

Urban Forestry

Urban Forestry's mission is to create a diverse, healthy, and accessible urban tree canopy for the benefit of all Spokane's citizens through quality planting, protection, and stewardship of public trees.

Stewardship by the Numbers

1,000	Free trees to residents through the Neighborhood Tree Program
997	Trees Planted (2" + caliper stock)
2,009	Trees Pruned
874	Trees Removed
36	Acres of forest health and Firewise treatments
15	SpoCanopy projects, including:
138	New trees planted
173	Pruned
58	Removed
96	New trees purchased
1,000	Re-printing of tree stewardship guide

Major Projects & Events

- Celebrated the 14th consecutive year as a Tree City USA
- Arbor Day Celebration (April) and Fall Leaf Festival (October) at the John A. Finch Arboretum
- Created Wildlife Habitat Tree program
- Initiated the John A. Finch Arboretum Master Plan

Golf

Creek at Qulachan

- Golf Gurus ranked us #70 of the top 100 public courses and among the top ten most underrated public courses
- Hosted the WIAA 2A Boys State Tournament & the Drive, Chip, and Putt local qualifier
- Men's Club exceeds 400 members for the first time in course history
- PGA Junior League grew, and an Elite Junior Program was started towards player retention; inaugural year for Operation 36 encourages children to play golf sooner

Esmeralda

- Instituted 20 weeks of couples league, which saw more than 100 golfers
- PGA Junior League welcomed 90% of new golfers into the program
- Introduced Topgolf Night
- Remodeled pro shop, men's restroom and built a new cart barn

Downriver

- Voted Best Golf Course by Inlander readers
- Home of the Dan Kleckner Golf Classic benefiting our local military veterans; tournament play increased over 2016
- Implemented a successful bee pollination program and reduced pesticides by 60% for the treatment of greens; also reduced operational costs using hybrid green mowers
- PGA Junior League grew 30% over 2016

Indian Canyon

- The 30th Rosauers Invitational returned; partnered with Creek at Qualchan to reinstate the Inland Empire Best Ball Tournament
- Driving range pump repaired to avoid standing water and assist with opening the range on the same date at the course
- Retiled and repainted the ladies locker room
- Parking lot lights installed for increased safety & security



Leroy Eadie
Spokane Parks and Recreation Director

Letter from the Director

2017 saw the opening of the first of 5 Riverfront Park redevelopment bond projects – the Skate Ribbon. Revenue targets for the entire season were met within the first few weeks. Thank you to the citizens for their investment, input, and support.

In midst of the largest bond project to date, Park Planning completed a record investment in capital improvements to neighborhood parks and open spaces. One example is the Mission Park Ability Ballfield Phase I, Spokane's first fully adaptive ball field for athletes with disabilities.

Park Operations focused on water stewardship, maintenance efficiencies, and composting, while beautifying several park entrance markers with native plantings. Urban Forestry planted nearly 1,000 trees and gave away 1,000 more through a Neighborhood Tree program.

Recreation offered hundreds of options for all ages, abilities and interests and saw strong growth including a 25% increase in Teen Outdoor Adventure Camps, the most Powderhounds skiers and snowboarders in Therapeutic Recreation history, and more than 2x the number of volleyball teams. Golf piloted a bee pollination program with excellent results, and grew their club and league memberships while earning top ranks in poles.

Thank you to our volunteer Park Board President Chris Wright and all members of the Board for your guidance, talents, and time. And thank you to the people of Spokane for your passion and investment in our parks and recreation opportunities.

In 2018, we hope you'll help cut the ribbon on the Loeff Carrousel, dive into your neighborhood pool, take a moonlight snowshoe tour, join a softball league, pick up a paint brush, learn to ski, perfect your golf swing, and soar over the river falls as the SkyRide re-opens. We hope it's a year to find your adventure in Spokane.

Communications & Marketing

Earned Media

Through media we work to keep the public informed, build pride in the community's investment in our parks and recreation programs, and increase utilization. We averaged 42 stories/month across all programs and projects.

Social Media

- 29% growth in social media followers over multiple platforms
- 85,000 video views
- Top post organic reach of nearly 200,000 with 4,000+ shares, likes and comments

Video, Print, Digital Publications, & Presentations

- Bi-monthly Walk in the Park television shows, special project videos, and time-lapse
- Advertising across Pandora, traditional radio, print and digital platforms
- Posters, collateral, maps, direct mail, site signage, press releases, blog posts, and web updates
- Monthly newsletters for programs to promote individual class and camp offerings to 10,200+
- Monthly internal newsletter to keep staff and City leadership updated so they can be well-informed ambassadors
- 28 Project presentations and open houses with stakeholders

Find us on

Park Planning & Development

2017 Completed Projects (Highlights)

	Park master plan at Comstock
	Trail design charrette for the Latah Creek corridor
	Major pool repair at Witter
	Historic park restroom renovated at Byrne Park
	New outdoor fitness area at Rochester Heights
	New fully accessible baseball field at Mission Park
	New BMX starting gate at Dwight Merkel
	New pole building for Esmeralda golf course
	New fully powered park event stage at Shadle Park
2	Tennis courts repaired at Sky Prairie and Peaceful Valley (including a multi-use futsal and pickleball court)
2	Park lighting upgrade projects at Hays Park
3	Roofs replaced at Manito Park
1,200	Lineal feet of damaged park walkway replaced across 6 parks (Summit, Cliff, Jim Hill, Byrne, Kehoe, & Webster)
6,350	Lineal feet of new park pathways constructed across 5 parks (Audubon, Comstock, Webster, Rochester Heights, & Manito)
6,431	Lineal feet of cracked asphalt trail replaced along Fish Lake Trail
7,070	Lineal feet of damaged High Drive bluff landscape repaired

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 park 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.

