



**City of Neenah
Common Council Minutes
Wednesday, January 21, 2026 at 6:00 PM
Neenah City Hall – 211 Walnut Street
Council Chambers**

The Common Council of the City of Neenah, Winnebago County, Wisconsin, met in regular session at 6:00 p.m., January 21, 2026, in the Council Chambers of Neenah City Hall.

Mayor Lang is the chair.

Present: Aldermen Bruno, Erickson, Linski, Ellis, Steiner, Pollnow, Lendrum, Weber, and Council President Borchardt. Staff present Director of Finance Rasmussen, Director of Community Development & Assessment Nieforth, Public Works Director Kaiser, City Attorney Struve sitting in for City Attorney Rashid, and City Clerk Nagel.

Also Present: Director Mach, Fire Chief Teesch, Director Kading, Director Schroeder, and those noted on the attached Meeting Sign-In Sheets.

Mayor Lang called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

- I. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance
- II. [Report from Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 21, 2026.](#) (Council President Borchardt)
 - A. Consider the Committee of the Whole recommendation to Neenah-Menasha Sewerage Commission to proceed with plant design as proposed in the Committee of the Whole meeting of January 21, 2026. **(Roll Call-Pro)**
MSCR P Borchardt/Ellis to recommend Neenah-Menasha Sewerage Commission proceed with plant design as proposed by the Committee of the Whole using the cloth disc filter option thereby eliminating the UV option. Motion carried in a roll call vote, 9-0.
- III. Presentation
 - A. Arrowhead Update Presentation by Director Nieforth and Director Kading. Director Nieforth and Director Kading gave a presentation on Arrowhead Park. That presentation is attached to the minutes.
MSC Borchardt/Pollnow to receive and place on file the Arrowhead Update Presentation. Motion carried in a voice vote unanimously.
- IV. Introduction and Confirmation of Mayor's Appointment(s)
 - A. None.
- V. Approval of Council Proceedings
 - A. [Approval of the Council Minutes and Proceedings of January 7, 2026 regular session.](#)
Seeing no objections, the above Minutes and Proceedings were ordered approved as written.

VI. Public Forum

- A. Speakers should give their name and residential address (not mailing address) and are allowed five minutes to speak on any topic.
1. Scott Becher, 1061 Green Acres Lane – Spoke of his non-support for the Arrowhead Park Project. Mr. Becher spoke on the Public Trust Doctrine as it relates to Arrowhead Park, and informed the Council that there are special interest groups willing to bring forth litigation if the Public Trust Doctrine was not followed.
 2. Frank Culthbert, 1533 Fallow Drive – Spoke on the importance on investing in Arrowhead Park. Arrowhead Park will bring quality of life to the Neenah residents, is good for the businesses, and will allow the city to be competitive with those who want to relocate to the city for work.

VII. Mayor/Council consideration of public forum issues

- A. Alderman Ellis spoke on the Minergy Corporation site and the impact on the Arrowhead Park site.

VIII. Consent Agenda – None.

IX. Reports of standing committees

- A. [Regular Public Services and Safety Committee meeting of January 13, 2026:](#) (Chairman Lendrum/Vice Chairman Weber) (Minutes can be found on the City website)

1. Committee recommends Council approve the agreement with Stantec for Professional Geologist Oversight of the Geotechnical Investigation at Arrowhead Park in the amount of \$27,255.00. Funding for the agreement to be provided from Arrowhead Park carry forward funds included in the 2026 Capital Improvement Budget. **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSCRP Lendrum/Weber to approve the Stantec Agreement as recommended by Committee. Motion passed in a roll call vote, 8-1 with Pollnow dissenting.

Alderman Pollnow voted against the Stantec agreement as he believes the money could/should be used elsewhere.

- B. [Regular Finance and Personnel Committee meeting of January 12, 2026:](#) (Chairman Steiner/Vice Chairman Erickson) (Minutes can be found on the City website)

1. Committee recommends Council approve the Purchase Equipment and Services to Install an Air Conditioner, New Battery Backup Power, and Other HVAC Enhancements for IT Needs at a cost not to exceed \$50,000, with Funding Coming from the 2026 Information Systems Capital Equipment Budget. **(RollCall-Pro)**
MSC Steiner/Erickson to approve the purchase of equipment and services to install an air conditioner, new battery backup power, and other HVAC enhancements for IT needs as recommended by committee. Motion carried in a roll call vote, 9-0.

