



2024: A Year Of Anniversary Celebrations!



2024
annual
report

hylandhills
PARKS & RECREATION

Message from the Executive Director

The Hyland Hills Park and Recreation District is pleased to present our 2024 Annual Report. The accomplishments in these pages reflect the dedication of hundreds of full- and part-time employees; our publicly elected, five-member Board of Directors; and the many volunteers who contribute to our youth sports programs and special events.

More importantly, these achievements – from expanding recreation opportunities to enhancing entertainment facilities – demonstrate our ceaseless commitment to the community.

In 2024, we began to bring your feedback from the 2023 Strategic Plan to life. By converting the three ballfields at the Hyland Hills Sports Complex to artificial turf, for example, we are saving an estimated 8 million gallons of water each year while allowing for more playing time for adult and youth baseball and softball leagues.

We also built two new playgrounds at Sherrelwood Park and the Carl Park Community Center, added two reservable shade shelters to Clear Creek Valley Park, and brought our first-ever Drone Show to guests of Water World and residents of the City of Federal Heights.

And we're not slowing down! As you read this Annual Report, exciting new projects are already in motion. This includes adding outdoor pickleball courts to Carroll Butts Park as well as shade shelters and a new playground at the Hyland Hills Sports Complex.

We will also be investing millions of dollars in grants from Adams County Open Space to improve safety and recreational amenities at Commissioners Park and Rotary Park, working with nearby residents to understand what they would like to see in their neighborhood.

All of this comes as we celebrate Hyland Hills' 70th anniversary. Since 1955, we've been furthering our mission of providing "first-class parks, open spaces, facilities and recreation programs that enrich and promote a healthy lifestyle, create memorable experiences, and build relationships between the District and its community while valuing equity and inclusion."

We look forward to celebrating this milestone with you and will be sharing ways to join in the festivities later this year.

Thank you for being part of the Hyland Hills community,

Yvonne Fischbach
Executive Director
Hyland Hills Park & Recreation District

Who We Are

Vision Statement

The vision of Hyland Hills Park & Recreation District is to provide an improved quality of life to residents and the surrounding community through its recreation programs, local parks and entertainment facilities.

Mission Statement

Hyland Hills Park & Recreation District provides first-class parks, open spaces, facilities, and recreation programs that enrich and promote a healthy lifestyle, create memorable experiences, and build relationships between the District and its community while valuing equity and inclusion.

The Hyland Hills Park and Recreation District (HHPRD), established in 1955, has the honor of being one of the first park and recreation districts in the State of Colorado. Today, Hyland Hills serves nearly 130,000 residents in a 24 square mile area located in southwest Adams County that includes: the City of Federal Heights, parts of unincorporated Adams County, and areas of Westminster, Arvada, Northglenn, and Thornton.

Hyland Hills Executive Leadership Team

Yvonne Fischbach, Executive Director
Skyler Beck, Deputy Director of Administration
Allen Brown, Deputy Director of Enterprises
Bob Owens, Deputy Director of Enterprises

Employee Stats

96 full-time employees
1,805 part-time employees



A team of dedicated staff

Board of Directors

A five-member board of directors is responsible for establishing board policies and overseeing high-level decisions that affect the Hyland Hills Park & Recreation District. Board members are elected at large and serve four-year terms. The current Board of Directors include:

Warren Blair, President
Margaret Gutierrez, Vice President
Don Ciancio II, Secretary
Mike Hald, Treasurer
Dani Grosh, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer



Strategic Plan

On August 6, 2024, the Hyland Hills Board of Directors formally approved the much-anticipated Strategic Plan, a comprehensive blueprint that will guide decision-making for the Hyland Hills Park and Recreation District's recreational facilities and programs over the next decade.

In 2023, Hyland Hills asked the community "Where do we grow from here?" and to share ideas for future parks, facilities, and program offerings. Through more than 6,300 direct community touch-points, Hyland Hills gathered valuable feedback to shape our Strategic Plan.

Three key strategic initiatives emerged as a result of community engagement and visioning sessions. These initiatives serve as the foundation for executing the Strategic Plan over the coming years. These include *Preserving our District's Valued Assets*, *Align Services with our District's Evolving Interests* and *Provide World-Class Experiences*.

