



OSWEGOLAND
PARK DISTRICT



2022

ANNUAL REPORT



INTRODUCTION

Looking back on the recent challenging years, we were pleased to see renewed growth in participation numbers across the Park District. Participation even exceeded pre-COVID registration numbers in program areas including Athletics and Gymnastics.

Other recent growth within the District includes the addition of new parks, playgrounds, and amenities. In 2022, we celebrated the Grand Opening of Andover Park and we look forward to bringing you more places to play in the coming years.

The Park District is committed to "Creating Opportunities for a Healthy Community" and is also focused on enhancing our existing parks and trails through our Capital Improvement Plan. Many of the recent projects and 2023 plans are included here for review.

This report provides a small glimpse into the vast scope of the work of the Oswegoland Park District. The 2022 Annual Report provides highlights of the District's activities, accomplishments, and finances throughout the past year. A variety of summaries and charts have been incorporated to illustrate the District's financial position and value to the community.

Financial data was drawn from the 2022 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, which can be viewed in its entirety online.

Questions or feedback concerning any of the information provided may be directed to Executive Director, Richard Zielke at rzielke@oswegolandpd.org or Director of Finance, Tina Ward at tward@oswegolandpd.org.



PURPOSE

WE CREATE 
Opportunities
FOR A HEALTHY
Community

CORE VALUES

-  **Innovation**
-  **Collaboration**
-  **Integrity**



BACKGROUND

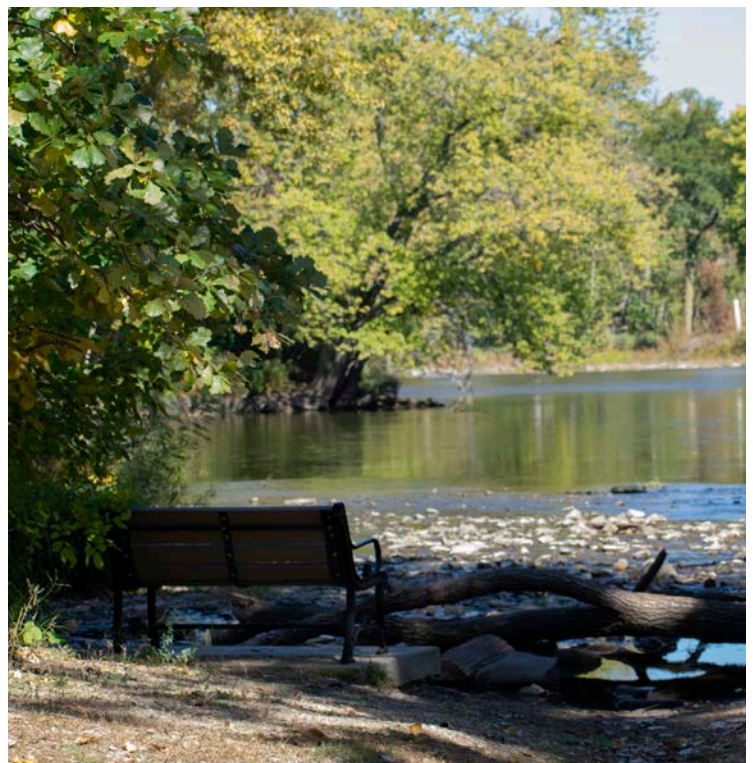
Established in 1950 by a public referendum, the Oswegoland Park District is a separate governmental entity known as a "special district" and serves approximately 62,000 residents who live within this District's 38-square mile service area. This service area includes the Village of Oswego, as well as parts of Montgomery, Aurora, and Plainfield.

Park District operations are funded by revenue generated through program fees, tax dollars, grants, donations, and interest. These funds provide for the acquisition, development, and maintenance of natural areas, parks, and leisure time facilities. The District also plans, develops, and implements a wide range of recreational programs and activities that reflect the interests of all age groups.

A board of five elected commissioners set policy and carry out the official business of the District. Park Board Commissioners serve six-year terms, without pay. The Executive Director, who is hired by the Board, manages the day-to-day operations of the District and oversees a staff of approximately 49 full time and 414 part time employees.