- ~~2. Committee recommends Council ratify the engagement of Attorney William P. Scott for all work completed for the city from 2023 through 2025. **(Roll Call Pro)**~~
- ~~3. Committee recommends Council authorize the City Attorney and Director of Community Development to engage the services of Attorney William P. Scott on an on-going and as-needed basis, for an amount not to exceed \$25,000 in 2026 without further approval. **(Roll Call Pro)**~~

- X. Reports of special committees and liaisons and various special projects committees
- A. [Regular Plan Commission meeting of January 13, 2026:](#) (Council Rep Steiner)
(Minutes can be found on the City website)
 1. Meeting cancelled, no report.
 - B. [Business Improvement District Board \(BID Board\) Meeting of January 20, 2026 – Alderman Ellis](#)
 1. Nothing to report.
 - C. [Report from the Library Board Meeting of January 21, 2026 – Alderman Erickson](#)
 1. Hosting an open house on Saturday, January 24th to launch the new logo, and to tour the new meeting and sensory rooms. All are welcome to attend.
 - D. [Report from the Neenah Arts Council Meeting of January 14, 2026 – Alderman Erickson](#)
 1. Planned the upcoming yearly events.
 2. Alderman Erickson gave a shout out to all the volunteers for their time, talent, and dedication to promoting arts in the community.
 - E. [Report from the Landmarks Commission Meeting of January 14, 2026 – Alderman Weber](#)
 1. Nothing to report.
 - F. [Report from the Park Commission Meeting of January 15, 2026 – Alderman Weber](#)
 1. Volunteer opportunity dates were given.
- XI. Presentation of petitions
- A. Any other petition received by the City Clerk's Office after distribution of the agenda.
 1. None.
- XII. Council Directives
- A. None.
- XIII. Unfinished Business
- A. None.
- XIV. New Business
- A. Any announcements/questions that may legally come before the Council.
 - B. There will be a public meeting held in the Shattuck Room of the library on March 2nd at 6:30 p.m. with a presentation on East Central Wisconsin Regional Plan Commission Safe Routes to School Program. The public is welcome.
 - C. A public meeting will be held on the Exchange Development Project with property owners and residents adjacent to the former Harn's Barn site on S. Commercial Street. The meeting will be held on February 3rd at 5:30 PM in the Neenah Police

Department Community Room. The developer will introduce the project and seek feedback from the neighborhood.

XV. Adjournment

Motion by Alderman Pollnow, seconded by Alderman Linski to adjourn. Motion carried in a voice vote 9-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:52 PM.

[A broadcast of this meeting can be viewed and heard through this link on the City's website.](#)

Respectfully submitted,



Charlotte Nagel, City Clerk

**CITY OF NEENAH – COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026
ATTENDANCE SHEET**

NAME	ADDRESS
1. ANTHONY L. MARCH	773 YORKSHIRE RD
2. RAYMOND JOHNK	203 JOSEPH ST APT 2
3. SCOTT BECHER	1061 GREEN ACRES LANE
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**CITY OF NEENAH – COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026
ATTENDANCE SHEET**

NAME	ADDRESS
1. <i>Frank Cuthbert</i>	<i>1533 Fallow Dr</i>
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City of Neenah Arrowhead Park Master Plan Implementation Update

JANUARY 21, 2026

Arrowhead Park History

- 1950- US Army Corp of Engineers approval to construct new shoreline. City of Neenah formally established a shoreline (bulkhead) by ordinance.
- 1951- State of Wisconsin granted City of Neenah the marsh and submerged land for a “public purpose”. The City was issued a deed for the property.
- 1952- Wastewater Treatment Plant operational.
- 1952-1976 – Wastewater Solids Deposited South of Dike.
- 1957-1970 Bulkhead Dike Constructed.
- 1996- Minergy Facility Constructed.



