

Central Point City News

August 2023

Central Point – Bear Creek Greenway Park Design Survey

Following the September 2020 wildfire that devastated the Central Point section of the Bear Creek Greenway, the City of Central Point took a proactive approach to managing the area. We have implemented regular maintenance measures to minimize the risk of future fires and have increased police patrols to improve public safety. For the next step in the management process, the Central Point Parks Department has contracted with Scharen Design Studio to develop a park design for the area.

This particular section of the Greenway trail boasts several natural features, including Bear Creek, Elk Creek, Espy Pond, a wetland, and riparian areas. Preserving and restoring these natural spaces is a crucial objective of the park design. Simultaneously, the design aims to ensure public accessibility to these locations, allowing people to have direct and meaningful experiences of the area with outdoor education being an important element.



Additionally, we envision incorporating elements of active recreation into the new park. We are considering options such as a dog park, a natural playground, a pump track, a Frisbee golf course, or a mountain bike skills course. However, we do not wish to design this park in isolation. We value our resident's opinions and encourage each of you to contribute to the development of this new park. We expect this planning process to take a year to complete and there will be various opportunities along the way for public comment, including public meetings and open houses. We would appreciate you taking a few minutes to take a survey related to this park design project. Please click on the QR code or the link below to access the survey. Thanks and we look forward to hearing from you.

For more information about this project, contact Dave Jacob, Park Planner, at (541) 821-9450 or dave.jacob@centralpointoregon.gov

<https://tinyurl.com/449bukzj>



Knowing the Quality of Your Water

Central Point's water supply is purchased from Medford Water Commission (MWC). In order to provide safe drinking water, both Medford and Central Point test the water on a regular basis. These test results are combined annually into a federally mandated Consumer Confidence Report that is made available to all water users. This report not only shows the test results, but also explains what water is tested for. The 2022 report is available on the Medford Water Commission's website:

<https://www.medfordwater.org/Page.asp?NavID=422>

Printed copies will be available at City Hall if you would like a copy.

New Community Center & Baseball Complex Update

From the desk of City Manager, Chris Clayton

You have likely heard the news about these upcoming projects from city newsletters, local media coverage, or attending a public meeting. However, I wanted to offer an update on the investment being made by the City of Central Point City Council as part of the 2023-2025 budget. More specifically, the Council has approved a budget recommendation to fund new/updated recreation facilities that will offer a multitude of social, recreational and developmental opportunities to the Central Point Community for many decades to come. The new/updated recreation facilities will include a partnership with Jackson County to construct a new Community Center/Pandemic Response Center (Jackson County is funding the Pandemic Response facility) near the Jackson County Expo, as well as a renovation of the existing Little League Baseball Complex located on Hanley Road.

In the 2040 City of Central Point Strategic Plan, the City Council identified “community investment” as a strategic priority. In addition, the Council added several goals for this priority, including the following: “Provide opportunities for youth education, recreation, and support. (Kids are the future. Happy, well-adjusted kids are the canary in the coal mine for the true community/family wellbeing).” Both the Community Center and the Baseball Complex projects aim to satisfy this goal and enhance the quality of life for all Central Point families and community members.

Project Funding

After careful consideration and public input during 2022-2023, the Central Point City Council approved a funding package to construct a new Community Center (in conjunction with Jackson County) and a complete renovation of the current Little League Baseball Complex during the 2023-2025 budget cycle (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2025). The funding for these significant projects will be generated from the City’s existing Urban Renewal District, a private donor (Little League Baseball Complex), the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and a newly implemented recreation utility fee.

Fortunately, the City’s urban renewal district will fund a significant portion of the costs associated with constructing the new Community Center, and a private donor has contributed a generous amount to the new baseball complex. These contributions will limit the overall impact on the Central Point ratepayer; however, the new recreation fee is necessary to fund both facilities’ long-term operations and maintenance.

Central Point Community Center Amenities

The City’s partnership with Jackson County on the Community Center/Pandemic Response Center will provide additional value beyond what Central Point could achieve in a stand-alone facility. The new Community Center will include the following amenities (graphical depiction below):

- * Eight full-size basketball courts
- * Exercise/fitness space
- * Locker room and shower facilities
- * Teaching/commercial kitchen space
- * Multi-purpose court space (volleyball, pickleball, etc)
- * Recreation classroom space
- * Multi-purpose/meeting space



** All Central Point residents will enjoy free and reduced-cost programs and activities at the new Community Center.

Central Point Baseball Complex Amenities

The renovation of the Central Point Little League Complex is long overdue. However, the volunteer community should be applauded for supporting Central Point Little League since the field's inception in the early 1970's.

In the coming months, ownership of the current Little League property will be transferred to the City of Central Point. In early Fall, the City will conduct a bid for Phase I project improvements as described below.

Phase I

1. Four new 250-foot fields that will be used for a variety of youth baseball, youth softball and adult softball.
2. Three of the new fields will have turf infields and natural grass outfields. The remaining field will be a traditional Little League field with a dirt infield and natural grass outfield.
3. Phase I improvements will also include a number of site improvements, including an area for food trucks, vendors and a new ADA-accessible restroom facility.

