



LEGACY OPPORTUNITY FUTURE

2014 Annual Report

*Photo by Young Kwak of Youth Adventure
Day Campers Paddling Canoes at the
Riverside State Park 9 Mile Recreation Area*

Letter from the Director

Dear Citizens:

2014 will forever be known as the year you the citizens voted for a 64.3 million dollar reinvestment into Riverfront Park with a 68.5% approval on the November Park Bond. It was a clear reminder how much you care about our park system and in particular our crown jewel, Riverfront Park. The Park Board, City Council and Mayor all championed the Riverfront Park Master Plan. The Spokane Parks Foundation put on a wonderful Expo 74 Gala in May. The Riverfront Park Master Plan Advisory Committee and Park Staff developed a Master Plan that when implemented will take our urban park to the next level and allow another 40 years of fun. We'll be inviting you to continue to participate with us as we finalize designs and begin construction, all while we keep the park open for your enjoyment.



While we worked hard on planning for improvements to Riverfront Park we also continued to provide all the services you expect from Spokane Parks and Recreation. We focused marketing resources and creative programming including teen nights with music and senior nights where they got the pools all to themselves. As a result, overall attendance increased. Our staff at the Corbin Art Center marketed and presented interesting summer camps and saw an increase in attendance and revenue. Our Park Operations Department completed over a million and half dollars in capital improvements to our parks using multiple funding sources.

The Friends of Manito has continued to fund improvements to Manito Park and in particular Mirror Pond. The Jewett Foundation paid for much needed improvements to the Gaiser Conservatory just in time for a record year of citizens visiting the HOLIDAY LIGHTS show. We also hosted a Holiday Spectacular light show in Riverfront Park which was put together by a team of passionate Spokane citizens and sponsors.

Considering a cold spell last winter that caused damage to all our courses plus a late spring opening due to wet weather, Spokane Parks and Recreation Golf had a decent year. Downriver continues to be the most popular course with our golfing community and we look forward to new staff and investment at Indian Canyon to bring that course back to life.

Make a note to make a trip out to the Finch Arboretum this spring. Our Urban Forestry program has taken over running the Arboretum and making improvements that will allow all of us to take pride in our tree collection.

2014 was a great year and I look forward to fun in our parks and in our recreation programs in 2015.

Sincerely,

Leroy Eadie
Spokane Parks and Recreation Director

Golf

Total Rounds played in 2014 = 131,243

Esmeralda

- 50 % increase in Private Tournament Rounds played over same period in 2013.
- 20 % increase in participation in Men's Club Weekend events.
- 12 % increase in Twilight Nine rounds aided in part by our successful implantation of a weekly Rookie League with a Professional walking along and helping the new golfers.

Creek at Qualchan

- Qualchan hosted the Drive, Chip and Putt contest again this year. We had 100 boys and girls from all over the west coast competing to advance to the 2015 Masters tournament in Augusta, GA.
- Nate Hair won his second Spokane City Championship in August. Esmeralda, Downriver and Qualchan were the courses in this year's rotation.
- Qualchan also saw a record amount of kids for The First Tee program this year. Bob Heck continues to excel with the youth golfers in Spokane.

Downriver

- The maintenance building was repainted in the spring.
- Downriver was voted #1 in 2014 in the following publications, Krem 2 Best of Spokane, The Inlander's Best of list, and the Spokane Coeur D'Alene Living magazine.
- The course was in beautiful shape and remained busy throughout the 2014 season.

Indian Canyon

- Kathy Gildersleeve- Jensen assistant pro at Indian Canyon was named the 2014 PGA Teacher of the year. This is the first time a women has received the honor.
- Over the course of the 2014 season Indian Canyon has hosted a variety of successful clinics and themed nights such as "Wine & Wedges."
- Michelle Grafos, PGA of Indian Canyon received the IEPGA Youth Development Award.

2014 Revenue

Golf Fees and Charges	2,772,500
Other Revenue	124,773
Revenue Total	2,897,273

2014 Expenditures

Salary and Benefits	1,331,505
Supplies and Services	1,384,500
Capital Outlay	103,600
Expenditure Total	2,819,605

