



Local Option Sales Tax

2021 City of Edina Proposal



Fred Richards Park Master Plan – \$17.7 million

- Fred Richards Park, to be created on the site of a former golf course, will provide multiple opportunities for year-round recreation while restoring nature on 43 acres. The park is adjacent to Pentagon Park, home to numerous businesses and organizations. The Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail runs through the park.

Braemar Park Master Plan – \$21.6 million

- Planning began in 2017 for improvements and amenities at the 500-acre park that's already home to multiple recreational focal points, including Braemar Arena and Braemar Golf Course. Plans include new trail systems to accommodate walkers, mountain bikers and cross-country skiers. Braemar Arena, more than 50 years old, is in need of several upgrades and improvements to continue serving skaters from all over the state. Regionally, this community asset draws recreation visitors from the entire metropolitan area, greater Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, California, North Dakota, South Dakota and Canada.

Weber Woods Park and Stormwater Facilities – \$2 million

- The cities of Edina and St. Louis Park acquired Weber Woods from the City of Minneapolis a few years ago. On Edina's 14-acre parcel, a park, open space or storm water management is needed.



The City of Edina seeks legislative approval to propose using a Local Option Sales Tax for regionally significant parks. Over 20 years, a half-percent sales tax is estimated to generate \$79.8 million for projects.



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Fred Richards Park Master Plan (\$17.7 million)

Fred Richards Park is being created from the former Fred Richards Golf Course, which closed in 2014. The 43-acre site will become a multi-use park for a variety of year-round activities. This site is bisected by the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail, built in partnership with Nine Mile Creek Watershed District and Three Rivers Park District. The Master Plan adopted July 2017 includes:

- Central Green – (\$9.9 million)
- Nature Bank – (\$1.9 million)
- Great Lawn and Loop Area (\$5.9 million)

Regionally, this community asset is directly connected via the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail to Minnetonka, Hopkins and Richfield. In 2019, Three Rivers Park District counted 435,700 visits to the trail. The park is also connected to the Minneapolis Grand Rounds, Nokomis-Minnesota River Regional Trail, Minnesota River Bluffs Regional Trail, Cedar Lake LRT Regional Trail and Lake Minnetonka LRT Regional Trail. The park is adjacent to Pentagon Park, home to numerous businesses, organizations and employees. The “Nature Bank” portion of the project will improve regional water quality.

Weber Woods Park and Storm Water Facilities (\$2 million)

At just over 14 acres, Weber Woods was jointly purchased by the City of Edina and the City of St. Louis Park in 2016. The site is located adjacent to Weber Park in Edina and Minikahda Vista Park in St. Louis Park. Over 9 acres of the site is located within the City of Edina and its intended use is restricted to park, recreation, open space or storm water management. In 2019, The Edina City Council appointed a Flood Risk Reduction Strategy Task Force to address the impacts of storm water throughout the city and Weber Woods was a focus area as it is adjacent to the cities of St. Louis Park and Minneapolis. By developing park amenities at this location, the residents, businesses and visitors of Edina, St. Louis Park and Minneapolis would be served by these offerings.

Braemar Park Master Plan, including Braemar Arena complex (\$21.6 million)

At 500 acres, Braemar Park is home to Braemar Golf Course, Braemar Golf Dome, Braemar Arena, Braemar Field, and Courtney Fields. Improvements to the park include improving the connectivity of trail systems, access and wayfinding to park amenities and facilities; providing separated use trail systems to accommodate walkers, mountain bikers and cross-country skiers; identifying new site improvements and recreational amenities to enhance existing facilities; developing and improving the quality of natural resources in the park; incorporating sustainable site improvements to promote land water resources; and investing in facility infrastructure. The master plan adopted January 2018 includes:

- Master Plan – (\$8.1 million)
- Braemar Arena Infrastructure – (\$13.5 million)

Braemar Arena is home to Edina High School, the Edina Hockey Association, Breakaway Academy and the Braemar-City of Lakes Figure Skating Club. These Parks & Recreation amenities are available for use by residents, business community members and school programs. From March 2019 to March 2020, approximately 500,000 visits were recorded at Braemar Arena from residents of 158 Minnesota communities, 12 states and one other country.

