

CHAPTER 5

Needs Assessment

After gaining an understanding of the existing parks and recreation system in Round Rock, this chapter seeks to determine the desired state for the future. In order to do this, previous planning efforts with regards to parks and recreation are first evaluated so as to know what goals were made in the past and what has been achieved.

A multi-faceted needs assessment then follows. It compares the system today to the existing and projected population to begin to identify the current and future needs of the community. The analysis of system needs is derived using a three-tiered analytical process, including an evaluation of parkland acreage and facility level of service standards, opinions voiced by the community, and an identification of available man-made and natural resources that offer opportunities to expand, diversify, or connect the system.

While each of these three analyses are important in their own regard, together, they provide a comprehensive understanding of the types of facilities, amenities, and programming which is most needed and desired in Round Rock. The identified needs provide the basis for the recommendations which are detailed in the next chapter.



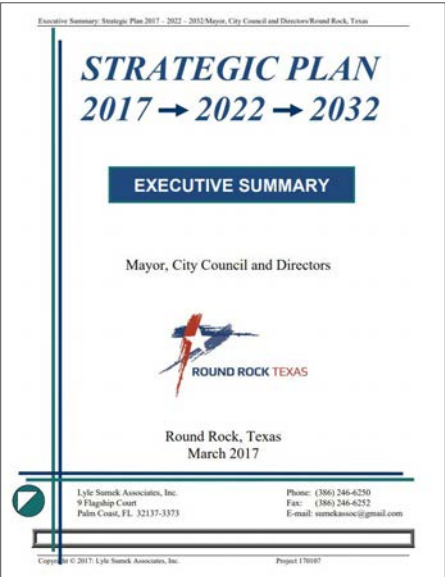
“We do not quit playing because we grow old; we grow old because we quit playing.”

~ Oliver Wendell Holmes, US physician, poet, humorist

Other Planning Efforts in Round Rock

Citywide Strategic Plan, Game On 2060

The City of Round Rock has recently completed the process of developing a citywide strategic master plan which is meant to guide the City staff and elected officials over the next 50 years. In order for Round Rock to achieve its desired vision, the Strategic Plan laid out seven principles. Of these seven principles, parks and recreation can have a direct impact in at least six of them: family-friendly community, safe, distinctive by design, the Sports Capital of Texas, authentic downtown, and choice of great neighborhoods. Parks and recreation provides the community with a wide array of family-friendly opportunities including: recreation programs, youth and adult athletics, special events, and facilities that can accommodate all ages and abilities. Beyond providing safe, well-maintained facilities, parks and recreation helps keep neighborhoods safe by rejuvenating older parks and fighting visual blight. Furthermore, the City's distinct character can be enhanced by the Parks and Recreations Department (PARD). In addition to the beautification provided by parks and streetscapes, certain projects, such as Heritage Trail, will preserve and educate visitors about the City's rich history. The multi-use fields and variety of sports facilities found at Old Settlers Park help to brand Round Rock as the Sports Capital of Texas. Parks and recreation has assisted in creating an authentic downtown by hosting popular events there, such as Christmas Family Night, and providing beautiful public spaces, such as Prete Main Street Plaza, Centennial Plaza, and the Round Rock Amphitheater. Finally, the PARD is committed to the equitable distribution of recreation facilities and programs, making these resources easy to access from virtually any neighborhood in the City.



Citywide Strategic Plan, 2015

Round Rock's Downtown Master Plan

The Downtown District in Round Rock has recently undergone a major branding initiative. The purpose of this branding initiative is to enhance the character of Downtown Round Rock and to make the downtown area more friendly and inviting to non-car users. By creating a walkable downtown district, Round Rock hopes to make the city a more desirable place to live and work, attracting new residents and businesses to the area.

Currently, Round Rock is undergoing major roadway renovations to make Downtown more pedestrian friendly. In addition, walkable corridors are desired along Main Street by separating vehicular traffic from pedestrians, as well as creating a pleasant walking experience by addressing physical comfort issues, such as shade and safety. As the Downtown District continues to change, there will be a focus on pedestrian comfort and safety.

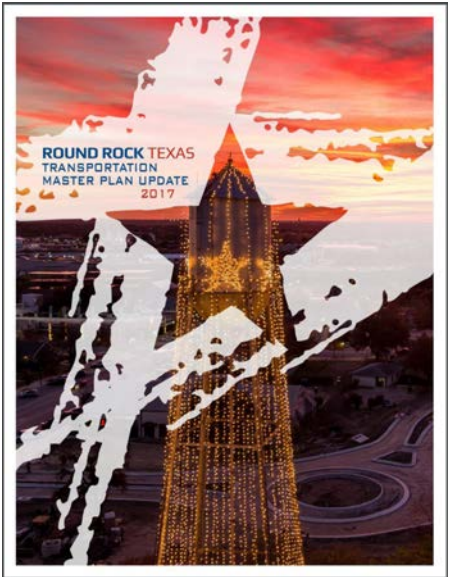
Creating a citywide trails system will allow for all residents of Round Rock to be connected to Downtown. A citywide trails system that connects to the downtown will give people alternate forms of transportation when accessing the shops, restaurants, and businesses that are expected to thrive in Downtown Round Rock.



City of Round Rock Downtown Master Plan, January 2010

Coordination with the City's Transportation Plan - Mobility and Connectivity

Mobility and connectivity is a major strategic goal for the City of Round Rock. Future road widening and construction projects are one means of providing bike lanes and walkways. The City's Transportation Plan identifies many roadway improvements, and identifies specific roadways along which wide sidewalks or even trail segments can be built. It is essential that every opportunity for trails be used, even if a few additional feet of right of way or additional construction dollars are required. It is very difficult, and indeed in most cases impossible, to retroactively build trails or acquire additional right-of-way once a roadway project is constructed. However, it is important that an effective review process takes place to ensure that roadway projects, where feasible, provide street-side trails, bike lanes, and sidewalks that provide true mobility and connectivity, and meet the standards and guidelines presented in this Master Plan. Currently, the City's Transportation Department is working to update the Department's Transportation Master Plan.



Comprehensive Transportation Master Plan, 2004



Needs Assessment

Cities are similar to living beings in that they both evolve over time. Cities increase in size, the direction of growth changes, and populations shift within their boundaries. Similar to many other cities in Texas, Round Rock has changed over the past decade, with growth spreading in all directions of the City. In order to determine the City's park and recreation acreage and facility needs, this assessment compares existing park and recreation facilities and programs with the current and projected level of need based on population size. The needs assessment identifies existing deficiencies in the parks system today in order to determine what actions can address immediate issues. It also determines future needs based on projected growth of the community in order to develop a plan of "actions" to address future deficiencies.

The needs assessment is effectively the most critical component of the parks and recreation master planning effort. It is an analytical way of gauging what facilities are most needed and desired by the citizens of Round Rock, so as to determine which needs are the most critical.

Three techniques were used in evaluating the City of Round Rock's current and future park needs. These techniques follow general methodologies accepted by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for local park master plans. These three methods are:

- Access-based assessment (using locally developed standards for parks and facilities);
- Demand-based assessment (using public input data); and
- Resource-based assessment (using assessment of unique physical features in Round Rock).

All three techniques are important in their own way, but individually do not represent the entire assessment. This assessment, and the recommendations resulting from it, use findings from all three techniques in a combined manner to determine what types of park and recreation facilities are needed in Round Rock. Ultimately, these needs are reviewed by the citizens of Round Rock and are determined to truly represent the key park and recreational needs of the community.

Access-Based Approach

Access-based assessment analyzes the current quantity and location of parkland and facilities to determine if the needs of the population are being met. This technique uses locally developed level-of-service ratios of facilities to population (typically expressed as quantity of acreage or facilities to every 1,000 residents) to determine what is available for residents today and project future needs as the population grows.



Demand-Based Approach

Demand-based assessment uses citizen input on the types of activities they would like to engage in to determine which facilities and programs are most in demand.



Resource-Based Approach

Resource-based assessment is based on the usefulness of available physical and natural resources to provide recreation opportunities. For example, Brushy Creek provides exceptional opportunities for scenic parkways and nature trails, and in effect should become a key greenbelt spine in Round Rock.





The level of service assessment quantifies and locates the City’s existing parkland acreage to determine how much parkland is currently available on a per capita basis.



The facility level of service assessment considers public, private (such as the Brushy Creek Community Center), and school facilities.

Access-Based Assessment of Needs

Many recreation needs assessments use national guidelines and standards to determine their facility needs. It is important to recognize that national standards are simply guidelines or benchmarks that are intended to serve as a starting point for park planning. Each city has its own unique geographic, demographic, and socioeconomic composition, and as such, the arbitrary application of national standards, as is often done in other park plans, would not necessarily meet the needs of that particular community. These “standards” are typically no longer used to project facility needs, since they are based on a “one size fits all” type of evaluation. Therefore this Plan does not use or consider national guideline “standards.”

Rather, the methodology used by this Plan considers the existing level of service in the City as a starting point and determines whether that level of service is adequate or needs to be increased or decreased. Extensive public input is used to determine how to adjust the current level of service. Local needs and desires are used as the guiding criteria to mold these guidelines to meet the expectations of the citizens of Round Rock in a realistic manner.

Three types of level of service determinations are made as shown below.

Level of Service - Spatial or Parkland Acreage

The park acreage level of service analysis defines the quantity of parkland acreage in the City, expressed as a ratio of acreage to population. It analyzes whether there is sufficient acreage to serve the population today and in the future.

Level of Service - Access to Parkland

The access to parkland analysis examines the location and distribution of parkland throughout Round Rock to determine how easy it is for residents to access parkland, and determines where parkland is needed to meet the City’s target level of service.

Level of Service - Park Facilities

The facility level of service analysis defines the number of facilities recommended to serve each particular recreation need. Facility standards are usually expressed as a ratio of units of one particular facility per population size. For example, a facility standard for a soccer field might be one field for every 4,000 residents of the City.

The methodology generally used to determine the appropriate level of service is as follows:

Determine current supply, taking into account the quality of facilities (e.g., number of tennis courts or acres of parkland for every 1,000 residents).

Determine demand (i.e., potential number of uses of each type of facility or park on an annual basis)

Determine the minimum population service requirement (basic level of service for that population - i.e., number of people served by each tennis court per year)

Determine the recommended level of service for each key park element (e.g., the total number of tennis courts to serve the current and projected future population of the City)



Target Park Acreage Levels of Service for Round Rock

The purpose of spatial levels of service for parks and recreational areas is to ensure that sufficient area is allocated for all the outdoor recreation needs of a community. They allow a city to plan ahead so that parkland can be targeted and acquired before it is developed. These spatial standards are expressed as the number of acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.

Situated 20 miles north of the quickly developing capital of Texas, Round Rock is a rapidly growing City. While largely bounded along the southern City limit, the City has room to expand into its eastern, western, and northern extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ). As described in Chapter 3, *Round Rock Today*, the population of the City is projected to increase by almost 35,000 people by the year 2025. As population and developed areas grow and expand in the City and ETJ, it is important to proactively plan and preserve parkland and natural resources which provide the quality-of-life amenities and benefits which Round Rock citizens treasure so highly.

Developing and applying a target level of service for park acreage results in acreage standards for different types of parks. Currently, residents are served by over 4,400 acres of public, private, and school-owned parks. These parks are categorized as metropolitan; regional; community; neighborhood; special purpose; and linear parks. There is also over 500 additional acres of open space. The overall existing level of service for parks and open space in Round Rock is approximately 42.7 acres for every 1,000 residents.

Based on the existing levels of service in Round Rock, the projected growth of the community, and the park and recreation priorities voiced by the public, a series of recommended target levels of service for each type of park has been developed.

At the onset of this planning process, the City undertook a complete review and overhaul of its parks, trails, and open space GIS data. This resulted in reclassification of some areas and allowed the City to gain a clearer understanding of the thousands of acres of parkland in Round Rock and its ETJ. Due to reclassification and updated mapping, parkland acreage surpluses and deficiencies may not directly correlate to those shown in the 2009 Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Neighborhood Parks
Target Level of Service: 1.25 to 2 acres per 1,000 people

Community Parks
Target Level of Service: 4 to 8 acres per 1,000 people

Metropolitan and Regional Parks
Target Level of Service: 5 to 20 acres per 1,000 people

Linear Parks
Target Level of Service: 5 acres per 1,000 residents

Special Purpose Parks
Target Level of Service: Varies

Total Open Space
Target Level of Service: 30 to 40 acres per 1,000 residents

The overall existing level of service for parks and open space in Round Rock is approximately 42.7 acres for every 1,000 residents.



In many cities community parks, such as Freeman Park, frequently range in service from less than two to over eight acres per 1,000 residents.



Levels of service for neighborhood parks, such as Frontier Park, often range from one-half to over four acres per 1,000 residents.

Neighborhood Parks in Round Rock

A neighborhood park is typically centrally located in a neighborhood or central to several smaller neighborhoods that it is meant to serve. The park should be integrated into the community in a prominent manner during the design phase, and not layered in as an afterthought during construction. An appropriate level of service for neighborhood parks in Round Rock is 1.25 to 2.0 acres per 1,000 residents. Neighborhood parks typically have a one-quarter mile ideal service area (or a distance that takes a typical pedestrian roughly five to 10 minutes to walk), although one-half mile is generally accepted as standard. As neighborhood parks are frequently accessed on foot, service areas do not extend across roads which present pedestrian hazards. Developed community, regional, and school-owned parkland also serves the function of a neighborhood park for residents who live in the nearby vicinity. As such, a percentage of the acreage in these parks has been included in the level of service calculations in the adjacent figures. The Round Rock parks system includes 15 City-owned neighborhood parks, 40 private neighborhood parks, and 28 school facilities.

An acre of neighborhood parkland typically serves 200 to 1,000 residents. Round Rock currently has 739.9 acres of land functioning as neighborhood parks, of which 462.7 acres are City-owned parkland. In 2009, there was a surplus of neighborhood parkland in Round Rock. Since 2009, a significant amount of neighborhood parkland has been developed by private developments to continue to meet the growing need in the community. Neighborhood parks are spread evenly throughout residential areas within the City limits, with the majority of City-owned parks being found in the central core of Round Rock. Small areas not currently served by neighborhood parks are located along Interstate 35 and towards the northeastern extent of the City limits. When considering all neighborhood parkland (i.e., City-owned, HOA, MUD, school), the existing level of service in Round Rock is 6.4 acres for every 1,000 residents. Based on the City's target level of service of 1.25 to 2.0 acres per 1,000 residents, both the City's 2017 and 2025 neighborhood parkland needs are adequately being met. Details regarding the existing and target neighborhood parkland levels of service for the current and projected future populations in Round Rock are summarized in the adjacent figures.

Community Parks in Round Rock

Community parks are large parks which serve several neighborhoods or a portion of a city. They serve as locations for larger community events, sports, and activities. Therefore, they contain many popular recreation and support facilities. Due to the larger service area and additional programs, community parks are typically more heavily used. In fact, in Round Rock some of the facilities within community parks are showing signs of old age and over use. The Round

Rock PARD has conducted an in-depth assessment of each amenity found in community parks, and the results of the assessment for each park can be found in the PARD office.

The additional facilities associated with a community park increase the spatial requirements necessary for this type of park. Also, community parks often require parking for users who drive from surrounding areas, thus increasing the amount of space needed. The target level of service for community parks in Round Rock is 4.0 to 8.0 acres for every 1,000 residents. The target service radii for community parks in Round Rock is one-half mile (a more aggressive target than some communities). These service areas are illustrated on Map 5.1, *Neighborhood & Community Parks Service Area*. Round Rock has several excellent community parks that are prominently placed within the areas they serve. These parks provide a central gathering place for community events, sports, and activities. There are 15 City-owned and four private community parks. Developed regional parks also provide community parkland benefits for the nearby areas.

