

Board of Parks Commissioners
Tuesday, February 3, 2026 12:00 PM
Columbus Community Building/Community Room
2500 14 Street
Columbus, NE 68601

The Mayor and City Council reserve the right to go into closed session as per Section 84-1410 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes. A current agenda is on file at City Hall, 2500 14 Street, Columbus, Nebraska. For more information, call 402-562-4224 or visit our website at www.columbusne.us.

{{Name: Agenda Item Name}}

1. Statement of compliance with Open Meetings Act.

...4-1407. Act, how cited.

Sections 84-1407 to 84-1414 shall be known and may be cited as the Open Meetings Act.

Source: Laws 2004, LB 821, § 34.

84-1408. Declaration of intent; meetings open to public.

It is hereby declared to be the policy of this state that the formation of public policy is public business and may not be conducted in secret.

Every meeting of a public body shall be open to the public in order that citizens may exercise their democratic privilege of attending and speaking at meetings of public bodies, except as otherwise provided by the Constitution of Nebraska, federal statutes, and the Open Meetings Act.

Source: Laws 1975, LB 325, § 1; Laws 1996, LB 900, § 1071; Laws 2004, LB 821, § 35.

Annotations

- Nebraska's public meetings laws do not apply to school board deliberations pertaining solely to disputed adjudicative facts. *McQuinn v. Douglas Cty. Sch. Dist. No. 66*, 259 Neb. 720, 612 N.W.2d 198 (2000).
- The primary purpose of the public meetings law is to ensure that public policy is formulated at open meetings. *Marks v. Judicial Nominating Comm.*, 236 Neb. 429, 461 N.W.2d 551 (1990).
- The public meetings law is broadly interpreted and liberally construed to obtain the objective of openness in favor of the public, and provisions permitting closed sessions must be narrowly and strictly construed. *Grein v. Board of Education of Fremont*, 216 Neb. 158, 343 N.W.2d 718 (1984).
- Although a committee was a subcommittee of a natural resources district board, it was not subject to the Open Meetings Act because there was never a quorum of board members in attendance and the committee did not hold hearings, make policy, or take formal action on behalf of the board. *Koch v. Lower Loup NRD*, 27 Neb. App. 301, 931 N.W.2d 160 (2019).
- A county board of equalization is a public body whose meetings shall be open to the public. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).

84-1409. Terms, defined.

For purposes of the Open Meetings Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1)(a) Public body means (i) governing bodies of all political subdivisions of the State of Nebraska, (ii) governing bodies of all agencies, created by the Constitution of Nebraska, statute, or otherwise pursuant to law, of the executive department of the State of Nebraska, (iii) all independent boards, commissions, bureaus, committees, councils, subunits, or any other bodies created by the Constitution of Nebraska, statute, or otherwise pursuant to law, (iv) all study or advisory committees of the executive department of the State of Nebraska whether having continuing existence or appointed as special committees with limited existence, (v) advisory committees of the bodies referred to in subdivisions (i), (ii), and (iii) of this subdivision, and (vi) instrumentalities exercising essentially public functions; and

(b) Public body does not include (i) subcommittees of such bodies unless a quorum of the public body attends a subcommittee meeting or unless such subcommittees are holding hearings, making policy, or taking formal action on behalf of their parent body, except that all meetings of any subcommittee established under section 81-15,175 are subject to the Open Meetings Act, (ii) entities conducting judicial proceedings unless a court or other judicial body is exercising rulemaking authority, deliberating, or deciding upon the issuance of administrative orders, and (iii) the Judicial Resources Commission or subcommittees or subgroups of the commission;

(2) Meeting means all regular, special, or called meetings, formal or informal, of any public body for the purposes of briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action of the public body; and

(3) Virtual conferencing means conducting or participating in a meeting electronically or telephonically with interaction among the participants subject to subsection (2) of section 84-1412.

Source: Laws 1975, LB 325, § 2; Laws 1983, LB 43, § 1; Laws 1989, LB 429, § 42; Laws 1989, LB 311, § 14; Laws 1992, LB 1019, § 124; Laws 1993, LB 635, § 1; Laws 1996, LB 1044, § 978; Laws 1997, LB 798, § 37; Laws 2004, LB 821, § 36; Laws 2007, LB296, § 810; Laws 2011, LB366, § 2; Laws 2021, LB83, § 11; Laws 2022, LB922, § 12.

Annotations

- A township is a political subdivision, and as such, a township board is subject to the provisions of the public meetings laws. *Steenblock v. Elkhorn Township Bd.*, 245 Neb. 722, 515 N.W.2d 128 (1994).
- A county agricultural society is a public body to which the provisions of the Nebraska public meetings law are applicable. *Nixon v. Madison Co. Ag. Soc'y*, 217 Neb. 37, 348 N.W.2d 119 (1984).
- Failure by a public governing body, as defined under section 84-1409, R.R.S.1943, to take and record a roll call vote on an action, as required by section 84-1413(2), R.S.Supp.,1980, grants any citizen the right to sue for the purpose of having the action declared void. In this case such failure could not be later corrected by a nunc pro tunc order because there was no showing that a roll call vote on the disputed action was actually taken, and even if it was the record showed it was not recorded until over a year later. Sections 23-1301, R.R.S.1943, and 23-1302, R.R.S.1943, make it the duty of the county clerk to record proceedings of the board of county commissioners. *State ex rel. Schuler v. Dunbar*, 208 Neb. 69, 302 N.W.2d 674 (1981).
- Although a committee was a subcommittee of a natural resources district board, it was not subject to the Open Meetings Act because there was never a quorum of board members in attendance and the committee did not hold hearings, make policy, or take formal action on behalf of the board. *Koch v. Lower Loup NRD*, 27 Neb. App. 301, 931 N.W.2d 160 (2019).
- Although the Open Meetings Act does not define "subcommittee," a subcommittee is generally defined as a group within a committee to which the committee may refer business. *Koch v. Lower Loup NRD*, 27 Neb. App. 301, 931 N.W.2d 160 (2019).
- The Open Meetings Act does not require policymakers to remain ignorant of the issues they must decide until the moment the public is invited to comment on a proposed policy. By excluding nonquorum subgroups from the definition of a public body, the Legislature

has balanced the public's need to be heard on matters of public policy with a practical accommodation for a public body's need for information to conduct business. *Koch v. Lower Loup NRD*, 27 Neb. App. 301, 931 N.W.2d 160 (2019).

- As an administrative agency of the county, a county board of equalization is a public body. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).
- The electors of a township at their annual meeting are a public body under the Open Meetings Act. *State ex rel. Newman v. Columbus Township Bd.*, 15 Neb. App. 656, 735 N.W.2d 399 (2007).
- The meeting at issue in this case was a "meeting" within the parameters of subsection (2) of this section because it involved the discussion of public business, the formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action of the public power district. *Hansmeyer v. Nebraska Pub. Power Dist.*, 6 Neb. App. 889, 578 N.W.2d 476 (1998).
- Informational sessions in which the governmental body hears reports are briefings. *Johnson v. Nebraska Environmental Control Council*, 2 Neb. App. 263, 509 N.W.2d 21 (1993).

84-1410. Closed session; when; purpose; reasons listed; procedure; right to challenge; prohibited acts; chance meetings, conventions, or workshops.

(1) Any public body may hold a closed session by the affirmative vote of a majority of its voting members if a closed session is clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest or for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual and if such individual has not requested a public meeting. The subject matter and the reason necessitating the closed session shall be identified in the motion to close. Closed sessions may be held for, but shall not be limited to, such reasons as:

(a) Strategy sessions with respect to collective bargaining, real estate purchases, pending litigation, or litigation which is imminent as evidenced by communication of a claim or threat of litigation to or by the public body;

(b) Discussion regarding deployment of security personnel or devices;

(c) Investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct;

(d) Evaluation of the job performance of a person when necessary to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and if such person has not requested a public meeting;

(e) For the Community Trust created under section 81-1801.02, discussion regarding the amounts to be paid to individuals who have suffered from a tragedy of violence or natural disaster; or

(f) For public hospitals, governing board peer review activities, professional review activities, review and discussion of medical staff investigations or disciplinary actions, and any strategy session concerning transactional negotiations with any referral source that is required by federal law to be conducted at arms length.

Nothing in this section shall permit a closed meeting for discussion of the appointment or election of a new member to any public body.

(2) The vote to hold a closed session shall be taken in open session. The entire motion, the vote of each member on the question of holding a closed session, and the time when the closed session commenced and concluded shall be recorded in the minutes. If the motion to close

passes, then the presiding officer immediately prior to the closed session shall restate on the record the limitation of the subject matter of the closed session. The public body holding such a closed session shall restrict its consideration of matters during the closed portions to only those purposes set forth in the motion to close as the reason for the closed session. The meeting shall be reconvened in open session before any formal action may be taken. For purposes of this section, formal action shall mean a collective decision or a collective commitment or promise to make a decision on any question, motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance or formation of a position or policy but shall not include negotiating guidance given by members of the public body to legal counsel or other negotiators in closed sessions authorized under subdivision (1)(a) of this section.

(3) Any member of any public body shall have the right to challenge the continuation of a closed session if the member determines that the session has exceeded the reason stated in the original motion to hold a closed session or if the member contends that the closed session is neither clearly necessary for (a) the protection of the public interest or (b) the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Such challenge shall be overruled only by a majority vote of the members of the public body. Such challenge and its disposition shall be recorded in the minutes.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require that any meeting be closed to the public. No person or public body shall fail to invite a portion of its members to a meeting, and no public body shall designate itself a subcommittee of the whole body for the purpose of circumventing the Open Meetings Act. No closed session, informal meeting, chance meeting, social gathering, email, fax, or other electronic communication shall be used for the purpose of circumventing the requirements of the act.

