

A scenic view of a park with a dirt path, stone borders, and many trees. The path is made of light-colored gravel and is bordered by irregular stones. The surrounding area is lush with green grass and various trees, including some with thick, gnarled trunks. The background shows a line of trees and a glimpse of a building under a clear sky.

CITY OF WOODCREEK **Parks & Recreation**

Master Plan

adopted by Council
May 8, 2019

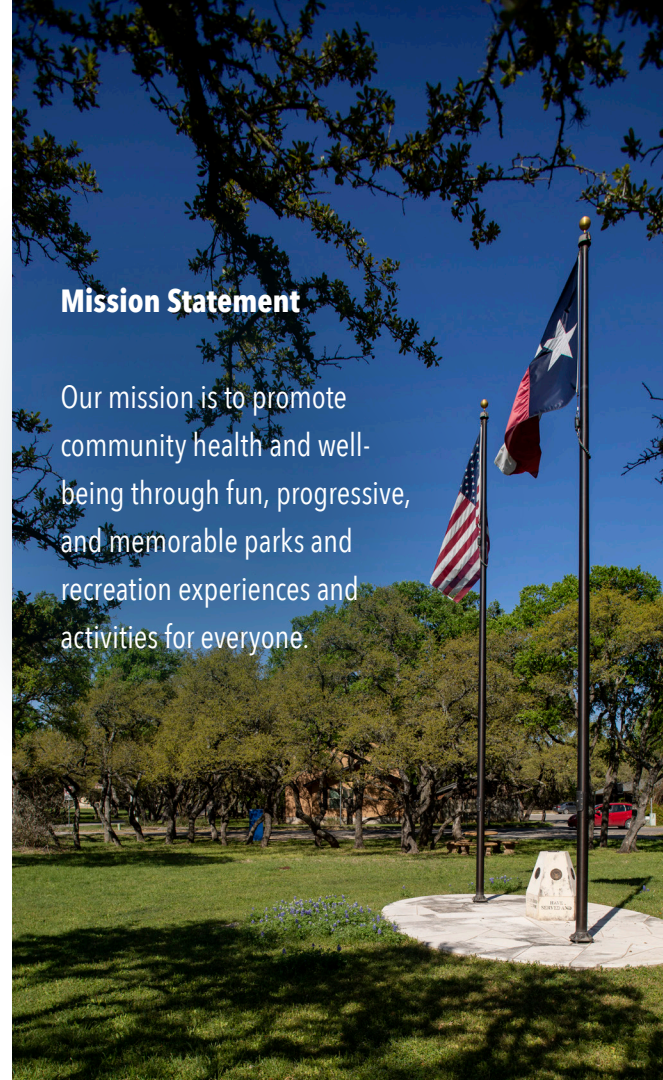
CITY OF WOODCREEK Parks & Recreation

Master Plan

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Mission Statement

Our mission is to promote community health and well-being through fun, progressive, and memorable parks and recreation experiences and activities for everyone.



Purpose

For the benefit of all residents and businesses of Woodcreek, a City of Woodcreek Parks & Recreation Master Plan will provide a framework to guide the preservation and development of parks, landscape, recreation, trails, cultural landmarks, and open spaces. The master plan will be a living document, continually updated to account for progress toward its goals, and changes in the population and geography of the City. Citizens should find the master plan an aspirational view of the future for Woodcreek to encourage bold ideas and thoughtful stewardship of shared resources, both natural and financial. City officials should treat the master plan as a voice of the community to inspire accountable decisions that are well-informed but not unduly constrained.



Profile

Woodcreek is a dynamic community, reflective of its origins as a resort set in the delicate natural beauty of the Wimberley Valley. The city is organized around golf as recreation in a rural, unhurried setting populated by live oaks, ashe junipers, and whitetail deer. As the community has aged, so has its median demographic, but Woodcreek is not simply a home to retirees. Its small-town charm and creative vitality, along with excellent Wimberley ISD schools, have made it increasingly a great place to raise a family. Thus the median age of Woodcreek is falling, and the diversity of park uses and recreational activities is growing.

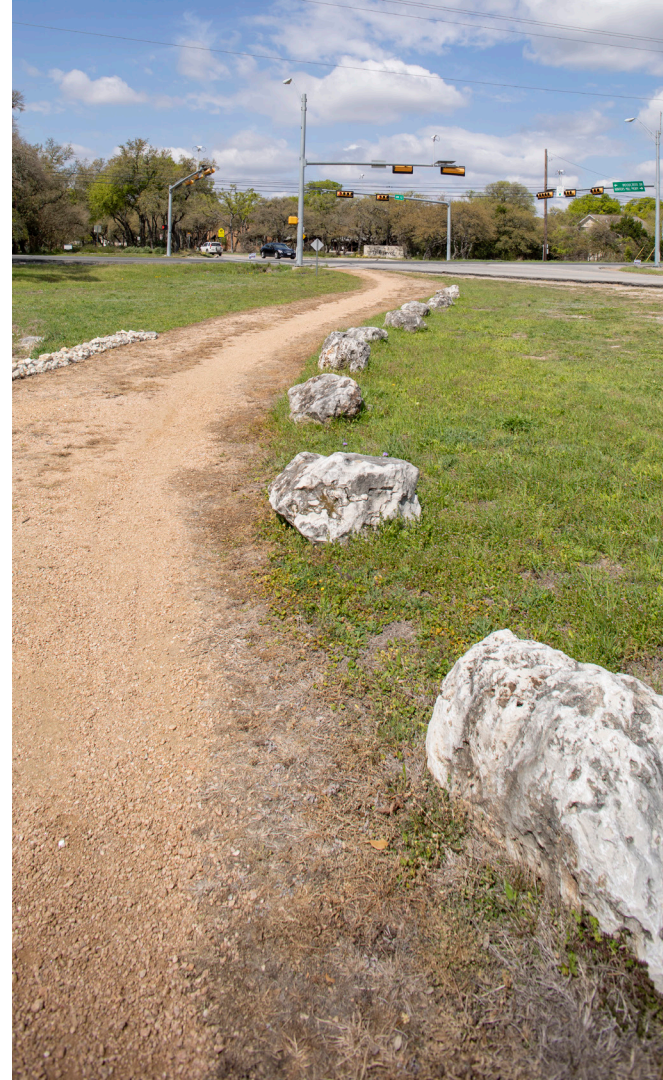
Located in Hays County, Texas, Woodcreek's population was 1,457 at the 2010 census. The 2017 estimate is 1,742. Woodcreek is located in western Hays County. It is 2 miles (3 km) north of Wimberley, 34 miles (55 km) southwest of Austin and 60 miles (97 km) northeast of San Antonio. The median income for a household in the city was \$52,986, and the median income for a family was \$60,703. As of January 2019, Wimberley ISD reported 239 children registered with the District who live in Woodcreek. Using Census data as a guide, that implies a conservative total count of at least 300 children in Woodcreek.



Process

The master plan sets a foundation of expectations from the Parks & Recreation Board as advisor to the City Council, which has final approval over its content and implementation. In due course, the master plan will be enriched and strengthened by a phased planning process that will involve the greater Woodcreek community through surveys, interviews, and public forums to assess and refine its goals, policies, and actions. Continual updates to the master plan will include this community input to ensure that the voice of the master plan as closely as possible reflects the true voice of the entire Woodcreek community.

The master plan provides an inventory of existing park sites, assesses current uses, and recommends opportunities for Council consideration. Recommendations are both specific to individual parks and general to broader goals, all categorized by timeframe across a ten-year horizon. Specific Council action will be requested in orderly fashion on immediate goals and work will begin toward realization of the more extended aims. All are equally important to realizing the promise of parks and recreation to the vitality of Woodcreek.