Historical Site Photos



Arrowhead Park Long-Term Maintenance Requirements from WDNR

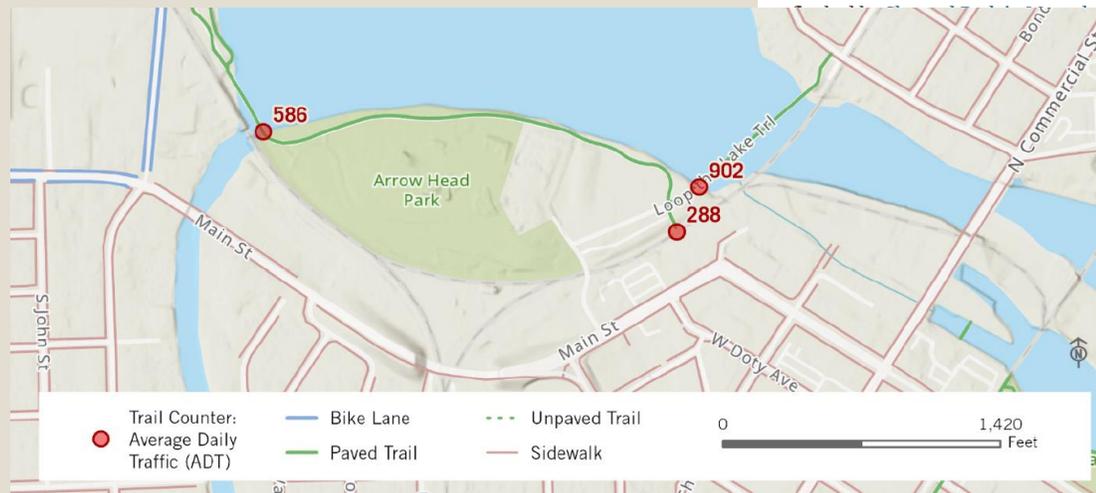
- Maintain Positive Drainage on Site
- Implement the Methane Migration Prevention Action Plan
- Ensure Dike is Structurally Sound
- Groundwater Well Monitoring
- Closed Landfill Responsibilities

Arrowhead Park Development

- 2008 – Herb and Dolly Smith Park and trestle construction.
- 2008-2012 – Parking Lot and Open Space Lawn Constructed
- 2014 – Trail constructed along shoreline.
- 2016 – Minergy facility demolished.
- 2018 – Loop the Little Lake trestle constructed – a 5k loop which connects three municipalities.
- 2023 – Nelson Family Pier constructed.
- 2025- Carriage road and parking constructed.



Public Trail Utilization:



Post Crescent.

WISCONSIN FAMILY

The results are in: See which Fox Cities trail our readers said is the most kid-friendly

 **Rebecca Loroff**
Appleton Post-Crescent
Updated June 3, 2025, 8:54 a.m. CT

Last week, the Appleton Post-Crescent surveyed our readers, asking about the most family-friendly trail in the Fox Cities. While several parks and trails were nominated, we saw a clear favorite: the Trestle Trail in Menasha and Neenah.

The Trestle Trail includes a 1,600-foot bridge across Little Lake Butte des Morts and Fritse Park in Neenah. The trail is part of the Little Lake and the Friendship State Trail.

...re why this trail regularly makes area bucket list. Both parks have bathrooms, you're crossing the trestle bridge itself, the Fox River Menasha Channel keeps the views scenic, our readers said. There's also plenty of shade and take in the view.

...ail, bring sun and wind protection and be prepared for the weather. There's one shaded pavilion on the trail itself,

Arrowhead Park Conceptual Master Plan

- ADOPTED 2024
- CHANGES TO PLAN WILL OCCUR. PLAN IS INTENDED TO BE A VISION.



ARROWHEAD
MASTER PLAN

City Vision and Goals

Vision: Arrowhead will be a renowned waterfront destination where people gather to celebrate, play, learn and explore!

