



MISSION STATEMENT

The Park District's mission is driven to foster diverse, community-based leisure opportunities, through a harmonious blend of quality recreation programs, facilities, and open space which will enhance the quality of life into the future.

PROFILE

Established in 1919, the Glen Ellyn Park District is a separate governmental entity and serves over 37,500 residents who live within the District's 10.6-mile service area. This service area closely aligns with the boundaries of the Village of Glen Ellyn, while also incorporating parts of Lombard, Glendale Heights, Carol Stream, and Wheaton.

Park District operations are funded by revenue generated through program fees, tax dollars, grants, donations, and other sources. 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 all age groups and diverse interests.

The District is governed by an elected seven-member board; each serves a four-year term. The Executive Director, who is hired by the Board, manages day-to-day operations of the District, and oversees a staff of approximately 34 full-time employees, 151 part-time employees, and 316 seasonal employees.

About this Report

The Glen Ellyn Park District's 2022 Annual Report provides highlights of the District's accomplishments, finances, activities, events, and projects undertaken during 2022. It also provides an overview of where we intend to go in 2023.

The financial data in this report represents preliminary figures as of its publication date. The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report is typically finalized in June and can be viewed at gepark.org/ACFR once available. Residents may also obtain paper copies of the reports at the Spring Avenue Recreation Center, 185 Spring Avenue, Glen Ellyn, IL.

Questions or feedback concerning any of the information provided in this report may be directed to Deputy Director Nick Cinquegrani at ncinquegrani@gepark.org.



Financial Stewardship

OPERATING BUDGET

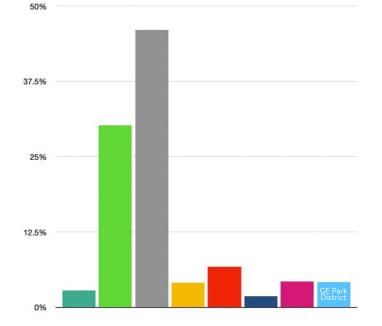
In a typical fiscal year, the operating budget is approximately \$12 million dollars of which approximately 45% is funded by property tax revenue. The remaining 55% (approximately) is generated from program user fees, grants, fundraising, and rentals.

The annual operating budget produces **surplus revenue** which contributes to capital replacements and improvements such as parking lot repairs, playground replacements, and athletic field maintenance.

ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT

Glen Ellyn Park District has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting award from the Government Finance Officers Association for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report each year since the District began applying in 2008.





TAX BILL

The graph above shows how your 2021 tax bill (paid in 2022) is allocated among the various taxing districts in Glen Ellyn. The Park District represents 4.15% of the total tax levy.

College of DuPage: 2.76%

School District 87: 30.18%

School District 41: 46.08%

GE Public Library: 4.06%

Village of Glen Ellyn: 6.70%

Milton Township: 1.80%

DuPage County Services: 4.27%*

*Includes DuPage County, Forest Preserve, DuPage Airport, and Mosquito Abatement

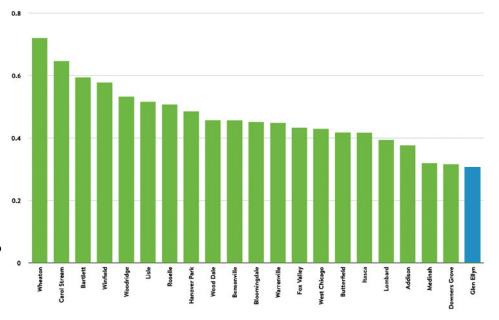
GE Park District: 4.15%

MOST RECENT TAX **RATE COMPARISON**

Glen Ellyn Park District's property tax rate of 0.3064 per \$100 of property assessed value remains at the low end of all park districts in DuPage County including:

- Addison
- Bartlett
- Bensenville
- Bloomingdale
- Butterfield
- Carol Stream
- Downers Grove Wood Dale
- Fox Valley
- Hanover Park
- Itasca

- Lisle
- Lombard
- Medinah
- Roselle
- Warrenville
- West Chicago
- Woodridge
- Wheaton
- Winfield



GRANTS AND **DONATIONS**

The Park District seeks grants from government, nonprofit, and corporate funders to support major capital projects, recreation programs, and operations.

