

EXPERIENCE BASTROP

10 Year Master Plan



City of Bastrop Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THANKS TO THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED

A special thank you goes to everyone who participated in the planning process for the Bastrop Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan. This plan was made possible by the contributions and insights of the residents, business owners, property owners, developers, and representatives from various groups and organizations throughout the community.

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- St. David's Foundation 
- Bastrop County Cares 
- Edge of Your Seat Consulting 

CITY COUNCIL



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A LETTER FROM THE BASTROP MAYOR

Great cities are distinguished by their ability to create enchanting parks and public spaces that offer recreation, education, and a profound reflection of their local history. In Bastrop, we are fortunate to possess all the necessary assets to establish exceptional public spaces. Now, with the unveiling of this Master Plan, we have a unique opportunity to enhance and expand our vast acres of parkland.

Bastrop's heritage is deeply rooted in its association with the majestic Colorado River, the captivating Lost Pines, and a timeless downtown adorned with historic structures. We take immense pride in our community-wide commitment to promoting health, safety, and recreation for all. These treasured cultural and educational amenities are intricately woven into the fabric of our parks system.

Looking ahead, we find ourselves on the brink of significant growth and expansion, with several new residential subdivisions and proposed homes on the horizon. Our parks will play a pivotal role in attracting individuals to Bastrop, making our city an even more desirable place to live, work, prosper, play, and visit. This Master Plan serves as our guiding compass, enabling us to meet the needs of our evolving community.

“ Our parks will play a pivotal role in attracting individuals to Bastrop, making our city an even more desirable place to live, work, prosper, play, and visit. ”

The possibilities presented by this Master Plan are boundless, and the framework it provides is invaluable as we chart the course for future generations. I extend my heartfelt commendation to our dedicated City staff, whose countless hours of hard work have culminated in the development of this visionary plan. Furthermore, I extend my sincere gratitude to each and every one of you who participated in our public engagement forums and shared your invaluable input through surveys pertaining to the future of our parks system. Together, we received an overwhelming response, with over 800 survey submissions. This Master Plan is truly inspired by the people of Bastrop.

Let us unite in our ongoing commitment to make the City of Bastrop one of the most breathtaking and enjoyable cities in Texas. With the implementation of this Master Plan and our collective efforts, we will continue to transform our vision into a reality.

Lyle Nelson

Mayor of Bastrop, Texas



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

With the Lost Pines Forest and the Colorado River as part of its fabric, the City of Bastrop sits in a very picturesque part of Texas. These natural resources, along with the community essences, makes the City very welcoming. When the parks and recreational system are added into the mix, it shows that the City prizes its responsibility to provide a high quality of life to its citizens. The City of Bastrop has established a solid foundation for its parks and recreation system, and it should continue to build from this momentum.

Strong and vibrant parks and recreation systems are an essential part of any community. This is very evident in Bastrop. Throughout the analysis and development of the City of Bastrop's new Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Master Plan, the community, City officials, and staff immediately demonstrated their enthusiasm for the City taking this step by consistently being active in the Plan's development. Each group energetically participated in the various meetings and events which provided valuable insight into the community's needs, wants, and desires for their parks and recreation system.

What follows is a summary of the analysis, findings, goals, objectives, and recommendations that grew out of all the input provided by the community of Bastrop.

The City of Bastrop currently has 12 city-owned parks of various sizes and 3 trails/linear parks that creates its parks and recreation system which combine totals approximately 161.10 acres. Site visits were conducted by the project team with the City staff to obtain site specific details such as size, amenities, and facilities provided. The following park classifications and total acreages were identified for the City of Bastrop:

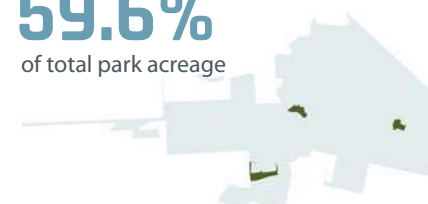
POCKET PARKS
0.62%
of total park acreage



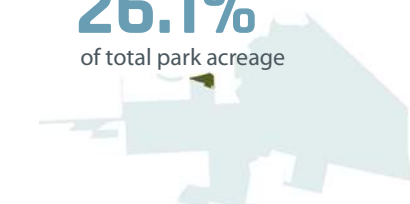
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS
11.5%
of total park acreage



COMMUNITY PARKS
59.6%
of total park acreage



REGIONAL PARKS
26.1%
of total park acreage



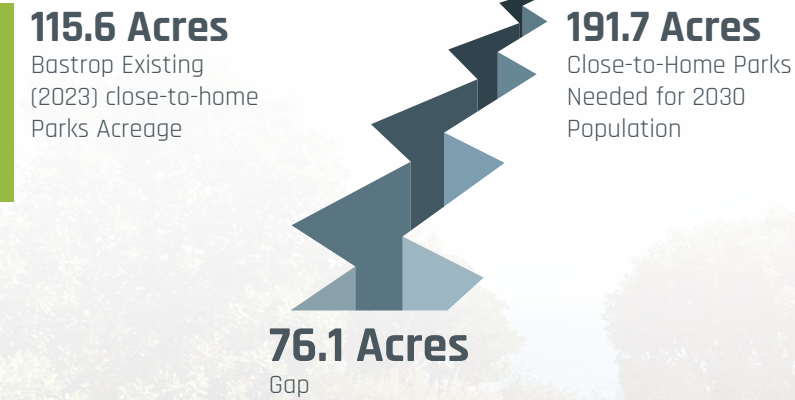
SPECIAL USE PARKS
2.2%
of total park acreage



LINEAR PARKS
3,956
linear feet

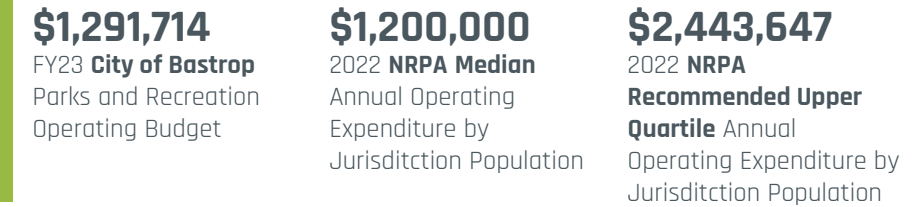


When the City of Bastrop's existing acreage for Close-to-Home Parks (Pocket, Neighborhood, and Community Parks) of 115.6 acres is compared to the NRPA's standard of 191.7 acres for the year 2030, this indicates that today the City needs begin taking steps towards acquiring new land to accommodate the needs of the increasing population through land purchases, easements for public use, parkland dedications, and/or the collection of fees-in-lieu-of-dedication from developers.



As part of the classification process, the existing inventories of the recreational amenities and facilities for each park were recorded by the project team. These inventories were then compared to the NRPA standards to identify what additional facilities should be provided. The findings included items such as the addition of a tot lot, community gardens, a swimming pool, addition of more sports fields (baseball, softball, soccer, football), and the addition of more multi-use sport courts (basketball, volleyball, tennis, pickleball).

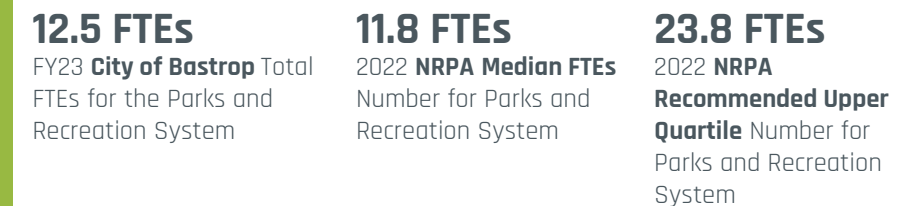
The Plan includes reviews of the existing budget and FTE staffing levels for the parks and recreation system. Applying the NRPA standards for comparable cities, it was identified that the City of Bastrop's budget of \$1,291,714 is inline with the NRPA standard of \$1.2 million; however, the City is rapidly growing, and citizens have indicated needs that require improvements and expansion to the existing parks and recreational system.



It is recommended that the City seek to increase its budget for the parks and recreation system to be more inline with the upper quartile of the NRPA standards of \$2,443,647. This can be accomplished through various methods such as:

- Apply for grants made available by federal and state government agencies.
- Apply for grants made available by private sector groups and philanthropies.
- Pursue unconventional methods of funding such as sponsorships and cost-sharing partnerships.
- Develop a fee-in-lieu-of parkland dedication process, whereby developers may choose to pay a fee in the amount equivalent to the cost of land required to be dedicated.

The Plan also identified the need to increase the existing level of Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs) for the parks and recreation system. As similar to the budget, the City of Bastrop is inline with the median number of FTEs per the NRPA standards, however to keep up with the needs of the community, it is recommended that the number of FTEs



be increased, especially within the recreational division. This can be accomplished by supplementing the budget through the methods mentioned on the previous page, thus making funds available to hire more full-time personnel.

By creating the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan, the City will have a guide to assist in the planning, budgeting, operating and maintaining of its parks and recreation system for the next 10 years. This Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan was prepared through the implementation of the following steps:

- Gathered public input through surveys, events, and meetings to understand the community's wants and needs.
- Conduct an inventory and existing conditions analysis to assist in creating a realistic 10-year implementation strategy.
- Combined the project population trends, potential impacts of various factors on future growth, and the standard and demand assessment analysis to help the City of Bastrop implement these strategies in the next 10 years and beyond.

The vision developed by the citizens of Bastrop signifies their dedication to wanting a parks and recreation system which can be used by all to improve their health, regardless of abilities, age, and skills. The community's shared vision calls for :

Envisioning the creation of a dynamic all-inclusive parks, recreation, and trails system, that will foster and support a deeper sense of community, promote overall health, as well as embrace the unique and historic natural environment of the Colorado River and the Lost Pines Forest.

Community input revealed common priorities for residents with an emphasis on investing in:

-  Improvements and maintenance of existing parks and facilities specially Fisherman's Park and Bob Bryant Park
-  Aquatic facilities and water recreation
-  Hiking and biking trails
-  Indoor recreational facilities
-  Efforts to make parks more active and add more programs for the youth of Bastrop.

The following goals reflect the desires of the residents, elected/appointed officials, and City staff:

 <p>Provide an accessible and well-distributed parks and recreation system throughout the community that promotes, health, safety and quality-of-life.</p> <p>GOAL 01: Level of Service</p>	 <p>Provide new, vibrant facilities/amenities to meet the needs of the growing community and all user groups.</p> <p>GOAL 02: Facilities</p>	 <p>Expand recreational activities and programming to meet the needs of all user types and abilities.</p> <p>GOAL 03: Recreation</p>	 <p>Use parks, trails and recreation to support Bastrop's economic development strategies.</p> <p>GOAL 04: Economic Impact</p>	 <p>Provide active stewardship of Bastrop's natural resources and open spaces to enhance the environment, provide educational opportunities, and promotes the local ecology.</p> <p>GOAL 05: Natural Resources</p>
 <p>Develop unified standards, branding, and awareness for the parks and recreation system.</p> <p>GOAL 06: Visibility and Branding</p>	 <p>Conduct repairs, renovations and enhancements to existing parks and recreation facilities.</p> <p>GOAL 07: Safety and Maintenance</p>	 <p>Expand the existing trail system, with improved standards, connecting neighborhoods, schools, businesses, parks, and City facilities.</p> <p>GOAL 08: Connectivity</p>	 <p>Identify suitable park funding for annual park budgets and explore creative funding partnerships.</p> <p>GOAL 09: Funding and Resources</p>	 <p>Cooperate and partner with other public and regional agencies to achieve mutual goals related to the region's parks, open space, trails and recreational amenities.</p> <p>GOAL 10: Regional</p>

The community identified six areas of great importance when it comes to enhancing the existing parks and recreation system. The Big Six recommendations are as follows:

1. FUNDING

Develop sustainable and robust funding strategies to support the newly envisioned park system, including the development and improvement of parks and their maintenance and operational requirements through the use of conventional and non-conventional funding methods such as grants, partnerships, sponsorships, and proactive CIP project planning.

2. PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Improve existing parks, trails, and recreational facilities to support the newly envisioned park system through coordinated funding efforts with the Finance Dept.; working with other city departments to coordinate projects; tracking inventory and identifying items needing maintenance or replacement; establishing standards for equipment/facilities/amenities; keeping constant supply of materials to quickly repair or replace amenities; and include all-inclusive park infrastructure and amenities.

3. TRAILS

Develop additional trail connections through the implementation of new design standards; addressing safety concerns and accessibility through the development of trails with lighting, proper lane markings, and signage; and improve citywide connectivity by developing a Trails Master Plan to identify items such as specific locations of trails, access points, amenities, and linking the plan to the City's Major Thoroughfare Plan.

4. RECREATIONAL PROGRAMMING

Expand and create additional recreational programming, special events, and educational opportunities by designing new parks and facilities to be flexible in their programming; by coordinating recreational programming with existing city events; developing communication strategies to promote recreational programming to the community; conduct follow-up assessments at least every three years to determine need for new programming; develop partnerships with specialized organizations such as Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists to provide educational opportunities at the parks; partner with the Chamber of Commerce and other private sector groups to utilize the parks and recreation facilities for their public events; and promote events on the City's websites and social media.

5. LAND ACQUISITION

Identify and acquire land for parks, recreational facilities, and trail/open space/preservation areas through the implementation of a parkland dedication ordinance that includes dedication requirements, standards, and a fee-in-lieu-of process for development projects; coordination with private property owners on the application of easements for public use; and coordination between the Parks Division, Recreations Division, and the Planning Department to identify and track existing and future developments.

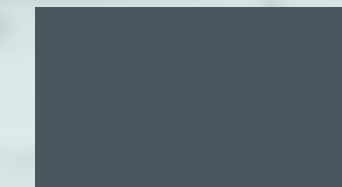
6. RECREATIONAL COMMUNITY CENTER

Develop an all-inclusive, multi-use Recreational Community Center to support the recreational needs of the community through the development of a feasibility study to be used to identify items such preferred locations, amenities, facilities, number of FTEs to operate/manage/maintain the facility, and potential methods of funding for the construction/operations/maintenance of the facility.

SPORT COMPLEX

As part of the overall development of the PROS Plan, the City requested that the project team investigate the needs and economic opportunities for the construction of a sports complex. The project team undertook this request and what was determined is that the placement of a sports complex within the City of Bastrop would be highly beneficial not only in providing a new facility for sports recreation, but also economically benefit the community. The sports examined were baseball, softball, soccer, pickle ball, and par-3 golf. The study determined that sports complexes geared toward baseball, softball and soccer were the most sought after. These sports complexes were identified as those that brought in the most levels of tournaments and teams to an area. As part of this draw to the sports complex, economic benefits could also be captured through the tourism brought by the tournaments. Those who would be attending the tournaments were found to spend money at local retail businesses, restaurants, and overnight accommodations.





MASTER PLAN INTRODUCTION

Parks and recreations ecosystems are one of the most important cornerstones of any community. Although often only seen as a place to play, by centering recreation in a community, the benefits are exponential. Parks and recreations ecosystems benefit individuals by supporting personal growth, cognitive development, physical and psychological wellness, self-esteem and reliance, sparks creativity, a sense of accomplishment, reduces stress and enhances and extends life.

This Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan has been developed by the City of Bastrop to ensure that its parks and recreation system continues to provide a high quality of life for all citizens. It is an important step in intentionally connecting families and neighbors, strengthening interactions and community bonding across ethnic and cultural differences, reducing alienation and fostering community ownership and pride.

It also aligns with the community's core values around clean air and water, reducing pollution, preservation of open spaces, reducing vandalism and crime, and enhancing property value and being an attractive location for tourism. This robust plan was assembled through an inclusion lens by conducting citizen surveys throughout a cross section of the community, citizen stakeholder interviews, meeting with elected/appointed City officials to determine what the needs, demands, and aspirations are for the local parks and recreation system. Throughout this document, recommendations have been developed to assist not only in the continued improvement of the current system, but also to guide the community to take proactive steps to prepare for what will be needed in the future.

PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

Over the recent years, the world has changed drastically due to the events of the COVID-19 pandemic. The ways people now use technology for commerce and daily communications to the ways they now interact with their friends and neighbors have changed are just a few examples. The question is, was any of this planned for? This is where planning comes in. Planning can be simply defined as developing a “road map” that outlines a path for a group and/or individuals to follow to achieve visions and goals as well as to make preparations for events. In the case of this Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan, the purpose is to develop a long-range plan for the parks and recreation system that can be used for guidance in the development, expansion, maintenance, and operations of the parks and recreation system for the City.

Why is this parks master plan necessary? It is necessary to ensure that the City’s parks and recreation system will be developed over time to meet the needs and demands of its citizens as the City continues to grow. The Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan serves a variety of purposes. Its primary functions are to analyze the current state of Bastrop’s parks, recreation, and open spaces; identify needs and deficiencies in the system; and determine a series of goals, recommendations, and priorities for improving the system. Bastrop’s Parks, Recreation, and Open Space system needs to be updated every ten years to evaluate current and future needs. This new plan utilizes public input, existing inventory and conditions analysis, implementation action plan, and financial and phasing strategies to assist the City. The Plan is intended to help the City identify recommendations and prioritizations on parks, recreation, open spaces, and trails within a framework that is consistent with the community’s needs and desires. The Master Plan will help residents understand how these additions to their City can improve their quality of life and help with economic development.

The Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan is broken down into two parts. Part One of the Master Plan focuses on the vision, goals, objectives, recommendations, development, and funding strategies. Part Two includes supporting documents for Part One. Such documents include survey results, demographics, park classifications, standards, inventory, and needs assessment. Part One and Part Two are interrelated as the information contained within Part One was developed through the analysis of the data, information, and documentation gathered in Part Two. The purpose behind the recommendations being placed within the first part of the document is to provide the reader(s) with the complete story of where the City currently is, where the City wants to be, and how the City can reach its goals to provide the community with high-quality parks and recreational services.



IMPORTANCE OF PARKS

Parks have an emerging importance in today’s communities. These green spaces have been proven to have many health, social, economic development, and environmental benefits. Parks and recreation professionals have attributed parks and open spaces to quality of life for a community, attributing to a higher standard of health, comfort, and happiness. It is understood that parks improve aesthetics and ecological services such as mitigating stormwater runoff, cleaning the air people breathe and providing wildlife habitat in the urban environment.

Studies have shown that parks can also increase the property values of homes in a community. According to John L. Crompton, a professor at Texas A&M University who has published extensive research on parks and recreation, “The real estate market consistently demonstrates that many people are willing to pay a larger amount for a property located close to parks and open space areas than for a home that does not offer this amenity.” By increasing the availability of these parks and open spaces, this in turn benefits our health, economic development, societal development, and the environment.

HEALTH BENEFITS

Parks and recreation systems play very important roles in the daily health levels of their users. Having parks that are readily accessible increases outdoor physical activity opportunities. Studies have identified that time spent in parks and recreational programs provide positive impacts to the physical, mental, and social well-being of those using the opportunities provided. In a study by Mathew P. White, et al¹ explained that “Spending at least 120 minutes a week in nature is associated with good health and well-being.” Activities can range from using the walking trails, playing in playgrounds with children, or being a part of Saturday classes at a recreation center. Along with these opportunities, parks and recreation systems provide citizens with settings to work on their physical health while, at the same time, positively affecting the citizens’ social and mental health through the interactions with others participating in the activities. As stated in the study, The Health Benefits of Parks and Their Economic Impacts by Mychal Cohen, Kimberly Burrowes, and Peace Gwam², “Physical activity is associated with improvements to measures of health such as mood and self-reported well-being.”

¹ Spending at least 120 minutes a week in nature is associated with good health and wellbeing. White, P., et al., June 13, 2019.

² The Health Benefits of Parks and Their Economic Impacts. Cohen, M., et al., February 2022.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Parks have an economic benefit to communities and the future growth of cities. A 2022 research article by Kevin Roth for the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) focused on engagement with local parks and recreation agencies. He explained that in the latest NRPA Economic Impact of Local Parks Report, it was found that "...local park and recreation agencies' operations and capital spending generate nearly \$218 billion in economic activity and support 1.3 million jobs across the United States in 2019." The economic impact that parks have on communities range from increasing property values, directing employment to businesses, and increasing workforce opportunities. More about the economic impact and development parks can have on a community can be found in Chapter 3.

SOCIETAL BENEFITS

People are naturally social creatures. They need to have their daily dose of interactions with other humans and people go upon accomplishing this in various ways. They use telephones, computers, and most importantly parks and outdoors to take part in these interactions. As stated in the research¹ done by Park People in 2017, "Parks are not simply green places of respite with grass and trees – they are critical pieces of the social infrastructure of our cities." Parks, trails, and recreation systems provide people with that constant source of space where there are always other people to meet and interact with. These interactions then create a higher level of social ties which then further increases the sense of community.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Throughout the recent years, cities have been seeing a dramatic increase in residential and commercial development, which create long lasting environmental impacts. These impacts can range from increase in vehicular traffic, to the elimination of natural open space, and to increased amounts of storm water runoff; all of which can cascade into more negative effects on the environment. All of which can cascade into more negative effects on the environment. This is where parks, trails, and open spaces play a vital role. The NRPA states "Parks are key to ensuring the health of our environment because they play a critical role in maintaining healthy ecosystems, providing clean water and clean air, and enabling conservation of natural resources."²

¹ Sparking Change: Catalyzing the Social Impacts of Parks in Underserved Neighborhoods, Park People, 2017.

² Role of Parks and Recreation in Conservation, National Recreation and Park Association, 2006.



SOCIAL BENEFITS

- + Offers excellent opportunities for people of any age, ability and economic status
- + Helps ensure overall higher quality of life
- + Foster community interaction & social support networks

HEALTH BENEFITS

- + Provides opportunities to practice healthy lifestyles
- + Creates destinations and venues for physical activity
- + Reduces stress and improving mental wellness



ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- + Increases property value of homes in close proximity to parks
- + Hosts tournaments and special events as tourism attractions
- + Attracts new businesses through enhancing the quality of life

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

- + Reduces air and water pollution
- + Mitigates urban heat islands
- + Preserves important habits, environmental, and cultural site



PLANNING FRAMEWORK AND PROCESS

To develop the best suited Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan for the City of Bastrop, the project team employed a 10-step Planning Framework Process. This process includes an in-depth assessment of the City's demographics, parks and recreation amenities/facilities inventories, community demands and needs, as well as its projected growth. In conjunction with these assessments, the project team used the Planning Framework to develop the vision statement, recommendations, priorities, and implementation process to be used by the City in moving the parks and recreation system forward. Each step in this process is designed to

build upon the information obtained in the previous step, this allows for the project team to steadily develop a Plan that tells a story of "Where We Are", "What Was Heard", "Where We Want To Be", and "How We Can Get There".

This Planning Framework Process is also beneficial when it comes to applying for various funding opportunities, such as some with the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department. This framework displays to the funding agency the specific, in-depth steps that were taken in developing this plan.

01

Kick-off

Review Existing Plans and Documents
Community Profile

DEMOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT

02

Background Research
Site Visits/ Existing Conditions

Parks & Recreation Facilities Inventory and Analysis

SITE INVENTORY & ASSESSMENT

03

Input Gathering
Community Survey
Stakeholder Interviews
Consensus Building

VISION & GOALS

04

NRPA Guidelines
Define Park Types

Develop Park and Openspace Standards

PARK CLASSIFICATIONS & STANDARDS

05

Population Analysis
Demands Based
Standards Based
Resource Based
Gap Analysis

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

06

Overall Recommendations
Park Master Plan Concepts/
Recommendations

RECOMMENDATIONS

07

Determine Priorities From Boards/
Stakeholder Input

Priority List

DETERMINING PRIORITIES

08

High- Level Development/
Planning Budget Cost

Identify Partnerships

ACTION ITEMS

09

Next Steps & Funding Opportunities

Establish Partnerships

IMPLEMENTATION

10

Adoption-
City Council

PLAN APPROVAL

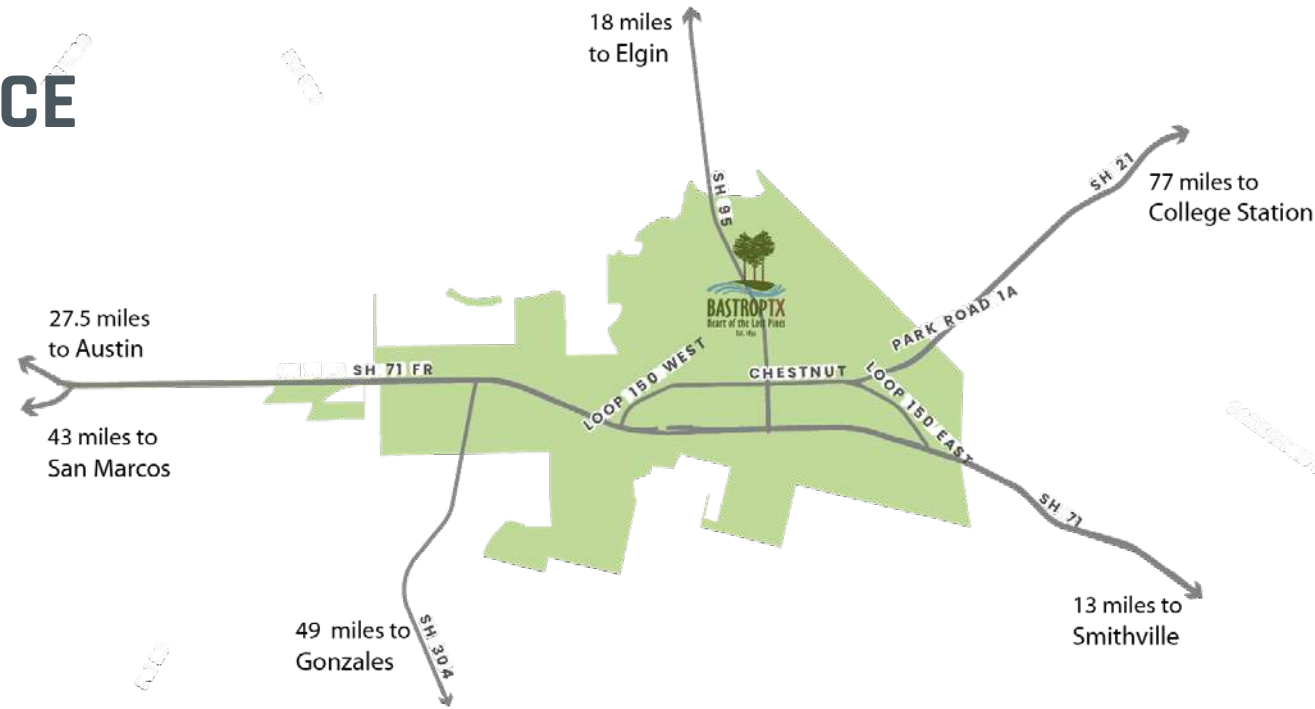
Park Master Planning Components

Stakeholder and Community Engagement	Public input includes public engagement sessions, meetings, events, and surveys that help gather feedback from the community on their wants and needs, as well as identify the community's vision for the future of Bastrop's Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan.
Discovery and Existing Condition Analysis	Inventory and existing conditions analysis includes collecting past demographics, parks inventory, and classifications to help establish the vision for a 10-year realistic implementation strategy plan.
Standards and Demand Analysis	The standard and demand assessment identifies the current level of services being provided by the parks and recreation system by comparing local standards to the National Recreation and Parks Association's (NRPA) standards.
Recommendations and Prioritizations	Recommendations were developed to help facilitate the growth and needs for the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan. These recommendations address the master plan goals and objectives while establishing a list of prioritizations.
Implementation	Financial and phasing strategies are established to implement the action plan within the next 10 years.

BASTROP AT A GLANCE

LOCATION DESCRIPTION

The City of Bastrop is located in Central Texas, approximately 25-miles east of the State Capitol, Austin, Texas. It is located at the junctions of State highways 71, 21, and 95. Bastrop is known to be one of the oldest towns in Texas as it was originally established as part of a Spanish fort used to protect a strategic crossing at the Colorado River. The Colorado River, one of the City's greatest recreational assets, bisects the City from north to south. The City also serves as the seat for the County of Bastrop.



COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

In order to get an understanding of what has influenced the development of Bastrop's Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan, it is best first to get a basic understanding of the existing demographics, conditions, and dynamics of the City of Bastrop. As one of Texas's oldest cities, Bastrop has seen a lot of change throughout its history, and it continues to see change through its growth in population. These changes come in the forms of median age, household income levels, employment rates, levels of education, and industries operating within the City just to name a few. By understanding these changes along with the existing conditions, analysis can be done to begin identifying what and where the needs may be for the community.

To obtain more details on the make-up of Bastrop, see Chapter 4: History and Context, within this document.



THE PARK SYSTEM TODAY

Currently, the City of Bastrop has a total of 12 city-owned parks and three trails. The majority of the parks are classified as either neighborhood parks or community parks. By having the majority of the parks classified under either of these categories, this indicates that the City of Bastrop has been focused on trying to provide park and recreational opportunities to its citizens throughout the city. The City also offers to its citizens some specialized recreational locations such as the rodeo arena at Mayfest and the Camino Real Paddling Trail along the Colorado River. These are unique recreational opportunities provided by the City as they not only are used by the local residents, but also help draw out-of-town visitors who seek to experience the waters of the Colorado River and to attend a rodeo at the Mayfest arena. To add more uniqueness to the local park and recreational environment, Bastrop is also home to the Bastrop State Park. The close proximity of the State Park to the City allows locals and visitors alike to enjoy the hospitality of the City while also being able to take a very short trip from Downtown Bastrop into the piney woods of the State Park.

The City is also facing some challenges in its delivering of parks and recreational services. These challenges are coming from the City's growth. As Bastrop has expanded, it has not been able to fully keep up with providing parks and recreational services to its outer limits. As mentioned, the City does house fifteen city owned parks and trails, however the majority of these are located closer to the heart of the City. Unfortunately, the City has not acquired land for use as public parks, thus it is now falling short of these services. Along with this, citizens are also seeking a larger community center. The City does currently own and operate a community recreation center, however it too has been out grown. Citizens have indicated the need for a new community recreation center as they would like to have a greater opportunity to participate in recreational programs and classes, but currently cannot because of limitations such as the building's maximum occupancy amount.

Even though the City of Bastrop is one of the oldest cities in Texas, it is just coming into its prime regarding growth and with this growth it has ample opportunity to being seeking out land and other avenues to provide high levels of parks and recreational services to its citizens. By applying the recommendations included in this Parks Master Plan, Bastrop can begin taking steps toward increasing the recreational quality of life for its citizens along with becoming a city which will not only draw visitors, but become a model city for others to follow.



VISION OF THE PLAN

A central element of the parks and recreation planning process involves creating community vision. The vision is the road map that guides decisions within the community and serves as the basis for the master plan's recommendations. The vision should guide City staff and decision makers to determine whether or not decisions are ultimately in conformance with long-term benefits for Bastrop.

The vision developed by the citizens of Bastrop signifies their dedication to wanting a parks and recreation system which can be used by all to improve their health, regardless of abilities, age, and skills. Through their shared vision, the citizens also indicated that the Park Master Plan must account for the Colorado River and the Lost Pines Forest, as they are unique natural and historical features of the City that play a part in the area's recreational opportunities. The vision, created with the community's input, was the project team's guiding force to establish the forthcoming goals, objectives, and recommendations within the City of Bastrop's Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan. The community's shared vision calls for :

Envisioning the creation of a dynamic all-inclusive parks, recreation, and trails system, that will foster and support a deeper sense of community, promote overall health, as well as embrace the unique and historic natural environment of the Colorado River and the Lost Pines Forest.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goals and objectives within a community plan are the foundation upon which elected and appointed officials make investment and development decisions on behalf of the general public. Goals developed during the parks and recreation planning process provide the underlying philosophical framework when evaluating needs and priorities for local park or programming enhancements. The goals in this plan reflect the desires of the residents, elected/appointed officials, and City staff.

 <p>Provide an accessible and well-distributed parks and recreation system throughout the community that promotes, health, safety and quality-of-life.</p>	 <p>Provide new, vibrant facilities/amenities to meet the needs of the growing community and all user groups.</p>	 <p>Expand recreational activities and programming to meet the needs of all user types and abilities.</p>	 <p>Use parks, trails and recreation to support Bastrop's economic development strategies.</p>	 <p>Provide active stewardship of Bastrop's natural resources and open spaces to enhance the environment, provide educational opportunities, and promotes the local ecology.</p>
GOAL 01: Level of Service	GOAL 02: Facilities	GOAL 03: Recreation	GOAL 04: Economic Impact	GOAL 05: Natural Resources
 <p>Develop unified standards, branding, and awareness for the parks and recreation system.</p>	 <p>Conduct repairs, renovations and enhancements to existing parks and recreation facilities.</p>	 <p>Expand the existing trail system, with improved standards, connecting neighborhoods, schools, businesses, parks, and City facilities.</p>	 <p>Identify suitable park funding for annual park budgets and explore creative funding partnerships.</p>	 <p>Cooperate and partner with other public and regional agencies to achieve mutual goals related to the region's parks, open space, trails and recreational amenities.</p>
GOAL 06: Visibility and Branding	GOAL 07: Safety and Maintenance	GOAL 08: Connectivity	GOAL 09: Funding and Resources	GOAL 10: Regional

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

 <p>Provide an accessible and well-distributed parks and recreation system throughout the community that promotes, health, safety and quality-of-life.</p>	<p>GOAL 01 OBJECTIVES:</p> <p>1.1. Provide the citizens of Bastrop with close-to-home parks that are within a ¼ mile or 10-minute walk in existing and new residential developments.</p> <p>1.2. By 2030, increase the existing number of Pocket Parks by 8, increase the number of Neighborhood Parks by 3, and increase the number of Community Parks by 4.</p> <p>1.3. Establish consistency between the parkland recommendations contained in the City's various land use plans and policy documents.</p> <p>1.4. Work with developers to provide suitable parks, trails, and open spaces as part of their development projects.</p> <p>1.5. Pursue continued coordination with other City departments, local organizations, land preservation organizations, and county/state agencies in land acquisitions.</p> <p>1.6. Develop a user-friendly online platform to assist in making park event reservations, maintenance requests, and safety concerns. The platform can also be used to notify the user of upcoming events at the parks and recreation facilities.</p>		
GOAL 01: Level of Service			
 <p>Provide new, vibrant facilities/amenities to meet the needs of the growing community and all user groups.</p>	<p>GOAL 02 OBJECTIVES:</p> <p>2.1. Provide the citizens of Bastrop with a new and highly requested community recreation center.</p> <p>2.2. Coordinate improvements with the annual budget process.</p> <p>2.3. Apply findings from ADA Facility Survey to ensure that all parks and recreation facilities are accessible to all users.</p> <p>2.4. For each park, review the Maintenance Observations & Considerations included within this Parks Master Plan (Chapter 5) and apply the recommendations provided. Application of these recommendations will assist in identifying what park amenities and facilities need repairing or replacing.</p> <p>2.5. Develop a tracking system to monitor all new and existing facilities, amenities, and equipment. The tracking system should include details such as the date of purchase, installation date, warranty period, expected lifespan, and maintenance dates. The tracking system will assist in identifying when the facility/amenity/equipment will need replacing or restoration.</p> <p>2.6. Implement sustainable funding sources in order to increase the amount of available funds to be used in the replacing, restoring, repairing, or newly installing facilities/amenities at the parks. Funding sources can come in the way of grants, philanthropes, and partnerships. A Funding Source Matrix has been included with this plan and the City is encouraged to use the matrix to identify potential funding sources.</p>		
GOAL 02: Facilities			



Expand **recreational activities** and programming to meet the needs of all user types and abilities.

GOAL 03: Recreation

GOAL 03 OBJECTIVES:

- 3.1. At a minimum of every three years, conduct an assessment of the recreational needs for all age groups (children, teens, adults, and seniors).
- 3.2. By the year 2030, increase the level of FTEs for recreational programming to 27.1% of the overall park and recreation system staff.
- 3.3. Encourage and provide opportunities for citizens to participate in planning, development, maintenance, and operations of the City's parks and recreation system.
- 3.4. Pursue partnerships with the private sector (local gyms, businesses, civic groups and local organizations) to develop methods where they can contribute to the creation, managing, funding, and operation of community-driven activities and programs.
- 3.5. Develop user group specific and multi-generational recreational events, activities, and programs that will meet various (physical, mental, age, and social) needs.



Use parks, trails and recreation to support Bastrop's **economic development** strategies.

GOAL 04: Economic Impact

GOAL 04 OBJECTIVES:

- 4.1. Actively market the local park services and recreational events to attract users to the area.
- 4.2. Host sports and community events to attract out of town visitors.
- 4.3. Attract businesses by showing that the City of Bastrop seeks to provide a high quality of life for its citizens through the continued enhancements of its parks and recreational system. Showcase the City's plans to develop a new community recreational facility, along with any enhancements/renovations that will be done to the parks such as those proposed in the concepts for Bob Bryant Park, Fisherman's Park, Mayfest Park, and Pecan Park.
- 4.4. Develop a thoroughly connected trail system that will allow all active-transportation users to travel throughout the City. Display the ability citizens, and visitors will have to access various points of interest without the need of using motorized vehicles and having to deal with the traffic/parking issues that come with them.
- 4.5. City's Parks and Recreation Divisions partner with the local Chamber of Commerce and area businesses to develop an annual citywide recreational event, such as a scavenger hunt, that requires participants to visit local businesses in order to accomplish goals and win at the event.



Provide active stewardship of Bastrop's **natural resources** and open spaces to enhance the environment, provide educational opportunities, and promotes the local ecology.

GOAL 05: Natural Resources

GOAL 05 OBJECTIVES:

- 5.1. Coordinate with the State of Texas Parks & Wildlife Department and Bastrop County on use and maintenance of the Colorado River and the Lost Pines Forest.
- 5.2. Engage neighborhoods to take on the role of steward and champion for their local community park and/or recreation facility.
- 5.3. Conduct regular (monthly, quarterly, yearly) events designed to highlight the natural ecology for each park to include the Colorado River and the Lost Pines Forest.
- 5.4. Continue to foster partnerships with civic groups such as the Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists who can assist in maintaining the natural landscape of parks and open spaces, as well as provide educational opportunities to the public.
- 5.5. Develop an "Adopt-A-Park" maintenance program.



Develop unified standards, **branding**, and awareness for the parks and recreation system.

GOAL 06: Visibility and Branding

GOAL 06 OBJECTIVES:

- 6.1. Amend the City's Code of Ordinances to include parkland dedication and trail standards for all developments projects.
- 6.2. Create signage standards to be used at all parks and trail facilities to assist users in identifying locations, features, and amenities.
- 6.3. Create annual events at each park and recreation facility to build familiarization among the community of the services and amenities provide at each venue.
- 6.4. Create and implement a standard form of branding among the parks and recreation facilities to help clearly identify for the users where and what recreational opportunities are available at each location.
- 6.5. Expand the use of conventional and social media to increase the distribution of information such as details on each of the parks and recreational facilities, events, and opportunities for renting sites.



Conduct repairs, renovations and enhancements to existing parks and recreation facilities.

GOAL 07: Safety and Maintenance

GOAL 07 OBJECTIVES:

7.1. Conduct monthly inspections of each park and recreational facility to identify needed maintenance.

7.2. Work with the City's Finance and Purchasing Departments to develop clear project descriptions and cost estimates in advance of the City's annual Budget Process and the Capital Improvement Project process. This can create prepositioning opportunities for parks and recreation projects to be placed on the CIP list and funded.

7.3. Develop a system to track inventory and lifespan of amenities and facilities at each of the park and recreation sites.

7.4. By the year 2030 have 1 FTE for each 17 acres of park land to ensure the amenities and facilities are safe and operational.

7.5. Follow parks and recreational trends to determine if there will be a need for the upgrading of equipment, amenities, and facilities to support the introduction of the new activity or program.

7.6. By 2025, ensure that all parks and recreation facilities are in compliance with the most current accessibility standards set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS).



Expand the existing trail system, with improved standards, connecting neighborhoods, schools, businesses, parks, and City facilities.

GOAL 08: Connectivity

GOAL 08 OBJECTIVES:

8.1. Amend the City's Code of Ordinances to include requirements and standards for the construction of trails as part of all development efforts.

8.2. Develop trail connections where they can be made to residential neighborhoods, parks, recreational facilities, business areas, and other points-of-destination.

8.3. Develop and foster partnerships with owners of easements that can potentially be used to expand the City's trail system.

8.4. Work with the City's Finance and Purchasing Departments to prioritize projects relating to the development and maintenance of exiting and proposed trail infrastructure as part of the City of Bastrop's Capital Improvement Project process.

8.5. Include the City's existing and proposed trails system as part of the City's Major Thoroughfare Plan (MTP).

8.6. Develop a partnership with the Public Works Department to include the development of sidewalks and trails as part of street/road projects.



Identify suitable park funding for annual park budgets and explore creative funding partnerships.

GOAL 09: Funding and Resources

GOAL 09 OBJECTIVES:

9.1. Establish a meeting with the City's Finance and Purchasing Departments in advance of the budget process to discuss the amount of land necessary to fill the parks and recreations service gaps in Bastrop.

9.2. Evaluate and pursue non-traditional funding sources like grants, philanthropies, and sponsorships.

9.3. Work with the City's Finance and Purchasing Departments to identify and project necessary funding levels for the operations and maintenance of existing and future parks and recreational programs.

9.4. Develop and foster partnerships with private sector groups that can share in the operation and maintenance of parks and recreational services.

9.5. Identify potential partnership opportunities with the City's Economic Development Department to apply for grants.

9.6. Amend the City's Code of Ordinance to include a Fee-In-Lieu-Of Parkland Dedication option to be used by developers when land dedication is not available.

9.7. Work with Bastrop County to identify possible funding/cost sharing opportunities for existing and future parks and recreation facilities.



Cooperate and partner with other public and regional agencies to achieve mutual goals related to the region's parks, open space, trails and recreational amenities.

GOAL 10: Regional

GOAL 10 OBJECTIVES:

10.1. Continue to foster the partnerships with the State of Texas and Bastrop County regarding branding and signage for better public understanding of park management, operations, and maintenance.

10.2. At a minimum, meet twice a year with the State of Texas Parks and Wildlife and the Bastrop County to discuss short-, mid-, and long-range parks and recreation plans.

10.3. Actively attend all Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) meetings to identify partnership opportunities with other CAMPO member agencies in the development of the area and regional trails.

10.4. Develop regular (monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly, etc...) meetings with adjacent municipalities to discuss the development of parks, recreation facilities, and trails. Scheduling these

meeting will keep all municipalities aware of proposed projects and identify if there are opportunities to develop project partnerships, share in project funding, or other efficiencies.

10.5. Coordinate with the State of Texas Parks & Wildlife in the development of events that will draw local and out-of-town users to both the State Park and local parks. Such events can be bicycle races, marathons, geocaching (geographical scavenger hunts) events, multi-location fairs, etc..



RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

This section presents various recommendations that can be implemented to meet the parks and recreation needs and demands of the community. The various needs and demands were identified by speaking with citizens at community meetings, by having the citizens participate in the public engagement surveys, interviewing stakeholders, and by having discussions with City officials and staff about the parks and recreation system. Some examples of the recommendations contained in this section include items such as amenities to be added to parks, what recreational programs are missing, potential funding sources, and recommended amendments to codes and policies.

This plan recognizes that the City of Bastrop, just as other cities, operates in its own manner. Bastrop has its own culture, history, rate of development, and levels of funding, just to name a few things that make the City unique to itself, thus the recommended strategies and actions contained in this section have been developed as guidelines which allows the City to adjust and implement them as needed.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

MULTI-GENERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

As this Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan was being developed, the project team was able to identify four general themes which were regularly mentioned by the citizens. These general themes are:

1. Access for All
2. Multi-Generational Activities
3. Improvements & Maintenance
4. Safety & Comfort

These areas should not be seen as any less important than any other in this document. These are subjects which citizens regularly mentioned, thus indicating that these are basic needs the citizens feel are for the good of the parks and recreation system. Recommendations have been provided to assist the City and its staff to meet these needs.

ACCESS FOR ALL

Accessibility to the parks and recreation facilities for all users, regardless of age, gender or ability, is very important not only for physical health reasons, but also for social and mental health purposes. Parks and recreational facilities provide all citizens with opportunities to meet up with friends and family members or to participate in events where new friendships can be made. Such interactions assist people maintain beneficial social and mental health levels. To ensure these opportunities are made available for all of Bastrop's citizens, equal access needs to be provided to the parks and recreational facilities. It is recommended that the City apply all applicable ADA standards and Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS), as well as any additional best-practices in the construction and maintenance of its parks, recreational facilities, paths, and walkways. All playgrounds, comfort facilities, picnic areas, and other amenities should be fully accessible to all users regardless of age, skills, or abilities. It is highly encouraged that all-inclusive park amenities, such as playground equipment, be installed in the park system. These playgrounds consist of features that can accommodate citizens that require the aid of mobility devices such as wheelchairs and walkers.

Throughout the process of obtaining community input, it was heard that more recreational activities need to be made available for all ages groups. Creating parks and recreation systems that target more than one age group has been a growing trend. In a 2018 report created by Heidi Godman (Executive Editor of the Harvard Health Letter) titled *Multi-generational Fitness Parks*, discussed how cities are creating new recreational experiences that include all age groups. Ms. Godman explains that these multi-generational fitness parks are designed to be child-focused but includes recreational equipment that are adult friendly by providing roomy swings, wider slides, and also including exercise equipment that resembles playground equipment. By applying such practices and equipment, the City of Bastrop can begin to offer a wider variety of recreational activities that at one time were identified for one age group or another, but now all age groups can participate in.

User benefits from participating in multi-generational activities was found by Generations United in a study¹ that looked at such programs and activities. Multi-generational recreation programs were seen to provide each age group with physical, mental, and social benefits. Some examples of these benefits are:

- Babies & Pre-schoolers: improved abilities with cooperative play & greater social acceptance.
- Elementary School Children: Increased patience, sensitivity, compassion, respect, and empathy.
- Middle School Children: Improved peer relations, enhanced reasoning, problem-solving, accountability, and conflict resolution.
- High School Students: Increased levels of collective efficacy, social capital, and social cohesion.
- Young Adults: Higher rates of civic engagement and gain skills and knowledge for geriatrics and gerontology.
- Adults: Less worried about aged parents and happy about their civic engagement.
- Older Adults: Decreased social isolation, learn new skills, leadership proficiencies, and knowledge.

¹.Fact Sheet., Generations United., 2021.



Multi-generational activities have been an important role in not only the development of a close family, but have also been important to the development of a united community.

To strengthen its development of multi-generational activities, Bastrop must look to increasing the number of FTEs within the Recreation Division. Currently, the FY23 adopted budget indicates that the City only has two full-time employees for the Recreation Division and those are Recreation Manager and Recreation Worker. To better service the community, it is encouraged that the number FTEs for the Recreation Division be increased as this will provide the division the ability to better plan, operate, and manage recreational events and programs.

IMPROVEMENTS & MAINTENANCE

The conditions of the existing parks and recreational system were identified as being an area of focus for the community. Comments were received stating that the existing parks have great potential, but to reach that potential the City must enhance its levels of improvements and maintenance for the parks and recreation system.

The improvements which were commonly mentioned by members of the community were more trails, updated playgrounds, more shading, more water activities (splash pads, swimming pools, kayaking, tubing), and new restroom facilities. And when it comes to maintenance related items, the citizens encouraged that the City repair the sport courts (basketball/tennis), increase field and brush maintenance, and conduct more regular clean-up of litter and vandalism throughout the parks system. By taking steps to meet these needs, the parks and recreation system will most likely see an increased use in its facilities and amenities.

In order to increase the levels of improvement and maintenance to the parks and recreation system, the City needs to identify opportunities to increase the budgets for the parks and recreation system. It is recommended that Bastrop seeking creative forms of funding from such things as grants, sponsorships, and public/private partnerships. Being able to obtain additional funds through these and other sources, will assist the City to increase the maintenance and improvements to the parks as well as have funds to increase its staffing levels for the parks and recreations system.

COMFORT AND SAFETY

In order of most users to fully enjoy the benefits brought on by parks and recreation systems, the need to provide comfort and safety for the users is important. Are there well-maintained restrooms and benches? Is the park and/or recreational facility visible or is it isolated? These are just some questions that need to be asked to determine the current level of comfort and safety that is being offered. From the community engagement efforts, it was heard that there is a need for more maintenance be done to the restroom facilities and recreational equipment at the parks. Visitors to parks like to make sure that amenities such as well-maintained restrooms, drinking fountains, and benches are available for their comfort. By offering these comfort features, there is a greater chance that the visitors will remain longer. There was also a need for an increase in safety and security. Citizens identified that there are trails in wooded areas which are dark and do not provide much visibility to the user. To counter this, it is recommended that maintenance be done to the trees and brush to increase the level of visibility along the trails. The addition of lighting is also recommended, not only along the trails, but throughout the parks. By adding lighting, just as maintaining the brush, will increase visibility thus making the park system more welcoming. The comfort and safety levels of parks can also be achieved by increasing recreational opportunities at the parks as this will place more people in the area. More people in an area, means there are more eyes to see what is taking place.



The Big 6

- #1** Develop sustainable and robust funding strategies to support the newly envisioned park system, including the development and improvement of parks and their maintenance and operational requirements.
- #2** Improve existing parks, trails and recreational facilities to support the newly envisioned parks system.
- #3** Develop additional trails/trail connections that consider new design standards, address safety concerns and accessibility, and improve citywide connectivity.
- #4** Expand and create additional recreational programming, special events and educational opportunities.
- #5** Identify and acquire land for parks, recreational facilities, and trails/open space/preservation areas.
- #6** Develop an all-inclusive, multi-use Recreational Community Center to support the recreational needs of the community.

The Big Six are items deemed of great importance to the citizens of Bastrop based on the responses to the community engagement survey, stakeholder interviews, and committee meetings. Each of the Big Six items has been detailed with specific information on what the existing status is, what the national standards are, and recommendations on how to achieve the goals. References are also included within the Big Six items to other chapters and sections in this Plan, providing more details and recommendations on specific topics.

NOTE:

This Parks, Recreation, Open Space Master Plan is intended to be utilized as a guiding document, providing a cohesive vision, overall recommendations for the implementation of future park elements, and aid it budget planning. All recommendations are based on site data, gap analysis, and feedback from the community and stakeholders. While this plan gives guidance across all parks, it is recommend that site specific studies and master plans be developed for each individual park.

ONE

GOAL 01 GOAL 02 GOAL 03 GOAL 04 GOAL 05 GOAL 06 GOAL 07 GOAL 08 GOAL 09 GOAL 10



Develop sustainable and robust funding strategies to support the newly envisioned park system, including the development and improvement of parks and their maintenance and operational requirements.

OVERVIEW

The City of Bastrop has adopted a combined budget between the Parks Division and the Recreation Division totaling \$1,291,714.00 for FY2023. Compared to the FY2022 budget of \$1,016,849.00, the FY2023 budget has increased by 27%. When comparing the FY2023 budget to the national standards developed by the NRPA, the City of Bastrop's parks and recreation system budget is in line with the median trend of \$1,200,000 identified by the NRPA for cities similar in size to Bastrop, however this should be seen as a foundation to improve on due to the increasing population and increasing need of parks, recreational programming and amenities.

In order to keep up with the residential growth, the City will need to grow its parks and recreation system to ensure that it is offering the services that its citizens are seeking. To do this, it is essential for the City of Bastrop to identify opportunities for additional funding. A funding matrix has been created for the City's convenience, and it provides a listing of various funding sources and applicable details. These funding sources address a wide range of project types such as the development of trails, special events/programs, or historical projects such as the Old Iron Bridge linear park concept. To increase the City's chances in obtaining funding from these sources, the City's Parks and Recreation divisions can begin to coordinate with

the Finance Department in advance of the budget process to start identifying what additional City funds can be leveraged as matching funds for the grants. As matching funds are identified, the City can take steps to earmark these funds and as the new fiscal year budget is created these funds will be ready to be applied toward obtaining grants. This will look favorably on the City as these proactive steps indicate that it is prepared and is dedicated to the projects the City is seeking the funding for.

Bastrop should also consider various partnerships with private sector businesses, non-profit groups, or other public sector agencies as this can provide opportunities to increase funding for the Parks and Recreation divisions. Private businesses may choose to sponsor the maintenance and operation of a sports field, public sector agencies could agree to cost share the operations or maintenance of a park, or the City may coordinate with a non-profit group to hold regular events at a park where the funds benefit both agencies. Partnerships can provide a wide variety of funding, operating, and maintenance opportunities for the City of Bastrop.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROCESS

In 2016, the City of Bastrop adopted a new comprehensive plan; and with its adoption, it led to the creation of a new uniform capital improvement planning process which established a centralized review process for the City's list of desired projects. Prior to this, the project lists were developed by the individual departments without a centralized review. As described by the Office of Engineering and Capital Project Management, the following steps are used to identify what projects are approved for placement on the five-year Capital Improvement Project (CIP) list. First, potential CIP project requests are submitted to the City by the department heads, through master plans, by members of the City Council, and/or by the general public. These project requests are received by the Office of Engineering and Capital Project Management. One received, meetings are scheduled between the department head, the Assistant City Manager, and the Director of Engineering. During this meeting the project's scope of work, timeline, and estimated costs are reviewed. At this time, projects can either be removed, have the scope of work/timeline/cost estimates adjusted, and/or moved forward to City Council by recommendation of the Assistant City Manager and the Director of Engineering. Once the overall CIP list has been established, it is moved forward to the City Council for their final approval.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROCESS



RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

- Use the various project recommendations, Park Maintenance Observation & Considerations, and the conceptual park master plans included in this PROS document as sources to develop project proposals for the CIP list.
- Develop meetings with other City departments, such as Public Works, to coordinate projects which may be similar in scope such as the construction of sidewalks as part of the trail system. Such project coordination can assist in finding financial synergies between parks and recreation system projects and those from other departments, thus making City projects more efficient in their financing, planning, and construction.
- Meet in advance of the start of the CIP process with the City's Engineering, Finance, and Purchasing Departments to discuss potential projects. By meeting in advance, this will allow for the departments to have sufficient time to coordinate with the Parks and Recreation Divisions to develop a clean scope of work, timeline, cost estimates, and also locate potential funding sources.

FUNDING MATRIX

Funding strategies will differ for each type of facility. However, most of the funding required to address the City of Bastrop's parks, trails and recreation needs come from local sources, primarily the general fund, bond funding, and sales tax revenue. While local funds can be used for improvements to existing parks, open space, and trail projects, they may also be able to contend for federal and state funds.

Communities cannot always foresee the infrastructure investment necessary to advance important projects. The City of Bastrop, as part of the General Fund of the FY2023 budget (\$20,309,180), has allotted 6.4% or \$1,291,714 to support the parks and recreation system. Based on the NRPA standards, Bastrop funding level falls in line with the median budget of \$1,200,000 for cities of comparable population sizes. This is a good foundation set by the City, however it must be kept in mind that the City is growing at a rapid pace and to continually meet the parks and recreational needs of the community, the City of Bastrop must continue to find ways of increasing the available budget for the parks and recreation system. Agency and foundational grants exist for parks and trails and should be pursued to leverage the City's parks and recreation systems budgets and stretch tax dollars. Thus, included in this Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan is a Funding Source Matrix, which highlights several such programs that can support the 10-year implementation strategy.

Knowing which project types are eligible for which funds is important, but just because a project is eligible for funding, doesn't mean it will compete well. Demands on federal and state agency programs far outweigh the money available for funding awards. Applicants must be strategic, understand funding programs and craft competitive application packages. The first step is identifying programs and making a preliminary match between City needs and funding programs. Once a program has been identified, it is critical to get to know the staff at the funding agencies; meet with them and get to know what their priorities are for funding within the eligibility framework. What are their hot button issues and how do they line up with the needs of Bastrop and its citizens? Does Bastrop have a project or a bundle of projects that are truly a good fit for their funding program(s)? A formal funding strategy can be created once projects are programmed into the implementation plan. This is Step 1 in a four-step process. Future steps are:

Step 2. Engage Funding Partners

Step 3. Design Funding Strategy [Roadmap]

Step 4. Craft Applications

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

- ☑ Actively pursue the funding sources provided in the funding matrix included in the City of Bastrop's Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan. The funding matrix has been developed specifically for the City of Bastrop by focusing on park and recreational classifications emphasized by the community needs. Those categories are Parks, Trail Connections, Historic Sites, and Brownfields.
- ☑ Develop short-, mid-, and long-range plans/projects with the City's Finance and Purchasing Departments. Taking this proactive approach will assist in locating funds well in advance of the improvement/maintenance projects taking place as well as establish an annual practice of earmarking funds.
- ☑ Conduct mid-fiscal year assessment of service costs for all programs and facilities. This will assist in identifying any changes in costs which will lead to either request an increase in funds for a program/facility or free up funds which can then be allocated to another parks and recreation system need.
- ☑ Develop partnerships between the City and the private sector through programs such as sponsorships and naming rights. Fees obtained through these programs can be applied to the maintenance and operations of park/recreation facilities. Additionally, as part of the partnership between the City and the business/organization, efficiencies can be identified where one or the other may be found to be more efficient at handling a specific maintenance or operation task, thus freeing up labor or capital that can be implemented on another park and recreation related project, program, or facility.

- ☑ Work in conjunction with Economic Development to leverage each other's strengths to create competitive applications for grant funding opportunities.
- ☑ Implement a Fee-In-Lieu-Of-Dedication option, as this will create an additional funding source which can be used by the parks and recreation system to purchase land to be used for park and recreational facilities.
- ☑ Create a collaborative effort between the City of Bastrop and Bastrop County as supported by the City's Comprehensive Plan in Chapter 2. "City-County coordination facilitates synchronizations of development policies and procedures in Bastrop County and helps to improve regulatory enforcement in the City's ETJ." Such collaboration can lead to the creation of shared responsibilities and opportunities that can benefit each governmental entity. This collaborative effort should be extended to include the State of Texas Parks & Wildlife Department.



Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Trail Connections

Program	Agency	Purpose / Goals	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Use of Funds
Competitive Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Grants	US Economic Development Administration (EDA)	Competitive grants will help tourism communities invest in infrastructure, workforce, or other projects to support the recovery of the industry and economic resilience of the community in the future.	States, cities, counties; Indian tribes; commonwealths and territories of the US; and nonprofits.	(1) Water and stormwater/wastewater improvements. (2) Pier construction and improvements. (3) New outdoor recreation and trail infrastructure and public access enhancements. (4) Nature-based infrastructure and public access enhancements. (5) Cultural, arts, and tourism facilities (e.g., visitor or tourist information centers). (6) Workforce training facilities and capacity building programs. (7) Accessibility enhancements. (8) County-wide or multi-state travel, tourism, or outdoor recreation promotion (Because state and local tourism promotion and marketing projects are eligible uses of funds under State Tourism Grants, such projects are not eligible under the EDA Competitive Tourism Grants component.)
National Parks Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA)	National Parks Service (NPS)	The main focus areas of this program are building healthy communities, conservation, engaging youth in outdoor recreation, and facilitating support between NPS and communities to achieve shared goals.	State and local governments, tribes, nonprofits, or citizen organizations.	This program provides technical assistance to community led conservation and outdoor recreation projects throughout the country. The types of assistance NPS provides includes: community outreach strategies, developing concept plans for trails and parks, creating project management and action plans, engaging collaborative partners and stakeholders, and other consulting services that can be tailored towards the needs of the project.
AARP Foundation Grants	AARP	To improve housing, transportation, public space, technology ("smart cities"), civic engagement and more.	501(C)(3), 501(C)(4) and 501(c)(6) nonprofits, government entities, other types of organizations will be considered on a case-by-case basis.	Prioritize projects that aim to achieve the following outcomes: * Increasing civic engagement with innovative and tangible projects that bring residents and local leaders together to address challenges and facilitate a greater sense of community inclusion and diversity. * Create vibrant public places that improve open spaces, parks and access to other amenities. * Deliver a range of transportation and mobility options that increase connectivity, walkability, bikeability, wayfinding, access to transportation options and roadway improvements. * Support the availability of a range of housing that increases accessible and affordable housing options. * Demonstrate the tangible value of "Smart Cities" with programs that engage residents in accessing, understanding and using data, and participating in decision-making to increase the quality of life for all. * Other community improvements: In addition to the five areas of focus, AARP wants to hear about local needs and new, innovative ideas for addressing them.



Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Trail Connections

Loan or Grant Maximum	Terms/Requirements/ Notes	Funding Cycle	Contact	Website
The program will fund 80-100% of a project between \$500,000 and \$10,000,000. In determining the grant rate, EDA's Grants Officers in the applicable Regional Office will consider on a case-by-case basis whether the circumstances of the proposed project warrant a larger federal share.	Must align with regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) document or the creation of a CEDS.	Anticipate this to be an annual program from the US EDA.	John Edmond; (206) 888-3390; jedmond@eda.gov	https://www.eda.gov/funding/programs/american-rescue-plan/travel-tourism13:J4H4J3:J14
This is a nonmonetary grant program. NPS assists communities by providing a broad range of services and support. They are also helpful in bringing funding partners to the table.	NPS recommends applicants consult with a staff member at least 30 days prior to the application deadline.	This program is offered on an annual basis. Typically due the 1st week of March.	Ericka Pilcher, RTCA_Apps_IMR@nps.gov	https://www.nps.gov/orgs/rtca/apply.htm
Grants can range from several hundred dollars for smaller, short-term activities to several thousand or tens of thousands of dollars for larger projects.	Planning activities not eligible.	Rolling pre-application basis.	Livable@AARP.org	https://www.aarp.org/aarp-foundation/grants/



Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Trail Connections				
Program	Agency	Purpose / Goals	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Use of Funds
A Community Thrives (ACT) Grant Program	USA TODAY Network	To support projects focused on community building	The ACT Challenge is only open to legal entities: incorporated or organized within the 50 United States, Guam, or the District of Columbia, with valid Employer Identification Numbers ("EINs") and physical mailing addresses, located in the U.S., Guam, or District of Columbia and support domestic projects only, and that have and will maintain tax-exempt status under sections 501(c)(3), and 509(a)(1,2) of the Internal Revenue Code throughout the ACT Challenge. Municipalities (for example, divisions of park and recreation, schools) are also eligible to apply. Sponsor and Grant Provider and their respective parents, affiliate companies, subsidiaries, their respective officers, directors, independent contractors, agents, judges, advertising and promotion agencies and anyone involved in the development of the ACT Challenge are not eligible to submit an entry or to receive an award.	National Project Grants can be awarded to any applicant accepted to the challenge after the organization meets the fundraising minimum. Grants will range from \$25,000 to \$100,000. Local Operating Grants can be awarded to any applicant that serves a local Gannett market, accepted to the challenge, after the organization meets the fundraising minimum. Minimum grants will be \$2,500. Incentive Grants will be awarded based on fundraising success. A total of \$200,000 will be awarded during the Fundraising phase of the Campaign to those qualifying organizations that raise the most funds or activate the most unique donors. See full description below. Nonprofits who would like to be considered for the National Project and Local Operating grants must fundraise through the crowdfunding campaign, A Community Thrives Challenge, and raise a minimum amount depending on the organization's operating budget. Organizations must fundraise to be eligible for the "bonus" incentive grants.
Community Grants	People for Bikes	To build momentum for bicycling in communities across the U.S.	Non-profit organizations, city or county agencies or departments, and state or federal agencies working locally	Bicycle infrastructure projects such as: Bike paths, lanes, trails, and bridges; Mountain bike facilities; Bike parks and pump tracks; BMX facilities; End-of-trip facilities such as bike racks, bike parking, bike repair stations and bike storage.

Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Trail Connections				
Loan or Grant Maximum	Terms/Requirements/ Notes	Funding Cycle	Contact	Website
Tier 1 organizations will be those organizations that entered an Annual Operating Budget of less than \$500,000 in their application, and must raise \$3,000. Tier 2 organizations will be those organizations that entered an Annual Operating Budget of \$500,000 or more in their application, and must raise \$6,000 minimum.	-	No current open grant cycles.	foundation@gannett.com	https://www.gannettfoundation.org/act/
Grant, 50% up to \$10,000	Two-step application process: 1. Letter of Interest 2. Full Application: PFB will request a full project application from a short list of qualified applicants.	No current open grant cycles.	Zoe Kircos, (720) 726-3335 zoe@peopleforbikes.org	https://peopleforbikes.org/our-work/community-grants/

Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Trail Connections

Program	Agency	Purpose / Goals	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Use of Funds
Local Parks Grants	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)	The Local Park Grant Program consists of 5 individual programs that assist local governments with the acquisition and/or development of public recreation areas and facilities throughout the State of Texas. Emphasis on public health, safety, the natural environment, barrier-free access, and the protection of recreational community values of the area.	The 5 different grant programs include: Small Community (eligible population <20,000), Nonurban Outdoor Recreation (<500,000 people), Nonurban Indoor Recreation (<500,000), Urban Outdoor Recreation (>500,000), and Urban Indoor Recreation (>500,000). Eligible applicants includes cities, counties, river authorities, municipal utility districts, and other special districts. All grant applications must receive at least one public hearing prior to submission.	Eligible projects may consist of basic outdoor recreation facilities and related support facilities that serve the general public. Facilities may be developed, renovated, or redeveloped on lands or water owned or controlled by the applicant. Examples of eligible development projects: playgrounds, trails, golf courses, sports courts, community gardens, recreational support facilities.
Local Parks Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)	To assist local units of government with the acquisition and/or development of public recreation areas and facilities throughout the State of Texas.	Eligible applicants includes 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. For this program, community must be 500,000 or less in population.	Acquisition and/or development of public recreation areas and facilities. Points may be received through the applicable "Project Priority Scoring System" for projects which meet priorities identified in Department-accepted, locally-endorsed parks, recreation, and open space master plans. A jurisdiction wide master plan is NOT required to participate in the grant program, nor does Texas Parks & Wildlife Department's acceptance of a plan guarantee that points will be awarded for any project. There are no points in the Small Community scoring criteria for having a master plan. Master Plans must be submitted to TPWD at least 60 days prior to the grant deadline in which you wish to participate in order to be considered for points.
Recreational Trails Grants	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)	In conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration, this federally funded program receives its funding from federal gas taxes paid on fuel used in non-highway recreational vehicles.	Local Governments	Funds can be spent on both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail projects such as the construction of new recreational trails, improvements to existing trails, navigational aids such as signage, development of trailheads or trailside facilities, and to acquire trail corridors.



Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Trail Connections

Loan or Grant Maximum	Terms/Requirements/ Notes	Funding Cycle	Contact	Website
Grant funds are provided on a matching basis with the local applicant providing 50% of the project costs that must be available at the time of the application. The grant ceiling for the Local Parks Nonurban Outdoor Recreation Program is \$750,000. The grant ceiling for the Nonurban Indoor Recreation Program is \$1 million.	For Small Community and Non-Urban Outdoor and Indoor Recreation Grants Programs, all active projects that are at least 2 years old must be reimbursed for a minimum of 50% of the approved grant amount. The total of approved grant funds that have not been reimbursed may not exceed \$2 million for all active grant projects.	Local Parks Grants are funded on an annual basis. Applications typically open at the beginning of September with an application deadline of December 4th. Awards are announced in May.	Local Parks Program Manager Dan Reece, (512) 389-4656, dan.reece@tpwd.texas.gov	https://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/about-local-parks-grants
Will fund 50% of project costs, up to \$750,000.	All grant assisted sites must be dedicated as parkland in perpetuity, properly maintained and open to the public. All applicants must hold at least one public hearing prior to submission.	Annually, October 1.	Dan Reece, (512) 389-4656 dan.reece@tpwd.texas.gov	
Maximum award of \$200,000 for non-motorized trail grants and maximum award of \$400,000 for motorized trail grants.	Reimbursable grants can be up to 80% of project costs.	The annual application deadline is February 1st. Awards are typically announced in May. In 2016, TPWD approved \$3.54 million in recreational trail grants to fund 22 projects throughout the state.	Recreational Trails Program Manager Trey Cooksey, (512) 389-8743, trey.cooksey@tpwd.texas.gov	https://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/recreational-trails-grants



Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Trail Connections

Program	Agency	Purpose / Goals	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Use of Funds
Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP)	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)	To engage the target under-represented audiences in outdoor recreation, environmental education and conservation.	Tax-exempt organizations such as local government, Universities, school districts, and non-profit organizations.	Programming for outdoor recreation, environmental education, and / or conservation. Eligible expenses include: Personnel, Food and Travel, Training, Participant liability insurance, Fees (Park, Program, and Lodging fees), Outdoor service project expenses, Supplies and equipment. Funds cannot be used for facility construction projects, gazebos, ponds, benches, trail building, etc. The CO-OP grant is to be used to fund programs, not construction projects.
Governor's Community Achievement Awards	Keep Texas Beautiful in partnership with Texas Department of Transportation	To award Texas communities for their outstanding overall efforts to keep their communities beautiful.	Texas communities	The funds are to be used for landscaping projects along local rights-of-way. A community's environmental program is judged on achievements in seven areas: community leadership and coordination, public awareness, education, beautification and community improvement, litter prevention and cleanup, solid waste management, litter law and illegal dumping enforcement.
Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA)	Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA)	Investing in a creative Texas.	Any county, municipality, or other political subdivision of Texas undertaking a public construction project estimated to cost more than \$250k	Staff are available to advise on conducting a public art project ranging from scoping the project, developing the RFP, identifying committee members, developing a review process, intellectual property rights, conservation, etc.
Our Town	National Endowment for the Arts	Supports projects that integrate arts, culture, and design activities into efforts that strengthen communities by advancing local economic, physical, and/or social outcomes.	Partnerships required between governmental, nonprofit, and private sector leadership. These partnerships must involve two primary partners, as defined by these guidelines: Nonprofit organization; Local government entity; and one of these two primary partners must be a cultural (arts or design) organization.	Projects may include activities such as: Arts Engagement: Artist residency, Arts festivals, Community co-creation of art, Performances, Public art; Cultural Planning: Creating a cultural plan, or integrating plans and policies around arts and culture as part of a city master planning process, Cultural district planning, Creative asset mapping, Public art planning; Design: Artist/designer-facilitated community planning, Design of artist space, Design of cultural facilities i.e. design processes to support the creation of a dedicated building or space for creating and/or showcasing arts and culture, Public space design i.e. The process of designing elements of public infrastructure, or spaces where people congregate (e.g., parks, plazas, landscapes, neighborhoods, districts, infrastructure, and artist-produced elements of streetscapes). Artist and Creative Industry Support: Creative business development, Professional artist development.

Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Trail Connections

Loan or Grant Maximum	Terms/Requirements/ Notes	Funding Cycle	Contact	Website
Grants up to \$60,000; no match required.	Target demographics include female, ethnic minority, low income, and individuals with a disability. Projects can serve other audiences, however, proposals who serve the target audience will be more competitive in the scoring evaluation process.	Annually, November 1.	Carly Blankenship (512) 389-8209 carly.blankenship@tpwd.texas.gov	https://tpwd-recgrants.intelligrants.com/Portal2.aspx?&sitID=15
Ten winning communities will split \$2 million with the amount awarded based on population size. Ranges from category 1 (<3,000 population) receiving \$90k through category 10 (>180,000 population) receiving \$310K.	After being awarded an applicant is not eligible for four years.	Applications for the 2023 awards are closed. Anticipate 2024 annual cycle will open January 2024.	Sara Nichols- sara@ktb.org	https://www.ktb.org/gcaa
No maximum grant amount or matching requirements listed	A percent not to exceed one percent of the cost of the construction project shall be used for fine arts projects.	No cycles listed.	Laura Wiegand (512)-936-6565 laura@arts.texas.gov	https://www.arts.texas.gov/initiatives/public-art/
Grants range from \$25,000 - \$150,000 with 50% non-federal match required.	Project may be subject to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and/ or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).	Annual program, typically in August.	OT@arts.gov	https://www.arts.gov/grants-organizations/our-town/grant-program-description

Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Trail Connections

Program	Agency	Purpose / Goals	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Use of Funds
Asphalt Art Initiative	Bloomberg Philanthropies	Using art to reimagine roadways and vertical infrastructure, improving street safety, revitalizing public spaces, and bringing communities together.	U.S. cities with populations of approximately 30,000-500,000	Three categories: 1. ART ON THE ROADWAY - mural projects on paved areas that are accessible to motor vehicles, such as intersections, crosswalks, and other surfaces within the active roadway. 2. ART IN PEDESTRIAN SPACE - art projects on paved areas that are inaccessible to motor vehicles while the artwork is in place, such as curb and sidewalk extensions as well as any surface that has been temporarily or permanently converted into a public space or plaza. 3. ART ON VERTICAL INFRASTRUCTURE - art projects installed on vertical infrastructure, including utility boxes, traffic barriers, and highway underpasses.
Community Grants	People for Bikes	To build momentum for bicycling in communities across the U.S.	Non-profit organizations, city or county agencies or departments, and state or federal agencies working locally	Bicycle infrastructure projects such as: Bike paths, lanes, trails, and bridges; Mountain bike facilities; Bike parks and pump tracks; BMX facilities; End-of-trip facilities such as bike racks, bike parking, bike repair stations and bike storage.
Healthy Kids, Healthy Families® (HKHF)	Blue Cross Blue Shield of TX	To support the health and well-being of the children and families across the states in which we operate through four focus areas: American Lung Association, Physical Activity, Mobile Health Vans, Food Banks.	Nonprofit organizations with 501(c)3 IRS status or government, civic and cultural organizations in Texas.	The program must be measurable and demonstrate how the goals will be met as defined in the grant proposal. The community lead organization must be a nonprofit, tax exempt, 501(c) (3) organization; have the financial capacity and qualified staff to oversee and manage the project (defined as organizations operating a current annual budget of \$2 million or more); collaborate on proposed program with a health partner – i.e., hospital, clinic, federally qualified health center.
Hometown Grants	T-Mobile	To support small towns across America by funding community projects.	Small towns with populations less than 50,000.	Projects to build, rebuild, or refresh community spaces that help foster local connections in the town. For example, this might include the town square pavilion, a historic building, an outdoor park, a ball field, or a library -- places where friends and neighbors connect.



Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Trail Connections

Loan or Grant Maximum	Terms/Requirements/ Notes	Funding Cycle	Contact	Website
Maximum grant award is \$25,000; no match required; however, competitive proposals will include in-kind support from the municipality and/or funding from other sources.	Eligible sites can include portions of active roadways, sidewalks, pedestrian plazas, or transportation infrastructure such as traffic barriers, highway underpasses, or utility boxes. Sites may be located in and managed by one or multiple jurisdictions (city, state or county, public utility, regional transit authority, etc.) but must be largely or completely on public property and be fully open to the public.	Rolling application period; no deadline for submittal.		https://asphaltart.bloomberg.org/grants/
Grant, 50% up to \$10,000	Two-step application process: 1. Letter of Interest 2. Full Application: PFB will request a full project application from a short list of qualified applicants.	No current open grant cycles.	Zoe Kircos, (720) 726-3335 zoe@peopleforbikes.org	https://peopleforbikes.org/our-work/community-grants/
For this grant program, they defer to the expertise of the applicants on the funding needed to run a successful program. The intention is that the requested amount should reflect the robustness and effectiveness of the proposed program and be put within the context of the specific needs and challenges of the communities involved.	Recent Texas park example: "We're working to get kids physically active with Imagination Playground, a ground-breaking pop-up playground design with uniquely shaped foam blocks and loose parts that help kids play creatively. With the addition of shade structures to 34 Texas playgrounds, we're helping kids and families have more sun-safe access to great places to play."	Annual grant solicitation, typically letters of intent are due mid August with full applications (if invited) due end of September.	healthykidshealthyfamilies@hcsc.net	
Up to \$50,000.	Applicants will be notified 30-60 days after the end of each quarter on the status of the submission.	Applications will be open on a quarterly basis with the following schedule: Spring: Jan – March Summer: April – June Fall: July – Sept Winter: Oct – Dec Portal will close on the last day of each quarter and reopen for the new quarter on the first of the month.		https://www.t-mobile.com/brand/hometown-grants



Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Parks

Program	Agency	Purpose / Goals	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Use of Funds
Our Town	National Endowment for the Arts	Supports projects that integrate arts, culture, and design activities into efforts that strengthen communities by advancing local economic, physical, and/or social outcomes.	Partnerships required between governmental, nonprofit, and private sector leadership. These partnerships must involve two primary partners, as defined by these guidelines: Nonprofit organization; Local government entity; and one of these two primary partners must be a cultural (arts or design) organization.	Projects may include activities such as: Arts Engagement: Artist residency, Arts festivals, Community co-creation of art, Performances, Public art; Cultural Planning: Creating a cultural plan, or integrating plans and policies around arts and culture as part of a city master planning process, Cultural district planning, Creative asset mapping, Public art planning; Design: Artist/designer-facilitated community planning, Design of artist space, Design of cultural facilities i.e. design processes to support the creation of a dedicated building or space for creating and/or showcasing arts and culture, Public space design i.e. The process of designing elements of public infrastructure, or spaces where people congregate (e.g., parks, plazas, landscapes, neighborhoods, districts, infrastructure, and artist-produced elements of streetscapes). Artist and Creative Industry Support: Creative business development, Professional artist development.
National Parks Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA)	National Parks Service (NPS)	The main focus areas of this program are building healthy communities, conservation, engaging youth in outdoor recreation, and facilitating support between NPS and communities to achieve shared goals.	State and local governments, tribes, nonprofits, or citizen organizations.	This program provides technical assistance to community led conservation and outdoor recreation projects throughout the country. The types of assistance NPS provides includes: community outreach strategies, developing concept plans for trails and parks, creating project management and action plans, engaging collaborative partners and stakeholders, and other consulting services that can be tailored towards the needs of the project.



Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Parks

Loan or Grant Maximum	Terms/Requirements/ Notes	Funding Cycle	Contact	Website
Grants range from \$25,000 - \$150,000 with 50% non-federal match required.	Project may be subject to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and/or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).	Annual program, typically in August.	OT@arts.gov	https://www.arts.gov/grants-organizations/our-town/grant-program-description
This is a nonmonetary grant program. NPS assists communities by providing a broad range of services and support. They are also helpful in bringing funding partners to the table.	NPS recommends applicants consult with a staff member at least 30 days prior to the application deadline.	This program is offered on an annual basis. Typically due the 1st week of March.	Ericka Pilcher, RTCA_Apps_IMR@nps.gov	https://www.nps.gov/orgs/rtca/apply.htm



Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Parks

Program	Agency	Purpose / Goals	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Use of Funds
AARP Foundation Grants	AARP	To improve housing, transportation, public space, technology ("smart cities"), civic engagement and more.	501(C)(3), 501(C)(4) and 501(c)(6) nonprofits, government entities, other types of organizations will be considered on a case-by-case basis.	<p>Prioritize projects that aim to achieve the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Increasing civic engagement with innovative and tangible projects that bring residents and local leaders together to address challenges and facilitate a greater sense of community inclusion and diversity. * Create vibrant public places that improve open spaces, parks and access to other amenities. * Deliver a range of transportation and mobility options that increase connectivity, walkability, bikeability, wayfinding, access to transportation options and roadway improvements. * Support the availability of a range of housing that increases accessible and affordable housing options. * Demonstrate the tangible value of "Smart Cities" with programs that engage residents in accessing, understanding and using data, and participating in decision-making to increase the quality of life for all. * Other community improvements: In addition to the five areas of focus, AARP wants to hear about local needs and new, innovative ideas for addressing them.
A Community Thrives (ACT) Grant Program	USA TODAY Network	To support projects focused on community building	<p>The ACT Challenge is only open to legal entities: incorporated or organized within the 50 United States, Guam, or the District of Columbia, with valid Employer Identification Numbers ("EINs") and physical mailing addresses, located in the U.S., Guam, or District of Columbia and support domestic projects only, and that have and will maintain tax-exempt status under sections 501(c)(3), and 509(a)(1,2) of the Internal Revenue Code throughout the ACT Challenge. Municipalities (for example, departments of park and recreation, schools) are also eligible to apply. Sponsor and Grant Provider and their respective parents, affiliate companies, subsidiaries, their respective officers, directors, independent contractors, agents, judges, advertising and promotion agencies and anyone involved in the development of the ACT Challenge are not eligible to submit an entry or to receive an award.</p>	<p>National Project Grants can be awarded to any applicant accepted to the challenge after the organization meets the fundraising minimum. Grants will range from \$25,000 to \$100,000.</p> <p>Local Operating Grants can be awarded to any applicant that serves a local Gannett market, accepted to the challenge, after the organization meets the fundraising minimum. Minimum grants will be \$2,500.</p> <p>Incentive Grants will be awarded based on fundraising success. A total of \$200,000 will be awarded during the Fundraising phase of the Campaign to those qualifying organizations that raise the most funds or activate the most unique donors. See full description below.</p> <p>Nonprofits who would like to be considered for the National Project and Local Operating grants must fundraise through the crowdfunding campaign, A Community Thrives Challenge, and raise a minimum amount depending on the organization's operating budget. Organizations must fundraise to be eligible for the "bonus" incentive grants.</p>



Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Parks

Loan or Grant Maximum	Terms/Requirements/ Notes	Funding Cycle	Contact	Website
Grants can range from several hundred dollars for smaller, short-term activities to several thousand or tens of thousands of dollars for larger projects.	Planning activities not eligible.	Rolling pre-application.	Livable@AARP.org	https://www.aarp.org/aarp-foundation/grants/
Tier 1 organizations will be those organizations that entered an Annual Operating Budget of less than \$500,000 in their application, and must raise \$3,000. Tier 2 organizations will be those organizations that entered an Annual Operating Budget of \$500,000 or more in their application, and must raise \$6,000 minimum.	-	No current open grant cycles.	foundation@gannett.com	https://www.gannettfoundation.org/act/



Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Parks				
Program	Agency	Purpose / Goals	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Use of Funds
ARTPLACE America	Collaboration among a number of foundations, federal agencies, and financial institutions	A future of equitable, healthy, and sustainable communities in which everyone has a voice and agency in creating contextual, adaptive, and responsive solutions.	Five groups: civic, social and faith, commercial, government, nonprofit, and philanthropy	Broad definition of art: craft and culinary arts, dance, design and architecture, film and media, folk and traditional, literature, music, visual arts, theater and performance, and other formal and informal creative practices.
Local Parks Grants	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)	The Local Park Grant Program consists of 5 individual programs that assist local governments with the acquisition and/or development of public recreation areas and facilities throughout the State of Texas. Emphasis on public health, safety, the natural environment, barrier-free access, and the protection of recreational community values of the area.	The 5 different grant programs include: Small Community (eligible population <20,000), Nonurban Outdoor Recreation (<500,000 people), Nonurban Indoor Recreation (<500,000), Urban Outdoor Recreation (>500,000), and Urban Indoor Recreation (>500,000). Eligible applicants includes cities, counties, river authorities, municipal utility districts, and other special districts. All grant applications must receive at least one public hearing prior to submission.	Eligible projects may consist of basic outdoor recreation facilities and related support facilities that serve the general public. Facilities may be developed, renovated, or redeveloped on lands or water owned or controlled by the applicant. Examples of eligible development projects: playgrounds, trails, golf courses, sports courts, community gardens, recreational support facilities.

Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Parks				
Loan or Grant Maximum	Terms/Requirements/ Notes	Funding Cycle	Contact	Website
Dependent on foundation	Dependent on foundation	Dependent on foundation.	sarah.westlake@art-placeamerica.org	http://www.artplaceamerica.org/about/introduction
Grant funds are provided on a matching basis with the local applicant providing 50% of the project costs that must be available at the time of the application. The grant ceiling for the Local Parks Nonurban Outdoor Recreation Program is \$750,000. The grant ceiling for the Nonurban Indoor Recreation Program is \$1 million.	For Small Community and Non-Urban Outdoor and Indoor Recreation Grants Programs, all active projects that are at least 2 years old must be reimbursed for a minimum of 50% of the approved grant amount. The total of approved grant funds that have not been reimbursed may not exceed \$2 million for all active grant projects.	Local Parks Grants are funded on an annual basis. Applications typically open at the beginning of September with an application deadline of December 4th. Awards are announced in May.	Local Parks Program Manager Dan Reece, (512) 389-4656, dan.reece@tpwd.texas.gov	https://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/about-local-parks-grants

Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Parks				
Program	Agency	Purpose / Goals	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Use of Funds
Local Parks Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)	To assist local units of government with the acquisition and/or development of public recreation areas and facilities throughout the State of Texas.	Eligible applicants includes 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. For this program, community must be 500,000 or less in population.	Acquisition and/or development of public recreation areas and facilities. Points may be received through the applicable "Project Priority Scoring System" for projects which meet priorities identified in Department-accepted, locally-endorsed parks, recreation, and open space master plans. A jurisdiction wide master plan is NOT required to participate in the grant program, nor does Texas Parks & Wildlife Department's acceptance of a plan guarantee that points will be awarded for any project. There are no points in the Small Community scoring criteria for having a master plan. Master Plans must be submitted to TPWD at least 60 days prior to the grant deadline in which you wish to participate in order to be considered for points.
Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP)	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)	To engage the target under-represented audiences in outdoor recreation, environmental education and conservation.	Tax-exempt organizations such as local government, Universities, school districts, and non-profit organizations.	Programming for outdoor recreation, environmental education, and / or conservation. Eligible expenses include: Personnel, Food and Travel, Training, Participant liability insurance, Fees (Park, Program, and Lodging fees), Outdoor service project expenses, Supplies and equipment. Funds cannot be used for facility construction projects, gazebos, ponds, benches, trail building, etc. The CO-OP grant is to be used to fund programs, not construction projects.
Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA)	Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA)	Investing in a creative Texas.	Any county, municipality, or other political subdivision of Texas undertaking a public construction project estimated to cost more than \$250k	Staff are available to advise on conducting a public art project ranging from scoping the project, developing the RFP, identifying committee members, developing a review process, intellectual property rights, conservation, etc.
Asphalt Art Initiative	Bloomberg Philanthropies	Using art to reimagine roadways and vertical infrastructure, improving street safety, revitalizing public spaces, and bringing communities together.	U.S. cities with populations of approximately 30,000-500,000	Three categories: 1. ART ON THE ROADWAY - mural projects on paved areas that are accessible to motor vehicles, such as intersections, crosswalks, and other surfaces within the active roadway. 2. ART IN PEDESTRIAN SPACE - art projects on paved areas that are inaccessible to motor vehicles while the artwork is in place, such as curb and sidewalk extensions as well as any surface that has been temporarily or permanently converted into a public space or plaza. 3. ART ON VERTICAL INFRASTRUCTURE - art projects installed on vertical infrastructure, including utility boxes, traffic barriers, and highway underpasses.

Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Parks				
Loan or Grant Maximum	Terms/Requirements/ Notes	Funding Cycle	Contact	Website
Will fund 50% of project costs, up to \$750,000.	All grant assisted sites must be dedicated as parkland in perpetuity, properly maintained and open to the public. All applicants must hold at least one public hearing prior to submission.	Annually, October 1.	Dan Reece, (512) 389-4656 dan.reece@tpwd.texas.gov	
Grants up to \$60,000; no match required.	Target demographics include female, ethnic minority, low income, and individuals with a disability. Projects can serve other audiences, however, proposals who serve the target audience will be more competitive in the scoring evaluation process.	Annually, November 1.	Carly Blankenship (512) 389-8209 carly.blankenship@tpwd.texas.gov	https://tpwd-recgrants.intelligentgrants.com/Portal2.aspx?&siteID=15
No maximum grant amount or matching requirements listed	A percent not to exceed one percent of the cost of the construction project shall be used for fine arts projects.	No cycles listed.	Laura Wiegand (512)-936-6565 laura@arts.texas.gov	https://www.arts.texas.gov/initiatives/public-art/
Maximum grant award is \$25,000; no match required; however, competitive proposals will include in-kind support from the municipality and/or funding from other sources.	Eligible sites can include portions of active roadways, sidewalks, pedestrian plazas, or transportation infrastructure such as traffic barriers, highway underpasses, or utility boxes. Sites may be located in and managed by one or multiple jurisdictions (city, state or county, public utility, regional transit authority, etc.) but must be largely or completely on public property and be fully open to the public.	Rolling application period; no deadline for submittal.		https://asphaltart.bloomberg.org/grants/



Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Historical Sites

Program	Agency	Purpose / Goals	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Use of Funds
Texas Main Street Program	Texas Historical Commission	To provide technical expertise, resources and support for Texas communities in the preservation and revitalization of historic downtowns and commercial neighborhood districts in accord with the National Main Street Four Point Approach® of organization, economic vitality, design and promotion.	Main Street Cities	Access to resources for downtown revitalization
Hometown Grants	T-Mobile	To support small towns across America by funding community projects.	Small towns with populations less than 50,000.	Projects to build, rebuild, or refresh community spaces that help foster local connections in the town. For example, this might include the town square pavilion, a historic building, an outdoor park, a ball field, or a library -- places where friends and neighbors connect.

Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Historical Sites

Loan or Grant Maximum	Terms/Requirements/Notes	Funding Cycle	Contact	Website
No set amount. No application fee.	Texas Historical Commission selects up to five cities for official Main Street designation. Historic neighborhood commercial districts are also eligible to apply.	Applications are typically accepted once each year on the last working day of July for entrance the following January.	debra.drescher@thc.texas.gov	https://www.thc.texas.gov/becoming-main-street-community
Up to \$50,000.	Applicants will be notified 30-60 days after the end of each quarter on the status of the submission.	Applications will be open on a quarterly basis with the following schedule: Spring: Jan – March Summer: April – June Fall: July – Sept Winter: Oct – Dec Portal will close on the last day of each quarter and reopen for the new quarter on the first of the month.	-	https://www.t-mobile.com/brand/hometown-grants

Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Brownfields

Program	Agency	Purpose / Goals	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Use of Funds
Brownfields Assessment Grant	United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)	To empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields.	County, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority, school district, special district, intrastate district, council of governments (whether or not incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under state law), any other regional or interstate government entity, or any agency or instrumentality of a local government.	Provides funding to inventory, characterize, assess, conduct a range of planning activities, develop site-specific cleanup plans, and conduct community involvement related to brownfield sites.
Region 6 Targeted Brownfields Assessment	U.S. EPA	To provide funding for brownfield inventories, planning, environmental assessments, and cleanup planning.	Local units of government, quasi-public entities, non-profit entities, tribal governments, private owners may also be eligible	Phase I and II ESAs, clean up planning, SAPs, cleanup cost estimates
Brownfield Site Assessment Program	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	The Brownfields program supports communities by assessing and assisting with the redevelopment and revitalization of these properties, broadly referred to as Brownfields.	States; Cities; Local Governments; Tribes; Nonprofit Organizations; Regional Councils of Governments; Redevelopment Agencies	records review; site reconnaissance; interviews with past and current owners, operators, neighbors, governmental officials; sampling performed under TDEQ contract



Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Brownfields

Loan or Grant Maximum	Terms/Requirements/ Notes	Funding Cycle	Contact	Website
No match required; maximum amounts for the Community-wide grant - \$500,000	Must address eligible contamination: hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants (including hazardous substances comingled with petroleum), and/or petroleum.	Annual program; current cycle is closed and will open for FY2024 in the fall of 2023.	Althea Foster, (214) 665-2268 Foster.Althea@epa.gov (US EPA Region 6)	https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-assessment-grants
No loan or grant maximum	May take up to 180 days to get a final document	Year-round until funding runs out	Althea Foster, (214) 665-2268 Foster.Althea@epa.gov (US EPA Region 6)	https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/types-brownfields-grant-funding
No set amount sites are chosen on a case by case review of application	The site must meet one of the following criteria: owned or plan to be owned by the applying local government; property taxes must be owed to the local government on the site and foreclosure for failure to pay those taxes; or redevelopment and/or long-term beneficial use by the local government or non-profit organization.	Year-round until funding runs out	Christine Whitney; (512) 239-0843; brnfls@tceq.texas.gov	https://www.tceq.texas.gov/remediation/bsa/Forms.html



Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Brownfields				
Program	Agency	Purpose / Goals	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Use of Funds
Brownfields Clean Up Grants	U.S EPA	To empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields.	County, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority, school district, special district, intrastate district, council of governments (whether or not incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under state law), any other regional or interstate government entity, or any agency or instrumentality of a local government.	To carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites owned by the applicant. Funds may be used to address sites contaminated by petroleum and/or hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants (including hazardous substances comingled with petroleum). Can address either a single brownfield site or multiple brownfield sites within the same application.
Brownfield Response Program	Railroad Commission of Texas	Provide grant-funded Phase I and II Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) for targeted Brownfields sites. Provide no cost cleanups on qualified sites. Coordinate the approach to site assessment, cleanup and redevelopment through the RRC's Voluntary Cleanup Program.	local governments, non-profit organizations, tribes, universities, school districts and economic development corporations	Phase I and II ESAs, cleanups on qualified sites, coordinate the approach to site assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment through the RRC's Voluntary Cleanup Program

Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Brownfields				
Loan or Grant Maximum	Terms/Requirements/ Notes	Funding Cycle	Contact	Website
Grant up to \$500,000; 20% non-federal maved was waived for FY2023 may be waived in FY2024.	An applicant must own the site for which it is requesting funding. The performance period for these grants is three years.	Annual program; current cycle is closed and will open for FY2024 in the fall of 2023.	Althea Foster, (214) 665-2268 Foster.Althea@epa.gov (EPA Region 6)	https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/types-brownfields-grant-funding
No set amount sites are chosen on a case by case review of application	The site does not need to be owned by applicant and can have a developer involved	Year-round until funding runs out	Brownfields Response Program (BRP) Site Remediation Section Oil and Gas Division Phone: 512-463-6765 Email: SR-VCP-BRP@rrc.texas.gov.	https://www.rrc.texas.gov/oil-gas/environmental-cleanup-programs/site-remediation/grant-cleanup-programs/brp/

Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Events & Programming

Program	Agency	Purpose / Goals	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Use of Funds
ARTPLACE America	Collaboration among a number of foundations, federal agencies, and financial institutions	A future of equitable, healthy, and sustainable communities in which everyone has a voice and agency in creating contextual, adaptive, and responsive solutions.	Five groups: civic, social and faith, commercial, government, nonprofit, and philanthropy	Broad definition of art: craft and culinary arts, dance, design and architecture, film and media, folk and traditional, literature, music, visual arts, theater and performance, and other formal and informal creative practices.
Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA)	TCA	Investing in a creative Texas	Any county, municipality, or other political subdivision of Texas undertaking a public construction project estimated to cost more than \$250k	Staff are available to advise on conducting a public art project ranging from scoping the project, developing the RFP, identifying committee members, developing a review process, intellectual property rights, conservation, etc.

Potential Funding Sources for Bastrop, TX - Events & Programming

Loan or Grant Maximum	Terms/Requirements/Notes	Funding Cycle	Contact	Website
Dependent on foundation	Dependent on foundation	Dependent on foundation	sarah.westlake@artplaceamerica.org	http://www.artplaceamerica.org/about/introduction
No maximum grant amount or matching requirements listed	A percent not to exceed one percent of the cost of the construction project shall be used for fine arts projects.	No cycles listed	Laura Wiegand (512) 936-6565 laura@arts.texas.gov	https://www.arts.texas.gov/initiatives/public-art/

TWO



Improve existing parks, trails, and recreational facilities to support the newly envisioned parks system.

OVERVIEW

The community engagement survey indicated that residents do not use the parks and recreation system in Bastrop because the system does not meet their needs or interests. Nearly 50% of the respondents felt their park and recreation needs were simply not being met. This is further supported by 45% of the respondents agreeing with the statement “I believe that the city should more fully develop the parkland and greenspace that it already owns.” When asked about their satisfaction with recreational programming, for all age groups, the majority of the responses indicated dissatisfaction. The citizens of Bastrop want to see more in their existing parks and recreation system.

50%

of the survey respondents believe their **park and recreation needs were simply not being met**

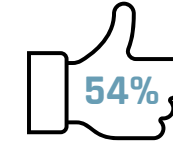
45%

of the survey respondents believe that **the city should more fully develop the parkland and greenspace that it already own**

As the project team analyzed the feedback provided through the online engagement survey, the stakeholder interviews, and the meetings with City staff, it became evident that are specific improvements which would make the parks and recreation system more appealing. Examples of those improvements include:

- Addition of swimming pools
- More hike and bike trails connecting throughout the city
- Accessibility for everyone
- More playgrounds
- A community center
- More shade at the parks
- More restroom facilities at the parks
- More water activities

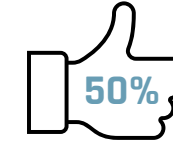
It is important that the City take steps to achieve these improvements, along with others that have been identified in the Needs Assessment section of this Master Plan document. The citizens of Bastrop support the improving of the existing parks and recreation system and the funding necessary to achieve such improvements. The existing budget for the parks and recreation system is combined total of \$1,291,714 (between Parks Division and Recreation Division) and while this budget is in line with other cities of similar sized populations, it should be seen as a starting point for Bastrop due to the expected increase in population. Additionally, it is recommended that the existing budget be increased. When they were asked about how strongly they would support the use of various funding options to help improve the parks and recreation system, 54% of survey respondents indicated they would support the use of voter approved bond programs; 55% support the City applying for grant funding to obtain funds to improve the parks and recreation system; and in a more creative direction, 50% support the use of corporate advertising/naming rights as an avenue to acquire funds to the improvements. Bastrop’s citizens have shown support for a variety of funding options, which increases opportunities for the parks and recreation system to not only pursue physical improvements but programming improvements as well.



Support the use of voter approved bond programs



Support the City applying for grant funding



Support the use of corporate advertising/naming rights to acquire funds

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

- Coordinate with the Finance Department to identify creative funding options for park and recreation system improvement projects.
- Work with other city departments, such as Public Works, to coordinate projects where efficiencies may be found.
- Develop signage and branding for the parks and recreation system.
- Conduct an inspection of facilities and amenities at the existing parks. Develop a rating system to determine the level of maintenance and/or repairs needed.

BASTROP WAYFINDING



POTENTIAL COST RANGE FOR EACH SIGN TYPE: **\$50,000-\$60,000** **\$15,000-\$20,000** **\$5,000-\$10,000** **\$3,000-\$5,000**

If a facility/amenity is deemed as irreparable and/or unsafe for continued use, the City should take steps to replace the facility/amenity with an upgraded version.

- Use the proposed concept plans as a foundation on what type of improvements to move forward with to enhance the following parks:
 - Bob Bryant Park
 - Fisherman’s Park
 - Mayfest Park
 - Pecan Park
- Establish standards for park and recreation equipment/facilities/amenities. When repairs or replacements need to be done, these standards will ensure the quality of improvements matches or exceeds the previous conditions.
- Create and adopt a Fee-In-Lieu-Of parkland dedication fee process that can be used to fund park and recreation system improvements.
- Hold events at each park where information can be obtained regarding what specific improvements users would like to see accomplished at that park.
- Keep a constant supply of materials (such as sport court surfacing, surface crack sealant, playscape surface, plumbing supplies, etc...) in stock in order to promptly provide needed repairs to park and recreational amenities.
- Include adult playscapes and ADA accessible playground equipment and infrastructure in parks.

BOB BRYANT PARK

POTENTIAL COST RANGE: \$1,300,000-\$1,500,000
 NOTE: DOES NOT INCLUDE ANNUAL RECURRING MAINTENANCE COSTS.



Bob Bryant Park perspective 1: Outdoor training and fitness equipment will allow for a well-rounded workout and can accommodate the needs of all abilities and fitness levels, from beginner to expert.



Bob Bryant Park perspective 2: Bob Bryant's pavilion and picnic area will be available for many occasions - family reunions, birthday parties, company picnics...



Bob Bryant Park perspective 3: A variety of multi-purpose open spaces are intentionally designed for unintentional activities and allow flexibility on how they can be used.

FISHERMAN'S PARK

POTENTIAL COST RANGE: \$2,500,000-\$3,500,000
 NOTE: DOES NOT INCLUDE ANNUAL RECURRING MAINTENANCE COSTS.



- ☑ A desired destination builds on the intrinsic open space qualities of the existing park with appropriate space and features proposed
- ☑ A picturesque vistas of the riverside and the city along nearly two miles of paved and lighted Riverwalk
- ☑ Proposed boat and kayak launch
- ☑ Outdoor facility includes picnic pavilion, tables, and fishing access
- ☑ Updated various sports fields and courts
- ☑ Updated walking trail system and an easy access to Bastrop public library
- ☑ Proposed boardwalk with interpretive panels provide a natural and historical experience
- ☑ Renovated existing beloved facilities



Fisherman's Park perspective 1: Located on the Colorado River, Fisherman's Park offers a unique opportunity for waterside activities. Visitors can swim, fish, picnic, bird watch, hike, paddle, study nature, or just relax!



Fisherman's Park perspective 2: Special paving and signage will enhance the arrival at Fisherman's Park and establishes a strong sense of place.



Fisherman's Park perspective 3: The Amphitheater is designed to retain and complement the natural features of the site. Visitors can easily travel back and forth to the Bastrop public library just steps from the park.

MAYFEST PARK



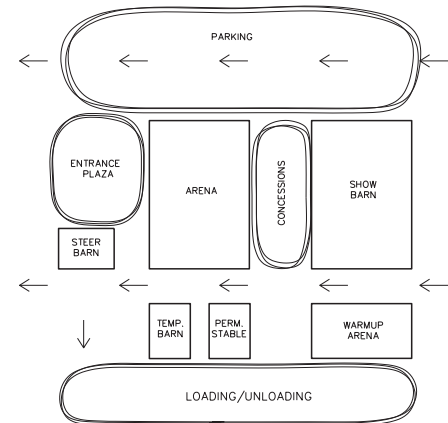
CITY OF BASTROP



CITY OF GONZALES

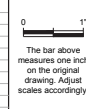


CITY OF KILLEEN



305 East Hurlburt Drive
Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78752
P: 512.453.0767
F: 512.453.1734

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY



FUNCTIONAL DIAGRAM

MAYFEST PARK
BASTROP, TX 78602

PLOTTED: 2/9/2017
JOB NO: xxx-xx

1 OF 1
SP-xx-xxxx

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MAYFEST PARK

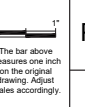


PROJECT DATA	
ARENA	75,000 SF
ARENA CAPACITY	1,000 SEATS (APPROX)
STABLE BARN	30,000 SF (20' WALLS)
SHOW BARN	25,000 SF
STEER BARN	9,000 SF
PRACTICE ARENA	24,000 SF
RODEO PARKING	400 SPACES (APPROX)
RV PARKING	100 SPACES (APPROX)
COUNTY OFFICE	12,000 SF
COUNTY PARKING	198 SPACES
MAYFEST PARK	2 ACRES
RODEO GROUNDS	24 ACRES



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NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY



PARK AND RODEO CONCEPTUAL PLAN

MAYFEST PARK
BASTROP, TX 78602

PLOTTED: 2/21/2017
JOB NO: 345-02



PECAN PARK

POTENTIAL COST RANGE: \$750,000-\$850,000
 NOTE: DOES NOT INCLUDE ANNUAL RECURRING MAINTENANCE COSTS.



- ☑ A scenic beauty with open meadows and wooded bottomland
- ☑ Additional experiences in both active and passive recreation opportunitie
- ☑ New facility includes a community building, a large open-air pavilion, and an outdoor multi-function arena
- ☑ Updated walking trail system
- ☑ Proposed wildflower gardens
- ☑ New playground
- ☑ Plenty of parking



Pecan Park perspective 1 : A boardwalk into the wooded area at the Colorado River's edge weaves through a hardwood forest with markers for native trees and plant species where visitors can learn about trees, plants, and wildlife.

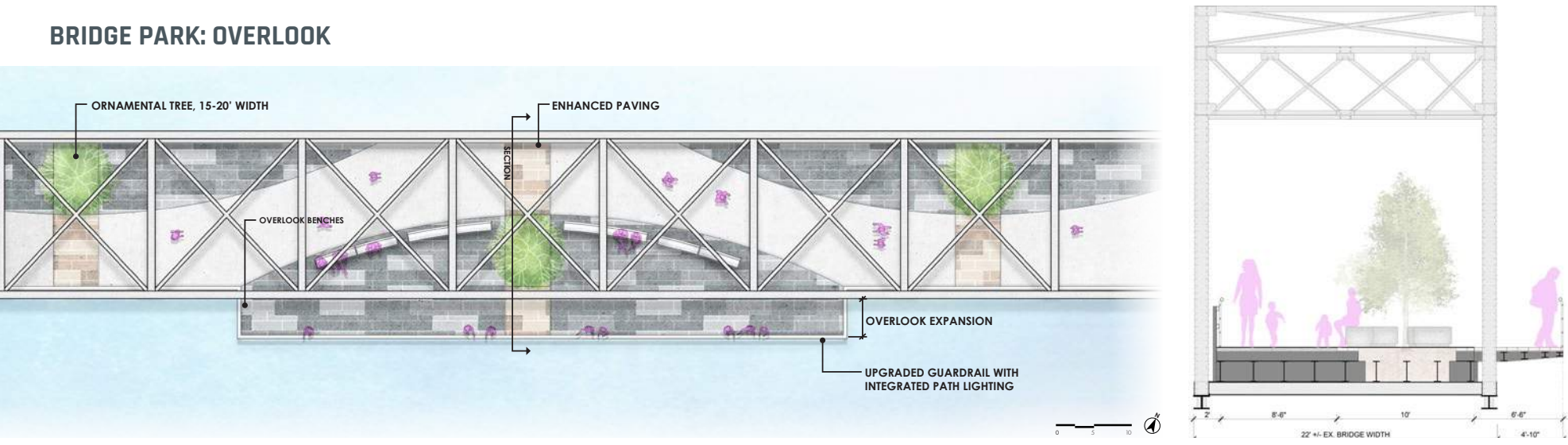
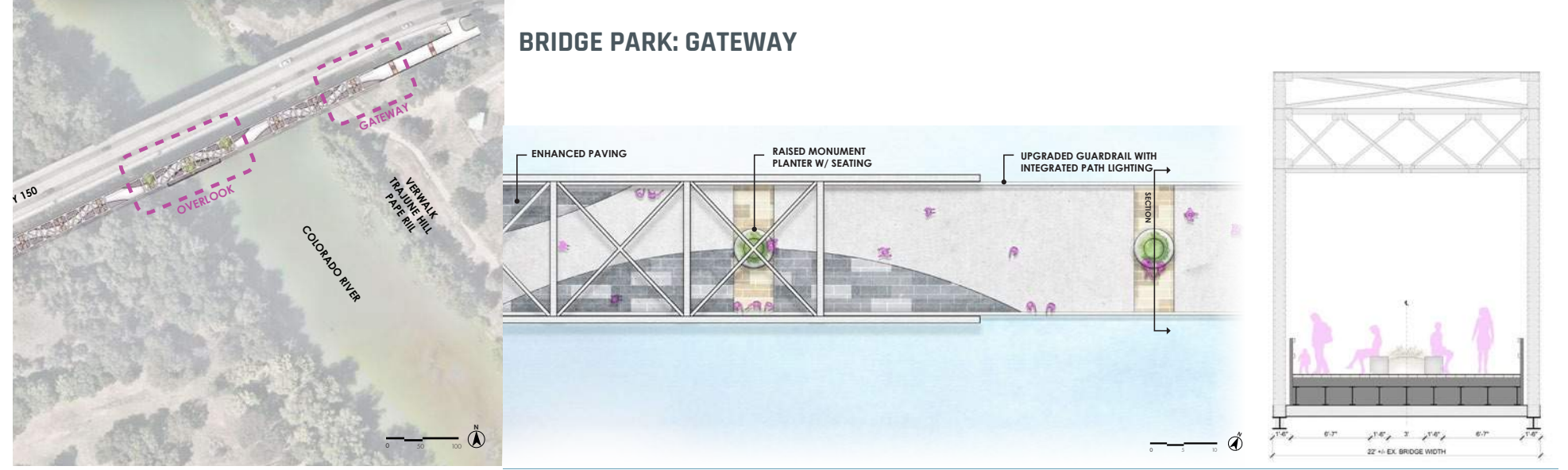




Pecan Park perspective 2 : The distance-marked walking trail runs from the park's designated parking areas and connects the adjacent neighborhood to the Park's central meadow.

BRIDGE PARK

POTENTIAL COST RANGE: \$15,000,000-\$20,000,000
NOTE: DOES NOT INCLUDE ANNUAL RECURRING MAINTENANCE COSTS.





Bridge Park perspective 1: Bastrop's historic 'Old Iron Bridge' park allows visitors to take in great views of the Colorado River and Bastrop.



Bridge Park perspective 2: Revitalizing the bridge with stunning dynamic lighting will create a unique identity for Bastrop's iconic 'Old Iron Bridge'.

JEWELL HODGES PARK

POTENTIAL COST RANGE: **\$230,000-\$280,000**
 NOTE: DOES NOT INCLUDE ANNUAL RECURRING MAINTENANCE COSTS.



Jewell Hodges Park appears to be well-maintained and has appropriate fall protection. Some turf areas have thinned due to shade from the tree canopy and additional foot traffic. Recommendations for this park are provided below:

- ☑ Add connection paths for accessibility and to minimize well worn paths through the gates.
- ☑ Repaint the swing set to eliminate mismatched touch-ups and rust spots.
- ☑ Include weekly maintenance, paint touch-ups, fence cleaning, turf aeration, and playground surfacing touch-ups in the annual maintenance routine
- ☑ Include play amenities on a capital scheduled for replacement based on life expectancy

FERRY PARK

POTENTIAL COST RANGE: **\$180,000-\$230,000**
 NOTE: DOES NOT INCLUDE ANNUAL RECURRING MAINTENANCE COSTS.

Ferry Park appears to be well utilized and accessible from the limited parking spaces. The pour in place rubber playground surfacing appears to be in good condition, but some areas of grass have thinned out due to foot traffic. Recommendations for this park are provided below:

- ☑ Replace the pea gravel under the swings with more appropriate fall protection such as engineered wood fiber or poured in place rubber
- ☑ Repair or replace old chain link fencing
- ☑ Include the cleaning and re-staining of wood fencing in the annual budget
- ☑ Aerate and topdress turf areas that are thinned by foot traffic
- ☑ Replace narrow areas of grass adjacent to the wood fence with an aggregate or other hardscape material
- ☑ Include play amenities on a capital schedule for replacement based on life expectancy



MINERVA DELGADO PARK

POTENTIAL COST RANGE: **\$180,000-\$250,000**
 NOTE: DOES NOT INCLUDE ANNUAL RECURRING MAINTENANCE COSTS.

As one of the newer park installations, Minerva Delgado Park's amenities appear to be in good condition. Facilities and playground surfacing appear to be in good shape with only the shade fabric showing some mold/mildew growth. Recommendations for this park are provided below:

- ☑ Develop and install wayfinding signage to improve the visibility of the park. Delgado Park is bordered by residential housing on all four-side, thus concealing it from public view.
- ☑ Develop a site-specific plan for Delgado Park by implementing recommendations provided in this Master Plan regarding the enhancement of parks through the introduction of new facilities and amenities such as sports courts, multi-generational playgrounds, community gardens, and accessible trails.
- ☑ Clean structures annual to protect and extend the life of the built assets
- ☑ Account for the time and equipment needed for weekly maintenance and accommodate it within the annually budget process
- ☑ Include play amenities on a capital schedule for replacement based on life expectancy



HUNTER'S CROSSING PARK

POTENTIAL COST RANGE: **\$500,000-\$800,000**
 NOTE: DOES NOT INCLUDE ANNUAL RECURRING MAINTENANCE COSTS.

Hunter's Crossing has sufficient accessibility around the amenities, however the pea gravel under the play amenities is not appropriate fall protection surface. The basketball court appears to be in good shape, but repair and cleaning efforts are needed for the pavilion and pier. Recommendations for this park are provided below:

- ☑ Replace pea gravel under play amenities with engineered wood fiber or poured in place rubber
- ☑ Clean the pavilion and pier
- ☑ Repaint and/or replace boards on the pier
- ☑ Conduct a monthly inspection of fall protection along the water
- ☑ Construct concrete or aggregate trails where turf has been worn down due to foot traffic to avoid worsening conditions



KERR COMMUNITY PARK

POTENTIAL COST RANGE: **\$200,000-\$250,000**
 NOTE: DOES NOT INCLUDE ANNUAL RECURRING MAINTENANCE COSTS.

Kerr Community Park appears to be well maintained, but picnic tables and basketball court are showing age. The pea gravel under play amenities is not an appropriate surface, and some trees need to be removed or trimmed. Recommendations for this park are provided below:

- Replace the pea gravel under play amenities with engineered wood fiber or poured in place rubber
- Replace picnic tables under the pavilion
- Clean and restripe the basketball court
- Include basketball court upkeep in the annual budget
- Consult an arborist and evaluate all trees for liabilities
- Include play amenities on a capital schedule for replacement based on life expectancy



BASTROP BARK PARK

POTENTIAL COST RANGE: **\$150,000-\$190,000**
 NOTE: DOES NOT INCLUDE ANNUAL RECURRING MAINTENANCE COSTS.



Bastrop Bark Park shows heavy utilization of the grass areas. The large dog facility appears to have worse wear than other areas of the park. Recommendations for this park are provided below:

- Aerate grass multiple times a year to minimize compaction
- Routinely flag off small areas from access to allow grass to grow back from over-use
- Add a concrete maintenance band under the chain link fence to benefit maintenance efforts and extend the life of the fence
- Install an edging to separate the grass from the aggregate walkway

FIREMAN'S PARK

POTENTIAL COST RANGE: **\$220,000-\$280,000**
 NOTE: DOES NOT INCLUDE ANNUAL RECURRING MAINTENANCE COSTS.



As one of the only open spaces in the City with lighting for evening events, this field gets utilized for baseball, softball, and soccer in the outfield. This usage of different sports requires additional maintenance on the turf to ensure it can be used often. Metal bleachers appear to be in good shape, however the wood bleachers are in disrepair. Recommendations for this park are provided below:

- Add annual aeration and topdressing to the budget to mitigate compaction
- Implement a weed control and fertilizer schedule with routine mowing
- Redefine, maintain, and rake infield edges in addition to weekly mowing
- Replace wood bleachers
- Repair ballfield fencing
- Update metal surfaces such as the foul poles with fresh coats of paint
- Annually evaluate weekly maintenance needs and budget accordingly

EL CAMINO REAL PADDLING TRAIL

POTENTIAL COST RANGE: **\$180,000-\$230,000**
 NOTE: DOES NOT INCLUDE ANNUAL RECURRING MAINTENANCE COSTS.

As a waterway paddling trail, the river has much fluctuation and can impact access seasonally. Drop in and take out access needs to be kept accessible. Recommendations for this trail are provided below:

- Inspect drop in and take out locations weekly
- Remove any debris or other obstacles hindering access to the river on a weekly basis



JUNE HILL PAPE RIVERWALK TRAIL

POTENTIAL COST RANGE: **\$250,000-\$330,000**
 NOTE: DOES NOT INCLUDE ANNUAL RECURRING MAINTENANCE COSTS.

June Hill Pape Riverwalk Trail is a unique amenity for the City that appears to be heavily utilized. Most of the trail appears to be in good shape structurally. Some areas look a bit dated, primarily along the access connections. Recommendations for this trail are provided below:

- Pressure wash the stairs to freshen up the aesthetics
- Pick up litter on a weekly basis
- Inspect lighting on a quarterly basis
- Budget routine replacement for all site furnishings based on life expectancy



OLD IRON BRIDGE

POTENTIAL COST RANGE:
 NOTE: DOES NOT INCLUDE ANNUAL RECURRING MAINTENANCE COSTS.



At the time of this Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan update, this bridge was closed and in the process of being updated. Once completed it would be recommended to account for weekly litter pickup, annual paint touchups, and annual bridge inspection to the budget.

THREE



Develop additional trail connections that consider new design standards, address safety concerns and accessibility, and improve citywide connectivity.

OVERVIEW

Trail infrastructure was once considered a recreational amenity has more recently become an essential infrastructure similar to that for motorized vehicles. There is a growing need for separate and connected active transportation network. However, such infrastructure is limited, and most municipalities are trying to catch-up with the demand of active modes. In recent years, cities are expanding and enhancing their infrastructure to accommodate bicycles and pedestrians.

EXISTING TRAIL AND SIDEWALK NETWORK

The existing trails within the City of Bastrop consist of June Hill Pape Riverwalk Trail and El Camino Real Trail. The June Hill Pape Riverwalk Trail provides connection between Fisherman's Park and Ferry Park along the Colorado River with 0.5 miles of trail adorned with trail amenities like benches and natural shade. The El Camino Real Trail is part of the national historic trail that extends from the historic Old Iron Bridge to the intersection of Old Austin Highway and Frontage Road (State Highway 71) It is recommended that the Old Iron Bridge be made part of the overall

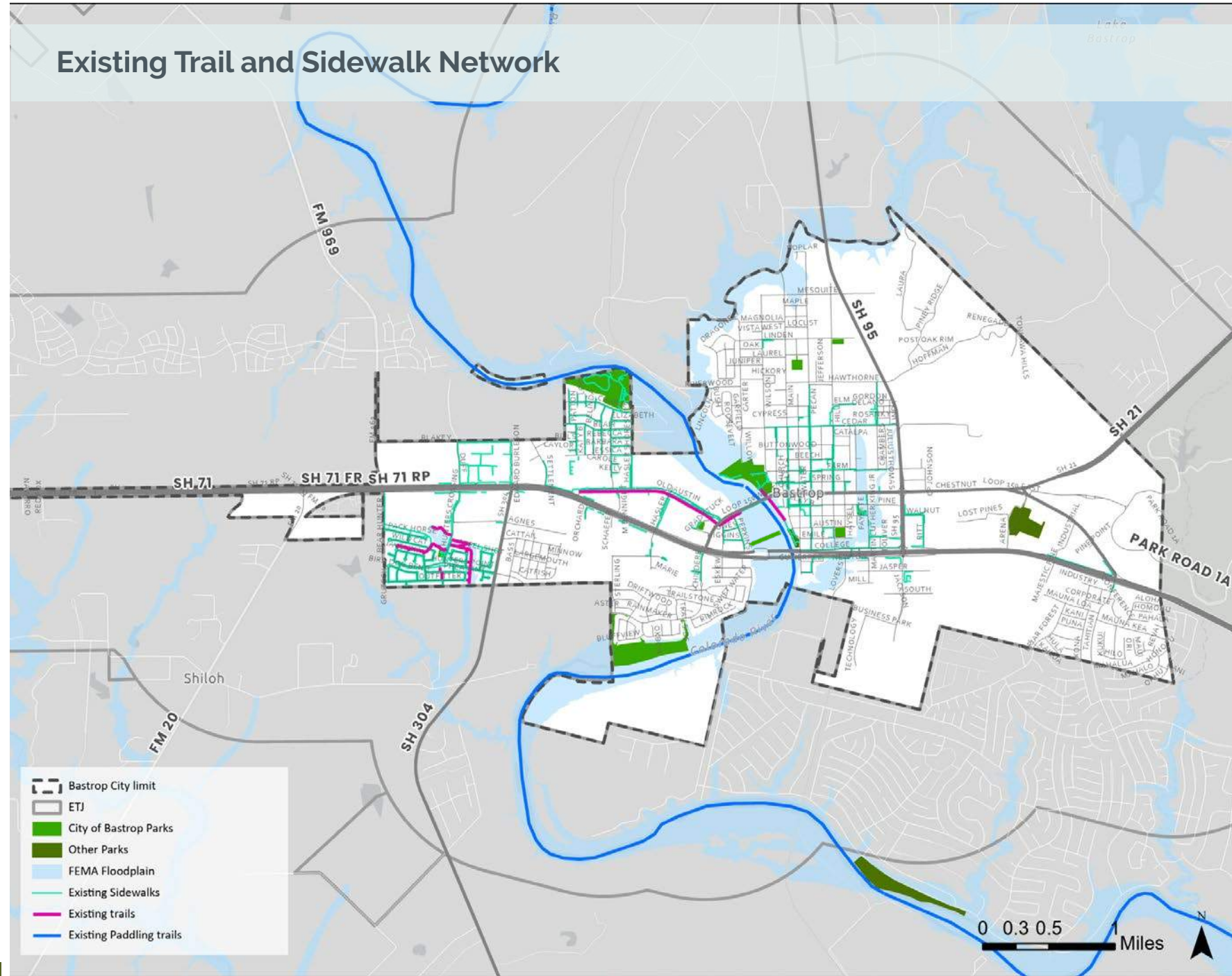
trail system, however it is currently closed for repairs. Once the repairs have been completed to the Old Iron Bridge and is made part of the City's trail system, existing trail system will go from 1.21 miles to 1.45 miles (based on the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, the Old Iron Bridge measures to be 1,285 linear feet or 0.24 miles long). There are some trails in the Hunter's Crossing Park and adjacent subdivision around the small pond. There are trails in the nearby Bastrop State Park that are in close proximity to the City.

The City-owned trails that are mentioned above do not connect to each other. Additionally, the sidewalk infrastructure, especially along major corridors is limited or lacking. About 57% of the respondents to the online community engagement survey indicated that they use the trails for exercise. With the growing hiking and biking community in the region, a need for a well-connected trail network is imperative.

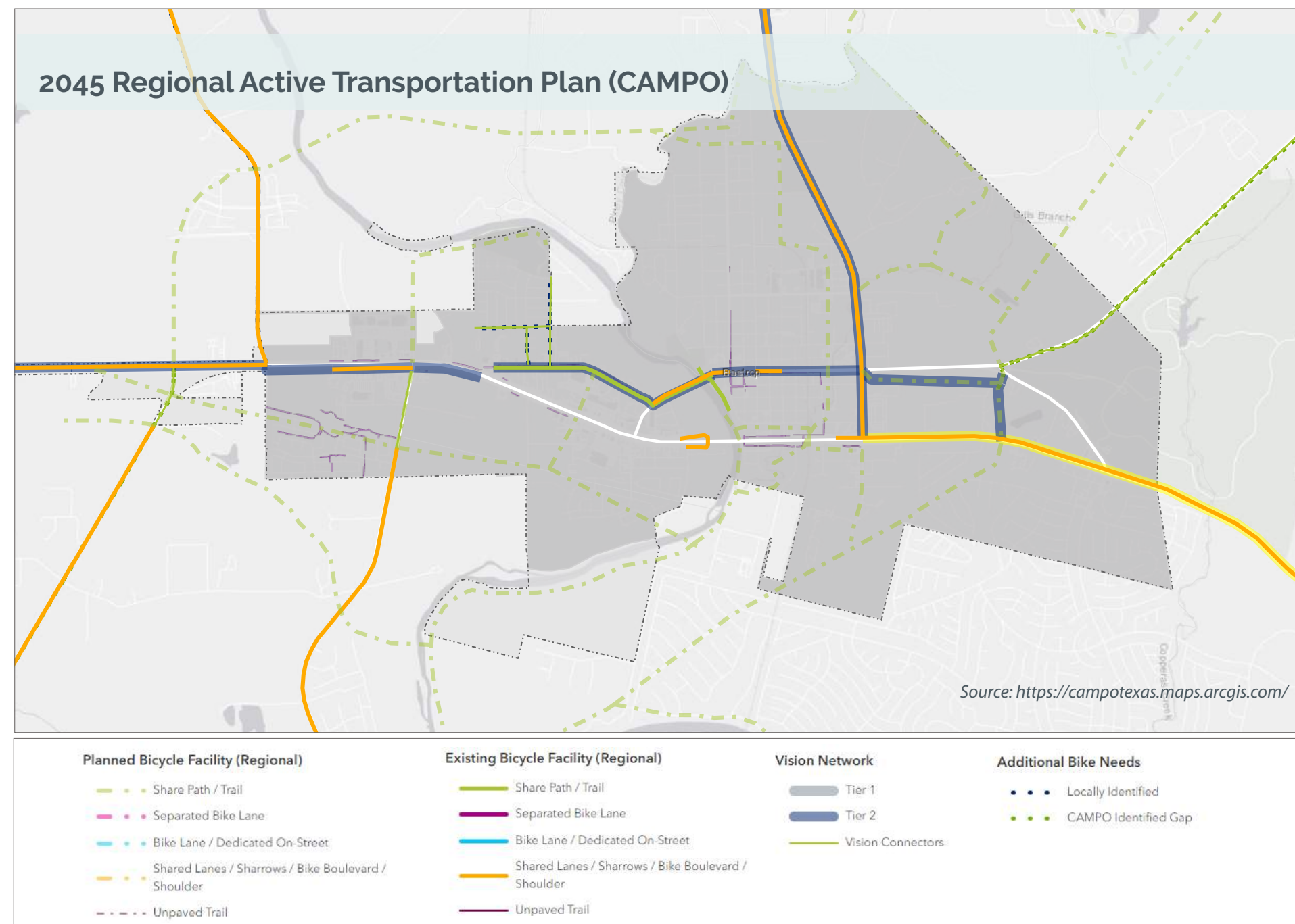
When comparing the Bastrop trail system to the NRPA standards for cities of comparable size, the median standard is 3 miles of trail system provided with 2 miles being the lower quartile. The two existing trails comprise of about 1.21 miles of trails with some sidewalk infrastructure throughout the City. While Bastrop's trail system may be comparable to NRPA standards these existing facilities are not connected making it insufficient.

The Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) region's 2045 Regional Active Transportation Plan (RATP) is a vision of a safe and highly functional active transpiration network of pedestrian, bicycle facilities, and amenities for the six-county CAMPO region, including Bastrop County. The process to create the RATP included the involvement from local governments, partner agencies, as well as public outreach. As the 2045 Regional Active Transportation Plan map in the following pages show, this plan identifies several on-street and off-street bicycle facilities, multiuse pathways, and pedestrian facilities within the City of Bastrop that connects to the overall regional network.

Existing Trail and Sidewalk Network



2045 Regional Active Transportation Plan (CAMPO)



FUTURE TRAILS AND TRAIL CONNECTIONS

According to the community engagement survey and community events, city residents voted for expanding the hiking and biking network throughout the City as one of the top three priorities. People strongly desire that the trails be developed where they live to walk or bicycle to destinations throughout Bastrop. Thirty-seven percent of the residents that took the online survey said they would use their bicycle to get work if the trails or bike lanes made it more accessible to commute to their place of employment. This shows the desire of the community to expand the bikeways and trails to serve as an active transportation mode. Improved connectivity of trails and sidewalks from residential neighborhoods to city parks was identified as part of the stakeholder interviews. About 84% of survey respondents indicated the use of trails is to take a leisurely walk, followed by walking/running for exercise and viewing scenery or wildlife.

In order to expand Bastrop's trail system to meet the community's future needs will require continuous focus on connectivity and safety. The emphasis on linking local destinations for different modes while providing appropriate separation from vehicular traffic will be needed.

CONNECTIVITY ANALYSIS

The connectivity analysis focused on identifying the current gaps in the pedestrian and bicycle network and pinpointing major destinations such as existing parks, schools, and neighborhoods that could be access points for the future network. Several locations were identified to enhance the on-street as well as the off-street network for current and future use of the community.

Western Quadrant Access west of TX - 304

The Hunter's Crossing neighborhood, being a fairly recent development, is well connected with sidewalks and trails around the pond area to the Hunter's Crossing Park. The neighborhood has limited sidewalk and trail connection to nearby commercial and retail development along the SH-71 Frontage Road. State Highway 21 creates a physical barrier between the land uses to the north and to the south of the highway.

West of Colorado River, north of TX - 21

The apartments, daycare, and retail developments along Settlement Drive have limited sidewalk access. The immediately adjacent undeveloped parcels of land limit access to and from this development along with the SH-71 Frontage Road. Similarly, the retail development between SH-71 Frontage Road and Old Austin Highway lack internal connectivity. Similar to other neighborhoods, the Riverside Grove neighborhood has well connected sidewalks within the neighborhood, but lacks the connection to nearby middle and intermediate schools.



Eastern Quadrant, west of SH - 95 and north of SH-71

There is the existing Riverwalk Trail between Fisherman's Park and Ferry Park. This area also includes part of downtown and residential neighborhoods that are not well connected, with the exception of some sidewalks along Main Street. This area is built-out and due to limited area for right-of-way, there are few opportunities to expand trails or multiuse paths in these areas. Development of trails or multiuse paths along the existing defunct railroad, along with improving on-street connections, will help in improving connectivity in this area, especially around the high school which has very limited pedestrian accessibility. The newer Piney Creek Bend development has sidewalk connections and has opportunities to connect to future open space to the west. The existing creek provides an opportunity to connect this residential neighborhood to the Fisherman's Park as well.

Eastern Quadrant, east of SH - 95 and north of SH-71

While the development of this area may take several years, it is important to identify the corridors that can provide connections today so necessary steps can be taken to ensure the system adequately connects to destinations and residential neighborhoods in the future. Connections along Hoffman Road and other utility corridors can connect to Lake Bastrop to the City.

Eastern Quadrant, south of SH-71

Bastrop State Park and Mayfest Park are located near the SH-21 and Loop 150 East intersection. These roadways lack multiuse paths connecting to both of these parks. SH-71 creates a physical barrier between these parks and the residential neighborhoods located to the south. Developing trails in the existing utility corridors and floodplain along the creek could provide an opportunity to fill those gaps.



