

DELIVERED APR 29 2019

APPLICATION



City Name Farmington

Population ☒ Under 10,000 ☐ Over 10,000

Category ☐ Public Safety ☒ Planning & Economic Development
☐ City Spirit ☐ Public Works

Title of Entry Heritage Community Park

Description of Project
To provide an atmosphere that promotes living well, family-friendly activities, respectful remembrance and the City of Farmington.

Project Summary (use additional pages if necessary)
see attached

Signature of Chief Elected or Appointed Official Dale Fortenberry

Please provide the following information in case of questions about the application.

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Title City Clerk

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Project Summary

To provide an atmosphere that promotes living well, family-friendly activities, respectful remembrance and the City of Farmington.

Project Description (Photos are numbered on the back as *)

The City of Farmington has been re-incorporated for 22 years. A wishful list of goals has included a City Park for most of those years.

The opportunity to purchase land for a park presented itself in 2016. Almost 24 overgrown acres were purchased for \$142,795.00. The plan was to have a recreational trail, playground, veteran's memorial and a pavilion but first we had to see what the property actually looked like. With every milestone of clearing, the property was more beautiful. (*1-5)

The progressive clearing started showing the citizens what was possible. The interest was growing. The City of Farmington advertised for bids for the recreational trail and the one mile, 10' wide asphalt trail was completed in 2018. The trail is for walking, running, bicycle riding, or anything other than gas-powered vehicles. (*6-7)

The Board of Aldermen asked the citizens for park name suggestions. There were nearly 75 different suggested names but the most important aspect was the citizens were excited and were talking about the park. Heritage Community Park was the ultimate name chosen by the mayor and board, as suggested by a married couple that reside in a local assisted living residence. (*8)

Within a month of the asphalt being finished on the recreational trail, Alcorn Central Middle and High School held a cross-country track meet that included 5 other schools. Alcorn Central Schools, elementary, middle and high, are close enough that the track coach transports the runners to Farmington Heritage Community Park several afternoons each week for training.

The two 24' X 24' pavilions are used regularly for family gatherings, birthday parties, or church group picnics. The playground is being enjoyed by children daily and the recreational trail is utilized by residents of Farmington and beyond. The

completion of the trail even motivated one local EMT First Responder to purchase bicycles for his family of seven so they could ride as a family at the park. (*9-10)

The City of Farmington's Heritage Community Park had a ribbon cutting ceremony in October 2018 at the Veteran's Memorial. The 35' flag pole highlights the granite Veterans Memorial beautifully and can be seen from over a mile away where it is posted at the highest point on the park property. (*11-12)

The goals for Heritage Community Park have been partly and proudly achieved and even exceeded in some aspects. The goal was a pavilion and the City built two. The goal was the hope for a playground and some exercise equipment. The City was able to build both that exceeded what had been anticipated.

Unlike most parks that have benches, there are thirty arbor swings scattered throughout the recreational trail, playground and memorial area. Mayor Fortenberry found an Amish carpenter to construct both the swings and picnic tables out of cyprus. All the swings and tables have been purchased by private citizens, at the City's cost, in memory or in honor of a loved one. The City of Farmington places a metal plate on 'their' swing or table engraved with their short message. (*13)

City of Farmington Heritage Community Park is located one mile from an intersection traveled by 8,000 vehicles per day. The convenient location encourages fund raising opportunities by the local school, volunteer fire departments, or other civic groups as well as citizen daily use.

The future plans for further development include a 24' X 30' stage, completing the Pawsome Trail for pet walking, a volleyball pit, a climate controlled community center, a rose garden and lighting.

Farmington's Heritage Community Park is a natural gathering place for the citizens, which was the ultimate goal of the park. This has been accomplished with every aspect of improvement to the property. (*14-15)











