



City of Fort Worth  
Park & Recreation Department

# **GREENprint** **FORT WORTH:**

Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Public Realm Master Plan

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

## A Big Thank You!

On behalf of the City of Fort Worth, we extend our deepest gratitude to all the stakeholders, community members, and partner agencies who played an essential role in shaping the GREENprint Fort Worth: Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Public Realm Master Plan. Your invaluable input, dedication, and passion for our city’s parks and public spaces have helped us create a forward-thinking and community-driven vision for the future. This plan reflects the voices, aspirations, and needs of our residents, and it would not have been possible without your active participation. Thank you for your commitment to making Fort Worth a greener, more connected, and vibrant place for all.

### Fort Worth City Council Members

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Michael D. Crain - District 3  
Charles Lauersdorf - District 4  
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### Steering Committee

Darrell Beason - Tarrant Regional Water District  
Mike Brennan - Member, Development Advisory Committee  
Mike Brown - President and CEO, YMCA of Metropolitan Fort Worth  
Iris Bruton - Executive Director, Trinity Collaborative  
Chad Edwards - Vice President of Planning & Development, Trinity Metro  
Mike Fouraker - Director, Fort Worth Zoo  
Jennifer Harnish - Chairman, Streams & Valleys  
Melissa Konur - Planning Director, Downtown Fort Worth, Inc.  
Patrick Newman - President and CEO, Fort Worth Botanic Garden  
Brenda Patton - Director of Policy, Blue Zones Project Fort Worth  
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Chelsea Griffith – President, Investor Relations, Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce  
Robert Kent – Chief Philanthropy Officer, Communities Foundation of Texas  
Leah King – President, JPS Foundation  
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Stacey Pierce – Vice President, Investor Relations, Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce  
Kyeve Tatum – Founder, Inner City Coffee Exchange  
James Walker – Member, Building Standards Commission  
Dwayne Jones – Director of Operations, Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD  
Rocco Williams – President, Texas Council for Elementary Science; Science Curriculum Coordinator, Fort Worth ISD



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Rachel Seets – North Texas Conservation Manager, Native Prairies Association of Texas  
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Coralee Flug – North Region Manager, Sigma Swimming  
Shawn Tubre – Director, Trinity Metro Bikes  
Caroline Baden – League Coordinator, Fort Worth Tennis Association  
David Grover – Co-Owner, FTW Sports LLC  
Josh Stella – Representative, Fort Worth Rugby Club  
Daniel Morgan – Founder, Basketball Officials Development Camp  
Bob Riley – Client Advisor, Halff Associates  
Tom Galbreath – Former President and CEO, Dunaway  
Travis Clegg – Former Principal, Peloton Land Solutions  
Eric James – Senior Associate, Tryba Architects  
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Martha Peters – Former Director of Public Art, Arts Fort Worth  
Susie Reyes – Director of Fund Development, United Community Centers  
Susan Williams – Associate State Director of Outreach and Advocacy, AARP Texas  
Tara Perez – Manager, Homeless Strategies Division, City of Fort Worth  
Lauren King – Executive Director, Partnership Home (formerly Tarrant County Homeless Coalition)  
Marcus Hatcher – Program Manager, Community Engagement, Blue Zones Project Fort Worth  
Jay McCall – Senior Principal, Rainwater Charitable Foundation  
Rose Bradshaw – President & CEO, North Texas Community Foundation

# LETTER FROM OUR MAYOR



Dear Fort Worth Community,

It is with great pride and heartfelt excitement that I present to you GREENprint Fort Worth: Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Public Realm Master Plan. This is more than just a vision, it is a promise to our residents that we are shaping a healthier, more connected, and more vibrant future for all who call Fort Worth home.

Growing up on my family’s cattle ranch just outside of Hico, Texas, I was surrounded by wide open spaces and raised with a deep respect for the land. I didn’t know it then, but those early days spent under big Texas skies, learning about stewardship from generations before me—would shape not just who I am, but how I lead. Those lessons shaped my conviction that access to green spaces should be a fundamental part of building healthy, thriving communities.

When I was elected Mayor in 2021, I knew one of the greatest legacies we could leave behind was the protection of our city’s natural heritage. I believe every child should have the opportunity to explore a park, run under a canopy of trees, and feel connected to the land—just as I did growing up. That belief is what inspired my Good Natured initiative, and it’s the same spirit that powers GREENprint Fort Worth.

This master plan is built on the voices of our community—thousands of residents, stakeholders, and partners who all share a passion for the outdoors and a vision for a stronger, more equitable city. Together, we’ve reimagined our parks and public spaces not just as destinations, but as everyday essentials—places where families gather, children play, and neighbors connect across generations and backgrounds.

The benefits of this plan are far-reaching. It prioritizes equitable access to parks, protects our environment, improves connectivity through expanded trails and greenways, and strengthens our economy by creating public spaces that inspire investment, tourism, and community pride. With GREENprint we are setting the course for a greener, healthier Fort Worth—one where every resident lives within reach of nature. We are not just building parks. We are building a legacy—a City in a Park.

I am honored to stand with the Fort Worth Park & Recreation Department, our partners, and each of you as we bring this bold vision to life. Thank you for your continued support and dedication to making Fort Worth the best place to live, work, and raise a family—for this generation and the next.

Sincerely,

Mayor Mattie Parker  
Fort Worth, TX



# LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF PARK & RECREATION



Dear Fort Worth Residents and Partners,

It is my honor to introduce GREENprint Fort Worth: Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Public Realm Master Plan, a bold, community-driven blueprint for the future of our city’s public spaces. This plan represents years of thoughtful collaboration, passionate input, and shared aspirations. It reflects the voices of thousands of residents and stakeholders who helped shape a vision rooted in equity, sustainability, and connection.

As Fort Worth continues to grow, the role of parks and public spaces has never been more vital. GREENprint is not just about adding more green to the map, it is about adding nature, recreation, and community into daily life. From shaded playgrounds to connected trails, from natural areas that protect our environment to public spaces that encourage communities to come together, this plan is our commitment to making parks accessible and meaningful for everyone, in every neighborhood.

The plan outlines clear, achievable strategies that reflect the values of this community: creating healthier neighborhoods, improving access to outdoor spaces, preserving our natural assets, and building a park system that serves both today’s residents and future generations. It also positions Fort Worth as a national leader in innovative, inclusive park planning.

This is a plan built on partnerships. I am deeply grateful to the residents, advisory committees, partner organizations, and city leaders who contributed to this process. Your voices brought this plan to life.

As we move into implementation, I encourage you to stay involved, stay vocal, and stay inspired. Together, we will make this vision a reality and ensure Fort Worth continues to grow not just in size, but in quality of life.

Thank you for your trust and commitment to building a stronger, greener Fort Worth.

With gratitude,

Dave Lewis, Director  
Park & Recreation Department





<b>Executive Summary</b>	01
<hr/>	
<b>01 Introduction</b>	
Why Plan and Why Now?	1.2
Why Parks Matter	1.4
Building on the Past, Looking to the Future	1.6
The Planning Process	1.7
GREENprint Master Plan at a Glance	1.9
<b>02 History and Past Planning</b>	
Fort Worth Park & Recreation System Background	2.2
Related Plans and Citywide Initiatives	2.5
<b>03 Snapshot of Today</b>	
Snapshot of Fort Worth	3.2
Demographic Snapshot of Fort Worth	3.3
Park & Recreation Department Structure & Responsibilities	3.4
The Park & Recreation System Today	3.5
Citywide Park, Recreation, and Public Realm System Assessment Summary	3.11
Key Findings and Common Themes	3.23
Next Steps: From Assessment to Action	3.24
<b>04 Public Engagement</b>	
GREENprint Engagement Summary	4.1
Engagement Groups and Methods	4.3
Facilitation Tools	4.4
Focus Groups	4.9
Community Survey Results Summary	4.12
<b>05 Parks &amp; Public Realm of Tomorrow</b>	
Parks & Public Realm of Tomorrow	5.5
GREENprint Fort Worth Framework	5.6
Vision, Mission, Goals, and Objectives	5.7

<b>06 Transformative Ideas</b>	
Transformative Ideas	6.5
Transformative Idea #1: New Parks and Public Realm Typologies	6.8
Transformative Idea #2: Green Connectivity Network	6.14
Transformative Idea #3: Living with Nature	6.21
Transformative Idea #4: A Central Common Ground	6.27
Transformative Idea #5: A New Era of Programming	6.35
<b>07 Objectives &amp; Strategies</b>	
Introduction	7.5
Thriving Community's Objectives and Strategies	7.6
Connected System's Objectives and Strategies	7.22
Vibrant Nature's Objectives and Strategies	7.40
Common Ground's Objectives and Strategies	7.52
Premier Destination's Objectives and Strategies	7.66
Manageable Resource's Objectives and Strategies	7.72
<b>08 Park Planning District Recommendations</b>	
Park Planning Districts	8.5
Park Planning District 1	8.6
Park Planning District 2	8.14
Park Planning District 3	8.21
Park Planning District 4	8.28
Park Planning District 5	8.36
<b>09 Supporting Documents</b>	
Appendix A: Strategic Plan	
Appendix B: Park & Public Realm Classification System	
Appendix C: In Depth System Assessment	
Appendix D: Park Inventory	
Appendix E: Statistically Valid Survey Results	

**A Resolution**

**NO. 6101-05-2025**

**ADOPTING THE 2025 GREENPRINT FORT WORTH: PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, AND PUBLIC REALM MASTER PLAN FOR THE CITY OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS**

**WHEREAS**, in 1909, the first Park Master Plan, authored by George Kessler, was adopted by the City of Fort Worth Park Board, and successive Park Master Plans by Hare and Hare were adopted in 1930 and 1957; and

**WHEREAS**, these plans laid the foundation for the park system in Fort Worth and, on November 10, 1992, the City Council adopted a Strategic Plan for the Fort Worth Park and Recreation Department to guide the management of its resources;

**WHEREAS**, on June 30, 1998, the City Council adopted the 1998 Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan, which included the first locally determined needs-based standards in the history of the Parks and Community Services Department;

**WHEREAS**, in 2000, the City Council adopted the first City of Fort Worth Comprehensive Plan, which serves as the umbrella plan for all City services, growth, and development;

**WHEREAS**, the City Council adopted the 2004 Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan on June 22, 2004, along with an update to that plan on February 9, 2010, incorporating them both by reference into the City's Comprehensive Plan;

**WHEREAS**, the City Council adopted the 2015 Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan on January 27, 2015, along with an update to that plan on June 23, 2020, incorporating them both by reference into the City's Comprehensive Plan;

**WHEREAS**, the adoption of a new Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan every ten years is vital to the City's ability to remain competitive for outside funding for capital improvements, renovations, and maintenance of the City's park system, including funding from state grants administered by the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department;

**WHEREAS**, in preparation for the 2025 GREENprint Fort Worth: Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Public Realm Master Plan ("GREENprint Fort Worth"), the Park & Recreation Department commissioned a Needs Assessment Study for use in setting local standards; prioritizing park, recreation and open space needs both city-wide and within each of the City's five (5) Park Planning Districts; and developing an action plan to comply with the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department's grant guidelines;

**WHEREAS**, GREENprint Fort Worth builds upon the legacy of planning and stewardship and provides for assessments, standards, objectives, priorities, recommendations, strategies and actions that will guide the development of the park, recreation, open space and public realm system for the next ten years;

**WHEREAS**, the Good Natured Greenspace Initiative, launched by Mayor Mattie Parker in October of 2023, also provides guidance related to the preservation and conservation of natural areas;

**WHEREAS**, GREENprint Fort Worth includes, among other things, a reimagined vision and mission statement, goals, transformative ideas, objectives and strategies, along with an implementation plan;

**WHEREAS**, on April 23, 2025, the Park & Recreation Advisory Board unanimously endorsed the GREENprint Fort Worth Master Plan;

**WHEREAS**, on May 7, 2025 the City Plan Commission unanimously endorsed the 2025 Master Plan; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS THAT:**

1. The vision and mission statement, goals, transformative ideas, objectives and strategies, and implementation plan of the 2025 GREENprint Fort Worth: Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Public Realm Master Plan are officially adopted as the standards and classifications for the City of Fort Worth park, recreation, and open space system; and
2. The 2025 GREENprint Fort Worth: Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Public Realm Master Plan for the City of Fort Worth is hereby officially adopted as the guide for allocation of resources for the improvement and continued development of Fort Worth's park, recreation, and open space system; and
3. The 2025 GREENprint Fort Worth: Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Public Realm Master Plan for the City of Fort Worth is hereby incorporated as part of the City's Comprehensive Plan; and
4. This resolution shall be effective from and after its passage by the City Council.

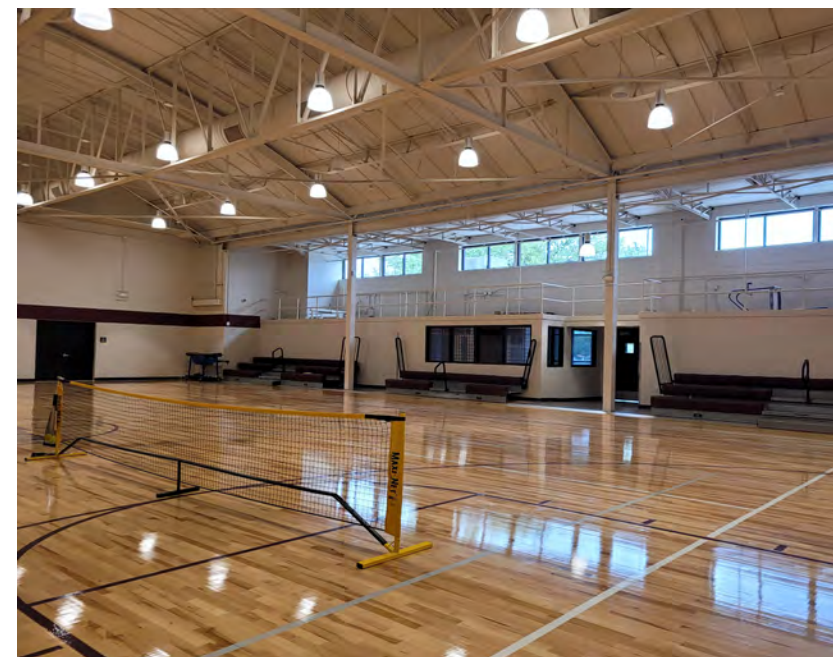
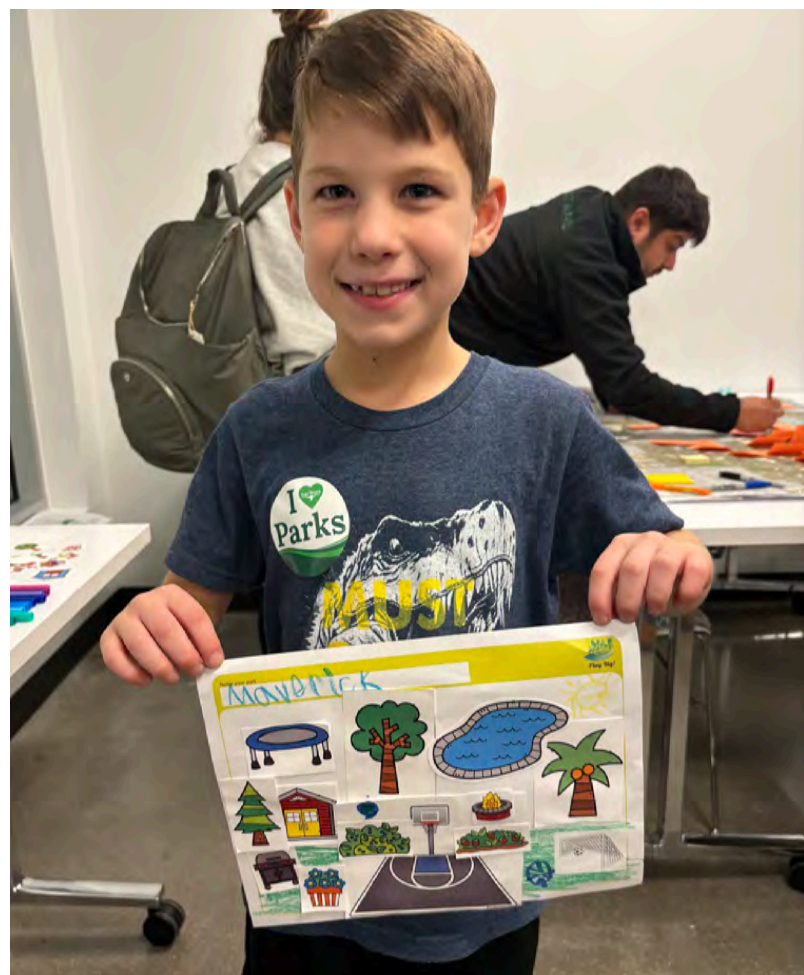
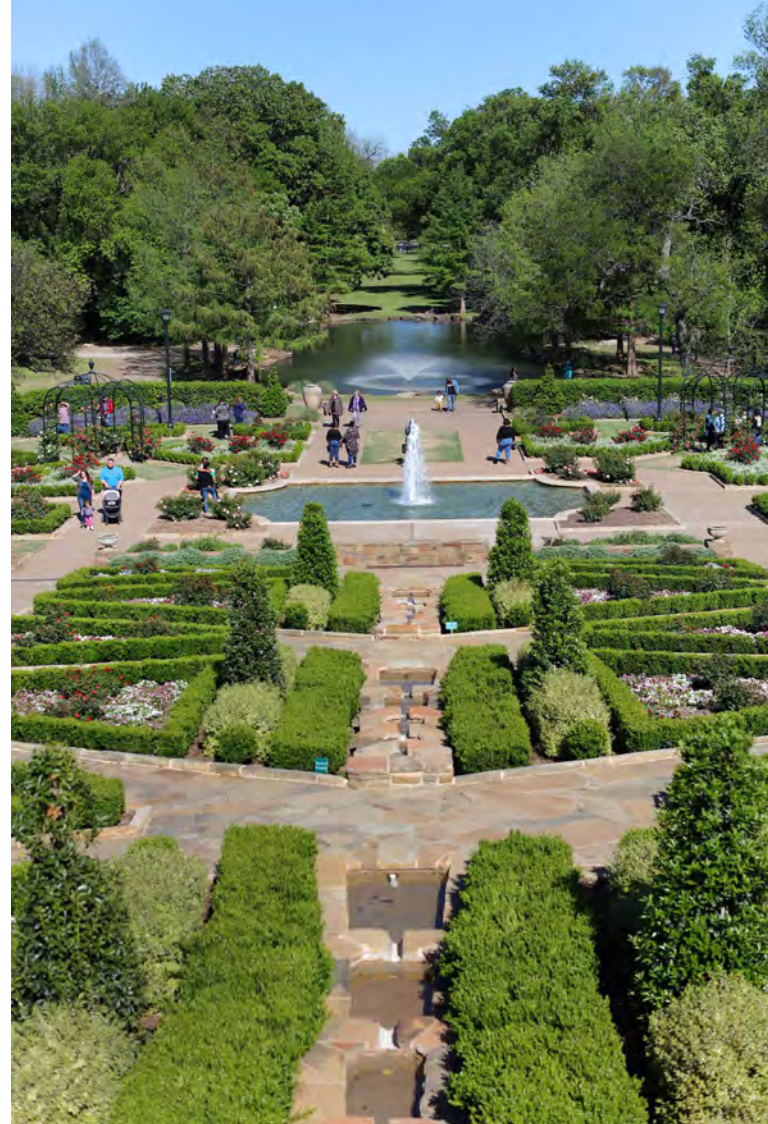
Adopted this 13<sup>th</sup> day of MAY 2025.

ATTEST:

By: Jannette S. Goodall  
Jannette S. Goodall, City Secretary











# Executive Summary



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## GREENprint Fort Worth: Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Public Realm Master Plan

### A Vision for A City in a Park

Fort Worth stands at a pivotal moment in its evolution. As one of the fastest-growing cities in the United States—with a projected population of over 1.3 million by 2050—this plan reimagines the role of parks and public spaces as essential infrastructure, not merely amenities. GREENprint Fort Worth represents a bold, forward-thinking, and community-driven vision to ensure all Fort Worth residents, current and future, have access to a resilient and thriving public realm.

Guided by Mayor Parker’s Good Natured Green Space Initiative and inspired by over a century of legacy planning, GREENprint Fort Worth extends beyond conventional park planning. It envisions an interconnected citywide network of nature, culture, and community—transforming Fort Worth into **A City in a Park**. This shift in paradigm integrates nature into everyday life, elevating parks and green spaces as foundational to health, economic vitality, mobility, and overall quality of life.

### A System Transformed

The Fort Worth Park & Recreation Department (PARC), supported by 455 full-time staff, manages an impressive portfolio of over 13,000 acres of parkland and 210 miles of trails. Despite this, rapid growth has outpaced investment, leaving portions of the city underserved and facilities stretched thin.

GREENprint Fort Worth provides a comprehensive and equitable strategy that assesses the current system through five interrelated lenses: **Standard, Demand, Resource, Equity, and Access-based**. These assessments, combined with technical analysis, peer city benchmarking, and robust community engagement, help identify critical gaps and opportunities for investment.

#### Key Findings include:

- A shortfall of over 4,400 acres of parkland today, growing to 9,400+ acres by 2045.
- Underserved areas, such as Park Planning District (PPD) 3, that lack equitable access.
- Maintenance and staffing levels significantly below national benchmarks.
- Limited aquatic and outdoor recreation opportunities, particularly in low-income communities.
- Broad public support for expanded trails, safer parks, nature access, and inclusive programming.

These insights underscore the urgency to act, modernize, and innovate to meet the needs of a growing, younger, and increasingly diverse population.

#### VISION STATEMENT:

Fort Worth is a recognized leader, known for its premier park system, visionary conservation of natural landscapes, a connected community that fosters wellness and a thriving quality of life.

### Community-Centered Planning

At the heart of GREENprint Fort Worth is a commitment to equity, inclusion, and public voice. Over 1,600 residents participated through surveys, public meetings, pop-ups, focus groups, and stakeholder workshops. This plan reflects their lived experiences, desires, and aspirations.



#### Top community priorities include:

- A wider variety of parks and recreation experiences
- Better connections through trails, sidewalks, and multi-modal access
- Greener, safer, and more shaded public spaces
- Year-round, intergenerational programming for all cultures and abilities
- Better access to nature, creeks, and the Trinity River

This engagement process revealed both what is missing—and what is possible. Residents voiced a clear and passionate call for a park system that reflects their communities, stories, and future.

### The Framework for Tomorrow

The plan is structured around six strategic goals—developed through public input and technical analysis—that define the next generation of parks and public spaces in Fort Worth:

#### GREENprint Fort Worth Core Goals

Below are the Six Core Goals of the GREENprint Fort Worth plan that take the community priorities forward into actionable steps forward.

 <b>Thriving Community</b> Support the community’s physical, mental, and emotional well-being through innovative design and programming.	 <b>Common Ground</b> Develop public spaces that are accessible and welcoming for everyone, foster social interaction, and celebrate the community’s multiculturalism, enhancing a sense of belonging and unity.
 <b>Connected System</b> Create a dynamic, connected network of high-quality parks, public spaces, and trails that unite the community and support the mobility and recreational needs of all Fort Worth residents.	 <b>Premier Destination</b> Transform Fort Worth’s parks and public spaces into a leading destination that contributes to the City’s economic development and growth.
 <b>Vibrant Nature</b> Cultivate natural spaces that enhance ecosystems, foster community connections, and build resilience by integrating the natural environment into Fort Worth’s park and recreation system.	 <b>Manageable Resources</b> Elevate the management, operations, and maintenance to ensure organizational sustainability.

Five Transformative Ideas

To elevate Fort Worth’s position as a national model, the plan identifies **five Transformative Ideas**—bold initiatives with citywide impact that serve as catalysts for change. These ideas are central to the overall implementation strategy, providing a framework for prioritizing investment, guiding cross-departmental coordination, and inspiring innovative approaches to parks, recreation, and public space. More information on each Transformative Idea can be found in **Chapter 6**.

- #1

**New Parks and Public Realm Typologies**

Introduce innovative park models—including District Parks, Green Main Streets, and parklets—that respond to mixed-use, walkable, and high-growth areas. These spaces blur the line between park and city, supporting density, vibrancy, and cultural expression.
- #2

**Green Connectivity Network**

Design a citywide mobility network of trails, sidewalks, greenways, and transit to create seamless connections between parks, neighborhoods, and key destinations. This system supports equitable access to recreation and reinforces Fort Worth’s sustainability goals.
- #3

**Living with Nature**

Protect and integrate nature into everyday urban life through green infrastructure, climate resilience strategies, and expanded access to creeks, forests, and green spaces. This initiative promotes environmental justice and citywide climate adaptation.
- #4

**A Central Common Ground**

Develop a signature downtown park at the confluence of the Trinity River and Panther Island—positioned as Fort Worth’s cultural, civic, and ecological heart. This iconic space would become a unifying landmark and destination for residents and visitors alike.
- #5

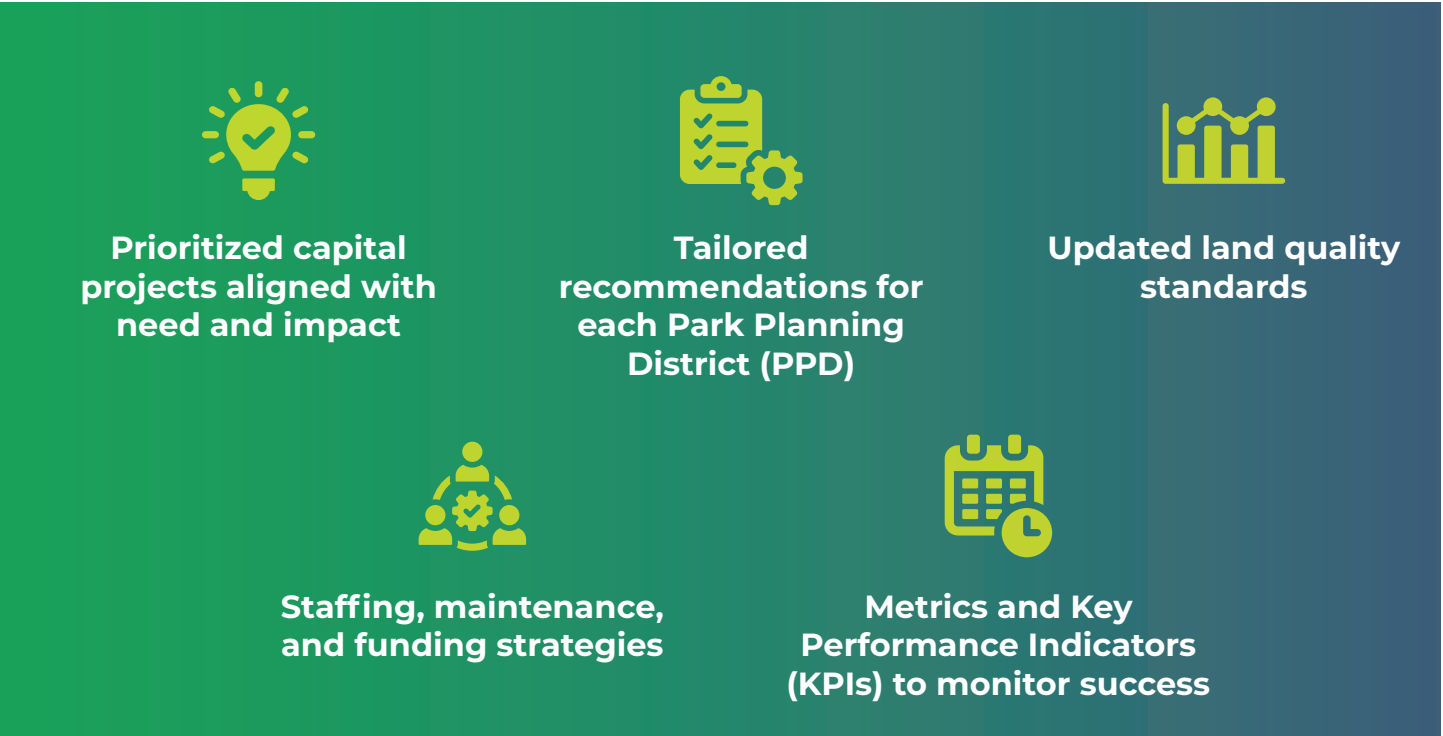
**A New Era of Programming**

Activate public spaces with inclusive, year-round programming that reflects community identity, builds social connection, and redefines how Fort Worthians engage with their city. Programming becomes a tool for place-making and civic connection.

These ideas are more than design concepts—they are actionable frameworks that challenge the city to think big, act boldly, and lead with equity and innovation.

A Road Map for Implementation

The plan provides a detailed road map to transform vision into action including:



This strategic guidance empowers the City to leverage funding from sources like the **Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD)** and to foster partnerships with non-profits, developers, institutions, and philanthropic organizations.

The Path Forward

GREENprint Fort Worth brings together where we’ve been and where we’re going. It builds on generations of planning, leadership, and community care—and sets a bold course toward a more equitable, healthier, and more resilient future.

This plan envisions Fort Worth not simply as a city that provides parks—but as a city defined by its parks. A place where every child can walk to a playground, where trails link neighborhoods to nature, and where public spaces reflect the rich culture and shared identity of a growing metropolis.

**Together, we are building a Fort Worth that is not just liveable—but exceptional. A place where the city and the parks are one.**





CHAPTER

# 01

## Introduction

### CONTENTS

- **Why Plan and Why Now?**
- **Why Parks Matter**
- **Building on the Past, Looking to the Future**
- **The Planning Process**
- **GREENprint Master Plan at a Glance**





Photo Credit: City of Fort Worth

# Why Plan and Why Now?

Parks, green spaces, and the public realm are more than just amenities--they are essential pieces of infrastructure that shape the health, identity, and resilience of a city. As Fort Worth continues to experience rapid growth and demographic shifts, the need for an **equitable, accessible, and forward-thinking park system** has never been greater. GREENprint Fort Worth is a bold and transformative vision that reimagines parks, recreation, and public green space as interconnected systems. Supporting Fort Worth's vibrant communities, economic prosperity, and environmental sustainability are at the heart of this plan.

Historically, Fort Worth's park system has reflected the city's evolving development patterns, from the early park planning efforts of **George Kessler** in 1909 to the expansive suburban growth of the late 20th century. Today, new challenges and opportunities require a **fresh approach**—one that moves beyond traditional park boundaries and integrates green spaces into every aspect of life. This chapter sets the stage for Fort Worth's future as **A City in a Park**: where nature, recreation, and public life are seamlessly woven into the fabric of daily life.

## Why Now?

Fort Worth is at a pivotal moment in its growth trajectory. With a projected **population of 1.3 million by 2050**, ensuring equitable access to quality parks and public spaces is critical for fostering community well-being. The **impacts of climate change**, including rising temperatures, flooding risks, and air quality concerns, highlight the importance of parks as natural cooling systems and stormwater management solutions. Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic reaffirmed the vital role that parks play in **mental and physical health**, as residents sought refuge in outdoor spaces.

It is equally important to note that parks are **economic drivers** that enhance property values,

attract businesses, and strengthen local economies. Research consistently shows that well designed parks increase nearby home values by 8-20%, generate tourism revenue, and stimulate investments in surrounding commercial areas.<sup>1</sup> Quite simply: the role of parks is expanding, and they are no longer just places of recreation but hubs for **community gathering, economic growth, and cultural expression**.

## A New Vision for Parks and the Public Realm

The GREENprint Fort Worth Master Plan does more than just identify where new parks are needed. It lays the groundwork for an **integrated, connected, and sustainable park system** that aligns with broader city goals, including the Good Natured Initiative, the Fort Worth Green space Conservation Program and the Active Transportation Plan. This plan envisions parks not as isolated spaces but as part of a broader **ecosystem of green infrastructure, walkable streets, and dynamic public spaces**.

This chapter also provides a comprehensive look at the importance and benefits of parks, examines the current challenges and opportunities facing Fort Worth's park system, and outlines a data-driven planning framework that ensures the city's parks and public spaces are equitable, accessible, and sustainable for generations to come. **By investing in parks today, Fort Worth is shaping a future where every resident, regardless of zip code, income, or background, has access to high-quality green spaces that enhance their quality of life.**

Through strong leadership, innovative planning, and community-driven collaboration, Fort Worth is not just expanding as a city—it is transforming into **A City in a Park; a place where people, nature, and public life thrive together**

<sup>1</sup> John L. Crompton (2001) The Impact of Parks on Property Values: A Review of the Empirical Evidence, Journal of Leisure Research



# Why Parks Matter: The GREENprint for a Healthier, Wealthier, and More Resilient Fort Worth

With rapid urban growth, evolving demographics, and an increasing demand for vibrant public spaces, Fort Worth is at an exciting crossroads. Now is the time to embrace a visionary plan for parks, recreation, and green spaces that will enhance quality of life and support a thriving, resilient community. The GREENprint Fort Worth: Parks, Recreation, Green space, and Public Realm Master Plan is a forward-thinking initiative designed to ensure that all residents benefit from quality parks, trails, and recreational opportunities.

- **Expanding Park Access:** Investing in parks now will create a more inclusive and connected community, ensuring that all residents, regardless of location, have access to quality outdoor spaces.
- **Strengthening Climate Resilience:** By enhancing green infrastructure, and expanding tree canopies and improving stormwater management, Fort Worth can proactively address rising temperatures and flood risks, making the city more sustainable and livable.
- **Maximizing Funding Opportunities:** GREENprint Fort Worth strengthens Fort Worth’s ability to pursue diverse funding sources—ranging from state and federal grants,, to innovative

public-private partnerships and philanthropic investments—ensuring sustained support for parks and recreation enhancements.

- **Enhancing Quality of Life:** Parks contribute to physical and mental well-being, foster social connections, and stimulate economic development. By investing in green spaces, Fort Worth strengthens its appeal for residents, businesses, and visitors alike.
- **Unlocking Economic Potential:** Well-planned parks and trails attract tourism, boost local businesses, and increase property values, generating long-term economic benefits for the community.

### Now is the Time to Act

Fort Worth has a tremendous opportunity to build on its strengths and create a world-class parks system that benefits everyone. GREENprint Fort Worth provides the strategy and vision needed to ensure that the city's parks, green spaces, and public realm continue to enhance quality of life for generations to come. Through strategic investments and community-driven collaboration, Fort Worth is poised to flourish as **A City in a Park.**



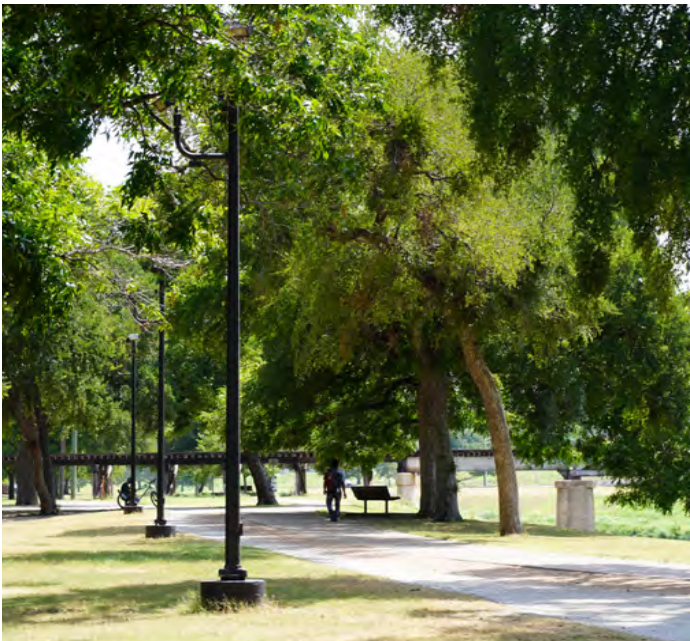
Fort Worth Trinity Trails

The GREENprint Plan is crucial now as parks are no longer just recreational spaces—they are essential infrastructure that promote public health, environmental resilience, and economic development. Over recent years, parks and recreation systems have gained new significance as essential parts of daily life. Once viewed primarily as spaces for occasional gatherings and seasonal activities, parks have become vibrant hubs for health, social connection, and community resilience. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the importance of **access to outdoor spaces, as people sought refuge in parks and trails to combat isolation and mental distress.** This renewed connection has driven growing demand for **quality parks that offer physical, mental, and social benefits.** Expanding and enhancing parks and recreational facilities not only improves public health and strengthens social cohesion but also contributes to local economic development and environmental sustainability, making them **vital assets for thriving, resilient communities.**

### Health Benefits

Parks and recreation systems play a crucial role in enhancing physical, mental, and social well-being. With over half of U.S. adults affected by chronic health conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, and obesity, parks offer essential opportunities for physical activity and healthier lifestyles. People with access to safe parks and trails exercise more and experience lower rates of these conditions. Parks are also vital for mental health, as 40% of Americans suffer from anxiety or depression. Proximity to green spaces significantly reduces these risks—people who live near parks are 44% less likely to have a diagnosed anxiety disorder<sup>1</sup>. Research shows that spending at least 120 minutes a week in nature is associated with better overall health and well-being<sup>2</sup>, while physical activity in parks is directly linked to improved mood and self-reported well-being<sup>3</sup>.

1. City Parks Alliance. (2019). City Parks: A Smart Investment for America's Health, Economy & Environment.  
2. White, M. P. et al. (2019). Spending at least 120 minutes a week in nature is associated with good health and well-being.  
3. Cohen, M., Burrowes, K., & Gwam, P. (2022). The Health Benefits of Parks and Their Economic Impacts.



Fort Worth Trinity Park



People with access to safe Parks & Trails **exercise more** and have lower rates of obesity, heart disease, and diabetes.

For every \$1 spent on building trails and greenways, there is a **\$3 return in medical cost savings** due to increased physical activity.



40% of Americans suffer from anxiety or depression. People who live near parks and green spaces are **44% less likely** to have a diagnosed anxiety disorder.<sup>1</sup>



However, achieving health equity remains a critical goal. To ensure that these benefits are equitably distributed, **it is essential to focus on developing close-to-home parks, particularly in underserved areas.**

Economic Benefits

Parks offer significant economic benefits, driving the growth and prosperity of cities while enhancing the quality of life for residents. According to The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), local park and recreation agencies generated nearly \$218 billion in economic activity and supported 1.3 million jobs across the U.S. in 2019<sup>4</sup>. **Parks not only increase property values but also attract businesses, promote workforce development, and support local economies.**

Trails and greenways deliver some of the highest returns on investment. In Dallas, properties near the Katy Trail saw a 25% premium on sale prices, while a study of the city’s park system found that trails generated a return of over 50:1 from 1998 to 2016<sup>5</sup>. Similarly, a greenway in Austin resulted in an estimated \$13.64 million in new property tax revenue<sup>6</sup>. Research also shows that home prices increase by 20% near passive parks and up to 37% near heavily wooded open land.<sup>7</sup>

Environmental Benefits

Parks and green spaces play a critical role in promoting environmental sustainability and mitigating the impacts of urban development. As cities experience rapid residential and commercial growth, the loss of natural spaces and increased stormwater runoff can create significant environmental challenges. **Parks help combat these issues by improving air and water quality, enhancing biodiversity, and providing natural cooling.** According to NRPA, parks are essential for maintaining healthy ecosystems and conserving natural resources. Large shady parks reduce urban heat by 10–20 degrees, and trees lower temperatures by 6–10 degrees, providing much-needed relief from

4. Roth, K. (2022). Economic Impact of Local Parks Report. National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA).  
5 HR&A Advisors. (2016). Economic Benefits of Trails and Greenways in the Dallas Park System: Return on Investment Study (1998-2016)  
6 National Recreation and Park Association (2005). The impact of greenways on property values: An empirical estimation of the economic value of a greenway in Austin, Texas. Journal of Leisure Research  
7 Wolf, K.L. 2010. Community Economics - A Literature Review. In: Green Cities: Good Health (www.greenhealth.washington.edu). College of the Environment, University of Washington.

extreme heat—currently the #1 weather-related killer in the U.S.<sup>8</sup>.Tree cover also reduces asthma rates and improves air quality. In fact, children living in leafy neighborhoods are three times less likely to have asthma compared to those in areas with limited tree coverage.<sup>9</sup>

8 City Parks Alliance. (2019). City Parks: A Smart Investment for America’s Health, Economy & Environment.  
9 Sungmin Lee, Juha Baek, Se Woong Kim, Galen Newman, Tree canopy, pediatric asthma, and social vulnerability: An ecological study



**+50%**


**Parks Attract Residents & Businesses**

Nashville’s downtown park investments have helped increase the influx of college-educated 25-to 34-year-old by 50% over the past decade.



**\$218**

Local parks and recreation agencies generate \$218 billion in annual economic activity and support 1.3 million jobs in the U.S.



**30%**


Well-designed public spaces can increase retail sales by up to 30% in adjacent businesses.



Trees reduce heat **6-10 Degrees** and large, shady parks reduce heat **10-20 Degrees**



Extreme heat is the **#1 Weather-Related Killer** in the U.S. and deadlier than all other weather-related causes combined.



Tree cover reduces asthma rates. Children in leafy neighborhoods are **3 Times Less Likely** to have asthma than children who live in neighborhoods with few trees.

Building on the Past, Looking to the Future

**GREENprint Fort Worth** is more than a parks master plan — it’s a visionary blueprint to integrate green infrastructure, natural resource conservation, and public realm investment into the city’s long-term growth. Building on Fort Worth’s strategic initiatives, GREENprint draws momentum from the **Good Naturesd Green Space Initiative (2023)** and the **Aspirational Strategies Plan (2025)**, together driving a generational transformation.

GREENprint Fort Worth unifies, updates, and advances a broad collection of past and present planning efforts—ensuring that parks and green space are no longer planned in isolation but are integral to transportation, housing, sustainability, economic development, and public health agendas. It is in direct conversation with strategic frameworks such as the City’s 2023 Comprehensive Plan, Re-Imagine Fort Worth (2050), Moving a Million, the Active Transportation Plan (2019), the Urban Forest Master Plan (2024), and the Fort Worth Green space Strategy (2022). These interlocking plans form the scaffolding on which GREENprint Fort Worth has been built—allowing it to transform visionary goals into tangible priorities.

At the heart of GREENprint is the Good Naturesd Initiative, a mayoral commitment to making Fort Worth the “greenest big city in the nation” by 2050, with a goal to conserve 10,000 acres by 2028.



GREENprint operationalizes this vision by identifying high-value conservation lands, prioritizing greenway expansion, and embedding ecological resilience into park design and planning. Where Good Naturesd rallies public support and partnerships, GREENprint provides the tools for implementation.

While GREENprint Fort Worth articulates the “**what**” and “**why**” of Fort Worth’s green future, the Aspirational Strategies for Implementing a Bold New Vision defines the “**how.**” Developed by HR&A Advisors in close collaboration with PARD, Good Naturesd partners, and the Stantec team, this complementary document provides the internal strategy and organizational roadmap necessary to activate the Master Plan’s goals.

- One Vision. Three Tools. Unified Impact.** Together, Good Naturesd, GREENprint Fort Worth, and the Aspirational Strategies Plan form a powerful trio:
- Good Naturesd sets the **policy** and **partnership** agenda.
  - GREENprint shapes the **planning** and **design** framework.
  - Aspirational Strategies provide the **operational** roadmap.

By integrating these efforts, Fort Worth is not just keeping pace with growth — it is leading with purpose, investing in equity, and securing its green legacy for future generations.



# The Planning Process

The GREENprint Fort Worth: Parks, Recreation, Green space, and Public Realm Master Plan was developed using a comprehensive 10-step Planning Process to ensure a thorough and strategic approach. This process involved an in-depth analysis of the city’s demographics, existing parks and recreation facilities, community needs, and projected growth. Each step was designed to build on the information gathered in the previous one.

### Steps 1 and 2

Conducted a demographic analysis and site inventory to assess existing conditions and community profiles.

### Step 3

Developed the vision and goals through community input gathered from surveys, interviews, pop-ups, and workshops.

### Steps 4 and 5

Established park classifications and standards, completed a system assessment and gap analysis to identify service gaps and population needs, and validated findings with City staff and advisory committees.

### Steps 6 through 8

Created recommendations, identified priorities, and defined action items.

### Steps 9 and 10

Outlined funding strategies, implementation responsibilities, and a detailed action matrix. The plan was presented to the community, advisory committees and City Plan Commission and was adopted as a guiding framework for the future system for years to come.



## Strategy of the GREENprint Master Plan

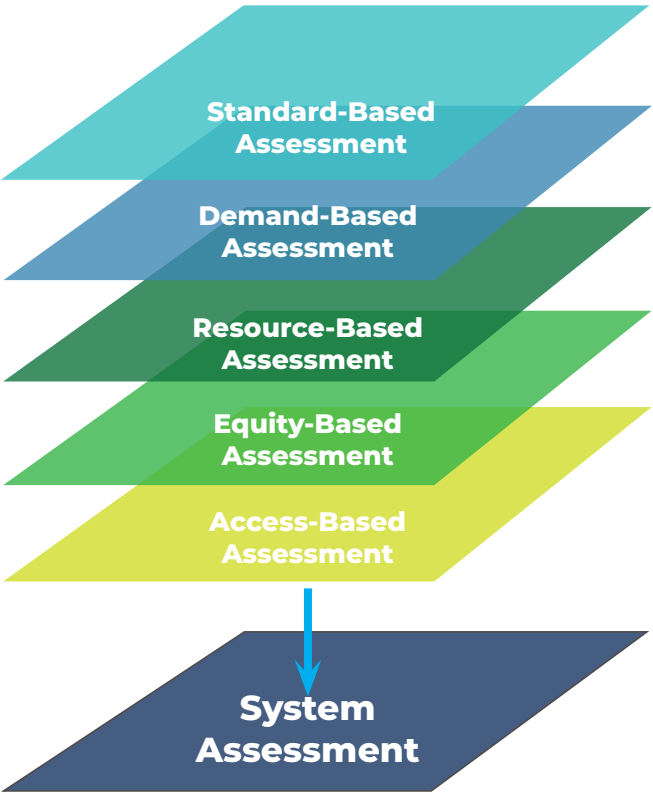
The GREENprint Master Plan is built on core components that ensure the plan is comprehensive, data-driven, community-centered, and actionable. These elements work together to establish a strong foundation for both the development and future implementation of Fort Worth’s park and recreation system.

- **Data-Driven Foundation:** At the heart of the framework is a strong emphasis on data collection and analysis. This approach supports evidence-based decisions for strategic investments.
- **Community-Centered Planning:** The framework prioritizes community engagement through surveys, workshops, and interviews, ensuring residents' feedback shapes the vision, goals, and recommendations for a shared sense of ownership.
- **Strategic Alignment with Citywide Initiatives:** The plan aligns with key city initiatives like Re-Imagine Fort Worth, Moving a Million, the Good Natured Green Space Initiative, and the Aspirational Strategies Initiative to ensure seamless integration with broader city strategies and future development.
- **Equity-Focused Approach:** The framework prioritizes equity by identifying underserved areas and gaps in park access, ensuring investments target communities with the greatest need and provide all residents with high-quality green spaces.
- **Collaborative Partnerships:** The plan’s success relies on strong partnerships with City departments, the Park & Recreation Advisory Board, nonprofits, regional agencies, and private stakeholders (e.g. developers, philanthropist) ensure broad collaboration and shared resources.
- **Action-Oriented Implementation:** The framework emphasizes execution with a clear roadmap, including funding strategies, partnerships, and an implementation matrix. Performance metrics ensure progress tracking and accountability.

## System Assessment Methodology

The GREENprint Fort Worth Plan assessment includes five key components for a comprehensive evaluation of the city’s park system. The Standard-Based Assessment benchmarks the system against national standards from NRPA, Trust for Public Land (TPL), and peer cities, while the Demand-Based Assessment gathers extensive community input through surveys, stakeholder sessions, and committee meetings to reflect resident needs.

The Resource-Based Assessment identifies public and private resources that enhance park offerings. The Equity-Based Assessment ensures fair distribution of parks by evaluating socioeconomic disparities, environmental conditions, and community health. Lastly, the Access-Based Assessment prioritizes physical access, emphasizing Close-to-Home Parks and the 10-minute walk standard to guarantee convenient access to green spaces for all residents.





# GREENprint Master Plan at a Glance

**GREENprint Master Plan Structure:** The GREENprint Fort Worth: Parks, Recreation, Green space, and Public Realm Master Plan is structured to provide both a strategic roadmap and detailed technical information, ensuring accessibility for decision-makers while preserving depth for planners and researchers.

- **Executive Summary:** presents a high-level overview of the plan’s vision, key findings, and transformative initiatives.
- **Chapter 1 Introduction:** outlines the purpose, the planning process, and overarching goals of GREENprint Fort Worth.
- **Chapter 2 History and Past Planning:** reviews past planning efforts, significant milestones, and how historical trends have influenced present and future strategies.
- **Chapter 3 Snapshot of Today:** provides a comprehensive assessment of Fort Worth’s current park system, including existing conditions, challenges, and opportunities.
- **Chapter 4 Public Engagement:** summarizes key findings from surveys, workshops, focus groups, and other outreach activities.
- **Chapter 5 Parks and Public Realm of Tomorrow:** Presents a forward-looking vision for the future of Fort Worth’s parks and public spaces.
- **Chapter 6 Transformative Ideas:** Highlights bold, transformative concepts that have the potential to redefine Fort Worth’s parks and public realm.
- **Chapter 7 Objectives and Strategies:** Provides a structured approach to implementation by aligning goals with actionable steps.
- **Chapter 8 Park Planning District Recommendations:** Provides recommendations for every Park Planning District.
- **Appendix A Strategic Plan:** Provides the strategic framework that will guide the implementation of the master plan.
- **Appendix B Park and Public Realm Classification System:** Provides the recommended update for the park and public realm typology.
- **Appendix C In-Depth System Assessment:** Presents a comprehensive evaluation of the park system’s current conditions

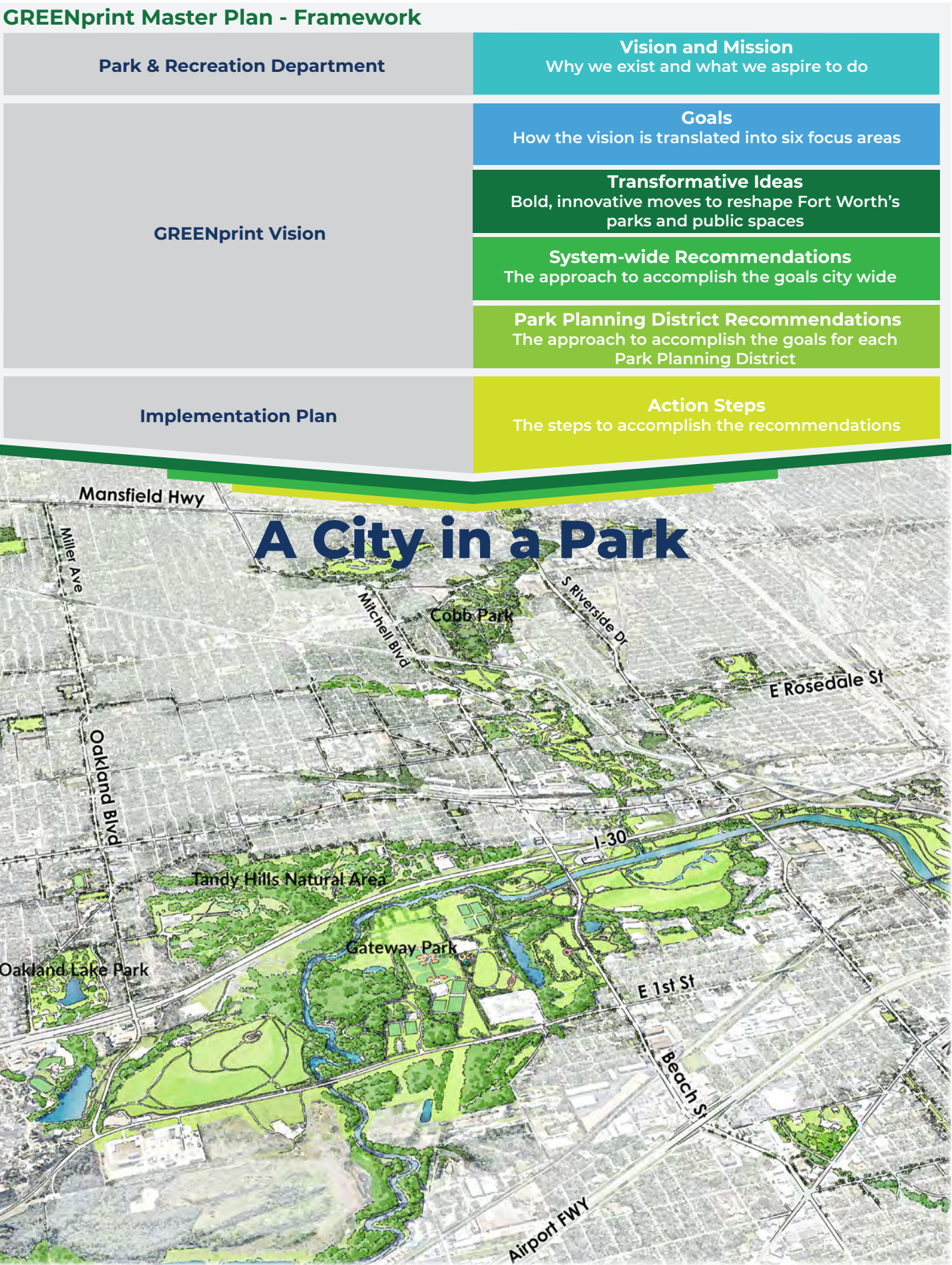
- **Appendix D Park Inventory:** Provides a list of existing parks and facilities, acreage and classification.
- **Appendix E Survey Report:** Provides a breakdown of the statistically valid survey responses.

The GREENprint Master Plan structure ties these elements together, creating a seamless structure that ensures all plan components work in harmony to achieve the city’s vision. The analysis of Fort Worth began with an extensive System Assessment, Citywide Visionary Analysis, and input from Community Engagement and the Citywide Initiative, which then established the foundation for the Vision and Mission.

The Goals translate this vision into six focus areas: Thriving Community, Connected System, Vibrant Nature, Common Ground, Premier Destination, and Manageable Resources. These goals serve as the guiding structure for System-Wide Recommendations, which provide actionable objectives, strategies, and specific steps to meet citywide needs.

To address localized priorities, the plan includes Park Planning District Recommendations, ensuring that neighborhood-specific actions reflect unique community needs. The plan culminates with Transformative Ideas, offering bold and innovative concepts to inspire change and position Fort Worth’s park system as a national leader in green space planning.

By integrating strategic guidance with technical depth, the GREENprint Fort Worth Master Plan offers a holistic, adaptable approach. This ensures that Fort Worth’s park and recreation system continues to thrive, evolving into A City in a Park—where parks and public spaces enhance quality of life, strengthen community connections, and preserve the city’s natural heritage for generations to come.







CHAPTER

# 02

## History and Past Planning

### CONTENTS

- Fort Worth Park and Recreation System Background
- Related Plans and Citywide Initiatives

MAIN STREET FROM FOURTH TO SQUARE.

PAULI, Litho, Milwaukee Wis.

FORT WORTH'S RAILWAY FACILITIES.

TEXAS WESLEYAN COLLEGE.

JOSEPH H. BROWN, WHOLESALE GROCER.

ENTERED ACCORDING TO ACT OF CONGRESS, IN THE YEAR 1886 BY NORRIS WELLES & CO. IN THE OFFICE OF THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS, AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

FORT WORTH OPERA-HOUSE.

NORTH END AND DRIVING PARK.

PUBLISHED BY NORRIS WELLES & CO. NO. 107 WELLS ST. MILWAUKEE, WIS.

RESIDENCES.

1. Joseph H. Brown, Wholesale Grocer.	18. R. T. Twombly & Son, Real Estate.	34. Taylor & Barr, Dry Goods.	50. A. Cante, City Market.	66. K. M. Van Zandt, 62 W.
2. The Martin-Brown Co., Wholesale Dry Goods, Clothing, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Notions, Etc.	19. General Office, Fort Worth and Denver City R. R.	35. Greenfield Bros., Dry Goods and Notions.	51. John A. Ashmore, Palace Market.	67. J. V. Smith, 64 J. V.
3. R. C. Evans Co., Wholesale Dry Goods, Clothing, Boots, Shoes and Hats.	20. Fort Worth National Bank.	36. Dahlman Bros., Clothiers and Merchant Tailors.	52. J. M. Lyles, Trinity Saloon.	68. S. P. Tucker, 66 E. S.
4. W. A. Hoffman, Implement Company.	21. State National Bank.	37. Washer & August, Clothiers and Furnishers.	53. Sanguinet & Dawson, Architects.	69. J. P. Taylor, 68 J. P.
5. The City National Bank.	22. Savings Bank, James Branch & Co.	38. Howard Tally, Jeweler.	54. R. G. Dunn & Co., Mercantile Agency.	70. Geo. N. Wain, 70 A. B.
6. W. F. Lake, Wholesale and Retail Hardware.	23. Commercial Club.	39. Fry & Jones, Jewelers.	55. Ross & Ross, Attorneys and Abstractors.	71. C. D. Lusk, 72 N. C.
7. Casey & Swasey, Wholesale Liquors and Cigars.	24. Fort Worth Machine and Boiler Works.	40. Johnson & Talley, Wholesale and Retail Hardware.	56. Davis, Beall & Rogers, Attorneys at Law.	72. J. H. Nagle, 74 M.
8. Henry & Peak, Wholesale and Retail Hardware.	25. Ice Company, Electric Light Station.	41. Johnson & Talley, Wholesale and Retail Hardware.	57. W. B. Ford, Attorney.	73. Dan B. Adams & Co., Live.
9. Max Eiser, Wholesale Book Store, Pianos, Organs, Etc.	26. Ice Company, Electric Light Station.	42. Johnson & Talley, Wholesale and Retail Hardware.	58. W. R. Booth, Attorney.	74. T. A. Kutz, 10 K. K. Paint St.
10. Fort Worth Grocery Co., Wholesale and Retail Grocers and Commission Merchants.	27. Refrigerating Company.	43. Johnson & Talley, Wholesale and Retail Hardware.	59. D. T. Copher, Real Estate Agent.	75. The Bradley Mfg Co., Robb.
11. Zane Cettli, Real Estate and Insurance.	28. Novelty Mills, Mark Evans.	44. H. W. Harry & Bros., Hardware, Stoves, Galvanized [Cornices and Corrugated Iron.	60. Drew Fruit, Attorney.	76. J. E. Daniels, "Little M.
	29. Anchor Mills, M. P. Bewley.	45. Cook & Co., Stoves and Tinware.	61. Texas Wesleyan College, O. County Jail.	
		46. James Branch, Furniture.		
		47. F. W. Bradley & Co., Refrigerators.		





Fort Worth Trinity Park. Photo Credit: Stantec Team

# Fort Worth Park & Recreation System Background

## History of Fort Worth Parks

Fort Worth grew out of a frontier military outpost established in 1849 and disbanded in 1853. By 1890, the city had a population of 23,076 within approximately 7.2 square miles. In the early 1890s, a movement for public parks became a topic of earnest conversation among residents and City officials. Hyde Park, located downtown at the southeast corner of 9th Street and Throckmorton Street, became the first designated City park in 1873, donated by Sarah Gray Jennings in memory of her parents, John Hansford Hyde and Polly Struther Hyde.

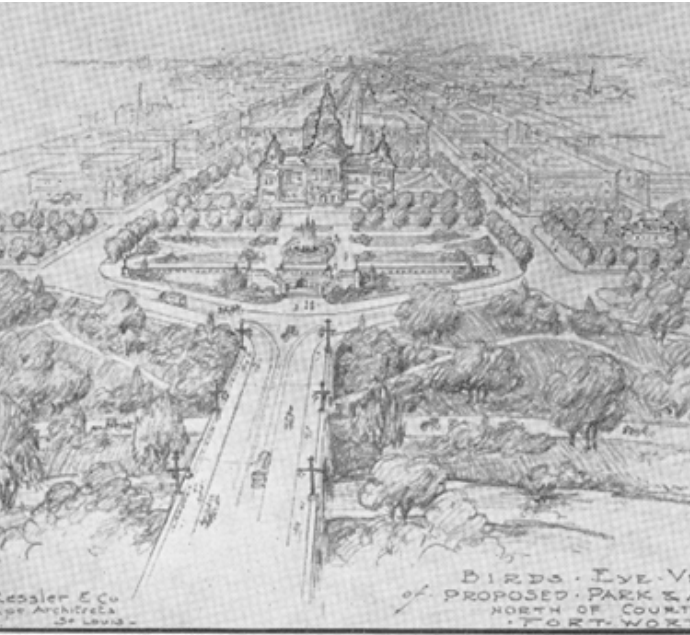
By 1909, Fort Worth formally established its park department, laying the foundation for a structured approach to park planning and development. That same year, renowned landscape architect George E. Kessler developed Fort Worth’s first Park Plan. His vision centered on an integrated system of parks that utilized the city’s natural features, including drainageways, the Trinity River and its tributaries, and parkways that connected neighborhoods and businesses to green spaces. Kessler’s plan became the basis for major park facilities that continue to shape Fort Worth’s Park, Recreation, and Open Space System today.

In 1925, the firm Hare and Hare further analyzed and expanded upon the existing park system. Their plan, completed in 1930 as A Comprehensive Park System for Fort Worth, Texas, helped guide the City through a period of significant growth, ensuring that park development kept pace with expansion.

By 1992, Fort Worth adopted a systems approach to park planning, emphasizing the review of existing facilities, public input, and alignment with community goals. This approach, first formalized in the 1992

Strategic Plan and reaffirmed in the 1998 Master Plan, has continued to guide planning efforts, including the 2015 PROS Master Plan.

Throughout its history, Fort Worth’s park system has greatly benefited from the generosity of individuals, citizen groups, and foundations. Organizations such as the Amon G. Carter Foundation, the Anne Burnett and Charles Tandy Foundation, the Sid W. Richardson Foundation, and the Communities Foundation of Texas have played key roles in funding and shaping parks. Citizen-led groups, including Streams and Valleys, Inc., the Fort Worth Zoological Association, the Fort Worth Botanical Society, the Friends of the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge, Friends of Tandy Hills, and numerous neighborhood associations, have also made significant contributions. Their efforts have been instrumental in developing iconic destinations such as the Water Gardens, Burnett Park, Heritage Park, the Botanic Garden, the Nature Center & Refuge, Gateway Park, and the Fort Worth Zoo.



Postcard view of Kessler’s plan for the bluff north of the Tarrant County Courthouse as drawn by his assistant, Henry Wright. Image courtesy Larry Schuessler.



New Planning for a New Era of Growth: Beyond Traditional Parks

The City of Fort Worth has maintained a proud tradition of building and continuously adapting a citywide park system that serves the needs, reflects the values, and pursues the aspirations of the community. Each “era” of park development has contributed to a legacy that continues to define the City’s unique character today.

From the Frontier to 1900

Parks have played an important role in shaping Fort Worth since its establishment at the country’s western frontier in the late 19th century. As people began to settle, there was an early effort to create public parks for the community. The City’s first significant park, Sundance Square, was developed in the 1880’s, and it originally served as a marketplace and social hub for a city of less than 10,000 residents.

1900 to 1950

In the early 1900’s, Fort Worth’s meatpacking industry spurred rapid growth. By 1910, the population had more than doubled. In just over a decade, a city of 30,000 became a city of 75,000 and Fort Worth faced the challenges of rapid industrial urbanization that characterized cities across North America during this time. In the midst of this urbanization, Fort Worth chose to prioritize park planning.

Fort Worth Park History

1873

Sarah Jennings donates a tract of land to the city for parkland to be named Hyde Park in honor of her parents. Because the tract was not initially deeded to the public, it would be years before it was recognized as a public park.

1892

City makes first purchase of land for park purposes. Located on the west of the Clear Fork of the Trinity River and south of what would become 7th Street, the park is named City Park.

1909

Kessler completes his master plan for Fort Worth parks.

1922

Fort Worth Playground and Recreation Association created. The association becomes a major advocate for the creation on a official city recreation department.

1930

Hare and Hare completes an update of the park master plan. It follows Kessler’s concepts of linking parks by scenic drives and parkways and creation of the neighborhood parks.

1957

Hare and Hare complete revision to Master Plan of Park and Recreation Areas for Fort Worth.

1992

The plan development process took a systems approach.

1998

Adoption of the Park & Recreation Department Strategic Plan

In 1907, the City hired landscape architect George Kessler to design a comprehensive park system inspired by the “city beautiful” movement that sought to preserve the presence and benefits of nature in rapidly growing urban environments. This park system soon incorporated Lake Worth and additional lakes that were created to provide drinking water for the booming population. As the City continued to grow, it transformed several parks into new citywide attractions such as the beginning of the Fort Worth Zoo in 1909 and the Rock Springs Arboretum (known today as the Fort Worth Botanic Garden) in 1934.

1950 to 2000

The City of Fort Worth’s park system expanded in tandem with rapid population growth in the post-World War II era. In the 1950s, the City’s population was around 300,000; by 2000, it had doubled to around 600,000. During this time, the City became committed to expanding its park system to keep pace with growth. As new housing subdivisions were built, developers dedicated parkland to the City as part of the development process. As a result, much of the system’s expansion mirrored suburban growth, helping to maintain a consistent ratio of parkland acreage per thousand residents.

2000 to 2024

As the City of Fort Worth has taken its place as twelfth largest city in the United States, it has built on its Kessler Legacy with initiatives like the Trinity River Vision project that have been designed to enhance access to the river while creating new recreational opportunities.

Additionally, the 2023 Good Natured Green Space Initiative was launched to help preserve highly valued natural areas ahead of anticipated urban growth. Today, the cumulative legacy of more than a century of commitment to parks, recreation, and preserving open spaces has endowed the City of Fort Worth with a strong foundation for meeting the needs and aspirations of a new cycle of continued evolution.

2024 and Onward

The City of Fort Worth projects its population will grow by over 28% from 2024 levels, reaching approximately 1.3 million by 2050. The City’s Comprehensive Plan recognizes that this next phase of growth will be shaped by increasingly diverse households—with and without children—who seek greater housing choices and more walkable, mixed-use communities. Families, young professionals, and older adults alike are showing a growing preference for neighborhoods that offer access to parks, transit, and daily needs within close proximity. In response, the City of Fort Worth current Comprehensive Plan supports a more centralized growth model through the continued development of emerging urban centers, village hubs, and revitalized commercial corridors.

“In the competition of cities for new and desirable population, no other element of advertisement is worth so much as an ample and attractive park system, making a pleasant city in which to live comfortably.”

George Kessler, Fort Worth’s first Park and City Master Plan, 1909



Plan for Fort Worth Park and Boulevard System by Hare and Hare



# Related Plans and Citywide Initiatives



## Building on the Past, Looking to the Future

The success of GREENprint Fort Worth depends on seamless coordination with citywide initiatives. By aligning parks and public spaces with transportation, economic development, and sustainability strategies, Fort Worth is ensuring that parks are not just recreational spaces but essential infrastructure places that enhance the city's livability, resilience, and identity.

Fort Worth's continued growth and transformation require a coordinated approach to planning. To ensure GREENprint Fort Worth aligns with broader citywide goals, this plan integrates insights from past and ongoing planning efforts. These foundational documents provide a framework for shaping parks, green spaces, and the public realm in ways that support sustainability, equity, and economic development.

### City of Fort Worth Park, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan (2015)

The 2015 Master Plan laid the groundwork for Fort Worth's park system, providing strategic direction for the city's investments in parks, trails, and recreational facilities. As Fort Worth experienced rapid growth and demographic shifts, the plan emphasized the need for equitable park access, environmental sustainability, and the integration of green spaces with urban development.

### Evolution into GREENprint Fort Worth

GREENprint Fort Worth builds upon the vision set forth in the 2015 Master Plan, serving as its natural evolution and expansion. While the 2015 Master Plan focused on traditional park planning and recreation needs, GREENprint Fort Worth broadens the scope to include the entire public realm—leveraging parks, green infrastructure, and urban spaces as essential components of citywide sustainability, resilience, and livability.

### Alignment with GREENprint Fort Worth

- Beyond Recreation: Parks as Infrastructure – Recognizing parks as more than recreational spaces, GREENprint Fort Worth integrates them into broader citywide initiatives for climate resilience, economic development, and community well-being.
- Expanding Green Infrastructure – Advances strategies from the 2015 Master Plan by incorporating floodplain conservation, urban tree canopy expansion, and stormwater management solutions.
- A Connected and Walkable City – Builds on the 2015 Master Plan emphasis on trails and mobility, reinforcing an interconnected network of green corridors, complete streets, and multimodal transportation.
- Equitable Access & Public Space Activation – Moves beyond park service standards by actively addressing gaps in park equity, ensuring that public spaces serve as vibrant, inclusive hubs for all communities.



- Resiliency & Climate Adaptation – Elevates sustainability goals by integrating nature-based solutions to mitigate urban heat islands, enhance biodiversity, and prepare Fort Worth for climate-related challenges.

### Fort Worth Good Natured Green Space Initiative Strategic Framework (2024)

The Fort Worth Good Natured Green Space Initiative (FWGN) is a long-term vision spearheaded by Mayor Mattie Parker, aimed to position Fort Worth as the greenest big city in the U.S. by 2050. The initiative integrates parks, open spaces, trails, and conservation efforts to enhance the city's resilience, livability, and environmental sustainability.

### Alignment with GREENprint Fort Worth

- Park System Enhancement – Aligns with GREENprint Fort Worth's goal of creating an interconnected network of high-quality green spaces.
- Large-Scale Conservation – Prioritizes the acquisition and preservation of critical green spaces to balance urban growth.
- Green Land Use Policies – Advocates for integrating open space preservation into land development regulations.
- Public Engagement & Activation – Encourages community participation in green space planning, access, and stewardship.

- Sustainable Funding & Governance – Establishes partnerships with public and private entities to ensure long-term investment in parks and conservation.

### Fort Worth Aspirational Strategies Plan (2024–2025)

The Aspirational Plan, developed by HR&A in coordination with GREENprint Fort Worth, serves as a critical strategy and roadmap to guide the Park & Recreation Department in advancing toward a best-in-class parks and recreation system. Building on the bold vision set by the Good Natured Green Space Initiative, this plan also helps PARD achieve the future roadmap and vision recommended by the GREENprint Fort Worth plan.

It focuses on supporting the department through key transitions, enhancing departmental culture, strengthening environmental stewardship, and delivering high-quality, equitable facilities and services. The plan bridges best practices, lessons from peer cities, and Fort Worth's specific goals to empower the department to not only meet current needs but also proactively steward the system as the city grows and evolves. Together with GREENprint Fort Worth it provides a unified approach that connects parks, recreation, and the public realm as one integrated system.



Alignment with GREENprint Fort Worth

- Transforming department culture to support innovation and staff development,
- Elevating data-driven decision-making to support funding and equity,
- Developing community-responsive programming and design,
- And diversifying funding sources through public-private partnerships.

Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD) Recreation Master Plan (2024)

The TRWD Recreation Master Plan provides a comprehensive framework for enhancing and expanding recreational access across the district’s water resources, including the Trinity River, Eagle Mountain Lake, and Marine Creek Reservoir. The plan seeks to align TRWD’s recreational amenities with community needs while maintaining environmental stewardship and flood management priorities.

Alignment with GREENprint Fort Worth

- Enhancing Recreational Access – Expands trail networks, parks, and water-based recreation, supporting GREENprint Fort Worth’s vision of interconnected public spaces.
- Sustainability & Water Management – Integrates stormwater management strategies and natural area conservation, aligning with GREENprint’s environmental sustainability goals.
- Connectivity & Mobility – Prioritizes improved pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure along the Trinity River and its floodways, enhancing active transportation options.

- Community Health & Engagement – Encourages outdoor activities through trails, parks, and environmental education programs, fostering social and recreational opportunities for all residents.
- Placemaking & Economic Development – Leverages TRWD’s assets for placemaking and cultural activities, complementing GREENprint’s emphasis on public space activation.
- The TRWD Recreation Master Plan aligns with GREENprint Fort Worth’s efforts to integrate parks and public spaces into broader citywide initiatives, reinforcing Fort Worth’s commitment to livability, resilience, and equitable access to nature.

The City of Fort Worth Comprehensive Plan (2023)

Comprehensive Plan serves as the city's guiding document for growth and development. It emphasizes five key themes:

- Economic Growth - Positioning parks and public spaces as economic drivers, attracting visitors, and enhancing livability.
- Growing Population Needs - Ensuring parks evolve to serve a rapidly expanding and diverse community.
- Revitalizing the Central City - Leveraging green spaces to support urban redevelopment and placemaking.
- Developing Growth Centers - Integrating parks into emerging districts to support connectivity and resilience.
- Celebrating the Trinity River - Strengthening riverfront access, recreational opportunities, and ecological preservation.

Alignment with GREENprint Fort Worth

- Parks serve as key assets in attracting tourism and events.
- Planning and zoning efforts help identify future parkland needs in growth centers.
- Revitalization strategies include acquiring underutilized land for parks and public spaces.
- Expanding sidewalk networks, trails, and tree-lined corridors enhances walkability and public space activation.

Panther Island: Vision & Strategy Summary (2024)

Panther Island is a transformative riverfront development that prioritizes flood control, mixed-use growth, and enhanced recreational spaces along the Trinity River.

Alignment with GREENprint Fort Worth

- Supports new parks, trails, and water-based recreation.
- Advances Complete Streets design for improved pedestrian and bicycle access.
- Positions the Trinity River as a defining public space.

Fort Worth Urban Forest Master Plan (2024)

The Fort Worth Urban Forest Master Plan is a comprehensive strategy to manage, preserve, and expand the city's urban tree canopy. As Fort Worth continues to experience rapid growth, this plan ensures that trees remain a vital component of the city’s infrastructure, providing environmental, economic, and social benefits.

Alignment with GREENprint Fort Worth

- Enhances urban cooling and resilience against extreme heat, improving comfort in parks and public spaces.
- Supports environmental sustainability through tree preservation and green space conservation.
- Integrates tree planting efforts into park design, promoting equitable access to shaded public spaces.
- Strengthens partnerships for community-led tree planting initiatives, aligning with GREENprint’s goals of fostering engaged and healthy communities.
- Advances stormwater management by reducing runoff and improving water absorption in parks and green spaces.

Drought Contingency & Emergency Water Management Plan (2024)

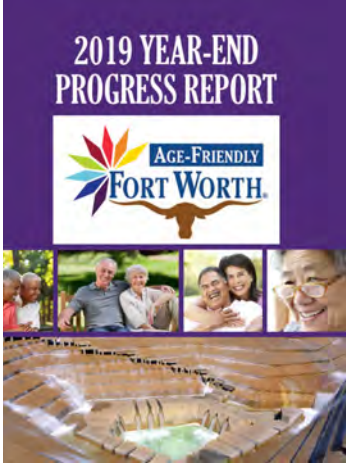
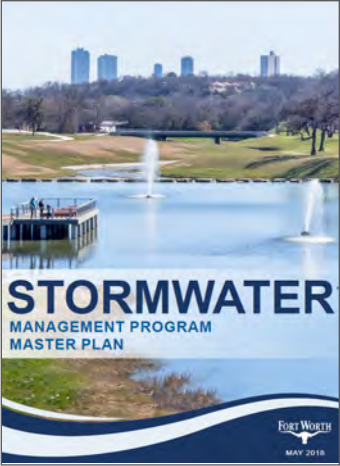
This plan ensures Fort Worth remains resilient in the face of drought and water scarcity.

Alignment with GREENprint Fort Worth

- Expands green infrastructure to reduce heat islands and manage stormwater.
- Encourages water-efficient landscaping in parks and public spaces.

Fort Worth Open Space Strategy Report (2022)

This strategy focuses on conserving critical open spaces amid rapid development, ensuring parks and green corridors serve as essential infrastructure.





**Alignment with GREENprint Fort Worth**

- Encourages land acquisition for pocket parks, trails, and greenways.
- Prioritizes environmental sustainability through natural area conservation.

**Environmental Master Plan (2021)**

The 2021 Environmental Master Plan is Fort Worth’s guiding document for protecting public health, safety, and the environment while fostering sustainable development. The plan outlines strategic actions in key areas such as air and water quality, land conservation, waste management, and climate resilience, ensuring that Fort Worth meets the highest national environmental standards.

**Alignment with GREENprint Fort Worth**

- Green Infrastructure & Sustainable Development – Encourages the integration of green infrastructure, such as rain gardens and permeable pavements, into public spaces and new developments, aligning with GREENprint’s emphasis on sustainability.
- Urban Canopy & Heat Resilience – Supports tree planting and urban forestry programs to mitigate heat islands and enhance shade in parks and public spaces.
- Water Quality & Stormwater Management – Reinforces GREENprint’s focus on watershed conservation by promoting natural stormwater filtration systems and floodplain preservation.
- Air Quality & Mobility – Advocates for active transportation solutions such as bike and pedestrian infrastructure, complementing GREENprint’s vision for an interconnected park and trail network.
- Equitable Access to Environmental Resources – Identifies strategies to improve environmental quality in underserved communities, ensuring that parks and public spaces contribute to healthier and more livable neighborhoods.

**Active Transportation Plan (2019)**

This plan envisions a multimodal transportation network that promotes walking, biking, and public transit while reducing vehicle dependency.

**Alignment with GREENprint Fort Worth**

- Expands and connects on- and off-street trail systems.

- Reduces accessibility barriers to parks and recreation spaces.
- Enhances pedestrian and bike infrastructure across the city.

**Race and Culture Task Force Report (2019)**

The 2019 Race and Culture Task Force Report was developed in response to community concerns regarding racial and cultural disparities in Fort Worth. The report outlines key recommendations across multiple sectors—including criminal justice, economic development, education, governance, health, housing, and transportation—to address equity issues and promote inclusivity across city policies and services.

**Alignment with GREENprint Fort Worth**

- Equitable Park and Public Space Access – Supports strategies to ensure all neighborhoods, particularly historically underserved areas, have access to quality parks, trails, and public spaces.
- Economic Development & Neighborhood Revitalization – Aligns with GREENprint Fort Worth’s efforts to use parks and public spaces as economic catalysts, particularly in communities facing systemic disinvestment.
- Mobility & Connectivity – Advances equitable access to transportation, ensuring that park and greenway expansions prioritize walkability, bikeability, and access to transit.
- Health & Well-being – Reinforces the role of parks in improving health outcomes, addressing disparities in active living opportunities across different racial and socioeconomic groups.
- Community Engagement & Representation – Supports inclusive planning and decision-making processes, ensuring that historically underrepresented voices are actively involved in shaping public space investments.

**Stormwater Management Program Master Plan (2018)**

The 2018 Stormwater Management Program Master Plan establishes Fort Worth’s approach to mitigating flood risks, managing stormwater infrastructure, and integrating green infrastructure solutions to enhance resilience and sustainability. The plan prioritizes flood reduction, system maintenance, development review, and public engagement to address the city’s evolving needs.

**Alignment with GREENprint Fort Worth**

- Green Infrastructure & Climate Resilience – Supports strategies to integrate stormwater management into parks and green spaces, aligning with GREENprint Fort Worth’s sustainability goals.
- Public Space & Flood Mitigation – Encourages the use of parks and green corridors for flood management, ensuring that public spaces serve both recreational and environmental functions.
- Equitable Access & Risk Reduction – Identifies opportunities to mitigate flooding in vulnerable communities, complementing GREENprint’s focus on equitable access to safe and well-maintained parks.
- Urban Canopy & Water Quality – Promotes tree planting, wetland restoration, and natural stormwater filtration to improve water quality and urban cooling.
- Connectivity & Smart Growth – Advocates for multi-benefit infrastructure that enhances walkability, bikeability, and ecological corridors within Fort Worth’s public realm.

**Confluence: The Trinity River Strategic Master Plan (2018)**

The Confluence: Trinity River Strategic Master Plan is a long-term vision aimed at enhancing the Trinity River and its surrounding public spaces to serve as a central, unifying feature of Fort Worth’s identity. The plan builds upon past river planning efforts and sets forth strategies for connectivity, recreation, economic development, and environmental stewardship, ensuring the river remains a vibrant community asset.

**Alignment with GREENprint Fort Worth**

- Public Space & Park Integration – Reinforces the role of the Trinity River as the backbone of Fort Worth’s public realm, enhancing accessibility and recreational opportunities.
- Sustainable Growth & Environmental Resilience – Aligns with GREENprint Fort Worth’s focus on sustainable land use and floodplain management by preserving riverfront green spaces.
- Active Mobility & Trail Connectivity – Expands and improves trails along the river, linking them with citywide pedestrian and bike infrastructure to support non-motorized mobility.

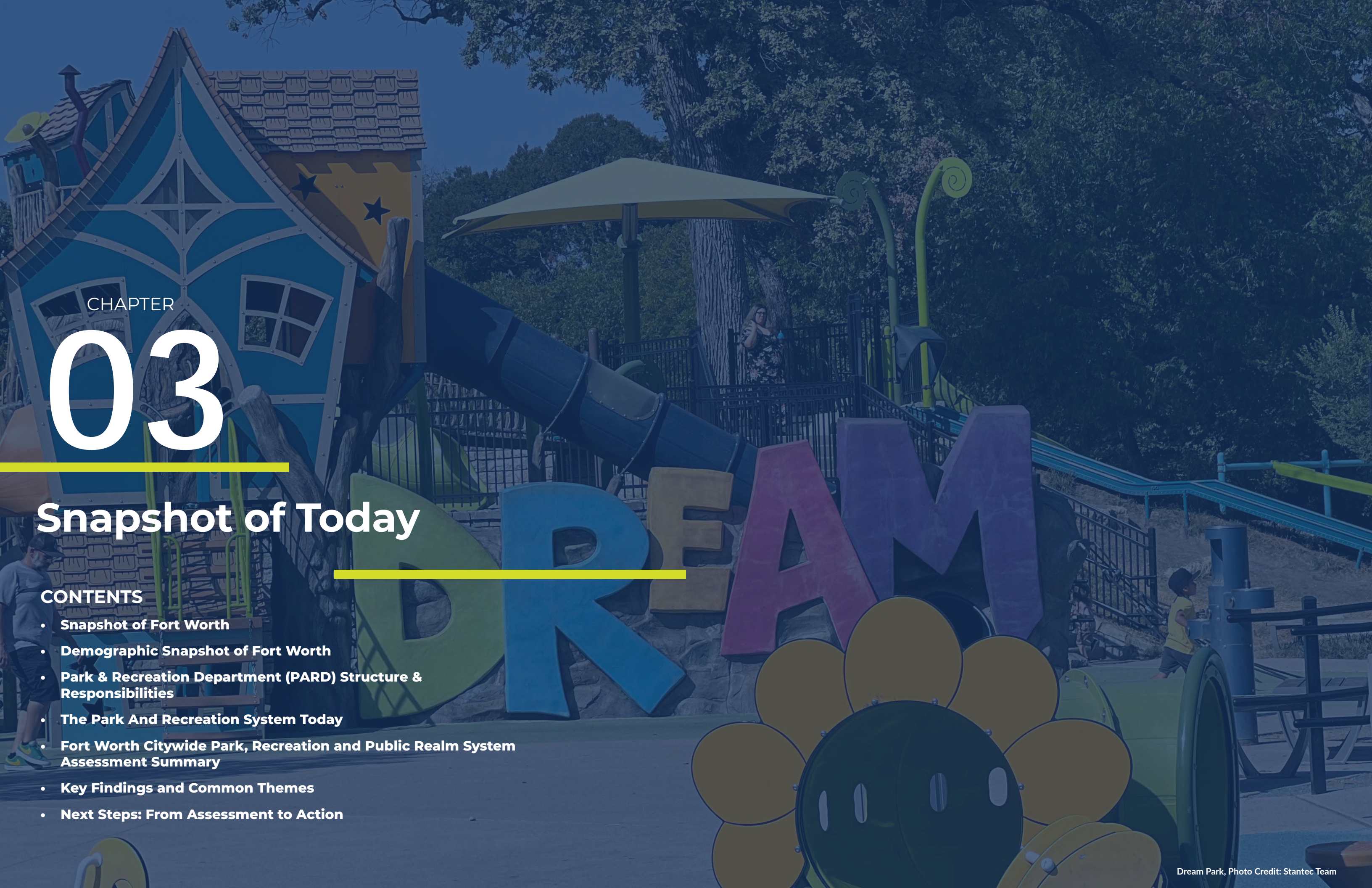
- Economic & Cultural Revitalization – Encourages mixed-use riverfront development that enhances economic opportunities while celebrating Fort Worth’s heritage.
- Placemaking & Community Engagement – Supports activation of the riverfront through events, cultural programming, and public art installations, aligning with GREENprint’s emphasis on inclusive, vibrant spaces.

**Other Key Plans & Initiatives**

Several additional plans contribute to the broader vision for Fort Worth’s future:

- Five-Year Consolidation Plan (2023) - Invests in neighborhood revitalization through sidewalk improvements, recreational amenities, and public space enhancements.
- Neighborhood Conservation Plan & Affordable Housing Strategy (2023) - Integrates parks and urban green spaces into affordable housing developments.
- Heritage Park & Paddock Park Public Art Master Plan (2023) - Incorporates public art into parks to celebrate Fort Worth’s cultural identity.
- Master Thoroughfare Plan (2020 Update) - Enhances park access through improved roadways, bike lanes, and pedestrian corridors.
- Age Friendly Fort Worth: 2019 Year End Progress Report- Access to engaging activities in recreation, leisure, education, and socializing
- Economic Strategic Plan (2017) - Recognizes parks as economic catalysts, attracting investment and improving citywide quality of life.





CHAPTER

# 03

## Snapshot of Today

### CONTENTS

- **Snapshot of Fort Worth**
- **Demographic Snapshot of Fort Worth**
- **Park & Recreation Department (PARD) Structure & Responsibilities**
- **The Park And Recreation System Today**
- **Fort Worth Citywide Park, Recreation and Public Realm System Assessment Summary**
- **Key Findings and Common Themes**
- **Next Steps: From Assessment to Action**



# Snapshot of Fort Worth

Fort Worth is a city in motion—one of the fastest-growing urban centers in the country, and evolving at an unprecedented pace. As the city expands, so does the need for a dynamic, accessible, and well-maintained parks and recreation system that serves all residents equitably. This chapter provides a comprehensive snapshot of Fort Worth’s current park system, examining its strengths, challenges, and opportunities for growth. By understanding where Fort Worth stands today, it is possible to develop a strategic and sustainable plan for the future—one that ensures every community has access to quality parks, open spaces, and recreational opportunities.

This chapter is structured to provide a data-driven foundation for decision-making:

**Demographic Snapshot of Fort Worth** – Explores the city’s rapid population growth, shifting age demographics, increasing diversity, and evolving economic conditions. These trends directly influence park demand, service expectations, and funding priorities.

**Park & Recreation Department (PARD) Structure & Responsibilities** – Outlines how the city’s parks are managed, maintained, and programmed, highlighting PARD’s role in creating a high-functioning, community-driven park system.

**The Park and Recreation System Today** – Provides a quantitative and qualitative analysis of Fort Worth’s park inventory, including parkland acreage, facilities, and service levels compared to national benchmarks and peer cities.



Skyline View of Fort Worth and the Trinity River

**Citywide Park, Recreation, and Public Realm System Assessment Summary** – Evaluates how well the current system meets community needs through five key lenses:

- Standard-Based Assessment
- Demand-Based Assessment
- Resource-Based Assessment
- Equity-Based Assessment
- Access-Based Assessment

**Key Findings and Common Themes** – Summarizes the critical takeaways that will shape Fort Worth’s future parks strategy, including the need for expanded parkland, improved connectivity, enhanced maintenance, diversified programming, and greater equity in resource distribution.

For a detailed analysis, including data, maps, and level of service assessment, please refer to **Appendix C** of this report.



# Demographic Snapshot of Fort Worth

To understand the foundation of the GREENprint Fort Worth, it's important to examine the City's demographics and trends. Fort Worth as one of the fastest-growing cities in the United States, with a 25.7% population increase from 2010 to 2021, making it the 12th largest city in the country.

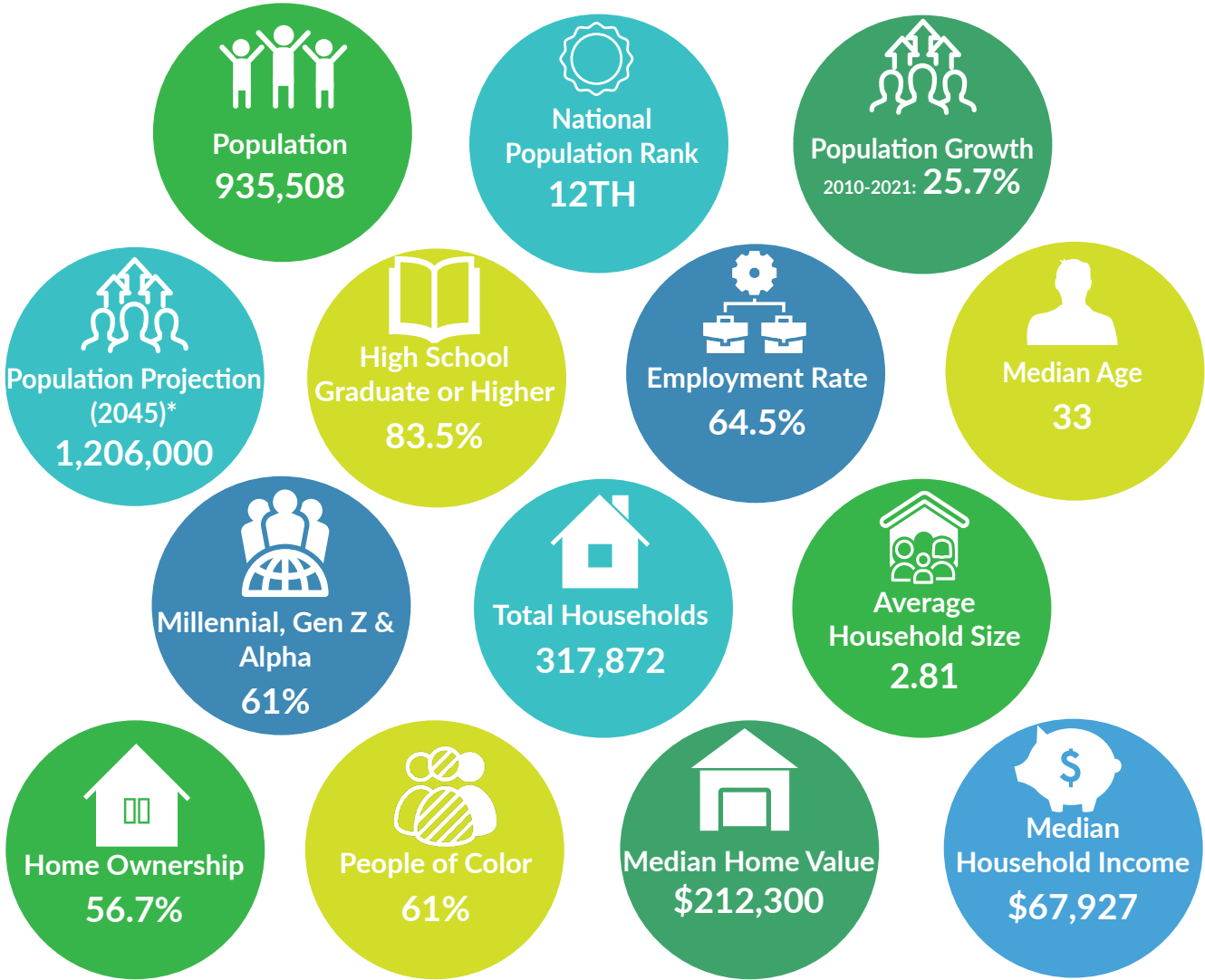
Key demographic highlights:

- **Rapid population growth:** Based on North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) data, Fort Worth's population grew 25.7% from 2010 to 2021 and is projected to reach 1.2

million by 2045 (a 28% increase).

- **Young population:** Median age is 33 years, with 61% in Millennial, Gen Z, and Alpha generations.
- **Economic growth:** Median household income is \$67,927, and median home values rose from \$147,900 (2010) to \$212,300 (2021).
- **Diverse community:** 61% of residents are people of color.

These factors shape the city's evolving park and recreation needs, guiding future investments. For more details, please refer to Appendix C.



Fort Worth at a Glance, Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017-2021 5-Year Estimates; \*NCTCOG 2045 Population Projection

# Park & Recreation Department (PARD) Structure & Responsibilities

With approximately 455 full-time employees, the Fort Worth Park & Recreation Department (PARD) is the City's third-largest department. PARD's mission is to "enrich the lives of our citizens through the stewardship of our resources and the responsive provision of quality recreational opportunities and community services<sup>1</sup>." PARD manages an extensive system that includes acres of parkland, miles of trails, athletic fields, golf courses, special use facilities and community centers.

Additionally, it partners with the Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT) and the Fort Worth Zoological Association to manage the Fort Worth Botanic Garden and the Fort Worth Zoo. Beyond parks, PARD maintains landscaping at rights-of-way, medians, alleys, and city facilities like libraries and police stations. It also runs the Graffiti Abatement Program and the FW@6 Late Night initiative.

PARD is organized into five divisions, each with distinct responsibilities:

- **Park Operations:** Maintains parks, public spaces, and mows city-owned properties, including medians and rights-of-way. They also manages park reservations and the Graffiti Abatement Program.
- **Planning & Resource Management:** Leads park development, infrastructure maintenance, land acquisition, and forestry services, ensuring sustainable growth.
- **Administration:** Manages finances, human resources, volunteers, equipment, and the Fort Worth Zoo contract.
- **Recreation:** Operates community centers, pools, the Log Cabin Village, the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge, and programs like FW@6 Late Night initiative, summer camps and after-school activities.



- **Golf & Athletics:** Oversees sports facilities, municipal golf courses, and youth/adult athletic programs.

Community engagement is integral to PARD's service delivery, with public input shaping master planning, capital improvement plans, and recreation programming. The Park and Recreation Advisory Board provides resident-informed recommendations to the City Manager and City Council on service improvements, budget priorities, and facility development.

Despite its critical role and broad responsibilities, PARD's current staffing levels are insufficient to effectively manage and maintain its existing assets at a high standard. As Fort Worth continues to grow and the city pursues an ambitious new vision for parks and recreation, additional resources and staffing will be essential to ensure PARD can meet current needs and future demands, delivering the high-quality services and experiences that residents expect.

1. City of Fort Worth Park and Recreation Department. (2024). Mission Statement.



# The Park & Recreation System Today

## Park Inventory

The City of Fort Worth boasts a diverse and expansive park and recreation system. As of 2023, Fort Worth’s green infrastructure encompasses 297 parks spanning 12,893 acres and 210 miles of trails, playing a crucial role in shaping the city’s identity and supporting its growth. The park system is categorized into three main types:

**Neighborhood-Based Parks:** Includes Urban Parks, Pocket Parks, and Neighborhood Parks, offering playgrounds, picnic areas, and open spaces for local recreation, relaxation, and small gatherings.

**Community-Based Parks:** Includes Community Parks and Metropolitan Parks, serving multiple neighborhoods with sports facilities, event spaces, and preserved natural areas for both active and passive recreation.

**Specialty Parks** include Special Use Parks (zoo, golf courses, botanic gardens), Greenbelts (natural corridors connecting parks), and Conservancy Areas (protected lands for wildlife and nature study).

In addition to these categories, Fort Worth benefits from non-PARD parks and open spaces, which complement the city’s park system. Two of the most significant contributors are Homeowners Association (HOA) parks and Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD) parks.

The city’s extensive trail system spans 210 miles of trail. Many of these trails follow the Trinity River and its tributaries, offering valuable opportunities for recreation, mobility, and environmental connection.

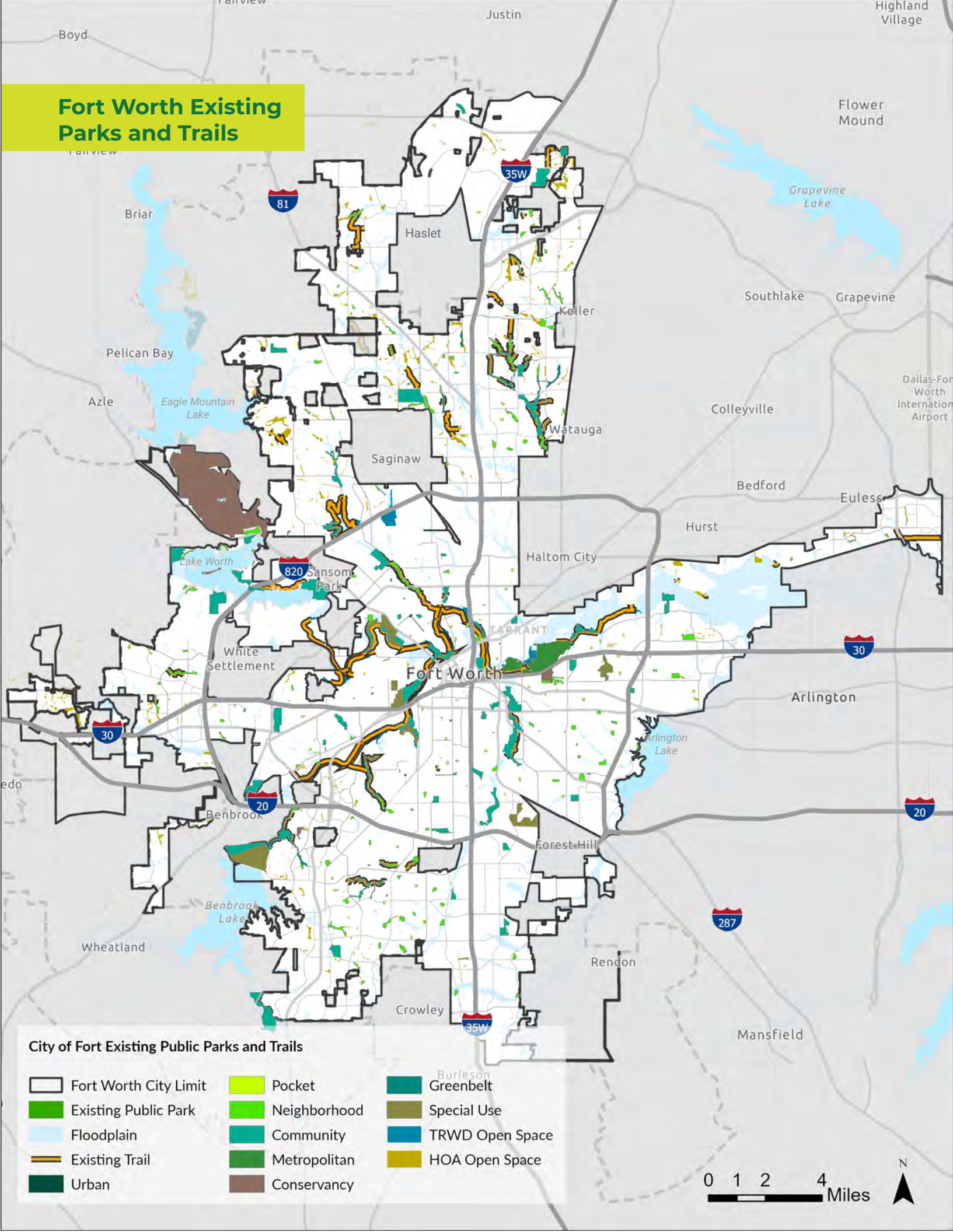
Despite the scale and variety of Fort Worth’s park system, many of these assets are not functioning at their full potential. Maintenance challenges, gaps in connectivity, and a lack of strategic investment and vision have left parks, trails, and open spaces underutilized and struggling to meet community needs.



Rockwood Park



\* All numbers are based on PARD’s 2023 park inventory data





The trail network, while designed to connect neighborhoods and natural areas, remains fragmented and inconsistent, limiting its effectiveness as a true recreational and transportation resource. Similarly, many parks lack programming, upkeep, and accessibility needed to fully serve the city’s growing population.

Without bold action and targeted improvements, these valuable assets will continue to fall short of their potential, hindering Fort Worth’s ability to compete with other cities that are modernizing and expanding their public spaces. **Fort Worth must act now to elevate its park system.**

Facilities

Fort Worth’s park and recreation system are home to a wide variety of recreational amenities, including but not limited to baseball and softball fields, soccer fields, basketball and volleyball courts, tennis/pickleball courts, community centers, dog parks, and skate parks among others. These amenities provide residents with opportunities to engage in sports, fitness, and leisure activities, while the city’s community centers serve as hubs for programs and services.

Programs

In addition to its extensive park facilities, PARD offers a variety of recreational programming to residents, primarily through its community centers. These programs range from youth activities and fitness classes to arts and educational workshops. The city also provides mobile recreation programs and summer camps that offer outdoor recreational experiences, bringing activities directly to different neighborhoods and engaging a wider audience.

However, most programming still takes place indoors, with limited outdoor activities in parks. This creates an equity gap in accessibility and misses the opportunity to fully activate Fort Worth’s parks as vibrant community spaces. Nationally, institutions like libraries, museums, and performing arts centers are expanding programs outdoors to reach broader audiences and foster deeper community connections. Fort Worth’s parks have the same potential. Expanding outdoor programming can build on existing efforts, making parks more inclusive, engaging, and dynamic to serve the full diversity of nearby communities.



Victory Forest Community Center



\* All numbers are based on PARD's 2023 park inventory data



Fire Station Skate Park

Park Planning Districts

To effectively manage and enhance Fort Worth’s park system, PARD established five Park Planning Districts (PPDs). Unlike City Council Districts, which serve political functions, PPDs are designed solely for strategic park planning and equitable service delivery. These districts help prioritize funding, guide parkland acquisition, and ensure balanced investment across the city.

Each district is defined by physical characteristics—including major roadways, rivers, topography, and population density. This data-driven approach allows PARD to identify challenges, unlock opportunities, and develop targeted solutions that directly address community needs.

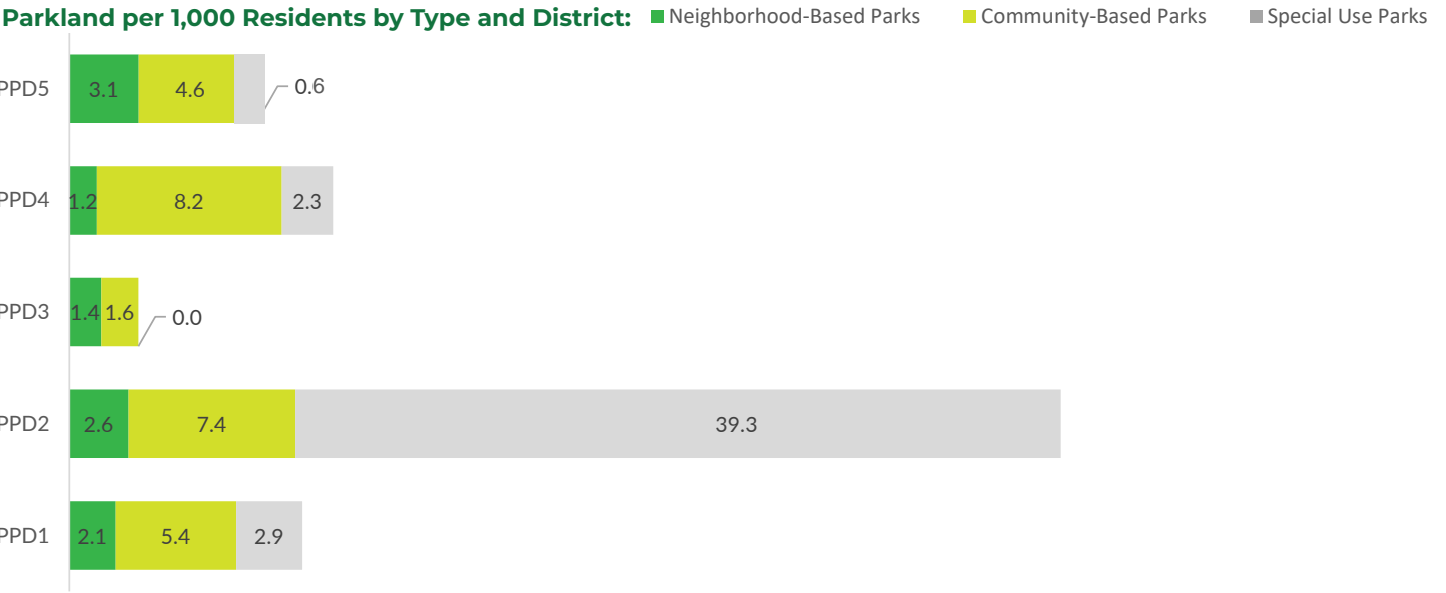
However, despite these districts, an analysis of park distribution reveals critical gaps in access and availability, highlighting the need for bold, strategic action:

- PPD 3 is the most underserved and must be prioritized for new parkland acquisition and expanded neighborhood-based parks.
- PPD 2, while rich in parkland, is dominated by Special Use Parks, which do not fully meet daily recreational needs. A better balance of Neighborhood and Community-Based Parks will improve accessibility.
- PPD 5 and PPD 1 have low parkland per capita, requiring targeted investments to ensure growing communities have adequate park access.
- PPD 4 has the highest population, meaning that even with moderate parkland per capita, demand will continue to increase, necessitating expanded amenities and new park spaces.

The chart highlights variations in parkland availability across park planning districts. GREENprint Fort Worth plays a critical role in closing the gaps by providing district-specific recommendations to ensure equitable access, improved connectivity, and strategic investments in parks and recreation.

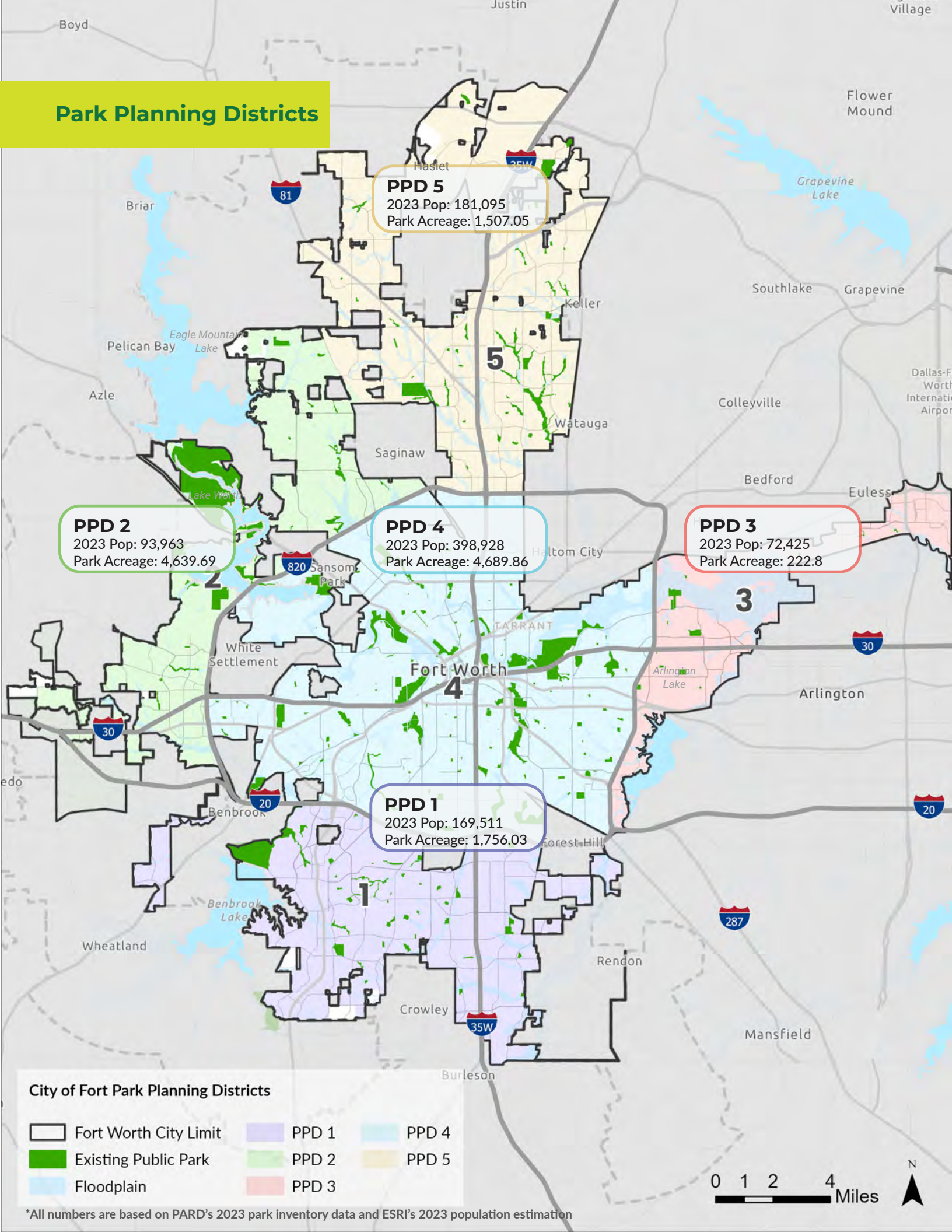
PPDs at a Glance				
District	Population (2023)*	Total Park Acreage	Acreage Per 1,000 Residents	Key Challenges
PPD 1	169,511	1756.03	10.36	Neighborhood park shortages and limited connectivity to parks
PPD 2	93,963	4639.69	49.38	Uneven distribution of parks and lack of neighborhood-based parks
PPD 3	72,425	222.8	3.08	Significant park shortage and aging infrastructure
PPD 4	398,928	4689.85	11.76	Highest population density and limited land for new parks
PPD 5	181,095	1507.05	8.32	Low parkland per capita and rapid population growth

\*All numbers are based on PARD's 2023 park inventory data and ESRI's 2023 population estimation



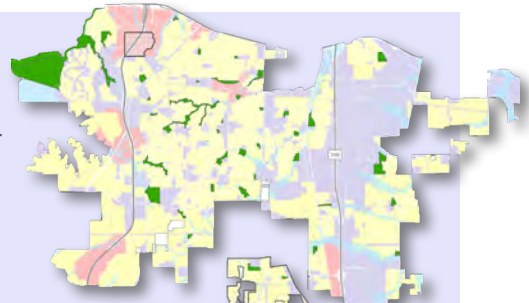


Park Planning Districts

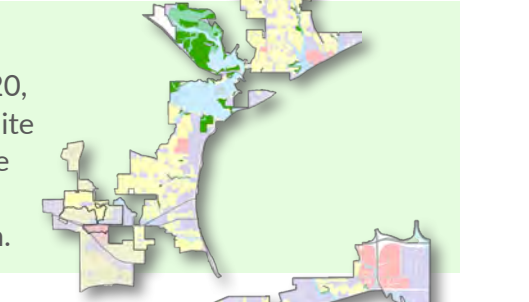


Park Planning Districts: Challenges and Opportunities

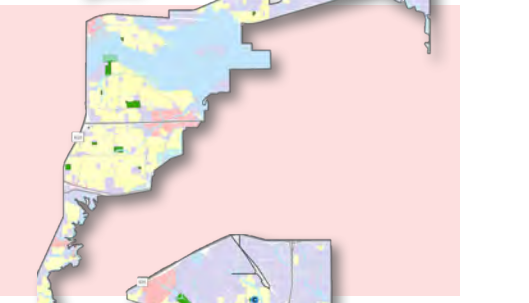
**PPD 1**  
Located south of I-20, PPD 1 is a diverse district with growing residential areas. While community parks are adequate, neighborhood-based parks are underrepresented, especially west of I-35. Improving park access, expanding trails, and addressing connectivity gaps will enhance recreational opportunities and equity.



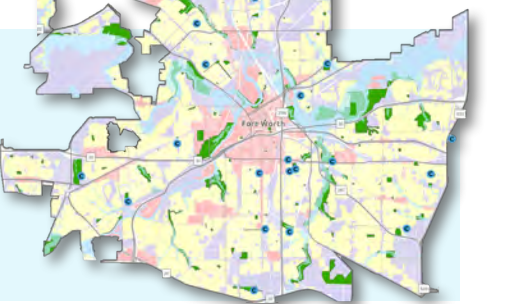
**PPD 2**  
PPD 2 is Fort Worth's fastest-growing district, located west of Loop 820, anchored by the 3,650-acre Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge. Despite its size, there are gaps in smaller neighborhood parks, limiting equitable access. Enhancing trails and ecological corridors such as Mary's Creek and Lake Worth will support connectivity, flood control, and recreation.



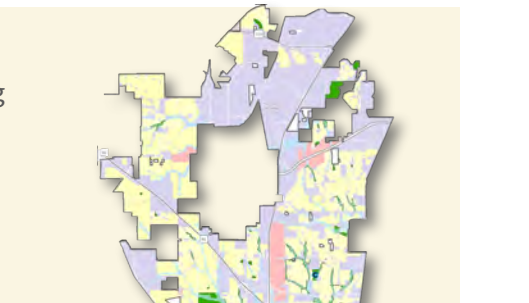
**PPD 3**  
PPD 3, east of Loop 820, has a marginalized and diverse population and faces significant gaps in neighborhood parks and aging infrastructure. The West Fork Trinity River corridor provides an opportunity for improving park connectivity, expanding green space, and enhancing conservation efforts.



**PPD 4**  
As Fort Worth's urban core, PPD 4 has the highest population and park count, along with attractive destinations, but struggles with aging infrastructure and limited land for new parks. Innovative land-use strategies will be key to supporting future growth.



**PPD 5**  
PPD 5, located north of Loop 820, is a relatively new area experiencing rapid growth. The district faces significant gaps in neighborhood-based park acreage, and many recreational spaces are privately owned by HOAs, limiting public access. The district presents opportunities to expand public parks and recreational facilities to better serve the growing population.



**Legend:** Parks Residential Mixed-Use Commercial/Industrial Flood Zone

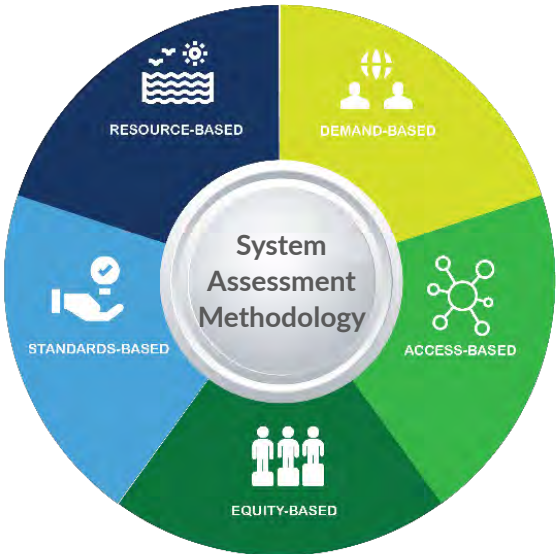


# Citywide Park, Recreation, and Public Realm System Assessment Summary

The System Assessment provides a comprehensive analysis of the current park and recreation system, offering insights into how well it meets the needs of the community. This assessment serves as a foundation for shaping the plan's vision, goals, and recommendations by identifying gaps, opportunities, and areas for improvement. In addition to evaluating traditional parks, this plan takes a broader approach by considering the entire public realm, incorporating main streets, plazas, and urban public spaces into the park system. The goal is to weave these spaces together into a cohesive, connected network that functions as a unified system of green and public spaces, enhancing the city's livability and accessibility. The assessment includes five key components:

- **Standard-Based Assessment:** Benchmarks the system against national standards set by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Trust for Public Land (TPL), and peer cities.
- **Demand-Based Assessment:** Captures input from residents through extensive community engagement, including in-person and online surveys, stakeholder sessions, technical and steering committees, and City Council workshops.
- **Resource-Based Assessment:** Identifies existing public and private resources that supplement the City's park and recreation offerings.
- **Equity-Based Assessment:** Evaluates the fair distribution of parks and resources, considering socioeconomic disparities, environmental conditions, and community health to ensure parks are accessible to all.
- **Access-Based Assessment:** Focuses on physical access to parks, emphasizing Close-to-Home Parks and the 10-minute walk standard to ensure residents have convenient access to green spaces.

This multi-faceted approach highlights where Fort Worth's park and recreation system stands today and defines where the greatest needs lie, setting the stage



for actionable strategies in the plan's next steps. For the full report and detailed findings, refer to Appendix C of this report.

### Standard-Based Assessment

As part of the standard-based assessment, Fort Worth's current standards were compared to national benchmarks established by NRPA, TPL, and peer cities such as Austin, Charlotte, Denver, and Seattle. As of the 2023 inventory, Fort Worth provides 13.7 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents, which falls below the NRPA benchmark of 17.4 acres per 1,000 residents and the peer city average of 18.5 acres. To meet the target Level of Service (LOS) and accommodate future growth, the GREENprint Fort Worth sets a goal of 18.5 acres per 1,000 residents, requiring significant parkland expansion—4,413 additional acres today, 6,385 acres by 2030, and 9,417 acres by 2045.

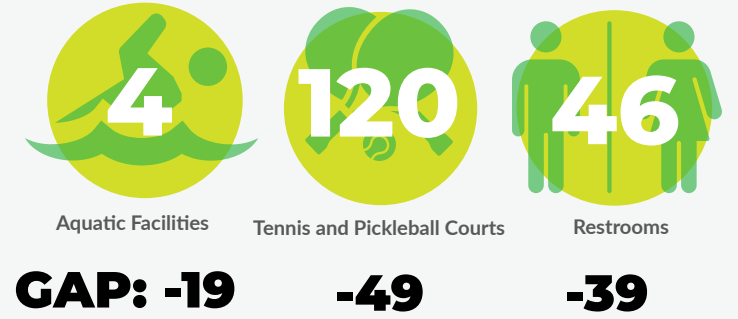
Fort Worth's 455 full-time equivalent employees (FTEs) provide staffing levels well below the NRPA's upper quartile standard of 8.0 FTEs per 10,000 residents, with the city currently at 4.87 FTEs per 10,000 residents. This places Fort Worth at the lower end of staffing compared to peer cities like Denver and Austin. While the department's FY2023 budget of \$61.87 million appears to align with NRPA

standards, it does not fully account for the additional responsibility of maintaining right-of-way landscapes—an expense not typically covered by park agencies in other cities. When adjusted for this factor, Fort Worth's funding falls below that of its peers, limiting the department's capacity to meet service demands and support future growth.

As part of the Standard-Based Assessment, Fort Worth's recreational facilities were also evaluated against benchmarks from the 2024 NRPA Agency Performance Review and peer cities. The city meets or exceeds NRPA standards in several categories, including playgrounds, basketball courts, skate parks, soccer fields, and community centers. However, significant gaps remain in aquatic facilities, with limited outdoor or indoor pools. Many parks lack permanent restrooms, shade structures and high-demand amenities like pickleball courts and splashpads to enhance recreational opportunities.

