



## **LISLE PARK DISTRICT COST RECOVERY POLICY STATEMENT**

As a publicly financed park system, the Lisle Park District provides a basic level of service free to the public, in exchange for tax dollars. However, fees and charges and other methods to recover costs are considered a responsible and necessary means to supplement tax revenue and regulate park use where appropriate.

In establishing fees and charges, the District will determine the direct costs of providing services and establish goals to recover those costs. The appropriate level of cost recovery will be based on an assessment of who is benefiting from the service provided. If the benefit is to the community as a whole, it is appropriate to use taxpayer dollars to completely, or primarily, fund the service. Examples of services that primarily provide community benefits are hiking and biking trails, play areas, parks, and large natural areas.

As the benefit is increasingly to an individual or select group of individuals, it is appropriate to charge fees for the service at an increasing rate of cost recovery. Supervised or instructed programs, facilities, and equipment visitors can exclusively use, and products and services that may be purchased, provide examples where user fees are appropriate.

The District shall also consider available resources, public need, public acceptance, and the community economic climate when establishing fees and charges. In cases where certain programs and facilities are highly specialized by activity and design, and appeal to a select user group, the District shall additionally consider fees charged by alternative service providers or market rates. Fees and charges can be set to recover costs in excess of direct and indirect costs, where appropriate, as a method of subsidizing other services.

The District may subsidize the cost recovery objective of services for persons with economic need or other targeted populations, as determined by policy of the Lisle Park District Board of Park Commissioners, through tax-supported fee reductions, scholarships, grants, or other methods. The Board may also approve exceptional fees or fee waivers upon determination that the fee arrangements will benefit the public interest.

*- Adopted April 16, 2015*