JOPLIN PARKS AND RECREATION

ROAD MAP

2021-2031

FEBRUARY, 2021



STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

PAGE 128

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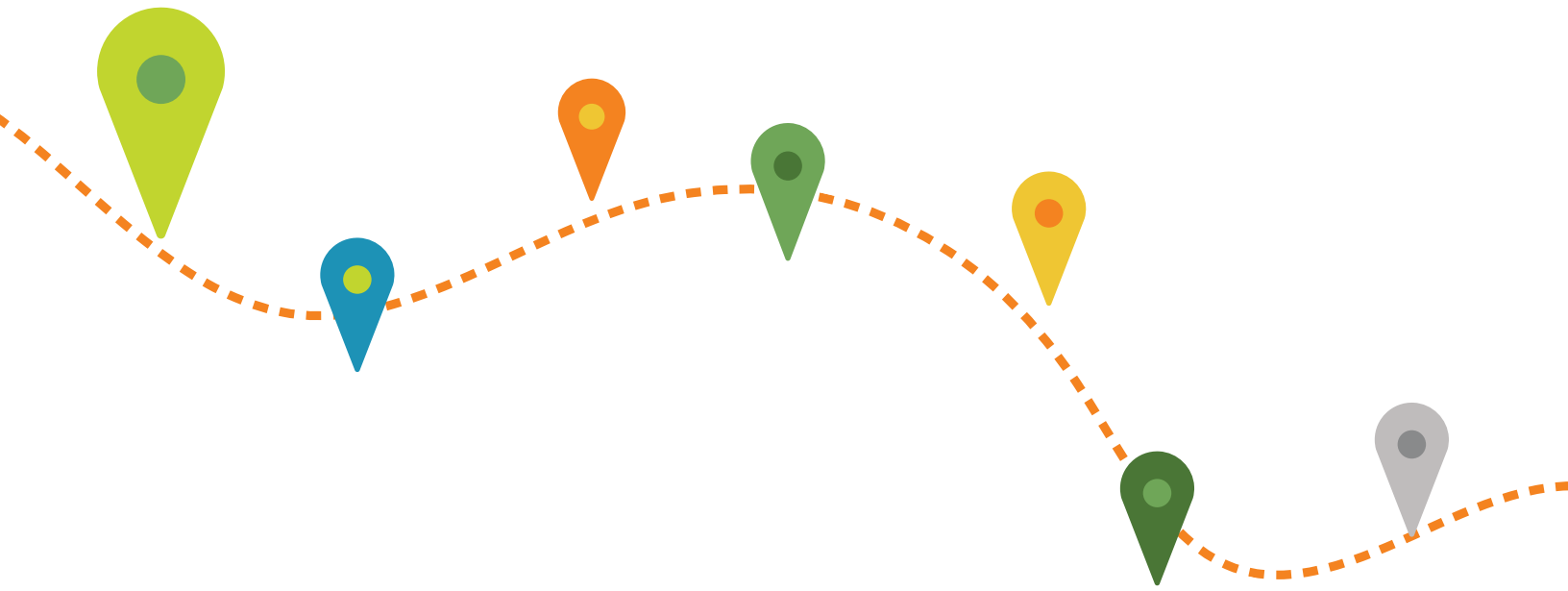
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01

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Joplin, Missouri may be a city renowned for the zinc and mineral resources that generated a bonanza at the turn of the last century or its placement on the Mother Road, a.k.a. U. S. Route 66. But among the assets it has sustained through the decades, perhaps none are more valuable than its rich collection of parks and green spaces. At the beginning of this century, the City made the progressive decision to enact a 1/4-cent sales tax for the funding of stormwater control and parks. That decision speaks to the strong commitment this city has to providing quality public open spaces for the benefit of its citizens.

This document, ***Joplin Parks and Recreation Road Map 2021-2031***, is a master plan intended to provide a strategic action plan for the next decade of park and recreation operations and development. It provides an examination of the department's existing resources. It provides a snapshot into the desires of the community regarding their public outdoor spaces. It provides analysis of the gaps between what exists and what is desired. And it provides an annotated list of projects that the City could execute over the next 10 years to preserve and improve upon a system that is blessed with both long-established parks and raw undeveloped potential.

The consultant team, a group of design professionals including landscape architects, urban planners, recreation planners and architects, spent four months scouring the city for park and recreation data. This effort included a diversified public engagement campaign including in-person open house meetings, a statistically-valid community survey, and a digital park mapping forum. It also included days spent ambling through every park, cemetery, trail and park building in town snapping pictures, taking measurements and asking questions. The master planning process also included the analysis of the current departmental staff structure, its menu recreational program offerings, and its past 5 years of expenses and revenues. We gathered these metrics and compared them to similar metrics found in seven different peer communities across the region as well as for departments in similar sized communities across the nation.



In the process we learned a great deal about this community. For starters, Joplin has a ton of land resources. The city has almost 3 times as much parkland per capita than the national average for towns of its size. With this legacy of great parks, it's no surprise that Joplinites believe it's the city's job to provide high quality parks and outdoor spaces. In fact 77% of them believe it is ***very important*** for the City of Joplin to do so. The community is concerned about the level of safety in their parks and views it as the greatest threat to their enjoyment of the system. They have simple desires: they want to be able to get out and walk and bike. They are also attached to their local history and want their parks to embody their culture and tell their story.

Our recommendations and the data upon which they are based can be found in the pages that follow. The consultant team sincerely appreciates the opportunities offered by this City to spend time getting to know your parks, trails, and people. This master plan is a living document and its recommendations are yours to interpret. Judging by the history and resiliency of your park system, you will make the most of all that you choose to follow.

MASTER PLAN GOALS

GOAL #1: DEVELOP DESTINATIONS

Joplin is a cultural hub for the Four State Region. It attracts thousands of people from the surrounding counties each day through its employment centers, nearly doubling in population. It attracts many more on an annual basis through regional tourism. Moreover, it is a town of over 50,000 full time residents who have grown accustomed to having and enjoying one of the largest municipal park departments in the state. The park system should speak to these realities. The City seeks to make the most of its amazing park assets and improve upon what already exists. The City desires to enhance the rich identity so many of these parks already have. The City also sees opportunities and a need to provide something unique within this region and continue to be a draw for so many commuters and travelers.

GOAL #2: IMPROVE CONNECTIVITY

The public engagement efforts made during this master plan made one thing clear: this community wants more trails. Citizens told us again and again through a variety of platforms that they prioritized walking and biking trails above all other facilities. This plan addresses those priorities in a big way by looking at ways to fill in gaps in the City's current pedestrian and bicycle network. Connectivity is also about making the City's parks smarter and more useful to more citizens. This goal encompasses objectives to improve utility connections, and accessibility to the disabled members of the community.

GOAL #3: PRIORITIZE SAFETY

For any municipal government, a primary responsibility is to keep its citizens safe. The results of the community survey indicate that the number one barrier to Joplinites using their parks is a feeling of insecurity. This reality is unacceptable, and the department seeks to change it through a series of objectives designed to make all parks safe for the residents.

GOAL #4: EDUCATE THE MASSES

Joplin offers so many amazing facilities and programs to its populace daily, yet many of these opportunities are unknown and underutilized. The department seeks ways to reintroduce Joplin to its own parks and programs. Furthermore, the department wants people to learn more about the rich history and ecology of the region represented in all the park properties. Parks should be a vehicle for people to activate not just their bodies but their minds, as well.

GOAL #5: CULTIVATE HEALTH AND WELLNESS

As with safety, the City of Joplin considers providing a high quality of life to its citizens among its most vital goals. Parks and recreation are synonymous with quality of life. Having a healthy population is vital to the success of this City and there is no branch of municipal government better suited to attend to this mission than parks and recreation. The results of the community survey indicate these matters are at the top of most Joplinites' minds. The City looks to broaden its programing geared towards wellness activities, update facilities to allow more citizens the chance to exercise outdoors, and improve the environmental sustainability of its facilities and operations.

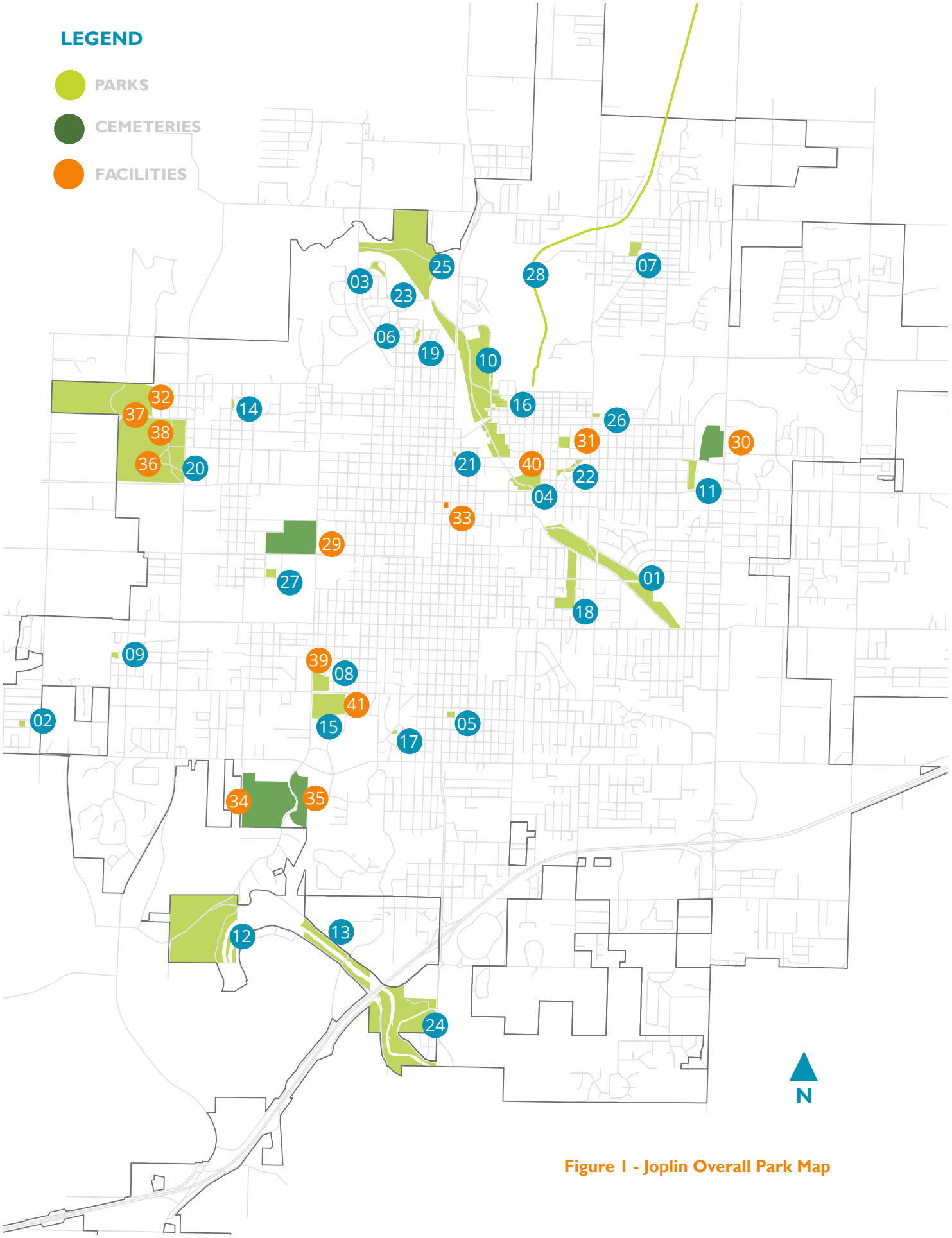


Figure 1 - Joplin Overall Park Map

JOPLIN'S PARK SYSTEM

Joplin, MO is very unique, it has a rich history being located on Route 66, but it also has a rich park history. Some of the parks located in Joplin are over 100 years old. Currently, Joplin has 24 parks, 13 facilities, and over 1000 acres of parkland in their parks and recreation system. It's home to 3 aquatic centers, 4 cemeteries, 1 golf course, and 12 miles of trail.

This parks and recreation master plan seeks to provide an existing conditions inventory, an analysis of community needs, and a strategic action plan for the next 10 years of future parks and recreation projects.

Learn more about the Joplin parks system in each section of this master plan!

PARKS

01. Campbell Parkway Park
02. Cedar Ridge Park
03. Crestwood Park
04. Ewert Park
05. Garvin Park
06. Goose Egg Park
07. Humphrey Park
08. Cunningham Park
09. Iron Gates Park
10. Landreth Park
11. Leonard Park
12. McClelland Park
13. McIndoe Park
14. McKinley Park
15. Mercy Park
16. Mineral Park
17. Mohaska Park
18. Parr Hill Park
19. Roanoke Park
20. Schifferdecker Park
21. Spiva Park
22. Spring Park
23. Triangle Park
24. Wildcat Park
25. Dover Outdoor Recreation Area
26. Ozark Memorial Park
27. Gabby Street Practice Field
28. Frisco Greenway Trail

FACILITIES

29. Fairview Cemetery
30. Forest Park Cemetery
31. Joe Becker Stadium
32. Joplin Athletic Complex
33. Memorial Hall
34. Osborne Memorial Cemetery
35. Parkway Cemetery
36. Schifferdecker Aquatic Center, Golf Course and Museum
37. Parks and Recreation Offices
38. Park Maintenance Facility
39. Cunningham Aquatic Center
40. Ewert Park Aquatic Center
41. Senior Center



02

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT



ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

Public engagement was a big priority for this project. The City wanted this Parks and Recreation Master Plan to reflect the ideas and opinions of the community, as well as include future recommendations that the residents wished to see. The public engagement strategy was centered around offering as many ways as possible for the public to interact with the plan. This was achieved by including an online, in-person and physical option for participation at every level of the project. The engagement opportunities that were offered were:

ONLINE
- A project website
- Social media posts
- Social Pinpoint
- An online Survey

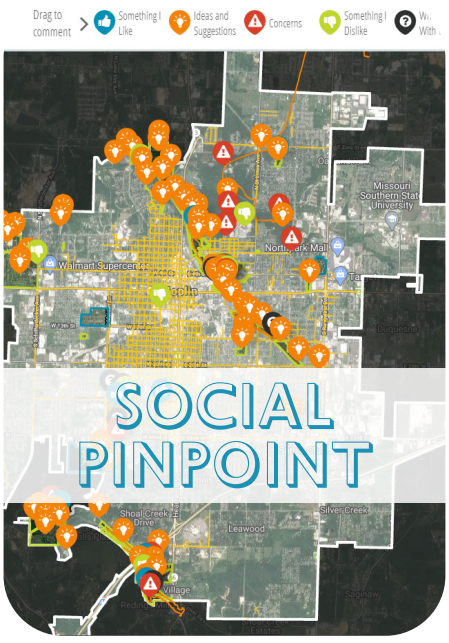
IN-PERSON
- Pop-up meetings in parks
- Public meetings
- Open houses

PHYSICAL
- A mailed survey to collect 300 responses (317 received)
- Follow up phone calls/emails

This strategy led to a high rate of participation and consensus due to the amount of engagement opportunities that were presented, and the level of interaction Joplin residents were able to have with each other. The tools listed above generated quality results that were used to make the final recommendations listed under the Strategic Action Plan.



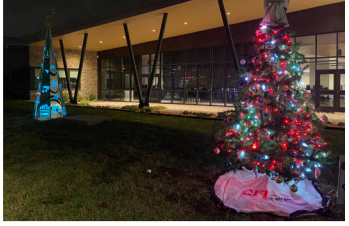


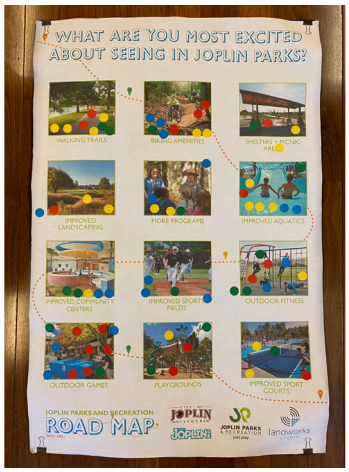






















POP UPS

The pop-ups served to kick off the public engagement process for the master plan. Landworks Studio staff visited four different parks over the course of an entire day to meet park users, promote the master plan process, and collect input from citizens on what they hope to see more of in their park system. Landworks Studio staff employed an informal visual survey wherein park users where asked to vote on which ***three*** of the following elements they are most excited about seeing in Joplin parks: walking trails, biking amenities, shelters and picnic areas, improved landscaping, more programs, improved aquatics, improved community centers, improved sports fields, outdoor fitness, outdoor games, playgrounds, and improved sport courts.

The parks that were visited were: Mercy Park, Cunningham Park, Parr Hill Park, and Hershewe Soccer Complex. The most engagement with residents was at Cunningham Park and Hershewe Soccer Complex. The top two voted on results of the visual preference survey were: Outdoor Games and Biking Amenities, with many additional comments about ADA accessibility.

PUBLIC MEETING

Public Meeting #1 was the project's first, formal, meeting held in the Senior Center at Mercy Park on Tuesday, November 22nd. This meeting promoted the project website and had focused conversations about existing facilities. This meeting was held in an open house format with three different stations for people to give input. The first was the "What is your favorite park?" activity, where Landworks Studio staff asked participants to put a sticker on their favorite and least favorite park in Joplin. The second was a station with iPads and a board walking participants how to engage with the project through the website and Social Pinpoint. The third was a large map that offered color-coded sticky notes for participants to leave comments, or ideas on for each of the parks. As a bonus, Landworks Studio staff handed out Joplin Roadmap t-shirts and business cards with engagement information to each attendee. This meeting drew 20 members of the general public and 2 members of the City Council, as well as news media and City staff. Based on the interests of those attending, the discussion was almost entirely focused on off-road bike amenities. The team enjoyed taking this deep dive into the mountain and BMX biking possibilities that Joplin could consider. This meeting generated over 100 new comments on exiting park facilities through the project website.





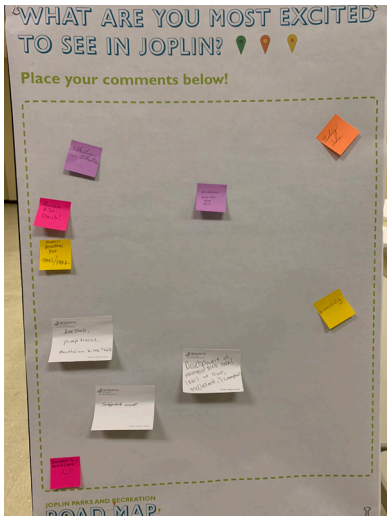


OPEN HOUSE

The project team hosted a final open house, open to the public, on January 27th 2021. This meeting was highly publicized due to it being the final opportunity for the community to give feedback on the draft master plan. This open house included the master trail map, summarized results of the mailed survey from ETC, the overall project list, the final goals and objectives for the plan, a copy of the draft master plan, and drawings that were produced for some of the larger project recommendations.

There were almost 30 attendees across multiple stakeholder groups. The major stakeholder groups in attendance were the Ewert Park and neighborhood, mountain biking, the Parks and Recreation Department, and the City. The project team spent the open house answering questions, describing each of the proposed projects, their benefits, and listening to any concerns, or suggestions the community members might have.

Overall, the public was excited about all of the projects being shown and thought that their comments over the whole master planning process were heard and represented.



After looking at all of the materials in the room, the project team asked each attendee to write down what they were most excited to see in Joplin. Residents were really excited about the bike park at the Dover Outdoor Recreation area and all of the projects proposed in Ewert Park!

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

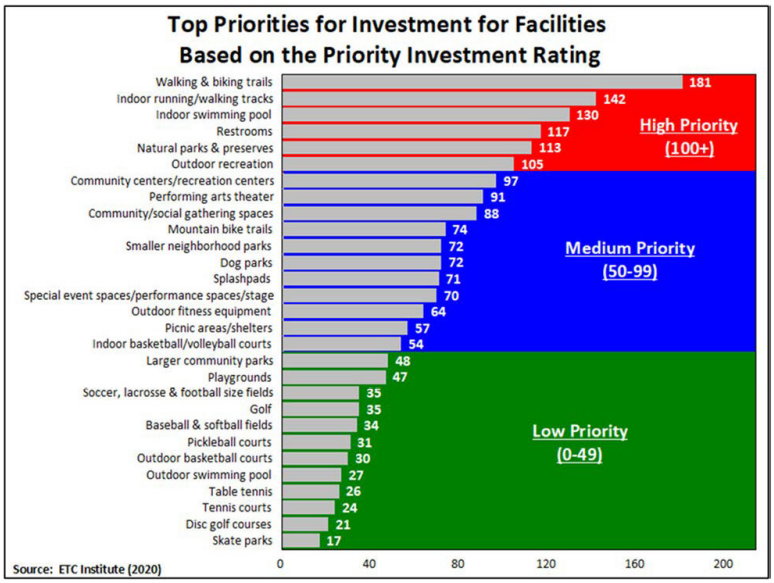
ETC Institute created and administered a statistically valid survey for this master plan. This survey was integral to evaluating the parks and recreational needs in the Joplin community. The survey was sent to thousands of households in Joplin, by mail, to get a total of 300 responses to ensure it was statistically valid, but a total of 317 surveys were actually received. The full report by ETC can be found in the appendix.

The graphs below are from the executive summary section of the survey report and they offer a quick look at the overall results from the survey.

TOP PRIORITIES FOR FACILITIES

The graphs to the right show the summation of two main questions asked in the survey, otherwise known as a priority investment rating. These are a combination of both the need for that facility/program and how important it is to the community.

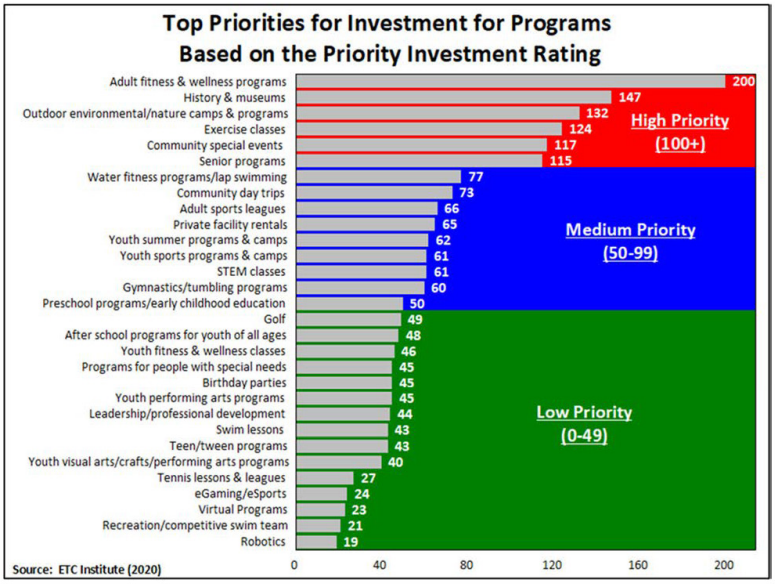
The top priorities for facilities in the Joplin community are shown to the right, in red as High Priority. The highest priority for facilities is walking and biking trails. This was by-far the most voted on amenity. The second and third are indoor running/walking tracks and indoor pool; Joplin currently doesn't have a City-owned, indoor recreation facility to fullfill either of these needs. However, they have many outdoor pools. The last three high priority facilities are focused on outdoor park amenities with restrooms, natural parks and preserves, and outdoor recreation.



TOP PRIORITIES FOR PROGRAMS

The highest priority for programs, by-far, is adult fitness and wellness. This was a top voted category on many different questions. The second is history and museums. Joplin has one museum and it's located in Schifferdecker Park, outside of downtown. This location is currently struggling with the amount of space available. The third highest priority is outdoor environmental/nature camps; the City currently doesn't offer any programs of this nature. The last three are exercise classes, community special events and senior programs.

All of these priorities, as well as the results from the entire report, were taken into account when creating recommendations.





631

Unique Users

65

Unique Stakeholders

2612

Total Visits

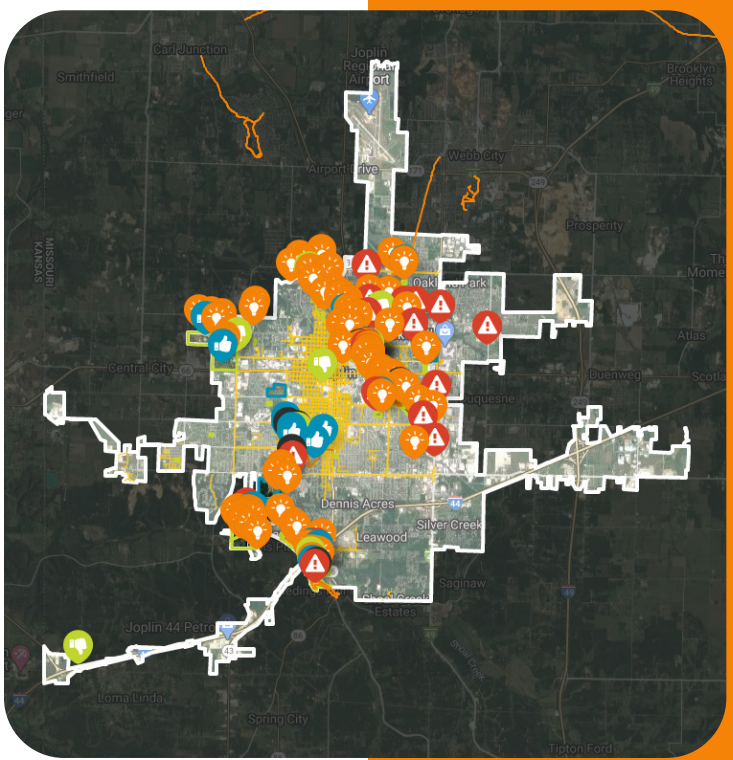
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Comments

SOCIAL PINPOINT

Social Pinpoint offers an interactive, online platform for communities to give input during the master planning process. In this case, the community in and surrounding Joplin was able to use an interactive map of Joplin to drop pins, leave comments, and up-vote, or down-vote each comment Each pin was associated with a different type of comment. The pins that were used were: I Like It, I Don't Like It, Suggestions and Ideas, Concerns, and What's Up With That? The Social Pinpoint map was linked on the project website and left open for comments for almost three months. In that time, there were 2612 map visits, 631 unique users, 65 unique stakeholders, and 191 comments.

The word cloud shown above was generated from all the comments left on the interactive map. Just like what was shown in the survey, trails were a major focus, as well as biking, connectivity, and several specific parks. These comments were synthesized and used to help make the recommendations found in the Strategic Action Plan chapter. Overall, this platform was very successful in the City of Joplin.









STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT

Towards the end of the planning process, after the survey results were gathered and the Social Pinpoint site was closed for comments, the design team led the City of Joplin staff and stakeholders through a day-long strategic planning retreat. This retreat was used to discuss the survey results, all of the existing conditions reports/maps, the opinions of City staff/stakeholders, and begin the process of making recommendations.

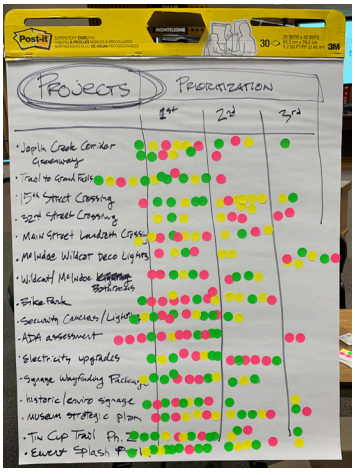
This retreat was split into five parts:

- Background Information
- Community Input Results
- Goals/Objectives for the plan
- Action Items/Projects
- Prioritization

The first half of the day was devoted to presenting all of the existing conditions that the design team gathered and examining the results from the survey and Social Pinpoint. This provided all of the attendees with a baseline of understanding for what is currently existing, it's condition and what the community is wanting.

The second half of the day was used to refine the goals and objectives for the master plan, create action items, or projects to achieve each of the objectives, and prioritize each action item, or project, which was the final product from the strategic planning retreat.

This process with City staff and stakeholders is imperative to creating a realistic and implementable master plan for the City.

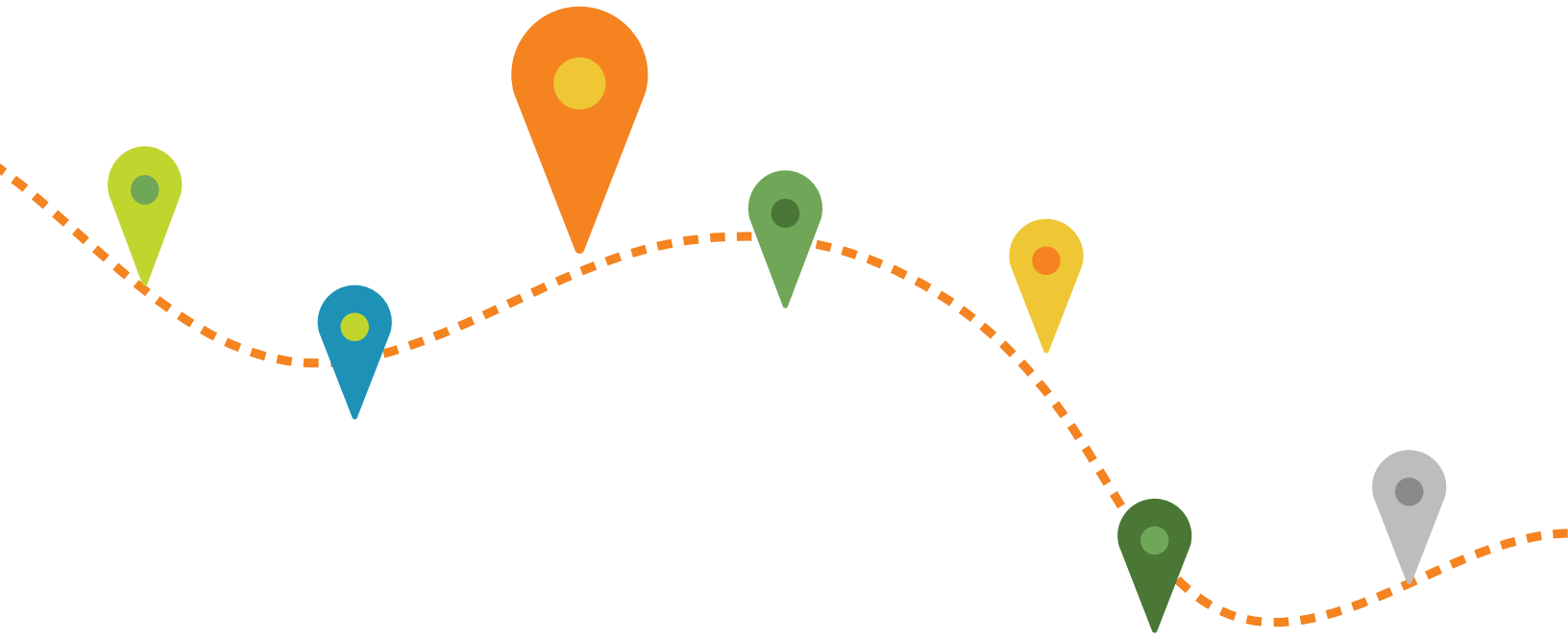


The board on the left is a list of action items/projects that were voted on to determine what priority level they should be.

This list was used to influence the recommendations in the Strategic Action Plan chapter.

03

COMMUNITY PROFILE



1839

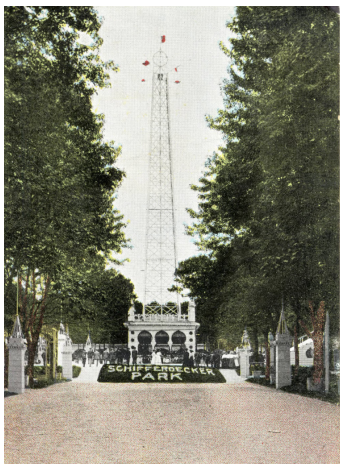
More than 30 years before the city bearing his name was incorporated, a young Methodist minister by the name of Harris Joplin settled in rural western Jasper County. He claimed 80 acres and built a cabin close to a spring and stream near the present day intersection of St. Louis Avenue and 4th Street. This approximate location and the stream are today preserved within Spring Park. The Reverend Joplin lived in the area for no more than 6 years before traveling back to Greene County. But his name stuck to the creek and valley in which he had lived. When lead deposits were discovered decades later in this same valley, mining camps sprung up and a city was born.

1898

The City of Joplin established its very first public park upon the generous donation of a 7-acre parcel of land by its mayor Thomas Cunningham. The City Council designated the site as Cunningham Park and reportedly vowed "to make it a place second to no park in the state." The park has had a special attachment to its citizens ever since. In 1904, Joplinites passed their first tax levy to fund park maintenance. In 1909, the Women's Park Association for Cunningham Park unveiled a 9-foot tall, 3-tiered fountain. Over the years many amenities and attractions followed.

JOPLIN PARK HISTORY

Joplin's history is inextricably tied to the land. The "Town that Jack Built" was founded on the initial discovery of lead and boomed with the advent of zinc mining and railroad development. However, since its earliest years, Joplin wasn't just rich in mineral resources. Fabulous parks and green spaces were developed with the aid of philanthropy for the benefit of the miners and their families. While some of these pleasure grounds faded by the wayside, such as Electric Park and Lakeside Park, many still serve as cornerstones of the system such as Cunningham, Schifferdecker, Landreth, and Wildcat Parks. Today's system of parks and trails is descended from those early years marked by civic pride, public philanthropy, and love of the outdoors.



1909

The grand opening of Electric Park in June of this year was attended by over 12,000 people, reportedly the largest gathering ever in the region. They came to witness the amusement rides, animal exhibits, concessions stands and the more than 40,000 incandescent light bulbs covering its structures. Sadly, this business venture spearheaded by Charles Schifferdecker, a wealthy German immigrant and prominent Joplin businessman, would fail in less than four years. The Joplin mining class could neither afford the admission or trolley fare to get to this park on the edge of town. Schifferdecker deeded the 40 -acre parcel of land to the City in 1913 and stipulated that it be used as a free public park. In the more than 100 years since, the park has been home to a golf course, zoo, campgrounds, band shells, swimming pools, playgrounds and picnic grounds.

1913

Joplin was a town crazy for baseball when it built its new ballpark for its minor league professional team the Joplin Miners at 3th Street and High Avenue. Miners Park, as it was known, served as the home of the Miners for the next 40 years and hosted players with names like Mickey Mantle, Whitey Herzog and Joe Garagiola. But when the baseball club folded after the 1954 season, they offered ownership of the park to the City for free with just two conditions: they name it for longtime Miners scout and business manager Joe Becker and make it available should pro ball ever return to Joplin. Joe Becker Stadium has survived two fires, served as a venue for high school, college, and legion ball and in 2014 saw a $4.7 million renovation.