### Resource-Based Assessment

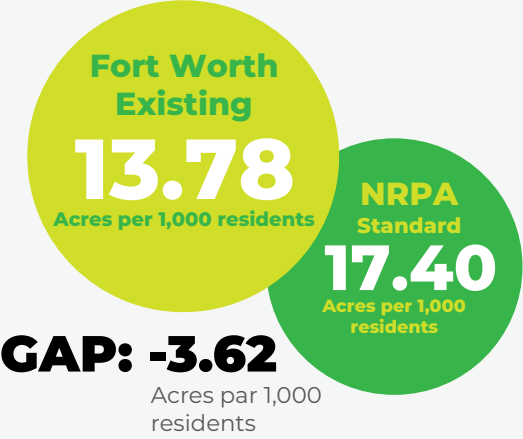
#### Largest Facility Gaps:



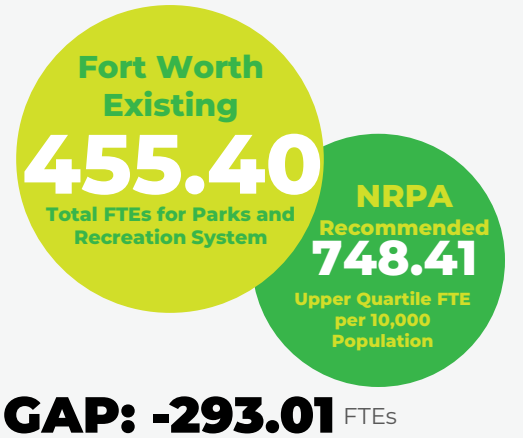
Benchmark Analysis*								
City	Existing Parkland Acreage	Existing Number of Parks	Population**	Parkland Acreage Per 1,000 Residents	Residents Per Park	Miles of Trails	Operating Expenditures Budget - FY23-24	Number of FTEs
Nashville, TN	26,199	243	683,622	38.3	2,813.2	390.4	\$66,970,000	707.5
Charlotte, NC	22,656	383	897,720	25.2	2,343.9	270	\$59,163,552	436
Austin, TX	17,343	494	947,447	18.3	1,917.9	265	\$136,085,770	808
Columbus, OH	14,069	554	907,971	15.5	1,638.9	230	\$65,215,636	415
Denver, CO	7,028	366	713,252	9.8	1,948.7	120	\$178,464,669	600.2
Seattle, WA	6,441	382	749,256	8.6	1,961.4	80	\$226,031,235	1,117.9
Peer Cities Average	15,233.7	388.4	NA	18.5	2,253.4	223.6	113,400,196	648.6
Fort Worth, TX	12,893	297	935,508	13.7	3,149.8	210	\$61,870,514	455.4
NRPA Upper Quartile	NA	NA	Cities with pop 250,000+	17.4	5,791	176	\$53,898,865	533

\* This is based on the 2023 inventory for all cities, Source: Trust for Public Land, 2023 ParkScore Rankings (<https://www.tpl.org/parkscore>)  
\*\*Source: US Census, Quick Facts, Population Estimates, July 1, 2022 (V2022)

#### Parkland Acreage Gap Analysis:



#### PARD Staffing Analysis:





Demand-Based Assessment

Robust community engagement is a cornerstone of the GREENprint Fort Worth Plan. Through a series of events, surveys, interviews, and activities, the community voiced both strengths and challenges within the current park system, while also presenting valuable opportunities for improvement and growth. From highlighting the department's responsiveness

to community desires to addressing critical concerns such as funding allocation and accessibility, the key findings present a holistic view of the community's vision for Fort Worth's parks and recreation. This summary encapsulates the essence of the community feedback, providing insights that will inform the strategic direction of the GREENprint Fort Worth.

Fort Worth is home to diverse and valuable natural and built resources that shape its identity and provide rich recreational opportunities. The Trinity River and Creek System, with over 210 miles of multi-modal trails, offers fishing, boating, kayaking, and equestrian routes. The Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge, spanning 3,621 acres, preserves the city's natural heritage, while the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, serves as a cultural and educational landmark.

Urban destinations further enrich Fort Worth's recreation landscape. Sundance Square Plaza, a 37-block walkable district, is a privately owned and managed public space that blends retail, dining, and entertainment, representing a successful example of a public-private partnership. Meanwhile, the Fort Worth Stockyards and Log Cabin Village celebrate the city's Western heritage, attracting visitors with cattle drives and cultural events. Marine Creek Reservoir, Lake Worth, Eagle Mountain Lake, Lake Arlington, and Benbrook Lake provide opportunities for fishing, kayaking, and waterfront activities.

However, despite these valuable assets, most remain untapped, disconnected, and underutilized. Highways, railroads, and geographic barriers restrict access, while the lack of strategic connections, coordinated investments, and targeted programming prevents these spaces from working together as a unified system that maximizes their potential. To truly elevate its park and recreation network, Fort Worth must move beyond isolated assets and build a fully integrated system that enhances quality of life, expands access, and strengthens the city's sustainability.

- GREENprint Fort Worth provides the strategic direction needed to:
- Connect parks, trails, and recreation spaces into a seamless system.
  - Break down barriers to access, ensuring all residents can enjoy Fort Worth's natural and urban resources.
  - Leverage underutilized assets, activating them with programming, infrastructure, and investment.

Community Engagement Common Themes:

**Accessibility & Connectivity**

- Access to Quality Parks
- Increase Connectivity
- Trails, Greenbelts Creeks
- Equal Public Access

**Communication & Transparency**

- Marketing and Outreach
- Foster Collaboration
- Better Partnerships
- Equal Distribution of Resources

**Facilities & Amenities**

- Aquatic Amenities
- Improve Facilities
- Safety, restrooms shade, lighting
- Better Maintenance

**Programs & Activities**

- Multigenerational Programming
- Outdoor Events
- Community-Based Services
- Educational Opportunities



Panther Island and Trinity River



Sundance Square Plaza



Log Cabin Village



Historic Fort Worth Stockyard

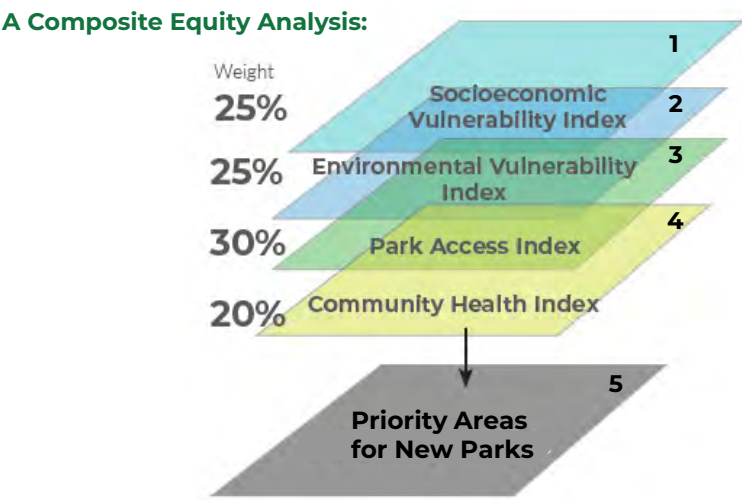


Equity-Based Assessment

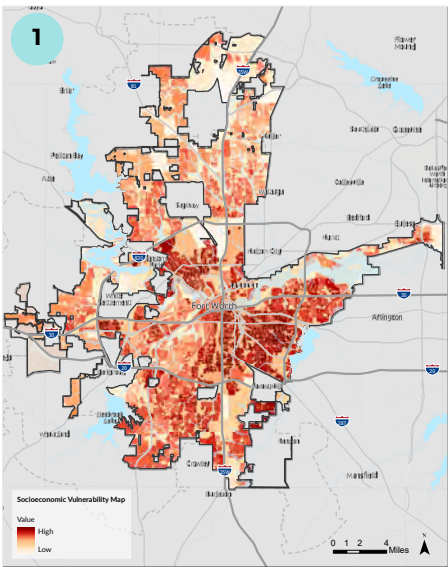
Equity-Based Assessment shows the disparities in park access across Fort Worth, highlighting the need for more equitable distribution of green spaces. According to data from the Trust for Public Land (2023), residents in neighborhoods of color have access to 13% less park space, while lower-income neighborhoods have 25% less park space than wealthier areas. To address these gaps, an equity-based tool was developed to evaluate socioeconomic vulnerability, environmental risks, community health disparities, and park access using 41 contributing factors. These factors were combined into four key indices—Socioeconomic Vulnerability, Environmental Vulnerability, Community Health, and Park Access—and mapped to identify Areas of Greater Need for Parks and Public Spaces.

Access-Based Assessment

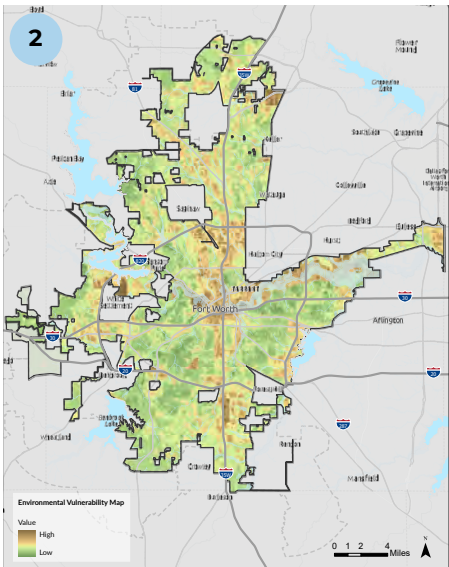
Access-Based Assessment shows that only 62% of Fort Worth residents live within a 10-minute walk of a park, ranking the city 88th among the 100 largest U.S. cities for park access, according to the Trust for Public Land’s (TPL) ParkScore. This assessment uses the 10-minute walk metric—equivalent to a half-mile distance—to evaluate pedestrian and bicycle access to parks, emphasizing the importance of creating connected and accessible green spaces. The Park Access Index identifies gaps by analyzing proximity to parks, sidewalk and trail availability, road barriers, and demographic factors such as low-income households and youth populations. This data-driven analysis highlights key areas where new parks, trails, and infrastructure improvements are needed to promote equitable access and create healthier, more active communities.



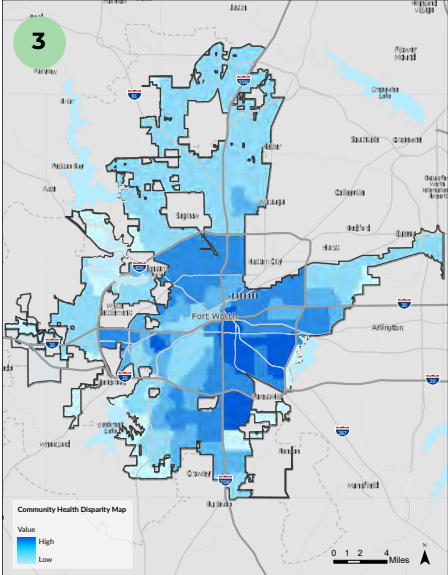
Socioeconomic Vulnerability:



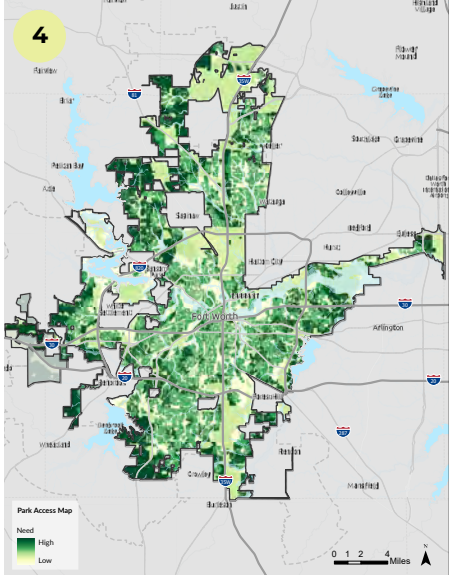
Environmental Vulnerability:



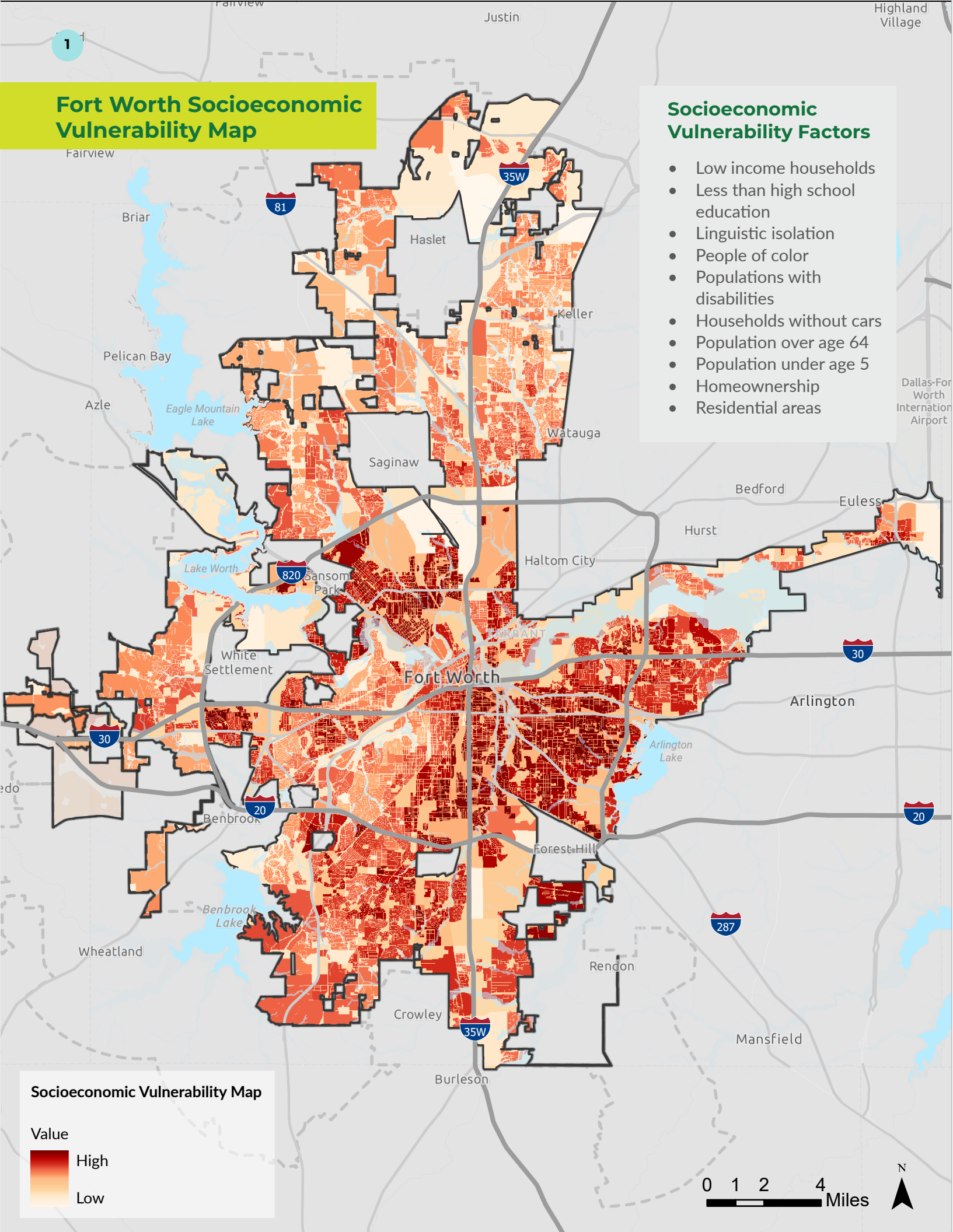
Community Health Disparity:



Park Access:



Maps developed by Stantec team using data from CDC, U.S. Census ACS, EPA Environmental Justice Screening, City of Fort Worth GIS, Tarrant County GIS, TXDOT, USGS National Dataset, Esri Living Atlas, and local health data sources.





# Fort Worth Environmental Vulnerability Map

## Environmental Vulnerability Factors

- Environmental Risk
- Flood Zone
  - Truck Routes and Highways
  - Superfund Sites
  - Poor Water Quality
  - Soil Contamination
  - Heat Islands
  - Industrial Facilities
- Environmental Value
- Tree Canopy Cover
  - Wetlands
  - River streams
  - Lakes

Environmental Vulnerability Map

Value

High

Low

# Fort Worth Community Health Map

## Community Health Disparity Factors

- Air Quality
- Asthma
- Cancer
- Coronary Heart Disease
- Diabetes
- High Cholesterol
- High Blood Pressure
- Heat Exposure
- Obesity

Community Health Disparity Map

Value

High

Low



Fort Worth Park Access Map

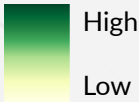
Access-Based Assessment Factors

- All Public Parks Walkshed
- Non-PARD Parks Walkshed
- Sidewalk Availability
- Existing Trails
- Proposed Trails
- Road Classifications
- Low-Income Households
- Population Under Age 19
- Primary Park Amenities
- Population Density
- Residential Areas

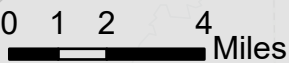
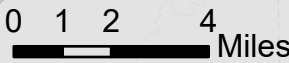
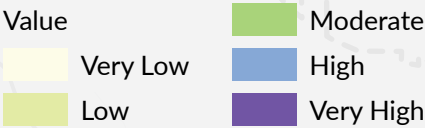
Equity Assessment:  
Priority Areas for  
New Parks

Park Access Map

Need



Priority Areas for New Parks Map





Beyond Park / Public Realm Assessment

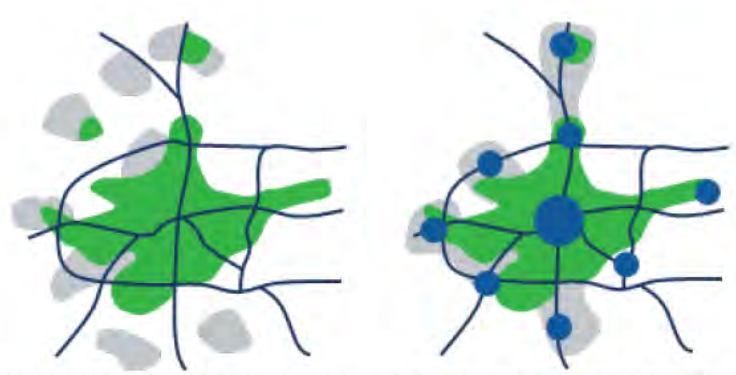
This plan expands beyond parks to embrace the entire public realm. As Fort Worth grows, the 2023 Comprehensive Plan marks a major shift from sprawling, auto-oriented development to compact, walkable, mixed-use neighborhoods. This transformation responds to changing demographics, evolving housing demands, and economic trends that favor vibrant, pedestrian-friendly environments.

This shift presents a unique opportunity to expand the park system by integrating public spaces into designated growth centers, urban villages, and revitalized corridors. Instead of treating parks as standalone spaces, Fort Worth can weave them into the fabric of daily life, ensuring that parks, trails, and civic spaces support the city’s evolving urban form.

To align with this vision, GREENprint Fort Worth leverages these emerging hubs to expand and enhance the park system, linking main streets, plazas, parklets, green streets, sidewalks, and trails into a seamless, connected network that improves mobility, access, and quality of life. GREENprint Fort Worth identifies opportunities to:

- Expand the park system within growth centers and revitalized corridors to ensure parks are within walking distance of where people live, work, and gather.
- Create a more connected, walkable public realm that supports Fort Worth’s future growth.
- Enhance economic opportunity and regional competitiveness by investing in high-quality public spaces.
- Provide common ground for diverse communities, making parks more inclusive and accessible.
- Activate urban spaces with innovative programming and flexible, multi-use design.
- Balance urban growth with nature and conservation, ensuring green infrastructure is a core part of the city’s future.

Fort Worth Future Development Pattern, Shifting Towards Multiple Growth Centers:



DISPERSED DEVELOPMENT    MULTIPLE GROWTH CENTERS

Source: Fort Worth 2023 Comprehensive Plan

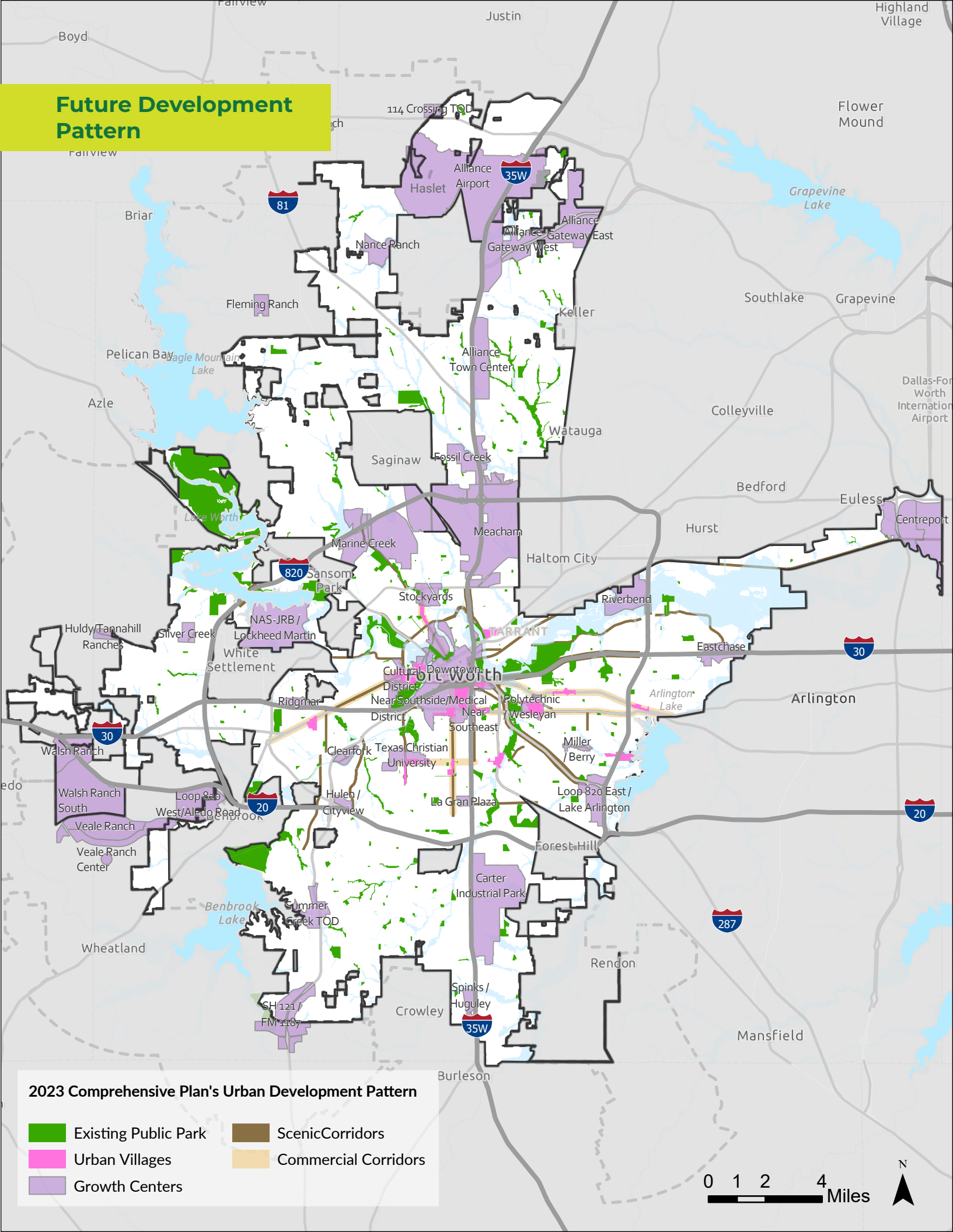
List of Recommended Growth Centers:

INDUSTRIAL GROWTH CENTERS	
Alliance Airport	Meacham Airport
Alliance Gateway East	NAS-JRB/Lockheed Martin
Carter Industrial Park	Riverbend
Centreport	Veale Ranch
Loop 820 East/Lake Arlington	Walsh Ranch South

REGIONAL MIXED-USE GROWTH CENTERS	
Alliance Gateway East	Hulen/Cityview
Centreport	Nance Ranch*
Clearfork	Near Southside/Medical District
Cultural District	Ridgmar
Downtown	Veale Ranch*
Eastchase	Walsh Ranch*

COMMUNITY MIXED-USE GROWTH CENTERS	
114 Crossing TOD*	Near Southeast
Alliance Town Center*	Polytechnic/Texas Wesleyan
Alpha Ranch*	SH 121/FM 1187*
Fleming Ranch*	Silver Creek*
Fossil Creek	Spinks/Huguley
Huldry/Tannahill Ranches*	Stockyards
La Gran Plaza	Summer Creek TOD*
Lake Arlington*	Texas Christian University
Marine Creek*	Veale Ranch Center*
Miller/Berry*	Walsh Ranch*


\*Indicates growth centers that do not currently meet the criteria, but have the potential to do so.






# Key Findings and Common Themes

These key takeaways paint a comprehensive picture of Fort Worth’s park system today—highlighting its strengths, identifying challenges, and uncovering opportunities for growth. The findings emphasize the importance of addressing gaps in equity, accessibility, and resources while embracing a broader vision for the public realm. This snapshot sets the stage for strategic actions and innovative solutions that will guide the GREENprint Fort Worth Plan towards a more inclusive, connected, and resilient future for the city’s parks and public spaces.




Standard-Based Assessment:

**Fort Worth system faces growing needs and limited resources.**




Demand-Based Assessment:

**Fort Worth parks and recreation are not meeting community needs.**




Resource-Based Assessment:

**Fort Worth possesses untapped assets and resources.**




Equity-Based Assessment:

**Fort Worth parks and recreation amenities are not distributed equitably.**



Access-Based Assessment:

**Almost half of Fort Worth residents do not have walkable access to parks.**



Public Realm Assessment:

**A new era of growth calls for expanding the vision beyond just parks to embrace and elevate the entire public realm.**

These themes emerged from the numerous community engagement events and surveys completed as part of this planning process. Those themes, along with the priority needs and citywide analysis, form the basis of the recommendations to follow:

- **Connectivity & Access**
  - **Maintenance & Upgrades**
  - **Safety & User Comfort**
  - **Programs & Activities**
  - **Branding & Identity**
  - **Facilities & Amenities**
  - **Equitable Distribution of Resources**
- **Demographic Shifts & Evolving Needs**
  - **Public Awareness, Communication, and Transparency**
  - **Public / Private Partnerships**
  - **Environmental Stewardship & Nature Preservation**

# Next Steps: From Assessment to Action

This needs assessment highlights critical gaps in park access, facility distribution, and connectivity, reinforcing the urgency to prioritize investment in a more equitable, connected, and sustainable park system. These findings will directly shape future policies, funding decisions, and implementation strategies, ensuring that Fort Worth’s park system evolves to meet the needs of both current and future residents.

Moving forward, the City must focus on:

**Increase Funding & Investment :** Strengthen public-private partnerships to maximize funding opportunities and prioritize park maintenance, land acquisition, and new amenities to ensure long-term sustainability.

**Expand & Improve Programming:** Upgrade and modernize facilities, amenities, and programming to reflect evolving community needs and develop innovative, inclusive recreation programs.

**Activate Underutilized Spaces:** Transform underused parks and public spaces into vibrant destinations through strategic design improvements, programming, and community engagement.

**Ensure Equitable Park Distribution:** Expand parkland acquisition and direct investments to underserved neighborhoods to meet future demand and promote equitable access.

**Enhance Connectivity and Accessibility:** Expand and improve trails, sidewalks, and bike-friendly infrastructure to create stronger non-motorized mobility connections to parks and public spaces.

**Elevate Entire Public Realm:** Envision parks not as isolated spaces but as part of a broader ecosystem of green infrastructure, walkable streets, and dynamic public spaces.

These opportunities provide a roadmap for transforming challenges into strengths, laying the foundation for a more connected, inclusive, and resilient park system. In the following chapters, each opportunity will be directly tied to one or more overarching GREENprint Fort Worth goals, ensuring a strategic approach to enhancing parks, public spaces, and recreational experiences across the city.



CHAPTER

# 04

## Public Engagement

### CONTENTS

- GREENprint Engagement Summary
- Engagement Groups and Methods
- Facilitation Tools
- Focus Groups
- Community Survey Results Summary



# GREENprint Engagement Summary

To envision the future of Fort Worth’s park system, the community engagement process was designed as a joint effort between residents and the city. This process captured the voices, feedback, and collaboration of the people who will play, gather, and celebrate in Fort Worth’s parks and green spaces. Through meaningful participation, the community’s essence, aspirations, and collective vision were reflected in this plan—a plan created by and for the people of Fort Worth.

The engagement process included focus groups, stakeholder meetings, public workshops, community pop-ups, and a citywide survey. A variety of facilitation tools were used to gather community feedback, identify priorities, and explore opportunities and challenges. The survey was open for three months and received 1,643 responses. Public meetings were held in all five Park Planning Districts. This chapter provides a breakdown of key findings from each engagement method and illustrates how this input shaped the GREENPrint vision, mission, goals, and transformative ideas.



1,643  
Survey Responses

10  
Public Meetings

450  
Public workshop participants

11  
Focus Group Meetings

60  
Website comments

12  
Pop-ups



Park Planning District Workshop, Highland Hills Community Center

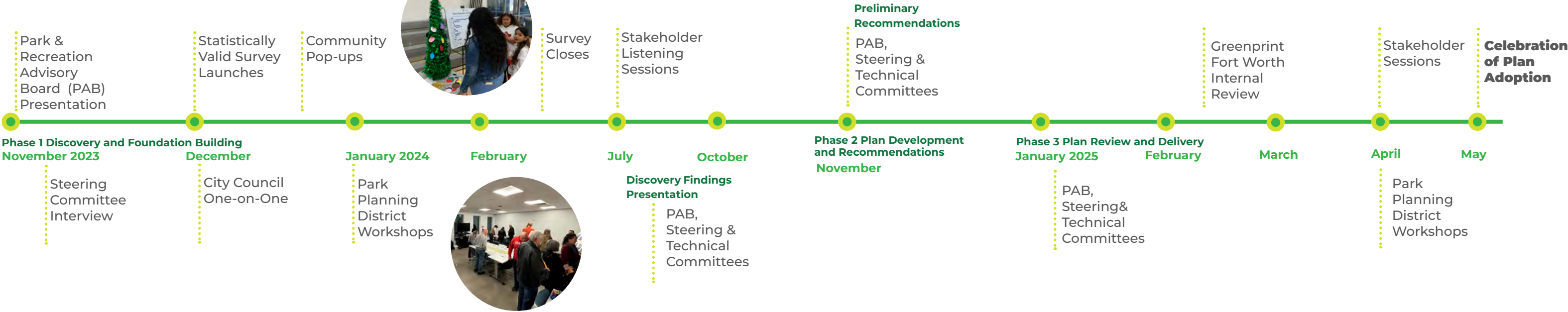


Parks Planning District Workshop, Northwest Community Center



Parks Planning District Workshop, Golden Triangle Library

## Engagement Timeline





# Engagement Groups and Methods

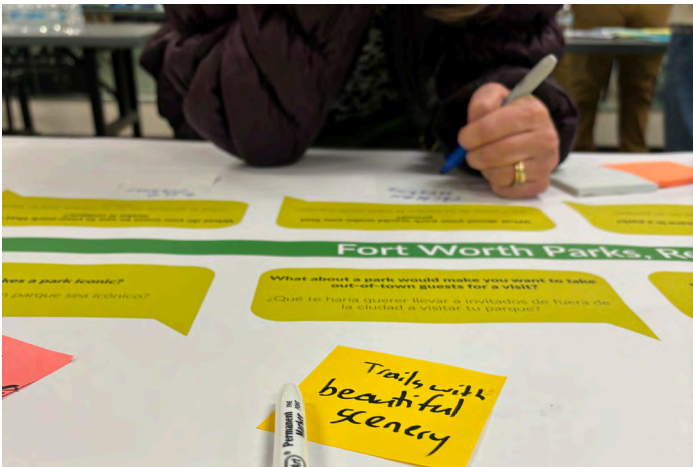
To ensure the GREENprint plan was a truly collaborative vision, it was essential to listen to a diversity of voices, perspectives, and experiences. A range of engagement methods was developed to promote broad representation, accommodate different participation preferences, and foster inclusive dialogue. This approach included public meetings, focus groups, a community-wide survey, and pop-up events designed to meet people where they naturally gather. These varied methods helped ensure community input was accessible, meaningful, and reflective of Fort Worth’s diverse population.

## Outreach

Outreach serves as the primary vehicle for reaching audiences and inviting them to participate in the planning process. By employing various communication channels, such as social media, websites, newsletters, community meetings, and direct outreach efforts, to inform about the planning process, upcoming events, and opportunities for involvement.

A number of outreach methods were employed to inform community members of the GREENprint and engagement opportunities, including:

- Email blasts
- Press releases
- Project website
- Social media – Facebook, Instagram, NextDoor
- Announcements during City Council meetings



Park Planning District Workshop, Highland Hills Community Center

## Mayor and City Council

The Mayor and City Council members were interviewed to gain a focused understanding of their constituents’ needs, preferences, and concerns. Their support and endorsement were also sought for the GREENprint Fort Worth, particularly regarding its implementation and development.

## Stakeholders and Focus Groups

Key stakeholders—including community organizations, advocacy groups, businesses, and government agencies—were involved to gather their insights, leverage their expertise, and foster collaboration throughout the planning process. These partnerships played a crucial role in shaping the plan and ensuring long-term success.

## Pop-Up Engagement

To maximize public participation, pop-up events were held at community centers, local events, and gatherings, meeting residents where they already are rather than relying solely on large public workshops. These events focused on interactive activities such as visual preference surveys, online surveys, and facilitated discussions. Passersby were encouraged to share their input, ensuring a more inclusive planning process.

## Park Planning District Workshops

Large, interactive workshops provided an opportunity for community members to collaborate and offer input on neighborhood parks, trails, facilities, and amenities. These discussions helped shape recommendations tailored to the unique needs of each district.

## Survey

A statistically valid survey was conducted to collect quantitative data on community preferences, park usage patterns, and satisfaction levels. The survey was open for three months and received 1,643 responses, providing critical, data-driven insights to inform decision-making.

# Facilitation Tools

To ensure meaningful community engagement, a variety of facilitation tools were used during pop-ups and public workshops to gather public feedback. These activities encouraged participants to share their visions for the future of Fort Worth’s park system, identify preferred amenities, highlight funding priorities, and pinpoint specific needs or opportunities on maps. The diverse engagement methods ensured all voices—across ages, abilities, and interests—were heard and incorporated into the GREENprint Fort Worth Master Plan.

## Wish Tree

The Wish Tree activity invited participants to share their dreams and ideas for park improvements by writing them on tags and attaching them to a tree. This interactive tool encouraged community members to express their desires in a visual and engaging way, revealing key priorities and aspirations for the park system.

### Top Responses:

- More basketball courts (including covered and outdoor options)
- Increased availability of pickleball courts
- Expansion of senior programs and activities
- More group dance classes

## Funding Priorities

In this hands-on budgeting activity, participants received an envelope containing 10 coins and were asked to distribute them among different funding categories. This exercise provided a tangible way for the community to express how they would prioritize park investments.

### Funding Priorities Results:



Wish Tree Exercise , Community Pop-up at Hillside Community Center



Wish Tree Exercise , Community Pop-up at Chisholm Trail



Funding Priorities Exercise, Golden Triangle Library Workshop



Newspaper Headlines

This visioning exercise asked residents to imagine Fort Worth 20 years into the future and create newspaper headlines that would capture their ideal city. The goal was to inspire participants to think boldly about the city’s growth, its parks, and the role of public spaces in enhancing quality of life.

Newspaper Headlines Included:

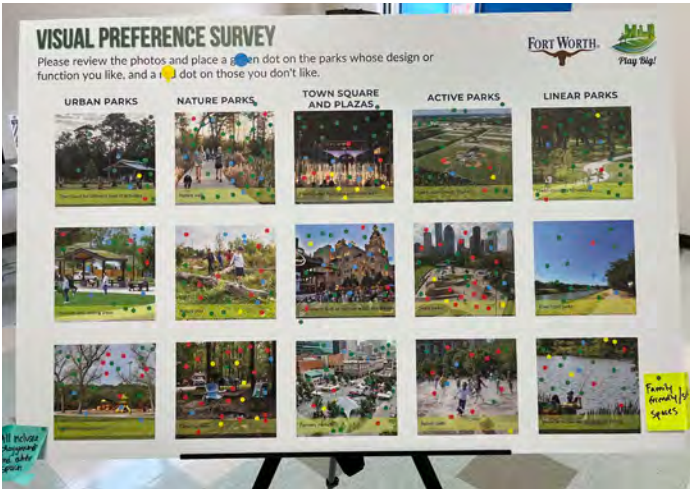
- Fort Worth City in a Park
- Fort Worth Green and Peaceful
- Fort Worth as a Destination for People of All Ages and Abilities
- A Thriving Ecosystem with Abundant Pollinators and Vegetation
- Parks and Green spaces Described as Safe, Vibrant, and Lively
- Fort Worth Voted Best Parks in the US
- Bright and Vivid Fort Worth



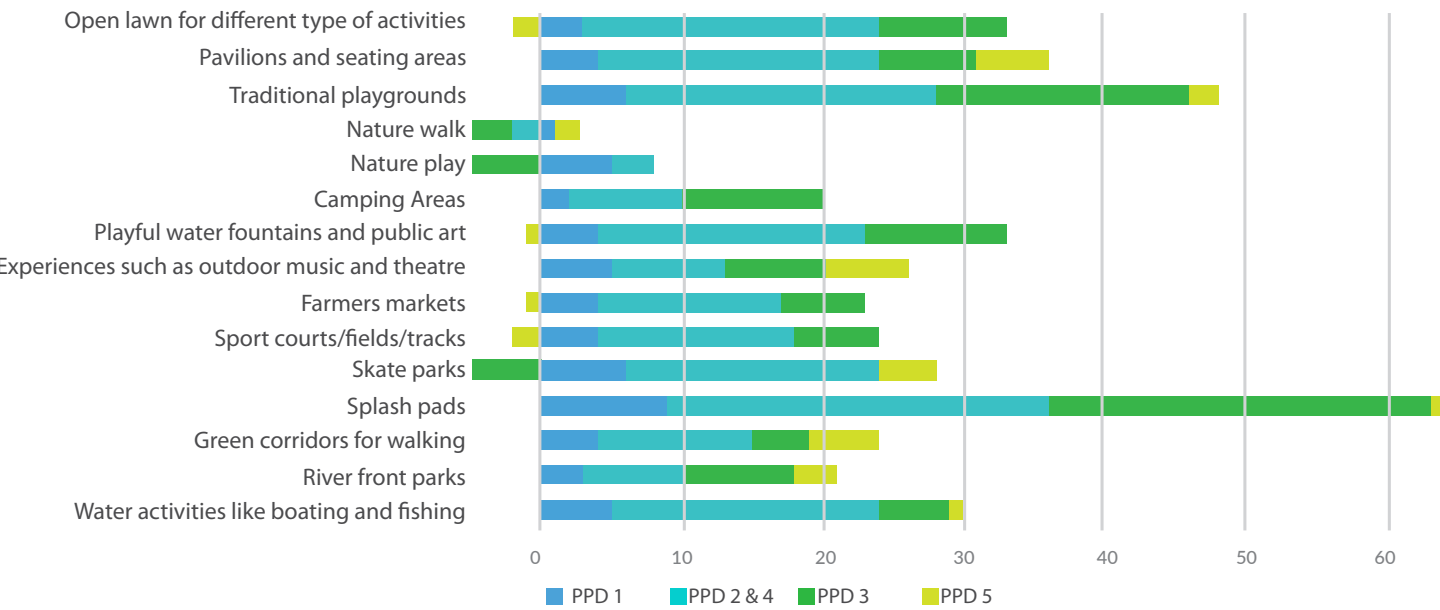
Newspaper Headlines from Park Planning District Workshops

Visual Preference Survey

The Visual Preference Survey helped identify the types of parks that resonate most with the community. Participants selected images that represented their ideal park spaces, allowing planners to understand the unique needs and priorities of different neighborhoods.



Visual Preference Survey Results from Park Planning District Workshops



Preferred Amenities

This activity sought to pinpoint the most desired amenities across Fort Worth’s Park Planning Districts. Using sticky dots, participants indicated their top choices for park and community center features.

Most Desired Amenities:

- Trails
- Outdoor active recreation facilities
- Pools and water recreation areas
- Indoor recreation centers, and playgrounds



Top Park Amenity Preferences from Park Planning District Workshops

Imagine Your Park

To engage Fort Worth’s youngest residents, an Imagination Station was set up where children could design their dream parks using stickers and crayons. This activity recognized that youth are key stakeholders in shaping the future of parks and often provide creative, unrestricted ideas.

Common Themes from Kids’ Designs:

- Art parks and performance spaces
- Skate parks and sports fields/courts
- Green spaces with abundant landscaping and shade



Imagine Your Park Exercise, Handley Meadowbrook Community Center



Imagine Your Park Exercise Results from Park Planning District Workshops



Imagine Your Park Exercise, Highland Hills Community Center



Map It

During the PPD workshops, the Map It activity allowed residents to provide location-specific feedback on their district’s park system. Equipped with district maps, pens, and sticky notes, participants identified key areas for improvement, challenges, and favorite community spaces. This exercise leveraged local knowledge to ensure that park planning decisions align with community needs.

Key Insights from Mapping Activity:

- Identification of underserved areas needing park access
- Requests for better trail connectivity and safer pedestrian routes
- Highlighting of beloved parks and amenities worth enhancing



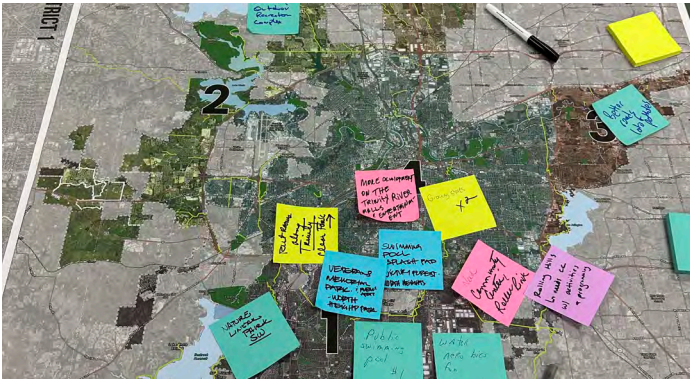
Map It Exercise, Botanic Garden Workshop



Map It Exercise, Highland Hills Community Center Workshop



Map It Exercise, Handley Meadowbrook Community Center Workshop



Map It Exercise Results from Park Planning District Workshops



Map It Exercise Results from Park Planning District Workshops

Big Ideas

The Big Ideas activity encouraged participants to think about the essential elements that make parks successful, ranging from fundamental needs to aspirational goals. Using sticky notes, residents shared thoughts on various themes that shape the future of Fort Worth’s parks.

Recurring Themes:

- Safety, comfort, and family-friendly environments
- Natural beauty, sustainability, and green infrastructure
- Community identity and destination potential



Big Ideas Exercise, Handley Meadowbrook Community Center



Shade at playgrounds for safer play during the hot summer

Ball fields and courts (baseball, softball, pickleball, tennis, soccer, basketball)

Good connectivity to neighborhoods, connected trails.

Places to walk exercise stations, and athletic facilities

Ample space for all levels of activities, passive and active

Unique playgrounds for all abilities and ages

Programming that promotes health, wellness, and community building

Public art, butterfly garden, native plants, water features. Nature preservation education classes.

Repair sidewalks, and install sidewalks to improve connectivity and safety



# Focus Groups

As part of the GREENprint listening session, we engaged with eight focus groups to gain deeper insights into key areas shaping our community’s future. These discussions provided valuable perspectives on recreation, development, conservation, and partnerships, helping to identify opportunities and challenges that will inform our planning efforts. By bringing together diverse voices, we aimed to foster collaboration and ensure that community needs and priorities are reflected in our strategies.

## Independent School District (ISD)

ISDs expressed interest in improving park safety, enhancing connectivity, and expanding the use of parks and water bodies for education and recreation. There is potential for partnerships between ISDs and the Park & Recreation Department (PARD) to share facilities and integrate parks into science curricula.

### Key Takeaways:

- **Safety:** Ensuring parks are safe to maintain family and student usage.
- **Water Bodies:** Opening rivers and lakes for activities like tubing and swimming while improving perceptions of water quality.
- **Education Partnerships:** Using parks for hands-on learning, including water testing, citizen science stations, and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) initiatives.
- **Connectivity:** Expanding trail networks, especially around Marine Creek Lake, to provide safer routes to schools.

## Higher Education Institutions

Colleges and universities are looking for ways to enhance student engagement with parks through research, wellness initiatives, and public health partnerships. They also emphasized the need for improved transportation, safety, and urban green spaces.

### Key Takeaways:

- **Higher Education Partnerships:** Collaborating with public health researchers to study water quality, walking patterns, and public health impacts.



Economic Development & Tourism Focus Group Session

- **Safety and Accessibility:** Addressing concerns about park safety, especially in urban areas like 7th Street and the Stockyards.
- **Student Engagement:** Integrating PARD programming and facilities into student higher education orientation to promote park use among students and young professionals.
- **Public Health & Blue Zones:** Promoting initiatives focused on active living, food security, and mixed-use developments.

## Economic Development & Tourism

Tourism and economic development stakeholders focused on the intersection of parks, water access, public art, and downtown revitalization.

### Key Takeaways:

- **Park & Trail Connectivity:** Strengthening links between parks, neighborhoods, and incentive development along the Trinity River.
- **Water Quality & Access:** Improving public perception of water bodies and expanding activities like kayaking and tubing.
- **Public Art & Placemaking:** Integrating functional



Naturalists Focus Group Session

- public art into parks, such as shade structures funded through the city’s bond program.
- **Urban Parks & Development:** Investing in downtown parks and converting surface parking lots into green spaces.

## Naturalist Focus Group

Naturalists emphasized the ecological role of parks, calling for better wildlife connectivity, sustainable maintenance practices, and stronger community engagement. They stressed the need for long-term resilience and thoughtful park design.

### Key Takeaways:

- **Wildlife & Habitat:** Support native species through connected green spaces and ecological design, like linking the Botanic Garden to Trinity Park.
- **Maintenance & Infrastructure:** Improve water access year-round, enhance park upkeep, and address safety concerns in underused parks
- **Ecological Practices:** Reintroduce no-mow zones and prescribed burns; support native planting and pollinator-friendly landscapes.

- **Community Involvement:** Invite residents into planning processes and build support for environmental stewardship.
- **Climate Resilience:** Plan for heat, flooding, and water quality in future park development.
- Tree Preservation:** Protect mature trees in new developments.

## Non-Field Sports Organizations

The biggest concerns among non-field sports groups were the lack of quality pools, accessibility issues, and limited programming opportunities for all ages.

### Key Takeaways:

- **Pool Shortage:** A need for more public pools and better access to existing ones, including year-round heated facilities and competition facilities.
- **Affordability & Accessibility:** Addressing high fees, lack of digital access, and limited public use during team practices.
- **Aquatic Programming:** Expanding swim lessons to reduce drowning risks and offering aqua fitness for seniors.



- Marketing & Outreach: Increasing awareness of facility upgrades, availability, and programming

### Field Sports Organizations

Field sports groups emphasized the need for improved and expanded facilities, better lighting, and increased year-round access.

#### Key Takeaways:

- Field Development in Floodplains: Building multipurpose, flexible sports fields with lighting.
- Lighting & Accessibility: Ensuring proper lighting for evening activities and keeping fields open year-round.
- Gateway Park as a Sports Hub: Potential to develop the park into a major sports and competition venue. Potential to include concession or a food park and host league tournaments.
- Leagues & Community Services: Expanding space for leagues, including rentable storage for equipment.
- Public-Private Partnerships: Exploring opportunities for the city to own facilities while third-party staff manage programming.

### Development Community

Developers highlighted challenges in parkland dedication policies, urban design guidelines, and water management.

#### Key Takeaways:

- Placemaking & Design Guidelines: Encouraging active frontages and urban design principles in new developments.
- Parkland Dedication Challenges: Streamlining approvals and ensuring quality park spaces in new developments.
- Stormwater & Riparian Preservation: Using the river system as an organizing element for sustainable city planning.
- Natural Features & Maintenance: Ensuring each park has a signature natural feature and long-term maintenance strategies.
- Urban Development & Quality of Life: Prioritizing infill and Greenfield development with integrated green spaces.

### County Representatives

County leaders expressed concerns about park safety, trail design, and equitable access to green spaces across communities.

#### Key Takeaways:

- Trail Design & Safety: Making trails more inviting by adding shade, amenities, and ensuring after-dark safety.
- Model Communities: Learning from places like Katy Trail and White Rock Lake to create welcoming spaces.
- Walkability & Connectivity: Connecting lower-income neighborhoods to affluent areas through parks and trails.
- Cultural & Economic Diversity: Supporting local businesses, food vendors, and cultural experiences in park spaces.

### Philanthropic Organizations

The discussion with philanthropic organizations focused on Fort Worth’s potential for park development, funding challenges, and strategic investment approaches. Participants emphasized the importance of partnerships, compelling storytelling, and legal hurdles that impact private donations. There was a strong push for high-quality sports facilities and a more strategic focus on impactful projects.

#### Key Takeaways:

- Strategic Investment: A “crown jewel” project would garner more support than spreading resources thin.
- Partnership Potential: Opportunities with the Texas Rangers, YMCA, and Boys & Girls Club for sports and aquatic programs.
- Challenges to Giving: Legal barriers and lack of investable opportunities hinder private funding.

### Healthcare Focus Group

Healthcare professionals underscored the connection between parks and public health, emphasizing the need for walkability, equitable access, and investment in health-focused programming. The discussion highlighted barriers such as maintenance issues, transparency concerns, and a lack of accountability in park management.

#### Key Takeaways:

- Equitable Access: Addressing disinvestment in historically underserved areas and improving safe routes to parks.
- Health-Driven Programs: Using tools like the “Healthy Parks, Healthy People” guide and community initiatives like school gardens.
- Technology & Accountability: Suggested park navigation apps and improved 311 response tracking to enhance accessibility and responsiveness.

# Community Survey Results

As part of the GREENPrint plan’s community engagement process, the planning team conducted a community survey from November 2023 to February 2024. The survey invited Fort Worth residents to share feedback on the current conditions of park facilities, programming needs, and their vision for the future of the city’s park system. Below are the results from the 1,643 survey responses. For detailed survey results please refer to Appendix E of this report.

Based on the provided responses, the common themes among respondents’ preferences for parks include:

- **Desire for Additional Amenities:** Many respondents express a desire for more amenities in parks, such as splash pads, playgrounds, walking trails, picnic areas, and improved lighting.
- **Maintenance and Upgrades:** There are numerous mentions of neglected parks that require maintenance, upgrades, or total overhauls. This includes repairing trails, addressing erosion issues, installing new playground equipment, improving lighting, and enhancing overall aesthetics.
- **Connectivity and Accessibility:** Respondents emphasize the importance of connectivity between parks and trails, as well as better access to parks for communities, including providing more community centers and indoor facilities.
- **Safety and Security:** Concerns about safety and security were raised, including the presence of homeless individuals, drug use, and vandalism in parks. Many suggested increasing police patrols and community monitoring to address these issues.



Taking Paper Surveys, Botanic Garden Workshop

- **Environmental Concerns:** Some respondents highlighted the importance of preserving natural areas within parks and incorporating native plantings to support wildlife, as well as addressing trash and pollution in waterways.
- **Specific Park Mentions:** Several parks were mentioned multiple times, including Trinity Park, Gateway Park, Foster Park, and others. These parks seem to be focal points for community members and are in need of various improvements and additions.



CHAPTER

# 05

## Parks and Public Realm of Tomorrow

### CONTENTS

- Parks and Public Realm of Tomorrow
- GREENprint Fort Worth Framework
- Vision, Mission, Goals and Objectives





Dream Park, Photo Credit: City of Fort Worth

# Parks and Public Realm of Tomorrow

Imagine a city where every street, neighborhood, and public space is seamlessly connected through a vibrant network of parks, trails, plazas, and natural landscapes. A city where green spaces are not isolated destinations but an essential part of everyday life—enhancing mobility, fostering community, and improving public health.

Fort Worth is reimagining its urban fabric to create a more resilient, equitable, and connected future. By integrating parks, green spaces, and public realms into the daily lives of residents, the city is embracing a bold vision.

This vision did not emerge in isolation—it was developed through **extensive community engagement, data analysis, and benchmarking against national best practices**, this framework aligns with the City of Fort Worth’s long-term goals for growth, economic vitality, environmental resilience, and social equity. These assessments revealed growing needs, untapped opportunities, and systemic challenges—from limited walkable access and uneven park distribution to outdated amenities and underutilized spaces. Community engagement throughout the process reinforced these insights, underscoring the need for a more inclusive, responsive, and sustainable public space system.

GREENprint Fort Worth: Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Public Realm Master Plan serves as the city’s comprehensive roadmap for achieving this vision over the next 10 - 20 years. It is designed to guide strategic investments, policy decisions, and community-driven initiatives that will elevate Fort Worth’s park and public realm system into a national model of equity, sustainability, and innovation.

GREENprint Fort Worth establishes a clear Vision, Mission, Goals, Objectives, Strategies, System-Wide Recommendations, Park Planning District Recommendations, and Transformative Ideas—all working together to shape the future of parks, recreation, green space, and the public realm in Fort Worth.

## The Path Forward

The following chapters presents:

- A unified vision and strategic goals for the future of Fort Worth’s parks and public spaces.
- Transformative ideas that elevate Fort Worth as a national leader in parks and recreation.
- Actionable recommendations for both system-wide and Park Planning Districts.
- Clear framework to guide PARD's efforts.

This is more than a plan—it’s a call to action.



An inspiring vision for a city where green spaces are not isolated destinations but an essential part of everyday life.



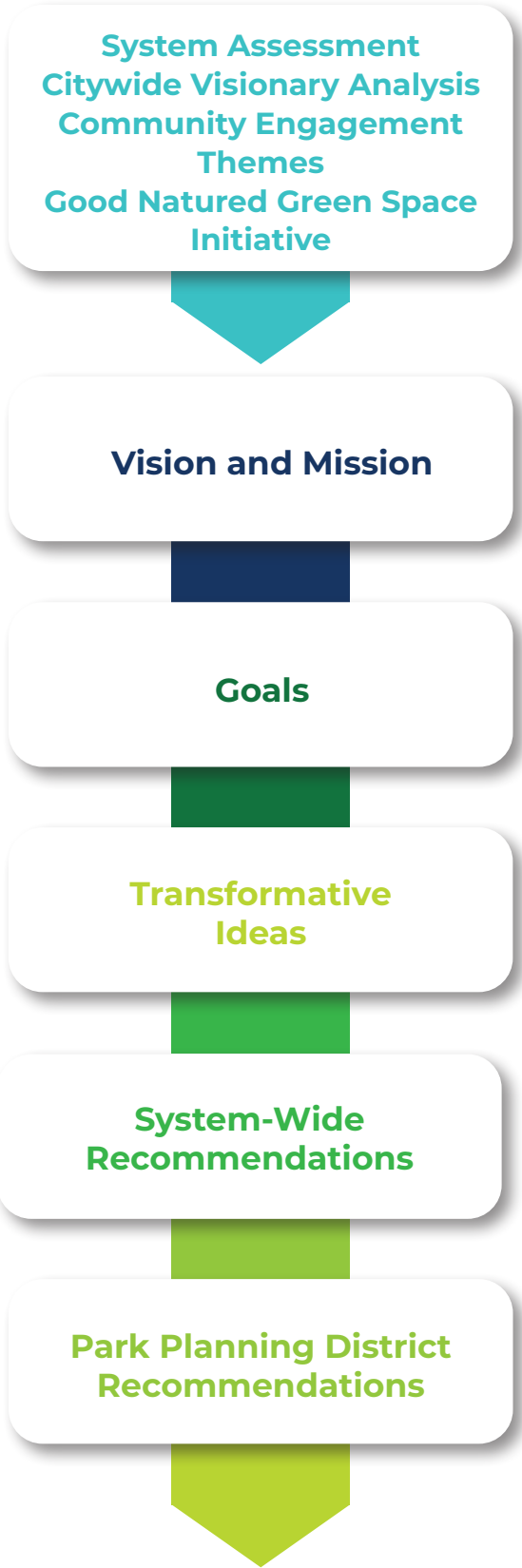
**GREENprint Fort Worth Framework Components**

The GREENprint Fort Worth Framework is structured to ensure a cohesive, strategic, and actionable approach to park system planning. The Goals, Transformative Ideas, System-Wide Recommendations, and Park Planning District Recommendations are all interconnected and collectively contribute to achieving the Vision and Mission.

- **Vision and Mission:** Serve as the foundation and guiding principles for the city’s long-term approach to parks, recreation, green space, and the public realm.
- **Goals:** Define the big-picture aspirations that define the strategic direction of Fort Worth’s park system and serve as the foundation for all objectives, strategies, and recommendations.
- **Transformative Ideas:** Introduce bold, innovative strategies that will reshape the city’s parks and public spaces, elevating Fort Worth as a national leader in parks and recreation.
- **System-Wide Recommendations:** Address citywide priorities that strengthen the entire parks and recreation network through a series of objectives, strategies and action steps.
  - **Objectives:** Identify specific outcomes that align with each goal.
  - **Strategies:** Provide a roadmap of initiatives and policies to achieve the objectives.
  - **Action steps:** Break down each strategy into clear, practical, and implementable tasks.
- **Park Planning District Recommendations:** Tailor solutions to unique geographic and demographic conditions in each district.

By implementing the GREENprint Fort Worth Framework, the city is not just planning for the next decade—it is building a legacy of parks, recreation, and public spaces that will enhance quality of life for generations to come.

**GREENprint Fort Worth Framework**



**VISION**

**Fort Worth is a recognized leader, known for its premier park system, visionary conservation of natural landscapes, a connected community that fosters wellness and a thriving quality of life.**

**MISSION**

**Position the City's parks and public spaces to enhance livability, access and opportunity; inspiring and supporting our diverse growing community for current and future generations.**

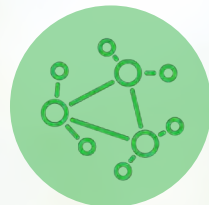


# GOALS



## Thriving Community

Support the community's physical, mental, and emotional well-being through innovative design and programming.



## Connected System

Create a dynamic, connected network of high-quality parks, public spaces, and trails that unite the community and support the mobility and recreational needs of all Fort Worth residents.



## Vibrant Nature

Cultivate natural spaces that enhance ecosystems, foster community connections, and build resilience by integrating the natural environment into Fort Worth's park and recreation system.



## Common Ground

Develop public spaces that are accessible and welcoming for everyone, foster social interaction, and celebrate the community's multiculturalism, enhancing a sense of belonging and unity.



## Premier Destination

Transform Fort Worth's parks and public spaces into a leading destination that contributes to the City's economic development and growth.



## Manageable Resources

Elevate the management, operations, and maintenance to ensure organizational sustainability.

# OBJECTIVES

## Thriving Community

Objective 1: Design an award-winning park and recreation system that enhances the community's quality of life.

Objective 2: Continuously assess community needs and proactively plan facilities, recreation, and programs that adapt to evolving needs and trends.

Objective 3: Enhance public health and promote active lifestyles by expanding access to parks, offering diverse recreational programs, and improving facilities for physical activity in parks and public spaces.

Objective 4: Strengthen partnerships with other agencies, non-profit groups, community partners, and the private sector to expand opportunities for programming and joint use of space and facilities.

Objective 5: Position parks to help address complex challenges in the community.

## Connected System

Objective 1: Provide an accessible, well-distributed and balanced parks system throughout the entire community.

Objective 2: Connect the parks system, seamlessly into the urban public realm and the community within and beyond the parkland.

Objective 3: Enhance public awareness of parks, recreation facilities, and programs through social media, multicultural public outreach, and developing a comprehensive branding & communications plan.

## Vibrant Nature

Objective 1: Promote and foster stewardship that protects, preserves and enhances the natural environment and fosters community interaction, biodiversity, and resilience.

Objective 2: Connect people to nature through immersive and educational experiences and increased awareness of resiliency, water resources, and benefits of ecological biodiversity.

Objective 3: Adopt a holistic and synergistic approach to develop nature-based solutions within the park system and city's public realm.

Objective 4: Enhance the Trinity River, its watersheds, tributaries, and lakes as interconnected natural and recreational assets that showcase Fort Worth's ecosystems and foster community enjoyment.

## Common Ground

Objective 1: Embrace and adopt new park system typologies to strengthen the public realm.

Objective 2: Create safe, convenient and inviting public spaces that support positive experiences for everyone.

Objective 3: Offer a wide range of facilities and recreation programs that cater to the diverse interests, ages, abilities, and income levels of Fort Worth's evolving community.

Objective 4: Preserve and celebrate neighborhood identities by integrating local culture, art, history, and community values into park design and programming.

## Premier Destination

Objective 1: Promote the City's parks and public spaces to attract new user groups and tourists to Fort Worth.

Objective 2: Position parks and public spaces as key economic development assets to attract major employers and a talented workforce.

Objective 3: Enhance the economic impact of parks by integrating amenities like food concessions, recreational rentals, and vendor opportunities to create revenue streams and boost tourism.

## Manageable Resources

Objective 1: Ensure the fiscal sustainability of the Park & Recreation Department through innovative funding mechanisms, diversified revenue streams, and efficient resource management.

Objective 2: Address staffing challenges to ensure effective maintenance, programming, and management, supporting the department's growing needs and future vision.

Objective 3: Invest in developing and strengthening diverse partnerships to enhance PARD's capacity and impact.

Objective 4: Optimize and upgrade park facilities to improve functionality, ensure efficient maintenance, and enhance the long-term sustainability of the system.

Objective 5: Enhance governance and organizational excellence through accreditation, performance evaluations, and increased accountability and transparency.





CHAPTER

# 06

## Transformative Ideas

### CONTENTS

- Transformative Ideas
- New Parks and Public Realm Typologies
- Green Connectivity Network
- Living with Nature
- A Central Common Ground
- A New Era of Programming





Lake Como Park, Photo Credit: Stantec Team

# Transformative Ideas

Since its founding in 1849, the City of Fort Worth has experienced steady growth and change—and with it, so have its parks, recreation facilities, and green spaces. Each era of expansion has been marked by the creation of significant public spaces that have helped the city adapt, thrive, and enhance its identity. Today, as one of North America’s most diverse, fastest-growing cities, Fort Worth faces a new set of challenges and opportunities.

The transformative ideas outlined in this chapter are not a break from tradition, but a bold continuation of it. They build on Fort Worth’s legacy of investing in parks and public spaces as essential infrastructure—tools for resilience, inclusion, connection, and economic vitality.

In an era defined by urban growth, cultural diversity, and a renewed desire for access to nature, these ideas respond to shifting patterns of how people live, move, and gather. They are designed to shape this generation’s contribution to Fort Worth’s rich legacy of public space—creating lasting value for future generations.

These transformative ideas will enable Fort Worth’s parks, recreation, and green space system to play an even greater role in advancing citywide goals for livability, equity, opportunity, and sustainability.

## Overview: Transformative Ideas Essential to Achieve the City’s Goals

Going forward, the City of Fort Worth projects a population that will increase by more than 40%, beyond its 2024 level, to roughly 1.3 million by 2050, the City’s Comprehensive Plan acknowledges that, like every major city across North America, this next period of growth will be dominated by households without children. Households who are far more interested in living (and working) in mixed-use, walkable urban places than previous generations. The City of Fort Worth’s current Comprehensive Plan recognizes and capitalizes on this shift to a more centralized growth model by focusing on the development of a series of emerging urban growth centers, villages, and revitalized commercial corridors.

This new growth model suggests that—in addition to pursuing ongoing critical initiatives such as celebrating and enhancing access to the Trinity River; pursuing the Good Natured Green Space Initiative; and improving the city’s existing parks, recreation and green space inventory—the City of Fort Worth is poised to launch a new set of parks and public realm strategies and ideas that will further enhance quality of life, economic opportunities, and environmental responsibilities for current and future generations of Fort Worth’s diverse community.



Main Streets, Artist’s booths line Magnolia Avenue at the ArtsGoggle hosted annually by the Near Southside, Inc. Source: Near Southside Inc.



These transformative ideas recognize that to maintain its long-time commitment to ensuring that its parkland and related inventory keep pace with continuing population growth, the City of Fort Worth will need to explore new approaches that will rely less on the dedication of parkland as part of subdivision development and the ability to purchase less expensive land at the city’s periphery while focusing more on approaches that tap into the impact fees and similar value capture associated with a significant increase in higher value multifamily and other forms of urban housing, together with a new generation of public/private partnerships, to bring access to nature, gathering places, recreation, and similar benefits to the residents of emerging growth centers, urban villages, and revitalized commercial corridors where the next generation growth will focus. These transformative ideas include:

- **New Parks and Public Realm Typologies** that respond to rapidly evolving growth dynamics and provide growth centers, urban villages, and revitalized commercial corridors with a new era of public realm. Green, mixed-use Main Streets whose eateries and shops invite walkability; lively squares animated with play fountains and cafés that promote interaction; small neighborhood parks that invite gathering, play, and recreation; and parklets that reclaim underutilized streets for outdoor dining and other community activities. In addition to meeting the needs of

these communities, these public realm amenities help Fort Worth achieve core goals including reducing fiscal costs by replacing decentralized with more centralized growth and creating the mixed-use, walkable neighborhoods that attract the increasingly scarce talent who in turn attract the knowledge and innovation industry jobs and investment that are essential to power 21st century economic growth.

- A **Green Connectivity Network** that links the entire system without depending on a car. Green mobility network consisting of tree-lined pedestrian connections, bikeways, and transit to enable residents of all ages and abilities to travel to and between parts—and potentially cultural and entertainment centers and other community destinations—without having to rely on access to a car. The network will not only promote healthier living—few factors correlate more directly with improved public health than increased walking and biking—but also improve access for the growing share of households living in Fort Worth’s existing and emerging core neighborhoods who are far more likely to own fewer cars and prefer non-auto-dependent lives. This preference is particularly true for the talented workforce noted above who attract 21st century jobs and investment and who express a strong preference for living and working in communities that do not require auto-dependent lifestyles.

- A greater emphasis on **Living with Nature** that extends the benefits of Fort Worth’s unique natural ecosystem to every part of the city. This transformative idea reinforces the City’s broader goals by encouraging a more intentional integration of natural systems into future development, supporting long-term resilience, environmental stewardship, and community well-being. While not explicitly stated, the approach aligns with the spirit of the Comprehensive Plan—advancing a healthier, more connected, and sustainable urban future.
- A **Central Common Ground** at the confluence of the Trinity River and Downtown that proactively invites the full spectrum of Fort Worth’s diversity to gather, interact, and celebrate the benefits of shared community. A site that connects the River, Downtown, and emerging redevelopment of Panther Island provides an ideal location for this new “central park” that celebrates the best of Fort Worth’s history, nature, and distinctive living culture. This central park would also transform a cluster of nearby parks—Heritage Park, Trinity Park, Riverside Park, and the Water Gardens—collectively into a destination representing the heart of 21st Century Fort Worth. Activate key nodes along the Trinity River—in ways that fully maintain the flood storage, respect the need for levees, and respect the River’s natural setting—to enhance the River’s value as a source of active recreation, a unique place for informal

gathering and hosting neighborhood events, and an opportunity to learn more about Fort Worth’s unique ecosystem. In effect the River’s edges would emerge as one of America’s great riverfront parks and further leverage the River’s ability to serve as a potent invitation to live, work, play, learn—and innovate—in Fort Worth’s urban core.

- A **New Era of Programming** that engages people with their parks and each other while unlocking the full potential of Public Spaces. Improve existing parks with a wider range of programming, facilities, and opportunities to enjoy nature to expand their appeal to a wider cross section of nearby neighborhoods—including the future residents of nearby growth centers, urban villages, and revitalized commercial corridors.

Theses transformative ideas also serve as key strategies in achieving the plan’s overarching goals. Each idea contributes to multiple goals, with some serving as essential drivers while others play a strong supporting role. Together, these transformative ideas shape a more Thriving Community, promote sustainable growth, and enhance Manageable Resources, ensuring Fort Worth’s parks and public spaces evolve in alignment with the city’s long-term vision.



Key Messages from the 2023 Comprehensive Plan

1. Create a new generation of urban *public realm*
2. Create a Green Connectivity Network
3. Realize the Trinity River's full environmental, recreational, economic and civic potential
4. Continue to align population growth and expand park and recreation facilities.
5. Expand natural areas and open space conservation initiatives.
6. Expand economic opportunity and regional competitiveness.
7. Celebrate Fort Worth’s rich legacy and living culture.
8. Enhance equity and inclusivity.
9. Expand inter-agency partnerships

GREENprint Fort Worth Goals:	#1: New Parks and Public Realm Typologies that respond to rapidly evolving growth dynamics.	#2: A Green Connectivity Network that links the entire system without depending on a car.	#3: A greater emphasis on Living with Nature that extends the benefits of Fort Worth's unique natural ecosystem to every part of the city.	#4: A Grand Gathering Place & Common Ground that connects Fort Worth to the Trinity River.	#5: A New Era of Programming that engages people with their parks and each other while unlocking the full potential of Public Spaces.
Thriving Community	●	■	●	■	●
Connected System	●	●	■	■	●
Vibrant Nature	■	●	●	■	■
Common Ground	■	●	●	■	■
Premier Destination	■	■	●	■	●
Manageable Resources	■	■	■	■	■

● Essential role in achieving GREENprint Fort Worth Goal (see individual Transformative Idea descriptions for details)  
■ Strong contributing role in achieving Goal (see individual Transformative Idea descriptions for details)



# Transformative Idea #1

## New Parks and Public Realm Typologies



An inspiring vision for activating the right-of-way, transforming it into a vibrant Green Neighborhood Main Street- Race St & Sylvania Ave Intersection, Fort Worth

Fort Worth’s 2023 Comprehensive Plan places a new emphasis on growth centers, urban villages, and revitalized commercial corridors as a primary focus for the city’s growth going forward. This chapter calls for additional park and public realm typologies that enhance quality of life, access to nature, and a sense of community for these compact, mixed-use, walkable environments.

GREENprint Fort Worth introduces a transformative strategy to redefine the city’s park system by incorporating Public Rights-of-Way (ROW) into the park typologies and introducing the District Park classification within Community-Based Parks.

Public ROW, Parks and Green spaces represent an innovative approach to leveraging underutilized streets, alleys, and utility easements as vibrant public spaces. This new category redefines green space to

include Green Connectors (such as green main streets that link parks and neighborhoods) and Social Spaces (like parklets and pedestrian plazas for informal gatherings). These spaces enhance accessibility, equity, and connectivity while allowing for cost-effective activation strategies like pop-up parks or temporary street closures. Most importantly, this approach aligns with the emphasis of Fort Worth’s Comprehensive Plan on urban villages, growth centers, and a centralized growth pattern, enabling ROWs to support walkability and enhance the vibrancy of these mixed-use areas.

To better serve Fort Worth’s growing and diverse population, the plan introduces the District Park classification as a mid-sized recreational hub within the Community-Based Parks system. District Parks, ranging from 75 to 200 acres, complement Community Parks (redefined to 30 to 75 acres), and

Metropolitan Parks by bridging the gap between neighborhood and regional needs. These parks provide opportunities for larger-scale amenities such as sports fields, event spaces, and community centers while also allowing for scalable development based on future population growth. Additionally, the concept of District Parks aligns with Fort Worth’s Park Planning Districts and the recommendation to create a signature park in each district. This approach ensures that every area of the city benefits from a unique, large-scale recreational and community-focused space.

This approach supports Fort Worth’s Good Natured Green Space Initiative vision of becoming the “Greenest City in North America” by 2050. It also ensures that the park system evolves to meet the



needs of its rapidly growing population while creating vibrant, equitable, and accessible public spaces for all.

The typologies described below constitute essential components for the city’s broad planning going forward. They represent the essential qualities needed to create green, mixed-use, and walkable places that improve quality of life and instill a sense of community in the neighborhood. In the process, these shifts will help the City of Fort Worth to achieve core goals for using a multi-centric approach to growth in a rapidly changing world to improve fiscal performance, economic competitiveness, and environmental performance.

Typology Category	Existing Typology	New Typology
Public Rights-of-Way Parks and Green spaces	Not included	Green Neighborhood Main Streets, Parklets, Squares
Neighborhood-Based Parks	Urban Parks (Less than 1 acre), Pocket Parks (1-5), Neighborhood Parks (5-30)	Urban Parks (Less than 1 acre), Pocket Parks (1-5), Neighborhood Parks (5-30)
Community-Based Parks	Community Parks (30-500), Metropolitan Parks (larger than 500)	Community Parks (redefined 30-75 acres), District Parks (75-200 acres), Metropolitan Parks (200+ acres)
Special Use Parks	Special Use Parks, Greenbelts, Conservancy Areas	Special Use Parks, Greenbelts, Conservancy Areas

### Achieving The GREENprint Fort Worth Core Goals:

-  **Thriving Community:** Create green urban streets and public places that invite walkability and in other ways enhance physical, mental, and emotional well-being and quality of life.
-  **Connected System:** Extend Fort Worth’s network of high-quality parks, public spaces, and trails directly into the heart of the growth centers, urban villages, and revitalized commercial centers which the city has targeted for significant future growth.
-  **Vibrant Nature:** Integrate Fort Worth’s unique nature into these urban growth targets.
-  **Common Ground:** Create inclusive and authentic public spaces that invite social interaction and celebrate Fort Worth’s multiculturalism for these growth targets.

-  **Premier Destination:** Develop urban public realm in these growth targets that enhances their ability to achieve Fort Worth’s economic development, growth, and innovation goals.
-  **Manageable Resources:** Tap the economic benefits of development in mixed-use, walkable, urban places and partner with the private sector and other agencies to create, operate, program, and maintain these improvements. Note: Smart Growth’s America’s data indicates that development in mixed-use, walkable, places generates value premiums across the US that generally average 30-40% or more per square foot of development.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Smart Growth America & Places Platform, LLC. (2023). Foot Traffic Ahead 2023: Ranking Walkable Urbanism in America’s Largest Metros. Smart Growth America. <https://smartgrowthamerica.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Foot-Traffic-Ahead-2023.pdf>



Recommendations  
Activating Public Rights-Of-Way

The integration of public right-of-way typologies into Fort Worth’s urban fabric is not a new concept—these elements already exist in the City of Fort Worth Comprehensive Plan and sector plans. The GREENprint Fort Worth Master Plan recommends incorporating these typologies into a unified strategy for parks and public spaces, with PARD collaborating with other city departments to formalize their role in the overall system.

Three typologies, shaped by their urban context, stand out as essential components of a thriving public realm:

Green Neighborhood Main Streets

Mixed-use, walkable “signature” streets that, for at least two blocks are programmed with sufficient shopping, eateries, places offering beverage service, arts, and similar uses that animate the pedestrian experience, function as the symbolic and social heart of the surrounding neighborhoods because they proactively invite the full spectrum of these neighborhoods to enjoy them in all seasons and

embody the diverse multiculturalism of these neighborhoods. Key qualities should include:

- Street trees that enhance Main Street’s character and offer shade during hot seasons.
- Rain gardens and swales that enhance environmental responsibility, that visibly celebrate Fort Worth’s ecosystem, and also enhance Main Street’s character.
- A diverse mix of shopping (preferably locally owned and operated retail) and eateries ranging from places that offer food and caffeine to wine and beer that invite the neighboring community to celebrate its cultural diversity often.
- Sidewalks with sufficient width to accommodate outdoor dining, which significantly enhance the opportunity to see friends and enjoy a sense of shared community.
- The ability to close the street periodically for neighborhood events and festivals.
- Public art displays that tells the stories of the residents and their surrounding community.
- Lighting.
- Curbside parking that supports local businesses

- and promotes walkability by buffering pedestrians away from moving traffic.
- Bike lanes and storage that expand access to a broader market area and enhance Main Street’s lively character.

It should be noted that Main Streets do not happen spontaneously. They generally require a critical mass of households—often projected at roughly one thousand—within a five-minute (quarter-mile) walk to attract the critical mass of retailers who in turn transform the street into a successful retail (shopping and eateries) destination that invites people to walk and find community.

A strong local example is Magnolia Avenue, a thriving corridor that exemplifies how streets can become vibrant public spaces through thoughtful urban design, active ground-floor uses, and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure.

Collaboration with Fort Worth’s Economic Department can enrich local Main Streets by helping local entrepreneurs open small businesses that bring a unique authenticity and provide an additional draw for residents and visitors alike.

**Squares**  
These small, inviting public gathering places offer opportunities for friends to meet or hold small neighborhood events. Squares may be publicly or privately owned but must function as fully public spaces open to the full spectrum of the community. They can be fully successful as spaces containing one-quarter acre or less and are often created in conjunction with a larger mixed-use development (most often housing with retail at street level), possibly as a public benefit in exchange for increased density or other development benefits. Key qualities should include:

- A location fronting a mixed-use, walkable Main Street.
- Adjacent cafés, public art, fountains, and similar features that animate the spaces.
- Trees, gardens, or other forms of nature.
- Shade.
- The ability to be programmed for musical performances, small neighborhood gatherings, and similar events.
- Lighting to extend active use into evening hours.
- Easily accessible bike storage.



An inspiring rendering for Green Neighborhood Main Streets, Source: Stantec, Global Mall, Antioch, Nashville.



Magnolia Avenue, Fort Worth. Source: Near Southside, Inc.



Former location of the Micro Park on Magnolia Avenue, once a vibrant community gathering space. Source: Near Southside, Inc.





Magnolia Avenue parklet, A multifunctional linear public space



Magnolia Avenue parklet, Patios for diners and drinkers



Vancouver Picnurbia pop-up park



FIKA edge, New York City, NY

### Parklets

Parklets represent opportunities to extend the public realm into the streets. They have often been deemed “Neighborhood front porches.” The National Association of City Transportation Officials’ (NACTO) Urban Design Guide defines parklets as “public seating platforms that convert curbside parking spaces into vibrant community spaces. Also known as street seats or curbside seating, parklets are the product of a partnership between the city and local businesses, residents, or neighborhood associations. Most parklets have a distinctive design that incorporates seating, greenery, and/or bike racks and accommodate unmet demand for public space on thriving neighborhood retail streets or commercial areas.”

It should be noted that parklets are most often created to accommodate outdoor dining but have been created to serve uses as diverse as outdoor lending libraries, exhibits for local public schools, initiatives to bring nature into urban neighborhoods, and neighborhood sponsored interactive public

art. They can take many forms—from a single day re-purposing of a curbside parking spot or lane to celebrate National Parking Day to evening and weekend outdoor dining to semi-permanent public spaces sponsored by local businesses or community groups willing to retrofit curbside parking—or in some cases traffic lanes no longer required to meet traffic requirements.

Cities currently operating successful parklet programs include Dallas, Corpus Christi, and Round Rock in Texas in addition to San Francisco, Montréal, New York, Vancouver, Philadelphia, Long Beach, Oakland, and Boston. A local example is “The Skinny”, a multifunctional, linear park created through a partnership between the City of Fort Worth, Near Southside Inc., and Stonehawk Capital Partners.

Key qualities should include:

- A location fronting a mixed-use, walkable Main Street.
- A designated active (e.g. outdoor dining) or

passive (street garden) use.

- An active sponsor such as a local business association, individual business, community organization, or similar entity that can take responsibility for the initial installation and subsequent maintenance and operation.
- A design approved by the Park & Recreation Department, another city agency, or a similar entity designated by the City to be responsible for the quality and character of public right of ways.
- Lighting.

### Redefine Community-Based Parks

GREENprint Fort Worth proposes redefining the Community-Based Park category to better serve the city’s growing population and evolving recreational needs. The current classification, which includes Community Parks (30–500 acres) and Metropolitan Parks (greater than 500 acres), is too broad to address the diverse demands of the community. The redefined typology introduces three distinct categories:

**Community Parks:** Parks ranging from 30–75 acres, offering amenities and programming tailored to multiple neighborhoods.

**District Parks:** A new category of parks sized 75–200 acres, serving as signature parks and hubs for each Park Planning District, equipped with specialized facilities and programming.

**Metropolitan Parks:** Parks larger than 200 acres, designed as regional destinations for large-scale recreation and nature preservation.

This reclassification enhances scalability and functionality by creating a clear framework for addressing the recreational needs of both neighborhoods and the city as a whole.

These revised Community Parks provide a diverse mix of recreational opportunities which may include several types of sports fields and courts, swimming pools and/or splash pads, trail networks, multiple playgrounds, picnic areas, and natural green spaces.

In contrast, District Parks are larger spaces designed to serve multiple neighborhoods, offering

amenities such as sports complexes, amphitheaters, botanical gardens, and event spaces. These parks serve as cultural and recreational focal points within their respective planning districts. Meanwhile, Metropolitan Parks continue to provide expansive facilities for regional activities, including campgrounds, extensive trail networks, and water-based recreation, attracting visitors from across Fort Worth and beyond.

Clear definitions for these park categories improve planning, resource allocation, and programming enabling Fort Worth to strategically scale its park system. The introduction of District Parks ensures each district has a signature hub while the refined focus of Community Parks addresses localized needs. For more information about each park category check Appendix B.



An inspiring rendering for Signature District Park; Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Centennial Park, Detroit, MI

### Targeted Implementation Strategies

- Connecting Fort Worth’s Planning Division together with other key agencies to incorporate green mixed-use walkable Main Streets, squares, neighborhood parks, and parklets into planning for growth centers, urban villages and revitalized commercial corridors.
- Developing guidelines to ensure these initiatives meet PARD’s and the City of Fort Worth’s goals.
- Reviewing plans, designs, and programming agreements to ensure they achieve the letter and spirit of these guidelines.
- Supporting the Development Services and Economic Development Departments in negotiating public/private partnerships.
- Tap growing funding from the fees generated by growth center, urban village, and similar denser housing and mixed-use development to help provide necessary funding.



# Transformative Idea #2

## Green Connectivity Network

Create a dynamic network of high-quality parks, public spaces, and trails connected by paths, bikeways, and transit to ensure that everyone can enjoy the city’s parks, recreational facilities, public spaces, and natural resources without having to depend on access to a car.

This network should be conceived, planned, and implemented from two essential and complementary perspectives that together achieve the city’s goals:

- Transformative Idea A: The parks system as a contributor to enhanced mobility
- Transformative Idea B: Integration of the city’s mobility network with the Parks System



An inspiring vision for integration of the city’s mobility network with the Parks System, Decatur Ave, Fort Worth

### Transformative Idea A

#### The parks system as a contributor to enhanced mobility

**Background**  
**Adapting Fort Worth to a new era of growth**  
Fort Worth is taking a more multimodal direction with its transportation policy and investments. The Move A Million comprehensive transportation plan is integrating more people-focused street design, a rethinking of its transit network, and a holistic focus on safety for all transportation modes and travelers.

There are many ways in which the City’s parks system, already a significant collection of land and capital assets and recreation-focused policy

frameworks, can advance these mobility goals. However, the organizational responsibilities of the two City departments with primary responsibility for parks and mobility, the Park & Recreation Department and the Department of Transportation & Public Works (TPW), have historically focused on their individual responsibilities without a systematic way of integrating efforts. This is hardly unique to Fort Worth, but as both departments are interested in exploring transformative approaches to improve quality of life and make Fort Worth a more attractive place to live, joint approaches to responsibilities can

facilitate innovative approaches, streamline how resources and budgets are used to meet agency priorities, and give Fort Worthians new opportunities for travel and recreation.

This is also a key pathway to achieving the GREENprint Fort Worth vision in that it more tightly integrates parks and nature—vital components of public health, sustainability, and resiliency—into the public right-of-way that makes up over 15 percent of Fort Worth’s land area. There is no greater opportunity to extend the physical reach and influence of the City’s parks than by bringing it into the ways that Fort Worthians access their daily destinations and serve their daily needs.

### Recommendations

This transformative idea can take shape through numerous actions and policies and should be a long-term policy commitment of the City that is implemented over several years. This plan presents

eight focused action areas that represent pilot approaches to broader methods of parks and transportation integration.

### “Park-First” Street Design Guidelines

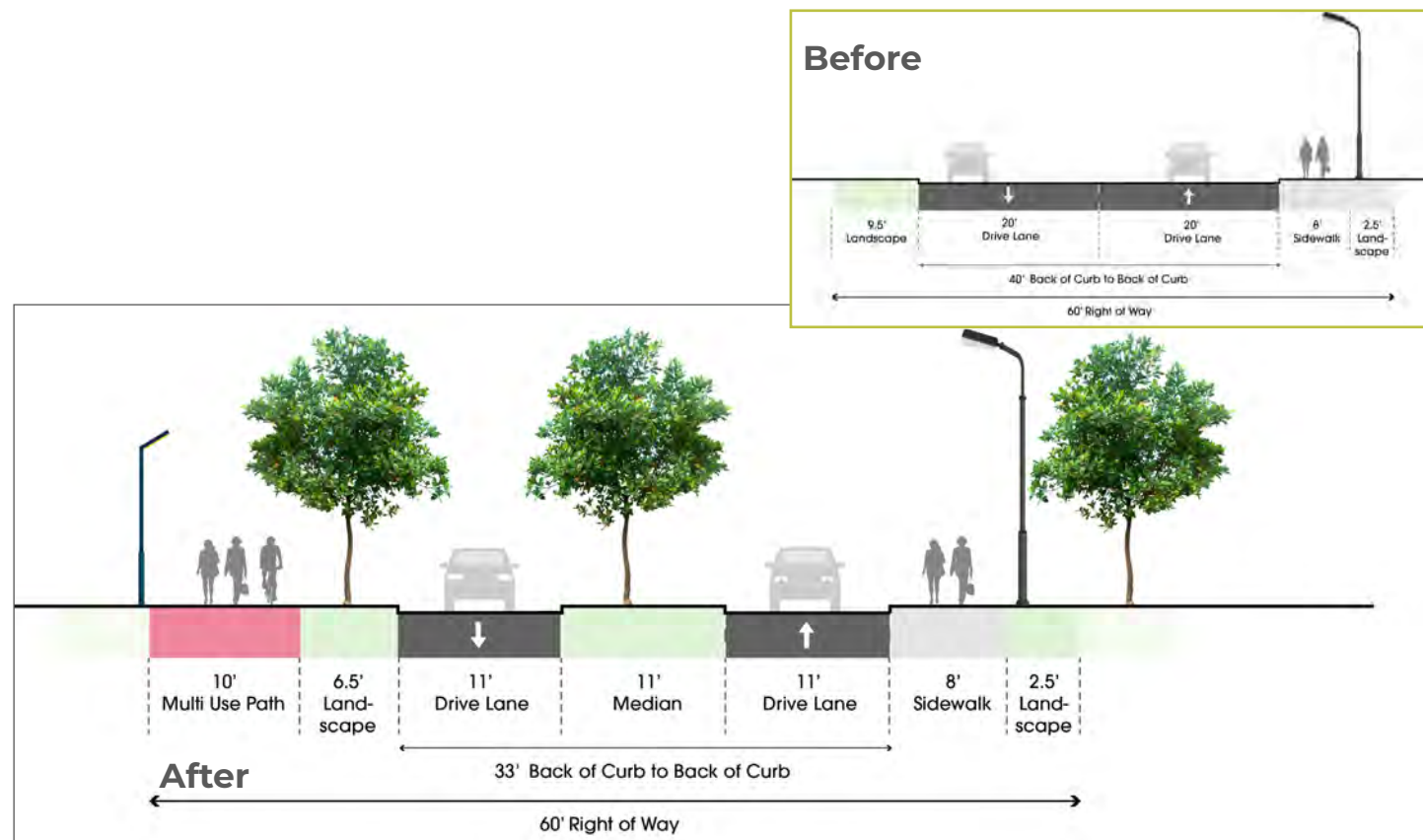
Tailor street design policy and guidance to be inclusive of parks-focused enhancements and features. PARD has long had a responsibility unique among major park agencies in that it maintains portions of the street right-of-way where planting and landscaping are located. Traditionally, maintenance has been kept to a basic level. In this new approach, the maintenance function will be utilized to better enhance city neighborhoods and create more visually appealing commercial districts.

It is estimated that nearly 60 percent of the City’s streets (measured by centerline mileage) carry no more than 2,000 vehicles per day. Broken down into simpler terms, this is likely no more than 200 vehicles in the busiest travel hours or around 3 vehicles

### Achieving The GREENprint Fort Worth Core Goals:

-  **Thriving Community:** Create green urban streets and public places that invite walkability and enhance physical, mental, and emotional health and quality of life. Promoting recreation and active living by making it a larger part of how people get around Fort Worth for daily functions can allow major strides in greater public health.
-  **Common Ground:** Bring transit and other transportation services in closer connection to the Fort Worth parks system to unlock the system’s potential to invite the full spectrum of the community to come together to use the city’s parks, recreation facilities, and green spaces without the expense and complications of auto-dependence.
-  **Connected System:** Create a connected network of pedestrian, bike, transit and similar connections that take advantage of Fort Worth’s network of low volume traffic streets to offer alternatives to auto-dependence across the city.
-  **Vibrant Nature:** Design streets, bus stops, and other components of Fort Worth’s mobility system to bring nature into the daily life of Fort Worth, from increasing tree canopy and bolstering the biodiversity of the North Texas ecosystem to using nature-based approaches, managing stormwater, and maintaining public right of ways.
-  **Premier Destination:** Transform Fort Worth’s parks, recreation and green space system into a significant economic development asset by reducing auto dependence, a core requirement for attracting and retaining the talent that unlocks the city and region’s competitive position in the “New Economy.”
-  **Manageable Resources:** Tap into the economic benefits of development in mixed-use, walkable, urban places and partner with the private sector and other agencies to create, operate and maintain a Green Connectivity Network.





Redesigning streets with a 'Park-First' approach, Decatur Ave, Fort Worth

per minute passing on these streets. This points to enormous potential for local streets to be rethought of as more active spaces without creating significant impact on traffic flow throughout Fort Worth. The other 40 percent of streets serving most of the city's travel demand are the primary corridors to be reserved for transportation purposes.

Guidelines should include the kind of complete streets-focused approach to street carriageways and sidewalks that the Move A Million plan is exploring but should use functional elements to add park-oriented amenities and features into street design. These should include:

- Appropriate tree and plant species to help provide pedestrian and safety comfort, considering tree calipers, canopy reach, and potential for shade along sidewalks and parking areas.
- Raised medians in multi-lane thoroughfare streets where left turn access is not needed, and design standards and landscape materials to be used in their construction.
- Pedestrian crossings, allowing pedestrian refuge and comfort to be provided through landscaping.
- Dimensions of cross-section elements that emphasize tree planting capability and growth.

### Strategic Repurposing Of Traffic Calming Policy

The City's Neighborhood Traffic Calming Policy currently sets the terms by which traffic calming treatments happen and the types of installations that are allowed. This policy's criteria generally align with the recommendation that traffic volumes must be under 4,000 vehicles per day with posted speeds of 35 miles per hour or less and only two-lane streets may have traffic calming applied.

Repurposing of local streets carrying 2,000 or fewer vehicles per day with a more design-based traffic calming and street design policy that allows more of the public right-of-way to be used for planting, permeable areas, and potential plaza or green space can make contributions toward a more connected network of parks with 'park streets' making some of these connections.

Actual traffic calming devices used should reflect a variety of options that combine speed reduction and horizontal deflection with increased space for permeable surfaces and landscaping, such as neckdowns, chicanes, mini-roundabouts, and deflection islands at intersections.



Reimagining neighborhood traffic calming policies; Source: NACTO

Reworking the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Policy in this way will involve a series of coordination steps to ensure that a more proactive use of the policy is not disruptive to neighborhood needs. This should include the following steps:

- Identification of pilot streets to make connections. These are ideally streets that form reasonably direct links between parks and other related facilities, such as school campuses, community centers, regional trails and greenways, and transit stations.
- Conducting neighborhood planning sessions to introduce concepts for these kinds of park streets and gather neighborhood feedback. This proactive application of the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Policy should continue to follow that policy's thresholds for neighborhood support and gather documented consent of two-thirds of properties along affected blocks and 100 percent of properties directly adjacent to installations.
- Data collection to assess levels of traffic, parking use, driveway access to individual properties and special needs for right-of-way and curbside.

Installations must continue to allow current functions of streets, including specialized parking or curbside use, driveway access, and utility access. Application of traffic calming must also provide for replacement of on-street parking potential in areas where neighborhood parking permits are used or on-street parking regularly occurs on at least 50 percent of a block's length.

### ADA Compliant Means Of Access

PARD should coordinate with TPW on its Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) transition plans to ensure that accessibility improvements made around parks and PARD facilities can be combined with any needed improvements on PARD properties themselves to ensure a greater degree of accessibility throughout the park system.

This should be coordinated to result in a priority focus on ADA enhancements at parks throughout the city, ensuring more accessible entry and exit from park properties as well as more accessible movement within parks.





Safe Routes to School Bike Ride; Seattle Department of Transportation

### Active Transportation Integration With End-Of-Trip Facilities

Active transportation (bicycle and pedestrian) connections to parks are often a key focus of cities in advancing their multimodal transportation systems but the enhancements made within parks are critically important as well.

PARD and TPW should partner to identify locations and programs to expand the end-of-trip facilities for these users. This is intended to promote their access to park properties but also to increase the options for active transportation users to safely and conveniently park and store bicycles and other mobility devices. Specific actions to increase end-of-trip facilities include:

- Bicycle corrals and racks within street right-of-way adjacent to park entry points.
- Covered bicycle storage stations inside entries of parks.
- Bicycle repair stations adjacent to entries and major buildings and facilities.
- Charging infrastructure (with charging paid for by users) for electric bicycles and scooters.

### Shared Parking Around Parks

Although stronger bicycle and pedestrian connections to parks will improve access from a low-impact means of travel, there will certainly be continued demand for access to parks via automobile travel. PARD should



ADA enhancements at parks, North Park Universal Playground, Fort Worth

explore partnerships and management opportunities for shared parking with park-adjacent land uses so that PARD land and resources do not need to be used to accommodate parking demand.

Parking is important, but parking facilities that only see utilization during limited times represent an opportunity cost for the parks system in forgone land, capital funds, and maintenance resources. For this reason, adjacent land uses may be able to offer parking that supports park activities and functions.

PARD is in a position to lead this effort in partnership with TPW on parking management, as TPW already manages existing regulated parking in downtown Fort Worth and other key districts. Steps to achieve this program would include the following:

- Assessments of available parking by land use around PARD facilities, with an overall estimation of utilization by time period across a typical week.
- Identification of candidate districts and locations that offer potential for sharing based on PARD operations and activities aligning with parking potential.
- Outreach to property owners and proposal of shared-parking management services that allow PARD and TPW to provide maintenance and liability protection to parking owners wishing to participate in shared-parking arrangements.

## Transformative Idea B

### Integrating the city's mobility network with the Parks System—Making parks more accessible as well as more physically connected



Trinity Metro services, Fort Worth

### Background

In addition to an approach that combines the physical networks of Fort Worth's parks and transportation systems, parks should also be a more accessible part of the city and open to serving as a venue for civic and community functions that increase the demand for travel to them.

This extends the approach of the previous transformative idea to other agency partners beyond the Department of Transportation & Public Works. Perhaps the most notable among these is Trinity Metro, the primary transit service provider in Fort Worth, and a major contributor to the city's overall mobility profile.

This type of integration complements the physical connection of parks with the city's street and transportation system as it engages other forms of mobility serving a broader range of travel options. This offers a particular benefit to Trinity Metro's current services in that it expands a potential increase in transit-ridership and more cost-productive transit service.

The traditional focus on serving areas of high employment, high population density, or simply high levels of transit dependency keeps ridership patterns focused on the movement patterns between these major destination areas, leading to relatively low

levels of transit service. By treating parks as another major destination for transit service and generator of ridership, Trinity Metro's service planning can consider parks a part of what makes the transit system successful.

### Recommendations

#### PARD Programs With Trinity Metro

Trinity Metro currently offers transit fare products that provide cost savings to regular riders (often referred to as bulk fare sales), consisting of weekly or monthly passes. Integration of these services with PARD programs could help to drive transit access to park facilities, thus reducing overall drive-alone travel in Fort Worth. This recommendation should explore the following opportunities for program integration:

- Trinity Metro currently offers no locally-based monthly or annual passes, only weekly passes. Coordination of special-duration pass programs that coincide with PARD program schedules could allow an opportunity to tailor specialized fare products to the times that programs are active but could offer discounts compared to single-ride tickets and weekly passes.
- Each of PARD's community centers should offer transit ticket and fare sales to facilitate park users having access via transit. Trinity Metro and PARD should identify a level of user interest to allow Trinity Metro leadership to approve fare programs in advance and remain compliant with Federal requirements.

In addition, overall coordination with Trinity Metro service planning offers ways to increase the profile of park facilities in the transit system and serve as more effective generators of transit ridership.

To achieve this, PARD should coordinate with the Transportation & Public Works Department (TPW) and Trinity Metro on service development, planning and capital projects that support transit service. This involves identifying strategies for park assets having a greater role in ridership forecasts, stop and station location, and service alignments.



**PARD Programs With Trinity Metro:  
Strategic Coordination Of Paratransit**

Transit agencies operating fixed-route service are required by federal law to provide paratransit service, usually serving riders with limited personal mobility and other special needs with more door-to-door focused service. This service must be provided within three-quarters of a mile from any fixed-route service, and its emphasis on direct pickup and drop-off of passengers makes its costs per passenger trip much higher than the general fixed-route service it supplements.

Integration of the park system with transit should explore ways to combine paratransit service destinations and use park facilities as venues for the types of community and personal services to which many paratransit trips connect. This includes approaches such as:

- Hosting community medical services at PARD community centers, especially for common health treatments such as vaccinations and dialysis.
- Combining health appointments with community functions to allow paratransit riders a combination of daily services and activities.
- Hosting of other community services such as farmer’s markets and food banks to allow paratransit users to reduce the number of trips they need to call.
- Leveraging mobility hubs (discussed in a later recommendation) to serve as connection points between paratransit and other transit services, potentially reducing operating costs.



Mobility Hub - Goldrington Crescent, Camden, England

**Mobility Hub Program**

Park facilities can and should serve as focal points for micromobility and other personal mobility systems, such as scooters, shared bicycles, and on-demand ride-sharing systems (Uber and Lyft). However, these can work most effectively when organized around hub locations that serve as transfer points for different travel options and allow common locations where longer trips to a park (such as by transit) offer seamless transition to other forms of travel to complete trips.

- Establishment of joint resource funds (who would fund—city interdepartmental, public/private, other, all of the above?) for areas of overlap, allowing greater resources to enable bulk purchases, more competitive bids and terms with contractors, and a greater ability to leverage funds for attracting outside grants and other funding opportunities.
- Adding a PARD-TPW mobility liaison to the City’s development review process and committees, allowing any private development adjacent to parks to address how private-development enhancements or improvements can be focused on improved park access.

**Transformative Idea #3  
Living with Nature**



An inspiring vision for living with nature, Boca Raton Blvd., Fort Worth

**Extending the benefits of Fort Worth’s  
unique natural ecosystem to every part of  
the city**

City planners have the opportunity to create, preserve, and establish an enviable network of interconnected green spaces, shaping a new identity for the city. Achieving this will require a strategic approach, focusing on early action and demonstrated success on specific improvements while avoiding the dilution of resources. Potential projects include public art installations on both small and large scales, digital engagement, connected trails, protected hillsides and riparian zones, preserved forests and farmland, and places for gathering, cooling, and learning. Experiential learning is gaining importance, and parks provide essential venues for teaching about the environment, diversity, the value of ecosystems, and land management.



These actions do not need to translate to exorbitant cost. Considered early in the conception of public infrastructure capital improvement projects and private development bring added value to projects including enhanced economic, social and environmental sustainability and a significant return on investment.



Achieving The GREENprint Fort Worth Core Goals:

- Thriving Community:** Create a network of interconnected green spaces that are accessible to all and that encourage walkability, healthy lifestyles, and cultural and educational experiences championed by the public and private sectors.
- Common Ground:** Create inclusive and authentic public spaces where water resources, mobility networks, and greenways converge to create dynamic destinations accessible to all.
- Premier Destination:** Fort Worth’s growth centers, traditional neighborhoods, and natural resources linked by a stewardship of civic leaders, its citizenry, and the private sector will form a true City within a Park that is unique amongst its peer cities nation-wide.
- Manageable Resources:** Partner with universities, schools, and other institutions together with other nonprofits and neighborhood organizations to create, program, operate and maintain more robust initiatives to connect everyone in Fort Worth with the city’s unique nature.

Recommendations

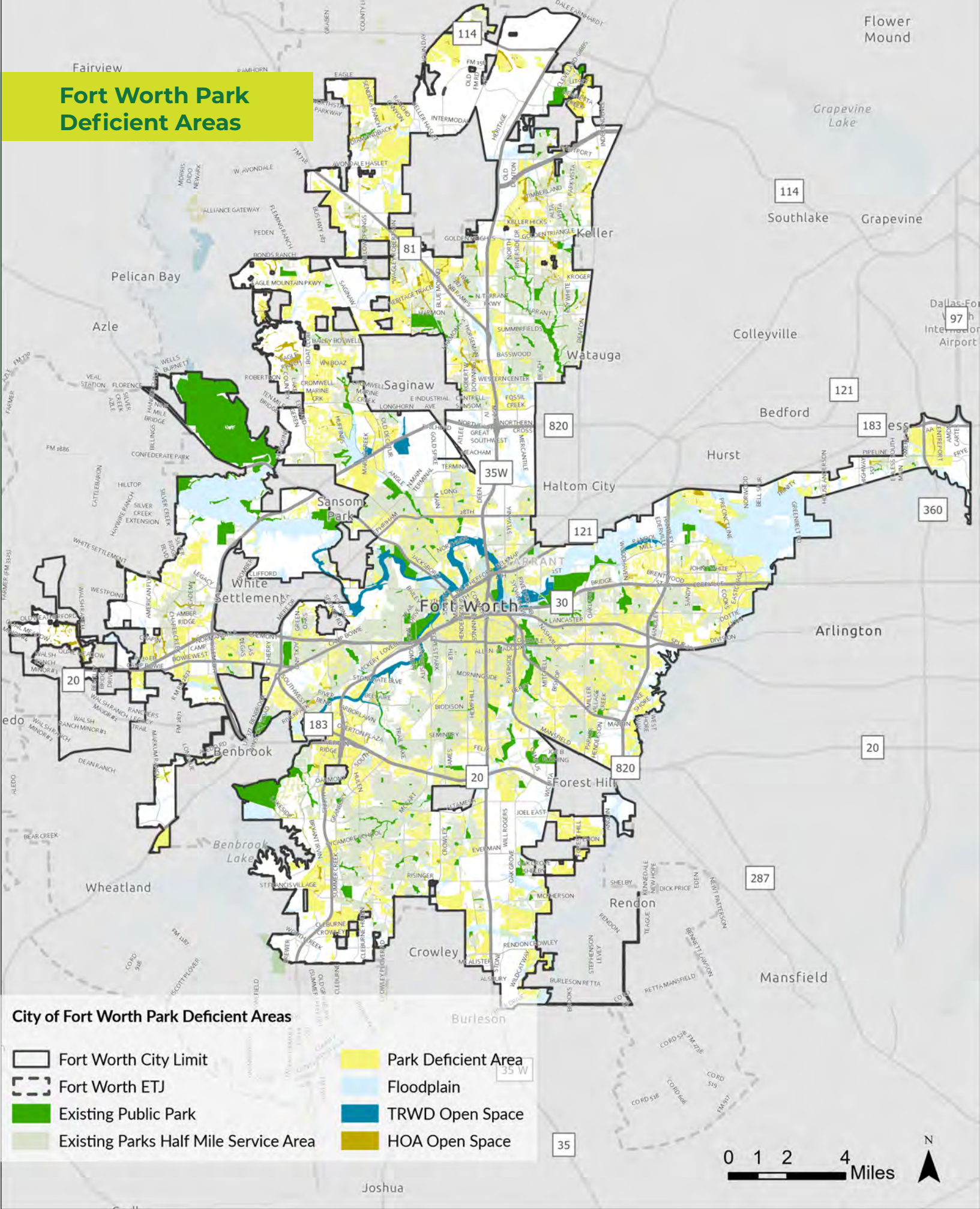
Natural areas serve as critical infrastructure. In Fort Worth, the Trinity River acts as an organizing element, providing a major artery that links many neighborhoods while optimizing citywide flood control. Natural green spaces connected to multifamily housing, apartments, schools, senior housing, and employment centers offer opportunities to boost resiliency. These are optimized when they are connected to a broader network and the Trinity River.

While communities across the United States conduct climate vulnerability assessments and climate action plans, Fort Worth has an extraordinary opportunity to leverage its green spaces to serve residents in preparation for, during, and following natural or other disasters. These same corridors and natural infrastructure can provide rich habitats for nature education, beneficial pollinators, water quality enhancements, and forest canopy for neighborhood cooling. Interconnected natural corridors also offer improved mobility by including walking and bicycle paths that link job centers, transit hubs, and surrounding neighborhoods.

**Expand Nature And City-Wide Biodiversity**

The following illustration depicts the existing network of publicly owned parks and green spaces in Fort Worth. Areas of both connectivity and fragmentation are apparent, highlighting gaps that need addressing. Establishing connectivity through these gaps can be achieved through acquisitions, easements, private land deed restrictions, use of school properties, privately held or not-for-profit conservation lands, and refurbished streets that prioritize pedestrian, cyclist, and transit mobility.

A vibrant nature concept provides activated spaces for people within natural environments. These interconnected ecosystems support native flora and fauna, serve as living labs for education and outdoor experiences, offer functional aesthetic amenities, and provide vital infrastructure to build resilience against increasing and more intense flood and heat events. The rich mosaic of natural resources, landscape types, and people of varying cultural and demographic backgrounds creates an exciting and diverse network of both tranquil and lively spaces. Demographic diversity encourages participation while species diversity fosters a resilient and sustainable environment that an engaged and informed public will appreciate and support.







Boardwalks can provide access to water resources, connect green space, contain public access to safe corridors, and allow for the enjoyment and protection of nearby habitat, The Marty Leonard Lotus Marsh Boardwalk, Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge

Achieving species diversity requires controlling the growth of invasive species, educating the public, effective management, building an economy that thrives on the city's commitment to its natural spaces, and a sustained effort to mitigate detrimental human impacts. Managing the city's green spaces and providing vibrant nature will encourage public engagement with nature, meeting recreation needs for passive activities, trail access, positive social interaction, and healthy lifestyles.

Natural spaces can sometimes be perceived as messy or misused, seen as nuisances, drains on municipal resources, or deterrents to the public. Changing these perceptions requires carefully planned capital investment, aligned maintenance resources, and public education about the value of these spaces to city residents.

### Build Resiliency

Residents of Fort Worth face several climate related risks and vulnerabilities. According to the National Risk Index, Tarrant County, where Fort Worth is located, has a relatively high-risk index. The most significant risks are associated with tornadoes, hail, heat waves, riverine flooding, winter weather, and respiratory diseases. The top climate change risks for Fort Worth include heat, fire, and drought. These hazards can significantly impact the local environment, residents' health and well-being,

and strain municipal services in weather related emergencies.

Natural areas can provide a mitigating resource for residents and elevate preparedness to the risks and vulnerabilities that face the city in times of emergency and decrease annual loss and social and economic disruption. Creating community resilience through nature involves a multi-faceted approach. Strategies include:

- **Improving Social Connectedness:** Social networks and relationships facilitated by attractive and inviting green spaces can help communities withstand and recover from adversities. This can be achieved through community events, shared spaces, and programs that encourage awareness, education, familiarity, and a sense of belonging.
- **Fostering Intra-Municipal Collaboration:** Government involvement in planning, improving, maintaining, and programming natural spaces is crucial. This includes creating and implementing policies and partnerships that promote resilience and provide resources to stakeholders who can sustain a network of shared spaces, for example, resiliency hubs that provide areas for respite and essential services in times of need.
- **Communicating Risks:** It's important to communicate risks to the population, especially to at-risk groups. This involves educating the



Interconnected corridors of native plantings along roadways, parks, and privately owned properties enhance stormwater management practices, increase pollinator habitat, and reduce heat island effects, Circle Drive, Fort Worth

community about potential threats and how to prepare for them. Natural spaces can provide respite from heat and mitigate the impact of floodwaters.

Integrating technology for communication and identifying safe zones can enhance community preparedness. A healthy community is a resilient one. This can be achieved through healthy lifestyles afforded by providing accessible and inviting outdoor and natural space for all residents. Building strong connections within the community and with neighboring communities can also boost resilience. Connected green space provides opportunity for expanded social networks and access to resources. Parks and natural spaces connect communities by providing alternative modes of mobility (walking, cycling, dedicated transit routes), without reliance on personal vehicles. Vibrant nature provides resiliency – the capacity to withstand and recover from adversity - and offers respite when other forms of public infrastructure may be compromised. It endures political and economic overtures, ensuring that natural ecosystems are protected, that they thrive in our cities and suburbs, and are available to future generations.

### Enhance Accessibility And Connectivity

Universal accessibility for people of all interests, physical abilities, economic backgrounds, ethnicities, and ages is paramount. Green spaces and natural environments are a common interest, and the diversity of patrons brings desired vibrancy to the public realm. Connectedness, green spaces and natural corridors provide affordable and safe alternative modes of mobility while promoting healthy lifestyles. Cooling these corridors with tree canopies and connecting commercial centers make them more viable and attractive to a wider population. Activating the corridors provides exposure to environmental education and an elevated sense of safety. Natural corridors can complete the last mile for community connectivity, linking transportation hubs, bus stops, employment and shopping centers, with the places people live.

A connected network requires wayfinding to provide direction, information, and access to activities for people. A wayfinding network offers opportunities to celebrate community heritage, promote local businesses, and activities for passersby—all essential to introducing vibrancy and spontaneity to the user experience.

Creating a vibrant natural environment for Fort Worth parks involves developing a network of corridors



and patches. These corridors provide connections through verdant, habitat-rich environments equipped with pedestrian amenities, while the patches offer a variety of destinations (e.g., retail, transit hubs) along the way.

These patches may be neighborhood centers rich in culture or regional destinations attracting city residents. The “patch” spaces can include re-purposed parking areas, parks, watercourses, gateways to streets, and commercial centers. Patches should feature amenities for seniors, youth, low-impact fitness, socializing, education, and informal and formal performances.

Essential facilities like restrooms, potable water, shelter, and access to food within these patches encourage extended and enjoyable visits to these areas. An expanded network of public spaces may include deeded parcels gained through private development in nearby neighborhoods. Design guidelines can shape the form, accessibility, features, and location of these facilities, integrating local culture and heritage. These are opportunities for placemaking that bring vibrancy—through patches—via interconnected and naturalized corridors.

Avoiding fragmentation is crucial to creating vibrant and functional natural corridors. Water conveyance, wildlife, ease of non-motorized mobility, neighborhood cooling, safety, and recreation are greatly enhanced by creating quality habitats, scenic vistas, and uninterrupted passage to natural resources. The Trinity River and its tributaries can serve as the foundation for interconnected corridors, becoming a signature element within the city. The river can offer greater recreational opportunities combined with nature-based and social infrastructure. Every element of the natural environment should be considered multi-dimensional, qualifying investment in capital improvements, maintenance, expansion, education, and programming.

Targeted Implementation Strategies

These Transformative Ideas will each be implemented through partnerships with a variety of public agencies, private sector entities, and in some cases non-profit and neighborhood organizations. In each case PARD will have a unique leadership role—convening its partners and providing the planning, design, and programming expertise that will be essential to realize

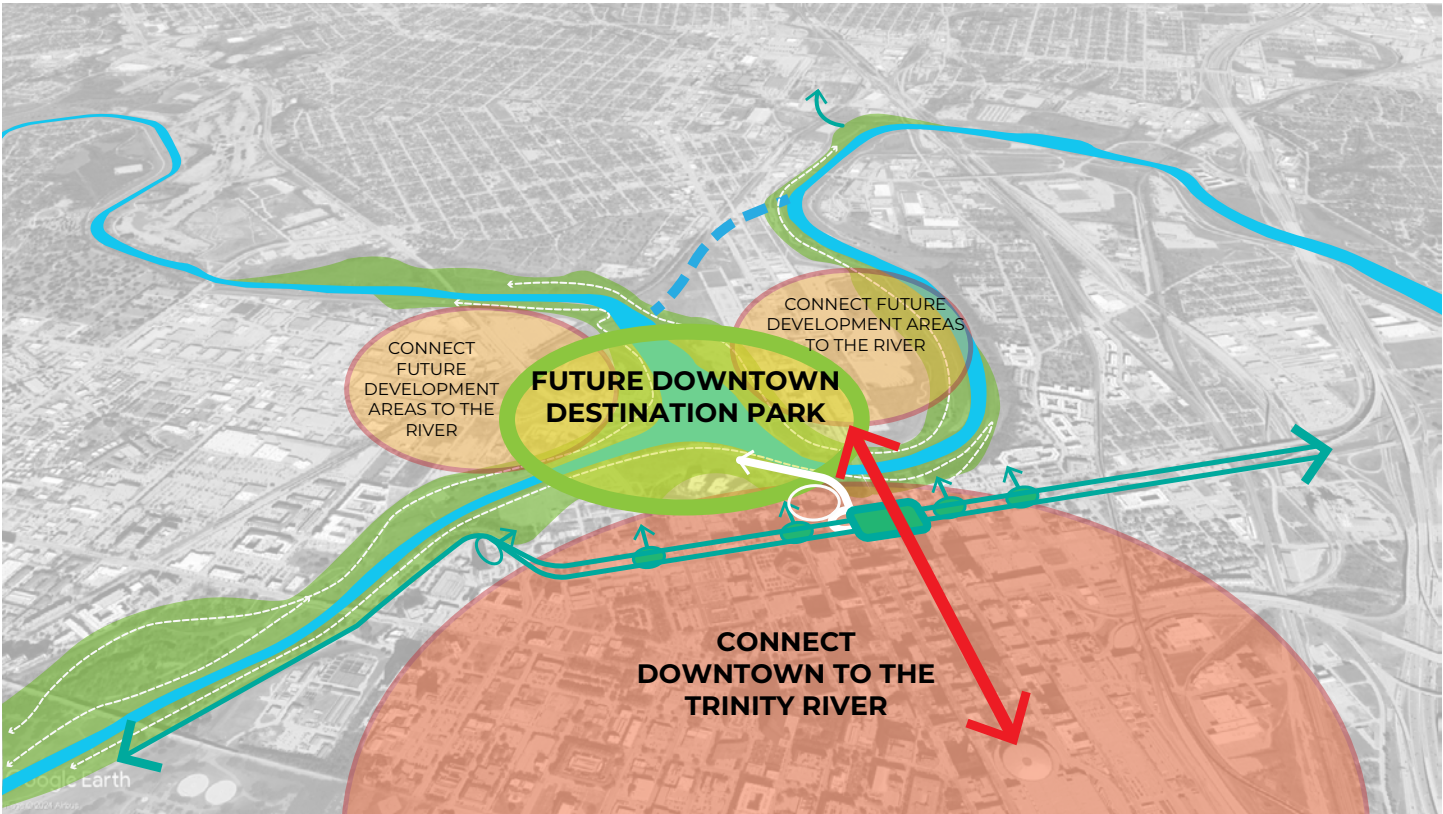
the full potential for each Transformative Idea. The ideas identified in this plan are closely interrelated. Each Idea will support the execution of the others.

Core strategies to achieve Transformative Idea #3’s Living with Nature initiatives will include:

- Identifying and incorporating improvements to the public realm in the early stages of project development including public infrastructure and private development.
- Building stewardship and similar partnerships with a wide variety of entities, including:
  - Universities
  - Schools and school districts
  - Public health networks
  - Transportation providers
  - Conservation organizations
  - Outdoor outfitters and vendors
  - Foundations
- Focusing on expanding access to nature in “park deserts” and new urban growth target areas.
- Developing guidelines and standards for providing access to Fort Worth’s unique natural environment and park amenities.
- Ensuring the internal capacity essential to creating, operating, and maintaining public places that provide access to nature, including:
  - Building trusted working relationships built on regular contact with local communities to plan and design new and changed parks, recreation, and other facilities together with local communities.
  - Programming that caters to the diverse interests, physical abilities, economic statuses, cultures, ages and other distinctions that define the full spectrum of the community.
  - Expanding nature education and immersion programs.
  - Ongoing operations and maintenance.
  - Securing capital, operations, and maintenance funding.

Transformative Idea #4  
A Central Common Ground

Create a signature downtown park at the confluence of the Trinity River and Panther Island—positioned as Fort Worth’s cultural, civic, and ecological heart.



A diagram imagines the point at which the Trinity River meets downtown as a great central common ground

Background

The Trinity River is a connective force through the heart of all of Fort Worth. The Trinity Trails of Fort Worth include 100+ miles of trails and amenities, and is cooperatively managed by Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD), City of Fort Worth, and Streams & Valleys. TRWD manages the overall system, the City manages the recreational and park destinations, and Streams & Valleys provides advocacy and fundraising. The Confluence Plan: The Trinity River Strategic Master Plan, adopted in 2018, outlined a vision, priorities and several key projects to enhance connectivity, amenities and landscape.

The development of Panther Island, projected mixed-use growth of Downtown, and Trinity River improvements present a once in a lifetime opportunity for an iconic riverfront park. This area is

uniquely positioned to invite the full cross section of the community together to celebrate the best of Fort Worth. In a single visit, residents could experience land and river, food and nature, quiet reflection and multicultural gatherings, and the city’s origins and its newest neighborhood.

Focusing on the downtown area, ongoing flood control work as part of the Central City project will create transformational opportunities where the Trinity River meets Fort Worth’s downtown. A bypass channel is planned to connect the Clear Fork to the West Fork of the Trinity River, bypassing the existing oxbow that bends around Panther Island and touches downtown. Flood control gates will control water levels in the oxbow area, allowing for an interior water feature adjacent to downtown and Panther Island and the existing levee removed.



Achieving The GREENprint Fort Worth Core Goals:

**Thriving Community:** Create a unique public space that enhances the amenity of living and working in Fort Worth—increasing its appeal to a broad cross section of talent and the full spectrum of knowledge, innovation, and many other jobs and investment that follow. Encourage active transportation, leverage the Trinity Trail as a key “spine” corridor.

**Connected System:** Transform the River corridor into a central spine that not only offers access to Fort Worth’s extensive, connected network of trails and parks but also creates a series of trailhead amenities and services that make both the trails, and River corridor, more compelling destinations. Encourage a “Trails as Mobility” approach to connecting people to major downtown destinations.

**Vibrant Nature:** Highlight and celebrate the region’s diverse ecology along the entire River corridor and in a prominent downtown location accessible to all Fort Worth residents. Invite residents to play, explore, and celebrate in the waters and landside ecologies of the entire corridor and the Downtown and Trinity River nexus. Transform landscape areas along the trail to a more native planting palette and improved biodiversity.

**Common Ground:** Create a Downtown Riverfront park that will act as a central common ground for every Fort Worth resident. By leveraging its location at the junction of the Trinity River and Downtown, this common ground will invite residents to gather, interact, and celebrate the City. This common ground can be the point where the city’s origins and future come together.

**Premier Destination:** Create a quintessential Downtown Riverfront Park, on par with recent initiatives in Memphis, TN, Chattanooga, TN, and Birmingham, AL (common ground, but not on a river), connected to other nearby downtown and cultural district parks that together form a nationally significant destination additional symbol for Fort Worth.

**Manageable Resources:** Partner with the private sector and with city, regional, and state agencies as well as schools, universities, and nonprofits to plan, create, program, operate, and maintain a series of initiatives to expand access to and use of the River Corridor and to create a central common ground park that proactively invites the full spectrum of the Fort Worth community to gather, interact, and celebrate together.

Major infrastructure projects can open the door to transformational opportunities in cities, and Fort Worth is currently on the verge of one of these opportunities. The character, shape, density, and residential population will shift dramatically as the Central City project and Panther Island redevelopment are implemented. While a series of destination parks have been planned in association with the future redevelopment of Panther Island, there is an opportunity to imagine a large, connected and regionally significant city park that fully engages downtown, Heritage Park, and Panther Island’s North and South islands. This park becomes Fort Worth’s Central Commons – a widely known and admired park space that becomes synonymous with the city of Fort Worth.

Building from this Central Commons, there is an opportunity to further connect the Trinity River and Downtown by enhancing the trail connections to major destinations in the downtown area. The Botanic Garden, the Cultural District, Trinity Park, the Zoo, the Stockyards, and Rockwood Park are all less than 2.5 miles from the proposed Central Commons and Trinity Trailhead. Encouraging a trail network approach aligned with the ATP trail classification system can enhance mobility by connecting people to key destinations. With the Trinity Trail serving as a key “Spine” corridor, it links major activity centers and neighborhoods, strengthening connections to Downtown and the Trinity River while ensuring most destinations are accessible within a 10-minute or less bike ride.

Recommendations  
Transform the River into the heart of Fort Worth park, recreation, and public space system

While preserving its unique ecosystem and ability to adapt to periodic flooding, enhance the Trinity River with a series of places connected to nearby neighborhoods and unlock the River’s potential for:



Trailheads with Amenities



Outdoor Environmental Education



River Art Corridor



Athletics



Flexible Use Destinations



Water-based Recreation Access



Downtown Park



**Imagine the point at which the Trinity River meets Downtown as a Great Central Common Ground**

Create a park that proactively invites the full spectrum of Fort Worth’s rich and growing diversity to come together to celebrate the crossroads of the two places in Fort Worth that everyone can call “mine”—the Trinity River and Downtown.

Leverage current and future planning efforts to develop a shared vision for a true central park. Engage the City of Fort Worth departments (Economic Development, Planning, Park & Recreation, the FW Lab, others), Tarrant Regional Water District, Tarrant County College, Downtown Business Improvement Districts, property owners, USACE and ultimately the citizens of Fort Worth in developing a parks-focused vision that is transformational for the City and creates an iconic brand at the nexus of the City and the River.

