



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: Parks and Recreation

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: November 6, 2023

Re: L.A. Nickell Golf Course - Cart Barn Improvements

Executive Summary

The Parks and Recreation Department is requesting approval of a resolution setting a public hearing for improvements at L.A. Nickell Golf Course. The proposed project would include renovations to the existing cart barn and surrounding fenced area that houses the fleet of golf carts and other equipment utilized at L.A. Nickell Golf Course. The proposed improvements to the cart barn include enclosing the existing open-air structure, making electrical upgrades to accommodate an electric golf cart fleet and installing a new concrete floor. The project will also include new asphalt installation in the existing gravel areas around the cart barn, fencing improvements, asphalt mill and overlay of the adjacent parking lot, and the installation of LED parking lot lighting. The project, identified in the FY2023 capital improvement program, has a total project budget of \$115,000, with funding provided by the Golf Course Improvement Fee (GCIF). Portions of the project will be bid through the City's Purchasing Department with contract labor completing the concrete pad construction, garage door installation, and all asphalt work. All other work will be completed by park staff. The renovation work for the cart barn and surrounding area is scheduled to begin summer 2024, with an anticipated completion date of spring 2025.

Discussion

L.A. Nickell Golf Course is located in the northwest corner of Columbia Cosmopolitan Recreation Area (Cosmo Park) at 1800 Parkside Drive. The golf course features three sets of tees, mature trees, large zoysia fairways, bentgrass greens, multiple lakes, driving range, and tee-to-green irrigation system. The golf course presents an adequate challenge for low handicap golfers, while offering an enjoyable experience for high handicap and beginner golfers. L.A. Nickell Golf Course is open year-round for play by citizens of Columbia and surrounding communities. The golf course averages approximately 28,000 rounds of golf each year.

The Parks and Recreation Department is requesting approval of a resolution setting a public hearing for improvements to L.A. Nickell Golf Course at Cosmo Park. The proposed improvements include renovations to the existing cart storage barn to create an enclosed building on all four sides with available electric service to accommodate a fleet of 52 electric golf carts. The project will also include asphalt improvements around the cart barn, new parking lot lighting and fencing replacement.

After reviewing potential projects for the two municipal golf courses operated by the Parks and Recreation Department, staff determined that renovating the golf cart barn at L.A. Nickell Golf Course was a priority due to the age of the existing storage facility and to pursue



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the City's Climate Action & Adaptation Plan's goal of reducing municipal operations greenhouse gas emissions. The golf cart fleet at Lake of the Woods Golf Course was successfully electrified in 2022. After the completion of this project, the Parks and Recreation Department will have a 100% electric golf cart fleet.

Park staff held a public input meeting at L.A. Nickell Golf Course on March 8, 2023. The public had an additional opportunity to provide comments about the project via Be Heard CoMo from Feb. 28, 2023 to June 26, 2023. Those in attendance were pleased with the project, but no written comments were submitted.

Park staff introduced the proposed plans for the renovations of the golf cart barn and surrounding area to the Parks and Recreation Commission on March 16, 2023. After discussion of the project, the commissioners voted to endorse the proposed improvement plans at L.A. Nickell Golf Course and recommended that Council approve the plans as presented.

The proposed improvements at L.A. Nickell Golf Course will include the following:

1. A combination of park staff and contract labor will be used to complete improvements to the cart barn located at the golf course. Park staff will make necessary upgrades to the electrical infrastructure in the building to accommodate a fleet of 52 electric carts and enclose the existing open air structure. Contract labor will be used to pour a new concrete floor inside the building and install two new automatic garage doors on the cart barn.
2. In addition to the cart barn improvements, contract labor will complete new asphalt installation in the existing gravel areas around the cart barn and complete an asphalt mill and overlay of the adjacent parking lot. Park staff will complete the improvements at the golf course by installing LED parking lot lighting and replacing multiple sections of the existing privacy fence around the cart barn.

The renovations of the golf cart barn and surrounding area at L.A. Nickell Golf Course has a total cost of \$115,000 and is funded by the Golf Course Improvement Fund (GCIF). Materials and contract services for the project will be bid through the City's Purchasing Department. The renovation work for the cart barn and surrounding area is scheduled to begin summer 2024, with an anticipated completion date of spring 2025.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: The total project budget is \$115,000 and is funded by the Golf Course Improvement Fund (GCIF). The GCIF is a dedicated user fee comprised of a portion of golf course revenue from each paid round of golf or golf pass.

Long-Term Impact: Park staff anticipates a cost savings at the completion of the project due to the installation of LED lighting and reduction in total fuel costs for the golf carts.



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Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Operational Excellence, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Environmental Management, Tertiary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities

Legislative History

Date	Action
N/A	N/A

Suggested Council Action

Approve the resolution setting a public hearing for improvements at L.A. Nickell Golf Course.