The community-serving parks cover much of the central and far northwestern parts of the City. However, new development is expected to occur in the far northeast portion of the City and there are currently no community parks to serve this population. There are also community parkland deficiencies in the southern portion of the City and west of Interstate 35.

As the City's population has increased, development of community parkland has not increased proportionally. Round Rock currently has 312.5 acres of total community parkland, of which 247.2 is City-owned. The level of service based on the current population is 2.7 acres of total (i.e., public and private) community parkland per 1,000 people. Based on the recommended standard of 4.0 to 8.0 acres per 1,000 residents for community parks, less than 70 percent of the community parkland need is currently being met. Looking towards the future, the current parkland would fulfill just over 50 percent of the community parkland needs in 2025. Details of current and future community park spatial needs are summarized below. City-owned neighborhood and community serving parks and their service areas are labelled on Map 5.1, *Neighborhood & Community Parks Service Area*.

Figure 5.1, Percent of Need Met by Existing Neighborhood and Community Parks, 2017

Park Classification	Existing Acreage	Current Level of Service (based on 115,997 population)	Recommended Target Level of Service	Recommended Acreage	Surplus / Deficit Acreage	Percent of Need Met (2017)
Neighborhood Parks (City-owned)	462.7	4.0 Ac./1,000 Residents	1.25 to 2 Ac./1,000 Residents	145.0 to 232.0	230.7 to 317.7 Ac. Surplus	199% to 319%
Neighborhood Parks (all facilities)	739.9	6.4 Ac./1,000 Residents	1.25 to 2 Ac./1,000 Residents	145.0 to 232.0	507.9 to 594.9 Ac. Surplus	319% to 510%
Community Parks (City-owned)	247.2	2.1 Ac./1,000 Residents	4 to 8 Ac./1,000 Residents	464.0 to 928.0	216.8 to 680.8 Ac. Deficit	27% to 53%
Community Parks (all facilities)	312.5	2.7 Ac./1,000 Residents	4 to 8 Ac./1,000 Residents	464.0 to 928.0	151.5 to 615.5 Ac. Deficit	34% to 67%

Figure 5.2, Percent of Need Met by Existing Neighborhood and Community Parks, 2025

Park Classification	Existing Acreage	Current Level of Service (based on 150,776 population)	Recommended Target Level of Service	Recommended Acreage	Surplus / Deficit Acreage	Percent of Need Met (2025)
Neighborhood Parks (City-owned)	462.7	3.1 Ac./1,000 Residents	1.25 to 2 Ac./1,000 Residents	188.5 to 301.6	161.1 to 274.2 Ac. Surplus	153% to 245%
Neighborhood Parks (all facilities)	739.9	4.9 Ac./1,000 Residents	1.25 to 2 Ac./1,000 Residents	188.5 to 301.6	438.3 to 551.4 Ac. Surplus	245% to 393%
Community Parks (City-owned)	247.2	1.6 Ac./1,000 Residents	4 to 8 Ac./1,000 Residents	603.1 to 1,206.2	355.9 to 959.0 Ac. Deficit	20% to 41%
Community Parks (all facilities)	312.5	2.1 Ac./1,000 Residents	4 to 8 Ac./1,000 Residents	603.1 to 1,206.2	290.7 to 893.8 Ac. Deficit	26% to 52%

Map 5.1, Neighborhood & Community Parks Service Areas



Metropolitan and Regional Parks

Metropolitan and regional parks are intended to serve the entire City, with regional parks also serving the surrounding region. These parks typically act as locations for larger community events, tournaments, or activities. There are two metropolitan parks in Round Rock; Mayfield Park and Behrens Ranch Park. Both are City-owned and are undeveloped. Behrens Ranch Park is 224 acres and is planned to be a passive nature park. Mayfield Park is 245 acres and is planned to be an outdoor adventure and education park. There are also two regional parks within Round Rock; Old Settlers Park and the county-owned Southwest Williamson County Regional Park. Minimum service areas of the metropolitan and regional parks in Round Rock are illustrated on Map 5.2, *Metropolitan & Regional Parks Service Areas*.

Metropolitan and regional parks are often larger than 150 acres, and have a service radius of two to 10 miles. The adjacent figures illustrate the existing and target level of service for metropolitan and regional parks in Round Rock.

The City’s metropolitan parkland acreage has remained the same since 2009, while the Round Rock population increased. The City’s target level of service for metropolitan parks is five to 10 acres per 1,000 people, with a metropolitan park in each of the City’s four planning areas. In its current state, 40 to 81 percent of Round Rock’s metropolitan park needs are being met. However, both parks are located in the northwest planning area of the City. Considering the projected population increase, if no additional parkland is acquired, only 31 to 62 percent of the City’s need for metropolitan parks will be met by 2025.



Behrens Ranch Park is one of Round Rock’s metropolitan parks.

Due to an expansion of the parkland at Old Settlers Park, the City’s regional parkland has increased by over 70 acres since 2009. However, with a target level of service of 10 to 20 acres of regional parkland per 1,000 residents, only 20 to 55 percent of the City’s regional parkland needs are being met by City-owned parks. When all regional parks, irrespective of ownership, are included, 63 to 125 percent of the City’s regional parkland needs are being met. Looking forward to 2025, existing City-owned regional parks would meet 21 to 43 percent of the need and all regional parks would meet 48 to 96 percent of the need.

Locationally speaking, the northeast, southeast, and southwest planning areas of the City are lacking access to metropolitan parkland. The southern area of the City and ETJ, and the northeastern ETJ are also lacking access to regional parkland.

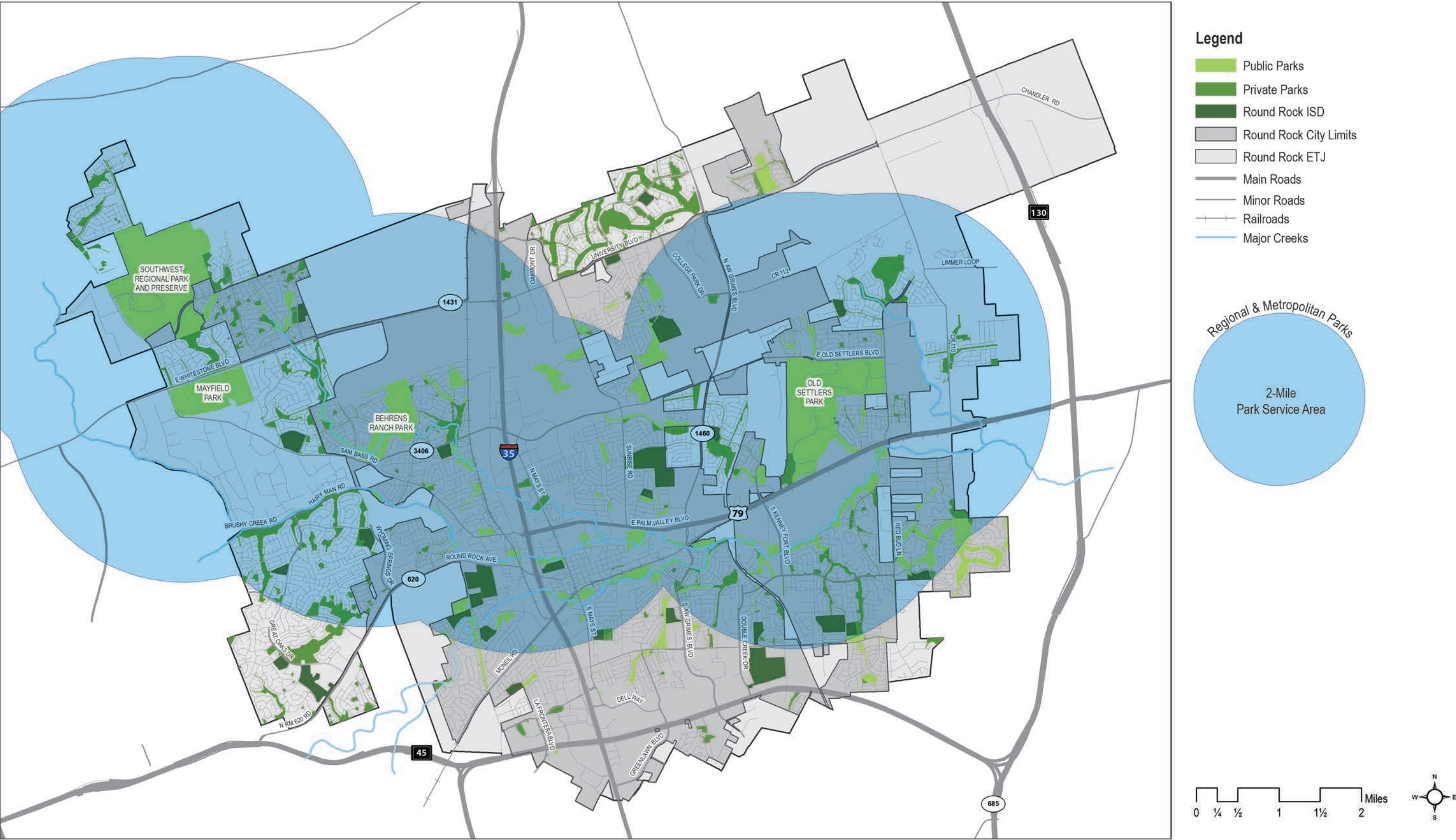
Figure 5.3, Percent of Need Met by Existing Metropolitan and Regional Parks, 2017

Park Classification	Existing Acreage	Current Level of Service (based on 115,997 population)	Recommended Target Level of Service	Recommended Acreage	Surplus / Deficit Acreage	Percent of Need Met (2017)
Metropolitan Parks (City-owned)	469.0	4.0 Ac./1,000 Residents	5 to 10 Ac./1,000 Residents	580.0 to 1,160.0	111.0 to 691.0 Ac. Deficit	40% to 81%
Metropolitan Parks (all facilities)	469.0	4.0 Ac./1,000 Residents	5 to 10 Ac./1,000 Residents	580.0 to 1,160.0	111.0 to 691.0 Ac. Deficit	40% to 81%
Regional Parks (City-owned)	641.1	5.5 Ac./1,000 Residents	10 to 20 Ac./1,000 Residents	1,160.0 to 2,320.0	518.9 to 1678.9 Ac. Deficit	22% to 55%
Regional Parks (all facilities)	1,452.5	12.5 Ac./1,000 Residents	10 to 20 Ac./1,000 Residents	1,160.0 to 2,320.0	292.5 to 867.5 Ac. Surplus / Ac. Deficit	63% to 125%

Figure 5.4, Percent of Need Met by Existing Metropolitan and Regional Parks, 2025

Park Classification	Existing Acreage	Current Level of Service (based on 150,776 population)	Recommended Target Level of Service	Recommended Acreage	Surplus / Deficit Acreage	Percent of Need Met (2025)
Metropolitan Parks (City-owned)	469.0	3.1 Ac./1,000 Residents	5 to 10 Ac./1,000 Residents	753.9 to 1,507.8	284.9 to 1,038.8 Ac. Deficit	31% to 62%
Metropolitan Parks (all facilities)	469.0	3.1 Ac./1,000 Residents	5 to 10 Ac./1,000 Residents	753.9 to 1,507.8	284.9 to 1,038.8 Ac. Deficit	31% to 62%
Regional Parks (City-owned)	641.1	4.3 Ac./1,000 Residents	10 to 20 Ac./1,000 Residents	1,507.8 to 3,015.6	866.70 to 2,374.5 Ac. Deficit	21% to 43%
Regional Parks (all facilities)	1,452.5	9.6 Ac./1,000 Residents	10 to 20 Ac./1,000 Residents	1,507.8 to 3,015.6	55.3 to 1,563.1 Ac. Deficit	48% to 96%

Map 5.2, Metropolitan & Regional Parks Service Areas



Linear Parks

Linear parks are largely unprogrammed parks which typically follow a natural or man-made feature which is linear in nature (e.g., creeks or utility easements). Linear parks, when properly developed to facilitate bicycle and pedestrian travel, can greatly contribute to citywide connectivity to and between parks, schools, and other key destinations. Linear parks should also help to preserve open space and habitats, and provide flood protection when located along water bodies.

Round Rock currently has a variety of publicly and privately developed linear parks and designated greenbelts (see Map 5.3, *Linear Parks Service Areas*). The City’s primary linear parks (i.e., those including primary trail segments which may draw users from a greater distance) have a one-mile service area. Secondary linear parks include smaller trail segments and are most often accessed without a car. As such, they have a one-half mile service area. The Brushy Creek Greenbelt, with portions developed by HOAs, MUDs, and the City, is an excellent example of a primary linear park. Based on public input received throughout the planning process, linear parks, with their potential for trails and passive recreation amenities, are some of the most important areas to protect and develop in Round Rock.

The recommended target level of service for linear parks is five acres for every 1,000 residents. Today, the City’s linear parkland acreage needs are adequately being met. In 2025, if no additional parkland is acquired, Round Rock’s linear parkland needs will only be 77 percent met by City-owned linear parks. If private linear parks are also included, the community’s linear parkland needs will continue to be met in 2025. Details regarding the existing and target linear parkland levels of service for the current and projected future populations in Round Rock are summarized in the adjacent figures.

When considering linear parkland, acreage is only one piece of the puzzle. The City should continue to work towards developing trails and appropriate amenities through all linear parks to allow the existing acreage to truly serve the adjacent residents. The City should consider supporting the development of additional public or private linear parkland to provide east-west and north-south connectivity throughout the City. Additionally, Round Rock is located in a region where people strongly value pedestrian and bicycle access to trails. Opportunities may exist for municipal partnerships to allow for development of a regional trail system connecting Round Rock to its adjacent cities and vice versa.

City-owned linear parks are labelled on Map 5.3, *Linear Parks Service Areas*.

