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CITY OF SPOKANE YOUTH BASEBALL UPDATE

The City of Spokane and the Parks and Recreation Department are spending \$3 million of the 2007 Park Bond to convert 9 general use softball/baseball fields into youth baseball fields. These 9 fields will be designated for youth baseball and are located in each of the three City Council Districts.

There will be two new youth baseball fields at Underhill Park, one at Liberty Park, three at Chief Garry Park, two at B.A. Clark Park, and one at the Dwight Merkel Sports Complex. The fields will be ready for use in spring 2011. Youth baseball will also have access to the new Dwight Merkel Softball Complex and will continue to have access to the Franklin Park Complex.

The contract with Spokane American Softball Association to run the Franklin Park Complex will expire July 31st and will not be renewed. The Parks and Recreation Department will consider a Field Use Agreement with Spokane American Softball Association and future users of the Franklin Park Complex that include rules and procedures to ensure that Franklin Park is a joint use facility, accommodating both softball and youth baseball.

So, basically, Spokane youth baseball players will have access to 9 new youth baseball fields, the Franklin Park Complex, and the Dwight Merkel Softball Complex.

About Spokane Parks and Recreation

City of Spokane Parks and Recreation is responsible for the professional management and prudent caretaking of more than 4,100 acres of developed parks and conservation land. The Golf Division maintains and operates four championship municipal golf courses, including Indian Canyon, Downriver,

Esmeralda and the Creek at Qualchan. Park Operations has responsibility for the maintenance of all park land and park facilities in the City of Spokane including Riverfront Park, Manito Park, Gaiser Conservatory and the many city-wide gardens, Finch Arboretum and the Urban Forestry Program. The Recreation/Entertainment Division offers classes, special events, athletic leagues and activities for youth, teens, adults, seniors and persons with physical and mental disabilities. It also operates Riverfront Park attractions, activities and events, and provides support for community centers, senior centers, the Northeast Youth Center, Corbin Art Center and outdoor swimming pools. For more information please visit spokaneparks.org

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