SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT
THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING
October 20, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT
9300 WEBER PARK PLACE
SKOKIE, IL 60077-4200

REGULAR MEETING OF THE SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, October 20, 2026 – 6:30 p.m.
9300 Weber Park Place, Skokie, IL 60077

AGENDA

1. **Open Meeting**
   - 1.1. Call Meeting to Order
   - 1.2. Pledge of Allegiance
   - 1.3. Roll Call
   - 1.4. Approval of Remote Participation, if Requested

2. **Comments from Citizens**

3. **Consent Agenda Approval**
   - 3.1. Approval of Minutes
     - 3.1.a. Shawnee Public Hearing Minutes – August 19, 2026
     - 3.1 b. Lockwood Public Hearing Minutes – August 19, 2026
     - 3.1 c. Regular Meeting Minutes – September 15, 2026
     - 3.1.d. Public Hearing Referendum In-person Q&A – September 22, 2026
   - 3.2. Bills Payable for the Month of October 2026
   - 3.3. Treasurer's Report
   - 3.4. Staff Reports
     - 3.4.a. Parks Division Report
     - 3.4.b. Recreation and Facility Divisions Report
     - 3.4.c. Marketing and Sponsorships Report
     - 3.4.d. Information Technology Report
     - 3.4.e. Community Committee Report
     - 3.5 f. NRPA Conference Report

4. **Treasurer's Action Items**
   - 4.1. Approval of Ordinance #26-006 Limited Tax Bonds
   - 4.2. Approval of Resolution #26-004 Tax Levy

5. **Attorney's Report**

6. **Staff Action Items**
   6.1. Backlot Bash Financial Report

7. **President's Report**
   7.1. Regular Meeting — Tuesday, November 24, 6:30 p.m.
   7.2. Commissioner Comments
   7.3. Director Comments

8. **Old Business**

9. **New Business**

10. **Adjournment**

MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HEARING ON IMPROVEMENTS AT SHAWNEE PARK
August 19, 2026 - 7:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING

Board Members Present:	President Elsa Fischer Vice-President Ezra Jaffe Commissioner Courtney Williams Commissioner Susan Aberman
Others Present:	Executive Director Michelle J. Tuft Superintendent of Parks, Planning & Facilities Corrie Guynn Office Manager Park Services Anjum Hava Horticultural Supervisor Jim Hallm Operations Supervisor Jeff Hacker

CALL TO ORDER

Executive Director Michelle Tuft called the public hearing of the Board of Park Commissioners for the improvements at Shawnee Park to order at 7:00 p.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

Executive Director Michelle Tuft introduced herself.
President Elsa Fischer introduced herself.
Vice-President Ezra Jaffe introduced himself.
Commissioner Courtney Williams introduced herself.
Superintendent of Parks, Planning & Facilities Corrie Guynn introduced himself.
Horticultural Supervisor Jim Hallm introduced himself.
Operations Supervisor Jeff Hacker introduced himself.
Office Manager Park Services Anjum Hava introduced herself.

SHAWNEE PARK PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT AND PARK AMENITY UPDATES

Executive Director Michelle Tuft began the presentation by showing a rendering of the proposed new playground at Shawnee Park. She then invited Superintendent Corrie Guynn to present the Shawnee Park renovation project.

Mr. Guynn explained that the existing playground equipment is approximately 32 years old and needs replacement.

Mr. Guynn presented the proposed design for the new Shawnee Park playground and other amenities. The improvements will include new playground equipment with updated climbing features, picnic tables, benches, garbage receptacles, water fountain, and concrete work surrounding the playground area.

The new playground will include a variety of climbing features and a new 3-slide structure that the District does not have at any other playground. Another new feature looks like an elevator, you get on it, it pushes you down and pulls you back up. The playground will also include a swing set with two belt swings, one enclosed tot swing, and one ADA plastic molded swing.

Executive Director Michelle Tuft stated that landscaping improvements will also be completed as part of the renovation. The yews along the east side of the playground and in the sign bed will be removed to create a more open and accessible appearance. The existing circular planting bed will also be removed, as it is no longer serving a functional purpose.

All the demo work will be done in-house. Staff will remove the equipment in late Fall, early Winter 2026. The contractor will install the equipment in late Spring of 2027, as soon as the weather permits.

The expected opening of the new playground would be late Spring, early Summer of 2027.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

A resident inquired if the basketball court could have the original pavement and not asphalt. Mr. Guynn mentioned that all of the park's basketball courts are asphalt, where some are just color coated so they appear to be a different material. The resident asked if the colors could be applied. Mr. Guynn stated that the lines of the court will be looked into and if changes need to be made, it will be done accordingly.

A resident asked if a dog water fountain can be included when the drinking fountain is replaced, and Mr. Guynn said we will try to do that.

A resident asked whether recycling bins could be added along with the new garbage cans, noting the large amount of waste generated by children throughout the day. Mr. Guynn stated that adding recycling bins should not be an issue and that the Park District would be happy to include them as part of the improvements.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Executive Director Michelle Tuft asked all attendees to make sure they signed in and added their email address for further updates and information on the renovation of Shawnee Park. She also stated that if there are ever any emergency issues at the park that require immediate attention, call the Skokie police and report it. The park monitor can also be contacted for any minor issues at the park.

ADJOURNMENT

Executive Director Michelle Tuft thanked everyone for attending and providing input, and adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

_____	_____
Elsa Fischer	Michelle Tuft
President	Executive Director

Vision Statement
The Skokie Park District envisions a community where all of its residents enjoy a high quality of life through leisure time pursuits, beautiful open spaces, and first-rate facilities.
Mission Statement
The Skokie Park District will realize its vision through teamwork, community partnerships, sound fiscal management, and creativity in every area of its operation.
Core Values
The Skokie Park District will fulfill its mission through:
●Commitment● Integrity● Innovation● Service ●Openness ●Environmental Stewardship ●Inclusiveness

MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HEARING ON IMPROVEMENTS AT LOCKWOOD PARK
August 19, 2026 - 6:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING

Board Members Present:	President Elsa Fischer Vice-President Ezra Jaffe Commissioner Courtney Williams Commissioner Susan Aberman
Others Present:	Executive Director Michelle J. Tuft Superintendent of Parks, Planning & Facilities Corrie Guynn Office Manager Park Services Anjum Hava Horticultural Supervisor Jim Hallm Operations Supervisor Jeff Hacker

CALL TO ORDER

Executive Director Michelle Tuft called the public hearing of the Board of Park Commissioners for the improvements at Lockwood Park to order at 6:00 p.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

Executive Director Michelle Tuft introduced herself.
President Elsa Fischer introduced herself.
Vice-President Ezra Jaffe introduced himself.
Commissioner Courtney Williams introduced herself.
Superintendent of Parks, Planning & Facilities Corrie Guynn introduced himself.
Horticultural Supervisor Jim Hallm introduced himself.
Operations Supervisor Jeff Hacker introduced himself.
Office Manager Park Services Anjum Hava introduced herself.

LOCKWOOD PARK PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT AND PARK AMENITY UPDATES

Executive Director Michelle Tuft began the presentation by showing a rendering of the proposed new playground at Lockwood Park. She then invited Superintendent Corrie Guynn to present the Lockwood Park renovation project.

Mr. Guynn explained that the existing playground equipment is approximately 20 years old and needs replacement. He noted that several other improvements to the park have already been completed, including the renovation of the basketball courts, replacement of the baseball backstops, installation of grass sidelines on the baseball field, and replacement of the water fountain. These improvements were completed over the past four years, making the playground renovation the final major component of the park improvements.

Mr. Guynn then presented the proposed design for the new Lockwood Park playground and

amenities. The improvements will include new playground equipment with updated climbing features, picnic tables, benches, garbage receptacles, and concrete work surrounding the playground area.

The new playground will feature two separate play structures: one designed for children ages 2–5 and another designed for children ages 5–12. The structures will include a variety of climbing features and slides. The playground will also include a swing set with one belt swing, one enclosed tot swing, one ADA plastic molded swing, and a new parent-and-tot swing.

All the demo work will be done in-house. Staff will remove the equipment in late Fall, early Winter 2026. The contractor will install the equipment in late Spring of 2027 as soon as the weather permits.

The expected opening of the new playground would be late Spring, early Summer of 2027.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

A resident inquired if the basketball court could have new rims and backboards. Mr. Guynn said they will be replaced.

A resident acknowledged the park district for the amazing parks in Skokie and how wonderful of a job the park district does to maintain them.

A resident inquired whether a splash pad could be included as part of the Lockwood Park renovation. Mr. Guynn explained that a splash pad is not being contemplated at Lockwood Park. He noted that there is a splash pad available at Central Park in Skokie. The resident acknowledged the explanation and said they were simply curious about the possibility.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Executive Director Michelle Tuft asked all attendees to make sure they have signed in and included their email address to receive updates and information on the renovation of Terminal Park.

ADJOURNMENT

Executive Director Michelle Tuft thanked everyone for attending and providing input, and adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

_____	_____
Elsa Fischer	Michelle Tuft
President	Executive Director

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MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT
SEPTEMBER 15, 2026
6:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING

Board Members Present:	President Elsa Fischer Vice President Ezra Jaffe Commissioner Susan Aberman Commissioner Antonia Kasalo-Terihaj
Absent:	Commissioner Courtney Williams
Others Present:	Executive Director/Secretary Michelle J. Tuft Superintendent of Business Services William Schmidt Superintendent of Parks, Planning & Facilities Corrie Guynn Superintendent of Recreation & Facilities Breanne Labus Assistant Superintendent of Recreation Mary Amato Executive Administrative Assistant Ann Perez

CALL TO ORDER

President Fischer called the regular meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners to order at 6:30 p.m. and called for the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mr. Ken Marley commented on the Park District's proposed Timber Ridge Park expansion. He stated that the proposal was ill-timed and poorly located, noting that Timber Ridge Park already provides recreational space for residents and is within easy walking distance of Central Park.

The amenities at a cost of $12 million seems inappropriate. He does not support the expansion of Timber Ridge Park as it places a burden on Skokie residents for the redundant benefit of an already well served neighborhood.

PUBLIC HEARING – BOND ISSUE NOTIFICATION

Treasurer Schmidt explained that the public hearing is for the proposed $2,950,000 limited tax general obligation bonds series 2026.

President Fischer called the meeting to order and asked if there were any public comments and there were none. With no comments, the public hearing was closed.

Vice President Jaffe asked Mr. Schmidt when the Cook County property taxes were due and Mr. Schmidt said they are due on October 1, 2026, and explained the process.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

Vice President Jaffe moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Aberman seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Commissioner Williams was absent. Motion carried. The Consent Agenda consisted of the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of August 18, 2026, minutes of the Public Hearing on Improvements at Timber Ridge Park of August 20, 2026, bills payable for the month of August/September 2026, Treasurer's Report, and Staff Reports.

APPROVAL OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT PURCHASE FOR LOCKWOOD PARK

Mr. Guynn requested the approval of the playground purchase for Lockwood Park. Five vendors submitted proposals for the site, and staff selected Burke's design. A public meeting was held, and residents reviewed the design favorably.

Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj moved to approve the bid from Burke for the playground equipment at Lockwood Park for a total of $152,997.00. Vice President Jaffe seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Commissioner Williams was absent. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT PURCHASE FOR SHAWNEE PARK

Mr. Guynn requested approval to purchase playground equipment for Shawnee Park. Five vendors were invited to submit proposals, and four responded. After reviewing the proposals, staff selected ImagineNation's design. The design was presented at a public meeting and received positive feedback.

