

City of Portland Parks Commission Agenda



The mission of the Portland Parks Commission is to advocate for the enhancement and stewardship of our parks and open spaces. Review and propose projects that impact parks and open spaces and recommend action. Foster collaboration among park users and the City. Promotes public access and enjoyment. Advocate for public and private funding for parks and open spaces. Enjoy Portland for life.

Commission Members:

Alexis Lopez Del Vecchio, Ashley Burdick, Beth Rabbitt, Donna Gartland, Elizabeth Pagan, Griffin Bourassa, Jaime Parker, John Clark, Marie Gray, Robert Foster, Sarah Michniewicz (City Councilor), William Elting.

City Staff:

Alex Marshall (Parks Director), Jen DeRice (Parks Assistant Director), Jessica Teesdale (PRF Sr. Executive Assistant)

May 1, 2025 at 5:00 PM

To submit written public comment on an agenda item, email ParksCommission@Portlandmaine.gov.

Submissions must be received by 12:00 pm the day before the Parks Commission meeting to guarantee their inclusion in the agenda packet. All submissions must include the commenter's name and legal address. To help ensure your comment is submitted for the correct item, please include the name of the agenda item (see below).

Livestream link:: <https://portlandme.portal.civicclerk.com/event/7488/files/agenda/16173>

- I. Call to Order
- II. General Citizen Comment Period
- III. Agenda Items
 - a. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes: March 6, 2025
 - b. New Business
 - i. Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
Parks Director Alex Marshall - Presentation on Annual Process
 - c. Old Business
 - i. Party in the Park
 - d. Communications and Updates
 - i. Parks Division Report
 - ii. Land Bank Commission Report
 - e. Commissioner requests for Agenda Items
- IV. Adjournment

City of Portland | Parks, Recreation and Facilities Management

Ethan Hipple, *Director*

Alex Marshall, *Director of Parks*



Parks Commission March 6, 2025 Meeting Minutes

This meeting was recorded and is available to watch on the Agendas and Meetings Portal Here:

<https://portlandme.portal.civicclerk.com/event/7486/files/agenda/15885>

Note: The audio technical difficulty is resolved at timestamp 00 hours.14 min.11 seconds

Present Commission Members:

Alexis Lopez Del Vecchio, Beth Rabbitt, Donna Gartland, Griffin Bourassa, Jaime Parker, John Clark, Marie Gray, Robert Foster, Sarah Michniewicz (City Councilor), and William Elting.

Not Present:

Ashley Burdick, Elizabeth Pagan.

Staff:

Alex Marshall (Parks Director), Jen DeRice (Parks Assistant Director), Jessica Teesdale (PRF Sr. Executive Assistant)

Call to Order

B. Rabbit called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm

General Citizen Comment Period-

B. Rabbit opened the floor for public comment on non-agenda items. No commenters present

Emailed comments- None

Agenda Items

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes: January 9, 2025

Motion to accept meeting minutes: Motion by J. Clark and seconded by R. Foster.

Passed: 7-0 with 2 abstaining

New Business

Old Business

Annual Meeting of the Parks Update and Discussion

- Subcommittee (D. Gartland and A. Lopez DelVecchio)
- Community Engagement Event "Party in the Park"
 - Location: Payson Park

- Date 6/18/2025
- Time: 4:30-6:00 pm
- Working with city staff to obtain permits and marketing materials.
- Speaker ideas: Wild Seed Project, Maine Audubon, and the Cumberland County Master Gardeners, as well as engage with your Parks Department.
- Title: Party at the Park
 - Details: Snacks and music will be provided, bring your own lawn chair or picnic blanket.
 - Theme: Nature All Around

Annual Report Update and Discussion

- Subcommittee (W. Elting & B. Rabbitt)
- Subject: 2024 Annual Report
- Status: Draft in progress.
- Discussion: Two options were considered:
 - Option 1: Publish the 2024 Annual Report immediately.
 - Option 2: Consolidate the 2024 and 2025 reports for release at the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2025).
- Context: The most recent report, the 2022/2023 Annual Report, was submitted to the Council in January 2023.

