



W E L C O M E

Southwest City Dog Park

**General Membership Meeting
May 13, 2021**

Attendance Drawings



- **SWCDP Membership** for 2022 (1 dog)
(one winner)
- 1 Inventory Item **HOODIE** or **SWEATSHIRT**
(one winner)
- 1 Inventory Item **T-SHIRT** or **TANK TOP**
(one winner)
- **2 Koozies**
(three winners)

GMM Agenda

Program Segments	Time
Introductions, General Info, Surprise Announcements	6:00 – 6:15
Capital Improvements, Member Survey Results	6:15 – 6:25
Improvement Details – Address Concerns/Questions	6:25 – 6:40
Turf Discussions & Solutions • Pete Wiss, K-9 Grass, Forever Lawn	6:40 – 7:10
Financial Reports	7:10 – 7:20
Fundraising	7:20 – 7:35
Volunteerism and SWCDP Future	7:35 – 7:45
Q & A – Follow Ups	7:45 – 7:55
Attendance Drawings	7:55 – 8:00

*Topic Time Slots
May Change*

Member Survey

Results Overview

Overall response very supportive. Most concerns focus on finding ways to keep dog park open – members dislike renovation closures. Also concerned about keeping plenty of open space for running and ball playing. Some amenities, like maze and agility, new members have no experience using – so some responders stated they don't really know how they feel about the value of each. Finally, general questions about safety, durability, maintenance, and cost.

These issues – and more – will be discussed at GMM

SWCDP Member Survey

Capital Improvement Plan 2021

Overall Impression: 92% Agree	Traffic Shift: 91% Agree	HUB: 88% Agree
Climbing Maze: 72% Agree	Pavilion: 84% Agree	Drinking Fountain: 65% Agree
Agility Course: 64% Agree	Agility Training: 61% Interested	Open Spaces: 89% Important

<https://swcitydogpark.org/imagine-swcdps-future/>

Entry Area

Entry Area

#2 Drawing

Entry area expanded

Alternate & Main gates now separated; moved Main entry back 10'6"

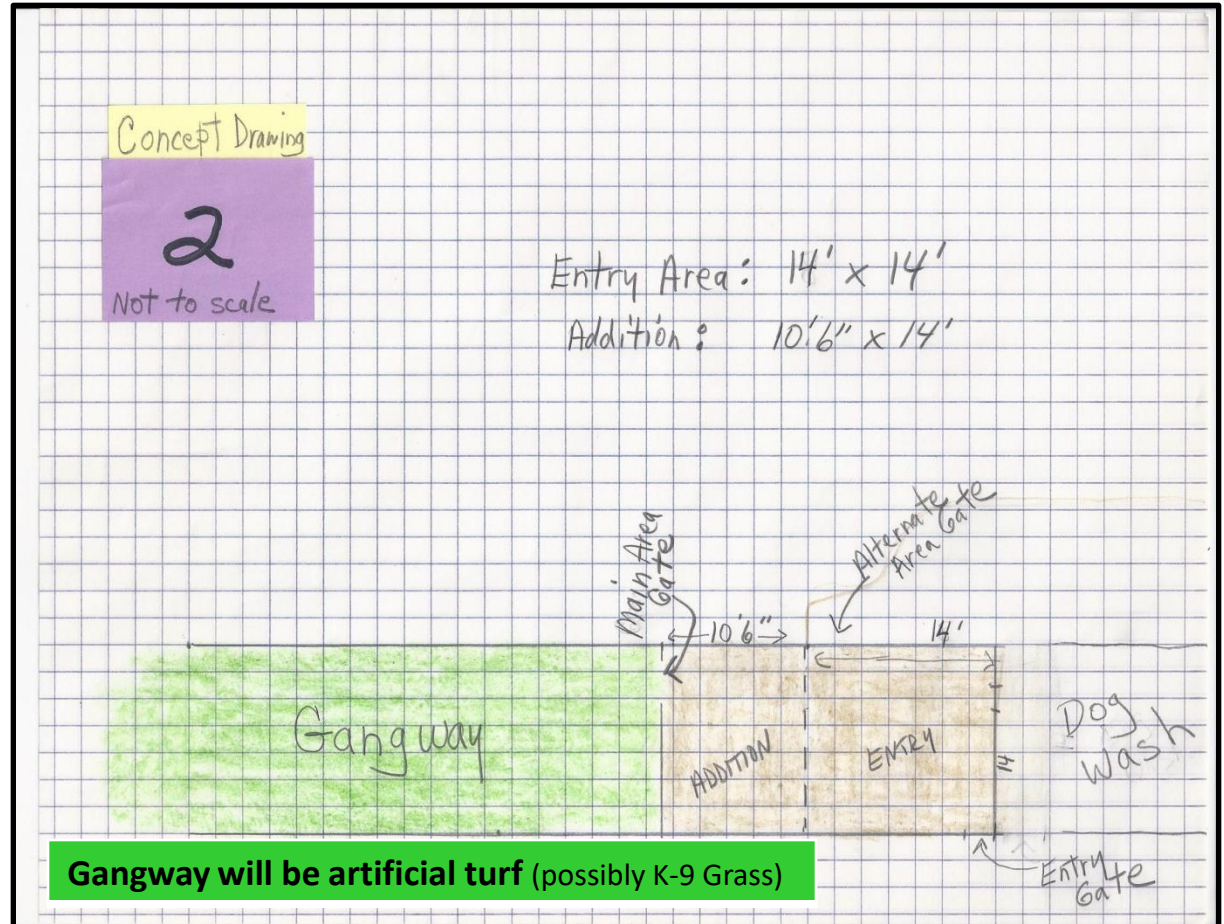
Brick to be replaced with larger, concrete entry area