Figure 5.5, Percent of Need Met by Existing Linear Parks, 2017

Park Classification	Existing Acreage	Current Level of Service (based on 115,997 population)	Recommended Target Level of Service	Recommended Acreage	Surplus / Deficit Acreage	Percent of Need Met (2017)
Linear Parks (City-owned)	578.0	5.0 Ac./1,000 Residents	5 Ac./1,000 Residents	580.0	2.0 Ac. Deficit	99%
Linear Parks (all facilities)	1,292.5	11.1 Ac./1,000 Residents	5 Ac./1,000 Residents	580.0	712.5 Ac. Surplus	223%

Figure 5.6, Percent of Need Met by Existing Linear Parks, 2025

Park Classification	Existing Acreage	Current Level of Service (based on 150,776 population)	Recommended Target Level of Service	Recommended Acreage	Surplus / Deficit Acreage	Percent of Need Met (2025)
Linear Parks (City-owned)	578.0	3.8 Ac./1,000 Residents	5 Ac./1,000 Residents	753.9	175.9 Ac. Deficit	77%
Linear Parks (all facilities)	1,292.5	8.6 Ac./1,000 Residents	5 Ac./1,000 Residents	753.9	538.6 Ac. Surplus	171%

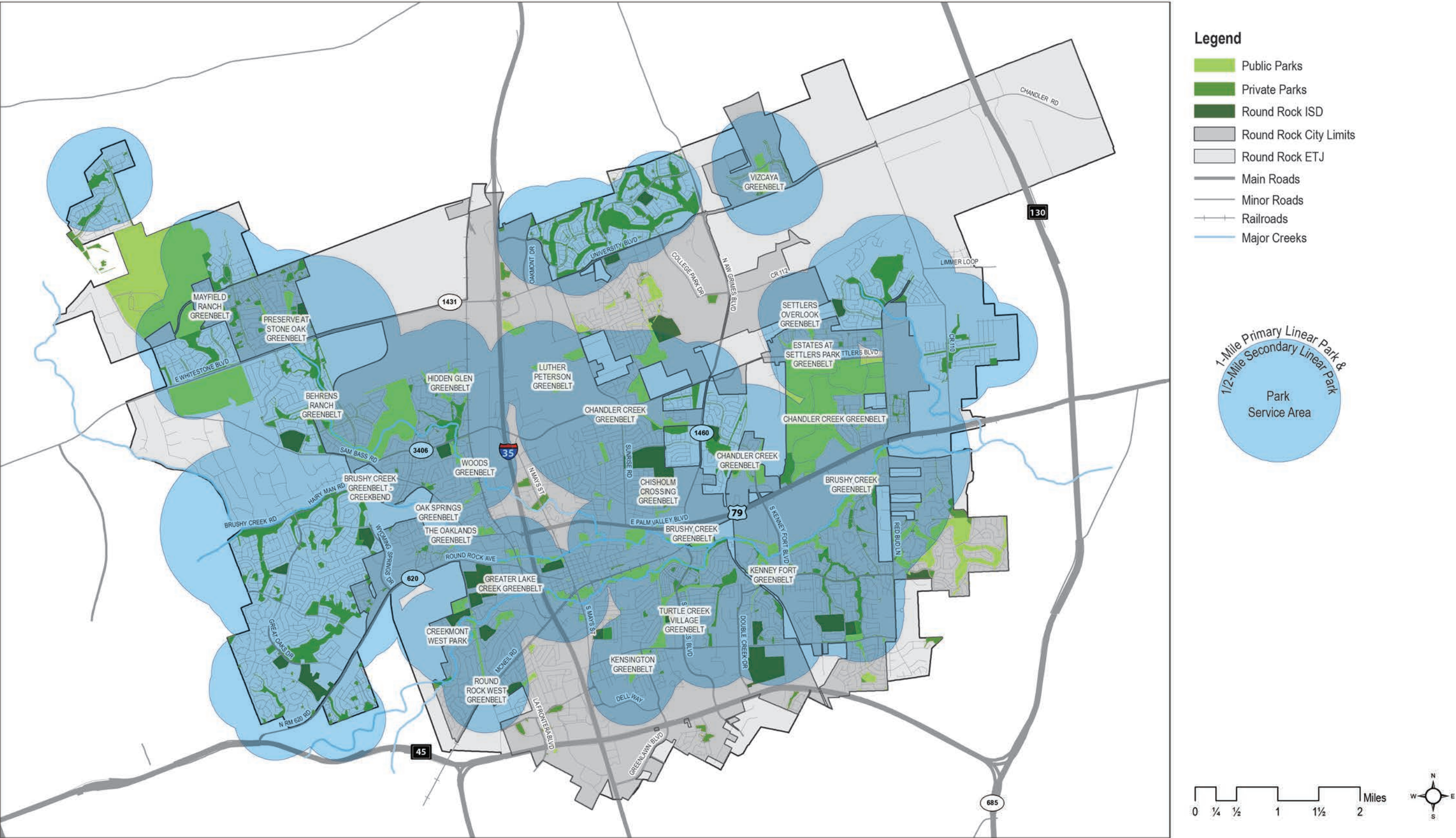


The Brushy Creek Greenbelt and Trail is an example of a well-loved, highly used primary linear park in Round Rock.



The Vista Oaks Greenbelt is an example of a secondary linear park developed by an HOA.

Map 5.3, Linear Parks Service Areas



Community Destination Parks

Round Rock’s parks system includes a variety of parks which offer a unique experience to users. These include a number of different park classifications including regional, metropolitan, community, and linear parks. In an effort to provide park users with a memorable, well distributed series of destination parks, the City’s goal is to spread them throughout the entirety of Round Rock. This includes both geographic distribution and the types of experiences offered. Existing community destination parks are illustrated on Map 5.4, *Community Destination Parks Service Areas*. Due to the unique experiences offered, it is understood that

most residents would be willing to drive to these parks. For that reason, a one-mile service area is illustrated for each park.

As opportunities arise, development of additional destination parks towards the edges of the City and ETJ would help to fill current service areas gaps.

The City’s existing and planned community destination parks are illustrated below:

Special Purpose Parks

Other types of parks that respond to specific physical conditions in the City, or to specific needs, are also part of the park system. These include special purpose parks, such as golf courses, pools, and urban plazas. There are 517.9 acres of public and private special purpose parks in Round Rock. Since special purpose parks vary by size, type, and from city to city, there are no specific target levels of service.

There are five City-owned facilities within Round Rock that are considered special purpose parks. Two are urban plazas (Centennial Plaza and Sharon Prete Main Street Plaza), one is the Forest Creek Golf Club with 18 holes, one is the Micki Krebsbach Pool, and the last is Dell Diamond.

As a direct result of the 2009 Plan, Centennial Plaza and Sharon Prete Main Street Plaza were developed to provide unique gathering areas in Round Rock’s Downtown. These plazas provide space for special events, markets, or performances, as well as daily use by locals as places to eat lunch, relax, or have a quiet moment during the work day.



Mayfield Park
Future Active Park - Adventure Park Experience



Williamson County Southwest Regional Park
Active Park - Sport Experience



Play for All Abilities Park
Active Park - Inclusive Play Experience



Heritage Trail
Future Passive Park - Cultural/Historical Experience



Lake Creek Park
Active Park - Dog Park/Social Experience

Photo source: <http://www.doggoes.com/parks/texas/austin/round-rock-dog-depot-lake-creek-park>



Behrens Ranch Park
Passive Park - Nature Park Experience



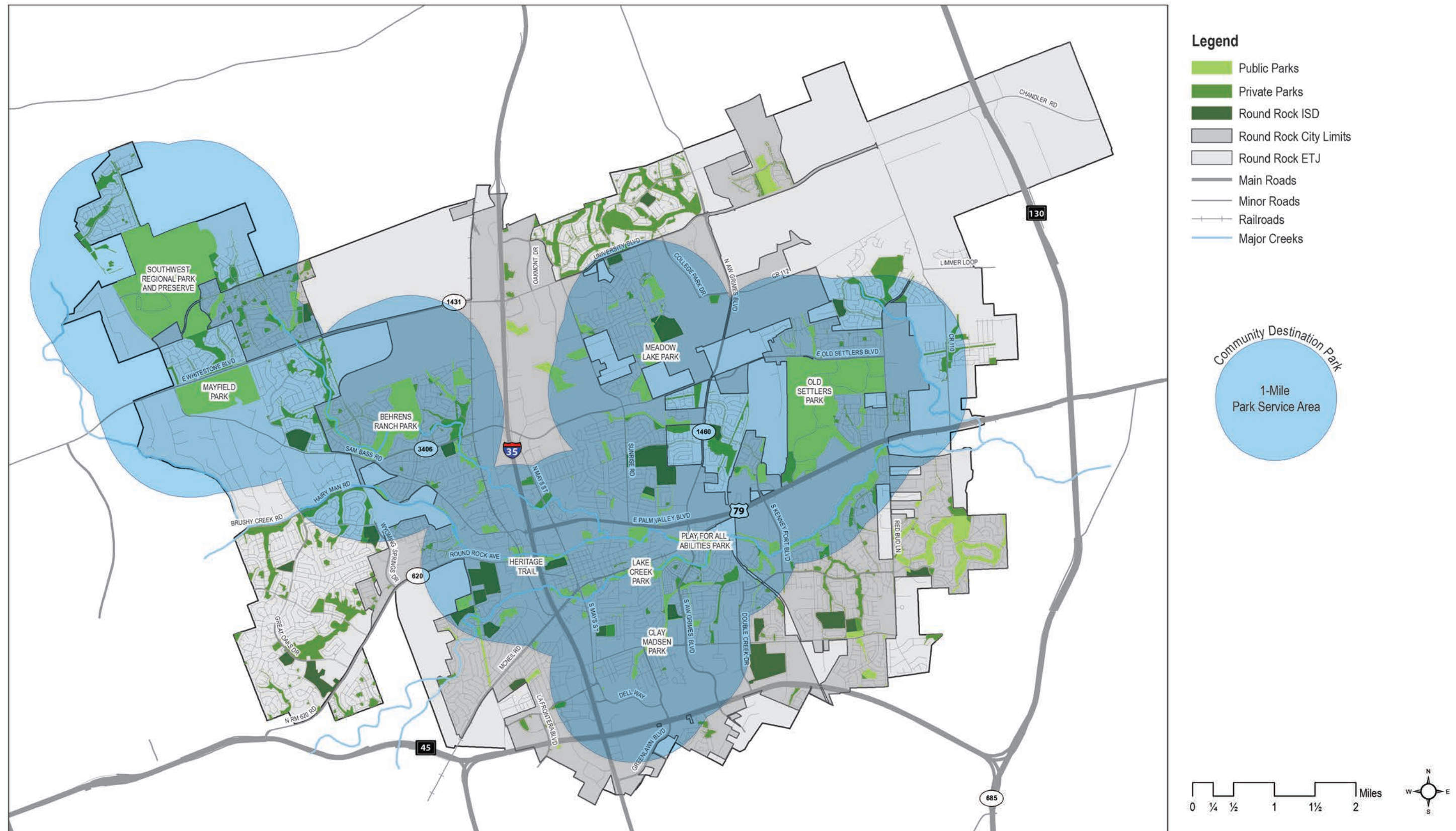
Meadow Lake Park
Passive Park - Boating and Beach Experience



Old Settlers Park
Active Park - Sport and Event Experience



Clay Madsen Recreation Center and Park
Active Park - Fitness/Recreation Experience



Open Space in Round Rock

The City’s parks and trails system includes open space in many forms. This includes green areas along drainage corridors (e.g., Brushy Creek Greenbelt), passive recreation parks (e.g., Behrens Ranch Park), and active recreation facilities (e.g., Old Settlers Park). This also includes less obvious elements such as farmlands and seasonally wet areas along Brushy Creek. As the City grows in the northeast, steep hillsides as well as the small area lakes can also be preserved as open space. In essence, open spaces are the green areas that break up the developed areas of the City.

For the sake of level of service calculations, the entirety of Round Rock’s parks and open space system is considered open space. Currently, approximately 11 percent of the total land area within the extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ) of Round Rock is permanent open space or dedicated parkland. The City has set a minimum goal of 14 percent of the total ETJ, or approximately 6,000 acres, to be preserved as open space. This translates to approximately 20 acres per 1,000 people by the time the City reaches its build-out population of 300,000 people. When considering both public and private parks and open space, the City is adequately meeting the target of 20 acres of open space per 1,000 people for 2017 and 2025 (see Figure 5.7, *Percent of Need Met by Existing Open Space, 2017* and Figure 5.8, *Percent of Need Met by Existing Open Space, 2025*). However, by the City’s ultimate build out, there will be a need for approximately 1,050 to 4,050 additional acres of parkland in order to meet the 14 percent open space goal (see Figure 5.9, *Percent of Need Met by Existing Special Use Parks and Open Space, Build Out*). It is important to identify and target potential area of Open Space now, before development occurs and land becomes scarce.

Parkland Need Areas

The existing parks and open spaces and their associated service areas cover a large portion of Round Rock and its ETJ. Illustrated in Map 5.5, *Parkland Need Areas*, areas not currently served by any neighborhood, community, metropolitan, regional, linear, or destination parks, are concentrated in the south, northeast, and northern portions of the City and ETJ. Supporting the development of additional parkland in these locations, with priority given to areas with existing residences, should be an ongoing goal of the PARD.

Figure 5.7, Percent of Need Met by Existing Open Space, 2017

Park Classification	Existing Acreage	Current Level of Service (based on 115,997 population)		Recommended Target Level of Service		Recommended Acreage	Surplus / Deficit Acreage		Percent of Need Met (2017)
Open Space (City-owned)	3,201.1	27.6	Ac./1,000 Residents	20 to 30	Ac./1,000 Residents	3,480 to 4,640	278.9 to 881.1	Ac. Surplus to Ac. Deficit	92% to 138%
Open Space (all facilities)	4,948.8	42.7	Ac./1,000 Residents	20 to 30	Ac./1,000 Residents	3,480 to 4,640	1,468.8 to 2,628.8	Ac. Surplus	142% to 213%

Figure 5.8, Percent of Need Met by Existing Open Space, 2025

Park Classification	Existing Acreage	Current Level of Service (based on 150,776 population)		Recommended Target Level of Service		Recommended Acreage	Surplus / Deficit Acreage		Percent of Need Met (2025)
Open Space (City-owned)	3,201.1	21.2	Ac./1,000 Residents	20 to 30	Ac./1,000 Residents	4,523.4 to 6,031.2	185.5 to 1,322.3	Ac. Surplus to Ac. Deficit	71% to 106%
Open Space (all facilities)	4,948.8	32.8	Ac./1,000 Residents	20 to 30	Ac./1,000 Residents	4,523.4 to 6,031.2	425.4 to 1,933.2	Ac. Surplus	109% to 164%

Figure 5.9, Percent of Need Met by Existing Open Space, Build Out

Park Classification	Existing Acreage	Current Level of Service (based on 300,000 population)		Recommended Target Level of Service		Recommended Acreage	Surplus / Deficit Acreage		Percent of Need Met (build out)
Open Space (City-owned)	3,201.1	10.7	Ac./1,000 Residents	20 to 30	Ac./1,000 Residents	6,000 to 9,000	2,798.9 to 5,798.9	Ac. Deficit	36% to 53%
Open Space (all facilities)	4,948.8	16.5	Ac./1,000 Residents	20 to 30	Ac./1,000 Residents	6,000 to 9,000	1,051.2 to 4,051.2	Ac. Deficit	55% to 82%

Map 5.5, Parkland Need Areas





Targeted parkland areas, such as Centennial Plaza in Downtown Round Rock, were added to the system as a result of the 2009 Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Additional development of existing and new parks is needed to serve the existing and projected population.



Development of currently undeveloped parkland, such as Mayfield Park, will help to better serve the community.

Planning for Future Parkland Needs in Round Rock

With the intent of meeting the City’s goal of preserving 14 percent of the overall ETJ as parkland and open space, it is imperative that a land acquisition program be put in place to ensure that appropriate quantities of land are pursued in a consistent and goal oriented manner. Based on the target park acreage level of service developed in this Master Plan, the steps needed to ensure that an adequate amount of parkland is acquired are as follows:

- By the year 2025, acquire an additional 500 acres of parkland and open space.
- By the time Round Rock reaches its build-out population of 300,000 a minimum of 1,050 acres of additional parkland and open space needs to be acquired.

Although areas of Round Rock are still undeveloped, development is happening at a staggering pace and rigorous effort should be made to acquire sufficient land for future park needs. Various options are available to acquire land including existing vacant areas, land subject to flooding along the creeks and drainage channels, and land dedicated to parks as a requirement of developers to fulfill the City’s Parkland Dedication Ordinance. Not all land will be suitable, though. The proposed criteria for suitable land for parks includes consideration of size, location, and potential connectivity to schools, other parks, places of employment, and retail. The City should maximize preservation of the 100-year floodplain as permanent open space, wildlife habitat, and water protection.