2022 Park Board Commissioners: Dave Behrens, Bob Ijams, Sandy Tartol, Dannielle Wilson, and John Wise.

Park Board meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at South Point at 5:30pm, unless otherwise noted. View the yearly Meeting Calendar on our website. The public is invited to attend.



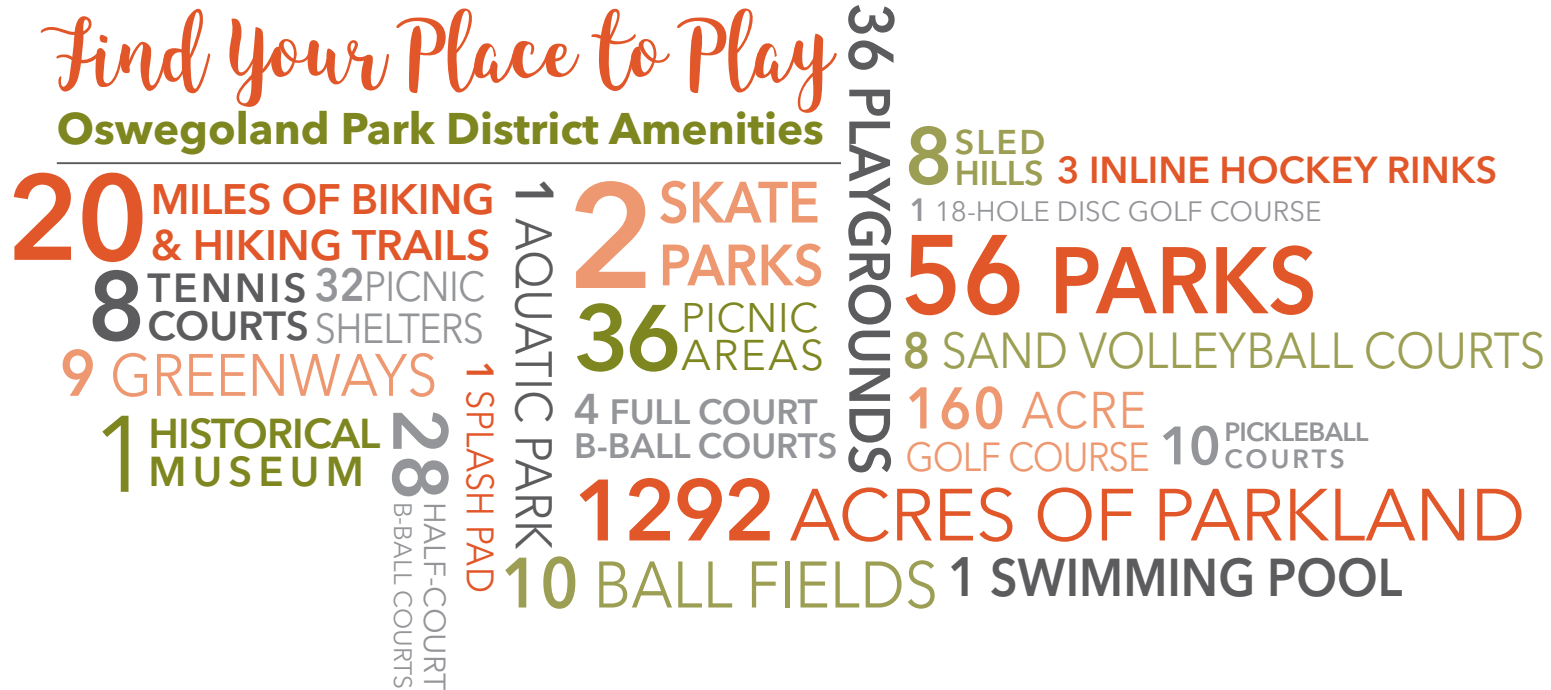