Vice President Jaffe moved to approve the bid from ImagineNation for the playground equipment at Shawnee park for a total of $108,939.00. Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Commissioner Williams was absent. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF SKOKIE SPORTS PARK NETTING INSTALLATION

Mr. Guynn requested approval to install additional netting at Skokie Sports Park, to address golf balls entering the gas company's property. He noted that all existing netting had been replaced three years earlier. The new netting will be installed using the existing posts and beginning five feet below the current netting to create a slight overlap. The three front panels will be 100 feet high, while the panels extending north and south will be 80 feet high.

There were four bidders and the lowest bidder was Ace Netting for a cost of $326,509.16. Mr. Guynn said this will be paid out of the operating budget.

Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj moved to approve the bid from Ace Netting for $326,509.16 for the Skokie Sports Park Netting Installation bid. Commissioner Aberman seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Commissioner Williams was absent. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The next regular board meeting will be held Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Commissioner Aberman said Backlot Bash was great. So many people came in the rain. Commissioner Aberman said staff did a good job trying to keep people dry.

Ms. Tuft said this was Ms. Labus's third year running the Backlot Bash, and she does a great job.

Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj said she received good feedback on the bands. .

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Ms. Tuft reminded the Commissioners of Ann Perez, the Executive Administrative Assistant's retirement party next Thursday, September 24, 2026, at Sketch Book.

Ms. Tuft and the Commissioners congratulated and thanked Ann for her work. Ann said it was wonderful to work for the park district for 23 years.

Maeve Creagon was introduced to the Commissioners. She will be the new Executive Administrative Assistant.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj moved to enter Executive Session to conduct the semi-annual review of the minutes and to authorize the destruction of executive session recordings pursuant to Section 2(c)(21). Vice President Jaffe seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Commissioner Williams was absent. Motion carried.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

The regular meeting reconvened at 6:51 p.m. Vice President Jaffe moved that, following the review of Executive Session meeting minutes dating from January 2004, to have the minutes not previously released remain closed because of the need for confidentiality still exists as to all or part of the minutes. Commissioner

Kasalo-Terihaj seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Commissioner Williams was absent. Motion carried.

Vice President Jaffe moved to approve Resolution #26-003 authorizing the destruction of verbatim recordings for the closed session meetings of September 17, 2024, December 17, 2024, and January 21, 2025. Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Commissioner Williams was absent. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Aberman moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:53 p.m. Vice President Jaffe seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye. Commissioner Williams was absent. Motion carried. The regular meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

_____ _____

Elsa Fischer
President

Michelle J. Tuft
Secretary

October 20, 2026

SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT

SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 15, 2026
SIGN IN SHEET

NAME (Please Print)	SIGNATURE	EMAIL ADDRESS
Maeve Cremgan	[redacted]	[redacted]
KEN MARLEY		

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HEARING ON REFERENDUM Q&A SESSION
WEBER CENTER
September 22, 2026 - 6:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING

Board Members Present:

- President, Elsa Fischer
- Commissioner, Courtney Williams

Others Present:

- Executive Director, Michelle Tuft
- Superintendent of Parks, Planning and Facilities Corrie Guynn
- Superintendent of Recreation & Facilities, Breanne Labus
- Assistant Superintendent of Recreation, Mary Amato
- Director of Human Resources, Keli Stonitsch

CALL TO ORDER

President Fischer called the public hearing of the Board of Park Commissioners for a Q&A on the upcoming November 3, 2026. referendum at 6:00 p.m. and led the recitation of the pledge.

INTRODUCTIONS

President Fischer, Executive Director Michelle Tuft, Superintendent of Parks, Planning & Facilities Corrie Guynn Superintendent of Recreation & Facilities, Breanne Labus, Assistant Superintendent of Recreation, Mary Amato, and Director of Human Resources, Keli Stonitsch introduced themselves.

STAFF PRESENTATION

President Fischer, Executive Director Michelle Tuft, and Superintendent of Parks, Planning & Facilities Corrie Guynn presented on the bond referendum and the project details.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

1. Will a fishing area be part of the Channelside plans?
    - Response: Presenters shared fishing is already available at the dock by Dammrich Rowing Center.
2. How has the Skokie Parks District reached out to residents regarding the referendum?
    - Response: Presenters shared that the public was notified through weekly E-news blasts, social media postings, website postings, and lobby banners in facilities. Surveys, community meetings, and focus groups were held to determine what amenities residents wanted.
3. Is it possible to split the Sports Park East project and the Channelside project into two referendums?
    - Response: No, the ballot question deadline has passed.
4. What will staffing be like at Sports Park East?
    - Response: Current staff will take on the management of the building and grounds. An additional full-time maintenance staff member will need to be hired as well as part-time staff.
5. Concerns expressed by residents regarding the location and construction of Channelside and Sports Park East facilities if the referendum passes:
    a) Proximity to Evanston
    b) Mosquito concerns due to proximity to the channel
    c) Community concerts may be held less frequently in neighborhood parks if a larger performance facility is built
    d) Aesthetics of a bandshell
    e) The possibility of vandalism and graffiti
    f) Potential odors of the site from the channel
    g) The building costs will exceed the bond amount
        - Responses:
            - a resident stated that mosquitoes and vandalism are not an existing issue in that area. They stated that more trees and public resources can create a stronger community in the long term.
            - Staff explained that odor from the channel is more prominent on the south end of the park. The active amenities are on the north end where the odor is not prevalent.
6. Pro-referendum resident statements regarding the location of the new parks:
    a) Planting more trees will improve Skokie
    b) Channelside land is available and currently inaccessible for public use. The referendum passing would allow the land to be put to mutually beneficial use.

7. Concerns regarding the ballot measure and taxation:
    a) A resident found the wording of the question on the ballot confusing.
    b) As Skokie Village taxes increase, a resident is concerned about additional increases because of the referendum passing.
        - Reponses:
            - Staff explained that the deadline for the ballot wording has passed.
            - Staff explained that the bond sale will only move forward if a majority of the voters are in favor of the projects.

ADJOURNMENT

President Fischer thanked everyone for attending and providing input, and adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

X _____

Elsa Fischer
President

X _____

Michelle Tuft
Executive Director

Referendum Informational Meeting 9/22/26 6:00 PM

Name	Phone Number
SAM LISEC	[redacted]
Matthew Eadie (media)	
Doug Roewer	
Scott BAGNALL	
Donald MINSky	
Jeff Strand	
Fabian Perez	
STEFAN WERNIKOFF	
Ramona Antonen	
Mina NEHME	
Ross Mather	
Vesna Zahor	
Ute Richter	
Joe Boka	

Referendum Informational Meeting 9/22/26 6:00 PM

Name	Phone Number
LORI PROSNITZ	[redacted]
Dave Skafren	
Dennis Clark	
Sally & John Arden	
Jack Kratik	

SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT
TREASURERS REPORT
October 20, 2026

The status of the cash balances and investments as of September 30, 2026, are in the board packet.

As of October 9, $9,027,862.65 of the 2025 first installment tax levy has been received; $1,814,493 was received in September early October 2026.

Checking account interest rates have increased slightly from 2.2% to 2.22%.

The money market interest rate has increased slightly from 3.29% to 3.34%.

The tax collections by year are listed at the bottom of the Cash Balances and Investments report.

Account details are available on request. If you have any questions, please let me know.

William G. Schmidt
Treasurer, Skokie Park District

SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT
TREASURER'S REPORT
CASH BALANCES AND INVESTMENTS

October 20, 2026
(As of 09/30/2026)

GENERAL FUND	
CASH CHECKING ACCOUNTS CHASE/BANK ONE: 2.22%	$7,934,098.02
Savings:0.5%	209,786.19
U.S. TREASURY PLUS MONEY MARKET FUND @3.34%	1,000,000.00
INVESTMENT WITH NORTH SHORE COMMUNITY BANK & TRUST	
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT: Due 1/23/27 – 3.45%	659,096.47
INVESTMENT WITH FIRST BANK CHICAGO	
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT RENEWAL DUE 6/15/27 3.93%	288,840.44
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT RENEWAL DUE 6/15/27 3.93%	275,706.67
INVESTMENT WITH BYLINE BANK MONEY MARKET FUND 3.65%	200,673.75
TOTAL CASH AND INVESTMENTS:	$10,568,201.54

TAX COLLECTIONS BY TAX YEAR (AT 08/31/2026)

YEAR	$ COLLECTED	% OF LEVY
2019	10,876,000.39	96.67%
2020	11,041,668.75	97.23%
2021	11,465,631.66	98.19%
2022	12,413,775.40	99.02%
2023	12,674,871.62	98.16%
2024	13,457,421.10	98.32%
2025	9,027,862.65	65.00%

Skokie Park District
Parks Board Report: October 2026

Park Services

Corrie Guynn
Superintendent of Parks, Planning and Facilities

- The turf restoration project at the Dammrich Rowing Center has been completed. The crushed stone areas, steel edging, and worn areas have been excavated and sodded. This was part of the larger asphalt project that took place at the site.
- The front flower bed renovation at Tot Learning Center has begun. The beds are being reduced and reshaped.
- Contractors completed painting of the second-floor vestibule area at the Oakton Community Center.
- Operations staff disassembled and reassembled the new firehouse for the Exploritorium.
- The horticulture staff pulled annuals and planted mums and fall annuals at beds throughout the district.
- Mowing crews have been working to keep up with the rapidly growing grass while also managing the leaves that are beginning to fall.
- The horticulture staff planted trees at Central Park, Timber Ridge Park, and Terminal Park.
- The athletics staff continue to prep and maintain the ballfields and soccer lines at the sport field sites.

Recreation and Facilities Board Report: October 2026

Prepared by:

- Superintendent of Recreation and Facilities – Breanne Labus
- Assistant Superintendent of Recreation – Mary Amato
- Superintendent of Parks, Planning and Facilities – Corrie Guynn

Facility Rentals and Birthday Parties

Type	2025	2026	Change (unit)
Devonshire			
Room Rental	7	8	+1
Birthday Parties	4	4	0
Emily Oaks Nature Center			
Room Rental	0	3	+3
Birthday Parties	3	4	+1
Non-profit Shelter Rentals	5	3	-2
Oakton/Exploritorium			
Room Rental	13	17	+4
Exploritorium Birthday Parties	13	39	+26
Exploritorium Group Visits	0	0	0
Rally Room			
Room Rental	n/a	4	+4
Court Rental (with Room)	n/a	0	0
Park Services			
Birthday Parties	3	9	+6
Skatium *Skatium was closed in September 2025 due to mechanical failure.			
Birthday Party Rentals	0 *	7	+7
Studio Rink Rentals	0*	4	+4
Main Rink Rentals	0*	0	0
Skokie Heritage Museum			
Room Rental	0	0	0
Weber Center			
Room Rental	5	6	+1
Birthday Parties	4	3	-1
Athletic Fields			
Baseball – HS Wood Bat	8	7	-1
Baseball – CSYBA	15	15	0
Basketball – NBL	n/a	7	+7

Revenue and Visits

Exploritorium (Visits) *Exploritorium closed for Tubes & Tunnels renovation Sept 2025			
Admissions	230	2,180	+847.8%
Skokie Heritage Museum (Visits)			
Visits	527	201	-61.9%
Skokie Sports Park (Revenue)			
Range	$124,570	$106,947	-14.1%
Simulator	$1,726	$2,165	+25.4%
Grass Tees	$4,100	$3,745	-8.7%
Mini Golf	$26,755	$23,378	-12.6%
Batting Cages	$4,326	$5,372	+24.2%
Concessions	$3,980	$3,745	-5.6%
Alcohol	$3,728	$3,992	+7.1%
Total	**$169,185**	**$149,344**	**-11.7%**
Weber/Athletics (Visits)			
Open Gym	25	99	+296.0%
Late Night	191	81	-57.6%
Table Tennis	70	48	-31.4%
Open Pickleball	70	5	-92.9%
Men's 40+ Basketball	69	43	-37.7%
Private Tennis/Pickleball	10	11	+10.0%
Weber Golf Course (Revenue)			
Greens Fees	$26,380	$21,440	-18.7%
Rentals	$1,465	$1,040	-29.0%
Concessions	$993	$693	-30.2%
Alcohol	$1,037	$801	-22.8%
Total	**$29,875**	**$23,974**	**-19.8%**

Childcare Enrollment

Type	2025	2026	Change (unit)
Devonshire Preschool			
2's	12	16	+4
3's	30	15	-15
4's	36	33	-3
Enrichment	29	24	-5
Total	**107**	**88**	**-19**
Emily Oak's Growing Sprouts			
Half and Full / Lunch Bunch	23 / 2	24 / 12	+1 / +10
SPACE			

AM	202	206	+4
PM	582	553	-29
Total	**784**	**759**	**-25**
Tot Learning Center			
Infants	10	13	+3
Toddler 1	10	15	+5
Toddler 2	11	12	+1
2/3's	14	14	0
Preschool	13	19	+6
Pre-K	20	17	-3
Total	**78**	**90**	**+12**

Facility Updates and Highlights

Aquatics – Scott Runkle

Devonshire Aquatic Center:

- Winterization has been completed.
- Staff are prepping both pools for a new coat of paint.