Goals:

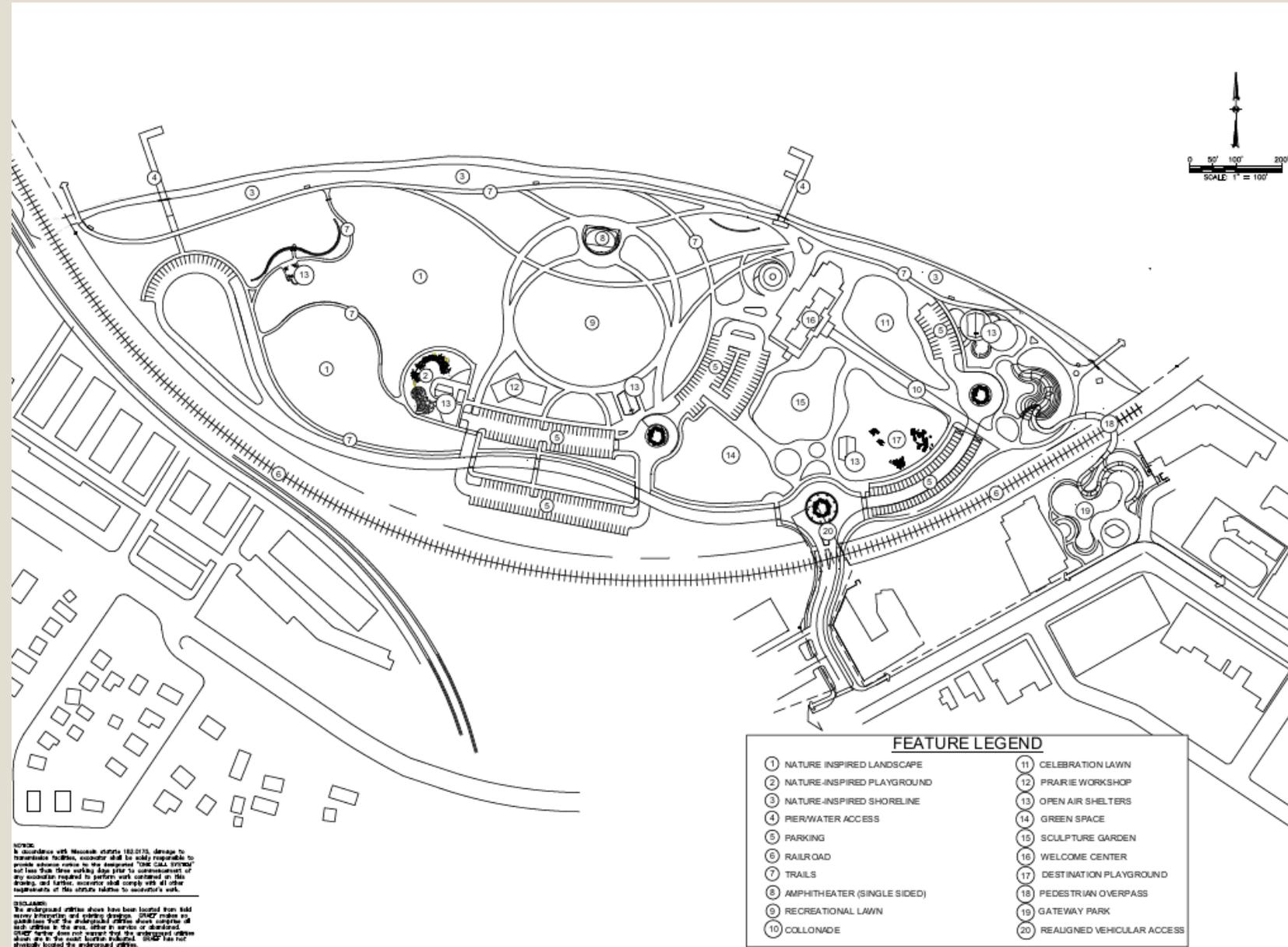
- ❖ Improve public access to water
- ❖ Enhance nature-inspired landscape
- ❖ Improve physical connections to Arrowhead Park and the Fox River
- ❖ Initiate year-round programming that helps people flourish

The City of Neenah's Vision for Arrowhead Park

Vision: Arrowhead will be a renowned waterfront destination where people gather to celebrate, play, learn and explore!