Improvement will cut down on members & dogs piling up as they arrive and depart.

Gangway

Gangway reduced

Gangway is now 35' long instead of 60'. Reduction will allow dogs to get into Main play area quicker – attempt to reduce time required to deal with the overzealous "Greeters".



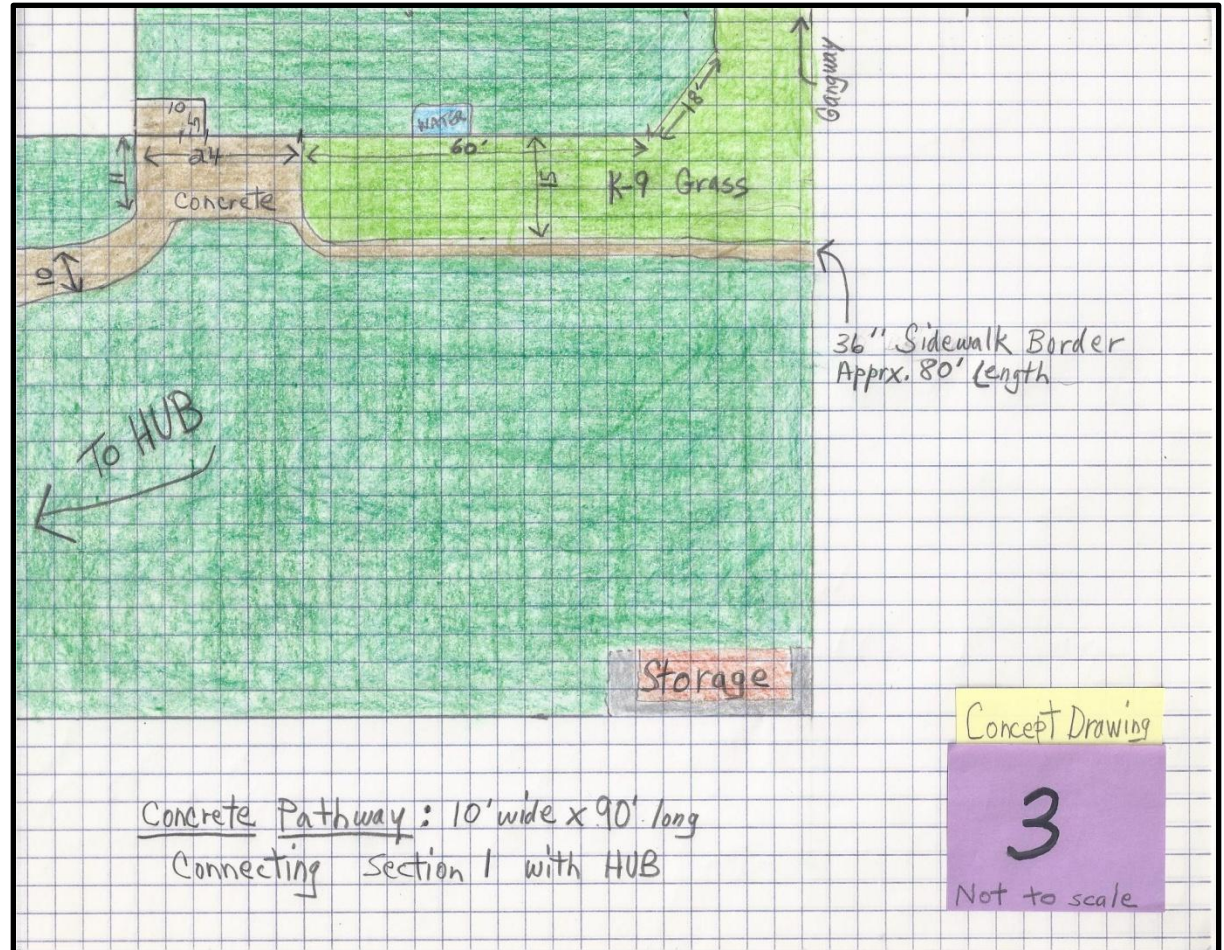
Main Front Area

Front Patio

#3 Drawing

Front area will have K-9 Grass (artificial turf) and a concrete patio as well as a 3' sidewalk surround to create a sitting and congregating area.