Key priorities identified by residents include:

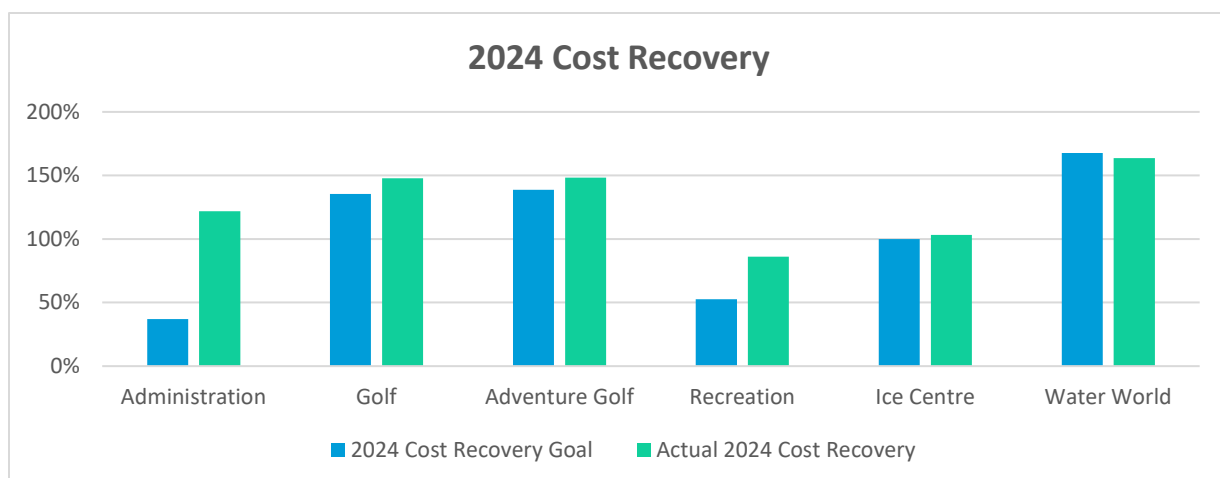
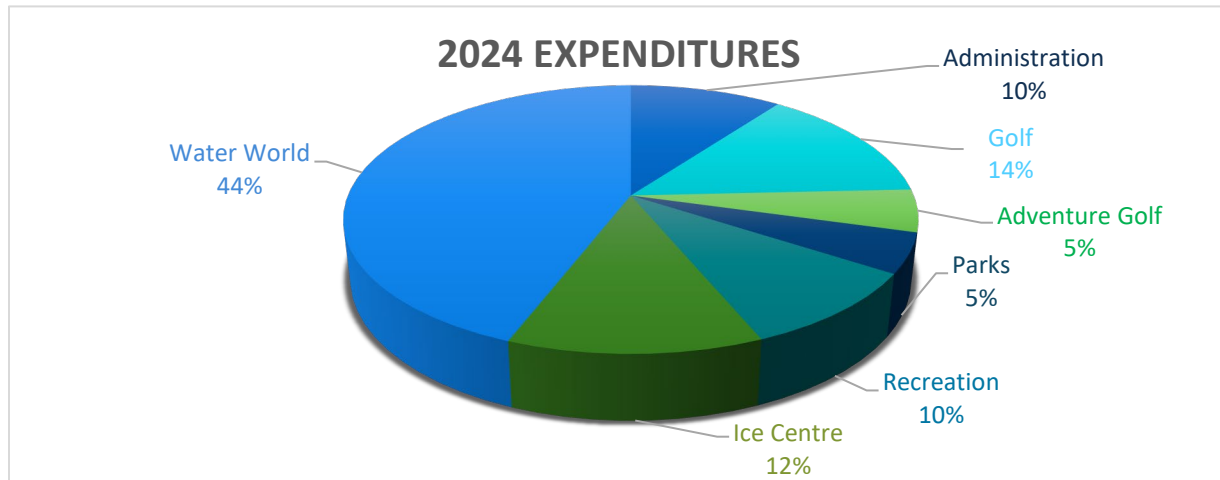
- Park Development
- Sports Fields
- Security at Facilities
- Shade
- Water Conservation
- Special Events
- Expand Partnerships
- Enhance Enterprise Facilities including Adventure Golf & Raceway, Golf Courses, Ice Centre and Water World

Over the coming years, the District aims to carry out these priorities and continue serving the residents of Hyland Hills.