The City of Neenah's Vision



Plan
Implementation
Phases – All
Phases Require
WDNR Approval

WDNR Approval for Use

Utilities, Grading, and Infrastructure to
Support Park

Improve Park Access

Provide Park Amenities

Improvements to Enhance Park

Plan Implementation Process Complexities

Engineer, Architect, Geotech, and Environmental Consultant

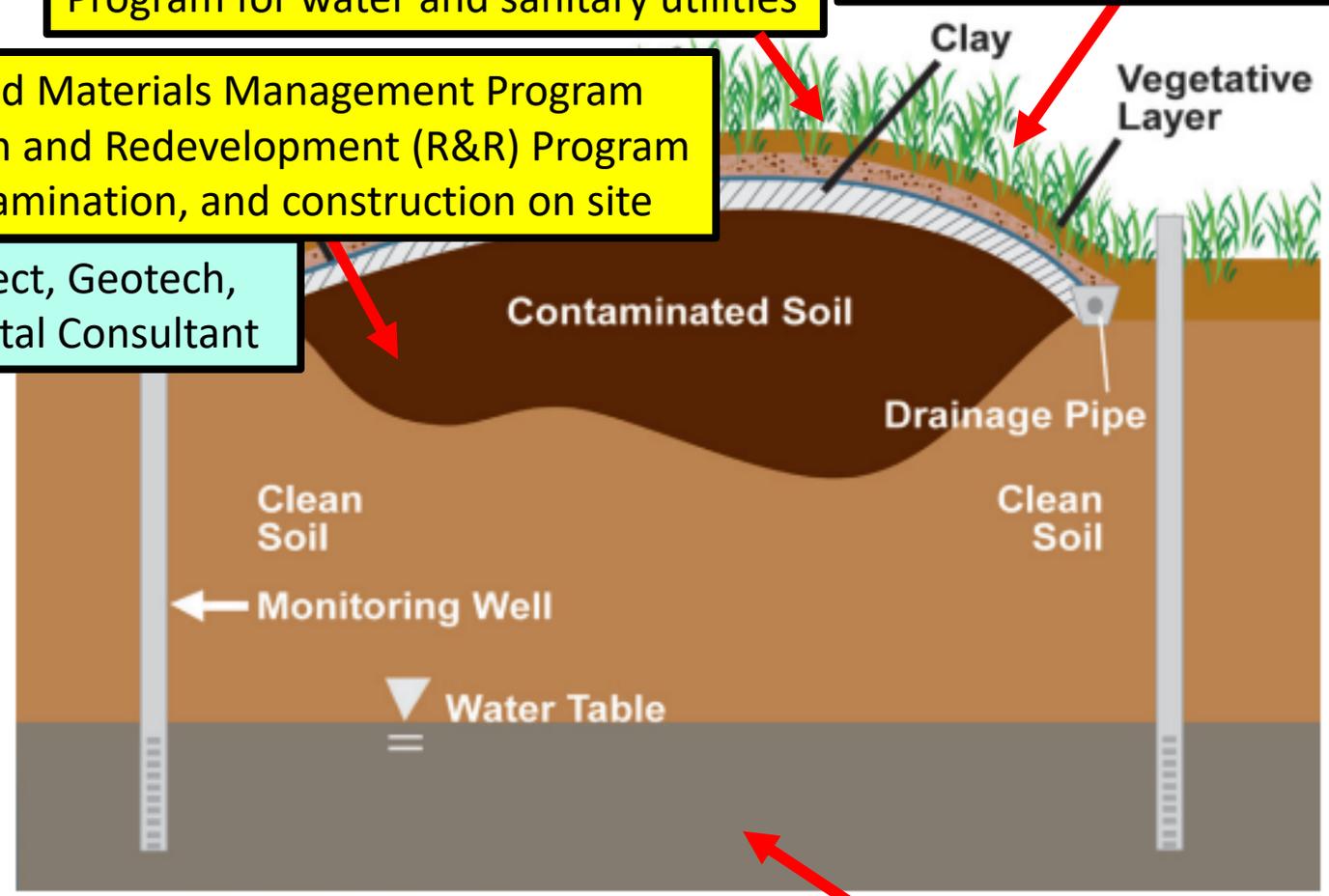
WDNR Water Program and Wastewater Program for water and sanitary utilities

