

Tips for Park Advisory Councils

Use this fact sheet to serve as a helpful guide for fostering partnerships in the community and region:

Publicly post your monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly meetings in the park and throughout your park service area

Prepare a brochure stating your park council activities and special events (ask FOTP for sample brochures from other neighborhood park councils)

Attend your nearby Local School Council, PTA, Local BEAT meeting in your community.

Share with other volunteer leaders the many great things happening at your park.

Host local BEAT Meetings and District Area Council (DAC) meetings at your park. Be sure your Park Advisory Council is fully known by your local police commander, Area Detectives, beat officers, and regional park security detail.

Host an annual open house in cooperation with your park supervisor in order to meet and greet the broader community. Contact FOTP, we can help!

Host an annual walk-through at your park, nature area or beach front. This will help create check points for safety, improved public access to park land and facilities and further document the level of care needed at your park.

Issue media alerts announcing your seasonal programs and annual park council elections. Again, let the public know what's happening!

Notify Friends of the Parks of your events to promote on our calendar and in our monthly e-calendar (Deadline for e-news submissions is the 20th of the month).

Invite Friends of the Parks to your next meeting to exchange ideas and information with you. Help us, help you broaden your relationship and partnership within your community and region.

Friends of the Parks is a forty year old nonprofit parks advocacy group whose mission is to preserve, protect, improve, and promote the use of Chicago's parks and public open spaces. We advance our programmatic, educational, and advocacy work with the support of our members, donors and volunteers.