

**Memorandum of Understanding  
Regarding Blueprint Columbus Between the  
Department of Public Utilities and the Recreation and Parks Department**

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Utilities is currently implementing a wet weather management program, Blueprint Columbus, which focuses on controlling and treating stormwater so that it does not contribute to sanitary sewer overflows and basement back-ups; and

WHEREAS, Blueprint includes a significant green infrastructure component; and

WHEREAS, City of Columbus park properties managed by Columbus Recreation and Parks Department ("Park Properties") may be ideal locations for green infrastructure, and therefore, the Department of Public Utilities wants to coordinate with the Recreation and Parks Department to find suitable, mutually desirable locations for green infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) and the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department (CRPD) (collectively "the Departments") will share responsibility for locating, designing and maintaining any Blueprint green infrastructure on Park Properties as set forth herein;

NOW, therefore, the Departments agree as follows:

**1. Department of Public Utilities Responsibilities**

- a. DPU is responsible for the planning, design and construction of the Blueprint Green Infrastructure (GI) projects, including all of the costs associated therewith, but will work in close coordination with CRPD throughout the process, including selecting locations. Eligible locations may include Park Properties, including street islands.
- b. Attached as exhibits to this MOU are maps of agreed Park Properties where DPU has or will construct GI, the GI features prominently labeled. This MOU may be modified by adding additional exhibits without the need to re-execute this MOU.

**c. DPU Responsibilities During Project Design**

- i. DPU will include CRPD in the early conceptual stages of the project planning, including meetings, site visits, etc.
  1. DPU will coordinate with CRPD to consider all park recreational park elements so that the appropriate CRPD specifications are included in GI design and construction plans.
  2. DPU will collaborate with CRPD to find mutually agreeable areas of access to Park Properties for GI construction and maintenance.

CRPD will have ultimate authority on the determination of access points, however, access points for GI construction and maintenance will not be unreasonably withheld.

- ii. DPU will engage organized community groups/Friends of Groups and coordinate meetings in locations where Park Properties are impacted.
- iii. DPU will endeavor to avoid removing trees to construct GI features. When street trees or trees on Park Properties must be removed, DPU will be responsible for tree replacement, payment into the CRPD tree fund, or a combination of both at each project location.
  - 1. DPU will provide CPRD a tree survey at each project location, completed by an arborist and submitted prior to the beginning of the project construction. The survey will include all street trees and Park Properties trees that are 2.5 inches in diameter or larger (measured 4 feet up from the base of the tree). The North Linden 1 Blueprint project is exempt from this requirement, and will adhere to the previous requirement of 6 inches in diameter or larger (measured 4 feet up from the base of the tree).
  - 2. If, during construction, DPU determines a tree that was not previously identified for removal will need to be removed, DPU will notify CRPD prior to removal.
  - 3. DPU will provide CRPD a final count of all street trees and trees on Park Properties that are 2.5 inches in diameter or larger (measured 4 feet up from the base of the tree) that were removed and were not replaced and the proposed fees for these tree replacements to be paid to CRPD for each project location. Proposed fees shall be consistent with Executive Order 2015-01, Attachment D or any other fee schedule deemed by the Parties to be mutually agreeable.

**d. DPU Responsibilities During Project Construction**

- i. DPU will work with their contractors to coordinate the timing, as outlined in the construction schedule of GI construction, illustrating CRPD programming schedules.
- ii. DPU will provide schedule for the construction project.
- iii. DPU will not allow contractors to store or stage equipment or materials on Park Properties, absent express authorization from CRPD.
- iv. DPU will coordinate with CRPD to install appropriate signage regarding the GI as agreed upon. This may include temporary signage related to GI construction or permanent signage to educate residents regarding GI functions and environmental benefits.