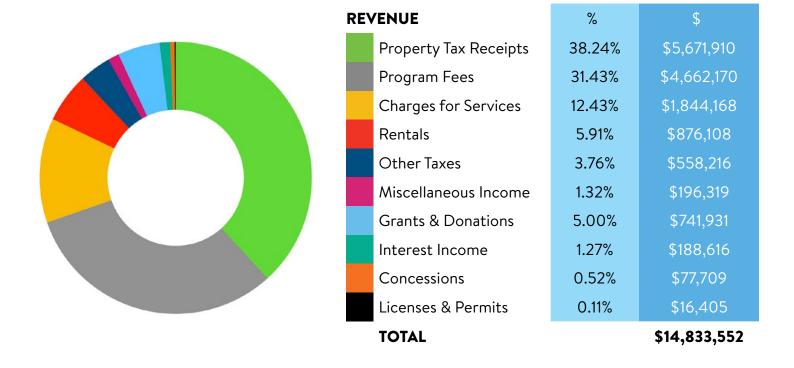
The District is grateful for the donations received in 2022.

GRANTS AWARDED IN 2021-2022				
GRANT SOURCE	GRANT NAME	PROJECT	AMOUNT	
IDNR	OSLAD	Newton Park improvements	\$400,000	
IDNR	OSLAD	Ackerman Park – Lenox site addition	\$400,000	
ComEd	Energy Efficiency	George Ball tennis courts	\$26,256	
ComEd	Public Sectors Small Facilities	Maryknoll Park conversion to LED lights	\$17,277	
ComEd	Public Sectors Small Facilities	Spring Avenue Rec Center conversion to LED lights	\$25,343	
Audubon Society	IOS	Bioacoustic recorder and binoculars purchase	\$1,000	
DCEO	Capital Grant	Ackerman Park improvements	\$325,000	

2022 DONATIONS			
DONOR	PURPOSE	AMOUNT	
Friends of Glen Ellyn Parks Foundation events	Scholarship Program	\$53,877	
Go Green Glen Ellyn	Scholarship Program	\$1,700	
Anonymous	Lake Ellyn Park improvements	\$575,000	
Tour of Lake Ellyn	Scholarship Program	\$2,000	

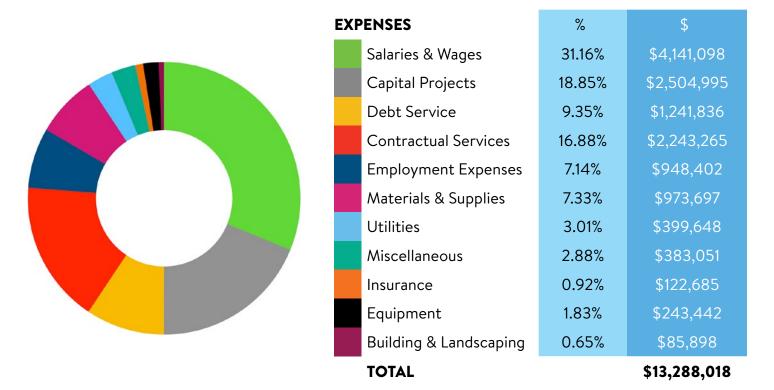
REVENUE ANALYSIS

FISCAL YEAR 2022



EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS

FISCAL YEAR 2022





PARTNERSHIPS

The District actively develops relationships with other government agencies, not-for-profits, and businesses to benefit residents through cooperative services, programs, and facilities.