(5) The act does not apply to chance meetings or to attendance at or travel to conventions or workshops of members of a public body at which there is no meeting of the body then intentionally convened, if there is no vote or other action taken regarding any matter over which the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power.

Source: Laws 1975, LB 325, § 3; Laws 1983, LB 43, § 2; Laws 1985, LB 117, § 1; Laws 1992, LB 1019, § 125; Laws 1994, LB 621, § 1; Laws 1996, LB 900, § 1072; Laws 2004, LB 821, § 37; Laws 2004, LB 1179, § 1; Laws 2006, LB 898, § 1; Laws 2011, LB390, § 29; Laws 2012, LB995, § 17.

Annotations

- There is no absolute discovery privilege for communications that occur during a closed session. *State ex rel. Upper Republican NRD v. District Judges*, 273 Neb. 148, 728 N.W.2d 275 (2007).
- If a person present at a meeting observes a public meetings law violation in the form of an improper closed session and fails to object, that person waives his or her right to object at a later date. *Wasikowski v. Nebraska Quality Jobs Bd.*, 264 Neb. 403, 648 N.W.2d 756 (2002).
- The public interest mentioned in this section is that shared by citizens in general and by the community at large concerning pecuniary or legal rights and liabilities. *Grein v. Board of Education*, 216 Neb. 158, 343 N.W.2d 718 (1984).
- Hearing in closed executive session was contrary to this section since there was no showing of necessity or reason under subdivision (1)(a), (b), or (c), but did not result in reversal of board decision. *Simonds v. Board of Examiners*, 213 Neb. 259, 329 N.W.2d 92

(1983).

- Negotiations for the purchase of land need not be conducted at an open meeting but the deliberations of a city council as to whether an offer to purchase real estate should be made should take place in an open meeting. *Pokorny v. City of Schuyler*, 202 Neb. 334, 275 N.W.2d 281 (1979).
- Public meeting law was not violated where the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska voted to hold a closed session to consider the university president's resignation, and also discussed the appointment of an interim president during such session. *Meyer v. Board of Regents*, 1 Neb. App. 893, 510 N.W.2d 450 (1993).

84-1411. Meetings of public body; notice; method; contents; when available; right to modify; duties concerning notice; virtual conferencing authorized; requirements; emergency meeting without notice; appearance before public body; applicability of section.

(1)(a) Except as provided in subsection (9) of this section, each public body shall give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each meeting as provided in this subsection. Such notice shall be transmitted to all members of the public body and to the public.

(b)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (1)(b)(ii) of this section, in the case of a public body described in subdivision (1)(a)(i) of section 84-1409 or such body's advisory committees, such notice shall be given by:

(A)(I) Publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction that is finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting, (II) posting on such newspaper's website, if available, and (III) posting on a statewide website, if available, established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers. Such notice shall be placed in the newspaper and on the websites by the newspaper; or

(B)(I) Posting to the newspaper's website, if available, and (II) posting to a statewide website, if available, established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers if no edition of a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction is to be finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting. Such notice shall be placed in the newspaper and on the websites by the newspaper.

(ii) In the case of the governing body of a city of the second class or village, any advisory committee of such governing body, or the governing body of a rural or suburban fire protection district, such notice shall be given by:

(A)(I) Publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction that is finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting, (II) posting on such newspaper's website, if available, and (III) posting on a statewide website, if available, established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers. Such notice shall be placed in the newspaper and on the websites by the newspaper;

(B)(I) Posting to the newspaper's website, if available, and (II) posting on a statewide website, if available, established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers if no edition of a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction is to be finalized for printing prior to the time and date of the meeting. Such notice shall be placed in the newspaper and on the websites by the newspaper; or

(C) Posting written notice in three conspicuous public places in such city, village, or district.

Such notice shall be posted by the public body in the same three places for each meeting.

(iii) In the case of a public body not described in subdivision (1)(b)(i) or (ii) of this section, such notice shall be given by a method designated by the public body.

(iv) In case of refusal, neglect, or inability of the newspaper to publish the notice, the public body shall (A) post such notice on its website, if available, (B) request the newspaper submit a post on a statewide website, if available, established and maintained as a repository for such notices by a majority of Nebraska newspapers, and (C) post such notice in a conspicuous public place in such public body's jurisdiction. The public body shall keep a written record of such posting pursuant to subdivision (1)(b)(iv)(A) and (C) of this section and a written record of the request to the newspaper pursuant to subdivision (1)(b)(iv)(B) of this section. The record of such posting shall be evidence that such posting was done as required and shall be sufficient to fulfill the requirement of publication.

(c) In addition to a method of notice required by subdivision (1)(b)(i) or (ii) of this section, such notice may also be provided by any other appropriate method designated by such public body or such advisory committee.

(d) Each public body shall record the methods and dates of such notice in its minutes.

(e) Such notice shall contain an agenda of subjects known at the time of the publicized notice or a statement that the agenda, which shall be kept continually current, shall be readily available for public inspection at the principal office of the public body during normal business hours. Agenda items shall be sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting. Except for items of an emergency nature, the agenda shall not be altered later than (i) twenty-four hours before the scheduled commencement of the meeting or (ii) forty-eight hours before the scheduled commencement of a meeting of a city council or village board scheduled outside the corporate limits of the municipality. The public body shall have the right to modify the agenda to include items of an emergency nature only at such public meeting.

(2)(a) The following entities may hold a meeting by means of virtual conferencing if the requirements of subdivision (2)(b) of this section are met:

(i) A state agency, state board, state commission, state council, or state committee, or an advisory committee of any such state entity;

(ii) An organization, including the governing body, created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, the Joint Public Agency Act, or the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act;

(iii) The governing body of a public power district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state;

(iv) The governing body of a public power and irrigation district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state;

(v) An educational service unit;

(vi) The Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council;

(vii) An organization, including the governing body, of a risk management pool or its advisory committees organized in accordance with the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act;

- (viii) A community college board of governors;
- (ix) The Nebraska Brand Committee;
- (x) A local public health department;
- (xi) A metropolitan utilities district;
- (xii) A regional metropolitan transit authority; and
- (xiii) A natural resources district.

(b) The requirements for holding a meeting by means of virtual conferencing are as follows:

(i) Reasonable advance publicized notice is given as provided in subsection (1) of this section, including providing access to a dial-in number or link to the virtual conference;

(ii) In addition to the public's right to participate by virtual conferencing, reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend at a physical site and participate as provided in section 84-1412, including reasonable seating, in at least one designated site in a building open to the public and identified in the notice, with: At least one member of the entity holding such meeting, or his or her designee, present at each site; a recording of the hearing by audio or visual recording devices; and a reasonable opportunity for input, such as public comment or questions, is provided to at least the same extent as would be provided if virtual conferencing was not used;

(iii) At least one copy of all documents being considered at the meeting is available at any physical site open to the public where individuals may attend the virtual conference. The public body shall also provide links to an electronic copy of the agenda, all documents being considered at the meeting, and the current version of the Open Meetings Act; and

(iv) Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, subsection (1) of section 70-1014, subsection (2) of section 70-1014.02, or subsection (4) of section 79-2204, no more than one-half of the meetings of the state entities, advisory committees, boards, councils, organizations, or governing bodies are held by virtual conferencing in a calendar year. In the case of (A) an organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas, (B) an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, (C) a governing body of a risk management pool and any advisory committee of such governing body, or (D) any advisory committee of any state entity created in response to the Opioid Prevention and Treatment Act, such organization, governing body, or committee may hold more than one-half of its meetings by virtual conferencing if such organization holds at least one meeting each calendar year that is not by virtual conferencing.

(3) Virtual conferencing, emails, faxes, or other electronic communication shall not be used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act.

(4) The secretary or other designee of each public body shall maintain a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and shall make reasonable efforts to provide advance notification to them of the time and place of each meeting and the subjects to be discussed at that meeting.

(5) When it is necessary to hold an emergency meeting without reasonable advance public notice, the nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes and any formal action taken in

such meeting shall pertain only to the emergency. Such emergency meetings may be held by virtual conferencing. The provisions of subsection (4) of this section shall be complied with in conducting emergency meetings. Complete minutes of such emergency meetings specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting shall be made available to the public by no later than the end of the next regular business day.

(6) A public body may allow a member of the public or any other witness to appear before the public body by means of virtual conferencing.

(7)(a) Notwithstanding subsections (2) and (5) of this section, if an emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to the Emergency Management Act as defined in section 81-829.39, a public body the territorial jurisdiction of which is included in the emergency declaration, in whole or in part, may hold a meeting by virtual conferencing during such emergency if the public body gives reasonable advance publicized notice as described in subsection (1) of this section. The notice shall include information regarding access for the public and news media. In addition to any formal action taken pertaining to the emergency, the public body may hold such meeting for the purpose of briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action by the public body.

(b) The public body shall provide access by providing a dial-in number or a link to the virtual conference. The public body shall also provide links to an electronic copy of the agenda, all documents being considered at the meeting, and the current version of the Open Meetings Act. Reasonable arrangements shall be made to accommodate the public's right to hear and speak at the meeting and record the meeting. Subsection (4) of this section shall be complied with in conducting such meetings.

(c) The nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes. Complete minutes of such meeting specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting shall be made available for inspection as provided in subsection (5) of section 84-1413.