Future planning can build upon the work completed to date while envisioning the Central City project through a parks and recreation lens. Planning to date has been more focused on the development opportunity in bringing over 2,000 acres of land out

of the floodplain. The Panther Island 2.0 plan explores a more comprehensive vision for the area and identifies several regional destination parks, but more visionary, bold and transformational proposals for a central common ground should be explored.

**Recent and current precedents and a rich array of design and programming ideas**

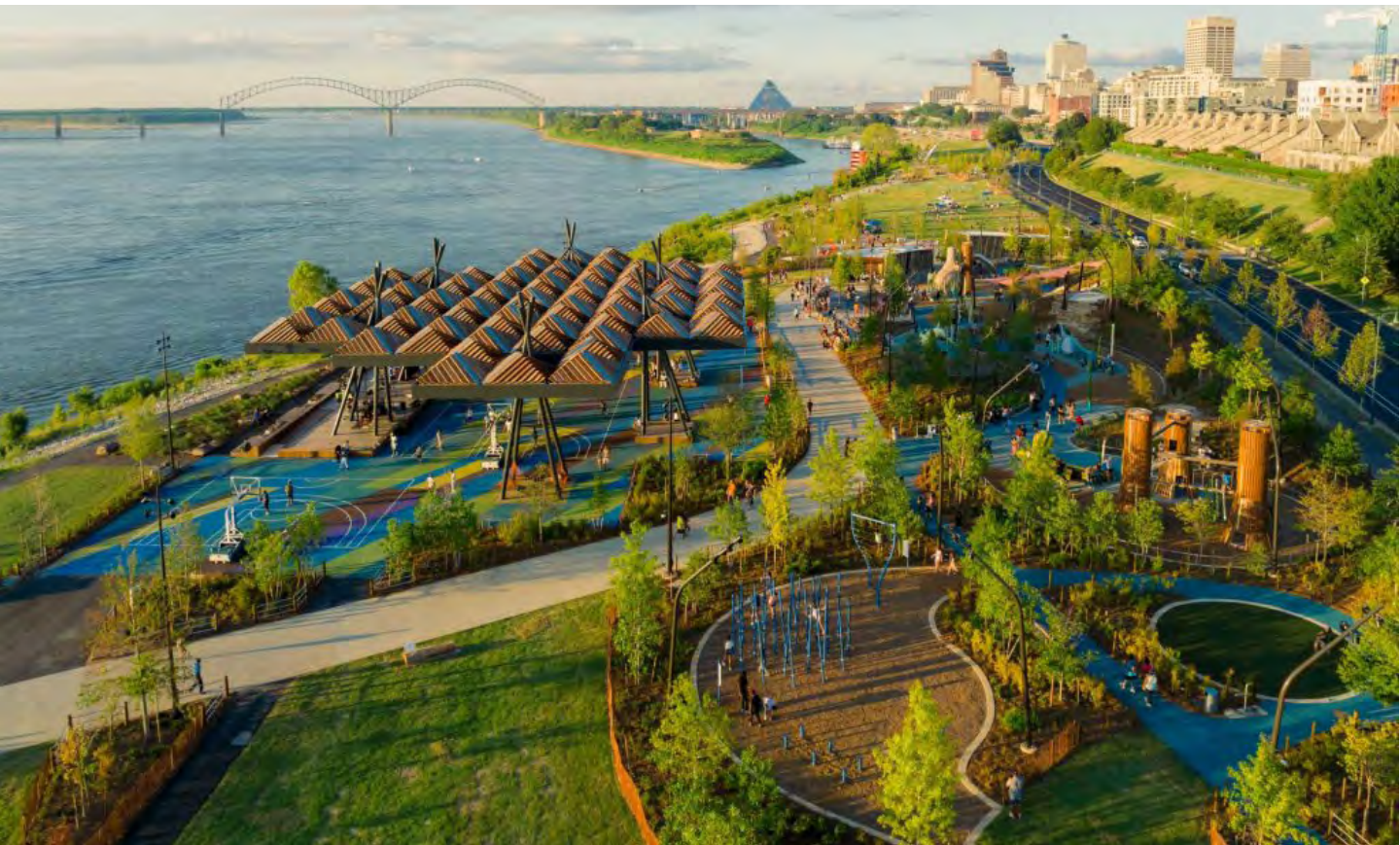
Cities across the country have recognized the unique social and economic value of investing in downtown riverfront parks, for example:

**Chattanooga, TN – Lively Connection**

The City of Chattanooga made a commitment to invest in its waterfront and now benefits from a vibrant new district that connects Downtown to the River and attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors each year. The Chattanooga Riverfront is home to Ross’s Landing, a vibrant events space, boat launch, trail connections, civic facilities (aquarium, art museums, art district), AT&T Field, and the National Park Service’s Walnut Street Bridge. Chattanooga’s Riverwalk | Access Points, Maps & Activities.



Chattanooga Riverfront



Tom Lee Park, Memphis, Tennessee

**Memphis, TN – Celebration of Living Culture and Ecological Diversity**

Tom Lee Park welcomes Memphians to meet each other and recreate along the banks of the Mississippi River. The 31 acre park links some of the City’s poorest neighborhoods with the river and the Downtown, creating a space that offers the region’s rich living culture and opportunities to perform and draw people from every walk of life and neighborhood to celebrate together and interact. The park design provides a mix of developed and natural spaces, balancing active, social spaces with increased biodiversity and stormwater management.

**Domino Park, NYC – Activation and Programming**

Domino Park is a 5-acre parcel where once a sugar factory separated the riverfront from the neighborhood. The park successfully reconnects the neighborhood to the river through trails, promenades, event spaces, dog runs, sport courts, food stands, playgrounds and more. There is something for everyone at Domino Park. The park offers over 100 events, free to the public, each year, attended by thousands of people. Domino Park: Waterfront Park in Williamsburg, Brooklyn.

**Seattle Waterfront Parks, WA - Bringing Together the High Bluff and the River’s Edge**

The recently opened Overlook Park connects Pike Place Market to the new Seattle Waterfront Park through a gently sloping promenade lined with art, play areas, overlooks and other amenities. The new park descends 100’ feet while offering unique experiences along the way. Seattle’s Olympic Sculpture Park also connects the high bluff to the waterfront using a similar approach. The 12 acre park creates a broad, zig-zagging ramp that threads through public art telling Seattle’s rich story as it gently descends to the waterfront.

Fort Worth can look to other cities for how they met the challenges of steep terrain separating downtowns from the waterfront. Fort Worth’s downtown sits on a high bluff above the river, with nearly 75’ feet separating the downtown and the river. Heritage Park and its trails navigate the steep terrain, leading pedestrians to the river edge. However, there is little visual connection between the top and bottom of the bluff, and limited visibility and connection to Panther Island. Other cities, faced with similar challenges, have found effective strategies in overcoming challenging terrain.





Domino Park, Brooklyn, New York



Waterfront Park, Seattle, Washington

Creative solutions to a better connection may be found through collaborative efforts between surrounding landowners, such as Tarrant County College. Concept designs for Heritage Park have recently been developed, and as this park is reimagined, there is enormous value in considering how a new central commons vision might be integrated with modifications to the current Heritage Park.

### Diverse programming

The central commons should be a vibrant, activated place where there is something for everyone, everyday throughout the year. The current use of the riverfront is infrequent, with popular events like “Rockin’ the River” attracting a large crowd, while everyday use is limited, leaving many to feel unsafe in areas at the river’s edge. Implementing diverse programming will attract people throughout the day and evening, creating a sense of security and safety for users.

The list of potential experiences is endless, including:

- Walkways and overlooks
- Distant views and immersive experiences
- Close connections with river ecology

- Waterplay of all sorts
- Active and passive recreation
- Citywide and neighborhood event space
- A trailhead to the Trinity River
- Restaurants and mobile vendors
- Active and passive places
- Education for all ages
- Sports equipment rentals and boat launches

### Trinity Trail Gateway

The Trinity River threads together many neighborhoods within Fort Worth. The Central Commons Park, at the heart of the city where downtown and the river meet, becomes the gateway to the river corridor’s trails and amenities. This important trailhead can provide the launching point for excursions to other areas of the city, such as the Stockyards, the Cultural District or one of the many



An inspiring vision for activating Trinity River



other riverside parks. Trail information, bike rentals, repair stations, seating areas and nearby refreshments will add to the quality of experience of those utilizing the trail and may encourage greater use of the existing trail system.

Connecting the downtown to the Trinity River is critical, and ecological and mobility connections are equally important. As the Central City project takes shape, the river ecosystem from the high bluff to the riparian areas can be restored, planting trees that create shade, promote biodiversity, and provide more diverse habitat. Riparian areas can be restored by providing more naturally occurring topography with gentler slopes supporting greater diversity of plant communities and habitat. The Central Commons can serve as an ecological “generator”, setting the stage for greater biodiversity throughout the Trinity River corridor.

**Trinity Trail Connector - Connecting Downtown To Major Destinations**  
Create a unique identity for the sections of the Trinity Trail connecting major downtown destinations. Signage, trail markings, trailside amenities, bike share or pedicab programs – all can contribute to a recognizable identity that attracts more people to use the trail to reach these major destinations:

- The Stockyards – The Confluence Plan calls for trail and access improvements linking Marine Creek to the West Fork of the Trinity River.
- Trinity Park, Botanic Garden and Cultural District



The Trailhead at Clearfork, Fort Worth

- Trinity Park is just over 1.0 mile from the proposed Central Commons, with the Botanic Garden access another 1.5 miles further down the trail. Enhancing the trail with additional amenities and attractions could enliven this segment and celebrate these beloved destinations.
- The Zoo and Forest Park Boulevard – The Confluence Plan also prioritizes improvements on the opposite side of the river, around the Zoo and Forest Park Boulevard.
- Panther Island – future development here will be a major attraction and should be included in future planning.

**Targeted Implementation Strategies**

- Create a Vision for a Central Commons Park
  - Prepare a feasibility assessment – assess park potential alongside flood control improvements.
  - Conduct a Visioning and Conceptual Design process with robust public input and ambitious, bold concepts.
- Incorporate this vision into future planning for the Central City project, Panther Island redevelopment, Heritage Park enhancements and future downtown planning.
- Catalytic projects – determine if early implementation of central park improvements can catalyze future redevelopment.
- Partner with TRWD and Streams & Valleys in testing the need and validity of the concept.
- Engage the Stockyards, Zoo, Botanic Garden and Cultural District in the Trinity Trail as a spine corridor concept.
- Collaborate with other city agencies to implement the Confluence Plan Projects.

**Transformative Idea #5**  
**A New Era of Programming**  
**Unlocking the Potential of Public Spaces**



The Power of Ten, Unlocking the potential of parks and public spaces by offering a variety of experiences

**Background**  
**Transforming Fort Worth Parks into great community destinations**  
**The Power of Ten**

Simply put, great parks offer a variety of things to do for a variety of people, making the park more than just a collection of amenities. A park is good, but a park with a fountain, playground, and food vendors is better. A nearby library or school adds even more value, especially if the library offers storytelling hours for children and local history exhibits in its public spaces. Add a sidewalk café, a bus stop, a bike trail, and an ice cream parlor, and you begin to create a place that most people would consider great —and adds far more value to the surrounding neighborhoods.

This idea aligns with the principles of Placemaking, often referred to as the “Power of 10.” While the number “10” is symbolic, the core idea is about offering a variety of experiences and choices to meet the diverse needs of the community. Whether we are discussing specific parks or entire neighborhoods, the goal is always the same: variety and choice, creating places that cater to many different interests and activities.

In Fort Worth, we aim to apply this concept across our park system at various scales. We understand great parks are not just defined by a single activity or attraction. Instead, a mix of uses, experiences, and opportunities for different people and groups is essential. By creating spaces that blend natural beauty with recreational, educational, and social opportunities, we aim to enhance not only the park itself but also the surrounding neighborhoods and the city as a whole. As we plan the future of Fort Worth’s parks, we focus on fostering places that support community engagement, create vibrant public spaces, and contribute to the city’s overall growth and vitality.

**Why is Programming needed: What qualities, including programming, make a great public destination in Fort Worth? Placemaking Principles for Great Park Destinations?**

Fort Worth city parks have so much to offer and to gain by becoming the places where community institutions go to reach people and by offering programming geared to the full diversity of nearby communities so that everyone can call their local



Achieving The GREENprint Fort Worth Core Goals:

**Thriving Community:** Expand park programming to promote physical, mental, and emotional well-being, enriching their quality of life by supporting increased social interaction and engaging diverse communities.

**Connected System:** Use the Power of Ten to enhance the city’s parks as a system of interconnected places and experiences that links directly into the growth centers and urban villages of Fort Worth. Bring programs from community institutions and partners to parks, and vice versa, to intensify neighborhood use of parks and awareness of the central role parks can play in the daily life of surrounding neighborhoods.

**Vibrant Nature:** Focus a portion of programming around the flora, landscapes, topography, and waterways that characterize Fort Worth’s parks to build greater awareness and understanding of Fort Worth’s unique ecosystems.

**Common Ground:** Enhance and expand park programs to foster social interaction and celebrate the city’s diverse cultures. Inclusive and authentic parks create spaces that invite people from all backgrounds to call a park “mine” and to interact. Dynamic programs and events, such as cultural festivals, community gatherings, outdoor classes, and collaborative art projects, promote cross-cultural understanding and bring people together.

**Premier Destination:** Use programming to unlock the ability of parks to promote collaboration, creativity, and entrepreneurship. Support local small businesses and provide opportunities for networking and innovation. Foster inclusive environments where diverse communities can interact to stimulate economic activity, continue to promote the city’s growth in emerging industries aligned with the ‘New Economy’.

**Manageable Resources:** Partner with schools and universities, nonprofits, arts and cultural organizations and others to expand the frequency, range, and depth of programming across the city’s parks, recreation, and green space system.

park “mine”. Currently, most programming offered by PARD takes place inside the community centers, and rarely outside in the parks where these facilities are located. There is a tremendous opportunity and a need for Fort Worth parks to do more and be more for the people they serve through more focused and intentional programs and activities.

There is a growing trend among community-focused institutions like libraries, museums, schools, performing arts centers, and even sports arenas, to bring the inside out. That is, to take the exciting events, performances, and competitions, or the humble story time, scrabble game, and salsa class to outdoor spaces. Community institutions are reaching beyond their walls in order to better connect to their audiences and to grow new ones.

Often, they have to create the outdoor space they

want to be visible in from scratch, transforming parking lots into plazas, paved areas into gardens, or taking what they have to offer across the street or across town to reach people.

Urban parks and park systems are especially good arenas for system thinking and design excellence. Over the years, we have identified certain elements and principles that make parks more enjoyable and attractive to people of all ages, and ultimately great places.

**The Inner Park and the Outer Park**  
Visionary Park Planner Frederick Law Olmsted’s idea of the “inner park” and the “outer park” is just as relevant today as it was over 100 years ago. To really succeed, a great park needs to extend beyond its physical boundaries. The streets and sidewalks around Fort Worth parks greatly effect their

accessibility and use, as do the buildings surrounding them. Parks need to have a green attractive presence, inviting and connecting with surrounding neighborhoods by ensuring active, accessible edges; entrances that link easily to area destinations like schools, libraries, community centers, shops, bike routes and transit stops. Adding activity that is visible from the street and seeking to make entrances more engaging are all good ways to support the “outer park.” The outer edge is essential to the well-being of the inner park.

It is also very important that the influence of a park be extended into neighborhoods for environmental and physical health. Nothing correlates more directly with enhanced public health outcomes than creating places that invite people to walk. Green spaces in nearby streets cool the urban environment through shade and reduction of the heat island effect. Vegetation and trees purify air quality, manage stormwater runoff, and support local wildlife. Green corridors enhance the enjoyment of a neighborhood by aesthetically tying natural and built systems together. The “outer park” enhances the social and environmental well-being of the inner park through perceived activity and engaging entrances.

Attractions and Destinations: The Art of Clustering

Within the inner park, visible focal points and a variety of smaller “places” are needed to appeal

to diverse park users. Many Fort Worth parks already possess such small destinations like picnic shelters, playgrounds, water features, stage areas for performances, skateboard areas, and so on. The attractions don’t need to be big or expensive to make the park a success. They do benefit—and magnify their impact—by being located as part of a cluster of activities—for example a playground adjacent to seating for adults, shade, drinking fountains, restrooms, and a game cart or foosball table for older kids. The details will be specific to different places, but the important element is to offer attractions for a few different age groups - not just kids, but their caregivers, and older siblings. In Fort Worth parks, where destinations are often spaced out, building destinations up can happen gradually, when replacement and renovation happens, and with lighter, programmatic elements that are more “movable.”

**A Front Porch or a Backyard**  
A flexible, inviting space will be instrumental in attracting residents and a variety of users. These areas are an easy transition from the public realm into the park and all its amenities, creating a feeling of ownership and inclusion.

The development of a “front porch” or “backyard” area in a park would involve the nurturing of a space where people are comfortable staying in, interacting, and being involved in. The imagery of the front porch



A vibrant outdoor space, Beer Garden; Governors Island, New York



A front porch or backyard area in a park



implies an outward-oriented facility that is active, easy to just hang out in, strike up a conversation with others, or hold events that will draw them in. In contrast, the imagery of the backyard is of an inward-oriented and cozier area, to be used by locals to relax in, socialize, or engage in low-key, self-guided or self-organized activities, like yard games, or meet-ups. With elements that balance vibrancy with comfort, extended hours, adaptable seating, and programming reflective of neighborhood culture, parks can become the vital areas of everyday life. Parks can thus be an inviting extension of home for all visitors.

**Amenities & Aesthetics**

Great parks feature amenities that make them comfortable and easy for people to use, not just amenities that are easy to maintain. Appropriate seating, shade or a waste receptacle in just the right location can make a big difference in if and how people choose to use a place. In general, flexible amenities, such as movable chairs, umbrellas, benches and plantings that are not structural but could be moved for a special event or celebration, make for the most comfortable and inviting public spaces.

Adding color, through soft amenities and plantings can also be very impactful. Such features are rarely used in Fort Worth parks in part because of the substantial labor they require for management and care. Addressing some of these management needs potentially with the cooperation of “Friends Groups”



Vibrant public space with flexible and inviting amenities, Downtown Atlanta

and other partner organizations will be instrumental in maintaining high quality, attractive amenities while enhancing the image of City parks.

**Flexible and Seasonal Features**

Park uses and users change during the course of the day, week, and year. To respond to the outdoor conditions and the natural fluctuations of park use, flexibility needs to be built in. Instead of a permanent stage, for example, a movable stage could be used, with the design allowing for needed infrastructure, access, and potential green room or backstage areas. Seasonal strategies are also important. Skating rinks, outdoor cafés, book festivals, author readings, horticulture displays, and temporary art installations can all help adapt the use of the park, and its image, from one season to the next.

Public art and landscaping features in the right location can be a great magnet for adults and children of all ages to come together. Whether portable, seasonal or permanent, good thoughtfully selected artistic elements paired with seasonal horticultural displays can be invaluable in establishing a lively setting for social interaction, learning and deep engagement. Digital and interactive public art can be updated periodically by local artists and resident participants.



Seasonal features, ice skating rink in Prado de San Sebastian Park, Spain

**Enhanced Programming and Setting the Stage for Enhanced Partnering**

Building great parks requires a diverse array of community events and programs for different members of the community. Not unlike a food pyramid, an active community space needs a solid base of simple, daily activities (often self-led), followed by weekly programs, monthly and seasonal events, and a sprinkle of special events. The programming pyramid doesn’t reflect the importance of activities, but rather their frequency and number. Regular or recurring programs are also very important as they begin to make their way onto people’s personal calendars, so participants know when to show up.

Great parks offer programming and a human presence, which can best be achieved through active management. Appropriate levels of programming as well as opportunities for self-led, spontaneous activities are all needed and important. In a multi-partner context, the role of PARD is not to organize the large majority of programs and events, but to create and support the “infrastructure” for programming in Fort Worth parks. This involves maintaining spaces and facilities, but also promoting parks as venues by offering easy ways to propose and sign-up for programs, clear approvals and permitting processes, outreach and communications to other city departments.



Hierarchy of Needs for an Active Public Space

Working with partners to develop programming also facilitates PARD’s ability to connect with and empower local communities through various approaches including support for “Friends’ Groups”, aligning with area organizations to bring programs (and people) to the parks, and developing philanthropic support.

**Recommendations**

Creating vibrant parks that attract a large and diverse range of users requires engaging programming, thoughtful planning, and functional design to support the activities identified in this programming and planning that animate a park. The following recommendations will help PARD and the City of Fort Worth increase park usership, better connect with residents, and transform parks into vibrant, engaging gathering spaces at the core of their neighborhoods and communities.

**Building Critical Mass: Cluster Uses and Activities**

Clustering amenities in ways that encourage interaction and activity will promote vibrant, multi-use parks that attract a diverse range of visitors. This approach, often referred to as “triangulation,” involves positioning complementary features near one another to create lively, engaging spaces. Imagine a shaded picnic table situated within a clear



Cluster uses and activities, working with underfunded communities



view of a playground—parents can relax and enjoy a meal while keeping an eye on their children. This kind of thoughtful design fosters social connection and natural circulation, transforming a park from a spread-out collection of amenities into a cohesive destination.

Visits to the Trailhead and Thomas Place Park revealed good examples of improved triangulation. These parks, like many others in Fort Worth, feature excellent amenities - playgrounds, picnic pavilions, and seating areas. However, in other parks, these elements are spaced too far apart, limiting their ability to function cohesively and effectively at each scale. By grouping amenities — benches, kiosks, playgrounds, and shade — closer together, the space becomes not only more functional but also more dynamic. Creating sub-places within parks, such as quiet areas, active play zones, and social hubs, can further enhance this effect. These distinct zones should cater to a range of users while maintaining a unified park identity.

Successful examples of triangulation and critical mass can be seen in places like Sundance Square Plaza in Fort Worth. This urban plaza exemplifies how interactive features, a vibrant atmosphere, and proximity to dining and shopping can transform a space into a lively social hub that generates significant social as well as economic value. Similarly, Trinity Park leverages its prime location near Downtown Fort Worth and the cultural district to attract significant user traffic through its extensive trail network, diverse recreational opportunities, and community events. Larger parks can feel isolated due to their size, but intentional triangulation can bridge some of those gaps, creating moments of connection that resonate.

Discovery Green in Houston and Bryant Park in New York City illustrate the power of critical mass and thoughtful design. These parks effectively use year-round programming, diverse amenities, and strategic co-location to foster engagement and extend visitor experiences. For example, Discovery Green hosts movie nights, exercise classes, and art installations, while Bryant Park offers ice skating, literary events, and seasonal markets.

These vibrant spaces exemplify how clustering and programming can turn parks into dynamic destinations for all.

By intentionally and systematically applying principles of triangulation, and the creation of diverse sub-spaces, many Fort Worth parks can become more than just green spaces; they can become purposeful invitations to gather, play, relax, and build strong community connections.

Human Presence

PARD’s staff should be trained and encouraged to an even greater extent to interact with the public whenever they are in the parks. Park workers possess a lot of great information about plants, wildlife, and facilities. They have informal observations and knowledge of how people use specific destinations - when a place is busy, what groups use it often, what people need, or what they ask for, what they leave behind, etc. This is all information that park users - young and old - can appreciate and learn from.



Human presence, North Z. Boaz Park, Fort Worth

A volunteer-based Park Ambassador Program could be a great way to build community connections and empower individuals to support their local parks. Not all volunteers like gardening, and non-gardening tasks like welcoming visitors, sharing park information, reporting maintenance needs, or organizing small events could be a good alternative. A Park Ambassador program fosters pride, ownership, and a stronger bond between people and their parks.

Community Events and Programs

A thriving park system needs both active and passive programming to attract and engage users. What draws people to parks is nature and other people.

Creating opportunities for more self-led, spontaneous activities will also be essential. While parks may not always have active monitoring or programming, providing activities and designing spaces that encourage independent engagement will draw visitors. Grass and wide-open fields alone aren’t sufficient to fill a park with users. To attract users, a robust calendar of programming that gets people excited to visit is critical.

Some recommendations for broadening the appeal of parks include:

- Concessions: Food and beverage options are always a draw. Either a concession building, food



Summer camp group, Fort Worth

- trucks or cafes open to the outside in existing community buildings will provide the comfort factor for visitors, and also additional human presence in the park.
- Festivals, markets, and celebrations of local culture.
- Performances, music, and cultural events to connect community members.
- Sports demonstrations and competitions to promote active engagement.
- Naturalist events that tap into the community’s love of nature and learning.

Physical Improvements to Support Programs

Below is a list of key physical improvements that could lead to transformative changes in Fort Worth parks:

- One key focus should be creating a sense of arrival at each park, which helps establish its identity and sets the tone for the visitor experience. Enhancing existing gateways provides a “template” for different park typologies can achieve this effectively. For example, iconic signage can define the entrance of a Metropolitan Park, similar to the Cobb Park towers, while thoughtful native landscaping can create a welcoming gateway for Community Parks.
- In Fort Worth’s hot climate, providing user comfort is critical. Shade and weather protection together with play fountains and other ways to experience water are already provided in many parks, like Lake Como or Cobb Park. Comfort promotes usability—there’s no play without a place for caregivers to rest nearby.
- To make parks inclusive for everyone, provide accessible pathways, shaded seating, and clear, easy-to-read signage. These elements not only enhance comfort but also increase the usability of parks for a diverse range of visitors, including those with limited mobility.
- Incorporating flexible features such as open lawns, bike-learning zones, splash pads, and public art fosters a lively and dynamic environment. These multi-use spaces can accommodate changing needs and encourage creative and active engagement across all age groups.
- Adding local materials and design elements, parks can create spaces that resonate with the community and reflect the area’s unique character. Fort Worth offers numerous examples of this approach: Cobb Park’s iconic limestone entry towers and bridges, Lake Como Park’s pavilions, and the modern Clearfork and Trinity Trails, which combine contemporary design with native materials.
- Many parks also feature beautiful native planting beds in key locations that enhance the landscape’s appeal, creating visual interest for visitors while attracting beneficial insects and birds. These features not only improve the park experience but also promote sustainability and celebrate the region’s natural and cultural heritage.



By focusing on these improvements—creating a strong sense of arrival, prioritizing comfort and accessibility, and providing flexible, active spaces—Fort Worth’s parks can become vibrant, inclusive destinations that meet the needs of their communities while enhancing quality of life for all.



An inspiring visualization of physical enhancements designed to support programming.

**Enhance Park Identity & Information**  
**Create a Unique Identity for Parks Showcasing Local Community Culture**

Defining a unique identity for each park in Fort Worth is aspirational and an ongoing task aimed at enhancing its connection to the community and improving the visitor experience. PARD can achieve this by fostering partnerships with local groups and organizations to develop and refine these park identities.

A key strategy is to partner with local community members, artists, and groups to implement programming that reflects the neighborhood’s specific culture, history, and identity. Engaging the local community ensures that park programming aligns with their values and interests, fostering a sense of ownership and pride. For example, Fire Station Park on Hemphill Avenue has become a successful model of park programming led by community engagement. Residents envisioned the park with a small neighborhood skate park, which was incorporated into the park’s design and became a successful feature.

In addition to community input, collaborating with local artists helps incorporate culturally relevant artwork and performances—elements that might not have been identified without this direct involvement. Hosting cultural events, such as music performances and skill demonstrations, can significantly enrich the

park experience. These activities foster community engagement while celebrating Fort Worth’s rich cultural diversity. Parks like Trinity Park with the annual Mayfest, and neighborhood favorites like Rosedale Park (with block parties, movie nights, and holiday celebrations) and Como Park (featuring live music, food festivals, and cultural events) are great examples of parks that use such activities to strengthen community ties and showcase local culture.



Sensory play, enriching visitor experience, Dream Park

**Education and Visitor Experience**  
To enhance the visitor experience and ensure parks are accessible and engaging for all, it is critical to provide clear and comprehensive information about both the activities available and the park’s history and significance. Fort Worth parks have increasingly embraced this approach, providing opportunities for visitors to learn about the natural and cultural heritage of the area through various means.

One effective way to enrich the visitor experience is by offering ranger-led programs and self-guided activities. These programs provide educational opportunities while allowing visitors to engage with the park at their own pace. For example, parks like Trinity Park host ranger-led nature walks that educate participants about local wildlife and ecology, providing an interactive learning experience.

Additionally, technology can play a key role in enhancing the educational experience. Interactive exhibits and apps can be used to provide real-time information about the park, its history, and upcoming events. Parks such as Lake Como Park and Cobb Park are beginning to integrate digital tools that allow

visitors to explore the parks’ unique natural features and learn about the area’s cultural and environmental history in a more dynamic way.

Collaboration with local schools and community organizations is also a powerful way to connect visitors to the park’s resources. Partnering with these groups for educational outreach programs can foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of the parks, encouraging families, students, and local residents to engage in activities that promote both environmental stewardship and cultural awareness. This approach has been successfully implemented at parks like Rosemont Park, where community organizations lead programs designed to engage young people in environmental education and artistic expression.

By integrating these approaches, Fort Worth parks can continue to create immersive, educational experiences that are accessible to all visitors, enhancing their connection to the places they visit.

**Integrate Identity and Information**  
Fort Worth parks can strengthen their identity by incorporating both branding and effective wayfinding systems that make the parks more accessible and engaging for all.

Building a unique brand identity for each park is an important step in distinguishing one park from another. By highlighting the distinct cultural, historical, or environmental aspects of each park, such as the cultural significance of Trinity Park near the Cultural District or the natural beauty of Lake Como Park, parks can attract visitors from across the city and beyond. Fort Worth’s parks can use this branding to foster a sense of pride and ownership in the community, encouraging local residents to become more involved in preserving and enhancing these spaces.

Alongside branding, effective wayfinding is essential for helping visitors navigate the park system and fully experience all that the parks have to offer. Fort Worth parks should maintain a consistent wayfinding system that includes clear maps and directional signs placed at key entry points and throughout the park.

By ensuring that signs are easy to read and tailored for different audiences—such as families with young children or visitors with disabilities—parks can improve accessibility and ensure all visitors have a positive experience. Natural landmarks can also serve as helpful cues for visitors to orient themselves, enhancing the park’s navigation and connection to its surroundings.

Social media also plays a key role in promoting parks and expanding their reach. By sharing regular updates, event information, and community stories, parks can connect with a wider audience and build a stronger relationship with both residents and visitors. Rosedale Park, for instance, has seen increased participation in its community events through targeted social media campaigns that showcase the vibrancy of its activities, such as block parties, movie nights, and holiday celebrations.

By blending identity and information, Fort Worth parks can offer a truly immersive experience that connects both locals and visitors to the city’s vibrant cultural and natural landscapes.

**Harness the Power of Volunteers**  
Volunteers are vital to urban parks and can continue to have strong impacts in Fort Worth parks, enriching park experiences through guided nature walks, clean-ups, programming, and garden care.



An inspiring visualization of enhancing Fort Worth parks with branding and wayfinding



Some Fort Worth parks already benefit from the attention and care of committed neighbors. This work should be highlighted, supported, and enriched to encourage more people to participate. Best practices from experienced volunteer coordinators show the importance of understanding what motivates volunteers, such as challenging work, responsibility, and recognition. Marlene Wilson, author of *The Effective Management of Volunteer Programs*<sup>1</sup>, writes that the five motivations for volunteering are:

- Challenging work
- Increased responsibility
- Growth and development
- Achievement
- Recognition of accomplishment

Understanding these motivations helps match individuals to roles that encourage long-term commitment and community ownership. Harnessing the power of volunteers and partnering with community organizations can elevate park programming and expand outreach. Collaborations with libraries and local groups bring fresh ideas, insights into audience interests, and access to new or renewed audiences, fostering community investment in parks.

**Strategies for developing volunteer programs**

Engaging local community volunteers through neighborhood associations, schools, and faith-based organizations can build a grassroots network of park advocates. Establishing a “Friends of the Park” group for each major park can offer consistent support, allowing volunteers to take on leadership roles and create customized programs that reflect the community’s unique needs. Additionally, corporate volunteering initiatives can be expanded through partnerships with local businesses, encouraging companies to adopt parks or sponsor large-scale volunteer events, such as annual clean-up days or tree-planting festivals.

**Strategies for recruiting volunteers**

Community outreach efforts, such as hosting volunteer fairs or setting up information booths at local events, can help tap into diverse audiences who might not yet be aware of volunteer opportunities.

<sup>1</sup> Wilson, M. (1976). *The Effective Management of Volunteer Programs*.

Boulder, CO: Volunteer Management Associates.

Partnering with schools and universities to offer service-learning credits or internships can attract younger volunteers eager to gain experience and contribute to their community. For corporate volunteers, offering team-building experiences or recognition through co-branded signage in parks can enhance participation while strengthening ties between businesses and the community.

Social media platforms are vital for recruiting, engaging and keeping connected with volunteers. They promote events, highlight volunteer stories, and attract new participants while keeping current ones connected. Live-streaming orientation sessions can make them more accessible and exciting, helping new volunteers integrate smoothly.

Volunteer recognition is key to retention. Simple gestures like social media shout-outs, newsletter features, and appreciation events create a sense of belonging. Innovative approaches, such as exclusive park access or hosting “Spruce Up” days, can attract both long-term and one-time volunteers, offering flexible participation opportunities. A dedicated volunteer coordinator is essential to streamline efforts. Using management software, they can efficiently handle schedules, communication, and event coordination. By understanding volunteer motivations, leveraging social media, and fostering meaningful connections, urban parks can build vibrant communities through active participation and collaboration.

Programs like the Partnership for Parks in New York City, a joint initiative of NYC Parks and the City Parks Foundation, demonstrate the potential of leveraging corporate sponsors and local volunteers to improve and maintain parks. Through this initiative, corporate groups participate in park clean-ups and beautification projects, while local volunteers engage in stewardship activities, creating a model for public-private collaboration that strengthens community ties and park resources.

**Targeted Implementation Strategies**

To transform the recommendations in this section into a reality, three interconnected strategies will be critical. Start with a pilot destination park, developing a non-profit arm for implementation, and then applying the lessons of the pilot to a broader, Catalyst Park program with the help of the non-profit arm.

**Develop One Pilot Destination Park**

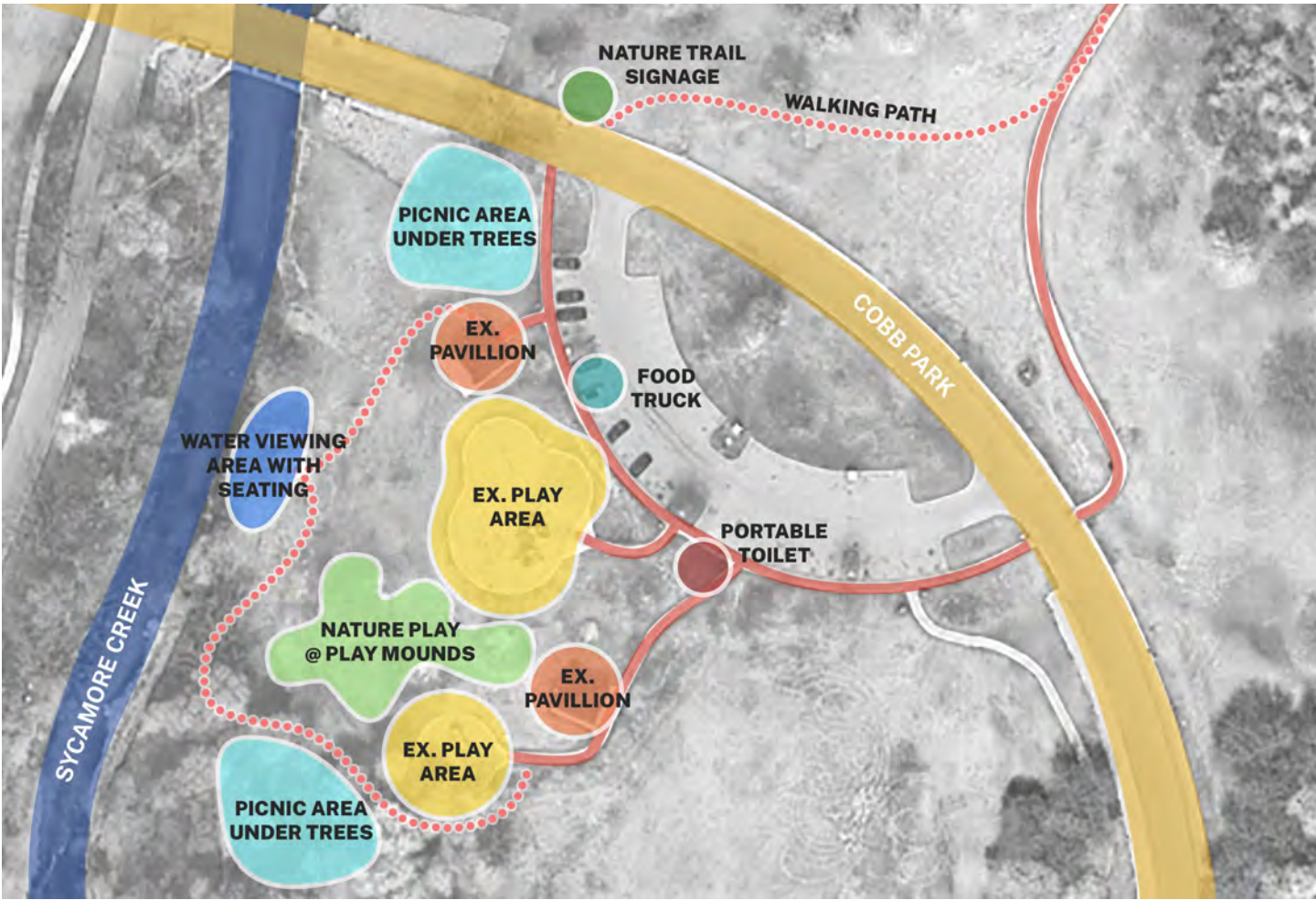
- **Project Proposal: Cobb Park Placemaking Initiative**

Launch a pilot project in a destination park in Fort Worth to serve as a collaborative space for exploring how placemaking and collaborative programming can transform parks into vibrant, and lively community spaces. This pilot project will act as a template for future projects, such as the Catalyst Parks (see Strategy #3 below) and a demonstration model for teasing out lessons and scaling up a broader program. By integrating community-driven programming,

innovative design adjustments, and sustainable management practices, the initiative will provide the PARD with an opportunity to verify new strategies, refine community-building programs, and devise approaches for broader application.

- **Selecting the most impactful pilot**

A park with many “low hanging fruit” opportunities and strong potential to go from good to great quickly, like Cobb Park, would make the most impactful pilot. Cobb Park is an important community asset, and offers diverse high-quality amenities such as playgrounds, picnic shelters, sports facilities, trails connected to the Trinity Trails system, and natural features along Sycamore Creek. Its combination of recreational assets, natural beauty, and an existing Park Friends Group, makes it an ideal site for this Pilot project. The pilot project should showcase how light programmatic and placemaking improvements can transform a good park into a popular community destination. Cobb Park could serve as the model for



Cobb Park destination diagram





A proposed pilot project at Cobb Park envisions transforming a parking area into an inviting public space with seating by the creek, a shaded picnic area under trees, and enhanced play areas.

broader programming and design strategies to be explored across the park system potentially through a Catalyst-type program, offering a replicable template for success.

- **Building on Cobb Park’s existing resources and engaging the community, this initiative would aim to strengthen the park’s role as an inclusive, and unique destination. The Pilot Placemaking Focus Areas should include:**

- \* Sycamore Creek as an underutilized asset in the park. A simple enhancement to open views to the creek and create connections to the park’s existing playgrounds, picnic areas, and parking would transform it into a central feature, and will significantly enrich the visitor experience.
- \* Introduce food and beverage options through food trucks or carts, encouraging extended stays and increased activity, and providing a steady presence in key locations of the Park.
- \* Community-Driven Programming could include festivals, markets, and cultural celebrations to highlight local heritage; performances, music, and events to strengthen community connections; sports demonstrations and competitions to encourage active participation; nature-focused events like nature walks and learning

to foster appreciation for the environment and learning.

- \* Build on the existing triangulation. The arrival parking lots are already thoughtfully located next to playgrounds, shade shelters, and other game activities. Adding special programming, extra uses, and high-quality ancillary amenities could help move these places from good to extraordinary.

### Create a Non-Profit Arm of the Park & Recreation Department

A non-profit organization can have a wide range of relationships and experiences depending on the direction and needs PARD would want it to fulfill. According to its role in relation to PARD such an organization could be an assistance provider, helping PARD with education, programming, and volunteers. The organization could also assist with fundraising and advocacy and would primarily operate with few paid staff and no direct responsibility for park grounds.

Another model would be a non-profit organization that works in collaboration with PARD through a position jointly shared by PARD and the non-profit that oversees fundraising, planning, programming, as well as supporting capital construction efforts, in addition to connecting with community and volunteers. This organization would share some responsibility for park grounds or facilities on a case-by-case basis.

Finally, a citywide partner organization could focus on raising the level and quality of parks city-wide through advocacy, fundraising efforts, programming, training smaller friends groups, and initiating citywide park-related initiatives.

Whichever model is selected, a non-profit arm will be instrumental in fundraising and building philanthropic relationships, as well as in outreach efforts and organizing volunteers. The tax-exempt status makes a non-profit eligible for funds from foundations and more attractive to individual donors. It can also support PARD in articulating a bold new vision for the system as a whole and help generate the funds to implement it.

Creating a non-profit arm of the Park & Recreation Department could take some time, it is important that in the near future PARD expands its internal capacity to collaborate with other city departments and outside entities. This means ensuring that PARD is properly staffed to adapt to emerging needs, and in particular to engage actively in community and partner outreach focused on programming. This may require staff that is specifically trained and focused on outreach, as well as on harnessing the power of volunteers, as described in the recommendation section.

### Develop a Catalyst Parks Program

An important strategic step towards implementation would be to create a multi-year Catalyst Parks program combining City-funded improvements with non-profit privately funded arts, sports, education and community-building programs in selected parks.

Learning from other Catalyst programs, the key is to select several parks - potentially one in each park district - and apply long-term community engagement and park improvement tools to revitalize these parks

The Catalyst program should include three key components:

- Community engagement in collaboration with a non-profit parks arm as described in strategy #2;
- Enhanced programming specific to the community and the selected park, accomplished in partnership with non-profit parks arm and a variety of local partners; and
- Capital investment in physical improvements that support uses and programs from PARD and the City budget, with potential for private and philanthropic contributions.

In order to track progress and record substantial impact, the Catalyst program should run in three to four-year cycles. Each cycle would start with a thorough understanding of selected parks’ existing conditions - current uses, physical amenities, popular events, busy days and seasons, available programs, nearby partners, and a survey of area residents both users and non-users of the park. Based on these initial findings the program would be able to benchmark success and measure progress towards its goals.

It is important to note that this would not simply be a one park pilot, but a program that encompasses several parks to track its effectiveness. Selection could be made by district, by park type, or by other criteria to be defined by PARD.

For example, New York City’s four-year Catalyst for Neighborhood Parks cycle began in 2004 by selecting four parks based on their potential for improvement. The program was a public-private partnership that combined City-funded capital improvements with non-profit/privately funded arts, sports, education and community-building programs.



CHAPTER

# 07

## Objectives and Strategies

### CONTENTS

- **Introduction**
- **Thriving Community**
- **Connected System**
- **Vibrant Nature**
- **Common Ground**
- **Premier Destination**
- **Manageable Resources**





Photo Credit: City of Fort Worth

# Introduction

This chapter outlines the roadmap for achieving Fort Worth’s long-term vision for its parks, recreation, and public space system. It is organized into six overarching goals, each representing a foundational theme such as equity, access, environmental resilience, community identity, economic vitality, and operational excellence. These goals reflect the community’s values and aspirations, and serve as the guiding pillars for future decision-making.

Each goal is supported by several objectives, which identify more specific focus areas that need to be addressed to realize the broader vision. These objectives cover a wide range of priorities—from enhancing physical access to parks and expanding recreation programming, to promoting environmental stewardship and celebrating local culture.

To achieve each objective, the chapter presents a set of strategies. These strategies describe actionable approaches and methods that the City and its partners can implement. They are designed to be flexible and responsive, drawing on best practices, innovative solutions, and local insights. Each strategy is accompanied by a series of action

steps that provide clear, practical tasks to guide implementation. These steps help translate vision into on-the-ground results by identifying what needs to be done, by whom, and in what time frame.

The graphic below is an example of how each goal is structured, showing the hierarchy from goal to objective, strategy, and action steps. This clear structure helps organize recommendations and ensures accountability throughout the implementation process.

To further support implementation and inspire innovation, the chapter also highlights best practices from other cities and organizations. These real-world examples illustrate successful models and creative solutions that Fort Worth can adapt to local needs and conditions.

The alignment graphic highlights how each of the six goals connects to the common themes identified through community engagement in Chapter 4. These themes reflect input gathered through workshops, focus groups, and surveys, ensuring the plan responds to community priorities.





# Thriving Community

Support the community's physical, mental, and emotional well-being through innovative design and programming.

**Objective 1:** Design an award-winning park and recreation system that enhances the community's quality of life.

**Objective 2:** Continuously assess community needs and pro-actively plan facilities, recreation, and programs that adapt to evolving needs and trends.

**Objective 3:** Enhance public health and promote active lifestyles by expanding access to parks, offering diverse recreational programs, and improving facilities for physical activity in parks and public spaces.

**Objective 4:** Strengthen partnerships with other agencies, non-profit groups, community partners, and the private sector to expand opportunities for programming and joint use of space and facilities.

**Objective 5:** Position parks to help address complex challenges in the community.





## Goal 1 Thriving Community

### Objective 1.1: Design an Award-Winning Park and Recreation System that Enhances the Community's Quality of Life

Great cities are defined by great parks. Fort Worth's parks and recreation system is poised to set a new standard for excellence, delivering not just functional green spaces but truly exceptional public realms that inspire, connect, and enrich the lives of all residents. Through high-quality design, innovative planning, and outstanding project delivery, Fort Worth will transform its park system into one that is not only cherished by the community but also recognized as one of the finest in the nation. By building a legacy of excellence and establishing these high standards, Fort Worth will not only elevate its reputation as a leader in parks and recreation but will also attract greater investment, forge stronger partnerships, and enhance the overall quality of life for its residents.

Through innovative design, strategic investment, and an unwavering commitment to excellence, Fort Worth will build a park system that is as bold and dynamic as the city itself—one that serves as a national model for how parks can shape the future of a thriving, connected, and resilient community.

#### Strategy 1.1.1: Create a signature park in each Park Planning District, celebrating local history and diversity with exceptional design and programming.

- Use the provided map to evaluate and prioritize potential locations for signature parks based on accessibility, land availability, and alignment with community needs, while considering each site's historical, cultural, and environmental significance.
- Collaborate with renowned planners, architects, and designers to create a visionary design plan for signature parks, featuring immersive play experiences, iconic gathering spaces, and dynamic water elements that inspire connection and exploration.
- Gather input from residents, historians, artists, and cultural organizations through workshops and surveys to ensure the park's design incorporates culturally reflective features, such as public art, amenities, and storytelling elements that showcase the unique identity, history, and values of each district.
- Partner with private developers, non-profit, business campus owners, and philanthropic organizations to secure funding to support signature park development, programming, and long-term maintenance.



### DID YOU KNOW?

#### THE POWER OF DESIGN EXCELLENCE

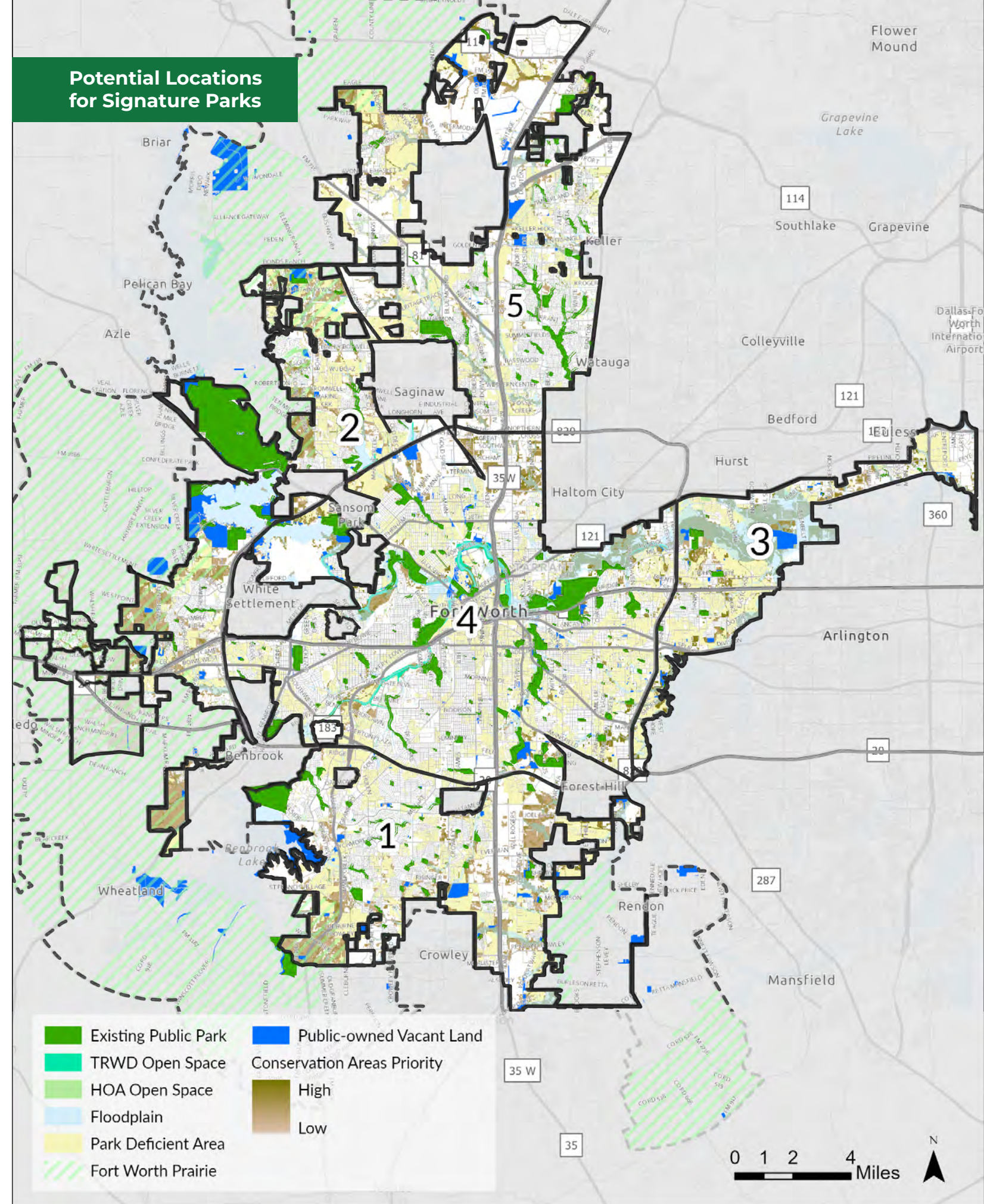
Design is more than aesthetics—it is about creating immersive, accessible, and sustainable spaces that foster community pride, improve public health, enhance safety, and stimulate economic growth. **Proximity to parks can increase property values by over 5%**, making them a key driver of neighborhood vitality and economic resilience. **Well-designed parks also play a crucial role in public safety, as neighborhoods adjacent to green spaces have been shown to experience lower rates of violent and property crimes.**

Beyond economic and safety benefits, parks with walking trails see 80% more users and a 90% increase in physical activity, directly contributing to a healthier, more active community. Parks should not only meet basic recreational needs but inspire and engage, offering unique experiences that reflect Fort Worth's culture, history, and natural beauty. By incorporating forward-thinking design principles, Fort Worth will craft parks that seamlessly integrate nature, recreation, and urban life, ensuring that every park becomes a destination that enhances the city's identity and quality of life for all residents.

Sources:

[Little Tikes Commercial: How Parks Lead to Healthier Cities](#)

[BREC: Parks Create Safer Neighborhoods](#)





**Strategy 1.1.2: Strive for design excellence in the development and renovation or replacement of parks and amenities.**

Exceptional parks are more than just green spaces—they are vibrant, engaging destinations that enrich daily life, foster community connection, and celebrate the unique character of Fort Worth. Parks should not only meet basic recreational needs but should inspire and engage, offering unique experiences that reflect the city’s culture, history, and natural beauty.

Achieving design excellence requires a holistic approach to planning and development, ensuring that every park and amenity is thoughtfully crafted to enhance its surroundings, complement existing landscapes, and create seamless connections between built structures and green spaces. Whether renovating existing parks or designing new ones, the following should be considered:

- Sustainable design elements where appropriate. Sustainable design elements may include those made with recycled, salvaged or locally produced materials, those that consume few resources, those that produce or are powered by renewable resources (e.g., solar panels) or those that reduce maintenance and life cycle costs.
- Incorporate unique features such as public art, sculpture gardens, adventure play areas, observation towers, thematic gardens, or water play elements to attract regional and national attention. Where possible introduce digital public art that can be regularly reprogrammed by local artists and tell the stories of local residents and interactive public art that introduces people to each other and transforms strangers into neighbors.
- Design fully inclusive parks with dedicated spaces for all generations and abilities, such as sensory play areas, active teen zones, and quiet spaces for seniors.
- Integrate smart technology into park systems, such as interactive kiosks, app-based navigation tools, and free public Wi-Fi, to enhance the user experience and improve accessibility.
- Partner with local organizations, schools, and businesses to offer a wide variety of community events, festivals, and activities in parks year-round. Seek the use of specialized and specific skills, talents and abilities that partners may have which the City’s Park and Recreation Department may not have. Using their specialized skills can help introduce new and exciting events and programs to the community. Additionally, partners may have access to resources, equipment and funding not accessible or currently owned by the City.



**BEST PRACTICE**

**SUSTAINABLE DESIGN**

**Evelyn’s Park, Bellaire, TX**

Evelyn’s Park in Bellaire, Texas, showcases **sustainable park design by integrating natural systems, resource efficiency, and community-focused elements**. Native plantings and low-maintenance landscaping reduce water use while supporting biodiversity, creating a resilient ecosystem suited for the Texas climate. To manage stormwater, the park features permeable surfaces, bioswales, and rain gardens, minimizing runoff and flooding.

Beyond its ecological impact, Evelyn’s Park is a model for community-driven green spaces, offering flexible recreation areas, educational programs, and cultural events that strengthen social connections and appreciation for nature. By prioritizing sustainability and livability, it sets a benchmark for balancing environmental stewardship with vibrant, people-centric spaces.

**Application to Fort Worth**

*By embracing sustainable design principles, Fort Worth can create parks that enhance climate resilience, conserve resources, and provide dynamic public spaces that support both ecological and community well-being.*



Evelyn’s Park, Bellaire, TX

**Strategy 1.1.3: Develop a Parks, Recreation, Greenspace and Public Realm System That Achieves and Maintains Award-Winning Recognition**

An exceptional park, greenspace and public realm system does not go unnoticed. Earning national and state-level awards affirms Fort Worth’s leadership in parks and recreation and signals to residents, businesses, and visitors that the city prioritizes quality, sustainability, and community well-being. The City should strive to maintain and achieve the following distinctions at a minimum:

- Maintain CAPRA Accreditation (NRPA) – The gold standard for park and recreation agencies, ensuring Fort Worth’s parks meet the highest national benchmarks in quality, service, and operations.
- The National Gold Medal Award (American Academy for Parks and Recreation Administration) – Recognizing excellence in long-term planning, park development, and operational efficiency.
- NRPA Innovation Awards – Celebrating cutting-edge design, sustainability initiatives, and community impact.
- Texas Recreation & Park Society (TRAPS) State Awards – Honoring leadership in park development, conservation, and inclusive programming.

**Objective 1.2: Continuously Assess Community Needs & Adapt to a Changing City**

**A thriving parks and recreation system must be dynamic, responsive, and forward-thinking**—continuously evolving to meet the needs of a growing and diverse population. Fort Worth’s residents, neighborhoods, and recreational preferences will continue to shift over time, and the City must stay ahead of these changes by regularly assessing community needs and adjusting its offerings accordingly.

As Fort Worth expands and diversifies, the Park and Recreation Department (PARD) must actively engage with residents to understand their evolving priorities. This includes monitoring population growth, generational preferences, cultural influences, and new recreation trends—ensuring that parks, facilities, and programming reflect what residents want and need most.



**Strategy 1.2.1: .Develop a public engagement strategy to ensure community input is integrated into any park planning efforts.**

Currently, there are no institutionalized structures across the park system to consistently gather resident feedback, which limits the ability to create programming and amenities that are exciting, responsive to gaps, and reflective of surrounding communities. This resulted in "one size fits all" park designs with minimal place-based customization, missing opportunities to create innovative, community-driven spaces. To address these issues, PARD should develop a comprehensive public engagement strategy to ensure meaningful and consistent integration of community input into all park planning efforts.

- Develop stakeholder/steering/advisory committees composed of cross-sections of the City’s population in each Park Planning District to provide ongoing place-based input on park and recreation planning. Opportunities to participate in these and other committees should be publicly announced well before the initial planning phases of a project. The announcements should be made through neighborhood organizations, newspapers, schools, libraries, social groups, postings at parks and recreation facilities, businesses and offices, and online social media.
- Partner with the City’s Communication & Public Engagement Department to schedule community outreach events and programs at the various parks and recreation facilities. These events will help in obtaining information from residents on recreation programming, park operations/maintenance, amenities, and needs.
- Improve departmental capabilities in community outreach and engagement through the creation and hiring of a public engagement division within the PARD. Work with the City’s Human Resources to create new staff positions, such as a Public Engagement Specialist who will be responsible for coordinating and meeting with residents and stakeholders to obtain input on the department's operations and programming.
- Conduct customer service training that will empower all staff members to speak with residents and visitors at the parks and recreation facilities regardless of their position. Explain to all parks and recreation staff that they are the department's ambassadors and should regularly speak with residents and users of the parks system to understand what the public wants from their park system.
- Implement annual surveys to “take the pulse of the system” and find out what is working, what needs to be fixed, what needs to be replaced and where new parks/green spaces/trails are needed. Residents who are not regularly using the parks and recreation system should be encouraged to participate in the surveys to identify why they are not using the parks, trails and facilities and what can be done to get them to use the program and services.



**DID YOU KNOW?**

**FORT WORTH RESIDENTS LOVE THEIR PARKS!**

The community and stakeholder engagement process for GREENprint Fort Worth was a dynamic, multi-phase initiative designed to capture diverse voices, priorities, and aspirations for the future of Fort Worth’s parks and public spaces. Through public workshops, surveys, pop-up events, and targeted stakeholder discussions, thousands of residents and community leaders actively contributed valuable insights, ensuring that the master plan reflects the needs and desires of the people it serves. Below are some key highlights:

**85%**

Percentage of residents using Fort Worth parks and recreation facilities, making them the most popular recreational spaces in the city.

**TRAILS!**

Among all park amenities, trails are the most frequently used facility, with 69% of survey respondents saying they visit them at least weekly or monthly.

**90%**

Percentage of Residents saying that quality parks and recreational opportunities are "very important" to their overall quality of life.

Source:  
[Appendix E- Survey Results](#)

- Implement technologies (such as QR codes on signage at parks and recreation facilities) that will allow residents and stakeholders to instantly provide the PARD feedback on programs, events, and facilities. The same technology can be used by the Department to distribute announcements about events, projects, and opportunities for public involvement.

**Strategy 1.2.2: Prioritize Community-Driven Recreation Enhancements**

A truly impactful parks and recreation system reflects the needs and desires of its residents. Fort Worth must prioritize the development of recreation elements that directly respond to the preferences identified through the Demand-Based Assessment, ensuring that investments align with community expectations and emerging trends. By expanding diverse recreational offerings and strategically enhancing accessibility, the City can cultivate an inclusive, engaging, and future-ready parks system.

**Key Community-Identified Priorities:**

- **Expand Aquatic Facilities:** Construct additional swimming pools to meet increasing demand, particularly in underserved areas, and explore options for year-round indoor aquatics.
- **Embrace Emerging & Trendy Sports:** Develop new pickleball and disc golf facilities to accommodate the growing demand.
- **Strengthen Trail Networks:** Expand and enhance hiking and biking trails, improving connectivity between neighborhoods, parks, and key destinations.
- **Increase Indoor Recreation Spaces:** Develop new community centers, particularly in northern Fort Worth, to provide all-weather recreational and gathering spaces.
- **Offer Multi-Generational Programming:** Create diverse programs tailored to all age groups, ensuring recreational opportunities for youth, adults, and seniors.
- **Launch Mobile & Pop-Up Recreation:** Introduce traveling recreation programs featuring temporary pop-up amenities such as pickleball courts, disc golf courses, and modular fitness stations. These mobile programs will bring recreation directly to neighborhoods with limited park access.

By prioritizing these key enhancements, Fort Worth will create a more dynamic, inclusive, and responsive parks and recreation system that evolves with the needs of its residents. Through intentional investment in facilities, programming, and accessibility, the City will strengthen its role as a leader in delivering high-quality, community-driven recreation.



Objective 1.3: Enhancing Public Health & Active Lifestyles Through Parks & Recreation

Parks and recreation are more than just amenities—they are essential components of a healthy, thriving city. Access to well-designed parks, diverse recreational programming, and high-quality fitness infrastructure plays a critical role in physical, mental, and social well-being. By expanding access to parks, improving facilities, and offering inclusive programs, Fort Worth can inspire healthier lifestyles, reduce health disparities, and foster a stronger, more active community.

Strategy 1.3.1: Promote Healthy Daily Habits By Creating Equitable Access to Active Spaces

Recreational benefits shouldn’t be confined to individual parks or natural spaces. The City should explore adding recreation-focused amenities throughout the public realm. Examples include benches along sidewalks, parklets replacing on-street parking, gaming tables in neighborhoods, and exercise stations along paths or trails. These enhancements extend the impact of parks and natural spaces into the broader community.

Strategy 1.3.2: Develop and expand outdoor fitness and recreation programs

PARD’s programming is heavily tied to outdated indoor facilities, limiting flexibility and hindering the ability to deliver creative and accessible programs. PARD should create a diverse range of fitness and outdoor recreation programs to promote active lifestyles for residents of all ages, abilities, and skill levels. These programs should include targeted activities for specific groups while also fostering multi-generational interactions and opportunities for social connection. Initiatives such as community fitness challenges, sport tournaments, and pop-up fitness sessions held outdoors can increase visibility, inspire participation, and encourage active lifestyle.

- Create flexible, inclusive programs that encourage community participation regardless of skills or abilities.
- Pilot pop-up fitness programs and launch mobile fitness sessions like yoga, aerobics, or boot camps in parks and green spaces, rotating locations to maximize reach and accessibility.
- Increase the number of multipurpose sports courts, walking loops, playgrounds, fitness stations, and outdoor gyms to provide accessible spaces for physical activity. Install exercise equipment near playgrounds so adults can exercise and socialize while their children play.
- Install shaded rest areas, water fountains, and restrooms in parks to support extended outdoor use.
- Develop new community centers in identified areas of need, such



COLLABORATING WITH SCHOOLS

New York City & TPL

Collaborating with schools to provide park space is an efficient and effective strategy to address park needs. For example, New York City (NYC) Parks has worked collaboratively with the Department of Education and the Trust for Public Land (TPL), a national non-profit organization that works with communities to create parks and protect land for people, to renovate and open hundreds of school yards to the public during non-school hours through the Schoolyards to Playgrounds program. TPL completed an analysis in 2019 showing that only 10% of the approximately 100,000 public schools in the United States provide the general public with formal access to schoolyard sites. The study also suggests that America’s public-school grounds have the potential to solve the problem of park access for at least 19.6 million people, including 5.2 million children.



Collaborating with Schools, Source: TPL

as northern and eastern Fort Worth and new growth areas to ensure these indoor centers are located within 1 mile of every resident. These facilities promote active lifestyles by offering recreational programs, fitness opportunities, meeting spaces, and venues for community interaction.

Strategy 1.3.3: Partner with health organizations to provide residents with added health benefits when they visit parks and/or participate in recreation programs.

- Partner with health organizations to host events throughout the park system, including mobile health screenings, vaccination clinics, and health workshops.
- Organize public health awareness campaigns in parks about the benefits of physical activity, balanced diets, and healthy lifestyles, using signage, public talks, and workshops. Campaigns should include participation from health professionals as well as representatives of local gyms. The activities and information should be geared to be multi-generational.
- Collaborate with local healthcare providers to expand the park prescription program. For patients struggling with chronic disease or other issues that could be ameliorated by physical activity and time spent in a natural environment, doctors can “prescribe” or recommend they spend time being active in a park or other public space. Time spent in natural or green areas has been shown in many studies to improve health outcomes.
- Track parks and public space usage indicators over time to determine the positive health impacts of public space system improvements. Indicators such as the percentage of adults who bike or engage in active commuting are available as part of routine national research programs (e.g., the American Community Survey) and are recommended by the Institute of Medicine’s Committee on Evaluating Progress on Obesity Prevention Efforts. Such indicators can also be triangulated with directly observed and validated data on park or trail use. The System for Observing Play and Recreation in Communities (SOPARC) results in counts by key demographic characteristics and levels of physical activity and has been used to measure changes in park usage and physical activity levels accompanying renovations.

Strategy 1.3.4: Activate the use of the Trinity River and its tributaries for active recreation by introducing more areas to launch boats, canoes, and kayaks.

- Identify areas along the river that can be used for swimming, water yoga and other water-based activities/programs.



**Objective 1.4: Strengthen partnerships with other agencies, non-profit groups, community partners, and the private sector to expand opportunities for programming and joint use of space and facilities.**

Fort Worth has many underutilized buildings and vacant areas, though some are privately owned, limiting their use. Partnering with property owners, operators, and managers can open opportunities for joint-use agreements. These agreements enable the park system to extend its services to underserved areas, helping to close gaps identified in the level of service analysis.

**Strategy 1.4.1: Partner with subject matter experts such as private sector and non profits to develop new recreation programs**

- Partnering with local disc golf and pickleball clubs to hold instructional events and tournaments.
- Explore partnerships with the YMCA, ISDs, and other organizations to expand aquatics programming and lifeguard training opportunities, including both capital investments and shared-use agreements.

**Strategy 1.4.2: Seek volunteers from the surrounding communities and non-profit organizations to operate and manage recreation programs.**

- Continue to strengthen and expand existing volunteer programs by offering a diverse range of opportunities that cater to various interests, skills, and abilities. Building on current efforts across PARD divisions, volunteer experiences can include tree planting, administrative support, event assistance, and program development.
- Create a community ambassador program where volunteers from the surrounding areas act as liaisons between the park and the local population. Familiar, friendly faces leading programs may draw more participation.

**Strategy 1.4.3: Partner with private property owners to increase public access to private parks**

- Consider starting with a pilot program for public access, which allows all parties to evaluate the benefits and address any issues before entering into long-term agreements.
- Explore opportunities for HOAs and private property owners to receive tax incentives, grants, or other financial benefits from local or state governments for allowing public access.



**PATHWAY TO RECOVER FROM HOMELESSNESS**

**Downtown Streets Team, San Jose, CA**

This initiative employs unhoused individuals to maintain parks and public spaces in exchange for access to services like case management, housing assistance, and job training.



Downtown Streets Team

**Seattle Parks Restroom Access Program, Seattle, WA**

Seattle parks introduced 24-hour access to restrooms and hygiene facilities in designated parks for unhoused individuals. The program includes cleaning schedules and security measures to ensure safety for all users.



**FARMERS MARKETS AND PARKS**

**Clark Park Farmers' Market, Philadelphia**

Clark Park Farmers' Market in Philadelphia stands out as a best practice for integrating farmers markets into parks, offering a model for how public spaces can serve as vibrant community hubs. Located in the heart of West Philadelphia, the market has become a centerpiece for local food access, sustainability, and social connection. Open year-round, the market draws residents from diverse backgrounds, providing access to fresh, locally grown produce while supporting regional farmers. Its placement within Clark Park, a beloved green space, creates a seamless blend of recreation and commerce, encouraging visitors to enjoy the park's amenities while shopping for fresh food. The market also enhances park activation, making it a safer, more inviting space while fostering a strong sense of community.



Clark Park Farmers' Market ,  
Source: University City District

**Strategy 1.4.4: Strengthen partnerships with local school districts, colleges, and universities to permit equilateral use of parks, green spaces, sports fields, playgrounds, and recreation facilities by both the public and the school districts.**

- Establish formal agreements that outline the shared use of parks, fields, and facilities. These agreements should define terms for equitable access, scheduling, maintenance responsibilities, liability, and cost-sharing.
- Encourage the development of parks and green spaces as part of expansion projects for schools, colleges and universities.
- Develop shared programming that benefit both students and the public, such as after-school sports leagues, fitness classes, outdoor learning programs, or summer camps.

**Strategy 1.4.5: Continue to work with the Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD), the Army Corp of Engineers, and FEMA on the use of the Trinity River, its creeks, tributaries, and floodplains as green spaces to be enjoyed by the public.**

**Strategy 1.4.6: Partner with developers of new residential and commercial developments to construct multi-modal trails and extend existing trails to service nearby neighborhoods.**

**Strategy 1.4.7: Work with the community partners to explore areas of opportunities to host programs in unconventional, underutilized spaces and where service gaps exist as identified by the Level of Service and Opportunity Areas maps.**

**Objective 1.5: Position parks to help address complex challenges in the community**

**Strategy 1.5.1: Leverage parks as community support hubs for at-risk population.**

Parks and public spaces, valued for their accessibility and openness, often attract individuals experiencing homelessness, a challenge acknowledged by the PARD and raised by the community. While this highlights the inclusivity of parks, it can sometimes affect the broader community's use and enjoyment of park amenities. PARD should take thoughtful and strategic actions to address this concern effectively.

- Work with multidisciplinary teams, including social workers, healthcare providers, law enforcement, and community advocates, to create coordinated support systems that connect at-risk populations with essential resources and support.



- In-house trained social workers at community centers and create a specialized team to assist those in need with referrals and support.
- Use parks to develop programs and activities for at-risk populations to help deliver services, employment, and educational opportunities.
- Develop and enforce fair park rules that recognize unhoused individuals as valid users, pairing enforcement with educational initiatives to reduce bias.

**Strategy 1.5.2: Collaborate with the City of Fort Worth’s Neighborhood Services Department and other housing partners to enhance parks and recreation opportunities near existing affordable housing locations.**

- Work with Neighborhood Services and housing partners to develop a shared GIS map identifying existing affordable housing developments and overlay park access, amenities, and trail connectivity.
- Use assessment findings to prioritize capital improvements, park expansion, or programming near housing sites lacking adequate recreational access.
- Offer targeted recreation programs, events, and wellness activities in parks near affordable housing, ensuring they meet the needs of diverse, multigenerational residents.
- Partner with housing managers and neighborhood leaders to co-host pop-ups or listening sessions in or near affordable housing sites to gather resident input on park needs.

**Strategy 1.5.3: Organize farmers markets, community gardens, and community-supported agriculture programs that bring healthy foods closer to residents dealing with food insecurity.**

- Assess existing parks and underutilized green spaces for their potential to host farmers markets, community gardens, or community-supported agriculture pickup sites—especially in areas with limited access to fresh food.
- Develop new gardens or expand existing ones in collaboration with local residents, offering plots, tools, and resources to support neighborhood-based food production.
- Coordinate with local vendors and community groups to host regular farmers markets at parks or community centers, making them accessible through transit and walkable connections.
- Collaborate with schools, food banks, public health agencies, and nonprofits to co-host programs and events, maximizing impact and community trust.

**Strategy 1.5.4: Design parks that integrate into the city's emergency preparedness plan**

- Work with Office of Emergency Management (OEM) to designate key parks as to be used in the overall emergency preparedness plan including using them as temporary shelters, stormwater detention, or storm damage storage areas
- Explore the role of parks in addressing urban heat island and providing cool areas for residents by increasing shade and cooling opportunities at parks.





**Envisioning a Thriving Community:** A vibrant public space where recreation, connection, and wellness come together





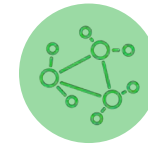
# Connected System

Create a dynamic, connected network of high-quality parks, public spaces, and trails that unite the community and support the mobility and recreational needs of all Fort Worth residents.

**Objective 1:** Provide an accessible, well-distributed and balanced parks system throughout the entire community.

**Objective 2:** Connect the parks system, seamlessly into the urban public realm and the community within and beyond the parkland.

**Objective 3:** Enhance public awareness of parks, recreation facilities, and programs through social media, multicultural public outreach, and developing a comprehensive branding & communications plan.



## Goal 2 Connected System

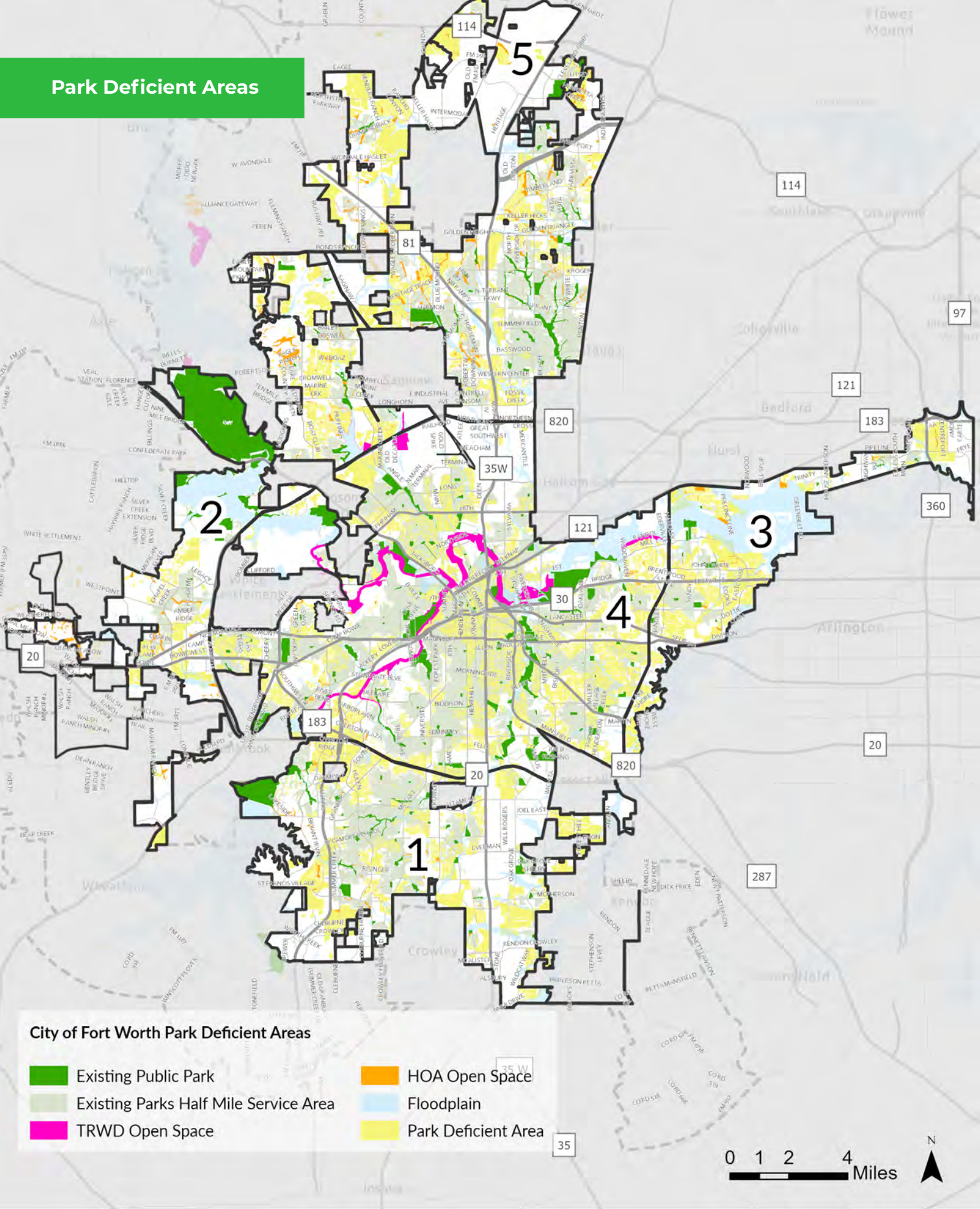
**Objective 2.1:** Provide an accessible, well-distributed and balanced parks system throughout the entire community.

**Strategy 2.1.1:** Champion sustainable and equitable parkland expansion to enhance the quality and accessibility of the park system for all.

- Increase the amount of parkland equitably throughout the City, with a focus on underserved areas.
- Fort Worth residents identified access to parkland as a high priority. Currently, the Acreage Level of Service (LOS) for close-to-home parks in Fort Worth is 1.88 acres per 1,000 population. If parkland is not expanded in the next 10 years, this Acreage LOS will drop. Fort Worth would have to expand parkland by an additional 2500 acres by the year 2030.
- Prioritizing investments should consider the disproportionate needs of the Park Planning District, with Districts 1, 3, and 4 having the greatest need for parkland. Use the "Park Deficient Area" map to prioritize interventions.
- Expand parkland and green spaces by advocating and supporting ongoing initiatives, including Mayor Parker's pledge of the Trust for Public Land's (TPL) 10-minute walk campaign, Good-Natured Greenspace Initiative, Open Space Program and Riparian Area initiative.
- Expand parkland and green spaces through partnerships with ISDs, HOAs, TRWD, TXDOT, Trinity River Authority, Tarrant County.
- The design standards and guidelines should be integrated into the City's ordinances and codes for private development (both residential and non-residential) and made accessible through the Development Services website, which provides links to all related development requirements. The manual should establish standards such as:
  - \* Ensuring public parks are located within a maximum 10-minute walking distance of residential subdivisions.
  - \* Defining criteria for the maximum grade of usable areas.
  - \* Requiring that existing trees on a site be preserved to the greatest extent.
  - \* Specifying required park amenities.
  - \* Limiting the acceptance of parkland within federally designated floodplains to a maximum of 25% of the total required parkland dedication.



Park Deficient Areas



City of Fort Worth Park Deficient Areas

- Existing Public Park
- Existing Parks Half Mile Service Area
- TRWD Open Space
- HOA Open Space
- Floodplain
- Park Deficient Area



BEST PRACTICE

SUPPORT FOR NEW PARKS IN DISADVANTAGED AREAS

Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program

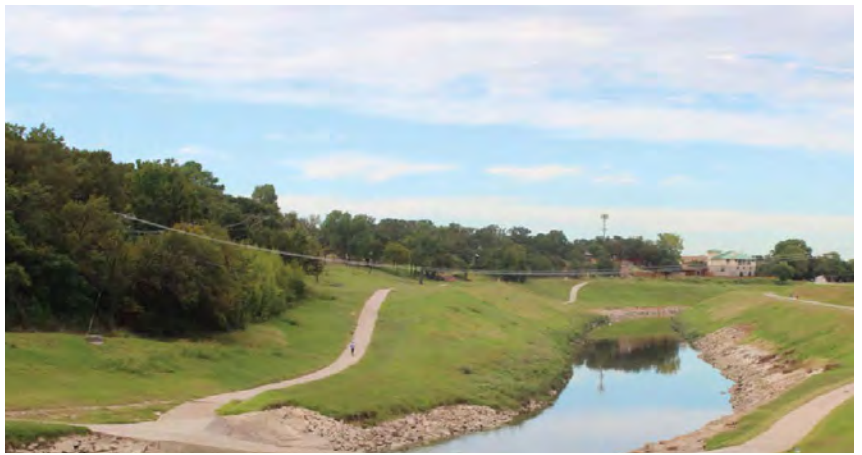
As cities are trying to close the park equity gap this Federal Program can help. The Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Program is a best practice for supporting new parks in disadvantaged areas by providing federal grants to urban communities. Administered by the National Park Service, the ORLP focuses on creating or improving parks in economically distressed neighborhoods, enhancing access to green spaces for underserved populations. The program prioritizes projects that address community needs, improve recreational opportunities, and foster connections to nature. For example, Seattle used the funding to purchase long-vacant parcels in an underserved community and transform them into a vibrant park.



Urban Village Park in Seattle

\* Excluding land intended primarily for non-public uses—such as stormwater drainage, detention, utility easements, rights-of-way, parking, or vehicular access areas—unless it is accessible and functional for public use.

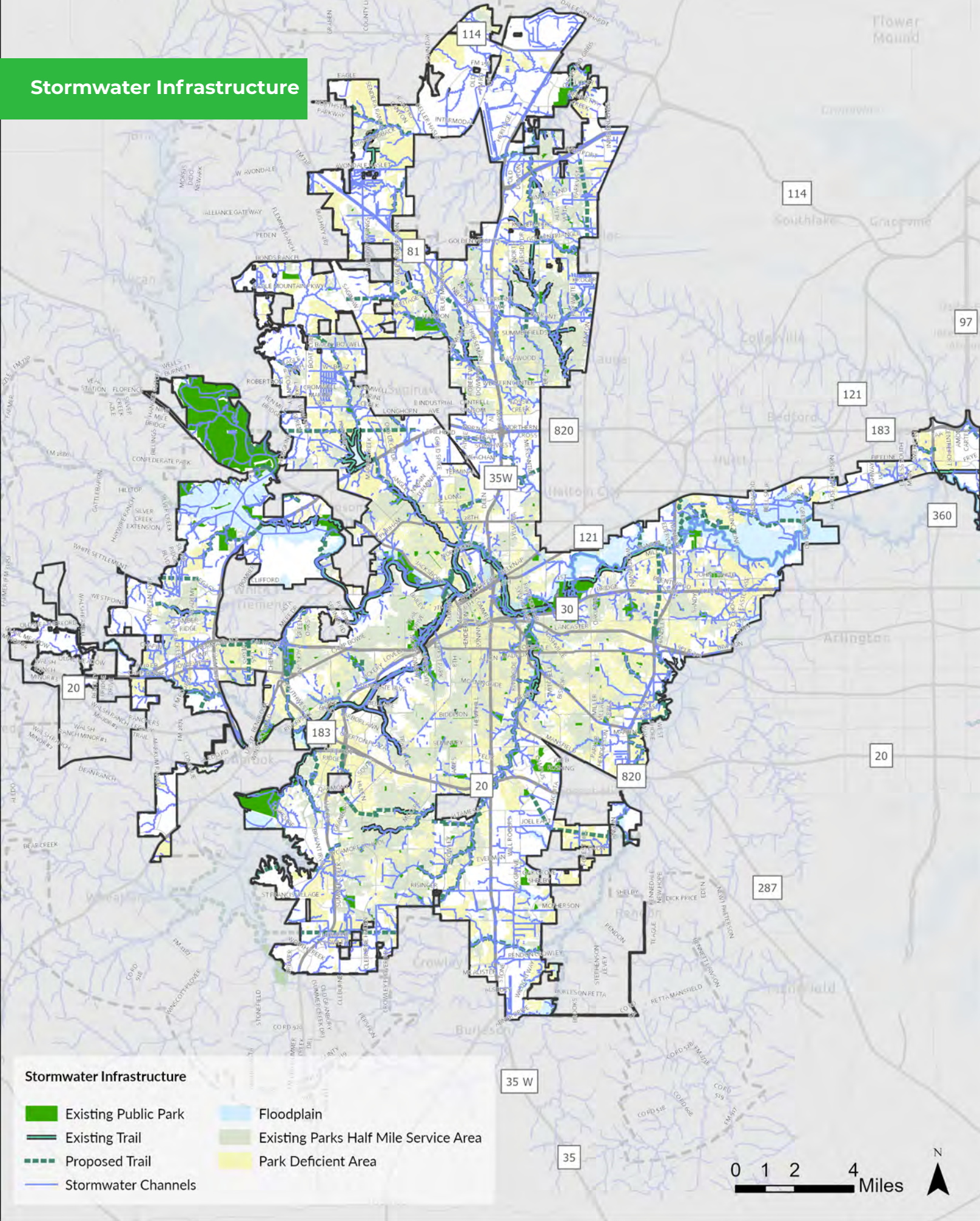
- Explore using public rights-of-way as pedestrian-focused plazas, parklets, and recreational spaces, particularly in high-density neighborhoods where larger parcels of land may not be available.
- Pocket parks, plazas, urban parks, and parklets address the needs of residents in densely urbanized areas like Urban Villages by providing accessible, engaging, and comfortable social spaces. These small-scale parks increase access to green spaces, repurpose underutilized land, and contribute to neighborhood revitalization. By reintroducing pocket green areas, they reduce heat islands, manage stormwater, improve air quality, and offer shaded areas for gatherings and safe play spaces for children, enhancing both physical and social health in urban neighborhoods.
- Leverage stormwater infrastructure to expand parks and green spaces.
- Integrate stormwater infrastructure and drainage ways into the park system to create multi-functional green spaces that provide recreational opportunities while supporting sustainable water management. Transform these areas into parks, trails, and natural habitats to enhance flood resilience, improve water quality, and expand access to recreational facilities. Use the following map to identify potential areas where stormwater infrastructure can be reimagined as part of the green space network, prioritizing locations based on community needs and environmental impact.
- Use the following map to identify and activate vacant or underutilized publicly-owned land for recreational use and green space development where parkland dedication and/or acquisition is not feasible.



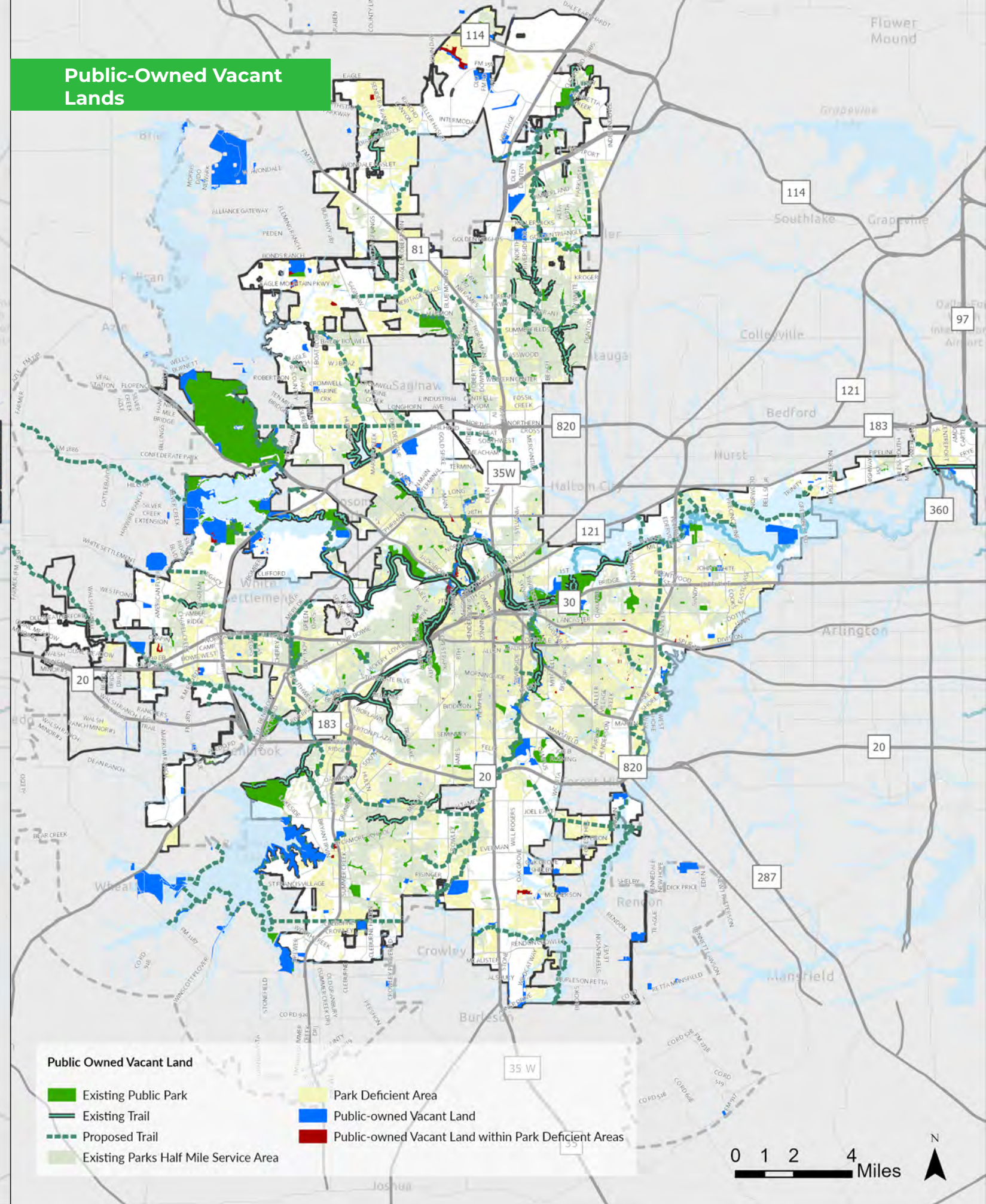
Stormwater Channels, Source: Trinity River Confluence Master Plan



Stormwater Infrastructure



Public-Owned Vacant Lands





**Objective 2.2: Connect the parks system, seamlessly into the urban public realm and the community within and beyond the parkland.**

Parks are just one component of the broader public realm. Expanding trails and pathways beyond the park system is a powerful way to extend the benefits of parks and recreation to all residents and stakeholders. This approach creates an accessible, seamless park and public realm network where stepping outside immediately connects people to the city's amenities and experiences.

**Strategy 2.2.1: Develop high-quality pedestrian and bicycle connections to parks, recreation facilities, and natural areas.**

Fort Worth residents have repeatedly identified parks and trails connectivity as one of the highest-priority needs over the last decade. The City of Fort Worth has responded to this need in various ways. The City completed the Active Transportation Plan in 2019. This plan identifies a multitude of projects to improve pedestrian and bicycle connectivity to parks and natural areas. Move A Million Plan (M1M) and Vision Zero Safety Action Plan are other ongoing initiatives to enhance and support safe access to parks and other facilities. PARD should continue to advocate and support implementing these projects that maximize pedestrian and bicycle connection to parks, recreation facilities, and water bodies.

*Top THREE facilities for PARD to prioritize over the next five years (Survey Results):*



- Expand the existing trail system and fill critical gaps in the trail network to provide continuous and safe routes for pedestrians and cyclists to neighborhoods, parks, green spaces, and recreational facilities. ATP encourages that nearby trails or extensions are considered as new developments are approved. To aid in this effort, the plan calls for:
  - \* Subdivisions provide connectivity for pedestrians and bicyclists to adjacent ATP facilities and between neighborhoods.
  - \* Subdivisions provide an internal circulation plan that considers bicycle and pedestrian connectivity.
  - \* Streets should be designated with appropriate bicycle and pedestrian accommodations to convey residents to parks, schools, shopping areas, and other neighborhoods.



**BEST PRACTICE**

**SUPPORTING TRAILS**

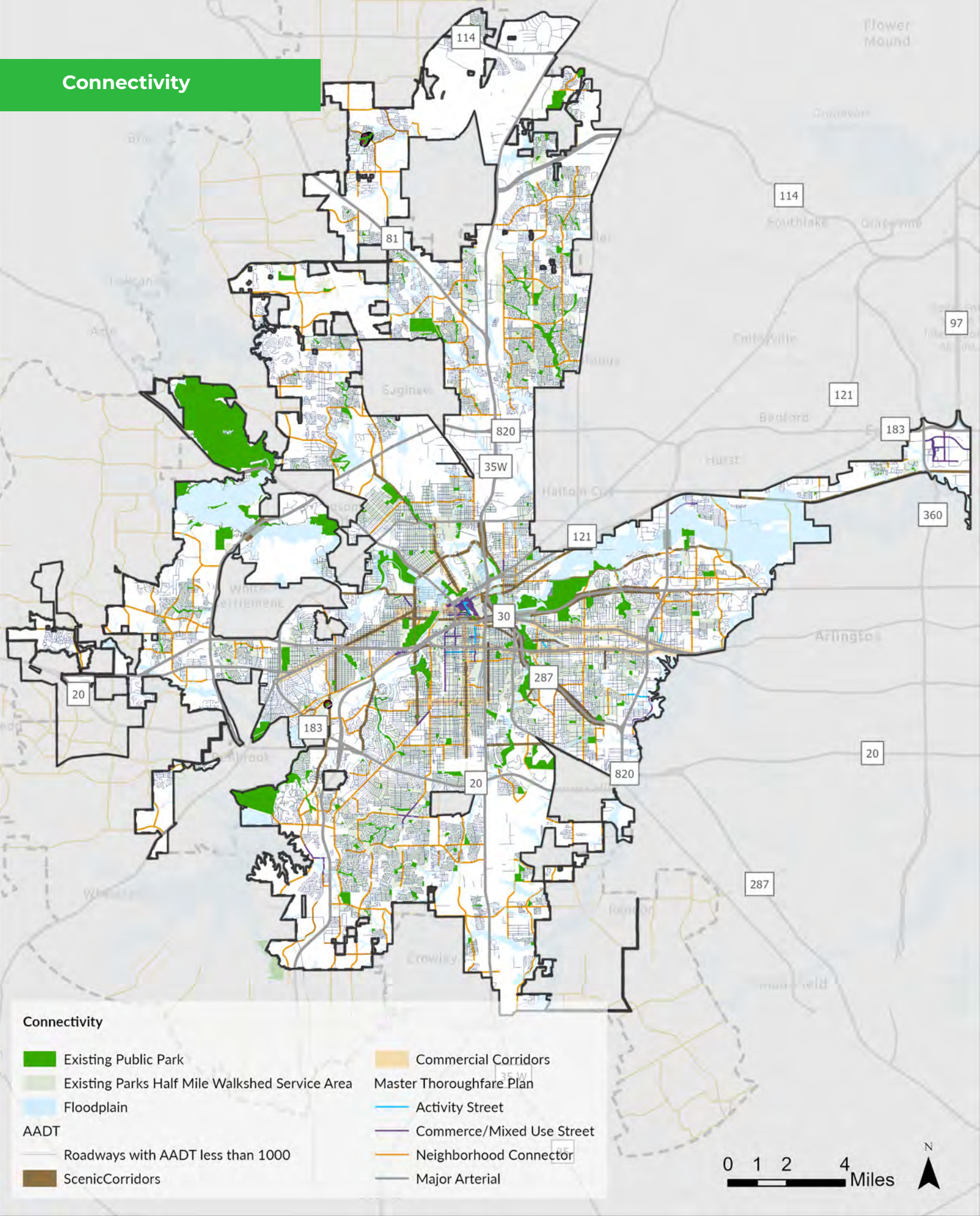
**San Antonio, TX**

San Antonio's Howard W. Peak Trail System exemplifies a best practice for supporting trails due to its innovative funding mechanism, community engagement, and sustainable growth. The use of a 1/8th cent sales tax ensures a dedicated, reliable funding source for the development and maintenance of the trail network. Additionally, the Trail Watch volunteer program strengthens community involvement, fostering a sense of ownership among residents while promoting safety and stewardship. This combination of funding, maintenance, and public participation has enabled the trail system to expand to 65 miles, demonstrating a replicable model for sustainable trail development and community connectivity.



Leon Greenway North, San Antonio

**Connectivity**





- Establish a network of interconnected complete streets, corridors, and public realms that foster greater pedestrian and active transportation mobility throughout the city.

This can be achieved through collaboration with the Transportation & Public Works Department to transform roadways and underutilized spaces into multi-use corridors that support pedestrians, cyclists, and other non-motorized modes of transportation. Use the following map, which highlights roadways with potential to serve as pedestrian and cycling connections to parks (from the master thoroughfare plan), revitalized commercial corridors and scenic corridors (from the comprehensive plan), and roadways with an Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) of fewer than 1,000 vehicles per day, to identify underutilized streets suitable for transformation.

- Additionally, enhance sidewalks and parkways with park-like features and amenities, such as benches, gaming tables, picnic areas, games painted on sidewalks, and public art installations. These tactics elevate the mobility network beyond transportation, while extending parks beyond their physical boundaries, creating a vibrant and interconnected public realm for all.
- Transform underused public infrastructure, such as utility corridors, into green spaces or trail connections to cost-effectively expand the network.
- Leverage the Trinity River as a Central Connector.

The Trinity River and its tributaries—including West Fork, Clear Fork, Marine Creek, and Sycamore Creek—along with drainageways, provide a natural framework to integrate Fort Worth’s park system with the urban public realm and surrounding communities. These corridors connect neighborhoods, retail areas, and key destinations while supporting pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly networks that minimize interaction with motorized traffic.

Enhancing these routes with pocket parks, seating, water fountains, and cultural elements such as signage, public art, and playscapes fosters neighborhood identity and creates vibrant, interactive pathways. By aligning with the "spine and ribs" system



Inspiring rendering for a network of interconnected complete streets, green corridors, and public realms



## BEST PRACTICE

### BEST PRACTICE: RIVER AS A CENTRAL CONNECTOR

#### Chattanooga TN

The Chattanooga Riverwalk is an exemplary model of leveraging a river as a central connector, integrating over 16 miles of trails along the Tennessee River to connect parks, cultural landmarks, neighborhoods, and commercial hubs. It integrates neighborhoods, commercial hubs, and green spaces, making the river a unifying feature of the city.



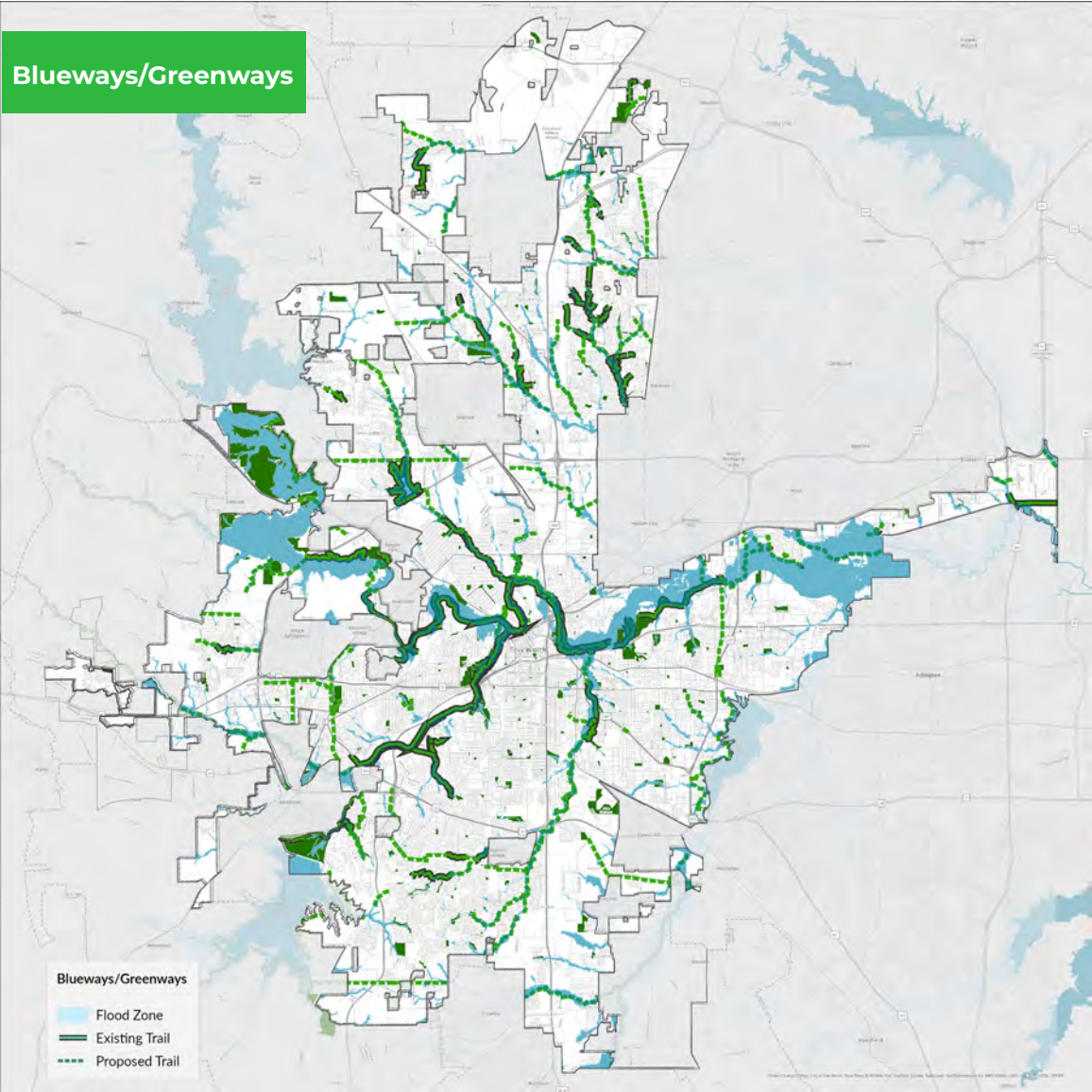
Chattanooga Riverwalk

outlined in the Active Transportation Plan, these natural corridors can seamlessly connect parks and public spaces, enriching the city’s public realm.

To achieve this vision, PARD should continue collaborating with the Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD) to advocate for and support the implementation of the Trinity River Strategic Master Plan (Confluence). Priority projects, including the proposed trail system and developments along the Upper West Fork, Clear Fork, Lower West Fork, Marine Creek, Sycamore Creek, and West Fork East, should be advanced, as highlighted in the following map.

- Map out major parks, green spaces, and community hubs to prioritize connections between them.
- Advocate for regional trails (DFW Discovery Trail and others) to be connected to Fort Worth trails.
- Explore a role for the participation of the PARD in the Transportation & Public Works Department project selection process for capital projects to submit to the North Central Texas Council of Governments for federal funding opportunities.

### Blueways/Greenways





**Strategy 2.2.2: Ensure universal and safe access to parks and recreation facilities.**

- Improve pedestrian and bike infrastructure leading to parks/green spaces/recreation facilities by including and improving safe street crossings, sidewalks, and dedicated bike lanes.
- Establish multiple pedestrian access points along park edges, integrating them with sidewalk and trail networks to ensure seamless connections to park amenities.
- Develop and implement a Cool Corridor Program to create shaded, pedestrian-friendly walkways or trails along arterial streets that provide safe and comfortable passage for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users. These corridors, spanning one-quarter to half-mile segments, will feature natural and engineered shade combined with temperature-lowering design elements, such as vegetation, reflective materials, and water features to support safe access to parks and recreation facilities.
- Work with the Transportation & Public Works Department, Army Corp of Engineers, non-profit organizations (e.g.. Streams & Valleys) and others to eliminate or mitigate physical barriers to green space access.
- Physical barriers such as creeks, major roadways, railways, and hazardous utility easements can deter access, leading individuals to avoid these sites. These barriers also contribute to inequities, cutting off neighborhoods from the benefits of parks and green spaces. Collaborating with other agencies and property owners to address these challenges is key to ensuring equitable access for all.
- Ensure all parks and recreational facilities have ADA-compliant pathways, entrances, and parking. Install smooth, wide paths that accommodate wheelchairs, walkers, and strollers, with ramps at park entrances and key areas.
- Adopt accessibility standards for park and recreation facilities and assets. These may follow ADA/PROWAG (Public Rights-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines) guidelines or may exceed them, based on Park and Recreation Department policy desires and available resources.
- Develop an ADA transition plan and updating inventory of non-accessible facilities—such as community centers, restrooms, and pavilions—and equipment, including playsets, picnic tables, and exercise stations, within City Parks. Identify sites and facilities requiring upgrades and incorporate them into the Capital Improvement Plan to align with the accessibility guidelines established by the Park and Recreation Department.
- Coordinate with the Transportation & Public Works Department on its ADA Transition Plans and PROWAG implementation efforts and identify locations where both departments' funds and resources may be combined for more efficient project delivery.



**BEST PRACTICE**

**INCLUSIVE PARKS**

**Lawrenceburg, IN**

The Arch Street Park in Lawrenceburg, Indiana, exemplifies best practices in inclusive park design by going beyond ADA compliance to create a space that is welcoming and engaging for individuals of all abilities. Its design includes sensory play zones, adaptive swings, and universally accessible playground equipment, enabling children with diverse physical, cognitive, and sensory needs to participate equally in play and fostering social interaction among all users. The park features enhanced accessibility elements such as smooth pathways, wheelchair-accessible surfaces, and barrier-free entrances, accommodating not only children but also caregivers with disabilities. Community input shaped the park's development, ensuring it meets the needs of its users while promoting a sense of ownership and inclusivity.



Ash Street Park, more than access



**BEST PRACTICE**

**MICRO-MOBILITY HUBS AND PARKS**

**Austin, TX**

Austin's Shared Micromobility Program is a best practice in integrating micro-mobility services to enhance access to parks and natural areas. The city strategically places e-bike and e-scooter docking stations near parks, trails, and green spaces, ensuring seamless connectivity for residents and visitors. These stations are integrated with public transit, creating a cohesive transportation network that supports active and sustainable travel.



Mobility hub locations in Austin, TX



**Strategy 2.2.3: Provide access to micro-mobility services at/or near parks and natural areas.**

Micro-mobility, including e-bikes and scooters, has rapidly gained popularity, encouraging more people to bike and scooter to parks and recreation areas. PARD should prioritize the Active Transportation Plan, focusing on facilities that enhance park access, as shown in the following map.

- Identify ready candidate locations for installing full-service hubs (to include electrical supply for station equipment, accessible or accessible-ready site locations for construction of structures and hard surfaces, and connections to public streets, trails, or internal park paths).
- Develop a usage reporting plan with the Transportation & Public Works Departments and other operator partners to understand system performance for mobility hubs within or adjacent to PARD properties and assets, and identify policy steps for relocation of hubs that are not performing on a level expected with overall visitor numbers and attendance of their related facilities.

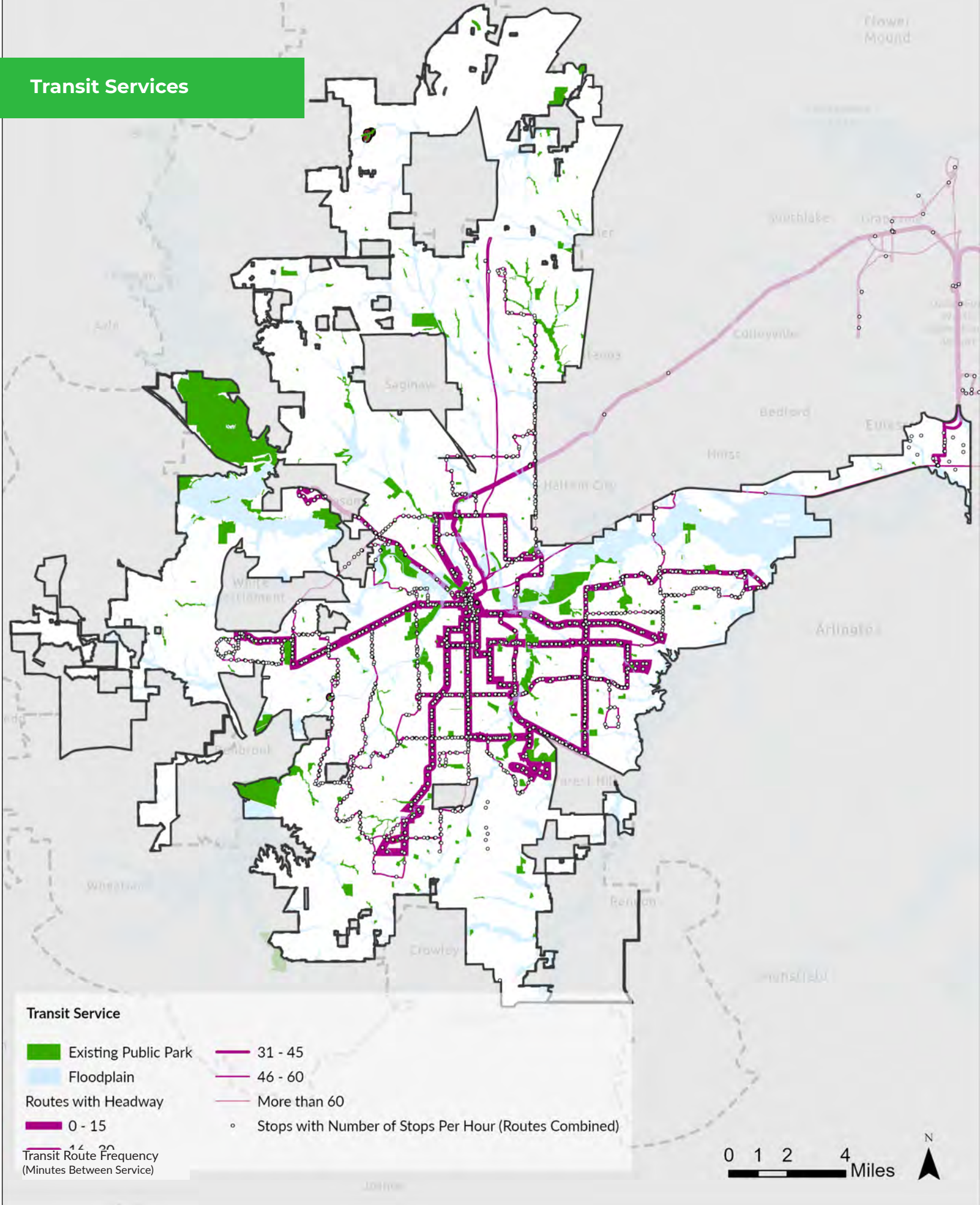
**Strategy 2.2.4: Provide Transit, Paratransit, and Shared Mobility Access to Key Parks and Events**

As the following map highlights, central Fort Worth parks are generally well-served by transit, but outlying parks—such as the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge, Alliance, and Buck Sansom Park—along with areas with infrequent service (longer headways), continue to face significant accessibility challenges. Enhancing equitable access citywide will require improving transit frequency and connectivity, and integrating multimodal options such as bike share and scooters.

- Identify transit stops within ¼ to ½ mile of community and regional parks.
- Coordinate with the Transportation & Public Works Department and Trinity Metro on service development, planning, and capital projects that support transit service. Identify strategies for park assets having a greater role in ridership forecasts, stop and station location, and service alignments.
- Coordinate with Trinity Metro on its paratransit service delivery and rider needs. Identify opportunities where the Park and Recreation Department facilities could serve as locations for commonly accessed services using paratransit. This may include healthcare services, shopping for essential needs and items, and access to faith-based or social support services.
- Jointly study operational funding models with Trinity Metro to understand where PARD resources may help to supplement Trinity Metro operations and offset the need for any similar park and recreation services or other services related to park access.
- Reference and support Fort Worth Bike Sharing and explore opportunities for integrating bike and scooter infrastructure near parks and public spaces, especially those not easily reached by fixed-route transit.



Transit Services



BEST PRACTICE

SIGNAGE AND WAYFINDINGS

Seattle, WA

The Seamless Seattle Pedestrian Wayfinding Program exemplifies best practices in urban navigation by integrating cohesive design, accessibility, and technology to enhance the pedestrian experience. With uniform signage featuring clear symbols, high-contrast text, and tactile elements, the system prioritizes inclusivity and ease of use. Strategically placed at transit stops, intersections, and pedestrian corridors, the signs connect key destinations such as parks, neighborhoods, and cultural landmarks. Interactive kiosks and digital displays offer real-time updates, while app integrations provide personalized routes, encouraging active transportation and reducing car dependency.



Strategy 2.2.5: Ensure adequate parking for high-volume parks.

- Provide well-planned parking options near parks that attract large numbers of visitors from across the city, while prioritizing sustainable transportation alternatives. Focus on integrating parking with multi-modal access points, such as bike racks, transit stops, and pedestrian pathways, to support diverse transportation choices and minimize reliance on cars.
- Create a communications and outreach plan to property owners of any parking not owned by the PARD (which may include public right-of-way parking managed by Transportation & Public Works) to begin discussions about their parking use and potential shared parking arrangements.

Objective 2.3: Enhance public awareness of parks, recreation facilities, and programs through social media, multicultural public outreach, and developing a comprehensive branding & communications plan.

Strategy 2.3.1: Develop and implement a consistent signage and wayfinding system.

Create a unified wayfinding and branding strategy for the park and recreation system to enhance navigation, accessibility, and visibility. This strategy should include consistent signage across all parks, trails, and facilities, incorporating branded design elements that reflect the City's character and values. Wayfinding tools, such as directional signs, maps, and digital platforms, should guide users to and within parks while highlighting nearby amenities and connections.

Develop appropriate design concepts that improve visibility and strengthen the park system's identity. Integrate branding into park entrances, communication materials, and outreach efforts to foster a sense of community pride and encourage greater use of recreational resources.

- Identify strategic locations for signage installation.
- Conduct a comprehensive assessment to identify strategic locations for signage installation that maximize visibility, accessibility, and impact. Prioritize areas with high foot or vehicle traffic, such as park entrances, trailheads, intersections of major trails, and community gathering spaces.
- Enhance the signage system by integrating interactive digital displays at recreation facilities, parks, and throughout the public realm. These dynamic elements should provide real-time information on events, programs, and community news, complementing traditional signage with engaging, up-to-date content.



**Strategy 2.3.2: Implement a multi-pronged approach to increasing awareness of programs and services using traditional printed media, radio, and digital strategies.**

Lack of awareness is a key barrier to participation, with many residents citing “I don’t know what is being offered” as a top reason for limited use. While no single communication method can address all awareness challenges, a strategically focused marketing, outreach, and branding plan that leverages multiple platforms is essential to improving public awareness and engagement.

- Enhance web-based and digital platforms to improve access to park information.  
Provide real-time, user-friendly and accessible information on parks, recreation programs, and facilities through an improved city website, mobile apps, and social media. Include details such as available amenities, trail connections, and pavilions, alongside a search function to help users quickly find parks that meet their needs. Use social media for real-time updates on events and activities, and integrate mobile apps with geolocation and interactive features to enhance the user experience. These tools ensure convenient access to park information and improve community engagement.

**Strategy 2.3.3: Develop strategies for tailored and effective community engagement, communication and partnerships.**

Enhance web-based and digital platforms to improve access to park information.

- Establish a Park Planning District (PPD) Manager role for each district to serve as the primary liaison between residents and the Park and Recreation Department. The PPD Manager will be responsible for identifying and communicating community needs and priorities to department leadership and city officials, ensuring that each district's unique demands are effectively addressed.
- Develop periodic public meetings in each of the Park Planning Districts to gather feedback from the residents on the existing services being provided, new services that they would like to see, and recommendations for new parks and recreation facilities.
- Develop teen council to Involve teens in shaping recreation programs, fostering leadership, mentoring, and ownership of activities they help design.
- Advertise program development opportunities to recruit contract instructors to inspire neighborhood residents to develop and lead recreation programs at local parks and recreation facilities.
- Develop professional advocacy programming to provide children with information and hands on experiences in Provide children and young adults with hands-on experiences in park-related careers like Urban Forestry, Preservation, Planning, Maintenance, and Recreation.

BEST PRACTICE

**USING SOCIAL MEDIA**

**Westminster, CO**

The City of Westminster, CO, exemplifies best practices for using social media to enhance public awareness of parks and recreation facilities through its innovative monster egg hunt campaign. By crafting a creative narrative about mysterious eggs found at Standley Lake Regional Park, the city captured public attention and fostered engagement through the hashtag #StandleyMonster, generating significant social media buzz, including over 30,000 views on one video. This campaign effectively bridged virtual engagement with real-world participation by encouraging residents to visit the park, search for eggs, and redeem certificates at the nature center, boosting both visitation and trail usage. The fictional Westminster Enquirer Facebook page extended the storytelling, creating a dynamic and interactive experience. This creative approach showcases how cities can leverage social media, storytelling, and community interaction to promote parks and recreation, engage diverse audiences, and increase public involvement.



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**Visualizing a Connected System: Linking Fort Worth's green spaces through a continuous network of parks, trails, and natural corridor.**





# Vibrant Nature

Cultivate natural spaces that enhance ecosystems, foster community connections, and build resilience by integrating the natural environment into Fort Worth's park and recreation system.

**Objective 1:** Promote and foster stewardship that protects, preserves, and enhances the natural environment through coordinated management of green infrastructure and fosters community interaction, biodiversity, and resilience.

**Objective 2:** Connect people to nature through immersive and educational experiences and increased awareness of resiliency, water resources, and benefits of ecological biodiversity.

**Objective 3:** Adopt a holistic and synergistic approach to develop nature-based solutions within the park system and city's public realm.

**Objective 4:** Enhance the Trinity River, its watersheds, tributaries, and lakes as interconnected natural and recreational assets that showcase Fort Worth's ecosystems and foster community enjoyment.



## Goal 3 Vibrant Nature

**Objective 3.1:** Promote and foster stewardship that protects, preserves and enhances the natural environment and fosters community interaction, biodiversity and resilience.

The City of Fort Worth is projected to surpass a population of 1.3 m by 2050. As residential and non-residential development accelerates, the natural environment faces increasing pressures. To balance growth with sustainability, it is vital for the City to take proactive measures to protect and preserve its remaining natural spaces.

These spaces are essential for safeguarding native plants and animals while also reducing greenhouse gas effects and minimizing negative impacts on residents' quality of life. Preserving natural areas helps combat urban heat islands, improve air quality, and lower emissions, ensuring a healthier and more resilient community for future generations.

**Strategy 3.1.1:** Collaborate daily with the City's dedicated Green Space Leadership Team to ensure coordinated planning, implementation, and stewardship of natural assets.

Through this ongoing partnership, PARD aligns park initiatives with citywide sustainability goals, drives cross-departmental collaboration, and advances the long-term protection and management of green infrastructure.

- Establish an organizational structure with clear roles, staffing, and resource commitments.
- Identify gaps, overlaps, and opportunities across departmental green infrastructure efforts.
- Secure interdepartmental consensus to sustain daily collaboration and advance shared goals for sustainability and natural resource stewardship.

**Strategy 3.1.2:** Leverage the expansion of parks, recreation, and the public realm to safeguard green spaces and natural features.

This strategy aligns seamlessly with City initiatives like "Good Natured" and the Open Space Plan. As Fort Worth continues to grow, prioritizing the preservation and protection of green spaces is essential to maintaining a high quality of life, a core value identified by the public during the 2023 workshops. This strategy safeguards shade trees, maintains clean and flowing waterways, and protects natural habitats for wildlife, while also providing residents with opportunities to exercise, socialize, and connect with nature.



Source: FW OS Report

Big Fossil Creek and suburban development



Source: FW OS Report

West Fork Trinity River

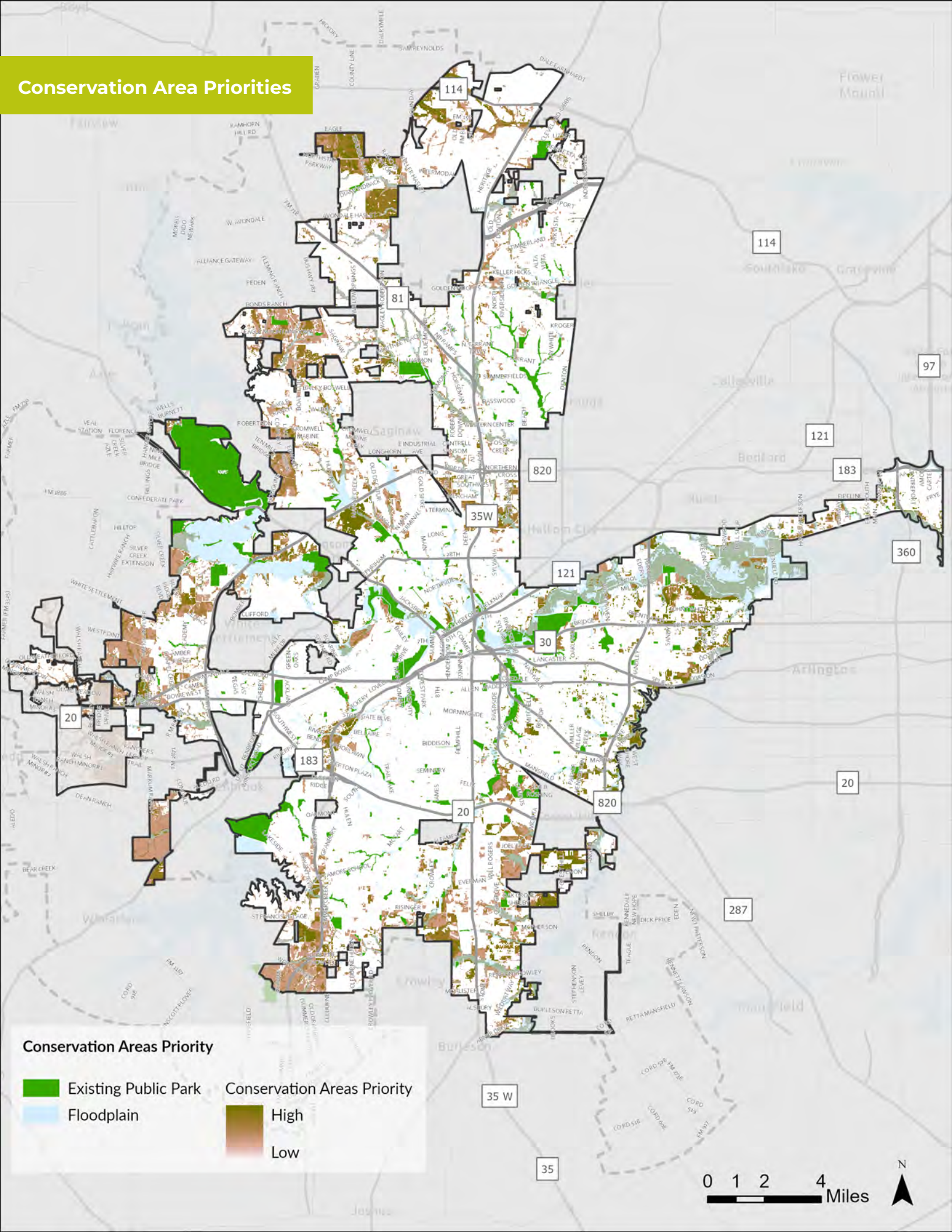


Source: FW OS Report

Sycamore Creek.



Conservation Area Priorities



BEST PRACTICE

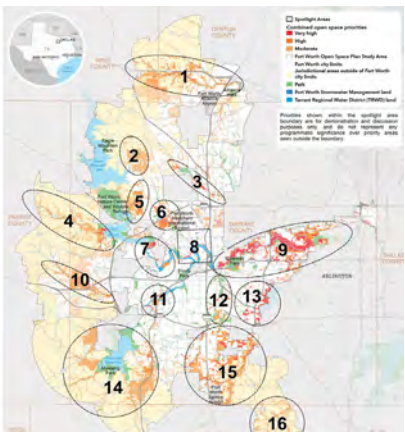
ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION

**Railroad Park, Birmingham, AL**  
Railroad Park in Birmingham, AL provides an excellent example of how reimagined landscaping can change once active industrial railroad area into a prized park through innovative design and landscaping. With over 30% of the site being water, the park included sustainable features such as bio-filtration wetlands, ponds and streams. Additionally, many of the features to include the abundance of plant life that are on the site are irrigated by onsite wells. Railroad Park has become a great example of how sustainable infrastructure can take an industrial area and make it into "Birmingham's Living Room."



Railroad Park

- Collaborate with FW Lab to update zoning and land use regulations that protect natural features, riparian zones, and critical habitats in the Comprehensive Plan.
- Support the Riparian Ordinance effort under the TPW– Stormwater Master Plan and advocate for additional tools like conservation overlays and stronger floodplain protections.
- Pursue conservation easements to protect natural areas like prairie ecosystems.
- Use the following map (TPL priority map + Park deficient areas) to identify and acquire high-priority parcels—especially in park-deficient areas—for conservation of floodplains, habitats, and waterways.
- Develop Natural Resource Management Plans for existing and new parks.
- Implement an annual invasive species management program to control and restore ecologically significant areas across the parks.



Spotlight areas with combined open space priorities, Fort Worth Open Space Strategy Report, 2022

Strategy 3.1.3: Integrate natural areas into existing parks and demarcate key ecological zones that serve as hubs for biodiversity, education, and conservation.

- Identify areas within existing parks suitable for natural integration, such as underutilized spaces, floodplains, or degraded zones with specific natural features like streams, wetlands, or tree groves. For example, areas along the Trinity River or sections of the Fort Worth Nature Center, Tandy Hills, and Chisholm Trail could be designated as ecological zones to safeguard riparian habitats, support native wildlife, and educate the public about the importance of water quality and biodiversity.
- Prioritize planting native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers that attract local pollinators and provide food and shelter for birds and other native wildlife.
- Consider designing uninterrupted green corridors that provide habitat connectivity and opportunities for active transportation.
- Develop nature-based, unstructured play areas using natural materials to foster imaginative play and connection with nature.



**Strategy 3.1.4: Engage and educate city staff and community to protect and preserve the natural environment**

- Develop and implement a training program for maintenance staff focused on natural area management and ecological best practices.
- Add park ranger positions to ensure safety, enforce park rules, and educate visitors in natural spaces.
- Hire programming staff (interpreters) to deliver environmental education and increase nature-based programming.
- Create internship opportunities to support stewardship, education, and natural resource management efforts.
- Establish and maintain a Speakers Bureau to engage the public on topics related to conservation and ecology.
- Host regular programs in parks led by PARD Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to connect the community with Fort Worth’s natural assets.
- Continue convening Natural & Cultural Work Group meetings to align efforts across departments and partners.
- Support volunteer stewardship events, including invasive species removal, native plantings, and park clean-up initiatives.

**Objective 3.2: Connect people to nature through immersive and educational experiences and increased awareness of resiliency, water resources, and benefits of ecological biodiversity.**

**Strategy 3.2.1: Expand Access to Nature**

Ensure equitable access to high-quality natural areas throughout the City by protecting, acquiring, and enhancing opportunities for nature experiences, facilitating access to existing sites, expanding natural areas where possible, and targeting undeveloped areas for acquisition to provide additional high-quality nature experiences for all residents.

- Use the Conservation Priority Areas map, Comprehensive Plan Recommended Opportunities Area map, and the Open Space Conservation Plan Spotlight Areas map to create new pockets of naturalized green space in combination with new public sector infrastructure projects and private development.
- Maximize the potential of existing natural area parks—such as Tandy Hills, Stratford Nature Area, the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge, and Log Cabin Village—through enhanced maintenance and expanded programming.



**CONNECTING WITH NATURE**

**Minneapolis, MN**

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Department hosts a variety of nature education programs designed specifically for children, held at recreation centers throughout the city. Programs are tailored to different age groups, including preschoolers, children aged 6–12, and all-ages activities for children and their parents or guardians. The department also offers nature-based programs for adults and families, encouraging everyone to enjoy and explore nature together. While many programs are fee-based, scholarships are available, and some, like the monthly "Come Out and Play" family program, are free and require no registration.



Early Childhood

Families



School-Aged Youth

Adults

Nature activities



**PARKS AS AN OUTDOOR CLASSROOM**

**Kellogg and Greenfield Community Parks, CA**

Kellogg and Greenfield Community Parks in Southern California are excellent examples of parks that have been designed to addressing learning and play within a natural setting. Both parks draw from their local natural setting to offer learning through "... observing, touching, playing with and learning about plants, animals, water and landforms.



Learn and Play

- Develop small Natural Area Parks in high-density urban communities where access to large parks is not feasible.
- Collaborate with the Stormwater Management Division to inventory conserved green spaces and identify those with the potential for transformation into recreational areas that balance public use with ecological protection.
- Improve access to hiking trails, and provide accessible opportunities for all hiking trail users.

**Strategy 3.2.2: Promote parks and green spaces as outdoor interactive classrooms to be used by schools, universities, steward organizations, and the public.**

- Develop curriculum-aligned programs in partnership with Fort Worth ISD, charter schools, and homeschool groups.
- Offer field trips for schools with tailored lesson plans on local history, ecology, and conservation.
- Launch after-school and summer camps focusing on historical trades (blacksmithing, candle-making) or wildlife studies.
- Create a "Junior Naturalist Program" where students assist with wildlife monitoring.
- Partner with universities for biodiversity studies and conservation initiatives.
- Install real-time data collection stations for water quality testing and climate monitoring.
- Interactive exhibits where visitors can use AR (augmented reality) apps to see how settlers lived or how Fort Worth’s landscape evolved over time

**Objective 3.3: Adopt a holistic and synergistic approach to develop nature-based solutions within the park system and the City's public realm.**

**Strategy 3.3.1: Establish design standards requiring green infrastructure in all new and renovated parks, green spaces, and recreation facilities to enhance sustainability.**

Incorporating green infrastructure into the park system enhances both environmental sustainability and community resilience. By using natural solutions such as rain gardens, bioswales, permeable surfaces, and restored wetlands, parks can effectively manage stormwater, reduce flooding, and protect the environment. Green infrastructure reduces reliance on traditional, costly stormwater systems by treating water at its source and can be seamlessly integrated into parks of all sizes, from expansive regional spaces to neighborhood parks and plazas.



**Strategy 3.3.2: Protect and enhance natural features to improve flood control, filter stormwater, reduce runoff and erosion, and enhance water quality in streams, lakes, and the Trinity River.**

As the city expands with new residential and non-residential developments, natural greenery and permeable ground are increasingly replaced by impermeable surfaces such as roads, buildings, and parking lots. This shift exacerbates stormwater impacts, as the natural environment can no longer effectively absorb and manage runoff. The City’s Stormwater Management Plan addresses this challenge by promoting the integration of natural spaces—such as trails, parks, greenways, and other recreational features—into stormwater management strategies outlined in the Stormwater Management Design Manual. PARD should continue working with the Transportation & Public Works Department, the City’s Stormwater Management Department, and the City Engineer’s Office to protect and dedicate these sites as parks and green spaces in new developments while leveraging them for flood control, enabling the city to grow responsibly, safely, and sustainably.

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:**

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has established some recommended strategies and guidelines in the development and implementation of green infrastructure designs through:

- [EPA Green Infrastructure Design Strategy Tools](#)

The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) along with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provide valuable guidance on the designing and implementation of green infrastructure to manage stormwater runoff. It is estimated that 10 trillion gallons of dirty, untreated runoff enters US waters each year. The NRDC explains that best practices in the use of green infrastructure is to capture the rain where it falls, thus allowing it to filter into the earth. Secondly, green infrastructure improves water quality by decreasing the amount of stormwater that reach the waterway and removing contaminants. The use of soils and plants help in the absorption and filtration of the pollutants. - [Green Infrastructure: How to Manage Water in a Sustainable Way](#), Melissa Denchak - NRDC



**BEST PRACTICE**

**A MODEL FOR SUSTAINABLE URBAN GREEN SPACE**

**Tanner Springs Park, Portland, OR**

This park transforms a former industrial site into a vibrant urban oasis, blending ecological restoration with recreational use. The park features native wetlands, sustainable stormwater management, and the iconic “Art Wall,” celebrating the area’s history. Despite its small size, it offers walking paths, seating, and gathering spaces while connecting to Portland’s broader park system. Recognized as a model for sustainable urban design, it showcases how to connect people to nature in dense urban areas.

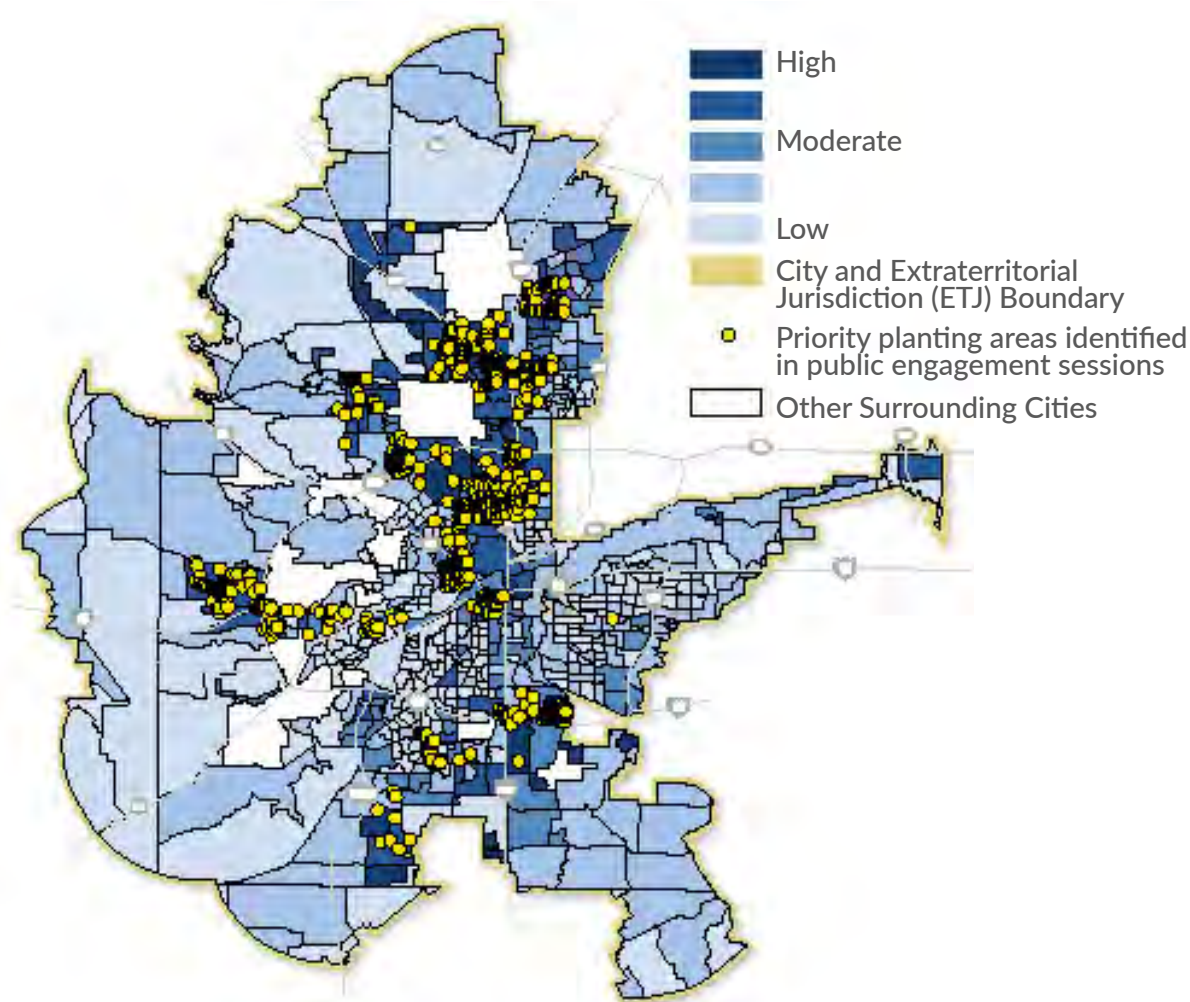


Tanner Spring Park

**Strategy 3.3.3: implement and advocate for the urban forest master plan to expand tree canopy and create cool corridors.**

Fort Worth residents identified the lack of shade as a top priority. In response, the Fort Worth City Council adopted the Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP) on June 25, 2024, officially designating it as the city's guiding framework for urban forest management. The plan aims to increase tree canopy from 19% to 30% by 2050.

- Collaborate with the City’s Urban Forestry team to support implementation of UFMP priorities by using the Combined Priority Map to guide tree planting, canopy expansion, and maintenance efforts in the most impactful locations.
- Integrate UFMP goals into park planning, design, and renovation projects by identifying opportunities to plant shade trees, especially in underserved and park-deficient areas.
- Prioritize the development of cool corridors along trails, sidewalks, and streets near parks, schools, and transit stops to reduce urban heat and improve walkability.
- Track and report PARD’s contributions to annual canopy gains as part of the City’s overall progress toward the 30% canopy goal by 2050.



Combined Priority Planting, Map Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP)

*"Parks and trails need shade, Fort Worth is too hot and people don't want to withstand the heat "*

Community Member Feedback, 2024



**Objective 3.4: Enhance the Trinity River, its watersheds, tributaries, and lakes as interconnected natural and recreational assets that showcase Fort Worth's ecosystems and foster community enjoyment.**

**Strategy 3.4.1: Restore riparian buffers, wetlands, and natural habitats along the Trinity River, its tributaries, and lakes to improve biodiversity and ecosystem health.**

- Develop programs to remove invasive plants and reintroduce native species to strengthen ecosystems.
- Work with Green Space Leadership Team to conserve high-priority natural areas within watersheds that have been identified in the Open Space Strategy report.
- Incorporate watershed enhancement goals into the city's Comprehensive Plan, Good Natured Initiative, and other ongoing efforts.
- Work with Fort Worth Environmental Department on water quality testing and monitoring programs to assess the health of waterways and wetlands.

The City of Fort Worth's Water Utility sources 100% of its drinking water from surface water in area lakes, ensuring the highest quality for the community. Key sources include Lake Worth, Lake Bridgeport, Eagle Mountain Lake, Benbrook Lake, Richland Chambers Reservoir, Cedar Creek Reservoir, and the Clear Fork of the Trinity River. The Park and Recreation Department can support water quality monitoring for Lake Worth and the Trinity River by installing monitoring stations in parks and trails with water features that feed into these bodies. Publicly

accessible stations can also be placed in areas where stormwater accumulates, serving as educational tools to raise awareness about water quality impacts.

- Encourage community involvement in taking an active role in restoration efforts, maintaining and monitoring the health of waterways and wetlands.
- Community involvement in maintaining waterways and wetlands fosters pride and ownership among residents. This can include forming "Friends of" groups, adopting sites for upkeep, or partnering with schools to use these areas as outdoor classrooms for learning about water quality and biodiversity protection.

**Strategy 3.4.2: Acquire land, secure easements, and develop partnerships to maximize public access to the water throughout the City.**

Enhancing access to the Trinity River and waterways can create vibrant public spaces that connect the community to nature while showcasing Fort Worth's unique assets. While some access points exist, much of the waterfront remains underutilized. PARD should work with TRWD, the Army Corps of Engineers, and other partners to expand access through land acquisition, easements, and strategic partnerships.

- Activate key nodes along the Trinity River while preserving flood storage, levees, and the natural setting.
- Enhance the river as a hub for recreation, community gatherings, and environmental education, making it one of America's great riverfront parks.



Proposed renderings for potential river projects, Source: Confluence: The Trinity River Strategic Master Plan



Proposed renderings for potential river projects, Source: Confluence: The Trinity River Strategic Master Plan



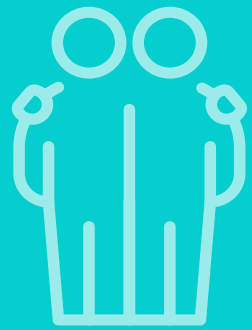
Proposed renderings for potential river projects, Source: Confluence: The Trinity River Strategic Master Plan





**Celebrating Vibrant Nature: A vision for integrating natural habitats, scenic trails, and immersive outdoor experiences, creating a harmonious balance between recreation and ecological preservation.**





# Common Ground

Develop public spaces that are accessible and welcoming for everyone, foster social interaction, and celebrate the community's multiculturalism, enhancing a sense of belonging and unity.

**Objective 1:** Embrace and adopt new park system typologies to strengthen the public realm.

**Objective 2:** Create safe, convenient and inviting public spaces that support positive experiences for everyone.

**Objective 3:** Offer a wide range of facilities and recreation programs that cater to the diverse interests, ages, abilities, and income levels of Fort Worth's evolving community.

**Objective 4:** Preserve and celebrate neighborhood identities by integrating local culture, art, history, and community values into park design and programming.



## Goal 4 Common Ground

**Objective 4.1: Embrace and adopt new park system typologies to strengthen the public realm.**

Fort Worth's 2023 Comprehensive Plan places a new emphasis on growth centers, urban villages, and revitalized commercial corridors as a primary focus for the city's growth going forward. This new chapter calls for additional park and public realm typologies that enhance quality of life, access to nature, and a sense of community for these compact, mixed-use, walkable environments.

**Strategy 4.1.1: Conduct a study to identify high-potential ROWs for conversion into pedestrian plazas or green streets in areas with limited park access.**

**Strategy 4.1.2: Undertake an inventory of existing (Privately-owned and Publicly-owned) public spaces to better understand their distribution and gaps.**

**Strategy 4.1.3: Foster Integration of Public Spaces within Mixed-Use Developments.**

Encourage public spaces in mixed-use developments by partnering with developers to create parks and plazas that enhance the public realm. Implement incentives, such as density bonuses, for high-quality, accessible spaces that prioritize community needs, including seating, landscaping, and programming.

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Reclaiming the Right of Way by UCLA's Luskin School of Public Affairs is a good toolkit on where and how to create parklets. Provides design guidance to items such as site selection, site design, surrounding land use considerations, and more.

Tactical Public Realm Guidelines is another guideline serves to introduce new tools for tactical public realm improvements for public space development and management.

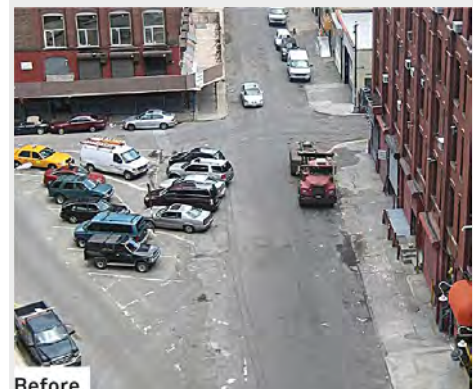


BEST  
PRACTICE

### TRANSFORM PUBLIC ROW INTO PUBLIC SPACE

#### New York City Plaza Program and Open Street Initiative

The Plaza Program is a citywide effort led by the Department of Transportation (DOT) of New York City to create cost-effective, high-quality public spaces in underutilized roadways throughout the city. The program aims to prioritize areas that currently lack green space, especially in high-pedestrian or low-income neighborhoods. NYC DOT partners with nonprofit applicants to develop plazas that meet the needs of local communities. It works with local groups to manage ongoing maintenance. There are 71 plazas citywide in some phase of planning, design, construction, or completion.



Before



After

Pearl Street, activated underutilized parking



**Strategy 4.1.4: Integrate the outdoor public realm (sidewalks, medians, parkways, ROW) into the parks and green spaces to expand recreational experience.**

Add features such as benches, storywalk displays, misting stations, kiosks, and public art along these routes for users to enjoy as they move between parks. Also, encourage the recreational use of the public realm as an urban park for things such as community block events, street festivals, traveling parklets, public art, and performance displays, as well as sidewalk games like hopscotch.

**Objective 4.2: Create safe, convenient and inviting public spaces that support positive experiences for everyone.**

**Strategy 4.2.1: Integrate and highlight Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) strategies in the design and redesign of parks and recreation facilities.**

- **Lighting and Visibility:** Install well-placed lighting along pathways, entry points, and high-traffic areas like playgrounds and sports courts to enhance visibility and safety, especially during evening hours. Incorporate strategic landscaping to maintain clear sightlines and avoid creating hidden or obstructed spaces.
- **Natural Surveillance and Activity Zones:** encourage consistent activity by including green spaces, seating areas, and diverse activity zones such as playgrounds, fitness trails, and sports fields. Increased use naturally promotes casual monitoring by park users.
- **Territorial Reinforcement and Access Control:** Use landscaping, signage, and pathways to clearly define boundaries, guide movement, and discourage unauthorized access. Ensure entry and exit points are well-marked and strategically placed.

**Strategy 4.2.2: Implement the use of security features such as emergency call stations and security cameras in areas identified as safety concerns by the public.**

**Strategy 4.2.3: Identify locations where fencing or walls are needed to ensure safety for active recreation areas like sports fields, courts, or similar uses.**

**Strategy 4.2.4: Integrate smart technology into park systems, such as interactive kiosks, app-based navigation tools, and free public Wi-Fi, to enhance the user experience and improve accessibility.**

- Install interactive kiosks and app-based wayfinding tools at key park entrances and along major trail corridors to provide real-time information on amenities, events, and accessibility features.



**CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAM**

**Los Angeles Summer Night Lights (SNL) Program**

Parks that are peak gang activity areas can be transformed into vibrant community spaces after dark with organized activities for at-risk youth and families. The Summer Night Lights program extended nighttime hours in eight parks in troubled neighborhoods, keeping lights on until midnight, and sponsoring nighttime movies and family-oriented activities four nights a week. Beginning with 8 Los Angeles parks in 2008, Summer Night Lights has expanded to 24 sites in 2010 and to 32 sites in 2013. This strategy has become a nationally recognized success story for both reducing violence and building communities for safer cities.



Creating Safe Park Environments



**FINDING RELIEF IN PARKS**

**Portland Loo**

In Portland, OR, City Commissioner Randy Leonard instigated the design of a better public toilet. With input from police, fire and maintenance personnel, the result is the wheelchair accessible and easy-to-clean metal “Portland Loo.” With open bars at the top and bottom, the restroom is ventilated, and police can see how many people are within. The system uses water for flushing but there is no sink—only hand sanitizer—and blue lighting discourages heroin use. As of 2018, 17 Portland Loos were installed in Portland, and over 50 others are in use across the U.S. and Canada. The base price is \$90,000; utility work, foundation work, shipping and installation add another \$36,000–\$44,000.



- Partner with technology providers and internet service companies to expand free public Wi-Fi coverage in high-traffic parks and prioritize connectivity in underserved neighborhoods.

**Strategy 4.2.5: Enhance comfort and convenience**

Focusing on introducing comfort features such as restrooms, water fountains, shade, and sitting areas will enhance the experiences for those using the park and recreation system and encourage visitors to extend their time at parks.

- Ensure all facilities meet or exceed ADA and TAS (Texas Accessibility Standards) standards for accessibility, including installing ramps, accessible restrooms, and clear pathways for those with mobility challenges.
- Increase the number of permanent restrooms at parks and other public spaces. Modernize existing restrooms by making them cleaner, more accessible, and energy-efficient.
- Increase shaded areas and install more seating throughout the parks and public realm, especially near high-traffic zones like playgrounds, sports fields, trails and along sidewalks where there is high pedestrian activities such as in and round commercial and retail areas.
- Adding shade to parks and along the public realm is important in providing a comfortable experience for visitors to parks especially here in Texas. Shade in parks and in the public realm can be increased through the planting of shade trees and the installation of shade canopies. It is encouraged that trees native to the Fort Worth area are used as they will be the most effective in withstanding the high temperatures and long drought seasons. Adding seating also helps to active parks and the public realm as the seating provides locations where people can gather, relax and socialize.
- Upgrade shelters, pavilions, and other structures to make them more usable during different seasons by adding heating, cooling, or weather-resistant materials.
- Add or upgrade drinking fountains and include bottle-filling stations to provide easy access to hydration, especially in warmer months.
- Install vehicle charging stations in parking lots of parks and at events to attract visitors while their electric vehicles charge.

*"Even if a park features great amenities, a beautiful setting, varied programming and easy accessibility, if it doesn't have public comfort stations, many park users may stay away."*



**Objective 4.3: Offer a wide range of facilities and recreation programs that cater to the diverse interests, ages, abilities, and income levels of Fort Worth's evolving community.**

As one of the fastest-growing cities in the U.S., Fort Worth is a vibrant melting pot of ages, cultures, abilities, and beliefs. To sustain and celebrate this diversity, the City must offer services that cater to all groups while fostering connections among them.

**Strategy 4.3.1: Expand inclusive, adaptive, and innovative recreation programs to equitably meet the diverse needs of the community.**

Based on what we heard from the community, there is strong interest in expanding programs that reflect evolving needs and preferences. High-priority programs include:

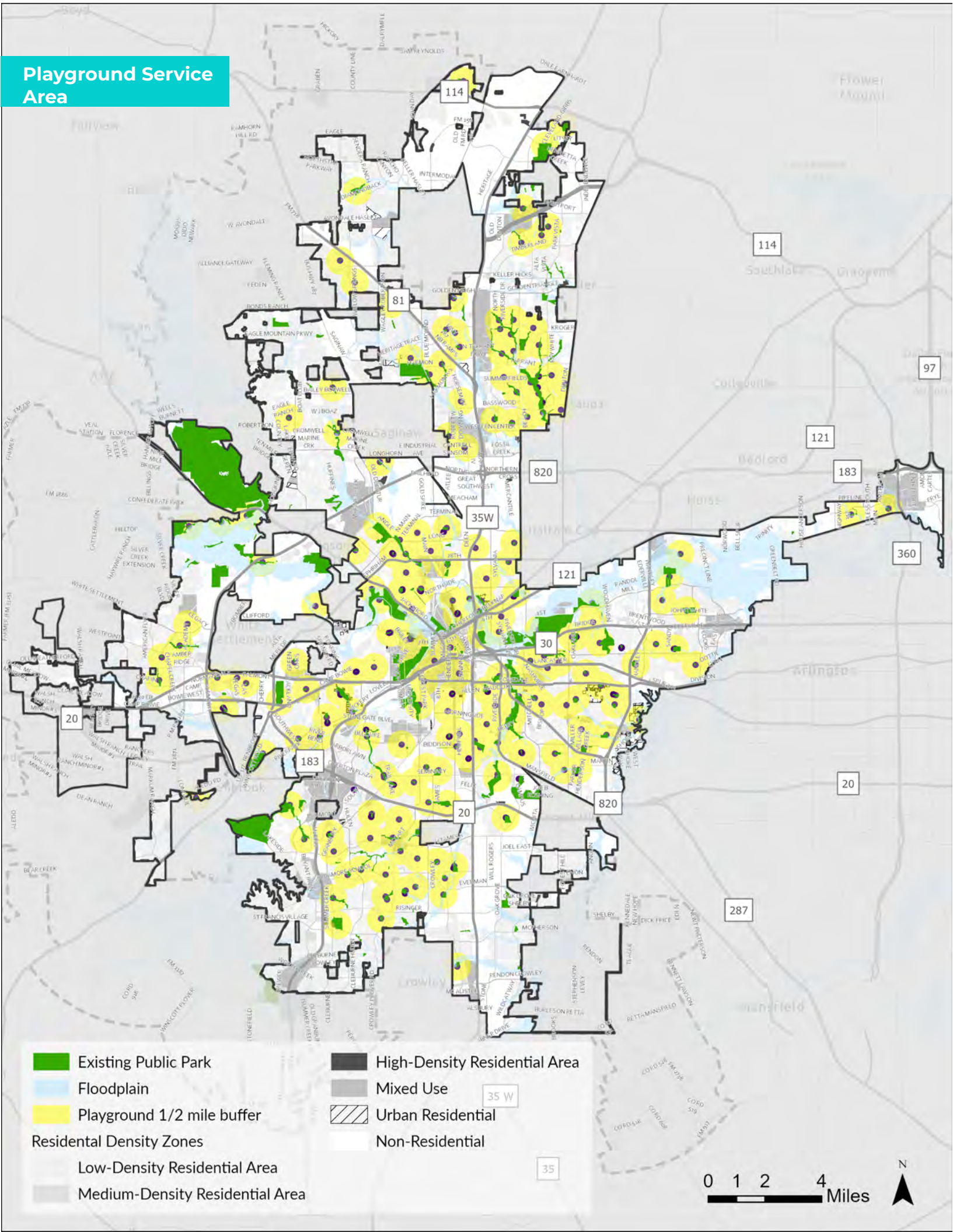
- Expand indoor recreation centers that offer low-cost or free fitness classes, creative workshops, drop-in sports, and multi-generational programs.
- Create a variety of trail-based programs such as guided nature walks, family hikes, and walking groups for seniors.
- Offer water and nature-based programs
- Activate underutilized spaces by introducing new amenities such as pickleball courts, mini-pitches, and multi-use courts that accommodate drop-in play, low-cost leagues, and intergenerational tournaments
- Expand youth development programs such as after school care, seasonal camps, literacy initiatives, and summer enrichment to support academic and social growth.
- Enhance senior programs through recreational offerings, group outings, wellness classes, and social events that foster connection and active aging.
- Offer specialized and adaptive recreation to ensure inclusive participation for individuals of all abilities, with potential support from a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS) and partners like the YMCA.

**Strategy 4.3.2: Increase the number of recreation facilities**

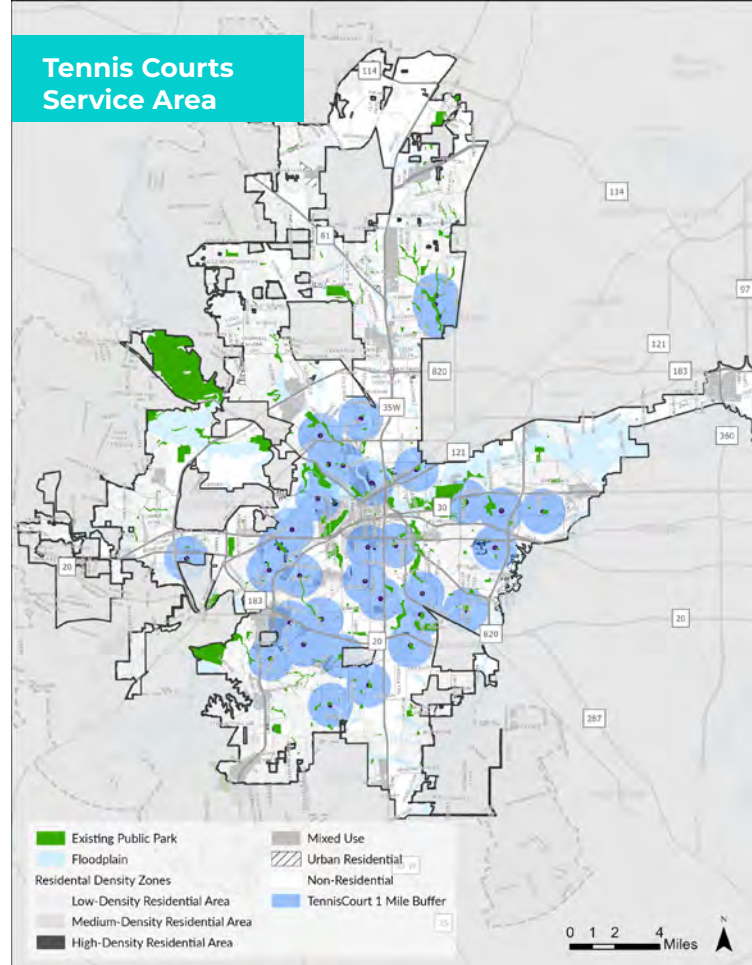
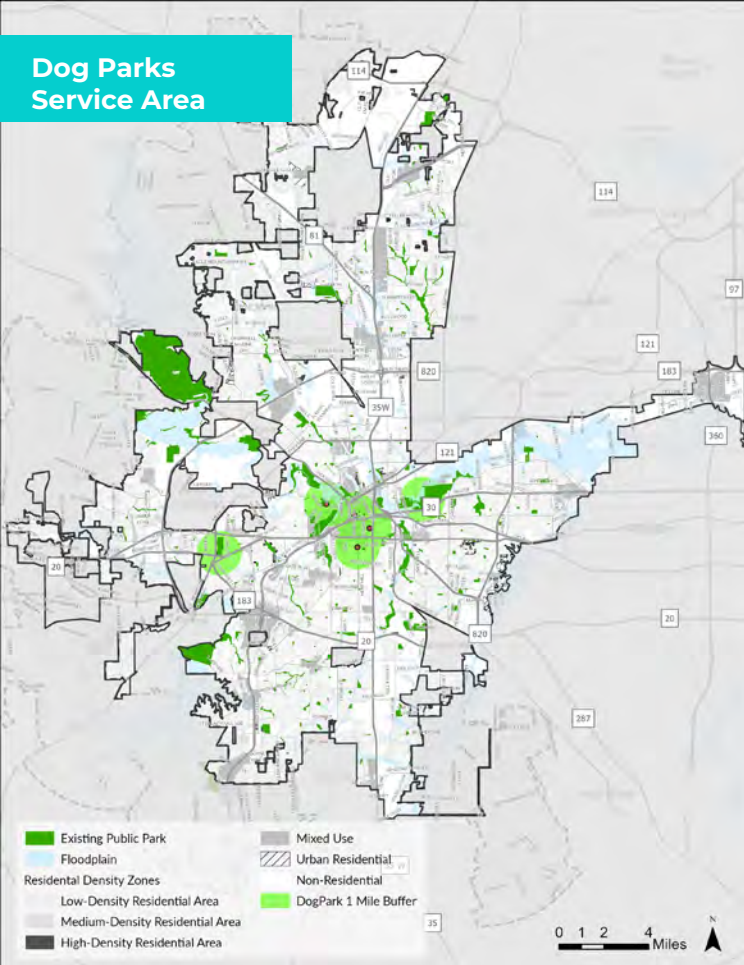
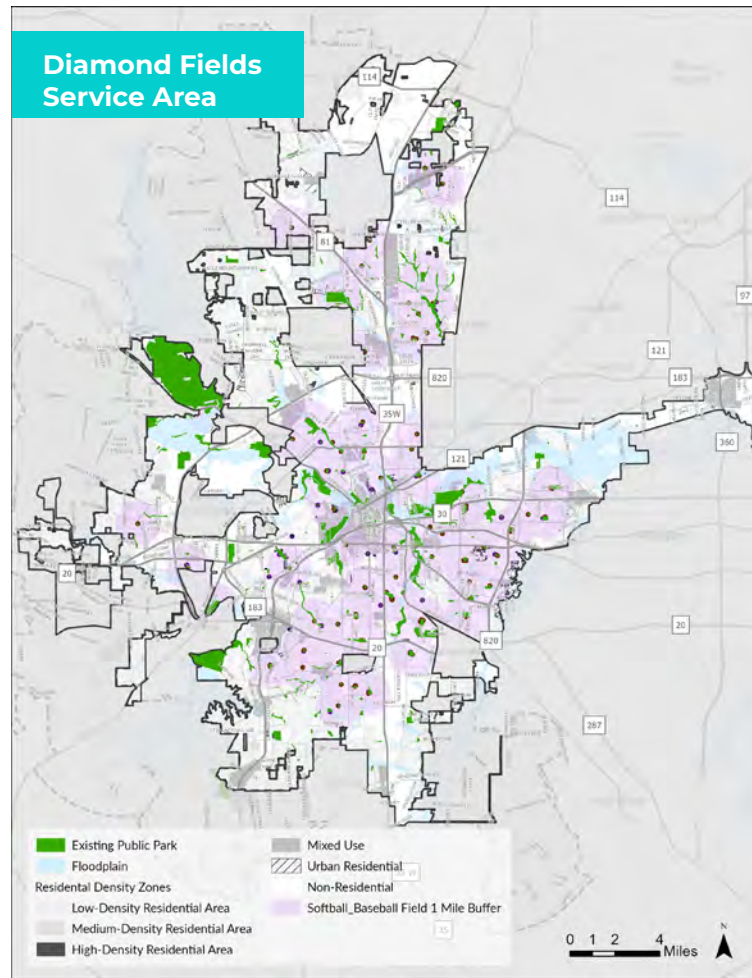
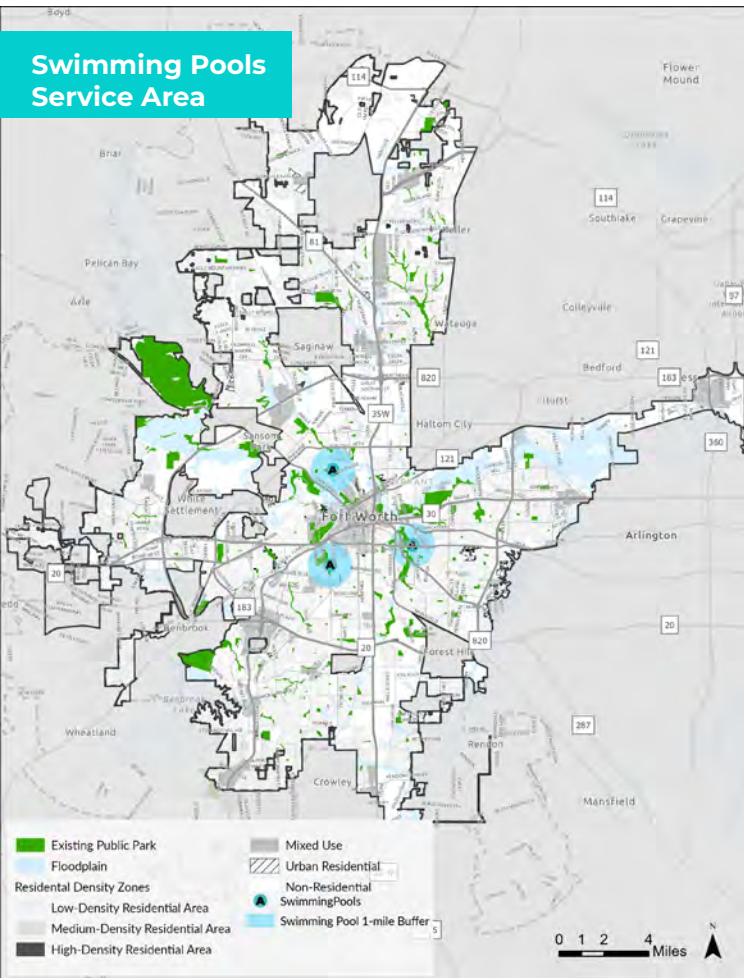
The City of Fort Worth has hundreds of facilities, ranging from various types of fields and courts to playgrounds and community centers. Considering the City's historical growth in the last 10 years, and the expected increase in population over the next 10 years, the Department will need more recreation facilities to meet the demand. This plan anticipates this need by developing Facilities Level of Service (LOS) targets for key recreation and park facilities and combining them with projected population figures to identify the number of facilities that may be needed in the next 10 years. The following pages map the areas that are in need of these facilities.



**Playground Service Area**







### Strategy 4.3.3: Make better use of existing facilities through system-wide planning and investments.

In addition to looking for opportunities to grow Fort Worth's system of recreation facilities, the City must also make the best use of the space that it currently has through system-wide planning and investments in facilities.

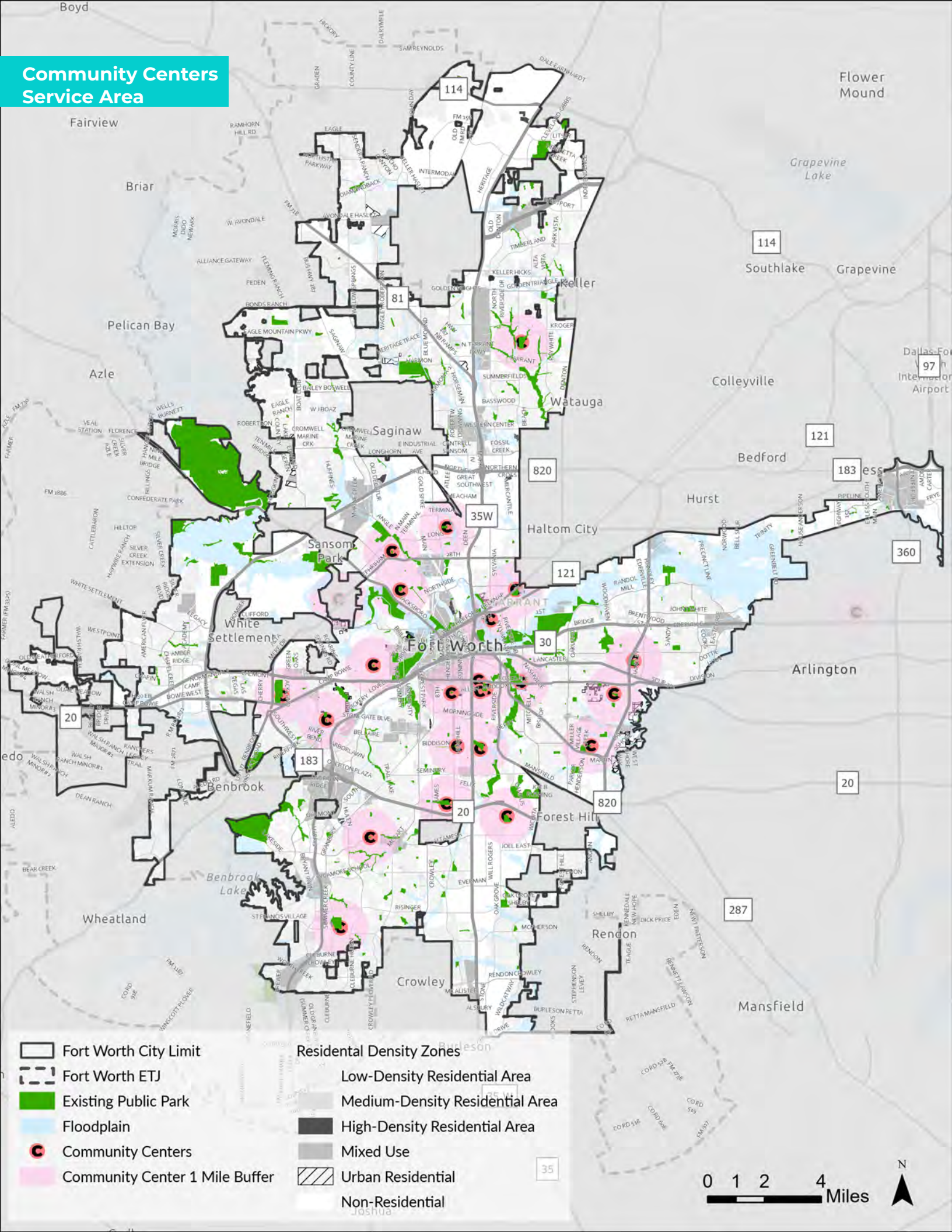
- Analyze existing recreation facilities utilization to identify underutilized spaces, outdated infrastructure, and areas of overlapping services. Use technology, such as attendance tracking or reservation systems, to gather insights on how facilities are being used.
- Conduct a recreation facilities needs assessment, including a statistically valid survey and Level of Service analysis, on a 5-year cycle to gather input on facility improvements and programming needs.
- Explore opportunities to provide all-season access to certain high-use facilities and athletic fields commensurate with demand through the use of temporary or permanent structures.
- Historically, athletic programs were more seasonal, with different sports seasons having less overlap. The seasons have been extended in recent years, and some are played year-round. However, Fort Worth's climate is not always conducive to outdoor athletics. Temporary, climate controlled structures around outdoor athletic fields or permanent, indoor recreation centers with full-size athletic fields could be possible solutions to providing all-season access.
- Clustering amenities in ways that encourage interaction and activity to promote vibrant, multi-use parks that attract a diverse range of visitors. This approach, often referred to as "triangulation," involves positioning complementary features near one another to create lively, engaging spaces.
- Convert existing natural grass fields to synthetic turf and/or add lighting to existing fields to increase available hours of play.



Inspiring rendering for clustering amenities and monitoring the usage.



Community Centers  
Service Area



Strategy 4.3.4: Ensure that existing and new facilities are inclusive and welcoming all segments of the population.

- Coordinate with public transit providers and bike-share companies to install stops at/near parks, recreation facilities, trailheads, and green spaces to provide alternative modes of transportation t for those who may not have access to personal vehicles.
- Use clear, multi-lingual, and pictorial signage with large fonts, color contrast, and easy-to-understand icons to help everyone navigate park facilities.
- Ensure a set percentage of programs, classes, and facility access are offered free or at low cost and schedule community days with free entry to recreation centers, pools, or fitness programs.
- Introduce multi-generational playscapes, comfort features (seating, shade structures, restroom facilities) and recreational programming that will allow for persons of all ages to play, work, and socialize together.
- Provide specific amenities for seniors: Aquatic centers, low-impact exercise equipment, senior recreation centers, adult summer camps.

Objective 4.4: Preserve and celebrate neighborhood identities by integrating local culture, art, history, and community values into park design and programming.

Each neighborhood is shaped by the unique culture, heritage, and values of its residents, reflected in the architecture, landscaping, and personal touches of their homes. Neighborhood parks should embody these characteristics, serving as integral extensions of the community. By incorporating elements like art, park furniture, pavilions, playscapes, and signage that reflect local identity, parks can foster pride and a sense of ownership among residents.

Moreover, such thoughtful design and programming can attract visitors from other areas, offering opportunities to experience and learn about the distinct character of each neighborhood.



FEE STRUCTURE

Access Pass Program, Portland, OR

Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) believes recreation is for everyone and the price of programs and activities could prevent some community members from being able to participate. So they established a nationally recognized Access Pass Program, which offers a sliding scale fee structure to ensure equitable access to recreation programs and facilities for all residents, regardless of their financial situation.

ACTIVE AGING PROGRAMS

Howard County, MD

In Howard County, Maryland, older adults can embark on exciting new adventures called Encore Adventures that allows seniors to participate in various outdoor activities. Participants in the program can explore activities such as kayaking, archery, fishing, biking, history hikes and even an indoor rock wall. After completing five different adventure programs, their enthusiasm for staying active is acknowledged with a patch and certificate.





**Strategy 4.4.1: Develop a set of flexible design standards that celebrate Fort Worth's unique neighborhood history and culture while maintaining system-wide quality.**

- These standards will allow for neighbourhood-specific customization, incorporating diverse and adaptable features that reflect community identity and meet the needs of specific demographics.
- Use data-driven decision-making and leverage demographic data, recreation trends, and usage patterns to align park amenities with the unique needs of each district. Use this analysis to identify gaps in service and avoid duplication of similar park features across neighborhoods.
- Collaborate with neighborhoods to create culturally reflective features in signage, fostering community pride and ownership of local parks and facilities while welcoming visitors to different areas of Fort Worth.
- Leverage PARD's Log Cabin Village Interpretive Museum as a model for celebrating Fort Worth's local heritage and pioneer history, and explore opportunities to integrate similar interpretive elements and storytelling features into neighborhood parks across the city.
- Continue working with local historians, Fort Worth Public Art, museums, galleries, schools, universities and local artists to introduce features and public art pieces into park and recreation facilities that mirror the culture and personalities of the neighborhoods the parks and facilities serve.

Integrating historic features and public art into public spaces strengthens the connection between neighborhoods and parks, fostering a unique sense of place. This can involve artists hosting neighborhood brainstorming sessions to gather creative ideas and incorporating residents' stories and photos into features like digital murals, unique play structures, shade structures, art installations, community gardens, and multipurpose fields for cultural sports and activities.

As outlined in the City's Public Art Master Plan, public art enhances and celebrates Fort Worth's rich cultural and ethnic diversity. Existing plans, such as the Fort Worth Public Art Master Plan for Lake Como Park, the East Lancaster Public Art Plan, and the Heritage & Paddock Parks Public Art Master Plan, serve as valuable guides for developing similar plans tailored to other parks or creating an overarching Public Art and Parks Master Plan.



**CELEBRATING NEIGHBORHOOD IDENTITY**

**Methow Park, Wenatchee, WA**

This park exemplifies how parks can preserve and celebrate neighborhood identities by integrating local culture, art, history, and values into their design and programming. Through extensive community engagement, the park was transformed to reflect the predominantly Latino heritage of its surrounding neighborhood, fostering pride and ownership among residents.

Key features include murals, cultural motifs, and spaces designed for festivals and gatherings, honoring the community's heritage. Bilingual programs, cultural dance classes, and inclusive events further enhance its role as a vibrant cultural hub. Flexible spaces cater to all ages, ensuring accessibility and fostering connections.



**USING PUBLIC ART TO DEFINE PARKS**



Cloud Gate at Millennium Park, a symbol of Chicago, attracts millions annually for its reflective and interactive design.



Pipe Dream at Symphony Park, Las Vegas visually interprets music, creating a dynamic cultural landmark.



Echo at Olympic Sculpture Park, Seattle invites reflection



Please Touch the Art in Brooklyn Bridge Park turns visitors into participants in a dynamic art experience.

**Strategy 4.4.2: Explore opportunities in Historic Preservation and Heritage Tourism to protect, restore, and promote the cultural and historic resources of the parks system.**

- Partner with the City's Historic Preservation Department, Texas Christian University, and non-profit historical and cultural organizations in identifying, cataloging, and preserving historic and culturally significant areas throughout the City. Include these as part of the City's parks and recreation inventory to be enjoyed by the public. Create a "historic trail" that connects local, state and nationally registered historic sites to parks and public facilities through the use of the city's multi-modal trail system.
- Host community events, such as scavenger hunts, that will take participants on a city-wide adventure and teach them about the history and culture of neighborhoods, communities, Park Planning Districts, and the City. Art Master Plan for Lake Como Park, the East Lancaster Public Art Plan, and the Heritage & Paddock Parks Public Art Master Plan, serve as valuable guides for developing similar plans tailored to other parks or creating an overarching Public Art and Parks Master Plan.

**Strategy 4.4.3: Support culturally-based events and programs, such as dance, art, and language activities, developed by residents to hold at parks and public spaces.**





**Creating Common Ground:** A vibrant public space where community members of all backgrounds can gather, connect, and celebrate Fort Worth's rich culture.





# Premier Destination

Transform Fort Worth's parks and public spaces into a leading destination that contributes to the City's economic development and growth.

**Objective 1:** Promote the City's parks and public spaces to attract tourists and new user groups to Fort Worth.

**Objective 2:** Position parks and public spaces as key economic development assets to attract major employers and a talented workforce.

**Objective 3:** Enhance the economic impact of parks by integrating amenities like food concessions, recreational rentals, and vendor opportunities to create revenue streams and boost tourism.



## Goal 5 Premier Destination

**Objective 5.1: Promote the City's parks and public spaces to attract tourists and new user groups to Fort Worth.**

**Strategy 5.1.1: Organize a diverse schedule of special events, festivals and programs to attract tourists and new user groups to the park.**

To increase engagement, Fort Worth should host a variety of recurring and one-time events—from monthly meetups to annual festivals—that activate park spaces and draw both residents and visitors. Regularly scheduled events can establish tradition and routine, encouraging community participation and boosting the local economy through tourism, dining, and retail.

- Host events and programming such as: Music festivals, Food truck gatherings, Charity runs, Location specific programming at Log Cabin Village and Fort Worth Nature Center.
- Organize monthly, semi-annual, and annual events such as cultural celebrations, food festivals, and holiday-themed gatherings across parks.
- Develop private rental opportunities by converting underutilized park facilities into venues for weddings, retreats, and team-building events, with partnerships to offer event packages through local caterers, musicians, and vendors.
- Facilitate community celebrations through culturally specific gatherings that reflect Fort Worth's diverse population.
- Partner with local sports organizations, schools, and leagues to host local, regional, state, and national tournaments in sports like soccer, baseball, softball, and rugby, contributing to sports tourism and showcasing Fort Worth's public recreation facilities.

**Strategy 5.1.2: Leverage Fort Worth's cultural and natural heritage.**

Fort Worth's park system offers a powerful platform to celebrate the city's history, culture, and environmental assets. By connecting parks to heritage sites and storytelling, the City can create immersive experiences that build community pride and attract cultural and eco-tourism.

- Promote historic venues like Log Cabin Village as interpretive park assets, and integrate storytelling and heritage programming across the system to highlight neighborhood history and local identity.



BEST  
PRACTICE

### TRANSFORMING PARKS INTO VIBRANT DESTINATIONS

#### Memphis River Parks, Memphis, TN

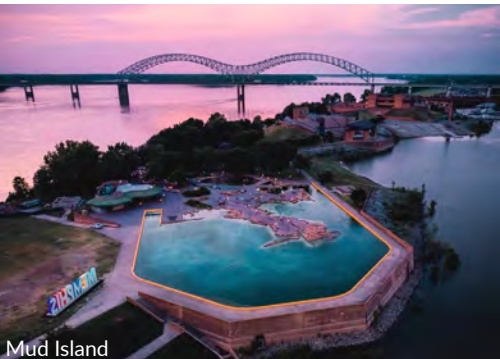
Memphis River Parks serves as a successful example of promoting regional parks and public spaces to attract new user groups and tourists. The park system (including 8 parks), anchored by the redesigned Tom Lee Park, offers spaces for recreation, arts, and cultural programming while hosting major events like the Memphis in May International Festival, which draws attendees from across the country. Other spaces, such as Beale Street Landing, provide iconic riverfront views and family-friendly activities, while Fourth Bluff Park connects downtown Memphis with unique public art installations and seasonal events. The diverse amenities and programming, paired with accessible design, make the parks a destination for residents and visitors alike.



Memphis River Parks



- Collaborate with local historians, artists, and cultural institutions to develop public art, cultural displays, and educational signage that reflect Fort Worth's Western heritage and rich community diversity.
- Promote natural areas as eco-tourism destinations with programming tied to hiking, photography, biodiversity, wildlife conservation, outdoor education and other non-intrusive activities. .
- Incorporate revitalization and conservation efforts into marketing and interpretive materials to tell the story of Fort Worth's commitment to sustainable and resilient park development.



Memphis River Parks diverse and unique designs and amenities

**Strategy 5.1.3: Utilize diverse and unique designs, amenities, and programming in signature parks that reflect the character and makeup of the community.**

- Develop self-guided tours with specific themes, such as wildlife watching, historical landmarks, or cultural digital art specific to the surrounding community.
- Ensure regional parks have adequate visitor amenities, such as easily accessible parking, restrooms, wayfinding signage, and visitor information centers.

**Strategy 5.14: Create a vibrant Downtown Riverfront Park**

Enhance the Trinity River Corridor by developing a series of interconnected spaces that link major destinations in the downtown area and nearby neighborhoods (The Botanic Gardens, the Cultural District, Trinity Park, the Zoo and Log Cabin Village, the Stockyards, Rockwood Park and La Grave Field) . This approach unlocks the River's potential and enhance the City of Fort Worth's reputation as a desirable place to live and visit while preserving its unique ecosystem and resilience to periodic flooding.

- Design and implement key public spaces and iconic landmarks such as pedestrian bridges, scenic overlooks, and art installations, to create a unique visual identity and destination along Trinity River Corridor and Riverfront Park.
- Expand waterfront recreation opportunities like kayaking, paddleboarding, or river cruises, which draw visitors seeking outdoor and water-based activities.
- Host major riverfront events and festivals like Fort Worth River Front Music Fest, Annual Charity Runs, Beer and Wine Festivals, Fourth of July and Holiday Celebrations.

**Strategy 5.1.5: Strengthen branding and marketing efforts to effectively promote Fort Worth's parks, public spaces, and recreational assets, highlighting their unique qualities to attract residents, visitors, and talent.**

Create a unified brand that reflects the diversity and character of Fort Worth's parks and recreation system. Incorporate this branding into signage, promotional materials, and digital platforms to elevate visibility and identity.

- Develop interactive digital tools to enhance visitor experiences at unique destinations like Log Cabin Village and the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge, including:
  - \* Augmented reality (AR) self-guided tour apps that let users scan QR codes to view historical reenactments, wildlife information, or interactive storytelling.
  - \* Gamified scavenger hunts that engage visitors through fun, educational content linked to QR code stations throughout park grounds.
- Offer virtual content and live streaming experiences, such as:
- Monthly “Behind-the-Scenes” livestreams featuring animal care, traditional crafts, or living history presentations.
- Podcasts or video series spotlighting historians, naturalists, and local cultural voices to tell the stories of Fort Worth's natural and cultural heritage.
- Highlight unique park features through virtual tours, interactive maps, and digital storytelling.
- Partner with Visit Fort Worth and other local tourism organizations to promote parks as key cultural and recreational destinations in citywide marketing efforts.
- Partner with local travel influencers, nature photographers, and bloggers who can highlight Fort Worth parks in their content.
- Work with hotels, restaurants, and travel agencies to develop themed travel packages that include park experiences—such as guided hikes, picnic events, historic tours, or river adventures.



BEST PRACTICE

**BEST PRACTICE:  
AUGMENTED REALITY  
AND PUBLIC ART**

**Philadelphia, PA**

The Mural Arts Philadelphia Augmented Reality (AR) Public Art Project is a great example Fort Worth can learn from. It blends public art with technology by using an app that brings murals to life through animation, sound, and storytelling. This approach makes the art more interactive and accessible while deepening the viewer's connection to local culture and history. Fort Worth can apply this model in parks and heritage sites like Log Cabin Village or along trails and cultural corridors—using AR to animate historical narratives, nature scenes, or community art, creating immersive experiences that engage residents and visitors alike.



Augmented Reality and Public Art



**Objective 5.2: Position parks and public spaces as key economic development assets to attract major employers and a talented workforce.**

**Strategy 5.2.1: Explore opportunities to integrate high-quality parks and public spaces into new developments, creating vibrant environments.**

As Fort Worth continues to grow and transform, the City should proactively engage with developers and corporations during the preliminary planning stages of new projects to explore opportunities for partnerships. These partnerships will focus on creating or improving park spaces within or near mixed-use developments. Collaborative efforts may include shared funding responsibilities for capital projects, as well as the operations and maintenance of parks.

- Partner with Economic Development to engage corporate leaders relocating to Fort Worth, integrating parks and public spaces into new developments to enhance employee well-being and foster community engagement.

**Strategy 5.2.2: Fund, operate, and manage the park system to enhance residents’ quality of life and attract or retain corporations in the city.**

- Invest in creating more greenways, trails, and bike-friendly paths that connect neighborhoods, business districts, and recreational areas, promoting an active, sustainable lifestyle.
- Invest in designing high- quality, multi-use public spaces such as, main streets, plazas, parklets that cater to diverse activities like recreation, relaxation and community events.
- Invest in public spaces that support innovation and collaboration like outdoor innovation hubs with access to public Wi-Fi, outdoor meeting rooms and collaboration spaces.

**Strategy 5.2.3: Develop relationships with local Universities, colleges, and companies to integrate parks into their research and innovation.**



**PARKS AS AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TOOL**

**Plano, TX**

Plano has effectively used parks as an economic development tool, attracting and partnering with major employers. Once a small bedroom suburb, the City of Plano is now a diverse, quickly growing city with a strong economy. Plano has effectively utilized its impressive network of parks and trails to attract major employers and new residents to the city. The Parks and Recreation Department and Economic Development Departments collaborate with each other and organizations like Visit Plano to communicate the value of Plano’s parks to businesses researching potential new locations for their offices and operations that would be beneficial for their employees and their families. In 2020 alone, 23 corporations relocated to Plano. Leaders of the City of Plano’s Economic Development and Parks and Recreation Departments spend time building interpersonal relationships and trust with the leaders of corporations moving to Plano, coordinating to enable the development of publicly accessible green space on new and redeveloped corporate campuses.

**Objective 5.3: Enhance the economic impact of parks by integrating amenities like food concessions, recreational rentals, and vendor opportunities to create revenue streams and boost tourism.**

**Strategy 5.3.1: Explore economic strategies, including revenue-generating amenities, to maximize existing park opportunities without compromising green space and park functionality.**

- Explore expanding the offering or permitting of concessions in public spaces in high density areas, adjacent to sports fields and at locations where special events are regularly held.
- Establish permanent food and beverage kiosks or cafes in high-traffic parks like Trinity Park, offering diverse dining options that cater to park visitors. These can be managed directly by the city or leased to local businesses, generating steady rental income.
- Partner with food trucks and pop-up food vendors, creating designated food truck zones for special events or weekends.
- Create outdoor adventure offerings like zip lines, rock climbing walls, or ropes courses in larger parks, charging admission fees for these attractions.
- Encourage investment in the development of picturesque event spaces, such as pavilions or waterfront venues, that can be rented for weddings, corporate events, or private parties.

**Strategy 5.3.2: Improve mobile payment systems for rentals, concessions, and vendor payments, making it easy for visitors to purchase services or make reservations.**

**Strategy 5.3.3: Continue to host and expand signature annual events.**

- Generate revenue at events through entry fees, vendors sales, and sponsorships.



**BEST PRACTICE: CONCESSIONS**

**Parks on Tap, Philadelphia, PA**

Parks on Tap is a program that brought a traveling beer garden, featuring craft beer and food, to a different Philadelphia park each week for the summer season. Since its 2016 launch, the program has generated enough revenue to support improvements, maintenance, and programs in the city’s parks. The events are often paired with “friends of” fundraisers and outreach events. Due to its success, funding was secured to continue the program until now.



Philadelphia’s Traveling Beer Garden





# Manageable Resources

## Elevate the management, operations, and maintenance to ensure organizational sustainability

**Objective 1:** Ensure the fiscal sustainability of the Parks and Recreation Department through innovative funding mechanisms, diversified revenue streams, and efficient resource management.

**Objective 2:** Address staffing challenges to ensure effective maintenance, programming, and management, supporting the department's growing needs and future vision.

**Objective 3:** Invest in developing and strengthening diverse partnerships to enhance PARD's capacity and impact.

**Objective 4:** Optimize and upgrade park facilities to improve functionality, ensure efficient maintenance, and enhance the long-term sustainability of the system.

**Objective 5:** Enhance governance and organizational excellence through accreditation, performance evaluations, and increased accountability and transparency.



## Goal 6 Manageable Resources

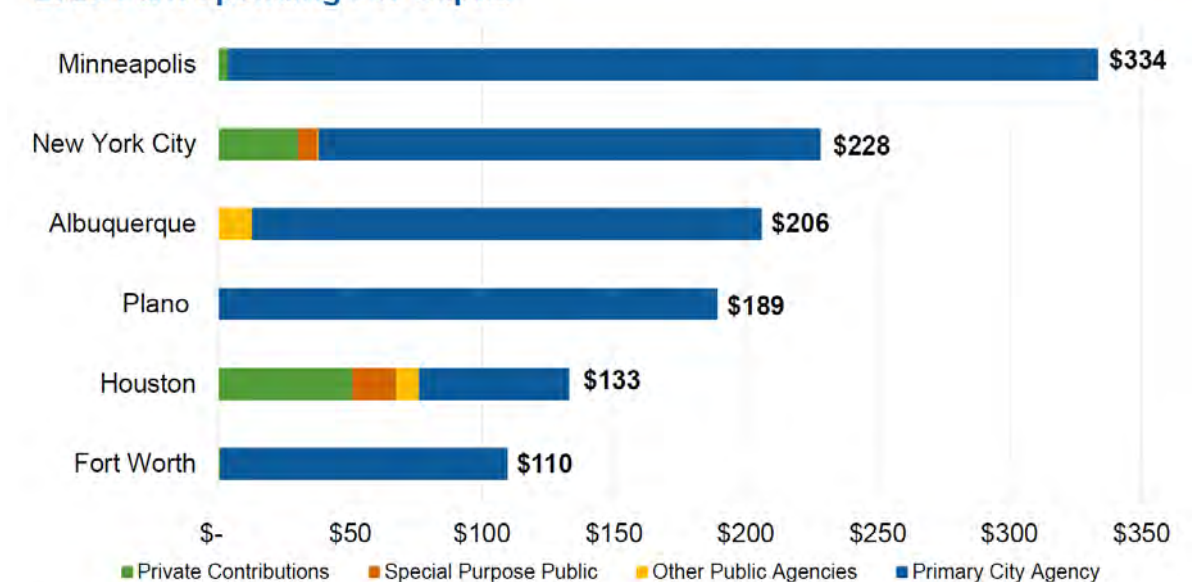
**Objective 6.1:** Ensure the fiscal sustainability of the PARD through innovative funding mechanisms, diversified revenue streams, and efficient resource management.

The City of Fort Worth Park & Recreation Department has historically prioritized fiscal discipline through standardization of operations and a focus on cost savings. While this approach has ensured financial efficiency, it has also limited the department's ability to pursue innovative capital planning and resource allocation. Years of minimizing resource requests have created a culture of scarcity, restricting the department's capacity to invest in new initiatives, enhance programming, and adapt to evolving fiscal demands. This highlights the need for a more balanced approach to resource management that supports long-term financial sustainability while fostering growth and innovation.

### Strategy 6.1.1: Identify and implement sustainable and innovative funding mechanisms.

- Building on the Grant Opportunities outlined in Appendix A, develop a Funding Matrix that incorporates private, special purpose, and other public agency sources alongside City funds to diversify and balance funding streams, ensuring the fiscal sustainability of ongoing park maintenance and capital projects.

### 2023 Park Spending Per Capita



Source: TPA City Parks Facts®, 2024.

Source: Aspirational Strategies Plan Draft Report, HR&A



Strategy 6.1.2: Work with City leadership, Finance, and other City departments to identify supplemental funding for PARD’s maintenance of non-park-related facilities.

The City's Park and Recreation Department (PARD) goes beyond maintaining parks and recreation facilities; it also oversees the upkeep of parkways, alleys, boulevards, medians, and all city-owned trees. Managing these non-park responsibilities highlights the need for additional funding to adequately support the park and recreation system.

- Identify supplemental funding for the maintenance of non-park related maintenance activities (E.g. ROW, Medians and city owned trees) by using the Funding Matrix, City Leadership and other Departments.

Strategy 6.1.3: Establish metrics to gauge appropriate capital and operating spending

Strong budget management requires data-driven decision-making to ensure resources are allocated efficiently and effectively. Currently, the PARD lacks defined metrics to guide the allocation of capital and operating budgets, relying instead on traditional practices. Establishing clear, measurable metrics will enable PARD to assess spending priorities, align funding with departmental goals, and address community needs. This approach will provide greater transparency, accountability, and the ability to adapt to evolving demands, ensuring the department can sustainably manage its financial resources while delivering high-quality services.



BEST PRACTICE

METRICS FOR STRATEGIC PARK FUNDING

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB)

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) exemplifies effective use of metrics to assess capital and operating spending. By tracking per capita spending, park access within a 10-minute walk, facility usage, maintenance costs per acre, and equity-based factors, MPRB ensures resources are allocated strategically and equitably. These metrics guide funding decisions, prioritize underserved areas, and enhance accountability, ensuring parks remain accessible and sustainable.

Capital Improvement Program Dashboard

Strategy 6.1.4: Integrate parks planning with citywide planning, policies, land use strategies, and economic development initiatives.

- Collaborate with other city departments and external partners to increase the opportunity to leverage other resources and secure joint grants.

Strategy 6.1.5: Develop and operate revenue-generating facilities within parks, such as event spaces, cafes, sports fields, or fitness centers, where rental fees and concessions can fund park upkeep.

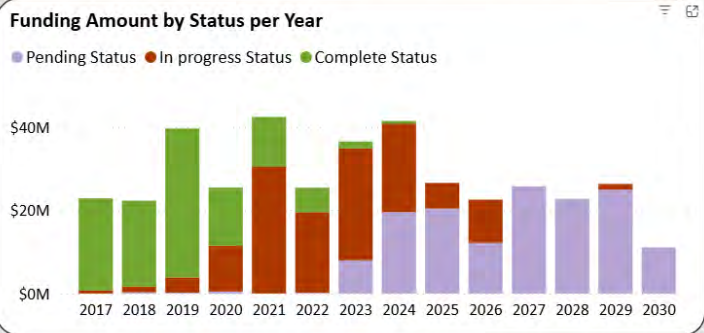
- Continued development of a diversified revenue generating facility portfolio where those revenues can fund park upkeep.

Strategy 6.1.6: Implement the use of outsourcing of tasks, responsibilities, and programming where possible to improve the efficient use of funding and staff.

Outsourcing can significantly enhance efficiency in funding, operations, and maintenance. As Fort Worth continues to grow, increasing demands strain the limited staff available. A strategic approach is to outsource maintenance tasks, such as mowing and painting to private companies located within each Park Planning District. This reduces wait times for park and facility upkeep, ensuring quicker responses. As noted by a parks and recreation leader, leveraging private sector support for maintenance allows the public sector to focus on other priorities—doubling efficiency without increasing the burden on city budgets.

- Determine what services currently being performed in-house could potentially be outsourced to gain efficiency , and plan for implementation.

MPRB Capital Improvement Program - Funding Status



Filters

Park/Project Name

All

Status

All

Funding Year

All

Commissioner District

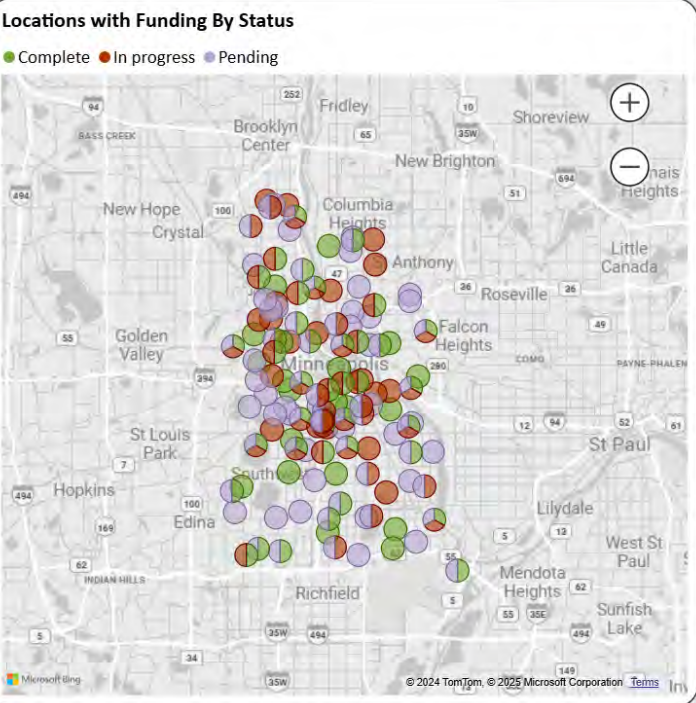
All

Project/Program Type

All

Funding Source

All



Objective 6.2: Address staffing challenges to ensure effective maintenance, programming, and management, supporting the department's growing needs and future vision.

Strategy 6.2.1: Increase the number of Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs) at critical areas by 293 FTEs to reach 748.4 FTEs, in line with the NRPA's recommendation.

Findings from the Needs and Priorities Assessment and HR&A's analysis highlight significant staffing challenges within the PARD. Current staffing levels are insufficient to manage existing assets at a high standard or meet the demands of future growth. Many staff members are stretched thin, often taking on responsibilities beyond their roles, including administrative tasks, due to limited capacity. Maintenance and operations divisions are particularly affected, facing difficulty hiring qualified applicants for key positions.



To address these challenges, PARD must increase staffing levels to ensure adequate support for park maintenance, programming, and management, enabling the department to deliver high-quality services and achieve its long-term vision.

- Prioritize and implement a comprehensive strategy to attract and retain qualified maintenance and operations personnel by enhancing the appeal of positions, partnering with educational institutions, improving working conditions, and leveraging temporary workers and contractors as needed.
- Create a position of Park Planning District Manager for each Park Planning District, who will act as a link between the residents and the Park and Recreation Department.
- Consider having a landscape architect and park planner for each Park Planning District.
- Create a position specifically for cultivating and tracking partnerships to increase transparency, community connections and maintenance sustainability.
- Adding a position specifically for grant research and writing may increase external funding and fiscal sustainability

**Strategy 6.2.2: Provide and encourage training and professional development opportunities for staff that includes cross-training, introduction to new experiences, and advancement.**

Based on HR&A findings, PARD allocates just 0.5% of staff salaries for training, compared to 1-1.5% in other City departments and the industry standard of 2-5%.This could result in employees left due to insufficient development opportunities. This strategy recommends increasing investment in training, including cross-training, new experiences, and career advancement pathways, to improve skills, reduce turnover, and attract and retain top talent.

- Provide and encourage training and professional development opportunities for staff that includes cross-training, introduction to new experiences, and advancement to contribute to more sustainable maintenance operations.
- Encourage Innovation by staff to increase efficiency in the use of resources and fiscal sustainability.

**Strategy 6.2.3: Assign non-park duties to other departments to increase staff efficiency in park maintenance.**

**Objective 6.3: Invest in developing and strengthening diverse partnerships to enhance PARD's capacity and impact.**

PARD engages a wide range of partners, from one-time donors and neighborhood groups to major organizations like the Botanic Research

*"Our parks are the heart of our community, but without enough staff to care for them, we're missing opportunities to make them thrive. Investing in the people who maintain and program our parks means investing in the health, happiness, and future of Fort Worth."*

Steering Committee Member  
Feedback, 2024

Institute of Texas (BRIT) and the Fort Worth Zoological Association. These partnerships play a critical role in managing key attractions like the Botanic Garden and Fort Worth Zoo and delivering essential services, such as the YMCA's provision of affordable access to the William M. McDonald YMCA pool. Smaller neighborhood-level partners also contribute through volunteer efforts that help maintain parks and green spaces.

However, PARD currently lacks an overarching strategy for partnerships and volunteering, as well as dedicated staff to manage these relationships. Partnerships often depend on the personal connections of PARD leaders rather than a systematic approach. This objective aims to establish a strategic framework and dedicated resources to cultivate, manage, and strengthen diverse partnerships, enabling PARD to expand its capacity and elevate the quality and impact of the public realm.

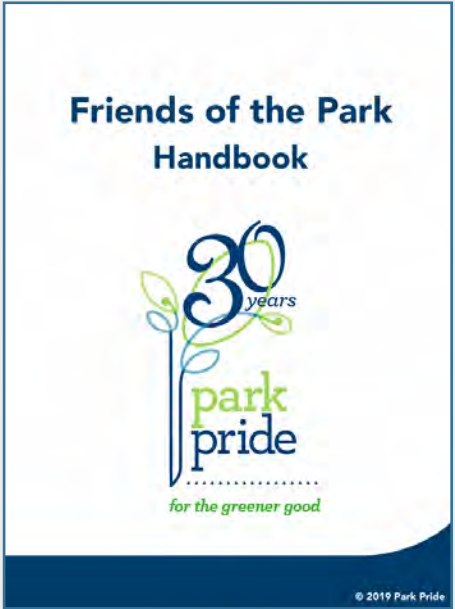
**Strategy 6.3.1: Establish a robust partnership framework to enhance collaboration and achieve shared goals.**

- Conduct a thorough review of all current agreements and contracts with public, private, and nonprofit partners to ensure alignment with the city's park development and maintenance goals.
- Explore transition to outcome-based contracts with partners, where funding or support is tied to the achievement of specific results, such as increased park usage, higher levels of visitor satisfaction, or improved environmental conditions.
- Develop clear, formalized partnership agreements that identify the roles in the operation and maintenance of parks/green spaces/facilities/amenities. Successful partnerships can provide excellent benefits for everyone, but to do so each partnership should have specific, well-defined roles and responsibilities.
- Refine sponsorship packages tailored to Fort Worth businesses, emphasizing community impact and visibility. Opportunities could include sponsoring sections of the Trinity Trails, naming rights for playgrounds or sports fields in popular parks like Gateway Park, or supporting events like the Mayfest Festival.
- Develop a Citywide shared platform for departments and partners to view real-time information on opportunities to foster collaboration and community feedback for data driven decisions.
- Establishing a permanent Cross- Department group to ensure priorities and strategies align and support one another to increase partnerships and outside funding opportunities.
- Schedule regular meetings with partners to review progress of partnerships, discuss challenges and identify growth opportunities.
- Create a communication and outreach plan to build trust and long-term relationship with potential partners.

**FRIENDS OF THE PARK**

**Atlanta, GA**

Since 1989, the City of Atlanta has operated its "Park Pride" program which has played an important role in creating citizen-led park based initiatives. One of its top programs has been the "Friends of Parks" program. The City has taken steps to develop the "Friends of the Park Handbook". It is a step by step guide in how to create a "Friends" group, how to publicize it, how to set goals, and how to advocate for your park.



Friends of the Park Handbook



Strategy 6.3.2: Enhance strategic collaborations and partnerships

- Explore opportunities and continue to partner with developers, local businesses, and real estate companies to integrate new parks into major urban developments.
- Establish partnerships with neighborhood organizations and local businesses to maintain and operate public spaces such as parklets and squares in dense urban areas.
- Foster interagency cooperation and integrate parks and public spaces goals into broader urban development plans, such as the Fort Worth Comprehensive Plan, the City's Good Natured Initiative and Moving a Million Master Plan. Emphasize how partnerships contribute to shared goals, such as increasing access to green spaces, enhancing equity in underserved neighborhoods, and promoting environmental sustainability.
- Cultivate interagency cooperation (FWISD, Tarrant County, USACE, etc.) to align on shared goals, leverage external funding through regional initiatives like Moving a Million, the Fort Worth Comprehensive Plan, and the Good Natured Initiative, and build community trust by enhancing transparency and fiscal sustainability.

Strategy 6.3.3:Foster a robust network of non-profit organizations and community partnerships.

- Develop and strengthen non-profit organizations, such as a Parks Foundation and groups like Friends of Tandy Hills Natural Area or Streams & Valleys, to connect with philanthropy, secure funding, and lead initiatives like park improvement, environmental conservation, habitat restoration, community engagement, and volunteer coordination.
- Promote the "Adopt-a-Park" program where local businesses or organizations or neighborhood associations take responsibility for maintaining specific parks or public spaces.
- Foster a culture of continuous improvement and celebrate achievements to maintain motivation and the value of the partnerships.
- Celebrate and recognize partners' contributions by showcasing their impact on Fort Worth's parks through signage, media releases, and social media highlights.



BEST PRACTICE

PARTNERSHIP

Southern Conservation Trust (SCT), GA

The Southern Conservation Trust (SCT) in Georgia provides an excellent example of how partnerships can maximize resources and expand public access to green spaces. By collaborating with private funders and foundations, SCT has secured funding and support to develop and maintain over 1,200 acres of public lands. These partnerships allow SCT to create and sustain parks that may not have been feasible through public funding alone, demonstrating the power of leveraging diverse resources to enhance community amenities.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCE:

The "Partnership Building Resources" document by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) offers guidance for park and recreation agencies to establish and enhance collaborations within their communities. It outlines various partnership types, including those with schools, local businesses, nonprofits, and cultural organizations, emphasizing the benefits of leveraging shared expertise and resources.

Objective 6.4: Optimize and upgrade park facilities to improve functionality, ensure efficient maintenance, and enhance the long-term sustainability of the system.

Strategy 6.4.1: Develop maintenance plans

- Create short- and long-term maintenance plans during the early planning stages of new projects, ensuring proactive planning for required materials and maintenance schedules.
- Coordinate with other City departments ahead of the project to adequately estimate maintenance needs (E.g., Meeting with Transportation and Public Works about maintenance needs for a project within a floodplain). Include a life cycle cost analysis (LCCA) to estimate the total cost of ownership for park features and amenities. Allocate part of the project budget specifically for maintenance and operations.
- Involve all relevant staff and project partners to ensure comprehensive maintenance planning.
- Ensure that park and recreational facility designs are created with ease of maintenance in mind. This includes selecting low-maintenance plants, durable infrastructure materials, easily accessible facilities, and spaces that can be efficiently cleaned, repaired, or upgraded when needed.
- Include maintenance plans as part of capital improvement projects, specifying monthly, quarterly, and yearly inspections, with milestones to trigger efforts before service interruptions occur.

Strategy 6.4.2: Conduct comprehensive facility assessment

- Perform a thorough bi-annual inventory of all park facilities, documenting current conditions, usage levels, and any existing maintenance issues.
- Use tools like Park Assessment Tool and community feedback to guide assessments and prioritize upgrades.
- Identify gaps in services and prioritize improvements for underserved neighborhoods to promote equity and inclusivity.

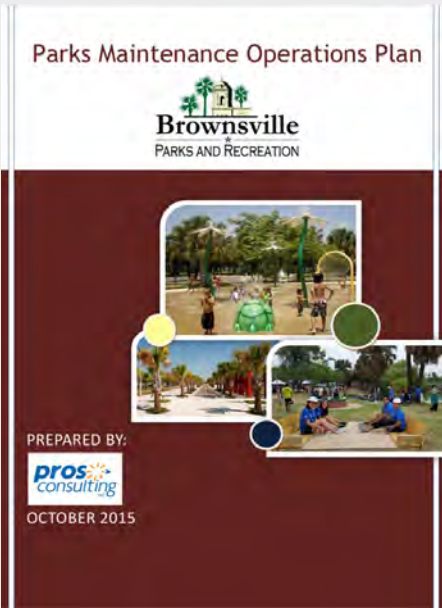


BEST PRACTICE

PARK MAINTENANCE PLAN

Brownsville, TX

The City of Brownsville, TX uses a detailed park maintenance plan that breakdown priorities into high, medium and low priorities. It also includes a cost analysis and funding options for park maintenance.





Strategy 6.4.3: Implement proactive maintenance

- Continue to develop and improve detailed maintenance plans for existing facilities that outline standards, schedules, responsible parties, and routine upkeep processes.
- Continue to establish and improve clear operation and maintenance standards (e.g., safety, cleanliness, durability) and use monitoring tools to evaluate compliance regularly.
- Conduct semi-annual evaluations of maintenance standards and schedules, incorporating community input through surveys or resident drive along or park walk through.

Strategy 6.4.4: Improve performance metrics and tracking

- Continue to use and expand on Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to monitor park project and program success, identifying areas for improvement or resource reallocation.
- Continue to employ automated tools like visitor counting systems, mobile apps, or program registration data to track park usage and participation.
- Utilize NRPA COFW benchmark performance metrics against peer cities and industry standards to maintain high-quality service delivery. Each year pick a few metrics to prioritize and focus on to improve.

Strategy 6.4.5: Prioritize facility upgrades

- Develop a phased upgrade plan, prioritizing facilities with immediate safety concerns and high public demand.
- Focus on "quick-win" projects that can be completed quickly to build momentum while working on larger upgrades.
- Align facility upgrades with city capital improvement plans to optimize timelines, resources, and efficiency.

Strategy 6.4.6: Encourage sustainable practices

- Implement viable renewable energy solutions (e.g., solar panels) at PARD facilities, including conservation practices (e.g., motion sensors, programmed thermostats, use of shades, and weatherproofing).
- Adopt durable, weather-resistant materials to improve longevity and reduce environmental impact.
- Promote waste reduction, recycling, and energy efficiency to enhance sustainability.
- Explore ways to automate routine park tasks e.g. mowing, trash pick up etc.
- Use green infrastructure and native landscaping to reduce water consumption and maintenance costs.



BEST PRACTICE

ASSESSMENT TOOL

Great Public Spaces Toolkit

New South Wales, Australia created an evaluation "toolkit" that municipalities can use to determine what is working and what needs improvement. Tool captures information such as who is using the park, what space is being used, what are people doing, what is being said about the park, accessibility, are connections being made among users, and can park-goers participate in use of amenities/programs at park.



Great Public Spaces Toolkit

*"To measure is to know. If you cannot measure it, you cannot improve it."*— Lord Kelvin

Strategy 6.4.7: Enhance staff and resource allocation

- Conduct an inventory of equipment and resources needed by staff, scheduling procurement to minimize delays in maintenance efforts.
- Explore the construction of satellite maintenance facilities in park districts to reduce response times for repairs and safety concerns.
- Provide staff training on advanced maintenance techniques and sustainability practices.

Objective 6.5: Enhance governance and organizational excellence through accreditation, performance evaluations, and increased accountability and transparency

Strategy 6.5.1: Use the accreditation as a framework for continuous improvement in governance and organizational excellence.

Accreditation system, such as the NRPA's Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) establish high standards, thus those park and recreation agencies that receive this accreditation can rightly be seen as some of the top performers. By reaching for and achieving such as ranking, will show the dedication that the City's Park and Recreation Department has for providing services to the community. And by keeping such accreditations, goes to show that the department is continually seeking to be the best.

- Conduct an annual internal audit to assess current policies, practices, and operations against the accreditation requirements. Identify any gaps that need to be addressed to meet the standards.
- Use benchmarking to identify areas for improvement and adopt best practices from other successful organizations.
- Engage all staff in the accreditation process by having a brief standard overview in regularly scheduled staff meetings, to ensure understanding and support of standards. PARD newsletter could feature a standard each month and ask staff for feedback on how to improve.

Strategy 6.5.2: Implement comprehensive performance evaluations.

- Define clear roles and responsibilities with SMART metrics, then use that performance data for decisions on resources and improvements. Ensure staff understand their impact on organizational goals.
- Provide ongoing professional development opportunities and incentives to enhance staff performance and organizational success.



BEST PRACTICE

BEST PRACTICE: PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Phoenix, AZ

The City Manager's Office for the City of Phoenix has developed a forward facing "Performance Dashboard" that is used to track various measurable metrics for each of the departments. These metrics help to display the City's progress toward meeting goals and needs, but also help in identifying where more focus is needed.



PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD



**Strategy 6.5.3: Promote public transparency of the department's operations, administration, finances, projects and maintenance.**

- Community updates via public accessible semi-annual/annual reports via, Gov Delivery, COFW website and/or City News story.
- Hold open meetings where the public and stakeholders can attend and participate in discussions related to operations, maintenance, planning, and development of the parks, recreation and public realm system.
- Connect financial data to KPIs to demonstrate budget impacts on programs, services, park development and public space improvements.



CHAPTER

# 08

## Park Planning District Recommendations

### CONTENTS

- **Park Planning Districts**
- **Park Planning District 1**
- **Park Planning District 2**
- **Park Planning District 3**
- **Park Planning District 4**
- **Park Planning District 5**



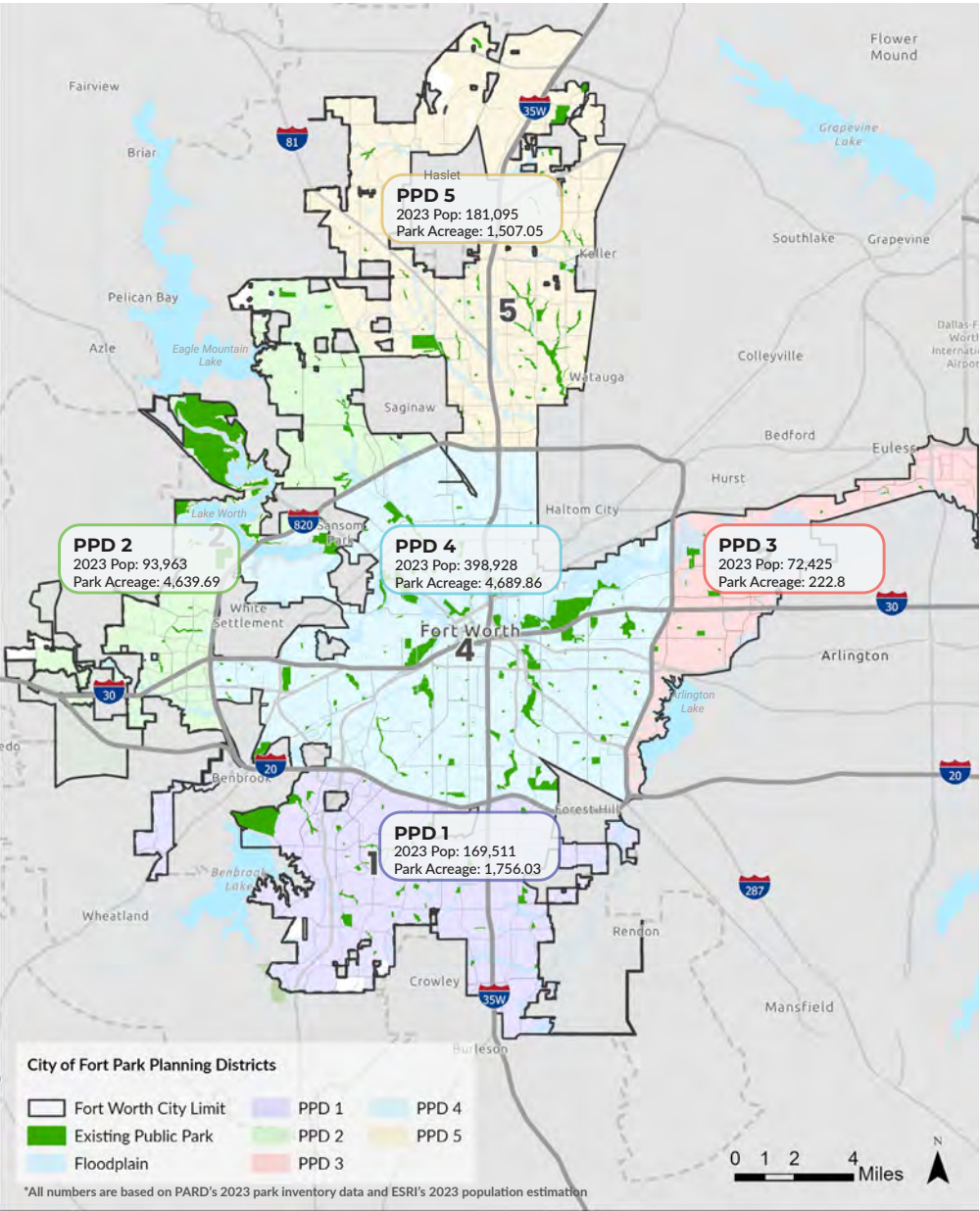


Cobb Park, Photo Credit: Stantec Team

# Park Planning Districts

Fort Worth is a large and diverse city, and each Park Planning District (PPD) reflects its own unique mix of geography, community priorities, and recreation patterns. The GREENprint Fort Worth Framework responds to this diversity with tailored strategies that reflect the character and needs of each district. These recommendations are designed to address specific gaps in park access, amenities, programming, and connectivity—particularly in areas historically underserved or impacted by growth. Each set of recommendations also leverages the distinct assets within each district, such as natural landscapes, major trail corridors, and existing civic or cultural destinations, ensuring investments build on what communities value most.

The PPD recommendations provide a roadmap for both immediate improvements and long-term park system resilience. Each district’s section includes an assessment of current parkland and service levels, growth projections, and equity considerations. Based on this, a combination of general and site-specific recommendations is presented, focusing on areas such



\*All numbers are based on PARD's 2023 park inventory data and ESRI's 2023 population estimation as expanding or upgrading parks, preserving natural open spaces, improving trail connectivity, acquiring land in park-deficient neighborhoods, and fostering strategic partnerships.

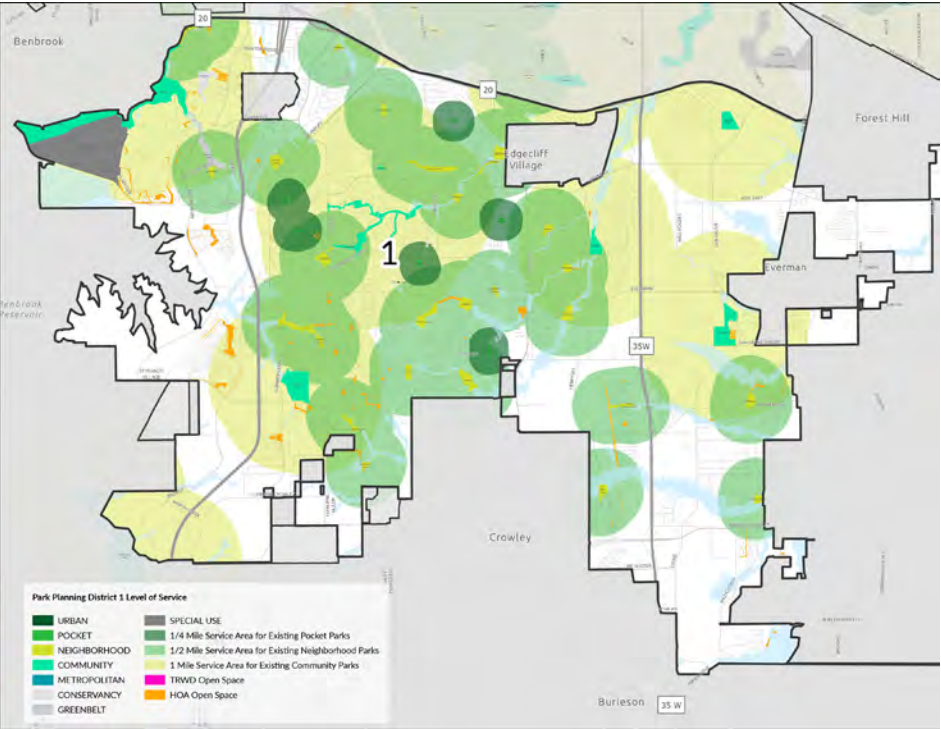


# Park Planning District 1

The following maps and supporting table provide a comprehensive assessment of Park Planning District 1’s current park resources, future needs, and potential opportunities for strategic investment and expansion.

The level of service map highlights the distribution and service levels of various PARD park categories, while the supporting table quantifies the district’s needs by park classification, projecting the additional acreage required to meet target levels of service for the growing population in 2030 and 2045.

Additionally, a larger map featured in the following pages overlaying data on socioeconomic and environmental vulnerabilities, health disparities, and park availability and accessibility identifies key park-deficient areas where investment is most urgently needed.



Park Planning District 1 Level of Service Assessment									
Park Category	Existing Park Acres	Existing PPD	Fort Worth Target Level of Service	Park Acres Needed for Existing Population **	Current Acres Needed to Meet Target Standards	Park Acres Needed for 2030 Population ***	Acre Acquisition Needed to Meet 2030 Population	Park Acres Needed for 2045 Population ****	Acre Acquisition Needed to Meet 2045 Population
Neighborhood-Based Parks	349.02	2.06	4.5	762.80	413.78	814.07	465.05	942.10	593.08
Community-Based Parks	909.83	5.37	7	1186.58	276.75	1266.33	356.50	1465.49	555.66
Special Use Parks	497.18	2.93	7	1186.58	689.40	1266.33	769.15	1465.49	968.31
Total	1756.03	10.36	18.5	3135.95	1379.92	3346.72	1590.70	3873.09	2117.06

\* Acres per 1000 residents  
\*\* PPD1 2023 pop, Esri: 169,511

## WHAT WE HEARD FROM PPD1 RESIDENTS.

Envision Fort Worth in 20 years.

What would the newspaper headline say?

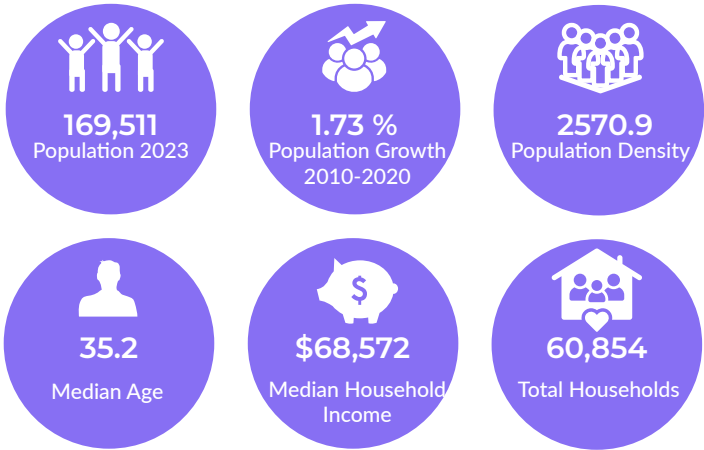


What are your funding priorities for PPD1?



## PPD 1 Challenges and opportunities

Park Planning District 1 (PPD 1) is a vibrant and diverse area located south of Loop 820, presenting both opportunities and challenges in enhancing its parks and recreational system. As the city’s third most populous district, PPD 1 is home to a growing community of 169,511 residents, with the population expected to increase by 7% by 2030. Its dynamic demographic profile, which includes young families and working professionals, highlights the need for parks and recreational programs that cater to all age groups while prioritizing accessibility and equity.



PPD 1 has a total of 1,756 acres of parkland, categorized into neighborhood-based, community-based, and special-use parks. While this inventory meets current demands in some areas, the Level of Service (LOS) Assessment Table indicates significant gaps in distribution and acreage when considering the district's projected population growth. Neighborhood-based parks, in particular, are underrepresented, creating inequities in access, especially in residential areas west of the I-35 corridor. Community-based parks are more adequately distributed but will require substantial expansion to maintain service levels as the district's population increases by 2030 and 2045.

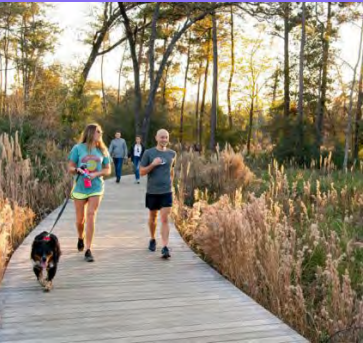
As the level of service map indicates there are gaps in access to parks for many neighborhoods. Barriers like major roadways, railroad tracks, and a lack of connected trails or sidewalks further limit safe access to parks. These physical barriers require residents to travel longer distances to find crossing points, which are not always accessible for those with mobility challenges. Expanding small parks in underserved areas and addressing connectivity through trail enhancements and roadway retrofitting will be critical to improving equity and accessibility.

Further by integrating socioeconomic and environmental vulnerabilities data, health disparities, and park accessibility, the following map identifies park-deficient areas where improvements are most needed.

Key opportunities for addressing these gaps include publicly owned

## WHAT WE HEARD FROM PPD1 RESIDENTS.

What are your top priorities for park design and functionality?



Nature walk and play



Open lawn for different types of activities



Experiences such as outdoor music and theater

What are your top 3 preferred amenities?

- 1 Indoor Recreation
- 2 Pavilions
- 3 Football Fields



vacant lands, particularly in underserved areas. Additionally, public schools, not limited to Fort Worth ISD, are identified as potential partners to expand parks and recreational opportunities through shared use agreements and resource leveraging.

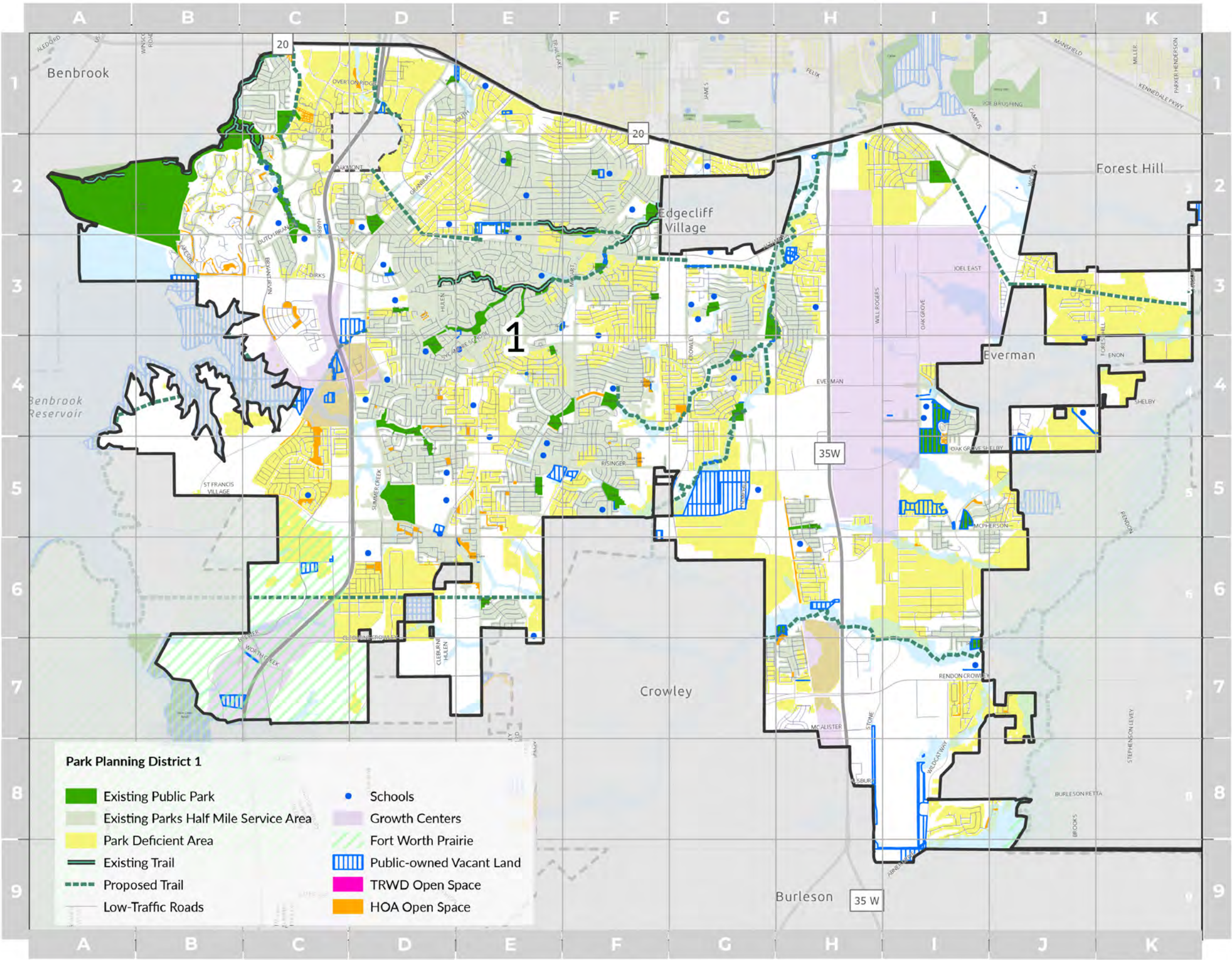
Existing and proposed trails are also mapped to highlight efforts to improve connectivity, while low-traffic roadways with annual average daily traffic (AADT) below 1,000 vehicles are shown as potential candidates for retrofitting into pedestrian- and bike-friendly routes, enhancing safe access to parks and recreational spaces.

Growth centers and urban villages are highlighted as strategic areas for integrating green spaces and urban recreation into mixed-use developments. These areas present opportunities to activate the public realm and right-of-way (ROW) as extensions of the park system.

The Fort Worth Prairie ecosystem is a notable feature in PPD 1, with areas prioritized for conservation due to their ecological value, including habitat preservation and flood control.

Investment in the maintenance, operations, and upgrading of existing parks is equally critical. Residents have emphasized the need for enhanced facilities such as seating areas, pavilions, and community gathering spaces. They have also expressed a strong interest in activating open spaces with events like farmers' markets, outdoor music, theatrical performances, and multi-generational programs to foster community engagement and vibrancy.

PPD 1's future relies on strategic growth planning and addressing challenges through investments in park expansion, upgrades, connectivity, conservancy and community programs, ensuring parks serve as spaces for recreation, connection, and conservation.





# PPD 1 General Recommendations

## Investment in Existing Parks and Facilities:

Focus on maintaining, operating, and upgrading existing parks and facilities. Use the PPD 1 specific recommendation list and prioritize investments.

## Protect and Preserve Natural Areas

Prioritize the preservation of undeveloped natural areas, such as the Fort Worth Prairie ecosystem and creek systems, to safeguard iconic landscapes, enhance outdoor recreation opportunities, and strengthen ecological resilience. Focus on protecting large blocks of prairie habitat while restoring creeks through the development of linear parks. Support sustainable growth by incentivizing low-impact development and establishing buffer zones or conservation easements to mitigate the environmental impacts of future development.

## Improve Connectivity and Expand Trail System

Create a cohesive trail network by linking existing trails and utilizing creeks and greenbelts as natural corridors. Focus on connecting neighborhoods to key parks, such as Candle Ridge Park and Sycamore Creek, to improve accessibility and balance recreation with environmental protection.

## Strategic Land Acquisition

Prioritize acquiring land in park deficient areas and underserved neighborhoods. Publicly owned vacant lands offer valuable opportunities for park expansion. Future park development should prioritize pocket and neighborhood parks, as close-to-home parks are currently lacking.

## Expand Indoor And Outdoor Recreation Programs And Activities

Expand recreation programs, prioritize multi-generational activities, and activate parks and community centers with events like markets and health fairs. Partner with local organizations to maximize community impact and well-being.

## Foster Strategic Partnerships

Collaborate with public schools, Tarleton University, local organizations, and city departments to leverage resources for park improvements, such as utilizing school playgrounds and sports fields for community use and hosting events in partnership with local organizations.

## Create a District Signature Park

Design the park as a regional destination that balances recreation, conservation, and community engagement, while integrating amenities such as event spaces, markets, and sports facilities to attract visitors and drive local economic activity.

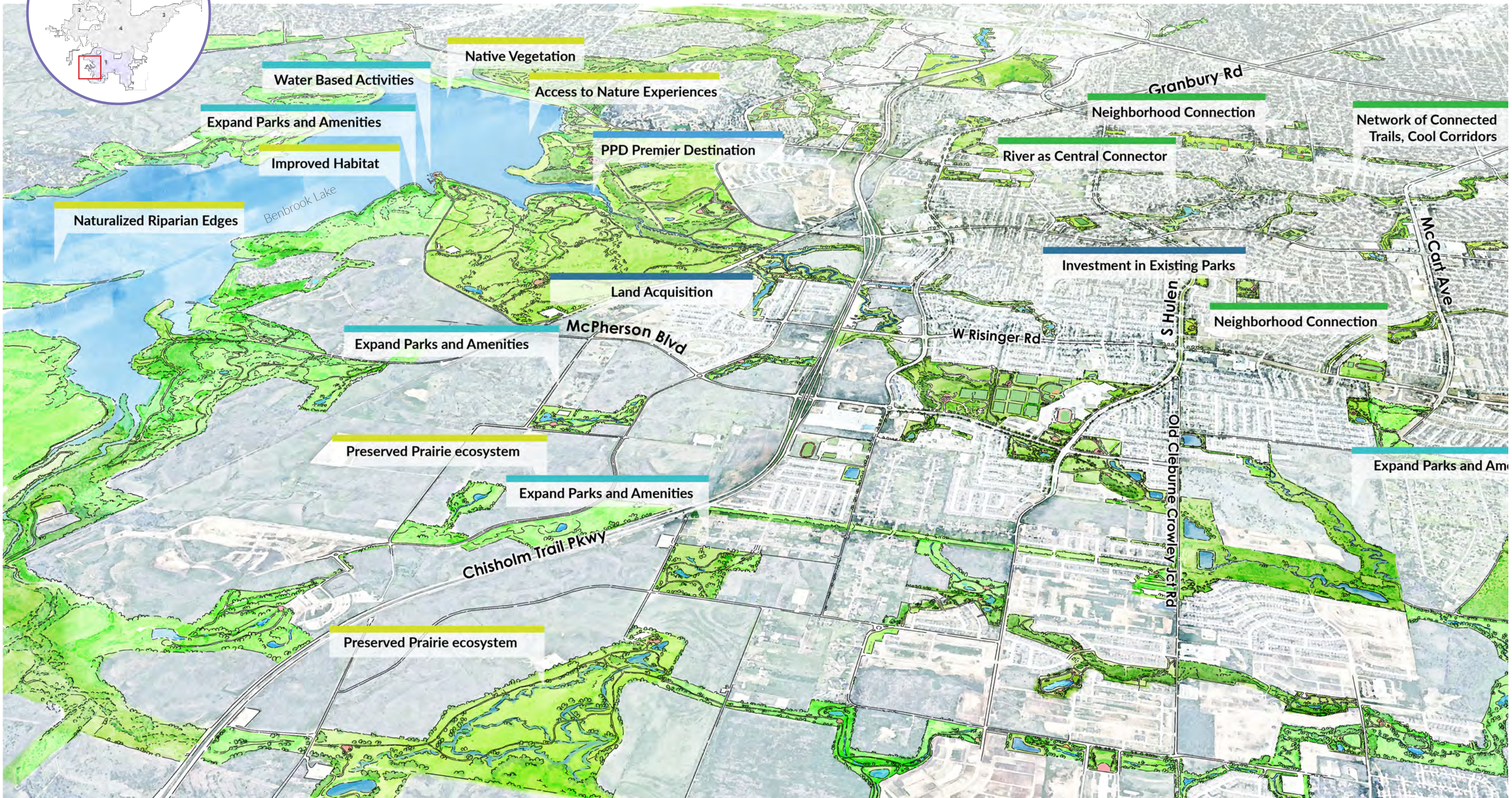
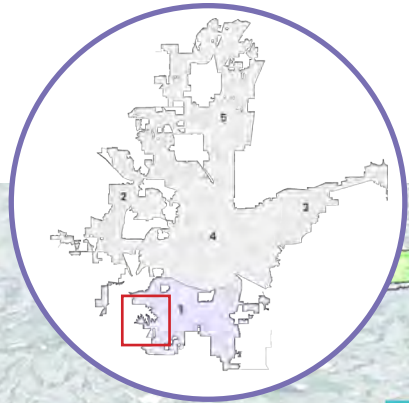
### Alignment with Goals:

Thriving Community	Connected System	Vibrant Nature	Common Ground	Premier Destination	Manageable Resources
●			●	●	●
	●	●		●	●
●	●	●		●	●
●			●	●	●
●			●		●
●		●	●	●	

PPD 1 Specific Recommendations
General Improvement And Enhancement
Dabney
Hulen Meadows
Krauss Baker
Oakmont Linear
Parks of Deer Creek
Quail Ridge
Rosenthal
Sundance Springs
Walnut Creek
Wedgwood
Westcreek
Little People
McPherson
Willowcreek
Woodmont
Master Planning
C. P. Hadley
Camelot
Candleridge
City View
Creekside
Fox Run
Hallmark
Highland Hills
Meadow Creek
Meadows West
Oakmont
Parkwood East
Patricia LeBlanc
Rosemary Ridge
South Meadows
Southcreek
Southridge
Southwest
Trail Lake Estates

Connectivity Improvement
Candleridge
Krauss Baker
Southcreek
Westcreek
Deer Meadow
Deer Creek
Hulen Meadows
Rock Creek Ranch
Hallmark
Willowcreek
Creekside
Lincolnshire
City View
Open Space Conservation
Areas south and southwest of the district: B6, C6, B7, C7 (Check PPD 1 Map)
Partnerships
Forth Worth ISD
Crowly ISD
Everman ISD
Tarleton University
Pecan Valley Golf Course
TRWD and Streams & Valleys





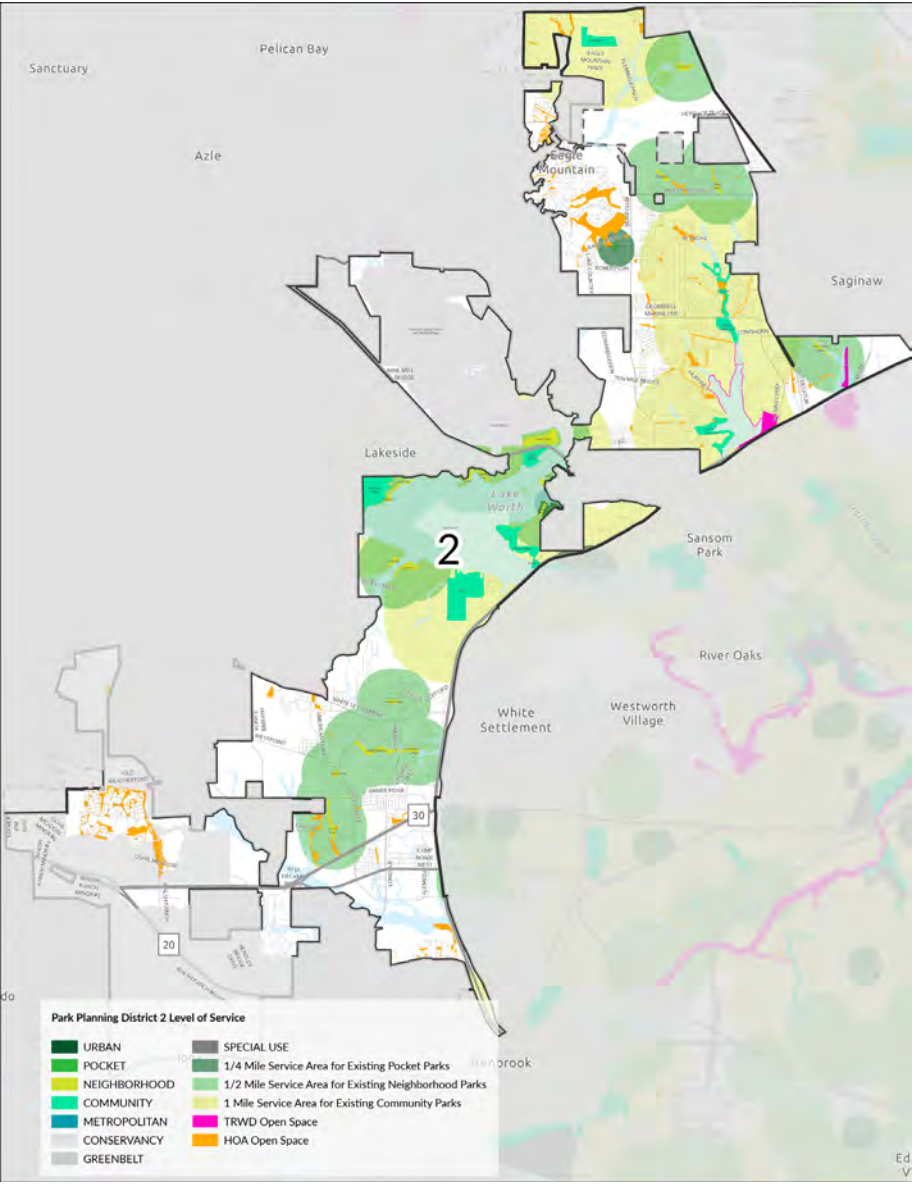


# Park Planning District 2

The following maps and supporting table provide a comprehensive assessment of Park Planning District 2’s current park resources, future needs, and potential opportunities for strategic investment and expansion.

The level of service map highlights the distribution and service levels of various PARD park categories, while the supporting table quantifies the district’s needs by park classification, projecting the additional acreage required to meet target levels of service for the growing population in 2030 and 2045.

Additionally, a larger map featured in the following pages overlaying data on socioeconomic and environmental vulnerabilities, health disparities, and park availability and accessibility identifies key park-deficient areas where investment is most urgently needed.



## WHAT WE HEARD FROM PPD2 RESIDENTS?

Envision Fort Worth in 20 years.

What would the newspaper headline say?



What are your funding priorities for PPD2?



What are your top 3 preferred amenities?

- 1 Trails
- 2 Swimming Pools
- 3 Outdoor and Water-based Recreation

Park Planning District 2 Level of Service Assessment									
Park Category	Existing Park Acres	Existing PPD	Fort Worth Target Level of Service	Park Acres Needed for Existing Population **	Current Acres Needed to Meet Target Standards	Park Acres Needed for 2030 Population ***	Acre Acquisition Needed to Meet 2030 Population	Park Acres Needed for 2045 Population ****	Acre Acquisition Needed to Meet 2045 Population
Neighborhood-Based Parks	247.72	2.64	4.5	422.83	175.11	432.20	184.48	500.18	252.46
Community-Based Parks	696.51	7.41	7	657.74	-38.77	672.31	-24.20	778.05	81.54
Special Use Parks	3695.46	39.33	7	657.74	-3037.72	672.31	-3023.15	778.05	-2917.41
Total	4639.69	49.38	18.5	1738.32	-2901.37	1776.81	-2862.88	2056.28	-2583.42

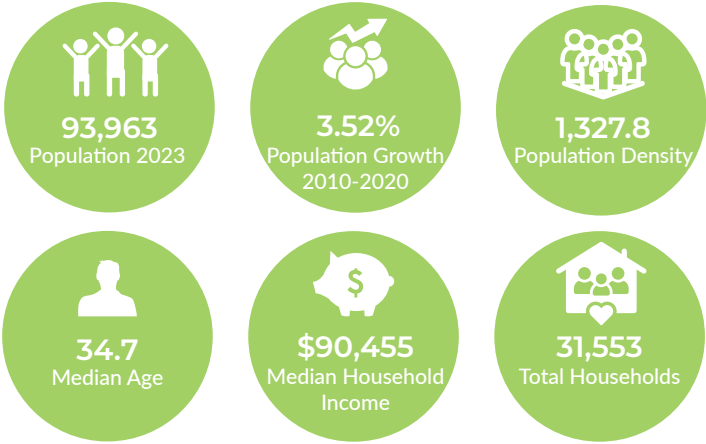
\* Acres per 1000 residents  
\*\* PPD2 2023 pop, Esri: 93,963  
\*\*\* 2030 population projection, Stantec : 96,044  
\*\*\*\*2045 population projection, Stantec: 111,150

## PPD2 Challenges and opportunities

Park Planning District 2 (PPD 2), located west of Loop 820, is the city’s fastest-growing district, presenting both challenges and opportunities for park and recreation development. With a rapidly increasing population, PPD 2 will require significant investments to meet the recreational needs of its expanding communities. The district serves 31,553 households with an average income of \$116,497 and a median age of 34.7 years, reflecting a strong demand for diverse recreational opportunities that cater to young families, professionals, and long-term residents alike.

While PPD 2 benefits from 4,639 acres of parkland, much of this acreage comes from the 3,650-acre Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge, a premier conservation area that provides immense ecological and recreational value. However, this large nature reserve does not fulfill the need for smaller, close-to-home parks, such as neighborhood and pocket parks, leaving gaps in equitable access across the district. The rapid development of new residential neighborhoods south of Lake Worth has primarily relied on private or HOA-managed parks, which are not accessible to the general public, further limiting recreational opportunities. Additionally, many areas fall outside the 10-minute walk standard for park accessibility, creating barriers for residents who lack convenient connections to nearby parks.