MAJOR BARRIERS

State Highways

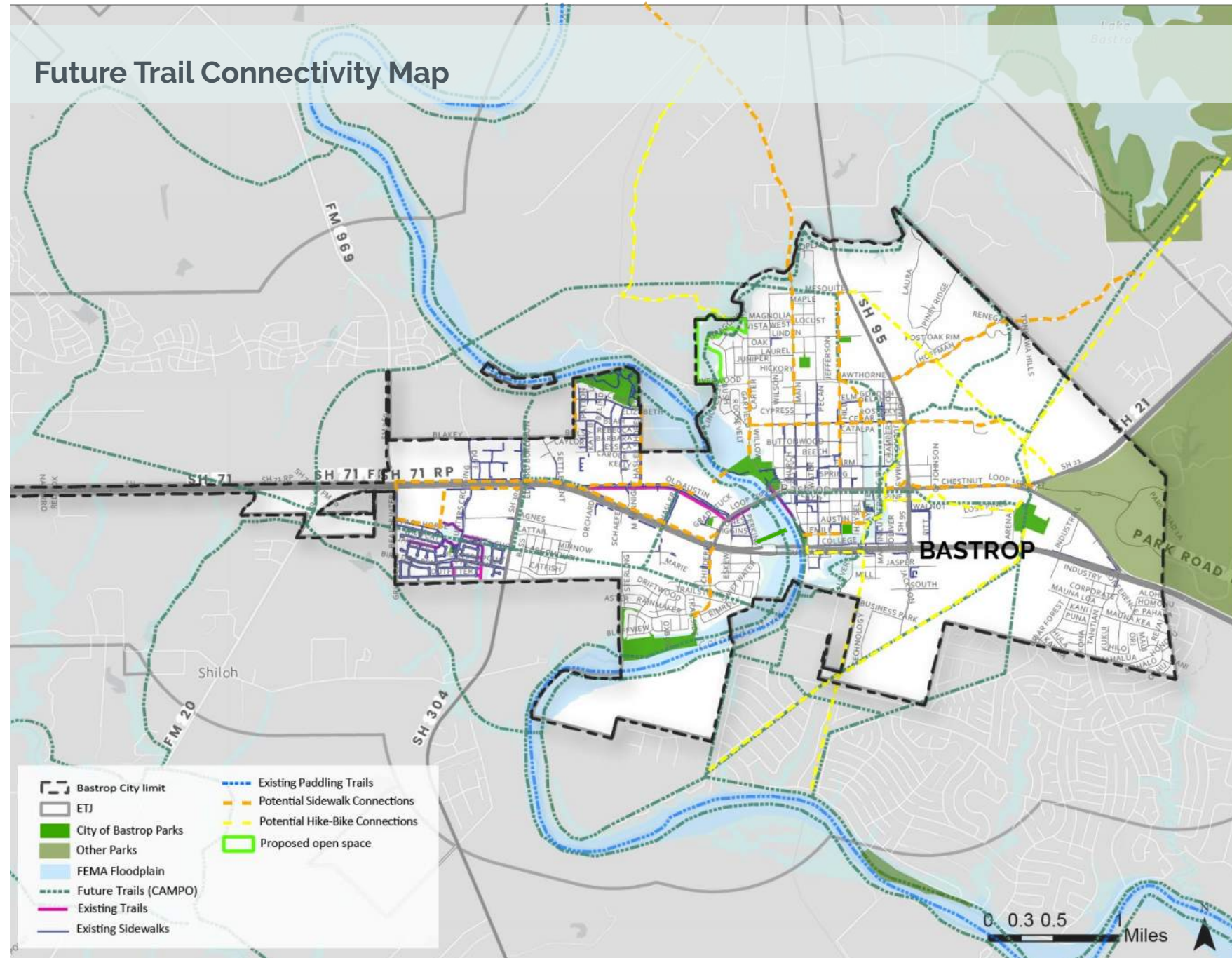
The highways in this area were built to provide improved access and connectivity for motor vehicles. These roadways lack connections for other modes of transportation making it challenging to provide trail crossings or multiuse paths. There are few locations along SH-71, like Water Street and Martin Luther King Drive, that provide north-south underpass access. The City should coordinate with Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in development of multiuse paths along the highways that are safe and comfortable for all users.

Colorado River

There are limited crossing locations across the Colorado River which creates a bottleneck along the two existing crossing locations: Loop 150 and SH-71. This issue has been identified in the City's Comprehensive Plan as well. An additional bridge is planned near the XS Ranch development, just north of Bastrop, as noted in the Comprehensive Plan. It is important to prioritize river crossings to ensure they provide pedestrian and bicycling connectivity. Exploring funding sources and working with CAMPO and TxDOT for additional river crossing should be a high priority for the City of Bastrop.



Future Trail Connectivity Map



TRAIL STANDARDS AND DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

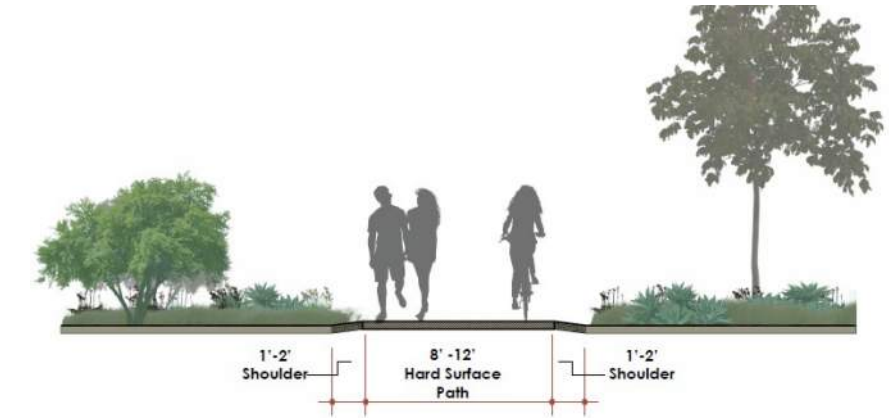
Building upon the past planning efforts, public input, and new opportunities, Bastrop's existing trail system can be expanded to connect all major destinations in the area and more. The information obtained supports expanding the trail system to increase connectivity to the State Park, the Lake, residential neighborhoods, and local schools, thus providing a safe walking and biking environment throughout the City.

FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

A comprehensive Trails Plan would provide a comprehensive outlook at the different types of on-street and off-street facilities that constitutes the network. Generally a trail network is a combination of interconnected network of trails, multiuse paths, and sidewalks to facilitate pedestrian and bicycle movement. This network provides local as well as regional access and connectivity. Trails, multiuse paths, and sidewalks should be built based on AASHTO design guidelines and comply with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) along with local and State codes and ordinances.

Trails

Trails, also known as shared use paths, are generally paved and typically located in an independent right-of-way such as creek or river corridor, along utility corridor or abandoned railroad corridor. Trail width is determined by the context of the surroundings and amount of use expected. The recommended standard for trails is 10 to 12 feet wide, to comfortably accommodate multiple users and bi-directional traffic. Trails are constructed of different materials depending on the context, usage and availability of materials. Some of the different surface types of trails are concrete paved, recycled material like crushed stone surface, and natural surface trails. Trails are designed to be used by a variety of users for recreational and athletic use.



Multiuse paths

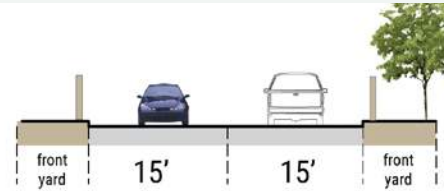
Multiuse paths, also known as sidepaths, are paved trails or paths located along a roadway. These multiuse paths are intended to accommodate pedestrian and bicycle movement. These are used where the right-of-way is constrained to provide on-street bicycle facility. The standard minimum width for multiuse path is 8 feet. Major multiuse paths with higher usage should be 12 feet wide or more. The multiuse paths may present a challenge due to increased conflicts between users and vehicular traffic at intersections and driveway crossings. Reduced number of driveways or grade-separated crossings are some of the access management strategies that can be implemented to reduce conflicts. Landscape buffers should be implemented between vehicular travel lanes and path users to increase physical and visual separation.



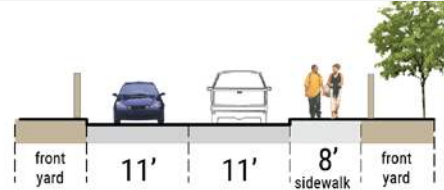
Sidewalks

Sidewalk are walking paths along the side of a roadway. Safe, accessible, and well-maintained sidewalks enhance general public health and boost economy. Sidewalks are primarily meant for pedestrian movement. Sidewalks require a minimum width of 5 feet if set back from the curb. Where a sidewalk is directly adjacent to moving traffic, the desired minimum is 8 feet, providing a minimum 2-foot buffer for street amenities. Similar to multiuse paths, sidewalks present increased conflicts between users and vehicular traffic. Appropriate connection treatments is pertinent for a safe and convenient user experience.

Current Typical Residential Street



Sidewalk Enhancement on Existing Pavement



Other Considerations

Intersection Considerations : For multiuse paths and sidewalks, conflict between users and vehicular traffic exist that pose a challenge for the active transportation users. The roadway design, speeds, traffic volumes, and traffic control affect the type of treatment needed for the intersection. Marked crosswalks, median refuge islands, pedestrian signs and signals, high-visibility signage, physical separators and pavement markings are some of the treatment design methods.



Wayfinding and Signage: Wayfinding should be provided along the trail to identify location, distance to key destination, and directional guidance of nearby routes. Interpretive signage informs the trail users of the historical, cultural, and natural story of the area and are strategically placed along the trails. A comprehensive Parks and Trails Wayfinding Plan is used to ensure that the signage throughout the area is consistent.



Trailheads: Trailheads are key entry points to the trail system allowing users to access the network. Trailheads should provide parking, restrooms, lighting, informational signage, along with other amenities like benches, shade, trash receptacles, bike racks, and drinking fountains.

Amenities: Trails should include amenities like bike racks, parking, seating, trash receptacles, shade, bike repair stations, and hydration stations.



RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

The feedback received from various community events, stakeholder interviews, surveys, and the Trail Workshop provided a guide to the strategies included in this chapter. The recommendations were developed based on the input through public engagement for this Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan. Recommendations from past planning efforts were also considered.

- Amend development code to require the construction of trails/sidewalks as part of all development. The current Bastrop Building Block Code is lacking in standards, thus by establishing specific planning, design, engineering, and construction standards the City can ensure that all trails/paths/sidewalks are consistent in their construction.
- Conduct a detailed feasibility study to specifically analyze the needs and locations for a connected multi-modal trail system throughout the City of Bastrop.
- Prioritize development and maintenance of trails infrastructure in City's annual budget.
- Seek out funding opportunities through Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) for the development and maintenance of the trail system.
- Develop multiple access points to and from the trail system to key destinations such as residential neighborhoods, commercial/business areas, schools, and parks.
- Include the existing and proposed trail systems in the City's Major Thoroughfare Plan. This will provide support to the required construction of a trail if located within a proposed development project.
- Prepare and implement safe routes to school programs to improve pedestrian mobility near the schools.

- Coordinate with the owners (private utility companies, landowners, developers, other governmental departments/agencies) on the use of utility corridor / access easements as part of the multi-modal trail system. If owners of easements are no longer requiring the use of the easement, the City should continue the partnership with the landowner to maintain the use of the easement area for public trail purposes.
- Partner with property owners on dedicating land or creation of easements for trails.
- Develop agreements with the utility providers, County, State, and/or respective entities along existing transportation corridors to support the creation of trails/sidewalks that will expand the trail system from the Colorado River to Bastrop State Park and Lake Bastrop.
- Utilize transportation corridors identified in CAMPO's 2045 Regional Active Transportation Plan (RATP) for different facility types such as trails, dedicated on-street bike lanes or shared lanes, sidewalks and other pedestrian and bicycle facilities.
- Focus on constructing the smaller gaps in the existing network to make a bigger impact especially in short-trip mobility zones identified in CAMPO's 2045 RATP.



FOUR

GOAL 01 GOAL 02 GOAL 03 GOAL 04 GOAL 05 GOAL 06 GOAL 07 GOAL 08 GOAL 09 GOAL 10



Expand and create additional recreational programming, special events and educational opportunities.

OVERVIEW

In analyzing responses from the community engagement survey, it is evident that the public desires more recreational programming, facilities, special events, and educational opportunities. Local civic and non-profit groups host several events and programs throughout the year, however investment into the Parks Division and Recreation Division could have a lasting impact on the future of the community. Citizens were asked what athletic or other recreational programs they would support in Bastrop. The citizens expressed a strong desire for:



Year-round swimming pools and swim programs



A wider variety of classes and programs suited for people of all ages, interests, and abilities including sports leagues, music classes, art workshops, health education, fitness groups, and/or gardening classes



New recreational infrastructure such as a gym, volleyball courts, basketball courts, dog parks, splash fountains, and adult friendly playscape



Community events such as live music in the park, walking tours, and art shows

Based on the NRPA's 2022 Agency Performance Review, most parks and recreation agencies offer the following types of recreational activities:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Themed special events
(offered by 90 % of agencies) • Social recreation events
(offered by 88 % of agencies) • Team sports
(offered by 87 % of agencies) • Fitness enhancement classes
(offered by 82 % of agencies) • Health and wellness education
(offered by 80 % of agencies) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual sports
(offered by 76 % of agencies) • Safety training
(offered by 72 % of agencies) • Racquet sports
(offered by 71 % of agencies) • Aquatics
(offered by 70 % of agencies) • Performing Arts
(offered by 64% of agencies) |
|--|--|



By applying the information obtained from the community input, along with NRPA's finding of the most common recreational programs, the City of Bastrop can begin to develop a plan as to what recreational programs to best offer the community. This recreation programming plan, along with the supporting information, can be used to determine what amount of funding support will be needed. The plan can also be used to identify potential funding sources outside of the City's budget such as grants. The recreational programming plan should also provide guidance on developing partnerships with private sector groups, non-profit community organizations, and the Bastrop Independent School District as each of these groups may be able to provide added support (either through funding, use of facilities/equipment and/or by operating the recreational program) to provide recreational programming and events to the citizens of Bastrop.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

- ☑ Design new parks and facilities to be flexible so they can be used for multiple activities.
- ☑ Increase accessibility and inclusivity for people of all ages in the parks and recreational programming.
- ☑ Coordinate recreational programming with existing events in the City of Bastrop.
- ☑ Develop a communications strategy to promote recreational programming and events to Bastrop citizens.
- ☑ Expand recreational programming and facilities to include indoor, outdoor, and water-based activities.
- ☑ Conduct an assessment of recreational needs for all age groups at least every three years. Use the information obtained to develop new recreational programming being requested.
- ☑ Design parks and recreation facilities with open space and supporting infrastructure such as restrooms, concession stands, park benches, picnic tables, shade structures, and drinking fountains.

- ☑ Create sports programs, educational classes, and community events for a wide variety of user groups, but also consider programs tailored to specific groups such as Mommy and Me classes, activities for single parents, teen dances, senior gardening, etc.
- ☑ Partner with civic groups such as the Master Gardeners and the Master Naturalists to provide educational opportunities to the community at the parks.
- ☑ Partner with the community groups and organizations to expand recreational programs and community events and utilize the parks and recreation facilities to host these activities.
- ☑ Promote events on the City of Bastrop's website and/or social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Establish a monthly newsletter explaining important dates and events.
- ☑ Provide more pools and splash parks, indoor activities such as volleyball, basketball, and/or pickleball, and outdoor activities such as sand volleyball, soccer, and/or gardening.



FIVE

GOAL 01 GOAL 02 GOAL 03 GOAL 04 GOAL 05 GOAL 06 GOAL 07 GOAL 08 GOAL 09 GOAL 10



Identify and acquire land for parks, recreational facilities, and trails/open space/preservation areas.

OVERVIEW

The City of Bastrop currently has 11.3 acres of parks, recreational facilities, and trails/open space/preservation areas per 1,000 persons. The 2022 NRPA Agency Performance Review standards recommends 12.5 acres per 1,000 persons for cities with population sizes similar to Bastrop's. Using the 2023 population for Bastrop, this would mean that the NRPA total acreage is approximately 127.7 acres, and the Bastrop total acreage is 115.6 acres (for close-to-home parks). The gap between the NRPA standard and the City of Bastrop is 12.1 acres, thus indicating that the City is nearly close to meeting the national standards, however there are gaps in the spatial distribution of park and recreation services within the City's limits.



CITY OF BASTROP



NRPA

When the project team analyzed the locations of the existing parks and applied the service areas for each type of park, it was seen that there are neighborhoods in Bastrop which do not have any park and recreational services being provided. The NRPA recommends that parks and recreational facilities should be within a ¼ mile walking distance (10-minute walk) from the furthest house in a neighborhood. A ¼ mile or 10-minute walk has been identified by urban planning organizations (APA, CNU) as the furthest a person will walk to obtain a service. If a service is located any further than this distance, a person will either drive to the obtain the service or refuse to seek it out. Based on the analysis, there are four areas around Bastrop that have gaps in parks and recreational services. To best provide a visual, the intersection of SH-95 and Chestnut St. will be the point-of-reference. The spatial gaps which have been identified are located to the furthest south, west, north, and southeast of the Bastrop city limits. Each of these areas have been found as not having access to parks or recreational services within ¼ mile (more specific details on the gaps in levels of service can be found in Chapter 6, under the Standards Assessment section). The community engagement survey found that a combined total of 632 respondents out of 814 indicated that they agree or strongly agree that the City needs a greater amount of parkland and/or greenspaces. The City needs to take necessary steps to acquire land for the use as parks and/or recreational facilities.

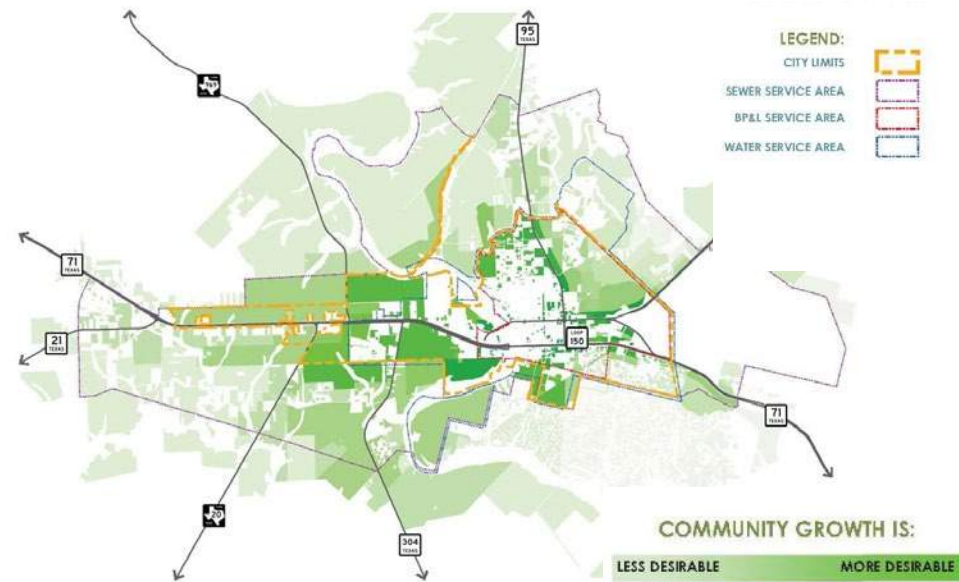
Additionally, there is the need to address the anticipated population growth that will increase the demand for parkland and recreational services. When the citizens were asked what they consider the most important issue facing the parks and recreation divisions, 15.17% (third highest response to question) stated that addressing the future population growth is an important factor. Bastrop, over the recent years, has experienced an increase in the amount of residential development in and around the city limits. This growth has been likely caused by the migration of people from larger cities, who are seeking a more relaxed life in smaller cities. Bastrop has also been impacted by the commercial and industrial growth occurring along the outer edges of Austin and its city limits. With the introduction of businesses, offices, and factories in close proximity to Bastrop, more residential development has and will continue to occur. To provide ample parks and recreation services to the increasing population, the City of Bastrop will need to take steps and plan for future needs, including acquiring of more land for parks and recreation facilities.

Opportunity areas for the City of Bastrop to increase the Parks and Recreation Level of Service:



A collaborative effort between the Parks and Recreations Divisions and the City's Planning Department to identify the current areas of residential growth and define the expectations of future growth should be one of the first steps taken by the City. This will help the City determine where to seek available land for parks and recreation facilities. Once the land is identified, the City will need to decide how to acquire the land. Will the land be purchased and kept in its natural state until new residential development needs a park, or will the City work with the property owner to develop an agreement or easement for the land to be acquired in the future? Another avenue the City can take is to work with residential developers to include park and recreational facilities within their development. These advanced planning conversations should include the topics of park/recreational facility locations, size and dimension of parks, and amenities to be provided with the park(s). By having this conversation, an agreement can be created between the City and the developer to ensure that what was agreed upon will be provided. To further facilitate these types of park planning efforts, it is recommended that the City's current development code (Bastrop Building Block Code) be strengthened when it comes to parkland dedication requirements and standards. The City's current development code does have a minimal requirement for the dedication of parkland, however it is not well structured in defining the design and development standards for park and recreational facilities/amenities.

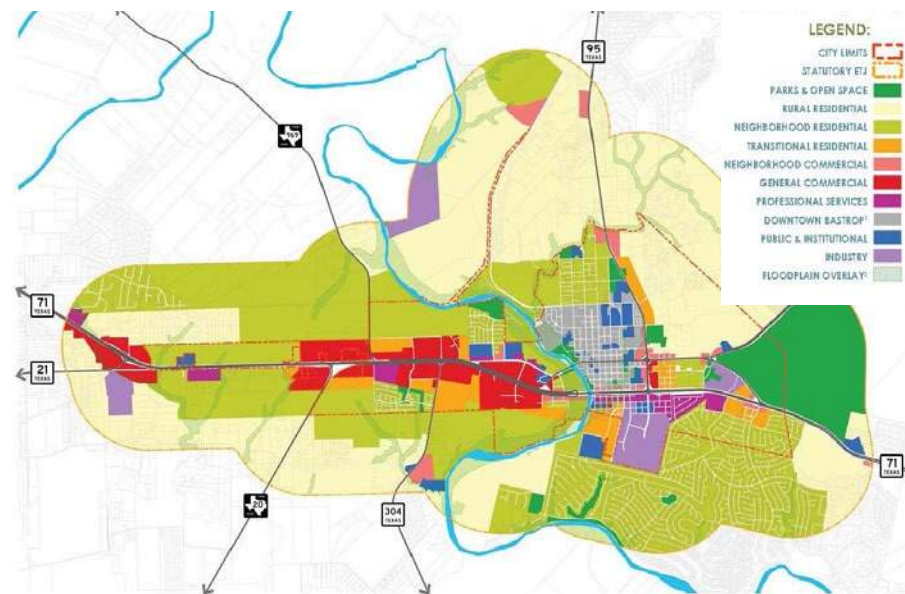
CITY OF BASTROP GROWTH PROGRAM



Source: 2016-2036 Bastrop Comp Plan, Chapter 2-Community Growth



BASTROP FUTURE LAND USE



Source: 2016-2036 Bastrop Comp Plan, Chapter 5-Land Use and Urban Design

PARKLAND DEDICATION AND FEE-IN-LIEU

As Bastrop continues to grow, the City needs to make sure that it is providing equitable parks and recreation services to all its citizens regardless if they are in the newer or older communities. As mentioned earlier, there are currently gaps in the level of parks and recreational services. These can be overcome by implementing measures such as parkland dedication requirements and/or fee-in-lieu of dedication to all development projects that come into the City. Parkland dedication requirements establish a process by which cities can require that specific amounts of land be dedicated by a developer to be used as parkland, open space, and/or trails. The parkland dedication requirements can include things such as dimensional standards, location specifications, floodplain limitations, and trail standards just to name a few. The City can also implement a fee-in-lieu of process which provides the developer the option to pay a fee based on the amount of parkland that should be provided by the development. The fees collected through this manner can be applied in different ways to support the parks and recreation system, the most common method being to apply the amount paid to the purchasing of land near the new development for park, open space or trails.

Another option, which can be used to acquire land for the use as parkland and trails is through the use of easement agreements. These agreements are most often used in instances where the City partners with a private property owner to allow public access to the property for a specific recreational use such as a trail traversing the property or a park left in a natural state to preserve the ecology. An example of such an agreement is a conservation easement. These easements are created as an agreement between the property owner and a city, whereby the city agrees to manage and maintain the area within the easement, while the property owner agrees that the land within the easement will not be used for any form of private development.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

- Amend the City's existing development code to include specific standards (dimensional, location, amenities, etc...) regarding the required dedication of parkland and/or recreational facilities as part of the development process.
- Consider developing a Fee-In-Lieu-Of dedication process to be used in cases where the developer is not able to dedicate land for parks within the development.
- Include language in the Parkland Dedication ordinance to identify how much land can be dedicated to floodplains.
- Coordinate with private property owners to develop agreements or easements for the future acquisition of land to be used for parks and recreational facilities.
- Support the creation of a detailed multi-modal/active transportation plan for the City. This plan should include items such as locations for the development of trails/paths/sidewalks, and specific design and construction standards for each type of trail/path/sidewalk type. The adoption of the multi-modal/active transportation plan should also include language stating the requirements within the plan shall be part of all developments which contain any portion of the proposed trails, paths, and sidewalks are to be built.
- Establish a regular meeting between the Parks and Recreations Divisions and the Planning Department to discuss any new developments being proposed. This meeting can also be used to regularly track the growth of the City and identify any potential future gaps in park or recreational services.

DEVELOPER'S RESPONSIBILITY

When it comes to the planning and construction of new developments, it is recommended that the City establish ordinances which place the responsibilities of providing parks and recreational services on the developer for the communities they are building. The developer should be made responsible for creating a community that not only offers residential housing opportunities, but a community that also provides the future residents with a quality of life that includes areas to walk, play, rest, and socialize with their neighbors. To show that the City is supportive of a new community being developed, coordination meetings (also known as pre-development meetings) should be established between City staff and the developer. These meetings can be used to discuss various details of the proposed development such as block layout, design of roadways, and should definitely include coordinating the placement of parks and associated facilities/amenities within the community. The City should also require that the developer be responsible for identifying if the parkland, open spaces, and trails will be dedicated to the City or if they will be owned and maintained by a private homeowners association (HOA). If it is decided that that parkland is to be privately owned by an HOA, the developer should be made responsible for the creation of covenants and restrictions to be followed by the HOA regarding the ownership and maintenance of the parkland.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

- Create the requirement that developers meet with staff from the Parks, Recreation, and Planning prior to submitting any application for development to discuss proposed developments and placement of parks and recreational facilities/amenities.
- Require that certain recreational amenities be provided for each park type that is included in a new development.
- Amend the City's existing development code to create a process for the dedication of parkland and recreational facilities/amenities to a homeowner association (HOAs) for ownership, management, and maintenance. The standards which apply to the development of a public park should be made the same standards for private HOA parks.
- Require that the developer(s) of a residential development submit documented covenants and restrictions to the City for review regarding any parkland and/or recreational facilities/amenities to be dedicated to a HOA prior to the recording of plats. Also consider requiring that the covenants and restrictions be formally recorded as part of the development.



PARKLAND DEDICATION POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Parks, trails, and open spaces are important features when it comes to the development policies and regulations for a city. Without strong regulatory guidance, it becomes very difficult for cities to obtain functional parks and open spaces. What does functional mean when it comes to parks and open spaces? It means that the site can be regularly used by park-goers without there being any impediments such as, but not limited to, a site being too small, or there is constantly water on the site, or the sloping topography of the land does not allow for any real recreational application.

In today's world of rapid residential and commercial growth, cities will normally obtain parkland and open spaces only through the submittal of new development projects to the city. To do so, the city's codes, policies and regulations need to be clear in their parkland/open space/trails/facilities/amenities dedication processes. The following are some recommendations which the City may use to better support the acquisition of parkland and open spaces.

- ☑ Enact a specific parkland dedication ordinance
 - ➔ Acquiring land for future parkland/open space/trails/facilities/amenities through a specific parkland dedication ordinance that requires developers to dedicate land from a development to be used for parkland/open space/trails/facilities/amenities that service the neighborhood and surrounding areas.
 - ➔ As part of this ordinance, wording shall be included stating that the rule/regulations/policies/standards of this ordinance will be adopted as part of the development code that is in effect by the City.
 - ➔ Recommend the creation and adoption of a parkland dedication manual to supplement the City's development code. The manual should include items such as, but not limited to:
 - Specific steps to be used in the dedication of land for parks/open spaces/trail/facilities
 - Explanation and descriptions of the various park classifications
 - How to calculate payment of fees (fee-in-lieu-of, parkland development fees, etc...) associated with the parkland dedication process
 - List of minimum required amenities per park classification

- ☑ Amend the Bastrop Building Block Code (B3 Code), Article 7.5 Civic Space & Civic Building Standards with clarification on how much parkland/open space dedication is required.
 - ➔ The current code has a requirement of 10% of land area to be dedicated to a civic space within each pedestrian shed. Pedestrian shed as defined by the B3 Code means the area covered by a 5-minute walk from the center of a neighborhood (about 0.25 miles or 1,320 feet).
 - It is recommended that the pedestrian shed (1/4 mile) requirement be kept as this is a standard distance used by NRPA and planning organizations in determining if a service is within acceptable walking distance.
 - Most dedication requirements are based on the number of single-family dwelling units within a subdivision as opposed to a percentage of land area.
- ☑ Establish parkland/open space dedication requirement based on an acre per number of residential dwelling units calculation.
 - ➔ Comparing other cities in the region, this can range from 1 acre of parkland per 50 dwelling units to 1 acre per 168 dwelling units (See Comparison of Parkland Dedication Requirements Table)
 - ➔ In reviewing six of the larger subdivisions in the City of Bastrop, most of the subdivisions were developing as low as 22 lots in a phase up to 105 lots in a phase. The median was identified at 62 residential lots. Based on this, it is recommended that the City of Bastrop amend the development code to require that a ratio of 1 acre of parkland/open space be dedicated for every 60 residential dwellings begin developed as part of a residential development.
 - ➔ Separate requirements for single-family, and multi-family based on land-use policies established in the City's zoning section, comprehensive plan and growth management policies.
 - ➔ Include language identifying how much land can be dedicated within floodplains.
 - Comparison cities in the region allow up to 60% of the total parkland dedication to be in a floodplain. Some cities do not allow for any parkland dedication within 100-year flood plain. Cities that do allow for parkland dedication within the 100-year flood plain require approval from City Council prior to acceptance of dedication.

- It is recommended that a maximum of 50% parkland be allowed to be dedicated within a floodplain.
- It is recommended that any parkland proposed to be dedicated with the 100-year flood plain be subject to the approval of the City Council.
- ☑ Amend the Bastrop Building Block Code, Article 7.5 Civic Space & Civic Building Standards to include dimensional standards for each type of parkland/open space/trail/facility
 - ➔ Developing and adopting such standards will ensure that the parkland/open space/trail/facility being dedicated to the City meets the intent for public use.
 - ➔ Dimensional standards will also create consistency in categorizing parklands/open spaces/trails/facilities for inventory purposes.
- ☑ Define and develop standards for trail design, engineering, and construction in the Bastrop Building Block Code.
 - ➔ The current B3 Code does not provide any details on how trails should be constructed nor where they should be specifically located.
 - The B3 Code only speaks to what general park classifications should have trails.
 - ➔ Consider requiring trail dedication, development and maintenance fees for commercial developments, as these can be used to connect neighborhoods to the business areas in addition to parks throughout the City.
- ☑ Include a section in the development code that outlines a process for developers to create private parks that are to be managed and maintained by a Homeowners' Association (HOAs)
 - ➔ Require that park standards, as those applied to the development of public parks, are applied to HOA parks, as these could potentially be transferred over to the City for ownership.
 - This will ensure that the HOA park complies with at least the minimum code requirements for the City to accept a park dedicated as a public park.
 - This will mitigate any potential work the City would have to do to bring the parkland/open spaces/trails up to code.

- ➔ Include wording which requires developers to submit the covenants and restrictions for the HOA to be reviewed by City staff to ensure language is stating the ownership and maintenance of associated park.
- ➔ HOA parks must show connectivity to the overall park system
- ➔ Shades and playgrounds should be a standard component for each HOA park.
- ➔ All HOA parks shall be designed to meet ADA requirements.



Comparison of Parkland Dedication Requirements

City	Dedication	Floodplain	Park Fee In-Lieu-Of	Parkland Dedication Fee	Parkland Development Fee
Buda	1 acre per 50 dwelling units	Areas located within 100-year floodplain of the main channels of Onion Creek or Garlic Creek may be dedicated in fulfillment of dedication requirements, subject to approval by the City Council	\$500 per dwelling unit	\$800 per residential unit	\$1,000 per residential unit
Seguin	1 acre per 75 residential dwelling units	1/2 acre in floodplain. No more than 50%	-	\$400 per proposed residential unit	\$800 per proposed residential unit
Schertz	1 acre per 100 dwelling units	50% has to be level, well-drained and suitable for open play, not exceed 5% slope. Every acre within floodplain shall count as 1/2 acre toward parkland dedication. Land shall be located outside any 100-yr floodplain or any other special flood zone identified on most recently approved FEMA FIRM map.	\$350 per dwelling unit	-	\$650 per dwelling unit
New Braunfels	(Pop/LOS)/HH = DU per acre* 1 acre per 168 dwelling units	3:1 ratio (3-acres of floodplain = 1 acre of parkland) in floodplain. No more than 50% shall be allowed in a floodplain.	\$208 per dwelling unit	-	\$2,038 per dwelling unit
Kyle	1 acre per 75 residential dwelling units	Any area which is located within the 100-year floodplain is unsuitable	-	\$750 per dwelling unit	\$750 per dwelling unit
Cibolo	Total land dedication of at least 8% of the total tract, excluding commercial or industry land uses.	No more that 60%	-	Developer \$600 per single or 2-family unit or Council approved 8% parkland dedication. Developer/builder of multi-family \$400 per dwelling unit	Builder \$600 per single or 2-family unit or Council approved 8% parkland dedication
San Marco	5.7 acres*(Pop/1000)	No more than 50%	**Parkland Cost Factor x Number of Parkland Acres	-	**Park Development Cost Factor/ Park Facilities Level of Service = Park Development Cost per Unit

*LOS = Level of Service HH = Residents per Household DU = Dwelling Unit

**San Marcos = „Parkland Cost Factor“ is based on the average purchase price to the City for acquiring and acre of parkland.

**San Marcos = “Park Development Cost Factor” is determined by the City Council based on the average cost of developing an acre of parkland.

**San Marcos = “Park Facilities Level of Service” formula City Population divided by Number of Developed Parks



SIX



Develop a Recreational Center Facility

OVERVIEW

Currently, the City of Bastrop’s Recreation Division owns a small building at 1008 Water St. which it uses as the community’s recreation center. Based on the Bastrop County Appraisal District information, the community center is approximately 3,093 square feet in overall size. The area within the recreation center is much smaller than this due to portions of the building being sectioned off for staff offices and storage of recreational equipment. Based on conversations with City staff, programs such as the yoga class have waiting lists because the useable area within the building limits the number of participants. The internal size also limits the amount of recreational/gym equipment which it currently houses. All this being said, it has been emphasized by the community, city staff, and City officials that a new community recreation center is greatly needed in Bastrop.

For many cities, the community recreation centers have become more than just locations for recreational activities. They have also become locations for socializing, education, and medical services. As indicated by a 2017 NRPA poll “Americans urge their local recreation center to offer a wide variety of nontraditional services.” This poll showed that nontraditional services such as health living classes (51% of those polled), programming for older adults (46%), nature-base learning activities (45%), access to computers and the internet (43%), inclusive facilities for all abilities and needs (41%), and health clinics/services (38%) were wanted along with the traditional fitness centers, out-of-school time programming, and aquatic facilities. Community recreational centers have become an important feature to the quality

of life for communities. When inquiring about the importance of a recreational facility, approximately 53% of the respondents from the City of Bastrop’s Park Master Plan community survey stated that an indoor recreation center is needed. The need for a new larger community recreation center was also mentioned by City officials, City staff, stakeholders, and members of the Steering Committee. According to NRPA guidelines, cities with a population less than 20,000 are advised to have one recreation center per 9,745 residents. Thus, Bastrop would require a single citywide recreation center to align with these standards. This type of facility encloses 10-20 acres and usually includes the following amenities:

- Gymnastics Room
- Weight Room
- Climbing Wall
- Teen/Game Room
- Indoor Track
- Recreation Classrooms
- Gymnasiums
- Indoor and Outdoor Swimming Pools
- Room and Pool Rentals

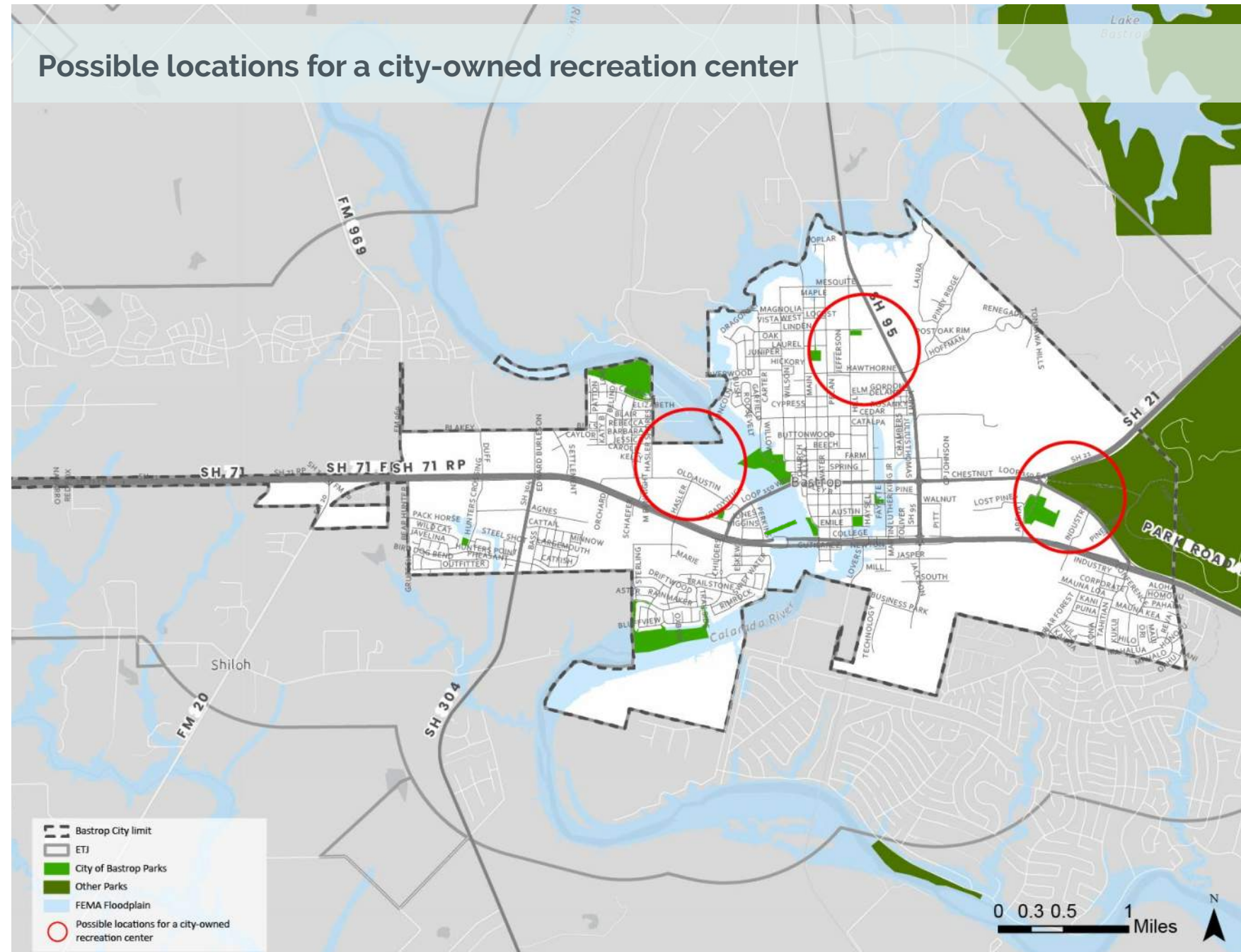
These are all good recommendations to include as part of a design for a new community recreation center. The following map shows potential locations for a new recreation center. In order to meet the community center needs of the citizens of Bastrop, the following steps are recommended:

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

- Conduct feasibility study specifically on the development of a new community recreation center.
- The feasibility study conducted should include detailed information regarding preferred locations for the community recreation center and recommendations on what associated amenities and facilities should be provided. One of the areas to be reviewed as a potential site is Mayfest Park as proposed in the conceptual drawings included in this document.
- Require that feasibility study include recommendations on the positions and numbers of FTEs that will be needed to manage, operate, and maintain the new community recreation center.
- Trail connectivity should be planned to the community recreation center, thus making it accessible through the City’s multi-modal trail system.
- As part of the construction of the community recreation center, its facilities should be made available for renting to the community. Rental fee made can then be applied to the maintenance and operations budget of the facility.
- To fund the feasibility, construction, and eventual maintenance & operations, the City should look into applying for grants such as the Local Parks Grants provided by the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department.



Possible locations for a city-owned recreation center



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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces provide intrinsic environmental, aesthetic, and recreation benefits to the City of Bastrop. They are also a source of positive economic benefits. They enhance property values, increase municipal revenue, bring in homebuyers and workers, and attracting retirees. Moreover, local parks and recreation systems can shape perceptions of and enhance the quality of life in communities.

At the bottom line, parks are a good financial investment for a community. Understanding the economic impacts of parks can help decision makers better evaluate the creation and maintenance of urban parks. This section provides various recommendations which can be implemented to further assist the parks and recreation system bolster the economic development of the City. The section also includes an analysis and recommendations on the implementation of a sport complex.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS

The contribution that park and recreation systems make to a city's quality of life are well appreciated by area residents, but their economic benefits may be less appreciated. Some important economic benefits of parks are described below:

They attract residents and businesses. A study conducted by the Urban Land Institute found, "High-quality parks are one of the top factors that businesses cite in relocation decisions". Businesses want to be in places that provide a high quality of life for their current and future employees. And businesses have ripple effects on the economy. They hire local employees and contractors. They purchase supplies from local vendors. Those payments equate to worker earnings spent on local goods and services supporting other local businesses and additional local employment.

They improve property values. Studies show that proximity to a park or trail or open space has a positive impact on property values. Developers know the value of parks, which explains why construction of the park and open space features is often an initial or early step in building a residential subdivision or neighborhood—whether it is a single family subdivision or a high density apartment community.

They support tourism. When we think about parks tourism, people may think about the visitors to larger state and national parks. But local parks attract visitor spending as well. When people come to town for a picnic, a hike, a soccer or softball game or another park system event, they will likely fill up their gas tank at a local service station, pick up groceries or other household necessities and/or grab food at a local restaurant. In fact, Bastrop residents themselves contribute to "visitor" spending when local parks and recreational opportunities give residents a reason to spend time in town for activities, rather than going elsewhere.



¹ Urban Land Institute. The Case for Open Space: Why the Real Estate Industry Should Invest in Parks and Open Spaces. Washington, DC: Urban Land Institute, 2018.



They contribute to health and wellness. People are more likely to establish and maintain healthy and active lifestyles when opportunities for activity are readily available. A park system that offers opportunities to walk, run, ride a bicycle and play sports nurtures the health of the community. Improved health has positive economic impacts. When a household's medical expenses are reduced, its financial resources are effectively increased, and resources are available for other needs and pleasures.

Economic productivity increases as well, because when workers are healthier, they are absent less often for sickness and injury.

These economic benefits are often underappreciated when decisions are made about investing in local parks and recreation. The remainder of this section looks at a more specific set of economic considerations and opportunities. Two topics are covered:

- How can Bastrop's parks and recreation system support its economic goals?
- What would be the economic impact of building a new sports complex?

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

This section discusses specific ways the Bastrop's parks and recreation system can play a role in advancing the City's economic goals. An important economic priority in Bastrop is building its tourism economy. The Bastrop Comprehensive Plan devotes a chapter to information and strategies related to tourism, and identified four tourism subsectors.

- Downtown Assets
- Natural Resources
- Family and Heritage
- Visual and Performing Arts

Bastrop's park and recreation system has an important role to play in several of these subsectors. The third subsector, especially related to family friendly activities, are at the forefront of the park system's identity. Parks and recreation systems can



can also contribute to building the area's offerings and image related to natural resources, and support the development of its visual and performing arts sector.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Bastrop is well known for its wealth of natural areas in and around it. Bastrop and Buescher State Parks are just outside the City, and McKinney Roughs Nature Park is just a few miles west. There are also multiple ways for people to get on the water of the Colorado River or in natural habitats along the river. Several of Bastrop's city parks are situated along the Colorado River including Fisherman's Park and Bob Bryant Park.



Fisherman Park



The City's park and recreation system can build the identity and attractiveness of its natural resources offerings in two ways.

- **Asset building.** It can enhance the quality of and access to the natural areas it controls through many of the recommendations of this plan, including: coordinating with the Bastrop County and the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department to connect their parks to the City's trail system; increase the number of access points from the parks to the Colorado River to support water based recreation such as kayaking, tubing, and fishing; and enhancing the trails system by developing low impact multi-use nature trails along the Colorado River and through the Lost Pine Forest.
- **Marketing.** The parks and recreation system can work with the City of Bastrop to create marketing material and an outreach strategy specifically focused on the natural attractions and opportunities in the area. These materials would tout the natural assets within the City as well as the major natural amenities in the areas surrounding Bastrop.

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

The arts are sometimes an underappreciated economic anchor, but they can be economically powerful because they attract residents and tourism and build attachment to the community. Bastrop has an important cluster of outlets for the visual and performing arts which can be marketed in various ways. Bastrop's parks and recreation system can support the City's arts-related goals by looking for ways to integrate the energy of the local arts community into its parks and their programming. Local artists can be commissioned to create physical features in the parks—whether permanent or temporary. The parks can also be activated by hosting art festivals, live music, or theater. These opportunities can be explored through building relationships with local arts organizations, and talking about the potential for collaboration.



Parks can directly contribute to local economics through offering a venue for business activity. There is a complementarity between small scale business activity and city parks because when food offerings, markets, and services are offered in parks, they not only generate economic activity but they also bring people into the parks, and expand the population of park users. They can also generate revenue for the park system.

The opportunities for commercial activity in the parks are extremely broad. Some are highlighted below.

- **Food.** People are drawn to food, and parks are great locations for food oriented events. Food truck events and farmers markets work well as regularly scheduled events in parks, and might be suitable in parks like Mayfest,

Bob Bryant, or Delgado. A concessions fee may be charged to individual participants or the event's organizer. Busy local parks may also be able to support a permanent structure that offers food and drinks from a simple fixed menu. Where permanent food structures are viable, the parks division will typically have a concessions contract with the food and beverage operator that will charge a fixed monthly fee and/or a percent of sales.

- **Markets.** Parks can also host non-food markets. Art fairs or markets focused on arts and crafts should be given particular consideration because it would advance Bastrop's goals of fostering its art and cultural community.
- **Pavilions and portable event tents.** Consideration should be given to renting the pavilions in the park. They could still be available on a "first come, first served" basis as a general rule, but they could also be made available for reservation for special events such as weddings, birthdays, graduation parties, etc—and if reserved a rental fee should be charged. Some park systems also own and rent out portable event tents that can be used in the park system for smaller events (or even alongside sports events), and can be set up in locations that don't have a permanent pavilion.
- **Kayaking.** Every effort should be made to build the kayak rental and transport systems for the El Camino Real Paddling Trail so that that service is consistently available during more hours of the week and more months of the year. Identifying an operator partner to incrementally build that business should be a short term goal.
- **Services and programs.** Private service businesses can activate parks. Early morning yoga or Zumba is offered in parks in some locations, and they pay a fee to the park system for the right to operate their classes in the park space. Chair or table massages could be offered under tents at sporting tournaments.
- **Sports complex.** The economic impact of a new Bastrop sports complex is discussed in the next section. A sports complex would bring new activity to Bastrop, and advance its tourism goals. It would also generate ongoing revenues for the Parks system through scheduling fees, admission fees, and concessions opportunities.

These are representative examples of business activities that can be offered in parks. They are synergistic with park goals, and provide revenue streams to support park budgets.



SPORTS FACILITY MARKET AND ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

As part of the park, recreation, and open space planning initiative, and because of existing needs for supporting youth and adult baseball, softball and soccer, consideration is being given to the costs and benefits of a new sports complex that would provide high quality new outdoor fields for baseball, softball and/or soccer. This section is focused on bringing economic information, reasoning, and analysis to the conversation about the prospective new sports complex.

Improving youth sports facilities can have an impact on the local economy. According to New York University's Tisch Center for Hospitality, Tourism and Sport, youth sports tourism is the fastest-growing segment in travel. Players and their families drive to other cities for game and tournament events, and while they are there, they may purchase food, gas, memorabilia, and other goods and services.

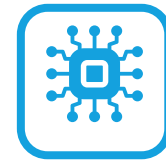
Investing in local sports facilities can bring an economic return. But a positive economic return is not a given. The number of spectators that come to a game or tournament, the length of time they stay, and the likelihood that they stay overnight is dependent on what other attractions the city offers, the quality of the options for sideline food or going out after the game, the hotel facilities that are available, and how far players and visitors have traveled to come to the event.

Economic analysis can illuminate important considerations relative to the sports complex, such as the following:

- **Competitive context.** Where are the other high-quality sports complexes near Bastrop?
- **Facility demand.** Is there a demand for additional sports facility capacity in the region?
- **Revenues.** What are the revenues that high quality sports complexes receive?
- **Economic impact.** What local economic benefit would be experienced as a result of hosting sports events at a prospective sports complex?

Different sports reside in different organizational, physical, and economic landscapes. Ball sports have an entirely different competitive context than soccer does because ballfield facilities and soccer facilities in surrounding communities are in different locations and have different levels of quality. Likewise, the organizational context, the demand environment, the revenue potential, and the economic impact is different for soccer than for ball sports. There are also important distinctions within ball sports. While youth baseball, youth fastpitch softball, and adult slow-pitch softball can to some degree share fields, there are also important distinctions in their organizational and economic contexts.

Four primary modes of research and analysis were utilized for this study:



Locational and competitive context analysis



Demographic review

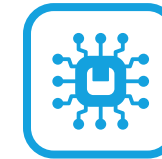


Research interviews



Economic impact analysis

(For a more detailed summary of study findings, please refer to Appendix B.)



LOCATIONAL AND COMPETITIVE CONTEXT ANALYSIS

For ball sports and soccer, nearby sports facilities were identified, researched, rated for quality, and mapped to understand the competitive context of a new sports facility in Bastrop. In addition to sports that would drive the potential demand for a field-based sports facility, the competitive conditions for pickleball and par-3 golf were also analyzed for comparison purposes as possible alternative investments of park resources. A summary of key competitive findings for each sport follows:



Baseball & Softball

The study identified and evaluated 13 baseball/softball facilities based on their location, number of fields, or quality of amenities. 5 facilities were ultimately deemed competitive as tournament-quality given their number and quality of fields and amenities. None of these 5 facilities are within 25 miles of Bastrop. The 5 standout facilities in terms of their ability to host tournaments are the Northeast Metropolitan Sports Complex in Pflugerville, Old Settlers Park in Round Rock, and Hohlt Park in Brenham. Old Settlers Park, with more than 25 ballfields, has hosted national and international tournaments.



Soccer

The study identified and evaluated 13 soccer facilities based on their location, number of fields, or quality of amenities. 6 facilities were ultimately deemed competitive as tournament-quality given their number and quality of fields and amenities. None of these 6 facilities are within 25 miles of Bastrop. The three standout facilities in terms of their ability to host tournaments are the Northeast Metropolitan Sports Complex in Pflugerville, Round Rock Multipurpose Complex, and Bee Creek Sports Complex in Spicewood.



Pickleball

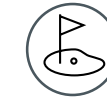
The study identified and evaluated 33 facilities with a total of 105 pickleball courts within 35 miles of Bastrop. Only 2 facilities with a 10 combined courts are within 25 miles of Bastrop. Only five facilities (15%) have been constructed for pickleball usage. The vast majority (85%) have been adapted from other uses (e.g., tennis, basketball, etc.) and lack features like permanent nets and pickleball striping.

10 courts

within 25 miles of Bastrop

95 courts

between 25 to 35 miles from Bastrop - almost all within the Austin metro area



Par-3 Golf

The study identified and evaluated 8 par-3 golf courses within 150 miles of Bastrop. Only 1 course, Butler Pitch and Putt in Austin, is within 50 miles of Bastrop. However, this course would not meet the definition of a typical par-3 course as most holes are less than 50 yards in distance.

8 courses

open to the public within 150 miles of Bastrop

1 course

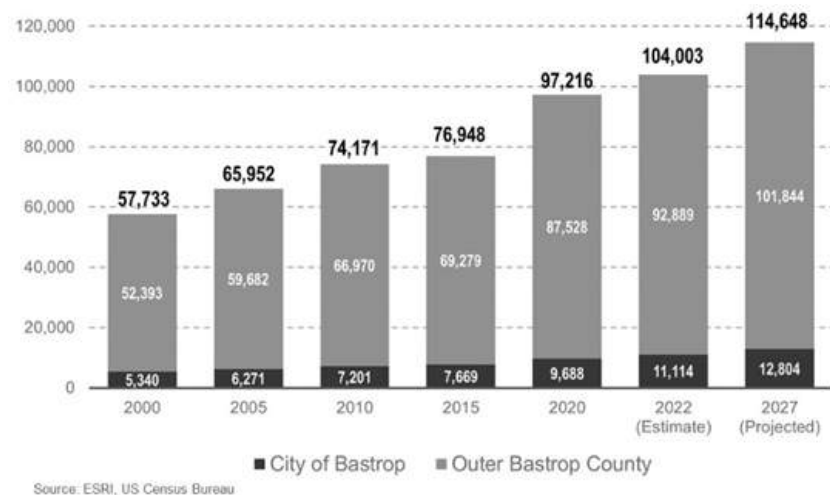
within 50 miles



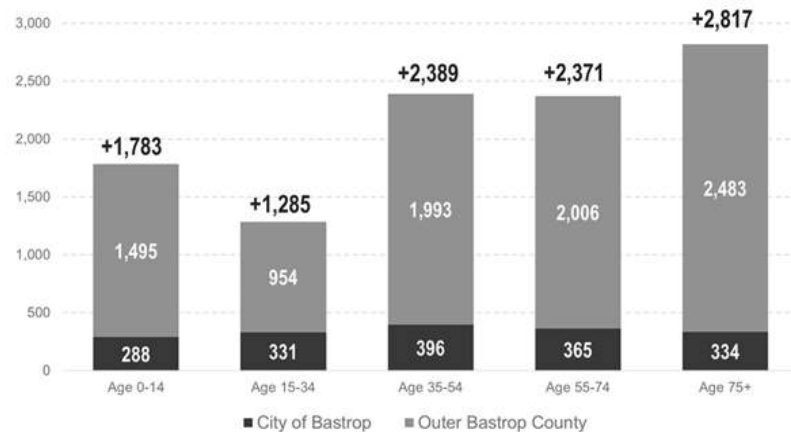
DEMOGRAPHIC REVIEW

In order to better understand how future growth in the Bastrop area will impact the demand for a new sports facility, a review of demographic trends was conducted that focused on overall population growth, the age and racial/ethnic profile of the population, and income levels. The following are key findings from the analysis.

- Bastrop County is one of the fastest growing areas in Texas. Since 2015, the County has added 27,000 people, a growth rate of 35%. Over the next five years, the county is projected to grow by another 10,500 people.
- All age groups are forecasted to grow significantly in Bastrop County over the next five years. This will fuel demand for both organized youth sports as well as adult-oriented sports



POPULATION GROWTH TRENDS OF BASTROP AND BASTROP COUNTY



FORECASTED POPULATION GROWTH BY AGE GROUP



RESEARCH INTERVIEWS

Structured conversations with facility managers and organizational representatives yielded a wealth of information relative to facility demand, pricing, staffing, desirable features, and other things. Below are key findings from the interviews.

Local Youth Sports Organizations

- All youth sports programs have been growing rapidly in recent years, which has generated a lot of demand for existing field facilities in Bastrop, especially soccer fields.

- The number of fields and their quality is not adequate in Bastrop. This is beginning to impact the ability of youth programs to meet the growing needs of the community. Particular concerns were field conditions and lack of field amenities (e.g., adequate/safe parking, lighting, family areas, covered spectator seating, etc.)
- All of those interviewed stated a desire to host larger events and tournaments, but that the inadequacy of the existing field facilities is the biggest barrier.
- All of those interviewed felt that any additional investment in new or upgraded sports facilities would be money well spent regardless of its size or ability to host tournaments.

Regional Sports Facility Managers

- Demand for field facilities is very strong, especially soccer fields and fields with artificial turf. Wait lists are lengthening and reservations are being made further in advance.
- The minimum number of fields needed to host most events/tournaments is four for either soccer or baseball/softball.
- It is very difficult to make money from tournament fees, unless your facility is very large (15+ fields).
- Artificial turf or synthetic fields are becoming the norm due to higher demand (despite higher rental fees), much lower maintenance cost over the long term, and expanded availability.



ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

With the use of an economic impact model for Bastrop County, and utilizing a set of initial assumptions, the economic impact of tournament events on Bastrop's economy was estimated for both a new baseball/softball complex and a new soccer complex. Assumptions were broken into two types. One set were related to tournament characteristics, such as number of fields, tournament days, teams per tournament, players per team, guest per player, and percent attendees from out of town. The other set were related to average spending for hotel stays, meals, retail goods, and transportation.

Given the specified assumptions, a new four-field complex in Bastrop would generate or support the following estimated impacts on an annual basis:

	Baseball/Softball Complex	Soccer Complex
Out of Town Visitors	87,552	98,496
New Visitor Spending	\$5.1 million	\$5.6 million
Additional Local Full-Time Equivalent Jobs	81	85
Additional Local Tax Receipts	\$218,263	\$226,668

Note that this analysis is focused on impacts from hosting tournament events. There are additional positive economic impacts from other uses of a sports complex. A new complex will capture a greater share of the games and practices that would otherwise go elsewhere. Although not as significant as the spending at tournaments (where visitors may spend all or most of a day in Bastrop), the local spending that occurs before and after regular games and practices has an additional positive impact on Bastrop's economy.



HISTORY AND CONTEXT

The Bastrop is one of the oldest cities in Texas dating back to the arrival of the first Spaniards to the Texas region. From its beginnings as a village supporting a Spanish fort along the King's Highway, to now a rapidly growing city, Bastrop has been a draw. Located along the Colorado River, its green wooded area provides citizens and visitors alike with a relaxing atmosphere as well as access to modern accommodations. Within close proximity to the City of Austin, Bastrop is seeing its population grow exponentially and over the years the City has worked to make sure that it prepared for this growth through the development and implementation of various comprehensive plans and parks plans. This section will provide a detailed look at the history, demographics and planning efforts for the City of Bastrop.

BRIEF HISTORY OF BASTROP

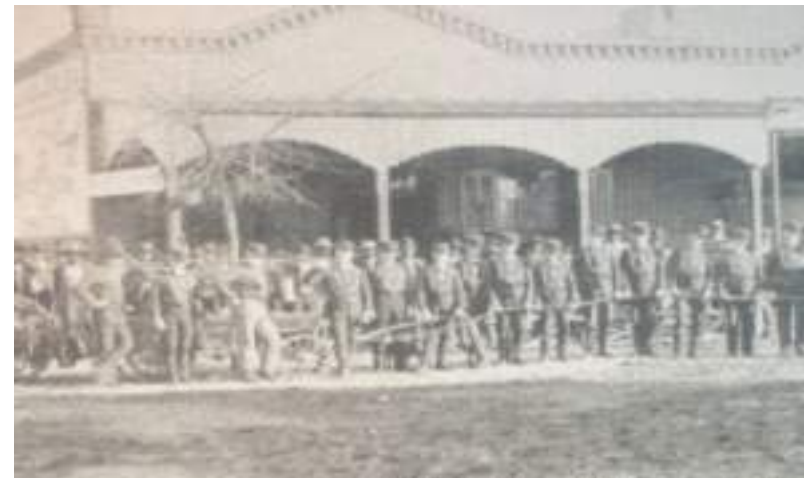
The following sections have been developed to provide a historical and cultural context about the City of Bastrop and its citizens that live, work, and play there. This brief historical perspective provides the needed framework for the process to create the City's Park, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan.

The Very Early Beginnings

The City of Bastrop can date its roots back to the early beginnings of Texas. The area now known as Bastrop was originally settled back in 1804 for the placement of the Fort Puesta del Colorado. This fort was established by the Spanish to protect the commerce traveling along the Camino Real as it crossed the Colorado River. In conjunction with the fort, there came the settling of a community also at the site. As the years progressed, a land grant was obtained from the Spanish by the Baron de Bastrop in 1823 to found a German colony at the site, but it failed to establish. Then in 1827, Stephen F. Austin was permitted by the Mexican Land Commission to formally establish another colony on the site with 100 families. Within 8 years of the establishment of the Austin's colony, the fight for Texas independence broke out and in support of the fight for independence, many members of the original families served in the various battles. It wasn't until after Texas won its independence from Mexico, that on December 18, 1837, the Town of Bastrop was officially incorporated under the new Texas laws. Stephen F. Austin named his newly incorporated town Bastrop to honor the Baron de Bastrop for the support he provided in the founding of the site.

In the following years from its incorporation to the 1890's Bastrop grew from the small 100 original founding families to a population of over 2,000 residents. This was all due in part to the commerce being produced from Bastrop to the nearby cities of Austin and San Antonio. Additional growth was spurred on during this time by the introduction of the railroad. The town's steady growth continued well into the 1940's with the introduction of new industries such as a pecan-shelling plant, a cedar-chest factory, and a cedar-oil factory. Also during this time Camp Swift was established for use in the training of soldiers during World War II.

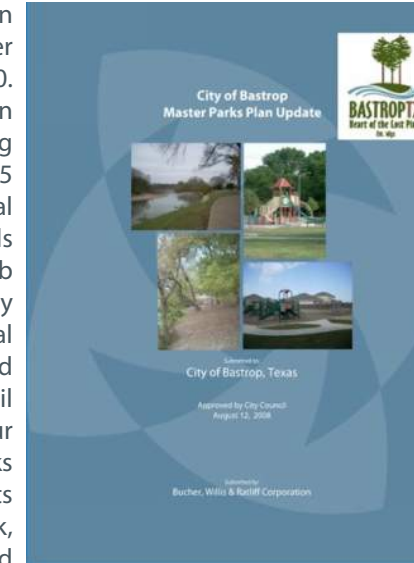
Since then, the City of Bastrop has continued to see its population grow by leaps and bounds as more people from larger cities are seeking more relaxed lifestyles. As these new residents are moving to Bastrop, the city has seen its level of commercial activity also increase to provide goods, services and employment opportunities for the growing population.



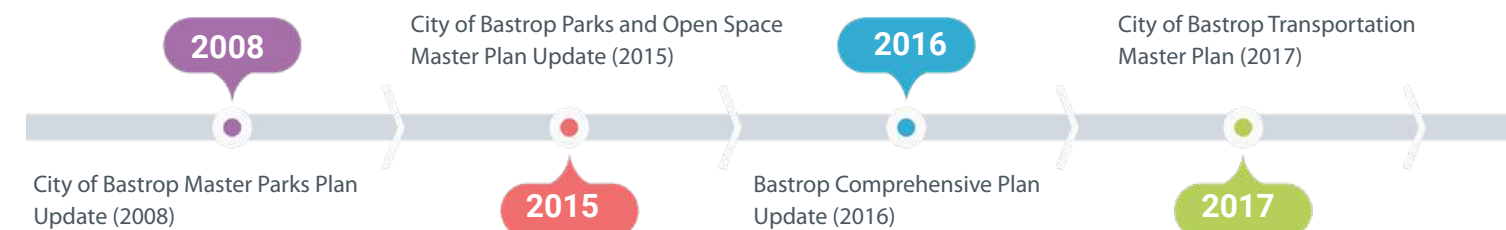
PAST PLANNING EFFORTS

City of Bastrop Master Parks Plan Update (2008)

The 2008 Master Parks Plan Update was an updated version of the prior Parks Master Plan that was adopted on April 13, 2000. The 2000 Parks Master Plan had three main goals and objectives for each goal. During the implementation period of the 2005 Parks Master Plan, the City made several accomplishments in its parks and trails system. The City added two new parks, Bob Bryant Park (2004) and Kerr Community Park (2006), completed the El Camino Real Bicycle and Pedestrian Trail (2004), and launched the El Camino Real Paddling Trail (2007). Improvements were also done to four parks under the guidance of the 2000 Parks Master Plan. These parkland improvements were for Fireman's Park, Fisherman's Park, the Rusty Reynolds Baseball Complex, and the Ferry Park.



