



# Wauwatosa, WI

## Board of Parks and Forestry

### Commissioners

### Meeting Agenda

7725 W. North Avenue  
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

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**Tuesday, May 20, 2025**

**8:00 AM**

**Committee Room #1**

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#### **CALL TO ORDER**

#### **ROLL CALL**

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Approval of March 18 2025 Meeting Minutes [25-0823](#)

#### **MONTHLY REPORTS AND PARK UPDATES**

This section includes monthly reports and updates on user groups, policies, and projects.

1. Monthly Report April 2025 [25-0836](#)
2. Update on Tosa Tonight Concert Series [25-0896](#)

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Presentation by Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) on the Hart Park Levee System Accreditation Projects [25-0825](#)
2. Survey results for parks that ended 11/4/2024 [25-0882](#)
3. Baseball area rest rooms [25-0883](#)
4. Veterans plans for beginning construction [25-0884](#)
5. Park and Muellner rentals [25-0885](#)
6. July 4th planning dates [25-0886](#)
7. 68th & 63 street Update [25-0887](#)
8. Arbor Day review [25-0888](#)
9. Firefly Grove Park [25-0889](#)
10. Parks and Forestry Awards [25-0890](#)
11. Consideration of cancellation of July's Board meeting [25-0864](#)

## **ADJOURNMENT**

### NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

Persons with a disability who need assistance to participate in this meeting should call the Department of Public Works office at (414) 471-8422 or send an email to [tparks@wauwatosa.net](mailto:tparks@wauwatosa.net), with as much advance notice as possible.



# Wauwatosa, WI

## Staff Report

7725 W. North Avenue  
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

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**File #:** 25-0823

**Agenda Date:** 5/20/2025

**Agenda #:** 1.

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Approval of March 18 2025 Meeting Minutes



# Wauwatosa, WI

## Board of Parks and Forestry

### Commissioners

### Meeting Minutes

7725 W. North Avenue  
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

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Tuesday, March 18, 2025

8:00 AM

Zoom Only:  
<https://servetosa.zoom.us/j/89630023532>,  
Meeting ID: 896 3002 3532

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#### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:13 AM

#### ROLL CALL

**Absent 2** Commissioner, Chair Tom Ertel  
Commissioner Kiara Caldwell  
**Remote 6** Commissioner Steve Berg  
Commissioner Juan Farmer  
Commissioner Steven Mares  
Commissioner Jurian Misawa Yee  
Commissioner Allysha Willman  
Alderpersion Liaison Robin Brannin

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of January 21, 2025 Meeting Minutes

[25-0427](#)

**Attachments:** [Minutes.pdf](#)

**RESULT:** APPROVED

**MOVER:** Robin Brannin

**SECONDER:** Steve Berg

**Aye:** 5 Berg, Farmer, Mares, Misawa Yee, Willman, and Brannin

**Absent:** 2 Ertel, and Caldwell

#### MONTHLY REPORTS AND PARK UPDATES

This section includes monthly reports and updates on user groups, policies, and projects.

1. Monthly Report February 2025

[25-0467](#)

**Attachments:** [Monthly Report.pdf](#)

The Parks and Forestry Superintendent presented the monthly report to the board.

**RESULT:** INFORMATIONAL ONLY



2. Tosa Tonight 2025 Update [25-0431](#)

**Attachments:** [Tosa Tonight 2024 Letter to City of Wauwatosa 2025mt.pdf](#)

Pete Holtz presented an update on Tosa Tonight events to the board.

**RESULT:** INFORMATIONAL ONLY

3. Update on Firefly Grove Park Project [25-0428](#)

The Parks and Forestry Superintendent presented an update on the project to the board.

**RESULT:** INFORMATIONAL ONLY

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Planning Ribbon Cutting Ceremony [25-0429](#)

Comm. Berg presented his memo to the board and discussed the current ribbon cutting ceremony plans with city staff.

**RESULT:** INFORMATIONAL ONLY

2. Discussion Regarding In Person Meetings [25-0430](#)

Comm. Berg presented his memo to the board. The board voted to resume in person meetings starting with the next meeting.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

**MOVER:** Jurian Misawa Yee

**SECONDER:** Steven Mares

**Aye:** 5 Berg, Farmer, Mares, Misawa Yee, Willman, and Brannin

**Absent:** 2 Ertel, and Caldwell

3. Community Comments About Park Use [25-0480](#)

**Attachments:** [\[External\] agenda items.pdf](#)  
[\[External\] Agenda item community comments.pdf](#)

The board and city staff discussed the community comments submitted.

