

PLAYBOOK 2030: BUILDING A CONNECTED COMMUNITY

THE ROUND ROCK STRATEGIC PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN





PLAYBOOK 2030: **BUILDING A CONNECTED COMMUNITY**

THE ROUND ROCK STRATEGIC PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

ADOPTED TBD





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ORDINANCE NO. O-2018-5727

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A “PLAYBOOK 2030: BUILDING A CONNECTED COMMUNITY; THE ROUND ROCK STRATEGIC PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN,” WHICH CONSTITUTES THE CITY OF ROUND ROCK’S NEW STRATEGIC PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN; AND REPEALING ALL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, on June 25, 2009, the City of Round Rock adopted the “Game Plan 2020: Building an Active Community; The Round Rock Strategic Parks and Recreation Master Plan” under Ordinance No. G-09-06-25-10B1; and

WHEREAS, the “Playbook 2030: Building a Connected Community; The Round Rock Strategic Parks and Recreation Master Plan” constituting the City of Round Rock’s updated strategic parks and recreation master plan has been presented for consideration to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, said “Playbook 2030: Building a Connected Community; The Round Rock Strategic Parks and Recreation Master Plan” is a guiding document for the department for the next decade as it relates to the planning, acquisition, development, programming, maintenance and operation of the parks and recreation system in Round Rock; and

WHEREAS, said “Playbook 2030: Building a Connected Community; The Round Rock Strategic Parks and Recreation Master Plan” replaces the “Game Plan 2020: Building an Active Community; The Round Rock Strategic Parks and Recreation Master Plan”; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to adopt the “Playbook 2030: Building a Connected Community; The Round Rock Strategic Parks and Recreation Master Plan”,
Now Therefore

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROUND ROCK,
TEXAS, THAT:

I.

That the official “Playbook 2030: Building a Connected Community; The Round Rock Strategic Parks and Recreation Master Plan” is hereby adopted by reference and declared to be a part of this Ordinance. The official Round Rock Strategic Parks and Recreation Master Plan shall be identified by the signature of the mayor attested by the city clerk and bearing the seal of the City of Round Rock under the following words:

“This is to certify that this is the official Round Rock Strategic Parks and Recreation Master Plan referred to in Ordinance No. 2018-5727.”

II.

A. All ordinances, parts of ordinances, or resolutions in conflict herewith are expressly repealed.

B. The invalidity of any section or provision of this ordinance shall not invalidate other sections or provisions thereof.

C. The City Council hereby finds and declares that written notice of the date, hour, place and subject of the meeting at which this Ordinance was adopted was posted and that such meeting was open to the public as required by law at all times during which this Ordinance and the subject matter hereof were discussed, considered and formally acted upon, all as required by the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, as amended.

Alternative 1.


By motion duly made, seconded and passed with an affirmative vote of all the Council members present, the requirement for reading this ordinance on two separate days was dispensed with.

READ, PASSED, and ADOPTED on first reading this ____ day of _____, 2018.

Alternative 2.

READ and APPROVED on first reading this the 9th day of August, 2018.

READ, APPROVED and ADOPTED on second reading this the 23rd day of August, 2018.


CRAIG MORGAN, Mayor
City of Round Rock, Texas

ATTEST:

SARA L. WHITE, City Clerk



Greetings Citizens of Round Rock:

It is great to live in a City with a nationally recognized Parks and Recreation Department. Being a successful department does not come without thoughtful, strategic planning. That is why our Parks and Recreation Department spent several months compiling this "Play Book" to ensure that Round Rock continues to offer high quality parks, trails, events, and recreational programming for our residents.

"Play Book 2030: Building a Connected Community" is a compilation of City-level and PARD goals to acquire parkland, build trails, and provide equitable parks and programming to all residents of Round Rock. PARD and their consultants have taken your input, gathered through surveys, held open houses, and interviews, and determined top priorities for the Department moving forward into the year 2030. Our residents have spoken, and trail connections continue to be the top priority. As Round Rock continues to experience exponential growth, preserving open spaces, floodplain, and trail corridors will become more and more important. As a person who recognizes the health and wellness benefits of parks, one of my main goals as Mayor is to ensure that the City preserves and maintains as much natural spaces as possible for future generations. I encourage you all to experience the joy of being outdoors by visiting our parks, trails, and open spaces.

Moving forward into the Year 2030, Round Rock will continue to work with local, state, and federal governmental agencies to help reach the goals outlined in this plan. We vow to continue to offer the high-quality parks, trails, events, and programs that residents have come to expect.

Sincerely,



Craig Morgan
Mayor



October 22, 2018

City of Round Rock
Mr. Rick Atkins, Director
Parks and Recreation Department
301 West Bagdad Avenue, Suite 250
Round Rock, TX 78664

RE: Playbook 2030: Building a Connected Community – The Round Rock Strategic Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Dear Mr. Atkins:

Halff Associates, Inc. is pleased to submit the final version of the *Playbook 2030: Building a Connected Community – The Round Rock Strategic Parks and Recreation Master Plan* to the City of Round Rock.

The purpose of the planning effort was to undertake a comprehensive update to the previous plan adopted in 2009. This master plan looks at the potential growth of the City over the next five to 10 years and assesses where additional facilities and land acquisition may be needed. It also prioritizes key recommendations so that the most significant deficiencies may be addressed as quickly as possible.

The resulting master plan and recommendations provide near- and longer-term strategic direction to the City to continue to offer high quality parks, programs, amenities, trail connections, and special events over the next 10 years and beyond.

We deeply appreciate the opportunity to have worked with you, your staff, and the citizens of Round Rock, and look forward to opportunities to further partner with you for its implementation.

Sincerely,

HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC.

Matt Buochin, AICP, LEED Green Associate
Director of Planning / Austin PLA Team Leader

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Acknowledgments

Playbook 2030: Building a Connected Community was developed by the City of Round Rock Parks and Recreation Department with the technical assistance and design help of Halff Associates, Inc.

A special thanks goes to the many residents, landowners, business owners, and community leaders for their insight and support throughout the duration of this study.

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- Rene Flores, Council Member Place 2
- Matt Baker, Council Member Place 3
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CHAPTER 1

Forward

The City of Round Rock Park and Recreation Department's (PARD) vision is an active, vibrant, and beautiful city with a diversified and quality parks and recreation system that produces economic, health, and social benefits for the entire community. The PARD strive to be the best parks and recreation department in the country by:

- **Linking the community:** The PARD will continue to add to the expansive trail system to link all sectors of Round Rock to each other and neighboring communities.
- **Creating a sense of place:** The PARD will help create a city where residents are proud to live.
- **Sustainable parks and recreation system:** The PARD will create a parks and recreation system that takes care of existing parks and facilities and spends tax dollars wisely.
- **Environmental stewardship:** The PARD will set an example for the residents of Round Rock with resource conservation, preservation of sensitive lands, and environmental education.
- **Equal distribution of resources:** The PARD will diversify the parks and recreation system to provide a variety of parks, experiences, programs, and events and ensure that everyone has equal opportunity to utilize the unique assets.



People dedicated and empowered to create a positive and memorable experience in people's lives.

~ City of Round Rock Parks and Recreation Mission Statement



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CHAPTER 2

Executive Summary

This executive summary will briefly explain the need for parks and recreation in the community, the current state of parks and recreation in Round Rock, the desired state for parks and recreation, and finally the goals of this Plan which will guide the process of moving from the current state into the desired state.

Plan Components:

Chapter 1 - Forward

- Lays the groundwork for this planning effort.

Chapter 2 - Executive Summary

- Highlights key elements from the Plan.

Chapter 3 - Round Rock Today

- Describes the existing condition of the Round Rock parks, recreation, open space, and trails system.

Chapter 4 - Public Input

- Analyzes and summarizes the public engagement process and results.

Chapter 5 - Need Assessment

- Presents a three-tiered analysis of parkland acreage and facility levels of service, opinions voiced by the community, and man-made and natural resources that offer opportunities to expand, diversify, or connect the system.

Chapter 6 - Goals and Recommended Actions

- Presents a series of goals and recommended actions to address the issues of connectivity, community cohesion, sustainability, natural resources and environment, and equity.



“Parks and open space improve our physical and psychological health, strengthen our communities, and make our cities and neighborhoods more attractive places to live and work.”

~ Paul M. Sherer, The Trust for Public Land

Round Rock’s Need for Parks and Recreation

Quality of life is an important factor to the Round Rock community. Quality of life encompasses many areas, including the ability to get good jobs, the ability to get around the City easily, the feeling that the City is a safe place to call home, and the availability of attractive homes and neighborhoods in which to live.

One of the most important aspects of a community’s character is the availability of high quality parks and recreation opportunities in the city. Parks and recreation influence every aspect of our lives. They allow us to experience new activities and encourage us to lead a healthy lifestyle. Attractive parks and natural areas are often the first place that visitors view in a community. Parks provide a very visible reminder of the beauty of the land that people choose to live in. Parks are also one of the most visible elements of a city government at work and can instill a strong sense of pride in the residents of a community. A good park and recreation system lets both residents and visitors know that the leadership of the city is interested in the well being of its citizens.

Purpose of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Round Rock’s original Park and Recreation Master Plan was completed in 2000. The 2000 Plan provided guidance for the City, helping the park system remain viable through a period of considerable change in both Texas and in Round Rock itself. The Master Plan was updated in 2009 (Game Plan 2020: Building an Active Community) to reflect the changing demands of the City. The next decade moving forward will bring new changes and challenges on both a global and local stage. This Plan, Playbook 2030: Building a Connected Community, will be a key guiding tool for City staff and elected and appointed officials during that time.

A good parks and recreation system does not occur randomly, but rather requires a series of orderly steps. It responds to the interests of all citizens it serves. This Plan establishes goals and priorities, and provides an assessment of Round Rock’s park and recreation system in the years 2016-2017. The park and recreation planning process allows the citizens of Round Rock to determine what their preferred park and recreation priorities should be. This Plan:

- Points out deficiencies in the system and recommends alternatives to address and correct those deficiencies;

- Looks at the potential growth of the City over the next five to 10 years, and assesses where additional facilities will be needed as the City grows, and what types of facilities are most needed;
- Guides the City in acquiring land to meet current and future park and open space needs;
- Prioritizes key recommendations of the Plan so that the most significant deficiencies are addressed as quickly as possible; and
- Is intended to guide City staff and leaders in determining where and how parks and recreation funding should be allocated over the next five years.

Map 2.1, Planning Area



Jurisdiction, Planning Area, and Time Frame

The recommendations of this Plan will be considered for implementation by the City of Round Rock. It is intended to cover all of Round Rock as well as the areas included in the City’s current extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ).

The Plan is formulated to address recommendations and priorities for the next 10 years and beyond. Many of the recommendations of the Plan are valid for a period of up to fifteen years, but should be reevaluated periodically. Per planning requirements issued by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan should be completely updated after a ten year period, or before, if any major developments occur which significantly alter the recreation needs of the City. In addition, an annual review workshop by the Round Rock PARD team and other City staff should be conducted to review progress each year. Annual updates by City staff will also be prepared. Updates should be prepared on a more frequent basis if special needs or occurrences require modifications to the Plan. In all cases, public involvement through citizen meetings, interviews, and workshops will be included in any updating process.



Summary of Citywide Strategic Plan, Game On 2060

The City of Round Rock regularly updates its 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.

Round Rock Today

The process of developing a long range parks and recreation master plan includes understanding the size and the characteristics of the population to be served. Round Rock’s parks, trails, and open spaces provide recreation facilities for the citizens of the City, as well as other residents of Williamson County and beyond. Round Rock’s growth over the past decades has been tremendous. The rapid population growth poses a challenge, as simply keeping up with the needs of the growing population will be difficult enough, much less increasing the proportional size of the system.

Round Rock’s growth has been high above the county average over the past 30 years. Round Rock is starting to slow its population growth from the boom it experienced from 1970 to 2000, but the City is not done growing. By the year 2025, Round Rock’s population is projected to increase by approximately 35,000 people to 150,776.

Key Demographic Characteristic Findings

Based on the demographic information, the City of Round Rock’s population is largely young families. This means that the City should focus on offering family events such as Movies in the Park and July 4 Frontier Days Celebration. Youth athletic programs, afterschool care, and camps are needed; however, as the children of Round Rock grow older, a strong teen program focus will be needed in future years. The City should consider offering adult instructional classes or fitness classes at the same time as the children’s programs so that parents can enjoy activities while waiting for their children. Additionally, as the diversity of Round Rock continues to increase, greater cultural programs and events should be offered.

Size of the Park and Recreation System in Round Rock

Currently the Round Rock parks and recreation system includes 197 park sites and amenity centers (City-owned, HOA, MUD, county-owned, etc.) and contains 4,437 acres. City-owned park and amenity sites include only 64 locations and a total of 2,270 acres. Figure 2.1, *Existing Park System in Round Rock*, summarizes the existing park facilities.

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 2.2, *Summary of Key Acreage Needs for 2017 to 2025* (on the following page).

Figure 2.1, Existing Park System in Round Rock

	Overall Area Parks (including Private and Public)	City-Owned Facilities Only
Total Number of Parks	197 Park and Amenity Sites	64 Park and Amenity Sites
Total System Acreage	4,437 acres	2,270 acres
Neighborhood Parks	259 acres	123 acres
Community Parks	312 acres	247 acres
Linear Parks	1293 acres	578 acres
Regional Parks	1,452 acres	641 acres
Metropolitan Park	469 acres	469 acres
Special Purpose Parks	518 acres	212 acres
Amenity Centers	134 acres	2 sites (Clay Madsen Center & Allen R. Baca Center)
School Areas (not included in totals)	510 acres	n/a
Largest Park	Southwest Williamson County Regional Park (811.32 acres)	Old Settlers Park (641.14 acres)
Smallest Park	Water Tower Park (0.19 acres)	Water Tower Park (0.19 acres)
Developed vs. Undeveloped	3,502 acres vs. 935 acres	1,529 acres vs. 740 acres

Figure 2.2, Summary of Key Acreage Needs for 2017 to 2025

Neighborhood Parks

With a large number of private parks filling a substantial portion of the neighborhood parkland need, the City has adequate acreage of neighborhood parks. As additional residential development occurs, it is important that the City continue to encourage integration of homeowner association parks into growth areas. There is also an opportunity to partner with Round Rock ISD to allow school play areas to formally become neighborhood parks and practice fields for the residences in the area outside of school hours.



Metropolitan Parks

Current acreage deficiencies and service area gaps exist for metropolitan parks. At least 110 acres of parks are needed in the near term and an additional 175 acres by 2025. Development of the existing metropolitan parks would help to serve the northwest quadrant of the City. Additional parkland should be located in the northeast, southeast, and southwest quadrants of the City.



Linear Parks

While there is currently adequate acreage of linear parkland in the City, a number of areas remain undeveloped. The City should continue to support development of a citywide trail system through linear parks to create additional access to natural resources and provide key north-south and east-west connectivity,



Community Parks

The City is currently deficient in community parkland. In order to meet current needs, the City should pursue or support development of at least 150 acres of community parkland in the near future and a minimum of another 140 acres by 2025. Current parkland need areas are located northwest of I-35 and FM 620, south of McNeil Road, and in the northeastern portion of the City.



Regional Parks

The current regional parkland is meeting the minimal target level of service. However, by 2025, the City should support development of a minimum of 55 additional acres of regional parkland.



Open Space / Citywide Acreage Needs

In order to move towards the City's vision of preserving 14 percent of the City and ETJ as parks and open space, target acquisition and preservation is needed over the coming years to ensure that sufficient land remains available while the population grows and developed areas expand. The City will need to preserve approximately 1,050 more acres of land by the time it reaches build-out.





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., Behren’s Ranch and Mayfield), and acquisition and development of additional parkland which can meet the needs of residents throughout the community, with emphasis on currently underserved areas. 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, it is recommended the City 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 desires 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 desires 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 PARD 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 PARD has determined the ideal state in which to operate and function as a whole.

In terms of mobility and connectivity, it is recommended Round Rock 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 should 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 should be clearly visible to visitors. The City’s identity should 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 could result 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 be 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 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.



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



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

Summary of Gaps Between the Current State and the Desired State of Round Rock’s Parks and Recreation System

Following previous discussions about the current and desired state of Round Rock’s parks and recreation system, there are several gaps between where the system is now and where it should be. Those gaps are summarized in this section. Goals and recommended actions are presented in Chapter 6 to help guide the PARD team and City elected and appointed officials in achieving components of the desired state.

During the public input process of both the 2009 plan and this Plan, the one amenity that residents of Round Rock consistently wanted was more trails. Even though the City has a number of miles of trails, many of them are interior loop trails within parks. While this is a good start, providing additional connected trails can help to increase use of the system. Use of hike and bike trails is diversifying from traditional recreational use to include use as alternative transportation routes. Developing more interconnected trails throughout Round Rock will increase the mobility of residents, provide connectivity between residences and key destinations, and continue to set Round Rock apart as a bicycle and pedestrian friendly community.

There is also a lack of balance between recreational fields that can be used for league and every day use and the number of tournament quality fields which



Residents have once again voiced a strong desire for an increased trail network.

cater to serving as the Sports Capital of Texas. Round Rock should invest in multipurpose recreational play fields that are intended to be used by the residents of Round Rock. The City should strive to provide spectator amenities at fields to create a comfortable setting for community involvement.

There are currently significant deficits in flat field practice fields and diamond practice fields. The flat field practice fields found on Round Rock ISD school property are not lighted and the time available for leagues and residents to use those fields is limited. Strengthening the partnership with Round Rock ISD so that fields can be used during greater daylight hours when school is not in session is one way to address this deficit. The strengthening of this partnership is discussed in detail at the end of Chapter 5.

Round Rock also lacks sports fields beyond baseball, softball, and soccer that can attract teams and tournaments to the Sports Capital of Texas. The City should develop tournament quality volleyball facilities to attract large-scale tournaments to meet the Sports Capital of Texas goal. Additional facilities to be considered in the future include an adult athletic complex and inclusive athletic fields.

Fitness trends that are increasing across the nation include personal and group training, yoga, outdoor activities, and exercise for weight loss. Round Rock is encouraged to continue offering boot camps, yoga, and low impact aerobics classes. In order to further capitalize on recreation trends, the City is encouraged to consider additional outdoor fitness classes or events and ensure that programs are offered at a time when working adults would be able to participate.

Similar to fitness, extreme sports are gaining in popularity in the United States. The City should consider the possibility of providing an indoor rock wall for climbing and Ultimate Frisbee leagues and tournaments. In addition, public survey respondents indicated that community special events and adult fitness and wellness programs were their top choice for recreational programs. Providing additional adventure races and/or triathlons could provide both special events and fitness opportunities, while also drawing in additional revenue for the PARD.

In terms of parkland desired to meet existing and future target levels of service, Round Rock will need to acquire an additional 500 acres of parkland and open space by the year 2025 and a minimum of 1,050 acres by the time the City reaches its ultimate build-out population. The City is most deficient in community and metropolitan parks. Community parkland is needed northwest of Interstate 35 and FM 620, south of McNeil Road, and in the northeastern portion of the City. Additional metropolitan parks are needed in the northeast, southeast, and southwest sectors of the City and the existing metropolitan parks in the northwest sector should be developed in order to truly provide diversified recreational opportunities to residents in that area. Lastly, to move towards the City’s vision of preserving 14 percent of the City and ETJ as parks and open space, target acquisition and preservation is needed over the coming years. Preservation of the remaining floodplain is recommended to serve as greenbelt corridors, where feasible.

There are also some gaps in terms of facilities between the current state and the desired state. The rental facilities at Kinningham are in need of significant renovation and are unavailable for rentals until repairs are made. The rental area and surrounding support facilities at Lakeview Pavilion in Old Settlers Park are vastly undersized to accommodate the large events, corporate gatherings, and 5K races held there on a regular basis. Upgrading and expanding the pavilion, restroom facility, and parking area should be considered in the near future. Constructing a Teen Center was identified as a desire as part of the Game On 2060 Plan. Finally, there is no large amphitheater in Round Rock that can accommodate performances for over 1,000 people.



Summary of Goals of the Strategic Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Goal #1: Link the Community

One of the highest needs in the City, as demonstrated by surveys and open house responses, is the addition of more trails. As part of Round Rock’s desire to have mobility and connectivity, the City should provide an open space system which links parks, schools, greenbelts, neighborhoods, places of employment, retail shops, restaurants, and open spaces.

Goal #2: Community Cohesion – Creating a Sense of Place

Round Rock is a place people can feel proud to live. It is the goal of the PARD to foster that positive emotional attachment to the City by continuing projects and programs that make Round Rock special and unique.

Goal #3: Sustainable Park and Recreation System

Creating a sustainable parks and recreation system means providing diverse and attractive parks and greenways that enhance the quality of life in Round Rock while also increasing the economic vitality of the community. More than that, it is ensuring the long-term sustainability of the park and recreation system for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations by utilizing residents’ dollars in a fiscally responsible way and maximizing the return on investment.

Goal #4: Environmental Stewardship

The PARD should continue efforts to be good stewards of the environment. Through landscape management and maintenance decisions, natural resource preservation, and outdoor education, the PARD can continue to conserve, protect, and enhance the community’s environmentally and culturally sensitive areas.

Goal #5: Equity – Distribution of Resources

The PARD’s mission statement is to create positive and memorable experiences in people’s lives. In order to fulfill this mission statement, PARD should ensure equitable distribution of resources to all members of the community. Equity is one of the most important goals a parks and recreation department can have because it encompasses many facets of recreation. Parks and recreation equity includes, but is not limited to, providing easy access to recreational facilities and programs, offering varying types of facilities and programs, ensuring affordable access to programming, providing inclusiveness in facilities and programming, and designing facilities and programs intended for all demographics. Equity is about providing the same level of service to all residents of the community regardless of age, income level, ability level, or geographical location.



The City’s Repair and Replacement program is intended to help maintain the parks and recreation facilities throughout their lifespan of heavy use.



Preservation of environmentally sensitive corridors, such as floodplains, greenbelts, and areas with cultural significance is one of the ways PARD continues to be a good steward of the environment.



An additional recreation center is desired in the northern portion of the City to ensure that all residents have convenient access to a facility.

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CHAPTER 3

Round Rock Today

In order to understand what recommendations are needed to take the City of Round Rock's parks and recreation system into the future, it is important to understand the current state of the Parks and Recreation Department (PAR) and the City as a whole. This chapter will discuss the characteristics that make Round Rock unique and explore how those factors have shaped, and will continue to shape, the future of the PAR.

This chapter will explain the purpose of a parks and open space inventory, as well as examine the current state of Round Rock's parks and recreation system. It will discuss typical amenities found in different park types, as well as consider the service areas for each type of parkland. A breakdown of the current trail system will also be included in this discussion.

Finally, this chapter will discuss the economic benefits of parks and recreation and specifically the parks and recreation in Round Rock. It will explain the proximity principle and how parks and trails increase property values across the City.



Take a quiet walk with Mother Nature. It will nurture your mind, body, and soul.

~ Anthony Douglas Williams



“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”

Eleanor Roosevelt

Round Rock’s Need for Parks and Recreation

Quality of life is an important factor to the Round Rock community. Quality of life encompasses many areas, including the ability to get good jobs, the ability to get around the City easily, the feeling that the City is a safe place to call home, and the availability of attractive homes and neighborhoods in which to live.

One of the most important aspects of a community’s character is the availability of high quality parks and recreation opportunities in the city. Parks and recreation influence many aspects of our lives. They allow us to experience new activities and encourage us to lead a healthy lifestyle. Attractive parks and natural areas are often the first place that visitors view in a community. Parks provide a visible reminder of the beauty of the land that people choose to live in. Parks are also one of the most visible elements of a city government at work and can instill a strong sense of pride in the residents of a community. A good park and recreation system lets both residents and visitors know that the leadership of the city is interested in the well being of its citizens.

Purpose of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Round Rock’s original Park and Recreation Master Plan was completed in 2000. The 2000 Plan provided guidance for the City, helping the park system remain viable through a period of considerable change in both Texas and in Round Rock itself. The Master Plan was updated in 2009 (Game Plan 2020: Building an Active Community) to reflect the changing demands of the City. The next decade moving forward will bring new changes and challenges on both a global and local stage. This Plan will be a key guiding tool for City staff and elected and appointed officials during that time.

A good parks and recreation system does not occur randomly, but rather requires a series of orderly steps. It responds to the interests of the citizens it serves. This Plan establishes goals and priorities, and provides an assessment of Round Rock’s park and recreation system in the years 2016-2017. The park and recreation planning process allows the citizens of Round Rock to determine what their preferred park and recreation priorities should be. This Plan:

- Points out deficiencies in the system and recommends alternatives to address and correct those deficiencies;

- Looks at the potential growth of the City over the next five to 10 years, and assesses where additional facilities will be needed as the City grows, and what types of facilities are most desired;
- Guides the City in acquiring land to meet current and future park and open space needs;
- Prioritizes key recommendations of the Plan so that the most significant deficiencies are addressed as quickly as possible; and
- Is intended to guide City staff and leaders in determining where and how parks and recreation funding should be allocated over the next five years.

This will be the “playbook” for the next 10 years to continue Round Rock’s park and recreation system as one of the best in Texas.

Game Plan 2020: Building an Active Community

In 2009, the City’s *Game Plan 2020: Building an Active Community* was created as a strategic Parks and Recreation Master Plan to provide a framework for future development with consideration of the rapidly growing population in the area. The plan outlined the goals for the community and made recommendations about current and future parks, recreation, and open space development.

GOALS OF THE 2009 PARK AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN:

- As part of Round Rock’s desire to have mobility and connectivity, provide an open space system which links parks, schools, greenbelts, neighborhoods, places of employment, retail shops, restaurants, and open spaces.
- Provide parkland and a variety of recreation facilities and programs to meet the changing recreational needs and desires of the City of Round Rock’s population.
- Create a park and recreation system that will improve the physical form and image of the City of Round Rock.
- As part of Round Rock’s environmental stewardship, preserve and protect open space, cultural landscapes and natural resources, especially areas with topography change, indigenous tree cover, prairie land, and land prone to flooding within City limits and its ETJ lands.
- Continue to maintain all of the Round Rock parks and recreational facilities in a superior condition and sustainable manner.



- Coordinate multi-jurisdictional efforts with adjacent cities and the local school district with respect to issues that affect recreational opportunities in the community.
- Develop other funding mechanisms to help supplement the City's limited funding resources.
- Include citizen participation process in all ongoing park and recreation planning and design, as well as updating of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

In addition to the goals outlined by the plan, several recommendations were provided to help PARD reach those goals. A highlight of these recommendations and their status can be found in Figure 3.1, *Status of 2009 Parks and Recreation Recommendations*.

Figure 3.1, Status of 2009 Parks and Recreation Recommendations

Recommendation	Status	Details
Develop Downtown Area Trails	Partially complete	Heritage Trail and Lake Creek Trail - Funded and under design, Lake Creek Park Trail - Complete.
Trails from Downtown to the University Area	Planned	10' parkway trail planned along A.W. Grimes Blvd. and Kenney Fort Blvd. from Brushy Creek Trail through University Area.
Brushy Creek Trail - Hairy Man Rd. to Memorial Park	Funded and under design	Funded in 2013 Williamson County Bond Election. Currently under design.
Trail Connecting Old Settlers Park to Brushy Creek Trail	Partially complete	10' parkway trail along Kenney Fort Blvd. ends just south of Old Settlers Park. Extension to be completed in future phase of roadway.
Trail from CMRC to Dell	Partially complete	Kensington Park Trail renovated in 2012; ends at edge of Dell campus.
Mayfield Park Nature Trails	On-going	Master plan complete. Awaiting future funding.
Behrens Ranch Nature Trails	No Progress	Master plan complete. Awaiting future funding.
Heritage Trail Linear Park	Funded and under design	Funded by 2013 GO Bonds. Currently under design. Estimated opening 2019.
Downtown Plaza Park	Partially complete	Prete Main Street Plaza and Centennial Plaza complete. Larger downtown park planned with Heritage Trail.
Art in Parks and Public Places	Complete / on-going	Numerous art pieces in Prete Plaza, Centennial Plaza, Chisholm Trail Crossing Park, and along Main Street. Work closely with Arts Director to rotate and add art pieces in parks and public spaces.
Freeman Tract Open Space	Complete	Park acquired as part of Forest Grove Development. Opened in 2015.
Northeast Metropolitan Park and Lake	No progress	
Hairy Man Rd. / Brushy Creek Property	Underway	Parkland to be partially acquired with development of Williamson County Brushy Creek Trail Project.
Mayfield Park	Planned, no funding	Park master plan complete. No funding allocated at this time.
Brushy Creek / 620 West Corridor	Underway	Parkland to be acquired with development of Brushy Creek Trail Project (Williamson County) and Heritage Trail Project.
Old Settlers Parkland	Complete	75 acres at northwest corner of Old Settlers Park acquired in 2012.
Meadow Lake Park	Partially complete	Northwest side of lake developed in 2009/10. Additional improvements to southwest side of lake planned for 2016. North edge of lake to be acquired as part of Avery Center development. East side of lake still under private ownership. Connection of north and south sites by private development 2017/2018.
Southeast and Southwest Community Park	No progress	
Play for All Abilities Park	Complete and on-going	Park opened in 2012. Expansion completed in late 2017.
Old Settlers Multipurpose Field Complex	Under construction	Complex to opened in 2017.
Rock'N River Expansion	Complete and on-going	Phase 2 opened in 2016, Phase 3 and 4 planned but no funding allocated.
Develop Northside Recreation Center	No progress	
West Side Athletic Park	No progress	

Jurisdiction and Planning Area

The recommendations of this Plan will be considered for implementation by the City of Round Rock. It is intended to cover all of Round Rock as well as the areas included in the City's current extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ).

Planning Areas

The planning area has been divided into four main sectors: Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, and Southwest. Interstate 35 was used as the divider between east and west. Brushy Creek was the divider between north and south. A map of the planning sectors is shown to the right.

Role of the City of Round Rock in Providing Recreation Opportunities

Round Rock is the primary governmental entity charged with providing recreational facilities for the citizens of Round Rock. Ancillary recreational facilities are provided by the Round Rock Independent School District (RRISD) on many school campuses, homeowner associations (HOAs), municipal utility districts (MUDs), the YMCA, and by Williamson County Parks. The role of HOAs is becoming increasingly important, as they have generally begun providing neighborhood parks as new developments are built.

Parks and Recreation Master Plan Time Frame

The Plan is formulated to address recommendations and priorities for the next 10 years and beyond.

Many of the recommendations of the Plan are valid for a period of up to fifteen years, but should be reevaluated periodically. Per planning requirements issued by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan should be completely updated after a ten year period, or before, if any major developments occur which significantly alter the recreation needs of the City. In addition, an annual review workshop by the Round Rock PARD team and other City staff should be conducted to review progress each year. Annual updates by City staff will also be prepared. Updates should be prepared on a more frequent basis if special needs or occurrences require modifications to the Plan. In all cases, public involvement through citizen meetings, interviews, and workshops will be included in any updating process.

Map 3.1, Planning Sectors



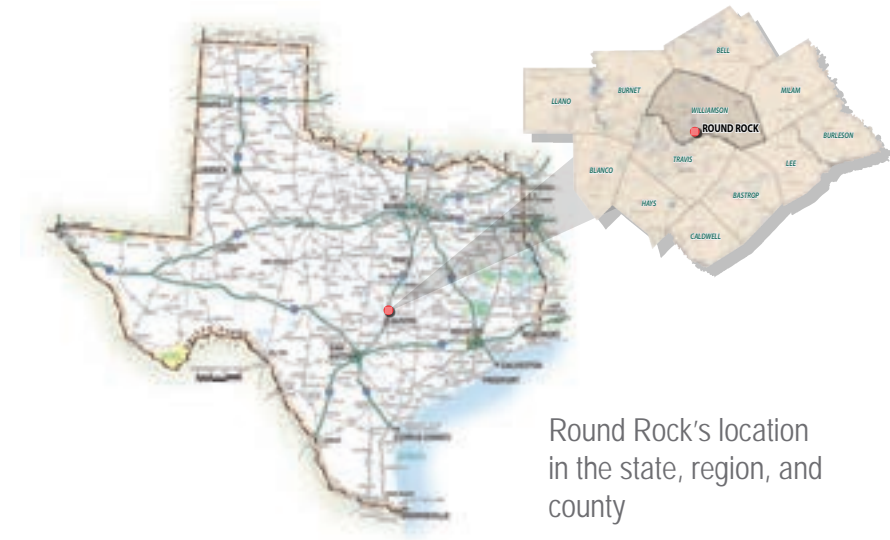


Round Rock’s History

Round Rock is located within Williamson County in the Texas Hill Country and is just 16 miles north of Austin, Texas. In 1851, a small community was established on the northern banks of Brushy Creek, where a blacksmith named Jacob M. Harrell set up his shop. The community was formed near a large “round rock” located in the middle of Brushy Creek, the town’s namesake. The rock is located in a low water crossing in the middle of Brushy Creek which was used as a crossing for the Chisholm Trail to move cattle from South Texas to Abilene, Kansas. Many of the original buildings located along the trail are still currently located within the historic area of Round Rock which is now referred to as Old Town.

In 1876, the International-Great Northern Railroad was built through Williamson County and laid just east of Round Rock. The City then began to move in a new direction creating a “new” and “old” Round Rock. The town began to prosper due to the railroad and attracted the outlaw Sam Bass. In 1878, he was captured and died after a shoot-out occurred in Downtown Round Rock.

During the first six decades of the 20th century, Round Rock had a population between 1,000 and 1,400 people. During the 1970s, the City began to experience dramatic growth. Nearby, the City of Austin began to expand northward towards the City, which brought large scale development to Round Rock. The population grew from 2,811 to 12,740 between 1970 and 1980. With the addition of computer-related industries and the increase in retail businesses during the 1980s, Round Rock’s population grew more than two and a half times its size to 30,923 by 1990. The population again grew dramatically between 1990 and 2000 as more industries made their home in Round Rock and ultimately surpassed 115,000 by 2015.



Round Rock’s location in the state, region, and county

The Economy of Round Rock

Many of the early settlers of Round Rock were attracted to the area because of Brushy Creek. Agriculture was a large part of the early economy; however, many of the settlers coming north from Austin brought trades with them. Industries such as gristmills, gins, wood-carving factories, lime plants, and a broom factory were all part of Round Rock’s early economic development.

In 1876, the International-Great Northern Railroad was built just south and east of Round Rock. The City then began developing more towards that region. Hotels, newspapers, and professional offices sprung up in Round Rock within the first year that the railroad was in operation. In 1879, the Round Rock Searchlight Newspaper was established and is still in operation, now known as the Round Rock Leader. Major businesses of the early 20th century included Trinity Lutheran College and the Round Rock Cheese Factory.

Little growth and economic development occurred in Round Rock in the early 20th century. It was not until the 1960s that this changed. The nearby City of Austin was experiencing tremendous growth, and people were beginning to move to the suburbs, such as Round Rock. As shown in Figure 3.3, the population of Round Rock grew substantially from 1980 to 2000. Because of the growth in population, Round Rock became an ideal location for businesses and industries. In the 1980s, Round Rock became the headquarters for Dell, Inc. Round Rock’s economy is now highly dependent on the creative class and technology based business. A list of major employers is shown in Figure 3.2, *Major Employers of Round Rock*.

Figure 3.2, Major Employers of Round Rock

Employer	# of Employees
Dell	12,000
Emerson Automation Solutions	875
Round Rock Premium Outlets	800
Scott & White Healthcare	750
St. David’s Round Rock Medical Center	689
Shop LC	600
Sears Teleserv	600
Wayne	550
Trellis Company	485
Seton Medical Center Williamson	450
Assurant Field Asset Services	440
ProPortion Foods	380
AirCo Mechanical	375

Source: Round Rock Chamber - 2018

Round Rock’s Population

The process of developing a long range parks and recreation master plan includes understanding the size and the characteristics of the population to be served. Round Rock’s parks, trails, and open spaces provide recreation facilities for the citizens of the City, as well as other residents of Williamson County. Round Rock’s growth over the past decades has been tremendous. The rapid population growth poses a challenge, as simply keeping up with the needs of the growing population will be difficult enough, much less increasing the proportional size of the system.

Figure 3.3, *Historical Population Growth*, shows that Round Rock’s growth has been high above the county average over the past 30 years. Round Rock is starting to slow its population growth from the boom it experienced from 1970 to 2000. However, the City is not done growing. By the year 2025, Round Rock is projected to have a population of 150,776 as shown in Figure 3.4, *Population Projections for Round Rock*.

Figure 3.3, Historical Population Growth

Year	Round Rock		Williamson County	
	Population	% Growth	Population	% Growth
1980	12,740	-	76,524	-
1990	30,923	143%	139,551	82%
2000	61,136	98%	249,967	79%
2010	99,887	63%	422,679	69%
2014	112,196	12%	489,250	16%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 5-yr American Community Survey, S0101 Age and Sex

Figure 3.4, Population Projections for Round Rock

Year	Population	% Growth
2010	99,887	-
2015	115,567	15.7%
2020	133,264	15.3%
2025	150,776	13.1%
Build-Out	300,000 +/-	99.0%

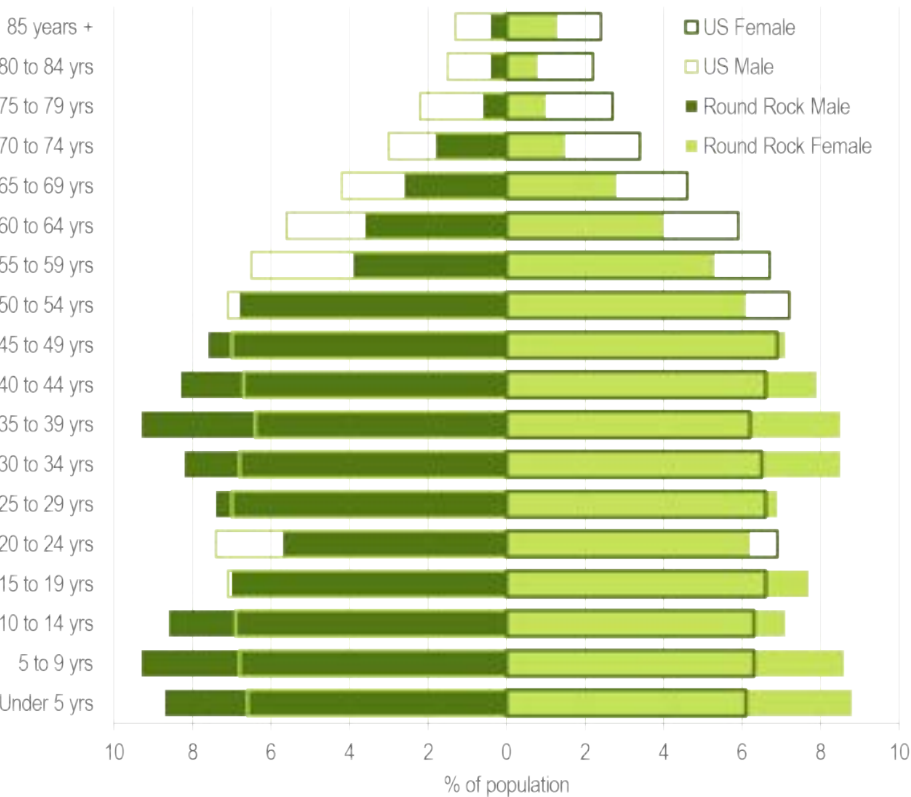
Source: Round Rock Planning Department

Demographic Characteristics

Key demographic characteristics include age, race and ethnicity, income, and educational attainment.

Age - The population of Round Rock is younger than the United States as a whole. Round Rock has a higher amount of younger residents and working families than the national average with the greatest percent of population being 14 and under and ages 25 to 49 (see Figure 3.5, *Age Characteristics of Round Rock and United States*). As the population ages, the City will need to be prepared to provide age-appropriate recreation opportunities.

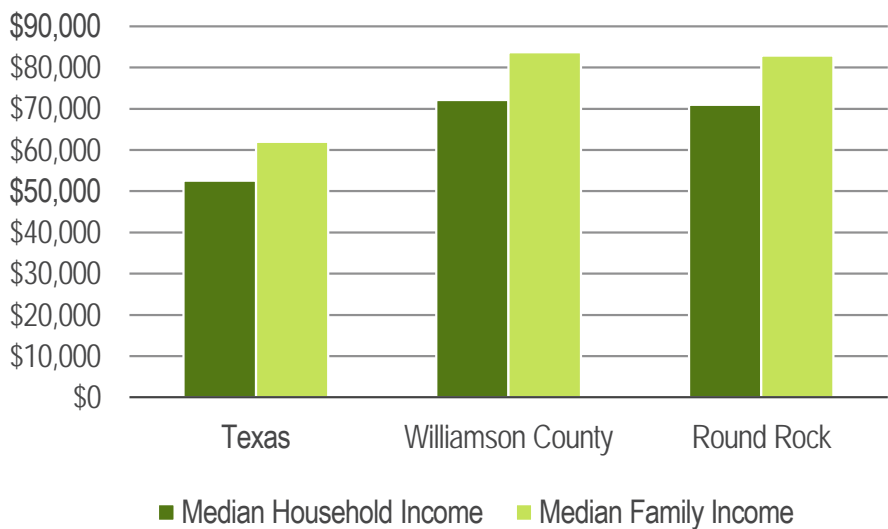
Figure 3.5, Age Characteristics of Round Rock and United States



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 5-yr American Community Survey, S0101 Age and Sex

Income Level and Education - The income level of the residents of Round Rock is relatively high with the median household income being \$70,952 as shown Figure 3.6, *Median Household and Family Income*. This is high given the young population of Round Rock. However, as shown in Figure 3.7, *Educational Attainment*, nearly 40 percent of the population has attained a bachelors or higher graduate degree, which is well over the state of Texas average.

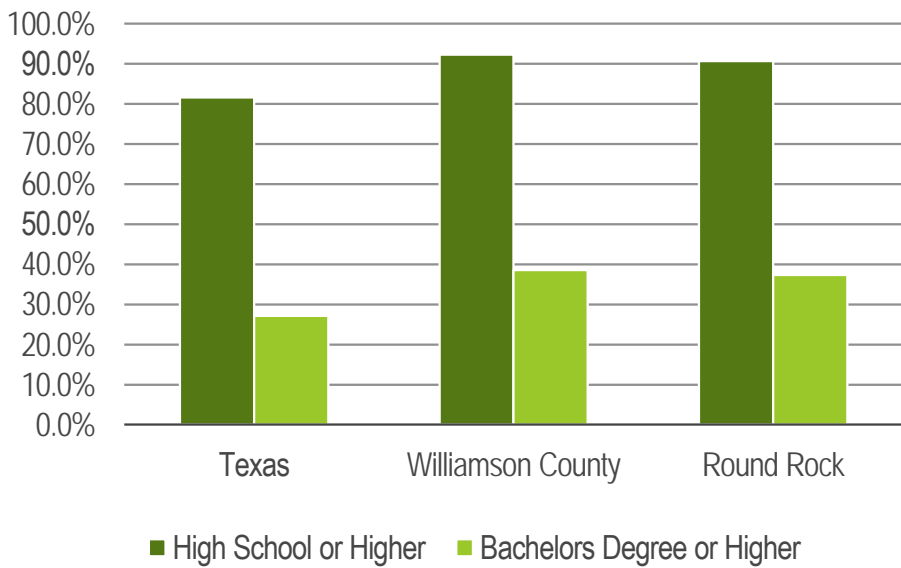
Figure 3.6, Median Household and Family Income



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 5-yr American Community Survey, DP03: Selected Economic Characteristics

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, household income includes income from the householder and all other people (whether or not they are related) who are 15 years or older living in the same housing unit. Family income includes income from two or more people related by birth, marriage, or adoption who are residing together.

Figure 3.7, Educational Attainment



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 5-yr American Community Survey, S1501: Educational Attainment

Race & Ethnicity - The population of Round Rock is predominately white, but is becoming more diverse. When compared to the population of Williamson County, Round Rock is home to more minority ethnic groups as shown in Figure 3.8, *Race and Ethnicity*.

Figure 3.8, Race and Ethnicity

Race & Ethnicity	Williamson County	Round Rock
White	82.6%	78.9%
Black or African American	6.3%	9.4%
American Indian & Alaskan Native	0.3%	0.5%
Asian	5.2%	5.3%
Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.1%
Other	2.4%	2.5%
Two or More Races	3.1%	3.3%
Hispanic or Latino Decent	23.6%	29.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 5-yr American Community Survey, DP05: ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates

Key Demographic Characteristic Findings

Based on the demographic information, the City of Round Rock's population is largely young families. This means the City should focus on offering family events such as Movies in the Park and July 4 Frontier Days Celebration. Youth athletic programs, afterschool care, and camps are needed; however, as the children of Round Rock grow older, a strong teen program focus will be of growing importance in future years. The City should consider offering adult instructional classes or fitness classes at the same time as the children's programs so that parents can enjoy activities while waiting for their children. Additionally, as the diversity of Round Rock continues to increase, greater cultural programs and events should be offered.



Purpose of the Existing Parks and Open Space Inventory

Round Rock has an established network of both neighborhood and larger community park facilities. These parks are well placed within the neighborhoods they serve and are well maintained. However, population shifts within the City over time have resulted in some areas having a significant number of parks, while other areas have few or no parks. A key part of the park and recreation planning process is to understand what parks, recreation buildings, trails, and open space facilities are currently available. The process also evaluates the current condition of those facilities to assess whether or not they are addressing the current park and recreation desires of the community. This inventory serves as the foundation for the needs assessment for new or improved recreational facilities.

Components of the Existing Parks Inventory

This inventory of existing parks reviews several aspects of each park in the Round Rock system. These include:

- **Classification:** What is the purpose of a given park? Is it intended to serve a local neighborhood around it, giving children and young adults a place to play? Is it intended to serve a much larger population, providing fields for organized league play? This determines whether a park should be classified as a neighborhood, community, metropolitan, regional, special purpose, or linear park. Key issues that are analyzed include:
 - **Location:** Where is the park located in relation to the population that it serves? Is it accessible?
 - **Service area:** What are the limits of the area served by each park? Are there any major thoroughfares or physical features that create barriers to accessing the park?
 - **Size of the park:** How big is the park? Is it large enough to adequately accomplish its intended purpose?
- **Facilities in each park:** What does the park contain? Are the facilities appropriate for the type of park?
- **Layout:** Is the arrangement of facilities in each park appropriate?
- **Condition of the park:** What is the general condition of the facilities in each park?
- **Special considerations:** Does the park provide facilities for people with disabilities that meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act?

Park Types and Standards Included in the Round Rock Parks and Recreation System

Neighborhood Parks

In Round Rock, as in most cities, neighborhood parks should provide the foundation for recreation. Ideally, they provide facilities and recreation space for the entire family and are within easy walking or bicycling distance of the people they serve. **In Round Rock, much of the neighborhood park need is fulfilled by homeowner associations that own and operate private parks for the residents of those neighborhoods.** This is largely due to the rapid growth of single family housing over the past 15 years.

A neighborhood park typically serves one large or several smaller neighborhoods. The typical neighborhood park in Round Rock, generally three to 10 acres in size, should serve no more than 2,000 to 4,000 residents per park.

- Neighborhood parks should be accessible to residents who live within a one-half mile radius of the park. In some areas of the City, a smaller quarter-mile service radius may be more appropriate.
- Neighborhood parks are frequently located adjacent to elementary schools, so as to share acquisition and development costs with the school district. In the future, where possible, new neighborhood parks should be planned and developed in close coordination with the Round Rock ISD. This can result in significant cost savings and more efficient use of tax dollars by the City, the county, and the school district.
- Neighborhood parks are generally located away from major arterial streets and provide easy access for the users that surround it. A neighborhood park should be accessible without having to cross major arterial streets.

Size - The size of a neighborhood park may vary considerably due to physical locations around the park. An ideal size for neighborhood parks should be around three to five acres. However, parks may range in size from less than one acre to over 20 acres and are classified based on the amenities provided and population served.

Location - If possible, neighborhood parks should be centrally located in the neighborhood or neighborhoods they serve. An ideal location, for example, is adjacent to an elementary school. The park should be accessible to pedestrian traffic from all parts of the area served and should be located adjacent to local or minor collector streets which do not allow high-speed traffic. Many cities require neighborhood parks have streets on at least two sides of the park.

Facilities - Facilities located in neighborhood parks may include the following:

- Age appropriate playground equipment with adequate safety surfacing around the playground
- Unlighted practice fields for baseball, soccer, and football
- Unlighted tennis courts
- Lighted or unlighted multi-purpose courts for basketball and volleyball
- Active areas for unorganized play
- Picnic areas with benches, picnic tables, and cooking grills
- Shaded pavilions and gazebos
- Jogging and exercise trails

Restrooms are typically not placed in neighborhood parks because they increase maintenance and provide a location for illegal activities.

Parking – Neighborhood parks should have on-street parking only.

See Figure 3.10, *Public Neighborhood Park and Recreation Facilities* and Figure 3.11, *Private Neighborhood Park and Recreation Facilities* for a listing of neighborhood parks in Round Rock.



Community Parks

Community parks are larger parks that serve a group of neighborhoods or a portion of a city. Community parks are usually reached by automobiles, although residents adjacent to the park and trail users may walk or ride a bicycle to it. A variety of recreational facilities are provided, including in some cases, lighted playing fields for organized sports, hike and bike trails, and sufficient parking to accommodate participants, spectators, and other park users. The park facilities at Lake Creek Park and Round Rock West Park are ideal examples of community park facilities.

Size - The typical community park should be large enough to provide a variety of facilities while still leaving open space for unstructured recreation and natural areas. The park should also have room for expansion, as new facilities are required. A typical community park varies in size from 10 acres to over 50 acres.

Location – Community parks should be located near a major thoroughfare to provide easy access from different parts of the City. Because of the potential for noise and bright lights at night, community parks should be buffered from adjacent residential areas.

Facilities - Facilities generally located in community parks may include:

- Play equipment
- Active free play areas
- Picnic areas and pavilion(s)
- Restrooms
- Jogging, bicycle, or nature trails
- Lighted or unlighted athletic fields and courts
- Sufficient off-street parking based on facilities provided and size of park
- Security lighting
- Other facilities, as needed, which can take advantage of the unique characteristics of the site, such as nature trails, fishing ponds, swimming pools, amphitheaters, etc.

Parking - This varies based on the facilities provided and the size of park. The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) recommends a minimum of five spaces per acre, plus additional parking for specific facilities within the park, such as pools or ball fields. The specific amount of parking provided in each park should be determined by the facilities provided in that park.

See Figure 3.12, *Public and Private Community Park and Recreation Facilities* for a listing of community parks in Round Rock.





Metropolitan Parks

Metropolitan parks are large parks that serve an entire sector of the City. Metropolitan parks are reached by automobiles, although residents adjacent to the park and trail users may walk or ride a bicycle to it. Similar to community parks, a metropolitan park will offer a variety of recreational facilities including lighted playing fields for organized sports, hike and bike trails, and sufficient parking to accommodate participants, spectators, and other park users.

Size - The typical metropolitan park should be large enough to provide a variety of facilities while still leaving open space for unstructured recreation, natural areas, and passive recreation. The park should also have room for expansion, as new facilities are required. A typical metropolitan park varies in size from 100 acres to over 250 acres.

Location – Metropolitan parks should be located near a major thoroughfare to provide easy access from different parts of the City.

Facilities - Facilities generally located in metropolitan parks may include:

- Play equipment
- Active free play areas
- Picnic areas and pavilion(s)
- Restrooms
- Jogging, bicycle, or nature trails, sometimes lighted for evening use
- Lighted ball fields, suitable for organized competitive events
- Recreation center (if appropriate)
- Sufficient off-street parking based on facilities provided and size of park
- Security lighting
- Multi-purpose recreation fields
- Other facilities, as needed, which can take advantage of the unique characteristics of the site, such as nature trails, fishing ponds, swimming pools, amphitheaters, etc.

Parking - This varies based on the facilities provided and the size of park. Similar to a community park, it is recommended that there be a minimum of five spaces per acre, plus additional parking for specific facilities within the park such as pools or ball fields. The specific amount of parking provided in each park should be determined by the facilities provided in that park.

See Figure 3.13, *Public and Private Metropolitan and Regional Park and Recreation Facilities* for a listing of metropolitan parks in Round Rock.



Regional Parks

Regional parks are massive parks that serve an entire region and cater to people beyond the City. Regional parks are reached by automobiles, although nearby residents and trail users may walk or ride a bicycle to it. Round Rock has two regional parks: Old Settlers Park and the Southwest Williamson County Regional Park (within the ETJ) .

Size - The typical regional park is more than 300 acres in size. Both of the regional parks in Round Rock are more than 500 acres in size.

Location – Because these parks require a great amount of land, they are often located outside of a city's limits or in the ETJ of a city. Therefore, it is necessary that the park is located adjacent to major thoroughfares to ensure people can adequately reach the park site.

Facilities - Facilities generally located in regional parks may include:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| ■ Play equipment | ■ Equestrian trails |
| ■ Active free play areas | ■ Observatory |
| ■ Picnic areas and pavilion(s) | ■ Botanical gardens |
| ■ Restrooms | ■ Veloway |
| ■ Jogging, bicycle or nature trails, sometimes lighted for evening use | ■ Dog park |
| ■ Lighted ball fields, suitable for organized competitive events | ■ Canoe rentals / paddle boat rentals |
| ■ Recreation center (if appropriate) | ■ Putt putt golf |
| ■ Security lighting | ■ Disc golf |
| ■ Multi-purpose recreational fields | ■ BMX course |
| ■ Fishing ponds, where feasible | ■ Sculpture garden |
| ■ Amphitheaters | ■ Aquatic complex |
| | ■ Preserved open space |

Parking - It is recommended there be a minimum of five spaces per acre, plus additional parking for specific facilities within the park such as pools or ball fields. The specific amount of parking provided in each park should be determined by the facilities provided in that park.

See Figure 3.13, *Public and Private Metropolitan and Regional Park and Recreation Facilities* for a listing of regional parks in Round Rock.

Linear Parks/Linkages

Linear parks are open park areas that generally follow a natural or man-made feature that is linear in nature, such as creeks, abandoned railroad rights-of-way, power line corridors, or utility corridor easements. In Round Rock, most of the linear park corridors are along natural drainage ways. Properly developed to facilitate pedestrian and bicycle travel, these parks can serve to link or connect other parks in the local system, as well as schools, neighborhood shopping, libraries, and other major destinations. No specific standards apply to linear/linkage parks other than the park should be large enough to adequately accommodate the resources they contain. They should also serve to help preserve open space.

See Figure 3.14, *Public Linear Park and Recreation Facilities* and Figure 3.15, *Private Linear Park and Recreation Facilities* for a listing of linear parks in Round Rock.

Special Purpose Parks

Special purpose parks are designed to accommodate specialized recreational activities. Because the facility needs for each activity type are different, each special purpose park usually provides for one or a few activities. Examples of special purpose parks include:

- Golf courses
- Athletic fields or complexes
- Nature centers or large natural preserves
- Swimming pool centers
- Tennis complexes

Athletic complexes and golf courses are the most common types of special purpose parks. Athletic complexes seek to provide fields for organized play in a location that can accommodate the traffic and noise that a large number of users can generate. Athletic complexes should include sufficient fields so that leagues can congregate at one facility and not have to spread out in different locations.

See Figure 3.16, *Public and Private Special Purpose Park and Recreation Facilities* for a listing of special purpose parks in Round Rock.

Size of the Park and Recreation System in Round Rock

Currently the Round Rock parks and recreation system includes 197 park sites and amenity centers (City-owned, HOA, MUD, county-owned, etc.) and contains 4,437 acres. City-owned park and amenity sites include only 64 locations and a total of 2,270 acres. Figure 3.9, *Existing Park System in Round Rock*, summarizes the existing park facilities. Map 3.2, *Existing Parks System*, illustrates distribution of parkland throughout the City and ETJ. The numbered parks on the map represent public parks and are cross-referenced on the follow-up figures which summarize the details of the parks and recreation system inventory.

Figure 3.9, Existing Park System in Round Rock

	Overall Area Parks (including Private and Public)	City-Owned Facilities Only
Total Number of Parks	197 Park and Amenity Sites	63 Park and Amenity Sites
Total System Acreage	4,437 acres	2,270 acres
Neighborhood Parks	259 acres	123 acres
Community Parks	312 acres	247 acres
Linear Parks	1293 acres	578 acres
Regional Parks	1,452 acres	641 acres
Metropolitan Park	469 acres	469 acres
Special Purpose Parks	518 acres	212 acres
Amenity Centers	134 acres	2 sites (Clay Madsen Center & Allen R. Baca Center)
School Areas (not included in totals)	510 acres	n/a
Largest Park	Southwest Williamson County Regional Park (811.32 acres)	Old Settlers Park (641.14 acres)
Smallest Park	Water Tower Park (0.19 acres)	Water Tower Park (0.19 acres)
Developed vs. Undeveloped	3,502 acres vs. 935 acres	1,529 acres vs. 740 acres



Micki Krebsbach Pool and Forest Creek Golf Course are examples of a Special Purpose Parks in Round Rock.

Map 3.2, Existing Parks System



Figure 3.10, Public Neighborhood Park and Recreation Facilities

Map Number	Page	Park Name	Overall Acreage		Address	Sector	Subdivision	Owner	Trail Distance	Backstop	Practice Field	Basketball Court	Playscape	Recreation Center	Football Field	Soccer Field	Baseball Field	Softball Field	Tennis Court	Multi-purpose Court	Volleyball Court	Skate Park	Shuffleboard	Cricket	Dog Park	Remote Control Airplanes	Exercise Station	Disc Golf Course	Swimming Pool	Kiddie Swimming Pool	Spray Grounds	Festival Area	Pavilion	Benches	Picnic Table	BBQ Grills	Drinking Fountain	Water Feature / Pond	Parking	Restroom Building	
		Neighborhood Parks	Und.	Dev.					←←←←←←←←←←←←←←←←←←←←←←Active Facilities→→→→→→→→→→→→→→→→→→→→→→→																		Aquatics		←←Passive Facilities→→						Infrastructure						
City Owned																																									
1	B.2	Bowman		8.54	950 E. Bowman Road	NE	Sunrise Vista	CORR	0.30				1																					2					X		
2	B.2	Bradford		4.13	2615 Andres Way	SE	Bradford Park	CORR	0.30				1																					4	2	2	1	1			
3	B.3	Chisholm Valley		3.17	1201 Trey Street	SW	Chisholm Valley	CORR	0.29	1			1																			1	6	7	2	1					
4	B.3	Frontier		6.97	1804 Frontier Trail	SW	Chisholm Valley West	CORR	0.34	1	1	1	1						2													1		1	1	1					
5	B.4	Greenhill		0.62	1825 Nicole Circle	NE	Greenhill	CORR					1																					3	3						
6	B.4	Hidden Glen	18.59		845 Hidden Glen Drive	NW	Hidden Glen	CORR																																	
7	B.5	High Country		10.15	2910 Flower Hill Drive	SE	Flower Hill	CORR	0.36			1	1																				1	2	3	1		X			
8	B.5	Lake Forest	9.53		2790 Lake Forest Drive	SE	Lake Forest	CORR																																	
9	B.6	Mesa Village		3.06	1401 Georgetown Street	NE	Mesa Park	CORR	0.39	2	1		1																				1	6	8	4	1				
10	B.6	Rock Hollow		12.42	1415 Apollo Circle	NE	Rhodes	CORR	0.49				2																					2	4	2		2			
11	B.7	Settlement		2.50	1401 David Curry Loop	NE	The Settlement	CORR	0.13			1	1																			1	1	1	1		1				
12	B.7	Somerset		9.62	1814 Taron Cove	NW	Somerset	CORR	0.21				1																			1		3	3			X			
13	B.8	Stark		5.18	1409 Provident Lane	NE	Mesa Ridge	CORR			1								2																						
14	B.8	Stella		2.62	803 Nancy Drive	NE	Eggers Acres	CORR	0.27	1	1		1																			1		4	1	1					
15	B.9	University Village Park		25.64	Sandy Brook Drive	NE	Stoney Brook	CORR	0.20																									4	1			1			
		Total	28.12	94.61					3.30	5	4	3	12	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	26	36	22	6	5	3	0	

Figure 3.11, Private Neighborhood Park and Recreation Facilities

[illegible]

Figure 3.11, Private Neighborhood Park and Recreation Facilities (cont.)

[illegible]

Figure 3.13, Public and Private Metropolitan and Regional Park and Recreation Facilities

Map Number	Page	Park Name	Overall Acreage		Address	Sector	Subdivision	Owner	Trail Distance	Backstop	Practice Field	Basketball Court	Playscape	Recreation Center	Football Field	Soccer Field	Baseball Field	Softball Field	Tennis Court	Multi-purpose Court	Volleyball Court	Skate Park	Shuffleboard	Cricket	Dog Park	Remote Control Airplanes	Exercise Station	Disc Golf Course	Swimming Pool	Kiddy Swimming Pool	Spray Grounds	Festival Area	Pavilion	Benches	Picnic Table	BBQ Grills	Drinking Fountain	Water Feature / Pond	Parking	Restroom Building
		Metropolitan Parks	Und.	Dev.					←←←																															

Figure 3.14, Public Linear Park and Recreation Facilities

[illegible]

Figure 3.15, Private Linear Park and Recreation Facilities

		Park Name	Overall Acreage		Address	Sector	Subdivision	Owner	Trail Distance	Backstop	Practice Field	Basketball Court	Playscape	Recreation Center	Football Field	Soccer Field	Baseball Field	Softball Field	Tennis Court	Multi-purpose Court	Volleyball Court	Skate Park	Shuffleboard	Cricket	Dog Park	Remote Control Airplanes	Exercise Station	Disc Golf Course	Swimming Pool	Kiddy Swimming Pool	Spray Grounds	Festival Area	Pavilion	Benches	Picnic Table	BBQ Grill	Drinking Fountain	Water Feature / Pond	Parking	Restroom Building
		Linear Parks	Und.	Dev.					←←																															

Figure 3.15, Private Linear Park and Recreation Facilities (cont.)

[illegible]

Figure 3.16, Public and Private Special Purpose Park and Recreation Facilities

[illegible]

Figure 3.17, Public and Private Amenity Centers and Recreation Facilities

Map Number		Park Name	Overall Acreage		Address	Sector	Subdivision	Owner	Trail Distance	Backstop	Practice Field	Basketball Court	Playscape	Recreation Center	Football Field	Soccer Field	Baseball Field	Softball Field	Tennis Court	Multi-purpose Court	Volleyball Court	Skate Park	Shuffleboard	Cricket	Dog Park	Remote Control Airplanes	Exercise Station	Disc Golf Course	Swimming Pool	Kiddie Swimming Pool	Spray Grounds	Festival Area	Pavilion	Benches	Picnic Table	BBQ Grills	Drinking Fountain	Water Feature / Pond	Parking	Restroom Building
		Amenity Centers	Und.	Dev.					←←←																															

Figure 3.17, Public and Private Amenity Centers and Recreation Facilities (cont.)

		Park Name	Overall Acreage		Address	Sector	Subdivision	Owner	Trail Distance	Backstop	Practice Field	Basketball Court	Playscape	Recreation Center	Football Field	Soccer Field	Baseball Field	Softball Field	Tennis Court	Multi-purpose Court	Volleyball Court	Skate Park	Shuffleboard	Cricket	Dog Park	Remote Control Airplanes	Exercise Station	Disc Golf Course	Swimming Pool	Kiddie Swimming Pool	Spray Grounds	Festival Area	Pavilion	Benches	Picnic Table	BBQ Grills	Drinking Fountain	Water Feature / Pond	Parking	Restroom Building	
		Amenity Centers	Und.	Dev.					Active Facilities																		Aquatics		Passive Facilities						Infrastructure						
Privately Owned (cont.)																																									
		Stone Canyon		4.16	8300 Brightwater Blvd	SW	Stone Canyon	Stone Canyon HOA	0.35				1																1				1						X		
		Stone Oak South		1.80	3900 Upper Passage Ln	NW	Preserve at Stone Oak	Stone Oak HOA	0.05				1																1	1									X	1	
		Sundrop		1.76	1100 Sundrop Place	SE	Round Rock Ranch	Round Rock Ranch HOA	0.03				1																1										X	1	
		Teravista - The Retreat		1.28	4451 Teravista Club Dr	NE	Teravista	Teravista HOA	0.11				1																1					2	2				X	1	
		Teravista		6.03	4211 Teravista Club Dr	NE	Teravista	Teravista HOA	0.30			2	1						1		1		1						1									X	X		
		The Oaklands		3.30	700 Oak Park Drive	SW	The Oaklands	Oakland HOA	0.21			2	1						2										1										X		
		The Woods		0.80	1812 Woods Boulevard	NW	The Woods	Woods HOA	0.04				1																1	1									X		
		Trails at Shady Oaks	3.97		2225 Abilene Land	NW	Trails at Shady Oak	Trails at Shadow Oak HOA																																	
		Turtle Creek Village		3.57	707 Rolling Oak Drive	SE	Turtle Creek Village	Turtle Creek Village	0.10				1																1	1										X	
		Vista Oaks		4.84	3420 Vista Hills Blvd	NW	Vista Oaks	Vista Oaks MUD	0.05			1	1						1										1				1						X		
		Walsh Ranch		2.42	3610 Alexandrite Way	NW	Walsh Ranch	Walsh Ranch MUD	0.16				1																1	1			1						X		
		Wood Glen		2.16	2519 Plantation Drive	NW	Wood Glen	Wood Glen HOA	0.04			1	1						1		1								1	1				1					X		
		Total	3.97	129.58					4.17	0	0	11	29	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	34	20	0	0	8	14	21	3	0	3	33	17	

Round Rock Independent School District

Round Rock ISD has a total of 50 campuses across its 110-square-mile service area. The ISD serves approximately 45,000 students in its 33 elementary schools, 10 middle schools, five high schools, and two alternative education centers. Round Rock ISD encompasses all of Round Rock as well as portions of Austin and Cedar Park (see Map 3.3, *Round Rock ISD School Locations within Round Rock City Limits & ETJ*). With a student-teacher ratio of 14.9 to 1, Round Rock ISD is one of the most award winning school districts in Texas.¹

An inventory of the recreational amenities available at school campuses located within Round Rock's City limits and its ETJ limits is shown in Figure 3.18, *School Park and Recreation Facilities*.

1 “District Profile,” Round Rock Independent School District, <https://roundrockisd.org/about-rrisd/district-profile/>, 6 April 2017

Map 3.3, Round Rock ISD School Locations within Round Rock City Limits & ETJ



Figure 3.18, School Park and Recreation Facilities

		Park Name	Overall Acreage		Address	Sector	Subdivision	Owner	Trail Distance	Backstop	Practice Field	Basketball Court	Playscape	Recreation Center	Football Field	Soccer Field	Baseball Field	Softball Field	Tennis Court	Multi-purpose Court	Volleyball Court	Skate Park	Shuffleboard	Cricket	Dog Park	Remote Control Airplanes	Exercise Station	Disc Golf Course	Swimming Pool	Kiddy Swimming Pool	Spray Grounds	Festival Area	Pavilion	Benches	Picnic Table	BBQ Grill	Drinking Fountain	Water Feature / Pond	Parking	Restroom Building				
		Schools	Und.	Dev.					Active Facilities														Aquatics			Passive Facilities						Infrastructure												
Round Rock ISD Schools																																												
		Berkman Elementary		1.37	508 W. Anderson	SE	Round Rock Original Plat	RRISD					1																										X					
		Blackland Prairie Elementary		11.94	2105 Via Sonoma Trail	SE		RRISD		1	1	1	2							1																				X				
		Bluebonnet Elementary		10.82	1010 Chisholm Valley Drive	SW	Westwind	RRISD			1		1							1																				X				
		Brushy Creek Elementary		10.94	Great Oaks Drive	SW	Brushy Creek	RRISD			1		1							2																				X				
		C.D. Fulkes Middle School		14.52	300 W. Anderson	SE	Round Rock Original Plat	RRISD				2			1																									X				
		Caldwell Heights Elementary		11.43	4010 Eagles Nest Drive	NE	Vista Heights	RRISD		3	1	4	1							1																					X			
		Neysa Callison Elementary		5.00	1750 Thompson Trail	SE		RRISD		1	1	4	1							1																					X			
		Cactus Ranch Elementary		12.22	2901 Golden Oak Circle	NW	Behrens Ranch	RRISD		1		2	2							1																					X			
		Cedar Valley Middle School		58.10	8139 Rancine Trail	SW	Brushy Creek	RRISD		2	1	2			1																										X			
		Chisholm Trail Middle School		18.38	500 Oakridge Drive	SW	Round Rock West	RRISD			4				1					1																					X			
		Claude Berkman Elementary School		4.45	400 W. Anderson Avenue	SE	Round Rock Original Play	RRISD		1		4	2							1																					X			
		Deepwood Elementary		16.03	705 St. Williams Drive	SW	Round Rock West	RRISD		1	1	4	1																					1							X			
		Double File Trail Elementary		12.31	2400 Chandler Creek Boulevard	NE	Chandler Creek	RRISD		1	1		2							2																						X		
		Fern Bluff Elementary		21.94	17815 Park Valley Drive	SW	Stone Canyon	RRISD		4	1	1	1																					4								X		
		Forest Creek Elementary		14.94	3805 Forest Creek Drive	SE	Forest Creek	RRISD		3	3	1	1																							5							X	
		Gattis Elementary		15.43	2920 Round Rock Ranch Boulevard	SE		RRISD		3	1	1	2							1																							X	
		Great Oaks Elementary		12.79	16455 Great Oaks Drive	SW	Woods of Brushy Creek	RRISD		1	1	1	2							1																						X		
		Hopewell Middle School		37.45	1535 Gulf Way	NE	Lakeside	RRISD		4	1	2			1					1																						X		
		Old Town Elementary		14.20	2001 Old Settlers Boulevard	NW		RRISD		1		1	1							1																						X		
		Ridgeview Middle School		40.10	1401 Rusk Road	SE		RRISD		4	2	2			1																												X	
		Robertson Elementary		8.06	1415 Bayland Street	NE	Mesa Ridge	RRISD					2							1																							X	
		Round Rock High School		18.39	300 Lake Creek Drive	SW		RRISD		1	3				1	1	1	1	8								10																X	
		Stony Point High School		69.23	1801 Bowman Road	NE		RRISD		2	3				1	2	1	1	8																								X	
		PFC Robert P. Hernandez Middle School		32.39	1901 Sunrise Road	NE		RRISD			2	2			1					1																							X	
		Teravista Elementary		5.00	4419 Teravista Club Drive	NE		RRISD			1	1	2							1																							X	
		Union Hill Elementary		13.83	1511 Gulf Way	NE	Lakeside	RRISD			1	1	1							1																							X	
		Voight Elementary		9.18	1201 Cushing Drive	SE		RRISD		1			3																														X	
		Walsh Middle School		10.00	3850 Walsh Ranch Boulevard	NW		RRISD		2	3	2			1	1																											X	
		Total	0.00	510.43						37	34	38	29	0	9	4	2	2	16	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	28	0			
Universities																																												
		Higher Education Complex		100.96	1555 University Boulevard	NE	HEC	TX State Univ.																															1					
		Total	0.00	100.96						0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1		0			



The Brushy Creek Trail is a highly used linear/linkage trail.



There are a variety of trail materials used throughout Round Rock.

Existing Trails in Round Rock Today

Round Rock has a total of approximately 133 miles of trails and seven miles of running tracks spread throughout the City today. The existing trails include both linear/linkage trails and trails within parks, as internal walking loops with no external destination or connections.

Figure 3.19, *Existing Trails in Round Rock & ETJ - 2016*, gives a more detailed look at the existing trails in Round Rock and Map 3.4, *Primary and Secondary Trails in Round Rock*, illustrates the locations of existing primary and secondary trails. For the purpose of this discussion, a primary trail is a trail that acts as a major linkage from one sector of the City to another. A good example of this type of trail is the Brushy Creek Regional Trail which, when complete, will span from the westernmost edge of the City to the easternmost edge of the City. A secondary trail is a trail that feeds into a primary trail system. A good example of a secondary trail is the Greater Lake Creek Trail. This trail system ultimately feeds into the Brushy Creek Regional Trail. The final type of trail found in the City is a local trail. A local trail consists of a trail within a park that loops or connects attractions in the park, but does not link up with an external destination or primary/secondary trail.

The City of Round Rock has built three linear/linkage trails, the Brushy Creek Regional Trail, Kensington Trail, and the Greater Lake Creek Trail. As illustrated in Map 3.4, portions of other linkage trails have been built and the City has a goal to fill the gaps in these connections in the near future as trails remain a major request and priority. The other City-built trails are looped trails within parks that do not connect to external destinations or neighborhoods.

The existing trails vary in the type of surfacing including asphalt, concrete, and decomposed granite. At the time of the 2004 Trails Master Plan, asphalt was the preferred trail surface in the City and local runners had expressed a preference for asphalt as their surface of choice. However, expansive soil conditions east of Interstate 35 contributed to the early deterioration of several trail segments leading to ADA accessibility concerns and increasing maintenance costs. In recent years, a move to concrete surfacing for long-term durability or decomposed granite for usability has occurred.

Figure 3.19, Existing Trails in Round Rock & ETJ - 2016

Trails & Tracks	Overall Trail Length (including Private, County, & City-Owned)	City-Owned Trails	City-Owned Parkways
Primary	26.39	5.00	14.57
Secondary	51.27	4.19	23.54
Local	55.91	14.00	-
Tracks	6.82	-	-
TOTAL MILES OF TRAILS & TRACKS	140.39	23.19	38.11



Figure 3.20, Round Rock Recreation Programs Inventory

Adult Athletic Programs	Youth Athletic Programs	Swimming / Aquatic Programs	Instructional Classes	Special Events	Private Amenity Center / YMCA Programs
Mens Basketball	Basketball	Water Safety Instructor class	Adult tennis	Day camps	After School Care
Flag Football	Girls Volleyball	Lifeguard Training	Youth tennis	Kids Clubhouse After School	Summer Camps
Softball	RR Sertoma (private)	Swimming Lessons	Yoga-doodles	Christmas Family Night	Kinderdance
Co-rec Kickball	RR Football (private)	Water aerobics	Martial Arts	Christmas tree recycling	Acrotex
RR Tennis Assoc (private)	Pop Warner Football (private)	RR Dolphins (private)	Kinderdance	MLK Commemorative March	Tennis Lessons
Double R Disc Golf Club (private)	Track & Field	Aquatex (private) Swim Team	Kindergym	Daddy Daughter Dance	Pilates
Lone Star Aeronauts RC Flying Club (private)	Skateboarding	Open Swim	Kindertots	Flashlight Egg Hunt	Hathe Yoga Beginner
RR Model Boat Club (private)	Football		Adult Yoga	July 4 Frontier Days	Dance Workshops
Cloud Chasers Kite Group (private)	Archery		Jazzercise (private)	Movies in the Park	Personal Training
RR Football (private)	Soccer Shots		Round Rock Fit (private)	5K for Clay	Prenatal Yoga
Pop Warner Football (private)	Racquetball		Sportball	Spring Break Camp	Nutritional Knowledge
	Sand Volleyball		Adult Karate	Night Rider Family Bike Ride	Racquetball Training
			Teen Karate	Rock'N Lights	Free Weights for Women
			Spanish for Fun	Touch a Truck	Flag Football Mini Camp
			Junior Chefs	Youth Fishing Derby	Volleyball Camp
			Boot Camp	Family Campout	Fit Camp for Kids
			Counselor in Training	Fall Fun Fest	Karate
			Yoga Hoop Fusion	Holiday Bazaar	Spanish
			Chair Yoga	Muddy Miler Family Adventure	KinderMusik
			Soccer Shots	Swim/Run r-Aqua-thon	Capital Gymnastics
			Cooking with Kids Kitchen	Outlaw Trail Cycling Tour	Boot Camp
			Cordovan Art School	Trunk or Treat for Special Needs Kids	Boxing Class
			Epic Hip Hop	Juneteenth Rhythm & Ribs Celebration	Creative Rhythms Dance
			Move Kids 2 Music	Geocaching	Cheer / Tumble
			Toddler Tree House	Rock Climbing	Young Rembrandts
				Turkey Bowl	20 Circuit Training Workout
				Offshore Fishing	Full Aerobics
				Trails Challenge	Gymboree
				Standup Paddling	Ballet
					Bumper Sports





Round Rock’s Ranking

Round Rock is continually ranked as one of the Best Cities in America in a variety of different magazines and studies. Below is a summary of six studies where Round Rock was ranked towards the top in a positive light. In all the studies and rankings, parks and recreation were in some way factored into the decision.

One of America’s Safest Cities

The City of Round Rock was ranked as the **fifth safest city in the United States** in a survey released by niche.com in 2017. The ranking is based on data from the FBI and U.S. Census and provides a comprehensive assessment of the overall safety at the City level. It takes into account key indicators of a location’s safety, including violent and property crime rates. Some of the key implementation strategies that assist in keeping Round Rock as one of the safest cities include the City’s philosophy of involving the community in fighting crime and deploying a range of proactive strategies.

One of the Fastest Growing Cities in America

In July of 2016, Round Rock was named **one of the fastest growing cities in America** by Zippia. Their analysis looked at the growth rates for cities over the last five years, according to the American Community Survey, which is released by the U.S. Census Bureau. After analyzing all of the data, Round Rock was ranked ninth in the study. As prices in Austin continue to rise, people have begun to move to Round Rock for its affordability and quality of life. The PARD contributes to the quality of life in Round Rock. As the population continues to grow, so too does the importance of the PARD and the need to expand the recreational programming and trail system.

One of the Best Cities to Retire

Bankrate.com ranked the top American cities for retirement, factoring in the cost of living, crime rate (violent and property crimes), walkability, health care quality, state and local tax burden, personal well-being for seniors, weather (temperature and precipitation), and the vitality of the local cultural scene. The study ranked **Round Rock as the 12th best city for retirement**. Round Rock’s trail system helps contribute to the walkability of the City, as well as to seniors’ overall health and activity levels. The PARD also provides several activities geared toward seniors through the Allen R. Baca Center for Senior and Community Activities.

One of the Best Places to Start a Family

In February of 2017, LendEDU ranked round rock the **third best place to start a family**. The ranking noted excellent school systems, safety, cost of living, and proximity to Austin as reasons for the City’s high rank. Quality of life also plays a role in making Round Rock a desirable place to start a family. PARD contributes to the quality of life through parks, trails, and programming.

One of the Coolest Suburbs Worth a Visit

Several publications have listed Round Rock as **one of the coolest suburbs worth a visit**. Among these publications are Thrillest in 2015 and Travel and Leisure in 2016. Contributing to the “cool factor” of Round Rock is the burgeoning foodie scene, arts and culture, natural beauty, booming jobs sector, and vibrant social scene. The PARD contributes to the beauty of the City, the social scene, and arts and culture.

One of the Best Cities in Texas to Raise a Family

In 2016, Livability.com selected Round Rock as the **second best city for families in Texas**. The expansive park and trail system, City-owned waterpark, and sports facilities, combined with family-friendly programming, are just some of the amenities that put Round Rock high on the list. A great downtown, strong economy, low cost of living, and high availability of quality jobs close to home also contribute to the allure of living in Round Rock.

One of the Fastest Growing Cities in America



One of the Best Cities in Texas to Raise a Family



One of the Best Places to Live, Work, and Play



The Value and Benefits of Parks and Recreation in Round Rock

Developing an excellent park and recreation system demonstrates a local government's commitment to offer a high quality of life for its residents. A superior park and recreation system increases the quality of life in a community because of the many benefits that it offers. Recreation and health benefits of parks and recreation include:

- Access to parks increases the frequency of exercise, especially among children and youth.
- Staying active can help reduce the risk of heart disease, diabetes, obesity, depression, and other health problems.
- Parks and recreation provide opportunities for all people to be physically active, socially engaged, and cognitively stimulated.

Community and cultural benefits of parks and recreation include:

- Provides opportunities for rest, relaxation, and revitalization
- Preserves and interprets historic community assets
- Provides opportunities for community involvement
- Play is critical for child development
- Provides places for health and well-being that are accessible by people of all ages and abilities
- Provides refuges of safety for at-risk youth which can in turn help reduce juvenile delinquency

Natural resources and environmental benefits of parks and recreation include:

- Protects and preserves vital green spaces
- Protects and preserves critical wildlife habitat
- Educates visitors regarding the appropriate use of natural areas as recreational areas
- Exposure to nature improves psychological and social health
- Contributes to clean air and water
- Makes the city significantly more attractive

Economic benefits of parks and recreation include:

- Increases property value of homes in close proximity to parks
- Stimulates economic development by attracting businesses and keeping residents
- Increases tourism
- Attracts new businesses to a community by improving the standard of living

Opportunities for Restoration and Relaxation

So many people face increased challenges every day, whether it is from their job, their family life, or any other combination of things. People come to parks to relieve some of their daily stress. Whether it involves kicking a soccer ball, watching children play on the swings, or sitting by a pond feeding ducks, the idea of restoration is that people feel better after they leave a park than when they first arrived. There are some elements of the natural environment that can increase the likelihood of restoration.

- Parks and recreation allow for people to reflect and discover what is on their mind. This can come from fishing, listening to birds, watching a water fountain, enjoying the scenery, or countless other natural occurrences. Placing benches or bridges where people can stop to notice nature increases the opportunities for restoration.
- Parks need to have inviting things to allow the mind to wander. Japanese gardens offer outstanding examples of how small spaces can achieve this. They position viewpoints so the entire garden cannot be seen at once, they have circuitous pathways to make the area seem larger, or they have vegetation that divides larger spaces.
- By providing a slight sense of enclosure, the users of the park feel as if they are somewhere else, away from life's distractions. Enclosure can be achieved by having a tree canopy or planting vegetation along building sides to hide them.

Opportunities for Community Involvement

Parks and recreation offers opportunities for citizens to become involved in the community through such ways as:

- Allowing residents to be instructors for a recreation program gives them the opportunity to share and teach their skills to other members in the community.

- Organizing work day projects to install a playground or plant new trees lets residents feel a sense of ownership in the park they helped build.

By providing opportunities for residents to become involved in the community, parks and recreation are also providing opportunities for residents to socialize and to meet their neighbors.



Volunteers installing a playground at Bradford Park



Residents planting trees at Lake Creek Park



Benefits to At Risk Youth and Teenagers

One major benefit of parks and recreation is the impact it can have on at-risk youth. Teenagers are the hardest market to reach; when there is a lack of activities for them, some may engage in juvenile delinquency. By providing activities and recreation programming for this segment of the population, the City is providing a safe place for the youth to go and a usually supervised environment for them to be in. Examples of where recreation programs had an impact on crime rates in communities include:

- There was a 29 percent drop in violent crime in Norfolk, Virginia after new youth athletic leagues were introduced in neighborhoods.
- When Phoenix basketball courts and other recreation facilities are kept open late during the summer, calls to police reporting juvenile crime drop by as much as 55 percent.
- There was a 28 percent decrease in crime in Fort Worth, Texas within a one mile radius of the community centers that offered a midnight basketball program. The community centers that did not offer the program had an average increase in crime of 39 percent.

Tourism Impacts of Parks and Recreation

People visit a city for the attractions that are offered. Several attractions in a community include the parks and recreational facilities as well as festivals, concerts, and events that take place in those facilities. For example:

- While visiting New York City, people want to go to Central Park, the Highline, and other historical sites, parks, and monuments.
- Millennium Park in Chicago is rapidly becoming the primary tourist attraction in that city.
- People from surrounding communities often drive to Austin just to jog or bike along the trails of Lady Bird Lake.

A large portion of tourism in Round Rock is driven by being the Sports Capital of Texas. Amateur and youth leagues from across the nation come to Round Rock to play in tournaments at the fields, courts, tracks, and gyms in the City. Also, while visiting for a sports tournament, families stay in Round Rock hotels, eat in Round Rock restaurants, and shop in Round Rock stores, thus having a high economic impact in the community.

It was calculated that at the end of 2015, sports events in Round Rock had a total economic impact of \$12,336,661.

A recent study completed by the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University for the National Recreation and Park Association states that in 2013, local and regional public park agencies generated nearly \$140 billion in economic activity and supported nearly one million jobs. Combined with studies on the state and national park systems, that number increased to \$200 billion in economic activity annually.

Parks and recreation are also good for a community's economy because of the impact they can have on other businesses. For example hotels often charge more for a room if it overlooks a park, lake, ocean, garden, or open space as opposed to a parking lot, roof top, or street. By charging more, the hotel/motel tax that a city receives is higher. Other business impacts include the operations that people start in conjunction with a park or trail. For example, people can rent canoes or kayaks at Zilker Park in Austin, and people can rent bicycles along the Cape Cod Rail Trail in Massachusetts. Each creates an attraction, a business opportunity, and possible revenue generation that would not otherwise be there without the park or trail facility.

Environmental Benefits of Parks and Recreation

Parks and recreation offer several environmental benefits to a community. Parkland, open space, greenbelts, and trails all contribute to ensuring that a community is green and not overrun with concrete. For one, parks and open space can control storm water runoff and reduce the likelihood of flooding. The rain that falls on parkland will seep into the soil. Rain water that falls onto impervious surfaces can be slowed down by planting trees which will impede the fall rate. American Forests, a national conservation organization that promotes forestry, estimates that trees in cities save \$400 billion in stormwater retention facility costs.

Parks, open space, and trees also contribute to cleaner air in a community. Trees can absorb air pollutants that would otherwise increase sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, and carbon monoxide in the atmosphere. In 1994 in New York City, it was reported that trees removed 1,821 metric tons of air pollution.

Round Rock's own Tree Protection and Preservation Ordinance and tree planting program has made a significant impact on the community since its adoption. The Tree Ordinance designates tree species and size that are protected, designates a monarch tree category in which these trees can only be removed by City Council authorization, and requires the mitigation of removed trees to be replaced either at a 1:1 ratio or 3:1 ratio depending on the size of the tree. The Tree Fund along with the City's General Fund has funded the City's tree planting program which has planted approximately 7,000 trees in public parks and right-of-ways since 2000.

Parks and open space protect wildlife habitats as well. Habitats of endangered species and areas specific to migratory patterns are often protected and designated as parkland or open space. Parks and open space contribute to the preservation of land in general as well. The Parks and Recreation Department ensures that not all the land gets developed. It is important to have green space and places of nature within a city. A recent study by the Trust for Public Lands shows that over the past ten years, voter approval for bonds associated with conserving open space and acquiring parkland exceed 75 percent. Parks and greenbelts are the most significantly preserved open spaces in a community.

Personal Health Benefits of Parks and Recreation

Parks and recreation, at their most basic function, offer places for exercise. With heart disease, diabetes, and child obesity rising to staggering numbers, parks and recreation give us the opportunity to be physical. Whether it is jogging along a trail, playing in a softball league, or swimming at the pool, the most common places for exercise are in our parks and through our recreation programs. Additionally, play is critical for child development. Organized sports, playing on a playground, and unstructured activities such as tag or hide and seek will help children develop muscle strength, coordination, cognitive thinking and reasoning, and develop language skills. Also, play teaches children how to interact with others. One of the key places where children play is once again at a community's parks and recreation facilities.

Parks and recreation have been shown to have psychological benefits as well. Physical exercise helps develop new nerve cells which increase a person's capacity for learning. Being in nature and exercise have both been shown to reduce feelings of stress, depression, and anxiety. Parks and nature conjure a sense of relaxation. Just driving through a park or looking at green space through the window of a building has been shown to be enough to relax the mind.

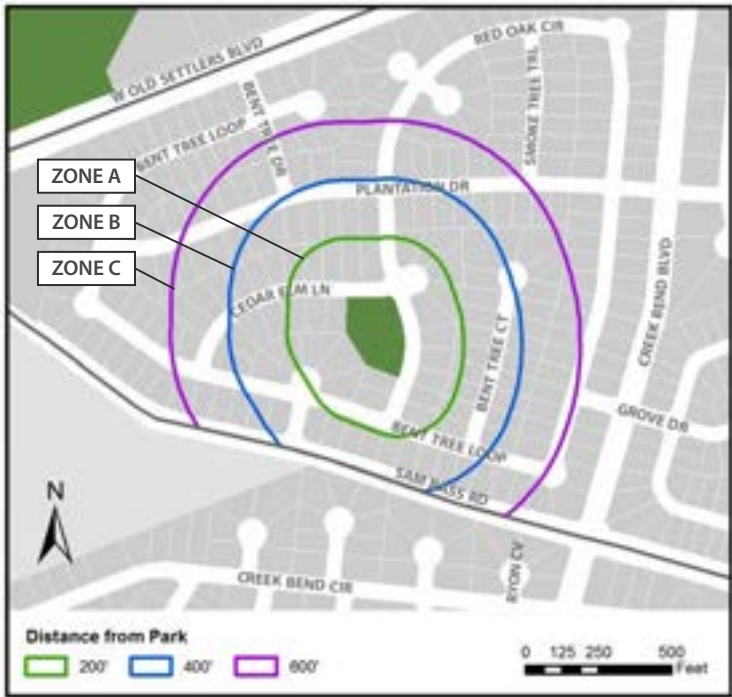
Upcoming Assessments of Park Areas

In 2018, the Parks and Recreation Department plans to utilize the newly developed SOPARC (System for Observing Play and Recreation in Communities) method for assessing park and recreation areas. This method is a validated direct observation tool that determines park users' physical activity levels, gender, types of activities, and estimated age and ethnicity. It also collects information about park accessibility, usability, supervision, maintenance, and organization. This data will help inform park planning and programming, as well as provide a glimpse at the behaviors of the users of the parks and how the parks benefit each individual user.

Economic Benefits of Parks and Recreation

The *Proximate Principle* developed by Dr. John Crompton of Texas A&M University is the theory that people are willing to pay more for their home when it is close to a park or green space.

- The *Proximate Principle* divides houses within 600 feet of a park or open space into different zones and the zones closest to a park have the highest value. Those living in Zone A (within 200 feet of a park) pay the most for their home, those living in Zone B (within 400 feet of a park) pay less than Zone A but more than Zone C (within 600 feet of a park), and Zone C pays the least.

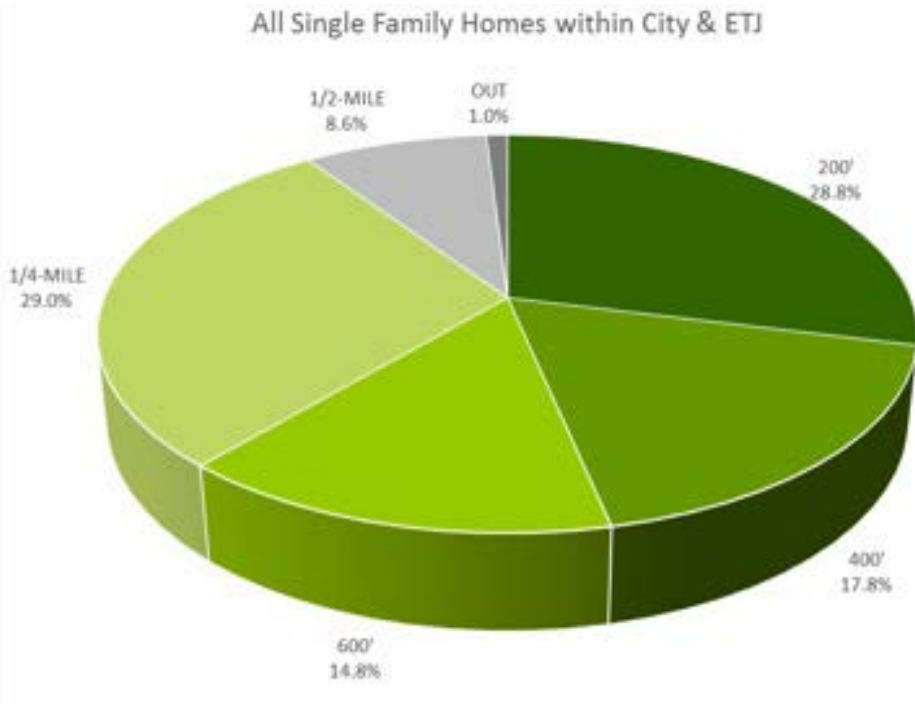


- The higher the property value, the more tax revenue the property produces for the city.
- Additionally, park maintenance typically costs less for a city than providing services to additional homes. For example, if ten additional houses were built on a piece of land instead of a park, it would cost the city more money each year to provide multiple types of services. Providing services such as fire and police protection, water, sewage, and schools for ten houses is more costly than the maintenance of a park per year.

Figure 3.21, Cities Where the Proximity Principle was Proven

Study Site	Open Space Type	Property Value Impact
Boston, MA	30 acres of greenways	Property value decreased by 6% when distance from park doubles
Chicago, IL	24.6 acre park	Increased property value by \$100 per square foot
Portland, OR	public parks	Increased property value 1-3% within 1500 ft. of park
Portland, OR	golf courses	Increased property value 5% within 1500 ft. of course
Boulder, CO	greenbelts	\$4.20 decrease in price of home for every foot removed from greenbelt
Howard County, MD	open space	Increased property value 3 times
Salo, Finland	urban forest	Property value decreased 5.9% for every kilometer in distance from the urban forest

Figure 3.22, Distribution of Single Family Properties Relative to Parks or Open Space in Round Rock City and ETJ



Source: Williamson County Appraisal District

Economic Impact of Round Rock’s Parks on Property Values

The *Proximate Principle* was tested on properties in proximity to Round Rock’s parks and open spaces. Based on data collected from the Williamson Central Appraisal District (WCAD) in 2016, approximately 61.4 percent of all developed single-family homes in the City and ETJ of Round Rock were within 600 feet of a park or open space (see Figure 3.22, *Distribution of Single Family Properties Relative to Parks or Open Space in Round Rock City and ETJ*). This is shown graphically on Map 3.5 on the following page. Additionally, 90.4 percent of single-family homes are within walking distance of a park (1/4-mile radius).

A citywide analysis of appraisal values provided by WCAD shows a marked increase (15.9%) in the value of homes within 600 feet of park. This indicates that the *Proximate Principle* does apply to Round Rock; however, this broad-brush analysis does not account for many other factors that affect property values, including lot size, year built, or home size/quality. So, in addition to analyzing appraisal property values at the citywide level, property values were analyzed at the subdivision level. At this level, there is far less variation in the factors that affect property values.

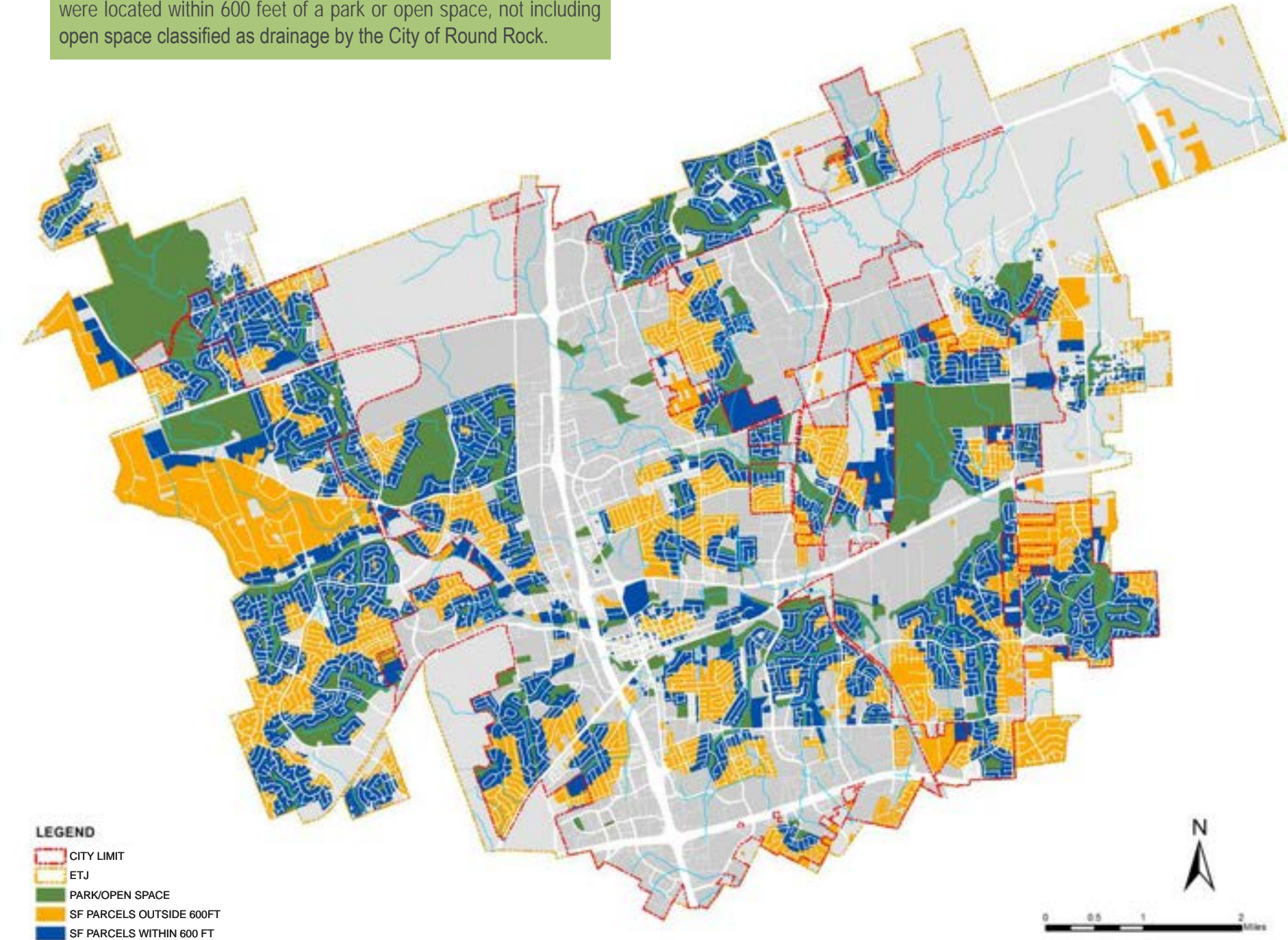
For the subdivision analysis, appraisal property values within and outside of 600 feet of a park were compared within each subdivision. The results of this analysis show that *Proximate Principle* applies to the majority of subdivisions in Round Rock and its ETJ. Approximately 60 percent of subdivisions containing parcels within 600 feet of a park were found to have appraisal values that reflect park proximity. In these subdivisions, the average increase in appraisal value of homes within 600 feet was 6.3 percent within Round Rock and 6.8 percent including the ETJ. The increase in appraisal value becomes even more pronounced for properties within 200 feet of a park, where it was 8.3 percent within Round Rock and 8.8 percent including the ETJ.

While the *Proximate Principle* applies to most subdivisions, the proximity of parks in older subdivisions appears to have a much lower impact on appraisal property values than the proximity of parks in newer subdivisions. Of the outlier subdivisions (those in which property values did not appear to reflect park proximity), 56 percent are 15 years and older. The subdivision analysis also seems to indicate that undeveloped parks have less of an impact on property values than developed ones. Of the outlier subdivisions, 24 percent have homes that are adjacent to undeveloped parks or open spaces. This supports Dr. Crompton’s finding that the maintenance and quality of a park will affect its influence on property values.



Map 3.5, Single Family Parcels and Park Proximity

In 2016, approximately 61.4% of developed single-family parcels were located within 600 feet of a park or open space, not including open space classified as drainage by the City of Round Rock.

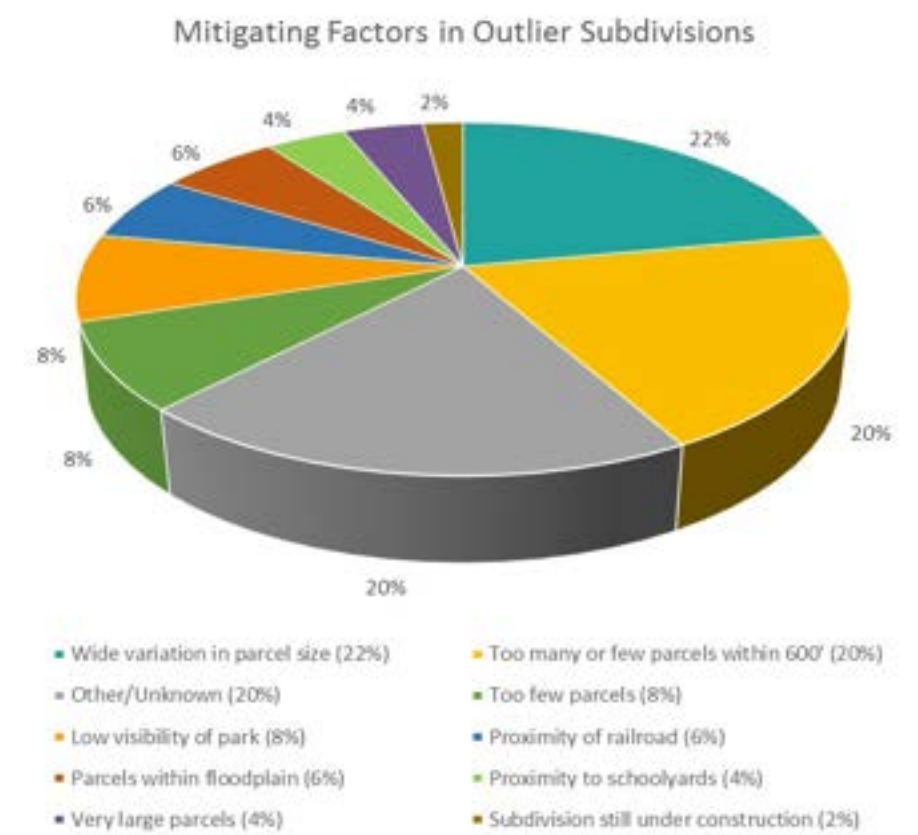


Source: Williamson County Appraisal District

Economic Impact of Round Rock’s Parks on Property Values

Beyond being in proximity of an older or undeveloped park, 80 percent of the outlier subdivisions were found to be affected by mitigating factors. Some of these factors have a negative correlation with property value and other factors simply make the subdivision difficult to analyze. The most common mitigating factors include: wide variation in parcel size, too many or too few parcels within 600 feet (greater than 90% or less than 10%), very few parcels (less than 25) in a subdivision, low visibility of park, proximity to a railroad, and parcels within the floodplain. Figure 3.23 below provides a breakdown of these factors.

Figure 3.23, Mitigating Factors Affecting Appraisal Values in Outlier Subdivisions



In addition to analyzing appraisal values, market data was also analyzed at the subdivision level and the *Proximate Principle* appears to apply to this data as well. Case studies and tables that illustrate the impact of parks and open spaces on property values are shown on the following pages.

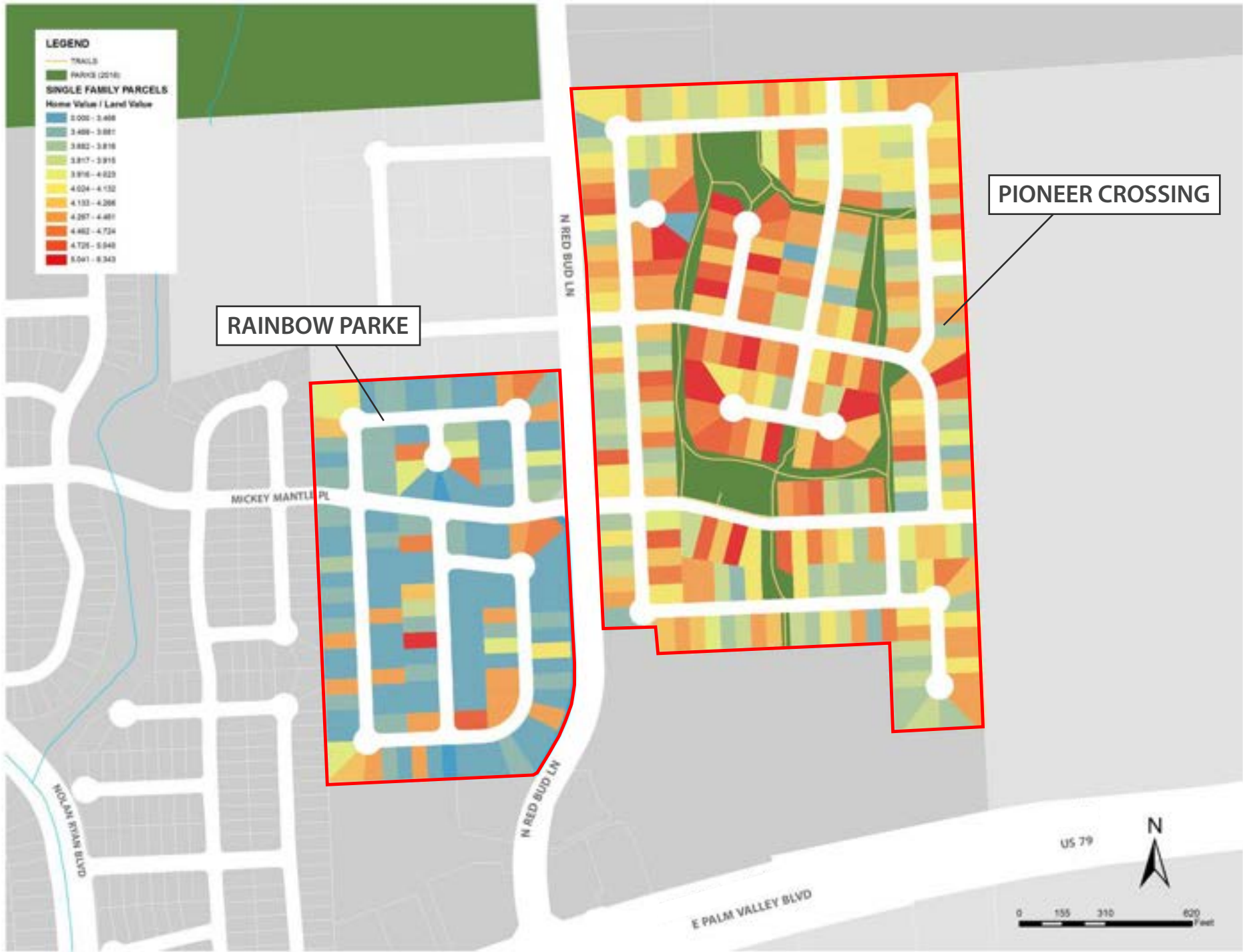
Case Study 1: Integrated Park Subdivision vs. Traditional Subdivision

This case study shows the impact that a well-integrated park and walking loop can have on the property values within a subdivision. These two subdivisions are located very close to each other, only separated by Red Bud Lane. The homes in both subdivisions are of similar quality and were built at approximately the same time. While the median square footage of homes in Rainbow Parke is roughly 200 feet larger than that in Pioneer Crossing, when the size of the home is controlled for, the median value per square foot is seven percent higher in Pioneer Crossing.

Figure 3.24, Case Study 1 Comparison

	RAINBOW PARKE	PIONEER CROSSING
Median Year Built	2007	2006
Median SF	1,969	1,755
Median Value	\$196,074	\$188,651
Value / SF	\$100	\$107
Parcels within 600'	16%	100%
Increased Value / SF	-	+7%

Map 3.6, Rainbow Parke & Pioneer Crossing Neighborhoods



Source: Williamson County Appraisal District



Case Study 2: Master-Planned Community vs. Traditional Subdivision

In this case study, the impact of park proximity on property values is quite pronounced due to the great differences in the design of these subdivisions. Teravista is a master-planned golf course community with an extensive trail and open space system woven throughout. Eagle Ridge is a nearby subdivision with similar quality homes, but without any parks or trails within its boundaries. The market data analysis reveals that the median value per square foot is 17.2 percent higher in Teravista.

Figure 3.25, Case Study 2 Overall Comparison

	TERAVISTA	EAGLE RIDGE
Median Year Built	2008	2004
Median SF	2,960	2,317
Median Value	\$343,867	\$230,148
Value / SF	\$116	\$99
Parcels within 600'	99%	12%
Increased Value / SF	+17.2%	-

However, Teravista is a much larger subdivision with a wider range of home and lot sizes than Eagle Ridge. In order to make a more precise comparison between these two subdivisions, similar sections were chosen from each. The homes in section nine of Teravista and section two of Eagle Ridge were constructed at the same time and with nearly the exact same square footage. Yet, the *Proximate Principle* holds and property values per square foot in Teravista are still 10 percent higher than those in Eagle Ridge.

Figure 3.26, Case Study 2 Section Comparison

	TERAVISTA (Section 9)	EAGLE RIDGE (Section 2)
Median Year Built	2007	2007
Median SF	2,550	2,564
Median Value	\$284,005	\$259,301
Value / SF	\$111	\$101
Parcels within 600'	100%	0%
Increased Value / SF	+10%	-

Map 3.7, Teravista & Eagle Ridge Neighborhoods



Source: Williamson County Appraisal District

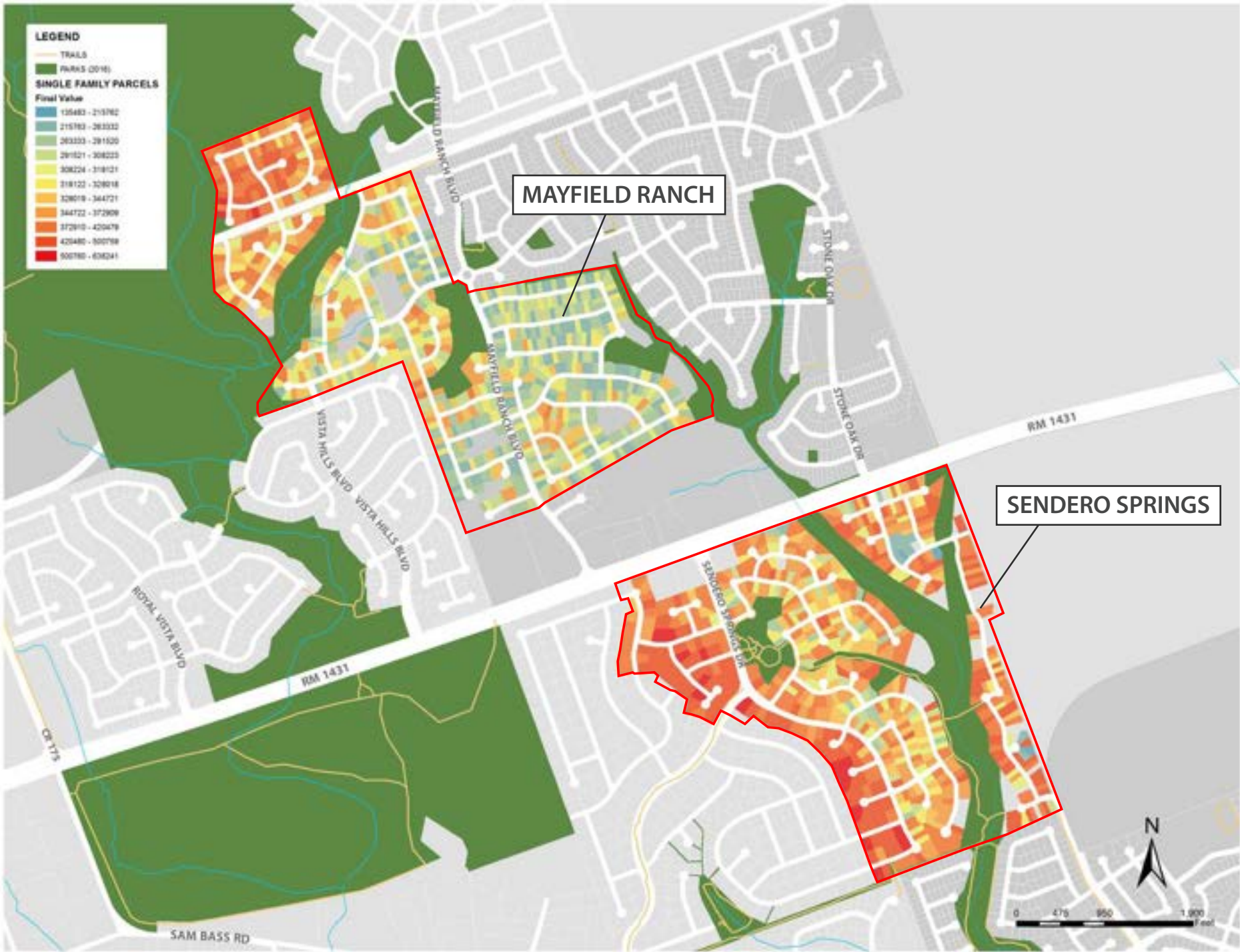
Case Study 3: Proximity to Developed vs. Undeveloped Parks

In this case study, both subdivisions have well-integrated parks and greenbelts. However, the greenbelt in Sendero Springs has a trail system that connects different parts of the subdivision to the community's amenity center, while the greenbelts in Mayfield Ranch remain largely undeveloped. Given that the homes in both subdivisions are approximately the same size and age, the 9.6 percent increase in property value per square foot in Sendero Springs seems to indicate the positive affect that a developed park can have on a subdivision.

Figure 3.27, Case Study 3 Comparison

	MAYFIELD RANCH	SENDERO SPRINGS
Median Year Built	2007	2008
Median SF	2,889	3,072
Median Value	\$331,489	\$386,208
Value / SF	\$115	\$126
Parcels within 600'	83%	92%
Increased Value / SF	-	+9.6%

Map 3.8, Mayfield Ranch & Sendero Springs Neighborhoods



Source: Williamson County Appraisal District



Figure 3.28, 2016 Economic Analysis of Parks in Round Rock

	Citywide Analysis	Subdivision Analysis	Average of Analyses
Total Value inside Round Rock	\$6,441,616,204	\$6,441,616,204	\$6,441,616,204
Value of properties within 600'	\$4,016,625,285	\$4,016,625,285	\$4,016,625,285
Assumed average of a park	15.9%	6.3%	11.1%
Value of properties attributed to parks	\$638,643,420	\$253,047,393	\$445,845,407
Effective annual residential tax rate	0.00425	0.00425	0.00425
Annual property tax capture from value of property tax due to parks	\$2,714,235	\$1,075,451	\$1,894,843

Aggregate Economic Analysis

After reviewing the results of the citywide and subdivision level analyses, it is clear that the total economic impact of Round Rock’s parks and open spaces on property values falls somewhere in between these estimates. The citywide analysis shows a strong correlation (15.9%) between appraisal property values and proximity to a park; however, it does not account for many other factors that affect property values, including lot size, year built, or home size/quality. The subdivision analysis of appraisal values also shows a correlation (6.3%) between property values and park proximity; and there is far less variation in the factors that affect property value. However, some subdivisions are difficult to analyze. Of the outlier subdivisions, 56 percent were affected by factors that made analysis very difficult. The market data case studies confirm that the average increase in property value per square foot (10.9%) is higher than that found in the subdivision appraisal value analysis. Therefore, it is believed that an aggregate of the citywide and subdivision analyses will yield the most accurate estimate of property value that can be attributed to park proximity.

Using the total appraisal value of properties within 600 feet of a park (\$4,016,625,285), we applied the average increase of 11.1 percent to arrive at a total increase of \$445,845,407 in property value that can be attributed to the proximity of parks and open spaces. Applying the current effective annual residential tax rate (0.00425) to this increase in property value results in a total annual tax capture of \$1,894,843 for the City of Round Rock. *This accounts for nearly 20 percent of the Parks and Recreation Department’s annual budget.*

Conclusion - Parks Add Value to Round Rock

Based on the various analyses performed at both the citywide and subdivision level, the *Proximate Principle* appears to apply to Round Rock and its ETJ. The data indicates that proximity to parks and open space generally has a positive impact on the property values. The majority of subdivisions containing homes within 600 feet of a park were found to have appraisal and market values that reflect that proximity. Using an aggregate of the analyses, the average increase in appraisal property value is 11.1 percent. The degree to which property values increase appears to be related to the quality of the park. It is typically higher when the park is relatively new, has high visibility within the subdivision, or has been developed with a trail system or other amenities. This supports John Crompton’s finding that quality, maintenance, and street visibility are qualities of a park that will affect its influence on property values.

The majority of subdivisions in Round Rock and its ETJ reflect the *Proximate Principle*. Of the subdivisions that do not, 80 percent were found to be affected by mitigating factors. Some of these factors have a negative correlation with property values in and of themselves, such as proximity to a railroad or homes located within a floodplain (24%). Some factors simply make the subdivision difficult to analyze, such as a wide variation in parcel size, too many or few parcels within 600 feet of a park, and subdivisions that are still under construction (56%). Further analysis of market data, rather than appraisal value data, could prove useful in determining why the remaining 20 percent of subdivisions do not reflect the *Proximate Principle*.

Additional research is necessary for this argument to stand up to criticism and speculation among economists and the development community. In both the citywide and subdivision level analyses of appraisal values, there are factors not accounted for which could influence individual property values. In order to minimize these factors, case studies with market data were conducted on similar subdivisions, but the results are not statistically verifiable. Rather, this analysis indicates that there is an apparent correlation between park proximity, qualities, and property values, suggesting a need to conduct further and deeper research.

The Sports Capital of Texas Designation

Round Rock is designated as the Sports Capital of Texas. Such a designation has a high impact on the City and the economy of Round Rock. As of the end of 2015, tournaments and events brought to Round Rock because it is the Sports Capital of Texas had a total economic impact of \$12,336,661. Being the Sports Capital of Texas also implies certain responsibilities of the City. **In order to continue to attract and recruit tournaments, fields need to be tournament quality and in excellent condition.** Money must be set aside on an annual basis for the purpose of maintaining fields at a tournament quality. Tournament officials will find another host city if the quality of the playing fields and surrounding amenities do not meet their desires. The City of Round Rock must maintain and upgrade its sports facilities in order to meet their goal of being the Sports Capital of Texas.

Also, there needs to be an adequate number of fields to accommodate tournaments and events. The City has made a concerted effort to increase the number and types of fields available for tournament use as part of the Sports Capital of Texas initiative.

Furthermore, for Round Rock to truly be the Sports Capital of Texas, the City needs to appeal to all sports, not just baseball, softball, and soccer. With the construction of the Old Settlers Park Multipurpose Field Complex, a multitude of flat field sports can be accommodated. Softball and baseball tournaments can be held at the existing ballfield complexes at Old Settlers Park. However, other outdoor sports which could be attracted to Round Rock for tournaments, including sand volleyball, tennis, archery, ultimate Frisbee, track running, or BMX biking, cannot currently be accommodated. Indoor sports which could have tournaments in the Sports Capital of Texas could include arena football, indoor soccer, racquetball, and ice hockey or ice skating if an ice rink is available.

The Sports Capital of Texas initiative has done a good job recruiting tournaments for sports tourism; however, it is important to find a balance between tournament fields and fields that the City can provide for local leagues and resident use. It is important to offer both tournament level fields for leagues, but also spaces for practice and resident pick-up games. Currently, fields are over-stressed to accommodate Sports Capital of Texas tournaments, local league play, and local league practices; thus resulting in less rest time for turf rejuvenation. Ultimately, field quality suffers with overuse, so additional fields are needed.





Repair and Replacement Program

One very important job of a city is to maintain existing facilities and amenities. Often times, after a park is built, it can be seen as less of a priority and the condition of the park consequently suffers. During the previous master plan's public input process, 98 percent of residents stated that better parks would help improve the City's image. As a response to that input, in 2009, PARD completed the initial system-wide inventory assessment as a baseline to track the condition of the Department's assets. Since then, PARD has performed assessments on a biennial basis with the purpose of creating a Repair and Replacement Plan outlining the priority of upgrades across the system. The prioritization of repair/replacement is based on health and safety issues, compliance with current standards, level of use, revenue potential, and age of asset. Implementation of the initial plan was divided over ten years, although the repair and replacement process will be continual even after the initial plan is complete. **Since the inception of the program in 2010, PARD has been able to make updates, improvements, and repairs at over 17 different parks and facilities, with multiple projects at some of the more highly used parks and facilities like Old Settlers Park, Rock'N River, and Clay Madsen Recreation Center (see Figure 3.29, *Recent Repair and Replacement Program Projects*).**

The Repair and Replacement Program is funded through the General Self-Financed Budget. Each year, City Council has authorized the allocation of \$750,000 to go towards Repair and Replacement Projects to be used across the system. PARD supplements this budget by utilizing Parkland Dedication fees, federal grants, and other funding mechanisms to allow for a larger impact across the City. As a result, this program has been well-received by the residents of Round Rock. During public input meetings, residents have expressed that they thought the City had forgotten about older neighborhoods and they are glad to see the City stepping up and taking care of them. This program has helped curb neighborhood deterioration and adds to the overall value of the surrounding properties.

As Old Settlers Park starts to age, it is becoming more and more important to implement a partner Repair and Replacement/Beautification Program solely for Old Settlers Park. Old Settlers Park is one of the crown jewels of Round Rock. With numerous sports complexes in the park, it generates a considerable amount of revenue both directly (tournament fees) and indirectly (hotels and restaurants). Additionally, Old Settlers Park is one of the most highly used parks for 5K runs, special events, biking and running trails, and fishing. Several assets in the park are approaching 30 years old and are nearing or exceeding their productive life. Because of the high use and visibility of the park, it is important to make annual improvements in the park. By allocating a devoted

\$250,000 annually to an Old Settlers Park Repair and Replacement/Beautification Program, PARD can make improvements in the park, while allowing the \$750,000 for the original Repair and Replacement Program to go towards neighborhood and community parks. Sample projects for the Repair and Replacement/Beautification Program in Old Settlers Park include, but are not limited to pavilion renovations,

Figure 3.29, Recent Repair and Replacement Program Projects

Year	Location	Improvements
2011	Settlement Park	Replaced pavilion, playground, basketball court, trail and ADA improvements
2011	Chisholm Valley Park	Replaced playground, added shade structure, walking loop, and ADA improvements
2011	Mesa Village Park	Replaced playground
2011	Rock Hollow Park	Installed picnic shade structures, replaced playgrounds, trail improvements
2011	Somerset Park	Replaced pavilion, playground, basketball court, trail and ADA improvements
2012	Rock'N River	Replastered pool
2012	Micki Krebsbach Pool	Replastered pool and replaced water play elements
2012	Old Settlers Park	Improvements at cricket field
2013	Kensington Greenbelt	Replaced pavilion, playground, installed shade structure over picnic area, installed sand volleyball court, trail and ADA improvements
2013	Lake Creek Pool	Replumb and replace pool deck
2013	Mesa Village Park	Added picnic grove, replaced pavilion and looping trail
2014	Lake Creek Park	Replaced pavilion, restroom, playground, added gaps of trail, and ADA improvements
2015	Veterans Park	Constructed new pavilion, covered basketball court, restroom, Veterans Memorial Wall, site irrigation, and ADA improvements
2015	Old Settlers Park	Parking improvements at Tennis Complex, additional parking at Multipurpose Field, parking improvements at Triple Crown Complex
2016	Stella Park	Replaced pavilion, playground, basketball court, new backstop fencing, looping trail
2017	Joanne Land Playground	Replaced and expanded playground
2017	Rock'N River	Replace rubber in tot pool and beach area, replaster existing pool up to lazy river, replace existing pool toys
2017	Old Settlers Park	ADA improvements, repair and extension of Lakeview Trail, drainage improvements on Creekside Loop Trail
2017	Lake Creek Pool	Realigned entry drive, ADA and parking improvements
2017	Round Rock West Park	Replaced pavilion, restroom, tennis fence, playground, irrigation, and ADA improvements
2017	Greenhill Park	ADA improvements and installation of new pavilion
2017	Veterans Park	Replaced Basketball fence, added lighting at new covered basketball court and pavilion, replaced playground

field renovations, fencing repairs, batting cage repairs, concrete upkeep, landscape projects, entry signage, wayfinding signage, pier/dock improvements, and many others (see Figure 3.30, *Potential Repair and Replacement / Beautification Projects for Old Settlers Park*).

Figure 3.30, Potential Repair and Replacement / Beautification Projects for Old Settlers Park

OSP Needs	Estimated Cost	Notes
Batting Cage Nets	\$35,000.00	*replaces netting at all four batting cages
Batting Cage Carpet	\$50,000.00	*replaces carpet and padding at all four batting cages
Batting Cage Fence	\$75,000.00	*replaces fencing at all four batting cages
Conversion of decomposed granite parking islands / tailgate areas	\$110,000.00	*convert tailgate islands to concrete at Gold Glove and Hall of Fame
Message Boards	\$250,000 each	*large message centers at park entrances for wayfinding and emergency messaging
Entry sign modifications	\$100,000.00	*includes all four main entry signs to update signage and increase visibility
Old Settlers Park Blvd. median improvements	\$250,000 per entry point	*includes decorative paving, planting at median - possible partner with Transportation Department
Major Amenity / Complex denotation	\$75,000 per entry point	*monument along Harrell Parkway to let people know there is a major amenity or complex (i.e. - Rabb Pavilion, Joanne Land Playground, etc.)
Entry sign landscape	\$75,000.00	*update all landscape beds at the four main entrances
Landscape at Aten Loop / Harrell Parkway	\$25,000.00	*boulevard plantings
Dock / pier improvement	\$75,000.00	*replaces dock and trail approach at Bright Lake
Parkwide Irrigation	dependent on specified project area	*phasing of parkwide irrigation system, high priority for areas of high use such as cross country courses
Pavilion Renovations	\$250,000.00	
Field Enhancements	\$150,000 annually	*includes replacing infield material, poor turf areas, complex repairs, outfield fence wind screen, foul poles, scoreboards, etc.
Site Amenity replacement	\$10,000 annually	*include replacing benches, picnic tables, water fountains, bleachers, etc.

Parks and Recreation Service Levels

Maintaining parkland takes time, manpower, and resources. When compared to other park departments in communities with similar populations to Round Rock (see Figure 3.31, *Parks Department Comparisons*), Round Rock is generally average. Staffing levels, revenues per capita, cost recovery, annual operating budgets, and expenditures per full time employee (FTE) are right on par with national levels for park departments in cities of similar size. However, it is important to note that Round Rock far exceeds the national average for acres of parkland with 19.6 acres of City-owned per 1,000 residents (compared to a national average of 7.4 acres per 1,000 residents). Similarly, Round Rock is well below the national average for operating expenditures per acre of park land with \$4,824 spent per acre (compared to \$11,415 spent per acre nationally). Ultimately, this means that Round Rock residents get more “bang for their buck.” As previously discussed, park land is one of the major factors that contributes to quality of life. Even though Round Rock is located in a sprawling metropolitan area, City leaders have made a commitment to preserve green space and make it accessible.

In 2016, the PARD underwent a Staffing Level Study performed by PROS Consulting. This study provided both operational and staffing recommendations to maintain the current level of service expected from the PARD. The organizational recommendations included software upgrades, creating a stand-alone aquatics division, reorganization of scheduling, increasing the amount of contract labor, etc. Many of these recommendations have already been addressed and implemented. In addition to the organizational recommendations, the study provided staffing recommendations. Overall, the consulting team recommended that an additional 15 full-time positions be added to the Department to create a more effective and efficient work environment. In addition to the 15 full-time employees, the study also recommends four to six additional full-time parks maintenance employees when the Adult Recreation Complex is built and two additional maintenance or forestry employees to maintain the trails when the proposed trail sections are completed. Refer to Figure 3.32, *Staffing Recommendations*, for a list of full staffing recommendations from the consulting team.

Figure 3.31, Parks Department Comparisons

Data Item	Round Rock	National Avg. (All Agencies)	National Avg. (100k-250k population) (over 2,500 ppl / sq mile)
Acres of Parkland per 1,000 Residents (median)	19.6	9.5	7.4
(Lower Quartile)		4.6	3.9
(Upper Quartile)		16.5	14.9
Staffing : Total PARD Full Time Equivalents (median)	100.88	33	80.3
(Lower Quartile)		11	33.5
(Upper Quartile)		87.4	181.4
Staffing : PARD FTE's per 10,000 Residents (median)	8.61	7.4	5.9
(Lower Quartile)		3.5	2.9
(Upper Quartile)		14.8	11.3
Annual PARD Operating Expenditures	\$10,950,434	\$3,459,846	\$10,000,000
PARD Operating Expenditures per Capita (median)	\$93.47	\$76.44	\$100.63
(Lower Quartile)		\$38.78	\$58.99
(Upper Quartile)		\$138.39	\$184.48
PARD Operating Expenditures per Acre of Park Land (median)	\$4,824	\$6,476	\$11,415
(Lower Quartile)		\$3,129	\$5,866
(Upper Quartile)		\$14,939	\$27,447
PARD Operating Expenditures per FTE (median)	\$108,549	\$96,055	\$108,135
(Lower Quartile)		\$69,090	\$74,472
(Upper Quartile)		\$143,038	\$174,960
PARD Revenues per Capita (median)	\$29.84	\$18.22	\$29.23
(Lower Quartile)		\$6.47	\$9.48
(Upper Quartile)		\$51.18	\$73.13
PARD Revenue as a Percentage of Expenditures / Cost Recovery (median)	31.9%	29.0%	31.5%
(Lower Quartile)		13.3%	14.7%
(Upper Quartile)		49.2%	49.4%

Figure 3.32, Staffing Recommendations

New Full-Time Staffing Needs	Suggested Date of Implementation	Status
Aquatic Manager	February 2016	Position created and filled
Assistant Aquatic Manager for Rock'N River	February 2016	
Aquatic Maintenance Technician for Rock'N River	February 2016	
Special Event Coordinator	May 2016	
Irrigation Technician for In-Town Crew (2 total)	May 2016	
Irrigation Technician for OSP	May 2016	
Reservation Specialist	October 2016	Position created and filled
Marketing and Communications Coordinator	October 2016	Position created and filled
Park Rangers (3 total)	October 2016	
Gardeners (2 total)	March 2017	
Old Settlers Park Maintenance Worker (4-6 total)	Upon completion of Adult Recreation Complex	Pending
In-Town Maintenance Worker or Forestry (2 total)	Upon completion of trail sections	Pending

CHAPTER 4

Public Input

The recommendations of the Round Rock Strategic Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update, Playbook 2030: Building a Connected Community, are intended to provide high quality parks and recreation to meet the needs of the community today and into the future. As such, it is important to get an updated understanding of the community's wants, needs, and priorities.

Throughout the planning process, a variety of engagement types were used to gain an understanding of the thoughts and ideas of the public. By using different engagement strategies, varying user types were given a chance to express their opinions in the setting most comfortable for them. The public input process familiarized residents with the master planning process, generated awareness about current planned improvements and opportunities for additional enhancements, and asked the community to identify their priorities for the future of Round Rock's parks and recreation.

Engagement methods used throughout the planning process included:

- *Two citywide telephone surveys (one specifically for parks and recreation and one focused on all City services), to determine broad based public opinions and perceptions from across the City;*
- *An online survey, available to any resident of the community so that all people had the opportunity to specifically voice their opinion;*
- *Neighborhood public open house meetings held throughout the City with a survey given to the attendees of those meetings; and*
- *Meetings with City Council and the Planning and Zoning Commission to garner their feedback and priorities.*



“Where parks and open space are plentiful and recreation services strong, residents enjoy the closest attachment and engagement within their communities...”

~ National Recreation and Park Association

Public Surveys

Overview and Methodology

ETC Institute conducted a statistically valid Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment Survey for the Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) to establish priorities for the future improvement of parks, recreation facilities, programs and services within the community.

A goal was set to obtain a minimum of 600 completed surveys within the City boundaries. Leisure Vision/ETC Institute reached that goal and obtained a total of 633 completed surveys. The results for the sample of 633 households have a 95% level of confidence with a precision rate of at least +/- 3.8%. The survey was conducted from September to November 2015.

A second online public survey was open to the greater public and included the same questions as the statistically valid survey. This survey was advertised via a PARD e-mail blast; social media posts on Facebook and Twitter; advertisements in local newspapers; flyers distributed to recreation centers, City Hall, and the library; and a “News Flash” included with residents’ City utility bill. The survey was available for residents to complete during each of the five neighborhood open house public meetings as well as during two impromptu open houses at the Rock’N River Water Park and Play for All Playground.

The online survey was offered from August through September 2015 and once again from May through June 2016. It was completed by 531 respondents. Results largely affirmed the statistically valid survey. Highlights from the statistically valid survey are illustrated on this and the following pages. Online survey results that differed noticeably from the statistically valid results are explained, where necessary.

Major Findings

Parks and Open Spaces

The parks and open space system is highly used by residents. A majority (77%) of households indicated that they have visited parks and/or open spaces operated by the City of Round Rock over the past 12 months. This is comparable to the national visitation rate of 79 percent. An even greater percentage (91%) of the online survey respondents indicated that they had visited the parks. The online survey went on to ask which park respondents visit most frequently. Old Settlers Park was selected by an overwhelming majority as the park most frequently visited. The second and third most visited parks and open spaces were the Brushy Creek Greenbelt and Trail and the Play for All Abilities Park, respectively.

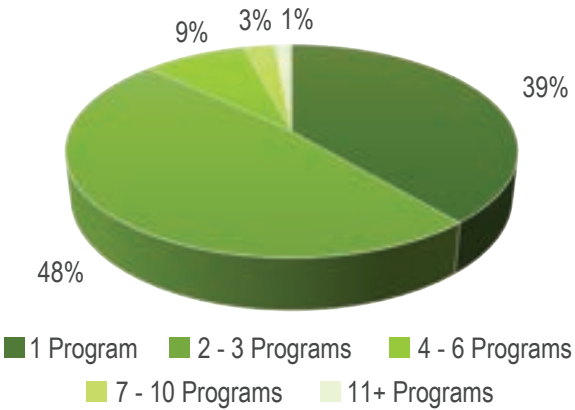
Figure 4.1, Physical Condition of Round Rock Parks and Open Spaces



Excellent ratings of parks and open spaces are much higher than the national average. Respondents were asked how they would rate the physical condition of all the parks and open space provided by the City. The overall condition of the parks was rated as excellent by 45 percent of households, which is higher than the national benchmark (31%). Only six percent of respondents felt that the condition of parks was either fair or poor (see Figure 4.1, *Physical Condition of Round Rock Parks and Open Spaces*).

Current Programs

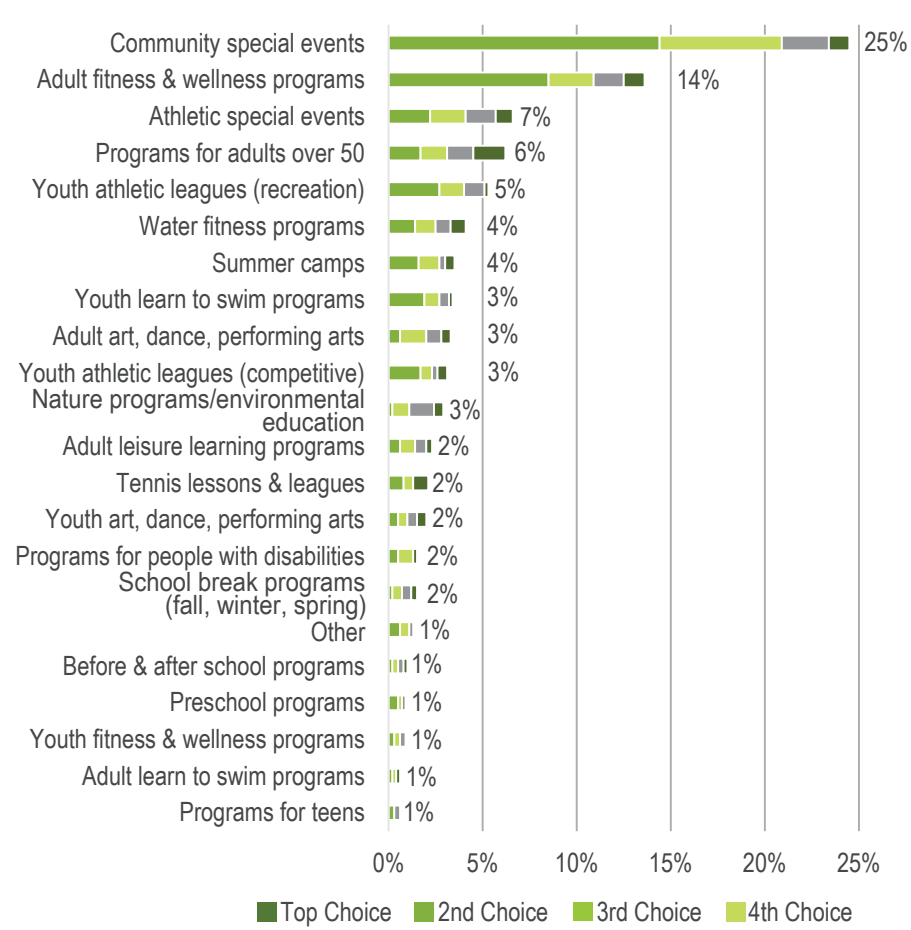
Figure 4.2, Program Participation in the Past 12 Months



Approximately one-quarter of households participate in recreation programs. When asked about their level of participation in the City’s recreation programs, 23 percent of households indicated that they had participated in programs during the past 12 months. Participation rates are about 10 percent lower than the national average. Of the 23 percent who participated in programs, 48 percent participated in two to three programs and 39 percent participated in one program over the past 12 months (see Figure 4.2, *Program Participation in the Past 12 Months*). Notably, 46 percent of online survey respondents indicated that they have participated in programs within the last year.

The top two reasons households participate in programs include (1) cost of program or activity and (2) location of program facility.

Figure 4.3, Program Participation by Type



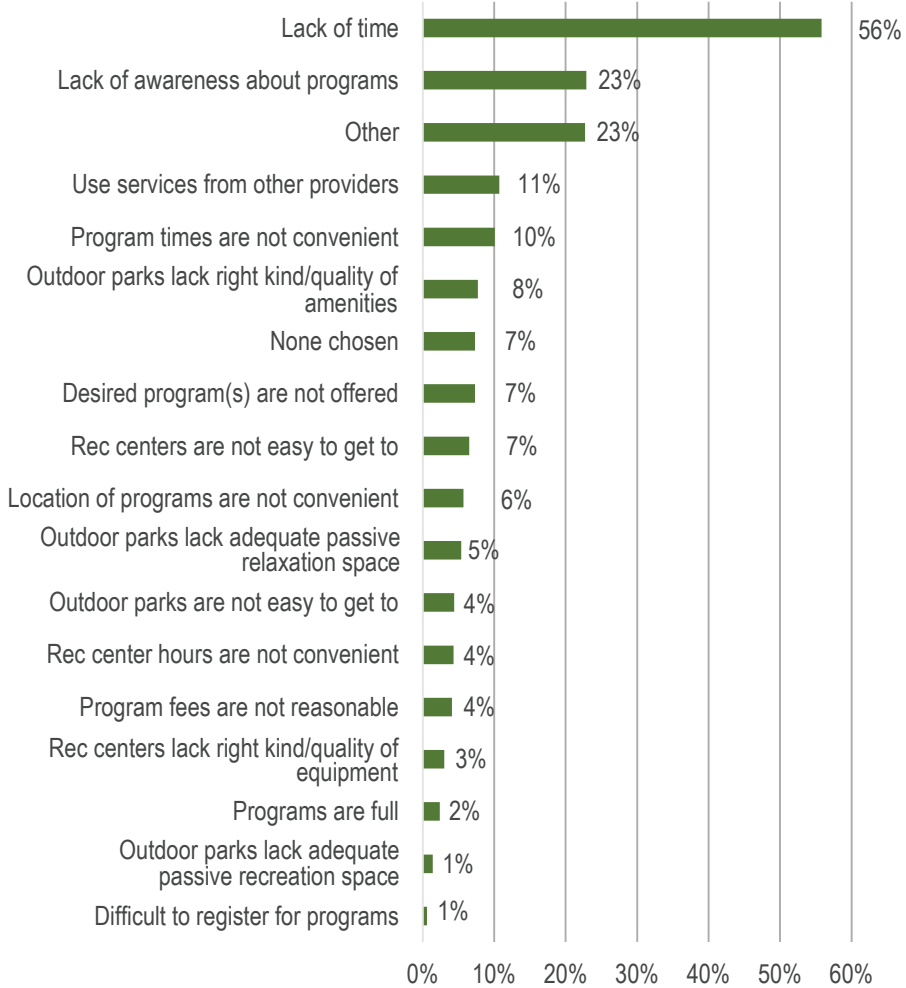
Community special events are a popular program in Round Rock. Households were asked to indicate the top four programs they participate in the most often. Based on the sum of households’ top four choices, 25 percent indicated that they participated in community special events the most. Other most participated in programs include adult fitness and wellness programs (14%), athletic special events (7%), and programs for adults over 50 (6%) (see Figure 4.3, *Program Participation by Type*). Households rate the overall quality of programs as higher than national averages.

How Households Rate the Quality of Programs They Have Participated In

	National	Round Rock (statistically valid survey)	Round Rock (online survey)
Excellent	35%	44%	58%
Good	53%	53%	37%
Fair	10%	3%	4%
Poor	2%	1%	1%



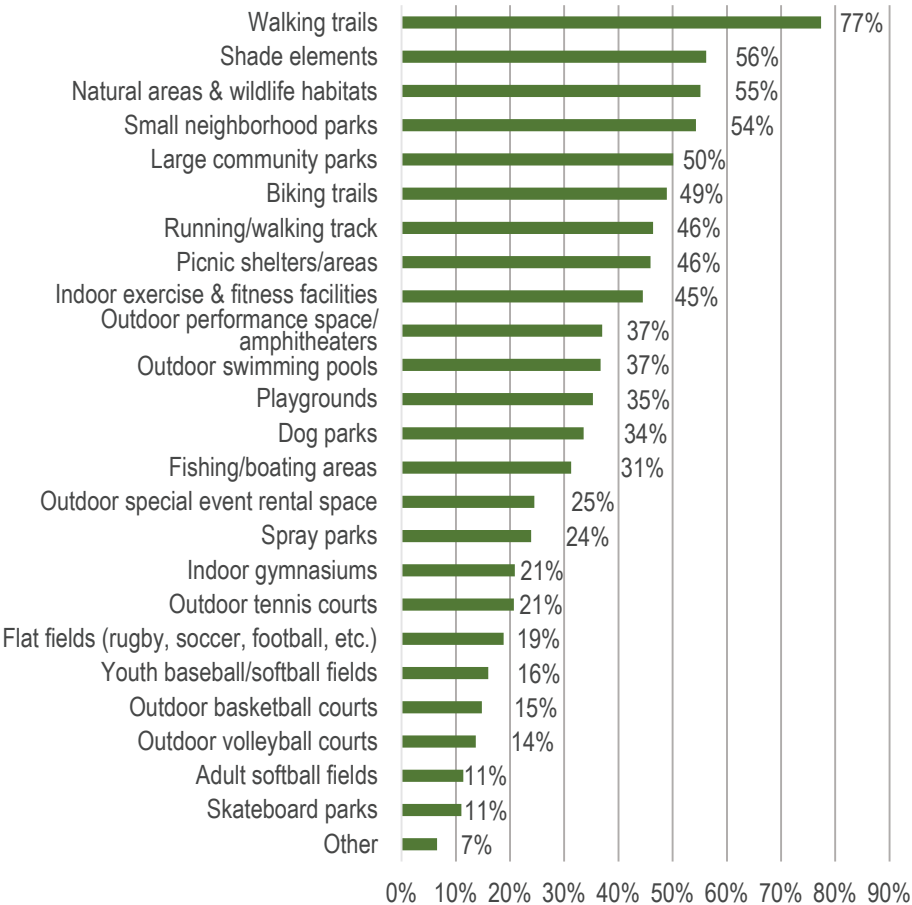
Figure 4.4, Reasons that Prevent Greater Use of Parks and Recreation



Busy lives and lack of awareness prevent greater program participation. The top reasons households indicated that prevent them from using outdoor parks, indoor recreation centers, and programs are lack of time (56%) and lack of awareness about programs (23%) (see Figure 4.4, *Reasons that Prevent Greater Use of Parks and Recreation*). This number is comparable to the national average (22%).

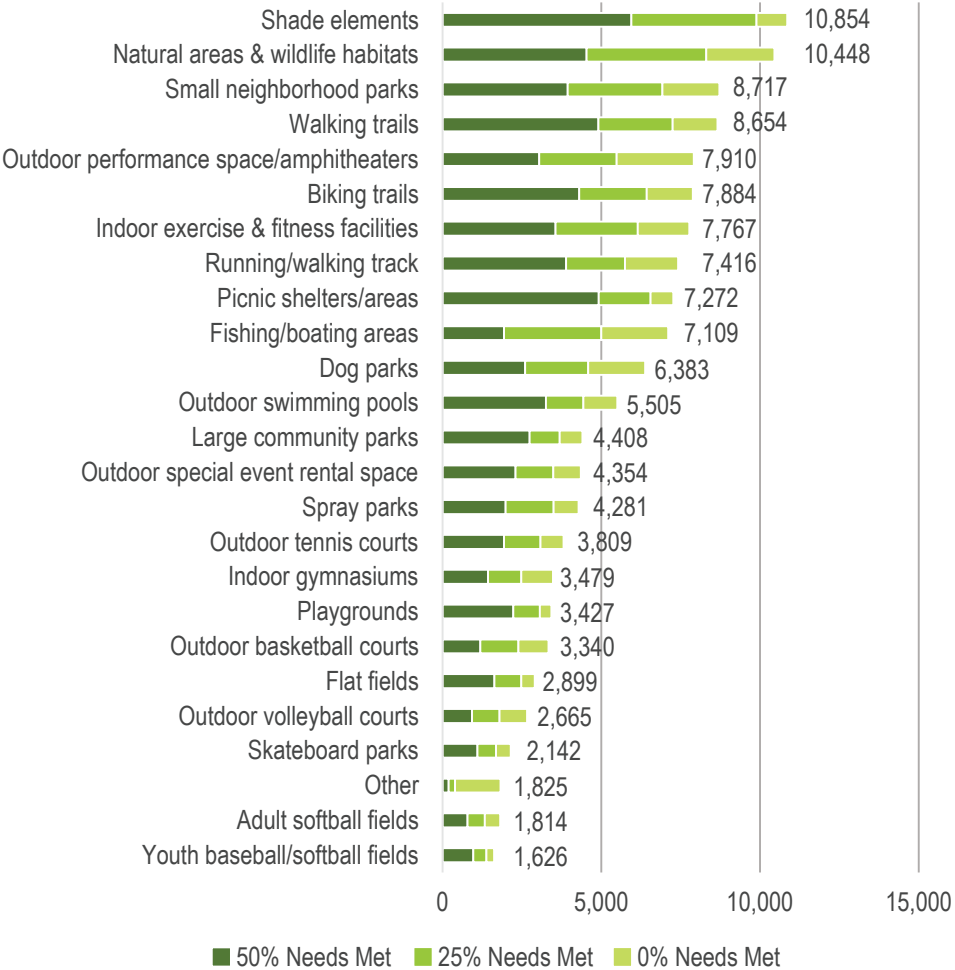
Parks and Recreation Facility Needs

Figure 4.5, Need for Parks and Recreation Facilities



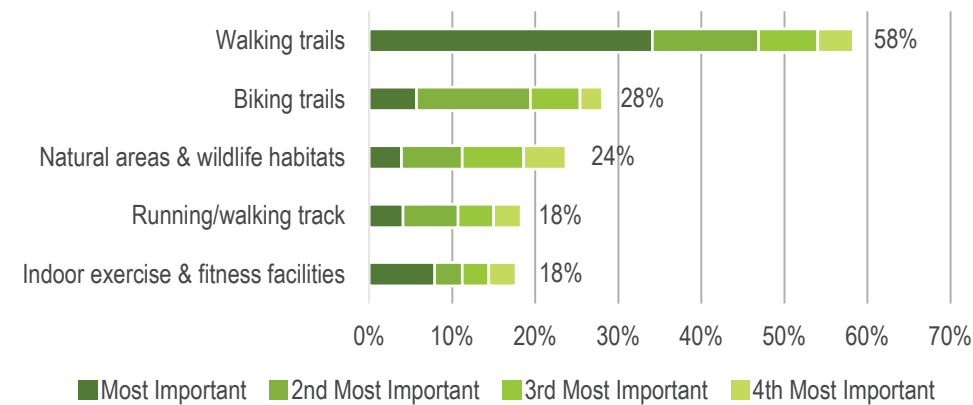
Passive recreation facilities are the most needed among households. Respondents were asked to identify which park and recreation facilities they had a need for. A strong majority of respondents (77% or 27,129 households) indicated a need for walking trails. This is slightly higher than the national average (69%). Other most needed facilities include shade elements (56% or 19,698 households), natural areas and wildlife habitats (55% or 19,313 households), small neighborhood parks (54% or 19,032 households), and large community parks (50% or 17,560 households) (see Figure 4.5, *Need for Parks and Recreation Facilities*).

Figure 4.6, Estimated Number of Households Whose Recreation Facility Needs are Being Met 50% or Less



Passive recreation facility needs are the least met needs in the parks system. After identifying whether their household had a need for a variety of park and recreation facilities, respondents were asked how well their needs were being met. Facilities for which respondents most frequently indicated their need was only being met fifty percent or less of the time were shade elements, natural areas & wildlife habitats, small neighborhood parks, walking trails, and outdoor performance spaces (see Figure 4.6, *Estimated Number of Households Whose Recreation Facility Needs are Being Met 50% or Less*).

Figure 4.7, Facilities that are Most Important to Households

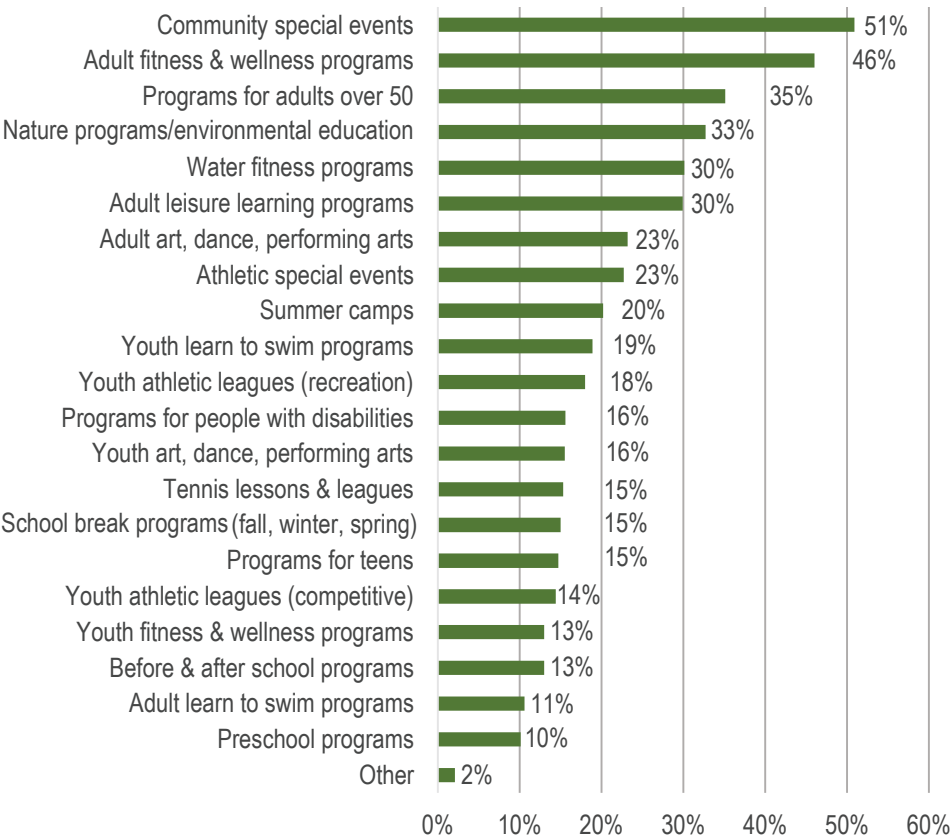


Active and passive fitness opportunities which provide access to nature are most important to households. Shown the same list of parks and recreation facilities as the previous questions, respondents were asked to choose the top four facilities that were most important to their household. Based on the sum of households' top four choices, the most important facilities are walking trails (58%), biking trails (28%), natural areas & wildlife habitats (24%), running/walking track (18%), and indoor exercise and fitness facilities (18%) (see Figure 4.7, *Facilities that are Most Important to Households*). Other top priority facilities identified during the online survey included outdoor swimming pools and playgrounds.



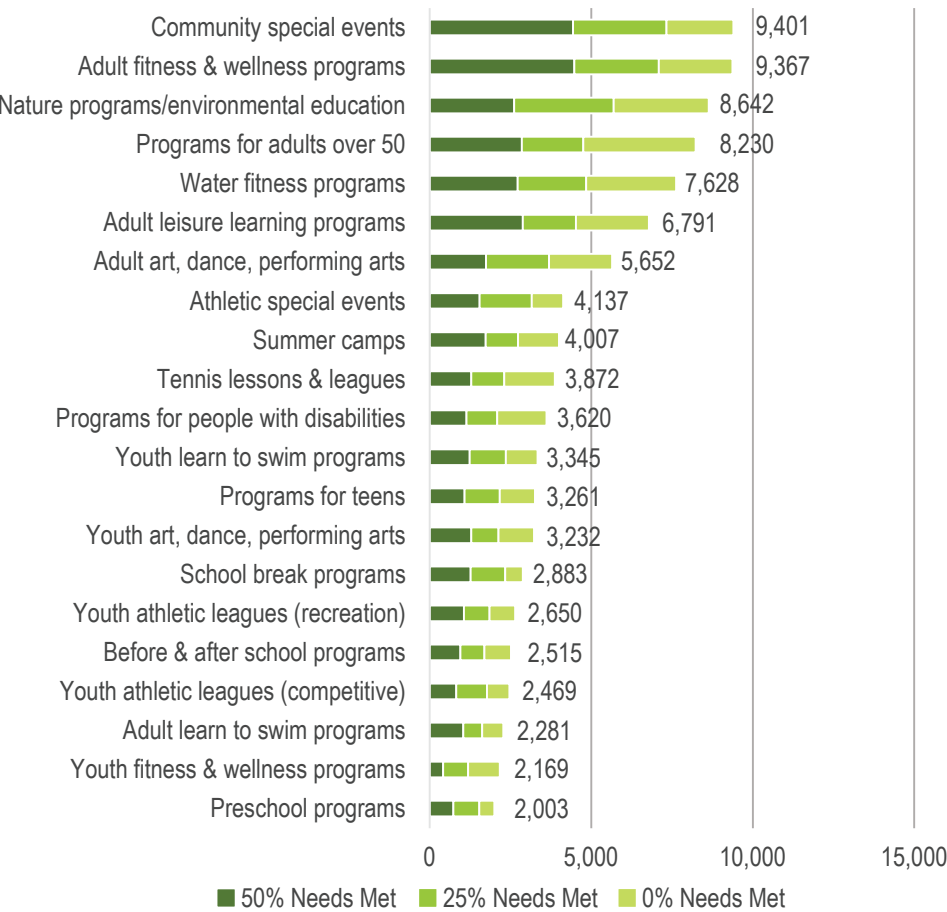
Program Needs

Figure 4.8, Need for Parks and Recreation Programs



Adult and multi-generational programs and events are the most needed. Respondents were shown a list of recreation programs and asked to indicate if their household had a need for them. As seen in Figure 4.8, *Needs for Parks and Recreation Programs*, 51 percent or 17,840 households indicated a need for community special events. This is 11 percent above the national average (40%). It is evident that Round Rock residents value opportunities for family-friendly community interaction. Other highly needed programs include adult fitness and wellness programs (46% or 16,123), programs for adults over 50 (35% or 12,303), nature programs/environmental education (33% or 11,461 households), water fitness programs (30% or 10,550), and adult leisure learning programs (30% or 10,480 households). Aside from community events and nature programs, in general terms, the greatest programming need is for adults.

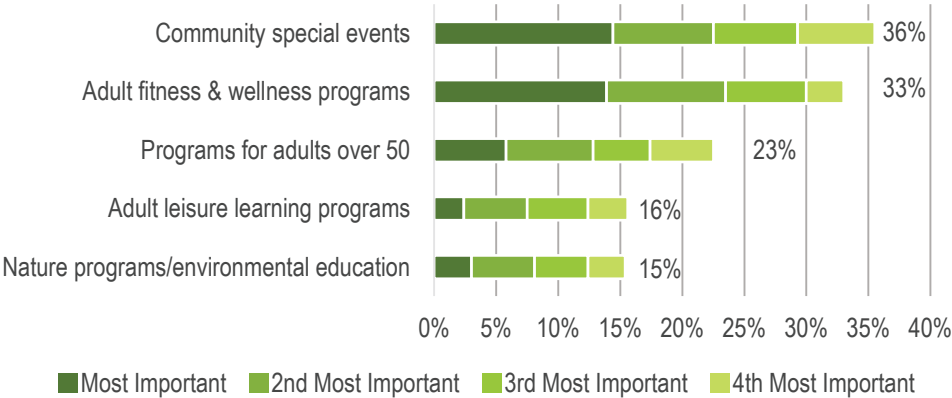
Figure 4.9, Estimated Number of Households Whose Recreation Program Needs are Being Met 50% or Less



The most highly needed programs are also the least met needs. When asked how well their household's recreation program needs were being met, needs for the same top five programs were selected most often as only being met fifty percent or less of the time. Based on Figure 4.9, *Estimated Number of Households Whose Recreation Program Needs are Being Met 50% or Less*, respondents felt that youth and children programming is largely meeting their needs, while the need for adult and senior programs is greater at this point.



Figure 4.10, Programs that are Most Important to Households



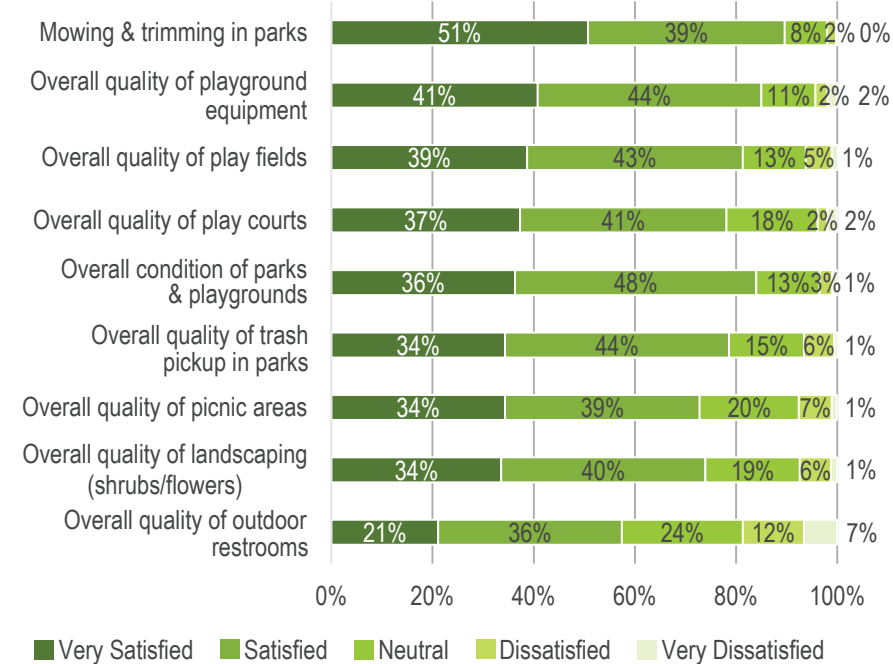
Community events and adult wellness and fitness are top community priorities. After indicating their need for recreation programs, respondents were asked to choose their top four programs. Not surprisingly, community special events (36%), adult fitness and wellness programs (33%), and programs for adults over 50 (23%) were selected as the most important programs (see Figure 4.10, *Programs that are Most Important to Households*).



Parks and Playground Services

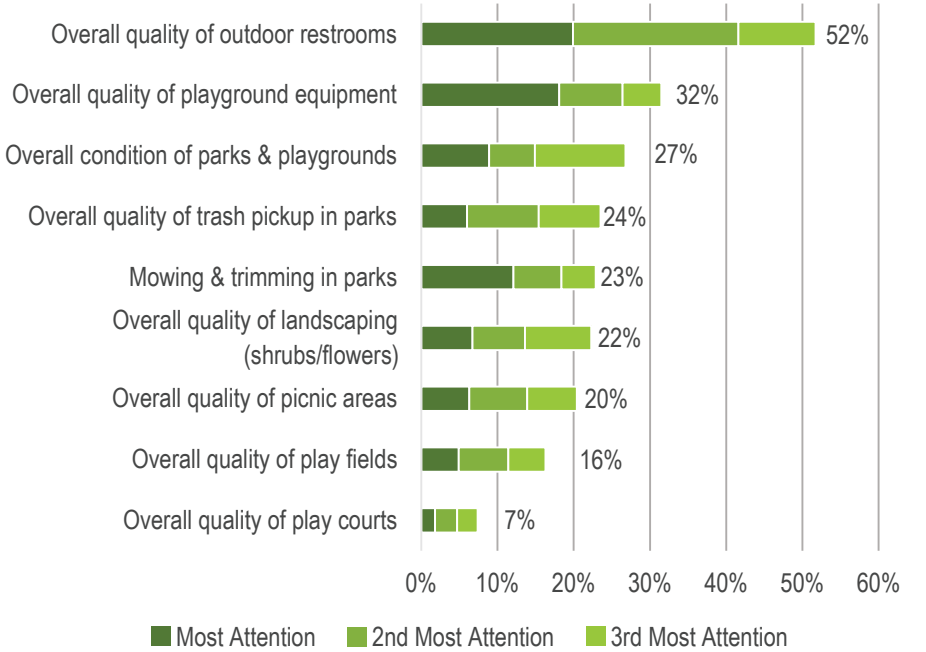
Playground usage is similar to general park usage. When asked if their household used any playgrounds in the last 12 months, 71 percent of households indicated that they have. Over 80 percent of online survey responses indicated that they have used a playground in the last year.

Figure 4.11, Household Satisfaction with Parks and Playground Services



Residents are largely satisfied with the quality and condition of parks. Respondents were asked to rate their satisfaction with a variety of park and playground services provided by the City. Overall, households are satisfied with the quality and condition of facilities, amenities, and maintenance of parks. Over 70 percent of households are very satisfied or satisfied with all the services listed, with the exception of outdoor restrooms. Based on resident responses (see Figure 4.11, *Household Satisfaction with Parks and Playground Services*), the City could work on improving its outdoor restrooms to increase user satisfaction with the parks system.

Figure 4.12, Parks and Playgrounds Services that Should Receive the Most Attention Over the Next Two Years



Restrooms, playground equipment, and the overall condition of parks and playgrounds are high priority maintenance items for residents. Respondents were asked to choose the three park and playground services they think should receive the most attention from the City over the next two years. Directly related to their level of satisfaction, the top item chosen by over half (52%) of households was the overall quality of outdoor restrooms. However, even though respondents were largely satisfied with the City's playground equipment and condition of parks and playgrounds, it is important to residents that these services continue as a high priority (see Figure 4.12, *Parks and Playgrounds Services that Should Receive the Most Attention Over the Next Two Years*).



Developing additional trails was the most important item for survey respondents.



Developing large nature parks with trails and passive recreation opportunities is the second highest priority item for survey respondents.

Importance of Actions for the Parks and Recreation Department

Figure 4.13, Importance of Potential PARD Actions

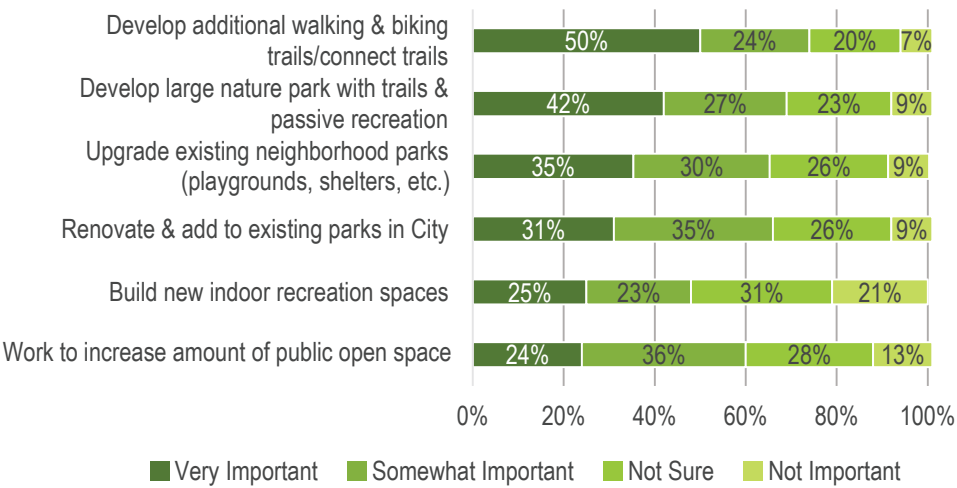
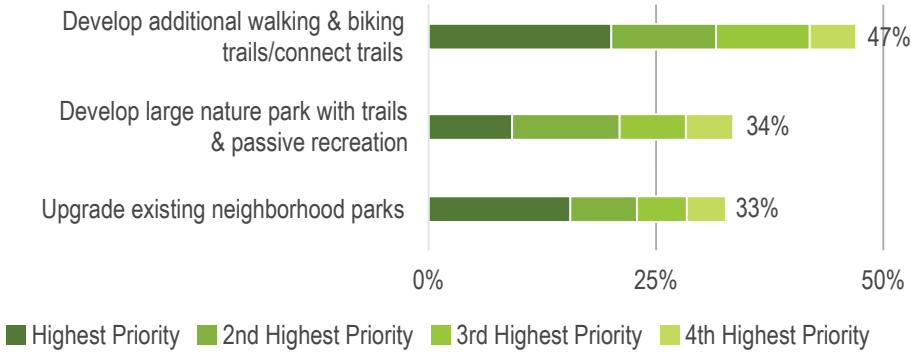


Figure 4.14, Highest Priority Potential PARD Actions

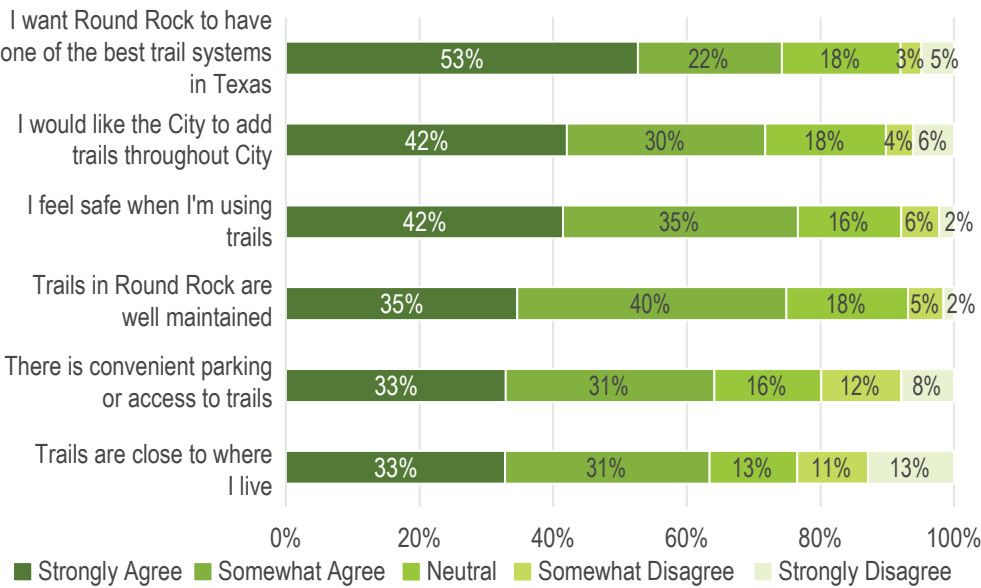


Trail-related actions and upgrading and further developing existing parks are considered most important. Moving forward, there are a variety of actions the PARD can take to improve, expand, and further develop the parks system. In order to gain an understanding of resident priorities, respondents were asked to indicate how important they considered a series of potential actions. Developing additional trails/connecting trails (74% phone / 78% online survey) and developing nature parks with trails and passive recreation (69% phone / 78% online survey) were considered the most highly important actions when considering very important or somewhat important responses. Other highly ranking actions were upgrading existing neighborhood parks (65% phone / 81% online survey), renovating and adding to existing parks (66% phone / 72% online survey), increasing the amount of public open space (60% phone / 65% online survey), and building new indoor recreation spaces (48% phone / 63% of online survey responses) (see Figure 4.13, *Importance of Potential PARD Actions*).

Trails and parks within walking distance are residents’ highest priorities. Considering the same list of potential PARD actions, respondents were asked to choose their top four priorities. Based on the sum of households’ top four choices, the highest priority actions include adding trails and trail connections (47% phone / 49% online survey), developing nature parks with trails and passive recreation (34% phone / 30% online survey), and upgrading existing neighborhood parks (33% phone / 22% online survey) (see Figure 4.14, *Highest Priority Potential PARD Actions*).



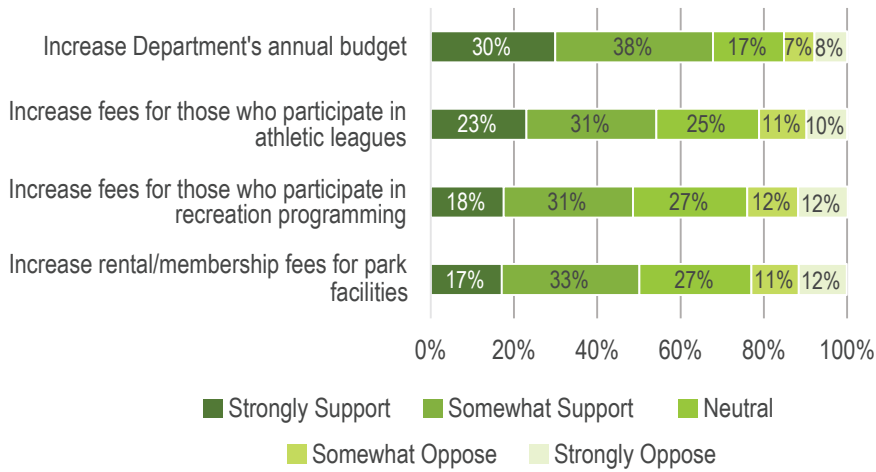
Figure 4.15, Trail-Related Statements



Residents want a state-of-the-art trail system. Based on all the previous survey questions, it is very apparent that residents value a high-quality, well-connected trail system. In order to determine trail priorities, respondents were asked to indicate how strongly they agreed with a series of trail-related statements. As seen in Figure 4.15, *Trail-Related Statements*, when considering strongly agree and somewhat agree responses, residents strongly desire Round Rock to the have one of the best trail systems in Texas (75%), and would like to see additional trails throughout the City (72%). Notably, respondents largely feel that the City’s existing trails are safe, well maintained, provide convenient parking, and are located near residences. While approximately half of respondents indicated a desire to use trails to get to places of interest, it appears that many people simply want to use trails for recreation and fitness purposes.

Financial Strategies

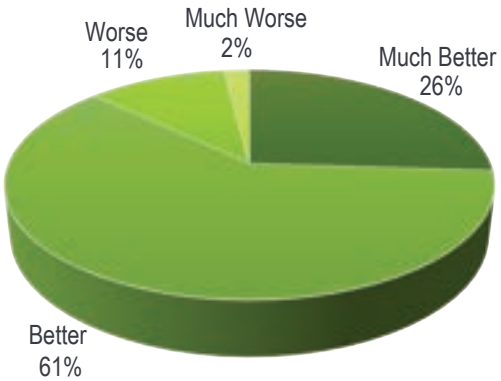
Figure 4.16, Support for Financial Strategies



The most supported financial strategy is to increase the PARD’s budget. Similar to many other cities, Round Rock’s PARD may require additional funding to meet the desires of its growing population. As such, respondents were asked how strongly they supported four different financing strategies. A large percentage (68%) of households indicated that they strongly supported or somewhat supported an increase in the PARD’s annual budget. Support for the other strategies was slightly lower but still near 50 percent or above (see Figure 4.16, *Support for Financial Strategies*). In general, 10 percent or greater of online survey respondents strongly supported or somewhat supported all the financing strategies.

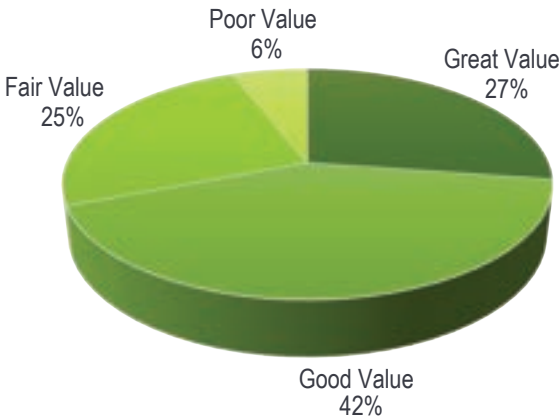
Other Findings

Figure 4.17, How Round Rock Parks Compare with Other Cities



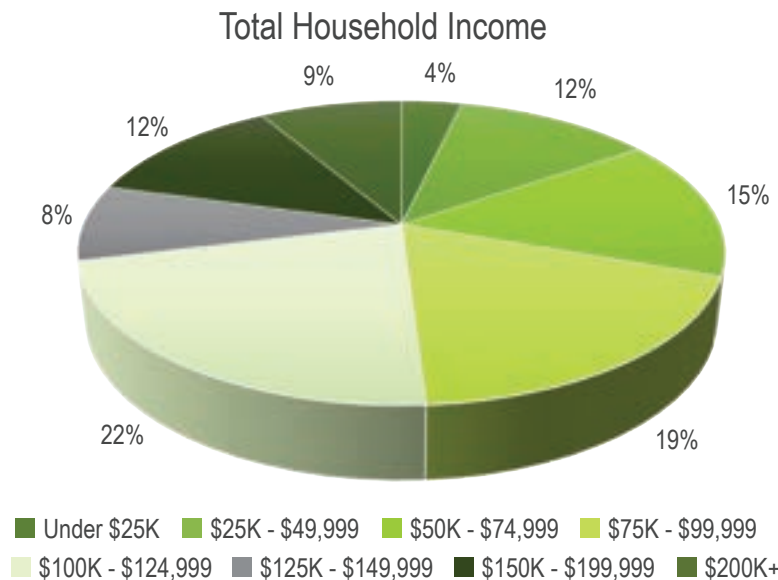
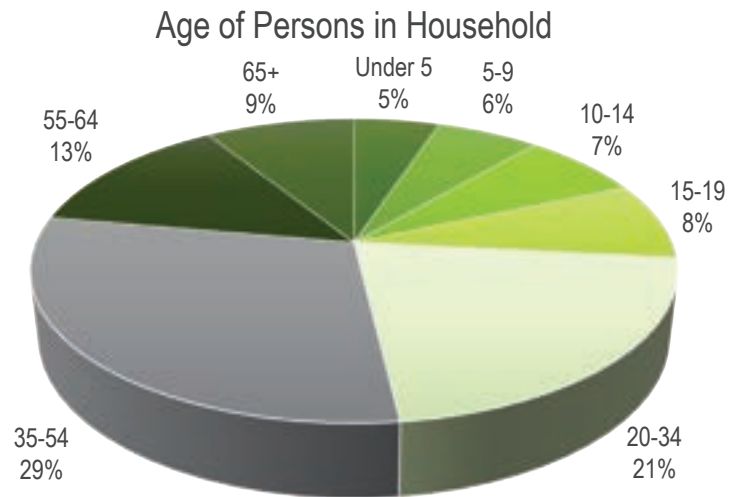
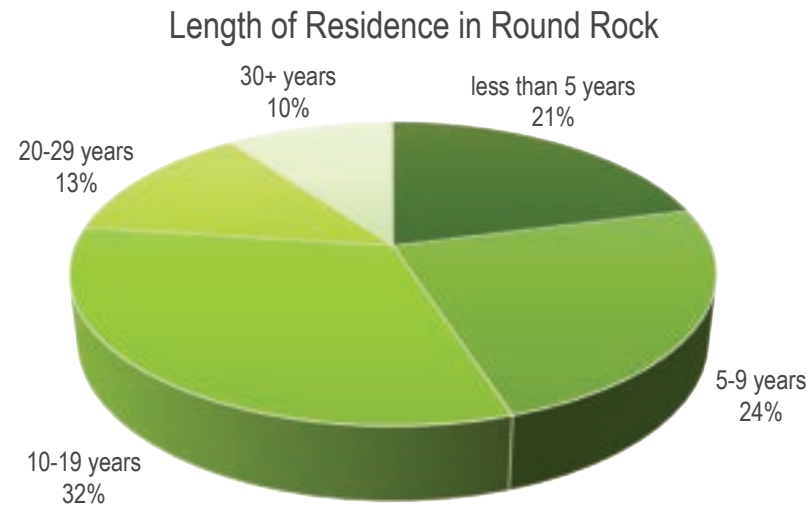
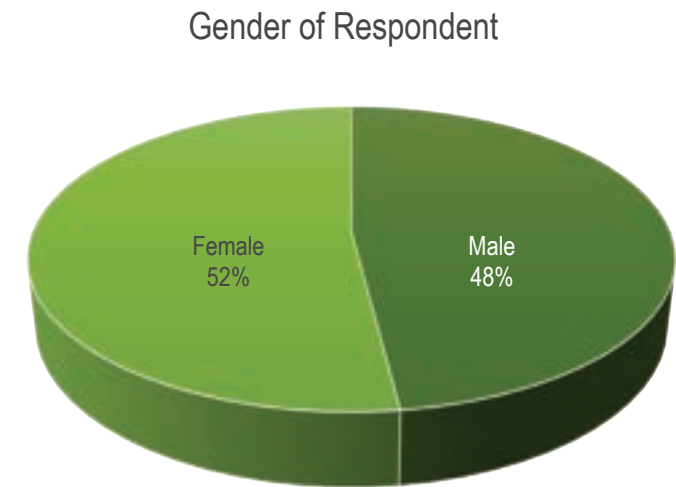
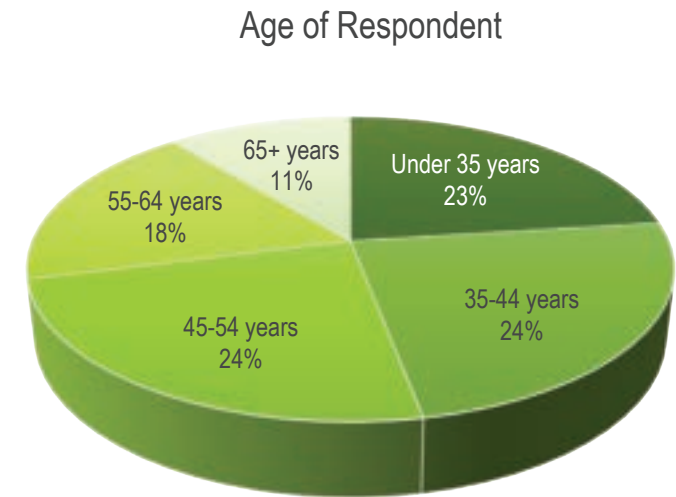
Most people feel that Round Rock parks are better or much better than other cities. After identifying their desires and needs, it is helpful to understand how residents compare the parks in their community to other cities. Considering responses to previous questions, residents desire upgrades and enhancements to the City’s parks, trails, and open space system. However, 87 percent of households still indicated that parks in Round Rock are either much better (26%) or better (61%) than those in other cities. Notably, only 13 percent felt that Round Rock’s parks were worse than those in other cities (see Figure 4.17, *How Round Rock Parks Compare with Other Cities*).

Figure 4.18, Value Received for Taxes and Fees Paid to the PARD



Most residents feel that they are getting a good or great value for their money paid to the PARD. The PARD is funded, in part, by taxes and fees paid by Round Rock residents. As such, respondents were asked about the services the City provides for their money. Nearly 70 percent of respondents felt they’re getting a good or great value for their money. Impressively, only six percent of households felt they were getting a poor value for their money. While respondents have voiced their desire for improvements, it is clear that Round Rock’s PARD deserves commendation for its parks and recreation system to date.

Figure 4.19, Statistically Valid Survey Respondent Demographics



Respondent Demographics

As illustrated in Figure 4.19, *Statistically Valid Survey Respondent Demographics*, respondents to the statistically valid survey included a wide cross-section of residents from all age groups and were relatively evenly split between male and female. While some households included children age 19 and below, the greatest percentage of households included people ages 20 to 54. The majority of respondents have lived in Round Rock for 10 to 19 years and have a household income of between \$75,000 and \$124,999. Respondents to the online survey included a greater percentage of female respondents and households with children.

When analyzing and interpreting survey results, it is important to recognize how respondent demographics differed from the overall citywide demographics. According to U.S. Census Bureau information, 85 percent of Round Rock residents are ages 54 and down. Of that 85 percent, over 50 percent are under the age of 35. Conversely, a large percentage of survey respondents represented older age brackets and households without children. It is thus understandable that a number of survey trends reflected the desire for adult and senior programming, while overlooking the need for expanded youth programming and spaces/facilities to accommodate those programs. Other methods of receiving public input better reflect the true demographics of Round Rock and the opinions reflected in those surveys should be taken into consideration.



Respondents to the statistically valid survey included a wide cross-section of residents from throughout the community.



Public Open Houses

Introduction

Over the course of two weeks in August 2015, there were five neighborhood open house meetings held in various parts of the City of Round Rock. The open houses were heavily advertised through email blasts; in the Round Rock Leader and Community Impact newspapers; on Facebook and Twitter; on the City’s website; on the PARD digital display boards in recreation centers; as part of featured media stories in the Round Rock Leader and Austin American Statesman; in a “News Flash” included with City utility bills sent to all residents; and with fliers distributed to customers at the Clay Madsen Recreation Center, Allen B. Baca Center, City Hall, and Library. There were a total of 113 open house attendees. In addition to the five formal open house meetings, there were two impromptu open house meetings at two of the City’s most popular destinations; Rock’N River and Play for All Playground.

Attendees were presented with an overview of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan planning process and an update on progress since the 2009 Plan. The City’s vision for the future of the parks, recreation, and trail system and concepts for key parks were introduced to the public. After viewing the informational portion of the open house, attendees were asked to indicate what facilities and programs are most important to them as the City expands from 100,000 to 250,000 people. Top ranking facilities and programs are depicted in Figure 4.20, *Key Open House Facility-Related Findings* and Figure 4.21, *Key Open House Program-Related Findings* on this and the following pages.