VALUE OF THE OSWEGOLAND PARK DISTRICT

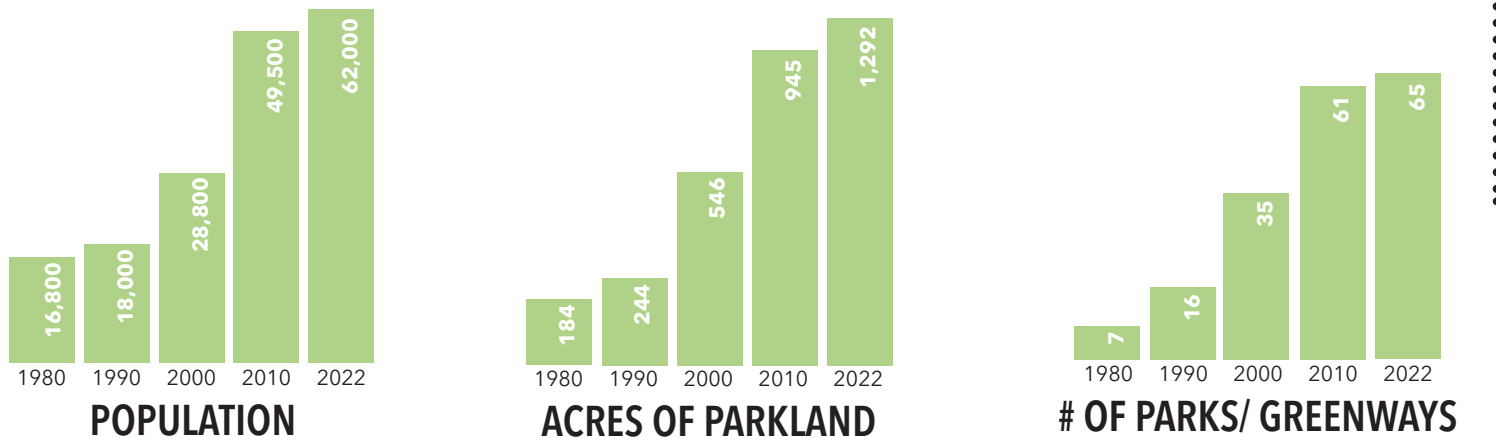
The Oswegoland Park District strives to deliver exceptional value to our community. In addition to contributing to the overall quality of life in our community, here is a snapshot of some of the outstanding parks and facilities that our residents can enjoy:

