory.
23. Monument restoration to various monuments throughout the park system. Restoration is needed prior to the monuments failing.
24. Various neighborhood facilities improvements and renovations including but not limited to interiors and exterior spaces, furnishings, and improvements at Cooper, Jennings, McMillen, and Weisser Center.
25. Various recreation facilities improvements and renovations including but not limited to ball diamonds, soccer fields, golf courses, and tennis courts.
26. Salomon Farm implementation of the planned improvements based on the Master Plan for the park.
27. Salomon Farm funds intended for various maintenance needs on the barns and buildings.
28. Improvements to the Foster Park golf course and irrigation system.

29. Structural and aesthetic improvements to the Mechanics Street Pedestrian Bridge in Swinney Park.
30. Improvements to the HVAC system at the Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory.
31. Funds attributed toward the creation of the Franke Park Master Plan.