Figure 4.20, Key Open House Facility-Related Findings



Figure 4.21, Key Open House Program-Related Findings



Other Citywide Public Input

In addition to the public input gathered during this parks and recreation planning process, the City was concurrently gathering public input regarding overall community satisfaction with all aspects of City services and desired transportation improvements. Key highlights from the City’s 2016 Community Survey and Round Rock Transportation Master Plan Update survey are presented on the following pages.

2016 Round Rock Community Survey

During the summer of 2016, ETC Institute administered a community survey for the City of Round Rock. The purpose of the survey was to assess resident satisfaction with the delivery of major City services and to help set priorities for the community. ETC Institute has administered the survey every two years since 2008. The survey was administered to a random sample of 500 residents. Respondents included an equal split between males and females and represented all age groups, with a better representation of the actual demographics of Round Rock than the ETC survey completed specifically for PARD.

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of satisfaction with a variety of parks and recreation services and then indicate the level of importance they attribute to each service. The combined satisfaction and importance results are illustrated in Figure 4.22, *2016 Round Rock Community Survey Importance - Satisfaction Assessment Matrix for Parks and Recreation Facilities*.

The Importance-Satisfaction rating is based on the concept that public agencies will maximize overall customer satisfaction by emphasizing improvements in those areas where the level of satisfaction is relatively low and the perceived importance of the service is relatively high. ETC Institute developed an Importance-Satisfaction Matrix to display the perceived importance of major services that were assessed on the survey against the perceived quality of service delivery. The two axes on the matrix represent Satisfaction (vertical) and relative Importance (horizontal).

The I-S (Importance-Satisfaction) matrix should be interpreted as follows.

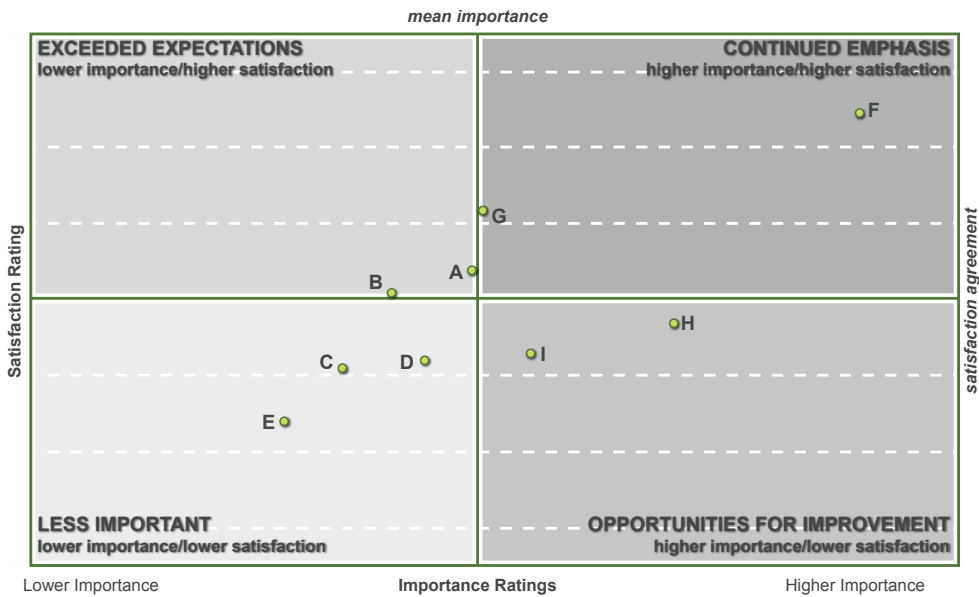
- **Continued Emphasis (above average importance and above average satisfaction).** This area shows where the City is meeting customer expectations. Items in this area have a significant impact on the customer’s overall level of satisfaction. The City should maintain (or slightly increase) emphasis on items in this area.



- **Exceeding Expectations (below average importance and above average satisfaction).** This area shows where the City is performing significantly better than customers expect the City to perform. Items in this area do not significantly affect the overall level of satisfaction that residents have with City services. The City should maintain (or slightly decrease) emphasis on items in this area.
- **Opportunities for Improvement (above average importance and below average satisfaction).** This area shows where the City is not performing as well as residents expect the City to perform. This area has a significant impact on customer satisfaction, and the City should DEFINITELY increase emphasis on items in this area.

Figure 4.22, 2016 Round Rock Community Survey Importance - Satisfaction Assessment Matrix for Parks and Recreation Facilities

(points on the graph show deviations from the mean importance and satisfaction ratings given by respondents to the survey)



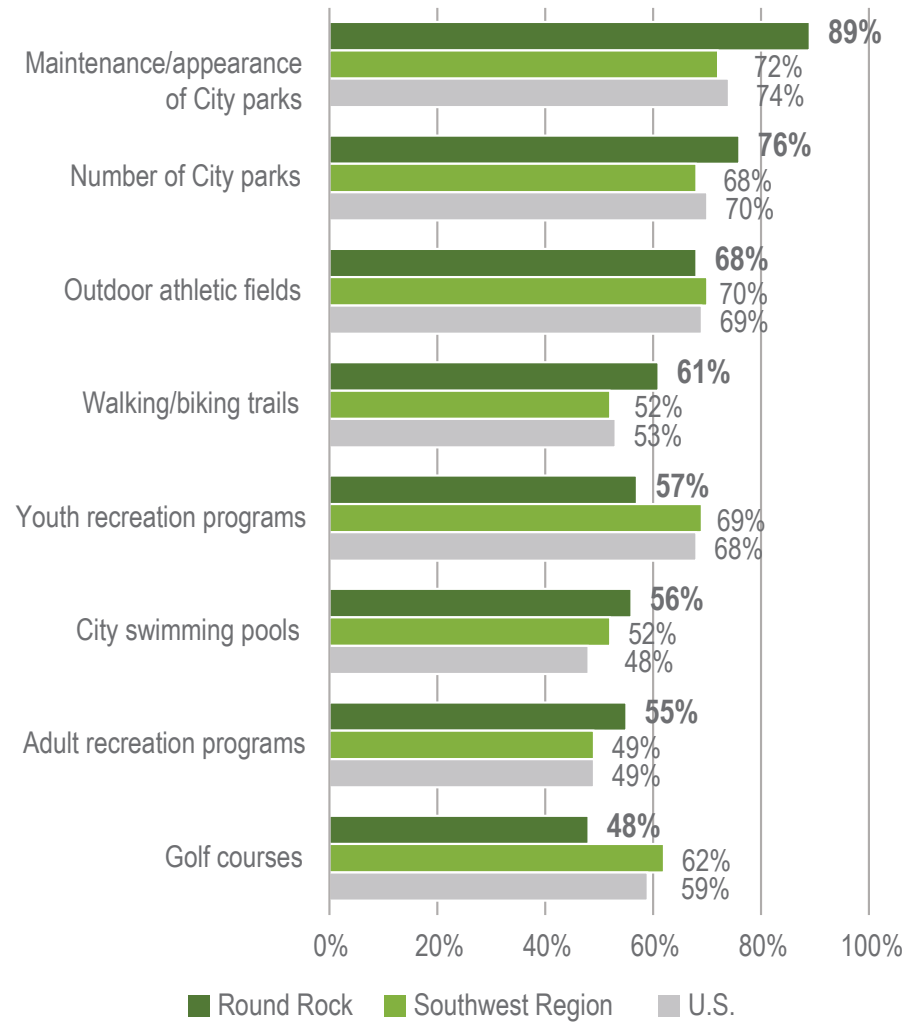
Exceeded Expectations A. Quality of outdoor athletic facilities B. City recreation centers	Continued Emphasis F. Appearance/maintenance of City parks G. Number of City parks
Less Important C. Adult recreation programs D. City swimming pools E. Forest Creek Golf Course	Opportunities for Improvement H. Hike and bike trails in the City I. Youth recreation programs

Source: ETC Institute

- **Less Important (below average importance and below average satisfaction).** This area shows where the City is not performing well relative to the City's performance in other areas; however, this area is generally considered to be less important to residents. This area does not significantly affect overall satisfaction with City services because the items are less important to residents. The agency should maintain current levels of emphasis on items in this area.

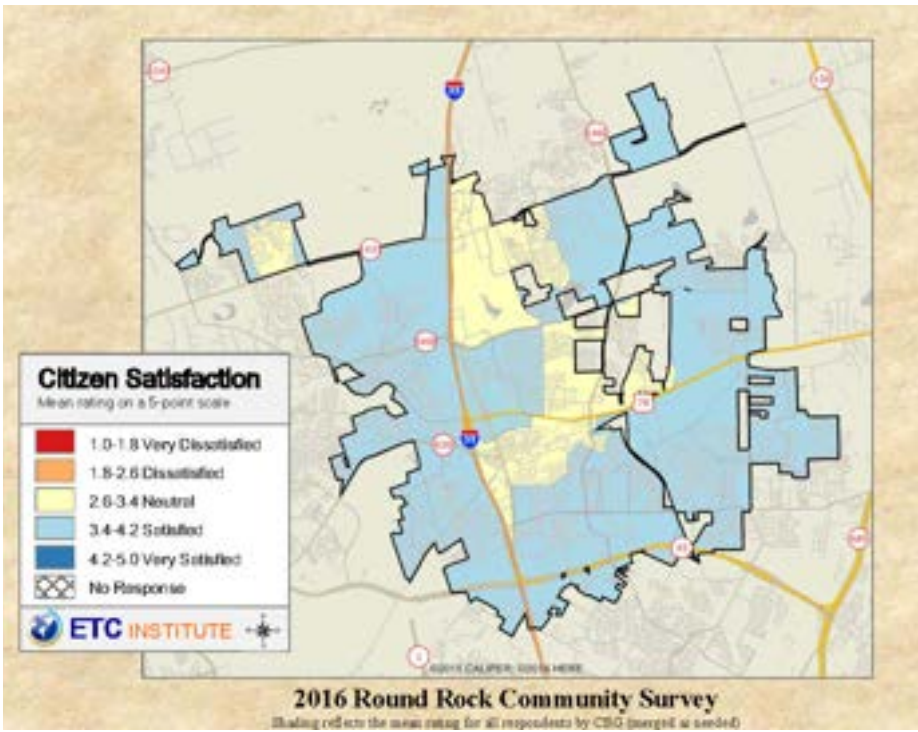
As part of the survey, respondents' overall satisfaction with different aspects of Parks and Recreation were compared to similar responses in the Southwest Region and the United States (see Figure 4.23, *Overall Satisfaction with Parks and Recreation*). Overall, Round Rock ranked better than or very similar to the Southwest Region and United States in most categories. However, the City fell short in youth programming and golf courses.

Figure 4.23, Overall Satisfaction with Parks and Recreation



Another significant result of the City's 2016 survey includes satisfaction based on respondents' geographic location across the City. These results are especially helpful to determine public safety response times, transportation needs, and access to resources in specific areas across the City. In the case of parks and recreation, these results are most important to consider when discussing trails. Trails that can't be easily accessed by residents are not useful as recreational amenities or alternate modes of transportation, and therefore levels of satisfaction will be lower. The yellow areas in Figure 4.24, *Satisfaction with Hike and Bike Trails in the City*, show the areas of the City where satisfaction with hike and bike trails was lower. These areas correlate with areas with no major trail connections or gaps in the trail system. With trails being a high priority in all surveys conducted, it is important to ensure easy access to all sectors of the City.

Figure 4.24, Satisfaction with Hike and Bike Trails in the City

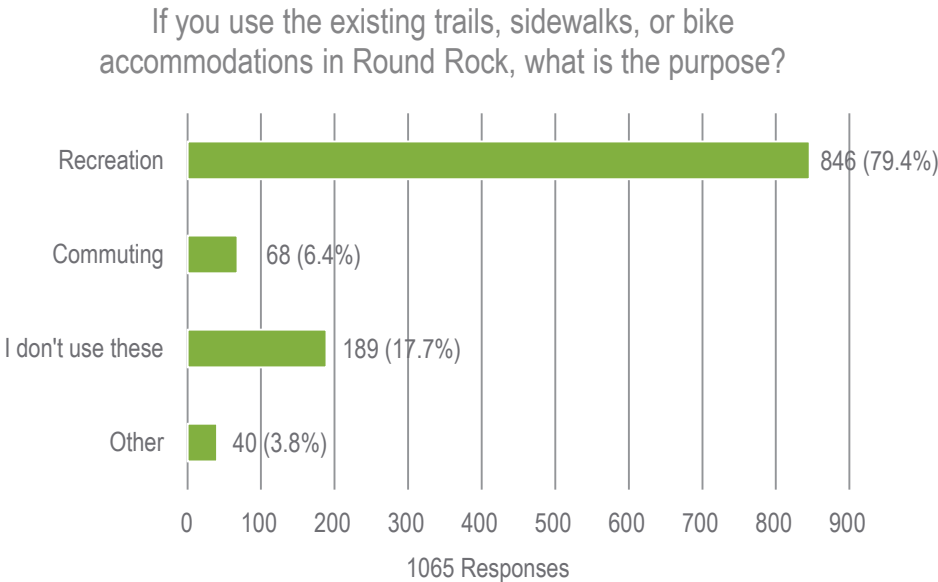


Source: ETC Institute

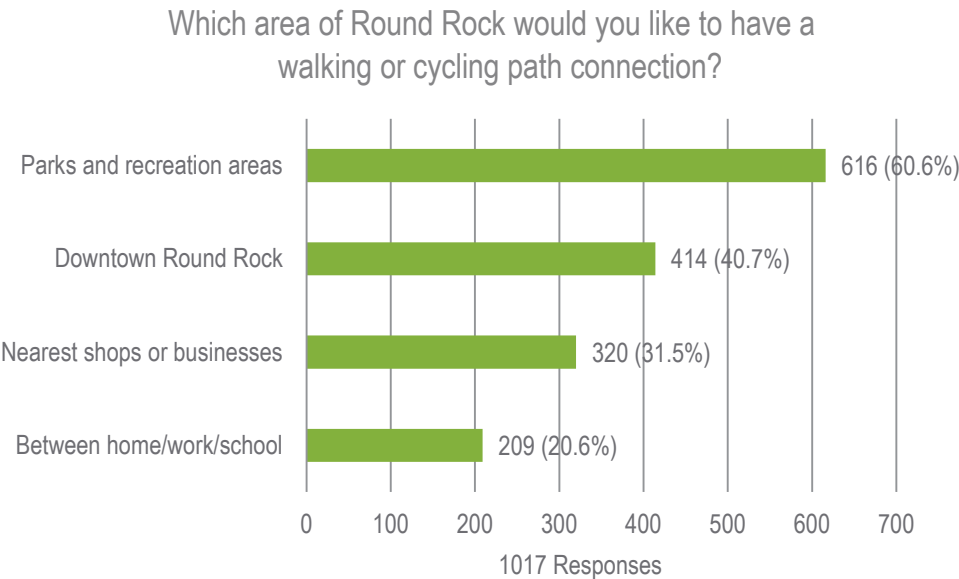
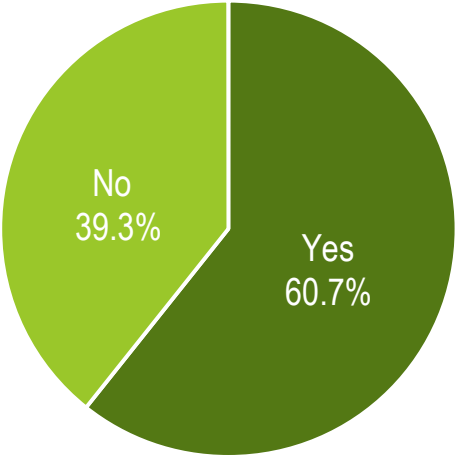
2016 Round Rock Transportation Master Plan Update

Also during 2016, the City conducted a public survey as part of its Transportation Master Plan Update. The survey received over 1,000 responses, over 60 percent of which were from residents ages 35 to 54. In addition to vehicular and transit related questions, the survey asked a series of questions about trails, sidewalks, and bikes. Key results shown below illustrate the community’s desire for improved trail connectivity to parks and recreation, Downtown Round Rock, and other key destinations, and that nearly 80 percent of respondents use the City’s trail system for recreation purposes. When this information is considered as a supplement to the public input received during the parks and recreation planning process, it is clear that the community values and highly uses the existing trail system and would like to see it enhanced and extended.

Figure 4.25, 2016 Round Rock Transportation Master Plan Update Survey Highlights



If provided in your area, would you use a walking or cycling trail to get around Round Rock?



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.



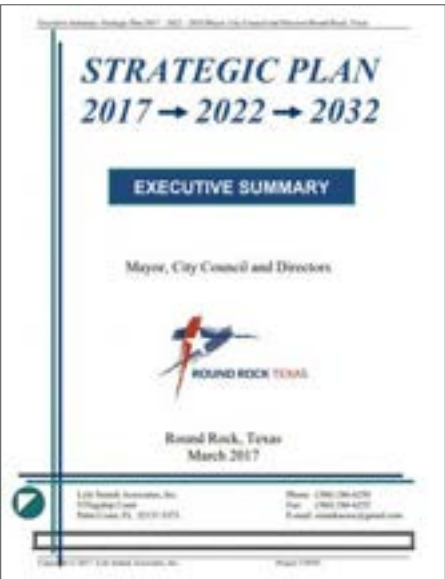
“We do not quit playing because we grow old; we grow old because we quit playing.”

~ 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.



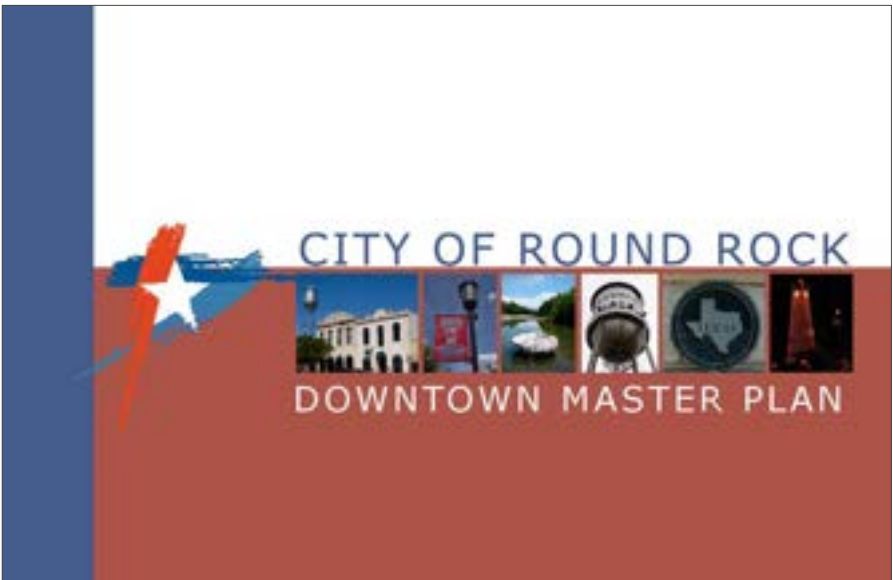
Citywide Strategic Plan, 2015

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:





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.

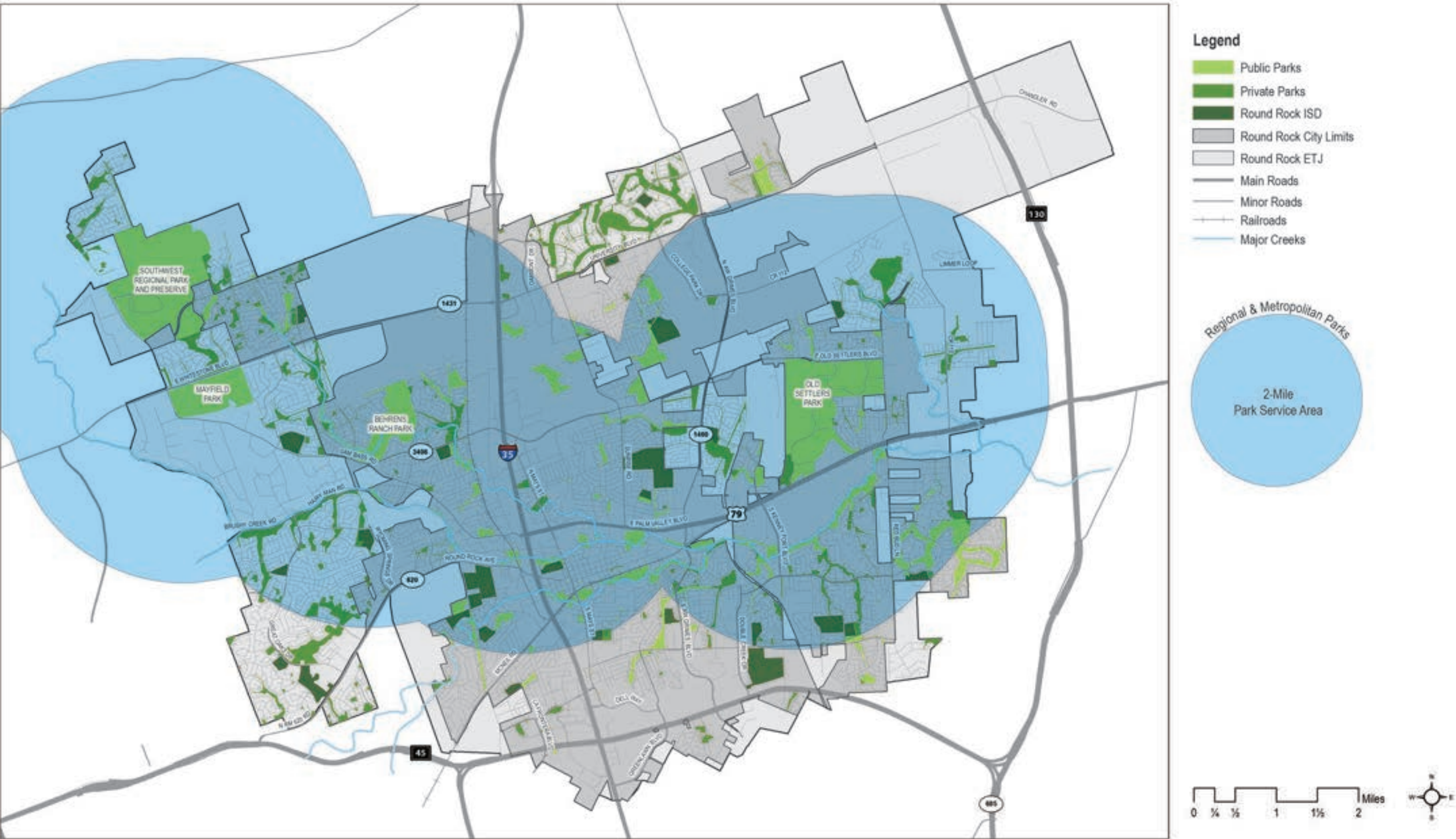
Figure 5.3, Percent of Need Met by Existing Metropolitan and Regional Parks, 2017

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 Ac. Surplus to 867.5 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.

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

Map 5.4, Community Destination Parks Service Areas



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



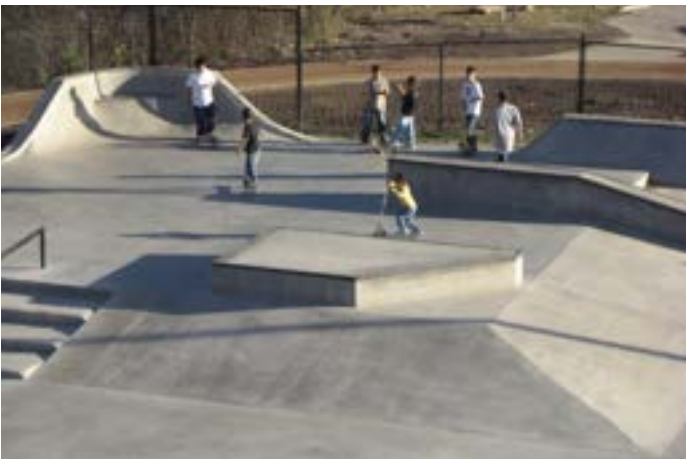
Flat Fields



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



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 5.12, Baseball Field Service Areas



Map 5.13, Softball Field Service Areas



Map 5.14, Diamond Practice 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 5.20, Golf Course 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.



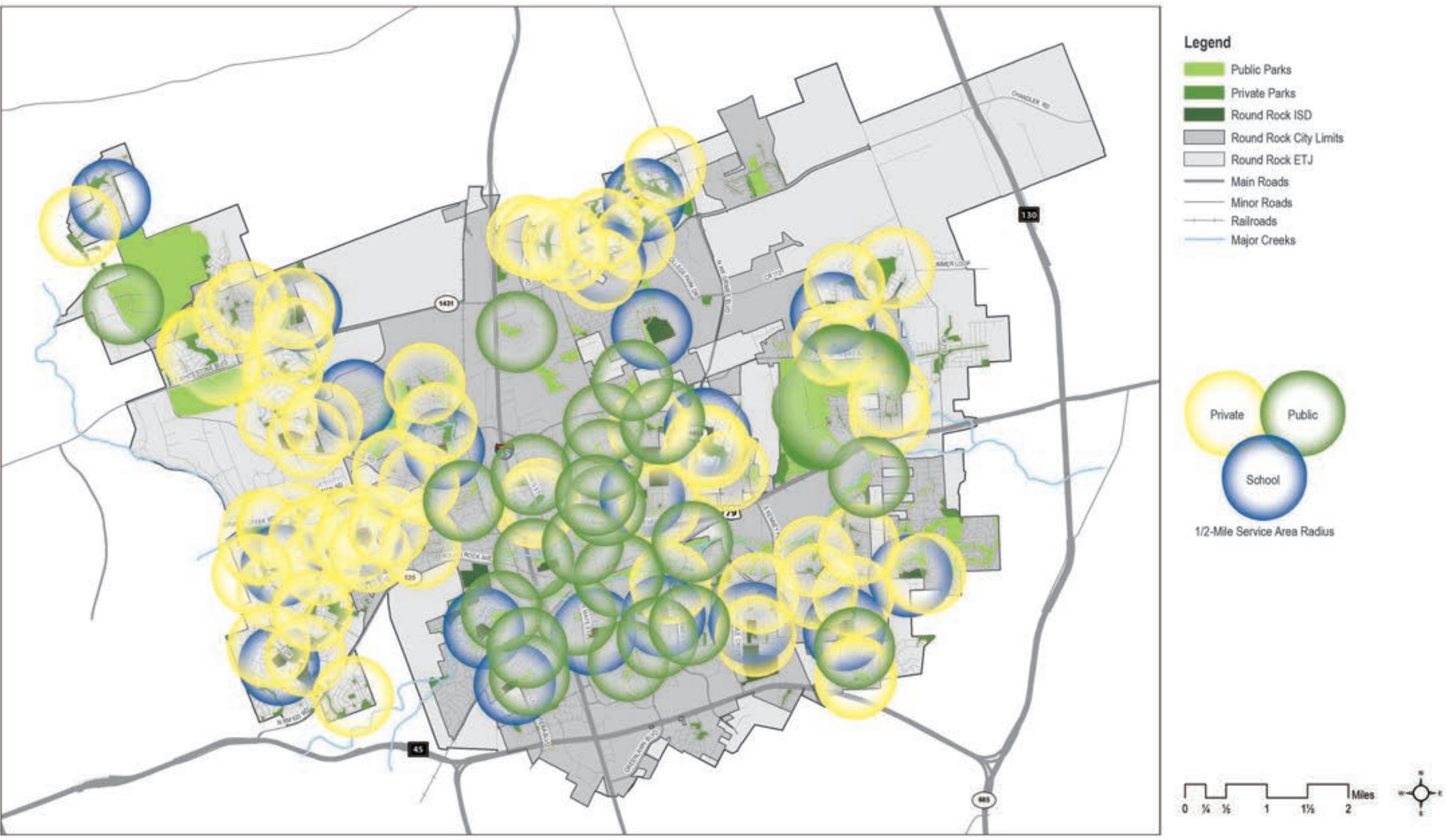
Locating playgrounds adjacent to picnic pavilions, such as in Kensington Park and Greenbelt, provides a shaded space for parents to relax while supervising their children.

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.



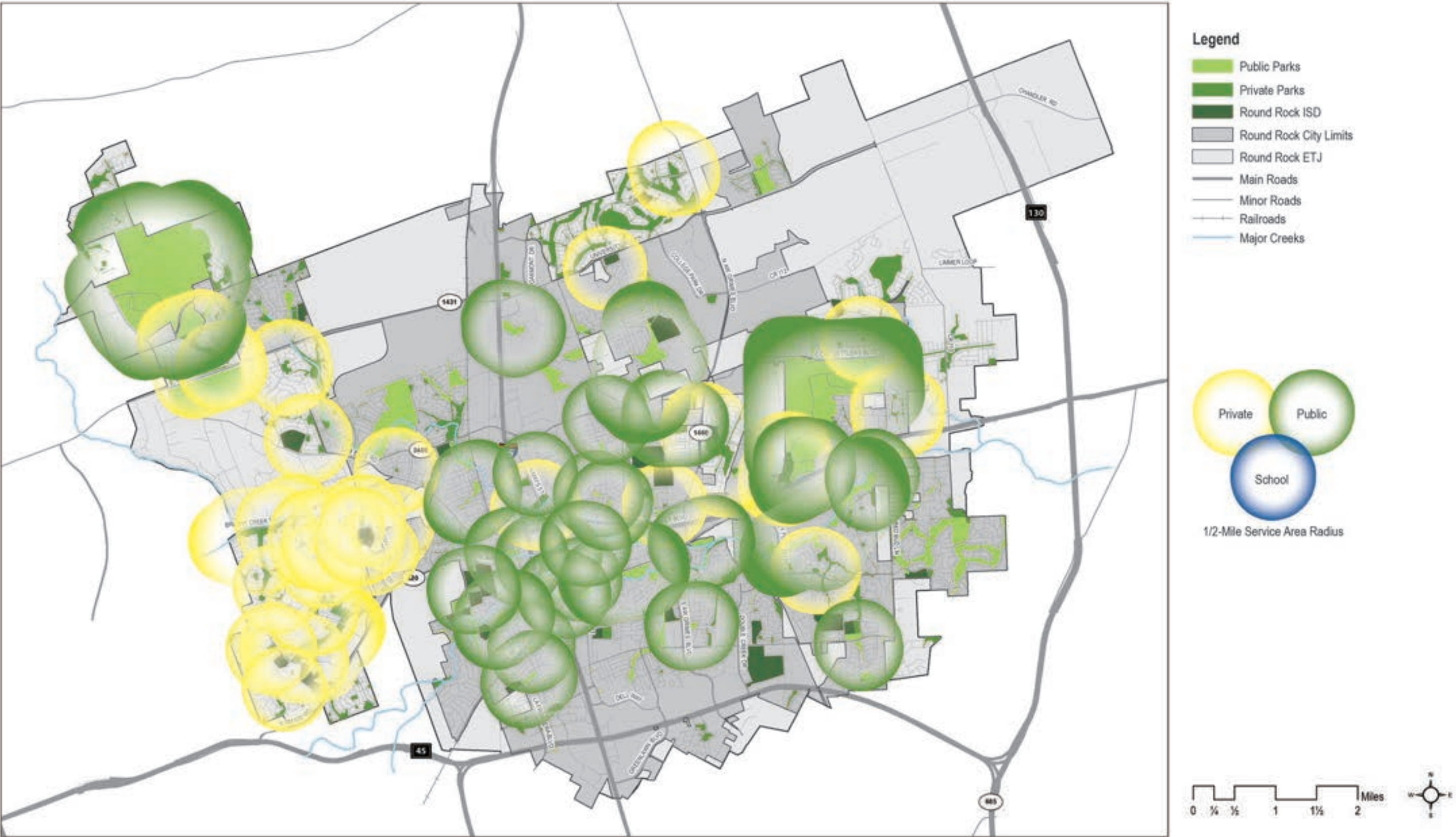
Even minimal picnic amenities, such as those at Chisholm Trail Crossing, provide places for daily relaxation and enjoyment of the parks system.

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.



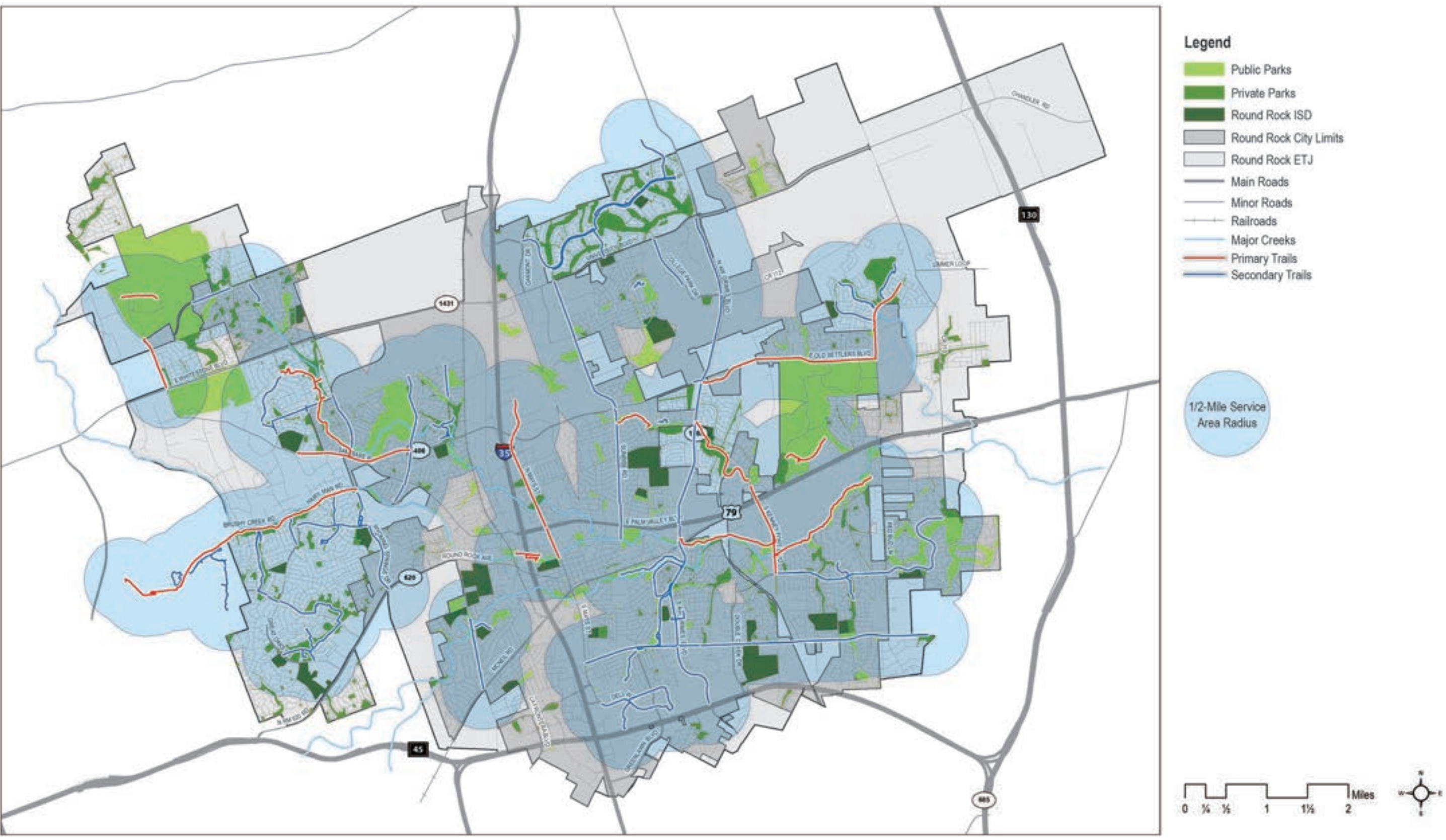
Differing trail materials provide more or less rigid support and are sometimes preferred for different activities. For example, many people prefer to run on a softer trail surface, such as decomposed granite, as it is gentler on their joints.

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

Map 5.29, Indoor Gymnasium Service Areas





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.



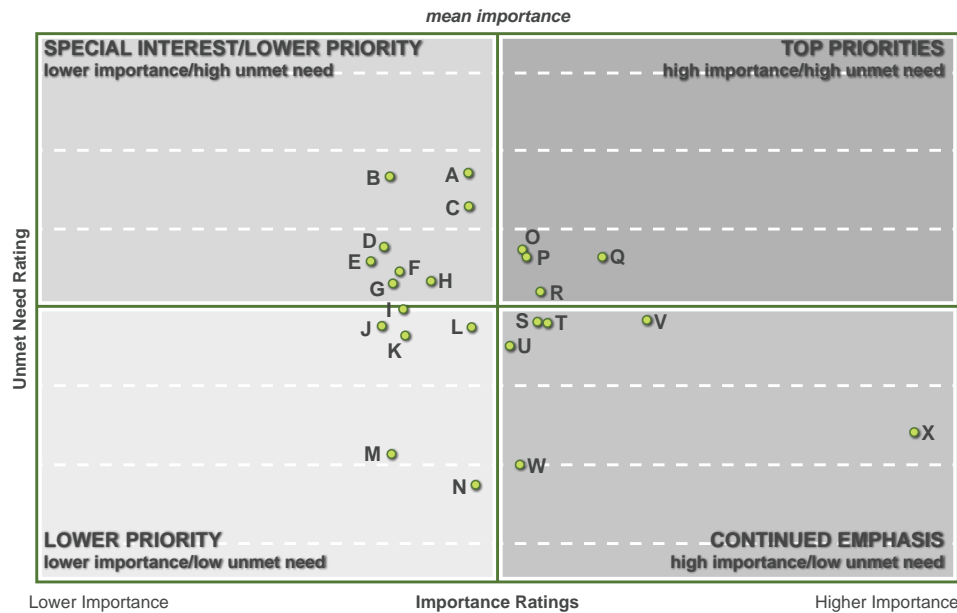
Additional community special events was the highest ranked program need in statistically valid survey.



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)

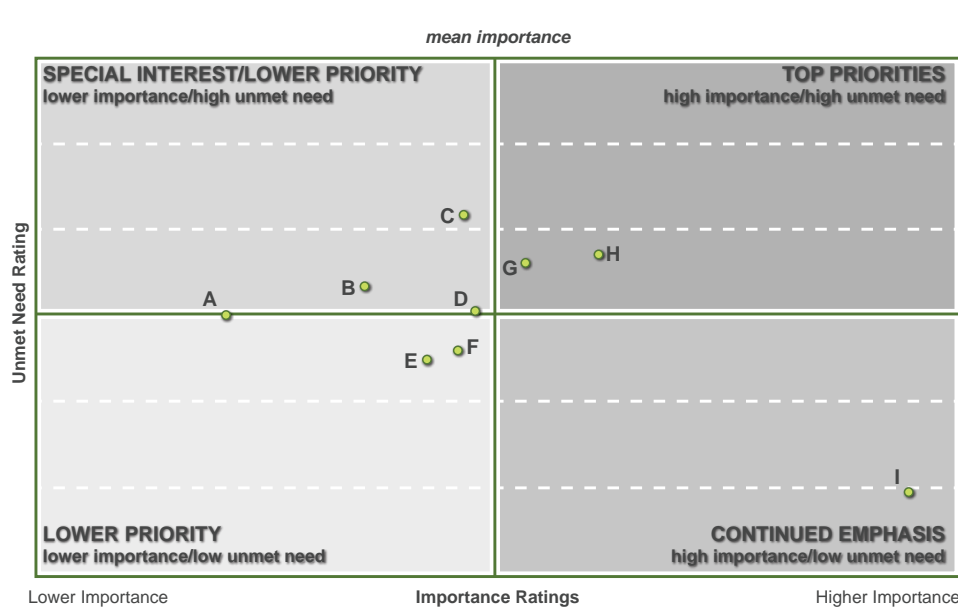


Special Interest/Lower Priority A. Tennis lessons & leagues B. Programs for people with disabilities C. Programs for teens D. Adult learn to swim programs E. Youth art, dance, performing arts	Top Priorities O. Nature programs/environmental education P. Water fitness programs Q. Adult art, dance, performing 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-tum-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.

CHAPTER 6

Goals and Recommended Actions

The action plan contained in this chapter was developed based on the findings of the needs assessment, and recommends a series of actions to improve and expand Round Rock's parks, recreation, trails, and open space system. These recommendations address the issues of connectivity, community cohesion, sustainability, natural resources and environment, and equity.

This chapter contains a series of five goals. These goals are specifically adopted as part of this Plan to form the foundation for future decisions.

High priority items are recommended to be implemented over the next two years. Medium priority recommendations should be implemented over the next three to five years. Longer range actions are also included as part of the recommendations of this Plan and should be implemented after the initial five-year time frame.

Costs are shown at an order of magnitude level of detail, and will vary as more detailed programming and design occurs. Escalation should be accounted for whenever those cost projections are refined or updated.



“As urbanization continues, communities should plan for and develop park system as an integral part of the urban fabric.”

~ American Society of Landscape Architects

Summary of Gaps Between the Current State and the Desired State of Round Rock’s Parks and Recreation System

Following previous discussions about the current and desired state of Round Rock’s parks and recreation system, there are several gaps between where the system is now and where it should be. Those gaps are summarized in this section, and goals and recommended actions are presented throughout the remainder of the chapter to help guide the PARD team and City elected and appointed officials in achieving the desired state.

During the public input process of both the 2009 plan and this Plan, the one amenity that residents of Round Rock consistently wanted was more trails. Even though the City has a number of miles of trails, many of them are simply interior loop trails within parks. While this is a good start, providing additional connected trails can help increase use of the system. Use of hike and bike trails is diversifying from traditional recreational use to also include use as an alternative route for transportation. Developing more interconnected trails throughout all portions of Round Rock will increase the mobility of residents, provide connectivity between residences and key destinations, and continue to set Round Rock apart as a bicycle and pedestrian friendly community.

There is also a lack of balance between recreational fields that can be used for league and everyday use and the number of tournament quality fields which



Residents have once again voiced a strong desire for an increased trail network.

cater to serving the Sports Capital of Texas. Round Rock should invest in several multipurpose recreational play fields that are intended to be used by the residents of Round Rock. The City should strive to provide spectator amenities at all fields to create a comfortable setting for community involvement.

There are currently significant deficits in flat field practice fields and diamond practice fields. The flat field practice fields found on Round Rock ISD school property are not lighted and the time available for leagues and residents to use those fields is limited. Strengthening the partnership with Round Rock ISD so fields can be used during greater daylight hours when school is not in session is one way to alleviate this deficit. The strengthening of this partnership was discussed in detail at the end of Chapter 5.

Round Rock also lacks sports fields beyond baseball, softball, and soccer that can attract teams and tournaments to the Sports Capital of Texas. The City should develop tournament quality volleyball facilities at Old Settlers Park to attract large-scale tournaments to meet the Sports Capital of Texas goal. Additional facilities to be considered in the future include an adult athletic complex, inclusive athletic fields, and a veloway.

Fitness trends that are increasing across the nation include personal and group training, yoga, outdoor activities, and exercise for weight loss. Round Rock is encouraged to continue offering boot camps, yoga, and low impact aerobics classes. In order to further capitalize on recreation trends, the City is encouraged to consider additional outdoor fitness classes or events and ensure that programs are offered at a time when working adults would be able to participate.

Similar to fitness, extreme sports are gaining in popularity in the United States. The City should consider the possibility of providing an indoor rock wall for climbing and Ultimate Frisbee leagues and tournaments. In addition, public survey respondents indicated community special events and adult fitness and wellness programs were their top choice for recreational programs. Providing additional adventure races and/or triathlons could provide both special events and fitness opportunities, while also drawing in additional revenue for the PARD.

In terms of parkland needed to meet existing and future target levels of service, Round Rock should acquire an additional 500 acres of parkland and open space by the year 2025 and a minimum of 1,050 acres by the time the City reaches its ultimate build-out population. The City is most deficient in community and metropolitan parks. Community parkland is needed northwest of Interstate 35 and FM 620, south of McNeil Road, and in the northeastern portion of the City. Additional metropolitan parks are needed in the northeast, southeast, and southwest sectors of the City and the existing metropolitan parks in the northwest sector need to be developed in order to truly provide diversified recreational opportunities to residents in that area. Lastly, to move towards the City’s vision of preserving 14 percent of the City and ETJ as parks and open space, target acquisition and preservation is needed over the coming years. Preservation of the remaining floodplain is recommended to serve as greenbelt corridors, where feasible.

There are also some gaps in terms of facilities between the current state and the desired state. The rental facilities at Kinningham are in need of significant renovation and are unavailable for rentals until repairs are made. The rental area and surrounding support facilities at Lakeview Pavilion in Old Settlers Park are vastly undersized to accommodate the large events, corporate gatherings, and 5K races held there on a daily basis. Upgrading and expanding the pavilion, restroom facility, and parking area should be considered in the near future. Constructing a Teen Center was identified as a need as part of the Game On 2060 Plan. Finally, there is no large amphitheater in Round Rock that can accommodate performances for over 1,000 people.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Compliance

One of the ancillary purposes of this Plan is to serve as a parks, recreation, and open space master plan as defined by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). This is because “qualified” plans increase the City’s competitiveness when applying for TPWD grant funding.



High Priority Needs

Top priorities for parks, recreation, open space, and trails, listed in Figure 6.1, *Summary of High Priority Needs in Round Rock*, are consistent with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) requirements. Priorities have been determined based on community input, needs assessments, site visits, and input from the City and elected and appointed officials. An effective set of actions, informed by the identified needs, have been recommended to enhance quality of life in

the community for purposes of grant applications. The identified priorities have been categorized into two lists: outdoor facilities/amenities and indoor facilities/amenities.

Figure 6.1, Summary of High Priority Facility Needs in Round Rock

NEW OR ADDITIONAL FACILITIES NEEDED BASED ON <u>CITIZEN INPUT</u>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Trails2. Shade structures/trees3. Dog parks4. Outdoor performance space/amphitheater5. Indoor exercise & fitness facilities	
NEW OR ADDITIONAL FACILITIES NEEDED BASED ON <u>LEVEL OF SERVICE</u>	NEW OR ADDITIONAL FACILITIES NEEDED BASED ON <u>EXISTING CONDITION</u>
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Baseball/softball practice fields2. Restroom facilities3. Flat field practice fields4. Outdoor volleyball courts5. Spray grounds	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Appropriate pavilion facilities for specified uses (large event spaces)2. Athletic fields for public use3. Rental facilities4. Tournament level volleyball courts5. Technology driven recreation center
TOP 10 CUMULATIVE <u>OUTDOOR FACILITY</u> NEEDS BASED ON ABOVE SUMMARIES	TOP CUMULATIVE <u>INDOOR FACILITY</u> NEEDS BASED ON ABOVE SUMMARIES
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Trails2. Appropriate pavilion facilities for specified uses (large event spaces)3. Shade structures/trees4. Baseball/softball practice fields5. Outdoor performance space/amphitheater6. Dog parks7. Outdoor volleyball courts8. Flat field practice fields9. Athletic field lighting and amenities10. Spray grounds	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Indoor exercise & fitness facilities2. Indoor gymnasium space3. Technology driven recreation center

High Value Governance

The park and recreation needs of Round Rock are described in the previous sections of this report. The conclusion of this chapter recommends a series of actions to begin to address those needs. These actions are to guide the staff and City Council over the next five to ten years, and should be revisited and updated on a regular basis.

Highest Priority Needs - The prioritization is based on information received from public input as well as from the needs assessment formed from facility and acreage standards shown in Chapter 5. The criteria used to prioritize the park facilities needed in Round Rock are as follows:

- Level of need based on citizen input (online survey results, public open house meeting, etc.);
- Level of need based on the needs assessment;
- Site assessments of existing park facilities in the City; and
- Opportunities for recreation facilities based on existing physical conditions in or near Round Rock.

Needs meeting all or most of the criteria shown above were ranked as high priority elements to receive the highest level of attention over the next two years.

Implementation Strategy

The actions of this Plan can be further delineated into three levels of priority. Implementation of the actions are recommended in three time frames based on the priority level. These include:

- Short-term implementation - Top priority items to be completed or initiated over the next **two** years. In many cases, these actions will be initiated and completed within this time frame. However, it is not uncommon for projects to be initiated in this time frame and completed over time.
- Mid-term implementation - Actions to be initiated or completed in **three to five** years. Some of these actions may become the highest priorities identified during the City’s next Plan update.
- Longer-range implementation - Actions which are intended to continually guide the City towards its ideal future parks and recreation vision. Most of these actions are intended to be implemented over the long-term (**6 to 10+ years**) and will be further prioritized in subsequent Plan updates.

Goal #1: Link the Community

One of the highest needs in the City, as demonstrated by surveys and open house responses, is the addition of more trails. As part of Round Rock’s desire to have mobility and connectivity, the City should provide an open space system which links parks, schools, greenbelts, neighborhoods, places of employment, retail shops, restaurants, and open spaces.

In recent years, the PARD has focused on constructing missing portions or gaps in the Brushy Creek Regional Trail. High priority trail segments were determined and funding was approved by voters in the 2013 bond election. These sections of trail are currently under design, and when constructed, will create a strong east/west connection through the City and into surrounding communities. It is now important to create a strong north/south regional connection. Based on citizen input, people residing north and south of the Brushy Creek Regional Trail have a lower level of satisfaction with hike and bike trails than people living along the trail system. Without an easy connection to this trail system, it is an under-utilized resource for these residents. For these reasons, the PARD should focus attention on connecting the Brushy Creek Regional Trail to the Williamson County Southwest Regional Park. Additionally, the PARD should pursue opportunities to create parkway trails or wide sidewalks along Mays Street, A.W. Grimes Blvd., Kenney Fort Blvd., and Redbud Lane as road improvements are completed to further strengthen the north/south connectivity.

It is recommended that the PARD work with surrounding governmental entities to create a regional trail loop, thus providing residents of Round Rock alternative modes of transportation and recreation (see Map 6.1, *Potential Regional Trail Connections*). The PARD should continue to focus efforts on identifying potential trail corridors and work towards filling the identified gaps. With buy-in in from surrounding communities, a strong network of trails can provide recreation and alternative modes of transportation while linking areas of special interest in each community.

It should also be a goal for the PARD to connect the trail system to areas of high interest, such as Downtown and the University area. Further development of the trail system to link existing trails, especially Brushy Creek Regional Trail, with points of interest will increase connectivity opportunities. Creating bicycle hubs with end of trip facilities (e.g., bicycle parking, repair stations, etc.) at key destinations (e.g., Downtown, University area) will encourage greater use of trails as an alternate route for transportation. Constructing trails where people need them is a top priority.

The actions listed in Figure 6.2, *Link the Community Actions*, are recommended to achieve this goal.

Map 6.1, Potential Regional Trail Connections





Figure 6.2, Link the Community Actions

Goal #1: Link the Community									
Projects							Time Frame		
Rank	Action	City Sector	Est. Low Range	Est. High Range	Type of Action	Potential Funding Mechanisms and Sources	1-2 yrs.	3-5 yrs.	6-10+ yrs.
	1.1 North-South Regional Trail Connection - Round Rock Portion	All			Construction / Acquisition	Work with surrounding government entities, Bond Funds, Capital Improvement Funds		x	x
	1.1.1 Connect Brushy Creek Trail to Williamson County Regional Park	NW	\$6,000,000	\$11,000,000	Construction / Acquisition	Bond funds,		x	x
	1.1.1a Creekbend Blvd. to Behrens Ranch Greenbelt Trail	NW	\$1,500,000	\$3,000,000	Construction / Acquisition	Work with Transportation Department, Bond Funds, Capital Improvement Funds	x	x	
	1.1.1b Behrens Ranch Greenbelt Trail to Mayfield Ranch Park	NW	\$2,500,000	\$5,000,000	Construction / Acquisition	Bond Funds	x	x	
	1.1.1c Mayfield Ranch Park to Williamson County Regional Park	NW	\$2,000,000	\$3,000,000	Construction / Acquisition	Bond Funds	x	x	
	1.2 Trail connections to each Community Destination Park	All	Varies	Varies	Construction / Acquisition	Work with developers in areas, Bond Funds, Capital Improvement Funds	x	x	x
	1.3 Construct remainder of 2013 Bond Project Trails	All	Currently Funded	Currently Funded	Construction / Acquisition	Funded in 2013 Bond	x		
	1.3.1 Heritage Trail	NE/NW	Currently Funded	Currently Funded	Construction / Acquisition	Funded in 2013 Bond	x		
	1.3.2 Brushy Creek Trail - Georgetown St. to A.W. Grimes Blvd.	NE	Currently Funded	Currently Funded	Construction / Acquisition	Funded in 2013 Bond	x		
	1.3.3 Lake Creek Trail - Round Rock West to Centennial Plaza	SE	Currently Funded	Currently Funded	Construction / Acquisition	Funded in 2013 Bond	x		
	1.4 Continue Kenney Fort Blvd Trail as road is constructed	NE/SE	Varies	Varies	Construction / Acquisition	Work with Transportation Department, Bond Funds, Capital Improvement Funds	x	x	x
	1.5 Construct Chandler Creek Trail to connect north/central Round Rock to Old Settlers Park								x
	1.5.1 Chandler Creek Trail to Mays St. to Sunrise Rd.	NE	\$4,000,000	\$5,000,000	Construction / Acquisition	Parkland Dedication Funds, Bond Funds, Capital Improvement Funds			x
	1.5.2 Chandler Creek Trail to Sunrise Rd. to A.W. Grimes Blvd.	NE	\$4,000,000	\$5,000,000	Construction / Acquisition	Bond Funds			x
	1.5.3 Chandler Creek Trail to A.W. Grimes Blvd. to Kenney Fort Blvd.	NE	\$4,000,000	\$5,000,000	Construction / Acquisition	Bond Funds		x	
	1.6 Lake Creek Trail - Centennial Plaza to Lake Creek Park	NE	\$2,000,000	\$3,000,000	Construction / Acquisition	Bond Funds		x	
	1.7 Connect Brushy Creek Trail to Downtown bike hub	SE	\$500,000	\$750,000	Construction / Acquisition	Work with Downtown Group, Bond Funds, Capital Improvement Funds		x	
	1.8 Develop directional signage, trail signage and striping, and trailheads for trails	All	\$50,000 / location	\$150,000 / location	Beautification	General Fund, Parkland Dedication Funds	x	x	
	1.9 Increase connectivity to University Area bike hub	NE	\$2,000,000	\$3,000,000	Construction / Acquisition	Work with Developers in area, Bond Funds, Capital Improvement Funds	x	x	
	1.10 Connect trails and plazas to Downtown utilizing directional signage and existing sidewalk connections	SE	\$25,000	\$50,000	Beautification	Work with Downtown Group, Bond Funds, Capital Improvement Funds	x	x	

Figure 6.2, Link the Community Actions (cont.)

Goal #1: Link the Community (cont.)									
Management, Operations, and Programming							Time Frame		
Rank	Action	City Sector	Est. Low Range	Est. High Range	Type of Action	Potential Funding Mechanisms and Sources	1-2 yrs.	3-5 yrs.	6-10+ yrs.
	1.11 Encourage developers to build trail and with all residential developments	All	N/A	N/A	Planning	N/A	x	x	x
	1.12 Develop trail impact fee to pay for trails adjacent to developments	All	N/A	N/A	Planning	N/A	x		
	1.13 Update trail standards, including where trails intersect with roads	All	N/A	N/A	Planning	N/A	x		
	1.14 Track trail usage to determine best focus of resources and ranger time	All	\$5,000 each	\$10,000 each	Technology	General Fund	x	x	x
	1.15 Provide public wifi in key parks and trails	All	\$10,000	\$200,000	Technology	Work with IT Department, Bond Funds, Capital Improvement Funds	x	x	x
	1.16 Continue to promote trails through programming	All	N/A	N/A	Programming	N/A	x	x	x
	1.17 Add amenities such as bottle filling stations, bike repair stations, etc. along trail	All	\$5,000 each trail	\$10,000 each trail	Beautification	General Fund, Parkland Dedication Funds, Capital Improvement Funds	x	x	
	1.18 Create a dedicated crew for trail maintenance to increase efficiency and quality	All			Personnel	General Fund	x		

In addition to physical construction and beautification projects, a strong management, operations, and programmatic plan is also important. The PARD should continue to work with developers to build trails as part of residential developments that tie in with City trails and/or link major destinations. Additionally, the City should strive to update trail standards, update trails master plans, and develop trail impact fees to pay for trails adjacent to developments.

A trail system is only as good as the people utilizing it. Increased traffic on the trails provides further justification for the cost associated with the facility. For these reasons, the PARD should continue to promote trails through programming and offer pop-up events, races, scavenger hunts, geocaching, and more. Adding amenities along the trails such as WiFi, bike repair stations, and bottle filling stations will help to create a more positive experience for trail users.

During the public survey, 75 percent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they wanted Round Rock to have the best trail system in the state. In order to do this, and make the trail system more user friendly, projects associated with directional signage, trailheads, safety signage, general beautification, and installation of trail amenities are necessary. Additionally, a crew dedicated to trail maintenance will increase efficiency and the overall quality of the trails.



Goal #2: Community Cohesion – Creating a Sense of Place

Round Rock is a place people can feel proud to live. It is the goal of the PARD to foster that positive emotional attachment to the City by continuing projects and programs that make Round Rock special and unique. A continued effort to complete projects associated with the Repair and Replacement Program, as well as creating a partner program for Old Settlers Park, affords the PARD the opportunity to contribute to the character of the City and help facilitate neighborhood buy-in. More than that, the PARD should also continue to focus on beautification projects across the City and in highly visible areas such as

Downtown, trailheads, plazas, and Old Settlers Park. Projects like these combat neighborhood deterioration, increase property values, and instill a sense of pride among residents. With an increased sense of pride in their community, residents take more ownership of their parks and nearby areas and will continue to partner with the City to keep their surroundings safe and beautiful.

Through programs and events, the PARD also provides experiences that help people feel connected to their physical and social community. A variety of low cost and free events has always been a top priority for the PARD and efforts

should continue to ensure that these programs and events continue to be offered in the future. The PARD should also establish a neighborhood drop-in event program which would bring events into each individual neighborhood and help cultivate social interactions between residents residing there.

The actions listed in Figure 6.3, *Community Cohesion Actions*, are recommended to achieve this goal.

Figure 6.3, Community Cohesion Actions

Goal #2: Community Cohesion - Creating a Sense of Place									
Projects							Time Frame		
Rank	Action	City Sector	Est. Low Range	Est. High Range	Type of Action	Potential Funding Mechanisms and Sources	1-2 yrs.	3-5 yrs.	6-10+ yrs.
	2.1 Directional signage, trailheads, Downtown plazas, and surrounding areas	All	\$50,000 each	\$150,000 each	Beautification	Bond Funds, Capital Improvement Funds	x	x	
	2.2 Emphasize history and art in projects	All	Depends on Location	Depends on Location	Beautification	Work with Arts Council, Bond Funds, Capital Improvement Funds	x	x	x
	2.3 Landscape beautification projects in key areas	All	\$5,725,000	\$11,150,000	Beautification	Bond Funds, Capital Improvement Funds	x	x	x
	2.3.1 Old Settlers Park entrances	NE	\$500,000	\$750,000	Beautification	Bond Funds, Capital Improvement Funds		x	
	2.3.2 Old Settlers Park lake and Festival Area (including electrical, storage, etc.)	NE	\$5,000,000	\$10,000,000	Beautification	Bond Funds, Capital Improvement Funds		x	
	2.3.3 Major trailheads	SE	\$150,000	\$250,000	Beautification	Work with Downtown Group, Bond Funds, Capital Improvement Funds	x		
	2.3.4 Plazas	SE	\$75,000	\$150,000	Beautification	Work with Downtown Group, Bond Funds, Capital Improvement Funds		x	
	2.4 Adult Recreation Complex Phase 2	NE	\$5,000,000	\$10,000,000	Construction / Acquisition	Bond Funds, Profits from land sales, Partially funded by 2013 Bond	x	x	
Management, Operations, and Programming							Time Frame		
Rank	Action	City Sector	Est. Low Range	Est. High Range	Type of Action	Potential Funding Mechanisms and Sources	1-2 yrs.	3-5 yrs.	6-10+ yrs.
	2.5 Provide drop-in events in neighborhood parks	All	\$2,500	\$7,500	Programming	General Fund	x	x	x
	2.6 Continue free and low cost events	All			Programming	General Fund	x	x	x
	2.7 Continue emphasis on park standards in neighborhood and community parks	All	N/A	N/A	Beautification	N/A	x	x	x
	2.8 Continue marketing the benefits of parks	All	N/A	N/A	Marketing	N/A	x	x	x
	2.9 Continue citywide tree planting program	All			Beautification	Tree Fund	x	x	x
	2.10 Continue emphasis on gathering community and stakeholder input on projects and development.	All	N/A	N/A	Planning	N/A	x	x	x

Goal #3: Sustainable Park and Recreation System

Creating a sustainable parks and recreation system means providing diverse and attractive parks and greenways that enhance the quality of life in Round Rock while also increasing the economic vitality of the community. More than that, it is ensuring the long-term sustainability of the park and recreation system for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations by utilizing residents' dollars in a fiscally responsible way and maximizing the return on investment. The PARD should continue to explore grant opportunities and partnerships with other entities as a way to supplement taxpayer dollars to bring parks, facilities, and programs to the City.

A sustainable park and recreation system also means maintaining and updating existing park facilities and assets. The PARD has made a commitment to preventing neighborhood deterioration with the Repair and Replacement Program. Every two years, a team of park planners, maintenance crew members, construction team members, irrigators, and turf/athletic field specialists complete an asset condition report. As part of the report, the team visits every park and facility throughout the City and assesses the condition of every item present, including turf, site furnishings, courts, playgrounds, trails, etc. The findings are compiled and help determine the priorities for the Repair and Replacement projects. These projects help keep the existing park and facility inventory fresh,

exciting, and safe for the residents of Round Rock. The PARD should continue to prioritize Repair and Replacement Projects across the City. Additionally, the PARD should implement a partner Repair and Replacement/Beautification program dedicated solely to Old Settlers Park. Old Settlers Park is the crown jewel of the Department and is starting to show signs of age and overuse. A dedicated program for Old Settlers Park would allow for necessary repairs and improvements at the park, while ensuring the funds from the original Repair and Replacement Program remain available for use throughout the City.

Occasionally, there are projects that cannot be funded through the Repair and Replacement program which need to be completed in order to keep the level of service of those facilities high. For example, many of the PARD's rental facilities need constant maintenance and upkeep due to the wear and tear associated with frequent rental parties. The PARD should create a capital expenditure program which sets aside a portion of the rental profits to fund maintenance and facility upgrades at some of the more highly rented facilities, such as the Rabb House and Rock'N River Waterpark. It is also important for the PARD to evaluate current facilities to determine if they serve the intended users in an efficient and enjoyable way. For example, Lakeview Pavilion and the surrounding support facilities are vastly undersized for the events, corporate

rentals, and races held there. The constant use of the pavilion, restrooms, and parking lot is starting to impact the quality of the facility and the necessary improvements should be addressed to better serve customers and residents. Kinningham House is another example of a rental facility that no longer serves its intended users. The necessary funds for maintenance on the house have exceeded any potential rental incomes expected. It is an older facility and lacks the necessary ADA accessibility and large open spaces necessary to make it a profitable rental facility or space for Departmental programming. The PARD should explore options for demolishing and rebuilding this rental facility.

With implementation of the recommendations for additional parks, open space, and trails, additional manpower will be needed for the required maintenance of these projects. The number of additional team members needed to attend to these proposed facilities will vary depending on the use of these facilities. Regardless, the PARD should plan for additional manpower accordingly.

The actions listed in Figure 6.4, *Sustainable Park and Recreation System Actions*, are recommended to achieve this goal.



The City's Repair and Replacement program is intended to help maintain the parks and recreation facilities throughout their lifespan of heavy use.



It is important to incorporate shade over all City-owned playgrounds to improve the comfort and safety of children playing.



A dedicated Repair and Replacement program for Old Settlers Park would ensure that the maintenance requirements of this large regional park don't overshadow the maintenance requirements elsewhere in the parks system.



Figure 6.4, Sustainable Park and Recreation System Actions

Goal #3: Sustainable Park and Recreation System									
Projects							Time Frame		
Rank	Action	City Sector	Est. Low Range	Est. High Range	Type of Action	Potential Funding Mechanisms and Sources	1-2 yrs.	3-5 yrs.	6-10+ yrs.
	3.1 Continue focus on Repair and Replacement Program	All					x	x	x
	3.1.1 Neighborhood and Community Park Program	All	\$750,000 annually	N/A	Construction / Beautification	Capital Improvement Funds	x	x	x
	3.1.2 Old Settlers Park Program	NE	\$250,000 annually	N/A	Construction / Beautification	Capital Improvement Funds	x	x	x
	3.2 Demolish and rebuild Kinningham House	SE	\$2,000,000	\$5,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds	x		
	3.3 Incorporate improved technology in parks	All	Depends on Location	Depends on Location	Technology	Work with IT Department, Bond Funds, Capital Improvement Funds	x	x	x
	3.4 Incorporate shade at all City-owned playgrounds	All	\$50,000 each	\$100,000 each	Construction	Capital Improvement Funds, Bond Funds	x	x	x
	3.5 Expand and renovate Clay Madsen Recreation Center	SE	\$10,000,000	\$20,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds		x	
	3.6 Renovate / replace Lake Creek pool	SE	\$5,000,000	\$15,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds			x
Management, Operations, and Programming							Time Frame		
Rank	Action	City Sector	Est. Low Range	Est. High Range	Type of Action	Potential Funding Mechanisms and Sources	1-2 yrs.	3-5 yrs.	6-10+ yrs.
	3.7 Establish a Life Cycle Replacement Master Plan	All	N/A	N/A	Planning	N/A	x	x	
	3.7.1 Pool Equipment	All	N/A	N/A	Planning	N/A	x		
	3.7.2 Site Amenities	All	N/A	N/A	Planning	N/A	x		
	3.7.3 Trails	All	N/A	N/A	Planning	N/A		x	
	3.7.4 Playgrounds	All	N/A	N/A	Planning	N/A	x		
	3.7.5 Parking Lots	All	N/A	N/A	Planning	N/A		x	
	3.8 Create a plan for converting decomposed granite trails to concrete	All	N/A	N/A	Planning	N/A	x		
	3.9 Continue Biannual Asset Condition Report	All	N/A	N/A	Management	N/A	x	x	x
	3.10 Develop Capital Expenditures funds for key facilities (Rabb House, Rock'N River)	All	N/A	N/A	Management	N/A	x		
	3.11 Expand Volunteer Program	All	N/A	N/A	Management	N/A	x		
	3.12 Grow partnerships with foundations and non-profit organizations to include project assistance and maintenance funds	All	N/A	N/A	Management	N/A	x	x	x
	3.13 Annual review of business plans and life cycle analysis of programs	All	N/A	N/A	Management	N/A	x	x	x
	3.14 Utilize technology for efficient operations	All	\$10,000 annually	\$15,000 annually	Technology	General Fund	x	x	x

Goal #4: Environmental Stewardship

The PARD should continue efforts to be good stewards of the environment. Through landscape management and maintenance decisions, natural resource preservation, and outdoor education, the PARD can continue to conserve, protect, and enhance the community’s environmentally and culturally sensitive areas.

The management of lands owned by the PARD should be focused on promoting the greatest amount of native species diversity possible in each area. The use of native plant species in landscape projects will reduce maintenance and irrigation costs. The PARD should also use low-maintenance design techniques when renovating spaces. Whenever possible, organic landscape maintenance programs should be implemented in an effort to decrease the use of potentially harmful chemicals which contaminate the environment.

Beyond smart maintenance practices, the PARD should continue to acquire and preserve environmentally sensitive corridors, such as floodplains, greenbelts, and areas with cultural significance. By conserving these areas, PARD will be helping to mitigate floods, reduce the amount of pollution reaching the waterways, and increase wildlife habitat.

In conjunction with the resource management goals of the City, passive recreation and outdoor education opportunities are also an important part of the City’s goals. Development of Behrens Ranch Park, as a community destination nature park, and Mayfield Park, as a community destination outdoor adventure and education park, are instrumental in the creation of an outdoor education program.

The PARD should also focus time and resources on developing a strong outdoor recreation program that is both fun and educational. Outdoor adventure programs help foster positive attachments to nature and help create environmental advocates. Passive recreation opportunities, such as wildlife viewing programs, nature hikes, and fishing events, should be explored to help facilitate positive experiences in nature.

Finally, the PARD has been, and should continue to be, committed to implementing programs that preserve resources by using new technologies. As lighting technologies advance, LED lighting is becoming more efficient and affordable. It is the goal of the PARD to develop a plan for converting all sports lighting to LED fixtures, thus saving energy and long-term maintenance costs.

The PARD should continue to work with General Services to coordinate the conversion of facility lighting to LED technology as well. Additionally, the PARD should explore the feasibility of expanding the use of reuse water for irrigation into other parks, greenbelts, and trail corridors, as well as implementing a system-wide recycling program.

The actions listed in Figure 6.5, *Environmental Stewardship Actions*, are recommended to achieve this goal.



Preservation of environmentally sensitive corridors, such as floodplains, greenbelts, and areas with cultural significance is one of the ways PARD continues to be a good steward of the environment.



Behrens Ranch is proposed to be developed as a community destination nature park.



Updating athletic field and court lighting to LED fixtures can help to increase energy efficiency and reduce long-term financial expenditures.



Figure 6.5, Environmental Stewardship Actions

Goal #4: Environmental Stewardship									
Projects							Time Frame		
Rank	Action	City Sector	Est. Low Range	Est. High Range	Type of Action	Potential Funding Mechanisms and Sources	1-2 yrs.	3-5 yrs.	6-10+ yrs.
	4.1 Develop Behrens Ranch Park as a community destination nature park	NW	See action item 5.2.2	See action item 5.2.2	Construction		x		
	4.2 Develop Mayfield Park as a community destination outdoor adventure and education park	NW	See action item 5.2.1	See action item 5.2.1	Construction				x
	4.3 Develop outdoor classrooms	All	\$250,000	\$500,000	Construction				x
	4.4 Convert facilities to LED lighting	All						x	x
	4.4.1 Old Settlers Park field relamp	NE	\$1,500,000	\$3,000,000	Maintenance			x	
	4.4.2 Neighborhood and community park relamp	All	\$25,000 / location	\$250,000 / location	Maintenance				x
	4.5 Expand reuse water irrigation, where applicable	NE	Varies by Location	Varies by Location	Construction	Work with Utilities Department, Bond Funds, Capital Improvement Funds	x	x	x
Management, Operations, and Programming							Time Frame		
Rank	Action	City Sector	Est. Low Range	Est. High Range	Type of Action	Potential Funding Mechanisms and Sources	1-2 yrs.	3-5 yrs.	6-10+ yrs.
	4.6 Develop partnership between RRISD and City to develop a Nature Center / Outdoor Education	NE	N/A	N/A	Management	N/A			x
	4.7 Develop LED lighting conversion plan	All	N/A	N/A	Planning	N/A	x		
	4.8 Acquire and preserve environmentally and culturally sensitive areas / corridors	All	N/A	N/A	Acquisition	Parkland Dedication Funds, Bond Funds, Capital Improvement Funds	x	x	x
	4.9 Create a forestry outreach program	All	N/A	N/A	Programming	N/A	x		
	4.10 Create outdoor education program with park rangers	All	N/A	N/A	Programming	N/A		x	x
	4.11 Create a recycling program for all parks	All	N/A	N/A	Programming	N/A		x	
	4.12 Develop nature hikes and outdoor classrooms in existing greenbelts	All	N/A	N/A	Programming	N/A	x		

Figure 6.6, Behrens Ranch Conceptual Master Plan



Conceptual Master Plan

What?

Behrens Ranch Park aims to be as natural as possible, leaving much of the park undisturbed for wildlife viewing while being in the heart of the City. The park will feature numerous miles of multi-use trails which will ultimately connect Mayfield Park and the Brushy Creek Trail System. Proposed features of the park include:

- Nature Playground
- Wildlife Viewing Platform
- Connectivity to Mayfield Park and Brushy Creek Trail system
- Bike Trails
- Paved Trails



Conceptual Nature Playground



Proposed Bike Trail



Conceptual Wildlife Viewing Platform



Proposed Paved Trail



Figure 6.7, Mayfield Park Conceptual Master Plan



Conceptual Master Plan

What?

Mayfield Park is a community destination park along the trail system offering a variety of outdoor adventure recreation opportunities. The park will provide a vital connection along the trail system leading to Williamson County Southwest Regional Park. Proposed amenities include:

- Archery Range and 3-D Archery Course
- Swiftwater Channel for Rafting and Kayaking
- Zip Lines
- BMX Pump Track
- Adventure Ropes Courses for Multiple Ages
- Nature Center
- Nature Trail and Concrete Looping Trail
- Fishing/canoe Launch Piers
- Equestrian Trail



Conceptual Nature Center



Conceptual 3-D Archery Range



Conceptual Swiftwater Channel



Conceptual Adventure Ropes Course



Conceptual Equestrian Trails



Conceptual Zip Lines



Conceptual Purposes Only
Design Subject to Change

Goal #5: Equity – Distribution of Resources

The PARD’s mission statement is to create positive and memorable experiences in people’s lives. In order to fulfill this mission statement, PARD must ensure equitable distribution of resources to all members of the community. Equity is one of the most important goals a parks and recreation department can have because it encompasses many facets of recreation. Parks and recreation equity includes, but is not limited to, providing easy access to recreational facilities and programs, offering varying types of facilities and programs, ensuring affordable access to programming, providing inclusiveness in facilities and programming, and designing facilities and programs intended for all demographics. Equity is about providing the same level of service to all residents of the community regardless of age, income level, ability level, or geographical location.

One way to fulfill the PARD’s goal is to provide a variety of unique physical environments and amenities that offer a broad range of experiences. As new developments occur, homeowners associations are constructing more and more neighborhood parks. This allows the PARD to continue to focus on designing community destination parks and offering unique experiences in each, so as not to duplicate services. Round Rock residents are thus provided options for different ways to recreate. Mayfield Park is designed to be an outdoor adventure and education park, while Behrens Ranch Park is designed to be a passive nature park (see Figure 6.6, *Behrens Ranch Park Conceptual Master Plan* and

Figure 6.7, *Mayfield Park Conceptual Master Plan*). Beyond that, Meadow Lake Park is designed to be a boating and beach park (see Figure 6.9, *Meadow Lake Park Conceptual Master Plan*). Old Settlers Park is being developed as a sport and community event park (see Figure 6.10, *Old Settlers Park Conceptual Master Plan*), while Play for All Park will continue to emphasize adaptive and inclusive programming as it is further developed (see Figure 6.11, *Play for All Park Conceptual Master Plan*). Lake Creek Park will be developed into a social dog park experience with an expansion of the current Dog Depot (see Figure 6.12, *Lake Creek Park Conceptual Master Plan*). Clay Madsen Park will continue to serve as a fitness and extreme recreation park (see Figure 6.13, *Clay Madsen Recreation Center Conceptual Master Plan*). Finally, Heritage Trail will serve as a Cultural/Historical park and will tell the story and history of Round Rock. It will incorporate art pieces to interpret the City’s history (see Figure 6.14, *Heritage Trail Conceptual Master Plan*).

Offering varying community destination parks is only one way to meet this goal. Having an equal distribution of community destination parks is just as important. Currently, there is a large service gap in the northeast sector of the City. It is recommended that the PARD acquire at least 300 acres in this sector to develop a community destination park to serve that area. Additionally, the PARD should develop a non-traditional, technology-driven recreation center somewhere in

the northern portion of the City in order to serve the population in this area. It is also important for destination playgrounds to be spread throughout the City. Currently, Play for All Abilities Park and Joanne Land at Old Settlers Park are destination playgrounds. Additional destination playgrounds are planned for Heritage Trail and Behrens Ranch Park.

Merely constructing community destination parks and distributing them evenly throughout the City does not ensure an equal distribution of resources. Current parks and facilities must also be improved to ensure that they meet current ADA and park standards and quality level. Programming also needs to be a focus for the PARD to ensure a variety of programs are available for people of all abilities, income levels, and age groups. It is recommended that the PARD start to grow teen programming as well as an adaptive and inclusive program. Inclusive, innovative, and distinctive recreation programs aligned with the PARD’s core competencies should be provided and made available for all residents.

The actions listed in Figure 6.8, *Equity - Distribution of Resources Actions*, are recommended to achieve this goal.



An additional recreation center will be needed in the northern portion of the City to ensure that all residents have convenient access to a facility.



An expansion of Play for All Park will provide access to greater diversity of unique adaptive recreation and programming.



Additional teen programming will be needed as the young population continues to age.



Figure 6.8, Equity - Distribution of Resources Actions

Goal #5: Equity - Distribution of Resources									
Projects							Time Frame		
Rank	Action	City Sector	Est. Low Range	Est. High Range	Type of Action	Potential Funding Mechanisms and Sources	1-2 yrs.	3-5 yrs.	6-10+ yrs.
	5.1 Acquire 300 acres in northeast sector of the City	NE	\$20,000,000	\$50,000,000	Acquisition	Bond Funds		x	x
	5.2. Develop Mayfield Park - Outdoor Adventure Park	NW	\$23,000,000	\$35,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds	x	x	x
	5.2.1 Nature Center with flexible space for classes and events	NW	\$5,000,000	\$10,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds		x	
	5.2.2 Archery range	NW	\$100,000	\$200,000	Construction	Bond Funds	x		
	5.2.3 Trail network - walking, equestrian, nature trail	NW	\$3,000,000	\$5,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds		x	
	5.2.4 Whitewater river / high ropes course	NW	\$15,000,000	\$20,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds	x		
	5.3 Develop Behrens Ranch Park - Nature Park	NW	\$3,000,000	\$5,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds		x	
	5.4 Develop Meadow Lake Park - Boating and Beach Park	NE	\$2,000,000	\$5,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds			x
	5.5 Develop Future Community Park (NE sector) - Sport Fisherman Park	NE	\$10,000,000	\$20,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds			x
	5.6 Develop Old Settlers Park - Sport and Event Park	NE	\$5,000,000	\$15,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds	x	x	x
	5.7 Develop Play for All Park - Inclusive Park	SE			Construction	Work with Foundation for fundraising efforts, Bond Funds	x	x	
	5.7.1 Inclusive sports field	NW	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds		x	
	5.7.2 Phase 3 Parking Lot	NW	\$500,000	\$750,000	Construction	Bond Funds	x		
	5.7.3 Large indoor multipurpose space with attached outdoor space for adaptive and inclusive programming	NW	\$4,000,000	\$6,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds	x		
	5.8 Develop Heritage Trail - Cultural / Historical Park Phase 2	SW/SE	Partially funded	Partially funded	Construction	Funded in 2013 Bond	x	x	
	5.9 Develop Lake Creek Park - Dog Park	SE	\$500,000	\$750,000	Construction	Bond Funds			x
	5.10 Develop Clay Madsen Park - Fitness and Recreation Park	SE	\$2,500,000	\$5,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds			x
	5.11 Redevelop Lake Creek Pool as training pool with deep water	SE	\$3,000,000	\$5,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds		x	
	5.12 Develop a new non-traditional recreation center in north	North	\$30,000,000	\$50,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds		x	
	5.13 Develop a veloway and program it for multiple uses	NE	\$5,000,000	\$8,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds			x
	5.14 Focus on and create more social recreational sports facilities	All	\$300,000	\$500,000	Construction	Bond Funds	x	x	
	5.15 Diversify and evenly distribute destination playgrounds	All	\$750,000 each	\$1,000,000 each	Construction	Bond Funds	x	x	x
	5.16 Develop a dog park in another area of town	West	\$100,000	\$150,000	Construction	Bond Funds			x
	5.17 Develop off-leash dog areas	All	\$5,000 each	\$10,000 each	Construction	Bond Funds	x	x	
	5.18 Develop additional practice facilities to balance with tournament facilities	All	\$300,000 each	\$500,000 each	Construction	Bond Funds		x	
	5.19 Address projects identified in the ADA transition plan	All	\$3,000,000	\$5,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds	x	x	
	5.20 Create a recreation sports and practice facility on the west side of City	West	\$2,500,000	\$5,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds			x
	5.21 Identify community event / rental space in north sector of City	North	\$2,000,000	\$5,000,000	Construction	Bond Funds			x
	5.22 Acquire property adjacent to Clay Madsen Recreation Center for addition of bike park	SE	\$3,000,000	\$7,000,000	Acquisition	Bond Funds			x
	5.23 Acquire property adjacent to Old Settlers Park	NE	\$5,000,000	\$15,000,000	Acquisition	Bond Funds		x	

Figure 6.8, Equity - Distribution of Resources Actions (cont.)

Goal #5: Equity - Distribution of Resources (cont.)									
Management, Operations, and Programming							Time Frame		
Rank	Action	City Sector	Est. Low Range	Est. High Range	Type of Action	Potential Funding Mechanisms and Sources	1-2 yrs.	3-5 yrs.	6-10+ yrs.
	5.24 Create plans for undeveloped neighborhood parkland and create plans for next bond election	All	N/A	N/A	Planning	N/A	x		
	5.25 Develop Adaptive and Inclusive Program strategic plan	All	N/A	N/A	Planning	N/A	x		
	5.26 Develop Teen Programming strategic plan	All	N/A	N/A	Planning	N/A	x	x	
	5.27 Develop Teen Ranger Program strategic plan	All	N/A	N/A	Planning	N/A	x		
	5.28 Expand Outdoor / Adventure Recreation Program to include City amenities	All	N/A	N/A	Programming	N/A		x	x
	5.29 Explore partnerships with other governmental entities to provide recreational facilities and opportunities	All	N/A	N/A	Planning	N/A	x	x	x
	5.30 Continue to focus on cultural programming	All	N/A	N/A	Programming	N/A	x	x	x
	5.31 Expand Aquatics Programming into deeper water	All	N/A	N/A	Programming	N/A	x		
	5.32 Continue emphasis on scholarship program and free community events	All	N/A	N/A	Programming	N/A	x	x	x
	5.33 Review and expand the Park Ordinance to include development of neighborhood park standards, trail development fees, and more	All	N/A	N/A	Planning	N/A	x		



Figure 6.9, Meadow Lake Park Conceptual Master Plan



Conceptual Master Plan

What?

Housing the largest lake in Round Rock, Meadow Lake is designed to be a passive recreation park that encourages water activities such as canoeing and kayaking, along with trail walking through the Blackland Prairie in the eastern portion of the park. Existing and proposed features include:

- Beach
- Boat Ramp
- Aerators
- Loop Trail
- Boardwalk through the Blackland Prairie
- Boardwalk/Dock
- Open Play Field
- Shaded Playground
- Pavilions
- Restrooms



Conceptual Beach



Conceptual Boardwalk



Conceptual Pier and Dock

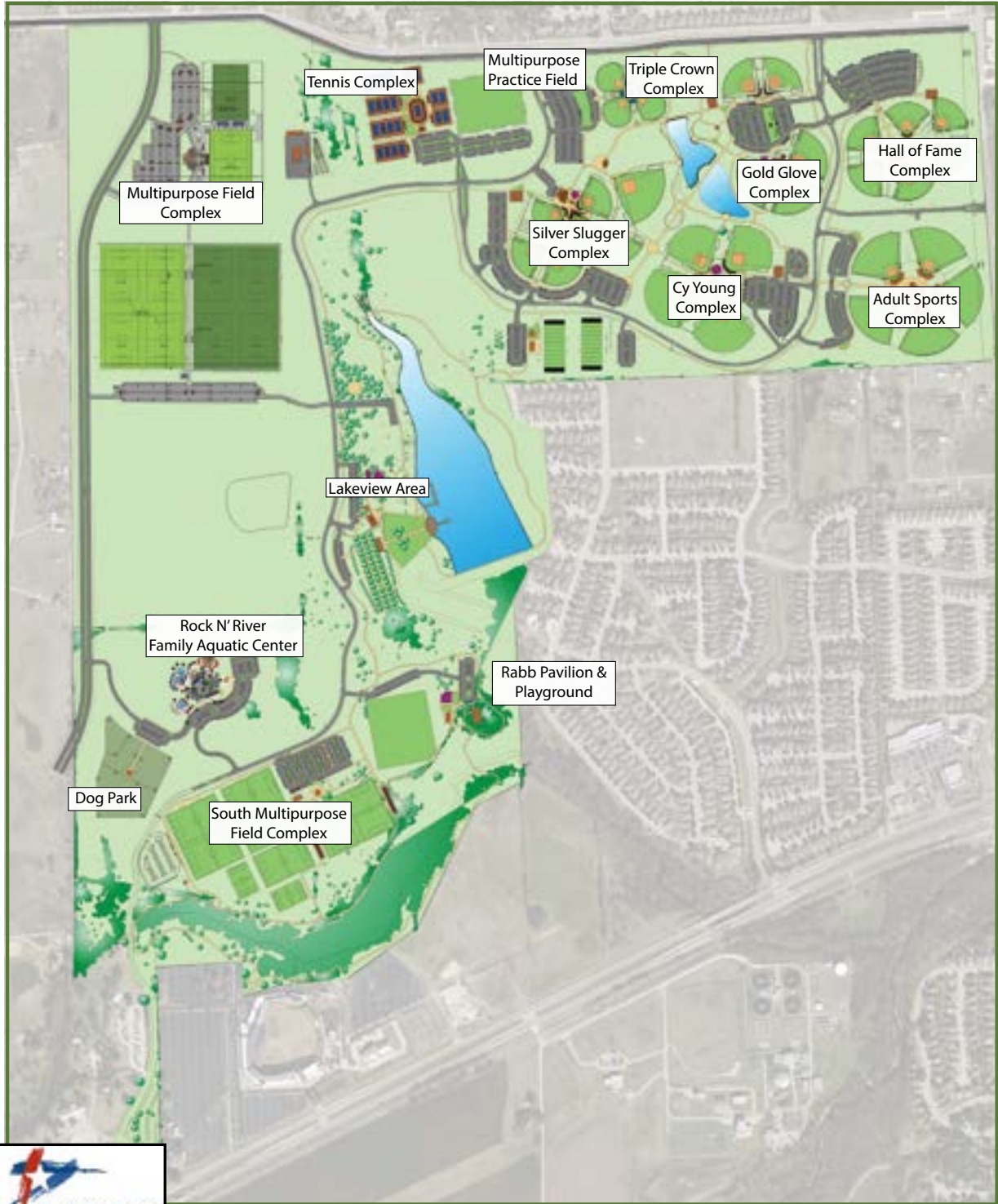


Existing Playground and Shade Structures



Conceptual Purposes Only
Design Subject to Change

Figure 6.10, Old Settlers Park Conceptual Master Plan



Conceptual Purposes Only
Design Subject to Change

Conceptual Master Plan

What?

Old Settlers Park is a regional destination park providing a variety of sports and event experiences. Current and proposed amenities include:

- Multiple Baseball/Softball Complexes
- Tennis Complex
- Rock 'N River Family Aquatic Center
- Playgrounds
- Looping Trail
- Multipurpose Fields/Soccer Fields/Football Fields
- Festival Area with Lake Access and Pavilions
- Proposed Multipurpose Field Complex
- Proposed Destination Adult Recreation and Sports Complex



Existing Joanne Land Playground



Existing Hall of Fame Complex



Existing Festival Area during July 4th Celebration



Multipurpose Field Complex
Championship Field



Rock 'N River Expansion Play
Feature



Adult Sports Complex



Figure 6.11, Play for All Park Conceptual Master Plan



Conceptual Master Plan

What?

Play for All Abilities Park is a community destination park that encourages inclusion, providing elements to play, develop skills, and socialize for all individuals including those with disability or limitation. The park will continue to expand its reach and provide additional amenities such as the All Abilities Sports Complex that will cater to children with special needs. Some existing and proposed features include:

- Retreat Pod
- Adventure Pod
- Water Tower Slide
- Village Pod
- Bicycle Race Track and Pit
- Large Playscape
- Swing Pod
- All Abilities Sports Complex
- Protected Synthetic Field for Special Needs
- Covered Sports Court
- Natural Grass Multipurpose Field



Existing Park



Conceptual Nature Pod Element



Conceptual Bicycle Track



Conceptual Synthetic Field



Conceptual Purposes Only
Design Subject to Change

Figure 6.12, Lake Creek Park Conceptual Master Plan



What?

A destination park along the Greater Lake Creek Trail provides active recreation opportunities for park-goers and their dog. Current and proposed amenities include:

- Lake Creek Pool
- Proposed Sprayground
- Playground
- Covered Court
- Sand Volleyball Courts
- Pavilions
- Dog Depot (multiple fenced areas for different sized dogs)
- Dock and Swimming Pond in the Dog Park
- Food Truck Court and Socialization Area
- Bocce Ball
- 18-hole disc golf course

Conceptual Master Plan

Goals and Recommended Actions



Existing Dog Park



Existing Lap Pool



Conceptual Food Truck Court



Conceptual Disc Golf



Conceptual Dog Pond and Dock



Conceptual Sprayground



Conceptual Food Truck Court



Conceptual Purposes Only
Design Subject to Change



Figure 6.13, Clay Madsen Recreation Center Conceptual Master Plan



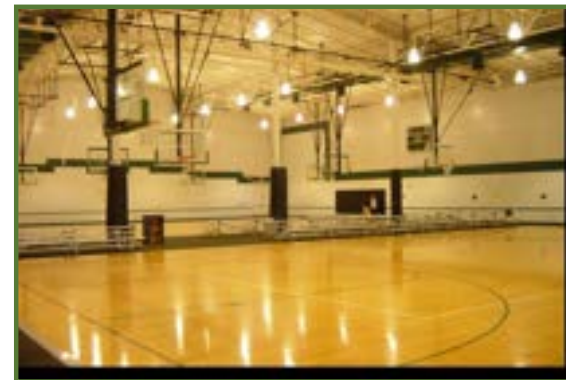
Conceptual Purposes Only
Design Subject to Change

Conceptual Master Plan

What?

The Clay Madsen Recreation Center is a community destination park along the Greater Lake Creek Trail system offering a variety of active recreation opportunities. Current and proposed amenities include:

- 14,000 sq. ft. skate park
- Covered Basketball Court
- Covered Multipurpose Building (including basketball, tennis, and cross-training area)
- Playground
- Looping Trail
- Recreation Center with indoor pool, gymnasium, weight room
- Proposed BMX pump track
- Proposed multipurpose fields



Existing Recreation Center Gymnasium



Existing Skate Park



Existing indoor pool



Conceptual BMX Pump Track



Conceptual Natural Turf Multipurpose Field



Conceptual Covered Basketball Court

Figure 6.14, Heritage Trail Conceptual Master Plan



Conceptual Master Plan

What?

A destination park along the Brushy Creek will serve as a cultural/historical park and trail with passive recreation opportunities. Current and proposed amenities include:

- Trail
- Picnic pavilions and areas
- Event lawn
- Sun bathing lawn
- Nature play area
- Boardwalk
- Brushy Creek pedestrian bridge
- Outdoor classroom
- Playground
- Canoe/kayak launch
- Overlook areas
- Spiral ramp
- Stagecoach pavilion
- Art pieces to interpret the City's history



Conceptual Stagecoach Pavilion



Conceptual Spiral Ramp



Conceptual Brushy Creek Pedestrian Bridge



Implementation Strategy

A coordinated effort on the part of the City and community leaders, such as citizens, elected and appointed officials, and outside agencies, is essential to the successful implementation of Plan recommendations. This also involves the recognition that the City has a responsibility to partner with all local, state, and federal entities that can be of assistance in diversifying and improving Round Rock’s park and recreation system now and in the future. At a minimum, this includes:

- Round Rock’s elected and appointed officials;
- City Administration and staff;
- Round Rock Economic Development Partnership;
- Williamson County;
- Texas Department of Transportation;
- YMCA;
- Round Rock Independent School District (RRISD);
- Adult and youth athletic leagues;
- Abutting local municipalities (on projects that benefit both jurisdictions);
- Area land and business owners and the development community;
- Homeowners’ Associations and Municipal Utility Districts (MUDs);
- Interested community volunteers and stakeholders; and
- Other affected agencies and entities.

An important additional consideration for the success and cost-efficiency of implementing the projects proposed in this Plan is establishing important interdepartmental coordination. Coordinating improvement plans with projects from other departments, such as planning, water or wastewater, right-of-way acquisition, drainage improvement, etc., will reduce overall capital costs to the City and speed up implementation.

Further, a substantial, synergistic relationship exists between high quality parks and trails, visible and accessible greenspace, and healthy economic development. Indeed, integrating beautiful parks and trails as part of quality neighborhood development is already one of the contributing factors leading to the City’s continued economic prosperity. This is because an equitably distributed, high-quality parks, recreation, and trail system contributes to the attraction of new residents and businesses. This consequently increases sales and property tax revenues, which then can be reinvested into maintaining and expanding the system over time. To capitalize on this symbiotic relationship, it is highly recommended that the PARD coordinate with Round Rock’s Economic Development Partnership and the Momentum investors of the Round Rock Chamber of Commerce to further maximize the potential of leveraging the City’s high quality park system as part of the City’s overall economic development efforts.

Potential Funding Sources

Since funding is the overarching prerequisite necessary to implement any of the recommended actions, this Plan identifies a series of potential funding sources which may be helpful in achieving the recommended action items in the most cost effective manner possible. Due to potential limitations of funding, it is recommended to pursue outside sources whenever possible (see Appendix C, *Potential Outside Funding Opportunities*). Outside sources include grants, partnerships with public agencies (e.g., RRISD), and partnerships with private entities.

City Generated Funding Sources

General fund expenditures (i.e., non-capital expenditures) are primarily used for improvements or repairs to existing parks and facilities. Typical general fund expenditures are for smaller repair and replacement efforts.

Municipal Bonds

Debt financing through the issuance of municipal bonds is the most common way to fund park and open space projects. This type of funding is a strategy wherein a city issues a bond, receives an immediate cash payment to finance projects, and must repay the bond with interest over a set period of time ranging from a few years to several decades. General obligation bonds – the most common form of municipal bond – are the primary bond type for park and open space projects.

Tax Increment Financing/Public Improvement Districts

These related tools allow a development district to divert a portion of its property taxes to fund infrastructure improvements within its area. This can include plazas, pocket parks, linear parks, and other types of facilities.

Electric Utility Partnerships

This type of partnership can be established for the purpose of providing and enhancing linear parks and trails along utility easements. This partnership typically does not involve monetary contributions. However, through use agreements and/or easements, it makes land for trail corridors accessible at little or no cost to the community.

Park Improvement Fee Funds

For many cities, this funding received from developers is a very helpful revenue source for park development. The requirement for such a fee needs to be written into the City’s Parkland Dedication and Development Ordinance.

Cash in Lieu of Conveyance of Land

As part of many cities’ Parkland Dedication and Development Ordinance, subject to specific prescribed conditions, a cash amount may be accepted in lieu of the conveyance of land. The goal is for the city to have the option to purchase land of an equal amount that was to be conveyed, elsewhere in the city.

Utility Bill Contributions

In many cities, residents are allowed to electively add a small amount to their utility collection bills to fund park improvements. As an example, the City of Colleyville has a Voluntary Park Fund, which allows citizens to donate \$2.00 per month contribution through their water utility bills. This results in approximately \$150,000 per year, which is used to fund park improvements throughout their community.

Tree Restoration Funds

The source of this type of fund is typically derived from cities that levy fines against developers for removing quality trees for development. The revenue generated is used to plant trees and to irrigate city properties.

Plan Update

A long-term vision for the City, which includes a 10-year strategy of prioritized implementation actions, was established through a robust public engagement process. If implemented, the City will achieve its envisioned future. Implementation by priority ensures that the City is responding incrementally to the community’s needs and desires.

This, however, does not mean that this Plan will serve every need and desire of the community for the entirety of the next 10 years. On the contrary, it is designed to specify guidance for implementation actions prioritized in the near- and mid-term future. In this regard, the following recommendations are intended to keep this Plan current and up to date:

- **Annual Progress Report and Update.** Prior to the start of the annual budget process, City staff should prepare and present an annual progress report on the status of the actions identified in this chapter. In addition, they should work with elected and appointed officials to determine which recommendations should move up in prioritization.
- **Five-Year Update.** While not required by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) to remain eligible for grant funding, undertaking an official plan update every five years helps the City remain competitive in a very competitive grant process as TPWD places a higher point value (during grant funding evaluation) on submittals that demonstrate a plan update has been done within the past five years. Plan updates can be published in short report format and attached to this Plan for easy use. Four key areas for focus of these periodic reviews are as follows:
 - **Facility Inventory.** An inventory of new facilities should be recorded as well as any significant improvements to RRISD, county parks, HOA parks, and major private facilities that could influence recreation in Round Rock.
 - **Public Involvement.** As mentioned previously, this Plan reflects current population and attitudes as expressed by the citizens of Round Rock. However, over time those attitudes and interests may change as the City changes. Periodic surveys are recommended to provide a current account of the attitudes of the citizens and to provide additional direction from the public on issues that may arise. In order to make an accurate comparison of the changes in attitudes and interests, it is recommended that future surveys follow the general format of the citizen survey conducted in this Plan.

- **Facility Use.** Facility use is a key factor in determining the need for renovation of additional facilities. League participation of sports facilities should be updated each season with data from each association. Changes in participation of those outside the City limits as well as the citizens of Round Rock should also be recorded.
- **Action Plan.** As items from the action plans in this document are implemented, updates should be made to the prioritized list to provide a current schedule for City staff.



Figure 6.15, Trails Priority Plan



Figure 6.16, PARD Vision Plan



APPENDIX 0

Referenced Documents

By adopting the Playbook 2030: Building a Connected Community, Council acknowledges, and therefore adopts, the following referenced plans as if their text was included in full:

Trails Master Plan

- The Trails Master Plan and Trail Plates were updated as part of the 2012 Master Plan Update. The Vision Plan and Trails Priority Plan were updated as part of this master plan update, but Trail Plates were not. Trail Plates will be updated in 2019. PARD continually updates trail alignments based on Council and resident priorities, as well as development opportunities.

Repair and Replacement Plan

- The PARD team performs conditions assessments on all parks, facilities, and amenities on a biannual basis. The results of those assessments are analyzed and then compiled into the Repair and Replacement Plan. This Plan prioritizes repairs and upgrades at parks based on usage and current condition. The Plan is a living document and changes based on condition assessments, usage, and additional funding opportunities.

PARD Business Plans

- Each Division within the Department prepares a Division Business Plan reflecting the current state, future state, cost recovery, budget analysis, and strategic goals for the Division. These plans are updated annually and so therefore, the specific text is not included in this document.

Recreation Programming Plan

- The Recreation, Athletics, and Aquatics Divisions analyze recreation trends, current service levels, and current program usage. They also perform a market study to determine the appropriate services, programs, service levels, and fee philosophy. The program inventory and evaluation components of the plan are updated annually. The plan in its entirety is reviewed annually and updated as needed.

ADA Transition Plan

- The ADA Transition Plan for the Parks and Recreation Department was adopted by the City ADA Coordinator / Risk Manager in 2018. This plan outlines all physical barriers associated with the Americans with Disabilities Act and lists recommendations for barrier removal. These plans are available at the Clay Madsen Recreation Center, Allen R. Baca Senior Center, and PARD Main Office for viewing by the public

APPENDIX A

Supplemental Information

This Appendix provides additional background information about public engagement activities completed as part of the planning process. This includes the following elements:

Open Houses

- Meeting advertisements
- Sign-in sheets

Public Survey

- Public survey advertisements
- Original Round Rock Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment Survey
- Round Rock Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment Findings Report (completed by a sample of 633 households)
- 2015 Round Rock Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment Survey (open to the general public)



Parks are a tangible reflection of the quality of life in a community.

~ National Recreation and Park Association

Open House Meeting Advertisement

(see image at right)

Distributed as:

- PARD E-blast to 42,000 subscriber list three times in July 2015 and three times in August 2015
- Half page, full color print ads in Round Rock Leader June & July 2015
- Half page, full color print ad in Community Impact Newspaper July 2015
- Fliers delivered to all customer contact facilities including: CMRC, BACA, City Hall & Library



TAKE PARD TO THE FUTURE

Help take Round Rock Parks and Recreation "To the Future" by attending one of our Community Open House Meetings to reshape and update the PARD Master Plan, Game Plan 2020.

PARD Master Plan Meetings:

- Tuesday, Aug. 4, Grace Lutheran Church (RR West) 708 Bluff Drive
- Wednesday, Aug. 5, Williamson Co Annex-Pct 1 1801 E. Old Settlers Blvd.
- Thursday, Aug. 6, Behrens Ranch HOA Amenity Center 2503 Arbor Drive
- Wednesday, Aug 12, Baca Center Grand Room 301 W. Bagdad, Bldg 2
- Thursday, Aug 13, Clay Madsen Recreation Center 1600 Gattis School Road

All meetings run from 5:00pm to 7:30pm


ROUND ROCK TEXAS
PARKS AND RECREATION



Other Open House Meeting Advertisements

- 6 Social media posts Facebook & Twitter/July 2015 & May 2016 to promote the survey link (Posted video with locations/survey link)
- Posted to City of Round Rock website and calendar item July 2015 (see the following pages)
- PARD digital display board in CMRC & BABA July 2015 & May 2016 (Features "Take PARD to the Future" video)
- Featured media stories in the Round Rock Leader and the Austin American Statesman
- Featured in City utility bill stuffer "News Flash" sent to all residents





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This event has passed.

Parks Master Plan open house southwest

Game Plan 2020 Open House - Southwest

August 4, 2015 @ 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Help take Round Rock Parks and Recreation "To the Future" by attending one of our Community Open House Meetings to reshape and update the PARD Master Plan, Game Plan 2020.

This is a drop by open house meeting where you will get a firsthand look at accomplishments, bond project updates, current and future facility upgrades and improvements, and where our parks are heading in the future. You can offer input that will help shape your Parks and Recreation Department.

Download the Master Plan Meetings schedule.

+ GOOGLE CALENDAR

+ I CAL EXPORT

ADD TO MY CALENDAR

Details

Date:
August 4, 2015

Time:
5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Event Categories:
City Events, City Meetings, Community Events


Organizer

Parks and Recreation Department

Phone:
512-218-5548

Email:
rdavidson@roundrocktexas.gov

Website:
http://www.roundrocktexas.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/open-house-events/roundrock



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« All Events

This event has passed.

Parks Master Plan open house northeast

Game Plan 2020 Open House - Northeast

August 5, 2015 @ 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Help take Round Rock Parks and Recreation "To the Future" by attending one of our Community Open House Meetings to reshape and update the PARD Master Plan, Game Plan 2020.

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ADD TO MY CALENDAR

Details

Date:
August 5, 2015

Time:
5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Event Categories:
City Events, City Meetings, Community Events

Organizer

Parks and Recreation Department

Phone:
512-218-5548


Email:
rdavidson@roundrocktexas.gov

Website:
http://www.roundrocktexas.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/open-house-events/roundrock

Supplemental Information

The Round Rock Strategic Parks and Recreation Master Plan

A.3



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Parks Master Plan open house northwest

Game Plan 2020 Open House - Northwest

August 6, 2015 @ 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Help take Round Rock Parks and Recreation "To the Future" by attending one of our Community Open House Meetings to reshape and update the PARD Master Plan, Game Plan 2020.

This is a drop by open house meeting where you will get a firsthand look at accomplishments, bond project updates, current and future facility upgrades and improvements, and where our parks are heading in the future. You can offer input that will help shape your Parks and Recreation Department.

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ADD TO MY CALENDAR

Details

Date:
August 6, 2015

Time:
5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Event Categories:
City Events, City Meetings, Community Events


Organizer

Parks and Recreation Department

Phone:
512-218-5548

Email:
rdavidson@roundrocktexas.gov

Website:
http://www.roundrocktexas.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/news-and-events/news-and-events



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All Events

This event has passed.

Parks Master Plan open house downtown

Game Plan 2020 Open House - Downtown

August 12, 2015 @ 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm | FREE

Help take Round Rock Parks and Recreation "To the Future" by attending one of our Community Open House Meetings to reshape and update the PARD Master Plan, Game Plan 2020.

This is a drop by open house meeting where you will get a firsthand look at accomplishments, bond project updates, current and future facility upgrades and improvements, and where our parks are heading in the future. You can offer input that will help shape your Parks and Recreation Department.

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Details

Date:
August 12, 2015

Time:
5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Cost:
FREE

Event Categories:
City Events, City Meetings, Community


Organizer

Roger Heaney

Phone:
512-341-3361



Open House Sign-In Sheets



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All Events

This event has passed.

Parks Master Plan open house southeast

Game Plan 2020 Open House - Southeast

August 13, 2015 @ 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm | FREE

Help take Round Rock Parks and Recreation "To the Future" by attending one of our Community Open House Meetings to reshape and update the PARD Master Plan, Game Plan 2020.

This is a drop by open house meeting where you will get a firsthand look at accomplishments, bond project updates, current and future facility upgrades and improvements, and where our parks are heading in the future. You can offer input that will help shape your Parks and Recreation Department.

Download the Master Plan Meeting schedule.

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ADD TO MY CALENDAR

Details

Date:
August 13, 2015

Time:
5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Cost:
FREE

Event Categories:
City Events, City Meetings, Community

Organizer

Roger Heaney

Phone:
512 341-3361

GamePlan 2020: Masterplan Update--Southwest Neighborhood Open House		
Tuesday, August 4th 2015		
Name	Address	Email Address
1 Katie Barrett	1105 Deepwood	Katie1Barrett@gmail.com
2 Betty Wickham	3315 STARRLIGHT VISTA	betts5909@yahoo.com
3 HARRY & ELIZABETH ENGLAND	2924 MARGARITA LOOP	HHENGLAND@ATT.NET
4		
5 Renee Livsey	801 Creekmont Dr.	RLIVSEY@austin.rr.com
6 Brian & Debbie Mann	1613 White Oak Loop	mr_orange@sbcglobal.net
7 ROBERT ESKRIDGE	1609 WILLOWOOD DR	reskridgeetk@gmail.com
8 Ben Work	1302 Dragon	WorkUndone@gmail.com
9 ROB SITIAN	1100 Abbey	brASSPARROT@yahoo
10 Margaret Troxel	1203 Deep Wood Dr.	aggiemargarita@yahoo.com
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GamePlan 2020: Masterplan Update--Southwest Neighborhood Open House
Tuesday, August 4th 2015

Name	Address	Email Address
1 Don Harris	906 Walsh Ln	dh2@donharris.net
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GamePlan 2020: Masterplan Update--Northeast Neighborhood Open House
Wednesday, August 5th, 2015

Name	Address	Email Address
1 Mark A. Baker	1602 Springbrook Dr. 78660	mark.baker4@gmail.com
2 Finley Baker	" " " "	
3 Trip Fell		tripfell3@yahoo.com
4 Christina Giehl	1102 Terrier CV, 78664	christina@fabplaygrounds.com
5 Mike Giehl	" "	mike@fabplaygrounds.com
6 Whit Daese	2721 Layana Apt 78691	whit@hillcountryplayground.com
7 Josh Stroup	1701 S IH-35 RR, TX 78664	josh@karmahandcarwash.com
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GamePlan 2020: Masterplan Update--Northeast Neighborhood Open House
Wednesday, August 5th, 2015

Name	Address	Email Address
1 Tim Bargainier	101 Oakmont Ct, Suite 18628	tbargainier@halfp.com
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GamePlan 2020: Masterplan Update--Northwest Neighborhood Open House
Thursday, August 6th 2015

Name	Address	Email Address
1 Terry McCord	2320 Camino Del Verde Pl	terry.mccord@yahoo.com
2 Larry Yawn	3208 Whispering Woods	larry.yawn@rxpha.com
3 Steve Smith	2827 Mirasol Dr	devroute@gmail.com
4 Steve Williams	3413 CARYA	Steve-L-Williams@aol.com
5 Tim Bargainier	101 Oakmont	tbargainier@halfp.com
6 Scott Traube	2036 Kimbrook Dr	scott.traube@gmail.com
7 Logan Sheen	2609 Salom Way	logan.at.work@gmail.com
8 Gabriel Carreras	2905 Desert Candle Rd	gabe.carreras@gmail.com
9 Donna Pav	3233 GoldenOak Circle	dnpav@austin.rr.com
10 Jenene Unkry	519 Virginia Drive	
11 Roger Heaney	2008 Cyclone Ridge	
12 Danyelle Weatherford	2503 Echo Wood Place	danyellew@me.com
13 Rilla Chaka	2004 Woods Cove 78681	jchaka@austin.rr.com
14 Roy Silva	2829 Stonecreek Pl	Rrsilva@sbcglobal.net
15 Mark + Helen Royer	3301 Texana Ct.	helenroyer@prodigy.net
16 Tony Chang		
17 Steve Stacey	1116 Oakclay Dr	Stacey.L@Cad.com
18 Kirby Williams	3427 Ranch Park Tr.	kirbysw@gmail.com
19 David Marcio	2558 Masonwood Way	davem1986@aol.com
20 Wendy Childers	2824 Nolana Lane	wendychilders@utexas.edu
21 Jon + Maureen Wilke	2417 Salom Way	TexasJon@live.com
22 Michelle Given	2616 Chestfield Pl	mlgiven@austin.rr.com
23		
24		
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GamePlan 2020: Masterplan Update--Downtown Neighborhood Open House
Wednesday, August 12th 2015

Name	Address	Email Address
1 Ryan Crowder	1511 Timberwood Dr, Cedar Park TX 78613	ryan@penfoldtheatre.org
2 Lori Moore	1405 MAOSH HARBOR RR TX 78664	
3 Matti Amy		ZCLICKZ@POL.COM
4 Celi Magdalena	909 Spring Tree RR, TX	
5 Carol Isaacks	1301 Highmeadows Cove RR TX	cisaacks@roundrocktexas.gov
6 Ann N Saenz	1315 Rolling Ridge Tr	gilannsa@yahoo.com
7 Gilbert Saenz	"	"
8 Karen & David Manguerra	2509 Partridge Ct	quilson@sbcglobal.net daverrtre@gmail.com
9 ANITA PALMIERI	2004 LAURA CT RR, TX 78681	2palms1967@att.net
10 Cathy Patterson	2813 St. Rodriga Ct, RR 78665	cpattersonrr@aol.com
11 Sheryl Davis	1205 Rolling Ridge Dr 78665	
12 Shannon Matthews	15508 SPEDICK DR 78717	
13 BRINDA FULTON	2900 TODD TRAIL	brindafulton@austin.rr.com
14 Russ Soles	1301 Crimson Clover	russ@summit-commercial.com
15 Liz Howells	1818 Bluffwood Pl	andy.lizzie@yahoo.com
16 Chris Elquist	1823 Bayland St	chris.elquist@hotmail.com
17 RAS KAI	2831 MIRASOL DR	RASKAIMAL@GMAIL.COM
18 Steve Smith	2827 Mirasol Dr.	devroute@gmail.com
19 Andrea Markarth	707 Creekmon Dr.	j-a-markarth@sbcglobal.net
20 Shirley Dillman	3823 Willie Mays Ln -	shirley.dillman@gmail.com
21 EARL WHITE	892 E. BOWMAN RD	taity532y@yahoo.com
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GamePlan 2020: Masterplan Update--Downtown Neighborhood Open House
Wednesday, August 12th 2015

Name	Address	Email Address
1 Phil & Kathy Scott	Heather St, RR	Phil.Kan@aol.com
2 Serena Guin	London Rd	grammiebiker@yahoo.com
3 Sharon Gully	2813 St. Rodriga Ct	SRTOU44@AOL.COM
4 Michael Dickenson	2839 Mirasol Dr	MDickenson4@austin.rr.com
5 Brent Campbell	503 East Main	Brent@Don.Quick.com
6 Joelynn Barclay	Austin	joelynnbarclay@gmail.com
7 Ron & Linda LeBaron	2835 Mirasol Drive	egglesth@msn.com
8 Sarah Hays	1711 Braughton Ln	coyagirl25@gmail.com
9 JENNIFER CONROY	404 Deerfoot Drive	JENNIFER.EARTH@yahoo.com
10 Judy Sael	7621 Buccaneer Trail	texasjudy2002@yahoo.com
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GamePlan 2020: Masterplan Update--Southeast Neighborhood Open House
Thursday, August 13th 2015

Name	Address	Email Address
1. MAUDIE HARRIS	OAK ALICE ST	ALREADY SUBSCRIBED
2. CARLA STEVENS	8313 Vintage Dr	Subscribe
3. Tera Harris	1426 River Forest	teraharris71@afl.net
4. Tiffany & Cassie Philip	8313 Broken Branch Dr.	tiff-0804@yahoo.com
5. Noel Orozco	2737 High Point Dr.	
6. Tharna Bhatt	2819 Mirasol Dr.	jharna.bhatt@yahoo.com
7. Tekita Coffey	1310 Leah Lane	lwyd42@yahoo.com
8. Jackie & Carl Theaker	1933 CreekCrest Way	jdhouck644@gmail.com
9. CHAD CHADWELL	RR157 Road	
10. Bill Munger	1703 Rock Creek Dr.	bill-munger@earthlink.net
11. Stephanie Rill		
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GamePlan 2020: Masterplan Update--Southeast Neighborhood Open House
Thursday, August 13th 2015

Name	Address	Email Address
1. Mary Clark	1803 Oakridge Dr. RT 78681	maryclark@earthlink.net
2. PHILIP Lohf	1608 Windrift Way 78664	
3. REED BENDER	37 STILLMEADOW, RR 78664	REEDBENDER@AOL.COM
4. Wendy Dickey-Darby	105 Arctic Circle RR 78664	Dreezyam.nad@gmail.com
5. Cathy Carter	606 Pecan Ave 78664	ccarter@erol.com
6. Paige Bender	37 Stillmeadow 78664	pbender612@gmail.com
7. Joe Doran	16635 Cordillera Tr. RR 78681	joe@JDDWV.COM
8. Steve Beacham	14 Scenic Terrace RR 78664	beachams@sbcglobal.net
9. Jan Chew	2306 Miramar Cove RR 78665	talkwtree@netzero.com
10. Jennifer Chew	407 Ridgewood Dr Georgetown 78628	
11. Sreeja Sreekumaran	2831 MIRASOL DR, RR 78681	Svsreeja@gmail.com
12. Gus Rojo	2126 PARADISE Ridge DR 78665	GUSEROJO@GMAIL.COM
13. Stephanie Massey	1969 CreekCrestway 78664	Mail4Massey@gmail.com
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Public Survey
Advertisements

Distributed as:

- Take PARD to the Future Online Survey E-Blast in July 2015 and May 2016 (see image at right)
- 6 Social media posts Facebook & Twitter/July 2015 & May 2016 to promote the survey link (Posted video with locations/survey link)



Take Parks and Recreation "To the Future" by taking our online survey that will help us reshape and update the PARD Master Plan

Help take Round Rock Parks and Recreation "To the Future" by taking our online survey that will help us reshape and update the PARD Master Plan, Game Plan 2020. Hit the link below to take the survey
www.roundrocktexas.gov/pardsurvey



Sincerely,
Round Rock Parks & Recreation Department

Original Round Rock Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment Survey



2015 Round Rock Parks and Recreation Needs
Assessment Survey

The City of Round Rock Parks and Recreation Department would like your input to help determine parks and recreation priorities for our community. This survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete. When you are finished, please return your survey in the enclosed postage-paid, return-reply envelope. We greatly appreciate your time.

1. Have you or members of your household visited any of the parks/open spaces operated by the City of Round Rock Parks and Recreation Department during the past 12 months?
____ (1) Yes [Please answer questions #1a-#1b.] ____ (2) No [Please go to question #2.]

1a. Please write in below the three City of Round Rock Parks and Recreation Department parks/open spaces you and members of your household have visited most often in the past 12 months.

____ Visit Most Often

____ Visit 2nd Most Often

____ Visit 3rd Most Often

1b. Overall, how would you rate the physical condition of ALL the parks/open spaces provided by the City of Round Rock Parks and Recreation Department that you have visited?

____ (1) Excellent

____ (3) Fair

____ (2) Good

____ (4) Poor

2. Have you or other members of your household participated in any recreation programs offered by the City of Round Rock Parks and Recreation Department during the past 12 months?

____ (1) Yes [Please answer Questions #2a, #2b & #2c.]

____ (2) No [Please go to Question #3.]

2a. Approximately how many different recreation programs offered by the City of Round Rock Parks and Recreation Department have you or members of your household participated in over the past 12 months?

____ (1) 1 program

____ (3) 4 to 6 programs

____ (5) 11 or more programs

____ (2) 2 to 3 programs

____ (4) 7 to 10 programs

2b. From the following list, please check the THREE primary reasons why your household has participated in the City of Round Rock Parks and Recreation Department programs or recreation activities. (Check only 3.)

____ (1) Quality of instructors/coaches

____ (5) Times the program is offered

____ (2) Location of the program facility

____ (6) Friends participate in the program

____ (3) Quality of the program facility

____ (7) Dates the program is offered

____ (4) Cost of program/activity

____ (8) Other: _____

2c. How would you rate the overall quality of programs that you and members of your household have participated in?

____ (1) Excellent

____ (3) Fair

____ (2) Good

____ (4) Poor



3. How do you CURRENTLY learn about the services that are offered by the City of Round Rock Parks and Recreation Department? (Check ALL that apply.)

- ☐ (1) Newspaper, Television, Radio
- ☐ (2) City of Round Rock Website
- ☐ (3) From friends and neighbors
- ☐ (4) Social media, E-mail bulletins
- ☐ (5) Program fliers/registration forms
- ☐ (6) Program guide
- ☐ (7) Conversations with Parks/Rec team
- ☐ (8) Recreation center digital media boards
- ☐ (9) Other: _____

4. From the following list, please CHECK ALL the reasons that PREVENT you or other members of your household from using the City of Round Rock Parks and Recreation Department outdoor parks, indoor recreation centers, and programs at all or more often.

- ☐ (01) Lack of time
- ☐ (02) Outdoor parks do not have adequate passive relaxation space
- ☐ (03) Outdoor parks do not have adequate field space
- ☐ (04) Outdoor parks are not easy to get to
- ☐ (05) Outdoor parks lack the right kind/quality of amenities
- ☐ (06) Rec. centers are not easy to get to
- ☐ (07) Rec. center hours are not convenient
- ☐ (08) Rec. centers lack the right kind/quality of equipment
- ☐ (09) Desired program(s) are not offered
- ☐ (10) Program times are not convenient
- ☐ (11) Location of programs are not convenient
- ☐ (12) Program fees are not reasonable
- ☐ (13) Lack of awareness about programs
- ☐ (14) Difficult to register for programs
- ☐ (15) Programs are full
- ☐ (16) Use services from other providers
- ☐ (17) Other: _____

5. Please indicate if you or any members of your HOUSEHOLD have a need for each of the parks, trails or recreation facilities listed below by circling the YES or NO next to the program.

If YES, please rate the following facilities on a scale of 5 to 1, where 5 means “100% Meets Needs” and 1 means “Does Not Meet Needs” of your household.

Type of Facility	Do You Have a Need for this Facility?		If YES You Have a Need, How Well Are Your Needs Already Being Met?				
	Yes	No	100% Met	75% Met	50% Met	25% Met	0% Met
A. Walking trails	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
B. Biking trails	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
C. Running/walking track	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
D. Natural areas and wildlife habitats	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
E. Picnic shelters/areas	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
F. Shade elements	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
G. Playgrounds	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
H. Fishing/boating areas	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
I. Small neighborhood parks	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
J. Large community parks	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
K. Dog parks	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
L. Outdoor swimming pools	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
M. Spray parks	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
N. Outdoor tennis courts	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
O. Outdoor basketball courts	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
P. Outdoor volleyball courts	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
Q. Flat fields (rugby, soccer, football, etc.)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
R. Youth baseball/softball fields	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
S. Adult softball fields	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
T. Skateboard parks	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
U. Outdoor performance space/amphitheaters	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
V. Outdoor special event rental space	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
W. Indoor exercise and fitness facilities	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
X. Indoor gymnasiums	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
Y. Other: _____	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1

6. Which FOUR of the facilities from the list in Question #5 are MOST IMPORTANT to your household? [Using the letters in Question #5 above, please write in the letters below for your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choices, or circle ‘NONE’.]

1st: _____ 2nd: _____ 3rd: _____ 4th: _____ NONE

7. Please indicate if you or any members of your HOUSEHOLD have a need for each of the recreation or cultural programs listed below by circling the YES or NO next to the program.

If YES, please rate the following PROGRAMS on a scale of 5 to 1, where 5 means “100% Meets Needs” and 1 means “Does Not Meet Needs” of your household.

Type of Program	Do You Have a Need for this Program?		If YES You Have a Need, How Well Are Your Needs Already Being Met?				
	Yes	No	100% Met	75% Met	50% Met	25% Met	0% Met
A. Youth learn to swim programs	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
B. Adult learn to swim programs	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
C. Water fitness programs	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
D. Tennis lessons and leagues	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
E. Preschool programs	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
F. Before and after school programs	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
G. School break programs (fall, winter, spring)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
H. Youth athletic leagues (recreation)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
I. Youth athletic leagues (competitive)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
J. Youth fitness and wellness programs	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
K. Programs for teens	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
L. Youth art, dance, performing arts	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
M. Adult art, dance, performing arts	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
N. Adult fitness and wellness programs	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
O. Adult leisure learning programs	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
P. Programs for people with disabilities	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
Q. Summer camps	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
R. Community special events, i.e. concerts, cultural fairs, parties, etc.	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
S. Athletic special events, i.e. foot races, etc.	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
T. Nature programs/environmental education	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
U. Programs for adults over 50	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
V. Other: _____	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1

8. Which FOUR of the programs from the list in Question #7 are MOST IMPORTANT to your household? [Using the letters in Question #7 above, please write in the letters below for your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choices, or circle ‘NONE’.]