This layout will also provide the opportunity to use temporary fencing for Turf Section 1 when natural grass requires renovation or rest.



Pathways

Pathway Between Front & HUB

#4 Drawing

Pathway will be 90' in length, 10' wide path.

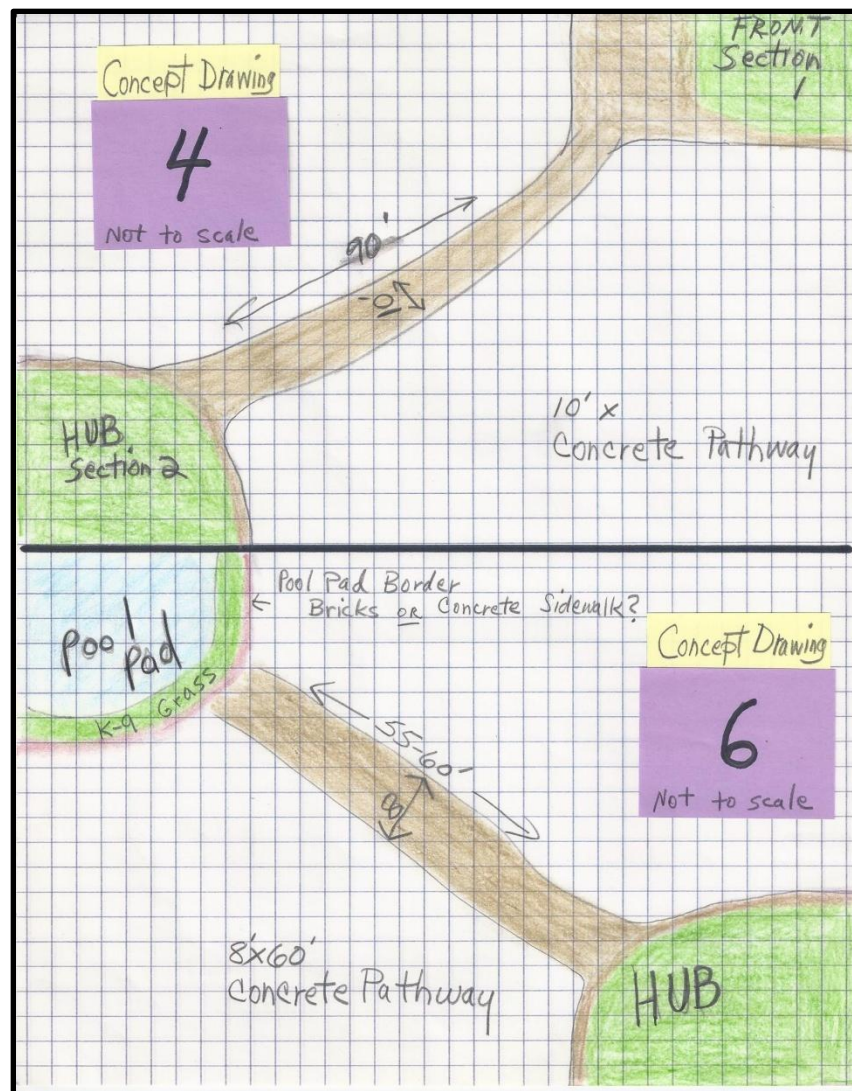
Pathway not only provides a solid walking surface but gives us the opportunity to put up temporary fence for either Turf Section 1 or 2 (or both), depending on turf needs.

IMPORTANT: The *HUB and this pathway are key elements to SWCDP remaining open year round (except for Wet Weather closings)*. We can shift traffic to the HUB area and still do a Spring and Fall seeding or renovation. More to come on this.

Pathway Between HUB & Pool Pad

#6 Drawing

Pathway will be 60' in length, 8' wide. Pathway not only provides a solid walking surface but gives us the opportunity to put up temporary fence for either Turf Section 2 or 3 (or both), as needed.