**RESULT:** INFORMATIONAL ONLY

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 AM



# Wauwatosa, WI

7725 W. North Avenue  
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## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-0836

**Agenda Date:** 5/20/2025

**Agenda #:** 1.

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Monthly Report April 2025

**Department:**

Parks and Forestry Department

**Monthly Activities**  
**April 2025**

**Forestry**

	YTD 25	YTD 24	End of Year 24
Tree Removals	113	99	377
Stump Removals	0	0	353
Maintenance Requests	88	1069	1657
Sectional Pruning	1648	1195	1479
Training Pruning	1,023	774	2335
Planting	127	261	475

Other Activities:

**Parks**

	YTD 25	YTD 24	End of Year 24
Muellner Building			
No. of rentals	18	36	45
Revenue	\$ 3,971.10	\$ 6,240.00	\$ 6,240.00

	YTD 25	YTD 24	End of Year 24
Stadium			
No. of rentals	69	114	732
Revenue	\$ 23,138.04	\$ 20,387.10	\$ 172,683.95

Budgeted stadium revenue 2025	\$ 72,000.00
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Other Activities:



# Wauwatosa, WI

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## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-0896

**Agenda Date:** 5/20/2025

**Agenda #:** 2.

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Update on Tosa Tonight Concert Series

**Submitted by:**  
Pete Holtz



# Wauwatosa, WI

7725 W. North Avenue  
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-0825

**Agenda Date:** 5/20/2025

**Agenda #:** 1.

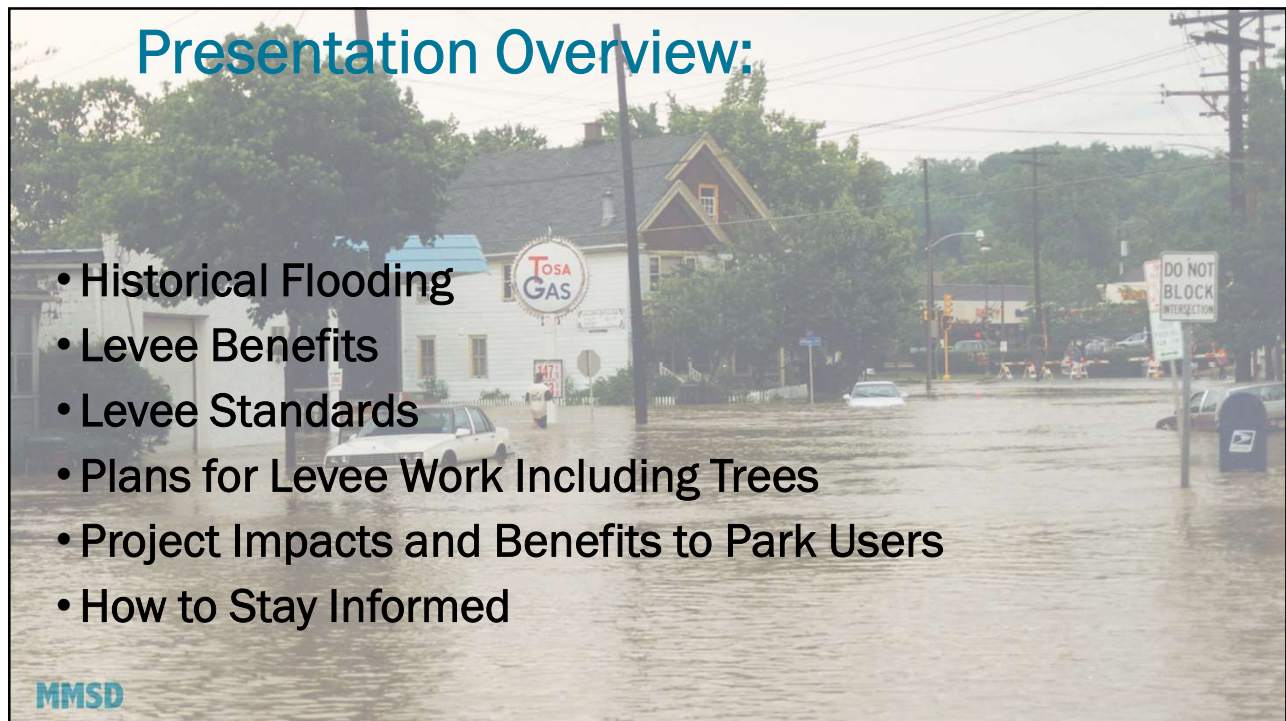
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Presentation by Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) on the Hart Park Levee System Accreditation Projects