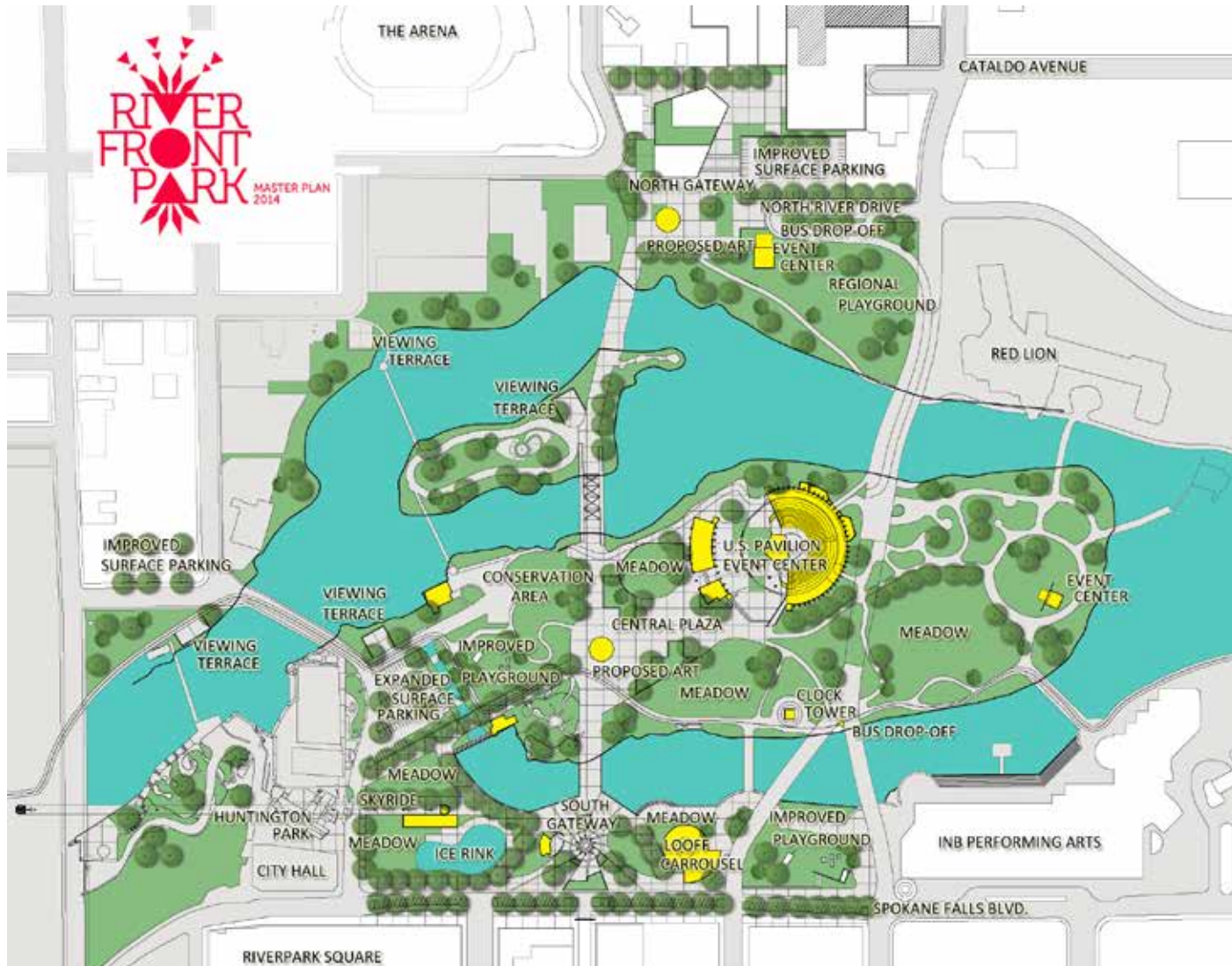
Net Revenue 77,668

CITY OF
SPOKANE PARKS
& RECREATION
GOLF



Project Highlight: Mirror Pond at Manito Park

The Mirror Pond Shoreline Renovation and Autofill Project, funded by a Washington State Department of Ecology Grant, The Friends of Manito, and Spokane Parks Department was completed in November. It included an automated system to add water to the desired level and turn off, conserving water. Shoreline improvements will help prevent erosion and improve aesthetics, and there's a landscaped path along the north shore.



\$82 Million in Additional Economic Activity

- 450 New Jobs Created
- \$22 Million of the \$82 Million would go directly to household income in form of new wages and jobs

(Data Courtesy of AGC of Washington & University of Washington)

Needed improvements to the Park

- Improved safety through security cameras, emergency phones and new lighting
- Upgraded parking facilities
- Pedestrian bridge upgrades and replacement at south river channel bridge
- Improved fire access & service truck access to the center of the Park
- Upgraded & more efficient mechanical and electrical systems
- Upgraded & more efficient irrigation system
- Improved surface materials, signage and furnishings

For More Information:
riverfrontparkmasterplan.org

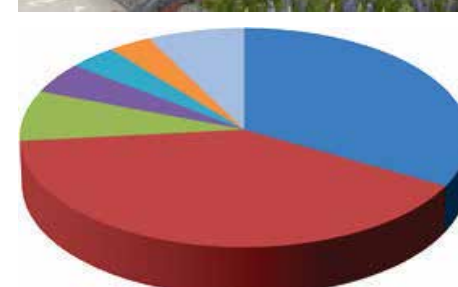
Riverfront Park is our living heritage, connecting Spokane's historical roots and the city's natural beauty with its present culture.

A new Riverfront Park will offer greater safety through a widened, pedestrian promenade running north and south through the Park providing better visual access through and into the Park, as well as improved access to the center of the Park, the Pavilion and the River.

A new Riverfront Park will provide both plazas for entertainment and grassy meadows for reflection.

A new Riverfront Park will offer new ways to use the Pavilion.

RIVERFRONT PARK. LEGACY. OPPORTUNITY. FUTURE.



Proposed Distribution for \$60 Million Re-Investment in Riverfront Park

Park Grounds, Infrastructure & Playgrounds \$20 Million

- Two new tree-lined pedestrian promenades, newly designated cycling lanes, and one promenade with improved fire and truck access into the center of the Park
- Two new landscaped, paved plazas for events
- Four new grass meadows
- Two upgraded playgrounds
- New 1.5 acre regional playground
- New Park Tour Train
- Four improved river overlook-landscaped terraces with picnic tables and benches
- Matching funds for south river channel bridge replacement
- New public art (minimum 1% as mandated by State law)
- Universal ADA access throughout the Park
- Improved landscape, paving materials, gateways, signage and park furnishings
- Power, irrigation, and water service upgrades throughout the Park
- Increasing secure access into the Park on a 12-month basis, for example installation of potential geothermal snow melt system
- 1:1 Tree Removal/Replacement within the city of Spokane

U.S. Pavilion/Event Center \$24 Million

- Redevelopment of the Pavilion as the premier gathering place whose events and facility will attract people of all ages, families and visitors to Riverfront Park during the day, evenings and throughout the year.
- Re-covered and re-lit Pavilion
- New interactive and multi-media art and storytelling installations within the Pavilion
- New public art (minimum 1% as mandated by State law)
- Facilities brought up to current energy code requirements and additional energy efficiency measures incorporated
- Upgrades and improvements to existing Park Administration building

Improved Loeff Carrousel Building & Visitors Center . . \$4.5 Million

- Development of a new, modern facility to better house the Carrousel and provide ADA accessibility throughout
- New concessions and revenue-generating gift shop alongside a centrally located Visitor Center for information about the Park and Spokane attractions
- Addition of viewing gallery to view the restoration work being completed regularly for Carrousel maintenance
- Improved and more efficient heating and cooling systems that exceed current energy code requirements needed for long term protection of historic wood carvings