1917

Hugh McIndoe negotiates a lease for land on the banks of Shoal Creek known as Wild Cat Springs. This property was already a popular private recreation destination for swimmers and campers due to its natural springs. Indigenous peoples such as the Osage had inhabited the land for hundreds of years and harvested arrowheads and projectile points from the ample chert deposits. Over 3,00 Joplinites flocked to its grand opening on July 4th of this year. The City purchased the property in 1923. Over the decades, the park has not always been embraced by it citizens. Today, the wildcat chert glades and the Shoal Creek riparian corridor are recognized as globally unique habitats for flora and fauna. The Missouri Department of Conservation manages the Shoal Creek Conservation Education Center and the City manages the park and trails in cooporation with Wildcat Glades Friends Group.



1925

Ewert Pool opened as the first public pool in the City that African American Joplinites were allowed to visit. The black population of Joplin at this time numbered around 1,000 and endured segregation from most public park amenities such as pools and playgrounds. In 1924 Paul and Sidney Ewert deeded the 14-acres of land for present-day Ewert Park and Aquatic Center under the stipulation that it be developed and made open to the City's black residents. Joplin Emancipation "Park Days," an annual celebration of African American culture and history has long been held in Ewert Park.

1966

On July 7, Spiva Park was dedicated to the City as the culmination of a dream George A. Spiva had for creating a downtown oasis for Joplin and its residents. George was the second generation of wealthy and philanthropic Spivas to give back to the City. Federal urban renewal programs had previously funded the demolition of derelict buildings on the corner of 4th and Main Streets. George Spiva purchased the land and developed the park, replete with brick walls, reflecting pools, elaborate lighted fountains, and a 1,000-pound Italian Carrara marble sculpture of a lead and zinc miner.

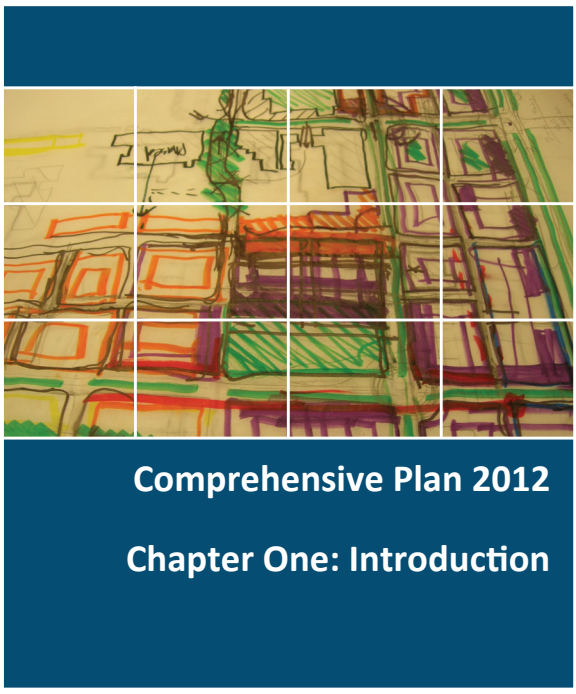


2016

Mercy Park became the newest City park at its dedication on August 9th. Located on the site of the former St. John's Regional Medical Center, which was destroyed by the 2011 EF5 tornado. The park is in many ways a living memorial to the city's determination and perseverance following that natural disaster. Mercy Hospital donated the 16 acres to the City and the $4.8 million construction costs were funded out of federal Community Development Block Grant monies. The park includes Mercy Sculpture Garden, as well as a lighted lake, fountain, public art, native landscaping, trails and picnic shelters.



PLAN REVIEW



JOPLIN MOVING FORWARD - 2012 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

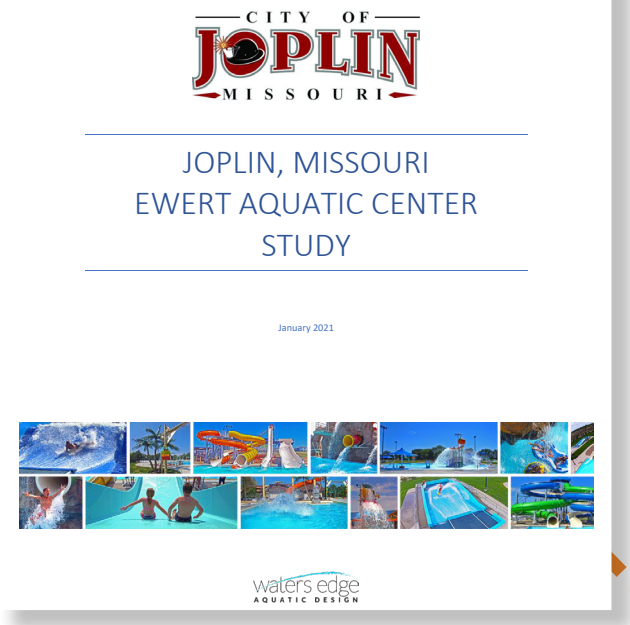
This comprehensive plan is very unique because it was in the works when Joplin was hit by the devastating tornado. This allowed for the plan to reflect the damage that was done and how Joplin planned on moving forward. Parks and recreation facilities at three different locations were affected by this event and Joplin had to rebuild much of it. One of the main things that came from this plan was a theme of community revitalization, which really led to a united effort from community members in Joplin to help rebuild the City. This theme was mirrored in the parks and recreation section of the comprehensive plan, which prioritized rebuilding facilities, expanding offered programs, build partnerships, and improve marketing. There is also an emphasis on trails, connectivity and neighborhood parks in particular. This plan explains the need to focus efforts on neighborhood scale parks and recreation amenities and improvements. Many of these items have been incorporated into this plan.



2021 JATSO PLAN

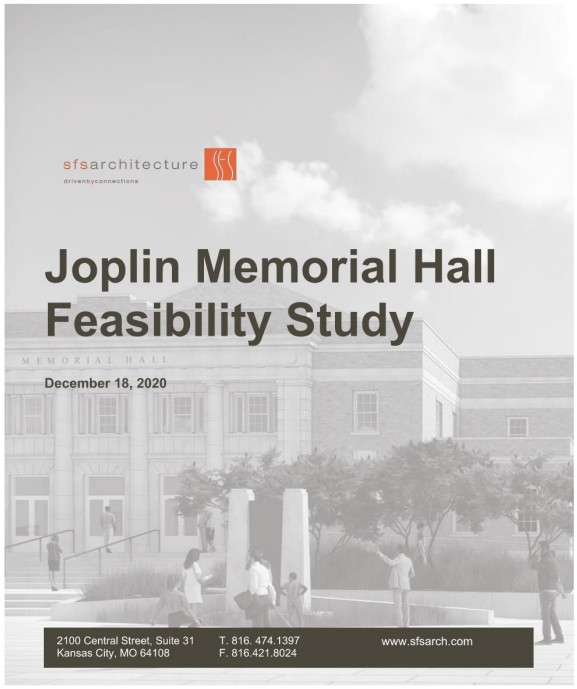
The Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update (MTP) provides the blueprint for the area's transportation planning process for the next 25 years. This plan was created through a collaborative effort of JATSO, Jasper and Newton counties, applicable jurisdictions represented by the Harry S. Truman Coordinating Council, all cities, towns, and villages within the metropolitan planning area (MPA), and key agencies including the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT). The general public was also consulted throughout the planning process. Additionally, two stakeholder committees were formed, including the Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) and the Technical Advisory Group (TAG). This Plan meets all federal requirements and addresses the goals, objectives, and strategies necessary to meet the involved communities' vision for the future. An update of this nature is required for all MPOs every five years.

This Plan considers all modes of transportation, including trails, pedestrian, and bicycle facilities, transit, roads, railroads, and airports. It relies upon scenario planning to provide multiple options of what the future may hold, allowing for flexibility during the MTP's lifetime.



2021 EWERT AQUATIC CENTER STUDY

This study was performed to determine the best future use of the Ewert Aquatic Center due to its age, increasing maintenance and decreasing attendance within the last five years. With the renovations to Schifferdecker and Cunningham Aquatic Centers, Ewert is the oldest and operationally has experienced a decrease in cost recovery. Due to a lifeguard shortage, Ewert Aquatic Center has had to adjust operating hours and days to consolidate lifeguard staff and this trend is expected to continue into the future. With three outdoor aquatic centers, Joplin currently offers more water surface area per capita than other similar communities. The study determined that the City could afford to reduce the amount of water surface available and to eliminate Ewert Aquatic Center from its service as-is and recommended that an aquatic amenity be relocated in its place. After completing public engagement and developing costs for several ideas for future uses, the study recommends development of a Splash Park to best fit the needs of the community and the City. This option allows for an extended season and hours and it is not expected to charge admission fees for use, which allows for easy and accessible use to the community. Additionally, the character of the Splash Park would ensure this would be a destination facility that would also attract users from outside of Joplin and offers the option for special events and year-round activity.



2021 MEMORIAL HALL STUDY

Imagining a future Memorial Hall considered these keys to success:

- Seek community input and feedback to develop support for the future improvements.
- Be financially sustainable to operate and maintain.
- Continue to serve the community veterans.
- Continue to support a variety of uses.
- Compliment and not compete with programming at the future Cornell Complex.

The recommendations at the conclusion of this study included the modernization and comprehensive renovation of Memorial Hall to prepare it for another 50 to 100 years of service for the region. The renovated building would still allow for performances that seat approximately 1600 at capacity, create more multi-purpose spaces, increase overall functionality, improve the building's energy usage and performance, enhance the visitor experience and focus on veteran's recognition. An addition or annex on the west side is also recommended to provide multi-purpose space for recreation programming and a large banquet space that can be segmented into three smaller rooms.



Source: City of Joplin

JOPLIN SNAPSHOT

TOTAL POPULATION

51,322

2019 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY - 1 YEAR ESTIMATE



POPULATION IN POVERTY

8.5%



HOUSEHOLDS

20,326



MEDIAN AGE

34.5



MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

$45,334



POPULATION WITH A DISABILITY

16%



NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING HOUSEHOLDS

6.5%

POPULATION TRENDS

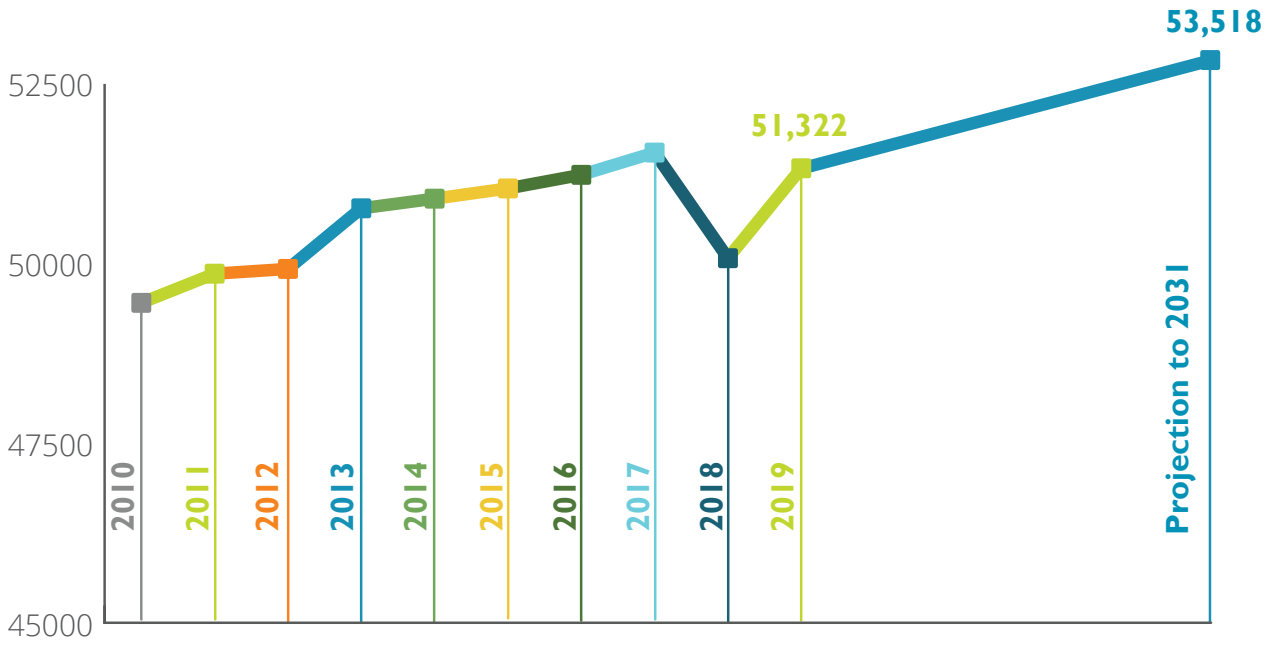


Figure 2 - Population Trends and Projections

This section of the Master Plan seeks to provide an overview, as well as an in depth look at the current demographic makeup of Joplin, MO. The recommendations in this Master Plan were influenced by the demographic, societal, and economic implications found in Joplin. The following pages show population trends, race, ethnicity, age, and households. All of the data displayed in this section was collected from the Census Bureau and the American Community Survey 2010-2019, 1 Year Estimates. All of the data shown, except for the population trends, is a 2019 estimate.

This demographic analysis was used to make the final recommendations found in the Strategic Action Plan section. Conducting this analysis allowed the design team and City Staff to create recommendations based on all the residents in Joplin. Factors such as median household income, age groups, and poverty levels influence the prioritization and nature of the recommendations being made.

2010-2031

Figure 2 shows Joplin's population trends from the year 2010 to a projected estimate in 2031. Joplin's population has stayed fairly constant until 2017, where the population dropped to just above 50,000, but regained the majority of that population in 2019. Joplin has an average population change of +0.42% per year, which was used to create the 2031 projection. A 0.42% average change per year over the next 10 years equates to Joplin's population increasing 2,196 by the year 2031, with a total population of 53,518.

The increase in population over time should be taken into account for recreation programming capacity and park level of service.

AVERAGE CHANGE PER YEAR

0.42%

PROJECTED GROWTH BY 2031

53,518

KEY FINDINGS

POPULATION DECREASED BY

1,467

FROM 2018-2019

9.3%

FEWER BLACK AND AFRICAN AMERICANS THAN COMPARED TO MISSOURI

4.9%

MORE WHITE THAN COMPARED TO MISSOURI

13.6%

FEWER HISPANIC OR LATINOS THAN COMPARED THE U.S

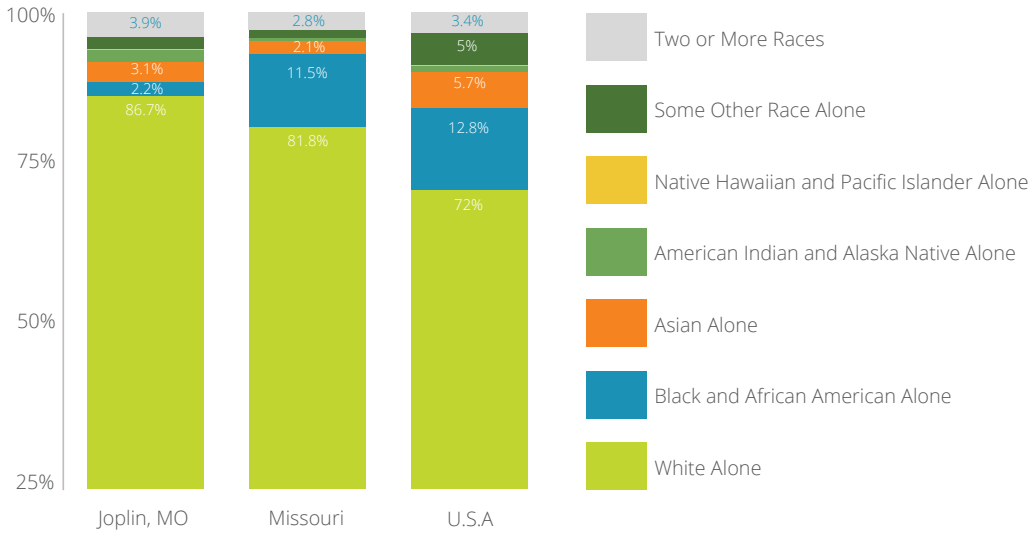


Figure 3 - Race Comparison

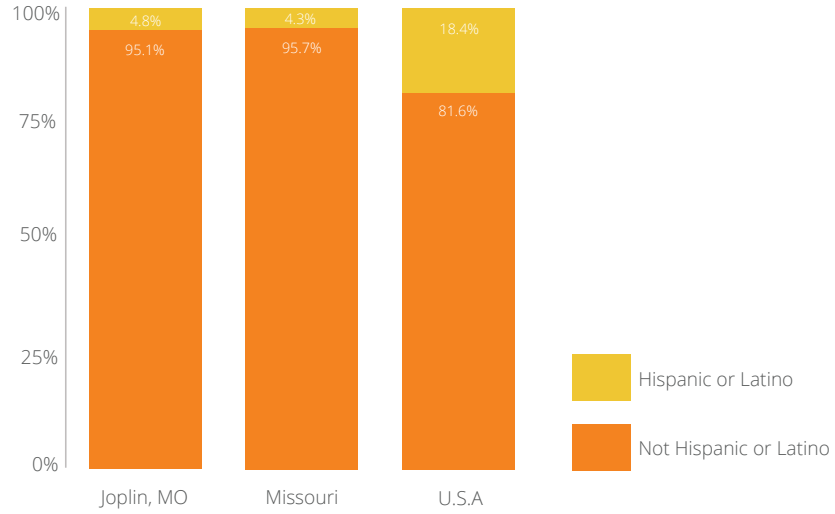


Figure 4 - Ethnicity Comparison

The race and ethnicity breakdown for Joplin is shown above in figures 3-4 and it's compared to both Missouri and the U.S for context. Joplin's racial makeup shown in figure 3, indicates that it's fairly similar to that of Missouri, except for two categories, White alone and Black and African American alone. Joplin has 9.3% fewer Black and African Americans than Missouri, and 4.9% more White than Missouri. The U.S is a lot more racially and ethnically diverse than both Joplin and Missouri. The U.S is 14.1% more Hispanic or Latino than that of Joplin or Missouri, with almost a 10% gap in the White population compared to Missouri.

Joplin being less diverse than Missouri, poses an opportunity for the City to implement equitable and inclusionary practices that not only make residents of all cultures and backgrounds feel welcome, but help cultivate each of the cultures present in Joplin and celebrate them. This will contribute to the City's vibrance, population growth, livability, and tourism.

AGE

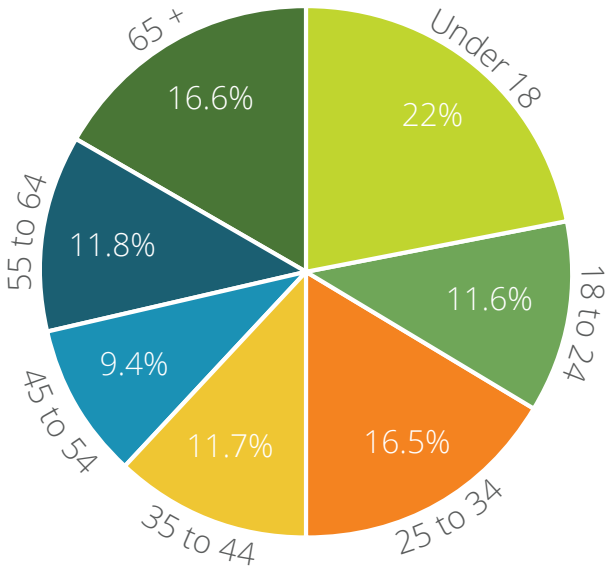


Figure 5 - Percent Age in Joplin

The figure to the left shows that most of the population in Joplin is under 18 with 22%, the second being 65+ with 16.6% and the third, 25 to 34 with 16.5%. With the median age in Joplin being 34.5, Joplin could face some challenges. These predominant age groups suggest that Joplin should consider more multi-generational programming and amenities. Joplin Parks and Recreation will have to provide a wider range of amenities to allow for their citizens to have access to recreational amenities. These age groups could be further dissected by looking at which neighborhoods, or parts of the City have a higher percentage of a certain age group to allow for more intentional placement of amenities. This would contribute to Joplin residents having easier access to their favorite amenities.

UNDER 18

With Joplin's dominant age group being under 18, a closer look at what that breakdown looks like is beneficial. The figure on the right shows that most of the children under 18 in Joplin are from 3-5 with 21.2% and 9-11 with 20.9%. These age ranges are very important because children tend to move from activity to activity, either when they grow out of it, or their mind changes. These ages are the predominant demographic enrolled in parks and recreation programming opportunities. These age groups also require different park amenities. The 3-5 kids will require different types of playground equipment than the 12-14 age group. From the kids currently present in Joplin, it's split between toddler level play to play equipment with a higher level of difficulty.

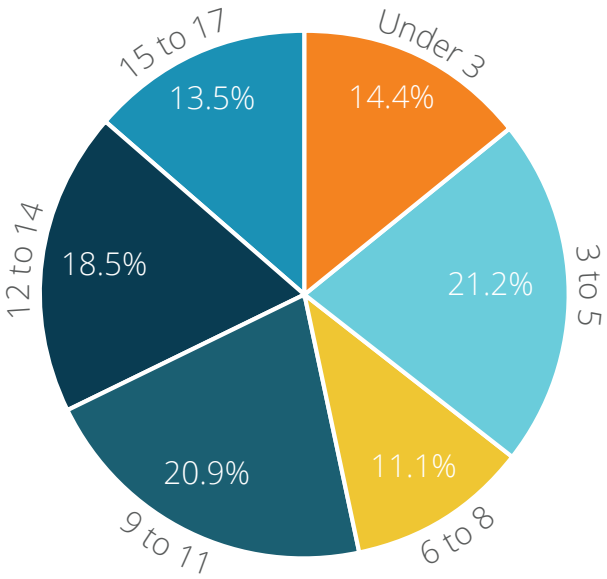


Figure 6 - Percent Under 18

JOPLIN HOUSEHOLDS

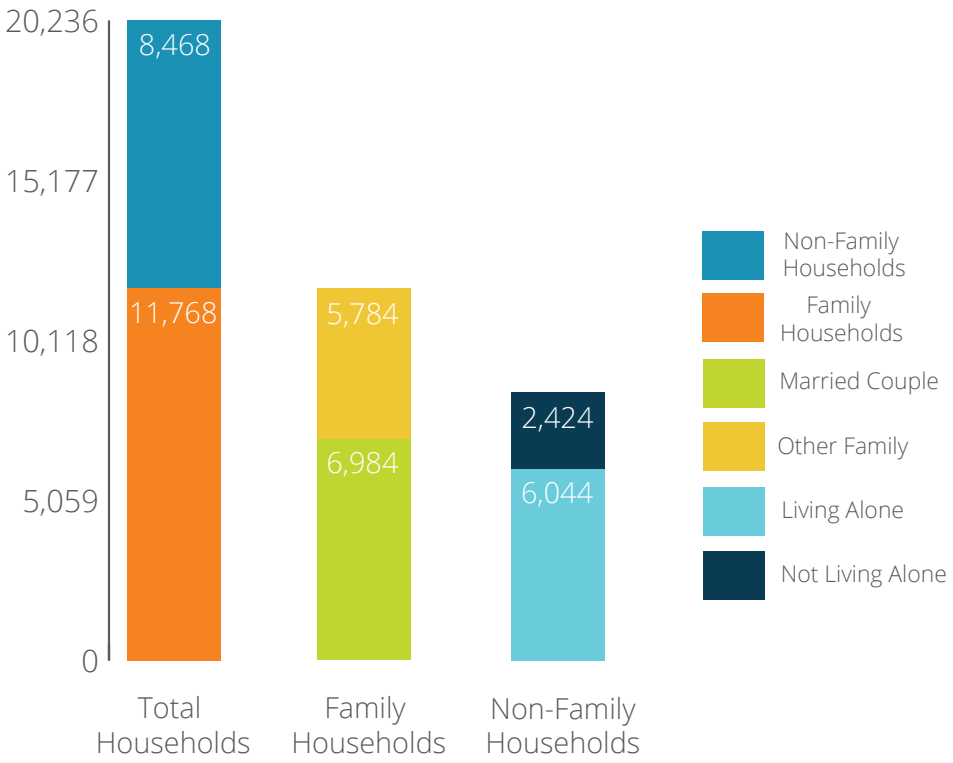


Figure 7 - Joplin Households

The figure on the left shows the breakdown of Joplin households as they are today. Joplin has a total of 20,236 households with a little more than half of them being family households, usually classified as either being married, or in a legal partnership. 8,468 households are classified as non-family, with 6,044 living alone. Analyzing households and their different types allows for more informed decision making when creating recommendations. Each household type has a different day-to-day lifestyle and the more recommendations that are made to fit the residents of Joplin's lifestyles the better the quality of life will be.

HOUSEHOLDS IN POVERTY

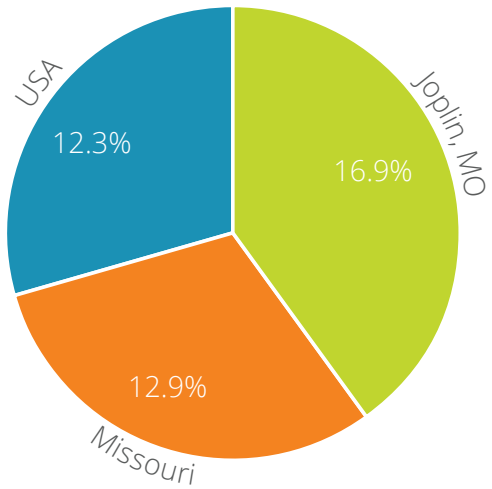


Figure 8 - Households in Poverty Comparison

The figure to the left shows the percentage of Joplin's households that are in poverty compared to both Missouri and the U.S. Poverty levels are dictated by the federal definition of poverty. Joplin has 16.9% of households indicated as living in poverty, while Missouri has 12.9% and the U.S has 12.3%. Joplin has 4% more households living in poverty than Missouri. This can be challenging for a City, not only to provide the necessary resources for these households, but also to continue to grow and prosper as a City, equitably. This would suggest that the City consider providing more opportunities for low-income households to participate in parks and recreation activities.

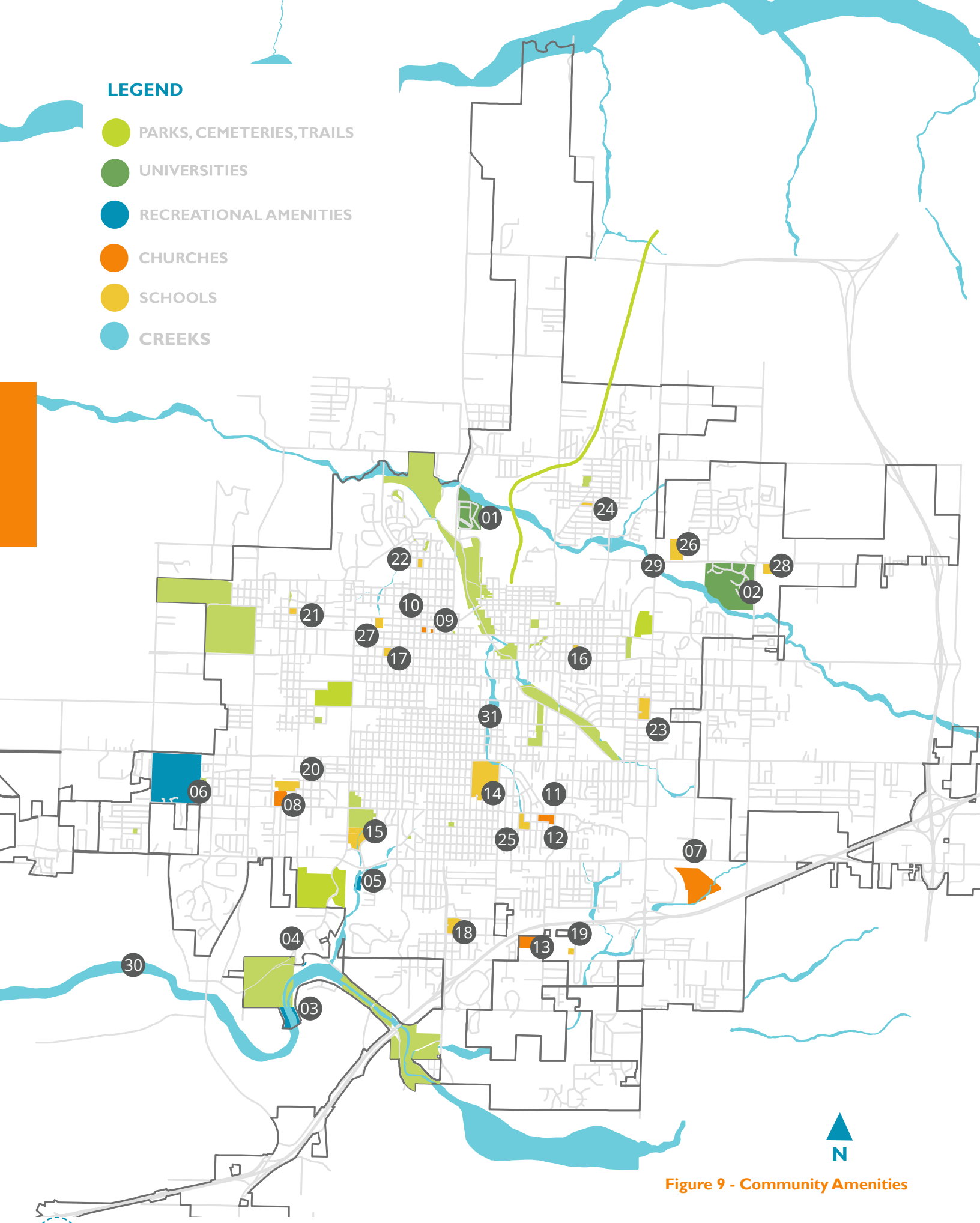


Figure 9 - Community Amenities

COMMUNITY AMENITIES

City-owned parks and green space provide a needed recreational amenity for Joplin, but there are other assets in the community that can also provide that amenity. The map to the left shows all of the parks and recreation facilities, universities, other recreational amenities, churches that are big enough to hold their own programs, schools, and creeks. All of which provide the City of Joplin with beneficial amenities.

Joplin has several Universities within its City limits and these often provide indoor and outdoor recreational facilities that can be accessed by the public. Joplin is also home to a few great assets that aren't owned by the City, but offer the community some great amenities. These include Grand Falls, overlooks, a YMCA, and a private golf course.

Many members of the community wrote in the survey that they were attending a lot of programs within their churches, or place of worship. The map to the left indicates all of the religious institutions that are large enough to hold programming opportunities. These range in size from small neighborhood churches to a large, non-profit sports complex. Schools are another recreational amenity within Joplin. They also often times have indoor and outdoor facilities that can provide neighborhoods with more options for recreation.

Another big amenity that Joplin has is the network of creeks that run through it. These might not seem like an amenity, but they can be if activated. Creeks provide a natural habitat to many different wildlife, they can be used for trail connectivity, water activities, and add to the character of Joplin parks. Outside of the parks and recreation system, Joplin has many other forms of recreational opportunities for the community to take advantage of.

UNIVERSITIES

01. Ozark Christian College
02. Missouri Southern State University

RECREATIONAL AMENITIES

03. Grand Falls
04. Inspiration Point
05. Joplin Family YMCA
06. Twin Hills Golf and Country Club

CHURCHES

07. Victory Ministry & Sports Complex
08. Saint Paul's Church
09. First Christian Church
10. First United Methodist Church
11. Immanuel Lutheran Church Ministries
12. Joplin Calvary Church of the Nazarene
13. First Baptist Church

SCHOOLS

14. Joplin High School
15. Irving Elementary School and Joplin Early Childhood
16. McKinley Elementary School
17. West Central Elementary School
18. Stapleton Elementary School
19. South Joplin Head Start/Early Head Start
20. Cecil Floyd Elementary School
21. Jefferson Elementary School
22. Columbia Elementary School
23. Eastmoreland Elementary School
24. Royal Heights Elementary School
25. Kelsey Norman Elementary School
26. Thomas Jefferson Independent
27. North Middle School
28. College Heights Christian School

CREEKS

29. Turkey Creek
30. Shoal Creek
31. Joplin Creek

04

SYSTEM INVENTORY



DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

The following analysis is based on organizational charts provided by the Department along with analysis of the FY2020 budget.

The table below represents the full-time staffing (FY2020 Budget) that the Department hires on an annual basis.

Full-Time Staffing Analysis

The number of full-time staff is reflective of what B*K has encountered with other organizations. It is also reflective of a department that has significant assets regarding park land and minimal assets as it relates to indoor spaces.

A significant concern that B*K has regarding the future of the Department is regarding subsidy from the General Fund. As such it is the opinion of B*K that there should a focus in the organizational chart regarding revenue generation.

- Recreation Manager (1)
- Recreation Coordinator (2)
- Recreation Leader (1)
  - These positions represent significant revenue generation for the Department, but are inadequate if significant increases in revenue are expected or anticipated.

- It is the opinion of B*K that there is an opportunity to break out some of the responsibilities in this area.
- First and foremost, the marketing of the Department falls in this area. Marketing should be broken out separate with a potential direct report to the Director.
- This allows the Director to control the narrative of the Department and ensure that the message is consistent across program areas and facilities.
- With the potential renovation of Memorial Hall, it would be important to expand, at a minimum the Recreation Coordinator positions from 2 FTE to 3 FTE.
- At a minimum, B*K would strongly recommend the addition of a Recreation Leader position, that has a strong focus on the programming that takes place at the Athletic Complex.

The project team is not a proponent of splitting out duties based on facility v. programming. Our experience has been that having recreation professionals that help with facilities and focus on programming produces the best programs and facilitates communication. However, B*K would recommend that the Department potentially look at the development of one or two Assistant Director level position(s). Illustration of that potential organizational chart is on the following page.