Communications and Updates

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)- A. Marshall reviews CIP projects list that is under review by the Finance Committee and answers questions from the Parks Commission. J. Parker recommends renaming Will's Playground,

Parks Projects Presentation Parks Division Director- A. Marshall lists all current and future parks projects and their current status. These projects were listed:

- Congress Square Park
- Talbot Lyman Court conversion
- Deering Oaks Park ADA sidewalks Phase III
- Great Diamond Island Basketball/pickleball court
- Kiwanis Athletic Facility
- Longfellow Playground
- Valley Street improvements
- Portland Harbor Common
- Back Cove South Preble Field
- Reiche School Playground
- Riverton Trolley Park Phase II parking lot improvements
- Union Branch Pathway

Parks Division Report-Updates provided during the Parks projects presentation. J. Parker recommended more public grills and shade and rain structures citywide

Land Bank Commission Report-No updates

Commissioner Requests for Agenda Items-Tabled until the next meeting
Adjournment

Parks Capital Improvement Plan Timeline

Project Selection Criteria

- **Legal Obligations:** Court orders, compliance with state or federal legislation
- **Park Equity:** 10 minute access to a park or trail, distribution between neighborhoods, populations served, islands, etc...
- **Compliance with Adopted Plans and Studies:** Match with city priorities
- **Impact of Service to Public:** Safety issues, improved service delivery
- **Access:** ADA access, facilities for diverse age groups
- **Departmental or Community Priority:** The project is important to a Departmental mission or community interest. Does the project meet a demonstrated need from the community?
- **Funding Source:** The project includes a match from grants, federal or state match, community fundraising
- **Budget Impact:** The project decreases operating expenses
- **User Group:** Does the project serve a diverse user group, or a particular user group that is not already well-served?
- **Prior Phases:** Projects that are a continuation of viable projects funded in past years.

May--July:

1. Department of Parks, Recreation and Facilities issues call to stakeholders (Friends and Neighborhood Groups, the schools, and the public) for project proposals.
 - a. The Department of Parks, Recreation and Facilities will publicize the existing 10-year Parks Capital Improvement Plan, so that stakeholders will be aware of the current city-wide 10-year schedule of projects and prioritization.
 - b. If a stakeholder group submits more than one project for consideration, the projects should be listed in an itemized, prioritized list.
 - c. Stakeholders submitting projects not already on the 10-year Parks Capital Improvement Plan should include cost estimates from a qualified engineer, contractor or landscape architect.
2. Project Requests and cost estimates due to the Department of Parks, Recreation and Facilities by mid-July.

July

1. Department of Parks, Recreation and Facilities compiles and reviews project requests. Sources:
 - a. Existing 10-year Capital Improvement Plan
 - b. Unfunded requests from prior years
 - c. Portland Open Space Vision and Implementation Plan, Parks Master Plans, Facilities Master Plans, Athletic Facilities Task Force Plan, City Comprehensive Plan, and other relevant plans
 - d. Departmental knowledge and professional insight
 - e. Requests from Friends Groups, schools, and other stakeholders
2. Projects from stakeholders are submitted as requests. Department of Parks, Recreation and Facilities will review all requests and either:
 - a. Add to 10-year Parks Capital Improvement Plan according to 10-year schedule and budget parameters.
 - b. File the project request if deemed inappropriate, undesirable, or unfeasible.
3. The Department of Parks and Recreation prepares and submits the 10-year Capital Improvement Plan to the Parks Commission by July 31.
 - a. Includes in submission all requests from stakeholders
 - b. Includes in submission all recommended projects for the upcoming fiscal year.

August--September

1. Parks Commission reviews project proposals for upcoming fiscal year by undertaking these steps:
 - a. Review materials submitted by the Department of Parks and Recreation (which includes requests from public stakeholders)
 - b. Conduct a public meeting(s) to hear from Friends Groups, Neighborhood Associations, and other

interested stakeholders

- c. Following public meeting(s), Parks Commission shall provide recommendations on projects being proposed for the upcoming fiscal year, submitted to the Department of Parks and Recreation by September 30.

October

1. Final review of 10-year Capital Improvement Plan by Department of Parks, Recreation and Facilities.
2. Backup materials prepared, quotes finalized for projects being recommended for upcoming fiscal year.
3. Staff input of CIP requests into the City financial system by October 31.

November--December

1. Department of Parks, Recreation and Facilities submits the final Departmental recommendation to the City Manager's office; attaches the Parks Commission Recommendations.

January--March

- Review by City Manager/Finance Director
- Review by Finance Committee
- Review and Final Approval by City Council

	DRAFT, as of 6/14/2024										
	<i>The following schedule illustrates the long term plan for upkeep and improvements of Portland Parks and Open</i>										
	<i>Projects marked with *** are NEW projects proposed by Friends/Neighborhood Groups, not previously on City CIP.</i>										
Note: FY26 Projects approved in March of 2025		2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034
Annual Total	District	\$4,171,000	\$3,610,000	\$8,375,000	\$6,890,000	\$6,825,000	\$11,425,000	\$1,875,000	\$3,150,000	\$2,112,000	\$1,350,000
Athletic Facilities											
Deering High School Field Upgrades	5				\$200,000	\$275,000					
Deering Oaks Baseball Lights	2	\$250,000									
Deering Oaks Infield Upgrades and Irrigation - Moved from FY25 to FY26	2	\$90,000									
Deering Oaks Volleyball Court Replacement	2							\$75,000			
Dougherty Field Turf Renovation w/ Irrigation	3		\$250,000								
Fencing: Softball field at Talbot School	1				\$50,000						
Fitzpatrick Paving and ADA Improvements	2			\$235,000							
Fitzpatrick Stadium Entrance Upgrade	2						\$75,000				
Fitzpatrick to Expo Team Entrance Landscape Upgrades	2							\$100,000			
Fitzpatrick Track Resurfacing	2		\$100,000					\$100,000			
Fitzpatrick Turf Replacement	2				\$1,200,000						
Fox St Irrigation Replacement	1				\$75,000						
Ludlow Baseball Field Upgrades	5					\$500,000					
Memorial Stadium Concession Stand Replacement	5				\$250,000						
Memorial Stadium Turf Replacement	5								\$1,200,000		
Payson B Softball Drainage and Irrigation	4			\$110,000							
Riverton Softball Lighting Replacement	5			\$255,000							
Synthetic Turf Field: location TBD						\$1,500,000					
Cemeteries											
Evergreen Driveway Drainage and Paving--To be funded by Water Resources	5										
Evergreen Repaving Roads	5		\$125,000		\$125,000						
Forest City Coastal Erosion Mitigation	5									\$1,000,000	
Gravel Road Reconstruction (Evergreen and Forest City) - Could be paid for by trusts	5		\$100,000								
Green Burial Area Development (Evergreen)	5			\$30,000							
Pond Restoration Engineering	5				\$30,000						
Wilde Chapel Masonry	5			\$500,000		\$500,000					
Community Gardens											
Bayside Community Garden Relocation	1		\$50,000								
Community Garden Fence Repairs/Additions (3-4 Gardens (CDBG potential)	Various				\$50,000	\$50,000					
Various Shed Replacements (and Peaks Island City Acres Shed)***	Various			\$45,000							
Courts--Tennis, Basketball, Futsal											

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Bayside Basketball Court - New Construction	1		\$150,000								
Court Resurfacing: Various Tennis/Pickleball & Basketball	Various	\$50,000			\$50,000		\$50,000		\$50,000		\$50,000
Deering Oaks Tennis Court Lights--Add	2				\$350,000						
Dougherty Field Basketball Pavilion	3					\$150,000					
Deering Oaks Tennis and Basketball Court Repaving	2			\$500,000							
Eastern Prom Tennis and Basketball Court Resurface	1							\$50,000			
Longfellow Basketball Drainage and Reconstruction and Conversion to Basketball/Futsal	5		\$175,000								
Payson Additional Basketball Court	4				\$100,000						
Peaks Island Multi-use Pickleball/Basketball Courts (2)***	1										\$125,000
Pickleball Court Construction (NEW) - Location TBD	TBD			\$300,000							
Riverton Tennis Court Fence Replacement	5							\$75,000			
Park Infrastructure											
Baxter Boulevard Safety Enhancements --Stairs and Railings	4		\$150,000								
Bell Buoy Park Design/Engineering & Construction--ADA	1		\$75,000		\$750,000						
Bramhall Square Reconstruction \$250K budget, \$100K from Maine Medical, \$150 from Public Works CIP, \$100K other sources	2					\$450,000					
Park Walkway ADA Paving, various locations (E Prom, Deering Oaks)	various		\$200,000		\$200,000		\$200,000		\$200,000		
Deering Oaks ADA Sidewalks and Curbing--Farmers Market Rd. (State to Deering)	2					\$300,000					
Deering Oaks Bandstand Replacement--ADA	2					\$500,000					
Deering Oaks Pond Plaza and Dock--ADA	2							\$100,000			
Deering Oaks Pond Wall Reconstruction	2	\$1,900,000		\$400,000							
Deering Oaks Ravine Wading Pool Rehab--ADA	2			\$475,000							
Deering Oaks Rose Circle Entrance--Convert to Brick--ADA	2					\$75,000					
East End Beach Bath House Replacement--ADA	1					\$1,000,000					
East End Recreational Boat Ramp Reconstruction	1		\$300,000								
Eastern Prom Cleeves Accident Fence Reconstruction	1		\$50,000								
Eastern Prom Cleeves Monument ADA Plaza	1		\$125,000								
Eastern Prom Cutter Street/Parking Reno--ADA (joint project with Public Works)	1			\$2,750,000							
Fencing: Eastern Prom Sewage Treatment Plant Replacement with guardrail	1	\$156,000									
Fort Gorges Composting Toilets	1						\$100,000				
Fort Gorges Parapet	1							\$250,000			
Fort Gorges Preservation Plan (Structural Stabilization)	1		\$120,000	\$200,000							
Fort Gorges Sea Level Rise Intervention	1								\$250,000		
Fort Gorges Wharf Reconstruction (materials and engineering)	1		\$100,000								
Fort Sumner Reconstruction--ADA	1								\$450,000		

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Fort Sumner Trail Lighting--to be paid for by Friends Group	1										
Harborview Concrete Stair and Plaza: Resurfacing with Granite	2					\$25,000					
Harborview Stairs from Circle Trail Intersection to Commercial St	2		\$50,000								
Lincoln Park Fence--Franklin St	1				\$300,000						
Lincoln Park Fence--Pearl St	1	\$200,000									
Lincoln Park Fence--Federal St	1			\$350,000							
Lincoln Park Walkway Lights	1				\$250,000						
Longfellow Park Bollard Lighting***	3			\$50,000							
Ludlow Pond Drainage	5				\$150,000						
Martins Point Access Improvements	4				\$150,000						
Noyes Park Pathways, Seating and Trees--ADA	2				\$150,000						
Payson Park Front Street Entrance Plaza Improvements and Cross-Park Trail to Baseball Parking Lot- Possible C3 or Portland Housing Authority funding--ADA	4		\$200,000								
Payson Park Skating Rink Improvements (Expansion)	4		\$75,000								
Payson Park Parking: Reconstructing Sledding Hill Parking Lot--ADA	4		\$250,000								
Picnic Pavillion: Deering Oaks and Payson Park--ADA	various				\$150,000	\$150,000					
Quarry Run Dog Park Expansion and Renovation (Invasives Removal, Trail resurfacing, fence replacement)--ADA	4			\$100,000							
Stroudwater Bridge: connecting Stroudwater Trails with Fore River Preserve	3	\$160,000									
Veranda Street Waterfront Park	4		\$150,000								
Western Prom "NEW" Sidewalk along Western Cemetery--ADA	2				\$250,000						
Western Prom Artistic Play Area	2						\$150,000				
Western Prom Bandstand, Toboggan Run Improvements	2					\$150,000					
Western Prom Roadway Tree Allee	2								\$300,000		
Western Prom Upper Park Walkway Reconstruction--ADA	2			\$250,000		\$250,000					
Western Prom Valley Street Stone Retaining Wall Repair/Rebuild Phase II	2		\$115,000								
Western Prom Vista Clearing and Plantings - Moved from FY25 to FY26	2			\$50,000		\$50,000		\$50,000			
Western Prom Walkway Lighting	2						\$150,000				
Western Prom Walkway Reconstruction, Phase II--ADA	2					\$150,000					
Playgrounds, Skateparks, and Fitness Courses											
Adams School Playground	1										\$250,000
Deering Oaks Playground	2							\$650,000			
East End School Playground	1						\$350,000				
East End School Playground Design	1					\$50,000					
Fox Field Playground	1					\$300,000					

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Harborview Aging in Place Fitness Course	2			\$30,000							
Hesletine Park Playground	4						\$250,000				
Munjoy South Playground	1								\$350,000		
Munjoy South Park & Playground Design	1							\$50,000			
Ocean Avenue School Playground	4										\$500,000
Ocean Avenue School Playground Design	4									\$50,000	
Peaks Island Playground	1								\$250,000		
Peaks Island Skate Park	1			\$75,000							
Peppermint Park--East Bayside Playground	1				\$350,000						
Peppermint Park--East Bayside Playground Design	1			\$50,000							
Portable Pumptrack: moveable neighborhood skatepark	various				\$75,000						
Presumpscot Playground	4				\$450,000						
Presumpscot Playground Design	4		\$50,000								
Stone Street Playground--Upgrade and Splashpad Erosion Issues	1	\$400,000									
Stroudwater Playground	3					\$150,000					
Taylor Street Playground	2							\$100,000			
Tyng-Tate Street Playground: Fencing and Seating***	2									\$25,000	
University Park Playground (NEW)	4			\$200,000							
Playground Equipment Replacement: Various Locations	various				\$75,000			\$75,000			\$75,000
Will's Playground (Eastern Prom)	1		\$450,000								
Will's Playground Design (Eastern Prom)	1	\$75,000									
Trails											
Back Cove Guard Rail	4			\$100,000							
Back Cove Trail Reconstruction and Stone Dust Resurfacing	4,3,1				\$150,000						
Bayside Trail Resurfacing--by Public Works	1,2										
Dougherty Field Bike Path Improvements***	3					\$100,000					
Eastern Promenade Sidewalk Resurfacing--by Public Works	1										
Fore River Parkway Trail Resurfacing--by Public Works	2										
Payson Park Cross Park Trail (Ocean Ave to Catafalque)	4		\$100,000								
Recreation Facilities											
Community Center Planning				\$200,000							
Community Center Construction							\$10,000,000				
Reiche Pool Filter	2				\$115,000						
212 Canco Rd Community Room improvements	4	\$150,000									

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Ice Arena											
Redesign (Office to Locker Room)	2				\$345,000						
Sprinkler Upgrade	2	\$100,000									
Ice Arena Improvements	2		\$50,000			\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	
Chiller Replacement (Refurb in 2024 will get us to est 2034)	2										\$350,000
Front of building wall repairs?											
Golf Course											
Course Improvements	5	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000		
Bridge over Dole Brook	5										
Bunker Renovation--North Course	5									\$987,000	
Bunker Renovation--South Course	5				\$250,000						
Cart Building Building Replacement-North & South Estimate	5			\$900,000							
Irrigation system replacement	5	\$150,000									
Public Assemblies											
Expo Renovations	2					\$50,000					
Merrill Interior Doors	1			\$70,000							
Merrill Loading Dock: Extend and Reorient	1							\$100,000			
Merrill Marquee	1				\$200,000						
Merrill Orchestra Pit Lift - PSO/POV/Opera offering funding	1	\$300,000									
Merrill Seating Replacement	1			\$100,000							
Outdoor venues - Barricades		\$140,000									
Prior Community Requests NOT added to 10 Year CIP plan											
Clark Street Park Playground Equipment, Seating & Water Fountain	2	\$50,000	Clark Street playground equipment funded in FY24 CIP Budget. Seating and water fountain can be funded through future operating budget or other funding sources.								
Dougherty Field Master Plan *Update*	3	\$50,000	Given recent improvements to skatepark, playground, community garden and ongoing replacement of Community Pool, no update is needed at this time.								
Dougherty Field Park Amenities: Benches, Picnic Tables, Drinking Fountains, etc.	3	\$25,000	Does not qualify as CIP expense.								
Fort Gorges Wharf Rebuild	1	\$250,000	This project will be accomplished through a partnership with Army National Guard Readiness program. City has already included funds for materials in future CIP. Friends of Ft Gorges will provide drawings and specs.								
Libbytown Food Forest Expansion	3	\$100,000	Not City property. This concept could be explored as a joint project between Libbytown Neighborhood Association and Portland Water District.								

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Lowell Street Parcel Redesign	2	\$150,000	At this time, focusing on low cost improvements such as park seasonal lighting, picnic tables, benches, fencing. Improvements can be accomplished within operating budget and partnership efforts								
St. James & Douglass Intersection Improvements	3		Public Works Project, not Parks, Rec and Facilities								



YOU ARE INVITED TO

PARTY IN THE PARK

LOVE YOUR PARKS, GET INVOLVED
18 JUNE | 4:30-6:00 PM

Location: Payson Park
field adjacent to playground

Hosts:
**Portland Parks Commission &
Parks Division**

Special Guests:

- **Maine Audubon**
- **Cumberland County Master Gardiners**

snacks • music • BYO chair/picnic blanket





CITY OF PORTLAND
Parks, Recreation & Facilities Department
Ethan Hipple, Director

CITY OF PORTLAND
Parks, Recreation & Facilities Department
Alex Marshall, Parks Director

Memorandum

TO: Parks Commission and Land Bank Commission

FROM: Alex Marshall, Parks Director, Parks, Recreation and Facilities Department

SUBJECT: Parks Division Update

DATE: April 2025

Parks Division Staffing

- Total Budgeted positions in Parks Division: 43
- Vacancies:
 - Horticulture Supervisor
 - Seasonal Positions in Parks, Playgrounds, Ballfields, Forestry, Horticulture, Park Rangers and Cemeteries

Citywide Unhoused Report

At this time, there are 23 encampments citywide, which is 11 fewer than this time in 2024 and 80 fewer than that of 2023. Of the 23 active tent sites, only 1 of them is located on City property. Overall, in 2025, City Staff (primarily Rangers), have tagged and removed 105 tents citywide. Park Rangers continue to tag and remove between 5-20 tents from City land each week and conduct a thorough clean-up afterward with the help of other Parks staff or contractors. There continues to be a steady capacity available at the Homeless Services Center.

Earth Day 2025

Earth Day 2025 is quickly approaching on Tuesday, April 22nd. As we look forward to this day, there will be countless cleanups happening citywide in parks and neighborhoods. City Staff, in partnership with the Parks Conservancy, are available to provide necessary materials and supplies for these cleanups and can help schedule post cleanup removal of debris in coordination with the Public Works Solid Waste Division. We thank all those who are willing to pitch in for this incredible effort. The annual activity surrounding Earth Day has been a remarkable success each year in helping the City clean up after the Winter snow melt. We 'Thank You' for that!

Forestry Spring Planting & Co-Op Program

The Forestry Team has been planning the Spring planting regime for the last few months so the team can be ready to get trees in the ground come mid-late April. They continue to focus on low tree equity score neighborhoods with viable planting locations and work out from there. Citywide plantings will be occurring with a sprinkle of co-op plantings mixed in. The co-op program is a way for homeowners to see a tree planted sooner than later within their adjacent right-of-way(ROW) or in close proximity to the ROW on their own property if they purchase the tree. The Forestry team will then pick up the tree and plant it in a mutually agreed upon and Dig Safe'd location. The goal is to plant 30-40 co-op trees this year. The application for this can be found at the link below:



CITY OF PORTLAND
Parks, Recreation & Facilities Department
Ethan Hipple, Director

CITY OF PORTLAND
Parks, Recreation & Facilities Department
Alex Marshall, Parks Director

<https://www.portlandmaine.gov/1319/Co-op-Tree-Planting-Program>

East End Beach Seasonal Rack Rental

April 1, 2025, marked the opening for registration to secure a kayak or dinghy rack down at the East End Beach. There is a current inventory of 129 kayak and dinghy rack spots available to residents and non-residents to rent for the boating season. This is one of the few revenue sources Parks has each year that also provides a great convenience for folks to gain access to the water for personal or business use. There is annually a wait list for this amenity, so get your application in.

Preble Field Reconstruction

The Back Cove South Storage Project is coming to a close in the next two months as they wrap up finishing touches and begin to install underdrainage, irrigation, replacement fitness course, trails and sod/seeding. While the space will look usable once complete, the construction fencing will remain through the 2025 season to allow the grass to establish and be ready for active play.

Park Projects and Department Updates

Staff are working on the following Park Improvement projects:

- Deering Oaks Park ADA Walkway improvements: Phase 3, providing ADA access to the wading ravine, was completed in the Summer of 2023. Phase 4, which is the sidewalk along Tennis Court Drive, is under design development currently in hopes of going out to bid later this Winter for Summer/Fall 2025 construction.
- Preble Street Field & Stormwater Project: Sod will be laid in April along with the construction of the fitness course and pathways. The construction fence will remain in place until the sod has established and can handle foot traffic.
- Riverton Preserve: Recreation improvement plans are in progress and will consist primarily of a trail network with other improvements. This project is intended to fulfill LWCF conversion requirements, and final approval of the improvement plan rests with the state and National Park Service, which has a public engagement process.
- Lower Western Prom Park Improvements: This project has been bid out and did not receive a bid within the allocated budget, so it will be revised and re-advertised in the coming months.
- Longfellow Elementary School Playground: Parks Staff are working with a design consultant on the construction drawings and bid documents for a Winter 2025 bid and Summer 2025 construction. Playground Equipment has been selected.
- Portland Harbor Common: Bid documents are being prepared, and the project should go out to bid in the month of March, with construction potentially starting in the Summer of 2025.
- Stroudwater Bridge: Fundraising and permitting is still ongoing for this project to proceed. So far we have raised \$210,000 of the \$365,000 needed to continue bidding.
- Public Restrooms: So far, the city has installed 15 new public restrooms citywide over the past 3



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years. There are another 3 new vaulted toilets to be installed this coming Spring/Summer at Preble Field and Valley Street, along with vault modifications being done at Eastern Prom, Fox Field, and the Fish Pier.

- Talbot School Court Reconstruction: This project will be converting 2 of the tennis courts into 6 pickleball courts while leaving one multi-use court still in place. This project went out to bid with anticipated groundbreaking in the Spring of 2025 for a June 2025 completion.