

Hi, Larry Ames, long-time park supporter.
I'm glad the polling shows that the public **supports** our parks
and is aware of the **need** to **fund** repairs,
– and I'm glad the City is now working on a solution.

I've been involved in a number of successful park-funding campaigns over the
years.

They all took time.

Park Staff is not allowed to work on campaigns,
but in the months beforehand, they can do research on park needs,
give presentations to elected officials and the public,
and prepare reports that can later help shape a campaign message.

And the ballot measures were worded to **allay** public concerns,
guaranteeing defined amounts would go for various park improvements,
and **setting limits** on the portion that could be used for other purposes.
There was also **public oversight** of the funds, either by a commission or a citizen
task-force.

I want to see this park funding measure succeed!

It's been decades since the public has been asked to help our parks.
But please word the measure so that we know
that ***the park funds are used for the parks***
rather than being scattered about elsewhere.

Assure us that this will **add** to the park funding,
rather than simply **replacing** existing funding that is then shifted elsewhere.

Require public oversight.

And ***take the time to do it right:***

don't rush and fail, because it would then be harder to try again later.

Thank you.

8/6/24