



**BISMARCK PARKS AND  
RECREATION DISTRICT**  
Est. 1927

play

connect

provide

invest

**A report to the community • 2007**

**Bismarck Parks and Recreation District**  
400 East Front Avenue • Bismarck, ND  
(701) 222-6455 • [www.bisparks.org](http://www.bisparks.org)

## Mission

To create, advocate and preserve diverse recreation opportunities as a cornerstone of our quality of life.

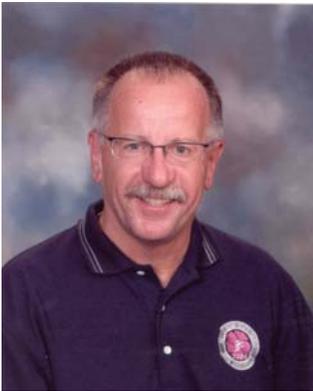
## Vision

Create the opportunities, enhance the quality of life.

## Core Values

- Integrity
- Teamwork/Cooperation
- Professionalism
- Diversity
- Honesty/Accountability
- Respect
- Community

## President's message...



Greetings -

On behalf of the Board of Park Commissioners and staff, we are pleased to share our 2007 Bismarck Parks and Recreation District (BPRD) Annual Report with you. The Park District turned 80 years young in 2007, and the following pages are a snapshot of some of the highlights of the year, as well as our plans for the future. Whether exploring miles of trails, staying active in a fitness class, finding peaceful sanctuary in a park or enjoying an art class, Bismarck Parks and Recreation District is proud to continue its commitment to improving the quality of life in Bismarck.

Bismarck Parks and Recreation offers quality programs, parks and facilities through the committed efforts, dedication and generosity of our community partners, volunteers and staff. We are grateful for their understanding of the value of parks and recreation in our community.

I now offer two invitations to you. First, please explore Bismarck Parks and Recreation and discover for yourself the progress and vision of our first class system. Secondly, let us know if you have questions, ideas or thoughts. The commissioners and staff are eager to listen to you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Zimmerman'.

Mark Zimmerman, President  
Board of Park Commissioners  
Bismarck Parks and Recreation District

President: Mark Zimmerman • Vice President: Paul Quist  
Commissioners: Jennifer DeForest, Mike Gilbertson and John Sagsveen  
To contact a Commissioner, please e-mail [bisparks@bisparks.org](mailto:bisparks@bisparks.org).

# Play

create, explore, discover



- Daily attendance at all three pools in 2007 totalled 39,638. There were 1,536 swimming lesson registrations.
- A total of 84,894 rounds of golf were played on BPRD's three courses.
- There were over 1,300 hours of activity in 2007 at the Bismarck Community Bowl
  - Hosted first Division II football game August 25, University of Mary vs. Augustana College
- BPRD and many community volunteers hosted the State Amateur Basketball Tournament with 176 teams.
- Safety Village, a BPRD safety education program for 5 and 6 year olds, had 180 participants.
- In 2007,
  - 709 children enrolled in the summer Activity Centers,
  - 616 kids played summer youth recreation soccer,
  - 991 participants played youth basketball,
  - 582 kids participated in youth tennis
  - 831 boys and girls played youth volleyball.

## Let's Play!

**1**  
fitness and indoor tennis center

**45**  
holes of golf

**1**  
horse arena

**42**  
42 holes of disc golf

**3**  
outdoor pools

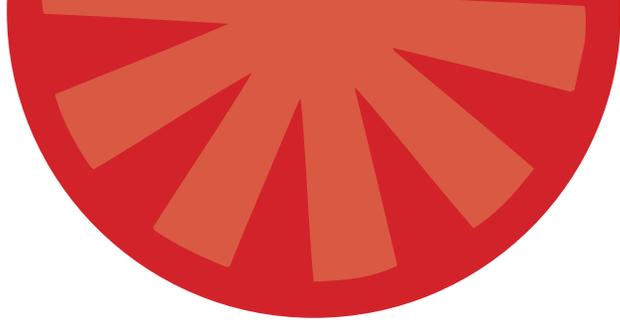
**1**  
dog park

**27**  
parks

**43**  
playgrounds

**3**  
indoor ice arenas

play



# Connect

*link, relate, join*



- There were 2,117 picnic shelter reservations in BPRD parks in 2007.

- Over 500 youth participated in Indoor Soccer Association's youth program in a facility provided by BPRD.

- In 2007, 1,281 boys and girls participated in Bismarck Soccer League's soccer program on fields provided by BPRD.