Engineer

WDNR Waterways Program for stormwater

WDNR Waste and Materials Management Program and Remediation and Redevelopment (R&R) Program for landfill, contamination, and construction on site

Engineer, Architect, Geotech, and Environmental Consultant



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (WDNR) APPROVALS NEEDED

AND

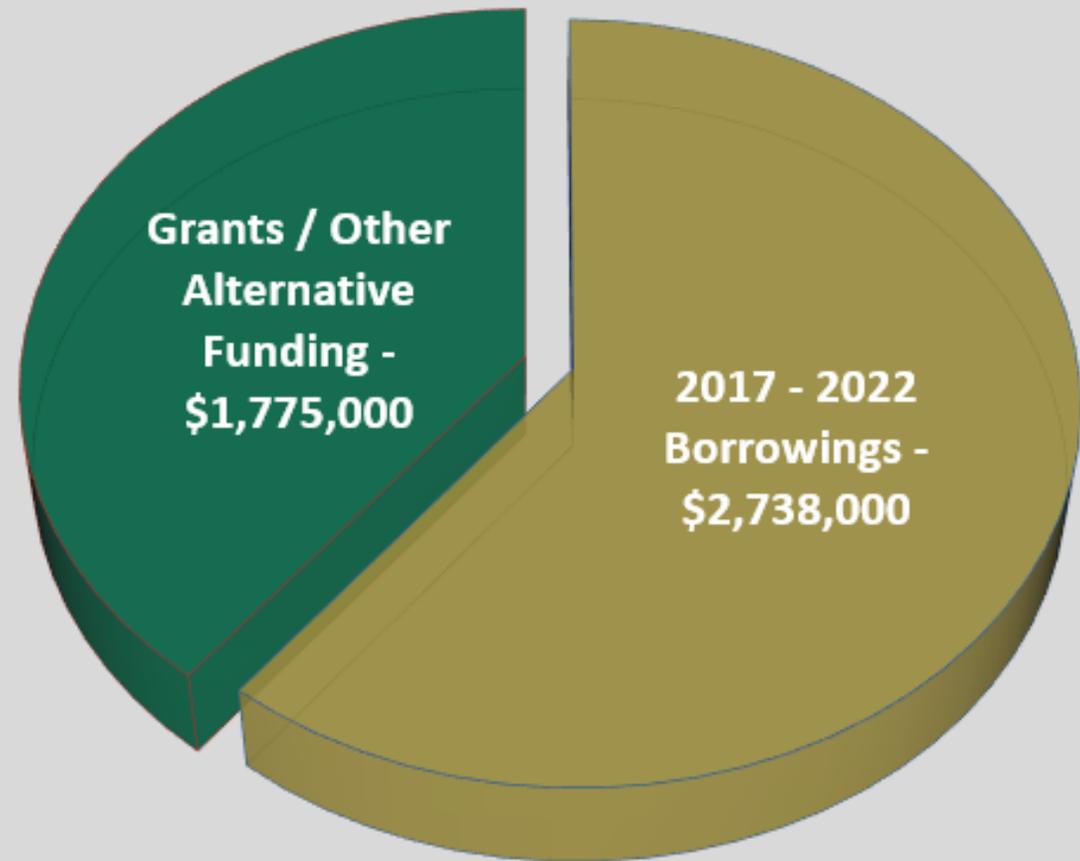
EXPERTISE NEEDED TO SUBMIT FOR APPROVALS