Summary of Park Spatial Needs

Round Rock currently has a large network of public, private, and school parkland. However, with the City’s goal of providing a well-connected and evenly distributed range of parkland types throughout the community, additional parkland is needed to fill service areas gaps and address current and projected acreage deficiencies. Based on the parkland distribution and acreage analysis, key spatial needs are summarized in Figure 5.10, *Summary of Key Acreage Needs for 2017 to 2025*.

As previously stated, with development occurring at a staggering pace in Round Rock, it will become more and more important to identify and target areas for acquisition, specifically in the Northeast sector of the City. Map 5.5 illustrates the need for parkland in this area. This area lacks a large metropolitan park and a minimum of 200-300 acres should be acquired and developed to satisfy this need.

Additionally, the City should continue to seek corridors that support the citywide trail system master plan, as well as maximizing floodplains as permanent open space for flood mitigation, habitat preservation, and natural resource management. Specifically, the City should target corridors that provide key north-south and east-west connectivity.



Figure 5.10, Summary of Key Acreage Needs for 2017 to 2025



Park Facility Needs Assessment

Facility levels of service define the number of facilities recommended to serve each particular type of recreation in the community. They are used to help ensure a variety of recreation opportunities throughout the City as growth occurs. Target levels of service are used to prioritize the need for different types of park facilities so that the City's resources can be better focused. Facility needs are initially based on ratios related to existing population or planning areas. These numbers were then tailored for Round Rock to reflect the community's needs and desires, current usage, realistic feasibility, and up and coming recreation trends. The target level of service for each type of facility is used as a guide to provide the most basic recreation facilities to the community.

Facilities Target Level of Service

The following pages have a description of the 2017 target level of service for each recreational facility. A specific review of each major type of outdoor facility, and key needs and issues associated with each follows. Facilities are grouped and discussed in the following categories: flat fields, ball fields, sports courts, special use facilities, playgrounds, passive recreation facilities, water recreation facilities, trails, and indoor gymnasiums. Facility needs are based both on ratios related to existing population, as well as the amount of demand for each type of facility based on user information where available.



Indoor Gymnasiums



Flat Fields



Ball Fields



Sports Courts



Special Use Facilities



Playgrounds



Passive Recreation



Water Recreation



Trails



Flat Fields

Cricket

Key Issues - With a target of one cricket field for the City, there are currently a sufficient number of fields. Each of the regional parks in the City include one cricket field. As a more specialized sport, providing two fields located on either side of the City adequately distributes access to the facilities. See Map 5.6, *Cricket Field Service Area* for the distribution of cricket fields in Round Rock.

Level of Need - Low for additional facility. Due to the small number of facilities in the City, the existing fields should be maintained as high quality amenities with user and spectator comfort elements such as shaded spectator seating.

Football

Key Issues - The majority of the football fields in the City are on school property (high schools and middle schools) and are thus not always accessible to the public. Consequently, when determining the number of fields needed to meet the target level of service, only City-owned facilities should be included. When calculated as such, there is a current need for eight more fields, with an additional four needed by 2025. See Map 5.7, *Football Field Service Areas* for the current distribution of football fields in Round Rock.

Level of Need - High level of need. New lighting would improve the quality of play at the fields and extend available playing time. Maintenance of fields is good to excellent. In order to provide more flexible facilities, the City could consider developing additional multipurpose fields in community parks across the City.

Soccer

Key Issues - The City currently has an adequate number of soccer fields. However, there are no amenities offered at the existing fields. Shaded bleachers are needed at all fields to create a more comfortable setting for spectators. In addition, the provision of play structures in the vicinity of the fields would create recreation options for non-soccer playing members of visiting families. See Map 5.8, *Soccer Field Service Areas* for the distribution of soccer fields in Round Rock.

Level of Need -There is a high need for additional amenities at the existing fields.

Figure 5.11, Target Level of Service for Flat Fields

Facility	Current Availability (total)	Public Owned	Private Owned	RRISD Owned*	Current LOS (1 Facility per Residents)		Target LOS (Per Residents)	2017 Need Based on 115,997 Population	2017 Deficit or Surplus		2025 Need Based on 150,776 Population	2025 Deficit or Surplus	
					Public Owned	All Facilities			Public Owned	All Facilities		Public Owned	All Facilities
Cricket	2	2	0	0	57,999	57,999	1 per planning area	4	Deficit of 2	Deficit of 2	4	Deficit of 2	Deficit of 2
Football	14	4	1	9	28,999	8,286	1 per 10,000	12	Deficit of 8	Surplus of 2	16	Deficit of 12	Deficit of 2
Soccer	44	32	8	4	3,625	2,636	1 per 4,000	29	Surplus of 36	Surplus of 15	38	Deficit of 6	Surplus of 6

* Facilities owned by Round Rock Independent School District may not be open for public use

Multipurpose Game Fields

Key Issues - Multipurpose game fields are adequately sized to accommodate games for a variety of flat field sports (e.g., soccer, cricket, football, etc.). Multipurpose game fields in Round Rock are surfaced with grass or synthetic turf. Of the 13 multipurpose game fields in the City, only three are publicly owned. The majority of these fields are owned by the school district and thus have the same public use restrictions (i.e., reduced hours available for public use) as the other flat game and practice fields. As seen on Map 5.9, *Multipurpose Game Field Service Areas*, there are current service area gaps in the southwestern quadrant of the City.

Level of Need - High level of need.

Flat Field Practice Fields

Key Issues - As previously discussed, the City has an adequate number of tournament and game quality soccer fields. However, there is an extreme shortage of flat field practice fields (i.e., soccer, cricket, and football). Practice facilities should be distributed in every part of the City. Locations adjacent to playing fields can be used, if available. Some of the existing flat field practice fields are located on school property. The public does have restricted access to them, but the fields can only be used after 8:00 p.m. The fields are not equipped with lights and consequently provide insufficient time for practice. The City of Round Rock should work towards strengthening its relationship with Round Rock ISD to allow leagues and residents to use the practice fields on school property at more reasonable hours when school is not in session, and well before the daylight hours are over. As illustrated on Map 5.10, *Flat Field Practice Field Service Areas*, there are current service area gaps in the northern and southern portions of the City.

Level of Need - High level of need. High level of need for building a stronger relationship with Round Rock ISD so that school area practice fields can be adequately used by residents and leagues. Though there are a sufficient amount of tournament quality fields in Round Rock to support the Sports Capital of Texas initiative, there is a deficit of recreational practice fields for residents. There is a high need for turf-grass multipurpose fields throughout Round Rock which can be used for the practice of soccer, football, field hockey, lacrosse, cricket, etc.

Recreational Play Fields

Key Issues - A recreational play field is an informal open space where members of the community can go to recreate. These spaces are not typically classified as diamond practice fields or flat practice fields due to lack of amenities or sufficient field size to accommodate full practice activities. However, the importance of these fields must not be overlooked. These fields are typically located in the neighborhoods and are meant to serve families who want to play catch or kick a soccer ball around. These fields aid in skill development and general recreation. When considering public, private, and school-owned facilities, there are currently an adequate number of recreational play fields in the City. As illustrated in Map 5.11, *Recreational Play Fields Service Areas*, there is a deficit for recreational play fields in the northwestern quadrant of the City.

Level of Need - Medium for additional facility. While there is an adequate number of facilities, many are owned by RRISD and have limited availability for public use during school hours.

Figure 5.11, Target Level of Service for Flat Fields (cont.)

Facility	Current Availability (total)	Public Owned**	Private Owned	RRISD Owned*	Current LOS (1 Facility per Residents)		Target LOS (Per Residents)	2017 Need Based on 115,997 Population	2017 Deficit or Surplus		2025 Need Based on 150,776 Population	2025 Deficit or Surplus	
					Public Owned	All Facilities			Public Owned	All Facilities		Public Owned	All Facilities
Multipurpose Game Fields	17	7	2	8	16,571	6,823	1 per 6,000	20	Deficit of 13	Deficit of 3	26	Deficit of 19	Deficit of 9
Flat Field Practice Fields	5	1	2	2	115,997	23,199	1 per 4,000	29	Deficit of 28	Deficit of 24	38	Deficit of 37	Deficit of 33
Recreational Play Field	39	6	8	25	19,333	2,974	1 per 4,000	29	Deficit of 23	Surplus of 10	38	Deficit of 32	Surplus of 1

* Facilities owned by Round Rock Independent School District may not be open for public use
**Some fields owned by City, but are tourism driven and not always available for public use

Map 5.6, Cricket Field Service Areas



Map 5.7, Football Field Service Areas



Map 5.8, Soccer Field Service Areas



Map 5.9, Multipurpose Game Field Service Areas

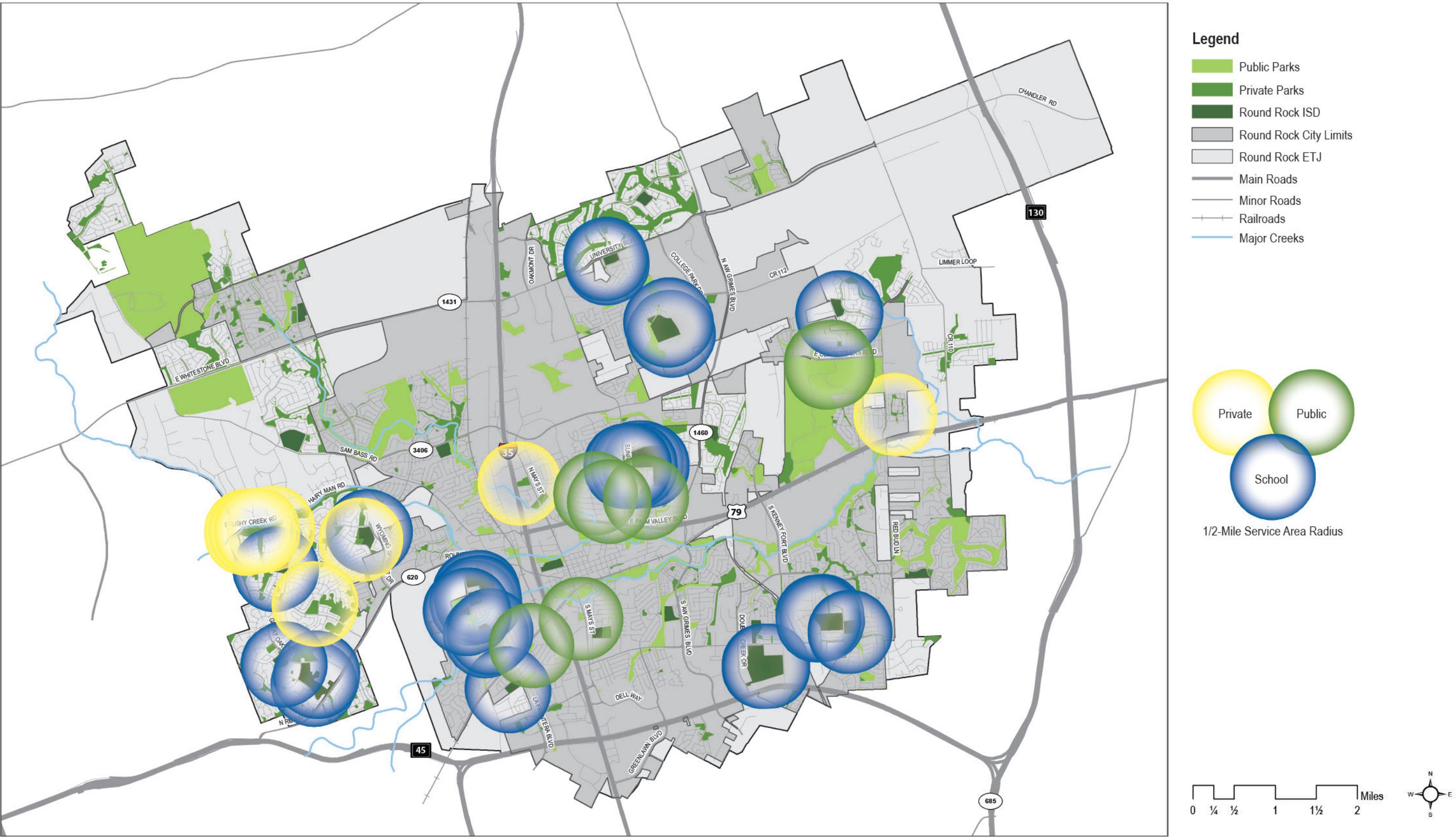


Map 5.10, Flat Field Practice Field Service Areas



Needs Assessment

Map 5.11, Recreational Play Field Service Areas





Ball Fields

Baseball

Key Issues - Baseball fields in the City provide space for tee-ball, boys little league, and senior baseball. All of City-owned baseball fields are located at Old Settlers Park and are high quality fields in order to meet the goal of being the Sports Capital of Texas. Although the number of baseball fields is high, general public use of these amenities by residents and leagues is limited. Based on the target level of service of one field per 5,000 people, the City currently has a deficit of one field and has a projected deficit of eight fields by 2025. When considering the distribution illustrated in Map 5.12, *Baseball Field Service Areas*, additional fields are needed north of Old Settlers Boulevard and south of McNeil Road.

Level of Need - **High for recreational fields** in the southeast, northwest, and far northeast sectors of the City. **Medium level of need for new lighting** to improve quality of play at fields and extend playing time. Maintenance of fields is good to excellent.

Softball

Key Issues - The 2017 need for softball fields is currently being met. However, based on the target level of service, the City will need an additional four fields by 2025. Two-thirds of the softball fields in Round Rock are located in the northeast sector. As the City continues to grow, the distribution of fields will become an issue and more fields will need to be added to all sectors.

Similar to baseball, five of the City-owned softball fields are located in Old Settlers Park and are high quality amenities. While the City has adequate number of strictly softball fields, there is a need for multipurpose recreation fields that can be used for both baseball and softball, and are intended for league or pick-up game play by the residents of Round Rock. See Map 5.13, *Softball Field Service Areas* for the distribution of softball fields in Round Rock.

Level of Need - **Medium** in the northwest and southwest sectors of the City.

Diamond Practice Fields

Key Issues - While the City has a number of baseball and softball fields, there are extremely few publicly accessible diamond (i.e., baseball/softball) practice fields. Practice fields allow local residents to both practice with organized teams as well as play unscheduled pick-up games with nearby residents. These fields are often used by varying age groups as areas for fun, family-friendly recreation. As the provider of public recreation amenities, it is important that the City strive to provide publicly accessible diamond practice areas throughout the community. See Map 5.14, *Diamond Practice Field Service Areas* for the distribution of diamond practice fields in Round Rock.

Level of Need - **High** in the northwest, northeast, and southeast sectors of the City.

Figure 5.12, Target Level of Service for Ball Fields

Facility	Current Availability (total)	Public Owned**	Private Owned	RRISD Owned*	Current LOS (1 Facility per Residents)		Target LOS (Per Residents)	2017 Need Based on 115,997 Population	2017 Deficit or Surplus		2025 Need Based on 150,776 Population	2025 Deficit or Surplus	
					Public Owned	All Facilities			Public Owned	All Facilities		Public Owned	All Facilities
Baseball	23	20	1	2	5,800	5,043	1 per 5,000	24	Deficit of 4	Deficit of 1	31	Deficit of 11	Deficit of 8
Softball	15	10	3	2	11,600	7,733	1 per 8,000	15	Deficit of 5	No deficit	19	Deficit of 9	Deficit of 4
Diamond Practice Fields	2	1	1	0	115,997	57,999	1 per 4,000	29	Deficit of 28	Deficit of 27	38	Deficit of 37	Deficit of 36

* Facilities owned by Round Rock Independent School District may not be open for public use
**Some fields owned by City, but are tourism driven and not always available for public use



Map 5.13, Softball Field Service Areas







Sports Courts

Basketball Courts

Key Issues - There are over 60 outdoor basketball courts in Round Rock and its ETJ, of which only seven are City owned. Many of the outdoor basketball courts are located at neighborhood amenity centers or public schools and are half court. Since these sites are accessible to the people who live in the neighborhoods around them, the current need for outdoor basketball courts is generally being met. See Map 5.15, *Basketball Court Service Areas* for the distribution of basketball facilities in Round Rock.