Public Safety, Improved Access & Lighting \$2.8 Million

- Improved enjoyment of the Park during all seasons and hours through the installation of new lighting, security cameras and emergency phones
- Two improved and re-paved parking lots
- Improved vehicular drop-off and access into the north end of the Park via North River Drive extension from Washington Street
- Expanded and improved access to parking lot along Post Street at the south end of the Park

Improved & Relocated Ice Rink \$2.2 Million

- New outdoor ice rink and seating area for winter recreational use that transitions to a summer plaza in warmer months
- Improved facility for concessions, ticketing, skate rental and lockers to accommodate both the Skyride and Ice Rink
- Improved and more efficient mechanical system for ice rink

Improved Park Shelters \$2 Million

- New leasable shelters to replace existing shelters, allowing for year-round public use at the north end of the Park and on the east end of Havermale Island, east of the U.S. Pavilion

Reserve Contingency \$4.5 Million

- Funds reserved for potential cost overruns, unforeseen conditions and inflation

Riverfront Park Today



- Riverfront Park was selected as the “Best Place to People Watch” by KREM 2
- Hosted Bloomsday, Hoopfest and Pig Out in the Park which ranked #1-3 in KREM 2’s “Best Festival”
- Maintained a 4.5 star rating average from 652 TripAdvisor reviewers and ranked # 3 in Spokane for all 42 attractions listed.
- Huntington Park opened adjacent to Riverfront Park in the spring. It has become an excellent addition to the Downtown Core and has further enhanced the experience for guests.
- As of 10/23/14, Riverfront Park had over 638,000 recorded attraction uses. SkyRide – 78,306, Carrousel – 189,609, IMAX – 27,016, Pavilion Attractions & Tour Train – 340,427
- Maintenance removed the colored metal boxes over the Pavilion entrances from EXPO '74.
- Partnered with Bloomsday, Hoopfest and Pig Out in the Park to install a power upgrade in the Fountain Meadow. This upgrade brings much needed power to the front of the park in our continued effort to support community events.
- Successfully installed a ladder safety system inside the Clock Tower.



“Offers a year around place to walk, sight see, relax, ice skate, and just explore. One of the highlights of Spokane.”
Riverfront Park Visitor



“This is the way to do a public park. The landscaping was beautiful and park personnel were so nice and patient when asked questions.”
Riverfront Park Visitor

- In addition to the public events held at Riverfront Park, Group Sales coordinated with 486 unique groups for shelter and attraction rentals, weddings, birthdays and a variety of catered events. During the past year, Group Sales coordinated 51 carrousel rentals, 61 shelter rentals, 121 Ice Rentals, and 253 other activities for a total of 486 location rentals. Overall, Group Sales financial impact to Riverfront Park was \$253,897.80.
- Giant Screen IMAX Theatre’s features included; “Island Lemurs”, “Hidden Universe”, and “Titans of the Ice Age” plus numerous school showings of “Lewis and Clark”, “Grand Canyon,” and “Kenya Animal Kingdom”. 5,075 students attended educational films in the IMAX theatre.
- The Ice Palace maintained more than 12 different regular user groups including Inland Empire Amateur Hockey Association, Coeur d’Alene Youth Hockey Association, Gonzaga University Hockey Club, Spokane Youth Sports Association Hockey, Spokane Parks and Recreation Therapeutic Recreation, and Gonzaga University PE.
- YTD Riverfront Parking Revenue has increased 9% (\$278k to \$302k)
- YTD Park Security has responded to 4,321 calls for service, made 72 arrests and issued 111 Civil Infractions for \$34,343.00.
- The Parking Kiosk capital project was completed on-time and on budget.
- New Parking Enforcement Software was implemented, allowing for online bill pay and parking permit purchasing.
- The Fountain Café teamed up with Santé for the First Friday Dinner Concert in August. Both the food service staff and Santé staff served guests a six course meal accompanied with wine along the river.
- Riverfront Park Catering had another successful year including the return of the Gonzaga employee BBQ which served more than 1,200 people.
- Dwight Merkel Concessions showed a 4% increase in revenue over 2013 with still another month and a half to go.



“Fun had by all! Lots of activities for the kids and great views.”
Riverfront Park Visitor



Project Highlight: Sister Cities Garden in Riverfront Park

The Sister Cities “Connections” Sculpture Garden made good progress in 2014, setting the stage for crucial developments in 2015.

Tying in to the 40th anniversary of the opening of Expo '74, a May 5th ground-breaking ceremony was held at the garden, which is located on the site of the Japanese Pavilion and garden during Expo.

Mayor David Condon and former Mayor Jack Geraghty were among the speakers, as was Akihiro Nakahara, president of the Nishinomiya-Spokane Sister City Society, who traveled from Japan for the ceremony.

About 80 people attended the midday event, called to order by ringing of ceremonial gongs by the presidents of Spokane’s four sister cities.



Riverfront Park Today

- Asphalt improvements completed near the King Cole Bridge.
- Hosted the filming of "Z-Nation," a popular TV series that is currently shown on the cable network Syfy.
- Riverfront Park Grounds team instituted a new turf management strategy developed with a special blend of grass seed explicitly for Riverfront Park based on the type of use and traffic our turf is exposed to.
- Grounds changed the mowing height requirements in an attempt to protect the roots of the grass plant. Along with this, reseeding after each major event was implemented in order to make the grass bounce back better after long exposure without water and heavy foot traffic.
- While repairing a major water leak, installed isolation valves at every dig site so that irrigation could be run throughout the entire park while looking for the source of any leak.

"A great place to get out and walk! Right downtown, close to shopping and restaurants."

Riverfront Park Visitor



"Riverfront Park is a treasure that keeps the city vibrant, yet retains its natural beauty."

Riverfront Park Visitor



Project Highlight: Huntington Park, The Spokane Tribal Gathering Place and Veteran's Court

With work completed in 2014, Huntington Park, The Spokane Tribal Gathering Place and Veteran's Court are now connected with Riverfront Park and the Centennial Trail. Avista developed both Huntington Park and the Gathering Place as a gift to Spokane in celebration of the company's 125th anniversary and long-standing partnership with the Spokane community. The Gathering Place offers stunning views of Huntington Park and the Spokane River. In addition, Parks and Recreation completed final work at Veteran's Court on the north side of the river linking to the Centennial Trail. City Council approved the gathering place name, which is accompanied by the phrase, "The Place Where Salmon is Prepared," written in the Salish native language. The river and falls just below the plaza served as a gathering place for native peoples for thousands of years.