2017 Park Board Leadership

Chris Wright, President

Susan Traver, Vice President and Finance Committee chair (January – June)

Nick Sumner, Vice President (July – December) and Golf Committee chair

2017 Members of the Board

Ross Kelley, Finance Committee chair (July-December) and Bylaws Committee chair

Ted McGregor, Riverfront Park Committee chair

Greta Gilman, Land Committee chair

Rick Chase, Urban Forestry Tree Committee chair

Steve Salvatori

Sally Lodato, Recreation Committee chair

Jennifer Ogden

Mike Fagan, City Council Liaison

Director

Leroy Eadie

Park Board meets the second Thursday of each month, 3:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, City Hall.

www.SpokaneParks.org/board



Park Operations

By the Numbers

3	KXLY Extreme Team projects coordinated (AM Cannon ballfield improvements, Glover Field improvements, and Cowley holiday lights)
8 days	New reduced mowing cycle (previously 9 days)
12	Parks updated with economical digital light timers
28	Lane miles of sidewalk to snow plow and maintain
37	Properties enhanced with the removal and pruning of neglected plant material
160	Toilets cleaned, every day from open to close (totaling 23,225 toilets cleaned during the season)
195	Chemical applications throughout the city, including 475 acres of turf and 22 acres of landscapes
200	Equipment tires replaced or repaired
295	Plants of 13 species were planted to beautify re-established landscapes
520	Portable park tables (180) and park benches (340) painted
540	Backflow prevention devices inspected and serviced
915	Mower reels, blades and cutting units sharpened
1,040	Playground inspections with 57 major repairs completed
1,130	Work orders for service to other City departments
1,325	Permits issued for unique events
1,410	Service/repair orders for golf, recreation, and park maintenance equipment
1,600	Hours of transient camp removal from City parks
1,960	Hours of vandalism repair in City parks
5,280	Rolls of toilet paper replaced, totaling 266 miles of toilet paper
11,000	People attended annual Holiday Lights event at Gaiser Conservatory
30,750	Receptacle bags changed during the year
1.5 million	Pounds of green material removed from parks for commercial compost



Recreation

Corbin Art Center

- 47 Summer Art Camps, including 15 new offerings, enrolled nearly 880 campers
- Hosted 49 Art Parties
- Employed 6 young adults from Next Generation Zone, a career skills training and education program. They put in 150 hours each working with our camps, pre-school classes, parties, and after school programs.
- Enjoyed partnerships with Hutton Elementary PTA and Central Valley's E-Cap Art Program

Athletics

- Nearly 6,940 adults participated in recreational sports
- Adult soccer enjoyed its first year with 34 teams; softball had a record 231 teams; flag football registered 131 teams; and volleyball registered 264 teams (35% growth)
- More than 3,000 youth participated in athletic recreational programs, with NFL Youth Flag Football league seeing the most growth

Aquatics

- 4,200 swimmers enjoyed Free Swim Fridays and Free Swim Week, thanks to a partnership with Spokane Parks Foundation and Spokane Firefighters Union Local 29
- Swim teams saw 155 participants, and hosted 3 novice swim meets
- \$4,800 donated from the Spokane Parks Foundation provided nearly 100 swim scholarships

Outdoor & Personal Interest

- 1,710 people enjoyed Outdoor Recreation activities including cross country skiing, snowshoeing, kayaking, canoeing, whitewater rafting, hiking, and biking
- Youth and Teen Outdoor Adventure Camps welcomed 170 campers ages 8-15 for a full range of outdoor activities! That's a 25% growth for the teen camp.
- Spoketopia Outdoor Adventure Festival's 3rd annual event at Camp Sekani Park made kayaks, paddleboards, and mountain bikes accessible for demo amidst live music, vendors and food
- 560 people participated in Personal Interest activities, learning new skills and enriching their lives

Therapeutic Recreation Services

- 48 students in the Powderhounds Ski and Snowboard Program – largest number ever
- Shadle North Lions Club raised \$5,150 for the Powderhound Ski & Snowboard Program to go towards team jackets and scholarships
- More than 6,800 volunteer hours!
- Annual musical Disney Ensemble had over 100 in attendance; new holiday light cruise on Lake Coeur d'Alene welcomed 35 participants

Sports Facilities & Operations

- Hosted 26 baseball /softball tournaments, including the televised Northwest Association of Community Colleges Girls Fast Pitch Tournament (previously held in Portland for many years). Other tournaments hosted include 2 football, 1 soccer, and Spike N Dig volleyball, plus 2 car shows and league play April – October
- Improvements include chain link fencing and irrigation at Franklin Park ball fields, refurbishment of infield and dugout woodwork at Dwight Merkel, and soccer field turf quality with better drainage and density

Community Centers

We affiliate with several non-profit community organizations benefitting older adults and children, and greatly appreciate their individual recreation programs. They include: Corbin Senior Center, East Central Community Center, Hillyard Senior Center, Mid City Concerns, Northeast Youth Center, Project Joy, Sinto Senior Center, Southside Senior Center, Southwest Community Center, and West Central Community Center.