Financial Overview

Financial accountability has long been the standard for Hyland Hills, as evidenced by receipt of the Excellence in Financial Reporting Award for 30 years in a row. Financial policies are aligned with procurement and investment standards. The District worked proactively in 2024 to curb costs while increasing program offerings and facility use. Below includes a breakdown of the District's financial performance:



EVENTS:

FREE Community
Events: **42**

SOCIAL MEDIA

Engagements: **16,630,927**

Multi Media Engagements: **169,678,550**



COMMUNITY SWIMMING

Swim Lessons Given: **1,021**

Patrons at Community Pools: **5,946**



2024:
BY THE NUMBERS

RECREATION

Youth Sports
Participants: **1,989**

Gymnastics & Dance
Participants: **10,116**

Recreation Scholarships
Distributed: **596**

COMMUNITY RENTALS:

Shelter & Court Rentals: **5,984**



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Recreation Programs

In 2024, the Hyland Hills Recreation Department achieved significant milestones, further enhancing its facilities and programs to better serve the community.

Community Engagement and Events. Throughout the year, the Department organized numerous events and programs to foster community engagement. The Clear Creek Valley Park hosted free summer concerts, culminating in the annual Parkfest, a signature event that has become a community favorite.

Learn to Swim Program. The Learn to Swim program is offered each summer at Hyland Hills' two aquatics facilities: Carroll Butts Pool and Splashland Pool. In 2024, there were 1,021 swim lessons taught to children in the community. Students were also invited to take part in the World's Largest Swim Lesson at Water World.

Youth and Adult Sports. The Recreation Department maintained a strong focus on sports, offering a diverse array of programs such as baseball, softball, flag football, basketball, soccer, sports camps, pickleball, volleyball, and gymnastics. In 2024, the Department experienced robust participation, with hundreds of adult sports participants and over a thousand youth sports participants, reflecting the community's active lifestyle and commitment to health and wellness.

Fitness Programs. Hyland Hills helps residents achieve their health and wellness goals by offering a variety of programs at both the Fitness Center and newly constructed Sports Center. The Fitness Center, previously known as FIT by Hyland Hills, was rebranded as the Fitness Center to focus more on community programming and serve a broader range of residents.



2024: *BY THE NUMBERS*

GYMNASTICS
MEET
ADMISSIONS:
6,953

TUMBLER
TREATS
CONCESSIONS:
13,153
Items Sold

SILVER
SNEAKERS
CLASSES:
11
Weekly Classes
Offered

SILVER
SNEAKERS
MEMBERSHIPS:
1965

PASS SCANS
PER DAY at
HYLAND HILLS
SPORTS CENTER:
250-300
(on average)

SUMMER
CAMP TRIPS:
2 Trips to
Water World
(21 Participants)

HYLAND HILLS
RESIDENT
DISCOUNT CARDS
ISSUED:
6,349

Parks Maintenance



17

Parks

26

Playgrounds

17

Baseball
& Softball
Fields

7

Multi-Purpose
Sports Fields

25

Shade
Shelters

398

Acres



Adventure Golf & Raceway

In 2024, Adventure Golf & Raceway celebrated its 35th anniversary! The facility continued to provide a variety of engaging attractions for visitors of all ages. The facility features three uniquely themed 18-hole miniature golf courses, an electric go-kart track, bumper cars, maze, shelters and a ropes course.

Throughout the year, the venue hosted several special events, including the annual Halloween Trick-or-Treat Spooktacular on October 25, 2024. This family-friendly event offered trick-or-treat stations, a haunted maze, a Halloween DJ, balloon art, and glitter tattoos for children aged 12 and under.

Additionally, the popular Holiday Lights event attracted numerous visitors, showcasing spectacular light displays across the miniature golf courses. This festive attraction has become a seasonal highlight, drawing guests from the local community and beyond.

Adventure Golf & Raceway maintained its reputation as a premier destination for family entertainment in the Denver area throughout 2024. Below includes additional 2024 highlights:



Greg Mastriona Golf Courses

In 2024, The Greg Mastriona Golf Courses at Hyland Hills celebrated their 60th anniversary, marking six decades since the original 18-hole championship course opened. Key accomplishments in 2024 include the following:

Junior Golf Program. Our Greg Mastriona Golf Courses at Hyland Hills is home to the popular Junior Golf Program. 275 golfers between the ages of 7-17 participated in the program in 2024. Participants learned from a golf professional during one of the eight 5-day program sessions.



