

Blue Mounds State Park Staff Priority List - January 2017
(as requested by the Blue Mounds Citizen Advisory Group)
Meeting #2
February 9, 2017

DISCLAIMER: This is a draft list of current park staff priorities for Blue Mounds State Park, as requested by the Blue Mounds Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) in January 2017. The purpose of this list is to provide the CAG a better understanding of some of the operational and infrastructure needs of the state park, and to assist the CAG in their meeting discussions with the Department of Natural Resources. This list is not comprehensive and is subject to change. Project implementation is dependent on available department funding and statewide priorities.

	Blue Mounds State Park Staff Priority List	Status	Explanation
1	Potable water and water infrastructure	In progress; construction fall 2017?	Feasibility studies have been completed and plans have been developed. Governor Dayton has recommended funding this in his bonding bill and it is currently before the MN legislature for consideration.
2	Mound Creek (Lower Mound Lake basin) restoration	In progress; restoration to begin spring 2018	Design and permitting work is in progress to remove the lower dam, restore the Mound Creek channel in the Lower Mound Lake basin and build a bridge to reconnect the Mound Creek Trail. Currently working on EA development and plan design. FEMA project requiring extensive review process.
3	Bison Buggy	In progress; operational summer 2017?	Parks and Trails has approved hiring a temporary Naturalist to implement and operate a bison pasture tour. Parks and Trails is actively working at designing and purchasing a custom tour vehicle.
4	Repair or repurpose visitor center	In progress	Basic beam fix to be completed spring 2017. Long-term options need to be explored and decisions made to repair or repurpose the Manfred House visitor center.
5	Upper Dam rehabilitation	Project proposed	The upper dam has aesthetic and structural issues from the 2014 flood and before. A project has been proposed to repair these issues and is awaiting bonding funding. Was not approved by FEMA.
6	Expand climbers parking lot	In progress	A project has been funded to approximately double the size of the parking lot. The design is currently in review and the project should be completed before June 30, 2017.
7	Resurface visitor center road	New, project proposed	Mill and overlay needed.
8	Resurface campground road	New, project proposed	Mill and overlay needed
9	Campground electric upgrade, e.g. 50 amp service	In progress; complete fall 2017?	Project has been approved and shovel ready to add and upgrade electric sites to 50 amp service in the campground. Identified for 2018 Legacy funding.
10	Picnic shelter (or other feature) at picnic grounds/former beach area	New	After the Mound Creek restoration project is complete, a picnic shelter or other feature could be developed in the beach/picnic grounds area. This may be a project for a re-formed Park Partners group to work on.
11	Storage shop for bison buggy	New	Rent facility in Luverne instead of building. Partnership opportunity?
12	Playground equipment/nature play area	New	Existing swingset should be replaced. Potential project to expand playground equipment and develop a Nature Play area as part of Mound Creek restoration project.
13	Pull-through campsites	New	There is space to convert up to 6 pull-through campsites in the third loop of the campground.
14	Explore role in Rock River Water Trail	In progress	Area PAT staff have been working with local advocates to develop a water trail on the Rock River. Access identified near the park off Cty Rd 8 bridge.