

**Park Advisory Board  
Park Advisory Board  
Government Services Center & Zoom Id 267-094-2170 password 56587  
3:00 PM on Thursday, November 13, 2025**

1. **Call to order**  
Members Present  
Others Present
2. **Additions and Deletions**
3. **Minutes**  
August 28, 2025
4. **Status of Recommendations to City Council**  
None.
5. **Budget**  
2025 Budget Comparison
6. **Story Walk**
7. **Pickleball**
8. **Baseball Committee**
9. **New Park Property on Glenn Street**
10. **City Worker Update**
11. **Other Business**
12. **Comprehensive Plan**
13. **Next Meeting Date/Time**
14. **Adjournment**

# Table of Contents

1. Call to order .....	3
3. Minutes .....	4
4. Status of Recommendations to City Council .....	8
5. Budget .....	9
12. Comprehensive Plan .....	12

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**1. Call to order**

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Members Present  
Others Present

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**3. Minutes**

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August 28, 2025

**Files Attached**

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- 10.9.25 Park Board Minutes.pdf

CITY OF VERGAS  
Park Board Advisory Board Minutes  
Vergas Event Center & Zoom Teleconference  
3:00 P.M. on Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025

2025	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dean Haarstick, Council Appointment	P	P	P	N/A	P	N/A	A	P	N/A	A		
Sherri Hanson, Member	P	P	A	N/A	P	N/A	A	P	N/A	P		
Chuck Hanson, Member	P	P	A	N/A	A	N/A	P	P	N/A	P		
Steph Hogan, Member	P	P	P	N/A	P	N/A	P	P	N/A	A		
Maggie Puetz, Member	A	P	P	N/A	A	N/A	A	A	N/A	A		
Tony Sailer, Member	P	P	P	N/A	P	N/A	P	P	N/A	P		
Rachel Nustad, Secretary of the board						N/A	P	P		P		
Mike DuFrane, Utilities Superintendent	P	P	P	N/A	P	N/A	P	A	N/A	P		

*P: Present A: Absent N/A: No meeting*

Also present: Council Member James Stenger.

#### Call to order

The City of Vergas Park Advisory Board was called to order by Sherri Hanson on Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 3:00 PM.

#### Additions or Deletions

Comprehensive Plan Update 2025

#### Minutes

Motion by S. Hanson, seconded by C. Hanson, to approve the minutes from August 28, 2025. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Status of Recommendations to City Council

None

#### Budget

Stenger provided an update on the budget, noting that they mostly maintained the previous year's budget with a few exceptions for major purchases. He mentioned that planned purchases include a replacement lawnmower after approximately seven years of use. Sailer inquired about how many years they typically get out of the lawnmowers, to which DuFrane responded about seven years on average.

Stenger explained that the budget had already been sent to the county and would be returned in November for final approval in December. He noted that the budget increase was minimal at about 3.1 percent, down from an initial 17 percent based on all department requests.

S. Hanson confirmed with DuFrane that most items he requested were included in the budget, though a skid steer was not approved. There was also confirmation that a chalk filed marker for the baseball field was included.

#### Story Walk

S. Hanson explained that the Community Club, through the arts group, is planning to install a "Story Walk" along Tin Can Alley on Long Lake Beach Trail. The Story Walk will feature pages from a children's book displayed on signs along the path for children to read as they walk. The book selected is "Little Loon Finds Its Voice" by a Minnesota author who will visit Vergas for a book signing when the Story Walk opens.

The signs will be made of waterproof corrugated plastic, similar to real estate signs, and will be displayed for the entire season. The plan is to feature a different book each year. The Community Club is considering purchasing copies of the book to sell or distribute.

S. Hanson noted that coordination with DuFrane would be needed to ensure the signs don't interfere with mowing. The timing for the Story Walk opening was initially planned to coincide with a spring event, but there was a scheduling conflict, so they are now considering Maplefest as an alternative.

