

2016-2020 Comprehensive Parks & Recreation Master Plan



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Executive Summary

Introduction

The Worth Park District has been providing quality park and recreation services since 1965 and as it celebrates its fifty year anniversary in 2015, there is a lot to celebrate. The Park District encompasses approximately 29 acres and operates two recreational facilities including the Christensen Terrace Centre.

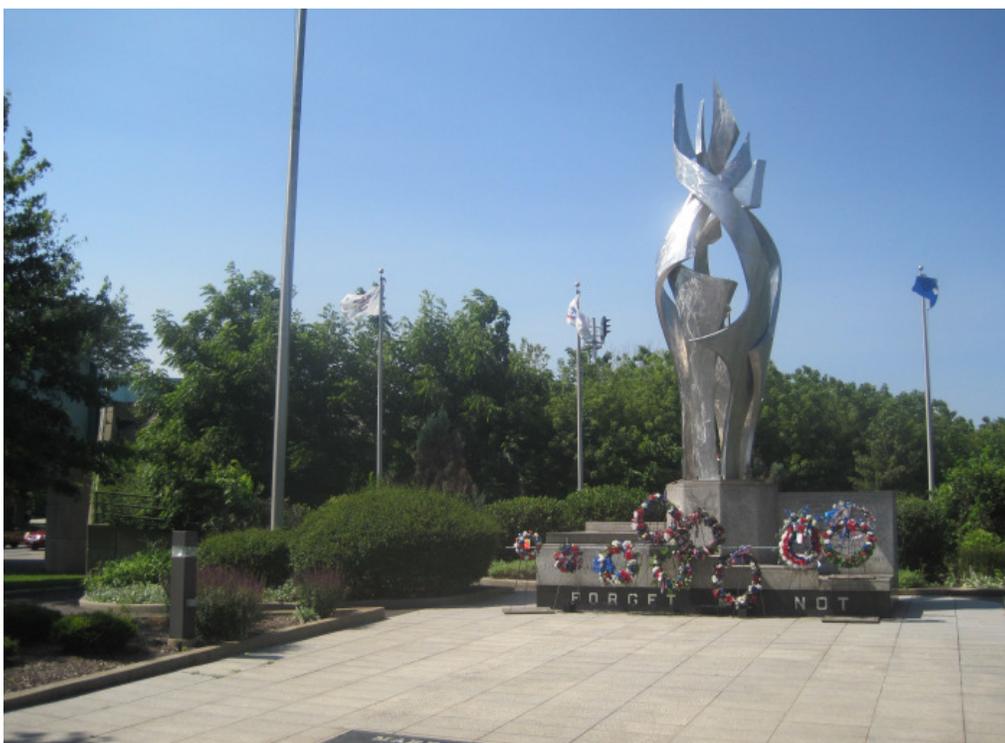
Park District Mission & Vision

The mission of the Worth Park District is to offer our residents opportunities to enjoy life through quality programs, services and facilities.

The vision of this plan is to continue the practice of wise investment into opportunities for both resident and user enjoyment of Park District parks, facilities and services.

Purpose

The Park & Recreation Master Plan purpose is to create a vision and strategy to guide the Worth Park District as they address the community needs, interests and trends. The planning process provided many community input opportunities which led to over 300 touch points, yielding over 10,000 collected pieces of data that were analyzed and used in the master plan development. The plan includes decision-making tools to assist both staff and Commissioners in making capital and operating investment decisions for park recreational opportunities during the next five years.



Planning Process

In winter 2015, the Park District engaged the services of Design Perspectives to assist in developing this master plan. A Delphi Leadership Committee made up of a cross-section of resident stakeholders as well as a staff Project Team worked in collaboration with the consultant during the planning process. The planning team assessed existing park and recreation facilities through site visits, researched leisure programming services and developed a base of understanding of the current Park District environment through a comprehensive needs assessment process. The consultant reviewed demographic projections, explored best practices of peer agencies, prepared standards with service area analysis, developed conceptual park plans with capital improvement planning, created goals, objectives and an action plan for implementation.



TIMELINE

DECEMBER 2014

Master Plan process began with Park District staff kick-off meeting, existing planning document review and park and facility inventory

FEBRUARY 2015

Park District hosted Delphi committee meetings and administration of community survey began

MARCH/ APRIL 2015

Delphi committee completed process with written report, Park District staff and board vision meetings were held, public input meetings were held, community survey was completed and recreation program evaluation began

APRIL/ MAY 2015

Public facilitation input was analyzed, capital improvement planning and conceptual designs started

MAY/ JUNE 2015

Goals and objectives developed with draft Master Plan document submitted for Park District review

SUMMER 2015

Park Board meeting to discuss final master plan revisions and final document approved

Peer Agency Comparisons

As part of the master planning process, a comparative study of recreation facilities and programs of select peer agencies was conducted that were selected by the Park District. The three agencies reviewed were all comparable to the Worth Park District in terms of size and budget. The information collected was provided voluntarily by the peer agency or via the agency website.

	Worth Park District	Warrenville Park District	Community Park District of LaGrange	Blue Island Park District
Population	11,000	13,000	13,500	24,000
Tax Rate	0.46	0.54	0.27	0.68
Indoor Facilities	1	2	1	1
Outdoor Pool	0	0	0	1
Acres of Parkland	29	30	23	-
Acres/Thousand	2.6	2.3	1.7	-
Before/After School Program	Yes	No	Yes	No
Pre-School Program	Yes	Yes*	Yes	No
Total Budget	\$1,275,113	\$3,130,000	\$1,831,192	\$1,559,400
Expenditure per person	\$115	\$240	\$135	\$65

* Early Childhood Development Preschool is an independent pre-school operation with leased space in the Warrenville Park District Recreation Center

A key relationship in the table above is between the population and budget which provides a dollar amount spent per person to provide park and recreational facilities and services. Each Park District has a unique ratio that makes this a personal relationship unique to every community. However, over the years of researching this relationship through master plan projects, there appears to be a correlation that exists between the two. The dollar amount for local agencies to provide a community the wide range of park and recreation facilities and leisure services that meets expectations is typically in the \$250 or more per person range. When the dollars amount increases to \$300 or more per person, the agency can usually exceed community expectations with parks and facilities including an expansion of leisure services.

- Worth has a modest tax rate as compared to others
- Worth is similar in terms of acres per thousand as compared to others
- Worth has a similar amount of indoor space as compared to agencies of similar size
- Worth has a low expenditure per person dollar amount which falls under the \$250 target range

Needs Assessment

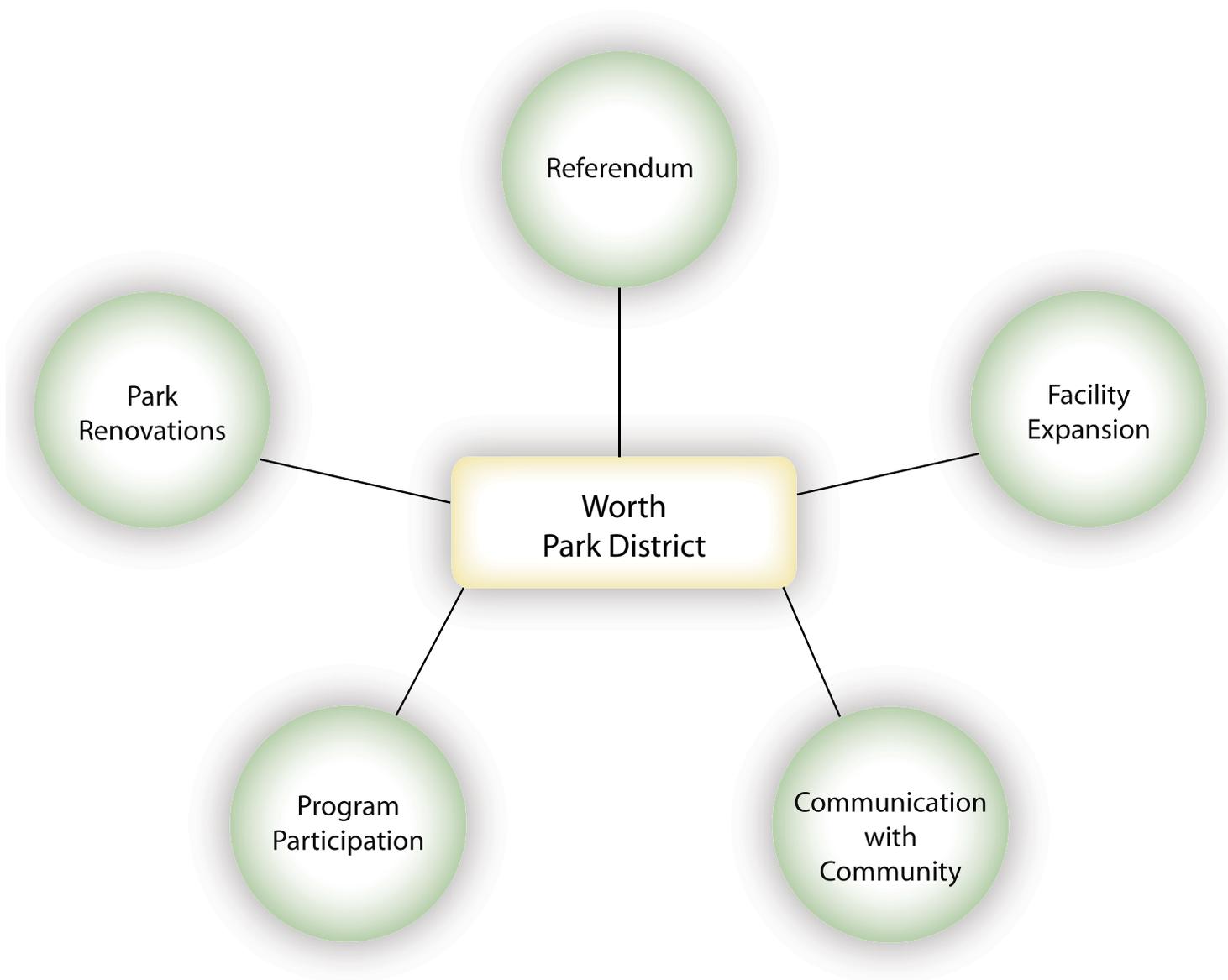
A comprehensive community needs assessment was a cornerstone effort in this planning process to provide an understanding of the needs and desires of the community. The center point of that effort was a survey designed to measure behavior as well as perceptions by residents regarding the Park District. The survey gathered 348 responses that produced a 95% confidence level with a +/- 5.2% confidence interval.

The following conclusions can be made from the analysis of the large data set to aid in the general understanding of usage patterns, park and recreation preferences, and the establishment of priorities for the Worth Park District.

- Familiarity within the community is acceptable, but there is room for improvement
- Satisfaction with the Park District is high
- The brochure is by far the most important tool to communicate with the public
- Program use is low overall, youth and preschool programs have the highest participation
- Program quality is ranked high for all age groups
- Worth Days is the most highly attended special event offered by the District
- Very few people leave the Worth Park District, but those that do leave because others have better facilities
- All of the Park District parks and facilities are satisfactory to the community
- Homerding and Peaks are the most highly used parks in the District
- Passive elements such as walking trails, sitting & picnic areas, landscaping and natural areas are the most important outdoor recreation elements
- Walking/ jogging track, exercise equipment and a senior room are the most important indoor elements
- There is a positive level of community support for a referendum to build and maintain parks & facilities
- Priorities include the maintenance of services and parks & facilities, expanding services and improving accessibility

Key Outcomes

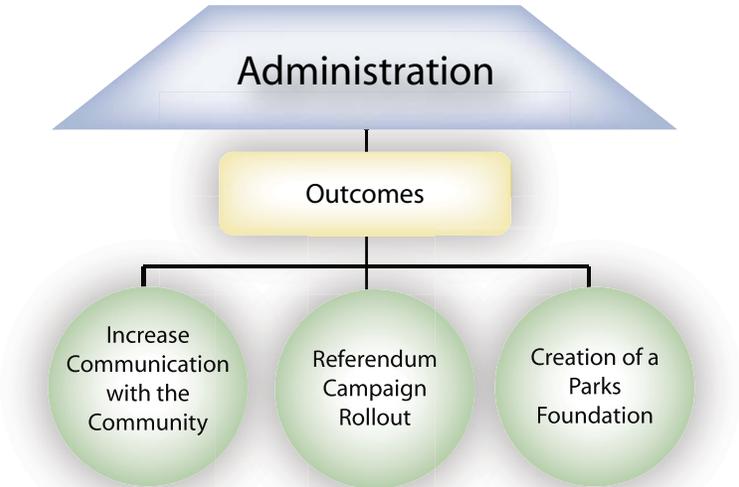
The key outcomes are based on the major focus areas that were developed from a thorough review of all data gathered in preparing this plan. It was clear that while park and facility improvements and maintaining and expanding recreation services were important, the need to pass a referendum to achieve financial stability for any substantial district wide improvements was profound. The following graphic identifies major themes identified by the planning process as accomplishments to be achieved in the next five years:



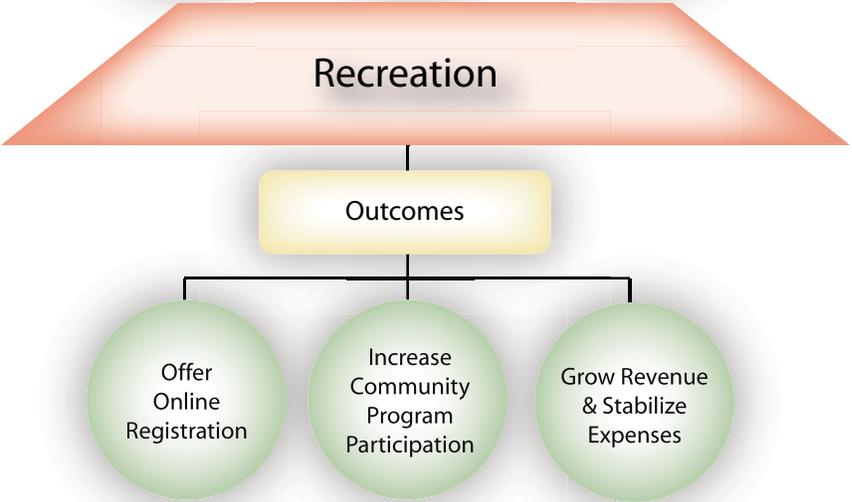
Plan Implementation

The strategic atlas depicted below represents an overview of the key outcomes based on strategic goals and objectives that this planning effort has generated.

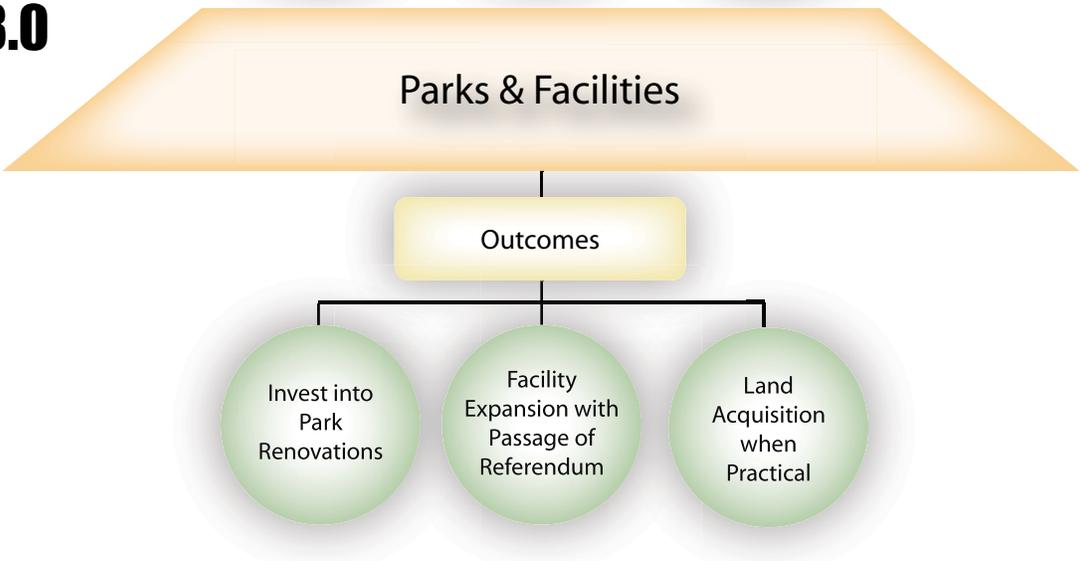
Tier 1.0



Tier 2.0



Tier 3.0



Chapter 1- Planning Context

Master Plan Purpose

Comprehensive planning should always be viewed as a practical tool to assign priorities for the allocation of limited resources of an agency. This plan should be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that the goals and objectives accurately reflect the current challenges and opportunities the Park District faces. If significant changes are needed, the plan should be updated to reflect those changes along with the new justification to alter the current direction.

Master Plan Process

The purpose of this planning initiative is to gather input from numerous avenues, synthesize the data collected and then devise an appropriate action plan to improve the parks and recreation experience for the community. From that direction, goals and objectives will be developed and address the strategic issues surrounding capital budgeting, land acquisition, park and facility development, recreational programs and visibility within the community. The journey seeking these changes for the future will be challenging, but the rewards for those efforts in the next five years can make a dynamic impact.

The following outlines key steps in the planning process that included:

- Visioning sessions
- Community input sessions
- Community survey summary
- Recreation programming analysis
- Park inventory & analysis
- Standards development
- Equity mapping/Service area analysis
- Conceptual park planning
- Capital improvement planning
- Master plan themes, goals and objectives
- Implementation action plan

Park District History

The Worth-Palos Park District was formed by a referendum in 1965 and it consists of a five-member Board of Commissioners. The measure passed by a slim margin of just 26 votes.

The Park District's first meeting was held at the Village Hall on May 3, 1965. The first tax money received by the newly formed district was in June of 1966. Through its 40 plus years the Park District continues to grow with 10 parks to serve its residents and a staff dedicated to serving the community's changing needs.

Timeline

1966 – A 5-acre parcel of land was donated by contractor, Wayne Peak, which is known today at Peak's Park located at 107th and Oak Park Ave.

1967 – The village turned over 2 half-acre parcels to the Park District, which later became known as Worthwoods Park, at 109th & Oketo and Penny Park, at Home Ave. & Normandy. Penny Park was named for the early promise given to tax payers that the Park District would only cost them pennies each year. Also a 2-car garage was given as a gift to the park and moved to Peak's which was then converted into a three-room community building known today as the Helen Goy Community Center.

1970 – The triangular piece of land across the street from Peak's Park was purchased and is now used as our Maintenance Garage. A 5-acre wooded tract of land located at 109th and Nordica was also purchased. It was dedicated to the memory of Gale Moore in 1974.

1975 – 1976 – Development of Smile, at 114th & Neenah; Stahlak, at 112th & Natchez; and Altman Parks took place along with the maintenance of 3 ball fields at Worthwoods School. The Altman Park had been just south of the Terrace Center where the village-owned ball fields are today.

1977 – Baldwin Park, at 109th & Nashville, was donated by Jack Baldwin in honor of his son.

1982 – The Park District signed a lease with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District for a 13-acre parcel of land for a period of 39 years. The park, located at 116th and Oak Park, was named after Frank Homerding in 1983.

1985 – Worth Terrace School, located at 11500 Beloit, was purchased. It was renamed the Charles M. Christensen Terrace Centre in 1989.

1990 – The official name of the Park District was changed from Worth-Palos Park District to Worth Park District. The popular Recreation After School (RAS) program began. The football field at Peaks Park was named the Harold Choot Field.

1993 – The Veterans Memorial Park, at 111th & Harlem, was unveiled.

1995 – The first Worth Park District Historical Museum was opened at the Terrace Centre. The Board of Commissioners also formed the Worth Historical Society.

2004 – A new Historical Museum was opened. The Department of Natural Resources Illinois State Museum's Public Museum Capital Grant primarily funded the expansion.

Chapter 2- Community Needs Assessment

Community Profile & Demographics

The Park District consists of mostly residential communities which creates a small town feeling to the Park District. Children attend School District 127 and the Park District boundary includes all of the Village of Worth along with small pieces of Alsip and Oak Lawn.

The following demographic data comes from the United States Census Bureau for the Village of Worth.

Worth Park District	Percentage	Total
Total Population (2013 estimate)	-	10,846
Median Age	-	37.8
Population under 18 Years	22.0%	-
Population over 65 Years	12.1%	-
Female Population	50.2%	-
Male Population	49.8%	-
Caucasian	90.0%	-
African American	2.6%	-
American Indian/ Alaska Native	0.2%	-
Asian	1.9%	-
Hispanic	11.4%	-
High School Graduate	88.9%	-
B.S. Degree or Higher	14.6%	-
Mean Travel Time to Work (minutes)	-	35.0
Homeownership Rate	73.4%	-
Average Household Size	-	2.55
Median Home Value	-	\$179,800
Median Income	-	\$55,764
Per Capita Income	-	\$25,039
Persons Per Square Mile	-	4,554.2

Community Survey Results

Methodology

In the winter of 2015, the Public Research Group conducted a community needs assessment survey, which was completed using e-mail, telephone, and mail surveys. The survey was conducted to support the 2016 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan. A total of 348 responses were completed with a 95% confidence level with a +/- 5.2% confidence interval.

Demographics

How long have you lived within the Worth Park District?

The average length of residency reported by respondents was 28 years. The sample captured some diversity as to the length of residency but the majority of respondents were long time residents of the Park District.

What is your gender?

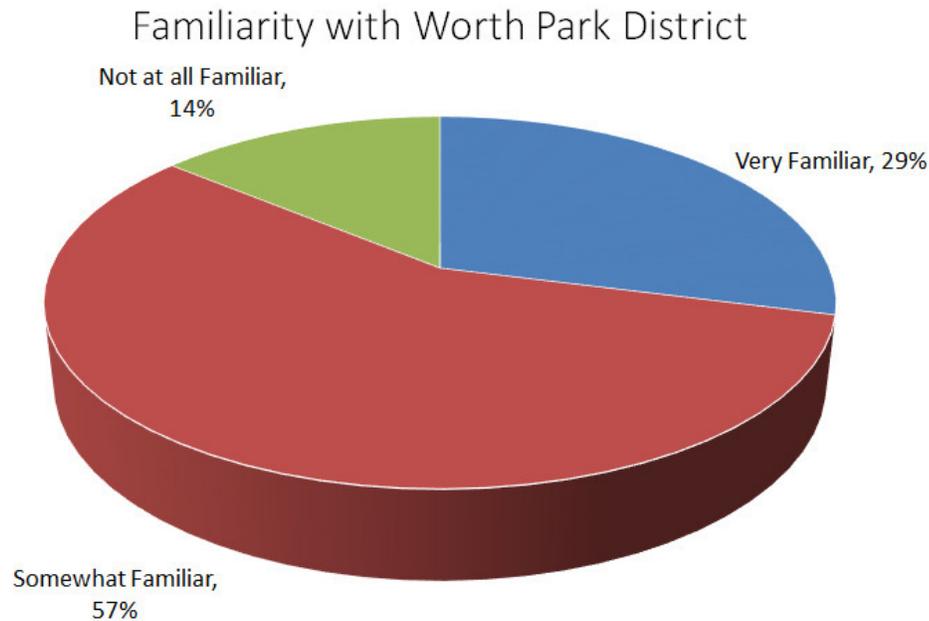
- Male: 38%
- Female: 62%

Beginning with yourself, what are the ages of those in your household?

The average age of survey respondents was 60 years old. Given that the survey was not completed by anyone under the age of 18, it is common practice to subtract 18 years from the average age of the survey respondents. This gives an average of 42 years, comparable to the average age of Worth residents based on census data which is 38 years.

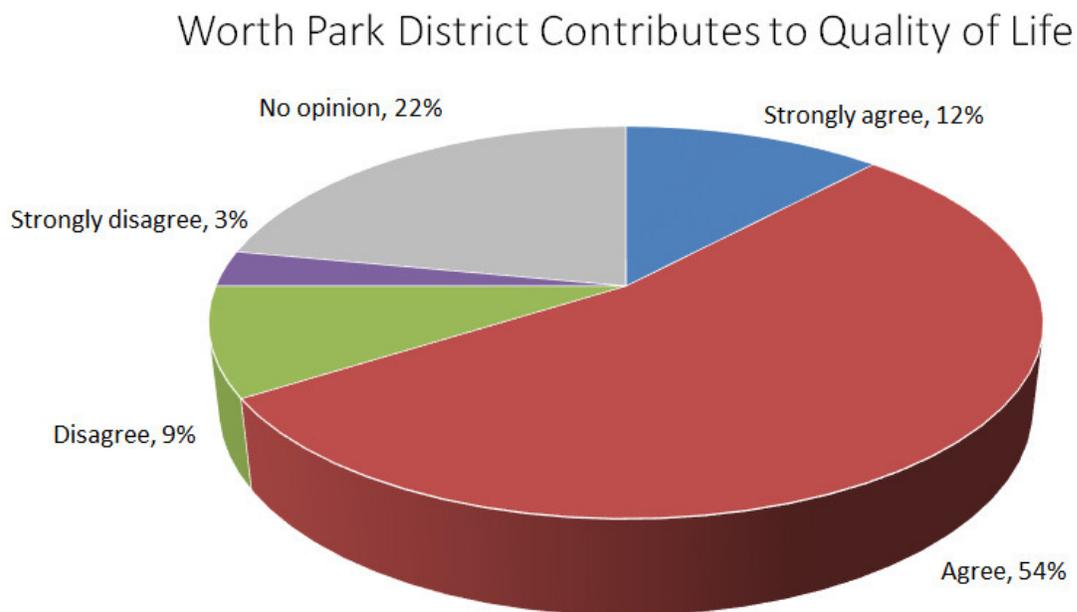
Administration

How familiar are you with the Worth Park District?



The data shows that 29% of respondents were very familiar, 57% were somewhat familiar, and 14% said they were not at all familiar. This shows that while the Park District has relatively high familiarity within the community, there is still room to improve the very familiar response, as well as reach out to those that indicated they were not at all familiar with the Park District.

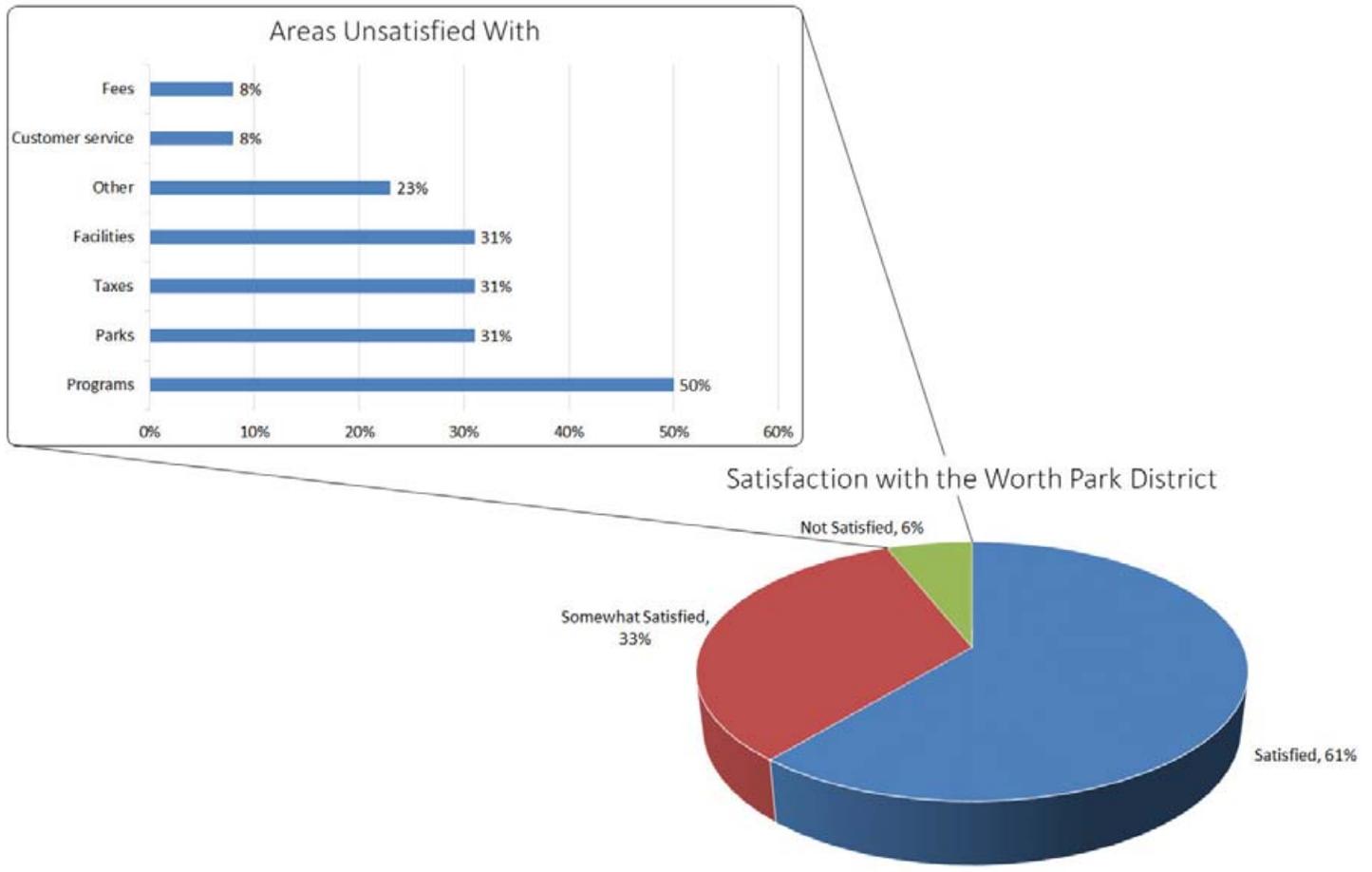
Would you agree that the Worth Park District contributes to your quality of life?



While many respondents indicated that the Park District did improve their quality of life, the high amount of no opinion indicates the need to reach out to members of the community not currently utilizing Park District offerings.

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How would you characterize your overall satisfaction with the Worth Park District? If you answered Not Satisfied above, please tell us which area(s) you are displeased with?