Volunteer Hours: 56,026

Attendance: 565,848

Fundraising: \$260,701



Riverfront Park Redevelopment – Design & Construction of 5 Bond Projects

- 1 **Ice Ribbon and SkyRide:** Design was completed by Stantec and construction was awarded to CNI Construction. The Ice Ribbon opened to the public in December, and the SkyRide will open in spring 2018.
- 2 **Looff Carrousel:** Design was solicited and awarded to NAC Architecture, and construction was awarded to Walker Construction. The project will be completed spring 2018.
- 3 **Pavilion:** Progressive Design Build construction delivery method was prepared, presented, and approved by the Washington State Project Review Committee. The City solicited an RFQ and awarded the project to the team of Garco Construction, NAC Architecture and Berger Partnership. The scope of work was expanded to create efficiencies, and includes the North and Central Promenades. The Centennial Trail has been re-routed during construction, and will be enhanced with new pathways and lighting as part of the redevelopment project.
- 4 **Regional Playground:** Design team Berger Partnership completed 30% design on the North Bank for the Regional Playground. Parks Planning prepared and applied for an RCO grant for up to \$500,000 for playground improvements. There is continued coordination with other entities to enhance the entire North Bank, including the Bosch Lot, Sportsplex planning/Public Facilities District, Selkirk Realty, and Spokane Federal Credit Union.

- 5 **Public Spaces and Grounds (Promenades):** Design team Berger Partnership completed 95% design and cost estimates for the Promenade.
 - Howard Street South Channel Bridge: The first phase of the Promenade is complete. The bridge will open to the public in the spring of 2018 along with the neighboring Looff Carrousel.
 - South Gateway: design is complete; construction is part of the Looff Carrousel project.
 - North Gateway: design is complete; construction will occur in 2018 under Pavilion contract.
 - Central Promenade (Blue Bridge): engineering report was completed which aided in the joint City department decision to repair the bridge, historically honor the design, and improve safety.
 - Wayfinding: design, signage and symbols have been completed.
 - Maintenance and Operations: NAC is assessing and programming this important facility.



Additional Redevelopment Projects

A Cleaner Park: The City was awarded three brownfield grants from the EPA for Soil Remediation for a total of \$600,000.

Art: Lead Artist Meejin Yoon created four potential signature art pieces for the park, one of which will be selected with further public input. She also worked with the Joint Arts Committee to determine potential places for future art, and a standard art identifying marker.

Red Wagon Meadow: Completed ADA access pathways into the South East section of the park.

Rotary Fountain: In need of significant plumbing and electrical repairs, this was the ideal time given neighboring construction projects. We collaborated with the Rotary in the process.

Timeline

Ice Ribbon & SkyRide Facility: Completed 2017

Promenades: 2016 – Winter 2019

Looff Carrousel: Early 2017 – Spring 2018

Regional Playground: 2019

U.S. Pavilion: Late 2017 – Fall 2019

www.RiverfrontParkNow.com

Riverfront Park

- Celebrated the grand opening of the Skate Ribbon on December 8! In the first 3 weeks of operation, we welcomed 31,000 skaters. Comparatively, the Ice Palace saw 30,600 visitors in the entire 2015/2016 season.
- New activity guide showcasing events in the areas of Families and Children, Healthy Living, Entertainment, Arts and Culture, and Signature Events.
- Presented free and new activities at the Skate Ribbon such as skating with Santa, free ice skating lessons every weekend, Yoga on Ice and Friday night DJ.
- Even though the park was under construction, Riverfront hosted or scheduled many events in 2017 including: Earth Day, Race for the Cure, Marmot March, Bloomsday, Family Fun Fair, Hoopfest, Gathering at the Falls Pow Wow, Unity in the Community, Superhero Fun Run, Rainbow Festival, Royal Fireworks, 4th of July Community Celebration, Pig Out in the Park, First Night Spokane and more.
- Riverfront also hosted the prestigious Porsche Concours event attracting 1,000+ Porsche Club members to the area.
- Introduced a new brand capturing the active, exciting, urban and neighborly feel of our redeveloping park.
- A special thank you to Riverfront Spokane's community sponsors whose charitable in-kind or financial support help to make events and programs possible: Principal Financial, Pepsi Cola, Washington Trust Bank, Tomato Street, Downtown Spokane Partnership, River Park Square, Spokane Art School, Spokane Humane Society, Athleta, Nordstrom, Senske Services, Wheatland Bank, No-Li Brewery, A-to-Z Rental, and the Spokane Parks Foundation