Find Your Place to Play

Oswegoland Park District Amenities



HISTORIC GROWTH AT A GLANCE

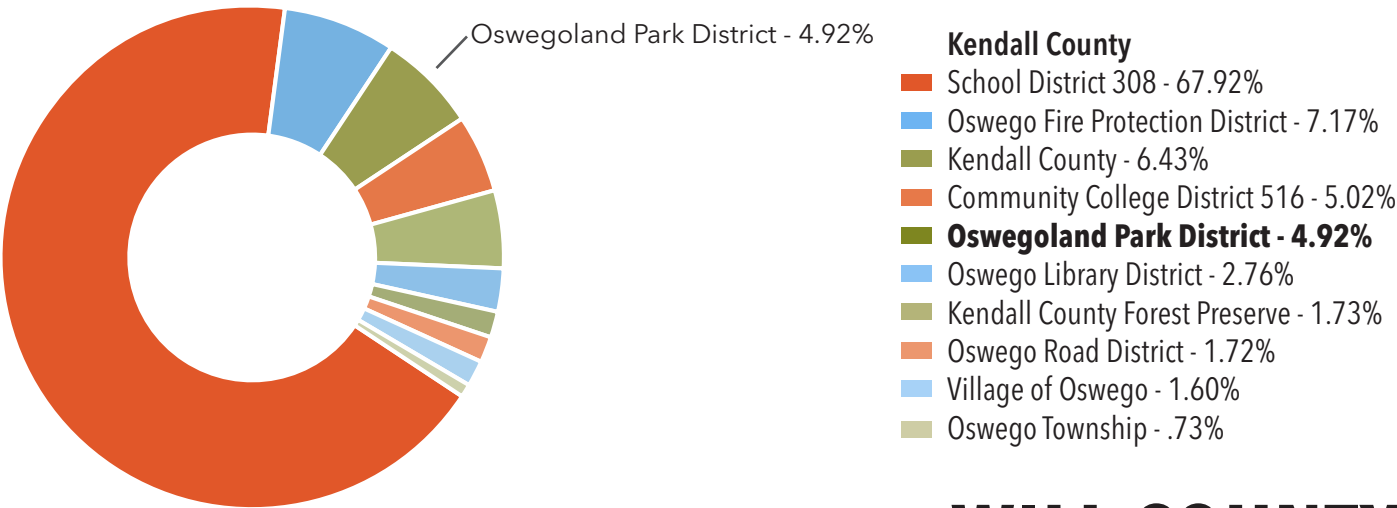




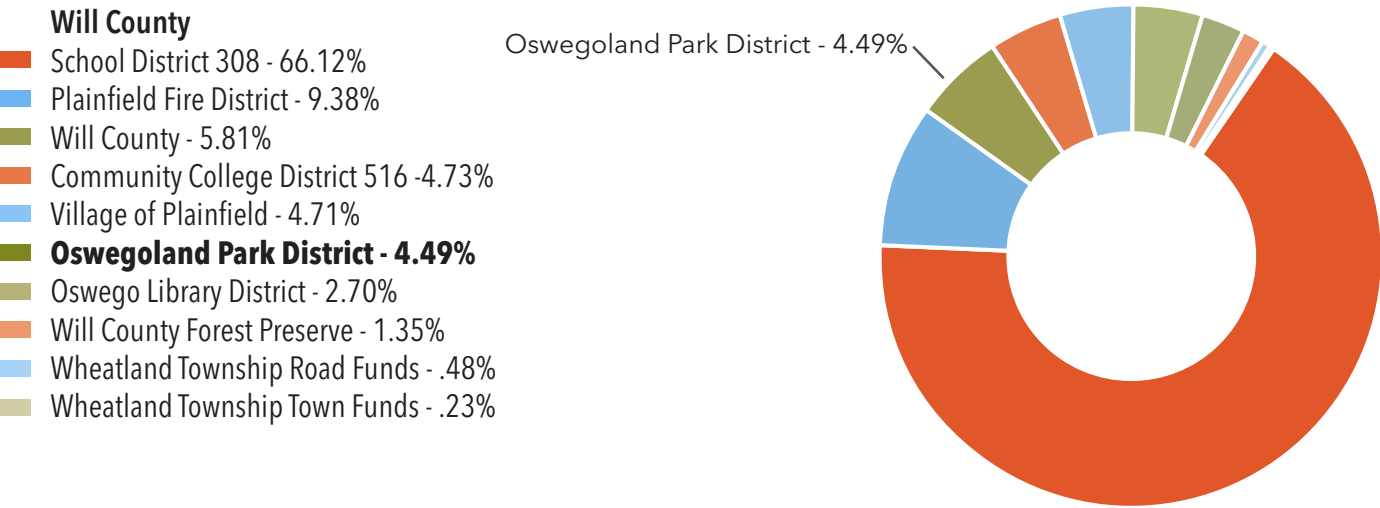
YOUR TAX DOLLARS

Your property tax bill is split between many different local bodies of government that provide you with a variety of services. The Oswegoland Park District serves residents in Kendall and Will Counties. As a percentage of your total tax bill, the Oswegoland Park District represents 4.92% of a Kendall County resident's tax bill and 4.49% of a Will County resident's tax bill.

KENDALL COUNTY



..... WILL COUNTY





2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Andover Park Development Project

As part of an Open Space Lands Acquisition & Development (OSLAD) Grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, new park features include a playground, half-court basketball court, neighborhood baseball field, parking lot with bioswale, concrete walks, extended bike path, shelter, drinking fountain, and site amenities. The natural planting area on the south side of the park along Morgan Creek was expanded and includes a nature playground, pollinator houses, and interpretive signage. The project was completed in August of 2022.

Civic Center Updates

The three Civic Center parking lots were re-paved in November of 2022. Park District staff cleared the brush area south of the sport courts in the Aquatics Center, re-graded the space to drain away from the courts, planted new landscaping, and obtained new custom windscreens for the court fencing.