■ WDSRA

Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA) is a collaboration of nine park districts including Glen Ellyn, Wheaton, Carol Stream, Naperville, Winfield, West Chicago, Roselle, Warrenville, and Bloomingdale. WDSRA offers programming, direction, and support for special needs patrons in relation to recreation. Programs include assistance to special needs participants in Park District programs, adapt-a-sports, life skills, events, and fitness/well-being.

Glenbard High School District 87

Glen Ellyn Park District and District 87 have a combined intergovernmental agreement allowing shared use of facilities and fields. This benefits both organizations while maximizing community assets and minimizing expenses.

Glen Ellyn School District 41 and Community Consolidated School District 89

The Park District and School Districts 89 and 41 have intergovernmental agreements allowing some shared use of facilities and fields. The Park District also provides maintenance services for some of their properties.

■ Glen Ellyn Public Library

The District has a longstanding partnership with the Glen Ellyn Public Library. Efforts include reading programs, participation in events, the StoryWalk, Little Free Library installations, Donuts & Bingo, and more.

College of DuPage

Glen Ellyn Park District partners with College of DuPage on recreation space for programs including Cyclones Volleyball. Additionally, to offer an indoor lap swimming option to members of Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center.

Kiwanis Club of Central DuPage

Last year, the Glen Ellyn Park District collected a total of 7,006 pounds of food and toiletry donations for Glen Ellyn Food Pantry. Items were collected over 11 drives in partnership with Kiwanis and State Representative Terra Costa Howard. As a result, the Park District and its partners were named the Pantry's second largest donor through food drives in 2022. The District also partners with Kiwanis to offer free fish release events at Lake Ellyn and Lake Foxcroft Parks.

■ Village of Glen Ellyn

The District and Village collaborate and partner to improve services and reduce expenses. Examples include stormwater management, snow removal storage, fuel purchase, road salt, open space, planning and development, environmental services, events, the Polar Plaza, and programming.

■ Cooperative Programs

The Park District works with other local park districts, as well as organizations within the community, to offer a wider variety of programs to our residents.

■ The Conservation Foundation

The Earth Day Celebration, 5th Annual Native Tree & Shrub Sale, and DuPage River Sweep were offered in partnership with The Conservation Foundation.

■ Friends of Glen Ellyn Parks In partnership with the Foundation, the District

offered the Fireworks from the Fishing Pier Raffle, Fête: Spring Edition, Naperville Trolley Holiday Lights Tour, and a platform tennis tournament.

■ Go Green Glen Ellyn

Two Sportswaps and a new OAKtoberfest event were offered in partnership with Go Green Glen Ellyn. They also participated in this year's Earth Day Celebration, eco-lecture series, Native Tree & Shrub Sale, and arranged for Flat Can and Dart Recycling to be at the Pumpkin Smash.

SCARCE

The District partnered with SCARCE on the 3rd annual Pumpkin Smash event at the Community Garden Plots.

Elgin Recycling

In partnership with Elgin Recycling, the Holiday Light Recycling program was once again available from November 2022 through January 2023, keeping 3,483 pounds of lights out of landfills.

League of Enchantment

The Toys for Tots Toy Drive with Characters, which collected over 800 toys for DuPage County Toys for Tots, was offered in partnership with the League of Enchantment.

Versiti Blood Center of Illinois

Monthly blood drives were offered at Ackerman SFC in partnership with Versiti, saving approximately 1,275 lives.

Jewel-Osco

A vaccination clinic was offered in November at Ackerman SFC.

Glen Ellyn Chamber of Commerce

Four "First Thursday" concerts were offered in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce.

■ Charlie's Corner Foundation

Since 2017, the District has partnered with Charlie's Corner Foundation on planning and staging the Glow in the Park Lantern Walk.

Sponsorships

Sponsorships by local businesses and organizations help support Park District programs, such as free events for the community, youth athletics, and the Park District Scholarship Program.



7,000+ pounds of groceries collected for GE Food Pantry.



