



# **AURORA COMPREHENSIVE PARK PLAN**

**Prepared for:**

City of Aurora

Aurora, Missouri

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Olsson Project No. 021-03207

## **ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

ADA .....	Americans With Disabilities Act
FEMA.....	Federal Emergency Management Agency
MoDOT .....	Missouri Department of Transportation
OPC.....	Opinion of Probable Construction Cost
SMCOG .....	Southwest Missouri Council of Governments
USGS .....	United State Geological Survey
YMCA .....	Young Men’s Christian Association (Recreational Facility)

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

The City of Aurora requested a Comprehensive Park Plan, in conjunction with the City's overall comprehensive plan developed by Southwest Missouri Council of Governments (SMCOG). Additionally, the City request an ADA inventory of the existing parks, as well as a park master plan for both White Park and Baldwin Park. The Comprehensive Park Plan incorporates the needs of the general public as well as local recreational groups. It also includes a 5-Year plan with probable construction costs.

## 1.1 Data Collection

The first step in the preparation of the plan was to gather all available information about the existing parks. The City of Aurora provided OLSSON.

- Prints of previous park sketches, surveys, and construction documents
  - Baldwin Park
  - Crosby Park
  - North Tot
  - Oak Park
  - South Tot
  - White Park
- County Assessor's property information for each parcel
- Photos of Flooding in White Park

Other information gathered by OLSSON included:

- Aerial image
- USGS contours
- FEMA Flood Map

## 1.2 Stakeholder Input

The issue of park planning is important not only to the City of Aurora staff, but also to other community stakeholders. Therefore, it was important for OLSSON to gain an understanding of the expectations of the park planning that includes all the park facilities. Furthermore, it was important to attempt to gain a consensus of the desired goals of the project and areas of focus. OLSSON conducted meetings with the various project stakeholders to discuss and document these items of consideration. The meetings provided an opportunity to identify and prioritize specific areas for park planning

## **1.3 Meetings**

Several meetings were held during the course of the development of the comprehensive plan and park master plan, these included:

July 14, 2021 – Kickoff Meeting with Staff

August 30 and 31, 2021 – Stakeholder Meetings

November 16, 2021 – Results of Community Survey with Park Board and City Council members

January 18, 2022 – Community Input for Concept Plans of White Park and Baldwin Park

January 20, 2022 – Comprehensive Plan Committee Goals & Objectives for Parks

March 17, 2022 – Review of Concept Plans of White Park and Baldwin Park

May 7, 2022 – Community Open House

May 26, 2022 – Presentation to Park Board and City Council

The groups and individuals that provided input were supportive of the planning efforts and offered positive feedback for the existing facilities, as well as input for the future facilities, use and maintenance. A summary of their input is provided within the Appendix.

## 2. COMPREHENSIVE PARK PLAN

The Comprehensive Park Plan for Aurora is a summary of all the information that has been collected and discussed throughout the planning process. This Plan should be reviewed and updated annually by the Park Board. The Plan includes:

- Goals & Objectives
- The 5 Year Vision
- Phases of Development with Probable Construction Costs
- Potential Land Acquisition

### 2.1 Goals and Objectives

The goals listed are not in any particular order. The priority of each goal should be evaluated annually when Comprehensive Park Plan is reviewed. Existing goals may be removed after they have been accomplished, and new goals may be added.

Goal #1 – Plan and implement New Center and Capital Improvement projects.

- Design and construct Recreation Center in the next three years.
- Design and construct Aquatic Center in the next five to ten years.
- Construct Downtown Pavilion in the next one to two years.
- Strive to have significant land acquisition or facility improvement every two years to maintain community interest and momentum.
- Determine additional staffing for both programs and maintenance based on additional facilities.
- Encourage dedicated green space for neighborhood parks within new developments.

Goal #2 – Park Board shall annually assess property and facility conditions, and provide an inventory with recommendations to the City Council.

- Determine safety needs.
- Determine security needs.
- Prioritize repairs.
- Perform maintenance.

Goal #3 – Park Board shall annually assess ADA compliance, determine future actions to be compliant, and provide assessment and recommendations to the City Council.

- Annually review and update the “Aurora Park ADA Inventory Checklist”.
- Prioritize which facilities need to be brought into ADA compliance.

- Develop a schedule to bring all facilities into ADA compliance.
- Annually complete prioritized and scheduled work.

Goal #4 – Develop master plans for White Park and Baldwin Park, and implement projects.

- Redevelop White Park with amenities that are appropriate for the terrain and flood plain conditions.
- Develop an athletic complex at Baldwin Park for tournaments that will promote sports-tourism, culture, history, and fellowship.
- Determine construction cost, maintenance, and staffing for each amenity.
- Determine phasing and timeline for improvements.

Goal #5 – Protect and enhance public trees and vegetation.

- Inventory existing species and condition of public trees (and vegetation).
- Recognize public trees as a part of the public infrastructure.
- Maintain and install a diversity of species and maturity of trees throughout the community.
- Promote right-tree right-place within the community.
- Pursue Tree City USA recognition through Arbor Day Foundation.

Goal #6 – Promote and provide recreational opportunities within Aurora.

- Prioritize recreational needs for all age groups (pre-school to senior citizens).
- Expand intergenerational programs and services to create community stakeholders.
- Provide in-house management of activities (instead of YMCA managed).
- Hire a recreation coordinator.
- Host more community events.
- Develop partnerships with health care organizations.
- Develop a recreational newsletter (digital for emailing, website, and social media).
- Routinely post information to City's social media accounts.
- Update City website to include information on each park.
- Update City website to include links to park programs.

Goal #7 – Clearly define the Park & Recreation roles and responsibilities of the Park Board and City Council.

- Utilize the Comprehensive Plan, and Park Master Plan as baseline for future programs and facility improvements.

- Assign quarterly and annual tasks for board and council (ex. inventory, assessment, budget recommendations).
- Provide staff liaison to assist with reporting.

Goal #8 – Develop a trail master plan.

- Determine current and future trail locations.
- Determine phasing of trail sections.
- Prioritize connections of parks, schools, and other key community sites.
- Work in conjunction with Planning and Zoning to reserve trail corridors within new subdivision developments.
- Encourage use of 100-year flood plain areas (and riparian corridors) for trail development.
- Coordinate with neighboring communities to achieve future community trail connections.
- Design and construct trail connection from White Park to Oak Park within the next one to two years.
- Provide all-season self-locking restroom facilities along trail.

## 2.2 The 5 Year Vision

This portion of the Comprehensive Park Plan outlines the desired types and timeframes of facilities to be developed over the next five to twenty years. The following schedule is based upon the priorities established for the various facilities/features as well as the objective to keep community interest and funding momentum by striving to develop or acquire land every couple of years. When budgeting for the construction of improvements, it is important to include the costs associated with the maintenance and staffing of the additional facilities.

Two different strategies were discussed for the 5 Year Plan. Initially, the proposed recreation center would be first since it was a priority item within the community survey results. However, a second strategy would start with the Baldwin Park improvements, followed by the Recreation Center. For the purposes of this report, we will utilize the second strategy for the phasing of park improvements.

Consideration was also given to the phasing of specific features, such as the soccer fields, due to their need to be constructed in one location before being removed from another. This phasing affects soccer fields, ballfields, swimming pool, skatepark, tennis courts, and basketball courts.

Year 1 – Design Baldwin Park improvements. Develop master plans for the Recreation Center and Aquatic Center.

Year 2 – Construct Baldwin Park improvements and relocate youth soccer to White Park for an interim period within the existing ballfield (this is a temporary location until White Park is fully redeveloped following the construction of the Aquatic Center).

Year 3 – Design Recreation Center.

Year 4 – Construct Recreation Center.

Year 5-10 – Design and construct Aquatic Center. This allows for the retirement of the existing swimming pool which will be nearing the end of its usability.

Year 11-15 – Design and construct White Park.

Year 16-20 – Reassess priorities and determine next steps.

## **2.3 Phases of Development with Probable Construction Costs**

Probable construction costs are based on Spring 2022 dollars and rounded up to account for probable contingencies. These figures are only probable since the expense of associated infrastructure improvements such as utilities or streets are not included in the dollar amounts given. It is recommended that the phasing be updated annually to review and assess priorities and revise projected costs. Refer to Appendix F for Opinion of Probable Construction Cost.

## **2.4 Potential Land Acquisition**

Although some development typically begins with the acquisition of land, much of the vision can be accomplished within the existing properties. The city has recently acquired property for a Recreation Center and a future Aquatic Center, both located along West Hadley Street. Other potential property acquisitions include acquiring floodplain property between South Carnation Avenue and White Park for potential future additional soccer fields, restroom and associated parking.

## **2.5 Final Concepts**

The images on the following pages are the result of the input from the community survey as well as meetings with the staff, park board, city council and community members. These concepts will guide the park site development into the future. The conceptual layout is based on aerial images and USGS contours. Prior to development, each property will need a full boundary and topographic survey. The actual surveyed conditions will vary from the information utilized for the conceptual layout. Therefore, the engineered design will also vary from the concept plans but will be spatially relative to the concepts depicted below.

Figure 1. Baldwin Park Final Concept Plan

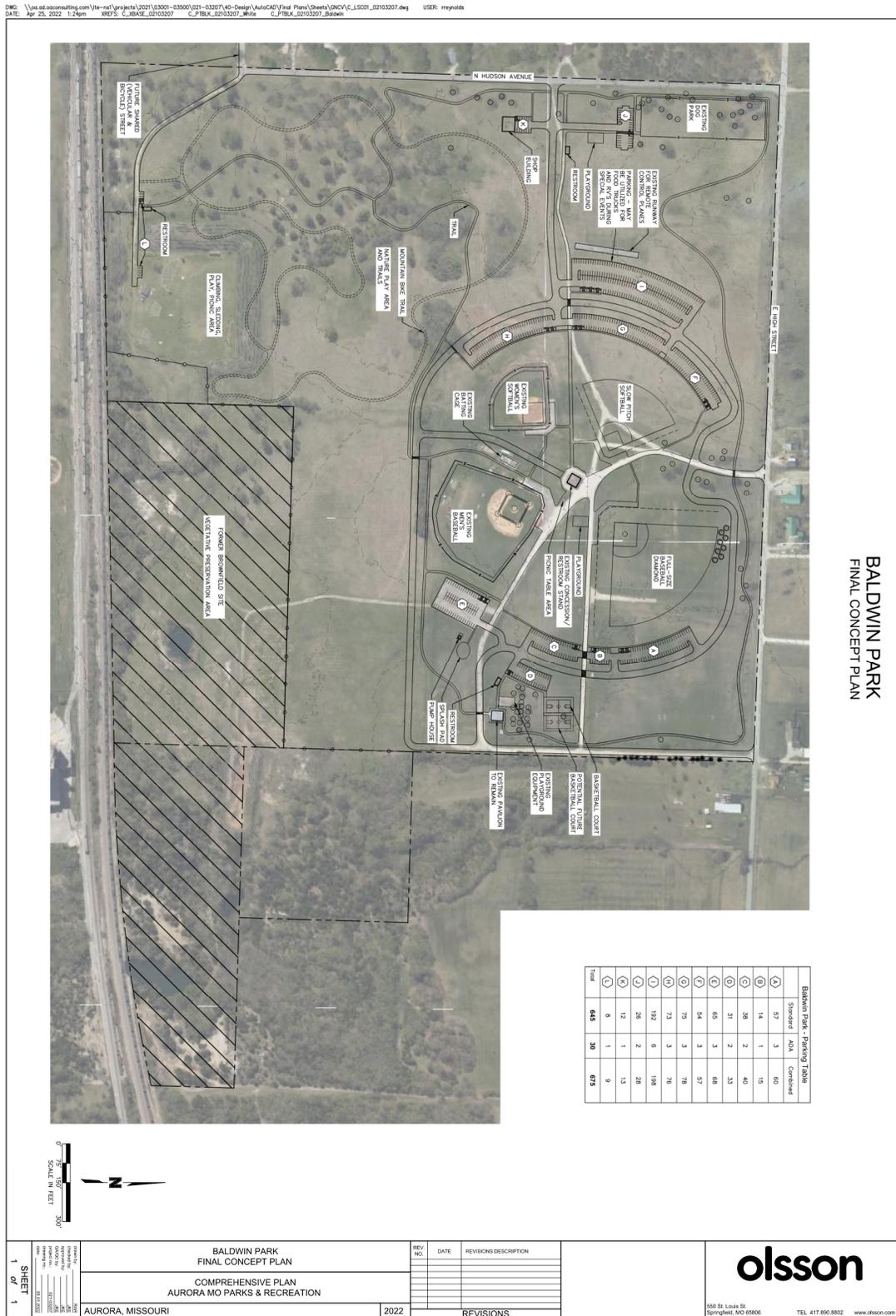
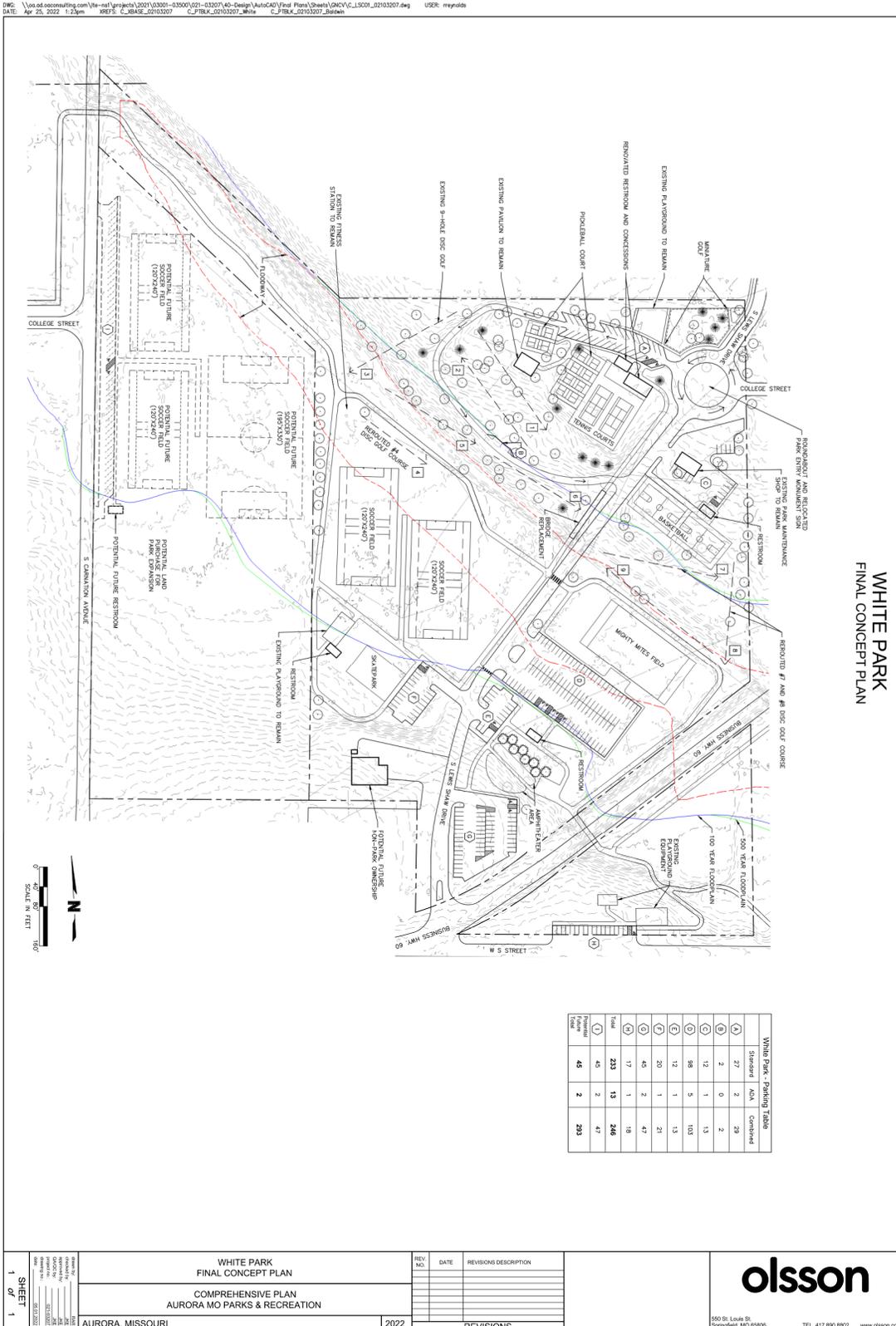


Figure 2. White Park Final Concept Plan



## **3. PARK AND FACILITY ASSESSMENT**

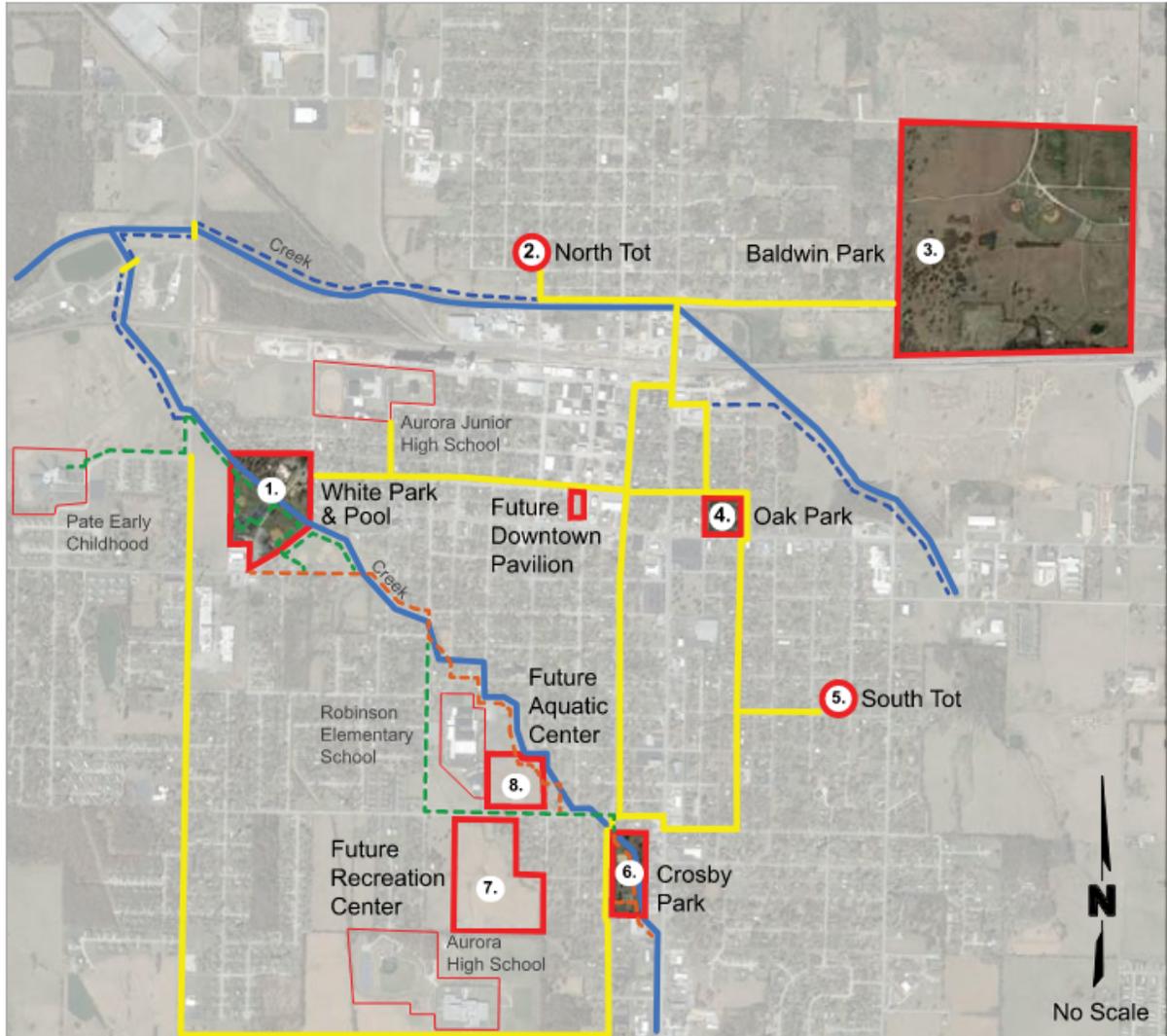
### **3.1 Overview**

The park system consists of six existing park properties that occupy approximately 207 acres of land providing 28± acres per 1,000 people (the 2020 census indicated 7,432 people within the city limits). Refer to the Park Locations and Trails map on the following page for park locations. The parks are in various stages of development and provide both passive and active recreation opportunities. As depicted on the following map, there are existing and proposed trails within the community, located primarily within the riparian corridors, and to provide pedestrian connections between parks and schools. The future routing will utilize a combination of on-street bike routes and paved shared use paths. Currently 2.25± miles of paved shared use paths have been developed, 0.55± miles are planned, and 2± miles are proposed for the future plus on-street bike routes.