HUB & Mazes

SWCDP HUB

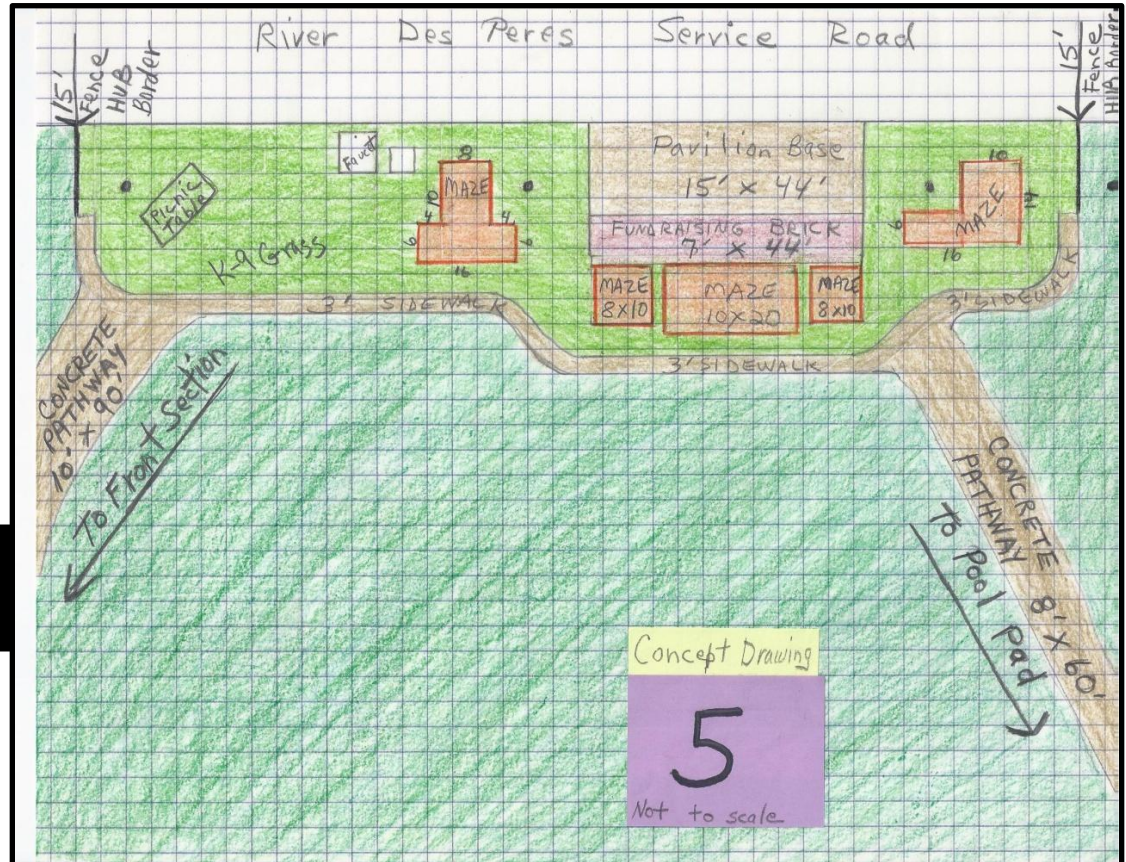
#5 Drawing

IMPORTANT: The *HUB (and pathways are key elements to SWCDP remaining open year round (except for Wet Weather closings).*

GOAL: Shift traffic to the HUB area and still do a Spring and Fall seeding or renovation. More to come on this. It may take 12-18 months or longer to achieve, depending on fundraising.

HUB Activity Center Climbing Mazes

Our old straw maze was huge success; this new design even better. Each structure will be available year round; will have activity options on some; others will have tunnels or places to chase, climb or rest. More on these designs this summer; currently under development.



At least 7-8 feet from center point will remain flat ground so there will be plenty of room for running dogs, ball chasing, and more. A sidewalk surround will provide a solid surface for safe walking for our humans.