1,275 lives saved through blood drives



Improvements to Meet Community Needs

The District currently maintains 29 parks, 21 playgrounds, and 300 acres of open space for community enjoyment, recreation, fitness, and leisure. These park resources—especially the most popular ones—periodically require replacement due to their life expectancy, daily wear and tear, and constant exposure to hot summers and freezing winters. We also need to keep up with demand as our community grows.

Non-Referendum Projects

LAKE ELLYN SHORELINE PATHWAY AND ENTRY GARDEN

COMPLETE

A new shoreline path from the Lake Ellyn Boathouse to the fishing pier was completed in September and is ready for Glen Ellyn residents and Lake Ellyn Park visitors to enjoy. Funded by an anonymous donation, the 12-foot-wide path features permeable pavers, sections of masonry seat wall, and long-lasting products that align with the park's historical character.

As part of this project, an entry garden was designed by Chicago-based Garden Design Consultant Austin Eischeid, who specializes in designing dynamic naturalistic plantings. A significant variety of native

plants with year-round interest and bloom times was used to emphasize the entrance of the pathway and create a wandering garden experience from the Boathouse. Horticulture will also be used as a tool for outdoor education in Park District nature programs.

Improvements to the boat ramp north of the Boathouse have also been completed. Additional components to the project are expected to be done early next year. Those include path lighting and a rain garden (a depressed area with vegetation built to filter stormwater runoff) on the backside of the path.







NEWTON SKATE PARK

COMPLETE

Completed this winter, a professional skate park design consultant was engaged for the skate park redesign. Work began in August 2022 with demolition. Crack protection, asphalt repair, new color coating, and the installation of new ramps followed. The park reopened in December and now features Quarter Pipes, Half Pipes, Bank Ramp, Spines, a Grindbox and Rail, and more for use by skateboarders, bikers, and scooters. The fencing surrounding the park was removed to improve accessibility and will be amended by shade trees. These improvements are part of the overall Newton Park renovations, which are partially funded by the Illinois OSLAD Grant Program.



ACKERMAN TRAINING ROOM

COMPLETE

After ten years at Ackerman SFC, Hard Gainers Athletics determined their continued growth required a larger space. The first-floor training room they previously occupied was repurposed and improved for the Glen Ellyn Park District. An office in the training room was removed, improving usability of the space for sports training, personal training, group exercise, and youth classes. New indoor batting cages were also added. The flexible system can be configured for up to four batting cages and retracted to offer a large open turfgrass field. Additionally, a large section was converted to rubber flooring for fitness classes and training.



GEORGE BALL TENNIS COURTS IN PROGRESS

In November 2022, the asphalt surface on the tennis courts was renovated along with new nets and energy-efficient LED lighting. Half of the LED lighting costs were covered by a ComEd Energy Efficiency Grant. Pickleball lines were added to the three east courts. Color coating of the courts will be done in spring 2023. Temporary lines are painted to allow play until the color coating occurs.



ACKERMAN PARK FIELDS 5 & 6

IN PROGRESS

Softball fields 5 and 6 were not included in previous park improvements due to limited funding. Recently, the District received funding from the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity which will fund 80% of the improvements. Renovations will have similar elements to the softball hub, including black polycoated dome backstops, premium infield mix, and resizing the infields to regulation standards.

The softball facility is also receiving LED upgrades starting in fall 2022. Partially funded by a ComED Grant, these lights will be pursued as an International Dark-Sky Association compliant project, reducing light pollution, and providing a positive impact on wildlife, energy consumption, and human health.



SECURITY CAMERAS

IN PROGRESS

In summer 2022, security cameras were added to Lake Ellyn, giving 24/7 coverage, and recording capabilities of the Boathouse and property. Cameras will be installed at Newton Park and Maryknoll Park starting in the winter 2022. Additional cameras will be added at other locations in 2023.