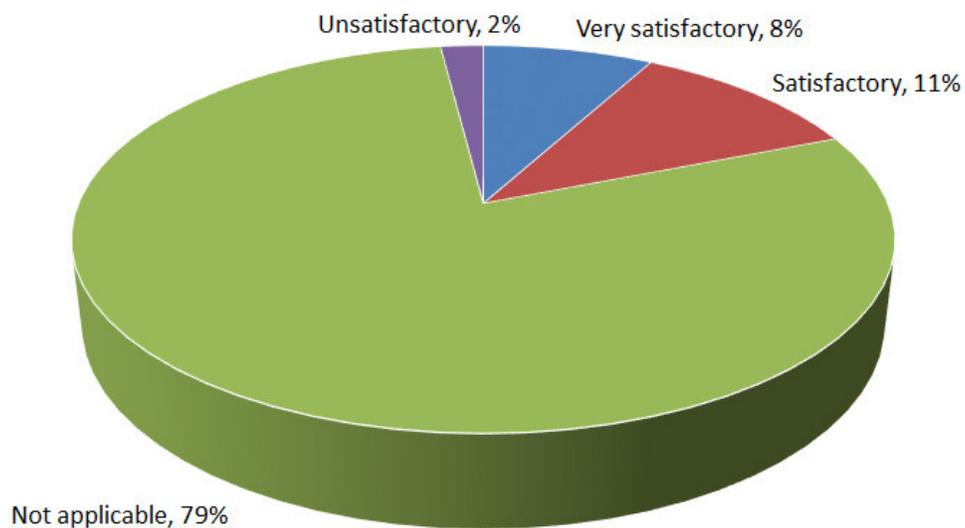


The graph shows that the majority of respondents are satisfied with the Park District, with 94% indicating they were either satisfied or somewhat satisfied. Only 6% indicated that they were dissatisfied.

Only those that said they were dissatisfied were asked to indicate the reason why. The most common response was programs, followed by parks, taxes, facilities, "other", customer service and finally fees.

If you have contacted the Worth Park District in the past with a concern, how was the response?

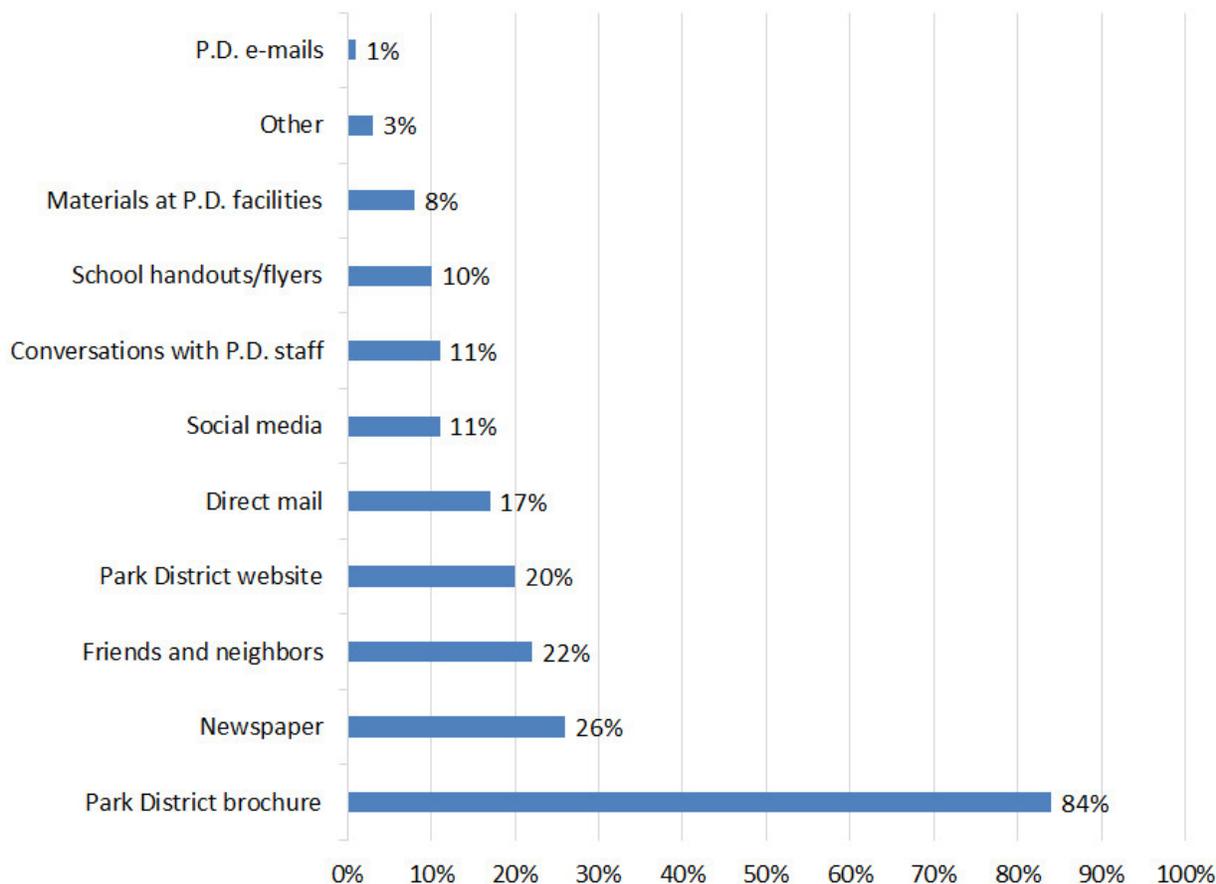
Worth Park District Response to Concerns



The vast majority of respondents had never contacted the Park District with a concern, but for those that did the majority indicated the response was either satisfactory or very satisfactory.

How do you obtain information about the Worth Park District?

Hear About the Worth Park District



The data in the graph shows the overwhelming importance of the Park District brochure as a means of communicating with the community, with 84% of respondents reporting hearing about the Park District there. All other responses were substantially lower, with newspapers at 26%, friends & neighbors at 22%, the Park District website at 20%, direct mail at 17%, social media at 11%, conversations with staff at 11%, school handouts at 10%, materials at facilities at 8%, and emails at 1%. Though the brochure is still the most important method of communicating with the community, the website and social media are used at a relatively high level, indicating that these newer methods could become much more important in the future.

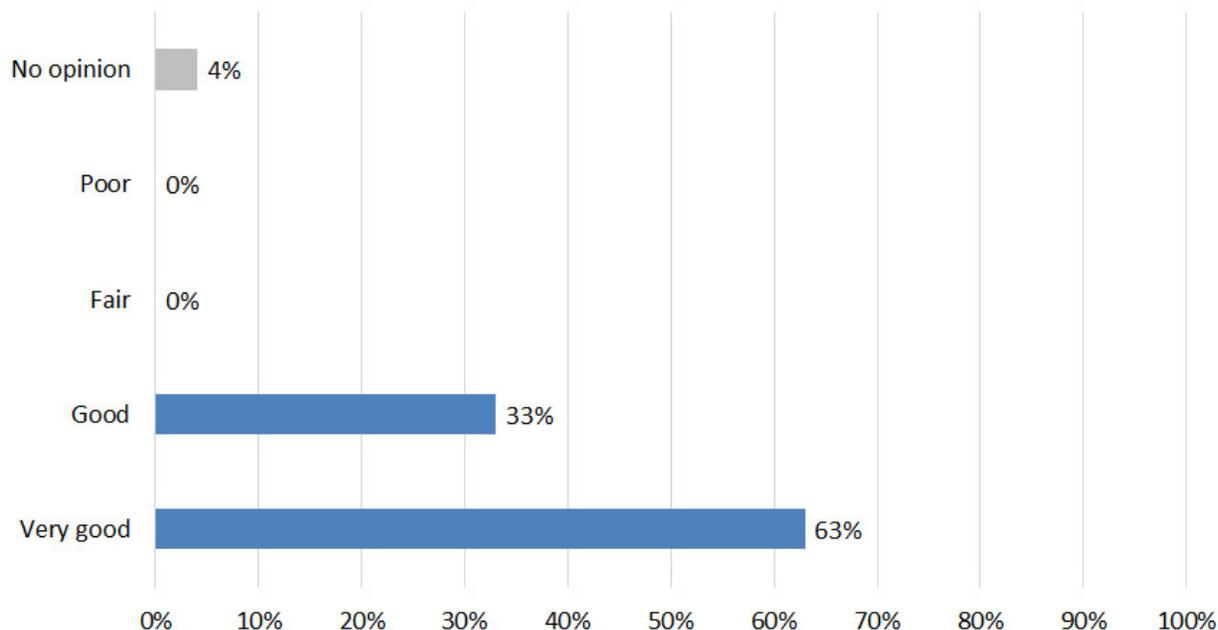
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The Worth Park District is a member district of the South West Special Recreation Association (SWSRA). SWSRA provides recreation programs, trips, special events and day camp for children and adults with disabilities. Please indicate if you or any member of your household has participated in a SWSRA program offering.

- Yes: 8%
- No: 80%
- N/A: 12%

If YES, please rate the quality of the program:

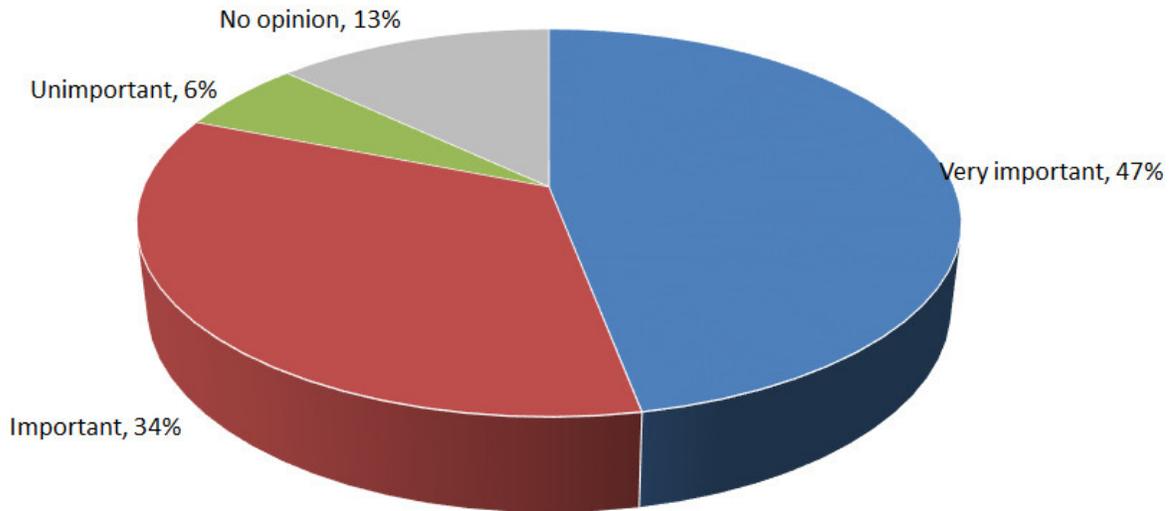
Quality of SWSRA Programs



Overall the ratings for SWSRA programs was very high, with 33% saying good and 63% saying very good. With just 4% having no opinion, there were no negative ratings for SWSRA programs.

How important are local governmental relationships between the Park District and the Village, Library and the School District?

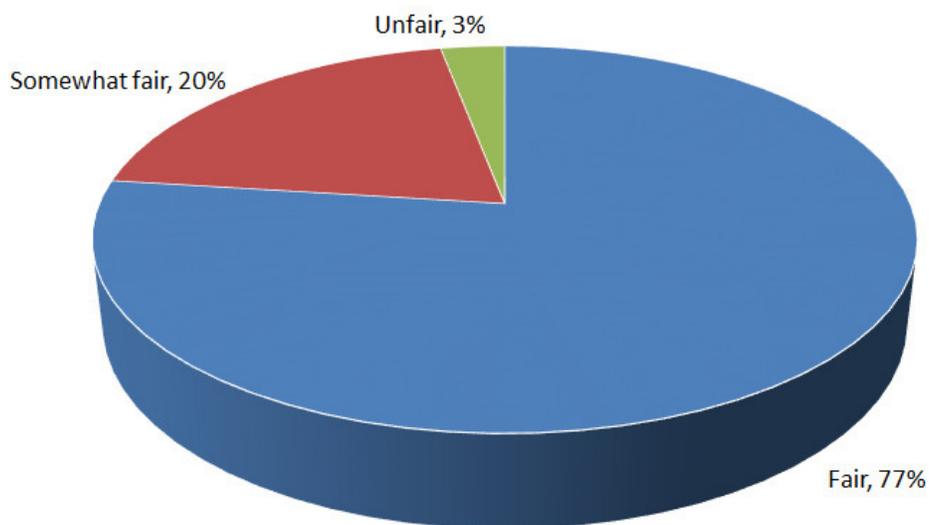
Importance of Local Government Relationships



The data shows that respondents to the survey felt that governmental relationships were important, with 47% saying they were very important and 34% saying they were important. 13% of respondents had no opinion, and just 6% felt that they were unimportant.

Do you feel the fees charged by the Park District for the services, parks and facilities provided are fair?

Fee Structure

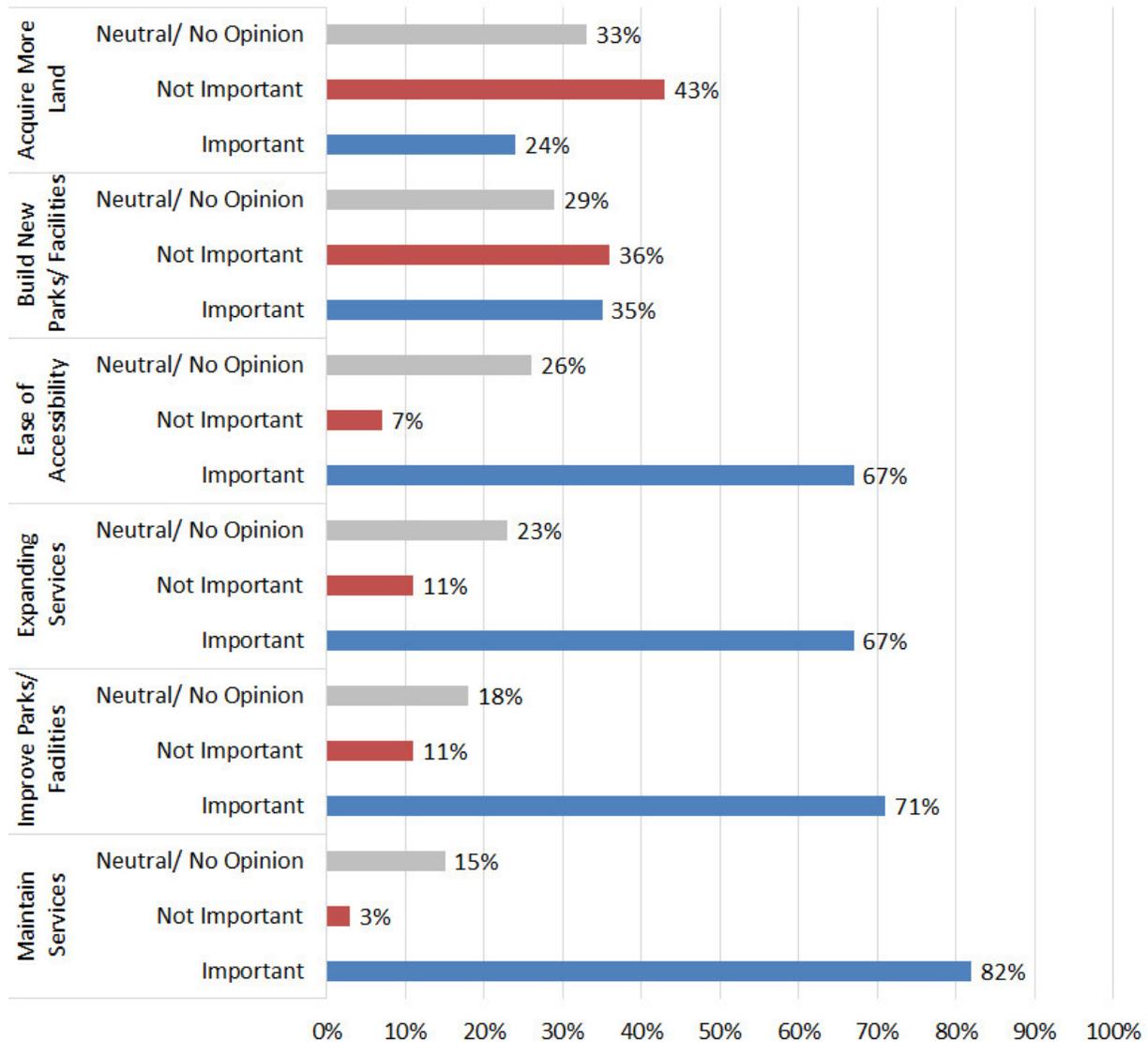


The vast majority of survey respondents indicated that the fees charged by the Park District were fair, or somewhat fair, with just 3% saying fees were unfair.

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Please rate each of the following Worth Park District priorities which would be important to you and your household by circling the appropriate number based on the 1-5 scale given.

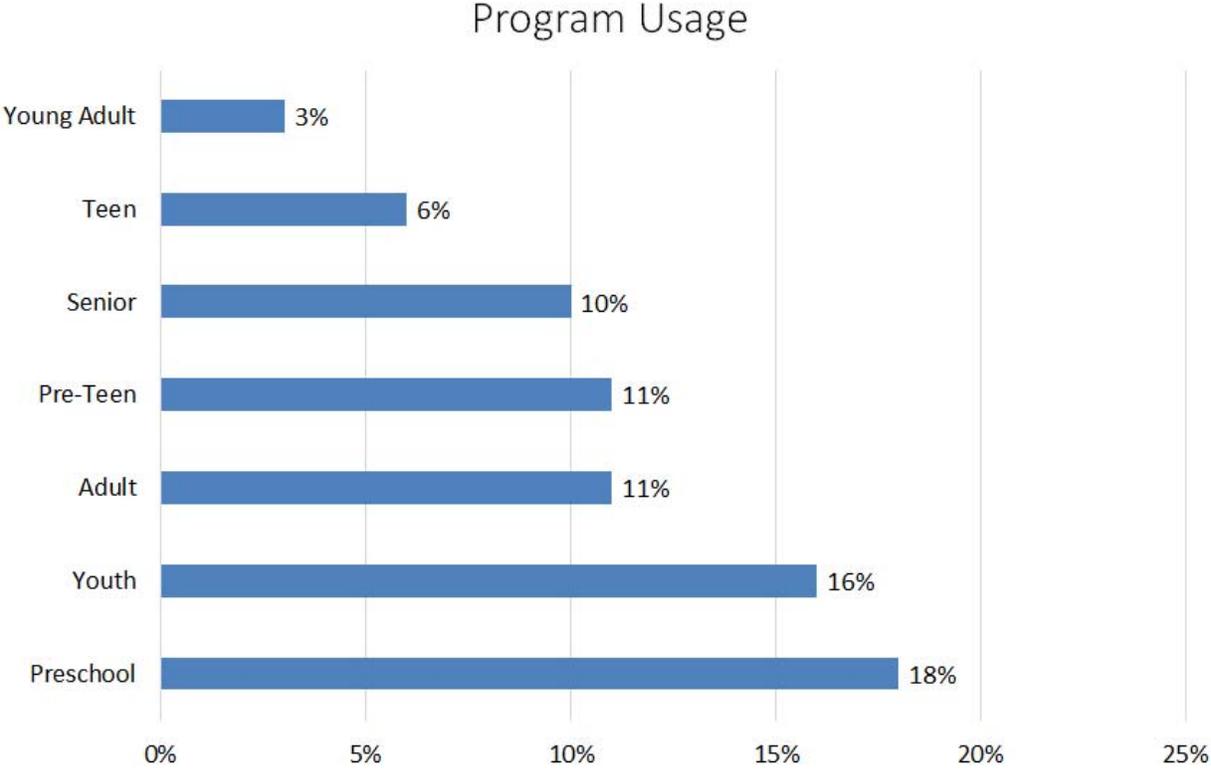
Worth Park District Priorities



The graph shows that residents feel that maintaining services, improving parks and facilities, expanding services, and ease of accessibility are all important priorities for the Park District. Building new parks or facilities and acquiring additional land were the only two priorities residents felt were unimportant.

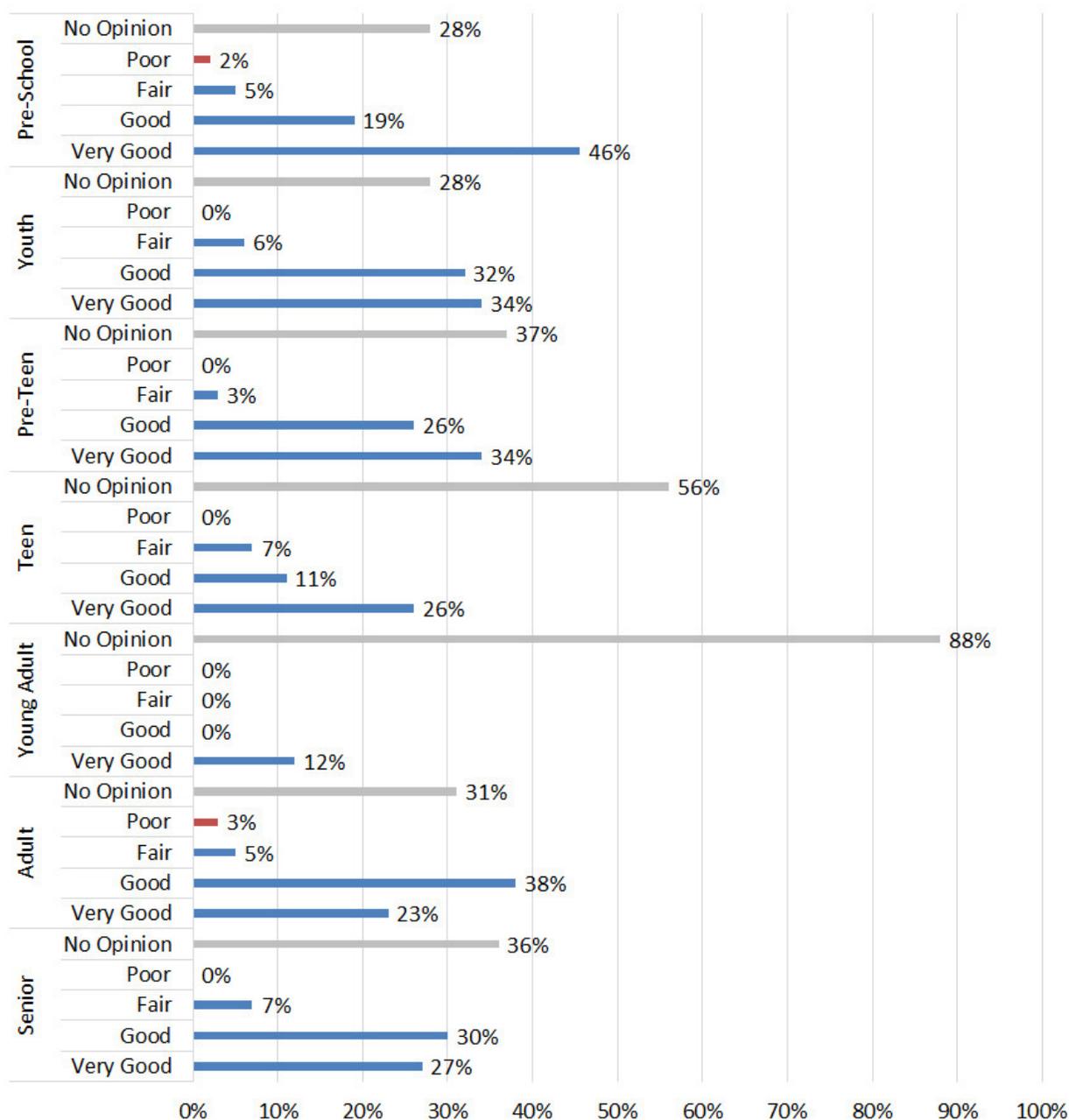
Recreation

Indicate if you or any member of your household has used the programs listed by age groups below by circling YES or NO next to each program type. If YES, please rate the quality of the program by circling the appropriate number based on the 1-5 scale given.



The most popular program types for survey respondents were the preschool and youth types, with 18% and 16% of respondents indicating they use these programs. Adult and pre-teen were each at 11%, senior was 10%, teen was 6%, and young adult was 3%.

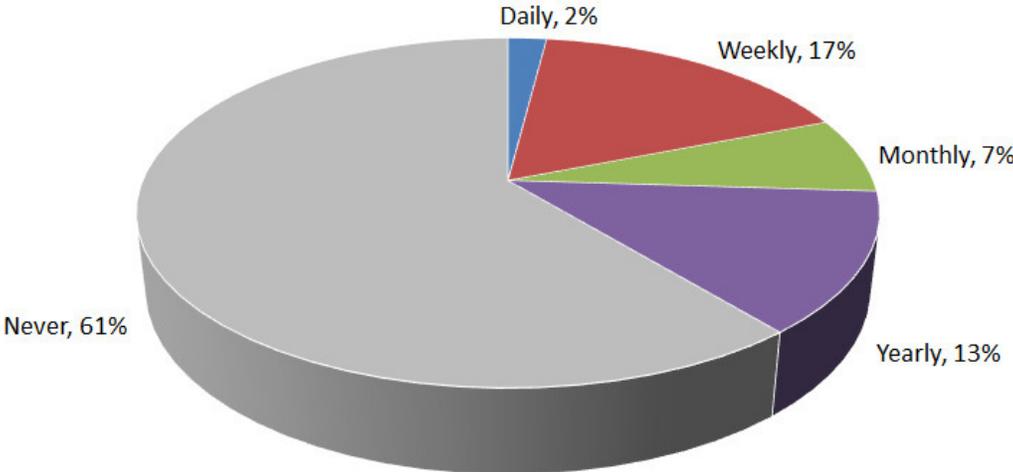
Program Ratings



Overall responses to each of the program categories were very high. Each category received mainly very good or good responses, with just young adult programs receiving mostly no opinion.

How often does your household go outside the Worth Park District for recreational services?

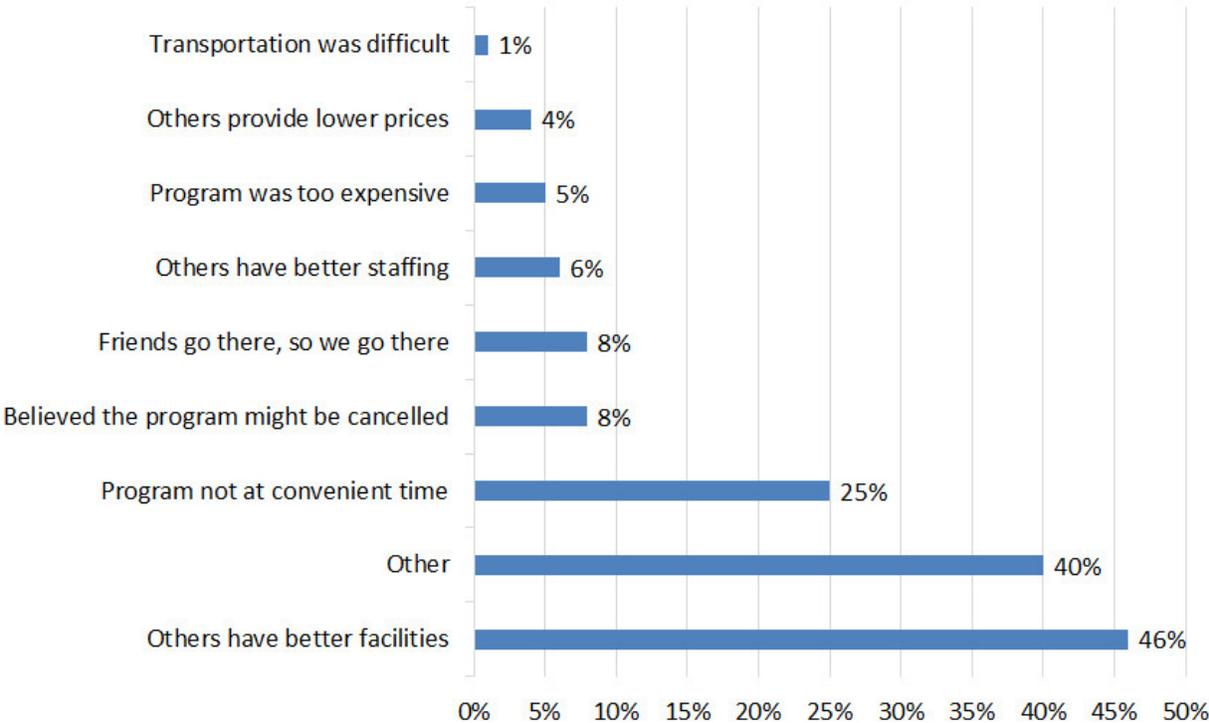
Frequency of Using Other Recreation Services Providers



When asked about leaving the Worth Park District, 61% said that they never use recreational services anywhere else. Of those that did, the responses were split relatively evenly through yearly, monthly, and weekly, with just 2% leaving daily.

If you go outside the Park District for recreational services, why do you find it necessary to do so?

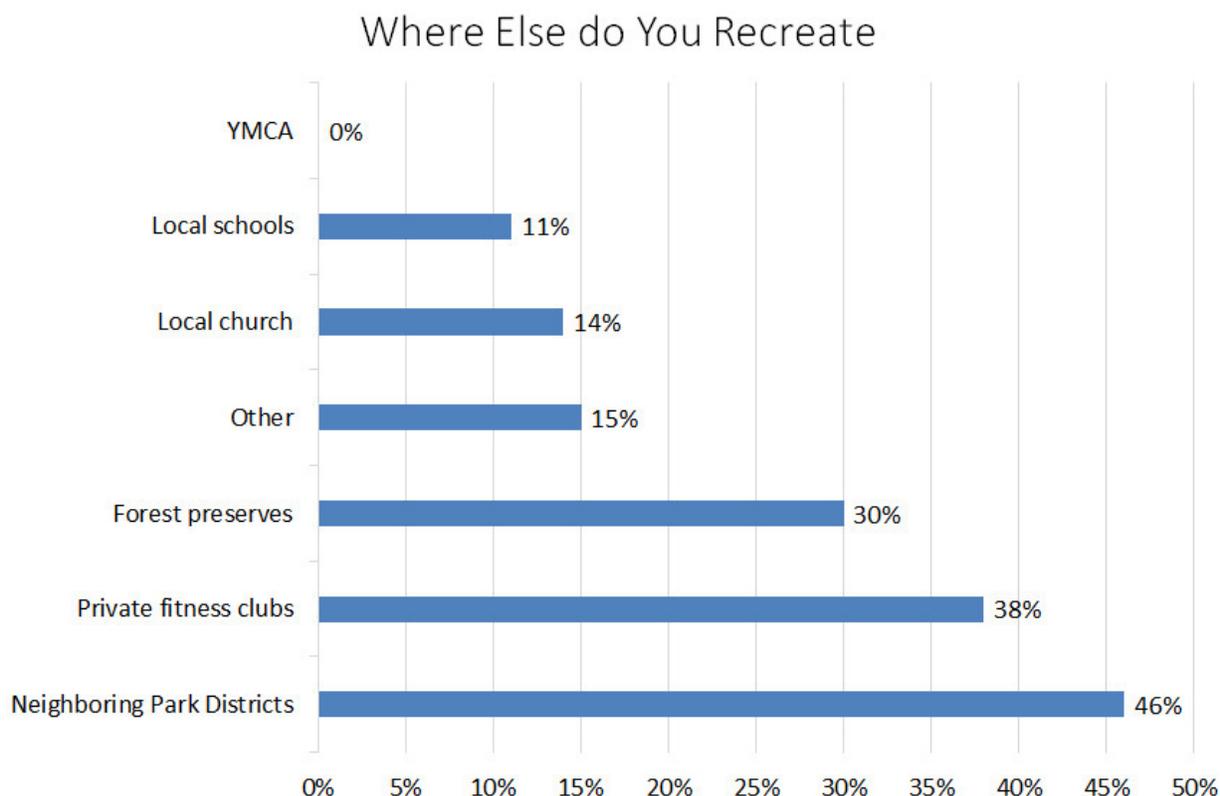
Reason for Leaving the Worth Park District



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Of those that left the Worth Park District, others having better facilities was the number one response at 46%. Programs not at convenient times at 26% was also very high, as was other responses, which can be found in the appendix of this plan. All other responses fell under 10%.

