



NEWS RELEASE

DATE:
June 28, 2024

CONTACT:
Leah Mueller, (918) 264-3293

RELEASE:
#24-187

City Announces Largest Improvements Project for Playgrounds, Sports Courts in Tulsa Parks History

\$9.8 Million Dedicated for Playground Improvements, nearly \$4.8 million for Sports Courts

(Tulsa, OK) – The City of Tulsa has launched the largest effort in Tulsa Parks history to revitalize nearly all playgrounds and sports courts across the City's Parks system.

Improvements are planned for 98% of all the City's sports courts, as well as replacements to 29 playgrounds, the addition of two new playgrounds to existing Tulsa Parks locations without a current playground, and 20 enhancement projects to existing playgrounds.

The comprehensive renovation project aims to enhance City recreational facilities by creating more modern, fun, accessible, and safe spaces for everyone to enjoy. Improvements and upgrades will start with 22 sports courts locations throughout the Tulsa Parks system, the first of which started in June at McClure and Hicks parks. Renovations to sports courts and playgrounds are expected to continue through 2026.

"Quality parks are something that benefit every Tulsan in so many ways, from health to quality of life to property values," Mayor G.T. Bynum said. "I want to thank my fellow Tulsans for approving Improve Our Tulsa, which allows us to invest in ourselves as a community at this historic level."

The \$9.8 million in playground renovations and upgrades are funded through the Improve our Tulsa I and II capital improvements packages, as well as other Park funds, grants, and private partnerships. All upgrades and renovations to sports courts are funded through Improve our Tulsa II, with a total cost of \$4.8 million. The first phase of sports courts renovations will cost roughly \$900,000 and will provide 32 new pickleball courts, five new basketball courts, three new volleyball courts, one new futsal court, one new "all sports" court (for field hockey, bike polo, futsal/court soccer, etc.), and one chin lone court (southeast Asian sport growing in popularity in Tulsa). This will also include resurfacing of 33 existing tennis courts, and 11 basketball or half basketball courts.

Planned upgrades are based on a 2022 Tulsa Parks condition assessment to evaluate the condition and "playability," or fun factor, at each of the City's 109 playgrounds at 88 parks to determine how best to prioritize improvements. Throughout that process, Parks maintenance and recreation staff were consulted, and

175 E. 2nd St., Tulsa, OK 74103

WWW.CITYOFTULSA.ORG

evaluations were also made from the 2020 "Let's Talk Tulsa Parks" survey responses. Discussions were then had with Tulsa city councilors and neighborhood groups to determine the playgrounds that are the most used and the most in need of improvements. An improvements plan was then formulated and approved by the Tulsa City Council in 2023.

"I am incredibly excited to see these improvements take place in every Tulsa Council district," Council Chair Jeannie Cue said. "These improvements are going to shape the way Tulsans recreate in our city for generations to come."

All projects will encompass many improvements, including:

- Refurbishing and repurposing sports courts to provide a multi-sport experience
- Installing modern play equipment at playgrounds
- Adding safety and accessibility features to ensure a more secure and welcoming environment for users of varying abilities

"Nearly every Tulsan is going to see improvements to Tulsa Parks in their neighborhood over the next several years, and we are thrilled to finally see these renovations get underway," Parks Director and Chief of Culture and Recreation Anna America said. "These upgrades will rejuvenate our playgrounds and sports courts, promote physical activity, foster a stronger sense of community, and be more accessible for people of all abilities."

Sports courts renovations are planned first, followed by upgrades to playgrounds. All renovation projects are expected to be completed in phases, focusing on minimizing disruptions to Tulsa Parks visitors.

Playground improvements are planned for the following playgrounds:

1. Terrace
2. Shannon I & II
3. Aaronson
4. Boots Adams
5. Graham
6. Henthorne
7. Skelly
8. Tracy
9. Summerglenn
10. Loving
11. Newblock
12. Hicks
13. Hill
14. Riggs
15. Dawson
16. Turner
17. Lantz
18. Norberg
19. Terwilliger
20. Benton
21. Boeing
22. Challenger 7
23. Manion
24. Rose Dew
25. Fred Johnson
26. Zeigler
27. Berry
28. Dream Keepers
29. Chamberlain
30. Bales

31. Lakeview
32. Admiral
33. Braden
34. Clark
35. Cowan
36. Crutchfield
37. East Park Track
38. HB Johnson
39. Heller
40. Highland
41. Howard
42. Kendall Whittier
43. Leake
44. Lloyd
45. Norvell
46. Pielsticker
47. Pratt
48. Starks-Cheyenne
49. Swan lake
50. Williams
51. Woodward

Sports courts improvements are scheduled for the following sports courts:

1. Carbondale
2. Cowan
3. Explorer
4. Hicks - **UNDERWAY**
5. Langenheim
6. McClure - **UNDERWAY**
7. Norberg
8. Ute
9. Lacy
10. Lakeview
11. Manion
12. Whiteside
13. Heller
14. Tracy
15. Berry
16. Chamberlain
17. Starks Cheyenne
18. Terwilliger
19. Rose Dew
20. Skelly
21. Challenger 7
22. West Highlands
23. Penney
24. HB Johnson
25. Lloyd
26. Highland
27. Crutchfield
28. Norvell
29. Braden
30. Aaronson
31. Loving

32. Henthorne
33. Zeigler
34. BC Franklin
35. Admiral
36. Chittom Clinton
37. Darlington
38. Florence
39. Graham
40. Holiday Hills
41. Maxwell
42. Reed
43. Kendall-Whittier
44. Schlegel
45. Archer
46. Boeing
47. Bullette
48. Philpott
49. Vining
50. Hunter
51. Boots Adams
52. Leake
53. Clark

More information on playgrounds and sports courts renovation projects can be found [online](#).

Follow Tulsa Parks on social media, @TulsaParks, to stay updated on the progress of renovations.

--###--

TRANSLATION ASSISTANCE:

The City's website, www.cityoftulsa.org, has a tool to help with translation assistance for any page. Website visitors can click the drop-down menu on any page that says, "Select Language," and choose from one of more than 100 different languages.