Skokie Water Playground:

- Winterization has been completed.
- Staff are meeting with vendors for off-season projects.

Devonshire Cultural Center – Robin Horwitz

- The Devonshire County Fair welcomed 142 attendees and generated a net profit of $4,003, supported by strong sponsorship and efficient event spending. Attendance at the County Fair was lower than the 277 attendees recorded last year, likely impacted by a concurrent Bears game.
- The Skokie Art Guild's Members' Showcase opening reception attracted 25 guests. The exhibit remains on display through October 17.

Emily Oaks Nature Center – Lee Hansen

Special event:

- The second annual Monarch Migration Fun Run took place on September 13, welcoming participants of all ages for a 1K or 3K walk/run celebrating the monarch butterfly migration. Participants received a t-shirt, milkweed seeds, and enjoyed educational activities following the event.

Monarch Migration Fun Run	**2025**	**2026**

Adult Entries	35	29
Child Entries	18	14
Total Revenue	**$1,309**	**$1,106**
Volunteers + Staff	15 + 4	9 + 3

Special event/contest:

- The annual Nature Photography Contest featured 59 photographs from 14 photographers. Winning entries are on display in the Woodland Wander Inn through November.



Ghost City



Anticipation

General maintenance:

- Two original Tot Room windows were replaced to improve ventilation, with installation of a third window scheduled for October.
- Exterior maintenance began in September, including painting metal doors, roof stacks, I-beam supports, and a light pole. Deck cleaning and staining are scheduled for October.

Drop-in programing (Classes & Groups):

- 14 total classes/program completed in September 2026 (up +4 from 2025)

Volunteer workdays:

- 101.25 hours total in September 2026 (down 54.25 from 2025)

Oakton Community Center – Aryn Fletcher

Event participants:

Event	**2026**	**Compared to 2025**
Storybook Corner (Sept 1)	55	+34
Sensory Play & Create (Sept 9)	143	Did not run in 2025
Parent-Tot Yoga (Sept 15)	130	Did not run in 2025
Kids Night Out (Sept 18)	20 (Max enrollment!)	Did not run in 2025
Paint & Play (Sept 28)	47	Did not run in 2025

- Touch a Truck was cancelled due to inclement weather. Next year a rain date will be determined as a back-up plan.
- A new firehouse play structure with an attached slide was added to Tiny Town in the Exploritorium. The playhouse was acquired from a closing indoor play facility and installed by Park Services staff in September.

Skatium Ice Arena – Brandi Luecke

General maintenance:

- Critical repairs were completed to the Studio Rink pump system, including replacement of a failed coupling and cracked housing, with equipment realigned to help prevent future damage.
- A leak in the domestic hot water line was identified and repaired by Park Services staff.
- The Skatium experienced a minor ammonia leak on September 19, resulting in a temporary closure. The issue was quickly resolved, and the facility reopened the same day for scheduled public skate. Staff successfully executed established emergency procedures and safely evacuated the building.

Enrollment:

- Hockey league evaluations were completed in September, with 121 players registered for the 2026-27 season.
- Figure skating class enrollment:
  Summer session: 331 participants (down 15 from 2025)
  Fall 1 session: 329 participants (up 41 from 2025)
- Symmetry Theatre on Ice completed auditions and is expected to field approximately 105 skaters across seven teams for the upcoming season.

Skokie Heritage Museum– Emily England

Programming:

- Fall yoga began with two classes serving 17 participants.
- The museum hosted eight tours, including three Fairview School third-grade tours, one International Educational Center tour, three new employee tours, and one Skokie Historical Society tour.
- The September 2 History of Old Orchard Mall walking tour drew three participants, while the September 9 Cold War & Civil Rights tour had four participants. Coverage from a Chicago Tribune journalist who attended a previous tour resulted in recognition of Old Orchard's 70th anniversary.
- Ten volunteers contributed more than 91 service hours during September, including two District 219 Bridges program students.

Upcoming programming:

- Museum staff are preparing the annual Haunted Heritage Cemetery Walk on October 31, featuring nine volunteer actors portraying historical Skokie residents.

Research requests:

- Museum staff fulfilled six research requests and two image-use requests, including support for a WTTW documentary utilizing approximately 10 historic photographs from the collection.

Staffing & general maintenance:

- The Museum Manager attended the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) Conference in Providence, Rhode Island.

- The museum was closed to the public for the first two weeks of September to accommodate staff scheduling and facility repairs, including second-floor ceiling leak remediation.

Skokie Sports Park – Tom Hejnowski

General maintenance:

- Construction is still underway on Oakton Street, limiting access to the Sports Park Entrance.

Programming & events:

- Free Trackman tournaments were added on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays on the driving range.
- A Father/Son mini golf tournament is Scheduled for Oct. 18 with 80 expected participants.
- High School golf teams are finishing up their seasons and invoices for driving range use will be sent the third week of October.

Tot Learning Center – Fouzia Khan

Programming & events:

- Tot Learning Center hosted a Welcome Families Event at Didier Farms to kick off the school year, with strong participation from enrolled families.
- The annual Grand Day Celebration brought together grandparents, children, and staff for classroom visits, a magic show by a former TLC parent and grandparent Jaime Aponte, and social activities.

Weber Golf Course – Tom Hejnowski

Programming:

- The golf course was closed for three days due to weather-related conditions.
- A church group event took place on October 3, with approximately 20 participants.
- A One Goal FootGolf event took place on October 4, with over 25 participants.

Weber Center/Fitness First – Ethan Bontly

Programming:

- Registrations are strong for most programs. Staff are exploring opportunities to increase programming, including a potential Flag Football League starting in the Fall of 2027.

Staffing:

- Anna Kasper, the WLC Recreation Coordinator, has resigned and moved onto another agency. The hiring process to find her replacement is underway.

Fitness First:

Membership	2025	2026	Change (unit)
Visits	15,296	15,970	+674
Personal Training Tickets	189	230	+41
Massage Tickets	55	72	+17
Pilates Tickets	58	42	-16

Marketing & Communications Board Report
August ‘26

Photos

A few photos from the past month taken by our Social Media Coordinator and freelance photographer.



Night Golf at Skokie Sports Park





Backlot Bash Carnival



Rod Tuffcurls & The Benchpress

Social Media

See the following pages for a full social media report.



NOTES & INSIGHTS

Social Media Follow Totals:

- Facebook: 111 new follows, 17 unfollows, 10,933 total
- Instagram: 226 new follows, 49 unfollows, 6,042 total
- X is up 2 followers. 2150 total followers.
- Bluesky is up 3 followers. 209 total followers.
- TikTok is up 106 followers. 1706 total followers.

Higher Frequency Posts (FB): September Happenings (2.07), Safe Sitters Essentials (1.86), Skatium Update (1.82)
Frequency is how often one unique person saw a post.

High Engagement Posts (FB): Savory Spoon (151), Referendum Post (134), Exploritorium Firehouse (132).
These are the sum of comments, reactions and shares.

SOCIAL MEDIA OVERVIEW

Facebook Reach & Viewers is the number of people who saw any Facebook content from your organic or paid distribution, including posts, stories and ads. It also includes reach from other sources, such as tags, check-ins and Page or profile visits. This number also includes reach from posts and stories that were boosted. Reach is only counted once if it occurs from both organic and paid distribution. This metric is estimated.

Instagram Reach is the number of people who saw any Instagram content from your organic or paid distribution, including posts and stories that were boosted. Reach is only counted once if it occurs from both organic and paid distribution. This metric is estimated.

Page visits are the number of times our page or profile was visited. Follows are the number of times accounts followed us in the selected time period.



- We hit 6k followers on Instagram, and less than a hundred away from 11k on Facebook!
  - Since Sept. '25, we've added 1.7k followers on FB and 1.7k followers on IG.
  - For comparison, from Sept. '24 to Sept. '25, we added 1.1k followers on IG and 1.4k on FB.
- Our content views (or impressions) hit 480k on FB and 167k on IG
  - For comparison, Sept. '25 had 328k views on FB and 109k on IG
- **<u>Trending Topics:</u>**
  - Facebook: Referendum & facility updates
  - Instagram: Referendum & content featuring or pertaining to younger demo
  - TikTok: Content featuring our younger demo. Bill's cabin video continues to do very well 2 months after posting.



Top 5

FACEBOOK POSTS

Impressions are the number of times your content was on screen. Content can include formats like posts, stories, reels, videos and more. Now known as "views". Facebook now uses the terms "Viewers" & "Reach", with similar definitions and totals.
Interactions are the number of post likes or reactions, saves, comments and shares minus the number of deleted interactions.
Link clicks are the number of clicks on links within posts that led to destinations or experiences, on or off Facebook.
Reactions are the number of reactions on your post. The reactions button on a post allows people to share different reactions to its content.



Viewers: 38,247
Views: 53,050
Interactions: 138
Link Clicks: 314
Reactions: 116
Comments: 4
Shares: 4
Saves: 11



Viewers: 15,069
Views: 24,529
Interactions: 31
Link Clicks: 67
Reactions: 22
Comments: 3
Shares: 2
Saves: 3



Viewers: 9,960
Views: 16,643
Interactions: 113
Link Clicks: 66
Reactions: 46
Comments: 62
Shares: 0
Saves: 5



Viewers: 9,708
Views: 13,261
Interactions: 26
Link Clicks: 94
Reactions: 15
Comments: 0
Shares: 7
Saves: 5



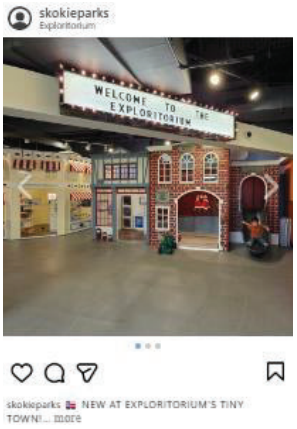
Viewers: 9,279
Views: 14,037
Interactions: 77
Link Clicks: 0
Reactions: 58
Comments: 7
Shares: 9
Saves: 4

Top 5

INSTAGRAM POSTS

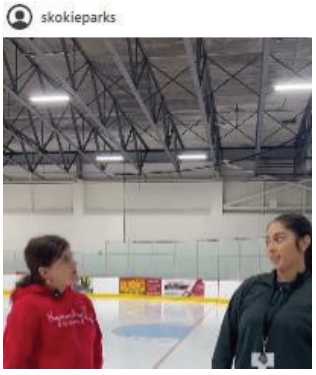
Impressions (views) are the number of times your content was on screen. Content can include formats like posts, stories, reels, videos and more. Now known as "views". Reach is still the same on Instagram.
Interactions are the number of post likes or reactions, saves, comments and shares minus the number of deleted interactions.
Link clicks are the number of clicks on links within posts that led to destinations or experiences, on or off Facebook.
Reactions are the number of reactions on your post. The reactions button on a post allows people to share different reactions to its content.

