

Fiscal Year 2023

Organizational Goals & Current Objectives

- A. Prioritize Diversity, Communication and Engagement with the Community**
– by expanding opportunities to inform and engage residents in an open and participatory manner.

Objectives:

1. Enhance Community Engagement in the Annual Budget Process, Starting with the 2024 Budget

Justification:

Getting the community involved in the budget process allows residents to more deeply engage in civic matters and invest in Roeland Park's future by partnering with the city's leadership team to prioritize crucial City services and projects.

Typically, the City of Roeland Park has held a community budget forum in June and a public budget/mill rate hearing in August. While informative, these engagement opportunities tend to present citizens with a complete budget. Enhancing the community's engagement in the annual Budget process would mean involving the community earlier in the process, with targeted input opportunities to segments of the community who have historically not engaged in the budget process. Expanding community engagement would inform the formation of budget objectives and decisions in a meaningful way. The public feedback should be considered when forming goals and objectives for the upcoming year. There are a variety of public engagement techniques, such as:

1. **Balancing Act online simulation:** This is an online platform that allows residents to develop a city budget based on the actual resources anticipated by the City. While this isn't a tool designed for direct decision making, it helps to educate residents on the process of allocating resources in a city.
Example: City of Greensboro <https://www.greensboro-nc.gov/departments/budget-evaluation/budget-simulator>
2. **Budget survey/vote (informational/feedback):** Create a survey that could be taken virtually but also hard copy. Partner with RPCC and resident champions to get the word out to folks who don't have online access.
Example: City of Thousand Oaks
<https://www.toaks.org/Home/ShowDocument?id=13815>

3. **Budget pop-up events:** Host informal events in popular community gathering spots. Offer food/drink or free stuff to draw people in. Be prepared with specific questions to engage folks and have City leadership present to answer questions.
Example: City of Chicago round table discussions:
<https://www.chicago.gov/content/dam/city/sites/budget/2021BudgetEngagementRecap.pdf>

Cost Estimate: \$10,000 **Account 101-5253**

Completion Date: September 1, 2023 (as part of the adoption of the 2024 budget)

Responsible Party: Administrative Staff, Governing Body

Submitted By: Council Person Poppa

B. Improve Community Assets – through timely maintenance and replacement as well as improving assets to modern standards.

Objectives:

1. Phase 3 Improvements at Cooper Creek Park

Justification: The restoration of Cooper Creek Park began in 2021 with Phase 1 and will continue with Phase 2 in 2022. Phase 3 of the project would complete and maintain the extensive restoration, resulting in a welcoming, sustainable park benefiting residents, visitors, and wildlife. A further goal of Phase 3 is to raise awareness among residents of how they can help protect our local environment by planting native species and by controlling the spread of invasive plants in their own yards. In this way, the modest effort to restore the habitat of a relatively small park will have far-reaching consequences that benefit all of Roeland Park and its neighboring cities.

Phase 3 specific actions:

1. Amenities and Gateway- Supplement the landscaping beds planted in Phases 1 and 2 with additional pollinator plantings, as needed, to maintain qualifications as a Monarch Waystation (cost estimate \$2,000).
2. Natural Environment Preservation- Repeat herbicide treatments, as needed, for maintaining eradication of invasive plant species (cost estimate \$2,500).
3. Plant Trees and Shrubs- Plant additional trees/shrubs, if needed, to add diversity. Enough trees will be planted in 2022 that 30% can be lost and still achieve the tree canopy target. A \$3,500

place holder is proposed in case added diversity or larger trees (5 gallon) are needed.