(8) In addition to any other statutory authorization for virtual conferencing, any public body not listed in subdivision (2)(a) of this section may hold a meeting by virtual conferencing if:

(a) The purpose of the virtual meeting is to discuss items that are scheduled to be discussed or acted upon at a subsequent non-virtual open meeting of the public body;

(b) No action is taken by the public body at the virtual meeting; and

(c) The public body complies with subdivisions (2)(b)(i) and (ii) of this section.

(9) This section does not apply to a meeting of the Nebraska Power Review Board or a public power district, a public power and irrigation district, an electric membership association, an electric cooperative company, a municipality having a generation and distribution system, or a registered group of municipalities if such meeting is subject to section 70-1034.

Source: Laws 1975, LB 325, § 4; Laws 1983, LB 43, § 3; Laws 1987, LB 663, § 25; Laws 1993, LB 635, § 2; Laws 1996, LB 469, § 6; Laws 1996, LB 1161, § 1; Laws 1999, LB 47, § 2; Laws 1999, LB 87, § 100; Laws 1999, LB 461, § 1; Laws 2000, LB 968, § 85; Laws 2004, LB 821, § 38; Laws 2004, LB 1179, § 2; Laws 2006, LB 898, § 2; Laws 2007, LB199, § 9; Laws 2009, LB361, § 2; Laws 2012, LB735, § 1; Laws 2013, LB510, § 1; Laws 2017, LB318, § 1; Laws 2019, LB212, § 5; Laws 2020, LB148, § 3; Laws 2021, LB83, § 12; Laws 2022, LB742, § 1;

Laws 2022, LB908, § 1; Laws 2022, LB922, § 13; Laws 2024, LB287, § 74;
Laws 2024, LB399, § 4; Laws 2024, LB1370, § 8; Laws 2025, LB521, § 82.

Operative Date: May 31, 2025

Cross References

- **Emergency Management Act**, see section 81-829.36.
- **Intergovernmental Risk Management Act**, see section 44-4301.
- **Interlocal Cooperation Act**, see section 13-801.
- **Joint Public Agency Act**, see section 13-2501.
- **Municipal Cooperative Financing Act**, see section 18-2401.
- **Opioid Prevention and Treatment Act**, see section 71-2485.

Annotations

- Under subsection (1) of this section, the Legislature has imposed only two conditions on the public body's notification method of a public meeting: (1) It must give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each meeting and (2) it must be recorded in the public body's minutes. *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 725 N.W.2d 792 (2007).
- An emergency is "(a)ny event or occasional combination of circumstances which calls for immediate action or remedy; pressing necessity; exigency; a sudden or unexpected happening; an unforeseen occurrence or condition." *Steenblock v. Elkhorn Township Bd.*, 245 Neb. 722, 515 N.W.2d 128 (1994).
- An agenda which gives reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at a meeting of a city council complies with the requirements of this section. *Pokorny v. City of Schuyler*, 202 Neb. 334, 275 N.W.2d 281 (1979).
- When notice is required, a notice of a special meeting of a city council posted in three public places at 10:00 p.m. on the day preceding the meeting is not reasonable advance publicized notice of a meeting as is required by this section. *Pokorny v. City of Schuyler*, 202 Neb. 334, 275 N.W.2d 281 (1979).
- Teacher waived right to object to lack of public notice in board of education employment hearing by voluntary participation in the hearing without objection. *Alexander v. School Dist. No. 17*, 197 Neb. 251, 248 N.W.2d 335 (1976).
- A county board of commissioners and a county board of equalization are not required to give separate notices when the notice states only the time and place that the boards meet and directs a citizen to where the agendas for each board can be found. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).
- A county board of equalization is a public body which is required to give advanced publicized notice of its meetings. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).
- Notice of recessed and reconvened meetings must be given in the same fashion as the original meeting. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).
- True notice of a meeting is not given by burying such in the minutes of a prior board proceeding. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).
- An agenda notice which merely stated "work order reports" was an inadequate notice under this section because it did not give interested persons knowledge that plans for a 345 kv transmission line through the district was going to be discussed and voted upon at the meeting. Inadequate agenda notice under this section meant there was a substantial

violation of the public meeting laws; however, later actions by the board of directors cured the defects in notice, and such actions were in substantial compliance with the statute. *Hansmeyer v. Nebraska Pub. Power Dist.*, 6 Neb. App. 889, 578 N.W.2d 476 (1998).

84-1412. Meetings of public body; rights of public; public body; powers and duties.

(1) Subject to the Open Meetings Act, the public has the right to attend and the right to speak at meetings of public bodies, and all or any part of a meeting of a public body, except for closed sessions called pursuant to section 84-1410, may be videotaped, televised, photographed, broadcast, or recorded by any person in attendance by means of a tape recorder, a camera, video equipment, or any other means of pictorial or sonic reproduction or in writing. Except for closed sessions called pursuant to section 84-1410, a public body shall allow members of the public an opportunity to speak at each meeting.

(2) It shall not be a violation of subsection (1) of this section for any public body to make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations regarding the conduct of persons attending, speaking at, videotaping, televising, photographing, broadcasting, or recording its meetings, including meetings held by virtual conferencing.

(3) No public body shall require members of the public to identify themselves as a condition for admission to the meeting nor shall such body require that the name of any member of the public be placed on the agenda prior to such meeting in order to speak about items on the agenda. The body shall require any member of the public desiring to address the body to identify himself or herself, including an address and the name of any organization represented by such person unless the address requirement is waived to protect the security of the individual.

(4) No public body shall, for the purpose of circumventing the Open Meetings Act, hold a meeting in a place known by the body to be too small to accommodate the anticipated audience.

(5) No public body shall be deemed in violation of this section if it holds its meeting in its traditional meeting place which is located in this state.

(6) No public body shall be deemed in violation of this section if it holds a meeting outside of this state if, but only if:

(a) A member entity of the public body is located outside of this state and the meeting is in that member's jurisdiction;

(b) All out-of-state locations identified in the notice are located within public buildings used by members of the entity or at a place which will accommodate the anticipated audience;

(c) Reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend, hear, and speak at the meeting, including making virtual conferencing available at an in-state location to members, the public, or the press, if requested twenty-four hours in advance;

(d) No more than twenty-five percent of the public body's meetings in a calendar year are held out-of-state;

(e) Out-of-state meetings are not used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act; and

(f) The public body publishes notice of the out-of-state meeting at least twenty-one days before the date of the meeting in a legal newspaper of statewide circulation.

(7) Each public body shall, upon request, make a reasonable effort to accommodate the public's right to hear the discussion and testimony presented at a meeting.

(8) Public bodies shall make available at the meeting or the instate location for virtual conferencing as required by subdivision (6)(c) of this section, for examination and copying by members of the public, at least one copy of all reproducible written material to be discussed at an open meeting, either in paper or electronic form. Public bodies shall make available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room at a location accessible to members of the public. At the beginning of the meeting, the public shall be informed about the location of the posted information.

Source: Laws 1975, LB 325, § 5; Laws 1983, LB 43, § 4; Laws 1985, LB 117, § 2; Laws 1987, LB 324, § 5; Laws 1996, LB 900, § 1073; Laws 2001, LB 250, § 2; Laws 2004, LB 821, § 39; Laws 2006, LB 898, § 3; Laws 2008, LB962, § 1; Laws 2021, LB83, § 13; Laws 2024, LB43, § 21.

Annotations

- To preserve an objection that a public body failed to make documents available at a public meeting as required by subsection (8) of this section, a person who attends a public meeting must not only object to the violation, but must make that objection to the public body or to a member of the public body. *Stoetzel & Sons v. City of Hastings*, 265 Neb. 637, 658 N.W.2d 636 (2003).

84-1413. Meetings; minutes; roll call vote; secret ballot; when; agenda and minutes; required on website; when.

(1) Each public body shall keep minutes of all meetings showing the time, place, members present and absent, and the substance of all matters discussed.

(2) Any action taken on any question or motion duly moved and seconded shall be by roll call vote of the public body in open session, and the record shall state how each member voted or if the member was absent or not voting. The requirements of a roll call or viva voce vote shall be satisfied by a public body which utilizes an electronic voting device which allows the yeas and nays of each member of such public body to be readily seen by the public.

(3) The vote to elect leadership within a public body may be taken by secret ballot, but the total number of votes for each candidate shall be recorded in the minutes.

(4) The minutes of all meetings and evidence and documentation received or disclosed in open session shall be public records and open to public inspection during normal business hours.

(5) Minutes shall be written or kept as an electronic record and shall be available for inspection within ten working days or prior to the next convened meeting, whichever occurs earlier, except that cities of the second class and villages may have an additional ten working days if the employee responsible for writing or keeping the minutes is absent due to a serious illness or emergency.

(6) Beginning July 31, 2022, the governing body of a natural resources district, the city council of a city of the metropolitan class, the city council of a city of the primary class, the city council of a city of the first class, the county board of a county with a population greater than twenty-five thousand inhabitants, and the school board of a school district shall make available

on such entity's public website the agenda and minutes of any meeting of the governing body. The agenda shall be placed on the website at least twenty-four hours before the meeting of the governing body. Minutes shall be placed on the website at such time as the minutes are available for inspection as provided in subsection (5) of this section. This information shall be available on the public website for at least six months.

Source: Laws 1975, LB 325, § 6; Laws 1978, LB 609, § 3; Laws 1979, LB 86, § 9; Laws 1987, LB 663, § 26; Laws 2005, LB 501, § 1; Laws 2009, LB361, § 3; Laws 2015, LB365, § 2; Laws 2016, LB876, § 1; Laws 2021, LB83, § 14; Laws 2022, LB742, § 2.