- A total of 246 men's, women's and coed softball teams played on BPRD facilities.

- There were 97 participants in the archery program taking place at the World War Memorial Building, a BPRD facility.



- Partnered with Bismarck Sertoma Club for the 12th annual Christmas in the Park.

## Let's Play!

**5,967**  
RV camper nights at General Sibley Park representing folks from **33** states and **5** Canadian provinces

**1** indoor golf driving range

**2** indoor batting cages

**340** shrubs and trees planted in partnership with Tesoro Refinery and the Boy Scouts at the Bark Park

# Connect

*collaborate, partner, unify*



- A sample of BPRD programs offered free of charge:
  - Citizen's Appreciation Week (during July Celebration and Flurry Fest)
  - Senior card and picnic socials
  - Open gym program offered in conjunction with Bismarck Public Schools
  - Annual Halloween Party
  - Junior Golf days (June - August)



- Over 830 youth participated in the gymnastics program offered by the Bismarck Gymnastics Academy at Capital Racquet & Fitness Center, a facility provided by BPRD.
- Provided funding for 27 Matching Grant Projects bringing the total approved projects, since 1987, to 329 projects with total estimated value of \$2.4 million.
- 414 teams participated in the 32nd annual Sam McQuade Sr. Charity Softball on fields provided by BPRD.



- Construction of the new indoor archery facility began in 2007 with an anticipated completion date of August 1, 2008.
- BPRD publishes an Activity Schedule three times per year. In 2007, BPRD printed and distributed 104,000 copies; over 90,000 were delivered to Bismarck area residents.

## Let's Play!

the Bismarck Community Bowl completed **10** years of operation

**790** adult volleyball teams

**50+** miles of paved and off-road recreational trails are maintained for citizens and visitors in Bismarck and Burleigh County

connect



# Provide *maintain, extend, deliver*



- Valley Drive opened in September 2007 complete with a trail connection from Tyler Parkway to New Generations Park near Mustang Drive.

- Dedicated fourth eagle sculpture, Rising Eagle, and worked with United Tribes Technical College to create brochure with all sculpture locations as part of the Missouri Valley Legacy Center.



- Hosted 16 tournaments at Capital Racquet & Fitness Center involving tennis, racquetball and gymnastics.

- Municipal Ball Park hosted 144 college, high school and summer baseball games in 2007.

- Added nine additional acres to Sleepy Hollow Arts Park.

- Added group cycling classes at Capital Racquet & Fitness Center in 2007.



- The Bismarck Bobcats celebrated their 10th year of Junior A Hockey. The team practices and plays games at the VFW Sports Center, a BPRD facility.

- The Capital Curling Club hosted its 20th annual Summer Spiel which took place at the VFW Sports Center.

## Let's Play!

# 459

events held at the Bismarck Community Bowl

# 40

picnic shelters

# 1,825

participants in the 5th and 6th grade track meets

# 3,000

acres of land owned,  
managed or leased  
by the Park District

# 889

tenting nights at  
General Sibley Park

# Provide

*keep, afford, give*



- Completed and distributed the first Park District Annual Report.
- Enhanced the BPRD communication with more diverse information on the website, and started televising Park Board meetings on Community Access Television.
- Started Bismarck Community Gardens, located west of Municipal Ball Park.
- Provided an award winning Parks and Recreation system to Bismarck residents and visitors.
- New trail completed from Burleigh Avenue south to University of Mary.
- Completed pool ramp accessibility project at Wachter Aquatic Center.
- Completed recreation trail sign updates/renovations.
- Employed over 1,000 individuals in 2007.
- Installed mountain bike trail markers at Sleepy Hollow Arts Park.

provide

Let's Play!