### **Pickleball**

An update was provided on the concrete work completed for the pickleball courts. S. Hanson mentioned that billing had come through from West Central Initiative for approximately \$12,000. The work in front of the restrooms was also completed.

It was clarified that the pickleball group fundraised for their portion of the improvements, while the city contributed \$2,500 for the area in front of the restrooms. DuFrane confirmed the work was completed the previous Tuesday and looked very nice.

### **Baseball Committee**

Sailer reported that someone had completed reseeding on the infield, which has grown in well. DuFrane noted the only issue he's observed is erosion at the entrance gate by third base where vehicles drive through. He suggested possibly adding class 5 or crushed asphalt to prevent further erosion, though he mentioned it hasn't damaged the inside of the field yet.

S. Hanson mentioned there had been about 400 games played at the field. Sailer indicated the baseball committee hasn't met recently but would likely reconvene early next year. There was also discussion about potentially adding names to the recognition board.

### **New Park Property on Glenn Street**

Nustad reported on her meeting with East Otter Tail Soil and Water regarding the property on Glenn Street. She explained that beautifying the area with wildflowers would be more work and expense than initially anticipated. The agency indicated no funding was available for enhancement projects since there's nothing wrong with the area. They warned that the aggressive weeds currently growing there would likely return even after clearing.

Nustad recommended possibly leaving the area as is, adding a walking path and seating area, noting it's a quiet, beautiful spot away from town. She reported the property is 4.8 acres with a steep hill. DuFrane confirmed they have been mowing what they can of the area.

After discussion, the board decided to keep the item on the agenda for future meetings and encouraged members to visit the site to generate ideas. They acknowledged that maintaining wildflowers or other enhancements would require significant commitment.

### **City Worker Update**

DuFrane reported that the docks had been removed and the pier would be coming out on Wednesday. He also raised the issue of finding a location for two bike racks, noting challenges with potential locations. Someone had suggested not placing one in the new parking lot since it would take up valuable parking space. The board discussed various potential locations but decided to postpone the decision since they were out of bike season.

DuFrane also brought up the planter at the entrance to town, suggesting it could benefit from cultured stone around it to enhance its appearance. He felt the current gray concrete appearance was not aesthetically pleasing and remembered previous discussions about improving it. S. Hanson acknowledged this was a legitimate concern for enhancing the area.

DuFrane concluded by reporting that all water had been shut off in the parks for the season, and a portable toilet had been placed near the pickleball courts.

### **Other Business**

S. Hanson added a discussion about the comprehensive plan update. Nustad provided copies and S Hanson suggested the board members review the documents at home before discussing at the next meeting. The board agreed to this approach.

### **Members**

#### ***Member Terms***

S. Hanson and Puetz's terms were noted as expiring. S. Hanson expressed interest in remaining on the board to focus on park upgrades over the next couple of years. The board discussed finding a replacement for Puetz position, who has missed several meetings due to her new job. DuFrane suggested approaching Jim Courneya as a potential candidate. Nustad offered to include a notice in the next newsletter and on Facebook about the open position. The board also discussed the policy regarding missed meetings, noting that Vergas' policy is three missed meetings within a year.

### **Next Meeting Date/Time**

The next meeting was scheduled for November 13, 2025, at 3:00 PM. It was noted this falls during deer hunting season, which might affect attendance.

### **Adjournment**

Motion by Sailer, seconded by C. Hanson to adjourn at 3:36 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Nustad, Deputy Clerk (assisted by ClerkMinutes)  
Secretary of the Park Board

### **Follow Up Actions**

- Members are to go look at the new park property on Glenn Street.
- Members are to review the comprehensive plan for 2025 and make notes of progress for the year to review at the next meeting.

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**4. Status of Recommendations to City Council**

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None.