Annotations

- Under prior law, if a person present at a meeting observes and fails to object to an alleged public meetings laws violation in the form of a failure to conduct rollcall votes before taking actions on questions or motions pending, that person waives his or her right to object at a later date. *Hauser v. Nebraska Police Stds. Adv. Council*, 264 Neb. 944, 653 N.W.2d 240 (2002).
- Subsection (2) of this section does not require the record to state that the vote was by roll call, but requires only that the record show if and how each member voted. Neither does the statute set a time limit for recording the results of a vote, after which no corrections of the record can be made. If no intervening rights of third persons have arisen, a board of county commissioners has power to correct the record of the proceedings had at a previous meeting so as to make them speak the truth, particularly where the correction supplies some omitted fact or action and is done not to contradict or change the original record but to have the record show that a certain action was taken or thing done, which the original record fails to show. *State ex rel. Schuler v. Dunbar*, 214 Neb. 85, 333 N.W.2d 652 (1983).
- Failure by a public governing body, as defined under section 84-1409, R.R.S.1943, to take and record a roll call vote on an action, as required by section 84-1413(2), R.S.Supp.,1980, grants any citizen the right to sue for the purpose of having the action declared void. In this case such failure could not be later corrected by a nunc pro tunc order because there was no showing that a roll call vote on the disputed action was actually taken, and even if it was the record showed it was not recorded until over a year later. Sections 23-1301, R.R.S.1943, and 23-1302, R.R.S.1943, make it the duty of the county clerk to record proceedings of the board of county commissioners. *State ex rel. Schuler v. Dunbar*, 208 Neb. 69, 302 N.W.2d 674 (1981).
- There is no requirement that a public body make a record of where notice was published or posted. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).

84-1414. Unlawful action by public body; declared void or voidable by district court; when; duty to enforce open meeting laws; citizen's suit; procedure; violations; penalties.

(1) Any motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action of a public body made or taken in violation of the Open Meetings Act shall be declared void by the district court if the suit is commenced within one hundred twenty days of the meeting of the public body at which the alleged violation occurred. Any motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action of a public body made or taken in substantial violation of the Open Meetings Act shall be voidable by the district court if the suit is commenced more than one hundred twenty days after but within one year of the meeting of the public body in which the alleged violation occurred. A suit to void any final action shall be commenced within one year of the action.

(2) The Attorney General and the county attorney of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets shall enforce the Open Meetings Act.

(3) Any citizen of this state may commence a suit in the district court of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets or in which the plaintiff resides for the purpose of requiring compliance with or preventing violations of the Open Meetings Act, for the purpose of declaring an action of a public body void, or for the purpose of determining the applicability of the act to discussions or decisions of the public body. It shall not be a defense that the citizen attended the meeting and failed to object at such time. The court may order payment of reasonable attorney's fees and court costs to a successful plaintiff in a suit brought under this section.

(4) Any member of a public body who knowingly violates or conspires to violate or who attends or remains at a meeting knowing that the public body is in violation of any provision of the Open Meetings Act shall be guilty of a Class IV misdemeanor for a first offense and a Class III misdemeanor for a second or subsequent offense.

Source: Laws 1975, LB 325, § 9; Laws 1977, LB 39, § 318; Laws 1983, LB 43, § 5; Laws 1992, LB 1019, § 126; Laws 1994, LB 621, § 2; Laws 1996, LB 900, § 1074; Laws 2004, LB 821, § 40; Laws 2006, LB 898, § 4.

Annotations

- The Legislature has granted standing to a broad scope of its citizens for the very limited purpose of challenging meetings allegedly in violation of the Open Meetings Act, so that they may help police the public policy embodied by the act. *Schauer v. Grooms*, 280 Neb. 426, 786 N.W.2d 909 (2010).
- Any citizen of the state may commence an action to declare a public body's action void. *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 725 N.W.2d 792 (2007).
- The reading of ordinances constitutes a formal action under subsection (1) of this section. *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 725 N.W.2d 792 (2007).
- If a person present at a meeting observes a public meetings law violation in the form of an improper closed session and fails to object, that person waives his or her right to object at a later date. *Wasikowski v. Nebraska Quality Jobs Bd.*, 264 Neb. 403, 648 N.W.2d 756 (2002).
- Under the Public Meetings Act, a county lacks capacity to maintain an action to declare its official conduct "void" for noncompliance with the act. *County of York v. Johnson*, 230 Neb. 403, 432 N.W.2d 215 (1988).
- When a petitioner under this section is successful in the district court, that court may allow attorney fees. *Tracy Corp. II v. Nebraska Pub. Serv. Comm.*, 218 Neb. 900, 360 N.W.2d 485 (1984).
- Informal discussions between the Tax Commissioner and the State Board of Equalization in which instructions were clarified, with such clarification leading to the amendment of hearing notices, did not constitute a public meeting subject to the provisions of this section. *Box Butte County v. State Board of Equalization and Assessment*, 206 Neb. 696, 295 N.W.2d 670 (1980).
- The right to collaterally attack an order made in contravention of the Public Meeting Act must occur within a period of one year as is specifically provided by this section. *Witt v. School District No. 70*, 202 Neb. 63, 273 N.W.2d 669 (1979).
- Statutory change, requiring "publicized notice" for board of education employment hearings, occurring between dates meeting scheduled and conducted, held not to void

proceedings. *Alexander v. School Dist. No. 17*, 197 Neb. 251, 248 N.W.2d 335 (1976).

- Voiding an entire meeting is a proper remedy for violations of the Open Meetings Act. Once a meeting has been declared void pursuant to Nebraska's public meetings law, board members are prohibited from considering any information obtained at the illegal meeting. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).
- Actions by the board of directors were merely voidable under this section, and not void. Pursuant to subsection (3) of this section, the plaintiffs were awarded partial attorney fees because they were successful in having the court declare that the board of directors was in substantial violation of the statute, even though the plaintiffs did not get the relief requested of having the board's actions declared void. *Hansmeyer v. Nebraska Pub. Power Dist.*, 6 Neb. App. 889, 578 N.W.2d 476 (1998).

2. Minutes of January 6, 2026, meeting.

BOARD OF PARKS COMMISSIONERS
January 6, 2026

A regular meeting of the Board of Parks Commissioners of the City of Columbus, Nebraska, was convened in open and public session on January 6, 2026, at 12 p.m. in the Columbus Community Building, Community Room, 2500 14 Street, Columbus, Nebraska. Notice of this meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Columbus Telegram on December 31, 2025, with a copy of the proof of publication being on file in the office of the city clerk. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice to the mayor, members of the city council, and members of the Board of Parks Commissioners. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public.

1. **STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETINGS ACT.** Chair Brezenski announced that a copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room. Present were members Jon Brezenski, Araceli Esquivel, Brad Hansen, Nick Larson, Tina Pelan, Gary Puetz, Bruce Schmidt, Lynn Sjuts, and Stacey Smith. City staff members included Assistant City Clerk Linda Nickeson, Park and Recreation Director Sydney Mroczek, and Park Superintendent Tom Ek.
2. **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR.** Brezenski called for nominations for chair. Sjuts nominated Brezenski. Nominations for chair closed with a motion by Hansen and a second by Sjuts. Brezenski, Esquivel, Hansen, Larson, Pelan, Puetz, Schmidt, Sjuts, and Smith voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”. Brezenski called for nominations for vice-chair. Brezenski nominated Sjuts. Nominations for vice-chair closed with a motion by Smith and a second by Larson. Brezenski, Esquivel, Hansen, Larson, Pelan, Puetz, Schmidt, Sjuts, and Smith voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”. Brezenski was elected chair and Sjuts was elected vice-chair with a motion by Hansen and a second by Smith. Brezenski, Esquivel, Hansen, Larson, Pelan, Puetz, Schmidt, Sjuts, and Smith voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”.
3. **MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 4, 2025, MEETING.** The minutes were approved as presented with a motion by Larson and a second by Smith. Brezenski, Esquivel, Hansen, Larson, Pelan, Puetz, Schmidt, Sjuts, and Smith voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”.
4. **REQUEST FROM THE ANTIQUE TRACTOR AND GAS ENGINES SHOW TO CAMP OVERNIGHT IN PAWNEE PARK, JUNE 12 AND 13, 2026.** A recommendation to approve The Antique Tractor and Gas Engines Show to camp overnight in Pawnee Park was approved with a motion by Larson and a second by Smith. Brezenski, Esquivel, Hansen, Larson, Pelan, Puetz, Schmidt, Sjuts, and Smith voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”.
5. **PARK AND RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORT.** Mroczek reviewed the report. She explained that JEO Consulting Group of Lincoln will begin a

complete study of the trees within all city parks in March, with the goal of identifying the species of every tree, diagnosing any existing or potential diseases or concerns for a particular area or species, and determining where and what species to plant in the future. An app will be created with a GIS system that will allow staff to pinpoint and track each individual tree throughout all the parks. Brent McGrew, head teaching professional for Van Berg Family Golf Course, gave a brief update on the recent activity at Van Berg and upcoming golf simulator events and leagues.

6. ADJOURNMENT. The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

: Linda Nickeson

3. Reports on Columbus Soccer Club, Columbus Youth Baseball League, Columbus Youth Softball Association, American Legion Hartman Post 84, Columbus Mariners Baseball League, and Columbus Area Youth Football Organization.

COLUMBUS SOCCER CLUB, INC.
2026 AGREEMENT

Comes now the City of Columbus, Nebraska, a Municipal corporation in the State of Nebraska, and the Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., a non-profit corporation in the State of Nebraska, and hereby jointly and mutually agree as follows:

WHEREAS, Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., in coordination with AYSO and Columbus Adult Soccer League has proposed to provide soccer activities at Wilderness Park and has requested the City allow them the rights and uses of the facilities for this purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it agreed by and between the parties that the City will provide the following services and perform the following acts in consideration for the Columbus Soccer Club, Inc. providing the acts and performance of various duties as set forth in Section No. 2 below at Wilderness Park.