	FTE
Administration	2.1
Recreation Programs	1.5
Memorial Hall	1.0
Athletic Complex	7.5
Facility Maintenance	.25
Parks & Public Grounds	9.5
Total	21.85

	PTE
Pools	9.86
Recreation Programs	3.10
Facility Maintenance	1.05
Parks & Public Grounds	3.20
Total	17.80

Current Full-Time Staff Organization Chart

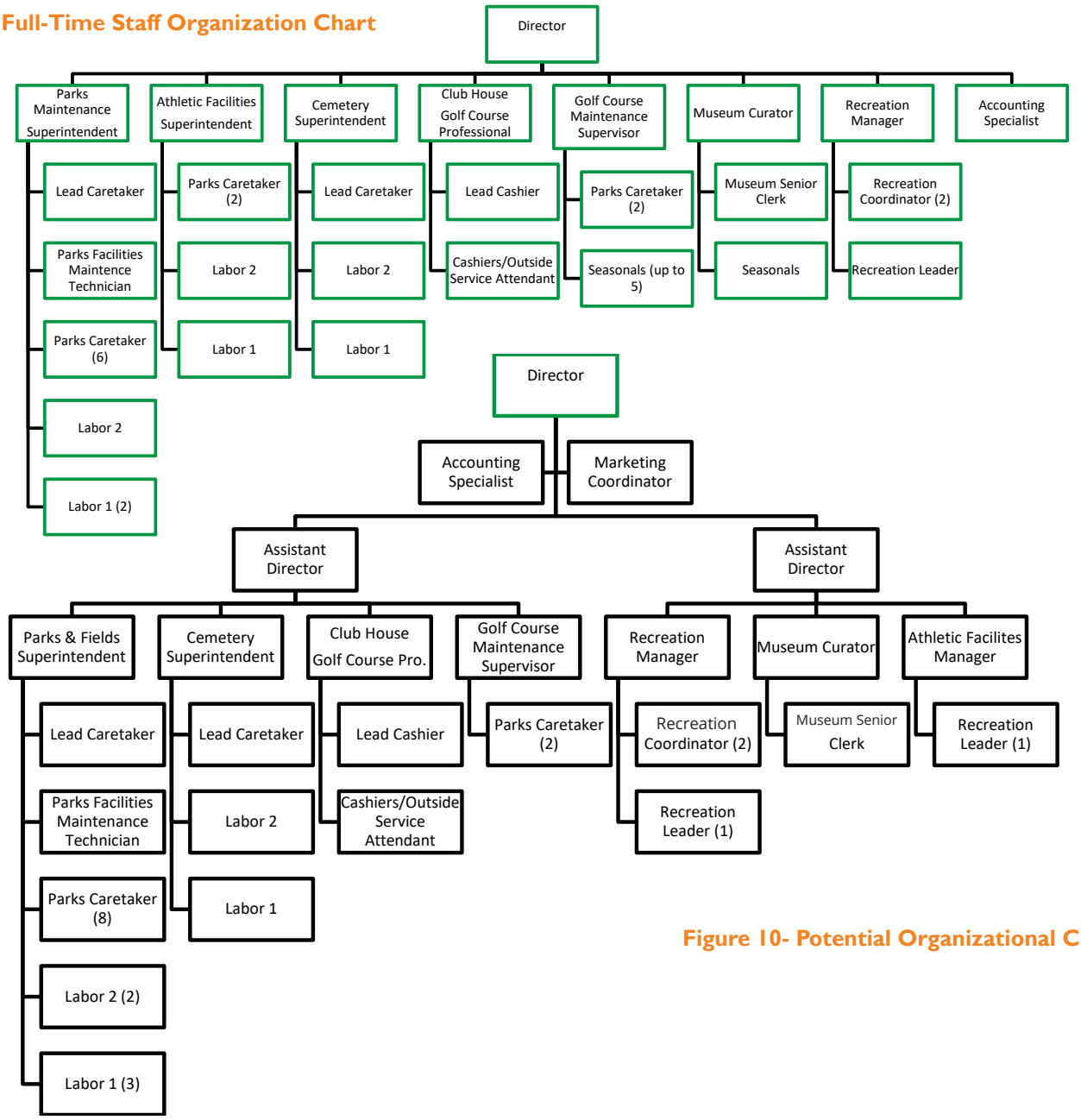


Figure 10- Potential Organizational Chart

Splitting the organizational chart in this fashion would have a clear focus on parks AND recreation.

The Department currently has a strong focus on seasonal aquatics. If the Department would move towards a year around aquatic facility, B*K would strongly recommend the development of an aquatic specific Recreation Coordinator level position.

Other Staffing Considerations:

Minimum Wage. The minimum wage in the State of Missouri was $9.45 as of January 1, 2020. It has since increased to $10.30 as of January 1, 2021. There will continue to be subsequent increases until it reaches $12.00/hour by January 1, 2023. Total personnel services, minus administration, in the FY2020 budget is $1,167,000. If one assumes that part-time hourly staff accounts for 15%, or $175,050, of the total, that number is going to increase by a little over 8% in the upcoming 2 years.

Wage Compression. With the increase in minimum wage there is a greater potential for wage compression.

Mentoring Program. A very positive attribute about the Department is the number of years that individuals have worked for the Department. This institutional knowledge is very important and should be coveted. To that end developing a mentoring program within the Department that allows individuals to learn about one another's job and job responsibilities would be valuable in two significant ways. One, it would help to preserve and expand the institutional knowledge of the department. Two, it would greatly assist in each employee understanding the challenges of various positions in the Department.

FUNDING ANALYSIS

As part of the master plan process, the design team has reviewed the budget information that has been provided to them by the City of Joplin. It is important to note that when discussing expenses, the team was provided Actuals from FY2013 through FY2018, FY2019 Adjusted and FY2020 Adopted. When discussing revenues the team was provided Actuals from FY2015-FY2019, FY2019 Adjusted and FY2020 Adopted.

Budget Categories:
We have identified the following budget categories within the Parks & Recreation Budget. In addition to these core areas the City operates a municipal golf course. That course has an approximate $775,000 operating budget and captures over 90% of the operating expense through revenue generation. As such, we did not include this enterprise operation in the full analysis.

Supplemental Information: The City provided the design team with annual reports that they created for two large operational categories; Pools and Memorial Hall. Based off that information, we can offer the following:

- **Pools.** The three aquatic facilities operated by the City have had an approximate 60% cost recovery between FY2017-FY2019. Most seasonal aquatic facilities operate at a 50-75% cost recovery level. Obviously there can be variances based on geographic location and weather, but an average is between 50-75%.

- **Memorial Hall.** While this building is aging and needs investment it captures 30-40% of operating costs on an annual basis. If this building were new and/or renovated, and based on the operational parameters, B*K would expect the cost recovery of the facility to increase.

As the Department moves forward, B*K would recommend that the following operations within the Department be broken out into their own revenue/cost accounting lines: Golf (already in place), Pools, Memorial Hall, and the Athletic Complex.

Conclusions & Recommendations:

- B*K would identify the Department as financially healthy with a generous subsidy from the general fund.

- If the Department moves forward with the recommended changes to Ewert Pool and that park location, they could anticipate the cost recovery of Pools to either remain static or show a slight increase.

- If the Department moves forward with the renovation and/or expansion of Memorial Hall they can expect to see an increase in the cost recovery, but that will also come with an increase in operational expenses. The reality is that the facility will operate more like a community center and provide greater opportunities for indoor programming, an area where the Department is sorely lacking currently.

- The cost recovery for the golf course is impressive as most municipal courses struggle to reach the 100% cost recovery. The potential inclusion of a driving range

Category	Average Expense	Percent of Budget
Cemeteries	$397,979	10.5%
Pools	$553,431	14.6%
Recreation Programs	$282,172	7.4%
Senior Adult Services	$46,145	1.2%
Memorial Hall Operations	$190,897	5.0%
Museum	$232,035	6.1%
Athletic Complex	$725,239	19.1%
Stadium Maintenance	$228,344	6.0%
Parks & Public Grounds	$1,143,618	30.1%
Total Minus Administration	$3,799,860	
Administration	$396,595	
Total w/ Administration	$4,196,455	

is a missing amenity that may assist in reaching and maintaining the goal.

- A concern regarding the financial health of the Department is the lack of revenue generation via the Athletic Complex. B*K would expect given the population concentration, and the trend in youth sports to see the cost recovery for that facility to be at least 50% or higher. There is also the reality that facilities of this nature, while sometimes subsidized, can also have a positive economic impact on the community.

- The Department should consider conducting an internal audit of the Athletic Complex to evaluate staffing, pricing structure, and market penetration. Evaluation of these, along with adjustment of operational philosophy and cost recovery philosophy could see an increase in cost recovery level and a potential decrease in required subsidy from the General Fund.

- Another concept, while significantly less popular, would be for the City to issue an RFP/RFQ for the operation of the Athletic Complex. The idea being that there may be agencies more equipped to operate the facility as a revenue generating venture.

- The expansion of the Athletic Complex with additional fields (diamonds and rectangles) could have a positive impact on the financial performance of the facility. It may make it more attractive for tournaments, which could generate revenue in the form of participation fees, or rental fees. The other, less obvious, positive impact is in the form of economic impact.

- If the Department moves forward with the installation and upgrading of natural turf fields to synthetic turf fields, they should not anticipate a significant decrease in operational expense. In fact, it will have an impact on the parks and stormwater sales tax project list as most synthetic turf fields have a 10-year life cycle. The Department is aware of this life cycle and is planning appropriately within their CIP budget.

Category	Average Revenues
Cemeteries	$106,831
Taxes	$431,740
Facility Rental Fees	$37,482
Shelter Rental	$18,667
Pool Admission	$192,050
Recreation Program Fees	$114,401
Tennis Fees	$11,924
Baseball Fees	$60,826
Soccer Fees	$25,056
Swimming Pool Pass	$41,812
Softball Fees	$42,649
Pool Rental	$19,962
Concessions	$208,522
Merchandise Commission	$2,284
Advertising	$6,558
Services Charges/User Fees	$782,192
Other Income/Donations	$40,040
Total Minus Subsidy	$1,360,814
Total w/ Subsidy	$3,949,947

- Currently the Department has a ¼ Cent Sales Tax for Parks & Stormwater that support project investment. The State of Missouri allows up to a ½ Cent Sales Tax for Parks & Stormwater. B*K would recommend the City evaluate if there is an opportunity to increase from ¼ to ½.

- Future investment in the Parks & Recreation Department should be focused on renovating and updating the current inventory, and expanding the revenue generating opportunities. This will help promote the financial health of the Department.



PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION ANALYSIS

As part of the master plan process, B*K has identified a wide variety of activities that the City of Joplin Parks & Recreation Department could offer. The participation information comes from two different sources, the National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). The NSGA conducts their study annually, while the NEA conducts a study every 5-6 years. The information contained in this section of the report reflects the most recent data that B*K can access.

NSGA Participation Numbers: On an annual basis, the National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA) conducts an in-depth study and survey of how Americans spend their leisure time. This information provides the data necessary to overlay rate of participation a service area to determine market potential. For purposes of the master plan process B*K has used a 30-minute drive time from a central point in the City of Joplin. B*K would identify this as a Primary Service Area, or the distance that people are willing to travel on a weekly basis to participate in programs and use facilities. The total population in the Primary Service Area is estimated to be approximately 177,000 people.

B*K takes the national average and combines that with participation percentages of the Primary Service Area based upon age distribution, median income, region, and National numbers. Those four percentages are then averaged together to create a unique participation percentage for the service area. This participation percentage when applied to the population of the Primary Service Area then provides an idea of the market potential for outdoor recreation.

The activities in this section of the report are categorized as indoor, outdoor, aquatics, golf, ice, unique, and did not participate.

The information in Table A develops a unique participation percentage for the identified activities based on the demographic characteristics and location of the Primary Service Area. Table B then takes that unique participation percentage and applies it to the population over age 7.

Activities like Aerobic Exercise, Boxing, Exercise w/ Equipment, Martial Arts/MMA, Pilates, Weightlifting, Workout @ Clubs, and Yoga point to a wide variety of group exercise activities that could be offered. These activities can be delivered by part-time employees or contract employees. In both instances the organization that offers the program should make money on the program, in other words, they should not be subsidized.

Activities like Basketball, Cheerleading, Gymnastics, Pickleball, Table Tennis/Ping Pong, Volleyball, and Wrestling are indicators for the need of gymnasium space. A gymnasium space can also support some of the group exercise activities identified in the previous paragraph. Most communities are lacking in total gymnasium space, or space for indoor activities, and Joplin is not an exception. These programs can be offered in a pay-to-play format, or can be offered as drop-in, open gym, opportunities.



Table A – Participation Rates in the Primary Service Area

Indoor	Age	Income	Region	Nation	Average
Aerobic Exercise	15.6%	14.9%	20.6%	15.8%	16.7%
Basketball	8.3%	9.1%	9.1%	8.4%	8.7%
Boxing	1.2%	1.4%	0.9%	1.2%	1.2%
Cheerleading	1.2%	1.1%	0.9%	1.2%	1.1%
Exercise w/ Equipment	19.4%	17.8%	22.6%	19.5%	19.8%
Gymnastics	2.0%	1.9%	1.5%	2.0%	1.9%
Martial Arts/MMA	2.0%	1.9%	2.3%	2.0%	2.1%
Pickleball	8.4%	0.5%	0.7%	0.7%	2.6%
Pilates	1.9%	2.0%	1.9%	2.0%	2.0%
Table Tennis/Ping Pong	3.3%	3.9*%	4.5%	3.3%	3.7%
Volleyball	3.5%	3.5%	6.8%	3.5%	4.3%
Weightlifting	12.4%	12.7%	14.9%	12.6%	13.1%
Workout @ Clubs	13.1%	11.1%	13.8%	13.2%	12.8%
Wrestling	1.1%	1.4%	1.6%	1.1%	1.3%
Yoga	10.4%	10.6%	11.9%	10.6%	10.9%

Age: Participation based on individuals ages 7 & Up of the Primary Service Area.
Income: Participation based on the 2020 estimated median household income in the Primary Service Area.
Region: Participation based on regional statistics (West North Central).
National: Participation based on national statistics.
Average: Average of the four columns.

Table B – Anticipated Market Potential for Participation in Primary Service Area

Indoor	Average	2010 Pop.	2020 Pop.	2025 Pop.	Difference
Aerobic Exercise	16.7%	25,535	26,835	27,315	1,780
Basketball	8.7%	13,326	14,004	14,255	929
Boxing	1.2%	1,798	1,890	1,923	125
Cheerleading	1.1%	1,697	1,784	1,816	118
Exercise w/ Equipment	19.8%	30,260	31,800	32,369	2,109
Gymnastics	1.9%	2,837	2,981	3,034	198
Martial Arts/MMA	2.1%	3,131	3,290	3,349	218
Pickleball	2.6%	3,935	4,135	4,209	274
Pilates	2.0%	2,990	3,142	3,198	208
Table Tennis/Ping Pong	3.7%	5,637	5,924	6,030	393
Volleyball	4.3%	6,614	6,951	7,075	461
Weightlifting	13.1%	20,055	21,076	21,453	1,398
Workout @ Clubs	12.8%	19,516	20,510	20,877	1,360
Wrestling	1.3%	1,994	2,095	2,133	139
Yoga	10.9%	16,610	17,456	17,768	1,158



The information in Table C develops a unique participation percentage for the identified activities based on the demographic characteristics and location of the Primary Service Area. Table D then takes that unique participation percentage and applies it to the population over age 7.

Activities like Baseball, Football, Lacrosse, Soccer, and Softball point to field use in communities. The continued rise and trend in youth sports typically places field space at a premium in communities, especially practice space. Many Parks & Recreation agencies find themselves in a position of offering grass roots youth sports for very young youth through Grade 5. Beyond that age, those same agencies then rely on local youth sports groups to provide the programming, while the agency provides the facility. When providing entry level youth sports programs many agencies choose to subsidize those programs, to a degree. However, as the instruction increases in sophistication, so does the price point, and the ability to fully recover costs. When youth sports agencies are using said agencies fields, they should be paying for the rental of the facility, potentially lighting (if applicable), and field set-up.

Tennis is seeing an increase in participation. This can be attributed to both the increase in retirees and the popularity of Pickleball. Tennis, like Pickleball, can be offered as a league, or on a drop-in basis. Leagues should cover associated operating expenses, while drop-in participation typically fills low-use times of the day.

Bicycle Riding and Exercise Walking are also very popular activities and further underscore the want for additional trails, sidewalks, and connections. Most communities the size of Joplin are making strides to be a walkable, bike friendly, community. Mountain Biking (off road) and Running/Jogging are somewhat unique in the cross-over appeal. Running/Jogging can be done outdoors, as indicated above, but can also be accomplished indoors with a treadmill. It is important to runners to not only have well defined trails that can be used by runners, joggers, walkers, and bikers but some in the running/jogging community are also interested in trail running. This is where running/jogging and mountain biking (off-road) meet. Many of the mountain bikers are willing to be on-road, or on an established trail, to get to an off-road, more technical trail.

Table C – Participation Rates in the Primary Service Area

Outdoor	Age	Income	Region	Nation	Average
Baseball	4.1%	3.3%	4.5%	4.1%	4.0%
Bicycle Riding	12.5%	12.9%	14.1%	12.6%	13.0%
Exercise Walking	35.3%	38.1%	39.0%	35.6%	37.0%
Football (flag)	2.2%	2.6%	2.7%	2.2%	2.4%
Football (tackle)	2.4%	2.5%	2.9%	2.4%	2.6%
Football (touch)	3.0%	3.9%	3.9%	3.0%	3.4%
Lacrosse	0.9%	0.7%	0.6%	0.9%	0.8%
Mtn Biking (off-road)	1.8%	1.1%	1.9%	1.9%	1.7%
Running/Jogging	15.1%	14.0%	15.8%	15.4%	15.1%
Soccer	4.8%	4.0%	6.1%	4.7%	4.9%
Softball	3.3%	3.7%	4.3%	3.4%	3.7%
Tennis	4.0%	3.6%	3.4%	4.1%	3.8%

Age: Participation based on individuals ages 7 & Up of the Primary Service Area.
Income: Participation based on the 2020 estimated median household income in the Primary Service Area.
Region: Participation based on regional statistics (West North Central).
National: Participation based on national statistics.
Average: Average of the four columns.

Table D – Anticipated Market Potential for Participation in Primary Service Area

Outdoor	Average	2010 Pop.	2020 Pop.	2025 Pop.	Difference
Baseball	4.0%	6,108	6,419	6,533	426
Bicycle Riding	13.0%	19,890	20,903	21,277	1,386
Exercise Walking	37.0%	56,468	59,343	60,404	3,936
Football (flag)	2.4%	3,697	3,886	3,955	258
Football (tackle)	2.6%	3,909	4,108	4,181	272
Football (touch)	3.4%	5,255	5,523	5,622	366
Lacrosse	0.8%	1,191	1,251	1,274	83
Mtn Biking (off-road)	1.7%	2,567	2,697	2,746	179
Running/Jogging	15.1%	22,999	24,170	24,602	1,603
Soccer	4.9%	7,476	7,856	7,997	521
Softball	3.7%	5,624	5,910	6,016	392
Tennis	3.8%	5,779	6,074	6,182	403

Table E – Participation Rates in the Primary Service Area

Unique	Age	Income	Region	Nation	Average
Boating (motor/power)	5.1%	4.0%	11.2%	5.2%	6.4%
Canoeing	2.4%	2.1%	4.5%	2.5%	2.9%
Hiking	15.8%	16.1%	19.6%	16.1%	16.9%
Kayaking	3.5%	3.7%	4.1%	3.6%	3.7%

Table F – Anticipated Market Potential for Participation in Primary Service Area

Unique	Average	2010 Pop.	2020 Pop.	2025 Pop.	Difference
Boating (motor/power)	6.4%	9,737	10,233	10,416	679
Canoeing	2.9%	4,405	4,629	4,712	307
Hiking	16.9%	25,799	27,112	27,597	1,798
Kayaking	3.7%	5,691	5,981	6,088	397

The information in Table E develops a unique participation percentage for the identified activities based on the demographic characteristics and location of the Primary Service Area. Table F then takes that unique participation percentage and applies it to the population over age 7.

Again, it is important to understand that B*K is not advocating for any of the identified activities, but merely providing potential market information. While the identified "water" activities above may require significant investment, an activity liking Hiking could fall in with Mountain Biking (off-road) and Running/Jogging.

A theme up to this point and throughout this master plan is the identification of multi-purpose facilities and program opportunities.

The information in Table E develops a unique participation percentage for the identified activities based on the demographic characteristics and location of the Primary Service Area. Table F then takes that unique participation percentage and applies it to the population over age 7.

With the potential of the introduction of ice and the Ewert Pool location, B*K included this information for reference. While neither are exact fits for the type of leisure skating that could take place on the ice ribbon, it does point to the market and opportunity for repeat customers.

The information in Table G develops a unique participation percentage for the identified activities based on the demographic characteristics and location of the Primary Service Area. Table H then takes that unique participation percentage and applies it to the population over age 7.

Given that the City operates a golf course, B*K felt it was good to include this participation information. That information can be taken one step further with illustrating frequency of participation.

In Table I one can look at golf and how it is defined with respect to visits being Frequent, Occasional, or Infrequent and then the percentage of population that participates.

Table J takes the frequency information one step further and identifies the number of times individuals may participate in the activity, applies the percentage from Table-H to the 2020 golf population (10,017) and then gives a total number of golfing days. This would indicate that a total of 194,483 golf rounds are available within the Primary Service Area market. It is also important to note that those are being absorbed, on some level, by the other service providers in the area.

The information in Table K develops a unique participation percentage for the identified activities based on the demographic characteristics and location of the Primary Service Area. Table L then takes that unique participation percentage and applies it to the population over age 7.

Table N takes the frequency information one step further and identifies the number of times individuals may participate in the activity, applies the percentage from Table L to

Table E – Participation Rates in the Primary Service Area

Ice	Age	Income	Region	Nation	Average
Hockey (ice)	1.1%	0.4%	2.5%	1.1%	1.3%
Ice/Figure Skating	3.7%	1.8%	4.7%	2.9%	3.3%

Table F – Anticipated Market Potential for Participation in Primary Service Area

Ice	Average	2010 Pop.	2020 Pop.	2025 Pop.	Difference
Hockey (ice)	1.3%	1,942	2,041	2,078	135
Ice/Figure Skating	3.3%	5,003	5,257	5,351	349

Table G – Participation Rates in the Primary Service Area

	Age	Income	Region	Nation	Average
Golf	6.0%	5.0%	8.0%	6.0%	6.2%

Table H – Anticipated Market Potential for Participation in Primary Service Area

	Average	2010 Pop.	2020 Pop.	2025 Pop.	Difference
Golf	6.0%	9,531	10,017	10,196	664



Table I – Participation Frequency Golf

	Frequent	Occasional	Infrequent
Golf Frequency	40+	10-39	2-9
Golf Percentage of Population	17.0%	40.5%	42.6%

Table J – Participation Numbers

	Frequent	Occasional	Infrequent	Total
Golf Frequency	42	24	6	
Population	1,703	4,057	4,267	
Visits	71,519	97,362	25,602	**194,483**

Table K – Participation Rates in the Primary Service Area

	Age	Income	Region	Nation	Average
Swimming	16.0%	15.9%	16.5%	16.1%	16.1%

Table L – Anticipated Market Potential for Participation in Primary Service Area

	Average	2010 Pop.	2020 Pop.	2025 Pop.	Difference
Swimming	16.1%	24,594	25,846	26,308	1,714

Table M – Participation Frequency Swimming

	Frequent	Occasional	Infrequent
Swimming Frequency	110+	25-109	6-24
Swimming Percentage of Population	8.5%	41.7%	49.8%

Table N – Participation Numbers

	Frequent	Occasional	Infrequent	Total
Swimming Frequency	112	67	15	
Population	2,197	10,778	12,871	
Visits	246,049	722,098	193,066	**1,161,214**

Table O – Participation Rates in the Primary Service Area

	Age	Income	Region	Nation	Average
Swimming	22.6%	25.1%	20.0%	22.4%	22.5%

Table P – Anticipated Market Potential for Participation in Primary Service Area

	Average	2010 Pop.	2020 Pop.	2025 Pop.	Difference
Swimming	22.5%	34,386	36,137	36,783	2,397

the 2020 swimming population (25,846) and then gives a total number of swimming days. This would indicate that a total of 1,161,214 swimming days are available within the Primary Service Area market. It is also important to note that those are being absorbed, on some level, by the other service providers in the area.

The NSGA collects data on 55-60 activities on any given year. Recently they have begun to collect data on individuals that indicate they do not participate in any of the identified activities. Some of these individuals may be more inclined to participate in enrichment type programs. Others prefer to participate in self-guided recreation and leisure activities.

EXISTING PROGRAMS

Youth Sports
- Little Dribblers - $38
- Spring Youth Soccer - $40
- Spring Little Soccer Kickers - $38

Youth Programs
- RecCreation Activity Kits - $10

Adult Sports
- Adult Volleyball (co-ed) - $240
- Spring Adult Softball
  - Men's Silver - $275
  - Men's Bronze - $275
  - Co-Ed Silver - $275
  - Co-Ed Bronze - $275

Adult Programs
- Tennis

Special Events
- RecCreation Activity Kits
  - February - $10
  - January - $10

Aquatics
- Annual Membership
  - Child - $60
  - Adult - $70
  - Senior - $60
  - Family - $140
- Additional Family Membership - $15
- Dog Swims - $5 or Free to Dog Park Members
- Aqua Zumba - $5/class
- Flick n' Float – Free Community Event
- Junior Lifeguard - $100/child
- Swim Teams
  - Practice Rate - $29.48/hour
  - Swim Meet - $96.45/hour

Memorial Hall
- Rentals
  - For Profit - $1,000/day
  - Non Profit - $250/day

Dog Park
- Dog Membership - $10
- Additional Dog - $5

Tennis Membership
- Adult - $75
- Family of 4 - $150
- Senior - $50
- Youth - $40

PROGRAM ANALYSIS

In conjunction with the budget analysis, it is important to evaluate the level of programming that takes place in the City. B*K would suggest that rental of indoor and outdoor spaces falls within the programming category.

Core Program Areas include:

- Rentals. This is a common practice amongst Recreation Departments. The rental opportunities could include fields, shelters, amphitheaters, etc.
- Youth Sports. This area continues to grow in both indoor and outdoor activities. Most Recreation Departments focus on being a deliver of programs from the Pre-K to Grade 5 age groups. Beyond Grade 5 most Recreation Departments shift to being a renter of space for youth sports organizations to offer programs.
- Adult Sports. The market for adult sports is shifting. Because of the time required many Departments are shifting to a drop-in model of adult sports, or shorter seasons. When administering this program type it is important that the social aspect is equally important to the program itself.
- Leagues. Youth Leagues continue to see an increase in a variety of areas, while adult leagues are experiencing decreases. However, what is on the increase for adults is weekend tournaments.
- Youth Programs. This can encompass a significant number of programs. It can focus on enrichment opportunities and/or STEAM initiatives.
- Community Events. This is a common program/service provided by Parks & Recreation Departments. If these are community sponsored events, it is important to ensure that all costs associated are being accounted for. Understanding the full financial impact of the event is important to the long-term financial health of the agency.
- Aquatics. This category encompasses a wide variety of programs and rentals for the full age spectrum.

The core programs identified are in line with what B*K would anticipate given the facility inventory within the City. The biggest detractor from the Department offering more programming is a lack of indoor facilities.

Potential new programs could include:

- It is important to note that the ability to expand some of these programs correlates to an expansion of space or staffing.

- After School Programming
  Revenue Positive
- Expanded Summer Camps
  Revenue Positive
- STEM & STEAM Programming
  Revenue Positive
- Outdoor Education
  Revenue Neutral or Subsidized
- Fitness & Incorporation of Wellness
  Revenue Positive
- Expansion of Enrichment
  Revenue Neutral or Subsidized
- Adult & Aging Adult Programming
  Revenue Neutral
- Youth/Adult Sports Out. Pro. (rectangles)
  Revenue Neutral or Positive
- Youth/Adult Sports In. Pro. (court/FH)
  Revenue Neutral or Positive
- Year Around Aquatic Programming
  Revenue Neutral or Positive

It is also important to note that the City should not hesitate to eliminate programs that are seeing a decline in registration, or those that are not recovering their appropriate cost recovery percentage.

For the Department to increase the revenue generation associated with programs and rentals, B*K would recommend the following.

- Rentals. The Department should continue to evaluate their rental rates and program fees on an annual, or bi-annual basis. Those rates should be compared to other local agencies or peer communities. The cost to operate and maintain facilities continues to increase, rental rates need to be adjusted to keep pace.

- Program Proposals. The Department needs to develop a program proposal method. B*K has a program proposals form that they would be happy to share with the Department. A program proposal form needs to be developed for each new program that the Department looks to implement.

  That proposal needs to identify the following: full-time costs, part-time costs, contractual fee, facility time, consumables, etc. This provides the financial reality of offering the programs. Equally important, there needs to be a fee identified for the program, that falls within the Department's Program Pyramid.

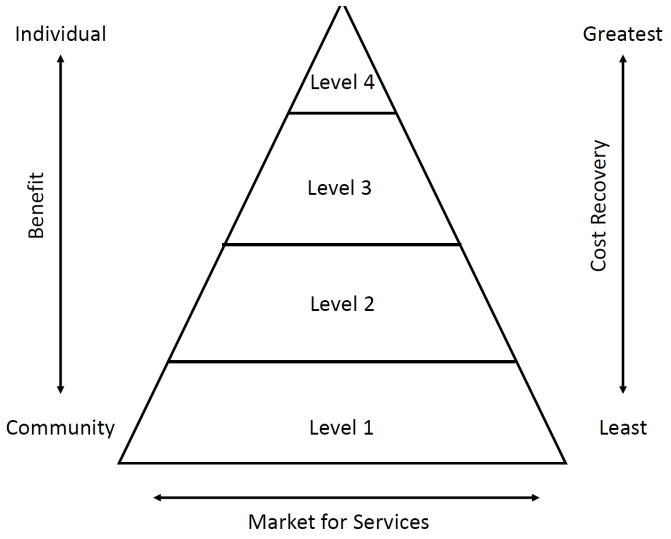
  Finally, the program proposal needs to provide a timeline for implementation, how frequently the program is to be offered, and when it is expected to achieve the stated financial goal. This timeline helps "justify" the elimination of programs if they are not meeting the intended financial goal.

- Program Pyramid. The Department needs to develop a program pyramid that provides guidance regarding pricing and cost recovery for their current and future programming efforts. The Core Program Areas identified in this report should be placed in the Program Pyramid. From their individual programs under the Core Areas may be identified and allocated. An example Program Pyramid is shown below.

Example Program Pyramid. The number of levels should be determined by the Department. For purposes of this master plan, B*K has identified 4 different levels:

- Level 1 – 30% Cost Recovery & Under
- Level 2 – 30-60% Cost Recovery
- Level 3 – 60-90% Cost Recovery
- Level 4 – 90% Cost Recovery





PARTNERSHIP ANALYSIS

A strong trend within the Parks & Recreation industry is the development of partnerships between municipal departments and other organizations in a community. Specific to master planning efforts, and facility planning, B*K likes to place partnerships along a spectrum. That spectrum stretches from one end being partners that provide capital dollars for new projects, to the other end that has vocal non-use advocates for parks and recreation.

The biggest challenges for most departments as they identify potential partners fall into two broad categories: finances and fit. Sometimes these two items are intertwined, while at other times they are stand along issues.

- Finances. Most departments are not able to fill every need outlined by the public, elected officials, and staff. This means that difficult decisions must be made. There are occasions when departments are provided with a funding opportunity in the form of a partnership. In these instances, a group or individuals pledges dollars for a specific facility or program within the parks and recreation department. It is incumbent on the parks and recreation department to understand all the conditions that come with said gift. In some cases, departments are so excited to receive the gift and move forward with an opportunity, that they do not understand all the conditions surrounding the gift, nor are they aware of the future operational impact and obligation.

- Fit. It is important to make sure that whom a department chooses to partner with is an appropriate fit with the organization. Most parks and recreation department are funded or subsidized by taxes. As a tax supported entity understanding who your partner is and their position on a variety of issues is important. Taking the time to vet potential partners is much more important than executing a speedy partnership and regretting it later. This is especially true, when the partnership comes in the form of contract staff offering programs through a parks and recreation department but can be applied to financial gifts as well.

The most common downfall of departments that have partnerships in place is that they do not take the time to review them on a consistent basis. For new partnerships B*K would recommend that all agencies involved (sometimes there is more than 2) review the partnership on a quarterly basis. During that review it is important to talk about what is going well, what is going poorly, and items you did not anticipate. At the end of a year in the partnership the partnership agreement should be updated based on the years feedback. Moving forward the partnership and partnership agreement should be reviewed on an annual basis.

Some departments are guilty of having handshake agreements, or partnerships. B*K is a strong advocate of having formal partnership agreements in place to protect both parties involved and to specifically outline the parameters surrounding the partnership.

Based on the information that B*K has reviewed there are a few significant partnerships that the Joplin Parks & Recreation Department has in place.

- School District. It is common for there to be a strong partnership between school districts and parks and recreation departments. In many instances they are reliant on one another to adequately supply gymnasium space and athletic field space. In some communities each organization has a first right of refusal to use those associated spaces. The biggest challenge that B*K sees, on a regional and national level, is that access to school district facilities is decreasing. That is true in "normal" conditions, let alone during a pandemic. The result of decreased access means that a department may have to decrease or discontinue programs that are reliant on school district facilities.

- Connect2Culture. This partnership is one that is formalized on the City level in the form of dedicated space for Connect2Culture to construct their facility. Once Connect2Culture's facility is constructed it the partnership with the City will remain, but one with the Parks & Recreation Department will evolve. This partnership will come in the form of neighbors and space use. The Connect2Culutre facility will be located to the north side of Memorial Hall. Given the proximity of the facilities to one another there will need to be a significant amount of coordination regarding special events, programming, and the impact on each operation. When Memorial Hall is renovated and expanded, the Department can expect Connect2Culture will be a renter of space on at least a quarterly basis for a variety of special events.

- Youth Sports Organizations. The City of Joplin has a significant youth population, and the Parks & Recreation Department is firmly entrenched in providing entry level youth sports programming, and facilities for independent youth sports groups in the community. This is another common partnership for parks and recreation departments in the region and across the country. As this partnership continues B*K would recommend the Department either continue with, or put in place, the following:

- Legacy Planning. Many youth sports organizations are run and led by volunteers. As leadership and volunteers transition, these organizations can decrease or increase in participation. Many parks and recreation departments have begun to get involved in the leadership of youth sports groups to provide some stability. B*K is not suggesting the Department take over the op-

eration, but by having someone involved on a board or committee they can help ensure the long-term viability of the group. This also translates into long-term revenue stream.

- User Fees. Youth sports organizations should pay some level of fee to use facilities. In many instances departments consider a reduced rate for practice time but require groups to pay the standard rate if they are hosting a competition or tournament. Regardless of the fees charged, the Department will want to be proactive in discussing them with the youth sports groups so they can incorporate them into their own fee structure.

- Facility Conditions. The trend in youth sports is that groups want to play on the best. Conversely there is also an aversion to paying facility rental fees by some groups. A tactic that some parks and recreation departments have employed is establishing a standard for facility care and maintenance, this is typically specific to rectangles and diamonds. If the youth sports group wants a higher standard than that of which the department has established, it is on the youth sports group to financially support that standard.

PARTNERSHIP SPECTRUM:

As the City of Joplin Parks & Recreation Department moves forward, here are some additional types of partnerships, some traditional some non-traditional, that they should be aware of and consider.

- Capital for Construction (ex. fields, community center, splash pad, amphitheater)
- Capital for Space Specific Construction (ex. community room in a community center, water slide at a pool)
- Naming Rights (ex. fields, trails, other facilities)
- FFE Assistance (ex. as Memorial Hall is renovated having a gift that funds all technology in the building)
- Renter of Space (ex. one time, short-term, long-term)
- Program Provider (ex. group exercise, humanities, art, acting, sports, etc.)
- Wellness Program (ex. working with local health care providers, development of a wellness fair)
- Community Advocate



PARK, FACILITY AND TRAIL ASSESSMENTS

In November of 2020, all parks and recreation facilities were visited and assessed by Landworks Studio and SFS Architecture staff. This entailed taking photos of each property, creating an inventory of amenities, and evaluating each property based on the assessment listed below. The assessment was based on: Accessibility, Connectivity, Comfort & Character, Usability, and Amenities. These are all of the factors that go into making a great park or facility.