Pool Pad

Pool Pad

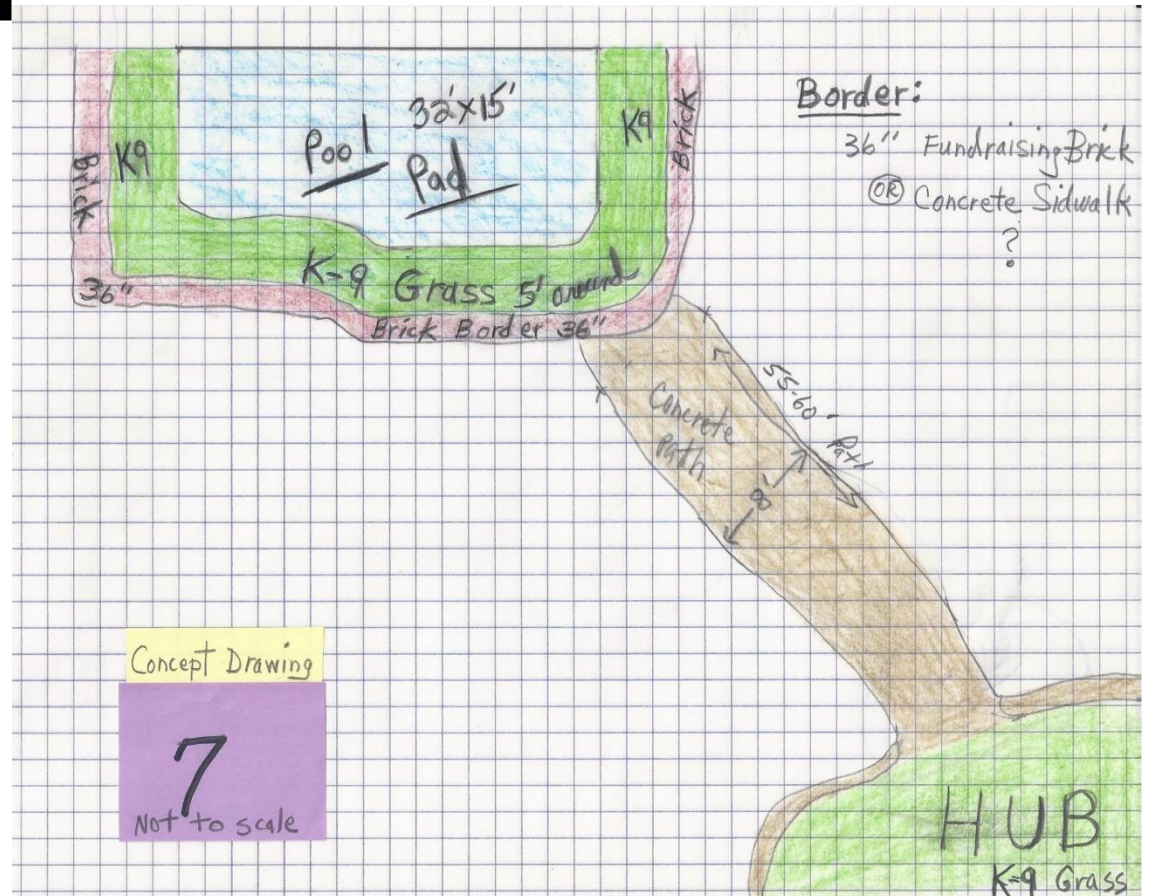
#7 Drawing

Our dogs who enjoy water activities love our Pool Pad. It offers three different types of pools – something for all preferences.

Our problem – even after two upgrade projects – is that the dogs carry lots of water in their coats so we still have mud issues surrounding the pool pad.

With our upcoming improvements, we will eliminate the random flag stone around perimeter. Replace with artificial turf and then a border of either concrete or fund raising bricks around the turf. This 8 ft buffer should finally end the pool related mud issue.

Also City has agreed to plant 3 River Birch trees on other side of fence to help drink up the waste water flow from our frequent pool dumping and hose use.