Where else do you or members of your household go for recreation programs and/or services?

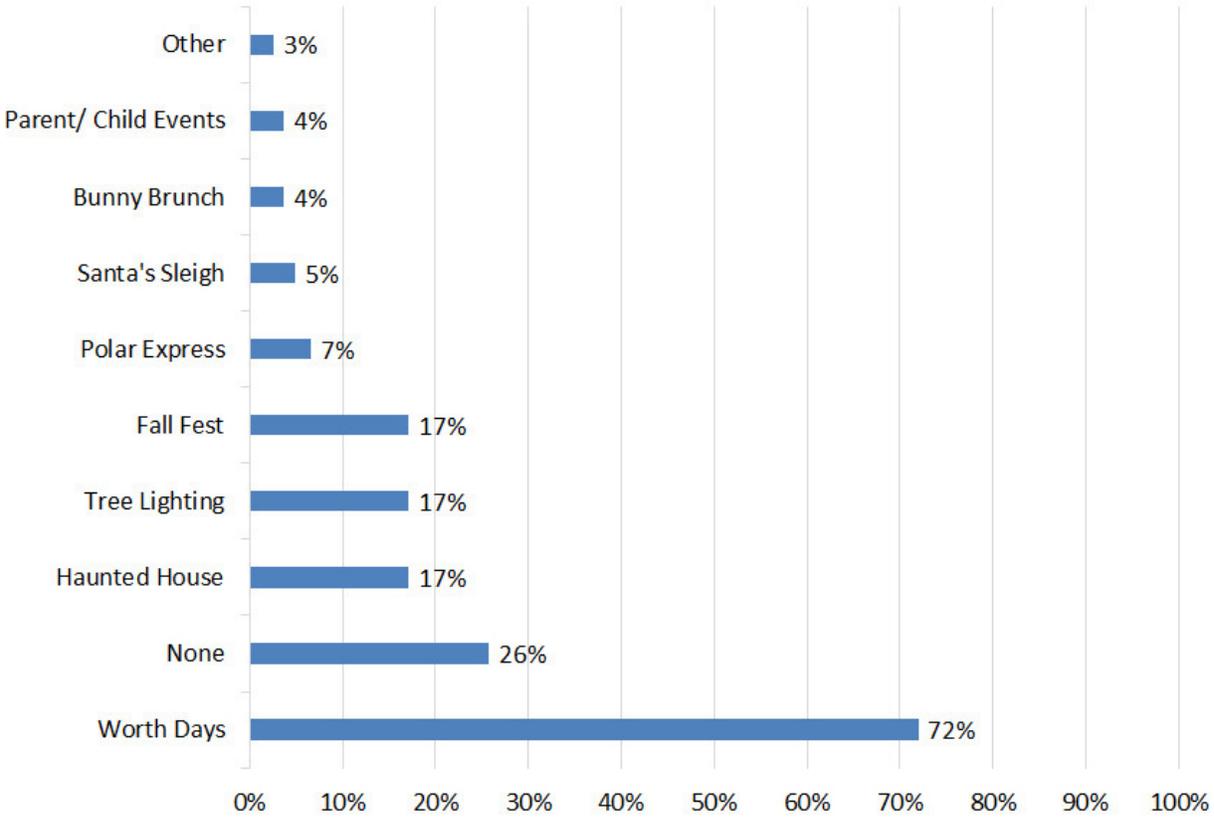


The top response for receiving services outside the Park District was other neighboring Park Districts at 46%. Private fitness clubs was 38%, Forest Preserves was 30%, local churches was 14%, local schools was 11% and the YMCA received no responses.

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Do you or any member of your household attend any of these special events for the community?

Special Events Attended



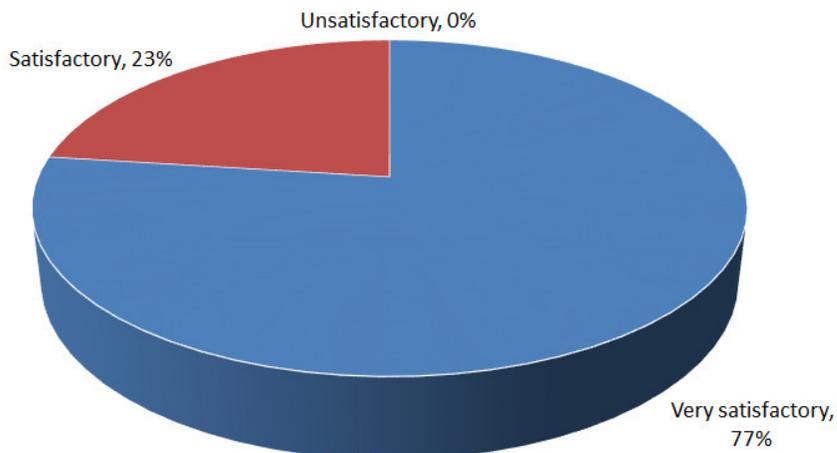
The graph shows that Worth Days is a very popular event, with 72% of all survey respondents attending. The Haunted House, Tree Lighting and Fall Fest each had 17% attendance. All other events were under 10%.

Do you utilize the Worth Park District Tot Lot Preschool Program?

- Yes: 3%
- No: 97%

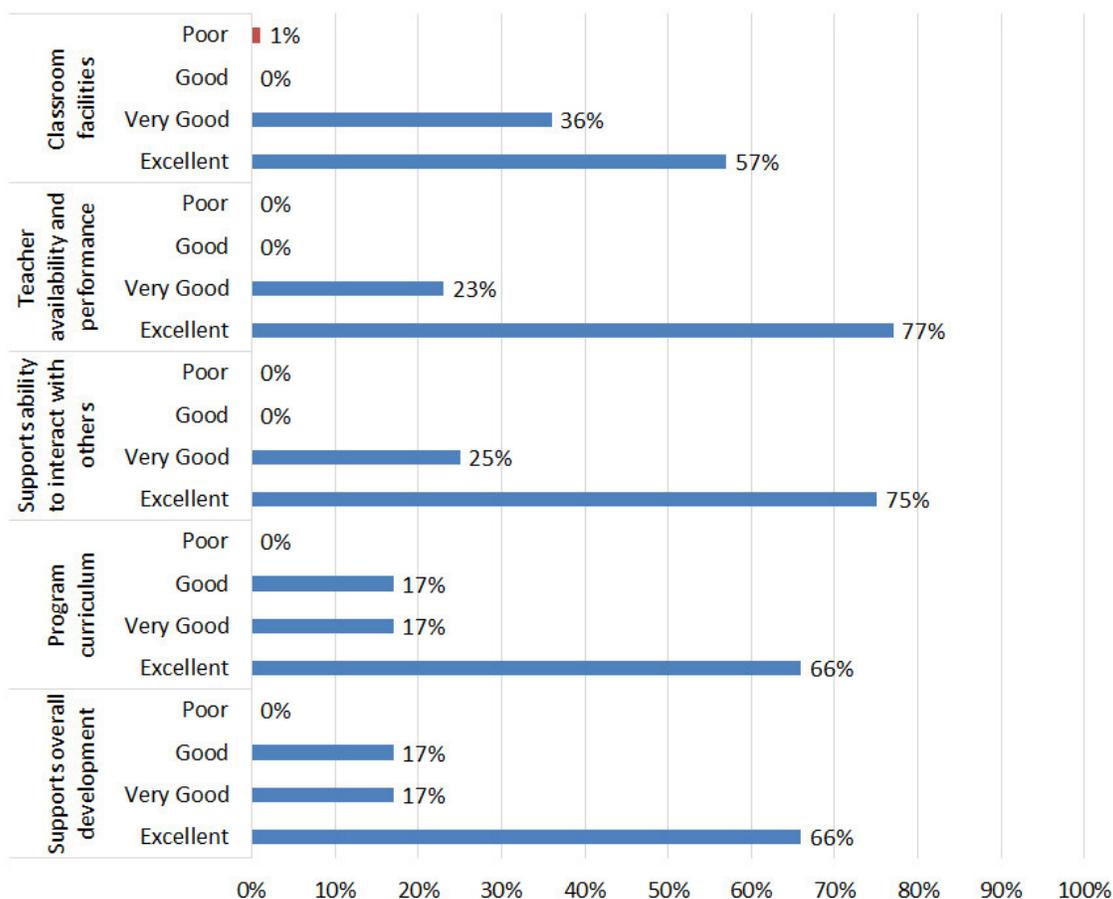
How would you characterize your satisfaction with the Tot Lot Preschool program?

Tot Lot Preschool Program Satisfaction



Please grade the following statements relating to the Tot Lot Preschool program by circling the appropriate number based on the 1-5 scale given.

Tot Lot Preschool Program Ratings

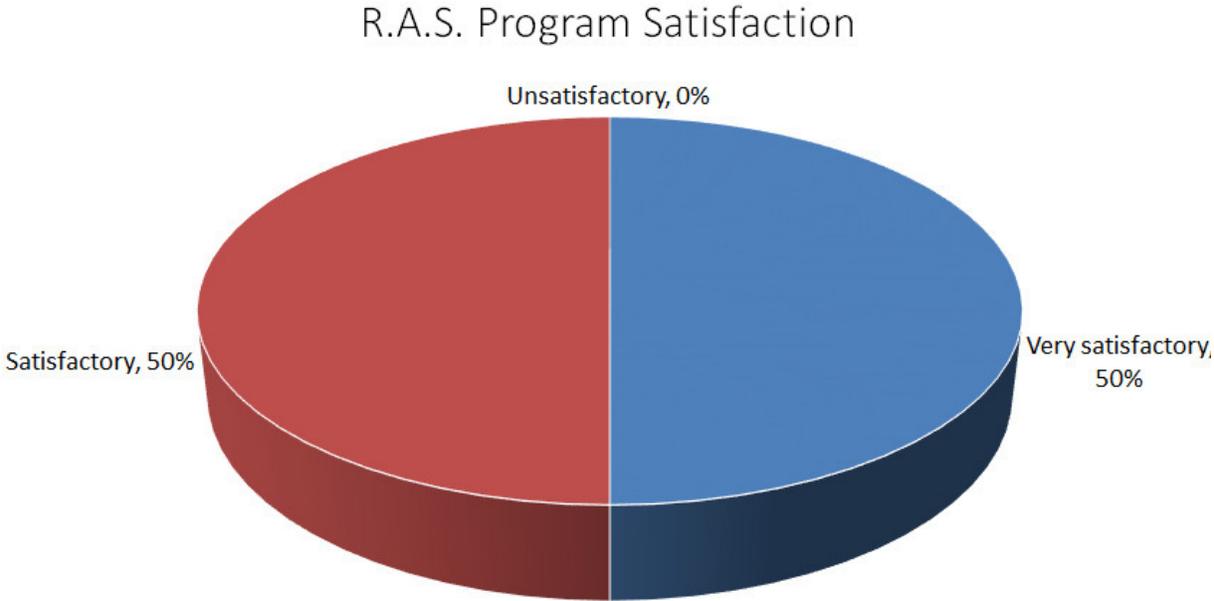


Overall, both satisfaction and ratings for the Tot Lot Preschool program were very high.

Do you utilize the Recreation After School (R.A.S) program?

- Yes: 4%
- No: 96%

How would you characterize your satisfaction with the Recreation After School (R.A.S) program?



Similar to the Tot Lot Preschool program, the R.A.S program had a very low amount of usage by survey respondents, but those that did use the program gave it very high ratings. There were no negative responses on satisfaction, with half of those that use the program rating it very satisfactory, the other half rating it satisfactory.

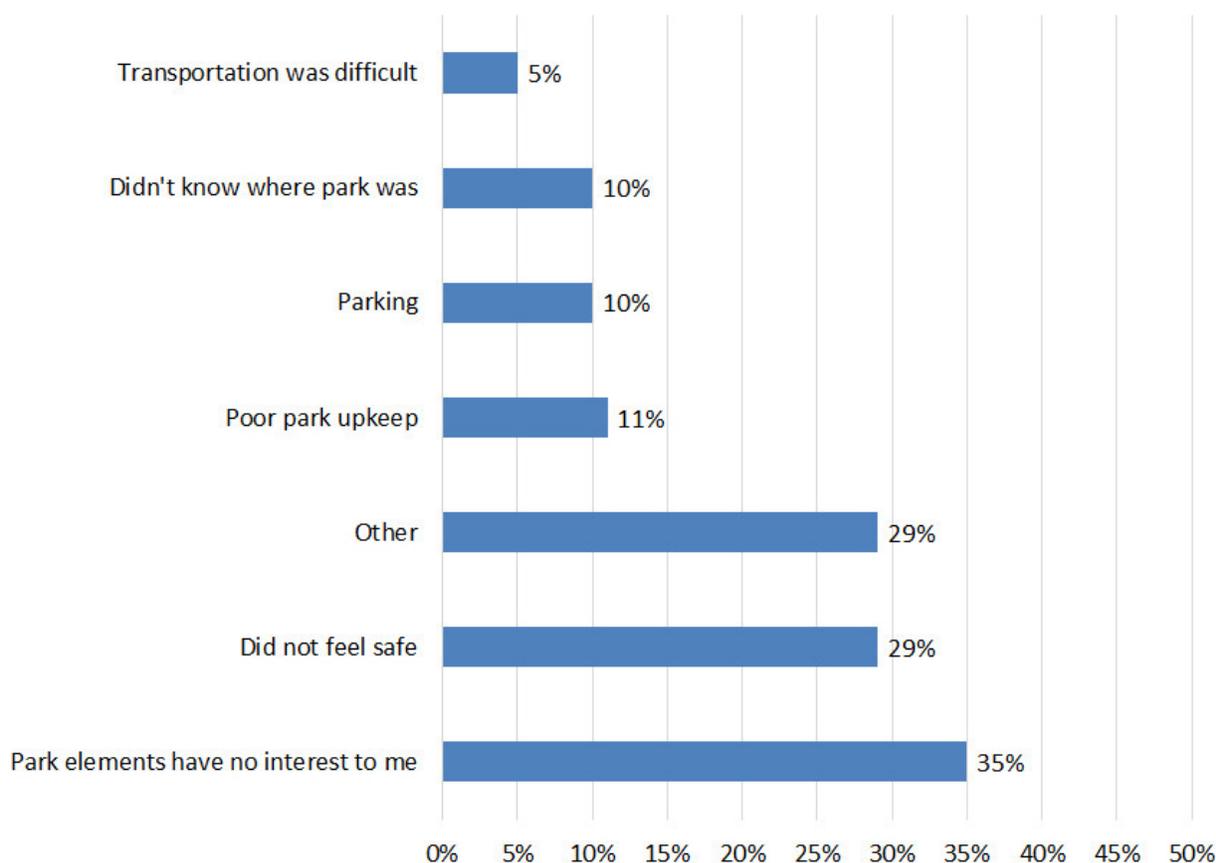
Parks & Facilities

Do you think the parks have enough to offer to you and members of your family?

Yes: 55%
No: 18%
Unsure: 27%

Did any of the following factors prevent you or a household member from visiting a Worth Park District park?

Factors Preventing Use of a Worth Park District Park

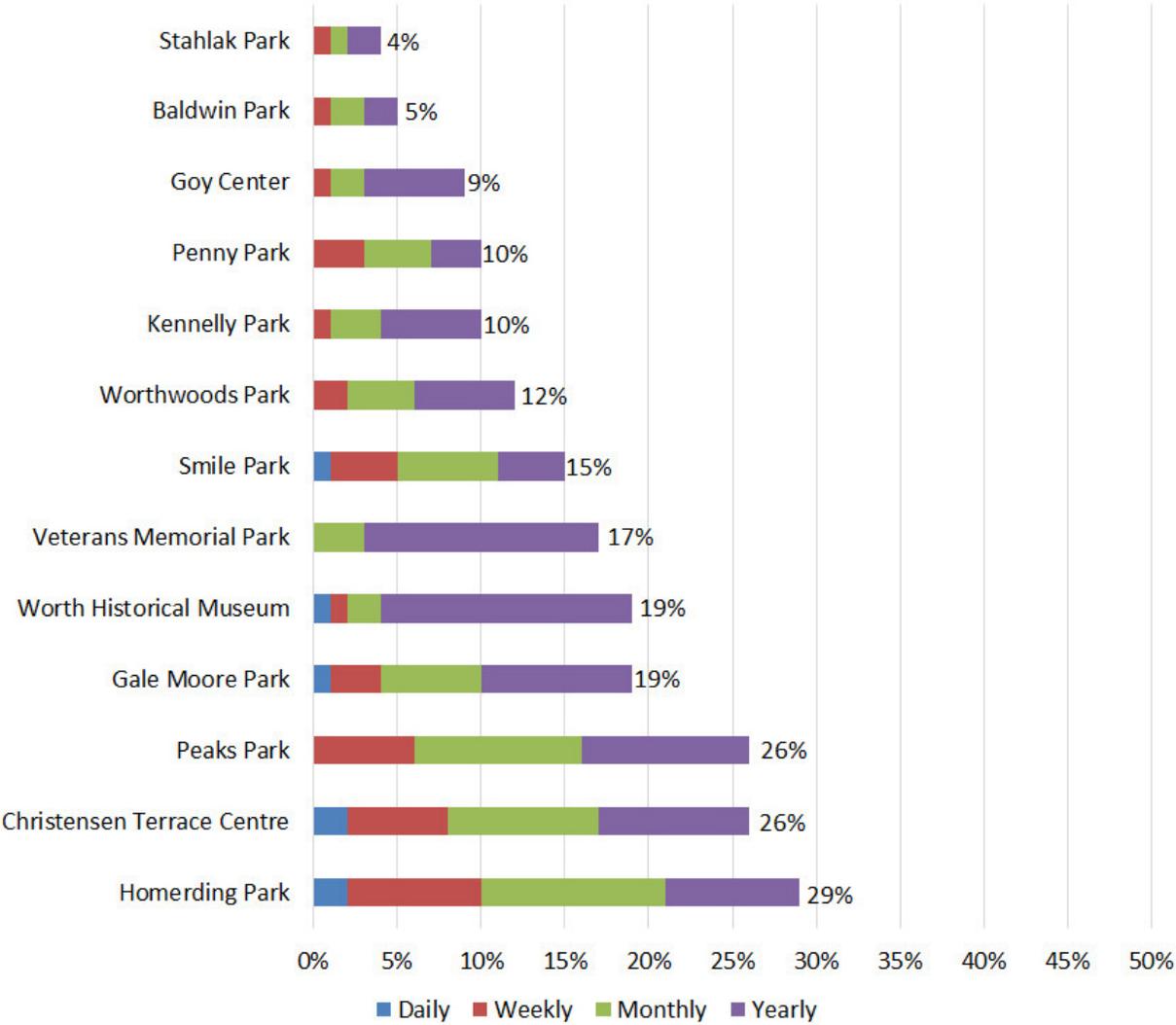


Many respondents chose not to answer this question, suggesting that there was nothing preventing their use of Park District parks. Of those that did answer, park elements not being interesting was the top choice, with 35% of respondents indicating that as the reason they don't use parks. Not feeling safe was at 29%, poor park upkeep was 11%, parking and not knowing where the park was were each at 10% and transportation was at 5%.

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How often do you or any member of your household use each of the following Worth Park District parks and facilities in the past 12 months?

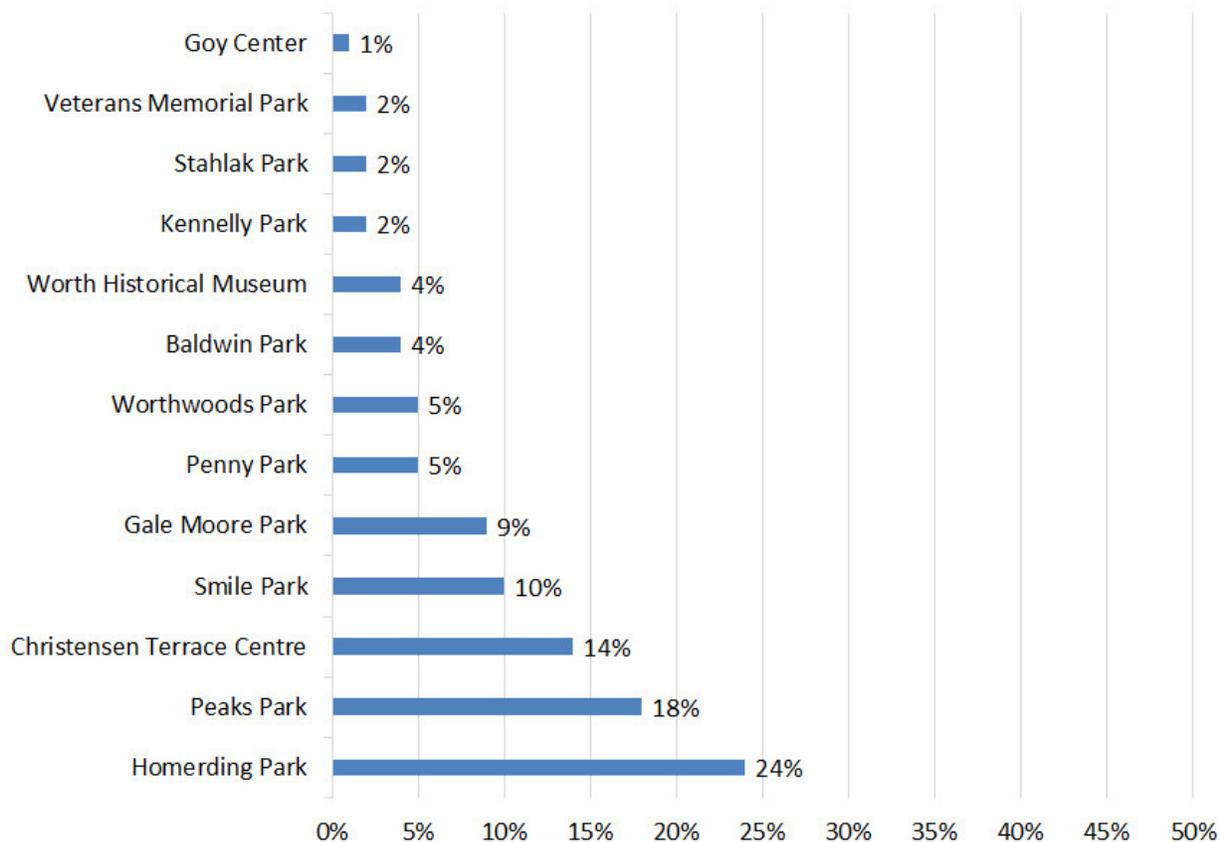
Park and Facility Usage



The large community parks had the highest amount of use, with Homerding, Peaks and Gale Moore receiving the highest amount of use compared to the other parks in the District. The Christensen Terrace Center and the Historical Museum also had a high number of use.

Which Worth Park District park do you most often visit from the list above?

Most Used Parks & Facilities

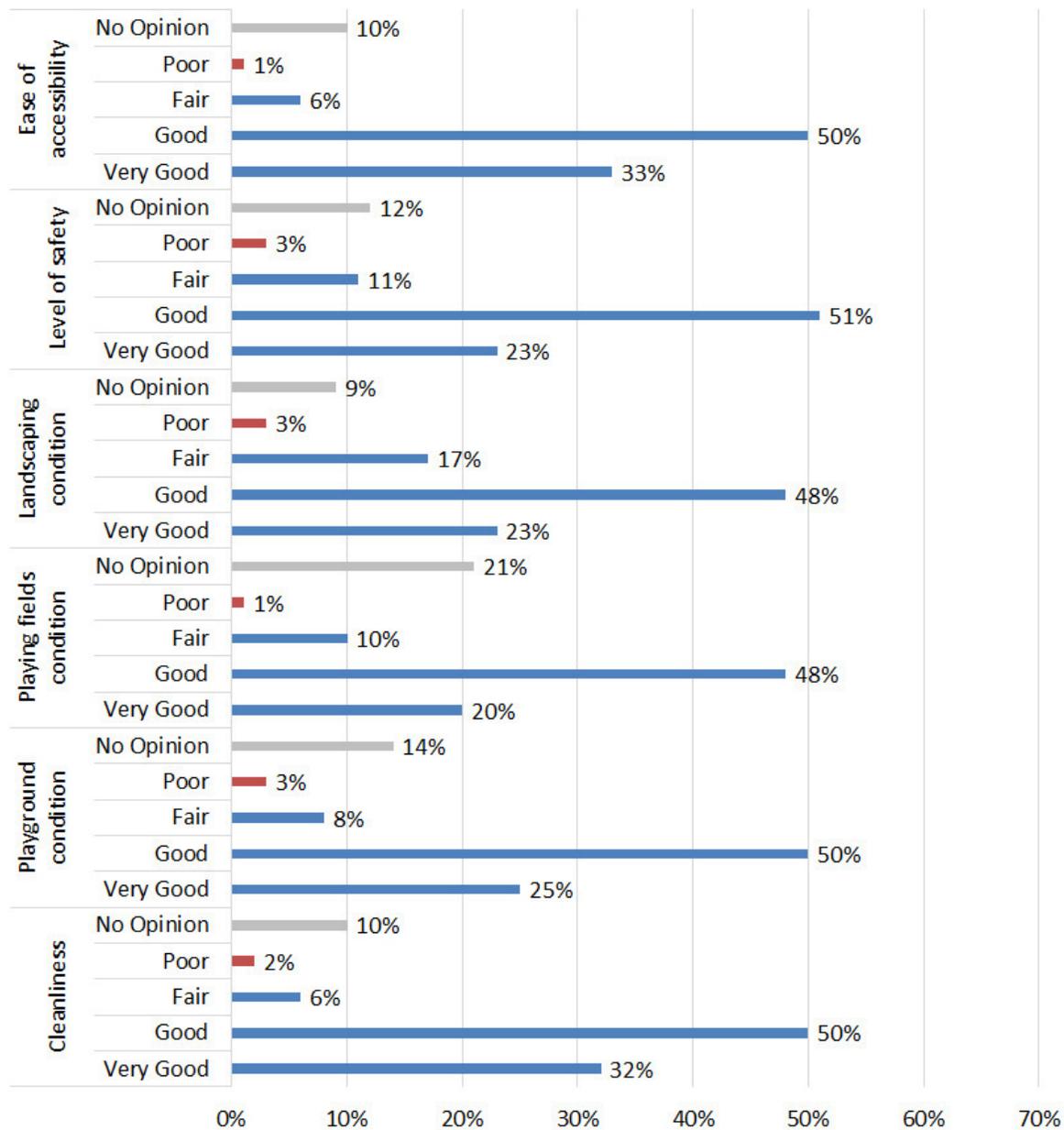


The most used park responses mimic the previous question for the most part, though Smile Park moved up relatively high, beating out Gale Moore Park and the Historical Museum.

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Please rate your feelings about that park for you and your household by circling the appropriate number based on the 1-5 scale given.

Park & Facility Ratings

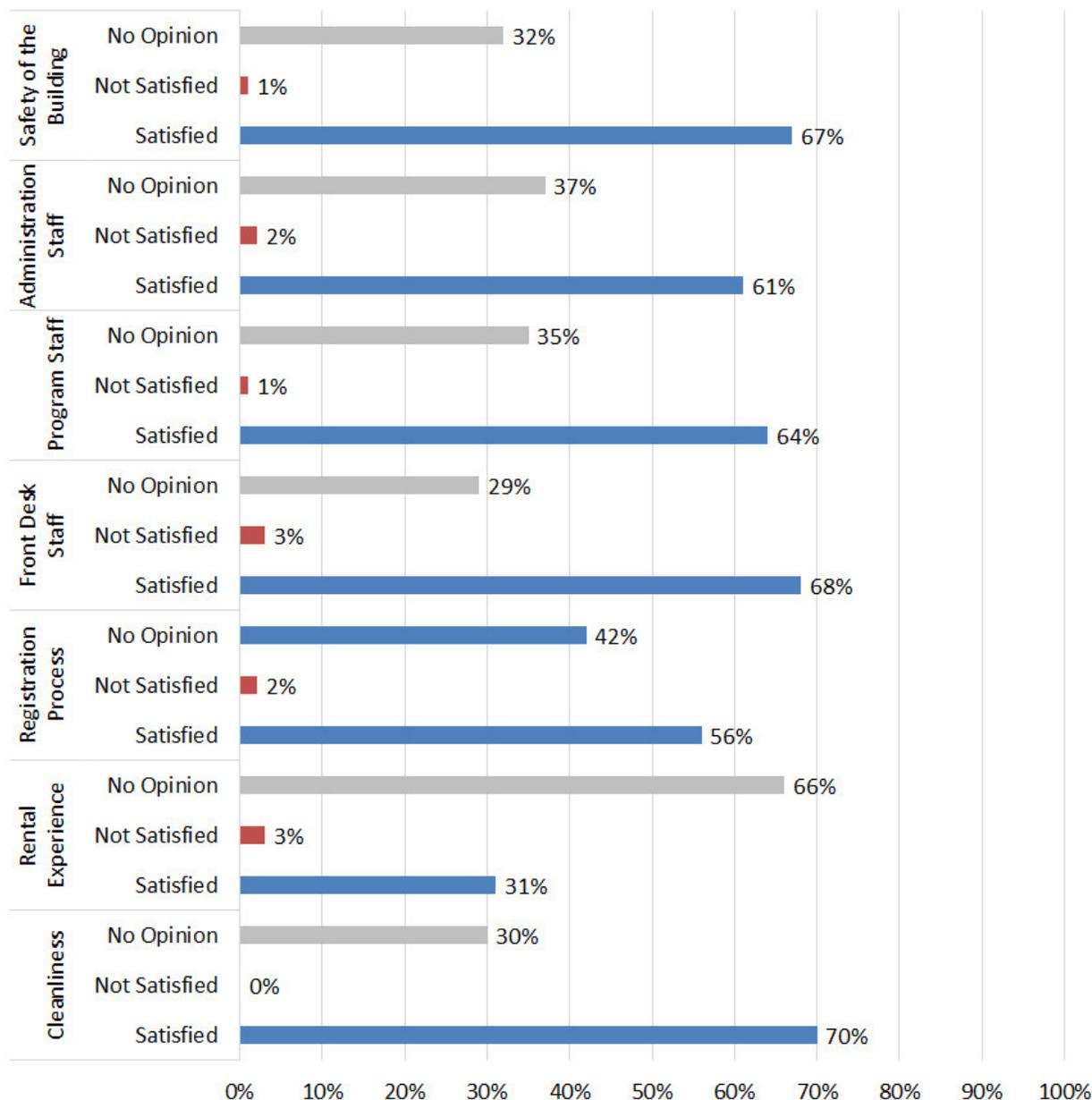


Overall ratings for each category were good. Each category received a very small amount of poor responses, though the vast majority of the responses for all of the categories were either good or very good.

