

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

JUNE 2025

ADMINISTRATION

Reminder, the June Board Meeting has been moved up one week to June 12, as the third Thursday, the Park District's normal meeting date of June 19, falls on the Juneteenth federal holiday. This was decided at the May organizational meeting and is posted on the Park District's website, <https://www.fspd.org/board-meeting-dates-times-locations/>.

The primary items for the June meeting are the public hearing and consideration of the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance. Notice of the hearing was published in the June 4, 2025 edition of the *Daily Southtown*. These actions are required in the first quarter of our fiscal year, and Board Members are welcome to forward questions in advance of the meeting. After approval, the document will be filed, as required, with the Will and Cook County Clerk's Offices.

The Park District's Fund Balance Policy was approved by the Park Board of Commissioners on June 20, 2019 and included goals through 2024. Staff worked with Park Counsel to update the policy and Resolution No. 25-06-51 is on the agenda for Board consideration

The annual audit is underway with Lauterbach and Amen. Many thanks to Sue Baker and Diane Meister for providing the needed documents to the audit team for their review. The auditors expect to complete the audit and have it available for the August 21, 2025 Board Meeting.

The Frankfort Fire Protection District inspected and approved the new dance studios at The Square for occupancy and use. Staff will move the program over the summer and look forward to the dancers enjoying the new space!

Staff are working with the Maddog Strong Foundation in advance of the events scheduled for June 20 – 21. The Giving Tree Dedication Ceremony on June 20 takes place at Maddie's Grove at Island Prairie Park. Annually, trees are dedicated to organ donors during this community event held in conjunction with the Miles for Maddog Run/Walk, building awareness about organ/tissue donation. The Miles for Maddog Walk/Run takes place on June 21. The event begins and ends in the Lincoln-Way North stadium with the course winding its way through the community.

Staff met with Frank Bradley, owner of Crana Homes, to discuss the installation of a tot lot at the new Brookside Glen Villas development located near the intersection of 191st and 80th Avenue. The developer plans to install the playground next year.

The Cook County Levy Edit Report was reviewed and filed with the County. The Cook County Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV) continues to increase due to commercial growth.

MAINTENANCE

Due to recent storm damage, we lost a large willow tree at Woodlawn Park. Part of it fell into the water requiring professional removal. Staff secured the site and alerted neighbors and park users until the removal was completed.

The Splash Park is open for its 21st season! The original control panel was replaced with a new one that is more user-friendly and allows greater control over water usage.

RECREATION

Thanks to beautiful weather, the preschool field days were a huge success, and the children loved playing in the Splash Park. Congratulations to the preschool graduates and best wishes as they head to kindergarten this fall! Many thanks to the preschool teachers for all their effort and care this past school year and always.

The active adults enjoyed a day trip to Shipshewana, Indiana through the scenic Amish Country roads. They were treated to a thresher lunch and delicious baked goods. The next trip is to see the musical, Cats at the Paramount Theatre.

Summer programming is underway! Summer camps have started, and Summer Concerts in the Park begin June 24 at 7:00 p.m. with the cover band 28 Days.

SPECIAL RECREATION

The LWSR Foundation is hosting two golf outings this summer – July 11 at Green Garden Country Club and August 8 at Sanctuary Golf Course. I am requesting consideration of a \$750 sponsorship for the event on July 11, 2025, consistent with previous years.

LWSRA staff provided a summary of participation from Fall 2024 and the agency is experiencing continued increases in participation. Frankfort Square resident participation increased by 33% compared to Fall 2023 and the number of programs they participated in increased by 7%. In addition, 2 residents are utilizing LWSRA staff support which enables inclusion in FSPD programs.

The next LWSRA Board Meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2025. It was my honor to serve as Board President for the past two years and I happily passed the gavel to Greg Vitale, Mokena Park District.

GOLF COURSE

Work has begun on the practice area project. It includes a new sand bunker, chipping area, and green. We are excited to have Hollembeak Construction on-site and working on this improvement to Square Links Golf Course and Practice Center.

FSPD and Reliable Services staff are preparing for Father's Day and Juneteenth, which historically are the two busiest days of the year.

Group lessons, the Ladies Golf League, and the Parent/Child Scramble Golf Tournament begin this month.

OFFICE

Staff continue to review and enhance the registration process to make it more user friendly. Current efforts are focused on ensuring that the program waiver is signed without duplicating efforts on programming where daily registration occurs.

RISK MANAGEMENT

PDRMA regularly reviews our risk management efforts, and the new format is led by the Essentials of Risk Management Form (ERMF). All departments are working to review procedures and documentation required by their sections. Examples include claims reporting, cyber liability, community group agreements, staff training, vehicle backing, and facility inspections.

Respectfully submitted:
Audrey Marcquenski
Executive Director