This chapter takes a detailed look at the following components:

- Park Site Assessment
- Park Design Principles

Figure 3. Park Locations and Trails Map



## PARK LOCATIONS AND TRAILS MAP

### Park Property

1. White Park & Pool
2. North Tot
3. Baldwin Park
4. Oak Park
5. South Tot
6. Crosby Park
7. Future Recreation Center
8. Future Aquatic Center

### Trail Key

- Creek
- Existing Trail Route 1 ---
- Planned Trail Route 2 ---
- Future Trail ---
- Future Street Bike Lane & Sidewalk ---

## 3.2 Park Site Assessment

### 3.2.1 Park Inventory

In order to understand the current state of the park system, an inventory was made of the six developed park properties and their facilities. Park Inventory sheets are within this Chapter and include the site strengths, weaknesses, recommendations, existing facilities and planned capital improvement projects. The inventory was completed by a landscape architect with formal education and experience in park design. Additionally, an aerial view exhibit each park is included on the page following the inventory.

It should be noted that a significant recent storm events occurred in 2021 that damaged many of the facilities within White Park. The damage included: erosion, debris, electrical issues, damaged fencing/netting, undermined and buckled pavement, etc. The cost of the repairs may delay other planned improvements.

### 3.2.2 Park Rating Criteria

Each park's condition was rated using a scale of excellent, good, fair or poor. Of the six properties within the park system, two rated good, two rated fair, and two rated as poor. These ratings were after the 2021 storm damage. Definitions for each rating category are as follows:

**Excellent** is reserved for those parks that are state-of-the-art in both construction and design. These parks will not require any major repairs or modernization for at least ten years. Very little leeway is given for imperfections such as peeling paint, graffiti, rust or inadequate play area surfacing, etc.

**Good** is a rating given to those parks whose design and amenities are strong in appearance but are showing the normal wear and tear expected throughout a park system. Maintenance appears to be regular, the grass is mowed, play area surfacing is kept at an acceptable depth and free of weeds, structures are painted and major repairs or renovation is at least five years away.

**Fair** is a rating in which the property itself may very well be attractive but the amenities are in a state of decline. Maintenance is less frequent or at least cannot turn back the clock on normal decline. Some maintenance issues may be compounding over time due to being deferred because of budget and/or resource limitations. Play equipment is still safe but may be rusting, bleaching or covered with mildew; structures such as restroom buildings are in need of repairs such as paint, shingles; ball fields are playable but the infields are grass covered creating a hazard, fencing is warped or rusting, dug-outs are undersized or may flood when it rains and

bleachers are not shaded. These parks need major repairs or renovation within two to five years.

**Poor** is a rating for which the park and its amenities, as a whole, are at the end of their life cycle. Typically, a park in poor condition is not well maintained. Maintenance issues with these facilities are the result of age and heavy use, and generally are compounding over time due to being deferred because of budget and/or resource limitations. Facilities may feature significant issues that contribute to diminished use or maintenance (i.e. drainage, structural, utilities, etc.). The amenities are out of date and in many cases are unsafe or fail to meet current codes. These parks need rebuilding following a new master plan as soon as it can be scheduled.

### 3.2.3 Classification of Parks by Type

In the Parks and Recreation Profession, parks are categorized by type. In Aurora, the park types that are currently used include: mini parks, neighborhood parks, community parks, and regional parks with some special use area, and natural/resource/conservation areas.

Descriptions of each type of park follow:

**Mini Parks** serve a unique role by providing a small park/open space amenities throughout the community. They typically range in size from 1 to 5 acres and include basic amenities for picnicking or benches for seating. There is typically little to no parking. There are two mini parks in Aurora: North Tot and South Tot.

**Neighborhood Parks** are intended to be accessible by adjacent neighborhoods and should focus on meeting recreational needs, as well as preserving small open spaces. They are not intended to be used for programmed activities that result in overuse, noise, parking problems and congestion. They may occur in conjunction with a school site. They should be geared for those living within the service area. A Neighborhood Park accommodates a variety of ages including children, adults and seniors. These parks are usually smaller than 15 acres in size and are developed centrally within the neighborhood to encompass ½ mile service radius. Neighborhood Parks primarily facilitate recreational activities including play structures, sitting areas and open space. Ideally, these parks are linked to the neighborhood and to each other by a pathway system and respond to the need for basic recreational amenities close to home. There are two neighborhood parks in Aurora: Cosby Park and Oak Park.

**Community Parks** are larger in size and serve a broader purpose than neighborhood parks. Their focus is on meeting the recreation needs of several neighborhoods or large sections of the community as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. They allow for group activities and offer other recreational opportunities not feasible, nor desirable, at the neighborhood level. As with neighborhood parks, community parks should be developed for both active and passive recreation activities. These parks are typically 16 to 50 acres in size

with a service radius of approximately 2 miles. Design features might include large play structures, informal fields for youth play, tennis courts, volleyball courts, shuffleboard courts, horseshoe areas, swimming pools, disc golf, trails, group picnic areas, open space and unique landscapes/features, nature study areas, ornamental gardens and facilities for cultural activities such as plays and concerts in the park. There is one community park in Aurora: White Park.

**Regional Parks** serve a larger purpose than community parks. Regional parks are larger and have more amenities than community parks and will attract users for longer periods of time due to their size and features. Regional parks will typically include features which lend themselves to neighborhood level and community level activities such as playgrounds, shelters, walking trails and athletic facilities, but also include large acres of passive land. This land may be conservation and un-programmed spaces. They are typically over 50 acres in size. There is one regional park in Aurora: Baldwin Park.

**Special Use Parks/Areas** are designed to serve a particular community recreational need, such as a skateboard facility, a natural resource based trails park, an equestrian center, a sports complex, a dog area, an amphitheater or performing arts facility, or an off-highway vehicle park. They range in size from one half acre to 640 acres or more, depending on the special purpose. Alternative recreation areas are designed to complement and serve the special needs of a given residential subdivision project and/or its surrounding area. The special use areas in Aurora include the skatepark facility within White Park, and the recently constructed dog park within Baldwin Park.

**Natural Resource/Conservation Areas** are areas that have been set aside in order to prevent development, thus conserving the natural character of the site and providing an educational opportunity. A portion of Baldwin Park is being set aside as a conservation area.

**School Parks** combine City-owned parks with school sites and fulfill the space requirements for other types of close-to-home parks. The use of the park will be limited to the school district during its hours of operation and the City shall have full use of the park for recreational purposes at all other times. Aurora does not currently have this park type. Consider this park type in future park development.

**Linear Parks/Greenways** park-like features developed along watercourses and/or road rights-of-ways, and are intended to provide recreation and fitness opportunities, as well as alternative modes of transportation such hiking, biking, horseback riding, canoeing, etc. Aurora is currently developing a pedestrian and bike trail system in the community that will fall into this category. Refer to the Park Locations and Trails map for the locations of existing and proposed shared used paths.

### 3.2.4 Greenways and Trails

Greenways are corridors of linear open space managed for conservation, recreation, and alternative transportation. They follow linear landscape features such as rivers, streams, canals, railroads, utility easements or country roads. The purpose of a greenway is to link parks, nature preserves, cultural features, historic sites and town centers with each other and with communities, while improving air and water quality. Furthermore, it is to link these places or destinations together through a system of trails at both a local and regional scale.

Trails are paths used for walking, bicycling, rollerblading, horseback riding or alternative transportation. Greenways often include trails, pathways, boardwalks, bicycle paths and bicycle lanes from rural to urban areas. As a greenway transitions from the suburbs to the town it may change from a dirt path to an asphalt trail to a bike lane that is part of existing roadway. All of these can be segments of the same greenway.

Greenways and trails provide outdoor recreation activities, like walking, bicycling, rollerblading, and wildlife observation. Many of these outdoor facilities promote fitness and healthier lifestyle. Greenways allow people an opportunity to experience and learn about natural areas, which in turn benefits conservation efforts. They also provide people with an alternative transportation option that make communities more livable.

Greenways are an integral component of a great park system. They provide opportunities to mitigate loss of open space due to development and offer passive recreation areas that exist in linear patterns. They link parks, provide pedestrian access, and connect natural conservation areas and wildlife habitats.

# White Park

## City of Aurora Parks and Recreation

Overall Rating: Fair

Size: 21.3± acres

### 1: Strengths

Located at 302 S Lewis Shaw Drive, White Park is a historic park that provides a central location with high-use amenities. Being within the central park of the community it is within walking distance from many of the residential areas. It should be noted that the community recognizes that the staff do a good job maintaining the park (such as mowing, painting, and minor repairs).

### 2: Weaknesses

There is a recurring flood damage problem within the park due to the location of park facilities within the FEMA floodway. The existing facilities are aging and need to be replaced or relocated. Current facilities do not meet ADA standards, although staff is in the process of correcting some of the accessibility issues. Current recreation activities are outside and are primarily limited to warm months.

### 3: Recommendations

- Utilize the conceptual master plan for White Park, and the timeline within the 5-Year Vision to replace/relocate existing facilities to address flooding problems (baseball and softball field fencing; low area facilities like tennis courts, skatepark, and baseball fields and concession stand; and the pedestrian underpass at Business Route 60), and to address the life cycle needs of various facilities.
- Continue to update facilities and paths of travel to meet ADA standards.

### 4: Existing Facilities

- Playground Equipment, Composite
- Playground Equipment, Jungle Gym
- Playground Equipment, Swings
- Playground Equipment, Misc.
- Swimming Pool
  - Pool Slide

- Pool Rockwall
- Low Diving Boards (2)
- Splash Pad
- Pool Recliners (25)
- Bathhouse
- Baseball Fields, Lighted (3)
- Sand Volleyball Court, Lighted
- Basketball Court, Full
- Pickleball Courts (4)
- Tennis Courts (5)
- Tennis Wall
- Skate Park - 7 Pieces
- Disc Golf - 9 Holes
- Workout Stations W/ Equipment (5)
- Walking Trail
- Pedestrian Underpass
- Pavilion W/ Electric
- Concession Stand
- Bathrooms (2)
- Maintenance Building

#### Other

- Scoreboards (3)
- Bleachers (4)
- Benches (24)
- Bench Swings (2)
- Picnic Tables (5)
- Concrete Picnic Tables (7)
- Brick BBQ Pit
- Water Fountains (4)
- Dog Water Fountain
- Bike Racks

- Dog Waste Stations (2)

#### 5: Planned Capital Improvement Projects

- Future – As a part of this Comprehensive Plan, a conceptual master plan has been developed for White Park that includes relocation of some facilities and development of others. Refer to the Conceptual Master Plan on page 8.

Figure 4. White Park

**Existing Facilities**

1. Playground Equipment, Composite
2. Playground Equipment, Jungle Gym
3. Playground Equipment, Swings
4. Playground Equipment, Misc.
5. Swimming Pool
6. Bathhouse
7. Baseball Fields, Lighted (3)
8. Sand Volleyball Court, Lighted
9. Basketball Court, Full
10. Pickleball Courts (4)
11. Tennis Courts (5)
12. Tennis Wall
13. Skate Park - 7 Pieces
14. Disc Golf - 9 Holes
15. Workout Stations W/ Equipment (5)
16. Walking Trail
17. Pedestrian Underpass
18. Pavilion W/ Electric
19. Concession Stand
20. Bathrooms (2)
21. Maintenance Building

**Other**

- Scoreboards (3)
- Bleachers (4)
- Benches (24)
- Bench Swings (2)
- Picnic Tables (5)
- Concrete Picnic Tables (7)
- Brick BBQ Pit
- Water Fountains (4)
- Dog Water Fountain
- Bike Racks
- Dog Waste Stations (2)



**WHITE PARK**

# Baldwin Park

## City of Aurora Parks and Recreation

Overall Rating: Good

Size: 177.4± acres

### 1: Strengths

Located at E. High Street & N. Hudson Avenue, the park has ample room for the expansion of facilities. Community input has suggested this would be a good location for a sports complex to host tournaments plus other amenities to provide recreational interest for all ages.

A dog park was recently constructed at the intersection of High & Hudson.

### 2: Weaknesses

Current facilities do not meet ADA standards, although staff is in the process of correcting some of the accessibility issues.

Access from the central portion of the community requires crossing the railroad.

### 3: Recommendations

- Utilize the conceptual master plan for Baldwin Park, and the timeline within the 5-Year Vision to replace/relocate existing facilities in conjunction with improvements at the other park properties.
- Continue to update facilities and paths of travel to meet ADA standards.

### 4: Existing Facilities

- Playground Equipment, Jungle Gym
- Playground Equipment, Swings
- Baseball Field
- Softball Field
- Batting Cages
- Soccer Fields (6)
- Dog Park
- Shooting Range
- Press Box

- Pavilion With Electric
- Concession Stand
- Bathrooms
- Portable Toilets (2)

Other

- Scoreboards (2)
- Bleachers (3)
- Benches (2)
- Aluminum Benches (2)
- Picnic Table (4)
- Grill

5: Planned Capital Improvement Projects

- Future - As a part of this Comprehensive Plan, a conceptual master plan has been developed for Baldwin Park that includes relocation of some facilities and development of others. Refer to the Conceptual Master Plan on page 7.

Figure 5. Baldwin Park

**Existing Facilities**

1. Playground Equipment, Jungle Gym
2. Playground Equipment, Swings
3. Baseball Field
4. Softball Field
5. Batting Cages
6. Soccer Fields (6)
7. Dog Park
8. Shooting Range
9. Press Box
10. Pavilion With Electric
11. Concession Stand
12. Bathrooms
13. Portable Toilets (2)

**Other**

- Scoreboards (2)
- Bleachers (3)
- Benches (2)
- Aluminum Benches (2)
- Picnic Table (4)
- Grill



# Oak Park

## City of Aurora Parks and Recreation

Overall Rating: Good

Size: 2.5±

### 1: Strengths

Located at E. Church Street & S. Park Avenue, this park is a good example of a neighborhood park and contains a nice mix of facilities as well as shaded open space.

### 2: Weaknesses

Some of the existing facilities are aging and need to be replaced. A portion of the facilities do not meet ADA standards, although staff is in the process of correcting some of the accessibility issues.

Connectivity is needed between the amenities within the park.

Many of trees have the same maturity and will decline at the same time. A diversity of maturity and species are needed to sustain the urban forest into the future.

### 3: Recommendations

- Consider improvements to the bandstand that will preserve its historic look yet provide access for all users
- Plant diverse tree species over the next 10 years.
- Continue to update facilities and paths of travel to meet ADA standards.

### 4: Existing Facilities

- Playground Equipment, Composite
- Playground Equipment, Swings
- Playground Equipment, Accessible Swing
- Playground Equipment, Wheelchair Swing
- Playground Equipment, Misc.
- Basketball Court, Half
- Pavilion (2)
- Gazebo/Bandstand

- Bathroom

Other

- Bench
- Concrete Picnic Tables (4)
- Metal Picnic Tables (8)
- Grill (2)

5: Planned Capital Improvement Projects

- Future – Bandstand Improvements.

Figure 6. Oak Park

**Existing Facilities**

1. Playground Equipment, Composite
2. Playground Equipment, Swings
3. Playground Equipment, Accessible Swing
4. Playground Equipment, Wheelchair Swing
5. Playground Equipment, Misc.
6. Basketball Court, Half
7. Pavilion (2)
8. Gazebo
9. Bathroom

**Other**

- Bench
- Concrete Picnic Tables (4)
- Metal Picnic Tables (8)
- Grill (2)



**OAK PARK**

# Cosby Park

## City of Aurora Parks and Recreation

Overall Rating: Fair

Size: 5.2± acres

### 1: Strengths

Located at S. Jefferson Avenue & Euclid Street, this park is another good example of a neighborhood park based on its location and usage. It has a nice variety of amenities.

### 2: Weaknesses

Some of the existing facilities are aging and need to be replaced. Current facilities do not meet ADA standards, although staff is in the process of correcting some of the accessibility issues.

### 3: Recommendations

- Budget for the replacement of facilities based on anticipated life cycle.
- Continue to update facilities and paths of travel to meet ADA standards.

### 4: Existing Facilities

- Playground Equipment, Composite
- Playground Equipment, Jungle Gym
- Playground Equipment, Swings
- Playground Equipment, Misc.
- Ball Field
- Sand Volleyball Court, Lighted
- Horseshoe Pit
- Pavilion (4)
- Bathroom

### Other

- Bench Swings (2)
- Picnic Table (10)
- Concrete Picnic Table (2)

- Grill
- Water Fountain

#### 5: Planned Capital Improvement Projects

- Future – Restroom renovation or replacement.

Figure 7. Crosby Park

**Existing Facilities**

- 1. Playground Equipment, Composite
- 2. Playground Equipment, Jungle Gym
- 3. Playground Equipment, Swings
- 4. Playground Equipment, Misc.
- 5. Ball Field
- 6. Sand Volleyball Court, Lighted
- 7. Pavilion (4)
- 8. Bathroom

**Other**

- Bench Swings (2)
- Picnic Table (10)
- Concrete Picnic Table (2)
- Grill
- Water Fountain
- Horseshoe Pit



**CROSBY PARK**

# North Tot

## City of Aurora Parks and Recreation

Overall Rating: Poor

Size: 0.5± acre

### 1: Strengths

Located at Morgan Avenue & Cofield Street, this park serves as good location for a mini park that allows for the neighborhood to have access without crossing a major street.

### 2: Weaknesses

Although staff has provided maintenance, the existing facilities are aging and need to be replaced or renovated. Current facilities do not meet ADA standards.

### 3: Recommendations

- Budget for the replacement of facilities.
- Update facilities and paths of travel to meet ADA standards.

### 4: Existing Facilities

- Playground Equipment, Swings
- Playground Equipment, Misc.
- Basketball Court, Half

#### Other

- Bench (2)
- Bench Swing

### 5: Planned Capital Improvement Projects

- Future – Replacement of facilities.

Figure 8. North Tot

**Existing Facilities**

1. Playground Equipment, Swings
2. Playground Equipment, Misc.
3. Basketball Court, Half

**Other**

- Bench (2)
- Bench Swing



**NORTH TOT**

# South Tot

## City of Aurora Parks and Recreation

Overall Rating: Poor

Size: 0.5± acres

### 1: Strengths

Located at Pearl Street & Porter Avenue, this park serves as good location for a mini park that allows for the neighborhood to have access without crossing a major street or railroad.

### 2: Weaknesses

Although staff has provided maintenance, the existing facilities are aging and need to be replaced or renovated. Current facilities do not meet ADA standards.

### 3: Recommendations

- Budget for the replacement of facilities.
- Update facilities and paths of travel to meet ADA standards.

### 4: Existing Facilities

- Playground Equipment, Composite
- Playground Equipment, Swings
- Basketball Court, Half

#### Other

- Bench
- Picnic Table
- Grill

### 5: Planned Capital Improvement Projects

- Future - Replacement of facilities.

Figure 9. South Tot

**Existing Facilities**

1. Playground Equipment, Composite
2. Playground Equipment, Swings
3. Basketball Court, Half

**Other**

- Bench
- Picnic Table
- Grill



**SOUTH TOT**

# Future Recreation Center

## City of Aurora Parks and Recreation

Overall Rating: not applicable

Size: 25± acres

Located at 126 W. Hadley Street, this property is located between Robinson School and the High School.

### 1: Strengths

Not applicable.

### 2: Weaknesses

Not applicable.

### 3: Recommendations

Care will need to be given during the design to address the low-lying areas that are prone to stormwater flow. This is an opportunity to address existing storm drainage conditions in this area.

### 4: Existing Facilities

Not applicable.

### 5: Planned Capital Improvement Projects

- Upcoming – Development of an indoor Recreation Center.

Figure 10. Future Recreation Center

**Existing Facilities**

- 1. Undeveloped

**Planned Capital Improvements**

- 1. Recreation Center
- 2. Storm Drainage Improvements
- 3. Pedestrian Connections to Neighborhood, Schools, and Trail



**FUTURE RECREATION CENTER**

# Future Aquatic Center

## City of Aurora Parks and Recreation

Overall Rating: Not applicable

Size: 10± acres

### 1: Strengths

Located at 125 W. Hadley Street, this property is adjacent to Robinson School and will be across the street from the upcoming Recreation Center.

### 2: Weaknesses

Not applicable.

### 3: Recommendations

Care will need to be given during the design to address the low-lying areas that are prone to stormwater flow. This is an opportunity to address existing storm drainage conditions in this area.

### 4: Existing Facilities

Not applicable.

### 5: Planned Capital Improvement Projects

- Future – Construction of a new Aquatic Center to replace the aging existing swimming pool.

