

Northside Park Renovation - Update 2

July 10, 2009

“Green Spaces, Family Places: Preserving Northside Park for the next generation”

It has been an exciting couple of weeks working on the Northside Park Renovation project. Below are a couple of updates on significant activity.

Stormwater Certification!

On July 1, we picked up the Certification for our Stormwater Permit Application from DuPage County that was originally submitted on March 24, 2008. This allows the City of Wheaton to issue our permit for construction. The process required several volumes of information and plans to ensure that the project will not create any unintended consequences to the surrounding area. Since most developments are seeking to reduce the natural environment rather than improve it, the County's storm water ordinance is very comprehensive in what it requires; both from the applicant and the people who review it. We are all very glad to have crossed this hurdle.

RFQ's and Bidding

If anyone has checked the Park District's website recently, you may have noticed information about the Request for Qualifications from contractors that was issued June 23. The information available there provides a little bit of the detail that is involved in the renovation project. Six contractors submitted qualifications that are currently being reviewed. Bid specifications will be available for these contractors, and anyone else who may be interested, on July 13.

Friends of Northside Park

This dedicated group of residents have been meeting monthly to discuss various aspects of Northside Park. We met on July 2 to discuss recreational components in the park. Our next meeting will be on August 6 with a focus on the planting plan for the park. If you are interested in joining us to discuss these topics or learn a little more about the renovation project, please contact me.

Park Memories

I have received a couple of calls following our requests for Northside Park stories or photos. Did you know there used to be an above ground pool where the sled hill is now? Does anybody remember carnivals or fireworks at the park? Where you on the little league team that formed in 1951? I would love to hear from somebody who was around in the late 1930's when the lagoon was originally being dug. If you or a friend has some good memories, please get in touch with me.

I can be reached at 630.510. 4975 or via email rsperl@wheatonparks.org. Our Executive Director, Michael Benard, is also available at 630.510.4945 or mbernard@wheatonparks.org for any questions or comments.