Fox Bend Golf Course Green Replacement

With the consultant services of golf course landscape architect, Greg Martin, three greens (#2, #7, and #12) at Fox Bend Golf Course were redesigned and rebuilt in late summer 2022 to provide improved drainage and better playability.

Park Playground Replacements

Continuing our effort to provide safe play for our residents, the play equipment, safety surfacing, and site amenities at three parks (Summerlin, Washington, and Whispering Woods) were replaced in fall of 2022.

Saw Wee Kee Wayfinding Sign Project

The Oswegoland Park District partnered with the Oswego Fire Protection District, Kendall County Sheriff's Office, and the Chicago Area Mountain Bikers (CAMBr) on the Saw Wee Kee Park trail improvements. The project included new wayfinding and entrance signs, trail identification and difficulty ranking system, trail cleanup, and trail maps. The work was completed in August of 2022.

Veterans Serenity Park Paving Project

With the assistance of an Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) grant and legislation sponsored by State Representative Keith Wheeler, paved right of way parking was added along Adams Street with an accessible walk to the park and porta-let. The work was completed in November of 2022.

Misc. Paving & Maintenance

- Barnaby and Townsend Park Basketball Courts were color coated.
- In financial collaboration with the Village of Oswego, a stormwater drainage structure at Farmington Lakes Park was added to prevent erosion between the lake and Waubonsie Creek.
- Eagle Ridge Park received new disc golf baskets.
- New landscaping at Fox Bend Golf Course between the parking lots and Route 34.
- Seal coating projects included various paths and parking lots at Eagle Ridge Park, Civic Center, North Adams Park, Waubonsie Greenway Trail, Winrock Park, and Ogden Falls Park.

2022 AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS



- IAPD Best of the Best Intergovernmental Cooperation Award for the Saw Wee Kee Wayfinding Sign Project.
- GFOA Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting
- IAPD Best Shot Photo Contest – 1st Place Sports Category

.....GRANTS AWARDED

Grant	Project	Amount
IPARKS POWER GRANT	To be used towards safety items that will aid the District in loss control or risk management efforts.	\$1,500
IPARKS SWING MODIFICATION PROGRAM	To be used for the purchase of approved swing replacement parts.	\$350
IPRF SAFETY GRANT	For promoting safety and educational programs along with the purchase of safety & educational equipment for the District.	\$11,886
OPEN SPACE LANDS ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT GRANT	For the development of Andover Park, which continued in 2022.	\$376,300

.....COLLABORATION IN ACTION

In 2022, the Oswegoland Park District once again exemplified the agency value of collaboration. Working with several community organizations, the District partnered with others to enhance service to residents with unique experiences and programs.

PROGRAM OFFERINGS

- Partnered with Oswego Brewing Co. to offer specialized fitness & historical events
- Partnered with Fox Valley Winery to offer craft programs
- Partnered with Canlan Ice Sports to offer Ice Skating programming
- Partnered with Chicago Area Mountain Bikers (CAMBr) on the Saw Wee Kee Showdown event

COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

- The Little White School Museum worked with Aurora University Museum Studies Class to present the Face the Fox exhibit
- Collaborated with Oswego High School & Oswego East High School English Departments and the Oswego Public Library to feature Poetry in the Park
- Partnered with the Oswego Fire Protection District, Kendall County Sheriff's Office, and the Chicago Area Mountain Bikers (CAMBr) on the Saw Wee Kee Park trail improvements





PROGRAM & FACILITY PARTICIPATION

Staff work to provide residents with a wide variety of opportunities for all ages to learn, grow, socialize, and engage with our community through a variety of programs, events, and facilities.