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**5. Budget**

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2025 Budget Comparison

**Files Attached**

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- 2025 Park Income and Expense Report.pdf

		<u>Income &amp; Expenses</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
		<u>11/12/25</u>	<u>2026 Budget</u>
<b>Income:</b>	<b>2025 Budget</b>		
City Taxes (Approved by Council)	94,345.00	56342.84	94,667.00
Miscellaneous Donations	0.00	14.83	0.00
Marion Dahlgren Memorial	2,520.00	0	0.00
Greg Dahlgren Memorial	250.00	0	0.00
Swing Set Donation	289.86	0	0.00
Land Dedication Fee	0.00	0	0.00
Swimming Lesson Donation (Lion's)	240.00	0	300.00
VCC - donation to ballfield for events	0.00	0	0.00
Bathhouse Donations (Liquore Store Box)	0.00	0	0.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$97,644.86</b>	<b>\$56,357.67</b>	<b>\$94,967.00</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>			
Wages and Salaries (100)	29,000.00	19,444.40	25,000.00
Employer Cont./Soc.Sec/PERA. (122)	12,840.00	8,456.53	9,840.00
Employee Insurance (131)	4,200.00	2,782.68	3,900.00
Workers Compensation	2,400.00	0.00	2,400.00
Office Supplies (200)	350.00	665.39	350.00
Operating Supplies (210)	7,000.00	3,932.70	3,500.00
Telephone	375.00	312.50	375.00
Repair & Maint. Supplies (220)	2,000.00	118.74	1,500.00
Engineering	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
Travel, Mtgs, & Schools	20.00	20.00	20.00
Employee Clothing Allowance(245)	100.00	0.00	100.00
Licenses/Permits	360.00	35.00	360.00
Insurance (360)	3,000.00	4,586.00	3,300.00
Utility Services (380)	4,000.00	2,905.20	4,000.00
Rubbish Service (384)	3,500.00	3,085.58	4,200.00
Repair & Maintenance Service(400)	3,000.00	8,265.05	3,000.00
Baseball Field	1,500.00	900.00	1,500.00
City Share/Assessments (440)	700.00	800.42	700.00
Improvements (530)	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00
Donations transferred from 2024	3,059.86	0.00	0.00
Refunds & Reimbursements	240	47.48	240.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$97,644.86</b>	<b>\$56,357.67</b>	<b>\$84,285.00</b>
<b>Total for Parks</b>			
<b>Savings Accounts for the Park (need Council Approval to spend)</b>			
Money Market Account	35,989.37		
West Central Initiative (bathhouse funds)	31,062.32		
Total		\$67,051.69	

\*used for swimming lessons

Wood Chips

Long Lake Park, Riding lawn  
mower scheduled to be replaced  
in 2026 for est. cost of  
\$13,000.00

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**12. Comprehensive Plan**

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**Files Attached**

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- Comp Plan Progress 2024 11 05 02024.pdf

## Vergas Comprehensive Plan 2024 Progress Review

### Land Use & Built Form

**Goal:** Capitalize on in-fill opportunities and direct growth to new areas where infrastructure is planned to be cost-effective and sustainable

**Strategies:**

- When considering expansion options, prioritize expansion that follows a set of guidance developed through a growth and management plan.
- Investigate annexing shorelines across bodies of water when landowners are favorable to the request

Action Item	2023 Progress	2024 Progress
Develop tiered system for expansion based on Vergas water & sewer capacity, EMS services and other public services & facilities.	Water/Sewer Committee is developing a tiered system for expansion based on capacity.	
Identify possible annexation areas and contact owners.	Planning Commission looking at W. Lake Street	<b>Zoning map identified potential expansion.</b>
Pay close attention to and abide by shoreline regulations governed by the state.	Planning Commission changed permit process and updating shoreline management ordinance	<b>Updated Shoreline Management ordinance. Discussing Shoreline Management inspection services with Otter Tail County.</b>
Participate in preserving the health of lakes and surrounding wildlife.	Storm water runoff being discussed	<b>Widseth Engineering evaluated water drainage issues in downtown main street alley ways. Vergas was the recipient of the Dave Neiman Source Water Protection Award. Updated Local Government Unit Wetland Conservation Act information. Working with East Otter Tail Soil &amp; Water Conservation and State of MN (BWSR).</b>