Outside Counsel

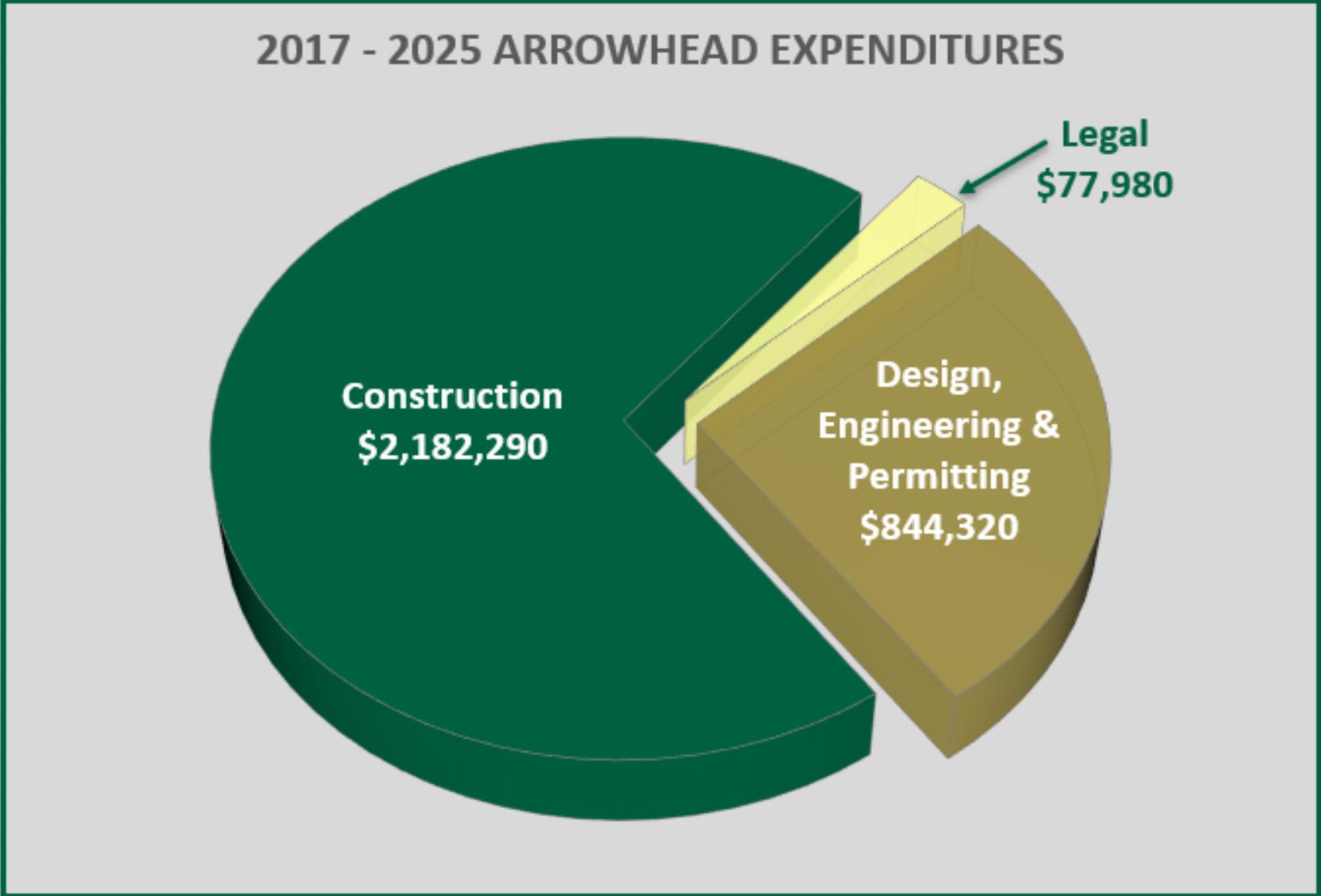
WDNR Waterways Program for Use of property

