

# HALL ♦ OF ♦ FAME



**Barb Erbstoesser**

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**WEST FARGO PARK DISTRICT**

**2025**

Barb Erbstoesser is the 30th individual inducted into the NDRPA Hall of Fame.

Erbstoesser's 36-year career in the parks and recreation industry began in 1988 when she became recreation coordinator at the West Fargo Park District following an internship and graduation from Minnesota State University Moorhead. In spring of 2000, Erbstoesser was named district executive director, a leadership position she held until her retirement in July 2024.

Her duties extended far beyond the boundaries of the West Fargo Park District. She was a member of the Chamber of Fargo/Moorhead/West Fargo; MetroCog Bikeway Committee; NDRPA Public Policy Committee; National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA); North Dakota League of Cities (NDLC); Red River Valley Fair Association; and Aquatic Professionals International.

Erbstoesser also served as chair of the NDRPA Membership Committee and FOCUS magazine and provided representation and support for important legislative initiatives through the NDRPA Public Policy Committee.

Under Erbstoesser's leadership, the West Fargo Park District earned numerous NDRPA awards for its programs and projects and was instrumental in acquiring grant funding totaling well over \$1.4 million for renovation and expansion projects.

In 2018, Erbstoesser was honored with NDRPA's Distinguished Professional Award.

Working alongside the city of West Fargo, Erbstoesser helped develop a city public dedication ordinance that guaranteed park space or funding from any development in the rapidly growing city. As a result, park district acreage grew from 125 to more than 500 acres and created 20 new parks. During her tenure, full-time staff increased from five to 31. She also championed the development of more than 50 miles of bike trails, partnering with the city to provide connectivity and access to parks, neighborhoods and businesses.

*All NDRPA Hall of Fame members are recognized with plaques at the North Dakota Sports Hall of Fame in the Jamestown Civic Center.*

**Advancing parks, recreation and conservation for an enhanced quality of life in North Dakota.**

PO Box 1091, Bismarck, ND 58502  
701-355-4458 [www.ndrpa.com](http://www.ndrpa.com)