In 2007, it was determined by the City Council and the Parks Board that the Master Parks Plan once again needed to be updated. This update was triggered by the rapid growth, changing demographics, and the citizens seeking different types of parks and recreational services. The 2008 Master Parks Plan Update was completed and adopted in 2008 by the City Council. The 2008 Parks and Recreation Master Plan can be found at: https://www.cityofbastrop.org/upload/page/0267/docs/Final_Parks_Plan_9-5.pdf



City of Bastrop Parks and Open Space Master Plan Update (2015)

Following the 2008 Master Parks Plan Update, the community saw a need to once again proceed with updating the plan. The City wanted the 2015 update to reflect the updated population data from the 2010 Census. This new update did not call for a change in the new parks maps and inventories. What the new update did include were five new goals which were identified by the citizens and staff as important to improve the park system. These goals are:

- Address Existing Infrastructure, Maintenance, and Safety Needs
- Identify Land for Future Park Development
- Increase Advocacy / Partnership for long term sustainable parks and rec divisions
- Provide additional amenities to increase / improve parks facilities and programming



- Provide and Improve Connectivity for Bikes and Pedestrians Throughout Bastrop

Using the 2008 Master Parks Plan, the City did reach four accomplishments:

- Dog Park: The Bark Park has been built and is a popular destination for residents and visitors
- Skate Park: The site has been established and funding to build is being secured
- Splash Pad: Built in Fisherman’s Park
- Playscapes in Fisherman’s Park: Scheduled for replacement this year

The 2015 Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update can be found at: <https://www.cityofbastrop.org/upload/page/0099/docs/City%20of%20Bastrop%20Parks%20and%20open%20space%20master%20plan%20update%202016.pdf>

Bastrop Comprehensive Plan Update (2016)

In 2016, the City of Bastrop recognized the need to update the Comprehensive Plan that was previously adopted in 2001. This update was deemed an important step to take due to the increase in development and its growing population. The City wanted to ensure that it had a plan that would plan for the future and include provisions for the growth in housing, expanding infrastructure, adding traffic controls, and expanding/adding other needed city facilities and amenities.

As part of the development of the 2016 update, seven guiding themes were identified through the public engagement process. These guiding themes were:

- To focus on the Colorado River by enhancing access to the river frontage and encourage use of the river by residents and tourists.
- Improve and expand physical fitness facilities.
- Develop public education partnerships between City and community organizations, and increase the presence of an institution of higher education in the City.

- Invest in community conservation through improvements to streets, sidewalks, and street lighting.
- Improve the visual appearance of residential developments by encouraging the use of street facing porches, stoops, and balconies, as well as provide access to the rear of the properties for vehicular parking/storage.
- Preserving the local pine tree population through tree preservation and tree planting.
- Encourage the City to incorporate resiliency and sustainability practices in the construction of new facilities and in the retrofitting of existing facilities.

The 2016 Bastrop Comprehensive Plan Update can be found at: <https://www.cityofbastrop.org/upload/page/0267/docs/Final%202036%20Comp%20Plan.pdf>

City of Bastrop Transportation Master Plan (2017)

In 2016, the City of Bastrop embarked upon the development of its Transportation Master Plan in order to have a long-range planning document to guide the development of the community’s transportation system. The development of this plan was seen as very important due to the rapid increase in its population, which in turn leads to an increase in traffic. The City wanted to ensure that the future transportation network meets the travel needs of the growing region. The plan not only took into consideration the needs of personal motorized vehicles, but also the needs for pedestrians, cyclists, and public transportation. The Council made certain that the Transportation Plan remained flexible, thus it was designed to serve as a general guidance document. This would allow the city officials to weigh a variety of factors and have the ability to adjust the plan as needed. The Transportation Master Plan was developed concurrently with two other planning documents. It was coordinated with the 2016 Bastrop County Transportation Plan to help put the City’s transportation system in proper context within the County and to ensure consistent policies and plans within the ETJ. It was also developed as a companion document to the City of Bastrop Comprehensive Plan to align the two plans.

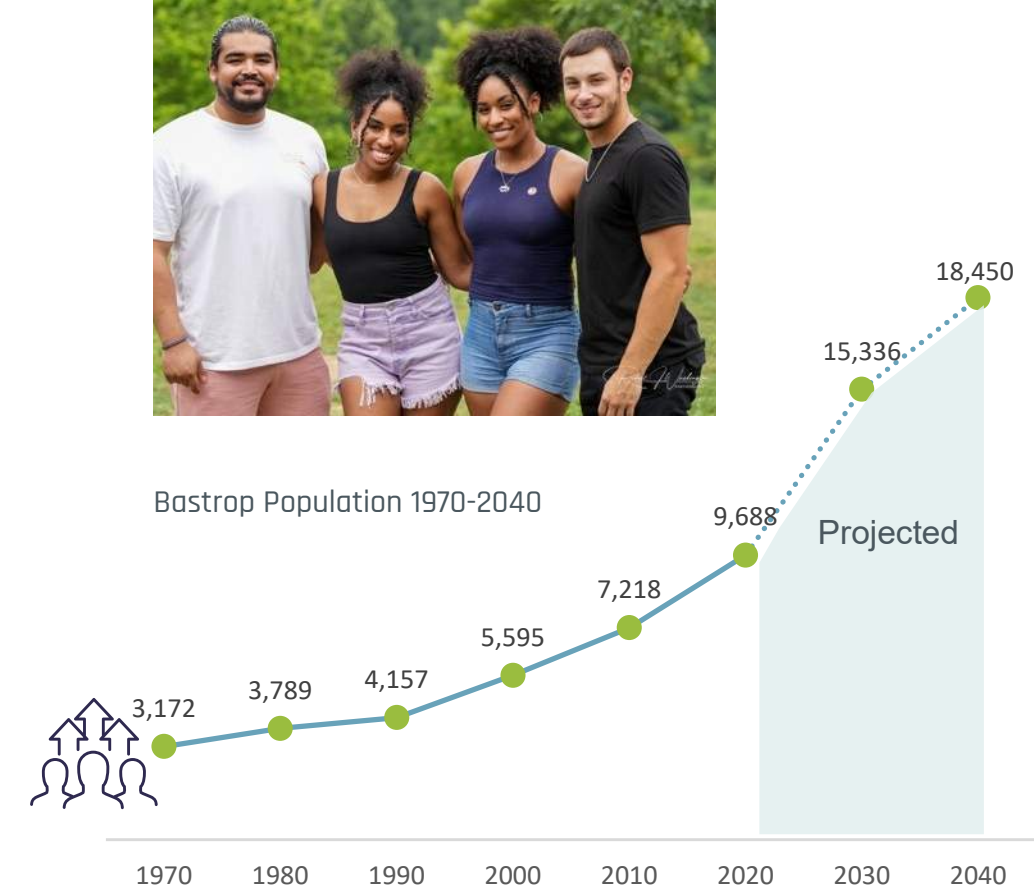
The 2016 Bastrop Comprehensive Plan Update can be found at: <https://www.cityofbastrop.org/upload/page/0267/docs/Adopted%20Transportation%20Master%20Plan.pdf>

CONTEXT

The demographic fabric of a community is important to understand at the outset of any planning process. This section describes the past, current, and projected population trends for Bastrop. For parks system planning specifically, growth trends are used to determine the need for new facilities. The primary purpose of this section is to gain an understanding of the potential impacts of various factors on the future growth and development of the City. The source of the data is from the U.S. Decennial Census, the 2017-2021 American Community Survey (ACS) five-year Estimates, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the City of Bastrop.

POPULATION

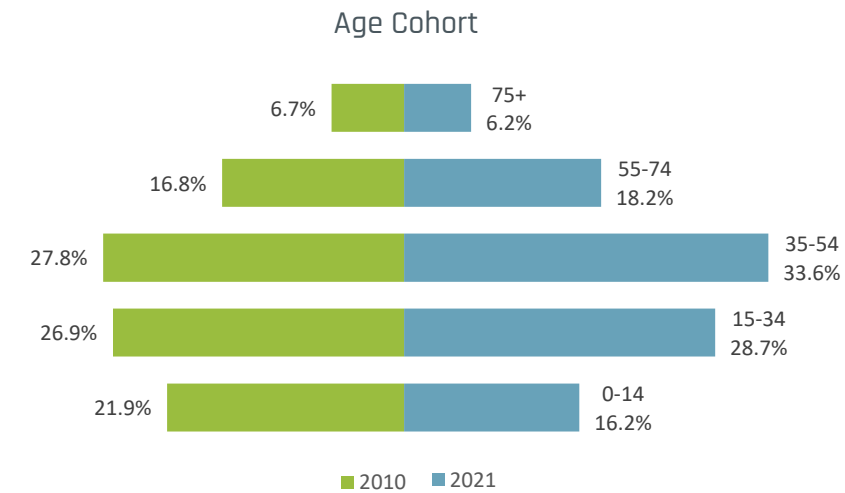
Based on the 2020 US Decennial Census, the City of Bastrop saw an increase in its population from 7,218 in 2010 to 9,688 in 2020 which is a 34.2% increase. This population increase can be attributed to the growth in economic development within the county as well as the growth in residential development between the years of 2000 and 2020. According to the City Water Demand Projection Scenario 2 (City of Bastrop Water Demand Projection Scenario 2 (2014) reflects the City’s most probable population growth projection) population forecast for 2030, the City of Bastrop population is expected to continue growing at the rate of 58.3% from 2020 to 2030. As City’s population has continued to grow, parks and recreational facilities should expand.



Age Cohort

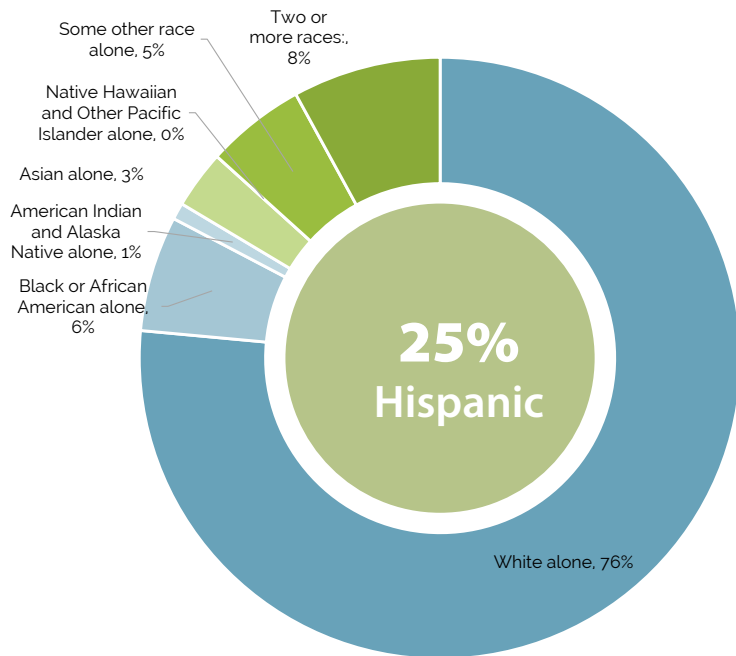
When age is looked at for the population (2021 ACS 5-Year Estimated Data Profiles – DP05 ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates) of the City of Bastrop, it is assessed that the population of the City is being driven by citizens in the age ranges from 25 to 54. The ACS five-year summary for the age composition of Bastrop shows the largest group being between the ages of 45 to 54, making up 15.5% of the total population. Additionally, approximately over 58% of the population is under the age of 54, and 42% is over the age of 54.

Comparing Bastrop’s population by age in the years 2020 and 2021 shows that the population of the City is aging. The median age has risen from 35.5 in 2010 to 40.5 in 2021.



Race and Ethnicity

The City's racial makeup was 76% White, 6% African American, 1% Native American, 3% Asian, 0% Pacific Islander, 5% some other race, and 8% from two or more races (2021 ACS 5-Year Estimated Data Profiles – B02001 Race). Hispanic or Latino people of any race were 25% of the population (2021 ACS 5-Year Estimated Data Profiles – P2 Hispanic or Latino, and Not Hispanic or Latino By Race).



Household Characteristics

The total number of housing units in Bastrop as of the 2021: ACS 5-Year Estimates – B25001 Housing Units, was estimated to be 4,036 which indicates an increase of 1,031 houses since the 2010 decennial census. Out of the 4,036 housing units, the US Census showed that 3,714 were occupied while only 375 were vacant.

Selected Households Characteristics

	2010	2021	2010-2021 Trend
Number of Households	2,703	3,687	984
Average Household Size	2.6	2.43	-0.17
Total Housing Units	3005	4089	1,084
Homeownership Rate	66.90%	58.60%	-8.3
Median Household Income	54,179	68,591	14,412
Vacancy Rate	10%	8.60%	-1.4
Median Home Value	139,200	223,100	83,900

Educational Attainment

The education attainment data gathered from the US Census, QuickFacts for the City of Bastrop indicates that 84.8% of its citizens ages 25 years and older have graduated from high school and that 31.5% have attained a Bachelor's degree or higher. The rate of high school graduation attainment is in line with the County of Bastrop at 84.4% and the State of Texas at 88.9%. The rate of attainment for a Bachelor's degree or higher is above the County's percentage of 23.1%.

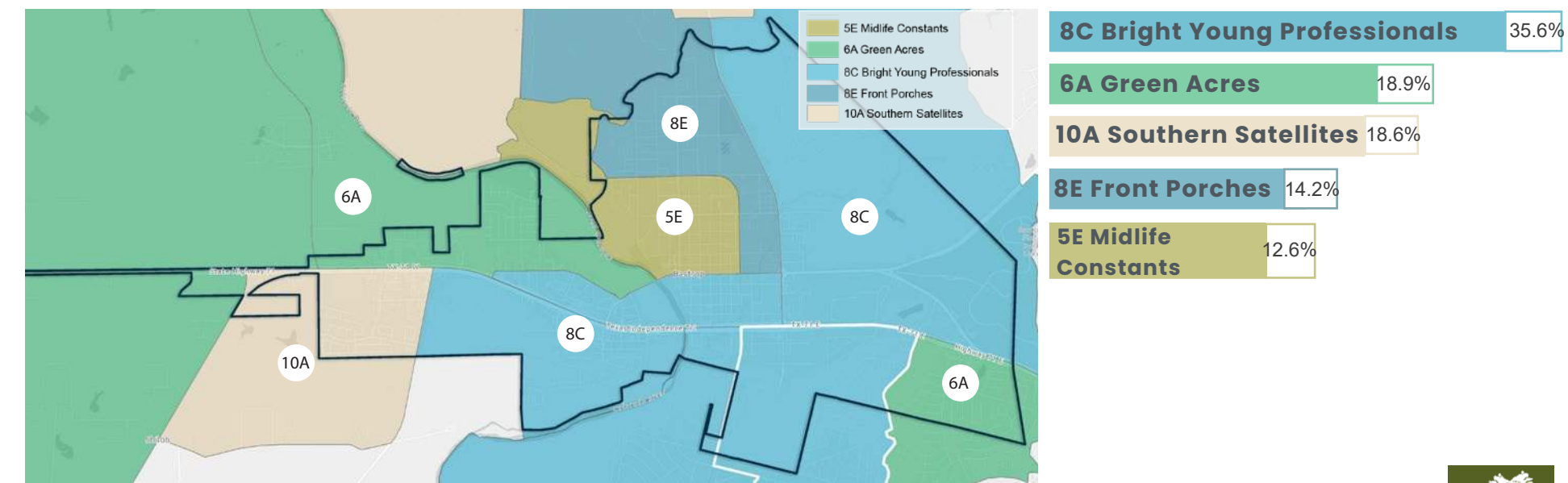


RESIDENT PSYCHOGRAPHICS

Demographics describe quantifiable characteristics of individuals and groups of people. Psychographics build on demographic characteristics, helping identify types of individuals and households based on their values, attitudes, lifestyle, purchasing habits, and other factors. Two people might be demographically identical – the same age, household size, profession, income, etc.– but one might prefer canned domestic beer, for example, while the other prefers bottled imports.

The following map is based on ESRI's psychographic categories and information, which is branded as "Tapestry". Tapestry classifies residential neighborhoods in the US into 14 major "LifeMode" groups, which together include 67 subgroups or Tapestry segments. The City's profile is dominated by 5 different tapestry segments or sub groups representing a homogeneous community. The City's top 5 tapestry are listed in the following figure.

8C Bright Young Professionals	6A Green Acres	10A Southern Satellites	8E Front Porches	5E Midlife Constants
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young, educated, working professionals Find leisure going to bars/clubs, attending concerts, going to the beach. Enjoy a variety of sports, including backpacking, rock climbing, football, Pilates, running, and yoga. Eat out often at fast-food restaurants. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Features country living and self-reliance. They pursue physical fitness vigorously, from working out on home exercise equipment to playing a variety of sports. Residents are active in their communities and a variety of social organizations, from charitable to veterans' clubs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Typically slightly older, settled married-couple families Own a pet, commonly a dog. Participate in fishing and hunting. Read fishing and hunting and home service magazines. Partial to eating at low-cost family restaurants and drive-ins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young families with children and more single households than average Participate in leisure activities including sports, playing board games and video games. They seek adventure and strive to have fun. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sociable, church-going residents belonging to fraternal orders, veterans' clubs, and charitable organizations and do volunteer work and fundraising. Contribute to arts/cultural, educational, health, and social services organizations. Leisure activities include movies at home, reading, fishing, and golf





CLASSIFICATIONS, STANDARDS AND INVENTORY

This section has been developed to provide an overview of the existing parks, facilities, and amenities. The classifications for each park type have been provided to assist in analyzing such things as the service area of a park, what usual amenities are provided in a type of park, as well as what the type of recreational activities a park is normally used for. This part of the PROS Plan also contains specific information such as existing amenities, condition rating, and maintenance considerations for each individual park owned and operated by the City. The Classification, Standards, and Inventory section is a valuable tool to be used by the City in its daily maintenance and operations of the existing parks as well as the planning for the development of future parks.

PARK CLASSIFICATION

Existing inventory, park classifications and the needs assessment were synthesized to create the ultimate park recommendations. Analysis of all the community's size and the size of existing parks were conducted to determine park classifications. Traditional classifications for Pocket, Neighborhood and Community Parks were analyzed, including their respective service radius and recreational features in comparison to the City's physical layout. Six primary classifications were determined appropriate for Bastrop. The traditional Pocket, Neighborhood and Community Park types will be well served with close-to-home type parks. Larger, all-encompassing type parks will be provided in the Regional Park category. The final two park classifications include Special Use Parks and Linear Parks, both types usually exhibiting single amenity types, special locations or and targeted users.

1 Pocket Parks

- Varies by location; ranging from playgrounds to more passive gathering spaces, such as a city plaza

2 Neighborhood Parks

- Neighborhood Parks are designed to provide the basic recreational needs for residents of the immediate neighborhood

3 Community Parks

- Community Parks offer a wide range of recreational opportunities for area residents and larger segments of the community

4 Regional Parks

- Regional Parks are the largest park classification. They provide recreational amenities to the entire community and serve as a destination for surrounding communities.

5 Special Use Park

- Special Use Parks cover a wide range of facilities and descriptions but are most likely oriented for a single purpose

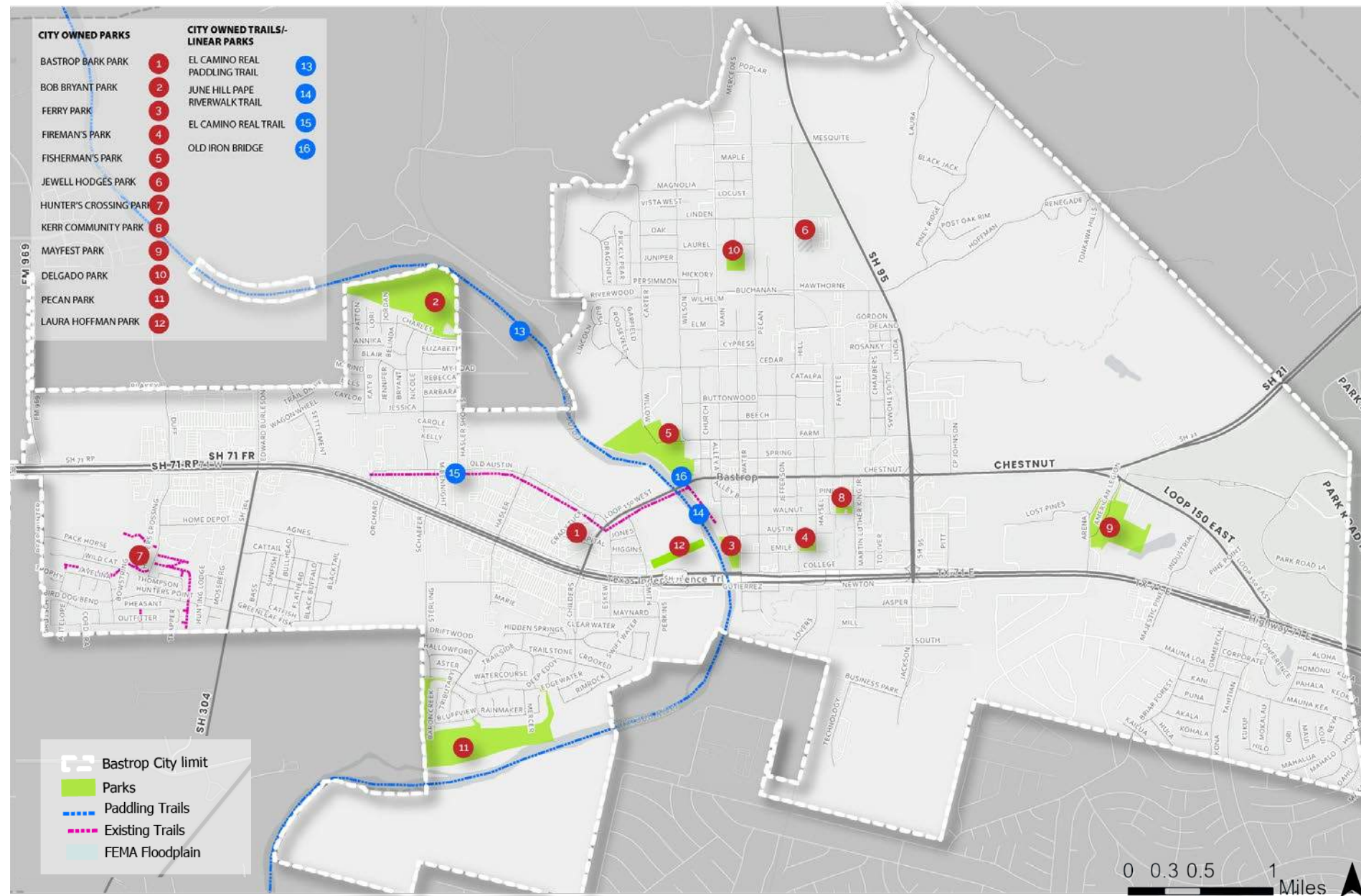
6 Linear Park

- Linear Parks are developed areas for one or more varying modes of recreational use.

	SHELTER	PICNIC FACILITIES	PASSIVE SEATING	SPORTS FIELDS	SPORTS COURTS	RESTROOMS	PLAYGROUND	WATER ACCESS	TRAILS/WALKWAYS	SWINGS	POOL	CAMPING	GOLF	OTHER	GENERAL LOCATION	AREA/LENGTH
CITY PARKS																
Pocket Parks																
Jewell Hodges		x	x				x			x					1200 Linden St.	<1 ac
Neighborhood Parks																
Ferry	x	x	x			x	x			x					502 Water Street	<1 ac
Minerva Delgado	x					x	x			x					709 Laurel St.	3 ac
Hunter's Crossing	x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x				x	301 Hunters Crossing Blvd.	6.6 ac
Kerr Community	x	x	x		x	x	x		x	x					1308 Walnut Street	1.39 ac
Laura Hoffman Park															103 Perkins St	5.1 ac
Community Parks																
Pecan		x	x					x	x						710 Roaring Fork Ln	38 ac
Mayfest		x				x								x	25 American Legion Drive	26.74 ac
Fisherman's	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x				x	1500 Willow Street	20.0 ac
Regional Parks																
Bob Bryant	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	600 Charles Blvd.	22.8 ac
Special Use Parks																
Bastrop Bark Park			x											x	104 Grady Tuck Ln.	1.0 ac
Fireman's				x											600 Hill Street	2.54 ac
Linear Parks																
El Camino Real Trail									x						Highway 71 to Old Iron Bridge	5,013 lf
El Camino Real Paddling Trail								x							Colorado River from Fisherman's Park to Lost Pines Nature Trails	6 miles
June Hill Pape Riverwalk Trail	x	x	x						x					x	Colorado River between Fisher- man's Park and Ferry Park	2,668 lf



Bastrop City Owned Parks and Trails/Linear Parks Map



1 Pocket Parks

Varies by location; ranging from playgrounds or dog parks to more passive gathering spaces, such as a community garden or an urban plaza with seating, landscaping, and other features. Pocket parks are typically privately-owned and maintained by a homeowners or business association.

Due to limited recreational use and high cost, pocket parks should be privately owned, constructed, and maintained to the maximum extent feasible.

Classification Standards

Typical Size: Less than 1 acre; however, some may be as large as 2 acres.

Service Area: Intended to serve a concentrated population within walking distance (¼ mile radius).

Location: In neighborhoods, centers, corridors, or other areas where they are readily accessible to concentrated populations on foot.

Site Selection

Pocket Parks are best located near the geographic center of a residential neighborhood at quarter-mile intervals. While population densities play a role in location, their justification often lies more in serving a specific need based on a service area, if not serviced by other park types.

Usually, Pocket Parks should not be located along heavily traveled streets. Accessibility by way of trails and sidewalks or low-volume residentially streets

increases viability. The park should have adequate soils for sustaining plantings. Generally, their sites should be a gentle slope to increase usability and should properly drain to allow safe use. Street access should be required on at least one side of the park.

Design Consideration

- Additional resident input could be considered during the design phases
- Minimal vehicular parking may be required
- Safe pedestrian access should be provided to the park and include safe internal circulation
- Parks may be located along a trail system and serve as trail access site
- Protection from the sun should be considered through shade structures or trees
- Facilities should have aesthetic landscape plantings and trees
- Park signage should include small monument park signs, necessary trail signs, and posted administrative requirements



Typical Amenities Provided

- Children's playgrounds with fall surface and equipment with shade structures
- Hard surface play area or court games such as basketball, tennis, and volleyball
- Small lawn for passive non-organized team sports such as toss
- Passive recreation elements such as tables, benches, trash receptacles, walks, and small shade structures
- Pavilions or multi-purpose structures for family events or activities
- Gardens or water features
- Monuments, memorials, and educational signage

Park List

- Jewell Hodges Park



2 Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood Parks are designed to provide the basic recreational needs for residents of the immediate neighborhood; they are cornerstone of the City of Bastrop's overall park system and a primary focus for attainment. The design and programming of a neighborhood park will vary based on the needs of residents within the service area.

Classification Standards

Typical Size: A typical Neighborhood Park is approximately 5 to 10 acres, but can range up to 15 acres. Their sizes should be determined based on intended uses, function, surrounding development, land attributes and available lands.

Service Area: should be 0.50-mile radius, and in some cases may be larger. The recommended service level is 1.00 acres of Neighborhood Parks per 1,000 residents.

Site Selection

Neighborhood Parks should be integrated to maximize service areas and accessibility while minimizing unnecessary overlap in service level coverage. Their service area needs to consider the physical barriers such as major roadways. Adequate vehicular access and parking should be provided.

Neighborhood Parks are best located central to several neighborhoods. While population densities

play a role in their position in the community, their location selection is often justified upon spatial need based on a 0.50 mile service area.

Neighborhood Parks should not be located along heavily traveled streets, unless necessary. Accessibility by way of trails and sidewalks or low-volume residential streets increases viability. The park should have adequate soils for sustaining plantings. Generally, their sites should be a gentle slope to increase usability and should properly drain to allow safe use. Street access should be required on at least one side of the park. Placement near greenbelts and trail corridors will help provide connectivity throughout the community. The site may include preserved areas for passive recreation, but the site slopes and soils should accommodate safe use for park facilities and allow proper drainage.

Design Consideration

- Additional resident input may be considered during design phases
- Some vehicular surface parking, in addition to on-street parking, may be needed and should be based on the individual park design, users and programming
- Safe pedestrian access should be provided to the park and include safe internal circulation
- Trail access should be provided when adjacent to trail corridors



- Parks may be located along a trail system and serve as trail access site
- Protection from the sun should be considered through shade structures or trees
- Facilities should have aesthetic landscape plantings and trees
- Park signage should include a monument park sign, necessary trail signs and posted administrative requirements

Typical Amenities Provided

- Children's playground with fall surface and equipment with shade structures
- Hard surface play areas or court games such as basketball, tennis and volleyball
- Limited sport field(s)
- Splash pads or swimming pools
- Small lawn for passive non-organized play such as toss
- Loop trails and trailhead connections to any adjacent city-wide trail system
- Pavilions or multi-purpose structures for family events or activities
- Passive recreation elements and site furnishing such as tables, picnic areas, benches, trash receptacles, bike racks, walks and small shade structures
- Restrooms

Park List

- Minerva Delgado Park
- Ferry Park
- Hunter's Crossing Park
- Kerr Community Park
- Laura Hoffman Park



3 Community Parks

Community Parks offer a wide range of recreational opportunities for area residents and larger segments of the community. In addition to the minimum required amenities listed below, they may include sports fields/complexes, aquatic facilities, recreation centers, cultural and special event venues, and/or natural features that may require preservation. Community Parks are often adjacent to other public facilities such as middle schools, libraries, golf courses, or open space.

Classification Standards

Typical Size: Between 15 and 50 acres; minimum of 5 acres for new construction.

Service Area: 1 to 2 miles radius; accessible to several neighborhoods via bicycle and pedestrian routes/trails

Site Selection

Community Parks should be integrated to maximize service areas and accessibility while minimizing unnecessary overlap in service level coverage. Site selections should consider the physical barriers such as highways. Adequate vehicular access and parking should be provided. The site may include preserve areas for passive recreation, but the site's slopes and soils should accommodate safe use for park facilities and allow proper drainage. Community Parks should incorporate nature features when possible and could

be situated along greenbelts to include nature areas and access to adjacent trail systems.

Design Consideration

- Additional community input may be considered during design phases
- Vehicular parking should be required based on the individual park's programming
- Safe pedestrian access should be provided to the park and include safe internal circulation
- Trail access should be provided when adjacent to trail corridors
- Parks may be located along a trail system and serve as trail access sites
- Protection from the sun should be considered through shade structures or trees
- Facilities should have aesthetic landscape plantings and trees
- Park signage should include a monument park sign, necessary trail signs and posted administrative requirements



Typical Amenities Provided

- Children's playground with fall surface and equipment with shade structures
- Hard surface play areas or court games such as basketball, tennis and volleyball
- Sport and practice fields for organized team sports
- Walking loop trails, access to trail systems and trailhead connections to any adjacent city-wide trail system
- Splash pads or swimming pool
- Open lawn for passive non-organized play such as toss
- Passive recreation elements and site furnishings such as tables, benches, trash receptacles, bike racks, walks and small shade structures
- Large and small pavilions or multi-purpose structures for family events or activities
- Restrooms
- Monuments, memorials and educational signage
- Support facilities such as maintenance buildings
- Natural or preserved areas including unique terrain, floodplains, greenbelts, gardens or water features

Park List

- Pecan Park
- Fisherman's Park
- Mayfest Park



4 Regional Parks

Traditional Regional Parks may have environmental preservation and education as a primary focus. With this in mind, sport, aquatic, and recreation center facilities are generally not the predominant feature of a regional park. The facilities and activities offered at a traditional Regional Park generally include special interest use such as equestrian activities, historic interpretation, and nature observation. Regional Parks are designed to promote important natural environmental features within their boundaries and provide significant open space.

Classification Standards

Typical Size: Their sizes should be determined based on intended uses, available lands, natural resources and other special programming requirements. The service area is the entire community.

Service Area: 2 miles radius; The service area is the entire community.

Site Selection

Regional Parks should be integrated to maximize service areas. Their specific locations will likely be based on natural amenities and preserves. Many times, Regional Park locations are solely based on available lands to accommodate such large sites. Site selections should consider regional access and convenient wayfinding signage for visitors. Also, highly visible locations support the greater economic impact that Regional Parks can have.

As with other parks, adequate vehicular access and

parking should be provided. The site may include preserved areas for passive recreation, but the site's slopes and soils should accommodate safe use for park facilities and allow proper drainage. These parks should incorporate nature features when possible and could be situated along greenbelts to include nature areas and access to adjacent trail systems.

Design Consideration

- Citywide parks and recreational offices and maintenance facilities
- Additional community input may be considered during design phases
- Vehicular parking should be required based on the individual park's programming
- Safe pedestrian access should be provided to the park and include safe internal circulation
- Trail access should be provided when adjacent to trail corridors
- Protection from the sun should be considered through shade structures or trees
- Facilities should have aesthetic landscape plantings and trees



Typical Amenities Provided

- Destination children's playgrounds with fall surface and equipment with shade structure
- Hard surface play areas or court games such as basketball, tennis and volleyball
- Large sport complexes and practice fields for organized team sports
- Walking loop trails, access to trail systems and trailhead connections to any adjacent citywide trail system
- Lighted facilities
- Water sports such as kayaking or fishing
- Amphitheatres and educational facilities
- Splash pads or swimming pools
- Open lawn for passive non-organized play such as toss, recreational elements and site furnishings such as tables, benches, trash receptacles, bike racks, walks and small shade structures
- Small and large pavilions or multi-purpose structures for family events or activities
- Restrooms
- Support facilities such as maintenance buildings
- Gardens or water features
- Natural or preserved areas including unique terrain, floodplains, greenbelts or water feature

Park List

- Bob Bryant Park

5 Special Use Parks

Special Use Parks can cover a wide range of facilities and descriptions, but are most likely oriented for a single purpose. These types of parks serve the community in many ways including economic development, defining character and promoting community pride. Special Use Parks generally fall into three categories: 1. Social/Cultural/Historic Sites - Plazas, squares, municipal sites or historic sites; 2. Recreational Facilities - Senior center, golf course, nature center, community center or aquatic facility; 3. Outdoor Recreational Facilities - Stadium or sports complex for single type event

Classification Standards

Typical Size: Special Use Parks vary in size depending on programming, location and natural features

Service Area: As a destination point, their service area is the entire community and region.

Site Selection

Due to the targeted program element of these parks, there are no specific site selection criteria. However, the site should consider existing points of interest and available land. Special Use Parks should be visible and fit into the community's existing development patterns. Their locations should serve as a hub to surrounding areas.

Design Consideration

- Additional community input could be considered during design phases
- Vehicular parking should be required based on the individual park's programming
- Safe pedestrian access should be provided to the park and include safe internal circulation
- Design for Special Use Parks should consider the community's overall character and impact for economic development
- Facilities should have aesthetic landscape plantings and trees
- Restrooms
- Monuments, memorials and educational signage

Park List

- Fireman's Park
- Bark Park



6 Linear Parks

Linear parks are developed areas for one or more varying modes of recreational use such as hiking, biking, horseback riding, canoing, etc. These parks do not have a service radius as their primary purpose is connectivity.

Classification Standards

Typical Size: The NRPA does not stipulate specific standards for linear parks

Site Selection

Generally, linear parks should follow continuous special feature strips. Due to the shape, configuration, and potential for user noise in linear parks, user impacts on adjoining neighbors will be considered. Fences, walls, or landscaping may be used to provide some privacy for neighbors, but the provision of these features will consider user safety.

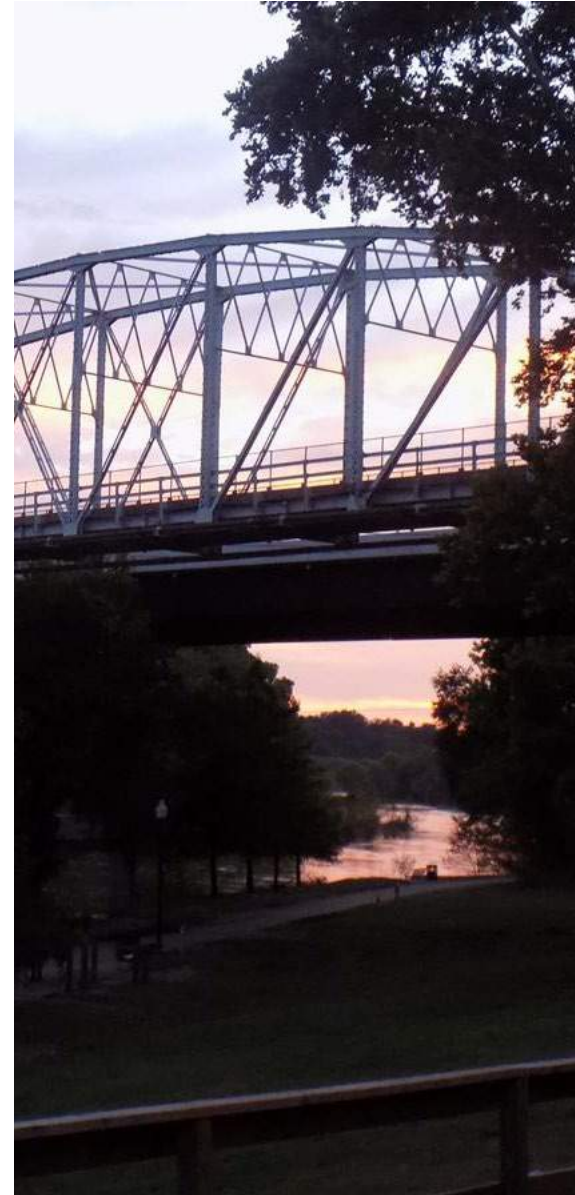
Typical Amenities Provided

- Maintained natural vegetation
- Turf areas
- Ornamental plantings
- Fences, landscaping, or other features to control access near adjoining residential areas
- Viewpoints

- Seating areas
- On-street or off-street parking at trailheads. The amount depends on facilities and anticipated use of the trails

Park List

- June Hill Pape Riverwalk Trail
- El Camino Real Trail
- El Camino Real Paddling Trail
- Once the repairs and park/trail enhancements have been completed to the Old Iron Bridge, it is recommended that it be made part of the City's overall trail system and be classified as part of the Linear Park listing. This will add an additional 0.24 miles to the existing trail system and create a connection from the eastern side of the Colorado River to the western side.



PARK INVENTORY

The City of Bastrop's parks and recreation system provides its citizens and visitors with a variety of parks, open space and trail amenities. The City currently owns twelve parks and three trail/linear parks totaling to approximately 156 acres. Five of the parks are centrally located. The remaining parks are spread throughout the city's neighborhoods. Among the twelve city-owned parks, there are three large community parks within city and one city-owned community park located just outside in the ETJ. Each of these parks provide the citizens with varying degrees of amenities and features. An example of this is Fisherman's Park that contains a portion of the El Camino Paddling Trail. This aquatic trail system is part of the Colorado River which travels north to south through the City. The Colorado River, itself, is not a city-owned park, however it does provide additional recreational opportunities to the City.

As mentioned above, each city-owned park provides its users with a variety of recreational opportunities. However, this is not to say that more cannot be added. As the City continues to grow, so will the future pressures placed on the parks and recreation system. This is where the City will need to proactively take steps to plan for the future of its park inventory. A recommended proactive step is to ensure that the City staff directly responsible for the parks and recreation system is actively part of the development review process. By having this, the City can work directly with future developments in determining things such as how many new residential units are being proposed to be built and what parks/open space is going to be made available for these new additions to the City. This section will assist citizens, elected/appointed official, and city staff understand what parks and recreational services are being provided throughout its system, as well as act as a tool to see where additional services are or will be needed.



Jewell Hodges Park

General Description

Address: 1209 Linden Street

Area: 1 Acre

Classification: Pocket Park

Current Condition

POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

Maintenance Observations & Considerations

- Thinned turf areas due to tree shade and foot traffic
- Mismatched paint touch-ups and rust on swing set
- Paint touch-ups, fence cleaning, turf aeration, and playground surfacing touch-ups should be conducted annually

Inventory of Amenities/Furnishings

- Fenced Playground Area
- Swings (2)
- Picnic Tables (2)
- Small BBQ Pits (2)
- Basketball Court in Parking Lot
- Spring Saw Ride
- Trash Cans
- Portable Toilet

Accessibility Observations & Considerations

The primary accessible route from the public right-of-way to the entry of the facility is via Hill and Linden St. There is no sidewalk connection in the area. The primary access is vehicular. If sidewalks are constructed in this area, a pedestrian connection would be required to the park. Parking should be updated. Update existing route surfaces to park amenities to an accessible surface material.



Ferry Park

General Description

Address: 502 Water Street

Area: 1 Acre

Classification: Neighborhood Park

Current Condition

POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

Maintenance Observations & Considerations

- Park is accessible from limited parking spaces
- Pour in place rubber playground surfacing in good shape
- Pea gravel under swings is not an appropriate fall protection surface
- Thinned turf due to foot traffic

Inventory of Amenities/Furnishings

- New Playground
- Swing Set
- Gazebo
- Picnic Tables (6)
- BBQ Pit
- Benches
- Swinging Bench
- Portable Toilet
- Trash Cans

Accessibility Observations & Considerations

The primary accessible route from the public right-of-way to the entry of the facility is via Water St. and is compliant. Update existing route surfaces to park amenities to an accessible surface material.



Minerva Delgado Park

General Description

Address: 709 Laurel St

Area: 3.0 Acre

Classification: Neighborhood Park

Current Condition

POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

Maintenance Observations & Considerations

- Park amenities appear to be in good condition
- Facilities and playground surfacing in good condition
- Shade fabric showing some mold/mildew growth
- Replace play amenities based on life expectancy

Inventory of Amenities/Furnishings

- Shaded Playground Area
- Swing Set
- Trash Cans
- Restroom

Accessibility Observations & Considerations

The park is currently only accessible by vehicles due to the lack of connection from neighborhood sidewalks to the interior of the park. It is recommended that an accessible trail connection from the existing neighborhood sidewalks be constructed. The new trail can be extended throughout the park, thus offering an additional site amenity.

Hunter's Crossing Park

General Description

Address: 301 Hunter's Crossing Blvd

Area: 6.6 Acre

Classification: Neighborhood Park

Current Condition

POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

Maintenance Observations & Considerations

- Accessibility around amenities appears sufficient
- Pea gravel under play amenities is not an appropriate fall protection surface
- Basketball court appears to be in good shape
- Thinned turf due to foot traffic

Inventory of Amenities/Furnishings

- 2 Playgrounds (Small & Large Set)
- Swings (4)
- Gazebo
- Outlook & Fishing Pier
- Pond
- Picnic Tables (6)
- BBQ Pit
- Half-Court Basketball Court
- Pavilion with 2 Ceiling Fans
- Baseball Field (dugouts in the back & fenced)
- Restrooms (limited access to public)
- Bike Racks (2)

Accessibility Observations & Considerations

The primary accessible route from the public right-of-way to the entry of the facility is via Hunters Crossing Blvd. and it is compliant. Update existing route surfaces to park amenities to an accessible surface material. Accessible parking is provided. Update existing playground surface to an accessible surface material.



Kerr Community Park

General Description

Address: 1308 Walnut Street

Area: 1.39 Acre

Classification: Neighborhood Park

Inventory of Amenities/Furnishings

- Fenced Playground Area
- Swings (2)
- Picnic Tables (2)
- Small BBQ Pits (2)
- Basketball Court in Parking Lot
- Spring Saw Ride
- Trash Cans
- Portable Toilet

Current Condition

POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

Maintenance Observations & Considerations

- Overall, a well-maintained park with some signs of aging
- Pea gravel under play amenities is not an appropriate fall protection surface
- Basketball court could use cleaning and restriping
- Trees should be evaluated for liabilities that need to be removed or trimmed

Accessibility Observations & Considerations

The primary accessible route from the public right-of-way to the entry of the facility is via Walnut St. and is compliant. Parking is accessible compliant. Update existing route surfaces to park amenities to an accessible surface material.



Pecan Park

General Description

Address: 710 Roaring Fork Ln

Area: 48.2 Acre

Classification: Community Park

Inventory of Amenities/Furnishings

- Picnic Tables
- Small BBQ Pits
- Water Access
- Trails

Current Condition

POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

Maintenance Observations & Considerations

- Soft surface trails will likely need repair after inundation
- Open fields would benefit from routine mowing
- Tree care and trail repair will likely be the main focus of ongoing maintenance

Accessibility Observations & Considerations

NA



Mayfest Park

General Description

Address: 25 American Legion Drive

Area: 26.74 Acre

Classification: Community Park

Current Condition

POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

Maintenance Observations & Considerations

- A significant amount of upkeep is needed on a large facility that is primarily used once a year
- Site elements appear to be in decent shape but showing age
- Wood and metal trim on structures in need of replacement and/or painting
- Concrete surfaces could be pressure washed

Inventory of Amenities/Furnishings

- Covered Show Barn (inside rodeo arena)
- Electric/Water Hook-ups (14)
- Lighted Rodeo Arena
- Restroom Facilities
- Picnic Tables (3)
- Small BBQ Pits (2)
- Ticket Booth
- Concession Area
- 11.01 acres of Open Space
- Trash Cans (put out only during events)

Accessibility Observations & Considerations

The primary accessible route from the public right-of-way to the entry of the facility is via American Legion Dr. There is no sidewalk connection in the area. The primary access is vehicular. If sidewalks are constructed in this area, a pedestrian connection would be required to the park. Parking should be updated. Update existing route surfaces to park amenities to an accessible surface material.

Fisherman's Park

General Description

Address: 1200 Willow Street

Area: 20.0 Acre

Classification: Community Park

Current Condition

POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

Maintenance Observations & Considerations

- Noticeable areas of exposed ground around site amenities
- Park would benefit from the implementation of dedicated paths
- Makeshift on-street parking has caused damage to asphalt road and adjacent parkway
- Play structures and surfacing should be inspected annually

Inventory of Amenities/Furnishings

- Large Covered Pavilion
- Small Covered Pavilion
- Fenced Playground Area with Swing Set
- Bench Swings (3)
- Restrooms (across from playground and by Splash Pad)
- Boat/Canoe Dock; Boat Ramp
- Fishing Pier
- Picnic Tables (21)
- Small BBQ Pits (12)
- Large 100 gal BBQ Pit
- Sand Volleyball, Basketball, & Tennis Courts
- Multi-Purpose Field with Soccer Goals & Backstop
- Drinking Fountains (2)
- Nature Trail
- Trash Cans/Recycle Stations
- Wheeled Sports Plaza

Accessibility Observations & Considerations

The primary accessible route from the public right-of-way to the entry of the facility is via Farm St. and an accessible route is provided. Update existing route surfaces to park amenities to an accessible surface material.



Bob Bryant Park

General Description

Address: 600 Charles Blvd

Area: 42 Acre

Classification: Regional Park

Current Condition

POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

Maintenance Observations & Considerations

- Park offers many amenities, but is showing signs of age
- Structures could use a thorough cleaning and fresh coats of paint
- Shade fabric over play structures showing mold/mildew growth
- Pea gravel surfacing is not an appropriate fall protection surface

Inventory of Amenities/Furnishings

- Covered Pavilion (50 ft. x 40 ft.)
- Nature Trail (0.5 miles)
- Scenic Overlook of Colorado River
- Canoe Dock/Fishing Pier
- Picnic Tables (9)
- BBQ Pits (5)
- Sand Volleyball Court
- Tennis Court
- Multi-Purpose Field with Soccer Goals & Backstop
- Restroom Facilities
- Shaded Playground Area
- Benches
- Basketball Court
- Recycle Stations
- Disc Golf Course



Accessibility Observations & Considerations

The primary accessible route from the public right-of-way to the entry of the facility is via Charles Blvd. and is compliant. Need to replace fading accessibility parking signage. Update existing playground surface to an accessible surface material.

Bastrop Bark Park

General Description

Address: 401 Grady Tuck Ln.

Area: 1.0 Acre

Classification: Special Use Park

Current Condition

POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

Maintenance Observations & Considerations

- Thinned turf in specific areas, particularly the large dog facility
- Recommend aeration of turf multiple times a year to assist with compaction
- Recommend the addition of a concrete maintenance band under the chain link fence
- Recommend installation of edging to separate grass from the aggregate walkway

Inventory of Amenities/Furnishings

- Dog Shower Station
- Dog Waste Station (2)
- Small Dog Play Area
- Large Dog Play Area
- Benches
- Walking distance to Downtown

Accessibility Observations & Considerations

The primary accessible route from the public right-of-way to the entry of the facility is via Grady Tuck Lane. There is no sidewalk connection in this area.





Fireman's Park

General Description

Address: 600 Hill Street

Area: 2.54 Acre

Classification: Special Use Park

Current Condition

POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

Maintenance Observations & Considerations

- Usage of different sports requires additional maintenance on turf
- Recommend annual aeration and topdressing to mitigate compaction
- Metal bleachers appear to be in good shape, but wood bleachers are in disrepair
- Ballfield fencing has locations that need to be repaired

Inventory of Amenities/Furnishings

- Lighted Baseball/Softball Field
- Bleachers (5)
- Electronic Scoreboard
- Portable Toilets (2)
- Trash Cans

Accessibility Observations & Considerations

The primary accessible route from the public right-of-way to the entry of the facility is via Austin and Hill Street. There is not sidewalk connection in this area. If sidewalks are constructed in this area, a pedestrian connection would be required to the park. Need to update parking areas. Update existing route surfaces to park amenities to an accessible surface material.



El Camino Real Paddling Trail

General Description

Address: Colorado River from Fisherman's Park to Lost Pines Nature Trails

Area: 14.3 Miles

Classification: Linear Park

Current Condition

POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

Maintenance Observations & Considerations

- River has much fluctuation and can impact access on a seasonal basis
- Drop in and take out access needs to be kept accessible
- Recommend to inspect drop in and take out access areas weekly and remove any debris or other obstacles hindering access

Inventory of Amenities/Furnishings

NA

Accessibility Observations & Considerations

NA



June Hill Pape Riverwalk Trail

General Description

Address: Colorado River between Fisherman's Park and Ferry Park
 Length: 2,668 Linear Feet
 Classification: Linear Park

Inventory of Amenities/Furnishings

- Approximately 0.5 miles of trail
- Pavilion with Rock Fireplace
- Scenic picnic areas along the trail
- Drinking Fountain
- Concrete Picnic Tables (4)
- Scenic Overlooks/
- Fishing Piers (3 (2 handicap accessible))
- Trash Cans



Current Condition

POOR FAIR GOOD EXCELLENT

Maintenance Observations & Considerations

- A unique amenity that appears to be heavily utilized
- Trails appear to be in good shape structurally, but some areas feel a bit dated
- Recommend to pressure wash stairs and clean up litter weekly
- Recommend a quarterly inspection of the lighting

Accessibility Observations & Considerations

NA

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NEEDS ASSESSMENT

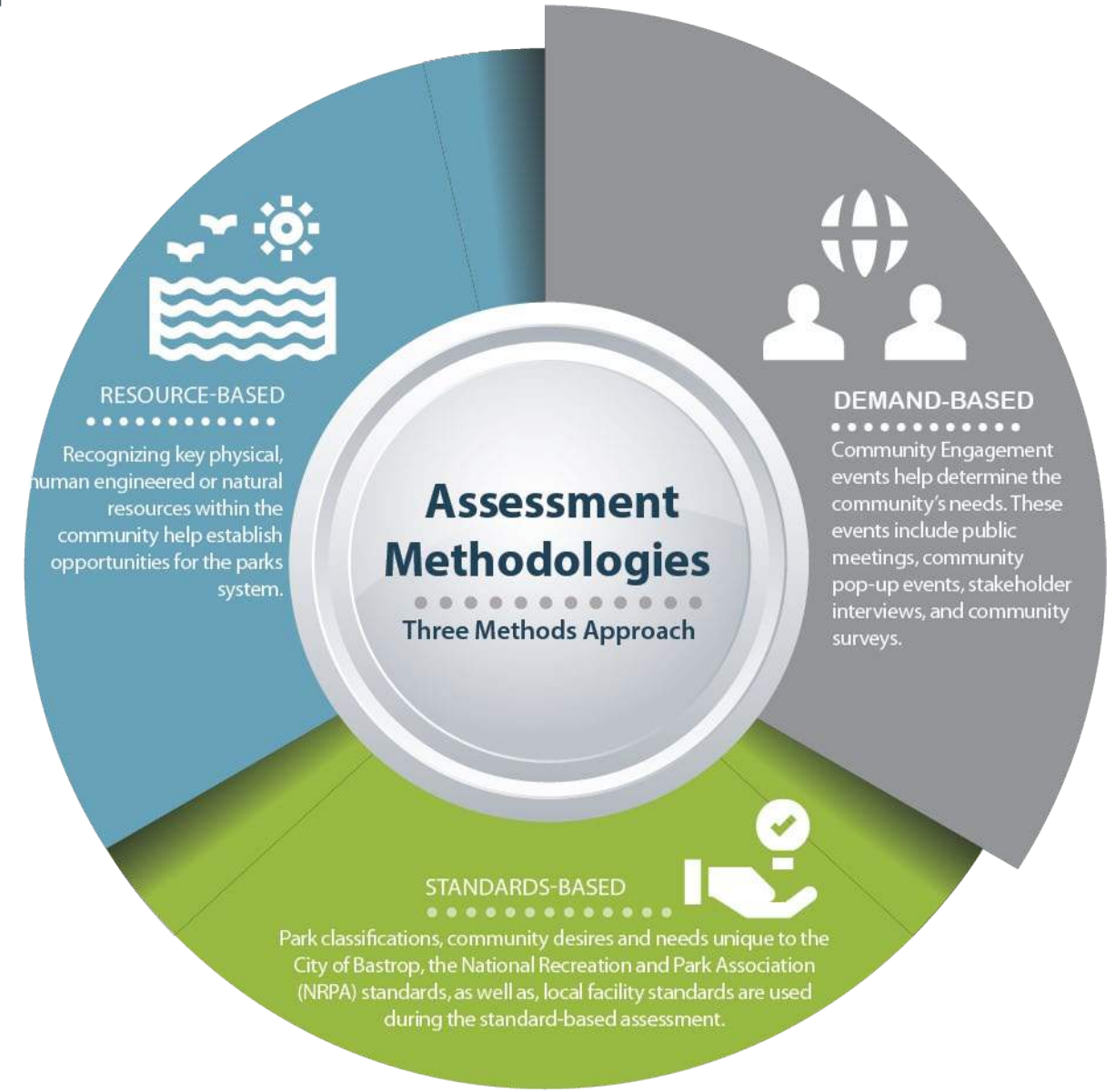
This section has been developed as a resource to assist the City staff and elected/appointed officials to obtain an understanding of what the citizens of the City have identified as being needed for their parks and recreation system. Also included in this section are discussions and recommendations based on Demand-Based, Standard-Based, and Resource-Based assessments. These assessments were made through 1-to-1 interviews with citizens, analyzing data gathered through community surveys, and a comparison review of the current system to national standards. By using information provided by each of these assessments (Resource-Based, Demand-Based, and Standards-Based) in the parks and recreation planning efforts, the City will be able to ensure that it is meeting the citizens' expectations as well as making sure that they are preparing for the future growth of the City.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The City of Bastrop's Parks, Recreation, and Open Space system needs assessment is an objective method to determine whether the park system effectively meets the locally established standards. The information being assessed is based upon existing conditions, community input, community resources and growth trends. The assessments are then matched with available lands and existing amenities to determine current and future needs. The desires and deficiencies identified form the basis for the recommendations. This needs assessment relies also on public comments, staff knowledge and stated desires. The needs assessment is part science and part art, having to balance data with community desires. Park assessments rely heavily on national standards, but those are only a portion of the overall calculations. While many national standards appear difficult to apply, they are only a guideline; thus, this planning effort finds them valuable as a benchmark, but will use additional methods of assessment to aid in determining the community's needs

Assessment Methodologies

The City of Bastrop's parks analysis has employed three methods for assessing current and future park needs, demand-based, standards-based and resource based as shown on Figure, Three Methods Approach. These three approaches follow Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Master Plan Guidelines approach. The results of the three methods are not weighed equally. However, all three assessments provide a broad range of planning information that will be blended into the recommendations, with the most weight applied to the demand-based information.



DEMAND-BASED ASSESSMENT

The demand-based approach is the reflection of a community's needs. It essentially relies on public input as determined through various community engagement channels. In this case, community engagement included stakeholder interviews, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and City Council input, the community survey, community events and a general public meeting. Summaries and conclusions are provided below. The full online survey results are provided in the Supplemental Documentation section of the Parks Master Plan.

Steering Committee Meeting

On February 8, 2023, a meeting was held with the project's Steering Committee. This Committee was composed of eight community members, each selected by the City. This meeting was held to introduce the development of the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan project to the Steering Committee and to begin to obtain information on what needs are seen by the committee. To obtain the initial information, a questionnaire and various interactive exercises were implemented. Are some highlights from the Steering Committee meeting:

WHAT WE HEARD

- 50% of the committee stated that they were satisfied with the parks and recreation system.
- Opportunities identified were the river, the changing population and interests, and the location of the existing parks.
- Challenges identified ranged from the availability of funds for the system, lack of coordination with youth organizations, and lack of access to the river.
- The Committee emphasized the need to provide more activities and programs for the youth of the community.
- In terms of prioritizing an improvement that they would like to see, it was seen that more recreational programming is needed.

Community input revealed common priorities for residents with an emphasis on investing in:



Improvements and maintenance of existing parks and facilities specially Fisherman's Park and Bob Bryant Park



Aquatic facilities and water recreation



Hiking and biking trails



Indoor recreational facilities



Efforts to make parks more active and add more programs for the youth of Bastrop.

- In terms of prioritizing an improvement that they would like to see, it was seen that more recreational programming is needed.
- When asked what amenities they felt were missing from the existing parks and recreation system, 50% stated that a pool was needed
- The Steering Committee stated that the park that needs the most improvement was Fisherman's Park
- The most preferred park amenities for them were pavilions, swimming pools, trails, water recreation (kayaking, fishing, etc.), and more outdoor activities (camping, mountain biking, etc.)

Responses to "Six Word Story"

- Community, interactive, welcoming, inviting, fun, safe
- Youth, community, safe, swim team
- Inviting, comprehensive, safe, community, recreational areas

Community Kick-Off Event

To introduce the Park Master Plan project and survey to the community, everyone was invited to attend a fun event at a food truck park in Downtown Bastrop. This event was held on March 21, 2023. The event consisted of the project team, along with City Parks staff and some high school volunteers speaking with community residents as they came to participate in the festivities. The project team spoke with citizens about the what the Park Master Plan is and what it will be used for. The citizens that attended were encouraged to participate in providing their responses to the same question asked the Steering Committee as well as to participate in the online survey. The project team provided the citizens with flyers and business card with the QR Code that could be scanned with their smartphones, which would then lead them to the online survey.



WHAT WE HEARD

The most needed amenities/facilities that are missing in the existing parks:

- Swimming pool
- Trails including connected walking trails, riverside trails and linear green trails
- Water activities

The existing parks that need most improvements:

- Fisherman's Park (needs Better bathrooms, Wooden playscape, Clean up brush from beach area, Update playground, Shade, Longer trails)
- Bob Bryant

The greatest challenges/issues of existing parks:

- Safety, Litter, Clean restrooms, lack of shade, Maintenance, Graffiti and Vandalism, Funding

Top 3 Preferred Park Amenities:

- Swimming Pool
- Trails
- Indoor Recreation



Stakeholder Interviews

As part of the demand-based assessment, the City requested that one-to-one interviews were held with selected stakeholders. For these stakeholder interviews, the City selected five citizens of Bastrop with varying backgrounds from residents, to business owners, to school board members. Having a variety of community citizens participate in these interviews, it provided a good insight as to what citizens would like to see provided by their parks and recreations system. The stakeholder interviews began on February 22, 2023 and ended on March 10, 2023. Each of the interviews ranged from 30 to 45 minutes in length and were conducted via the Teams app. The questions used in the interviews were designed in an open-ended format, thus allowing the stakeholders to provide as much information as they wanted to regarding the various subjects.

WHAT WE HEARD

The following is a summary of the major themes taken from the stakeholder interviews (shown without order preference):

- Stakeholders would like to see the existing parks upgraded
 - + More lighting added to the parks
 - + Improve the connectivity between the parks
 - + Improve accessibility
 - + Improve the basketball courts (new court surfaces, goals, more seating)
 - + Expand the existing splash pad in size and hours of operation
 - + Add covered pavilions to parks
 - + Add more seating/benches
 - + Add more picnic tables
- Stakeholders also explained that they would like to see a recreation center and a sports complex
- Two stakeholders recommended opening a new par-3 golf course to replace the one that was lost in the fire.
- All interviewed mentioned the need for more sports fields for baseball, softball, and soccer.

Trails Connectivity Workshop

To get feedback on trails connectivity and improvements, a Trails Connectivity Workshop was held on April 10, 2023. The workshop included several volunteer members of the Bridge Maniacs and Master Naturalists group, invited by the City, along with city staff. The project team spoke about the existing trails and their connectivity, trail designs and standards to be considered in the Park Master Plan. The discussion focused on pedestrian as well as bicycle connections to major destinations like schools, parks, neighborhoods, and the river. The focus of the workshop was to identify gaps, needed connections, and to create an aspirational vision of future trails network. This vision focuses on providing increased trail and pedestrian connections within Bastrop, considering future growth and new developments. The online interactive platform geothinQ was used for the workshop to identify where potential trail connections can be created.

WHAT WE HEARD

A summary of the results from the interactive workshop are below:

- Participants identified sidewalk connectivity gaps along major corridors. Some of the roadways with connectivity gaps identified were:
 - + Hasler Shores Drive needing a connection to the school and residential development
 - + New connection near middle school to connect the residential development
 - + Continuous connectivity along:
 - * Old Austin highway
 - * Cedar Street
 - * Main Street
 - * Hill Street
 - * Streets adjacent to Erhard Stadium
 - * Chestnut Street to the Bastrop State Park
 - * Hoffman Road
 - + Pedestrian infrastructure needed along SH-71 Frontage Road connecting the commercial and retail developments
 - + Carter Street connecting residential development, north of Riverwood Drive, and Fisherman's Park
 - + Connection needed between Ferry Park, Fireman's Park and Kerr Park
 - + Connection needed between SH-71 Frontage Road and Rivers bend at Pecan Park

- Participants also identified some possible hike and bike trail connections that can be built along the existing defunct railroad connecting some major destinations.
- Several possible hike and bike trail connections were identified along existing utility right-of-way as well as the existing creek or greenbelt to provide a different experience for the users.
- The participants identified the need for additional connections across the Colorado River besides the existing one along Old Austin Highway
- The city staff spoke about some of the future roadway connections included in the City's future transportation network and the desire to include pedestrian infrastructure on those roads.
- There was discussion on the trail design and standards to be considered along with the treatment of intersection of trails with on-street transportation network.



Additional Public Meetings Conducted by the City

In addition to the meeting mentioned above, the City of Bastrop utilized the Youth Summit event, the Teens at the Library event, the Heart of Texas Chamber meeting, and the Mina Elementary event to obtain additional input from the citizens attending. The input was obtained using the same three poster boards that were used with the prior meetings. This additional input was combined with the input that was obtained from the prior meetings held to identify common themes. These common themes, along with the online survey results, were then used in the development of the vision, goals, and recommendations in this plan.

WHAT WE HEARD

The most needed amenities/facilities that are missing in the existing parks:

- Swimming pool
- Playgrounds
- Shading structure
- Splash pads

The existing parks that need most improvements:

- Fisherman's Park
- Delgado Park

The greatest challenges/issues of existing parks:

- Safety, Litter, Funding, Maintenance

The most favorite school children's play area:

- Sports
- Hikes & adventure
- Playgrounds



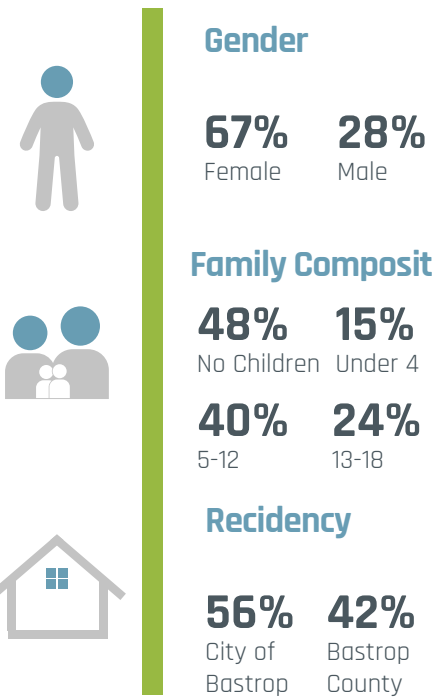
Community Online Engagement

To obtain an understanding of the community's thoughts on the parks and recreation system, the team implemented three community online engagement tools. The first was the online community survey. The survey included a series of questions that gathered specific data on topics ranging from how often a park is used to the type of amenities that are wanted. In total, 830 responses were received to the online survey. Citizens were also encouraged to use the online Map-It application to provide additional input. The Map-It application uses a GIS/aerial layout of the City. Here, citizens were able to place comments/recommendations on specific locations on the map. A total of 68 comments were posted to the Map-It application. The third online engagement tool was the Idea Wall. This online application provided citizens with the opportunity to leave comments in a more general format using digital versions of Post-It Notes. They could leave comments, "like" comments, and provide comments about comments. The Idea Wall had a total of 103 comments. The results obtained from these three online engagement tools played a key part in determining the recommendations for the master plan.