Despite these challenges, PPD 2 offers key opportunities for enhancing its park system through connectivity, conservation, and recreation expansion. The district’s network of existing and proposed trails, low-traffic roadways, and greenbelts provides a foundation for improving mobility and expanding pedestrian and bike-friendly access to parks. Enhancing Mary’s Creek and Silver Creek

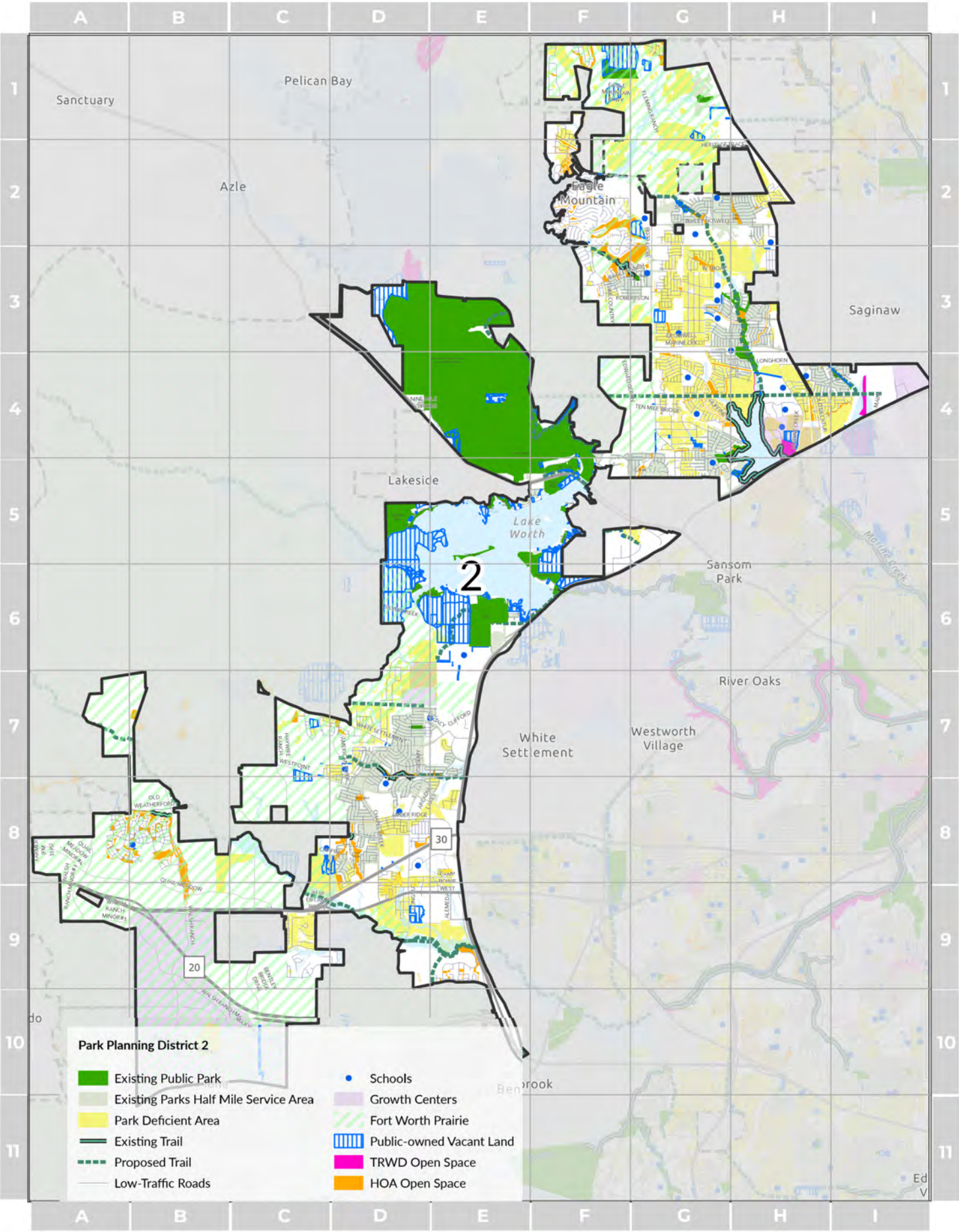


as ecological corridors will support flood control, ecosystem preservation, and recreational access, ensuring these natural features remain valuable community assets.

One of the most significant opportunities for PPD 2 is the potential to develop Lake Worth into a District Signature Park and water-based recreation hub. By integrating existing public and private sites—such as the former Scouts lease near Mosque Point Park—this area can become a premier destination for kayaking, fishing, nature-based recreation, and community events. With its prime location and strong public interest in water-based activities, Lake Worth can serve as both a recreational and economic asset while maintaining its role as a vital drinking water source for the city.

By investing in connectivity, expanding recreational opportunities, and prioritizing environmental conservation, PPD 2 can develop a balanced, accessible, and sustainable park system that serves both current and future residents.





# PPD 2 General Recommendations

## Expand Park Access and Land Acquisition

To meet the needs of PPD 2’s rapidly growing population, prioritize land acquisition for new parks, particularly in areas where current and projected densities fall below the city’s targeted acreage standards. Explore opportunities to purchase open space or establish public-use easements to preserve natural areas for recreation and environmental conservation. Focus on developing close-to-home parks, such as pocket and neighborhood parks, as these are currently insufficient in the district. While community parks meet existing targets, future population growth will increase demand, requiring additional investments to ensure all residents have access to parks within a 10-minute walk.

## Develop Community Gathering and Learning Spaces

PPD 2 is one of the two districts in Fort Worth without a community center, limiting indoor recreational and educational opportunities. Constructing a new community center would serve as a hub for conservation education, recreational programs, and community events. Additionally, strengthen nature education and conservation programs by offering guided tours, school field trips, and partnerships with local institutions to promote environmental stewardship.

## Enhance Water-Based Recreation

PPD 2 residents have expressed a strong demand for water-based recreation, yet current offerings are limited. Address this by developing water-based amenities, including swimming pools, splash pads, and riverfront parks with boating and fishing facilities. Leverage Lake Worth as a major destination for safe swimming, kayaking, and other water activities, integrating these features into surrounding neighborhoods to increase accessibility.

## Preserve and Enhance Natural Environments

Preservation should be a priority when planning new development in PPD 2. Partner with private landowners to protect key natural features while integrating them into the public parks system. Safeguard remaining prairie lands by designating them for conservation and community recreation. Additionally, enhance creeks and natural drainage areas by developing accessible trails along waterways. Protecting these ecological corridors will improve connectivity, expand recreational access, and ensure these natural assets are not lost to urbanization.

### Alignment with Goals:

- Thriving Community
- Connected System
- Vibrant Nature
- Common Ground
- Premier Destination
- Manageable Resources









PPD 2 Specific Recommendations
General Improvement And Enhancement
Eagle Mountain Ranch
Falcon Ridge
Remington Pointe
Settlement Plaza
Sunset
Twin Mills
Master Planning
Anderson
Chapel Hill
Chuck Silcox (formerly Trail Ridge Estates)
Cibolo Hill
Freemons
George Markos
J.T. Hinkle
Connectivity Improvement
Chuck Silcox
Eagle Mountain Ranch
Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge
The area around lake Worth
Settlement Plaza
Lake Point
Anderson
Marina Creek Ranch
Remington Pointe
Open Space Conservation
The west side spans from Eagle Mountain in the north to Benbrook in the south: F1, G1, G2, F4, D6, D7, C7,A8, B8, C8, C9 (Check PPD 2 Map)

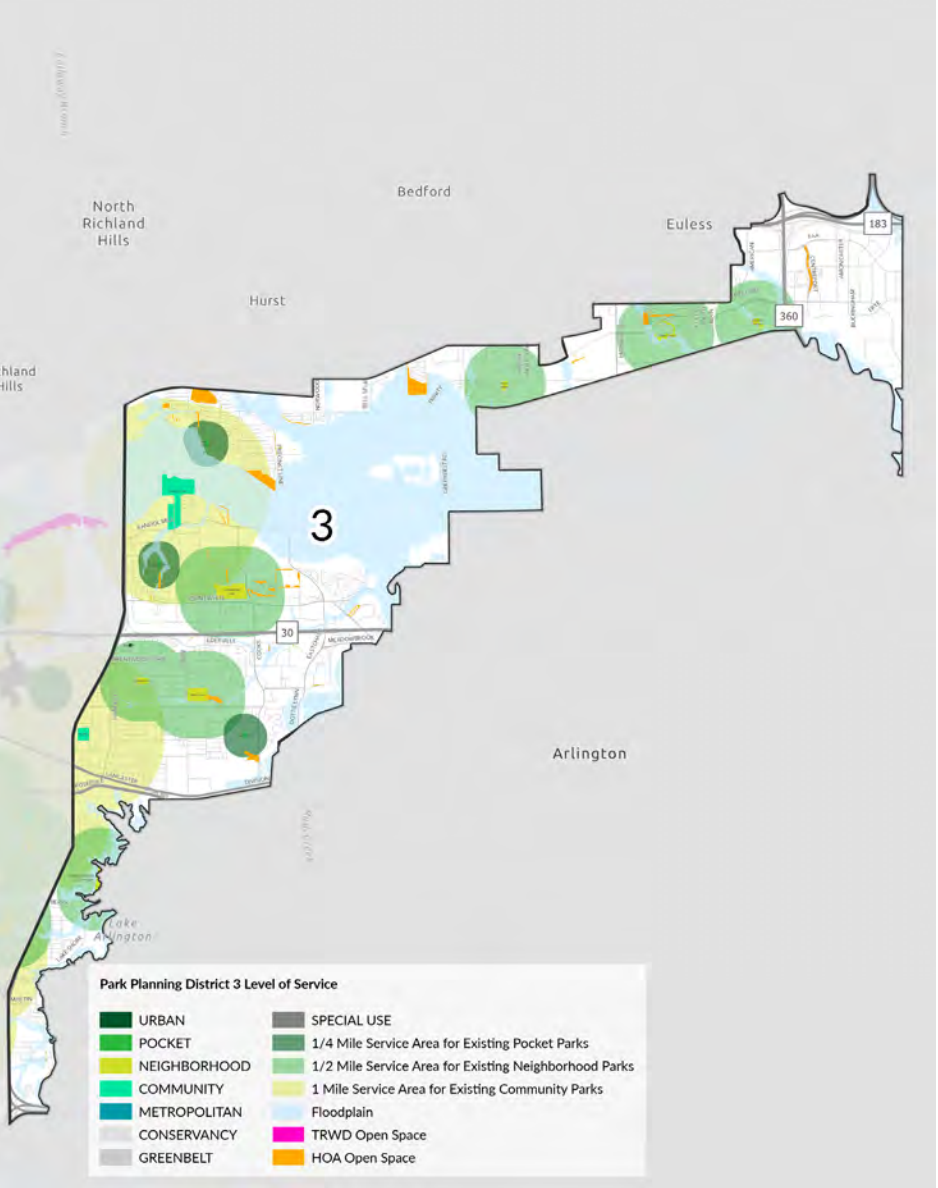
Partnerships
Eagle Mountain- Saginaw ISD
White Settlement ISD
FW ISD
Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge
TRWD and Streams & Valleys
Greer Island
Naval Air Station
Lake Worth Area Park Land Management and Development
Camp Joy
Casino Beach
Goat Island
Island View
Live Oak
Love Circle
Malaga
Marina
Mosque Point
Vinca Circle
Wildwood
Wildwood North

# Park Planning District 3

The following maps and supporting table provide a comprehensive assessment of Park Planning District 3’s current park resources, future needs, and potential opportunities for strategic investment and expansion.

The level of service map highlights the distribution and service levels of various PARD park categories, while the supporting table quantifies the district’s needs by park classification, projecting the additional acreage required to meet target levels of service for the growing population in 2030 and 2045.

Additionally, a larger map featured in the following pages overlaying data on socioeconomic and environmental vulnerabilities, health disparities, and park availability and accessibility identifies key park-deficient areas where investment is most urgently needed.



## WHAT WE HEARD FROM PPD3 RESIDENTS?

Envision Fort Worth in 20 years.

What would the newspaper headline say?



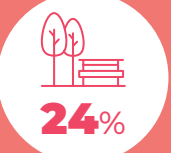
What are your funding priorities for PPD3?



New Parks



Trails



Upgrade Equipments at Existing Parks



Maintenance and Operations

What are your top 3 preferred amenities?

- Trails
- Outdoor and Water-based Recreation
- Dog Parks



Park Planning District 3 Level of Service Assessment									
Park Category	Existing Park Acres	Existing PPD	Fort Worth Target Level of Service	Park Acres Needed for Existing Population **	Current Acres Needed to Meet Target Standards	Park Acres Needed for 2030 Population ***	Acre Acquisition Needed to Meet 2030 Population	Park Acres Needed for 2045 Population ****	Acre Acquisition Needed to Meet 2045 Population
Neighborhood-Based Parks	103.43	1.43	4.5	325.91	222.48	353.84	250.41	409.49	306.06
Community-Based Parks	119.37	1.65	7	506.98	387.61	550.42	431.05	636.99	517.62
Special Use Parks	0	0.00	7	506.98	506.98	550.42	550.42	636.99	636.99
Total	222.8	3.08	18.5	1339.86	1117.06	1454.67	1231.87	1683.46	1460.66

\* Acres per 1000 residents  
\*\* PPD3 2023 pop, Esri: 72,425

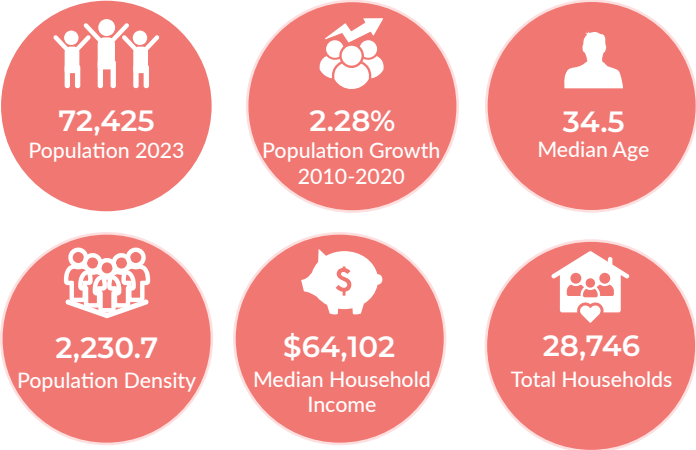
\*\*\* 2030 population projection, Stantec : 78,631  
\*\*\*\*2045 population projection, Stantec: 90,998

PPD 3 Challenges and opportunities

Park Planning District 3 (PPD 3), located east of Loop 820, is the city’s least populated district, with minimal projected growth from 72,425 to 72,715 residents (0.4%) by 2028. The district has a young and diverse population, with a median age of 34.5 years and a racial composition of Black (36.5%), White (30.2%), and Hispanic (23.8%) residents. While housing varies from large-lot agricultural to multi-family, most residential development is south of the Trinity River, while the north is dominated by industrial land and floodplains, posing both challenges and conservation opportunities.

PPD 3 has 222.8 acres of public parkland, but the Level of Service (LOS) assessment highlights significant gaps, particularly in neighborhood parks, which fall below Fort Worth’s target service levels. While community-based parks help meet current needs, future population growth and ongoing development will widen the park access gap. Many neighborhoods lack parks within a 10-minute walk, and major roadways and industrial corridors further restrict safe and direct connectivity.

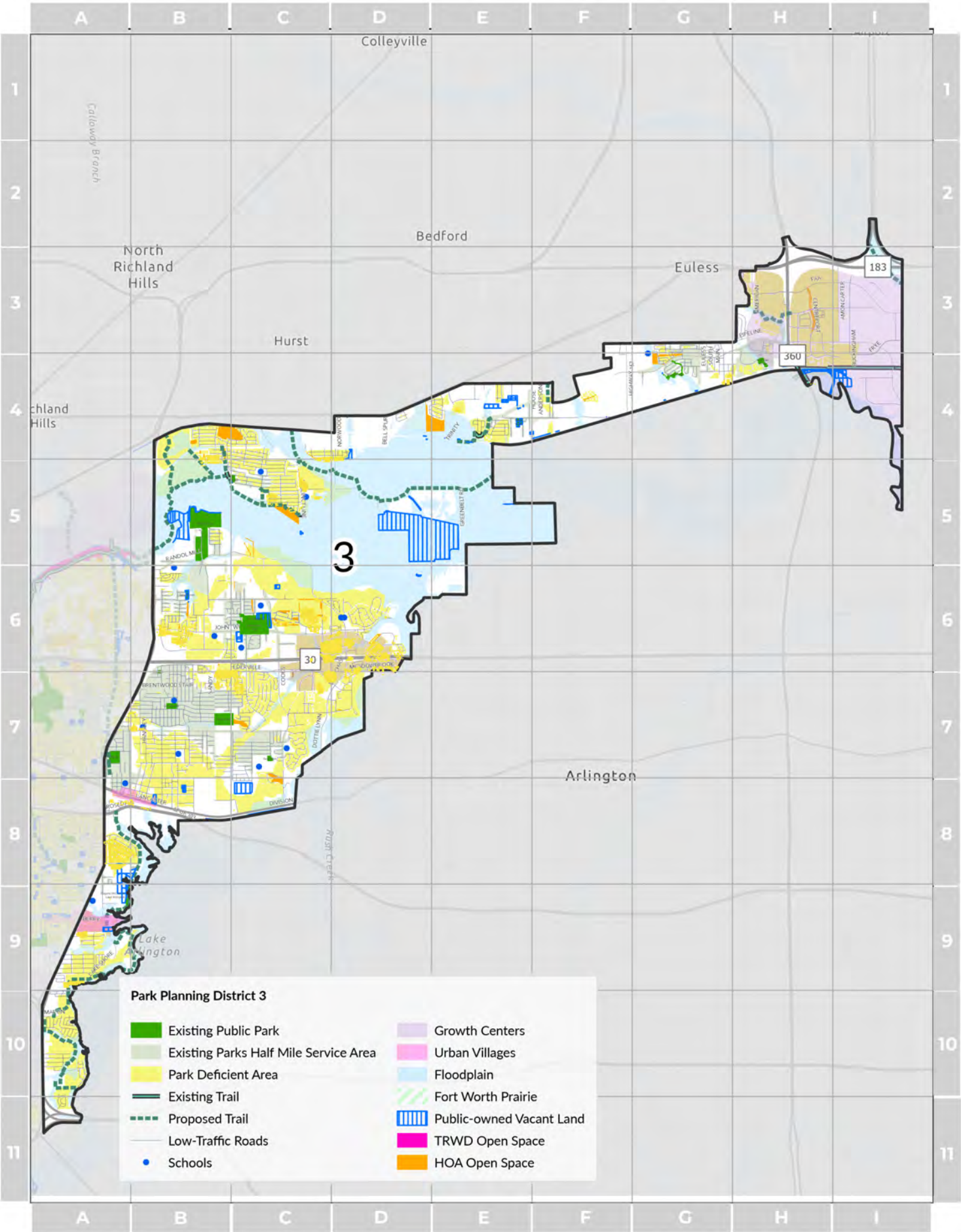
The West Fork Trinity River corridor presents a transformative opportunity to improve park connectivity, expand green space, and enhance conservation efforts. As one of the least-utilized river segments, it has trail gaps that limit access and regional recreation potential. Strengthening trail connections between Fort Worth, Arlington, and Dallas could create a seamless active transportation network and regional recreation hub. Additionally, leveraging public-owned vacant lands or acquiring land along the river offers the potential to develop a District Signature Park. This flagship park could serve as both a recreational and economic asset,



incorporating trails, outdoor event spaces, and multi-use recreational facilities, revitalizing the West Fork Trinity River as a vibrant, accessible green space.

Despite its underutilization, West Fork East features large open spaces ideal for habitat restoration, bird-watching, and conservation efforts. However, industrial uses and waste treatment facilities pose environmental remediation challenges, particularly at Village Creek Drying Beds, where large-scale restoration could transform degraded areas into valuable ecological assets. Additionally, pollution, habitat degradation, and limited green space remain key environmental concerns, making flood resilience and green infrastructure integration critical for sustainable park development.

Beyond conservation and connectivity, aging park infrastructure in PPD 3 remains a pressing issue. Many parks require significant upgrades to improve usability and overall park quality. Modernizing amenities, enhancing maintenance efforts, and activating underutilized spaces will be essential to revitalizing the park system and ensuring PPD 3 remains a thriving, equitable, and resilient community.





# PPD 3 General Recommendations

## Upgrade Existing Parks and Amenities

Prioritize enhancements to existing parks over new developments by modernizing infrastructure, adding shade structures, picnic areas, and outdoor fitness equipment. Introduce amenities that improve comfort and usability while ensuring regular maintenance and facility upgrades across the district.

## Expand Neighborhood Parks and Bridge Service Gaps

Prioritize the development of neighborhood-based parks in underserved areas to address gaps in access and meet Fort Worth’s Level of Service (LOS) standards. Focus on acquiring small, strategically located parcels of land within residential areas that currently fall outside the 10-minute walk accessibility standard.

## Preserve and Expand Natural Green Spaces

Protect and restore natural areas along the Trinity River and Lake Arlington by developing nature trails, green corridors, and conservation initiatives that enhance environmental quality and flood resilience. Acquire underutilized land, particularly in floodplains, to expand parks, establish recreational green spaces, and prevent unchecked urbanization while promoting sustainability.

## Expand Trail System and Improve Connectivity

Close trail gaps along the West Fork Trinity River to create a connected regional trail system linking Fort Worth, Arlington, and beyond. Develop multi-modal nature trails utilizing vacant land, particularly near Lake Arlington, and improve pedestrian and bike-friendly access to parks through enhanced connectivity and safety measures.

## Establish a District Signature Park

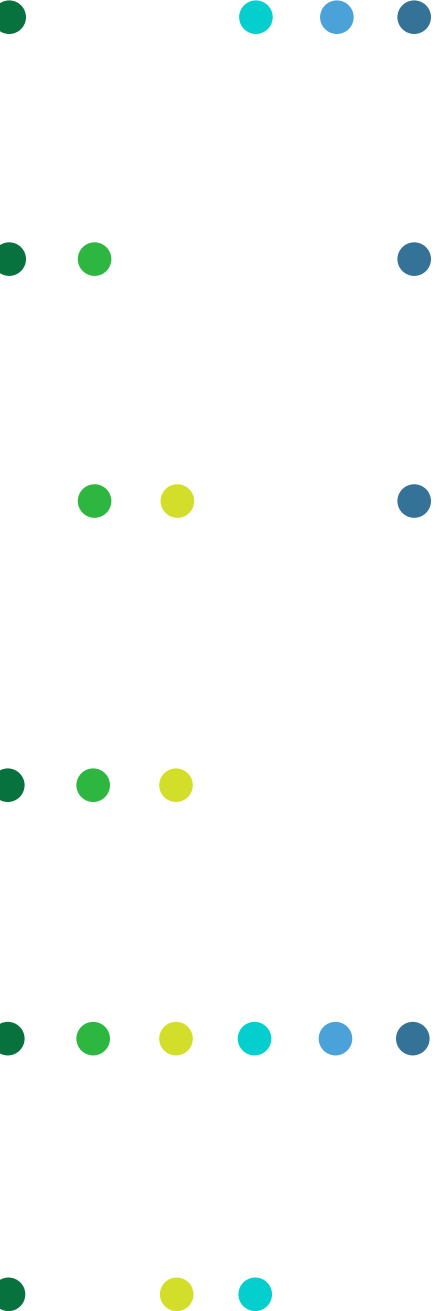
Leverage public-owned vacant lands along the West Fork Trinity River to develop a regional destination park that serves as both a recreational hub and an economic driver. Incorporate trails, event spaces, and multi-use recreational facilities to attract visitors, promote conservation, and enhance the district’s identity as an outdoor recreation destination.

## Promote Community Health Through Parks

Expand accessible recreational opportunities by integrating wellness-focused infrastructure such as walking trails, fitness stations, and community gathering spaces. Activate parks with health-focused programs, cultural events, and outdoor activities to encourage social engagement and well-being, ensuring equitable access to recreational spaces across the district.

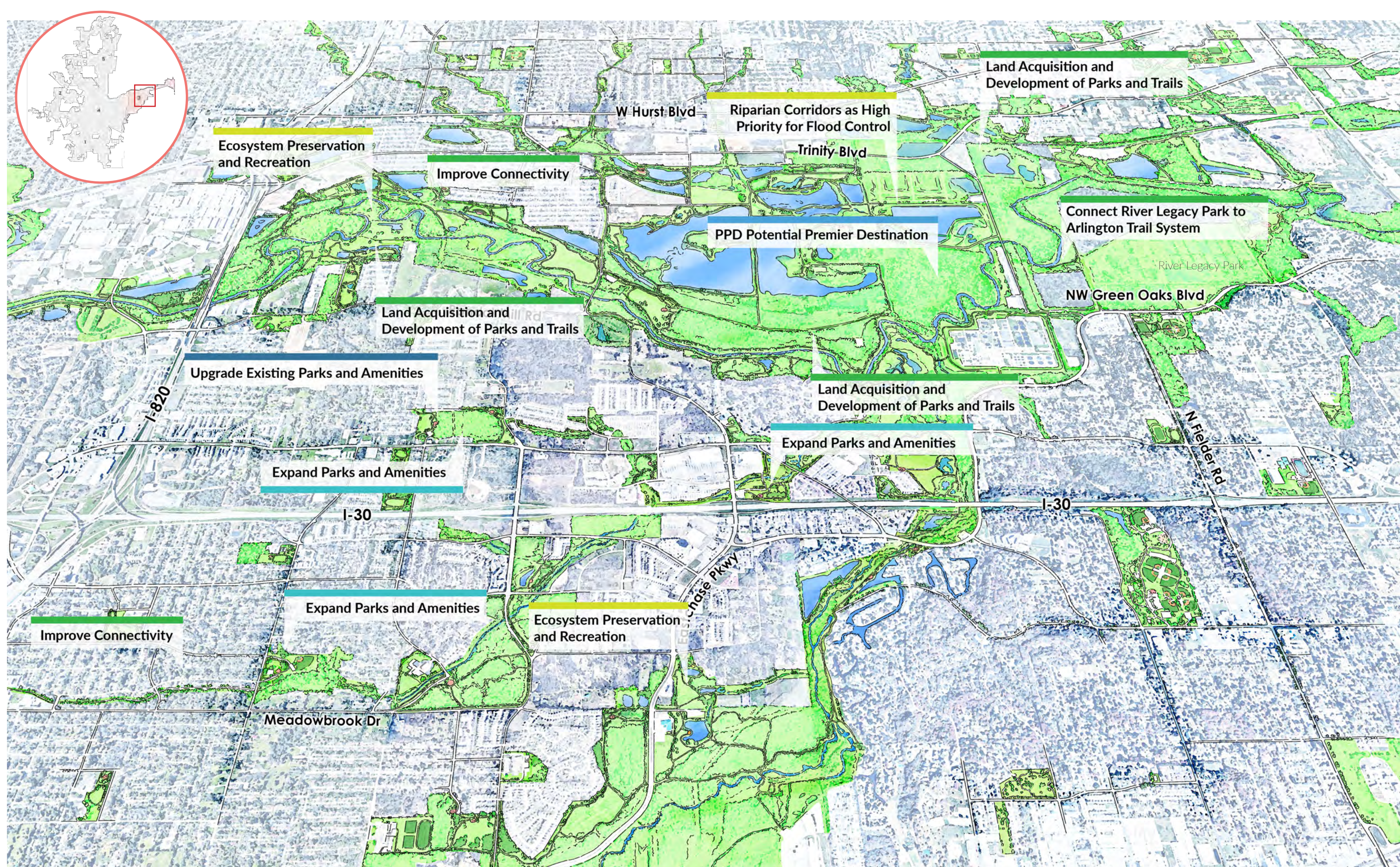
### Alignment with Goals:

- Thriving Community
- Connected System
- Vibrant Nature
- Common Ground
- Premier Destination
- Manageable Resources



PPD 3 Specific Recommendations
General Improvement And Enhancement
Sandybrook
Mallard Cove
Master Planning
Eugene McCray Park at Lake Arlington
Cobblestone Trail
Eastbrook
Ederville
Post Oak Village
River Trails III
Stonecreek
Sunset Hills
Master Plan Implementation
Mosier Valley
Connectivity Improvement
Mallard Cove
Cobblestone Trail
Ederville
Regional Connectivity: River Trails Park to River Legacy Park
Open Space Conservation
Floodplain areas along Trinity River
Lake shore areas along Lake Arlington
Partnerships
FW ISD
HURST-EULESS-BEDFORD ISD
Partnership with River Legacy foundation and City of Arlington
North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG)
TRWD and Streams & Valleys





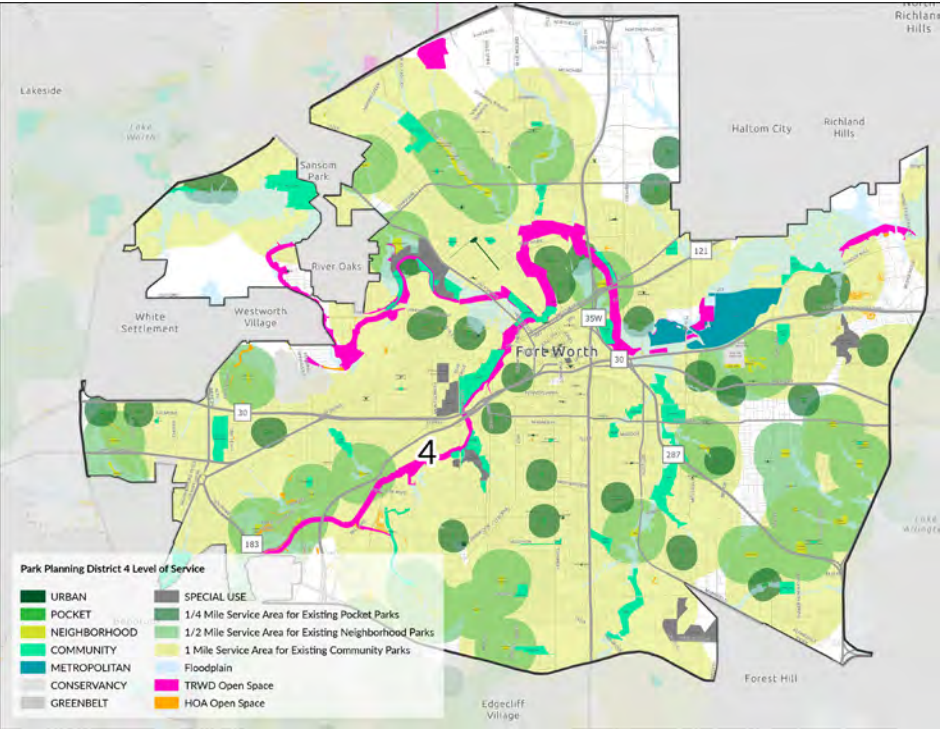


# Park Planning District 4

The following maps and supporting table provide a comprehensive assessment of Park Planning District 1’s current park resources, future needs, and potential opportunities for strategic investment and expansion.

The level of service map highlights the distribution and service levels of various PARD park categories, while the supporting table quantifies the district’s needs by park classification, projecting the additional acreage required to meet target levels of service for the growing population in 2030 and 2045.

Additionally, a larger map featured in the following pages overlaying data on socioeconomic and environmental vulnerabilities, health disparities, and park availability and accessibility identifies key park-deficient areas where investment is most urgently needed.



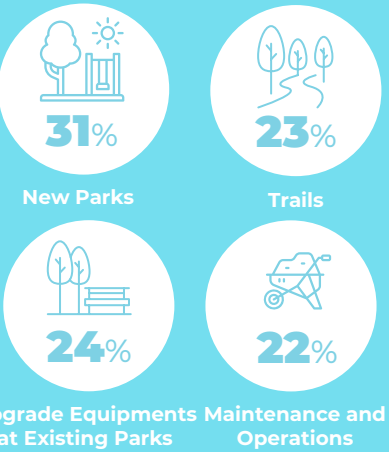
## WHAT WE HEARD FROM PPD4 RESIDENTS?

Envision Fort Worth in 20 years.

What would the newspaper headline say?

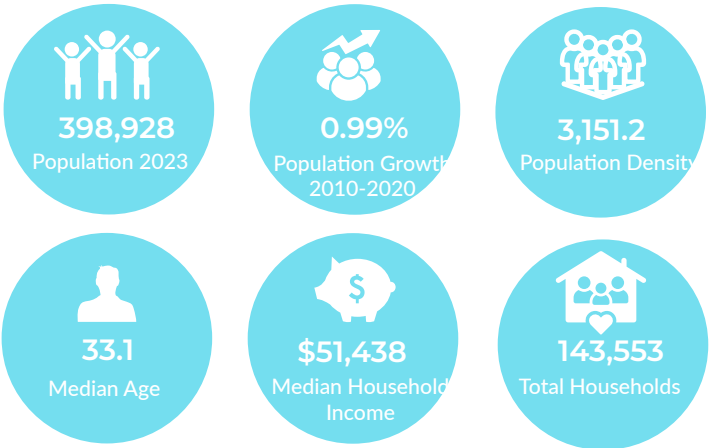


What are your funding priorities for PPD4?



## PPD 4 Challenges and opportunities

Park Planning District 4 (PPD 4) is Fort Worth’s most populous district, with 398,928 residents in 2023, projected to grow by 2.19% by 2028. It is also the most diverse district, with a predominantly Hispanic (48.1%) and White (38.6%) population and a median age of 33.1 years. Despite its high population density and 143,553 households, PPD 4 has the lowest income per capita among all districts. As the heart of Fort Worth, it encompasses a mix of residential, commercial, office, and industrial land uses, including Downtown Fort Worth, which serves as a major economic and cultural hub. The district features a varied housing stock, ranging from single-family homes to high-density multi-family developments. PPD 4 also has the largest number of parks, from pocket parks to large community spaces, and is home to significant portions of the Trinity Trail system and multiple creeks.



Park Planning District 4 (PPD 4) is Fort Worth’s most populous district and serves as the city’s urban core, encompassing downtown, major commercial hubs, and densely populated neighborhoods. While PPD 4 has the highest number of parks and includes much of the Trinity Trail system, it faces challenges in ensuring equitable park access, upgrading aging infrastructure, and identifying available land for new parks. The district’s rapid growth, combined with its role as the city’s center for economic and cultural activity, calls for innovative approaches to integrating parks and public spaces into the urban fabric.

The Level of Service (LOS) assessment highlights a critical gap in neighborhood-based parks, leaving many residents without access to a park within a 10-minute walk. Additionally, while community-based and special-use parks provide recreational opportunities, increasing infill development and density place additional pressure on existing park resources. Residents have emphasized the need to prioritize park upgrades—including the addition of shade structures, tree canopies, and modernized amenities—before investing in new parks.

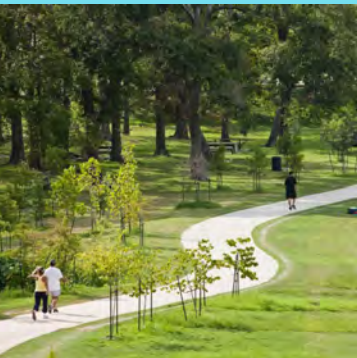
With limited land available for acquisition, PPD 4 must focus on redevelopment and innovative land use strategies. The 2023 Comprehensive Plan calls for shifting growth toward the urban core,

## WHAT WE HEARD FROM PPD1 RESIDENTS?

What are your top priorities for park design and functionality?



Nature walk



Green corridors for walking



River front parks

What are your top 3 preferred amenities?

- 1 Trails
- 2 Swimming Pools
- 3 Outdoor Active Recreation

Park Planning District 4 Level of Service Assessment									
Park Category	Existing Park Acres	Existing PPD	Fort Worth Target Level of Service	Park Acres Needed for Existing Population **	Current Acres Needed to Meet Target Standards	Park Acres Needed for 2030 Population ***	Acre Acquisition Needed to Meet 2030 Population	Park Acres Needed for 2045 Population ****	Acre Acquisition Needed to Meet 2045 Population
Neighborhood-Based Parks	487.43	1.22	4.5	1795.18	1307.75	1972.60	1485.17	2282.85	1795.42
Community-Based Parks	3,283.67	8.23	7	2792.50	-491.17	3068.49	-215.18	3551.09	267.42
Special Use Parks	918.75	2.30	7	2792.50	1873.75	3068.49	2149.74	3551.09	2632.34
Total	4689.85	11.76	18.5	7380.17	2690.32	8109.59	3419.74	9385.03	4695.18

\* Acres per 1000 residents  
\*\* PPD4 2023 pop, Esri: 398,928

\*\*\* 2030 population projection, Stantec : 438,356  
\*\*\*\*2045 population projection, Stantec: 507,299

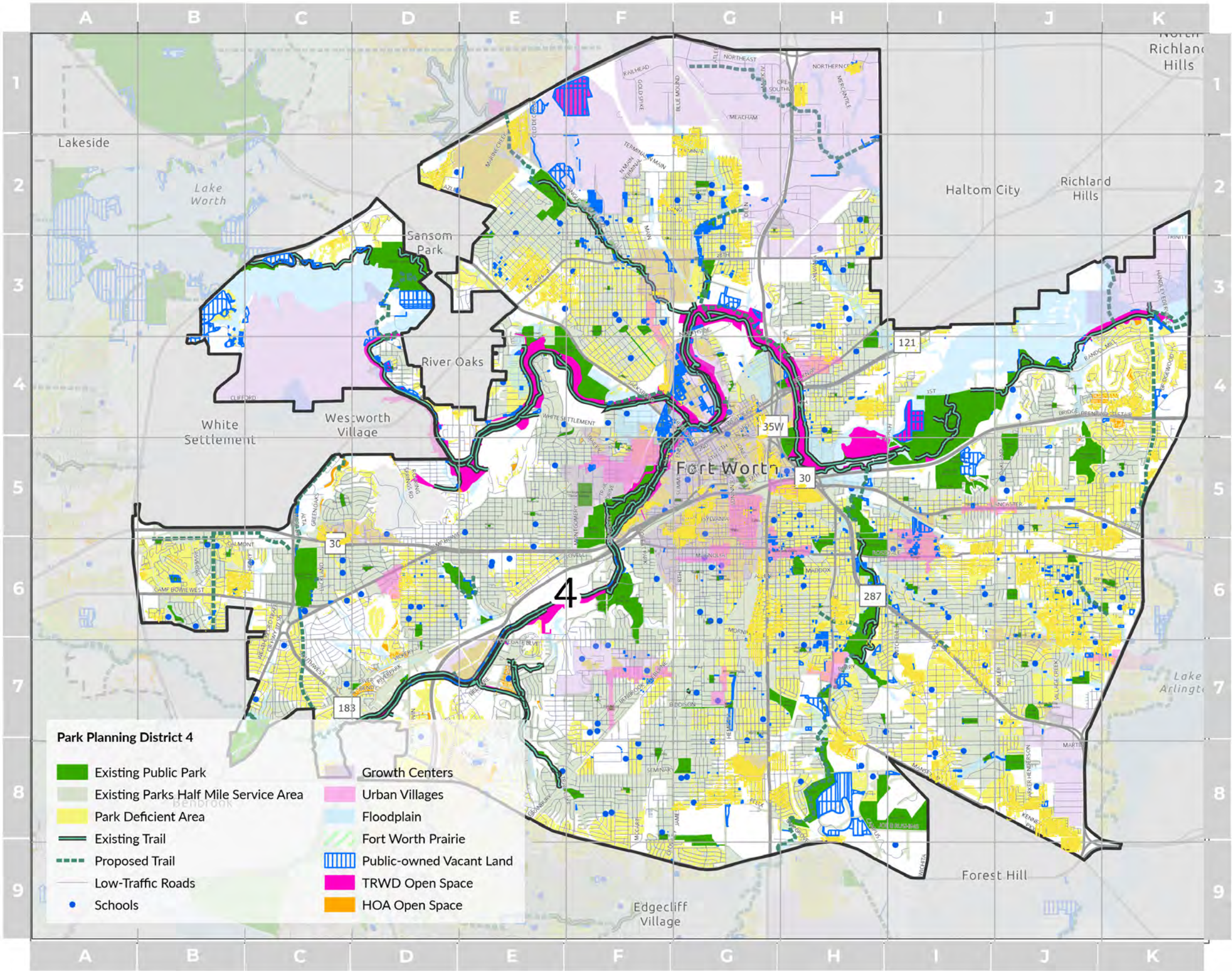


growth centers, urban villages, and revitalized commercial corridors, reinforcing the need for new park typologies that integrate green spaces into high-density areas. This includes activating public rights-of-way (ROW), such as plazas and streetscapes, to function as extensions of parks and recreation spaces, as well as repurposing vacant or underutilized land for pocket parks, neighborhood parks, and recreation centers.

A major opportunity for PPD 4 lies in connecting downtown Fort Worth to the Trinity River and establishing a Downtown Riverfront Park as the district’s signature park. This project has the potential to create a central common ground for the city, integrating recreation, cultural programming, and environmental restoration while enhancing the urban experience. Strengthening this connection would elevate downtown’s role as the heart of Fort Worth, drawing residents and visitors alike to the waterfront.

Beyond downtown, the Trinity River corridor and its tributaries offer additional opportunities to expand parks and trails, particularly through partnerships with TRWD and Streams & Valleys. Developing riverfront parks, increasing water-based recreation such as boating and fishing, and enhancing green infrastructure along natural drainage ways will improve both environmental resilience and recreational access. Multi-modal connections—including expanded sidewalks, bike lanes, and trail extensions—will be critical in linking neighborhoods to parks, fostering accessibility, and encouraging active transportation.

By leveraging the Trinity River as the city’s central open space, reimagining downtown’s relationship with public spaces, and integrating parks into urban development, PPD 4 can set a new standard for an interconnected, resilient, and people-centered park system. Strategic investments in park expansion, connectivity, and redevelopment will ensure that PPD 4 remains a vibrant, inclusive, and sustainable urban district that supports both the city’s growth and the well-being of its residents.





# PPD 4 General Recommendations

## Upgrade and Expand Park Infrastructure

- Address aging infrastructure by modernizing existing parks with new shade structures, tree canopies, seating areas, and upgraded amenities to enhance usability and comfort.
- Focus on building new parks, especially in areas north of downtown, to ensure all neighborhoods have access to quality recreational spaces within the 10-minute walk accessibility.
- Expand and enhance sidewalks, green corridors, and multi-modal trails to create seamless connections between parks, neighborhoods, and major activity centers, ensuring equitable access to recreational spaces.
- Convert vacant or blighted lots into pocket parks, plazas, and neighborhood green spaces, integrating recreational opportunities into the district’s evolving urban landscape.
- Develop new sports fields and aquatic centers to meet increasing community demand, particularly in areas where density is rising.

## Integrate Parks into Urban Growth and Development

- Leverage Public Rights-of-Way (ROW) a and activate streetscapes, plazas, and main streets as extensions of parks, integrating greenery and recreational spaces into high-density urban areas.
- Align Park Planning with Growth Centers and Urban Villages and ensure parks are strategically developed within growth centers, urban villages, and revitalized corridors, aligning with the Comprehensive Plan and Transportation plans' focus.

## Elevate the Trinity River as the City’s Central Common Ground

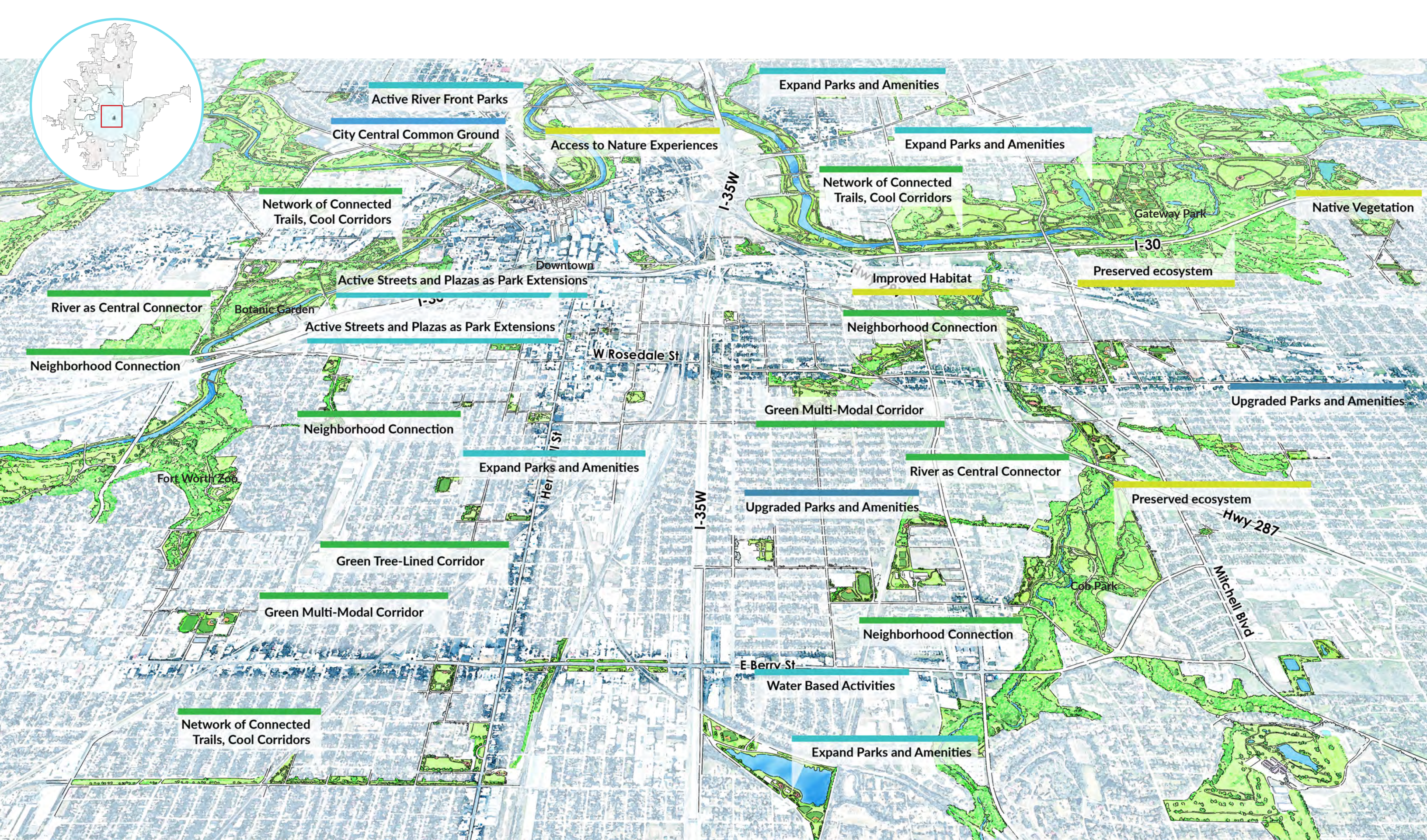
- Expand Riverfront Parks and Recreation: Strengthen the connection between downtown Fort Worth and the Trinity River by developing a Downtown Riverfront Park as PPD 4’s signature park, creating a central gathering space that integrates recreation, cultural programming, and environmental restoration.
- Enhance Water-Based Recreation opportunities such as boating, fishing, and waterfront parks along the Trinity River and its tributaries to diversify park experiences and improve community access.
- Collaborate with TRWD and Streams & Valleys to develop additional parks, trails, and green spaces along the river, ensuring both ecological preservation and recreational enhancement.

### Alignment with Goals:

Thriving Community	Connected System	Vibrant Nature	Common Ground	Premier Destination	Manageable Resources
●			●	●	●
●	●				●
●	●				●
●	●		●		●
●			●		●
●	●		●		●
●	●		●		●
●				●	●
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●	●	●	●	●	●
●	●	●	●	●	●

PPD4	Anderson-Campbell	Master Planning	Trail Drivers	Gateway
General Improvement And Enhancement	Daggett	Trinity	Village Creek	Log Cabin Village
Como	Diamond Hill H.S.	Marion Sansom	Western Hills	Sycamore
Tandy Hills	Eastern Hills	Hillside	Woodhaven	Cobb
Oakhurst	Eastgate	Carter	Fort Worth Civic Spaces Master Plan: Including Master Plans for Federal Plaza, City Hall Plaza, General Worth Square, Hyde,Peter Smith and other Downtown Plazas and Squares	Lebow
Springdale	Eastover	Lake Como		Trail Drivers
Traders Oak	Englewood	Greenbriar		Riverside Park
Rosen	Fairfax	Quanah Parker		Kellis
Eugene McCray Community Center Park	Gid Hooper	Glenwood		Buck Sansom
Marine	High Crest	Rolling Hills		Rosedale Plaza
Morningside Middle School	Hyde	Forest Park	Master Plan Implementation	Partnership
Stratford	Linwood-Jesse D. Sandoval (formerly Linwood )	Z. Boaz South	Prairie Dog	Tanglewood School
Northside	Maddox	Ryan Place Triangle	North Z. Boaz	Homeless services
Parque Unidad/ Unity Park (Formerly Jefferson Davis)	Littlejohn	Water Gardens	Meadowbrook Golf Course	FW ISD
Overton	Marie F. Pate	Delga	Gateway	Mountain biking
Capps	Marine Creek Linear	Lebow	Sycamore	Downtown FW Inc.
Mary and Marvin Leonard	Marine Creek Linear North	Kellis	Thomas Place	Texas Wesleyan
Fairmount	Meadowood	Newby	Bunche	BRIT
Greenway	Monticello	Worth Heights	Arnold	Friends of Tandy Hills
Sylvania	Paz Hernandez	Oakland Lake	Blue Bonnet Circle	Riverside Applied Learning Center
Log Cabin Village	Seminary Hills	Buck Sansom	Ciquio Vasquez (formerly Echo Lake)	TRWD and Streams & Valleys
Morris Berney	Shackleford	Arneson	Cobb	Texas Christian University (TCU)
Riverside	Terry	Calmont	Harmon Field	Texas Health Resources
Jennings-May-St. Louis	Thorny Ridge	Chamberlin	Heritage	Medical District
Edgewood	Titus Paulsel	Circle	Paddock	Tarrant County College (TCC)
Diamond Hill	Trinity Bluff	Ellis	Rosedale Plaza	Texas A&M AgriLife
Rockwood	Veterans Memorial	Elm Street	Tim Watson	Connectivity Improvement
Rosemont	Watts	Far Northside	Carter	
Victory Forest: South Central Community Center	Wesleyan Hills	General Worth Square	Trinity Trail	
Ridglea Hills	Will Rogers Memorial Center Complex	Goodman	Mary and Marvin Leonard	
Foster	William McDonald	Hall-Tandy Triangle	Marion Sansom	
	Wright Tarlton	Haynes Memorial Triangle	Greenway Park	
	Lincoln	Martin Luther King		
	Crestwood	Normandy Place		
	Louella Bales Baker	Rodeo		
	Stephens	Sagamore Hills		
		Smith-Wilemon		
		Tadlock		





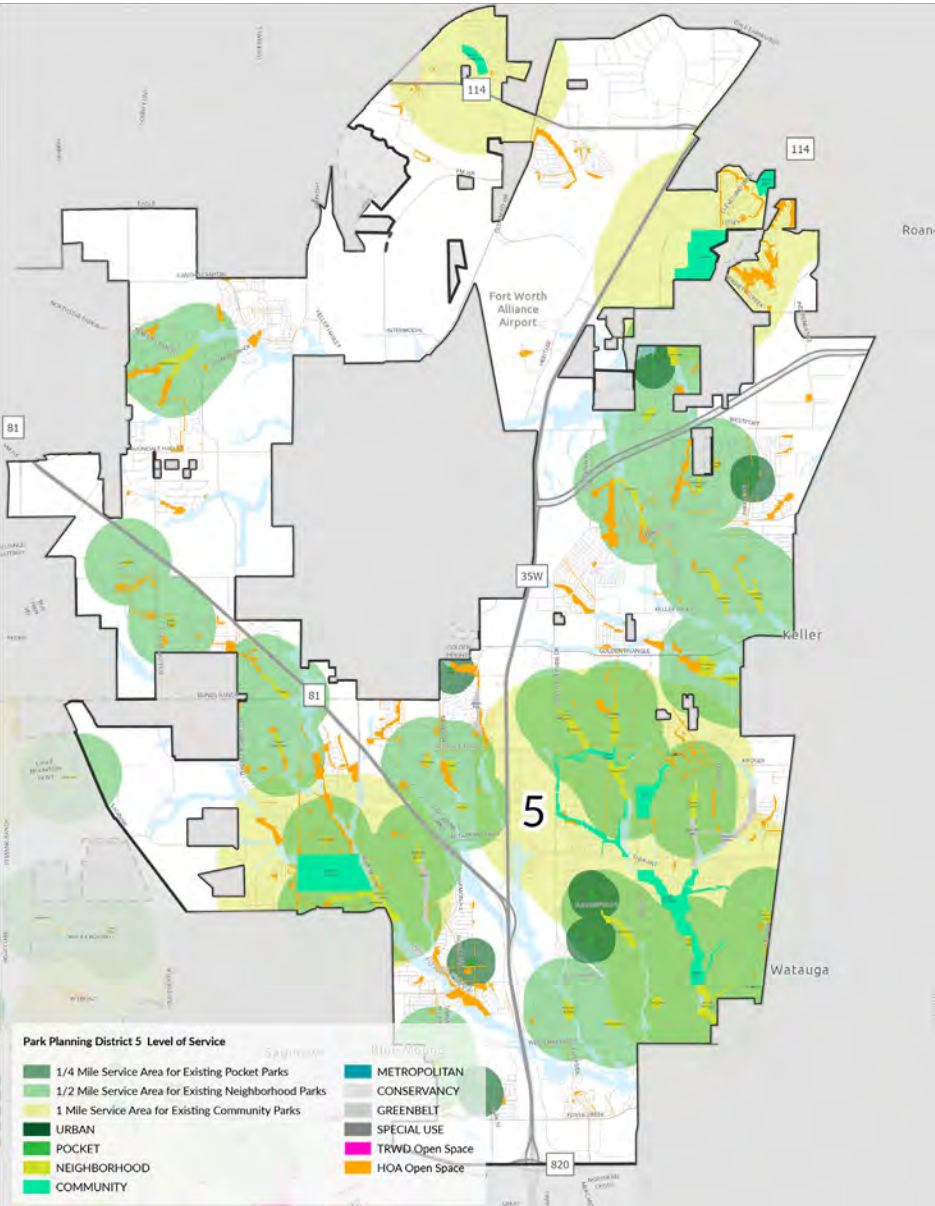


# Park Planning District 5

The following maps and supporting table provide a comprehensive assessment of Park Planning District 3’s current park resources, future needs, and potential opportunities for strategic investment and expansion.

The level of service map highlights the distribution and service levels of various PARD park categories, while the supporting table quantifies the district’s needs by park classification, projecting the additional acreage required to meet target levels of service for the growing population in 2030 and 2045.

Additionally, a larger map featured in the following pages overlaying data on socioeconomic and environmental vulnerabilities, health disparities, and park availability and accessibility identifies key park-deficient areas where investment is most urgently needed.



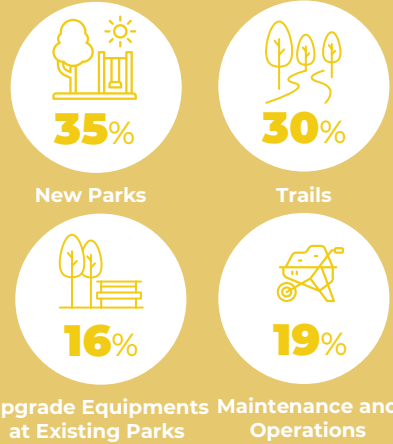
## WHAT WE HEARD FROM PPD5 RESIDENTS?

Envision Fort Worth in 20 years.

What would the newspaper headline say?



What are your funding priorities for PPD5?



What are your top 5 preferred amenities?

- 1 Trails
- 2 Outdoor and Indoor Recreation
- 3 Playgrounds

## Park Planning District 3 Level of Service Assessment

Park Category	Existing Park Acres	Existing PPD	Fort Worth Target Level of Service	Park Acres Needed for Existing Population **	Current Acres Needed to Meet Target Standards	Park Acres Needed for 2030 Population ***	Acre Acquisition Needed to Meet 2030 Population	Park Acres Needed for 2045 Population ****	Acre Acquisition Needed to Meet 2045 Population
Neighborhood-Based Parks	558.96	2.26	4.5	1112.22	553.26	1132.25	573.29	1310.34	751.38
Community-Based Parks	834.42	3.38	7	1730.13	895.71	1761.28	926.86	2038.30	1203.88
Special Use Parks	113.67	0.46	7	1730.13	1616.46	1761.28	1647.61	2038.30	1924.63
Total	1507.05	6.10	18.5	4572.48	3065.43	4654.82	3147.77	5386.94	3879.89

\* Acres per 1000 residents  
\*\* PPD3 2023 pop, Esri: 247,161  
\*\*\* 2030 population projection, Stantec : 251,612  
\*\*\*\*2045 population projection, Stantec: 291,186

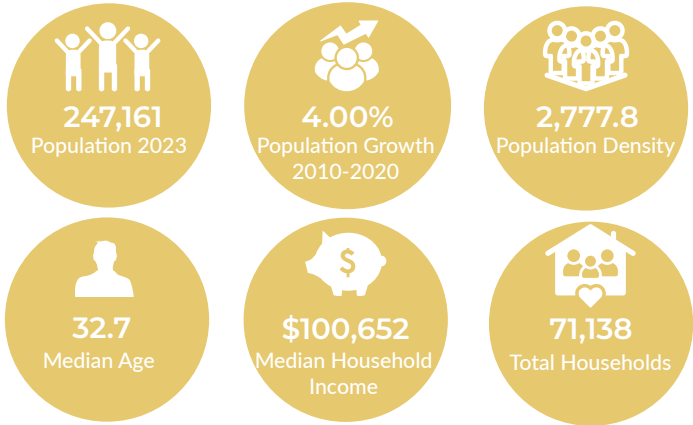
## PPD 5 Challenges and opportunities

PPD 5, located north of Loop 820, is the second most populous district, with a rapidly growing population projected to increase from 247,161 to 271,991 by 2028. This expansion, combined with its predominantly single-family residential land use and newer developments, places increasing pressure on the district’s park system. While the district has a relatively high number of parks, many are private, owned, and managed by homeowners’ associations, limiting access for the broader community.

The Level of Service (LOS) assessment highlights significant gaps in neighborhood-based and community-based park acreage. Currently, PPD 5 has 1,507.05 acres of public parkland, distributed among neighborhood-based, community-based, and special-use parks. However, the district falls short of Fort Worth’s parkland target levels, with a substantial need for additional acres to meet the growing demand. The largest deficits are in neighborhood-based parks, where the current inventory is well below the city’s service standards. As population density increases, this gap will only widen unless proactive measures are taken to acquire and develop new parks.

Many older neighborhoods in the district also lack pedestrian and bicyclist infrastructure, creating barriers to accessing parks and recreational facilities. Improved multi-modal connectivity is needed to ensure that all residents can safely reach green spaces.

Despite the addition of the Northwest Community Center and North YMCA, PPD 5 still lacks adequate public community centers, limiting access to indoor recreation and gathering spaces. As the area grows, this gap will become more critical. At the same time,

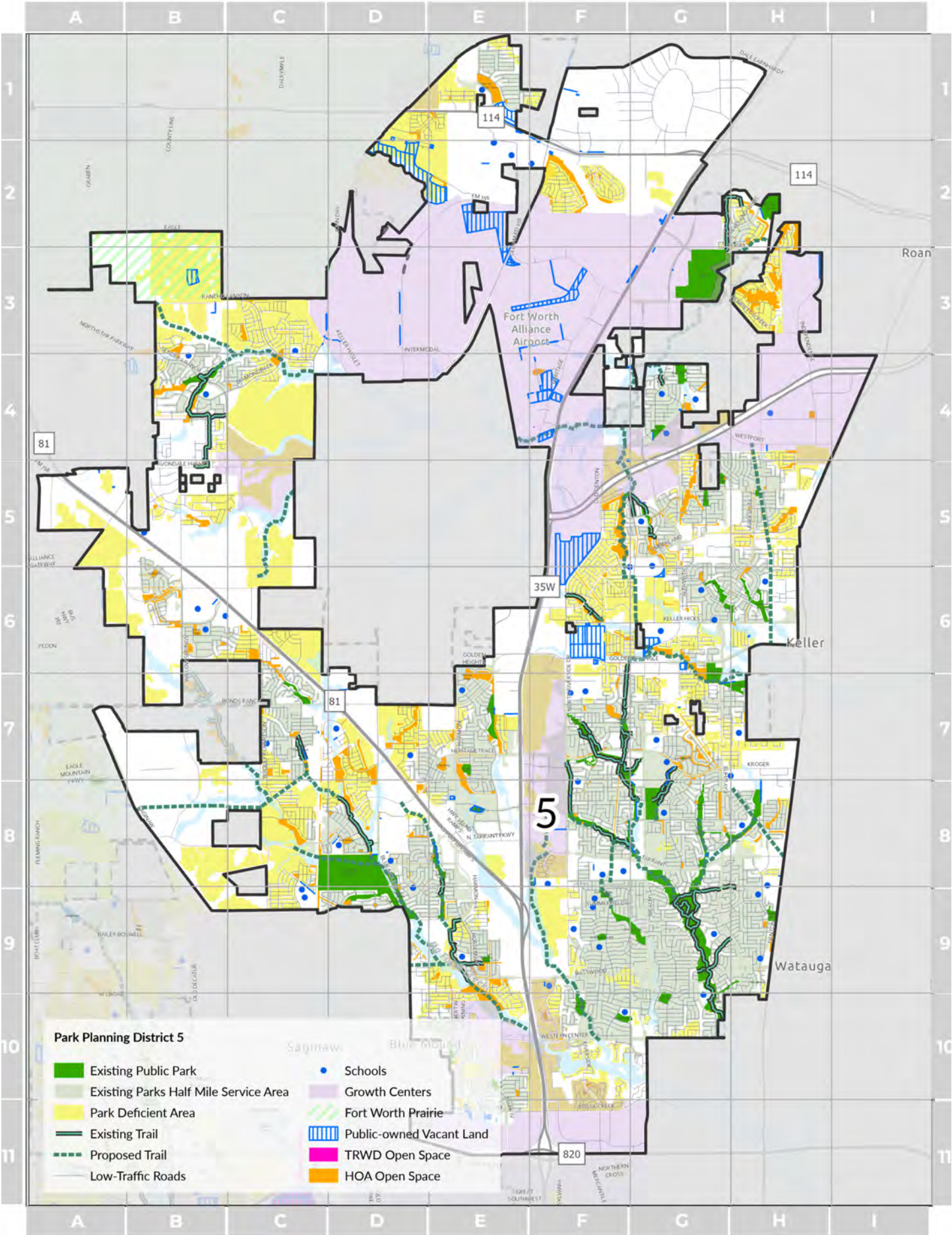


protecting the remaining natural open spaces—such as prairie lands, greenbelts, creeks, and natural drainageways—is essential, as these ecological assets face mounting pressure from rapid urbanization.

Despite these challenges, PPD 5 presents significant opportunities for enhancing its park system. Acquiring land in the northern and northwestern sections of the district can help address the deficit in public park acreage and provide much-needed recreational spaces. Working closely with the City’s Planning Department to monitor growth patterns will allow for strategic land acquisition, particularly in areas between US-287 and I-35, where residential expansion is expected.

The district’s network of creeks and greenbelts offers a natural framework for expanding trails and multi-modal connectivity. By activating these corridors with parks and amenities, PPD 5 can enhance recreational access while preserving valuable natural resources. Strengthening partnerships with developers is another key strategy—requiring or incentivizing developers to incorporate parks and recreation facilities into new developments can help bridge the service gap.





# PPD 5 General Recommendations

## Expand Recreational Facilities

Establish new community centers in fast-growing northern and northwestern areas to meet increasing demand and maximize the upcoming and existing facilities such as Betsy Price Community Center and Northpark YMCA Joint Use Facility. Also develop a district-wide sports complex to provide multi-sport facilities and attract regional events, boosting local recreation and economic growth.

## Enhance Connectivity and Expand Trail Networks

Prioritize trail development in the northeastern section of the district to link parks, neighborhoods, and commercial centers. Elevate the use of creeks and greenbelts for linear parks and trails, ensuring they function as natural corridors that improve connectivity, enhance environmental protection, and provide recreational opportunities.

## Protect and Activate Undeveloped and Environmentally Sensitive Areas

As PPD 5 continues to grow, it is essential to preserve prairie lands, greenbelts, creeks, and natural drainage ways to prevent overdevelopment and maintain ecological balance. Land acquisition for conservation should be a priority, particularly in the northern and northwestern sections.

## Champion Strategic Park Expansion and Bridge Service Gap

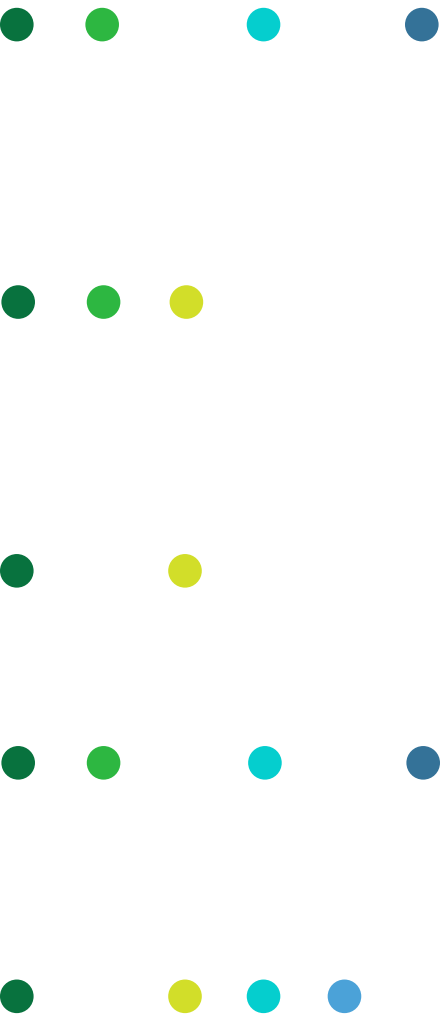
Address park access disparities by prioritizing land acquisition for new parks in underserved areas, particularly in the northern and northwestern sections of the district.

## Establish a District Signature Park and Expand Special-Use Parks

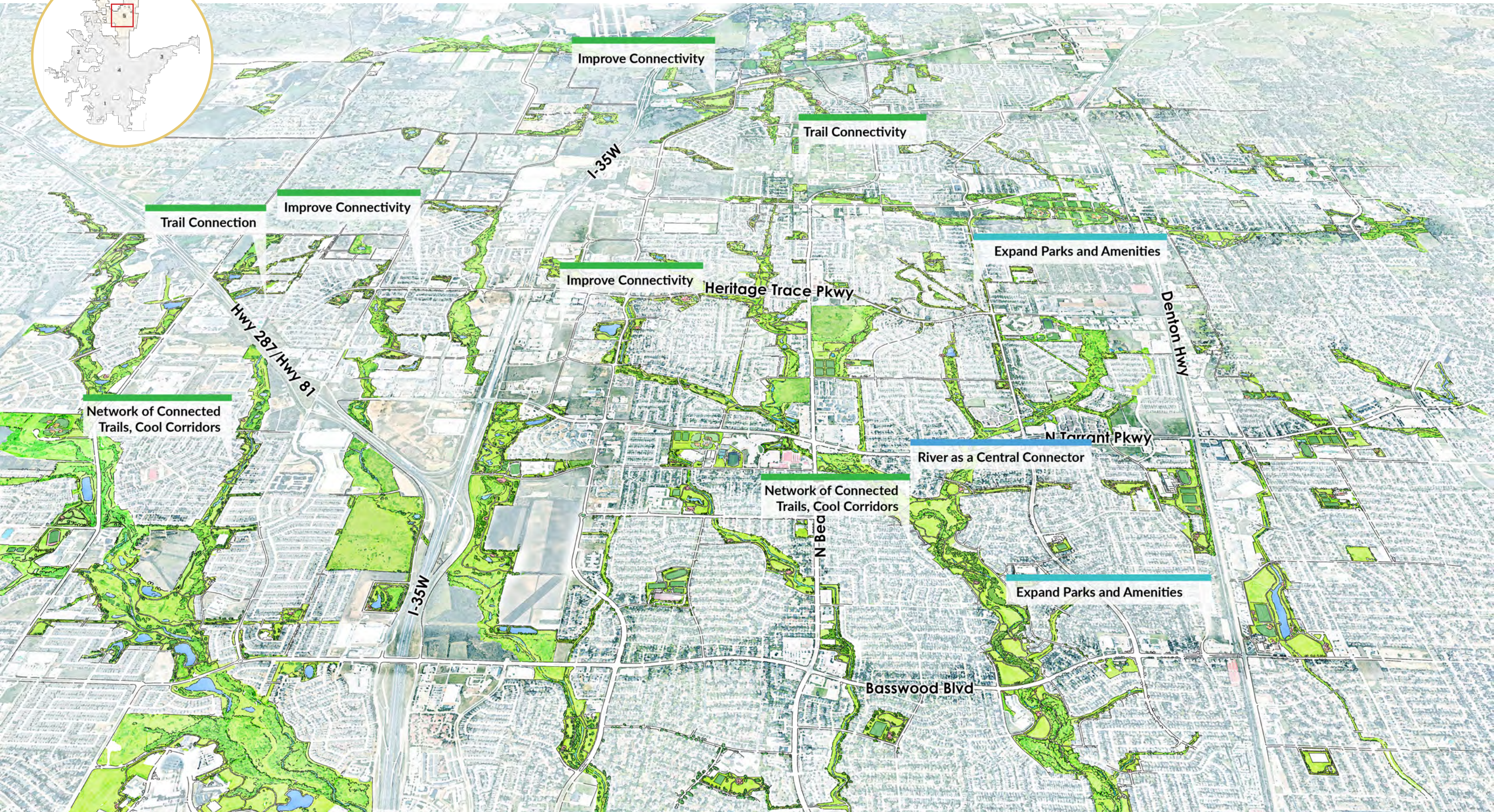
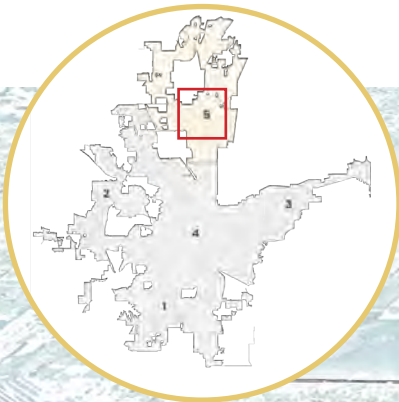
Developing a District Signature Park in northern PPD 5 presents a transformative opportunity to create a major recreational, ecological, and community asset. This park should feature diverse amenities, including nature trails, water-based recreation, picnic areas, sports facilities, and playgrounds, ensuring it meets the needs of the district's growing population. Strategically locating the park in high-growth areas will maximize accessibility and enhance the overall livability of nearby residential developments. Partnerships with developers and city planners should be leveraged to integrate this park seamlessly into the fabric of new and existing communities.

### Alignment with Goals:

- Thriving Community
- Connected System
- Vibrant Nature
- Common Ground
- Premier Destination
- Manageable Resources









PPD 5 Specific Recommendations
General Improvement And Enhancement
Alexandra Meadows
Arcadia Trail Park North
Arcadia Trail Park South
Barksdale
Bronzewood
Camp Worth
Creekwood
Dorado
Friendship
Harvest Ridge
Junction
Lasater
Lost Spurs
Mesa Verde
Ninnie Baird
North
Park Place
Parkwood Hills
Reata
Ridgeview Farms
Saratoga
Summerfields
Sunset Hills North
Tehama Ridge
Trails of Fossil Creek
West Fork Ranch
Willow Ridge
Master Planning
Arcadia Trail
Babbling Brook
Chisholm Ridge
Coventry Hills
Crawford Farms
Crossing at Fossil Creek
Harriet Creek Ranch
Heritage Addition

Heritage Glen
Kingsridge
Kingsridge West
Kristi Jean Burbach
Lost Creek Ranch
McPherson Ranch
Ponderosa
Ranches East
Silver Sage
Sinclair
Summerbrook
Tehama Trails
Timberland
Woodland Springs
Elizabeth Creek
Master Plan Implementation
Alliance
Chadwick Farms
Vineyards at Heritage
Connectivity Improvement
Babbling Brook
Harriet Creek Ranch
Junction
Lasater
Lost Creek Ranch
Ponderosa
Ridgeview Farms
Summerfields Chisholm
Woodland Springs
Arcadia Trail
Open Space Conservation
B3, C3, C4, C5, E1, D2, F4, G4 (Check PPD 5 Map)
Partnerships
NORTHWEST ISD
KELLER ISD
EAGLE MT-SAGINAW ISD
TRWD and Streams & Valleys
Alliance Airport

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APPENDIX

# A

## Strategic Plan

### CONTENTS

- **Introduction**
- **Recommendations and Actions**
- **Key Performance Indicators**
- **Responsible Parties**
- **Probable Costs**
- **Timeframe**
- **Funding Strategies**
- **Implementation Matrices**





Fort Worth Water Gardens , Photo Credit: Stantec Team

# Strategic Action Plan

## Introduction: Implementation Framework

The Strategic Action Plan lays out the key steps to bring Fort Worth’s Vision to life. These steps are structured around the Objectives, Strategies, and Recommendations & Action Steps presented in Chapter 5 – Park and Public Realm of Tomorrow. The plan includes 95 Strategies and over 250 Action Steps, each accompanied by Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), responsible parties, timeframes, and estimated costs. Designed as a living section, this plan should be regularly updated to reflect current conditions, ensuring continued relevance and usability for City staff and stakeholders.

To guide the City, its partners, and the community in achieving this vision, implementation matrices have been developed as part of this document. These matrices provide a structured framework for executing the GREENprint Master Plan while offering several key benefits:

- Clear Prioritization – Helps focus efforts on the most impactful tasks by organizing action steps based on priority.
- Defined Responsibilities – Assigns accountability to specific partners, ensuring clarity in roles and expectations.
- Resource Allocation – Identifies necessary funding, personnel, and time commitments, allowing for more efficient decision-making.
- Timeframes – Establishes estimated timelines to keep progress on track and ensure timely execution of strategies.
- Flexibility and Adaptability – Allows for modifications as conditions evolve, ensuring continued relevance and responsiveness.
- Progress Tracking through KPIs – Monitors achievements, evaluates success, and highlights areas needing additional focus.
- Transparency and Public Engagement – Demonstrates a clear, actionable plan that builds trust and encourages community involvement.

The Implementation Matrices have been designed to provide the reader with an actionable roadmap that is broken down into specific groupings:

- Recommendations and Actions
- Key Performance Indicators
- Responsible Parties
- Timeframe
- Probable Costs
- Funding Strategies

## Recommendations and Actions

For GREENprint Fort Worth, Recommendations & Actions are the tasks or steps that need to be implemented to carry out each strategy to achieve the objective. These are concrete, items that:

- Break down broad goals into manageable, actionable items.
- Clearly describe the task to be completed.
- Identify responsible parties assigned to the task.
- Are realistic and achievable.
- Ensure progress can be tracked.
- Are time-bound to ensure that the task is completed in a given amount of time.

Actions help ensure that the strategies are translated into tangible outcomes for the park system. These recommendations and actions are based on research, community input, and best practices.

## Key Performance Indicators

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for GREENprint Fort Worth measure the effectiveness of recommendations and actions in achieving goals and objectives. KPIs track progress and assess the impact of strategies, such as park visitation, satisfaction, project development/completion, facility conditions, sustainability, and accessibility, ensuring the park system meets community needs and informs future decisions.



Responsible Parties

The Responsible Parties outlines the key individuals, organizations, and departments accountable for executing the action steps outlined in the GREENprint Fort Worth Implementation Matrix. Clear identification of these responsible parties ensures accountability, efficient coordination, and effective implementation of the plan.

By assigning specific roles and responsibilities, the City of Fort Worth can streamline progress, track milestones, and ensure that each action step is carried out by the appropriate groups. Examples of Responsible Parties include, but are not limited to:

Sector	Entity/Organization	Selected Possible Roles
Public	Park & Recreation Dept.	Accountability/enforcing park access/operations agreements, acquiring land for park development, managing partnerships, conservation, making capital investments
	Other City Departments/agencies (planning, economic development, mayors' office, transportation and public work, etc.)	Helping integrate parks into broader urban plans and policies, identifying partnership opportunities, making capital investments, operations and maintenance
	Regional and State Entities (TPWD, MPOs, TRWD, etc.)	Providing funding, technical support, conservation expertise, integrating parks into the regional system
	Educational Institutions	Developing and maintaining parks, organizing park events/ programs, and conducting research
Private	Real estate developers	Creating/operating parks alongside development projects, contributing funding for nearby parks/park operators
	Landscape architects and other designers	Incorporating sustainable/resilient design into new and renovated parks, designing parks to meet community needs
	Building owners, businesses, and corporations	Contributing funding for parks, sponsoring events/ programs
	Concessions and park-related businesses	Activating public spaces, contributing new sources of revenue to offset operation and maintenance costs
Nonprofit	Community development corpo- rations	Providing programs/services that leverage park development/access, spearheading affordable housing and housing preservation efforts to mitigate potential park-related displacement
	Neighborhood/community groups	Advocating for new or improved parks, working with partners to ensure that parks reflect community needs, organizing cleanups
	Business improvement districts	Developing and maintaining parks, organizing park events/ programs, making capital investments

Probable Costs

The Probable Costs indicated in GREENprint Fort Worth provides estimated financial projections for implementing each action. These cost estimates help prioritize projects based on available budgets and guide effective resource allocation. The probable costs consider factors such as labor, materials, equipment, and long-term maintenance. Including these estimates helps the City to identify projects that are financially feasible based on budget and allows for informed decision-making throughout the implementation process. The Probable Costs are broken down into three cost range estimates:

- \$ = Less than \$250,000
- \$\$ = \$250,000 to 2,000,000
- \$\$\$ = \$2,000,00+

Timeframe

The Timeframe for action steps outlines the expected timeline for completing each action step. By establishing timeframes, the City of Fort Worth can effectively prioritize projects, monitor progress, and ensure timely completion. Timeframes are typically broken down into general periods of short-term, medium-term, and long-term goals, allowing for flexibility and adjustments as needed.

This approach helps track the overall success of GREENprint Fort Worth while maintaining accountability and facilitating coordinated efforts across various stakeholders. The timeframes for the action steps in the implementation matrices are

- Short-term (0 to 5 years)
- Medium-term (5 to 10 years)
- Long-term (11+ years)
- Ongoing

Funding Strategies

To assist the City of Fort Worth in locating sustainable, supplemental funding for the Park & Recreation Department, Funding Strategies have been provided. These strategies outline how the City can secure the necessary funds for project development, construction, maintenance, and hiring of staff.

By developing diverse and sustainable funding strategies, the City ensures that the Park & Recreation Department can function without relying

on a single funding source. This approach provides flexibility, supports long-term viability, and allows for the successful operation of the park system while meeting the community’s needs. Funding strategies that the City is encouraged to implement are:

- External Funding
  - Corporate sponsorships
  - Partnerships
  - Foundations and Partner/Donations
  - Irrevocable Remainder Trusts
- User Fees
  - Recreation Service Fees
  - Ticket Sales/Admissions
  - Permit (Special Use Permits)
- Tax Support
  - Bond Issues
  - Property Taxes
  - Hotel Occupancy Tax
  - Special Improvement District/Benefit District
  - Public Improvement District (PID)
- Franchises and License Agreements
  - Concession Management
  - Private Management
  - Naming Rights
  - Park Dedication Fees
  - Private Developers
  - Easements
  - Advertising Sales
  - Interlocal Agreements
- Capital Fees
  - Capital Fees
  - Impact Fees
- Grants

Given the department’s capacity and the volume of projects underway, the City prioritizes pursuing grant opportunities exceeding \$500,000 to maximize impact and ensure efficient use of resources. While this approach helps focus efforts on substantial funding sources, it also narrows the list of available grants. The following opportunities align with this threshold and represent viable funding sources for advancing the City’s park and public space initiatives.



Grant Opportunities

AARP Foundation Grants



Agency	AARP
Purpose/Goals	To improve housing, transportation, public space, technology (“smart cities”), civic engagement and more.
Eligible Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>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.</li></ul>
Eligible Use of Funds	<p>Prioritize projects that aim to achieve the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>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.</li><li>Create vibrant public places that improve green spaces, parks and access to other amenities.</li><li>Deliver a range of transportation and mobility options that increase connectivity, walkability, bikeability, wayfinding, access to transportation options and roadway improvements.</li><li>Support the availability of a range of housing that increases accessible and affordable housing options.</li><li>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.</li><li>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.</li></ul>
Loan or Grant Maximum	Grants can range from several hundred dollars for smaller, short-term activities to several thousand or tens of thousands of dollars for larger projects.
Terms/ Requirements/ Notes	Planning activities not eligible.
Funding Cycle	Rolling pre-application basis
Contact	<a href="mailto:Livable@AARP.org">Livable@AARP.org</a>
Website	<a href="#">AARP Foundation Grants</a>

Local Parks Grants



Agency	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Purpose/Goals	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.
Local Park Grant Classes	<p>The 5 different grant programs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Small Community (eligible population &lt;20,000), Non-urban Outdoor Recreation (&lt;500,000 people), Non-urban Indoor Recreation (&lt;500,000),</li><li>Urban Outdoor Recreation (&gt;500,000), and</li><li>Urban Indoor Recreation (&gt;500,000).</li><li>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.</li></ul>
Eligible Use of Funds	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.
Loan or Grant Maximum	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 Non-urban Outdoor Recreation Program is \$750,000. The grant ceiling for the Non-urban Indoor Recreation Program is \$1 million.
Terms/ Requirements/ Notes	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.
Funding Cycle	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.
Contact	Dan Reece (512) 389-4656 <a href="mailto:dan.reece@tpwd.texas.gov">dan.reece@tpwd.texas.gov</a>
Website	<a href="#">Local Parks Grants</a>

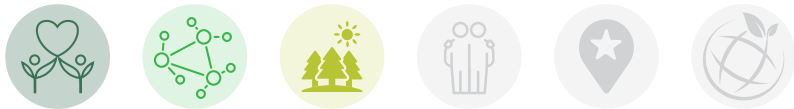


Thriving Communities Grants



Agency	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Purpose/Goals	Support capacity building through assessment, planning, and project development. Encourage meaningful involvement of community members in decision-making that may affect their community.
Eligible Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nonprofit organizations</li><li>• Philanthropic and civic organizations with nonprofit status</li><li>• Tribal governments</li><li>• Native American Organizations</li><li>• Local governments</li><li>• Institutions of higher education</li></ul>
Eligible Use of Funds	<p>Allowable Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Air quality and asthma</li><li>• Fence line air quality monitoring</li><li>• Monitoring of effluent discharges from industrial facilities</li><li>• Water quality and sampling</li><li>• Small cleanup projects</li><li>• Improving food access to reduce vehicle miles traveled</li><li>• Stormwater issues and green infrastructure</li><li>• Lead and asbestos contamination</li><li>• Pesticides and other toxic substances</li><li>• Healthy homes that are energy/water use efficient and not subject to indoor air pollution</li><li>• Emergency preparedness and disaster resiliency</li><li>• Environmental job training for occupations that reduce greenhouse gases and other air pollutants</li><li>• Environmental justice training for youth</li></ul>
Loan or Grant Maximum	Tier One will consist of grants for \$150,000 (1 year) for assessment, Tier Two will consist of grants for \$250,000 (1-2 years) for planning, and Tier Three will consist of grants for \$350,000 (2 years) for project development. In addition, \$75,000 will be available for capacity-constrained community-based organizations through a non-competitive process under Tier One.
Terms/ Requirements/ Notes	The Project must benefit people in disadvantaged communities as defined by the Inflation Reduction Act Disadvantaged Communities Mapping tool.
Funding Cycle	The last Region 6 Thriving Communities Grant Application cycle concluded on January 31, 2025. Subsequent cycles will open in 2025.
Contact	Alba Sereno <a href="mailto:info@bullardcenter.org">info@bullardcenter.org</a>
Website	<a href="#">Region 6 Thriving Communities Grants</a>

America the Beautiful Challenge Grant (ATBC)



Agency	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Purpose/Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conserving and restoring rivers, coasts, wetlands and watersheds</li><li>• Conserving and restoring forests, grasslands and other important ecosystems that serve as carbon sinks</li><li>• Connecting and reconnecting wildlife corridors, large landscapes, watersheds and seascapes</li><li>• Improving ecosystem and community resilience to flooding, drought and other climate-related threats</li><li>• Expanding access to the outdoors, particularly in underserved communities</li></ul>
Eligible Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• State government agencies, territories of the United States, and Indian Tribes are eligible to apply for all five grant categories.</li><li>• Non-profit 501(c) organizations, local governments, municipal governments, and educational institutions are eligible to apply for grants in categories (3) Sentinel Landscape Grants, (4) National Forest Grants and (5) Private Forests, Rangelands and Farmlands Grants.</li></ul>
Eligible Use of Funds	Address conservation and public access needs that showcase cumulative benefits to fish and wildlife, carbon sequestration and storage benefits, engage with and benefit underserved communities, support community access to nature, and help safeguard ecosystems through conservation, resilience-focused and nature-based solutions.
Loan or Grant Maximum	\$200,000-\$5,000,000; federal cost share of 90-100%.
Terms/ Requirements/ Notes	ATBC will prioritize proposals that implement voluntary large-scale, on-the-ground conservation activities or otherwise lead to on-the-ground implementation through capacity building, community engagement, planning and project design. The overarching goal is to advance existing landscape conservation plans and/or propose to knit together a diverse stakeholder partnership that develops and/or implements new conservation plans. As part of this, projects should address priority species and/or habitat conservation actions identified in existing plans or other species recovery or conservation plans.
Funding Cycle	Annual cycle, pre-proposals typically due in April and full proposals due in July if invited.
Contact	Rachel M. Dawson <a href="mailto:Rachel.Dawson@nfwf.org">Rachel.Dawson@nfwf.org</a>
Website	<a href="#">America the Beautiful Challenge Grant Program</a>



Recreational Trails Grants



Agency	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Purpose/Goals	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.
Eligible Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Local governments</li></ul>
Eligible Use of Funds	Funds can be spent on both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail projects such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The construction of new recreational trails</li><li>Improvements to existing trails</li><li>Navigational aids such as signage</li><li>Development of trailheads or trailside facilities</li><li>Acquisition of trail corridors</li></ul>
Loan or Grant Maximum	Maximum award of \$200,000 for non-motorized trail grants and maximum award of \$400,000 for motorized trail grants.
Terms/ Requirements/ Notes	Reimbursable grants can be up to 80% of project costs.
Funding Cycle	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.
Contact	Trey Cooksey (512) 389-8743 <a href="mailto:trey.cooksey@tpwd.texas.gov">trey.cooksey@tpwd.texas.gov</a>
Website	<a href="#">Recreational Trails Grants</a>

Acres Across America Grant



Agency	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Purpose/Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Conserve critical habitats for birds, fish, plants, and wildlife</li><li>Connect existing protected lands to unify wild places and protect critical migration routes</li><li>Provide access for people to enjoy the outdoors</li><li>Ensure the future of local economies that depend on forestry, ranching, wildlife and recreation</li></ul>
Eligible Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Nonprofit organizations</li><li>State government agencies</li><li>Local governments</li><li>Municipal Governments</li><li>Tribal governments and organizations</li><li>Educational Institutions</li></ul>
Eligible Use of Funds	Land acquisitions and conversation easements.
Loan or Grant Maximum	Up to \$3.7 million will be available to support projects in 2024. Based on prior year decisions, we anticipate that between four and eight projects will be awarded funds. All grant awards require a minimum 1:1 match of cash or contributed goods and services.  Both Federal and non-Federal funds may be considered as match. Please include ALL matching sources no matter the status (intend to apply, application submitted, pledged, received). Due to the competitive nature of this program, successful Acres for America projects typically have matching funds at a 5:1 ratio or greater.
Terms/ Requirements/ Notes	Activities referenced in a NFWF business plan or a well-developed, comprehensive conservation strategy targeting those geographies/species will be most competitive.
Funding Cycle	Annual cycle with pre-proposals typically due in April and full proposals due in May if invited.
Contact	Jay Jensen <a href="mailto:Jay.jensen@nfwf.org">Jay.jensen@nfwf.org</a>
Website	<a href="#">Acres Across America Grant</a>



Implementation Matrices



**Thriving Community**  
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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
Objective 1.1: Design an award-winning park and recreation system that enhances the community’s quality of life		Objective 1.1: Design an award-winning park and recreation system that enhances the community’s quality of life			
1.1.1 Create a signature park in each Park Planning District, celebrating local history and diversity with exceptional design and programming.	Use the following map to evaluate and prioritize potential locations for signature parks based on accessibility, land availability, and alignment with community needs, while considering each site’s historical, cultural, and environmental significance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- N/A</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>- FW Lab</li><li>- Property Management</li></ul>	Short-term (0-5 years)	\$
	Collaborate with renowned planners, architects, and designers to create a visionary design plan for flagship parks, featuring immersive play experiences, iconic gathering spaces, and dynamic water elements that inspire connection and exploration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of formal partnerships developed</li><li>- Number of flagship parks designed</li><li>- Number of flagships parks developed per year</li><li>- Types of amenities included at each flagship park</li><li>- Number of awards applied for exhibiting flagship parks</li><li>- Percentage of awards won</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>- <b>Neighborhood Services*</b></li><li>- <b>Development Services*</b></li><li>- Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>- Environmental Services</li><li>- FW Public Art</li><li>- FW Lab</li><li>- FW Urban Forestry</li><li>- FW Nature Center and Refuge</li><li>- Tarrant Regional Water District</li></ul>	Short-term (0-5 years)	\$\$
	Gather input from residents, historians, artists, and cultural organizations through workshops and surveys to ensure the park’s design incorporates culturally reflective features, such as public art, thematic landscaping, and story-telling elements that showcase the unique identity, history, and values of each district.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- N/A</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>- <b>Communications &amp; Public Engagement*</b></li><li>- Local Colleges and Universities</li><li>- Independent School Districts</li><li>- Neighborhood Services/Associations</li><li>- Local Historians</li><li>- FW Public Art</li></ul>	Short-term (0-5 years)	\$
	Partner with private developers, business campus owners, non-profit and philanthropic organizations to secure funding to support signature park development, programming, and long-term maintenance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- N/A</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>- <b>FW Lab*</b></li><li>- Local Private Developers</li><li>- Economic Department</li><li>- Area Non-Profit Groups</li><li>- Philanthropies</li><li>- Botanical Research Institute of Texas</li><li>- Streams &amp; Valleys</li></ul>	Short-term (0-5 years)	\$\$
1.1.2: Strive for design excellence in the development and renovation or replacement of parks and amenities.	Opt for sustainable design elements where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of projects that included sustainable designs.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>- <b>Environmental Services*</b></li><li>- <b>FW Lab*</b></li><li>- Transportation &amp; Public Works (Stormwater)</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$
	Incorporate unique features such as public art, sculpture gardens, adventure play areas, observation towers, thematic gardens, or water play elements to attract regional and national attention.	<p>Community Benefit Programming:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of public art displays added to the park, recreation, and public realm system</li><li>- Number of public digital art displays installed</li><li>- Number and type of unique features added to parks, trails, facilities, and the public realm</li><li>- Number of visitors to parks with unique features that are not from Fort Worth</li><li>- Percentage of return visitors (local)</li><li>- Percentage of return visitors (not from Fort Worth)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>- <b>FW Public Art*</b></li><li>- Communications &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>- Tarrant County Master Gardener Association</li><li>- Cross Timbers Master Naturalists</li><li>- Local Colleges and University</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$

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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
Objective 1.2: Continuously assess community needs and proactively plan facilities, recreation, and programs that adapt to evolving needs and trends		Objective 1.2: Continuously assess community needs and proactively plan facilities, recreation, and programs that adapt to evolving needs and trends			
1.2.1 Develop a public engagement strategy to ensure community input is integrated into any park planning efforts.	Create committees representing diverse groups from each Park Planning District to provide ongoing input on park planning. Publicize participation opportunities in advance through neighborhood groups, media, schools, parks, businesses, and social media. This committee could be subcommittee of the Park & Recreation advisory board, or could be a stand alone committee.	Improved Community Engagement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Status on the creation of committees</li><li>- Total number of committee(s) positions</li><li>- Percent of committee(s) positions filled</li><li>- Percentage breakdown of demographics represented on the committee(s)</li><li>- Number of committee members from each Park Planning District</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department*</li><li>- City Council/City Manager's Office*</li><li>- Communication &amp; Public Engagement*</li><li>- Diversity and Inclusion*</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Collaborate with the City's Communication & Public Engagement Department to organize community outreach events at parks and recreation facilities to gather feedback from residents on programming, operations, amenities, and needs.	Improved Community Engagement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of community outreach events scheduled and held.</li><li>- Survey of participants on quality of recreation programming, park operations/maintenance, and amenities.</li><li>- List of top 10 needs identified in each Park Planning District.</li><li>- Number of "needs" to be added to City's CIP plan.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department*</li><li>- Communication &amp; Public Engagement*</li><li>- Public Events</li><li>- FW Lab</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Create a public engagement division within the Park & Recreation Department, including new or additional roles like a Public Engagement Specialist to coordinate resident and stakeholder input on operations and programming.	Improved Community Engagement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Creation of Public Engagement Specialist position for the Park and Recreation Department</li><li>- Hiring of Public Engagement Specialist position for Park and Recreation Department</li><li>- Number of employees trained to support public engagement efforts</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department*</li><li>- Human Resources*</li><li>- City Council/City Manager's Office</li><li>- Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Provide customer service training for all staff to engage with residents and visitors, emphasizing their role as ambassadors who gather feedback on public needs and park system expectations.	Improved Community Engagement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of training sessions held.</li><li>- Percentage of Park and Recreation Department staff that have attended training.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department*</li><li>- Human Resources*</li><li>- Communication &amp; Public Engagement*</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Conduct annual surveys to assess the park system's effectiveness, identify areas for improvement, and determine needs for new parks, trails, and spaces. Encourage non-users to share reasons for low participation and suggest ways to increase engagement.	Improved Community Engagement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of surveys distributed.</li><li>- Percentage of surveys returned with responses.</li><li>- Number of in-person surveys conducted.</li><li>- Percentage of participants who gave the Park and Recreation Department a "good" or "excellent" scores.</li><li>- List identifying:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- What is working</li><li>- What needs to be fixed/replaced</li><li>- Where new parks/green spaces/trails are needed</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department*</li><li>- Communication &amp; Public Engagement*</li><li>- Neighborhood Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$

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<b>Objective 1.2: Continuously assess community needs and proactively plan facilities, recreation, and programs that adapt to evolving needs and trends</b>		<b>Objective 1.2: Continuously assess community needs and proactively plan facilities, recreation, and programs that adapt to evolving needs and trends</b>			
<b>1.2.1 Develop a public engagement strategy to ensure community input is integrated into any park planning efforts.</b>	Implement technologies like QR codes at parks and recreation facilities to enable instant feedback from residents on programs, events, and facilities. Use the same technology for distributing announcements about events, projects, and public involvement opportunities.	Improved Community Engagement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Status on progress (in percentage) to implementation of QR code feedback/ announcement application.</li><li>– Number of users of application.</li><li>– Number of announcements released through application.</li><li>– Percent increase in public participation in programs, events, projects, and opportunities since launch of application.</li><li>– Most common feedback provided through application.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>– <b>Information Technology Services*</b></li><li>– <b>Communication &amp; Public Engagement*</b></li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$\$
<b>1.2.2 Prioritize developing recreation elements identified as priorities by the community in the Demand-Based Assessment section:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Construction of more swimming pools.</b></li><li>– <b>More trendy sports like pickleball and disc golf.</b></li><li>– <b>Add more hiking and biking trails.</b></li><li>– <b>Provide more indoor community centers in areas such as northern Fort Worth.</b></li><li>– <b>Add more programs for all age groups.</b></li></ul>	Create traveling programs, such as pop-up pickleball courts and disc golf courses, at various city locations. Track participation to assess potential for permanent programs. These initiatives also bring activities to neighborhoods with limited access to parks or community centers.	Community Benefit Programming: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Number of “traveling” programs scheduled.</li><li>– Percentage of “traveling” programs held.</li><li>– Number of participants per program.</li><li>– Number of return participants per program.</li><li>– Locations where “traveling” programs were held.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>– <b>Public Events*</b></li><li>– <b>FW Lab</b></li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Encourage pilot programs to test new ideas before full implementation. Gather participant feedback and run programs for at least a month to assess growth. Provide materials (brochures, leaflets, online announcements) to help participants promote the program.	Community Benefit Programming: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Number of pilot programs held.</li><li>– Number of participants per pilot program.</li><li>– Survey participants to gauge attractiveness of making program permanent.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>– <b>FW Lab*</b></li><li>– <b>Communication &amp; Public Engagement*</b></li><li>– <b>Public Events*</b></li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
<b>Objective 1.3: Enhance public health and promote active lifestyles by expanding access to parks, offering diverse recreational programs, and improving facilities for physical activity in parks and public spaces.</b>					
<b>1.3.1 Promote healthy daily habits by ensuring parks, green spaces, natural areas, and recreation facilities are easily accessible through strategic placement, expanded trail networks, and the integration of the public realm to bring parks to everyone's front door.</b>	Expand and enhance the citywide trail network and pedestrian connections to ensure all neighborhoods have safe and convenient access to parks, green spaces, and recreation facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Percentage of residents within a 10-minute walk or bike ride from a park or recreation facility.</li><li>– Total miles of new trails added annually.</li><li>– Number of people participating in recreational programs (e.g., fitness classes, sports leagues) offered in parks or public spaces.</li><li>– Number of community events or activities hosted in parks and green spaces to encourage active living.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>– <b>Transportation &amp; Public Works*</b></li><li>– <b>Trinity Metro</b></li><li>– <b>Development Services</b></li><li>– <b>FW Lab</b></li><li>– <b>North Central Texas Council of Governments</b></li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$

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<b>Objective 1.3: Enhance public health and promote active lifestyles by expanding access to parks, offering diverse recreational programs, and improving facilities for physical activity in parks and public spaces.</b>		<b>Objective 1.3: Enhance public health and promote active lifestyles by expanding access to parks, offering diverse recreational programs, and improving facilities for physical activity in parks and public spaces.</b>			
<b>1.3.2 Develop and expand outdoor fitness and recreation programs</b>	Create flexible, inclusive programs that encourage community participation regardless of skills or abilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Total number of participants in inclusive and flexible programs (broken down by demographics such as age, skill level, and ability).</li><li>– Number of participants who engage in mentorship programs.</li><li>– Increase in community involvement as measured by the number of new participants or expanded program offerings.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>– <b>Communication &amp; Public Engagement*</b></li><li>– <b>Diversity &amp; Inclusion*</b></li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Pilot pop-up fitness programs and launch mobile fitness sessions like yoga, aerobics, or boot camps in parks and green spaces, rotating locations to maximize reach and accessibility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Number of participants per session.</li><li>– Number of programs held each month.</li><li>– Percent increase in local park usage during the pop-up programs.</li><li>– Number of parks where pop-up programs have been held each quarter.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>– <b>Communication &amp; Public Engagement*</b></li><li>– <b>Diversity &amp; Inclusion*</b></li><li>– Neighborhood Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Increase the number of multipurpose sports courts, walking loops, playgrounds, fitness stations, and outdoor gyms to provide accessible spaces for physical activity. Install exercise equipment near playgrounds so adults can exercise and socialize while their children play.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Total number of new multipurpose sports courts, walking loops, playgrounds, fitness stations, and outdoor gyms installed annually.</li><li>– Number of parks that integrate exercise equipment near playgrounds.</li><li>– Average number of users per day at sports courts, walking loops, fitness stations, and outdoor gyms.</li><li>– Percentage of fitness equipment and sports courts maintained and operational throughout the year.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li></ul>	Short Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$\$
	Install shaded rest areas, water fountains, and restrooms in parks to support extended outdoor use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Number of shade areas, water fountains and restrooms installed at parks each year.</li><li>– Percentage of parks offering shade, water fountains, and restrooms.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>– Transportation &amp; Public Works</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$
	Develop new community centers in identified areas of need, such as north and eastern Fort Worth and new growth areas to ensure these indoor centers are located within 1 mile of every resident. These facilities promote active lifestyles by offering recreational programs, fitness opportunities, meeting spaces, and venues for community interaction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Number of sites identified for placement of new community centers.</li><li>– Number of residents with 1-mile walk from proposed community center locations.</li><li>– Number of new community centers placed on CIP.</li><li>– Number of new community centers built each year.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>– <b>Development Services*</b></li><li>– <b>FW Lab*</b></li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$\$\$

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1.3.3 Partner with health organizations to provide residents with added health benefits when they visit parks and/or participate in recreation programs. As part of the partnership, events can be held throughout the system such as hosting mobile health screenings, vaccination clinics and health workshops.	Organize public health awareness campaigns in parks about the benefits of physical activity, balanced diets, and healthy lifestyles, using signage, public talks, and workshops.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Hold at least two public health awareness campaigns in each PPD each season (Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter).</li><li>– Number of participants per event.</li><li>– Total number of residents reached through health awareness campaigns annually.</li><li>– Percentage of attendees who report improved knowledge of health maintenance or seasonal health concerns.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>– <b>Local Health Groups/Professionals*</b></li><li>– <b>Local Health Facilities/Hospitals*</b></li><li>– <b>Communication &amp; Public Engagement*</b></li><li>– Neighborhood Services</li><li>– Tarrant County Public Health</li><li>– Diversity &amp; Inclusion</li><li>– FW Lab</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Collaborate with healthcare providers to expand the park prescription program (Park Rx), where doctors recommend physical activity in parks for patients with chronic conditions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Number of healthcare providers participating in program each quarter.</li><li>– Number of parks that have been used as part of program annually.</li><li>– Number of residents/patients receiving “park prescriptions” annually.</li><li>– Number of outreach events held quarterly to promote the park prescription program to residents and healthcare providers.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>– <b>Communication &amp; Public Engagement*</b></li><li>– Local healthcare providers</li><li>– TCU Nursing Program</li><li>– Blue Zones Project Fort Worth</li></ul>	Yearly	\$\$
	Track park and public space usage over time to assess health impacts of improvements. Use indicators like active commuting rates from national surveys (e.g., American Community Survey) and validated park usage data, such as Observing Play and Recreation in Communities (SOPARC) counts, to measure changes in park use and physical activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Percentage of adults who bike or engage in active commuting.</li><li>– Biannual observed number of visitors to sample parks in each PPD.</li><li>– Most active time of the day for park usage.</li><li>– Amenities and features (playgrounds, lawns, sport courts, benches, etc.) most often used by visitors to parks and public spaces.</li><li>– Number of park visitors engaging in physical activities categorized by intensity levels (sedentary, moderate, vigorous), as observed.</li><li>– Gender of park visitors.</li><li>– Age group of park visitors.</li><li>– Length of average visit by visitors to park and public spaces.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>– North Central Texas Council of Governments</li><li>– Trinity Railway Express</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$

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1.3.4 Activate the use of the Trinity River and its tributaries for active recreation by introducing more areas to launch boats, canoes, and kayaks. Identify areas along the river that can be used for swimming, water yoga and other water-based activities/programs.	Activate the Trinity River and its tributaries for active recreation by introducing more areas to launch boats, canoes, and kayaks. Identify areas along the river that can be used for swimming, water yoga and other water-based activities/programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Number of new areas identified and designated bi-annually for swimming and water-based activities.</li><li>– Number of water-based activities and programs offered monthly.</li><li>– Quarterly participation rate in organized water-based activities and programs.</li><li>– Annual total number of existing launch areas for boats, canoes, and kayaks.</li><li>– Annual total number of new launch areas built for boats, canoes, and kayaks.</li><li>– Monthly number of times launch sites are used.</li><li>– Most common use for launch sites.</li><li>– Percentage of Trinity River with accessible recreation points (active use areas and launch sites).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>– <b>Tarrant Regional Water District*</b></li><li>– Community based organizations - Water sports and water recreation</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$
Objective 1.4: Strengthen partnerships with other agencies, non-profit groups, community partners, and the private sector to expand opportunities for programming and joint use of space and facilities.		Objective 1.4: Strengthen partnerships with other agencies, non-profit groups, community partners, and the private sector to expand opportunities for programming and joint use of space and facilities.			
1.4.1 Partner with subject matter experts such as private sector and non profits to develop new recreation programs	Partner with private sector and non-profit organizations that have more specialized skills in the development and implementation of new recreation programs (example: partnering with local disc golf and pickleball clubs to hold instructional events and tournaments).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Number of partnerships established with private sector and non-profit organizations annually.</li><li>– Number of new recreation programs developed with partners annually.</li><li>– Type of recreation programs implemented through partnerships.</li><li>– Quarterly numbers of participants in each new program.</li><li>– Annually number of Park &amp; Recreation Dept. resources freed up with the development of partnerships to operate recreation programs.</li><li>– Annual cost saving to the Park &amp; Recreation Dept.</li><li>– Annual number of partnerships renewed.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>– <b>Economic Development*</b></li><li>– <b>Communication &amp; Public Engagement*</b></li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
1.4.2 Seek volunteers from the surrounding communities and non-profit organizations to operate and manage recreation programs.	Offer diverse volunteer opportunities across Park & Recreation Department divisions, including tree planting, administrative tasks, event support, and program development, to suit various interests, skills, and abilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Number of volunteer opportunities provided in each division of the Park &amp; Recreation Dept. annually.</li><li>– Number of annual participants in volunteer opportunities program.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>– <b>Communications &amp; Public Engagement*</b></li><li>– Neighborhood Services</li><li>– Diversity &amp; Inclusion</li><li>– Public Events</li><li>– FW Urban Forestry</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$

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## Thriving Community

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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
<b>Objective 1.4: Strengthen partnerships with other agencies, non-profit groups, community partners, and the private sector to expand opportunities for programming and joint use of space and facilities.</b>		<b>Objective 1.4: Strengthen partnerships with other agencies, non-profit groups, community partners, and the private sector to expand opportunities for programming and joint use of space and facilities.</b>			
<b>1.4.2 Seek volunteers from the surrounding communities and non-profit organizations to operate and manage recreation programs.</b>	Create a community ambassador program where local volunteers serve as liaisons between PARD and residents, using familiar faces to increase program participation. Allocate budget to provide full-time volunteer coordination to facilitate volunteers and partnerships.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Total and per PPD, number of annual participants in community ambassador program.</li><li>- Diversity of community ambassadors (age, gender, ethnicity, etc.)</li><li>- Monthly average number of hours participating in role of community ambassador.</li><li>- Average number of monthly interactions between community ambassadors and residents.</li><li>- Number of actionable suggestions implemented based on feedback received by community ambassadors.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>- <b>Communications &amp; Public Engagement*</b></li><li>- Neighborhood Services</li><li>- Diversity &amp; Inclusion</li><li>- Local Colleges and Universities</li><li>- Independent School Districts</li><li>- FW Lab</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
<b>1.4.3 Partner with private property owners to increase public access to private parks</b>	Explore opportunities for HOAs and private property owners to receive tax incentives, grants, or other financial benefits from local or state government for allowing public access.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of opportunities provided.</li><li>- Biannual and yearly breakdown of financial benefits (in dollars) provided to HOAs and private property owners.</li><li>- Total number of applications for financial benefits submitted and awarded.</li><li>- Total acreage opened to public use as result of the program.</li><li>- Annual number of HOAs and private property owners renewing partnerships as a result of this program.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>- <b>City Manager's Office*</b></li><li>- <b>Neighborhood Services*</b></li><li>- <b>Communication &amp; Public Engagement*</b></li><li>- City Attorney's Office</li><li>- Property Management</li><li>- Financial Management Services</li><li>- FW Lab</li><li>- Development Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
<b>1.4.4 Strengthen partnerships with local school districts, colleges and universities to permit equilateral use of parks, green spaces, sport fields, playgrounds and recreation facilities by both the public and the school districts.</b>	Create formal agreements between the city, school districts, and universities for shared use of parks and facilities, defining terms for access, scheduling, maintenance, liability, and cost-sharing. Consider creating a educational and partnerships full-time position, to nurture longterm relationships and serve as point of contact and coordination.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of formal agreements established annually between the City, school districts, and universities.</li><li>- Types and number of parks and facilities included in the shared-use agreements.</li><li>- Biannual utilization rates of shared facilities.</li><li>- Annual saving to the City by entering into shared-use agreements.</li><li>- Monthly number of programs and events held at shared facilities and parks.</li><li>- Number of residents benefiting (10-minute walk) from expanded access through shared-facility agreements.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>- <b>Independent School Districts*</b></li><li>- <b>Local Colleges and Universities*</b></li><li>- <b>City Attorney's Office*</b></li><li>- City Manager's Office</li><li>- Property Management</li><li>- FW Lab</li></ul>	Short Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Encourage the development of parks and green spaces as part of expansion project for schools, colleges and universities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Annual total acreage added to public parks and green spaces through expansion projects for schools, colleges and universities.</li><li>- Number of projects with formal agreements or plans for park/green space development.</li><li>- Types and number of amenities and features being provided as part of parks and green space projects.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>- <b>Local Colleges and Universities*</b></li><li>- City Manager's Office</li><li>- Development Services</li></ul>	Short Term (0-5 Years)	\$

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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
<b>Objective 1.4: Strengthen partnerships with other agencies, non-profit groups, community partners, and the private sector to expand opportunities for programming and joint use of space and facilities.</b>		<b>Objective 1.4: Strengthen partnerships with other agencies, non-profit groups, community partners, and the private sector to expand opportunities for programming and joint use of space and facilities.</b>			
<b>1.4.4 Strengthen partnerships with local school districts, colleges and universities to permit equilateral use of parks, green spaces, sport fields, playgrounds and recreation facilities by both the public and the school districts.</b>	Develop shared programming that benefits both students and the public, such as after-school sports leagues, fitness classes, outdoor learning programs, or summer camps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of programs developed monthly.</li><li>- Monthly participation in shared programming.</li><li>- Annual total monetary saving to City in the development, operations and maintenance as a result of shared programming.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>- <b>Independent School Districts*</b></li><li>- <b>City Attorney's Office*</b></li><li>- City Manager's Office</li><li>- Property Management</li><li>- FW Lab</li><li>- Neighborhood Services</li></ul>	Short Term (0-5 Years)	\$
<b>1.4.5 Continue to work with the Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and FEMA on the use of the Trinity River, its creeks, tributaries, and floodplains as green spaces to be enjoyed by the public.</b>	Continue to work with the Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD), the Army Corp of Engineers, and FEMA on the use of the Trinity River, its creeks, tributaries, and floodplains as green spaces to be enjoyed by the public.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Total acreage added for use by the public as green space annually.</li><li>- Percentage of Trinity River, creeks, tributaries and floodplains being used for public green spaces.</li><li>- Number of new parks, trails, and green spaces developed as a result of this collaboration.</li><li>- Number of projects developed that will assist in flood mitigation.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>- City Manager's Office</li><li>- Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>- Property Management</li><li>- Tarrant Regional Water District</li><li>- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers</li><li>- Federal Emergency Management Agency</li></ul>	Medium Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$
<b>1.4.6 Partner with developers of new residential and commercial developments to construct multi-modal trails and extend existing trails to service nearby neighborhoods.</b>	Partner with developers of new residential and commercial developments to construct multi-modal trails and extend existing trails to service nearby neighborhoods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of new trail miles added to existing trail system annually.</li><li>- Percentage breakdown between residential and commercial developments partnerships.</li><li>- Number of new access points/trailheads created in new and existing residential neighborhoods.</li><li>- Average monthly use of new trail segments by residents and visitors.</li><li>- Percent increase in use of active forms of transportation for commuting as a result of new trails.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>- <b>FW Lab*</b></li><li>- <b>Development Services*</b></li><li>- <b>Transportation &amp; Public Works*</b></li><li>- Private Developers</li><li>- North Central Texas Council of Governments</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
<b>1.4.7 Work with the community partners to explore areas of opportunities to host programs in unconventional, underutilized spaces and where service gaps exist as identified by the Level of Service and Opportunity Areas maps.</b>	Work with the community partners to explore areas of opportunities to host programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of community members engaged annually through outreach events, surveys, and volunteer programs.</li><li>- Percentage of park and recreation programs co-developed with local organizations or residents.</li><li>- Number of new or improved amenities in historically underserved areas.</li><li>- Increase in participation in public space events or recreational programs over time.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Neighborhood Services</b></li><li>- <b>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</b></li><li>- <b>Public Events Department</b></li><li>- <b>Diversity &amp; Inclusion</b></li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$

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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
Objective 1.5: Position parks to help address complex challenges in the community		Objective 1.5: Position parks to help address complex challenges in the community			
1.5.1 Leveraging parks as community support hubs for at risk population.	Work with multidisciplinary teams, including social workers, healthcare providers, law enforcement, and community advocates, to create coordinated support systems that connect at-risk populations with essential resources and support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- N/A</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department*</li><li>- Social Services*</li><li>- Non-Profit Organizations*</li><li>- FW Police Department*</li><li>- Health Professionals</li><li>- Medical Services/Clinics</li><li>- Faith-Based Organizations</li><li>- Community Advocacy Groups</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	In-house trained social workers at community centers and create a specialized team to assist those in need with referrals and support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Average number monthly clients seen by each social worker to assess workload balance and resource allocation.</li><li>- Number of people who received support or referrals through the social workers at the community centers.</li><li>- Percentage of individuals that follow through with referrals to recommended services.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department*</li><li>- Human Resources*</li><li>- Local Social Service/Homeless Shelters*</li><li>- Neighborhood Services</li></ul>	Short-term (0-5 years)	\$\$
	Use parks to develop programs and activities for at-risk populations to help deliver services, employment, and educational opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of individuals who attend programs and activities offered in the parks, segmented by different types of services.</li><li>- Annual number of individuals who secured employment through the programs and activities offered.</li><li>- Number of local businesses, schools, and organizations that partner with the park programs to provide services, mentorship and employment opportunities to at-risk populations.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department*</li><li>- Neighborhood Services (Emergency Household Assistance Program - CARES Act)*</li><li>- City Manager’s Office (Homeless System)*</li><li>- Continuum of Care Network</li><li>- Tarrant County Homeless Coalition</li><li>- Fort Worth Homeless Outreach Program &amp; Enforcement Team</li><li>- Community Groups (ex: True Worth, TCHC Homeless Helpline, Fort Worth Homeless Veterans Program)</li></ul>	Short-term (0-5 years)	\$
	Use parks to develop programs and activities for unhoused populations to help deliver services, employment, and educational opportunities during convenient and important times, including late into the evening to foster connection, empowerment, and community involvement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Annual number of amenities/features constructed to support the needs of unhoused individuals.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Local Colleges and Universities</li><li>- Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (Funding for Programs)</li><li>- HOPE Team</li></ul>	Short-term (0-5 years)	\$\$
	Develop and enforce fair park rules that recognize unhoused individuals as valid users, pairing enforcement with educational initiatives to reduce bias.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Type and number of infractions cited, monthly.</li><li>- Number of educational programs developed to aid in reducing misconceptions of homelessness.</li><li>- Number of participants in each program.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>- Diversity and Inclusion</li><li>- Tarrant County Homeless Coalition</li><li>- Fort Worth Homeless Outreach Program &amp; Enforcement Team</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$

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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
Objective 1.5: Position parks to help address complex challenges in the community		Objective 1.5: Position parks to help address complex challenges in the community			
1.5.2 Collaborate with the City of Fort Worth’s Neighborhood Services Department and other housing partners to enhance parks and recreation opportunities near existing affordable housing locations.	Work with Neighborhood Services and housing partners to develop a shared GIS map identifying existing affordable housing developments and overlay park access, amenities, and trail connectivity. Use assessment findings to prioritize capital improvements, park expansion, or programming near housing sites lacking adequate recreational access.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Number of new recreation programs developed within a 10-minute walk of affordable housing neighborhoods.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>– <b>Neighborhood Services*</b></li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
1.5.3 Organize farmers markets, community gardens, and community-supported agriculture programs that bring healthy foods closer to residents dealing with food insecurity.	Assess existing parks and underutilized green spaces for their potential to host farmers markets, community gardens, or community-supported agriculture pickup sites—especially in areas with limited access to fresh food. Develop new gardens or expand existing ones in collaboration with local residents, offering plots, tools, and resources to support neighborhood-based food production.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Total number of farmers markets held annually in areas with underserved populations</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>– <b>Economic Development*</b></li><li>– Sustainable Food Group</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
1.5.4 Design parks that integrate into the city's emergency preparedness plan.	Work with Office of Emergency Management (OEM) to designate key parks as to be used in the overall emergency preparedness plan including using them as temporary shelters, stormwater detention, or storm damage storage areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Number of times parks and community centers have been utilized as resilience hubs during actual emergency situations</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department*</b></li><li>– <b>FW Emergency Management*</b></li></ul>	Medium Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$\$\$

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### Connected System

Create a dynamic, connected network of high-quality parks, public spaces, and trails that unite the community and support the mobility and recreational needs of all Fort Worth residents.