Each main category had four questions associated with it. As staff filled out the assessment, they gave a score of 1-5 for each of the questions, for every category. Each category has a maximum score of 20, with an overall maximum score of 100 for each park property. This allowed each property to be placed in one of these categories: Poor, Fair, Good, and Excellent. All of the park and facility scores were placed into a matrix, found at the end of this section, which shows Joplin's entire parks system and how each property scored. The following pages offer an in-depth look at each park and facility.



ACCESSIBILITY

EASE IN WALKING TO PARK OR FACILITY

1 being poor access to the park or facility from adjacent streets or neighborhoods due to lack of sidewalks, shade trees, limited street crossings, or single-sided frontage, versus 5 being ADA accessible on wide shaded sidewalks with pedestrian street crossings, an interconnected park sidewalk system, and multiple street frontages.

CLARITY OF SIGNAGE

1 being a park or facility which features nothing more than gateway and regulatory signage, verses 5 a park or facility having a hierarchy of signage (gateway, regulatory, location map, educational, directional, etc.) which is legible, attractive, and well-maintained.

ADA COMPLIANCE

1 being a park or facility that is generally inaccessible due to lack of ramps, level paving, equitable distribution of facilities, and does not appear to be easily usable by someone with special needs, verses 5 being a park or facility where the majority of its spaces are accessible and allow equitable use by people with all needs and abilities.

LIGHTING

1 being a park or facility that is not appropriately lit for its classification, verses 5 being a park or facility that is well lit by fixtures which are energy efficient and contribute to the overall aesthetic.

CONNECTIVITY

VISIBILITY FROM A DISTANCE

1 being poor visibility to the interior of the park or entrance of facility from surrounding streets or neighborhoods due to man-made structures or natural features, verses 5 being able to see clearly into the park interior or facility entrance from surrounding streets and neighborhoods.

MULTI-MODAL CAPACITY
1 being a poorly connected park or facility that relies solely on automobile access, versus 5 being a park or facility that facilitates multiple modes of transportation, the provision of bike racks or sidewalks that lead to transit stops, as well as interconnected access routes to and within the park.

RELATIONSHIP TO ADJACENT LAND USES
1 being a park or facility which provides no acknowledgment to its surrounding neighbors whether through pedestrian connections, landscaped buffers, gateway features, walls, or fences, versus 5 being a park or facility that "talks to" or celebrates its connections to adjacent land uses through architectural features, landscaping, pedestrian connections, fences, walls, or berms.

FEELING OF SAFETY
1 being a park or facility which induces the feel of danger due to poor visibility, limited access, high fences, unmaintained landscaping, decaying pavement, or the presence of litter, versus 5 being a park or facility that evokes feelings of safety through the promotion of "eyes on the park," selectively-placed entry and exit points, low and transparent fencing, and well-maintained spaces.

COMFORT & CHARACTER

OVERALL ATTRACTIVENESS
1 being a park or facility which is perceived to be uninviting, unsafe, abandoned, and dilapidated, versus 5 being a park or facility which is perceived to be inviting, safe, and impeccably well-maintained.

OVERALL MAINTENANCE
1 being a park or facility distinguished by dirty or damaged structures, recreational facilities, pavements, and site furnishings; dying, damaged, and unmaintained landscaping; and the presence of litter, versus 5 being a park or facility which features impeccably maintained structures, recreational facilities, pavements, and furnishings; healthy, vibrant landscaping, and no litter.

PLEASANT PLACES TO SIT
1 being a park or facility which offers no seating or that which is uninviting, dirty or damaged, versus 5 being a park or facility which provides inviting, tidy, and attractive seating options.

PROTECTION FROM WEATHER
1 being a park which provides no structures or protection from the elements, versus 5 being a park which offers an easily accessible covered structure with complete coverage and protection from the elements.

USABILITY

MIX OF THINGS TO DO
1 being a single-use park or facility that can only be used in specific weather conditions, versus 5 being a park or facility that offers activities for a variety of users throughout the year.

LEVEL OF ACTIVITY
1 being a park or facility with only a few visitors during the average day, versus 5 being a park or facility that attracts a variety of people of different ages and abilities throughout the average day.

PROGRAMMING FLEXIBILITY
1 being a park or facility which offers limited use due to topography, size, access, physical limitations, and seasonality, versus 5 being a park or facility with a large range of options due to flexible topography, open spaces, structures, and utilities.

SENSE OF OWNERSHIP
1 being a park or facility showing misuse, lack of maintenance, litter, and vandalism, verses 5 being an actively- used park or facility showing evidence of maintenance, upkeep, volunteerism, and "patrolling" users.

AMENITIES

PLAYGROUND AND SPORTS EQUIPMENT
1 being a park or facility with damaged, dirty, or dilapidated playground, exercise, or athletic equipment, versus 5 being a park with clean, attractive, and well-maintained equipment.

BUILT STRUCTURES
1 being a park or facility with restrooms, shelters, etc. in obvious visual need of repair, versus 5 being a park or facility with buildings that appear well-maintained and in good operating order.

SIDEWALKS, STREETS, AND PARKING LOTS
1 being a park or facility with damaged or decaying, as well as an inadequate or inappropriate amount of pavement versus 5 being a park or facility with well-maintained paved surfaces appropriately designed to serve the park and its users.

ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY
1 being a park or facility which features outdated and poorly functioning lighting, irrigation, and other energy-dependent systems, versus 5 being a park or facility which appears to make use of sustainable materials and systems such as LED lighting fixtures, or rain-sensor controlled irrigation systems.

PARK

CUNNINGHAM PARK

name

2500 W. 26TH STREET

address

COMMUNITY

classification

10

acres

COMMERCIAL/ RETAIL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	14
CONNECTIVITY	13
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	15
USABILITY	14
AMENITIES	14

TOTAL SCORE: 70
GOOD

INVENTORY

- BASKETBALL COURT
- PICNIC SHELTERS
- PLAYGROUNDS
- PARKING LOTS
- BENCHES
- LIGHTING
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- PICNIC TABLES
- POND
- FOUNTAINS
- WALKING TRAIL
- MEMORIAL GARDEN
- SWINGS













AERIAL















OBSERVATIONS

Cunningham Park features many different amenities. It's home to one of Joplin's aquatic centers, two large playgrounds, three shelters, two water features and a basketball court. This is park also has two different memorial gardens dedicated to the citizens lost in the Joplin tornado. This park has a large network of paths, but doesn't have much landscaping to accompany them. From observing the park, it seems to be one of Joplin's most popular parks. It located across the street from Joplin's newest park, Mercy Park, which is a short walking distance away.

PARK

MERCY PARK

name

3002 ST JOHNS BLVD

address

COMMUNITY

classification

27.6

acres

RETAIL/ SINGLE FAMILY

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	17
CONNECTIVITY	18
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	20
USABILITY	16
AMENITIES	14

TOTAL SCORE: 85
EXCELLENT

INVENTORY

- ART
- PICNIC SHELTERS
- RESTROOM
- SENIOR CENTER
- BENCHES
- LIGHTING
- POND
- PICNIC TABLES
- WALKING TRAIL
- PARKING LOTS
- PRAIRIE RESTORATION
- RAIN GARDEN
- DRINKING FOUNTAIN













AERIAL















OBSERVATIONS

Mercy Park, located across the street from Cunningham Park is Joplin's newest park. It includes Joplin's Senior Center, which functions as a community meeting space for events. This park was built to be a passive recreational space. It features a beautiful pond, a prairie, shelters, a walking trail, and a sculpture garden. To the South of the pond lies property owned by Mercy Hospital. This part of the park includes a very grand walkway up a hill to a large shelter with seating with sculptures. The parking lot to the South incorporates a bioswale into the walking trail at the base of the hill. This park is very picturesque and the community seems to really enjoy this space.

PARK

PARR HILL PARK

name

18TH ST AND KANSAS AVE

address

COMMUNITY

classification

12.13

acres

SINGLE FAMILY

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	15
CONNECTIVITY	12
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	15
USABILITY	18
AMENITIES	13

TOTAL SCORE: 73
GOOD

INVENTORY

- PLAYGROUNDS
- PICNIC SHELTERS
- RESTROOM
- SPLASH PAD
- BENCHES
- LIGHTING
- ADULT FITNESS
- PAY TO PLAY DOG PARK
- WALKING TRAILS
- PARKING LOTS
- FOUNTAIN
- BASKETBALL COURT
- TRASH RECEPTACLES

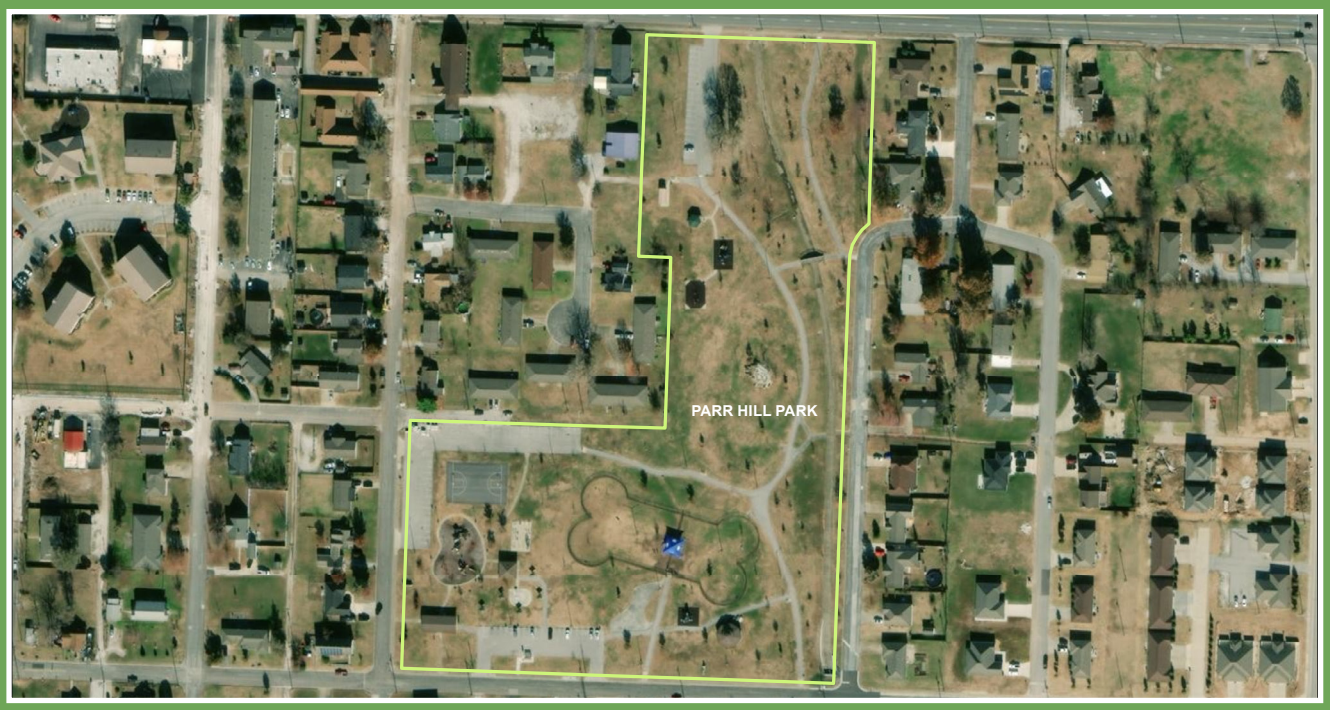








AERIAL















OBSERVATIONS

Parr Hill Park has many different amenities to offer the surrounding neighborhoods. It's home to Joplin's only off-leash dog park, which has areas for both large and small animals. It has two different playgrounds with a variety of equipment, but not much for smaller children. It also has an adult fitness area with equipment, a small splash pad, several large shelters, a water feature, a basketball court, and a walking trail. This park also didn't have very much landscaping to accompany all of the amenities and lacks shade in some key areas. The Northeast side of the park is also very close to the backyards of several houses and doesn't have much separation.

PARK

WILDCAT PARK

name

S. MAIN STREET & 55TH ST

address

COMMUNITY

classification

127.25

acres

RESIDENTIAL/ INDUSTRIAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	9
CONNECTIVITY	11
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	15
USABILITY	16
AMENITIES	15

TOTAL SCORE: 66
FAIR

INVENTORY

- FISHING
- BOAT RAMP
- PICNIC SHELTER
- HIKING TRAIL
- STREAM/CREEK
- NATURE CENTER
- MULTI-USE TRAIL
- PARKING LOT
- MOBILE RESTROOM
- BENCHES
- LIGHTING
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- PET WASTE STATION

















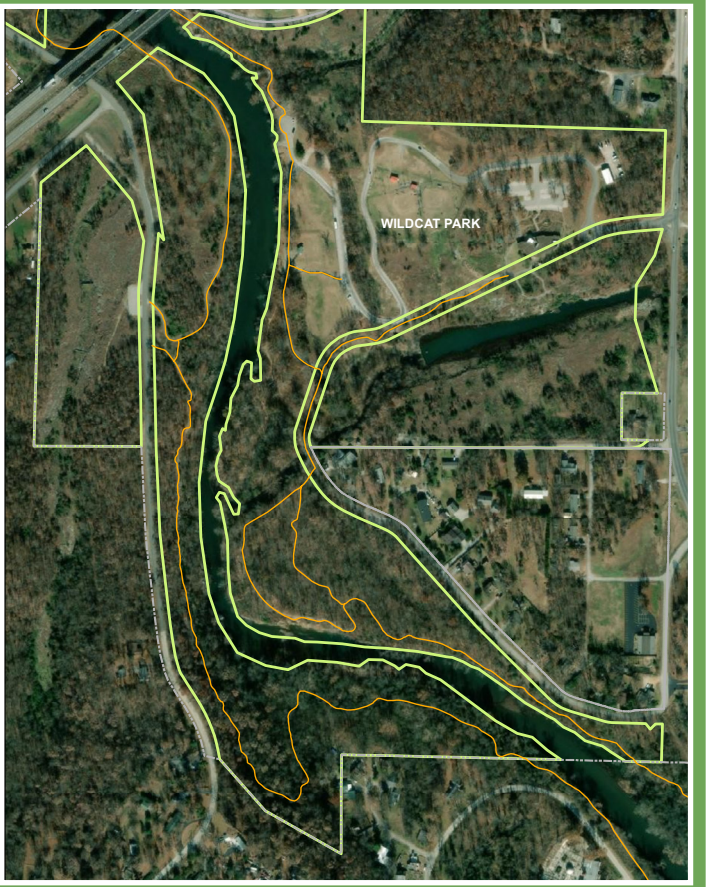








AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

Located in the southern part of the City, Wildcat Park, offers a bit of respite to the community and opportunities for passive recreation with multiple trails, shelters, natural areas, open space and fishing and boating access to Shoal Creek. This park also houses the Shoal Creek Conservation Education Center, operated under the direction of the Missouri Department of Conservation. In addition, various natural areas are accessible to the public including springs, rocky terrain, bluffs, woodlands, native grasslands, and rare chert glades. The trails offer connections to the residential area south and to McIndoe Park to the north.

The Wildcat Glades Friends Group is a group of dedicated community leaders who care deeply about Wildcat Park and work closely with City, County and State organizations to assist with the care and development of the park. This group also provides several educational and outdoor opportunities for the public including guided hikes and various youth programs. Overall, the park is well-maintained, attracts a variety of users and provides a mix of passive amenities.

PARK

SPRING PARK

name

S. ELM STREET & S. HIGH AVE

address

POCKET PARK

classification

3.4

acres

COMMERCIAL/ MULTI-FAMILY

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	7
CONNECTIVITY	11
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	8
USABILITY	8
AMENITIES	6

TOTAL SCORE: 40
POOR

INVENTORY

- STREAM/CREEK
- HISTORIC SIGN





AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

This series of small parcels surrounding a drainage area makeup what is Spring Park. The middle parcel of land is actually a historic site. This area is where one of the original founders of Joplin lived and it's marked by sign. These parcels don't offer any sidewalks, or ways to use them. The Northern most parcel seems to be used by an auto body shop to park some of their work vehicles. This space could offer the surrounding neighborhood a trail connection to Ewert Park located to the West.

PARK

PARKWAY CEMETERY

name

MCCELLAND BLVD

address

CEMETERY

classification

24.5

acres

MIXED-USE/ COMMERCIAL/ CIVIC

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	6
CONNECTIVITY	9
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	12
USABILITY	4
AMENITIES	3

TOTAL SCORE: 34
POOR

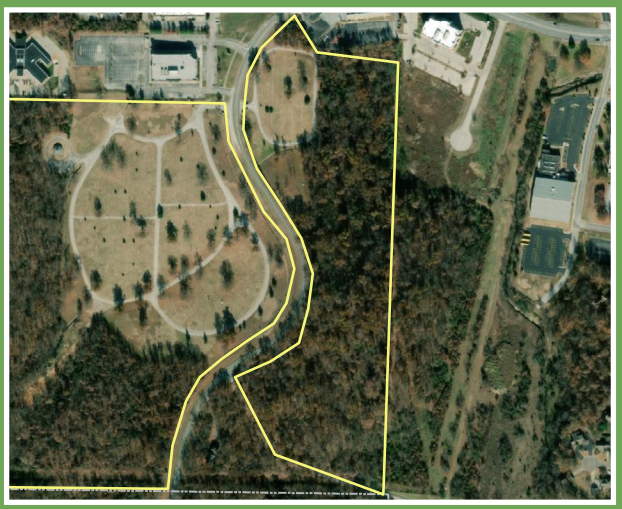
INVENTORY

- STREAM/CREEK
- BENCHES
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- PICNIC TABLES





AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

Parkway Cemetery, located in southwestern Joplin, is a moderately developed cemetery with remaining open space yet to be utilized. A beautiful and significant WPA era entry invites park visitors into the site while a stone retaining wall of the same period maintains the western property line along McClelland Boulevard. The cemetery is adjacent to Osborne Memorial Cemetery, to the west.

PARK

SCHIFFERDECKER PARK

name

W 7TH AVE & S SCHIFFERDECKER BLVD

address

REGIONAL

classification

146

acres

SINGLE FAMILY/ COMMERCIAL/ INDUSTRIAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	11
CONNECTIVITY	12
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	20
USABILITY	20
AMENITIES	12

TOTAL SCORE: 75
GOOD

INVENTORY

BLEACHERS	LIGHTING
MULTI-PURPOSE	TRASH CANS
COURT	GOLF COURSE
SAND VOLLEYBALL	DISC GOLF
POOL (OUTDOOR)	WATER SPICKETS
BASKETBALL COURT	SWINGS
PICNIC SHELTER	MUSEUM
GRILLS	
PLAYGROUND	
PARKING LOT	
RESTROOMS	
BENCHES	
SKATE PARK	













AERIAL















OBSERVATIONS

Schifferdecker Park, located in western Joplin, is a sizable regional park in the Joplin Parks and Recreation system. The property includes many amenities including the Schifferdecker Golf Course, the Schifferdecker Family Aquatic Center, Joplin History & Mineral Museum, basketball courts, disc golf, skate park, playgrounds, and shelters. With the amenities present and the size of the park property, Schifferfecker Park should act as a regional draw for Joplin residents and tourists.

The park has a rich history. Electric Park, the failed business venture of Charles Schifferdecker, opened on the park property in 1909 featuring amusement rides, animal exhibits, concessions, and 40,000 incandescent light bulbs. Schifferdecker donated the land to the City of Joplin in 1913 for use as a free public park for all. Because of his generous donation, the park bears his name.

While Schifferdecker Park has a plethora of amenities to offer visitors, many of the amenities lack ADA accessibility and lack of connection from one amenity to another. This creates isolated amenity experiences, rather than a continuous park experience. Lastly, many amenities in the park need updating.

PARK

OSBORNE MEMORIAL CEMETERY

name

MCCLELLAND BLVD

address

CEMETERY

classification

74.4

acres

SINGLE FAMILY/ COMMERCIAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	8
CONNECTIVITY	11
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	15
USABILITY	8
AMENITIES	11

TOTAL SCORE: 53
FAIR

INVENTORY

- FLAG POLE
- COLUMBARIUM
- BENCHES
- TRASH RECEPTACLES





AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

Located in the southern part of the City, Osborne Memorial Cemetery was established in 1938 and is across McClelland Boulevard from Parkway Cemetery. This cemetery is very well-maintained with clear views across the site and a low stone wall along its outer eastern edge. It has a simple, paved loop road network and a new Columbarium in the northwest area of the cemetery. Similar to other cemeteries in the City, there is an information kiosk that allows visitors to locate grave sites.

PARK

MOHASKA PARK

name

MOHASKA AVE & S SERGEANT AVE

address

POCKET PARK

classification

0.58

acres

SINGLE FAMILY

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	9
CONNECTIVITY	17
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	9
USABILITY	7
AMENITIES	5

TOTAL SCORE: 47
POOR

INVENTORY

- PLAYGROUND
- PARKING LOT
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- PICNIC TABLES





AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

Mohaska Park, a small pocket park located near central Joplin, has a recently relocated playground and new parking lot. The park benefits from a recently constructed greenway trail that takes users directly past the park. Because of this multi-use trail, the park ranked very highly in connectivity in the assessment. While the park does have ADA accessible parking, there is no ADA connection between parking and the playground, picnic table, or the greenway trail.

The park is located near Joplin Gardens, a nursing home located one block to the northwest of the property. A sidewalk extension could connect Mohaska Park to the nursing home and provide a valuable asset to residents of that community.

PARK

MINERAL PARK

name

300 N MINERAL AVE

address

NEIGHBORHOOD

classification

5.5

acres

SINGLE FAMILY

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	5
CONNECTIVITY	11
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	10
USABILITY	10
AMENITIES	14

TOTAL SCORE: 50
FAIR

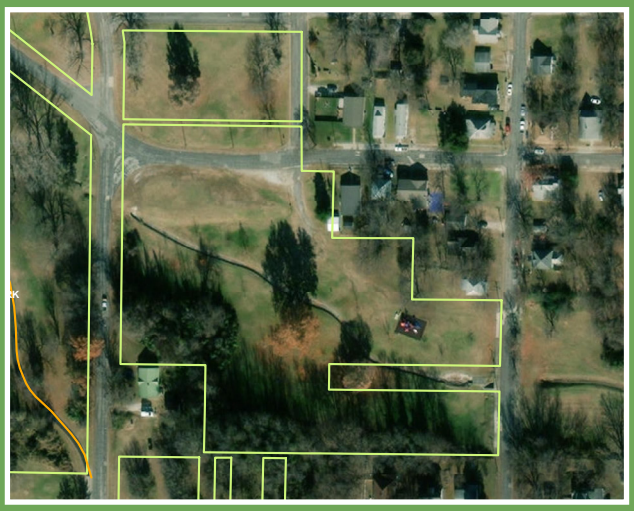
INVENTORY

- PLAYGROUND
- STREAM/CREEK
- BENCHES
- BRIDGE





AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

This small park is located just across the street from Landreth Park, just to the West. This park has a small playground without any sidewalk connections, or parking, but is home to a very old, historic looking bridge over a small drainage channel. It also has many large beautiful trees and is very close to the Frisco Trailhead.

PARK

IRON GATES PARK

name

S GOLF LINK RD & W 23RD ST

address

POCKET PARK

classification

1.4

acres

SINGLE FAMILY

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	4
CONNECTIVITY	12
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	13
USABILITY	10
AMENITIES	11

TOTAL SCORE: 50
FAIR

INVENTORY

PICNIC SHELTER	BENCHES
GRILLS	TRASH CANS
PLAYGROUND	BASKETBALL
PICNIC TABLES	STORAGE SHED





AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

Iron Gates Park, located in western Joplin, is a pocket park adjacent to the east of the Twin Hills Golf and Country Club. The park offers a half-court basketball court, playground, and shelter to visitors. A park storage shed is also located on site. A parking lot is present for use by park visitors, and a concrete sidewalk connects the parking to the shelter. The playground is not ADA accessible from both the shelter and parking. The basketball court has no ADA accessible path to the amenity.

PARK

MCINDOE PARK

name

N OF I-44 & SHOAL CREEK

address

COMMUNITY

classification

29.2

acres

SINGLE FAMILY

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	10
CONNECTIVITY	10
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	10
USABILITY	13
AMENITIES	9

TOTAL SCORE: 52
FAIR

INVENTORY

- FISHING
- BOAT RAMP
- MULTI-USE TRAIL
- STREAM/CREEK
- GRILLS
- PARKING LOTS
- MOBILE RESTROOM
- BENCHES
- PICNIC TABLES
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- BRIDGE




















AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

Located in the southern part of the City, McIndoe Park is a linear park that runs adjacent to both sides of Shoal Creek. The park provides access to the paved trail with several paved parking lots along Glendale Road to the north and Murphy Boulevard to the south. The trail along Glendale Road continues north to the trails in Wildcat Park. McIndoe Park also provides public fishing and boating access to Shoal Creek and the open lawn space between the trail and street creates usable, flexible park space. Although the park has great visibility and appears well used by runners and walkers, it could benefit from additional places to sit and possibly include a small shelter.

PARK

MCCLELLAND PARK

name

MCCLELLAND BLVD & 44TH ST

address

COMMUNITY

classification

155.6

acres

SINGLE FAMILY

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	5
CONNECTIVITY	7
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	14
USABILITY	13
AMENITIES	9

TOTAL SCORE: 48
POOR

INVENTORY

- PICNIC SHELTER
- GRILLS
- PLAYGROUND
- SWINGS
- CLIMBER
- RESTROOMS
- BENCHES
- LIGHTING
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- PICNIC TABLES
- DISC GOLF













AERIAL















OBSERVATIONS

McClelland Park is situated between Shoal Creek and McClelland Boulevard in the southern part of the City. With two large shelters, grills, benches and picnic tables, this park is a great space to gather. A majority of the site has been developed south of McClelland Boulevard, with the north side being dedicated to a disc golf course. Active recreational amenities include two 18-hole disc golf courses, a playground with swings, a net climber and play structure and horseshoe pits. The park also has areas with native restoration in progress and large, grassy open flexible spaces to play. McClelland Park offers a variety of activities but lacks connectivity throughout and could benefit from an internal loop trail system for park users to experience the area in its entirety.

Also located in McClelland Park is a shooting range north of McClelland Boulevard, which appears to be closed to the public.

PARK

LANDRETH PARK

name

N MAIN ST & E 4TH ST

address

REGIONAL

classification

64

acres

RESIDENTIAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	12
CONNECTIVITY	16
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	16
USABILITY	18
AMENITIES	17

TOTAL SCORE: 79
GOOD

INVENTORY

- SOCCER FIELD
- PARKING LOTS
- BLEACHERS
- RESTROOMS
- SAND VOLLEYBALL
- BENCHES
- DUGOUTS
- LIGHTING
- SCOREBOARDS
- PRACTICE FIELD
- PICKLEBALL CTS.
- MULTI-USE TRAIL
- PICNIC SHELTERS
- ARBORETUM
- STREAM/CREEK
- GRILLS
- AMPHITHEATER
- PLAYGROUNDS








AERIAL









OBSERVATIONS

Landreth Park is one of Joplin's biggest, centrally located parks. This park has the original, grand, stone entrances on either end of the park. It also features Joplin's only outdoor pickleball court, a large multi-use trail network, an amphitheater, sand volleyball, playgrounds, sports facilities and shelters. This is just one of a few parks located on Murphy Boulevard, which creates this large, walkable amenity for the community. This park connects to the Dover Outdoor Recreation Area to the West. This park offers a great variety of open space, amenities, and shaded areas for different types of uses.

PARK

LEONARD PARK

name

4TH ST AND TURK AVE

address

NEIGHBORHOOD

classification

6.73

acres

RESIDENTIAL/ INDUSTRIAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	17
CONNECTIVITY	14
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	18
USABILITY	16
AMENITIES	14

TOTAL SCORE: 79
GOOD

INVENTORY

- TENNIS COURT
- PICNIC SHELTER
- MULTI-USE TRAIL
- STREAM/CREEK
- PICNIC TABLES
- BENCHES
- PEDESTRIAN BRIDGES
- PLAYGROUND & SWINGS
- BACKSTOP
- RESTROOM
- LIGHTING
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- STORY WALK








AERIAL









OBSERVATIONS

Located near Forest Park Cemetery, Leonard Park provides a variety of recreational amenities for this area of the City. This park is heavily programmed with a tennis court, paved trail, playground, and shelter/restroom. In addition to the active recreation at Leonard Park, there are plenty of small open spaces with large, mature tree cover. The paved trail crosses an intermittent stream three times with three different crossing types, throughout the park. It appears over the years, the stream has caused some minor erosion and it could be beneficial to introduce some new plantings along the edges of the stream to reduce further erosion. The east side of the park is adjacent to railroad tracks but is buffered by mature vegetation and there is single and multi-family residential to the west and north. A unique element to Leonard Park is the addition of a Storywalk along the paved trail south of the shelter.

PARK

JOPLIN ATHLETIC COMPLEX

name

STRI STATE RD & W 1ST ST

address

REGIONAL

classification

110

acres

SINGLE FAMILY/ INDUSTRIAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	14
CONNECTIVITY	12
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	20
USABILITY	13
AMENITIES	17

TOTAL SCORE: 74
GOOD

INVENTORY

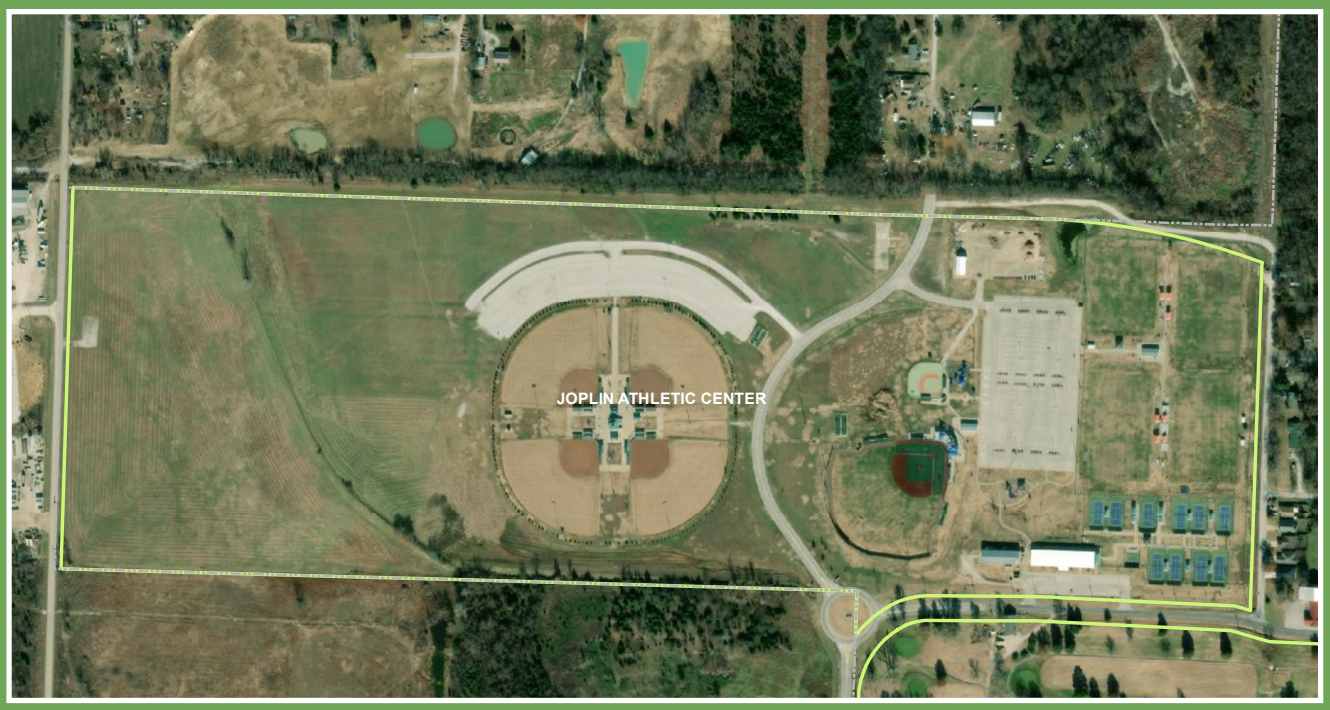
- BASEBALL/SOFTBALL FIELDS
- SOCCER FIELDS
- BLEACHERS
- CONCESSIONS
- TENNIS COURTS
- DUGOUTS
- SCOREBOARDS
- BATTING CAGES
- INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND
- DRINKING FOUNTAINS
- BENCHES
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- MIRACLE FIELD








AERIAL















OBSERVATIONS

Located in the northwest corner of town, the Joplin Athletic Complex is the primary location for all youth and adult sport programing in the city. It offers a wide array of new and nicely maintained outdoor sport and recreation amenities ranging from a 10-court tennis center, a 4-diamond softball complex, a competition youth baseball stadium, a Miracle Field, and a soccer complex that can accommodate 8 separate U-14 fields. All of these facilities are afforded ample and accessible parking, sidewalks, concession stands, restroom buildings, and shaded seating. The facility even sports two playgrounds, one of which is designed as an all-inclusive play space. Of the overall 110 acres, about 40 still remain undeveloped on the western edge of the site. The only weaknesses attached to this vast park are related to its connection to the surrounding context, or lack thereof. The complex has a nicely engineered entrance with a roundabout to limit congestion. But there is only one vehicular entrance and no sidewalk access to the site whatsoever. The park features no direct pedestrian connection to the nearby residential neighborhood to the east or even the its park neighbor to the south Schifferdecker Municipal Golf Course.

PARK

HUMPHREY PARK

name

UTICA ST & INDEPENDENCE AVE

address

NEIGHBORHOOD

classification

4.85

acres

SINGLE FAMILY/ CIVIC

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	14
CONNECTIVITY	17
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	15
USABILITY	15
AMENITIES	12

TOTAL SCORE: 73
GOOD

INVENTORY

- PICNIC SHELTER
- RESTROOM
- GRILLS
- PLAYGROUND
- BASKETBALL COURT
- LIGHTING
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- 6 HOLE DISC GOLF
- PICNIC TABLES
- SWINGS
- BENCHES
- MULTI-USE TRAIL
- BACKSTOP








AERIAL















OBSERVATIONS

As a northern neighborhood park, Humphrey Park, is a great amenity for this residential area. This park offers many recreational opportunities including a shelter/restroom, grills, playground, basketball court, 6-hole disc golf, approximately 0.3-mile asphalt loop trail, plenty of flexible open space and large, mature trees. The park is clean and well-maintained and with it's variety of active uses, is truly a benefit and within walking distance to many residences.

