



CITY OF NORMAN, OK CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

**Municipal Building, Executive Conference Room, 201 West Gray, Norman,
OK 73069**

Thursday, November 03, 2022 at 4:00 PM

MINUTES

The City Council Business & Community Affairs Committee of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Regular Session in the Executive Conference Room on the 3rd day of November, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. and notice of the agenda of the meeting were posted at the Municipal Building at 201 West Gray and on the City website at least 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Peacock called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councilmember Ward 8 Matthew Peacock (Chair)
Councilmember Ward 4 Helen Grant
Councilmember Ward 5 Rarchar Tortorello

OTHERS PRESENT

Mayor Larry Heikkila
Councilmember Ward 1 Brandi Studley
Councilmember Ward 2 Lauren Schueler
Councilmember Ward 7 Stephen Holman
Mr. Darrel Pyle, City Manager
Mr. Jason Olsen, Parks and Recreation Director
Ms. Kathryn Walker, City Attorney
Ms. Lisa Webb, Administrative Technician III

AGENDA ITEMS

1. PRESENTATION OF THE 2022 NORMAN COMMUNITY INTEREST AND OPINION SURVEY FOR THE PARKS SYSTEM

Presenter: Jason Olsen, Parks and Recreation Director

Mr. Jason Olsen presented the findings from the 2022 Norman Community Interest and Opinion Survey, conducted to assess public priorities and satisfaction levels regarding the City's park and recreation system. The survey was administered by ETC Institute and included responses from a representative sample of residents across all City wards.

Item 1, continued:

Key points of the presentation included:

- Survey Purpose: To gather statistically valid input to guide decision-making and long-range planning for parks and recreational services.
- Participation: Over 600 residents participated in the survey, offering input on both current satisfaction and future needs.
- Top Community Priorities:
 - Walking and biking trails
 - Maintenance and upkeep of existing parks
 - Indoor recreation and fitness facilities
 - Nature areas and open space preservation
- Satisfaction Levels: Most respondents rated existing facilities and programs favorably, with room for improvement noted in facility accessibility and program variety.
- Comparative Benchmarking: Norman outperformed the national average in several categories, including trail quality and park cleanliness.
- Future Development Focus Areas:
 - Expanding trail connectivity citywide
 - Investing in multipurpose indoor facilities
 - Increasing youth and senior programming
 - Equity of access across neighborhoods

Mr. Olsen emphasized that community feedback from the survey will be used to prioritize projects, allocate resources, and align with the City's upcoming Parks Master Plan update.

Committee Discussion:

- Councilmembers expressed support for data-driven planning.
- Questions were raised about expanding east-side park access and the possibility of partnering with Norman Public Schools and OU to enhance recreational opportunities.
- The Committee acknowledged the value of community engagement and the importance of equitable investment across the entire City.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor