

Cuts and service reductions are being made for the 2008-09 budget year. They are being determined based on these eight guidelines adopted by the Urbana Park District Board of Commissioners:

1. Maintain the skill and talent base of core regular full-time and part-time staff
2. Reduce temporary, part-time, seasonal staff, delay hiring where possible, adjust positions as possible for the short term, limit overtime to critical or emergency situations
3. Make reductions based upon the Strategic Plan: focus on Core Recreation Services and Park Classifications
4. Reduce program areas with lower participation or duplicate services
5. Reduce areas that have the greatest ability to reallocate staff to critical/core service areas
6. Increase or implement fees
7. Postpone new programs
8. Make reductions in a way that the program or service can recover after a year

Cuts/Service Reductions

The Urbana Park District has made its finances work for as long as possible. Increased funding is needed in order to continue to offer the level of service citizens have come to expect. Without additional funds, the district must consider how best to use its limited resources. An interim plan is now in place that includes: reduced hours for the Anita Purves Nature Center, Lake House, Crystal Lake Pool and Phillips Recreation Center. The district will also adopt a reduced mowing schedule and offer fewer plantings district-wide. As this goes to print, the Board of Commissioners has adopted guidelines for the staff to use as budget cuts are made. See the Urbana Park District web site for a list of these guidelines. Information about new hours and service changes will be posted at our facilities.

With guidance from the strategic plan, staff, and UPDAC (the citizens advisory committee), the Board is considering the district's next steps.

TO MAKE COMMENTS TO THE BOARD, PLEASE ATTEND THE MONTHLY BOARD MEETING, OR VISIT OUR WEB SITE AND SEND COMMISSIONERS AN E-MAIL MESSAGE, OR CALL 367-1536.