Partnerships

Investment of time and money by supporters of parks and recreation in the community is both an indication of the relative value we place on proposed improvements and a necessity to make the best use of public funds. The master plan recommends that Council will budget annually for funds to maintain and operate the parks and recreation system. For development and improvement efforts, the master plan anticipates funding from a mix of private donations, matching grants, and possible funding approved by City Council. Parks and recreation are important to Woodcreek citizens, as reflected in the 2017 community survey.

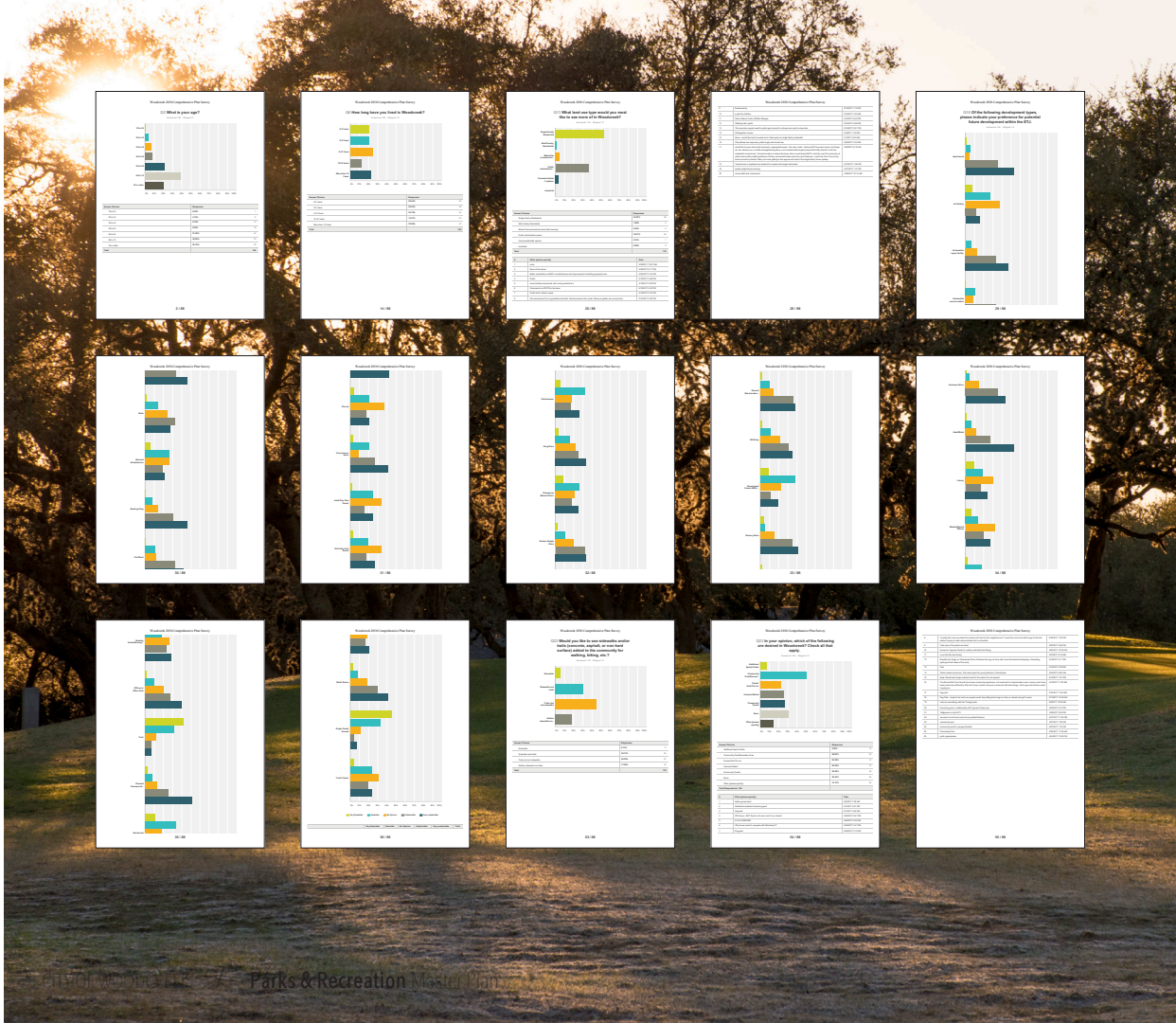
Any goal of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan that involves property not owned or controlled by the City of Woodcreek will require building mutually beneficial partnerships with other stakeholders. Any participation envisioned in this plan by other stakeholders will be voluntary. In particular, the plan explicitly rejects eminent domain or other non-voluntary means of participation to achieve the goals of this plan with property not owned or controlled by the City of Woodcreek.

The board further recommends that Council enact guidelines or ordinances to require provision of trails and parks in future residential and commercial development.



Survey

The 2017 Woodcreek community survey revealed that nearly three-fourths of respondents favor more parks in the city, and half would like to see a larger community park. Fully 41 percent of respondents had lived in Woodcreek fewer than five years, suggesting both growth and change in the city's demographics that should be tracked closely, ideally annually. In further direction to the character of parks, respondents listed the rural setting of Woodcreek as the city's primary attraction to living here and called for trails, not sidewalks, among a menu of options for pedestrians.



Existing Parks Inventory

Within the City of Woodcreek are a number of public spaces in inventory:



Woodcreek Entrance and Veterans' Memorial Plaza

1. There is public space on the north and south sides of the primary entrance to the city at Woodcreek Drive. The north side includes Veterans' Memorial Plaza, with ceremonial flagpoles, along with limestone signage and landscaping. The south grounds across Woodcreek Drive are wooded, with a rain garden to gather and slow runoff entering the drainage channel along Ranch Road 12. A gravel exercise path runs along the street side boundary and connects the city to the Blue Hole Regional Hike and Bike Trail. Two parking spaces, including one handicap-van accessible space is provided on the north grounds. Two permeable parking spaces are provided on the south grounds.



City Hall

2. City Hall includes a small wooded natural area along Champions Circle at the southeast corner of the city's boundary.



Triangle

3. The Triangle is a natural area anchored by large live oak trees that marks a high point along Woodcreek Drive toward the center of the city, at the terminus of Brookhollow Drive. The Triangle serves as a central focal point due to its location along primary traffic routes. Currently, park benches are the only physical feature of the park, although electrical and water service exist.



Brookhollow Site on Hog Creek

4. The Brookhollow site is a single lot a quarter mile from the Triangle on Brookhollow Drive, bordering Hog Creek. The City of Woodcreek owns the property but has not yet developed it as a park. The site is an open field with some trees, which slopes down to Hog Creek.



Augusta Park

5. Augusta Park is at the northern intersection of Augusta Lane and Augusta Drive. The park consists of a natural meadow rain garden and encircling interpretive nature trail, along with a bocce ball court, concrete picnic tables, and two permeable parking spaces at its north end. During rain events, the wooded park gathers runoff along its northern edges and fills in the southern rain garden, protecting residents downstream from excessive flow and erosion.