Financial Reports

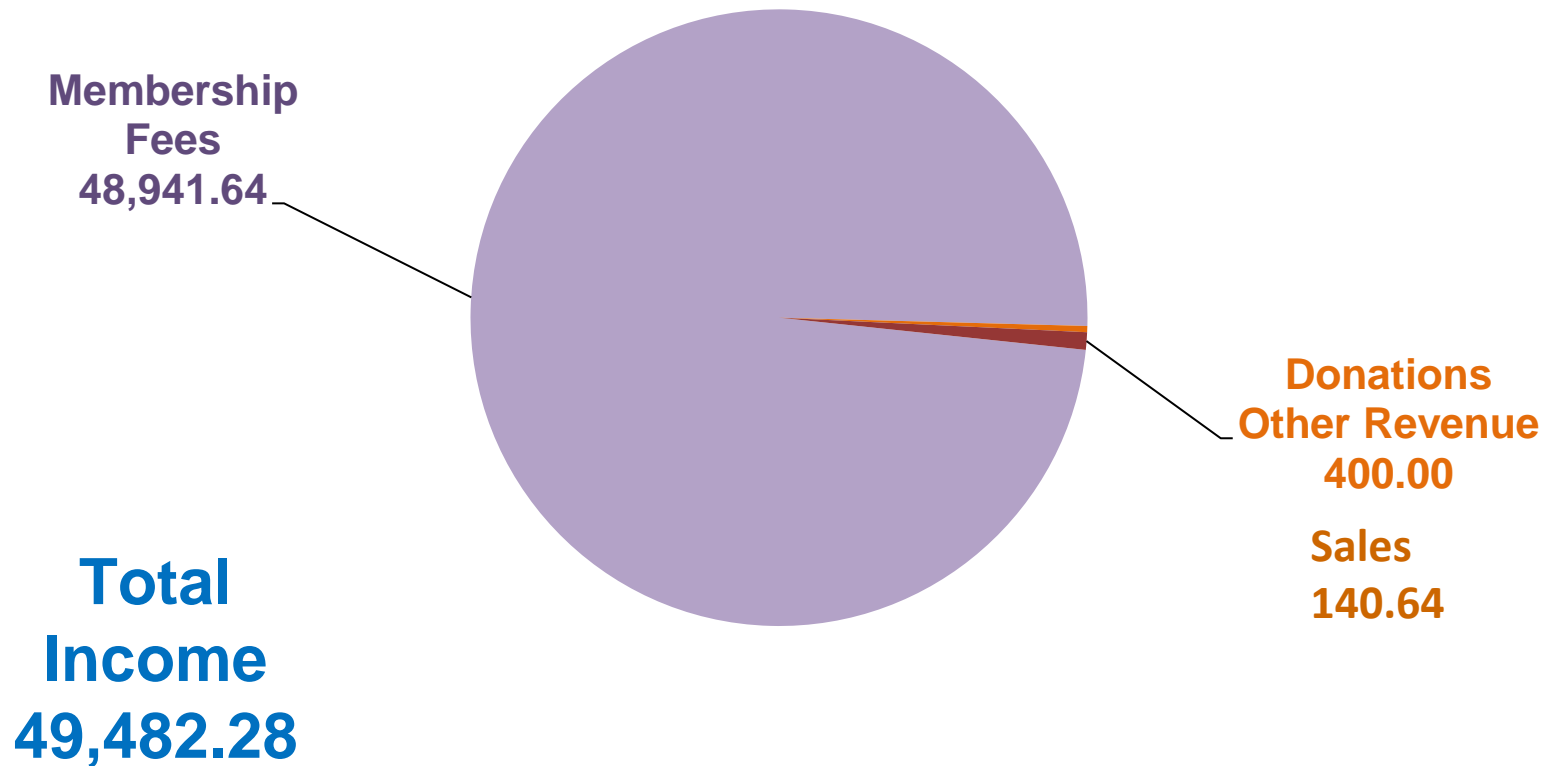
The following slides show the income and expenses as of March 2021

At the GMM – we will discuss some of the details and explanations behind the largest numbers as well as additional background we think members will appreciate knowing.

