



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
CITY OF SCHENECTADY  
NEW YORK

**Gary R. McCarthy**  
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## ***Mayor Gary R. McCarthy Announces Kickoff of Recreation Advisory Commission***

**Schenectady, NY** – The revitalized Recreation Advisory Commission held its first meeting today to discuss plans to enhance and revitalize parks and programming throughout the City. Mayor Gary McCarthy appointed the Commission to review the current inventory of condition and programming at the parks, produce a plan to promote parks and programs, and to recommend to a comprehensive fee schedule and phased Capital Plan. The 2015 Capital Budget included \$250,000 for park improvements as well as funds to replace the roof of the Central Park Pavilion.

“The Parks are a major asset to the City and an important part of what makes Schenectady a great place to live, work, and raise a family,” said Mayor Gary McCarthy. “A major part of our continuing plans for investment in parks is creating new partnerships and strengthening old partnerships with neighborhood associations, private businesses, and the City. From small but important things like cleaning up litter to major rehab projects, it is through these partnerships in progress that we create major progress in our community.”

The success of this approach can be seen in the revitalization of Woodlawn Park and the advances made in Steinmetz Park and Jerry Burrell Park, as well as programming at Central Park.

The Commission, led by Richard Patierne, will tour the City’s twenty-four parks to help create an inventory of condition and seek community input into long-term planning. They will also discuss best practices going forward to help promote the City’s parks and programming.

“The City’s park system is an integral part of Schenectady’s continued revitalization,” said Richard Patierne, Chair of the Commission. “I am excited for this opportunity to work with the neighborhoods to ensure the development of a robust park plan that will best use the City’s investment and serve the community for generations to come.”

**\*MORE\***

The Commission currently includes:

Richard Patierne, Chair

Melanie Madden

Thomas Isabella

Laurie Bacheldor

Spero Zoulas

Camille Sasinowski

Kristen Diotte

Janet Chen

Randal Rausch

Ryan Mohamed

Over 22,200 visitors went to the City's four pools in 2014, Central Park Pavilion had 146 rentals and over 180 baseball games, 45 softball games, and eighteen 5K runs were held in Central Park. Current park activities include swimming, pedal boats, summer concerts, music mobile, college baseball, little league, Babe Ruth baseball, softball, basketball, tennis, disc golf, biking, cricket, lunches, SSCCORE Summer Learning Camp, football, soccer and a dog park.

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