Figure 11. Future Aquatic Center

**Existing Facilities**

- 1. Undeveloped

**Planned Capital Improvements**

- 1. Aquatic Center
- 2. Trail Extension
- 3. Storm Drainage Improvements



**FUTURE AQUATIC CENTER**

# Future Downtown Pavilion

## City of Aurora Parks and Recreation

Overall Rating: Not applicable

Size: 1.16± acres

### 1: Strengths

Located at College Street & Madison Avenue, this across the street from City Hall.

### 2: Weaknesses

Not applicable.

### 3: Recommendations

Not applicable.

### 4: Existing Facilities

Not applicable.

### 5: Planned Capital Improvement Projects

- Future – Downtown Pavilion and associated parking, sidewalk, and bike lanes.

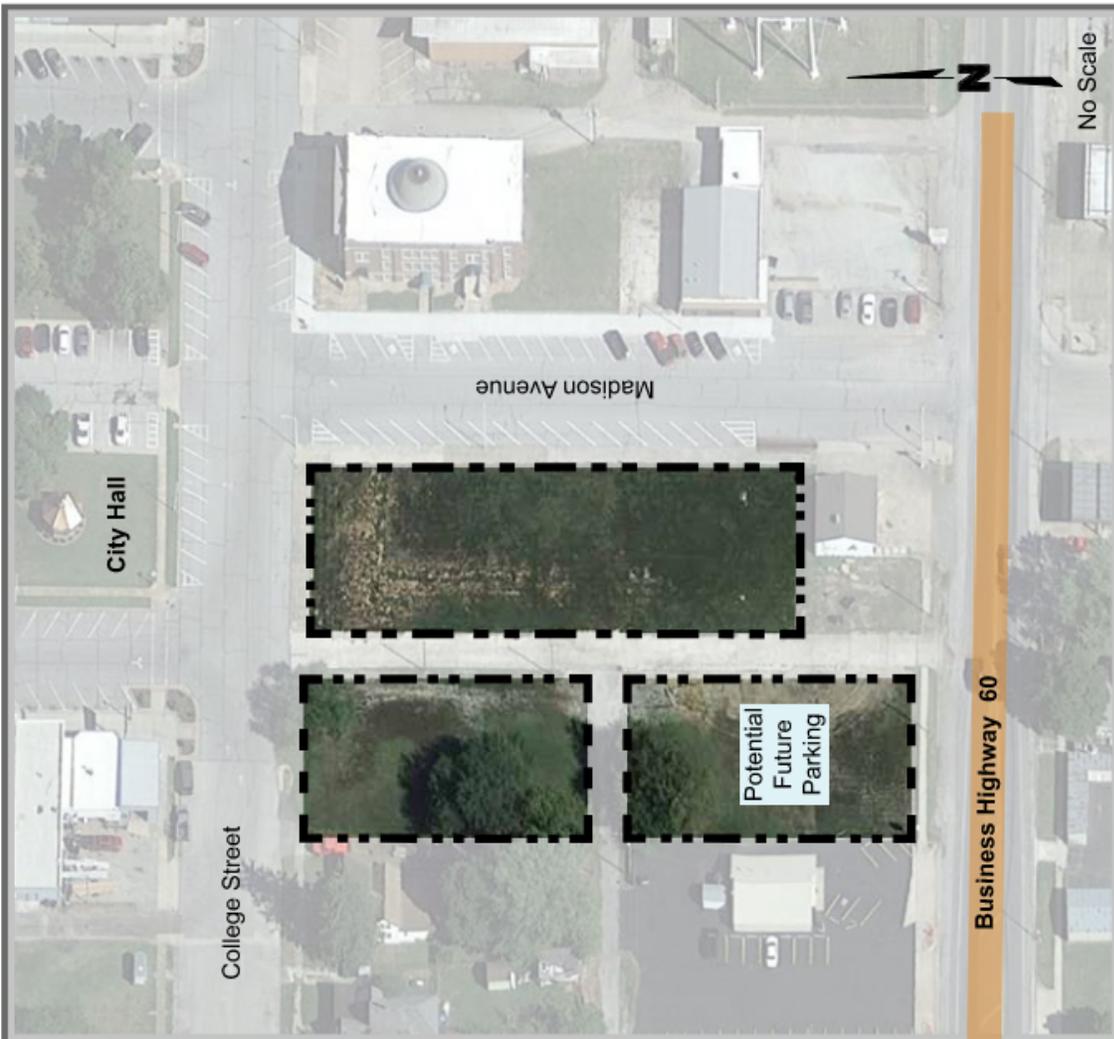
Figure 12. Future Downtown Pavilion

**Existing Facilities**

- 1. Undeveloped

**Planned Capital Improvements**

- 1. Pavilion
- 2. Pedestrian and Bicycle Connections to Neighborhood
- 3. Off-street Parking



**FUTURE DOWNTOWN PAVILION**

# Overall Park System

## City of Aurora Parks and Recreation

Size: 207.4± total existing park acres, plus 35± acres for upcoming facilities

### 1: Strengths

Overall, the park system has received good maintenance by staff. As noted within the community survey and public meetings, the citizens greatly appreciate the efforts of the park staff and their ability to provide much of the work in-house.

### 2: Weaknesses

The community recognizes that more staff are needed for continued maintenance, especially as the park system is expanded. Many of the facilities are nearing the end of their life cycle and need to be replaced, and other facilities need to be relocated. Although staff is in the process of addressing issues to come into compliance with ADA standards, many non-compliant items will require the renovation or replacement of facilities. These items should be a part of the annual budget to allow continued progress toward full compliance. Additionally, recreation activities are currently all outside and are limited to warm months.

Based on Aurora's comparison to typical park facility standards and the population documented within the 2020 census, the following additional facilities should be considered to meet the needs of the community:

- 2.7 acres of mini parks – This acreage should be distributed in the various quadrants of the city for ease of access via walking/biking without crossing a major street or rail corridor. Consider the acquisition of undeveloped lots or other lots the city already owns to meet this need. The development of the downtown pavilion property may help fill a portion of this need.
- 0 acres of neighborhood parks – Oak Park and Crosby Park currently meet the needs of the community. However, as Aurora continues to grow outward additional property should be reserved for neighborhood parks within the growth areas.
- 0 acres of community parks – Given the current acquisition of property for the upcoming Recreation Center, and the future Aquatic Center, no additional property acquisition is needed for this category.
- 0 acres of regional parks – There is ample existing acreage within Baldwin Park to accommodate the continued growth of the community.

- 1.5 miles of multi-use trail – Although approximately 0.5 miles is in the planning stages, another mile should be added. Given the timeline needed to coordinate crossings with MoDOT and the Railroad, the city is encouraged to begin discussion with these entities in the near future.

However, the results of the community survey and feedback from other stakeholders should be considered before a final decision is made on expanding and adding facilities.

### 3: Recommendations

- Develop a recreational center that provides indoor facilities.
- Develop recreational programming to be managed by local staff.
- Budget for facility improvements based on life cycle needs.
- Continue to update facilities and paths of travel to meet ADA standards.

### 4: Existing Facilities

- Refer to previous park inventory pages.

### 5: Planned Capital Improvement Projects

- Refer to previous park inventory pages as well as the five-year vision.

### 6: Storm Damage

- As mentioned within the park inventory pages: relocate facilities out of the floodway, limit the types of facilities within the floodplain, and design new facilities to alleviate current storm drainage issues while also planning for higher intensity storm events in the future.

## 3.3 Park Design Principles

This section provides information on park design principles to assist with long-term parkland planning and to help ensure that the Aurora park system reflects an appropriate balance of park types, features, and amenities. It builds on the current park inventory information presented in the previous section.

When developing design principles for parks it is important that each park be programmed, planned, and designed to meet the needs of its service area and classification within the overall park and recreation system. The term programming, when used in the context of planning and developing parkland, refers to a list of uses and facilities and does not always include staff-managed recreation programs. The program for a site can include such elements as ball fields, spray parks, shelters, restrooms, game courts, trails, natural resource stewardship, open

meadows, nature preserves, or interpretive areas. These types of amenities are categorized as lead or support amenities. The needs of the park's population it serves must be considered and accommodated at each type of park.

Park Design Principles in this document will apply to existing and future parks needing Master Plans.

Every park, regardless of type, needs to have an established set of outcomes. Park planners will then design to those outcomes, including operational and maintenance costs associated with the design outcomes.

Each park classification category serves a specific purpose. Features and facilities in the park must be designed for the number of age segments the park is intended to serve, the desired length of stay deemed appropriate, and the uses it has been assigned. Recreation needs and services require different design standards based on the age segments that make up the community that will be using the park. A varying number of age segments will be accommodated with the park program depending on the classification of the park. The age segments are:

- Ages 2-5
- Ages 6-8
- Ages 9-12
- Ages 13-17
- Ages 18-24
- Ages 25-34
- Ages 35-44
- Ages 45-54
- Ages 55-64
- Ages 65-75
- Ages 76+

### 3.3.1 Definitions Used in the Park Design Principles

**Land Use:** This term represents the percentage of space identified for either passive use or active use in a park. A park master plan needs to follow land use recommendations.

**Recreation Programming:** The site can include active programming opportunities or passive use. Active means it is organized and planned with pre-registration by the user. Examples of active programming include sports leagues, day camps, and aquatics.

**Maintenance Standards:** Three maintenance levels are generally defined. The difference between the three levels is equal to the frequency of maintenance as determined by funding availability. Maintenance Standards have the following general characteristics, but may be modified throughout the year depending upon usage patterns and facility or landscape conditions:

- **Level 1 Maintenance** – High profile areas where the entire area is visible to foot traffic such as entrances to community centers, signature facilities, and areas where funding permits a higher level of maintenance. Example of maintenance activities include mowing and edging twice per week, 95% turf coverage at start of season with 5% weeds and 0% bare area, tree pruning cycle once annually, litter pickup daily.
- **Level 2 Maintenance** – Moderate to heavy use typical of most parks. Example maintenance activities include mowing and edging once per week, 88% turf coverage at start of season with 8% weeds and 4% bare area, tree pruning cycle every seven years, litter pickup at least three times per week.
- **Level 3 Maintenance** – Typical for low usage parks or when funding is limited. Example maintenance activities include mowing and edging every 14 days, 80% turf coverage at start of season with 20% weeds, tree pruning cycle every 10 years, litter pickup at least once per week.

In areas where turf does not impact quality of experience (i.e., dog parks) or non-landscaped open space areas, demand-based maintenance is provided according to funding availability.

**Park/Facility Classifications:** Includes Neighborhood Park, Community Park, Regional Park, Sports Complex Facility, Special Use Park/Facility, Greenbelts/Trails/Paseos, and Open Space/Natural Area.

**Revenue Facilities:** These include facilities where a fee is assessed to use them. The fee will be in the form of an access fee, player fee, team fee, or permit fee. These could include pools, golf courses, tennis courts, recreation centers, sport field complexes, concession facilities, hospitality centers, shelters that are reserved, outdoor or indoor theatre spaces, and special event spaces.

**Signature Facility/Amenity:** This is an enhanced facility or amenity viewed by the community as deserving of special recognition due to its design, location, function, natural resources, etc.

Design Principles for each park classification follow.

### 3.3.2 Neighborhood Park

A neighborhood park is considered to be three to 15 acres; however, some neighborhood parks are determined by use and facilities offered and not by size alone. The service radius for a

neighborhood park is one half mile or six blocks. Neighborhood parks will have safe pedestrian access for surrounding residents; parking may or may not be included but if included accounts for less than ten cars and provides for ADA access. Neighborhood parks serve the recreation and social focus of the adjoining neighborhoods and contribute to a distinct neighborhood identity.

- Size of park: Three to 15 acres (usable area measured). Preferred size is eight acres.
- Service radius: 0.5-mile radius.
- Site Selection: On a local or collector street. If near an arterial street, provide natural or artificial barrier. Where possible, next to a school. Encourage location to link subdivisions and linked by trails to other parks.
- Length of stay: One hour experience or less.
- Amenities: One signature amenity (i.e., major playground, spray ground park, sport court, gazebo); no restrooms are necessary unless there is a signature amenity; may include one non-programmed sports field; playground for ages 2-5 and 5-12 with some shaded elements; no shelters that can be reserved; loop trails; one type of sport court; no non-producing/unused amenities; benches, small picnic shelters next to play areas. Amenities are ADA compliant.
- Landscape Design: Appropriate design to enhance the park theme/use/experience.
- Revenue facilities: none.
- Land use: 85% active/15% passive.
- Programming: Typically none, but a signature amenity may be included which is programmed.
- Maintenance Standards: Provide the highest-level maintenance standard with available funding. Seek a goal of Level 2 maintenance. Some amenities may require Level 1 maintenance.
- Signage: Directional signs and facility/amenity regulations to enhance user experience.
- Parking: Design will include widened on-street parking area adjacent to park. Goal is to maximize usable park space. As necessary, provide 5-10 spaces within park including handicap spaces. Traffic calming devices encouraged next to park.
- Lighting: Security or amenity only. Lighting on dual system with 50% of lights off at a set time and 50% on all night for security.
- Naming: Consistent with the town's ordinances for naming of parks, or may be named after a prominent or historic person, event, or natural landmark.
- Other: Customized to demographics of neighborhood; safety design meets established CPTED standards; integrated color scheme throughout.

### 3.3.3 Community Park

Community parks are intended to be accessible to multiple neighborhoods and will focus on meeting community-based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. Community parks are generally larger in scale than neighborhood parks, but smaller than regional parks. They are designed typically for residents who live within a three-mile radius. When possible, the park may be developed adjacent to a school. Community parks provide recreation opportunities for the entire family and often contain facilities for specific recreation purposes: athletic fields, swimming pool, tennis courts, an extreme sports amenity, recreation center, loop trails, picnic areas, picnic shelters that can be reserved, sports courts, permanent restrooms, large turf and landscaped areas, and a playground or spray ground. Passive outdoor recreation activities such as meditation, quiet reflection, and wildlife watching also take place in community parks.

Community parks generally range from 15 to 50 acres depending on the community.

Community parks serve a larger area – radius of one to three miles and contain more recreation amenities than a neighborhood park.

- Size of park: 15 to 50 acres normally. Can be up to 100 acres (usable area measured).
- Service radius: One to three mile radius.
- Site Selection: On two collector streets minimum and preferably one arterial street. If near an arterial street, a natural or artificial barrier is provided. Minimal number of residences abutting site. Preference is streets on four sides, or three sides with school or municipal use on the fourth side. Encourage trail linkage to other parks.
- Length of stay: Two to three hour experience.
- Amenities: Four signature amenities at a minimum: (i.e., trails, sports fields, large shelters/pavilions, community playground for ages 2-5 and 5-12 with some shaded elements, recreation center, pool for family aquatic center, sports courts, water feature); public restrooms, ample parking, and security lighting. Amenities are ADA compliant. Sport fields and sport complexes are typical at this park.
- Revenue facilities: One or more (i.e., pool, sports complex, pavilion).
- Land use: 65% active and 35% passive.
- Programming: Minimum of four essential program services (i.e., sports, day camps, aquatics).
- Maintenance Standards: Provide the highest-level maintenance with available funding. Seek a goal of Level 2 maintenance. Some amenities may require Level 1 maintenance.
- Parking: Sufficient to support the amenities; occupies no more than 10% of the park. Design will include widened on-street parking area adjacent to park. Goal is to maximize usable park space. Traffic calming devices encouraged within and next to the park.

- Lighting: Amenity lighting includes sport field light standards. Security lighting on dual system with 50% of lights off at a set time and 50% on all night for security.
- Signage: Directional signs are facility/amenity regulations to enhance user experience. May include kiosks in easily identified areas of the facility.
- Landscape Design: Appropriate design to enhance the park theme/use/experience. Enhanced landscaping at park entrances and throughout the park.
- Naming: Consistent with the town's naming right ordinance, may be named after a prominent or historic person, event, or natural landmark.
- Other: Strong appeal to surrounding neighborhoods; integrated color scheme throughout the park; partnerships developed with support groups, schools, and other organizations; loop trail connectivity; linked to Regional Park, trail or recreation facility; safety design meets established CPTED standards. Telephone/cable TV conduit.

### 3.3.4 Regional Park

A regional park serves a large area of several communities, residents within a town, city or county, or across multiple counties. Depending on activities within a regional park, users may travel as many as 60 miles for a visit. Regional parks include recreation opportunities such as soccer, softball, golf, boating, camping, conservation-wildlife viewing, and fishing. Although regional parks usually have a combination of passive areas and active facilities, they are likely to be predominantly natural resource-based parks.

A common size for a regional park is 50 to 1,000 acres but some parks can be 2,000 to 5,000 acres in size. A regional park will focus on activities and natural features not included in most types of parks and often based on a specific scenic or recreation opportunity. Facilities could include those found in a community park and have specialized amenities such as an art center, amphitheater, boating facility, golf course, or natural area with interpretive trails. Regional parks can and most time will promote tourism and economic development. Regional parks can enhance the economic vitality and identity of the entire region.

- Size of park: Over 50 acres.
- Service radius: Three mile or greater.
- Site Selection: Prefer location that can preserve natural resources on-site such as wetlands, streams, and other geographic features or sites with significant cultural or historic features. Significantly large parcel of land. Access from public roads capable of handling anticipated traffic.
- Length of stay: All day experience.
- Amenities: 10 to 12 amenities to create a signature facility (i.e., golf course, tennis complex, sports complex, lake, regional playground, 3+ picnic shelters available to reserve, camping, outdoor recreation/extreme sports, recreation center, pool, gardens,

trails, zoo, restaurant, specialty facilities) with public restrooms, concessions, ample parking, and special event site. Sport fields and sport complexes are typical at this park.

- Revenue facilities: More than two; park designed to produce revenue to offset operational costs.
- Land use: Up to 50% active/50% passive.
- Programming: More than four recreation experiences per age segment with at least four core programs provided.
- Maintenance Standards: Provide the highest-level maintenance with available funding. Seek a goal of Level 2 maintenance. Some amenities may require Level 1 maintenance.
- Parking: Sufficient for all amenities. Traffic calming devices encouraged within and next to park.
- Lighting: Amenity lighting includes sport field light standards. Security lighting on dual system with 50% of lights off at a set time and 50% on all night for security.
- Signage: Directional signs and facility/amenity regulations to enhance user experience, may include kiosks in easily identified areas of the facility.
- Landscape Design: Appropriate design to enhance the park theme/use/experience. Enhanced landscaping at park entrances and throughout park.
- Naming: Consistent with the town's naming ordinance, may be named after a prominent or historic person, event, or natural landmark.
- Other: Safety design may meet CPTED safety standards; integrated color scheme throughout the park; linked to major trails systems, public transportation available, concessions, food and retail sales available, dedicated site managers on duty. Telephone/cable TV conduit.

### 3.3.5 Sports Complex

Sports complexes at community parks, regional parks, and stand-alone sports complexes are developed to provide four to 16 fields or courts in one setting. A sports complex may also support extreme sports facilities, such as BMX and skateboarding. Sports complexes can be single or multi-focused and can include indoor or outdoor facilities to serve the needs of both youth and adults. Outdoor fields are lighted to maximize value and productivity of the complex. Agencies developing sports complexes focus on meeting the needs of residents while also attracting sport tournaments for economic purposes to the community.

Sport field design includes appropriate field distances for each sport's governing body and support amenities designed to produce revenue to offset operational costs.

Signature sports complexes include enhanced amenities such as artificial turf, multipurpose field benches and bleachers, scoreboards, amplified sound, scorer's booths, etc. Enhanced

amenities would be identified through discussion between town and schools and/or sports associations and dependent upon adequate funding.

- Size of park: Preferably 40 or more acres for stand-alone complexes.
- Service radius: Determined by community demand.
- Site Selection: Stand-alone sports complexes are strategically located on or near arterial streets. Refer to community or regional park sections if sport complex is located within a park. Preference is streets on four sides, or three sides with school or municipal use on fourth side.
- Length of stay: Two to three hours experience for single activities. Can be all day for tournaments or special events.
- Amenities: Four to sixteen fields or sports courts in one setting; public restrooms, ample parking, turf types appropriate for the facility and anticipated usage, and field lighting. Amenities are ADA compliant.
- Revenue facilities: Four or more (i.e., fields, concession stand,, picnic pavilion).
- Land use: 95% active and 5% passive.
- Programming: Focus on active programming of all amenities.
- Maintenance Standards: Provide the highest-level maintenance with available funding. Plan for Level 1 and sometimes Level 2 maintenance at signature facility.
- Parking: Sufficient to support the amenities. Traffic calming devices encouraged within and next to park.
- Lighting: Amenity lighting includes sport field light standards. Security lighting on dual system with 50% of lights off at a set time and 50% on all night for security.
- Signage: Directional signs and facility/amenity regulations to enhance user experience. May include kiosks in easily identified areas of the facility.
- Landscape Design: Appropriate design to enhance the park theme/use/experience. Enhanced landscaping at entrances and throughout complex.
- Naming: Consistent with the town's naming ordinance, may be named after a prominent or historic person, event, or natural landmark.
- Other: Integrated color scheme throughout the park; safety design meets established CPTED standards. Telephone/cable TV conduit.