PARK

GARVIN PARK

name

28TH & VIRGINIA

address

POCKET PARK

classification

1.53

acres

SINGLE FAMILY/ COMMERCIAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	9
CONNECTIVITY	18
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	16
USABILITY	14
AMENITIES	11

TOTAL SCORE: 68
FAIR

INVENTORY

- MEMORIAL GARDEN
- STREAM/CREEK
- SCULPTURE
- ROCK BRIDGE
- PICNIC TABLES
- PLAYGROUNDS
- LION DRINKING FOUNTAIN
- BENCHES
- LIGHTING
- PICNIC SHELTERS
- SWINGS
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- PARKING LOT








AERIAL















OBSERVATIONS

Garvin Park is located between a neighborhood and a commercial corridor. It offers three small playgrounds, a newer rope climber, two shelters, and a memorial sculpture. The parking lot isn't paved and only provides spaces fro a few cars, without any ADA access into the park. The Western side of the park is also right up next to a fast food restaurant with a drive through, which isn't concealed in anyway and could be dangerous for kids.

TRAIL

FRISCO TRAIL / GREENWAY

name

E NORTH ST & N DIVISION AVE

address

REGIONAL

classification

5.6

miles

SINGLE FAMILY/ INDUSTRIAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	10
CONNECTIVITY	15
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	11
USABILITY	9
AMENITIES	7

TOTAL SCORE: 52
FAIR

INVENTORY

- MOBILE RESTROOM
- PARKING LOTS
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- BENCHES

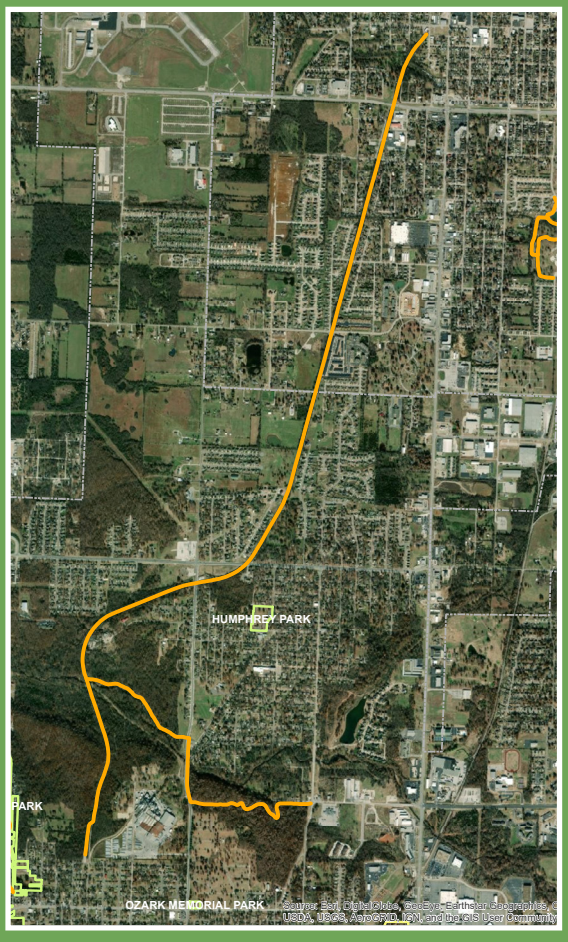




OBSERVATIONS

This facility isn't owned by the City of Joplin, but is maintained in cooperation with the Joplin Trails Coalition. This multi-use gravel trail starts near Landreth Park to the south and runs north to Highway 171 in Webb City. Along the trail, there are three trailheads with parking and the trail itself is well-maintained and free of trash. It is well-shaded and ideal for walking, running and cycling.

AERIAL



PARK

FOREST PARK CEMETERY

name

4TH ST & RANGE LINE RD

address

CEMETERY

classification

23.8

acres

COMMERCIAL/ RETAIL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	9
CONNECTIVITY	10
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	9
USABILITY	6
AMENITIES	8

TOTAL SCORE: 42
POOR

INVENTORY

- INFORMATION BOOTHS
- WELCOME CENTER





AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

Located on the eastern edge of the City, Forest Park Cemetery was established in 1884 but acquired by the City in 1988. This cemetery is well-maintained with gentle topography and a gravel loop road network. Forest Park Cemetery has a five-story Mausoleum and multiple information kiosks that allows visitors to locate grave sites. With its close proximity to retail shops and busy streets, some vegetative buffering may be considered.

PARK

CEDAR RIDGE PARK

name

4300 W. 29TH STREET

address

POCKET PARK

classification

1.6

acres

SINGLE FAMILY

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	10
CONNECTIVITY	15
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	16
USABILITY	15
AMENITIES	15

TOTAL SCORE: 71
GOOD

INVENTORY

- PICNIC SHELTER
- PLAYGROUND
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- BENCHES

AERIAL





AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

Cedar Ridge Park is a pocket park located in western Joplin. The park offers a picnic shelter and playground to park visitors. The park sits between residential houses to the east and west, while residential roads create a park boundary to the north and south. Street parking is allowed, and sidewalks run by the site on the north and south. No sidewalks exist in the interior of the park. The playground and shelter are not ADA accessible.

PARK

CRESTWOOD PARK

name

MANITOU RD & CRESTWOOD DR

address

POCKET PARK

classification

2.7

acres

SINGLE FAMILY

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	5
CONNECTIVITY	15
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	10
USABILITY	10
AMENITIES	1

TOTAL SCORE: 41
POOR

INVENTORY

- OPEN SPACE
- FLAGPOLE + MEMORIAL PLAQUE





AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

Located behind four single family homes in this older residential neighborhood, Crestwood Park consists of open lawn, rolling topography and large, mature trees. Access to this space is down a set of stone stairs in the northwest corner and from the corner of Manitou Road and Crestwood Drive in the southeast. In addition to the open space, Crestwood Park has a flagpole and a plaque dedicated to Larry Hickey Jr., for his dedication to the community.

PARK

FAIRVIEW CEMETERY

name

1207 S. MAIDEN LANE

address

CEMETERY

classification

49

acres

RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	8
CONNECTIVITY	11
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	10
USABILITY	9
AMENITIES	1

TOTAL SCORE: 39
POOR

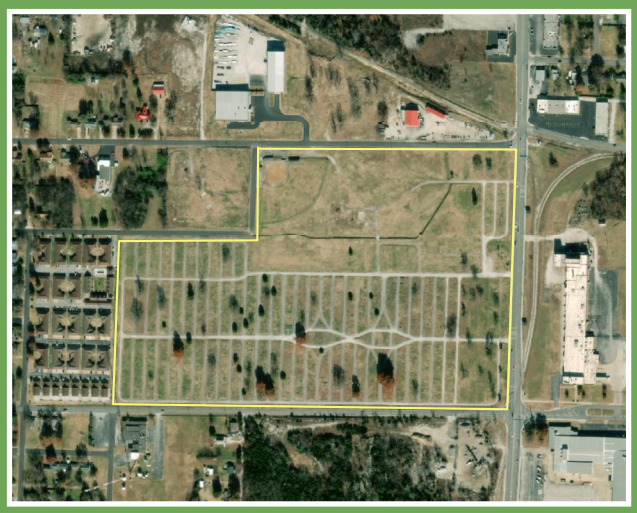
INVENTORY

- INFORMATION BOOTHS
- OLD REDDEN BASEBALL FIELD
- CONCESSION BUILDING
- STREAM/CREEK





AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

Fairview Cemetery, located in west-central Joplin, is a cemetery property that is adjacent to railroad tracks, multi-family housing, and a baked goods manufacturer. A drainage ditch cuts through the northern half of the property and the section north of the ditch still has significant space to develop. Oddly enough, the cemetery also has a recreation baseball field as part of the property. Shade is needed on this cemetery property.

PARK

GOOSE EGG PARK

name

N. SERGEANT AVE

address

POCKET PARK

classification

0.3

acres

SINGLE FAMILY

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	9
CONNECTIVITY	14
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	10
USABILITY	7
AMENITIES	1

TOTAL SCORE: 41
POOR

INVENTORY

- OPEN SPACE





AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

Goose Egg Park is a small, open piece of land, located in an older residential neighborhood in the northwestern corner of the City. Surrounded by roads, there are no significant amenities here but the space appears to be well-maintained with several mature trees.

PARK

SPIVA PARK

name

E. 4TH ST & S. MAIN ST

address

POCKET PARK

classification

0.4

acres

COMMERCIAL / RETAIL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	14
CONNECTIVITY	13
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	11
USABILITY	7
AMENITIES	4

TOTAL SCORE: 49
POOR

INVENTORY

- FLAGPOLE + MEMORIAL WALL
- WATER FEATURE
- SCULPTURES
- BENCHES
- TRASH RECEPTACLES









AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

Located in the heart of downtown Joplin, Spiva Park pays homage to the City's mining roots with several sculptures and three reflecting walls inside the park. A life-sized sculpture of the parks' donor, George A. Spiva, is also located here. The elaborate water fountains, variety of seating options and shade cover make this a pleasant space to enjoy.

PARK

TRIANGLE PARK

name

CREST DR & LAUREL RD

address

POCKET PARK

classification

0.14

acres

SINGLE FAMILY

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	6
CONNECTIVITY	14
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	9
USABILITY	5
AMENITIES	1

TOTAL SCORE: 35
POOR

INVENTORY

- OPEN SPACE





AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

Triangle Park is a small, triangular shaped open space, located in an older residential neighborhood in the northwestern corner of the City. Surrounded by roads, there are no significant amenities here but the space appears to be well-maintained with several mature trees.

PARK

EWERT PARK

name

E. 7TH ST & S. MURPHY BLVD

address

COMMUNITY

classification

13

acres

INDUSTRIAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	14
CONNECTIVITY	13
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	13
USABILITY	19
AMENITIES	13

TOTAL SCORE: 72
GOOD

INVENTORY

- BASKETBALL COURTS
- TENNIS COURTS
- STREAM/CREEK
- PICNIC SHELTERS
- PICNIC TABLES
- PLAYGROUND + SWINGS
- AQUATIC CENTER
- SKATEPARK
- BENCHES
- LIGHTING
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- GRILLS
- RESTROOM








AERIAL















OBSERVATIONS

Centrally located in Joplin, Ewert Park provides a variety of recreational amenities for this area of the City. This park is heavily programed with tennis courts, a playground, basketball, skate park, two shelters and a restroom. The Ewert Aquatic Center is also located in this park. Ewert Park is split into three sections by Murphy Boulevard on the west and a large creek to the east. With two medium sized shelters, grills, benches and picnic tables, this park is a great space to gather. The site south of Murphy Boulevard has been left wooded and undeveloped. The large parking lot has been newly resurfaced and the creekbank has been newly stabilized with concrete and rip rap. There are paved connections to all of the amenities, including two creekbank crossings from the parking lot over to the skate park and the aquatic center.

PARK

CAMPBELL PARKWAY

name

2500 W. 26TH ST

address

COMMUNITY

classification

40

acres

RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL / INSTITUTIONAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	8
CONNECTIVITY	17
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	13
USABILITY	16
AMENITIES	11

TOTAL SCORE: 65
FAIR

INVENTORY

- MULTI-USE TRAIL
- STREAM/CREEK
- BENCHES
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- DRINKING FOUNTAIN
- INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE
- BRIDGES
- OPEN SPACE








AERIAL















OBSERVATIONS

The park is one of the biggest in Joplin. It follows Joplin Creek as it winds its way through the center of Joplin. This park is located in the floodplain and therefore is under a certain amount of restrictions on what can be built here. The only structures that are allowed on the property are non-permanent. This park features a long walking trail, parallel parking along the outside of the park, benches, and a bridge. There are also sections of the park that are dedicated to prairie restoration. The park includes very nice, large trees and plantings. This park provides a huge amenity to the surrounding community not only as a great park space, but as a great Joplin-wide trail connection.

PARK

ROANOKE PARK

name

BYERS AVE & ISLINGTON PLACE

address

NEIGHBORHOOD

classification

1.8

acres

SINGLE FAMILY

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	7
CONNECTIVITY	9
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	9
USABILITY	7
AMENITIES	5

TOTAL SCORE: 37
POOR

INVENTORY

- PLAYGROUND + SWINGS
- TENNIS COURT
- BENCHES
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- PARKING LOT









AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

This small, linear neighborhood park is located in the northwest part of the City, behind several single-family homes. There are several pieces of play equipment including swings, a spinner, net climber, and post and deck structure. The single tennis court appears newly resurfaced. This park also has open flexible play space with large, mature trees but lacks paved connections within.

PARK

MCKINLEY PARK

name

MONROE & W B ST

address

POCKET PARK

classification

0.5

acres

SINGLE FAMILY

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	5
CONNECTIVITY	11
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	7
USABILITY	6
AMENITIES	3

TOTAL SCORE: 32
POOR

INVENTORY

- PLAYGROUND
- STREAM/CREEK
- PICNIC TABLES
- TRASH RECEPTACLES





AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

Located in a residential neighborhood on the west side of Joplin, McKinley Park consists of a set of swings and a spinner, along with several picnic tables under a large shade tree. There are no paved connections within the park, nor to it from the neighborhood. A dry stream bed runs along the eastern side of the park and doesn't appear to show any erosion issues.

FACILITY

CUNNINGHAM AQUATIC CENTER

name

2409 S. MAIDEN LANE

address

AQUATIC CENTER

classification

40,140

square feet

RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	16
CONNECTIVITY	17
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	17
USABILITY	16
AMENITIES	16

TOTAL SCORE: 82
GOOD

INVENTORY

- OUTDOOR POOL
- SPLASHPAD
- CONCESSION STANDS
- RESTROOMS
- PARKING LOT
- SHADE STRUCTURES
- PICNIC SHELTER
- PICNIC TABLES
- BENCHES
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- LIGHTING













AERIAL















OBSERVATIONS

The Cunningham Aquatic Center is located in the northern portion of Cunningham Park at South Maiden Lane and Gabby Street Boulevard. The aquatic center includes family-oriented features such as a zero-depth beach area, splash pad, floating lily pads, a large play structure, shade structures and multiple water slides. A large shelter adjacent to the facility in Cunningham Park allows for private parties but is not part of the aquatic center.

The facility includes a seasonal bath house that supports the pool operation and visitors. The bath house offers changing facilities and concessions. The pool mechanical systems are located outside the building in a secured area where a fabric shelter is installed during the operating season. The pool deck sits at a lower elevation than the bath house and is accessible via a large ramp on the south end of the bath house.

The facility appears to be well maintained and in good shape. Only minor on-going maintenance items appear to be needed in the short term.

FACILITY

JOE BECKER STADIUM

name

300 S. HIGH STREET

address

BASEBALL STADIUM

classification

225,000

square feet

RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	16
CONNECTIVITY	15
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	15
USABILITY	14
AMENITIES	17

TOTAL SCORE: 77
GOOD

INVENTORY

- BASEBALL FIELD
- BLEACHERS/GRANDSTANDS
- CONCESSION STANDS
- RESTROOMS
- PARKING LOT
- DUGOUTS
- SCOREBOARD
- DRINKING FOUNTAIN
- BENCHES
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- LIGHTING
- BIKE RACKS







AERIAL















OBSERVATIONS

The current Joe Becker Stadium was completed in 2014 on the site of the original 1913 ballpark. The history of the site and ballpark have included the minor league team the Joplin Minors. Whitey Herzog and Mickey Mantle were two of the notable players to have played at this site.

In addition to including synthetic turf on the infield of the ball field and lighting for night games, the facility features suites, modern restrooms, dugouts, ticketing, concessions, merchandising, and spectator seating. Practice areas for pitching and batting tunnels are also included on this site.

Parking is provided in a large surface lot to the south of the ballpark. The facility appears to be universally accessible and public transportation and pedestrian connectivity to the surrounding neighborhood are provided.

The overall condition of the facility is excellent condition and on-going maintenance should continue to be performed to sustain the facility in the long term.

FACILITY

JOPLIN HISTORY + MINERAL MUSEUM

name

504 S. SCHIFFERDECKER AVE

address

MUSEUM

classification

23,250

square feet

RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL / INSTITUTIONAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	14
CONNECTIVITY	16
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	11
USABILITY	13
AMENITIES	12

TOTAL SCORE: 66
FAIR

INVENTORY

- RESTROOMS
- PARKING LOT
- BENCHES
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- LIGHTING








AERIAL















OBSERVATIONS

The Joplin History and Mineral Museum includes exhibits for each collection as well as collections storage. The facility is generally in fair to good condition but does not appear to have been updated in several years.

The building is an L shape and consists of a two-story collection for the mineral museum north of the lobby/entry and single story for the Joplin history museum to the south and east of the lobby entry. An accessible family restroom exists on the second floor. No vestibule exists at the entry and the lobby space is shallow. An open gathering space of approximately 3000 square feet exists on the east side of the main level connected to the history museum and contains several exhibits as well. A walk-out basement houses the collection storage with an overhead door for access to the storage area. A raised dock area also exists that allows access to the event space and exhibit space. The raised dock area is in poor condition and exhibits deteriorating and spalling concrete.

FACILITY

JOPLIN PARKS + RECREATION OFFICES
name

3301 W. 1ST ST
address

OFFICE
classification

9,200
square feet

RESIDENTIAL / INSTITUTIONAL
adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	18
CONNECTIVITY	15
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	17
USABILITY	14
AMENITIES	16

TOTAL SCORE: 80
GOOD

INVENTORY

- RESTROOMS
- PARKING LOT
- BENCHES
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- LIGHTING
- DRINKING FOUNTAIN







AERIAL









OBSERVATIONS

The Joplin Parks and Recreation Offices are in a single-story building that was fully renovated in 2008 at the Joplin Athletic Complex. The interior of the building is in good condition and appears well maintained. In addition to the offices the building contains spaces for concessions, merchandising, and offices for the Joplin Sports Authority which is a non-profit sports commission that attracts, promotes, and provides sporting events in the Joplin area. Restrooms appear to be compliant with accessibility guidelines and an accessible family restroom is also provided. A shaded area also exists on the east side of the building for outdoor seating that overlooks the tennis courts.

The exterior of the building is also in good condition and consists primarily of EIFS (exterior insulating finish system) for the exterior walls with a metal roof and vented soffits. Gutters and downspouts are connected to an underground storm sewer and appear to be in general working order. There are a few areas where the EIFS walls have been damaged near grade or delaminated in the middle of the wall. These areas should be examined to confirm the wall has not allowed moisture to penetrate the assembly and then repaired accordingly. Cosmetic and superficial maintenance should also occur to prevent long-term damage from occurring due to corrosion or water intrusion.

FACILITY

JOPLIN MEMORIAL HALL

name

212 W. 8TH ST

address

THEATER/EVENT SPACE

classification

40,000

square feet

COMMERCIAL / INSTITUTIONAL / EDUCATIONAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	10
CONNECTIVITY	13
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	8
USABILITY	14
AMENITIES	5

TOTAL SCORE: 50

FAIR

INVENTORY

- RESTROOMS
- PARKING LOT
- CONCESSION STANDS
- LIGHTING
- DRINKING FOUNTAIN








AERIAL













OBSERVATIONS

Memorial Hall is located at 212 West 8th Street in Joplin. Memorial Hall is Joplin's only Veteran's Memorial and Community Center with a seating capacity of approximately 2,750 in a combination of fixed seating on two levels and floor seating when the performance occurs on the stage. Utilization of Memorial Hall has evolved through the years as needs have changed. Memorial Hall and the downtown cultural arts scene will also be impacted with the addition of the future Harry M. Cornell Complex being realized to the north of Memorial Hall. When completed, the Cornell Complex will include a performing arts space that will be able to seat 470 attendees.

FACILITY

SCHIFFERDECKER AQUATIC CENTER

name

400 S. SCHIFFERDECKER AVE

address

AQUATIC CENTER

classification

64,300

square feet

RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL / INSTITUTIONAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	19
CONNECTIVITY	20
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	17
USABILITY	17
AMENITIES	17

TOTAL SCORE: 90

GOOD

INVENTORY

- OUTDOOR POOL
- CONCESSION STANDS
- SPLASHPAD
- RESTROOMS
- PARKING LOT
- SHADE STRUCTURES
- LOUNGE CHAIRS
- BENCHES
- TRASH RECEPTACLES
- LIGHTING
- BIKE RACKS













AERIAL















OBSERVATIONS

The Schifferdecker Aquatic Center is the newest and largest of the aquatic facilities that the Parks and Recreation Department operates. The facility is in Schifferdecker Park adjacent to the Joplin History and Mineral Museum directly west of downtown along Route 66. The original bath house from 1976 was renovated along with the other improvements in 2013. The large aquatic center includes both family-oriented features such as deck sprays, zero-depth entry, play structure, lazy river, rock wall, and water slides as well as a large 25- and 50-meter competition lap pool. Ample deck space exists for lounge furniture and a composite wood sundeck exists adjacent to the competition pool. The overall condition of the pool and support facilities is good. In addition to typical and on-going maintenance items, there are some areas of the facility that should receive focused attention. The roof of the bath house entry has wood detailing that is exhibiting rot and deterioration and should be replaced. The sundeck also requires some detailed remediation as several boards appeared loose and fasteners (nails and screws) were not flush with the surface which poses a safety concern to visitors. There are also areas of erosion caused by the runoff at the adjacent museum that may cause issues at the aquatic center in the future. These should be monitored and remediated before problems get worse at both facilities.

FACILITY

JOPLIN SENIOR CENTER

name

2616 PICHER AVE

address

COMMUNITY CENTER

classification

14,000

square feet

RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL / INSTITUTIONAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	20
CONNECTIVITY	20
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	20
USABILITY	18
AMENITIES	15

TOTAL SCORE: 93
EXCELLENT

INVENTORY

- PARKING LOT
- RESTROOMS
- LIGHTING









AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

The Joplin Senior Center is a relatively new building and is located on the north side of Mercy Park. It consists of a 14,000 square foot facility that provides daily meals for Joplin seniors as well as programming for wellness, education and socialization. It is situated in the northern portion of Mercy Park and focuses views on the park landscape and scenery to the south and west. The interior of the facility was not accessible at the time of the assessments due to COVID-19 closures, however it appears to include modern materials, open spaces, and functional support spaces. The exterior includes large overhangs for outdoor gathering spaces that shade the larger interior spaces. Materials used on the exterior include large, glazed curtain walls, metal and vinyl siding, metal roofing and adhered simulated stone. Maintenance and service access is located on the east side of the building.

FACILITY

EWERT AQUATIC CENTER

name

E. 7TH ST & S. MURPHY BLVD

address

AQUATIC CENTER

classification

28,485

square feet

INDUSTRIAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	8
CONNECTIVITY	11
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	11
USABILITY	9
AMENITIES	11

TOTAL SCORE: 50
POOR

INVENTORY

POOL	BENCHES
RESTROOMS	SPLASHPAD
CONCESSIONS	PARKING LOT
STANDS	SHADE STRUCTURES
LIGHTING	TRASH RECEPTACLES









AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

Ewert Aquatic Center is one of three outdoor aquatic centers in the City and is the oldest of the three. The facility includes a zero-depth area with a play structure and sprays, in-water bench with shade, basketball goal, 2 floatables, floatable walkway, 4 small drop-slides, a large stand-alone water slide, 2 large deck shades, a bathhouse, admissions and lifeguard areas, and a concession building. The buildings are in fair condition; however, the bathhouse has an outdated layout with a gender split entry. Some of these amenities are upgraded but overall, the facility is aging. The pool structure appears to be in fair structural condition but there are portions of the walls and the pool floor that is experiencing widespread failure.

FACILITY

SCHIFFERDECKER GOLF CLUBHOUSE

name

506 S. SCHIFFERDECKER AVE

address

CLUBHOUSE

classification

5,000

square feet

RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL / INSTITUTIONAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	16
CONNECTIVITY	15
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	15
USABILITY	16
AMENITIES	14

TOTAL SCORE: 76

GOOD

INVENTORY

PARKING LOT	PRO SHOP
RESTROOMS	CONCESSIONS
TRASH RECEPTACLES	LIGHTING
DRINKING FOUNTAIN	GOLF SIMULATOR









AERIAL



OBSERVATIONS

The clubhouse facility was originally constructed in 1930. It is a single story, traditional stone building with a basement and has had various additions since it was built. The clubhouse includes a pro shop, lounge, locker rooms, and a virtual simulator. A covered porch at the entry provides additional outdoor lounge space for guests and a covered cart area also exists.

The overall condition of the building is good and appears relatively well-maintained, however the ad hoc nature of building additions and reactive maintenance responses are evident in the overall condition and character of the clubhouse. The building appears to function well and serve the needs of the community as a municipal facility for the next 5 to 10 years with continued maintenance. In the long-term the facility should be a candidate for a full modernization and renovation.

FACILITY

SCHIFFERDECKER PARK MAINTENANCE FACILITY

name

3010 W. 1ST ST

address

MAINTENANCE

classification

25,000

square feet

RESIDENTIAL / INSTITUTIONAL

adjacent land uses

ASSESSMENT

ACCESSIBILITY	8
CONNECTIVITY	12
COMFORT AND CHARACTER	12
USABILITY	3
AMENITIES	6

TOTAL SCORE: 41
POOR

INVENTORY

- PARKING LOT
- TRASH RECEPTACLES











OBSERVATIONS

This maintenance facility is located at Tennis Road and West 1st Street and includes a single-story maintenance building that provides staff offices and equipment storage for the cemetery divisions. There are two primary enclosed buildings with several supporting outbuildings and lean-to structures that provide shelter for maintenance vehicles and equipment. A free-standing concrete tornado shelter is located between the two primary structures on the site.

The building on the north includes staff offices and a large equipment bay. An accessible entrance is provided on the west side of the building to access the office areas. The overall condition of the interior is fair but provides functional space for staff. Accessibility improvements should be considered in the restrooms. The equipment bay appears to also be fair but functional for equipment and staff. HVAC is provided in the office areas and only heating is provided in the equipment bay. The exterior materials are masonry on the north at the office areas with metal siding and roofing with large overhead doors for access on the northwest, northeast, and south sides. Overall building condition is fair with visible short-term maintenance items that should be addressed such as downspout replacement or connection to storm sewer, damaged siding panels, and replacement of broken or deteriorated sidewalk panels.

CITY OF JOPLIN, MO PARK AND FACILITY ASSESSMENT MATRIX

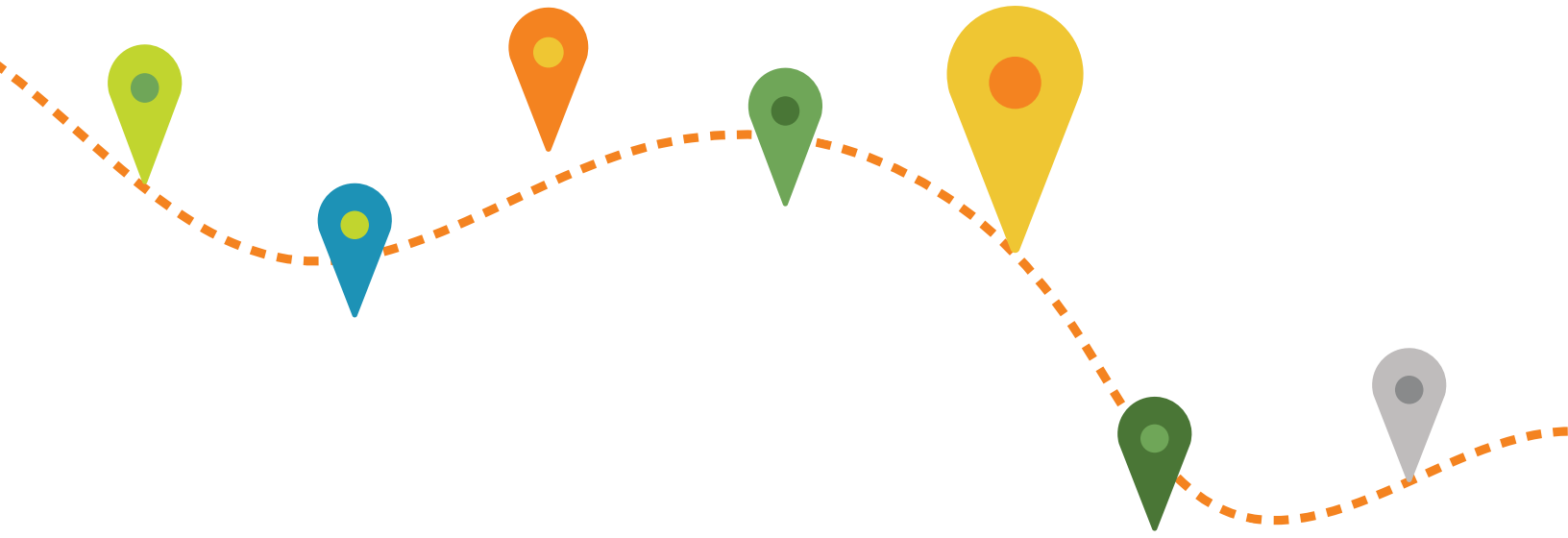
		Landreth	Humphrey	Leonard	Ewert	Cedar Ridge	Wildcat	Campbell Parkway	Garvin	Goose Egg	Iron Gates	McIndoe	Mineral	Frisco Trail	Spiva	Mohaska	McClelland	Roanoke	Crestwood Greenway	Spring Greenway	Triangle	McKinley
ACCESSIBILITY	**(MAX 20)**	12	14	14	14	10	9	8	9	9	4	10	5	10	14	9	5	7	5	7	6	5
EASE IN WALKING TO PARK	(MAX 5)	3	3	3	4	4	1	3	1	4	1	1	1	5	5	4	1	3	2	1	3	2
CLARITY OF SIGNAGE	(MAX 5)	3	4	5	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
ADA COMPLIANCE	(MAX 5)	2	3	4	4	1	4	2	1	1	1	5	1	2	4	3	1	2	1	1	1	1
LIGHTING	(MAX 5)	4	4	5	5	4	3	2	5	3	1	3	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	4	1	1
CONNECTIVITY	**(MAX 20)**	16	17	14	13	15	11	17	13	14	12	10	11	15	13	18	7	9	15	11	14	11
VISIBILITY FROM A DISTANCE	(MAX 5)	5	5	2	5	4	2	5	5	4	4	5	4	3	4	4	2	2	4	5	4	4
MULTI-MODAL CAPACITY	(MAX 5)	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	2	1	2	1	2	5	1	5	1	1	1	1	1	1
RELATIONSHIP TO LAND USES	(MAX 5)	4	4	4	3	4	2	4	2	4	1	1	2	4	4	4	1	2	5	1	4	3
FEELING OF SAFETY	(MAX 5)	4	5	5	3	5	4	5	4	5	5	3	3	3	4	5	3	4	5	4	5	3
COMFORT + CHARACTER	**(MAX 20)**	16	15	17	13	16	15	13	16	10	13	10	10	11	11	9	14	9	10	8	9	7
OVERALL ATTRACTIVENESS	(MAX 5)	4	4	5	3	3	4	4	4	3	2	4	4	4	4	2	3	2	4	3	3	2
OVERALL MAINTENANCE	(MAX 5)	4	3	4	3	5	3	4	4	5	4	3	3	4	3	5	4	4	4	3	4	3
PLEASANT PLACES TO SIT	(MAX 5)	4	4	4	3	3	4	4	4	1	3	2	2	2	3	1	3	2	1	1	1	1
PROTECTION FROM WEATHER	(MAX 5)	4	4	4	4	5	4	1	4	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	1
USABILITY	**(MAX 20)**	18	15	15	19	15	16	16	14	7	10	13	10	9	7	7	13	13	10	8	5	6
MIX OF THINGS TO DO	(MAX 5)	5	4	4	5	4	3	2	3	1	4	3	2	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1
LEVEL OF ACTIVITY	(MAX 5)	4	3	4	5	3	5	4	4	2	2	4	1	4	2	2	4	2	3	1	1	2
PROGRAMMING FLEXIBILITY	(MAX 5)	5	4	3	5	3	3	5	3	1	1	2	5	1	2	1	2	1	1	3	1	1
SENSE OF OWNERSHIP	(MAX 5)	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	4	3	3	4	2	3	2	3	4	3	5	3	2	2
AMENITIES	**(MAX 20)**	15	12	13	13	15	15	11	11	4	11	9	14	7	7	5	9	6	4	6	4	5
EQUIPMENT CONDITION	(MAX 5)	3	3	4	4	4	4	1	4	1	3	1	5	1	1	2	2	3	1	1	1	2
BUILT STRUCTURES	(MAX 5)	4	3	3	3	5	3	4	3	1	4	1	3	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
IMPERVIOUS SURFACES	(MAX 5)	3	4	4	4	4	4	3	2	1	2	5	1	4	4	1	3	2	1	1	1	1
ENERGY + SUSTAINABILITY	(MAX 5)	5	2	2	2	2	4	3	2	1	2	2	5	1	1	1	2	1	1	3	1	1
TOTAL	**(MAX 100)**	77	73	73	72	71	66	65	63	44	50	50	50	52	52	48	48	44	44	40	38	34

0-49 Poor scoring **50-69** Fair scoring **70-84** Good scoring **85-100** Excellent scoring

Mercy	Cunningham	Parr Hill	TRADITIONAL PARK AVERAGE	Osborne Memorial	Fairview	Forest Park	Parkway	CEMETERY AVERAGE	Joe Becker Stadium	Joplin Athletic Complex	Schifferdecker	ATHLETIC PARK AVERAGE	Schifferdecker Aquatic Center	Cunningham Aquatic Center	Ewert Aquatic Center	AQUATIC PARK AVERAGE	Joplin Senior Center	Joplin Parks & Recreation Offices	Schiffendecker Golf Clubhouse	Joplin History & Mineral Museum	Memorial Hall	BUILDING AVERAGE
17	14	15	9.08	9	9	9	6	8.25	16	14	11	13.66	19	16	8	14.33	20	18	16	14	10	15.6
5	2	1		3	2	2	1		4	1	1		5	4	2		5	5	5	4	3	
2	1	3		3	4	3	3		4	3	4		5	4	1		5	4	4	4	3	
5	1	5		2	2	2	1		4	5	2		4	4	2		5	5	4	4	2	
5	1	5		1	1	2	1		4	5	4		5	4	3		5	4	3	2	2	
18	13	12	13.29	11	11	10	9	10	15	12	12	13	20	17	11	16	20	15	15	16	13	15.8
5	4	3		2	5	4	2		4	5	4		5	4	3		5	3	3	3	5	
3	1	2		3	2	2	1		4	1	2		5	5	3		5	3	4	5	4	
5	3	3		2	1	1	2		3	2	1		5	4	3		5	4	4	5	2	
5	3	4		4	3	3	4		4	4	5		5	4	2		5	5	4	3	2	
20	15	15	12.58	15	10	9	12	11.5	15	20	20	18.33	17	17	11	15	20	17	15	11	8	14.2
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16	14	18	12.25	8	9	6	7	7.5	14	13	20	15.66	17	16	9	14	18	14	16	13	14	15
2	4	5		1	2	1	1		2	3	5		4	4	1		4	4	4	3	4	
5	4	3		1	2	1	1		5	3	5		5	4	2		4	3	4	3	4	
4	4	5		1	2	1	1		3	2	5		4	4	3		5	3	4	4	4	
5	2	5		5	3	3	4		4	5	5		4	4	3		5	4	4	3	2	
15	14	13	9.87	12	8	8	7	7.75	17	17	12	15.33	17	16	11	14.66	16	16	14	12	6	12.4
5	3	3		1	2	1	1		5	5	4		5	4	3		1	5	4	3	1	
5	2	3		4	1	3	1		5	4	4		4	4	2		5	4	3	3	2	
1	4	5		5	3	2	3		3	5	2		5	5	4		5	4	4	3	2	
4	4	2		2	2	2	2		4	3	2		3	3	2		5	3	3	3	1	
85	70	73	59.66	54	46	42	41	45	77	76	75	76	90	82	50	74	93	80	76	66	51	73

05

SYSTEM ANALYSIS



LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

NRPA CLASSIFICATIONS

POCKET PARK

The pocket park is designed primarily to attract residents who live within a quarter mile of the park. Generally, a walk-to type park, mini parks will not have parking facilities available for vehicles. Mini parks' service levels are .25 to .5 acres per 1000 residents. Size normally prescribes these parks to be passive, limited-activity park facilities.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

These parks typically have 5 to 20 acres and serve a population living within a half mile of the park. Conceptually, neighborhood parks concentrate intense recreation activities and facilities into a limited amount of space. Facilities typical to this park include: play fields, playgrounds, and shelters. Parking is not necessary for this type of facility due to its scope of activities and size because most visitors are local residents. However, the standard for parking is a minimum of seven spaces for the first ten acres and one additional space for each additional acre. Typically, one neighborhood park should serve between 1,000 to 2,000 residents.