**Submitted by:**  
Mark Mittag



1



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## Hart Park Neighborhood – A History of Flooding



**MMSD**



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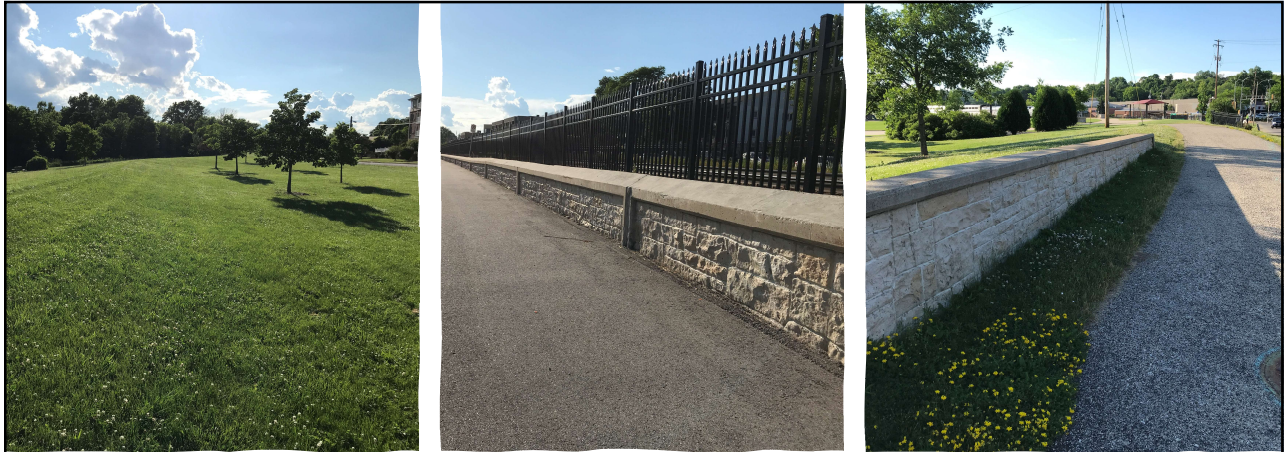
## 1997 and 1998 Back-to-Back Flooding

Catalyst for the  
Hart Park Levee  
Project



**MMSD**

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## What does a Levee do?

- A levee holds back floodwaters
- Built of earth or reinforced concrete

5



6

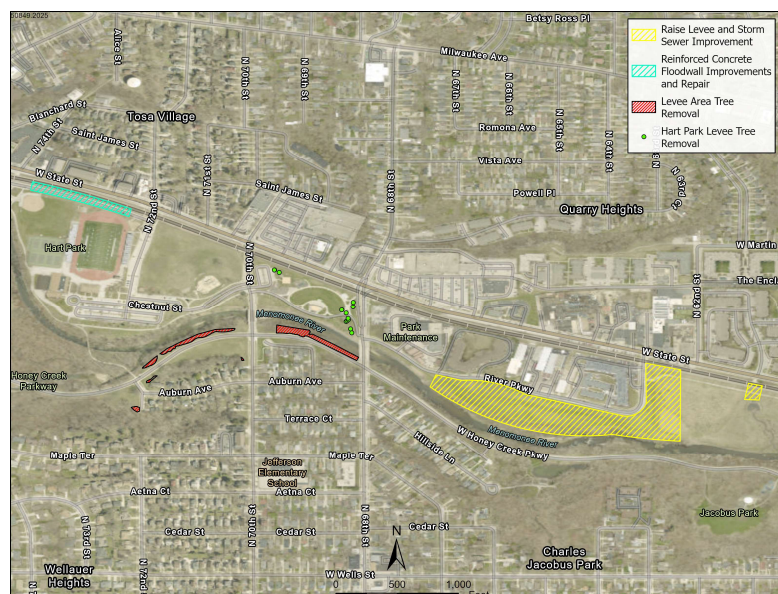




7

## The Hart Park Levee Reduces Flood Risk Today With Improvements the Levee will Meet FEMA Standards and Revise Floodplain Map

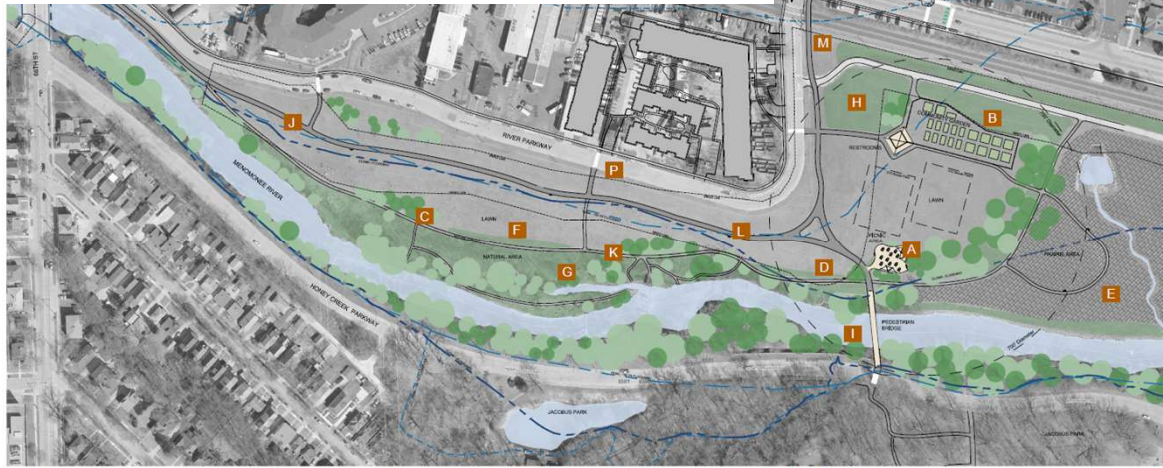
- Levee & floodwall height improvements
- Storm sewer improvements
- Pipe rehabilitation improvements
- Tree removal where too close to meet levee standards
- First of several planned construction contracts



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## Levee Improvements Coordinated with “Hart Park East” Plan



### Goals and Opportunities

- Provide a variety of passive recreation uses for a range of users
- Increase connectivity to surrounding neighborhoods, including pedestrian bridge to Jacobus Park
- Create safer crossings at 68<sup>th</sup> Street and State Street. Safety improvements to include rapid flashing beacons and bump-outs where appropriate to decrease crossing distance
- Increase accessibility, including access to the river
- Maintain and enhance native habitats through invasive removal and strategic planting of native vegetation



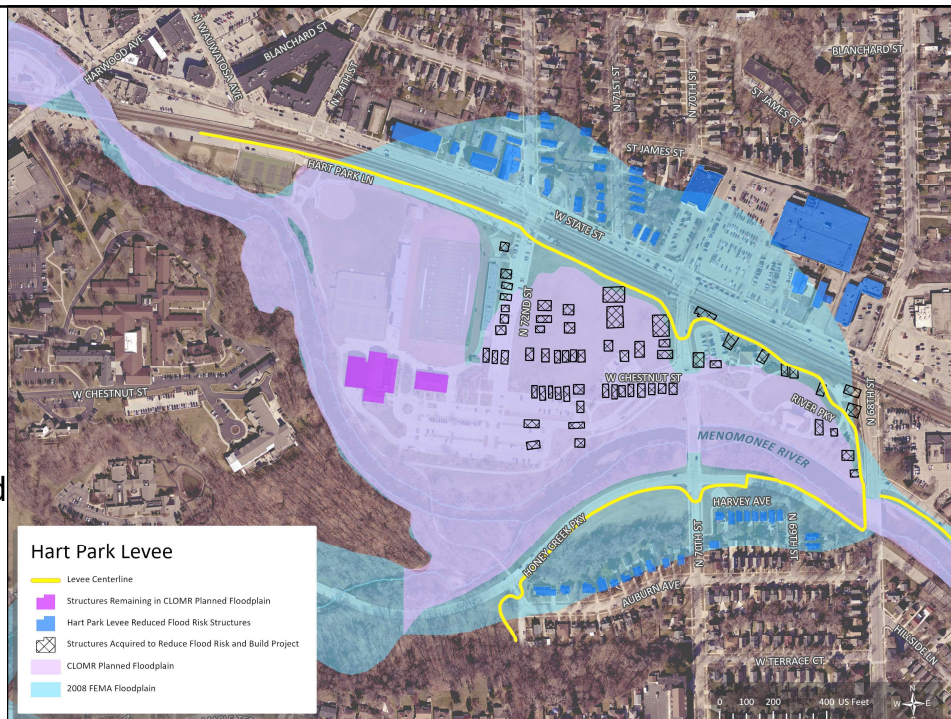
### HART PARK - EAST Conceptual Site Plan

