



PRESERVE. PLAY. PROSPER.

Enhancing Cottage Grove's Parks, Recreation, and Outdoor Spaces

As part of the general election on Nov. 5, 2024, Cottage Grove voters will consider a half-percent local sales tax to finance the renovation, revitalization, and expansion of parks and recreation.

The **\$36 million project** will create a new public park along the river, provide more family-friendly activities and outdoor recreation, and preserve natural habitats.



Visit [PreservePlayProsper.org](https://www.PreservePlayProsper.org)

for more information or use your smartphone camera to scan the code.



Our **NEEDS**

Our residents value our city's parks, recreation facilities, and natural open spaces, yet our last significant investment in these areas occurred in 1984. After 40 years of use and enjoyment by our growing population and visitors, upgrades, enhancements, and renovations are needed to meet the increased demand for additional outdoor activities, open spaces, and community gathering places.



What's included in **THE PROPOSED PLAN**

Guided by feedback from residents, the Preserve. Play. Prosper. plan would:

Make various upgrades at Hamlet Park

- Install new playground equipment and a new four-season recreation building
- Provide a splash pad, skateboard park, and amphitheater
- Create an art walk/sculpture garden area
- Add a synthetic turf sports field with lighting
- Finish the south baseball park complex

Create a new, 33.3-acre Mississippi Dunes Park

- Restore the natural habitat and shoreline along the river
- Provide facilities for nature activities, picnicking, and recreational river access
- Construct new walking and hiking trails
- Create outdoor classroom settings and a nature-themed large playground
- Build an interpretative center

Enhance River Oaks Golf Course & Event Center:

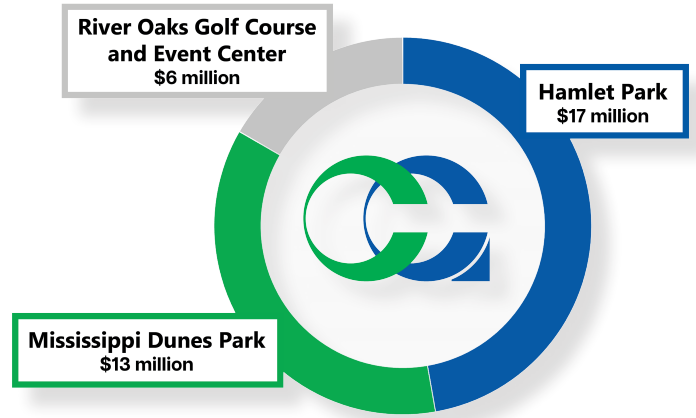
- Install indoor multi-sports simulators
- Create a Himalayan putting green
- Add pickleball courts
- Construct a new winter mountain biking course
- Upgrade the building and expand the patio dining area

The COST OF THE PLAN

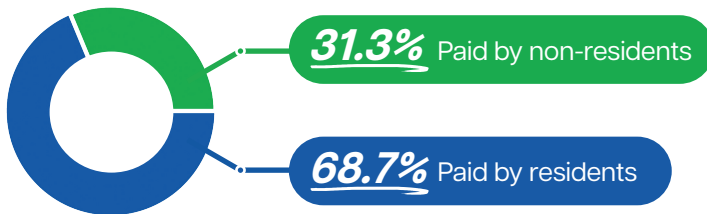
The total investment for the proposed plan is \$36 million:

- **Hamlet Park** – \$17 million
- **Mississippi Dunes Park** – \$13 million
- **River Oaks Golf Course & Event Center** – \$6 million

Cottage Grove voters will consider three separate ballot questions, one for each project. The half-percent sales tax will stay the same if voters approve one, two, or all three projects. The local sales tax would amount to half of one cent for every \$1 spent, or five cents on a \$10 purchase, made in Cottage Grove. If approved, the sales tax would end in 25 years or when the approved project(s) are fully paid - whichever happens first.



Who would pay for the local sales tax?



According to a 2023 analysis by the University of Minnesota

What if the LOCAL SALES TAX isn't approved?

City leaders would engage with residents and community stakeholders to identify how to scale and fund these needed investments in parks and recreation, which could include property tax-based alternatives.

Make your VOICE HEARD

on or before Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024



Our community helped shape this plan and residents will have final say. Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024. **Early voting begins Friday, Sept. 20, 2024.**

Why propose a LOCAL SALES TAX?

A local sales tax spreads the project's cost among residents and non-residents who purchase goods and services in Cottage Grove and benefit from the city's parks system and recreation activities. If the project was paid with property taxes, the cost burden would fall solely on Cottage Grove property owners.

- If approved, Cottage Grove residents would pay **\$22.99 per year (\$1.92 per month)** in additional local sales taxes.
- **Non-residents would pay 31.3%** of the sales tax, or \$11.3 million of the total project cost.



Learn more about the plan at PreservePlayProsper.org