1st: _____ 2nd: _____ 3rd: _____ 4th: _____ NONE

9. Which FOUR of the programs from the list in Question #7 do you currently participate in MOST OFTEN at City of Round Rock Parks and Recreation Department facilities? [Using the letters in Question #7 above, please write in the letters below for your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choices, or circle ‘NONE’.]

1st: _____ 2nd: _____ 3rd: _____ 4th: _____ NONE

10. Have you used any parks and playgrounds in the City of Round Rock Parks system in the last 12 months?
_____ Yes (Please answer Q11.) _____ No (Please skip to Q13.)

11. Please use a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 means “Very Satisfied” and 1 means “Very Dissatisfied,” to rate your satisfaction with the following Park And Playground Services provided by the City of Round Rock Parks and Recreation Department.

<u>How satisfied are you with:</u>	Very Satisfied		Satisfied		Neutral		Dissatisfied		Very Dissatisfied		Don't Know	
	5	4	3	2	1	9	5	4	3	2	1	9
(A) Mowing and trimming in parks	5	4	3	2	1	9	5	4	3	2	1	9
(B) Overall quality of playground equipment	5	4	3	2	1	9	5	4	3	2	1	9
(C) Overall quality of play courts	5	4	3	2	1	9	5	4	3	2	1	9
(D) Overall quality of picnic areas	5	4	3	2	1	9	5	4	3	2	1	9
(E) Overall quality of outdoor restrooms	5	4	3	2	1	9	5	4	3	2	1	9
(F) Overall quality of trash pickup in parks	5	4	3	2	1	9	5	4	3	2	1	9
(G) Overall quality of play fields	5	4	3	2	1	9	5	4	3	2	1	9
(H) Overall quality of landscaping (shrubs/flowers)	5	4	3	2	1	9	5	4	3	2	1	9
(I) Overall condition of parks and playgrounds	5	4	3	2	1	9	5	4	3	2	1	9

12. Which THREE of the park and playground services listed above do you think should receive the most attention from Parks and Recreation Department leaders over the next TWO years? [Please indicate your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices by writing the letters from Question #11 above in the spaces below or circle “NONE”.]

1st: _____ 2nd: _____ 3rd: _____ NONE

13. The following is a list of actions that the City of Round Rock Parks and Recreation can take. For each potential action, please indicate how important you believe it would be for the City to take the action by circling the corresponding number to the right of the action.

<u>Actions the City Could Take:</u>	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Sure		Not Important	
	4	3	2	1	4	3	2	1
(A) Upgrade existing neighborhood parks (playgrounds, shelters, etc.)	4	3	2	1	4	3	2	1
(B) Upgrade existing sports fields (soccer, baseball, softball, etc.)	4	3	2	1	4	3	2	1
(C) Have smaller parks, within walking distance with fewer amenities	4	3	2	1	4	3	2	1
(D) Have larger parks, within driving distance with more amenities	4	3	2	1	4	3	2	1
(E) Offer large regional parks with a wide variety of facilities	4	3	2	1	4	3	2	1
(F) Expand adult athletic leagues	4	3	2	1	4	3	2	1
(G) Expand youth recreation programs	4	3	2	1	4	3	2	1
(H) Work to increase the amount of public open space	4	3	2	1	4	3	2	1
(I) Expand “Art in the Park” program	4	3	2	1	4	3	2	1
(J) Develop large nature park with trails and passive recreation	4	3	2	1	4	3	2	1
(K) Build new indoor recreation spaces	4	3	2	1	4	3	2	1
(L) Develop additional walking and biking trails/connect trails	4	3	2	1	4	3	2	1
(M) Renovate and add to existing parks in the City	4	3	2	1	4	3	2	1
(N) Build a new outdoor Spray ‘N Play area	4	3	2	1	4	3	2	1

14. Which FOUR actions from the list in Question #13 should be the highest priority for the Parks and Recreation Department? [Using the letters in Question #13 above, please write in the letters below for your 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th choices, or circle ‘NONE’.]

1st: _____ 2nd: _____ 3rd: _____ 4th: _____ NONE



15. Please indicate how strongly you Agree or Disagree with the following statements about trails in the City of Round Rock.

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neutral	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
Statements:						
(A) Trails are close to where I live.....	5	4	3	2	1	9
(B) I feel safe when I'm using the trails.....	5	4	3	2	1	9
(C) There is convenient parking or access to the trail	5	4	3	2	1	9
(D) Most trails connect to places my family or I wish to go.....	5	4	3	2	1	9
(E) Trails in Round Rock are well maintained	5	4	3	2	1	9
(F) I want Round Rock to have one of the best trail systems in the entire state	5	4	3	2	1	9
(G) I would like to be able to get to work or a store or visit friends by using a hike or bike trail	5	4	3	2	1	9
(H) I would like trails in Round Rock to connect to nearby schools	5	4	3	2	1	9
(I) I would like trails in Round Rock to connect to other cities	5	4	3	2	1	9
(J) I would like the City to add additional trails throughout the City.....	5	4	3	2	1	9

16. To meet the needs of its growing population, the Parks And Recreation Department may require additional funding. How strongly would you support or oppose the city utilizing the following financing strategies to increase the amount of funding available to the parks and recreation department?

	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Neutral	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	Don't Know
Finance Strategies:						
(A) Increase the Department's annual budget.....	5	4	3	2	1	9
(B) Increase fees for those who participate in athletic leagues	5	4	3	2	1	9
(C) Increase fees for those who participate in recreation programming	5	4	3	2	1	9
(D) Increase rental/membership fees for park facilities	5	4	3	2	1	9

17. In thinking about parks in Round Rock, how would you compare them with other cities with which you are familiar? Would you say they are:

____ (1) Much Better	____ (4) Much worse
____ (2) Better	____ (5) No opinion
____ (3) Worse	

18. The Parks And Recreation Department is funded by various sources, including the taxes and fees you pay as a resident of Round Rock. Based on your experience to date, would you say that for the money you pay, the services they provide are a:

____ (1) Great value	____ (4) Poor value
____ (2) Good value	____ (5) No opinion
____ (3) Fair value	

19. Counting yourself, how many people in your household are?

Under 5 years	____	10 - 14 years	____	20 - 34 years	____	55 - 64 years	____
5 - 9 years	____	15 - 19 years	____	35 - 54 years	____	65+ years	____

20. Approximately how many years have you lived in Round Rock? _____

21. What is your age? _____ years

22. What is the highest level of formal education you completed?

____ (1) Grade School	____ (4) College graduate
____ (2) High School	____ (5) Graduate work
____ (3) Some college	____ (6) Graduate degree

23. Do you work in the City of Round Rock?

____ (1) Yes
____ (2) No

24. What is your gender?

____ (1) Male
____ (2) Female

25. Which of the following best describes your race/ethnicity? (Check all that apply.)

____ (1) Asian/Pacific Islander	____ (4) White
____ (2) American Indian/Eskimo	____ (5) Hispanic, Latino, or other Spanish heritage
____ (3) Black/African American	____ (6) Other: _____

26. Would you say your total annual household income is:

____ (1) Under \$25,000	____ (5) \$100,000 to \$124,999
____ (2) \$25,000 to \$49,999	____ (6) \$125,000 to \$149,999
____ (3) \$50,000 to \$74,999	____ (7) \$150,000 to \$199,999
____ (4) \$75,000 to \$99,999	____ (8) \$200,000 or more

This concludes the survey. Thank you for your time!

Please return your completed survey in the enclosed postage paid envelope addressed to:
ETC Institute, 725 W. Frontier Circle, Olathe, KS 66061

Your responses will remain completely confidential. The information printed to the right will ONLY be used to help identify which areas of the City are having difficulties with City services. If your address is not correct, please provide the correct information. Thank You.

APPENDIX B

Park Profiles

Introduction

Round Rock's parks and recreation network includes thousands of acres of parkland. The City owns, maintains, and operates 15 neighborhood parks, 15 community parks, 2 metropolitan parks, 1 regional park, 21 linear parks, 7 special purpose parks, and 2 recreation centers.

The following pages will present park profiles for City-owned parks and recreation facilities located within the city and ETJ. Profiles include information about location, size, facilities, and existing conditions.



Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where Nature may heal and cheer and give strength to body and soul alike.

~ John Muir

Bowman Park

950 East Bowman Road



Classification: Neighborhood Park
Owner: City of Round Rock
Acreage: 8.54
Sector: Northeast
Park Zone: 71

- Facilities:**
- Parking (1)
 - Practice Field (1)
 - Playscape (1)

Description
Bowman Park is a relatively new neighborhood park located off E. Bowman Street, between the Willowbend Estates and Sunrise Vista neighborhoods. This park features convenient parking and a 0.25 mile trail loop. Benches can be found along the trail and surrounding the playscape area.

Location Map



Bradford Park

2615 Andres Way



Classification: Neighborhood Park
Owner: City of Round Rock
Acreage: 4.13
Sector: Southeast
Park Zone: 10M

- Facilities:**
- Picnic Table (4)
 - Grill (2)
 - Drinking Fountain (1)
 - Playscape (1)
 - Body of Water (1)
 - Water Feature (1)

Description
Bradford Park is located at the north end of Andres Way, between the Bradford Park and High Country neighborhoods. This park features 0.30 miles of trails, including a loop that gives visitors views of the park's pond. Bradford Park is also a great place to picnic, with tables and grills throughout.

Location Map



Chisholm Valley Park

1201 Trey Street



Classification: Neighborhood Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 3.17
Sector: Southwest
Park Zone: 10H

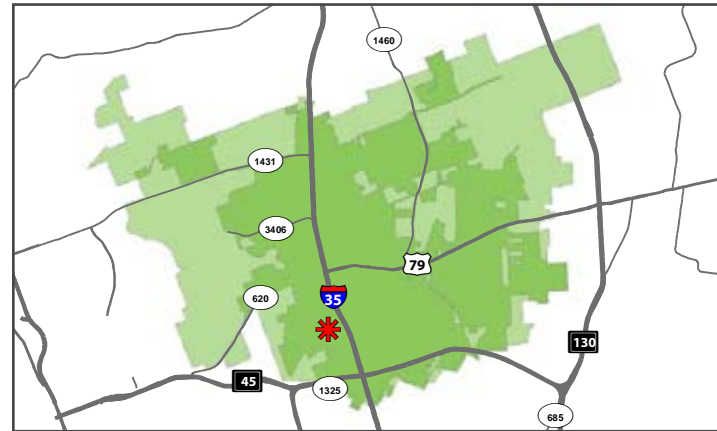
Facilities:

- Picnic Shelter (1)
- Picnic Table (8)
- Grill (2)
- Drinking Fountain (1)
- Playscape (1)
- Practice Field (1)

Description

Chisholm Valley Park is located at the corner of Trey Street and Buffalo Pass, in the Chisholm Valley neighborhood. This recently renovated park offers a variety of amenities, including a 0.35 mile trail loop and modern playscape that features a sand play area. Benches scattered around the playscape provide a great place for parents to keep an eye on children playing.

Location Map



Frontier Park

1804 Frontier Trail



Classification: Neighborhood Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 6.97
Sector: Southwest
Park Zone: 11H

Facilities:

- Picnic Shelter (1)
- Picnic Table (1)
- Grill (1)
- Drinking Fountain (1)
- Playscape (1)
- Basketball Court (1)
- Tennis Court (2)
- Practice Field (1)

Description

Frontier Park is located off Frontier Trail, between Chisholm Valley Drive and Lasso Drive. This neighborhood park offers a number of amenities for athletes, including a 0.25 mile trail, a variety of sport courts, and an open practice field. Frontier Park also features a full playscape and plenty of spaces for a picnic and more passive recreation.

Location Map



Greenhill Park

1825 Nicole Circle



Classification: Neighborhood Park
Owner: City of Round Rock
Acreage: 0.62
Sector: Northeast
Park Zone: 7H

Facilities:

- Picnic Table (3)
- Grill (3)
- Playscape (1)

Description

Greenhill Park is a small neighborhood park located in the heart of Nicole Circle. This compact park provides the residents of Greenhill with a convenient space to play and picnic.

Location Map



Hidden Glen Park

845 Hidden Glen Drive



Classification: Neighborhood Park
Owner: City of Round Rock
Acreage: 18.59
Sector: Northwest
Park Zone: 6G

Facilities:

-

Description

Hidden Glen Park is currently undeveloped.

Location Map



High Country Park

2910 Flower Hill Drive



Classification: Neighborhood Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 10.15
Sector: Southeast
Park Zone: 11M

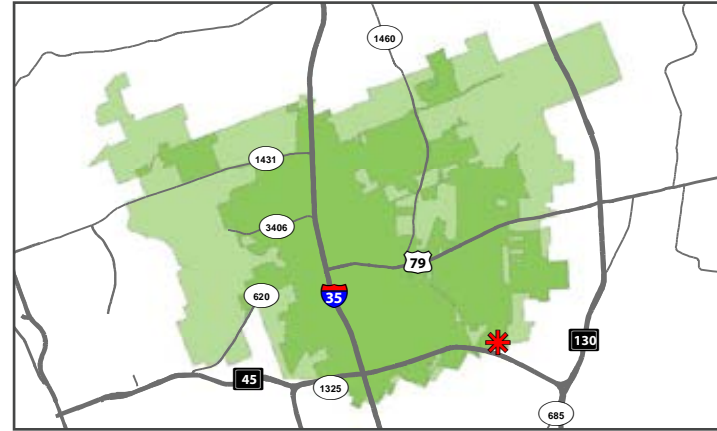
Facilities:

- Picnic Table (2)
- Grill (3)
- Drinking Fountain (1)
- Playscape (1)
- Basketball Court (1)
- Practice Field (1)

Description

High Country Park is a large neighborhood park located off of Flower Hill Drive, just south of High Country Boulevard. This park is an easy stroll from the four surrounding neighborhoods: High Country, Flower Hill, Westchester Park, and Bradford Park. High Country Park features a 0.34 mile trail loop, a full basketball court, and several places to picnic. Also of interest, the park is a prime bluebonnet and wildflower location in the city.

Location Map



Lake Forest Park

2790 Lake Forest Drive



Classification: Neighborhood Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 9.53
Sector: Southeast
Park Zone: 10M

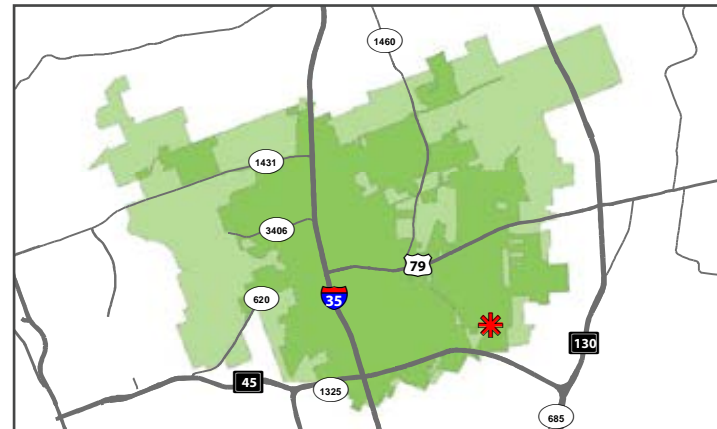
Facilities:



Description

Lake Forest Park is currently undeveloped.

Location Map



Mesa Village Park

1401 Georgetown Street



Classification: Neighborhood Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 3.06
Sector: Northeast
Park Zone: 8I

Facilities:

- Picnic Shelter (1)
- Picnic Table (7)
- Grill (2)
- Drinking Fountain (1)
- Playscape (1)
- Practice Field (1)

Description

Mesa Village Park is a recently renovated neighborhood park located off of N. Georgetown Street, just south of W. Mesa Park Drive. This park offers visitors seeking active recreation a 0.38 mile trail loop and plenty of open space to play sports. Mesa Village Park also provides passive recreational opportunities to the community, including two separate picnic areas.

Location Map



Rock Hollow Park

1415 Apollo Circle



Classification: Neighborhood Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 12.42
Sector: Northeast
Park Zone: 7J

Facilities:

- Picnic Table (8)
- Grill (3)
- Playscape (2)
- Body of Water (1)

Description

Rock Hollow Park is a large neighborhood park located off of Apollo Circle, at the southern edge of the Rock Hollow neighborhood. This park offers the community 0.49 miles of concrete trails that loop around a playscape and pond. The scenic trail features several shaded picnic spaces and provides access to Rock Hollow Park's two different playscape areas.

Location Map



Settlement Park

1401 David Curry Loop



Classification: Neighborhood Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 2.50
Sector: Northeast
Park Zone: 6I, 7I

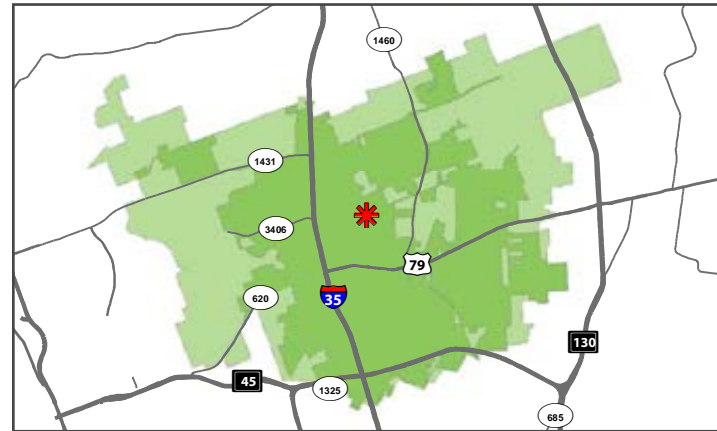
Facilities:

- Picnic Shelter (1)
- Picnic Table (1)
- Playscape (1)
- Body of Water (1)
- Water Feature (1)
- Basketball Court (1)

Description

Settlement Park is located north of David Curry Loop in the center of the Settlement neighborhood. This recently updated park provides nearby residents with a place to play and picnic. Settlement Park features a central pond that can be viewed from the playscape area and concrete trail that leads to the full basketball court in the northwestern corner of the park.

Location Map



Somerset Park

1814 Taron Cove



Classification: Neighborhood Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 9.62
Sector: Northwest
Park Zone: 8G

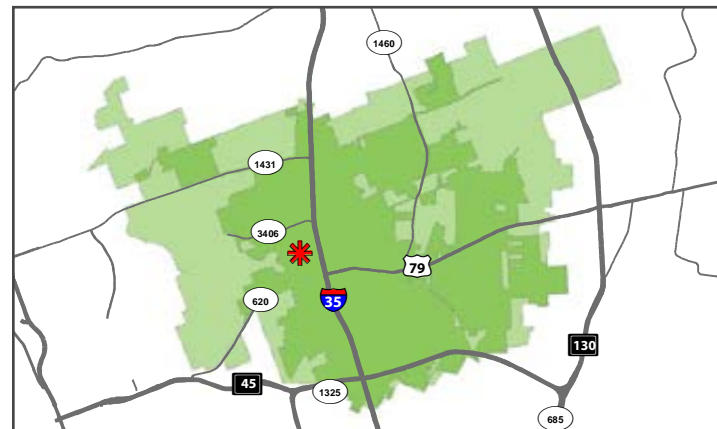
Facilities:

- Parking
- Picnic Shelter (1)
- Picnic Table (3)
- Grill (3)
- Playscape (1)
- Basketball Court (1)

Description

Somerset Park is a large park that stretches through the Somerset and Sam Bass Trails neighborhoods to the southeastern edge of the Hermitage neighborhood. Parking can be found on Taron Cove and Sylvia Lane. Somerset Park has 0.20 mile trail that runs from Somerset Drive to the centrally-located basketball court. This recently renovated neighborhood park features a modern playscape with sand play area.

Location Map



Stark Park

1409 Provident Lane



Classification: Neighborhood Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 5.18
Sector: Northeast
Park Zone: 8J

Facilities:

- Tennis Court (2)
- Practice Soccer Field (1)

Description

Stark Park is located in the center of the Mesa Ridge neighborhood, between Provident Lane and Mills Meadow Drive. Situated just south of Robertson Elementary School, this park is only steps away from the school's two playscapes, multi-use court, and short trail loop. Stark Park provides the community with additional practice fields and tennis courts.

Location Map



Stella Park

803 Nancy Drive



Classification: Neighborhood Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 2.62
Sector: Northeast
Park Zone: 8I

Facilities:

- Picnic Shelter (1)
- Picnic Table (2)
- Grill (1)
- Playscape (1)
- Basketball Court (1)
- Tennis Court (1)
- Practice Field (1)

Description

Stella Park is a newly renovated neighborhood park located off Nancy Drive. Featuring a new playground, pavilion, and 0.3 mile looping trail, this park is sure to attract residents from both the Eggers Acres and Mesa Park neighborhoods. Stark Park also provides visitors the opportunity to play a variety of sports, including tennis and basketball.

Location Map



University Village Park
Sandy Brook Dr, South of Zodiac Ln

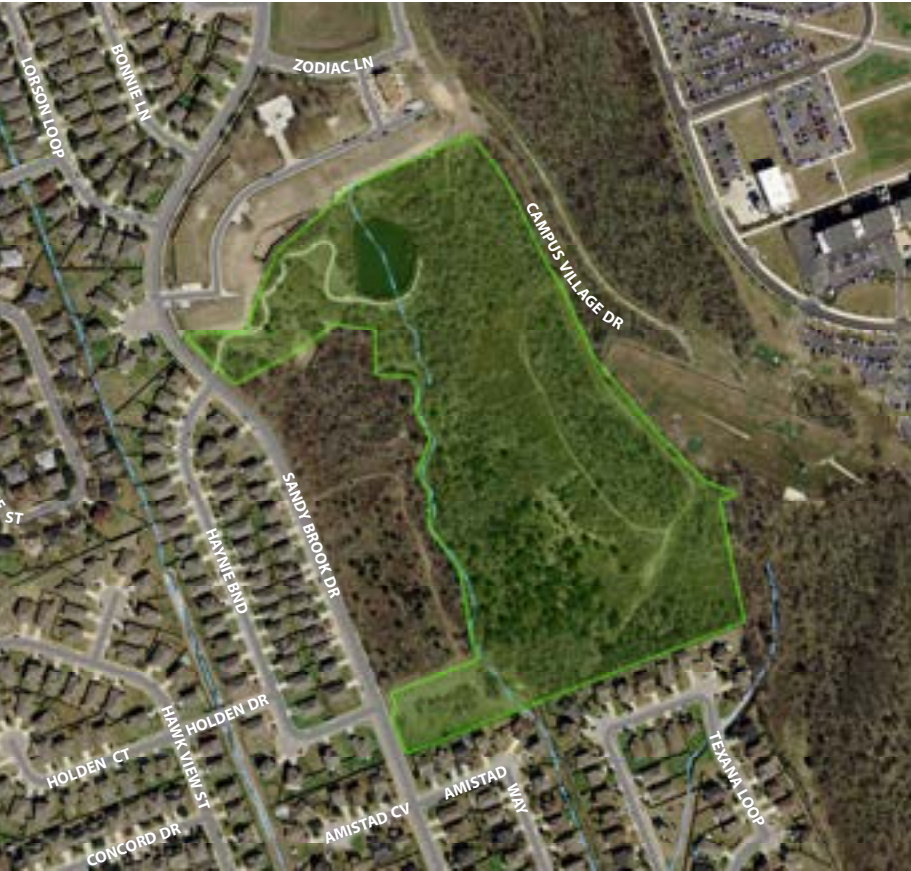


Classification: Neighborhood Park
Owner: City of Round Rock
Acreage: 25.64
Sector: Northeast
Park Zone: 4J, 5J

- Facilities:**
- Picnic Table (1)
 - Body of Water (1)

Description
University Village Park is a large neighborhood park, located off Sandy Brook Drive, south of Zodiac Lane. This park features a 0.25 mile trail that offers spectacular views of the park’s pond and the city beyond. Benches are scattered throughout for those interested in taking a break and appreciating nature.

Location Map



Buck Egger Park

900 South Mays Street



Classification: Community Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 3.11
Sector: Southeast
Park Zone: 9H

Facilities:

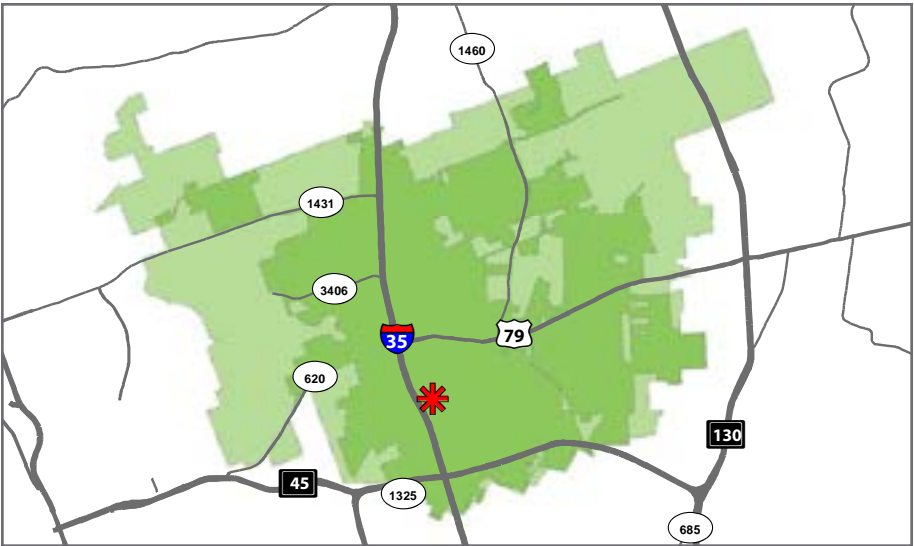
- Parking
- Practice Field (2)
- Playscape (1)

Description

Buck Egger Park is centrally-located on the southwest corner of S. Mays Street and W. Logan Street. This community park provides ample parking with easy access to the playscape and swings. Buck Egger Park is the only park in Round Rock to feature a lighted, artificial turf practice field.



Location Map



Chisholm Trail Crossing & Bathing Beach

500 Chisholm Trail Road



Classification: Community Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 10.13
Sector: Southwest
Park Zone: 9H

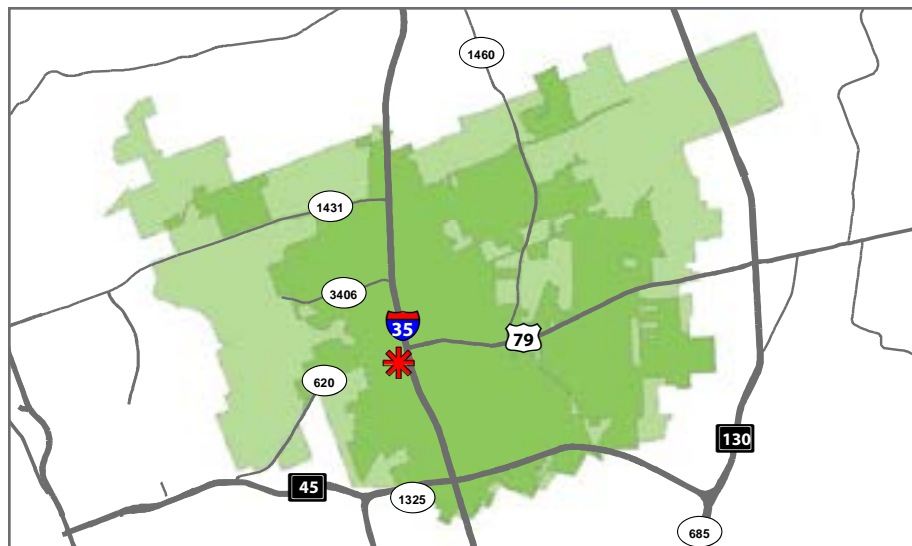
Facilities:

- Parking
- Picnic Table (4)
- Playscape (1)
- Sculpture Exhibit

Description

Chisholm Trail Crossing Park stretches along Brushy Creek and features the famous 'round rock' of the city's namesake. It also features commemorative plaques and a sculpture exhibit that brings the site's history to life. The bronze sculptures of four steers, a pioneer woman, Hattie Cluck, and her son, Emmitt, were commissioned by the City through generous donations from Round Rock residents. The scene depicts the area's history as a low water crossing on the Chisholm Trail. The limestone creek bed has been imprinted with the ruts of wagons that once crossed on the cattle drive. Just a little further west is the City's historic bathing beach area. Once favored by residents as a swimming hole, the area is now a popular for fishing.

Location Map



Clay Madsen Park

1600 Gattis School Road



Classification: Community Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 17.01
Sector: Southeast
Park Zone: 10J

Facilities:

- Parking
- Picnic Shelter (1)
- Picnic Table (4)
- Drinking Fountain (1)
- Playscape (1)
- Body of Water
- Basketball Court (1)
- Tennis Court (2)
- Skatepark (1)

Description

Located directly behind the Clay Madsen Recreation Center, this active community park offers a variety of amenities, including the Shaylah Dame Skate Park. This 14,000 sq. ft. skate park features a bowl and street components for skateboarders looking to perfect their tricks. Clay Madsen Park also serves as a trailhead for the Greater Lake Creek Trail System. Additionally, the Clay Madsen Recreation Center (CMRC) has two full size gymnasiums, a short-course lap pool, four racquetball courts, a cardio/weight room, meeting rooms, kitchen, game room, and babysitting playroom available for members. CMRC also offers a variety of fitness & wellness programs.

Location Map



Joe B. Freeman Park

301 Forest Ridge Boulevard



Classification: Community Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 12.48
Sector: Southeast
Park Zone: 7N

Facilities:

- Parking
- Picnic Shelter (1)
- Picnic Table (4)
- Playscape (1)
- Body of Water (1)

Description

Joe B. Freeman Park is a newly developed park that memorializes a former Round Rock resident who suffered brain damage after a tragic automobile accident. Freeman Park was a longtime dream of his mother's, Maurine, who wanted a park that was handicapped accessible. After many years, her dream became a reality with the construction of this accessible community park. Freeman Park is also the trailhead for our Brushy Creek Trail System.



Location Map



Heritage Center Circle

900 Heritage Center Circle



Classification: Community Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 5.99
Sector: Northeast
Park Zone: 8I

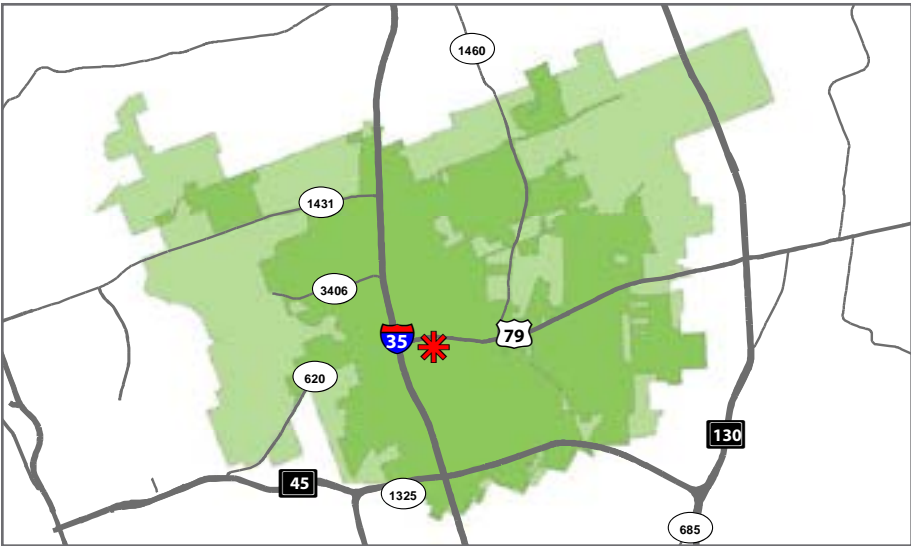
Facilities:

- Parking
- Body of Water (1)
- Historic Structure

Description

Heritage Center Circle Park is beautiful neighborhood park located at the southern end of Heritage Center Circle. Once the residence of Washington Anderson, this park and historic home now serve the community as a recreational facility, hosting many of the City's summer camp programs. Washington Anderson was one of Round Rock's earliest settlers and a founding commissioner of Williamson County. His heroic service during the Battle of San Jacinto, earned Anderson several land grants; from which he eventually sold 150 acres to have the town platted. After living in several log houses, Anderson had the large stone house built in 1859. Graced with mature oak trees and a large lawn that overlooks Brushy Creek, this property remains a gem in the City of Round Rock.

Location Map



Kinningham Park

1000 South Creek Drive



Classification: Community Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 6.60
Sector: Southeast
Park Zone: 10K

Facilities:

- Parking
- Restrooms (1)*
- Picnic Table (9)
- Grill (7)
- Drinking Fountain (1)
- Playscape (1)
- Practice Field (1)
- Rental Facility

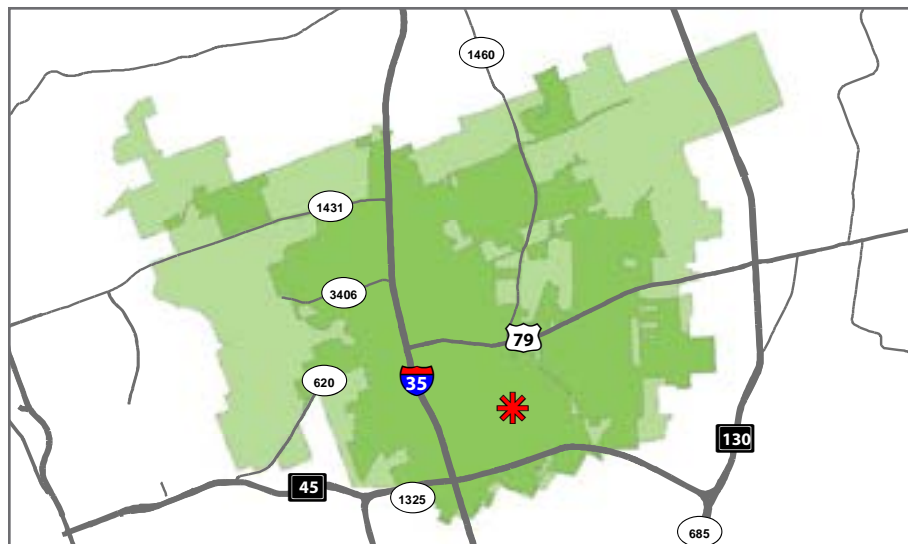
* with facility rental

Description

Located between Southcreek Drive and A.W. Grimes Boulevard, Kinningham Park is within walking distance for residents of both the South Creek and Turtle Creek neighborhoods. This community park features a variety of amenities, ample parking, and plenty of shaded picnic tables. Kinningham House, once a residence, now serves the community as an event facility available for summer camp programs.



Location Map



Lake Creek Park

800 Deerfoot Drive



Classification: Community Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 36.31
Sector: Southeast
Park Zone: 9I, 9J

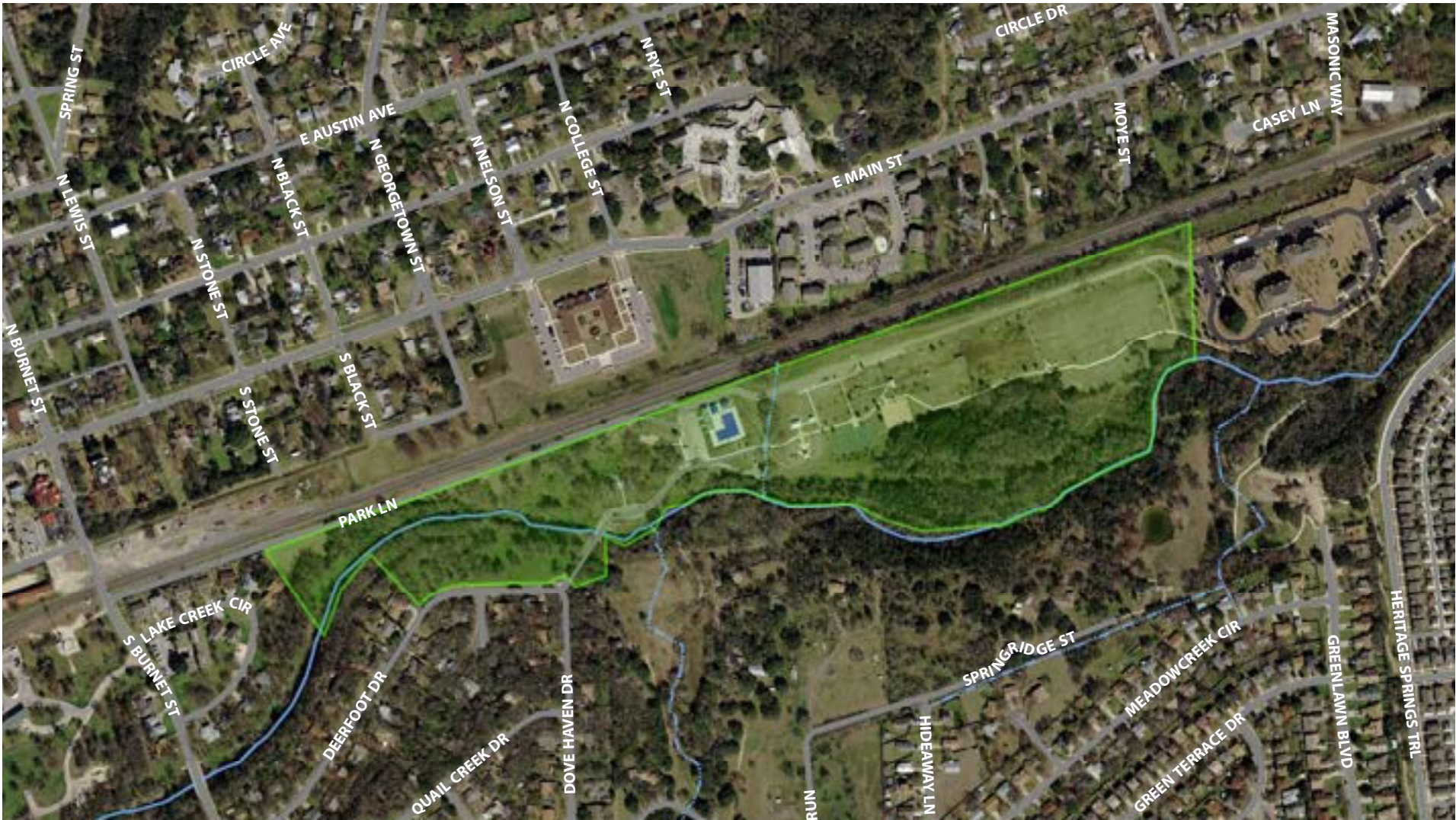
Facilities:

- Parking
- Restrooms (1)
- Picnic Shelter (1)
- Picnic Table (14)
- Grill (3)
- Drinking Fountain (1)
- Playscape (2)
- Pool (1)
- Body of Water (1)
- Basketball Court (1)
- Volleyball Court (1)
- Multipurpose Field (1)
- Dog Park
- In-line Hockey
- Bocce Court

Description

Lake Creek Park, one of our larger community parks, stretches along Lake Creek just east of S. Burnet Street. This park features a number of different play courts and fields, including some that are exclusive to Lake Creek such as an in-line hockey area and bocce courts. Visitors can also enjoy swimming at the Lake Creek Pool or playing with their pup at the Dog Depot Dog Park. Lake Creek Park also serves a trailhead for the Greater Lake Creek Trail System.

Location Map



Luther Peterson Park

900 Luther Peterson Place



Classification: Community Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 15.50
Sector: Northeast
Park Zone: 6I, 6H

Facilities:

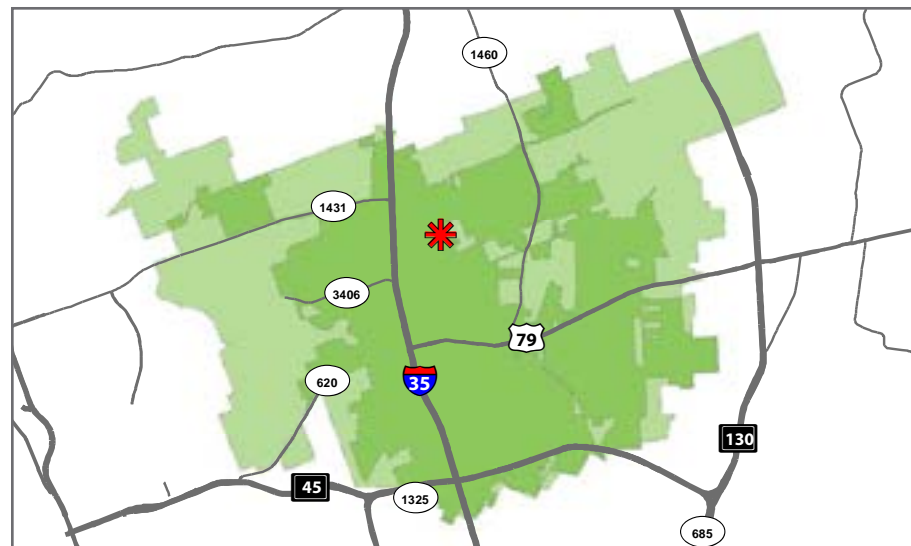
- Soccer Field (5)

Description

Luther Peterson Park is a community park that caters to those looking to play soccer. Located at the corner of Sunrise Road and Luther Peterson Place, this soccer complex consists of five fields, equipped with goals at each end. Of these, the larger fields can be divided into smaller fields as needed.



Location Map



McNeil Park

3700 IH-35 North



Classification: Community Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 17.91
Sector: Northeast
Park Zone: 5H

Facilities:

- Parking
- Restrooms (2)
- Concessions (1)
- Picnic Shelter (1)
- Picnic Table (12)
- Grill (8)
- Drinking Fountain (4)
- Playscape (1)
- Softball Field (2)
- Tennis Court (2)

Description

McNeil Park is a community park located just off Interstate Highway 35 (exit 254), south of University Boulevard. Equipped with two full softball fields, a concession stand, and restrooms, this park is regularly used by the local adult softball leagues. Visitors can also enjoy a picnic in the shade or a game of tennis.



Location Map



Meadow Lake Park

2901 Settlement Drive



Classification: Community Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 76.49
Sector: Northeast
Park Zone: 6J

Facilities:

- Picnic Shelter (1)
- Picnic Table (8)
- Grill (3)
- Drinking Fountain (1)
- Playscape (1)
- Body of Water (1)
- Horseshoe Pit (2)

Description

Stretching along the shores of a stocked reservoir, Meadow Lake Park is a spacious community park that features 1.35 miles of scenic trails. Located off Settlement Drive and Lakeside Loop, this park provides a variety of recreational amenities to the residents of several nearby neighborhoods. Meadow Lake Park is also one of the few parks in Round Rock that features horseshoe pits.



Location Map



Memorial Park

600 North Lee Street



Classification: Community Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 12.68
Sector: Southeast
Park Zone: 9H

Facilities:

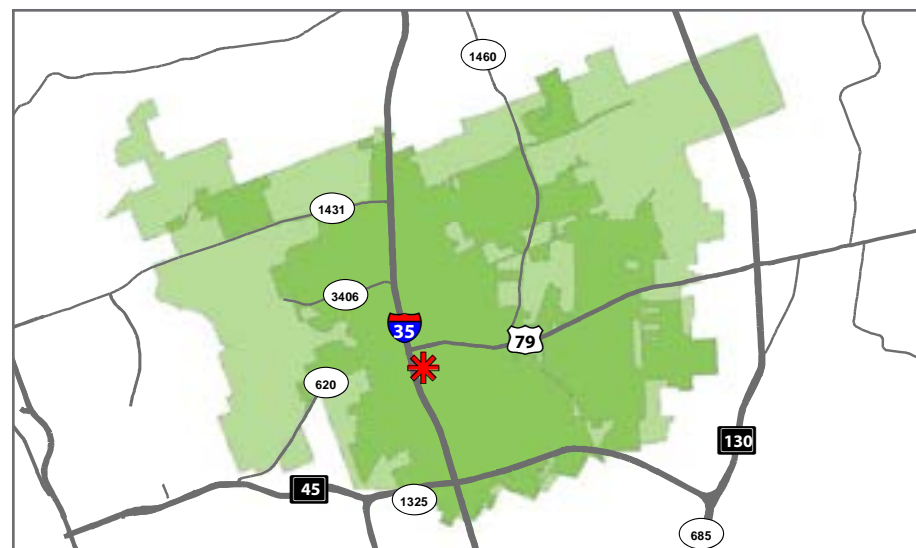
- Parking
- Restrooms (1)
- Concessions (1)
- Picnic Table (9)
- Grill (7)
- Drinking Fountain (2)
- Playscape (1)
- Body of Water (1)
- Softball Field (1)
- Monuments

Description

Memorial Park is a large community park with several historical features, including a commemorative WWII torpedo. This linear park runs along Brushy Creek, just north of downtown between Interstate Highway 35 and N. Mays Street. Home to many ducks and geese, Memorial Park is a popular place to feed the birds. The abundance of large oak trees here make the park a cool place to enjoy the outdoors. Memorial Park also features 0.68 miles of shady trails that stretch along the creek toward the legendary 'round rock' and Chisholm Trail Crossing Park.



Location Map



Rabb Park

151 North A.W. Grimes Boulevard



Classification: Community Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 14.91
Sector: Northeast
Park Zone: 8K, 9K

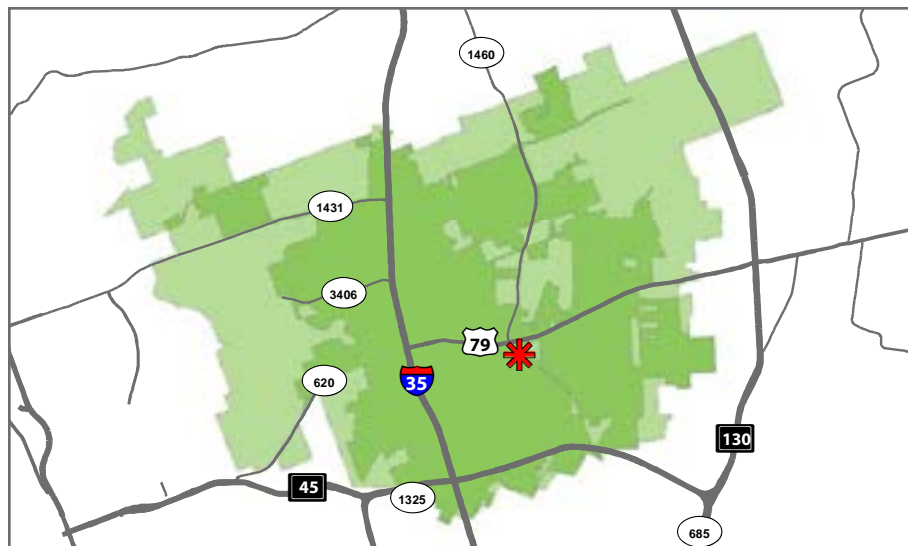
Facilities:

- Parking
- Restrooms (1)
- Picnic Table (5)
- Grill (3)
- Drinking Fountain (1)
- Playscape (1)
- Body of Water (1)
- Play for All Abilities Park
- Rabb House

Description

Rabb Park is located on the Rabb House property, just off A.W. Grimes Boulevard, north of Brushy Creek. This site is home to the Play for All Abilities Park, built specifically to provide a safe, fun place for children of all abilities to play and develop new skills. The large fenced playground includes a variety of play opportunities designed to cultivate specific skills sets, such as motor and social skills, and foster a sense of discovery and creative freedom. Rabb Park is also a great place to have a picnic or jump on the Brushy Creek Trail System. The new Rabb House can be rented for weddings, business meetings, family reunions, and other special events.

Location Map



Round Rock West Park

500 Round Rock West Drive



Classification: Community Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

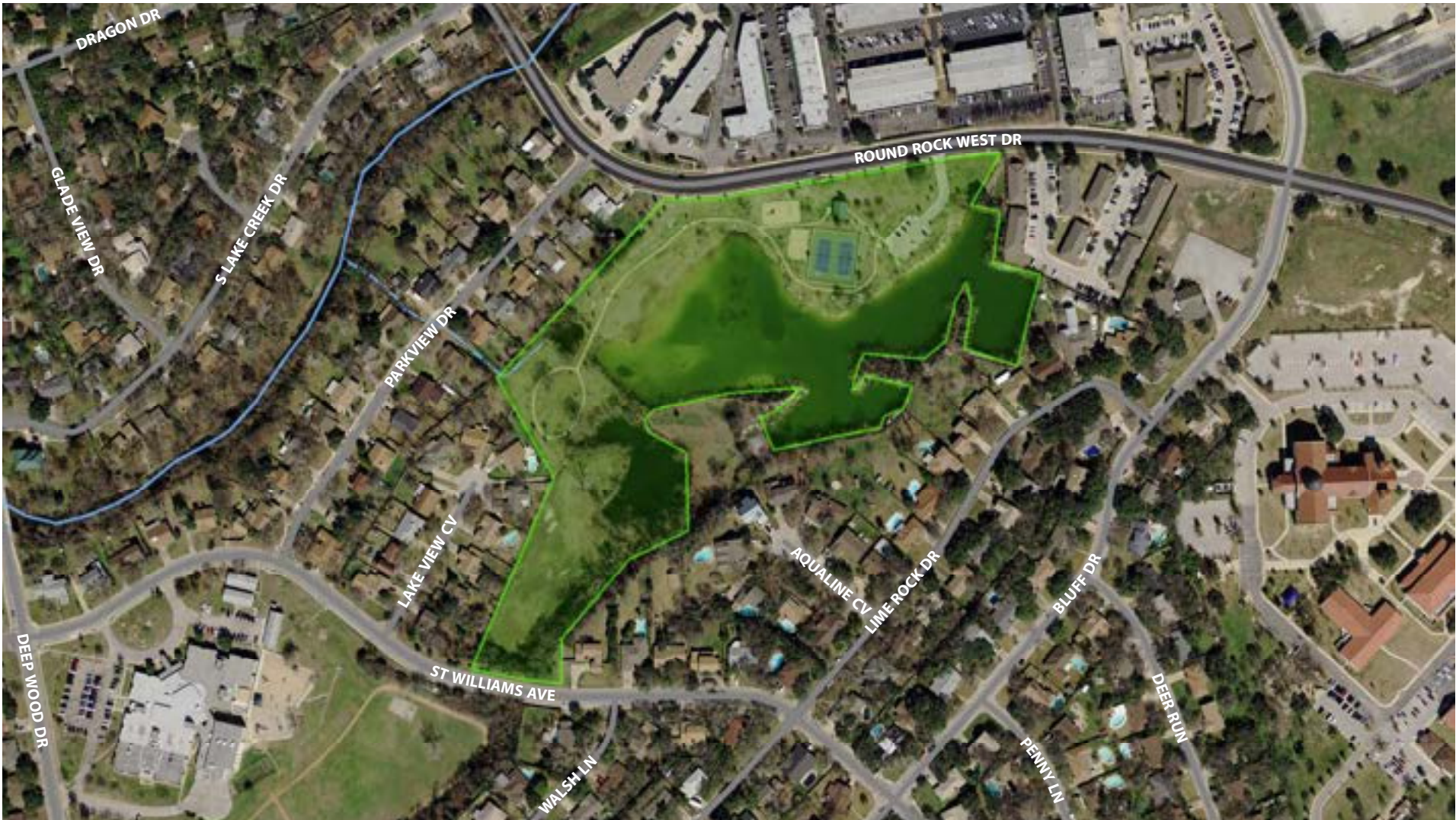
Acreage: 15.08
Sector: Southwest
Park Zone: 9H

Facilities:

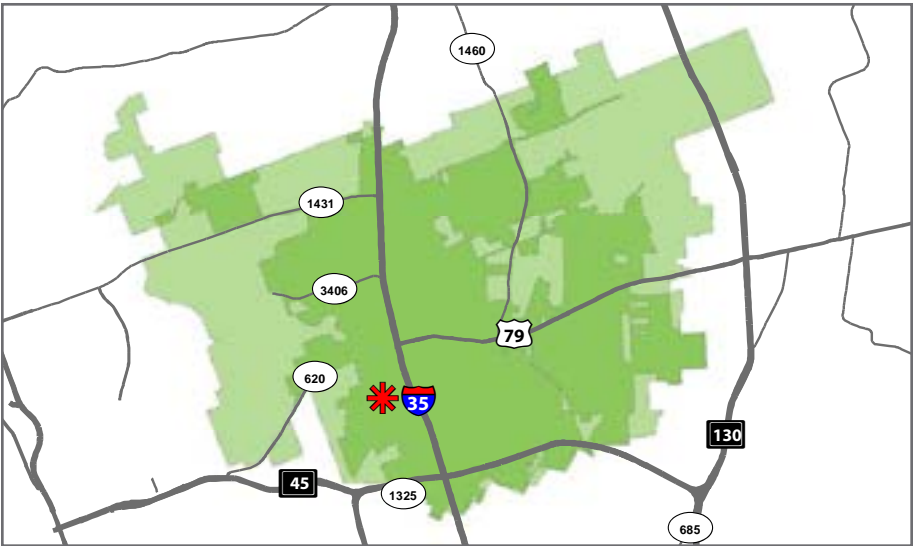
- Parking
- Restrooms (1)
- Picnic Shelter (1)
- Picnic Table (5)
- Grill (4)
- Drinking Fountain (1)
- Playscape (1)
- Body of Water (1)
- Tennis Court (2)
- Volleyball Court (1)
- Water Feature (2)

Description

Round Rock West Park is a newly renovated community park located on Round Rock West Drive, between Parkview Drive and Bluff Drive. This lovely park sits on the edge of a small pond, known locally as the “duck pond” due to its popularity with waterfowl and those who like to feed them. Formerly a rock quarry, the southeastern edge of pond is formed out of the site’s natural limestone. This park offers a variety of amenities, including sport courts, a 0.43 mile trail, and brand new playground and restroom facility.



Location Map



Veterans Park

600 Pecan Avenue



Classification: Community Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 2.82
Sector: Southeast
Park Zone: 9H

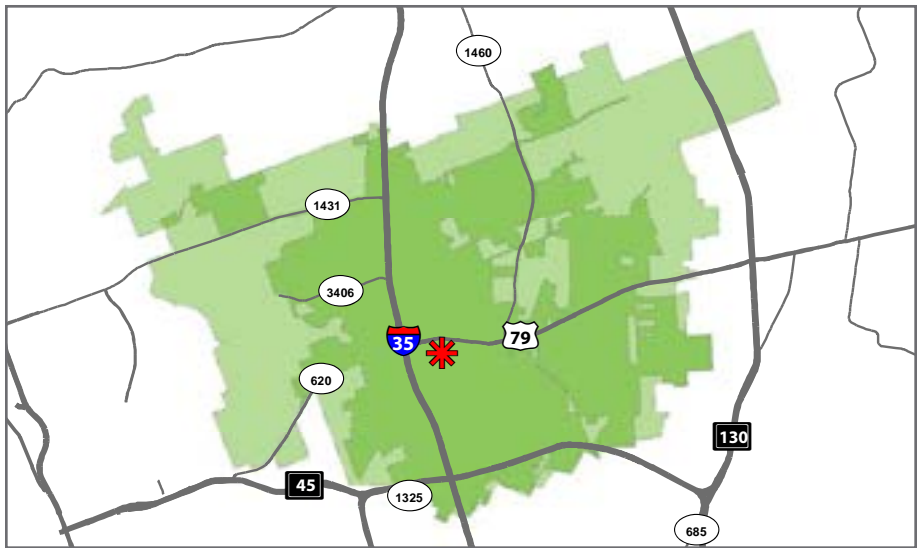
Facilities:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| ■ Parking | ■ Playscape (1) |
| ■ Restrooms (1) | ■ Body of Water (1) |
| ■ Picnic Table (4) | ■ Fishing Pier (1) |
| ■ Grill (3) | ■ Basketball Court (1) |
| ■ Drinking Fountain (1) | ■ Commemorative Plaques |

Description

Veterans Park is a revitalized community park located on Pecan Avenue between N. Lewis Street and Spring Street. It is home to a new monument that pays tribute to the veterans of Central Texas. The monument features six columns with plaques that honor all branches of U.S. Armed Forces: Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines. Engraved bronze plaques, paid for by donors in dedication to loved ones who served, recognize individual veterans. Other improvements include a new basketball shade structure, pavilion with fishing pier, and new restroom facility.

Location Map



Water Tower Park

200 Round Rock Avenue



Classification: Community Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 0.20
Sector: Southeast
Park Zone:

Facilities:

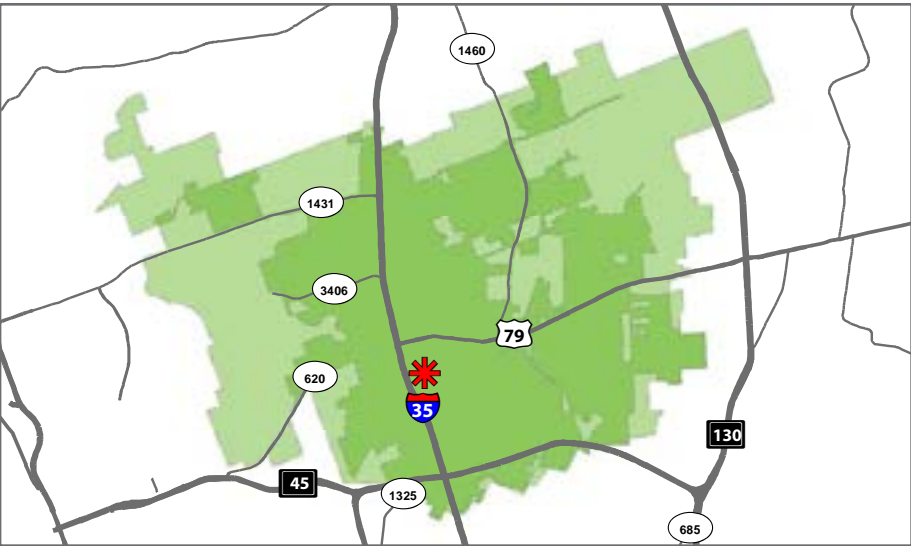
- Parking
- Point of Interest

Description

Watertower Park is located near downtown Round Rock. The old water tower serves to this day as a Round Rock landmark. During the 1930s it was part of a large WPA project that not only served most of the residents of Round Rock with water and sewer hookups, but it allowed many people “down on their luck” to work. The City decorates the water tower with Christmas lights every December.



Location Map



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Behrens Ranch Park

2030 Creek Bend Boulevard



Classification: Metropolitan Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 224.01
Sector: Northwest
Park Zone: 7E, 7F

Facilities:

- Body of Water (2)

Description

Behrens Ranch Park is an undeveloped future metropolitan park.



Location Map



Mayfield Park

1431 County Road 175



Classification: Metropolitan Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 245.00
Sector: Northwest
Park Zone: 6C, 6D

Facilities:

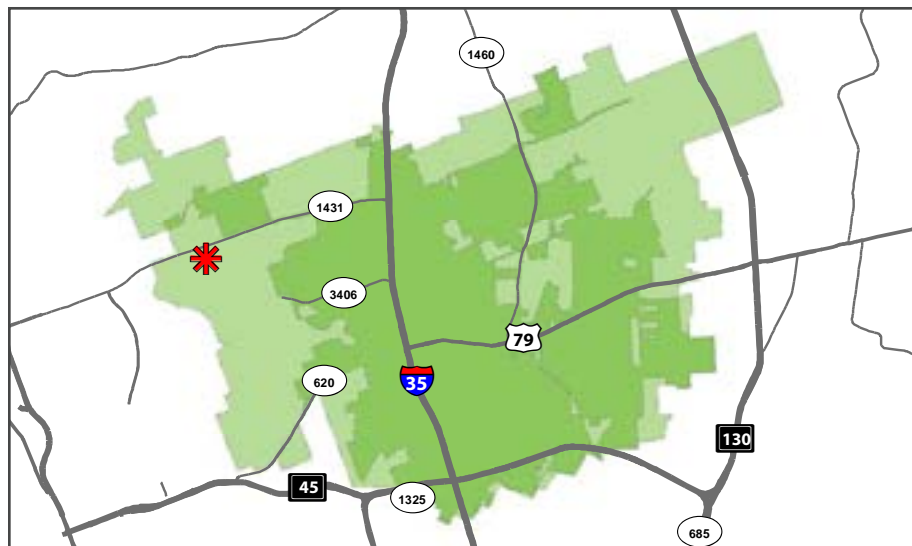
- Body of Water (1)

Description

Mayfield Park is an undeveloped future metropolitan park.