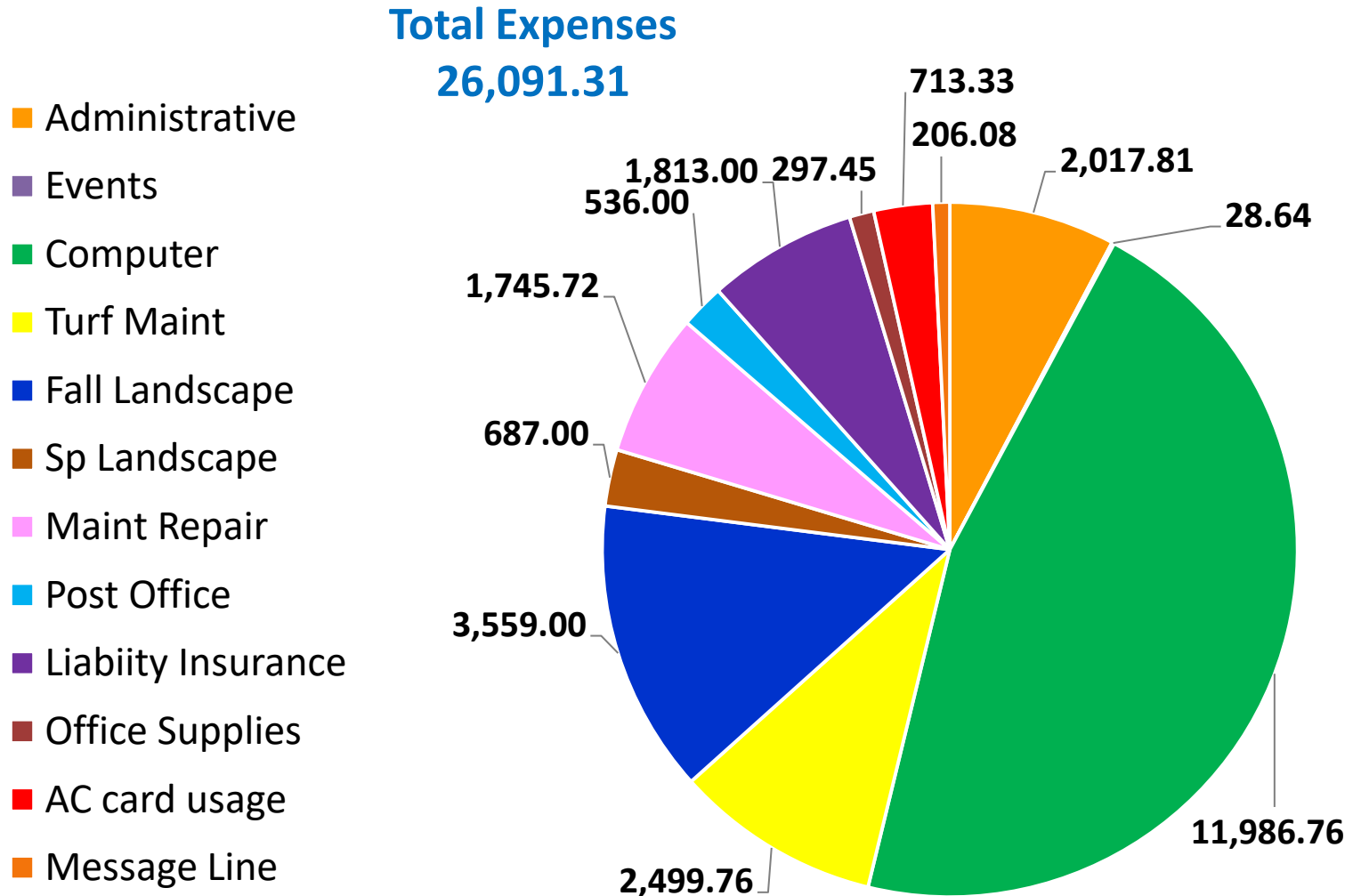
We will discuss comparative numbers from previous years – as well as discuss what we know at this point about upcoming costs related to general operations and our capital improvement projects.