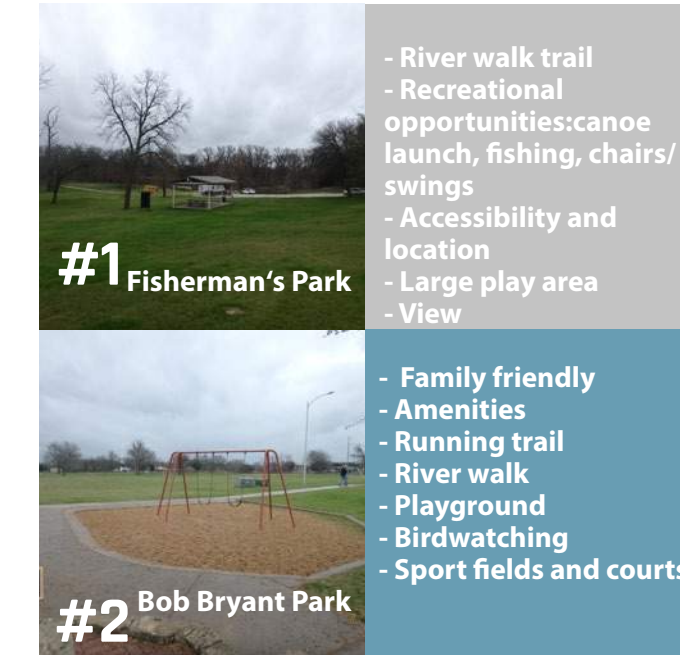
The results of the community online engagement efforts were gathered and presented to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and City Council to provide them with information on what the citizens identified as strengths to the parks and recreation system and what the needs are.

WHAT WE HEARD FROM ONLINE SURVEY

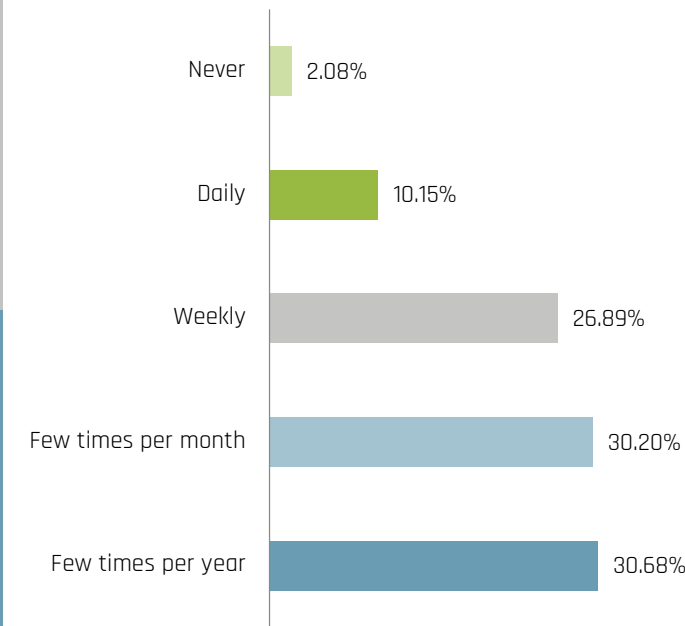
WHO TOOK THE SURVEY?



THESE ARE THE MOST FAVORITE PARKS BECAUSE:



GENERAL PARK USE:



WHAT KEEPS YOU FROM USING PARKS?

- #1** The parks and/or recreational facilities do not meet our needs or interests
- #2** No parks are located near us
- #3** We use parks/facilities in nearby cities instead

LEVEL OF SATISFACTION OF EXISTING PARKS AND AMENITIES:



* For more detailed on survey results, please see Supporting Documents




OTHER FACTOIDS:

80%
of respondents feel like a recreation facility is needed in Bastrop

OTHER FACTOIDS:

50%
of respondents participate in non-high school athletic events

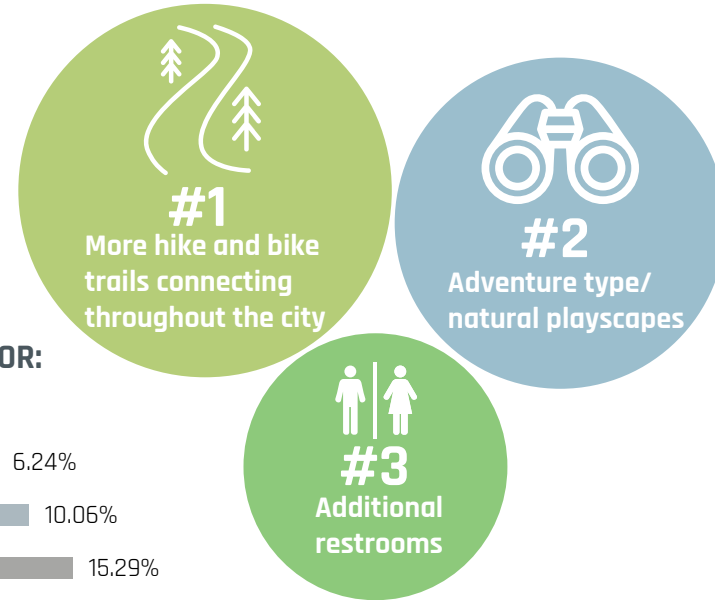
THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES FACING PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION IN THE FUTURE:

-  Improving current parks with more amenities
-  Expanded athletic facilities
-  Growing recreation programs/classes

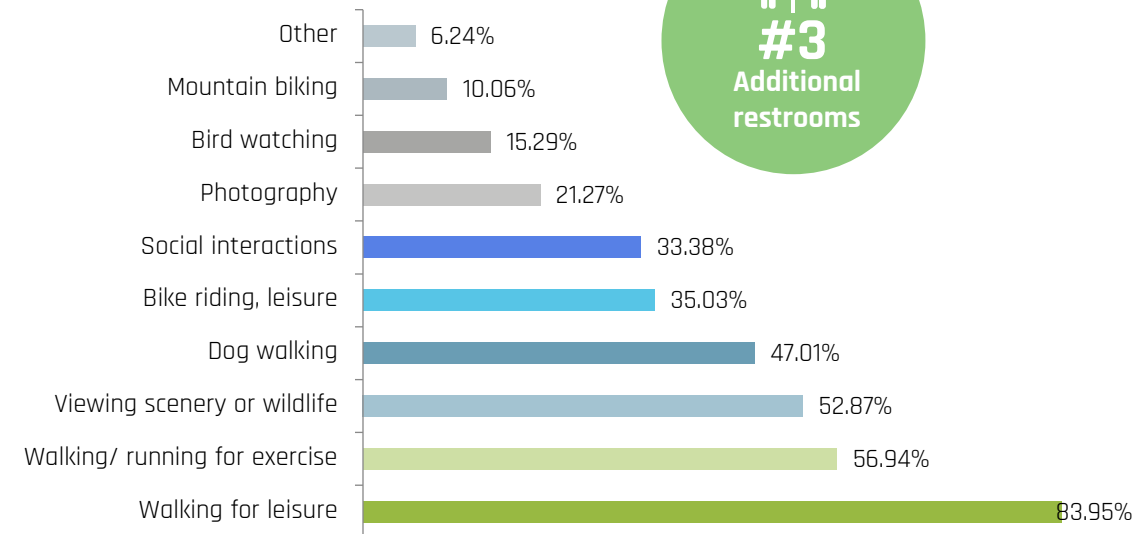
THE MOST IMPORTANT RECREATIONAL FACILITIES THAT IS NEEDED FOR THE FUTURE:



TOP 3 AMENITIES NEEDED TO BE ADDED TO THE PARK SYSTEM:



TRAILS ARE USED FOR:



WHAT WE HEARD FROM IDEA WALL

Definitely need an **indoor pool** for aquatic/fitness classes year-round.

Bastrop needs an **indoor recreation center** with a pool.

Dream list:
***Recreation center**-indoor **basketball court** and **youth recreation**
*An additional large **playground structure**

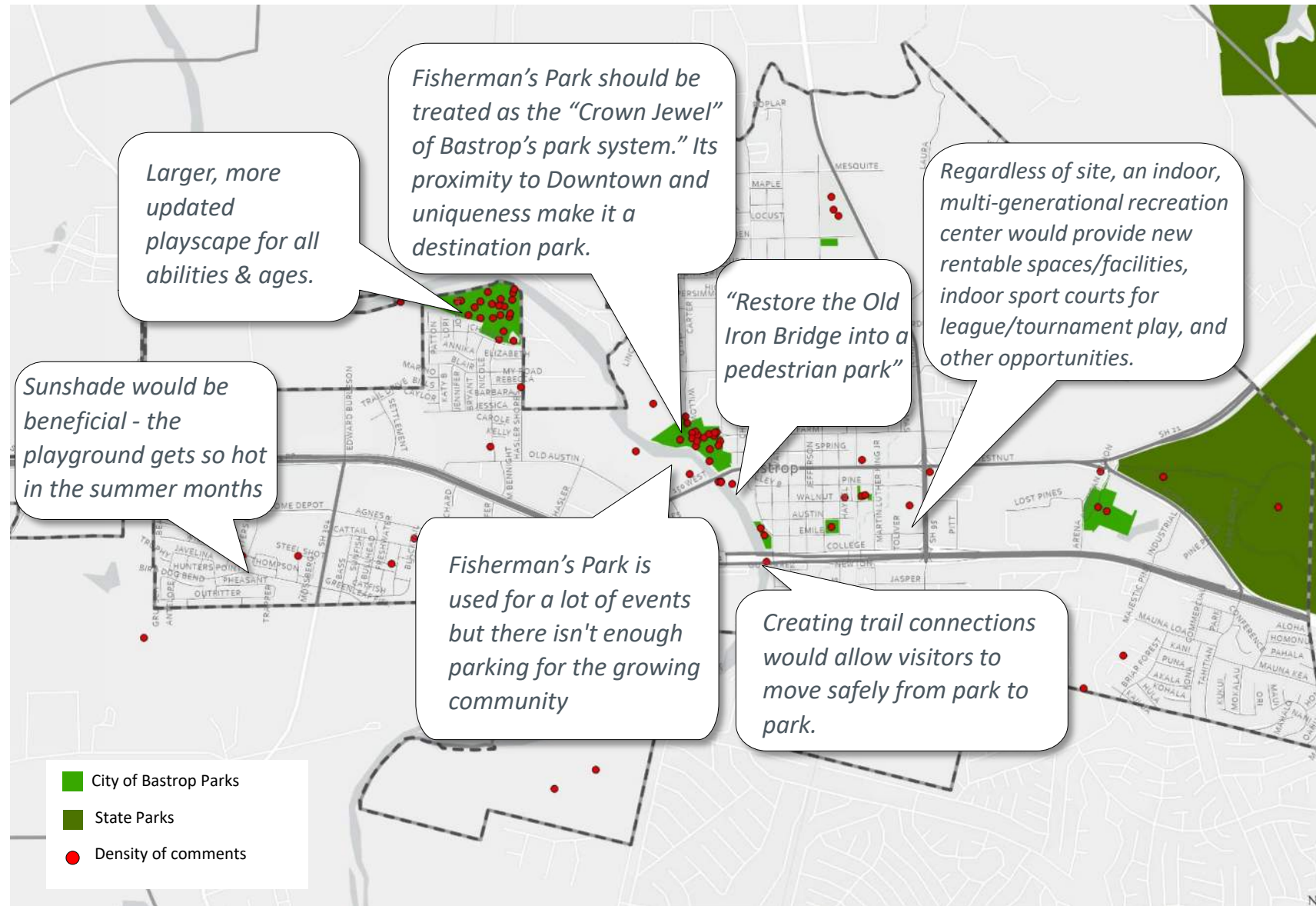
A new **Recreation Center!**

Texas is too hot for too long to **NOT** have a **public pool.**

Renovate/upgrade/add **restrooms**

Re-surface all **basketball courts** for safer traction - upgrade lighting - add bleachers for seating - add more **water stations** -new basketball goals/backboards - Build recreation center.

WHAT WE HEARD FROM ONLINE MAP IT



STANDARDS-BASED ASSESSMENT

The standards-based assessment uses established guidelines set by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and is refined based on local facility standards. A Level of Service (LOS) is described for park types and how they serve the community. LOS figures represent a specific acreage of parkland, facility or number of parks needed per given population or area.

Number of Parks and Facilities

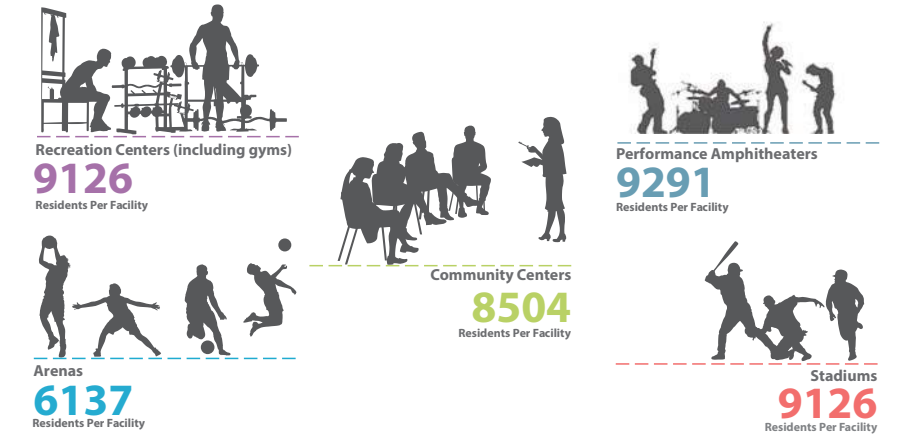
When it comes to the number of parks, the types of facilities, and the recreational programs offered, there will always be differences from cities to cities. NRPA captured this idea best by saying "It is a well-worn adage: all politics is local. The same can be said for parks and recreation." Each city has its favorite sport, its favorite trail, its favorite park layout, and this is all because of the composition of its residents. The residents which compose the city bring different type of traditions, heritages, and cultures to the table, thus no one park or recreation system is alike. However, based on national trends there are typical standards used to determine if the number of parks being provided by a jurisdiction is adequate to serve its population. The 2022 NRPA Agency Performance Review¹ has identified that for jurisdictions less than 20,000 residents, there is one park for every 1,233 residents. As of the development of this Parks Master Plan, the City of Bastrop has a total of 12 city-owned parks (includes three city-owned trails). Applying the number of parks per 1,233 residents standard identified by the NRPA, the City should have approximately 7.8 parks in its system. The City of Bastrop shows that it exceeds this by double, however this should not be used to say that what is being provided is all that needs to be provided. Facilities should also be offered at each park.

Facilities, from playgrounds to ball fields, are what make parks attractive to residents for use. Each park should be designed with specific facilities in mind to those who regularly use it. Applying the NRPA standards, a chart (see next page) has been developed comparing the existing city facilities with what the NRPA recommends for cities comparable in population size to Bastrop.

The 2022 NRPA Agency Performance Review also provides guidance to the type of indoor facilities most often operated by jurisdictions. As per the NRPA report,

"A majority of agencies (64% of those reporting) offer community centers and recreation centers; two in five agencies offer senior centers." Just as the outdoor facilities were determined by population levels, so are the indoor facilities.

NRPA Facilities Based on Population



* Based on the population of 9,688 residents in the City of Bastrop.

The City of Bastrop does offer a recreation center and an arena, however the current facility inventory does not include a community center, performance amphitheater, nor a stadium. The NRPA report indicates:

- 64% of the reporting agencies have recreation centers
- 60% of the reporting agencies have community centers
- 36% of the reporting agencies have performance amphitheatres
- 17% of the reporting agencies have stadiums¹
- 7% of the reporting agencies have arenas²

These statistics indicate (as per the NRPA report) that the primary focus is placed on providing residents with recreation centers that include gyms and community center. Such facilities provide residents with not only locations to assist in improving their health, but also locations to meet with family and friends.

¹ As defined by NRPA a stadium is a fenced area with fixed seating for spectators to view sporting or recreational events. These may include minor league baseball stadiums, soccer stadiums, tennis stadiums, and similar.

² As defined by NRPA an arena is a spectator venue, possibly with capability to host a wide variety of event types.

¹ 2022 NRPA Agency Performance Review, National Recreation and Park Association, 2022

Facility Types	Number Provided by Bastrop	Bastrop Level of Service*	NRPA Standards	NRPA Level of Service*	Current Gap Between Bastrop and NRPA
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Park Amenities

Playgrounds	7	1/1,384	5	1/1,986	0
Dog parks	1	1/9,688	1	1/9,688	0
Tot lots	0	0	1	1/9,688	1
Skate parks	1	1/9,688	1	1/9,688	0



Outdoor Venues

Community gardens	0	0	1	1/9,688	1
Swimming pools	0	0	1	1/9,688	1
Regulation 18-hole courses	0	0	1	1/9,688	1



Athletic Fields

Diamond fields: baseball – youth	1	1/9,688	3	1/3,229	2
Diamond fields: baseball – adult	0	0	1	1/9,688	1
Diamond fields: softball fields – adult	0	0	2	1/4,844	2
Diamond fields: softball fields – youth	0	0	2	1/4,844	2
Diamond fields: baseball – adult	0	0	1	1/9,688	1
Rectangular fields: soccer field – youth	0	0	3	1/3,229	3
Rectangular fields: soccer field – adult	0	0	1	1/9,688	1
Rectangular fields: football field	0	0	1	1/9,688	1
Rectangular fields: multipurpose	2	1/4,844	2	1/4,844	0



Courts

Multiuse courts: basketball, volleyball	0	0	2	1/4,844	2
Pickleball courts	0	0	3	1/3,229	3
Basketball courts	5	1/1,937	3	1/3,229	0
Tennis courts	2	1/4,844	4	1/2,422	2

*Based on 2020 Decennial Census population of 9,688

Level of Service

The implementation of the standards, based on a classification system defined in this section, will determine the City of Bastrop's future park level of service. These standards balance amenities and access to local parks and are sized based on the community's existing conditions and targeted level of service. The following level of service considerations were developed to promote a park system that is measurable, supports the community's vision and is practical to implement. The standards, along with park classification types, create a hierarchy in park sizes, location, recreational types and service areas. While establishing these types of standards are best practices in the State of Texas, these park standards are unique to Bastrop and will capitalize on local features and community desires.

As recognized by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the "National Recreation and Park Association's Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines", published in 1995, were used as a baseline tool to determine park types and best practices throughout the State of Texas. The NRPA standards are only a starting point and are not recommended for the City of Bastrop without adjustments. Justification for modifications were based upon:

- Review of the City's Master Plan and other City documents.
- Local trends in demographics and population growth potential.
- Community feedback through interviews, surveys and public meetings.
- Local resources, cultural factors and physical
- Comparison to surrounding communities.
- Planning consultant's assessment of Bastrop's current level of service, existing park locations, existing amenities, and service areas to create a hierarchy of park types through sizes.

The tables that are included in this section have been developed to analyze various characteristics of the parks and recreation system in Bastrop. The chart titled City of Bastrop Park Standards summarizes the existing park standards based upon

each newly established park classification. Park categories are broken down into subcategories; Close-to-Home Parks (Publicly-Owned) and Other Parks (Publicly-Owned). Within each of the Park Category, individual park types are provided as Mini/Pocket Parks, Neighborhood Parks, Community Parks, Regional Parks, Special Use Parks and Linear Parks. Each of these individual park types have applied standards shown in the final three columns and include:

- Recommended Standard (often called as Level of Service) - a ratio describing park acres to be provided per 1,000 residents. When combined, these create the recommended total parkland for Bastrop at 12.5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.
- Recommended Park Size - a suggested size for individual parks, described in detail within the classification section.
- Recommended Service Area - a suggested service radius for each park type, in short, it defines a specific park's intended service area. These radius are flexible and will be influenced by natural and made-made features.

City of Bastrop Park Standards				
Park Category	NRPA Recommended Standards Acres per 1,000 Persons	Recommended Size	Recommended Service Area	Recommended Acres per 1,000 Persons
Close-to-Home Parks				
Pocket Park	0.25 to 0.5 acres	1 acre or less	0.25-mile radius	0.5 acre
Neighborhood Park	1 to 2	1.0 to 10.0 acres	0.5-mile radius	2 acre
Community Park	5 to 8	10.0 to 40.0 acres	1-mile radius	10 acre
Close-to-Home Subtotal				12.5 acre
Other Parks				
Regional Park		40 acres +	2 mile radius up to 5	varies
Special Use Park		varies	varies	varies
Linear Parks		varies	varies	varies

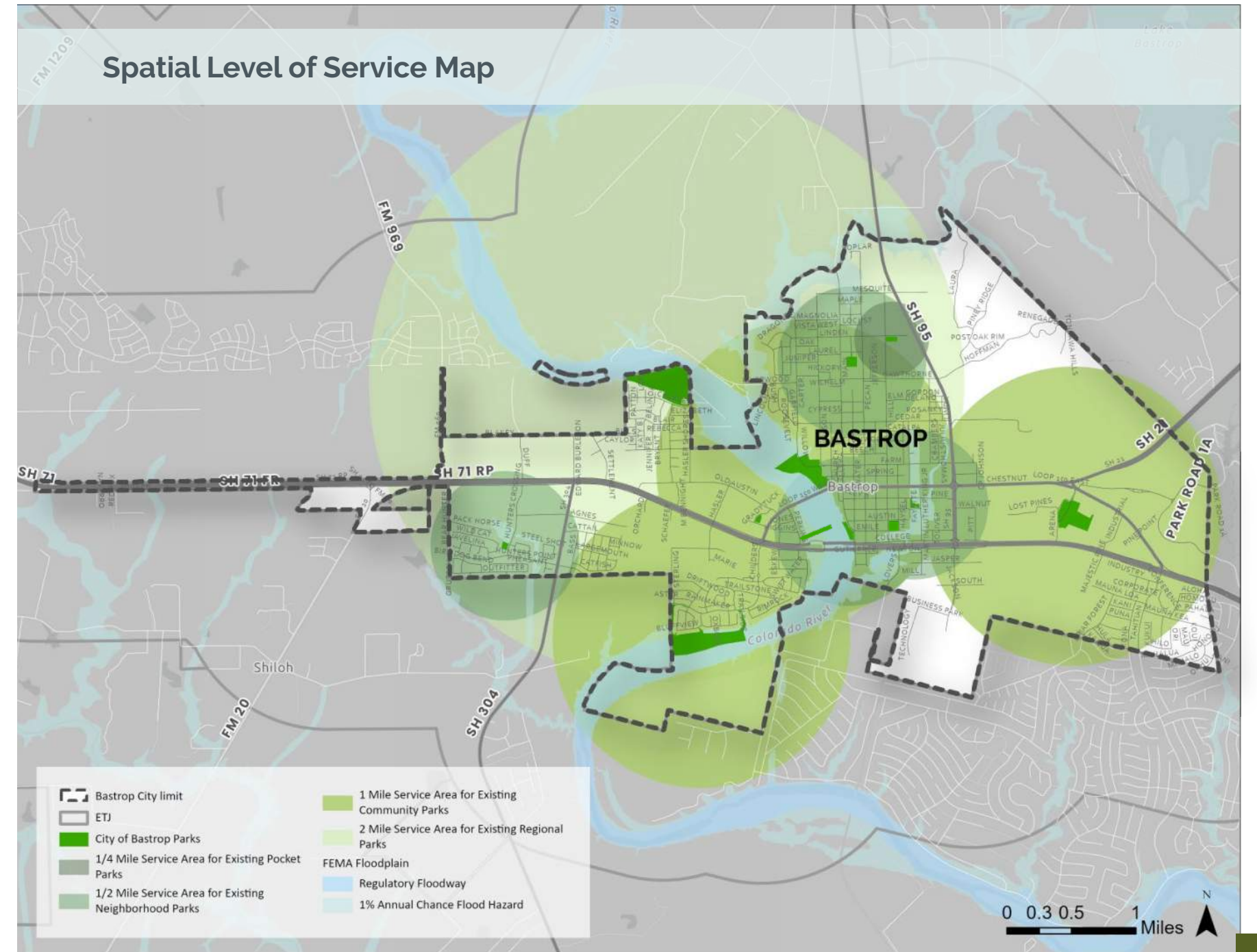
City of Bastrop Current Acreage Level of Service Assessment					
Park Category	Existing Park Acres	2023 Bastrop Current Standards (Acres per 1,000 Persons)*	2023 Recommended Standards (Acres per 1,000 Persons)	Park Acres Needed for Existing 2023 Population*	Current Acres Needed to Meet 2023 Recommended Standards*
Close-to-Home Parks					
Pocket Park	1 acre	0.10 acres	0.5 acres	5.11 acres	4.11 acres
Neighborhood Park	18.6 acres	1.82 acres	2.00 acres	20.43 acres	1.83 acres
Community Park	96 acres	9.40 acres	10 acres	102.16 acres	6.16 acres
Close-to-Home Subtotal	115.6 acres	11.32 acres	12.5 acres	127.7 acres	12.1 acres
Other Parks					
Regional Park	42 acres	4.11 acres	5-10 acres	102.16 acres	60.16 acres
Special Use Park	3.50 acres	0.34 acres	Varies	Varies	
Linear Parks			Varies	Varies	
Other Parks Subtotal	45.5 acres	4.45 acres	10 acres	102.16 acres	60.16 acres
Publicly-Owned Parks Total	161.10 acres	15.77 acres	22.5 acres	229.86 acres	72.26 acres

*Estimated 2023 population of 10,216 persons

City of Bastrop Future Acreage Level of Service Assessment					
Park Category	Existing Park Acres	Park Acres Needed for 2030 Population**	Acre Acquisition Needed to Meet 2030 Population	Park Acres Needed for 2040 Population***	Acre Acquisition Needed to Meet 2040 Population
Close-to-Home Parks					
Pocket Park	1 acre	7.7 acres	6.7 acres	9.2 acres	8.2 acres
Neighborhood Park	18.6 acres	30.7 acres	12.1 acres	36.9 acres	18.3 acres
Community Park	96 acres	153.4 acres	57.4 acres	184.5 acres	88.5 acres
Close-to-Home Subtotal	115.6 acres	191.7 acres	76.1 acres	230.6 acres	115.0 acres

**2030 Projected Population 15,336

***2040 Projected Population 18,450



Park Budget and Staffing

Staffing

As the City of Bastrop grows, so does its citizens' needs for parks & recreation facilities and programming. Along with these needs comes the necessity to increase the number of parks and recreation staff to manage, operate, and maintain these added facilities and programs. As of the adopted FY 2022-2023 City Budget, the City has a total of 10 Full Time Employees (FTEs) for the Parks Division and 2.5 FTEs for the Recreation Division, both fall within the Community Services Department. Comparing the FY 2021 and FY 2022 adopted budgets, the Parks Division has not seen an increase or decrease in FTEs, however the Recreation Division has seen an increase from 1 FTE to the current 2.5 FTEs. The Recreation Division does have the one additional position for a Recreation Coordinator which was not filled as of the adoption of the FY 2023 Budget. Based on these funded positions, the City has a total of 12.5 FTEs that help provide services and support to the current parks and recreation system. For a city with the population level of Bastrop (less than 20,000 populations), in the 2022 NRPA Agency Performance Review, the NRPA has recognized that 11.80 FTEs is the median number that should be employed for parks and recreation systems. Comparing Bastrop's 12.5 FTEs to what is recommended by the NRPA, it can be said that Bastrop is following the national standards. It is recommended that the City use this 12.5 FTEs as a foundation to improving the parks and recreation system. The number of FTEs will need to be increased for both divisions as more parkland and recreational facilities are built.

11.8 FTEs

2022 NRPA Recommended Median Number for Parks and Recreation System

12.5 FTEs

City of Bastrop Total FTEs for Parks and Recreation System

Parks & Recreation Staffing: Full Time Equivalents (FTEs)		
Positions	Division	FY 2023 FTEs
PARKS FTEs		
Facilities & Grounds Superintendent	Parks	1
Crew Leader	Parks	1
Equipment Operator	Parks	1
Athletic Field Maintenance	Parks	1
Technician	Parks	1
Maintenance Specialist	Parks	1
Facilities Maintenance Worker	Parks	1
Maintenance Worker	Parks	3
TOTAL PARKS FTEs		10
RECREATION FTEs		
Recreation Manager	Recreation	1
Recreation Coordinator	Recreation	1
Recreation Worker	Recreation	.5
TOTAL RECREATION FTEs		2.5
TOTAL		
TOTAL FTEs for Parks & Recreation System		12.5

Budget

Budgeting for cities is always a challenge due to their ever-changing characteristics in population, geographic size, economics, and the demands placed on it by its citizens. This is why cities greatly depend on each of their divisions to keep up with growth patterns and projections. Budgeting for parks and recreation systems are no different. When developing a budget for parks and recreations, the managing departments need to consistently track their maintenance and operations expenditures, their FTE numbers, and most of all the level of usage for each park and recreation facility/program. In the City's FY 2023 adopted budget shows that the parks and recreations managing department has been proactive in their planning and budgeting. As an example of this, the City took steps to have a new Parks Master Plan developed, thus proving to their residents that the City wants to prepare for the future and in 2022, the City was able to successfully apply for grant funding to support the development of this master plan. Along with applying for grants, it is crucial that the managing department for the parks and recreation system keep their budgets inline with national trends to prevent from falling short on projected funding for operations and maintenance.







In the adopted FY 2023 Budget, the City of Bastrop has developed a total budget of \$2,897,819 for the Community Services Department, which is where the Parks Division and the Recreation Division are housed. The Parks Division has been approved for a \$917,780 FY 2023 budget (a 19.5% increase from the FY 2022 Budget) and the Recreation Division has been approved for a \$373,934 FY 2023 budget (a 50.2% increase from the FY 2022 Budget). Combined, the parks and recreation system for the City has a total of \$1,291,714. When comparing what has been budgeted by the City for their parks and recreation system to the national median trend of \$1,200,000 as noted by the NRPA, it shows that the City is following the current trend. This is not to say that in the following years additional funds should not be budgeted for the parks and recreations system. To the contrary, the City should continue to be proactive in budgeting for growth in its parks and recreation systems. As more people and businesses move into Bastrop, so will the need to grow it parks and recreation sites, facilities, and programs.

When one takes a look at the overall FY 2023 City Budget, the City has calculated a total expenditure of \$19,852,980 among all the departments.

The Community Services Department, where both the Parks and Recreation Divisions are housed, has been budgeted for \$2,897,819 or 14.6% of the City's budget. Breaking this down further, the Parks Division's budget is 4.6% of the total budget and the Recreation Division's budget is 1.9% of the total budget.

FY 2023 City Budget

Department	% of Budget	% of Budget
General Government	\$9,447,440.00	47.6%
Public Safety	\$5,783,058.00	29.1%
Community Services	\$2,897,819.00	14.6%
Development Services	\$1,724,663.00	8.7%
Total Budget	\$19,852,980.00	100.00%

Division	FY 2022	FY 2023 %	Change
Parks	\$767,849 	\$917,780 	19.5%
Recreation	\$249,000 	\$373,934 	50.2%
Combined Total	\$1,016,849 	\$1,291,714 	27.0%

\$1,200,000

2022 NRPA Recommended Annual Operating Expenditure by Jurisdiction Population

\$1,291,714

FY23 City of Bastrop Parks and Recreation Operating Budget



Park/Trail Land Dedication Fund

The City of Bastrop has created a fund that is used to account for receipts and disbursements of funds designated for special improvement projects related to the City parks and trails. What follows are the Revenue by Fund, Expenditures by Expense Type, and the Fund Balance based on the FY 23 Adopted Budget.

Park/Trail Land Dedication Fund					
Name	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Adopted Budget	FY 2022 Projected	FY 2023 Budgeted	FY 2022 Adopted Budget vs. FY 2023 Budget (% Change)
Park Dedication					
Lease Agreement	\$1,365	\$1,365	\$1,365	\$1,365	0%
Interest Income	\$719	\$0	\$75	\$100	N/A
Total Park Dedication:	\$2,084	\$1,365	\$1,440	\$1,465	7.30%

*City of Bastrop FY22-FY23 Annual Budget, Ordinance No. 2022-22

Expense Objects					
Name	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Adopted Budget	FY 2022 Projected	FY 2023 Budgeted	FY 2022 Adopted Budget vs. FY 2023 Budget (% Change)
Capital Outlay	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%
Total Expense Objects:	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	0%

*City of Bastrop FY22-FY23 Annual Budget, Ordinance No. 2022-22

The Fund Balance for the Dedication Fund received a prepaid payment for a 75-year lease with Bastrop County for Mayfest Park. This lease revenue is earned over the life of the lease. A portion of the skate park was expensed through this fund and against future earnings. This is the reason for the negative fund balance.

	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	% Change
Fund Balance	Actual	Projected	Proposed	
Restricted	-\$84,531	-\$83,091	-\$81,626	-1.8%
Total Fund Balance	-\$84,531	-\$83,091	-\$81,626	-1.8%

*City of Bastrop FY22-FY23 Annual Budget, Ordinance No. 2022-22

Capital Plan & FY 2023 Capital Budget

The City creates a Five-Year Capital Plan that used as guidance for projects over the next 5-years. The plan does get updated annually as project scopes are refined and estimates are adjusted. For this fiscal year (FY23), the City placed one park improvement in the Five-Year Capital Plan. The City is proposing the purchasing of shade and playscape structures for a total of \$65,000. Based on the FY23 Budget, these items will be paid in cash.

RESOURCE-BASED ASSESSMENT

The resource-based assessment is the third analysis for the needs assessment. This exercise recognizes key physical, man-made or natural resources within the community. For each element, opportunities with the resource and how the feature can play a future role in the park system.

Colorado River

The City of Bastrop values its frontage along the Colorado River. As explained in the City Comprehensive Plan, the riverbanks provides the citizens and visitors with linear park space, while the river access facilities are seen as encouraging river usage. The frontage along the Colorado River is further identified as a "...main priority for multi-use trail construction." The flowing waters of the River provide various water based activities such as kayaking and fishing year round. It has already been designated as part of the El Camino Real Paddling Trail (a collaborative effort between the City of Bastrop and the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department's Paddling Trails Program) that provides paddling enthusiasts with a slow-moving, 6-mile water-borne trail from Fisherman's Park to Lost Pines Nature Trails. The portion that travels through the City is part of an overall 24-mile route. To further support the use of the Colorado River as a resource for its parks and recreation system, the City has developed the June Hill Pape Riverwalk Trail. This trail is approximately 0.5 miles in length and provides such features as scenic picnic areas, overlook areas, fishing piers, and a pavilion with a rock fireplace.



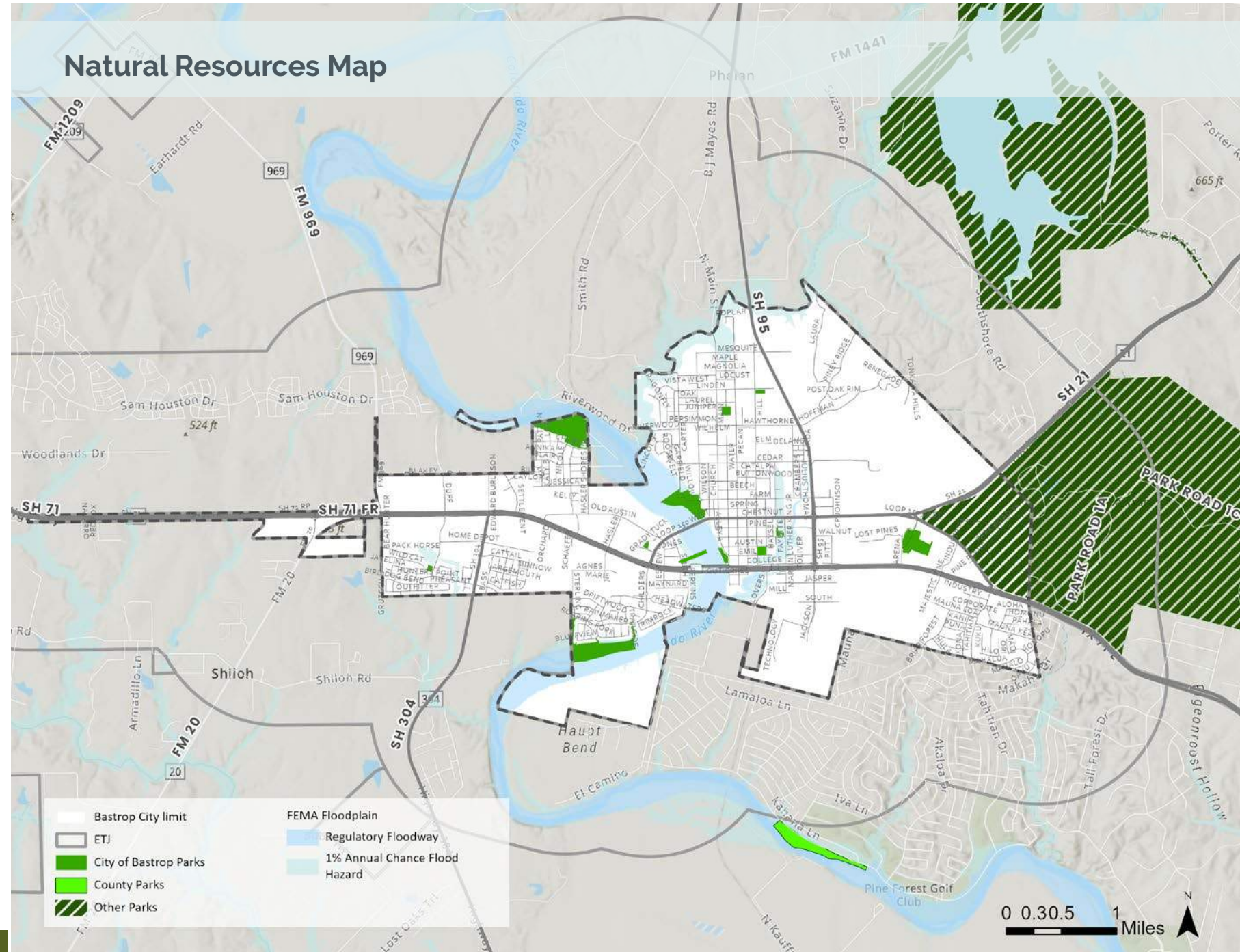
Colorado River

Floodplains & Greenbelts

Land designated as floodplain is typically difficult to develop with increased development costs and environmental concerns regarding the preservation and protection of wetlands. Floodplains and greenbelts tend to be home for natural such as flood protection, wildlife habitats, and water quality filtration. Future efforts should respect the floodplains and greenbelts to recognize their unique opportunities for recreation, such as trails.

As described by the Rails-To-Trails Conservancy group, "Building a trail in a wetland can provide fascinating trail features and unique experiences." Most of the floodplain in Bastrop travels along the path of the Colorado River. As the Colorado River itself has been an active natural recreation source for the community, park amenities can be placed adjacent to the floodplains along the River's course.

By implementing park amenities such as trails and seating areas adjacent to or within the designated floodplain area, land that was once unusable now becomes a point of destination. Additionally, activating the floodplain area along the Colorado River will offer the citizens and visitors to the City a glimpse of the natural aesthetics of the Bastrop area. The greenbelts can also offer a great opportunity to frame future development patterns and future land uses. Cities have used greenbelts as urban growth boundaries which are used to limit the sprawl of development between land uses of different intensities. Just as with floodplains, by implementing a few amenities such as trails, benches and nature viewing areas, greenbelts can offer a quick escape to nature for those who live and work in an urban setting.



Bastrop State Park

The Bastrop State Park is a great resource-based asset for the City to take advantage of to bolster its park and recreation system. The State Park is immediately adjacent to the City, thus providing an excellent escape from the urban setting. The State Park is ready to provide visitors with hiking, swimming, biking, fishing, and overnight camping activities. The location of the State Park is prime as it can be directly connected to the City's park system via a multi-use trail. The multi-use trail can also be used to provide a connection to the city itself, thus creating another avenue for State Park users to access the City of Bastrop and its amenities.

Bastrop County Parks

Bastrop County has three parks in its inventory. They are the Bastrop County Nature Park, Cedar Creek Park, and Stoney Point Community Park. The closest in proximity to the City of Bastrop is the Bastrop County Nature Park. This park is a 24-acre park and it serves as one of the official take-out points along the Colorado River. The site also provides visitors with a number of barbecue pits and picnic areas. There is also approximately 7.5-miles of the Lost Pines Nature Trail system within the park which goes into the Colorado River Refuge next to the Nature Park. This area is known for its great hiking and birding recreation. With the proximity of this park to the City, this park readily serves as a resource of potential further coordination with the Bastrop County regarding the development of a trail system along the banks of the Colorado River leading to and from the Nature Park.



Bastrop State Park



Bastrop County Nature Park



IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

So now the question is how do we get there? How are the goals, objectives and strategies going to be achieved? This chapter provides the overview of the goals, objectives, strategies, action steps, timelines, responsible parties and potential costs which can be used to achieve the goals and objectives provided in earlier chapters. This chapter should be used by the City of Bastrop's administration, staff, and elected officials in the annual budget and work plan process. The Implementation Plan should be considered a living document and, as time passes and actions are completed, they should be noted as completed, and others added if needed to continue the implementation of this Plan.

IMPLEMENTATION

For each objective in the Implementation Plan, the process has been broken down into the following framework:






- Goals
- Objectives
- Type (Project, Program, or Policy)
- Action Step
- Timeline (Short-term, Mid-term, Long-term, and On-going)
- Responsibilities
- Costs
- Sources

The framework provided is to be used as a roadmap by the City on how to implement the recommendations, actions steps, and strategies contained within this document to meet the recognized needs of the community and to continue the enhancement of the City's parks and recreational system.








Goal 1: Provide an accessible and well-distributed parks and recreation system throughout the community that promotes health, safety and increases the quality of life.

Objective 1.1: Provide the citizens of Bastrop with close-to-home parks that are within a 1/4 mile or 10-minute walk in existing and new residential developments.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Use the Spatial Level of Service Map provided in Chapter 6 of this document to locate properties within each of the areas lacking parks and/or recreational facilities and take proactive steps to acquire the land. Support the creation of a detailed multi-modal transportation plan for the City. This plan should include trail/pathway/sidewalk connections between the parks and residential areas. Create the requirement that developers meet with staff from the Parks Division, Recreation Division, and the Planning Department prior to submitting any application for development. This meeting can be used to discuss proposed developments and placement of parks and recreational facilities/amenities. Establish a regular meeting between the Parks Division, Recreation Division, and the Planning Department to discuss any new developments being proposed. This meeting can also be used to regularly track the growth of the City and identify and potential future gaps in parks or recreational services. Develop multiple access points to and from the trail system to key destinations such as residential neighborhoods. Require HOA parks to connect to the overall park system. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility:  <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Planning Department City Council</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Inhouse staff research Depends on the scope of work details Inhouse policy development Staff coordination and time Inhouse staff research Inhouse policy development
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> City of Bastrop CIP AARP Foundation Grants A Community Thrives (ACT) Grant Program Local Parks Grants (TPWD) Local Parks Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation (TPWD) Hometown Grants (T-Mobile) 	


Goal 1: Provide an accessible and well-distributed parks and recreation system throughout the community that promotes health, safety and increases the quality of life.

Objective 1.2: By 2030, increase the existing number of Pocket Parks by 8, the number of Neighborhood Parks by 3, and the number of Community Parks by 4.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Amend the City's existing development code to include specific standards (dimensions, location, amenities, etc.) regarding the required dedication of parkland and/or recreational facilities as part of the development process. Coordinate with private property owners to develop agreements or easements for future acquisition of land to be used parks and recreational facilities. Require a Fee-in-Lieu-of-Dedication in cases where the developer is not able to dedicate land for parks within a new development. Create the requirement that developers meet with staff from the Parks Division, Recreation Division, and Planning Department prior to submitting any application for development. This meeting can be used to discuss proposed developments and placement of parks and recreational facilities/amenities. Amend the City's existing development code to create a process for the dedication of parkland and recreational facilities/amenities to a homeowner association (HOA) for ownership, management, and maintenance. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility:  <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Planning Department City Council</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Depends on scope of work details Staff coordination and time Inhouse staff research Inhouse policy development Inhouse staff research
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> City of Bastrop CIP Community Challenge Grant - AARP A Community Thrives (ACT) Grant Program Local Parks Grants (TPWD) Local Parks Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation - TPWD Hometown Grants - T-Mobile 	


Goal 1: Provide an accessible and well-distributed parks and recreation system throughout the community that promotes health, safety and increases the quality of life.

Objective 1.3: Establish consistency between the parkland recommendations contained in the City's various land use plans and policy developments.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Review documents such as the City's Comprehensive Plan that include various land use goals and objectives related to the development or use of park land. Align the goals and objectives of the Parks and Recreation divisions with the applicable goals and objectives outlined in Chapters 5 and 7 of the Comprehensive Plan. Establish a regular meeting between the Parks Division, Recreation Division, and Planning Department to discuss any new developments being proposed. This meeting can also be used to regularly track the growth of the City and identify and potential future gaps in parks or recreational services. 	Timeline: Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility: City: Parks Division Recreation Division Planning Department	Costs: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Inhouse staff research Inhouse policy development Staff coordination and time
	Sources: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> City of Bastrop CIP Parks Division Recreation Division Planning Department 	




Goal 1: Provide an accessible and well-distributed parks and recreation system throughout the community that promotes health, safety and increases the quality of life.

Objective 1.4: Work with developers to provide suitable parks, trails, and open spaces as part of their development projects.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Amend the Bastrop Building Block Code (B3) to include detailed requirements and standards for parkland and recreation facilities/amenities dedication. Create the requirement that developers meet with staff from the Parks Division, Recreations Division, and the Planning Department prior to submitting any application for development to ensure the coordination of park and recreational facilities/amenities placement. Require that certain recreational amenities be provided for each park type that is included in new development. Create and adopt a parkland dedication manual to supplement the City's development code. Amend the City's existing development code to include more specific standards (dimensions, location, amenities, etc.) regarding the required dedication of parkland and/or recreational facilities as part of the development process. Amend the development code to require the construction of trails/pathways/sidewalks as part of all development. 	Timeline: Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility: City: Parks Division Recreation Division Planning Department City Council	Costs: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Depends on the scope of work details Inhouse policy development Inhouse policy development Depends on the scope of work details Inhouse staff research Inhouse staff research
	Sources: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> City of Bastrop CIP Competitive Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Grants - EDA Local Parks Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation - TPWD Local stakeholders Developers 	




Goal 1: Provide an accessible and well-distributed parks and recreation system throughout the community that promotes health, safety and increases the quality of life.

Objective 1.5: Pursue continued coordination with other City departments, local organizations, land preservation organizations, and County/State agencies about assistance in land acquisitions.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a collaborative atmosphere with the State of Texas and Bastrop County regarding the acquisition of land to be used for parks and recreation. This will ensure parks and recreation services are planned and designed to be equally distributed throughout the area. 2. Partner with land preservation groups to coordinate efforts in acquiring land, which is best preserved in its natural state, yet can be used by the public as a recreational site. 3. Periodically include representatives from Bastrop County in the regular meeting between the Parks Division, Recreation Division, and Planning Department to discuss future parks and recreation needs. 	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility: <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Planning Department</p> <p>County: Bastrop County</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff coordination and time 2. Staff coordination and time 3. Staff coordination and time
	Sources: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastop CIP 2. Local Parks Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation 3. Governmental departments 4. Local organizations 	






Goal 1: Provide an accessible and well-distributed parks and recreation system throughout the community that promotes health, safety and increases the quality of life.

Objective 1.6: Develop a user-friendly online platform for citizens to make park event reservations, request maintenance, and report safety concerns. This platform can also be used to notify citizens of upcoming events at the park and recreation facilities.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work with other city departments, such as the City's IT Department, to create an online or app-based maintenance request process. 2. Keep a constant supply of materials (such as sport court surfacing, surface crack sealant, playscape surface, plumbing supplies, etc.) in stock to promptly provide needed repairs when maintenance requests are submitted through the online platform. 3. Partner with the Civic and non profit groups to inform the public about upcoming recreational programs and community events via the online platform. 	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility: <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Public Works IT Department</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff coordination and time; depends on scope of work details 2. Dependent on cost of materials and amounts 3. Staff coordination and time
	Sources: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastop CIP 2. A Community Thrives (ACT) Grant Program 3. Parks Division 4. Recreation Division 5. Public Works 6. Civic and non profit groups 	






Goal 2: Provide new, vibrant facilities/amenities to meet the needs of the growing community and all user groups.

Objective 2.1: Provide the citizens of Bastrop with a new and highly requested community recreation center.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct a feasibility study specifically on the development of a new community recreation center. 2. As part of the feasibility study, identify preferred locations for the community recreation center and gather recommendations on what associated amenities and facilities should be provided. 3. Identify the number of employment positions and FTEs that will be needed to manage, operate, and maintain the new community recreation center. 4. Plan trail connections to and around the recreation center, making it accessible through the City's multi-modal trail system. 5. Construct facilities available for renting to the community within the recreation center. Rental fees can be applied to the maintenance and operations budget of the facility. 6. Apply for grants such as the Local Parks Grants provided by the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department to fund the feasibility study, construction, and eventual maintenance and operations of the recreation center. 7. Construct a swimming pool as part of the recreation center complex. 	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility:  City: Parks Division Recreation Division Planning Department Finance Department	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Depends on scope of work details 2. Depends on scope of work details 3. Depends upon classification and number of positions identified by study 4. Inhouse staff research 5. Inhouse staff research; dependent work being done and materials 6. Inhouse staff research 7. Depends on scope of work details
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastrop CIP 2. Our Town 3. ARTPLACE America 4. Healthy Kids, Healthy Families (HKHF) 5. Local Parks Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation (TPWD) 6. Hometown Grants (T-Mobile) 	






Goal 2: Provide new, vibrant facilities/amenities to meet the needs of the growing community and all user groups.

Objective 2.2: Coordinate improvements with the annual budget process.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop short-, mid-, and long-range plans through coordinated efforts with Public Works, Finance, and the Purchasing Departments. Taking this proactive approach will assist in locating funds well in advance of the improvement/maintenance projects taking place, as well as establish an annual practice of earmarking funds for future projects. 2. Prioritize the development and maintenance of trail infrastructure, parks, and recreation facilities/amenities in the City's annual budget. 3. Schedule meetings with other City departments to coordinate projects which may be similar in scope. Such project coordination can assist in finding financial synergies between Parks and Recreation projects and those from other departments. 	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility:  City: Parks Division Recreation Division Engineering Finance & Purchasing	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inhouse plan development 2. Inhouse policy development 3. Staff coordination and time
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastrop CIP 2. Parks Division 3. Recreation Division 4. Planning Department 	






Goal 2: Provide new, vibrant facilities/amenities to meet the needs of the growing community and all user groups.

Objective 2.3: Apply findings from ADA Facility Survey to ensure that all parks and recreations facilities are accessible to all users.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implement recommendations provided in the ADA Facility Survey – City of Bastrop Public Parks document to enhance accessibility to all city-owned parks and recreational facilities. 2. Coordinate accessibility projects with the Public Works Department to improve sidewalk accessibility to all parks and recreational facilities. 3. Obtain funding through grants, public-private partnerships, and non-profit agencies to advance accessibility related project. 4. Implement accessibility recommendations as provided for each park and recreational facility as identified in Big Six item number two. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility: <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Public Works City Council</p> 	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Depends on scope of work details 2. Staff coordination and time 3. Inhouse research 4. Depends on scope of work details
	Sources: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastrop CIP 2. AARP Foundation Grants 3. Competitive Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Grants 4. Hometown Grants 5. Our Town 6. A Community Thrives (ACT) Grant Program 7. Local Parks Grants 	






Goal 2: Provide new, vibrant facilities/amenities to meet the needs of the growing community and all user groups.

Objective 2.4: For each park, review the Maintenance Observations & Considerations included within this Parks Master Plan (Chapter 5) and apply the recommendations provided. Application of these recommendations will assist in identifying what park amenities and facilities need repairing or replacing.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coordinate with Public Works, City Engineering, Finance, and Purchasing Departments to develop scopes of work and project cost estimates to get each project listed on the City's CIP list. 2. Determine the priority of enhancements, repairs, and renovations to be done. It is recommended that at least one project per park and recreational facility is planned for each year. This will distribute the work evenly throughout the city thus making sure each area of Bastrop receives attention. 3. Establish regular meetings with Public Works to discuss any upcoming projects where potential efficiencies can be created. Such efficiency would be the repaving of a street adjacent to a park where the installation of an accessible paths to and through the park can be made as part of the project thus combining what could have been two projects into one. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility: <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Public Works</p> 	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff coordination and time 2. Staff coordination and time; Depends on scope of work details 3. Staff coordination and time
	Sources: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastrop CIP 2. A Community Thrives (ACT) Grant Program 3. Competitive Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Grants 4. Hometown Grants 5. Local Parks Grants 6. Recreational Trails Grant 7. Governor's Community Achievement Awards 	






Goal 2: Provide new, vibrant facilities/amenities to meet the needs of the growing community and all user groups.

Objective 2.5: Develop a tracking system to monitor all new and existing facilities, amenities, and equipment. Tracking system should include details such as date of purchase, installation date, warranty period, expected lifespan, and maintenance dates. Tracking system will assist in identifying when the facility/amenity/equipment will need replacing or restoration.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meet with other departments, such as Public Works and City Engineering, to identify what method or product they are using to track their department's specific inventory. Determine if using the same methods or product can benefit the parks and recreation system in tracking and monitoring of inventory. Using similar methods can create consistencies thus making it efficient for departments to communicate their needs. 2. Develop a regular (weekly, bi-weekly, monthly) field inspection process, to include documentation, whereby Park and Recreation staff will travel to sites and conduct inspections of facilities, amenities, and equipment documenting their conditions and identifying any needs for repair, replacement, or renovation. 3. Hire a Facilities & Ground Manager to be placed in charge of managing the tracking system and to assist the Superintendent in identifying and developing projects to be submitted for the CIP list. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility:  <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Public Works</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff coordination and time 2. Staff coordination and time 3. \$62,073 (based on NRPA 2022 Parks and Recreation Salary Survey)
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastrop CIP 2. Parks Division 3. Recreation Division 4. Human Resources Department 	






Goal 2: Provide new, vibrant facilities/amenities to meet the needs of the growing community and all user groups.

Objective 2.6: Implement sustainable funding sources in order to increase the amount of available funds to be used in replacing, restoring, repairing, or newly installing facilities/amenities at the parks. Funding sources can come in the way of grants, philanthropy, and partnerships. A Funding Source Matrix has been included with this plan, and the City is encouraged to use the matrix to identify potential funding sources.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Actively use the included Funding Matrix which identifies potential funding sources for various parks, recreation, and trail items. 2. Develop regular (monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly) meetings with Public Works and City Engineering to identify funding sources which they may be using that can also be used by the Parks and Recreation Divisions for projects similar in scope. 3. Establish contacts within funding agencies. Having and maintaining these contacts will assist City staff to better understand what the priorities are for the agency as well as have a guide who can assist in navigating the application process. 4. Design a funding strategy, with the assistance of the City Engineering, Finance, and Purchasing Departments, which will layout the funding sources to apply for certain projects; when to apply for the funds; identify what the required details are for applying for the funds; and plan in advance to have available funds to be used as potentially needed matching funds. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility:  <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division City Engineering Finance Department Purchasing Department</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inhouse staff research 2. Staff coordination and time 3. Staff coordination and time 4. Inhouse policy development; Staff coordination and time
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parks Division 2. Recreation Division 3. City Engineering (CIP Process) 	






Goal 3: Expand recreational activities and programming to meet the needs of all user types and abilities.

Objective 3.1: At a minimum of every three years, conduct an assessment of the recreational needs for all age groups (children, teens, adults, and seniors).

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: 1. Provide a variety of recreational programming including themed special events, social recreation events, team sports, fitness enhancement classes, health and wellness education, individual sports, safety training, racquet sports, aquatics, and performing arts. 2. Host community events that provide citizens with an opportunity to voice opinions and recommendations for recreation programs. 3. Collect, organize, and store data on the number of classes offered, attendance levels, program evaluations, etc. This data can help map common trends and give insight to successful programs or gaps in service. 4. Provide multiple opportunities for the community to give feedback on the recreation system. Utilize online surveys, mail surveys, town hall meetings, community events, etc. 5. Using information obtained from the assessments, develop any new recreational programs that are being requested or adjust existing recreational programs to meet the needs of users.	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility:  City: Parks Division Recreation Division Planning Department	Costs:  1. Inhouse program development; Depends upon cost of materials and equipment needed 2. Staff coordination and time 3. Inhouse staff research 4. Inhouse staff research 5. Inhouse staff research; Depends upon cost of materials and equipment needed
	Sources:  1. City of Bastop CIP 2. Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) - TPWD 3. Parks Division 4. Recreation Division	

Goal 3: Expand recreational activities and programming to meet the needs of all user types and abilities.






Objective 3.2: By the year 2030, increase the level of FTEs for recreational programming to 27.1% of the overall park and recreation system staff.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: 1. Conduct a feasibility study for the community recreation center and identify recreational positions and the number of FTEs that will be needed to operate and maintain the facility and its programs. 2. Apply for grants such as the Local Parks Grant provided by the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department to fund the eventual maintenance and operations staff for parks and recreation facility maintenance and operations. 3. Create and adopt a Fee-in-Lieu-of parkland dedication fee process that can be used to fund park and recreation system operations. 4. Investigate the opportunity to integrate the Parks Division and the Recreation Division into one department/division. Such an integration can lead to efficiencies where facility planning, programming, operations, and maintenance can be better coordinated; in addition, new and existing FTEs can be cross-trained for both services to the community.	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility:  City: Parks Division Recreation Division Finance Department	Costs:  1. Depends on the scope of work details 2. Inhouse staff research 3. Inhouse policy development 4. Depends on the scope of work details if consultant is used; Inhouse staff research
	Sources:  1. City of Bastop CIP 2. Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) - TPWD 3. Local Parks Grants - TPWD 4. Local Parks Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation - TPWD	








Goal 3: Expand recreational activities and programming to meet the needs of all user types and abilities.

Objective 3.3: Encourage and provide opportunities for citizens to participate in planning, development, maintenance, and operations for the City's parks and recreation system.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Host community events that provide citizens with an opportunity to voice opinions and recommendations for recreation programs. Provide multiple opportunities for the community to give feedback on the recreation system. Utilize online surveys, mail surveys, town hall meetings, community events, etc. Facilitate regular discussions with citizens to stay ahead of any changes in recreational trends and anticipate future needs of the community. Create an Adopt-A-Park program that will allow citizens, organizations, and businesses to adopt a park for maintenance and upkeep. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility:  <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Planning Department City Council</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Staff coordination and time Staff coordination and time Staff coordination and time Inhouse program development
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> City of Bastop CIP Our Town ARTPLACE America National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Community Challenge Grant - AARP) Hometown Grants (T-Mobile) 	




Goal 3: Expand recreational activities and programming to meet the needs of all user types and abilities.

Objective 3.4: Pursue partnerships with the private sector (businesses, civic groups, and local organizations) to develop methods where they can contribute to the creations, management, funding, and operations of community-driven activities and programs.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with civic groups such as the Master Gardeners and the Master Naturalists to provide educational opportunities to the community at the parks. Develop partnerships with the private sector through programs such as sponsorships and naming rights. Fees obtained through these programs can be applied to the maintenance and operations of park/recreation facilities. Develop and foster partnerships with local businesses and organizations that may provide more specialized management and operations of programs, thus creating efficiencies that will save the City money and supplement personnel. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility:  <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Economic Development (Visit Bastrop)</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Staff coordination and time Staff coordination and time Staff coordination and time
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> City of Bastop CIP Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) - TPWD ARTPLACE America Private-Public Partnerships Local civic and nonprofit groups 	






Goal 3: Expand recreational activities and programming to meet the needs of all user types and abilities.

Objective 3.5: Develop user group specific and multi-generational recreational events, activities, and programs that will meet various (physical, mental, age, and social) needs.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implement programs as recommended by Big Six item number 4. Recommendations included, but not limited to, recreational programs such as sports leagues, musical classes, art workshops, health education, fitness groups, and gardening classes. 2. Implement multi-generational recreational programming that can assist in enriching each participant's physical, social, and mental health through mentoring, caregiving, understanding, tutoring, and developing friendships that may not have occurred without such programs. 3. Develop age-specific group activities such as senior fitness classes, teen game nights, or children's art and crafts classes to create meaningful connections between participants, which can lead to fostering new friendships and support networks. 4. Create a program development team composed of various community members ranging in age, gender, and skills which the Recreation Division can work with in the development of programs and the following of recreational trends. 	Timeline: Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing											
	Responsibility: City: Parks Division Recreation Division	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inhouse program development; Depends upon cost of materials and equipment needed 2. Inhouse program development; Depends upon cost of materials and equipment needed 3. Inhouse program development; Depends upon cost of materials and equipment needed 4. Staff coordination and time 											
	Sources: <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1. AARP Foundation Grants</td> <td>(CO-OP)</td> <td>8. Hometown Grants</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. A Community Thrives (ACT) Grant Program</td> <td>5. Governor's Community Achievement Awards</td> <td>9. ARTPLACE America</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Local Park Grants</td> <td>6. Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Community Outdoor Outreach Program</td> <td>7. Our Town</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> 		1. AARP Foundation Grants	(CO-OP)	8. Hometown Grants	2. A Community Thrives (ACT) Grant Program	5. Governor's Community Achievement Awards	9. ARTPLACE America	3. Local Park Grants	6. Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA)		4. Community Outdoor Outreach Program	7. Our Town
1. AARP Foundation Grants	(CO-OP)	8. Hometown Grants											
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3. Local Park Grants	6. Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA)												
4. Community Outdoor Outreach Program	7. Our Town												






Goal 4: Use parks, trails, and recreation to support Bastrop's economic development strategies.

Objective 4.1: Actively market the local park services and recreational events to attract users to the area.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue improvements and developments on the parks, trails, and open space system to attract visitors and tourists. 2. Leverage the use of the local natural resources such as Bastrop State Park, the Colorado River, and Lake Bastrop to support the growth of nature tourism. 3. Expand the trail system along the Colorado River to create linkages between the downtown area and the riverfront. 4. Develop branding for the parks and recreation system and promote events on the City of Bastrop's website and/or social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>					
	Responsibility:  <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Depends on cost of materials and equipment 2. 0 3. Depend on scope of work details 4. Staff time 					
	Sources: <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1. City of Bastrop CIP</td> <td>4. National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Recreational Trail Grants - TPWD</td> <td>5. Local Parks Grants (TPWD)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. AARP Foundation Grants</td> <td>6. Community Grants</td> </tr> </table> 		1. City of Bastrop CIP	4. National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA)	2. Recreational Trail Grants - TPWD	5. Local Parks Grants (TPWD)	3. AARP Foundation Grants
1. City of Bastrop CIP	4. National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA)						
2. Recreational Trail Grants - TPWD	5. Local Parks Grants (TPWD)						
3. AARP Foundation Grants	6. Community Grants						






Goal 4: Use parks, trails, and recreation to support Bastrop's economic development strategies.

Objective 4.2: Host sports and community events to attract out of town visitors.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> As recommended in Chapter 8 of the City's Comprehensive Plan, conduct a feasibility study for the development of a bridle path on private and public activity that can be coupled with activities at the rodeo grounds (Mayfest Park). Such a path can be made to connect to other points of interest throughout the City, creating the opportunity to host multiple events at multiple locations that can all be accessed by the City's trail system. Conduct an in-depth feasibility study for the development of a sports complex. If the complex is constructed, the City will have a venue to host tournaments and attract out-of-town visitors to Bastrop. Promote the use of the Colorado River for events such as kayaking and tubing. Partner with private sector groups or non-profit organizations, such as the Bastrop Historical Society, to host walking tour events. These events can utilize the City's parks as meeting areas and use the trail system to travel around the City. Coordinate with the City's Economic Development Dept. and Visit Bastrop to tap into economic development related marketing sources such as magazines, newspapers, social media, websites, and economic development events. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility:  <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Finance Department Economic Development (Visit Bastrop)</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Depends on scope of work details Depends on scope of work details Staff coordination and time Staff coordination and time; Depends upon participation of outside agencies Staff coordination and time
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> City of Bastrop CIP Competitive Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Grants - EDA Local Parks Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation - TPWD Healthy Kids, Healthy Families Local Parks Grants (TPWD) Community Challenge Grant - AARP 	






Goal 4: Use parks, trails, and recreation to support Bastrop's economic development strategies.