Level of Need – Low. As additional areas in the City develop over the coming years, the City should continue to encourage private developments to provide outdoor basketball courts to meet the needs of the local residents.

Tennis Courts

Key Issues - While there are 70 tennis courts in the City and ETJ, the majority of the City-owned courts are located in Old Settlers Park. Other than the courts at Williamson County Regional Park, very few courts are open to the public on the west side of the City. See Map 5.16, *Tennis Court Service Areas* for the distribution of tennis facilities in Round Rock.

Level of Need – Medium need for more public courts. In order to address the goal of Round Rock being the Sports Capital of Texas, more courts will be needed in Old Settlers Park, and a joint partnership with Round Rock ISD is necessary so that school courts can be used to accommodate tournaments.

Volleyball Courts

Key Issues - Sand volleyball is becoming an increasingly popular sport and makes for an easy pick-up game. Based on the target level of service, the City currently has a deficit of 10 courts. If no other courts are developed, this deficit will grow to 17 courts by 2025. Moving forward, larger neighborhood parks and community parks should be planned with at least one sand volleyball court. Aside from the courts at Old Settlers Park, there are no sand volleyball courts in the northeast sector of the City. See Map 5.17, *Volleyball Court Service Areas* for the distribution of volleyball facilities in Round Rock.

Level of Need – High. Develop tournament quality facility at Old Settlers Park.

Figure 5.13, Target Level of Service for Sports Courts

Facility	Current Availability (total)	Public Owned	Private Owned	RRISD Owned*	Current LOS (1 Facility per Residents)		Target LOS (Per Residents)	2017 Need Based on 115,997 Population	2017 Deficit or Surplus		2025 Need Based on 150,776 Population	2025 Deficit or Surplus	
					Public Owned	All Facilities			Public Owned	All Facilities		Public Owned	All Facilities
Basketball (Outdoor)	66	8	20	38	14,500	1,758	1 per 3,000	39	Deficit of 31	Surplus of 27	51	Deficit of 43	Surplus of 15
Tennis	70	30	24	16	3,867	1,657	1 per 3,500	34	Deficit of 4	Surplus of 36	44	Deficit of 14	Surplus of 26
Volleyball (Outdoor)	14	6	8	0	19,333	8,286	1 per 5,000	24	Deficit of 18	Deficit of 10	31	Deficit of 25	Deficit of 17

* Facilities owned by Round Rock Independent School District may not be open for public use

Map 5.15, Basketball Court Service Areas



Map 5.16, Tennis Court Service Areas



Map 5.17, Volleyball Court Service Areas





Special Use Facilities

Amphitheater Or Outdoor Event Facilities

Key Issues - In recent years, the City developed Centennial Plaza which provides an event area in Downtown which can be used for markets, festivals, and special events. The festival grounds in Old Settlers Park hold events, such as Frontier Days, and can accommodate well over 1,000 patrons. While there is an amphitheater at the Baca Center, it is only large enough for a few hundred people (less than 500). Round Rock lacks a large, attractive amphitheater or venue for staged performances that can accommodate over 1,000 people. This facility should accommodate a range of spectators (between 500 and 5,000) and should be able to handle music, theatrical, and civic events. Distribution of the City’s existing outdoor event facilities is illustrated in Map 5.18, *Outdoor Event Facility Service Areas*.

Level of Need – **High** for a large performance area.

Dog Park

Key Issues - The City’s one existing dog park is located in the southeast sector (See Map 5.19, *Dog Park Service Areas*). Based on the target of two dog parks for the City, the City should consider developing a second fenced dog park, possibly in the northwest sector. Additionally, not all dog parks need to be highly developed fenced areas. In order to better serve residents throughout the community, the City has a goal of designating one off-leash dog area for each sector of the City. An off-leash area may or may not be fenced in like a typical dog park, but would include large open fields away from the commotion of the

main park area or streets. Dogs would be permitted to run loose in these areas under supervision of their owners. These areas should be sited in centrally located parks within each sector, in locations away from vehicular traffic.

Level of Need - **Medium** for a second facility. The City should evaluate existing parks in each sector to determine potential locations for designated off-leash areas. Areas near trails would likely be highly used by residents with dogs.

Golf Course

Key Issues – There are two golf courses in Round Rock, one of which is a municipal course. As illustrated on Map 5.20, *Golf Course Service Areas*, the western sectors of the City do not have nearby access to golf courses. That being said, the City should continue to encourage the private sector to provide additional golf facilities as the market demands.

Level of Need – **Low**. Evaluate usage of area courses.

Rental Facilities

Key Issues – There are a number of facilities throughout the City that the public can rent (e.g., park pavilions, Centennial Plaza, etc.). However, marketing of these facilities could be improved as many residents in Round Rock and surrounding communities do not know the facilities are available to them. The Kinningham facility is in need of structural repairs and improvements and is unavailable for rentals until repairs are made. Additionally, pavilions must

be maintained and made appropriate to meet resident demands, including type of amenities offered, the size of the pavilion, and quality of structure. Lakeview Pavilion plays host to several large community special events and is undersized for the amount of people it is expected to serve. Additionally, amenities surrounding the pavilion, such as restrooms, are undersized to meet the demand of the rental pavilion. See Map 5.21, *Rental Facility Service Areas* for the distribution of these amenities in Round Rock.

Level of Need – There is a **high** need to renovate existing facilities. Major renovation of existing rental facilities is critical so that they continue to provide adequate spaces. The need for additional rental facilities is **medium**.

Skate Park

Key Issues - The skate park in Round Rock is fairly new, but is already exhibiting signs of wear and tear. Continued maintenance of the facility and periodic evaluation of condition is important. As development continues, the City should continue to gauge the desire for additional facilities located throughout the community. See Map 5.22, *Skate Park Service Areas* for the location of the existing skate park.

Level of Need – **Low** for additional facility. Maintenance and upkeep of existing skate park has a **high** level of need. Over the long term, the City should consider satellite facilities in the north and west sectors of the City.

Figure 5.14, Target Level of Service for Special Use Facilities

Facility	Current Availability (total)	Public Owned	Private Owned	RRISD Owned*	Current LOS (1 Facility per Residents)		Target LOS (Per Residents)	2017 Need Based on 115,997 Population	2017 Deficit or Surplus		2025 Need Based on 150,776 Population	2025 Deficit or Surplus	
					Public Owned	All Facilities			Public Owned	All Facilities		Public Owned	All Facilities
Amphitheater or Outdoor Event Space	3	3	0	0	38,666	38,666	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies
Dog Park	1	1	0	0	115,997	115,997	2 per planning area	8	Deficit of 7	Deficit of 7	8	Deficit of 7	Deficit of 7
Golf Course	2	1	1	0	115,997	57,999	1 per 30,000	4	Deficit of 3	Deficit of 2	5	Deficit of 43	Deficit of 3
Rental Facilities	14	14	Not Included	Not Included	8,286	8,286	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies
Skating (In Line & Skateboard)	1	1	0	0	115,997	115,997	1 per city	1	No deficit	No deficit	1	No deficit	No deficit

* Facilities owned by Round Rock Independent School District may not be open for public use

Map 5.18, Outdoor Event Facility Service Areas



Map 5.19, Dog Park Facility Service Areas





Map 5.21, Rental Facility Service Areas



Map 5.22, Skate Park Service Areas





Playgrounds

Key Issues - Playgrounds are well distributed throughout Round Rock and are provided in public, private, and school parks (see Map 5.23, *Playground Service Areas*). While not all playground facilities will be used the same amount, availability in close proximity to neighborhoods is important. Based on the target level of service of one playground for every 2,000 people, the City’s 2017 and 2025 needs are being met. It is, however, also important to provide shade, whenever possible, and age appropriate amenities, including more challenging play units for older children. The City’s existing playscapes should be evaluated to determine any needs for playground expansions.

In 2012, the City opened its adaptive playground, known as Play for All Park, next to the Rabb House. The 51,000-square-foot park has truly become a destination playground and includes several pods intended to develop specific skills for all children and a life skills area which is designed to teach children about traffic safety. Since its opening, the park has seen hundreds of thousands of visitors from throughout the community, the region, and across the country. Based on the park’s remarkable success, the City is partnering with the Play for All Foundation to double the size of the existing park. As a unique, memorable playscape, the Play for All Park expansion will have long lasting benefits for all residents and visitors alike.

In addition to the Play for All Playground, PARD has recently renovated the Joanne Land Playground. This playground has been transformed into a destination playground with climbing towers and skywalls with obstacles and a zipline. With Joanne Land Playground becoming the City’s second destination playground, it is apparent that a destination playground is needed in every sector of the City. The nature destination playground planned for Behrens Ranch Park in the Northwest sector of the City and the Texas-themed destination playground planned as part of Heritage Trail East would help the PARD reach that goal.

While the City is expanding its centrally located Play for All Park, there are still many playscapes which are old and in need of repair. The PARD has compiled an analysis of all features in the City-owned parks including the playscapes. Update and renovation of the playscape equipment as needed is a high priority to ensure the safety of Round Rock’s residents.

Level of Need – High need for renovation, installation of playscape shade structures, and introducing new technology play units. **High** need for destination playground in every sector of the City.



The Play for All Park is well loved by children throughout the region and beyond.



Locating playgrounds adjacent to picnic pavilions, such as in Kensington Park and Greenbelt, provides a shaded space for parents to relax while supervising their children.

Figure 5.15, Target Level of Service for Playgrounds

Facility	Current Availability (total)	Public Owned	Private Owned	RRISD Owned*	Current LOS (1 Facility per Residents)		Target LOS (Per Residents)	2017 Need Based on 115,997 Population	2017 Deficit or Surplus		2025 Need Based on 150,776 Population	2025 Deficit or Surplus	
					Public Owned	All Facilities			Public Owned	All Facilities		Public Owned	All Facilities
Playgrounds	125	33	63	29	3,515	928	1 per 2,000	58	Deficit of 25	Surplus of 67	76	Deficit of 43	Surplus of 49

* Facilities owned by Round Rock Independent School District may not be open for public use

Map 5.23, Playground Service Areas





Passive Recreation Facilities

Picnic Amenities

Key Issues - Picnic amenities are relatively well distributed throughout Round Rock. The northwest and southeast planning areas are lacking amenities in some locations (see Map 5.24, *Picnic Facility Service Areas*). Picnic amenities provide multigenerational, equitable opportunities for residents to get outside, enjoy nature, and gain an appreciation for the environment. As such, the City has a target of providing at least minimal picnic amenities in every park (where appropriate). Minimal amenities means picnic tables, benches, barbecue grills, trash cans, and water fountains (where appropriate). There are currently 109 parks in the City which do not include picnic amenities. Of this, 26 are City-owned parks and are primarily linear parks.

In the parks that do include picnic amenities, many picnic facilities are aging and need updating. The City should analyze its picnic amenities and determine key areas to provide additional clusters of picnic tables. Additionally, many areas lack barbecue grills.

Level of Need – High throughout the scenic areas. Focus on parks with water and/or significant scenic qualities.

Pavilions

Key Issues – Picnic pavilions provide shaded opportunities for individuals and small and large groups to gather and enjoy a few hours in the park. Pavilions are located in a number of parks throughout the City, but the northern and southern areas of the City are somewhat lacking (see Map 5.25, *Picnic Pavilion Service Areas*). Picnic pavilions should be strategically placed as prominent features in parks. Based on the target of one pavilion per 3,000 people, the 2017 and 2025 needs are currently being met for Round Rock. Despite that, the Texas sun is strong and can be a deterrent to residents enjoying the parks during the summer. The provision of additional shaded gathering areas would likely encourage greater year-round use of the parks.

A significant number of the existing pavilions are older and in need of updating or replacement. The standard for all new pavilions in Round Rock includes stone columns and a metal roof. The pavilions in Old Settlers Park need to be renovated to match the new standard. Additionally, the pavilions must be evaluated to make sure that they are serving their intended population for size and amenities. The Lakeview Pavilion at Old Settlers Park is used for large community, corporate, and private events and is the hub for many of the special events and 5K races in the park. The pavilion is severely undersized to host these events and the support facilities (restrooms) are insufficient for the large crowds.

Level of Need – Medium, significant demand for shaded locations in parks. High for replacing Lakeview Pavilion and its surrounding support facilities.



Even minimal picnic amenities, such as those at Chisholm Trail Crossing, provide places for daily relaxation and enjoyment of the parks system.

Figure 5.16, Target Level of Service for Passive Recreation

Facility	Current Availability (total)	Public Owned	Private Owned	RRISD Owned*	Current LOS (1 Facility per Residents)		Target LOS (Per Residents)	2017 Need Based on 115,997 Population	2017 Deficit or Surplus		2025 Need Based on 150,776 Population	2025 Deficit or Surplus	
					Public Owned	All Facilities			Public Owned	All Facilities		Public Owned	All Facilities
Picnic Facilities (Tables, Benches, BBQ Grills, Fountains, Trash Bins)	49 parks	30 parks	19 parks	0	3,867	2,367	In all parks	In all parks	Deficit in 32 parks	Deficit in 109 parks	In all parks	Deficit in 32 parks	Deficit in 109 parks
Picnic Pavilions	53	26	22	5	4,461	2,189	1 per 3,000	39	Deficit of 13	Surplus of 14	51	Deficit of 25	Surplus of 2

* Facilities owned by Round Rock Independent School District may not be open for public use

Map 5.24, Picnic Facility Service Areas



Map 5.25, Picnic Pavilion Service Areas



Water Recreation Facilities

Swimming Pools

Key Issues – There are 42 swimming pools in Round Rock and only four of them are City-owned. The remaining pools are owned by private HOAs or MUDs and are thus only available to the residents of that community. City-owned swimming pools are concentrated in the eastern side of Round Rock and the northwest sector lacks a City-owned pool (see Map 5.26, Swimming Pool Service Areas). While the 2017 and 2025 target levels of service for swimming pools are currently being met, it is important that adequate water-based recreation be provided as residential development continues.

The City recently expanded the Rock’N River Water Park located in Old Settlers Park. Opened in 2016, the facility more than doubled in size and includes exciting new attractions for all ages. The other City owned pools are aging, especially Lake Creek Pool, and are in need of renovation to comply with the American with Disabilities Act. Additional upgrades are needed with the pool systems in order to keep the pools operating in a safe and efficient manner.

Level of Need – Low for new facilities. High for renovation and expansion of existing facilities.

Spray Grounds/Water Play

Key Issues – In recent years, spray grounds have been gaining nationwide popularity. They provide fun water-based recreation but have less maintenance and staffing requirements than traditional swimming pools. Spray grounds can be free, standalone elements, such as in the Sharon Prete Main Street Plaza, or they can be fee-based amenities integrated into larger aquatic complexes, such as the Rock’N River Water Park. There are four City-owned spray grounds in Round Rock, with one located in each sector of the City (see Map 5.27, Splash Pad Service Areas).

As a central Texas city, the minimum target level of service for spray grounds is one for every 25,000 people. The City currently has a deficit of one spray ground and this deficit will grow to two by 2025 if no additional facilities are developed.

Level of Need – High. The additional spray ground could be a free standing facility or developed as part of an aquatic complex.