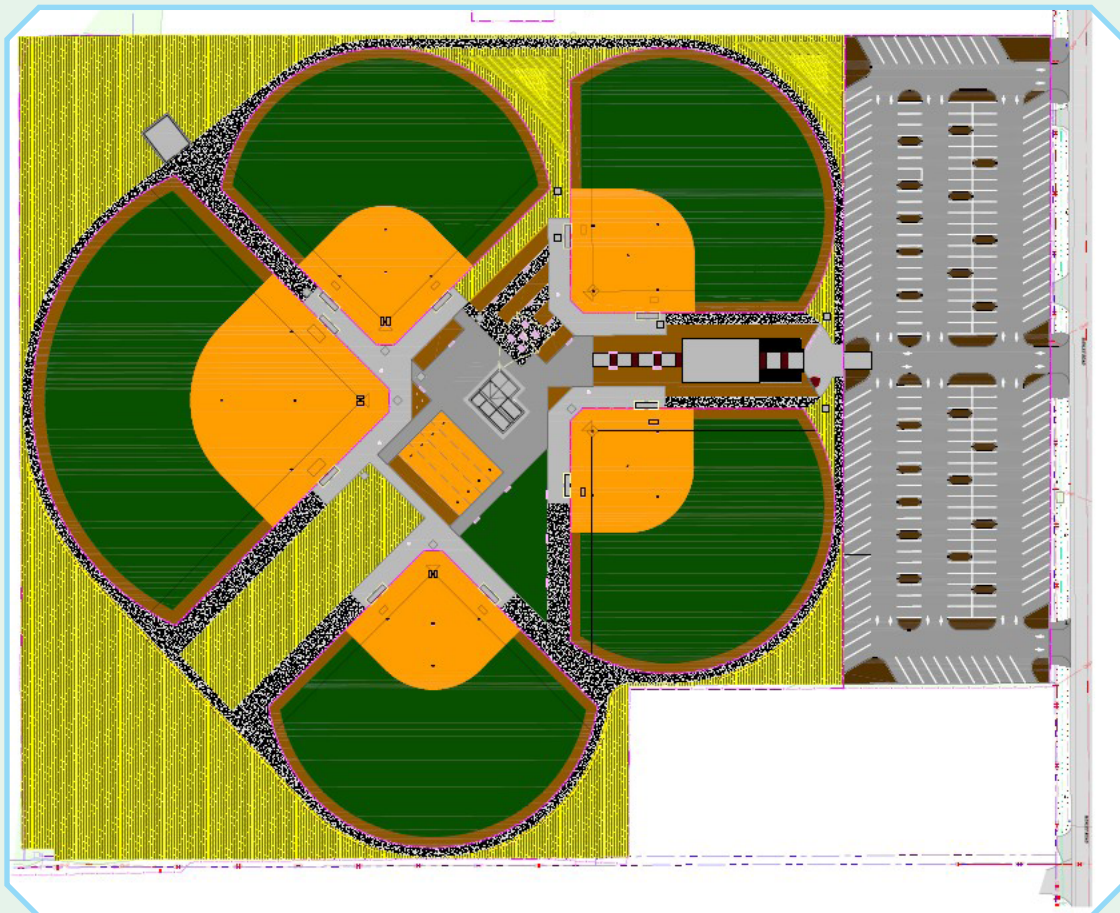
Phase II

1. Phase II will include a new T-ball field and a 300-foot regulation high school baseball field, which includes a turf infield and natural grass outfield.

Phase III

1. Phase III will include upgraded parking facilities and final site improvements.

The completed Baseball Complex located on Hanley Road (all three phases are depicted below).



Dates to Remember

August

- 1 - Planning Commission (6 pm)
- 10 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)
- 17 - Parks & Recreation Commission (6 pm)
- 21 - Council Study Session (6 pm)
- 24 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)
- 26 - City Wide Yard Sale

September

- 4 - Labor Day *
- 5 - Planning Commission (6pm)
- 9 - Made in Southern Oregon
- 14 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)
- 18 - Council Study Session (6 pm)
- 28 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)
- 30 - Battle of the Food Trucks

* = City Hall Closed

Meetings are subject to change. Please check our website www.centralpointoregon.gov for more information.

City Directory

City Manager
541-423-1026

Building Permits
541-423-1973

Code Enforcement
541-664-5578

Community Development
541-423-1973

Library (Central Point Branch)
541-664-3228

Police - (Non-Emergency)
541-664-5578

Parks & Recreation
541-664-3321 ext 130

Public Works
541-423-1021

Public Works - (After Hours)
541-326-3682

Utility Billing
541-664-3321 ext 204

Contact your **Council**
info@centralpointoregon.gov

CALL 911
for Fire, Medical and
Police Emergencies

City Hall is open 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
Monday - Friday.
Feel free to drop in with questions,
to pay a bill, or just to say "hello".



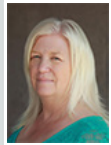
Mayor

Hank Williams
541-944-0066



Ward I

Neil Olsen
541-664-7935



Ward II

Kelley Johnson
541-499-8977



Ward III

Melody Thueson
503-856-6822



Ward IV

Tanea Brown
541-890-8377



At-Large

Mike Parsons
541-554-3892



At-Large

Rob Hernandez
541-840-1841

If you are not sure who your representative is call 541-423-1026