2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

Please rate the level of satisfaction of the Christensen Terrace Centre you and/or your household received by circling the appropriate number based on the 1-5 scale given.

Christensen Terrace Centre Ratings

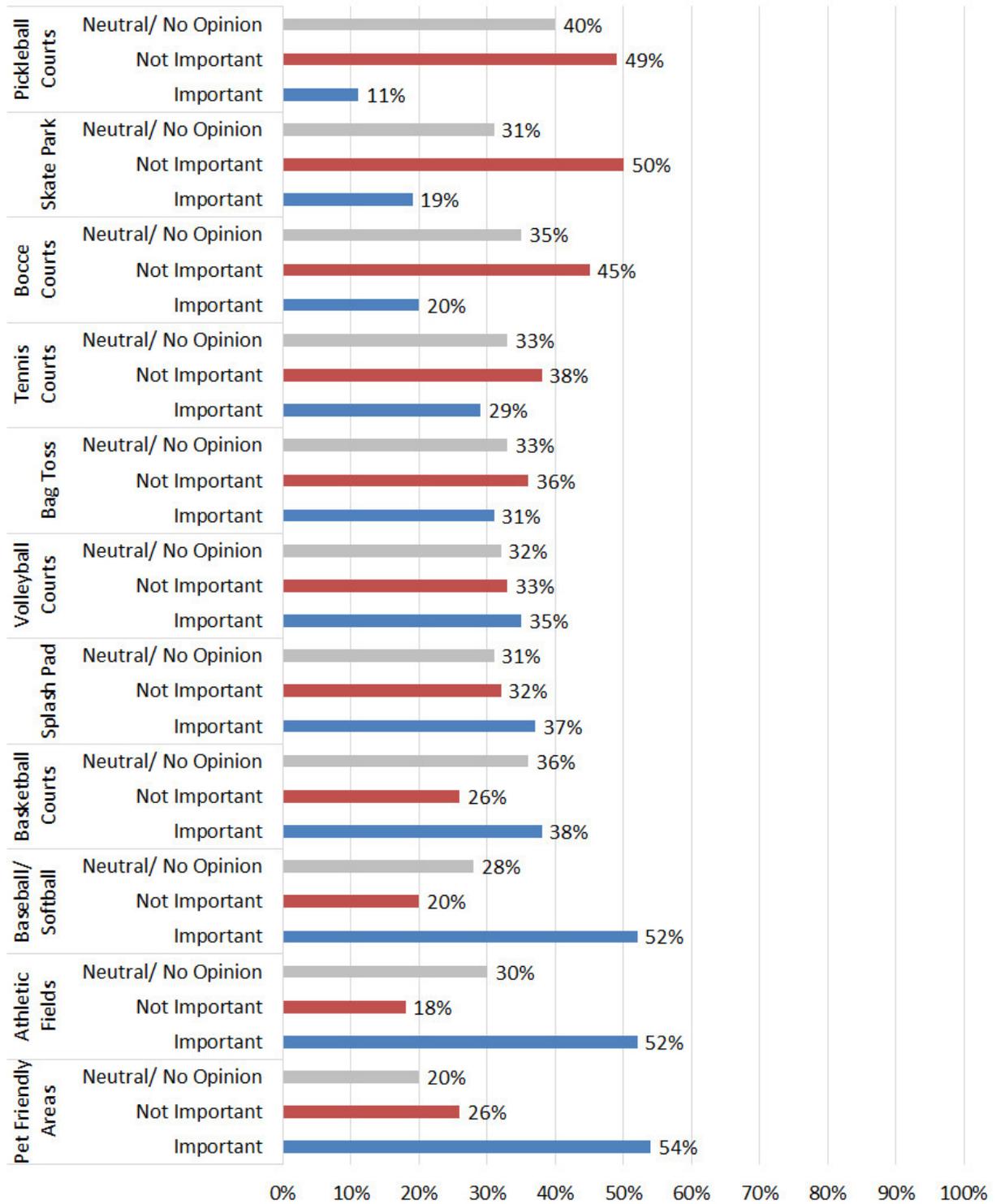


Much like ratings for the park spaces, ratings for the Christensen Terrace Centre are very high. There were little to no unsatisfied responses, though the high number of no opinion responses indicates a lack of awareness/ use of the center by the community.

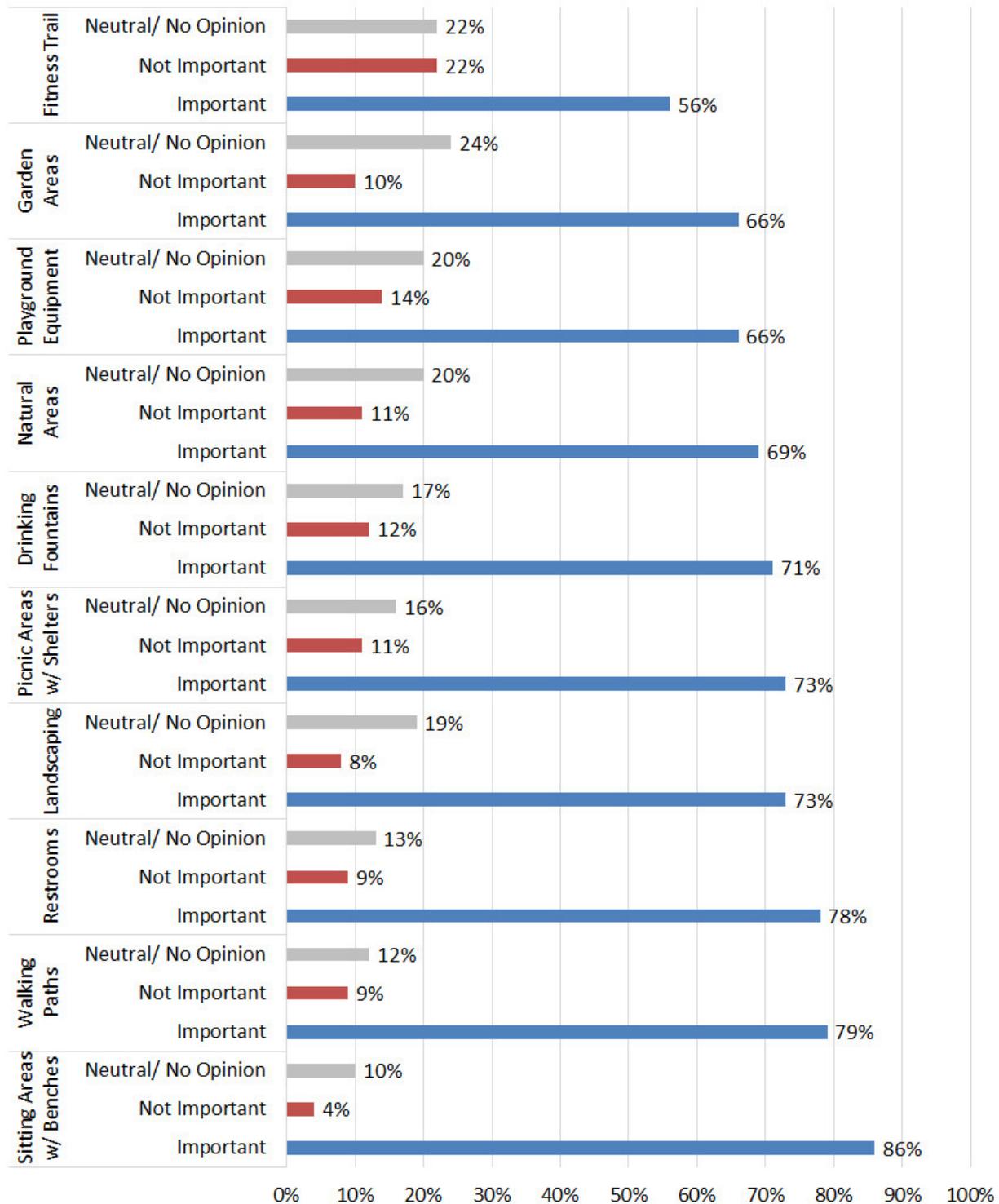
2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

Please select the following park amenities that are important for you and your household by circling the appropriate number based on the 1-5 scale given.

Park Element Importance



Park Element Importance (cont.)

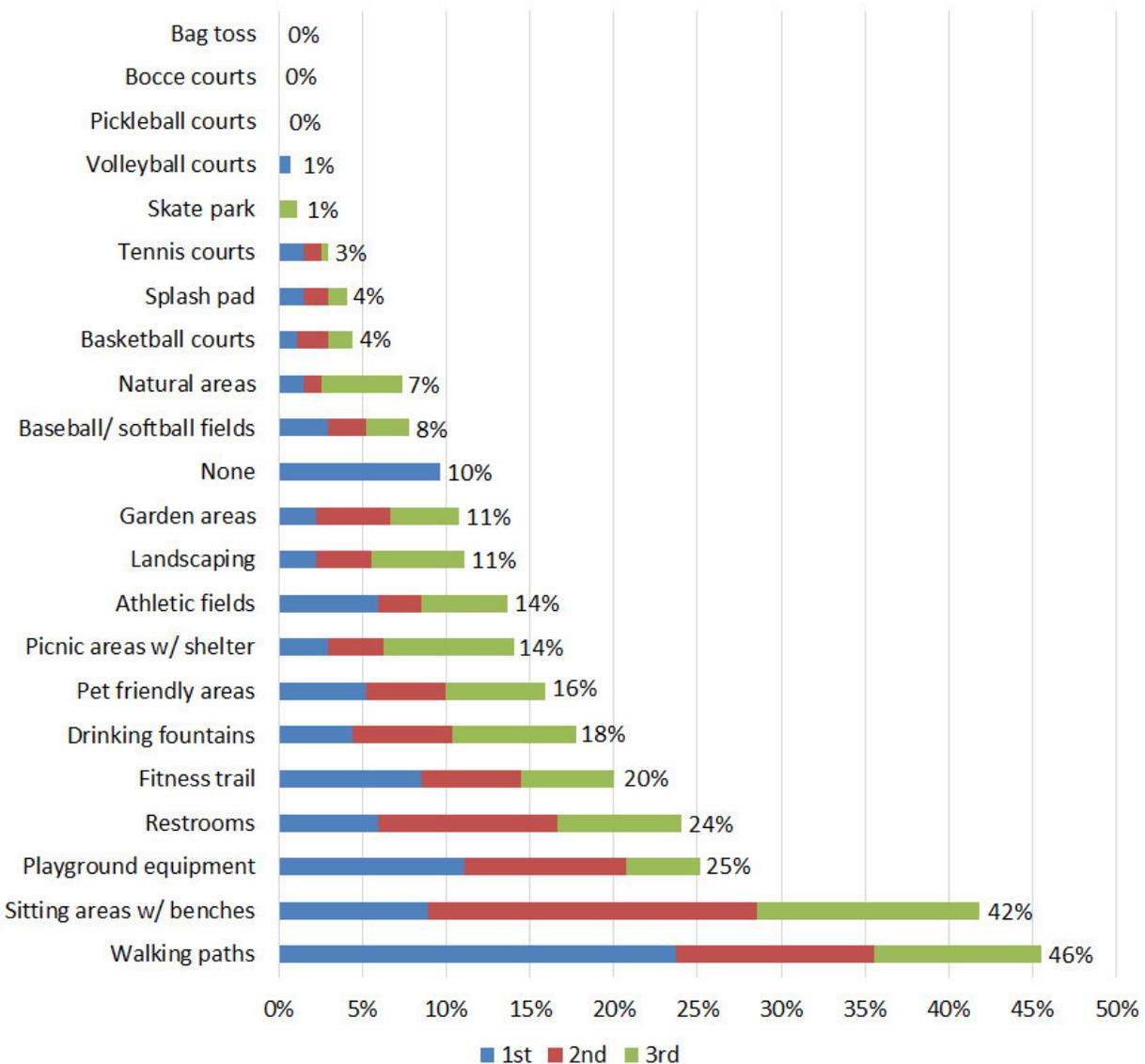


Passive park elements were the most important to survey respondents, with sitting areas, walking paths, restrooms, landscaping, picnic areas, drinking fountains, natural areas and garden being the most important park elements overall. Other active areas that were important was playground equipment, fitness trails, pet friendly areas and athletic fields.

2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

*The Worth Park District has limited resources to continue to meet your recreational needs. To help us prioritize our future improvements, which **THREE** of the park elements from the list in Question #18 above are most important to your household?*

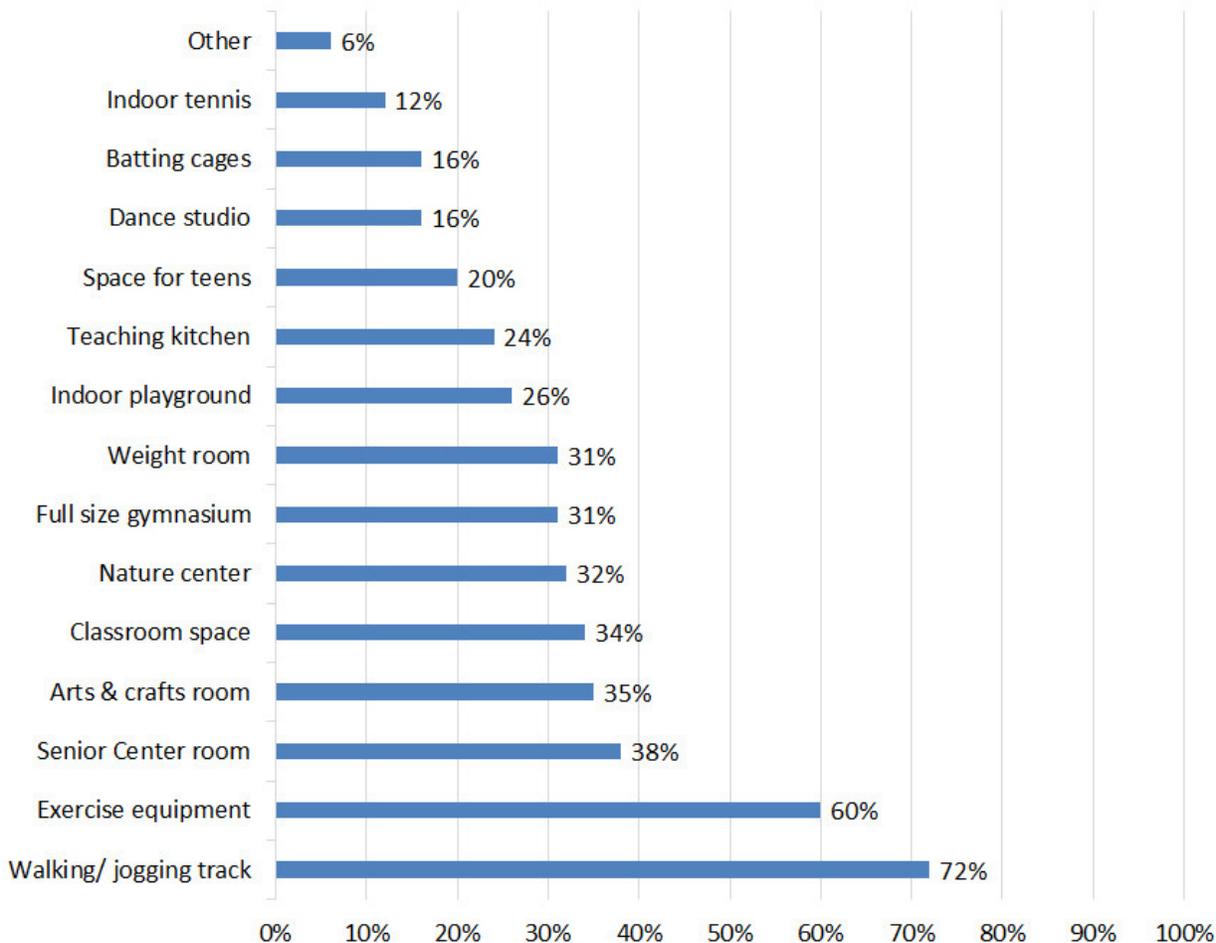
Most Important Park Amenities



Much like the previous question, overall passive park elements were the most important. Walking paths, sitting areas, restrooms, drinking fountains, and picnic areas were all near the top. Active elements such as playground, fitness trails, pet friendly areas and athletic fields were also important to respondents.

What indoor recreational spaces would you or someone in your household use in the future?

Indoor Recreation Spaces

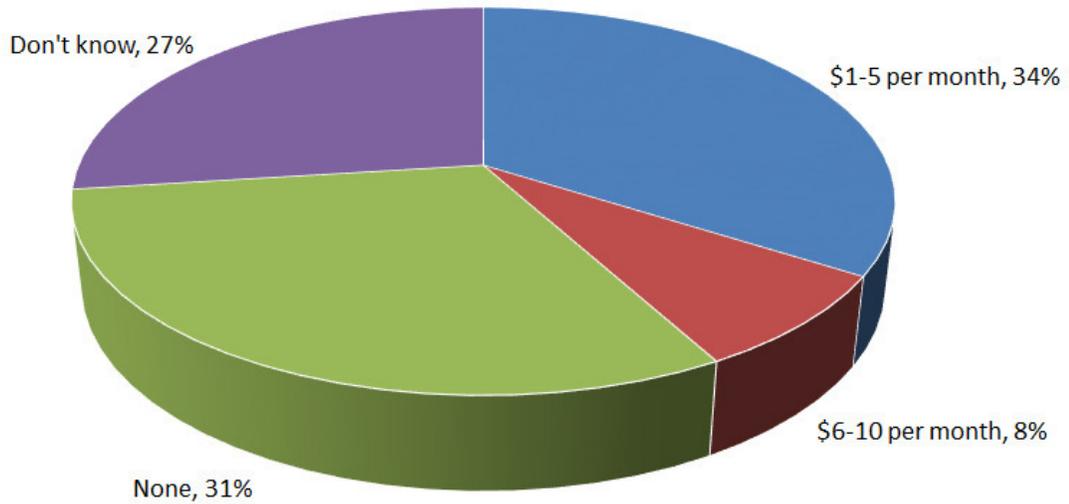


The data in the graph shows that a walking/ jogging track and exercise equipment were the top two responses, with 72% and 60% of respondents choosing those two options. Other notable responses were a senior center room at 38%, arts and crafts room at 35%, classroom space at 34%, nature center at 32%, a full sized gym and weight room each at 31%.

Referendum

At what level would you support a tax increase to fund the costs to build, operate and maintain parks, trails and facilities?

Tax Increase Level Supported

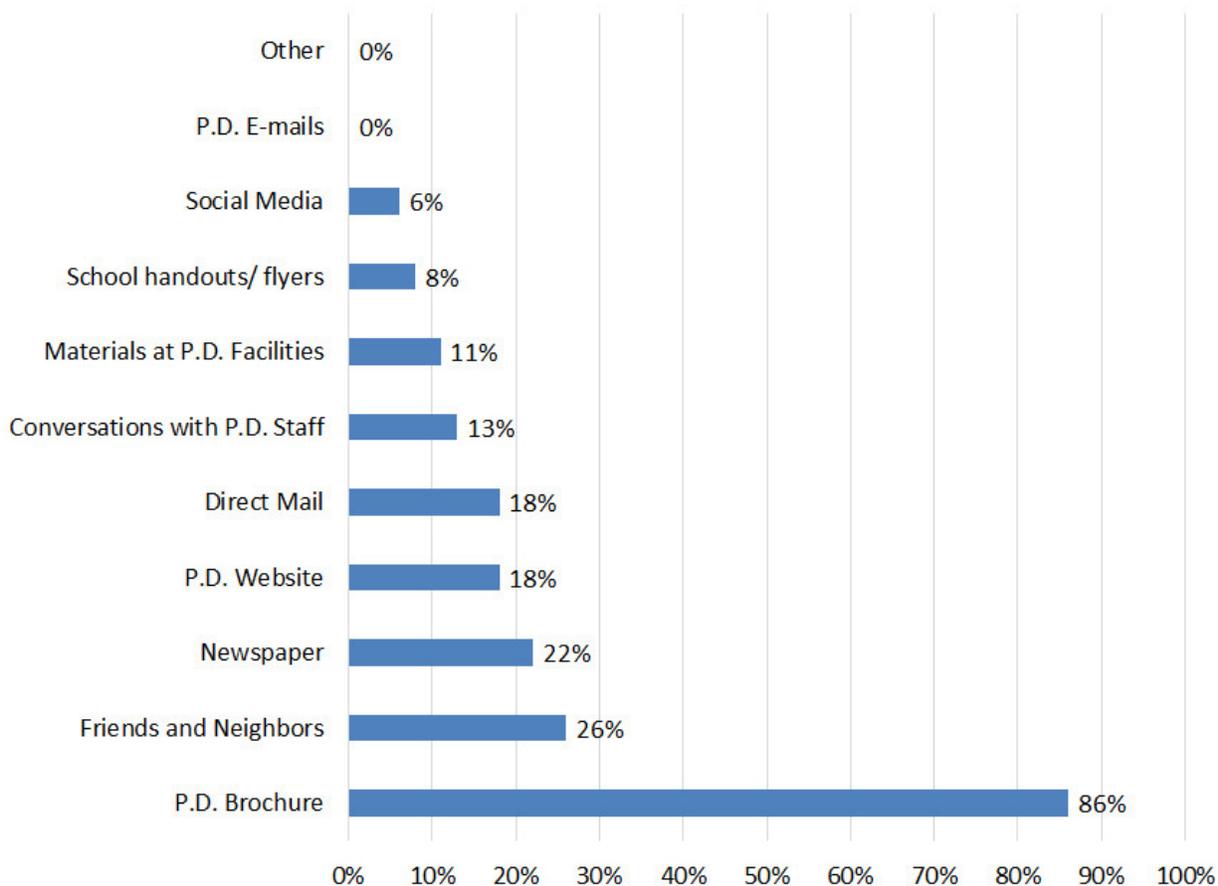


Support for a tax increase by respondents was split almost evenly between some level of financial support, either \$1-5 per month or \$6-10 per month, no support regardless of level, and didn't know whether they supported or did not support an increase.

The following graphs look at key questions of the survey answered only by those that indicated they didn't know about a tax increase.

How do you obtain information about the Worth Park District? (Undecided Voters)

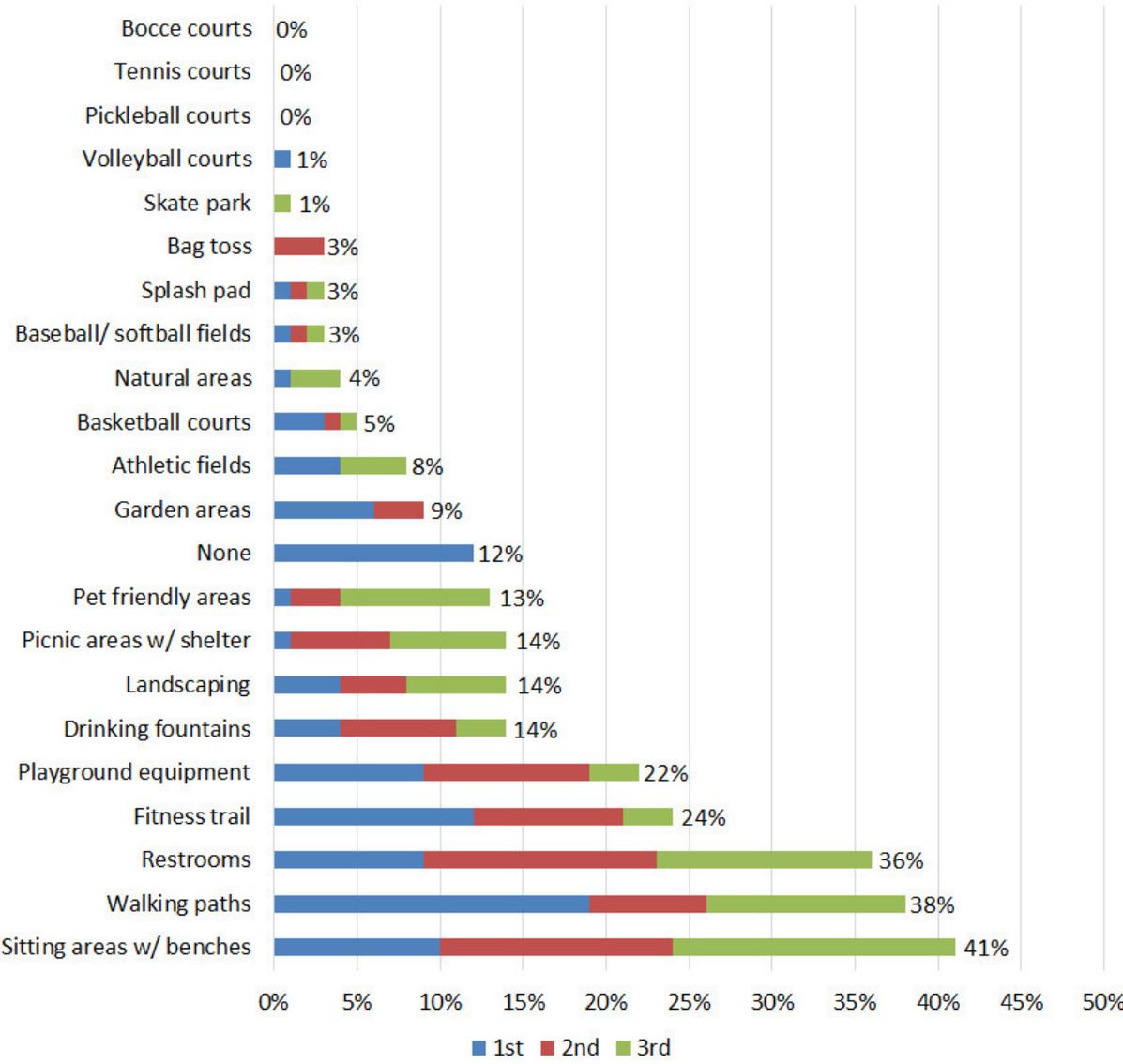
Undecided Voter Hearing About Worth Park District



The undecided voters responses are very similar to the overall survey respondents in receiving information about the Park District. The brochure is still very highly used, so any information about a potential referendum should be dispersed with the brochure.

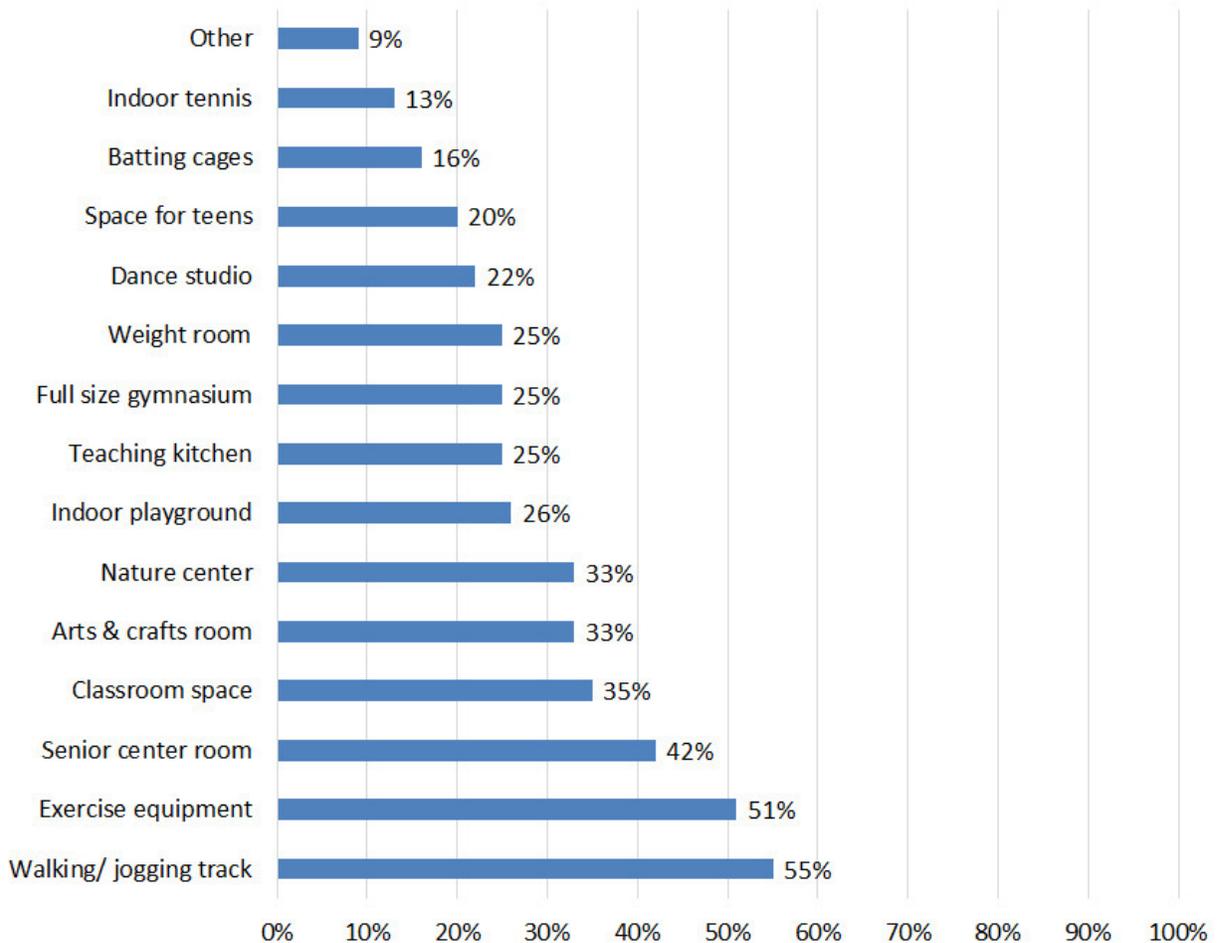
Which **THREE** park elements are most important to your household? (Undecided Voters)

Undecided Voter Most Important Park Amenities



What indoor recreational spaces would you or someone in your household use in the future?

Undecided Voters Indoor Recreation Spaces



The undecided voter responses to park and indoor recreational amenities were both very similar to the overall survey, however the level of support for the top indoor responses such as walking/ jogging track and exercise equipment was substantially lower for undecided voters even though they were still the top two responses.

When considering any future referendum projects, it will be important to take into consideration the undecided voters and their specific needs to maximize the potential support for any particular capital spending projects.

Public & Stakeholder Input

Public Meeting Summary

To support the 2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan, two public meetings were held at the Christensen Terrace Centre. While the second meeting was unattended, a large group of residents attended the first meeting and provided insight into their desires for the future of the Park District. The discussion was split into three major categories: administration, recreation programming and parks and facilities.