Park Operations

- Submitted two grant applications to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office to assist in funding an adaptive ball field at Mission Park and Mirror Pond Shoreline Improvements at Manito Park.
- Partnered with Avisita in repairing an existing retaining wall at Veterans Court.
- Completed the improvements along the Centennial Trail through Veterans Court.
- Assisted in construction administration for the CSO project at Underhill Park, Mission Ave street improvement project, the Centennial Trail Gap Project and the High Drive street and landscaping improvement project.
- Designed and contracted for lighting at Hillyard Park Skate Park.
- Completed the construction for the Camp Sekani toilet shelter.
- Reconstructed the south tennis Courts at Mission Park.
- Automated irrigation along Regal Street at the SE Sports Complex
- Completed the design and specifications for a shade structure for the Dwight Merkel Sports Complex play area.
- Started construction for automating irrigation along Queen Ave at Franklin Park.
- Purchased and contracted for senior exercise equipment at Mission Park.
- Completed the contracting for road improvement through High Bridge Park.
- Installed the new Kehoe Park rest room and lighting upgrades.
- Replaced rest room building roofs at Cannon Hill and Corbin Park.
- Completed sidewalk replacements at Cliff, Loma Vista, and Grant Park.
- Designed and purchased playground equipment for improvements at A. M. Cannon, Ben Burr, Peaceful Valley and Cowley Parks.
- Worked with the Browne's Addition Neighborhood in producing a comprehensive master plan for Coeur d'Alene Park.



Park Operations

- Designed and purchased new recycle/trash units for multiple park locations.
- Performed the permitting for a proposed put-in/take-out river access under the Division Street Bridge.
- Completed phase two improvements to Comstock Park including traffic island landscaping and bench installation.
- Assisted in the national historic register for multiple property submission for the City of Spokane Parks system.
- Purchased first electric street legal utility vehicle and other electric utility vehicles for park maintenance
- Remodeled equipment repair shop office space

- Completed over 1,000 service and repair orders for golf and park maintenance equipment
- Replaced full length sewer line at Cannon Hill Park
- Completed design for Cannon Hill Pond auto fill system
- Worked on several unforeseen opportunity nominations for Conservation Futures property acquisitions



- Completed revisions and adopted Interagency Agreement for management of the Centennial Trail
- Completed archeological study and restoration of disturbed ground in High Bridge park
- Renewed several leases for bus stops with STA
- Finalized a revocable license with Southside Senior Activity Center for use of Thornton Murphy Park
- Manito Park was named one of the Top 25 parks in US by Tripadvisor
- Awarded Dept of Ecology loan for potential improvements to Cannon Hill pond
- Completed energy efficient lighting upgrades at Park Operations Complex

- Survived increased levels of vandalism, particularly at park rest rooms
- Completed a utility vehicle storage area at Comstock Park so vehicle didn't need to be transported to location every day
- Implemented preventative maintenance program on Park Ops Complex systems like fire suppression, HVAC
- Completed grounds restoration around new Hoopfest basketball court at Liberty
- Utilized volunteer services of pack mule owners organization to remove large amounts of trash from steep and rugged riverbank areas



- Completed major repairs to aquatic facilities to include shower replacement, refinishing wood beams, and replacing large piping
- Worked with Asset Management on completing building condition audits
- Restored wood trim and painted old Witter bathhouse
- Replaced damaged roofs on Harmon and Jim Hill rest rooms and completed tree and debris clean up resulting from significant wind storms
- Re-contoured grades and installed dry wells to capture stormwater runoff at Pacific

- Scheduled and accommodated 967 special events, reservations, and other park uses
- Completed shoreline improvements and auto fill system on Manito's Mirror Pond with funding from Parks Department, Friends of Manito, and Dept of Ecology
- Designed and completed new stream crossing in Japanese Garden
- Installed new energy efficient doors and windows on Manito Park office building
- Completed Gaiser Conservatory renovation that included new water feature, walkways, radiant heating systems, rockwork, and energy curtains with funding from the Jewitt Foundation, Associated Garden Clubs, Friends of Manito, and Parks Department.
- Completed monument for recognizing supporters of Mirror Pond improvements
- Completed asphalt repairs on roadways through Manito Park
- Gaiser Conservatory had an estimated 14,000 visitors for the annual Holiday Lights event.



Project Highlight: Quigley Memorial

Long time Park Board member, Dr. Jim Quigley, who died in 2013, was honored by his Park Board colleagues at a dedication ceremony with new metal benches surrounding the Rotary Fountain in Riverfront Park.

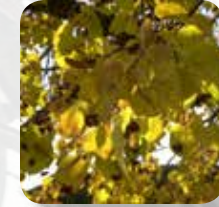
Dr. Quigley served on the Park Board for nine years and was instrumental in helping promote park projects large and small, including the Pools & Play 2008 park bond and funding needed to maintain the Moore-Turner Heritage Gardens.

Urban Forestry

Trees are intrinsically connected to our lives – from the air we breathe to the value of our homes, the food we eat to the success of our business, and the water we drink to our shady afternoon respite. Urban Forestry’s mission is to enhance the benefits provided to the citizens of Spokane through quality management, maintenance, protection and planting of public trees. Through stewardship of Spokane’s urban forest, we aspire to connect people to the world of trees, and in doing so connect them to the strength of their own roots, the glory of their presence in this world, and the infinite reach of their influence.

“We are most grateful for your crew’s work at Heath Park. The tree trimming looks fantastic and allows the St. Aloysius Gonzaga School Community to enjoy the newly installed backstop where it should be located. We can clearly see that you and your staff are in the right place, doing the right things for the people of Spokane, and for the environment. Thank you!”