COMMUNITY PARK

This type of park expands beyond a local neighborhood and may sometimes include several neighborhoods. The concept behind community parks is to provide an all-inclusive facility for recreation users. It should include a mix of active and passive activities and attract users of all ages. From sports fields to a community center, the park should provide as many recreation and support services as possible. A park of this size and scope commonly consists of 20 to 75 acres; 60 acres is considered a good size for such expansive activities.

REGIONAL PARK

The largest park typically found within a system is a regional park. These parks are normally found in large park systems. The size of a regional park varies from 50 to 250 acres depending on the type of activities and the amount of use. The service radius for this type of facility is based upon drive time and is typically within a half an hour drive of most residents. Conceptually, the regional park is to provide large natural areas that can be accessed through a variety of means, from roadways to hiking and biking.

GAP ANALYSIS

The figure to the right shows Joplin's current park level of services based upon the above criteria and the corresponding radii. Joplin has a great number and diversity of park types that provide coverage over much of the City's central core. The regional park facilities in particular, such as Landreth Park, Joe Becker Stadium, Schifferdecker Park, and the Joplin Athletic complex provide a draw for park users and enthusiasts from across the Four-State region, as shown in figure 11.1.

Portions of the City in the far northeast, southeast, and west constitute the only complete gaps, which are mostly residential neighborhoods. These are areas where increased connectivity could help, rather than acquiring more park property, Most of these neighborhoods, are left without walkable access to pocket or neighborhood parks.

Trail development, whether it takes the form of dedicated 10-foot-wide shared use paths or complete street development consisting of stripped bike lanes coupled with sidewalks, could help with the accessibility to parks across the City. The concentration of parkland in certain quadrants of the City also has the potential to create land use synergies wherein recreational and leisure activity in the parks can amplify commercial or retail activity and spur multi-family residential development.

The Murphy Boulevard corridor has a clear identity tied to Landreth, Ewert, and Campbell Parkway Parks. Further investment in the Shoal Creek corridor (Wildcat, McIndoe, McClelland) or the Schifferdecker-Athletic Complex node could create the same identity in those sections of Joplin.

LEGEND

- REGIONAL PARK (20 mile radius)
- COMMUNITY PARK (2 mile radius)
- NEIGHBORHOOD PARK (.5 mile radius)
- POCKET PARK (.25 mile radius)
- CEMETERY

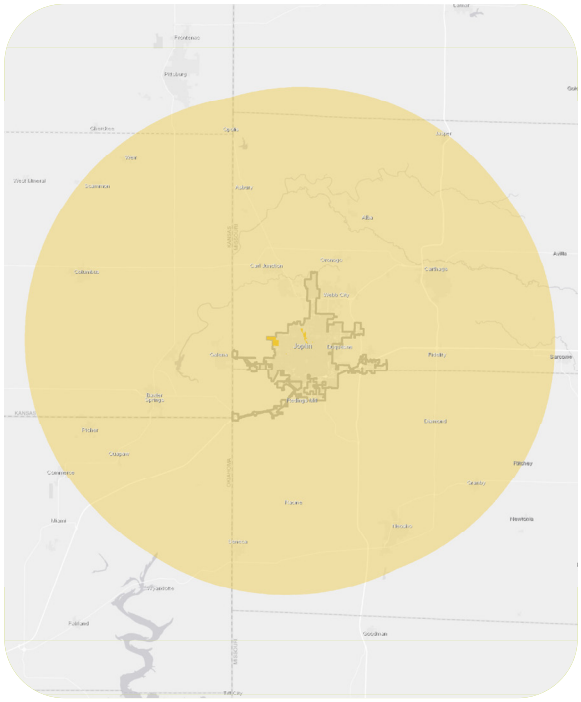


Figure 11.1 - Regional Park Service Radius

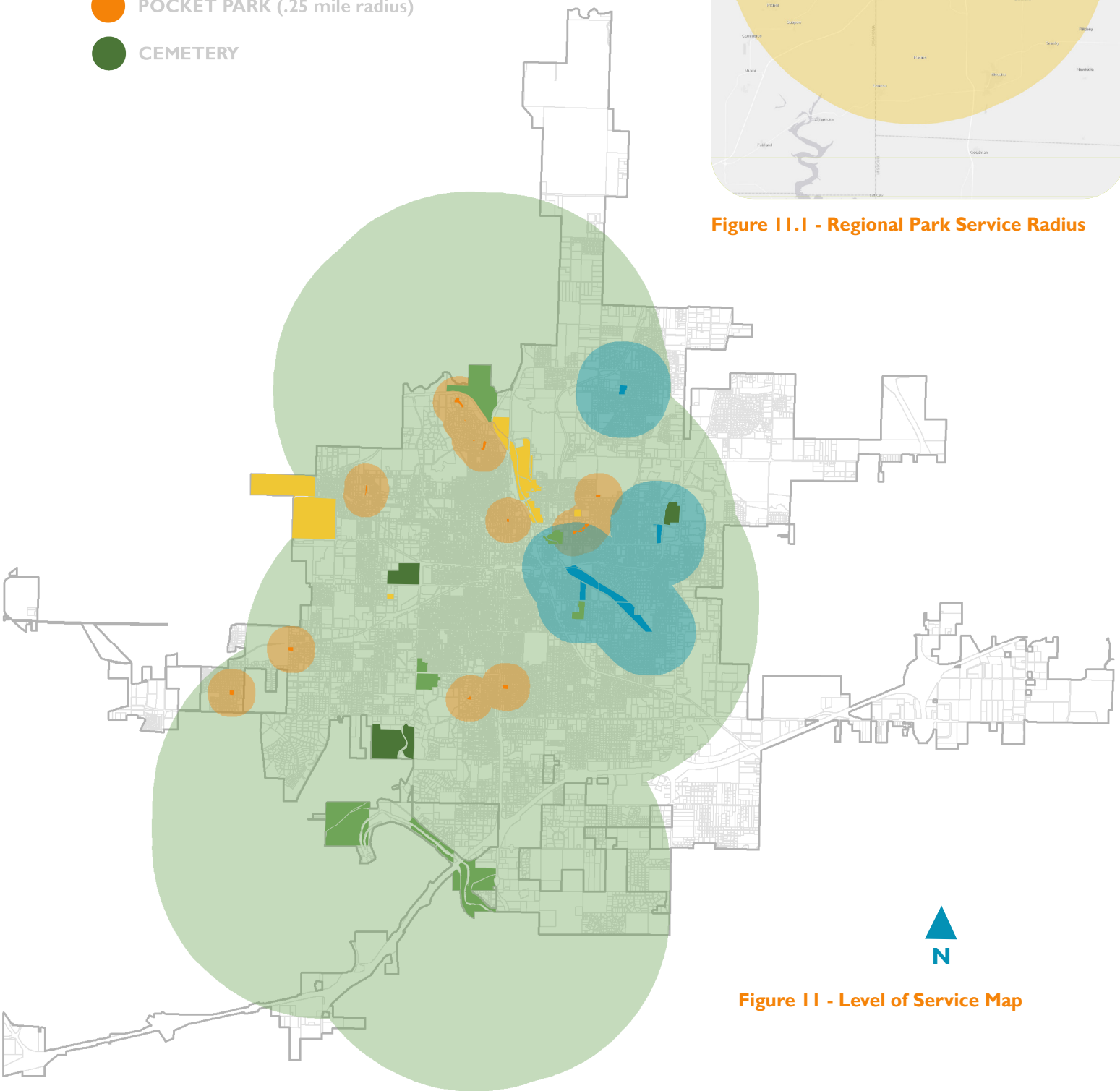


Figure 11 - Level of Service Map

RESIDENTIAL GROWTH

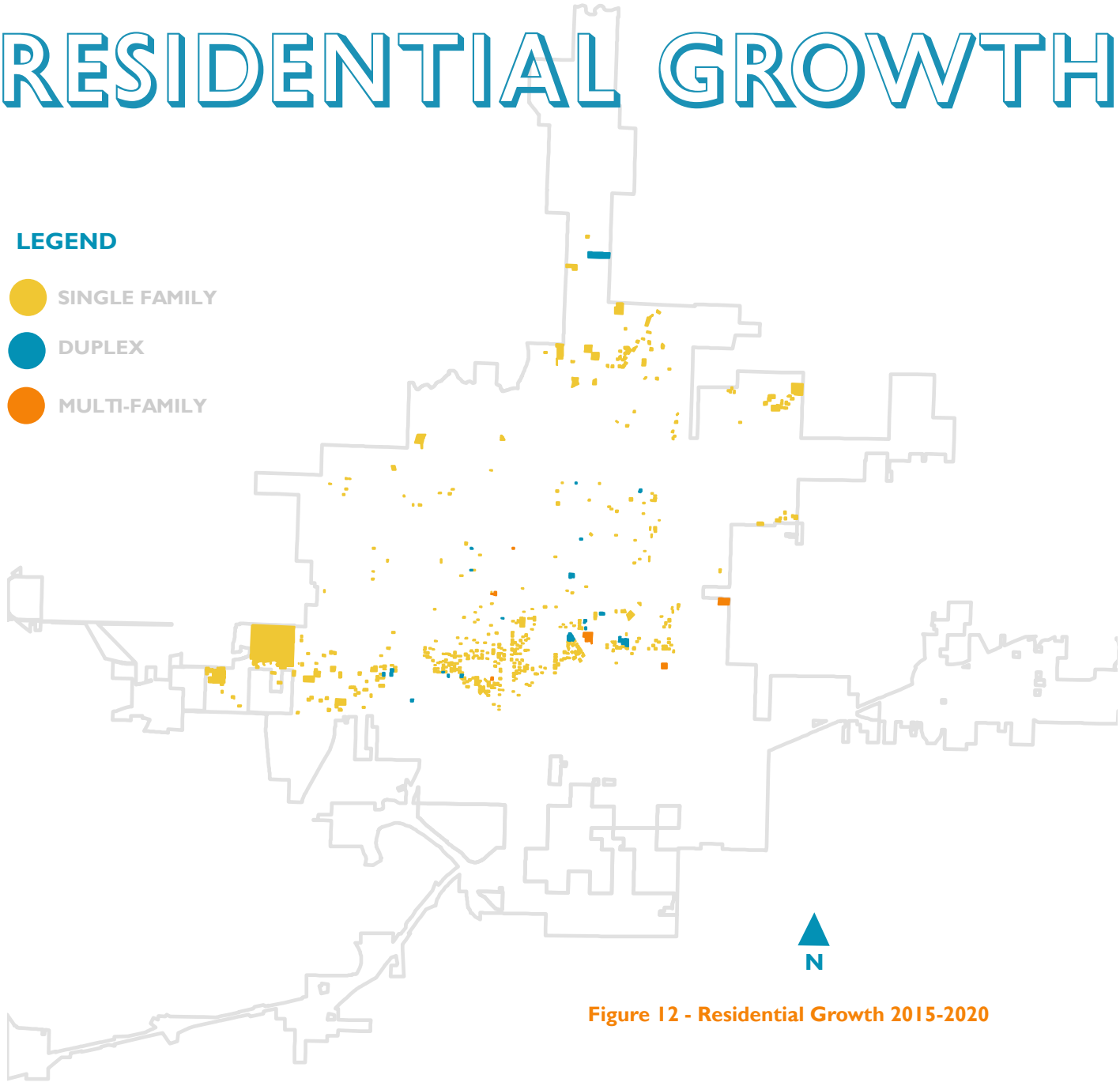


Figure 12 - Residential Growth 2015-2020

The figure above depicts the residential parcels that have been developed in the last 5 years (2015-2020) in the City of Joplin. The residential development is labeled by category: single family (one house per lot), duplexes (one building per lot, two housing units), and multi-family (2 or more housing units per building). The figure above indicates that the majority of housing being built in Joplin is single family, shown in yellow. Most of the development is clustered through the center of the City from East to West. In 2011, the City of Joplin experienced a tornado that destroyed a lot of the City. This included houses, parks, etc. The path of the tornado went right through the middle of the City, starting on the West side and moving across to the East, much like the path of development shown on the map above. With this being the case, most of the housing development in the last 5 years has been to either repair, or replace the lost housing due to the tornado. Other housing developments are shown moving North through the middle of the City and farther North by the airport. Most of this is single family with duplexes being the second most common and multi-family the third. With most of the new development happening in the center of the City, there are opportunities to make critical neighborhood connections to the parks and recreation system.

INFLOW/OUTFLOW POPULATION

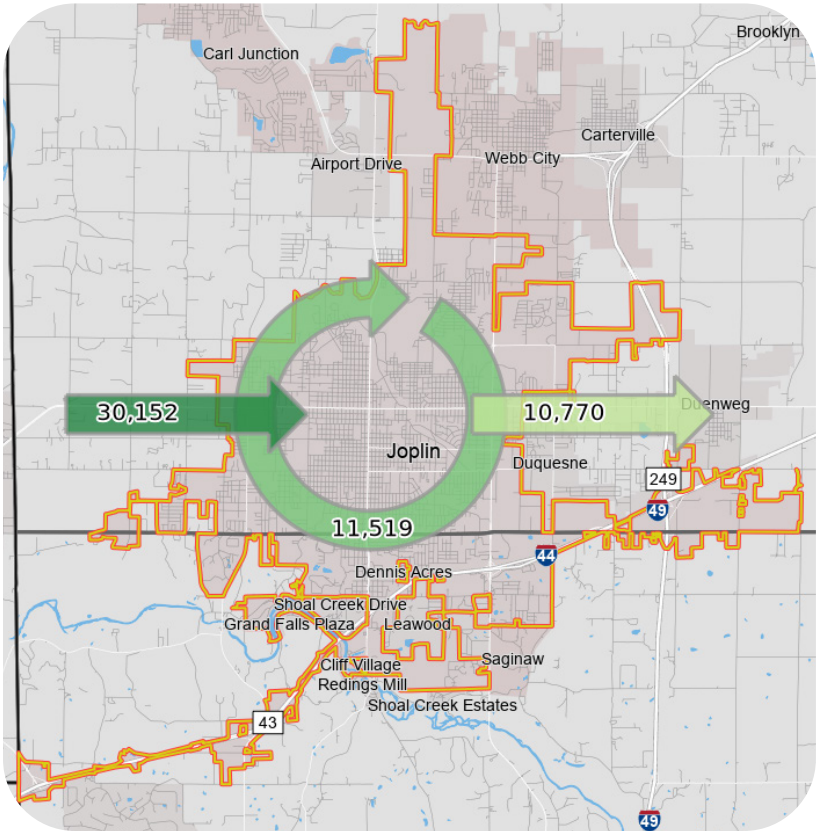
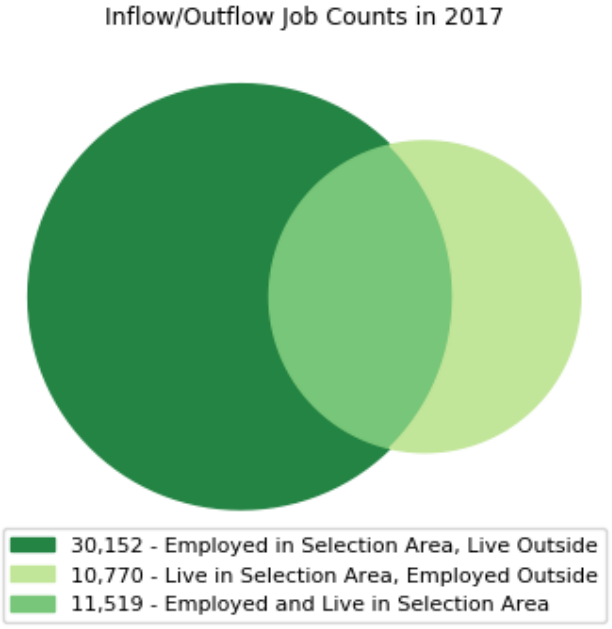


Figure 13 - Inflow/Outflow Population Source: OnTheMap



Joplin serves as a major employment center for the Four-State region and as a result its population grows by nearly 20,000 during the typical workday. These employees may take advantage of park and trail facilities during their workdays, as well as return with their families on weekends. This should be taken into account when planning for improvements to the Parks and Recreation Department, its programs, and facilities. The City should consider its effective population base to be closer to 75,000 than 50,000.

This inflow population is potentially an untapped resource and could benefit from targeted marketing for parks and recreation facilities/programs. This population should also be considered when evaluating maintenance budgets, program offerings, and location of amenities.

Large employers often consider availability of parks and recreation amenities alongside other criteria such as quality of education, transportation, and availability of workforce, when deciding whether to relocate to a new city.

The employment centers in Joplin, like the far east and north, also should be considered when planning for new park and recreation facilities, especially trails. These amenities could draw more employees, as well as other employers.

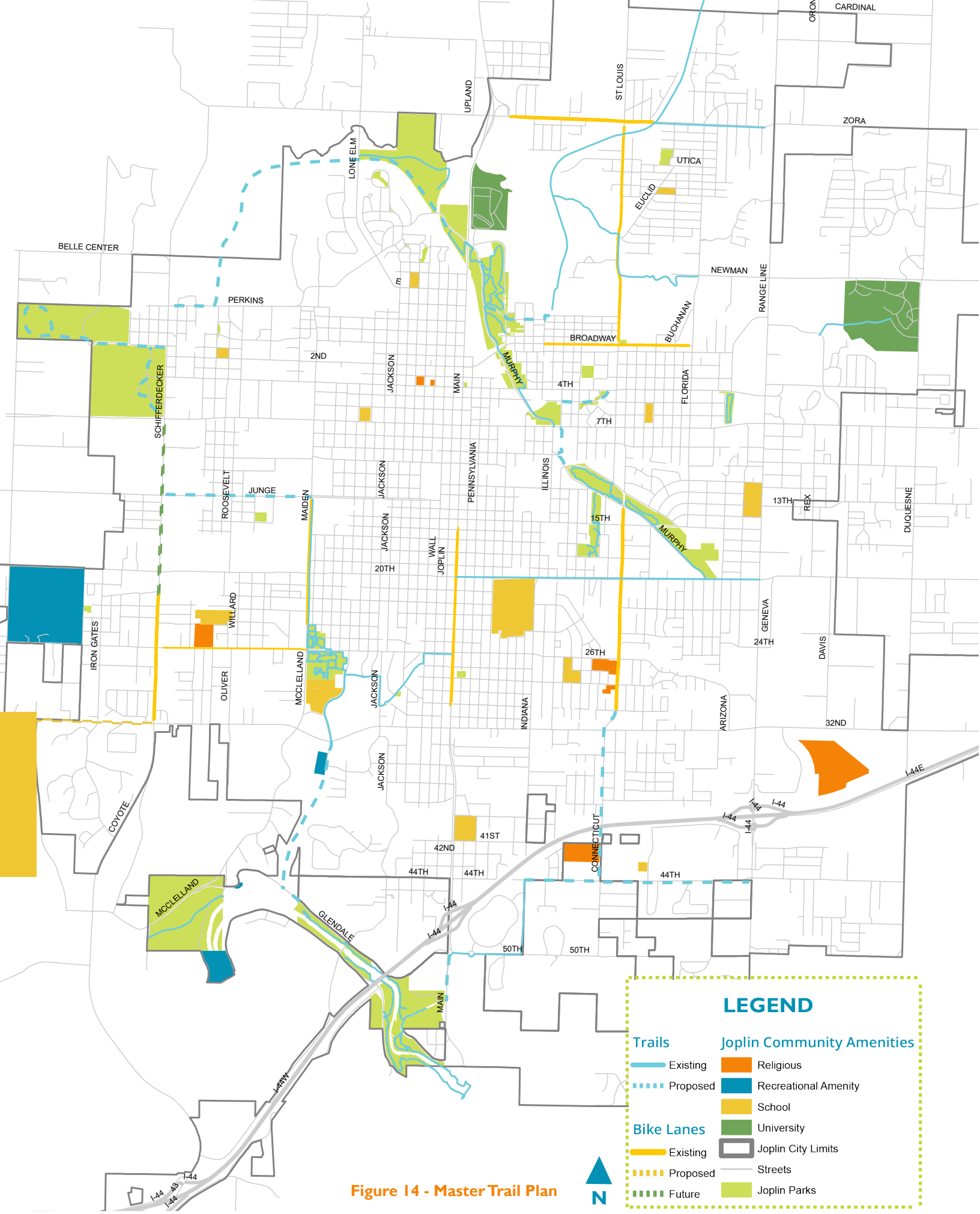


Figure 14 - Master Trail Plan

MASTER TRAIL PLAN

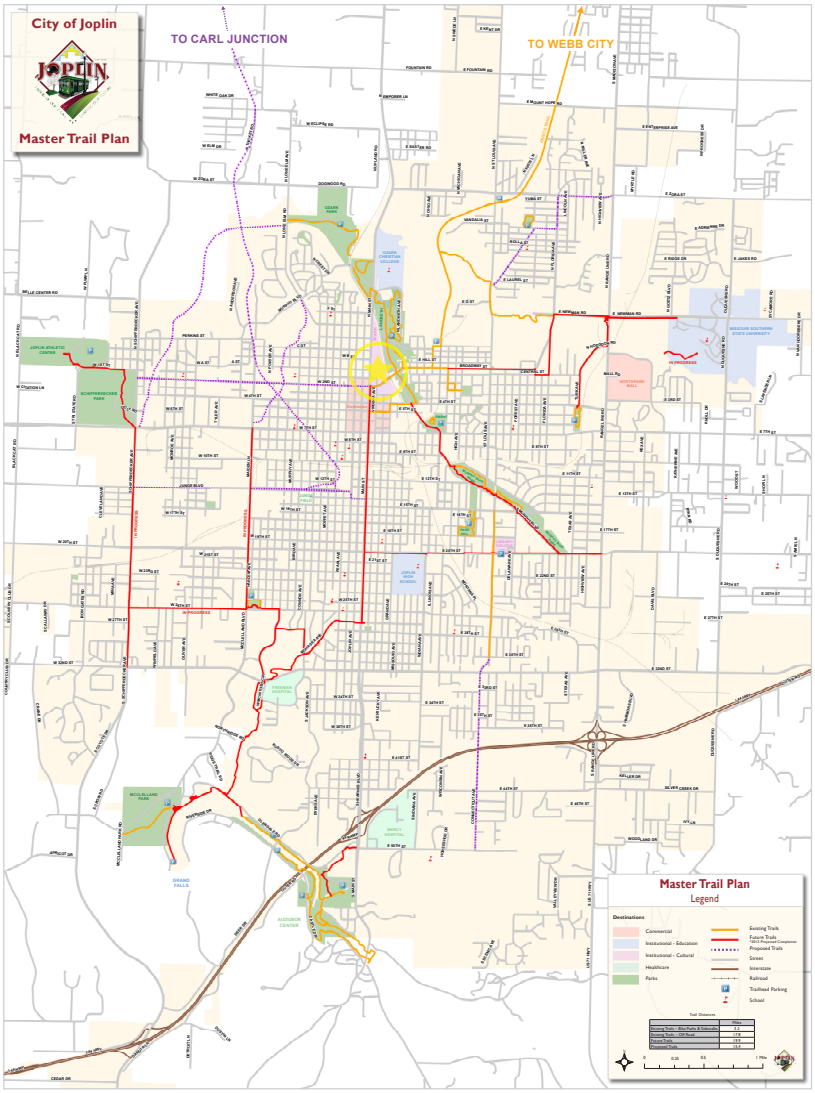
Connectivity was one of the top priorities that came out of the community survey, as well as walking and biking trails. Joplin has fewer miles of trail, owned by parks and recreation, than the national average, according to the NRPA. The previous Master Trail Plan is shown to the right. The design team worked with City Staff to update what trails have been built since the previous plan, which trails were not going to be implemented, and which trails are currently in the works. Once the baseline for the existing trails was established, the team worked with the City to determine:

- Major parks and recreation destinations
- Other community assets
- Most popular walking and biking trails
- Gaps in the City's trail network
- Possible locations for new wayfinding signage
- Gaps in the City's sidewalk network
- And how to take advantage of Joplin's unique features to create connectivity

All of the above, and more, were considered when creating the Master Trail Plan to the left. Some of the biggest changes from the previous plan were deciding to only propose trails to be built from 2021-2031 and eliminating previously proposed trails that went through dense foliage and would have been very difficult/expensive to construct.

The main goals of the updated plan were to create a City-wide loop trail to allow people to travel from one side of the City to the other without much issue; fill the existing trail gaps; enhance the trail experience in Joplin, and only propose trails that can be built in the next 10 years.

We believe that the Master Trail Map will provide a lot more connectivity over the next 10 years, as well as serving as a more implementable plan that will allow the City to keep up with demand over time. You will find all of the projects related to this proposed trail network in the Strategic Action Plan section.



EXISTING TRAIL PLAN

The previous trail map, shown above, was reviewed and the future trails that went through major topographical areas were removed, as well as areas where the ownership of land was unclear.

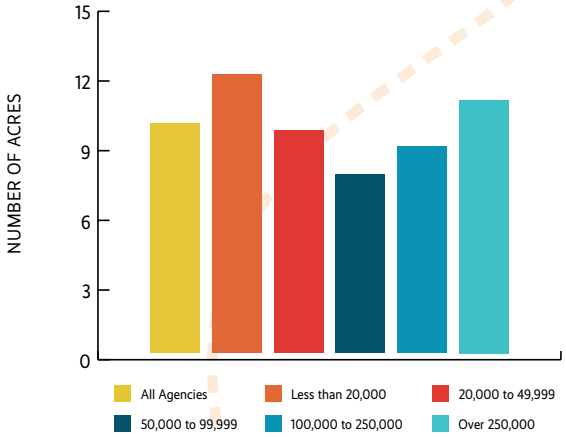
NRPA BENCHMARKING

ANALYSIS OF THE NRPA 2020 AGENCY PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Each year, the National Recreation and Park association (NRPA) presents a snapshot of local park and recreation agencies by releasing data to identify the best practices to optimally serve communities. The 2020 NRPA Agency Performance Review summarizes the key findings from the NRPA's Park Metrics, which is a benchmarking tool to assist park and recreational professionals in the effective management and planning of their operating resources and capital facilities. This data represents the most comprehensive collection of park and recreational related benchmarks and insights that inform communities of all sizes. The 2020 NRPA Agency Performance Review does not include "national standards," instead this data acts as a guide for different agencies that serve communities of all sizes with unique needs, desires and challenges. Each agency is run differently and have diverse funding mechanisms; therefore, these benchmarks should be used as a tool to make broad comparisons to similar communities.

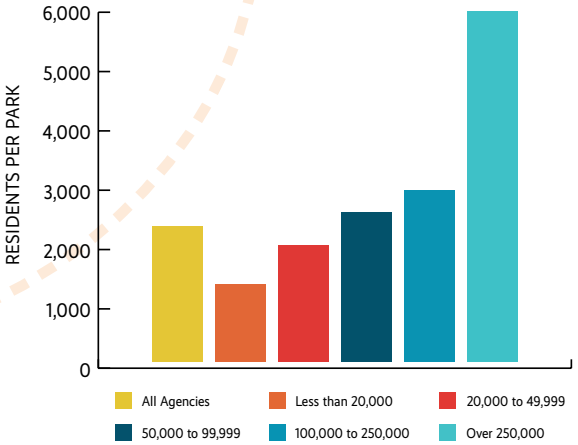
The following five areas of comparison provide a general set of benchmarks for Joplin's park system that are beneficial to this master plan: acres of parkland per 1000 residents, residents per park, number of miles of trail by population, number of full-time equivalents (FTEs) by population, and indoor facilities by population. Figure 15, on the top right, indicates the median number of parkland acres per 1000 residents, as well as in the lower and upper quartile. The City of Joplin has 51,322 residents and 1070 acres of parkland, which equates to 20.85 acres of parkland per 1000 residents. This puts Joplin even above the upper quartile across all agencies. This suggests that Joplin has more than adequate acreage per 1000 residents and should not actively acquire additional parkland at this time.

The next benchmark, Figure 16, outlines the median number of residents per park across all communities. Joplin barely falls into the 50,000 to 99,999 category with its 51,322 residents and 24 parks in its system. The typical agency has one park for every 2281 residents, and Joplin falls slightly below that with one park for every 2138 residents. This number is closer to that of a 20,000 to 49,999 resident community than that of its actual category of 50,000 to 99,999 residents, which indicates that the City of Joplin has an acceptable number of parks per residents.



	All Agencies	Less than 20,000	20,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 250,000	Over 250,000
Median	9.9	12.0	9.6	7.7	8.9	10.9
Lower Quartile	5.1	5.2	5.4	4.7	5.0	5.3
Upper Quartile	17.1	20.8	15.0	17.1	14.9	17.9

*Figure 15 - Acres Per 1000 Residents

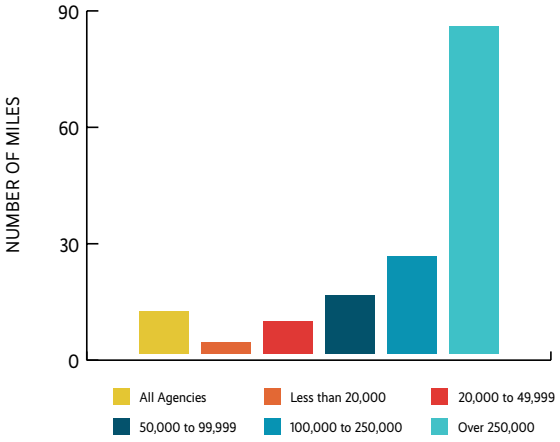


	All Agencies	Less than 20,000	20,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 250,000	Over 250,000
Median	2,281	1,300	1,963	2,523	2,889	5,908
Lower Quartile	1,316	908	1,233	1,560	1,914	2,818
Upper Quartile	4,140	2,037	3,140	4,518	5,135	15,286

*Figure 16 - Residents per Park

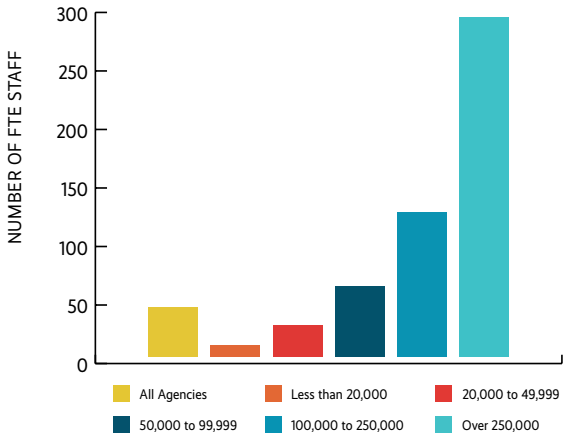
Figure 17, below to the left, shows the number of miles of trail by population. Joplin has 9.0 miles of trail, which is lower than its category median at 15.0 miles. The typical park and recreation agency that manages or maintains trails for walking, hiking, running and/or biking has 11.0 miles of trails in its network. Geography and the amount of undevelopable land plays a role in the amount of trail miles managed by park and recreation agencies. With the amount of linear greenspace within Joplin's park system, additional miles of trail could be developed, increasing connectivity, as funding becomes available.

Staffing at the typical park and recreation agency includes 41.9 FTEs with a mix of both full-time and part-time staff. Figure 18, below to the right, indicates that agencies with a population between 50,000 to 99,999 people have a median of 60.2 FTEs. Joplin has 36.0 FTEs, which is slightly higher than the lower quartile according to its population category and is also higher than that of a 20,000 to 49,999 median resident community at 27.3 FTEs. Medians counts of FTEs on staff also positively correlate with number of acres maintained and population served by the agency.