Objective 4.3: Attract businesses by displaying that the City of Bastrop seeks to provide a high quality of life for its citizens through the continued enhancements of its parks and recreational system. Showcase the City's plans to develop a new community recreational facility, along with any upgrades/renovations that will be done to the parks such as those proposed in the concepts for Bob Bryant Park, Fisherman's Park, Mayfest Park, and Pecan Park.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Meet with Economic Development to create marketing propaganda which will include summaries of available parks and recreational facilities, as well as summaries of upcoming enhancements to the parks and recreation system. Conduct tours of existing parks and recreational facilities, such as Fisherman's Park, Mayfest Park, and the Old Iron Bridge, to businesses visiting the City of Bastrop. Actively participate in meetings with prospective businesses to the City of Bastrop. Use the City's new Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan as part of the discussion to present the City's vision of enhancing the community's quality of life. Discuss potential partnerships with businesses regarding things such as the sponsoring of parks, recreational facilities, and recreational events. Display the partnership with prospective business as the centerpiece in the coordinate effort. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility:  <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Economic Development (Visit Bastrop)</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Staff coordination and time; Depends upon cost of materials Staff coordination and time Staff coordination and time Staff coordination and time
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Parks Division Recreation Division 	






Goal 4: Use parks, trails, and recreation to support Bastrop's economic development strategies.

Objective 4.4: Develop a thoroughly connected trail system that will allow all active-transportation users to travel throughout the City. Display the ability citizens and visitors will have to access various points of interest without the need of using motorized vehicles and having to deal with the traffic/parking issues that come with them.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have a detailed multi-modal/active transportation plan developed that will include details such as gaps in service, trail standards, trail requirements, locations for the placement of trails, and proposed operation/maintenance budget. 2. Apply for funding for the construction of trails using the resources identified within the Funding Matrix that is included in this Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan. 3. Apply the information provided in the Big Six item number 3 regarding trails to take initial steps in expanding the existing trail system. Use this information to identify some initial trail projects for the CIP list. 4. Meet with the City Planning Department and developers to discuss placement of trails within the proposed residential developments. This will assist in creating the foundations for trails connecting throughout the community. 5. Work with the Capitol Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) to include the City's trail system within the region's planning efforts. 6. Include the multi-modal/active transportation trail system as part of the City's Major Thoroughfare Plan. This will further support the requirement to have trails built as part of development projects which built where the trail system is proposed. 	Timeline: Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing		
	Responsibility: City: Parks Division Recreation Division City Engineering Public Works Planning Department		Costs: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Depends on scope of work details 2. Inhouse staff research 3. Depends on scope of work details 4. Staff coordination and time 5. Staff coordination and time 6. Inhouse policy development 	
	Sources: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastrop CIP 2. Parks Division 3. Recreation Division 4. CAMPO 5. National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) 6. AARP Foundation Grants 7. A Community Thrives (ACT) Grant Program 8. Local Parks Grants 9. Community Grants 10. Local Parks Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation 11. Recreational Trails Grants 12. Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) 13. Governor's Community Achievement Awards 			






Goal 4: Use parks, trails, and recreation to support Bastrop's economic development strategies.

Objective 4.5: City's Parks and Recreation Divisions partner with the local Chamber of Commerce and area businesses to develop an annual citywide recreational event, such as a scavenger hunt, that requires participants to visit local businesses in order to accomplish goals and win at the event.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a meeting with Economic Development Department and local business leaders to discuss sponsorship/hosting opportunities of a citywide event. 2. Develop citywide event that will require attendees to travel throughout the City of Bastrop, its parks, recreational facilities, and its businesses using trails, sidewalks, and other methods of active-transportation. 3. Work with local not-for-profit organizations in arranging volunteering opportunities to provide support in the management, operations, and maintenance needs of a large citywide event. 4. Communicate with surrounding municipalities regarding the scheduling of their large citywide events, thus reducing the changes that conflicts in scheduling will occur. 	Timeline: Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing		
	Responsibility: City: Parks Division Recreation Division Economic Development (Visit Bastrop)		Costs: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff coordination and time 2. Depends on overall size and scope of event 3. Staff coordination and time; Depends upon participation of outside agencies 4. Staff coordination and time 	
	Sources: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Our Town 2. Parks Division 3. Recreation Division 4. ARTPLACE America 5. National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) 6. AARP Foundation Grants 7. A Community Thrives (ACT) Grant Program 8. Local Parks Grants 9. Community Grants 10. Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) 11. Governor's Community Achievement Awards 12. Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) 13. Asphalt Art Initiative 14. Texas Main Street Program 15. Hometown Grants 			

Goal 5: Provide active stewardship of Bastrop's Colorado River, Lost Pines, and parks and open spaces to enhance the environment, provide educational opportunities, and promote the local ecology.






Objective 5.1: Coordinate with the State of Texas Parks & Wildlife Department and Bastrop County on use and maintenance of the Colorado River and the Lost Pines Forest.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with businesses, civic groups, and local organizations for volunteer and clean-up initiatives that specifically serve the Colorado River and Lost Pines Forest. Establish regular meetings with the State of Texas Parks & Wildlife Department and Bastrop County to discuss shared and individual responsibilities regarding the use and maintenance of the Colorado River and Lost Pines Forest. Coordinate the design and construction of trails in and around Bastrop, the Colorado River, and the Lost Pines Forest with the State of Texas Parks & Wildlife Department and Bastrop County. Additionally, coordinate the responsibility of trail management and maintenance. Create an Adopt-A-Park program that will allow citizens, organizations, and businesses to adopt a park for maintenance and upkeep. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility:  <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Media Team</p> <p>County: Bastrop County Lost Pines Habitat Conservation Bastrop County Tourism & Economic Development</p> <p>State: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Depends upon participation of outside agencies and cost of materials Staff coordination and time Depends upon participation of outside agencies Inhouse program development
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> City of Bastrop CIP Recreational Trail Grants - TPWD A Community Thrives (ACT) Grant Program National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) 	



Goal 5: Provide active stewardship of Bastrop's Colorado River, Lost Pines, and parks and open spaces to enhance the environment, provide educational opportunities, and promote the local ecology.






Objective 5.2: Engage neighborhoods to take on the role of steward and champion for their local community park and/or recreation facility.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Publish and promote a list of all available volunteer opportunities on the City website and social media platforms. Amend the City's existing development code to create a process for the dedication of park land and recreational facilities/amenities to a homeowner association (HOA) for ownership, management, and maintenance. This will engage citizens in the care and maintenance of their neighborhood parks. Create an Adopt-A-Park program that will allow citizens, organizations, and businesses to adopt a park for maintenance and upkeep. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility:  <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division City Council</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Depends upon cost of materials Depends upon scope of work details; Inhouse staff research Inhouse program development
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> City of Bastrop CIP Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) - TPWD National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) 	








Goal 5: Provide active stewardship of Bastrop's Colorado River, Lost Pines, and parks and open spaces to enhance the environment, provide educational opportunities, and promote the local ecology.

Objective 5.3: Conduct regular (monthly, quarterly, yearly) events to highlight the natural ecology for each park including the Colorado River and Lost Pines.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consider creating a monthly community hiking excursion along the Colorado River or through the Lost Pines Forest. 2. Organize community events that highlight the natural ecology around holidays such as Earth Day, National Trails Day, World Wetlands Day, International Day of Forests, National Cleanup Day, etc. 3. Host reoccurring events and promote them on the City of Bastrop's website and social media platforms to create a regular flow of visitors to Bastrop. 4. Utilize parks with unique traits and/or recreational opportunities to catch the attention of specific visitor types such as birdwatchers, cyclists, or nature trail advocates. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility:  <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Economic Development (Visit Bastrop) Media Team</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Depends on overall size and scope of event 2. Depends on overall size and scope of event 3. Depends on overall size and scope of event 4. 0
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastrop CIP 2. Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) TPWD 3. Competitive Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Grants 	






Goal 5: Provide active stewardship of Bastrop's Colorado River, Lost Pines, and parks and open spaces to enhance the environment, provide educational opportunities, and promote the local ecology.

Objective 5.4: Continue to foster partnerships with civic groups who can assist in maintaining the natural landscape of parks and open spaces, as well as provide educational opportunities to the public.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide recreational classes such as gardening led by Master Gardeners. 2. Offer environmental excursions led by local Master Naturalists to educate the community on local plants and wildlife. 3. Partner with environmental civic groups to organize cleanups and volunteer opportunities. 4. Partner with local native plant nurseries to organize maintenance and/or planting events in the local parks. 5. Build partnerships between civic groups and local public and private schools to extend the reach of educational opportunities. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility:  <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inhouse program development 2. Inhouse program development 3. Staff coordination and time; Depends on cost of materials 4. Inhouse program development 5. Staff coordination and time
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastrop CIP 2. Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) - TPWD 3. National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) 	






Goal 5: Provide active stewardship of Bastrop’s Colorado River, Lost Pines, and parks and open spaces to enhance the environment, provide educational opportunities, and promote the local ecology.

Objective 5.5: Develop an “Adopt-A-Park” maintenance program.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allow businesses, civic groups, non-profit organizations, and/or groups of citizens to adopt a park or a section of a park in Bastrop. Groups that adopt a park can assist in cleaning and maintenance responsibilities. 2. Acquire tools and materials such as gloves, trash bags, rakes, trash receptacles, etc. for groups in the Adopt-A-Park program to use for park maintenance. 3. Regularly interact with groups in the Adopt-A-Park program. Communicate specific maintenance needs, build strong relationships, and show appreciation for the volunteers. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility: <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division</p> 	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inhouse policy development 2. Depends on quantity and cost of materials 3. Staff coordination and time
	Sources: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastrop CIP 2. Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) - TPWD 3. National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) 4. Parks Division 5. Recreation Division 	






Goal 6: Develop unified standards, branding, and awareness for the parks and recreation system.

Objective 6.1: Amend the City’s Code of Ordinances to include parkland dedication and trail standards for all development projects.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Amend the existing Bastrop Building Block (B3) development code to include more specific requirements and standards such as dimension, location, and amenity standards. 2. Include language in the Parkland Dedication ordinance to identify how much parkland and open space can be dedicated to floodplains. 3. Establish standards for park and recreation equipment, facilities, and amenities. 4. Conduct a trail feasibility study to identify specific locations for trails and trail connections. 5. Develop and implement standards for trail planning, design, engineering, and construction. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility: <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division City Council</p> 	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Depends on scope of work details; Inhouse staff research 2. Inhouse policy development 3. Inhouse policy development 4. Depends on scope of work details 5. Inhouse policy development
	Sources: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastrop CIP 2. Local Parks Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation - TPWD 3. Parks Division 4. Recreation Division 	






Goal 6: Develop unified standards, branding, and awareness for the parks and recreation system.

Objective 6.2: Create signage standards to be used at all parks and trail facilities to assist users in identifying locations, features, and amenities.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: 1. Establish a Parks and Recreation system brand that unifies the division's image by selecting fonts, colors, and logos to be consistently used on parks signage. 2. Develop a standard for park signage aesthetic, construction, and placement.	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility:  City: Parks Division Recreation Division Media Team	Costs:  1. Depends on scope of work and optional use of consultant 2. Inhouse policy development
	Sources:  1. City of Bastrop CIP 2. Asphalt Art Initiative 3. Community Challenge Grant 4. Parks Division 5. Recreation Division	






Goal 6: Develop unified standards, branding, and awareness for the parks and recreation system.

Objective 6.3: Host annual events at each park and recreation facility to build familiarization among the community of the services and amenities provided at each venue.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: 1. Highlight the strengths of each park and recreation facility by hosting events tailored to the specific location (a basketball tournament at a park with basketball courts, a community picnic at a park with open space and grills, a pool day at the recreation center, etc.) 2. Develop coordination between the City of Bastrop and nonprofit groups to host various community events at the parks and recreational facilities.	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility:  City: Parks Division Recreation Division	Costs:  1. 0 2. Staff coordination and time
	Sources:  1. City of Bastrop CIP 2. Local Parks Grants - TPWD 3. National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) 4. Our Town	

Goal 6: Develop unified standards, branding, and awareness for the parks and recreation system.






Objective 6.4: Create and implement a standard form of branding among the parks and recreation facilities to help clearly identify where and what recreational opportunities are available at each location.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: 1. Establish brand fonts, colors, logos to use in the creation of newsletters, flyers, website posts, advertisements, and social media posts that inform citizens on recreational opportunities, their time, and their location. 2. Utilize the City of Bastrop’s website, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc. to inform the community about upcoming events and programs.	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility:  City: Parks Division Recreation Division Media Team	Costs:  1. Inhouse policy development; Staff coordination and time 2. 0
	Sources:  1. City of Bastrop CIP 2. Asphalt Art Initiative 3. Community Challenge Grant 4. Parks Division 5. Recreation Division	



Goal 6: Develop unified standards, branding, and awareness for the parks and recreation system.






Objective 6.5: Expand the use of conventional and social media to increase the distribution of information such as details on each of the parks and recreational facilities, events, and opportunities for renting sites.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: 1. Develop a communications strategy to regularly promote recreational programming and events to Bastrop citizens. 2. Partner with the civic and non-profit groups to promote recreational programs and community events. 3. Utilize the City of Bastrop’s website, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc. to inform the community about upcoming events and programs.	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility:  City: Parks Division Recreation Division Economic Development (Visit Bastrop)	Costs:  1. Staff coordination and time 2. Depends upon participation of outside agencies 3. 0
	Sources:  1. City of Bastrop CIP 2. Parks Division 3. Recreation Division	








Goal 7: Conduct repairs, renovations, and enhancements to existing parks and recreation facilities.

Objective 7.1: Conduct monthly inspections of each park and recreational facility to identify needed maintenance.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a rating system to determine the level of maintenance and/or repairs needed. 2. Replace facilities/amenities deemed irreparable and/or unsafe for continued use. 3. Develop a user-friendly online platform for citizens to submit maintenance requests and report safety concerns. 4. Establish standards for park and recreation equipment, facilities, and amenities. When repairs or replacements need to be done, these standards will ensure the quality of improvements matches or exceeds the previous conditions. 	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility:  City: Parks Division Recreation Division Public Works	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inhouse policy development 2. Depends on scope of work details 3. Staff coordination and time 4. Inhouse policy development
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastop CIP 2. AARP Foundation Grants 3. A Community Thrives (ACT) Grant Program 4. Local Parks Grants - TPWD 	





Goal 7: Conduct repairs, renovations, and enhancements to existing parks and recreation facilities.

Objective 7.2: Work with the City's Finance and Purchasing Departments to develop clear project descriptions and cost estimates.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a yearly meeting with the Engineering, Finance, and Purchasing Departments prior to the start of the CIP process and the Annual Budget process to discuss potential projects and funding. 2. Use the various project recommendations, Park Maintenance Observation & Considerations, and the conceptual park master plans included in this PROS document as sources to develop project proposals for the CIP list. 3. Develop short-, mid-, and long-range plans through coordinated efforts with Public Works, Finance, and the Purchasing Departments. 	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility:  City: Parks Division Recreation Division Engineering Finance Department Purchasing Department Planning Department	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff coordination and time 2. 0 3. Inhouse plan development
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastop CIP 2. Parks Division 3. Recreation Division 4. Finance & Purchasing 	





Goal 7: Conduct repairs, renovations, and enhancements to existing parks and recreation facilities.

Objective 7.3: Develop a system to track the inventory and lifespan of amenities and facilities at each of the park and recreation sites.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: 1. Utilize the tracking system to plan and budget future renovations or replacements. 2. Establish standards for park and recreation equipment, facilities, and amenities. When repairs or replacements need to be done, these standards will ensure the quality of improvements matches or exceeds the previous conditions. 3. Record the date of renovations or replacements in an accessible location with recommendations on when to do routine maintenance and eventual replacements.	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility: City: Parks Division Recreation Division Public Works	 Costs:  1. Staff time 2. Inhouse policy development 3. Staff time
	Sources: 1. City of Bastop CIP 2. Parks Division 3. Recreation Division 4. Public Works	






Goal 7: Conduct repairs, renovations, and enhancements to existing parks and recreation facilities.

Objective 7.4: By the year 2030, employ 1 FTE for every 17 acres of parkland to ensure the amenities and facilities are safe and operational.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: 1. Budget finances to support the hiring of additional FTEs in response to increasing responsibilities of park and recreational facility maintenance and operations. 2. Conduct an assessment to determine which park position(s) may need to increase in number.	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility: City: Parks Division Recreation Division Finance Department	 Costs:  1. Cost will depend on the type and number of positions to be hired 2. Inhouse research and policy development
	Sources: 1. City of Bastop CIP 2. Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) - TPWD 3. Parks Division 4. Recreation Division	






Goal 7: Conduct repairs, renovations, and enhancements to existing parks and recreation facilities.

Objective 7.5: Follow parks and recreational trends to determine if there will be a need for the upgrading of equipment, amenities, and facilities to support the introduction of the new activity or program.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Periodically review and update standards for park and recreation equipment, facilities, and amenities. Collect, organize, and store data on the number of classes offered, attendance levels, program evaluations, etc. This data can help map common trends and give insight to successful programs or gaps in service. Facilitate regular discussions with citizens to stay ahead of any changes in recreational trends and anticipate future needs of the community. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility: <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division</p> 	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Inhouse policy development Staff coordination and time Staff coordination and time
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> City of Bastrop CIP Parks Division Recreation Division 	






Goal 7: Conduct repairs, renovations, and enhancements to existing parks and recreation facilities.

Objective 7.6: By 2025, ensure that all parks and recreation facilities are in compliance with the most current accessibility standards set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS).

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Implement recommendations provided in the ADA Facility Survey – City of Bastrop Public Parks document to upgrade accessibility to all city-owned parks and recreational facilities. Coordinate accessibility projects with the Public Works Department to improve sidewalk accessibility to all parks and recreational facilities. Obtain funding through grants, public-private partnerships, and non-profit agencies to advance accessibility related project. Implement accessibility recommendations as provided for each park and recreational facility as identified in Big Six item number two. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility:  <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Public Works City Council</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Depends on scope of work details Staff coordination and time Inhouse staff research Depends on scope of work details
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> City of Bastrop CIP AARP Foundation Grants Competitive Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Grants Hometown Grants 	






Goal 8: Expand the existing trail system with improved standards, connecting neighborhoods, schools, businesses, parks, and City facilities.

Objective 8.1: Amend the City's Code of Ordinances to include requirements and standards for the construction of trails as part of any new development or redevelopment effort.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct a detailed feasibility study to specifically analyze the needs and locations for a connected multi-modal trail system throughout the City of Bastrop. 2. Review the Bastrop Building Block (B3) code and update it with trail planning, design, engineering, and construction standards. 3. Require a Fee-in-Lieu-of policy in cases where the developer is not able to construct trails, pathways, or sidewalks in the development. 4. Include the existing and proposed trail systems in the City's Major Thoroughfare Plan. This will provide support to the required construction of a trail located within a proposed development project. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility:  <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division City Council</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Depends on scope of work details 2. Depends on scope of work details; Inhouse staff research 3. Inhouse policy development 4. Inhouse plan development
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastop CIP 2. Community Grants 3. Governor's Community Achievement Awards 	






Goal 8: Expand the existing trail system with improved standards, connecting neighborhoods, schools, businesses, parks, and City facilities.

Objective 8.2: Develop trail connections where they can be made to residential neighborhoods, parks, recreational facilities, business areas, and other destination points.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support the development of a feasibility study to specifically analyze the needs and locations of a connected multi-modal trail system throughout the City of Bastrop. 2. Prepare and implement safe routes to school programs to improve the pedestrian mobility near the schools. 3. Focus on constructing the smaller gaps in the existing trail network to make a bigger impact, especially in short-trip mobility zones identified in Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's (CAMPO's) 2045 Regional Active Transportation Plan (RATP). 4. Coordinate the design and construction of trails in and around Bastrop, the Colorado River, and the Lost Pines Forest with the State of Texas Parks & Wildlife Department and Bastrop County. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility:  <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Planning Department</p> <p>County: Bastrop County Lost Pines Habitat Conservation Bastrop County Tourism & Economic Development</p> <p>State: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Depends on scope of work details 2. Inhouse policy development 3. Depends on scope of work details 4. Depends on scope of work details
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastop CIP 2. Competitive Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Grants - EDA 3. National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) 4. AARP Foundation Grants 5. Community Grants 6. Recreational Trail Grants - TPWD 	






Goal 8: Expand the existing trail system with improved standards, connecting neighborhoods, schools, businesses, parks, and City facilities.

Objective 8.3: Develop and foster partnerships with owners of easements that can potentially be used to expand the City's trail system.

 <p>Types:</p> <p>Project</p> <p>Program</p> <p>Policy</p>	<p>Action Steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with property owners on dedicating land for trails or creating easements for trails. Develop agreements with the utility providers, County, State, and/or respective entities along existing transportation corridors to support the creation of trails/sidewalks that will expand the trail system from the Colorado River to Bastrop State Park and Lake Bastrop. Coordinate with landowners on the use of utility corridor/access easements as part of the multi-modal trail system. 	<p>Timeline:</p> <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years </p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>					
	<p>Responsibility:</p> <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Planning Department Utility Services</p> 	<p>Costs:</p>  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Staff coordination and time Staff coordination and time Staff coordination and time 					
	<p>Sources:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1. City of Bastrop CIP</td> <td>4. AARP Foundation Grants</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Competitive Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Grants - EDA</td> <td>5. Community Grants</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA)</td> <td>6. Recreational Trail Grants - TPWD</td> </tr> </table> 		1. City of Bastrop CIP	4. AARP Foundation Grants	2. Competitive Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Grants - EDA	5. Community Grants	3. National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA)
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2. Competitive Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Grants - EDA	5. Community Grants						
3. National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA)	6. Recreational Trail Grants - TPWD						






Goal 8: Expand the existing trail system with improved standards, connecting neighborhoods, schools, businesses, parks, and City facilities.

Objective 8.4: Work with the City's Finance and Purchasing Departments to prioritize projects relating to the development and maintenance of existing and proposed trail infrastructure as part of the City of Bastrop's Capital Improvement Project process.

 <p>Types:</p> <p>Project</p> <p>Program</p> <p>Policy</p>	<p>Action Steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a yearly meeting with the Engineering, Finance, and Purchasing Departments prior to the start of the CIP process and the Annual Budget process to discuss potential projects and funding. Develop short-, mid-, and long-range plans for the multi-modal transportation system through coordinated efforts with Public Works, Finance, and the Purchasing Departments. 	<p>Timeline:</p> <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years </p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>					
	<p>Responsibility:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Planning Department Engineering</td> <td>Finance Department Purchasing Department Public Works</td> </tr> </table> 	City: Parks Division Recreation Division Planning Department Engineering	Finance Department Purchasing Department Public Works	<p>Costs:</p>  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Staff coordination and time Inhouse plan development 			
	City: Parks Division Recreation Division Planning Department Engineering	Finance Department Purchasing Department Public Works					
<p>Sources:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1. City of Bastrop CIP</td> <td>4. Finance & Purchasing Department</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Parks Division</td> <td>5. Public Works</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Recreation Division</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> 		1. City of Bastrop CIP	4. Finance & Purchasing Department	2. Parks Division	5. Public Works	3. Recreation Division	
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2. Parks Division	5. Public Works						
3. Recreation Division							






Goal 8: Expand the existing trail system with improved standards, connecting neighborhoods, schools, businesses, parks, and City facilities.

Objective 8.5: Include the City's existing and proposed trails system as part of the City's Major Thoroughfare Plan (MTP).

Types:  Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coordinate meetings between the Parks, Recreation, and Planning to facilitate the inclusion of existing and proposed trails in the City's Major Thoroughfare Plan. 2. Develop short-, mid-, and long-range plans for the multi-modal transportation system as part of the City's Major Thoroughfare Plan. This will provide support to the required construction of trails located within proposed development projects. 3. Find potential funding opportunities offered through the regional MPO for the development and maintenance of a trail system 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility:  <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Planning Department</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff coordination and time 2. Inhouse plan development 3. Inhouse staff research
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastop CIP 2. Competitive Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Grants - EDA 3. National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) 	






Goal 8: Expand the existing trail system with improved standards, connecting neighborhoods, schools, businesses, parks, and City facilities.

Objective 8.6: Develop a partnership with the Public Works Department to include the development of sidewalks and trails as part of street/road projects.

Types:  Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Schedule meetings with the Public Works Department to coordinate projects. Such project coordination can assist in finding financial synergies between Parks and Recreation projects and those from other departments. 2. Establish meetings prior to the start of the CIP process and the Annual Budget process to discuss potential projects and funding. 	Timeline:  <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	Responsibility:  <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Public Works Finance Department</p>	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff coordination and time 2. Staff coordination and time
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastop CIP 2. Recreational Trails Grant - TPWD 3. Governor's Community Achievement Awards 	






Goal 9: Identify suitable park funding for annual park budgets and explore creative funding partnerships.

Objective 9.1: Establish a meeting with the City's Finance and Purchasing Departments in advance of the budget process to discuss the amount of land necessary to fill the Parks and Receptions' service gaps in Bastrop.

 <p>Types:</p> <p>Project</p> <p>Program</p> <p>Policy</p>	<p>Action Steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop short-, mid-, and long-range plans with the City's Finance and Purchasing Departments to acquire land. Taking this proactive approach will assist in locating funds well in advance of the acquisitions as well as establish an annual practice of earmarking future funds. 2. Use the Spatial Level of Service Map provided in Chapter 6 of this document to locate properties within each of the areas lacking parks and/or recreational facilities and take proactive steps to acquire the land. 3. Establish a regular meeting between the Parks Division, Receptions Division, and Planning Department to discuss any new developments being proposed. This meeting can also be used to regularly track the growth of the City and identify and potential future gaps in parks or recreational services. 	<p>Timeline: </p> <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>Responsibility: </p> <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Planning Department Finance Department Purchasing Department</p>	<p>Costs: </p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inhouse plan development 2. Inhouse staff research 3. Staff coordination and time
	<p>Sources: </p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastrop CIP 2. Competitive Tourism & Outdoor Recreation Grants - EDA 3. Local Parks Grants - TPWD 	




Goal 9: Identify suitable park funding for annual park budgets and explore creative funding partnerships.

Objective 9.2: Evaluate and pursue non-traditional funding sources like grants, philanthropy, and sponsorships

 <p>Types:</p> <p>Project</p> <p>Program</p> <p>Policy</p>	<p>Action Steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop partnerships with the private sector through programs such as sponsorships and naming rights. Fees obtained through these programs can be applied to the maintenance and operations of park/recreation facilities. 2. Actively pursue funding sources provided in the funding matrix included in this PROS document, which has specifically been developed for the City of Bastrop. 	<p>Timeline: </p> <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years</p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>					
	<p>Responsibility: </p> <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division</p>	<p>Costs: </p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Depends upon participation of outside agencies 2. Inhouse staff research 					
	<p>Sources: </p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1. Brownfields Cleanup Grants - U.S. EPA</td> <td>4. Local Parks Grants - TPWD</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Texas Main Street Program</td> <td>5. Our Town</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA)</td> <td>6. Hometown Grants</td> </tr> </table>		1. Brownfields Cleanup Grants - U.S. EPA	4. Local Parks Grants - TPWD	2. Texas Main Street Program	5. Our Town	3. Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA)
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2. Texas Main Street Program	5. Our Town						
3. Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA)	6. Hometown Grants						




Goal 9: Identify suitable park funding for annual park budgets and explore creative funding partnerships.

Objective 9.3: Work with the City's Finance and Purchasing Departments to identify and project necessary funding levels for the operations and maintenance of existing and future parks and recreational programs.

Types:  Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Aim to increase funding for the Parks and Recreation divisions closer to the upper quartile of the NRPA standard of \$2,443,547. This can be potentially be accomplished by applying for grants and other sources of funding listed in the Funding Matrix. By taking this proactive step, additional funding will be made available for use by the parks and recreation system to not only meet the current needs of the community but also the continued needs as the City grows. 2. Conduct a mid-fiscal year assessment of service costs for all programs and facilities. This will assist in identifying any changes in costs which will lead to either request an increase in funds for a program/facility or free up funds which can then be allocated to another parks and recreation system need. 3. Evaluate the potential to integrate both the Parks Division and Recreation Division into one department/division to create efficiencies in programing City funds as well as strengthening the City's position when seeking additional external funding sources from a unified department 	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility: City: Parks Division Recreation Division Finance Department	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inhouse policy development 2. Inhouse staff research 3. Inhouse staff research
	Sources: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastop CIP 2. Parks Division 3. Recreation Division 	




Goal 9: Identify suitable park funding for annual park budgets and explore creative funding partnerships.

Objective 9.4: Develop and foster partnerships with private sector groups that can share the operation and maintenance of parks and recreational services.

Types:  Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish partnerships with the private sector through programs such as sponsorships and naming rights. Fees obtained through these programs can be applied to the maintenance and operations of park/recreation facilities. 2. Identify efficiencies where businesses and/or organizations may be more effective at handling specific maintenance or operation tasks, thus freeing up labor or capital that can be implemented on another park and recreation project, program, or facility. 	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility: City: Parks Division Recreation Division	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Depends upon participation of outside agencies 2. Inhouse staff research
	Sources: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastop CIP 2. Parks Division 3. Recreation Division 	




Goal 9: Identify suitable park funding for annual park budgets and explore creative funding partnerships.

Objective 9.5: Identify potential partnership opportunities with the City's Economic Development Department to apply for grants.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coordinate the Parks and Recreation Divisions with the Economic Development Department's goals for nature and sports tourism as outlined in Chapter 8 of the City's Comprehensive Plan. 2. Work in conjunction with Economic Development to leverage each other's strengths to create competitive applications for grant funding opportunities. 3. Establish a reoccurring meeting with Economic Development prior to the start of the CIP and budget processes to discuss potential projects and internal and external sources of funding. . 	Timeline: Short-term: 1 - 5 years  Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility: City: Parks Division Recreation Division Economic Development (Visit Bastrop)	 Costs: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inhouse policy development 2. Staff coordination and time 3. Staff coordination and time
	Sources: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastop CIP 2. Parks Division 3. Recreation Division 	






Goal 9: Identify suitable park funding for annual park budgets and explore creative funding partnerships.

Objective 9.6: Amend the City's Code of Ordinance to include a Fee-in-Lieu of parkland dedication option to be used by developers when land dedication is not available.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Utilize a Fee-in-Lieu-of-Dedication in cases where the developer is not able to dedicate land for parks within the development to create an additional funding source. The parks and recreation system can use these funds to purchase land to be used for parks and recreational facilities. 2. Create the Fee-in-Lieu-of process in a manner that will allow the developer(s) to dedicate a portion of land toward the requirement and pay a fee for the remainder of the requirement. 	Timeline: Short-term: 1 - 5 years  Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility: City: Parks Division Recreation Division City Council	 Costs: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inhouse policy development 2. Inhouse policy development
	Sources: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Bastop CIP 2. Parks Division 3. Recreation Division 	






Goal 9: Identify suitable park funding for annual park budgets and explore creative funding partnerships.

Objective 9.7: Work with Bastrop County to identify possible funding/cost sharing opportunities for existing and future parks and recreation facilities.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: 1. Collaborate with Bastrop County in line with Chapter 2 in the City's Comprehensive Plan to secure funding and identify cost sharing opportunities. As stated, "City-County coordination facilitates synchronizations of development policies and procedures in Bastrop County and helps to improve regulatory enforcement in the City's ETJ." Such collaboration can lead to the creation of shared responsibilities and opportunities that can benefit both governmental entities.	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility:  City: Parks Division Recreation Division County: Bastrop County Lost Pines Habitat Conservation Bastrop County Tourism & Economic Development	Costs:  1. Depends upon participation of outside agencies
	Sources:  1. City of Bastrop CIP 2. Parks Division 3. Recreation Division	



Goal 10: Cooperate and partner with other public and regional agencies to achieve mutual goals related to the region's parks, open space, trails, and recreational amenities.

Objective 10.1: Continue to foster the partnerships with the State of Texas and Bastrop County regarding branding and signage for better public understanding of park management, operations, and maintenance.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: 1. Utilize the State of Texas and Bastrop County's established brands and signage to inspire and guide the development of the City's branding and signage. 2. Coordinate with the State of Texas and Bastrop County to educate the public on park management, operations, and maintenance. This may include community events hosted at local parks, nature-based educational opportunities, or regional volunteer initiatives.	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility:  City: Parks Division Recreation Division County: Bastrop County Lost Pines Habitat Conservation Bastrop County Tourism & Economic Development State: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department	Costs:  1. Inhouse staff research 2. Depends upon participation of outside agencies
	Sources:  1. City of Bastrop CIP 2. Parks Division 3. Recreation Division	



Goal 10: Cooperate and partner with other public and regional agencies to achieve mutual goals related to the region's parks, open space, trails, and recreational amenities.

Objective 10.2: At a minimum, meet twice a year with the State of Texas Parks & Wildlife Department and Bastrop County to discuss short-, mid-, and long-range parks and recreation plans.

 <p>Action Steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Extend the proposed coordination laid out in the City's Comprehensive Plan to include the City of Bastrop, Bastrop County, and the State of Texas Parks & Wildlife Department. All three entities can benefit from coordinated efforts in providing recreational services to the area. An example of this is a possible coordinated effort in creating a multi-modal trail system that can be used by local residents and visitors to access the State Park, the Colorado River, the Lost Pines area, the City parks and recreational facilities, and the County's parks and recreational facilities. 	<p>Timeline:</p> <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years </p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	
		<p>Types:</p> <p>Project</p> <p>Program</p> <p>Policy</p>
		<p>Responsibility:</p> <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Planning Department</p> <p>County: Bastrop County Lost Pines Habitat Conservation Bastrop County Tourism & Economic Development</p> <p>State: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department</p>
<p>Sources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> City of Bastrop CIP Parks Division Recreation Division 	<p>Costs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Depends upon participation of outside agencies 	






Goal 10: Cooperate and partner with other public and regional agencies to achieve mutual goals related to the region's parks, open space, trails, and recreational amenities.

Objective 10.3: Actively attend all Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) meetings to identify partnership opportunities with other CAMPO member agencies in the development of area and regional trails.

 <p>Action Steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate between the City Engineer, Planning Department, Parks Division, Recreation Division, and Public Works to determine who will be the main representative attending the CAMPO meetings. The representative will be responsible for carrying information to the CAMPO meetings and providing information back to the City team. Obtain CAMPO membership information. The information can be used by the City of Bastrop to establish lines of communication with other CAMPO members, thus opening up avenues to coordinate regional projects such as connected trail systems. Establish and foster regular communications with CAMPO staff. Regular communications can assist the City in identifying such things as upcoming funding opportunities and potential partnerships. Through participation in CAMPO, establish and foster a solid relationship with the representatives of the Texas Department of Transportation. Invite TxDOT representatives to visit the City of Bastrop and provide them with a tour of the parks, trails, and recreational facilities. Present to them the City's plans regarding the development of a multi-modal/active transportation plan as well as the plans contained within the Park, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan. 	<p>Timeline:</p> <p>Short-term: 1 - 5 years </p> <p>Mid-term: 6 - 10 years</p> <p>Long-term: 11 - 20 years</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	
		<p>Types:</p> <p>Project</p> <p>Program</p> <p>Policy</p>
		<p>Responsibility:</p> <p>City: Parks Division Recreation Division Planning Department City Engineering Public Works</p>
<p>Sources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> City of Bastrop CIP Parks Division Recreation Division 	<p>Costs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Staff coordination and time Inhouse staff research Staff coordination and time Staff coordination and time 	






Goal 10: Cooperate and partner with other public and regional agencies to achieve mutual goals related to the region's parks, open space, trails, and recreational amenities.

Objective 10.4: Develop regular (monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly, etc...) meetings with adjacent municipalities to discuss the development of parks, recreation facilities, and trails. Scheduling these meeting will keep all municipalities aware of proposed projects and identify if there are opportunities to develop project partnerships, share in project funding, or other efficiencies.

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify point of contact (POC) within the Parks, Recreation, Engineering, Planning, and Public Works departments/division for each of the surround municipalities. 2. Establish in-person meetings with the point-of-contacts to conduct introductions and to begin discussions about plans and projects related to parks, recreation, and trail. Continue to foster these meetings as they will assist in identifying any future potential project/event partnerships. 3. Develop a partnership with surrounding municipalities which can be used in the development of regional parks and trails, thus creating connected communities. 	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility:  City: Parks Division Recreation Division Planning Department	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inhouse policy development 2. Staff coordination and time 3. Depends upon participation of outside agencies
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parks Division 2. Recreation Division 	

Goal 10: Cooperate and partner with other public and regional agencies to achieve mutual goals related to the region's parks, open space, trails, and recreational amenities.

Objective 10.5: Coordinate with the State of Texas Parks & Wildlife in the development of events which will draw local and out-of-town users to both the State Park and local parks. Such events can be bicycle races, marathons, geocaching (geographical scavenger hunts) events, multi-location fairs, etc

 Types: Project Program Policy	Action Steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify Texas Parks & Wildlife representative for the area and establish a regular monthly meeting to discuss any upcoming projects or events. 2. Review both City's events calendar and the State Park's events calendar to determine if there are events which are on the same dates. If there are such events, identify methods to associate them to each other. This can lead to greater draw of out-of-town visitors to the venues as well as increase exposure of other parks and recreational opportunities that can be visited in the future. 3. Develop a connection between City and State events using the existing trails and street networks. During events, temporary multi-use/active transportation paths should be developed where none currently exists. 4. Partner in the use of the City's and Texas Parks & Wildlife's event marketing capabilities as this will expand the size of audience that can be reached. 	Timeline:  Short-term: 1 - 5 years Mid-term: 6 - 10 years Long-term: 11 - 20 years Ongoing
	Responsibility:  City: Parks Division Recreation Division	Costs:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff coordination and time 2. Staff coordination and time 3. Staff coordination and time 4. Depends upon participation of outside agencies
	Sources:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Marketing Department 2. Parks Division 3. Recreation Division 4. Our Town 5. National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) 6. AARP Foundation Grants 7. A Community Thrives (ACT) Grant Program 8. Local Parks Grants 9. Community Grants 10. Local Parks Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation 11. Recreational Trails Grants 12. Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) 13. Governor's Community Achievement Awards 	



GOVERNING BODY DOCUMENTS

The following section contains the Resolution used by the City indicating their acceptance of this Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan. The Master Plan was heard and accepted by the City of Bastrop's City Council at the monthly public meeting on Tuesday, August 8, 2023.

RESOLUTION NO. R-2023-121

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BASTROP, TEXAS FORMALLY ACCEPTING THE 2023 CITY OF BASTROP PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN.

WHEREAS, the City of Bastrop has experienced unprecedented growth and development in recent years that has created numerous challenges for the City in the appropriate provision of municipal services, specifically those related to parks, trails, recreation, and open spaces; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Bastrop recognized the need for an updated Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan to provide goals, assessments, standards, recommendations, and strategies for implementation of a five to ten year period in an effort to provide for and continually improve park and recreation facilities, provide trail opportunities, preserve open spaces, and upgrade existing parks in the City of Bastrop; and

WHEREAS, the City Council commissioned Stantec, Inc. to perform an update to the City's Master Parks Plan; and

WHEREAS, the volunteer Steering Committee, the Parks Advisory Board, and other community volunteers worked with the City staff and Council to produce the proposed 2023 City of Bastrop Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, public forums on the 2023 City of Bastrop Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan were conducted from March 6, 2023 through August 3, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 City of Bastrop Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan complies with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) master plan guidelines which require parks and recreation needs to be prioritized and addressed in an action plan format; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council wishes to now formally accept the 2023 City of Bastrop Master Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan, as a foundation for future planning documents, subject to further refinement by the Council and Community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BASTROP THAT:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated into this Resolution by reference as findings of fact as if expressly set forth herein.

Section 2. The 2023 City of Bastrop Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan be accepted and approved and is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein for all intents and purposes.

Section 3. It is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Resolution was passed was open to the public as required and that public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Local Government Code.

Section 4. The 2023 City of Bastrop Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan shall be used by the City in the planning of and as guide for future enhancements and improvements of the Parks and Recreation system of the City of Bastrop.

Section 5. All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed and are no longer of any force or effect.

Section 6. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage.

DULY RESOLVED AND ACCEPTED by the City Council of the City of Bastrop this the 8th day of August 2023.

APPROVED:


Lyle Nelson, Mayor

ATTEST:


Ann Franklin, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Alan Bojorquez, City Attorney

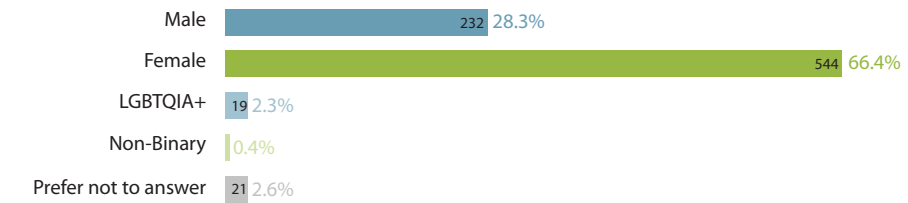


SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

The following section includes supplement documents containing detailed information used in the development of this Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan. These are the online community engagement survey questions with responses, the Economic Context and Impact of Prospective Sports Facility study, and the ADA Facility Survey.

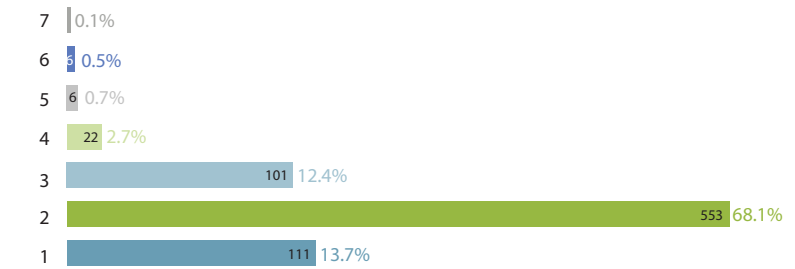
APPENDIX A- ONLINE SURVEY RESULTS

1. Which best describes you?

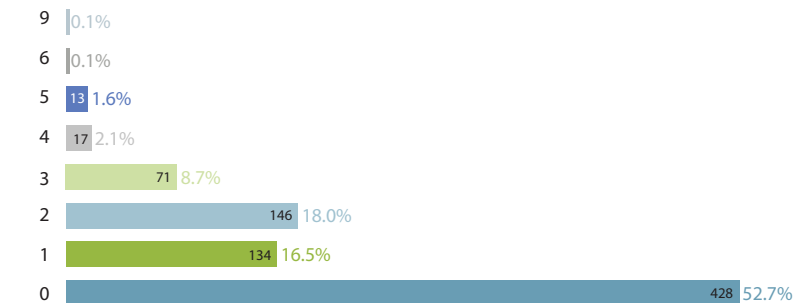


2. How many of each category compose your household?

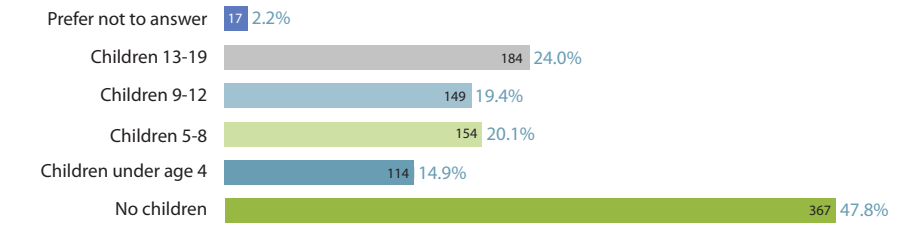
a. # of adults (18 years and older)



b. # of children (under the age of 18)

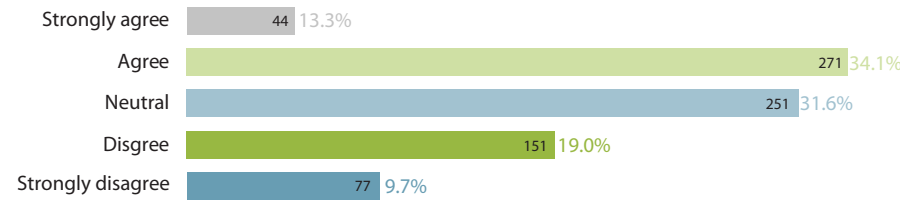


3. If you have children living at home, what are their ages? Check all that apply

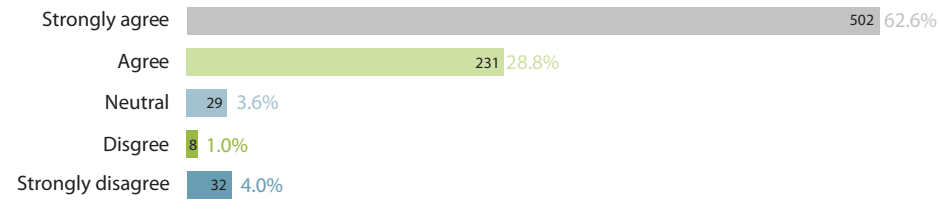


8. Check the box that best describes how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements :

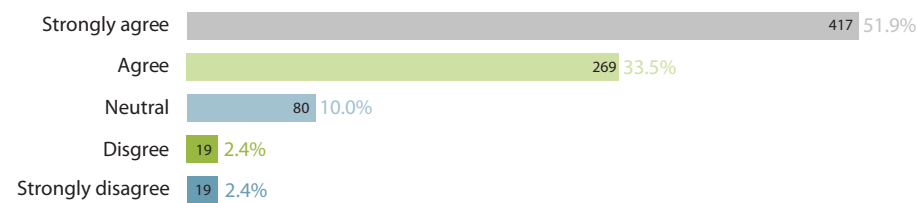
I'm satisfied with the overall quality of parks in my neighborhood



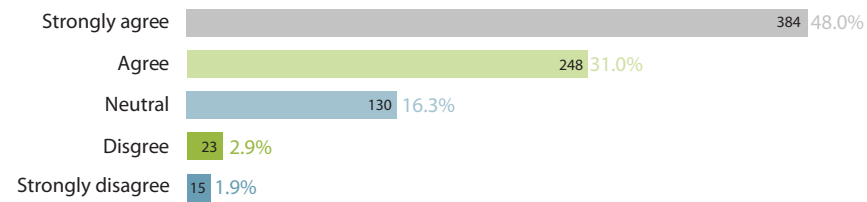
Better parks will help to improve our city image



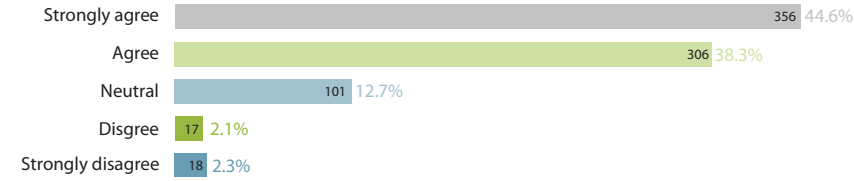
I feel that parks help strengthen our city economically



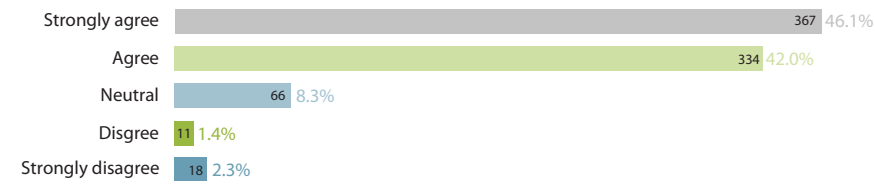
I believe that the city needs a greater amount of parkland or greenspaces



I believe that the city should more fully develop the park land and greenspace that it already owns

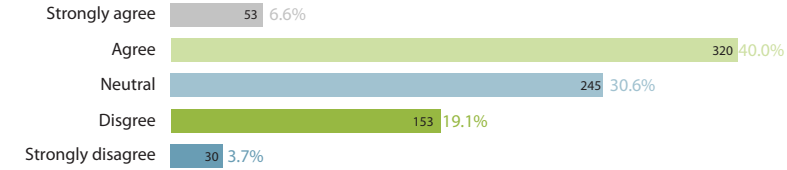


I feel the city should further develop and expand the quality of EXISTING parks.
The city should publish a list of volunteer and donation opportunities to allow the public to help improve city parks

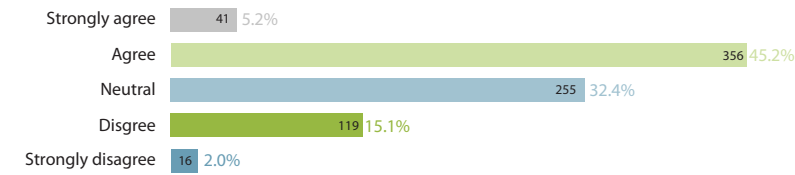


9. Check the box that best describes how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements :

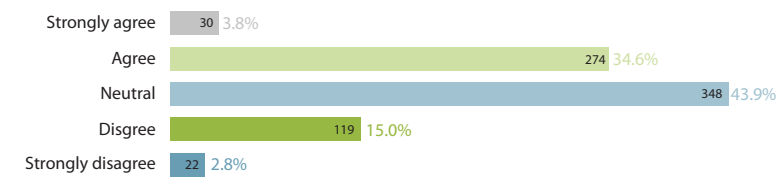
Riverfront parks



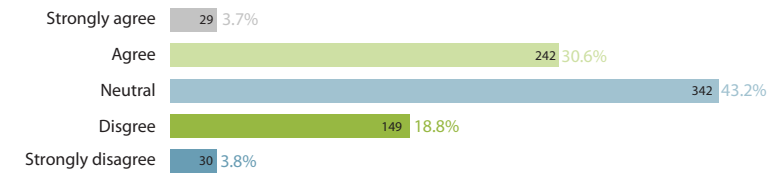
Trails



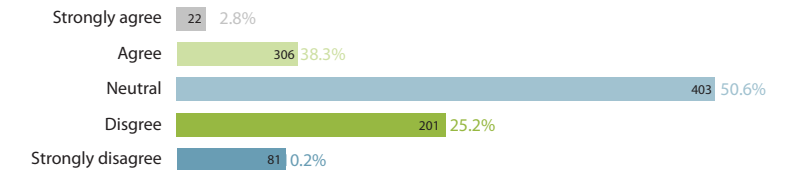
Greenspace areas (open spaces without amenities)



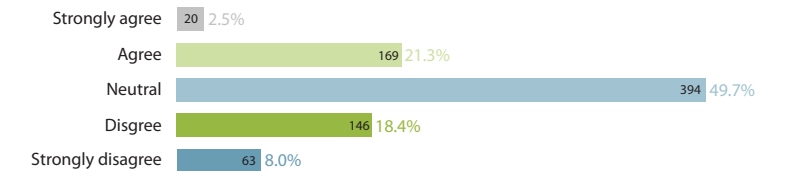
Playgrounds



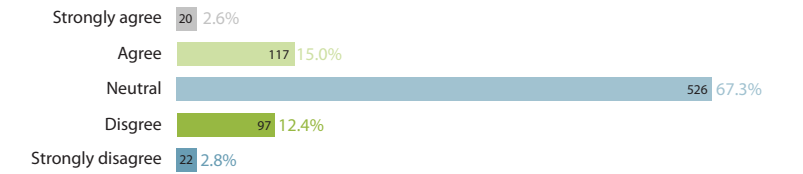
Classes and programs



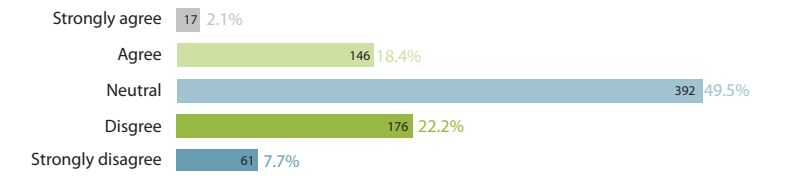
Sports fields (e.g., baseball, softball)



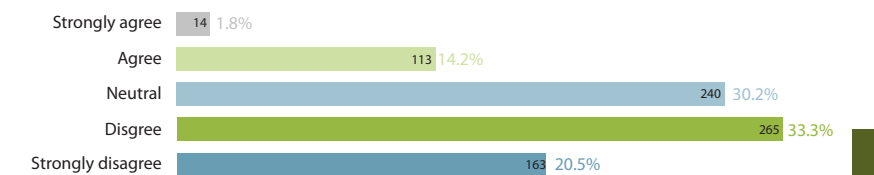
Playgrounds



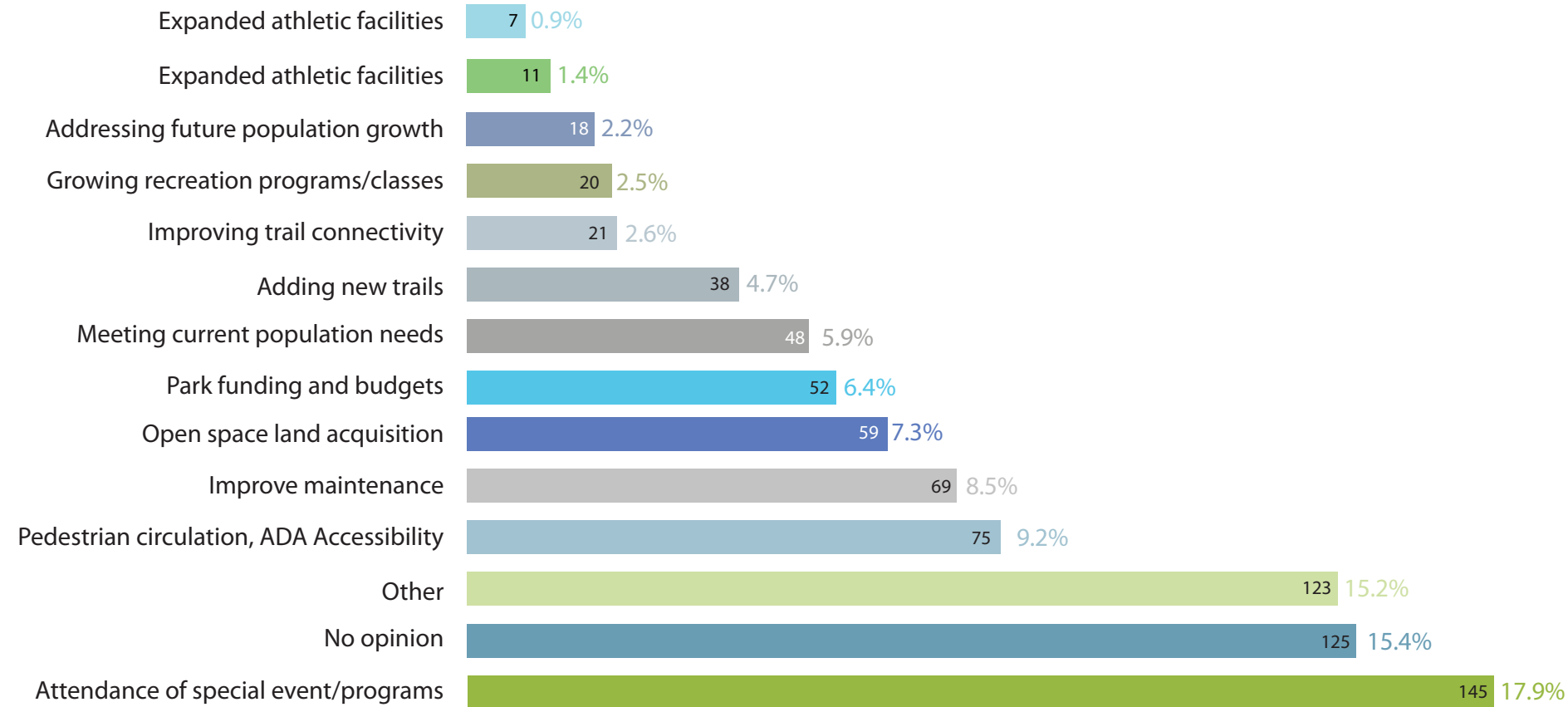
Classes and programs



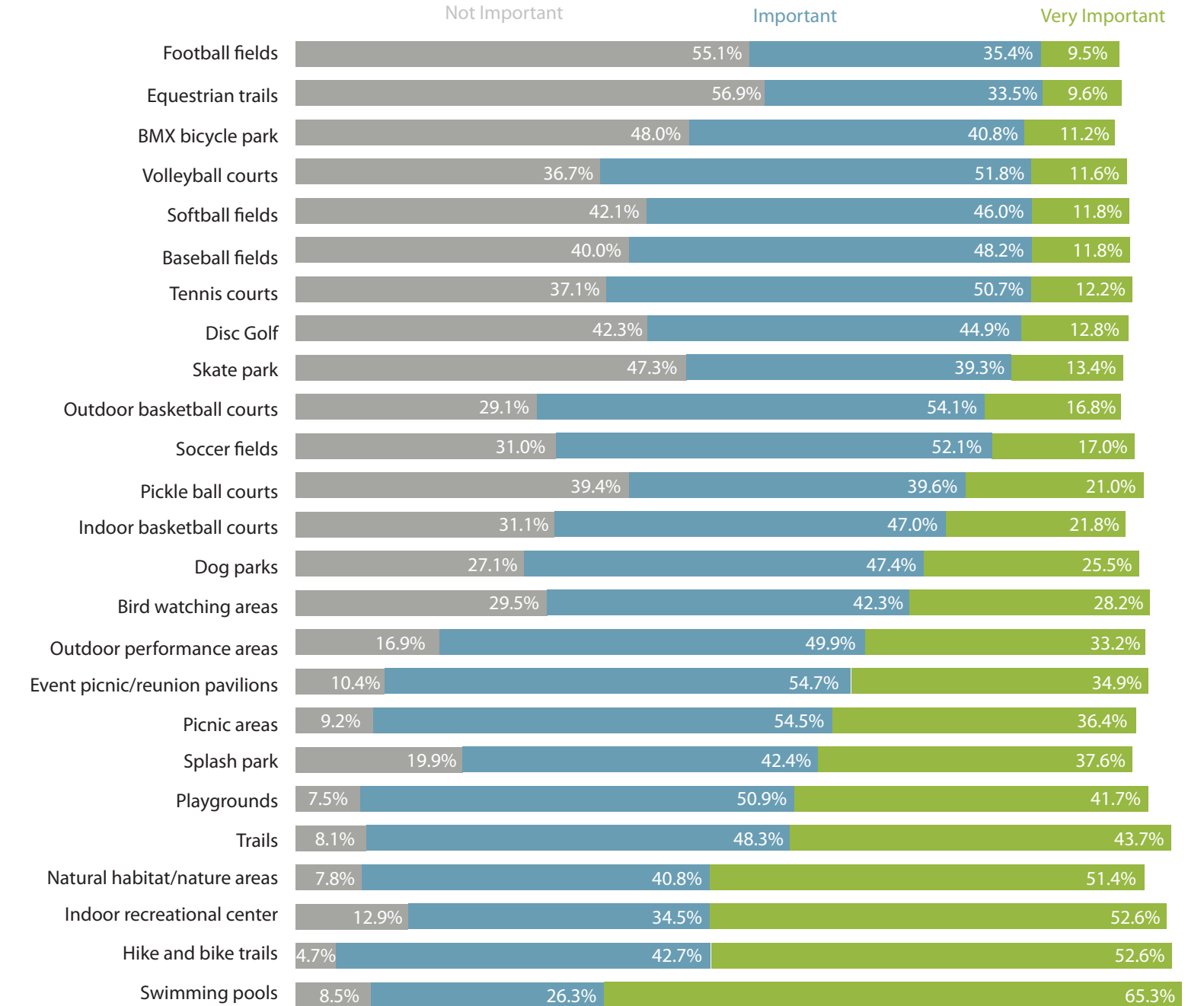
Sports fields (e.g., baseball, softball)



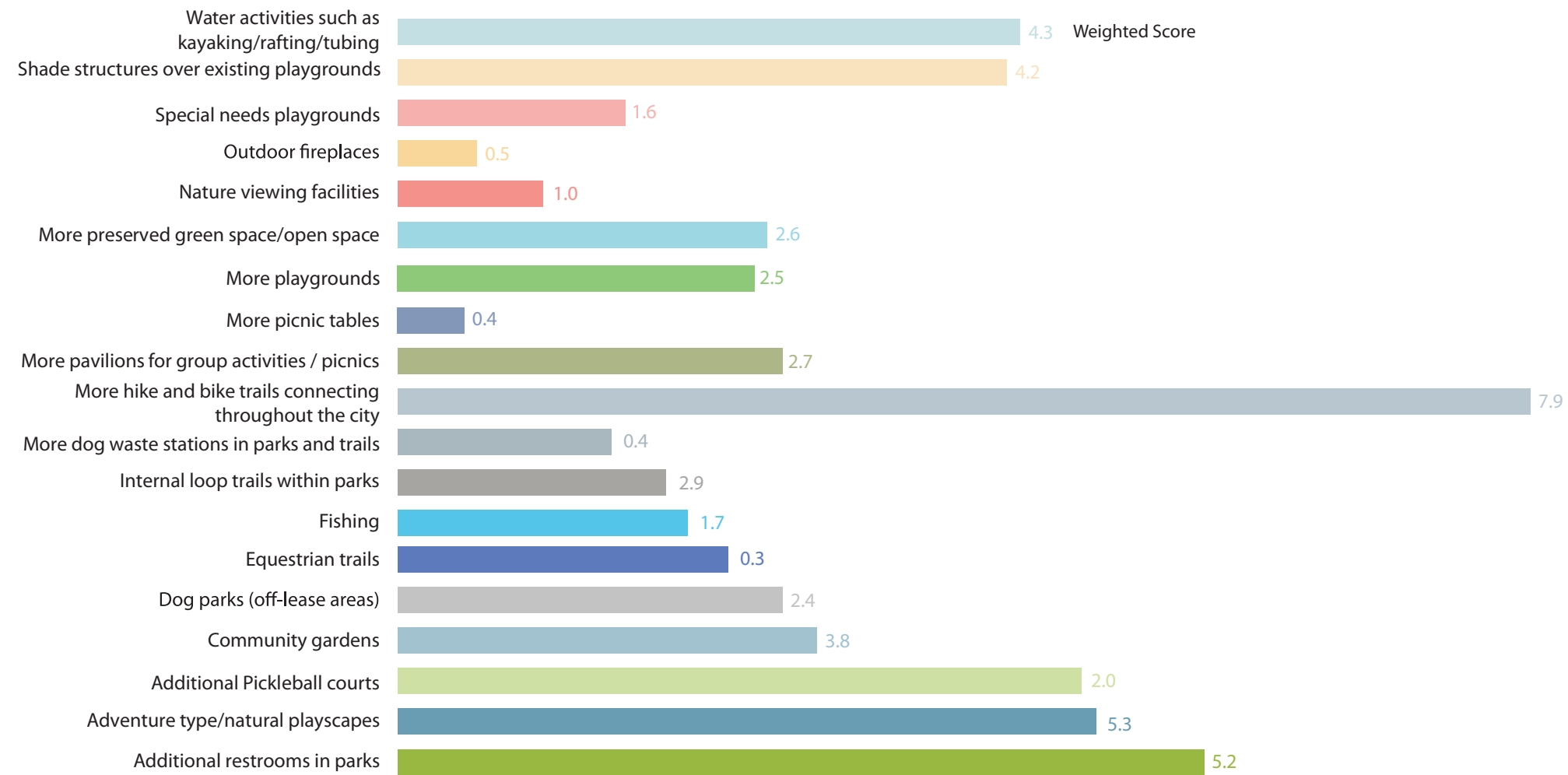
12. In thinking about the future population needs, what would you consider the most important issue facing the parks and recreation divisions? (Please select only one)



13. In planning for the future, how important do you think it is for the city to add to the number of recreational facilities it has in the city by constructing additional...