Standalone spray grounds located throughout a city can provide easy access to water-based recreation for residents across the community.

Figure 5.17, Target Level of Service for Water Recreation Facilities

Facility	Current Availability (total)	Public Owned	Private Owned	RRISD Owned*	Current LOS (1 Facility per Residents)		Target LOS (Per Residents)	2017 Need Based on 115,997 Population	2017 Deficit or Surplus		2025 Need Based on 150,776 Population	2025 Deficit or Surplus	
					Public Owned	All Facilities			Public Owned	All Facilities		Public Owned	All Facilities
Swimming Pool	42 (64,300 SY)	4	38	0	28,999	2,762	3 to 5 sq. yards. per 1.5% of population	5220 SY to 8700 SY	Surplus of 2,800 to 6,280 SY	Surplus of 55,600 to 59,080 SY	6,785 SY to 11,308 SY	Surplus of 192 SY to 4,715 SY	Surplus of 52,992 SY to 57,515 SY
		(11,500 SY)	(52,800 SY)										
Spray Grounds	4	4	Not Included	Not Included	28,999	28,999	1 per 25,000	5	Deficit of 1	Deficit of 1	6	Deficit of 2	Deficit of 2

* Facilities owned by Round Rock Independent School District may not be open for public use

Map 5.26, Swimming Pool Service Areas



Map 5.27, Splash Pad Service Areas





Trails

Key Issues – Trails have continually been one of the most supported facilities among citizens in Round Rock. In fact, over 75 percent of the statistically valid survey respondents indicated a need for walking trails. Additionally, walking and biking trails were ranked in the top four most important facilities by 58 and 28 percent of respondents, respectively. The City has a target of providing one mile of trail for every 2,500 people. While there are approximately 140 miles of trails in Round Rock and its ETJ, only 75 miles are City-owned and open to all users. The remaining trails are owned by HOAs and MUDs and only some are available to the general public. As such, continuing to develop a citywide system of trails is one of the top priorities over the next ten years.

Trails should be available in all parts of the City. In its current state, the trail system is missing key connections along the Brushy Creek, and through the central and northern portions of the City (see Map 5.28, *Trail Service Areas*). Additional trail development should focus on trails along linear parks that link existing trail segments and provide north-south and east-west connectivity across the City. Whenever possible, internal loop trails should be provided in all larger parks.

Level of Need – High. Trail development along linear greenbelts should be one of the major priorities of the next 10 years. Significant trail needs exist in the central core area of the City, as well as in the northern sectors. High priority trails should connect parks and neighborhoods to downtown. Other important trails should link to the University/Higher Education District in Round Rock. In the long term, trails should be an integral part of greenbelt development in northeast Round Rock. Emphasis should also be placed on creating regional connectivity.



Trails provide multigenerational opportunities for exercise, socialization, recreation, and access to nature.



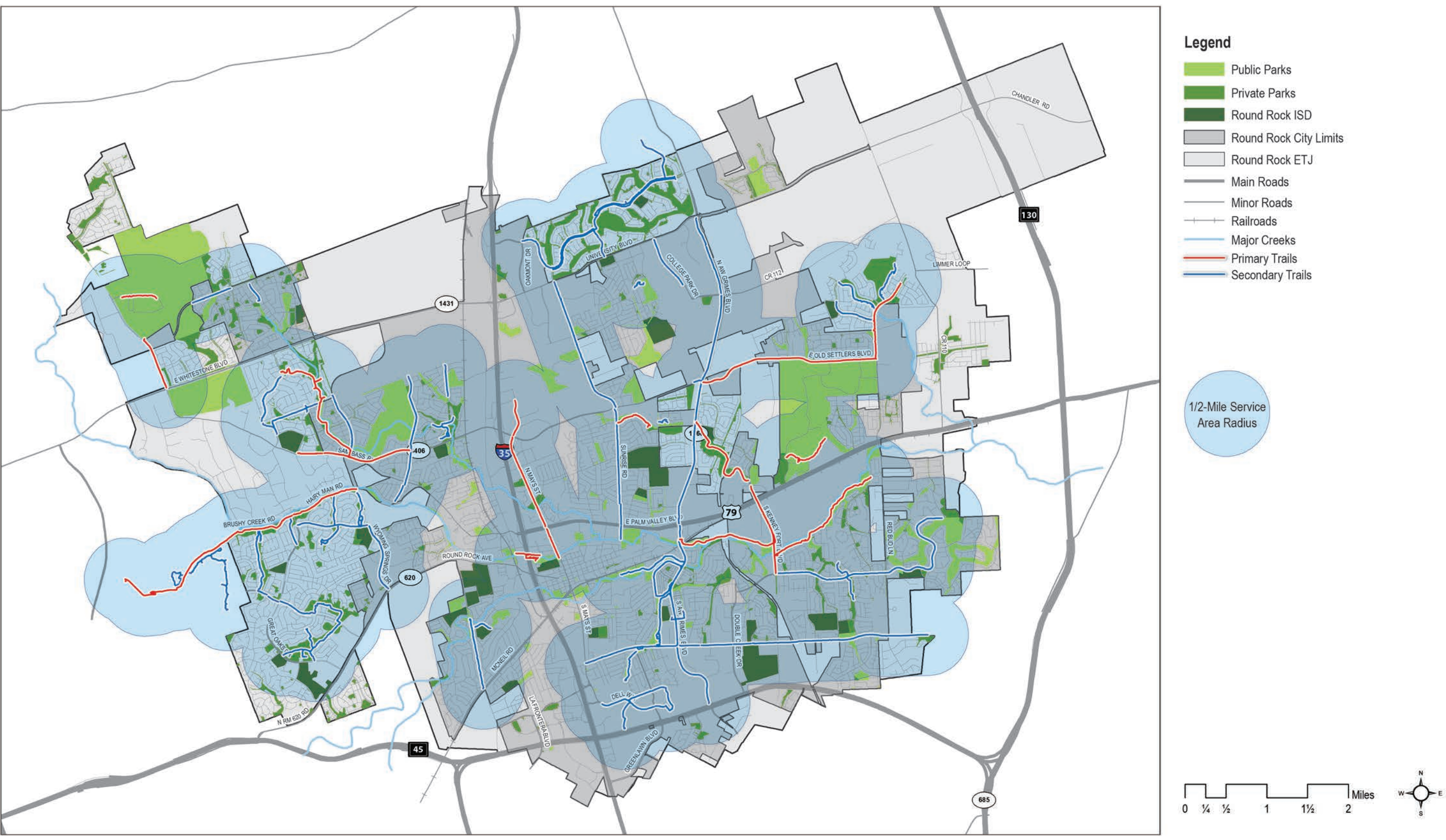
Differing trail materials provide more or less rigid support and are sometimes preferred for different activities. For example, many people prefer to run on a softer trail surface, such as decomposed granite, as it is gentler on their joints.

Figure 5.18, Target Level of Service for Trails

Facility	Current Availability (total)	Public Owned	Private Owned	RRISD Owned*	Current LOS (1 Facility per Residents)		Target LOS (Per Residents)	2017 Need Based on 115,997 Population	2017 Deficit or Surplus		2025 Need Based on 150,776 Population	2025 Deficit or Surplus	
					Public Owned	All Facilities			Public Owned	All Facilities		Public Owned	All Facilities
Trails (miles)	140.4	74.8	57.6	8.0	1,551	826	1 per 2,500	46.4	Surplus of 28.48	Surplus of 94.0	60.3	Surplus of 14.5	Surplus of 80.1

* Facilities owned by Round Rock Independent School District may not be open for public use

Map 5.28, Trail Service Areas





Indoor Gymnasiums

Key Issues – No partnership with Round Rock ISD currently exists to allow league or public use of their indoor gymnasiums when school is not in session. As such, there are only two locations with indoor gyms which can be used by leagues or the general public. The gyms are located at the Clay Madsen Recreation Center (southwest sector) and Round Rock Sports Center (northeast sector) (see Map 5.29, *Indoor Gymnasium Service Areas*). The gyms at the Sports Center are primarily tourism driven to support the Sports Capital of Texas campaign. As such, the courts are available for use in a rental facility capacity only.

Based on the target level of service of providing one indoor gymnasium (equivalent to one indoor basketball court) per 10,000 people, there is a current deficit of four for 2017 and a projected deficit of eight courts by 2025. In an effort to address the existing and future deficits of indoor gymnasium space, the City of Round Rock should work towards creating a stronger partnership with Round Rock ISD for use of some of the school gyms for basketball and volleyball leagues. Use of even a portion of the school gymnasiums would help to alleviate the citywide deficit. Additionally, Round Rock should pursue the option of constructing an additional Recreation Center in the North sector of the City to include an indoor gymnasium.

Level of Need – High for developing a partnership with Round Rock ISD for use of some school gyms when school is not in session and on the weekends.

As the new recreation centers are constructed in the long term in the north, gymnasiums should be included in the design for basketball and volleyball play.



The Clay Madsen Recreation Center provides multiple indoor gymnasiums which can be rented for league use or used as part of a Recreation Center membership.

Figure 5.19, Target Level of Service for Indoor Gymnasiums

Facility	Current Availability (total)	Public Owned**	Private Owned	RRISD Owned*	Current LOS (1 Facility per Residents)		Target LOS (Per Residents)	2017 Need Based on 115,997 Population	2017 Deficit or Surplus		2025 Need Based on 150,776 Population	2025 Deficit or Surplus	
					Public Owned	All Facilities			Public Owned	All Facilities		Public Owned	All Facilities
Indoor Gymnasium	8	8	0	Not Included	14,500	14,500	1 per 10,000	12	Deficit of 4	Deficit of 4	16	Deficit of 8	Deficit of 8

* Facilities owned by Round Rock Independent School District may not be open for public use
**Some facilities owned by City, but are tourism driven and not always available for public use





Demand-Based Assessment of Needs

In addition to analyzing facility quantities and parkland acreage and distribution, it is essential to identify public demand for parks and recreation opportunities. Identifying the wants and needs of residents allows the City of Round Rock to plan accordingly in order to best serve the community. A demand-based assessment is based on the actual participation in organized activities and the level of use of the parks, where available. It is also based on the level of use and preferences expressed by residents through the citizen telephone survey, online survey, and public meetings. In the parks planning process, public input helps identify what types of existing facilities are being used, where key deficiencies may occur, and where the residents would like to see their funding targeted. It is important to note that the demographics observed in the statistically valid survey completed by ETC did not reflect the true demographics of Round Rock. A disproportionate amount of seniors completed the survey and as such, the results were somewhat skewed.

Most Frequent Activities

Survey respondents were asked how often they visited parks, participated in activities, or used a variety of facilities. Based on the positive responses regarding whether households had visited City-owned parks in the last 12 months (77%) it is clear that Round Rock residents value their parks system. Old Settlers Park, the Brushy Creek Greenbelt, and the Play for All Abilities Park are the most commonly visited parks in the City. When considering recreational programs, households most frequently participate in community special events, adult fitness and wellness programs, and athletic special events.

Most Important Facilities and Programs

The top five recreation facilities that are most important to Round Rock households are walking trails, biking trails, natural areas and wildlife habitats, running/walking track, and indoor exercise and fitness facilities (see Figure 4.7, *Facilities that are Most Important to Households*, in Chapter 4). The top five recreation programs that are most important to households are community special events, adult fitness and wellness programs, programs for adults over 50, adult leisure learning programs, and nature programs/environmental education (see Figure 4.10, *Programs that are Most Important to Households*, in Chapter 4).

Greatest Unmet Need

The top five recreation facility needs which are being met 50 percent or less are shade elements, natural areas and wildlife habitats, small neighborhood parks, walking trails, and outdoor performance space/amphitheaters (see Figure 4.6, *Estimated Number of Households Whose Recreation Facility Needs are Being Met 50% or Less*, in Chapter 4). The top five program needs which are being met 50 percent or less are community special events, adult fitness & wellness programs, nature programs/environmental education, programs for adults over 50, and water fitness programs (see Figure 4.9, *Estimated Number of Households Whose Recreation Program Needs are Being Met 50% or Less*, in Chapter 4).

Importance - Unmet Needs Assessment Matrices

The importance - unmet needs matrices on the adjacent page are a tool for assessing the priority that should be placed on parks and recreation facilities and programs in the City. Based on survey responses, each of the facilities and programs that were assessed on the survey were placed in one of the following four quadrants:

- **Top Priorities** (higher importance and high unmet need). Items in this quadrant should be given the highest priority for improvement. Respondents placed a high level of importance on these items and the unmet need rating is high. Improvements to items in this quadrant will have positive benefits for the highest number of Round Rock residents.
- **Continued Emphasis** (higher importance and low unmet need). Items in this quadrant should be given secondary priority for improvement. Respondents placed a high level of importance on these items, but the unmet need rating is relatively low.
- **Special Interest/Lower Priority** (lower importance and high unmet need). This quadrant shows where improvements may be needed to serve the needs of specialized populations. Respondents placed a lower level of importance on these items, but the unmet need rating is relatively high.
- **Lower Priority** (lower importance and low unmet need). Items in this quadrant should receive the lowest priority for improvement. Respondents placed a lower level of importance on these items, and the unmet need rating is relatively low.



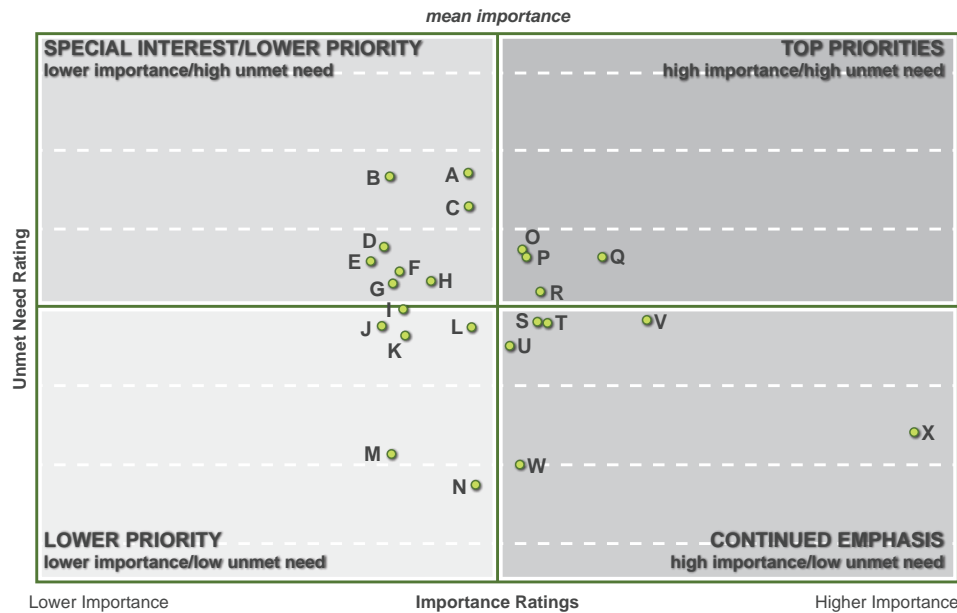
Additional community special events was the highest ranked program need in statistically valid survey.



Access to natural areas and wildlife habitats was ranked as one of the community's most important facilities.