### 3.3.6 Special Use Park/Facility

Special use facilities are those spaces that do not fall within a typical park classification. A major difference between a special use facility and other parks is that they usually serve a single purpose whereas other park classifications are designed to offer multiple recreation opportunities. It is possible for a special use facility to be located inside another park. Special use facilities generally fall into three categories:

**Historic/Cultural/Social Sites** – unique local resources offering historical, educational, and cultural opportunities. Examples include historic downtown areas, commercial zones, plaza parks, performing arts parks, arboretums, display gardens, performing arts facilities, indoor theaters, churches, and amphitheaters. Frequently these are located in community or regional parks.

**Golf Courses** – Nine and 18-hole complexes with ancillary facilities such as clubhouses, driving ranges, program space, and learning centers. These facilities are highly maintained and support a wide age level of males and females. Programs are targeted for daily use play, tournaments, leagues, clinics, and special events. Operational costs come from daily play, season pass holders, concessions, driving range fees, earned income opportunities, and sale of pro shop items.

**Indoor Recreation Facilities** – Specialized or single purpose facilities. Examples include community centers, senior centers and community theaters. Frequently these are located in community or regional parks.

**Outdoor Recreation Facilities** – Examples include aquatic parks, disk golf, skateboard, BMX, and dog parks, which may be located in a park.

- Size of park: Depends upon facilities and activities included. Their diverse character makes it impossible to apply acreage standards.
- Service radius: Depends upon facilities and activities included. Typically serves special user groups while a few serve the entire population.
- Site Selection: Given the variety of potential uses, no specific standards are defined for site selection. As with all park types, the site will be located where it is appropriate for its use.
- Length of stay: Varies by facility.
- Amenities: Varies by facility.
- Revenue facilities: Due to the nature of certain facilities, revenue may be required for construction and/or annual maintenance. This strategy needs to be determined at a policy level before the facility is planned and constructed.
- Land usage: Varies by facility.
- Programming: Varies by facility.
- Maintenance Standards: Provide the highest-level maintenance with available funding. Seek a goal of Level 2 maintenance. Some amenities (i.e., rose gardens) will require Level 1 maintenance.
- Parking: On-street or off-street parking is provided as appropriate. On street parking will include widened on-street parking areas adjacent to park. Goal is to maximize usable

park space. As necessary, provide five to 10 spaces within park including handicap spaces. Traffic calming devices encouraged next to park.

- Lighting: Security or amenity only. Lighting on dual system with 50% of lights off at a set time and 50% on all night for security.
- Signage: Directional signs and facility/amenity regulations to enhance user experience.
- Landscape Design: Appropriate design to enhance the park theme/use/experience.
- Naming: Follows town ordinance for naming or may be named after a prominent or historic person, event, or natural landmark.
- Other: Integrated color scheme throughout the park; safety design meets established CPTED standards. Telephone/cable TV conduit as appropriate.

### 3.3.7 Greenbelts/Trails/Paseos

Greenbelts/trails/paseos are recognized for their ability to connect people and place and often include either paved or natural trails. Trails can also be loop trails in parks. Linking neighborhoods, parks, recreation facilities, attractions, and nature areas with a multi-use trail fulfills two guiding principles simultaneously: protecting natural areas along river and open space areas, and providing people with a way to access and enjoy them. Multi-use trails also offer a safe, alternative form of transportation; provide substantial health benefits, habitat enhancements for plants and wildlife, and unique opportunities for outdoor education and cultural interpretation.

- Size: Typically at least 30-foot width of unencumbered land for a greenbelt or paseo. May include a trail to support walk, bike, run, and equestrian type activities. Typically, an urban trail is 10-foot wide to support pedestrian and bicycle uses. In open space areas, trails include 2-feet of decomposed granite on both sides of the trail for walkers and bicyclists. Trails incorporate signage to designate where a user is located and where the trails connect in the town. Equestrian uses can occur in both urban and open space settings by adding 10 more feet of space to separate equestrian use from pedestrian/bike use. In urban settings, equestrian use includes five feet of decomposed granite plus a five-foot landscaped separation from the pedestrian/bike trail. In open space settings, equestrian use includes five foot of harrowed soil plus a five-foot natural separation from the pedestrian/bike trail.
- Site Selection: Located consistent with the proposed shared use paths and on-street bike lane routing.
- Amenities: Parking and restrooms at major trailheads. May include small parks along the trail.
- Maintenance Standards: Demand based maintenance with available funding.
- Lighting: Security lighting at trailheads and high use areas. Lighting on dual system with 50% of lights off at a set time and 50% on all night for security.

- Signage: Mileage markers at half-mile intervals. Interpretive kiosks as deemed appropriate.
- Landscape Design: Coordinated planting scheme in urban areas. Limited or no planting in open space areas.
- Other: Connectivity to parks or other town attractions and facilities is desirable.

### 3.3.8 Open Space/Natural Area

Open space/natural areas are undeveloped but may include natural or paved trails. Grasslands under power line corridors are one example; creek areas are another. Open space contain natural resources that can be managed for recreation and natural resource conservation values such as a desire to protect wildlife habitat, water quality, and endangered species. Open space also can provide opportunities for nature based, unstructured, low-impact recreation opportunities such as walking and nature viewing.

- Amenities: May include paved or natural trails, wildlife viewing areas, mountain biking, disc golf, interpretation and education facilities.
- Maintenance standards: Demand-based maintenance with funding. Biological management practices observed.
- Lighting: None.
- Signage: Interpretive kiosks as deemed appropriate.
- Landscape Design: Generally none. Some areas may include landscaping, such as entryways or around buildings. In these situations, sustainable design is appropriate.

### 3.3.9 Sport Field Amenities

Basic sport field amenities are listed below.

#### **Baseball Field Amenities – Youth Size**

- Field size: Preferred: 225-foot outfield fence with 10-foot warning tract with 4-foot high outfield fence. Alternate: 215-foot outfield fence with 8-foot high outfield fence.
- Baselines and infield: 60-foot and 70-foot skinned baseline w/ base sleeves w/ grass infield. Ball field mix extends from backstop down sidelines to fence opening at end of dugout. Home plate included. Bases specified by town and provided by user groups.
- Permanent backstop. 2-foot high concrete block w/ safety padding and 18-foot vertical fence (black vinyl coated chain link).
- Fencing: 8-foot high fence (black vinyl coated chain link) from backstop to end of skinned infield. On 225-foot field, 4-foot high sideline and outfield fence (black vinyl coated chain link). On 215-foot field, outfield fence increases to 8-foot high. Yellow safety top on outfield fence. Foul poles at outfield fence. 12-foot wide dual-gate opening on one sideline fence for field maintenance equipment access.

- Concrete block bin: 6-foot by 6-foot for ball field mix located adjacent to 12-foot fence opening.
- Dugout: 21-foot by 7-foot including 15-foot long players bench with backrest. 8-foot high fencing around dugout. Dugout opens onto field at home base side of dugout. 2-foot safety wing fencing inside dugout to prevent foul ball entry. Slatted roof over dugout.
- Raised pitching mound with two pitching rubbers (46-foot and 50-foot to home plate). Equipment installed by town maintenance staff.
- Interior warm up/practice pitching mound along sideline fences backing up to outfield fence (46-foot distance from pitching rubber to plate). Slats or padding in fence to maintain fence longevity.
- Three row bleachers (21-foot long) on concrete pad both baselines.
- 12-foot by 8-foot concrete pad for storage box. Equipment storage unit funded by user group-approved and installed by town maintenance staff on same side as field mix bin.
- Conduit and pull boxes from power source to backstop, and from backstop to outfield field for future score board. Scoreboard/controller provided by user group.
- Field lighting at community and regional parks.
- Concrete behind dugouts and in dugouts connected to park walkways on all fields.
- Quick disconnect for water behind pitcher's mound.

### **Baseball Field Amenities – Adult Size**

- Field size: 320-foot down the foul line and 385-foot in center field. Includes 10-foot warning track.
- Baselines and infield: 90-foot skinned baseline w/ base sleeves w/ grass infield. Ball field mix extends from backstop down sidelines to fence opening at end of dugout. Home plate included. Bases specified by town and provided by user groups.
- Permanent backstop. 2-foot high concrete block w/ safety padding and 18-foot vertical fence (black vinyl coated chain link).
- Fencing: 8-foot high fence (black vinyl coated chain link) from backstop to end of skinned infield. 4-foot high sideline and outfield fence (black vinyl coated chain link). Yellow safety top on outfield fence. Foul poles at outfield fence. 12-foot wide dual-gate opening on one sideline fence for field maintenance equipment access.
- Concrete block bin: 6-foot by 6-foot for ball field mix located adjacent to 12-foot fence opening.
- Dugout: 27-foot by 9-foot including 21-foot long players bench with backrest. 8-foot high fencing around dugout. Dugout opens onto field at home base side of dugout. 2-foot safety wing fencing inside dugout to prevent foul ball entry. Slatted roof over dugout.

- Raised pitching mound with pitching rubbers 60-foot, 6-inches to home plate). Equipment installed by town maintenance staff.
- Interior warm up/practice pitching mound along sideline fences near outfield fence (60-foot, 6-inches to home plate). Slats or padding in fence to maintain fence longevity.
- Three row bleachers (21-foot long) on concrete pad both baselines.
- 12-foot by 8-foot concrete pad for storage box. Equipment storage unit funded by user group – approved and installed by town maintenance staff on same side as field mix bin.
- Conduit and pull boxes from power source to backstop, and from backstop to outfield field for future scoreboard. Scoreboard/controller provided by user group.
- Field lighting at community and regional parks.
- Concrete behind dugouts and in dugouts connected to park walkways on all fields.
- Quick disconnect for water behind pitcher's mound.

### **Softball Field Amenities – Youth Size**

- Field Size: Preferred: 225-foot outfield fence with 10-foot warning tack with 4-foot high outfield fence. Alternate: 215-foot outfield fence with 8-foot high outfield fence.
- Baselines and infield: 50-foot and 60-foot baseline w/ base sleeves on completely skinned infield. Home plate included. Bases specified by town and provided by user group.
- Permanent backstop. 2-foot high concrete block w/ safety padding and 18-foot vertical fence (black vinyl coated chain link).
- Fencing: 8-foot high fence (black vinyl coated chain link) from backstop to end of skinned infield. On 225-foot field, 4-foot high sideline and outfield fence (black vinyl coated chain link). On 215-foot field, outfield fence increases to 8-foot high. Yellow safety top on outfield fence. Foul poles at outfield fence. 12-foot wide dual-gate opening on one sideline fence for field maintenance equipment access.
- Concrete block bin: 6-foot by 6-foot for ball field mix located adjacent to 12-foot fence opening.
- Dugout: 21-foot by 7-foot including 15-foot long players bench with backrest. 8-foot high fencing around dugout. Dugout opens onto field at home base side of dugout. 2-foot safety wing fencing inside dugout to prevent foul ball entry. Slatted roof over dugout.
- No pitching mound. Three pitching rubbers (30-foot/35-foot/40-foot to home plate). Equipment installed by town maintenance staff.
- Interior warm up/practice pitching area along sideline fences backing up to outfield fence (30-foot/35-foot/40-foot to home plate distance from pitching rubber to plate). Slats or padding in fence to maintain fence longevity.
- Three row bleachers (21-foot long) on concrete pad both baselines.

- 12-foot by 8-foot concrete pad for storage box. Equipment storage unit funded by user group – approved and installed by town maintenance staff on same side as field mix bin.
- Conduit and pull boxes from power source to backstop, and from backstop to outfield field for future score board. Scoreboard/controller provided by user group.
- Field lighting at community and regional parks.
- Concrete behind dugouts and in dugouts connected to park walkways on all fields.
- Quick disconnect for water behind pitcher's mound.
- Bomber system for watering infield preferred.

### **Softball Field Amenities – Adult Size**

- Field size: 300-foot outfield fence with 10-foot warning track and 8-foot high outfield fence.
- Baselines and infield: 60-foot/ 65-foot / 70-foot/ 80-foot baseline w/ base sleeves on skinned infield. Home plate included. Bases specified by town and provided by user groups.
- Permanent backstop. 2-foot high concrete block w/ safety padding and 18-foot vertical fence (black vinyl coated chain link).
- Fencing: 8-foot high fence (black vinyl coated chain link) from backstop to end of skinned infield. 8-foot high sideline and outfield fence (black vinyl coated chain link). Foul poles at outfield fence. 12-foot wide dual-gate opening on one sideline fence for field maintenance equipment access.
- Concrete block bin: 6-foot by 6-foot for ball field mix located adjacent to 12-foot fence opening.
- Dugout: 27-foot by 9-foot including 21-foot long players bench with backrest. 8-foot high fencing around dugout. Dugout opens onto field at home base side of dugout. 2-foot safety wing fencing inside dugout to prevent foul ball entry. Slatted roof over dugout.
- No pitching mound. Two pitching rubbers (50-foot/ 54-foot to home plate). Equipment installed by town maintenance staff.
- Three row bleachers (21-foot long) on concrete pad both baselines.
- 12-foot by 8-foot concrete pad for storage box. Equipment storage unit funded by user group – approved and installed by town maintenance staff on same side as field mix bin.
- Conduit and pull boxes from power source to backstop, and from backstop to outfield field for future scoreboard. Scoreboard/controller provided by user group.
- Field lighting at community and regional parks.
- Concrete behind dugouts and in dugouts connected to park walkways on all fields.
- Quick disconnect for water behind pitcher's mound.
- Bomber system for watering infield preferred.

**Multipurpose Fields (Soccer/Football/Lacrosse/Field Hockey)**

- Field size: Regulation field – 360-foot by 240-foot. Limited space field– 210-foot by 150-foot. 25-foot buffer on same plane as field with no obstructions or drainage fixtures. Buffer applies to both field sizes.
- Goals: Portable, with size specified by user group and provided by town.
- No bleachers or players benches.
- Field lighting at community and regional parks.

**Restroom/Concession Building**

- Restroom: Typically installed at 1 per 20 acres of community park, regional park, or sports complex. Minimum of one restroom at parks with programmed fields.
- Concession Building: Provided when three or more fields exist at a community park or regional park. Owned by town. Rental agreement required for user group use of facility, which includes cost of building depreciation, building upkeep, and utilities. Building includes shelving, electrical, three-partition sink with hot water, and separate sink for hand washing. Facility built to health code requirements. Equipment supplied by user group.

# **APPENDIX A**

## Stakeholder and Community Leader Input

# STAKEHOLDER AND COMMUNITY LEADER INPUT

## Summary:

Olsson met with the following groups and individuals to receive their input related to the existing park facilities and activities.

August 30, 2021

- Park Staff
- Jon Holmes, City Administrator
- Park Partners
  - Aurora School District
  - YMCA
  - Little League
  - Mighty Mites

August 31, 2021

- City Department Heads
- Jason Lewis, Mayor
- City Council
- Park Board

The following pages include their input.

# City of Aurora Parks and Recreation

## Focus Group & Stakeholder Questions

August 30 and 31, 2021

Question 1: What are the **strengths** of the Aurora Parks and Recreation Department that we need to build on for this master plan?

- Wide variety of parks (big, community, and small neighborhood)
- Distributed and unique
- Plenty of green space
- Very clean and safe
- Amenities are decent but need upgrade
  - (They do get pulled in to help street and cemetery and vice versa)
- Widely used facilities
- Little League is a huge draw from surrounding towns
- Facilities for sports are adequate
- Good equipment upgrades
- Council has approved trail system
- Small manpower compared to huge park property
- Talented small crew
- There is a need for more staff
  - To be like Republic need 5-8 full time staff
- Supervisor leadership is good with working with what he has
- Always busy maintaining
- Accepting to break even
- Variety for different people, trails, keeping it clean
- Oak Park playground is okay, but others need to be updated
- Justin and Staff – Looks good, clean, bathrooms open and clean
- Wheelchair swing
- New subdivisions could provide neighborhood park as a requirement with zoning
  - Or fee in lieu of park/green space for something in that general area

Question 2: What do people **value** most about parks and recreation services in Aurora?

- The land
- Multiple pavilions if needed

- Weekly birthday parties and lunches with several parks to choose from
- Pavilion reservations are busy
- Availability of a place to go for a picnic table
- Pool is busy
- Pool is well maintained (except updates are needed)
- Special permits are used for larger events, churches, 5K
- Variety of activities for all age groups
- Things for kids to do
- Activities and high participation
- Disc golf, skate park, pickleball
- Free or low cost is a “value”. Pool fees are very low.
- Maintenance and mowing (the level of effort to take care of issues as they arise)
- Clean, no graffiti
- Being there to partner and having the field ready

Question 3: What are general perceptions of the park and recreation system that need **improvement**?

- Flooding – swap facilities for what can be in the low area
- Addressing ADA issues
- Cut corners on quality (due to cost) on many things instead of doing one thing very well.
- Lack of planning with a band aid approach
- Tot Lots have been ignored to deal with big park
- Not enough parking for Little League property (not city property, but it impacts the city)
- Better marketing. People may not know what all they have.
- May need a policy for reservations (ex. pavilions)
- Number and access to pavilions to use (process, make it a part of the code)
- Updated equipment
- New tennis courts
- Small amenities like a dog park.
- Smaller tot lots are overlooked
- Concessions dependent on other facility locations
- Some restrooms are scary and some are vandalized
- WIFI and security cameras
- White Park is too full. All things for all people. Need to redistribute.

- White Park has history with the pool, cruising, ballfield – but it needs updating
- Desire soccer at White Park
- Crosby facilities need improvement. Need larger pavilions.
- Want something like Monett YMCA indoor facility – outdoor is good. Indoor is needed for winter etc.
- Survey each sports program to see if parents are happy

Question 4: What **key outcomes** are desired from this Master plan?

- Guiding document for decision makers from an independent, third party, common sense guide.
- 10-15-20 year plan
- Timeline for goals
- Well thought out road map for remodeling and renovating parks.
- Long range plan for community facilities and funding
- Goals to be driven by the public. Prioritize the goals.
- Aurora to host tournaments here instead of Springfield
- Staff & jobs
- Manpower (its critical as a part of the overall cost)
- Economic driver through retail sales tax and tournaments
- Distribute amenities based on age, accessibility, safety
- Recreation center with indoor volleyball and basketball courts
- Having indoor facilities
- Sports complex (but affordable)
- Create centralized youth sports area at Baldwin (with Mighty Mite) with better bathrooms
- Restroom facilities (not open, or don't lock, need updates)
- Another restroom at Baldwin instead of porta potties
- Baseball complex
- Irrigation for soccer
- New pool
- NOT indoor pool
- Protect runners and bikers
- More sidewalks by schools along Prospect and Jefferson
- Connect to trails – bike lanes (Prospect, Lincoln)
- Add trails

Question 5: What are the key **program services** that need to be addressed?

- Better facilities, programs by the city (not YMCA)
- The city managing the Leagues in-house is a long term goal
- Expanded indoor recreation facility and programs like basketball and floor hockey.
- Two courts with divider
- More classes to promote healthy lifestyles
- Offer equipment check out:
  - Putt putt, horse shoes, shuffleboard, cornhole
- Offer non-athletic activities like art classes
- Balance of outsource and manpower
- To take on YMCA's current roles
  - City pays them \$15,000 to organize team sports
- People want something for kids to do
- Little League, Babe Ruth, YMCA, sandlot, basketball, flag football, soccer (2 sessions)
- Little league
  - City covers little league electrical, water, trash and dirt field
  - City does not organize team sports. City receives Facebook complaints from people thinking the city does organize the sports.
  - \$3,700 per program for organizing, refs. Currently go through the YMCA to sign up. Notices come out through the school and chamber of commerce.
- Little League wants to build a t-ball field at Baldwin – 2 fields (just an infield size)
- Expand 10 acres between White Park and Carnation Avenue. They don't have a "home". Can't disc golf with Mighty Mites.
- White Park – change tennis to basketball
- Signage and number to call for issues.

Question 6: What recreation facilities and / or amenities in Aurora are most needed?

- Recreation Center for volleyball, indoor soccer, archery, non-athletic and other sports not offered by others.
- Splash pad at Oak Park
- 20 year plan
- Rent scooters and bikes
- Proximity to recreation center

- Affordable recreation center
- Storage and maintenance shop to store more equipment
- Small maintenance shop at Baldwin
- A real ball complex at Baldwin (like Mt. Vernon)
- All the fields in the same location
- Better soccer fields
- Batting cages
- Good lighting later in the day (when there is less heat)
- More trails
- Running track or looped trail with smooth surface for elderly

Question 7: Are there **operational or maintenance issues** that need to be addressed?