**106**  
adult basketball teams

**1,400**  
over participants at  
the All-City Halloween Party

**609**  
children in BLAST (after school daycare)

**13,824** participants at **6** outdoor hockey rinks and **6** outdoor pleasure rinks

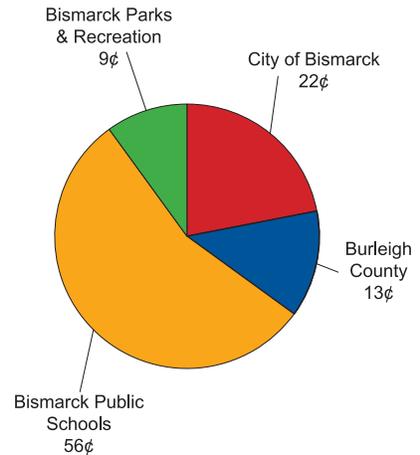


# Invest

*manage, secure, protect*

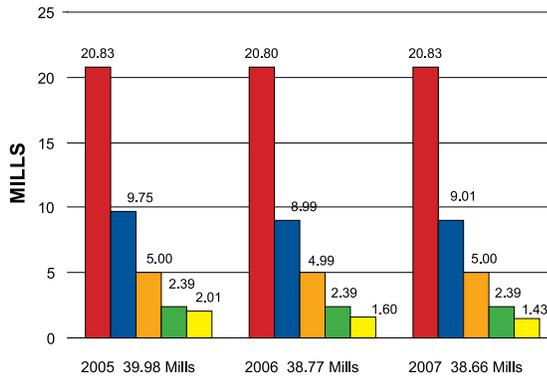
Property taxes are local taxes and are a primary source of funding that help pay for public schools, community health services, fire and police protection, parks and recreation, streets, roads and many other services.

The chart to the right shows how each tax dollar is distributed.



### **Bismarck Park District**

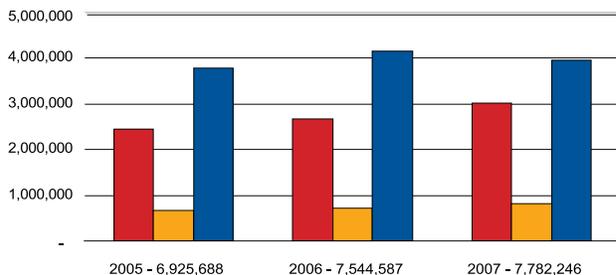
Mill Levy  
2005-2007



■ General ■ Special Assessments ■ Park & Rec Facilities ■ Social Security ■ Pension

### **Bismarck Park District**

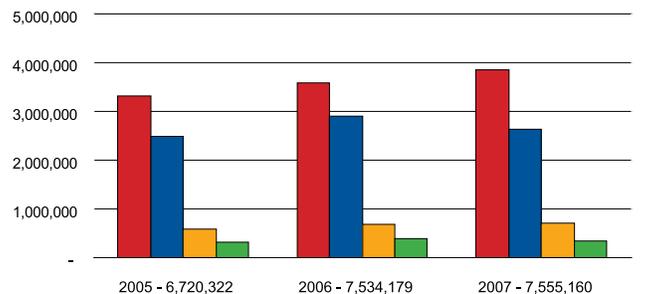
Revenues and Other Sources  
General Fund  
2005-2007



■ Property Taxes ■ State Aid ■ Generated Revenues

### **Bismarck Park District**

Expenditures  
General Fund  
2005-2007



■ Personnel ■ Supplies/Operations ■ Capital Improvements & Equipment ■ Contract Services

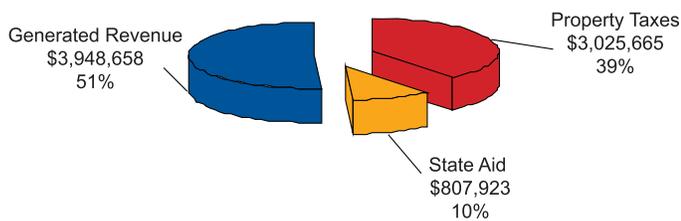
# Invest

supply, grant, trust

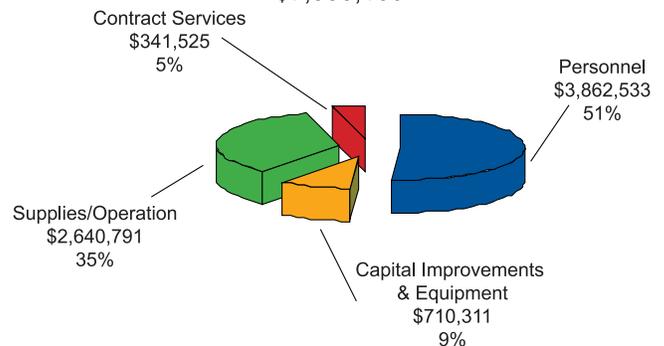
**Bismarck Park District**  
Audited Statement of Fund Activity  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2007