SUNSET PLAYGROUND

IN PROGRESS

The Sunset Park playground was built in 1993 and is on the Playground Replacement Plan for Budget Year 2022. The District strives to be an eco-friendly leader. The replacement play equipment includes innovative ocean-recycled materials. Demolition will start in winter and the new equipment will be replaced in the spring/summer 2023.



RENDERING

FRANK JOHNSON CENTER

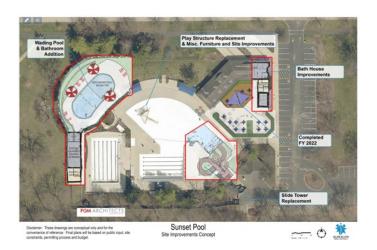
IN PROGRESS

The existing maintenance facility was built in the 1920s as an ice storage facility. The antiquated facility is well past its useful life and will be replaced. Construction will begin in summer 2023. This facility provides support for the Parks Department, which manages and cares for over 300 acres of property and all related park amenities, assets, and facilities. The new facility will be designed for efficient operations for many decades to come.

Referendum Projects

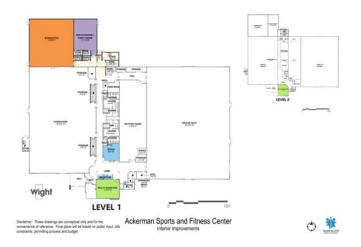
The spring referendum passed receiving significant support from the community. The outcome was 63% in favor. Immediately after the election, the District initiated efforts to move forward with the included projects. This included finalizing the planning and construction consultants and organizing internal teams to assist the many projects while further developing the preliminary timelines presented during the referendum education effort.

Additionally, the financial strategy was further refined and developed to maximize available funds. Planning is underway, and projects will be starting construction as soon as fall 2023.



SUNSET POOL IMPROVEMENTS IN PLANNING

Construction is set to begin at Sunset Pool in mid-August. To ensure a great 2024 season, the 2023 pool season will end on August 13. This will allow construction to begin while the weather is cooperative. Improvements include a new splash pad, new water slide structure, new zero-depth water feature, new family changing areas, food service upgrades, additional shade structures, and updated infrastructure and mechanicals.



ACKERMAN SFC ADDITIONS

IN PLANNING

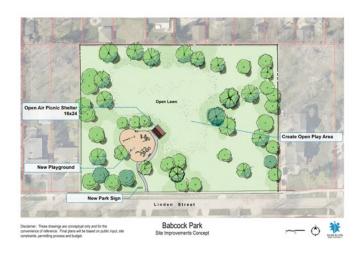
Design is near complete, and the permitting process has begun. Planned improvements at Ackerman SFC include a new 6,000-squarefoot gymnastics center, new 2,100-square-foot multipurpose room, additional exercise space, and improved customer service center.



LAKE FOXCROFT PARK UPGRADES

IN PLANNING

A public meeting took place in 2022 and design will begin in 2023, with construction tentative for 2024. Planned improvements include a new open-air shelter, new waterless restroom, improved pathways, additional fishing stations, new adult fitness stations, and a new playground.



BABCOCK GROVE PARK UPGRADES

IN PLANNING

Design will begin in 2023, with construction tentative in 2024. Planned improvements include a new open-air shelter, improved green space and additional tree planting, and a new playground.



CHURCHILL PARK UPGRADES

IN PLANNING

Design is in progress, and preparations are being made for the permitting process. Planned improvements include a new outdoor education classroom, parking upgrades, new pond access, new waterless restroom, improved trails and boardwalks, removal of invasive plant species, and updated educational signage.



LENOX ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

IN PLANNING

Design is nearing completion, with construction tentative in 2024. Planned improvements include a new boardwalk connecting to Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center parking lot and Ackerman Park, new lighted pickleball courts, new outdoor classroom, new community raised garden beds, and new signage to connect guests to nature.

Enriching Lives

Events and Programs

In each of our four seasonal brochures and summer camp guide, the District offers hundreds of activities, programs, special events, trips, and sports leagues. Each year, the District aims to further expand offerings and increase recreational opportunities within our community.