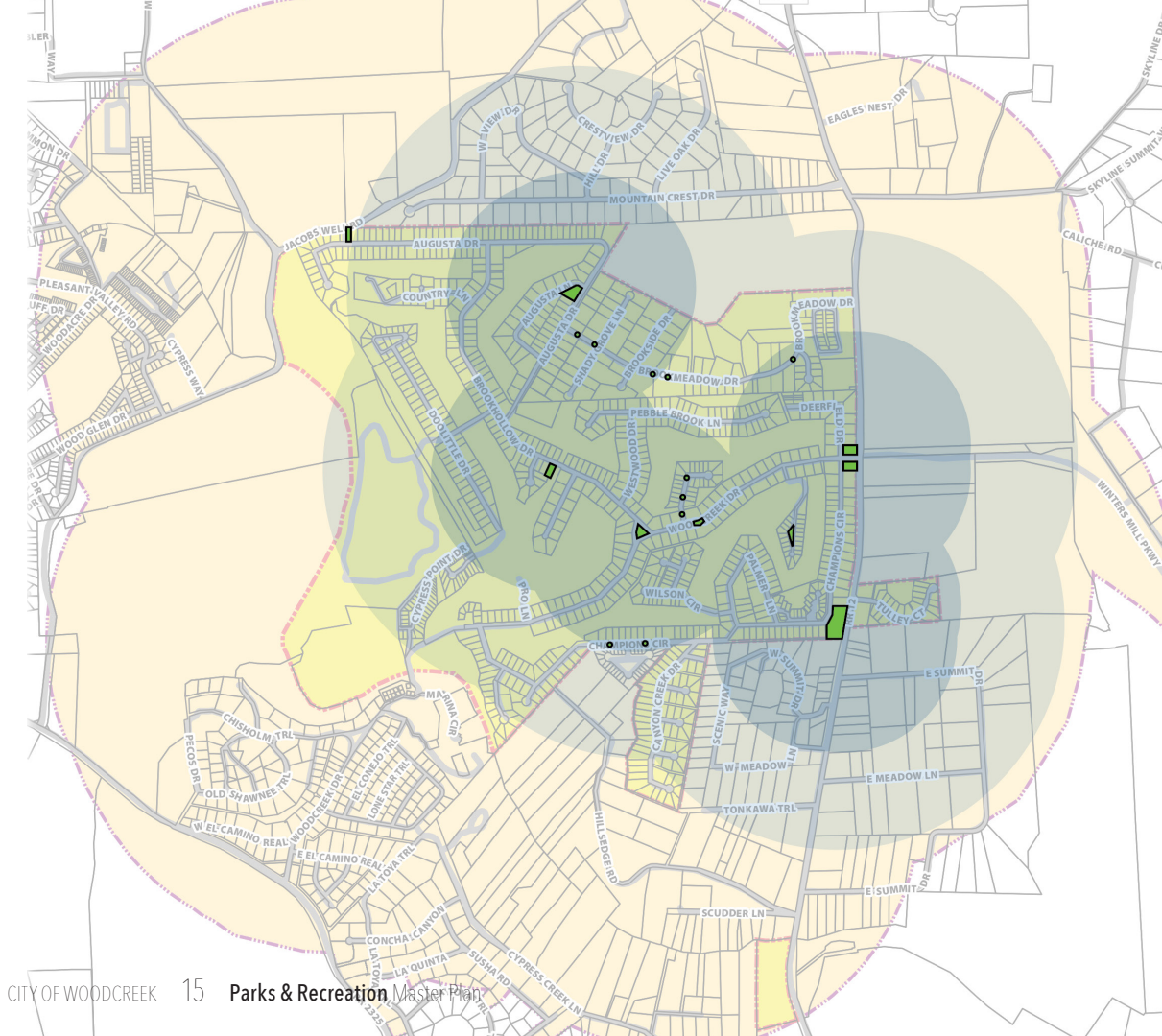
Greenspace Rights of Way

6. In addition, there are a number of greenspaces in rights-of-way that should be preserved and maintained. These spaces contribute to the character of the community and provide traffic-calming benefits.



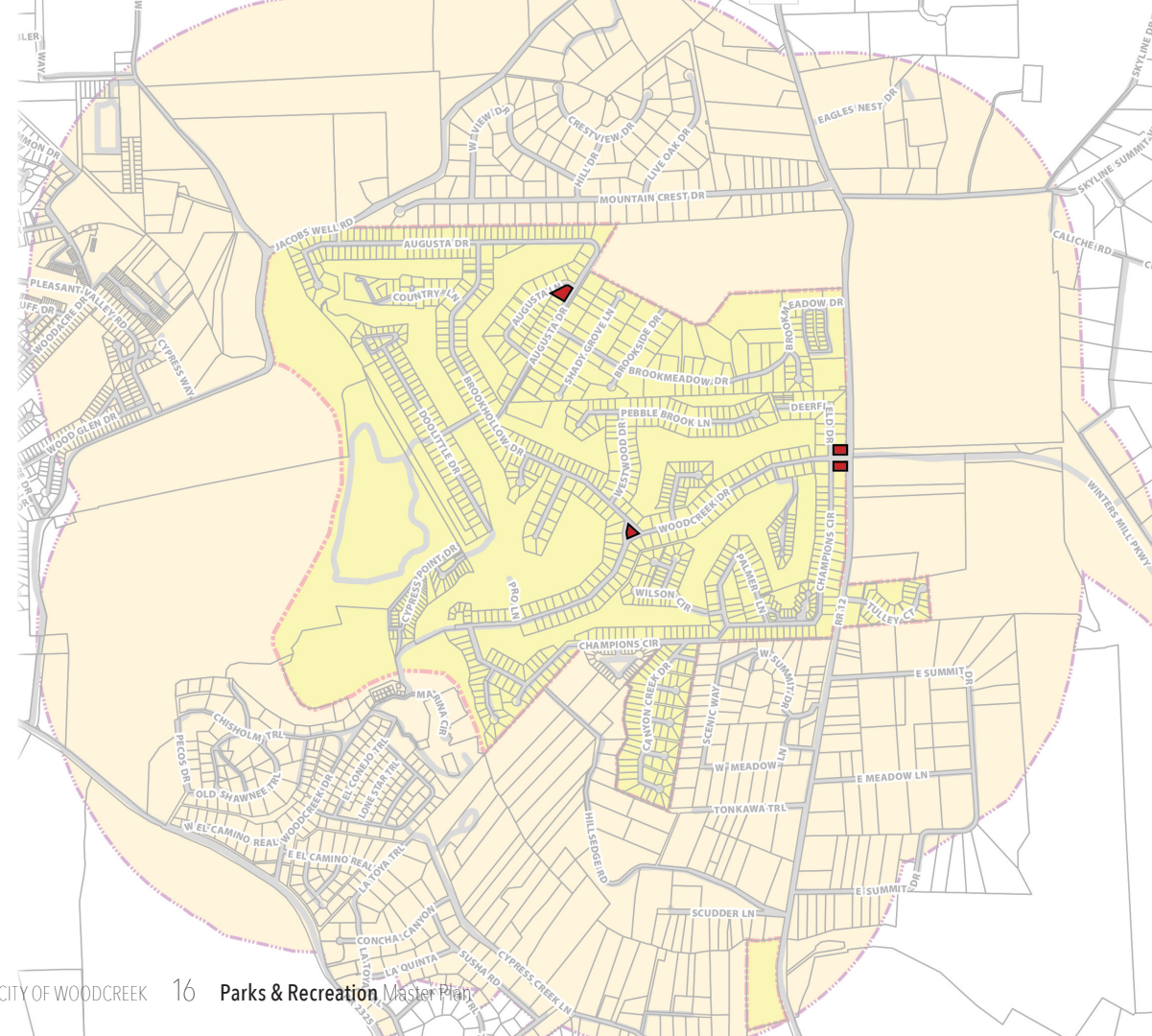
Existing Public Spaces Summary

The public spaces in the city have the potential to provide parks and recreation to the majority of residents. Park development, however, is only in early phases toward completion of a system of parks, trails, and recreational facilities to serve the community.