Urban Forestry Commentor



Stewardship by the Numbers

379 Trees Planted (2" caliper stock)

- 181 by Urban Forestry staff
- 153 by Street Tree Permit
- 45 by partnership

1,722 Trees Pruned

- 362 by Urban Forestry staff
- 1,360 by Street Tree Permit

816 Trees Removed

- 492 by Urban Forestry staff
- 324 by Street Tree Permit



Major Projects, Grants, and Events

- Ponderosa Pine designated as the City of Spokane’s official tree by resolution and proclamation.
- Celebrated the 11th consecutive year as a Tree City USA.
- Tree Stewardship Guide published and distributed. (Grant-funded by USDA Forest Service and Washington Department of Natural Resources)
- Park Tree Inventory Project completed. (Grant-funded by USDA Forest Service and Washington Department of Natural Resources)
- Loma Vista Park Canopy Project completed. (Grant-funded by USDA Forest Service and Washington Department of Natural Resources)
- John A. Finch Arboretum Educational Series launched. Expected completion is May 2015. (Grant-funded by USDA Forest Service and Washington Department of Natural Resources)
- Community Canopy Spring and Fall Workshops – March 21st and November 7th.
- Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood Tree Planting event – April 19th.
- Arbor Day Celebration at the John A. Finch Arboretum – April 26th.
- Hosted the Washington Community Forestry Council quarterly meeting – September 10th.
- Fall Leaf Festival at the John A. Finch Arboretum – October 25th.

Finch Arboretum

- Reduced weekly mowing time from 40 hours to 24 with the expectation to be under 20 hours in 2015.
- Woodland Center rest rooms open 7 days a week from April 1st to Oct 31st with a portable on site year-round.
- Hosted two public events, Arbor Day Celebration and Fall Leaf Festival.
- Created an educational information board in two locations with weekly or bi-weekly updates.
- Removed hundreds of invasive plant species.
- Partnered with The Lands Council to provide establishment care and maintenance for new native plantings along Garden Springs Creek.
- Installed 250 new name plates on trees in the collection plus 200 new identification tags.

Administration

- Issued 38 violation and courtesy notices.
- Field assessment, consultation, and permitting on more than 35 public construction projects.
- Review and comment on more than 20 private development projects.
- Assessed value on 24 damage reports and submitted claims on 8 of these.
- Recovered \$125,000 in a claim for damages to eight Ponderosa pine trees topped at Indian Canyon Golf Course.
- Angel Spell selected to serve on the Urban and Community Forestry Ten-Year Action Plan Strategic Advisory Team of NUCFAC.

Recreation

Therapeutic Recreation (TRS)

- Successful partnership with St. Luke's Rehab Institute in offering an Intro to Adaptive Skiing and Snowboarding Day.
- TRS Drama Musical program had 26 participants for three quarters. The show was Willy Wonka to a Different Beat. This was the first time our show featured cast members with major speaking parts.
- \$1,000 scholarship funds received from Spokane Parks Foundation. Enabled TRS to assist 12 kids to attend Funshine Day Camp.
- Using Breakfast Benefit funds allowed ski programs Powderhounds and Blue Waxers to purchase long sleeve technical shirts.



"Thanks for everything you do and for all the awesome, concerned and sweet facilitators who work with folks at our activities. We are so happy and lucky that our son has access to Therapeutic Recreation resources."

TRS Visitor



Outdoor Recreation

- The Outdoor Programs offered trips, tours and classes with seasonal staff along with private contractors for canoeing, kayaking, whitewater rafting and kayaking, stand up paddle boarding, hiking, biking, archery, astronomy, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, Little Spokane River shuttle service, youth and teen adventure camps as well as private outings.
- 147 programs were offered with 2298 registered participants throughout the year
- The Outdoor Program acquired 9 new canoes by Old Town Canoe and 6 new sit on top kayaks by Ocean Kayak for many outings on waterways around Spokane.

"I've never been snowshoeing before. What a fantastic adventure and wonderful guides!"

Outdoor Recreation Visitor



- This was the 1st year of the Teen Outdoor Adventure Camp based out of Riverside State Park Bowl and Pitcher. 48 teens participated in the camp in various outdoor activities as well as leadership and team building skills.
- The Youth Outdoor Adventure Camp had a great summer of outdoor skill building. 76 youth participated in many outdoor activities throughout the summer.
- Formalized MOU with Disc Golf Uprising who manage the Jamboree Disc Golf Course as Camp Sekani Park.



"The Kayak-Paddle on Sacheen Lake was an excellent adventure. Thank you for providing this service!"

Outdoor Recreation Visitor

Personal Interest

- The Personal Interest Program offered classes and activities with seasonal staff and private contractor for youth and adult programs in boxing, dance, fitness & wellness, historic walking and food tours, beer and wine making, canning, public speaking, martial arts, gymnastics and music
- 287 programs were offered with 1327 participants throughout the year
- Our fitness programs have been amongst the most popular programs with 737 registered in the variety of fitness classes offered throughout the year.



"The Zumba instructor has become a friend as well as a mentor for healthy life style choices. She really is the greatest!"

Personal Interest Visitor



Project Highlight: Moore-Turner Heritage Gardens

The Moore-Turner Gardens held three special events in 2014:



- "Art in Bloom" with 220 people attending
- Celebrate Springtime in the Gardens with a presentation by Phyllis Stephens. "A Splash of Color," held April 26, with 32 people attending
- Watercolor Workshop at the Moore-Turner Heritage Gardens with Ken Spiering held June 28th & 29th in partnership with the Spokane Art School as a two day workshop of plein-aire painting, with five Students attending



"I always remind my co-players to stop and appreciate how well maintained everything is. Even the concession is reasonably priced and the coffee is great!"

Athletics Visitor



"Every time I play at Merkel I am so impressed with how well all the fields look! I feel like I'm playing in a professional league! The dirt is smooth and raked, the lines are straight and even, batter's box is perfectly flat, dugouts clean, outfield mowed and smooth!"