ENROLLMENT

Program Area	2021	2022
Aquatics	1,040	1,241
Athletics	5,362	5,694
Dance	1,024	1,514
Fitness	1,475	2,003
Gymnastics	2,851	4,499
Historical	NA	121
Kid's Connection	825	668
Limelight Theatre	362	543
Preschool	388	390
Special Events	3,001	4,114
Varied Interest	1,460	1,531
Grand Total	17,788	22,318

POOL PASSES ISSUED

	2021	2022
.....	2,128	2,001

ROUNDS OF GOLF

	2021	2022
.....	40,718	35,431

..... FREE EVENTS

- Earth Day Kite Fly
- Fitness Previews
- Oswego Country Market
- Monday Miles
- Pop Up Poetry in the Park
- PrairieFest
- National Night Out
- Jack-o-Lantern Recycling
- Remembering Our Veterans



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES FOR ALL

Financial assistance is available to residents thanks to generous donations by the Oswegoland Park Foundation.

The Oswegoland Park Foundation is a fundraising organization dedicated to assisting the Oswegoland Park District in providing opportunities for a healthy community.

A second \$25,000 donation was made by the Oswegoland Park Foundation in 2022, allowing the Park District to continue to provide reduced fees for the recreational opportunities of families who qualify.

The assistance provided has allowed children to enjoy programs including gymnastics, basketball, dance and preschool, and for families in need of childcare the opportunity to participate in Kid's Connection before and after-school care.

If you or your child would like to participate in a recreation program but feel you cannot afford it, please email Tom Betsinger, Director of Recreation, at tbetsinger@oswegolandpd.org or call 630.554.4460.

The Oswegoland Park District Foundation raises money through yearly events, corporate sponsors, and the generosity of individual donors. Visit greeneroswegoland.org to learn more about the Park Foundation and find out how you can help.



OSWEGOLAND | PARK FOUNDATION



FINANCIAL REPORT

2022 REVENUES

TAXES
\$7.646M

The District receives less than 5% of the total property tax levied on Oswegoland Park District property owners. In addition to property taxes, the District receives personal property replacement taxes which comprise a small amount of the District's total tax revenue.

CHARGES FOR SERVICES
\$5.754M

The Oswegoland Park District offered approximately 2,138 recreation programs in 2022. Major recreation areas include:

- Athletics
- Aquatics
- Dance
- Fitness
- Gymnastics
- As We Grow Preschool
- Kid's Connection
- Special Events
- Limelight Theatre Company
- Little White School Museum
- Golf Greens Fees
- Golf Cart Rentals

GRANT PROCEEDS
\$191k

The Oswegoland Park District actively pursues grant opportunities as a supplemental revenue stream for projects and programs that may otherwise be deferred. Grant proceeds vary yearly in response to the grants awarded to the Park District and each grant's specific payment and/or reimbursement schedule.

OTHER INCOME
\$832k

Other Income is comprised of donations, support from the Foundation, cell tower rent, development fees, and miscellaneous revenues.

PRODUCT SALES
\$296k

Revenue is generated from concessions and merchandise sales from District facilities.

FACILITY RENTALS
\$46k

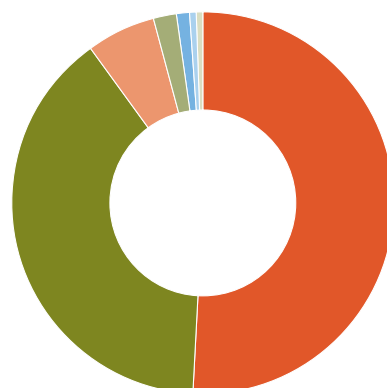
Revenue is generated from the rental of facilities such as the park and golf course pavilions, rooms for events/meetings, and our aquatics facilities.

INTEREST INCOME
\$108k

Interest is earned on invested District funds.

TOTAL REVENUES
\$14.873M

**All numbers rounded to the nearest thousand.*



- Taxes - 51%
- Charges for Services - 39%
- Other Income - 6%
- Product Sales - 2%
- Grant Proceeds - 1%
- Facility Rentals - <1%
- Interest Income - <1%

FINANCIAL REPORT

2022 EXPENDITURES

CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

\$3.241M

Contractual Services includes funds paid to others for services rendered to the District. These expenditures include, but are not limited to: professional services for information technology, consulting services, legal services, rentals/leases, construction & project consulting, security, contractors for capital projects, other various contractual vendors for recreational programs and the golf course.