Opportunities

The Parks & Recreation Board studied existing park sites and potential future sites to arrive at recommendations divided among three timeframes, within 3 years, 3 to 5 years, and 5 to 10 years. These recommendations systematically build on Woodcreek's most positive parks and recreation attributes by adding functionality first and additional properties later as financing and partnerships can be arranged. The overriding goals are to provide immediate impact while contributing toward a cost-effective plan that can be realized in full over a decade.



Within 3 Years: Triangle

1. The Triangle deserves attention. Its condition is diminished by the Brookhollow Drive road replacement project, yet its small size and prominent location mean that it can and should be improved right away. The site is too small to accommodate typical park functionality, but as the existing park bench attests, the Triangle can be a genuine rest area for walks through the neighborhood, while serving as a symbolic image of the city for residents and visitors who pass by frequently. The board recommends adding park benches, a drinking fountain, and graphic elements to represent the City of Woodcreek. Interpretive signage and native plants added to a rebuilt landscape would complete a place to pause and a civic symbol and gathering location for Woodcreek.



Within 3 Years: Woodcreek Entrance and Veterans' Memorial Plaza

2. For the Woodcreek entrance and Veterans' Memorial Plaza, the board recommends a dual approach to the north and south sides of this park site. The north side has been redesigned to enhance the entrance to the city. The design will incorporate the existing City of Woodcreek limestone signage and Veterans' Memorial to be more visible from Woodcreek Drive. Landscaping has been redesigned for ease of maintenance to maintain a continuous, year-round welcoming image for residents and visitors. The south side will be left primarily in its current natural condition with new landscaping designed as needed.



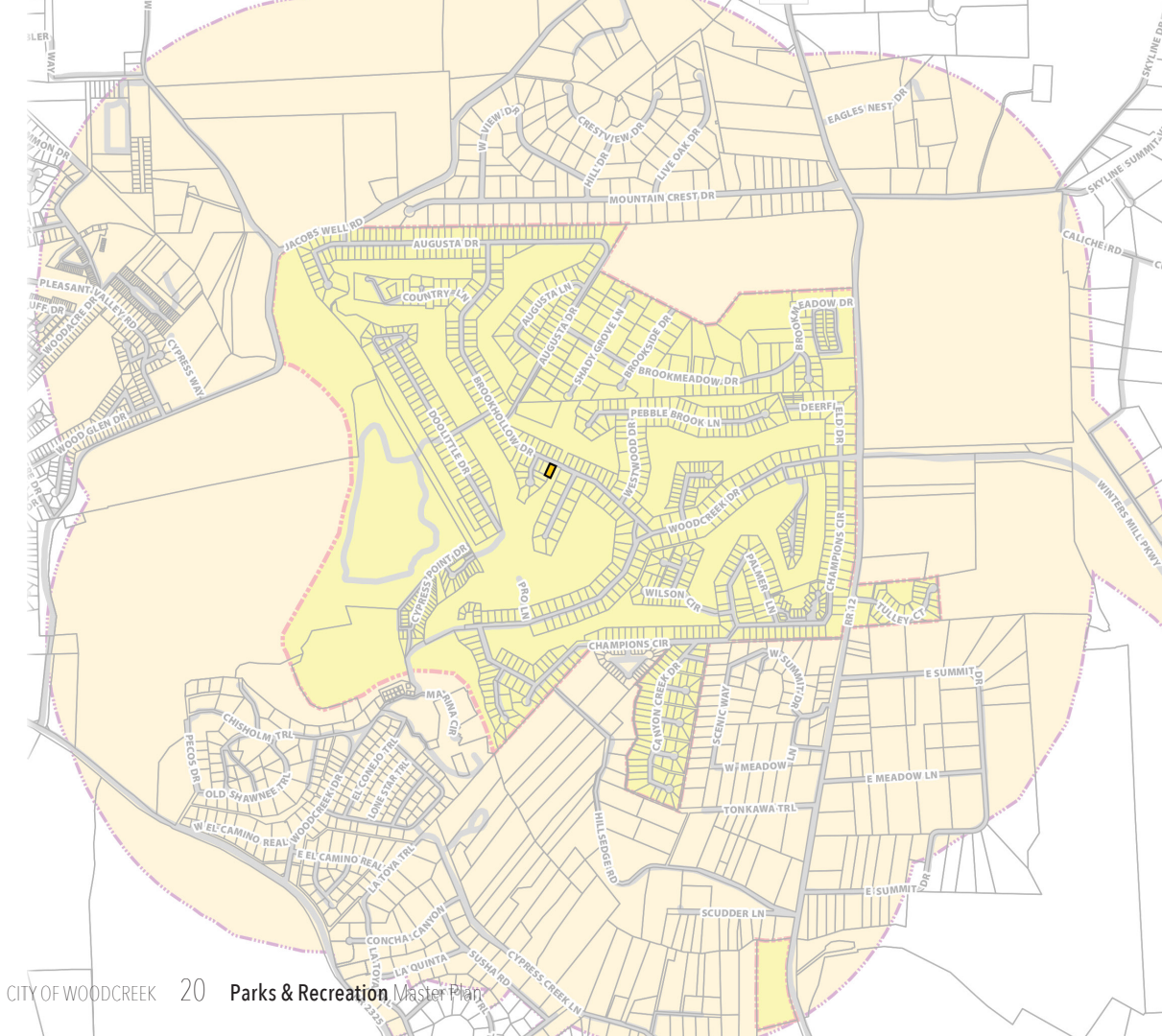
Within 3 Years: Augusta Park

3. Augusta Park is the city's most realized nature park site and lacks only small improvements to make it more fully usable. The board recommends installing nature play or a similarly suitable small playscape adjacent to the bocce ball court to provide a broader opportunity for use of the park. As part of improvements, enhancement of the nature trail and signage around the existing rain garden will add to the beauty of the park and use by residents of all ages.