- |                           |                       |                            |   |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|---|
| <b>A</b> Picnic Area      | <b>E</b> Prairie Area | <b>I</b> Pedestrian Bridge | <b>M</b> Signage                          |
| <b>B</b> Community Garden | <b>F</b> Lawn Area    | <b>J</b> Multi-use Trail   | <b>N</b> 68 <sup>th</sup> Street Crossing |
| <b>C</b> Hammock Garden   | <b>G</b> Natural Area | <b>K</b> Nature Trail      | <b>O</b> 63 <sup>rd</sup> Street Crossing |
| <b>D</b> Public Art       | <b>H</b> Low Mow Area | <b>L</b> Benches - Seating | <b>P</b> Mid-block Crossing               |

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## Levee Benefits 130+ Properties

- Reduces flood risk/damage.
- Goal to eliminate flood insurance requirement; FEMA recommends flood insurance.
- Goal to remove limitations on home/business reinvestment.

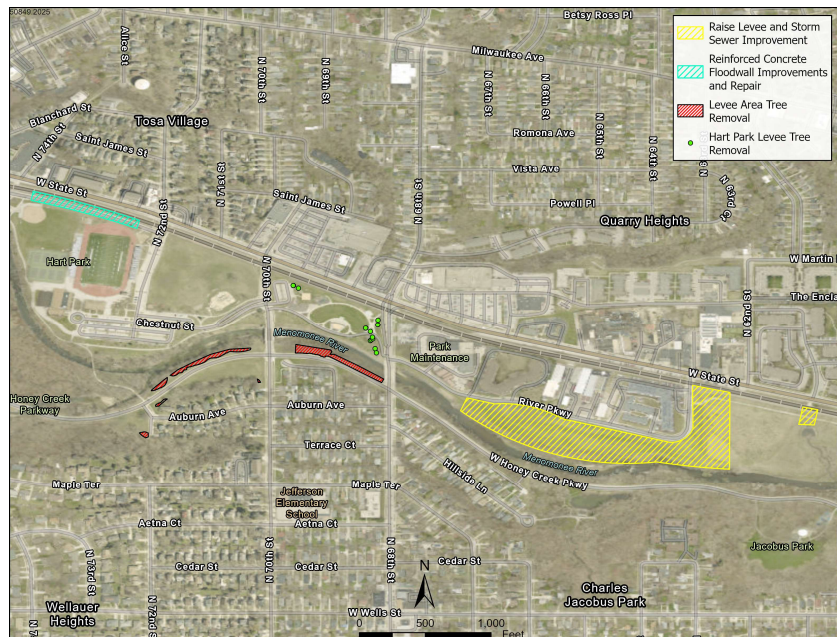


10

## Construction Impacts and Benefits to Park Users

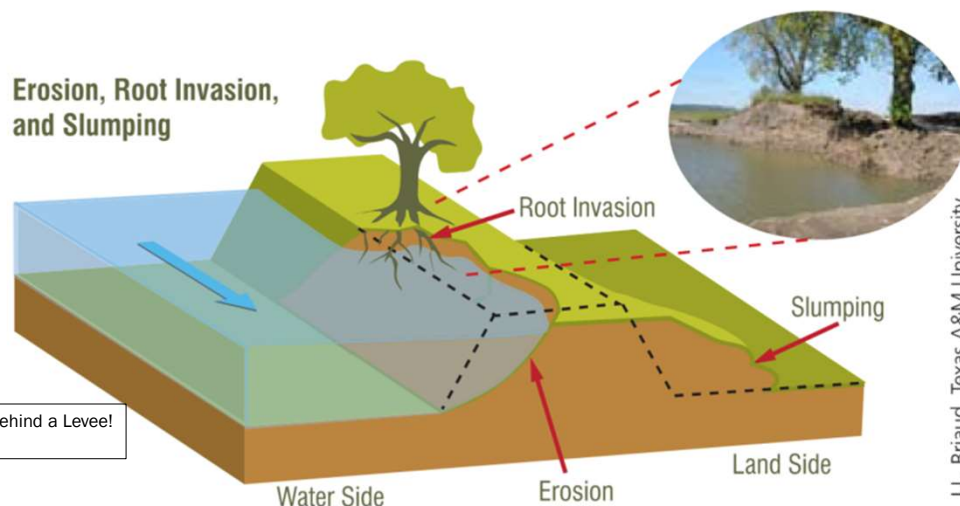
- Hart Park Lane
  - Temp parking impact
- Hart Park East
  - Temp impact; new recreation trail
- Honey Creek Parkway & Bandshell Area
  - Minor impacts from tree removal
- Future Improvements
  - Storm sewers & pipe rehab
  - TBD – 68<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge area