New Firehouse at Exploritorium



Reach: 2,083
Views: 5,722
Interactions: 211
Likes: 125
Comments: 0
Shares: 76
Saves: 9

Skatium Lesson Video



Reach: 2,099
Views: 2,613
Interactions: 120
Likes: 104
Comments: 2
Shares: 7
Saves: 8

Scream Scene Announcement



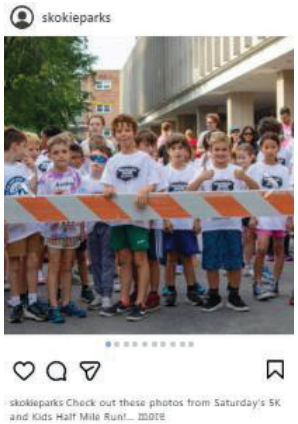
Reach: 2,815
Views: 6,193
Interactions: 193
Likes: 118
Comments: 2
Shares: 53
Saves: 8

Referendum Post



Reach: 1,450
Views: 3,597
Interactions: 77
Likes: 57
Comments: 2
Shares: 14
Saves: 3

Backlot Dash & Kids Half Mile Recap



Reach: 2,681
Views: 6,202
Interactions: 123
Likes: 97
Comments: 0
Shares: 21
Saves: 4

Top 5 TikTok POSTS

Impressions are the number of times your content was on screen. Content can include formats like posts, stories, reels, videos and more. Now known as “views”. Reach is now known as “viewers”.
Interactions are the number of post likes or reactions, saves, comments and shares minus the number of deleted interactions.
Link clicks are the number of clicks on links within posts that led to destinations or experiences, on or off Facebook.
Reactions are the number of reactions on your post. The reactions button on a post allows people to share different reactions to its content.

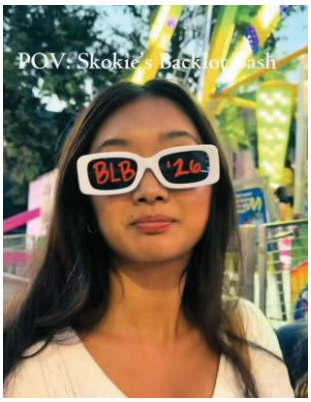
Skatium Lesson Video



Views: 1.7k
Likes: 46
Comments: 3
Shares: 2
Saves: 2
Completion Rate: 2.8%
Avg. Watch Time (s): 10.56

Run Time: 1:15

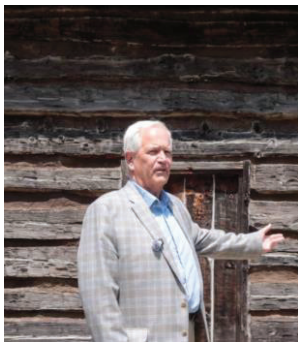
Backlot Bash Recap



Views: 7k
Likes: 222
Comments: 8
Shares: 32
Saves: 17
Completion Rate: 20.5%
Avg. View Time (s): 6.04

Run Time: :10

Meyer Cabin w/ Chill Bill



Views: 22k
Likes: 3316
Comments: 79
Shares: 974
Saves: 282
Completion Rate: 4.4%
Avg. View Time (s): 15.71

Run Time: 1:39

Backlot Bash Ferris Wheel



Views: 22k
Likes: 471
Comments: 4
Shares: 121
Saves: 50
Completion Rate: 27.4%
Avg. View Time (s): 4.51

Run Time: :06

BLB Promo: Hot & Cold



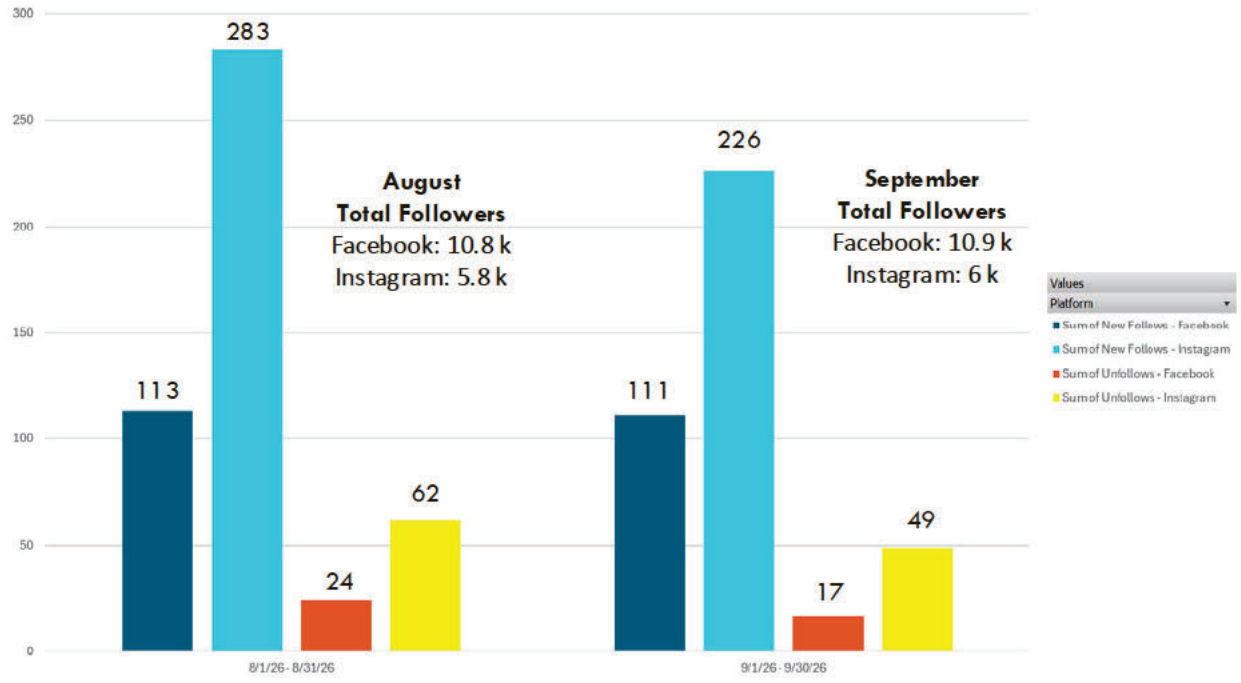
Views: 14k
Likes: 559
Comments: 8
Shares: 103
Saves: 44
Completion Rate: 30.5%
Avg. View Time (s): 5.69

Run Time: :07

Reach: Number of unique people who saw your post. Counted Only Once.
Views: Number of times your post was seen.
Views / Reach = Frequency

Frequency: How often a unique person saw a post.
Green: Performing well or exceeds, based on column averages.

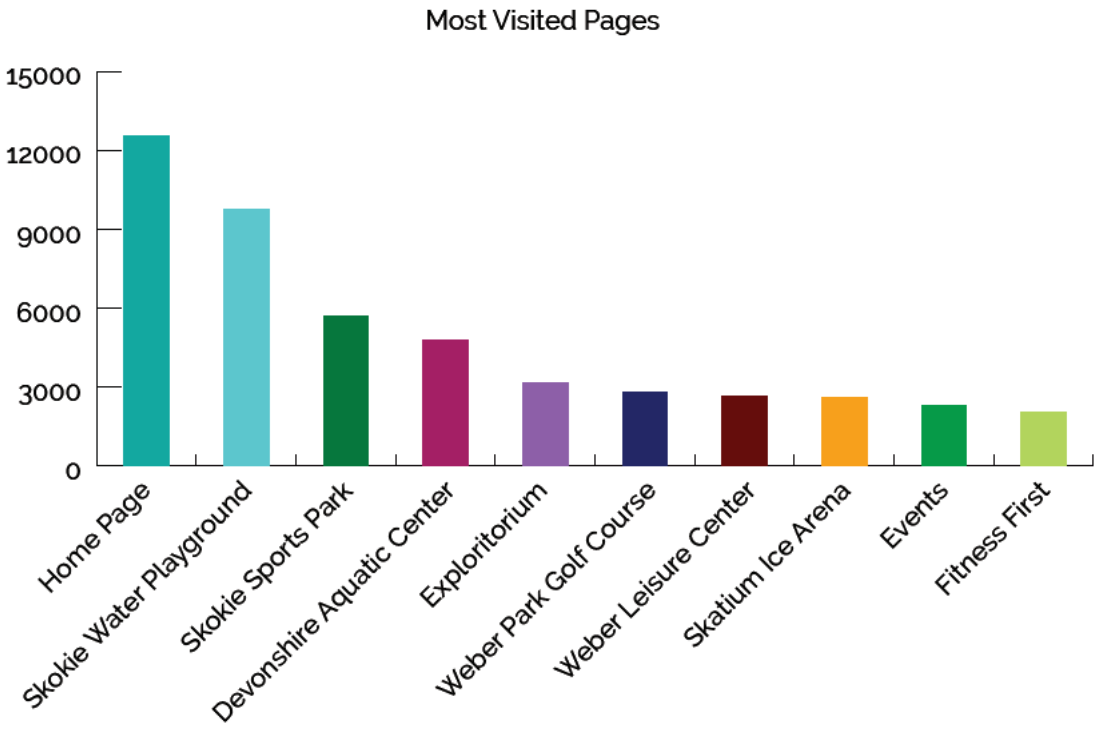
Follows vs. Unfollows: Aug. – Sept.

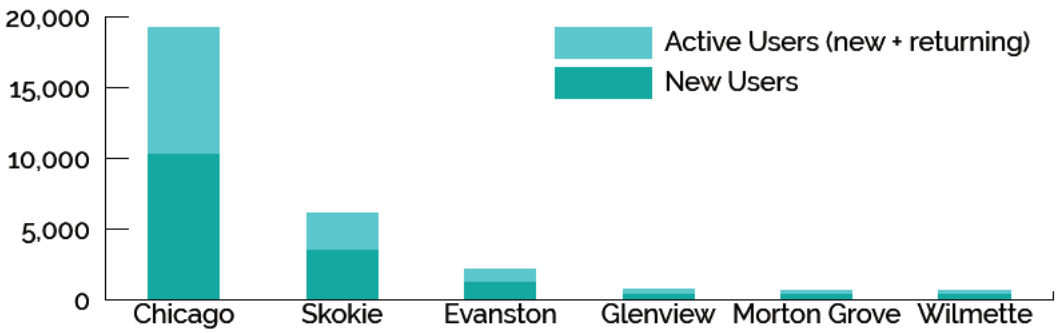




Website Analytics

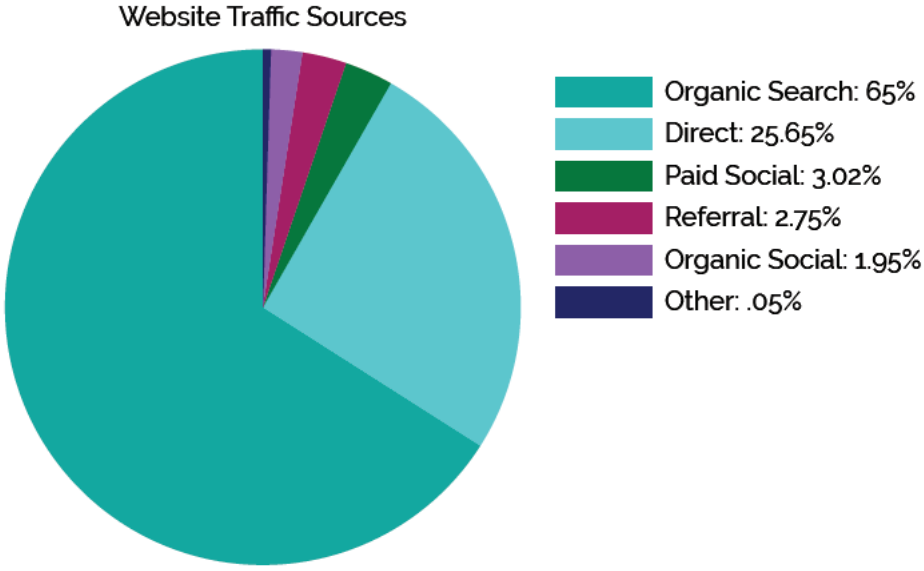
The most visited pages are unsurprisingly our popular summer facilities: Pools, Sports Park and the Weber Park Golf Course.