	All Agencies	Less than 20,000	20,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 250,000	Over 250,000
Median	11.0	3.0	8.5	15.0	25.0	84.5
Lower Quartile	3.0	1.5	3.4	4.1	11.0	38.0
Upper Quartile	32.0	6.8	15.0	28.5	47.0	158.2

***Figure 17 - Number of Miles of Trail by Population**



	All Agencies	Less than 20,000	20,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 250,000	Over 250,000
Median	41.9	10.0	27.3	60.2	123.2	289.7
Lower Quartile	14.0	5.0	14.7	32.4	61.0	118.2
Upper Quartile	124.2	19.4	50.5	123.1	217.7	486.9

***Figure 18 - Number of FTEs by Population**

Types of Facilities		Median Number of Residents per Facility					
		Population of Jurisdiction					
	Percent of Agencies	All Agencies	Less than 20,000	20,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 250,000	Over 250,000
Recreation centers	61.0%	31,141	8,916	25,716	40,898	49,999	64,392
Community centers	59.7	28,939	9,601	26,280	42,491	54,042	93,302
Senior centers	40.9	60,513	12,209	32,639	68,701	123,988	318,255
Performance amphitheaters	35.0	62,475	10,812	30,577	57,304	112,611	385,525
Nature centers	29.3	109,796	10,816	35,854	65,000	125,000	381,434
Stadiums	17.9	66,972	8,625	24,910	59,074	134,557	321,434
Ice rinks	14.8	53,000	9,028	26,500	56,847	100,867	310,925
Teen centers	13.8	64,000	13,622	28,400	60,268	138,101	390,918
Arenas	7.5	57,711	8,148	24,736	61,556	110,168	405,201

***Figure 19 - Indoor Facilities - Population per Facility**

*Source: NRPA 2020 Agency Performance Review

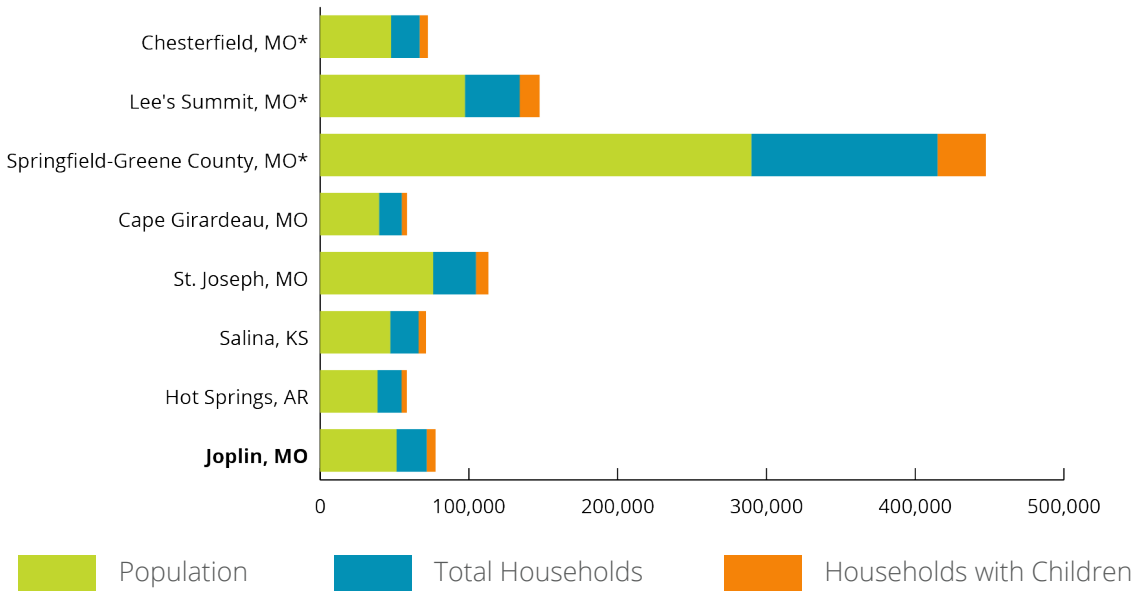
COMMUNITY BENCHMARKING

INTRODUCTION

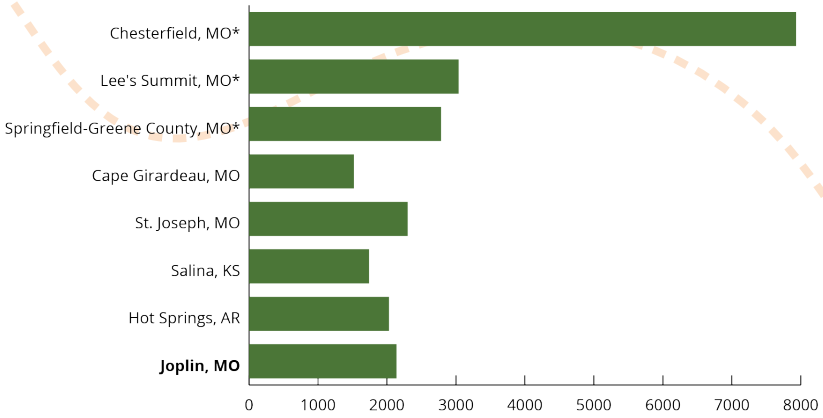
As part of the benchmarking process, seven comparable cities were selected to understand how the City of Joplin equates to similar communities. The majority of these cities were chosen because of their similar population size and several were chosen due to their outstanding park system reputation by City Staff. The following is an analysis of key park and recreation metrics collected through the 2020 NRPA Agency Performance Review. The following graphs and analysis are meant to guide the master plan recommendations and offer insight regarding amount of parkland, full and part time employees, and operating expenditures. A questionnaire was developed with specific questions and sent to the Park and Recreation Directors from these targeted communities.

*Indicates CAPRA Accredited Agency

CITY INFORMATION

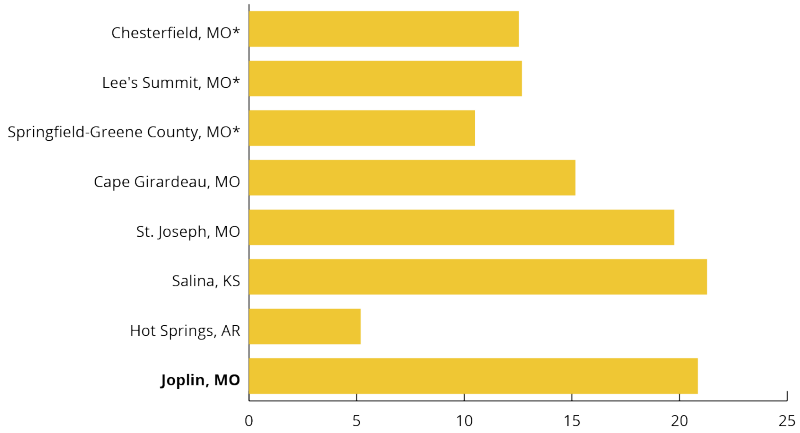


This graph highlights a collection of demographics to begin comparing basic information. Joplin has an average population size, total households and households with children when compared to the other cities. Joplin's population is 51,322 residents, 20,236 total households and 6,084 households with children. The exception to these numbers is Springfield-Greene County, MO due to this being a county-wide parks and recreation system, encompassing a much larger area.



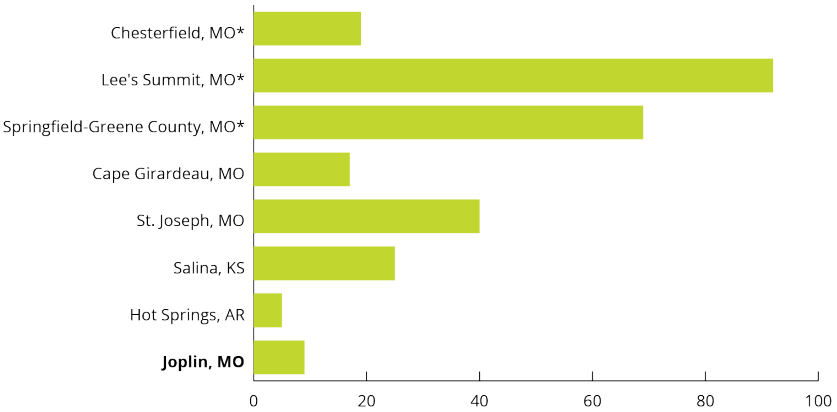
Residents Per Park

The number of residents per park is generally between 1500-3000, except with the highest being in Chesterfield, MO at just under 8000 residents. Joplin has 2138 residents per park, which falls slightly below the average of the remaining cities and Cape Girardeau, MO has the lowest number of residents per park with 1521.



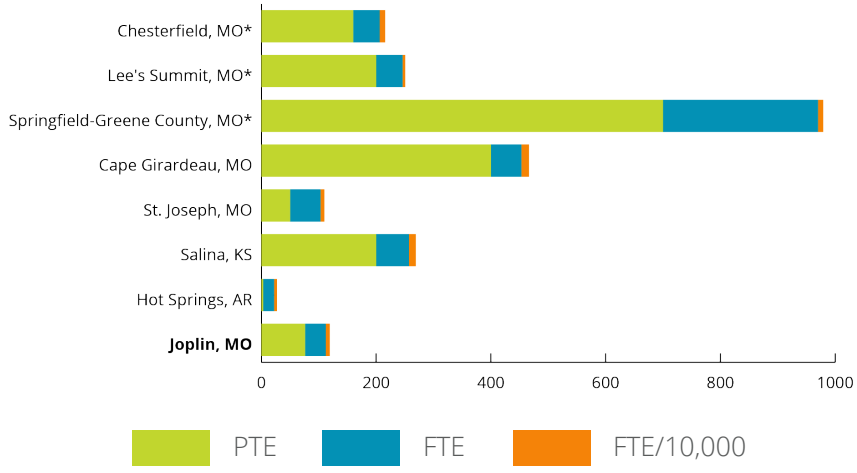
Acres of Parkland per 1000 Residents

Coming in right behind Salina, KS with the highest acres of parkland per 1000 residents at 21.28 acres, is Joplin with 20.85 acres. Hot Springs, AR has the least amount of acres of parkland at only 5.19 per 1000 residents. The other cities generally fall in between 10-15 acres.



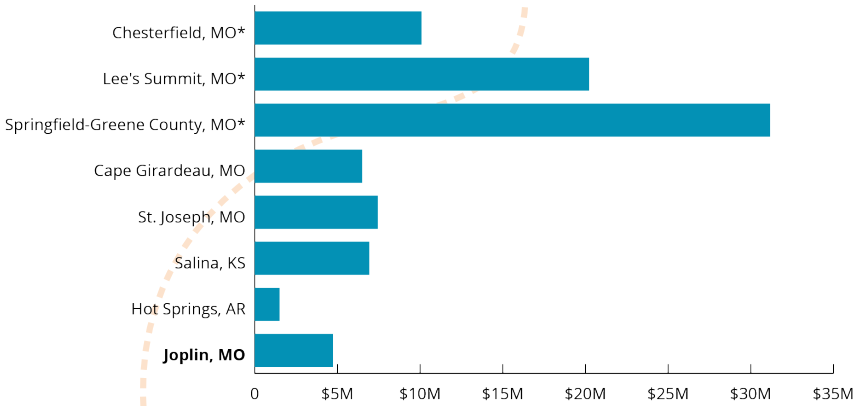
Miles of Trail

Lee's Summit, MO and Springfield-Greene County, MO have the most miles of trail within their park systems at 92 and 69 miles, respectively. Hot Springs, AR has the least with 5 miles and Joplin has slightly more with 9 miles of trail.



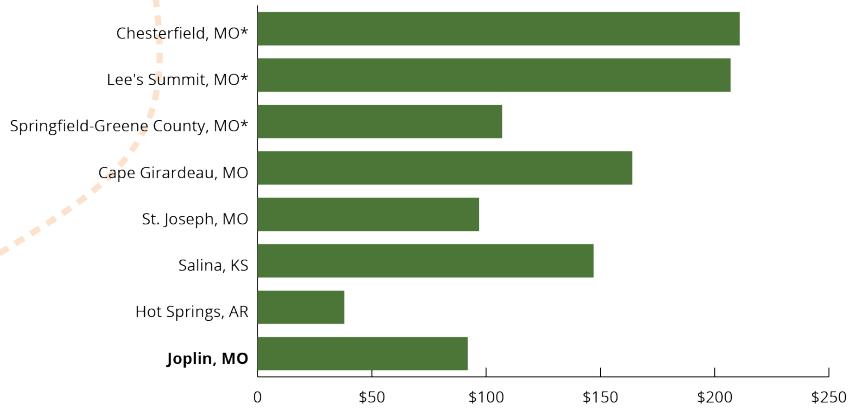
Employee Information

This graph highlights the number of part time employees (PTE) and full time employees (FTE) that each community has in their department. Springfield-Greene County, MO has the highest number of both PTEs and FTEs, with Cape Girardeau, MO having the second highest number of PTEs and Salina, KS having the second highest number of FTEs. Cape Girardeau, MO has the highest FTEs per 10,000 residents at 13.40. The lowest number of FTEs per 10,000 is 4.73 in Lee's Summit, MO, with Joplin falling in the middle at 7.01.



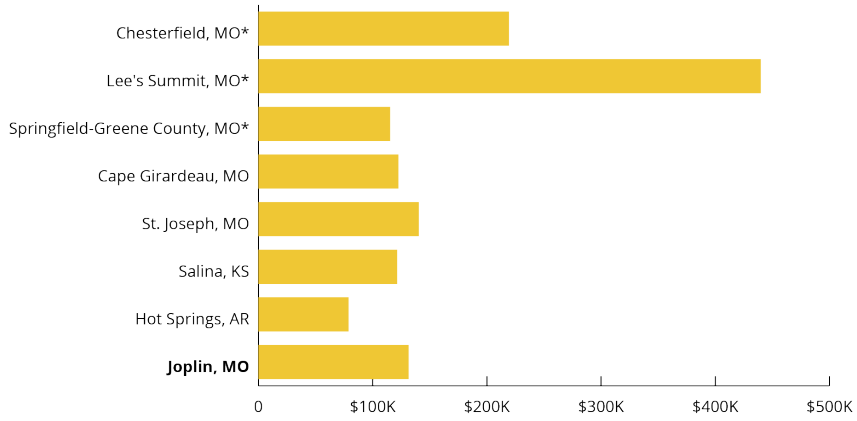
Annual Operating Expenditures

Due to its larger county-wide park system, Springfield-Greene County, MO has the highest annual operating expenditures at $31,163,053 with Lee's Summit, MO coming in next at $20,230,028. The other cities generally fall between $5-10,000,000 with Joplin coming in at $4,731,323. Per the NRPA Park Metrics data, the typical park and recreation agency has current annual operating expenditures of $4,342,495.



Operating Expenditures per Capita

Chesterfield, MO and Lee's Summit, MO have the highest operating expenditures per capita at $211 and $207, respectively. Hot Springs, AR has the lowest at $38 and Joplin has the second lowest operating expenditure at $97 per capita.



Operating Expenditures per FTE

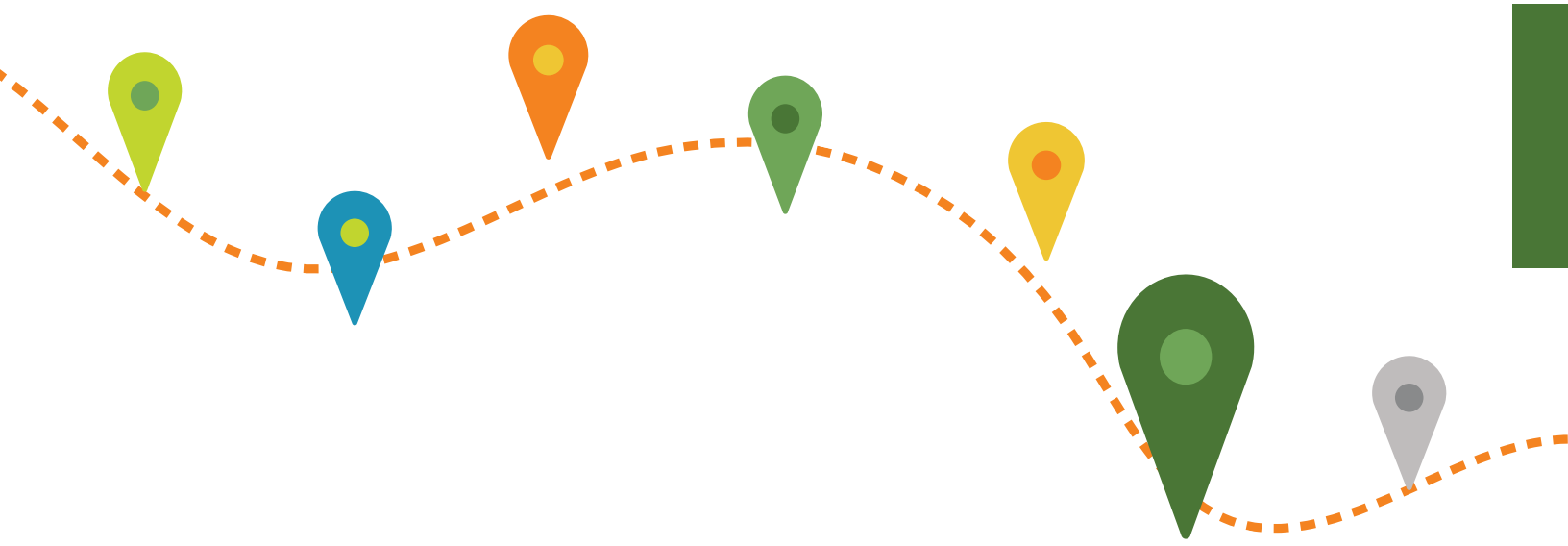
Lee's Summit, MO has the highest operating expenditure per FTE with $439,783 and Hot Springs, AR has the lowest at $78,947 per FTE. The majority of the cities fall between $115-140,000 per FTE, with Joplin falling within that range at $131,425 operating expenditure per FTE.

SUMMARY

In conclusion, after taking into consideration the park metrics from NRPA and data from comparable communities, Joplin is at about average or slightly below average in the majority of categories that were analyzed. Joplin's population is average compared to the selected cities but does have a very high number of acres of parkland per 1000 residents and lower than average miles of trail. Looking at these two metrics, it may be worth exploring how a more extensive trail system could fit within the amount of City owned property, therefore, increasing connectivity and a highly desired recreational amenity. Looking at the expenditure categories, Joplin has low annual operating expenditures and expenditures per capita.

06

STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN



STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

INTRODUCTION

The design team understands that a primary purpose behind this master planning effort is to derive a list of projects that can be funded by the next round of ¼-cent stormwater control and local parks sales tax. The team also believes that this master plan will give the City of Joplin and its Department of Parks and Recreation a holistic tool to help shape its growth and development throughout the next decade. As such, this Strategic Action Plan was developed which provides the department with a series of Goals, Objectives, and Action Items. The goals are the top line broad-brush statements which summarize the department's points of primary emphasis over the next ten years. The objectives listed underneath each goal serve as the major priorities that fit within that point of emphasis. The action items are discrete steps the department can take over these next 10 years to satisfy the objectives and thereby realize the goals. Many of these action items, though not all, are projects which the department can fund through the next round of stormwater and parks sales tax. A separate list which enumerates these projects and their costs follows this plan.

GOAL #1: DEVELOP DESTINATIONS

Joplin is a cultural hub for the Four State Region. It attracts thousands of people from the surrounding counties each day through its employment centers, nearly doubling in population. It attracts many more on an annual basis through regional tourism. Moreover, it is a town of over 50,000 full time residents who have grown accustomed to having and enjoying one of the largest municipal park departments in the state. The park system should speak to these realities. The City seeks to make the most of its amazing park assets and improve upon what already exists. The City desires to enhance the rich identity so many of these parks already have. The City also sees opportunities and a need to provide something unique within this region and continue to be a draw for so many commuters and travelers.

Objectives:

- Improve or enhance the parks and facilities currently in the system
- Create signature improvements at signature parks
- Beautify all park properties

Actions:

- Develop a public art program to feature the works of local and regional art in parks
- Select and execute improvement projects that enhance the identity of the City's primary recreational nodes: the Joplin Creek Corridor, the Shoal Creek Corridor, and the Schifferdecker/Joplin Athletic Complex
- Establish sales-tax funded operations, maintenance, and beautification programs

GOAL #2: IMPROVE CONNECTIVITY

The public engagement efforts made during this master plan made one thing clear: this community wants more trails. Citizens told us again and again through a variety of platforms that they prioritized walking and biking trails above all other facilities. This plan addresses those priorities in a big way by looking at ways to fill in gaps in the City's current pedestrian and bicycle network. Connectivity is also about making the City's parks smarter and more useful to more citizens. This goal also encompasses objectives to improve utility and infrastructure connections, and accessibility to the disabled members of the community.

Objectives:

- Improve trail connections around and across Joplin
- Improve accessibility for all park users
- Upgrade vital utilities and infrastructure

Actions:

- Define trail maintenance roles for Parks and Recreation and Public Works Departments
- Standardize trail construction details and material specifications across City Departments
- Commission an accessibility audit for all parks, cemeteries, and facilities
- Develop the Katy Trail to connect Schifferdecker Park with the Joplin Creek Corridor
- Develop the Joplin Plaza Riverwalk trail to connect Ewert Park with Campbell Parkway
- Complete shared use path segments to connect Wildcat Park with Connecticut Ave.
- Complete the Tin Cup Trail to connect Mercy Park with the Shoal Creek Corridor
- Bring electrical power to the interior of Mercy Park

GOAL #3: PRIORITIZE SAFETY

For any municipal government, a primary responsibility is to keep its citizens safe. The results of the community survey indicate that the number one barrier to Joplinites using their parks is a feeling of insecurity. This reality is unacceptable, and the department seeks to change it through a series of objectives designed to make all parks safe for their residents and visitors.

Objectives:

- Develop security infrastructure at all parks
- Improve safety through park design
- Improve safety through park programing

Actions:

- Develop a park ranger division with the department
- Install security cameras at 11 parks
- Install security lighting at 10 parks

GOAL #4: EDUCATE THE MASSES

Joplin offers so many amazing facilities and programs to its populace daily, yet many of these opportunities are unknown and underutilized. The department seeks ways to reintroduce Joplin to its own parks and programs. Furthermore, the department wants people to learn more about the rich history and ecology of the region represented in all the park properties. Parks should be a vehicle for people to activate not just their bodies but their minds, as well.

Objectives:

- Develop park signage guidelines
- Improve the park and trail wayfinding system
- Improve departmental marketing capacity
- Highlight the natural and cultural resources in Joplin parks
- Promote all park improvements and their value to Joplinites

Actions:

- Develop wayfinding signage guidelines for parks and trails
- Install new entry signs at Schifferdecker, Landreth, Wildcat, McIndoe, and McClelland Parks
- Install interpretive signage at Schifferdecker, Mineral, Wildcat, and Ewert Parks
- Develop interpretive programing for natural and cultural resources
- Revamp the department website
- Increase departmental staffing to increase marketing and development capacity
- Partner with a smartphone app to provide citizens with GIS mapping and facility data

GOAL #5: CULTIVATE HEALTH AND WELLNESS

As with safety, the City of Joplin considers providing a high quality of life to its citizens among its most vital goals. Parks and recreation are synonymous with quality of life. Having a healthy population is vital to the success of this City and there is no branch of municipal government better suited to attend to this mission than parks and recreation. The results of the community survey indicate these matters are at the top of most Joplinites' minds. The City looks to broaden its programing geared towards wellness activities, update facilities to allow more citizens the chance to exercise outdoors, and improve the environmental sustainability of its facilities and operations.

Objectives:

- Develop wellness programing to compliment what is being offered in the community
- Promote the idea of health and wellness outdoors in the parks
- Improve multi-generational play opportunities
- Promote environmentally sustainable operations practices

Actions:

- Develop and initiate bike safety programing for families
- Install a fitness trail at Landreth Park
- Overlay 28 sports courts across 9 different parks
- Develop outdoor programing to take advantage of popular aquatic and park venues
- Add outdoor game equipment at 7 different parks
- Start recycling program in Schifferdecker, Landreth, and Cunningham Parks
- Reduce mowing across park properties by partnering with USFWS on prairie restoration efforts on more properties

JOPLIN PARKS AND RECREATION ROAD MAP

2021-2031

PROJECT LIST

The design team understands that a primary purpose behind this master planning effort is to derive a list of projects that can be funded by the next round of ¼-cent stormwater control and local parks sales tax. What follows are those projects and their estimated price tag. The projects are organized by goal, as established in the Strategic Action Plan.

Goal #1: Develop Destinations

Projects:

1.	Ewert Aquatic Center splash park	$5,000,000
2.	Ewert Park covered basketball court	$550,000
3.	Ewert Park amphitheater	$250,000
4.	Schifferdecker roadway, parking, sidewalk, and improvements	$2,500,000
5.	Schifferdecker Municipal Golf Course driving range	$850,000
6.	Cunningham Aquatic Center slide replacement	$100,000
7.	Cunningham Park playground to sand volleyball conversion	$90,000
8.	Campbell Parkway parking, sidewalk, and trail improvements	$850,000
9.	Joplin Athletic Complex fishing pond and trail	$1,750,000
10.	Gene Bassman Softball Complex synthetic turf	$800,000
11.	Hershewe Soccer Complex synthetic turf	$1,500,000
12.	Miracle Field turf replacement	$400,000
13.	Wendell Redden Stadium outfield synthetic turf installation	$400,000
14.	Wendell Redden Stadium infield synthetic turf replacement	$200,000
15.	Joplin Athletic Complex tennis center restroom	$150,000
16.	Renew Joplin Athletic Complex operations program	$3,000,000
17.	Dover Outdoor Recreation Area bicycle park	$1,350,000
18.	Joe Becker Stadium outfield synthetic turf installation	$400,000
19.	Joe Becker Stadium infield synthetic turf replacement	$200,000
20.	Landreth Park football field lighting replacement	$200,000
21.	McClelland Park roadway, sidewalk, and shelter improvements	$1,450,000
22.	McIndoe Park restroom	$150,000
23.	Wildcat Park restroom	$150,000
24.	Humphrey Park splash pad	$750,000
25.	Perform playground enhancements across 15 parks	$1,300,000
26.	Establish Park Beautification Program	$2,500,000
27.	Renew Annual Park Maintenance Program	$1,700,000
28.	Joplin History & Mineral Museum Strategic Plan	$150,000
		$28,690,000

Goal #2: Improve Connectivity
Projects:

1.	Install electrical facilities in Mercy Park	$250,000
2.	Katy Trailhead Park at W. Perkins St.	$900,000
3.	Katy Trail west segment - from W. Perkins St. to N. Lone Elm Rd.	$1,150,000
4.	Katy Trail east segment - from N. Lone Elm Rd. to NW Murphy Boulevard	$650,000
5.	Dover Outdoor Rec to Landreth Park connector	$750,000
6.	Landreth Park Main Street underpass	$250,000
7.	Landreth Park to Frisco Trailhead connector	$280,000
8.	Creekside Plaza Riverwalk	$2,500,000
9.	Spring Greenway Trail	$180,000
10.	Parr Hill Park 15th Street underpass	$1,100,000
11.	E. 44th St. shared use path	$250,000
12.	S. Main St. shared use path	$350,000
13.	Tin Cup Trail Phase 2	$750,000
14.	Tin Cup Trail 32nd Street underpass	$1,200,000
15.	W. Junge Blvd. shared use path	$450,000
16.	N. Schifferdecker Ave. shared use path	$180,000
17.	W. Perkins St. shared use path	$180,000
18.	Install trail wayfinding signage package	$150,000
19.	Install or replace benches across trail network	$200,000
		$11,720,000

Goal #3: Prioritize Safety
Projects:

1.	Install security cameras at 11 parks	$300,000
2.	Install security lighting at 10 parks	$ 1,510,000
		$1,810,000

Goal #4: Educate the Masses
Projects:

1.	New entry monument signs at 6 parks	$60,000
2.	Interpretive signage at 4 parks	$80,000
3.	Update lettering on both Landreth Park entry signs	$10,000
4.	Install information kiosks at all 28 parks and cemeteries	$300,000
		$450,000

Goal #5: Cultivate Health and Wellness
Projects:

1.	Install fitness equipment on trails at Landreth Park	$350,000
2.	Overlay or resurface 28 sport courts across 9 parks	$440,000
3.	Add outdoor games at 7 parks	$105,000
		$895,000

Total: $43,565,000

PROJECTS

- EWERT SPLASH PARK — $5,000,000
- EWERT COVERED BBALL — $550,000
- EWERT AMPHITHEATER — $250,000

PARK IMPROVEMENTS
project type

DESTINATIONS
goal

$5,800,000
total cost

IMAGES









DESCRIPTION

Based on the findings and recommendations of the 2021 Ewert Aquatic Center Study, this master plan recommends that the City proceed with design and construction of the following projects: renovation of the existing swimming pool into a splash park, installation of a new covered open air basketball pavilion on the park's north end, and conversion of the existing basketball courts south of the pool into an amphitheater. The combined effect of these changes will be to transform this aging aquatic center into a more economically sustainable and dynamic community park offering a variety of year-round activities to serve the immediate neighborhood as well as park-goers across Joplin and the Four State region.

PROJECTS

- **SCHIFFERDECKER ROAD, PARKING, & SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS** — $2,500,000
- **DRIVING RANGE** — $850,000

name

PARK IMPROVEMENTS
project type

DESTINATIONS
goal

$3,350,000
total cost

MASTER PLAN



DESCRIPTION

No other park in the system has seen as much change over its lifetime as Schifferdecker Park. Through its history, the park has featured everything from amusement rides to exotic animals and music concerts to competitive swimming. Today, the park's road infrastructure is nearing the end of its lifespan. The park features limited sidewalks and accessible parking. And the entry experience does not befit the premier destination that this park truly is. This project proposes a dramatic face-lift to the infrastructure and amenities found in the eastern half of the park. The project includes: reconstruction and realignment of the internal road network and new sidewalks and street trees to create a more formal entry experience. The project also proposes reconstruction of 6 parking lots to bring the parking off the street and closer to the amenities that need it, including the golf clubhouse, museum, basketball courts, and playgrounds. The project would convert the old entry road in the park's southeast corner into a tree-lined 10-foot shared-use path and extend it all the way through the park to its northern edge and along 1st Ave to the Joplin Athletic Complex. Last, but not least, the project would also include the design and construction of a new 300-yard driving range, a valuable programming amenity not currently offered at the golf course.

PROJECT

CUNNINGHAM AQUATIC SLIDE REPLACEMENT

name

PARK IMPROVEMENT

project type

DESTINATIONS

goal

$100,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

The slide in the northwestern corner of Cunningham Aquatic Center was originally acquired as a used slide from Fort Scott, Kansas. It is due to be replaced. The survey indicated that Cunningham is the 3rd most popular destination in the entire park system. Attendance is likely to increase as the City grows, and particularly if Ewert Aquatic Center is converted into a splash park.

IMAGE



PROJECT

CUNNINGHAM PLAYGROUND TO SAND VOLLEYBALL

name

PARK IMPROVEMENT

project type

DESTINATIONS

goal

$90,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

This project would convert the existing playground on the west side of Cunningham Park into a sand volleyball court. While this playground is a piece of the original 2011 rebuild of Cunningham Park, it's nearing the end of its lifespan and will need to be replaced in the next decade. The survey results show that outdoor recreation amenities are highly prioritized by the community. This project would create a low-maintenance amenity not found in this park.

IMAGE



PROJECTS

CAMPBELL PARKWAY PARKING, SIDEWALK, & TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

name

$850,000

total cost

PARK IMPROVEMENT

project type

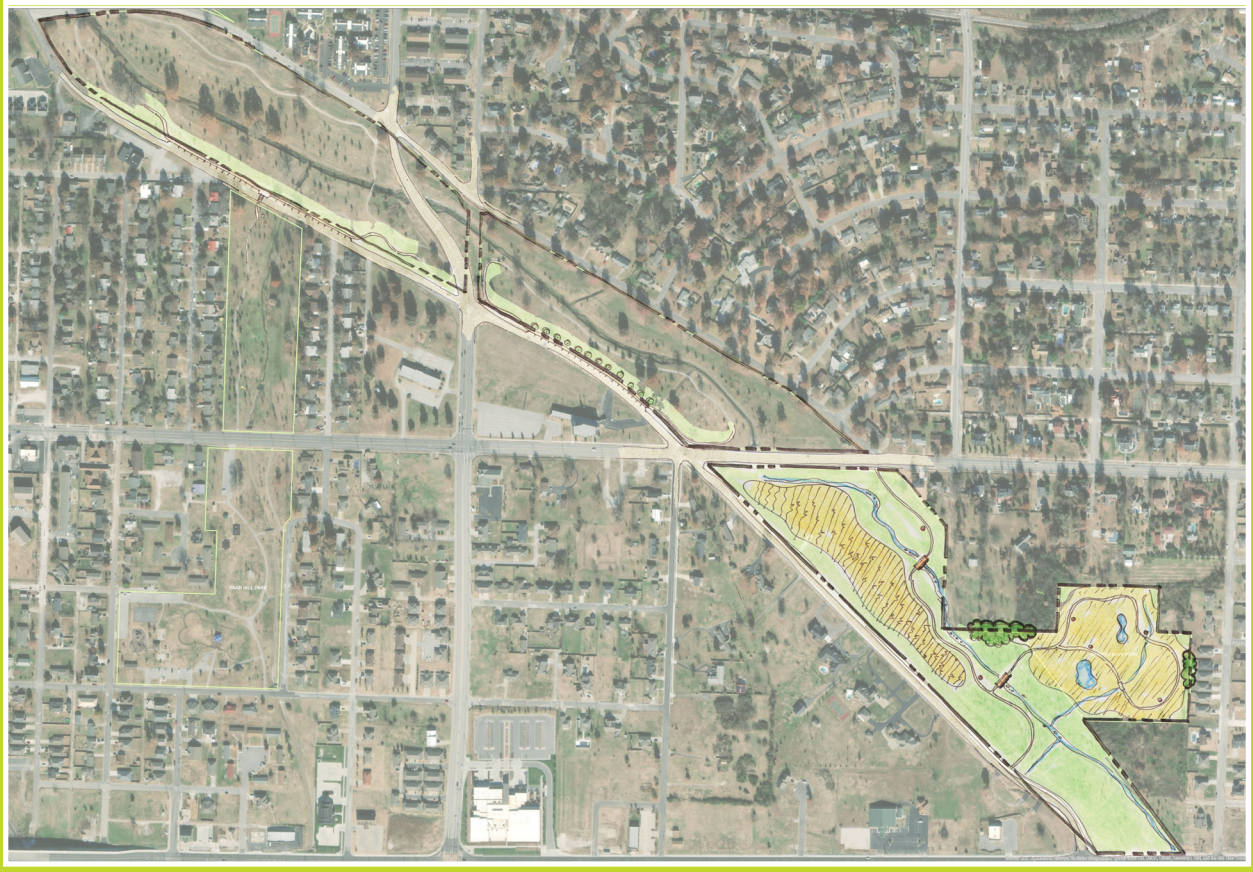
DESTINATIONS

goal

DESCRIPTION

Joplinites love the simple beauty of Campbell Parkway and flock to this linear park to take advantage of its ample trail mileage This project proposes upgrades to the existing informal on-street parking by providing curb and gutter, asphalt pavement, and stripping for +/-50 parallel spaces on Murphy Boulevard between Campbell Parkway and 15th Street. Additionally, it proposes over 3/4 of a mile of new trail in the southernmost portion of the park south of 15th Street. This new trail segment would offer park-goers more interaction with the natural assets this park preserves such as Joplin Creek and restored tall-grass prairie.