1. *The City of Columbus hereby agrees as follows:*

- A) To provide the soccer facilities at Wilderness Park non-exclusively to Columbus Soccer Club, Inc. commencing after the City Council approval and terminating February 28, 2027. Non-exclusively means that the City of Columbus holds the right to schedule any activity at Wilderness Park as long as it does not interfere with already scheduled games or marked fields and activities through the Columbus Soccer Club, Inc.
- B) To allow Columbus Soccer Club, Inc. the ability to charge AYSO, Adult Leagues, and High School soccer for use of Wilderness Park as set out in Section 2.
- C) To allow Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., to charge reasonable fees for the utilization of the Concession Stand at Wilderness Park.
- D) To allow Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., to promote Wilderness Park in efforts to obtain sponsorships to make improvements at the facilities.
- E) To mow the fields one to two weekly, weather permitting when and if needed.
- F) To keep in good repair fences, buildings, plumbing, bleachers, and irrigation equipment for the irrigation of the soccer fields.
- G) To maintain the parking lot.
- H) To dispose of garbage during the course of the soccer season (March through October), as needed during regular working hours.
- I) To pay the electric, water, and sewer bills at the Wilderness Park Soccer facility.
- J) To supply toilet paper and cleaning supplies to clean the restrooms Monday through Friday.
- K) To solicit input from the Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., for projects funded by the City during the planning and construction phases of any major field and concession renovation projects or additions.
- L) To consult with all parties prior to making any significant improvements or changes to Wilderness Park and its facilities.
- M) To provide support for those projects and improvements being done by Columbus Soccer Club, Inc. All projects and improvements must be approved and scheduled with the City prior to construction start.
- N) To provide forms for all coaches, referees, league officials, board members, maintenance staff to complete for background checks. Background checks will be conducted by the Human Resources Dept. of the City of Columbus.

- O) To pay for all background checks for city teams and organizations.
- P) To provide information from background checks to league officials that the Police Chief and Public Property Director deemed detrimental to Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., purpose.
- Q) To keep other background checks confidential.

2. Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., in consideration of the City performing the acts and providing the facilities as set forth in Section No. 1 above, hereby agrees to perform the following:

- A) As to AYSO and Columbus Adult Soccer League and the EPIC League:
 - a. To give priority usage to AYSO on Saturdays until 2:00 PM during their season between August 1st-September 26th, 2026. Further, to allow AYSO the ability to conduct practices at Wilderness Park during its season.
 - b. To give priority usage on Sunday evenings to Adult Soccer League during their season that runs Mid July-Mid October 2026, with the exception of the Columbus Soccer Club Harvest tournament in October. Further, to allow the Adult Soccer League the ability to conduct practices at Wilderness during its season.
 - c. To give priority usage to the EPIC League (for disabled children and adults) during its season on the under eight fields on weeknights from 5:30 pm to roughly 8:30 pm during August and September.
 - d. All organizations must go through the Columbus Soccer Club, Inc.'s, President for field game and practice scheduling. Columbus Soccer Club has the right at its discretion to close the facility and/or cancel practices and games due to weather or field conditions or shall do so at the direction of the City of Columbus.
- B) To pay all expenses required herein, and other organization expenses, from the any collected revenues. The program expenses are estimated to be \$40,000 annually.
- C) To charge following to the organizations for use of Wilderness Park:
 - a. High School Soccer:
 - i. \$2,100 flat fee per high school if paid by March 15, 2026, or \$200 per Varsity and JV games at Wilderness Park.
 - ii. \$50/hour for soccer practices at Wilderness Park.
 - b. Columbus Adult League Memorial Weekend Soccer Tournament:
 - i. \$50/games for 7v7 or 9v9 fields
 - ii. \$60/games for 11v11 fields
 - iii. Adult League will be responsible for finding their own referees and maintaining and cleaning the bathrooms during the tournament as city staff are not on site during the weekend. Trash cans also need to be emptied to the dumpsters throughout the weekend.
 - iv. The Columbus Adult League would need to work with and receive permission from the concession stand operator to utilize the concession stand. The operator is responsible for stocking the concession stand, and the adult league would receive a portion of the profit (25-35%) if they find volunteers to work it during the tournament.
 - c. Columbus Adult League (Fall)
 - i. \$50 per game for 7v7 or 9v9 fields.
 - ii. \$50/hour for soccer practices at Wilderness Park.

- iii. Any practice shall be coordinated with the Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., President prior to being conducted.
 - iv. Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., shall set up and prep fields each week (field striping, goals, nets, etc.). The Columbus Adult Soccer League would need to work with and receive permission from the concession stand operator to utilize the concession stand. The operator is responsible for stocking the concession stand, and the adult league would receive a portion of the profit (25-35%) if they find volunteers to work it during their league.
 - d. AYSO (Fall-8 Saturdays)
 - i. \$25 per game for U6 and younger games.
 - ii. \$30 per game for U8.
 - iii. \$50 per game for U10 and above games.
 - iv. \$60 per game for any division that plays on a full size 11x11 field.
 - v. \$50/hour for soccer practices at Wilderness Park.
 - vi. Any practice shall be coordinated with the Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., President prior to being conducted.
 - vii. Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., shall set up and prop the fields each week (field striping, goals, nets).
 - viii. AYSO will have input on field selection and usage for games for its season and AYSO shall sign off on the field map.
 - e. EPIC League (Fall 4 weeknights)
 - i. There will be no fee charged to this organization.
 - ii. Any practice shall be coordinated with the Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., President prior to being conducted.
- D) To provide the City of Columbus-Parks and Recreation Department with up-to-date schedules of the daily activities/events at Wilderness Park. This schedule will include, but is not limited to: Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., practices/games/events/tournaments, AYSO practices/events/games, Columbus Adult Soccer League practices/games/events/tournaments, and all High School practices/games.
- E) To immediately adjust scheduling, and the frequency and intensity of use of Wilderness Park and its facilities according to directive of the City of Columbus. Columbus Soccer Club acknowledges that the City of Columbus has at any and all times the sole authority to dictate the play and intensity of use at Wilderness Park and its facilities and require these to be changed.
- F) To provide the City of Columbus with a Certificate of Liability upon execution of this Agreement. The amounts requested are \$1,000,000 per occurrence, \$2,000,000 general aggregate and liability coverage on all equipment and vehicle used to maintain the field(s). The City of Columbus does not provide any coverage for anything owned or placed at the facility by Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., AYSO or Columbus Adult Soccer League including the equipment or vehicles. Amounts of coverage are minimum amounts and can be greater. THE CITY OF COLUMBUS MUST BE LISTED AS AN ADDITIONAL INSURED ON SAID POLICY AND CERTIFICATE provided to the city. By the execution of this contract Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., agrees to indemnify and hold the city harmless on any liability which the city might incur as a result of Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., AYSO, Columbus Adult Soccer League, or its members, invitees, volunteers use of the facilities.

- G) All organizations utilizing Wilderness Park will provide the City of Columbus and Columbus Soccer Club, Inc. with liability insurance before utilizing Wilderness Park. The amounts requested are \$1,000,000 per occurrence, \$2,000,000 general aggregate and liability coverage on all equipment and vehicle used to maintain the field(s).
- H) To prepare/mark the fields for all the organizations utilizing Wilderness Park and to make sure the organizations have access to Wilderness Park. Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., is responsible for purchasing supplies, equipment, and paint to prepare the fields for activities.
- I) To oversee the daily operation of Wilderness Park and make sure the facility is in good condition. Will clean any trash left lying around the facility.
- J) To properly clean the restrooms and toilet facilities at Wilderness Park when there are Columbus Soccer Club, Inc. events on the weekend. The City of Columbus is responsible for cleaning the restrooms during the week.
- K) To turn 'on & off' the 'caution' traffic light on 18th Avenue whenever there is an organized activity at Wilderness Park (Light switch is on the outside, south side of the pump house).
- L) To pay for Wilderness Park to be fertilized.
- M) To pay for overseeding and at a minimum of one field is to be overseeded.
- N) To pay for the upkeep and purchase of the soccer goals at Wilderness Park and these goals shall become the property of the City of Columbus.
- O) Columbus Soccer Club, Inc will dedicate \$5,000 of funds to making improvements (goals, benches, tables, signs, etc.) to Wilderness Park or as funds are available. This will not include the fertilizer/overseeding. Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., will consult with the City of Columbus before making any improvements. All such improvements made and purchases made by Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., shall become the property of the City of Columbus.
 - a. Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., shall first consult with the City of Columbus before making any improvements or changes to or at Wilderness Park. Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., and further acknowledges and agrees that the City of Columbus has final say on approval or disapproval of any such improvements or changes to or at Wilderness Park.
- P) To provide the City of Columbus with the Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., with its' organizational By-Laws.
- Q) To provide the City of Columbus with the meeting minutes report from each Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., Board Meeting.
- R) To provide the City of Columbus with a list of present Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., Board Members. Additionally, Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., will provide the city with contact information (name, phone number, and email address) of the Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., President and Field Coordinators as this will be the city's main point of contact for the Columbus Soccer Club, Inc.
- S) To inspect the facility and report to the City any conditions which appear to create a danger to either participants or spectators.
- T) Agrees that if the provisions that are listed above are not met, Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., does not have the City of Columbus' permission to use said facility.
- U) The Columbus Soccer Club, AYSO, and Columbus Adult Soccer League, in cooperation with the City of Columbus, will work together in a way so as to jointly oversee Wilderness Park. Each of these entities will have proper representation within the organization to protect priority usage of the soccer complex during each entity's regularly scheduled seasons as have been held at Wilderness Park for several years. Each entity will have an equal opportunity to schedule events,

voice concerns, and suggest improvements needed for the soccer complex. The 2026 facility use agreement shall be between the City and Columbus Soccer Club, Inc., with all entities included as part of that organization. In the event the organizations cannot reach an agreement by December 1st, 2026, the City will explore other options for operation and oversight of Wilderness Park.