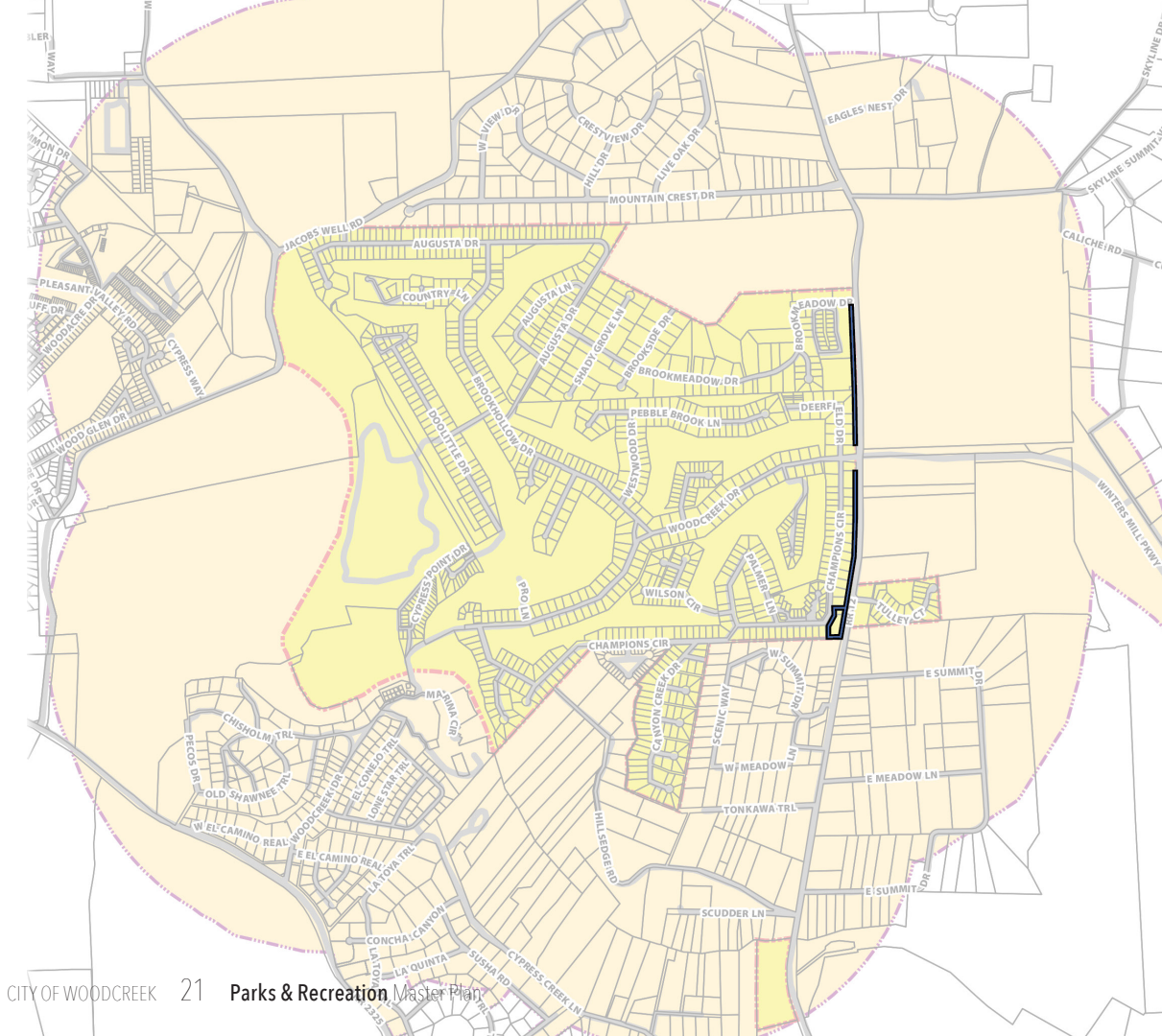
3 to 5 Years

1. The Brookhollow site on Hog Creek could provide educational opportunities for people of all ages through interpretive signage. Since Hog Creek is a tributary to Cypress Creek, special attention will be given to protection of the Cypress Creek Watershed.

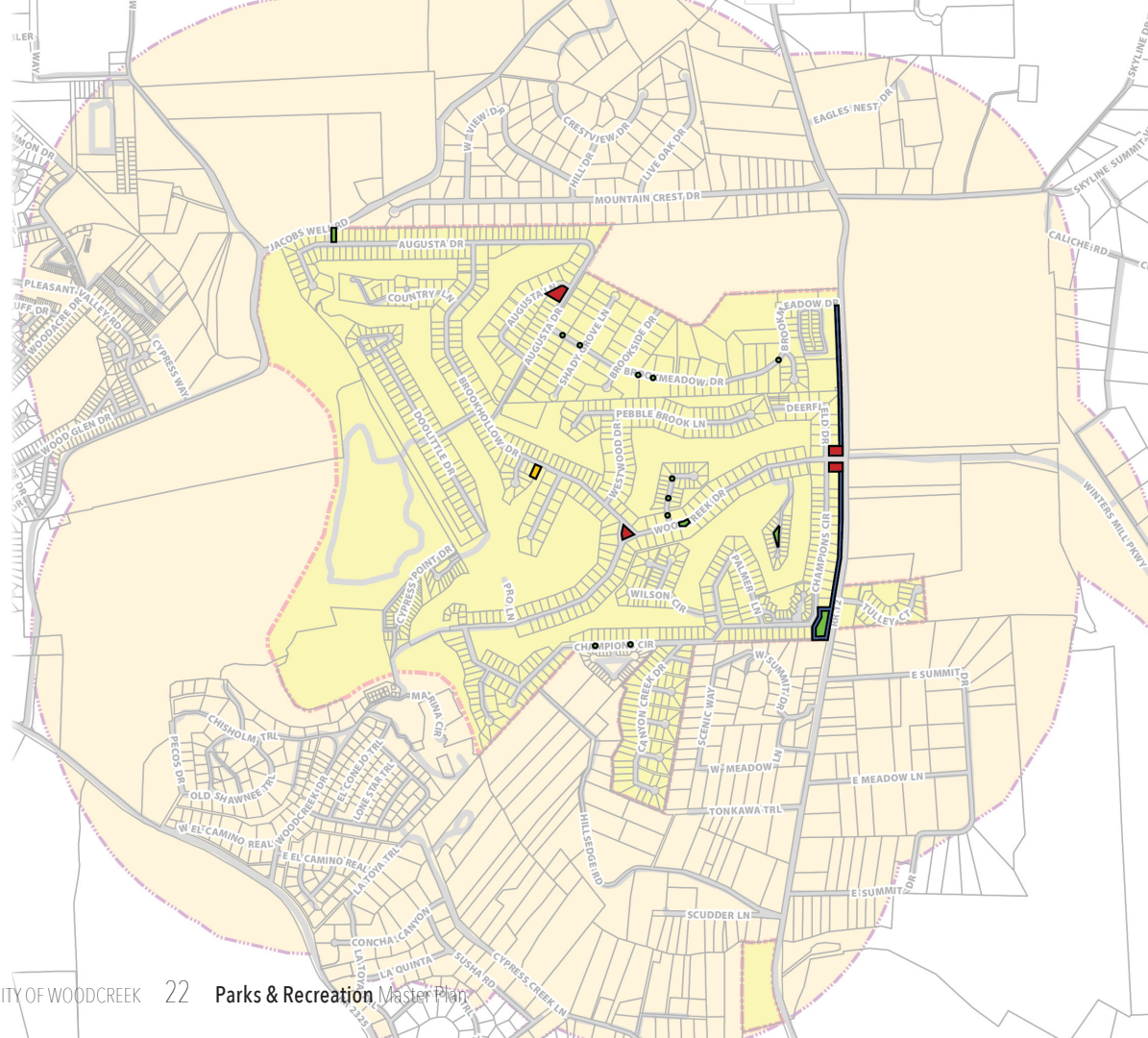


5 to 10 Years

A Trail System, constructed over time from point-to-point segments of pedestrian paths, is important to increase use and usefulness of the parks and recreation system. Exercise trails promote the health and well-being of the community through both physical fitness and social interaction across all ages. The board recommends constructing a nature and exercise trail to connect Veterans' Memorial Plaza to the City Hall site to the south and to the Brookmeadow Drive entrance to the north. The trail will include a nature trail loop at City Hall around the water tower with signage both for native plants and for responsible water use and conservation. The full trail would thus connect across Ranch Road 12 to the existing Blue Hole Regional Hike and Bike Trail.