MASTER PLAN



PROJECTS

JOPLIN ATHLETIC COMPLEX FISHING POND & TRAIL

name

$1,750,000

total cost

PARK IMPROVEMENT

project type

DESTINATIONS

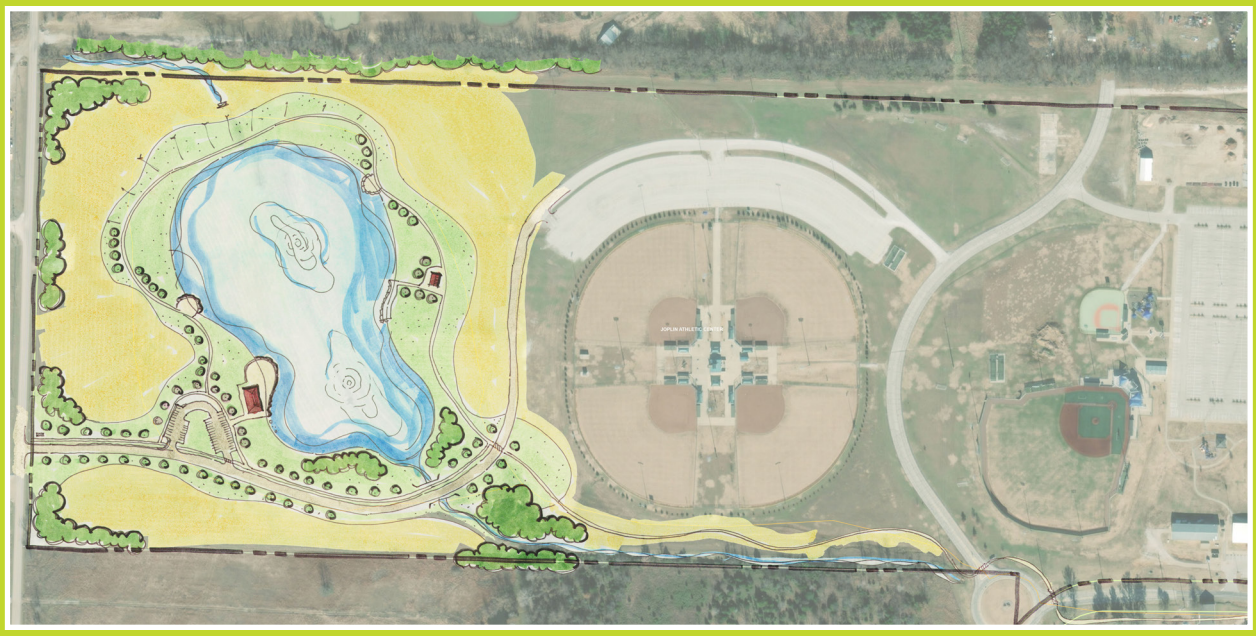
goal

MASTER PLAN



DESCRIPTION

Based upon feedback collected through the community survey and other engagement efforts, this master plan proposes the installation of a fishing pond and walking trail in the Joplin Athletic Complex on the undeveloped 40 acres situated west of the Gene Bassman softball complex. This project would provide additional programming opportunities for the department as well a recreation amenity currently not found in the City. The project would include the design and construction of +/-10-acre pond fed by the existing drainage channel running through the property today, an access road connecting the softball complex to Black Cat Road, a mile of new 10-foot wide shared use path connecting to Schifferdecker Park and wrapping around the perimeter of the pond, a parking lot with +/- 50 spaces, a large picnic shelter, a restroom, 4 paved fishing platforms, and associated trees and landscaping.



PROJECTS

- BASSMAN SOFTBALL TURF — $800,000
- HERSHEWE SOCCER TURF — $1,500,000
- MIRACLE FIELD TURF — $400,000
- WENDELL REDDEN OUTFIELD — $400,000
- WENDELL REDDEN INFIELD — $200,000

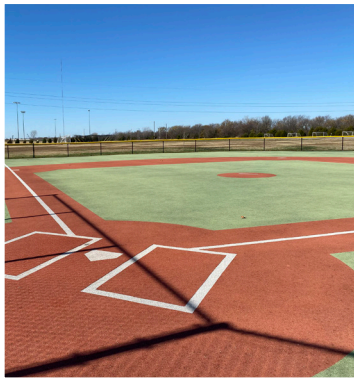
name

PARK IMPROVEMENTS
project type

DESTINATIONS
goal

$3,300,000
total cost

IMAGES









DESCRIPTION

All the turf replacement projects listed on this page are intended to extend the life and sustainability of these valuable regional recreation amenities. Conversion of the natural turf grass to synthetic turf has multiple benefits ranging from improved playability, improved drainage, and a significant reduction in operational costs associated with fuel, labor, and mowing. The projects specifically entail: installation of new synthetic turf in the infields of all four softball diamonds in the Gene Bassman Softball Complex; installation of new synthetic turf across all fields in the Hershewe Soccer Complex; replacement of the existing synthetic turf on the infield and outfield of the Will Norton Miracle Field; installation of new synthetic turf in the outfield of Wendell Redden Stadium; and replacement of the existing synthetic turf in the infield of Wendell Redden Stadium.

PROJECT

TENNIS CENTER RESTROOM REPLACEMENT

name

PARK IMPROVEMENT

project type

DESTINATIONS

goal

$150,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

The tennis center within the Joplin Athletic Complex features 10 hard surface courts, a tennis backboard, sports lighting, and ample covered seating. But it features no dedicated restroom facilities. The nearest available restrooms are in the athletic complex main building, which is only open during business hours on weekdays. When that building is closed, tennis players have nowhere to go. This project would answer that need.

IMAGE



PROJECT

JOPLIN ATHLETIC COMPLEX OPERATING PROGRAM

name

PARK OPERATIONS

project type

DESTINATIONS

goal

$3,000,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

The original construction of the Joplin Athletic Complex was funded by stormwater and parks sales tax money. Today the annual cost to operate the complex is approximately $600,000. This new program would make use of sales tax money to fund the operations of the complex for 5 years, thereby allowing the department to inject $3,000,000 of operational budget into the other 32 parks, facilities, and cemeteries across the system.

IMAGE



DOVER OUTDOOR RECREATION AREA BICYCLE PARK

name

$1,350,000

total cost

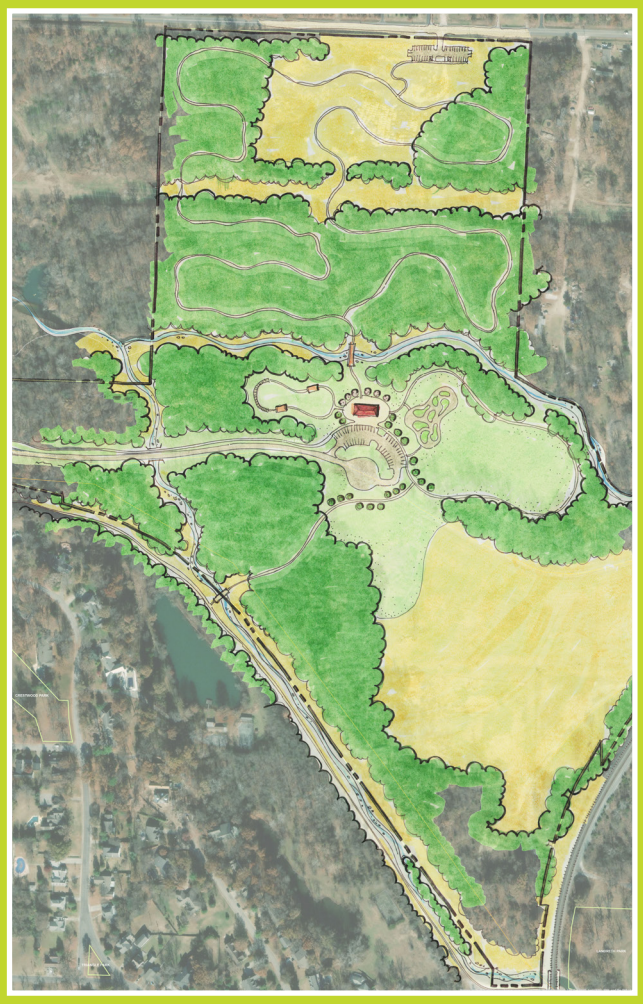
PARK IMPROVEMENTS

project type

DESTINATIONS

goal

MASTER PLAN



DESCRIPTION

Joplinites are hungry for more opportunities to enjoy their parks on two wheels. The community survey indicates, by an overwhelming margin, that the facilities deemed most important to households are walking and biking trails. The facility deemed second most important is natural parks and preserves. The City has a tremendous opportunity to address both of these community priorities with the development of Dover Outdoor Recreation Area. If you're not quite aware of this park, it consists of 95 acres of mostly undeveloped land near the confluence of Joplin and Turkey Creeks on the south side of Zora Road and east of Lone Elm Road. While the flatter portions of this property were once maintained and used for soccer fields, the parkland presently lies vacant. This project proposes improvements to W. Soccer Field Road, a new parking lot, shelter, and restroom on the interior of the park, a secondary parking lot on Zora Road, the restoration of the southern acreage to native prairie, and the development of the northern acreage to support a suite of bicycle related amenities such as a BMX style pump track, a children's bike playground, and 1.5 miles of single-track mountain bike trail. Dover Outdoor recreation area has the potential to become the northern anchor of and a premier destination within the Joplin Creek corridor of parkland. With the development of the KATY Trail along its southern edge, the park would offer vehicular and/or pedestrian access on three sides.

PROJECT

JOE BECKER STADIUM TURF REPLACEMENT

name

PARK IMPROVEMENT

project type

DESTINATIONS

goal

$600,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

Joe Becker Stadium is a living monument to baseball history in Joplin and continues to be the home for the Joplin Outlaws summer league team and used by the Southern Missouri Lions collegiate team. This project proposes the replacement of existing synthetic turf in the infield at a cost of $200,000 and the installation of new synthetic turf in the outfield at a cost of $400,000.

IMAGE



PROJECT

LANDRETH PARK FOOTBALL LIGHT REPLACEMENT

name

PARK IMPROVEMENT

project type

DESTINATIONS

goal

$200,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

This project proposes the replacement of existing sports field lighting which presently illuminates the football field at the northern end of Landreth Park just southeast of the Main Street entrance. This field is currently lit by old incandescent light fixtures mounted on 7 different poles. With a proper photometric study and modern LED fixtures, the field could be lit with fewer poles, using less power, and costing the department far less in utility fees.

IMAGE



PROJECTS

MCCLELLAND SIDEWALK, ROADWAY, & SHELTER IMPROVEMENTS

$1,450,000

total cost

name

PARK IMPROVEMENTS

project type

DESTINATIONS

goal

MASTER PLAN



DESCRIPTION

It would be enough for most parks to provide 36 amazing holes of disc golf, but not McClelland Park. McClelland is the largest park in the Shoal Creek corridor of parkland, commands the top of a dramatic bluff overlooking the creek and the city beyond, and has served for decades as a gathering place for the community. However, beyond disc golf, this park does not presently have much to offer most park goers. This project would replace or restore much of the basic park infrastructure that has made McClelland a destination for decades. It would rebuild the parking lots, replace the picnic shelters, and situate them around a new circular drive with sidewalks and shade trees. It includes the installation of a new half-mile walking trail for those visitors that may not be up for the rugged trails through the disc golf course. The project also includes the restoration of four picnic and overlook areas on the east side of McClelland Park Boulevard, providing paved accessible parking, new tables, grills and trash receptacles, and connecting them with a 10-foot-wide shared use concrete path. The existing restroom building would remain. The playgrounds would be replaced with funds from a different project. McClelland Park has all the intangible beauty you can ask for in a park. It provides Joplin with a connection to the rugged Ozark plateau. Its the entry experience and the basic park infrastructure that needs attention and this project would address those needs.

PROJECT

WILDCAT & MCINDOE PARK RESTROOMS

name

PARK IMPROVEMENT

project type

DESTINATIONS

goal

$300,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

Wildcat and McIndoe Parks are the backbone of Joplin's Shoal Creek corridor of parkland. They offer over 2.5 miles of connected trail, unparalleled views of shoal creek and access to the unique flora and fauna of the Ozark chert glades. What neither park provides, however, is a standalone restroom. Each restroom would cost $150,000 to install.

IMAGE



PROJECT

HUMPHREY PARK SPLASH PAD

name

PARK IMPROVEMENT

project type

DESTINATIONS

goal

$750,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

Humphrey Park is the only park property serving the historic northeast neighborhoods of Joplin and, as such, sees ample use. Adding a splash pad would be a simple way to add an aquatic amenity to this corner of town and not add significant operations cost to the departmental budget. This project would include the design and construction for such an amenity including all aquatic features, below ground utilities, pavement, seating, and associated landscaping.

IMAGE



PROJECTS

PLAYGROUND ENHANCEMENTS

- REPLACEMENT PARTS — $450,000
- NEW EQUIPMENT — $400,000
- SURFACING — $450,000

name

PARK IMPROVEMENTS

project type

DESTINATIONS

goal

$1,300,000

total cost

IMAGES






DESCRIPTION

This project proposes to enhance that requisite amenity any young family is bound to seek out at a public park: the playground. It becomes necessary to attend to nearly all of the department's playgrounds once a decade in order to make sure that they are in good working order and meeting the expectations of the community. This project would impact 21 separate playgrounds across 15 parks. It proposes replacement parts for playgrounds located at in Cunningham, Garvin, Humphrey, Iron Gates, Joplin Athletic Center, Landreth, Leonard, McClelland, Mineral, Parr Hill, Roanoke, and Schifferdecker Parks. The project proposes brand-new playgrounds at Cedar Ridge, Ewert, Landreth, McClelland, and Wildcat Parks. And it includes funding for new pour-in-place rubberized surfacing at playgrounds located in Cunningham, Ewert, Humphrey, Joplin Athletic Complex, Landreth, McClelland, Parr Hill, Schifferdecker, and Wildcat Parks.

PROJECT

PARK BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM

name

PARK OPERATIONS

project type

DESTINATIONS

goal

$2,500,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

This new program proposes to address a shortfall in maintenance staff across the department by adding 4 full time positions and 2 additional vehicles. These additional staff and vehicles would be responsible for the beautification areas in each park. This includes flowerbeds, city and park entry signs, downtown flowers from 2nd street to 32nd street, trash removal, landscaping projects and mowing and trim work. In short, this project is all about making Joplin more attractive.

IMAGE



PROJECT

ANNUAL PARK MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

name

PARK OPERATIONS

project type

DESTINATIONS

goal

$1,700,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

This program funds 2 full-time parks caretakers, 3 seasonal laborers, and trail maintenance (sealing every 5 years). One caretaker is responsible for the maintenance operation of all three aquatic centers, electrical and plumbing in all parks and facilities, and holiday lighting. The second caretaker oversees all the volunteer groups and seasonal employees that work in our flowerbeds and park entryways and landscaping areas. These positions are vital to both the appearance and functionality of the parks across the City.

IMAGE



PROJECT

HISTORY & MINERAL MUSEUM STRATEGIC PLAN

name

PARK OPERATIONS

project type

DESTINATIONS

goal

$150,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

As shown in the community survey, Joplinites value their history and want their Parks and Recreation Department to provide more opportunities to learn about it. It was only last year in 2020 when the Joplin History and Mining Museum came under the operation of the department. Before any projects are proposed or decisions made about the future of this community resource, we recommend that the City engage a consultant team to conduct a strategic plan for the museum so that Joplin can make a set of informed and community-driven decisions.

IMAGE



PROJECT

MERCY PARK ELECTRICAL

name

UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS

project type

CONNECTIVITY

goal

$250,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

When Mercy Park was originally constructed in 2015, the design did not include an internal electrical utility network. This project would correct that oversight by bringing the conduit, circuitry, junction boxes, and outlets to the portions of the park where the department now knows it is needed. Having electrical hook-ups in the park will benefit the public by facilitating both large community festivals as well as smartphone chargers in the picnic shelter.

IMAGE



PROJECTS

KATY TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

- TRAIL HEAD PARK — $900,000
- WESTERN SEGMENT — $1,150,000
- EASTERN SEGMENT — $650,000

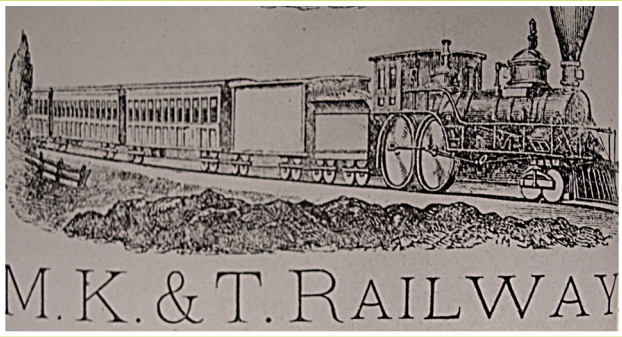
name

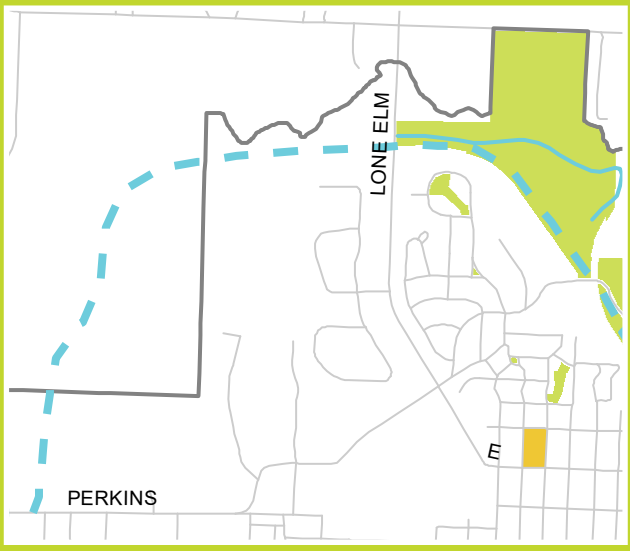
TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS
project type

CONNECTIVITY
goal

$2,700,000
total cost

IMAGE / MAP





DESCRIPTION

The Katy Trail is a project that has been contemplated by trail advocates in Joplin for years. The trail would make use of railroad right-of-way once used by the Missouri-Kansas-Texas (MKT, or just "KT") Railroad. Today this right-of-way is owned by the Union Pacific Railroad and this project would require the City, or a partnering agency such as the Joplin Trails Coalition, to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Union Pacific. The project has the ability to connect Schifferdecker Park and Joplin Athletic Complex in Joplin's northwest corner to the Joplin Creek corridor of parkland in its northeast corner. It's the largest and most ambitious of the trail projects proposed by this plan and, for that reason, the City could chose to attack it in pieces. The trail head park is proposed on a 5-acre parcel of land already owned by the City in the 2400 block of W. Perkins Street and could provide a small parking lot, shelter with restroom, and playground. The western segment would run 8,500 linear feet from Perkins Street to Lone Elm Road and would include 1 prefabricated steel pedestrian bridge. The eastern segment would run 3,300 linear feet from Lone Elm Road to Murphy Boulevard between the Roanoke neighborhood and Dover Outdoor Recreation Area.

PROJECTS

LANDRETH PARK TRAIL CONNECTIONS

- DOVER CONNECTOR — $750,000
- MAIN STREET UNDERPASS — $250,000
- FRISCO CONNECTOR — $280,000

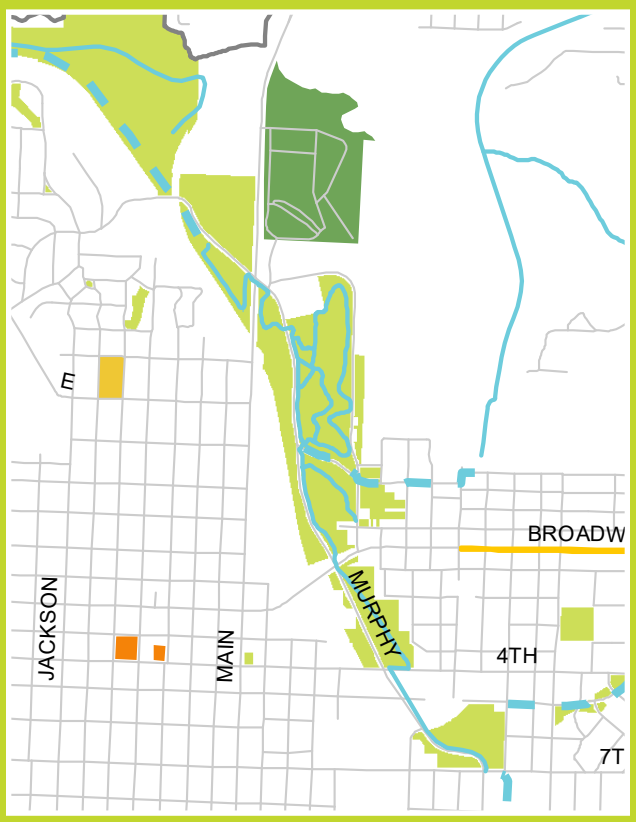
name

TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS
project type

CONNECTIVITY
goal

$1,280,000
total cost

MAP



DESCRIPTION

Landreth Park has more internal trail mileage than any other park in the system. *How could that be improved?,* you may ask. This park and its adjacent neighborhoods could still benefit from these three critical trail extensions. The Dover Connector would connect Landreth to the eastern segment of the new Katy Trail and Dover Outdoor Recreation Area. It entails a crossing of Murphy Boulevard and development of a path over the low water crossing of Joplin Creek and under the railroad overpass. Much of this pavement is in place but just needs proper striping and signage. The Main Street Underpass is simply a new 500-foot stretch of trail which would carry pedestrians and cyclists under the Main Street viaduct and thereby spare them the need to navigate the difficult intersection of Main Street and Murphy Boulevard. The Frisco Connector entails filling gaps and making upgrades to existing sidewalk along 2,000 feet of Landreth Avenue, Pool Street, Division Avenue, and North Street. Funding these basic improvements along this corridor would safely connect Landreth and Mineral Parks to the Frisco Trail.

PROJECTS

EWERT PARK TRAIL CONNECTIONS

- RIVERWALK — $2,500,000
- SPRING GREENWAY — $180,000

name

TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

project type

CONNECTIVITY

goal

$2,680,000

total cost

IMAGES / MAP





DESCRIPTION

Ewert Park is already a popular park destination for Joplinites. If the projects recommended in previous pages are executed, its popularity will only increase. The projects on this page would improve connectivity across the Joplin Creek Corridor and specifically between Ewert Park and its surrounding mixed-use community. Ewert Park is unique among the larger parks in the system due to its location at the nexus of so many different land uses. Added connectivity would not only help more folks access and enjoy the park, it would also bring more attention to and eyes on the park and thereby improve safety.

The Riverwalk project has been discussed for more than a year within the community. It entails the construction of 1,100 linear feet of new trail along the east bank of Joplin Creek as it passes through the Joplin Plaza commercial center between e. 7th Street and Campbell Parkway. The concept diagram to the left was prepared by Corner Greer Architects on behalf of the commercial property owner. This project would fund the design and construction of the trail improvements only. It's tempting to imagine how these infrastructure improvements could spur additional private investment by the adjacent commercial property owners. The Spring Greenway project would provide 1,700 linear feet of shared use path on the north side of E. 5th and Elm Streets between Ewert Park and E. 4th Street to the northeast. This sidewalk would provide a safe connection for residents in the neighborhood to the east as well as a sidewalk through a public park currently without any pedestrian infrastructure.

PROJECT

PARR HILL PARK 15TH STREET UNDERPASS

name

TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

project type

CONNECTIVITY

goal

$1,100,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

This project proposes the design, coordination, and installation of a prefabricated concrete box tunnel underneath 15th Street at Parr Hill Park. This project would allow for a safe and accessible grade-separated crossing of 15th Street for all pedestrians and cyclists traveling between the northern and southern portions of Parr Hill Park. It would link Parr Hill Park and the surrounding neighborhoods to Campbell Parkway and the Joplin Creek corridor.

IMAGE



PROJECT

44TH & MAIN STREET SHARED USE PATHS

name

TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

project type

CONNECTIVITY

goal

$600,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

This project proposes two segments of new shared use path totaling 3/4 of a mile which would connect the existing shared use path on Connecticut Street with the Mercy Hospital campus and Wildcat Park.

MAP



PROJECT

TIN CUP TRAIL 32ND STREET UNDERPASS

name

TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

project type

CONNECTIVITY

goal

$1,200,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

This project proposes the design, coordination, and installation of a prefabricated concrete box tunnel underneath the intersection of 32nd Street and St. Johns Boulevard. It would carry pedestrians and cyclists using the Tin Cup Trail diagonally under the intersection from the southwest corner to the northeast corner and vice versa. This underpass would provide a safe linkage between the existing St. John's Trail with the soon-to-be-constructed first phase of the Tin Cup Trail

IMAGE



PROJECT

TIN CUP TRAIL PHASE 2

name

TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

project type

CONNECTIVITY

goal

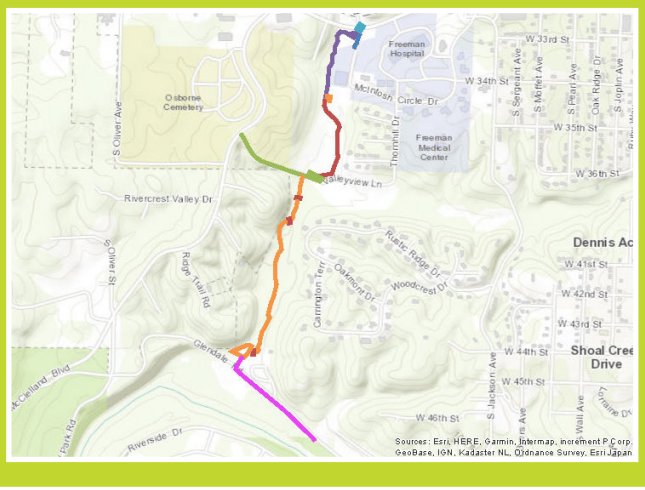
$750,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

This project proposes construction of the southern half of the Tin Cup Trail connecting Osborne and Parkway Cemeteries with McIndoe Park and the Shoal Creek Corridor of parkland.

MAP



PROJECTS

SCHIFFERDECKER TRAIL CONNECTIONS

- JUNGE AVENUE PATH — $450,000
- SCHIFFERDECKER AVE. PATH — $180,000
- PERKINS STREET PATH — $180,000

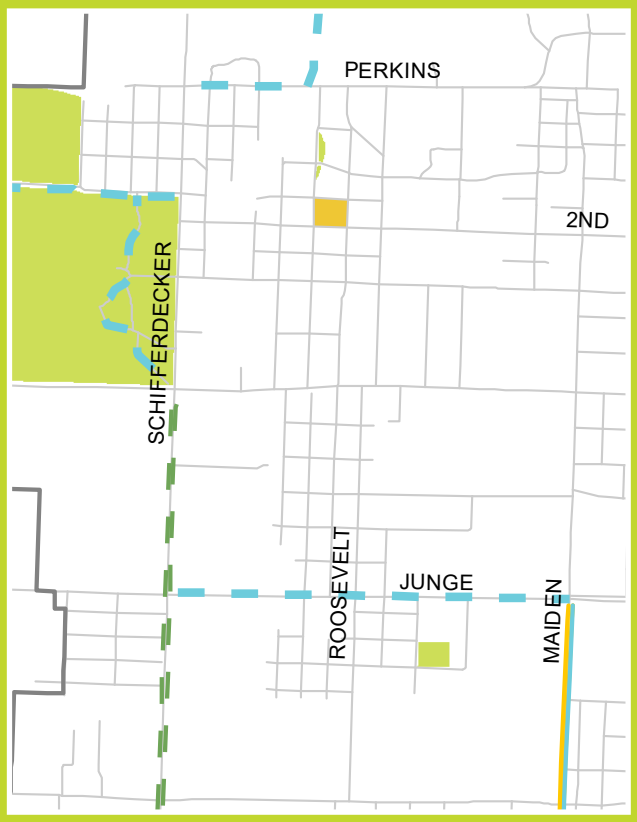
name

TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS
project type

CONNECTIVITY
goal

$810,000
total cost

MAP



DESCRIPTION

This series of projects proposes to close a yawning gap in the bicycle and the pedestrian network on the city's west side. Consisting of three smaller projects, this overall effort would provide continuous trail or sidewalk between Cunningham and Mercy Parks on the south and Schifferdecker Park and the Katy Trail on the north. Providing a mile of new shared-ues path on the north side of Junge Avenue between Maiden Lane and Schifferdecker Avenue will bring pedestrian infrastructure to a street that currently has none. It doesn't hurt that the department can take advantage of the act that they already own 1,800 feet of this frontage and could incorporate the trail into the Fairview Cemetery pathway network. This project assumes that the Public Works Department will provide planned sidewalk and bike lane upgrades in the next decade to the stretch of Schifferdecker Avenue between Junge Avenue and W. 7th Street. It also assumes the development of shared use path through the park itself will happen under a separate project. The remaining components of this project propose the installation of shared use path on the west side of Schifferdecker between 1st and Perkins Streets as well as on the north side of Perkins between Schifferdecker and the Katy Trailhead Park, thereby linking the park to the trail.

PROJECT

TRAIL WAYFINDING PACKAGE

name

SIGNAGE IMPROVEMENTS

project type

CONNECTIVITY

goal

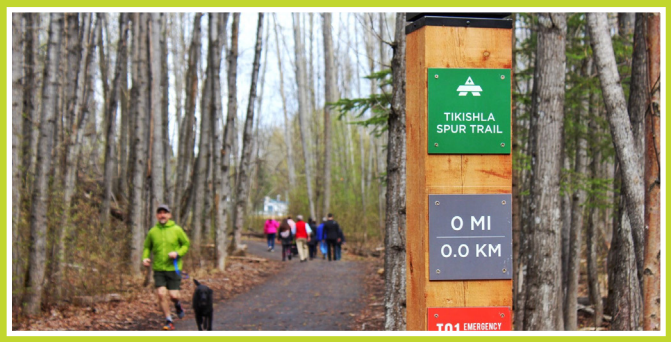
$150,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

This project funds the development, design, and installation of a comprehensive trail wayfinding sign package. With the projects listed in this plan combined with what already exists in the system, Joplin has the potential to create a loop of trails circumventing the City over 18 miles in length. Pedestrians and cyclists will want to know where they can go. A basic but comprehensive system of trail wayfinding will become critical.

IMAGE



PROJECT

TRAIL BENCHES

name

TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

project type

CONNECTIVITY

goal

$200,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

As mentioned above, Joplin has the opportunity to develop a trail network some 18 miles in total length, providing connections that wrap the entire city. People will want places to occasionally sit. This project funds the procurement and installation of benches for those miles of trail already in the system.

IMAGE



PROJECT

SECURITY CAMERAS

name

UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS

project type

SECURITY

goal

$300,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

The community survey indicated that safety concerns are the top reason that keep Joplinites from enjoying their parks and outdoor spaces. The City does not want issues of safety to separate its citizens from its great parks. This project would fund the design and installation of a network of security cameras at 11 parks including the Joplin Athletic Complex, Mercy, Cunningham, Parr Hill, Schifferdecker, Leonard, Landreth, Humphrey, Ewert, Wildcat, and McClelland Parks.

IMAGE



PROJECT

SECURITY LIGHTING

name

UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS

project type

SECURITY

goal

$1,510,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

Joplin parks are open to the public from 7:00am until 11:00pm year round. That means there are a lot of hours that parks can be enjoyed after the sun goes down. Providing quality lighting in parks improves both safety and accessibility. This project would fund the design and installation of 300 light pole fixtures across 11 parks including Mercy, Leonard, Cunningham, Schifferdecker, Ewert, Humphrey, Parr Hill, Garvin, Spiva, Landreth, and Iron Gates Park.

IMAGE



PROJECT

ENTRY MONUMENT SIGNS

name

SIGNAGE IMPROVEMENTS

project type

EDUCATION

goal

$60,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

Joplin has a standard park monument sign that can be found at a majority of the parks in town. It is an attractive and cost effective model for the department and it clearly identifies the park to new visitors. This master plan recommends that the City deploy more of these entry signs to the city's signature parks that lack entry signage: Campbell Parkway, Wildcat, McIndoe, McClelland, and Schifferdecker Parks.

IMAGE



PROJECT

INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE PACKAGE

name

SIGNAGE IMPROVEMENTS

project type

EDUCATION

goal

$80,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

Joplin's parks, facilities, and cemeteries embody the history and culture of this city. They each have the power to act as separate museums with their own stories to tell and lessons to give. This project would fund the design and installation of interpretive signage to tell the story of the environmental and cultural resources found within Campbell Parkway, Mineral, Wildcat, Ewert, and Schiffendecker Parks.

IMAGE



PROJECT

LANDRETH PARK SIGN LETTERING

name

SIGNAGE IMPROVEMENTS

project type

EDUCATION

goal

$10,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

The massive stone wall entry monuments at the north and south end of Landreth Park make you feel like you as though you are entering one of America's great national parks. And, in fact, you are entering one of Joplin's legacy public parks. The stones that were originally laid nearly 90 years ago by WPA laborers have stood the test of time. But the lettering needs to be replaced. This project would fund that signage improvement.

IMAGE



PROJECT

PARK SIGN KIOSKS

name

SIGNAGE IMPROVEMENTS

project type

EDUCATION

goal

$300,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

For Joplin to get the most out of its park and recreation investment, its citizens must know all that there is to do at their parks. Part of that education effort is accomplished by better signage. Installing park sign kiosks at 10 parks and all 4 cemeteries will better orient visitors to all that the property offers. Properly designed signage clues folks into opportunities they didn't even know existed and improves accessibility and safety as well.

IMAGE



PROJECT

LANDRETH PARK FITNESS TRAIL

name

PARK IMPROVEMENTS

project type

HEALTH & WELLNESS

goal

$350,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

Landreth Park is already a highly popular destination for walkers and joggers with its network of trails. This project proposes to add even more fitness appeal to the park by adding outdoor fitness equipment stations to the trail. The community has told us they want more opportunities for outdoor recreation and adult fitness. A fitness trail is an amenity not currently found in Joplin. Landreth Park offers the ideal location.

IMAGE



PROJECT

SPORT COURT OVERLAYS

name

PARK IMPROVEMENTS

project type

HEALTH & WELLNESS

goal

$440,000

total cost

DESCRIPTION

This project will fund the typical overlay all basketball and tennis courts across the system need once every 10 years. Providing such an overlay ensures better safety, playability, and longterm sustainability. This project funds the resurfacing of 28 separate tennis and basketball courts at the Joplin Athletic Complex, Landreth, Cunningham, Parr Hill, Roanoke, Humphrey, Leonard, Ewert, and Schifferdecker Parks.

IMAGE



PROJECTS

OUTDOOR GAMES

name

PARK IMPROVEMENTS
project type

$105,000
total cost

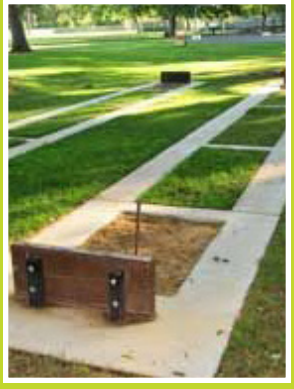
HEALTH &WELLNESS

goal

IMAGES











DESCRIPTION

The Parks and Recreation Department seeks ways to improve community health and wellness by getting the whole community outdoors. Providing more multi-generational amenities in the neighborhood and community parks is a way to entice whole family groups to come out to a park and stay a little longer. By providing the equipment to facilitate outdoor games in our parks, we create opportunities where families with young children, middle aged adults, and seniors can all interact together and have fun in a way that suits people of all ages and ability levels. Providing durable game tables, horsehoe pits, cornhole ramps, or gagaball pits that require minimal upkeep is all the department has to do. The park-goers bring the game pieces, balls, horshoes, etc., and the fun. We recommend making such improvements at Humphrey, Leonard, Landreth, McIndoe, McClelland, Cunningham, and Schifferdecker Parks.

JOPLIN PARKS AND RECREATION

ROAD MAP

2021-2031