Executed by:

Columbus Soccer Club, Inc

Scott Jarecke 1/2/26
President Signature Date

Scott Jarecke
Printed Name

columbussoccerclubpresident@gmail.com
Email Address

(402) 276-1345
Phone Number

CITY OF COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA

ATTEST:

Mayor Date

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM

By [Signature]
City Attorney

Agreement for Use of Municipal Property

This Use Agreement is made and entered into by and between the City of Columbus, Nebraska, a Municipal Corporation, hereinafter referred to as "City" and Columbus Youth Baseball League, hereinafter referred to as "CYBL".

WHEREAS, the Columbus Youth Baseball League, has proposed to provide recreational baseball at Centennial Park, herein after referred to as "facility" and has requested that City allow the use of this facility for this purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it agreed by and between the parties that City and CYBL will each provide the following services and perform the following acts as described below.

1. CITY HEREBY AGREES AS FOLLOWS:

- A) Provide use of Centennial Park baseball facility non-exclusively to CYBL for the period of March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2027 for the purpose of recreational baseball.
- B) Mow the fields once weekly as needed, weather permitting.
- C) Keep in good repair fences, buildings, (excluding storage sheds) plumbing, bleachers, and irrigation equipment.
- D) Maintain the parking lot(s).
- E) Haul garbage twice a week during the course of the CYBL season, as needed.
- F) Grade the field(s) once during the CYBL season. (when applicable).
- G) Maintain field lights as needed. (when applicable)
- H) Paint field lines as needed. (when applicable)
- I) Drag and mark the field(s).
- J) Pay sixty-five percent (65%) of actual electricity usage at the facility during the CYBL season.
- K) Pay one hundred percent (100%) of water and sewer utilities for the facility during the CYBL season.
- L) Properly clean facility restrooms Monday through Friday during the CYBL season, excluding holidays.
- M) Consult with CYBL during the planning and construction phases of any major renovation project for the facility that is funded by City.
- N) Provide support for projects that have been recommended for approval by the Board of Parks Commissioners and included in the City's budget after organization's complete submission of the Project Request Policy and Submittal Form.

- O) Provide forms to all coaches, umpires, league officials, board members, and maintenance staff for completion of background checks. Background checks will be conducted by City's park and recreation department.
- P) Pay for all background checks.
- Q) Provide to CYBL officials, background check information that City believes to be detrimental to CYBL purpose. All other background checks will be kept confidential.

2. CYBL HEREBY AGREES AS FOLLOWS:

- A) Pay City for rental of the concession facilities in accordance with City's current fee schedule. (when applicable)
- B) Pay City for weekend and holiday garbage pickup when requested by CYBL in accordance with City's current fee schedule.
- C) Provide all supplies for maintaining the field(s).
- D) Properly clean facility restrooms when used on weekends and holidays during the CYBL season.
- E) Keep interior of the concession stand, press box, and storage areas clean at all times. (when applicable)
- F) Assume responsibility of determining whether the field(s) is playable.
- G) Provide light bulbs for concession stand and press box. (when applicable)
- H) Reimburse City thirty-five percent (35%) of actual electricity usage during the CYBL season.
- I) Monitor facility area for trash each game day and deposit in proper receptacles. "Area" includes, but not limited to, fields, bleachers, under bleachers, concession stands, and parking areas.
- J) Receive proper approval for any improvements or changes to said facility from the park and recreation director, park superintendent, or Board of Parks Commissioners.
- K) Complete the Project Request Policy and Submittal Form for all proposed projects desired at the facility.
- L) Provide a list of present board members and one contact person, including telephone number and email address, to the park and recreation department for communication purposes throughout the year.

Agreement for Use of Municipal Property

This Use Agreement is made and entered into by and between the City of Columbus, Nebraska, a Municipal Corporation, hereinafter referred to as "City" and Columbus Youth Softball Association hereinafter referred to as "CYSA"

WHEREAS, the Columbus Youth Softball Association, has proposed to provide recreational softball at Bradshaw Park, herein after referred to as "facility" and has requested that City allow the use of this facility for this purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it agreed by and between the parties that City and CYSA will each provide the following services and perform the following acts as described below.

1. CITY HEREBY AGREES AS FOLLOWS:

- A) Provide use of Bradshaw Park non-exclusively to CYSA for the period of March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2027 for the purpose of recreational softball. CYSA will have priority usage during the CYSA season.
- B) Mow the fields once weekly as needed, weather permitting.
- C) Keep in good repair fences, buildings, (excluding storage sheds) plumbing, bleachers, and irrigation equipment.
- D) Maintain the parking lot(s).
- E) Haul garbage twice a week during the course of the CYSA season, as needed.
- F) Grade the field(s) once during the CYSA season. (when applicable).
- G) Maintain field lights as needed. (when applicable)
- H) Paint field lines as needed. (when applicable)
- I) Pay sixty-five percent (65%) of actual electricity usage at the facility during the CYSA season.
- J) Pay one hundred percent (100%) of water and sewer utilities for the facility during the CYSA season.
- K) Properly clean facility restrooms Monday through Friday during the CYSA season, excluding holidays.
- L) Consult with CYSA during the planning and construction phases of any major renovation project for the facility that is funded by City.
- M) Provide support for projects that have been recommended for approval by the Board of Parks Commissioners and included in the City's budget after organization's complete submission of the Project Request Policy and Submittal Form.

- N) Provide forms to all coaches, umpires, league officials, board members, and maintenance staff for completion of background checks. Background checks will be conducted by City's park and recreation department.
- O) Pay for all background checks.
- P) Provide to CYSA officials, background check information that City believes to be detrimental to CYSA purpose. All other background checks will be kept confidential.

2. CYSA HEREBY AGREES AS FOLLOWS:

- A) Pay City for rental of the concession facilities in accordance with City's current fee schedule. (when applicable)
- B) Pay City for weekend and holiday garbage pickup when requested by CYSA in accordance with City's current fee schedule.
- C) Drag and mark the field(s). (when applicable)
- D) Provide all supplies for maintaining the field(s).
- E) Properly clean facility restrooms when used on weekends and holidays during the CYSA season.
- F) Keep interior of the concession stand, press box, and storage areas clean at all times. (when applicable)
- G) Assume responsibility of determining whether the field(s) is playable.
- H) Provide light bulbs for concession stand and press box. (when applicable)
- I) Reimburse City thirty-five percent (35%) of actual electricity usage during the CYSA season.
- J) Monitor facility area for trash each game day and deposit in proper receptacles. "Area" includes, but not limited to, fields, bleachers, under bleachers, concession stands, and parking areas.
- K) Receive proper approval for any improvements or changes to said facility from the park and recreation director, park superintendent, or Board of Parks Commissioners.
- L) Complete the Project Request Policy and Submittal Form for all proposed projects desired at the facility.
- M) Provide a list of present board members and one contact person, including telephone number and email address, to the park and recreation department for communication purposes throughout the year.

- N) Provide to City a certificate of liability insurance prior the start of the CYSA season, in the minimum amounts of \$1,000,000 per occurrence, \$2,000,000, general aggregate, and liability coverage on all equipment and vehicle used to maintain the field(s). The City of Columbus does not provide any coverage for anything owned or placed at the facility by CYSA including the equipment or vehicles. **The City of Columbus, Nebraska must be listed as an additional insured on the policy and said certificate provided to City.** Insurance coverage must remain in effect throughout the entire CYSA season. By execution of this agreement CYSA agrees to indemnify and hold City harmless on any liability which City might incur as a result of CYSA's or its members' use of the facilities.
- O) If the provisions listed above are not met, said organization does not have City's permission to use the facility.
- P) CYSA agrees that all profits, after expenses, derived from the usage of Bradshaw Park, be utilized on improvements to the facility.
- Q) CYSA shall frequently inspect the facility and report to City any conditions which appear to create a danger to any participants or spectators.
- R) Have all coaches, umpires, league officials, board members, and maintenance staff complete background check forms and return to City's park and recreation department.

Executed by:

Columbus Youth Softball Association

Brent Johnston Dec 23, 2025
 President Signature Date

Brent Johnston
 Printed Name

brentjohnston@yahoo.com
 Email Address

402-910-8985
 Phone Number

CITY OF COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA

ATTEST:

 Mayor

 Date City Clerk
 APPROVED AS TO FORM

By MJ
 City Attorney

Agreement for Use of Municipal Property

This Use Agreement is made and entered into by and between the City of Columbus, Nebraska, a Municipal Corporation, hereinafter referred to as "City" and American Legion Hartman Post 84, of Columbus, Nebraska, hereinafter referred to as "American Legion."

WHEREAS, American Legion Hartman Post 84, has proposed to provide legion baseball at Pawnee Park baseball field herein after referred to as "facility" and has requested that City allow the use of this facility for this purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it agreed by and between the parties that City and American Legion will each provide the following services and perform the following acts as described below.