- Flood damage takes money and staff. Seems like a waste of both.
- Flood-repeat issues (Use orange fence instead of chain link so flood damage isn't as much to the fencing)
- Recreation Activity Director
- Don't put park money on back burner
- Routine maintenance and upgrades
- Automated gate to unlock at parks
- ADA issues
- Bathrooms
  - Bathrooms have a lock timer.
- Scheduling the upgrades.
  - Repair tennis courts or move them out of flood plain
  - Life of the pool
  - Life of playground equipment. Newest is 14+ years old
    - Replacement parts are hard to acquire due to age
- Need to outsource some work instead of park staff
- Staff focus on landscape, mow, fields, repairs and maintenance. Not on programs and events.
- Mowers are 3-year replacement
- Need maintenance equipment for work (skid steer)
- Another bridge over creek at White Park
- Paid partnership for programs seems lacking (no trophy or ribbon)

Question 8: What areas of the system need more focus (examples include: trail development, land acquisition, park maintenance, program services, facility development)?

- Facility development
- Indoor and outdoor gathering areas with kitchen
- Where can kids go to do stuff after school and on weekends
- More trails. Some are in the works – connections to schools.
- Walking track in Crosby to target the older voters
- Lights on walking trail are spaced 300'+ apart. Some added this summer. Its mostly good.
- Program services have biggest opportunity for improvement.
  - Disc golf tournament
  - 3 on 3 basketball tournament.
- Putt-putt golf
- Skate Park and Disc Golf are very popular
- Pool
- Splash pad separate site than the pool (community park size)
- Pickleball (they do play in armory in winter)

Question 9: Do you feel the Department is adequately funded? What Funding sources do you feel the community would most support (e.g. Bond Issue, Impact Fees, Sales Tax Increase, Property Tax increase, User Fees)?

- There is 1/2 cent (60/40 split with storm water) sunset in 2023 approved to extend to use for recreation center.
  - Existing 1/2 cent sales tax (20 storm / 80 park)
  - \$550K from tax – 20% to Parks annually
- Bond issue might be supported by community for big project. Best for a large debt.
- Aquatic Center Bond was voted down. That creates tension on true “need”. Pool was repaired enough for continued use.
- Capital improvement sales tax could be used, but bond would be better.
- Possibly personal property tax if specific to parks and recreation.
- Community won't approve a tax
- Grant funding
- Cost share with visitors
- Programs should be self-sustaining with user fees.
- Rent via a deposit

- Whatever people don't notice (not user fee, but some are expected)
- Push for age diversity
- Target the older voters
- Offer scholarships
- May need private donations
- Property donation
- You can get it if you can "sell" it
- People need to see/understand the value/benefit
- Provide something for everyone

Question 10: If you could change one thing about the system over the next ten years, what would it be?

- Recreation center
- New recreation center for indoor activities (like Republic)
  - Multipurpose use on Friday when no school. And after school programs. Or school day out program. Parents bring kids 13 and under to practices.
  - Recreation Center and pool would be more central in town (not Baldwin)
  - Offer scholarships. Paid membership. Pay for entry.
- Creation of an adult / youth complex that rivals Springfield
- Youth Complex at Baldwin
- Aquatic center with outdoor area with slides
  - If indoor, high school and middle school swim team could utilize it.
- More staff to handle programs in addition to maintenance.
- Utilize Baldwin more / its better given its size if there is a trail to get there by kids
  - Railroad and / or highway crossing issue
- Golf driving range at Baldwin
- Second bathroom at Baldwin
- Indoor soccer
- Update tennis courts
- Outdoor amphitheater (for high school play or concert) on the hillside by pool. Just provide a stage since its in a flood plain.
- Flood prevention for existing or new facilities
  - Embankment
  - Re-work ditch

- Continue trails
- Eye appealing landscape – easily maintained landscape garden via a donation
- Replace trees using “cause momentum”

Question 11: As you see Aurora changing in the future, what services and programs do you feel will need the most attention and need to be made a priority?

- To promote a health, fitness, wellness within the community that attracts people to the community.
- Attract visitors including photography areas
- Staying ahead of the curve
- City growth is east and south, but will likely go other directions.
  - Perhaps reserve land there.
  - Some will be donated to the city from a potential subdivision
- Internal program management for soccer, basketball, football etc.
- Little League
- Update pool
- Terraced seating for amphitheater or other areas to provide seating
- New popular outdoor activities

Question 12: What haven't I asked you that you would like to have documented in the Master plan?

- Voluntary clean up from DNR for potential funding
- About to start construction of new pavilion near city hall – SW College and Madison
- Safety – Controlled access (gates)
  - overall lit,
  - parking at Little League
- Security and cameras
- WIFI in the parks
- Improve technology
- Consider resurfacing trail corridors in future
- Possible bicycle BMX track
- Have recently acquired 3 properties for trails
- Additional park land (5-10 years)
- Recreation center with lower cost opportunities for families (2-3 years)

- Increased opportunities for activities for kids (5:30am until 9:00pm)
- Baldwin is underdeveloped
- Baldwin Destination Sports Complex (adult and youth within region tournaments)
- White Park urgent items (1-2 years)
- White Park
  - Trails loop
  - Amphitheater
  - Soccer
  - Small community building for rental at pool location
- Recreation Center in White Park unless safe pedestrian/bike access to Baldwin for kids and others.
- Community Garden (Not for profit has one "Project Rise")
- Pond with catch and release event
- Trees to muffle skatepark sound
- Batting cages and driving range
- When / if the pool is moved – have a zipline
- 417 in Mt. Vernon has volleyball, basketball, pickleball
- Willard size is too small. Possibly the size of Republic.
- Similar to Republic
  - Recreation center
  - Fields
  - Maintenance Shop

# City of Aurora Parks and Recreation Park Board - Goals, Objectives, Expectations

August 31, 2021

1. What do you feel are the three most important issues facing the Aurora Community?
  - Investment with city limits for planned community with amenities
  - Need a senior community (over 55)
  - Stormwater (flooding)
  - Falling behind; industry, and other areas such as recreation centers (compared to neighboring towns)
  - Not enough budget to achieve desired goals
  
2. What do you feel are the three most important issues facing the Aurora Parks and Recreation?
  - Not having enough for kids during winter or rain
  - Don't outsource programming
  
3. Are there any **outdoor** recreation facilities you feel should be developed or improved in the Aurora Parks and Recreation?
  - Trails are in the process of being expanded
  - Improve tennis courts and have pickle ball (remove/replace)
  - Expand pool hours to have evenings until 9:00pm for teens and a longer season.
  
4. Are there any **indoor** recreation facilities you feel should be developed in the Aurora Parks and Recreation?
  - Recreation center
    - Revenue from user fees
  - Classrooms
  - Indoor track
  - Basketball and volleyball (skating in the gym)
  - Space for parties and events
  - Pickle ball tournament
  
5. What do you think the image of the Aurora Parks and Recreation is in the community, and why?
  - People like variety, but more updates to outdated items. People like trails and dog park
  - Good based on current budget

6. What do you feel are the primary sources of revenue that should be considered for financing Parks and Recreation projects?

- Grants
- COVID – American Rescue Plan
- Iffy support for a Bond (issue with only city taxed, not surrounding)
- Not enough support from seniors

7. If today was the year 2026, what are the most important actions that you hope the Aurora Parks and Recreation has accomplished through this planning process?

- All of the trails completed
- Baldwin Park developed
- Recreation Center
- Programming by staff that is not outsourced (except Little League)
- Have better quality and keep money here
- More staff for Parks and Recreation (at least one more soon)
- New sand volleyball (2) recently
- Updated playground equipment
- White Park:
  - Prevent flooding damage with an engineered solution

## **APPENDIX B**

### Community Park Survey Results

# **COMMUNITY PARK SURVEY RESULTS**

## **Summary:**

In conjunction with SMCOG, Olsson prepared a list of survey questions then SMCOG created the online survey and processed the results. There was a total of 80 participants.

Olsson presented this information to the Comprehensive Plan Committee as well as members of City Council and the Park Board on November 16, 2021 which consisted of:

- The survey questions.
- The summation and analysis of the results.

**1. Do you live within the City of Aurora?**

\_\_\_ (1) Yes, please continue the survey

\_\_\_ (2) No [Please write in your zip code and continue the survey.] Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**2. From the following listing of City of Aurora parks, please check ALL the PARKS you and members of your household have used during the past 12 months.**

\_\_\_ (01) Baldwin Park

\_\_\_ (02) Crosby Park

\_\_\_ (03) Oak Park

\_\_\_ (04) White Park

\_\_\_ (05) City Swimming Pool

\_\_\_ (06) North Tot

\_\_\_ (07) South Tot

**3. Which TWO of the PARKS from the list in the question above have you and members of your household used the most during the past 12 months?**

1st: \_\_\_ 2nd: \_\_\_

**4. From the following listing please check ALL of the facilities you and members of your household have used in City of Aurora during the past 12 months.**

\_\_\_ (01) Picnic shelters                      \_\_\_ (11) City Swimming Pool (Outdoor)

\_\_\_ (02) Walking trails                      \_\_\_ (12) Outdoor basketball courts

\_\_\_ (03) Playgrounds                      \_\_\_ (13) Nature area

\_\_\_ (04) Baseball fields                      \_\_\_ (14) None

\_\_\_ (05) Softball fields

\_\_\_ (06) Skateboard park

\_\_\_ (07) Soccer fields

\_\_\_ (08) Tennis courts

\_\_\_ (09) Restrooms

\_\_\_ (10) Concessions

**5. Which TWO of the FACILITIES from the list in the question above have you and members of your household used the most during the past 12 months?**

1st: \_\_\_ 2nd: \_\_\_

**6. Have you or other members of your household participated in any recreation or sports programs offered by the City of Aurora Parks and Recreation Department during the past 12 months?**

\_\_\_ (1) Yes

\_\_\_ (2) No

**7. Approximately how many different recreation or sports programs offered by the City of Aurora Parks and Recreation Department through a partnership with the YMCA did you or members of your household participate in over the past 12 months?**

\_\_\_ (1) 1 program

\_\_\_ (2) 2 to 3 programs

\_\_\_ (3) 4 to 6 programs

- \_\_\_\_(4) 7 to 10 programs
- \_\_\_\_(5) 11 or more programs

**8. From the following list, please check the THREE primary reasons why your household has participated in City of Aurora recreation or sports programs.**

- \_\_\_\_ (01) Instructor knowledge
- \_\_\_\_ (02) Location of the program
- \_\_\_\_ (03) Quality of the program
- \_\_\_\_ (04) Fees charged for the program
- \_\_\_\_ (05) Ease of registration
- \_\_\_\_ (06) Times the program is offered
- \_\_\_\_ (07) Friends participate in the program
- \_\_\_\_ (08) Day of week the program is offered
- \_\_\_\_ (09) Meets my needs or desires
- \_\_\_\_ (10) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**9. Please indicate if YOU or any member of your HOUSEHOLD has a need/desire for each of the parks and recreation facilities listed below by circling the YES or NO next to the park/facility.**

**10. If YES, please rate ALL the following parks and recreation FACILITIES of this type in Aurora on a scale of 5 to 1, where 5 means "100% Meets Needs/Desires" and 1 means "Does Not Meet Needs/Desires" of your household.**

Type of Facility	Do You Have a Need/Desire for this Facility?		If YES You Have a Need/Desire, How Well Are Your Needs /Desire Being Met?				
	Yes	No	100% Met	75% Met	50% Met	25% Met	0% Met
A. Youth soccer fields	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
B. Youth baseball fields	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
C. Youth football fields	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
D. Youth softball fields	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
E. Adult softball fields	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
F. Outdoor basketball courts	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
G. Outdoor tennis courts	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
H. Outdoor swimming pools/water parks	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
I. Playground equipment	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
J. Shelters/picnic areas	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
K. Disc golf	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
L. Skateboarding park	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
M. Walking and biking trails	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
N. Nature trails/nature center	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
O. Outdoor amphitheater	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
P. Community Gardens	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
Q. Small neighborhood parks	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
R. Large community parks	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
S. Dog parks	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
T. Green space and natural areas	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1

**11. Which FOUR of the facilities from the list in the question above are most important to your household?**

1st: \_\_\_\_\_

2nd: \_\_\_\_\_

3rd: \_\_\_\_\_

4th: \_\_\_\_\_

NONE

**12. Please indicate if YOU or any member of your HOUSEHOLD has a need/desire for each of the recreation programs listed below by circling the YES or NO next to the recreation program.**

**13., 14. and 15. If YES, please rate the following recreation PROGRAMS and activities on a scale of 5 to 1, where 5 means "100% Meets Needs/Desires" and 1 means "Does Not Meet Needs/Desires" of your household.**

Type of Program	Do You Have a Need/Desire for this Program?		If YES You Have a Need/Desire, How Well Are Your Needs /Desire Being Met?				
	Yes	No	100% Met	75% Met	50% Met	25% Met	0% Met
A. Youth Learn to Swim programs	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
B. Preschool programs	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
C. After school programs	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
D. Youth summer day camp programs	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
E. Youth sports leagues (baseball/football/soccer, softball)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
F. Club sports	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
G. Youth performing arts	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
H. Youth arts and crafts	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
I. Programs for teens	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
J. Instructional classes (ex. yoga, taekwondo)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
K. Adult fitness, health and wellness programs	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
L. Adult Water fitness programs	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
M. Adult performing arts	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
N. Adult sports leagues	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
O. Tennis lessons and leagues	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
P. Programs for people with disabilities	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
Q. Nature programs/environmental education	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
R. Biking	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
S. BMX racing programs	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
T. Fishing programs	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
U. Gymnastics	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
V. Hiking	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
W. Walking and jogging	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
X. Special events/festivals.	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1

Y. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes    No    5    4    3    2    1

**16. Which FOUR of the programs from the list in the previous questions are most important to your household?**

1st: \_\_\_\_\_

2nd: \_\_\_\_\_

3rd: \_\_\_\_\_

4th: \_\_\_\_\_

NONE

**17. IF the City of Aurora were considering acquiring land for development of park facilities, then from the following list, please check ALL the parks and facilities that you would SUPPORT being developed at a new park in Aurora.**

\_\_\_\_ (01) Outdoor amphitheater

\_\_\_\_ (02) Environmental /Education Center

\_\_\_\_ (03) Nature trails

\_\_\_\_ (04) Outdoor swimming facility

\_\_\_\_ (05) Picnic sites

\_\_\_\_ (06) Arboretum/Botanical Garden

\_\_\_\_ (07) Open and natural wildlife habitat

\_\_\_\_ (08) Disc golf course

\_\_\_\_ (09) Unlighted practice sports fields

\_\_\_\_ (10) Playgrounds

\_\_\_\_ (11) Off leash dog park

\_\_\_\_ (12) Walking and biking trails

\_\_\_\_ (13) Sand volleyball courts

\_\_\_\_ (14) Outdoor basketball courts

\_\_\_\_ (15) Lighted sports fields for soccer, softball, baseball, and football

\_\_\_\_ (16) Recreation Center

\_\_\_\_ (17) Larger Outdoor Swimming Pool

\_\_\_\_ (18) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**18. The following are major actions that the City of Aurora could take to improve the Parks and Recreation system. Please indicate whether you would be very supportive, somewhat supportive, or not supportive of each action by circling the number next to the action.**

How supportive are you of having the City of Aurora:

	Very Supportive	Somewhat Supportive	Not Supportive	Not Sure
(A) Acquire open space for passive activities, i.e. trails, picnicking, etc. .	1	2	3	4
(B) Acquire open space for active activities, i.e. more soccer, baseball, softball fields, etc.	1	2	3	4
(C) Upgrade existing neighborhood and community parks	1	2	3	4
(D) Upgrade existing youth/adult athletic				

fields	1	2	3	4
(E) Construct an Aurora Community/ Recreation Center	1	2	3	4
(F) Develop an indoor swimming pool	1	2	3	4
(G) Construct larger outdoor swimming pool	1	2	3	4
(H) Develop new walking/biking trails and connect existing trails	1	2	3	4
(I) Expand the disc golf	1	2	3	4
(J) Develop new youth athletic fields (soccer/baseball/softball, etc.)	1	2	3	4
(K) Acquire more park property	1	2	3	4
(L) Other: _____	1	2	3	4

**19. Which THREE of actions are MOST IMPORTANT to your household for the City of Aurora to take?** [Write in the letters below using the letters from the list in Question #13 above or circle None.]

\_\_\_\_\_ 1st Most Important      \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd Most Important      \_\_\_\_\_ 3rd Most Important      NONE

**20. What are your preferred locations to access by walking, hiking, and/or bicycling?**

---

**21. Currently, the City of Aurora has a 1/2 cent sales tax that is used to maintain and improve parks, trails and recreation facilities. Implementing the types of improvements that you have indicated are most important to you and members of your household might require an additional tax.**

Knowing that which of the following options would you most support regarding a future 1/8th cent sales tax?

\_\_\_\_(1) Passing an additional tax to be used to develop and maintain the types of indoor and outdoor parks, trails and recreation facilities that are most important to our household

\_\_\_\_(2) Passing an additional tax, which would expire in 10 years, to be used to develop the types of indoor and outdoor parks, trails and recreation facilities that are most important to our household

\_\_\_\_(3) Not sure

\_\_\_\_(4) I do not support passing an additional tax even if it means that no additional indoor and outdoor parks, trails, and recreation facilities are developed.

**22. Counting yourself, how many people are in your household?**

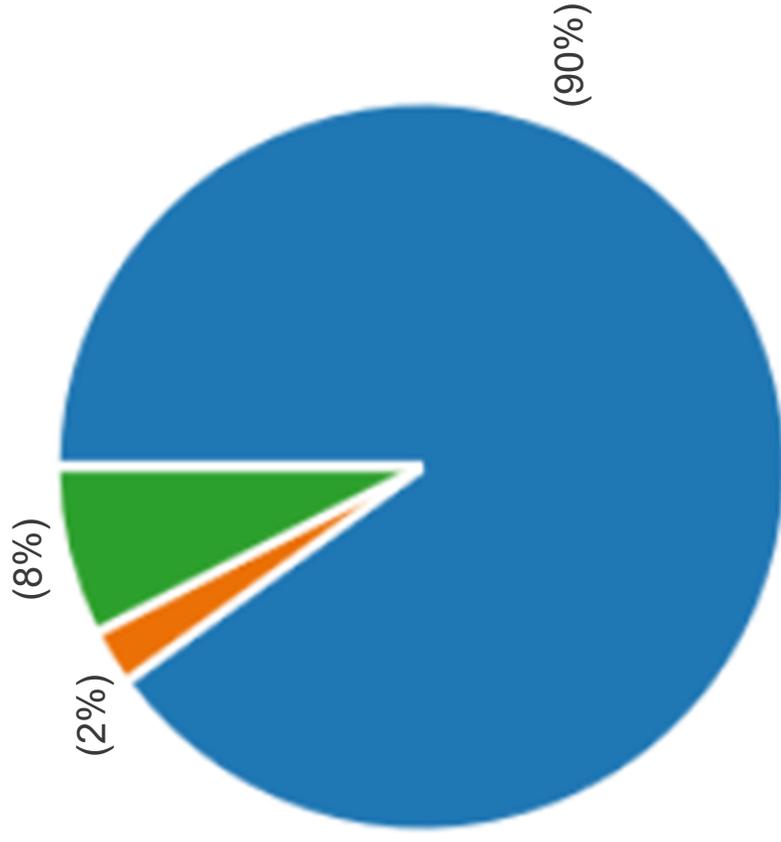
Under age 5 _____	Ages 15-19 _____	Ages 35-44 _____	Ages 65-74 _____
Ages 5-9 _____	Ages 20-24 _____	Ages 45-54 _____	Ages 75+ _____
Ages 10-14 _____	Ages 25-34 _____	Ages 55-64 _____	

