

NOKOMIS CENTER REVITALIZATION

Project: NOKOMIS COMMUNITY PARK ACCESS (RC-4)

Project Type: County Project

Project and Background Description:

Improve pedestrian and handicap access to and within the Nokomis Community Park by constructing internal walks and orienting park buildings toward the center of the park. Construct a sidewalk on Osceola Road from Colonia Lane to the pedestrian access for the park, preferably on the eastside of the road.

The Nokomis Community Park contains many uses including a community center, playground, tennis courts, parking, pavilion, stage area, open space and several utility areas, such as water treatment facilities. These uses are scattered throughout the park site with little relationship to each other. Consideration needs to be given to providing better connections between the activity areas within the park, improving access from the park to the surrounding neighborhoods, and reorienting the uses in a more centralized fashion,

Primary access to the park is along Nippino Trail where the parking lot is located. Pedestrian accesses are available from Osceola Road and Central Avenue with openings in the chain link fence. The entrance on Osceola Road should be improved. The location should be moved, so it does not conflict with an existing telephone pole and manhole cover on the park property. The entrance needs to be made handicap accessible. Additional landscaping can be added along the fence line to improve the appearance. A walkway/trail connection can be made to the other walkways/trails and activity areas. The pedestrian access from Central Avenue, however, should be closed since it primarily serves industrial uses.

Presently, handicap persons on wheelchairs and other pedestrians using the Nokomis Community Park must cross the grassed areas to reach the various activity areas, such as the covered pavilion and stage area from the parking lots and community center. Internal handicap accessible walkways/trails can be constructed to better connect the parking lots, the pedestrian access on Osceola Road, access to the recreational trail on the railway, and the other uses in the park.

The orientation of the covered stage area can be relocated toward the center of the park (the rear should become the front) so it relates better with the other activity areas. A new handicap ramp will need to be constructed and openings in the fencing moved around.

Preliminary Cost Estimates:

• Recreational trail system (12 foot and 15 foot)	\$ 72,121
• Access to future Rails to Trails	\$ 7,000
• Signage (5 @ \$100 each) and Bicycle Parking (25 @ \$150 each)	\$ 4,250
<i>Total Estimated Trail Cost</i>	<i>\$ 83,371</i>

Potential Funding Source(s): Parks and Recreation, Office of Greenways and Trails

Implementation Time Frame: Mid-term.

Responsible Parties: Parks and Recreation, Public Works Construction

Steps Required to Implement:

- Design and engineering for pedestrian access, including handicap access and connecting walkways/trails within park.

Issues Requiring Further Analysis/Action:

1. Sidewalks on Osceola Road will be coordinated with the County's Sidewalk Program.