1. CITY HEREBY AGREES AS FOLLOWS:

- A) Provide use of Pawnee Park baseball field non-exclusively to American Legion for the period of March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2027 for the purpose of legion baseball. All scheduling during this term will be done through the American Legion.
- B) Keep in good repair fences, buildings, (excluding storage sheds) plumbing, bleachers, and irrigation equipment.
- C) Maintain the parking lot(s).
- D) Haul garbage twice a week during the course of the American Legion season, as needed.
- E) Groom the field(s) once during the American Legion season. (when applicable).
- F) Maintain field lights as needed. (when applicable)
- G) Pay sixty-five percent (65%) of actual electricity usage at the facility during the American Legion season.
- H) Pay one hundred percent (100%) of water and sewer utilities for the facility during the American Legion season.
- I) Properly clean facility restrooms Monday through Friday during the American Legion season, excluding holidays.
- J) Consult with American Legion during the planning and construction phases of any major renovation project for the facility that is funded by City.
- K) Provide support for projects that have been recommended for approval by the Board of Parks Commissioners and included in the City's budget after organization's complete submission of the Project Request Policy and Submittal Form.


- L) Provide forms to all coaches, umpires, league officials, board members, and maintenance staff for completion of background checks. Background checks will be conducted by City's park and recreation department.
- M) Pay for all background checks.
- N) Provide to American Legion officials, background check information that City believes to be detrimental to American Legion's purpose. All other background checks will be kept confidential.

2. AMERICAN LEGION HEREBY AGREES AS FOLLOWS:

- A) Pay City for rental of the concession facilities in accordance with City's current fee schedule. (when applicable). The American Legion also makes decisions during their term, on access to the concession stands.
- B) Pay City for weekend and holiday garbage pickup when requested by American Legion in accordance with City's current fee schedule.
- C) Provide all supplies for maintaining the field(s).
- D) Properly clean facility restrooms when used on weekends and holidays during the American Legion season.
- E) Keep interior of the concession stand, press box, and storage areas clean at all times. (when applicable)
- F) Assume responsibility of determining whether the field(s) is playable.
- G) Provide light bulbs for concession stand and press box. (when applicable)
- H) Reimburse City thirty-five percent (35%) of actual electricity usage during the American Legion season.
- I) Monitor facility area for trash each game day and deposit in proper receptacles. "Area" includes, but not limited to, fields, bleachers, under bleachers, concession stands, and parking areas.
- J) Receive proper approval for any improvements or changes to said facility from the park and recreation director, park superintendent, or Board of Parks Commissioners.
- K) Complete the Project Request Policy and Submittal Form for all proposed projects desired at the facility.
- L) Provide a list of present board members and one contact person, including telephone number and email address, to the park and recreation department for communication purposes throughout the year.

- M) Provide to City a certificate of liability insurance prior the start of the American Legion season, in the minimum amounts of \$1,000,000 per occurrence, \$2,000,000, general aggregate, and minimum coverage for any vehicle used to maintain the field(s). The City of Columbus does not provide any coverage for anything owned or placed at the facility by the American Legion including the equipment and vehicles. The City of Columbus, Nebraska must be listed as an additional insured on the policy and said certificate provided to City. Insurance coverage must remain in effect throughout the entire American Legion season. By execution of this agreement American Legion agrees to indemnify and hold City harmless on any liability which City might incur as a result of American Legion or its members' use of the facilities.
- N) If the provisions listed above are not met, said organization does not have City's permission to use the facility.
- O) American Legion agrees that all profits, after expenses, derived from the usage of Pawnee Park baseball field, be utilized on improvements to the facility.
- P) American Legion shall frequently inspect the facility and report to City any conditions which appear to create a danger to any participants or spectators.
- Q) Have all coaches, umpires, league officials, board members, and maintenance staff complete background check forms and return to City's park and recreation department.

Executed by:
American Legion

 1-5-26
President Signature Date

Nick Larson
Printed Name

Nickj17919@gmail.com
Email Address

402-304-2245
Phone Number


CITY OF COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA

ATTEST:

Mayor Date

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM

By 
City Clerk

Agreement for Use of Municipal Property

This Use Agreement is made and entered into by and between the City of Columbus, Nebraska, a Municipal Corporation, hereinafter referred to as "City" and Columbus Mariners Baseball League hereinafter referred to as "CMB"

WHEREAS, the Columbus Mariners Baseball League, has proposed to recreational baseball at Berne Square, herein after referred to as "facility" and has requested that City allow the use of this facility for this purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it agreed by and between the parties that City and CMB will each provide the following services and perform the following acts as described below.

1. CITY HEREBY AGREES AS FOLLOWS:

- A) Provide use of Berne Square non-exclusively to CMB for the period of March 1, 2026 through February 28, 2027 for the purpose of recreational baseball.
- B) Mow the fields once weekly as needed, weather permitting.
- C) Keep in good repair fences, buildings, (excluding storage sheds) plumbing, bleachers, and irrigation equipment.
- D) Maintain the parking lot(s).
- E) Haul garbage twice a week during the course of the CMB season, as needed.
- F) Grade the field(s) once during the CMB season. (when applicable).
- G) Maintain field lights as needed. (when applicable)
- H) Paint field lines as needed. (when applicable)
- I) Pay sixty-five percent (65%) of actual electricity usage at the facility during the CMB season.
- J) Pay one hundred percent (100%) of water and sewer utilities for the facility during the CMB season.
- K) Properly clean facility restrooms Monday through Friday during the CMB season, excluding holidays.
- L) Consult with CMB during the planning and construction phases of any major renovation project for the facility that is funded by City.
- M) Provide support for projects that have been recommended for approval by the Board of Parks Commissioners and included in the City's budget after organization's complete submission of the Project Request Policy and Submittal Form.

- N) Provide forms to all coaches, umpires, league officials, board members, and maintenance staff for completion of background checks. Background checks will be conducted by City's park and recreation department.
- O) Pay for all background checks.
- P) Provide to CMB's officials, background check information that City believes to be detrimental to CMB's purpose. All other background checks will be kept confidential.

2. CMB HEREBY AGREES AS FOLLOWS:

- A) Pay City for rental of the concession facilities in accordance with City's current fee schedule. (when applicable)
- B) Pay City for weekend and holiday garbage pickup when requested by CMB in accordance with City's current fee schedule.
- C) Drag and mark the field(s). (when applicable)
- D) Provide all supplies for maintaining the field(s).
- E) Properly clean facility restrooms when used on weekends and holidays during the CMB season.
- F) Keep interior of the concession stand, press box, and storage areas clean at all times. (when applicable)
- G) Assume responsibility of determining whether the field(s) is playable.
- H) Provide light bulbs for concession stand and press box. (when applicable)
- I) Reimburse City thirty-five percent (35%) of actual electricity usage during the CMB season.
- J) Monitor facility area for trash each game day and deposit in proper receptacles. "Area" includes, but not limited to, fields, bleachers, under bleachers, concession stands, and parking areas.
- K) Receive proper approval for any improvements or changes to said facility from the park and recreation director, park superintendent, or Board of Parks Commissioners.
- L) Complete the Project Request Policy and Submittal Form for all proposed projects desired at the facility.
- M) Provide a list of present board members and one contact person, including telephone number and email address, to the park and recreation department for communication purposes throughout the year.

Agreement for Use of Municipal Property

Comes now the City of Columbus, Nebraska, a Municipal corporation, hereinafter referred to as "City" and the Columbus Area Youth Football Organization, of Columbus, Nebraska, hereinafter referred to as "CAYFO" and hereby jointly and mutually agree as follows:

WHEREAS, Columbus Area Youth Football Organization (CAYFO) has proposed to provide recreational football at Bradshaw Park and has requested the city allow the use of these facilities for this purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it agreed by and between the parties that the City will provide the following services and perform the following acts in consideration for CAYFO providing the acts and performance of various duties as set forth in Section No. 2 below.

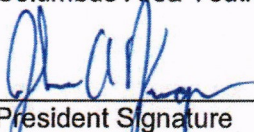
1. The City hereby agrees as follows:
 - A) To provide the Bradshaw Park facilities non-exclusively to CAYFO commencing after the City Council approval at the first council meeting in March of each year and terminating at the February Park Board meeting each year.
 - B) To mow the fields once weekly, weather permitting when and if needed.
 - C) To keep in good repair fences, buildings, plumbing, bleachers and irrigation equipment for the irrigation of the football fields.
 - D) To maintain the parking lot.
 - E) To haul garbage twice a week during the course of the football season if needed.
 - F) To supply toilet paper and cleaning supplies to clean the restrooms Monday through Friday.
 - G) To solicit input from CAYFO for projects funded by the City during the planning and construction phases of any major field and storage building renovation projects or additions.
 - H) Provide support for those projects being done by CAYFO. All projects must be approved and scheduled with the City prior to construction start.
 - I) To provide forms for all coaches, referees, league officials, board members, maintenance staff to complete for background checks. Background checks will be conducted by the Human Resources Dept. of the City of Columbus.
 - J) Pay for all background checks for city teams and organizations.
 - K) Provide information from background checks to league officials that the Police Chief and Public Property Director deemed detrimental to CAYFO's purpose.
 - L) All other background checks will be kept confidential.