Administration

A main point of concern for residents was the need to update the Park District website. Meeting attendees wanted to see an easier to use website that featured online registration and an easier to find calendar that is constantly kept up to date. The residents also stressed the importance of constant communication by continuing to send out the brochure and emails using a database of interested residents. There was also discussion about the importance of all local governments to work together to save tax dollars, and avoid replication of services.

Recreation

Overall residents were happy with the quality of existing programming, and understood the limitations the current facilities have on potential offerings. They would like to see cooperation between other governmental agencies, and other Park Districts to increase program offerings, as well as additional weekend and evening programs. Residents felt that the current fees are fair and that any free program would gain many more users. The importance of the Tot Lot program and the before and after school programs was a major point of emphasis with attendees, and many felt that before school programs need to open earlier at 6am to account for working parents.

Parks & Facilities

While residents did appreciate the current parks and facilities, as well as acknowledge the financial limitations of the District, there was some discussion of improvements that could be made to the parks system. Items like ice skating areas, splash pad and basketball courts were discussed. An indoor expansion such as a fitness center and new full sized gym, which could come as an intergovernmental agreement with an entity which already has a gym, was requested. The residents did bring up the need to crack down on vandalism in the parks and that there is currently a perception in the community that some of the parks, most notably Peaks and Penny, are unsafe.

Board Visioning Summary

A visioning session was held with Park Board members to discuss 5 major questions focusing on the current state of the Park District, and what direction the District should move towards in the future.

The Board felt that key to the success of Park District was increasing their presence within the community. There is a growing need to increase exposure, and get the message of the Park District out to residents, businesses, and other governmental agencies. Increased signage, flyers handed out at schools, better overall marketing, and even using this plan to help strike up dialogue within the community, as well as addressing any misinformation was discussed.

The major point of emphasis for the meeting was the strict financial limitations on the District which has limited any new development of parks and facilities, which in turn impacts potential recreation offerings. The Board was united in their support of a referendum, and the success that it would have if the public could be adequately informed of the costs and benefits to the community at large.

With the success of a potential referendum, there would be potential to begin redevelopment of the park spaces, as well as expand the existing Christensen Terrace Centre. Board members felt that a gymnasium and some type of fitness space would be important, as well as continuing to upgrade playgrounds throughout the District. Constructing walking paths and a splash pad was also discussed.

2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

Staff Visioning Summary

A meeting with Park District staff was held early on in the planning process which directed future analysis and helped identified issues that needed additional thought and investigation. A series of questions were asked which helped to frame and provide direction to the overall discussion.

Recreation Programs

Staff members felt that the District could use new and updated program options, though they are currently limited by the facilities they have. Classes based on the arts for all age groups, cooking, and unique and creative classes were all discussed. The need to provide special events not tied to existing events was important, as well incorporating more natural experiences and nature based programs into current offerings. There was also discussion of updating how the programs were marketed.

Recreation Facilities

Indoor recreation space was very important, most notably a full sized gym, fitness center, early childhood area that could link with the existing preschool and a museum space independent of the main building. Other park amenities discussed included splash pad, ball fields, walking paths, a dog park, and natural/ passive recreation areas.

Fees and Pricing

The staff felt that for some programs current fees charged by the District are good, while others are too low. There is an expectation for cheap programming, however prices have remained the same for 4-5 years, and now may be the time to begin gradual increases. Any price increases need to be made on a case by case basis to keep programming affordable, while also balancing out the costs associated with those programs. Overall the staff pushed the need for the quality of the programs to remain the main priority.

Satisfaction

Community members that actually utilize the Park District were most likely very happy, the staff has received very few complaints. The staff felt that any issues have come from the past and don't reflect the current Park District.

Required Changes to the District

When asked what one change members could make, communication within the District and with the public was a primary point of focus. The need for increased dialogue between the Board and the staff was important, as well as the potential to expand staff instead of limiting the growth of the District to fit current staff levels.

Delphi Committee Report

A committee of community members was assembled by the Park District in an attempt to acquire additional input on four major areas of focus for the District: administration, a referendum, recreation and parks and facilities. The following information represents the Committee's work in relation to their views on those four focus areas.

Administration

- A). Website
 - 1). Can there be on-line payment for events and activities
 - 2). More details on special event flyers posted on Website and on Facebook, especially since the Facebook flyers are now usually shared among residents and friends
 - 3). Can the event calendar be linked directly to the Special Events page where there are more details such as event flyers

- B). School closings - is it possible to offer some type of program to parents on days when school is closed? More of an open gym type of scenario where parents can pay a daily fee and perhaps drop off their kids with a bag lunch.

- C). Better communication.
 - 1). Perhaps using school handouts with reminders about "special events" maybe just a couple times per year like spring and fall. The Thursday school handouts seems to be one thing parents know about and look for.
 - 2). Getting articles in the local papers. Both before events with details and especially after events to glamorize them and make residents want to look forward to Park District events in the future and not want to miss out on the fun.
 - d). Intergovernmental Agreements
 - 1). With School District for gym?
 - 2). With Village of Worth for Recreation/Ball Fields.

Referendum

- A). Get the word out by attending group meetings such as Cub and Boy Scout meetings, Senior Groups, Worth Athletic Association, Softball Leagues, etc. Maybe reaching out to them instead of inviting them to attend town hall type meetings.

- B). Is there a way to present the information to residents more "user friendly"? The last time the referendum explanation was very confusing and people didn't understand what the results would be as far as benefits to the Park District and the estimated cost to the average resident.

2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

Parks & Facilities

- A). Tennis Courts by Worthwoods
 - 1). Being used?
- B). Benches on Park Grounds
 - 1). Parents are able to sit, etc.
 - 2). Homerding Park has Soccer every fall and nowhere to sit for practice or games
- C). "Get to know your Park" events
 - 1). Choose a park every month in the Summer/Fall
 - 2). Community event
- D). Baseball Field at Gale Moore Park
 - 1). Update or repurpose
 - 2). Splash Pad location?
- E.) Bigger Gym
 - 1). Will bring in people from other communities
 - 2). Can charge membership fee
 - 3). Walking Track

Recreation Programming

- A). Focus more on Elementary / Middle School Activities
 - 1). Right now the focus is mainly on small children and seniors
 - 2). We need more activities for the kids growing up now so we can continue to grow the base of park district users.
- B). Park District should be marketing to 20 – 40 year olds with children in and out of the community
 - 1). Programming is outdated ("same old programs")
 - 2). If we're trying new programs, etc, they shouldn't be hidden in the program guide
 - 3). Other ways to market – not just at Terrace Centre and 111th and Harlem
 - a). Work with the community (library/FD/Schools/local Businesses)
 - b). Chieftain/ Worth Restaurant/ Fairplay
- D). Senior Programs
 - 1). Silver Sneakers program (silversneakers.com)
 - a). Medicare / Medicaide
 - 2). Wheelchair / Handicapped accessible programs
 - 3). Senior Meetings
 - a). Previously was subsidized (not sure by whom, but discontinued in 2010)
 - b). Larger bus to accommodate
 - c). Hold more senior events at the Terrace Centre

- E). Community Events
 - 1). Similar to the Fall Fest
 - a). Fall Fest \$\$ can be increased by \$1 – community as a whole can afford that
 - b). People are always going to complain about cost – at what point do you lose people by charging more – certainly \$1 will not affect.
 - 2). Summer Kick Off
 - a). Start charging \$1
 - b). Market it as a fund raiser for a community goal (parks/splash pad/pool)

- F). Fund raisers / Raffle for Pool/Splash Pad/Gym
 - 1). Raffle similar to the VFW
 - 2). Doesn't have to be \$\$ - can be for other things
 - a). Free week of RAS
 - b). Free Senior lunch
 - c). Something to get people to use Park District programming
 - 3). Veteran's Memorial
 - a). Set a goal and post \$\$ raised as we did as a community for this
 - 4). Ask the Community to pitch in
 - a). We are a working class community – a lot of trades in our town
 - b). Habitat for Humanity model- donate your time to help build “new gym, splash pad, etc”

- G). Corporate Sponsorship from a Corporation or Local Business for each park

- H). Update the Website
 - 1). Make it easier to navigate
 - 2). Online registration (see Oak Lawn Park District)
 - 3). Use local resources for this- your daycare people, local FD, Police Dept. – ask for volunteers and help

- I). Program Brochure
 - 1). Too small
 - 2). Need redesign
 - 3). Focus on new programs in front and most used in back?

- J). Ask the community what times/days work best for them
 - 1). Nights
 - 2). Weekends

- K). Group Outings for Community

- L). Organize a 5K – throughout the neighborhood

- M). Better Coaching Staff – Sports – rely on parents less

2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

- N). Staff should be better trained for emergency situations (RAS)
- O). End of Session Pizza Parties. Parents were sent an email stating they weren't allowed to eat the pizza which upset many parents
 - 1). How much would it have cost to have a few extra
 - 2). Give the parents opportunity to get their own pizza
- P). Kids Day Out
 - 1). All of a sudden getting cancelled
 - 2). Isn't the center open anyway?
 - 3). Couldn't they have had a "day in"
 - 4). Community relies on a day care service
- Q). Cancellation of programs causing community to look elsewhere
- R). Partner with the daycare of Harlem - will they use our sports programs/outings/etc?

Peer Agency Comparisons

As part of the master planning process, a comparative study of recreation facilities and programs of select peer agencies was conducted that were selected by the Park District. The three agencies reviewed were all comparable to the Worth Park District in terms of size and budget. The information collected was provided voluntarily by the peer agency or via the agency website.

	Worth Park District	Warrenville Park District	Community Park District of LaGrange	Blue Island Park District
Population	11,000	13,000	13,500	24,000
Tax Rate	0.46	0.54	0.27	0.68
Indoor Facilities	1	2	1	1
Outdoor Pool	0	0	0	1
Acres of Parkland	29	30	23	-
Acres/Thousand	2.6	2.3	1.7	-
Before/After School Program	Yes	No	Yes	No
Pre-School Program	Yes	Yes*	Yes	No
Total Budget	\$1,275,113	\$3,130,000	\$1,831,192	\$1,559,400
Expenditure per person	\$115	\$240	\$135	\$65

* Early Childhood Development Preschool is an independent pre-school operation with leased space in the Warrenville Park District Recreation Center

A key relationship in the table above is between the population and budget which provides a dollar amount spent per person to provide park and recreational facilities and services. Each Park District has a unique ratio that makes this a personal relationship unique to every community. However, over the years of researching this relationship through master plan projects, there appears to be a correlation that exists between the two. The dollar amount for local agencies to provide a community the wide range of park and recreation facilities and leisure services that meets expectations is typically in the \$250 or more per person range. When the dollars amount increases to \$300 or more per person, the agency can usually exceed community expectations with parks and facilities including an expansion of leisure services.

- Worth has a modest tax rate as compared to others
- Worth is similar in terms of acres per thousand as compared to others
- Worth has a similar amount of indoor space as compared to agencies of similar size
- Worth has a low expenditure per person dollar amount which falls under the \$250 target range

Conclusion

The community needs assessment points out that parks, facilities and recreation programs are areas of discussion and importance. The staff and Park Board visioning sessions highlighted that the Park District is in need of additional capital funds to begin to upgrade the parks and facilities.

The survey provided the most input with a wealth of information for the Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan to use. The community is satisfied overall with the current Park District with just a few areas of concern. The following bullet points cover the four focus areas of the survey;

Administration

- Brochure is the most important media outlets for the community to learn about the Park District
- Programs have the highest area of dissatisfaction from the small amount of unsatisfied residents
- Other Park Districts draw away large numbers of users from the Worth Park District
- Future priorities include maintaining and expanding recreation services and improving existing park spaces

Recreation

- Preschool and youth programs have the highest participation among all programs
- Programs are ranked high in quality from users, though there is a desire for additional offerings
- Worth Days is a very successful special event

Parks & Facilities

- Homerding Park and the Christensen Terrace Centre have the highest amount of use
- A lack of interesting park elements highly influence park visitation and use
- The most important indoor recreation spaces are a walking/ jogging track and exercise equipment
- The most important park elements are sitting areas, walking paths, and passive park elements

Referendum

- Responses for support for a referendum were relatively evenly split, but are encouraging
- Additional research should be done to determine the possibility of success of any future referendum

Chapter 3- Current Park District Environment

Administration

The Worth Park District administrative system is comprised of two elements which include the Park Board and the management team. Ordinarily discussions of administrative systems would center only on the management team. But the planning process included the Park Board in an active role in visioning, goal and objective development, plan review and revisions and finally adoption. In the spirit of transparency, the Park Board members and management team who participated in the planning process need to be recognized.

The Park Board is comprised of five members serving four year terms. The board members past and present that provided input are:

Steve Werner- President
 Paula Marr- Vice President
 Brad Urban- Treasurer

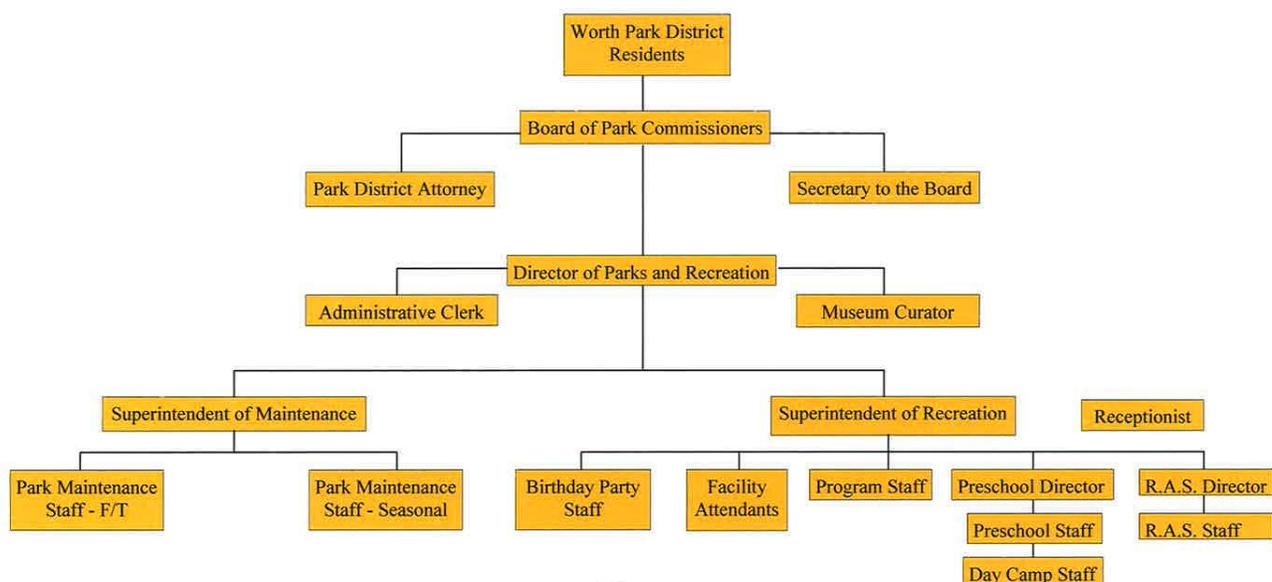
Dan Feltz- Commissioner
 Tom Smith- Commissioner
 Ken Soldan- Commissioner (former)

The management team is comprised of senior staff members of the Park District and include:

Robert O'Shaughnessy- Director of Parks and Recreation
 Kelly Pezdek- Administrative Clerk
 Kara Jelderks- Superintendent of Recreation
 Ed Newton- Superintendent of Maintenance
 Julie Larson- Preschool Director
 Colleen McElroy- Museum Curator
 Dana Modrick- RAS Director

The organization chart for the Park District provides a simple and straight forward chain of command structure.

Worth Park District



Recreation Programs & Services

The Recreation Department of the Worth Park District currently provides programming that is generally highly rated by users, but as we have learned from the survey and public meetings, there is a growing desire in the community for additional program offerings. While the lack of facilities and programmable space impedes growth of some program types, there is still some opportunity to develop new and unique programs and also reinvent and market existing programs more successfully.

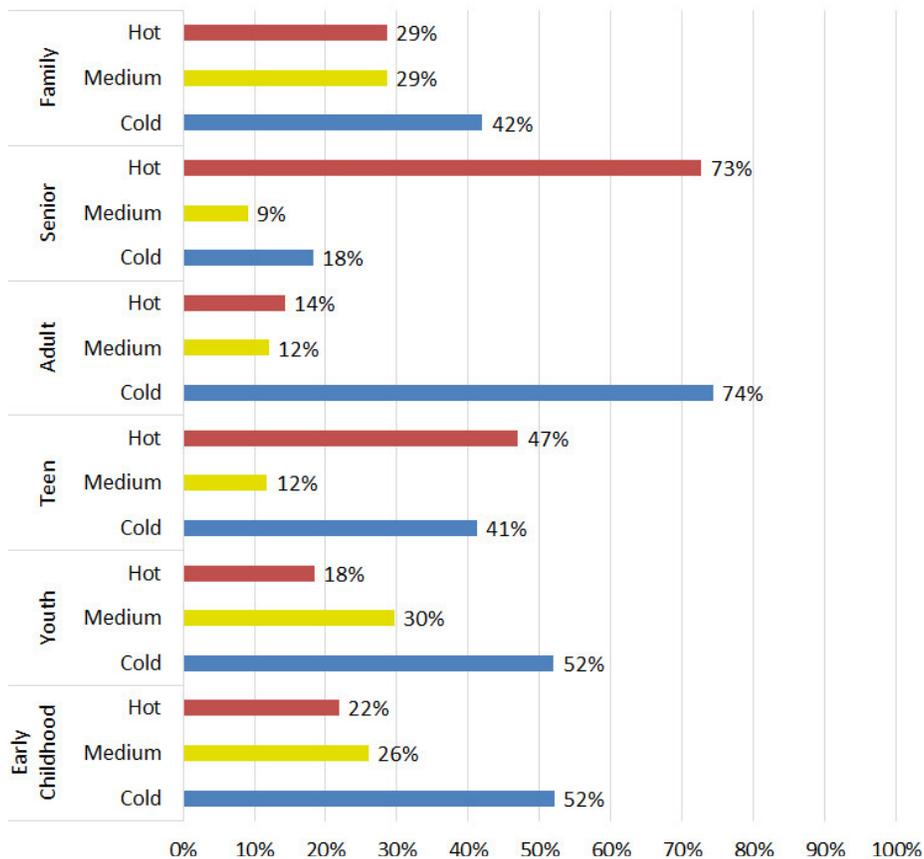
The Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan includes a review of recreation programs and services for years 2013 & 2014. A detailed analysis of the success of different program types was completed and will be displayed graphically by year.

Programs were given a hot, medium, or cold rating based on their success. A hot program was one that was either mainly full, full, or had a waitlist. Medium programs had relatively high amounts of participation, with most being half full or more. Cold programs were programs that were cancelled, or had very small percentages of registrations.

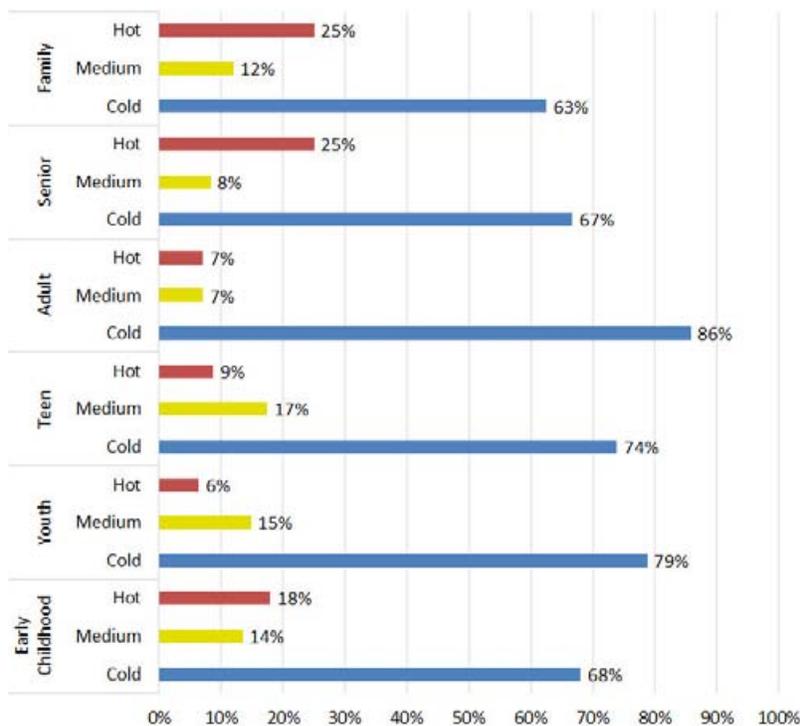
2013

For fall and summer of 2013, overall program registration were low throughout all of the age groups, with the exception of senior and teen programs in the fall.

Fall 2013 Age Group Program Registrations



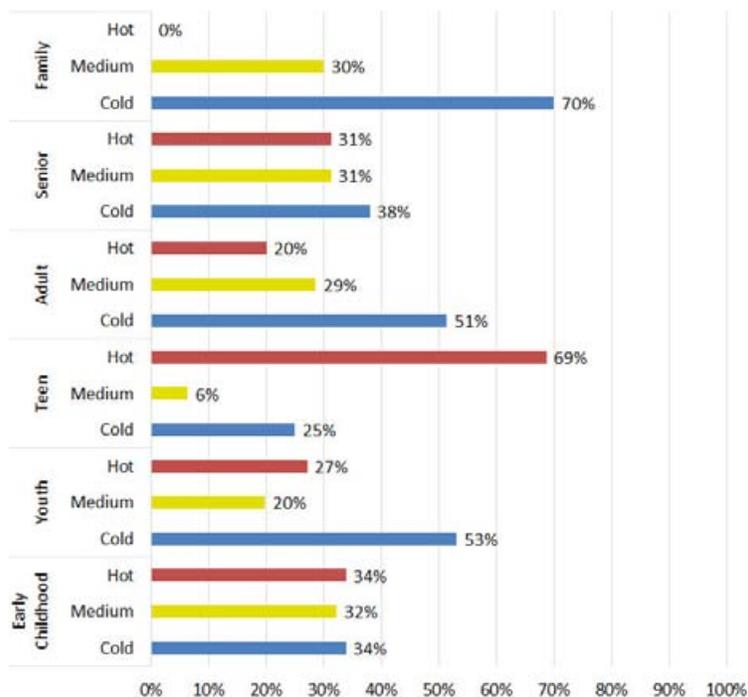
Summer 2013 Age Group Program Registrations



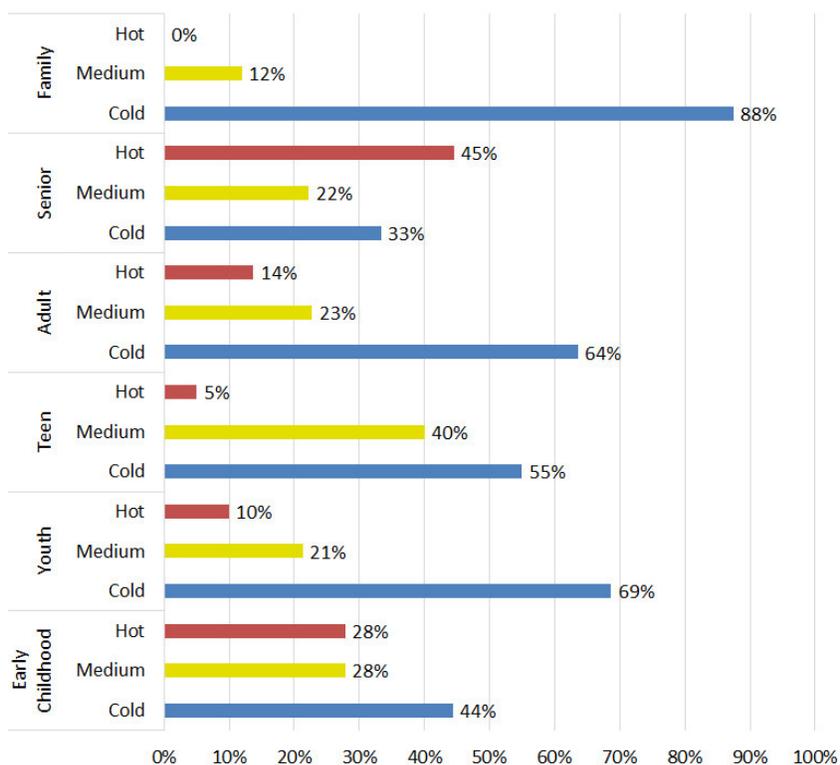
2014

Program registration trends for 2014 are similar to those for 2013. Again, teen and senior programs are the most highly utilized, while many other age groups lag behind in number of registrations. Given the high rate of satisfaction with programs as evidenced by the survey, the low registration numbers indicate a need for new and exciting programs, as well as increased marketing for the District.

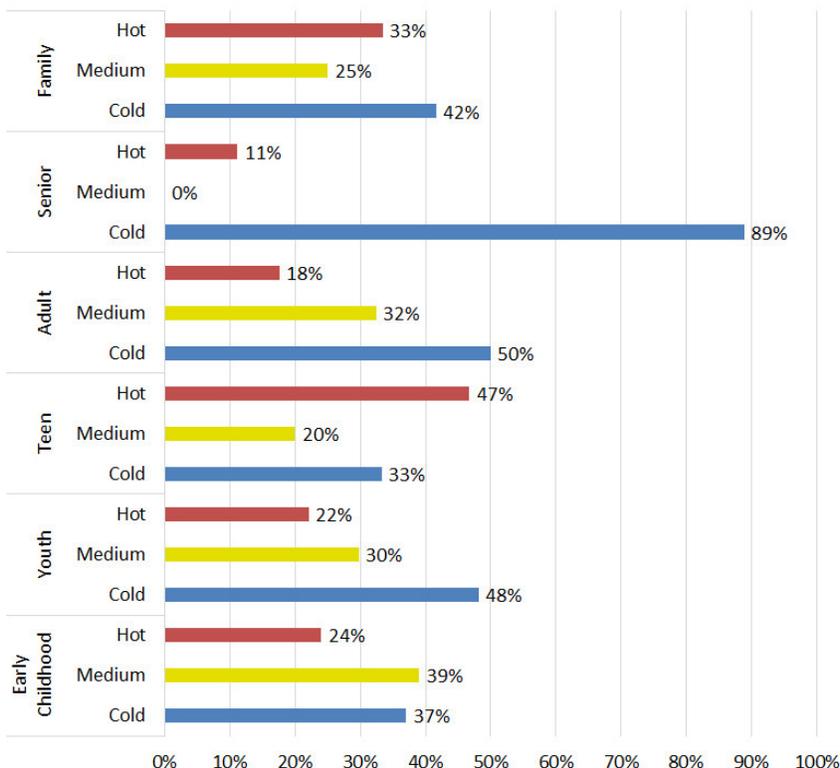
Fall 2014 Age Group Program Registrations



Summer 2014 Age Group Program Registrations



Winter/ Spring 2014 Age Group Program Registrations



2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

Program Financial Analysis

The recreational programs were reviewed for general profitability from data provided by the Park District for 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014. The findings included:

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Revenue	\$414,291	\$488,940	\$508,139	\$499,381
Expenditure	\$471,122	\$453,710	\$505,268	\$487,365
Profitability	\$(56,831)	\$35,230	\$2,871	\$12,016

The Park District started with a net loss in 2011, but has since rebounded and begun to show some level of profitability. The financial success of recreation programs for the years analyzed shows an unstable level, with the success of programs varying from year to year.

With the very limited programmable space available to the District, there needs to be a push to increase profitability without necessarily increases the number or sizes of classes. Combining what we have learned from the program analysis with insight from public meetings, staff meetings, and the community survey, there are two major areas the Park District should be focused on, marketing and fee structure.

While current programs are highly rated, the low amount of use and overall lack of familiarity with the District as a whole suggests the need to better advertise and communicate with the community about the Park District overall, as well as specific programs and classes. Worth Days is very highly attended, and could be an important tool to inform the public about other Park District offerings, and increase attendance to paid programs and classes.

Additional evaluation of the current fees charged by the District should also be completed on a program by program basis. According to the survey, only 3% of respondents felt the current fees charged were unfair. This would suggest that now is the time to begin gradual increases in an attempt to increase profitability of specific programs, and the recreation portfolio overall.

Standards Development

It is very common in the development of a Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan to explore the comparison of the Park District's existing outdoor recreation area features and total land acres versus national and state wide recreation standards.

Park and Open Space Standard

The typical standard that many agencies strive for is 10 acres of park space per 1,000 resident. These standards have become less relevant over the years and in many older and established communities, not feasible to obtain.

The Worth Park District has adopted its own park and open space standard which aligns potential land acquisition with the available open space parcels within the community. The Park District has a total acreage of the District at 29 acres for a population of 11,000. The Park District has adopted a standard of 4 acres per 1,000 residents, leaving 15 acres left to be acquired by the Park District in the future.

2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

Illinois Community Outdoor Recreation Facilities Comparison

The Worth Park District does very well on some recreation amenities, such as playgrounds, baseball fields and skate parks. There is however the need to bring a greater diversity of elements such as spray grounds, trails, dog parks and frisbee golf courses.

Facility	Statewide Average	Worth Park District
Fishing Piers/Docks	1 per 22,000	None
Aquatic Center/Pool	1 per 34,000	None
Spray Grounds	1 per 40,000	None
Trails	1 mile per 4,500	1 mile per 65,000
Bike Trails	1 mile per 6,700	None
Nature Trails	1 mile per 50,000	None
Basketball Court	1 per 7,500	1 per 11,000
Baseball Fields	1 per 5,750	1 per 2,750
Softball Fields	1 per 8,000	1 per 2,750
Skate Parks	1 per 70,000	1 per 11,000
Soccer Fields	1 per 6,400	1 per 3,700
Football Fields	1 per 25,000	None
18-Hole Golf Courses	1 per 123,000	None
9-Hole Golf Courses	1 per 192,000	None
Frisbee Golf Courses	1 per 110,000	None
Pickleball Courts	1 per 90,000	None
Bocce Ball Courts	1 per 107,000	None
Tennis Courts	1 per 6,000	1 per 11,000
Picnic Shelters	1 per 4,400	1 per 11,000
Playgrounds	1 per 3,000	1 per 1,375
Dog Parks	1 per 84,000	None



Site Inventory & Analysis For the Worth Park District Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan



Park Name: Gale Moore Park

Park Location: 109th & Nordica

Classification: Community Park

Park Size: 5 Acres

Assessment Rating: Good

Observations: Nice sized park with mature tree canopy in playground and shelter area. Large amount of open space and older ballfield with parking. Railroad along south property line.



Park Elements	Quantity	Condition
Trails	X	Fair
Open Space	X	Good
Fitness Stations		
Restrooms	X	Fair
Concessions		
Maintenance	X	Good
Picnic Shelter	X	Good
Picnic Area		
Playground Equipment	X	Good
Swings	X	Good
Baggo	X	Fair
Basketball		
Baseball	X	Fair
Bocce		
Football		
Soccer		
Skate Park		
Tennis		
Volleyball		
Splash Pad		
Parking Lot	36	Good
Park Sign	X	Fair
Drinking Fountain	X	Good
Benches		
Litter Can	3	Fair
Recycling Bin		
Picnic Tables	8	Good
Player Benches	2	Fair
Bleachers	2	Fair
Landscaping*	M	
Electric	X	Fair
ADA Accessible	X	Good

* M- Minimal, A- Appropriate, E- Extensive



**Site Inventory & Analysis
For the Worth Park District
Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan**



Park Name: Homerding Park

Park Location: 116th & Oak Park

Classification: Community Park

Park Size: 11.8 Acres

Assessment Rating: Fair

Observations: Portions of the park appear to be within a detention basin. Very large sled hill with gravel parking lot. Small sized pathway and oddly placed playground. Bridge located on site.