Figure 5.20, 2015 Importance - Unmet Needs Assessment Matrix for Parks and Recreation Facilities

(points on the graph show deviations from the mean importance and unmet need ratings given by respondents to the survey - closest to the right edge represents the most important, closest to the top edge represents the greatest unmet need)



Special Interest/Lower Priority A. Fish/boating areas B. Outdoor basketball courts C. Outdoor performance space/ amphitheaters D. Outdoor volleyball courts E. Skateboard parks F. Outdoor tennis courts G. Outdoor special event rental space H. Spray parks	Top Priorities O. Shade elements P. Dog parks Q. Natural areas & wildlife habitats R. Indoor exercise & fitness facilities
Lower Priority I. Indoor gymnasiums J. Adult softball fields K. Flat fields (rugby, soccer, football, etc.) L. Picnic shelters/areas M. Youth baseball/softball fields N. Large community parks	Continued Emphasis S. Small neighborhood parks T. Running/walking track U. Outdoor swimming pools V. Biking trails W. Playgrounds X. Walking trails

Source: ETC Institute

Figure 5.21, 2015 Importance - Unmet Needs Assessment Matrix for Parks and Recreation Programs

(points on the graph show deviations from the mean importance and unmet need ratings given by respondents to the survey - closest to the right edge represents the most important, closest to the top edge represents the greatest unmet need)

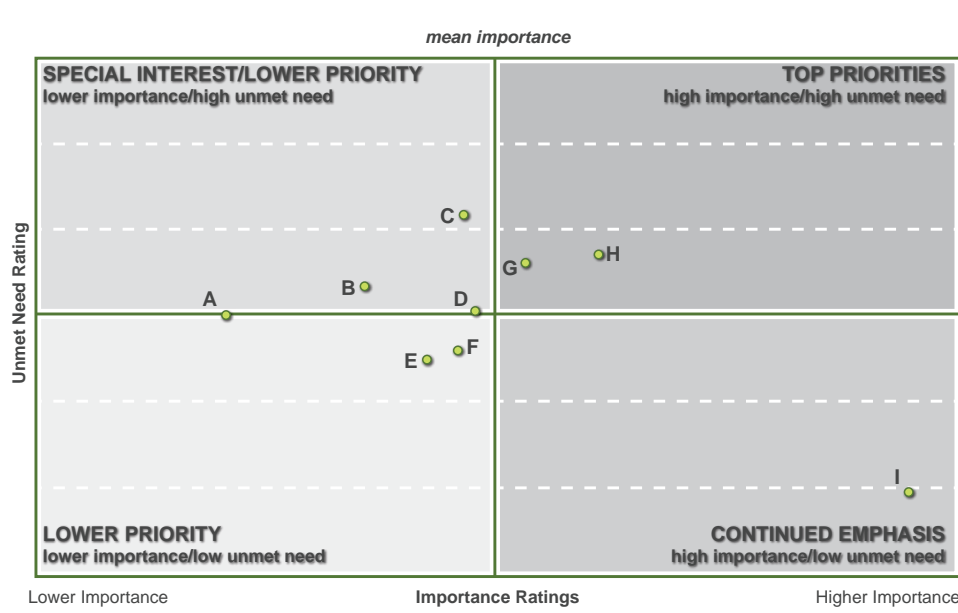


Special Interest/Lower Priority A. Tennis lessons & leagues B. Programs for people with disabilities C. Programs for teens D. Adult learn to swim programs E. Youth art, dance, performing arts	Top Priorities O. Nature programs/environmental education P. Water fitness programs Q. Adult art, dance, performing arts R. Programs for adults over 50 S. Adult leisure learning programs
Lower Priority F. Summer camps G. Preschool programs H. Before & after school programs I. School break programs J. Athletic special events K. Youth learn to swim programs L. Youth athletic leagues (competitive) M. Youth fitness & wellness programs N. Youth athletic leagues (recreation)	Continued Emphasis T. Adult fitness & wellness programs U. Community special events

Source: ETC Institute

Figure 5.22, 2015 Importance - Unmet Needs Assessment Matrix for Parks and Playground Services

(points on the graph show deviations from the mean importance and unmet need ratings given by respondents to the survey - closest to the right edge represents the most important, closest to the top edge represents the greatest unmet need)



Special Interest/Lower Priority A. Overall quality of play courts B. Overall quality of play fields C. Mowing and trimming in parks D. Overall quality of trash pickup in parks	Top Priorities G. Overall condition of parks and playgrounds H. Overall quality of playground equipment
Lower Priority E. Overall quality of picnic areas F. Overall quality of landscaping	Continued Emphasis I. Overall quality of outdoor restrooms

Source: ETC Institute



Resource-Based Assessment of Needs

In the resource based assessment, key physical features of the City that may create recreation opportunities are assessed. Both man-made and natural features can be considered. The City of Round Rock has a number of landscape features that should be preserved and/or adapted for recreational use and open space preservation where feasible. These are the creek system corridors, areas around Paloma Lake and Meadow Lake, rural landscapes, historic/cultural landscapes, utility right-of-ways, and the railroad right-of-way.

The Creek System

The City of Round Rock has a number of major creek corridors that run through much of the City: Brushy Creek, Chandler Creek, Onion Creek, and Lake Creek. In addition to these creeks, there are extensive drainage corridors throughout the City that connect many of the small area lakes and City parks. The nature of creek and drainage systems is that they are linear and thus ideal corridors for activities like hiking, jogging, and biking.

In order to capitalize on the recreation potential, the City should make serious effort to secure functional corridors along these creeks and drainage systems. The key criteria should be:

- Along undeveloped or underdeveloped creek areas, preserve the larger of the 100-year floodplain or a 300-foot wide corridor along all creeks and their tributaries. Preservation should be targeted to ensure flood control and recreation opportunities by preventing unrestricted encroachment on creeks and destruction of the forested areas along creeks. Acquisition of land may include purchase of property, donation as undevelopable, or the purchase of development rights. The implication is that the City becomes the custodian of the land by holding the development rights in perpetuity with an agreement that it will never be developed. The model of the Texas Nature Conservancy may be followed in acquiring these development rights.
- Acquire and preserve, where feasible, drainage streams that can create linkage to adjacent neighborhoods. Preservation of more than just the bare minimum for drainage purposes can allow greater recreational opportunities.

- Work with land and homeowners to create linear vehicular and pedestrian parkways along the edges of the floodplain, rather than backing lots up to the wooded areas. Such single-loaded parkways open the creek areas to the benefit of informal enjoyment by all and has the added benefit of informal surveillance. Where feasible, existing areas should be retrofitted using this concept.
- Continue to create linear trail segments in phases. Identify key trail linkages to develop first. With proper City support, funding, and marketing, these trails will become the impetus for the development of similar trail connections.
- Acquire land that is regularly subjected to flooding, remove all improvements, and restore the flood area to a healthy and functional ecosystem. This means returning the floodplain to the creek with the benefit of flood control and recreation access.

Developing creeks and drainage corridors will assist in answering the need for additional linear parkland in the City. This will also provide the opportunity for the development of hike and bike trails which rated consistently as one of the most important recreational facilities needed in the City. Recommendations for the development of trails along creeks are discussed in more detail in the Trails Master Plan Update Document.

Rural Landscapes

Visually rural landscapes are defined by long and open vistas, typical of the Texas landscape. Such landscapes may be experienced in various ways, including the use of hike and bike trails and driving along rural roads. To be effective, it requires expansive lands seen over a distance which are uncluttered by development, signs, and utilities. This may be achieved with winding roads and well defined views. Views in the northeast and northwest sectors of the City are candidates for preservation of views and a rural character.

The rural experience can be maintained without compromising development opportunities through the protection of floodplains along creeks and the preservation of open space. This can be done through application of Conservation Planning and Design principles. One of the most basic principles is to demand single-loaded roads. As previously mentioned, this strategy involves roads which serve as access to developed areas yet at the same time provide rural experiences through views of the surrounding landscape.



The City's system of creeks, lakes, and drainage corridors is a valuable environmental and recreational resource.



Rural landscapes can provide visual and physical access to undeveloped areas.



Downtown Round Rock includes a number of historically significant properties and structures.



The area surrounding the “Round Rock” is rich with cultural heritage.

Cultural Landscapes

The National Park Service describes Cultural Landscapes as “setting we have created in the natural world. They revive fundamental ties between people and the land - ties based on our need to grow food, give form to our settlements, meet requirements for recreation, and find suitable places to bury our dead. Cultural Landscapes are intertwined patterns of things both natural and constructed: plants and fences, watercourses and buildings. They range from formal gardens to cattle ranches, from cemeteries and pilgrimage routes to village squares. They are special places: expressions of human manipulation and adaptation of the land.”

Round Rock has a rich history and culture, especially in the downtown area. The historic downtown and surrounding area encompass a number of historical properties and archaeological sites that represent some important aspects of the early settlement and subsequent development of the Round Rock area. However, the recognition and preservation of individual sites and structures is not enough to ensure the protection of the landscape as a whole, which is essential to evoke the quality and essence of the history of the area. In fact, Round Rock’s historical and cultural heritage is inextricably linked to the natural environment. Once a site or feature is severed from its context, a tremendously important part of the cultural experience is lost. Within the context lie visual clues as to the way in which people from an earlier generation and era related to their environment. It is thus imperative to protect the integrity of the entire landscape in which the cultural features and sites are contained. Additionally, the planned Heritage Trail, which is meant to serve as a historical and cultural timeline of Round Rock, should be designed and constructed with the utmost care to creatively and accurately demonstrate Rock Rock’s unique heritage.

The historic district encompasses the following designated sites and landmarks:

- Andrew J. Palm House (current Visitor Center and Chamber of Commerce)
- J.A. Nelson Company (early commercial building)
- Otto Reinke Building
- Old Broom Factory (marker on the Mays side of the building)
- Sam Bass Death Site (on the south side of Round Rock Avenue just west of Mays Street)

- Chisholm Trail Crossing
- The round rock in Brushy Creek which is where Round Rock received its name
- The Brushy Creek Corridor
- Total of 25 sites and markers in Round Rock

Utility Right-of-Ways

The linear nature of utility right-of-ways makes them ideal as hike and bike trails. Developing trails along regional utility right-of-ways and other easements is essential for mobility and connectivity throughout Round Rock.

Rail Right-of-Ways

Two characteristics of a rail right-of-way make it ideal as a hike and bike trail: its linear nature and gentle topographic change. An added aesthetic value of a rail right-of-way is that trees along its length often provide special character and natural interest.

The City of Round Rock has a railroad that stretches across the entire length of the City from east to west, along McNeil Road. Its continued use as a freight line places limitations on the use of the right-of-way. However, the City of Round Rock should continue to pursue an option for a trail that runs parallel to tracks through the center of the City. This trail could be placed against the back of curb to calm fears of danger from the adjacent tracks. If deemed absolutely necessary, four-foot high fencing could be placed between the trail and the tracks.



Summary of Key Needs for Round Rock

Through the needs analysis process, the level of need for increased parkland acreage, connectivity, recreational facilities, and programming was identified. Key takeaways of the analysis follow:

Parkland Acreage Needs

In 2017, the City is most deficient in community, metropolitan, and regional parkland. Moving forward, the City should prioritize development of existing undeveloped parks (e.g., Behrens Ranch Park and Mayfield Park), and acquisition and development of additional parkland which can meet the needs of residents throughout the community, with emphasis on currently underserved areas (see Figure 5.10, *Summary of Key Acreage Needs for 2017 to 2025*). As development continues in the northeast sector, care should be taken to ensure that future residents in that area have adequate access to parkland. The City should also continue strategic land preservation and acquisition to continue moving towards its vision of preserving 14 percent of the City and ETJ as parks and open space.

Parkland Connectivity

Pedestrian and bicycle trails were a high priority for the community in 2009. Today, despite trail development since then, providing additional pedestrian and bicycle trails remains one of the community's highest priorities. In coming years, the City should continue to prioritize and develop key trail segments to provide citywide access to parks, schools, downtown, and other key areas.

Facility Needs

Based on the level of service assessment and public input, the City has a high active recreation need for field lighting, baseball/softball practice and recreational fields, soccer field amenities (e.g., spectator seating), volleyball courts, and indoor gymnasium space. High passive recreation needs include outdoor performance spaces, renovation of rental facilities and playgrounds, additional picnicking amenities, shade elements, spray grounds, trails, natural areas, and small neighborhood parks.

Recreational Program Needs

As seen throughout the public engagement, key recreational program needs include additional community events; adult and senior fitness, leisure learning, and creative programming; environmental education; water fitness programs; and multigenerational programming.

The Desired State for Parks and Recreation in Round Rock

The desired state for the Round Rock Parks and Recreation Department is based on a careful combination of trend analysis and projection, public input data collection, and input from the Round Rock City Council and Mayor. From this information, the Parks and Recreation Department has determined the ideal state in which to operate and function as a whole.

In terms of mobility and connectivity, Round Rock should provide a system of trails, greenbelts, and open space that encourages residents to be outdoors, living a healthy lifestyle and learning about local natural features. Connectivity also serves to facilitate an alternative transportation opportunity for Round Rock residents. By connecting residents to locations such as schools, public spaces, neighborhoods, places of employment, and retail destinations, the City gains a healthier, more active and close-knit community. Providing such linkages rewards the users and relieves traffic congestion.

The desired state of recreation and culture encompasses short and long range programs for development, expansion, and upgrading the Round Rock parks and recreation system. Recreation amenities would include providing an adequate number of fields for general public and league use and facilities that address the needs of all age groups, activity levels, and socioeconomic categories.

The desired state for Round Rock is one that will have provided for programs and facilities of the expanded leisure market trends. The park system will be distributed evenly throughout the City so that all residents have access to trails, athletic activities, and neighborhood and community parks. The community and character of Round Rock will be clearly visible to visitors. The City's identity will be clearly conveyed through beautification efforts, defined entry signage, and the continuation of tree plantings along streets and in parks.

The preservation and enhancement of historic and culturally significant landscapes will have resulted in the development of such significant features as the round rock, the Chisholm Trail Crossing Sculpture Park, Heritage Trail, Kenney Fort, and the Brushy Creek corridor. A particular emphasis will be made to celebrate the history and culture of this City.

Areas of cultural value, geological and topographic interest, and natural creek corridors will have been preserved, and funding mechanisms in place to acquire more lands for protection. The Parks and Recreation Department will maintain all of the Round Rock parks and recreation facilities in a superior condition and sustainable manner. Funding and manpower resources will be in place in order to regularly/proactively ensure the safety and quality of the City's



There is a need for additional recreational programming for all ages.



The Round Rock community highly values the events offered throughout the year.



Continued partnership with the Play for All Foundation will help the Play for All Playground to continue to flourish as a local and regional destination playground.



Continued The PARD currently coordinates with other City departments in the provision of a high-quality parks and recreation system.

amenities. Coordination with multi-jurisdictional entities with respect to issues that affect recreation opportunities will actively be pursued. Relationships will be strengthened and the City will work together in order to accomplish regional solutions.

The City will develop other funding mechanisms to help supplement its limited funding resources. The Parkland Dedication and Park Development Ordinance will continue to fund land acquisition and park development. Fee structures will be assessed and cooperation with private citizens and developers will be encouraged in which development and Adopt-A-Park programs may become realized. Citizen participation will continue to be utilized in determining long-range planning to reflect the changing conditions in Round Rock.

Essential Partnerships in the Future for Round Rock Parks and Recreation Department

For a parks and recreation system to be successful within a community, it helps to have a working and beneficial partnership with other entities. The Round Rock Parks and Recreation Department should continue to foster strong working relationships with other city departments such as: the Planning Department to ensure that quality and useful property is obtained for parkland; the Transportation Department to ensure that proper trails and bike lanes are being developed throughout all of Round Rock; the Sports Management and Tourism Department to help promote being the Sports Capital of Texas; the Economic Development Corporation to promote the park and recreation system and how it improves the quality of life for residents and business owners in Round Rock; and the Police Department to ensure that the parks and the special events held by the Parks and Recreation Department continue to be safe and successful.