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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
Objective 2.1: Provide an accessible, well-distributed and balanced park system throughout the entire community.		Objective 2.1: Provide an accessible, well-distributed and balanced park system throughout the entire community.			
2.1.1. Champion sustainable and equitable parkland expansion to enhance the quality and accessibility of the park system for all.	Increase the amount of parkland equitably throughout the City, with a focus on underserved areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Total acreage acquired for use as usable parkland in underserved areas each year.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- Neighborhood Services</li><li>- Property Management</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$
	Expand parkland and green spaces by advocating and supporting ongoing initiatives, including the Trust for Public Land's (TPL) 10-minute walk campaign, Good-Natured Greenspace Initiative, Open Space Program and Riparian Area initiative.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Monitor the growth in acres or linear feet of protected or restored riparian areas.</li><li>- Measure the total number of completed projects that support the Good-Natured Greenspace, Open Space Program, and Riparian Area initiatives annually.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>FW Lab</b></li><li>- City Council</li><li>- Tarrant Regional Water District</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Expand parkland and green spaces through partnerships with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- ISDs</li><li>- HOAs</li><li>- TRWD</li><li>- TXDOT</li><li>- Trinity River Authority</li><li>- Tarrant County</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Total number of new parks and green spaces added to existing inventory as part of partnerships, including total acreage for new parks and green spaces.</li><li>- Total number of accessibility improvements made at park and recreation facilities.</li><li>- Estimated park, greenspace, trail, and recreation facilities inventory value.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>- Independent School Districts</li><li>- Homeowners Associations</li><li>- Tarrant Regional Water District</li><li>- Texas Department of Transportation</li><li>- Trinity River Authority</li><li>- Tarrant County</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Identify and activate vacant or underutilized publicly-owned land for recreational use and green space development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of recreational programs held at sites that were found to be underutilized.</li><li>- Type and number of amenities/features installed at underutilized sites to activate their use.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Property Management</b></li><li>- FW Lab</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Explore alternative options like pop-up parks or community green spaces where parkland dedication and/or acquisition is not feasible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of events held in underserved or high-priority areas.</li><li>- Number of attendees at each of the pop-up park programs held.</li><li>- Feedback heard from residents that participated in pop-up park events.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Use public right-of-way for pedestrian plazas, parklets, and recreational spaces, especially in high-density neighborhoods with limited land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of residents within 10-minute walking distance from new pedestrian plazas, parklets, and recreations spaces installed in public rights-of-way.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Property Management</b></li><li>- <b>Transportation &amp; Public Works</b></li><li>- Neighborhood Services</li><li>- Development Services</li><li>- Private Developers</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Leverage stormwater infrastructure to expand parks and green spaces.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Acreage added to park and recreation system through the use of stormwater infrastructure, annually.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Transportation &amp; Public Works (Stormwater)</b></li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$

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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
Objective 2.2: Connect the park system, seamlessly into the urban public realm and the community within and beyond the parkland.		Objective 2.2: Connect the park system, seamlessly into the urban public realm and the community within and beyond the parkland.			
2.2.1 Develop high-quality pedestrian and bicycle connections to parks, recreation facilities, and natural areas.	Expand the existing trail system and fill critical gaps in the trail network to provide continuous and safe routes for pedestrians and cyclists to neighborhoods, parks, green spaces and recreational facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Total miles added to existing trail system.</li><li>- Percent increase of trail users added with expansions.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Transportation &amp; Public Works</b></li><li>- Development Services</li><li>- Texas Department of Transportation</li><li>- North Central Texas Council of Governments</li><li>- Private Developers</li><li>- Tarrant Regional Water District</li><li>- Utility Easement Owners</li><li>- Neighborhood Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Improve existing trails that currently do not meet design standards or user demands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Biannual, percentage of trail projects completed bring them up to standards and user demands.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Transportation &amp; Public Works</b></li><li>- Development Services</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Establish a network of interconnected complete streets, corridors, and public realms that foster greater pedestrian and active transportation mobility throughout the city.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Quarterly count of new connections established between trails and streets to enhance overall connectivity.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Transportation &amp; Public Works</b></li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Transform underused public infrastructure, such as utility corridors, into green spaces or trail connections to cost-effectively expand the network.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- New mileage added to existing trail system through the use of utility corridors.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Property Management</b></li><li>- Utility Easement/Corridor Owners</li><li>- Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>- Utility Companies</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Leverage the Trinity River as a Central Connector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of new connections built connecting the Trinity River trails to neighborhoods, commercial/business centers, parks, and downtown Fort Worth.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Tarrant Regional Water District</b></li><li>- Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>- North Central Texas Council of Governments</li><li>- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers</li><li>- Streams &amp; Valleys</li><li>- Texas Department of Transportation</li><li>- Private Landowners</li><li>- <b>Development Services</b></li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$
	Map out major parks, green spaces, and community hubs to prioritize connections between them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Completion percentage of a mapped network of major parks, green spaces, and community hubs, with prioritized connection opportunities identified and integrated into planning efforts.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Development Services</b></li><li>- <b>FW Lab</b></li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Advocate for regional trails ( DFW Discovery Trail and others) to be connected to Fort Worth trails.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of connections to be constructed linking regional and Fort Worth trails.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Development Services</b></li><li>- <b>FW Lab</b></li></ul>	Ongoing	\$

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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
Objective 2.2: Connect the park system, seamlessly into the urban public realm and the community within and beyond the parkland.		Objective 2.2: Connect the park system, seamlessly into the urban public realm and the community within and beyond the parkland.			
2.2.1 Develop high-quality pedestrian and bicycle connections to parks, recreation facilities, and natural areas.	Involve PARD in Transportation & Public Works project selection process for Federal TIP funding through the North Central Texas Council of Governments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Annual total number of projects with PARD involvement that successfully secure funding.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>- Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>- North Central Texas Council of Governments</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
2.2.2 Ensure universal and safe access to parks, recreation facilities, and public spaces.	Improve pedestrian and bike infrastructure leading to parks/green spaces/recreation facilities through including and improving safe street crossings, sidewalks, and dedicated bike lanes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of incidents involving pedestrians or cyclists on routes leading to parks before and after infrastructure improvements.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>- Transportation &amp; Public Works</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$
	Establish multiple pedestrian access points along park edges, integrating them with sidewalk and trail networks to ensure seamless connections to park amenities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Measure the decrease in the average distance residents must walk to reach a park access point.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>- Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>- Neighborhood Services</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Develop and implement a Cool Corridor Program to create shaded, pedestrian-friendly walkways or trails along arterial streets that provide safe and comfortable passage for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Miles of public streets enhanced as part of the Cool Corridor Program annually.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>- Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>- FW Lab</li><li>- Development Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Work with the Transportation & Public Works Department, Army Corp of Engineers, and non-profit organizations (eg. Streams & Valleys) to eliminate or mitigate physical barriers to green space access.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of completed projects aimed at eliminating or mitigating barriers to green space access.</li><li>- Total funds secured or allocated for barrier mitigation projects.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>- Tarrant Regional Water District</li><li>- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers</li><li>- Streams &amp; Valleys</li><li>- Nature-Based Non-Profit Groups</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Collaborate with Transportation & Public Works on ADA Transition Plans and PROWAG implementation to combine resources for efficient project delivery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Total number of projects completed collaboratively under the ADA Transition Plans and PROWAG implementation.</li><li>- Annual amount of cost savings realized through combined resources and joint project delivery.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>- Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>- Diversity &amp; Inclusion</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
2.2.3 Provide access to micro-mobility services at/or near parks and natural areas.	Identify locations for full-service hubs with electrical supply, accessible sites, hard surfaces, and connections to streets, trails, or park paths.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of locations identified in each PPD for the installation of full-service hubs.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>- Transportation &amp; Public Works</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Create a usage reporting plan with Transportation & Public Works and partners to evaluate mobility hub performance near park properties and guide policy for relocating under-performing hubs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of hubs flagged as under-performing based on the reporting plan criteria.</li><li>- Percentage increase in user traffic at hubs after implementing policy changes or relocations.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>- Transportation &amp; Public Works</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$

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### Connected System

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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
Objective 2.2: Connect the park system, seamlessly into the urban public realm and the community within and beyond the parkland.		Objective 2.2: Connect the park system, seamlessly into the urban public realm and the community within and beyond the parkland.			
2.2.4 Provide Transit, Paratransit, and Shared Mobility Access to Key Parks and Events	Identify transit stops within 1/4 to 1/2 mile of key parks and recreation facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of parks and recreation facilities with transit stops within 1/4 to 1/2 mile.</li><li>Number of new transit stops installed within 1/4 to 1/2 mile install biannually.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Trinity Metro</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Work with Transportation & Public Works and Trinity Metro on transit planning and projects, leveraging park assets to improve ridership forecasts, stop locations, and service alignments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual total funding obtained through partnerships for projects improving transit access to parks.</li><li>Number of transit projects where service alignments are adjusted to enhance access to park properties.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Trinity Metro</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Collaborate with Trinity Metro to align para-transit services with park facilities, enabling access to healthcare, essential shopping, and social support services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of new or adjusted para-transit stops serving park facilities that connect to healthcare, shopping, and social support services.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Trinity Metro</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Work with Trinity Metro to study funding models where Park resources can supplement operations and reduce the need for similar park-related services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual cost savings from integrating park resources into transit operations.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Trinity Metro</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
2.2.5 Ensure adequate parking for high-volume parks.	Develop a communications and outreach plan for property owners of non-Park and Recreation Department parking, including public right-of-way parking managed by City Transportation & Public Works, to discuss current use and potential shared parking arrangements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Biannual number of property owners reached and shared parking agreements created as result of parking outreach plan.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Communications &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>Development Services</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
Objective 2.3: Enhance public awareness of parks, recreation facilities, and programs through social media, multicultural public outreach, and developing a comprehensive branding and communications plan		Objective 2.3: Enhance public awareness of parks, recreation facilities, and programs through social media, multicultural public outreach, and developing a comprehensive branding and communications plan			
2.3.1 Develop and implement a consistent signage and wayfinding system.	Identify strategic locations for signage installation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of signs installed monthly at parks and along trails.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Information Technology Services</li><li>Communications &amp; Public Engagement</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Integrate interactive digital displays at recreation facilities, parks, and public spaces to provide real-time updates on events, programs, and community news, complementing traditional signage with dynamic content.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percentage change in the attendance numbers at events and programs promoted through displays.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Information Technology Services</li><li>Communications &amp; Public Engagement</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
2.3.2 Implement a multi-pronged approach to increasing awareness of programs and services using traditional printed media, radio and digital strategies.	Enhance web-based and digital platforms to improve access to park information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Monthly number of interactions with web site.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Information Technology Services</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>Neighborhood Services</li><li>Independent School Districts</li><li>Non-Profit Youth Organizations</li><li>Diversity &amp; Inclusion</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$

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2.3.3 Develop strategies for tailored and effective community engagement, communication and partnerships.	Appoint a Park Planning District Manager for each district to connect with residents, identify community needs, and relay priorities to department leadership and city officials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of monthly meetings or forums organized by District Managers to engage with residents.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>City Council/City Manager's Office</b></li><li>- <b>Human Resources</b></li><li>- Financial Management Services</li><li>- Neighborhood Services</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Hold periodic public meetings in each Park Planning District to gather resident feedback on services, desired improvements, and new facility recommendations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of residents attending public meetings in each PPD.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>City Council</b></li><li>- <b>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</b></li><li>- Neighborhood Services</li><li>- Neighborhood/Community Associations</li><li>- Diversity &amp; Inclusion</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Develop teen council to Involve teens in shaping recreation programs, fostering leadership, mentoring, and ownership of activities they help design.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of monthly teen volunteers that lead recreation programs.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</b></li><li>- <b>Diversity &amp; Inclusion</b></li><li>- City Council</li><li>- Neighborhood Services</li><li>- Independent School Districts</li><li>- Non-Profit Youth Organizations</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Advertise program development opportunities to recruit contract instructors to inspire neighborhood residents to develop and lead recreation programs at local parks and recreation facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Biannual number of resident inspired recreation programs developed and their attendance.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</b></li><li>- City Council</li><li>- Neighborhood Services</li><li>- Neighborhood/Community Associations</li><li>- Diversity &amp; Inclusion</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Develop professional advocacy programming to provide children with information and hands on experiences in Provide children and young adults with hands-on experiences in park-related careers like Urban Forestry, Preservation, Planning, Maintenance, and Recreation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of participants in hands-on experience program and number of participants in each category.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- Independent School Districts</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$

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### Vibrant Nature

Cultivate natural spaces that enhance ecosystems, foster community connections, and build resilience by integrating the natural environment into Fort Worth’s park and recreation system.



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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
Objective 3.1: Promote and foster stewardship that protects, preserves and enhances the natural environment and fosters community interaction, biodiversity and resilience		Objective 3.1: Promote and foster stewardship that protects, preserves and enhances the natural environment and fosters community interaction, biodiversity and resilience			
3.1.1. Collaborate daily with the City’s dedicated Green Space Leadership Team to ensure coordinated planning, implementation, and stewardship of natural assets.	Establish an organizational structure with clear roles, staffing, and resource commitments and identify gaps, overlaps, and opportunities across departmental green infrastructure efforts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Frequency of coordination meetings between PARD and the Green Space Leadership Team (target: daily check-ins or standing updates)</li><li>Percentage of park projects reviewed and aligned with the citywide green space strategy.</li><li>Annual number of joint projects implemented that enhance natural assets or sustainability outcomes.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>FW Lab</li><li>Development Services</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
3.1.2. Leverage the expansion of parks, recreation, and the public realm to safeguard green spaces and natural features.	Use the map overlaying park-deficient areas in combination with the Good Nutured Initiative and the Fort Worth Open Space Conservation Priority Analysis to identify, acquire, and conserve high-priority lands, protecting natural habitats, floodplains, and waterways while expanding green space.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual total acreage acquired as part of preservation efforts guided by the Good Nutured Initiative and the Open Space Conservation Priority Analysis.</li><li>Annual amount of dollars invested in the acquisition of land as part of the Good Nutured Initiative and Open Space Conservation Priority Analysis.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>Property Management</li><li>FW Lab</li><li>Development Services</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$\$
	Work with FW Lab to enhance zoning and land use regulations to protect natural features, riparian zones, and critical habitats in the Comprehensive Plan update.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual total acreage of natural areas protected as a result of changes to zoning and land use regulations.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>FW Lab</li><li>Development Services</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Pursue conservation easements to protect natural areas like prairie ecosystems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual number of conservations easements formally created to protect natural areas.</li><li>Total acreage of formal conservation easements entered into as part of preservation efforts.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>FW Lab</li><li>Development Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Develop Natural Resource Management Plans for existing and new parks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of parks with completed Natural &amp; Cultural Resource Management Plans.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Implement an annual invasive species management program to control and restore ecologically significant areas across the parks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Acres of parkland treated annually for invasive species.</li><li>Annual improvements in ecological health indicators across treated sites.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Non-Profit Nature Groups</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$





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3.1.3 Integrate natural areas into existing parks and delineate key ecological zones that serve as hubs for biodiversity, education, and conservation.	Identify areas within existing parks suitable for natural integration, such as underutilized spaces, floodplains, or degraded zones with specific natural features like streams, wetlands, or tree groves.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percent of total parkland acreage being used for the integration of natural ecological zones.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works (Stormwater)</li><li>Non-Profit Nature Groups</li><li>Development Services</li><li>FW Lab</li><li>Streams &amp; Valleys</li><li>Private Developers</li><li>Environmental Services</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Create and enhance wetlands in parks for stormwater treatment, wildlife habitats, and improved recreational and aesthetic value.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Acreage of wetland projects completed supporting the conservation of wildlife habitats.</li></ul>		Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$
	Prioritize planting native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers that attract pollinators and provide food and shelter for birds and other wildlife.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of new trees and acres of wildflowers planted in existing parks annually.</li><li>Amount of CO2 removed by the total number of new trees planted.</li></ul>		Ongoing	\$
	Design parks, greenbelts, and the public realm to include uninterrupted green corridors that provide habitat connectivity and opportunities for active transportation.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Miles of green corridor created as part of park, greenbelt and public realm projects (identify total and per category).</li><li>Total acres of green corridors created.</li></ul>		Ongoing	\$\$
	Develop nature-based, unstructured play areas using natural materials to foster imaginative play and connection with nature.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual savings in cost (dollars) and in staff hours required to maintain a nature-based play area compared to standard playground equipment.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$\$

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3.1.3 Engage and educate city staff and community to protect and preserve the natural environment.	Create a training program for maintenance staff on best practices for preserving and managing natural spaces to ensure their health and accessibility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percentage of maintenance staff that has completed training programs.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Human Resources</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Assign dedicated rangers to heavily visited natural spaces to enforce rules, provide education about the natural environment, and engage visitors in responsible usage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of monthly interactions between Park Rangers and park visitors.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Launch a public campaign to raise awareness about protecting natural areas and promote stewardship through volunteer programs, conservation, and sustainable practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual number of events held as part of public campaign.</li><li>Percent increase in the number of volunteers as a result of conservation/ stewardship campaign.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>FW Nature Center &amp; Refuge</li><li>Local Conservation Groups</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Identify opportunities for conservation stewardship, including garbage removal, tree and native plant planting, invasive species removal, and recycling at events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number and type of community projects created supporting conservation and preservation of natural green spaces.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>FW Nature Center &amp; Refuge</li><li>Local Conservation Groups</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
Objective 3.2: Connect people to nature through immersive and educational experiences and increased awareness of resiliency, water resources, and benefits of ecological biodiversity.		Objective 3.2: Connect people to nature through immersive and educational experiences and increased awareness of resiliency, water resources, and benefits of ecological biodiversity.			
3.2.1 Expand Access to Nature: Ensure equitable access to high-quality natural areas by protecting, acquiring, and enhancing nature experiences, improving access to existing sites, expanding natural spaces, and targeting undeveloped areas for acquisition to benefit all residents.	Use maps of the Conservation Priority Areas, Comprehensive Plan Recommended Opportunities, and Open Space Conservation Plan Spotlight Area map to create new naturalized green spaces alongside public infrastructure projects and private development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of projects initiated that include naturalized green spaces in partnership with public infrastructure and private developers.</li><li>Acreage for each project and annual total acreage for all projects combined.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>FW Lab</li><li>Development Services</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Maximize use of existing natural areas like Tandy Hills and Stratford Park through enhanced maintenance and programs (e.g., birdwatching, plant walks, and invasive plant removal).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Total acreage of land that has been restored or enhanced to support native habitats for wildlife.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>FW Urban Forestry</li><li>Tarrant County Master Gardener Association</li><li>Communication and Community Engagement</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Develop small Natural Area Parks in high-density urban communities where access to large parks is not feasible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of Natural Area Park projects completed in high-density urban communities annually.</li><li>Acreage for each project and annual total acreage for all projects combined.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>FW Urban Forestry</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>Non-Profit Environmental Groups</li><li>Tarrant County Master Gardener Association</li><li>Property Management</li><li>Neighborhood Services</li><li>Development Services</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$

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Objective 3.2: Connect people to nature through immersive and educational experiences and increased awareness of resiliency, water resources, and benefits of ecological biodiversity.				Objective 3.2: Connect people to nature through immersive and educational experiences and increased awareness of resiliency, water resources, and benefits of ecological biodiversity.			
3.2.1 Expand Access to Nature: Ensure equitable access to high-quality natural areas by protecting, acquiring, and enhancing nature experiences, improving access to existing sites, expanding natural spaces, and targeting undeveloped areas for acquisition to benefit all residents.	Collaborate with the Stormwater Management Division to inventory conserved green spaces and identify those with the potential for transformation into recreational areas that balance public use with ecological protection.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of sites identified for project development.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works (Stormwater)</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Improve or create better connections to hiking trails. Improve access to hiking trails, and provide accessible opportunities for all hiking trail users.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual number and total linear feet of new connections established between trails and natrual spaces.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
3.2.2 Promote parks and green spaces as outdoor classrooms for schools, universities, steward organizations, and the public.	Create dedicated areas and trail networks in parks for hands-on learning with community gardens, nature play, rain garden demos, ecosystem restoration, and urban forestry.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual total number of hands-on learning station/features created in each PPD.</li><li>Monthly number of participants in hands-on learning events.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Tarrant County Master Gardener Association</li><li>Environmental Services</li><li>FW Nature Center &amp; Refuge</li><li>Local Colleges and Universities</li><li>Independent School Districts</li><li>Neighborhood Services</li><li>FW Public Library</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Develop curriculum-aligned educational programs in partnership with Fort Worth ISD, charter schools, homeschool groups, and universities, including field trips, classroom visits, and hands-on learning focused on local history, ecology, and conservation.						
	Create “citizen science stations” in parks for visitors to record observations, submit data, and engage with tools like weather stations, fostering collaboration and deeper connections with the natural environment.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Monthly number of recorded observations submitted by park visitors.</li><li>Monthly number of return participants that interacted with science stations.</li><li>Percentage of parks with citizen science stations installed.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Local Colleges and Universities</li><li>Tarrant County Master Gardener Association</li><li>Environmental Services</li><li>FW Nature Center &amp; Refuge</li><li>Independent School Districts</li><li>Fort Worth Public Library</li><li>Information Technology Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Create immersive interpretive experiences through interactive exhibits and augmented reality (AR) that allow visitors to explore Fort Worth’s evolving landscape in engaging and accessible ways.						
Objective 3.3: Adopt a holistic and synergistic approach to develop nature-based solutions within the park system and city’s public realm.				Objective 3.3: Adopt a holistic and synergistic approach to develop nature-based solutions within the park system and city’s public realm.			
3.3.1 Adopt design standards that prioritize environmental sustainability and consider green infrastructure in all new and renovated parks, green spaces, and public recreation facilities.	Adopt design standards that prioritize environmental sustainability and mandate green infrastructure in all new and renovated parks, green spaces, and public recreation facilities.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Monthly cost and energy consumption reductions achieved through sustainable building practices (e.g., solar panels, energy-efficient lighting, natural ventilation).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>City Council/City Manager’s Office</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Work</li><li>Property Management</li><li>Development Services</li><li>FW Water</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
3.3.2 Protect and enhance natural features to improve flood control, filter stormwater, reduce runoff and erosion, and enhance water quality in streams, lakes, and the Trinity River.	Preserve and enhance natural features to provide flood control, filter stormwater, reduce runoff and erosion, and enhance water quality in the city’s streams, lakes, and the Trinity River.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of flood-prone acres improved or stabilized through natural feature preservation efforts.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>FW Lab</li><li>FW Urban Forestry</li><li>Development Services</li><li>FW Water</li><li>Tarrant Regional Water District</li><li>Streams &amp; Valleys</li><li>Federal Emergency Management Agency</li><li>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$

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### Vibrant Nature

Cultivate natural spaces that enhance ecosystems, foster community connections, and build resilience by integrating the natural environment into Fort Worth’s park and recreation system.



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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
Objective 3.3: Adopt a holistic and synergistic approach to develop nature-based solutions within the park system and city’s public realm.		Objective 3.3: Adopt a holistic and synergistic approach to develop nature-based solutions within the park system and city’s public realm.			
3.3.3 implement and advocate for the urban forest master plan to expand tree canopy and create cool corridors.	Collaborate with the City’s Urban Forestry team to support implementation of UFMP priorities by using the Combined Priority Map to guide tree planting, canopy expansion, and maintenance efforts in the most impactful locations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual number of trees planted in priority areas identified by the Combined Priority Map.</li><li>Percentage increase in tree canopy coverage in high-priority zones over time.</li><li>Number of maintenance activities conducted in targeted areas.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>FW Urban Forestry</li><li>Development Services</li><li>Private Developers</li><li>TxDOT</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Integrate UFMP goals into park planning, design, and renovation projects by identifying opportunities to plant shade trees, especially in underserved and park-deficient areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of shade trees planted along sidewalks, paths and trails in the urbanized areas of the city.</li><li>Annual amount of CO<sub>2</sub> captured by the number of new trees planted along sidewalks, paths and trails in the urbanized areas of the city.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>FW Urban Forestry</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>Texas Department of Transportation</li><li>Development Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Track and report PARD’s contributions to annual canopy gains as part of the City’s overall progress toward the 30% canopy goal by 2050.				
Objective 3.4: Enhance the Trinity River, its watershed, tributaries and lakes as interconnected natural and recreational assets that showcase Fort Worth’s ecosystem and foster community enjoyment.		Objective 3.4: Enhance the Trinity River, its watershed, tributaries and lakes as interconnected natural and recreational assets that showcase Fort Worth’s ecosystem and foster community enjoyment.			
3.4.1 Restore riparian buffers, wetlands, and natural habitats along the Trinity River, its tributaries, and lakes to improve biodiversity and ecosystem health.	Develop programs to remove invasive plants and reintroduce native species to strengthen ecosystems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Total acreage for each park cleared of invasive plants biannually.</li><li>Number of community volunteers that participated in plant removal maintenance programs.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Work with Green Space Leadership Team to conserve high-priority natural areas within watersheds that have been identified in the Open Space Strategy report.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Acreage of high-priority natural areas preserved in partnership with the City’s Stormwater Management Department.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>FW Lab</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Incorporate watershed enhancement goals into the city’s Comprehensive Plan, Good Natured Initiative, and other ongoing efforts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of watershed enhancement goals incorporated into the city’s Comprehensive Plan, Good Natured Initiative, and other planning efforts.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>FW Nature Center &amp; Refuge</li><li>Tarrant Regional Water District</li><li>Nature-Based Non-Profit Groups</li><li>Local Colleges and Universities</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Work with Fort Worth Environmental Department on water quality testing and monitoring programs to assess the health of waterways and wetlands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of water quality monitoring tests conducted at parks with water features and natural waterways.</li><li>Percentage of test sites that met or exceeded water quality requirements.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Environmental Department</li><li>FW Nature Center &amp; Refuge</li><li>Tarrant Regional Water District</li><li>Nature-Based Non-Profit Groups</li><li>Local Colleges and Universities</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Encourage community involvement in taking an active role in restoration efforts, maintaining and monitoring the health of waterways and wetlands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of community members that participated in city developed events targeted at improving the health of waterways and the local ecosystem.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>FW Nature Center &amp; Refuge</li><li>Tarrant Regional Water District</li><li>Nature-Based Non-Profit Groups</li><li>Neighborhood Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$

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Objective 3.4: Enhance the Trinity River, its watershed, tributaries and lakes as interconnected natural and recreational assets that showcase Fort Worth’s ecosystem and foster community enjoyment.			Objective 3.4: Enhance the Trinity River, its watershed, tributaries and lakes as interconnected natural and recreational assets that showcase Fort Worth’s ecosystem and foster community enjoyment.			
3.4.2 Acquire land, secure easements and develop partnerships to increase public access to the water throughout the City.	Activate key Trinity River nodes for recreation, events, and education while preserving flood storage, levees, and the natural setting, transforming the riverfront into a vibrant urban park.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of new public access points created to the Trinity River.</li><li>- Number of activity nodes created along the Trinity River.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>- Tarrant Regional Water District</li><li>- Property Management</li><li>- Private Property Owners</li><li>- Texas Parks &amp; Wildlife Department (Texas Paddling Trails)</li><li>- Visit Fort Worth</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$\$
	Physical access should be explored in forested stream banks along Denton Creek and its tributaries, riparian corridors and shoreline of Marine Creek Lake, forested tracts on the western shore of Lake Arlington, Natural areas along Benbrook Lake, and areas along Dosier Creek toward Eagle Mountain Lake in coordination with partner agencies.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of new access points created at Denton Creek, Marine Creek Lake, Lake Arlington, and other waterways/bodies of water.</li><li>- Total amount of linear feet of trails/paths extending from new access points along forested stream banks, riparian corridors and shorelines.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>- Tarrant Regional Water District</li><li>- Property Management</li><li>- Private Property Owners</li><li>- Texas Parks &amp; Wildlife Department (Texas Paddling Trails)</li><li>- Visit Fort Worth</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years) Ongoing	\$\$\$





### Common Ground

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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
Objective 4.1: Embrace and adopt new park system typologies to strengthen the public realm		Objective 4.1: Embrace and adopt new park system typologies to strengthen the public realm			
4.1.1 Conduct a study to identify high-potential ROWs for conversion into pedestrian plazas or green streets in areas with limited park access.	Conduct a study of residual rights-of-way for potential temporary or permanent public space use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Total miles/acres of unused rights-of-way identified that can be converted into public realm recreation space.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Transportation &amp; Public Works</b></li><li>- Tarrant Regional Water District</li><li>- Texas Department of Transportation</li><li>- Tarrant County Transportation Services</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
4.1.2 Undertake an inventory of existing (private-owned and public-owned) green spaces to better understand their distribution and gaps.	Undertake an inventory of existing (private-owned and public-owned) green spaces to better understand their distribution and gaps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Acreage of private-owned and public-owned green spaces included in the inventory relative to the total estimated green spaces.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Property Management</b></li><li>- FW Lab</li><li>- Tarrant Regional Water District</li><li>- Texas Department of Transportation</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
4.1.3 Foster integration of public spaces within mixed- use developments.	Encourage public spaces in mixed-use developments through developer partnerships, offering incentives for high-quality, accessible parks and plazas that enhance community vibrancy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Total market value of land dedicated for use as public space in mixed-use developments.</li><li>- Total acres of public spaces per mixed-use development.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>FW Lab</b></li><li>- Development Services</li><li>- Economic Development</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
4.1.4 Integrate the outdoor public realm (sidewalks, medians, parkways, ROW) into the parks and green spaces to expand recreational experience.	Integrate sidewalks, medians, and parkways with parks and green spaces to expand recreational experiences, adding features like benches, art, and misting stations, and encouraging recreational uses like events and street games. Refer to Active Transportation Plan Pop-up Guide.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of new features such as benches, public art installations, misting stations, or play equipment incorporated into connected spaces.</li><li>- Total length of sidewalks, medians, and parkways integrated as part of parks and green spaces.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Transportation &amp; Public Works</b></li><li>- Development Services</li><li>- Texas Department of Transportation</li><li>- North Central Texas Council of Governments</li><li>- Economic Development</li><li>- FW Chamber of Commerce</li><li>- FW Public Art</li><li>- FW Public Library</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$





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Objective 4.2: Create safe, convenient and inviting public spaces that support positive experiences for everyone		Objective 4.2: Create safe, convenient and inviting public spaces that support positive experiences for everyone			
4.2.1 Integrate and highlight Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) strategies in the design and redesign of parks and recreation facilities.	Lighting and Visibility: Install lighting along pathways, entry points, and high-traffic areas to enhance safety and visibility, while using landscaping to maintain clear sightlines.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of new lighting fixtures installed along pathways, entry points and high-traffic areas in parks.</li><li>Percent reduction in the number of safety related calls to parks, trails, and recreation facilities as a result of lighting projects.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>FW Police Department</li><li>FW Urban Forestry</li><li>Neighborhood Services Department</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$\$
	Natural Surveillance and Activity Zones: Promote natural surveillance by adding green spaces, seating, and activity zones like playgrounds, fitness trails, and sports fields to encourage consistent park use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of service hours performed for maintenance of green spaces, seating areas, and activity zones to ensure they remain inviting and functional.</li><li>Percentage increase in the monthly average number of visitors using parks after enhancements.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>FW Police Department</li><li>FW Urban Forestry</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$
	Territorial Reinforcement and Access Control: Use landscaping, signage, and pathways to define boundaries, guide movement, and control access with clear entry and exit points.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Changes in the percentage of visitors to parks and recreation facilities as the result of clearly defining entry and exit points.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>FW Urban Forestry</li><li>FW Police Development</li><li>Tarrant County Master Gardener Association</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
4.2.2 Implement the use of security features such as emergency call stations and security cameras in areas identified as safety concerns by the public.	Install emergency call stations and security cameras in areas of concern to enhance safety and encourage park use, protecting both vulnerable populations and the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percent of park, trails, green spaces, and recreation facilities where emergency call stations have been installed.</li><li>Monthly percent reduction in the number of safety related calls to parks and recreation facilities.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>FW Police Department</li><li>Information Technology Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$
4.2.3 Identify locations for fences and walls around active recreational areas, prioritizing safety with use of structures such as taller netting for sports fields and courts.	Identify locations for fences and walls around active recreational areas, prioritizing safety with use of structures such as taller netting for sports fields and courts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of sites identified for the installation of fences or walls.</li><li>Total square footage and value of fences installed annually.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
4.2.4 Integrate smart technology into park systems, such as interactive kiosks, app-based navigation tools, and free public Wi-Fi, to enhance the user experience and improve accessibility.	Install interactive kiosks and app-based wayfinding tools at key park entrances and along major trail corridors to provide real-time information on amenities, events, and accessibility features. Partner with technology providers and internet service companies to expand free public Wi-Fi coverage in high-traffic parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of parks equipped with interactive kiosks, navigation tools, or public Wi-Fi annually.</li><li>User engagement rates with smart park technologies (e.g., app downloads, kiosk usage).</li><li>Visitor satisfaction ratings related to digital accessibility and park navigation.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>IT Department</li><li>Communications &amp; Public Engagement</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5–10 Years)	\$\$\$

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Objective 4.2: Create safe, convenient and inviting public spaces that support positive experiences for everyone		Objective 4.2: Create safe, convenient and inviting public spaces that support positive experiences for everyone			
4.2.5 Enhance comfort and convenience.	Ensure all facilities meet or exceed ADA and TAS standards for accessibility, including installing ramps, accessible restrooms, and clear pathways for those with mobility challenges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of parks, recreation centers, and other facilities meeting or exceeding accessibility standards.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>Development Services</li><li>Diversity &amp; Inclusion</li><li>Property Management Department</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Increase the number of permanent restrooms at parks and other public spaces. Modernize existing restrooms by making them cleaner, more accessible, and energy-efficient.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of new permanent restroom facilities constructed at parks annually.</li><li>Cost saving by updating existing restroom facilities with energy-efficient equipment.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Property Management Department</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$
	Increase shaded areas and seating in parks and high-traffic zones, including playgrounds, sports fields, trails, and sidewalks near commercial and retail areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percent change in visitor activity during times when shading is most needed (e.g., midday).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>FW Urban Forestry</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Upgrade shelters, pavilions, and other structures to make them more usable during different seasons by adding heating, cooling, or weather-resistant materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percent of shelters and pavilion as parks that have been upgraded with seasonal usability enhancements.</li><li>Percent increase in the reservations of upgraded pavilions and shelters.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Install vehicle charging stations in parking lots of parks and at events to attract visitors while their electric vehicles charge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of vehicle charging stations installed at each park annually.</li><li>Frequency and duration in the use of vehicle charging stations at parks and events.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Information Technology Services</li><li>Charging Station Partner</li><li>FW Lab</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$
	Offer downloadable maps or app-based guides with information on flora, fauna, or historical significance to make the experience more engaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of times apps have been downloaded.</li><li>Number of registered users.</li><li>Duration in the use of the apps and maps.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Information Technology Services</li><li>FW Nature Center &amp; Refuge</li><li>FW Urban Forestry</li><li>Tarrant County Master Gardener Association</li><li>Local Colleges and Universities</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
Objective 4.3: Offer a wide range of facilities and recreation programs that cater to the diverse interests, ages, abilities, and income levels of Fort Worth’s evolving community		Objective 4.3: Offer a wide range of facilities and recreation programs that cater to the diverse interests, ages, abilities, and income levels of Fort Worth’s evolving community			
4.3.1 Expand inclusive, adaptive, and innovative recreation programs to equitably meet the diverse needs of the community.	Expand indoor recreation centers that offer low-cost or free fitness classes, creative workshops, drop-in sports, and multi-generational programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of new or expanded indoor recreation centers offering multi-generational and inclusive programming</li><li>Number and diversity of recreation programs offered annually (e.g., fitness, youth, senior, adaptive).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Community Services</li><li>Partner Organizations (e.g., YMCA)</li><li>Local ISDs</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Activate underutilized spaces by introducing new amenities such as pickleball courts, mini-pitches, and multi-use courts that accommodate drop-in play, low-cost leagues, and intergenerational tournaments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of underutilized sites activated with new recreational amenities.</li><li>Number of new courts (pickleball, mini-pitches, multi-use) installed annually</li><li>Participation rates in drop-in play, leagues, and community tournaments.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Community Services</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$

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4.3.1 Expand inclusive, adaptive, and innovative recreation programs to equitably meet the diverse needs of the community.	Expand youth development programs such as afterschool care, seasonal camps, literacy initiatives, and summer enrichment to support academic and social growth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of new or expanded youth development programs offered annually (afterschool care, camps, literacy, etc.).</li><li>Annual youth participation rates by program type.</li><li>Number of partnerships with schools, libraries, and community organizations.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>Community Services</li><li>Local ISDs</li><li>Public Libraries</li></ul>	Short to Medium-Term (0–10 Years)	\$\$
	Enhance senior programs through recreational offerings, group outings, wellness classes, and social events that foster connection and active aging.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of senior-focused programs offered annually (e.g., wellness classes, social events, group outings).</li><li>Annual participation rates in senior programs.</li><li>Number of partnerships with senior centers, health providers, and community organizations.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Community Services</li><li>Area Agency on Aging</li><li>Local Health Providers</li></ul>	Short-Term (0–5 Years)	\$\$
	Offer specialized and adaptive recreation to ensure inclusive participation for individuals of all abilities, with potential support from a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS) and partners like the YMCA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of adaptive and inclusive recreation programs offered annually</li><li>Participation rates of individuals with disabilities across all programs.</li><li>Number of programs supported or led by a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS).</li><li>Number of partnerships established with organizations such as the YMCA or local disability advocacy groups.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Community Services</li><li>CTRS Staff or Consultants</li><li>Partner Organizations (e.g., YMCA, disability advocacy groups)</li></ul>	Short-Term (0–5 Years)	\$\$
4.3.2 Increase the number of recreation facilities and amenities to equitably meet the needs of the community.	Increase the number of recreation facilities and amenities to equitably meet the needs of the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of new or expanded recreation facilities that are located in historically under-served or high-need neighborhoods.</li><li>Type of and square footage of sport courts added to area with the addition of recreation facilities.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>Neighborhood Services</li><li>FW Lab</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$\$\$

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4.3.3 Make better use of existing facilities through system-wide planning and investments.	Analyze recreation facility usage to identify underutilized spaces, outdated infrastructure, and service overlaps, using technology like attendance tracking and reservation systems for insights.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Monthly counts of visitors to recreation facility.</li><li>Monthly counts of visitor using services (sport courts, gyms, playgrounds, etc.) located facility.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li><b>Information Technology Services</b></li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$\$
	Conduct a recreation facilities needs assessment, including a statistically valid survey and Level of Service analysis, on a 5-year cycle to gather input on facility improvements and programming needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percentage of all recreation facility assessments completed annually.</li><li>Percentage of community surveys submitted.</li><li>Percentage of surveys distributed to each park planning district and percent of those who responded.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li></ul>	Ongoing (Every 5 Years)	\$\$\$
	Explore opportunities to provide all-season access to certain high use facilities and athletic fields, commensurate with demand, through the use of temporary or permanent structures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Amount of annual investment (measured in dollars) used to keep high use facilities open all year.</li><li>Percent increase in the number of work hours added to keep up high use facilities open year-round.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Cluster amenities to encourage interaction and create vibrant, multi-use parks that attract diverse visitors, using “triangulation” techniques to position complementary features together.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Average duration of time spent by visitors in parks with clustered amenities.</li><li>Increase in the number of users since the implementation of clustered amenities.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Convert existing natural grass fields to synthetic turf and/or add solar powered lighting to existing fields to increase available hours of play.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual reduction in the cost and personnel time of maintenance on fields converted to synthetic turf.</li><li>Number of natural grass fields converted to synthetic turf annually.</li><li>Number of fields upgraded with solar-powered lighting annually.</li><li>Percentage increase in available playable hours per field after improvements</li><li>Annual reduction in water usage for fields converted to synthetic turf.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$\$

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Common Ground

Develop public spaces that are accessible and welcoming for everyone, foster social interaction, and celebrate the community’s multiculturalism, enhancing a sense of belonging and unity.



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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
Objective 4.3: Offer a wide range of facilities and recreation programs that cater to the diverse interests, ages, abilities, and income levels of Fort Worth’s evolving community		Objective 4.3: Offer a wide range of facilities and recreation programs that cater to the diverse interests, ages, abilities, and income levels of Fort Worth’s evolving community			
4.3.4 Ensure that existing and new facilities are inclusive and welcoming all segments of the population.	Coordinate with transit and bike-share providers to install bus stops and stations at parks, recreation facilities, and trailheads, offering alternative transportation options.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of new transit stops and bicycle rented from installed bike-share stations at parks, recreation facilities, and trailheads.</li><li>Change in the number of visitors to parks, recreation facilities, and trails with access to new transit stops and bike-share stations.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Trinity Metro</li><li>Economic Development</li><li>FW Chamber of Commerce</li><li>FW Lab</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$
	Use clear, multi-lingual, and pictorial signage with large fonts, color contrast, and easy-to-understand icons to help everyone navigate park facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percentage of park facilities with updated signage meeting accessibility standards, including multi-lingual, pictorial icons, large fonts and high color contrast.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>Diversity &amp; Inclusion</li><li>Neighborhood Services</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Introduce multi-generational playscapes, comfort features, and recreational programming to encourage play, work, and socialization for all ages.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of parks with multi-generational features.</li><li>Average duration of visit to a park or recreational facility that offers amenities that can be enjoyed by multiple generations at once.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>Diversity &amp; Inclusion</li><li>Neighborhood Services</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$\$
	Provide specific amenities of seniors: aquatic centers, low-impact exercise equipment, senior recreation centers, adult summer camps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Monthly participation by senior residents in programs and events specifically developed for their age group.</li><li>Number of return participants to senior programs and events.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>Diversity &amp; Inclusion</li><li>Neighborhood Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$
	Create a sliding scale fee structure based on income or socioeconomic indicators, offering reduced or free access for qualifying families or individuals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percentage increase in overall service accessibility compared to the previous year.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Diversity &amp; Inclusion</li><li>Finance Department</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Ensure a set percentage of programs, classes, and facility access are offered free or at low cost and schedule community days with free entry to recreation centers, pools, or fitness programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of programs held for free or at a low cost.</li><li>Number of participants that attended program since change in fee was implemented.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Diversity &amp; Inclusion</li><li>Finance Department</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Renovate and improve community centers like Northside and Handley Meadowbrook to provide high-quality, inclusive, and sustainable services, strengthening their role as community hubs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Increase in the number of new members using community centers that have been improved and feature updated equipment and amenities.</li><li>Percent of monthly return visitors since updating</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$\$\$

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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
Objective 4.4: Preserve and celebrate neighborhood identities by integrating local culture, art, history, and community values into park design and programming.		Objective 4.4: Preserve and celebrate neighborhood identities by integrating local culture, art, history, and community values into park design and programming.			
4.4.1 Develop flexible design standards that celebrate Fort Worth’s neighborhood history and culture while ensuring system-wide quality, allowing for customization to reflect community identity and diverse needs.	Use data-driven decision-making to align park amenities with district needs, identifying gaps and avoiding duplication of features across neighborhoods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Using data for tracking sources to identify most frequently used parks and facilities. Data can be used to improve parks in other areas to increase draw.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Collaborate with neighborhoods to create culturally reflective signage, fostering pride, ownership, and welcoming visitors to Fort Worth’s parks and facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Using a community online survey get percent increase of visitors reporting enhanced sense of community pride or welcoming atmosphere at neighborhoods parks and recreation facilities.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Neighborhood Services</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Partner with local historians, artists, and institutions to incorporate public art and features into parks and recreation facilities that reflect the culture and personality of surrounding neighborhoods.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of parks and recreation facilities with incorporated public art by local artisans.</li><li>Total amount of space (in square feet) dedicated for public art usage.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>FW Public Art</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth</li><li>Local Artists</li><li>Local Colleges and Universities</li><li>Independent School Districts</li><li>Neighborhood Services</li><li>FW Public Library</li><li>Local Cultural Groups</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
4.4.2 Explore opportunities in Historic Preservation and Heritage Tourism to protect, restore, and promote the cultural and historic resources of the parks system.	Partner with the Historic Preservation Department, TCU, and cultural organizations to identify, preserve, and catalog historic areas, integrating them into the parks inventory. Create a “historic trail” linking registered sites to parks via the city’s multi-modal trail system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Total miles of “historic trail” create within a year.</li><li>Number of new historic areas added to the existing inventory.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Development Services (Historical Preservation)</li><li>Local Colleges and Universities</li><li>Independent School Districts</li><li>Local Historical Groups</li><li>Local Cultural Groups</li><li>Philanthropy Groups</li><li>Library</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>Economic Development</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$
	Host community events, such as scavenger hunts, that will take participants on a city-wide adventure and teach them about the history and culture of neighborhoods, communities, Park Planning Districts, and the City.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Using registrations for event, compare the number of local residents and out-of-town visitors that participated in city-wide events.</li><li>Marketing media (newspaper, social media, emails, flyers located at businesses/recreation facilities/public buildings) that was most effective in notifying the public about the event.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>Independent School Districts</li><li>Public Events</li><li>Local Historical Groups</li><li>Local Cultural Groups</li><li>Development Services</li><li>FW Chamber of Commerce</li><li>Local Businesses</li><li>FW Public Library</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
4.4.3 Support culturally-based events and programs, such as dance, art and language activities, developed by residents to hold at parks and public spaces.	Support culturally-based events and programs, such as dance, art and language activities, developed by residents to hold at parks and public spaces.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Geographic distribution of events to ensure equitable access across neighborhoods.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Public Events</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>Neighborhood Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$

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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
Objective 5.1: Promote the City's parks and public spaces to attract tourists and new user groups to Fort Worth.		Objective 5.1: Promote the City’s parks and public spaces to attract tourists and new user groups to Fort Worth			
5.1.1 Organize a diverse schedule of special events, festivals and programs to attract tourists and new user groups to the park.	Host events and programming such as: Music festivals, Food truck gatherings, Charity runs, Location specific programming at Log Cabin Village and Fort Worth Nature Center.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of distinct major events held in each PPD and estimated number of attendees per event.</li><li>- Cost-to-revenue ratio to track profitability of events.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>- Communications &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>- Public Events</li><li>- Non-Profit Groups (Youth Groups, Churches, Community Organizations, etc.)</li><li>- Streams &amp; Valleys</li><li>- Tarrant Regional Water District</li><li>- Chamber of Commerce</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$
	Partner with local sports organizations, schools, and leagues to host local to national tournaments in sports like soccer, baseball, softball, and volleyball.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of new local and national tournaments held with the support of partner organization.</li><li>- Percent increase in local business revenue generated during tournament events.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>- Independent School Districts</li><li>- Youth/Adult Sporting Leagues</li><li>- YMCA</li><li>- Economic Department</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$\$
	Develop private rental opportunities by converting underutilized park facilities into venues for weddings, retreats, and team-building events, with partnerships to offer event packages through local caterers, musicians, and vendors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of underutilized facilities converted into rentable event venues</li><li>- Annual number of private and corporate events hosted.</li><li>- Revenue generated from facility rentals</li><li>- Number of partnerships with local vendors, caterers, and entertainers.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>- Property Management</li><li>- Economic Development</li><li>- Local Vendors &amp; Event Partners</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5–10 Years)	\$\$\$
	Facilitate community celebrations through culturally specific gatherings that reflect Fort Worth's diverse population.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of community events hosted or supported annually.</li><li>- Diversity of event types and cultural representation across the calendar year</li><li>- Attendance and participation rates by demographic group.</li><li>- Number of partnerships with local cultural, faith-based, and community organizations.</li><li>- Community feedback and satisfaction ratings post-event.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>- Community Services</li><li>- Communications &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>- Local Cultural &amp; Faith-Based Organizations</li></ul>	Short-Term (0–5 Years)	\$

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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
<b>Objective 5.1: Promote the City's parks and public spaces to attract tourists and new user groups to Fort Worth.</b>		<b>Objective 5.1: Promote the City's parks and public spaces to attract tourists and new user groups to Fort Worth</b>			
<b>5.1.2 Leverage Fort Worth's cultural and natural heritage.</b>	Promote historic venues like Log Cabin Village as interpretive park assets, and integrate storytelling and heritage programming across the system to highlight neighborhood history and local identity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of heritage and storytelling programs offered annually.</li><li>- Annual visitation to historic venues like Log Cabin Village.</li><li>- Number of parks incorporating interpretive signage or heritage elements.</li><li>- Community partnerships with historical societies, schools, and cultural organizations.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Visit Fort Worth</b></li><li>- <b>Log Cabin Village</b></li><li>- FW History Center</li><li>- Cultural Organizations</li><li>- FW Public Art</li><li>- Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>- Local Colleges and Universities</li><li>- Diversity &amp; Inclusion</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Promote natural areas as eco-tourism destinations with programming tied to hiking, photography, biodiversity, wildlife conservation, outdoor education and other non-intrusive activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of tourists engaging in activities specifically linked to local parks, such as guided tours or conservation workshops.</li><li>- Total and percentage increase in income for local businesses involved in the packages.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Fort Worth Nature Center &amp; Refuge</b></li><li>- <b>Visit Fort Worth</b></li><li>- Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>- Streams &amp; Valley</li><li>- Non-Profit Nature Groups</li><li>- Local Colleges and Universities</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
<b>5.1.3 Utilize diverse and unique designs, amenities, and programming in signature parks that reflect the character and makeup of the community.</b>	Develop self-guided tours with specific themes, such as wildlife watching, historical landmarks, or cultural digital art specific to the surrounding community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Annual number of visitors using the themed trails.</li><li>- Changes in visitor awareness or knowledge about wildlife, history, or culture through pre- and post-visit surveys.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- Visit Fort Worth</li><li>- FW History Center</li><li>- FW Nature Center &amp; Refuge</li><li>- Cultural Organizations</li><li>- Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>- Public Events</li><li>- Local Colleges and Universities</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Ensure regional parks have adequate visitor amenities, such as easily accessible parking, restrooms, wayfinding signage, and visitor information centers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Average time taken to address reported issues with visitor amenities.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>- Development Services</li><li>- Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$\$

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Objective 5.1: Promote the City's parks and public spaces to attract tourists and new user groups to Fort Worth.		Objective 5.1: Promote the City’s parks and public spaces to attract tourists and new user groups to Fort Worth			
5.1.4 Create a vibrant Downtown Riverfront Park	Design and implement key public spaces and iconic landmarks such as pedestrian bridges, scenic overlooks, and art installations, to create a unique visual identity and destination along Trinity River Corridor and Riverfront Park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of key public spaces and landmarks designed and implemented along the Trinity River Corridor.</li><li>Total acreage added to parkland inventory by the addition of public spaces and landmarks along the Trinity River Corridor.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li><b>FW Lab</b></li><li><b>Tarrant Regional Water District</b></li><li>Economic Development</li><li>Visit Fort Worth</li><li>Local Colleges and Universities</li><li>FW Public Art</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$\$
	Expand waterfront recreation opportunities like kayaking, paddleboarding, or river cruises, which draw visitors seeking outdoor and water-based activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Total new linear feet of waterfront access created within a year.</li><li>Total amount of revenue dollars made through renting of water-based recreation equipment.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li><b>Tarrant Regional Water District</b></li><li>FW Chamber of Commerce</li><li>Visit Fort Worth</li><li>Economic Development</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Host major riverfront events and festivals like Annual Charity Runs, Beer and Wine Festivals, Fourth of July and Holiday Celebrations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Total number of attendees across all major events and festivals.</li><li>Total revenue generated from ticket sales, vendor fees, sponsorships, and on-site purchases.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li><b>Tarrant Regional Water District</b></li><li>Economic Development</li><li>FW Chamber of Commerce</li><li>Public Events</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
5.1.5 Strengthen branding and marketing efforts to effectively promote Fort Worth’s parks, public spaces, and recreational assets, highlighting their unique qualities to attract residents, visitors, and talent.	Partner with local tourism organizations like Visit Fort Worth to promote parks in citywide content for visitors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of tourism marketing outlets reached as part of partnerships.</li><li>Monthly number of visitors to the city parks, golf courses, and community centers after promotions.</li><li>Percent increase in the number of day-passes sold by community during promotion period.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li><b>Visit Fort Worth</b></li><li><b>Economic Development</b></li><li>FW Chamber of Commerce</li><li>Communications and Public Engagement</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Partner with local travel influencers, nature photographers, and bloggers who can highlight Fort Worth parks in their content.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Total impressions/views of influencer content about local parks across all platforms.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li><b>Visit Fort Worth</b></li><li><b>Economic Development</b></li><li>FW Chamber of Commerce</li><li>Communications and Public Engagement</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Develop interactive digital tools to enhance visitor experiences at unique destinations like Log Cabin Village and the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge, including: Augmented reality (AR) self-guided tour apps and Gamified scavenger hunts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of digital tools developed and launched (e.g., AR apps, scavenger hunts).</li><li>Visitor usage rates and app downloads</li><li>User engagement metrics (e.g., time spent on app, completion of scavenger hunts).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Log Cabin Village</li><li>Fort Worth Nature Center &amp; Refuge</li><li>IT/GIS Department</li><li>Digital Media Partners</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$\$
	Collaborate with local hotels, restaurants, and travel agencies to offer travel packages featuring park experiences like hiking, picnics, and river tours.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percentage increase in park visitation as a result of collaborative efforts, compared to the same period in the previous year without collaboration.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li><b>Visit Fort Worth</b></li><li><b>Economic Development</b></li><li>FW Chamber of Commerce</li><li>Communications and Public Engagement</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$\$

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Objective 5.2: Position parks and public spaces as key economic development assets to attract major employers and a talented workforce		Objective 5.2: Position parks and public spaces as key economic development assets to attract major employers and a talented workforce			
5.2.1 Explore opportunities to integrate high-quality parks and public spaces into new developments, creating vibrant environments.	Partner with Economic Development to engage corporate leaders relocating to Fort Worth, integrating parks and public spaces into new developments to enhance employee well-being and foster community engagement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Total square footage of public spaces integrated into new business developments in support of employee and community engagement.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Economic Development</b></li><li>- FW Chamber of Commerce</li><li>- Visit Fort Worth</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$
5.2.2 Fund, operate, and manage the park system to enhance residents’ quality of life and attract or retain corporations in the city.	Invest in creating more greenways, trails, and bike-friendly paths that connect neighborhoods, business districts, and recreational areas, promoting an active, sustainable lifestyle.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Total number of new trail miles added to existing system connecting points-of-destination.</li><li>- Total dollar amount and breakdown per mile invested into the construction of new trail segments.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>FW Lab</b></li><li>- <b>Transportation &amp; Public Works</b></li><li>- Tarrant Regional Water District</li><li>- Economic Development</li><li>- Visit Fort Worth</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$
	Invest in designing high- quality, multi-use public spaces such as, main streets, plazas, parklets that cater to diverse activities like recreation, relaxation and community events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number and acreage of new multi-use public spaces added to the park and recreation system annually.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>- FW Lab</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$
	Invest in public spaces that support innovation and collaboration like outdoor innovation hubs with access to public Wi-Fi, outdoor meeting rooms and collaboration spaces.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Total number of Wi-Fi connections and average duration per session at public spaces.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>FW Lab</b></li><li>- Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>- Information Technology Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$
	Collaborate with Texas A&M Fort Worth, Texas Christian University (TCU), Tarrant County College (TCC), the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA), Tarleton State University, local tech firms, and other institutes to integrate parks into their research and innovation ecosystems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of parks within campuses of colleges, universities, and tech firms made available for public use as part of shared-use agreements.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</b></li><li>- Local Colleges and Universities</li><li>- Economic Development</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$

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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
<b>Objective 5.3: Enhance the economic impacts of parks by integrating amenities like food concessions, recreational rentals, &amp; vendor opportunities to create revenue streams &amp; boost tourism</b>		<b>Objective 5.3: Enhance the economic impacts of parks by integrating amenities like food concessions, recreational rentals, &amp; vendor opportunities to create revenue streams &amp; boost tourism</b>			
<b>5.3.1 Explore economic strategies, including revenue-generating amenities to increase existing park opportunities without compromising green space and park functionality.</b>	Explore expanding the offering or permitting of concessions in public spaces in high density areas, adjacent to sports fields and at locations where special events are regularly held.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Increase in concession revenue to supplement the existing department budget.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- Property Management</li><li>- FW Lab</li><li>- Development Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Establish permanent food and beverage kiosks or cafes in high-traffic parks like Trinity Park or Gateway Park, offering diverse dining options that cater to park visitors. These can be managed directly by the city or leased to local businesses, generating steady rental income.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of formal lease agreements entered into for the management and operation of dining option provided at parks and recreation facilities.</li><li>- Total income generated from each rental agreement.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Property Management</b></li><li>- Financial Management Services</li><li>- Economic Development</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$
	Partner with food trucks and vendors to create designated zones for events and weekends, adding variety, attracting visitors, and generating revenue through permit fees and commissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Percentage of parks and public spaces with designated zones for use by food trucks.</li><li>- Average increase of visitors to parks offering food truck events.</li><li>- Average duration of visit to parks that offer food truck events.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Property Management</b></li><li>- Financial Management Services</li><li>- Economic Development</li><li>- FW Lab</li><li>- Development Services</li><li>- Public Events</li><li>- Transportation &amp; Public Works</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Build or repurpose existing park structures into cafes or casual restaurants that blend with the natural environment, offering an attractive dining option for tourists and residents. Lease these spaces to local restaurateurs, creating an ongoing revenue stream.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Annual return on investment for park structures that have been re-purposed.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Property Management</b></li><li>- City Attorney's Office</li><li>- Financial Management Services</li></ul>	Long-Term (10-20 Years)	\$\$\$
	Add outdoor adventure activities like zip lines, rock climbing walls, and ropes courses in larger parks, charging admission fees.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Monthly admission fees collected from outdoor adventure activities.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- Financial Management Services</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Invest in the development of picturesque event spaces, such as pavilions or waterfront venues, that can be rented for weddings, corporate events, or private parties.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of rentals per site and total amount of revenue captured from rentals.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>City Council/City Manager's Office</b></li><li>- <b>Economic Development</b></li><li>- Chamber of Commerce</li><li>- Development Services</li><li>- Visit Fort Worth</li><li>- Property Management</li><li>- Communications &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>- Local event businesses</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$
<b>5.3.2 Improve mobile payment systems for rentals, concessions, and vendor payments, making it easy for visitors to purchase services or make reservations.</b>	Improve mobile payment systems for rentals, concessions, and vendor payments, making it easy for visitors to purchase services or make reservations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Change in the number of reservations made after implementing the new mobile payment system, compared to the number before its implementation.</li><li>- Amount of annual fees (in dollars) collected through mobile payment system.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Information Technology Services</b></li><li>- Financial Management Services</li><li>- City Attorney's Office</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$

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Premier Destination

Transform Fort Worth’s parks and public spaces into a leading destination that contributes to the City’s economic development and growth.



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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
Objective 5.3: Enhance the economic impacts of parks by integrating amenities like food concessions, recreational rentals, & vendor opportunities to create revenue streams & boost tourism		Objective 5.3: Enhance the economic impacts of parks by integrating amenities like food concessions, recreational rentals, & vendor opportunities to create revenue streams & boost tourism			
5.3.3 Continue to host and expand signature annual events.	Continue to host and expand signature annual events—such as food and drink festivals, sports tournaments, and cultural festivals—that draw tourists and generate revenue through entry fees, vendor sales, and sponsorships.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Average number of out-of-town visitors that attended annual events.</li><li>– Estimated spending by out-of-town visitors on lodging, dining, and local services (calculated based on average spending per visitor).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>– City Council/City Manager’s Office</li><li>– Property Management</li><li>– Economic Development</li><li>– Visit Fort Worth</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$

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Manageable Resources

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Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
Objective 6.1: Ensure the fiscal sustainability of the Parks and Recreation Department through innovative funding mechanisms, diversified revenue streams, and efficient resource management		Objective 6.1: Ensure the fiscal sustainability of the Parks and Recreation Department through innovative funding mechanisms, diversified revenue streams, and efficient resource management			
6.1.1 Identify and implement sustainable and innovative funding mechanisms.	Building on the Grant Opportunities outlined in Appendix A, develop a Funding Matrix that incorporates private, special purpose, and other public agency sources alongside City funds to diversify and balance funding streams, ensuring the fiscal sustainability of ongoing park maintenance and capital projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of grants applied for compared to the number of grants awarded.</li><li>- Annual total grant money received.</li><li>- Number of grants applied for each grouping (staffing, operations, maintenance, capital projects).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>City Manager's Office</b></li><li>- <b>Financial Management Services</b></li><li>- FW Urban Forestry</li><li>- Transportation &amp; Public Works</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
6.1.2 Work with City leadership, Finance, and other City departments to identify supplemental funding for PARD's maintenance of non-park-related facilities.	Identify supplemental funding for the maintenance of non-park related maintenance activites (E.g. ROW, Medians and coty owned trees) by using the Funding Matrix, City Leadership and other Departments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Annual amount of supplemental funding secured for PARD's maintenance of non-park related facilities, tracked through collaborations with other departments.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>City Manager's Office</b></li><li>- <b>Financial Management Services</b></li><li>- Environmental Services</li><li>- Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>- Neighborhood Services</li><li>- FW Lab</li><li>- Public Events</li><li>- Property Management</li><li>- FW Police Department</li><li>- FW Fire Department</li><li>- FW Emergency Management</li><li>- Economic Development</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
6.1.3 Establish metrics to gauge appropriate capital and operating spending.	Establish metrics to guide capital and operating budgets, enabling data-driven decisions, prioritizing spending, and ensuring efficient resource allocation, transparency, and agility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of times a fee-in-lieu of was paid in place of dedicating parkland.</li><li>- Monthly amount of fees-in-lieu of collected.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Development Services</b></li><li>- Property Management</li><li>- Private Developers</li><li>- Neighborhood Services</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
6.1.4 Integrate park planning with citywide strategies, policies, and economic development.	Collaborate with other city departments and external partners to increase the opportunity to leverage other resources and secure joint grants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of successful grant applications submitted in collaboration with other departments.</li><li>- Annual amount in grant funding received through collaborative efforts with other departments.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Park &amp; Recreation Department</b></li><li>- <b>Financial Management Services</b></li><li>- All City Departments</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$

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Objective 6.1: Ensure the fiscal sustainability of the Parks and Recreation Department through innovative funding mechanisms, diversified revenue streams, and efficient resource management		Objective 6.1: Ensure the fiscal sustainability of the Parks and Recreation Department through innovative funding mechanisms, diversified revenue streams, and efficient resource management			
6.1.5 Develop and operate revenue-generating facilities within parks, such as event spaces, cafes, sports fields, or fitness centers, where rental fees and concessions can fund park upkeep.	Continued development of a diversified revenue generating facility portfolio where those revenues can fund park upkeep.	- N/A	- Park & Recreation Department - Property Management - Financial Management Services	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$\$
6.1.6 Implement the use of out-sourcing tasks, responsibilities and programming where possible to improve efficient use of funding and staff.	Determine what services currently being performed in-house could potentially be outsourced to gain efficiency , and plan for implementation.	- Total in cost saving and personnel time through the use of task outsourcing.	- Park & Recreation Department - Economic Development - Communications & Public Engagement - Financial Management Services	Ongoing	\$\$
Objective 6.2: Addressing staffing challenges to ensure effective maintenance, programming and management, supporting the department’s growing needs and future vision		Objective 6.2: Addressing staffing challenges to ensure effective maintenance, programming and management, supporting the department’s growing needs and future vision			
6.2.1 Increase the number of Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs) at critical areas by 293 FTEs to reach 748.4 FTEs, in line with the NRPA's recommendation.	Prioritize a strategy to attract and retain qualified maintenance staff by improving job appeal, partnering with educational institutions, enhancing working conditions, and utilizing temporary workers when necessary.	- Annual number of newly hired maintenance staff. - Number of existing maintenance personnel (not including newly hired staff) compared to number of maintenance personnel at the beginning of the year.	- Park & Recreation Department - Human Resources - City Manager's Office	Ongoing	\$
	Create a Park Ranger/Park Police division to monitor parks, trails, and recreation sites, coordinating training with the City Police Department.	- N/A	- Park & Recreation Department - City Council/City Manager's Office - FW Police Department - Human Resources	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Create a position of Park Planning District Manager for each Park Planning District, who will act as a link between the residents and the Park & Recreation Department.	- N/A	- Park & Recreation Department - City Council/City Manager's Office - Neighborhood Services - Human Resources	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Assign a landscape architect and park planner to each Park Planning District.	- N/A	- Park & Recreation Department	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$

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Objective 6.2: Addressing staffing challenges to ensure effective maintenance, programming and management, supporting the department’s growing needs and future vision		Objective 6.2: Addressing staffing challenges to ensure effective maintenance, programming and management, supporting the department’s growing needs and future vision			
6.2.1 Increase the number of Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs) at critical areas by 293 FTEs to reach 748.4 FTEs, in line with the NRPA’s recommendation.	Create a position specifically for cultivating and tracking partnerships to increase transparency, community connections and maintenance sustainability.	- N/A	- Park & Recreation Department - City Manager’s Office - Human Resources	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Add a position specifically for grant research and writing to increase external funding and fiscal sustainability.	- N/A	- Park & Recreation Department - City Manager’s Office - Human Resources	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
6.2.2 Provide and encourage training and professional development opportunities for staff that includes cross-training, introduction to new experiences, and advancement.	Provide and encourage training and professional development opportunities for staff that includes cross-training, introduction to new experiences, and advancement to contribute to more sustainable maintenance operations.	- Number of professional development training sessions offered within the year. - Number of promotions made as a result of training opportunities and experiences. - Percent of Park and Recreation staff that have participated in training and professional development programs.	- Park & Recreation Department - Human Resources - City Manager’s Office	Ongoing	\$\$
	Encourage Innovation by staff to increase efficiency in the use of resources and fiscal sustainability.	- Number of new innovating recreation programs introduced as part of employee program.	- Park & Recreation Department - City Manager’s Office	Ongoing	\$
6.2.3 Assign non-park duties to other departments to increase staff efficiency in park maintenance.	Reevaluate non-park duties of the Park & Recreation Department for potential reassignment to better-equipped departments.	- Monthly percentage of time spent by Park personnel (maintenance, management, administration) spent on non-park related duties. - Monthly number of non-park related tasks handled by the Park & Recreation Department.	- Park & Recreation Department - City Manager’s Office - Human Resources - City Council - Transportation & Public Works	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
Objective 6.3: Invest in developing and strengthening diverse partnerships to enhance PARD’s capacity and impact		Objective 6.3: Invest in developing and strengthening diverse partnerships to enhance PARD’s capacity and impact			
6.3.1 Establish a robust partnership framework to enhance collaboration and achieve shared goals.	Conduct a thorough review of all current agreements and contracts with public, private, and nonprofit partners to ensure alignment with the city’s park development and maintenance goals.	- Current number of formal agreements and contracts in active status. - Total number of agreements that need to be renegotiated or terminated for misalignment.	- Park & Recreation Department - City Attorney’s Office	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Explore outcome-based contracts with partners, linking funding to specific results like increased park usage, visitor satisfaction, or improved environmental conditions.	- Percentage of contracted partners meet or exceed agreed-upon outcomes annually along with amount of funding paid out.	- Park & Recreation Department - City Attorney’s Office	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Develop formal partnership agreements outlining clear roles and responsibilities for park operation and maintenance to ensure successful outcomes.	- Number of annual hours redirected from Park & Recreation staff to partner for operations and maintenance of park.	- Park & Recreation Department - City Attorney’s Office - Property Management - Transportation & Public Works	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$

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Objective 6.3: Invest in developing and strengthening diverse partnerships to enhance PARD’s capacity and impact		Objective 6.3: Invest in developing and strengthening diverse partnerships to enhance PARD’s capacity and impact			
6.3.1 Establish a robust partnership framework to enhance collaboration and achieve shared goals.	Refine sponsorship packages for Fort Worth businesses, highlighting community impact and visibility, with opportunities such as sponsoring Trinity Trails, naming rights for park amenities, or supporting events like Mayfest.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number and breakdown (sponsorships, naming rights, etc) of monthly executed sponsorship packages.</li><li>Total annual revenue captured from executed sponsorship packages.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>City Attorney’s Office</li><li>Economic Development</li><li>Property Management</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Develop a Citywide shared platform for departments and partners to view real-time information on opportunities to foster collaboration and community feedback for data driven decisions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percent complete in the development of shared data platform.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Information Technology Services</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>Development Services</li><li>Neighborhoods Services</li><li>FW Lab</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Establishing a permanent Cross- Department group to ensure priorities and strategies align and support one another to increase partnerships and outside funding opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number and breakdown of city departments that are part of task force.</li><li>Total number of actionable strategies developed and percentage implemented by task force.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>City Manager’s Office</li><li>FW Lab</li><li>Development Services</li><li>Neighborhood Services</li><li>Economic Development</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>Environmental Services</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Schedule regular meetings with partners to review progress of partnerships, discuss challenges and identify growth opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of actionable growth opportunities identified during meetings.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Partner agencies/groups</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Create a communication and outreach plan to build trust and long-term relationships with potential partners.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual number of new partnerships initiated as a result of the outreach plan.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>Economic Development</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
6.3.2 Enhance strategic collaboration and partnerships.	Explore opportunities and continue to partner with developers, local businesses, and real estate companies to integrate new parks into major urban developments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Total acreage and number of new agreed upon parks to be built as part of major urban development projects.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Development Services</li><li>Economic Development</li><li>FW Chamber of Commerce</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Establish partnerships with neighborhood organizations and local businesses to maintain and operate public spaces such as parklets and squares in dense urban areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Frequency of on-time maintenance and operation activities conducted as per partnership agreements.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>Economic Development</li><li>Neighborhood Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Cultivate interagency cooperation (FWISD, Tarrant County, USACE, etc.) to align on shared goals, leverage external funding through regional initiatives like Moving a Million, the Fort Worth Comprehensive Plan, and the Good Natured Initiative, and build community trust by enhancing transparency and fiscal sustainability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of initiatives developed, launched &amp; completed under the integrated plans.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>FW Lab</li><li>Development Services</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$

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Objective 6.3: Invest in developing and strengthening diverse partnerships to enhance PARD’s capacity and impact		Objective 6.3: Invest in developing and strengthening diverse partnerships to enhance PARD’s capacity and impact			
6.3.2 Enhance strategic collaboration and partnerships.	Strengthen communication and cooperation with the National Park Service, NCTCOG, Tarrant County, USACE, Texas Parks & Wildlife, and others to ensure Fort Worth’s interests are considered in decisions about public spaces and natural resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of coordination meetings held monthly with other government agencies regarding public spaces for the City of Fort Worth.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>National Park Service</li><li>North Central Texas Council of Governments</li><li>Tarrant County</li><li>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers</li><li>Texas Parks &amp; Wildlife Department</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
6.3.3 Foster a robust network of non-profit organizations and community partnerships.	Develop and strengthen non-profits like a Parks Foundation and groups such as Friends of Tandy Hills to connect with philanthropy, secure funding, and lead park improvements, conservation, restoration, and community engagement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Total funding secured in partnership with non-profit groups to be used for improvement and preservation efforts.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Visit Fort Worth</li><li>Streams &amp; Valleys</li><li>FW Nature Center &amp; Refuge</li><li>FW History Center</li><li>Non-Profit Cultural Groups</li><li>Non-Profit Nature Based Groups (Ex: Fort Worth Audubon Society)</li><li>Public Events</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$
	Promote the “Adopt-a-Park” program, encouraging local businesses, organizations, or neighborhood associations to maintain specific parks or public spaces.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of outreach events, campaigns, or presentations conducted and new number of adopted sites.</li><li>Annual cost savings to the Park &amp; Recreation Department as a result of community volunteer maintenance work.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Economic Development</li><li>Neighborhood Services</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>Transportation and Public Works</li><li>Property Management</li><li>Environmental Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Foster a culture of continuous improvement and celebrate achievements to maintain motivation and the value of the partnerships.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percentage of partners receiving public or formal recognition annually.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>Economic Development</li><li>Neighborhood Services</li><li>City Council/City Manager’s Office</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Celebrate partners’ contributions by showcasing their impact on Fort Worth’s parks through signage, media releases, and social media.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of partners expressing interest in future collaborations after being publicly recognized.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>City Council/City Manager’s Office</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
Objective 6.4: Optimize and upgrade park facilities to improve functionality, ensure efficient maintenance and enhance the long-term sustainability of the system		Objective 6.4: Optimize and upgrade park facilities to improve functionality, ensure efficient maintenance and enhance the long-term sustainability of the system			
6.4.1 Develop maintenance plans.	Develop short- and long-term maintenance plans early in new projects to ensure proactive scheduling and material planning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percentage of new projects with completed maintenance plans prior to project launch.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Coordinate with city departments to estimate maintenance needs, conduct a life cycle cost analysis, and allocate budget for maintenance and operations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Average funding allocated for maintenance needs as part of coordinated interdepartmental projects.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>Financial Management Services</li><li>Property Management Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Involve all relevant staff and project partners to ensure comprehensive maintenance planning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Average time between initial planning meetings and finalization of the maintenance plan.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$

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Objective 6.4: Optimize and upgrade park facilities to improve functionality, ensure efficient maintenance and enhance the long-term sustainability of the system		Objective 6.4: Optimize and upgrade park facilities to improve functionality, ensure efficient maintenance and enhance the long-term sustainability of the system			
6.4.1 Develop maintenance plans.	Design parks and facilities with maintenance in mind, using low-maintenance plants, durable materials, and accessible spaces for easy cleaning, repair, and upgrades.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Average annual cost savings and personnel time for maintenance as a result of low-maintenance park and facility designs.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>FW Lab</li><li>Development Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Include maintenance plans as part of capital improvement projects, specifying monthly, quarterly, and yearly inspections, with milestones to trigger efforts before service interruptions occur.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percentage of new capital improvement projects that include pro-active maintenance plans.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
6.4.2 Conduct comprehensive facility assessment.	Perform a thorough bi-annual inventory of all park facilities, documenting current conditions, usage levels, and any existing maintenance issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percent of park facilities that have been inspected for maintenance issues.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Use tools like the Park Assessment Tool (see Appendix C) and community feedback to guide assessments and prioritize upgrades.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of upgrades done to parks using the finding from the use of the Park Assessment Tool as guide.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Identify gaps in services and prioritize improvements for underserved neighborhoods to promote equity and inclusivity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percentage of service gaps addressed that directly impact equity and inclusivity of underserved neighborhoods.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Diversity &amp; Inclusion</li><li>Neighborhood Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
6.4.3 Implement proactive maintenance.	Continue to develop and improve detailed maintenance plans for existing facilities that outline standards, schedules, responsible parties, and routine upkeep processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percentage of parks and facilities with developed maintenance plans.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Continue to establish and improve clear operation and maintenance standards (e.g., safety, cleanliness, durability) and use monitoring tools to evaluate compliance regularly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percent of on-time operation and maintenance standards met based on adopted schedules.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Conduct semi-annual evaluations of maintenance standards and schedules, incorporating community input through surveys or resident drive alongs or park walk throughs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percent of on-time maintenance tasks have been completed each month.</li><li>Percentage of community-recommended changes incorporated into maintenance plans.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
6.4.4 Improve performance metrics and tracking.	Continue to use and expand on Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to monitor park project and program success, identifying areas for improvement or resource reallocation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of milestones requiring adjustments due to resource or scheduling issues.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Continue to employ automated tools like visitor counting systems, mobile apps, or program registration data to track park usage and participation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Change in the number of visitors accounted for after the implementation of automated tracking tools compared to the previous years.</li><li>Number of recreation programs and events that have required adjustments based on new participant numbers captured by tracking tools.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Information Technology Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$\$
	Utilize NRPA COFW benchmark performance metrics against peer cities and industry standards to maintain high-quality service delivery. Each year pick a few metrics to prioritize and focus on to improve.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percentage of service areas where performance exceeds or meets peer city and industry standards.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$

\* =Primary Responsible Party      \$ = Less than \$250,000    \$\$ = \$250,000 to 2,000,000    \$\$\$ = \$2,000,000+





Manageable Resources

Elevate the management, operations, and maintenance to ensure organizational sustainability.



Manageable Resources

Elevate the management, operations, and maintenance to ensure organizational sustainability.

Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
Objective 6.4: Optimize and upgrade park facilities to improve functionality, ensure efficient maintenance and enhance the long-term sustainability of the system		Objective 6.4: Optimize and upgrade park facilities to improve functionality, ensure efficient maintenance and enhance the long-term sustainability of the system			
6.4.5 Prioritize facility upgrades.	Develop a phased upgrade plan, prioritizing facilities with immediate safety concerns and high public demand.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percent of upgrades done for each facility that has been prioritized due to safety concerns.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Property Management</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Prioritize “quick-win” projects or projects that can be done within a year with relatively low effort and cost to build momentum alongside larger upgrades.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of “quick win” projects completed within the year.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$
	Align facility upgrades with city capital improvement plans to optimize timelines, resources, and efficiency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Total cost savings realized by combining facility update projects with CIP projects (compare stand alone project costs to combine project).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
6.4.6 Encourage sustainable practices.	Implement viable renewable energy solutions (e.g., solar panels) at PARD facilities, including conservation practices (e.g., motion sensors, programmed thermostats, use of shades, and weatherproofing).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percentage of annual total energy consumption at parks and recreation facilities sourced from renewable energy.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Information Technology Services</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$\$
	Adopt durable, weather-resistant materials to improve longevity and reduce environmental impact.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Total reduction in waste generated by using long-lasting, weather-resistant materials.</li><li>Average reduction in maintenance and replacement costs due to durable materials.</li><li>Total reduction in the number of work hours spent maintaining park facility/ amenity.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$\$
	Promote waste reduction, recycling, and energy efficiency to enhance sustainability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of events held annually promoting environmental responsibility through education and volunteering.</li><li>The number of loads of clean brush diverted from landfill. Clean brush can be taken to City compost site for a lesser charge than landfilled.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Environmental Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Explore ways to automate routine park tasks e.g. mowing, trash pick up etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of routine tasks identified for automation.</li><li>Decrease in the cost (in dollars) associated with manual labor for task that have been converted to automated tasks.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Medium-Term (5-10 Years)	\$\$\$
	Use green infrastructure and native landscaping to reduce water consumption and maintenance costs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual cost saving realized for maintenance and water consumption through the implementation of green infrastructure.</li><li>Percent of parks and facilities with green infrastructure.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Tarrant County Master Gardener Association</li><li>FW Urban Forestry</li><li>Transportation &amp; Public Works</li><li>FW Lab</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
6.4.7 Enhance staff and resource allocation.	Inventory staff equipment needs and schedule procurement to avoid maintenance delays.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percent reduction in maintenance delays due to advanced needs planning.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Equipment Services</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
	Explore the construction of satellite maintenance facilities in park districts to reduce response times for repairs and safety concerns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Savings in labor costs due to more efficient deployment of maintenance staff.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Short-Term (0-5 Years)	\$\$

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Manageable Resources

Elevate the management, operations, and maintenance to ensure organizational sustainability.



Manageable Resources

Elevate the management, operations, and maintenance to ensure organizational sustainability.

Strategies	Recommendations & Actions	KPI	Responsible Party	Time Frame	Probable Cost
Objective 6.5: Enhance the governance and organizational excellence through accreditation, performance evaluations, and increased accountability and transparency		Objective 6.5: Enhance the governance and organizational excellence through accreditation, performance evaluations, and increased accountability and transparency			
6.5.1 Use the accreditation as a framework for continuous improvement in governance and organizational excellence.	Perform an annual audit to evaluate policies and operations against accreditation standards and address gaps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of on-time audits completed in support of maintaining accreditation.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>City Manager's Office</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Use benchmarking to identify areas for improvement and adopt best practices from other successful organizations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of improvements that led to an increase in park/facility usage by the community.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Engage all staff in the accreditation process by having a brief standard overview in regularly scheduled staff meetings, to ensure understanding and support of standards. PARD newsletter could feature a standard each month and ask staff for feedback on how to improve.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percentage of staff who complete accreditation training sessions</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
6.5.2 Implement comprehensive performance evaluations.	Define clear roles and responsibilities with SMART metrics, use performance data for decisions on resources and improvements, and ensure staff understand their impact on organizational goals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Percent increase of services that meet or exceed standards after the implementation of SMART metric compared to previous years.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Human Resources</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Provide ongoing professional development and incentives to enhance staff performance and organizational success.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of Park &amp; Recreation staff members that have participated in professional development opportunities.</li><li>Numbers and areas where staff performance has been seen to exceed prior performance (example: response time to maintenance requests, development of new creation programs, etc.)</li><li>Track education hours in Molly U and compare year over year.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Human Resources</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$\$
6.5.3 Promote public transparency of the department's operations, administration, finances, projects and maintenance.	Community updates via public accessible semi-annual/annual reports via, Gov Delivery, COFW website and/or City News story.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of community members who report finding the content useful or relevant.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Host open meetings for public and stakeholder input on park system operations, planning, and development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of open meeting held bi-annually in each of the PPD.</li><li>Number of community members that attended meetings.</li><li>Number of new actionable items that came out of input/feedback provided by members of the community.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li><li>Diversity &amp; Inclusion</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$
	Connect financial data to KPIs to demonstrate budget impacts on programs, services, park development and public space improvements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of community members who feel informed about how financial resources are allocated.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Park &amp; Recreation Department</li><li>Financial Management Services</li><li>Communication &amp; Public Engagement</li></ul>	Ongoing	\$

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APPENDIX

# B

## Park & Public Realm Classification System



# Park & Public Realm Classification System

The Park & Public Realm Classification System provides the foundational framework for guiding the planning, design, and development of Fort Worth’s parks, trails, and green space system. It sets expectations for the quality, function, and scale of park facilities and helps ensure that improvements are aligned with the GREENprint’s goals and community needs.

Fort Worth’s park classification system was originally adopted as part of the 2004 Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan, drawing from a blend of National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) guidelines, regional service level standards, internal staff recommendations, and community and advisory board input. The 2015 Master Plan carried forward that approach, while also incorporating the 2014 Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) standards, benchmarking against peer cities, and consideration of population growth, demographic trends, and related city planning efforts.

For GREENprint, the park classification structure is refined to reflect evolving community priorities, land use patterns, and to better define the purpose and characteristics of each park type. While the Urban Park classification introduced in 2015 remains a key component of the system, the 2025 plan introduces a new category: Public Rights-of-Way Parks, which encompasses smaller-scale public spaces such as green neighborhood streets, parklets, and squares. These areas enhance neighborhood livability and walkability and play an increasingly important role in Fort Worth’s urban fabric.

The 2025 update also introduces District Parks: a new classification recommended specifically for Fort Worth. District Parks serve as a mid-sized recreational hub within the Community-Based Parks type. Ranging from 75 to 200 acres in size, these parks provide centralized outdoor recreation spaces tailored to the unique needs of each Park Planning District, with amenities that support both active and passive uses, strong trail connectivity, and input-driven design.

Park Type	Size	Service Radius
Public Rights-of-Way Parks and Open Spaces		
Green Neighborhood Street	N/A	N/A
Parklet	N/A	N/A
Square	N/A	N/A
Neighborhood-Based Parks		
Urban Park	1 acre or less	N/A
Pocket Park	1 – 5 acres	1/2 mile
Neighborhood Park	5 – 30 acres	1/2 mile
Community-Based Parks		
Community Park	30 – 200 acres	1 1/2 miles
District Park	75 to 200 acres	Park Planning District
Metropolitan Park	200 + acres	City-wide
Special Use		
Greenbelt	N/A	N/A
Conservancy Area	N/A	N/A
Golf Course	N/A	N/A

In addition, the definition of Metropolitan Parks has been refined. Previously identified as parks over 500 acres, the updated classification now encompasses parks starting at 200+ acres. This shift reflects both the availability of land and the broader range of park types that can serve as citywide and regional destinations.

The current system continues to organize park types into four tiers: Public Rights-of-Way Parks, Neighborhood-Based Parks, Community-Based Parks, and Special Use Parks. Typical size, service radius, and service level are illustrated in the table below.

## Facility Standards

The City of Fort Worth’s Neighborhood and Community Park Dedication Policy (PARD-PDP) provides a framework for ensuring that new residential developments contribute to the City’s parks system. The PARD-PDP is part of the City of Fort Worth Subdivision Ordinance. Additionally, the Park Facility manual provides design standards for elements within a park.

## Future Land Dedication

As a goal, new residential subdivisions site plans should try to plan for a rate of 11.5 acres per 1,000 residents of land dedication, based on projected population of the development.

## Land Quality and Minimum Requirements

To ensure that dedicated parkland results in spaces that are functional, welcoming, and suitable for high-quality park development, all land proposed for dedication must meet the following criteria. The intent is to avoid parcels that are too constrained, hidden, or ecologically sensitive to develop as active parkland or meaningful public space.

### A. Topography

- Dedicated parkland shall be relatively level and suitable for active and passive recreational uses.
- Steep slopes, ravines, or bluffs may be counted toward dedication only if they are integrated into a trail corridor, overlook, or interpretive feature.
- 1/3 of the site open and relatively flat topography of 2% for play fields/general open play activity.

- 2/3 of the site may include topographic diversity/ forested area for nature study, play, relaxation or picnicking.
- B. Floodplain and Drainage**
- No more than 20% of dedicated land should be within the 100-year floodplain, unless enhanced for usability (e.g., trails, wetlands, green infrastructure)..
  - Land within the floodway, stormwater detention, or mitigation zones is not eligible to be counted.

### C. Size and Configuration

- Parkland shall have a minimum contiguous area of 1 acre unless designated as a pocket park or plaza in an urban setting.
- The parcel shall have a regular shape (square, rectangular, circle, oval, triangle or other true geometric form) and be free of remnant strips, narrow buffers, or other irregularities that limit design potential. Long, narrow strips or isolated parcels shall be rejected unless part of a linear park, greenbelt, or trail corridor.

### D. Access and Frontage

- Parkland must have direct pedestrian and bicycle access, ideally located on a collector or neighborhood street.
- Parcels behind fences, within gated developments, or accessible only by easement are not eligible unless integrated into a city-approved park network.

### E. Utilities and Encumbrances

- Land encumbered by major overhead transmission lines, gas pipelines, or other infrastructure easements must not exceed 20% of the total dedicated area unless the space can be safely programmed and landscaped.

### F. Environmental Integrity

- Dedications that preserve native woodlands, heritage trees, wetlands, or habitat corridors are encouraged but must also include designated active-use space to meet community recreational needs.

This would apply to all neighborhood park types and 50% of the land size of Community Parks if developed by a developer.



**Open Space Conservation**  
Open Space offers a range of environmental, recreational, and social benefits to the City of Fort Worth. As defined in Chapter 36 of the City Code:

OPEN SPACE. *An interest in land that the City of Fort Worth owns or maintains with the primary intent of meeting one or more of the following purposes:*

- (1) to preserve or restore natural areas and resources;*
- (2) to maintain or enhance air or water quality;*
- (3) to preserve the property’s aesthetic value and its contribution to the quality of life of the community;*
- (4) to mitigate erosion or enhance flood control efforts;*
- (5) to prevent encroachment on floodplains or watersheds.*

Incidental or programmatic use of Open Space for other purposes may occur; however, that use is intended to be secondary to the purposes identified above. Open Space is not park land and is not owned, held, or claimed as a public square or park, nor is Open Space acquired or designated as a park, recreation area, scientific area, wildlife refuge, or historic site.

Note: The term “green space” is used throughout this document and refers to a range of natural environments including but not limited to parks, urban forest, trail corridors, natural preserves, floodplain, riparian areas, medians, parkways and streetscapes.

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# Public Rights-of-Way Parks & Open Spaces

- Green Neighborhood Main Streets
- Parklets
- Squares

## Public Rights-of-Way Parks & Open Spaces



### Green Neighborhood Main Streets

According to NACTO Neighborhood main streets are a nexus of neighborhood life, with high pedestrian volumes, frequent parking turnover, key transit routes, and bicyclists all vying for limited space. Main street design should limit traffic speeds and create a narrower profile with frequent, high-quality pedestrian crossings. In recent years, many main streets have been significantly improved through road diets and the conversion from 4 to 3 (or 6 to 5) lanes of travel with bike lanes and a center turning lane or median.



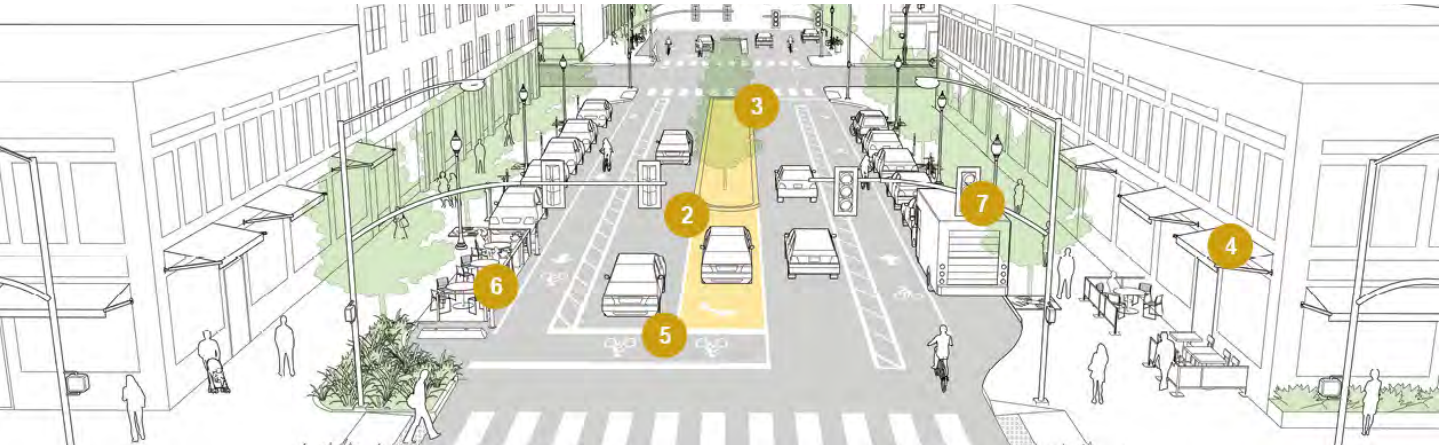
### General Requirements

- **Speed Management:** Implement traffic calming measures to maintain safe vehicle speeds, enhancing pedestrian and cyclist safety.
- **Pedestrian Priority:** Ensure wide, unobstructed sidewalks to accommodate high foot traffic, promoting walkability.
- **Bicycle Facilities:** Integrate dedicated bike lanes or shared lanes to support safe cycling.
- **Transit Accessibility:** Provide accessible transit stops with amenities like shelters and seating to encourage public transportation use.
- **Parking Management:** Balance on-street parking with other uses, considering strategies like parking lanes that can double as loading zones or parklets.



### Design Considerations and Placement

- Design narrower travel lanes to naturally calm traffic and allocate space for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Install frequent, well-marked pedestrian crossings at intersections and mid-block locations to facilitate safe street crossing.
- Use curb extensions to shorten crossing distances for pedestrians and slow turning vehicles.
- Incorporate street trees and landscaping to provide shade, aesthetic appeal, and a buffer between pedestrians and traffic.
- Ensure adequate street lighting to enhance safety and visibility for all users during nighttime.
- Place benches, trash receptacles, and bike racks thoughtfully to serve users without obstructing pathways.



Source: Neighborhood Main Street Rendering, NACTO





## Parklets

A parklet repurposes a portion of the street—typically one or two parking spaces—into a vibrant public space where people can gather, relax, and socialize. Often sponsored by nearby businesses or community organizations, parklets remain open to everyone, enhancing street life and pedestrian activity in denser urban areas. These small but impactful spaces create new outdoor gathering spots, fostering community interaction while supporting local businesses and making streets more inviting and dynamic.



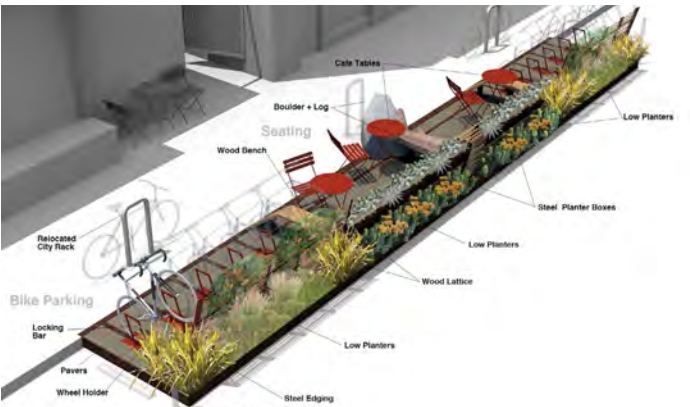
### General Requirements

- **Speed Limit:** Parklets are permitted on streets regulated at or below the default speed limit of 25 mph.
- **Street Slope:** Parklets are allowed on streets with a running slope of 5% or less.
- **Public Utilities:** Parklets must not block fire hydrants or cover any utility or manhole covers
- **Water Drainage:** Parklets must not be installed over street drains unless accommodations for water flow are made.
- **Existing Public Right of Way:** Parklets must not obstruct other street furniture, plantings, or signage. Electrical cords may not run across the public right of way from a partner establishment to a Parklet.
- **Paving Schedule:** Parklets should not be installed in locations scheduled for resurfacing or utility work within 8 months of installation.
- **Assembly and Disassembly:** Parklets must be easy to assemble on-site and dismantle for storage or in case of emergency hazard situations. Components must be transportable by a standard pickup truck when disassembled.
- Daily setup and breakdown of any items that cannot be left out overnight are the responsibility of the Parklet Partner.



### Design Considerations and Placement

- Typical width occupied along street – 2 parking spaces
- Distance from platform to wheel stop – 3'
- Maximum parklet width from curb – 7'
- Minimum side edge height – 17"
- Minimum overhead clearance – 80"
- Street edge height – 36–42"
- Minimum distance from fire hydrant to parklet – 15'



Rendering from 40th Street, Oakland, CA.



Parallel Park Parklet, Vancouver, BC



## Squares

Squares are central public spaces that serve as vibrant hubs of activity, interaction, and cultural expression in urban environments. Historically, squares have been the heart of cities, providing places for social gatherings, markets, performances, and civic events. Squares could be created out of underutilized space on city streets. They can quickly transform barren pavement into a lively place to gather. They are a partnership between the City and neighborhood groups, small business organizations, or major property owners.



### General Requirements

- **Speed Limit:** Plazas are permitted on streets regulated at or below the default speed limit of 25 mph.
- **Emergency Access:** Alternate access must be provided for emergency vehicles. Plazas must not block access to fire hydrants.
- **Clearance:** Adequate clearance must be provided for turning in and out of nearby driveways.
- **Traffic Flow:** Existing traffic volumes must be maintained. Plazas must not interfere with existing public transit routes.
- Minimize curb cuts and locate parking access to reduce impacts on transit, bicycles and pedestrian circulation.
- **Access:** Universal access to ensure that they are accessible for everyone regardless of age and ability.
- **Public Safety:** Visibility into and throughout the space to create a sense of openness and safety.
- Utilize lighting to light circulation paths or to help animate the space at night.



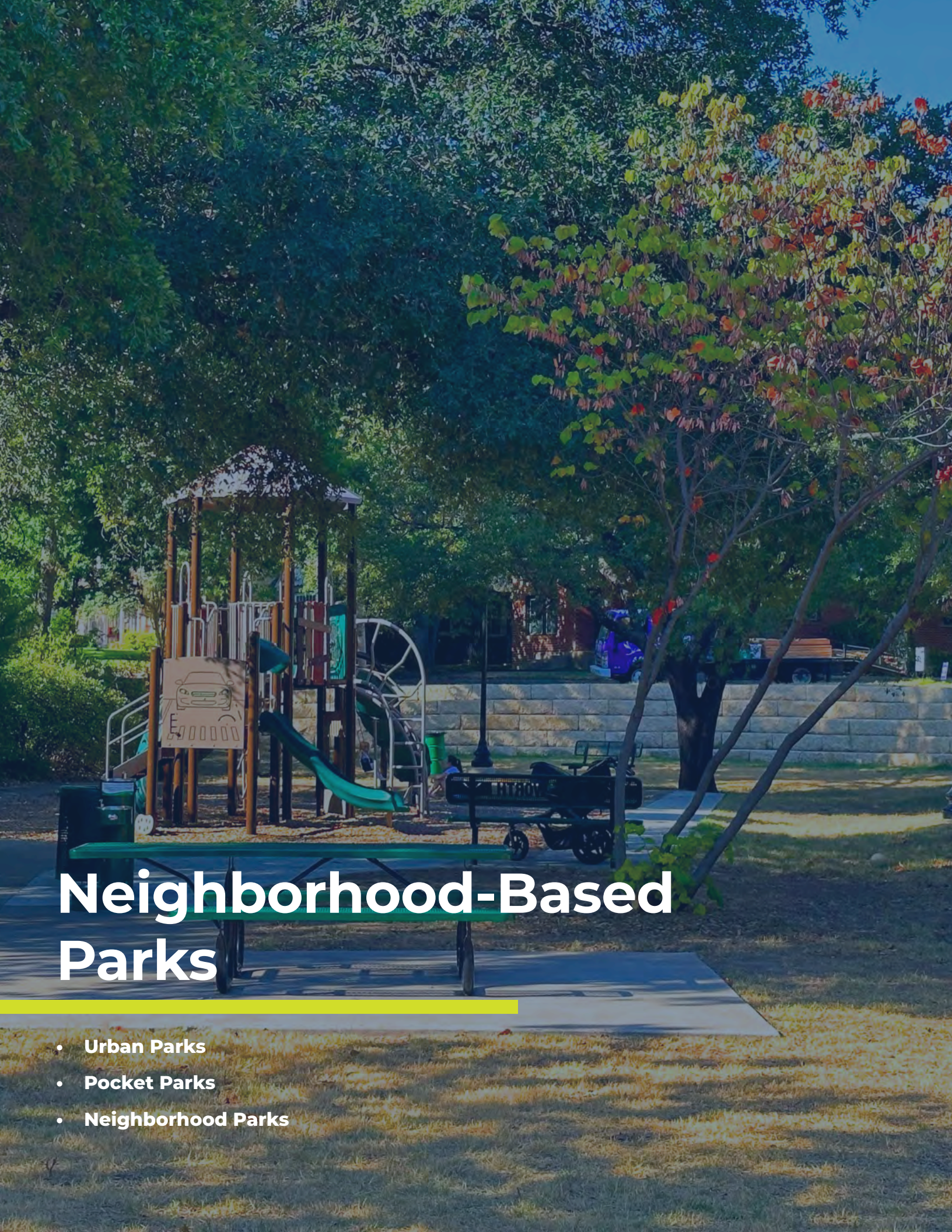
### Design Considerations and Placement

- Location should be visible and accessible from the street, sidewalk, or a pedestrian walkway. Accessible from the front or primary face of the development.
- Most of the total area of the public space should be contiguous and regular in shape (i.e. square, rectangular, etc.).
- Plazas must occupy a minimum of 1,000 square feet.
- A colorful surface treatment delineates the pedestrian zone and enhances the plaza's visual identity.
- Identity signage announces that the plaza is a public space and can display the plaza's name, sponsor information, and wayfinding details.
- Providing ample open seating is crucial to the success of a plaza. Different types of furniture are appropriate for different locations, depending on maintenance levels and adjacent uses.



Sundance Square Plaza, Fort Worth





# Neighborhood-Based Parks

- Urban Parks
- Pocket Parks
- Neighborhood Parks

## Neighborhood-Based Parks



### Urban Parks



### Typical Size

Varies depending on the location and function of the urban park, typically less than 1 acre



### Service Area

NA



### Location Considerations

- Within the existing urban fabric of Fort Worth.
- Can be infill projects in lots which have been underutilized, or they can be planned in areas of new urban development.
- Should be located in high-density areas not well served by other public parks.



### Typical Amenities

- Due to the small size of Urban Parks, amenities will be minimal.
- Surrounding land use will influence the types and quantities of amenities.
- Park benches.
- Picnic table(s).
- Trash receptacle(s).
- Adequate evening/nighttime lighting
- Fountain or small water feature.
- Open lawn with trees for non-organized play, passive recreation, and small-scale programmable activities.
- ADA Accessible walkways
- Paved Spaces
- Movable tables and chairs



### Design Considerations

- Input from residents in the surrounding area should heavily influence the design and aesthetic of the park.
- Vehicular parking should depend on the existing urban fabric. Urban Parks that are planned for highly developed areas with established lots or street parking will require different parking considerations than parks planned in areas of new development.
- Natural elements should be incorporated into the design, even when the park is considered a non-green space such as a plaza, courtyard, square, or pedestrian mall (Ex: in-ground or above-ground planters).
- Park signage may include minimal wayfinding or small monument signage.





## Pocket Parks

Pocket Parks are typically the smallest type of park a city develops. These types of parks should be designed to meet the specific interests and needs of the immediately surrounding community, therefore the park's service area should provide direct input on its design.



### Typical Size

Between 1 and 5 acres



### Service Area

Up to 1/4 mile



### Location Considerations

- Best located within the geographic center of small residential neighborhoods, or in quarter mile intervals.
- Should be readily accessible to concentrated populations on foot.
- Avoid placing these parks along heavily traveled streets.



### Design Considerations

- Vehicular parking should be kept to a minimum since the park is located within a walkable distance of the entire service area.
- Safe pedestrian access should be provided through trails and sidewalks or along low-volume residential streets.
- Provide protection from the sun using trees and/or shade structures in open areas and along pathways.
- Small monument signage should be used to identify the park.
- Street access should be available on at least one side of the park.



### Typical Amenities

- Ages 2-5 or 5-12 playgrounds with safety surfacing and fall zone incorporated edging
- Hard surface play area or court games such as basketball, tennis, and/or volleyball
- Small lawn for passive and/or non-organized activities
- Passive amenities such as tables, benches, trash receptacles, walking paths, and small shade structures.
- Small pavilions for family events or activities.
- Gardens or water features
- Monuments, memorials, and educational signage
- Adequate evening/nighttime lighting
- ADA Accessible walkways



## Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks are designed to serve the needs of an entire neighborhood within a quarter- to half-mile radius of the park. They are generally designed to serve local communities by providing informal active and passive recreation, but they may also include athletic fields or courts for more formal recreation needs. The size of a neighborhood park is dependent on the park's intended uses, function, surrounding development, land attributes, and available land.



### Typical Size

Between 5 and 30 acres



### Service Area

Up to 1/2 mile



### Location Considerations

- Best located within the geographic center of a neighborhood
- Should be readily accessible to concentrated populations on foot



### Design Considerations

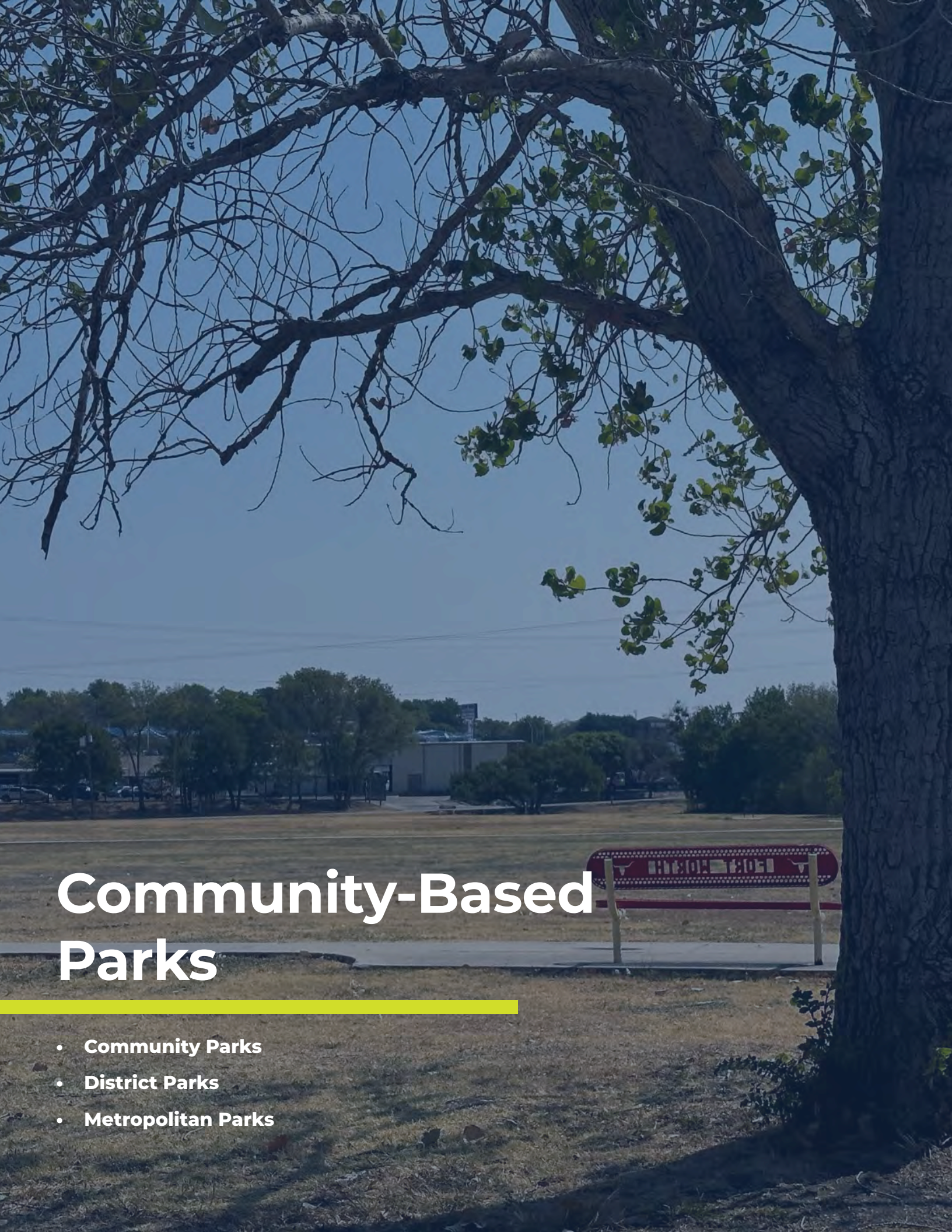
- Park boundaries should be clearly defined.
- Vehicular parking shall be adequate for the service area while prioritizing pedestrian access and circulation
- Safe pedestrian access to and within the park should be provided through trails and sidewalks
- Pocket and Neighborhood Parks should connect to one another through trail systems
- Provide protection from the sun using trees and/or shade structures in open areas and along pathways.
- Plantings should be placed near park facilities and should enhance the aesthetics of the park while considering function and ecological value
- Small monument signage should be used to identify the park
- Both active and passive recreation opportunities should be provided



### Typical Amenities

- Ages 2-5 or 5-12 playgrounds with safety surfacing and fall zone incorporated edging
- Hard surface play areas or court games such as basketball, tennis, and/or volleyball
- Limited sports field(s)
- Splash pad or swimming pool.
- Small lawn for passive and/or non-organized activities
- Passive amenities such as tables, benches, trash receptacles, walking paths, and small shade structures
- Loop trails and trailhead connections to city-wide trail systems or nearby neighborhood parks
- Mid-sized pavilions or multi-purpose structures for family events or activities.
- Restroom facilities.
- Public drinking fountain
- Adequate evening/nighttime lighting
- ADA Accessible walkways





# Community-Based Parks

- Community Parks
- District Parks
- Metropolitan Parks



## Community Parks

Community Parks are often catering to multiple neighborhoods or an entire district. These parks provide a diverse mix of recreational opportunities, including sports fields, walking trails, playgrounds, picnic areas, and natural open spaces. They are strategically located to ensure equitable access and are designed to support both active and passive recreation, making them key assets in a city’s park system.



### Typical Size

Between 30 to 75 acres



### Service Area

1 mile



### Location Considerations

- Should be placed within close proximity to the center of multiple neighborhoods without overlapping service areas of other Community Parks.



### Typical Amenities

- Children’s playground with fall surface and equipment with shade structures
  - Hard surface play areas or court games such as basketball, tennis, and/or 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 systems
  - Splash pad(s) or swimming pool(s)
  - Open lawn for passive, non-organized play
  - Passive recreation elements and site furnishings such as tables, benches, trash receptacles, bike racks, paths, and small shade structures
  - Large, medium, and small pavilions or multi-purpose structures to accommodate various uses and functions
  - Permanent restroom facilities
  - Public drinking fountains
  - Adequate evening/nighttime lighting
  - Monuments, memorials, and educational signage where appropriate.
  - Support facilities such as maintenance buildings.
  - Community center
  - Natural or preserved areas including unique terrain, floodplains, greenbelts, gardens, or water features
- Vehicular parking should be required based on the size and function of each individual park
  - Safe pedestrian access to and within the park should be provided through trails and sidewalks.
  - When the park is adjacent to trail corridors, connections should be made to form a pedestrian network, allowing the park to serve as a trail access site.
  - Provide protection from the sun using trees and/or shade structures in open areas and along pathways.
  - Facilities should be surrounded with aesthetic landscape plantings and trees.
  - Park signage should include an identifiable monument park sign as well as necessary trail and wayfinding signage.
  - Physical barriers such as major local roadways, highways, and railroads should be avoided within the service areas. Such barriers would limit the park’s level of accessibility.
  - Incorporate naturally preserved areas for passive recreation opportunities.
  - ADA Accessible walkways





## District Parks

The District Park is a classification specifically recommended for the City of Fort Worth. These parks serve as a bridge between close-to-home parks and larger regional parks such as Metropolitan Parks. District Parks should provide a centralized outdoor recreation space for each of the City's Park Planning Districts. District Parks should be designed to meet the specific needs of the Park Planning District in which it is located, meaning size and geography may be unique for each District Park.



### Typical Size

75 to 200 acres



### Location Considerations

- Should be located near the geographic center of the Park Planning District in which it is located
- Availability of land may influence the park's location



### Design Considerations

- These parks should meet the specific needs of the service area in terms of size, function, aesthetics, and amenities. District Parks will vary heavily depending on which district the park resides in
- Input from residents in each Park Planning District should heavily influence the design and aesthetic of the park
- Vehicular parking should be required based on the size and function of each individual park
- Safe pedestrian access to and within the park should be provided through trails and sidewalks
- When the park is adjacent to trail corridors, connections should be made to form a pedestrian network, allowing the park to serve as a trail access site
- Facilities should be surrounded with aesthetic landscape plantings and trees
- Park signage should include an identifiable monument park sign as well as necessary trail and wayfinding signage



### Service Area

2 miles



### Typical Amenities

- Several children's playgrounds with fall surface and shade structures
- Several sport courts such as basketball, tennis, pickleball, and/or volleyball
- Several sport fields for organized play such as soccer, baseball, and/or softball
- Splash pads or swimming pools
- Multiple areas with varying sizes of open lawn for non-organized play and programmable activities
- Passive recreation elements and site furnishings such as picnic tables, benches, trash receptacles, bike racks, paths, and shade structures
- Several pavilions and multi-purpose structures with varying sizes to accommodate various uses and functions
- Permanent restroom facilities
- Public drinking fountains
- Adequate evening/nighttime lighting
- Natural preserves including unique terrain floodplains, greenbelts, gardens, or water features
- Multi-use centers to be used for District events and large gatherings
- ADA Accessible walkways



## Metropolitan Parks

Metropolitan Parks are the largest classification and are to serve as parks not only for the City of Fort Worth but also as a draw from surrounding communities.



### Typical Size

200 + acres



### Design Considerations

- Parks should provide a large variety of amenities to accommodate diverse wants, needs, and user groups.
- Vehicular parking should be required based on the size and function of each individual park while considering the need for additional parking to accommodate out-of-town visitors
- Programming should focus on natural resource values and recreational diversity.
- Utilize existing site topography and preserve areas with significant slopes in natural areas.
- When appropriate, incorporate water-based recreation and environmental education.
- Utilize existing topography that may provide buffers and barriers to surrounding uses.
- Safe pedestrian circulation within the park should be prioritized using trails and sidewalks.
- When the park is adjacent to trail corridors, connections should be made to form a pedestrian network.
- Facilities should be surrounded with aesthetic landscape plantings and trees.
- Park signage should include an identifiable monument park sign, small monument signage to identify specific areas within the park, necessary trail and wayfinding signage, and monuments, memorials, and/or educational signage.



### Service Area

Citywide



### Location Considerations

- Location will vary depending on available land and park function



### Typical Amenities

- Tournament-quality sport fields with supporting infrastructure such as bleachers, concession stands, and shade structures.
- Children's playground with fall surface and shade structures
- Permanent restroom facilities
- Public drinking fountains
- Adequate evening/nighttime lighting
- Stages or small amphitheaters with appropriate electrical connections for stage-like performances
- Regional multi-use centers
- Large areas of natural open space with opportunities for environmental education.
- Water features with opportunities for active and passive recreation.
- Trail networks connecting to the park and bringing users throughout the park.
- ADA Accessible walkways



# Special-Use Parks

- Greenbelts
- Conservancies
- Other Special Use Parks

## Special Use Parks



### Greenbelts



### Typical Size

Varies depending on the geography, environment, and community in which the greenbelt is located



### Design Considerations

They can be used to increase circulation throughout a city for pedestrians and bicyclists, provide habitat corridors for wildlife throughout the City, and connect parks and points of interest to one another.

- Greenbelts are typically linear and contain natural features with minimal development
- Vehicular parking should depend on the location, service area, and anticipated visitation of the greenbelt
- Utilize natural site topography and preserve areas with significant slopes when possible.
- Provide shade through the preservation or planting of trees
- Utilize existing topography that may provide buffers and barriers to surrounding uses
- Keep natural features as natural as possible with minimal maintenance to encourage a healthy ecosystem and wildlife corridor connections
- Prioritize pedestrians' and bicyclists' access to and circulation within the greenbelt
- Ensure trail width, layout, and material provides a quality experience and allows for pedestrians and bicyclists to enjoy the trail at the same time
- Balance human needs and wildlife needs by providing amenities while preserving natural habitat when possible
- Implement flood mitigation design when greenbelts are located near floodplains, rivers, or streams
- Preserve native soils and rehabilitate or replace damaged soils



### Service Area

NA



### Location Considerations

- The location of a Greenbelt will depend on where undeveloped or natural land is available within the City
- Greenbelts may be located along/near natural open spaces, wildlife corridors, wetlands, streams, or farm and ranch land



### Typical Amenities

Natural open spaces, wildlife corridors, wetlands, streams, farm and ranch lands. Minimal amenities such as occasional park benches or picnic tables may be placed along the greenbelt.

- Linear trails suitable for walking, running, and/or biking
- Flood mitigation using geography, topography, and/or design solutions
- Natural open spaces or wildlife corridors for passive recreation use
- Minimal amenities such as occasional benches, picnic tables, or trash receptacles
- Public drinking fountains
- Adequate evening/nighttime lighting
- ADA Accessible walkways





## Conservancies

Conservancies are areas for protection and management of the natural/cultural environment with recreational use as a secondary objective. Recreational use may include passive recreation such as viewing and studying nature and wildlife habitat.



### Typical Size

Size varies depending on the natural/cultural environment in need of protection, however, conservancies should be sufficient to protect the resource and provide appropriate usage



### Design Considerations

- Prioritize the preservation and protection of natural/cultural resources above all else
- Provide passive recreational opportunities to complement the natural and cultural resources
- Protect all significant natural features including site topography, soil, plant communities, and wildlife habitat to the greatest extent possible
- The construction, maintenance, and use of amenities should not negatively impact the environment
- Vehicular parking should depend on the function, programming, and anticipated visitation of the conservancy. Parking should be kept as minimal as possible
- When appropriate, include both active and passive recreational opportunities related to the natural and cultural resources protected by the conservancy
- Park signage may include small monument signage to identify specific areas within the park, necessary trail and wayfinding signage, and monuments, memorials, and/or educational signage.



### Service Area

Citywide but may also draw visitors from outside City limits. May additionally function as a tourist attraction.



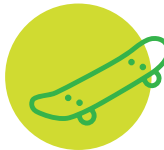
### Location Considerations

- Dependent on where a natural/cultural environment in need of protection is located



### Typical Amenities

- Conservancies will have minimal amenities as their primary purpose is to protect natural and cultural resources
- Walking trails
- Educational signage and minimal wayfinding signage
- Minimal amenities such as park benches, picnic tables, or possibly trash receptacles
- Viewpoints for observing wildlife
- Adequate evening/nighttime lighting
- May include a facility for visitors to access information and restrooms



## Other Special Use Parks

Special Use Parks may be developed for very specific purposes. Examples of these include, but are not limited to linear trails, sporting facilities, dog parks, zoos, and botanical gardens. The designs and amenities are specifically dependent on the use of the park and the population it is to serve. Due to their specialized nature, Special Use Parks will have varying sizes, service areas, locations, design considerations, and amenities. These should be designed in coordination with the City of Fort Worth's Park & Recreation Department.





APPENDIX

# C

## In Depth System Assessment

### CONTENTS

- System Assessment Methodology
- Standard-Based Assessment
- Demand-Based Assessment
- Resource-based Assessment
- Equity-based Assessment
- Access-based Assessment
- Public Realm Assessment

### PHYLLIS J. TILLEY MEMORIAL BRIDGE

"If we are to improve our city,  
we must think big - initiate our own  
changes and assume the leadership  
that is our responsibility."

— Phyllis J. Tilley, President, Citizens & Leaders

**Significance** The Tilley Bridge honors Phyllis Tilley, the founder of Citizens & Leaders, a local non-profit organization devoted to empowerment of the Third Ward. Citizens & Leaders played a vital role in transforming the local community into one of the most vibrant and diverse neighborhoods in the city of Fort Worth.

Her efforts exemplify the qualities that have made Fort Worth successful: vision, collaboration, and leadership.

#### Citizens & Leaders Founding Members

Clay Beck, Jr.	John Hester
James E. Williams	John Hester
John Hester	John Hester
John Hester	John Hester
John Hester	John Hester







# Fort Worth Citywide Park and Recreation System Assessment

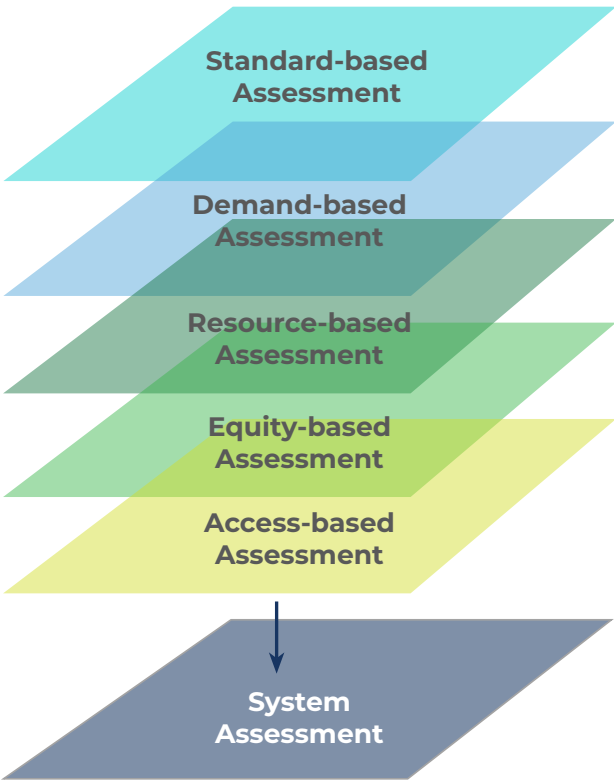
## System Assessment Methodology

The System Assessment in the GREENprint Fort Worth Plan provides a comprehensive analysis of the current parks and recreation system, offering insights into how well it meets the needs of the community. This assessment serves as a foundation for shaping the plan's vision, goals, and recommendations by identifying gaps, opportunities, and areas for improvement. In addition to evaluating traditional parks, this plan takes a broader approach by considering the entire public realm, incorporating main streets, plazas, and urban public spaces into the park system. The goal is to weave these spaces together into a cohesive, connected network that functions as a unified system of green and public spaces, enhancing the city's livability and accessibility. The assessment includes five key components:

- **Standard-Based Assessment:** Benchmarks the system against national standards set by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Trust for Public Land (TPL), and peer cities.
- **Demand-Based Assessment:** Captures input from residents through extensive community engagement, including in-person and online surveys, stakeholder sessions, technical and steering committees, and City Council workshops.
- **Resource-Based Assessment:** Identifies existing public and private resources that supplement the City's park and recreation offerings.
- **Equity-Based Assessment:** Evaluates the fair distribution of parks and resources, considering socioeconomic disparities, environmental conditions, and community health to ensure parks are accessible to all.
- **Access-Based Assessment:** Focuses on physical access to parks, emphasizing Close-to-Home Parks and the 10-minute walk standard to ensure residents have convenient access to green spaces.



Rosemont park







## Standard-Based Assessment

The Standards-Based Assessment section of the park and recreation master plan serves as a critical tool for evaluating the current level of service provided by parks and recreation facilities and identifying areas for enhancement. This assessment incorporates a comprehensive review of national standards, insights from peer cities, and data from respected organizations such as the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and The Trust for Public Land (TPL). NRPA provides industry benchmarks and best practices for park and recreation systems, while peer city comparisons offer context-specific insights based on similar communities. Additionally, TPL's resources, including its ParkScore® Index, help evaluate park access, equity, and funding. Together, these sources provide a robust framework for analyzing existing conditions, setting measurable goals, and ensuring the community's needs and priorities are met in alignment with national and regional best practices.

### National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA)

As part of the assessment process, this section draws upon the NRPA's 2023 and 2024 Agency Performance Review, which is an analysis of submitted

responses from parks and recreation agencies to questions covering topics such as their inventories, budgets, park acreages, facilities, and staffing levels. Additionally, the parks and recreation agencies provide the population numbers for the communities that they serve. NRPA provides median, lower and upper quartile standards as part of its efforts to establish benchmarks and standards. Using the populations, the NRPA creates breakdowns for each topic based on population groupings. Median represents the middle value, while lower quartile represents the performance level below which 25% of park agencies fall and upper quartile represents the performance level above which 25% of park agencies fall. The data collected in the NRPA's annual Agency Performance Review helps in identifying recurring patterns in the development of parks and recreation systems. These patterns serve as guidelines for creating standards that align with common practices across the United States.

### The Trust for Public Land (TPL)

In addition to using information from NRPA and the peer cities, information from The Trust for Public Land (TPL) was also utilized in the development of

this GREENprint master plan. As a nationally recognized organization dedicated to creating parks and protecting natural spaces for public use, TPL provides comprehensive research, metrics, and tools to guide the effective planning, development, operations, and maintenance of park and recreation systems. Its ParkScore® Index and other resources evaluate park access, equity, and funding across communities, offering a reliable benchmark for assessing current conditions and identifying areas for improvement. By incorporating TPL's data, the City and community can make informed decisions that align with best practices, foster community engagement in all aspects of park development and operations, and promote equitable access to parks and recreational amenities, ensuring the master plan addresses both current needs and long-term goals.

### Peer Cities

As part of the Standard-Based Assessment analysis, peer cities are selected for the creation of a park and recreation master plan to provide relevant benchmarks and insights into effective strategies for planning, development, management, and maintenance.

The cities selected as peers to the City of Fort Worth are:

- Austin, Texas
- Columbus, Ohio
- Charlotte/Mecklenburg, North Carolina
- Seattle, Washington
- Denver, Colorado
- Nashville, Tennessee

These cities were chosen because they share similar characteristics, such as population size and growth, geographic region, climate, or socioeconomic demographics, making their approaches to parks and recreation challenges applicable and valuable. As part of the peer city analysis, areas examined included park types, parkland acreages, number of parks, staffing, and department budgets. By studying these peer cities, City leadership, Park and Recreation staff, and the community can identify best practices, innovative programs, and proven solutions tailored to similar community needs. These comparisons also allow for setting realistic goals and measuring progress, ensuring that the master plan reflects achievable outcomes while fostering equitable access, environmental stewardship, and community well-being.



