

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

JUNE 2026

ADMINISTRATION

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 10, 2026, 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 documents will be filed, as required, with the Will and Cook County Clerk's Offices.

Staff from Planning Resources Inc. will be in attendance to share the results of a preliminary grading study that was conducted on the four Union Creek Park ballfields. Using the study, they will offer potential ideas for mitigating slopes and reversing negative drainage patterns. Consideration will be given to minimizing the impact to the existing pavement, concession stand, and floodplain. Existing fencing and irrigation would be impacted.

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 20, 2026, Board Meeting.

The Party in the Park celebrating the redevelopment of Hunter Prairie Park was interrupted by severe weather. Following the storm, members of the Kohlbacher family visited the park to view the newly installed interpretive sign honoring Jim and Pam's longstanding commitment to the community.

The sign serves as a lasting tribute to their exceptional service, recognizing their dedication and leadership in advancing education, parks, and recreation. Their contributions have had a meaningful and enduring impact on the community and the quality of life for its residents.

Staff are working with the Maddog Strong Foundation in advance of the events scheduled for June 26 – 27. The Giving Tree Dedication Ceremony on June 26 takes place at Maddie's Grove at Island Prairie Park. Annually, trees are dedicated to organ donors during this community event. The Miles for Maddog Awareness Walk takes place on June 27. The event begins and ends at The Square, with two route options winding through Island Prairie and Indian Boundary South Parks.

The new tot lot playground equipment in the Brookside Glen Villas subdivision, located near the intersection of 191st Street and 80th Avenue, is being installed by Crana Homes. The FSPD will provide a park sign and additional amenities to complete this new park site.

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.

Also, Cook County notified the Park District that Cook County property tax distributions will be delayed by an estimated two months.

MAINTENANCE

Staff are preparing a bid packet for the Hunter Prairie parking lot paving project to be completed this summer.

Twenty new trees were planted at Hunter Prairie, Hoffman, Kiwanis, and Island Prairie Parks as well as along the Brookside Glen path as part of our annual planting and per resident request.

RECREATION

Summer programming is underway! Summer camps have started, and Summer Concerts in the Park begin June 25 at 6:30 p.m. with the Lincoln-Way Youth Strings followed by the Throwbacks on June 30 at 7:00 p.m. at the Island Prairie Park lakeside bandshell.

The Ice Cream Social was held at its new Splash Park location. Almost 200 people joined us on a warm summer evening to enjoy ice cream treats and cool off with some water fun. The event was a great success, and we appreciate everyone who helped make it happen.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The first phase of the security camera project at The Square was completed along with access control providing an additional layer of security to the facility. Staff training is complete.

SPECIAL RECREATION

The next LWSRA Board Meeting is scheduled for June 16, 2026. Preparations continue for the August 14 golf outing hosted by the LWSR Foundation at Sanctuary Golf Course.

LWSRA is providing inclusion staff and support for four residents participating in FSPD summer programming.

GOLF COURSE

Thanks to the closing of White Mountain and the doubling of the teaching professionals, golf rounds in the month of May were up 10% and driving range use increased by 42%. Combined with the 18-hole practice green and the new chipping area, we are growing the game of golf and providing practice space for golfers to develop their skills in all areas.

Staff are managing the increased volume, and discussions are underway on how best to support their efforts. Additional range balls were ordered, and staff are reviewing opportunities for Toptracer expansion.

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

Hunter Rowe, Course Superintendent from Reliable Property Services, has skillfully cared for the grounds over the past four seasons. We are grateful for his dedicated service and wish him all the best as he returns home to Kentucky.

Brian Stout has been a valued resource throughout our relationship with Reliable Property Services, providing consistent support and expertise. He has already begun the interview process, and we look forward to welcoming our new Superintendent in the near future.

RISK MANAGEMENT

CPR/AED training for FSPD staff is offered multiple times throughout the year to align with seasonal staffing needs and certification renewal requirements. During the American Heart Association's CPR & AED Awareness Week, two groups of full-time and seasonal staff successfully completed training. The American Heart Association's awareness campaign emphasizes that lifesaving action is not limited to medical professionals. Anyone can learn the skills needed to respond effectively in an emergency and help save a life.

Respectfully submitted:
Audrey Marcquenski
Executive Director