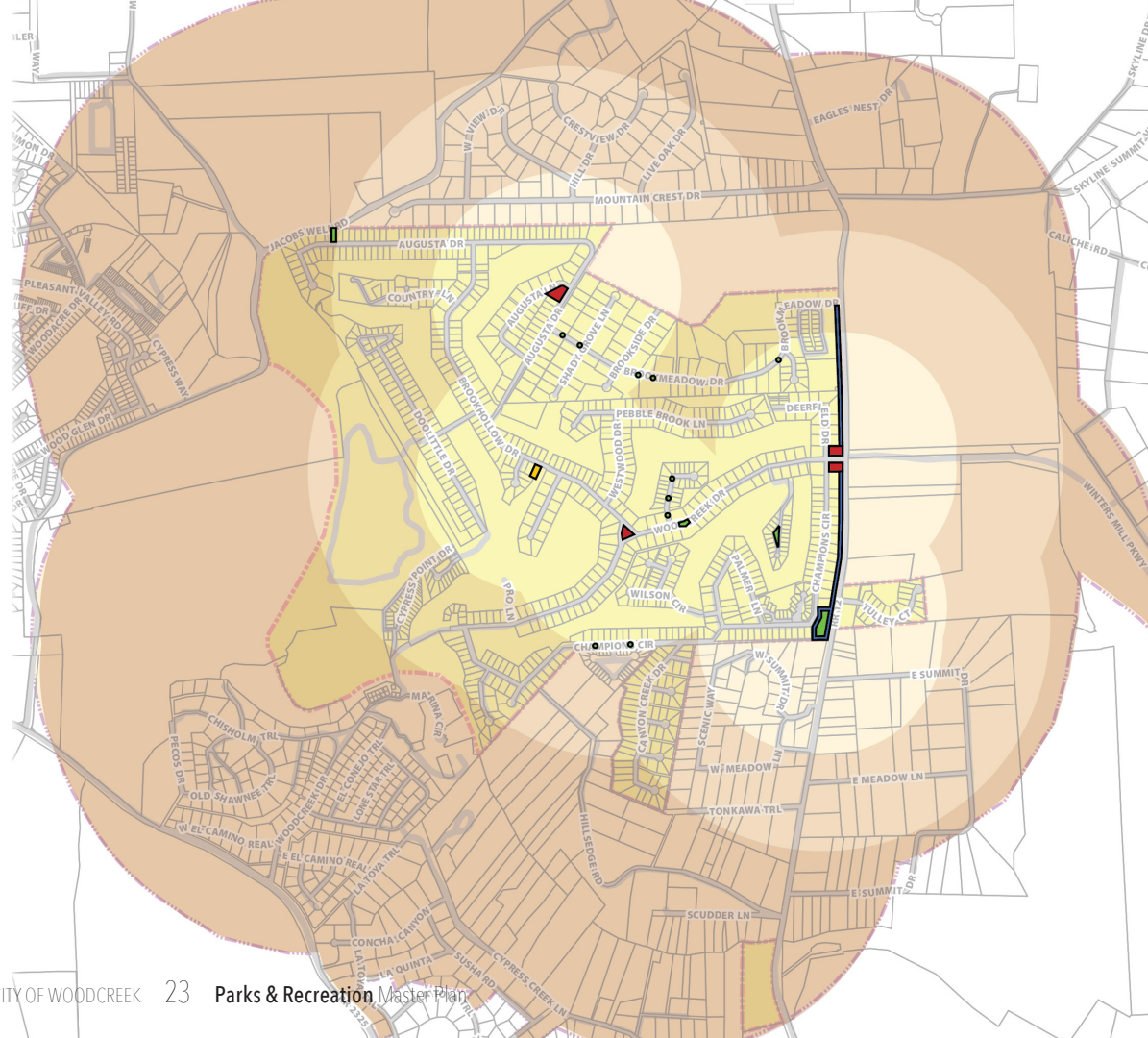


Public Parks within the existing boundary can be added to provide access to parks within a quarter mile of all residents. The exact location of these parks will be subject to change as opportunity allows. The board recommends the acquisition of land for public parks as soon as practical in areas not covered by existing park sites. These include, but are not limited to: Wildwood Circle, Brookmeadow Drive, and Cypress Point. In addition, the board further recommends that Council enact guidelines or ordinances to require provision of trails and parks in future residential and commercial development. All public parks will be upgraded, as space allows, to include a blend of nature trails, open space, and recreational facilities.



Master Plan Realization

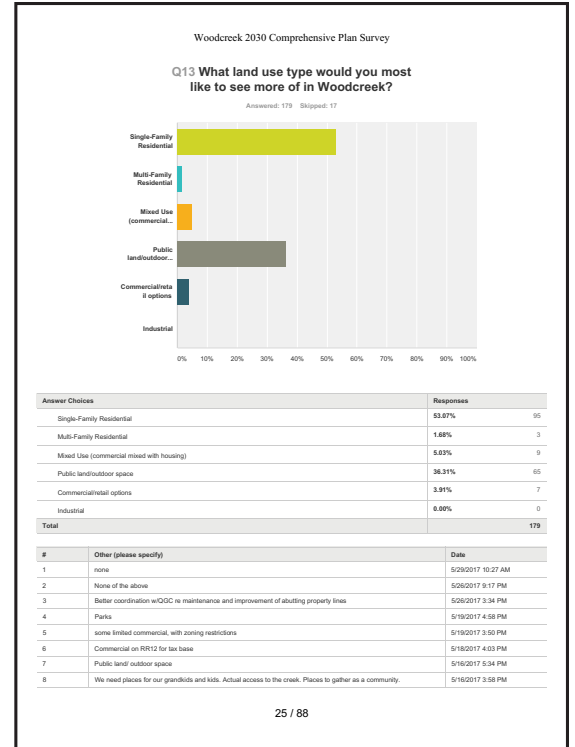
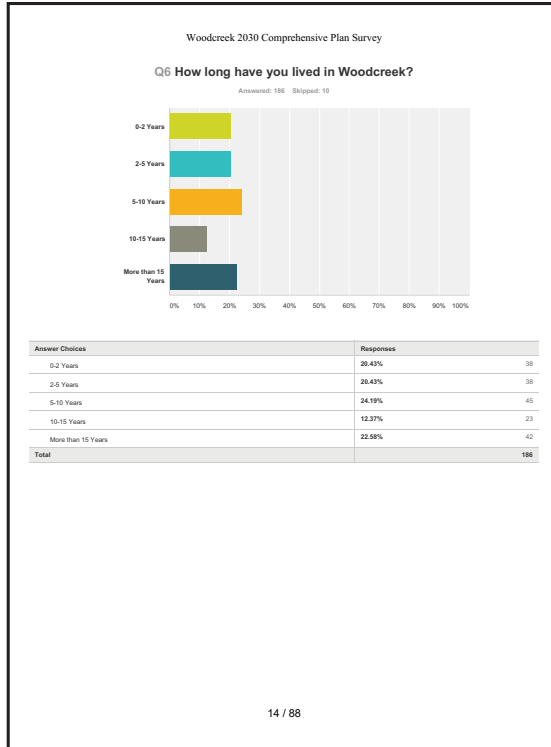
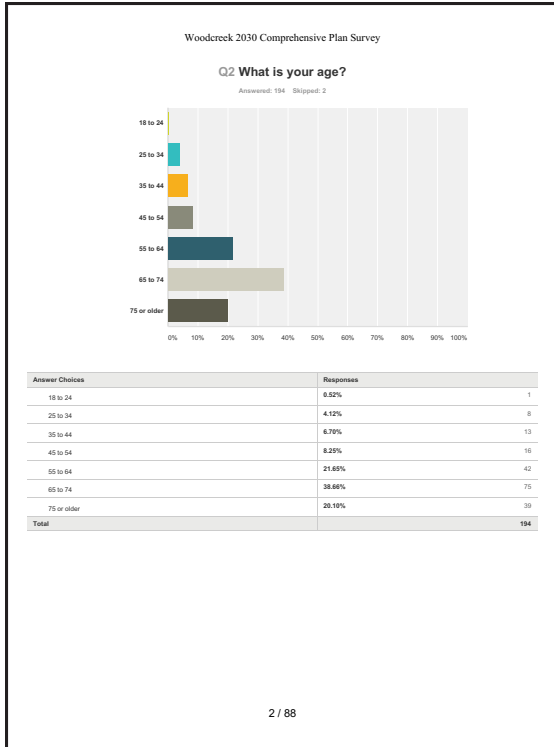
Once realized, the City of Woodcreek Parks & Recreation Master Plan includes the board recommendations for each phase to realize the full potential of Woodcreek's current needs and promising future.