**23. What is your age?** \_\_\_\_\_

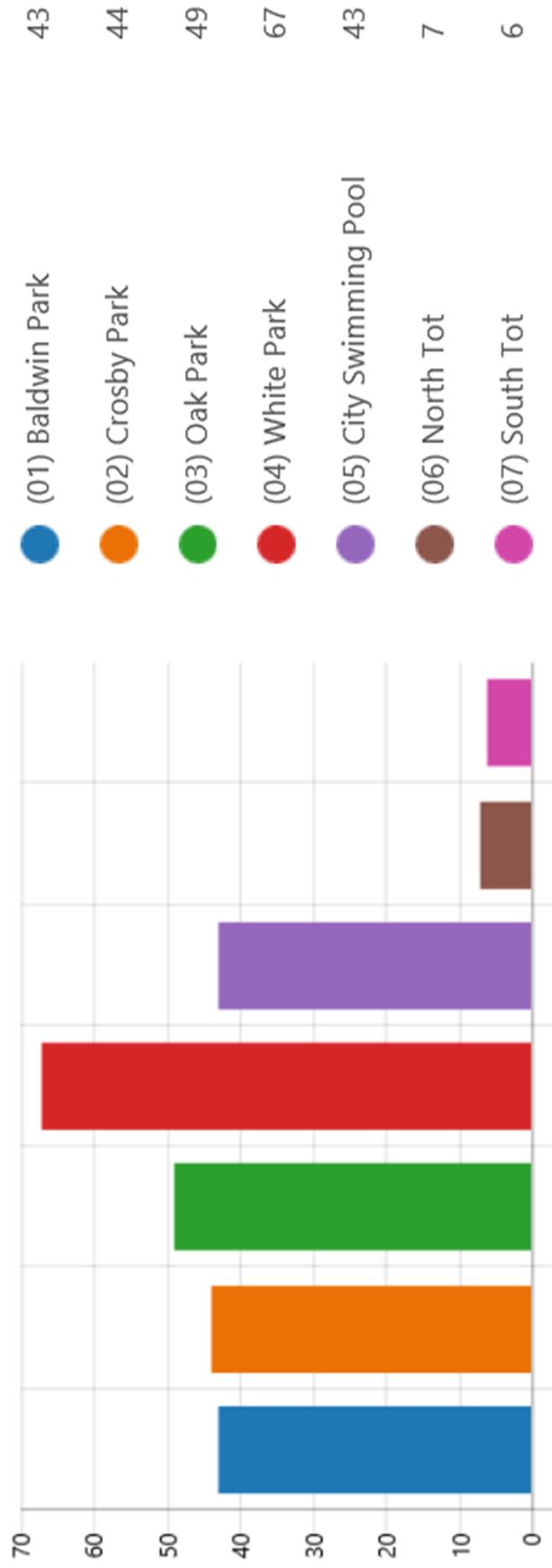
**24. Your gender:** \_\_\_\_ (1) Male \_\_\_\_ (2) Female \_\_\_\_ (3) Decline to answer

## Do you live in Aurora?

- Yes – 72
- No – 2
- Other – 6



**From the following listing of City of Aurora parks, please check **ALL the PARKS** you and members of your household have **used** during the past 12 months.**



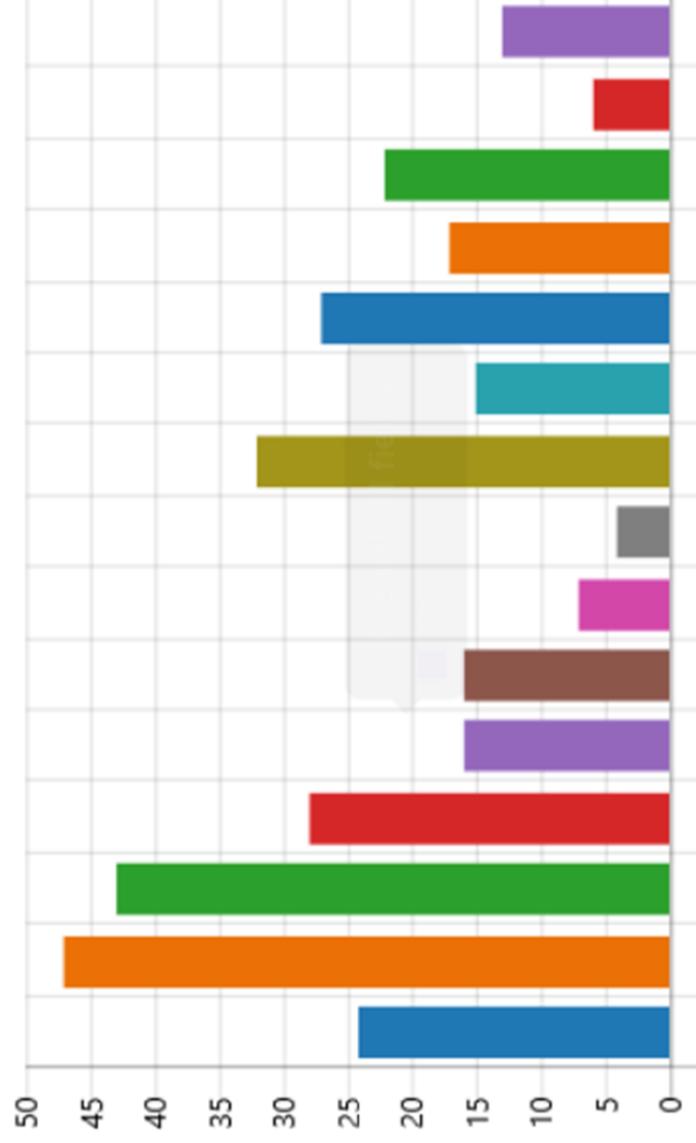
**Which TWO of the PARKS from the list above have you and members of your household **used the MOST** during the past 12 months.**

<b><u>Votes</u></b>	<b><u>Park</u></b>
<b>42</b>	<b>White Park</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>Oak Park</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>City Swimming Pool</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Baldwin Park</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Crosby Park</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>South Tot</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>North Tot</b>

**From the following list please check **ALL of the facilities** you and members of your household used in the City of Aurora during the past 12 months.**

**olsson**

● (01) Picnic shelters	24
● (02) Walking trails	47
● (03) Playgrounds	43
● (04) Baseball fields	28
● (05) Softball fields	16
● (06) Skateboard park	16
● (07) Soccer fields	7
● (08) Tennis courts	4
● (09) Restrooms	32
● (10) Concessions	15
● (11) City Swimming Pool (Out...	27
● (12) Outdoor basketball courts	17
● (13) Nature area	22
● (14) None	6
● Other	13

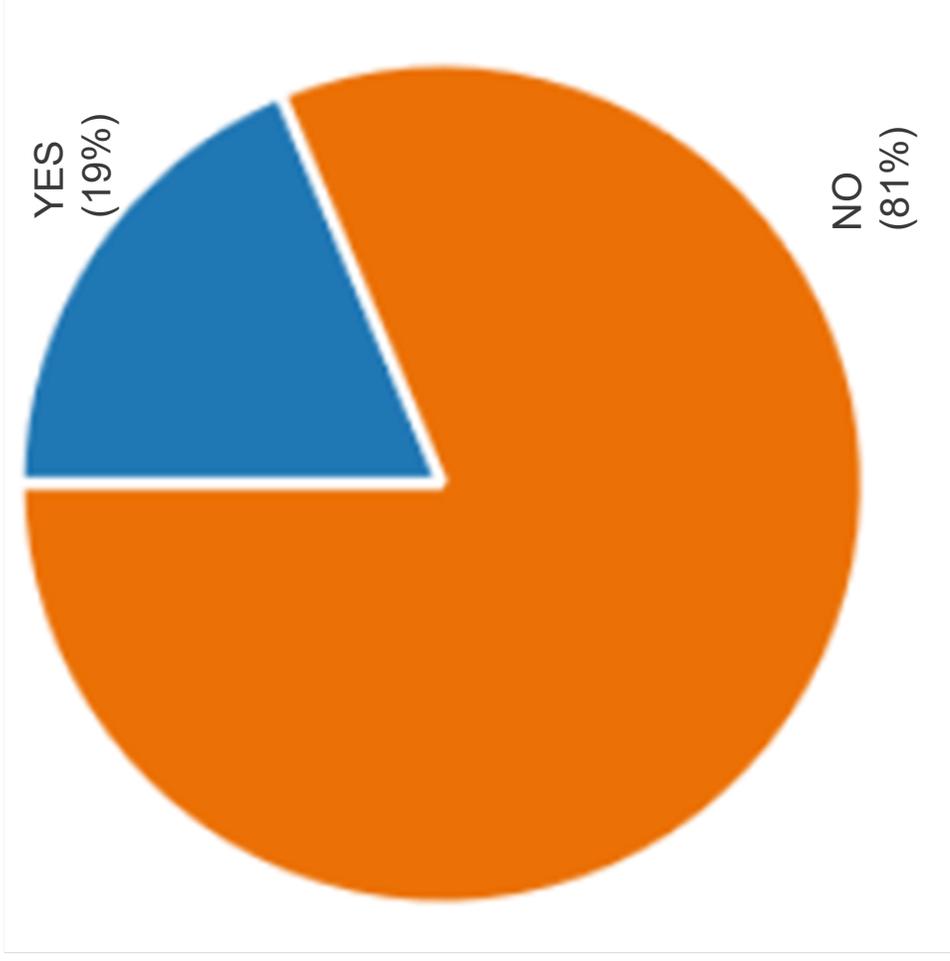


**Which TWO of the FACILITIES from the list in Question #4 have you and members of your household used the most in the past 12 months?**

<u>Votes</u>	<u>Facilities</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Facilities</u>
25	Walking Trails	4	Restrooms
19	Playgrounds	4	Outdoor Basketball Courts
16	City Swimming Pool	3	Nature Area
13	Baseball Fields	3	None
8	Picnic Shelters	1	Disc Golf
6	Softball Fields	1	Concessions
6	Soccer Fields	1	Tennis Courts
5	Skateboard Park		

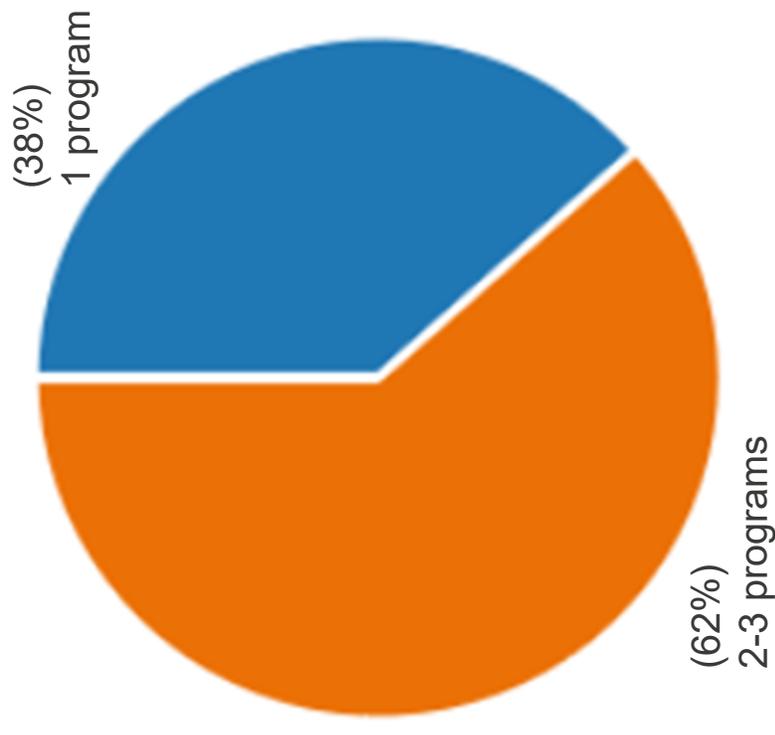
**Have you or other members of your household participated in any recreation or sports programs offered by the City of Aurora Parks and Recreation Department during the past 12 months?**

- Yes – 15
- No – 65



**Approximately how many different recreation or sports programs offered by the City of Aurora Parks and Recreation Department through a partnership with the YMCA did you or members of your household participate in over the past 12 months?**

- 1 program – 5 respondents
- 2 to 3 programs – 8 respondents



**Choose the THREE primary reasons why your household has participated in the City of Aurora recreation or sports programs.**

<u>Votes</u>	<u>Primary Reason</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Primary Reason</u>
8	Location of program	3	Quality of program
7	Friends participate	2	Other
4	Time of program	1	Fees for program
4	Instructor knowledge	1	Ease of registration
4	Meets my needs	1	Day of week

**Please indicate if YOU or any member of your HOUSEHOLD has a **need/desire** for each of the parks and recreation **facilities** listed below.**

84%	<u>Need and/or Desire</u>
79%	Walking and biking trails
79%	Nature trails / nature center
79%	Large community parks
79%	Outdoor swimming pools / water parks
70%	Shelters / picnic areas
69%	Playground equipment
68%	Green space and natural areas
60%	Dog parks
56%	Adult softball fields
53%	Small neighborhood parks
53%	Outdoor amphitheater

	<u>Need and/or Desire</u>
52%	Youth baseball fields
52%	Youth football fields
50%	Community gardens
49%	Outdoor basketball courts
48%	Outdoor softball fields
46%	Disc golf
40%	Outdoor tennis courts
39%	Skateboarding park
38%	Youth soccer fields

If you answered YES in previous question, please rate ALL the following parks and recreation FACILITIES of this type in Aurora on a scale of 5 to 1

5 means

“100% Meets Needs/Desires”

5

4

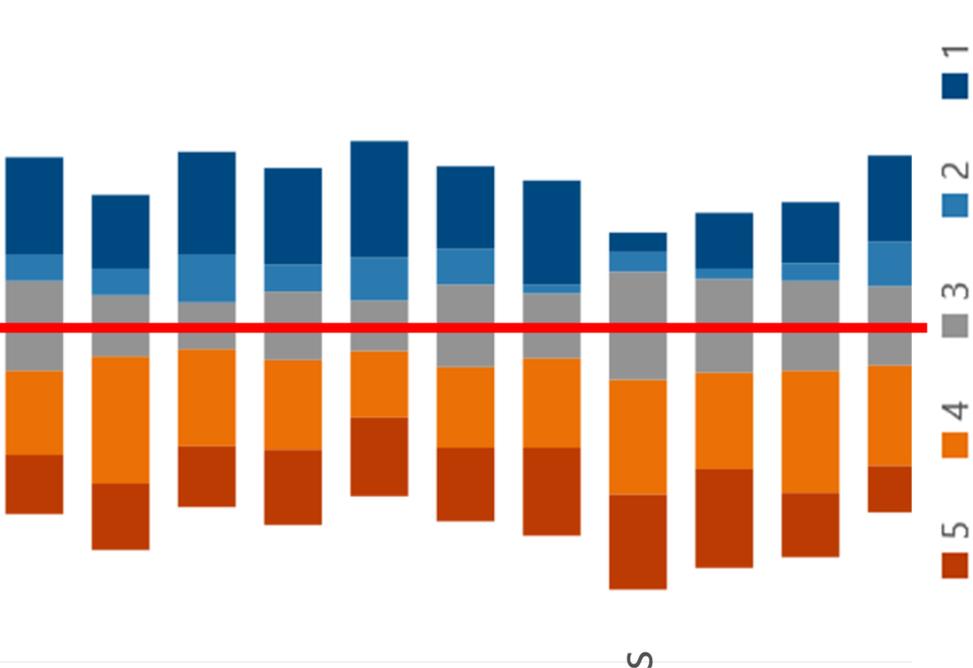
3

2

1

1 means

“Does Not Meet Needs/Desires”



A. Youth soccer fields

B. Youth baseball fields

C. Youth football fields

D. Youth softball fields

E. Adult softball fields

F. Outdoor basketball courts

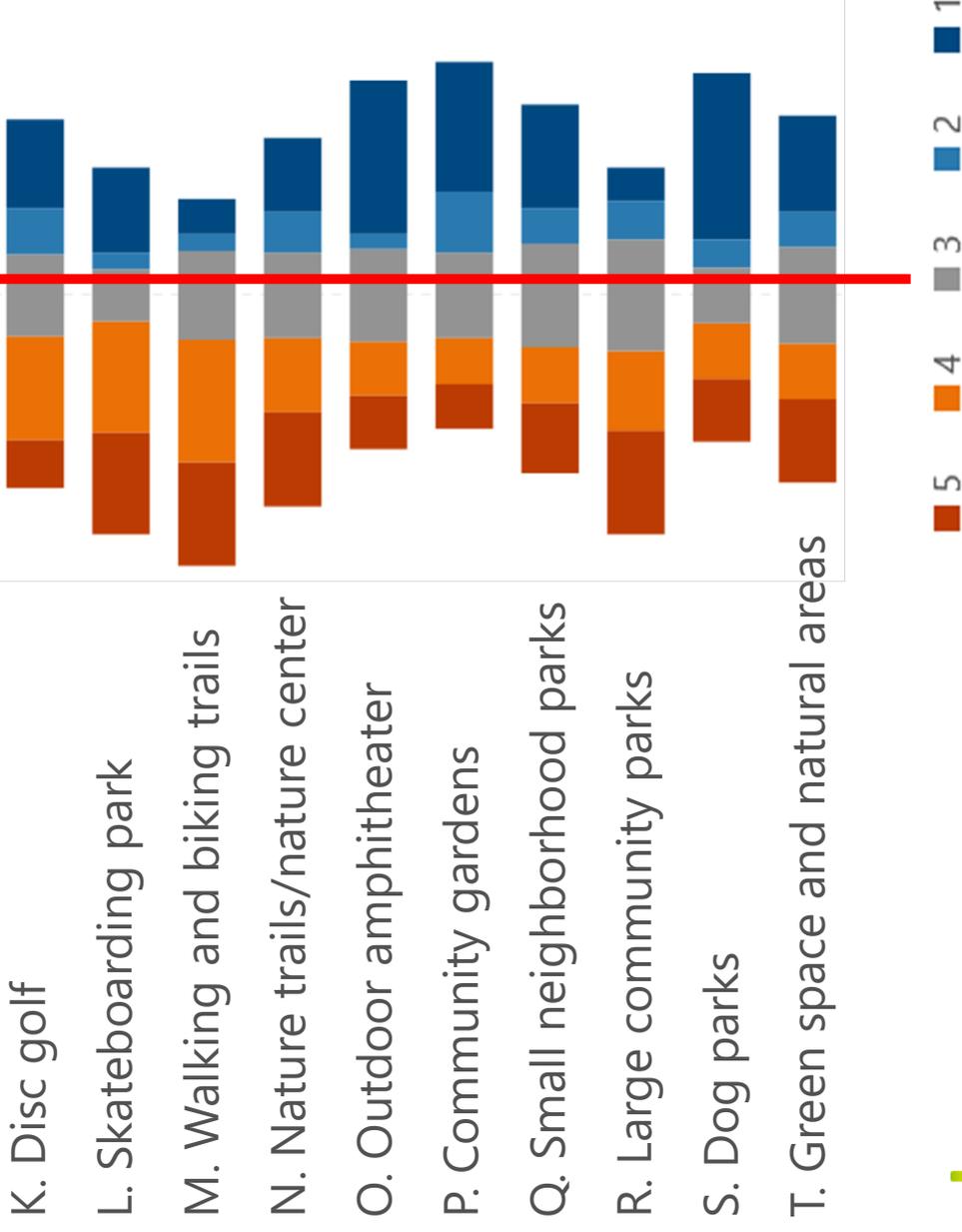
G. Outdoor tennis courts

H. Outdoor swimming pools/ water parks

I. Playground equipment

J. Shelters/picnic areas

K. Disc golf



# Which **FOUR** of the facilities from the list in previous question are most important to your household?

<u>Votes</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Facility</u>
21	Walking and biking trails	7	None
18	Outdoor swimming pools/water parks	6	Youth soccer fields
17	Nature trails/nature center	6	Youth softball fields
13	Large community parks	6	Outdoor amphitheater
12	Dog parks	6	Community gardens
11	Playground	5	Small neighborhood parks
10	Shelters/picnic areas	4	Adult softball fields
8	Youth baseball fields	2	Outdoor basketball courts
8	Youth football fields	2	Skateboarding park
7	Disc golf	1	Outdoor tennis courts
7	Green space and natural areas		

**Please indicate if YOU or any member of your HOUSEHOLD has a **need/desire** for each of the recreation **programs** listed below.**

<u>Need and/or Desire</u>		<u>Need and/or Desire</u>
81%	Walking and jogging	45%
81%	Special events / festivals	45%
75%	Adult fitness, health and wellness programs	44%
67%	Biking / hiking	42%
67%	Adult water fitness programs	40%
66%	Youth sports league (baseball/football/soccer/softball)	39%
59%	Hiking	36%
55%	Instructional classes (ex. yoga, taekwondo)	36%
52%	Programs for teens	34%
52%	Fishing Programs	32%
48%	Nature programs / environmental education	27%
		27%
		18%

If answered YES in previous question, please **rate** the following recreation **PROGRAMS** and activities on a scale of 5 to 1

1 means

“Does **Not** Meet Needs/Desires

5 means

“100% **Meets** Needs/Desires”



