

January 2024
Milwaukie Neighborhood Park Update
1.16.24

Greetings everyone!

Thank you to the nearly 200 people who submitted surveys at last October's engagement on the final designs for Scott, Bowman-Brae, and Balfour Parks. Attached is a full summary of the engagement and feedback received. Below is a summary of project work since the last Parks and Recreation Board (PARB) meeting.

If you have any questions, or would like to be removed from this e-mail list, please respond to this email or reach out to our project manager at: parkprojects@milwaukieoregon.gov

Thank you!

1. Final Design Engagement

- An estimated 350 to 450 people attended the engagement event held at Scott Park. The majority of people felt as though the park designs for each park met their needs.
- Based on feedback we have added additional park benches and an additional accessible picnic table to Bowman-Brae and Balfour Parks. The typography at Scott Park limited our ability to added benches and tables at Scott Park.
- Playground colors and safety surface colors were also tweaked based on feedback.
- Final park designs, playground designs, and draft planting information are available on the project website.

2. Most Requested Park Amenities

At the October event we asked participants to let us know what amenities they most wanted to see in existing or new parks in the area. The most requested elements were:

1. Splash Pads (41)
2. Public Bathrooms (25)
3. Benches (21)
4. Picnic Tables (11)
5. Sand Boxes (7)

Climbing Walls, Public Swimming Pools, and Outdoor Exercise Equipment each received 4 requests.

Participants also shared that they were interested in future parks that resembled Westmoreland Park, Gabriel Park's inclusive playground, Creston Park's domes and constructed mounds, and Hillsborough's Hidden Creek Park.

3. Construction Bids

On February 6, City Council will be asked to authorize city staff to enter into a contract with Paul Brothers, Inc. to construct Scott, Balfour, and Bowman-Brae Parks. Details the construction schedule, sequencing of work, and when construction will begin are still being determined. GreenWorks, P.C. will serve as the construction managers for the project. Paul Brothers submitted the lowest qualified bid of \$1,719,247. GT Landscape Solutions, Inc also submitted a bid for \$2,313,657.

4. Construction Kick-Off Event

The city is exploring holding a construction kick off event at Balfour Park in either late February or early March. Details on the date, time, and entertainment provided will be provided as they become available.

5. Project Budget

The bid from Paul Brothers is within the project construction budget which will allow the city to ensure the project will have a contingency fund held in reserve during construction, a decorative fence between the former Nautilus parking lot and Scott Park, a full concrete perimeter path at Bowman-Brae, and **all** elements shown to the public in October.

The city is exploring options for enhancing additional elements in the project with the remaining budget. Details will be shared at future PARB meetings.

6. Public Art

Milwaukie municipal code requires public projects to provide 1.5% of their eligible construction budgets for public art. The project construction budget will provide at least the minimum amount for the construction of public art at Scott Park. The city is currently exploring options to provide additional funds for public art along with other project enhancements. The process for hiring an artist and timeline for public art is still being worked out based on applicable codes. Details will be shared at future PARB meetings.

7. Tree Removals

Permits were submitted for known tree removals at Balfour Park with trees to be removed marked with tape and signs hung in the park based on Milwaukie's municipal tree code. No public comments have been received on the tree removals at this time. All trees being removed were found to be in very poor condition. Trees will be replaced as required by code. No healthy trees above 2" DBH will be removed from the park at this time.

Previously two trees were removed from Scott Park due to their health. These trees were removed early because they posed a risk to park users. These trees will be replaced during the Scott Park construction. No healthy trees above 2" DBH are being removed from Scott Park at this time.

One small dead tree will be removed from Bowman-Brae Park near Where Else Lane, all other trees will remain in Bowman-Brae Park.

The city is monitoring the condition of several trees in Scott and Balfour Parks. If additional removals are needed, the city will follow the applicable tree code.