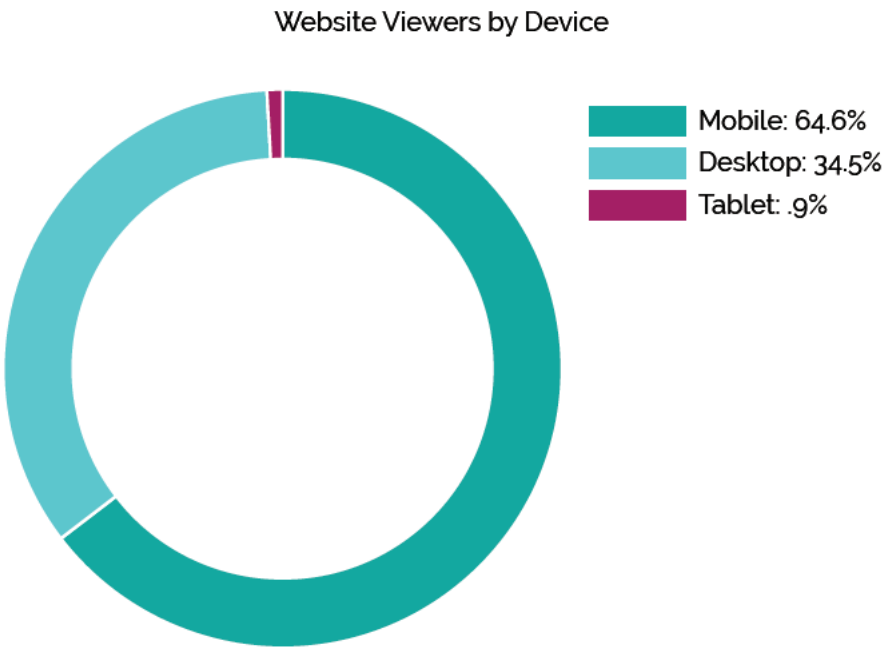


The majority of visitors to our site in the past month were from neighboring communities showing the need to continue to target users outside of the Skokie area.

- **Organic Search:** Organic traffic is the traffic that comes from search engines like Google
- **Direct**: This is the traffic that arrives when someone types in your website's URL, opens your website through a bookmark, or when Google cannot recognize the traffic source
- **Paid Social**: This is the ad traffic that arrives from social media platforms like Facebook or Twitter
- **Referral**: Referral traffic is the traffic that comes from links to your site elsewhere on the web
- **Organic Social**: This is the non-ad traffic that arrives from social media platforms like Facebook or Twitter
- **Paid Search**: If you're running Google Ads, that traffic will show up here (the Communications & Marketing department does not run Google ads currently).



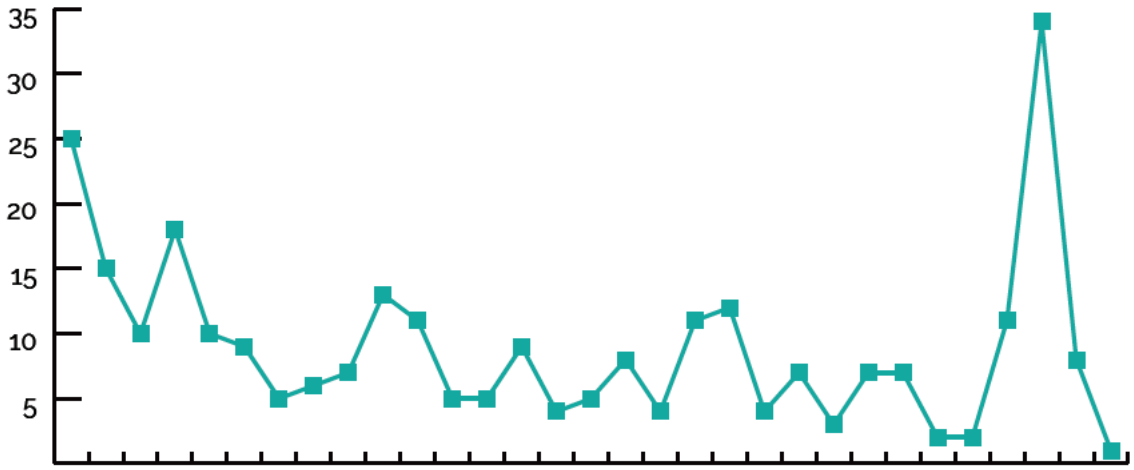
Website Analytics *cont.*



The majority of users continue to access our website via their phones. The Communications department along with IT is working on creating a more mobile friendly website with an approximate launch date of December 31.

Additionally, we are striving to make certain features even easier to access using our app. *(see below)*

Skokie Parks App



App Downloads August 1–31

App downloads continue to remain fairly steady with a large boost during Backlot Bash. Communications along with IT are looking for additional features to enhance the app. Push notifications are being used to alert users of upcoming events as well as referendum campaign notifications, such as early voting dates.

Constant Contact Analytics (e-newsletters)

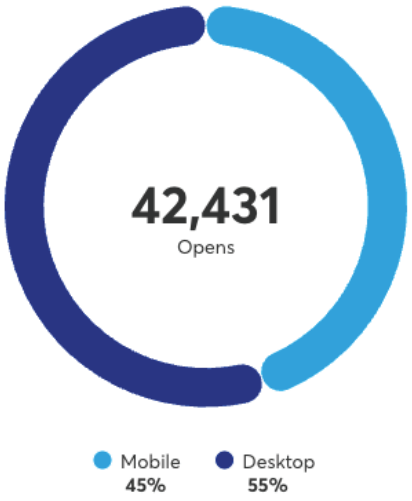
Emails sent	Delivered	Open rate
85,162	80,415	53%
-33,813 vs. previous 31 days	-31,759 vs. previous 31 days	-1% vs. previous 31 days

Click rate	Bounced	Unsubscribed
2%	4,747	32
+0% vs. previous 31 days	-2,054 vs. previous 31 days	-15 vs. previous 31 days

Top performing campaigns by Open Rate

Open Rate

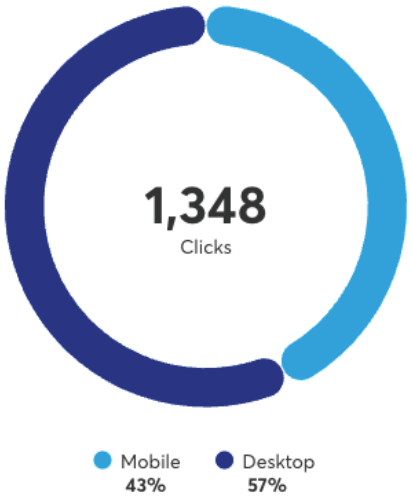
TLC Today 8-14-2026 Aug 14, 2026, 8:30 AM CDT	76%
TLC Today 8-7-2026 Aug 7, 2026, 3:15 PM CDT	71%
Skokie Park District Su… Summer '26 Aug 24, 2026, 5:07 PM CDT	65%
AA60+ E-news 8-21-26 Aug 21, 2026, 10:49 AM CDT	60%
AA60+ E-news 8-17-26 Aug 17, 2026, 11:04 AM CDT	60%



Top performing links by Total Clicks

Total Clicks

http://www.backlotbash… index.html	257
https://indd.adobe.co… d94f847d98	207
https://forms.cloud.mi… LSz15QX3bN	193
https://www.backlotbas… music.html	156
http://www.skokieparks.org/fall26/	143



Top performing newsletters continue to be TLC Today and our Active Adults Happenings.

Top performing links were Backlot Bash homepage and music lineup, along with our fall brochure and our summer program survey.

Conversely to the website, the majority of people access the newsletters via desktop computer.

Skokie Park District
Information Technology Report: October 2026

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Microsoft Publisher End of Life

- IT supported the transition away from Microsoft Publisher by converting district Publisher files to PDF, ensuring continued access to important documents.

Business Forms Creations and Automation

- IT continues to assist Business Services with creating and automating forms to improve efficiency and simplify day-to-day workflows.

Keypass Setup

- IT is developing a new district-wide pass setup that will use convenient keyring passes, making them easier to carry and use than traditional keycards.

Training

- As part of its continued commitment to staff training and development, IT hosted two training sessions in September.

Website Sales Redesign

- IT launched a new Racquet Sport Lessons sales webpage to make the pass-purchasing process easier for patrons.
- IT is also improving the fitness sales process and webpage to provide patrons with a similarly streamlined experience.

Marketing Projects

- IT has been collaborating with Marketing on several projects, including developing the new Referendum webpage, improving e-newsletter sign-up pages and the household subscription process, and supporting ongoing app development.

Fiscal Year New Projects

- IT has nearly completed deployment of the 2026-27 fiscal year projects across all district facilities.

Skokie Park District
Staff and Community Committee Reports: October 2026

Backlot Bash Committee- Breanne Labus
No report.
Community Schools Steering Committee- Breanne Labus
No report.
DEI Committee- Mary Amato
The next committee meeting is November 17. The committee is reviewing annual training plans.
Environmental Action Team- Lee Hansen
The EA-Team reconvened on September 22 to review summer recycling efforts, discuss dates for upcoming LRS recycling facility tour, revisit the team's 2026-2027 goals, and review the results of the 2026 IPRA Environmental Report Card.
4th of July Parade Committee- Jim Hallm
No Report.
Festival of Cultures Committee- Aryn Fletcher
No Report.
Juneteenth- Mary Amato
No report.
Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation- Michelle Tuft
The next meeting is scheduled for November 10.
Niles Township Youth Coalition- Breanne Labus
The next meeting will take place on November 10 at 9 a.m.
Safety Committee- Amanda Green
The Safety Committee met on October 7 and discussed the training plan for the full-time staff training on October 13. Members also reviewed incident reports from September.
Skokie Chamber of Commerce- Michelle Tuft
The next board meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 19.

Skokie Pride- Cassie Schaeffer
The event is scheduled June 6 from 1- 4 pm at Oakton Park. The next committee meeting will be in January.
Skokie's Spring Greening- Lee Hansen
The 2027 Skokie's Spring Greening is scheduled for April 18 from 10 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. at the Westmoreland lot and the Niles North High School north lot.
Staff Appreciation Committee- Keli Stonitsch
The Staff Appreciation Committee met on September 21 to review the summer pool party and plan upcoming events. A staff recognition bowling event will be held on November 12, with invitations to come. The committee also discussed a potential family event at the Skatium featuring open skating in February.
Wellness Committee- Jennie Bever
The Wellness Committee met on September 8 to review the Annual Wellness Initiative Plan and to workshop upcoming Wellness Newsletter topics. The committee's first newsletter was sent out in mid-September. Upcoming newsletters will be sent out the first week of each month.