Estimates for capital improvement projects has begun, but until we finalize the design and determine preferred materials – we cannot obtain accurate numbers. Striving for all cost estimates in June because we need these numbers for our fund raising campaign.

Income 2020 – 2021



Expense 2020 – 2021



Membership Stats

800 Households

(up 32 from last season)

445 New members

355 Prior members

1031 Dogs

(up 35 from last season)

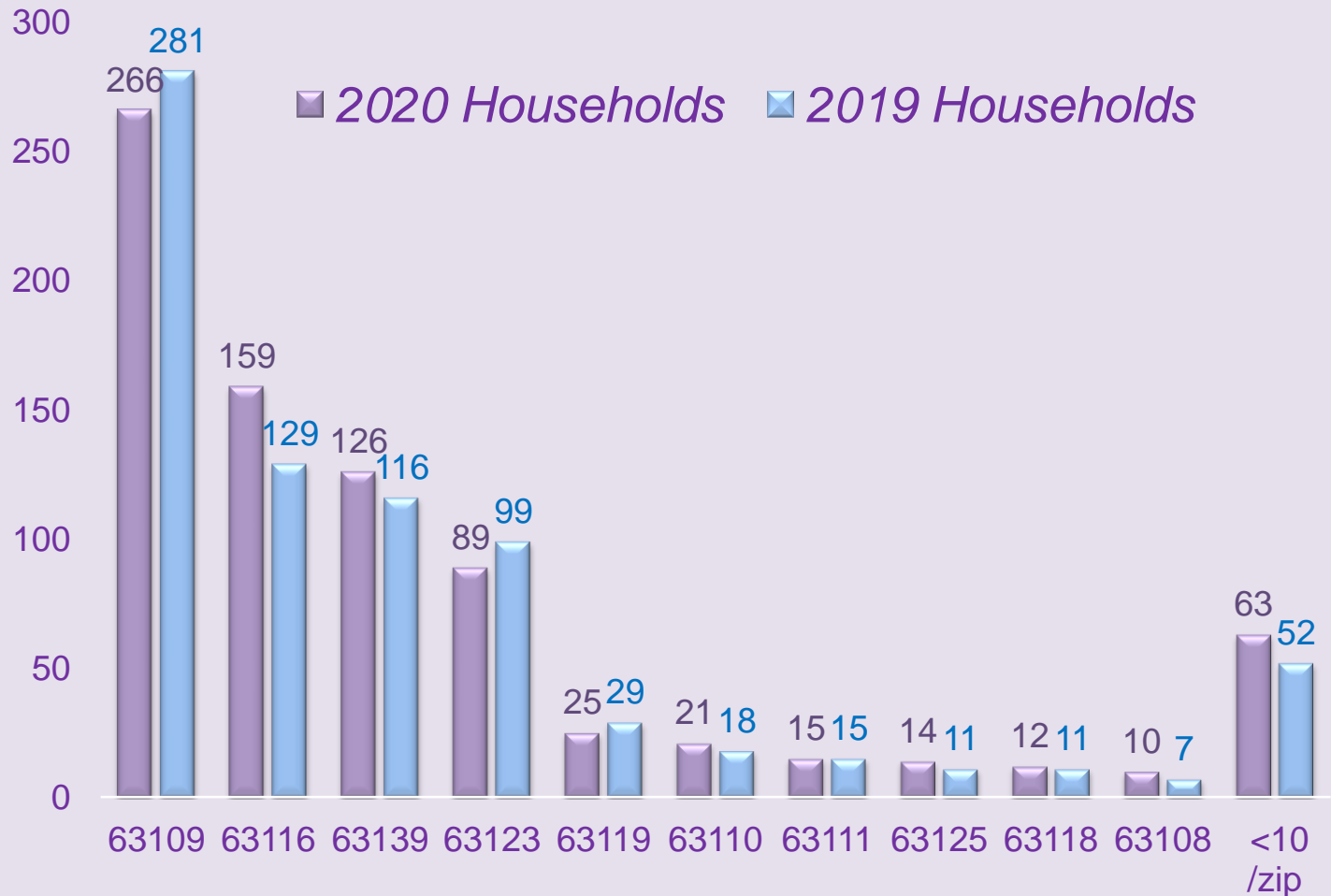
By Residence

671 St. Louis City

129 Outside City

42 SNA

87.39% used online application – check



Volunteers

Immediate Need

- **Dog Park Camera Project**: Research camera market, focus on trail cameras, test one before purchase several. Monitor and maintain security cameras once installed
- **Security Maintenance**: Establish-manage system for reporting every theft or vandalism issue with Police; establish relationship with Park Rangers, take video footage from security camera, assist with keeping cameras operating properly.
- **Fundraising Committee**: (*forming in June*) – help plan and manage various fundraising activities in 2021 and 2022
- **Gardening**: Adopt a Garden (ongoing upkeep)
- **Trash Maintenance**: Empty cans, put in fresh trash bag, haul filled bags to curb. Twice per week – ideal to have 2-3 members rotate duties

Saturday, May 29 – Spring Clean Up – 9:00am until done

Our annual gardening and grounds clean up – in prep for an active summer & fall. Bring your gardening tools. All gardens (6) need work; by June 1 we hope to have all gardens adopted by members for ongoing maintenance.

Scrub furniture, buckets & place
Scrub trash cans, pools & place

Weed & clean gardens
Mulch gardens

Miscellaneous tasks and/or repairs
Maybe some raking or weed whipping

Volunteers

Upcoming Needs

- **Membership Processing Team**: Help screen applications, process membership requests. Work from home computer, be available for short time each day, multi-step process – must have good eye for details.
- **Research Projects**: Research products, services, info specific topics, or figuring out appropriate contacts or protocol. Good investigative skills to hunt data.
- **Events**: Supervisors needed to help plan, organize, and oversee our events. Usually 2-4 social events each season; multiple dog activities at each event – lots of action.
 - **Agility** – Need helpers oversee equipment, pick up for grass cutting. Looking for a new Agility Trainer, too.
 - **Canine Special Events** – Bring in Veterinarians, Dog Trainers, Dog Sports Demos including Agility, Other dog related topics
- **Volunteer Management**: Help recruit volunteers, contact for projects, keep log of who helps on each project, etc.
- **Special Projects**: Offer your subject matter expertise in variety of areas (carpentry, landscaping/turf management, general construction trades, repair & maintenance tasks, computer skills, writing and design skills and more.

On Call Volunteers

Tasks involve grounds/garden maintenance-repair; events set up, tear down, activity supervision; etc. We try to give notice; depends on situation, task at hand – often, weather or other conditions change our schedule. We need volunteers who can show up and handle various tasks as needed.

Fundraising

SWCDP will assemble a Fundraising Committee in June 2021

Committee will brainstorm ideas below and other fundraising avenues – make a plan for coordinated fund raising efforts – develop a fund raising document that members can use. Our Improvements To Do List may take as long as 3-4 years for completion – or – if we have strong fund raising – most projects might be completed in 18-24 months.

Member cash donations

External cash donations (friends, family, personal and business contacts)

Fundraising bricks (placement in front of pavilion at HUB; maybe around pool pad, tbd)

Members sponsor a Climbing Maze section

- Fund a maze (materials) and a plaque will be installed on that maze (for instance, name the maze “Fido’s Deck” or “Smith Family Deck” or similar)

Corporate Sponsorship or Donations

- Have a company directly purchase an item or materials (such as buy the stainless steel water fountain or materials for climbing mazes)
- Have a company donate materials directly – or give us a deep discount on goods and/or services
- Cash donations

Sell SWCDP Merchandise

City funds (Regional Parks Fund and Alderman Funds)