Location Map



Old Settlers Park at Palm Valley

3300 East Palm Valley Boulevard



Classification: Regional Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 641.14
Sector: Northeast
Park Zone: 6L, 6M, 7L, 7M, 8L

Facilities:

- Parking
- Restroom (8)
- Concession (5)
- Picnic Shelter (3)
- Picnic Table (21)
- Grill (11)
- Drinking Fountain (10)
- Playscape (7)
- Pool/Water Park (1)
- Body of Water (2)
- Baseball Field (20)
- Softball Field (5)
- Batting Cages (1)
- Football Field (3)
- Soccer Field (7)
- Tennis Court (12)
- Volleyball Court (2)
- Multipurpose Field (4)
- Practice Football Field (1)
- RC Airplane Field (1)
- Cricket Field (1)
- Disc Golf Course (1)
- Shuffleboard (2)
- Horseshoe Pit (2)
- Fishing Pier (1)

Location Map



Old Settlers Park at Palm Valley

3300 East Palm Valley Boulevard

Description

Old Settlers Park is the crown jewel of the City's park system and is a well-known sports destination in the youth and amateur sports leagues. The park's 638 acres provides ample space for several recreational pursuits such as disc golf, cricket, 20-field baseball complex, 5-field softball complex, soccer facilities, and more. With over 40 picnic areas, many overlooking the stocked lake at the heart of the park, Old Settlers Park is also a great place for a barbeque. For larger parties, both of the park's pavilions are available for rent. Old Settlers Park is also home to many special events, sporting and recreational, throughout the year. The 3-acre festival area, with shade trees and utility hookups, is perfect for such events. The 3.3 miles of paved trails that wind through Old Settlers Park provide visitors with an easy and scenic way to move about the park.



Centennial Plaza

301 West Bagdad Avenue



Classification: Special Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 5.31
Sector: Southeast
Park Zone:

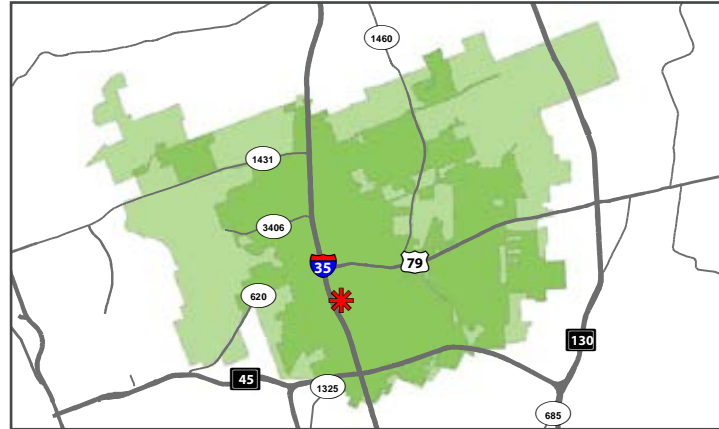
Facilities:

- Parking
- Picnic Table (2)
- Water Feature (1)
- Public Art
- Amphitheater

Description

Centennial Plaza is located behind the Baca Center and McConico Building. The plaza features a performance stage with lawn seating, public art sculptures, special lighting effects, a bat observation overlook, water feature, drought resistant landscaping, and a remodeled amphitheater with tiered grass seating for major concert or theatrical performances.

Location Map



City of Round Rock Recycling Center

310 Deep Wood Drive



Classification: Special Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 17.45
Sector: Southwest
Park Zone:

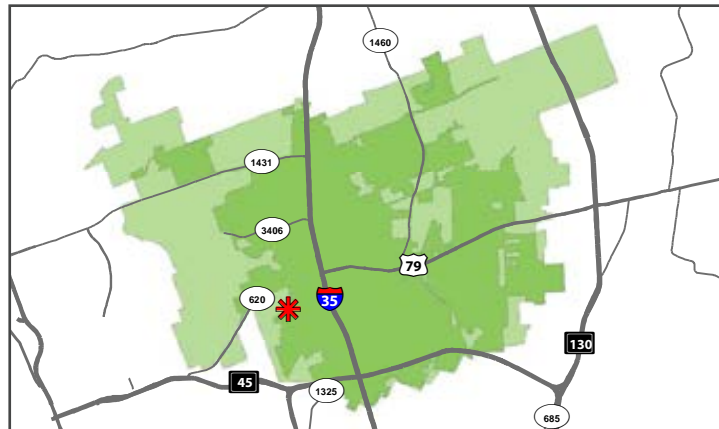
Facilities:

- Parking
- Recycling Center

Description

The City of Round Rock Recycling Center is a special park, located off Deep Wood Drive. The Recycling Center is a drop-off location for many recyclables, including several that cannot be recycled curbside. The Center also hosts Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Shred for a Paws Cause events.

Location Map



Dell Diamond

3400 Harrell Parkway



Classification: Special Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 30.09
Sector: Northeast
Park Zone:

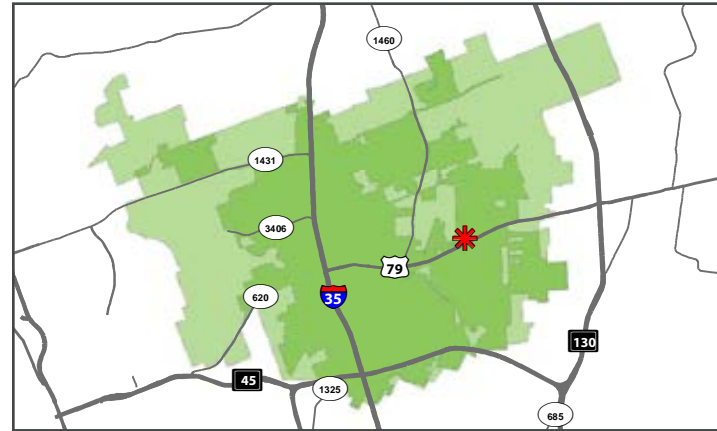
Facilities:

- Parking
- Baseball Stadium

Description

Dell Diamond has been the home of the Round Rock Express since its inception in 2000. The stadium serves as a premier Central Texas destination and is consistently ranked among the top in Minor League Baseball. Dell Diamond is a true multi-purpose sports and entertainment complex, hosting Express games, concerts, expos and festivals, among other events.

Location Map



Forest Creek Golf Course

99 Twin Ridge Parkway



Classification: Special Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 199.80
Sector: Southeast
Park Zone:

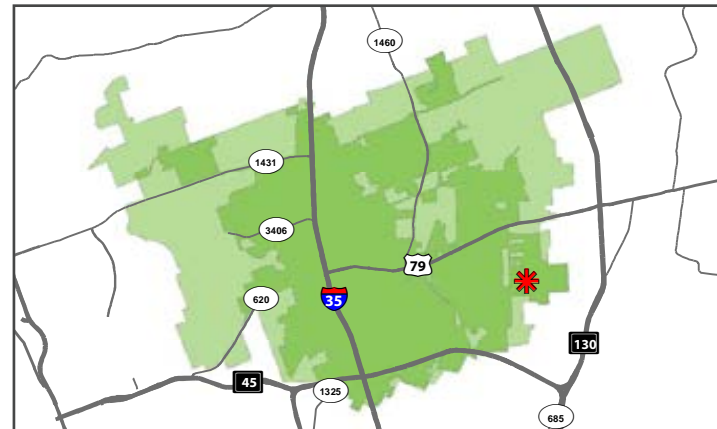
Facilities:

- Parking
- Restroom
- Body of Water
- Golf Course

Description

The Forest Creek Golf Course is a special use park located in the Forest Creek neighborhood. The 7,147 yard par-72 golf course has been nationally recognized as one of the finest public golf courses in Central Texas. Other amenities of this Austin golf course include a full service grill, event center, and a practice range enhanced by a putting green and short-game complex.

Location Map



Micki Krebsbach Pool

301 Deep Wood Drive



Classification: Special Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 6.16
Sector: Southwest
Park Zone:

Facilities:

- Parking
- Restrooms
- Picnic Tables
- Water Feature
- Pool

Description

The Micki Krebsbach Pool is a special park located next to the Round Rock High School Campus. This pool features a 26-foot long pirate ship and 23-foot high water adventure for all ages. The ship includes climbing angles, slides, and water cannons for family fun. Micki Krebsbach Pool is also a great place for swimming lessons.

Location Map



Sharon Prete Plaza

221 East Main Street



Classification: Special Park
Owner: City of Round Rock

Acreage: 0.36
Sector: Southeast
Park Zone:

Facilities:

- Parking
- Water Feature
- Picnic Tables

Description

The Prete Plaza is a 14,000-square-foot plaza with a 610-square-foot performance stage, 1,075-square-foot interactive water feature, built in seating with decorative lighting, with a grass seating and lounge area, custom shade structure, custom art panels, and a state-of-the-art multifunctional lighting system.

Location Map



APPENDIX C

Potential Outside Funding Opportunities

Introduction

The Round Rock Strategic Parks and Recreation Master Plan, Playbook 2030: Building a Connected Community, includes dozens of recommended actions which will require funding. It is recommended that outside funding sources be used whenever possible to offset some of the City's expenses. Potential outside funding opportunities, including federal, state, and private sources, are listed in this Appendix.



Expenditures for parks and land conservation are best understood not as a cost but as an investment that will pay dividends - including economic ones - long into the future.

~ Erica Gies, The Trust for Public Land



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FEDERAL FUNDING SOURCES

Corporation for National & Community Service

AMERICORPS

AmeriCorps seeks to strengthen communities through projects that address education, public safety, the environment, and other unmet human needs. AmeriCorps grants are awarded to eligible organizations proposing to engage AmeriCorps members in evidence-based or evidence-informed interventions to strengthen communities.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a Notification of Intent to apply for this competition, but it is not required. Notifications of Intent to Apply should be filed by Wednesday, December 13, 2017.

Amount: Vary, may be awarded as fixed amount or cost reimbursement
Time Frame: Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time
Website: <https://www.nationalservice.gov/build-your-capacity/grants/funding-opportunities/2018/ameri-corps-state-and-national-grants-fy-2018>

Department of Agriculture — Food Nutrition Service

CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) offers funds for meals and snacks for children in low-income areas during after-school and summer hours. Through the Child and Adult Care Food Program, USDA administers Afterschool Snacks, a program that offers reimbursement for snacks to after-school care program providers. For eligibility, the after-school programs must offer educational or enrichment activities in an organized, structured, and supervised environment after school, on weekends or holidays during the school year. The organization will be reimbursed at the highest level, currently 55 cents a snack per child per day.

For more information, go to: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/child-and-adult-care-food-program>
Contact: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-contacts>
Texas Office:
Administered by Texas Department of Agriculture
1700 N. Congress Ave., 11th Floor
Austin, TX 78701
Phone: 877-839-6325
<http://www.squaremeals.org>

FARM TO SCHOOL GRANT

The purpose of the USDA Farm to School Grant Program is to assist eligible entities in implementing farm to school programs that improve access to local foods in eligible schools. On an annual basis, USDA awards up to \$5 million in competitive grants for training, supporting operations, planning, purchasing equipment, developing school gardens, developing partnerships, and implementing farm to school programs.

The Program offers three types of grants: Planning awards range from \$20,000 - \$45,000; implementation and support service awards range from \$65,000 - \$100,000; training awards range from \$15,000 - \$50,000. Matching funds of 25% are required for all four grant types.

Website: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/farmentoschool/farm-school-grant-program>
Amount: \$15,000 to \$100,000; Total program funding estimated to be \$5 million.
Time Frame: December 8, 2017
Contact: farmentoschool@fns.usda.gov

Department of Agriculture — National Institute of Food and Agriculture

COMMUNITY FOOD PROJECTS (CFP) COMPETITIVE GRANTS PROGRAM

The primary goals of the CFP are to: Meet the food needs of low-income individuals through food distribution, community outreach to assist in participation in Federally assisted nutrition programs, or improving access to food as part of a comprehensive service; Increase the self-reliance of communities in providing for the food needs of the communities; Promote comprehensive responses to local food access, farm, and nutrition issues; and Meet specific state, local or neighborhood food and agricultural needs including needs relating to: Equipment necessary for the efficient operation of a project; Planning for long-term solutions; or The creation of innovative marketing activities that mutually benefit agricultural producers and low-income consumers. This grant requires 100% matching.

Examples of CFP Projects include, but are not limited to, community gardens with market stands, value chain projects, food hubs, farmers' markets, farm-to-institutions projects, and marketing & consumer cooperatives. All projects must involve low-income participants.

Examples of PPs include, but are not limited to, community food assessments' coordination of collaboration development plan, GIS analysis, food sovereignty study, and farm-to-institution exploration. All projects must involve low-income participants

Website: <https://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/community-food-projects-cfp-competitive-grants-program>
Amount: Total program funding: \$8.64 million; Maximum award of \$125,000 for Community Food Projects and \$35,000 for Planning Projects
Time Frame: December 4, 2017
Contact:

Paul Cotton, Ph.D., RDN
Division Director
paul.cotton@nifa.usda.gov
2324 Waterfront Centre
P: 202-401-6010
F: 202-401-0776

Department of Agriculture — Natural Resources Conservation Service

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQIP)

EQIP provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers in order to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, reduced soil erosion and sedimentation or improved or created wildlife habitat.

Eligible program participants receive financial and technical assistance to implement conservation practices, or activities like conservation planning, that address natural resource concerns on their land. Payments are made to participants after conservation practices and activities identified in an EQIP plan of operations are implemented. Contracts can last up to ten years.

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/financial/eqip/?cid=stelprdb1242633>
Texas website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/tx/programs/financial/eqip/>
Contact:
Texas Office:
TEXAS STATE OFFICE
101 S MAIN ST
TEMPLE, TX 76501-7602
(254) 742-9800
(254) 742-9819 Fax
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/>
Mark Habiger, Assistant State Conservationist-Programs
(254) 742-9881
Mark.habiger@tx.usda.gov



Troy Daniell, Financial Program Manager
(254) 742-9525
Troy.daniell@tx.usda.gov

Local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office Locations:
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/contact/local/>

CONSERVATION INNOVATION GRANTS (CIG)

Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) are competitive grants that stimulate the development and adoption of innovative approaches and technologies for conservation on agricultural lands. CIG uses Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funds to award competitive grants to non-Federal governmental or nongovernmental organizations, American Indian Tribes, or individuals. Producers involved in CIG funded projects must be EQIP eligible.

Through CIG, NRCS partners with public and private entities to accelerate technology transfer and adopt promising technologies. These new technologies and approaches address some of the Nation's most pressing natural resources concerns. CIG benefits agricultural producers by providing more options for environmental enhancement and compliance with Federal, State, and local regulations.

States can also award project that benefit a limited geographical area. Participating states will announce their funding availability for CIG competitions through their state NRCS offices.

The maximum CIG award is set annually by the NRCS Chief and historically has been either \$1 million or \$2 million. An applicant's CIG funding request must be matched at least 1:1 with non-federal funding. Matching funds can be any combination of cash and in-kind contributions. The grantee is also responsible for providing the technical assistance required to successfully complete the project. NRCS will provide technical oversight for each project receiving an award.

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/cig/>
Texas webpage: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/tx/programs/financial/cig/>
Amount: Total program funding averages \$20 million per year. Max award set annually.
Time Frame:
Contact:
National & Texas Office:
Program Contact:
nrcscig@wdc.usda.gov
Melleny Cotton, CIG Program Analyst (202) 720-7412
Melleny.cotton@wdc.usda.gov

AIR QUALITY INITIATIVE

The NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Air Quality Initiative provides financial assistance to implement conservation practices that address air resource issues for designated locations throughout the nation. Agricultural atmospheric related concerns include greenhouse gas emissions, ozone precursors, volatile organic compounds, airborne particulate matter, and some odor-related volatile compounds. For more information about agricultural air quality concerns, see the Air Quality topic.

Time Frame: NRCS accepts applications for assistance on continuous basis, but states may establish application periods.
Website: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/air/>
Contact:
Texas Office:
TEXAS STATE OFFICE
101 S MAIN ST
TEMPLE, TX 76501-7602
(254) 742-9800
(254) 742-9819 Fax
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/>
Local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office Locations: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/contact/local/>

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) offers assistance to land owners who are already implementing conservation practices to enhance those practices. For example, if you have been practicing prescribed grazing, CSP would give you options to enhance that practice with activities such as grazing management to improve plants for wildlife, or grazing management to reduce soil compaction, or grazing management to improve riparian function, just to name a few.

With enrollment in CSP, the local NRCS conservation planner will have a one-on-one consultation with the property owner(s) to evaluate your current management system and the natural resources on your land. The NRCS conservation planner will present a variety of CSP enhancement alternatives for implementation on the land, based on existing conservation practices. CSP offers annual incentive payments for installing these enhancement practices.

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/csp/>
Texas website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/tx/programs/financial/csp/>

Award: varies based on implementation of conservation practices
Time Frame: Applications are accepted throughout the year. Specific deadlines are set for ranking and funding opportunities.

CONSERVATION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The purpose of the program is to assist land—users, communities, units of state and local government, and other federal agencies in planning and implementing conservation systems. The purpose of the conservation systems are to reduce erosion, improve soil and water quality, improve and conserve wetlands, enhance fish and wildlife habitat, improve air quality, improve pasture and range condition, reduce upstream flooding, and improve woodlands. The program is also used as a means to collect, analyze, interpret, display, and disseminate information about the condition and trends of the Nation's soil and other natural resources so that people can make good decisions about resource use and about public policies for resource conservation. Information collected through the program is used to develop effective science-based technologies for natural resource assessment, management, and conservation.

For more information about the Conservation Technical Assistance program go to: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/technical/cta/>

Technical assistance is provided at the state level by State Conservationists. Contact information for each State Conservationists is available at: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/>

Contact:
Texas Office:
TEXAS STATE OFFICE
101 S MAIN ST
TEMPLE, TX 76501-7602
(254) 742-9800
(254) 742-9819 Fax
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/>
Local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office Locations: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/contact/local/>

EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM

The Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWPP) is designed to help people and conserve natural resources by relieving imminent hazards to life and property caused by floods, fires, windstorms, and other natural occurrences. EWP is an emergency recovery program. All projects undertaken, with the exception of the purchase of floodplain easements, must have a project sponsor.



NRCS may bear up to 75 percent of the construction cost of emergency measures. The remaining 25 percent must come from local sources and can be in the form of cash or in-kind services. Funding is subject to Congressional approval.

City and county governments, flood and water control districts, and soil and water conservation districts are the most common sponsors of EWP projects. Activities include providing financial and technical assistance to:

- remove debris from stream channels, road culverts, and bridges,
- reshape and protect eroded banks,
- correct damaged drainage facilities,
- establish cover on critically eroding lands,
- repair levees and structures, and
- repair conservation practices.

NRCS may purchase EWP easements “in lieu of recovery” on any floodplain lands that have been impaired within the last 12 months or that have a history of repeated flooding (i.e., flooded at least two times during the past 10 years). If it is more cost effective, EWP-Floodplain Easement (FPE) can be used as an alternative to EWP. See the comparison of EWP and EWP-FPE.

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/landscape/ewpp/>
State website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/tx/programs/financial/ewp/>
Award: state-administered. Texas received over \$21 million in FY2016 to restore conditions from heavy rains and flooding in 2015.
Time Frame:
Contact: National Emergency Watershed Protection Program Manager, Shawn Anderson, National Emergency Watershed Protection Program Coordinator, at 202-720-5795.
In Texas: Claude Ross, State Easement Program Manager, claudeross@tx.usda.gov, 254-742-9822

WATERSHED AND FLOOD PREVENTION OPERATIONS (WFPO) PROGRAM

The Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO) Program provides technical and financial assistance to States, local governments and Tribes (project sponsors) to plan and implement authorized watershed project plans for the purpose of:

- watershed protection
- flood mitigation

- water quality improvements
- soil erosion reduction
- rural, municipal and industrial water supply
- irrigation
- water management
- sediment control
- fish and wildlife enhancement
- hydropower

Under the Watershed Program NRCS cooperates with States and local agencies to carry out works of improvement for soil conservation and for other purposes including flood prevention; conservation, development, utilization and disposal of water; and conservation and proper utilization of land.

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/landscape/wfpo/>
State website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/>
Contact: Kevin Farmer, 202-720-3413, kevin.farmer@wdc.usda.gov

Department of Agriculture — Rural Development

COMMUNITY FACILITIES DIRECT LOAN & GRANT PROGRAM

This program provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. An essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area, and does not include private, commercial or business undertakings.

Eligible areas include rural cities, villages, townships, or towns with no more than 20,000 residents. Funding types include low-interest loans, grants, or a combination of the two. Grants are awarded on a need-basis, based on community size and median household income. Grant assistance share of total eligible project costs is limited depending on community size and median household income.

Website: <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program/tx>
Contact:
Texas USDA Rural Development State Office
101 South Main Street, Suite 102
Temple, TX 76501
ph: 254-742-9700
Fax: (844) 496-8123

RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE GRANTS

This program provides funding to help non-profit housing and community development organizations support housing, community facilities, and community and economic development projects in rural areas.

Funds may be used to improve housing, community facilities, and community and economic development projects in rural areas.

Eligible areas include rural cities, villages, townships, or towns with no more than 20,000 residents. Funding types include low-interest loans, grants, or a combination of the two. Grants are awarded on a need-basis, based on community size and median household income. Grant assistance share of total eligible project costs is limited depending on community size and median household income.

100% matching is required.

Website: <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program/tx>
Amount: Minimum grant award is \$50,000; maximum grant award is \$250,000
Time Frame:
Contact: Texas USDA Rural Development State Office
101 South Main Street, Suite 102
Temple, TX 76501
ph: 254-742-9700
Fax: (844) 496-8123

Department of Agriculture — US Forest Service

URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM, COUNCIL & 10-YEAR ACTION PLAN

The Urban and Community Forestry program assists state forestry agencies, local and tribal governments, and private sector entities improve natural resource management of trees and forests in urban areas and community settings. The program encourages and facilitates the active involvement of volunteers in the management and protection of their community's natural resources. The program also analyzes, develops, disseminates, and demonstrates scientific information about protecting, managing, and maintaining community forest resources. States are encouraged to offer competitive grants that involve partnerships with local governments, nonprofit organizations, and the private sector for the purpose of establishing effective community forestry programs.

Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/managing-land/urban-forests/ucf>



The National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC) is a Congressionally designated advisory council to the Secretary of Agriculture on urban forestry and related issues. The 1990 Farm Bill created NUCFAC to bring together the wide variety of voices raised about a common concern: the present health and future preservation of America's urban forests. NUCFAC was founded to synthesize the full spectrum of views into a consistent vision, as a foundation for practical policy on urban forestry and related natural resources.

Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/managing-land/urban-forests/ucf/nucfac>
The Ten Year Urban Forestry Action Plan developed by and for the urban forestry community. The plan's purpose is to expand awareness of the benefits that our urban forests, including green infrastructure, provide to communities throughout the nation, and increase investments in these urban forest resources for the benefit of current and future generations. The plan provides specific goals, actions, and recommendations for improving the status of urban and community forestry for the United States and its territories. The plan also identifies research needs, messaging and communications needs, and innovative funding and collaborative opportunities for urban forestry initiatives. Notably, this plan also serves as a framework for funding and recommendation priorities developed by the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC) for the U.S. Forest Service's National Urban and Community Forestry program and National Challenge Cost Share Grants. The urban forestry community, including the Forest Service and other applicable Federal agencies, are to use the Action Plan as a guide to implement and expand urban and community forestry for the next ten years.

Website: <http://urbanforestplan.org/>
Contact: Nancy Stremple, Urban Forestry Program Specialist, Phone 202-309-9873, nstremple@fs.fed.us

Department of Commerce – National Telecommunications and Information Administration

NTIA administers grant programs that further the deployment and use of broadband and other technologies in America, laying the groundwork for sustainable economic growth; improved education, public safety, and health care; and the advancement of other national priorities.

The agency manages two broadband grant programs funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) and the State Broadband Initiative (SBI) (formerly called the State Broadband Data and Development Grant Program). Through these programs, NTIA is overseeing an investment of approximately \$4 billion in projects throughout the United States to support the deployment of broadband

infrastructure, enhance and expand public computer centers, encourage sustainable adoption of broadband service, and promote statewide broadband planning and data collection activities. The State Broadband Initiative is also responsible for creation and maintenance of the National Broadband Map.

Website: <https://www.ntia.doc.gov/home>

BROADBAND OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) provided a total of \$7.2 billion to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and the Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Service (RUS) to fund projects that would expand access to and adoption of broadband services across the United States. NTIA utilized \$4.7 billion of that funding for grants to deploy broadband infrastructure in the U.S., expand public computer center capacity, and encourage sustainable adoption of broadband service.

President Obama on March 23, 2015 signed a Presidential Memorandum creating the Broadband Opportunity Council (Council) and appointing the Commerce and Agriculture Departments as co-chairs. The Broadband Opportunity Council includes 25 federal agencies and departments that will engage with industry and other stakeholders to understand ways the Executive Branch can better support the needs of communities seeking broadband investment. It will also help identify regulatory barriers unduly impeding broadband deployment, adoption or competition, and recommend steps to remove such barriers. Website: <https://www.ntia.doc.gov/category/broadband-opportunity-council>.

BROADBAND TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM (BROADBANDUSA)

The Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP), also known as BroadbandUSA, is a broadband grant program administered by NTIA to provide assistance to communities that want to expand their broadband capacity and promote broadband adoption. BroadbandUSA brings stakeholders together to solve problems, contribute to emerging policies, link communities to other federal agencies and funding sources, and address barriers to collaboration across agencies.

- Technical Assistance: BroadbandUSA provides technical assistance to communities that want to improve their broadband capacity and use broadband more effectively.
- Publications: BroadbandUSA provides expert, impartial advice and field-proven tools for assessing broadband adoption, planning new infrastructure, and engaging a wide range of partners in broadband projects.

- Community Connectivity Initiative: BroadbandUSA is engaging community, corporate and civic leaders to develop and finalize a set of connectivity indicators, create a strategic online self-assessment, and expand resources that support and accelerate local broadband planning efforts.

Website: <http://www2.ntia.doc.gov/>

STATE BROADBAND INITIATIVE (SBI)

The State Broadband Initiative (SBI) is a broadband grant program administered by NTIA. This program implements the joint purposes of the Recovery Act and the Broadband Data Improvement Act, which envisioned a comprehensive program, led by state entities or non-profit organizations working at their direction, to facilitate the integration of broadband and information technology into state and local economies. Economic development, energy efficiency, and advances in education and health care rely not only on broadband infrastructure, but also on the knowledge and tools to leverage that infrastructure.

Website: <http://www2.ntia.doc.gov/SBDD>

Department of Commerce – Economic Development Administration

PLANNING PROGRAM AND LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Through its Planning and Local Technical Assistance programs, EDA assists eligible recipients in developing economic development plans and studies designed to build capacity and guide the economic prosperity and resiliency of an area or region. The Planning program helps support organizations, including District Organizations, Indian Tribes, and other eligible recipients, with Short Term and State Planning investments designed to guide the eventual creation and retention of high-quality jobs, particularly for the unemployed and underemployed in the Nation's most economically distressed regions. As part of this program, EDA supports Partnership Planning investments to facilitate the development, implementation, revision, or replacement of Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDS), which articulate and prioritize the strategic economic goals of recipients' respective regions. The Local Technical Assistance program strengthens the capacity of local or State organizations, institutions of higher education, and other eligible recipients to undertake and promote effective economic development programs through projects such as feasibility studies and impact analyses.

Website: <https://www.eda.gov/funding-opportunities/>
Award: up to \$300,000,000
Time Frame: Continuing basis



Contact:
EDA Headquarters
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Suite 71014
Washington, DC 20230
Main Line: 202-482-2000
Texas Office:
Austin Regional Office
903 San Jacinto
Suite 206
Austin, Texas 78701
Regional Director: Jorge Ayala
P: 512-381-8150
F: 512-499-0478
jayala@eda.gov

PUBLIC WORKS AND ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

EDA solicits applications from applicants in rural and urban areas to provide investments that support construction, non-construction, technical assistance, and revolving loan fund projects under EDA's Public Works and EAA programs. Grants and cooperative agreements made under these programs are designed to leverage existing regional assets and support the implementation of economic development strategies that advance new ideas and creative approaches to advance economic prosperity in distressed communities.

Website: <https://www.eda.gov/funding-opportunities/>
Award: up to \$300,000
Time Frame: Continuing basis
Contact:

EDA Headquarters
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Suite 71014
Washington, DC 20230
Main Line: 202-482-2000
Texas Office:
Austin Regional Office
903 San Jacinto
Suite 206
Austin, Texas 78701

Regional Director: Jorge Ayala
P: 512-381-8150
F: 512-499-0478
jayala@eda.gov

Department of Education

Active Grant Opportunities: <http://www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/grantapps/index.html>
Upcoming Funding Opportunities: <http://www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/find/edlite-forecast.html>

21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER

This program supports the creation of community learning centers that provide academic enrichment opportunities during non-school hours for children, particularly students who attend high-poverty and low-performing schools. The program helps students meet state and local student standards in core academic subjects, such as reading and math; offers students a broad array of enrichment activities that can complement their regular academic programs; and offers literacy and other educational services to the families of participating children.

Formula grants are awarded to State educational agencies, which in turn manage statewide competitions and award grants to eligible entities. For this program, eligible entity means a local educational agency, community-based organization, another public or private entity, or a consortium of two or more of such agencies, organizations, or entities. States must give priority to applications that are jointly submitted by a local educational agency and a community-based organization or other public or private entity.

Website: <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/21stcclc/index.html>
Contact: Danita Woodley, 21stCCLC@ed.gov, (202) 260-8735
Texas: Christine McCormick
512-463-2334
Christine.McCormick@tea.texas.gov

Department of Health and Human Services — Administration for Children and Families

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is a division of the Department of Health & Human Services that aims to promote the economic and social well-being of children, families, individuals and communities with leadership and resources for compassionate, effective delivery of human services.

Announcements for funding opportunities can be found at: <https://ami.grantsolutions.gov/>

NATIONAL COLLABORATIVE ON CHILDHOOD OBESITY RESEARCH FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The National Collaborative on Childhood Obesity Research (NCCOR) brings together four of the nation's leading research funders — the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) — to address the problem of childhood obesity in America. These leading national organizations: work in tandem to manage projects and reach common goals; coordinate funding to make the most of available resources; and share insights and expertise to strengthen research. NCCOR focuses on efforts that have the potential to benefit children, teens, and their families, and the communities in which they live.

NCCOR publishes the funding opportunities from the partners to fund a range of project types. Visit the following website for more information on the opportunities: <http://nccor.org/news/funding-opportunities/>

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) made available \$5.2 billion to States, Territories, and Tribes in Fiscal Year (FY) 2012. CCDF is authorized by the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act and Section 418 of the Social Security Act. CCDF assists low-income families in obtaining child care so they can work or attend training/education. The program also improves the quality of child care, and promotes coordination among early childhood development and afterschool programs.

Initiatives of the CCDF include:

- Strengthening Family Child Care, a special initiative to strengthen family child care (FCC). The purpose of this initiative is to promote pathways and progressions to build the supply and stability of high quality FCC providers.
- Early Learning Initiative, which includes projects and grants that bring child care and early learning partners together at federal, state, and local levels for greater collaboration and more effective services throughout the country.
- Let's Move! Child Care promotes children's health by encouraging and supporting physical activity and healthier nutrition practices in early care and education settings.
- Emergency Preparedness, which addresses emergency preparation and response as it relates to the children in the event of a major disaster or emergency.



Website: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/resource/child-care-and-development-fund>

Contact:

CCDF Grantee State and Territory Contacts
Texas Workforce Policy and Program Assistance
Workforce Development Division
Texas Workforce Commission
Room 440-T
101 East 15th Street
Austin, TX 78778
General Phone: 512-463-6022
<http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/childcare/ccinfo.html> OCC
Regional Program Managers, Region VI
Gwendolyn Jones
OCC/ACF/HHS
Suite 914
1301 Young Street
Dallas, TX 75202
Phone: (214) 767-3849
Fax: (214) 767-8890
E-mail: gwendolyn.jones@acf.hhs.gov

HEAD START PROGRAM

The Office of Head Start (OHS) promotes the school readiness of young children from low-income families through local programs. Head Start and Early Head Start programs support the mental, social, and emotional development of children from birth to age 5.

Head Start grants are awarded directly to public or private non-profit organizations, including community-based and faith-based organizations, or for-profit agencies within a community that wish to compete for funds. The same categories of organizations are eligible to apply for Early Head Start, except that applicants need not be from the community they will be serving. Funding opportunities: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/ohs/funding>

Website: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ohs/funding>

Contact:

Texas Head Start Collaboration Office
Alferma Giles, Director
Phone: 713-500-3835
Fax: 713-500-3820
Email: alferma.crawford@uth.tmc.edu
Tracy Jones, Program Coordinator
Phone: 713-500-3832
Fax: 713-500-3820

Email: tracy.a.jones@uth.tmc.edu
Texas Head Start State Collaboration Office The Children's Learning Institute
University of Texas Houston
7000 Fannin, Suite 1920
Houston, TX 77030
Website: <http://www.uth.tmc.edu/thssco>
CCDF Grantee State and Territory Contacts
Texas Workforce Policy and Program Assistance
Workforce Development Division
Texas Workforce Commission
Room 440-T
101 East 15th Street
Austin, TX 78778
General Phone: 512-463-6022
<http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/childcare/ccinfo.html>
OCC Regional Program Managers, Region VI
Gwendolyn Jones
OCC/ACF/HHS
Suite 914
1301 Young Street
Dallas, TX 75202
Phone: (214) 767-3849
Fax: (214) 767-8890
E-mail: gwendolyn.jones@acf.hhs.gov

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

The Office of Community Services (OCS) partners with states, communities and agencies to reduce the causes of poverty, increase opportunity and economic security of individuals and families and revitalize communities. The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) provides funds to alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty in communities.

Website: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs/programs/csbg>
Administered in Texas by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs: www.tdhca.state.tx.us

Contact:

Gavin Reid
Manager, Planning and Contracts
Community Affairs Division
Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
221 East 11th, Post Office Box 13941
Austin, Texas 78711-3941
Phone: (512) 936-7828

Fax: (512) 475-3935
Email: gavin.reid@tdhca.state.tx.us
Web: www.tdhca.state.tx.us
Rita D. Gonzales-Garza, M.P.A
CSBG Program Administrator
Community Affairs Division
Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
221 East 11th, Post Office Box 13941
Austin, Texas 78711-3941
Phone: (512) 475-3905
Fax: (512) 475-3935
Email: rita.garza@tdhca.state.tx.us
Web: www.tdhca.state.tx.us
Federal Staff by Region
Region VI
Program Specialist: Isaac Davis
(202) 401-5335
Isaac.Davis@acf.hhs.gov

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Community Economic Development (CED) is a federal grant program funding Community Development Corporations that address the economic needs of low-income individuals and families through the creation of sustainable business development and employment opportunities.

CED awards funds to private, non-profit organizations that are community development corporations (CDCs), including faith-based organizations, and Tribal and Alaskan Native organizations. CDCs must be governed by a three-party board of directors that includes residents of the community served, and local business and civic leaders. CDCs must have as their principle purpose planning, developing or managing low-income housing or community development projects.

CED programs also provide technical and financial assistance for economic development activities.

Website: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs/programs/ced>

Contact:

Community Economic Development Program
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Office of Community Services
370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W.
Washington, DC 20447
Phone: (202) 401-5663
CED@acf.hhs.gov



SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANTS

Social Services Block Grants (SSBG) enables each state or territory to meet the needs of its residents through locally relevant social services. SSBGs support programs that allow communities to achieve or maintain economic self-sufficiency to prevent, reduce or eliminate dependency on social services. Each state administers the program locally, determining which services to provide and who is eligible to receive these services.

Website: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs/programs/ssbg>

Contact:

Texas
Charles Smith
Executive Commissioner
Texas Health & Human Services Commission
4900 North Lamar Boulevard
Austin, Texas 78751
P: (512) 424-6502
F: (512) 424-6587
Charles.Smith@hhsc.state.tx.us
Racheal Kane
HHS System Federal Funds Manager
Texas Health and Human Services Commission
4900 North Lamar Boulevard
Mail Code 1400
Austin, Texas 78751
P: 512-424-6663
F: 512-424-6669
Email: Racheal.Kane@hhsc.state.tx.us, HHSCFederalFunds@hhsc.state.tx.us

Department of Health and Human Services —
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
Division of Community Health

PARTNERSHIP TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY HEALTH (PICH)

PICH is a 3-year initiative that supports implementation of evidence-based strategies to improve the health of communities and reduce the prevalence of chronic disease. PICH builds on a body of knowledge developed through previously funded Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) programs and encourages collaborations with a multi-sectoral coalition to implement sustainable changes in communities where people live, learn, work, and play.

Website: <http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dch/programs/partnershipstoimprovecommunityhealth/index.html>

PREVENTATIVE HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

The Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant provides all 50 states, the District of Columbia, 2 American Indian tribes, and 8 US territories with funding to address their unique public health needs in innovative and locally defined ways. This program gives grantees the flexibility to use funds to respond rapidly to emerging health issues and to fill funding gaps in programs that deal with leading causes of death and disability.

Website: <http://www.cdc.gov/phhsblockgrant/>

Amount:

Time Frame:

Contact:

Texas PHHS Block Grant Coordinator
Texas Department of State Health Services
P.O. Box 149347
Mail Code 1908
Austin, TX 78714-9347
Phone 512-458-7770
www.dshs.state.tx.us

Department of Health and Human Services —
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
Administration (SAMHSA)

SAMHSA makes grant funds available through the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, and the Center for Mental Health Services. Funding opportunities are available in the form of non-competitive block grants and competitive block grants that support programs for substance use disorders and mental illness.

Website: <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants>

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (MHBG)

SAMHSA makes grant funds available through the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, and the Center for Mental Health Services. Funding opportunities are available in the form of non-competitive block grants and competitive block grants that support programs for substance use disorders and mental illness.

The Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG) is one of two block grants available from the SAMHSA. The MHBG program provides funds and technical assistance to all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and 6 Pacific jurisdictions. Grantees use the funds to

provide comprehensive, community-based mental health services to adults with serious mental illnesses and to children with serious emotional disturbances and to monitor progress in implementing a comprehensive, community-based mental health system.

The MHBG program targets:

- Adults with serious mental illnesses. Includes persons age 18 and older who have a diagnosable behavioral, mental, or emotional condition—as defined by the Psychiatric Association’s Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) of Mental Disorders. Their condition substantially interferes with, or limits, one or more major life activities, such as: Basic daily living (for example, eating or dressing); Instrumental living (for example, taking prescribed medications or getting around the community); Participating in a family, school, or workplace.
- Children with serious emotional disturbances. Includes persons up to age 18 who have a diagnosable behavioral, mental, or emotional issue (as defined by the DSM). This condition results in a functional impairment that substantially interferes with, or limits, a child’s role or functioning in family, school, or community activities.

Website: <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/block-grants/mhbg>

Timeline: FY2017 application period has closed

Contact: State contact that oversees SAMHSA grant administration in Texas:

Lauren Lacefield Lewis
Commissioner
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Division
Texas Department of State Health Services
P.O. Box 149397
Mail Code 2053
Austin, Texas 78714-9347
Phone: 512-467-5516
Fax: 512-467-5465
E-mail: Lauren.Lacefieldlewis@dshs.state.tx.us
URL: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/sa/default.shtm>
Express Mail Address
909 W. 45th Street
Austin, Texas 78751-2803

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

SAMHSA announces discretionary grant funding opportunities through Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs). These grant opportunities help implement specific programs of the SAMHSA. Each FOA contains all the information you need to apply for a grant.



Website: <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements-2017>
 Timeline: Varies
 Amount: Varies
 Contact:
 General Grants Questions: SAMHSA's Division of Grants Management at 240-276-1400
 Grant-specific Questions: Contact the person(s) listed under "Agency Contact" in the Request for Applications (RFA)

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

The activities of the Community Planning and Development Program build stronger and more resilient communities through an ongoing process of identifying and addressing needs, assets, and priority investments. Community development activities may support infrastructure, economic development projects, installation of public facilities, community centers, housing rehabilitation, public services, clearance/acquisition, microenterprise assistance, code enforcement, homeowner assistance and many other identified needs. Federal support for community development encourages systematic and sustained action by State, and local governments. The Office of Block Grant Assistance administers funds, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), allocated to State and local governments to address locally identified community development needs through the following programs (only showing those applicable in Texas):

- CDBG Entitlement Program provides annual grants on a formula basis to entitled cities and counties to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.
- CDBG State Program allows States to award grants to smaller units of general local government that develop and preserve decent affordable housing, to provide services to the most vulnerable in our communities, and to create and retain jobs.
- CDBG Program Colonias Set-Aside requires the border states of Arizona, California, New Mexico and Texas to set aside a percentage of their annual State CDBG allocations for use in the Colonia to help meet the needs of the Colonias residents in relationship to the need for potable water, adequate sewer systems, or decent, safe and sanitary housing.
- Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program is the loan guarantee provision of the CDBG Program and provides communities with a source of financing for economic development, housing rehabilitation, public facilities, and large-scale physical development projects.

- CDBG Disaster Recovery Program provides flexible grants to help cities, counties, and States recover from Presidentially-declared disasters, especially in low-income areas, subject to availability of supplemental appropriations.
- The Neighborhood Stabilization Program provides grants to communities that have suffered from foreclosures and abandonment to purchase and redevelop foreclosed and abandoned homes and residential properties.
- Brownfields Economic Development Initiative provides grants to assist cities with the redevelopment of abandoned, idled and underused industrial and commercial facilities where expansion and redevelopment is burdened by real or potential environmental contamination.

Each fiscal year (FY), HUD publishes a General Section that contains requirements for all of HUD's competitive grant programs. To be considered for funding, applications must meet all applicable requirements of the General Section and the requirements in the Program NOFA.

http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail/nofa2017/gensec
 To identify funding opportunities through HUD, visit the following website:
http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail
 Award: varies
 Time Frame: varies
 Contact:

National Office:
 Office of Strategic Planning and Management
 Grants Management & Oversight Division
 Department of Housing and Urban Development
 451 7th Street, SW, Room 3156
 Washington, DC 20410-3000
 Phone: (202) 708-0667
 Houston Regional Office:
 Sandra H. Warren
 Director, CPD
 1301 Fannin Street
 Suite 2200
 Houston, TX 77002
 713-718-3279
 Sandra.H.Warren@hud.gov
 Fort Worth Regional Office:
 Shirley J. Henley
 Director, CPD
 801 Cherry Street

Unit #45 - Suite 2500
 Ft. Worth, TX 76102
 817-978-5951
 Shirley.J.Henley@hud.gov
 San Antonio Regional Office:
 Elva F. Garcia
 Director, CPD
 Hipolito Garcia Federal Building
 615 E. Houston Street
 Suite 347
 San Antonio, TX 78205
 210-475-6866
 Elva.Garcia@hud.gov

HOPE VI REVITALIZATION GRANTS

The specific elements of public housing transformation that have proven key to HOPE VI include: Changing the physical shape of public housing; establishing positive incentives for resident self— sufficiency and comprehensive services that empower residents; lessening concentrations of poverty by placing public housing in non—poverty neighborhoods and promoting mixed-income communities; and forging partnerships with other agencies, local governments, nonprofit organizations, and private businesses to leverage support and resources. Only public housing authorities are eligible to apply for these funds, but park and recreation agencies can contract to develop recreation facilities at public housing sites and to provide community and supportive service programs for residents, including those relocated as a result of revitalization efforts. For more information, go to: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/ph/hope6

Department of the Interior — Fish and Wildlife Service

AQUATIC RESOURCE EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Aquatic Resource Education Program helps people understand, enjoy and conserve the aquatic natural resources of the nation. States have the option of using up to 15 percent of their annual Sport Fish Restoration apportionment for aquatic resource education programs and outreach and communications projects. The Sport Fish Restoration Program, created in 1950, provides funding for fish management, conservation, restoration, aquatic education, and boating access. The program is funded by a 10 percent Federal excise tax on fishing rods, reels, creels, lures, flies and artificial baits and a 3 percent tax on electronic fishing motors and sonar fish finders; duties on imported fishing tackle, pleasure boats and yachts; and a portion of the Federal fuel tax receipts from motorboats



and small gasoline engines. The funds are apportioned annually to the states and territories by the Department of the Interior on the basis of formulas set forth in the Act. Apportionments are determined for each state by land area and number of fishing license owners. All funds are disseminated through State Fish and Wildlife Departments.

Website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/grantprograms/AquaticEd/AE.htm>
Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>
Southwest Regional Office
Kelly Oliver-Amy
505-248-7457
Kelly_oliver-amy@fws.gov
<https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

BOATING ACCESS PROGRAM

The Boating Access (BA) Program provides grant funds to the states, the District of Columbia and insular areas fish and wildlife agencies for projects that provide access to America's waterways by developing new access facilities or renovation and/or improvement of existing facilities.

Today more than 16.8 million boats use U.S. waterways. A large percentage of these are operated by anglers and recreational boaters.

The Boating Access Program is part of the Sport Fish Restoration Program. Spending for the BA is authorized in the Sport Fish Restoration Act.

The Sport Fish Restoration Act mandates each state, the District of Columbia and insular area to allocate at least 15 percent of their annual Sport Fish Restoration apportionment to boating access projects. The allocation is averaged over a five year period for each U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service region.

The funds apportioned annually are derived from excise taxes on fishing equipment, motorboat and small engine fuels, import duties, and interest collected in the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund. These funds are apportioned to the states, the District of Columbia and insular areas based on a formula which includes land area, number of paid license holders, minimums and maximums.

Website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/GrantPrograms/BoatAccess/BA.htm>
Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>
Southwest Regional Office
Buddy Fazio
505-248-7461
Buddy_Fazio@fws.gov
<https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

BOATING INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM

The Boating Infrastructure Grant Program (BIG) provides grant funds to the states, the District of Columbia and insular areas to construct, renovate, and maintain tie-up facilities with features for transient boaters in vessels 26 feet or more in length, and to produce and distribute information and educational materials about the program. The BIG Program includes two funding tiers, Tier One (non-competitive) and Tier Two (nationally competitive). Under Tier One each state, the D.C. and insular area may receive funding for eligible projects up to \$200,000 annually. Tier Two funds are made available through a nationally competitive process. Tier Two proposals received are reviewed, evaluated and ranked by a national panel with the final decision for funding made by the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The ranking criteria, eligible projects and regulations are listed in 50 CFR 86.

Funds for the BIG Program are provided annually from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund. The amount provided is 4% of the funds (split between the BIG and CVA programs) in the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund after deducting amounts for WSFR administration, the Multistate Conservation Grant Program, the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council and fisheries commissions.

Website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/GrantPrograms/BIG/BIG.htm>
Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>
Southwest Regional Office
Buddy Fazio
505-248-7461
Buddy_Fazio@fws.gov
<https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

CLEAN VESSEL ACT GRANT PROGRAM

The Clean Vessel Act Grant Program (CVA) provides grant funds to the states, the District of Columbia and insular areas for the construction, renovation, operation, and maintenance of pump-out stations and waste reception facilities for recreational boaters and also for educational programs that inform boaters of the importance of proper disposal of their sewage.

Website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/GrantPrograms/CVA/CVA.htm>
Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>
Southwest Regional Office
Buddy Fazio
505-248-7461
Buddy_Fazio@fws.gov
<https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) provides federal grant funds derived from federal offshore lease revenues to oil producing states for conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas including wetlands; mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, or natural resources; planning assistance and the administrative costs of complying with these objectives; implementation of a federally-approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan; and mitigation of the impact of outer Continental Shelf activities through funding of onshore infrastructure projects and public service needs.

Statewide CIAP plans that include proposed projects have been prepared by the affected states: Alabama, Alaska, California, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas. The federally approved CIAP plans have also been coordinated through a public review process.

Federal grant funds must be used to directly benefit an authorized use to conserve, restore, enhance, and protect renewable natural resources. Non-federal matching funds are not required for approved grant projects associated with this federal grant program.

Website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/GrantPrograms/CIAP/CIAP.htm>
State office: <http://www.glo.texas.gov/coast/grant-projects/ciap/index.html>
Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>
Southwest Regional Office
Susan MacMullin
505-248-7476
Susan_MacMullin@fws.gov
<https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

HUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Hunter Education Program provides grant funds to the states and insular areas fish and wildlife agencies for projects to provide instruction in firearm operations and safety, wildlife management, nature conservation, ethics, game laws, outdoor survival and wilderness first aid. Funds may also be used for the development and operations of archery and shooting range facilities.

The goal is to teach students to be safe, responsible, conservation-minded hunters. Most States require completion of a hunter education course prior to purchasing a hunting license.

Website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/GrantPrograms/HunterEd/HE.htm>
Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>



Southwest Regional Office
Andrew Ortiz
505-248-7459
Andrew_Ortiz@fws.gov
<https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

LANDOWNER INCENTIVE PROGRAM (NON-TRIBAL PORTION)
- OVERVIEW

The Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) provides federal grant funds to grant funds to the states, the District of Columbia and insular areas to protect and restore habitats on private lands, to benefit Federally listed, proposed or candidate species or other species determined to be at-risk.

Grant funds must be used to establish or supplement State landowner incentive programs to benefit species identified in the State’s Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (State Wildlife Action Plan) or classified as Special Concern by the State, or Federally listed, proposed, or candidate species or other species determined to be at-risk. These grant funds may also be used to provide technical and financial assistance to private landowners for habitat protection and restoration. More info...

The LIP Program includes two funding tiers, Tier One (non-competitive) and Tier Two (nationally competitive). Under Tier One each state may receive funding for eligible projects up to \$200,000 annually and the District of Columbia and insular areas up to \$75,000 annually. If there is adequate funding in the appropriation, WSFR will rank Tier Two grants and award grants through a national competition. The competition will be announced separately.

Website: https://www.fws.gov/southwest/federal_assistance/ri.html#contactfedaid
Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>
Southwest Regional Office
Susan MacMullin
505-248-7476
Susan_MacMullin@fws.gov
<https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

MULTISTATE CONSERVATION GRANT PROGRAM - OVERVIEW

The MSCGP provides funding for wildlife and sport fish restoration projects identified as priority projects by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA). These high priority projects address problems affecting states on a regional or national basis. Project types that are generally selected for funding are: biological research/training, species population status, outreach, data collection regarding hunter/angler participation, hunter/aquatic education, economic value of fishing/hunting, and regional or multistate habitat needs assessments.

The AFWA and the Division of Wildlife Sport Fish Restoration Program (WSFR) work together to manage the MSCGP. The AFWA administers the grant application process, providing oversight, coordination, and guidance for the MSCGP while the WSFR awards and manages the grants.

Website: https://www.fws.gov/southwest/federal_assistance/ri.html#contactfedaid
Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>
Southwest Regional Office
500 Gold SW, Suite 8514, Albuquerque, NM 87102 <https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

NATIONAL COASTAL WETLANDS GRANT PROGRAM

The National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grants Program is authorized by the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to grant funds to coastal states to carry out coastal wetlands conservation projects. Participants in the program include state, county, and municipal governments as well as non- government partners.

Funds for the Coastal Wetlands Grant Program are provided annually from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund. The Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) receives 18.5 percent of the funds in the Trust Fund after deducting amounts for WSFR administration, the Multistate Conservation Grant Program, the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council and fisheries commissions.

Website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/GrantPrograms/CW/CW.htm>
Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>
Southwest Regional Office
Susan MacMullin
505-248-7476
Susan_MacMullin@fws.gov
<https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

SPORT FISH RESTORATION PROGRAM

The Act, approved by Congress on August 9, 1950, provides funding for fish management, conservation, and restoration. The program is funded by a 10 percent Federal excise tax on fishing rods, reels, creels, lures, flies and artificial baits and a 3 percent tax on electronic fishing motors and sonar fish finders. The funds are apportioned annually to the states and territories (except Puerto Rico) by the Department of the interior on the basis of formulas set forth in the Act. Apportionments are determined for each state by land area and number of fishing license owners. All funds are disseminated through State Fish and Wildlife Departments.

Website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/GrantPrograms/SFR/SFR.htm>
Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>
Southwest Regional Office
Kelly Oliver-Amy
505-248-7457
Kelly_oliver-amy@fws.gov
<https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

STATE WILDLIFE GRANT PROGRAM

The State Wildlife Grant (SWG) Program provides Federal grant funds to State fish and wildlife agencies for developing and implementing programs that benefit wildlife and their habitats, including species that are not hunted or fished.

Grant funds may be used to address a variety of conservation needs--such as research, fish and wildlife surveys, species restoration, habitat management, and monitoring—that are identified within a State’s Wildlife Action Plan. These funds may also be used to update, revise, or modify a State’s Plan.

Congress appropriates funds for the State Wildlife Grant Program on an annual basis. Funds are apportioned to States, commonwealths, and U.S. territories based on a formula that considers each State’s population and total geographical area.

Grant funds are disbursed to States for approved grants at a maximum federal share of 75% for planning grants and 65% for Plan implementation grants. Congress also allocates a portion of appropriated funds to a competitive SWG subprogram. State Wildlife Grant funds administered by the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program provide a unique source of funding, helping States to focus on targeted species in a proactive fashion, to help identify and reverse species population declines before restoration becomes more difficult and costly.

Website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/GrantPrograms/SWG/SWG.htm>
Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>
Southwest Regional Office
Vanessa Martinez
505-248-7452
Vanessa_Martinez@fws.gov
<https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

WILDLIFE RESTORATION PROGRAM

Approved by Congress on September 2, 1937, the Act provides funding for the selection, restoration, rehabilitation and improvement of wildlife habitat, wildlife



management research and the distribution of information produced by the projects. Congress amended the Act on October 23, 1970, to include funding for hunter training programs and the development, operation and maintenance of public target ranges. Funds are derived from an 11 percent Federal excise tax on handguns. Funds are also collected from a 12.4 percent tax on archery equipment. A certain amount of funds (section 4) must be used on hunter education before additional funds (section 10) can be attained. The section 10 funds can be used for additional hunter education programs or for wildlife restoration. These funds are apportioned each year to the states and territories (except Puerto Rico) by the Department of the Interior on the basis of formulas set forth in the Act. Apportionments are determined for each state by land area and number of hunting license owners.

Website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/GrantPrograms/WR/WR.htm>
Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>
Southwest Regional Office
Nicole Jimenez
505-248-7466
Nicole_Jimenez@fws.gov
<https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

Department of the Interior — National Park Service

CHALLENGE COST SHARE PROGRAM

The Challenge Cost Share Program supports local projects that promote conservation and recreation, environmental stewardship, education, and engaging youth in the outdoors. Local project partners work with National Park Service (NPS) staff to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes. Applications are submitted by NPS staff in collaboration with project partners. This partnership challenge rewards those proposals that highlight long lasting benefits while developing new partnerships.

The program requires equal matching share. Cash, goods, or services from non-federal sources can be considered as a cost share. The maximum Challenge Cost Share project support is \$25,000. If selected our national partner, Outdoor Foundation, forms an agreement and provides project funds directly to the local partner. Applications are submitted by NPS staff in collaboration with project partners.

Website: <https://www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/ccsp/>
Award: up to \$25,000 (FY2017)
Time Frame: July 1, 2016 (FY2017)

Contact:
NATIONAL OFFICE:
National Coordinator
Stephan Nofield
Stephan_nofield@nsp.gov

FEDERAL LANDS TO PARKS

The Federal Lands-to-Parks (FLP) enables states and local governments to establish park and recreation areas and adapt historic buildings for public uses. Through FLP, state and local agencies may acquire land and facilities once used for federal purposes at no cost to meet park and recreation needs.

Amount: N/A. Program based on existing inventory of federal lands and transferring it to state or local governments for park and recreation use.
Annual Time Frame: As land becomes available, 25 days from the “notice of availability”
Information about the program is available at: <https://www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/flp/index.htm>
Contacts: https://www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/flp/flp_contact.html

NATIONAL OFFICE:
Wendy Ormont
State and Local Programs Division
National Park Service
1201 I Street, NW
Mail Stop 2225
Washington, DC 20005
202-354-6915
Fax: 202-371-5179
Email: nps_flpnational@nps.gov
Southeast Region:
National Park Service
100 Alabama Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303
404-507-5689
Fax: 404-562-3282
Email: nps_flpsouth@nps.gov

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

The Land and Water Conservation Fund was enacted in 1964 (Public Law 88-578) to “create and maintain a nationwide legacy of high quality recreation areas and facilities.” LWCF provides funding for: (1) land acquisition for federal land managing agencies; and (2) matching grants to state and local governments for planning (states only), acquisition and development of park and recreation areas and resource based facilities. Specifics for federal land acquisition

projects are determined each fiscal year by Congress and the Administration. Of the amounts appropriated in any given fiscal year for each State and Territory is determined based on a formula set in the LWCF Act, and is subsequently approved by the Secretary of the Interior. The grantee assumes all operation and maintenance costs in perpetuity. In Texas, the LWCF allocation funds a number of grant programs available to local communities, including

Amount: In 2016, Texas was allocated a total of \$5,415,887. All state and local grants require at least a 50 percent match by the non-federal partner.
Annual Time Frame: Varies depending on state grant program.
Information about the program is available at: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/stateside.htm>
Contacts: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/contact-list.htm>

National Office:
National Park Service
1849 C Street NW, Org-2225
Washington, D.C. 20240
202-354-6900
<https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1600/index.htm>
Texas Office:
Director
State Parks
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, TX 78744
512-389-8545
<http://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/>
Midwest Region:
National Park Service
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE 68102
402-661-1540

Department of Justice – Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

OJJDP provides national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent and respond to juvenile delinquency and victimization. OJJDP supports states and communities in their efforts to develop and implement effective and coordinated prevention and intervention programs and to improve the juvenile justice system so that it protects public safety, holds justice-involved youth appropriately accountable, and provides treatment and rehabilitative services tailored to the needs of juveniles and their families.

The purpose of the Delinquency Prevention Program (formerly Title V) is to prevent youth at risk of becoming delinquent from entering the juvenile justice



system and to intervene with first-time and non-serious offenders to keep them from further contact with the juvenile justice system. The goal is to reduce the likelihood that youth will become serious and violent offenders as adults, reducing the burden of crime on society and saving taxpayers billions of dollars.

The program includes the:

- Youth Tribal Program
- Gang Prevention Program
- Community-Based Violence Prevention Program
- National Forum on Youth Violence Program

The OJJDP will offer funding opportunities to states, territories, localities, and private organizations, including faith-based institutions to implement the departments programs through formula and block grants and discretionary grants.

To search for upcoming funding opportunities visit: <https://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/FundingList.asp>

FORMULA AND BLOCK GRANTS

The Formula Grants Program supports state and local delinquency prevention and intervention efforts and juvenile justice system improvements. Through this program, OJJDP provides funds directly to states, territories, and the District of Columbia to help them implement comprehensive state juvenile justice plans based on detailed studies of needs in their jurisdictions. The Formula Grants Program is authorized under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.).

In FY 2016, OJJDP awarded \$40 million in formula and block grants. The Juvenile Justice Specialists in each state administers the funding through sub-grants to units of local government, local private agencies, and American Indian/Alaska Native jurisdictions for programs in accordance with legislative requirements.

Website: <https://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/funding.html>
Timeline: No funding opportunities listed at this time.
Contact:
(State of Texas)
Juvenile Justice Specialist
Erica Ortega
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, TX 78711
512-463-8406
erica.ortega@gov.texas.gov

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

OJJDP awards discretionary grants to states, units of local government, and private organizations to administer the several programs the OJJDP has for juvenile justice and delinquency prevention. During FY 2016, OJJDP awarded \$242,905,063 in 268 discretionary grants.

Website: <https://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/funding.html>
Timeline: No funding opportunities listed at this time.
Contact: <https://www.ojjdp.gov/about/StaffList.asp>
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
810 Seventh Street NW.
Washington, DC 20531
202-307-5911

Department of Labor

The U.S. Department of Labor provides both discretionary and non-discretionary/ formula-based grants that implement programs of its agencies and divisions. Awarding and administering grants are done by either the department or by the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management

The divisions and agencies of the Department of Labor that offer grant programs include:

- Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS): provides project grants (cooperative agreements) and the dissemination of technical statistical data and related information on labor force activities; provides data on prices (CPI) and cost of living; data on productivity and technology data; data on compensation and working conditions; data on employment projections.
- Employment and Training (ETA): ETA administers financial assistance programs pursuant to the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), administering State formula grant programs for youth, adults and dislocated workers, national emergency grants for workers affected by mass layoffs, plant closures, and disasters; grant programs for workers with disabilities, Indians and Native Americans, and for migrant and seasonal farmworkers. ETA also administers grant programs for older American workers, apprenticeship programs, Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) programs, and assistance for research and development of workforce programs. In addition, ETA is responsible for the operation and maintenance of a national system of public employment service offices and for the national unemployment insurance program.
- Mine Safety and Health (MSHA): provides grants for research, education and training programs to ensure an adequate and competent staff of trained inspectors; and assistance for establishing or improving State mine health and safety programs through technical assistance.

- Occupational Safety and Health (OSHA): provides grants to non-profit organizations to provide training, educational services, and technical assistance; assistance to states to administer and enforce state programs; assistance to states to provide occupational safety and health technical assistance and consultant services.
- Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP): The Office of Disability Employment Policy awards competitive grants establishing short-term pilot and technical assistance projects designed to identify, develop, test, evaluate, and disseminate policies to increase employment by expanding access to training, education, employment supports, assistive and systems technology, integrated employment, entrepreneurial development, and small business opportunities for adults and youth with disabilities. Current pilot projects focus on customized employment, Olmstead populations, and innovative demonstration youth grants, among others. Solicitations for grant applications are published in the Federal Register and announced at www.dol.gov/odep. ODEP grants are awarded by the OASAM grant office.
- Veterans' Employment and Training (VETS): administers programs that address the employment, training, and job security needs of Americans who have served in uniform. VETS awards the Jobs for Veterans State Grants (JVSF) as a formula grant, to each state, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. VETS also awards competitive grants to provide services to assist in reintegrating homeless veterans into meaningful employment with in the labor force and to stimulate the development of effective service delivery systems that will address the complex problems facing homeless veterans. VETS grants are awarded by the Employment and Training Administration Office of Grants Management.