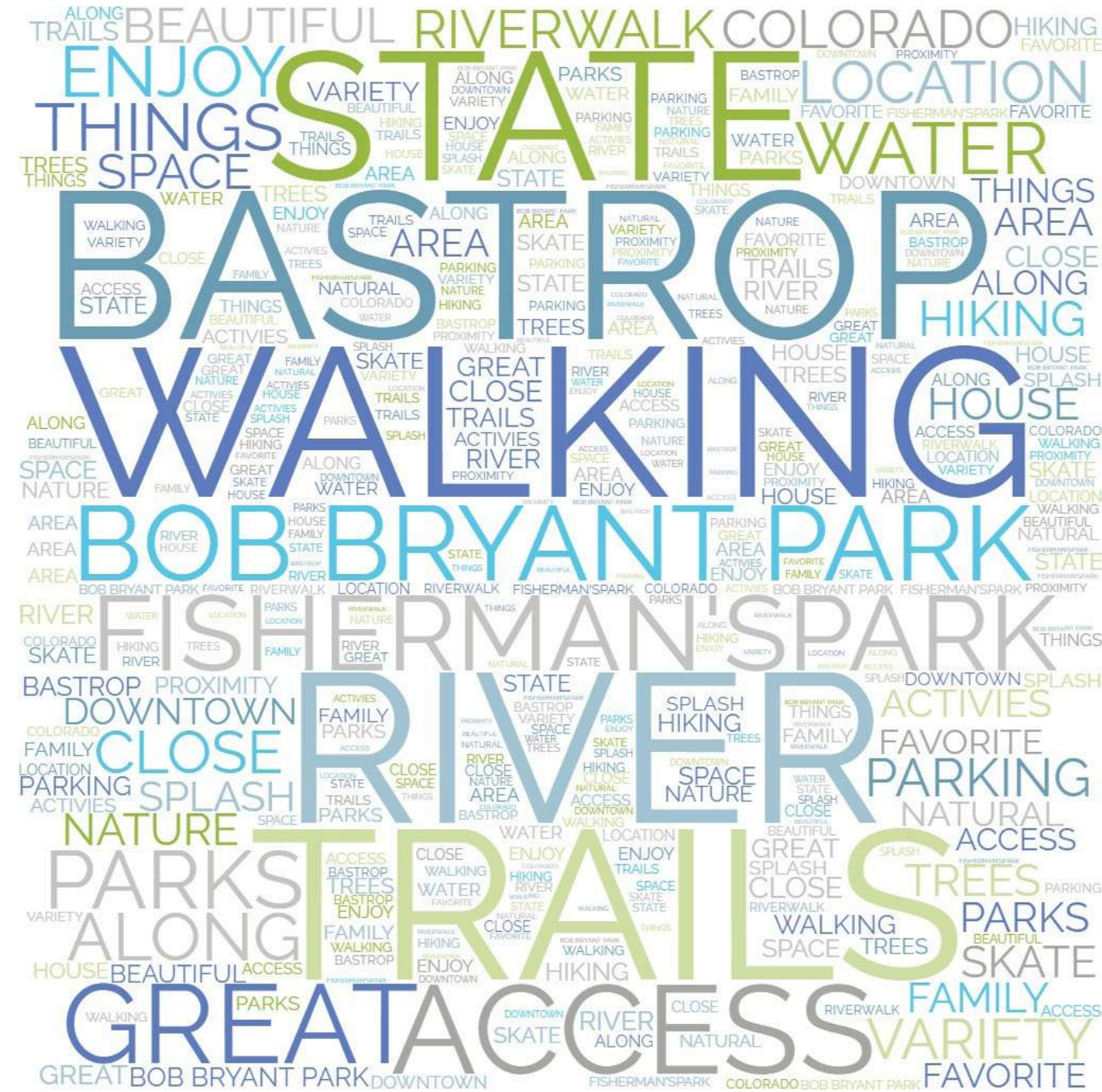
14. What are the top 3 amenities would you like to see added to the park system?



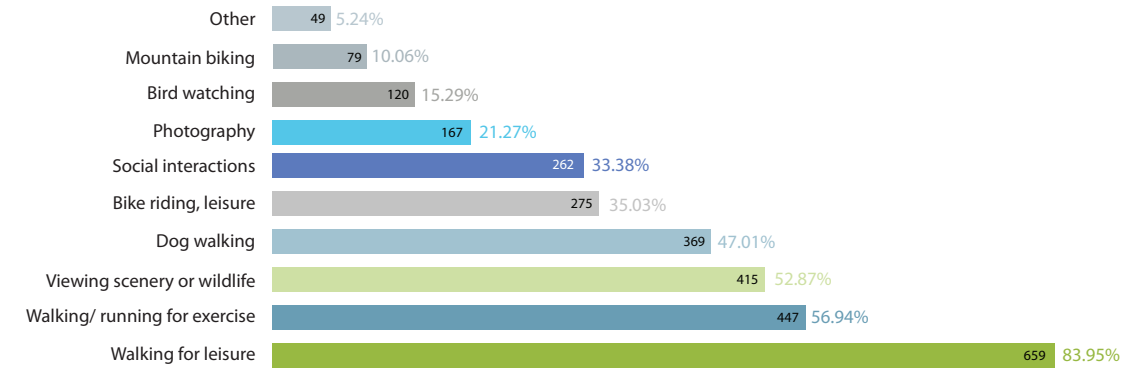
15. Using the list above, what is the ONE facility/amenity you or your family feels is most needed?



16. What athletic or other recreational programs (e.g., art, gardening, music, etc.) do you think the City of Bastrop should sponsor or support which are not currently offered?

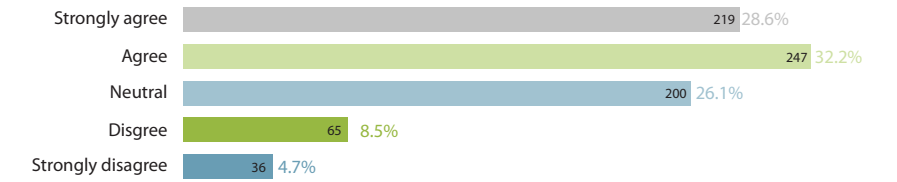


17. What activities do you use trails for? Check all that apply.

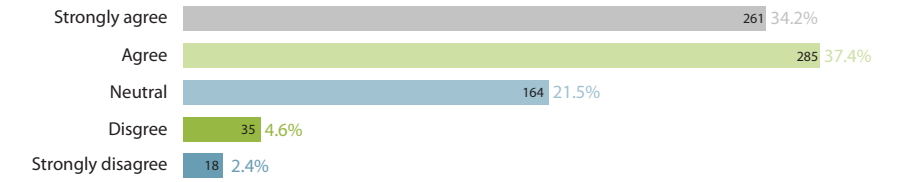


18. The following questions are related to a trail system or linear parks. Please identify your level of agreement to each of the questions.

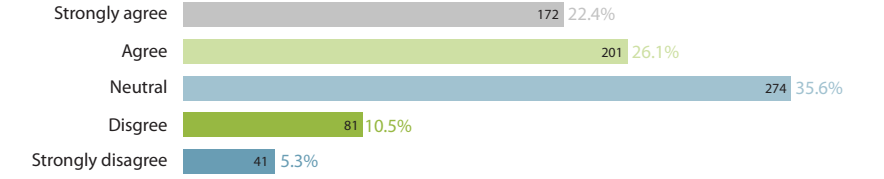
I would like to see trails developed as an alternative means of transportation in Bastrop



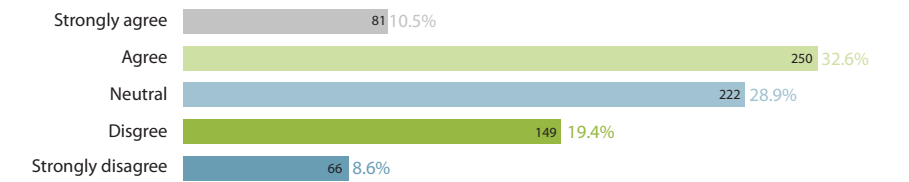
I would like to see trails near where I live to walk or bicycle to destinations throughout Bastrop



I prefer soft surface (crushed granite) trails over concrete trails

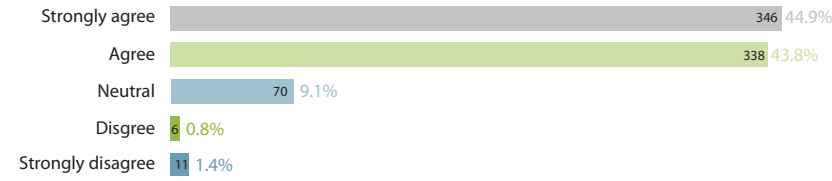


I would use exercise stations along trails

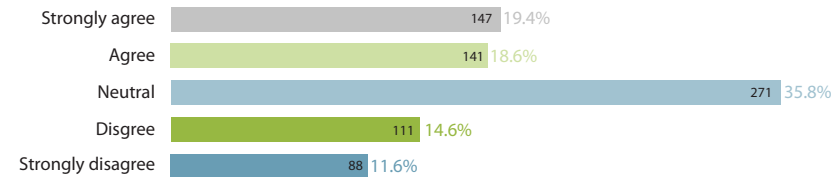


18. The following questions are related to a trail system or linear parks. Please identify your level of agreement to each of the questions. (con't)

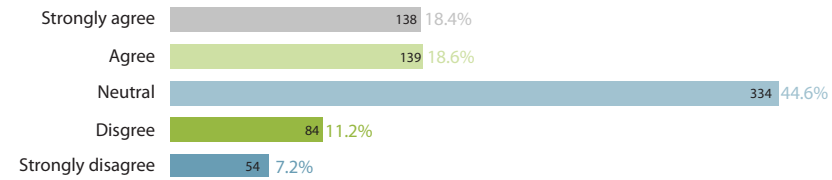
Furnishings along trails in Bastrop such as benches, lighting, trees, trash cans, dog waste stations, etc.



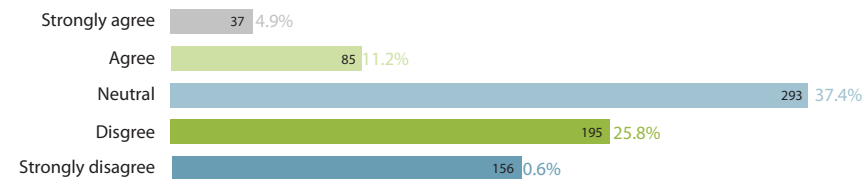
I would use my bicycle to get to work if trails or bike lanes made it more accessible to my employment area



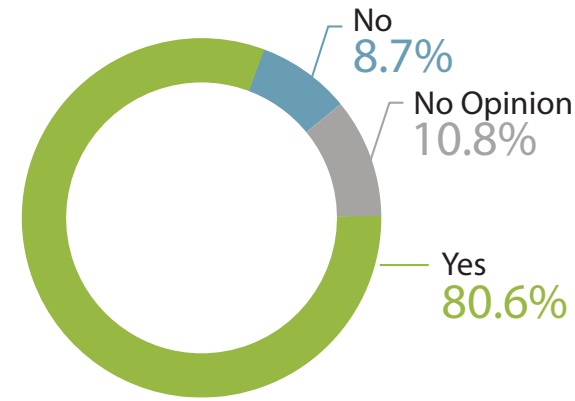
I would allow my children to use their bicycle to get to school if trails were more accessible in my neighborhood



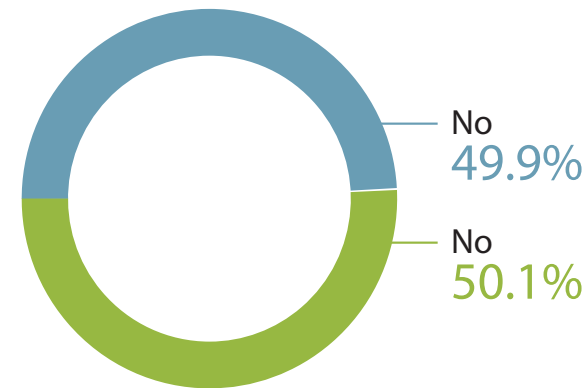
I prefer riding my bicycle on streets and roads instead of off-street trails



19. Do you feel an indoor recreation facility is needed in Bastrop?

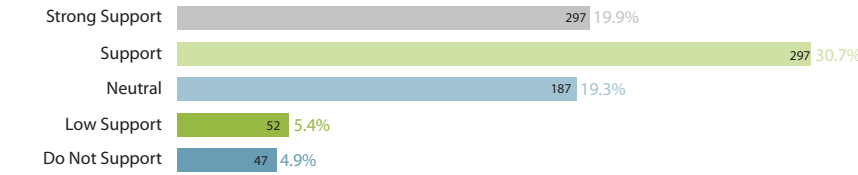


20. Do you or any other household members participate in any non-high school athletic events?

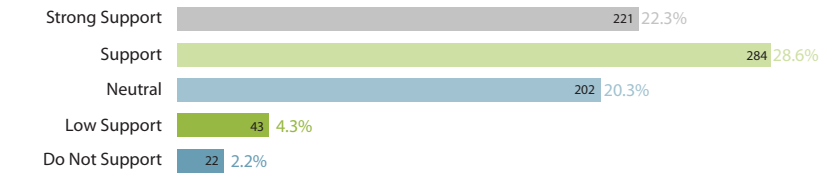


21. To develop the park and recreation improvements, how strongly would you support each of the funding options listed below.

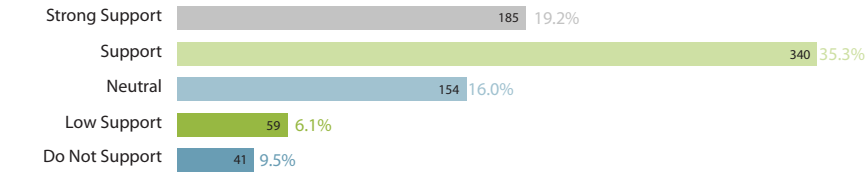
Corporate advertising / naming rights



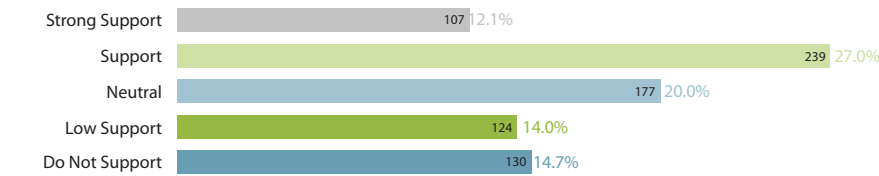
Increased park dedication fees for developers



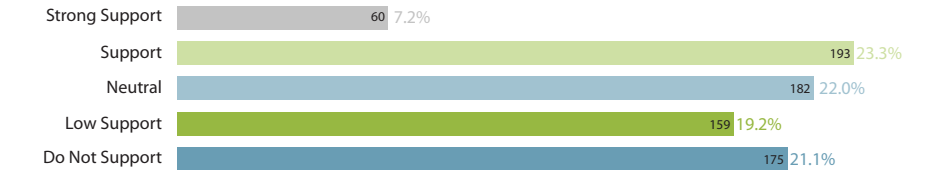
Voter approved bond programs



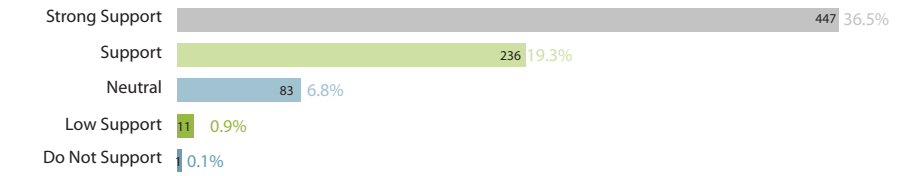
Apply user fee revenue to improve parks and recreation



An increase in user fees (paying a fee to use a facility/ program)



Grant funding



Economic Context and Impact of Prospective Sports Facilities in Bastrop, TX

May 9, 2023

Prepared for:

City of Bastrop, TX

Prepared by:

Stantec, Inc.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The City of Bastrop, TX is undertaking a system-wide plan for the future of its park system—the Bastrop Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan. The plan will give guidance for how to respond to the area’s growth and serve the community of Bastrop through the city’s park system. It will balance new park expansion with maintaining existing park facilities, guide implementation and policy decisions for future recreation amenities and parkland needs, identify community desires for recreational uses and associated park growth areas, aid the City in seeking funding opportunities, and improve the overall quality of life of the Bastrop community.

As part of the planning initiative, and because of existing needs for supporting youth and adult baseball, softball and soccer, consideration is being given to the costs and benefits of a new sports complex that would provide high quality new outdoor fields for baseball, softball and/or soccer.

This chapter is focused on bringing economic information, reasoning, and analysis to the conversation about the prospective new sports complex.

Improving youth sports facilities can have an impact on the local economy. According to New York University’s Tisch Center for Hospitality, Tourism and Sport, youth sports tourism is the fastest-growing segment in travel. Players and their families drive to other cities for game and tournament events, and while they are there, they may purchase food, gas, memorabilia, and other goods and services.

Investing in local sports facilities can bring an economic return. But a positive economic return is not a given. The number of spectators that come to a game or tournament, the length of time they stay, and the likelihood that they stay overnight is dependent on what other attractions the city offers, the quality of the options for sideline food or going out after the game, the hotel facilities that are available, and how far players and visitors have traveled to come to the event.

Economic analysis can illuminate important considerations relative to the sports complex, such as the following:

- Competitive context. Where are the other high-quality sports complexes near Bastrop?
- Facility demand. Is there a demand for additional sports facility capacity in the region?
- Revenues. What are the revenues that high quality sports complexes receive?
- Economic impact. What local economic benefit would be experienced as a result of hosting sports events at a prospective sports complex?

Different sports reside in different organizational, physical, and economic landscapes. Ball sports have an entirely different competitive context than soccer does because ballfield facilities and soccer facilities in surrounding communities are in different locations and have different levels of quality. Likewise, the



organizational context, the demand environment, the revenue potential, and the economic impact is different for soccer than for ball sports. There are also important distinctions within ball sports. While youth baseball, youth fastpitch softball, and adult slow-pitch softball can to some degree share fields, there are also important distinctions in their organizational and economic contexts.

Four primary modes of research and analysis were utilized for this study.

1. **Locational and competitive context analysis.** For ball sports and soccer, nearby sports facilities were identified, researched, rated for quality, and mapped to understand the competitive context of a new sports facility in Bastrop. In addition to sports that would drive the potential demand for a field-based sports facility, the competitive conditions for pickleball and par-3 golf were also analyzed.
2. **Demographic review.** In order to better understand how future growth in the Bastrop area will impact the demand for a new sports facility, a review of demographic trends was conducted that focused on overall population growth, the age and racial/ethnic profile of the population, and income levels.
3. **Research interviews.** Structured conversations with facility managers and organizational representatives yielded a wealth of information relative to facility demand, pricing, staffing, desirable features, and other things.
4. **Economic impact analysis.** Based on a set of assumptions developed in coordination with Bastrop city staff, an economic impact model for Bastrop County was used to estimate the economic impact of tournament events on Bastrop's economy.



2.0 LOCATIONAL ANALYSIS & COMPARISON OF FACILITIES

For ball sports and soccer, nearby sports facilities were identified, researched, rated for quality, and mapped to understand the competitive context of a new sports facility in Bastrop. In addition to sports that would drive the potential demand for a field-based sports facility, the competitive conditions for pickleball and par-3 golf were also analyzed for comparison purposes as possible alternative investments of park resources.

2.1 BASEBALL & SOFTBALL

The study identified and evaluated 13 baseball/softball facilities based on their location, number of fields, or quality of amenities. Five facilities were ultimately deemed competitive as tournament-quality given their number and quality of fields and amenities. None of these five facilities are within 25 miles of Bastrop. The three standout facilities in terms of their ability to host tournaments are the Northeast Metropolitan Sports Complex in Pflugerville, Old Settlers Park in Round Rock, and Hohlt Park in Brenham. Old Settlers Park, with more than 25 ballfields, has hosted national and international tournaments. Map 1 shows the location of the identified facilities and Table 1 provide additional information.

All of the facilities surveyed have natural turf fields and lights. All but one facility has permanent restrooms. All but two have a concession building. All but three have a playground. Only four of the 13 facilities feature covered spectator seating.

2.1.1 Local Competitive Context

Although Bastrop County is considered part of the Austin metro area, the City of Bastrop is located about 20 miles east of the metro area's developed edge. Therefore, it maintains a strong "small town character" and would be most competitive to other freestanding communities with baseball/softball facilities, which include the following:

- **Smithville.** Around 11 miles southeast of Bastrop, Smithville has a little league park with three ballfields with lights. None of the fields have regulation-size baseball infields.
- **Elgin.** Around 17 miles north of Bastrop, Elgin has a little league park with four ballfields with lights. Elgin's ball fields also have covered spectator seating, which is not common for a community of its size. None of the fields have regulation-size baseball infields.
- **Lockhart.** Situated about 25 southwest of Bastrop, Lockhart has a youth sports complex with seven ball fields, several of which have lights. There is one field with a regulation-size baseball infield.



- **Giddings.** Located about 25 miles east of Bastrop, Giddings has four fields with one that has a regulation-size baseball infield.
- **La Grange.** Located about 30 miles southeast of Bastrop, La Grange has two fields, neither of which have a regulation-size baseball infield.

These five communities represent the entire nearby ballfield context for Bastrop. Other ballfield complexes are more than 30 miles from Bastrop or located in the heart of the Austin area. A new high-quality baseball/softball complex in Bastrop with at least four baseball diamonds would be the most attractive facility among these nearby communities.

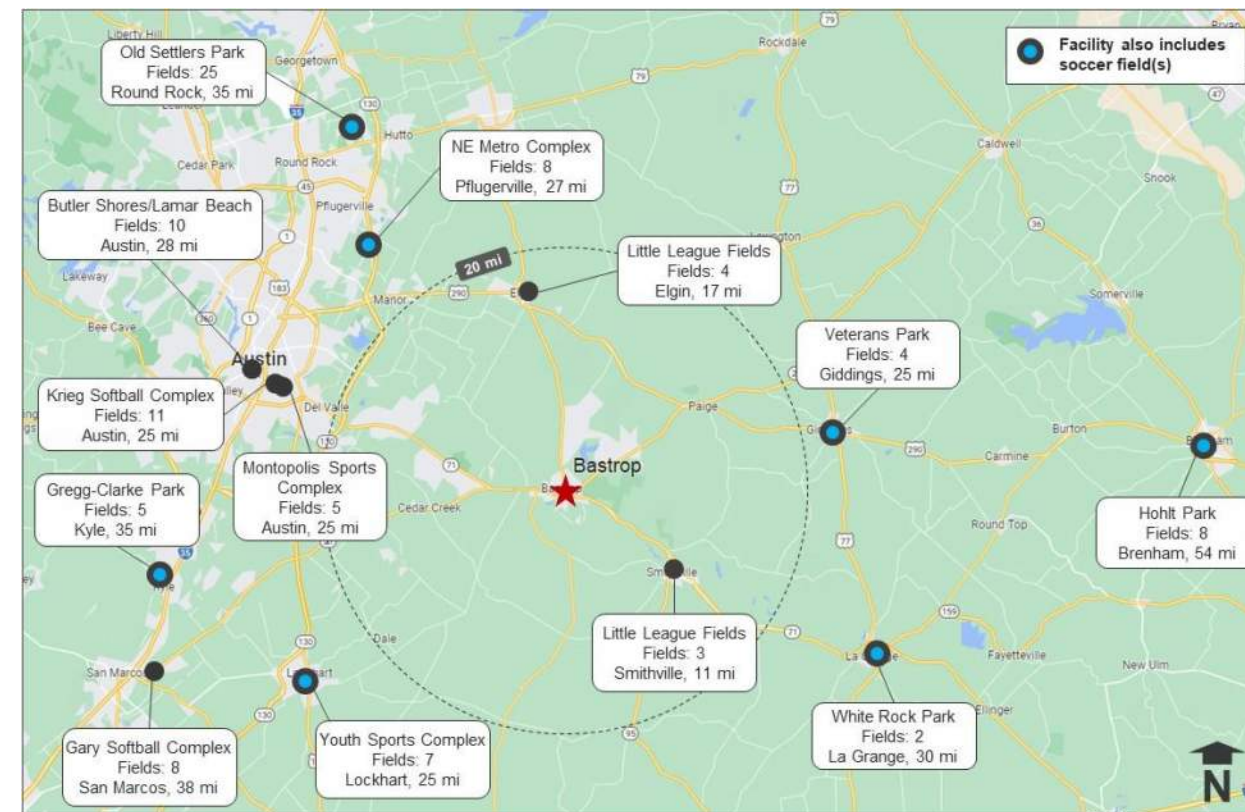
2.1.2 Regional Competitive Context

Given an estimated Bastrop County population of just over 100,000 people, attracting tournaments to a new Bastrop ballpark complex would require pulling in teams from outside Bastrop County—i.e. teams that are based in the Austin area or beyond. For that reason, we identified five large or high-quality ballfield complexes in the Austin area.

- **Austin.** The Montopolis Youth Sports Complex is located in southeast Austin about 25 miles from Bastrop. It offers five lighted ballfields in a single complex with one field that has a regulation-size baseball infield.
- **Austin.** The Krieg Softball Complex is located in southeast Austin about 25 miles from Bastrop. It offers 11 lighted softball fields, but no fields with a regulation-size baseball infield. It is focused heavily on adult league play, and thus, despite its number of fields, does not have a permanent restroom or playground area.
- **Pflugerville.** The Northeast Metropolitan Sports Complex is located in Pflugerville about 27 miles from Bastrop. It has eight ballfields. Two fields have regulation-size baseball infields. The ballfields are part of a much larger multisport facility and thus includes a high number of amenities, such as multiple restroom, concession, and playground areas.
- **Austin.** The Butler Shores and Lamar Beach facilities are located in downtown Austin about 28 miles from Bastrop. This complex is technically two facilities separated only by the Colorado River. Combined, they have 10 ballfields with two having regulation-size baseball infields. Despite the number of fields, the complex does not have many amenities.
- **Round Rock.** Old Settler’s Park is located in Round Rock about 35 miles from Bastrop. The complex has 25 ballfields, of which five fields have regulation-size baseball infields. The ballfields are part of a much larger multisport facility and thus includes a high number of amenities, such as multiple restroom, concession, and playground areas.
- **Brenham.** Hohlt Park is located in Brenham about 50 miles east of Bastrop in Washington County. This facility was identified as comparable because it is both a freestanding community similar to Bastrop and its ability to attract many tournaments due to the quality of amenities and



number of fields. The facility has eight ballfields in which one has a regulation-size baseball infield. For tournament purposes, Brenham also maintain two additional baseball fields with regulation-size infields that are located less than one mile from Hohlt Park. This allows them to also host more older youth and adult baseball tournaments. The ballfields are also part of a much larger multisport facility and thus includes a high number of amenities, such as multiple restroom, concession, and playground areas.



MAP 1. COMPETITIVE/COMPARABLE BASEBALL/SOFTBALL FACILITIES



Name	Location	No. of Fields	Field Acres	Type of Turf	Miles from Bastrop	Amenities				
						R	P	L	C	S
Smithville Little League Fields	Smithville	3	7	Natural	11	1	1	X	1	
Elgin Little League Fields	Elgin	4	5	Natural	17	1		X	1	X
Lockhart Youth Sports Complex	Lockhart	7	15	Natural	25	1	1	X	1	
Veterans Park	Giddings	4	11	Natural	25	1	1	X	1	
White Rock Park	La Grange	2	4	Natural	30	1	1	X	1	
Gregg Clarke Park	Kyle	5	6	Natural	35	1	1	X	1	
Gary Softball Complex	San Marcos	8	40	Natural	38	2	1	X	2	X
Hohlt Park	Brenham	8	20	Natural	54	4	2	X	2	X
Austin Area Facilities										
Krieg Softball Complex	Austin	11	30	Natural	25			X		X
Montopolis Youth Sports Complex	Austin	5	12	Natural	25	1	1	X	1	
Northeast Metropolitan Sports Complex	Pflugerville	8	25	Natural	27	5	4	X	3	
Butler Shores and Lamar Beach	Austin	10	20	Natural	28	1		X		
Old Settlers Park at Palm Valley	Round Rock	25	100	Natural	35	7	5	X	5	X

R = Restroom P = Playground L = Lights C = Concession Building S = Covered Spectator Seating

TABLE 1. COMPETITIVE/COMPARABLE BASEBALL/SOFTBALL FACILITIES

2.2 SOCCER

The study identified and evaluated 13 soccer facilities based on their location, number of fields, or quality of amenities. Six facilities were ultimately deemed competitive as tournament-quality given their number and quality of fields and amenities. None these six facilities are within 25 miles of Bastrop. The three standout facilities in terms of their ability to host tournaments are the Northeast Metropolitan Sports Complex in Pflugerville, Round Rock Multipurpose Complex, and Bee Creek Sports Complex in Spicewood. Map 2 shows the location of the identified facilities and Table 2 provides additional information.

Compared to the ballfield facilities, the range of amenities is much wider among the identified soccer facilities. For example, although natural turf fields are the only option in freestanding communities outside of Austin, many soccer facilities in Austin also feature artificial turf fields. Two facilities do not have any amenities at all. Meanwhile, two facilities feature all of the amenities surveyed.

2.2.1 Local Competitive Context

Although Bastrop County is considered part of the Austin metro area, the City of Bastrop is located about 20 miles east of the metro area’s developed edge. Therefore, it maintains a strong “small town character”



and would be most competitive to other freestanding communities with baseball/softball facilities, which include the following:

- **Elgin.** Around 17 miles north of Bastrop, Elgin’s Shenandoah Park can accommodate up to five soccer fields, but has no amenities.
- **Lockhart.** Situated about 25 southwest of Bastrop, Lockhart has a youth sports complex with one soccer field. Because it is part of a multisport complex, amenities include a restroom, playground, and concession building. However, the soccer field, unlike the ballfields, does not have lighting.
- **Giddings.** Located about 25 miles east of Bastrop, Giddings has one soccer field that is part of a sports complex, which also includes amenities such as restroom, playground, concession building, and lighting.
- **La Grange.** Located about 30 miles southeast of Bastrop, La Grange has one soccer field that is part of a sports complex, which also includes amenities such as restroom, playground, concession building, and lighting.

These four communities represent the entire nearby soccer context for Bastrop. Other soccer facilities are more than 30 miles from Bastrop or located in the heart of the Austin area. A new high-quality soccer complex in Bastrop with at least four regulation soccer fields would be the most attractive facility among these nearby communities.

2.2.2 Regional Competitive Context

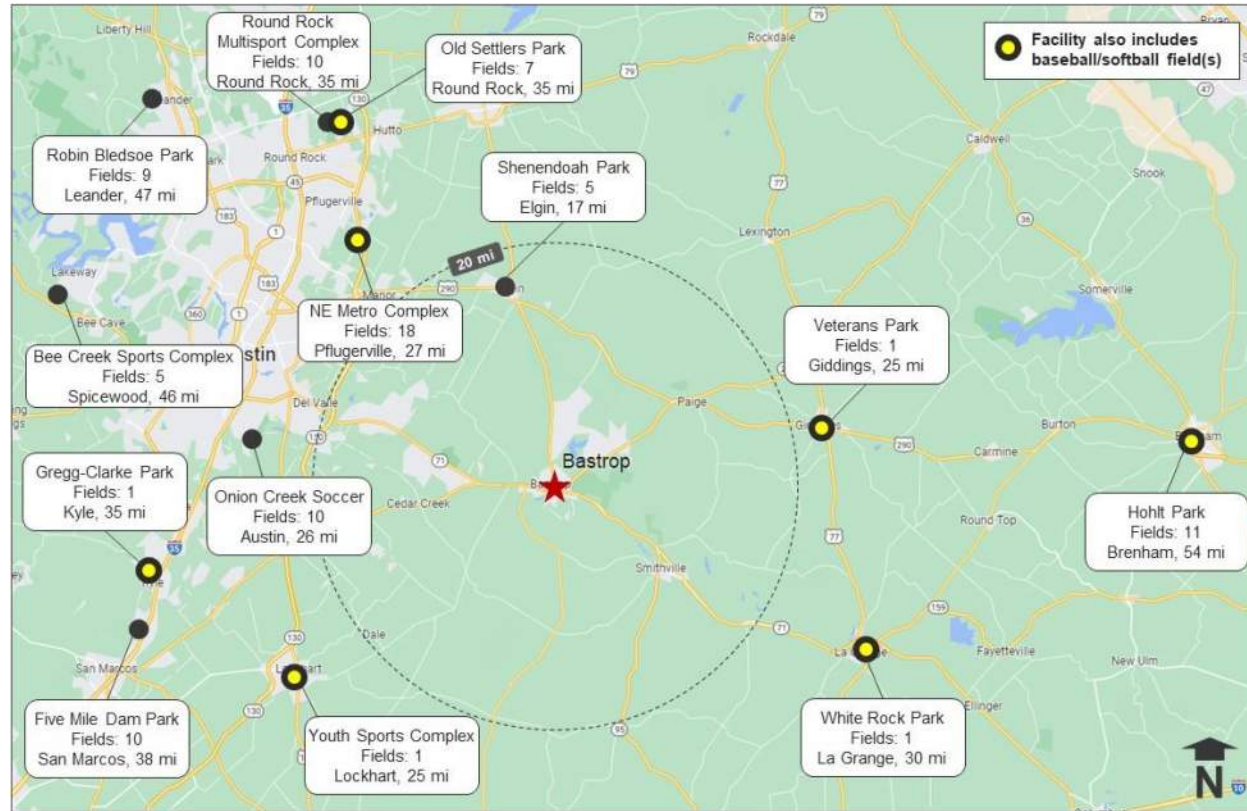
Given an estimated Bastrop County population of just over 100,000 people, attracting tournaments to a new Bastrop soccer complex would require pulling in teams from outside the County—i.e. teams that are based in the Austin area or beyond. For that reason, we surveyed nine large soccer facilities beyond 30 miles from Bastrop or in the Austin area. The following three soccer complexes have been identified as high-quality examples.

- **Pflugerville.** The Northeast Metropolitan Sports Complex is located in Pflugerville about 27 miles from Bastrop. It has 18 regulation soccer fields. Four fields have recently been converted to artificial turf and plans are in place to systematically convert the remaining soccer fields to artificial turf as well. The soccer fields are part of a much larger multisport facility and thus includes a high number of amenities, such as multiple restroom, concession, and playground areas.
- **Round Rock.** The Round Rock Multipurpose Sports Complex is located about 35 miles from Bastrop. It can accommodate up to 10 soccer fields. Five fields are artificial turf. Its design is intended to attract tournaments and thus not only has many desirable amenities, but the quality of the amenities are high-level as well.



Locational Analysis & Comparison of Facilities

- **Spicewood.** The Bee Creek Soccer Complex is located in Spicewood about 45 miles from Bastrop. It has five soccer fields, all of which are artificial turf. The only amenity lacking is covered spectator seating.



MAP 2. COMPETITIVE/COMPARABLE SOCCER FACILITIES

Locational Analysis & Comparison of Facilities

Name	Location	No. of Fields	Field Acres	Type of Turf	Miles from Bastrop	Amenities				
						R	P	L	C	S
Shenandoah Soccer Park	Elgin	5	9	Natural	17					
Lockhart Youth Sports Complex	Lockhart	1	3	Natural	25	1	1		1	
Veterans Park	Giddings	1	3.5	Natural	25	1	1	X	1	
White Rock Park	La Grange	1	2.5	Natural	30	1	1	X	1	
Gregg Clarke Park	Kyle	1	2.5	Natural	35	1	1	X	1	
Five Mile Dam Soccer Complex	San Marcos	10	40	Natural	38	1	1	X	1	
Hohlt Park	Brenham	11	40	Natural	54	4	2	X	2	
Austin Area Facilities										
Onion Creek Soccer Complex	Austin	10	50	Natural	26					
Northeast Metropolitan Sports Complex	Pflugerville	18	100	Natural & Artificial (4)	27	5	4	X	3	X
Old Settlers Park at Palm Valley	Round Rock	7	5	Natural	35	7	5	X	5	
Round Rock Multipurpose Complex	Round Rock	10	60	Natural & Artificial (5)	35	1	1	X	1	X
Bee Creek Sports Complex	Spicewood	5	20	Artificial	45	1	1	X	1	
Robin Bledsoe Park	Leander	9	5	Artificial	47	1	1	X	1	
R = Restroom P = Playground L = Lights C = Concession Building S = Covered Spectator Seating										

TABLE 2. COMPETITIVE/COMPARABLE SOCCER FACILITIES



2.3 OTHER SPORTS

In addition to the field sports of baseball/softball and soccer, the competitive context for pickleball and par-3 golf were also evaluated as potential facilities that could merit additional resources.

2.3.1 Pickleball

The study identified and evaluated 33 pickleball facilities with a total of 105 courts within 35 miles of Bastrop. Map 3 shows the location of these facilities and Table 3 provides additional details.

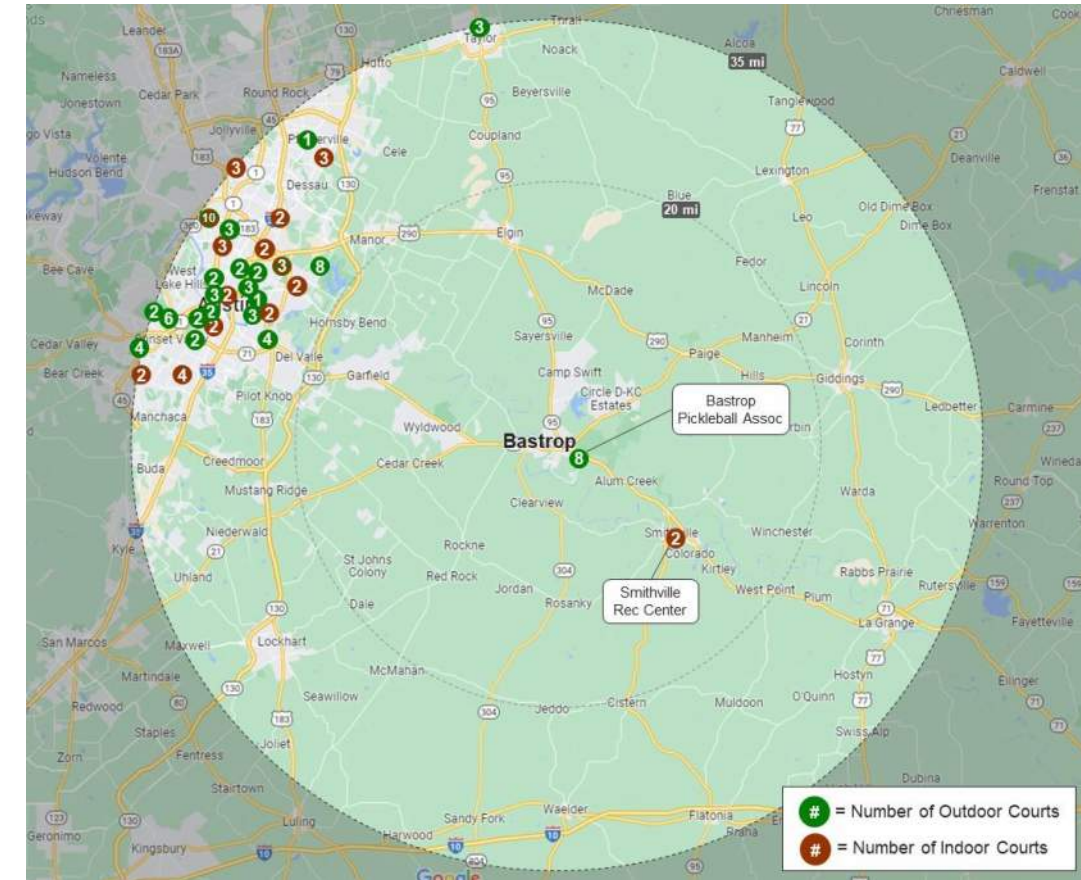
Almost all of the courts identified are located in the Austin area. Only two facilities are within 25 miles of Bastrop. Of those two facilities, one of them is located in Bastrop and is run by a private organization called Bastrop Pickleball Association. The association manages eight outdoor courts that were developed specifically for pickleball on a site that was formerly used for tennis. The other nearby facility is located in Smithville. It consists of two indoor courts that fit within the multipurpose Smithville Recreation Center.

Besides the Bastrop and Smithville facilities, the only other pickleball courts not located in the Austin are in Taylor.

Of the 33 facilities evaluated, only five facilities (15%) have been designed and constructed specifically for pickleball. The vast majority (85%) have been adapted from other uses (e.g., tennis, basketball, etc.) and lack features like permanent nets and pickleball striping.

Pickleball Trends

According to the website www.pickleheads.com, which provides resources for persons interested in the sport, pickleball has over 36 million participants and is the fastest growing organized sport in the United States. Participation has grown nearly 150% in the last three years and is now the third most popular sport in the country, behind only biking and running.



MAP 3. PICKLEBALL FACILITIES WITHIN 35 MILES OF BASTROP



Name/Facility	City	Distance to Bastrop	Courts	Lines	Nets	Fee	Amenities
Bastrop Pickleball Association	Bastrop	0	8-O	Yes	Yes	Yes	R
Smithville Recreation Center	Smithville	11	2-I	Yes	No	No	R
Civitan Park	Austin	24	4-O	Yes	No	No	R
Pan Am Neighborhood Park	Austin	27	3-O	Yes	Yes	No	
Parque Zaragoza Recreation Center	Austin	27	2-I	Yes	No	No	R
Rosewood Neighborhood Park	Austin	28	1-O	Yes	Tennis	No	
Alamo Recreation Center	Austin	29	3-O	Yes	No	No	R
Pharr Tennis CenterPro Shop at Pharr	Austin	30	2-O	Yes	Tennis	Yes	R, L
Austin Tennis and Pickleball Center	Austin	30	8-O	Yes	Tennis	Yes	R, L
East Communities YMCA	Austin	30	2-I	Yes	Portable	Yes	R
Joslin Neighborhood Park	Austin	30	2-O	Yes	No	No	
Townlake YMCA	Austin	30	2-I	Yes	Yes	Yes	R
Little Zilker Park	Austin	31	2-O	Yes	Tennis	No	L
Austin High Tennis Courts	Austin	31	3-O	Yes	No	No	R, L
South Austin Recreation Center	Austin	31	3-I	Yes	Yes	Yes	R
Hancock Recreation Center	Austin	31	2-O	Yes	No	No	
Dottie Jordan Recreation Center	Austin	32	2-O; 1-I	Yes	No	No	R, L
Bouldin Acres Beer Garden	Austin	32	2-O	Yes	No	No	R, L
West Enfield Neighborhood Park	Austin	32	2-O	Yes	No	No	L
Virginia L. Brown Recreation Center	Austin	32	2-I	No	No	No	
Gus Garcia Recreation Center	Austin	32	2-I	Yes	No	No	R
Dittmar Recreation Center	Austin	33	4-I	Yes	Portable	No	R
Northwest Austin Recreation Center	Austin	35	3-I	Yes	No	No	R
Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park	Austin	35	4-O	Yes	No	No	L
Shalom Austin Jewish Community Center	Austin	35	6-O; 4-I	Yes	No	Yes	R
Bethany Lutheran Church & Preschool	Austin	35	2-I	Yes	Portable	Yes	R
Travis Country Blue Valley Courts	Austin	35	6-O	Yes	Tennis	Yes	L
Dick Nichols District Park	Austin	35	4-O	Yes	No	No	L
Travis Country Hill Top Courts	Austin	35	2-O	Yes	Tennis	No	R, L
Quarries Gym at Hyde Park High School	Austin	35	3-I	Yes	Portable	No	R
Pflugerville Recreation Center	Pflugerville	35	3-I	Yes	Portable	Yes	R
Windermere Park	Pflugerville	35	1-O	Yes	Tennis	No	R, L
Murphy Park	Taylor	35	3-O	Yes	Yes	No	R

O = Outdoor Court; I = Indoor Court; R = Restroom; L = Lighting

TABLE 3. PICKLEBALL FACILITIES WITHIN 35 MILES OF BASTROP

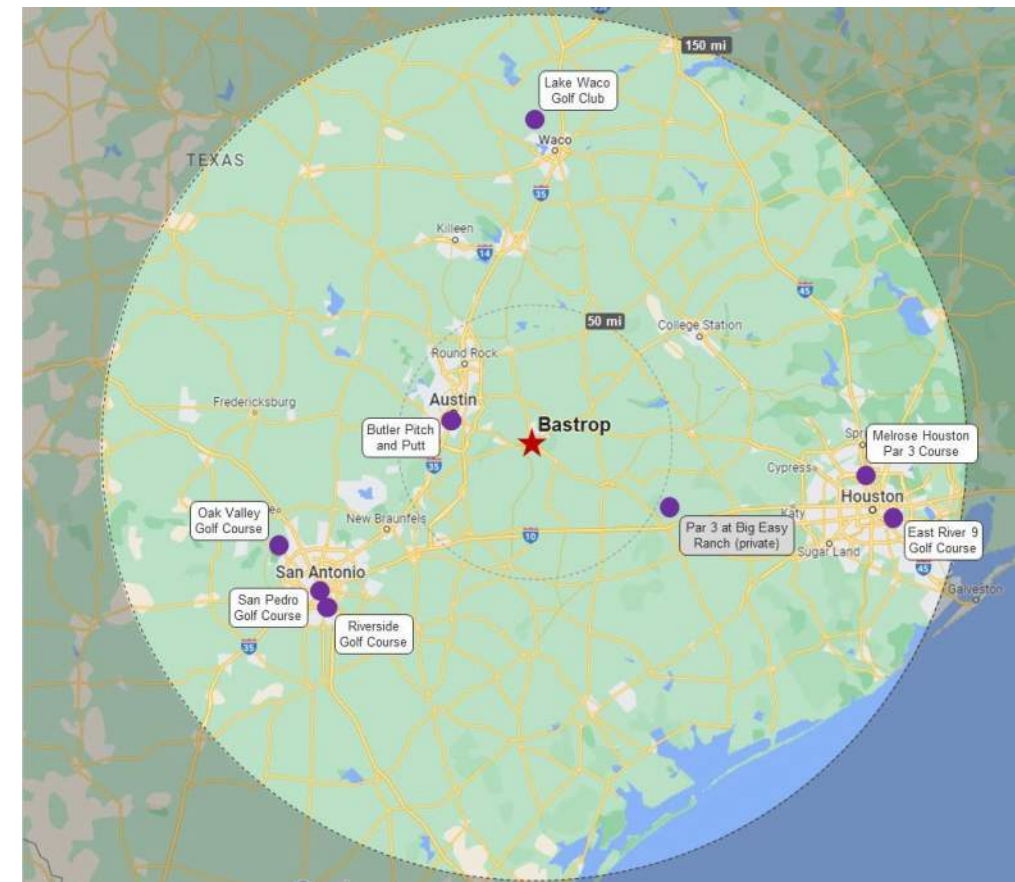


2.3.2 Par-3 Golf

The study identified and evaluated eight par-3 golf courses within 150 miles of Bastrop. Map 4 shows the locations of the courses and Table 4 provides additional details. Only one course, Butler Pitch and Putt in Austin, is within 50 miles of Bastrop. However, this course would not meet the definition of a typical par-3 course as most holes are less than 50 yards in distance. The only other par-3 course within a 90-minute drive is located in Columbus. However, this course is part of a country club and is not open to the general public.

Par-3 Golf Trends

As part of an overall decline in golf participation, the number of par-3 golf courses, according to the National Golf Foundation, has decreased 27% since its peak nearly 20 years ago. Although participation in golf has declined significantly in recent years, recent participation rates appear to have leveled off and are no longer declining. Also according to the National Foundation Golf, the areas of growth with golf are more recreational golfers who tend to prefer shorter golf courses.



MAP 4. PAR-3 GOLF COURSES WITHIN 150 MILES OF BASTROP



Name/Facility	City	Distance to Bastrop	Open to the Public	Course Type	Green Fees (non-members)
Butler Pitch and Putt	Austin	26	Yes	Par 3	\$12.50-\$14.50
Par 3 at Big Easy Ranch	Columbus	53	No	Par 3	NA
Riverside Golf Course	San Antonio	85	Yes	Par 3	\$29-\$35 (Par 3)
San Pedro Golf Course	San Antonio	83	Yes	Par 3	\$16-\$19
Oak Valley Par 3 Golf Course	Helotes	88	Yes	Par 3	\$14
Lake Waco Golf Club	Waco	105	Yes	Par 3 (18-Hole)	\$10-\$12 (9 holes)
Melrose Houston Par 3 Course	Houston	115	Yes	Par 3	\$10-\$12
East River 9	Houston	120	Yes	Par 3	\$34-\$46

TABLE 4. PAR-3 GOLF COURSES WITHIN 150 MILES OF BASTROP

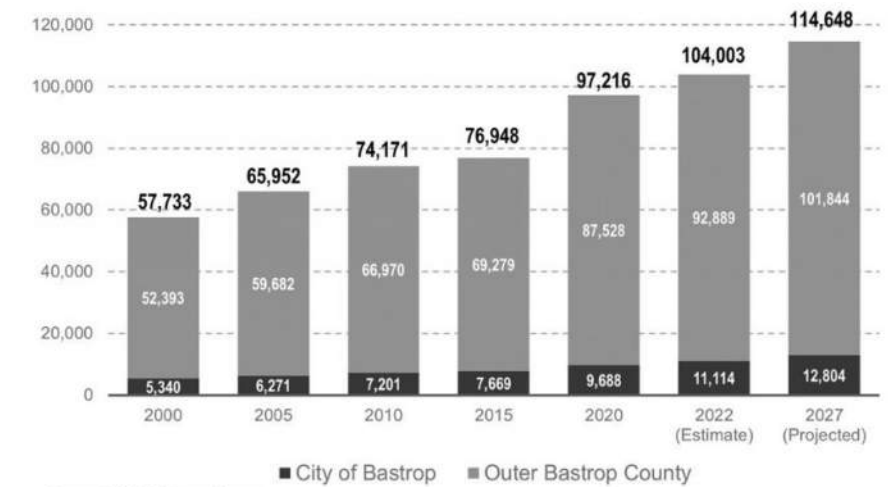


3.0 DEMOGRAPHIC REVIEW

A review of demographic trends in and near the City of Bastrop was conducted in order to understand how future growth will impact the demand for a new sports facility.

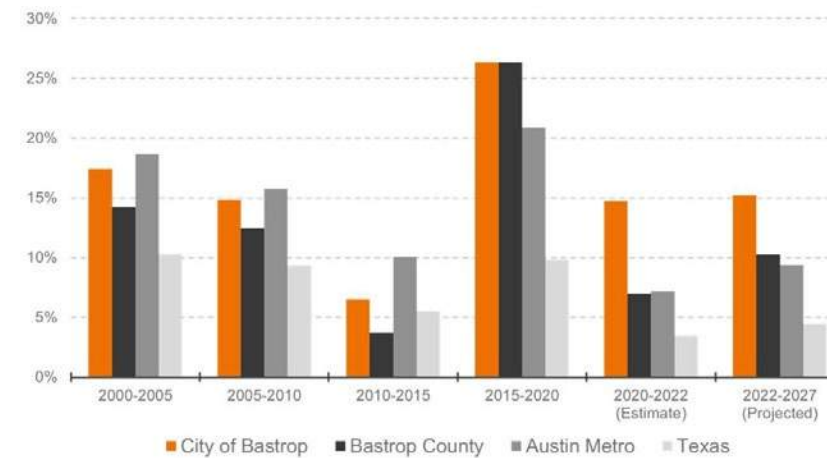
3.1 POPULATION TRENDS

Bastrop County is growing rapidly. Since 2015, the County has added over 27,000 persons -- a growth rate of 35%. The county is projected to add another 10,600 people (10.2%) by 2027.



Source: ESRI, US Census Bureau

CHART 1. POPULATION GROWTH TRENDS OF BASTROP AND BASTROP COUNTY



Source: ESRI, US Census Bureau

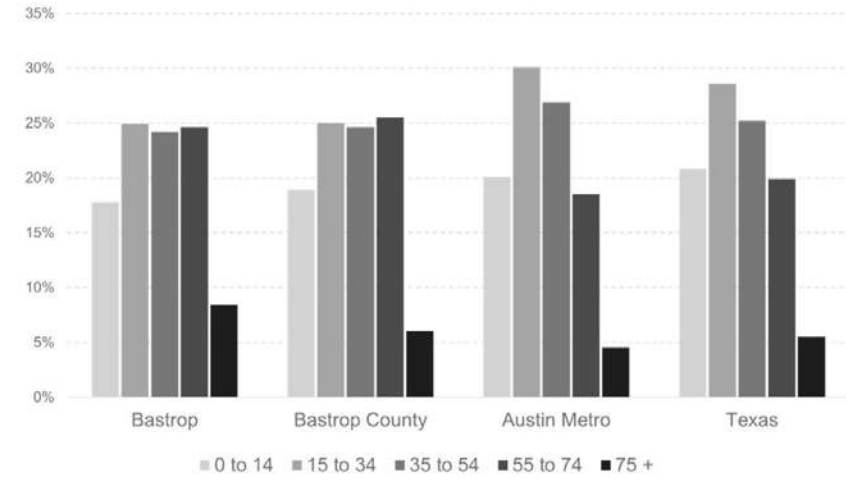
CHART 2. PERCENTAGE POPULATION CHANGE

Bastrop and Bastrop County's growth rate is projected to outpace the Austin metro area through 2027.

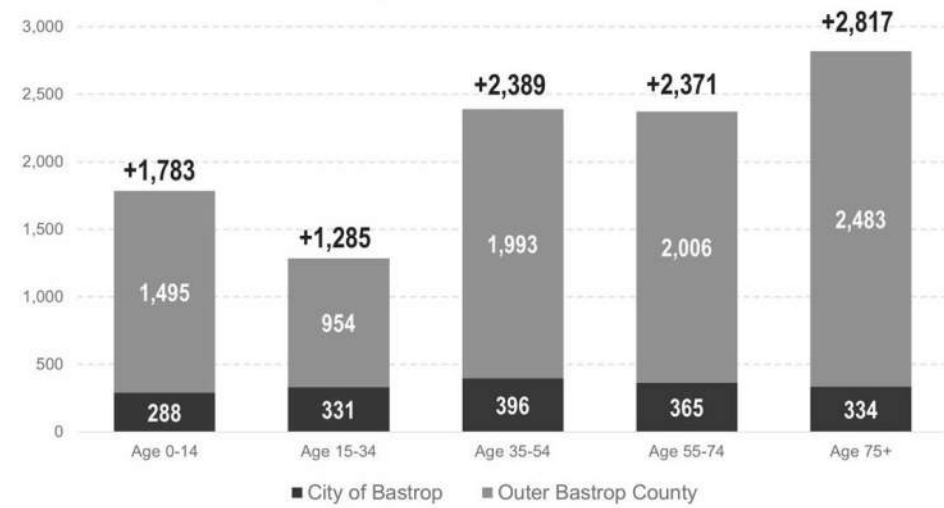


3.2 AGE DISTRIBUTION

Bastrop and Bastrop County have a roughly equal proportion of persons across several age groups. This suggests that demand for park facilities will come from a variety of users with varying park needs.



Source: ESRI, US Census Bureau
CHART 3. AGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION



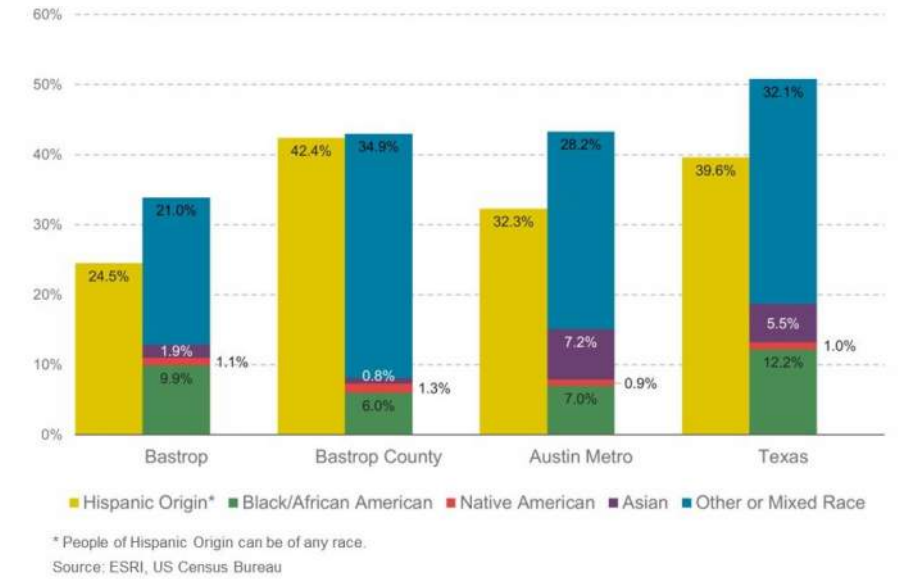
Regardless of Bastrop County's age profile, all age groups are projected to increase significantly through 2027. This will fuel demand for a variety of park activities and facilities.

Source: ESRI, US Census Bureau
CHART 4. FORECASTED POPULATION GROWTH BY AGE GROUP



3.3 RACE AND ETHNICITY

Over 40% of Bastrop County's population identify as persons of color, which is similar to the Austin metro area but slightly below the statewide percentage. A significant majority of that proportion identify as Mixed or Other Race.



* People of Hispanic Origin can be of any race.
Source: ESRI, US Census Bureau
CHART 5. RACIAL AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY OF THE POPULATION

3.4 INCOME



Source: ESRI, US Census Bureau
CHART 6. MEASURES OF INCOME

Bastrop and Bastrop County have median household and per capita incomes below the Austin metro and statewide incomes. This is not surprising given the concentration of high-paying jobs in Austin. However, over the next five years, the growth rate of incomes in Bastrop and Bastrop County is expected to outpace the growth rate of the Austin metro.



4.0 RESEARCH INTERVIEWS

The market context for a prospective baseball and/or softball complex for Bastrop was explored further through a series of research interviews. The following individuals spoke with us by phone.

- Director of FC Bastrop Soccer Club
- President of Bastrop Youth Football Organization (BYFO)
- President of Bastrop Little League
- President of Bastrop Youth Soccer Organization (BYSO)
- Athletic Director of Bastrop ISD
- Facility Manager for T&C Sports Complex
- Park Facility Manager and Park Designer for Travis County
- Parks Director for City of Brenham
- Park Facility Coordinator for City of Round Rock

4.1 LOCAL ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT

Five people involved in Bastrop youth sports were interviewed for their insight and perspectives on existing and future need for a state-of-the-art multisport facility that could accommodate large events and tournaments. Below are key takeaways from the interviews:

1. All of the youth sports programs have been growing rapidly in recent years, which has generated a lot of demand for existing field facilities in Bastrop, especially soccer fields.
 - a. Program growth is attributed to several sources including, overall household growth in Bastrop and surrounding communities, greater interest in youth sports in general, and the addition of Austin FC to the MLS, which has spurred interest in soccer in central Texas.
2. The number of fields and their quality is not adequate in Bastrop. This is beginning to impact the ability of youth programs to meet the growing needs of the community. Particular concerns raised during the interviews are:
 - a. Heavy reliance on school district facilities. Although this is considered a good thing because the schools are integral to the youth programs, it also means that expansion of facilities dedicated to youth program is affected by this dependence.
 - b. Field conditions are a serious issue. Most fields are unusable during certain times of the year because of hot, dry weather. Artificial surfaces or irrigation systems could address many of the field-related concerns.



- c. Field amenities are often lacking, such as lighting, covered spectator areas, concession areas, family areas, and safe parking areas. The inadequacy of amenities prevents usage during certain times and days of the year, limits family attendance, and is the primary reason why Bastrop is currently unable to host most types of youth sports tournaments or other large events.
3. All of those interviewed stated a desire to host larger events and tournaments, but that the inadequacy of the existing field facilities is the biggest barrier.
 - a. Each youth sports program has teams that travel to other communities for large events and tournaments. Based on this experience, they feel Bastrop could host such events if it had adequate facilities.
 - b. Although most of the travel to other communities is typically day trips for families, many noted that it is also a regular occurrence that events can be more than a two-hour drive, and thus require a 1- or 2-night stay in or near the host community.
 - c. The typical size of large events and tournaments is about 70 to 80 teams. Including family members, these large events can easily attract up to 3,000 attendees.
4. All of those interviewed felt that any additional investment in new or upgraded sports facilities would be money well spent regardless of its size. However, for purposes of hosting events and tournaments, ideal conditions for soccer or football usually meant a minimum of four large fields that could be easily converted to multiple smaller fields.
5. Adult sports leagues and private schools are untapped sources of demand for public sports fields.
 - a. Multiple interviewees mentioned that there are no organized adult sports leagues based in Bastrop, despite the community's growth in recent years. Anyone who participates in such leagues travels to the Austin area.

4.2 DEMAND FOR TOURNAMENT SPACE

Four people involved in the management and operation of baseball/softball and soccer sports facilities in central Texas were interviewed for their insight and perspectives on the demand for tournament venues and how the size and design of their facilities relates to that demand. Below are key takeaways from the interviews:

1. All of those interviewed noted that there currently is very strong demand to reserve field facilities for both tournaments and regular recreational league use.



- a. The level of demand is strong enough that the facilities could easily add fields for more fields if they had the space. The demand for soccer fields was considered exceptionally strong.
 - b. In order to manage the demand, most facilities maintain waiting lists. The longest waiting lists are for artificial turf fields.
 - c. In order to balance the demand between tournaments and regular recreational use, many facilities require larger tournaments to reserve fields at least 1-year in advance.
 - d. Demand is so strong that some facilities only reserve fields for “official” games only (no practices or clinics).
2. Despite the demand, some facilities prioritize regular recreational use, which limits their availability to host tournaments.
 3. Weekends are the prime time for events/tournaments.
 4. Many of those interviewed discussed the impact of artificial turf/synthetic fields on the demand for their facilities. Specific observations included:
 - a. There is a very high level of demand for artificial turf fields. In order to manage the demand, one facility has begun charging higher rental fees for artificial turf fields, but still cannot meet the demand.
 - b. The demand for artificial turf fields is being driven by a couple of key factors: reserving space is much less risky because cancellations due to weather are less likely; and there is more time of the year when the fields are usable, especially during the winter months and the peak summer months.
 - c. Artificial turf fields are proving to have much lower maintenance costs, especially over the long term.
 - d. All of those interviewed are in the process or plan to convert additional natural fields to turf/synthetic due to demand and their benefits.
 - i. The Travis County parks department, which manages the Northeast Metropolitan Sports Complex in Pflugerville and the Bee Creek Soccer Complex in Spicewood, is systematically converting their soccer fields to artificial turf.
 - ii. The Brenham parks department has secured \$700,000 to convert the infields of four of their premier baseball/softball fields to artificial turf.
 5. The minimum number of fields needed to host most events/tournaments is four for either soccer or baseball/softball.



6. Most those interviewed noted that, despite the demand to host tournaments, it is challenging for sports facilities to cover the expense of a tournament (much less make money from it) unless it is very large (15+ fields).



5.0 ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

5.1 BASEBALL & SOFTBALL

A high-quality sports complex attracts sports tourism and associated economic activity. Visitors, including players and spectators, come to practice, play or watch sports activities, and they typically spend money on food, gas and/or other retail goods or services. Spending boosts the local economy through revenues to local businesses and associated wages to local workers.

The impact of a ballpark complex on Bastrop’s economy can be estimated using an economic model of Bastrop County. Given a set of assumptions about the number of tournaments, and spending of players and visitors, the economic model can translate those estimates into an overall impact on Bastrop jobs and wages paid to Bastrop employees.

This analysis made the assumptions noted in the two following tables. Baseline estimates of tournament event dates and number of visitors were based on interviews with area facility managers and Bastrop city staff. A secondary set of more optimistic assumptions was prepared for comparison purposes. Spending estimates have been adapted from an analysis of a 2016 economic impact analysis of sporting events in The Woodlands, Texas, by The Sports Facilities Advisory, LLC.

Category	Baseline Assumptions	Optimistic Assumptions
# Fields in Sports Complex	4	4
# of Tournaments (Days)	32 (64)	44 (88)
Teams per Tournament	24	24
% Attendees from out of town	95%	95%
Players per team	15	15
Guests accompanying each player	3	4
Total out of town visitors including players	1,368	1,710
Total out of town visitors per year	87,552	150,480



Spending per day	Baseline Assumptions			Optimistic Assumptions		
	Per Person (Day Trip)	Per Person (Overnight Stay)	Total Spending per Day	Per Person (Day Trip)	Per Person (Overnight Stay)	Total Spending per Day
Hotel room cost		\$150		\$150		
Families choosing hotel stay		30%		45%		
Hotel spending	\$0.00	\$37.50	\$15,390	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$23,085
Meal spending	\$15.16	\$30.33	\$26,963	\$15.16	\$30.33	\$37,595
Retail Goods spending per day	\$12.10	\$41.46	\$28,601	\$12.10	\$41.46	\$43,284
Transportation spending per day	\$3.30	\$13.22	\$8,589	\$3.30	\$13.22	\$13,282
Total spending per day	\$30.56	\$122.52	\$79,544	\$30.56	\$115.02	\$117,246
Total spending per year		\$5,090,822		\$10,317,629		

With these assumptions as inputs to the economic impact model, the economic impact to the Bastrop economy is as follows.