NRPA 2026 Combined Conference Takeaways

Contributors: Keli Stonitsch, Breanne Labus, Mary Amato, Corrie Guynn, Tom Hejnowski, Aryn B. Fletcher, Robin Horwitz, Ethan Bontly, and Michelle Tuft

- **Teen engagement and leadership:** Create meaningful opportunities for teens through employment, youth councils, service-learning projects, leadership development, mental-health awareness, and programs that give teens ownership and a voice. Build trust through transparency, understanding, space, time, and consistent relationships.

- **Staff training and leadership:** Use intentional activities to build trust, belonging, teamwork, and organizational culture. Strengthen leadership through self-awareness, clear values, practical decision-making, one-on-one agendas, mid-year check-ins, developmental goals, and succession or continuity planning.

- **Frontline employee feedback and accountability:** Create regular listening sessions, pulse surveys, roundtable discussions, and check-ins where employees can raise concerns and suggest solutions. Clarify expectations through accessible improvement plans, progressive disciplinary guidance, and transparent explanations of leadership decisions.

- **Customer service and communication:** Treat every interaction as a new first impression, listen carefully, acknowledge concerns, offer options, and clearly manage next steps. Train frontline staff in empathy, facility knowledge, rapport-building, constructive language, and independent decision-making.

- **Conflict and de-escalation:** Include realistic conflict drills in customer service training. Encourage staff to pause, stay calm, listen, maintain personal space, work with a partner, move disruptive patrons away from others when possible, and contact police when a situation becomes unsafe.

- **Workplace boundaries and well-being:** Communicate capacity clearly, define what qualifies as an emergency, establish contact procedures, build time cushions into deadlines, and use scheduled sending for after-hours messages. Encourage rest, self-care, healthy boundaries, and asking for help.

- **Kindness and workplace culture:** Build a culture of kindness through positive recognition, constructive communication, inclusive activities, and opportunities for staff and campers to practice kindness toward themselves, coworkers, and the community.

- **Accessibility and inclusive design:** Review District language, policies, accommodations, and staff training. Seek feedback from people with disabilities when planning parks and playgrounds, consider access throughout the entire site, include active, transitional, and calm sensory areas, plan for multigenerational use, and apply accessibility principles to nontraditional amenities.

- **Emergency preparedness:** Maintain accessible AEDs, CPR readiness, and clear emergency procedures. Explore partnerships with local emergency services and community-responder programs, and consider budgeting for an AED at the golf course.

- **Events and marketing:** Strengthen event promotion through short videos, community flyer partnerships, “Before You Go” posts, interactive activities, giveaways, recognizable photo opportunities, and audience feedback. Review event themes and consider new concepts such as Family Fun Fridays, a Pumpkin Walk, a Really Really Free Market, a Hanukkah Festival of Lights, and Middle School Mania. Consider getting residents to share their Park District stories on social media.

- **Sponsorships and partnerships:** Maintain sponsor relationships throughout the year, include social-media and e-newsletter exposure in sponsorship packages, provide engagement information, research the reputation of prospective partners, and explore donations and community partnerships.

- **Concert planning:** Determine capacity by mapping the venue first, account for all operational and production expenses, research the local market and artist reputation, identify revenue opportunities, use clear offer-expiration dates, obtain approval before using an artist’s name or image, and prepare safety, security, signage, and show-day support plans.

- **Program evaluation and improvement:** Categorize programs by their role and value, establish appropriate net-revenue goals, review profitability and enrollment, remove offerings that do not add value, refresh programs regularly, and prioritize quality over quantity.

- **Facility and community feedback:** Use QR-code satisfaction surveys and other feedback methods to learn about staff service, restrooms, equipment, parking, pricing, and program experiences. Use the results to identify improvements and establish facility goals.

- **Data-informed planning and outreach:** Use community surveys, participant data, local market information, behavioral data, attendance tracking, GIS mapping, and event heat maps to guide programming, outreach, budgets, facility planning, and annual goals.

- **Mobile and community recreation:** Bring inclusive recreational and educational activities directly into the community through a consistent schedule, clear staffing expectations, diverse teams, partnerships, and offerings such as sports, games, crafts, guest speakers, and special-event participation.

- **Youth sports:** Use coach training, youth input, stronger policies, community communication, and partnerships to improve participation and retention. Consider resources that support girls in sports and help coaches address confidence, motivation, and body-image concerns.

- **Sports fields and recreation amenities:** Use practical, evidence-based maintenance strategies to keep fields safe, extend their useful life, and support funding requests. Evaluate natural and synthetic turf tradeoffs and apply accessibility principles to emerging recreation amenities.

- **Camp and seasonal staff development:** Build training from real situations, provide online pre-season options, invite returning staff to help, use frequent informal check-ins, and create a safe environment where seasonal employees can learn, try new things, and receive positive feedback.

- **Program and event ideas:** Consider themed archery, remote-control racing for teens, a space-themed campout, K9 programs, Paddle with Your Pup, themed Exploritorium Kids Night Outs, Flag Football League, and kindness activities such as compliment cards, murals, chalk messages, and community service.

- **Grants and asset planning:** For Land and Water Conservation Fund opportunities, focus on outdoor recreation and recognize that new amenities may be more competitive than rehabilitation projects. Continue tracking park assets through GIS, including potential tree-canopy and attendance information, and monitor the movement of beech leaf disease.

- **Artificial intelligence:** Explore responsible uses of AI for board reports, document cleanup, spreadsheets, survey summaries, websites, and research. Consider how AI may change how residents find and register for programs and how those changes could affect fair access. Implement an AI policy for staff and board.

- **Mission and long-term planning:** Use comprehensive-plan results, community feedback, and participant data to establish annual goals. Review the District’s mission and vision periodically and preserve institutional knowledge while continuing to improve practices.

Skokie Park District

BOARD SUMMARY

Date: October 20, 2026

To: Board of Park Commissioners

From: William G. Schmidt, Superintendent of Business Services

RE: Adoption of Ordinance # 26-006 authorizing the issuance of approximately $2,862,500 General Obligation Limited Tax Bonds, Series 2026, of the Skokie Park District

Summary: Attached is a **DRAFT** of the Ordinance for the annual refunding bond issue to spread out the principal and interest payments for the amount due on Series 2007B Capital Appreciation Bonds $2,300,000, Debt Service Extension money $530,500 for use on capital improvements, and bond issuance costs $32,000.

The District's financial advisor, Raphaliata McKenzie of Speer Financial, will attend the meeting with the bid results of the bond sale and the exact dollar amount required.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of Ordinance 26-006 to authorize the issuance of approximately $2,862,500 of General Obligation Limited Tax Bonds Series 2026.

Motion: Move to approve Ordinance # 26-006 to authorize the issuance of approximately $2,862,500 of General Obligation Limited Tax Bonds Series 2026.

The Board of Park Commissioners of the Skokie Park District met in regular open session at the Weber Leisure Center, 9300 Weber Park Place, in the Village of Skokie, Illinois, its regular meeting place, on October 20, 2026, at 6:30 o'clock p.m. Present were the following Commissioners:

Absent: _____

*** *** ***

(Other Business)

Commissioner _____ moved the adoption of the following ordinance, which motion was seconded by Commissioner _____. After due deliberation the ordinance was adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye:

Nay:

ORDINANCE NO.26-006

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF [$2,862,500] GENERAL OBLIGATION LIMITED TAX PARK BONDS, SERIES 2026, OF THE SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Authority, Purposes, Findings. This ordinance is adopted pursuant to the Park District Code, 70 Illinois Compiled Statutes 1205, the Park District Refunding Bond Act, 70 Illinois Compiled Statutes 1270 and the Local Government Debt Reform Act, 30 Illinois Compiled Statutes 350, for the purposes of (i) refunding the $2,300,000 maturity amount of General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2007B (the "Prior Bonds") of the District maturing on December 1, 2026 and (ii) financing capital improvement projects and equipment (herein called the "Capital Improvements").

The provisions of the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law, 35 Illinois Compiled Statutes 200/18-185 through 18-245, are in effect in Cook County, Illinois and the current "debt service extension base" (as defined in the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law) of the Skokie Park District is $3,576,838.21.

The latest aggregate equalized assessed valuation of all taxable property within the District is $3,600,192,378, 0.575% of which is $20,701,106.17. As of the date hereof, prior to the issuance of the Bonds, the District has $4,436,400 of non-referendum bonds outstanding.

Notice of the public hearing required by the Bond Issue Notification Act, 30 Illinois Compiled Statutes 352, as a condition precedent to the sale of the bonds authorized by this ordinance was (i) published on August 27, 2026 in the "Chicago Tribune," and (ii)

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posted on or prior to September 13, 2026 at the offices of the Board of Park Commissioners of the District (at least 48 hours prior to the public hearing). Such public hearing was conducted before the Board of Park Commissioners of the District on September 15, 2026, and the final adjournment of such hearing took place on September 15, 2026.

Section 2. Authorization and Terms of Bonds. The sum of [$2,862,500] is hereby appropriated to meet part of the estimated cost of the Capital Improvements, refunding the Prior Bonds and paying the costs of issuance of the general obligation limited tax park bonds authorized by this Section.

Pursuant to the Park District Code, the Park District Refunding Bond Act and the Local Government Debt Reform Act and for the purpose of financing said appropriation, general obligation limited tax park bonds of the District are hereby authorized to be issued and sold in the principal amount of [$2,862,500]. Said bonds shall be designated "General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2026" (herein called the "Bonds") shall be issuable in the denominations of $100,000 or any integral multiple of $5 in excess thereof; and may bear such identifying numbers or letters as shall be useful to facilitate the registration, transfer and exchange thereof. Unless otherwise determined in the order to authenticate the Bonds, each Bond delivered upon original issuance shall be dated as of the date of delivery of the Bonds. Each Bond thereafter issued upon any transfer or exchange of Bonds shall be dated so that no gain or loss of interest shall result from such transfer or exchange.

The Bonds shall mature (without option of prior redemption) on December 1, 2027. Each Bond shall bear interest from its date, computed on the basis of a 360 day year consisting of twelve 30 day months and payable in lawful money of the United States of

America on December 1, 2027 at the rate of ___ and ___ hundredths per centum (___%) per annum. The principal of and premium, if any, on the Bonds shall be payable in lawful money of the United States of America upon presentation and surrender thereof at the corporate office of [_____], which is hereby appointed as bond registrar and paying agent for the Bonds. Interest on the Bonds shall be payable on each interest payment date to the registered owners of record thereof appearing on the registration books maintained by the District for such purpose at the corporate office of the bond registrar, as of the close of business on the 15th day of the calendar month next preceding the applicable interest payment date. Interest on the Bonds shall be paid by check or draft mailed to such registered owners at their addresses appearing on the registration books or by wire transfer pursuant to an agreement by and between the District and the registered owner.

Section 3. Execution and Authentication of Bonds. Each Bond shall be executed in the name of the District by the manual or facsimile signatures of its President and Secretary and countersigned by the manual or facsimile signature of the Treasurer of the District and the corporate seal of the District, or a facsimile thereof, shall be thereunto affixed or otherwise reproduced thereon.

In case any officer whose signature, or a facsimile of whose signature, shall appear on any Bond shall cease to hold such office before the issuance of the Bond, such Bond shall nevertheless be valid and sufficient for all purposes, the same as if the person whose signature, or a facsimile thereof, appears on such Bond had not ceased to hold such office. Any Bond may be signed, countersigned, authenticated, sealed or attested on behalf of the District by any person who, on the date of such act, shall hold the proper office, notwithstanding that at the date of such Bond such person may not have held such

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office. No recourse shall be had for the payment of any Bonds against any officer who executes the Bonds.

