



# CITY OF PULLMAN

*HIGH Tech, HIGHER Education, HIGHEST Quality of Life*

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor and City Council  
**FROM:** Kurt Dahmen, Recreation Manager  
Alan Davis, Parks Manager  
**RE:** 2007 Bond Replacement  
**DATE:** July 11, 2017

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The purpose of this discussion is to gain your input on how you would like to proceed with respect to replacing the 2007 Prop 1 bond that is set to expire in December of this year. An adopted 2016 City Council goal stated:

“Start the process of replacing a bond issue on the 2017 November General Election ballot to replace the expiring 2007 Proposition 1 voter-approved bond.”

The intent of this adopted goal is to place a bond issue before the voters that will fund a new set of capital project without increasing property tax rates. This particular bond has proven to be very successful in completing parks, paths, and pedestrian improvements over the years. In 2006, voters gave their approval to issue \$2,240,000 in General Obligation bonds in order to construct the following projects:

- 1) Three path projects:
  - Johnson Road path along the Palouse River to Bellevue Duplexes
  - College Hill path connecting Maple Street Extension to Grand Avenue
  - North Grand path connecting Turner Drive to Terre View Drive on the Missouri Flat Creek side of Grand Avenue.
- 2) At the City Playfields, lighting was replaced on Bowman and Wiley fields and new lights were installed on Thatuna field.
- 3) Six new restrooms were constructed at Sunnyside, Kruegel and City Playfield parks.
- 4) Programming and schematic pre-design were provided for a proposed performing arts pavilion at Sunnyside Park.
- 5) Selected infilling of gaps in the existing sidewalk system were completed.
- 6) With surplus monies from the bond, a majority of the cost to construct a splash pad at Reaney Park 2015 was also funded.

One of the initial steps in replacing the bond is to establish a list of projects to be pursued with the bond funds. The following projects are suggested by staff and were shared with the Parks and Recreation Commission at their meeting on July 27, 2016. The proposed costs are planning level estimates that include review and input from Public Works staff.

- 1) **Reaney Park restrooms, pool liner and shower building upgrades - \$450,000:** This would replace/upgrade the existing restrooms that are open to the public, replace the liner in the dive pool, and replace toilets, showers, sinks, etc., in the men's and women's changing areas.
- 2) **Add ADA parking improvements and accessible route at Sunnyside Park - \$150,000:** This project is to construct an ADA compliant path from the Cedar Street parking lot to the shelter structure.
- 3) **City Playfield upgrades - \$300,000:** Add 6 new dugout structures to Wiley, Bowman & Thatuna playfields, replace/upgrade existing storage/scorekeeper boxes, replace backstops and all fencing around playfields, replace roof on shower building, and add adult fitness components in various locations around the path.
- 4) **Path Development - \$450,000:** 1) Pave the Itani Linear Path from Center St. to Sunnyside Park and the gravel path from Cedar St. parking lot to the shelter. 2) Create a path from Copper Basin development through the Conservation Park to Darrow St. and from Darrow St to Harrison St. 3) Plan & develop sections of trails to the new Kamiaken Elementary school as development occurs.
- 5) **Renovation of Kruegel Park picnic shelter - \$250,000:** Replace the existing park shelter with a structure that is similar to those in Sunnyside and Terre View parks.
- 6) **Completion of Mary's and Emerald Point Parks - \$675,000:** Mary's Park would include the addition of a paved parking lot, playground components, and restroom/shelter structure. It would also include the demolition of the existing house and barn structures. Improvements at Emerald Point would include the addition of a paved parking lot, playground components, and a restroom/shelter structure.
- 7) **Bandshell/Portable Staging - \$125,000:** Instead of pursuing a permanent structure at Sunnyside Park, purchase something that is mobile that could be used for multiple events in various locations.

The bond approved in 2007 and expiring this year was for \$2,240,000. The initial levy rate, in 2008, was \$0.2602/\$1000 assessed valuation, translating into an annual property tax of \$52.04 on a \$200,000 home. Due to increase in the tax base, the current levy rate in 2017 is \$.1623/\$1000 assessed valuation, translating to an annual property tax of \$32.46 on a \$200,000 home. With the current levy rate and without raising taxes, the City could fund \$2,400,000 of new projects if the voters approve a new 10-year bond issue to replace the expiring bond.

This memorandum is offered for Council information and discussion. In addition to the projects listed above, there may be additional projects which members of the City Council or the public might want to suggest.