Appendix



Survey



Woodcreek 2030 Comprehensive Plan Survey

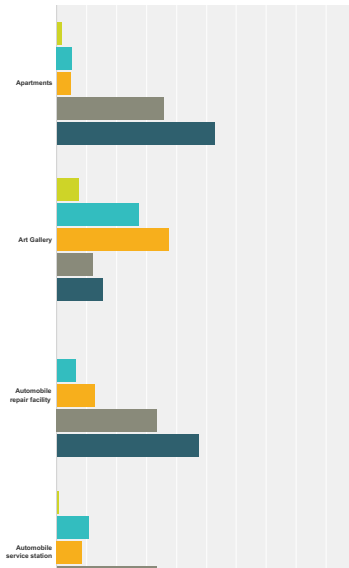
9	Restaurant(s)	5/16/2017 1:10 PM
10	a park for children	5/16/2017 7:53 AM
11	Parks, Nature Trails, Wildlife Refuges	5/15/2017 8:42 AM
12	Walking trails, parks	5/15/2017 5:58 PM
13	This area has a great need for patio-type homes for retirees who wish to downsize	5/15/2017 2:21 PM
14	Patio/garden homes	5/4/2017 1:55 PM
15	None - would like land to remain as is. Next option is single family residential	5/1/2017 9:53 AM
16	Only allows one response; prefer single and mixed use	4/26/2017 3:34 PM
17	would like to see a few small business in appropriate areas - the main roads - that are NOT souvenir shops, but things we can actually use - a coffee shop/gathering place, a mini-market without gas pumps that totally blends in with the residential environment - the best location is where the liquor store is and facing HWY12, a stripy over 55 community of patio homes within walking distance of these commercial areas would be most welcome. I would be first in line to buy and so would my friends. Many of us are getting to the age we are tired of the single family home upkeep.	4/28/2017 8:10 AM
18	Townhomes or duplexes are needed for couples and single individuals	4/27/2017 7:06 PM
19	quality single family housing	4/27/2017 1:37 PM
20	some additional commercial	4/25/2017 10:14 AM

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Woodcreek 2030 Comprehensive Plan Survey

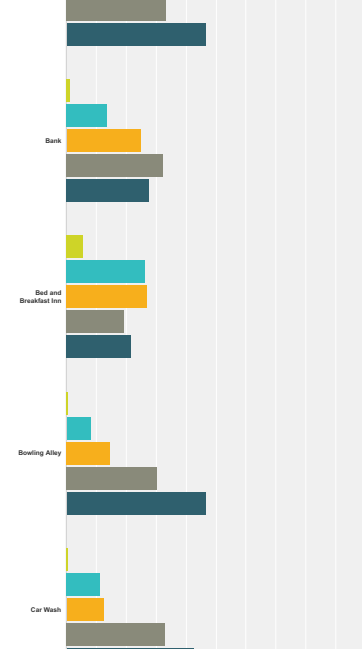
Q16 Of the following development types, please indicate your preference for potential future development within the ETJ.

Answered: 184 Skipped: 12

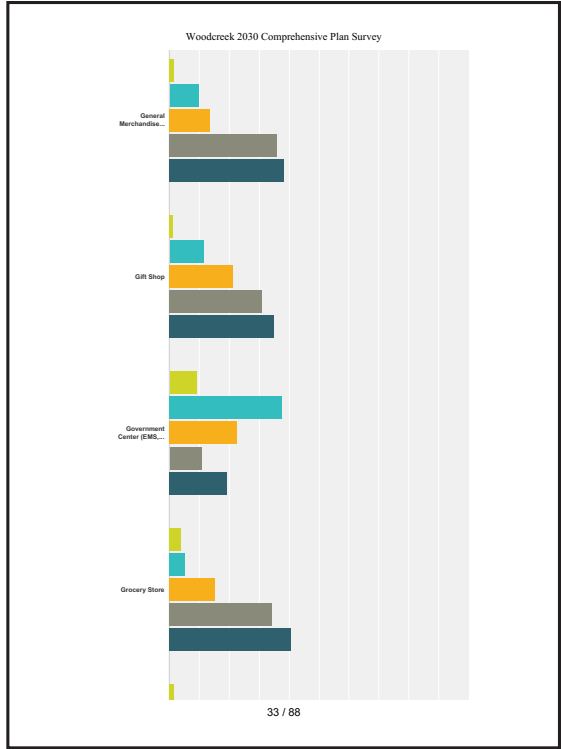
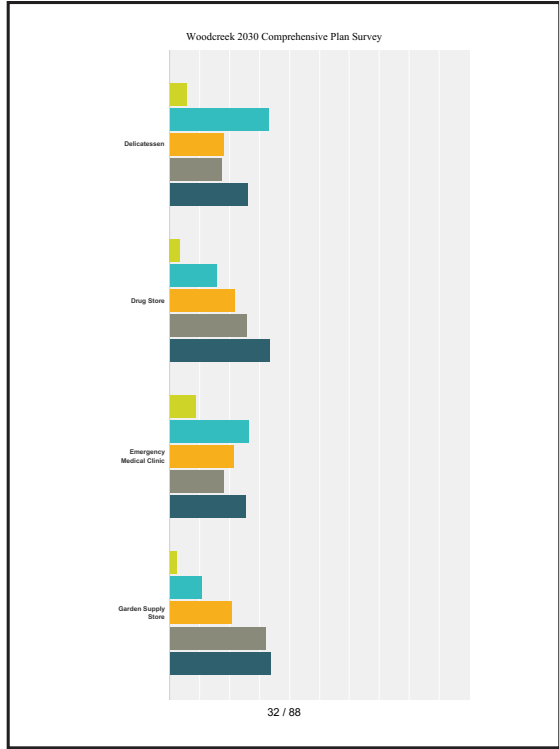
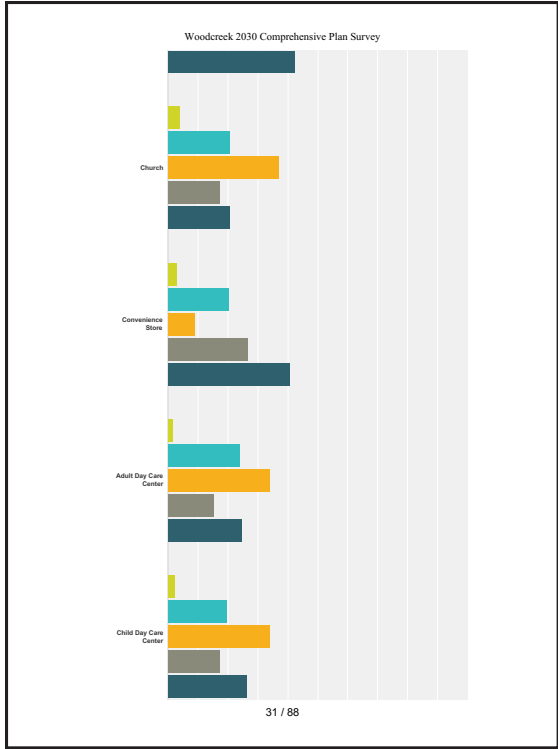