Park Elements	Quantity	Condition
Trails	X	Fair
Open Space	X	Good
Fitness Stations		
Restrooms	X	Fair
Concessions		
Maintenance	X	Fair
Picnic Shelter		
Picnic Area		
Playground Equipment	X	Fair
Swings	X	Fair
Baggo	X	Fair
Basketball		
Baseball		
Sled Hill	X	Good
Football		
Soccer	X	Fair
Skate Park		
Tennis		
Volleyball		
Splash Pad		
Parking Lot	X	Fair
Park Sign	X	Fair
Drinking Fountain	X	Fair
Benches		
Litter Can	2	Fair
Recycling Bin		
Picnic Tables	1	Fair
Player Benches		
Bleachers		
Landscaping*	M	
Electric		
ADA Accessible	X	Fair

* M- Minimal, A- Appropriate, E- Extensive



Site Inventory & Analysis For the Worth Park District Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan



Park Name: Kennelly Park

Park Location: 115th & Beloit

Classification: Mini Park

Park Size: 0.8 Acres

Assessment Rating: Good

Observations: The park is associated with the Terrace Centre. It contains a playground and an arbor.



Park Elements	Quantity	Condition
Trails	X	Good
Open Space	X	Fair
Fitness Stations		
Restrooms		
Concessions		
Maintenance	X	Good
Picnic Shelter		
Picnic Area	X	Fair
Playground Equipment	X	Good
Swings	X	Good
Baggo		
Basketball		
Baseball		
Bocce		
Football		
Soccer		
Skate Park		
Tennis		
Volleyball		
Splash Pad		
Parking Lot	X	Fair
Park Sign	X	Fair
Drinking Fountain		
Benches		
Litter Can	1	Fair
Recycling Bin		
Picnic Tables	1	Fair
Player Benches		
Bleachers		
Bike Rack		
Landscaping*	M	
Electric		
ADA Accessible	X	Fair

* M- Minimal, A- Appropriate, E- Extensive



Site Inventory & Analysis
For the Worth Park District
Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan



Park Name: Peaks Park

Park Location: 107th & Oak Park

Classification: Community Park

Park Size: 5.9 Acres

Assessment Rating: Fair

Observations: The park is home to the Goy Center and 3 ballfields, a playground and a skate park. Backstop fencing is good for Field 3, but poor for Fields 1 & 2.



Park Elements	Quantity	Condition
Trails		
Open Space	X	Fair
Fitness Stations		
Restrooms	X	Fair
Concessions	X	Fair
Maintenance	X	Fair
Picnic Shelter		
Picnic Area		
Playground	X	Fair
Equipment		
Swings	X	Fair
Baggo		
Basketball		
Baseball	3	Fair
Bocce		
Football		
Soccer		
Skate Park	X	Fair
Tennis		
Volleyball		
Splash Pad		
Parking Lot	27	Fair
Park Sign	X	Fair
Drinking Fountain		
Benches	5	Fair
Litter Can	4	Fair
Recycling Bin		
Picnic Tables		
Player Benches	6	Fair
Bleachers	6	Fair
Bike Rack	1	Fair
Landscaping*	M	
Electric	X	Fair
ADA Accessible	X	Poor

* M- Minimal, A- Appropriate, E- Extensive



Site Inventory & Analysis
For the Worth Park District
Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan



Park Name: Penny Park

Park Location: Home & Normandy

Classification: Mini Park

Park Size: 0.6 Acres

Assessment Rating: Poor

Observations: The park has no playground equipment other than a swing set and full court basketball court. Park is surrounded by residential.



Park Elements	Quantity	Condition
Trails		
Open Space	X	Poor
Fitness Stations		
Restrooms		
Concessions		
Maintenance	X	Poor
Picnic Shelter		
Picnic Area		
Playground Equipment		
Swings	X	Fair
Baggo		
Basketball	X	Fair
Baseball		
Bocce		
Football		
Soccer		
Skate Park		
Tennis		
Volleyball		
Splash Pad		
Parking Lot	X	Poor
Park Sign	X	Fair
Drinking Fountain		
Benches		
Litter Can	1	Fair
Recycling Bin		
Picnic Tables	1	Poor
Player Benches		
Bleachers		
Bike Rack		
Landscaping*	M	
Electric	X	Poor
ADA Accessible	X	Fair

* M- Minimal, A- Appropriate, E- Extensive



**Site Inventory & Analysis
For the Worth Park District
Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan**



Park Name: Smile Park
Park Location: 114th & Neenah
Classification: Mini Park
Park Size: 0.3 Acres
Assessment Rating: Good
Observations: The park was renovated last year. Landscaping needs improving. The park is surrounded by residential.



Park Elements	Quantity	Condition
Trails	X	Good
Open Space	X	Fair
Fitness Stations		
Restrooms		
Concessions		
Maintenance	X	Fair
Picnic Shelter		
Picnic Area	X	Fair
Playground Equipment	X	Good
Swings	X	Good
Baggo		
Basketball		
Baseball		
Bocce		
Football		
Soccer		
Skate Park		
Tennis		
Volleyball		
Splash Pad		
Parking Lot		
Park Sign	X	Fair
Drinking Fountain		
Benches	2	Good
Litter Can	1	Good
Recycling Bin		
Picnic Tables	1	Good
Player Benches		
Bleachers		
Bike Rack		
Landscaping*	M	
Electric		
ADA Accessible	X	Good

* M- Minimal, A- Appropriate, E- Extensive



Site Inventory & Analysis For the Worth Park District Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan



Park Name: Stahlak Park

Park Location: 112th & Natchez

Classification: Neighborhood Park

Park Size: 2.6 Acres

Assessment Rating: Poor

Observations: The park was purchased with OSRAD funding and is currently open space. The park is adjacent to an elementary school.



Park Elements	Quantity	Condition
Trails		
Open Space	X	Fair
Fitness Stations		
Restrooms		
Concessions		
Maintenance		
Picnic Shelter		
Picnic Area	X	Poor
Playground Equipment		
Swings		
Baggo		
Basketball		
Baseball		
Bocce		
Football		
Soccer		
Skate Park		
Tennis		
Volleyball		
Splash Pad		
Parking Lot	X	Poor
Park Sign	X	Fair
Drinking Fountain		
Benches		
Litter Can		
Recycling Bin		
Picnic Tables	2	Fair
Player Benches		
Bleachers		
Bike Rack		
Landscaping*	M	
Electric	4 poles	Fair
ADA Accessible	X	Poor

* M- Minimal, A- Appropriate, E- Extensive



**Site Inventory & Analysis
For the Worth Park District
Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan**



Park Name: Veteran’s Memorial Park
Park Location: W 111th & Harlem Ave
Classification: Community Park
Park Size: 0.5 Acres
Assessment Rating: Good
Observations: The park is a special use memorial park. It has high visibility from two of the busiest roads in the area.



Park Elements	Quantity	Condition
Trails	X	Good
Open Space		
Fitness Stations		
Restrooms		
Concessions		
Maintenance	X	Good
Picnic Shelter		
Picnic Area		
Playground Equipment		
Swings		
Baggo		
Basketball		
Baseball		
Bocce		
Football		
Soccer		
Skate Park		
Tennis		
Volleyball		
Splash Pad		
Parking Lot	X	Fair
Park Sign	X	Fair
Drinking Fountain		
Benches	6	Good
Litter Can	1	Fair
Recycling Bin		
Picnic Tables		
Player Benches		
Bleachers		
Bike Rack		
Landscaping*	E	
Electric	X	Good
ADA Accessible	X	Good

* M- Minimal, A- Appropriate, E- Extensive



Site Inventory & Analysis For the Worth Park District Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan



Park Name: Worthwoods Park

Park Location: 109th & Oketo

Classification: Neighborhood Park

Park Size: 0.8 Acres

Assessment Rating: Fair

Observations: The park is surrounded by residential and adjacent to an elementary school. It contains a tennis court.



Park Elements	Quantity	Condition
Trails	X	Fair
Open Space		
Fitness Stations		
Restrooms		
Concessions		
Maintenance	X	Fair
Picnic Shelter		
Picnic Area		
Playground Equipment	X	Fair
Swings	X	Fair
Baggo		
Basketball		
Baseball		
Bocce		
Football		
Soccer		
Skate Park		
Tennis	X	Fair
Volleyball		
Splash Pad		
Parking Lot		
Park Sign	X	Fair
Drinking Fountain		
Benches	2	Fair
Litter Can	1	Fair
Recycling Bin		
Picnic Tables	1	Fair
Player Benches		
Bleachers		
Bike Rack		
Landscaping*	M	
Electric	X	Fair
ADA Accessible	X	Fair

* M- Minimal, A- Appropriate, E- Extensive



Site Inventory & Analysis
For the Worth Park District
Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan



Park Name: Baldwin Park

Park Location: 109th & Nashville

Classification: Mini Park

Park Size: 0.5 Acres

Assessment Rating: Fair

Observations: Small Mini Park with old playground and limited open spaces adjacent to Tri-State Tollway. Very limited recreational value. Large drainage culverts in and around the park.



Park Elements	Quantity	Condition
Trails		
Open Space	X	Fair
Fitness Stations		
Restrooms		
Concessions		
Maintenance	X	Fair
Picnic Shelter		
Picnic Area	X	Poor
Playground Equipment	X	Fair
Swings	X	Fair
Baggo		
Basketball		
Baseball		
Bocce		
Football		
Soccer		
Skate Park		
Tennis		
Volleyball		
Splash Pad		
Parking Lot		
Park Sign		
Drinking Fountain		
Benches		
Litter Can	X	Fair
Recycling Bin		
Picnic Tables	X	Fair
Player Benches		
Bleachers		
Landscaping*	M	
Electric		
ADA Accessible	X	Fair

* M- Minimal, A- Appropriate, E- Extensive

Equity Mapping & Level of Service

A level of service analysis illustrates how successful a parks system is at serving the residents of the community. The number, location, and size of the park spaces play influential roles in determining the level of service for the park system.

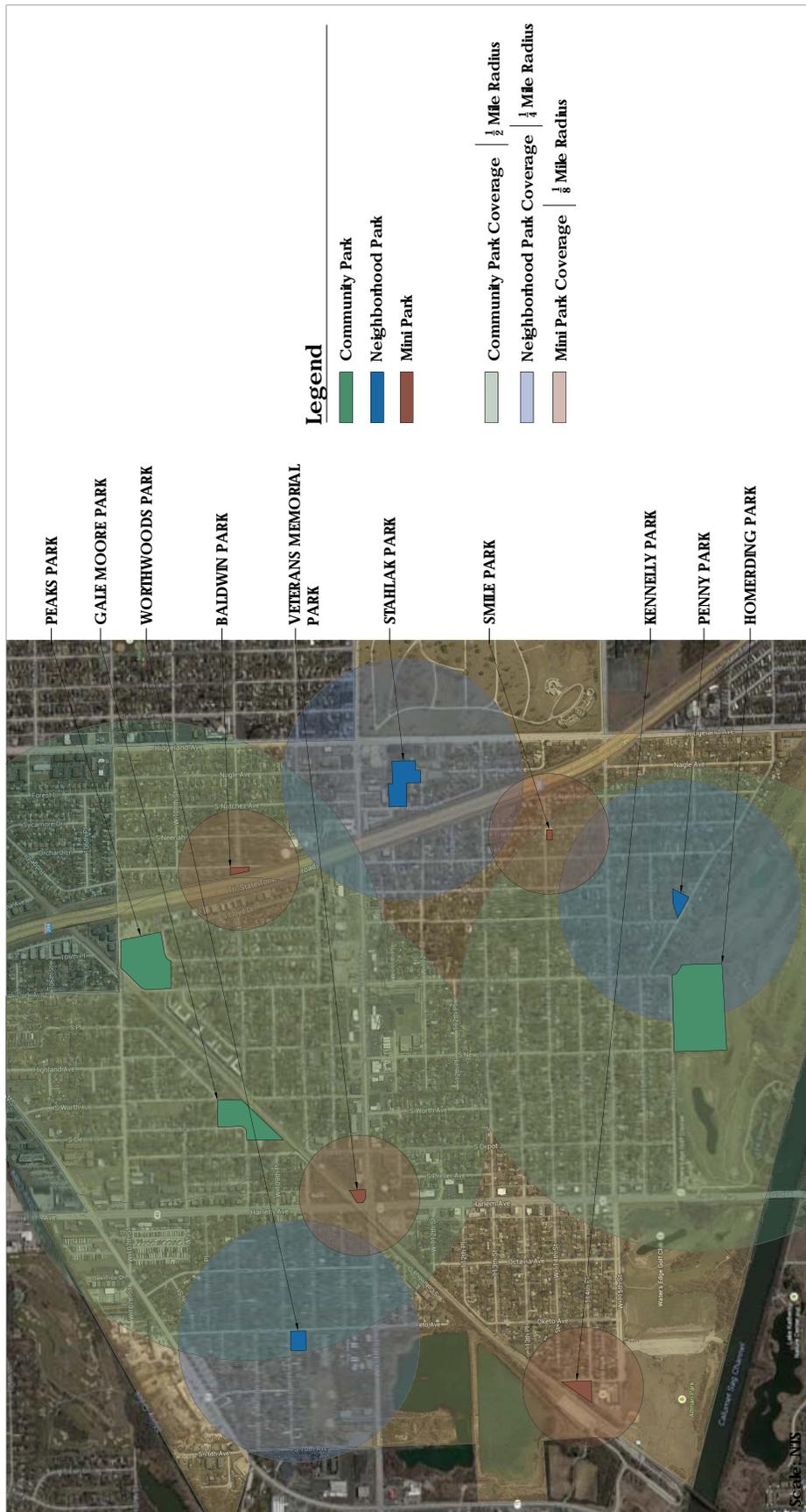
Each park type within the District has a different coverage area, based on the size and recreational elements found in that type of park. The combination of Worth Park District parks location with the associated coverage areas for each park can be seen on the map on the following page. Community parks such as Peaks and Homerding Parks have the largest level of service radius at 1/2 mile for our study. Stahlak and Worthwoods Parks are classified as neighborhood parks, each having a level of service radius of 1/4 mile. Mini parks like Smile and Penny Park have the smallest service area, 1/8 mile for this study.

The Worth Park District does show some very slight service area gaps in the western section of the Park District. The lack of larger park spaces in this area provides an opportunity to acquire land and develop park spaces in the areas not currently covered by existing parks.



Worth Park District Comprehensive Plan

Level of Service



July 2015

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 Suite 1000 | Lincoln, NE 68502
 Telephone: (402) 421-3131
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Chapter 4- Goals & Objectives of the Plan

Introduction

The master planning effort has been a voyage of detection, analysis and interpretation. The process has gathered a large amount of information provided from a number of sources in the Park District community. Public meetings have been conducted, a leadership focus group of key stakeholders has been engaged, a survey of over 300 households has been sampled and analyzed, and the staff and Park District board members have shared their ideas.

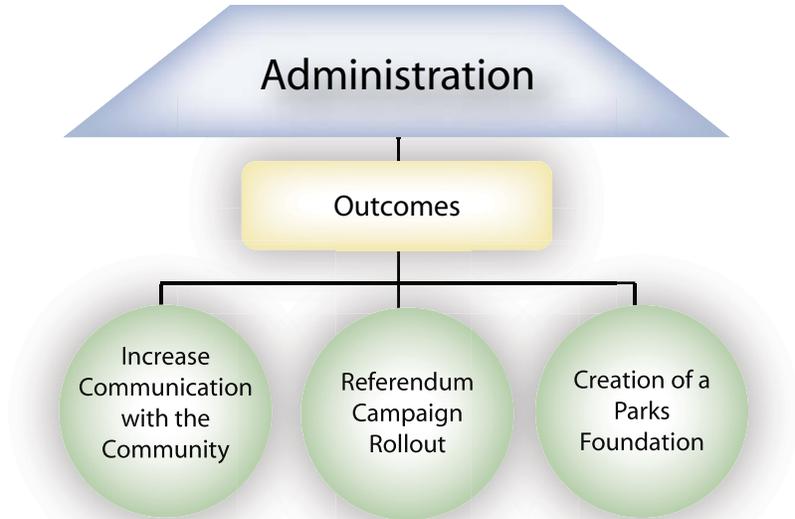
All of these sources need to be taken into consideration to determine the needs of the parks and recreation services for the Worth Park District. The goals and objectives are the cornerstone of any master plan. The goals for this planning effort are developed into three main categories that are:

- Administrative (Including Financing)
- Recreation
- Parks & Facilities

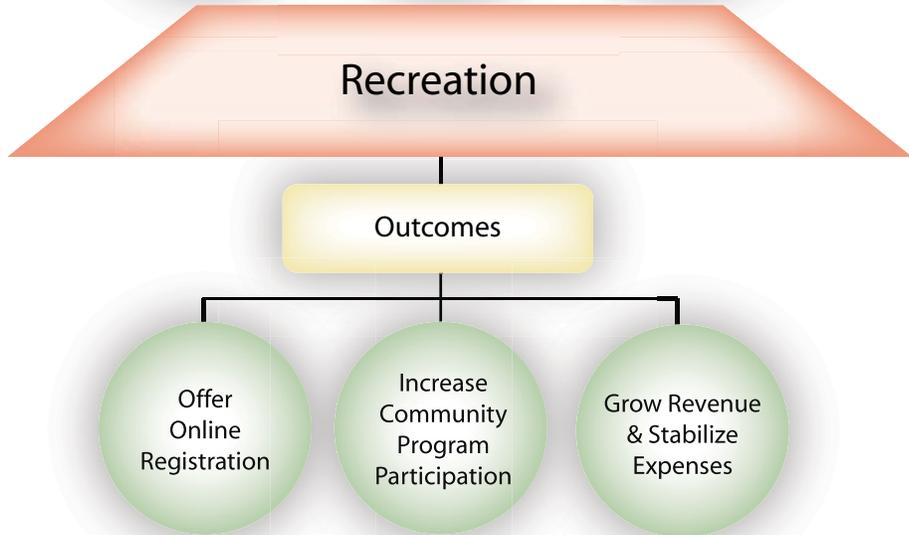
The strategic atlas that follows on the next page highlights the areas of importance.

Tier 1 – Administrative	(High Level Priority)
Tier 2 – Recreation	(Mid-Level Priority)
Tier 3 – Parks & Facilities	(Low Level Priority)

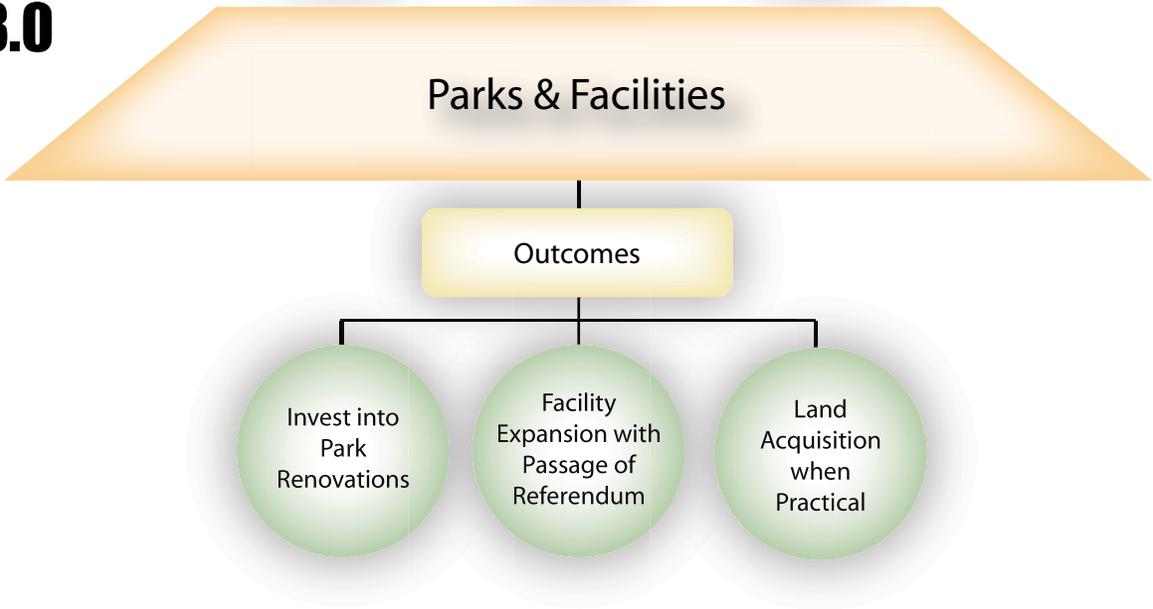
Tier 1.0



Tier 2.0



Tier 3.0



Themes

It is the development of themes from the information collected in this planning process in which the goals and objectives categories are developed. These strategic goals need to target broad thinking. They should stimulate the need to create specific objectives as the foundation of an implementation plan. After a careful and thorough review of the input received from the many different sources, it is clear that several areas have emerged that will comprise the plan direction. The three goal categories surround six major focus areas. The following list illustrates those six areas with a priority marker included to signify its importance.

- **Marketing Plan & Community Visibility – High**
- **Referendum Campaign for Capital Projects – High**
- Park & Facility Improvements – Medium
- Recreation Program Portfolio Improvements - Medium
- Creation of a Park Foundation & Improved Governmental Partnerships – Low
- Staff/Board Relationship Building - Low

The goals and objectives surrounding marketing, community visibility and a referendum campaign for capital projects should be viewed as high priorities. These goals should be viewed as interrelated activities. They will have influence on the remaining goals by providing much needed indoor programming space and the enhancement of outdoor park spaces.

Ultimately, the comprehensive park and recreation master plan should be viewed as a road map to the future. It should be understood that goals are different from objectives in that goals provide high level views while objectives are the smaller steps that need to be acted upon. The plan should be evaluated on an on-going basis to remain current as the times and influences change the goals which may need to be revisited and revised in the future.

Goals & Objectives

Summary of Administrative Topics facing the Park District:

Financing

- Limited tax rate
- Lack of adequate capital dollars in budget for park improvements and modernization
- Long term financial planning forecasting revenue generation and expenditure needs

Operations

- Investment in professional development
- Improve and/or expand relationships with likeminded organizations
- Creation of a Parks Foundation
- No on-line registration
- Continue staff engagement of the entire Park Board in support for events and efforts of the Park District in both attendance and feedback

Visibility

- Low digital presence on web and social media sites
- Low quantity of information getting out into the community about the Park District
- No marquee signage at major viewing point
- Perceived low value of parks and recreation importance by the community
- Develop simple and effective marketing strategies to increase community knowledge about the Park District and make recreation connections to existing Park District operations

Administrative Goals & Objectives:

Goal: Maintain & improve the Park District's communication to the community

Objectives:

- Invest into new and improved approaches to communicate with the community
- Provide on-line program registration
- Incremental increase community use of the Park District over the next five years
- Hold a special event geared toward family fun every year to give back to the community with a communication focus on Park District activities and happening surrounding the master plan
- Develop a specific area on the Park District web page for future referendum information

Goal: Identify financial funding sources for the Park District

Objectives:

- Agree to the short term operating budget approach that key funds need to stay profitable and all funds need to have positive fund balances with the goal of building reserves
- Develop a sound long term financial strategy for sustaining Park District operations and capital improvements investment
- Create a friends of the parks for additional financial resources and leverage giving opportunities
- Continue to explore potential alternative funding revenue generating opportunities such as grants, sponsorships, fees and rentals

Goal: Develop improved external relationships with special interest groups

Objectives:

- Review current partnerships and assess the way they are working
- Seek new partnerships where possible to advance the mission of the Park District
- Be willing to give back and support other organizations to better the community

Goal: Invest into staff development opportunities

Objectives:

- Fund key staff attendance at professional development schools
- Fund key staff certification as National Parks and Recreation Certified Parks and Recreation Professionals
- Fund full time staff attendance at select trade related conferences

2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

Goal: Create an effective marketing and communication plan

Objectives:

- Develop a public informational campaign to educate the public about the parks and recreation services the Park District provides with ongoing public feedback methods. Host a series of open houses focused on different areas of operations.
- Craft a communication campaign for increased exposure and participation levels

Goal: Park Board Involvement into the Master Plan Implementation Process

Objectives:

- On an annual basis, hold a Park Board retreat where upcoming fiscal year goals are identified with an action plan in place and agreed upon
- The Park Board should be visible to the community by attending special events and other important Park District functions on a regular basis
- Keep a standing agenda item at a Park Board meeting on a quarterly basis discussing progress on the master plan

Goal: Capital Projects Referendum Feasibility Study

Objectives:

- Prepare a feasibility study for a referendum capital campaign for both parks and recreational facilities renovation and development
- Discuss the findings of the feasibility study as to possible bonding solutions of long term capital funding
- Investigate if an operation increase is needed to sustain new projects
- Prepare a marketing plan with detailed steps for campaign rollout and implementation

Summary of Recreation Topics facing the Park District:

Indoor recreation

- Lack of appropriate sized recreation spaces for indoor programming
- No full size gym
- No fitness center or rooms
- No walking track

Integration of programs with outdoor park spaces

- Few park elements allow for recreation programs and possible revenue generation within the parks

Recreation programming portfolio expansion

- Need to expand core recreation offerings in pre-school and RAS activities
- Brand the direction of newer programs with marketing strategies to increase exposure and keep more residents interested in Park District recreation offerings
- Develop three new tracks of program activities in the areas of family, fitness and seniors with a mixture of free special events and for fee classes

2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

Recreation Goals & Objectives:

Goal: Create a recreation program portfolio centered on the foundation of “recreation for everyone”

Objectives:

- Organize and operate elementary children based healthy lifestyle programs focusing on diet (eating) and exercise
- Organize and operate a youth archery program
- Explore and develop select winter recreation opportunities
- Organize and operate specialty adult sports leagues such as cricket, flag football and ultimate Frisbee
- Organize and operate a select complement of fitness programs for all ages
- Organize and operate senior computer classes
- Expand RAS offerings
- Organize and operate a specialty summer day camp program option
- Organize and operate family recreational program opportunities centered on cultural activities
- Continue to network with other local agencies and review their successful program offerings with opportunities to seek potential joint programming opportunities

Goal: Integrate fitness based programs with plans for indoor recreation space

Objectives:

- Acquire a short term lease of a small commercial or light industrial space within the Village to house a small fitness center and multi-use space with the purpose to develop fitness based programs
- Expand and renovate Terrace Centre with a focus on a full size gym, fitness center, fitness rooms, walking track and other multi-purpose rooms.

Goal: Perform pricing evaluation on fees & rentals

Objectives:

- Perform a pricing evaluation study to establish a philosophy of cost for programs and rentals
- Evaluate pricing model on a yearly basis and set fees and/or rates
- Explore the idea of price bundling for similar recreational class offerings by linking scheduling times and reduced costs to produce additional foot traffic in programs

Goal: Develop performance standards for each recreation class grouping

Objectives:

- Develop a set of simple but effective measurable matrix indicators to gauge outcomes for specific performance standards
- Collect and review data regularly to identify strengths and weakness of the recreation groupings
- Set criteria to correct unwarranted recreation class performance

Summary of Park & Facility Topics facing the Park District:

Level of Service

- Select park locations and amenities that may have duplication of services and may be able to be sold
- Park District does not have a large community park space on west side of town

Capital spending

- No dedicated capital expenditure formula planning
- No grants have been pursued in recent years
- No partnerships to re-develop adjacent park parcels with local schools

Planning & design

- Need to inform the community on the importance and need for parks and recreation projects and funding
- Do not currently have unique park elements based on community needs and recreation trends
- Do not have adequate indoor recreation fitness space
- Explore adaptive renovation and possible re-use of Goy Center
- Explore new parks maintenance facility

2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

Parks & Facility Goals & Objectives:

Goal: Lease a small space within the Village on a short term basis for a fitness studio and multi-purpose indoor recreation space

Objectives:

- Work to identify locations that would allow for a small fitness studio, two multi-purpose rooms, storage and parking
- Work with landlord for attractive short term lease terms which should not exceed five years and provides build-out assistance

Goal: Acquire strategic in-fill park sites to provide enhanced level of service coverage with the park system

Objectives:

- Work to identify and fund future purchases of park and open space land parcels that become available if financially feasible

Goal: Coordinate capital plan development with recreation programming opportunities

Objectives:

- Develop a staff review of park and facility plans with the park planner/designer to discuss what the recreation needs could be in new and improved spaces for programmed activities.
- Implement a way of reporting what is feasibly possible within budget parameters on capital projects.
- Review the project requests with the park planner/designer and decide what can be included in the capital projects

Goal: Seek alternative revenue sources for necessary park capital improvement dollars

Objectives:

- Identify and apply for grants that can assist in the construction of park and facility improvements
- Capital projects that have been identified as potential OSLAD grant development candidates include Peaks Park, Altman Park and Homerding Park
- Seek sponsorships and/or partnerships for parks and facilities improvements

Goal: Create parks & recreation facilities that reflect the culture of the community

Objectives:

- Review the conceptual plans included in this master plan as a starting point for future project discussions
- Develop park & recreation amenities that are needed to enhance the quality of life for Park District residents based on feedback obtained during the master plan process
- Develop signature ideas for enhanced park spaces
- Construct parks that strive to have elements that provide activities for a diverse age group
- Prepare a dedicated capital funding strategy based on a successful referendum campaign
- Partner with special interest groups when a win-win relationship can be achieved to enhance park & recreation facilities such as your Special Recreation Association

Goal: Identify a maintenance standard for the overall park system

Objectives:

- Prepare a set of simple guiding principles that will form a comprehensive maintenance program including material standards
- Develop a lifecycle assessment program to plan for park element replacement
- Allocate adequate budget resources to achieve the proposed maintenance standard including a new park maintenance building with indoor vehicle and equipment storage

Chapter 5- Plan Implementation

Introduction

A plan is only as good as the organization that is prepared to execute it. The previous chapter outlined a series of specific goals and objectives that have the ability to enhance the recreational opportunities for the Worth community. This chapter is organized into a simple to follow action plan that should be implemented to the best of the Park District's ability to meet the goals and objectives as outlined in this plan.