**Goal:** Land use and build form decisions support and celebrate the existing character of the town

**Strategies:**

- Encourage land uses that strengthen Vergas' reputation as a family-friendly, safe place with a small-town charm.
  - Limit land uses that allow for big box stores, chains, large processing plants or other developments that have short-term gains and long-term losses of community character and environmental protection.
  - Ensure that any land use involving light industrial development has a plan for maintenance and accessibility.
- Encourage or offer tax incentives for parking for new construction.

Action Item	2023 Progress	2024 Progress
EDA/HRA develop incentives to encourage uses identified above.		
Planning and Zoning develop policies regarding use identified above	Planning Commission updating zoning map with review and modification of city ordinances.	<b>Zoning map updated and approved. In the process of conducting codification of all ordinances.</b>
EDA identify areas appropriate for light industrial development.		

Explore above and underground parking.	Parking lot identified and planned for OTC building site.	<b>Plan to pave parking lot and alley ways. Informational meeting was held with those affected. Call for bids to go out in spring.</b>
<b>Housing</b>		
Goal: Identify affordable housing lots that can be developed with the next 5 years		
Strategies:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop partnerships with Otter Tail Co. to share county-level resources with local developers and future residents via existing incentives and initiatives.</li> </ul>		
Conduct and inventory and promote lots available.		
<b>Action Item</b>	<b>2023 Progress</b>	<b>2024 Progress</b>
EDA develop a fact sheet regarding available assistance programs		<b>Pamphlet for Sunny Oaks Properties with County/City incentives.</b>
Utilize city website by adding housing resources comparable to neighboring cities		
<b>Transportation</b>		
Goal: Make Vergas accessible for all modes of transportation and for people of all abilities		
Strategies:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify key places across the city that can improve handicap accessibility.</li> <li>Communicate and market existing transportation services.</li> <li>Identify additional locations for downtown parking.</li> <li>Construct handicapped parking spots and sidewalks along Co Rd 4.</li> <li>Explore advantages and disadvantages of rerouting Co Rd 4 through downtown to reduce thorough traffic on Main Street.</li> <li>Explore options for reducing stopped trains and subsequent stopped traffic.</li> </ul>		
Promote programs for ridesharing networks and services		
<b>Action Item</b>	<b>2023 Progress</b>	<b>2024 Progress</b>
Conduct an ADA audit or other type of evaluation to identify key areas for improvement across the city.		<b>Cross walks placed at intersections on Main Street.</b>
Create short reference guide for residents and visitors describing local and regional transportation options.		
Work with Planning Commission to determine if vacant or undeveloped property could serve as space for new parking lots, and potential diagonal parking.	Parking lot planned for OTC building property that was acquired by the city.	<b>Parking lot area available with plan to asphalt in spring.</b>
Contact Canada Pacific to explore moving the exchange.		<b>Working with County, State and CP Railroad on notification process to identify and track delays and issues. Communications with CP broadly advertised. Ultimate goal is to move track switch.</b>
Streets, sidewalks and yard waste committee review possibilities of collaboration with OTC Highway Department.		<b>Working with OTC Highway Dept. on identifying handicap parking locations and signage for downtown. Working with OTC Highway Department on main street sidewalks with future Hwy 4 road work.</b>
Goal: Increase connectivity between Vergas and regional trails		
Strategies:		