**e. DPU Responsibilities For Project Maintenance**

- i. DPU will be responsible for the maintenance, cleaning, replacement, or removal of the GI features as identified on the attached exhibits, including bioretention cells and permeable pavement surfaces, unless those responsibilities are specifically assigned to CRPD in Section 2 below. Maintenance will be performed, based on the DPU provided Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Plan and schedule.
- ii. DPU will be responsible for mowing areas outside the GI feature if the GI feature occupies all or substantially all of the Park Property or is designed to require use of mowing or trimming equipment with a deck that is smaller than CRPD's available equipment for that location. Mowing limits to be detailed within the Exhibit.
- iii. DPU will be responsible for the maintenance, repair and replacement of all stormwater infrastructure, such as inlets, storm sewers, etc.

**2. Department of Recreation and Parks Responsibilities**

**a. CRPD Responsibilities During Project Design**

- i. CRPD will work closely with DPU during the siting and design phases of the GI development, and will review the GI plans and supply comments to the plans no later than thirty days after receipt, unless an expedited review is requested and approved.
- ii. CRPD will be responsible for supplying DPU with specifications for site furnishings or other items requested by DPU as part of Blueprint project design.
- iii. CRPD will review all trees proposed for removal, prior to the beginning of the construction.

**b. CRPD Responsibilities During Project Construction**

- i. Following receipt of the final count of trees removed and not replaced and proposed fees for tree impacts, CRPD will provide DPU with an invoice for said tree impacts.

**c. CRPD Responsibilities For Project Maintenance**

- i. CRPD will be responsible for maintaining all areas of the Park Properties not designated as GI on the attached Exhibits. This includes mowing, trash removal, replacement of playground equipment (if and where appropriate), and other activities typically undertaken by CRPD.

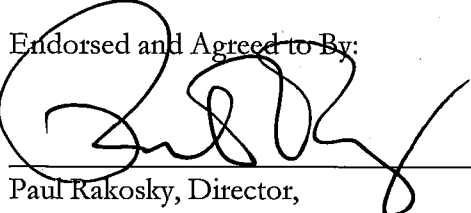
- ii. CRPD will be responsible for snow removal or restriping that is needed on pervious pavement surfaces, including select parking lots or basketball courts.
- iii. CRPD will report any maintenance concerns, as outlined in the DPU O&M Plan, with the GI features of the Park Properties and any non-stormwater discharges to the GI to DPU immediately upon discovery.

### 3. Joint Responsibilities

- a. Prior to substantial completion and close out of the project, DPU and CRPD will meet at each site to punch list the Blueprint project and provide details to the consultant.
- b. The Departments will continue to work cooperatively to meet the goals set forth herein, including regular communication and meetings as necessary.
- c. The Departments will update this MOU with additional Exhibits as more Blueprint GI features are proposed and constructed. The MOU will be considered updated once a new exhibit is added that has been initialed by the DPU Stormwater Management Section Manager and the CRPD Natural Resource and Property Manager.

By signing this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), the Departments agree to adhere to all terms and conditions contained herein.

Endorsed and Agreed to By:

  
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Paul Rakosky, Director,  
Columbus Recreation and Parks Department

Date

1/31/2020

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tracie Davies, Director,  
Columbus Department of Public Utilities

Date

1/24/2020

Revised

## EXHIBITS

1. Southside Settlement Heritage Park
2. Whetstone Park
3. Overbrook and Canyon Street Islands
4. Kenlawn Park
5. Joan Park
6. Eureka/Fremont Street Islands
7. Holton Park
8. Linden Melrose/Dresden Street Islands
9. Dresden/Weldon St. Island
10. Westgate Park
11. Guernsey Pl/Wicklow St. Island
12. Palmetto/Guernsey S. St. Island (x2)
13. Palmetto/Huron St. Island

PCR  
11/31/2020



## **EXHIBITS**

1. Southside Settlement Heritage Park
2. Whetstone Park
3. Overbrook and Canyon Street Islands
4. Kenlawn Park
5. Joan Park
- 6) Linden Melrose/Dresdon Street Island
- 7) Dresden/Weldon Street Island
- 8) Eureka/Fremont Street Islands
- 9) Holton Park
- 10) Westgate Park
- 11) Guernsey Pl./Wicklow Street Island
- 12) Palmetto/Guernsey S. Street Island
- 13) Palmetto/Huron Street Island

***Updated 1.31.20***