Blue Course Renovation. Beginning in October, the facility initiated a significant renovation on the Blue Course Hole #1. The project involved transferring existing sod to a newly constructed green, enhancing the golf experience on that first hole.

Cottonwood Lodge. In its second year of operation, Cottonwood Lodge enhanced its reputation as a premier dining and event venue. The restaurant participated in Denver Restaurant Week, introduced Sunday Brunch, Wednesday Prime Rib dinners and weekly concert events.

Throughout 2024, The Greg Mastriona Golf Courses at Hyland Hills demonstrated a steadfast commitment to enhancing the golfing experience through strategic renovations, hosting notable events and adding GPS units on golf carts to enhance pace of play, solidifying their reputation as a premier golfing destination in Colorado. Below includes statistics for additional 2024 accomplishments:



THE GREG MASTRIONA GOLF COURSES AT HYLAND HILLS

2024: *BY THE NUMBERS*

120,230 Rounds of Golf Played

250 Junior Golfers

Hosted 83 Tournaments (41 Small - 42 Large)

35 Private Lessons

Served Over 100,000 Guests at Cottonwood Lodge

Ice Centre

In 2024, the Ice Centre at the Promenade in Westminster, Colorado, continued to serve the community as a premier ice skating facility, offering a wide range of programs and events for the community. The Centre maintained its status as one of the largest public ice skating facilities in America, featuring three regulation-size ice sheets within its 143,000 square-foot complex.

Public Skating. The Ice Centre offered numerous public skating sessions throughout the year, accommodating skaters of all ages and skill levels. Over 27,000 patrons enjoyed the public skate sessions in 2024!

Adult Hockey Leagues. The Centre continued to host one of the largest adult hockey leagues in the country, with over 2,700 games played! The league emphasized a sportsmanlike, competitive, and fun environment for all participants.

Learn to Skate Programs. The "Learn to Skate with Us" program remained popular, offering lessons for aspiring figure skaters and hockey players. The program catered to various age groups and skill levels, fostering a love for ice sports in the community.

Figure Skating. The Centre's figure skating program thrived in 2024, catering to skaters advancing from the Learn to Skate Program and the Rocky Mountain Figure Skating Academy. The facility provided an extensive schedule of freestyle sessions, ranging from beginner to national levels, and offered private lessons with professional instructors. The Ice Centre also celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2024! Below includes additional accomplishments this year:



2024: *BY THE NUMBERS*

**PUBLIC
SKATE
ADMISSIONS:**

27,683

**SKATE
RENTALS:**

17,664

**FIGURE
SKATING
ADMISSIONS:**

23,967

**"LEARN TO
SKATE"
LESSONS
TAUGHT:**

**Over 9,000
Lessons**

**ADULT
LEAGUE
GAMES
PLAYED:**

2,716

**YOUTH
HOCKEY
HOURS:**

**Over 3,000
Hours**

Water World

In 2024, Water World celebrated its 45th anniversary, marking a significant milestone in its history. The park continued to be recognized for its excellence nationally, being voted as a Top 10 outdoor waterpark by both Newsweek and USA Today. Additionally, Water World received the "Best Water Park" accolade in Denver Westword's Readers' Choice poll.

Throughout the year, Water World maintained its reputation for offering a diverse range of attractions across its expansive 70-acre facility. The park features over 50 attractions, including wave pools, slides, and the gravity-defying Mile High Flyer coaster, catering to patrons of all ages and thrill levels. In 2024, Water World was open every day with no closures from May 25 – September 2 hosting thousands of patrons during the summer.

Water World was pleased to again host the annual CPRA Lifeguard Games. This is a long standing tradition for the park hosting over 250 lifeguards from around the state to showcase their professionalism and skills.

Overall, 2024 was a year of celebration and continued excellence for Water World, as it upheld its status as a premier destination for water-based entertainment in Colorado and beyond. Below includes additional 2024 highlights:



Capital Projects – Mill Levy Fund

In 2024, Hyland Hills maximized Mill Levy funds to enhance parks while leveraging partnerships such as Adams County Open Space to stretch taxpayer dollars and fund more projects. Below includes a summary of projects accomplished in 2024:

Sherrelwood Park Improvements

Construction on this project was completed in June 2024 to add a hillside play space and rentable shelter. This project was funded in part through an Adams County Open Space grant and a contribution from Del West Developers.