Each Bond shall bear thereon a certificate of authentication executed manually by the bond registrar. No Bond shall be entitled to any right or benefit under this ordinance or shall be valid or obligatory for any purpose until such certificate of authentication shall have been duly executed by the bond registrar.

Section 4. Security for Bonds. The Bonds are issued as "limited bonds" as defined and referred to in the Local Government Debt Reform Act. The Bonds are payable from the "debt service extension base," of the District, as defined in the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law. The District covenants that it will not issue any bonds, notes or other obligations if the issuance thereof would cause the anticipated tax extension for the tax levy year 2026 for limited bonds of the District to exceed the debt service extension base of the District less the amount in items (b), (c) and (e) of the applicable definition of "aggregate extension" contained in the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law, for non-referendum obligations, except obligations initially issued pursuant to referendum.

The Bonds shall be direct and general obligations of the District, and the District shall be obligated to levy ad valorem taxes upon all the taxable property in the District for the payment of the Bonds and the interest thereon, without limitation as to rate, but limited in amount by provisions of the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law.

Section 5. Form of Bonds. The Bonds shall be issued as fully registered bonds and shall be in substantially the following form, the blanks to be appropriately completed when the Bonds are printed:

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(Form of Bond)

No. R-1

United States of America
State of Illinois
County of Cook
SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT
GENERAL OBLIGATION LIMITED TAX PARK BOND, SERIES 2026

INTEREST RATE	MATURITY DATE	DATED DATE
3.50%	December 1, 2027	November 3, 2026

REGISTERED OWNER: [_____]

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT: Two Million Eight Hundred Sixty-Two Thousand and Five Hundred Dollars ($2,862,500)

SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT, a body corporate and politic constituting a general park district under the Park District Code of the State of Illinois, acknowledges itself indebted and for value received hereby promises to pay to the registered owner of this bond, or registered assigns, the principal amount specified above on the maturity date specified above, and to pay interest on such principal amount from the date hereof at the interest rate per annum specified above, computed on the basis of a 360 day year consisting of twelve 30 day months and payable in lawful money of the United States of America on December 1, 2027, to the registered owner of record hereof as of the 15th day of the calendar month next preceding such interest payment date, by wire transfer pursuant to an agreement by and between the District and the registered owner, or otherwise by check or draft mailed to the registered owner at the address of such owner appearing on the registration books maintained by the District for such purpose at the corporate office of [_____], as bond registrar or its successor (the "Bond Registrar"). This bond, as to principal when due, will be payable in lawful money of the United States of America upon presentation and surrender of this bond at the office of the Bond Registrar. The full

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faith and credit of the District are irrevocably pledged for the punctual payment of the principal of and interest on this bond according to its terms.

This bond is one of a series of bonds issued in the aggregate principal amount of $2,862,500, which are authorized and issued under and pursuant to the Park District Code, 70 Illinois Compiled Statutes 1205, the Park District Refunding Bond Act, 70 Illinois Compiled Statutes 1270, and the Local Government Debt Reform Act, 30 Illinois Compiled Statutes 350, and by virtue of an ordinance adopted by the Board of Park Commissioners of the District on October 20, 2026 and entitled: "Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of [$2,862,500] General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2026, of the Skokie Park District."

This bond is a "limited bond" as defined in the Local Government Debt Reform Act and is payable from the debt service extension base of the District as defined in the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law, 35 Illinois Compiled Statutes 200/18-185 through 18-245.

This bond is transferable only upon such registration books by the registered owner hereof in person, or by his attorney duly authorized in writing, upon surrender hereof at the office of the Bond Registrar together with a written instrument of transfer satisfactory to the Bond Registrar duly executed by the registered owner or by his duly authorized attorney, and thereupon a new registered bond or bonds, in the authorized denominations of $100,000 or any integral multiple of $5 in excess thereof and of the same aggregate principal amount, maturity and interest rate as this bond shall be issued to the transferee in exchange therefor. In like manner, this bond may be exchanged for an equal aggregate principal amount of bonds of the same maturity and interest rate and of any of such authorized denominations. The District or the Bond Registrar may make

DRAFT

a charge sufficient to reimburse it for any tax, fee or other governmental charge required to be paid with respect to the transfer or exchange of this bond. No other charge shall be made for the privilege of making such transfer or exchange. The District and the Bond Registrar may treat and consider the person in whose name this bond is registered as the absolute owner hereof for the purpose of receiving payment of, or on account of, the principal and interest due hereon and for all other purposes whatsoever.

This bond shall not be valid or become obligatory for any purpose until the certificate of authentication hereon shall have been duly executed by the Bond Registrar.

It is hereby certified, recited and declared that this bond is issued in part pursuant to the Local Government Debt Reform Act, that all acts, conditions and things required to be done, exist and be performed precedent to and in the issuance of this bond in order to make it a legal, valid and binding obligation of the District have been done, exist and have been performed in regular and due time, form and manner as required by law, and that the series of bonds of which this bond is one, together with all other indebtedness of the District, is within every debt or other limit prescribed by law.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Skokie Park District has caused this bond to be executed in its name and on its behalf by the manual or facsimile signatures of its President and Secretary, to be countersigned by the manual or facsimile signature of its Treasurer, and its corporate seal, or a facsimile thereof, to be hereunto affixed or otherwise reproduced hereon.

Dated: November 3, 2026

SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT

_____
President

_____
Secretary

Countersigned:

_____
Treasurer

CERTIFICATE OF
AUTHENTICATION

This bond is one of the General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2026, described in the within mentioned Ordinance.

[_____], as Bond Registrar

By

_____
Authorized Signatory

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ASSIGNMENT

For value received the undersigned sells, assigns and transfers unto _____

_____

the within bond and hereby irrevocably constitutes and appoints _____

_____

attorney to transfer the said bond on the books kept for registration thereof, with full power of substitution in the premises.

Dated _____

_____

Signature Guarantee:

_____

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Section 6. Sale and Delivery. The Bonds are hereby sold to [_____], as purchaser, at a price of [_____] and accrued interest from their date to the date of delivery and the payment therefor..

The President, Treasurer, Secretary and other officials of the District are authorized and directed to do and perform, or cause to be done or performed for or on behalf of the District each and every thing necessary for the issuance of the Bonds, including the proper execution and delivery of the Bonds and any offering document. The President, Treasurer, Secretary and other officials of the District are authorized and directed to do and perform, or cause to be done or performed for or on behalf of the District each and every thing necessary for the issuance of the Bonds, including the proper execution and delivery of the Bonds and any offering document.

Section 7. Levy and Extension of Taxes. For the purpose of providing the money required to pay the interest on the Bonds when and as the same falls due and to pay and discharge the principal thereof as the same shall mature, there is hereby levied upon all the taxable property in the District, in each year while any of the Bonds shall be outstanding, a direct annual tax sufficient for that purpose in addition to all other taxes, as follows:

Tax Levy Year	A Tax Sufficient to Produce
2026	

Interest or principal coming due at any time when there shall be insufficient funds designated for such purpose available to pay the same shall be paid promptly when due from current funds on hand in advance of the collection of the taxes herein levied; and when said taxes shall have been collected, reimbursement shall be made to the said funds in the amounts thus advanced.

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As soon as this ordinance becomes effective, a copy thereof certified by the Secretary, which certificate shall recite that this ordinance has been passed by this Board, shall be filed with the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois, who is hereby directed to ascertain the rate per cent required to produce the aggregate tax hereinbefore provided to be levied in the year 2026, and to extend the same for collection on the tax books in connection with other taxes levied for said year, in and by the District, and in said year such annual tax shall be levied and collected in like manner as District taxes for general corporate purposes for said year are levied and collected and, when collected, such taxes levied pursuant to this Section shall be used solely for the purpose of paying the principal of and interest on the Bonds as the same become due and payable.

Section 8. Debt Service Deposit. $2,300,000 from the proceeds of sale of the Bonds shall be deposited in the 2007B Debt Service Fund established under that certain Ordinance adopted by the Board of Park Commissioners of the District on February 20, 2007 and as supplemented on April 24, 2007 and applied, together with other moneys (if any) of the District provided for such purpose, to pay debt service on the Prior Bonds at maturity.

Section 9. Bond Proceeds Fund. $_____ from the proceeds of sale of the Bonds shall be deposited in the "2026 Bond Proceeds Fund", which is hereby established as a special fund of the District. Moneys in the 2026 Bond Proceeds Fund shall be used for the payment of costs of the Capital Improvements and the cost of issuance of the 2026 Bonds, but may hereafter be reappropriated and used for other purposes. Before any such reappropriation shall be made, there shall be filed with the Secretary of the District an opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel to the effect that such reappropriation

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is permitted under Illinois law and will not adversely affect any exclusion from gross income for federal income tax purposes of interest on the 2026 Bonds.

Section 10. Debt Service Fund. Moneys derived from taxes levied pursuant to Section 7 of this ordinance are appropriated and set aside for the sole purpose of paying principal of and interest on the Bonds when and as the same come due. All of such moneys, and all other moneys to be used for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds, shall be deposited in the "Bond and Interest Sinking Fund Account – 2026 Bonds" (the "2026 Debt Service Fund") which is hereby established as a special fund of the District and shall be administered as a bona fide debt service fund under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Any accrued interest received upon the issuance of the Bonds shall be deposited in the 2026 Debt Service Fund.

The moneys deposited or to be deposited into the 2026 Debt Service Fund, including the tax receipts derived from the taxes levied pursuant to this ordinance, are pledged as security for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds. The pledge is made pursuant to Section 13 of the Local Government Debt Reform Act and shall be valid and binding from the date of issuance of the Bonds. All such tax receipts and the moneys held in the 2026 Debt Service Fund shall immediately be subject to the lien of such pledge without any physical delivery or further act and the lien of such pledge shall be valid and binding as against all parties having claims of any kind in tort, contract or otherwise against the District irrespective of whether such parties have notice thereof.

Section 11. Investment Restrictions. No investment shall be made of the proceeds of sale of the Bonds or any moneys in the Funds established pursuant to this ordinance except in accordance with the tax covenants set forth in Section 12 of this ordinance. All

DRAFT

income derived from such investments in respect of moneys or securities in any Fund shall be credited in each case to the Fund in which such moneys or securities are held.

Any moneys in any Fund that are subject to investment yield restrictions may be invested in United States Treasury Securities, State and Local Government Series, pursuant to the regulations of the United States Treasury Department, Bureau of Fiscal Service. The Treasurer of the District and agents designated by him are hereby authorized to submit, on behalf of the District, subscriptions for such United States Treasury Securities from time to time and as often as may be necessary or appropriate, and to request redemption of such United States Treasury Securities.

Section 12. Tax Covenants. The District shall not take or omit to take any action lawful and within its power to take, which action or omission would cause interest on any Bonds to become subject to federal income taxes in addition to federal income taxes to which interest on such Bond is subject on the date of issuance thereof.

The District shall not permit any of the proceeds of the Bonds, or any facilities financed with such proceeds, to be used in any manner that would cause any Bond to constitute a "private activity bond" within the meaning of Section 141 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

The District shall not permit any of the proceeds of the Bonds or other moneys to be invested in any manner that would cause any Bond to constitute an "arbitrage bond" within the meaning of Section 148 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or a "hedge bond" within the meaning of Section 149(g) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

The District shall comply with the provisions of Section 148(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 relating to the rebate of certain investment earnings at periodic intervals to the United States of America.