Athletics Visitor



Recreation

Sports Facilities & Operations

- Construction of Pole Building at Dwight Merkel for storage of maintenance equipment.
- Renovated all five fields at Dwight Merkel and all four at Franklin Park. 600 tons of soil mix was used to complete the leveling of all fields.
- Wind damage from the two major storms this summer took quite a toll at Dwight Merkel. Several power lines and large pine trees were knocked down throughout the complex. In addition a 300' section of outfield fence was pulled from its footings and thrown 75' into the outfield. All repairs have been made.
- Staff took on more renovations at Franklin Park Softball. Sports Field maintenance staff contracted out rail work on the grand stands as well using all in-house labor re-roofed the dugouts.
- Annual large events hosted at the Spike and Dig volleyball tournament, WIAA 4-A State Girls Fast Pitch Softball tournament along with the Seahawks Fan Camp and many others through the year.
- Field use at the sports complexes grew by 14.5% this year added by the growth of city ran programs.
- Dwight Merkel had 57 days without scheduled user groups though each of these days had plenty of use by the public.
- Dwight Merkel, as of October 31st had 205,934 visitors attending scheduled events up 4,000 from 2013. This attendance does not include number of people who use Merkel for unscheduled such as the Skate Park, walking path, Community Park or BMX track.
- 16,151 rental bookings totaling 49,439 hours or rental time.

Corbin Art Center

- Collaborated with Community Colleges of Spokane's Culinary Arts Program to offer a variety of "new" culinary classes held at the college.
- Offered 44 summer camps over an 8½ week period for children ages 3-11. We registered 746 children with a 96% capacity rating for the camps.
- Offered 20 Spring Break & No-School Camps in 2014 with over 217 kids registered with an 84% capacity rating.
- The 50 year old steam/gas boiler was replaced with a high efficiency boiler.
- The Art Center installed Stairwell Carpet, purchased 26 tables and 96 chairs, a new refrigerator, four window air conditioners and re-finished the hardwood floors on the first and second floors.
- The Art Center collaborated with Spokane's Monarch Art's Society, a 55+ artists group, to feature a two week Art Exhibit in celebration of "Create Spokane," a month long event held in October.
- The Moore-Turner Heritage Garden Club held a very successful "Art in Bloom" fundraising event in September featuring beautiful quilts and corresponding floral arrangements created by local florists. Tours of the garden were also featured.



Aquatics

- Overall attendance grew by 10% this year rising to 114,000
- Program attendance grew by 6% over 2013. 463 classes with a total of 2,218 registrants
- Program sign ups have been on a five year upward trend reaching 41% growth from 2010.

"We loved the pool birthday party! The cool and rainy weather didn't seem to matter to the kids and they had fun on the water slide and playing games in the warm pool. You should definitely offer this location as your best birthday party venue ever! Everyone invited was able to be there because the parents thought the weekday evening was convenient and smart!"

Aquatics Visitor



"Yesterday, while swimming during the general afternoon swim period, we witnessed the Comstock pool staff execute a calm, swift, efficient pool evacuation for a medical emergency. It was frightening, but they did an exemplary job. Kudos to them for professionally and responsibly carrying out their duties."

Aquatics Visitor



Centers, Services and SYSCA

Spokane Parks and Recreation affiliates itself with a number of non-profit community organizations benefiting older adults and young children. We greatly appreciate our relationship with these centers and their individual recreation programs:

- Corbin Senior Activity Center
- East Central Community Center Youth Program
- Hillyard Senior Center
- Mid-City Senior Center
- Northeast Youth Center
- Peaceful Valley Youth Center
- Project Joy Senior Entertainers
- Sinto Senior Activity Center
- Southside Senior & Community Center
- West Central Community Center Youth Program

Athletics

- Building upon the success of the inaugural season, the SPRD Adult Softball League experienced considerable growth in 2014. With 144 teams playing (1,043 softball games in both Spring and Fall seasons) at the Dwight Merkel Complex and Franklin Park Softball Complex.
- The Athletics programs experienced an overall growth in 2014 with 510 adult sports teams registering to play in a variety of sports such as Softball, Volleyball, Soccer, Flag Football, Ultimate Frisbee, and Curling. It's 131 more teams than 2013.
- The Athletic programs increased revenue by over \$43,000 in 2014 as compared with the previous year.
- New programs in 2014 included Outdoor Volleyball League, a Senior Softball Tournament, and Indoor Ultimate Frisbee.
- In 2014, SPRD was the recipient of the USTA's "Distinguished Community Partner" award for the outstanding partnership providing youth tennis summer camps to Spokane youth.



The centers are non-profit organizations officially represented by Spokane Youth & Senior Center Association (SYSCA). SYSCA was formed in 2012 and its main focus is to work collectively to represent the thousands of citizens who partake in the programs and services SYSCA organizations provide.

The primary focus of SYSCA is to educate the public on the importance of sustaining adequate levels of park funding for recreational services for senior and youth programs in the City of Spokane.

SYSCA by the Numbers

Annual Participation Hours	77,649
Volunteer Hours	10,800
Volunteer Dollar Value	\$288,576
Fundraising	\$38,549

"HOLIDAY LIGHTS is amazing and beautiful! Makes me proud to live in Spokane."
 Conservatory guest

Project Highlight: HOLIDAY LIGHTS 2014

This year the annual HOLIDAY LIGHTS show was even more spectacular as the Friends of Manito created their annual floral display in the newly renovated Gaiser Conservatory.

The Friends do an unofficial head count each season to record how many people view the display. It's always an incredible number and this year was no exception. The unofficial count was 1 0,979 and with the staff's estimate from non-peak visits added in, the count likely ran as high as nearly 14,000 over the 10 days!



Prior to the opening of the 2014 HOLIDAY LIGHTS show in the Conservatory a tour was conducted with Mayor David Condon, Park Board President Randy Cameron along with Betsy Jewett and her husband, Rick Gill



"I loved the HOLIDAY LIGHTS display. I come every year and every year it gets more beautiful!"
 Conservatory guest

HOLIDAY LIGHTS photos by Claudia Biggs, The Friends of Maniot

The Conservatory Center House Renovation

This major project was funded primarily by the George F. Jewett Foundation which is directed by the step-grandchildren of Dr. David Gaiser for whom the conservatory is named. Dr. Gaiser served on the Spokane Park Board for 18 years and was a long-time supporter of parks city-wide. Betsy Jewett is the only member of the immediate family still living in Spokane, and has consulted with staff as the project progressed.