4. Community Education on Invasive Species and Native Species- Work with the Parks and Recreation Superintendent, the Parks Committee, Public Works, and Ward 1 City Councilors to share information learned during eradication of invasive species in Cooper Creek Park, targeting other City parks, especially Nall Park. Midtown Signs will fabricate and install one 24" x 36" ADA-accessible, tabletop interpretive sign in Cooper Creek Park that provides information on the restoration of this riparian ecosystem, including such topics as eradication of invasive species, wildlife, native plantings, and pollinator gardens (cost estimate \$4,071).
5. Create a Children's Book- about the Cooper Creek Park Restoration Project, written at the level of 3rd and 4th Graders. A hardcopy of the book will be left permanently in the Little Free Library, Cost per 8" x 11" online Shutterfly book = \$40 plus 3 extra copies to use, if needed, as replacements = \$160.

This Objective addresses Goal 5 (Promote recreational opportunities through enhanced green space), Strategy A (Develop existing facilities to maximize use and service to public) of the City's strategic plan. It also supports Community for All Ages by adding ADA and Universal Design compliant elements at the park. The project demonstrates the City's commitment to beautifying and maintaining its parks, attracting residents of all ages, updating gateway entrances into the city, and maintaining healthy natural ecosystems for the benefit of wildlife, plants, and people.

Cost Estimate: \$12,330 **Account 300-5470**

Completion Date: December 31, 2023

Responsible Party: Councilmember Trisha Brauer, Parks and Recreation Superintendent, Director of Public Works, and Parks Committee; Cooper Creek Park Restoration Project Citizen Group will be responsible for maintaining (through 2023) the 10 native trees planted in the area near the picnic table, preparing and planting pollinator beds, and community education programming.

Submitted By: Council Person Brauer

2. Update the Women's Restroom at the Aquatic Center

Justification: The men's restroom was updated as part of the 2021 renovations of the Roeland Park Aquatic to provide privacy through enclosed showers. This objective seeks to update the women's locker room areas to the same finishes as the men's room. The women's showers are private. To match the finishes in the men's locker area this objective would replace

shower stall partitions, replace restroom partitions, re-epoxy the floor and replace lockers to match partitions.

Cost Estimate: \$75,000 **Account 220-5442**

Completion Date: May 1, 2023

Responsible Party: Parks and Recreation Superintendent

Submitted By: Aquatics Committee

3. Review and Update Nall Park Master Plan

Justification: The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) reflects the replacement of existing play equipment (2024- \$80,000), creation of a disc golf course (2024- \$13,500), retaining wall repair (2025- \$15,000) and repaving of the asphalt trail (2029- \$125,000) at Nall Park. In addition, Johnson County's planned reconstruction of the Nelson Wastewater Treatment Plant will entail force main construction in this park. A master plan for Nall Park was developed in 2007. This objective would entail hiring a planning firm to lead the Parks' Committee through a review of that master plan and facilitate changes that may be identified. The effort would also establish the scope of work to be completed and be accompanied by current cost estimates. The product will aid the city in identifying funding and scheduling of projects in the CIP.

Cost Estimate: \$45,000 **Account 300-5209**

Completion Date: August 1, 2023

Responsible Party: Parks and Recreation Superintendent and Parks Committee

Submitted By: Council Person Faidley

4. Add Artistic Play Structure at Southeast Entryway to R Park

Justification: The intent of the objective is to enhance, improve, and complete the Traffic Garden/Children's Playground area located in the SE quadrant of R Park by adding an artistic play-structure. This site-specific, one-of-a-kind play-structure will unite the children's play area with the Traffic Garden. The iconic, fantasy play-structure will inspire fun and imagination with play and art. During the last 6 years the City of Roeland Park, led by the Parks and Recreation Superintendent, Public Works, and the Parks Committee with support and fundraising from citizens, has addressed important maintenance and improvements in all the parks in Roeland Park. In the 2022 Phase 3 improvements at R Park Phase will replace the playground equipment and create a new traffic garden to help teach children the rules of the road. The Traffic Garden is laid out to accommodate several art pieces. The southeast corner of the garden is

one such location also serving as a primary entrance to the park and large enough to incorporate an artistic play structure. A design would be developed in accordance with playground safety standards. The Parks Committee will lead the project and consult with the Arts Committee to arrive at a proposed design.