Website about grant and contract opportunities with DOL: <https://www.grants.gov/>
Contact: Awarding and administering grants are done by either the department or by the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management
Regional Offices (Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management): <https://www.dol.gov/oasam/regional/about-regional.htm>

Department of Transportation

TIGER DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

The Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, or TIGER Discretionary Grant program, provides a unique opportunity for the DOT to invest in road, rail, transit and port projects that promise to achieve national



objectives. Since 2009, Congress has dedicated nearly \$4.6 billion for seven rounds of TIGER to fund projects that have a significant impact on the Nation, a region or a metropolitan area. The eligibility requirements of TIGER allow project sponsors at the State and local levels to obtain funding for multi-modal, multi-jurisdictional projects that are more difficult to support through traditional DOT programs.

Website: <https://www.transportation.gov/tiger>
Contact:

Office of Infrastructure Finance and Innovation
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590
TIGERgrants@dot.gov
Phone: 202-366-0301

Department of Transportation - Federal Highway Administration

The Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) was signed into law in December 2015, authorizing \$305 billion over fiscal years 2016 through 2020 for highway, highway and motor vehicle safety, public transportation, motor carrier safety, hazardous materials safety, rail, and research, technology, and statistics programs. Funds are apportioned to states to administer programs or further allocate funds.

ACCELERATED INNOVATION DEPLOYMENT (AID) DEMONSTRATION GRANT

The AID Demonstration program is one initiative under the multi-faceted Technology and Innovation Deployment Program (TIDP) approach providing funding and other resources to offset the risk of trying an innovation. The AID Demonstration program provides funding as an incentive for eligible entities to accelerate the implementation and adoption of innovation in highway transportation. The FAST Act authorized funding for the continuation of these programs and opportunities. Entities eligible to apply (Applicants) are State DOTs, Federal Land Management Agencies, and tribal governments. Metropolitan planning organizations and local governments may apply through the State DOT as a sub recipient.

Website: <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovation/grants>
Amount: \$50,000 to \$1 million; Estimated Total Program Funding: \$50 million
Time Frame: Sep 30, 2020; Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis.

Contact:
Fawn Thompson
Program Coordinator
(404) 562-3917
Fawn.Thompson@dot.gov

CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The purpose of the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality improvement program (CMAQ) is to realign the focus of transportation planning toward a more inclusive, environmentally sensitive, and multi-modal approach. The CMAQ program provides funding for programs and projects in air quality non-attainment and maintenance for ozone, carbon monoxide (CO), and small particulate matter (PM-10), which reduces transportation related emissions. Grants are provided through a reimbursement process that varies state by state. Funds may be used for either the construction of bicycle transportation facilities and pedestrian walkways, or non-construction projects (such as maps, brochures, and public service announcements) related to safe bicycle use. In general, however, a sponsor would submit expenses to the state department of transportation, which would then reimburse at 80 percent of the project cost. The CMAQ Program was reauthorized for 2016 through 2020 through the FAST Act.

Amount: FAST Act provides for \$2.3 M to \$2.5 M in CMAQ funding each year from 2016 through 2020. It is estimated the State of Texas will receive an average of \$853 million in CMAQ funds annually.
Applications and information about CMAQ grants are available at: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/air_quality/cmaq/

RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM

The Recreational Trails Program, was reauthorized by the FAST Act, provides funds to develop and maintain recreational trails for motorized and non-motorized recreational trail users. Eligible project categories as defined in the act are: maintenance and restoration of existing recreational trails; development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages; purchase and lease of recreational trail construction and maintenance equipment; construction of new recreational trails (with restrictions on new trails on Federal land); acquisition of easements or property for recreational trails or recreational trail corridors; state administrative costs related to program administration (up to 7 percent of a state’s funds); and operation of educational programs to promote safety and environmental protection as these objectives relate to the use of recreational trails (up to 5 percent of a state’s funds). Each state has its own procedures and timelines to solicit, select, and fund Recreational Trails projects.

In Texas, the Recreational Trails program is administered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Amount: \$200,000 Requires 80/20 match
Time Frame: Annual Deadline – February 1st
Program website: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/recreational_trails/
<http://www.americantrails.org/ee/index.php/nationalrecreationtrails>
State website: <https://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/recreational-trails-grants>
Contact: For more information about project funding contact your State Trail Administrator. For a list of administrators go to: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/recreational_trails/rtpstate.cfm

National Office:
FHWA
Christopher Douwes
Community Planner
Recreational Trails Program
Transportation Alternatives
Federal Highway Administration
FHWA HEPH-10 Rm E74-474
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington DC 20590-0001
Phone: 202-366-5013
Texas Office:
Trey Cooksey, State Parks Trails Coordinator
Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept
4200 Smith School Road
Austin TX 78744-3291
512-389-8743; Fax 512-389-8242
trey.cooksey@tpwd.state.tx.us

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) Program is a Federal-Aid program of the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The Program was created by Section 1404 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users Act (SAFETEA-LU). The SRTS Program was funded at \$1.162 billion for Federal fiscal years (FY) 2005-2012 and is administered by State Departments of Transportation (DOTs).

The SRTS Program received dedicated funding through 2012. The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) authorized the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), which replaced the funding from pre-MAP-21 programs including the Transportation Enhancement Activities, Recreational Trails Program, and Safe Routes to School Program (SRTS). MAP-21 did not provide specific funding for SRTS, but SRTS projects are eligible for TAP funds and for Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds. Under Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act), the TAP program was rolled into the Surface Transportation Program.



Safe Routes to School initiatives may be eligible under the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program or Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside.

Website: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/safe_routes_to_school/

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

The FAST Act converted the Surface Transportation Program to a block grant program that folds in the Transportation Alternative Program. The program provides funding to states and localities for projects to preserve and improve the conditions and performance on any Federal-aid highway, bridge and tunnel projects on any public road, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, and transit capital projects, including intercity bus terminals.

Amount: The FAST Act provides for an estimated average of \$4.796 million allocated to Texas for the STBG Program funding each year from 2016 through 2020

Time Frame:

Website: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/factsheets/stbgfs.cfm>

Contact: <https://www.transportation.gov/fastact/>

National Office:

Office of the Under Secretary for Policy

Office of the Secretary of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Ave, SE

Washington, DC 20590

United States

Phone: 202-366-4540

Texas Office:

Administered by TXDOT

Online form:

<http://www.txdot.gov/contact-us/form.html>

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES, STBG SET-ASIDE

The FAST Act amended the Surface Transportation Program to include a set aside for the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program, which is replacing the MAP-21 Transportation Alternative Program. Similar to its predecessors, the Transportation Alternative Program and Transportation Enhancement Activities, the STBG Program, or TA Set-Aside, authorizes funding for The TA Set-Aside authorizes funding for programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities such as historic preservation and vegetation management, and environmental mitigation related to storm water and habitat connectivity; recreational trail projects; safe routes to school projects; and projects for planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former divided highways.

Amount: In Texas, The FAST Act provides for an estimated average of \$386 million set-aside from the STBG Program funding each year from 2016 through 2020

Time Frame:

Website: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/factsheets/transportationalternativesfs.cfm>

Contact: <https://www.transportation.gov/fastact/>

<https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/infragrants>

National Office:

Office of the Under Secretary for Policy

Office of the Secretary of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Ave, SE

Washington, DC 20590

United States

Phone: 202-366-4540

Texas Office:

Administered by TXDOT

Online form:

<http://www.txdot.gov/contact-us/form.html>

Department of Transportation – Coast Guard

RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY

The RBS grant program provides funding to assist states with program administration, law enforcement and search and rescue capability, boater education, vessel numbering and titling systems, aids to navigation, and public boating access sites. Allowable uses of the RBS Program funds include a wide spectrum of activities that fall into six broad categories – program administration, law enforcement and search and rescue capability, boater education, vessel numbering and titling systems, aids to navigation, and public boating access sites. States with approved boating safety programs that meet the participation requirements are eligible.

Amount: In 2016, Texas received approximately \$3.8 million in state grant funding

Time Frame:

Information about the program is available at: <http://www.uscgboating.org/grants/index.php>

Contact: <http://www.uscgboating.org/php-contact-form/contactC.php>

Commandant (CG-BSX-2)

U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters

2703 Martin Luther King, JR Ave SE

Stop 7501

Washington, DC 20593-7501

Phone: 202.372.1062

Environmental Protection Agency

Every year, EPA awards over \$4 billion in funding for grants and other assistance agreements. From small non-profit organizations to large state governments, EPA works to help many visionary organizations achieve their environmental goals. With countless success stories over the years, EPA grants remain a chief tool in the advancement of human health and the environment.

<https://www.epa.gov/grants/specific-epa-grant-programs>

AIR GRANTS & FUNDING

EPA's Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) announces competitive funding announcements for projects and programs relating to air quality, transportation, climate change, indoor air and other related topics.

Website: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/air-grants-and-funding>

Contact:

National Office:

Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Grants and Debarment

Mail Code: 3901

1200 Pennsylvania Avenue,

N.W. Washington, D.C. 20460

GAD_OGDWEB@epa.gov

Grants and Interagency Agreements Program Phone:

(202) 564-5315

Region 6 Office:

Environmental Protection

Fountain Place 12th Floor, Suite 1200

1445 Ross Avenue

Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Phone: (214) 665-2200

Toll free within Region 6:

(800) 887-6063

BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT GRANTS

Brownfields Program provides funds to empower states, communities, tribes, and nonprofits to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse brownfield sites. Under Brownfields Assessment Grants, EPA is seeking proposals for Assessment Grants only, to provide funds to inventory, characterize, assess, and conduct planning (including cleanup planning) and community involvement related to brownfield sites.

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html?keywords=brownfields>



Award: varies \$200,000 to \$600,000, cost sharing not required, but encouraged
Contact:

National Office:
Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Grants and Debarment
Mail Code: 3901
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue,
N.W. Washington, D.C. 20460
GAD_OGDWEB@epa.gov
Grants and Interagency Agreements Program Phone:
(202) 564-5315
Region 6 Office:
Environmental Protection
Fountain Place 12th Floor, Suite 1200
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
Phone: (214) 665-2200
Toll free within Region 6:
(800) 887-6063

BROWNFIELDS CLEANUP GRANTS

EPA's Brownfields Program provides funds to empower states, communities, tribes, and nonprofits to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse brownfield sites. Under the Brownfields Cleanup Grants, EPA is seeking proposals for Cleanup Grants only to provide funds to carry out cleanup activities at a specific brownfield site owned by the applicant.

Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html?keywords=brownfields>

Award: varies \$200,000; 20% cost share required.

Contact:

National Office:
Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Grants and Debarment
Mail Code: 3901
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue,
N.W. Washington, D.C. 20460
GAD_OGDWEB@epa.gov
Grants and Interagency Agreements Program Phone:
(202) 564-5315
Region 6 Office:
Environmental Protection
Fountain Place 12th Floor, Suite 1200

1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
Phone: (214) 665-2200
Toll free within Region 6:
(800) 887-6063

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION GRANTS PROGRAM

The EPA Environmental grant program supports environmental education projects that enhance the public's awareness, knowledge, and skills to make informed and responsible decisions that affect environmental quality. The program provides financial support for projects that design, demonstrate, or disseminate environmental education practices, methods, or techniques. Each year, EPA's Office of Environmental Education releases a solicitation notice in the Federal Register that provides instructions for obtaining a grant. Educational agencies at the state, local and tribal level, state environmental agencies, college and universities, not-for-profit organizations, and noncommercial educational broadcasting entities are eligible to apply. Individuals are not eligible to apply. Although government agencies cannot apply directly, they are encouraged to work with other entities on developing and implementing environmental education programs.

Website: <https://www.epa.gov/education/environmental-education-ee-grants>
Contact:

National Office:
Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Grants and Debarment
Mail Code: 3901
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue,
N.W. Washington, D.C. 20460
GAD_OGDWEB@epa.gov
Grants and Interagency Agreements Program Phone:
(202) 564-5315
Region 6 Office:
Bonnie King
king.bonita@epa.gov
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
Phone: (214) 665-2200

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE GRANTS

With these grants, the EPA aims to provide financial assistance to grassroots community-based groups to support projects to design, demonstrate or disseminate practices, methods or techniques related to environmental justice. Specifically, EPA will grant funding assistance to be used for: environmental

justice education and awareness programs; environmental Justice Programs (for example, river monitoring and pollution prevention programs); technical assistance in gathering and interpreting existing environmental justice data; and technical assistance to access available public information. Community-based grassroots organizations, other incorporated nonprofit organizations and federally recognized Tribal Governments are eligible. Applications are usually due at the beginning of March each year. Awardees are notified in August of each year.

Website: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/environmental-justice-grants-and-resources>

Award: Variable

Contact:

National Office:
Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Grants and Debarment
Mail Code: 3901
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue,
N.W. Washington, D.C. 20460
GAD_OGDWEB@epa.gov
Grants and Interagency Agreements Program Phone:
(202) 564-5315
Region 6 Office:
Israel Anderson anderson.israel@epa.gov
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
Phone: 214-665-3138

STATE FUNDING SOURCES

Texas Parks and Wildlife

BOAT SEWAGE PUMPOUT GRANTS

Federal funds through the Clean Vessel Act of 1992 allow private marinas and local governments to receive grants to install boat sewage pumpout stations in Texas. Pumpout Grants can constitute up to 75% of all approved project costs. These grants provide funds for the construction and/or renovation, operation and maintenance of pumpout and portable toilet dump stations.

Website: <http://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/boat-sewage-pumpout>
Award: Competitive
Time Frame: Continuous



Contact:
Trey Cooksey, Program Manager
Phone (512) 389-8743
Email: trey.cooksey@tpwd.texas.gov

BOATING ACCESS GRANT

The Boating Access Grant Program provides 75% matching fund grant assistance to construct new, or renovate existing, public boat ramps that provide public access to public waters for recreational boating. The State Boating Access Program receives funding from the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act. Funds for the federal program are derived from the federal gasoline tax generated by sales of gasoline for recreational motorboats and a federal excise tax on the sales of fishing tackle and trolling motors. Fifteen percent of the state's annual apportionment from this federal program must be used to provide public recreational boating access.

Website: <http://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/boating-access>
Award: \$500,000
Time Frame: Annually - October 1st
Contact: Trey Cooksey, Program Manager
Phone (512) 389-8743
Email: trey.cooksey@tpwd.texas.gov

COMMUNITY OUTDOOR OUTREACH PROGRAM (CO-OP) GRANT

The Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) grant provides funding to local governments and non-profit organizations for programming that introduces under-served populations to environmental and conservation programs as well as TPWD mission oriented outdoor activities.

Grants are available to tax-exempt organizations and local governments introducing non-traditional constituents to TPWD related outdoor recreation, conservation, and environmental education programs. The success of this program lies in the partnerships created between TPWD and grass-roots organizations who have already established a relationship with these identified targeted audiences; females, physically/mentally challenged, ethnic minorities, low income and youth.

CO-OP provides grants to tax-exempt organizations ranging from \$5,000 to \$50,000. This is a reimbursement grant program. Recipients must purchase eligible items and submit proper documentation before being reimbursed. Eligible organizations can apply to use these funds for programming expenses such as equipment, leasing transportation, staff, liability insurance, food, program materials, etc.

Website: <http://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/community-outdoor-outreach-program-co-op-grants>
Award: \$50,000
Time Frame: Annually – February 1st
Contact:
Cappy Smith, Program Manager
Phone (512) 389-8254
Email: cappy.smith@tpwd.texas.gov

LOCAL PARKS GRANT

The Local Park Grant Program consists of 5 individual programs that assist local units of government with the acquisition and/or development of public recreation areas and facilities throughout the State of Texas. The Program provides 50% matching grants on a reimbursement basis to eligible applicants. All grant assisted sites must be dedicated as parkland in perpetuity, properly maintained and open to the public.

The Local Park Grant Program consists of 5 individual programs that assist local units of government with the acquisition and/or development of public recreation areas and facilities throughout the State of Texas. The Program provides 50% matching grants on a reimbursement basis to eligible applicants. Once funded, all grant assisted sites must be dedicated as parkland in perpetuity, properly maintained and open to the public.

Eligible applicants include political subdivisions of the State of Texas legally responsible for providing public recreation services to their citizens. This includes cities, counties, river authorities, municipal utility districts, and other special districts.

Website: <http://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/about-local-parks-grants>
Award: varies
Time Frame: Annually – October 1st
Contact:
Dana Lagarde, Program Manager
Phone (512) 389-8175
Email: dana.lagarde@tpwd.texas.gov

RECREATIONAL TRAILS GRANT

TPWD administers the National Recreational Trails Fund in Texas under the approval of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). This federally funded program receives its funding from a portion of federal gas taxes paid on fuel used in non-highway recreational vehicles. The grants can be up to 80% of project cost with a maximum of \$200,000 for non-motorized trail grants and currently there is not a maximum amount for motorized trail grants (call 512-538-4427 for

motorized trail grant funding availability). Funds can be spent on both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail projects such as the construction of new recreational trails, to improve existing trails, to develop trailheads or trailside facilities, and to acquire trail corridors.

Website: <http://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/recreational-trails-grants>
Award: \$200,000
Time Frame: Annually – February 1st
Contact:
Trey Cooksey, Program Manager
Phone (512) 389-8743
Email: trey.cooksey@tpwd.texas.gov

OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANTS

Types:

- Urban: 500,000 or more people
- Non-urban: 500,000 or less people
- Small community: 20,000 or less people
- * based on 2010 census

How many funding cycles each year?

- 1

Maximum award amount?

- Urban: \$1,000,000
- Non-urban: \$500,000
- Small community: \$75,000

Application deadline?

- Oct 1st
- March - approval by board
- April - site visits by TPWD

Deadline for project completion?

- 2.5 - 3 years from contract date with a 1-year possible extension

Contact:
Dana Lagarde, Program Manager
Phone (512) 389-8175
Email: dana.lagarde@tpwd.texas.gov



INDOOR RECREATION GRANTS

How many funding cycles each year?

- 1

Maximum award amount?

- Urban: \$1,000,000
- Non-urban: \$750,000

Application deadline?

- Oct 1st

Deadline for project completion?

- 2.5 - 3 years from contract date with a 1-year possible extension

Contact:

Dana Lagarde, Program Manager
Phone (512) 389-8175
Email: dana.lagarde@tpwd.texas.gov

Texas Department of Transportation

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

The purpose of the Federal Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program is to address these issues head on. At its heart, the SRTS Program empowers communities to make walking and bicycling to school a safe and routine activity once again. The Program makes funding available for a wide variety of programs and projects, from building safer street crossings to establishing programs that encourage children and their parents to walk and bicycle safely to school.

Since 2012, the Safe Routes to School Program funding has been combined with other bicycle and pedestrian programs through (what is currently called) the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program and Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside.

More Information: https://ftp.dot.state.tx.us/pub/txdot-info/library/pubs/cit/srts_app_instructions.pdf

Contact:

Teri Kaplan, Texas Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator
Texas Department of Transportation
125 E. 11 Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483
Phone Number: 512-374-5235
Fax Number: 512-374-5244
Email: Teri.Kaplan@txdot.gov

Texas Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Division

SPECIAL NUTRITION PROGRAMS

The Texas Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Division administers 12 federal child and special nutrition programs for the State of Texas. TDA supports providers of nutrition assistance by helping ensure accountability and the efficient use of taxpayer dollars to nourish Texans in need. These nutrition programs exemplify "eating right" for Texans of every age and background and help them build a bridge to success. Everyone plays a role in teaching children the 3E's of Healthy Living - Education, Exercise and Eating Right.

Financial grants from organizations may help advance nutrition efforts in our schools and communities. On this page you will find descriptions of specific grants with upcoming deadlines, as well as a list of organizations that make grants on an ongoing basis to support local nutrition, fitness, health, education, and community initiatives.

Program Website: <http://www.squaremeals.org/Programs.aspx>
Grant opportunities: <http://www.squaremeals.org/FandNResources/FundingGrants.aspx>
Contact:

Texas Department of Agriculture
Mail: P.O. Box 12847
Austin, Texas 78711-2847
Physical: 1700 North Congress Avenue, 10th Floor
Austin, Texas 78701
Phone: (877) TEX MEAL (839-6325)
Fax #: (888) 203-6593
Email: squaremeals@texasagriculture.gov

Texas Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service

CONSERVATION INNOVATION GRANTS (CIG)

Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) are competitive grants that stimulate the development and adoption of innovative approaches and technologies for conservation on agricultural lands. CIG uses Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funds to award competitive grants to non-Federal governmental or nongovernmental organizations, American Indian Tribes, or individuals. Producers involved in CIG funded projects must be EQIP eligible.

Through CIG, NRCS partners with public and private entities to accelerate technology transfer and adopt promising technologies. These new technologies

and approaches address some of the Nation's most pressing natural resources concerns. CIG benefits agricultural producers by providing more options for environmental enhancement and compliance with Federal, State, and local regulations.

States can also award project that benefit a limited geographical area. Participating states will announce their funding availability for CIG competitions through their state NRCS offices.

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/tx/programs/financial/cig/>

Amount: Total program funding averages \$20 million per year.

Contact:

National Office:

Program Contact:

nrcscig@wdc.usda.gov

(202) 720-1895

Melleny Cotton, CIG Program Analyst (202) 720-7412

Melleny.cotton@wdc.usda.gov

Texas Office:

TEXAS STATE OFFICE

101 S MAIN ST

TEMPLE, TX 76501-7602

(254) 742-9800

(254) 742-9819 Fax

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/>

Mark Habiger, Assistant State Conservationist-Programs

(254) 742-9881

Mark.habiger@tx.usda.gov

Troy Daniell, Financial Program Manager

(254) 742-9525

Troy.daniell@tx.usda.gov

Local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office Locations: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/contact/local/>

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) offers assistance to land owners who are already implementing conservation practices to enhance those practices. For example, if you have been practicing prescribed grazing, CSP would give you options to enhance that practice with activities such as grazing management to improve plants for wildlife, or grazing management to reduce soil compaction, or grazing management to improve riparian function, just to name a few.



With enrollment in CSP, the local NRCS conservation planner will have a one-on-one consultation with the property owner(s) to evaluate your current management system and the natural resources on your land. The NRCS conservation planner will present a variety of CSP enhancement alternatives for implementation on the land, based on existing conservation practices. CSP offers annual incentive payments for installing these enhancement practices.

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/tx/programs/financial/csp/>
Award: varies based on implementation of conservation practices
Time Frame: Applications are accepted throughout the year. Specific deadlines are set for ranking and funding opportunities. The next application deadline for funding consideration is February 3, 2017.
Contact:

Texas Office:
TEXAS STATE OFFICE
101 S MAIN ST
TEMPLE, TX 76501-7602
(254) 742-9800
(254) 742-9819 Fax
Mark Habiger, Assistant State Conservationist-Programs
(254) 742-9881
Mark.habiger@tx.usda.gov
Troy Daniell, Financial Program Manager
(254) 742-9525
Troy.daniell@tx.usda.gov

Local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office Locations: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/contact/local/>

EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM

The Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWPP) is designed to help people and conserve natural resources by relieving imminent hazards to life and property caused by floods, fires, windstorms, and other natural occurrences. EWP is an emergency recovery program. All projects undertaken, with the exception of the purchase of floodplain easements, must have a project sponsor.

NRCS may bear up to 75 percent of the construction cost of emergency measures. The remaining 25 percent must come from local sources and can be in the form of cash or in-kind services. Funding is subject to Congressional approval.

City and county governments, flood and water control districts, and soil and water conservation districts are the most common sponsors of EWP projects.

Activities include providing financial and technical assistance to:

- remove debris from stream channels, road culverts, and bridges,
- reshape and protect eroded banks,
- correct damaged drainage facilities,
- establish cover on critically eroding lands,
- repair levees and structures, and
- repair conservation practices.

NRCS may purchase EWP easements “in lieu of recovery” on any floodplain lands that have been impaired within the last 12 months or that have a history of repeated flooding (i.e., flooded at least two times during the past 10 years). If it is more cost effective, EWP-Floodplain Easement (FPE) can be used as an alternative to EWP. See the comparison of EWP and EWP-FPE.

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/tx/programs/financial/ewp/>
Award: state-administered. Texas received over \$21 million in FY2016 to restore conditions from heavy rains and flooding in 2015.
Time Frame:
Contact: National Emergency Watershed Protection Program Manager, 202-690-0793
In Texas: Claude Ross, State Easement Program Manager, claudeross@tx.usda.gov, 254-742-9822

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (EQIP)

EQIP provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers in order to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, reduced soil erosion and sedimentation or improved or created wildlife habitat.

Eligible program participants receive financial and technical assistance to implement conservation practices, or activities like conservation planning, that address natural resource concerns on their land. Payments are made to participants after conservation practices and activities identified in an EQIP plan of operations are implemented. Contracts can last up to ten years.

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/tx/programs/financial/eqip/>
Contact:
Texas Office:
TEXAS STATE OFFICE
101 S MAIN ST
TEMPLE, TX 76501-7602

(254) 742-9800
(254) 742-9819 Fax
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/>
Mark Habiger, Assistant State Conservationist-Programs
(254) 742-9881
Mark.habiger@tx.usda.gov
Troy Daniell, Financial Program Manager
(254) 742-9525
Troy.daniell@tx.usda.gov
Local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office Locations: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/contact/local/>

PRIVATE FUNDING SOURCES

AEGON TRANSAMERICA FOUNDATION

Aegon Transamerica Foundation grant dollars go to non-profit organizations in the following categories:

- Arts & Culture: Programs that foster creativity in the areas of music and the performing arts, including venues for artistic expression.
- Civic & Community: Programs that strive to promote community development, encourage civic leadership, and enhance work and business opportunities.
- Education & Literacy: Programs with a mission to provide knowledge and to expand individuals’ capabilities, especially in the areas of financial literacy.
- Health & Welfare: Programs committed to improving the condition of the human body through nutrition, housing for the homeless, disease prevention and more.
- United Way: In addition to leading an annual campaign, employees’ contributions are matched by at least 50%.

Grant requests are considered if they relate to the Aegon Transamerica Foundation’s key focus areas and mission, and are designated for a community where there is a significant company and employee presence. In Texas, Transamerica is located in Plano, Texas.

Website: <https://www.transamerica.com/individual/about-us/who-we-are/aegon-transamerica-foundation/>
Award: varies
Time Frame: Applications for Foundation grants are reviewed upon receipt by local committee representatives. The timing of responses will vary by location.



Contact:
Gregory Tucker, greg.tucker@transamerica.com
Margaret Sherry, margaret.sherry@transamerica.com
Plano, TX Office
2700 West Plano Parkway
Plano, TX 75075
(972) 881-6000

AETNA FOUNDATION, GOLOCAL: CULTIVATING HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

The Aetna Foundation is dedicated to improving health in local communities and large populations alike. How do we make it happen? Through community-based programs, dynamic partnerships and proven models that can help people accelerate progress everywhere. Through its GoLocal: Cultivating Healthier Communities program, Aetna Foundation supports local non-profit groups that advance healthy eating and active living in their communities.

Website: <https://www.aetna-foundation.org/grants-partnerships/grants.html>
Time Frame: Information for the 2018 cycle is not available.

ALLEN FOUNDATION

Grants are limited under the terms of the foundation's charter to projects that primarily benefit programs for human nutrition in the areas of health, education, training, and research. Preferences are given to proposals that train children and young adults to improve their health and development so they can form good nutritional habits at an early age. Proposals will need to contain a nutritional focus.

Website: <https://www.allenfoundation.org/commoninfo/aboutus.asp>
Award: varies
Time Frame: Rolling. Deadline is December 31st. Applications received after this date will be considered for the following year.

ALLSTATE FOUNDATION

The Allstate Foundation supports organizations dedicated to addressing two issues: Domestic Violence and Youth Empowerment. Applications for grants are by invitation only.

Website: https://www.allstatefoundation.org/foundation_overview.html
Contact: grants@allstate.com

BANK OF AMERICA FOUNDATION

Bank of America Foundation helps improve communities by addressing issues fundamental to economic health and sustainability. We address needs related to workforce development and education, community development, and basic needs.

Website: <http://about.bankofamerica.com/en-us/global-impact/charitable-foundation-funding.html>
Amount: Varies
Time Frame: The Foundation issues RFPs at various points throughout the year: Check funding opportunities on website
Contact: Foundation@bankofamerica.com

BILL AND MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION GRAND CHALLENGES

The Grand Challenges family of initiatives fosters innovation to solve key health and development problems. See below for Grand Challenges grant opportunities with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as sole or contributing funder. Grant opportunities have defined issues or activities to address.

Website: <http://gcgh.grandchallenges.org/about>
Opportunities: <http://gcgh.grandchallenges.org/challenges>
Contact: grandchallenges@gatesfoundation.org

BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF TEXAS HEALTHY KIDS, HEALTHY FAMILIES INITIATIVE

Healthy Kids, Healthy Families (HKHF) began in 2011 as a three-year initiative designed to improve the health and wellness of at least one million children through community investments. We extended the program, making HKHF part of our ongoing commitment to the health and well-being of the children and families across Texas. To date, we've helped nearly three million children.

The Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas Healthy Kids, Healthy Families initiative invests and partners with nonprofit organizations that offer sustainable, measurable programs. The programs must address health and wellness in the following areas:

- Nutrition
- Physical activity
- Disease prevention and management
- Supporting safe environments

In addition to aligning with one or more of our four areas of focus, the following criteria are required for review of all grant proposals:

- The organization must hold a 501(c)(3) tax status
- The grant must primarily target individuals in Texas
- The program must be measurable and demonstrate how the goals will be met as defined in the grant proposal

Website: <http://www.bcbstx.com/company-info/community-involvement/healthy-kids-healthy-families>
Award: up to \$250,000
Time Frame: FY 2019 updates begin early 2018
Contact: healthykidshealthyfamilies@hcsc.net

BNSF RAILWAY FOUNDATION

The Foundation is dedicated to supporting the communities they serve and in which their employees live, work, and volunteer. Generally, the foundation will consider grant requests that clearly fall within one or more of the following categories:

- Civic services including organizations which are concerned with the environment, as well as local community issues such as crime prevention, parks and recreation, diversity and community development.
- Cultural organizations that include performing, visual, and fine arts, museums and other related activities that offer opportunities for underserved children to experience cultural learning events, or preserve their cultural heritage.
- Educational institutions, both public and private, primarily at the college level. Grants of an exceptional nature may be made to vocational and non-college schools. Preferably, contributions will be directed toward the improvement of the quality of education. Ordinarily, grants will not be made to finance the expansion of a student body or the payment of scholarships. (BNSF's scholarship programs, as well as the Employee Matching Gift Program, are governed by separate policies.)
- Health and Human Service organizations such as YMCA/YWCA, programs that address chemical dependency treatment and prevention, spouse and child abuse, women's and children's aid and transitional shelters. This category also includes hospitals and medical programs.
- Youth organizations such as Boys & Girls Clubs, Camp Fire, Scouts, Junior Achievement and similar groups.
- Federated organizations such as United Way and American Red Cross.
- A federally recognized tribal government, listed in the Federal Register by the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Website: <http://www.bnsffoundation.org/>
Time Frame: Applications accepted continuously
Contact:

Manager BNSF Railway Foundation
BNSF Railway Foundation
2500 Lou Menk Dr.
Fort Worth, TX 76131-2830
BNSFFoundation@bnsf.com



CHRISTOPHER AND DANA REEVE FOUNDATION, QUALITY OF LIFE GRANT

The Reeve Foundation Quality of Life Grants Program awards grants to nonprofit organizations that serve the disability community. Grants are awarded to organizations that address the needs of people living with paralysis caused by spinal cord and other injuries, diseases or birth conditions, including (but not limited to) stroke, spina bifida, multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

Website: <https://www.christopherreeve.org/get-support/grants-for-non-profits/program-overview>

Award: Up to \$25,000

Time Frame: There are two application cycles each year. In 2016, the first cycle opened January 11 and closed February 16; the second cycle opened July 1 and closed August 15. Applications will open again in January 2017.

Contact:

OoL@christopherreeve.org
1-800-539-7309

CVS CAREMARK COMMUNITY GRANT

These grants provide funds to aid health-focused nonprofit organizations in their mission. Organizations must be invited to participate in the grant process, and are required to provide services in at least one of the following areas:

- Access to health care for underserved populations
- Chronic disease management programs
- Tobacco cessation and prevention services

Application for a Community Grant is by invitation only. For information about other giving programs, please contact the Community Relations team.

Contact:

Jennifer Leigh
Jennifer.Leigh@cvshealth.com
401-770-2935

DAVID & LUCILE PACKARD FOUNDATION

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation has worked with partners around the world to improve the lives of children, families, and communities, and to restore and protect the planet. Applicable programs funded by the Packard Foundation include:

- The Conservation and Science Program invests in action and ideas that conserve and restore ecosystems while enhancing human well-being.

- The Children, Families, and Communities Program strives to ensure that all children have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Website: <https://www.packard.org/what-we-fund/>

Award: varies

Time Frame:

Contact: Online form: <https://www.packard.org/contact-us/>

343 Second Street

Los Altos, CA 94022 USA

+1 (650) 948-7658

ESPING FAMILY FOUNDATION GRANT

The Esping Family Foundation exists to help people and institutions of Dallas, Texas, specifically Dallas County to help themselves and future generations. Under the terms of its charter, the Foundation can distribute grants only to qualified public entities or 501(c)(3) charities serving the people of Texas. Grants are made in four categories:

- Education
- Human Services
- Health
- Arts and Culture

Website: <http://www.espingfamilyfoundation.org/grant-guidelines/>

Award:

Time Frame: There are two grant cycles each year:

- Spring Grant Cycle: You begin the grant application process by completing a Letter of Inquiry (LOI) which is due on or before February 15 each Spring. You will be notified on or before March 1st if you have been selected to proceed to the second phase of the grant process. Grant requests are due April 1st.
- Fall Grant Cycle: You begin the grant application process by completing a Letter of Inquiry (LOI) which is due on or before July 15 each Summer. You will hear on or before September 1st if you have been selected to proceed to the second phase of the grant process. Grant requests are due October 1st.

Contact:

Esping Family Foundation
2828 Routh St., Suite 500
Dallas, TX 75201
Phone: 214.849.9808

Fax: 214.849.9807

Heather Esping, President

hesping@espingfamilyfoundation.org

Jenny Kirtland

Vice-President

jkirtland@espingfamilyfoundation.org

FINISH LINE YOUTH FOUNDATION

The Youth Foundation is a philanthropic outlet for Finish Line to make a difference in the lives of youth in the communities it serves. Through the years, the Youth Foundation has fine-tuned its mission and grown its philanthropic presence including its grant giving capacity.

To date, the Youth Foundation has awarded more than \$14.5 million in funding to support youth and Special Olympics athletes across the country. The generosity of our customers who donate online and in-store is what enables Finish Line to continually make an impact in the communities where our employees live, work and play.

FL Youth Foundation offers grants in three categories:

- Programmatic Grant: Up to \$5,000 to fund opportunities for kids to participate in community-based youth athletic programs and camps that emphasize active lifestyles, especially programs that serve disadvantaged and special needs kids.
- Legacy Grant: \$10,000 to \$75,000 to fund new facilities improvements and/or renovations to existing buildings, grounds, and property.
- Founder's Grant: \$5,000 to \$25,000 to fund emergency needs that would somehow be keeping the organization from providing current services, such as natural disasters or other unforeseen fiscal circumstances.

Website: <http://www.finishline.com/store/corporate/youthFoundation.jsp>

Award: varies

Time Frame: There are four grant submission cycles through the year, accepted and reviewed on a quarterly basis.

FUEL UP TO PLAY 60

Fuel Up to Play 60 is an in-school nutrition and physical activity program launched by National Dairy Council and NFL, in collaboration with the USDA, to help encourage today's youth to lead healthier lives.

Up to \$4,000 per year is available to qualified K-12 schools enrolled in Fuel Up to Play 60 to jumpstart healthy changes.

Website: <https://www.fueluptoplay60.com/>

Award: Up to \$4,000

Time Frame: November 2, 2016



Contact: Online contact form: <https://www.fueluptoplay60.com/about/contact-us>

GENERAL MILLS FOUNDATION GRANTS

General Mills Foundation philanthropy focuses on:

- Increasing community food security worldwide.
- Advancing the sustainability of agriculture.
- Protecting the natural resources upon which food and people depend.

GM partners with employees to strengthen our hometown communities worldwide through volunteerism and grant-making addressing local community needs.

Website: <https://www.generalmills.com/en/Responsibility/general-mills-foundation/grants>

GO! GRANT

GO! Grants are \$1,000 to \$5,000 grants to elementary schools to spark and sustain physical activity programs that take place before, during or after the school day. The funds may be used for equipment, facilities, professional development for adults and programs that increase students' physical activity to the recommended 60 minutes or more per day. Grants are available in all states and the District of Columbia.

PHIT America GO! Grants have been awarded to almost 300 schools getting children 5-12 years old physically active and healthier. GO! Grants help get children active for the first time or increase their physical activity & fitness level. Leading brands like Nike, Adidas, Brooks, ETS, Life Fitness, Wilson, Mizuno, the USTA and many more are investing in the GO! Grants programs.

GO! Grant programs are implemented by three-year partner, KIDS in the GAME, which excels in managing programs which get more kids off the couch and physically active. This program is the ideal way to fight the 'Inactivity Pandemic' which is creating health issues for our children.

Website: <https://www.kidsinthegame.org/go-grant-school-activity-grants/>
Amount: \$1,000 to \$5,000
Time Frame: 2016-2017 deadline has ended
Contact:

Address: 875 SE 3rd Street
Suite #240, Bend, OR 97702
Phone: 541-508-3966
Fax: 541-639-3645
info@kidsinthegame.org

HOME DEPOT FOUNDATION, COMMUNITY IMPACT GRANT

Grants up to \$5,000 are available to IRS-registered 501c designated organizations and tax-exempt public service agencies in the U.S. that are using the power of volunteers to improve the physical health of their community. Grants are given in the form of The Home Depot gift cards for the purchase of tools, materials, or services.

The primary goal is to provide grants and volunteer opportunities to support the renovation, refurbishment, retrofitting, accessibility modifications, and/or weatherization of existing homes, centers, schools and other similar facilities.

Website: <https://corporate.homedepot.com/grants/community-impact-grants>
Amount: up to \$5,000
Time Frame: Rolling deadline. Will receive decision 6 weeks after submission. Last day to submit applications in 2016 is December 31, 2016.
Contact: small_grants@homedepot.com

KERR FOUNDATION GRANTS

The Kerr Foundation, Inc. supports 501(c)3 organizations, programs and institutions that provide new or enhanced opportunities in the areas of education, health, cultural development and community service. Preference is given to Oklahoma organizations and institutions, although they recognize that such located outside the state and region can also have a beneficial impact on the economic, social and cultural growth and development of Oklahoma. Grant requests are limited to the following states: Oklahoma, Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, and Texas.

Website: <http://www.thekerrfoundation.org/guidelines.php>
Award: varies
Time Frame: Friday, January 13, 2017 - Grant Applications Due for consideration at the March 2017 trustee meeting
Contact:
The Kerr Foundation. Inc.
12501 North May Avenue
Oklahoma City, OK 73120
Tel (405) 749.7991
Fax (405) 749.2877

LOCKHEED MARTIN COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS

Lockheed Martin is committed to a program of philanthropy that supports the Corporation's strategic business goals and invests in the quality of life in the communities where Lockheed Martin employees work and live.

In general, philanthropic contributions to national initiatives and organizations are made from corporate headquarters and contributions to local programs are made by Lockheed Martin sites close to the program.

Website: <http://www.lockheedmartin.com/us/who-we-are/community/philanthropy.html>
Amount: varies
Time Frame: Applications are accepted year-round. Evaluations are typically performed quarterly. Some grant applications may not be able to be considered until the next year's budget cycle, particularly those received in the second half of the year.
Contact: Community Relations - community.relations@lmco.com

L.L. BEAN COMMUNITY CHARITABLE GIVING

The L.L. Bean Community Charitable Giving program focuses giving on national and local outdoor conservation and recreation organizations. L.L.Bean has given more than \$14 million to local, state, regional and national conservation organizations in the last ten years. Grants are made only to qualified, federal tax-exempt 501(c) (3) organizations.

Grants are made in these four categories:

1. Conservation and Outdoor Recreation

Primary activities include the maintenance and protection of our natural resources; efforts to engage more young people in activities that are relevant to our product line, such as camping, hiking, cycling, canoeing, kayaking, fly fishing, hunting, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing; and programs that have proximity to L.L.Bean Retail Stores.

Some of our recipients include the National Park Foundation, the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, The Student Conservation Association, The Nature Conservancy, Maine Audubon, Trout Unlimited and National Wild Turkey Federation. For a more comprehensive list, click [here](#).

2. Health and Human Services

L.L.Bean has donated over \$6 million to health and human service organizations in the past ten years, primarily through the United Way in communities where we have a physical presence. These donations reflect our confidence in the United Way allocation process and our belief in supporting the physical and emotional well-being of our employees, their families and our neighbors. Because of our significant leadership gifts in this area, we are not accepting requests from health and human service organizations at this time.

3. Education (*only available in Maine)

L.L.Bean has contributed over \$4 million to statewide initiatives in Maine such as Junior Achievement and Jobs for Maine’s Graduates, as well as local education partnerships. Our support is limited to the following Maine school systems: Freeport, Portland, Lewiston, Brunswick and Bangor. We do not fund education initiatives outside of Maine.

4. Culture and the Arts (*only available in Maine)

We support organizations that enrich the cultural development of our local Maine communities, including the Portland Museum of Art, Maine State Music Theatre and the American Folk Festival in Bangor. We only offer support to arts organizations in Freeport, Portland, Lewiston, Brunswick and Bangor, Maine.

Website: http://www.llbean.com/customerService/aboutLLBean/charitable_giving.html
 Amount: varies
 Time Frame: Ongoing.
 Contact: donationrequest@llbean.com

LOWE’S COMMUNITY PARTNERS GRANT

Lowe’s Charitable and Educational Foundation funds nonprofit organizations and public agencies that support our charitable goals. The foundation’s primary philanthropic focus centers on K–12 public education and community improvement. Within these areas, Lowe’s Foundation is committed to supporting projects that have the greatest impact on our communities and align with their core business.

Lowe’s Community Partners grant program helps build better communities by providing monetary assistance to nonprofit organizations and municipalities looking for support of high-need projects such as: building renovations/upgrades, grounds improvements, technology upgrades as well as safety improvements.

Website: https://www.lowes.com/cd_Corporate+Citizenship_674540029_https://newsroom.lowes.com/serving-communities/
 Grant applications: <https://newsroom.lowes.com/apply-for-a-grant/>
 Amount: \$2,000 to \$100,000
 Time Frame: There are two grant application cycles a year:
 Spring Cycle: March 19, 2017 – May 11, 2017
 Fall Cycle: July 2, 2017 – August 24, 2017
 Contact:
 Community Relations
 704-758-2917
 Community@Lowes.com

LOWE’S SMALL GRANTS

The small grants program is an outlet for organizations seeking smaller-scale assistance for non-educational focused projects. These grants range from \$100 to \$2,000. Small grant project requests must also fit within the Giving Guidelines. These requests are received on a rolling basis, with no specific cycle dates.

Website: <https://newsroom.lowes.com/serving-communities/>
 Grant applications: <https://newsroom.lowes.com/apply-for-a-grant/>
 Amount: \$100 to \$2,000, distributed as a Lowe’s gift card.
 Time Frame: Continuous
 Contact:
 Community Relations
 704-758-2917
 Community@Lowes.com

LOWE’S TOOLBOX FOR EDUCATION GRANT

Lowe’s Charitable and Educational Foundation funds nonprofit organizations and public agencies that support our charitable goals. The foundation’s primary philanthropic focus centers on K–12 public education and community improvement. Within these areas, Lowe’s Foundation is committed to supporting projects that have the greatest impact on our communities and align with their core business.

The Lowe’s Toolbox for Education program is designed to help build better schools and communities by offering schools the opportunity to apply for a grant between \$2,000 and \$5,000. Playground projects are eligible under the grant program. Schools can use funding to build a new playground or refurbish old equipment. The Toolbox for Education program also allows for schools to pad the ground with wood chips or rubber matting to make playgrounds safe. In addition, schools may use funding to enhance a playground with handicapped—accessible configurations and build pathways for wheelchair accessibility.

Website: <http://www.toolboxforeducation.com/index.html>; <https://newsroom.lowes.com/apply-for-a-grant/>
 Amount: \$2,000 to \$5,000
 Time Frame: There are two grant application cycles a year:
 Spring Cycle: December 18, 2016 – February 9, 2017
 Fall Cycle: August 6, 2017 – September 28, 2017
 Contact:
 Community Relations
 704-758-2917
 Community@Lowes.com
 info@toolboxforeducation.com

MATTEL CHILDREN’S FOUNDATION

The Mattel Children’s Foundation focuses its strategic grant making on one major objective: Improving the lives of children in need. The Mattel Children’s Foundation has developed partnerships with exemplary nonprofit partners that demonstrate this ideal through both compassionate outreach to children and strong financial accountability.

The foundation is driven by the belief that play is essential for all children because it is fundamental to development and learning but millions of children lack access to play. Currently, the foundation is dedicated to supporting nonprofit organizations around the world that make a meaningful difference in the lives of children, and with an emphasis on programs that support or enhance the opportunity for children to play.

Not accepting unsolicited applications at this time.
 Website: <http://philanthropy.mattel.com/focus#time>

METLIFE FOUNDATION

MetLife Foundation has committed \$200 million over five years to help low-income individuals and families get access to safe and affordable financial products and services. MetLife Foundation works in both developing and developed economies to expand and improve financial services. We fund approaches that help low- and moderate-income people:

- improve basic cash flow management
- prepare for life’s inevitable challenges
- take advantage of opportunities
- achieve their short- and long- term goals

In addition, MetLife sponsors initiatives in other philanthropic areas, expanding beyond the financial health of communities to support for medical research, arts and cultural institutions, disaster relief, and civic initiatives.

Website: https://www.metlife.com/about/corporate-responsibility/metlife-foundation/index.html?WT.ac=GN_about_corporate-responsibility_metlife-foundation
 Contact: metlifefoundation@metlife.com

CHARLES STEWART MOTT FOUNDATION

The Mott Foundation supports nonprofit organizations that are working to strengthen our hometown of Flint and communities around world. The foundation seeks to fulfill its mission of supporting efforts that promote a just, equitable, and sustainable society through these four programs:



- Civil Society: efforts to increase civic engagement, encourage charitable giving and help communities make positive change.
- Education: efforts to expand learning opportunities and supports for children, particularly those from low- and moderate-income communities.
- Environment: programs around the world that protect communities and the ecosystems upon which they depend.
- Flint Area: efforts to help our hometown of Flint solve problems, create opportunities and build a vibrant future for the community and its residents.

Funding for unsolicited requests is very limited. Interested entities wanting to submit an idea for funding should first complete a letter of inquiry (LOI) form. Your LOI will help our program staff determine the relevance of proposed project and offer advice on whether to submit a full proposal.

Website: <https://www.mott.org/>
Contact: Office of Proposal Entry
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
Mott Foundation Building
503 S. Saginaw Street, Suite 1200
Flint, MI 48502-1851
U.S.A.

MUSCLE MILK RECOVERY GRANT

The MUSCLE MILK® team awards grants to revitalize high school athletic departments around the country that demonstrate a financial need. The Muscle Milk Recovery Grant™ program helps athletic programs solve immediate needs like purchasing new uniforms, replacing broken equipment or restoring facilities in disrepair.

CytoSport, Inc. ("Sponsor") believes strongly that sports and exercise are essential to the health, well-being and happiness of children and adults of all ages. As a result, we want to give back to our audience by providing grant money to worthy school or community programs that have a specific need for resources to improve athletic opportunities for kids and young adults. To facilitate this goal, we developed the Muscle Milk® Brand Recovery Grant Program ("Grant Program"), which will provide a series of grants to deserving programs at least four times a year, and maybe more. Each grant will represent a self-contained giveaway with an entry period as defined below.

Website: <http://www.musclemilkrecoverygrant.com/>
Award: varies
Time Frame: Ongoing. In 2016, three grant periods, ending on (i) September 15, 2016; (ii) October 31, 2016; and (iii) December 31, 2016.
Contact: Mail: 1340 Treat Blvd. Suite 350, Walnut Creek, CA 94597 Phone: 1-888-298-6629

NATIONAL SWIMMING POOL FOUNDATION GRANTS

The National Swimming Pool Foundation® is a non-profit foundation whose mission is to encourage healthier living by increasing aquatic activity through education and research. The National Swimming Pool Foundation has established the NSPF Fellowship Program to encourage and support graduate students and post-doctoral fellows who focus research in two areas associated with aquatic venues that are treated to maintain a sanitary condition (e.g. swimming pools, spas/hot tubs, therapy pools, water parks, etc.):

- Research to reduce the risk to people associated with - but not limited to - physical facility design, exposure to chemical or pathogenic contaminants, air quality, drowning, or entrapment, etc.
- Research to investigate and document the positive health consequences of aquatic activities against maladies such as - but not limited to - high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity, heart disease, cancer, aging, physical therapy, arthritis, etc.

Website: <https://www.nspf.org/NSPF-Scholarship-Program-and-Research-Fellowship-Grants>

Award: minimum of \$1,000 and \$2,000

Time Frame: Scholarships are awarded for the fall semester of each year. In order to be considered for the fall 2017 semester, the complete application package must be received by the National Swimming Pool Foundation no later than June 1, 2017.

Contact:
NSPF Fellowship Program
National Swimming Pool Foundation
4775 Granby Circle
Colorado Springs, CO 80919-3131
Service@nspf.org

NATURE WORKS EVERYWHERE GRANT

The Nature Works Everywhere program is administered by The Nature Conservancy, a leading conservation organization working around the world to protect ecologically important lands and waters for nature and people. Nature Works Everywhere gives teachers, students and families everything they need to start exploring and understanding nature around the globe alongside Nature Conservancy scientists. The program offers a grant opportunity to schools across the U.S. to build, amend or revitalize school garden projects with the core principal that gardens model nature on a relatable scale. By combining project-based learning curriculum with a school garden space, students learn conservation-mindedness.

In 2016, the Nature Works Everywhere grant broadened its support for all kinds of projects that involve students in developing a nature-based, green

infrastructure solution to an environmental challenge in their community. Whether addressing issues surrounding access to healthy food, air quality, heat island effect, climate change or storm water collection, youth will be empowered as social innovators to model solutions in their school communities through project design and implementation. To accomplish this, the Nature Works Everywhere grant will support projects that implement green infrastructure to address local environmental challenges.

Website: <https://www.natureworkseverywhere.org/home/>
Time Frame: Deadline for 2018 is November 3, 2017
Contact: natureworks@tnc.org

PEOPLE FOR BIKES COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM

The PeopleForBikes Community Grant Program supports bicycle infrastructure projects and targeted advocacy initiatives that make it easier and safer for people of all ages and abilities to ride. Please review the following information carefully before submitting a grant application. Proposals that are incomplete or do not fall within our funding priority areas will not be considered. Visit our Grants Awarded database for examples of funded projects.

PeopleForBikes accepts grant applications from non-profit organizations with a focus on bicycling, active transportation, or community development, from city or county agencies or departments, and from state or federal agencies working locally. PeopleForBikes only funds projects in the United States. Requests must support a specific project or program; we do not grant funds for general operating costs.

PeopleForBikes focuses most grant funds on bicycle infrastructure projects and will also fund some advocacy projects.

Website: <http://www.peopleforbikes.org/pages/community-grants>
Award: Up to \$10,000
Time Frame: PeopleForBikes generally holds 1-2 open grant cycles every year. The 2017 grant cycles have closed.
Contact: Zoe Kircos, Director of Grants and Partnerships, at 303-449-4893 x106 or zoe@peopleforbikes.org

ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) funds program and policy initiatives in four areas which are each critical to health equity—enabling everyone in our nation to live a healthier life:

- Health Systems: Catalyzing fundamental changes in health and health care systems to achieve measurably better outcomes for all.

- Healthy Kids, Healthy Weight: Enabling all children to attain their optimal physical, social and emotional well-being, including growing up at a healthy weight.
- Healthy Communities: Creating the conditions that allow communities and their residents to reach their greatest health potential.
- Health Leadership: Engaging a diverse array of leaders in all sectors with the vision, experience, and drive to help build a Culture of Health.

Specific grant programs are developed by RWJF program staff, in consultation with leading experts in our fields of interest, and with guidance and final approval from our board of trustees.

In many cases, a competitive call for proposals (CFP) is issued that defines the challenges to address, activities RWJF will support to achieve desired outcomes, and eligibility criteria. In addition, funding is also provided through open calls for ideas and different types of challenges and prize competitions.

Website: <http://www.rwjf.org/en/how-we-work/grants.html>
 Funding opportunities: <http://www.rwjf.org/en/how-we-work/grants/funding-opportunities.html>
 Award: varies
 Time Frame: ongoing
 Contact:
 Office of Proposal Management
mail@rwjf.org
 877-843-7953

ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION, EVIDENCE FOR ACTION

Evidence for Action (E4A), a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, funds research that expands the evidence base needed to build a Culture of Health. Our mission is to support rigorously designed quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods research that yields convincing findings regarding the population health, well-being, and equity impacts of specific policies, programs and partnerships. We are especially interested in research examining the health impacts of programmatic or policy interventions that address factors outside the domain of health care services or public health practice.

Website: <https://www.rwjf.org/en/how-we-work/grants-and-grant-programs.html>
 Program website: <http://www.evidenceforaction.org/>
 Award: varies. E4A was allocated \$6.6 million in grant funding to award through July 2017.
 Time Frame: Rolling basis.

ROTARY, DISTRICT GRANTS

District grants fund small-scale, short-term activities that address needs of a community of a qualified Rotary district. Each district chooses which activities it will fund with these grants. You can use district grants to fund a variety of district and club projects and activities, including:

- Humanitarian projects, including service travel and disaster recovery efforts
- Scholarships for any level, length of time, location, or area of study
- Youth programs, including Rotary Youth Exchange, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), Rotaract, and Interact
- Vocational training teams, which are groups of professionals who travel abroad either to teach local professionals about their field or to learn more about it themselves

Website: <https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/take-action/apply-grants/district-grants>

SAUCONY RUN FOR GOOD FOUNDATION

The Saucony Run For Good Foundation donates funds to causes aimed at keeping kids healthy and offers grants to reduce the childhood obesity epidemic. Grants are open to community nonprofit organizations that initiate and support running programs for kids.

Website: <http://www.saucony.com/en/runforgood/>
 Award: up to \$10,000
 Time Frame: Grants are issued twice per year, once in February and once in August. The deadline to apply for those grants are 12/15 and 6/15.
 Contact:
 191 Spring Street
 Mail Drop 318S
 Lexington, MA 02420-9191
runforgood@saucony.com

SHANE'S INSPIRATION

Shane's Inspiration is a non-profit organization committed to the creation of inclusive, sensory rich, developmentally appropriate, fun, safe, and challenging playgrounds where children of all abilities can play together at their highest level of ability. Shane's Inspiration offers assistance for the installation of inclusionary playgrounds.

Website: <http://shanesinspiration.org/build/>
 Time Frame: ongoing
 Contact:

15213 Burbank Boulevard,
 Sherman Oaks, CA 91411 USA
 Tel – (818) 988-5676
 Fax – (818) 988-5677
 Email – info@shanesinspiration.org

VOYA UNSUNG HEROES

Each year, 100 educators are selected to receive \$2,000 to help fund their innovative class projects. Three of those are chosen to receive the top awards of an additional \$5,000, \$10,000 and \$25,000. The program is administered by Scholarship America, the nation's largest designer and manager of scholarship, tuition assistance and other education support programs for corporations, foundations, associations and individuals.

Applicants to the Voya Unsung Heroes Awards Program must be:

- Employed by an accredited K-12 public or private school located in the United States.
- Full-time educators, teachers, principals, paraprofessionals, or classified staff with effective and innovative projects that improve student learning.

Website: <https://www.scholarsapply.org/unsungheroes/>
 Award: \$2,000 and opportunity to receive "top awards" of an additional \$5,000, \$10,000 and \$25,000
 Time Frame: application must be submitted on or before April 30, 2018.
 Contact: unsungheroes@scholarshipamerica.org, 1-507-931-1682

WALMART COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM

Through the Community Grant Program, store associates are proud to support the needs of their communities by providing grants to local organizations. Funds must benefit the facility's service area: potential grantees should be nonprofit organizations with programs that benefit communities within the service area of the Walmart store, Sam's Club or Logistics facility from which they are requesting funds.

Walmart and the Walmart Foundation have identified four core areas of giving: Hunger Relief & Healthy Eating, Sustainability, Women's Economic Empowerment and Opportunity. To ensure that your application has the best chance of being funded, the proposed use of the grant should fit within one of these areas of giving.

Website: <http://giving.walmart.com/walmart-foundation/community-grant-program>
 Award: \$250 to \$2,500
 Time Frame: Annually – Grant cycle begins February 1st and deadline December 31st



WALMART STATE GIVING PROGRAM

The State Giving Program invests in all 50 states, Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico. The Walmart Foundation has a State Advisory Council in each state, made up of Walmart associates representing local communities. Each Council helps identify local needs within its state, reviews all eligible grant applications and makes funding recommendations to the Walmart Foundation. Councils base recommendations on alignment with Foundation focus areas, state or community needs and program eligibility criteria.

Website: http://corporate.walmart.com/_foundation_/apply-for-grants/state-giving-program
Award: \$25,000 to \$200,000
Time Frame: All states have two application cycles annually. The State Giving Program application is currently closed. The application will reopen early 2017.

WALMART NATIONAL GIVING PROGRAM

The National Giving Program supports organizations working across one or more states to address social issues strongly aligned with our focus areas. This program often provide funds to organizations that have local affiliates around the country, and the majority of grants from this program include re-grants to implement programs in local communities.

Website: <http://giving.walmart.com/apply-for-grants/national-giving>
Award: \$250,000 and above

WELLS FARGO, COMMUNITY GIVING

Wells Fargo and the Wells Fargo Foundation provide monetary support, expertise, and volunteers to national and local nonprofit organizations and causes that align with our business priorities, values, business expertise, and geographies. Wells Fargo works with a wide range of nonprofits and community organizations to stabilize and strengthen low-to-moderate income neighborhoods, as well as address global social, economic, and environmental challenges. Wells Fargo focuses giving in the following areas:

- Community Development: programs that help provide affordable housing for low and moderate income individuals; promote economic development by financing small businesses or small farms; provide job training for low and moderate income individuals Provide financial education and promote economic empowerment; help to revitalize low and moderate income communities

- Education: Programs that promote academic achievement for low- and moderate-income students with a priority emphasis on K-12; provide training for teachers and administrators working with low- and moderate-income students; encourage school partnerships with parents and guardians, the local community, and the business community.
- Human Services: social and human service organizations whose work chiefly benefits low- and moderate-income individuals.
- Arts and Culture: Projects and requests that work to enhance community diversity through access to cultural experiences for low- and moderate-income individuals, availability of a broad array of artistic opportunities and venues that reflect the community’s diversity, and educational programs.
- Civic Engagement: projects that enhance a community’s quality of life through projects involving public policy, community beautification, civic leadership, citizen education, and cultural diversity.
- Environment: including natural resources conservation, environmental education, and support the transition to a sustainable environment.

Website: <https://www.wellsfargo.com/about/corporate-responsibility/texas-grant-guidelines/>
Amount: Varies
Time Frame: Ongoing.
Contact: Each region in Texas manages its own application process and accordingly has its own contact.

RESOURCES

GRANTS.GOV

The Grants.gov program management office was established in 2002 and is managed by the Department of Health and Human Services. Grants.gov is an E-Government initiative operating under the governance of the Office of Management and Budget.

Grants.gov is a resource for those seeking grants through federal funding opportunities. The site makes it simple to find grants based on Keyword searches, Categories, Agencies, or Eligibilities.

Website: www.grants.gov

CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE (CFDA)

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) provides a full listing of all Federal programs available to State and local governments (including the District of Columbia); federally-recognized Indian tribal governments; Territories (and possessions) of the United States; domestic public, quasi- public, and private profit and nonprofit organizations and institutions; specialized groups; and individuals.

Website: <https://www.cfda.gov/?s=program&mode=list&tab=list>

THE ROUND ROCK STRATEGIC PARKS AND
RECREATION MASTER PLAN WAS
PREPARED BY:



and



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