



CHAPTER

05

Parks and Public Realm of Tomorrow

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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needs, untapped opportunities, and systemic challenges—from limited walkable access and uneven park distribution to outdated amenities and underutilized spaces.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.

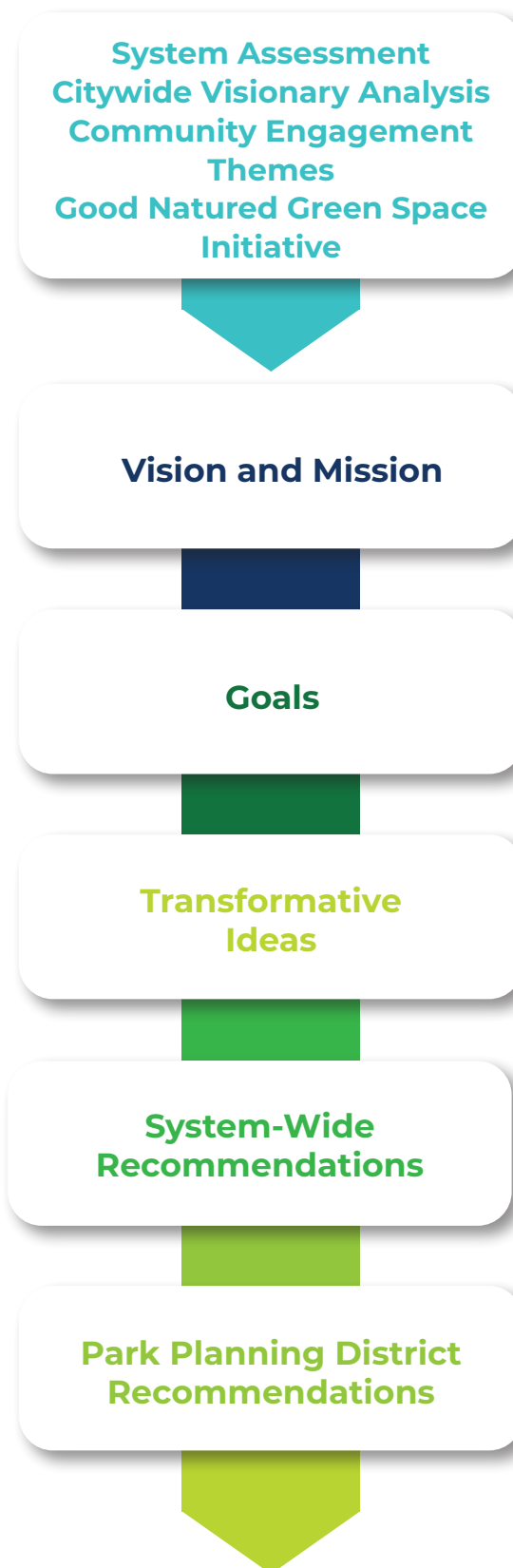
GREENprint Fort Worth Framework Components

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 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.