Action Plan Recommendations

Administrative Goals:

Goal	Objective	Time frame		
		Short Term 2016-2017	Intermediate 2018-2019	Long Term 2020 +
Maintain & improve the Park District's communication to the community	Invest into new and improved approaches to communicate with the community	X	X	X
	Provide on-line program registration	X		
	Incremental increase community use of the Park District over the next five years	X	X	X
	Hold a special event geared toward family fun every year to give back to the community with a communication focus on Park District activities and happening surrounding the master plan	X	X	X
	Develop a specific area on the Park District web page for future referendum information	X		
Identify financial funding sources for the Park District	Agree to the short term operating budget approach that key funds need to stay profitable and all funds need to have positive fund balances with the goal of building reserves	X		
	Develop a sound long term financial strategy for sustaining Park District operations and capital improvements investment		X	X
	Create a friends of the parks for additional financial resources and leverage giving opportunities	X		
	Continue to explore potential alternative funding revenue generating opportunities such as grants, sponsorships, fees and rentals	X	X	X
	Review current partnerships and assess the way they are working	X	X	X
Develop improved external relationships with special interest groups	Seek new partnerships where possible to advance the mission of the Park District	X	X	X
	Be willing to give back and support other organizations to better the community	X	X	X

2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

Invest into staff development opportunities	Fund key staff attendance at professional development schools	X	X	X
	Fund key staff certification as National Parks and Recreation Certified Parks and Recreation Professionals	X	X	X
↓	Fund full time staff attendance at select trade related conferences	X	X	X
Create an effective marketing & communication plan	Develop a public informational campaign to educate the public about the parks and recreation services the Park District provides with ongoing public feedback methods. Host a series of open houses focused on different areas of operations.	X	X	
↓	Craft a communication campaign for increased exposure and participation levels	X	X	
Park Board involvement into the Master Plan implementation process	On an annual basis, hold a Park Board retreat where upcoming fiscal year goals are identified with an action plan in place and agreed upon	X	X	X
	The Park Board should be visible to the community by attending special events and other important Park District functions on a regular basis	X	X	X
↓	Keep a standing agenda item at a Park Board meeting on a quarterly basis discussing progress on the master plan	X	X	X
Capital projects referendum feasibility study	Prepare a feasibility study for a referendum capital campaign for both parks and recreational facilities renovation and development	X		
	Discuss the findings of the feasibility study as to possible bonding solutions of long term capital funding	X		
	Investigate if an operation increase is needed to sustain new projects	X	X	
↓	Prepare a marketing plan with detailed steps for campaign rollout and implementation	X		

2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

Recreation Goals:

Goal	Objective	Time frame		
		Short Term 2016-2017	Intermediate 2018-2019	Long Term 2020 +
Create a recreation program portfolio centered on the foundation of "recreation for everyone"	Organize and operate elementary children based healthy lifestyle programs focusing on diet (eating) and exercise	X	X	X
	Organize and operate a youth archery program	X	X	X
	Explore and develop select winter recreation opportunities	X	X	X
	Organize and operate specialty adult sports leagues such as cricket, flag football and ultimate Frisbee	X	X	X
	Organize and operate a select complement of fitness programs for all ages	X	X	X
	Organize and operate senior computer classes	X	X	X
	Expand RAS offerings	X	X	X
	Organize and operate a specialty summer day camp program option	X	X	X
	Organize and operate family recreational program opportunities centered on cultural activities	X	X	X
	Continue to network with other local agencies and review their successful program offerings with opportunities to seek potential joint programming opportunities	X	X	X
Integrate fitness based programs with plans for indoor recreation space	Acquire a short term lease of a small commercial or light industrial space within the Village to house a small fitness center and multi-use space with the purpose to develop fitness based programs	X		
	Expand and renovate Terrace Centre with a focus on a full size gym, fitness center, fitness rooms, walking track and other multi-purpose rooms.		X	
Perform pricing evaluation on fees & rentals	Perform a pricing evaluation study to establish a philosophy of cost for programs and rentals	X	X	
	Evaluate pricing model on a yearly basis and set fees and/or rates	X	X	X
	Explore the idea of price bundling for similar recreational class offerings by linking scheduling times and reduced costs to produce additional foot traffic in programs	X	X	

2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

Develop performance standards for each recreation class grouping	Develop a set of simple but effective measurable matrix indicators to gauge outcomes for specific performance standards	X	X	X
	Collect and review data regularly to identify strengths and weakness of the recreation groupings	X	X	X
	Set criteria to correct unwarranted recreation class performance	X	X	X

2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

Parks & Facility Goals:

Goal	Objective	Time frame		
		Short Term 2016-2017	Intermediate 2018-2019	Long Term 2020 +
Lease a small space within the Village on a short term basis for a fitness studio & multi-purpose indoor rec. space	Work to identify locations that would allow for a small fitness studio, two multi-purpose rooms, storage and parking	X		
	Work with landlord for attractive short term lease terms which should not exceed five years and provides build-out assistance	X	X	
↓				
Acquire strategic in-fill park site to provide enhanced level of service coverage with the park system	Work to identify and fund future purchases of park and open space land parcels that become available if financially feasible	X	X	X
Coordinate capital plan development with recreation programming opportunities	Develop a staff review of park and facility plans with the park planner/designer to discuss what the recreation needs could be in new and improved spaces for programmed activities.	X	X	X
	Implement a way of reporting what is feasibly possible within budget parameters on capital projects.	X	X	X
↓	Review the project requests with the park planner/designer and decide what can be included in the capital projects	X	X	X
Seek alternate revenue sources for necessary park capital improvement dollars	Identify and apply for grants that can assist in the construction of park and facility improvements	X	X	X
	Capital projects that have been identified as potential OSLAD grant development candidates include Peaks Park, Altman Park and Homerding Park	X	X	X
↓	Seek sponsorships and/or partnerships for parks and facilities improvements	X	X	X

2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

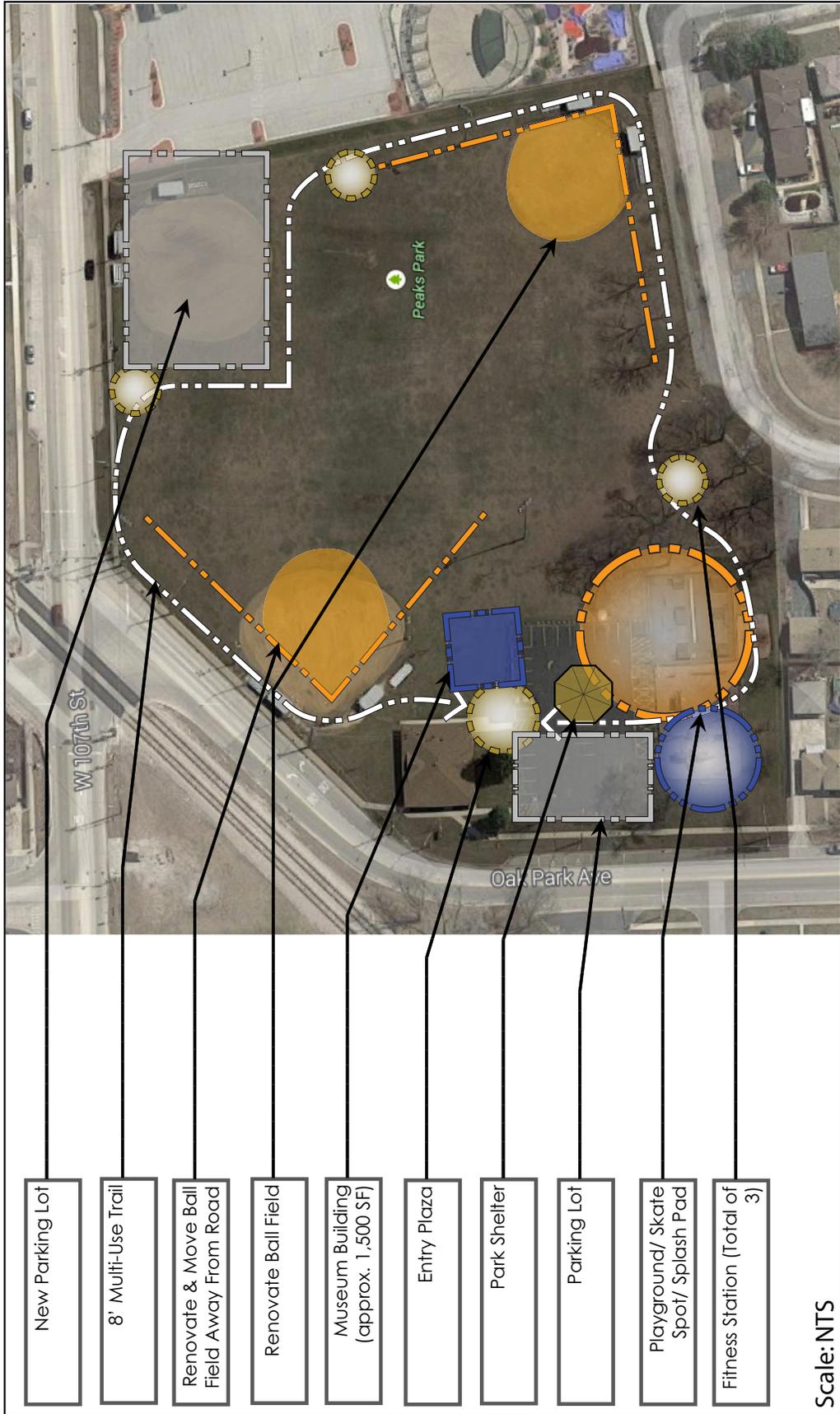
Create parks & recreation facilities that reflect the culture of the community	Review the conceptual plans included in this master plan as a starting point for future project discussions	X		
	Develop park & recreation amenities that are needed to enhance the quality of life for Park District residents based on feedback obtained during the master plan process	X	X	X
	Develop signature ideas for enhanced park spaces	X		
	Construct parks that strive to have elements that provide activities for a diverse age group	X	X	X
	Prepare a dedicated capital funding strategy based on a successful referendum campaign	X	X	
↓	Partner with special interest groups when a win-win relationship can be achieved to enhance park & recreation facilities such as your Special Recreation Association	X	X	X
Identify a maintenance standard for the overall park system	Prepare a set of simple guiding principles that will form a comprehensive maintenance program including material standards	X		
	Develop a lifecycle assessment program to plan for park element replacement	X		
↓	Allocate adequate budget resources to achieve the proposed maintenance standard including a new park maintenance building with indoor vehicle and equipment storage	X	X	X

Conceptual Park & Facility Planning

Conceptual park & facility planning is developed through existing conditions inventory, current amenities analysis and the recreational needs of the residents. The following plans are conceptual in nature, and are not to be interpreted as the final designs for each park site. Based upon the inventory and analysis, these ideas give a general overview as how the different park sites can be improved for the benefit of the Park District.

Peaks Park

Concept



- New Parking Lot
- 8' Multi-Use Trail
- Renovate & Move Ball Field Away From Road
- Renovate Ball Field
- Museum Building (approx. 1,500 SF)
- Entry Plaza
- Park Shelter
- Parking Lot
- Playground/ Skate Spot/ Splash Pad
- Fitness Station (Total of 3)

Scale: NTS

April 2015



Gale Moore Park

Concept



- Tennis/ Basketball Courts
- Fitness Station (Total of 3)
- 8' Multi-Use Trail

- Seating Area
- Native Plantings

Scale: NTS



April 2015

Homerding Park

Concept

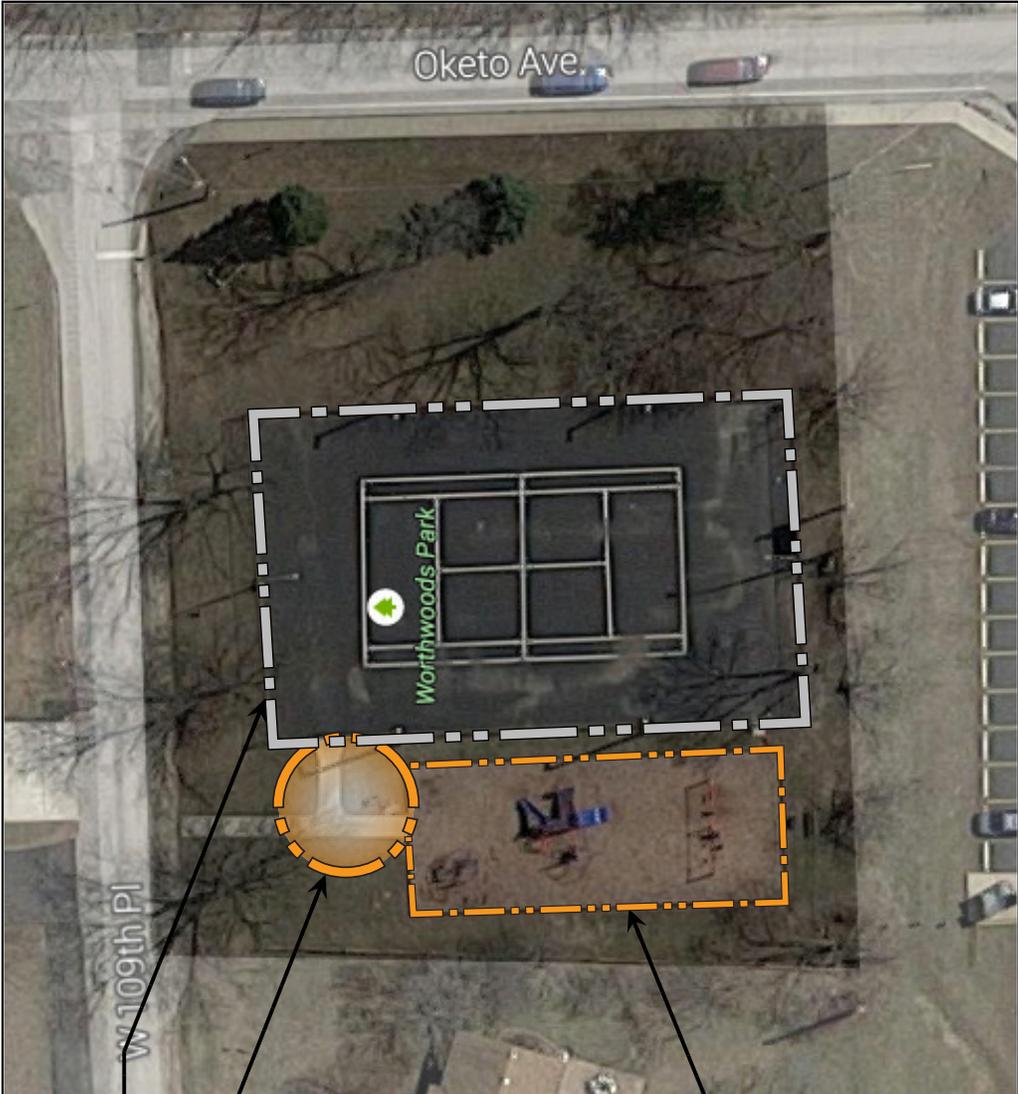


April 2015



Worthwoods Park

Concept A



Tennis Improvements-
Surfacing/ Fencing

Concrete Plaza/
Seating Area

Concrete Playground
Curbing

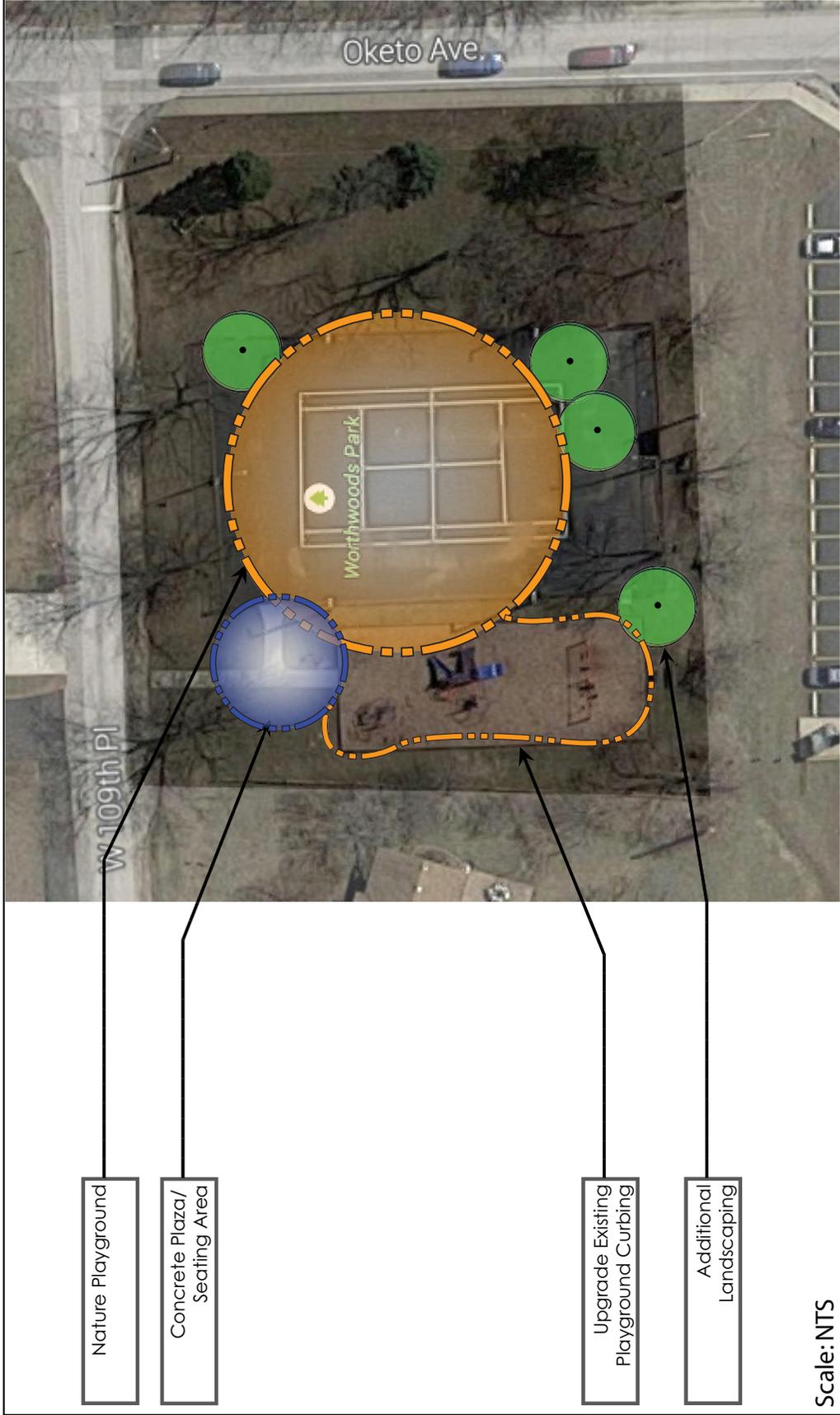
Scale: NTS

April 2015



Worthwoods Park

Concept B

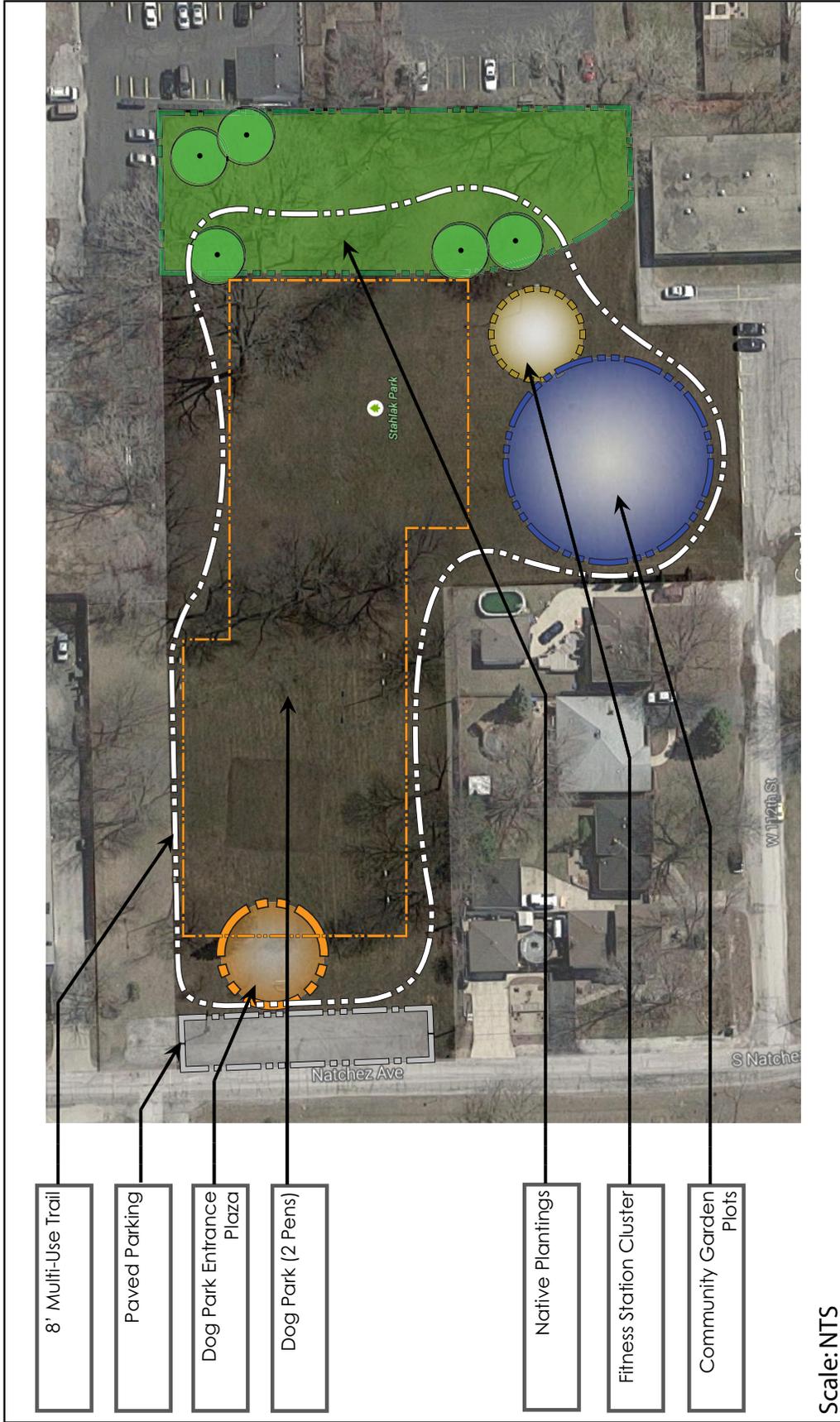


April 2015



Stahlak Park

Concept

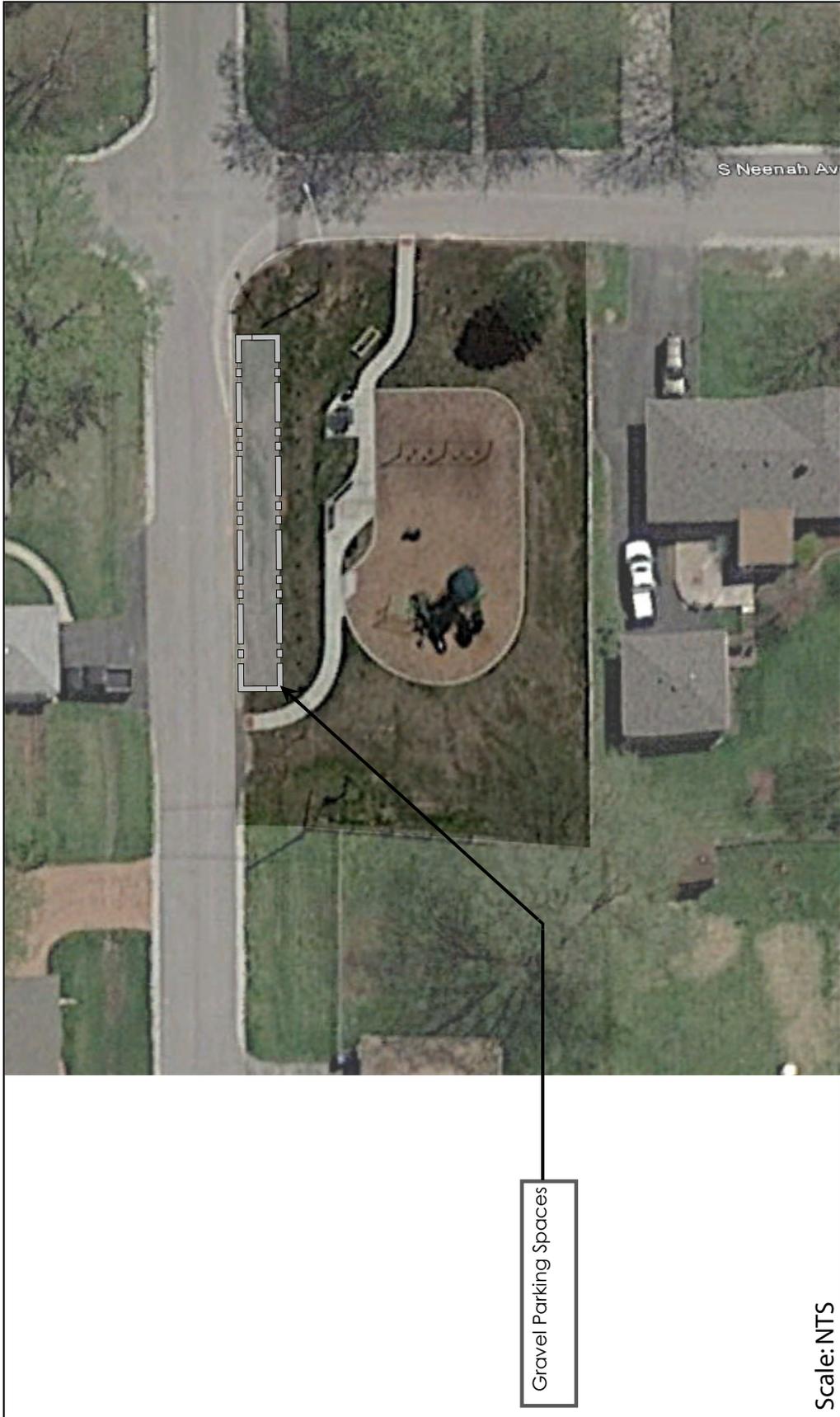


April 2015



Smile Park

Concept



Gravel Parking Spaces

Scale: NTS

April 2015



Baldwin Park

Concept



New Tot Lot
Playground

Seating Plaza

New ADA Accessible
Walkway

Open Space

Scale: NTS

April 2015



Kennelly Park

Concept



ADA Enhancements

Scale: NTS

April 2015



Penny Park

Concept



Outdoor Patio/ Plaza Space

Expanded Playground

Off Street Parking

Scale: NTS

April 2015



Capital Improvement Planning

This section of the master plan is intended to be a “how-to” guide to be used by staff, Board Members and all persons responsible for the planning, detail, design, and maintenance of the park improvements. All future improvement projects should be guided by these recommendations to insure that the park can achieve its full potential.

To provide a systematic way of developing the priority list for spending limited capital dollars, a Quality of Service (QOS) standard was developed to provide a unique direction and make sense of competing interest. The cost estimates are based on current knowledge and can be higher or lower depending on future market conditions.

The Quality of Service Ranking of the Worth Park District

Park/Facility	Use	Cost	Level of Service	Score
Christensen Terrace Centre	3	3	3	9
Peaks Park	3	3	3	9
Altman Park Acquisition	3	3	3	9
Gale Moore Park	3	2	3	8
Homerding Park	3	2	3	8
Worth Historical Museum	2	1	3	6
Worthwoods Park	2	1	2	5
Goy Center	1	1	3	5
Veteran’s Memorial Park	1	1	3	5
Stahlak park	1	1	2	4
Smile Park	2	1	1	4
Kennelly Park	1	1	1	3
Baldwin Park	1	1	1	3
Penny Park	1	1	1	3
	1 - Low	1 - Low (\$250,000 & Under)	1 - Low (Mini Park)	
	2 - Medium	2 - Medium (\$250,000-\$750,000)	2 - Medium (Neighborhood Park)	
	3 - High	3 - High (\$750,000 & Up)	3 - High (Community Park/Special Use/ Natural Areas)	

2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

A. Facilities

These park sites usually do not have a specified service radius and are typically buildings with a special purpose.

1. Christensen Terrace Centre
2. Worth Historical Museum
3. Goy Center (No Improvements Needed)

Christensen Terrace Centre		
<i>Development Item</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>	<i>Target Year</i>
Full Sized Gymnasium	\$1,000,000	2018
Small Fitness Center	\$500,000	2018
Fitness Classroom	\$150,000	2018
Professional Fees	\$115,500	-
Total	\$1,765,500	

Worth Historical Museum		
<i>Development Item</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>	<i>Target Year</i>
Relocation Study	\$5,000	2016
Total	\$5,000	

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B. Community Parks

A community park is generally between 6 and 50 acres and serves up to a 3 mile service area. In our planning study, we defined that service area as a 1/2 mile radius. The community park provides recreational facilities for a large segment of the village's population. These parks are usually developed to support intensive recreational opportunities for both active and passive uses.

1. Peaks Park
2. Gale Moore Park
3. Homerding Park
4. Veterans Memorial Park (No Improvements Needed)
5. Altman Park Acquisition & Future Development

Peaks Park		
<i>Development Item</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>	<i>Target Year</i>
Demolition	\$50,000	2018
Northeast Parking Lot	\$75,000	2018
West Parkign Lot	\$50,000	2018
8' Multi-use Trail	\$70,000	2018
Replace West Ballfield	\$25,000	2018
Renovate South Ballfield	\$15,000	2018
Museum Building	\$200,000	2018
Entrance Plaza	\$25,000	2018
Park Shelter	\$50,000	2018
Playground/ Skate Spot	\$250,000	2018
Splash Pad	\$150,000	2018
Fitness Stations	\$25,000	2018
Landscaping	\$25,000	2018
Professional Fees	\$70,700	-
Total	\$1,080,700	

Gale Moore Park		
<i>Development Item</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>	<i>Target Year</i>
Demolition	\$10,000	2017
Tennis/ Basketball Courts	\$75,000	2020+
8' Multi-use Trail Paving	\$50,000	2017
Fitness Stations	\$25,000	2017
Seating Area with Shelter	\$45,000	2020+
Native Plantings	\$15,000	2020+
Landscaping	\$25,000	2020+
Professional Fees	\$16,800	-
Total	\$256,800	

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Homerding Park		
<i>Development Item</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>	<i>Target Year</i>
Demolition	\$15,000	2020+
Multi-use Trail Paving	\$60,000	2020+
Playground Enhancements	\$15,000	2020+
Native Plantings	\$25,000	2020+
Nature Trail with Seating	\$15,000	2020+
Stone Parking Lot	\$20,000	2020+
Landscaping	\$7,500	2020+
Professional Fees	\$11,025	-
Total	\$168,525	

Altman Park

The Park District is currently working with a consultant to develop a master plan and development budget.