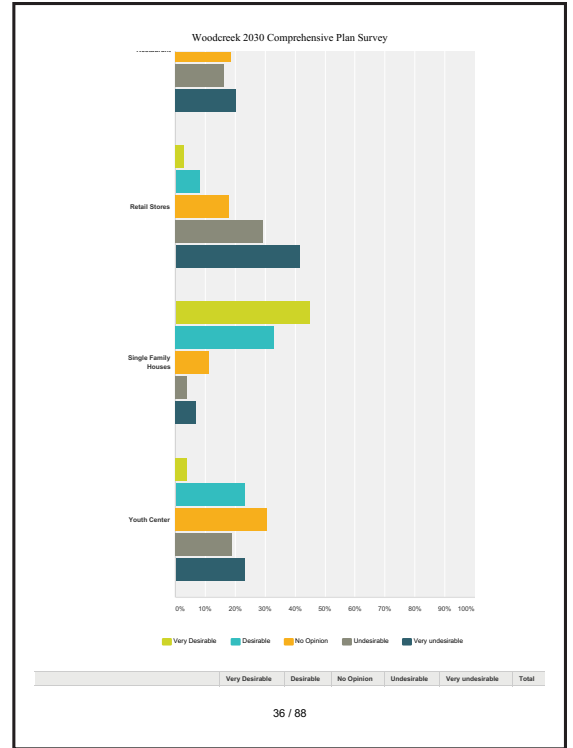
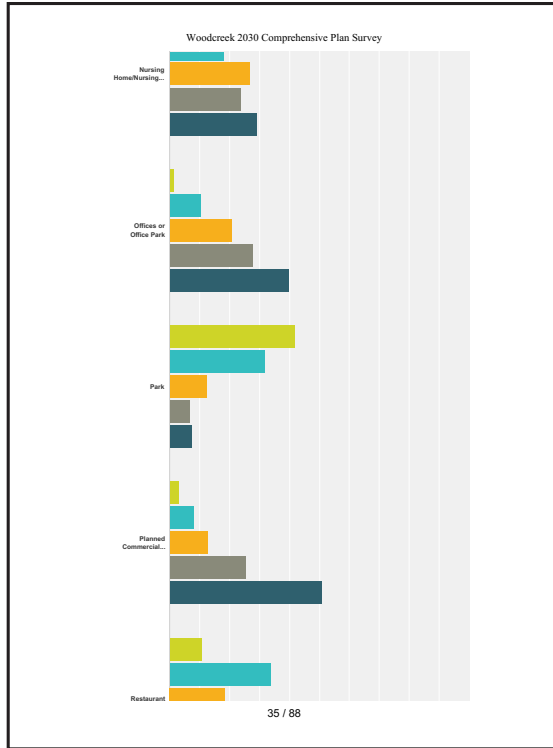
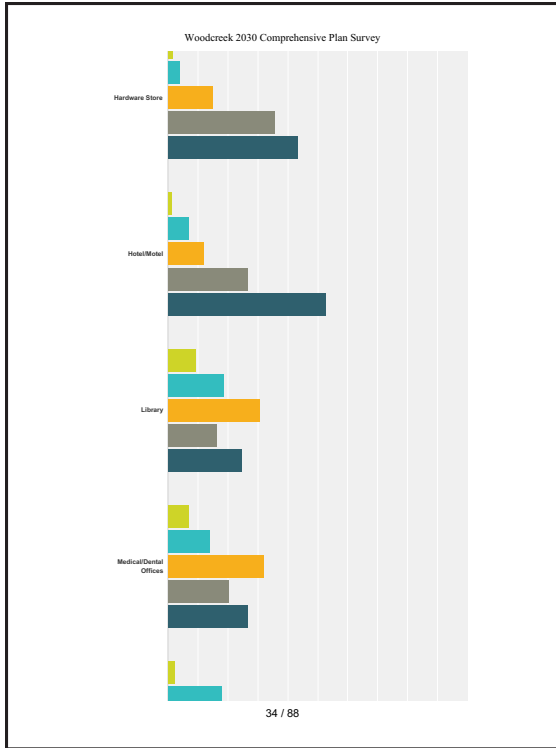
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Woodcreek 2030 Comprehensive Plan Survey



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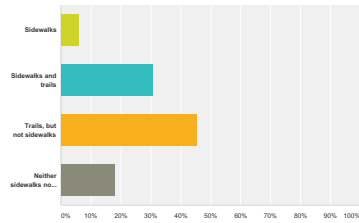




Woodcreek 2030 Comprehensive Plan Survey

Q22 Would you like to see sidewalks and/or trails (concrete, asphalt, or non-hard surface) added to the community for walking, biking, etc.?

Answered: 179 Skipped: 17

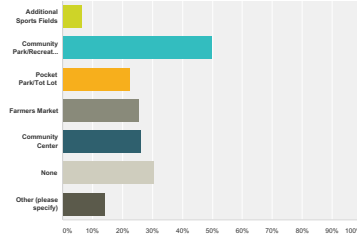


Answer Choices	Responses	
Sidewalks	6.15%	11
Sidewalks and trails	30.73%	55
Trails, but not sidewalks	45.25%	81
Neither sidewalks nor trails	17.88%	32
Total		179

Woodcreek 2030 Comprehensive Plan Survey

Q23 In your opinion, which of the following are desired in Woodcreek? Check all that apply.

Answered: 154 Skipped: 12



Answer Choices	Responses
Additional Sports Fields	6.52%
Community Park/Recreation Area	50.00%
Pocket Park/Tot Lot	22.28%
Farmers Market	25.54%
Community Center	26.09%
None	30.43%
Other (please specify)	14.13%
Total Respondents:	154

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	better government	6/20/2017 7:09 AM
2	Restricted residents' swimming pool	6/1/2017 4:41 PM
3	dog park	6/1/2017 4:24 PM
4	#22 above - BUT there's not room next to our streets.	5/26/2017 6:51 PM
5	A PLAYGROUND	5/26/2017 6:22 PM
6	Why do we need to compete with Wimberly??	5/26/2017 4:41 PM
7	Dog park	5/26/2017 3:12 PM

Woodcreek 2030 Comprehensive Plan Survey

8	It's really like I see us extend the writers mill trail into the neighborhood. It would be nice to be able to get to the trail without having to walk narrow streets with no shoulder.	5/26/2017 1:52 PM
9	Take care of the parks we have!	5/23/2017 9:36 PM
10	Access to Cypress Creek for outdoor activities like fishing	5/23/2017 10:53 AM
11	Love the little free library	5/23/2017 6:18 AM
12	Beautiful the signage on Woodcreek Drive. Enhance the sign at entry with more structured landscaping. Interesting lighting at both sides of the entry.	5/18/2017 4:11 PM
13	Pool	5/16/2017 4:39 PM
14	Parks create community. We need a park for young families in Woodcreek.	5/16/2017 8:00 AM
15	Keep Woodcreek single residents and fix the roads. Do not expand.	5/15/2017 7:51 PM
16	The Bocca Ball Court should have been a learning experience-not used and is a deplorable mess--money could have been used more efficiently. Kids don't play in parks--they are consumed with technology--Get a grip and observe what is going on--	5/15/2017 11:22 AM
17	dog park	5/15/2017 11:03 AM
18	Dog Park - maybe if we had one people would stop letting their dogs run free on streets and golf course	5/15/2017 10:40 AM
19	Let's do something with the Triangle park.	5/8/2017 10:20 AM
20	Swimming pool or relationship with Cypress Creek pool	4/26/2017 3:37 PM
21	Walgreens in city's ETJ	4/26/2017 2:52 PM
22	we seem to not have room for any added features	4/27/2017 11:04 PM
23	community pool	4/27/2017 1:38 PM
24	community pool for younger families	4/27/2017 1:16 PM
25	Community Pool	4/25/2017 11:54 AM
26	public greenspace	4/24/2017 12:53 PM