Consult entities, like MN DOT, DNR, WCI and Partnership 4 Health, about pursuing grants for planning and infrastructure for a trail connection.		
Action Item	2023 Progress	2024 Progress
Work with OTC to pursue grant funding to connect the Heartland Trail along Co.Rd 4.	Feasibility study conducted for Heartland and Heart of Lake trails. Approved by Council and plan for Heart of Lakes trail connected with Co. Hwy 35 project	<b>Plan to connect with future Hwy 35 road work</b>
Add multi-use path to the update of the 2019 Capital Improvement Plan to ensure that it is included in future city budget.		
<b>Business &amp; Economic Development</b>		
Goal: Maintain the small business atmosphere		
Strategies:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advertise local businesses regionally</li> </ul>		
Review and update city laws and ordinances that support small business owners		
Action Item	2023 Progress	2024 Progress
Work with neighboring Chambers of Commerce to advertise and access resources	OTC Lakes Country Magazine	
Collaborate with the Community Club to identify opportunities and resources to market regionally.	Facebook on ongoing bases features a Vergas business, and hosts events to promote businesses, i.e new event Shops n' Hops. Vergas advertising and featured highlights in OTC Lakes Country Magazine. Established a full Vergas/lakes billboard that features map of area and Vergas hosted Events. Also have a brochure with Vergas events that was distributed and in stores for ongoing access and have full size posters in the businesses that shows 2023 events. Weekly TV3 Vergas show that highlights Vergas	<b>Ongoing. Vergas Community Club is active in regional marketing. Has Facebook site with high volume access.</b>
Submit stories, ads, and updates to surrounding local papers.	Frazee Forum has featured a number of Vergas stories, i.e. Maple Syrup Fest, Art Camp, Vergas Art Program. Ads in Frazee forum on an ongoing basis.	<b>Ongoing. Vergas events routinely featured in Frazee Forum and DL paper.</b>
Invest in enhancing the City website		
Preserve existing protections within city laws and ordinances		
Explore state and federal incentives for small businesses, especially those making positive impact in nearby communities.		<b>EDA Grant program with OTC Community Fund and CEDA money. Business Facade Improvement Program being offered.</b>
Goal: Invest in Human Capital		
Strategies:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invest in local childcare options</li> <li>Create opportunities for socializing, connecting, creative placemaking year-round.</li> </ul>		

Provide opportunities for retirees to utilize their knowledge and experience and increase social connection.		
Action Item	2023 Progress	2024 Progress
Connect with OTC Early Childhood Coordinator to identify needs and resources.		Meetings and discussions are being held with OTC and WCIF regarding childcare needs in Vergas.
Improve marketing of existing community activities, from small socializing to large events.	As above, Facebook, OTC Lakes Country magazine, event brochure and billboard	Ongoing.
Identify gaps in existing community programming and recruit volunteers to host one and/or recurring events.		
Explore development of spaces for families to recreate and your specific activities.	Detroit Lakes water ski club practicing Long Lake city park and offering ski shows	Improvements made to Vergas Event Center and future improvement plan for Long Lake Park. Community events are family oriented and hosted at various sites throughout the community as event center, long lake park, ballpark and main street
Identify and invite volunteers to join planning and implementation projects.	Ongoing. Is part of event planning to reach out for volunteers.	Ongoing process with city events.
Goal: Prioritize business development that provides daytime and evening activities for residents		
Strategies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create more opportunities to recruit local businesses, especially where gaps in existing services</li> </ul> Increase awareness of state and regional resources for small business owners and entrepreneurs.		
Action Item	2023 Progress	2024 Progress
Work in partnership with Vergas EDA to integrate public feedback into business development and expansion strategies		EDA is working with CEDA for a business retention and expansion plan. First impressions report and survey with businesses regarding their needs. Local Business Facade Improvement Grant established.
Host a business and entrepreneurship fair in partnership with OTC with targeted outreach based on survey results and public input.		Digital Marketing workshop held for businesses.
Leverage partnerships with existing programs; i.e WCI, MN DEED, SCORE business mentors, Vergas Community Club, West Central Small Business Development Center, Women's Ventures, OTC Small Business Coaching.		Established partnerships related to receiving energy grant. Partnerships with CERTS, ESMC, RSDP, University of Minnesota Architecture program, Green Cities, and WCIF in pursuing Municipal Building energy efficiencies and integration of clean energy. Working with OTC Lake Shore Management on lake shore inspection services. Work with CEDA Rural Capacity Program.
Goal: Develop and expand job opportunities		
Strategies: Maintain and increase number of visitors Pursue opportunities for light manufacturing Support digital entrepreneurs and remote workers		



Action item	2023 Progress	2024 Progress
Advertise business and recreational opportunities and events regionally.	As noted previously; Facebook, OTC Lakes Country magazine, TV3 Vergas show.	Ongoing. Continue to utilize a number of resources in advertising.
Pursue and invest in trail development.	Feasibility study conducted to examine Vergas connection to Heartland and Heart of Lake Trails	City Council approved feasibility study. Heart of Lakes Trail to align with OTC Hwy 35 project.
Cultivate more year-round attractions and events.	Year round event calendar, 9 of 12 months community event. This does not include events by other businesses and groups.	Vergas Community Club has an established calendar of events throughout the year. Other organizations also host events. I.e. Lions club and churches and local businesses.
Identify land available for development and purchase.	City purchase of 8 lots from OTC foreclosed land (Eva/Diane street)-Sunny Oaks. OTC to build 4 Senior living housing units in the development.	Three new housing developments and EDA are active in the sale of Sunny Oaks lots.
Offer the Event Center as coworking space by appointment.	Event Center improvements and updates being made to make the space more visibly appealing and marketable. Hired part time Event Center Coordinator to promote event center space.	Updating kitchen at VEC. Lions 170 hours of volunteer hours at the Event Center. Vergas Community Club provided over \$20,000 in donations.
Maintain and develop broadband capabilities.		Maintain internet access inside and outside VEC for community use.
Connect with neighboring communities to participate in county-wide networking opportunities. (host pre-existing groups for a meeting).	Regional Mayor meetings , Regional City Clerk meetings	Continue active participation with the Region 4 Mayors Network, Regional City Clerk meetings and Otter Tail Lakes Country Association. League of Minnesota Cities hosted a regional meeting in Vergas and OTC Commissioners hosted an open house in Vergas.

### Public Services and Facilities

**Goal:** Maintain adequate pubic facilities and services to meet the health, safety, education, and leisure needs of all Vergas residents.

**Strategies:**

- Prioritize infrastructure investment based on existing facilities with deficiencies first, and retrofitting of facilities second, and future facility needs third.
  - Engage in strategic partnerships to ensure that Vergas is identified as a community for investment in fiber optic cable to increase broadband access.
- Conduct a needs assessment to understand more about the barriers and opportunities to improve resident access to medical facilities. (transportation, awareness).

Action Item	2023 Progress	2024 Progress
Encourage various committees to complete prioritization exercise.	Water Sewer Committee is working on prioritizing needs by making a project list.	Revised community zoning map approved.
Explore expanded services, particularly MN DEED Border-to-Border Broadband opportunity.		
Collaborate with EDA/HRA to oversee a needs assessment.		EDA business survey conducted regarding their needs.

**Goal:** Ensure highest quality standards and services for public safety given Vergas' existing resources and staff capacity.

**Strategies:**

- Ensure safety of navigation throughout city streets and sidewalks.
- Make Long Lake Park a desirable location for recreation year-round.