A. Youth Learn to swim programs

B. Preschool programs

C. After school programs

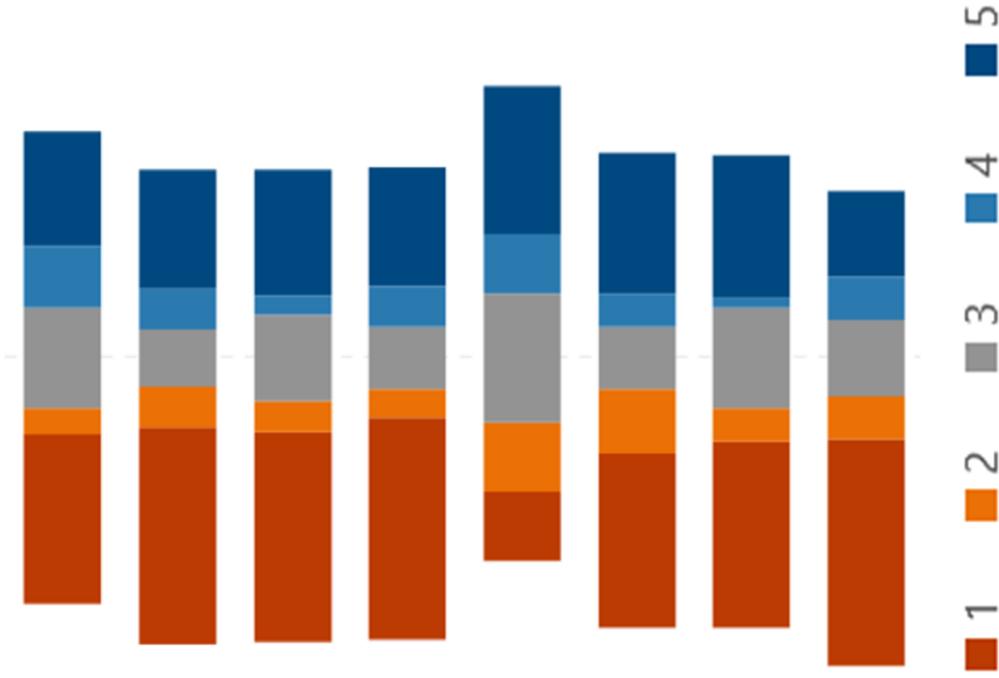
D. Youth summer day camp programs

E. Youth sports league  
(baseball/football/soccer/softball)

F. Club sports

G. Youth performing arts

H. Youth arts and crafts



H. Youth arts and crafts

I. Programs for teens

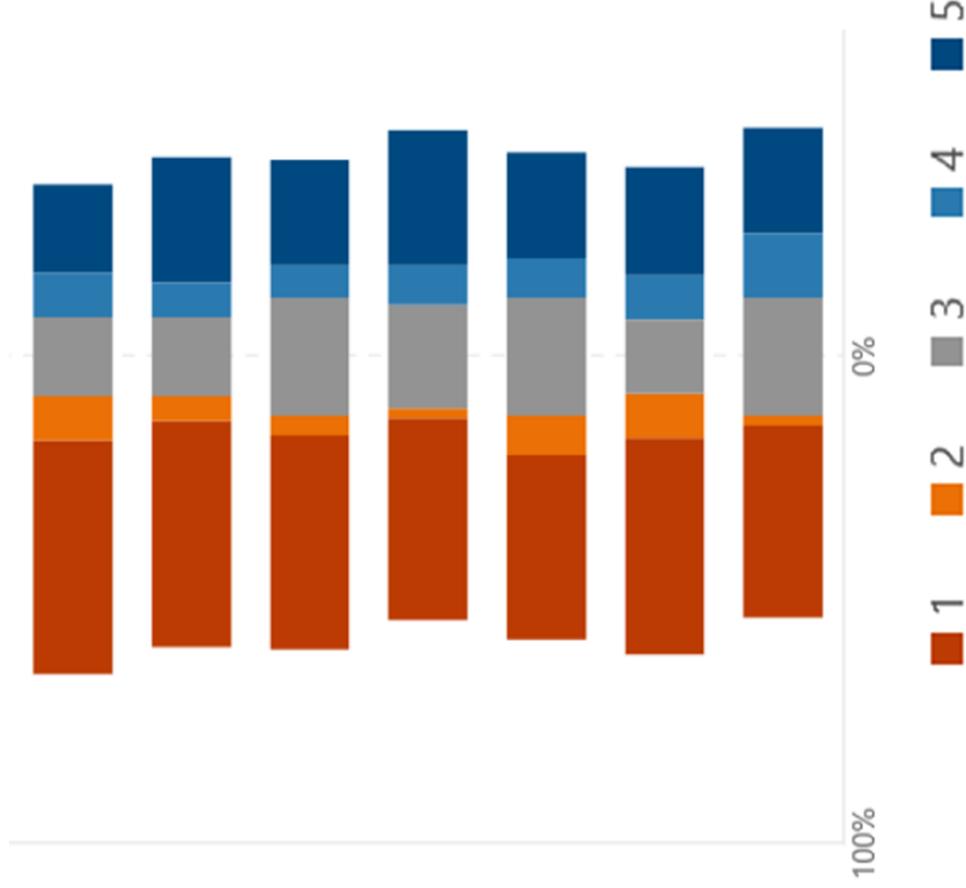
J. Instructional classes (ex. yoga, taekwondo)

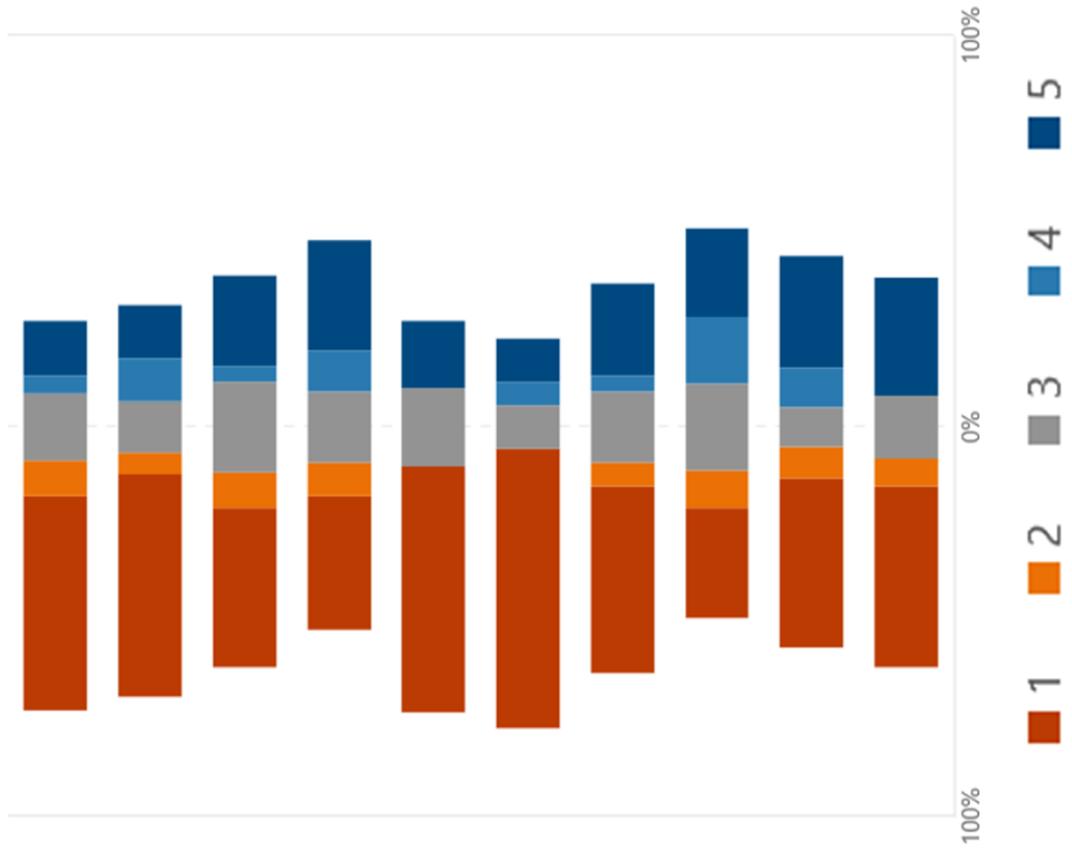
K. Adult fitness, health and wellness programs

L. Adult water fitness programs

M. Adult performing arts

N. Adults sports league





# Which **FOUR** of the programs from the lists in previous two questions are most **important** to your household?

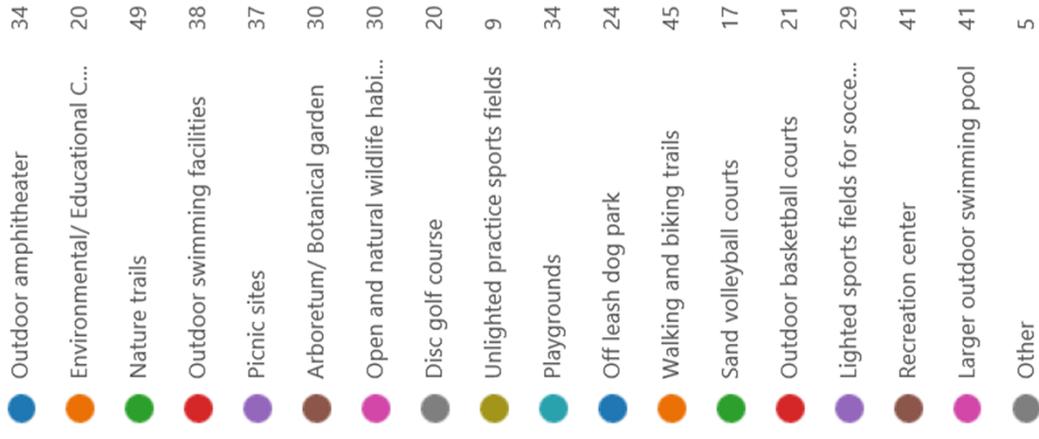
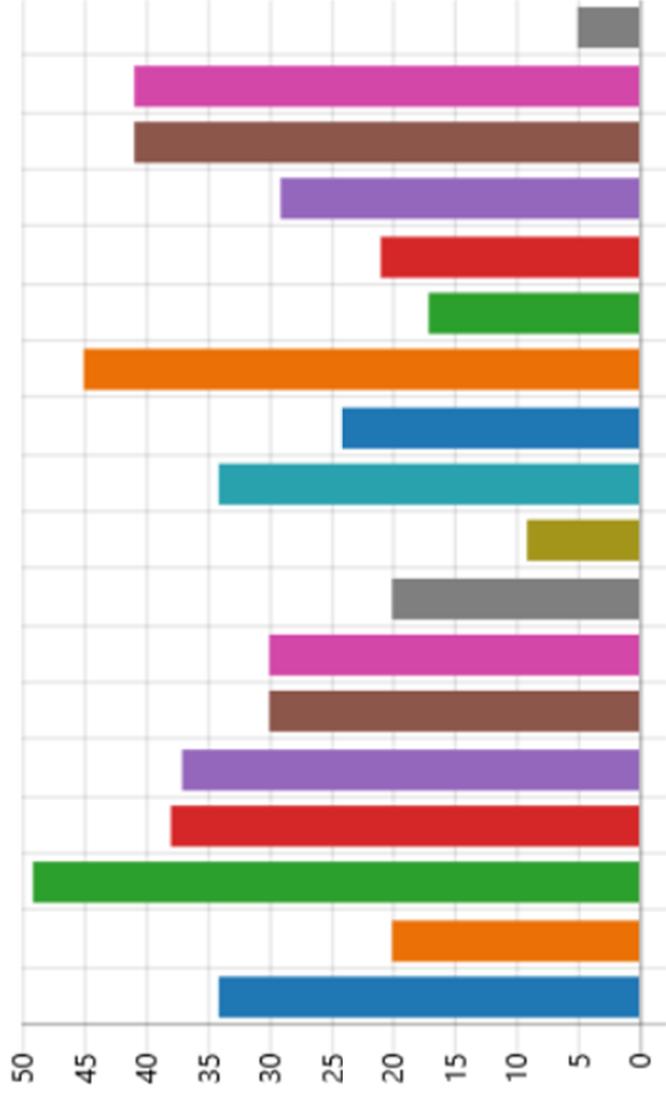
<u>Votes</u>	<u>Program</u>
26	Walking and jogging
26	Special events / festivals
19	Biking / hiking
13	Nature Programs / environmental education
11	Fishing programs
8	Hiking
8	None
6	Gymnastics
5	Programs for people with disabilities

<u>Votes</u>	<u>Program</u>
4	BMX racing programs
3	Tennis lessons and leagues
2	Preschool programs
2	Youth learn to swim
2	Club sports
1	Youth leagues
1	Adult fitness, health and wellness programs
1	Instructional classes (ex. yoga, taekwondo)

**IF the City of Aurora were considering acquiring  
land for development of park facilities,**

then from the following list, please check  
ALL the parks and facilities that you would  
**SUPPORT** being developed at a new park  
in Aurora.

## Of the 63 survey respondents:



The following are **major actions** that the City of Aurora could take **to improve the Parks and Recreation system**. Please indicate whether you would be very supportive, somewhat supportive, or not supportive of each action.

■ Very Supportive   ■ Somewhat Supportive   ■ Not supportive   ■ Neutral

A. Acquire open space for passive activities (ex. trails/picnicking)

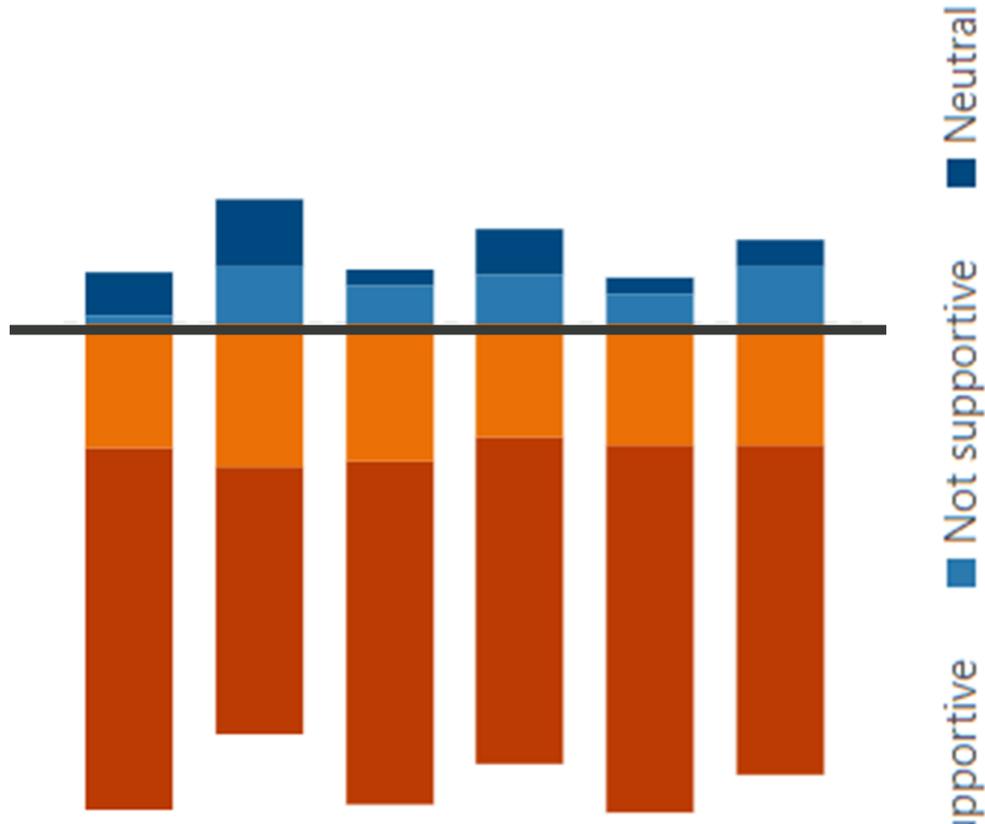
B. Acquire open space for active activities (ex. soccer/baseball/ etc.)

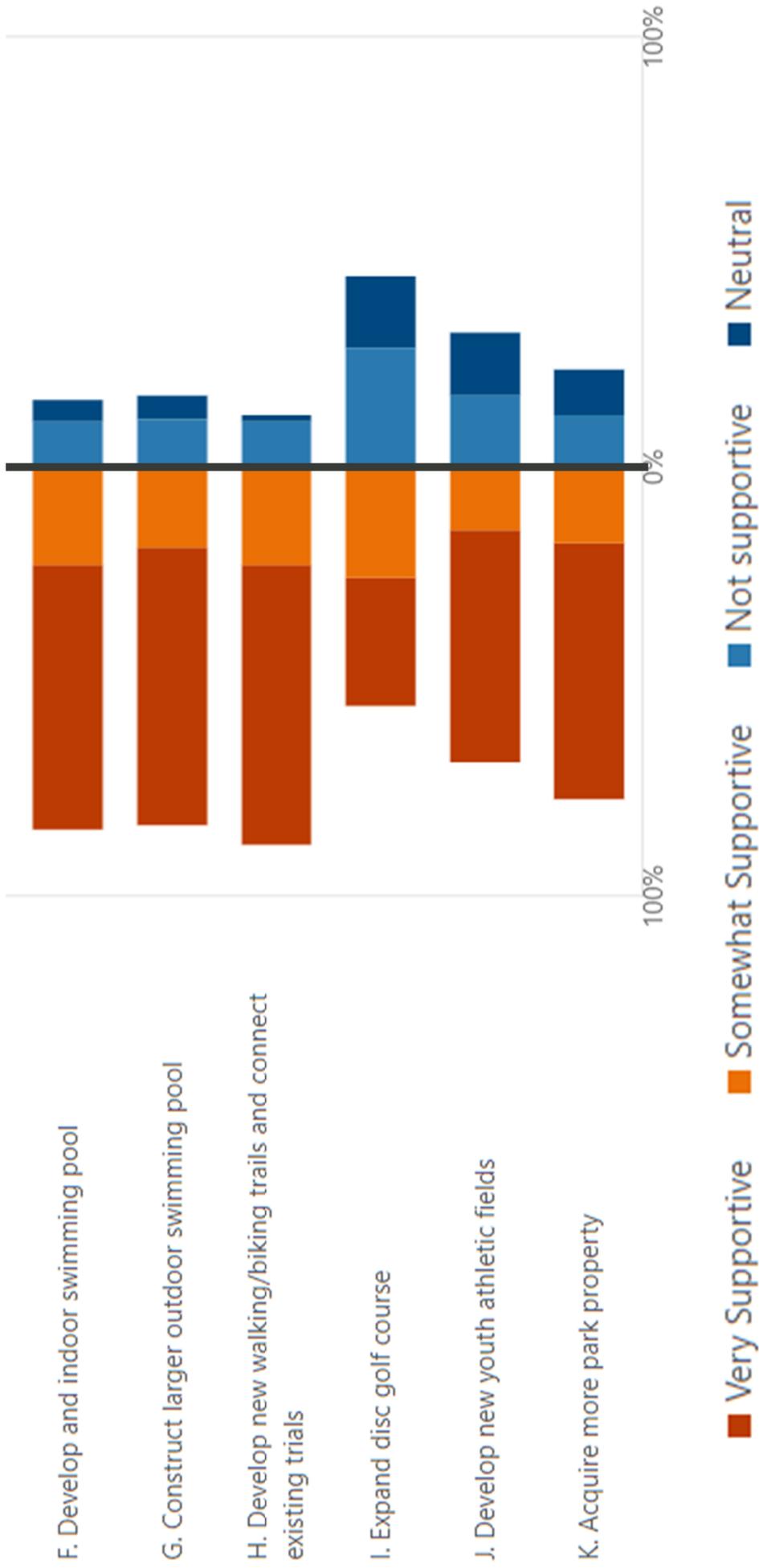
C. Upgrade existing neighborhoods and community parks

D. Upgrade existing youth/adult athletic fields

E. Construct an Aurora community/ recreation center

F. Develop and indoor swimming pool





# Which **THREE** of the **ACTIONS** are **MOST important** to your household for the City of Aurora to take?

## **Notes**

**22**

Construct an Aurora community center

**22**

Develop an indoor swimming pool

**16**

Acquire open space for passive activities (ex. trails, picnics)

**15**

Upgrade existing neighbor hood and community parks

**15**

Develop new walking/biking trails and connect existing trails

**13**

Upgrade existing youth/adult athletic fields

**13**

Construct larger outdoor swimming pool

**9**

Develop new youth athletic fields

**8**

Expand disc golf

**6**

Acquire more park property

**5**

Acquire open space for active activities (ex. soccer, baseball)

# What are your preferred locations to access by walking, hiking, and/or bicycling?

<u>Votes</u>	<u>Preferred Location</u>
16	White Park
6	Do not care
5	Baldwin Park
3	Oak Park
3	Nature
3	Woods
2	Schools
2	Downtown

<u>Votes</u>	<u>Preferred Location</u>
2	Everywhere
2	Safe
1	Ballfields
1	Maple Cemetery
1	Water Feature
1	Elliott Avenue
1	Porter Street

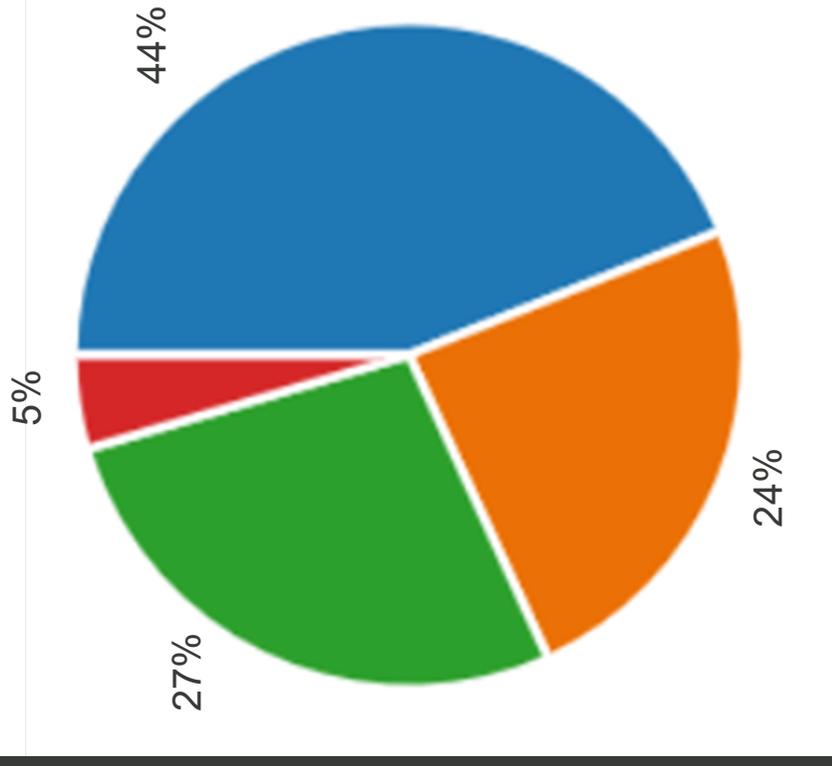
**Currently, the City of Aurora has a 1/2 cent sales tax that is used to maintain and improve parks, trails and recreation facilities. Implementing the types of improvements that you have indicated are most important to you and members of your household might require an additional tax.**

**Knowing that which of the following options would you most support regarding a future 1/8th cent sales tax?**

## Votes

**29**

- Passing an **additional tax** to be used to develop and maintain the types of indoor and outdoor parks, trails and recreation facilities that are most important to our household.
- Passing an additional tax, which would **expire in 10 years**, to be used to develop the types of indoor and outdoor parks, trails and recreation facilities that are most important to our household.
- **Not sure**.
- **I do not support passing an additional tax** even if it means that no additional indoor and outdoor parks, trails, and recreation facilities are developed.