Fund	Balance 1/1/2007	Revenues and Other Sources	Expenditures and Other Uses	Balance 12/31/2007
General Fund	\$ 616,442	\$ 7,782,246	\$ 7,555,160	\$ 843,528
<b>Special Revenue Funds</b>				
Special Assessment	27,022	1,999,837	1,727,197	299,662
Pension	44,349	232,352	222,784	53,917
Social Security	49,785	346,730	305,988	90,527
Total Special Revenue Funds	\$ 121,156	\$ 2,578,919	\$ 2,255,969	\$ 444,106
<b>Debt Service Fund</b>				
Municipal Lease	\$ 363,515	\$ 23,166	\$ -	\$ 386,681
<b>Capital Projects Funds</b>				
Constr, Acquisition and Renov	90,788	888,628	813,907	165,509
Government Construction	6,386	132,872	66,427	72,831
Park Improvements	7,615	737,677	720,911	24,381
Total Capital Projects Funds	\$ 104,789	\$ 1,759,177	\$ 1,601,245	\$ 262,721
Total - All Funds	\$ 1,205,902	\$ 12,143,508	\$ 11,412,374	\$ 1,937,036

**Bismarck Park District**  
General Fund Revenue and Other Sources  
2007  
\$7,782,246



**Bismarck Park District**  
General Fund Expenditures  
2007  
\$7,555,160



# Director's message...



Greetings -

It is indeed our pleasure to provide you with our 2007 Bismarck Park District Annual Report, our second consolidated report of activity and accomplishments to you, our friends, partners and supporting public. It is with your support and participation, that we are successful.

In 2007, we accomplished many goals that fostered economic growth and increased community value, created new park and open space, upgraded and improved facilities, developed new facilities and programs to meet the demands of a growing community, and continued to provide accessible and affordable public programs.

Our mission in 2007, "create, advocate and preserve diverse recreation opportunities as a cornerstone of our quality of life", leads us to 2008 as we host special visitor events, the State Amateur Basketball Tournament and the Men's Class D Northern Territory National Slowpitch Softball Tournament, continue the development of trails, parks, programs and facilities and meet our goal of becoming the first nationally accredited park district in North Dakota.

We look forward to serving you in 2008.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven M. Neu".

Steven M. Neu, Director  
Bismarck Parks and Recreation District



## 2007 Awards and Honors

- Bismarck received its 30th consecutive Tree City USA award
- Annual Report received the Platinum Award from the Association of Marketing and Communication's Professionals
- North Dakota Recreation and Park Association (NDRPA) Midwest Regional Council Organization Citation Award - Magical Moments Playground.
- Engineering Award of Excellence from N.D. Council of Engineering Companies for Elks Aquatic Facility
- Riverwood Golf Course named one of the five Best Courses to Play in North Dakota by *Golfweek* magazine
- BPRD received the following awards from the North Dakota Recreation and Park Association
  - Individual Service Citation was presented to former Board member Tim Mueller
  - Organizational Citation - Kiwanis Club
  - Golden Egg Award - Frances Leach High Prairie Arts & Science Complex
- Convention and Visitor's Bureau (CVB) VIP Award



# BPRD Facilities & Parks

• *\*Blismarck Community Bowl* • *Capital Racquet & Fitness Center* •  
*Century Bark Park – Dog Park* • *Chief Looking's Village* • *Clem Kelley  
Athletic Complex* • *Cottonwood Park* • *Custer Park* • *Duemeland  
Park* • *\*Eagles Park* • *Fore Seasons Golf Center* • *Frances Leach High  
Prairie Arts & Science Complex* • *Fox Island Boat Ramp* • *\*General  
Sibley Park & Campground* • *Highland Acres Park* • *Hillside Aquatic  
Center* • *Wachter Aquatic Center* • *Elks Aquatic Center* • *Hoge  
Island* • *Igoe Park* • *Jaycee Centennial Park* • *Keelboat Park* •  
*Kiwanis Park* • *Lions Park* • *Marion Park* • *Municipal Baseball Park* •  
*\*McDowell Dam* • *New Generations Park* • *North Central Park* •  
*Optimist Family Park* • *Peace Park* • *Pioneer Park* • *Rita Murphy Ball  
Field* • *Riverwood Golf Course* • *Pebble Creek Golf Course* • *Tom  
O'Leary Golf Course* • *Rosa Young Park* • *Sam McQuade Sr. Softball  
Complex* • *Schaumberg Arena* • *Sertoma Park* • *Shella Schafer  
Junior Links* • *Sleepy Hollow Arts Park* • *VFW Family Recreational Park*  
• *Sons of Norway Park* • *Steamboat Park* • *Tatley – Eagles Park* •  
*Tom O'Leary Tennis Courts* • *VFW Sports Center* • *Walt Neuens Memorial  
Horse Park* • *World War Memorial Building* • *Zonta Park* •  
*16th Street Park* • *23rd Street Playground* • *Blismarck Rotary Arboretum*

\* Managed by BPRD

Let's Play!