The project included a change to the heating system from hanging unit heaters to radiant hot water heated floors and fin tubing, a new water feature to replace the former leaking one, a new trellis and railings, and wider sidewalks.

Funding for the project included the following:

The George F. Jewett Foundation	\$178,000	major portion of renovation
Spokane Parks and Recreation	\$11,000	added to come up to bid amount
The Friends of Manito	\$5,000	donated to add rock walls
The Associated Garden Clubs of Spokane	\$3,300	donated for replacement energy curtains and rock walls



The Conservatory project includes a heated sidewalk. The water feature required some extra equipment to excavate.

Despite construction the Conservatory and the many other gardens in Manito Park remained open 7 days a week.



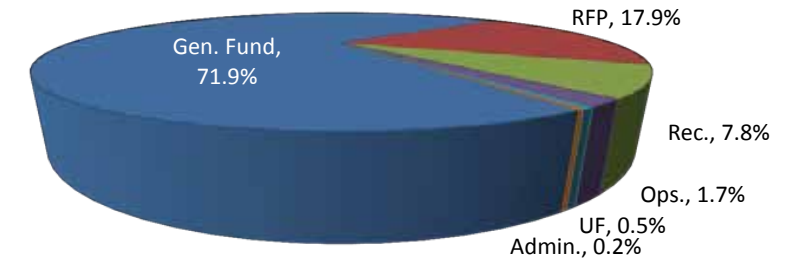
Marketing/Communications

- Issued 207 news releases and provided media management of reporters' requests regarding various projects and issues department-wide.
- Worked with our advertising agency, The Quinn Group, to develop strategies and promotions for various department programs and services, with a priority goal of cross-promoting all departments to enhance revenue generation.
- Produced 49 issues of Staff Update, a digital publication distributed every two weeks to staff and Park Board members. It also serves as a department update for key city personnel including the Mayor, City Administration, Council President & Council members.
- Worked with City Cable Channel 5 to produce "Walk in the Park," "the Departments" every other month program broadcast on demand and streamed from the website.
- Managed the monthly Internal Communications Committee meetings designed to generate ideas and projects to improve communications in the Parks & Recreation workplace.

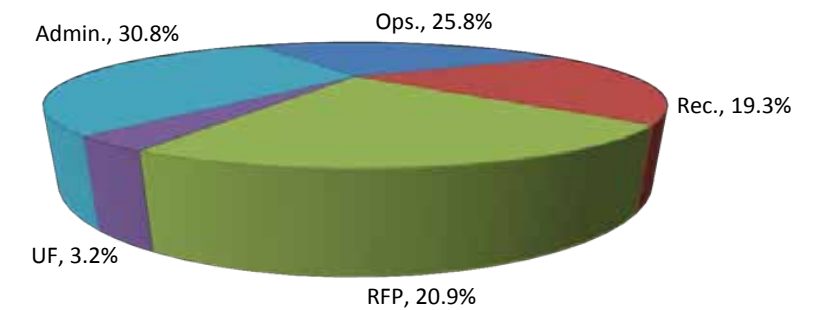


Finance/Budget

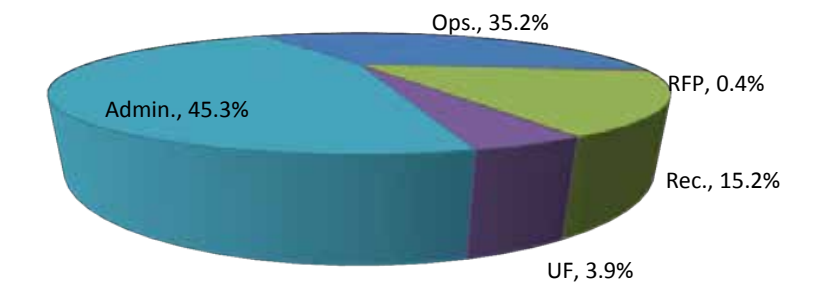
- The City-wide migration of inter fund and over-head costs to the new Administration Program (30210) is complete. This resulted in the restatement of financial information for presentation purposes. The restatement project was time consuming but allows readers of the financial statements the ability to compare today's results to prior using the same criteria.
- An equally time consuming project was the completion of a monthly financial statement package that will now populate using the financial software system feature called "FMS Exec". This tool allows the preparer to download data directly from the financial software into a tabular format into Excel. The financial statements are generated from the downloaded data.
- The Department of Revenue completed a routine audit of a four-year period which included both Park Fund and the Golf Fund. Several transactions were selected and reviewed in detail. The results were favorable and are the direct result of a dedicated Parks and Recreation accounting staff!



Category	Fund	Percentage	Amount
General Fund	Gen. Fund	71.9%	\$ 13,061,000
Riverfront	RFP	17.9%	3,251,100
Recreation	Rec.	7.8%	1,418,900
Park Operations	Ops.	1.7%	308,500
Urban Forestry	UF	0.5%	93,100
Administrative	Admin.	0.2%	35,600
Total Revenue:		100%	\$ 18,168,200



Category	Fund	Percentage	Amount
Park Operations	Ops.	25.8%	\$ 4,059,600
Recreation	Rec.	19.3%	3,042,200
Riverfront	RFP	20.9%	3,295,200
Urban Forestry	UF	3.2%	507,400
Administrative	Admin.	30.8%	4,859,500
Total Expenditures:		100%	\$ 15,763,900



Category	Fund	Percentage	Amount
Park Operations	Ops.	35.2%	\$ 3,751,100
Riverfront	RFP	0.4%	44,100
Recreation	Rec.	15.2%	1,623,300
Urban Forestry	UF	3.9%	414,300
Administrative	Admin.	45.3%	4,823,900
Total Expenditures:		100%	\$ 10,656,700

2.2M
Visitors to Riverfront Park

325,358
Rides & Tour Train

197,528
Carrousel

80,501
SkyRide

38,789
Ice Palace

27,016
IMAX

22,808
Mini-Golf

696,178
Number of customers served at Riverfront Park attractions

131,243
Rounds of golf at 4 locations

114,000
Visitors to aquatic centers

2,218
Registrations for

463
Swim lesson classes

YES PARKS
YES STREETS
WITHOUT A TAX RATE INCREASE!