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C. Neighborhood Parks

A neighborhood park is generally between 1 to 10 acres serves a 1/4 mile service area. Typical facilities are within walking distance of the service area. The neighborhood park provides for localized needs in both active and passive play spaces mostly for children. The following is a list of neighborhood parks identifying capital investments on land either owned, leased or an intergovernmental agreement in place:

1. Worthwoods Park
2. Stahlak Park

Worthwoods Park Concept A		
<i>Development Item</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>	<i>Target Year</i>
Tennis Court Surfacing	\$35,000	2019
Tennis Court Fencing	\$15,000	2019
Concrete Plaza/ Seating	\$7,500	2019
Concrete Playground Curbing	\$7,500	2019
Professional Fees	\$4,550	-
Total	\$69,550	

Worthwoods Park Concept B		
<i>Development Item</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>	<i>Target Year</i>
Demolition	\$15,000	2019
Concrete Plaza/ Seating	\$7,500	2019
Nature Playground Installation	\$125,000	2019
Upgrade Existing Curbing	\$5,000	2019
Additional Landscaping	\$7,500	2019
Professional Fees	\$11,200	-
Total	\$171,200	

Stahlak Park		
<i>Development Item</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>	<i>Target Year</i>
Parking Lot Paving	\$25,000	2019
Multi-use Trail Paving	\$30,000	2019
Fitness Station Cluster	\$20,000	2019
Dog Park Fencing	\$30,000	2019
Dog Park Plaza	\$7,500	2019
Native Plantings	\$10,000	2019
Community Garden Plots	\$5,000	2019
Landscaping	\$10,000	2019
Professional Fees	\$9,625	-
Total	\$147,125	

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D. Mini Parks

A tot lot is a very small park, consisting mainly of a playground and sidewalks. This study has defined 1/8 mile as the service radius for the Worth Park District mini park.

1. Smile Park
2. Kennelly Park
3. Baldwin Park
4. Penny Park

Smile Park		
<i>Development Item</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>	<i>Target Year</i>
Gravel Parking Spots	\$5,000	2016
Professional Fees	\$350	-
Total	\$5,350	

Kennelly Park		
<i>Development Item</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>	<i>Target Year</i>
ADA Enhancements	\$2,500	2016
Professional Fees	\$175	-
Total	\$2,675	

Baldwin Park		
<i>Development Item</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>	<i>Target Year</i>
Demolition	\$7,500	2019
Tot Lot Playground with Seating Space	\$60,000	2019
Landscaping	\$5,000	2019
Professional Fees	\$5,075	-
Total	\$77,575	

Penny Park		
<i>Development Item</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>	<i>Target Year</i>
Demolition	\$10,000	2020+
Playground Enhancements	\$30,000	2020+
Landscaping	\$2,500	2020+
Professional Fees	\$2,975	-
Total	\$44,475	

Conclusion

The Worth Park District is still a small and stable Park District that has seen small steps of growth over the years. The Park District provides recreational value to the small Worth community it serves which contributes positively to the quality of life to its residents. In review of all of the data that has been collected and analyzed, this is a time of opportunity with chances to take steps towards creating a better long term future. In the past eight months, a significant amount of discussion regarding planning for the future has been accomplished with several items becoming clear.

First, the need to pass a referendum to advance the capital re-development and expansion of parks and facilities that will add recreation features that the community desires is paramount. In particular, capital spending has to be done wisely by creating clean, simple and effective designs that do not overspend the future bond money.

The indoor recreation spaces are functional but seem to miss on current trends surrounding fitness. However, this can be fixed by expanding the Terrance Centre with the right approach and advancing the building for the community to enjoy. The tradition of providing quality recreation spaces needs to continue.

Second, investment into communication and marketing efforts for increased agency exposure in the community on various levels and multiple fronts needs to happen. This will go hand in hand with the referendum campaign. The goal is to educate the community on the present position of the Park District, all of the wonderful park and recreation services it offers and the need for the community to support and help advance the Park District in the future.

The reality of the past decision not to recover the full dollar levy amount with the introduction of the tax caps in Cook County in the early 1990's, has hurt the Park District financially. This has translated into the lack of funds the Park District has available today. Making upgrades to aging parks and facilities among other things is particularly difficult without having the ability to increase funding. The advanced use of technology and how those media outlets can touch the community will be an important aspect in this area.

Lastly, the agency needs to continually discuss, develop and review recreational programs with an enhanced understanding of the demographic and economic forces shaping the community. The effort spent collecting data and analyzing it for current trends and future opportunities to charge more or less for programs is time well spent and allows the Park District to make better decisions setting the pricing for future leisure programs and services.

There is an opening to improve the future within the core areas of administration, recreation and parks & facilities of the Park District with advancing the goals and objectives of this master plan. The planning is now complete but the journey for the Park District as well as the community has just started. For good things to happen in the future, buy in by the Park District leadership must occur with upcoming actions through dedicated efforts to keep up momentum from this planning effort.

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In the next two years, visible progress should be made and measured to gauge plan success. The plan has been designed from the beginning to be a wise resource for both staff as well as the Park Board. The next significant step is to adopt the master plan and move forward with faith that the past eight months gathered meaningful information that translated into knowledge that produced effective goals & objectives representative of the community. The next five years can be an exciting time with many opportunities to define new directions in recreational programs, capital projects and marketing & communication. All of this will continue to make the Worth Park District an important and respected agency in the heart of this small town community.

Appendix



WORTH PARK DISTRICT

*Charles M. Christensen Terrace Centre
11500 S. Beloit Avenue, Worth, IL 60482
(708) 448-7080*

February 9, 2015

Dear Resident:

Greetings from the Worth Park District Board of Commissioners and staff. It is a pleasure serving you and/or your family's recreational needs. We are asking for a few moments of your time to help provide us with valuable information to plan for the future.

We are embarking on a comprehensive plan for the Park District and there are things we would like to know about you and/or your family, as well as a number of issues on which we would like your opinion. The survey is an essential piece in the creation of a comprehensive plan that will assist the Park District in responding to your needs, planning for the future, and becoming more competitive when seeking grants.

We would like to know what recreational services your household utilizes, either with the Worth Park District or elsewhere. These services include; early childhood programs, recreation programs and facilities, picnic areas and pavilions, athletic fields and playgrounds, as well as trails and open space enjoyment. We also want to know if you would like us to do more to meet your leisure and recreational needs.

It would help us greatly if you would complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it in the enclosed stamped envelope by Friday, March 6. The results of this survey will be used to develop plans for future Park District programs and facilities.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (708) 448-7080 or e-mail roshaughnessy@worthparkdistrict.org

Thank you for your help. We hope to hear from you soon. Your response will be a valuable tool in our planning process.

Sincerely,

Robert M. O'Shaughnessy
Director of Parks and Recreation

www.worthparkdistrict.org



Worth Park District Questionnaire

The Worth Park District would like your input to help determine park and recreation priorities for our community. Your “household” refers to you and those residing in your home. This survey will take 10 minutes to complete. When you are finished, please return your survey in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. All responses to this survey are anonymous and confidential.

1. How familiar are you with the Worth Park District?
 Very Familiar Somewhat Familiar Not At All Familiar

2. Would you agree that the Worth Park District contributes to your quality of life?
 Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree No Opinion

3. How would you characterize your overall satisfaction with the Worth Park District?
 Satisfied Somewhat Satisfied Not Satisfied

- 3a. If you answered Not Satisfied above, please tell us which area(s) you are displeased with?
(Choose all that apply)
 Customer Service Parks Fees Taxes Facilities

 Programs Other (please specify) _____

4. If you have contacted the Worth Park District in the past with a concern, how was the response?
 Very Satisfactory Satisfactory Unsatisfactory Not Applicable

5. How do you obtain information about the Worth Park District? **(Choose all that apply)**
 Park District Brochure School Handout/Flyers
 Park District Website Direct Mail
 Newspaper Conversations with Park District Staff
 Social Media (ie. FaceBook and Twitter) Park District E-mails
 Materials at Park District Facilities From Friends and Neighbors
 Other _____

6. The Worth Park District is a member district of the South West Special Recreation Association (SWSRA). SWSRA provides recreation programs, trips, special events and day camp for children and adults with disabilities. Please indicate if you or any member of your household has participated in a SWSRA program offering: Yes No N/A

If YES, please rate the quality of the program:
 Very Good Good Fair Poor No Opinion

Survey continues on the other side

2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

7. Indicate if you or any member of your household has used the programs listed by age groups below by circling YES or NO next to each program type. If YES, please rate the quality of the program by circling the appropriate number based on the 1-5 scale given.

Age Groups	Have you participated in this type of program?		If YES, how would you rate the overall quality of the programs participated in?				
			Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	No Opinion
Pre-School (2-5)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
Youth (6-9)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
Pre-Teen (10-13)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
Teen (14-17)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
Young Adult (18-24)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
Adult (25-54)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
Senior (55+)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1

8. How often does your household go outside the Worth Park District for recreational services?
 Daily Weekly Monthly Yearly Never **(Skip to Q#12)**

9. If you go outside the Park District for recreational services, why do you find it necessary to do so? **(Check all that apply)**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Program not offered at convenient time | <input type="checkbox"/> Program was too expensive |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation was difficult | <input type="checkbox"/> Other providers have better facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Believed the program might be cancelled | <input type="checkbox"/> Other providers have better staffing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other providers provide lower prices | <input type="checkbox"/> Our friends go there, so we go there |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify) _____ | |

10. Where else do you or members of your household go for recreation programs and/or services? **(Check all that apply)**

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local schools | <input type="checkbox"/> Private fitness clubs | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighboring Park Districts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> YMCA | <input type="checkbox"/> Forest preserves | <input type="checkbox"/> Local church |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify) _____ | | |

11. Did any of the following factors prevent you or a household member from visiting a Worth Park District park? **(Check all that apply)**

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation was difficult | <input type="checkbox"/> Did not feel safe | <input type="checkbox"/> Poor park upkeep |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parking | <input type="checkbox"/> Park elements have no interest to me | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Did not know where the park was <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify) _____ | | |

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12. Do you or any members of your household attend any of these special events for the community?
(Please check all that apply)

- Worth Days Tree Lighting Fall Fest Parent/Child Events
 Haunted House Polar Express Bunny Brunch Santa's Sleigh
 Other _____

13. How often do you or any members of your household use each of the following Worth Park District parks and facilities in the past 12 months? **(Check the boxes that apply)**

Park or Facility	Location	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly	Never
Baldwin Park	109 th & Nashville					
Christensen Terrace Centre	11500 S. Beloit					
Gale Moore Park	109 th & Nordica					
Goy Center	107 th & Oak Park					
Homerding Park	116 th & Oak Park					
Kennelly Park	115 th & Beloit					
Peaks Park	107 th & Oak Park					
Penny Park	Home & Normandy					
Smile Park	114 th & Neenah					
Stahlak Park	112 th & Natchez					
Veterans Memorial Park	111 th & Harlem					
Worth Historical Museum	11500 S. Beloit					
Worthwoods Park	109 th & Oketo					

14. Which Worth Park District park do you most often visit from the list above?

15. Please rate your feelings about that park for you and your household by circling the appropriate number based on the 1-5 scale given.

	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	No Opinion
Overall cleanliness of the park	5	4	3	2	1
Condition of the playground	5	4	3	2	1
Condition of the playing fields	5	4	3	2	1
Condition of the landscaping	5	4	3	2	1
Overall level of safety of the park	5	4	3	2	1
Ease of accessibility and access	5	4	3	2	1

16. Do you think the parks have enough to offer to you and members of your family?

- Yes No Unsure/I don't know

Survey continues on the other side

2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

17. Please rate the level of satisfaction of the Christensen Terrace Centre you and/or your household received by circling the appropriate number based on the 1-5 scale given.

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	No Opinion
Overall cleanliness of the building	5	4	3	2	1
Facility rental or birthday party experience (if applicable)	5	4	3	2	1
Registration process for classes	5	4	3	2	1
Front Desk Staff	5	4	3	2	1
Program Staff	5	4	3	2	1
Administration Staff	5	4	3	2	1
Safety of the building	5	4	3	2	1

18. Please select the following park amenities that are important for you and your household by circling the appropriate number based on the 1-5 scale given.

	Park Element	Very Important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	No Opinion
	Active Park Elements					
A.	Athletic fields	5	4	3	2	1
B.	Baseball/Softball diamonds	5	4	3	2	1
C.	Basketball Courts	5	4	3	2	1
D.	Fitness Trail with Work Out Stations	5	4	3	2	1
E.	Playground Equipment	5	4	3	2	1
F.	Pickleball Courts	5	4	3	2	1
G.	Splash Pad	5	4	3	2	1
H.	Skate Park	5	4	3	2	1
I.	Tennis Courts	5	4	3	2	1
J.	Volleyball Courts	5	4	3	2	1
	Passive Park Elements					
K.	Bocce courts	5	4	3	2	1
L.	Bag toss	5	4	3	2	1
M.	Drinking fountains	5	4	3	2	1
N.	Garden areas	5	4	3	2	1
O.	Landscaping	5	4	3	2	1
P.	Natural areas	5	4	3	2	1
Q.	Pet friendly areas	5	4	3	2	1
R.	Picnic areas with Park shelter	5	4	3	2	1
S.	Sitting areas with Park Benches	5	4	3	2	1
T.	Restrooms	5	4	3	2	1
U.	Walking Paths	5	4	3	2	1

2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

19. The Worth Park District has limited resources to continue to meet your recreational needs. To help us prioritize our future improvements, which **THREE** of the park elements from the list in Question #18 above are most important to your household? (Please write in the letters below for your 1st, 2nd, 3rd from Question #18 above or select NONE.)

1st: _____ 2nd: _____ 3rd: _____ NONE: _____

20. What indoor recreational spaces would you or someone in your household use in the future? **(Check all that apply)**

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walking/jogging track | <input type="checkbox"/> Weight room | <input type="checkbox"/> Arts & crafts room |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise equipment | <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor tennis | <input type="checkbox"/> Nature center |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Space for teens | <input type="checkbox"/> Classroom space | <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor playground |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching kitchen | <input type="checkbox"/> Dance studio | <input type="checkbox"/> Batting cages |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full size gymnasium | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Center room | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify) _____ | | |

21. Do you utilize the Worth Park District Tot Lot Preschool program?

Yes **(Continue to Q#22)** No **(Skip to Q#24)**

22. How would you characterize your satisfaction with the Tot Lot Preschool program?

Very satisfactory Satisfactory Unsatisfactory Not Applicable

23. Please grade the following statements relating to the Tot Lot Preschool program by circling the appropriate number based on the 1-5 scale given.

	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Poor	No Opinion
The program supports my child's overall development	5	4	3	2	1
The program curriculum	5	4	3	2	1
How the program supports my child's abilities to interact with others	5	4	3	2	1
Teacher availability, knowledge and performance	5	4	3	2	1
The classroom facilities	5	4	3	2	1

24. Do you utilize the Recreation After School (R.A.S) program?

Yes **(Continue to Q#25)** No **(Skip to Q#26)**

25. How would you characterize your satisfaction with the Recreation After School (R.A.S) program?

Very satisfactory Satisfactory Unsatisfactory Not Applicable

Survey continues on the other side

2016-2020 Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan

26. Please rate each of the following Worth Park District priorities which would be important to you and your household by circling the appropriate number based on the 1-5 scale given.

	Very Important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	No Opinion
Maintaining existing services	5	4	3	2	1
Expanding existing services	5	4	3	2	1
Improving existing park/facilities	5	4	3	2	1
Building new park/facilities	5	4	3	2	1
Acquiring more land for parks	5	4	3	2	1
Ease of accessibility and access	5	4	3	2	1

27. Do you feel the fees charged by the Park District for the services, parks and facilities provided are fair?

Fees are fair
 Fees are somewhat fair
 Fees are unfair

28. At what level would you support a tax increase to fund the costs to build, operate and maintain parks, trails and facilities?

\$1-5 per month
 \$6-10 per month
 None
 Don't know

29. How important are local governmental relationships between the Park District and the Village, Library and the School District?

Very Important
 Important
 Unimportant
 No Opinion

30. How long have you lived within the Worth Park District? _____ Years

31. What is your gender?

Female
 Male

32. Beginning with yourself, what are the ages of those in your household?

33. Please make any additional comments that you think would be helpful.

Thank you for your time. Please complete the survey by March 6, 2015. A self-addressed stamped envelope is provided for your convenience.

Open Ended Survey Responses:

Question 3a- Not Satisfied 'Other' Responses

- Cancellation of classes due to low enrollment
- Have more senior programs
- I'm still upset that they closed Worth Pool and never re-opened it
- P.D. doesn't have enough sports/ extracurricular activities
- Walking paths

Question 5- Obtain information about Park District 'Other' Responses

- Community awareness knowledge
- Emails
- From son
- General knowledge
- Internet
- Knows the staff and administrators
- P.D. newsletter
- Signage at 107th and Oak Park
- Used to work at W.P.D.- general knowledge

Question 9- Reason for leaving the District 'Other' Responses

- Advertisements for specialty activities of interest elsewhere
- Better senior day trips- more often and greater variety
- Bike paths
- Cancellation of classes
- Certain classes like yoga are not offered, so resident goes to other Park Districts
- Change of scenery
- Childrens programs aren't as advanced or as good a quality as other Park Districts
- Church programs and socialization
- Crestwood pool and Wellness center- machines & weight room
- Doesn't offer much for my age group without disabilities or kids
- Fitness center, gym with exercise equipment
- Fitness club for theraputic pool exercise/ swimming/ hot tub
- Group age
- Hospital sponsored fitness center for health enhancement recommended by doctor
- Like their day trips
- Mommy and me class and Teddy Bear with Oak Lawn P.D. Worth offered nothing for under 3 at that time
- More day trips are offered at other park districts
- More program options
- No swimming pool
- Not enough walking paths
- Not many programs for school age
- Other P.D. day trips
- Other providers have more selection
- Other suburbs have greater variety of senior activities

- Pool, water park
- Program not offered at all
- Program not offered at all
- Programs and activities not offered by P.D.
- Programs not available at P.D.
- Programs not being offered through W.P.D.
- Sacred Heart Bingo
- Services not offered at Worth- swimming, ballet
- Specialty activities not offered by P.D.
- Specialty fitness classes
- Specialty programs, better variety of programs
- Specialty recreation activities, cooking/ crafts/ exercise classes
- Specialty type class offerings
- Swimming at Oak Lawn- No pool in Worth P.D.
- Timing of classes are better for residents schedule. Fitness equipment
- Travel club
- Worth P.D. has no comprehensive fitness center or equipment

Question 10- Where else do you recreate 'Other' Responses

- Bicycle Trails
- Competitive wii bowling at Bridgeview senior center
- Golf course
- Golf Courses
- Hickory P.D.
- Hospital Associated Fitness Club
- Lake Catherine for walking & various festivals
- Lake Catherine in Palos for walking
- Lake Catherine, Waters Edge Golf Course
- M.V.C.C.
- Oak Lawn Pavilion for fitness/ exercise equipment
- Outside establishments
- Palos Heights Park District
- Palos hospital fitness facility for cardiac rehab
- Palos recreational facilities
- Special community based facilities. Private rec. facilities
- Walk at Chicago Ridge Mall in cold weather

Question 11- Factors preventing park use 'Other' Responses

- Drug paraphernalia was found
- Fire Works
- Husband is disabled
- I'm 85 and cant walk to far or to long now
- Just not interested
- Lack of activities for seniors at parks
- Need a dog park
- No exercise equipment
- No programs for my 2 year old
- No walking paths in parks
- Nothing for children 6-12
- Nothing in parks for children, adults, or seniors- lack basic playground equipment
- P.D. employees driving around in tractors all day raking the sand in parks
- Park did not have equipment for 6-2
- Problems with gangs, undesirables at Penny Park
- Problems with people in park causes disturbances late at night at Homerding
- Restrooms were filthy

Question 12- Special events attended 'Other' Responses

- American Legion Meals
- Luncheons
- Teen mixers
- The Haunted Christmas program was very good
- Used to like trips- hockey and baseball
- When my children were growing up, we went to many things at the P.D.
- Worth Garage Sale

Question 20- Indoor recreational spaces 'Other' Responses

- Floor hockey
- Indoor driving range for golfers
- Indoor Pool
- Indoor swimming pool
- Outdoor areas
- Senior activities- greater variety of day trips in more frequent intervals
- Senior area with computer room and space to play cards
- Specialty classes- yoga, exercise
- Volleyball, aerobic exercise classrooms, classes for cardio fitness
- Yoga

Question 33- Open ended comments

- A bench along the bike path by the boat ramp would be nice
- A gym with multiple uses can be very helpful for moms with kids. Indoor activities like gymnastics, basketball, baseball, dance, and tennis
- A pool would be nice with water aerobics
- A pool would probably be too expensive to build, but a reciprocal arrangement would be nice with Palos Heights or Oak Lawn.
- A walking path around Gale Moore would be great. We have a wonderful Park District
- As a new resident, I am unfamiliar with the W.P.D. however, I do look forward to experiencing what it has to offer
- At Christmas time I inquired about Santa letter. My grandson received a personalized letter and was very happy.
- Better than average, helps keep younger residents off streets to play games. Good job by P.D. employees considering tight money to maintain park areas
- Can you please have the playground equipment checked weekly for wasp nests in the summer/ fall, especially at Homerding for the past 3 years
- Cut down on the number of programs offered to offer better quality classes
- Does the park have activities for older people, or day trips
- Doesn't use P.D. facilities or programs because fees are too high
- Don't like it when people don't pick up garbage after themselves
- Don't raise property taxes to make any P.D. improvements or enhancements
- Enhance playground equipment in parks. Greater variety of rec. programs for youth and adults
- Exercise equipment for fitness- would be great enhancement to rec. center
- Feels a senior center with sponsored activities for seniors would be good. Would like more park benches and better park upkeep. Would like W.P.D. to build a new rec. center like Oak Lawn
- Feels it is important to maintain existing services and improve existing parks and facilities rather than building new parks and facilities
- Feels there is a huge need for enhanced playground equipment and adding basketball courts in the parks
- Fitness center and exercise equipment is a high priority. Would like more bike paths and for paths to connect. Would like P.D. sponsor senior activities for seniors in their 60's
- Good athletic fields are very important
- Grass on the hill at Homerding should be mowed regularly- uses hill for fitness. Likes walking paths but doesn't know if there is space for them
- Greater program variety for older adults
- Having only adults in our household, we don't use the P.D. as much as the past. I think all residents should support the district for the good of our youngsters, especially those under 18. They should have a place to play, meet and learn in a safe, clean place
- I believe there can be improvement on what parks already exist, the programming needs more variety- something with the arts for all ages would be good.
- I don't have children and don't want to pay for the services of others- let their parents pay. I could not afford to raise my own kids, how do you think I can afford to pay for everyone else?
- I enjoy using forest preserve trails and stairs. Would enjoy using in area
- I feel that it is important that children and seniors have a place to go
- I feel that your position in Worth is very good according to people I've talked to. Keep up the good work.
- I have used park services in the past. Enjoyed them very much

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- I have used the P.D. when my daughter was little all the way through Jr. High. It has always provided great programming for us
- I know its hard to keep up programs and participation with such a small town. Thank you for all your hard work
- I noticed by the Peaks Park skate park & playground this summer a lot of litter like plastic water bottles, etc.
- I personally feel Worth is a very detached village-not the "friendly village". If you're not part of the "in crowd" it doesn't matter what you want
- I wonder how nice it would be if a park district mini-bus could take us from park to park in the district
- I would like more emphasis on promoting the history of Worth
- I would like the Park Board to look into the possibility of a dog park where dogs could openly interact and play with other dogs
- I would like to see some kind of relationship between W.P.D and Wimbelton USA HF Tennis Courts, Mokena New Lennox and Oak Lawn Tennis Clubs
- I would love to see more mom & tot programs. I went to a neighboring district that provided them, and loved it
- I'm a senior, prefer to be home for comfort of mobility and activities
- I'm in a wheelchair, I would be very limited in using your facilities
- Important to maintain existing services for community and children, as well as adults
- Instead of building new- renavate old or mage arrangements with Palos Heights which is build ing a multi-million dollar facility to use theirs. Taxes are too high to begin with
- It would be nice if there were things at Smile Park for children older than 5, say between the ages of 6-12.
- I've used facilities a few times
- Keep up with movies at the park- they're fun. I think the library should be updated somehow and parks are also very important for us since we have a child at home. If there were more options for programs we would take advantage of it. Sports or dance classes
- Leave everything the way it is. No enhancements and no tax increases. Would like to see bike paths
- More connecting walking and biking paths. Playground equipment need enhancements. Fit ness center and equipment is important. Greater variety of classes for youth and adults
- More evening activities for older people who still work
- More informational flyers in mail
- More security
- More senior day trips being offered by W.P.D. is a huge priority for resident
- My family is raised so some did not apply to me. I do believe improvements are necessary
- Need to offer more programs. We use Oak Lawn and would rather give our money to Worth. Would like to have open gym more often.
- No more tax increases for any type of P.D. enhancements
- No tax increases
- Offer greater variety of activities and classes for all ages
- Overall, very satisfied with the Worth P.D.
- P.D. could charge more for services. There should be a relationship between the school district and P.D.
- P.D. needs to add more basketball courts for teenagers. Indoor pool would also be nice
- Parks need more areas for seating
- Parks should offer pet cleanup stations
- Penny park has problems, Park District and police haven't solved problems. Move basketball

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- to parks that are supervised and closed in with fences. Police should patrol parks more.
- People need a place to take their dogs
- People who work for the district are all generally very nice and helpful. Facilities are well maintained. A gym would be a great asset
- Please indicate that 116th St. is a "one-way" street more clearly. Post new signs or patrol street more often, especially during winter with all the sledding
- Provide enough security for people
- RAS was excellent program when my daughter was at that age. After school was very good
- Resident doesn't attend W.P.D. classes as there is not enough variety. Would like a greater variety and frequency of day trips offered. Need senior activities geared toward younger seniors. Need more special events. Upgrade indoor rec. center
- Resident doesn't use Peaks Park because she feels it is unsafe.
- Resident doesn't use W.P.D. classes due to timing of classes. Would like to see jazzercise, yoga classes in the evenings and on weekends
- Resident feels a P.D. fitness center and indoor pool would be a great money maker for the community. He would stop going to a private fitness club.
- Resident feels many P.D. parks are unsafe, especially late afternoon/ early evening. Peaks park has many safety issues. Would like to see an outdoor pool at peaks park. Resident would like a 10pm curfew at all parks
- Resident feels there is a huge safety issue at Peaks park. There is vandalism and undesireables using the park for clandestine activities.
- Resident has called police several times because of disturbances at night with older kids and young adults at Homerding
- Resident is upset because playground equipment was removed at Stahlak Park.
- Resident is very upset with the W.P.D. Peaks park is dirty and unsafe. Parents and kids don't use park due to safety reasons. Feels the parks are unkept and employees could be doing better at taking care of grounds
- Resident lives near a park, and garbage generated in park on weekends is not picked up regularly. Garbage is all over the park
- Resident signs up for Worth P.D. classes, trips, and activities and they are always cancelled, so she moved to Palos activities
- Resident would like to see a rec. center with full sized fitness center and exercise equipment similar to Oak Lawn. Would like a full sized gym with basketball court. Worth needs more bike paths that connect
- Resident would like to see a senior center room at the P.D. facility as well as see the P.D. sponsor senior computer classes, exercise classes, and trips.
- Safety of parks and facilities is important. Indoor walking and jogging track is of utmost importance. Would use a P.D. fitness center
- Should worry about making 111th St. nicer and cleaner before Worth should update parks.
- Smile park was recently remodeled, but there are less swings for bigger kids than before and the equipment is for 2-5. More kids are there that are 6-10, more equipment for older kids would be better
- Some fees are fair, some are a little too high
- Sorry, but we do not use many Park District services
- Sorry, never uses parks or services
- Sorry, this survey does not pertain to me
- Spend tax dollars very wisely- Do not want another big government bureaucracy of big pensions and overhead
- Taxes are high enough, will be selling house next few years. I do not see enough police patrol.

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- There have been more suspicious people around the neighborhood
- The walking path along the canal is a great enhancement for the community. P.D. should collaborate with the library and school district
- Thinks playground upgrades should be made at many Worth P.D. parks
- Through the years my family have used and enjoyed our parks and rec. facilities and are still doing so. Keep up the good work
- To many parks for a village of 11,600. Cut in half save money
- Too many people are speeding when entering or leaving Homerding Park, and park should be closed after 10 PM.
- Too old to think about it
- Use the golf course to make more money for the P.D.
- We are empty nesters and would happily support additional funds for the P.D. if, and only if, the portion of our taxes going to the school district is reduced. The schools get far to great a percentage of our taxes with zero benefit to most who fund them
- We are seniors and walk our dog almost daily. We also bike ride in the district. We use the trash bins in various parks for our dog waste
- We have no children and feel it unfair to have to contribute any more tax money to support parks where other families with children utilize these facilities- they should pay
- We live at 113th and Nagle. We would love a Park- Stahlak Park was torn down
- We love and enjoy the improvements made to Smile Park
- We need a bigger library. A dog park would be wonderful. More senior programs & activities
- We think a splash pad would be a great addition to our village even if a small entrance fee was charged
- We used the parks constantly when our children were growing up. Now we have little time for them.
- Why are there not more programs for people middle ages without kids. You have dismissed a whole category of people
- Why did you take out playground equipment and not replace it? We need slides, monkey bars, merry go rounds and more.
- Wider variety of day trips- some on weekends. Would like a wider variety of specialty classes and exercise classes offered
- Worth is an aging community. There is no longer a need for so many parks. You should cut back on those services. Tax increases would not be appreciated
- Worth needs to do a better job with their rec. services
- Would like the P.D. to sponsor activities for seniors. P.D. sponsored golf course
- Would like to see an enhanced recreation center with fitness center, gym and variety of exercise equipment. Enhance playground equipment in parks and provide equipment for 6-9 year olds. Better park safety is needed. Offer wider variety of programs
- Would like to see an outdoor pool like years ago in Worth
- Would like to see better police presence in the parks as sometimes there are undesirable types in the parks
- Would like to see childrens activities and classes offered at night and on weekends when kids can participate.
- Would like to see exercise equipment, fitness center and indoor walking/ jogging track
- Would like to see greater variety of adult classes and activities
- Would like to see indoor fitness equipment at the rec. center and indoor walking track.
- Would like to see more adult program variety
- Would like to see more nature areas similar to Lake Catherine in the W.P.D. for the community to enjoy

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- Would like to see more specialty exercise classes in evenings for working people
- Would like to see more variety of evening classes for working adults. Would also like the P.D. to offer a pottery or ceramics class
- Would like to see raquetball courts and leagues offered at P.D. facilities. Would like to see a fitness center and exercise equipment as well as gynmasium at rec center.
- Would like to see senior sponsored activities in indoor recreational center suck as card games, senior day activities
- Would like to see sponsored senior center that offers weekly senior activities like music, sing alongs, game nights, seasonal cooking classes, movie day. Would like old fashion swings at the park
- Would like to see the P.D. build a dog park. Would like a scoreboard at the athletic fields for football game use.
- Would like W.P.D. to sponsor wii bowling program for seniors. Would like computer room and classes for seniors combined with other activities. Need better publicity for Fall Fest.
- Would love a nice outdoor track to walk and also some nice tennis courts
- You must have to much money of the tax payers burning a hole in your pocket, maybe it's a tax hike you want.
- You would save a lot of money if you closed this golf course