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Section 13. Bank Qualified Designation. The District hereby designates the Bonds as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" as defined in Section 265(b)(3)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. The District represents that the reasonably anticipated amount of tax-exempt obligations that are required to be taken into account for the purpose of Section 265(b)(3)(C) of the Code and will be issued by or on behalf of the District and all subordinate entities of the District during calendar year 2026 does not exceed $10,000,000. The District covenants that it will not designate and issue more than $10,000,000 aggregate principal amount of tax-exempt obligations in the year in which the Bonds are issued. For purposes of the two preceding sentences, the term "tax exempt obligations" includes "qualified 501(c)(3) bonds" (as defined in the Section 145 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) but does not include other "private activity bonds" (as defined in Section 141 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986).

Section 14. Transfer, Exchange and Registry. The Bonds shall be negotiable, subject to the provisions for registration of transfer contained herein. Each Bond shall be transferable only upon the registration books maintained by the District for that purpose at the office of the bond registrar, by the registered owner thereof in person or by his attorney duly authorized in writing, upon surrender thereof together with a written instrument of transfer satisfactory to the bond registrar and duly executed by the registered owner or his duly authorized attorney. Upon the surrender for transfer of any such Bond, the District shall execute and the bond registrar shall authenticate and deliver a new Bond or Bonds registered in the name of the transferee, of the same aggregate principal amount, maturity and interest rate as the surrendered Bond. Bonds, upon surrender thereof at the office of the bond registrar, with a written instrument satisfactory to the bond registrar, duly executed by the registered owner or his attorney duly

authorized in writing, may be exchanged for an equal aggregate principal amount of Bonds of the same maturity and interest rate and of the denominations of $100,000 or any integral multiple of $5 in excess thereof.

For every such exchange or registration of transfer of Bonds, the District or the bond registrar may make a charge sufficient to reimburse it for any tax, fee or other governmental charge required to be paid with respect to such exchange or transfer, which sum or sums shall be paid by the person requesting such exchange or transfer as a condition precedent to the exercise of the privilege of making such exchange or transfer. No other charge shall be made for the privilege of making such transfer or exchange. The provisions of the Illinois Bond Replacement Act shall govern the replacement of lost, destroyed or defaced Bonds.

The District and the bond registrar may deem and treat the person in whose name any Bond shall be registered upon the registration books as the absolute owner of such Bond, whether such Bond shall be overdue or not, for the purpose of receiving payment of, or on account of, the principal of or interest thereon and for all other purposes whatsoever, and all such payments so made to any such registered owner or upon his order shall be valid and effectual to satisfy and discharge the liability upon such Bond to the extent of the sum or sums so paid, and neither the District nor the bond registrar shall be affected by any notice to the contrary.

Section 15. Bond Registrar. The District covenants that it shall at all times retain a bond registrar with respect to the Bonds, that it will maintain at the designated office of such bond registrar a place where Bonds may be presented for payment and registration of transfer or exchange and that it shall require that the bond registrar maintain proper registration books and perform the other duties and obligations imposed upon the bond

DRAFT

registrar by this ordinance in a manner consistent with the standards, customs and practices of the municipal securities business.

The bond registrar, shall signify its acceptance of the duties and obligations imposed upon it by this ordinance by executing the certificate of authentication on any Bond, and by such execution the bond registrar shall be deemed to have certified to the District that it has all the requisite power to accept, and has accepted such duties and obligations not only with respect to the Bond so authenticated but with respect to all the Bonds. The bond registrar is the agent of the District and shall not be liable in connection with the performance of its duties except for its own negligence or default. The bond registrar shall, however, be responsible for any representation in its certificate of authentication on the Bonds.

The District may remove the bond registrar at any time. In case at any time the bond registrar shall resign or shall be removed or shall become incapable of acting, or shall be adjudged a bankrupt or insolvent, or if a receiver, liquidator or conservator of the bond registrar, or of its property, shall be appointed, or if any public officer shall take charge or control of the bond registrar or of its property or affairs, the District covenants and agrees that it will thereupon appoint a successor bond registrar. The District shall mail notice of any such appointment made by it to each registered owner of Bonds within twenty days after such appointment.

Section 16. Defeasance and Payment of Bonds. (A) If the District shall pay or cause to be paid to the registered owners of the Bonds, the principal and interest due or to become due thereon, at the times and in the manner stipulated therein and in this ordinance, then the pledge of taxes, securities and funds hereby pledged and the

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covenants, agreements and other obligations of the District to the registered owners and the beneficial owners of the Bonds shall be discharged and satisfied.

(B) Any Bonds or interest installments appertaining thereto, whether at or prior to the maturity date of such Bonds, shall be deemed to have been paid within the meaning of paragraph (A) of this Section if there shall have been deposited in trust with a bank, trust company or national banking association acting as fiduciary for such purpose either (i) moneys in an amount which shall be sufficient, or (ii) "Federal Obligations" as defined in paragraph (C) of this Section, the principal of and the interest on which when due will provide moneys which, together with any moneys on deposit with such fiduciary at the same time for such purpose, shall be sufficient, to pay when due the principal of and interest due and to become due on said Bonds on and prior to the maturity date thereof.

(C) As used in this Section, the term "Federal Obligations" means (i) non-callable, direct obligations of the United States of America, (ii) non-callable and non-prepayable, direct obligations of any agency of the United States of America, which are unconditionally guaranteed by the United States of America as to full and timely payment of principal and interest, (iii) non-callable, non-prepayable coupons or interest installments from the securities described in clause (i) or clause (ii) of this paragraph, which are stripped pursuant to programs of the Department of the Treasury of the United States of America, or (iv) coupons or interest installments stripped from bonds of the Resolution Funding Corporation.

Section 17. Ordinance to Constitute a Contract. The provisions of this ordinance shall constitute a contract between the District and the registered owners of the Bonds. Any pledge made in this ordinance and the provisions, covenants and agreements herein set forth to be performed by or on behalf of the District shall be for the equal benefit,

protection and security of the holders of any and all of the Bonds. All of the Bonds, regardless of the time or times of their issuance, shall be of equal rank without preference, priority or distinction of any of the Bonds over any other thereof except as expressly provided in or pursuant to this ordinance. This ordinance shall constitute full authority for the issuance of the Bonds and to the extent that the provisions of this ordinance conflict with the provisions of any other ordinance or resolution of the District, the provisions of this ordinance shall control. If any section, paragraph or provision of this ordinance shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this ordinance.

Section 18. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect upon its adoption in the manner provided by law.

Adopted: October 20, 2026.

_____
President

Attest:

_____
Secretary

*** *** ***

Recorded: October 20, 2026.

_____
Secretary

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CERTIFICATE

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF COOK)

I, Michelle Tuft, hereby certify that I am the qualified and acting Secretary of the Skokie Park District, a general park district duly organized and existing under the Park District Code of the State of Illinois, and that I am the legal custodian of the papers and records of the District, and as such officer I further certify that I have compared the attached excerpts with the original minutes of the meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the District held on October 20, 2026 and that such excerpts are a complete and correct transcript of said original minutes insofar as they pertain to the adoption of an ordinance entitled:

> ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF [$2,862,500] GENERAL OBLIGATION LIMITED TAX PARK BONDS, SERIES 2026, OF THE SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT.

I do further certify that the deliberations of the Board of Park Commissioners on the adoption of said Ordinance were taken openly; that the vote on the adoption of said Ordinance was taken openly; that said meeting was held at a specified time and place convenient to the public; that notice of said meeting and of the agenda of said meeting was duly given to all newspapers, radio or television stations and other news media requesting such notice; that the agenda of said meeting included said Ordinance as a matter to be considered at said meeting; that said agenda was posted at least 48 hours in advance of the holding of the meeting; and that said meeting was called and held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, 5 Illinois Compiled Statutes 120.

WITNESS my official signature and the corporate seal of the District this _____ day of October, 2026.

_____
Secretary

(SEAL)

Skokie Park District

BOARD SUMMARY

Date: October 20, 2026

To: Board of Park Commissioners

From: William G. Schmidt, Superintendent of Business Services

RE: 2026 Tax Levy Resolution #26-004

Summary: The proposed CPI increase for the 2026 levy year is 2.7% or $276,833 in aggregate funds (all funds minus debt service). The tax levy is based on an overall increase of 1.6% without loss and cost. As the Truth-In-Taxation increase is less than 5%, no public notice or hearing is required. Attached is the Resolution.

Recommendation: Staff recommend the approval of the 2026 Tax Levy in the amount of $10,512,000. This levy does not include debt service costs. With debt service, the total levy is $14,114,875; an increase of $222,777 in the total levy from 2025, not including loss and cost.

Final legal adoption of the Levy Ordinance will be held at the November 2026 meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners.

Motion: Move to approve Resolution #26-004.

SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT

Resolution # 26-004

TRUTH IN TAXATION LAW RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Skokie Park District, Cook County, Illinois ("Park District") that based upon the most recently ascertainable information, the following determinations are hereby made in accordance with the "Truth in Taxation Law":

1. The amount of real estate taxes, exclusive election costs, public building commission leases and debt service levies, extended by the Park District, plus any amount abated by the Park District before extension, upon the final 2025 real estate tax levy of the Park District (2025 tax bill) is $10,235,167.

2. The amount of real estate taxes, exclusive election costs, public building commission leases and debt service levies proposed to be levied by the Park District for 202 (2027 tax bill) is $10,512,000.

3. Based on the foregoing, the estimated percentage increase in the proposed 2026 aggregate levy over the amount of real estate taxes extended upon the final 2025 aggregate levy is 102.7% and that, accordingly, no public hearing or publication is required under the Truth in Taxation Law.

AYES: .

NAYS:.

ABSENT:

Passed this 20th day of October 2026.

_____
President, Board of Park Commissioners

Attested and filed on this 20th day of October 2026.

_____
Secretary, Board of Park Commissioners

Skokie Park District
BOARD SUMMARY

Date: October 20, 2026

To: Board of Park Commissioners

From: Breanne Labus, Superintendent of Recreation and Facilities

Re: 2026 Backlot Bash Financial Summary

Below is a summary of the main revenues and expenses from the 2026 Backlot Bash.

Like most special events, Backlot Bash is intended to break even with best case scenario. Its primary annual revenue sources are the carnival, beer ticket sales, sponsorships, and a $12,000 contribution from the Village of Skokie.

- **Carnival Sales:**

(2026) $63,998, (2025) $68,007, (2024) $53,871

- **Beer Ticket Sales:**

(2026) $62,679, (2025) $70,278, (2024) $69,156

- **Sponsorship:**

(2026) $35,000 (2025) $33,795, (2024) $43,260

The primary annual expenses include Village of Skokie services for engineering, fire, police, and public works; entertainment costs for bands, staging, lighting, and sound; and rental fees for tents, chairs, tables, and fencing.

- **Village of Skokie:**

(2026) $20,750, (2025) $20,750, (2024) $20,750

- **Entertainment:**

(2026) $76,345, (2025) $67,900, (2024) $104,014

- **House of Rental:**

(2026) $40,391, (2025) $38,370, (2024) $37,080

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Staff continue to manage expenses carefully while preserving the quality of the event. However, rain on Sunday and a light shower on Saturday contributed to lower sales. Even with these efforts and an increase in beer ticket prices, the event ended

with a net loss of $5,217. Although the event did not meet its goal of breaking even, this was still better than the FY 26/27 budgeted loss of $16,950.

Backlot Bash (2024-2026) Comparisons

Total Revenues

- 2026- $209,105
- 2025- $212,856
- 2024- $208,948

Total Expenses

- 2026- $214,322
- 2025- $218,912
- 2024- $247,624

Net Income (Loss):

- 2026- ($5,217)
- 2025- ($6,056)
- 2024- ($40,706)

Recommendation: Informational only. None.

Motion: None.