There are other government entities beyond just the local government that the Round Rock Parks and Recreation Department should partner with such as Williamson County. A strong partnership with the county would ensure there is not a duplication of services when it comes to providing park and recreation facilities and to partner with in the development of facilities. Also a partnership with the governments of nearby communities is needed to enhance the connectivity of trails from one area to the other such as along the Brushy Creek corridor.

There are many local businesses that could be beneficial as partners such as Dell Inc. or the many medical centers in Round Rock. Medical centers and hospitals all over the nation often partner with local park and recreation departments because the two entities share the common goal of promoting physical activity and leading a healthier lifestyle. Additionally, the medical community can partner with the Parks and Recreation Department to offer therapeutic recreation, which can be evidenced with the success of the Play for All Abilities Playground.

Round Rock also has a strong core of community-based/special interest foundations, including the Community Foundation, Art Foundation, and Play for All Foundation. These foundations have helped create sculptures in the parks and plazas throughout Round Rock, as well as set up funds where people can donate money to directly contribute to enhancing and improving Round Rock’s parks. The Play for All Foundation raises money directly for the upkeep and expansion of the Play for All Abilities Playground.

One other major partnership which should be strengthened in the future and as Round Rock continues to grow is the partnership with Round Rock Independent School District. The school district offers various types of recreational facilities which should continually be made available to the taxpayers. Leagues and residents should have adequate use of practice fields and playscape equipment when school is not in session or on the weekends. The school district also has significant gym space which could be used for basketball or volleyball leagues. A partnership with Round Rock ISD is important to the success of recreational programs that are offered through the Parks and Recreation Department. Additionally, as the therapeutic recreation trend continues to grow in Round Rock with projects like the Play for All Abilities Playground, a partnership with the school district and its special education teachers becomes very important.



City, State, and National Park and Recreation Trends

Trends fluctuate and cycle over the years. As park and recreation trends change, so does the quality-of-life activities and amenities most sought out by residents. Quality of life is dependent upon several key components, such as employment opportunities, the housing market, access to desirable schools, the amount of green space in a community, and the variety of amenities and recreational activities that are available. People tend to pursue activities that provide recreation; ease of use; convenience; and improve mental, physical, and emotional health. With that in mind, it is vital to understand today's regional, statewide, and national trends related to parks and recreation. The trends examined below are projected to last into the immediate future and be relevant for the duration of this Plan.

Mobile Connectivity

Mobile connectivity throughout people's daily lives has increased exponentially over the last two decades. People are digitally immersed more than ever before and are increasingly gaining their news, stimulation, and knowledge of the world around them from their phone, tablet, or computer. By 2020, there are predicted to be over 80 billion connected devices globally.¹

Digital Money

More and more people are relying on a digital wallet and seeking out convenient ways to pay for services and facilities. This extends to parks and recreation as people are looking to sign up for leagues, rent pavilions, and register for classes and programs online. Methods to streamline these processes could include online or mobile payment options, as several applications now allow for payment without needing to reference a physical credit card. These cashless solutions could make parks a more convenient and pleasurable experience for users.

Public Recreation

Through the media and the internet, we are exposed to the best from around the world. With the increase in mobile connectivity comes greater public awareness of the quality of amenities, facilities, and recreational opportunities that are provided in any number of communities. Frequently, when people see high-quality recreation opportunities in the surrounding areas, they then look for and begin to expect these options within their own city. While people generally understand that some recreational programming or special-use facilities will be associated with a fee, they typically expect general public access to high-quality parks and recreation opportunities to be free.

Health Awareness

General awareness of health-related issues is increasing in today's society and is being tracked more easily than ever before. With evolutionary technology found in products such as the Fitbit, Garmin, and Jawbone, people can track daily steps, sleeping patterns, calories burned, heart rate, etc. all by wearing wrist bands that monitor their progress throughout the day. This immediate knowledge of one's daily progress can encourage further activity. Providing suitable and readily available indoor and outdoor recreational activities allows people to more easily reach their targeted goals.

Covered Amenities

With the strong and sometimes oppressive heat and sun in Texas, traditional outdoor recreation amenities (e.g., playgrounds) are not always enjoyable during the summer. Many communities in Texas have been expanding the use of shade structures to allow for increased user comfort in areas such as playgrounds, skateparks, picnic tables, and basketball courts, among others.

Reality Games

In today's world, people are in tune with their phones on a daily basis and reality-based games are becoming commonplace. For example, a trend that swept the nation in 2016 was the invention, release, and success of a mobile application called Pokémon GO. Designers structured the game in such a way that advancement in the game required people to go outside. Parks, historic sites, and cultural amenities became the most popular destinations in the game. Such creative methods are being used to attract people outside, encouraging interaction with both nature and a virtual component. When designing parks, it is important to account for new technology and how it is changing the way some people choose to interact with parks.²

Passive Recreation

Another important nation-wide trend is increased demand for passive recreation. Activities such as walking or jogging on trails, picnicking, sight-seeing, and other unprogrammed play provide for social interaction and rejuvenation. Passive recreation includes unprogrammed, self-generated activities (e.g., frisbee, disc golf, skating) that require no administration. In communities throughout the country, people are looking to their parks for open space where they can interact and play how and when they see fit. It is important to ensure that opportunities for both active and passive recreation are provided throughout the City.



In today's world, mobile connectivity impacts almost every facet of daily life. The challenge of integrating mobile elements into parks systems to help keep users engaged is one felt by many communities.

Source: <http://venturebeat.com/2015/03/20/build-location-into-first-user-experience-or-app-users-may-never-turn-it-back-on/>



The uptick in general awareness of health-related issues through daily tracking is impacting some people's recreational priorities.

Source: <https://blog.fitbit.com/user-story-nickie-s/>

Trail Systems

Trails are still leading as a top priority recreational amenity throughout the state and country.³ Trail activities such as walking, hiking, running, and biking provide fun individual or group exercise opportunities. Trails also typically provide access to nature, alternative mobility options, and outdoor educational opportunities. Whether it be for solo exercise, a family walk, or a school trip, trails provide multi-generational recreation opportunities.

Splash Pads

Splash pads or spray-grounds are gaining popularity across the nation. As a less expensive, safer alternative to pools, splash pads typically require less maintenance and no full-time staffing. Splash pads can be integrated into a neighborhood or community park to provide convenient summer fun for children and their parents. Splash pads also provide more diversified play activities than traditional pools as they offer varying spray nozzles, drop buckets, and other innovative features that bring a higher level of interactive play.⁴



Adventure races, such as mud runs, are gaining popularity nationally. These fun, challenging, family-friendly events are often attended by a wider demographic than traditional running races due to their exciting nature.

Active Recreation

While passive recreation has gained steam in the last decade, active recreation still remains a strong focal point in park and recreation systems. An interesting trend is how participation rates have swayed in varying athletics. Studies have revealed a decrease in some youth league participation such as baseball and basketball. However, it should be noted that this varies from city to city. As league-based athletics come with associated fees, equipment costs, and time and travel commitments, some families may be encouraging their children to choose one or two sports early on and continue to pursue that sport as they age. Additionally, sports options are increasing to include such activities as mini soccer, ultimate frisbee, and even pastime favorites (e.g., kickball, dodge-ball, etc.). A few reasons why these particular sports may be trending are the overall use of less equipment, less players, and shorter seasons which allow for more people to participate.^{5,6}

Water-based Recreation

Over the past decade, water-based recreation has increased in popularity. Activities such as stand up paddle boarding and kayaking provide passive recreation accessible to many age groups. According to a 2016 report by the Outdoor Foundation, participation in stand up paddling was the top growing outdoor activity nationwide, with participation by people over the age of six increasing by 25.7 percent over the past three years. Kayak fishing saw a 17.4 percent increase in participation over the same period.⁷ As the City programs its parks that provide access to water, this growing trend should be considered.

Racing Events

In recent years, there has been an increase in participation in adventure races and both on-road/traditional triathlons and off-road/non-traditional triathlons. In fact, over the last year, nationwide participation in traditional triathlons and adventure racing grew by 24 percent and 21 percent, respectively.⁸ Adventure racing and triathlon events provide fun, unique ways for people to test their strength and stamina, and encourage healthy lifestyles. Adventure races, such as mud runs, color runs, and obstacle courses, are often attended by a wider demographic than traditional running races due to the exciting nature of the event.^{9,10} Both adventure races and triathlons provide additional community benefits as they generate revenue through registration, hotel and restaurant traffic, and draw in visitors from throughout the region and beyond.

1 Singh, S. (2014, May 12). The 10 Social And Tech Trends That Could Shape The Next Decade. Retrieved August 29, 2016, from <http://www.forbes.com/sites/sarwantsingh/2014/05/12/the-top-10-mega-trends-of-the-decade/#472cbb8e570a>

2 Amselle, N. (2016, August 01). Pokémon Go and What It Means for Parks. Retrieved August 29, 2016, from <http://www.parksandrecreation.org/2016/August/Pokémon-Go-and-What-It-Means-for-Parks/>

3 Texas Parks and Wildlife, "2012 Texas Outdoor Recreation Plan."

4 Lyamba, N. (2012, June 04). Splash Pads Fun, Cheap Alternative to Public Pools. Retrieved August 29, 2016, from <http://www.ksl.com/?nid=148>

5 Madren, C. (2014, February 01). A Sporting Shift | Parks & Recreation Magazine. Retrieved August 29, 2016, from <http://www.parksandrecreation.org/2014/February/A-Sporting-Shift/>

6 Study shows major drop in American youth sports participation. (2015, August 11). Retrieved August 29, 2016, from <http://www.si.com/more-sports/2015/08/11/american-youth-sports-participation-drop-decline-statistics-study>

7 Outdoor Foundation, "Outdoor Recreation Participation Topline Report 2016," <http://www.outdoorfoundation.org/pdf/ResearchParticipation2016Topline.pdf>

8 Ibid.

9 Fuehrer, Dan and Scott Douglas, "2 Charts Show Growth of Non-Traditional Races," Runner's World, 29 April 2014, Accessed 28 Sept 2016, <<http://www.runnersworld.com/newswire/2-charts-show-growth-of-non-traditional-races>>

10 Madren, C. (2014, February 01). A Sporting Shift | Parks & Recreation Magazine. Retrieved August 29, 2016, from <http://www.parksandrecreation.org/2014/February/A-Sporting-Shift/>



Other Trends Impacting Use of Parks and Recreation

Busy Lifestyles & At-Home Leisure

Instead of having more leisure time, the world’s increasingly competitive marketplace is forcing people to work harder to keep up. As a result, they have less leisure time, and fewer opportunities to enjoy recreational activities. In addition, there are many more leisure time choices. Greatly increased at-home leisure opportunities are available today, such as hundreds of channels of television, sophisticated computer games, and the internet. Providing recreation opportunities which are convenient and tailored to the community thus gains even greater importance.

Safety Concerns

Safety is a great concern to parents. Many parents do not allow their children to go to area parks unattended. In some places the use of neighborhood parks has decreased as a result.

Instant Gratification

Today’s day in age is an era of instant gratification. People expect to have high quality recreation and to be given activities that they will like. They have many other leisure time activities and outlets, and can pick and choose what they want to do. Cities must be willing to provide a much broader menu of recreation activities, but recognize the need to draw the line if those activities become too costly.

Funding Constraints

New revenue sources for public funding are difficult to come by. The federal surpluses briefly experienced at the turn of the century are now a thing of the past, and deficit spending is probable for the next decade. As a result, little help can be expected from the federal government, and even popular grant programs such as enhancement funds for trails and beautification may not always be available.

Baby Boomer Trends

There were approximately 76 million Americans born between the years of 1946 and 1964. By the year 2014, the U.S. Census Bureau data showed that there were 76.4 million Baby Boomers living in the U.S. (considering deaths and immigration)¹. The Baby Boomer generation comprises one-third of the total U.S. population and by 2030, one in five Americans is projected to be 65 and over.² With such a significant portion of the population entering into the retirement age, they are redefining what it means to grow old. Many Baby Boomers are opting not to retire at a traditional retirement age. Because of their dedication to hard work and youthfulness, this population is expected to stay in the work force because they take pleasure in being challenged and engaged. According to Packaged Facts, a demographic marketing research firm, trends that have taken off because of the Baby Boomers include:

- Prevention-centered healthcare to keep aging bodies disease free.
- Anti-aging products and services that will keep mature adults looking as young as they view themselves to be.
- Media and internet technology to facilitate family and social ties, recreation and lifelong learning.
- Innovation in housing that allows homeowners to age in place.
- Increasing entrepreneurial activity among those who have retired, along with flexible work schedules that allow for equal work and leisure time.
- Growing diversity in travel and leisure options, especially with regard to volunteer and eco-friendly opportunities.

1 Pollard, Kelvin and Paola Scommegna, “Just How Many Baby Boomers Are There?,” Population Reference Bureau, <http://www.prb.org/Publications/Articles/2002/JustHowManyBabyBoomersAreThere.aspx>

2 Colby, Sandra L. and Jennifer M. Ortman, Projections of the Size and Composition of the U.S. Population: 2014 to 2060, Current Population Reports, P25-1143, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC, 2014.

Fitness Trends

Americans want to get in shape. Programs and technology such as wearable fitness trackers, body weight training, and group training were all popular trends in 2016-2017. For the last 11 years, the editors of the American College of Sports Medicine’s Health & Fitness Journal have conducted a survey of professional worldwide to determine health and fitness trends. The 2016-2017 most popular fitness trends were³:

1. Wearable technology
2. Body weight training
3. High-intensity interval training
4. Educated, certified, and experienced fitness professionals
5. Strength training
6. Group training
7. Exercise is Medicine®
8. Yoga
9. Personal training
10. Exercise and weight loss
11. Fitness programs for older adults
12. Functional fitness
13. Outdoor activities
14. Group personal training
15. Wellness coaching
16. Worksite health promotion
17. Smartphone exercise apps
18. Outcome measurements
19. Circuit training
20. Flexibility and mobility rollers

3 Thompson WR., “Worldwide survey reveals fitness trends for 2007,” American College of Sports Medicine’s Health & Fitness Journal, http://journals.lww.com/acsm-healthfitness/Fulltext/2016/11000/WORLDWIDE_SURVEY_OF_FITNESS_TRENDS_FOR_2017.6.aspx

Ways Round Rock Can Capitalize on These Trends

There are many ways that the City can capitalize on these trends.

- Because the Baby Boomers are a very active generation, the Round Rock PARD should continue to provide strong senior programs and physical fitness exercise classes for seniors.
- High school sports teams are growing in participation but not all high school students will be good enough to make a team. The City could consider offering additional sports leagues to teenagers. In addition, the City should evaluate its teen programming and develop a plan for increased options as the large young population in the City continues to age.
- Fitness trends that are gaining or maintaining popularity include group and personal training, yoga, and outdoor activities. The PARD should continue to offer fitness classes and programs both indoors and outdoors at hours generally appropriate for working adults.
- Extreme sports that the City could potentially offer include constructing an indoor rock wall for climbing possibly at Clay Madsen Recreation Center or the new recreation center, offering cardio kickboxing classes, and Ultimate Frisbee leagues or tournaments.
- With the continuing growth of adventure racing and extreme sports, the City could expand its offering of special events to include additional fun runs, on and off-road triathlons, etc.
- A morning fitness walk/run and/or bike ride could be popular because of the amount of people interested in walking and riding for fitness on Round Rock's trail system.
- A new recreation center that is more technology driven would appeal to a new technology-driven demographic.