Impact	Baseline Assumptions		Optimistic Assumptions	
	Employment	Labor Income	Employment	Labor Income
Direct Impact	64.68	\$1,900,840	127.82	\$3,782,100
Indirect Impact	11.55	\$380,080	22.93	\$758,788
Induced Impact	4.78	\$177,842	9.51	\$354,020
Total	81.01	\$2,458,763	160.26	\$4,894,907

The direct impact represents the impact of spending in Bastrop stores and service providers. Under the baseline assumptions, the table indicates that the additional sales in Bastrop stores would generate economic activity that would support the hiring of 64.7 additional full-time-equivalent staff, and correspondingly increase the wages paid to Bastrop workers by around \$1,900,000.

The indirect impact is the increase in business-to-business sales that Bastrop County goods and services providers make to the businesses that are the direct recipients of visitor dollars. Under the baseline assumptions, the analysis indicates that an additional 11.5 full-time-equivalent employees in those supplier businesses is supported by the visitor spending, representing around \$380,000 in wages.



The induced economic impact is the local spending that occurs as a result of the increased wages that are paid to local workers. Under the baseline assumptions, the analysis indicates that this induced spending supports an additional 4.8 full-time-equivalent employees in local businesses, representing around \$177,800 in wages.

The economic impact model also estimates additional tax revenues to various public entities as follows:

Impact	Baseline Assumptions			Optimistic Assumptions		
	Sub County General	Sub County Special Districts	County	Sub County General	Sub County Special Districts	County
1 - Direct	\$17,952	\$83,926	\$39,285	\$36,811	\$175,601	\$82,177
2 - Indirect	\$5,907	\$28,166	\$13,160	\$11,722	\$55,891	\$26,115
3 - Induced	\$3,782	\$18,028	\$8,416	\$7,529	\$35,888	\$16,753
Sub Total	\$27,281	\$130,121	\$60,861	\$56,062	\$267,380	\$125,045
Grand Total	\$218,263			\$448,487		

Summary

Given the specified assumptions, a new four-field complex in Bastrop would generate or support the following estimated impacts on an annual basis [optimistic assumptions in parentheses]:

- **87,552 (150,480)** out of town visits
- **\$5.1 million (\$10.3)** in new visitor spending
- **81 (126)** in additional local full time equivalent jobs, earning **\$2.5 million (\$4.9)** in wages
- **\$218,263 (\$448,487)** in additional local tax receipts

Note that this analysis is focused on impacts from hosting tournament events. There are additional positive economic impacts from other uses of the sports complex. A new sports complex will capture a greater share of sports games and practices that would otherwise go elsewhere. Although not as significant as the spending at tournaments (where visitors may spend all or most of a day in Bastrop), the local spending that occurs before and after regular games and practices has an additional positive impact on Bastrop's economy.

5.2 SOCCER

A high-quality sports complex attracts sports tourism and associated economic activity. Visitors, including players and spectators, come to practice, play or watch sports activities, and they typically spend money



on food, gas and/or other retail goods or services. Spending boosts the local economy through revenues to local businesses and associated wages to local workers.

The impact of a soccer complex on Bastrop's economy can be estimated using an economic model of Bastrop County. Given a set of assumptions about the number of tournaments, and spending of players and visitors, the economic model can translate those estimates into an overall impact on Bastrop jobs and wages paid to Bastrop employees.

This analysis made the assumptions noted in the two following tables. The estimates of tournament event dates and number of visitors were based on interviews with area facility managers and Bastrop city staff. Spending estimates have been adapted from an analysis of a 2016 economic impact analysis of sporting events in The Woodlands, Texas, by The Sports Facilities Advisory, LLC.

Category	Baseline Assumptions	Optimistic Assumptions
# Fields in Sports Complex	4	4
# of Tournaments (Days)	32 (64)	44 (88)
Teams per Tournament	20	20
% Attendees from out of town	95%	95%
Players per team	18	18
Guests accompanying each player	3.5	4.5
Total out of town visitors including players	1,539	1,881
Total out of town visitors per year	98,496	165,528



Spending per day	Baseline Assumptions			Optimistic Assumptions		
	Per Person (Day Trip)	Per Person (Overnight Stay)	Total Spending per Day	Per Person (Day Trip)	Per Person (Overnight Stay)	Total Spending per Day
Hotel room cost		\$150			\$150	
Families choosing hotel stay		30%			45%	
Hotel spending	\$0.00	\$33.33	\$15,390	\$0.00	\$27.27	\$23,085
Meal spending	\$15.16	\$30.33	\$30,334	\$15.16	\$30.33	\$41,355
Retail Goods spending per day	\$12.10	\$41.46	\$32,176	\$12.10	\$41.46	\$47,612
Transportation spending per day	\$3.30	\$13.22	\$9,663	\$3.30	\$13.22	\$14,610
Total spending per day	\$30.56	\$118.35	\$87,563	\$30.56	\$112.29	\$126,662
Total spending per year	\$5,604,054			\$11,146,244		

With these assumptions as inputs to the economic impact model, the economic impact to the Bastrop economy is as follows.

Impact	Baseline Assumptions		Optimistic Assumptions	
	Employment	Labor Income	Employment	Labor Income
Direct Impact	67.72	\$1,982,867	132.57	\$3,910,526
Indirect Impact	12.08	\$397,145	23.75	\$785,688
Induced Impact	4.98	\$185,611	9.83	\$366,200
Total	84.78	\$2,565,624	166.16	\$5,062,414

The direct impact represents the impact of spending in Bastrop stores and service providers. Under the baseline assumptions, the table indicates that the additional sales in Bastrop stores would generate economic activity that would support the hiring of 67.7 additional full-time-equivalent staff, and correspondingly increase the wages paid to Bastrop workers by around \$1,980,000.

The indirect impact is the increase in business-to-business sales that Bastrop County goods and services providers make to the businesses that are the direct recipients of visitor dollars. Under the baseline assumptions, the analysis indicates that an additional 12.1 full-time-equivalent employees in those supplier businesses is supported by the visitor spending, representing around \$397,000 in wages.



The induced economic impact is the local spending that occurs as a result of the increased wages that are paid to local workers. Under the baseline assumptions, the analysis indicates that this induced spending supports an additional 5.0 full-time-equivalent employees in local businesses, representing around \$185,600 in wages.

The economic impact model also estimates additional tax revenues to various public entities as follows:

Impact	Baseline Assumptions			Optimistic Assumptions		
	Sub County General	Sub County Special Districts	County	Sub County General	Sub County Special Districts	County
1 - Direct	\$18,198	\$86,819	\$40,641	\$37,838	\$180,500	\$84,472
2 - Indirect	\$6,186	\$29,496	\$13,781	\$12,159	\$57,974	\$27,088
3 - Induced	\$3,947	\$18,816	\$8,783	\$7,785	\$37,122	\$17,329
Sub Total	\$28,332	\$135,131	\$63,206	\$57,785	\$267,380	\$128,889
Grand Total	\$226,668			\$462,271		

Summary

Given the specified assumptions, a new six field soccer complex in Bastrop would generate or support the following estimated impacts on an annual basis [optimistic assumptions in parentheses]:

- **98,496 (165,528)** out of town visits
- **\$5.6 million (\$11.1)** in new visitor spending
- **85 (166)** in additional local full time equivalent jobs, earning **\$2.6 million (\$5.1)** in wages
- **\$226,668 (\$462,271)** in additional local tax receipts

Note that this analysis is focused on impacts from hosting tournament events. There are additional positive economic impacts from other uses of the soccer complex. A new soccer complex will capture a greater share of the soccer games and practices that would otherwise go elsewhere. Although not as significant as the spending at tournaments (where visitors may spend all or most of a day in Bastrop), the local spending that occurs before and after regular games and practices has an additional positive impact on Bastrop's economy.

5.3 REVENUE FROM FACILITY USAGE FEES

Although it wasn't a component of the formal economic impact analysis, Stantec also estimated the potential revenue that might be generated from facility usage fees related to tournament events. The estimated fees are based on previously presented assumptions for number of visitors and tournament



Appendix A BASEBALL & SOFTBALL FACILITY AERIALS

APPENDIX/DIVIDER TITLE
Appendix Subtitle



FIGURE 1. SMITHVILLE LITTLE LEAGUE FIELDS (SMITHVILLE, TX)



FIGURE 2. ELGIN LITTLE LEAGUE FIELDS (ELGIN, TX)



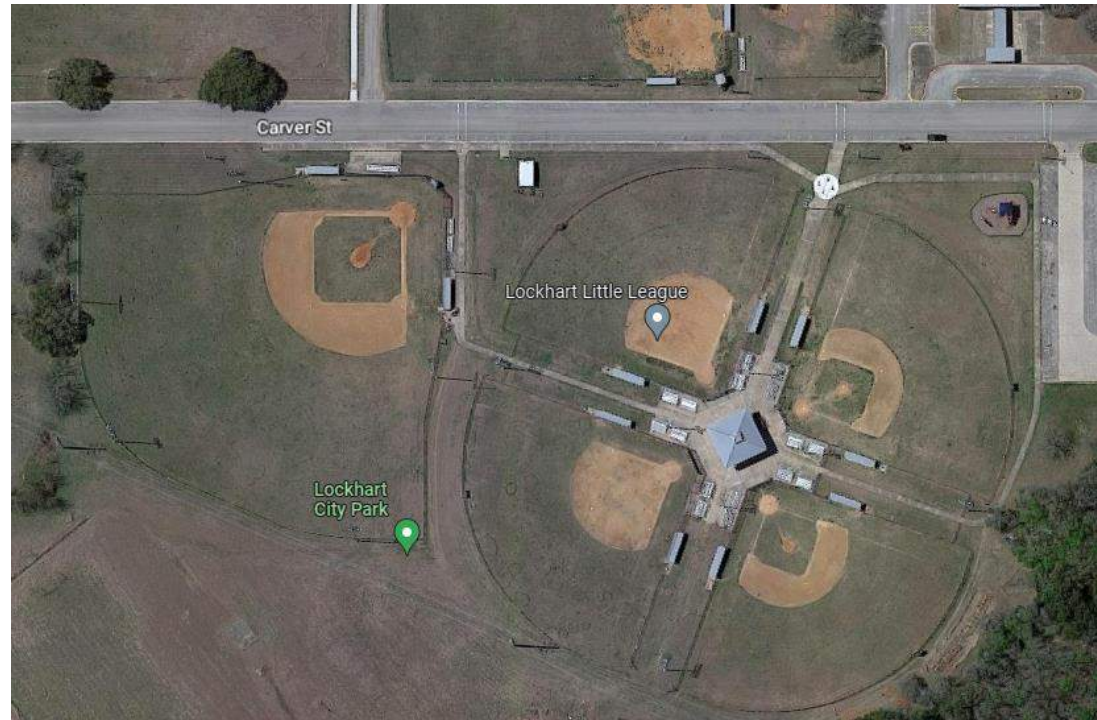


FIGURE 3. LOCKHART YOUTH SPORTS COMPLEX (LOCKHART, TX)



FIGURE 4. VETERANS PARK (GIDDINGS, TX)



B.2



FIGURE 5. WHITE ROCK PARK (LA GRANGE, TX)



FIGURE 6. GREGG-CLARKE PARK (KYLE, TX)



B.3



FIGURE 7. GARY SOFTBALL COMPLEX (SAN MARCOS, TX)



FIGURE 8. HOHLT PARK (BRENHAM, TX)



B.4



FIGURE 9. MONTOPOLIS YOUTH SPORTS COMPLEX (AUSTIN)



FIGURE 10. KRIEG SOFTBALL COMPLEX (AUSTIN)



B.5

ECONOMIC CONTEXT AND IMPACT OF PROSPECTIVE SPORTS FACILITIES IN BASTROP, TX

Appendix A Baseball & Softball Facility Aerials



FIGURE 11. BUTLER SHORES AND LAMAR BEACH AT LADY BIRD LAKE (AUSTIN, TX)



FIGURE 12. NORTHEAST METROPOLITAN PARK SPORTS COMPLEX (PFLUGERVILLE, TX)



ECONOMIC CONTEXT AND IMPACT OF PROSPECTIVE SPORTS FACILITIES IN BASTROP, TX

Appendix A Baseball & Softball Facility Aerials



FIGURE 13. OLD SETTLERS PARK AT PALM VALLEY



Appendix B SOCCER FACILITY AERIALS



FIGURE 14. SHENANDOAH SOCCER PARK



FIGURE 15. LOCKHART YOUTH SPORTS COMPLEX



B.1



FIGURE 16. VETERANS PARK

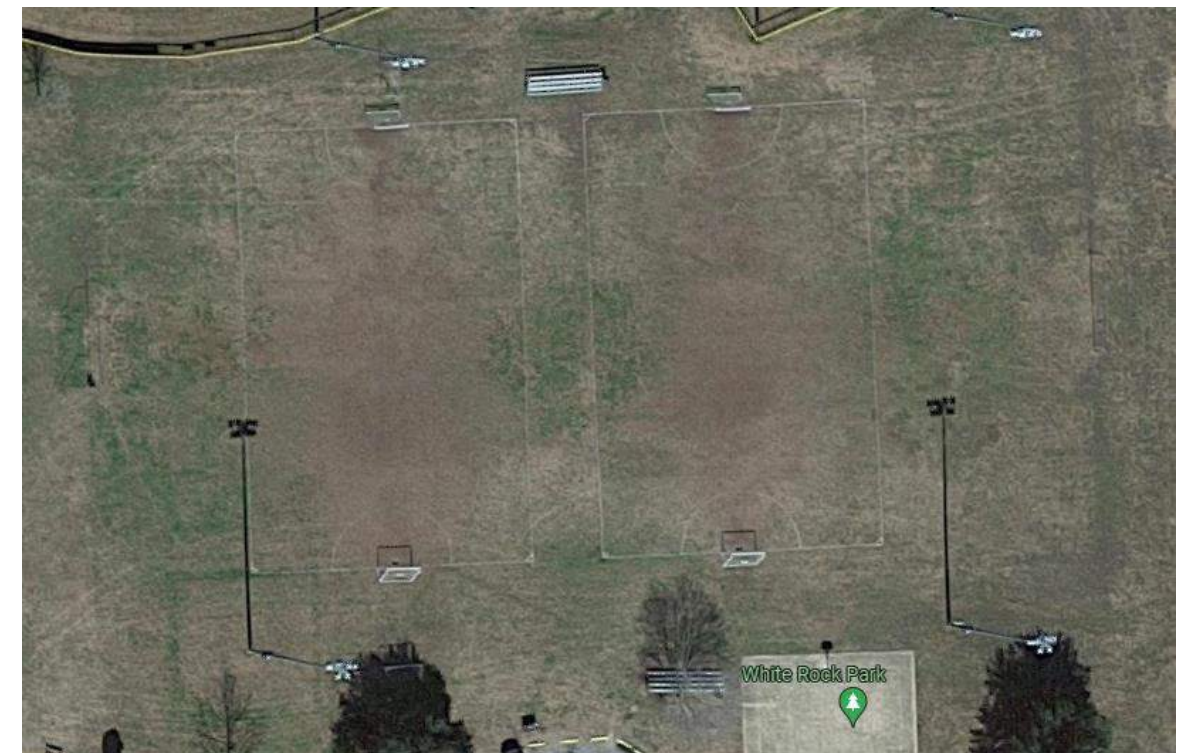


FIGURE 17. WHITE ROCK PARK



B.2



FIGURE 18. GREGG-CLARKE PARK



FIGURE 19. FIVE MILE DAM SOCCER COMPLEX



B.3



FIGURE 20. HOHLT PARK



FIGURE 21. ONION CREEK SOCCER COMPLEX



B.4



FIGURE 22. NORTHEAST METROPOLITAN PARK SPORTS COMPLEX



FIGURE 23. ROUND ROCK MULTIPURPOSE COMPLEX



B.5



FIGURE 24. OLD SETTLERS PARK AND PALM VALLEY



FIGURE 25. BEE CREEK SPORTS COMPLEX



B.6



FIGURE 26. ROBIN BLEDSOE PARK

APPENDIX C-BASTROP ACCESSIBILITY STUDY



ADA FACILITY SURVEY CITY OF BASTROP PUBLIC PARKS

MARCH 30, 2023





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1. INTRODUCTION

The ACCESS partnership, Ip was retained by Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. perform an accessibility compliance assessment of the Bastrop City Parks (facility) ACCESS has prepared this accessibility condition assessment with the intention to document issues of accessibility non-compliance observed at the facility, provide code citations and potential corrections for these issues, and assist the client to understand the extent of its obligation to provide accessibility under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Since existing places of public accommodation are subject to the requirement in Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to perform barrier removal over time, the client should be aware of existing architectural barriers so that these barriers may be removed when and where it is readily achievable to do so, for the facility to comply with this requirement of the Act.

2. PROJECT INFORMATION

Per information provided by the Client, the Facility is twelve (12) existing city parks in Bastrop, Texas.

3. APPLICABLE ACCESSIBILITY REGULATIONS, CODES, AND STANDARDS

The Americans with Disabilities Act (“ADA”), signed by President Bush on July 26, 1990, is landmark legislation to extend civil rights protection to people with disabilities. The ADA prohibits discrimination based on disability in employment, State and local government services, public transportation, public accommodations, commercial facilities, and telecommunications. The ADA required the U.S. Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (Access Board) to supplement its Minimum Guidelines and Requirements for Accessible Design to serve as the basis for regulations to be issued by the Department of Justice and the Department of Transportation under Title II and Title III of the Act. On July 26, 1991, the Access Board published its ADA Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities (ADAAG). ADAAG is applicable to buildings and facilities covered by Title II and Title III of the ADA to the extent required by regulations issued by the Department of Justice under the ADA.

Places of public accommodation and commercial facilities covered by Title III of the ADA are required by 28 CFR 36.401 and 36.406 to comply with ADAAG if the facilities are designed and constructed for first occupancy after January 26, 1993. This requirement applies only if: (1) the last application for a building permit or permit extension for the facility is certified to be completed by a State, county, or local government after January 26, 1992 and (2) the first certificate of occupancy for the facility is issued after January 26, 1993. Full compliance with the new construction requirements is not required where an entity can demonstrate that it is structurally impracticable. The exception for structural impracticability, a very narrow one, is discussed in 28 CFR 36.401(c) and ADAAG 4.1.1(5)(a). Other exceptions for certain temporary structures, specific building areas and features (including elevators) are discussed in ADAAG 4.1.1(4), 4.1.1(5)(b) and 4.1.3(5) and, where applicable, on the Minimum Requirements Summary Sheets or the Technical Requirements Survey Forms.

The ADA is applicable to public accommodations portions of this property. The extent of its application is tied to the extent that programmatic uses of certain public areas are considered “public accommodations” in the development. Technical compliance for the ADA is reviewed using the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (“ADAAG”).



The ADA and FHA are Federal civil rights laws. Thus, there is no official submission or inspection requirement as you have with the local building officials. The enforcement of these standards is the responsibility of the US Department of Justice, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development and State and Local Housing Authorities. Individuals and advocacy groups participate in enforcement by filing complaints with these agencies or by bringing private lawsuits against the owners, developers, architects and contractors. The ADA has an ongoing obligation for compliance so the purchaser “inherits” the risk of ADA violations.

Enforcement of the Texas Building Code is done by the local building officials through the permitting and inspection process. This process typically is complete once a certificate of occupancy is issued. It is rare that any further enforcement action is taken under these requirements. Most legal actions are taken under the ADA.

The local building official can waive or modify those requirements of the building code that are more restrictive than the federal ADA and FHA (those requirements cannot be waived).

Alterations

An alteration is defined by ADA 106.5 as “A change to a building or facility that affects or could affect the usability of the building or facility or portion thereof. Alterations include, but are not limited to, remodeling, renovation, rehabilitation, reconstruction, historic restoration, resurfacing of circulation paths or vehicular ways, changes or rearrangement of the structural parts or elements, and changes or rearrangement in the plan configuration of walls and full-height partitions. Normal maintenance, reroofing, painting or wallpapering, or changes to mechanical and electrical systems are not alterations unless they affect the usability of the building or facility.” IBC/IEBC defines alteration as “Any construction or renovation to an existing structure other than repair or addition.”

With regards to alterations, both ADA and IBC/IEBC require that where existing elements or spaces are altered, each altered element or space shall comply with the applicable requirements for new construction unless “technically infeasible,” as defined in each code. Where compliance is technically infeasible, the alteration shall provide access to the maximum extent technically feasible.

Alterations affecting Area of Primary Function

When an alteration affects the usability of or access to an area of primary function, both ADA and IBC/IEBC require that an accessible “path of travel” shall be provided to the altered area of primary function, meaning that accessibility upgrades to the path(s) of travel serving the altered area must be incorporated as part of the project. Elements of an accessible path of travel include a primary entrance serving the building (including exterior approach); an accessible route to the area; accessible toilet and bathing facilities, drinking fountains, and public telephones serving the area; and accessible parking, storage, and alarms.

Upgrades to the path of travel shall be made to ensure that, to the maximum extent feasible, the path of travel to the altered area and the restrooms, telephones, and drinking fountains serving the altered area, are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities, including individuals who use wheelchairs, unless the cost and scope of such alterations is disproportionate to the cost of the overall alteration. ADA §36.403 (f) and (g), IBC 3411.7 Exception 1, and IEBC 705.2 Exception 1 state that alterations required to be made to provide an accessible path of travel to the altered area will be deemed disproportionate to the overall alteration when the cost exceeds 20% of the cost of the alteration to the primary function area.

The opinions listed in the report will represent the judgments of the ACCESS partnership, l.p. based on our experience. There is no official certification process to identify someone as an “ADA expert” or “certified ADA inspector”. Further, there is no uniform process to determine case specific requirements of the ADAAG, short of a determination by the Department of Justice, Department of Housing and Urban Development or the Federal

Courts. Ultimate determination of compliance with State and Local regulations lies with the local jurisdictions having authority.

Through our extensive training, understanding and use of accessibility codes, ACCESS will make every effort to identify and document areas of the facility that are not in compliance with the Subject Codes. Compliance with the American’s with Disabilities Act, state and local codes, remains the sole responsibility of the building owner.

Within the Subject Codes and Standards, there are allowances for “conventional building industry tolerances for field conditions”. These tolerances are not published and there are no codified tolerances generally accepted by all authorities having jurisdiction and other accessibility consultants. In our opinion, we have applied reasonable tolerances to the field conditions based upon our experience and understanding of acceptable deviations. Due to the nature of tolerances, we cannot guarantee another accessibility expert or authority having jurisdiction will have the same position regarding tolerances.

When undergoing alterations or additions, the facility is required to comply with the scoping and technical specifications of all applicable regulations, codes, and standards. In cases where there is a disparity in the scoping or technical criteria among the applicable codes and standards, the most stringent requirements shall prevail if these do not conflict with or provide a lower level of accessibility than is required by the other codes and standards.

Non-compliant Elements Installed Since the Effective Date of ADA

Any elements or spaces altered or added after the date that the ADA accessibility standards first became effective (January 26, 1993) would have been required to comply with the ADA Standards in effect at the time of construction. Therefore, non-complying elements installed post-ADA are required to be corrected to be compliant with current standards, whether alterations are being undertaken, unless the elements are compliant with requirements of the 1991 Standards and thus “safe harbored.” The client should take this into account when planning corrections to deficiencies observed at elements or spaces which have been installed since the enactment of the ADA. Note that elements that were not covered by the 1991 Standards cannot apply the safe harbor exemption.



Readily Achievable Barrier Removal

Elements installed prior to the effective date of the 2010 Standards for Accessible Design or that were not subject to compliance in the original 1991 Standards, but which are now subject to compliance, shall be modified to be accessible when “readily achievable” as defined by CFR 36 for Title III facilities such as this. Regardless of whether alterations or additions are being undertaken, existing places of public accommodation subject to ADA Title III have the ongoing obligation to remove architectural barriers and communication barriers that are structural in nature where it is readily achievable to do so. Readily achievable is defined as “easily accomplishable and able to be carried out without much difficulty or expense.” ACCESS has not decided of what actions are readily achievable – this is the responsibility of the client.

Although all accessibility deficiencies are critical, it is understood that the owner’s finances or business operations may result in the need to prioritize and phase the removal of barriers. ADA Title III regulations, Part 36, Subpart B, §36.304 prioritizes the measures potentially taken to comply with barrier removal.

- ✓ **Accessible approach and entrance** (providing access to a place of public accommodation from public sidewalks and parking) is the highest priority;
- ✓ **Access to goods and services** is the second highest priority;
- ✓ **Access to public toilet rooms** is the third highest priority;
- ✓ Other **measures necessary to provide access to the other facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations of the place of public accommodation.**

The client may want to consider which barriers, if removed, would provide the greatest benefit to the facility’s accessibility, or the barrier’s extent of non-compliance in contrast to the current ADA requirements for that element.



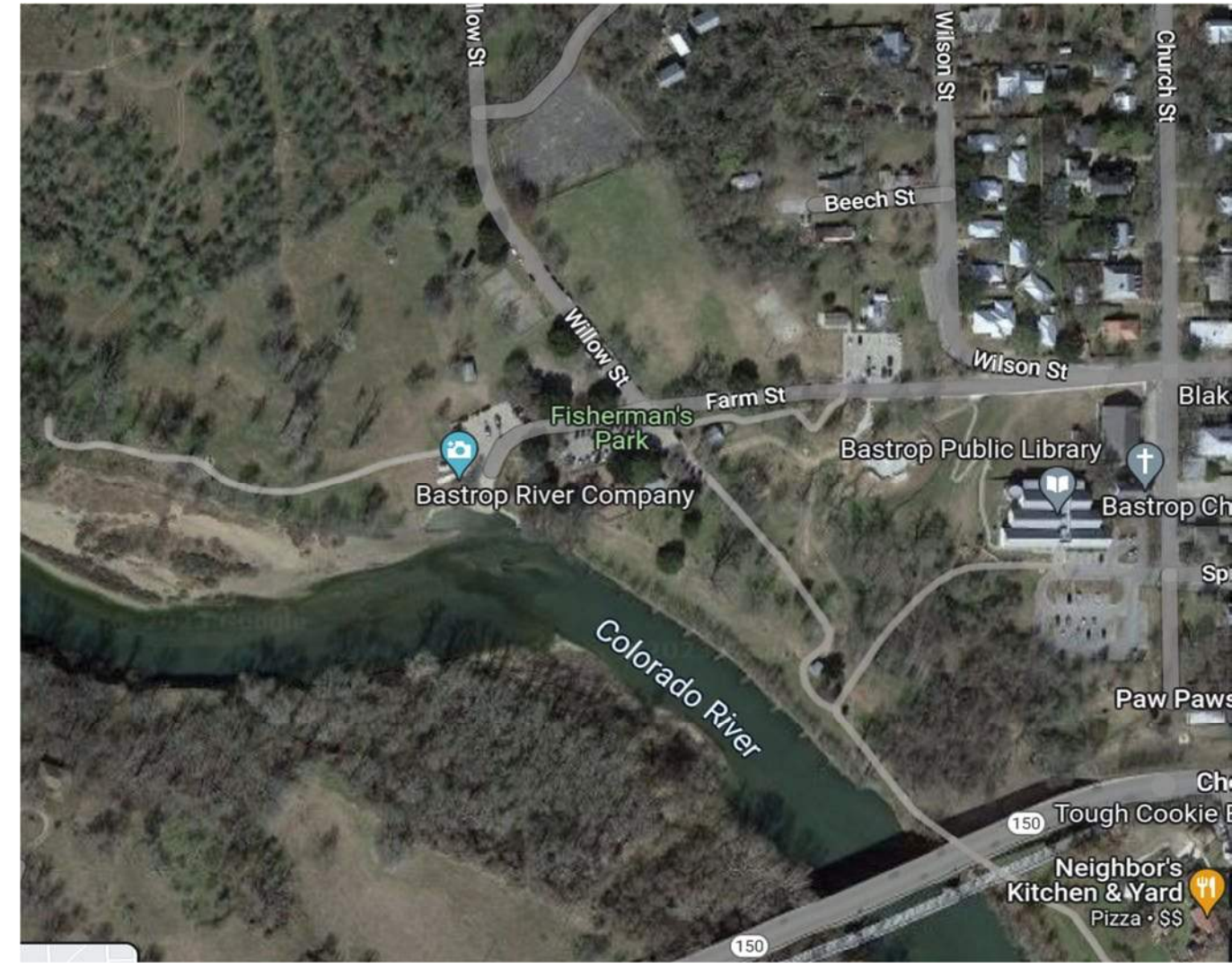
4. PARKS

4.1 FISHERMAN’S PARK

Accessible Approach and Entrance

Public Right-of Way

206.2.1	Site Arrival Points	At least one accessible route shall be provided within the site from accessible parking spaces and accessible passenger loading zones; public streets and sidewalks; and public transportation stops to the accessible building or facility entrance they serve.
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Farm Street Entrance

The primary accessible route from the PROW to the entry of the facility is via Farm Street. The accessible route from the sidewalk connection to Farm Street terminates at the public restroom within the park. There is not a pedestrian sidewalk system connecting to the remaining amenities throughout the park.



Bastrop Public Library Entrance

There is a secondary public entrance via the Bastrop Public Library. There is no signage at this location indicating an accessible route to Fisherman's Park. In addition, there are a couple of places along the route that have running slopes exceeding 5.0% that will need handrails.





Parking

Playscape Parking

The accessible parking at the playscape does not provide an access aisle.



Pavilion

There is no accessible parking provided at the Pavilion.



Boat Dock

The accessible parking at the boat dock has slopes exceeding 2.0% and does not have accessible signage.



Trailhead

There is no accessible parking provided at the Trailhead.





Ball Fields

There is no accessible parking provided at the ball fields and sports courts.



Access to Goods and Services

Accessible Route between Site Amenities

Pavilion

There is not an accessible route to the pavilion due to vertical changes in level between the walk and the pavilion floor surface.



Playground

There is not a connection between the parking surface and the sidewalk to the playground. The gate to the playground does not have the required maneuvering clearances as required. The playscape does not have a compliance surface.





Picnic Tables & Pavilions

There are many picnic tables and benches that are not on an accessible route. A minimum of 5% of the amenities must be on an accessible route.





Trailhead

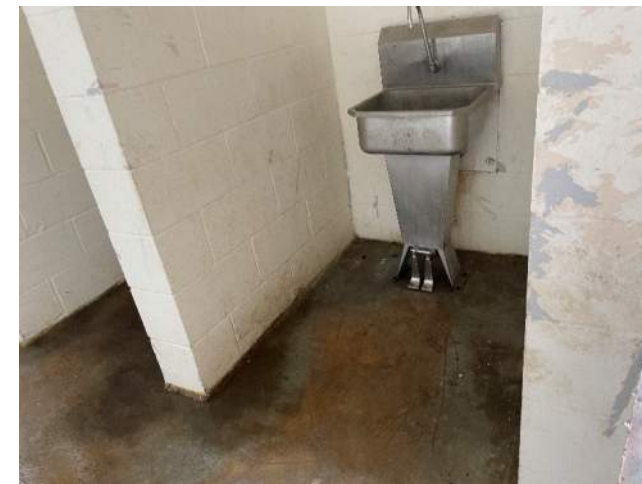
The trailhead should be connected to an overall accessible route that includes accessible parking.



Access to Public Toilet Rooms

Public Restrooms – Primary

The primary restrooms do not have compliant fixtures or clearances in the accessible stall, urinal and sink areas.





Public Restrooms – Pool

The ramp to the restrooms needs handrails. The women's restroom does not have the required maneuvering clearance at the restroom entry doors. Some of the accessories within the restrooms are not within the required reach range.



Measures necessary to provide access to the other facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations of the place of public accommodation

The pool gate does not have the smooth surface at the bottom 10" and there are not compliant picnic tables provided.



The drinking fountain is not a hi/lo as required and the knee clearance for the accessible fountain is blocked by steps. The boat dock trailer window is not in the required reach range.





4.2 FERRY PARK

Accessible Approach and Entrance

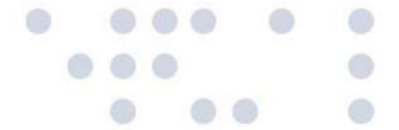
Public Right-of Way

206.2.1	Site Arrival Points	At least one accessible route shall be provided within the site from accessible parking spaces and accessible passenger loading zones; public streets and sidewalks; and public transportation stops to the accessible building or facility entrance they serve.
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Water Street Entrance

The primary accessible route from the PROW to the entry of the facility is via Water Street and is compliant.



Parking

The parking is compliant.



Access to Goods and Services

Accessible Route between Site Amenities

There is not an accessible route to the many park amenities such as playscape, benches, swings, gazebo and picnic tables. There are vertical changes in level and lack of stable, accessible surfaces.





Access to Public Toilet Rooms

There are not accessible restroom facilities provided.



Measures necessary to provide access to the other facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations of the place of public accommodation

The playground surfacing is not compliant.





4.3 FIREMAN'S PARK

Parking

Accessible Approach and Entrance

Public Right-of Way

206.2.1	Site Arrival Points	At least one accessible route shall be provided within the site from accessible parking spaces and accessible passenger loading zones; public streets and sidewalks; and public transportation stops to the accessible building or facility entrance they serve.
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Austin and Hill Street Entrances

The primary accessible route from the PROW to the entry of the facility is via Austin and Hill Street. There is no sidewalk connection in this area. The primary access is vehicular. If sidewalks are constructed in this area, a pedestrian connection would be required to the park.

There is no accessible parking provided at the ball fields.



Access to Goods and Services

Accessible Route between Site Amenities

There is no accessible route to the dugouts.





There is no accessible route to the bleachers.



Access to Public Toilet Rooms

There are not accessible restroom facilities provided.

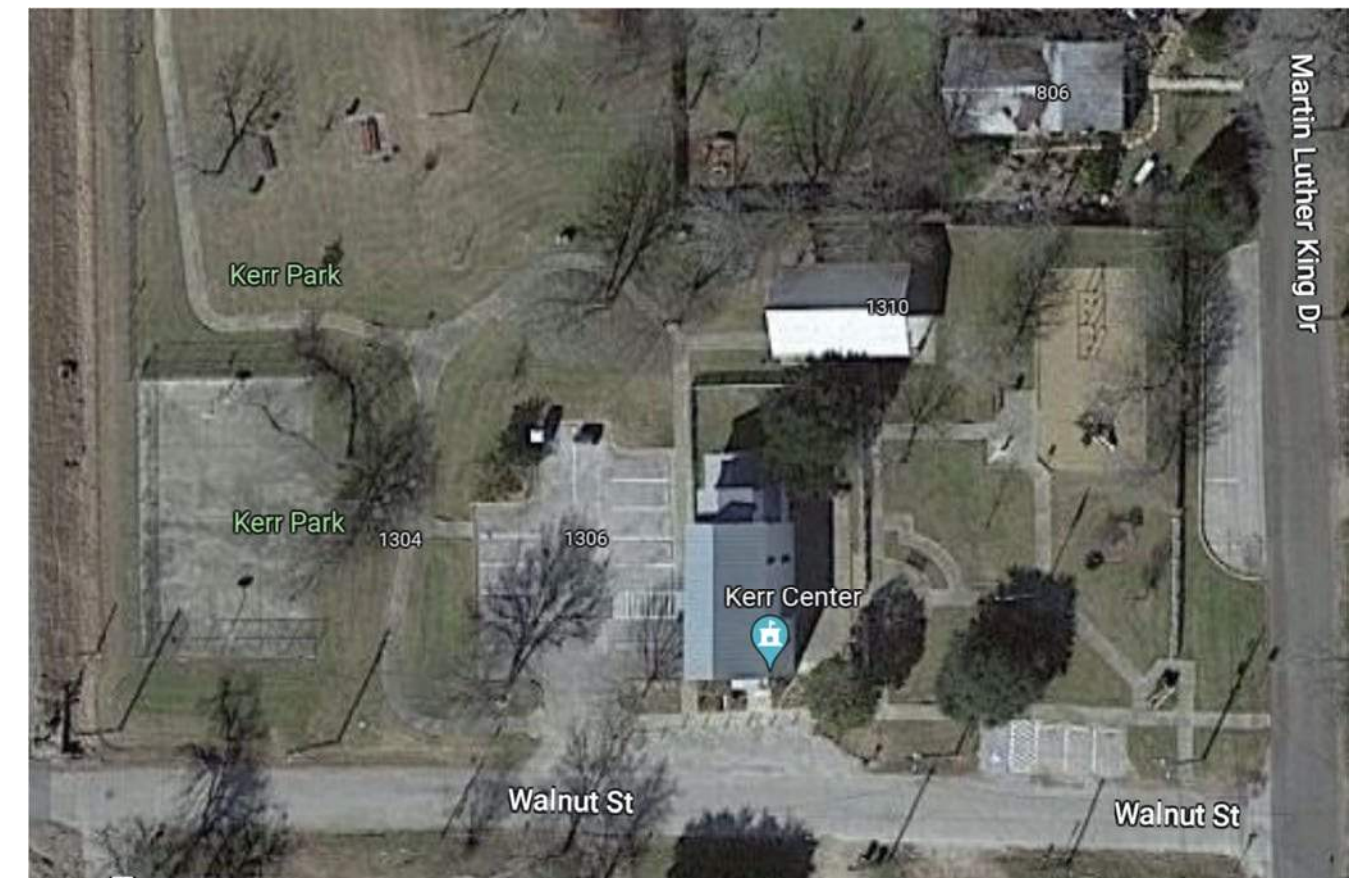


4.4 KERR PARK

Accessible Approach and Entrance

Public Right-of Way

206.2.1	Site Arrival Points	At least one accessible route shall be provided within the site from accessible parking spaces and accessible passenger loading zones; public streets and sidewalks; and public transportation stops to the accessible building or facility entrance they serve.
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Walnut Street Entrance

The primary accessible route from the PROW to the entry of the facility is via Walnut Street and is compliant.



Parking

The accessible parking is compliant.



Access to Goods and Services

Accessible Route between Site Amenities

There is not an accessible route to the many park amenities such as benches and picnic tables. There are vertical changes in level and lack of stable, accessible surfaces.



Access to Public Toilet Rooms

There are not accessible restroom facilities provided.



Measures necessary to provide access to the other facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations of the place of public accommodation

The drinking fountain is not a hi/lo as required and is a protruding object. The playground surfacing is not compliant.



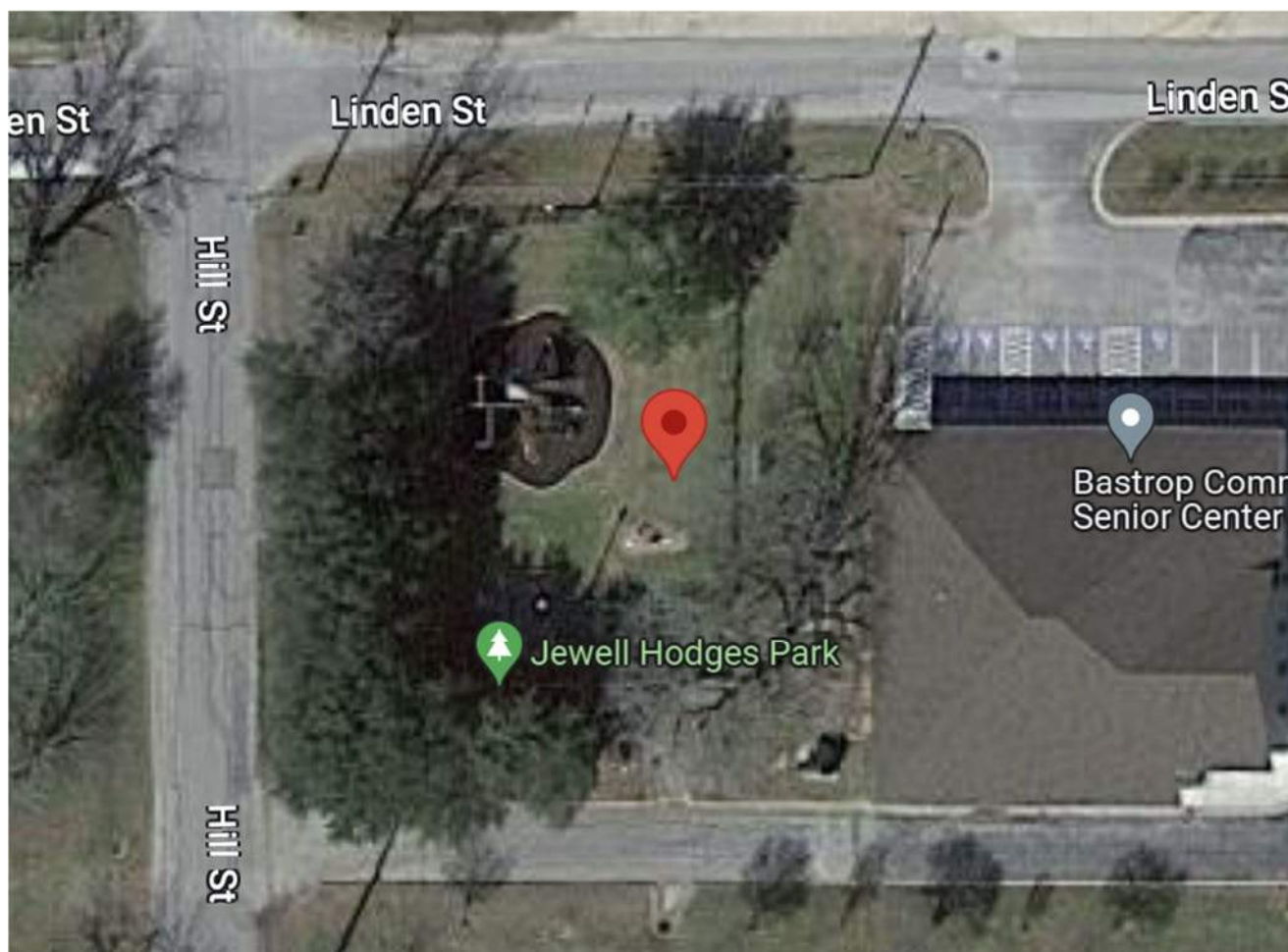


4.5 JEWELL HODGES PARK

Accessible Approach and Entrance

Public Right-of Way

206.2.1	Site Arrival Points	At least one accessible route shall be provided within the site from accessible parking spaces and accessible passenger loading zones; public streets and sidewalks; and public transportation stops to the accessible building or facility entrance they serve.
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Hill/Linden Street Entrance

The primary accessible route from the PROW to the entry of the facility is via Hill and Linden Streets. There is no sidewalk connection in this area. The primary access is vehicular. If sidewalks are constructed in this area, a pedestrian connection would be required to the park.

Parking

There is no accessible parking provided at the park.



Access to Goods and Services

Accessible Route between Site Amenities
There is not an accessible route to the playground, picnic tables or benches.





Measures necessary to provide access to the other facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations of the place of public accommodation

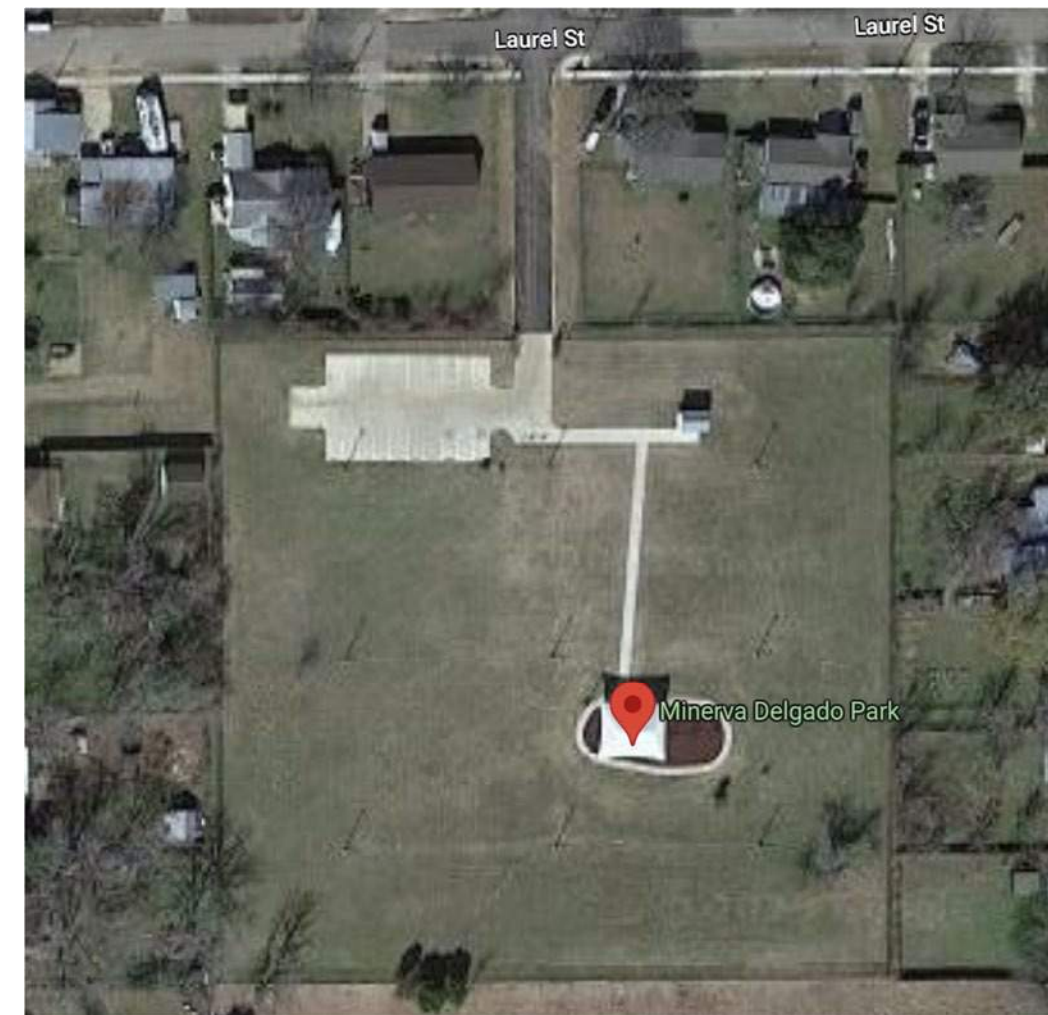
There is not an accessible picnic table and the gates are not compliant.

4.6 DELGADO PARK

Accessible Approach and Entrance

Public Right-of Way

206.2.1	Site Arrival Points	At least one accessible route shall be provided within the site from accessible parking spaces and accessible passenger loading zones; public streets and sidewalks; and public transportation stops to the accessible building or facility entrance they serve.
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Laurel Street Entrance

The primary accessible route from the PROW to the entry of the facility is via Laurel Street. There is no sidewalk connection. The primary access is vehicular. If sidewalks are constructed in this area, a pedestrian connection would be required to the park.



Parking

There is no vertical accessible parking signage as required.



Access to Goods and Services

The accessible routes within the park to amenities are compliant.

Access to Public Toilet Rooms

There is a vertical change in level at the door that is not compliant and some dispensers are out of the reach range.

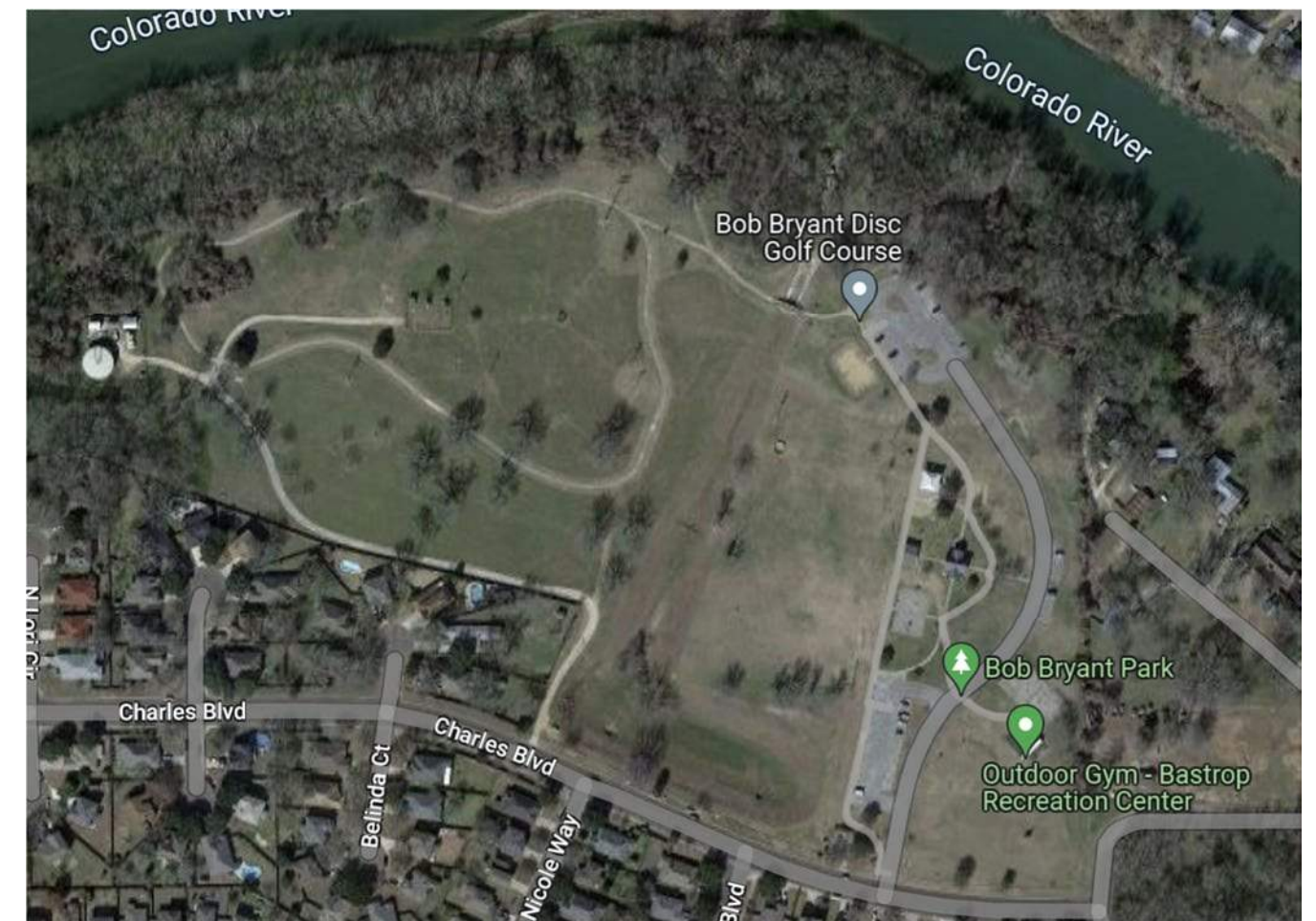


4.7 BOB BRYANT PARK

Accessible Approach and Entrance

Public Right-of Way

206.2.1	Site Arrival Points	At least one accessible route shall be provided within the site from accessible parking spaces and accessible passenger loading zones; public streets and sidewalks; and public transportation stops to the accessible building or facility entrance they serve.
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Charles Boulevard Entrance

The primary accessible route from the PROW to the entry of the facility is via Charles Boulevard and is compliant.



Parking

The accessible parking does not have a compliant curb ramp landing and the vertical signage is not readable.



Access to Goods and Services

Accessible Route between Site Amenities

There is no accessible route to the volleyball court, four square and drinking fountains.





There is no accessible route to the community garden and fitness pavilion.



Measures necessary to provide access to the other facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations of the place of public accommodation

The playground and volleyball court surfacing is not compliant. The grill handle is out of the reach range. There are no accessible picnic tables provided.

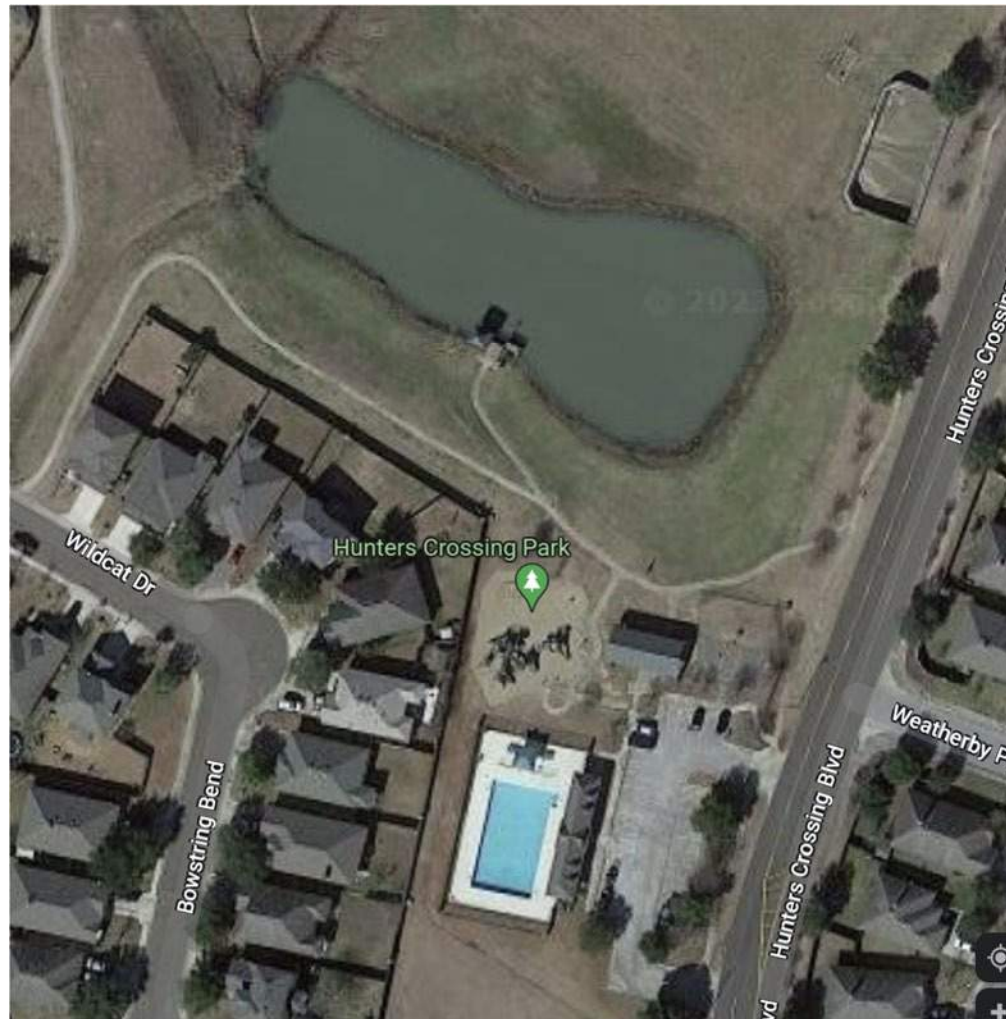


4.8 HUNTER'S CROSSING PARK

Accessible Approach and Entrance

Public Right-of Way

206.2.1	Site Arrival Points	At least one accessible route shall be provided within the site from accessible parking spaces and accessible passenger loading zones; public streets and sidewalks; and public transportation stops to the accessible building or facility entrance they serve.
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Hunters Crossing Boulevard Entrance

The primary accessible route from the PROW to the entry of the facility is via Hunters Crossing Boulevard and is compliant.



Parking

The accessible parking is compliant.



Access to Goods and Services

Accessible Route between Site Amenities

There is not an accessible route to the trash bins.





The ramp to the fishing pier does not have handrails. The fishing pier is required to have 25% of the railings and deck surface at a compliant height and surface, which is not provided.



Access to Public Toilet Rooms

The restrooms do not have the required maneuvering clearances at the water closet and some accessories are not located in the required reach range.



Measures necessary to provide access to the other facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations of the place of public accommodation

There are no accessible picnic tables provided. The playground surface is not compliant.



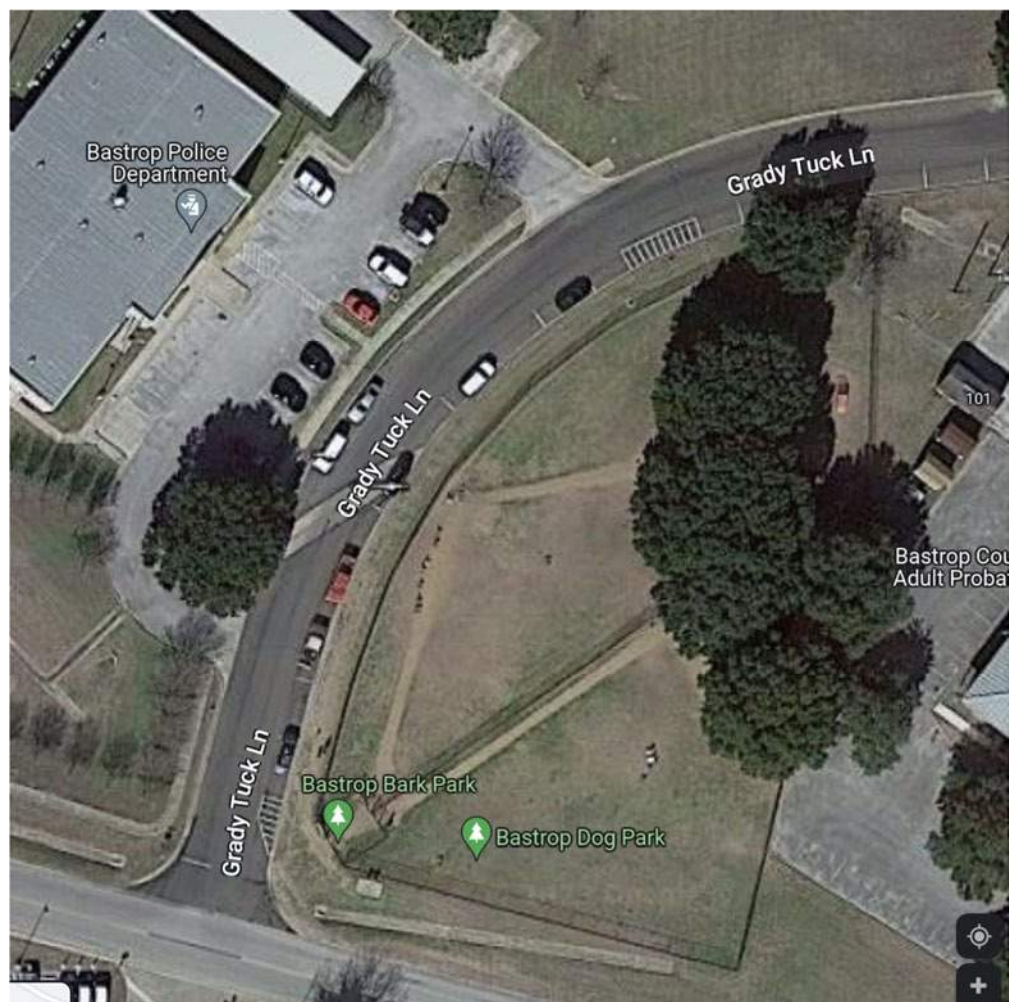


4.9 BARK PARK

Accessible Approach and Entrance

Public Right-of Way

206.2.1	Site Arrival Points	At least one accessible route shall be provided within the site from accessible parking spaces and accessible passenger loading zones; public streets and sidewalks; and public transportation stops to the accessible building or facility entrance they serve.
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Grady Tuck Lane Entrance

The primary accessible route from the PROW to the entry of the facility is via Grady Tuck Lane. There is no sidewalk connection in this area.



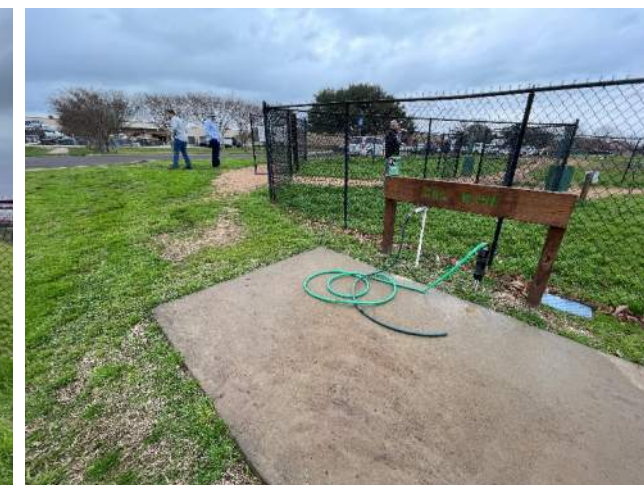
Parking

There is no accessible parking provided.

Access to Goods and Services

Accessible Route between Site Amenities

There is no accessible route to the entrance of the park or the dog wash station.



Measures necessary to provide access to the other facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations of the place of public accommodation

The dog wash controls are not compliant. The gates are not compliant.





4.10 MAYFEST PARK

Accessible Approach and Entrance

Public Right-of Way

206.2.1	Site Arrival Points	At least one accessible route shall be provided within the site from accessible parking spaces and accessible passenger loading zones; public streets and sidewalks; and public transportation stops to the accessible building or facility entrance they serve.
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American Legion Drive Entrance

The primary accessible route from the PROW to the entry of the facility is via American Legion Drive. There is no sidewalk connection. The primary access is vehicular. If sidewalks are constructed in this area, a pedestrian connection would be required to the park.

Parking

There accessible parking does not have access aisle as required. In addition, it appears that parking at this location would be in the open areas (not designated). Additional accessible parking may be needed based on the overall parking count.



Access to Goods and Services

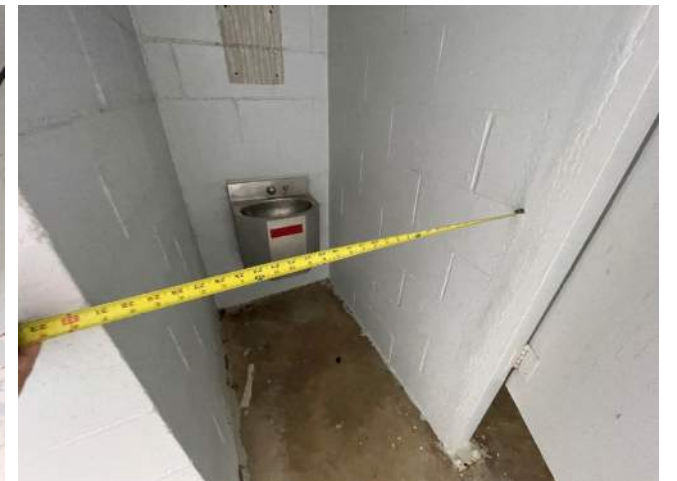
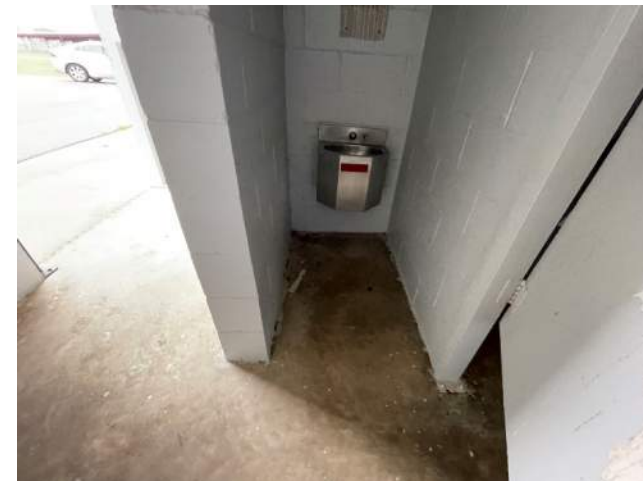
Accessible Route between Site Amenities There are not accessible routes connecting the accessible parking to all the amenities on site such as the arenas, concession stands and picnic tables.





Access to Public Toilet Rooms

The signage at the restrooms is not located at the required height and location. The maneuvering clearances at the sinks are not the required width.





The accessories in the accessible stalls are located too high and the grab bars are not in the correct location.



The urinal heights are too high.



Measures necessary to provide access to the other facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations of the place of public accommodation

There does not appear to be designated accessible seating at the bleachers as required.



APPENDIX D-PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Stantec consultant team worked with City of Bastrop staff to ensure that feedback and data gained from community engagement efforts provide meaningful and useful insights for the Plan.

The table below shows the list of various meetings held to gather input in different phases of developing PROS master plan.

Date	Type of Meeting
2-Feb	Parks Board meeting
February 21, 2023	Joint Bastrop City Council and Parks Board
March 2, 2023	Parks Board Meeting
March 6, 2023	Steering Committee meeting (noon)
March 6, 2023	Public Meeting (Food Truck Court Event)
April 1, 2023	Public Event Display and Input (Movie in the park)
April 6, 2023	Parks Board Meeting
April 10, 2023	Trails Workshop
May 2, 2023	Concept meeting with Parks Board and Steering Committee
May 4, 2023	Parks Board Meeting
11-May	City Council Review
June 1, 2023	Parks Board Meeting
July 1, 2023	Public meeting (Big Bang Event)
July 6, 2023	Parks Board Meeting
July 11, 2023	Regular Council Meeting
August 3, 2023	Parks and Recreation Master Plan Workshop
August 8, 2023	Regular Council Meeting