Clear Creek Valley Park Shelters

Park improvements in 2024 included the installation of picnic shelters. One large shelter was installed on the west side of the park that is able to host large events. Two smaller shelters were also installed throughout the park. This project was funded in part by an Adams County Open Space Grant.

Carstens/Camenisch Park Master Plan

Hyland Hills started a Master Plan design process to improve Carstens and Camenisch Parks. In 2024, staff and the consultant team conducted extensive outreach both with residents who live close by and also specific user groups such as disc golfers. The final product is a Master Plan with improvements throughout the park that will likely be phased in over the coming years.



Camenisch Park Sports Complex Phase I Improvements

Construction was completed in May 2024 to convert natural grass to artificial turf with the primary goal as water conservation. In addition, artificial turf fields has resulted in increased recreation programming opportunities for the community. This project was partially funded with an Adams County Open Space Grant.

Carl Park Playground

The playground at Carl Park Community Center was replaced in 2024 to include rubber surfacing and other accessible play features. Hyland Hills residents and Ricardo Flores Magon Academy students helped select the playground that was installed. This project was also partially funded by an Adams County Open Space Grant.



2025 Projects: The Year Ahead

Strategic Plan Implementation

The District plans to begin immediately implementing recommendations from the recently adopted Strategic Plan. A number of recommendations are ongoing and will be common themes in capital projects as identified in the section above. Staff has identified a number of recommendations and action items for 2025 to prioritize and includes the following:

Strategic Plan Initiative #1: Preserve Our District's Valued Assets

- Develop a long-term capital improvement plan that supports Strategic Plan priorities. Integrate the Strategic Plan's capital and operational recommendations into annual and ongoing budget planning.
- Improve, repurpose or consolidate high-cost, low-use and low-cost recovery facilities to shift limited resources to higher priorities. Use Strategic Plan guidance to make informed, community-aligned decisions.

Strategic Plan Initiative #2: Align Services with our District's Evolving Interests

- Strengthen and expand partnerships to maximize community benefit.
- Invest in the safety and security of parks and facilities.

Strategic Plan Initiative #3: Provide World-Class Experiences

- Enhance enterprise facility experiences and amenities including a Water World improvement plan.
- Increase staff retention and succession planning efforts.

Camenisch Park Sports Complex Phase II

Phase II of the Sports Complex project began in October. Improvements include the relocation of the playground with added amenities, construction of additional parking spaces, additional picnic shelters and ADA sidewalk improvements. This project is funded in part through an Adams County Open Space Grant and is expected to be finished in the Spring of 2025.

Carroll Butts Park – Phase I

In 2023, staff worked with a landscape architect firm to produce a Master Plan for Carroll Butts Park. A formal master plan, with over \$10 million of improvements, was adopted by both the Hyland Hills Board of Directors and Westminster City Council in the fall of 2023. Due to the scale and scope of the Master Plan, it is broken into phases for feasibility. Phase I will begin in 2025 and will include the installation of 8 pickleball courts and additional parking.



Commissioners Park Improvements

Staff sought funding opportunities to renovate and update Commissioners Park. Improvements will include a new shade structure, new playground, renovated basketball court, construction of a multi-sports court, and updates to the irrigation system. These improvements will greatly improve the park's usability. Thanks to an Adams County Open Space grant this project will begin planning and design in 2025.

Rotary Park Improvements

Staff sought funding opportunities to renovate and update Rotary Park. Improvements will include a new shade structure, basketball court, updates to the irrigation system and construction of a loop trail around the park's perimeter. These improvements will greatly improve the park's usability. Thanks to an Adams County Open Space grant this project will begin planning and design in 2025.



EV Charging Station

Hyland Hills sought funding to evaluate the feasibility and practicality of Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations for the public at select Hyland Hills facilities. This project will include preliminary site assessments, charging solutions, infrastructure needs and identify available funding sources. Thanks to an Adams County Open Space grant this project will begin in 2025.

Xeriscape Concept Plans

Staff worked with a consultant team to create a standard set of xeriscape plans that can be installed at a variety of parks and facilities. The benefits of xeriscaping include water conservation, reduced maintenance costs, eliminate chemicals and installation of drought tolerant plants.



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