SPOKANE VOTERS SAY YES!
Park Bond Receives **67.23%** Approval

21,592
28 elementary schools

14,547
28 city parks

9,556
3 sports complexes

3,834
4 youth baseball parks

49,439
Total rental hours

14,000
Attendance at Manito HOLIDAY LIGHTS 10-day floral display

2,611
Participants in athletic programs

153
Curling

1,568
Flag football leagues & tournament

840
Volleyball leagues & tournament

50
Ultimate Frisbee leagues & tournament

By the Numbers 2014

144
Softball teams

1,043
Softball games

1,722
Trees pruned by Urban Forestry

379
Trees planted by Urban Forestry

816
Trees removed by Urban Forestry

967
Reservations issued for park events

294
Manito meeting room

56
Finch, Woodland Center

383
Shelters/moveable tables

35
Manito weddings/gardens

195
Special events permits

4
Finch, weddings

1,084
Invoices paid

1,174
AR invoices processed

525
Background checks ran

232
Purchase orders issued

157
Budget transfers

694
Total location rentals by unique groups

65
Carrousel rentals

75
Shelter rentals

79
Birthday parties

14
Weddings

252
Ice rentals

209
Other activities

332
Canine participants in end-of-season Doggie Dips

THANK YOU ~ To our 2014 Donors & Partners

For your Grants, Donations & Contributions. We couldn't do it without you

SPOKANE PARKS FOUNDATION
THERAPEUTIC RECREATION SERVICES, FUNSHINE DAY CAMP & ADAPTIVE SKIING SCHOLARSHIPS
FINCH ARBORETUM LID PROGRAM
SPONSORED SWIM PASSES & SWIM LESSON SCHOLARSHIPS
GAISER CONSERVATORY ENERGY CURTAINS
SPOKANE DISC GOLF MONETARY DONATION & SUPPLIES FOR HIGH BRIDGE & DOWNRIVER DISC GOLF

JEWITT FOUNDATION
GAISER CONSERVATORY RENOVATION DESIGN PROJECT

ASSOCIATED GARDENS CLUBS OF SPOKANE
STANDING BBQ'S AT MANITO PARK
ENERGY CURTAINS REPLACEMENT AT GAISER CONSERVATORY
ROCK WALL IN GAISER CONSERVATORY

WASHINGTON STATE DEPT OF ECOLOGY
GRANT FOR MIRROR POND AUTO FILL SYSTEM

CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
BROWNE'S ADDITION PARK MASTER PLAN

FRIENDS OF CENTENNIAL TRAIL

FRIENDS OF THE BLUFF

FRIENDS OF PALISADES

FRIENDS OF MOORE-TURNER HERITAGE GARDENS

COUNCILMAN MIKE ALLEN
IMPROVEMENTS AT COMSTOCK PARK

CITY OF SPOKANE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM AND NEIGHBORHOOD
PEACEFUL VALLEY RIVER WALK ENHANCEMENTS
HARMON PARK PEDESTRIAN LIGHTING PROJECT
MISSION PARK SENIOR EXERCISE EQUIPMENT PROJECT
KEHOE PARK RESTROOM PROJECT
SOUTH RIVERTON ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

THE FRIENDS OF MANITO
MIRROR POND WATER QUALITY AND IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
GAISER CONSERVATORY RENOVATION DESIGN PROJECT
CHRISTMAS LIGHTING AT CONSERVATORY
MEMORIAL PLANTINGS & BENCH AT 25TH & PARK LANE
"SAWATOBI" STEPPING STONE PLACEMENT IN JAPANESE GARDEN
TEKOA BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

PEPSI
RIVERFRONT PARK
FOUNTAIN CAFÉ

FRIENDS OF THE FALLS
SUPPORT SERVICES FOR WHITEWATER PARK DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF SPOKANE
SWIM LESSON SCHOLARSHIP REFERRAL PARTNER

RIVERFRONT PARK'S FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION
SPOKANE TRIBE OF INDIANS
THE DAVENPORT HOTEL COLLECTION
NUMERICA CREDIT UNION
WASHINGTON TRUST BANK
KHQ

FINCH ARBORETUM
FRANCES KINKADE - ARBOR DAY
ARBORETUM CARE ENDOWMENT
INLAND EMPIRE DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB
SPOKANE LILAC SOCIETY
FINCH ARBORETUM CONSERVATORS

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BERRIOCHA'S
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SPOKANE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
THE LANDS COUNCIL
THE SUSIE FOREST
WSU SPOKANE COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

Park Board

The Spokane Park Board was created in 1910 and granted power by Article V of the City Charter to layout, establish, purchase, procure, accept and have the care, management, control, and improvement of all parks grounds and parkways controlled by the City of Spokane and used for park purposes. The charter also mandates eight percent of the City's annual expenditures be earmarked for Parks and Recreation. Additional funding comes from fees and charges for programs and services. The City's golf courses are operated as an enterprise fund and are not supported by tax dollars.

Park Board meets on the second Thursday of each month, 1:30 p.m. in the City Council chambers, City Hall.



2014 Park Board Leadership

Randy Cameron, President
Dr. Sam Selinger, Vice President

2014 Members of the Board

Andy Dunau, Finance Committee Chair
Ross Kelley, Golf Committee Chair
Kristine Meyer
Preston Potratz
Dr. Jim Quigley
James Santorsola
Susan Traver, Recreation Committee Chair
Kan Van Voorhis, Chairs Land Committee & the Urban Forestry Tree Committee
Chris Wright, Riverfront Park Committee Chair
Mike Allen, City Council Liaison

Management

Leroy Eadie, Director
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Editor: Nancy Goodspeed
Graphic Design: Matt Budke
Printing: City of Spokane Reprographics



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