New Activities in 2022:

- Summer Break at the Lake
- Bags & Brews Tournament
- Autumn Gone Fishin' Derby
- Lake Ellyn 1-Mile Classic and Kids Dash
- Family Bingo Nights x 4
- Hopper Cottontail and Friends Hoppy Party
- Grandparents and Me Day at the Lake
- Flashlight Candy Cane Hunt
- Polar Market
- Frozen Fest
- 2K Glow Run/Walk
- Senior Mahjongg
- Checkmate
- Adult Ballet
- Senior Donuts & Bingo
- Co-Ed Sand Volleyball League
- Nature Walking Club
- Ackerman Summer Shred
- Sportswaps x 2
- Senior Spring Fling
- Family Curling
- Adult Dodgeball Tournament
- Main Street Winter Break Camps
- Spring Stream Clean-Up
- Stage Makeup workshops
- Ackerman Speed Academy
- Adult Flag Football League
- Migration Mornings
- Mad Science
- Senior Police Academy Camp
- Mixed Doubles Platform Tennis Tournament
- Summer Fun Night Camp
- Wine Tasting classes
- Little Medical School classes
- Liita Forsyth/The Little Bits Workshop classes
- · And many more!



Removing Barriers to Program Accessibility

In 2022, the Park District Scholarship Program and Glen Ellyn Cares Soccer Scholarship Fund awarded over \$42,000 to 109 individuals in need of financial assistance to participate in Park District programs and activities. Additionally, inkind donations in the form of pool memberships, Ackerman SFC memberships, and the before and after school program totaled nearly \$20,000.

The Glen Ellyn Cares Soccer Scholarship Fund, which aims to diminish and/or eliminate economic, logistic, and cultural obstacles, and enable Glen Ellyn community members to participate in the GEYSO, Lakers, and Midwest soccer clubs, also awarded an additional \$30,000 in soccer subsidies.

Total financial aid provided in 2022: \$91,476

Growing with the Community

Enrollment in District fee-based activities has grown by 50.38% over the past 5 years. The revenue from fee-based activities and events supports other District programs, services, and projects for the community.

Participation at District facilities has also increased, with 25,000 rounds played at Holes & Knolls Mini Golf, 14,986 visitors to Maryknoll Splash Park, and 26,046 Sunset Pool visits.

The District recognizes the need to address space constraints and other factors which result in waiting lists for our more popular programs and continues to look for innovative ways to do so.

Year	Enrollments
2018	28,518
2019	30,451
2020	24,204*
2021	16,460*
2022	42,886

^{*}Reduced enrollment due to effects of COVID-19

YOUTH ATHLETICS

Over 21,000 kids participated in youth athletics programs including instructional classes, private lessons, house and travel leagues, tournaments, and summer camps in 2022. To meet the growing demand for more programs, the District continued to expand athletics opportunities—adding kindergarten basketball, private soccer training, girls flag football, middle school gymnastics, and girls' lacrosse winter training—to name just a few.

To expand the District's available space, the Training Center at Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center was renovated to allow for increased opportunities for baseball, softball, soccer, lacrosse, fitness, and special event programming. The District also secured space at outside facilities including College of DuPage, True Lacrosse, DuPage Training Academy, Glendale

Heights Sports Hub, and Naperville Yard. A 6,000-square-foot gymnastics center expansion was included in the 2022 referendum and planning is underway to bring new and expanded gymnastics programming to the community as soon as fall 2024.

FITNESS

Since opening in 2010, Ackerman SFC has become a hub for fitness and athletic activity year round with approximately 3,838 fitness and walking track members, and over 800 participants weekly in group fitness classes. With participation in group fitness growing beyond capacity, the District included a new first- and second-floor exercise studio as part of the 2022 referendum.