Arrowhead Park Funding Sources 2017-2025

ARROWHEAD FUNDING SOURCES 2017 - 2025

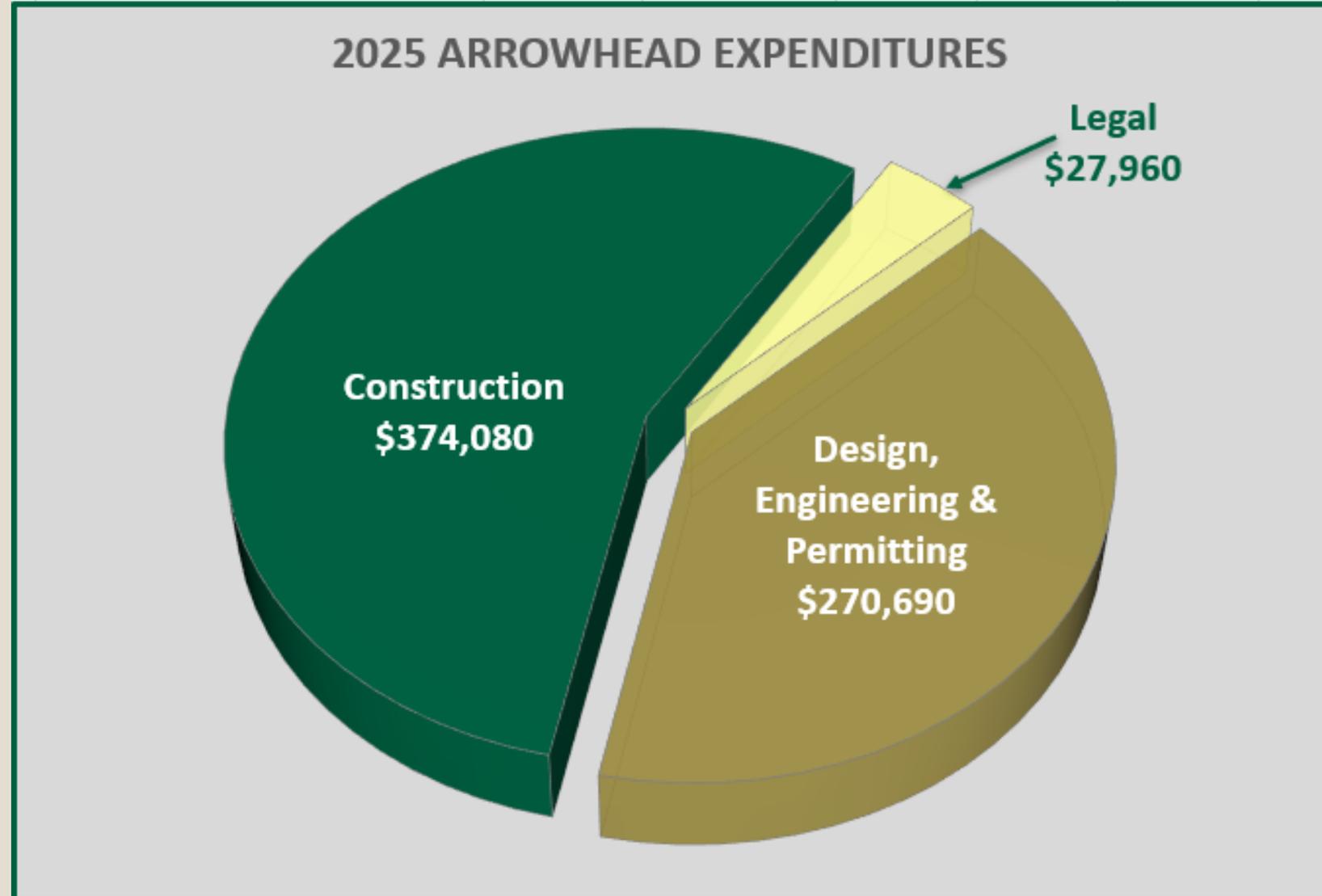


Funds Spent on Maintaining and Development of Arrowhead Park 2017-2025



Funds Spent on Maintaining and Development of Arrowhead Park 2025

Current Fund Balance (less encumbered contracts): \$1.04M



Plan Implementation Process: What Was Completed in 2025?

- Submitted plans to WDNR for grading, utilities and minor improvements
- Met with WNDR staff multiple times to discuss the proposed uses on site
- WDNR ordered the city to develop a methane migration prevention action plan
- Internal access road and parking constructed
- Prairie constructed

Next Steps



Arrowhead Park Long-Term Maintenance Requirements from WDNR

- Maintain Positive Drainage on Site
- Implement the Methane Migration Prevention Action Plan
- Ensure Dike is Structurally Sound
- Groundwater Well Monitoring
- Closed Landfill Responsibilities

Plan Implementation Process in 2026: What's Next?

- WDNR to review submitted plans to WDNR for grading, utilities and minor improvements (up to 90 days)
- Submit a formal request to confirm the proposed uses on site meet the intent of the public trust doctrine
- Implement the methane migration prevention action plan
- Discuss next phase with council and parks commission after WDNR approvals obtained

Thank
You!