Action Item	2023 Progress	2024 Progress
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review, update, and publicize the city's planning and zoning maps to accurately indicate which city sidewalks are to be maintained by the city vs residents.</li> </ul>	Planning Commission updating zoning maps	<b>Revised community zoning map approved. Clarification provided on sidewalks.</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct a parking study.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore the possibility of a MNDOT Complete Streets project for Vergas.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Renovate and upgrade public restroom facilities at Long Lake park.</li> </ul>	Park improvement proposal developed, park board working with NDSU, which includes improved facilities. Painting and lighting improvements to restroom. Loon Art for the park fundraising event to support park improvements. Community feedback on plan at the Loon Art for the Park event.	<b>Long Lake Park improvement plan devised and reviewed with the community. Includes new bathhouse. Funding raising in process.</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore opportunities to work with rental company for non-motorized watercraft.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider snowshoe rental companies.</li> </ul>		
<b>Goal:</b> Ensure that services and facilities allow residents and visitors of 55 years or older to age in place.		
<b>Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure safety of navigation through city streets and sidewalks.</li> </ul> Work to develop a full spectrum of transitions in senior housing needs, from accessibility options to access of services and skilled nursing.		
<b>Action Item</b>	<b>2023 Progress</b>	<b>2024 Progress</b>
Develop handicap parking spots		<b>Streets Committee is working with OTC to identify handicap parking locations and signage.</b>
Work with ED/HRS to conduct a needs assessment and feasibility study for expanded senior housing options.	Have 2021 Comprehensive plan, 2019 EDA/HRA Housing study and working with OTC Housing & Redevelopment	
<b>Parks &amp; Open Spaces</b>		
<b>Goal:</b> Support Community Art and arts programming		
<b>Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the number of displays of interactive art around town, in parks, and open spaces.</li> </ul> Increase community education arts programming.		
<b>Action Items</b>	<b>2023 Progress</b>	<b>2024 Progress</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a directory of local artists.</li> </ul>	Studio Crawl is planned for Sept 23, 2023 and this is step in the direction to create a directory. VCC has local artist creating loon pieces placed around Vergas.	<b>Active Vergas Arts Club and has the annual Studio Crawl which identifies local artists. Club has been applying for grants and received funding for Pert Near Sandstone band at Shops and Hops event.</b>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to offering summer youth art camp.</li> </ul>	Continues to grow. In 2023 had 126 youth art Youth pottery classes available	Continue to have youth art camp each year in June. Have held since 2020. Youth play production and Viking Library production offering.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide a listing of events on city website.</li> </ul>	On City website, VCC Facebook, and posters Established a Vergas Arts Program, aligned with VCC. Hosted 3 performing arts (Chmielewski band, Tony DeBlois, and Siama Story Teller).	A VCC website was established that city website has links to. City website continues to provide a listing of community events.
<b>Goal:</b> Update public facilities at Long Lake Park		
<b>Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue working with NDSU to develop concept designs for Long Lake park.</li> </ul> Communicate with county and regional stakeholders in parks and recreation the desire to pursue state and federal funding.		
<b>Action Item</b>	<b>2023 Progress</b>	<b>2024 Progress</b>
Follow guidelines and budget in Capital Improvement plan for restroom facilities specifications and budget.		Park improvement plan priority is a new bathhouse at the beach.
Park Board present ideas to Planning and Zoning Commission and the City Council for implementation.	Park Board presented park improvement plan	Long Lake Park improvement plan broken down master plan into phases. Fundraising in process.
<b>Goal:</b> Leverage existing amenities to create a culture that celebrates physical activity and community-based sports that are complementary to school sports schedules.		
<b>Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create opportunities for sports and physical education.</li> <li>Begin offering adult leagues for baseball, softball etc..</li> </ul> Explore opportunities for additional recreational space development.		
<b>Action Item</b>	<b>2023 Progress</b>	<b>2024 Progress</b>
Example; Offer lessons for pickleball, classes for local fitness trainers, dance classes.	Lakes Fit offers classes and pickleball has classes for beginners	Pickle ball Association has offered lessons and has held events as women's night & during Looney Days.
Coordinate community education for implementation.	Continue to collaborate with Frazee community education for Vergas swimming lessons	Continue to collaborate with Frazee community education for Vergas swimming lessons and summer youth play.
Conduct a feasibility study for soccer fields and/or frisbee golf.		
Planning and Zoning identify sustainable areas.		