



MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** June 20, 2022

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers  
Dave Perrault, City Administrator

**FROM:** David Swearingen, P.E. Public Works Director / City Engineer  
Joe Vaughan, Recreation Supervisor

**SUBJECT:** Recreation Discussion

Budgeted Amount:	Actual Amount:	Funding Source:
N/A	N/A	N/A

**Council Should Consider**

City Council direction is requested regarding the City’s recreation program offerings and the current level of service.

**Background**

In 2020, the City Council directed staff to cut back on program offerings as a result of COVID-19 and department staff changes. Staff altered the program offering for the year 2021 as directed by the City Council. Some of the events not offered were the Spring Egg Hunt, Friday Field Trips, Before and After School Programs, the Breakfast with Santa event, adult day trips, adult seminars, and various youth camps.

The Recreation Department offers various special events throughout the year. Here is a list of events hosted by Arden Hills:

- Spring Egg Hunt
- Touch-a-Truck (added in 2022)
- Penny Carnival
- Bark & Rec Day
- Halloween Event (added in 2021)
- Breakfast with Santa

See attachments A and B for the breakdown of the Inaugural Flashlight Pumpkin Hunt (Fall 2021) and the Spring Egg Hunt (Spring 2022). After the events are concluded, staff has been taking notes on how to improve the events and reviews feedback from the participants. For the 2022 Spring Egg Hunt, staff sent out surveys to the participants so that they could offer feedback on the event. The City also offered the annual Penny Carnival event. This is a free event held to celebrate the end of summer programs. The costs of this event are typically covered by the other City events (e.g. Spring Egg Hunt), by the registration fees associated with the Playground Program, and any money made at the event.

Staff has been looking to offer more programs that partner with other communities. The list below are partnered programs the City currently offers:

Fridley:

- Youth soccer leagues (summer and fall)

Mounds View:

- Track and Field program (spring)
- Youth soccer leagues (summer and fall)
- Youth t-ball/baseball leagues (summer)
- Youth flag football (fall)
- Youth volleyball camp (winter)

New Brighton:

- Track and Field program (spring)
- Youth soccer leagues (summer and fall)
- Youth t-ball/baseball leagues (summer)
- Youth flag football (fall)
- Youth volleyball camp (winter)
- Adult Cornhole League (summer and fall)

Roseville:

- Youth soccer leagues (fall)
- Friday Field Trips (summer)

Shoreview:

- Track and Field program (spring)
- Youth soccer leagues (summer and fall)
- Youth t-ball/baseball leagues (summer)
- Youth flag football (fall)
- Youth volleyball camp (winter)
- Friday Field Trips (summer)

The City offered 85 recreation programs and had 886 participants for the year of 2021. This was not a standard programming year, since there were several programs not offered because of COVID-19 or because they were cut from our list of programs. The participant numbers also were a little lower than usual because we were coming off of offering no programs in 2020.

For reference, 2019 had 205 programs and 1,765 participants. This year for 2022, staff anticipates to run 115 programs. Programs that were cut due to Covid restrictions have been added back in and there are several newer programs. If programs are not successful, they are removed.

### **Budget Impact**

Attachment C provides a summary of the revenue and expenditures for recreation programs during the year 2021. Staff understands that FPAC came to a consensus that a range of 95% - 105% was an acceptable level for coverage of direct costs by program revenues and that at the October 19, 2020 Work Session, Council agreed it was acceptable. In 2021, 131.6% of direct costs were covered by revenue.

### **Attachments**

Attachment A: Flashlight Pumpkin Hunt Fall 2021

Attachment B: Spring Egg Hunt Spring 2022

Attachment C: Recreation Program Financials