SALARIES & WAGES

\$4.837M

Includes wages paid to employees for administrative, operations, and recreational functions to support the District's parks, programs, golf course, and other offerings.

DEBT SERVICE

\$596k

Debt Service pays the principal and interest payments, along with issuance costs for bonds and debt certificates sold on behalf of the District to fund capital projects.

BENEFITS

\$1.151M

This expenditure includes costs associated with employee benefits, such as health/dental/life insurances, pension contributions, and employer taxes.

MATERIALS & SUPPLIES

\$1.163M

This includes all expenses for materials & supplies used throughout the District, including playground mulch, trees/shrubs in our parks, mechanical parts for repairing vehicles/equipment, craft materials for our preschoolers, sports equipment, office supplies & postage used at all buildings, marketing materials, chemicals & fertilizers, golf course turf care, etc.

OTHER EXPENDITURES

\$496k

Other expenditures include liability and worker's compensation insurance premiums, staff development & education, travel, memberships/dues, and a land purchase.

EQUIPMENT

\$45k

This expense category is used for purchasing items such as vehicles, lawnmowers, Kid's Connection buses, gymnastics equipment, facility furniture, and appliances.

UTILITIES

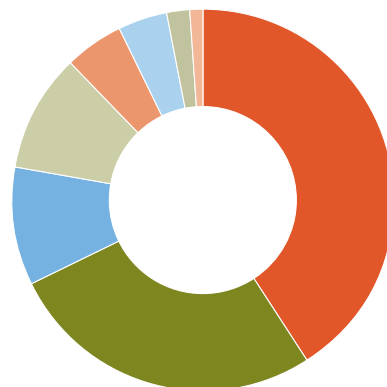
\$286k

Costs related to providing utilities to District properties including: water, sewer, gas, electricity, recycling, refuse removal, and phones

TOTAL EXPENDITURES

\$11.815M

**All numbers rounded to the nearest thousand.*



- Salaries & Wages - 41%
- Contractual Services - 27%
- Benefits - 10%
- Materials & Supplies - 10%
- Debt Service - 5%
- Other Expenditures - 4%
- Utilities - 2%
- Equipment - <1%



2023 DISTRICT WIDE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Bluegrass Park Development Project

This improvement project at Bluegrass Neighborhood Park will include a new 2-5 year old playground, trail/path extension, 21 space off-street parking lot, small shelter, drinking fountain, and site amenities.

Briarcliff Woods Park Parking Lot Project

Installation of a 19 space off-street parking lot and drinking fountain.

Little White School Museum Ramp Project

Partially funded by a Museum Grant from the IDNR, this accessibility improvement project includes a new wood ramp into the building to replace the chair lift at the entrance.

Various Shelter Projects

- Cantilevered dugout shelters for the softball/baseball fields at Prairie Point Community Park, Old Post Park, and Wormley Heritage Park.
- A new fabric shade structure will be installed over the spectator seating area at Winrock Pool.
- A two-tiered steel shelter will be installed in the ballfield core at Prairie Point Community Park.

SuzanJohn Playground Replacement Project

New play equipment, safety surfacing, and site amenities will be installed in the park. The existing playground equipment will be donated to Kids Around the World to be refurbished and installed in a different country.

Veterans Serenity Park Improvements Project

New aesthetic, safety, and accessibility features will be installed in the park including handrails along the stone bridges, a donor wall recognizing those that assisted in the creation of the park, expanded brick memorial area, and safety signage.

Misc. Paving & Maintenance

- Trail Paving – Sections of the Fox River Trail, Grove Road Trail, and Prairie Point Greenway Trail will be repaved.
- Color Coating – Courts at Briarcliff, Grande Park, Old Post, Tuscany Trail, and Willowgate Parks will be color coated.
- Poured-in-Place Replacement – Safety surfacing at Northampton Park and Willowgate Park will be replaced.
- Seal Coating – Various parking lots and paths will be seal coated and striped at Hudson Crossing, Augusta Lake, Bluegrass East, Morgan Creek, Ogden Falls, and Wormley Heritage Parks.