Cobb park

Metric	City of Fort Worth 2024	NRPA Standards	TPL Maximum Standard	Peer Cities Average
Total Parkland Acreage	12,893 Acres	N/A	42,757 acres (19.5%)	15,233
Parkland per 1,000 Residents	13.7 acres /1,000 residents	17.4 Acres/1,000 residents (upper quartile)	~45 acres/ 1,000 residents	18.5 acres/ 1,000 residents

Peer Cities Comparison (2024)								
City	Existing Parkland Acreage**	Existing Number of Parks**	Population*	Parkland Acreage Per 1,000 Residents	Residents Per Park	Miles of Trails	Operating Expenditures Budget - FY23-24	Number of FTEs
Nashville, TN	26,199	243	683,622	38.3	2,813.2	390.46	\$66,970,000	707.5
Charlotte, NC	22,656	383	897,720	25.2	2,343.9	270.00	\$59,163,552	436
Austin, TX	17,343	494	947,447	18.3	1,917.9	265.00	\$136,085,770	808
Columbus, OH	14,069	554	907,971	15.5	1,638.9	230.00	\$65,215,636	415
Fort Worth, TX	12,893	297	935,508	13.7	3,149.8	210.00	\$61,870,514	455.40
Denver, CO	7,028	366	713,252.	9.8	1,948.7	120.00	\$178,464,669	600.2
Seattle, WA	6,441	382	749,256	8.6	1,961.4	80.00	\$226,031,235	1,117.9
Average	15,233.7	388.4	NA	18.51	2,253.4	223.6ww	\$113,400,196	648.6

\*Source: US Census, Quick Facts, Population Estimates, July 1, 2022 (V2022)

\*\*Source: Trust for Public Land, 2023 ParkScore Rankings (<https://www.tpl.org/parkscore>)



Existing Park Classification

Fort Worth’s park system is classified into three major categories: Neighborhood-Based Parks, Community-Based Parks, and Specialty Parks, based on their size, service area, and primary functions. These classifications guide parkland development, planning, and resource allocation based on the Park, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan, adopted by the City Council in January 2015.

**Neighborhood-Based Parks** include Urban Parks (less than 1 acre), Pocket Parks (1–5 acres), and Neighborhood Parks (5–30 acres). These parks provide close-to-home recreation, serving residents within walking distance and offering amenities such as playgrounds, picnic areas, and open spaces for relaxation or small community gatherings.

**Community-Based Parks** are larger in scale and include Community Parks (30–500 acres) and Metropolitan Parks (greater than 500 acres). These parks serve multiple neighborhoods, providing facilities for organized sports, league play, and large-scale community events, while also preserving natural spaces for passive recreation. Community-Based Parks are designed to cater to broader service areas and support a wide range of recreational opportunities, including competition-level fields, hiking trails, and community centers. However, the Community Park classification, covering parklands ranging from 30 to 500 acres, represents a very broad category, and this gap in classification needs to be addressed to ensure better alignment with park functions and service areas.

**Specialty Parks** encompass a diverse range of spaces, including Special Use Parks, Greenbelts, and Conservancy Areas. Special Use Parks cater to single-purpose activities such as zoos, Fort Worth Botanic Garden, and golf courses, while Greenbelts function as natural corridors connecting parks and neighborhoods, supporting recreational travel and conservation. Conservancy Areas focus on preserving natural and cultural environments, offering passive recreation like wildlife observation and nature study.

In addition to these categories, Fort Worth benefits from non-PARD parks and open spaces, which complement the city’s park system. Two of the most significant contributors are HOA parks and TRWD

(Tarrant Regional Water District) parks. HOA parks are privately managed by homeowners’ associations, often offering local amenities for their residents, while TRWD parks play a critical role in providing recreational spaces along waterways, with a focus on trails, conservation, and water-based activities.

Fort Worth implements a parkland dedication policy to ensure that parkland needs grow alongside residential development. Under this policy, developers are required to dedicate parkland or pay fees-in-lieu to support the creation of new parks and facilities. The policy operates at the Neighborhood Park Unit (NPU) and Community Park Unit (CPU) levels, which are geographically defined service areas for parks. NPUs serve populations within a ¼- to ½-mile radius (approximately 3,000–6,000 people), while CPUs cover a broader area within a 1- to 1.5-mile radius (approximately 18,000–36,000 people). If an NPU or CPU is found to be underserved or unserved, developers in these areas must contribute land or funds to address the deficiency, ensuring new neighborhoods have access to parkland and recreational amenities.

Level of Service Analysis  
Level of Service: Parks

As part of the Fort Worth GREENprint Master Plan, a Level of Service (LOS) analysis was conducted to evaluate how effectively the city’s parks and recreation system meets community needs. LOS metrics assess the acreage of parkland, facilities, and the number of parks required per 1,000 residents, providing a benchmark for planning and resource allocation. Fort Worth’s current standards were compared to those established by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), as well as metrics from peer cities and the 2023 ParkScore Index by the Trust for Public Land.

Fort Worth currently has 12,893 acres of publicly owned parks, providing a LOS of 13.7 acres per 1,000 residents, which falls below the NRPA benchmark of 17.4 acres per 1,000 residents and the peer cities average of 18.5 acres per 1,000 residents. To align with these standards and the City’s projected population growth—935,508 residents today, increasing to 1,206,000 by 2045—the Master Plan sets a target LOS of 18.5 acres per 1,000 residents. Achieving this target requires significant parkland expansion, with 4,413 additional acres needed today, 6,385 acres by

2030, and 9,417 acres by 2045, bringing the total parkland to 22,311.00 acres by 2045.

Neighborhood-Based Parks (Urban Parks, Pocket Parks, and Neighborhood Parks) currently provide a LOS of 1.88 acres per 1,000 residents, well below the target of 4.5 acres per 1,000 residents. To meet this target, the City must add 2,562 acres today, 2,934acres by 2030, and 3,671 acres by 2045. Similarly, Community-Based Parks (Community Parks and Metropolitan Parks) achieve a LOS of 6.28 acres per 1,000 residents, slightly under the target of 7 acres per 1,000 residents. Addressing this gap requires an additional 668 acres now, 1,415 acres by 2030, and 2,562 acres by 2045.

Specialty Parks, including Special Use Parks, Greenbelts, and Conservancy Areas, currently provide a

LOS of 5.52 acres per 1,000 residents, short of the target 7 acres per 1,000 residents. Meeting this target requires 1,381 additional acres today, 2,127 acres by 2030, and 3,275 acres by 2045. These expansions will enhance access to unique recreational opportunities, preserve ecological areas, and connect neighborhoods through greenbelts and trails.

Aligning with the Good-Natured Initiative Vision to make Fort Worth the greenest city in North America by 2050, the Master Plan prioritizes parkland acquisition and development to ensure accessible, equitable, and sustainable green spaces for all residents. Expanding the park system will enable Fort Worth to meet the needs of its growing population while positioning itself as a national leader in urban sustainability and livability.

City of Fort Worth Existing Park Classification			
Park Category*	Size	Purpose	Existing Park Acres**
Neighborhood-Based (close-to-home) Parks			
Urban Park	Less than 1 Acre	Small-scale recreation and social spaces in highly urbanized areas, such as plazas and gathering spots.	29.27
Pocket Park	1 - 5 Acres	Green spaces for informal gatherings and small events, serving up to 1,000 residents within a 5–10-minute walk.	158.373
Neighborhood Park	5 - 30 Acres	Parks with playgrounds, trails, and picnic areas, serving 3,000–6,000 residents within a ¼- to ½-mile radius.	1567.691
Neighborhood-Based Parks Subtotal			1755.334
Community-Based Parks			
Community Park	300-500 Acres	Facilities for athletic fields, league play, and community centers, serving 18,000–36,000 residents within a 1- to 1.5-mile radius.	5088.097
Metropolitan	larger than 500 Acres	Regional destinations with nature preserves, event spaces, and multi-use trails.	791.515
Community-Based Parks Subtotal			5879.612
Specialty Parks			
Special Use Park	Varies	Single-purpose facilities like zoos, Fort Worth Botanic Garden, and golf courses.	1279.478
Greenbelts	Varies	Natural corridors connecting parks and neighborhood, supporting recreation and conservation.	158.61
Conservancy	Varies	Protected spaces for nature conservation and passive recreation, such as wildlife observation and trails.	3728.649
Specialty Parks Total			5166.74
Publicly-Owned Parks Total			12892.68

\*Park Classification from 2015 Fort Worth Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan  
\*\*All numbers are based on PARD 2023 data



The existing and proposed Level of Service can be supplemented through the inclusion of the public realm. By including and treating public features such as sidewalks, streets, medians, parkways, and easements as part of the overall parks and recreation system, this would assist the Park & Recreation Department in expanding its services not just at specific locations, but throughout the City. Applying information from the Trust for Public Land’s ParkServe website, findings from the Park Accessibility index and the Socioeconomic Vulnerability index, it was found that there are neighborhoods which fall within the classifications of low-income and/or minority populations that were outside of the recommended 10-minute walk buffer. Following the City’s goal of equity, it is recommended that the City investigate locations within the older and disadvantaged urban neighborhoods for the development of neighborhood-based parks as well as the enhancement of the public realm such as the expanding of sidewalks, planting trees along the streets, and providing parkways that can be used as public space. By doing so, it will assist in not only adding public park spaces to the area but could also bring publicly usable space right up to the front door of each house within the neighborhoods.

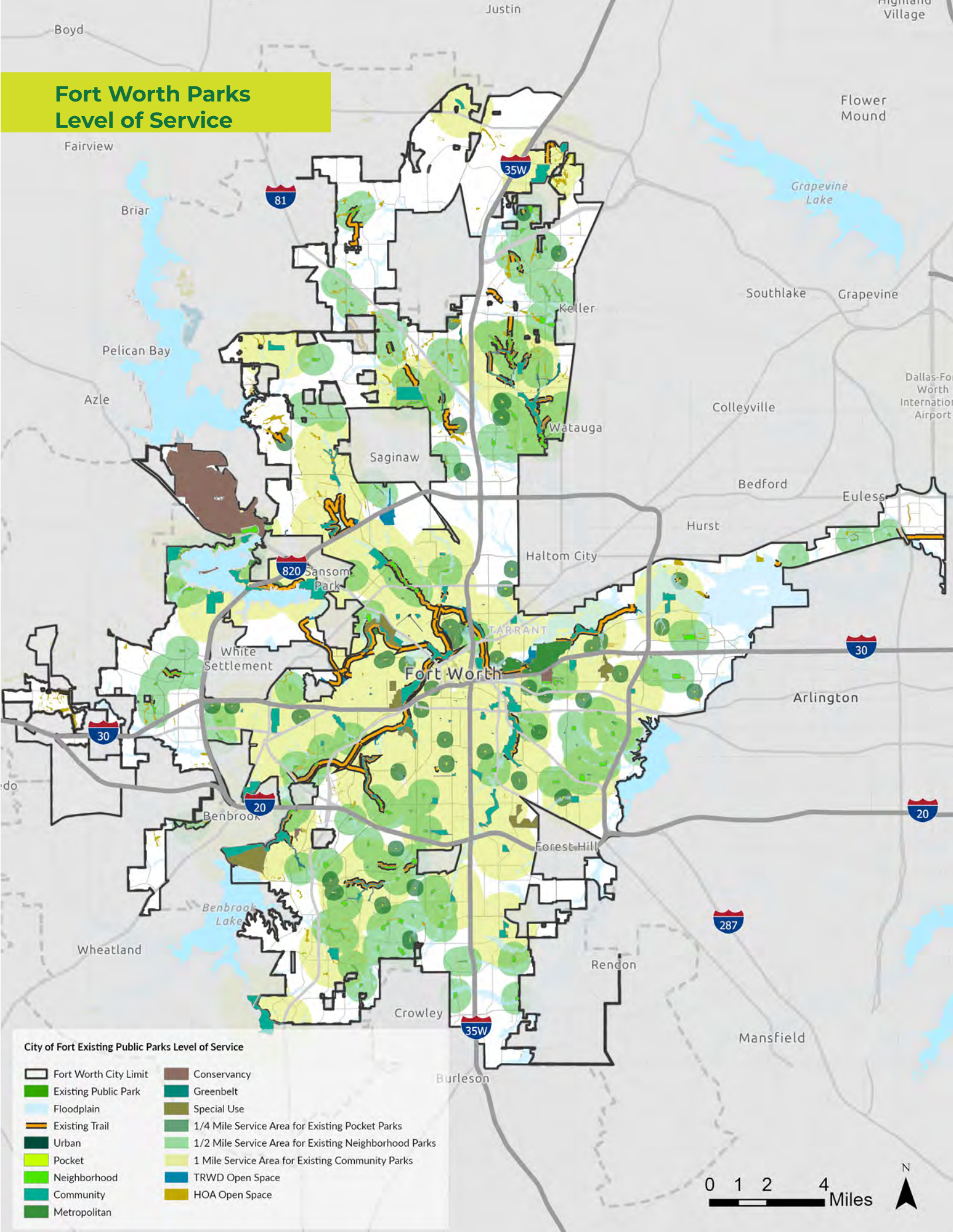
City of Fort Worth Parks Level of Service Assessment										
Park Category	Existing Park Acres	Fort Worth Current LOS*	NRPA Standards per 1000 residents (acres)	Fort Worth Target Level of Service	Park Acres Needed for Existing Population **	Current Acres Needed to Meet Target Standards	Park Acres Needed for 2030 Population ***	Acre Acquisition Needed to Meet 2030 Population	Park Acres Needed for 2045 Population ****	Acre Acquisition Needed to Meet 2045 Population
Neighborhood-Based Parks										
Urban Park	29.27	0.03	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies
Pocket Park	158.37	0.17	0.25-0.5 ac	0.5	467.75	309.38	521.05	362.68	603.00	444.63
Neighborhood Park	1567.69	1.68	2.5-3.5 ac	3.5	3274.28	1706.59	3647.35	2079.66	4221.00	2653.31
Neighborhood-Based Parks Subtotal	1755.33	1.88		4.5	5846.93	2562.46	4689.45	2934.12	5427.00	3671.67
Community-Based Parks										
Community Park	5088.10	5.44	5-8 ac	6	5613.05	524.95	6252.60	1164.50	7236.00	2147.90
Metropolitan	791.52	0.85	1.5-3 ac	1	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	1206.00	414.49
Community-Based Parks Subtotal	5879.61	6.28	6-10 ac	7	6548.56	668.94	7294.70	1415.09	8442.00	2562.39
Specialty Parks										
Special Use Park	1279.48	1.37	Varies		Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies
Greenbelts	158.61	0.17	0.5-1 ac		Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies
Conservancy	3728.65	3.99	4-4.5 ac		Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies
Specialty Parks Total	5166.74	5.52		7	6548.56	1381.82	7294.70	2127.96	8442.00	3275.26
Publicly-Owned Parks Total	12893.68	13.68		18.5	17306.90	4413.22	19278.85	6385.17	22311.00	9417.32

\* Acres per 1000 residents

\*\* Fort Worth 2021 pop: 935,508

\*\*\* 2030 population projection NCTCOG: 1,042,100

\*\*\*\*2045 population projection NCTCOG: 1,206,000





Level of Service: Facilities

Providing an adequate number of recreational facilities is just as important as ensuring sufficient park space to meet the needs of neighborhoods and communities. Using the 2024 NRPA Agency Performance Review and peer cities as benchmarks, the City of Fort Worth’s Park & Recreation Department meets or exceeds NRPA standards in several categories, including playgrounds, basketball courts, skate parks, soccer fields, and community centers.

However, certain facility types require improvement, particularly aquatic facilities. The assessment high-

lights a significant gap, with only a few outdoor pools available, falling short of recommended standards. Additionally, the city lacks essential amenities such as indoor pools, competitive pools, and aquatics centers.

Another critical issue is the shortage of permanent restrooms in parks and recreational spaces. Many parks either lack restrooms entirely or rely on portable restrooms, which are not a sustainable solution for accessibility and visitor comfort.

Some other facilities such as dedicated tennis and pickleball courts or recreation centers show a higher

level of needs based on NRPA standards. However, the city has addressed this need by providing multi-use courts or community centers with more facilities, accommodating these needs and maximizing facility use.

It should be noted that as the inventory is increased, more staff will be required to manage and maintain the new facilities. The City should not be deterred from expanding its recreation offerings at the parks, as adding facilities will only improve the quality of life for the citizens of Fort Worth. To support the enhancements, it is recommended the City seek sustain-

able funding through grants, partnerships, sponsorships, and philanthropic donations.

The City should consider introducing more facilities, such as pickleball courts and splashpads. These facilities are part of growing trends to provide citizens with new experiences and attract visitors from surrounding communities.

Park Facilities Level of Service (LOS)						
Facility Types	Fort Worth Existing Inventory	Fort Worth Current LOS (Number of Residents Per Facility)	Fort Worth Target LOS (Number of Residents per Facility)*	Fort Worth <b>Need</b> / Surplus Based on Target LOS (2021 Pop)**	Fort Worth <b>Need</b> / Surplus Based on Target LOS (2030 Pop)***	Fort Worth <b>Need</b> / Surplus Based on Target LOS (2040 Pop)****
Outdoor Sport Fields and Courts						
Diamond fields	77	1:12,149	1:11,000	8.0	17.7	32.6
Rectangular fields	72	1:13,000	1:14,000	-5.2	2.4	14.1
Overlay fields (multi-use rectangle/ diamonds)	19	1:49,000	1:36,000	7.0	9.9	14.5
Basketball courts, standalone	110	1:8,500	1:15,000	-47.6	-40.5	-29.6
Volleyball courts, standalone	11	1:85,000	1:57,000	5.4	7.3	10.2
Tennis courts, dedicated	25	1:37,000	1:10,000	68.6	79.2	95.6
Pickleball courts, dedicated	2	1:467,000	1:42,000	20.3	22.8	26.7
Multi-use courts: Tennis/pickleball	55	1:17,000	1:61,000	-39.7	-37.9	-35.2
Racquetball/Handball/ Squash courts	0	0	1:137,000	6.8	7.6	8.8
Indoor Sport Courts						
Tennis courts, dedicated	0	0	1:60,000	15.6	17.4	20.1
Pickleball courts, dedicated	0	0	1:79,000	11.8	13.2	15.3
Multi-use courts: tennis, pickleball	38	1:24,000	1:89,000	-27.5	-26.3	-24.4
Basketball courts, standalone	22	1:42,000	1:66,000	-7.8	-6.2	-3.7
Multi-use courts – basketball, volleyball, etc.	18	1:51,000	1:64,000	-3.4	-1.7	0.8
Walking loops/Running tracks	0	0	1:301,000	3.1	3.5	4.0
Racquetball/Handball/Squash courts	2	1:467,000	1:118,000	5.9	6.8	8.2
Play & Exercise Area						
Playground	220	1:4,200	1:9,500	-121.5	-110.3	-93.1
Inclusive play	3			-3.0	-3.0	-3.0
Splashpad	3	1:311,000	1:199,000	1.7	2.2	3.1
Fitness zones	26	1:359,000	1:111,000	-17.6	-16.6	-15.1
Walking loops	56	1:16,000	1:68,000	-42.2	-40.7	-38.3

\*\* Based on 2024 NRPA Agency Performance Review; Population More than 250,000  
\*\* Using City of Fort Worth US Census Population Estimate, 2021: 935,508  
\*\*\* 2030 population projection NCTCOG: 1,042,100  
\*\*\*\*2045 population projection NCTCOG: 1,206,000

Park Facilities Level of Service (LOS)						
Facility Types	Fort Worth Existing Inventory	Fort Worth Current LOS (Number of Residents Per Facility)	Fort Worth Target LOS (Number of Residents per Facility)*	Fort Worth <b>Need</b> / Surplus Based on Target LOS (2021 Pop)**	Fort Worth <b>Need</b> / Surplus Based on Target LOS (2030 Pop)***	Fort Worth <b>Need</b> / Surplus Based on Target LOS (2040 Pop)****
Aquatic Facilities						
Swimming pools (outdoor only)	4	1:233,000	1:113,000	4.3	5.2	6.7
Waterparks	0	0	1:332,000	2.8	3.1	3.6
Competitive swimming pools (indoor)	0	0	1:260,000	3.6	4.0	4.6
Therapeutic pools	0	0	1:521,000	1.8	2.0	2.3
Pools designated exclusively for leisure (i.e., noncompetitive) (indoor)	0	0	1:281,000	3.3	3.7	4.3
Aquatics centers	0	0	1:248,000	3.8	4.2	4.9
Special Facilities						
Disc golf courses	4	1:233,000	1:278,000	-0.6	-0.3	0.3
Dog parks	6	1:155,000	1:128,000	1.3	2.1	3.4
Skateboard parks	5	1:187,000	1:239,000	-1.1	-0.6	0.0
18-hole golf courses	4	1:233,000	1:251,000	-0.3	0.2	0.8
Nine-hole golf courses	0	0	1:428,000	2.2	2.4	2.8
Recreation centers (including gyms)	0	0	1:67,000	14.0	15.6	18.0
Community centers	25	1:37,000	1:93,000	-14.9	-13.8	-12.0
Senior centers	0	0	1:311,000	3.0	3.4	3.9
Teen centers	0	0	1:360,000	2.6	2.9	3.4
Indoor ice rinks	0	0	1:500,000	1.9	2.1	2.4
Nature centers	1	1:935,000	1:378,000	1.5	1.8	2.2
Arena	1	1:935,001	1:716,001	0.3	0.5	0.7
Stadiums	NA	NA	1:425,000	2.2	2.5	2.8
Permanent and semipermanent restrooms	46	1:20,300	1:11,000	39.0	48.7	63.6

\*\* Based on 2024 NRPA Agency Performance Review; Population More than 250,000  
\*\* Using City of Fort Worth US Census Population Estimate, 2021: 935,508  
\*\*\* 2030 population projection NCTCOG: 1,042,100  
\*\*\*\*2045 population projection NCTCOG: 1,206,000



Staffing: Full-Time Equivalent Employees

To determine if the existing staffing levels are appropriate for the City of Fort Worth’s Park & Recreation Department, benchmark data from NRPA’s 2023 Agency Performance Review was used for Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs). FTEs as defined by the NRPA can be a mixture of full- and part-time employees. This does not account for employment positions such as contractors and the outsourcing of staff.

According to the City’s FY 2023 Adopted Budget, the Park & Recreation Department is budgeted for 455.4 Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs). The NRPA standards for the upper quartile at 8.0 FTEs per 10,000. Comparing the City’s standard of 4.87 FTEs per 10,000 population to the NRPA’s upper quartile of 8.0 FTEs per 10,000 population, this would calculate to the NRPA recommending 748.41 FTEs. This places the City of Fort Worth below the NRPA’s recommended number by 293.01 FTEs. Applying the NRPA’s higher standard of 8.0 FTEs per 10,000 population does create a larger gap of almost 300 additional FTEs, however this is better suited for the City’s Park & Recreation Department due to the amount of expansion it will need to keep up with the needs of the growing population.

In addition to full-time staff, the City of Fort Worth’s Park & Recreation Department relies on seasonal employees and volunteers to support operations. The department employed 415 non-full-time staff in the last fiscal year, playing a key role in park maintenance, events, and recreation programs. Additionally, over 3,000 volunteers contributed their time, further supplementing workforce capacity.

Park & Recreation Department Budget

As part of the FY 2023-24 adopted budget, the Park & Recreation Department’s budget was set at \$61,870, 514. Comparing this initial budget to the NRPA’s benchmark of \$53,898,856 indicates that the Park & Recreation Department is within the standard. However, when considering the adjusted budget for FY2023-24, an increase of \$10,774,401.96 was required to meet the operating expenses. This shows that for the needs of the City of Fort Worth, the original adopted budget amount was well below what the actual budget should have been, which is \$72,644,915.96.

In FY2021-22 the adopted budget was \$52,383,140 and in FY2022-2023 it was \$55,722,945, however, to conduct a proper comparison the adjusted budgets have been used. The adjusted budget for FY2021-22 was \$53,201,194 and in FY2022-23 the adjusted budget was \$61,297,345. When comparing the department’s adjusted budgets to each other, there is an increase of \$8,096,151 or 15.2 percent, from FY2021-22 to FY2022-23. Comparing the adjusted budgets for FY2022-23 to FY2023-24, a difference of \$11,367,570 or 18.5 percent was found. This indicates that for each of the fiscal years, there was a need to provide additional funding to supplement the adopted budget for the department.

A unique aspect to the Park & Recreation Department’s operating expenses is that the department must factor in non-park-related tasks. These tasks include contract mowing for public rights-of-ways and traffic dividers. Together, these tasks account for \$2,416,688 being added to the department’s budget.

Peer City Budget Comparison

Upon comparing the City of Fort Worth’s Park & Recreation Department adopted budget to that of its peer cities, the department’s budget was ranked the lowest out of the six cities . However, when comparing the adjusted budgets, Fort Worth’s Park & Recreation Department went from sixth to the fourth highest budget. As mentioned above, the budget was increased due to a \$10.7 million shortfall in what was required for the operating expenses. Among the six cities (including Fort Worth), the average change from the adopted budget to the adjusted budget was \$13,326,359. This indicates that, just like its peer cities, the City’s Park & Recreation Department was underfunded, thereby requiring an increase in its funding to meet the operational needs of the department.

Recreation Program Inventory

In addition to the park facilities, the City of Fort Worth Park & Recreation Department offers its residents a variety of recreational programming. An online calendar is available for residents to access through the City’s “Services & Activities” webpage.

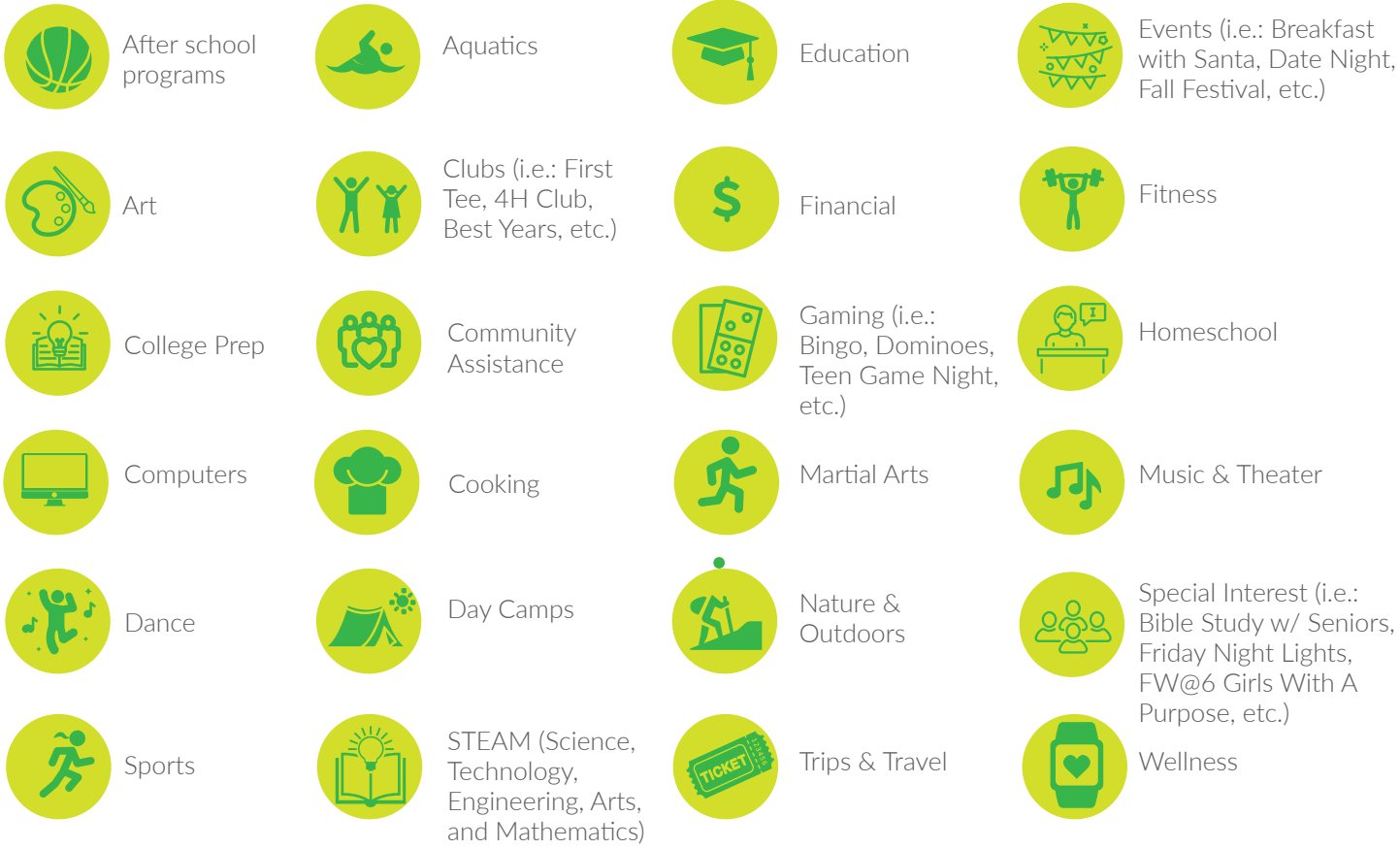
The activities that the City of Fort Worth provides are held at the community centers operated by the Park & Recreation Department, as well as other venues such as schools. The website provides information on the dates, age ranges, fees, and a brief description of each activity. Residents can also use the web links to register for the activities.

It was found that most, if not all, recreational programming only takes place within the community centers, but none of the programs are held outdoors at the various parks. This creates an inequity on the level

of accessibility to these programs. As part of the most current Agency Performance Review, NRPA identified that the programming being provided by the various parks and recreation systems varied. However, there were key activities that were seen to be common among the agencies. These key activities are:

- Themed special events (offered by 89 percent of agencies)
- Social recreation events (88 percent)
- Team sports (86 percent)
- Fitness enhancement classes (81 percent)
- Health and wellness education (80 percent)
- Individual sports (77 percent)
- Safety training (71 percent)
- Racket sports (71 percent)
- Aquatics (69 percent)

Recreation Programming Inventory





Parkland Dedication: Policy Review

Fort Worth employs tools like parkland dedication, fees-in-lieu, land donations, and agreements to acquire parkland, but more can be done to secure quality, usable spaces.

Current Practices

The Neighborhood and Community Park Dedication Policy guides parkland acquisition in Fort Worth. It requires residential developers to dedicate parkland or recreational improvements based on population needs. Neighborhood Parks serve 3,000-6,000 people within 1/4 to 1/2 mile, while Community Parks serve 18,000-36,000 people within 1 to 1.5 miles. The policy includes fee-in-lieu options, site selection standards, and park infrastructure requirements.

New Legislation (HB 1526)

As of September 2023, Texas House Bill 1526 mandates parkland dedication for multifamily, hotel, and motel developments in cities with over 800,000 residents. Fort Worth has opted for a fee-in-lieu approach rather than requiring physical land dedication.

Policy Updates

Updating the Park Dedication Policy could enhance clarity and effectiveness. Recommendations include:

- Restructuring park classifications to align with standard types (e.g., Pocket, Neighborhood, Community, Regional Parks).
- Introducing dimensional standards to ensure parks meet local needs.
- Limiting floodplain and stormwater detention

- areas to 25% of parkland dedications.
- Requiring developer consultations with the Parks Department before application submission.
  - Preserving trees and prioritizing community input in park design.
  - Avoiding utility and impervious areas in parkland requirements.

To promote community ownership, developers should incorporate neighborhood culture into park amenities, fostering pride and engagement. These steps can help Fort Worth create parks that are accessible, functional, and reflective of the communities they serve.

Partnerships

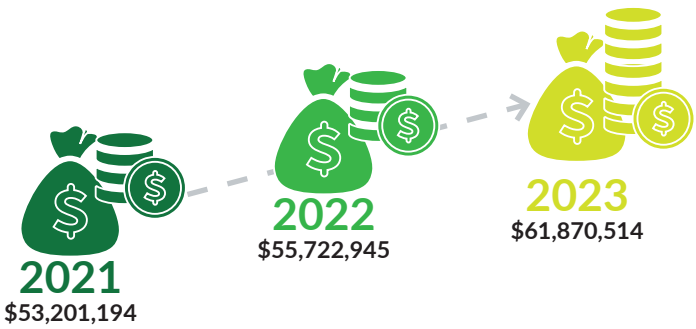
Collaboration among the City of Fort Worth’s Park & Recreation Department and other City departments is critical to implementing the GREENprint Plan effectively. However, a lack of interdepartmental coordination has been identified as a challenge. For instance, the Affordable Housing and Neighborhood Conservation Plan outlines goals such as increasing green spaces and tree canopies but does not align these objectives with the Park Master Plan, creating potential conflicts in implementation priorities. Similarly, the Stormwater Management Plan suggests using parks for stormwater detention, which contradicts current parkland dedication policies. These examples underscore the need for better alignment and coordination between plans to avoid contradictory goals and streamline projects.

To address these disconnects, the City should establish an in-house stakeholder group, involving representatives from all departments, to review new plans and projects collaboratively. This group would

Parks & Recreation Staffing: Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) – NRPA Upper Quartile Standard					
Department	Fort Worth FY 2023 Budgeted FTEs	Fort Worth Standards* FTEs Per 10,000 Population	NRPA Upper Quartile Standards* FTEs per 10,000 Population	Fort Worth Recommended Number of FTEs	Gap
TOTAL FTEs for Parks & Recreation System	455.4	4.8	8.0	748.4	-293.1

\*Using City of Fort Worth US Census Population Estimate, 2021: 935,508  
\*\*2023 NRPA Agency Performance Review for More than 250,000 Population for Park and Recreation Agency Staffing Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs) per 10,000.

PARD Operating Budget Over the Years



ensure alignment of priorities, identify opportunities for partnerships, and streamline implementation processes.

Partnerships and Collaboration Opportunities

- Community/Neighborhood Groups: Partnering with local organizations fosters stewardship and a sense of ownership among residents, enhancing park maintenance and programming.
- Private Businesses: Businesses can contribute funding through sponsorships, donations, or direct involvement in programming and event management, adding economic value to the parks system.
- Non-Profit Organizations: These partnerships can support park maintenance and events, leveraging their resources and expertise for community benefit.

Other City Departments: Interdepartmental partnerships eliminate redundancies, share funding, and streamline project coordination, ensuring cohesive development efforts.

Public Agency Partnerships

Key partners like the Transportation and Public Works Department, Economic Development Department, and Trinity Metro will play vital roles in implementing the GREENprint Plan. For example:

- Transportation and Public Works: Enhancing pedestrian and bicyclist access to parks and recreation facilities, addressing gaps in sidewalks, and integrating parklets and green infrastructure into public right-of-ways.
- Economic Development Department: Aligning park initiatives with economic strategies to attract businesses, create jobs, and revitalize neglected areas.
- Stormwater Management and TRWD: Integrating parks into urban stormwater management and promoting green infrastructure to enhance environmental resilience.
- Trinity Metro: Ensuring transit access to parks and recreation sites, improving mobility for residents and visitors.

Peer Cities: Best Practices

A review of 12 peer cities highlighted effective strategies for improving parks and recreation systems, including:



Trinity Park





## Demand-Based Assessment

placing residents at the center of the planning process. A cornerstone of this initiative was the demand-based assessment, which served as the foundation for meaningful community engagement. Through this process, residents of Fort Worth collaborated to draft goals and articulate a shared vision for the city’s parks and open spaces, ensuring the plan reflected their diverse needs and aspirations.

The engagement process was organized into distinct phases, each aimed at fostering inclusive participation and creating multiple opportunities for residents to shape the outcomes. By incorporating a feedback loop at every stage, the project prioritized iterative refinement and adaptability, allowing the plan to remain responsive to the community’s evolving priorities.

### Engagement Phases

The project was organized into phases based on demand-driven feedback loops, ensuring that residents were actively engaged at multiple stages of the planning process. This phased approach aimed to create continuous input opportunities, allowing for iterative adjustments and ensuring that the community’s evolving needs were consistently addressed.

Throughout the process, the feedback collected was

regularly analyzed and incorporated into subsequent planning stages, ensuring that adjustments were made based on community priorities and new data. This iterative process not only kept the residents at the center of decision-making but also fostered a sense of ownership and accountability among the community.

- 1. Discovery and Foundation Building:** During this phase, the community was invited to share their vision for Fort Worth parks, identify key challenges, and suggest ways to capitalize on opportunities. This foundational engagement laid the groundwork for an inclusive and community-driven plan.
- 2. Plan Development and Recommendations:** Building on insights from the first phase, the team returned to the community to present preliminary recommendations. Feedback gathered during this phase helped refine the goals and priorities of the plan.
- 3. Plan Review and Delivery:** Residents had the opportunity to review draft recommendations and see how their input shaped the final plan. This phase included presenting the draft plan to stakeholders, the steering committee, and park planning districts for final feedback and adjustments.

### Engagement Methods

The demand-based assessment utilized a variety

of engagement approaches to ensure broad representation and meaningful input:

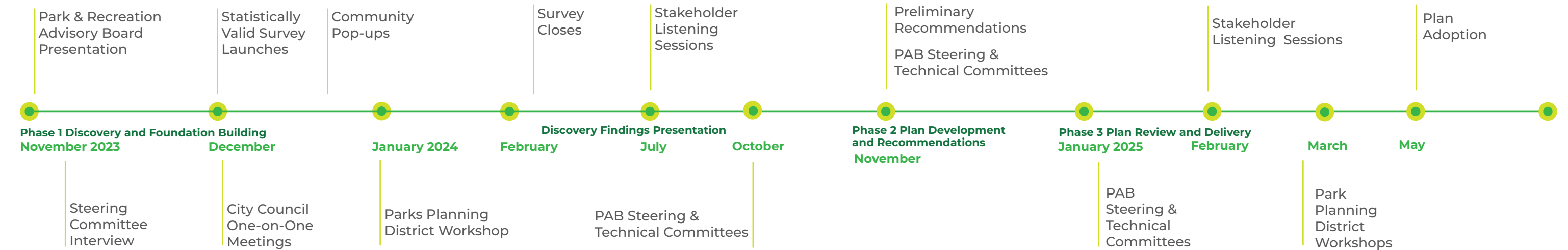
- **Park & Recreation Advisory Board (PAB):** The board acted as champions and advocates for the plan, providing guidance on priorities and helping to amplify outreach efforts. They played a key role in maintaining momentum and ensuring residents stayed engaged throughout the process.
- **City Council One-on-One Meetings:** Individual meetings with council members provided valuable insights into the unique needs and challenges of their constituents. This input enriched the plan’s alignment with community priorities.
- **Stakeholder Listening Sessions:** Focus groups were organized around key themes such as programming, preservation, development, and education to gather diverse perspectives.
- **Parks Planning District Workshops:** Public workshops were hosted in each park planning district to address the specific needs and opportunities of each community. This localized approach ensured the plan reflected both citywide and district-level priorities.
- **Steering and Technical Committee Meetings:** Meetings with engaged community members and leaders ensured that existing efforts were



- supported and elevated, while gaps were identified and bridged.
- **Pop-Ups:** To expand reach and meet residents where they naturally gather, pop-up events were held at community activities and popular local events. This approach ensured inclusivity and accessibility in the engagement process.

### Listening Methods and Facilitation Tools

Throughout the public engagement process to





identify the needs and opportunities from the residents of Fort Worth several facilitation and listening methods were developed to help community members express there concerns and feedback.

Community Pop-ups

From December 9 to December 20, 2023, the City of Fort Worth conducted a series of Pop-up events across eight different council districts as part of the Parks Master Plan engagement process. Despite varying event sizes, a flexible approach was employed to accommodate diverse setups and encourage participation.

During smaller gatherings such as the Senior Christmas Brunch and Breakfast with Santa, paper surveys were distributed at tables to capture attendees’ insights. Conversely, at larger events like the Winter Festival, proactive engagement strategies, including raffles, were utilized to attract participants to the survey table.

The survey’s length impacted engagement with other activities, but more accessible initiatives like the “One Wish Christmas Tree” and the “3 Dots Activity” facilitated valuable input from attendees. Additionally, efforts were made to extend outreach by distributing extra business cards and encouraging participants to promote the Parks Master Plan within their networks.



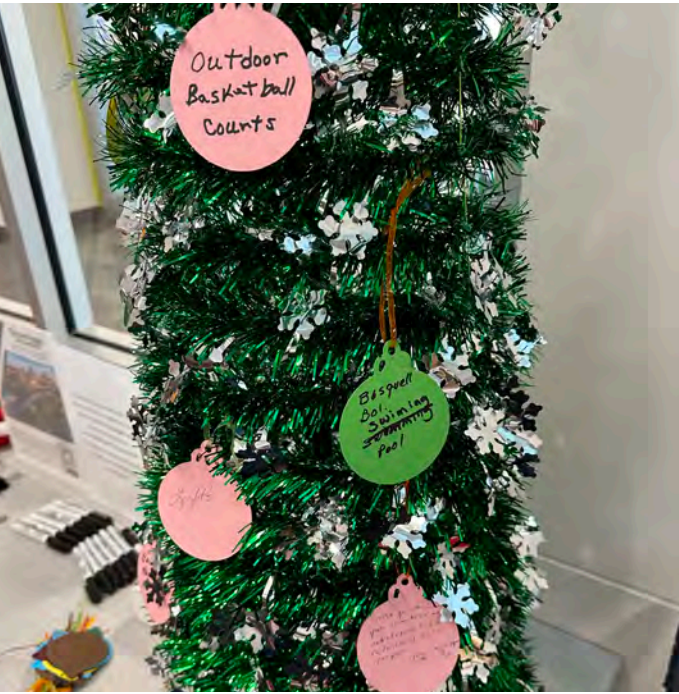
Overall, these Pop-up events served as important platforms for gathering public input and shaping the future of Fort Worth’s parks system.

Wish Tree

The “Wishing Tree” activity invited attendees to participate by writing down their wishes or dreams for park features, amenities, or improvements and adorning the tree with their sentiments. Feedback garnered from the “One Wish Activity” revealed a diverse range of community desires, including the need for more pools, both outdoor and covered, as well as increased availability of pickleball courts. There was a strong call for expansion of senior programs and activities, alongside requests for additional football fields to accommodate sports enthusiasts. Community members expressed a desire for more interactive sports programs, games, and recreational activities, as well as an interest in group dance classes to promote fitness and socialization.

Public Workshops

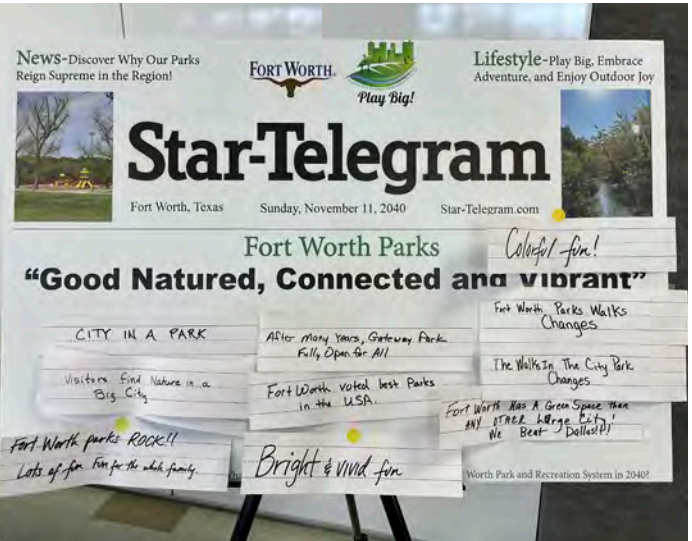
To ensure representation public workshops were hosted at all five Fort Worth Parks Planning Districts. This was done to understand the need and opportunities unique to each neighborhood and Parks Planning Districts. The GREENprint Plan included recommendations that will cover a system



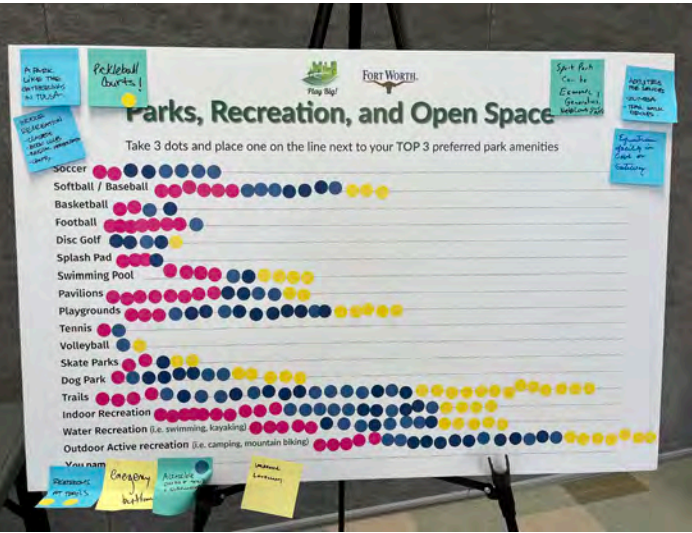
wide approach, but in the same token a community driven approach is essential understanding that what works in one community does not necessarily work in another. Below are the facilitation tools used in the public workshops

Newspaper Headlines

During the first phase of engagement, Fort Worth residents were invited to imagine the city 20 years into the future through a “newspaper headlines” activity. The aim was to encourage residents to think big and envision what they want Fort Worth to strive for. From the headline submissions, it was clear that residents envision Fort Worth as a destination for people of all ages and abilities, characterized by a thriving ecosystem with pollinators and vegetation. Residents described parks and open spaces as safe, peaceful, vibrant, fun, active, and lively environments.

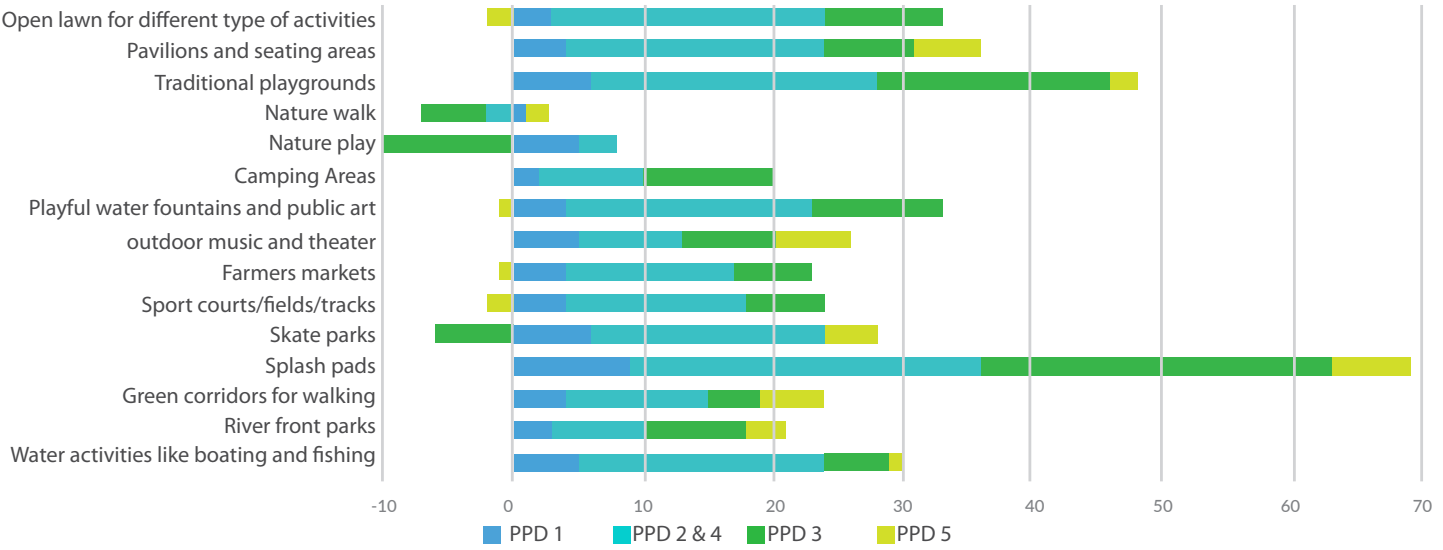


**Preferred Amenities** Similar to the Visual Preference Survey, the Preferred Amenities activity sought to identify specific amenities desired by each Park Planning District (PPD) community. Participants used sticky dots to indicate their preferences for amenities at parks and community centers. Top results included trails, outdoor active recreation facilities, pools and water recreation areas, indoor recreation facilities, playgrounds, and pavilions, providing valuable insights for park planning and development.

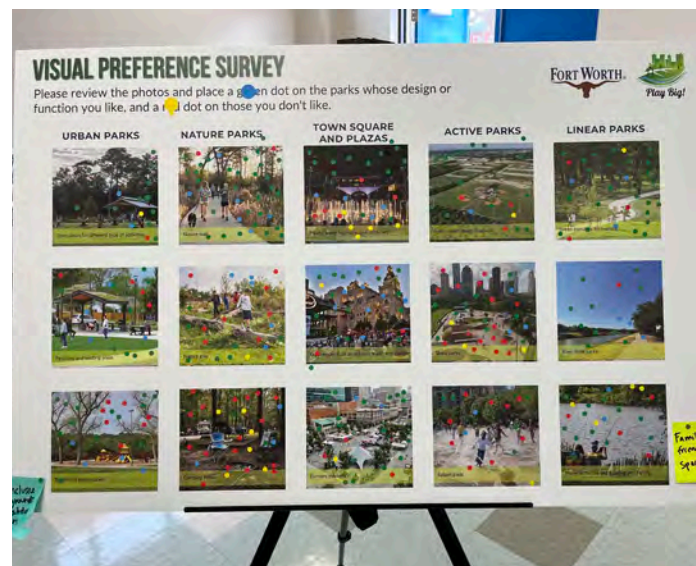


Visual Preference Survey

The Visual Preference Survey aimed to capture the







diverse needs and priorities of each community within the GREENprint Master Plan. Participants selected images representing various park types, including urban parks, nature parks, town squares, active parks, and linear parks. This approach allowed for a nuanced understanding of each community's preferences, helping to prioritize park development accordingly.

## Funding Priorities

Participants were given an envelope containing 10 coins and were tasked with distributing them among buckets representing various funding priorities. Results showed a priority for allocating more funds to new park creation, followed by trail expansion and equipment upgrades in existing parks. Maintenance and operations received less emphasis, reflecting a desire to focus on park expansion and improvement initiatives. This activity provided a tangible way for community members to express their funding priorities and contributed to shaping the GREENprint Master Plan according to the community's preferences.



**Design your Ideal Park:** Engaging youth is essential to envision, they will be the users of parks today and tomorrow. Additionally, capturing the unfiltered and imaginative vision of parks of kids that is shows less fear of the possibilities. Kids were invited to design their ideal park using colors, markers, and cut outs of park elements. What we heard was that they want trees, greenery, ball courts, and playgrounds, parks

with activities and events.

**Big Ideas** The Big Ideas section aimed to gather insights on elements crucial for successful parks by encouraging participants to respond along a spectrum ranging from 'Basic Needs' to 'Big Ideas.' Using sticky notes, participants shared their thoughts on themes such as safety, comfort, family-friendliness, active

living promotion, natural beauty, community identity, sustainability, destination potential, and long-term planning. These inputs helped shape the overarching vision for the GREENprint Master Plan.

## Statistically Valid Survey

A statistically valid Community was conducted to





gather the interest and opinion and priorities when it comes to public space. The survey sampling plan included mailed postcards to 10,000 household addresses (provided by the City of Fort Worth). 2,000 were distributed within each of the five Park Planning Districts. The postcard message directed residents to the online survey. The survey was posted on the Fort Worth website and various social media sites. The survey went live November 15, 2023. The survey closed January 31, 2024.

A total of 1,643 surveys were completed. The survey covered topics including outdoor facilities, indoor facilities, programs, cultural resources, public art and amenities in public spaces.

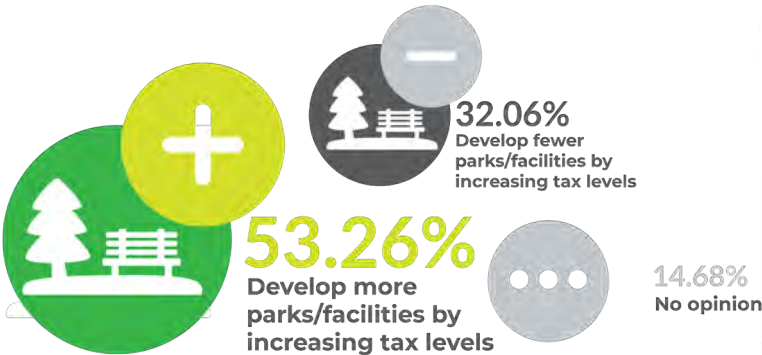
Households were asked to what degree their needs were being met for a large number of amenities, including hiking trails, dog parks, playgrounds and many more. They were also asked to rate each amenity in terms of importance. This information was then used to create a Priority Investment Rating for each amenity.

Demand-Based Assessment Summary

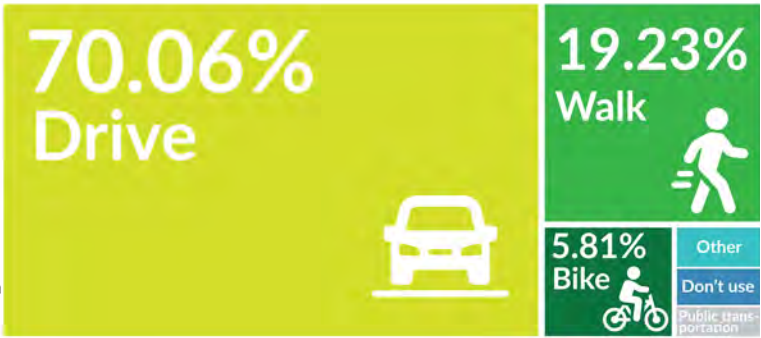
Overall, how would you rate the parks and recreational opportunities in the City of Fort Worth?



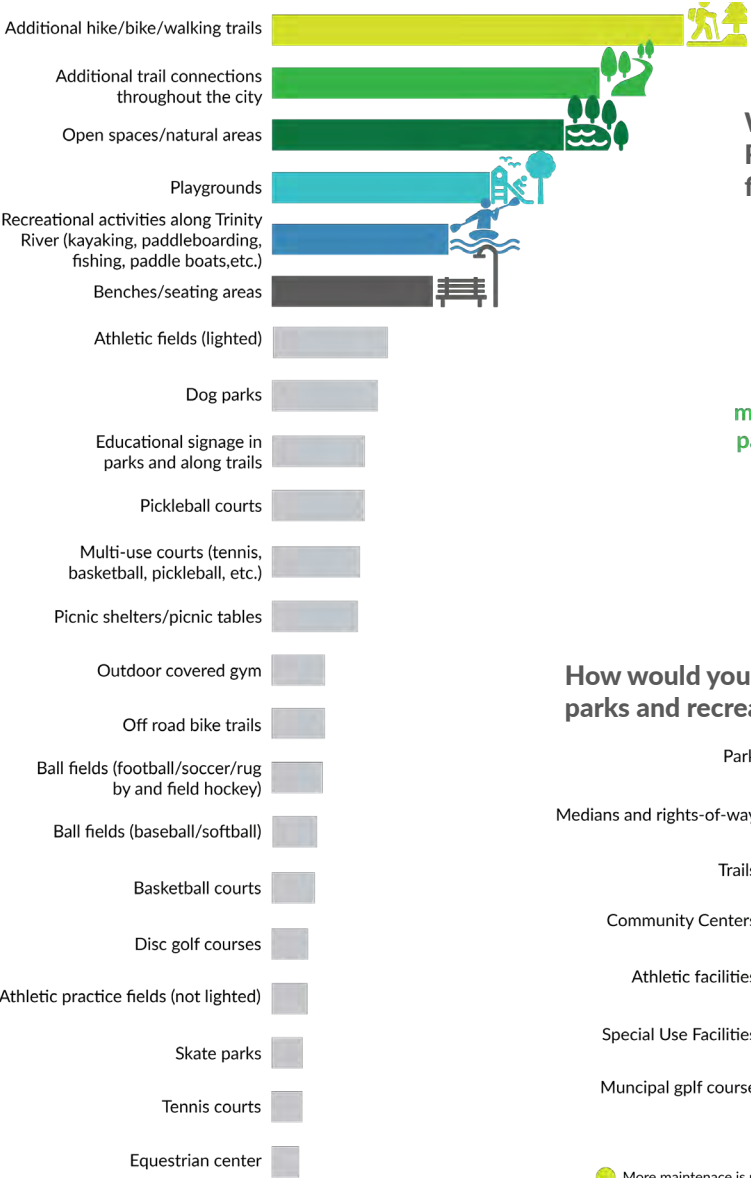
Do you think the Fort Worth Park & Recreation Department should...



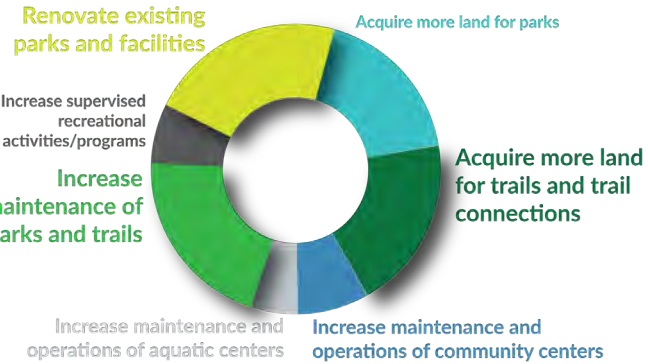
How do you and members of your household typically travel to the parks and recreation facilities that you use?



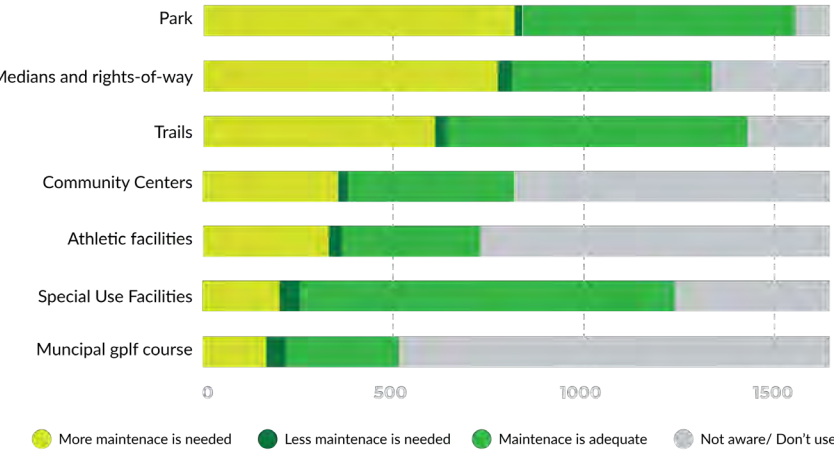
From the list above, which THREE facilities above are the most important to you for the Park & Recreation Department to focus on within the next five years? Rank the most important to the least



Which are the MOST important to you for the Park & Recreation Department to focus on within the next five years?



How would you rate the maintenance and upkeep of Fort Worth parks and recreation facilities?





Through a series of events, surveys, interviews, and activities, the community voiced both strengths and challenges within the current park system, while also presenting valuable opportunities for improvement and growth. From highlighting the department's responsiveness to community desires to addressing critical concerns such as funding allocation and accessibility, the key findings encapsulate a holistic view of the community's vision for Fort Worth's parks and recreation. This summary encapsulates the essence of the community feedback, providing insights that will inform the strategic direction of the GREENprint Master Plan.

Key Findings

- Trails & Connectivity: Broad support for expanded trails, linear parks, and green corridors for walking and nature exploration.
- Equitable Access: Communities with limited park access emphasized the need for new development, while those with established parks prioritized maintenance and upgrades.
- Recreation Preferences: High interest in splash pads, water activities, and riverfront parks, alongside improved indoor and outdoor

- recreation facilities.
- Programming & Activities: Residents expressed a strong desire for multi-generational programming, including farmers' markets, open lawns, and outdoor performances.
  - Economic Development Opportunities: Sports fields for soccer, softball, and baseball were identified as potential drivers of economic growth.

Engagement by the Numbers

- 1,643 Survey Responses
- 450 Public Workshop Participants
- 10 Park Planning District Workshops
- 8 Pop-ups
- 11+ Stakeholder Listening Sessions
- 3+ Steering & Technical Committees Meetings

**Accessibility**

Increase, ADA accessibility and pedestrian crossing safety. Specifically in pedestrian crossings connecting trails through neighborhoods

Access to a quality park within a 10-minute walk from their home.

Improve safety, adding shade, trees, sidewalks, lighting and wayfinding

Prioritize the Parks and Recreation Department to increase funds and improve amenities and bring the vision to reality

**Connectivity**

Connect Trinity Trail System throughout the City

Improve trail connectivity and fill gaps in the existing trail and sidewalk system

Create a network of connected parks

Create trails along creeks and greenbelts connecting people to nature

**Amenities**

Desire for more swimming pools, splash pads

More sports complex, ball fields and ball courts. Capitalize sports complex as an economic development tool

Improve and upgrade existing parks and amenities instead of adding more parks. Add new parks and amenities in areas with low access to parks

Enhance maintenance, upgrading equipment and amenities

**Recreation and Activities**

Multi generational programming

More dance, arts and culture classes

Outdoor events, live performances, movie in the park

Community based services at community centers, community centers as community nodes





## Resource-Based Assessment

### Resource-Based Assessment

The City of Fort Worth is fortunate that it has several resources available to supplement its parks and recreation system. These resources include natural features such as the Trinity River to human-engineered areas like Sundance Square. Resources such as this only further enhance the quality of life for the residents of Fort Worth and create attractions that draw in visitors from other cities.

### The Trinity River and Creek System

The Trinity River is a major resource to the Fort Worth region. From its headwaters in North Texas to its entry into the Gulf of Mexico, the Trinity River stretches approximately 710 miles. A portion of the River traverses the City of Fort Worth from west to east and travels around Downtown. The Trinity River provides residents and visitors of Fort Worth with recreational activities that include fishing, boating, kayaking, and miles of trails along its banks and tributaries. The City's 2023 Comprehensive Plan states that there are well over 100 miles of trails along the Trinity River and creeks which support it. These trails have been designed to be multi-modal as they are used by walkers, hikers, cyclists, in-line skaters and horse riders. The City of Fort Worth has

also established several parks along the banks of the River. As a natural feature, it also offers its visitors plenty of natural open spaces where they can escape the hustle and bustle of the City without leaving the City.

The Trinity River can also be made into a main feature for an iconic park in Fort Worth. At the confluence of the West Fork Trinity River and the Clear Fork Trinity River lies a vacant parcel of land owned by the Tarrant County College District as well as land owned by the Tarrant Regional Water District. Being located between Downtown and the upcoming Panther Island development to the north, the site is well located to be transformed into the City's iconic park. At approximately 20+ acres, the site can be developed to include amenities and features like an outdoor amphitheater, playscapes, public art, watercraft launch sites, fishing piers, a boardwalk along the banks of the rivers, areas for food trucks and much more. Additionally, the site can serve as the main site for large events as it is central to all areas of the City. Furthermore, the sites do have existing trails that continue along both rivers creating linkages to other parks and areas of the City adding to its accessibility from other areas of Fort Worth.

The Trinity River also serves as a key feature as it can be enhanced to serve not only as a land-based trail system, but also a water-based trail or blue-way.

Since the River travels the entire length of the City, it can potentially be made into a feature with multiple access points along its course. At these access points, a water-based public transit system could be created where residents and visitors ride a watercraft up and down the Trinity River to various destinations. Just as transit-oriented developments (TODs) grow around major public transit stops, the same could be done in these instances. As part of the City's new growth strategy includes areas for Urban Villages and Growth Centers, such developments can also be planned at major stops along the Trinity River or major stops could be planned in areas where the City sees an opportunity for redevelopment.

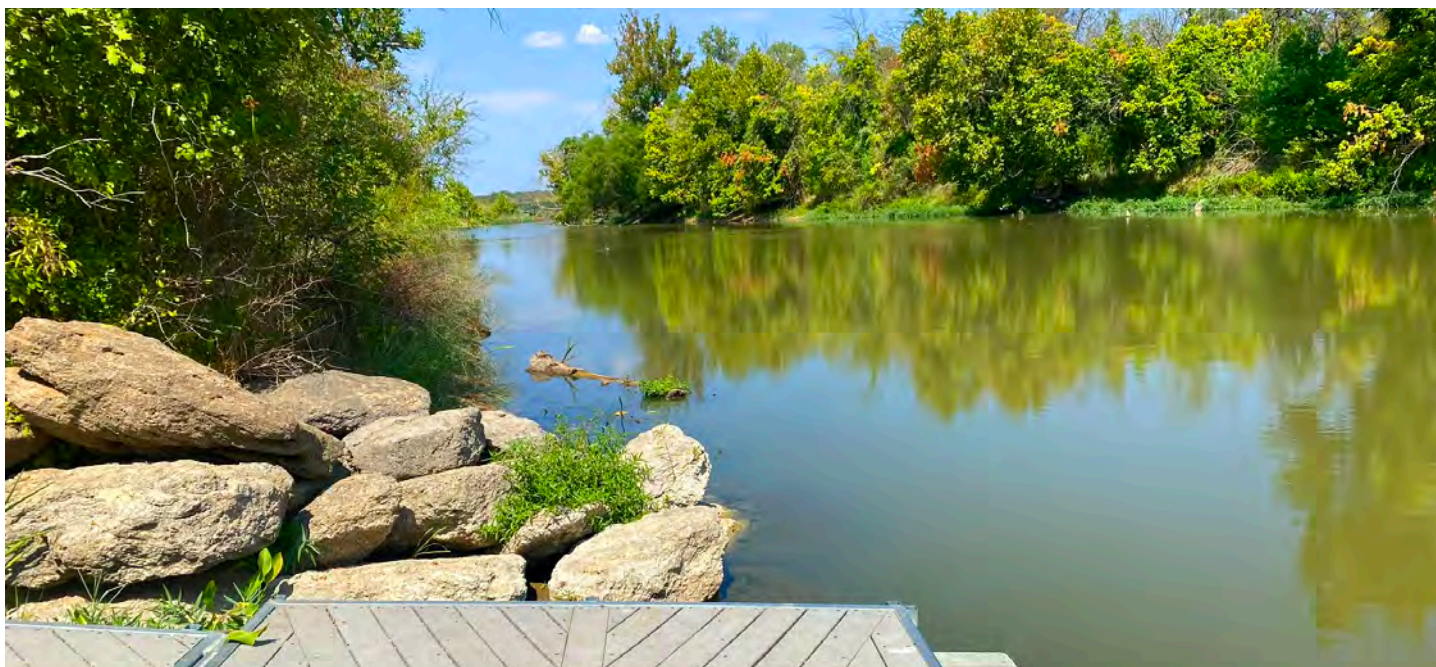
Additionally, the creeks and tributaries that feed into the Trinity River provide opportunities for supplementing the parks and recreation system. As most of these natural features are part of the public realm and are untapped, tapping into them makes them available for quick-win projects such as the construction of a simple accessible trail connecting neighborhoods to parks or other points of destination. Furthermore, the creeks and tributaries that connect to the Trinity River could function as a branch-and-trunk system, whereby residents could use the creeks and tributaries not just for recreation, but for mobility purposes.

### Panther Island

Panther Island is a 330-acre site to the north of Downtown Fort Worth. The site has been called "...a once-in-a-generation city-building opportunity for Fort Worth to amplify the energy of its urban core and the surrounding neighborhoods." As of the development of the GREENprint Plan, the area is a mixture of underutilized public and private land. The site has a few goals which all play into the GREENprint Plan. Those goals are:

- One-of-a-kind waterfront district nestled in the Trinity River.
- Be a haven of diverse parks, green spaces and experiences around every corner.
- House a mixed-use neighborhood designed to build community.
- Become a destination connecting and complementing vibrant surrounding neighborhoods.
- Become a celebration of Fort Worth's communities and heritage.
- Be an economic driver sustaining the rapid growth of Fort Worth.

A major part of the Panther Island development is that it is part of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers Central City Flood Control Project that is being developed to protect neighborhoods within the area from frequent flooding issues. To achieve



Trinity River



Panther Island



this, a bypass channel is being constructed along the northern end of Panther Island that will aid in significantly improving the water flow through the area. This will not only reduce the risk of flooding but will also help recover land from the floodplains and allow for the removal of levees. This will result in the creation of a friendlier connection to the Trinity River for recreational uses.

**Nature Center and Refuge**

The City of Fort Worth, with the encouragement of the community and the Fort Worth Audubon Society, began its preservation efforts in 1964 by creating the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge from land that it had purchased along the West Fork of the Trinity River to protect the community’s drinking water. The Nature Center & Refuge covers 3,621 acres of land and it includes over 20 miles of hiking trails. The Park & Recreation Department has left much of the site in its natural state to preserve and protect some of the remaining forests, prairies, wetlands and natural animal habitats. According to data collected from the City’s Naturalist project, the Refuge is home to over 2,000 species for flora and fauna.

The continued preservation of the area where the Nature Center & Refuge is encouraged. The site provides the residents of Fort Worth and its visitors with a view into what the region was like prior to human settlement. The Nature Center also provides educational programs that immerse the participants into the natural environment through events like specialty nature hikes, birdwatching, canoe and kayak tours, nature journaling, and interactions with the native Bison.

**Fort Worth Botanic Garden**

The Fort Worth Botanic Garden first became part of the City’s 1912 acquisition of a small park named Rock Springs Park. The park was described as being on the Clear Fork of the Trinity River. A rose garden was established as part of the initial enhancements to the park which then led to the idea to transform the park into what is now called the Fort Worth Fort Worth Botanic Garden. Over the years, the Fort Worth Botanic Garden has been a major destination for recreation. In 2008, the Fort Worth Botanic Garden received a nomination to be listed as part of the National Register of Historic Places. In 2009, it was accepted and placed on the list. The



Nature Center and Refuge



Fort Worth Botanic Garden

2023 Comprehensive Plan explains that “...many organizations and individuals have assisted with substantial improvements and additions to the Fort Worth Botanic Garden.” Its beauty and serenity will continue to serve as a resource to the City, as a park and as an environmental oasis.

**Sundance Square**

Sundance Square is a major recreational draw to the City of Fort Worth. Taking its name from the Sundance Kid, the site is in the heart of Downtown Fort Worth. As described by Visit Fort Worth, the Sundance Square is a “...walkable 37-square-block downtown campus of shopping, restaurants, art galleries, entertainment, professional offices and residential living.” It is a popular entertainment and nightlife venue that is privately owned and operated by Fine Line Investments. The outdoor square offers a place for locals and visitors to socialize and relax amidst the urban surroundings. The Square is also home to fountains that provide a play feature for those hot summer days in Texas. The owners of Sundance Square also offer the site for event rentals, big or small. Sundance Square is an excellent example of how a vacant piece of land within an existing urban environment can be made into an active recreation site. Additionally, the City can use Sundance Square as an example of how to activate areas within the



Sundance Square Plaza

public realm, such as sidewalks, function more as parks where residents can socialize, relax, and enjoy the lively movement of the City.

**Lake Worth**

Lake Worth has been a resource to the City of Fort Worth since it was built in 1914 as a water reservoir. In years past, there have been calls by the residents of Fort Worth for the City to take steps to improve the recreational use of the lake to include dredging it. It is a large part of the City’s Nature Center and Refuge, which serves as a nature preserve. The park is ranked as one of the largest city-owned nature centers in the United States. In addition to being part of the Nature Center, Lake Worth provides area residents with opportunities for boating and fishing.

**Lake Arlington**

Another lake that provides recreation for the residents of the City of Fort Worth is Lake Arlington. As the name indicates, this lake is located within the city limits of the City of Arlington. This lake provides the residents with a few recreational opportunities including fishing, canoing, /kayaking, boating, golfing at Lake Arlington Golf Course, playing at Richard Simpson Park, and holding events at one of the pavilions located along the lakefront.





## Equity-Based Assessment

Social equity is essential in park planning, as parks and green spaces are a fundamental human need that should be accessible to all communities. However, a significant park equity gap exists across the U.S., with underserved neighborhoods facing greater challenges in accessing quality park facilities.

Data from the Trust for Public Land highlights these disparities in Fort Worth, where residents in neighborhoods of color have access to 13% less nearby park space than those in white neighborhoods, and residents in lower-income neighborhoods have access to 25% less park space than those in higher-income neighborhoods. These inequities reinforce the need for an equity-based assessment to guide park planning and resource allocation.

To address this, we developed an equity-based tool that evaluates socioeconomic disparities, environmental conditions, and community health to find the areas of greater need for parks and public spaces. This tool identifies areas where:

- Socioeconomic vulnerability is high
- Community health disparities are prevalent
- Environmental risks are significant

The assessment process involved collecting spatial data for 41 contributing factors (with different weight value), categorized into four key indices: Socioeconomic Vulnerability Index, Environmental Vulnerability Index, Community Health Index and Park Access Index which is discussed in the following section.

All data was structured into an ESRI File Geodatabase, allowing for systematic analysis. The final step involved overlaying and weighting the indices to determine Areas of Greater Need for Parks and Public Spaces. These maps provide a data-driven foundation for strategic park planning, ensuring that future investments enhance equity, accessibility, and overall community well-being.



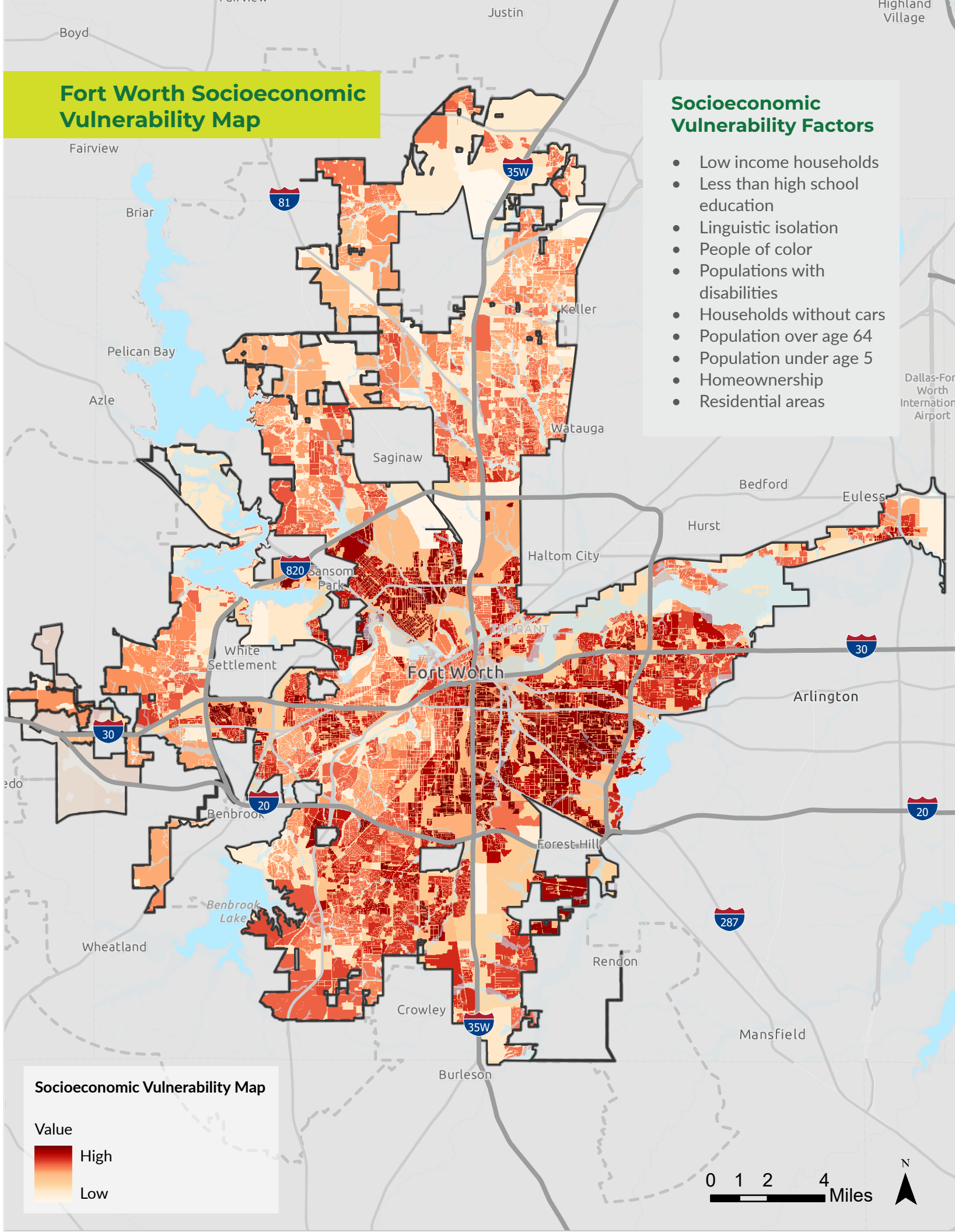
## Access-Based Assessment

Access to parks and recreational spaces is a critical component of ensuring an inclusive and equitable park system, but how is access determined? The TPL, in partnership with NRPA and the Urban Land Institute (ULI), defines park access using the 10-minute walk metric—approximately a half-mile distance most people are willing to walk to reach a destination. This widely adopted planning standard aims to create pedestrian and bicycle-friendly environments that promote healthier, more active lifestyles. TPL has incorporated this metric into its ParkScore rating system, evaluating cities across the U.S. on park accessibility. According to TPL's analysis, only 62% of Fort Worth residents live within a 10-minute walk of a park, ranking the city 88th among the 100 largest U.S. cities (2024).

To address these gaps, the GREENprint Master Plan incorporates an access-based assessment that identifies barriers to park accessibility and opportunities for improvement. The Park Access Index evaluates multiple factors (with different weight value) influencing access, including proximity, infrastructure, demographics, and amenities. Proximity to parks is assessed using half-mile walksheds for all public and HOA parks to determine accessibility on foot. Sidewalk availability, existing trails, and proposed trails are analyzed to identify connectivity gaps, while road classifications help evaluate potential barriers such as high-traffic corridors that hinder safe pedestrian and bicycle access.

Beyond physical infrastructure, demographic and socioeconomic factors play a key role in equitable park access. The assessment considers low-income households and youth populations (under age 19) to highlight communities where park access is even more important. Population density and residential areas are also analyzed to ensure that parks are equitably distributed based on community needs. Additionally, the availability of key park amenities such as pavilions, restrooms, playgrounds, and pools ensures that parks offer meaningful recreational opportunities for all residents.

## Fort Worth Socioeconomic Vulnerability Map

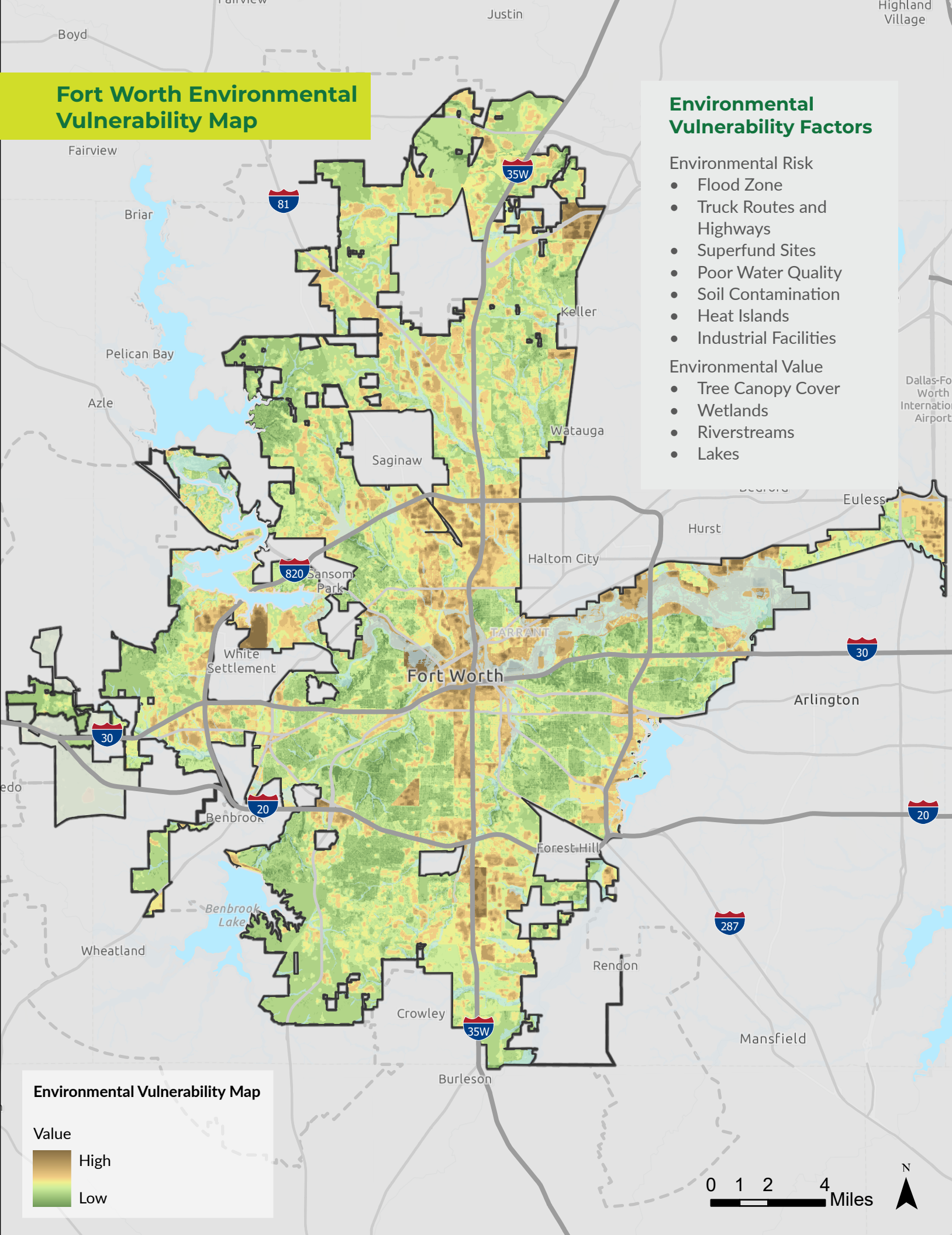


### Socioeconomic Vulnerability Factors

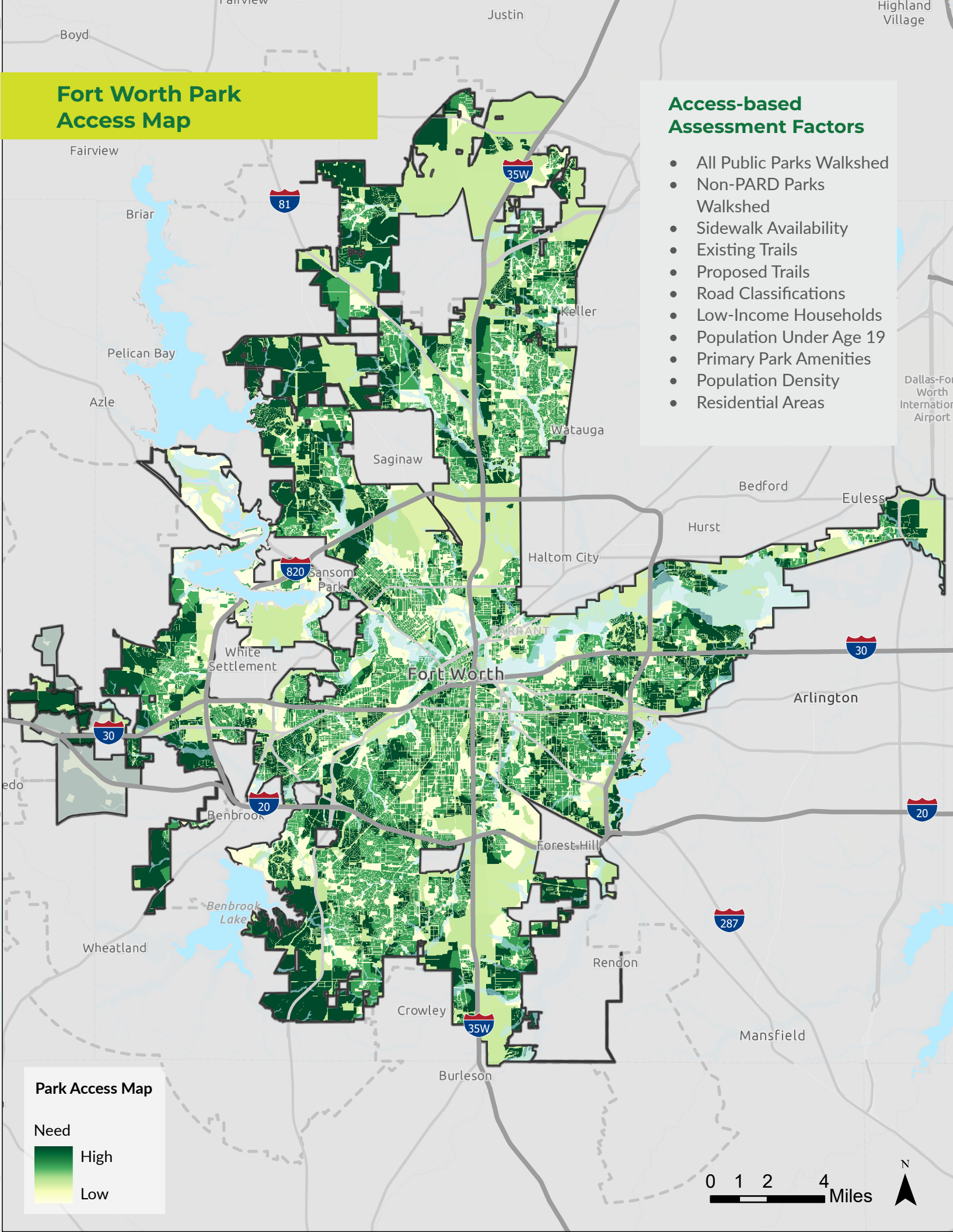
- Low income households
- Less than high school education
- Linguistic isolation
- People of color
- Populations with disabilities
- Households without cars
- Population over age 64
- Population under age 5
- Homeownership
- Residential areas



# Fort Worth Environmental Vulnerability Map



# Fort Worth Park Access Map





**Fort Worth Community Health Map**

**Community Health Disparity Factors**

- Air Quality
- Asthma
- Cancer
- Coronary Heart Disease
- Diabetes
- High Cholesterol
- High Blood Pressure
- Heat Exposure
- Obesity

**Community Health Disparity Map**

Value

- High
- Low

0 1 2 4 Miles

N

- ## Community Health Disparity Factors
- Air Quality
  - Asthma
  - Cancer
  - Coronary Heart Disease
  - Diabetes
  - High Cholesterol
  - High Blood Pressure
  - Heat Exposure
  - Obesity

**Fort Worth Priority Areas**

**Priority Areas for New Parks Map**

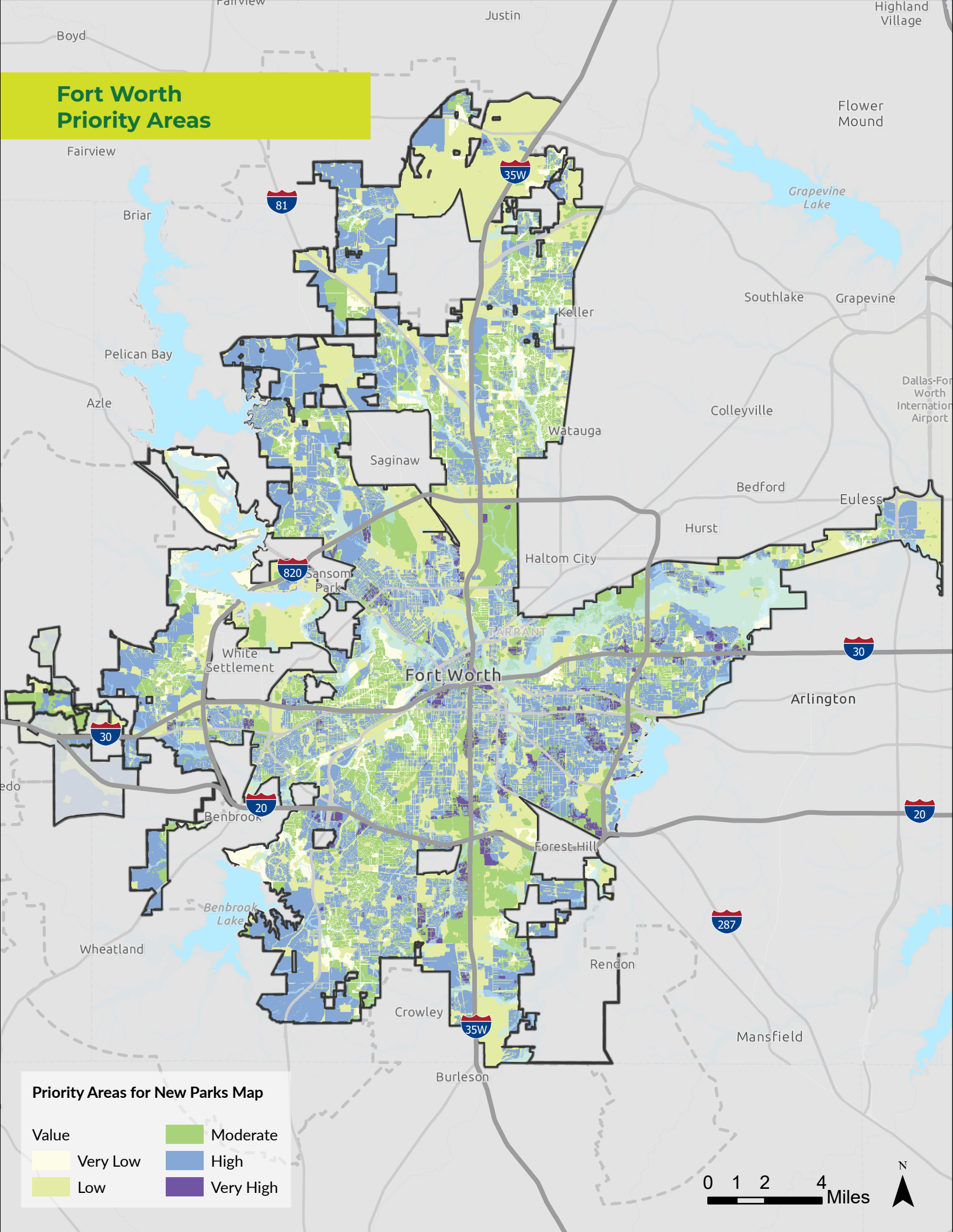
Value	Color	Priority Level
Very Low	Light Yellow	Very Low
Low	Light Green	Low
Moderate	Medium Green	Moderate
High	Dark Green	High
Very High	Purple	Very High

0 1 2 4 Miles

N

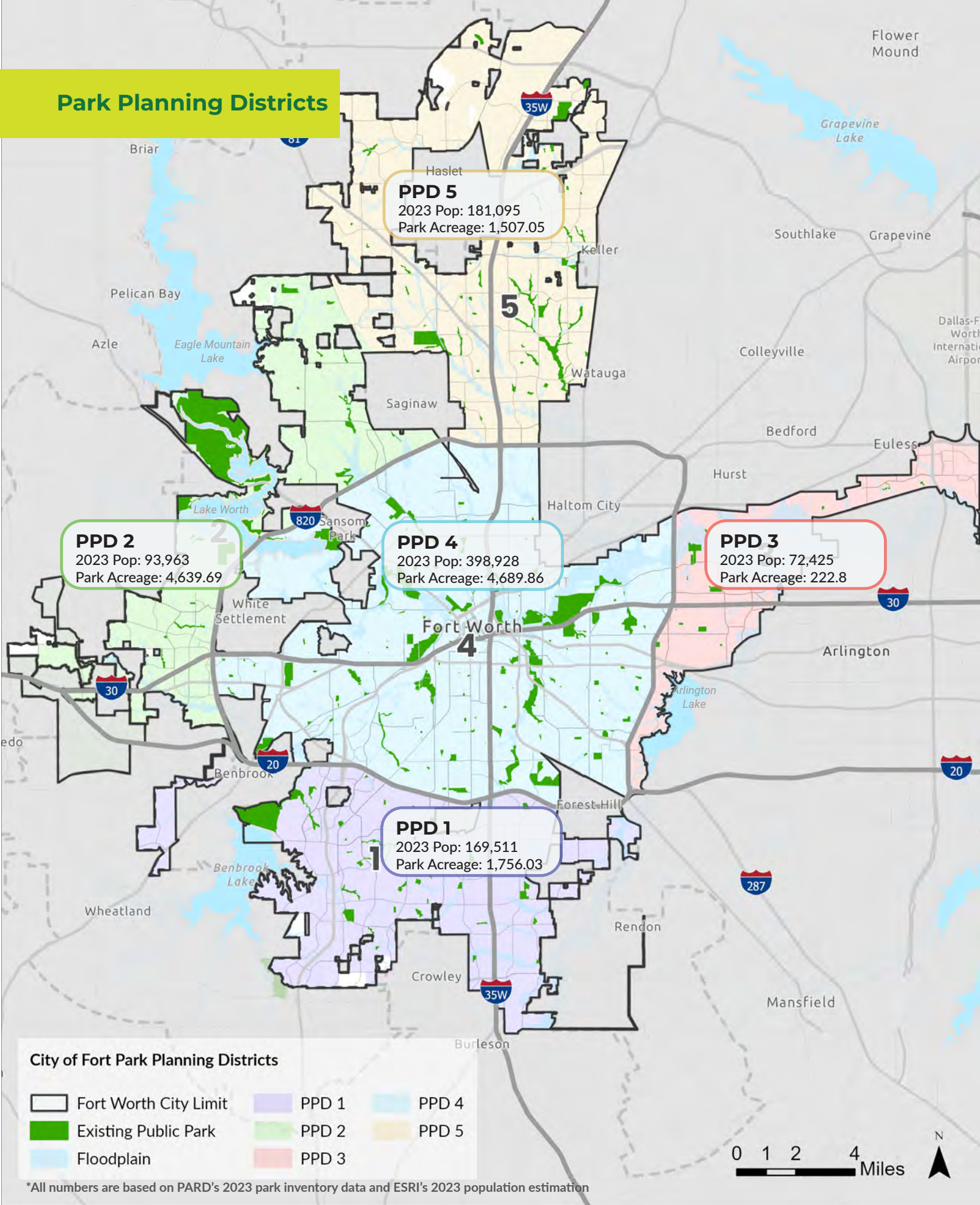
## Priority Areas for New Parks Map

- |          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| Value    | Moderate  |
| Very Low | High      |
| Low      | Very High |





Park Planning Districts



Park Planning Districts Assessment

The City of Fort Worth works on providing public services throughout the communities; however, it also understands that the diversity of its population creates unique conditions. These unique conditions can come in the form of the populations it is working to serve, the geographical area in which the City is being asked to provide the services, as well as the age and density of the neighborhoods seeking the services. To address these unique conditions and the needs and demands placed on the parks and recreation system, the City developed five Park Planning Districts. These Districts were created using the City's physical characteristics (major roadways, rivers, and topographical features) and the population densities.

The Park Planning Districts have played significant roles in the past park planning efforts by helping to identify the unique needs and demands of each district as well as in the development of recommendations on how to best respond to them. This new Park, Recreation, Open Space and Public Realm Master Plan has continued the tradition of listening to the residents of each Park Planning District to ensure that their needs and requests are heard and planned for. The information gathered was used in the development of goals, objectives, recommendations, and strategies of this Plan.



Summary of 2020 Park & Recreation System Assessment Study and the 2019 Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan Update.

The PPDs differed only in how their needs were prioritized. For example PPDs 2, 3, 4, and 5 identified that hike/bike/walking trails were the priority, while PPD 1 emphasized on adding traditional park amenities. The 2020 update also created the PPD 5-Year Work Plans for parks. These work plans served as guides in the implementation of projects in response to district needs. The 5-Year Work Plans had five categories: drainage and erosion control, park security lighting, playgrounds, park improvements, and walks and trails. Some of the projects listed had already been included as part of the recent Bond Programs for funding and were in various stages of planning, designing and construction.

The priority needs were:

- Traditional Park Amenities (playgrounds, benches, tables)
- Hike/Bike/Walking Trails
- Facility Reinvestment
- More Open Spaces/Natural Areas
- More Practice/Multi-use Areas/Competition Fields



Park Planning District 1

Park Planning District #1 is the third most populous PPD in Fort Worth, located south of Downtown. Its population is expected to grow by 7.8% from 169,511 to 182,754 between 2023 and 2028. The median age is 35.2, with the majority aged 25-44. PPD 1 serves 60,854 households with an average of 2.77 persons per household. In 2023, the average household income is \$68,572 and the income level per capita is \$35,092.

PPD 1 is composed of a mixture of residential, commercial, and industrial developments, with the commercial and industrial land uses along and to the east of the I-35 corridor. Much of the residential development is located to the west of the I-35 corridor, while there are some smaller residential neighborhoods to the south of the commercial/industrial land uses. Most of the land area within PPD 1 has already been developed or is in the process of being developed.

The current park and recreation inventory breaks down as follows:

Neighborhood-Based Parks		
Urban Parks	Acre: 0.18	Number: 1
Pocket	Acre: 20.57	Number: 6
Neighborhood	Acre: 328.27	Number: 27
Community-Based Parks		
Community	Acre: 909.82	Number:9
Metropolitan	Acre: 0	Number: 0
Special Use & Nature Parks		
Greenbelts	Acre: 33.36	Number: 2
Conservancies	Acre: 2.05	Number: 2
Other Special	Acre: 461.77	Number: 1

There are three community centers which offer recreation programs for youth, teens, adults, and seniors. The community centers are Chisholm Trail Community Center, Highland Hills Community Center, and Southwest Community Center. Their current programs and activities listed below:



Chisholm Trail Community Center

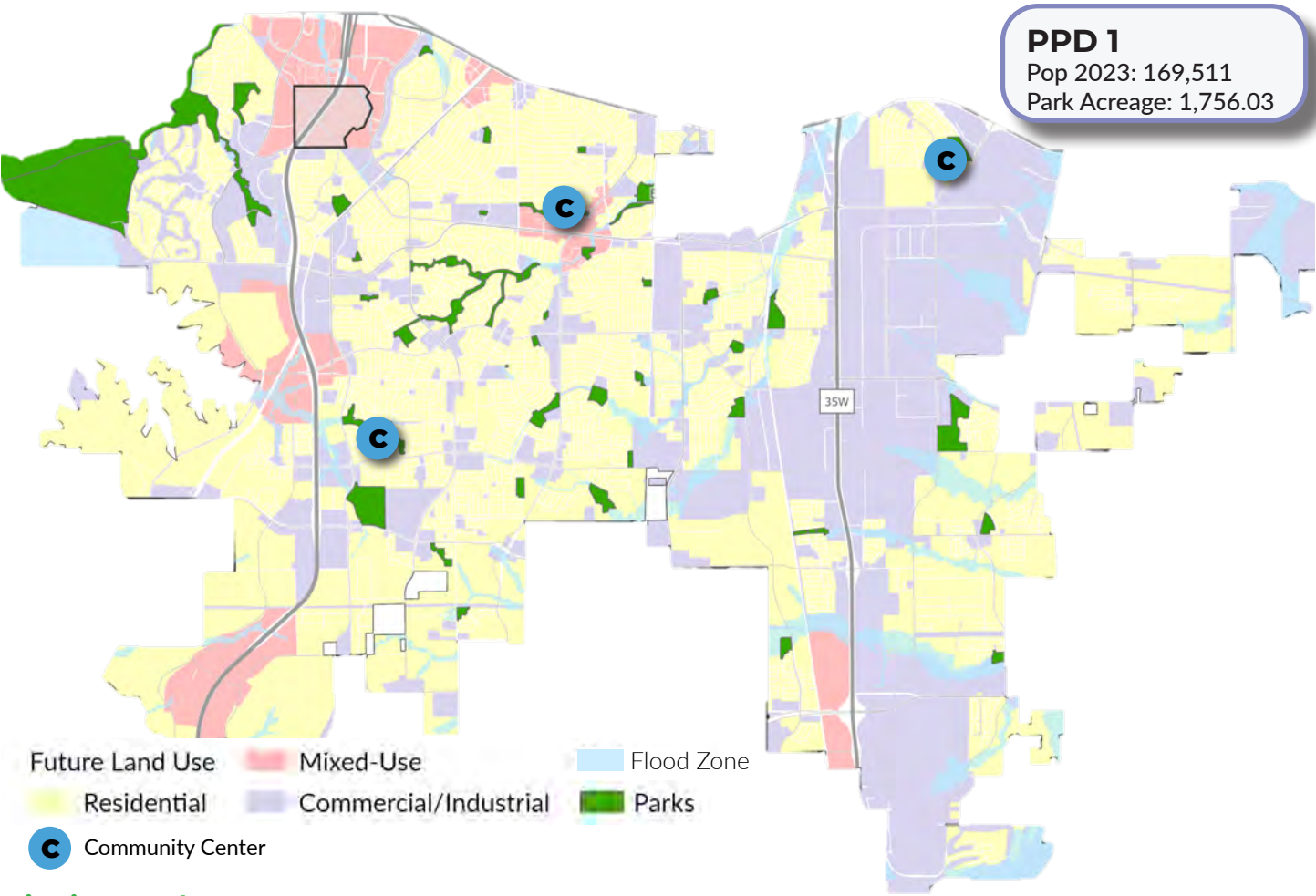
- Outdoor Stroll along a 2.4-mile
- Aikido
- Skate park
- Life skills classes
- Gymnasium
- After school programs
- Fitness room
- Pickleball

Highland Hills Community Center

- Fitness room and an open gym
- Self-defense classes
- After school programs
- Adult dance classes
- Basketball skill enhancement classes

Southwest Community Center

- Gymnastic training facility
- Painting classes
- Mini-tennis courts
- Gymnastics, Tai Chi, and wrestling classes
- Sand volleyball courts



District Needs

- A greater investment in the maintenance, operations, and upgrading of existing parks.
- More robust trails and linear park system. According to the analysis, it was found that the areas of existing residential development within PPD1 that do not meet the recommended maximum 10-minute walking distance to a park or recreation facility are due to factors such as the lack of a connected sidewalk/trail/multi-modal system and/or physical barriers such as major roadways and railroad tracks.
- Need to safely overcome barriers such as roadways and railroad tracks. These impact direct accessibility to a park or recreation facility as they require residents to find the safest point (crosswalk or railroad crossing) to cross which could be a distance away. Current crossing points may not be usable by all residents such as those with mobility devices.
- More indoor and outdoor recreation programs that will encourage residents of the community to become more active.

- More multi-generational activities developed that are known to not only provide fun recreational events, but also provide physical, emotional, and social health benefits to the participants.
- Additionally, residents requested that the community centers be used for more community gatherings, as well as for the City to activate its open spaces to with events such as farmer's markets, outdoor music and theatrical plays, as well as with adding seating areas and pavilions as amenities.

District Opportunities

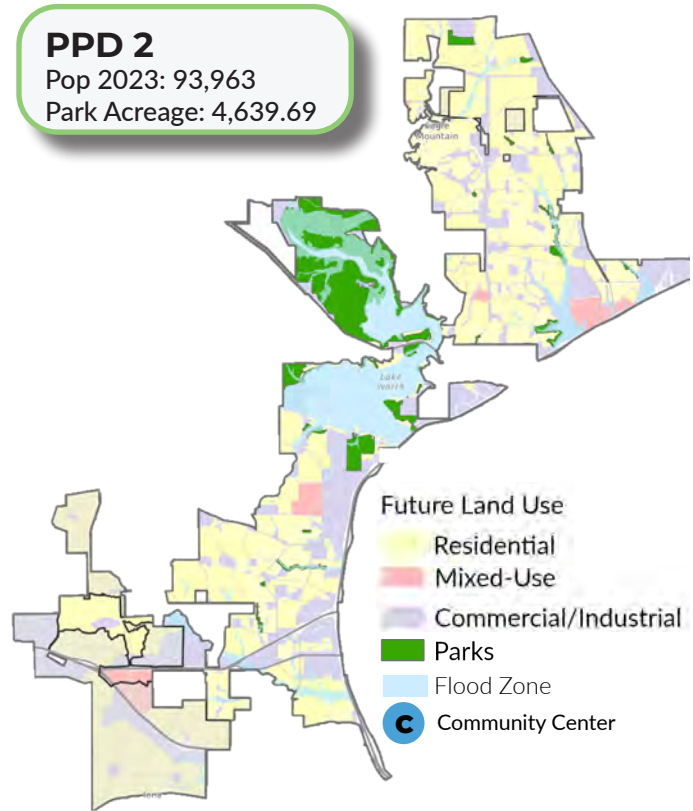
- Enhance the park and trail system through the use of the creeks that travel throughout the district.
- Protect and improve the natural environment, especially using the creeks as linear parks and the acquisition of vacant, underutilized parcels.



Park Planning District 2

PPD 2 is the fourth most populated district, located west of Downtown Fort Worth and bordered by IH-820 to the east. The district is projected to grow from 93,963 to 138,112 residents between 2023 and 2028, making it the fastest-growing district among the five. Much of the population falls between ages 25-44, with a median age of 34.7 years. PPD 2 serves an estimated 31,553 households with an average household size of 2.98 persons and an average household income of \$116,497. The district is populated by a majority of residents who identified as White Alone (57.7 percent).

PD 2 is composed primarily of new single-family residential neighborhoods toward the south of Lake Worth, some older established residential neighborhoods north of Lake Worth, and three commercial nodes along I-820. Much of the land to the north of Lake Worth has already been built out for the exception of the sites currently being used as oil wells. Many of the oil well sites are located to the northeast of Lake Work, but there are other wells throughout its western periphery. PPD 2 is also the home of the Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge. This is a 3,000+ acre conservancy located within the Lake Worth area with over 20 miles of trails.



PPD 2 is one of two Park Planning Districts without a community or recreation center. Therefore, it is recommended that the Park & Recreation Department consider building a new recreation facility in this area.

District Needs

- Water-based recreation is much needed in their district. According to the findings, PPD 2 is in need of swimming pools, splash pads, more river front parks, and more water recreation such as boating and fishing.
- More parks, inland, and waterfront attractions.
- Much needed upgrades to existing amenities and introduction of new amenities.
- More trails/sidewalks/multi-use path, especially among the older existing neighborhoods.
- Preservation of the natural environment as it includes some of the last remaining natural prairie lands.

District Opportunities

- Park & Recreation Department is collaborating with the City's FW Lab to identify growth patterns within the district and where additional parkland is currently needed and may be needed in the future.
- Protect the areas of remaining open space through either acquisitions or the development of public use and conservation easements, it should be highly considered.

Neighborhood-Based Parks		
Urban Parks	Acre: 0	Number: 0
Pocket	Acre: 6.32	Number: 2
Neighborhood	Acre: 241.4	Number: 18
Community-Based Parks		
Community	Acre: 696.51	Number:8
Metropolitan	Acre: 0	Number: 0
Special Use & Nature Parks		
Greenbelts	Acre: 5.99	Number: 1
Conservancies	Acre: 3,689.47	Number: 3
Other Special	Acre: 0	Number: 0

Park Planning District 3

Park Planning District 3 (PPD 3) is the least populated area in the City of Fort Worth. It is located east of Downtown Fort Worth and is bordered by IH-820 to the west. According to population projections, PPD 3 is expected to grow from 72,425 residents to 72,715 residents between 2023 and 2028, which is an of 0.4 percent. Much of the population is between the ages of 25 to 44, with a median age of 34.5 years. The current population demographics suggest that PPD 3 serves an estimated 28,746 households with an average size of 2.52 people per household. The average household income is \$64,102 which is lower than the city of Fort Worth median income of \$72,726. The district is mainly populated by residents who identify as Black Alone (36.5%), followed by White Alone (30.2%) and Hispanic (23.8%).

PPD 3 has various housing options within its residential areas, from large-lot agricultural to multi-family homes. A significant amount of the land used to the north of the Trinity River is primarily industrial . There is a considerable amount of floodplain that travels along the route of the Trinity River. To the far northeastern reach of PPD 3, the land uses are dominated by industrial warehouses primarily due to the proximity of the Dallas – Fort Worth International Airport.

The Handley-Meadowbrook Community Center is situated in PPD 3. It has undergone recent renovations and now boasts a full-size gymnasium, several multi-purpose rooms, a modern computer lab, and a commercial kitchen.

Neighborhood-Based Parks		
Urban Parks	Acre: 0.91	Number: 1
Pocket	Acre: 10.58	Number: 3
Neighborhood	Acre: 91.94	Number: 7
Community-Based Parks		
Community	Acre: 119.37	Number: 2
Metropolitan	Acre: 0	Number: 0
Special Use & Nature Parks		
Greenbelts	Acre: 0	Number: 0
Conservancies	Acre: 0	Number: 0
Other Special	Acre: 0	Number: 0

District Needs

- Upgrade and introduce new amenities to include adding more trees and shade structures.
- Preserve more natural areas through the creation of nature trails and green corridors.

District Opportunities

- City to work toward acquiring the acquire easements of land from the property owners or try to partner with the property owners to create easements for public trails and public parks.
- Open spaces that can be used for events like festivals, outdoor music, and theater.
- Floodplain areas that are very green and lush with wetlands along it, creating areas for sightseeing, birdwatching, and other forms of relaxation.
- Acquiring small parcels of vacant or unused land within the existing residential neighborhoods to create a network of small pocket parks and neighborhood parks connected by an on-road multi-modal trail system.

Handley-Meadowbrook Community Center

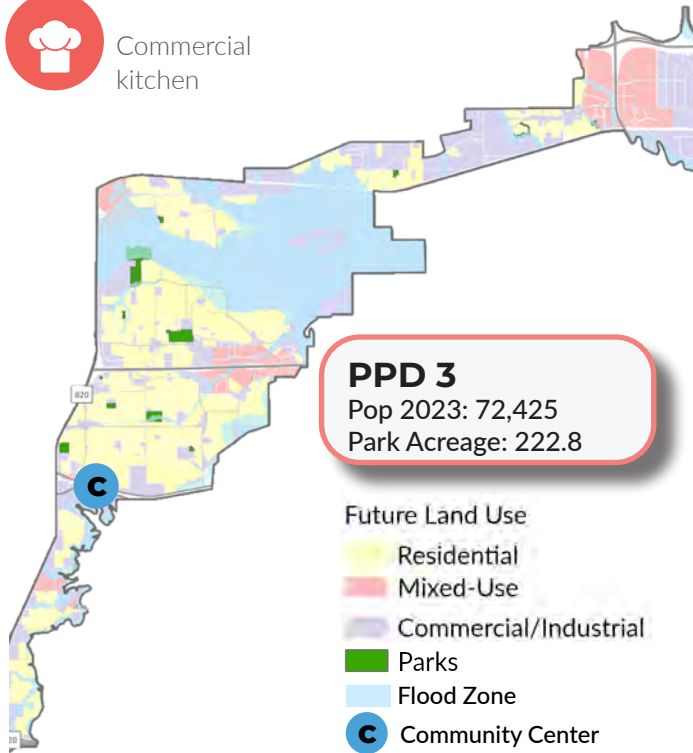
Gymnasium

Computer lab

Fitness room

Basketball skill enhancement classes

Commercial kitchen



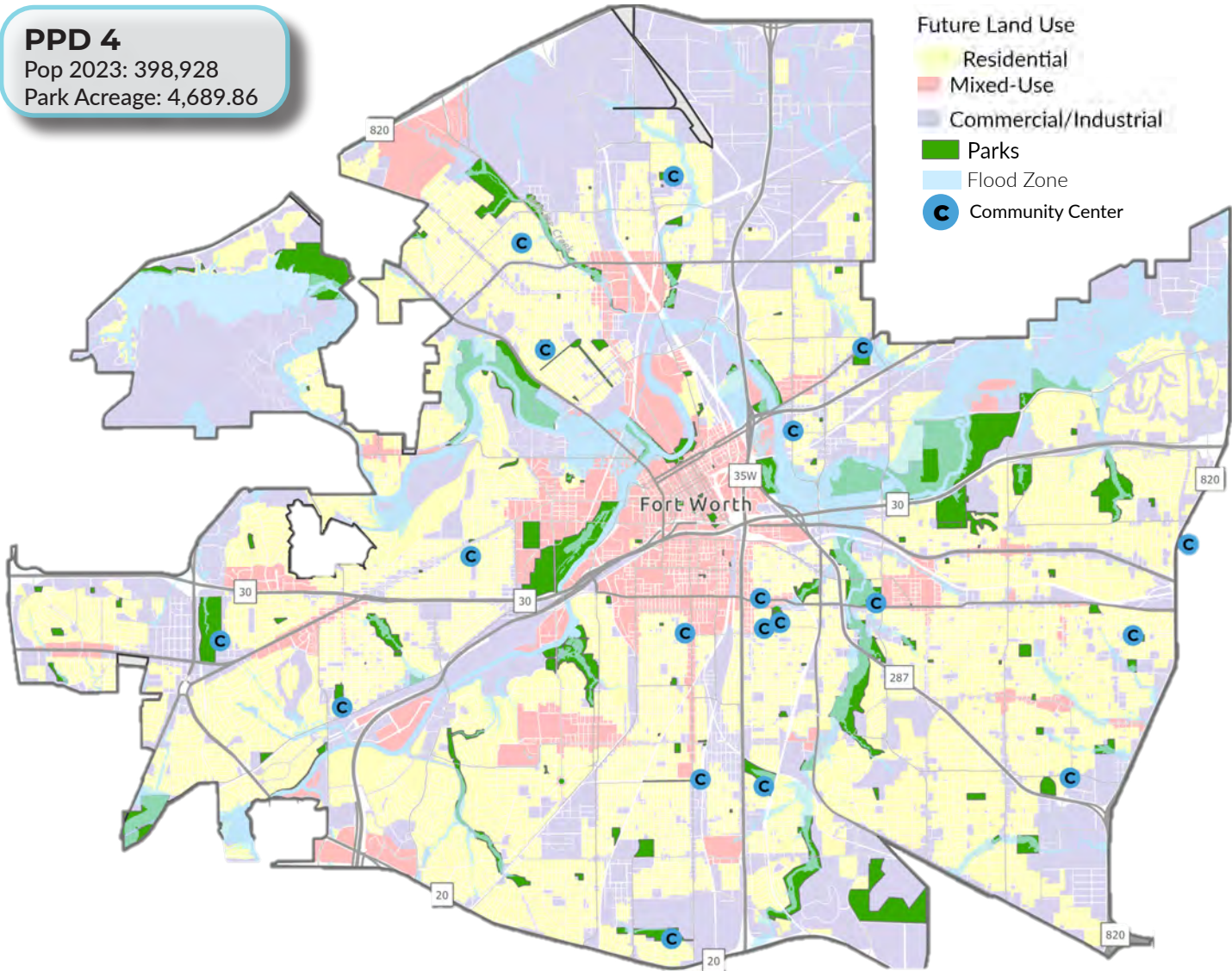


Park Planning District 4

Park Planning District 4 (PPD 4) is the most populous PPD in the City of Fort Worth. It includes a significant amount of residential housing within the loop created by IH-20 and IH-820, as well as the Downtown area. According to population projections, PPD 4 is expected to grow from 398,928 residents to 407,647 residents between 2023 and 2028, which is an increase of 8,719 residents or 2.19 percent. The majority of this population falls between the ages of 25 to 44 with a median age of 33.1 years. For PPD 4, the youth (ages 0-19) population is estimated to be 118,498, and the senior (ages 55+) population is estimated at 93,484. The current demographics indicate that PPD 4 serves an estimated 143,553 households with an average size of 2.67 people per household.



**PPD 4**  
Pop 2023: 398,928  
Park Acreage: 4,689.86



The average household income level for PPD 4 for 2023 is \$51,438, while the income per capita level is \$29,695, making PPD 4 the district with the lowest income per capita. In 2023, PPD 4 was predominantly inhabited by White Alone residents (38.6%). Hispanic residents make up 48.1% of the population. The district is projected to remain the most diverse among the five PPDs in Fort Worth until at least 2028.

PPD 4 is the heart of the City. It houses a wide variety of residential, commercial, office, and industrial land uses. At the center of PPD 4 is Downtown Fort Worth with its mix of office buildings, commercial centers, and entertainment venues.

PPD 4 is unique in that it houses a total of 10 Special Use Parks. These Special Use Parks are major draws for residents and visitors alike. The Special Use Parks are:

- Fort Worth Botanic Garden
- Fort Worth Zoo
- Log Cabin Village
- Meadowbrook Golf Course
- Rockwood Golf Course
- Rolling Hills
- Sycamore Creek Golf Course
- Veterans Memorial
- Water Gardens
- Will Roger Memorial Center Complex

As the older and most densely populated areas of Fort Worth, it has a number of community centers throughout the district.


Neighborhood-Based Parks		
Urban Parks	Acre: 27.49	Number: 35
Pocket	Acre: 92.51	Number: 29
Neighborhood	Acre: 367.43	Number: 32
Community-Based Parks		
Community	Acre: 2,492.17	Number: 37
Metropolitan	Acre: 791.5	Number: 1
Special Use & Nature Parks		
Greenbelts	Acre: 0.48	Number: 1
Conservancies	Acre: 127.09	Number: 3
Other Special	Acre: 791.18	Number: 9

District Needs

- More riverfront parks with water activities such as boating and fishing.
- More sport fields within the district.
- High need to first work on upgrading and enhancing the existing parks. Residents would like to see upgrades done to existing amenities before the introduction of new amenities. They would also like to see the addition of more trees and shade structures to the parks.
- New parks to be constructed in the areas north of downtown.
- Connected, safe, and accessible sidewalk system.
- Protect the remaining areas of natural open space, to include green belts, creeks, and natural drainage ways.

District Opportunities

- Work with TRWD and Streams & Valleys to develop parks and trails along Trinity River, its tributaries, creeks, and natural drainage ways.
- Acquire land in areas of redevelopment, infill, vacant land, underutilized land, or blighted land to create pocket, urban, and neighborhood parks.
- Create multi-modal connections throughout the district using a mixture of sidewalks, on-street multi-use paths, sharrows, and natural trails.
- Acquire vacant and/or underutilized buildings to be converted to community/recreation centers.



Trails



Dog park




Gymnasium



Fitness room




Clubs (ex: Best Years Club, Kids' Guitar Club)




Fishing pond




Game rooms



Life skills classes



After school programs



Pickleball



Playground

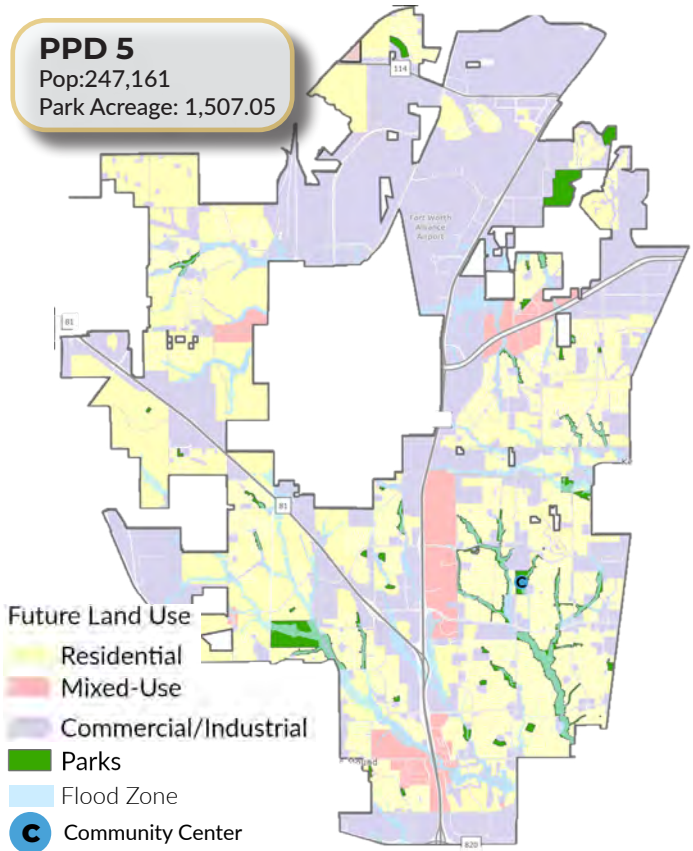


Single day break camps



Park Planning District 5

Park Planning District 5 (PPD 5) is the second most populous district in Fort Worth, located north of Downtown and bordered by IH-820. The population is expected to increase from 247,161 to 271,991 between 2023 and 2028 (10.04%). The median age is 32.7 years, with most of the population aged between 25 to 44. The district serves an estimated 71,138 households with an average size of 2.98 people per household. The average household income



Neighborhood-Based Parks		
Urban Parks	Acre: 0.69	Number: 2
Pocket	Acre: 19.61	Number: 6
Neighborhood	Acre: 538.66	Number: 36
Community-Based Parks		
Community	Acre: 834.42	Number: 5
Metropolitan	Acre: 0	Number: 0
Special Use & Nature Parks		
Greenbelts	Acre: 113.67	Number: 4
Conservancies	Acre: 0	Number: 0
Other Special	Acre: 0	Number: 0

level is \$100,652, with per capita income at \$41,303. The district is primarily populated by White Alone (56.0%), followed by Two or More Race (14.3%) and Hispanic (21.9%).

The predominant land use in PPD 5 is single-family housing. PPD 5, just like PPD2, is an area experiencing rapid growth and development. This Park Planning District also houses some energy well sites to the northwestern. The commercial that does exist within PPD 5 is primarily located along I-35W and Denton Hwy. PPD 5 is home to two recreational facilities. The Northwest Community Center is funded by the City and offers a gymnasium, fitness area, and meeting rooms. The Northpark YMCA Joint Use Facility is a partnership between the City and the YMCA.

District Needs

- As more residential developments (including multi-family housing) are constructed in PPD 5, there will be an increase in the need for public parks. There are a number of parks in the district, however, they are private parks owned, managed, and maintained by individual homeowner association for the use of private residents only.
- Improved accessibility in older neighborhoods. The older neighborhoods lack adequate pedestrian and bicyclist facilities.
- Need for public community centers to be built within the district as there currently is none.
- Protect the remaining areas of natural open space, to include prairie land, green belts, creeks, and natural drainage ways.

District Opportunities

- Acquire land for the construction of community centers.
- Activate creeks and greenbelts as locations for trails. Enhance the existing creeks and natural corridors with parks and amenities.
- Acquire additional parkland in the northern and northwestern sections of the district.
- Work closely with the City's Planning Department in monitoring the residential growth between US-287 and I-35.
- Collaborate with the developers to include parks and recreation facilities as part of their development projects.

Fort Worth's Public Realm Assessment

It's More Than Just PARKS—Let's THINK: BIGGER, BOLDER, BETTER and consider the entire PUBLIC REALM.

The public realm is more than just parks. The public realm encompasses all spaces accessible to the public, including parks, plazas, green streets, trails, sidewalks, and civic spaces. It serves as a critical component of a city's identity, shaping the way people interact, move, and engage with their surroundings. While traditional parks and recreation facilities play a vital role in enhancing quality of life, a comprehensive public realm strategy extends these benefits into urban centers, mixed-use districts, and growing neighborhoods, creating a more connected, walkable, and livable city.

In Fort Worth, planning for the public realm goes beyond just park spaces; it integrates green main streets, vibrant plazas, small neighborhood parks, and innovative parklets into the city's evolving urban fabric. As Fort Worth continues to grow and urbanize, ensuring a well-planned and seamless public realm will support its transformation from a traditionally auto-centric city into a more walkable, economically vibrant, and environmentally sustainable place. By embedding public realm improvements into Fort Worth's growth centers, urban villages, and commercial corridors, the city can align with changing demographic trends, economic needs, and sustainability goals.

This expanded approach to the public realm will not replace the city's rich network of parks and open

spaces but will complement it by providing essential amenities in areas targeted for compact, mixed-use development. Recognizing that future growth will be shaped by walkable environments, talent attraction, and fiscal responsibility, Fort Worth's 2023 Comprehensive Plan emphasizes a shift from dispersed development toward growth centered around multiple hubs, ensuring that public spaces remain accessible, engaging, and adaptable to future needs. The following section discuss key strategic opportunities to consider public realm.

Key Strategic Opportunities  
Future Development Patterns

For decades, auto-oriented single-family subdivisions, strip center retail, and suburban-style office developments have dominated Fort Worth's growth outside of Downtown. However, real estate markets and economic development dynamics are shifting, driving a transition toward more compact, walkable, mixed-use development models as outlined in Fort Worth's 2023 Comprehensive Plan. These shifts are driven by three key factors:

- Changing Housing Demand: Housing will dominate real estate investment over the next two decades, comprising approximately two-thirds of all real estate development across North America, including Fort Worth. A significant demographic shift is underway, with households

Fort Worth Future Development Pattern, Shifting towards Multiple Growth Centers





without children—primarily singles and couples—expected to account for 81% of all net new households, according to the U.S. Census. By 2040, fewer than one in four U.S. households will include a child under 18, leading to increased demand for walkable, mixed-use neighborhoods rather than traditional suburban subdivisions.

- **Growing Preference for Walkable Communities:** Households without children increasingly prioritize living and working in walkable environments. Housing analyst Laurie Volk (Zimmerman/Volk Associates) notes that access to a lively Main Street with shops and eateries—within a five-minute walk—has replaced highway proximity as a top housing preference. While single-family detached housing remains the dominant supply, demand has shifted toward multifamily and compact housing forms integrated with green Main Streets, plazas, and neighborhood parks. This demand is fueling the growth of mixed-use centers, urban villages, and revitalized commercial corridors.
- **Economic and Policy Shifts Toward Compact Growth:** Mixed-use, walkable environments not only attract residents but also drive economic development. The knowledge and innovation industries, expected to generate the majority of new jobs in the coming decades, seek vibrant, pedestrian-friendly locations to attract and retain talent. While hybrid work is reshaping office demand, most new workplace construction—outside of manufacturing—will move from auto-oriented suburban areas to Downtown and Fort Worth’s emerging mixed-use hubs.

Additionally, public policy is likely to reinforce compact growth due to its fiscal and environmental benefits. National studies indicate that decentralized development significantly increases public infrastructure and operating costs, whereas compact growth is more cost-effective and resource-efficient. Households in auto-dependent areas spend nearly twice as much of their disposable income on transportation compared to those in walkable neighborhoods with transit access. Environmentally, per capita carbon emissions in auto-dependent areas

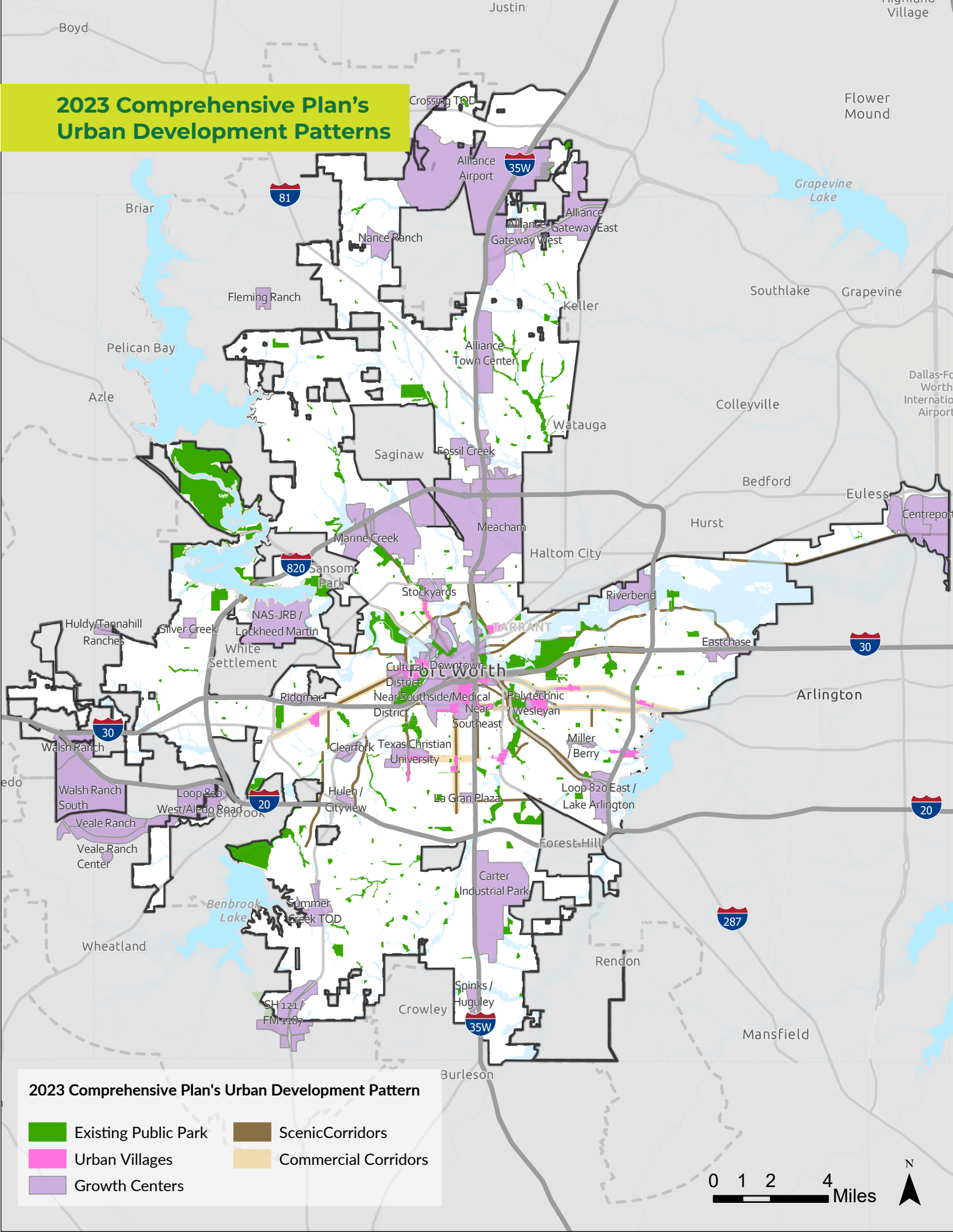
are two to four times higher than in walkable communities with transit options.

The shift toward walkable, mixed-use development presents an opportunity to leverage real estate value premiums to support public realm investments. A 2023 report by Smart Growth America found that in Dallas/Fort Worth, mixed-use walkable environments command rental premiums of approximately 25% and ownership premiums exceeding 50% per square foot. Strategic planning and public-private partnerships can harness these value increases to fund green public spaces, trails, and plazas, further enhancing Fort Worth’s livability and economic vitality.

**Economic Opportunity and Regional Competitiveness**

A shrinking number of households with children has led to a growing workforce shortage, slowing business expansion across industries. This shortage is particularly acute in knowledge and innovation sectors, which drive the majority of economic growth in regions like Dallas/Fort Worth. Nationally, 90% of net new jobs over the next two decades will require some level of higher education, including many in manufacturing. As competition for skilled workers intensifies, high-paying jobs and investment increasingly flow to regions that can attract and retain educated talent. Economists highlight a widening gap between affluent, competitive regions that successfully attract talent—and the jobs that follow—and less competitive regions that struggle to do so. A defining factor? The ability to offer the amenitized, mixed-use, and walkable environments that today’s workforce prefers.

The benefits of attracting and retaining talent extend across the entire community. The multiplier effect of high-skilled jobs is significant. For example, the City of Buffalo, New York, estimates that each new knowledge or innovation worker generates five additional jobs across various skill levels, while also supporting local businesses, restaurants, and retail. In this context, amenitized growth centers, urban villages, and revitalized commercial corridors with a vibrant public realm serve as powerful economic development tools, creating environments that attract both talent and investment.





Beyond drawing talent, these walkable, mixed-use districts also foster innovation and economic productivity. Research from the Brookings Institution highlights the importance of “creative collisions”—unplanned interactions between professionals from different companies that spark new ideas and collaborations. While many innovation-based companies have adapted to hybrid work, they continue to prioritize locations that attract talent to live and work within a five-minute walk of their workplaces and each other. These lively, interactive environments not only appeal to skilled professionals but also fuel the idea-driven economy that will shape Fort Worth’s future.

**Natural Environment**  
**Optimize Fort Worth’s Natural Environment**

Fort Worth is rich in Western culture, with museums, gardens, a diverse food scene, a historic district, and unique attractions. These aspects contribute to Fort Worth’s charm, making it a great destination for residents and visitors. The city is home to nearly 300 parks covering more than 13,000 acres. Notable nature parks include Gateway Park, Sycamore Community Park, Marine Creek Lake Park, Trinity Park, and Northwest Community Park. These parks offer various natural features, including canoe launches, mountain biking trails, wildflower fields, waterfalls, and fishing docks.

Unique park destinations include Airfield Falls Trailhead and Conservation Park, Goat Island Park, Fort Worth Zoo, and the Fort Worth Botanic Garden. Airfield Falls is home to Tarrant County’s largest natural waterfall, while Goat Island is a destination on Lake Worth accessible only by boat. Some parks, like Sycamore Community Park, have historical significance. Fort Worth offers numerous trails for hiking and mountain biking, with 100 miles of trails along the Trinity River alone, plus horseback riding and wineries.

These parks and the vast open spaces owned by the city provide extraordinary opportunities for vibrant nature, habitat preservation, protected woodlands and riparian zones, passive recreation, community connectivity, and daily physical and mental fitness. These features make Fort Worth’s parks a vital part of the community – especially when they are available and accessible to all residents of the city.



Fort Worth Prairie Near Benbook Lake. © Jason Flowers



The view of Lake Worth above Hodgkins Road. © Jason Flowers



West Fork Trinity River. © Jason Flowers

**Foster Public Health through Nature**

Access to nature offers numerous benefits for both physical and emotional well-being. Municipal parks and open spaces provide opportunities for residents to explore, enjoy, and experience the outdoors. In a city of over one million residents facing high development pressure, it’s crucial to recognize that natural spaces and humans can coexist with appropriate land management, education, awareness, operations, and programming. Interconnected corridors of existing and preserved natural lands and functional ecosystems can serve as vital physical, social, and environmental infrastructure. Key advantages of providing both locally accessible spaces and an interconnected network include, at a minimum, the following:

- Physical Benefits
  - Improved Physical Health: Spending time in green spaces encourages physical activity, leading to better fitness, increased life expectancy, and reduced risk of chronic diseases.
  - Better Sleep: Exposure to natural light and fresh air can help regulate and improve sleep patterns and quality.
  - Enhanced Immune Function: Being in nature can boost your immune system, helping your body fight off illnesses more effectively.
- Emotional Benefits
  - Reduced Stress and Anxiety: Nature has a calming effect, reducing stress levels and decreasing muscle tension.
  - Improved Mood and Mental Health: Access to nature is linked to lower rates of depression and anxiety, enhancing overall mood.
  - Cognitive Benefits: Time spent in natural environments can improve attention, working memory, and cognitive flexibility.
- Social Benefits
  - Increased Empathy and Cooperation: Being in nature can foster a sense of connection and empathy towards others, promoting cooperative behavior.
  - Enhanced Social Interactions: Natural settings provide opportunities for social activities and community building, improving social well-being and encouraging cross-generational and cultural interaction.



Trinity Trail

- Societal Awareness and Future Stewardship: Introducing children to vocations and the natural sciences such as urban forestry, preservation, park planning, and environmental planning.
- Personal Well-Being
  - Restoration and Relaxation: Nature provides a restorative environment that helps rejuvenate the mind and body, leading to a greater sense of well-being.
  - Motivation to Exercise: Natural environments can be more enticing for physical activities, encouraging people to stay active.

These benefits, however, can be compromised by lack of investment, safety concerns, poor maintenance, lack of programming, underutilization, and degradation of amenities. Challenges such as homelessness and littering can also discourage access and use. Sustained success hinges on community engagement and education, capital investment, maintenance and operations, programming, and timely responses to nefarious activities to best meet the needs of stakeholders and the public. The benefits of open space investment are well documented, justifying political and capital commitment to expanding the city’s natural lands. As development and population growth continue, seeking opportunities to preserve and protect open space must go hand in hand. Providing quality open space and natural environment can mitigate the causes of adverse societal behaviors, unify a community around their shared common ground, and generate a positive cycle of stewardship and investment in Fort Worth’s natural environment.



Trinity River and Downtown

The Trinity River is a defining natural asset of Fort Worth, weaving through the city and serving as a major recreational, ecological, and cultural corridor. The Trinity Trails system, with over 100 miles of trails and amenities, provides extensive opportunities for outdoor recreation and connectivity. Managed collaboratively by TRWD, the City of Fort Worth, and Streams and Valleys, the riverfront has been gradually enhanced to support public access, ecological restoration, and active transportation. With ongoing projects such as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Central City flood control initiative and the redevelopment of Panther Island, the Trinity River presents a transformational opportunity to expand parks, recreation, and the public realm. Strategic enhancements could create new waterfront parks, green spaces, and improved trail connections, further integrating the river with Downtown, Panther Island, and surrounding neighborhoods, making it a central hub for community engagement and outdoor activity.

Art and Culture

Fort Worth’s rich artistic and cultural heritage plays a vital role in shaping its public realm, offering opportunities to integrate art, performance, and storytelling into parks, trails, and urban spaces. The Fort Worth Public Art Vision Statement highlights the importance of public art in defining the city’s identity, stating: “Public art helps to define Fort Worth’s character as a vibrant and sustainable 21st-century city by celebrating its storied history, contributing to its iconic destinations, shaping its distinct neighborhoods, and honoring its close connection to nature.”

Public art has already been explored across the city’s parks and trails, but there is untapped potential to expand its presence in ways that celebrate Fort Worth’s multiculturalism. Many North American cities have successfully used digital and interactive public art to create inclusive storytelling experiences, ensuring that public spaces reflect the cultural richness of surrounding neighborhoods. This approach allows

parks to evolve dynamically, engaging local artists to tell new stories through reprogrammable installations that adapt to changing social and cultural values.

Additionally, Fort Worth’s Cultural District, with its proximity to the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, Trinity Park, and the riverfront, presents a unique opportunity to strengthen the city’s arts and cultural offerings. The river itself could serve as a signature cultural feature, similar to Providence, Rhode Island’s Water-Fire, which transforms waterways into immersive, multisensory art installations that bring together music, performance, and community engagement. Fort Worth’s small neighborhood parks, green Main Streets, plazas, and parklets also provide compelling venues for public art, further activating commercial corridors, growth centers, and urban villages.



Buck Sansom Park

THE FUTURE PANTHER ISLAND IN FORT WORTH, TEXAS  
UPDATED STRATEGIC VISION



Lake Como Park



# System Assessment Key Findings



Standard-Based Assessment:  
**Fort Worth System Faces Growing Needs and Limited Resources.**



Demand-Based Assessment:  
**Fort Worth Parks and Recreation Are Not Meeting Community Needs.**



Resource-Based Assessment:  
**Fort Worth Possesses Untapped Assets and Resources.**



Equity-Based Assessment:  
**Fort Worth Parks and Recreation Amenities Are Not Distributed Equitably.**



Access-Based Assessment:  
**Almost Half of Fort Worth Residents Do Not Have Walkable Access to Parks.**



Public Realm Assessment:  
**A New Era of Growth Calls for Expanding the Vision Beyond Just Parks and Embrace and Elevate the Entire Public Realm.**

These themes emerged from the numerous community engagement events and surveys completed as part of this planning process. Those themes, along with the priority needs and citywide analysis, form the basis of the recommendations to follow:

- **Connectivity & Access**
- **Maintenance & Upgrade**
- **Safety & User Comfort**
- **Programs & Activities**
- **Branding & Identity**
- **Facilities & Amenities**
- **Equitable Distribution Of Resources**
- **Demographic Shift & Evolving Needs**
- **Public Awareness, Communication & Transparency**
- **Public-private Partnerships**
- **Environmental Stewardship & Nature Preservation**



APPENDIX

D

# Park Inventory



# 2023 Park Inventory

At the early stages of the GREENPrint plan process, an inventory assessment was conducted in 2023 to evaluate the existing conditions of Fort Worth’s park facilities. The goal of the inventory was to gain a comprehensive understanding of the current state of the park system as part of the Standard Needs Assessment. Fort Worth’s park system consists of 297 parks, encompassing a total of 12,892.82 acres. The information gathered through this assessment was used to develop the spatial level of service, identify facility gaps, and assess parkland acreage, which will help inform future planning and improvements.

297 Total Number of Parks

12,892.823 Total Parks Acres

PARK	ADDRESS	YEAR	ACRES	STATUS	2023 CD	ISD	PPD	Park Classification (Based on 2015 master plan)
Alexandra Meadows	6521 MARK IV PKWY	2005	7.526	Act	2	EMSISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Alliance	3800 LITSEY RD	2019	170.672	Act	10	NWISD	5	COMMUNITY
Anderson	5052 CROMWELL-MARINE CREEK RD	1998	54.654	Act	7	EMSISD	2	COMMUNITY
Anderson-Campbell	4141 OHIO GARDEN RD	1999	24.220	Act	2	CSTLBRY	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Arcadia Trail	7613 ARCADIA TRL	1990	69.079	Act	4	KISD	5	COMMUNITY
Arcadia Trail Park North	8744 ARCADIA PARK DR	1994	177.237	Act	4	KISD	5	COMMUNITY
Arcadia Trail Park South	4950 BASSWOOD BLVD	1996	40.142	Act	4	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Arneson	1311 HOMAN AVE	1911	0.440	Act	2	FWISD	4	URBAN
Arnold	700 SAMUELS AVE	1914	3.022	Act	9	FWISD	4	POCKET
Arrow S	7951 CAHOBA DR	1918	37.800	Act	7	FWISD	2 & 4	COMMUNITY
Babbling Brook	11716 BABBLING BROOK DR	2018	8.541	Act	10	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Barksdale	9611 BARKSDALE DR	2009	20.802	Act	10	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Blue Bonnet Circle	3489 BLUEBONNET CIR	1949	1.250	Act	9	FWISD	4	URBAN
Bonnie Brae	3213 WESLEY ST	1957	3.700	Act	11	FWISD	4	POCKET
Botanic Garden	2000 UNIVERSITY DR	1892	116.560	Act	7	FWISD	4	SPECIAL USE
Bronzewood	415 BRONZEWOOD LN	2018	2.600	Act	10	EMSISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Buck Sansom	3600 SANSOM PARK DR	1927	131.600	Act	2	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Bunche	5600 RAMEY AVE	1954	10.090	Act	5	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Burk Burnett	501 W 7TH ST	1917	3.030	Act	9	FWISD	4	URBAN
C. P. Hadley	5301 WILDFLOWER WAY	2006	28.224	Act	6	CISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Calhoun	409 ANNIE ST	2019	0.380	Act	9	FWISD	4	URBAN



Park	Address	Year	Acres	Status	2023 CD	ISD	PPD	Park Classification (Based on 2015 master plan)
Calmont	8201 CALMONT AVE	2019	4.343	Res	3	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Camelot	1517 ANDANTE DR	1986	5.250	Act	8	CISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Camp Joy	9621 WATERCRESS DR	1918	8.230	Act	7	FWISD	2	NEIGHBORHOOD
Camp Worth	4896 BOB WILLS DR	2012	0.388	Act	10	KISD	5	URBAN
Candleridge	4301 FRENCH LAKE DR	1976	88.031	Act	6 and 9	FWISD	1	COMMUNITY
Capps	907 WEST BERRY	1910	4.410	Act	11	FWISD	4	POCKET
Carter	4351 CARTER PARK DR	1951	163.477	Act	8 and 9	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Casino Beach	7451 WATERCRESS DR	1918	44.000	Act	7	FWISD	2	COMMUNITY
Chadwick Farms	15700 CLEVELAND-GIBBS RD	2009	39.190	Act	10	NWISD	5	COMMUNITY
Chamberlin	4689 HALLORAN ST	1962	9.585	Act	6	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Chapel Hill	TBD	2019	68.167	Res	7	EMSISD	2	COMMUNITY
Chisholm Ridge	8425 LADINA PLACE	2007	31.290	Act	7	EMSISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Chisholm Trail (formerly Southwest Community Park )	4936 MCPHERSON BLVD	1998	84.213	Act	6	CISD	1	COMMUNITY
Chuck Silcox (formerly Trail Ridge Estates)	2809 WAKECREST DR	2009	20.810	Act	7	FWISD	2	NEIGHBORHOOD
Cibolo Hill	2513 ALGOMA ST	2021	15.210	Res	7	EMSISD	2	NEIGHBORHOOD
Ciquio Vasquez (formerly Echo Lake)	1000 ECHO LAKE DR	2017	41.326	Act	11	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Circle	600 PARK ST	1909	3.060	Act	2	FWISD	4	URBAN
City Hall Plaza	1000 THROCKMORTON	1975	2.500	Act	9	FWISD	4	URBAN
City View	7900 OAKMONT BLVD	1985	31.310	Res	3 and 6	FWISD/CISD	1	CONSERVANCY
Cobb	1600-3000 COBB DR	1923	224.764	Act	8	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Cobblestone Trail	7601 JOHN T. WHITE RD	1971	24.274	Act	5	FWISD	3	NEIGHBORHOOD
Como	4900 HORNE ST	1973	1.200	Act	6	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Coventry Hills	8500 WESTERN MEADOWS DR	2001	21.546	Res	4	KISD	5	GREENBELT



Park	Address	Year	Acres	Status	2023 CD	ISD	PPD	Park Classification (Based on 2015 master plan)
Crawford	330 CRAWFORD ST	2019	0.305	Act	9	FWISD	4	URBAN
Crawford Farms	4224 WEXFORD DR	2004	6.997	Act	10	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Creeside	3100 RODDY DR	1988	16.230	Act	6	CISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Creekwood	8113 ASH MEADOW DR	2018	30.706	Act	7	EMSISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Crestwood	3701 ROCKWOOD PARK DR	1982	2.000	Act	7	FWISD	4	POCKET
Crossing at Fossil Creek	6000 MARK IV PKWY	2000	4.023	Act	2	EMSISD	5	POCKET
Cypress Lake	9700 CYPRESS LAKE DR	2022	9.849	Act	6	CISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Dabney	7501 WHIRLWIND DR	1985	3.448	Act	6	FWISD	1	POCKET
Daggett	2312 COLLEGE AVE	1980	3.400	Act	9	FWISD	4	POCKET
Deer Creek	11800 HEMPHILL ST	1987	11.990	Act	6 and 8	CISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Deer Meadow	11600 S. OAK GROVE RD	2012	8.503	Res	8	BISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Delga	1001 NIXON ST	1968	4.060	Act	11	FWISD	4	POCKET
Diamond Hill	3709 WEBER ST	1968	9.880	Act	2	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Diamond Hill H.S.	1411 MAYDELL ST	1982	0.100	Act	2	FWISD	4	URBAN
Dorado	415 BAVERTON LN	2009	14.269	Act	10	NWISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Eagle Mountain Ranch	7200 BUNK HOUSE DR	2000	4.318	Act	7	EMSISD	2	POCKET
Eastbrook	2728 ESCALANTE AVE	1979	3.200	Act	5	FWISD	3	POCKET
Eastern Hills	5900 YOSEMITE DR	1981	3.000	Act	11	FWISD	4	POCKET
Eastgate	729 RIVER HILL LN	2015	0.959	Act	7	CSTLBRY	4	URBAN
Eastover	4300 RAMEY AVE	1947	13.500	Act	5	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Ed K. Collett	4800 WEST VICKERY BLVD	1960	7.690	Act	3	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Ederville	1455 NOTTINGHAM BLVD	1974	0.910	Act	5	FWISD	3	URBAN
Edgewood	4501 E BERRY ST	2017	1.889	Res	5	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Ellis	3400 S. RIVERSIDE DR	1971	10.510	Act	8	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Elm Street	400 ELM ST	2002	0.277	Act	9	FWISD	4	URBAN



Park	Address	Year	Acres	Status	2023 CD	ISD	PPD	Park Classification (Based on 2015 master plan)
Englewood	3200 HANGER AVE	1973	1.060	Act	11	FWISD	4	POCKET
Eugene McCray Community Center Park	4932 WILBARGER ST	2000	3.000	Act	5	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Eugene McCray Park at Lake Arlington	3449 QUAIL RD	1986	10.130	Act	5	FWISD	3	NEIGHBORHOOD
Fairfax	4000 EAST FAIRFAX AVE	1968	4.000	Act	11	FWISD	4	POCKET
Fairmount	1501 5TH AVE	1990	0.680	Act	9	FWISD	4	URBAN
Falcon Ridge	498 BROADLEAF DR	2006	6.470	Act	7	WSISD	2	NEIGHBORHOOD
Far Northside	2950 ROOSEVELT AVE	1976	3.220	Act	2	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Federal Plaza	1000 THROCKMORTON ST	1984	0.600	Act	9	FWISD	4	URBAN
Fire Station Community Center	1601 LIPSCOMB ST	1975	3.050	Act	9	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
First Flight	2700 MERCEDES AVE	2013	0.614	Act	9	FWISD	4	URBAN
Forest Park	1500-2000 COLONIAL PKWY	1910	120.878	Act	3 and 9	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge	9601 FOSSIL RIDGE RD	1918	3,663.468	Act	7	FWISD	2	CONSERVANCY
Fort Worth Zoo	1500-2000 COLONIAL PKWY	1910	58.532	Act	9	FWISD	4	SPECIAL USE
Foster	3725 SOUTH DR	1952	11.920	Act	3	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Fox Run	8777 FOX MEADOW WAY	1998	9.789	Act	6	CISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Freemons	9850 HERON DR	1918	17.392	Act	7	WSISD	2	NEIGHBORHOOD
Friendship	9550 CHUPAROSA DR	2015	5.533	Act	4	NWISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Gateway	751 BEACH ST	1979	791.515	Act	11	FWISD	4	METROPOLITAN
General Worth Square	916 MAIN ST	1980	1.530	Act	9	FWISD	4	URBAN
George Markos	400 ACADEMY BLVD	1973	29.690	Act	7	WSISD	2	NEIGHBORHOOD
Gid Hooper	814 S. RETTA ST	1976	2.582	Act	11	FWISD	4	POCKET
Glenwood	900 S. RIVERSIDE DR	1927	36.918	Act	8	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Goat Island	8298 MALAGA DR	1918	6.000	Act	7	FWISD	2	CONSERVANCY
Goodman	5413 GOODMAN AVE	1967	0.142	Act	6	FWISD	4	URBAN



Park	Address	Year	Acres	Status	2023 CD	ISD	PPD	Park Classification (Based on 2015 master plan)
Greenbriar	5200 HEMPHILL ST	1973	49.122	Act	9	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Greenway	2013 EAST BELKNAP ST	1926	12.960	Act	11	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Greer Island	7700 SHORELINE RD	1918	20.000	Act	7	FWISD	2	CONSERVANCY
Hallmark	820 SYCAMORE SCHOOL RD	1963	25.353	Act	8	EISD	1	COMMUNITY
Hall-Tandy Triangle	2901 E. ROSEDALE ST.	1900	0.320	Act	8	FWISD	4	URBAN
Handley	6201 BEATY ST	1948	15.450	Act	5	FWISD	3	COMMUNITY
Harmon Field	1501 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. FRWY	1952	97.500	Act	8	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Harriet Creek Ranch	16215 COWBOY TRAIL	2005	32.168	Act	10	NWISD	5	COMMUNITY
Harrold	1502 SUMMIT AVE	1950	2.300	Act	9	FWISD	4	POCKET
Harvest Ridge	13025 HARVEST RIDGE RD	2005	6.379	Act	10	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Harvey Street	1413 HARVEY ST	1978	0.940	Act	8	FWISD	4	URBAN
Haynes Memorial Triangle	1701 MAIN ST	1893	0.100	Act	9	FWISD	4	URBAN
Heritage	300 N. MAIN/600 CONGRESS ST	1975	112.808	Act	2 and 9	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Heritage Addition	3600 BLK HERITAGE TRACE PKWY	2001	36.790	Act	4	KISD	5	COMMUNITY
Heritage Glen	4400 HERITAGE GLEN DR	2005	28.842	Act	4	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
High Crest	2515 BRUCE ST	2006	0.744	Act	11	FWISD	4	URBAN
Highland Hills	1600 GLASGOW RD	1968	28.659	Act	8	EISD	1	COMMUNITY
Hillside	1201 E. MADDOX AVE	1911	24.298	Act	8	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Hulen Meadows	3600 BLUE SPRINGS DR	1986	23.040	Act	6	CISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Hyde	201 WEST 9TH ST	1873	0.010	Act	9	FWISD	4	URBAN
Island View	8401 WATERCRESS DR	1918	14.000	Act	7	FWISD	2	NEIGHBORHOOD



Park	Address	Year	Acres	Status	2023 CD	ISD	PPD	Park Classification (Based on 2015 master plan)
J.T. Hinkle	6521 SHADYDELL DR	2002	5.990	Act	7	EMSISD	2	GREENBELT
Jennings-May-St. Louis	3041 SOUTH JENNINGS AVE	1997	0.850	Act	11	FWISD	4	URBAN
Junction	2250 PRESIDIO VISTA DR	2011	6.204	Act	4	NWISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Kellis	4651 SOUTHRIDGE TERR	1950	16.300	Act	9	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Kingsridge	5373 CAMROSE ST	2011	19.980	Res	4	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Kingsridge West	5001 GOLDEN TRIANGLE BLVD	2018	28.399	Res	4	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Kingswood	7505 TRAIL LAKE DR	2000	16.770	Act	6	FWISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Krauss Baker	3517 PARK LAKE DR	1977	18.600	Act	9	FWISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Kristi Jean Burbach	3529 FOSSIL PARK DR	1984	14.710	Act	4	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Lake Como	3401 LAKE COMO DR	1950	59.138	Act	3 and 6	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Lakepointe	6028 MOUNTAIN BLUFF DR	2022	8.642	Res	7	EMSISD	2	NEIGHBORHOOD
Lasater	1500 E HARMON RD	2004	25.133	Act	7	EMSISD	5	GREENBELT
Lebow	3255 SCHWARTZ AVE	2019	9.530	Res	2	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Lincoln	2922 LINCOLN AVE	1934	7.000	Act	2	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Lincolnshire	1425 HORNCastle ST	1985	15.381	Act	8	CISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Linwood-Jesse D. Sandoval (formerly Linwood )	301 WIMBERLY ST	1957	4.000	Act	9	FWISD	4	POCKET
Little People	3431 WALTON AVE	1978	2.900	Act	9	FWISD	1	POCKET
Littlejohn	4125 LITTLEJOHN AVE	1972	0.830	Act	11	FWISD	4	URBAN
Live Oak	2300 SILVER CREEK RD	1918	7.850	Res	7	FWISD	2	NEIGHBORHOOD
Log Cabin Village	1500-2000 COLONIAL PKWY	1910	2.500	Act	3	FWISD	4	SPECIAL USE
Lost Creek Ranch	13861 LOST SPURS RD	2007	4.195	Act	10	NWISD	5	POCKET
Lost Spurs	3520 ALTA VISTA RD	2000	9.959	Act	10	NWISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Louella Bales Baker	3101 E 1ST ST	1998	0.956	Act	11	FWISD	4	URBAN



Park	Address	Year	Acres	Status	2023 CD	ISD	PPD	Park Classification (Based on 2015 master plan)
Love Circle	7400 JACKSBORO HWY	1918	50.000	Act	7	FWISD	2	NEIGHBORHOOD
Maddox	2414 GOULD AVE	1905	0.960	Act	2	FWISD	4	URBAN
Malaga	7500 MALAGA DR	1918	2.000	Act	7	FWISD	2	POCKET
Mallard Cove	375 SHADOW GRASS AVE	2003	103.924	Act	5	FWISD	3	COMMUNITY
Marie F. Pate	3751 SOUTH EDGEWOOD TERR	1968	5.000	Act	11	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Marina	4033 MARINA DR	1918	5.000	Act	7	FWISD	2	NEIGHBORHOOD
Marine	303 NW 20TH ST	1894	12.000	Act	2	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Marine Creek Lake	4700 HUFFINES BLVD	1984	69.970	Act	2	LWISD	2	COMMUNITY
Marine Creek Linear	3106 ANGLE AVE	1984	48.322	Act	2	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Marine Creek Linear North	3317 CHESTNUT AVE	1996	7.830	Act	2	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Marine Creek Ranch	5101 CROMWELL MARINE CREEK RD	2008	42.957	Res	2	EMSISD	2	COMMUNITY
Marion Sansom	2501 ROBERTS CUT-OFF RD	1933	264.000	Act	7	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Martin Luther King	5565 TRUMAN DR	1969	5.780	Act	5	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Mary and Marvin Leonard	6478 GENOA RD	1960	6.530	Act	3	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
McPherson	1229 McPHERSON RD	2016	12.441	Res	8	EISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
McPherson Ranch	3950 MARTINSBURG DR	2008	7.425	Act	10	NWISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Meadow Creek	2436 CAROLINA DR	2008	4.524	Act	8	CISD	1	POCKET
Meadowbrook Golf Course	1815 JENSON RD	1937	138.900	Act	11	FWISD	4	SPECIAL USE
Meadowood	2800 MEADOWBROOK DR	1935	1.750	Act	11	FWISD	4	POCKET
Meadows West	6400 BELLAIRE DR SOUTH	1984	17.240	Act	3	FWISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Mesa Verde	7220 MESA VERDE TRL	1993	0.300	Act	4	KISD	5	URBAN
Monticello	3505 DOROTHY LN NORTH	1928	4.240	Act	7	FWISD	4	POCKET
Morningside Middle School	2751 MISSISSIPPI AVE	1985	3.725	Act	8	FWISD	4	POCKET
Morris Berney	6312 ROSEMONT AVE	1926	4.500	Act	3	FWISD	4	POCKET



Park	Address	Year	Acres	Status	2023 CD	ISD	PPD	Park Classification (Based on 2015 master plan)
Mosier Valley	11220 MOSIER VALLEY RD	2015	5.092	Act	5	HEBISD	3	NEIGHBORHOOD
Mosque Point	8375 CAHOBA DR	1918	80.000	Act	7	FWISD	2	COMMUNITY
Newby	1105 JEROME ST	1951	2.750	Act	9	FWISD	4	POCKET
Ninnie Baird	8900 HAWLEY DR	2009	15.527	Act	4	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Normandy Place	3421 PANOLA AVE	1949	1.500	Act	11	FWISD	4	POCKET
North	9000 NORTH BEACH ST	1999	61.516	Act	4	KISD	5	COMMUNITY
North Z. Boaz	3200 LACKLAND RD	1928	138.300	Act	3	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Northside	1100 NW 18TH ST	1946	15.000	Act	2	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Northwest Community	8575 BLUE MOUND RD	2011	245.769	Act	7 and 10	EMSISD	5	COMMUNITY
Oak Grove	1749 OAK GROVE SHELBY RD	2015	67.390	Res	8	EISD	1	COMMUNITY
Oakhurst	2400 DAISY LN	1944	0.750	Act	11	FWISD	4	URBAN
Oakland Lake	1645 LAKE SHORE DR	1927	69.000	Act	11	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Oakmont	7000 BELLAIRE DR SOUTH	1981	127.170	Act	3	FWISD	1	COMMUNITY
Oakmont Linear	7785 BELLAIRE DR SOUTH	1979	34.880	Act	3	CISD	1	GREENBELT
Overton	3500 OVERTON PARK DR EAST	1959	48.680	Act	3	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Paddock	100 WEST BELKNAP ST	1917	0.800	Act	9	FWISD	4	URBAN
Park Place	7812 PARK TRAILS DR	1995	5.800	Act	4	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Parks of Deer Creek	10200 DEER TRL	2008	8.217	Act	8	CISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Parkwood East	7704 XAVIER DR	1985	0.180	Res	6	FWISD	1	URBAN
Parkwood Hills	7800 PARKWOOD HILL BLVD	1998	8.637	Act	4	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Parque Unidad/Unity Park (Formerly Jefferson Davis)	4001 TOWNSEND/2000 W. BOLT ST.	1923	8.577	Act	11	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Patricia LeBlanc	6300 GRANBURY CUT-OFF	1986	15.000	Act	6	CISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Paz Hernandez	3515 ELLIS AVE	1977	0.414	Act	2	FWISD	4	URBAN
Pecan Valley	6400 PECAN VALLEY DR	1962	190.142	Act	3	FWISD	1	COMMUNITY



Park	Address	Year	Acres	Status	2023 CD	ISD	PPD	Park Classification (Based on 2015 master plan)
Pecan Valley Golf Course	6400 PECAN VALLEY DR	1962	461.768	Act	3	FWISD	1	SPECIAL USE
Peter Smith	901 JENNINGS AVE	1903	0.100	Act	9	FWISD	4	URBAN
Plover Circle	7251 CAHOBA DR	1918	4.000	Act	7	FWISD	4	POCKET
Ponderosa	11725 PONDEROSA PINE DR	2018	15.241	Act	10	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Post Oak Village	3830 POST OAK BLVD	1981	6.000	Act	5	HEBISD	3	NEIGHBORHOOD
Prairie Dog	5060 PARKER HENDERSON RD	1970	39.560	Act	11	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Quail Ridge	7451 DUTCH BRANCH RD	1986	7.330	Act	6	CISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Quanah Parker	5401 RANDOL MILL RD	1997	68.000	Act	11	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Ranches East	3801 LAZY RIVER RANCH RD	2007	18.524	Act	10	NWISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Reata	9489 SILLS WAY	2010	8.116	Act	4	NWISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Reby Cary	3851 EAST LANCASTER AVE	2021	0.413	Act	11	FWISD	4	URBAN
Remington Pointe	6050 WESTERN PASS	1999	10.564	Act	2	EMSISD	2	NEIGHBORHOOD
Ridgeview Farms	8628 PRAIRIE DAWN DR	2007	7.319	Act	10	EMSISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Ridglea Hills	4589 STONEDALE RD	1983	6.100	Act	3	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
River Park	3100 BRYANT IRVIN RD	1984	11.630	Act	3	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
River Trails III	8570 SAN JOAQUIN TRL	1998	4.456	Act	5	HEBISD	3	POCKET
Riverside	501 OAKHURST SCENIC DR	1974	30.800	Act	11	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Rock Creek Ranch	4850 HWY 1187	2021	297.071	Res	6	CISD	1	COMMUNITY
Rockwood	701 NORTH UNIVERSITY DR	1927	50.464	Act	2 and 7	FWISD, CSTLBRY	4	COMMUNITY
Rockwood Golf Course	701 NORTH UNIVERSITY DR	1927	229.487	Act	2	FWISD, CSTLBRY	4	SPECIAL USE
Rodeo	2605 NORTH HOUSTON ST	1971	5.461	Act	2	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Rolling Hills	2525 JOE B. RUSHING RD	1971	207.293	Act	8	FWISD	4	SPECIAL USE
Rosedale Plaza	5200 EAST ROSEDALE ST	1969	6.250	Act	5	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Rosemary Ridge	4350 RED CLOVER LN	2010	6.250	Act	6	CISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Rosemont	1400 WEST SEMINARY DR	1927	30.400	Act	11	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY



Park	Address	Year	Acres	Status	2023 CD	ISD	PPD	Park Classification (Based on 2015 master plan)
Rosen	2200 MCCANDLESS ST	1971	8.804	Act	2	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Rosenthal	5200 HASTINGS DR	1979	1.530	Act	9	FWISD	1	POCKET
Ryan Place Triangle	3001 FIFTH AVE	1974	0.270	Act	9	FWISD	4	URBAN
Sagamore Hills	4719 HAMPSHIRE BLVD	1968	4.150	Act	11	FWISD	4	POCKET
Sandy Lane	2001 SANDY LN	1967	28.700	Act	5	FWISD	3	NEIGHBORHOOD
Sandybrook	7049 GREENVIEW CIRCLE NORTH	1984	2.920	Act	5	FWISD	3	POCKET
Saratoga	12633 SARATOGA SPRINGS CIR	2014	21.115	Act	10	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Saunders	2401 MULE ALLEY	1977	0.480	Act	2	FWISD	4	GREENBELT
Seminary Hills	5101 TOWNSEND DR	1968	6.180	Act	9	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Sendera Ranch	14151 SENDERA RANCH BLVD	2017	33.958	Act	10	NWISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Settlement Plaza	9745 FRANCESCA DR	2000	10.400	Act	7	WSISD	2	NEIGHBORHOOD
Shackleford	4615 SHACKLEFORD ST	1984	11.974	Act	11	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Silver Sage	7017 SILVER SAGE DR	1982	10.460	Act	4	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Sinclair	9899 SINCLAIR ST	2009	16.483	Act	10	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Smith-Wilemon	925 WILLOW RIDGE RD	1998	3.227	Act	5	FWISD	4	POCKET
South Meadows	2300 KELTON ST	1998	3.590	Act	6	CISD	1	POCKET
Southcreek	6746 WESTCREEK DR	1983	6.300	Act	6	FWISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Southridge	3601 BILOXI DR	1988	2.046	Res	6	FWISD	1	CONSERVANCY
Southside Community Center Park	959 EAST ROSEDALE ST	1993	2.000	Act	8	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Southwest	4320 ALTAMESA BLVD	1969	1.800	Act	9	FWISD	1	COMMUNITY
Springdale	2301 DAVID DR	1958	4.000	Act	11	FWISD	4	POCKET
Stephens	2701 WEST GAMBRELL ST	1984	4.000	Act	9	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Stonecreek	12801 SWEET BAY DR	2002	10.205	Act	5	HEBISD	3	NEIGHBORHOOD
Stratford	2220 CHELSEA RD	1924	15.000	Act	11	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD



Park	Address	Year	Acres	Status	2023 CD	ISD	PPD	Park Classification (Based on 2015 master plan)
Stratford Nature Area	3520 EAST FRWY	1924	35.000	Act	11	FWISD	4	CONSERVANCY
Summer Creek Ranch	8501 BENTWATER LN	2000	6.227	Act	6	CISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Summerbrook	4315 HUCKLEBERRY DR	1985	27.270	Act	4	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Summerfields	6720 SPOONWOOD LN	1978	9.400	Act	4	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Summerfields Chisholm	3970 MALIBU SUN DR	1995	4.540	Act	4	KISD	5	POCKET
Summerfields Northwest	7755 BUTTONWWOD DR	1985	4.990	Act	4	KISD	5	POCKET
Sundance Springs	7791 HAWKWOOD TR	2008	5.385	Act	8	CISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Sunset	8855 WATERCRESS DR	1918	10.000	Act	7	FWISD	2	NEIGHBORHOOD
Sunset Hills	7017 ELLIS RD	1960	7.540	Act	5	FWISD	3	NEIGHBORHOOD
Sunset Hills North	3600 SUNSET HILLS DR	2004	6.730	Act	10	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Sycamore	2525 EAST ROSEDALE ST	1909	154.237	Act	8	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Sylvania	3700 EAST BELKNAP ST	1926	29.220	Act	11	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Tadlock	4665 EASTLINE DR	1959	4.500	Act	8	FWISD	4	POCKET
Tandy Hills	3325 VIEW ST	1960	15.000	Act	11	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Tandy Hills Nature Area	3325 VIEW ST	1960	90.250	Act	11	FWISD	4	CONSERVANCY
Tehama Ridge	2137 RAVENS NEST DR	2011	3.181	Act	4	NWISD	5	POCKET
Tehama Trails	9906 BUTTE MEADOWS DR	2011	22.841	Act	4	NWISD	5	GREENBELT
Terry	3104 NORTH TERRY ST	1970	0.430	Act	2	FWISD	4	URBAN
Thomas Place	4201 LAFAYETTE AVE	1970	2.760	Act	7	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Thorny Ridge	9036 NORTH NORMANDALE ST	1982	3.760	Act	3	FWISD	4	POCKET
Tim Watson	8851 S. NORMANDALE ST	2016	7.910	Res	3	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Timberland	4400 KELLER HASLET RD	2018	2.701	Res	10	KISD	5	POCKET
Titus Paulsel	2000 BRINKLEY ST	1994	10.000	Act	8	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD



Park	Address	Year	Acres	Status	2023 CD	ISD	PPD	Park Classification (Based on 2015 master plan)
Traders Oak	1206 SAMUELS AVE	1953	3.277	Act	9	FWISD	4	POCKET
Trail Drivers	1700 NE 28TH ST	1928	39.610	Act	2	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Trail Lake Estates	7160 TRAIL LAKE DR	2001	4.575	Res	6	FWISD	1	POCKET
Trails of Fossil Creek	10451 FOSSIL HOLLOW DR	2011	10.257	Act	10	NWISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Trinity	2401 UNIVERSITY DR	1892	252.000	Act	9	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Trinity Bluff	557 SAMUELS AVE	2009	1.839	Res	9	FWISD	4	CONSERVANCY
Twin Mills	5100-5101 WILD OATS DR	2006	10.926	Act	7	EMSISD	2	NEIGHBORHOOD
Veterans Memorial	4120 CAMP BOWIE BLVD	1923	0.510	Act	7	FWISD	4	SPECIAL USE
Victory Forest: South Central Community Center	1000 W BIDDISON ST	2010	11.069	Act	9 and 11	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY
Village Creek	4750 WILBARGER ST	1959	24.310	Act	11	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Vinca Circle	7800 MALAGA DR	1918	5.188	Act	7	FWISD	2	NEIGHBORHOOD
Vinyards at Heritage	5280 ALTA LOMA DR	2001	44.147	Res	4	KISD	5	GREENBELT
Vista West	10510 VISTA HEIGHTS BLVD	2007	5.030	Act	7	WSISD	2	NEIGHBORHOOD
Walnut Creek	9847 MULLINS CROSSING/5244 CONCHO VALLEY	2009	5.592	Act	3	FWISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Water Gardens	1502 COMMERCE ST	1974	5.400	Act	9	FWISD	4	SPECIAL USE
Watts	700 MAY ST	2008	0.912	Act	9	FWISD	4	URBAN
Wedgwood	5309 WINIFRED DR	1955	6.660	Act	9	FWISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Wellington	1737 STOWERS TR	2022	3.140	Act	10	NWISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Wesleyan Hills	2608 STRONG AVE	2017	0.545	Res	8	FWISD	4	URBAN
West Fork Ranch	2350 ANGONI WAY	2014	4.769	Act	7	EMSISD	5	POCKET
West Park	8787 HERON DR	2001	212.200	Act	7	FWISD	2	COMMUNITY
Westcreek	6008 JENNIE DR	1971	17.000	Act	6	FWISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD



Park	Address	Year	Acres	Status	2023 CD	ISD	PPD	Park Classification (Based on 2015 master plan)
Western Hills	8850 CHAPIN RD	1965	17.890	Act	3	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Westhaven	4801 WESTHAVEN DR	2020	4.672	Act	6	CISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Westwind	2833 LAREDO DR	1981	2.100	Act	3	FWISD	4	POCKET
Whitfill	2701 GRAND GULF RD	2017	22.646	Act	6	CISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Wildwood	9849 WATERCRESS DR	1918	6.000	Act	7	FWISD	2	NEIGHBORHOOD
Wildwood North	9900 WATERCRESS DR	1918	124.559	Res	7	FWISD	2	COMMUNITY
Will Rogers Memorial Center Complex	3301 WEST LANCASTER AVE	1900	32.000	Act	7	FWISD	4	SPECIAL USE
William McDonald	5400 EASTLAND ST	1981	13.850	Act	11	FWISD	4	NEIGHBORHOOD
Willow Ridge	11590 MESA CROSSING DR	2008	5.313	Act	10	NWISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Willowcreek	1285 SYCAMORE SCHOOL RD	1984	8.680	Act	8	CISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Windswept Circle	6925 CAHOBA DR	1918	3.000	Act	7	FWISD	4	POCKET
Woodhaven	401 WOODHAVEN BLVD	2022	3.000	Res	5	FWISD	4	POCKET
Woodland Springs	11801 COPPER CREEK DR	2001	25.063	Act	10	KISD	5	NEIGHBORHOOD
Woodmont	2300 WOODMONT TRL	1982	15.000	Act	6	FWISD	1	NEIGHBORHOOD
Worth Heights	3812 SOUTH JONES ST	1968	0.580	Act	11	FWISD	4	URBAN
Worth Hills	3301 BENBROOK BLVD	1972	1.500	Act	9	FWISD	4	POCKET
Wright Tarlton	4725 BYERS AVE	1969	0.700	Act	7	FWISD	4	URBAN
Z. Boaz South	5250 OLD BENDBROOK RD	1928	134.380	Act	3	FWISD	4	COMMUNITY

Total Number of Parks

297

Total Acres

12,892.823



APPENDIX

E

## Survey Results

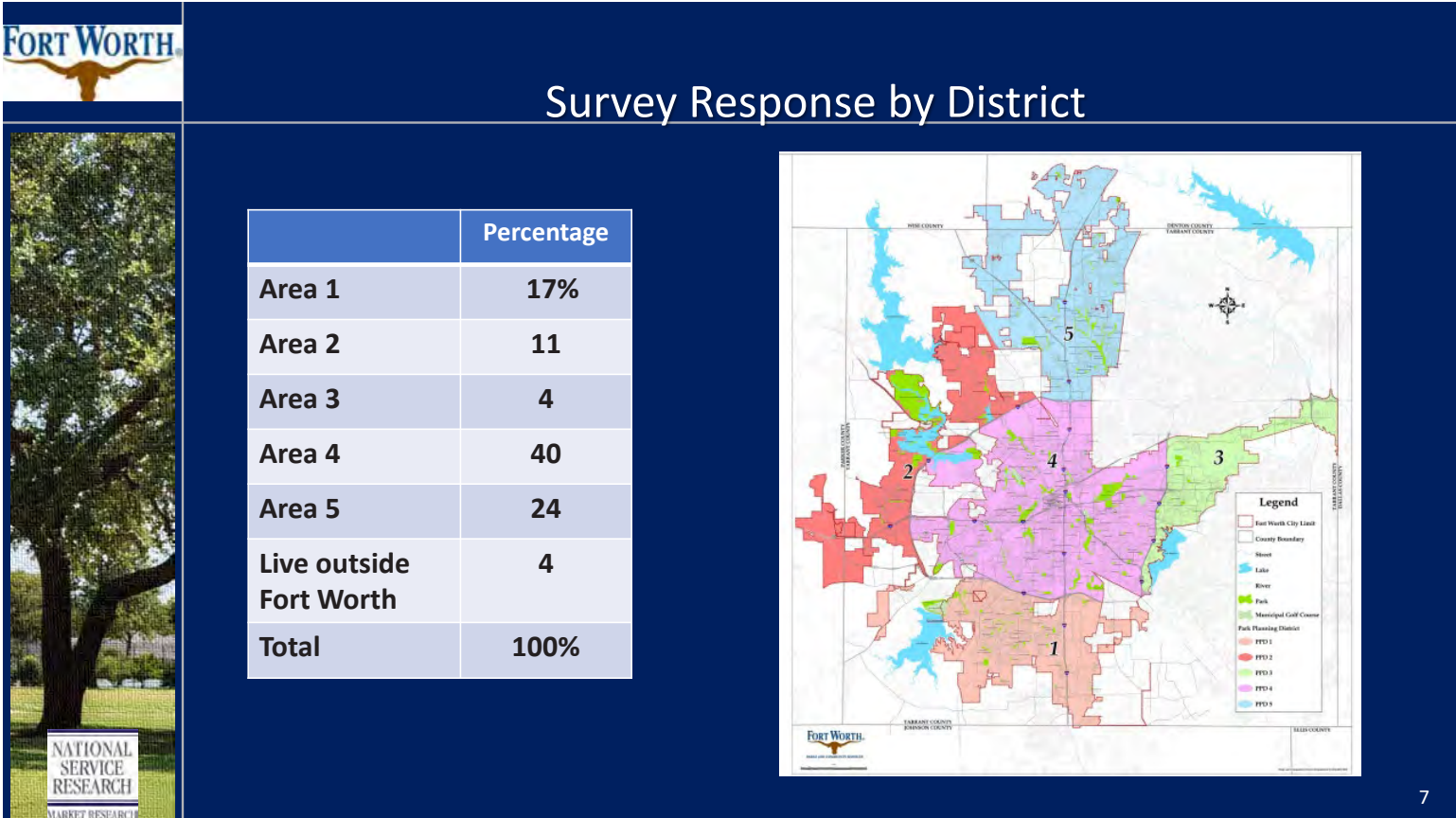




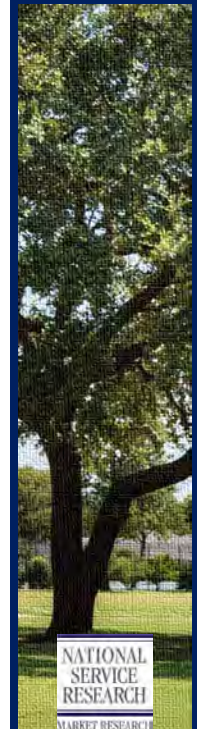
# Statistically Valid Survey Report

1,643  
Survey Responses

This appendix presents the full results of the statistically valid survey conducted as part of the community engagement process. The survey gathered representative input from residents to ensure that the master plan reflects the priorities and needs of Fort Worth's diverse population. Each survey question is broken down with detailed response data, key insights, and analysis to highlight trends, preferences, and areas of opportunity. The findings from this report directly informed the plan's recommendations, ensuring data-driven decision-making in shaping the future of Fort Worth's parks and public realm.

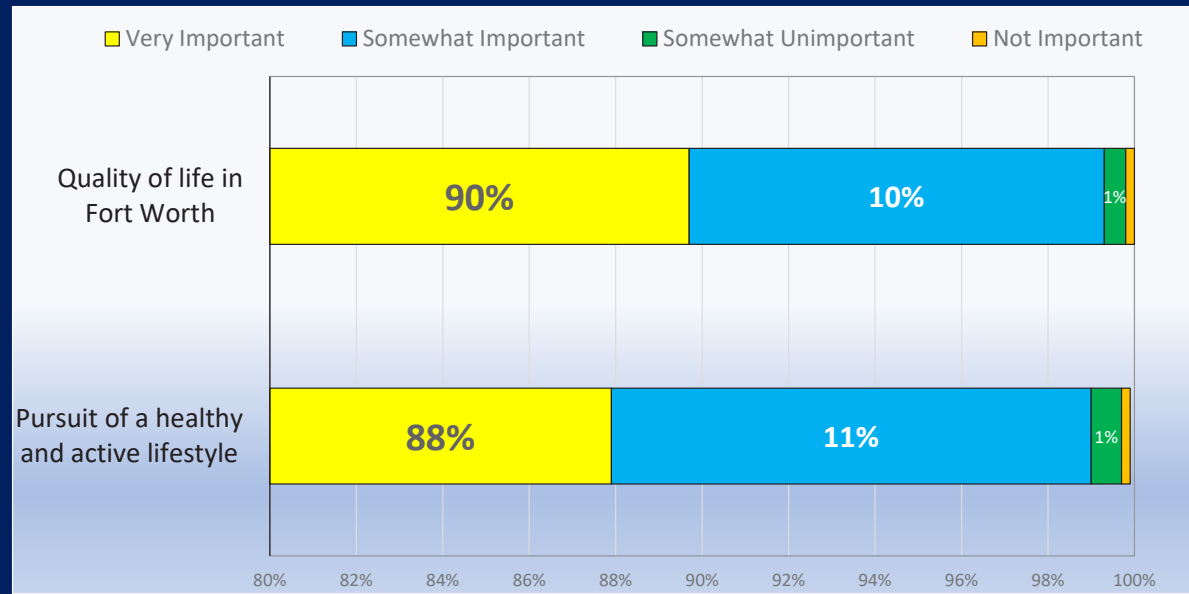






## Importance of quality parks, facilities and programs are to the overall:

Respondents feel quality parks, facilities and programs are very important to the overall quality of life in Fort Worth and the pursuit of a healthy and active lifestyle.

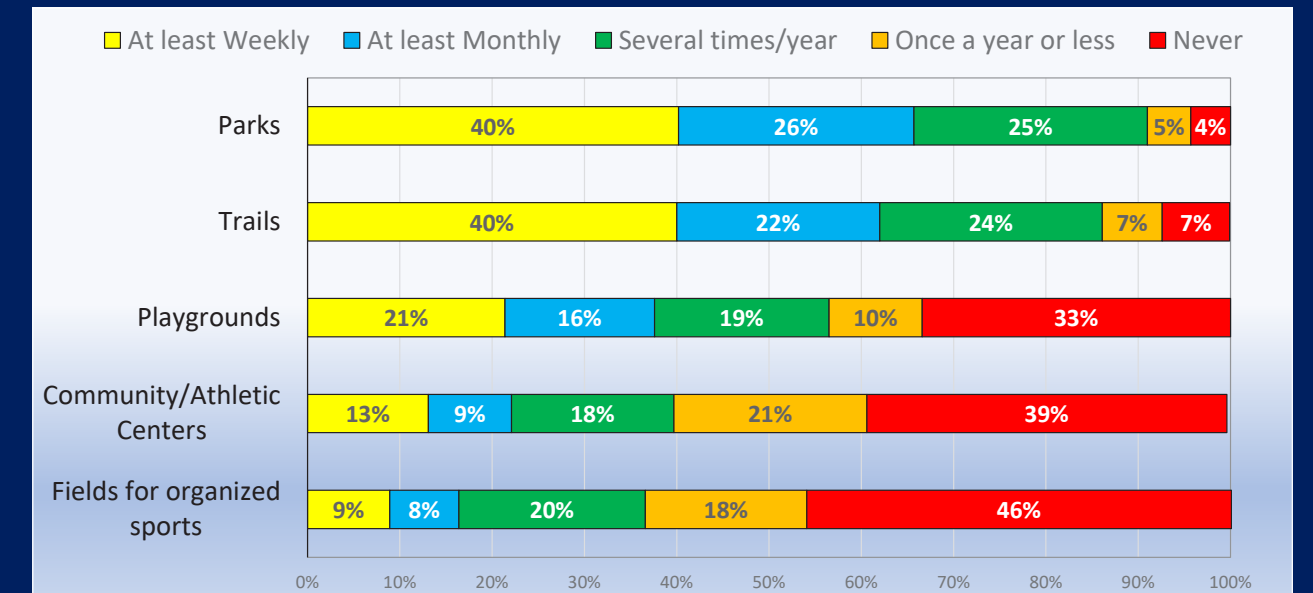


10

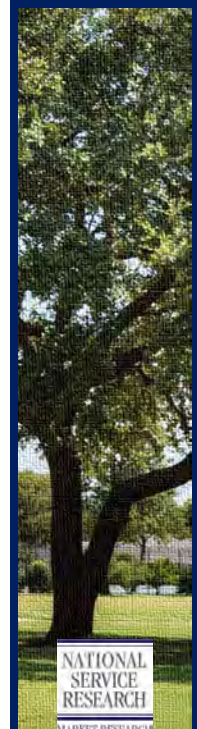


## Frequency of Use – City of Fort Worth Facilities

This chart depicts the most frequently used park facilities in Fort Worth.

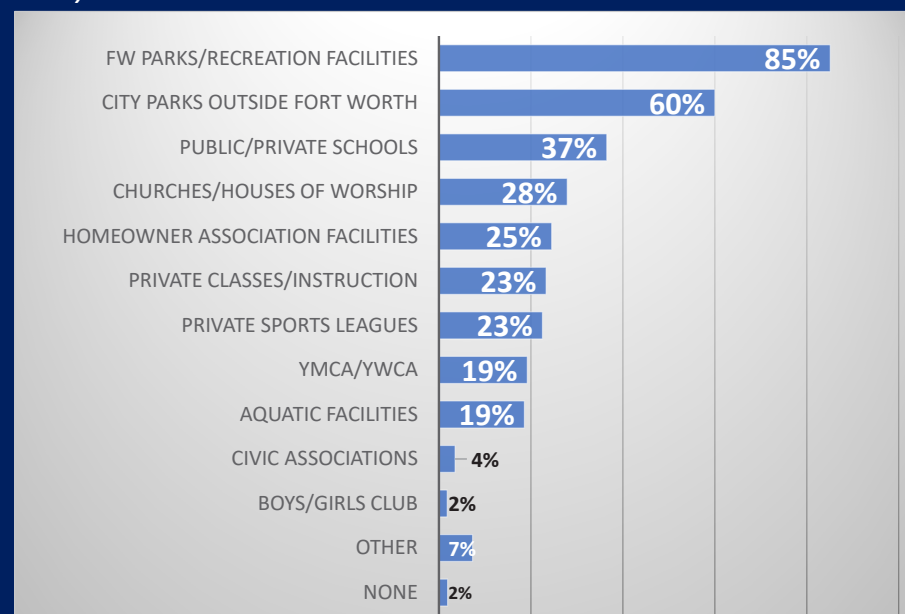


12



## Household Use of Facilities for Indoor and Outdoor Recreation

Respondent households use Fort Worth park facilities as well and other facilities inside and outside the city.

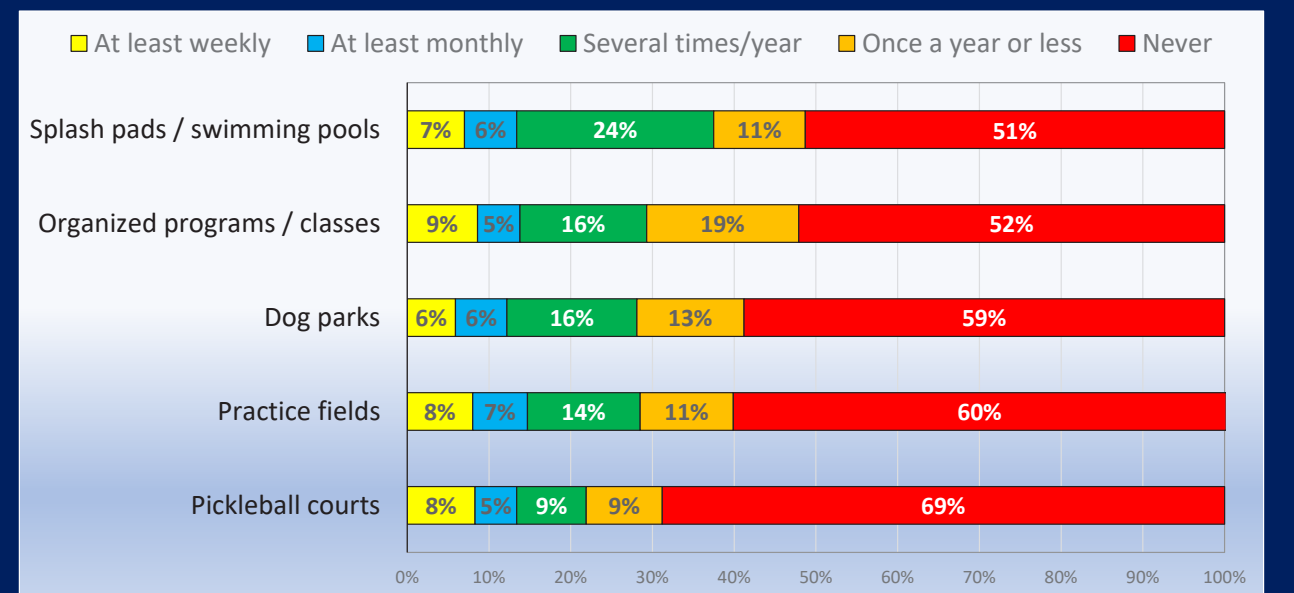


11



## Frequency of Use – City of Fort Worth Facilities (Continued)

This chart depicts facilities used by 31% to 49% of respondents.

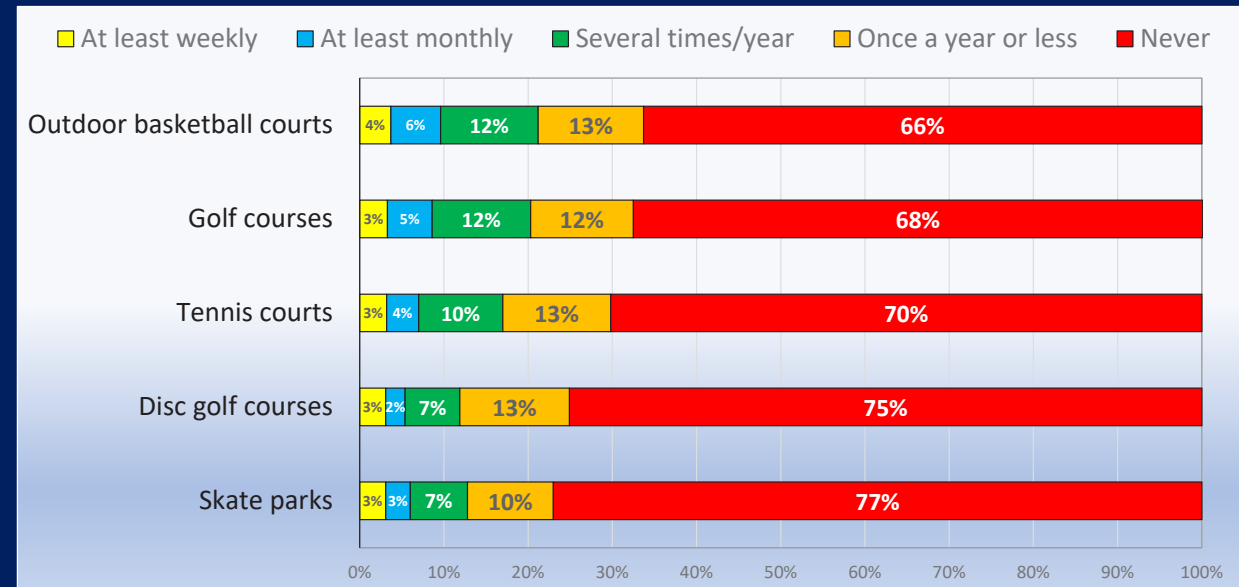


13



## Frequency of Use – City of Fort Worth Facilities (Continued)

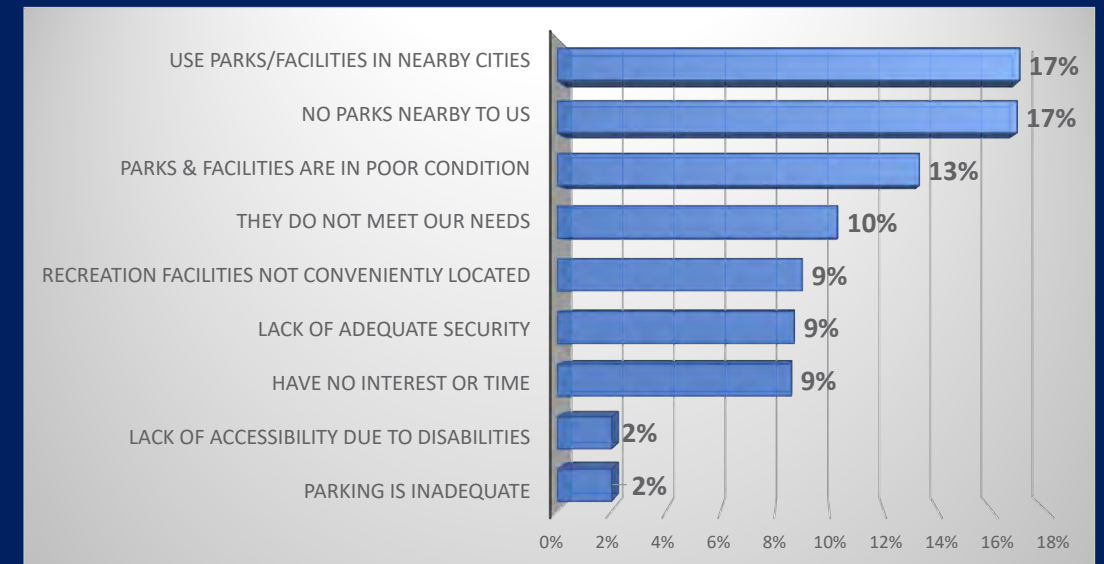
This chart depicts facilities that are used by 23% to 34% of respondents.



14

## If your household members do not use Fort Worth parks, facilities, programs or events, what are the primary reasons that prevent you from using them?

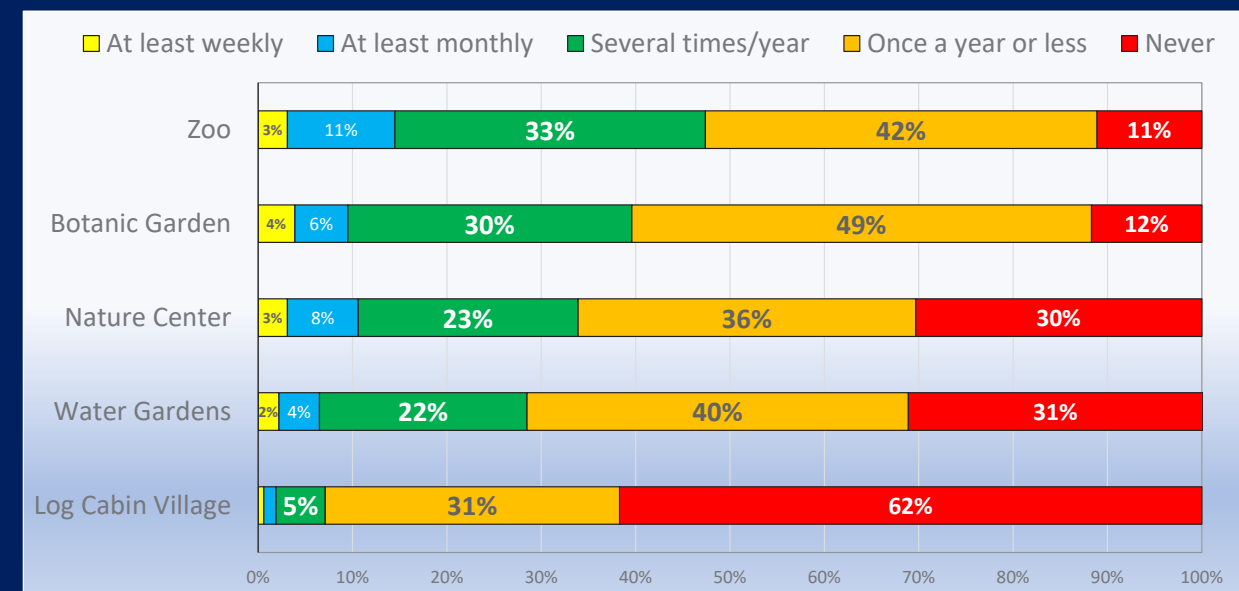
Primary reasons respondents do not use Fort Worth parks and facilities are; they are using parks/facilities in nearby cities and no parks nearby.



16

## Frequency of Use – City of Fort Worth Facilities (Continued)

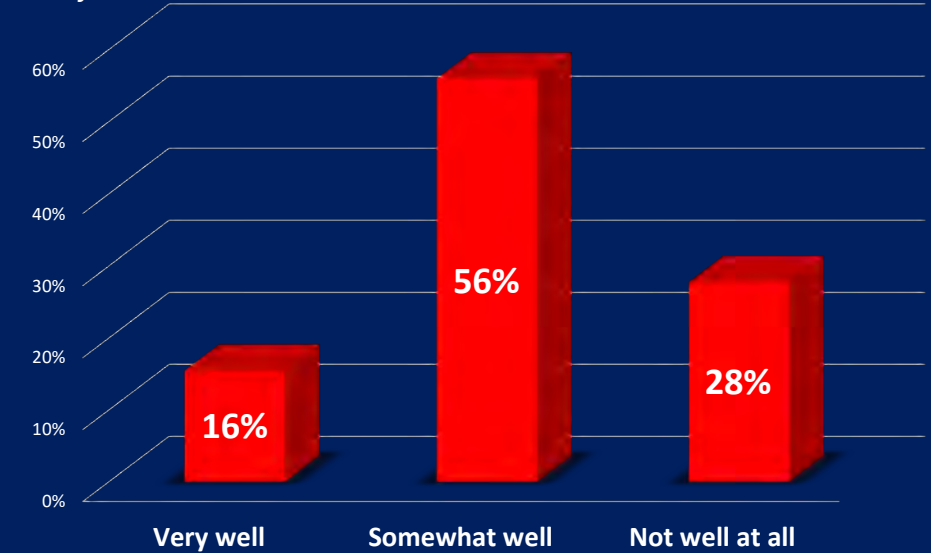
This chart depicts special use facilities that are used by 38% to 89% of respondents.



15

## How well does the Fort Worth Park and Recreation Department listen and respond to citizen suggestions and feedback?\*

72% of respondents reported the FWPARD does very or somewhat well at responding to citizen suggestions and feedback.

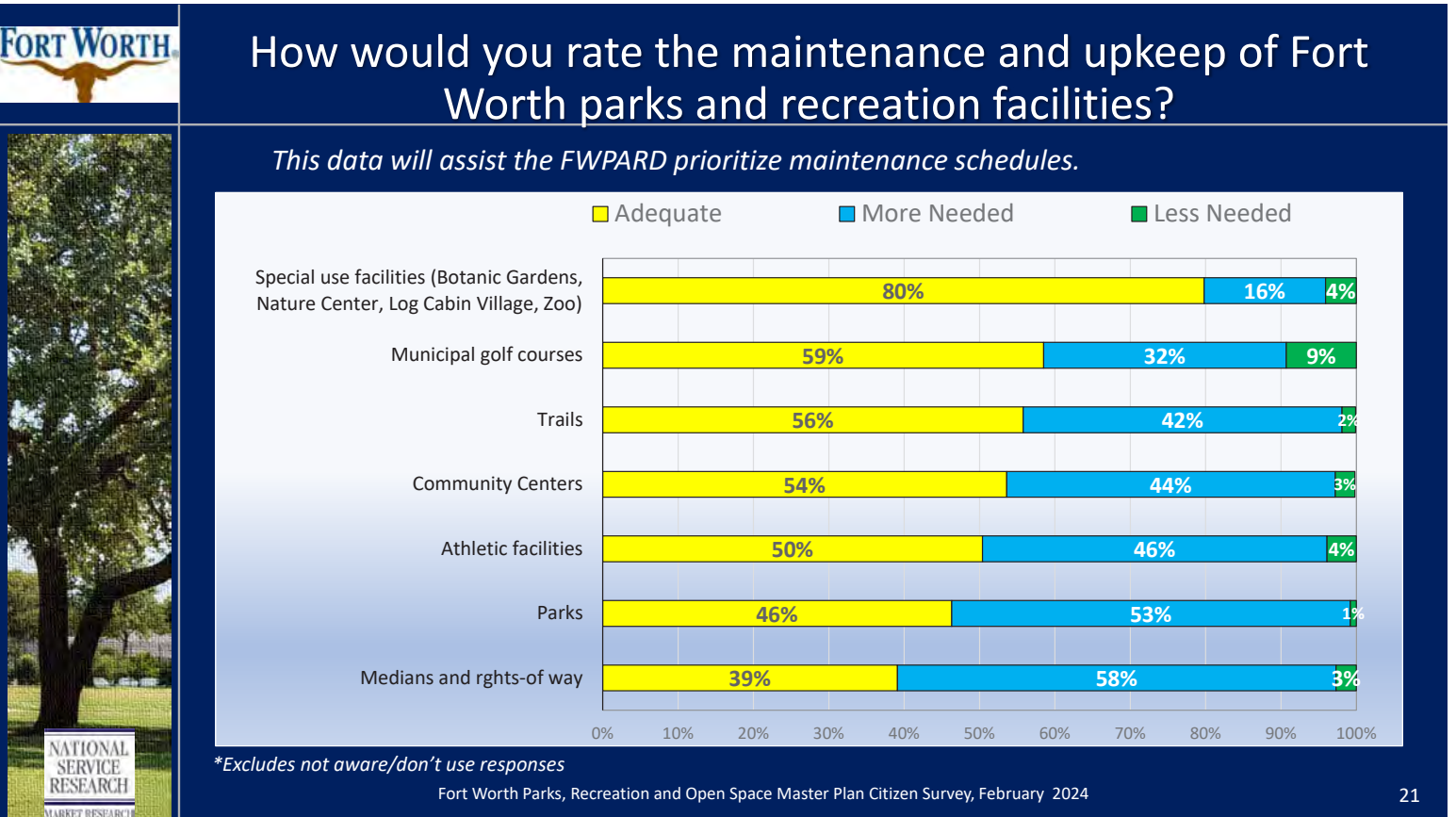
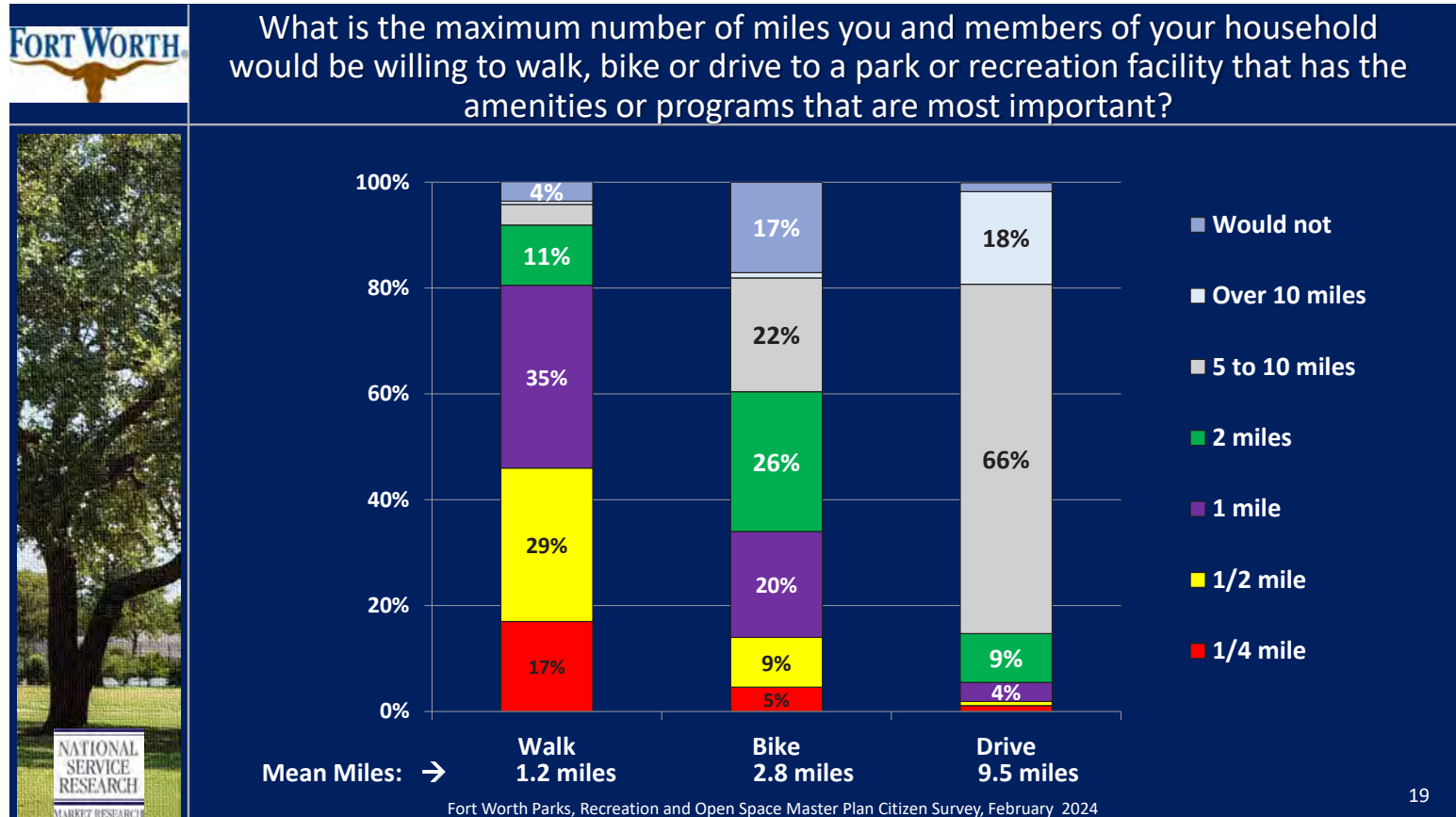
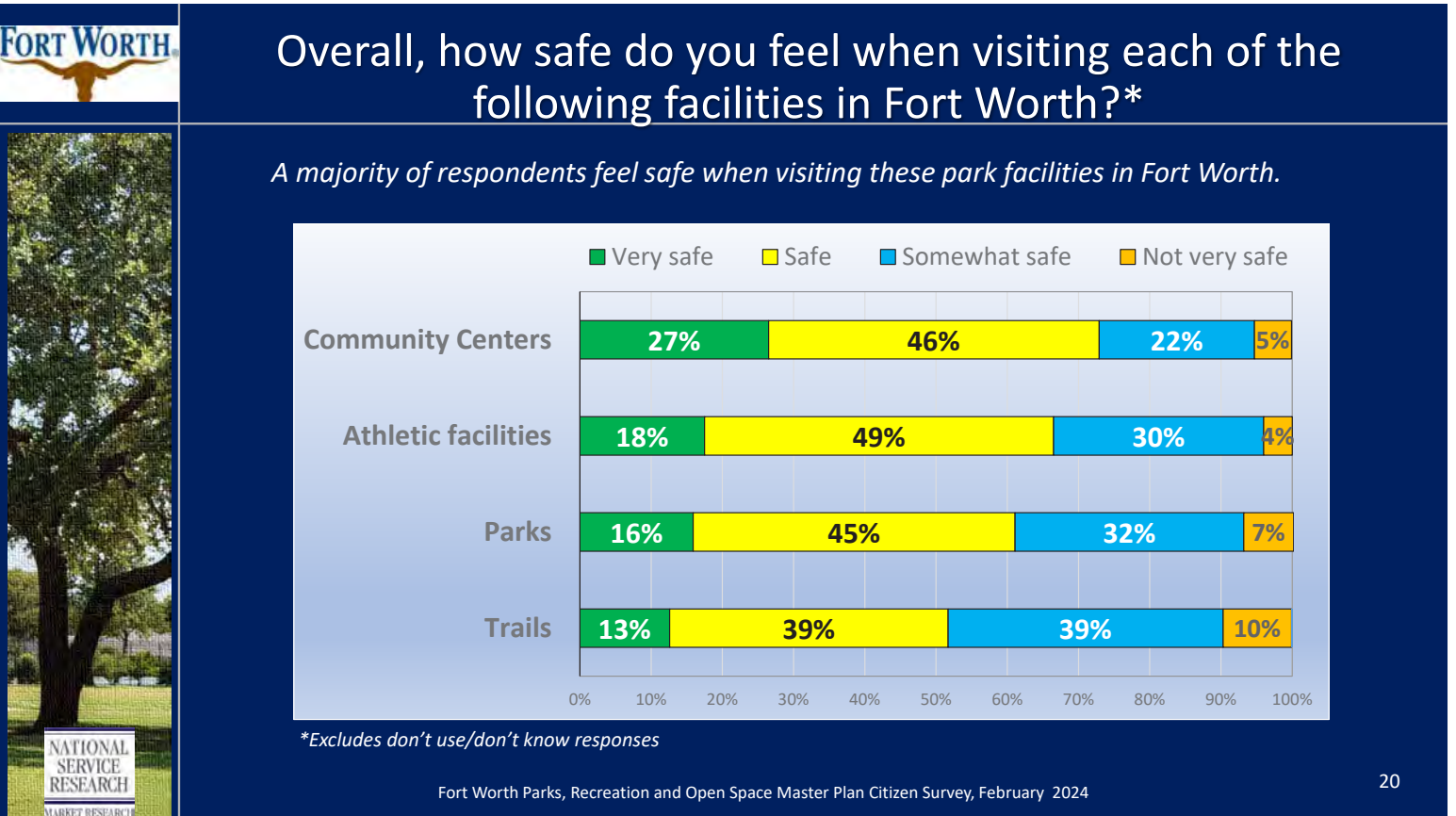
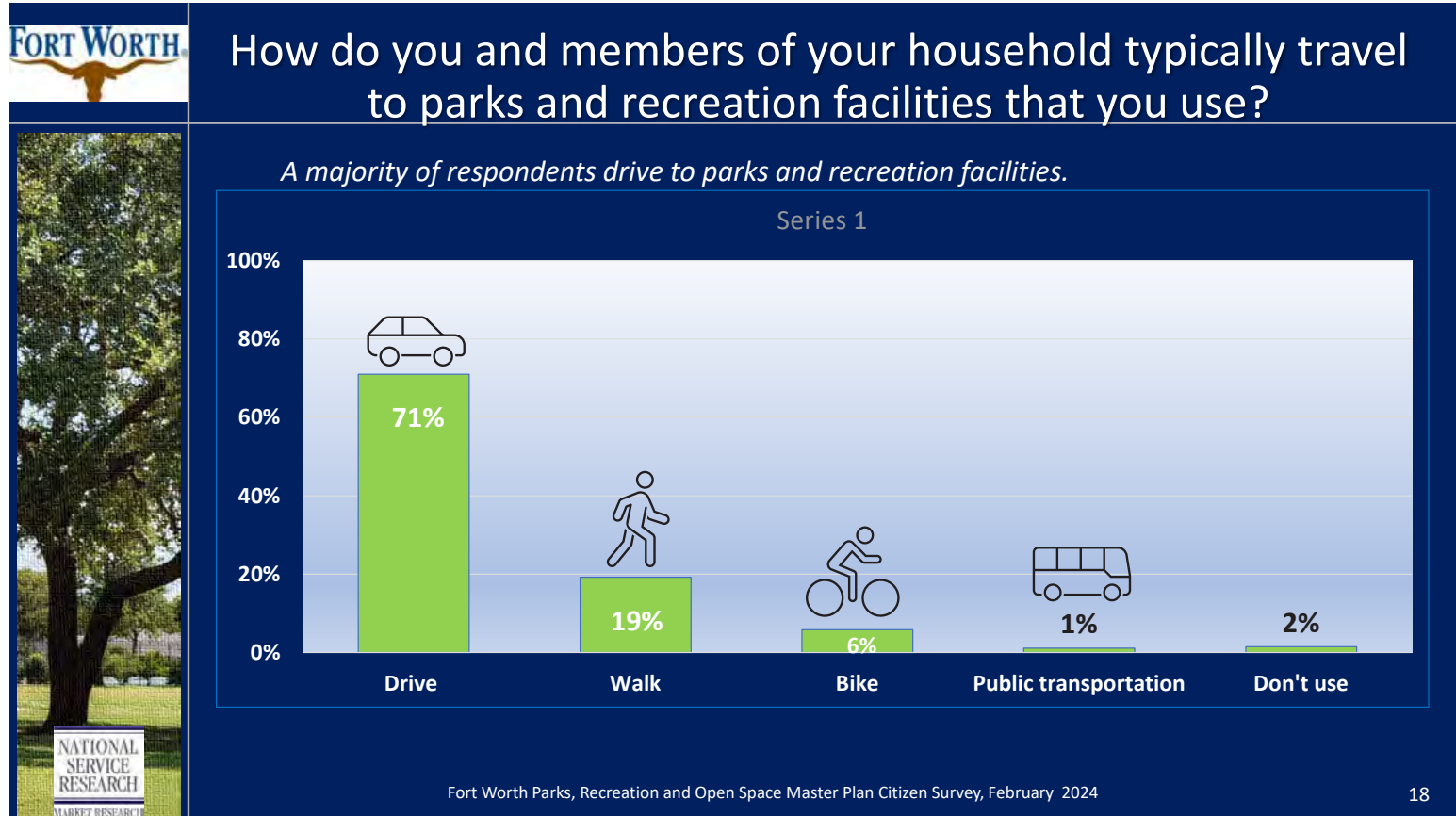


\*Excludes no opinion responses

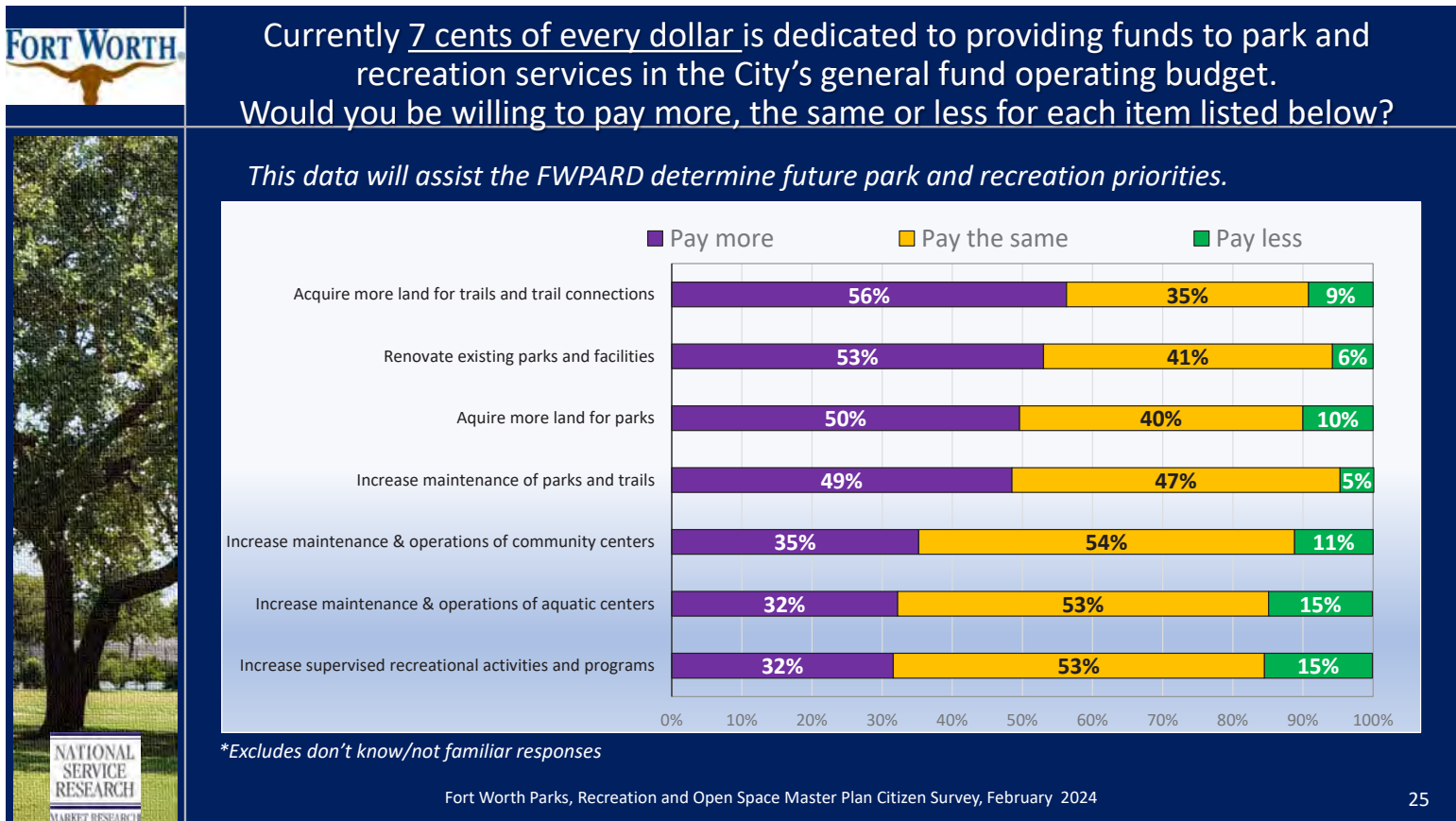
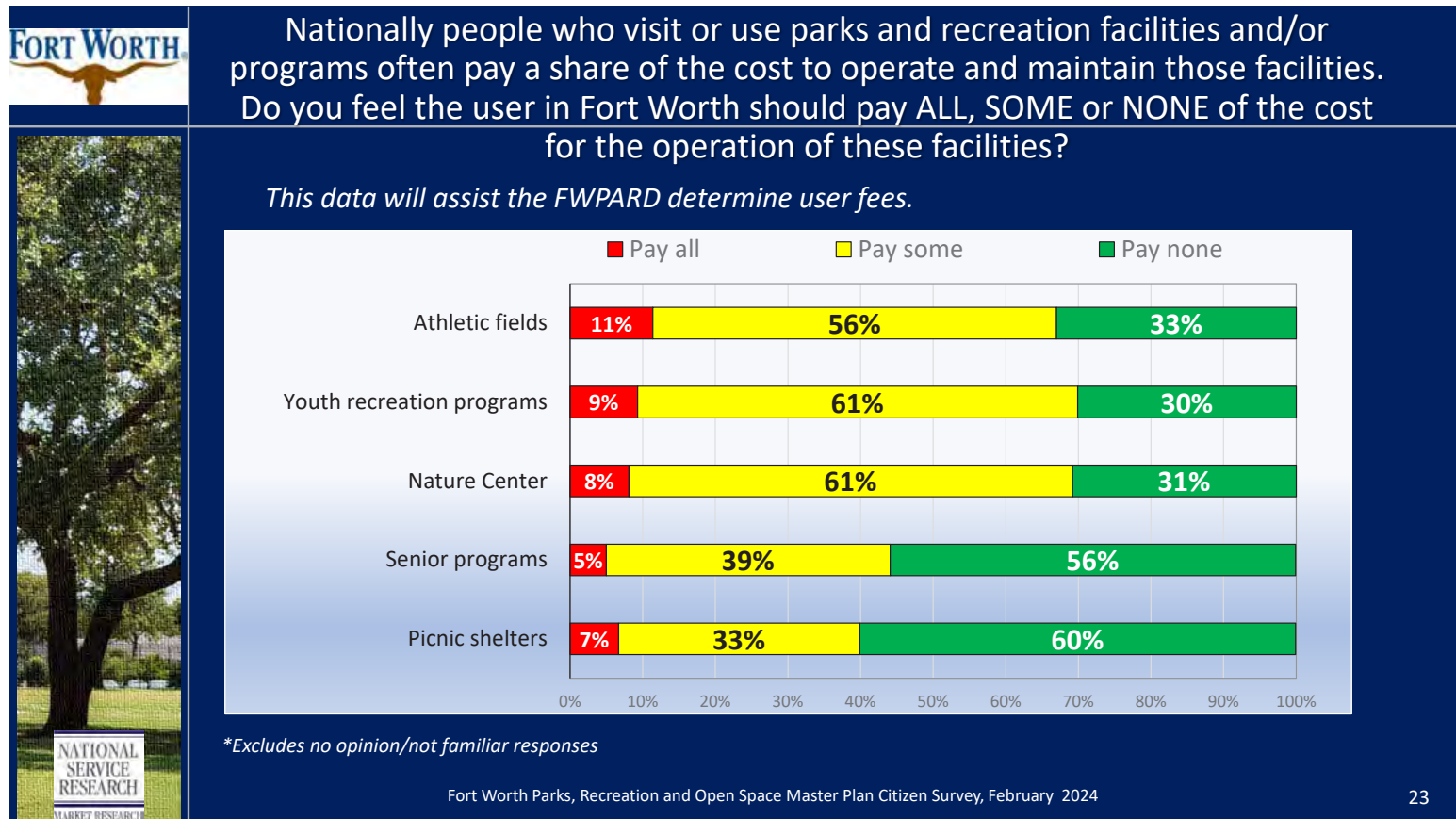
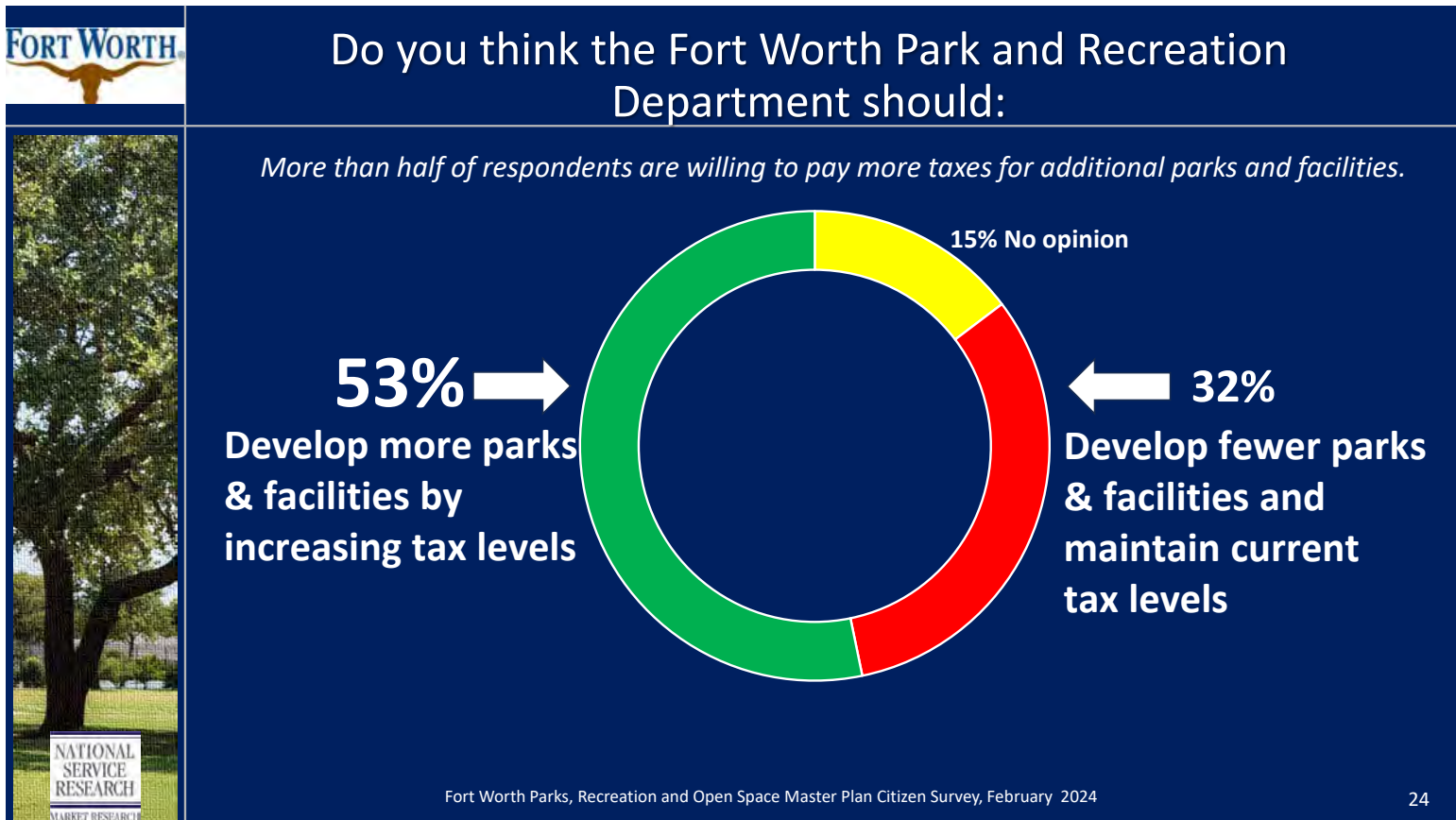
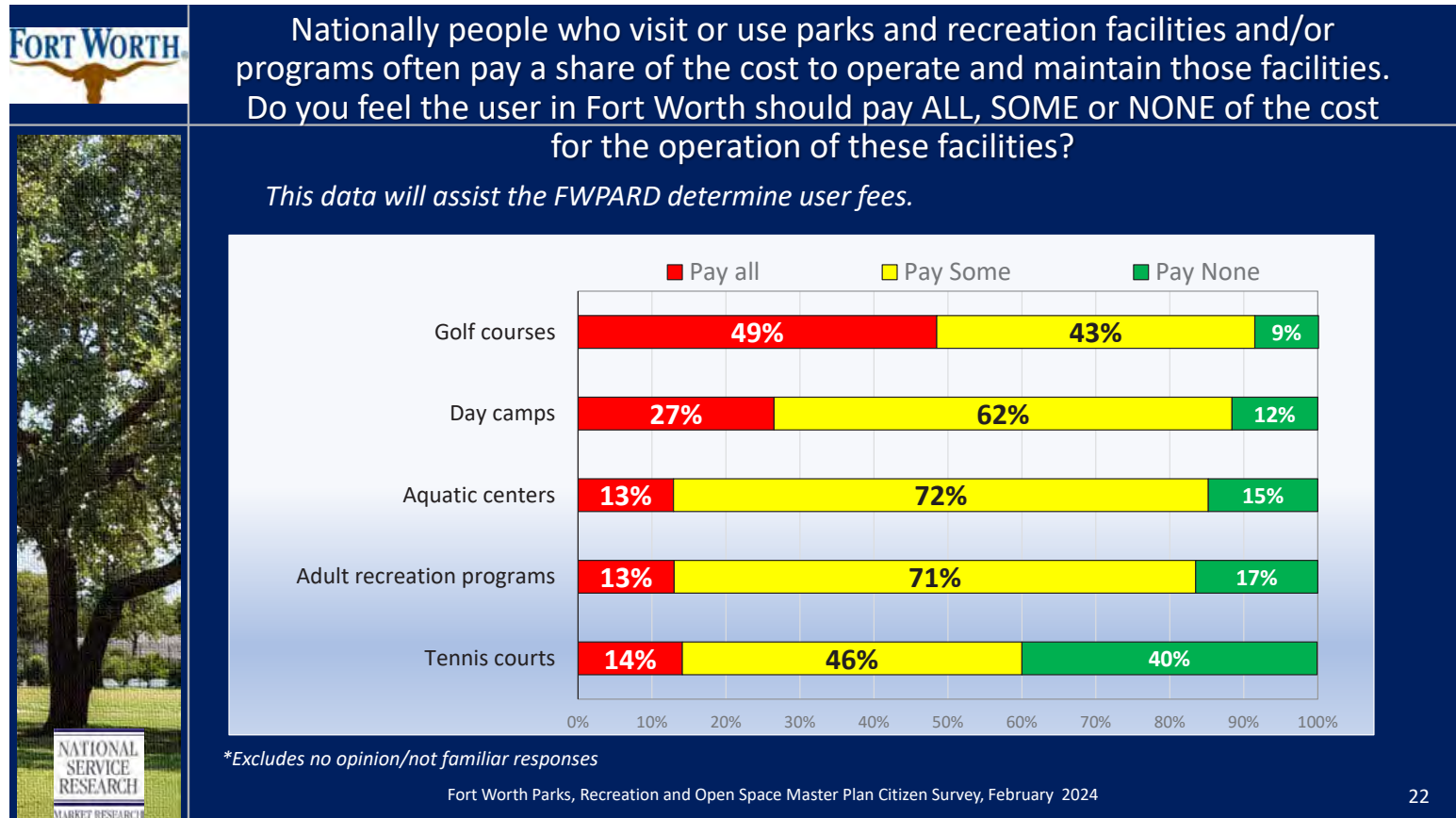
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17













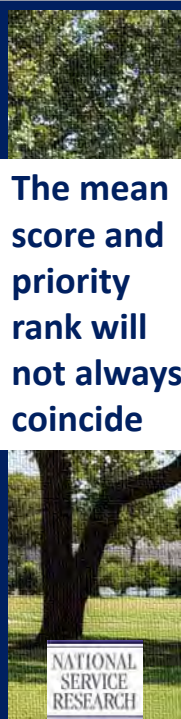

NATIONAL SERVICE RESEARCH  
MARKET RESEARCH

## Which strategy is the MOST important to you for the Park and Recreation Department to focus on within the next 5 years?

*This data will assist the FWPARD determine future park and recreation priorities.*

PRIORITY Rank	Facility
1	Renovate existing parks and facilities
2	Increase maintenance of parks and trails
3	Acquire more land for trails and trail connections
4	Acquire more land for parks
5	Increase maintenance & operations of community centers
6	Increase supervised recreational activities & programs
7	Increase maintenance & operations of aquatic centers

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NATIONAL SERVICE RESEARCH  
MARKET RESEARCH

## Fort Worth Park Facility Priorities



*•This data will help guide the City’s park and recreation priorities.*

Facility	3-Definitely Needed	2-Somewhat Needed	1-Not Needed	No Opinion	Mean Score	PRIORITY Rank
Additional hike/bike/walk trails	56%	30%	7%	7%	2.52	1
Additional trail connections throughout the city	60	26	6	8	2.59	2
Open spaces/natural areas	61	27	5	7	2.61	3
Playgrounds	51	30	8	11	2.49	4
Recreational activities along Trinity River	41	34	12	13	2.34	5
Benches/seating areas	42	35	10	13	2.37	6
Athletic fields – lighted	29	27	14	30	2.22	7
Dog parks	24	32	22	22	2.02	8

*•The mean score is a weighted calculation of the 3, 2, 1 scores excluding the no opinion responses.*  
*•The priority rank lists the respondents (top three summed together ) most important facilities or amenities.*

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The mean score and priority rank will not always coincide



NATIONAL SERVICE RESEARCH  
MARKET RESEARCH

## How strongly do you support EACH option to fund new parks and facilities and/or additions to existing parks and facilities?

*This data will assist the FWPARD determine future funding priorities that citizen support.*

Strongly support

Mildly support

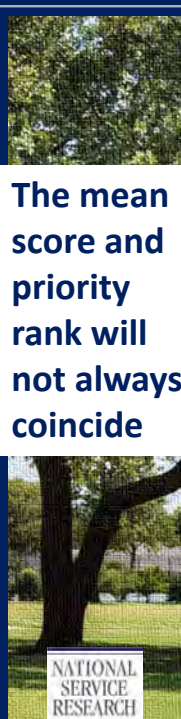

Neutral

Mildly oppose

Strongly oppose

Grants	74%	13%	11%		
Sponsorships	71%	16%	11%		
Voter approved bond programs	53%	23%	18%	3%	4%
Increased user fees	17%	39%	19%	15%	11%
Increased property taxes	11%	25%	17%	17%	30%

Fort Worth Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan Citizen Survey, February 2024



NATIONAL SERVICE RESEARCH  
MARKET RESEARCH

## Fort Worth Park Facility Priorities (Continued)

*•This data will help guide the City’s park and recreation priorities.*

Facility	3-Definitely Needed	2-Somewhat Needed	1-Not Needed	No Opinion	Mean Score	PRIORITY Rank
Educational signage in parks and along trails	35%	38%	16%	11%	2.20	9
Multi-use courts (tennis, basketball, pickleball)	34	36	10	20	2.31	10
Pickleball Courts	20	27	22	31	1.97	11
Picnic shelters/picnic tables	37	42	9	12	2.32	12
Off road bike trails	25	34	17	24	2.10	13
Ball fields (football, soccer, rugby, field hockey)	21	31	15	33	2.09	14
Outdoor covered gym	20	28	26	26	1.93	15
Ball fields (baseball, softball)	19	29	17	35	2.02	16

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The mean score and priority rank will not always coincide



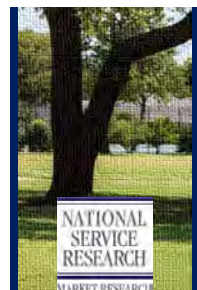


## Fort Worth Park Facility Priorities (Continued)

- *This data will help guide the City's park and recreation priorities.*

Facility	3-Definitely Needed	2-Somewhat Needed	1-Not Needed	No Opinion	Mean Score	PRIORITY Rank
Basketball courts	20%	33%	15%	32%	2.07	17
Disc golf courses	8	22	33	37	1.62	18
Athletic practice fields – not lighted	13	31	22	34	1.87	19
Tennis courts	14	31	24	31	1.85	20
Skate parks	14	31	25	30	1.85	21
Equestrian center	9	19	35	37	1.57	22
Volleyball courts	13	33	22	32	1.87	23

**The mean score and priority rank will not always coincide**



Fort Worth Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan Citizen Survey, February 2024

30



## How strongly would you support the Parks Department investing in aquatics? – By District

- Area 4 has stronger support for the Parks Department investing in aquatics.

	All Respondents	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5
Strongly support	35%	33%	28%	32%	43%	29%
Mildly support	27	26	30	24	27	28
Neutral	24	23	26	35	21	24
Mildly oppose	8	9	11	6	6	10
Strongly oppose	6	9	5	3	3	9



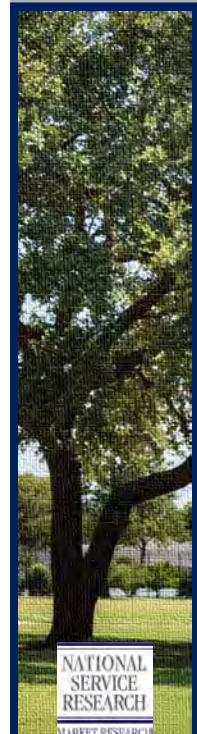
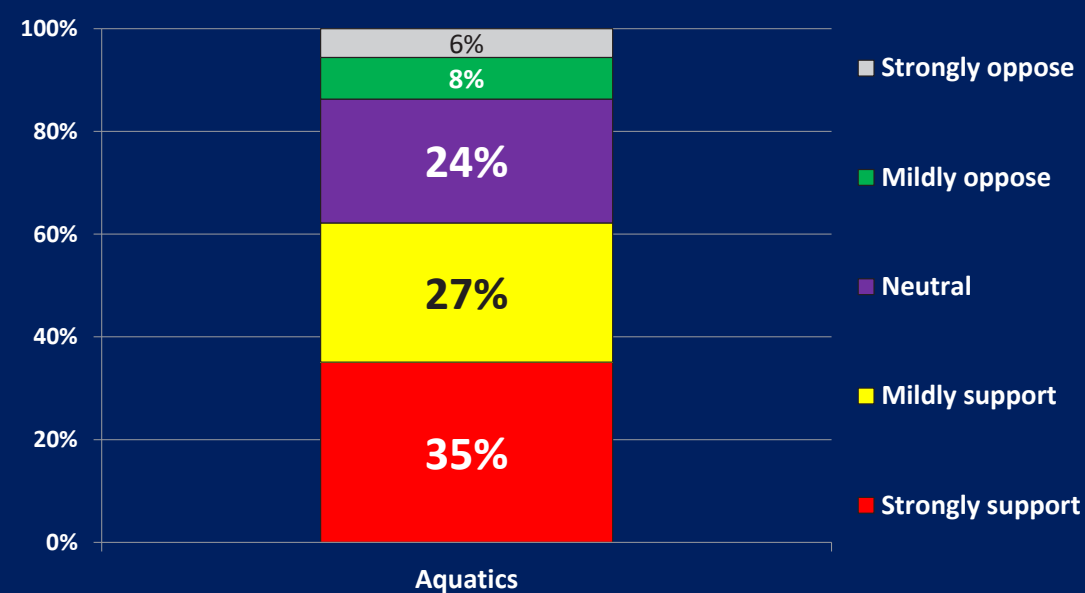
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32



## How strongly would you support the Parks Department investing in aquatics?

- 62% of respondents strongly or mildly support the Parks Department investing in aquatics.



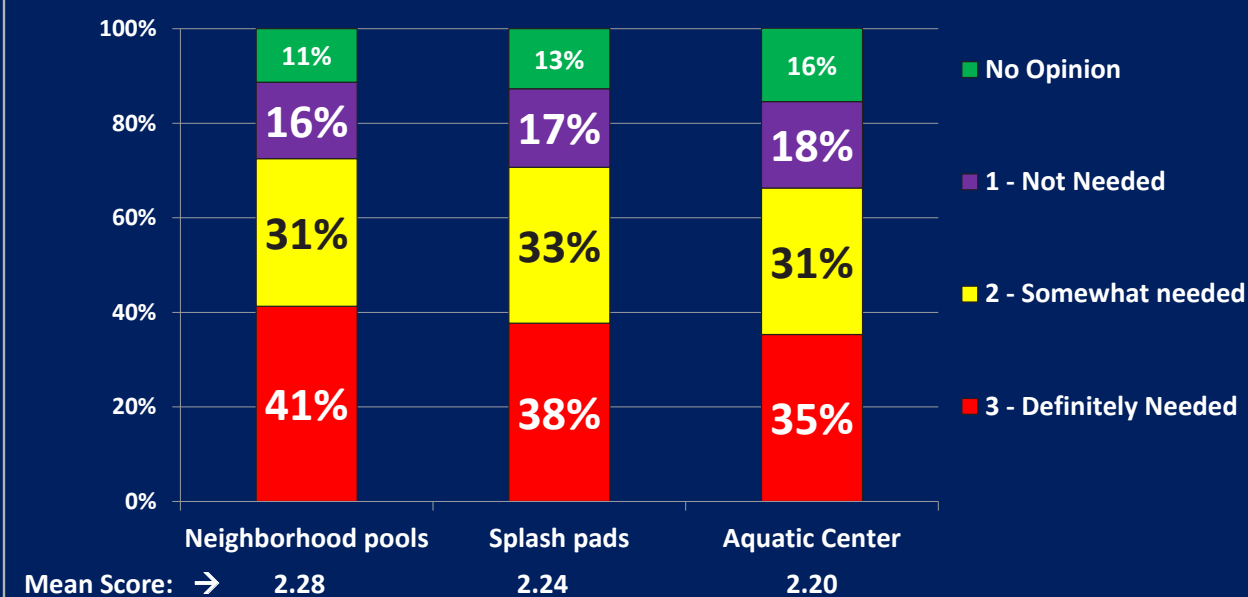
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31



Which of the following types of aquatic amenities are needed?

- *There is strong support for all three aquatic facilities.*



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33



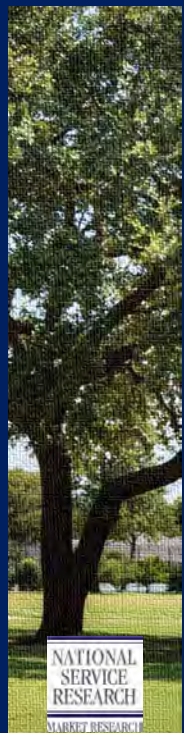


# Which of the following types of aquatic amenities are needed? By District – Neighborhood Pools

•There is strong support for neighborhood pools in Area 4.

	All Respondents	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5
3 – Definitely Needed	41%	42%	26%	42%	51%	34%
2 – Somewhat Needed	31	30	43	23	28	35
1 – Not Needed	16	15	25	18	12	21
No Opinion	11	13	6	17	10	9
Mean Score	2.28	2.30	2.01	2.29	2.43	2.14

•The mean score is a weighted calculation of the 3, 2,1 scores excluding the no opinion responses.



Fort Worth Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan Citizen Survey, February 2024

34



# Which of the following types of aquatic amenities are needed? By District – Aquatic Center

•There is stronger support for an aquatic center in Area 4.

	All Respondents	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5
3 – Definitely Needed	35	34%	30%	36%	39%	35%
2 – Somewhat Needed	31	30	32	29	32	30
1 – Not Needed	18	21	22	12	15	23
No Opinion	16	15	16	23	14	12
Mean Score	2.20	2.14	2.09	2.31	2.28	2.14



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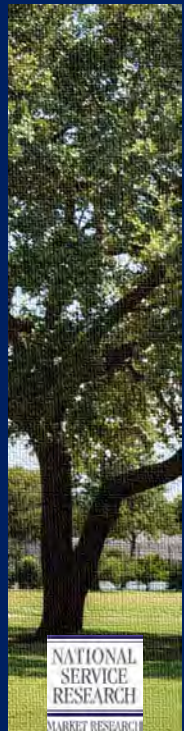
36



# Which of the following types of aquatic amenities are needed? By District – Splash Pads

•There is strong support for splash pads in all areas.

	All Respondents	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5
3 – Definitely Needed	38%	36%	38%	39%	39%	37%
2 – Somewhat Needed	33	32	33	27	35	33
1 – Not Needed	17	15	21	9	15	20
No Opinion	13	17	8	24	11	9
Mean Score	2.24	2.26	2.19	2.40	2.27	2.19



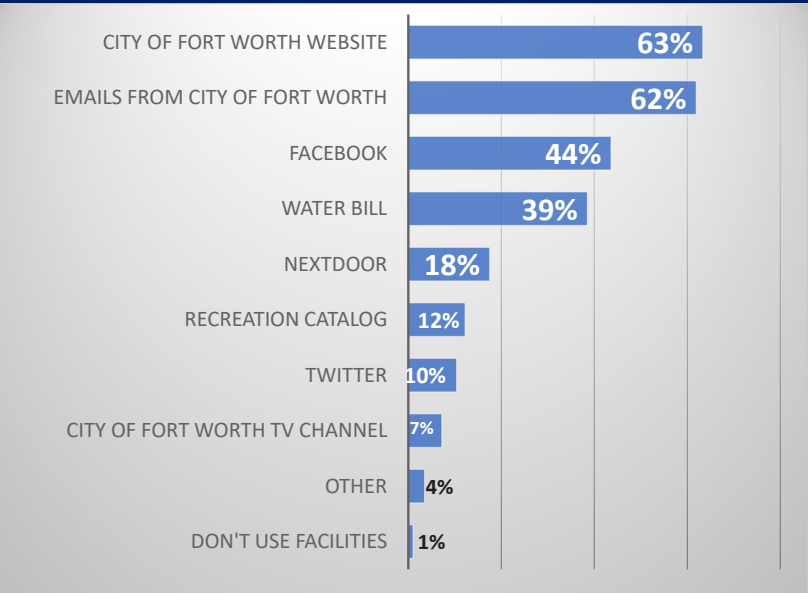
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35



# How do you prefer to find out about parks, recreation facilities and programs in Fort Worth?

•The Fort Worth website, emails from the City, Facebook, water bill, and NextDoor are effective means of communication to residents regarding parks and recreation facilities and programs.



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37



