



Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

Focus Group Feedback – General Themes



Focus Group Key Themes

Adaptive Recreation

- Need better communication between the City and all individuals, parents, and advocates
- More events & more adaptable areas
- More skills programs
- Create an advocacy group
- Provide more services for those over 18



Focus Group Key Themes

Neighborhoods



- Beautify the parks and improve safety and comfort so they become a “go-to” place for the neighborhood
- Amplify current uses and add uses (or create magnet parks for specific uses)
- More shaded seating areas, particularly for parents and elderly
- Simplify the process for holding community events – permit process should be less cumbersome, electric and toilets added to all parks



Focus Group Key Themes

Parks Maintenance

- Need more full-time, well-trained staff
- Need more time to work on projects within the parks
- Simplify equipment repair, replacement, purchasing process
- Homeless population in the parks has created cascading problems
- Design/modify parks with maintenance in mind



Focus Group Key Themes

Sports Fields



- Maintain field consistency by team, league, and sport
- Ensure all fields are well-lit, clean
- Re-examine the cancellation policy to maximize field use
- Work with neighborhood parks, schools for better field access
- Transition to an online registration system (including calendar and payment)
- Convert (or build new) fields and facilities that are multi-use



Focus Group Key Themes

Events & Reservations

- Comprehensive online permitting would streamline the event booking process
 - Be specific about what determines a special event
- Fields should be well lit, have bathrooms, and parking access
- Additional facilities would allow for more and bigger tournaments
- Pursue more large-scale events and set annual event revenue target



Focus Group Key Themes

Boating, Fishing, and Concessions

- Dock space is the #1 concern
 - Restrict access, add signage, add docks, maintain docks and boat storage areas
- Ensure parking lots are used only by lake-goers
- Maintenance needs – distance marker updates, restroom clean-up, dock improvements
- Continue to support and expand fishing opportunities



Focus Group Key Themes



CIP & ASSET MANAGEMENT

- Update and maintain aging infrastructure and replace capital
- Update existing technology
- Provide high quality project management
- Increase the quality and quantity of staff, contractors, and service
- Create a long-term staffing plan and project management plan



Focus Group Key Themes

Sports & Aquatics

- Storage facilities are needed for sports equipment
- More dedicated sports fields and courts are needed to address sports trends
- Better aquatics center that can serve multiple uses and age groups
- More staff are needed for facility maintenance and aquatic centers



Focus Group Key Themes

Events



- Better prioritization and usage of City facilities for events is needed
- The use of mass transit and ride sharing can help alleviate parking/transportation problems at events
- Safety and security of events remains a priority with increased expectations from the community
 - Alcohol at events needs to be better managed



Focus Group Key Themes

Senior/Community Programs/Community Centers

- Centers need better marketing and signage to increase attendance and use
- More single purpose rooms should be turned into multifunctional rooms
- Equipment needs to be updated or replaced
- Increasing staff for facilities would increase the quality of the community experience at centers



Focus Group Key Themes

Not for Profit Providers & Seniors

- Increasing the number of days and amounts of meals that the City and others serve meals would better support the senior population
- Technology updates and replacements are needed
- Program scheduling needs to be more flexible to be able to serve the largest amount of the population
- More facilities are needed to better serve events and other activities



Focus Group Key Themes

Class Providers



- Create a consistent schedule (time & instructors)
- Customize features for seniors (sign-up in person, not online; classes start around 9, not 8)
- Find new ways to advertise
- Boost attendance through unique offerings, advertising, and thoughtful scheduling
- Simplify the online sign-up process