GENERAL RECREATION

Since 2022 and moving into 2023, the District has continued to see increased participation and waitlist requests in popular activities, special events and programs, such as day camps, early childhood, and youth programming. To expand opportunities for participation, the District continues to offer additional sessions where available, adjust to alternate locations to increase maximum capacity, and alter how programs are organized to accommodate more participants. For example, traditional camps such Turf & Surf, Camp Caravan, and Imagination Station have progressed and changed to address the growing need for additional enrollment, increasing 30-40% in the last two years, and will continue to do so as the District looks to the future.



RESIDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEES

CITIZENS' FINANCE

The Park Board initiated and formed the Citizens' Finance Committee, comprised of Glen Ellyn professionals in the financial and business community, whose task was to oversee and provide guidance regarding District finances. The committee has been instrumental in reviewing, advising, and establishing financial direction and oversight. These efforts have contributed to the financial stability of the District both present and for the future. Thanks to Leo Lanzillo, Charlie Prisco, Tom Moore, John Vitalis, Michael Graham, Mike Hoban, and Tom Lettenberger.

ACKERMAN SFC

Formed in 2015, the committee is comprised of Ackerman SFC users and members whose task is to provide guidance and advice regarding the facility. Thanks to CJ Powers, Gina Walch, John Nevins, Katie Brown, Katie Kline, Marion Michel, and Sim Kurup.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Formed in 2016, the committee is comprised of users and members whose task is to provide guidance and advice regarding environmental efforts throughout the Park District. Thanks to John Bower, Jacquelyn Casazza, Remic Ensweiler, Christina Keasler, Janet Kuefler, Jean Kent, Dan Minkus, Stephanie Adams, and Carrie O'Halloran.

YOUTH SPORTS

Formed in 2018, the committee is comprised of key stakeholders whose task is to provide ideas, input, and feedback regarding Glen Ellyn Park District's youth athletics programs. Thanks to Craig Turner, Adam Buhot, Cory Anderson, Debby Cernich, John McGurk, Rob Johnson, Mary Beth Bletsas, Mike Jackert, Jerry Considine, and Blaire Huerta.

PARKS FOUNDATION

Founded in 2015, the Friends of Glen Ellyn Parks Foundation is the charitable arm of the Glen Ellyn Park District and raises funds for people, projects, and parks. The donations received enable the Foundation to achieve its mission of assisting the Glen Ellyn Park District in preserving open space, improving Park District assets, and funding scholarships to help enrich the lives of people in our community.



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Jacquelyn Cassaza and Karin Daly, cofounders of Go Green Glen Ellyn on being jointly named the Glen Ellyn Park District Volunteer of the Year. You can read more about their impact on the District by clicking here.



Leadership Team

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (RETIRED, MARCH 2023)

Dave Harris dharris@gepark.org

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Nick Cinquegrani ncinquegrani@gepark.org

SUPERINTENDENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL **RESOURCES**

Nathan Troia ntroia@gepark.org

SUPERINTENDENT OF **PARK OPERATIONS**

Scott Norman snorman@gepark.org

SUPERINTENDENT OF **FACILITIES**

Stacey Lim slim@gepark.org

SUPERINTENDENT OF **RECREATION SERVICES**

Jeannie Robinson jrobinson@gepark.org

SUPERINTENDENT OF **ATHLETICS**

Clint Babicz cbabicz@gepark.org

SUPERINTENDENT OF MARKETING AND **COMMUNICATIONS**

Courtney O'Kray cokray@gepark.org

Park Board

Park Board meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at the Spring Avenue Recreation Center at 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

Alex Durham, President Julia Nephew Rob Weber Kathy Cornell Michael Ward Ben Stortz Mary Crickmore

Reference **Documents** and Downloads

OUT 10

The following documents are available online at gepark.org:

- Comprehensive Annual Financial Report
- Budget
- List of Parks
- List of Facilities
- Board of Commissioners
- Board Agendas and Minutes
- Master Plans
- Community Interest Survey