2. CAYFO, in consideration of the City performing the acts and providing the facilities as set forth in Section No. 1 above, hereby agrees to perform the following:

- A) Pay to the City for the rental of the concession stand facilities in accordance with current fee structure.
- B) Pay the City for weekend garbage pickup when requested by the CAYFO in accordance with current fee structure.
- C) To mark the football fields.
- D) To supply all supplies for the marking of the football fields.
- E) To properly clean the restrooms and toilet facilities at the softball facility on weekends and holidays during the football season if used.
- F) Monitor facility area for trash each game day and deposit in proper receptacles. "Area" includes, but not limited to, fields, bleachers, under bleachers, concession stands, and parking areas.
- G) To keep the interior of the concession stand and storage area clean at all times.
- H) It is the CAYFO's responsibility to determine if the football fields are playable after a rain.
- I) To supply light bulbs for the storage area at the Bradshaw football facility and to share equally in the cost with the city for maintenance of the scoreboard.
- J) To ensure no parking in the concession, bleacher, or shelter areas except for the purpose of loading and unloading supplies.
- K) Receive proper approval for any improvements or changes to said facility from the Park and Recreation Director, Park Superintendent, or Board of Parks Commissioners.
- L) Complete the Project Request Policy and Submittal Form for all proposed projects desired at the facility.
- M) Provide a list of present board members and one contact person, including telephone number and email address, to the Park Department to communicate with throughout the year.
- N) To provide the City of Columbus Certificate of Liability Insurance by March 1st of each year. The amounts requested are \$1,000,000 per occurrence, \$2,000,000 general aggregate, and minimum coverage of any vehicle used to maintain the fields. Amounts of coverage are minimum amounts and can be greater. THE CITY OF COLUMBUS MUST BE LISTED AS AN ADDITIONAL INSURED ON SAID POLICY AND CERTIFICATE provided to the city. By the execution of the contractor CAYFO agrees to indemnify and hold the city harmless on any liability which the city might incur as a result of CAYFO's or its members use of the facility.

- O) If the provisions of L, M, N and O that are listed above are not met, said organization does not have the City of Columbus permission to use said facility.
- P) CAYFO agrees all profits, after expenses, derived from the usage of Bradshaw Park, be utilized on improvements to the fields.
- Q) The CAYFO shall inspect the facilities and report to the city any conditions which appear to create a danger to either participants or spectators.
- R) Have all coaches, referees, league officials, board members, maintenance staff complete background check forms and return to the City of Columbus (Human Resources Dept.)
- S) Inform all out of town teams using city facilities, that all Columbus coaches, umpires, league officials, board members, maintenance staff have had a background check required by the City of Columbus. We would request a similar courtesy from our out of town guests.

Executed by:
Columbus Area Youth Football Organization

 1-10-2020
President Signature Date

John A. Zwingman
Printed Name

jzwingman@acesne.com
Email Address

(402) 276-4450
Phone Number

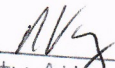
CITY OF COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA

ATTEST:

Mayor Date

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM

By 
City Attorney

4. Request from Columbus Soccer Club for permission to remove the sponsorship wall and expand the sidewalk at Wilderness Park.

City of Columbus, Nebraska

Project Request Policy and Submittal Form

Thank you for your interest in seeking support from the City of Columbus for your project. We believe in fostering community growth and development, and we are committed to supporting initiatives that align with our city's goals and values. Please review the following policy guidelines before completing the submittal form.

Policy Guidelines:

- **Eligibility**
 - Any individual, organization, or group residing or operating within the City of Columbus, NE is eligible to request project support.
 - The project should contribute to the betterment of the community, align with the city's vision, and address an identified need or opportunity.
- **Evaluation Criteria**
 - Projects will be evaluated based on their alignment with the city's goals, potential impact on the community, feasibility, sustainability, and collaboration opportunities.
 - Clear project goals, objectives, and a detailed implementation plan are essential for evaluation.
 - If outside funding is part of this submittal form, those funds must be in the submitters possession prior to the City considering the project with outside funding.
- **Funding and Resources**
 - The city may offer financial assistance or access to resources based on the project's merit, available budget, and the extent of community benefits.
 - Other forms of support, such as volunteer assistance, venue or equipment provision, or partnership opportunities, may be considered based on project requirements and available resources.



Submittal Form

Please complete the following information to submit your request for project support

1. Project Details

Project Name: Wilderness Sponsor Wall/Expansion of Concrete

Project Category: Improvement Project

Project Description:

The Wilderness Sponsor Wall was installed at Wilderness Park when the complex first opened in early 2000s.
The wall contains tiles with sponsor names/logos on it. The other side of the wall contains cases that was used
as a bulletin board. Over the years, the wall has deteriorated. Most of the tiles are partially or completely
broken. The bulletin cases have mold on them, and they haven't been used in several years due to everything
being posted online. CSC is looking to tear down the sponsorship wall and expand the sidewalk to potentially
allow for a food/beverage truck to be placed at Wilderness Park events. It should be noted that the original
sponsors of Wilderness Park are still displayed on a board by the concession stand.

Expected Start Date: Spring/Summer of 2026 Expected End Date: Spring/Summer of 2026

Project Location: Wilderness Park Soccer Complex - 4200 18th Ave. Columbus, NE 68601

2. Requested Support:

Type of Support Requested (e.g., financial assistance, in-kind contributions, logistical support, advocacy, etc.):

The Columbus Soccer Club is a nonprofit organization. The Columbus Soccer Club has an annual sponsorship
drive that raises money for the organization. Some of the funds from the sponsorship drive will be used for
this improvement project. No funds are needed from the City of Columbus.



Columbus Parks and Recreation

402-562-4234

Detailed Explanation of Support Requested:

This is an improvement project to a city park that requires no financial assistance from the City of Columbus.

3. Project Goals and Objectives:

Briefly describe the goals and objectives of your project:

The goal with this project is to continue to make improvements to Wilderness Park Soccer Complex.

How does your project align with the city's goals and vision?

This is an improvement to a city park that is utilized by several different organizations. Over the past 3 years, the Columbus Soccer Club has invested in purchasing new soccer goals and soccer nets (over \$30,000).

The Columbus Soccer Club has also invested in overseeding the soccer fields (approx. \$12,000) over the past 3 years. In addition to these improvements, CSC has invested in the complex in several other ways as well including a new stereo/speaker, upgrading the electrical outlet, new signage, etc.

What is the potential impact of your project on the community?

The Columbus Soccer Club hosts two large tournaments each year which brings in thousands of people into the Columbus community which supports local businesses. These are the two largest youth tournaments in Columbus.

The Columbus Classic had 102 teams compete in it while the 2024 Columbus Harvest Cup had 90 teams compete in it. For the Columbus Soccer Club to continue to attract teams from all around Nebraska, Iowa, and South Dakota, we need to continue to make improvements to the soccer complex.



Columbus Parks and Recreation

402-562-4234

4. Implementation Plan:

Outline the key steps and activities involved in implementing your project:

Tear down old wall and potentially expand the sidewalk (concrete) by the pavilion to allow for a food truck.

Provide a timeline for each major milestone:

Start and complete by spring/summer of 2026.

5. Budget:

Projected Budget (if applicable):

The Columbus Soccer Club sponsorship program will fund this project.

Other sources of funding secured (must provide proof of funds):



Columbus Parks and Recreation

402-562-4234

6. Contact Information:

Name: Scott Jarecke

Organization (if applicable): Columbus Soccer Club

Address: PO Box 305, Columbus, NE 68602

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Please submit the completed form to the City of Columbus, NE electronically by emailing it to Sydney.mroczek@columbusne.us If you are not able to email your submittal, you may drop it off at City Hall to the City Administrator's attention.

The appropriate staff and committee will review your request and contact you for any additional information if required. Submission of this form does not guarantee support or funding from the city.

We appreciate your commitment to making our city a better place, and we look forward to reviewing your project request. By submitting this form, you understand that the City is considering the project based on the terms provided here. Any changes to the terms provided here need to be re-submitted and considered.

Thank you,

The City of Columbus, Nebraska

5. Park and Recreation Director report.



Director Report

Parks Maintenance

- Normal operations
- Tree Grant got approved at City Council on 1/19/26
- Repainting Park Signs
- Removal of trees
- Ordering replacement parts to Playground Equipment
- Performing equipment maintenance
- Working to get aerators working at Pawnee Park

Recreation

- Hired the new coordinator
- Youth Cooking Class
- Planning for summer events department wide
- Aquatics held Family swim night on the 10th
- Met with remaining Youth Organizations to sign agreements and touch base before we head into tournament season – Tournaments start in April and run until the end of June
- Met with the Legacy Youth Foundation for Drive-In Movie Plans in Pawnee Park
- Plunge motor was delivered, waiting to install

Golf

- Well intake repair at Quail Run
- Tree removals – working on getting pace of play up

Aquatic Center Attendance:

Month	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
August	1348	1275	580 (AC not open)	334
September	1320	1066	1081	855
October	1242	1169	1225	1084
November	1203	1111	948	983
December	981	1100	884	875
January	1120	886	937	1070
February	1347	1272	913	
March	1739	1266	1324	
April	1332	1341	1357	
May	1464	1217	943	
June	967	810	708	
July	773	969	968	

Aquatic Center Membership Count:

Month	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
August	670	412	418	410



Columbus Parks and Recreation

<http://columbusne.us/571/Parks-Recreation> | 402-562-4234 | ParksandRec@columbusne.us

September	669	422	437	420
October	612	424	425	415
November	617	434	423	422
December	601	442	413	427
January	588	443	401	443
February	577	458	420	
March	522	445	414	
April	505	446	410	
May	506	463	425	
June	434	427	423	
July	412	429	423	

Pawnee Plunge Attendance

Month	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
June	16363	15507	15809
July	17482	16544	17217
August	6094	5587	3577

Pawnee Plunge Membership

Month	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
June	1012	1207	1304
July	1022	1071	1112
August	1022	1089	1099

February Events

- Community sports meeting – February 17th
- Swim Lessons – February 9th
- Family Swim Night – February 21st
- Youth Sign-Up Day – March 7th

CIP Updates

- Sertomaland Playground equipment has been delivered, will work on getting an installation date this spring.
- CIP Planning meeting on Monday, February 23rd at 6:00 pm.

6. Adjournment.