Cost Estimate: \$90,000 **Account 300-5472** \$30,000 is to be covered via private donations and \$60,000 covered by the city.

Completion Date: December 15, 2023

Responsible Party: Parks and Recreation Superintendent, Parks Committee, Arts Committee

Submitted By: Council Person Raglow

C. Keep Our Community Safe & Secure – for all citizens, businesses, and visitors.

Objectives:

1. Purchase License Plate Reader Cameras for Police Department

Justification: License plate reader (LPR) camera systems reduce crime by real time alerts provided to officers through in-car computers and cell phones of stolen vehicles or vehicles associated with criminal activity. More than 80% of all crimes involve the use of a motor vehicle. A pole mounted camera system working 24/7 in the business district corridor would expand police coverage in the area of town with the highest incidence of crime. LPR camera systems are used nationwide including several local communities. The total cost of a pole mounted two camera system is estimated at \$34,000 which includes cameras, software, server, installation, and annual subscription fee. The annual subscription fee is \$4,000 which covers software and monitoring services. A review of the effectiveness of the LPR system in Roeland Park will occur after the first year of use to determine if continued use is warranted.

Cost Estimate: Year 1 cost of \$34,000, ongoing annual cost of \$4,000 **Account 360-4841**

Completion Date: January 30, 2023

Responsible Party: Chief Morris

Submitted By: Chief Morris

2. Allocate Special Law Enforcement Funds to Support K-9 Expenses

Justification:

The Roeland Park Police Canine Unit was established in 2018 through grants and fundraising. The equipment needed, as well as the canine and required training were covered by these resources. Fundraisers, grants, and donations have helped purchase additional equipment needed for the unit. The Covid19 pandemic has placed a strain on grants and non-profit police canine assistance programs. Many of the non-profit organizations have closed and those still functioning must select who receives funds from a larger pool of applicants. While the start-up of the unit required a sizeable amount, the yearly canine operating costs are relatively low. These costs include food (\$720), veterinary care (\$2,500), certifications (\$100), training (\$1,000), equipment (\$1,500) and incidental expenses (\$1,000).

The most important aspect of the police canine program is equipment and training. Most equipment is built to last many years; therefore, the need to replace items is minimal. Unexpected equipment issues can arise and require either repair or replacement. Most of the weekly training is done while on-duty and adds very little expense to the overtime budget. The National Police Canine Association (NPCA) holds a national training event every year with top rated canine instructors from around the world. This training is very beneficial for the canine handler and the canine program and is held at different venues throughout the United States.

The Special Law Enforcement Fund is used to account for resources dedicated to the K-9 unit along with resources from seizures. One of the benefits associated with having a K-9 unit is the increased potential for seizures. This was pointed out to Council when the decision to add a K-9 originally occurred. The Special Law Enforcement Fund has a balance of \$24,000. These resources are sufficient to cover the annual K-9 expenses.

Cost Estimate: \$6,820 **Account 109-5316 K-9 Expenses**

Completion Date: January 1, 2023

Responsible Party: Chief Morris

Submitted By: Council Person Madigan

D. Provide Great Customer Service – with professional, timely and friendly staff.

Objectives:

1.

Justification: .

Cost Estimate: \$ **Account**

Completion Date:

Responsible Party:

Submitted By:

E. Cultivate a Rewarding Work Environment – where creativity, efficiency and productivity are continuous pursuits.

Objectives:

1.

Justification: .

Cost Estimate: \$ **Account**

Completion Date:

Responsible Party:

Submitted By:

F. Encourage Investment in Our Community – whether it be redevelopment, new development, or maintenance.

Objectives:

1.

Justification: .

Cost Estimate: \$ **Account**

Completion Date:

Responsible Party:

Submitted By:

G. Work to Implement Strategic Plan Goals – developed by the Strategic Planning Committee.

Objectives:

1.

Justification: .

Cost Estimate: \$ **Account**

Completion Date:

Responsible Party:

Submitted By: