

# Golf

Golf continues to move forward with on-course master plan updates. The irrigation system renovation to Indian Canyon was completed in July 2019. We broke ground at Esmeralda shortly after, and most work was completed before the end of the year. These irrigation upgrades replaced 1930’s and 1950’s systems, and will save approximately 22M gallons of water per year while improving quality of play. These savings also qualify us for a lower golf course irrigation conservation utility rate. Preliminary master plans developed by Robert Trent Jones II, for Downriver Golf Course, are also completed and forecasted to break ground fall 2021.

2020 pre-season pass sales increased by \$23k from last year. This illustrates tremendous loyalty from our Spokane citizens and where they want to play. Each day we, as a team, strive to produce the best product and service possible, while promoting the game of golf and including all.

## Downriver

- Led our City courses in number of rounds
- Home of the Dan Kleckner Golf Classic – benefit for local veterans
- Bee/pollinator garden rejuvenated wild flower population, producing 50+ jars of honey; neighborhood children planted and harvested pumpkins

## Qualchan

- PGA Junior League and Operation 36 show tremendous growth
- Hosted record-high Drive Chip & Putt contest, and the WIAA 4A State Golf Championship
- Hosted final round of Spokane City Championship, 2nd biggest turnout in history

## Esmeralda

- Increased rounds by 2,000 prior to start of irrigation project
- Introduced 4 new golf cycles and a golf simulator
- Division Champion PGA Junior League team; 40% increase in Junior program

## Indian Canyon

- Hosted another successful Rosauers Open Invitational & Franz Bakery Pro-Am – the largest PGA Sectional event in the PNW
- PGA section award-winning Player Development staff
- Historically high fall rounds and revenue



# Natural Resources

## Urban Forestry

Spokane Urban Forestry creates a diverse, healthy, and accessible urban tree canopy for the benefit of Spokane’s citizens through quality planting, protection, and stewardship. 2019 was Spokane’s 16th consecutive year designated as a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation. Also this year, Urban Forestry and land use ordinances were amended to establish a 40% canopy cover goal; to support this goal, we created a new initiative called SpoCanopy. More to come in 2020!

- 1,000 free trees to residents – the Neighborhood Tree Program
- 627 trees pruned
- 526 volunteers contributed 1460 hours of service
- 462 street tree permits processed representing 3,435 trees
- 350 native tree seedlings planted
- 304 trees removed
- 199 development plan sets reviewed and commented
- 191 trees planted (2”+ caliper stock)
- 15 acres of forest health and fuel reduction fire mitigation
- 1 Japanese Maple collection created at Finch Arboretum

## Natural Areas

- Natural area trails mapped by GPS
- Resolution passed by Park Board in support of Palisades Park expansion
- Continued restoration of Camp Sekani conservation area after Upriver Beacon Fire

# Park Board

The Spokane Park Board was created in 1910 and granted power by 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 operate as an enterprise fund and are not supported by tax dollars. Visit [SpokaneParks.org/board](http://SpokaneParks.org/board) for meeting details.

## 2019 Park Board

- Nick Sumner**, President
- Jennifer Ogden**, Vice President and Bylaws Committee chair
- Ted McGregor**, Riverfront Park Committee chair
- Rick Chase**, Urban Forestry Tree Committee chair
- Greta Gilman**, Land Committee chair
- Sally Lodato**, Recreation Committee chair
- Gerry Sperling**, Golf Committee chair
- Jamie SiJohn**
- Bob Anderson**, Finance Committee chair
- Barb Richey**
- Mike Fagan**, City Council liaison

# Park Planning & Development

- AM Cannon Park: tennis court renovation + pickleball
- Ben Burr Park: Junior Disc Golf course
- Cliff Park: Junior Disc Golf course
- Dutch Jake’s Park: complete renovation in partnership with Kaiser Permanente and the Trust for Public Land. Preserved large existing trees and constructed a new playground, sport court, walkways, open lawn and landscape, irrigation system and site lighting.
- Emerson Park: new meandering park pathway
- Esmeralda Golf Course: nearly completed with full irrigation replacement of 1950’s system, saving approximately 16M gallons of water per year
- Friendship Park: Junior Disc Golf course
- Hays Park: new meandering park pathway and Junior Disc Golf course
- Indian Canyon Golf Course Renovation: completed irrigation system installation and the course master plan
- Manito Mirror Pond: 5,000 cubic yards of ‘muck’ removed during restoration; the ongoing project will see installation of a new recirculating pump system and treatment wetland through spring 2020
- Mission Park: separated the NE parking lot from the Centennial Trail to improve pedestrian safety, and installed new bus turnaround, walkways, trash enclosure, and storm drainage infrastructure
- Peaceful Valley Trail: phase II completed
- Redband Park: installed new decorative concrete plaza, landscape, and Redband Trout artwork by Chris Anderson
- Rochester Heights: installed new meandering park pathway, and several thousand yards of dirt to ‘fill the pit’ and create new usable turf area
- SE Sports Complex: removed dilapidated ballfields and installed 1.5 acres of new turf playfields, restroom, playground, neighborhood trail, streetscape, neighborhood park lighting, irrigation system, and landscaping



# Recreation

- 2,595 Recreation programs offered – 205 being NEW programs
- 5,729 Sport Complex reservations booked (Dwight Merkel, Franklin & SE Complex)
- 20,170 program participants served
- 55,742 City SplashPass holders for Free Swim
- 126,958 visits to our six aquatics centers during Free Open Swim

## Adult Athletics

Our softball leagues hosted over 220 teams and nearly 4,000 players in our biggest year to date. The addition of a successful men’s 4 volleyball league also met a need in the community and contributed to the total of nearly 275 volleyball teams with approximately 1,600 players. Flag football and soccer continue to have strong participation.

## Personal Interest

Programs such as historical walking and ghost tours, wellness programs, ballet, gymnastic, martial arts, USTA Tennis, Skyhawks and Supertots programs and camps served nearly 3,000 participants this year. The Mobile Recreation Program saw 400% growth in its second year, activating neighborhood parks with free activities for 1,150 children at Grant, Friendship, AM Canon and Cannon Hill.

## Aquatics

Aquatics had another record-setting year. We earned the 2019 Best of Aquatics Community Outreach by Aquatics International Magazine for our SplashPass Free Swim program. We also offered 190 swim lesson scholarships and 530 free swim clinics with the assistance of 185 summer employees. Reviving a historic program with great success, the Fishing Frenzy brought out 100 kids and their families with help from numerous community partners. Sunset paddleboard yoga was also a hit!

## Outdoor Recreation

More than 1,760 people enjoyed adventures by means of kayaking, canoeing, stand up paddle-boarding, hiking, and rafting. The Youth and Teen Outdoor Adventure Program hosted 140 youth ages 8-15 in outdoor skills and activities throughout the summer in partnership with Riverside State Park. Cross country ski and fat bike trail grooming continues to grow in popularity. Camp Sekani Park hosted about 8,500 people across 13 events for mountain biking races, demos and lessons, Disc Golf Tournaments, Trail Races, and more.

## Sports Facilities & Operations

We continued to see more teams and types of sports being played at our premier facilities including lacrosse, and rugby. An improved RV parking and food vendor program now provides increased clarity and consistency to user group coordinators of the 30 tournaments and special events we host annually. The complex maintenance staff converted the 70 parking lot lights at Dwight Merkel to LED fixtures, providing significant utility cost savings moving forward.

## Corbin Art Center

Corbin is popular year-round, but summer is bursting at the seams! In 2019 Corbin welcomed 875 summer campers through 20 preschool, 17 youth art camps, 13 youth sewing camps, and 7 youth music camps. We also partnered with Hutton and Mullan Road PTA groups to provide a 6-week afterschool clay and mixed media program for their students. We welcomed eight WorkSource Next Generation Zone young adults undergoing career skills training who contributed 160+ hours to our programs!

## Therapeutic Recreation Services

The TRS ski program at Mt. Spokane celebrated its 45th year, changing lives for participants and volunteers alike. We served more people by adding mid-week lessons to our popular weekend schedule. Without our amazing 150 volunteers giving a combined 5,000 hours each year, we would not be able to provide the quantity and quality of services. Additional programs like Sky Fest, a camping trip, and a holiday light cruise allow our participants to travel to new places!

## Community Centers

We affiliate with ten Community, Youth, and Senior Centers in the Spokane area that provide resources and recreational services to our citizens: Corbin Senior Center, East Central Community Center (MLK), Hillyard Senior Center, Mid-City Concerns, Northeast Youth Center, Project Joy, Sinto Senior Center, Southside Community Center, Southwest Community Center, and West Central Community Center. Combined, these facilities served more than 720,000 participants with the help of 47,550 volunteer hours!

Park Operations

2	memorial/art items installed in parks
29	abandoned vehicles removed from park properties
31.5	lane miles of snow removal and maintenance of sidewalk/pathways
133	equipment tires replaced or repaired
194	portable park tables and 332 park benches painted
400+	bulbs salvaged from the Manito greenhouse for outer parks, otherwise headed to the compost pile
420	truckloads of fallen branches removed after the October snow storm
544	backflow prevention devices inspected and serviced
789	mower reels, blades, and cutting units sharpened
998	mechanic service/repair orders for golf, recreation, and maintenance equipment
1,118	playground inspections with 65 major repairs completed
1,366	reservations for picnic shelters and grounds
1,443	work orders for service to other City departments
1,843	hours of vandalism repair, including 53,120 pounds of illegal dumping in City parks, totaling over \$78,000 including labor and dump fees
5,408	flowers and small shrubs planted to beautify and re-establish landscapes
13,150	people attended the annual Holiday Lights evening events at Gaiser Conservatory in Manito, nearing capacity
23,296	toilets cleaned
1,539,200	pounds removed from trash and recycling receptacles

Thank you Spokane Parks Foundation!

The Campaign for Riverfront Spokane raised more than \$2.4M towards its \$3M goal to provide additional amenities beyond the bond-funded projects. As a result, the park will have an all-inclusive playground funded by Providence Health Care (designed by Shane's Inspiration), and a Hooptown USA basketball court funded by Multicare. Additional funds are being raised for a dog park, interpretive signs, and a second Expo '74 butterfly.

Grant funds totaling \$35,000 were provided to support recreation programs like camp scholarships, Mobile Recreation, and staff training for adaptive recreation.



Riverfront Spokane

**Pavilion Grand Opening**  
The grand re-opening of the beloved Pavilion was celebrated September 6 and 7. The two-day event showcased the multifunctional event venue as imagined by the 2014 Riverfront Master Plan. More than 6,000 attendees enjoyed a group fitness event with yoga, meditation and run; performances by several local performing arts groups including the Spokane Symphony; a cultural sharing with the Spokane Tribe; the national touring act, The Dip; and a synchronized light show.

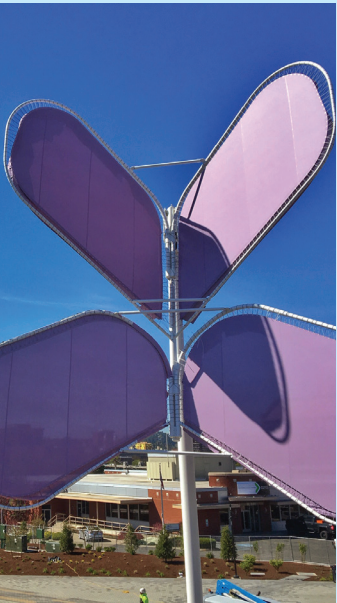
Events

**Community Engagement Activities**  
Providing free and low-cost experiences is a key mission of our downtown urban park. Nearly 80,000 guests enjoyed 240 community engagement events like free ice skating, Yoga on the Bridge, Barre on the Ribbon, 4th of July Carnival, Easter Egg Hunt & Brunch with the Easter Bunny, Numerica's Tree Lighting Celebration, Riverfront Eats, Bark in the Park, Pavilion Light Shows, New Year's Eve fireworks and more.



**Signature Events**  
Riverfront hosted 70 licensee events including Bloomsday, Family Fun Fair, Hoopfest, Gathering at the Falls Powwow, Unity in the Community, Gleason Fest, Pride Festival, Pig Out in the Park, and more. Attendance neared 200,000.

**Private Celebrations & Groups**  
We hosted nearly 200 private parties and corporate event rentals for nearly 15,000 guests. In addition, 145 groups came to Riverfront totaling more than 5,000 visitors.



**Programming Sponsors – Thank You!**  
A special thank you to Riverfront Spokane's programming partners whose charitable in-kind or financial support help to make events and programs possible: 49 Degrees North, Athleta, Apollo Sheet Metal, Aveda, Avista, Cameron Reilly, Company Ballet School, Core 4 Collective, Crescendo Community Chorus, Berger Partnership, Downtown Spokane Partnership, Eclipse Power Yoga, Feld Entertainment, Garco Construction, Hoopfest, Humana, iHeart Media, KREM, Modern Drywall, Music City Spokane, Negative Split, Numerica Credit Union, Mackin & Little, NAC Architecture, Pepsi, Providence Health Care, S&S Coatings, SCAFCO Corporation, Senske, Spin City, Spokane Area Youth Chorus, Spokane Children's Theatre, Spokane Civic Theatre, Spokane Symphony Chorale, Spokane Symphony Orchestra, The Barre Code, Tomato Street and WSECU.

**Summer Youth Card**  
In partnership with the City, Parks & Recreation, STA, Spokane Public Libraries, and School District #81, we provided free bus passes to area youth along with free roller skate rentals.

**Naming Rights Sponsor**  
Riverfront welcomed Numerica as its first facility naming sponsor of the Skate Ribbon and SkyRide. These funds allow us to provide more free and low-cost community programs.

Numerica Skate Ribbon – The Ice	40,920
Carrousel	140,378
Numerica SkyRide	133,561
Spider Jump	6,878
Pedal Kart, Scooter, Roller Skate Rental	8,664

At the Numerica Skate Ribbon, we purchased new ice skates and implemented a comprehensive ice skate sharpening program, greatly improving the skating experience.

Did you know? It takes approximately 640 hours to build the initial sheet of ice at the Numerica Skate Ribbon, and approximately 18 hours per day to condition and maintain the ice.

**Supported Employment**  
Riverfront partnered with Civil Service to pilot the City's new supported employment program, adding to the diversity of our workforce.

**Visitor Information Center**  
The Visitor Information Center saw visitors from all 50 states, every Canadian province, and 63 different countries in 2019!



Riverfront Redevelopment

In 2014, voters approved a \$64M reinvestment into our downtown urban park, the first major investment in Riverfront since Expo '74. The bond didn't raise taxes and covers 5 major elements, plus a few added amenities. Two projects were completed prior to this year:

**Recreational Ice Ribbon & SkyRide Facility**  
– completed winter 2017  
**Looff Carrousel building**  
– completed spring 2018

**Completed in 2019**  
**Howard Street Promenade**  
– opened summer 2019  
A new gateway from the north side of the park features a restored Expo '74 lilac butterfly and a Riverfront placemaking sign. The promenade thru the park offers enhanced lighting, sightlines, and wayfinding to points of interest. Three pedestrian bridges were also renovated or replaced along the pathway.



**U.S. Pavilion**  
– opened fall 2019  
The design focuses on river views, an elevated experience nearly 40' up the mast into the cable net, almost 500 light blades, added greenscape where there was once concrete, and staging for events.

**Up next: 2020/2021**  
The fifth and final key bond project is an Ice Age Floods-themed playground on the North Bank, a wheels park, and basketball court funded by Hooptown USA. The project is scheduled for spring 2021 completion.

An added amenity outside of the bond will be a second playground funded by Providence Health Care. It will be our City's first all-inclusive playground, situated on West Havermale Island between Post St. and the Pavilion. This site will also feature a new interactive art piece StepWell, parking, and a restored theme stream from Expo '74. It's anticipated to open in fall 2020.