MMSD



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## Levee Standards Exist to Protect the Levee



Graphic source: So, You Live Behind a Levee!  
ASCE 2009

MMSD

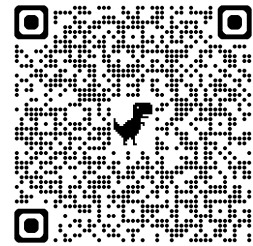
12





## Interested in keeping updated about the Hart Park Levee Accreditation?

- Sign up for email updates at the project webpage <https://www.mmsd.com/hart-mke-accreditation>
- Leave a comment or question at the webpage.



**MMSD**

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**Thank you for your interest in the Hart Park and Western Milwaukee Levee System Accreditation Project!**

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# Wauwatosa, WI

7725 W. North Avenue  
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-0882

**Agenda Date:** 5/20/2025

**Agenda #:** 2.

---

Survey results for parks that ended 11/4/2024

**Submitted by:**

Tomas Ertel

- Time line for results
  - Top 10 requests
  - Inclusive requests
- items for 2026 in Budget
  - Signage for parks
- When are the financial requests to common council do and future plans (Major construction needs Baseball diamond, courts Picnic area)
- Track question from officials on inconsistent power for Track equipment (in Update)



# Wauwatosa, WI

7725 W. North Avenue  
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-0883

**Agenda Date:** 5/20/2025

**Agenda #:** 3.

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Baseball area rest rooms

**Submitted by:**  
Thomas Ertel

Timeline to replace



# Wauwatosa, WI

7725 W. North Avenue  
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## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-0884

**Agenda Date:** 5/20/2025

**Agenda #:** 4.

---

Veterans plans for beginning construction

**Submitted by:**  
Thomas Ertel

Update on their finances



# Wauwatosa, WI

7725 W. North Avenue  
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## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-0885

**Agenda Date:** 5/20/2025

**Agenda #:** 5.

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Park and Muellner rentals

**Submitted by:**

Thomas Ertel

- Hart park new rentals and lost rentals
- How has the rentals for Muellner been for 2025
  - Weddings
  - Rental rates schedule
- How is the updated scheduling new system working?





# Wauwatosa, WI

7725 W. North Avenue  
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-0886

**Agenda Date:** 5/20/2025

**Agenda #:** 6.

---

July 4th planning dates

**Submitted by:**  
Thomas Ertel



# Wauwatosa, WI

7725 W. North Avenue  
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-0887

**Agenda Date:** 5/20/2025

**Agenda #:** 7.

---

68th & 63 street Update

**Submitted by:**  
Thomas Ertel



# Wauwatosa, WI

7725 W. North Avenue  
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-0888

**Agenda Date:** 5/20/2025

**Agenda #:** 8.

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Arbor Day review

**Submitted by:**

Thomas Ertel

- School
- Program
- Tree



# Wauwatosa, WI

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## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-0889

**Agenda Date:** 5/20/2025

**Agenda #:** 9.

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Firefly Grove Park

**Submitted by:**

Thomas Ertel

- Ribbon cutting attendance
- Walking tour 4-6
- Sculpture talk?
- Commission part
- What will be left in construction?



# Wauwatosa, WI

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## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-0890

**Agenda Date:** 5/20/2025

**Agenda #:** 10.

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Parks and Forestry Awards

**Submitted by:**  
Thomas Ertel



# Wauwatosa, WI

7725 W. North Avenue  
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## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-0864

**Agenda Date:** 5/20/2025

**Agenda #:** 11.

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Consideration of cancellation of July's Board meeting

**Submitted by:**

David Simpson - Director of Public Works

**Department:**

Public Works Department