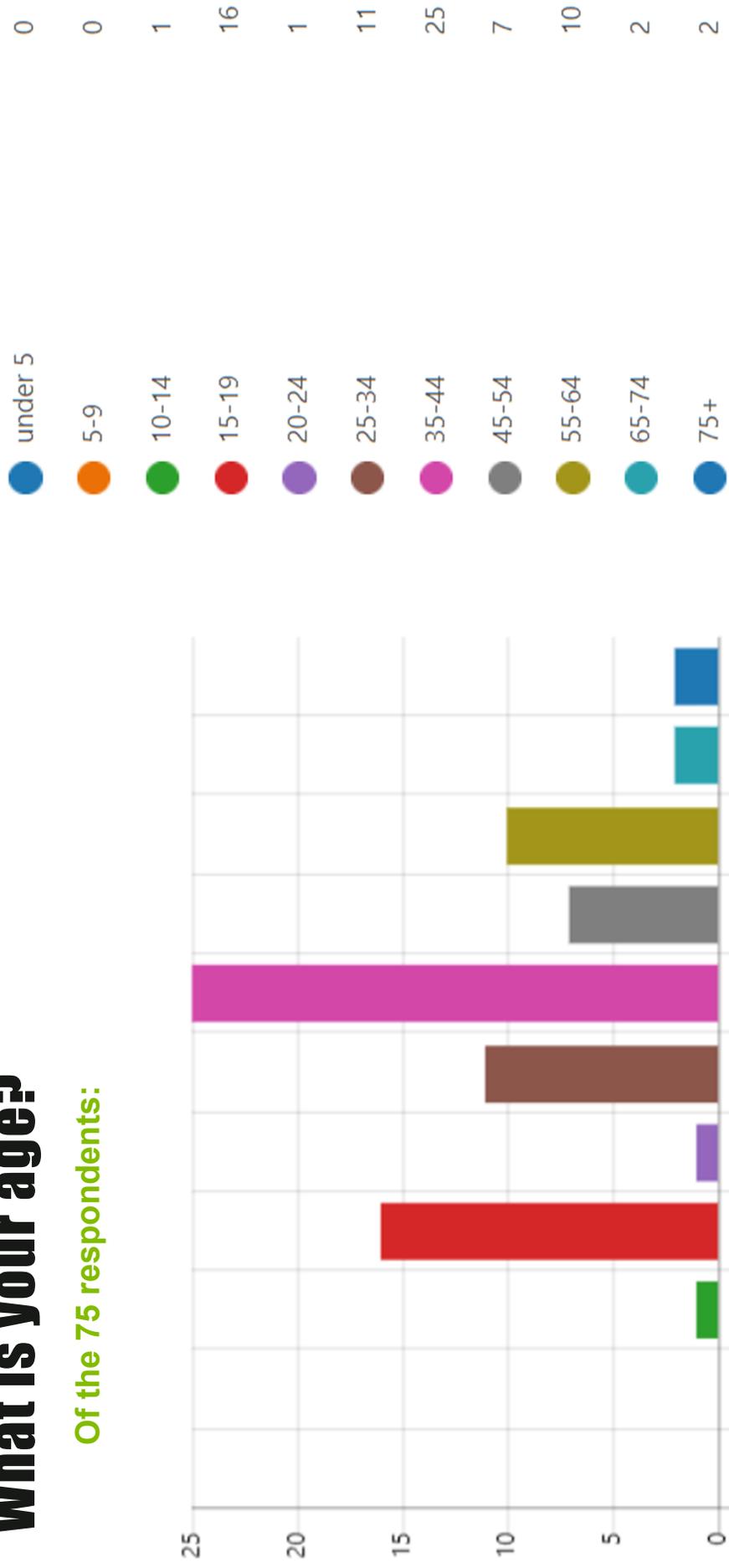


# Counting yourself, how many people are in your household?

<u>Household Size</u>	<u>Respondents</u>
1	5
2	15
3	9
4	13
5	16
6	7
7+	3

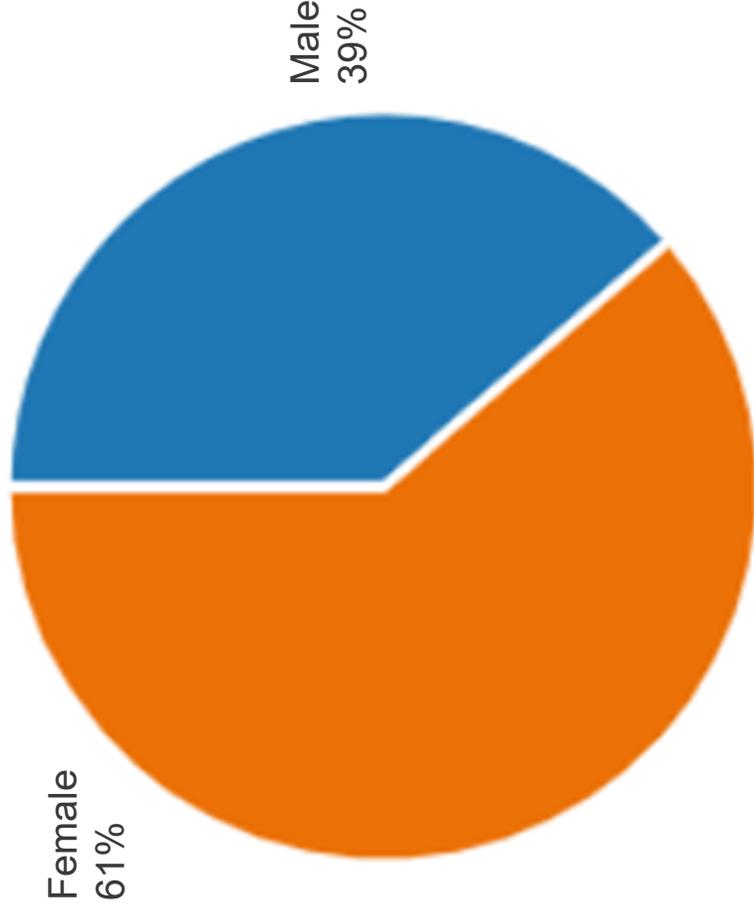
# What is your age?

Of the 75 respondents:



## What is your gender?

- Male – 29
- Female – 46
- Prefer not to answer – 0



## **APPENDIX C**

### ADA Compliance Summary and Inventory

# **ADA COMPLIANCE SUMMARY AND INVENTORY**

## **Summary:**

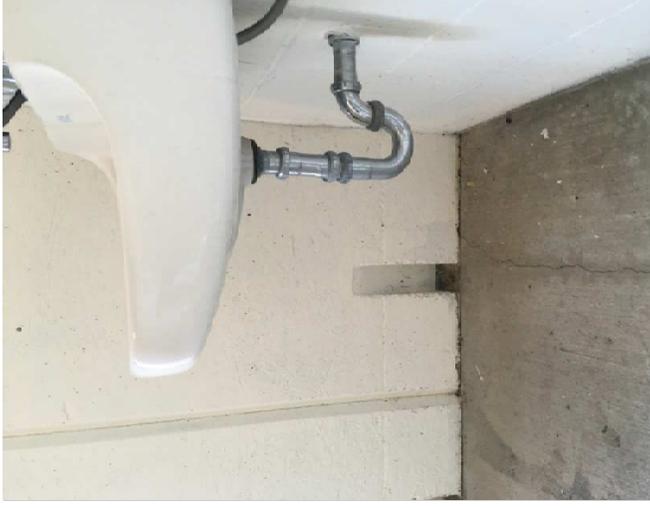
During August, Olsson staff visited each of the parks and the facilities within them to review the current compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Following those visits, Olsson prepared a list of items that were in need of modification. The following pages include:

- November 16, 2021 presentation overview
- ADA Compliance Checklist

Since the development of the checklist, park staff have been working to bring various items into compliance. Some items require more effort than others to retrofit fixtures, path of travel, etc. It is important to prioritize the work and to continually progress toward full compliance. Olsson recommends park staff revisit each of the facilities annually to verify compliance.

# Bathrooms

- No park bathrooms are fully compliant with ADA's accessibility standards.
- Typical Non-Compliant items:
  - Door width
  - Stall area
  - Bathroom fixture height



The parks were inventoried in July 2021. Where there is an "X" in the non-compliant column, the issue needs to be addressed per the recommended correction/modification column.

\* = If there is more than one fixture, the fixture that is intended to be ADA compliant should be corrected/modified.  
 = this item didn't exist at this location

Men's	Code	Recommended Correction/Modification	White Park Pool Bathrooms		White Park Skate Bathrooms		White Park Tennis Bathrooms		White Park Legion Field Bathrooms		Oak Park Bathrooms		Crosby Park Bathrooms		Baldwin Park Bathrooms	
			NON-COMPLIANT	Meas.	NON-COMPLIANT	Meas.	NON-COMPLIANT	Meas.	NON-COMPLIANT	Meas.	NON-COMPLIANT	Meas.	NON-COMPLIANT	Meas.	NON-COMPLIANT	Meas.
Sink	606.3/606/2	Reinstall sink to 34" max height above floor	X	36"	X	35"	NON-COMPLIANT (SMALL ENTRY)	X	NON-COMPLIANT (SMALL ENTRY)	X	34"	X	34.75"	X	32" AND 35"	24" knee clearance (pipe cannot obstruct clearance)
Door Handle	404.2.7	Reinstall between 34-48" above floor	NA	NO DOOR	NA	NO MEAS.	X	X	X	46"	NA	38"	NA	NO MEAS.		
Door Signage Wrong location	703.1	Install identification sign on wall next to latch side of door 40" to 70" above ground		66"	NA	NO SIGNAGE	X	X	X	68"		70"		64"		
Toilet Seat Too low (or too high)	604.4	Raise the toilet seat to 17"-19" from floor level	X*	(3) 15.5"	X	16"	X	X	X	18"	X	20"	X	17"		
Side Bar Height Bar set too low to floor	609.4	Reinstall the bar level at 33"-36" from floor		(2) 33.5-29" (angle)		34.5"	X	X	X	35"		34.5"		35"		
Side Bar Length Grab bar is too short	604.5.1	Reinstall 36" (min.) bar 12" from wall	X	25"	X	43"	X	X	X	43"		43"		43"		
Back Bar Height Bar set too low to floor	609.4	Bar level at 33"-36" from floor	X	Bar Needed	X	34.5"	X	X	X	35"		34.5"		35"		
Back Bar Length Grab bar is too short	604.5.1	36" (min.) length bar 12" from wall	X	Bar Needed	X	37"	X	X	X	37"		37"		36"		
Urinal (Wall hung) Placed too high off floor level	605.2	Lower urinals such that rim is no higher than 17" off of floor	X*	(2) 25.5"			X	X	X					(2) 24"		North and South Tot Parks
Soap Dispenser Placed too high off floor	308.2.1	Lower soap dispenser such that level is 48" from floor (max.) *Dispenser is only front accessible		37"			X	X	X					35"		ADA Notes
Towel Dispenser Placed too high from floor	308.2.2	Reinstall the towel dispenser such that level is 48" from floor (max.)	X	52.5"			X	X	X					50"		No Parking, Walkways or Bathrooms were provided at these locations
Mirror Placed too high off floor level	603.3	Lower mirror to where bottom edge is 40" from floor (max.)		44.5"			X	X	X					49"		
Sink Faucet	309.4	Parts shall not need twisting of wrist	X	Wrist Turn knobs	X	Wrist Turn knobs	X	X	X					Normal		





Parking	Code	Recommended Correction/Modification	White Park Main Office Parking		White Park Pool Parking		White Park Skate Parking		White Park Tennis Parking		White Park Legion Parking		Oak Park Parking		Crosby Park Parking		Baldwin Park Parking		
			NON-COMPLIANT	# of Spots / Slope / Notes	NON-COMPLIANT	# of Spots / Slope / Notes	NON-COMPLIANT	# of Spots / Slope / Notes	NON-COMPLIANT	# of Spots / Slope / Notes	NON-COMPLIANT	# of Spots / Slope / Notes	NON-COMPLIANT	# of Spots / Slope / Notes	NON-COMPLIANT	# of Spots / Slope / Notes	NON-COMPLIANT	# of Spots / Slope / Notes	NON-COMPLIANT
<b>Accessible Parking Space</b> No accessible space	208.2	Provided an accessible space exists: Make an 8' space with an 8' aisle adjacent and provide correct signage/stripping		1 ADA Stall		1 ADA Stall	NA	No ADA Stall Provided		1 ADA Stall		2 ADA Stalls		4 ADA Stalls		1 ADA Stall provided but only in one parking location (3 lots total)		X	No Parking was Provided
	502.4/503.4	Accessible space should be re-paved to not exceed 2% cross slope	X	2.6% Cross slope		1.4% Cross Slope	NA	No ADA Stall Provided	X	0.2% Cross Slope		3.5% and 5.5% Cross slopes	X	The slopes were 0.9%/1.2%/1.0%/2.6% ← This slope was the NW most stall	X	2.5% Cross Slope		X	No Parking was Provided
<b>Elevation Change</b> (the lip between two abutting pavements)	303.2	Change in elevation between parking or sidewalk shall not exceed 1/4"	X	Grade changes between parking location and accessible route across Lewis Slaw Dr.	X	Both sidewalk entrances into pool building exceed 3/4" change in elevation (seen in pictures)		No elevation change was seen on walk or parking lot	X	No elevation change was seen on walk or parking lot		Multiple bumps and uneven locations in lot	X	All walks/pavement locations were elevation change compliant		No elevation change was seen on walk or parking lot		X	No Parking/walkways were Provided
	502.6	Provide a sign on one of the existing accessible spaces designating is as van accessible (8' wide aisle needed adjacent)	X	No van-accessible space (only one space is provided)	X	No van-accessible space (only one space is provided)	X	No ADA Stall Provided	X	No van-accessible space (only one space is provided)		No van-accessible space provided	X	No van-accessible spaces were provided even though there were locations for them	X	No van-accessible space (only one space is provided)		X	No van-accessible space (only one space is provided)
<b>Accessible Parking Paint</b> Paint is fading	502.2	Re-paint striping for accessible spaces	X	ADA Parking symbol inside space is faded	X	There is no ADA symbol inside of space	NA	No ADA Stall Provided	X	ADA Parking symbol inside space is faded		All ADA Markings are faded	X	All ADA Parking symbols inside spaces are faded		Paint was not faded		X	No Parking was Provided
	502.7	Switch the aisle or place new striping adjacent to accessible space	X	Accessible space provided to the right of space	X	There is no accessible aisle on either side of space	NA	No ADA Stall Provided	X	Accessible space provided to the right of space		Accessible aisle is on wrong side and not wide enough	X	The NE and SW ADA stalls had striping in the wrong location		Accessible aisles were provided on both sides and the space was wide		X	No Parking was Provided
<b>Accessible Route</b> (All)	F206.2.2/1008.2/303.2	Accessible route to all location should be a min. of 36" wide and a slope no more than 1:12	X	Slope is exceeded when entering the Lewis Slaw Dr. crossing / 3.6% Cross Slope	X	Striping walkway and accessible walk to building both exceed Cross Grade: Strip: 2.2% (more in some locations) Walk: 2.6% (more in some locations)		Sidewalk and parking lot did not exceed slope requirements and were wide enough	X	Sidewalk and parking lot did not exceed slope requirements and were wide enough but they did not reach all locations		Accessible aisles do not reach all locations (dugouts and rough parking area)	X	There were no accessible routes any location in the park (playground, bathroom, some benches, etc.)		No routes were accessible to the volleyball and ballfield areas as well as any of the pavilions		X	No accessible routes were provided to the soccer and ballfields as well as the concessions area



## **APPENDIX D**

White Park and Baldwin Park Community Input

# **WHITE PARK AND BALDWIN PARK COMMUNITY INPUT**

## **Summary:**

On January 19, 2022, Olsson staff met with the general public and stakeholders to receive input regarding the master planning of facilities for both White Park and Baldwin Park. The meeting also included a discussion regarding the existing FEMA floodway within White Park and the types of park features that are typically appropriate within a floodway. The following pages include the listing of items proposed for each property.

# White Park – Community Input

Community Meeting January 18, 2022

## Low Area

1. Trail
  - a. Pedestrian access
  - b. Provide connections to facilities
  - c. Historical markers
  - d. Outdoor musical instruments
  - e. Tree species identification markers
  - f. Obstacle course for adults & youth. Balance beam, rope bridge
2. Soccer fields
3. Full 18-hole disc golf
4. Miniature golf

## High Area

1. All season ADA accessible restroom
2. ADA compliant parking
3. Update park entry
4. Add pavilions
5. One full basketball court for 3 on 3 tournaments
6. Playground equipment
7. Handball wall
8. Amphitheater at hill by pool
9. Pool area becomes tennis courts
10. Update sand volleyball court
11. Batting cages
12. Upgrade Old Legion Hall to pavilion. Upgrade community building.

## General

1. Plantings
  - a. Increase amount of trees
  - b. Native plantings and prairie areas
  - c. Sound buffer for skate park
  - d. Picnic areas under trees
  - e. Garden Exchange, FAA, & tree sponsors for planting enhancements
2. Keep road going through the park
3. Expand park to Carnation Street

# Baldwin Park – Community Input

Community Meeting January 18, 2022

## North Zone

1. Ballfields
  - a. Moved from White Park
  - b. Revenue generating – tournaments (ex. Sandlot)
  - c. Versatile fields for various age groups. Consider collapsible fencing to convert baseball to softball.
  - d. 5 additional fields. Including 2 large fields
  - e. 1 additional men's softball field
  - f. Place fields in relation to existing concession stand
2. Activities
  - a. Missouri Monarch football field
  - b. Playground
  - c. Inclusive playground
  - d. Open space – flexible
  - e. Berms or slopes for sledding and summer play
  - f. Mountain biking
  - g. Obstacle course – adults and youth
  - h. Water fountain / splash pad
  - i. Disc golf
  - j. Shuffleboard
  - k. Cornhole
  - l. Checkerboard – check out pieces at concession stand or automatic check out that charges if not returned
  - m. Runway for remote control planes
3. Facilities
  - a. Restroom by existing soccer fields (sewer line)
  - b. Shop building
  - c. New concession positioned where volunteers can see the game
  - d. Pavilion
  - e. RV and/or food truck – elec. Sites for special events
  - f. Update entry with nice signage
  - g. Good ample parking – away from ballfields for windshields
  - h. Pave other entry road (ex. by dog park)
4. Trails along perimeter of park
  - a. Walking trail – rustic, non-paved, ADA compliant surface
  - b. Horse trails
  - c. Historic Markers
  - d. Dog drinking fountains
  - e. More shade
  - f. Fitness stations
5. Plantings
  - a. Add trees
  - b. Utilize native plants

- c. Increase shade
- 6. Pond
  - a. Fishing
  - b. Fountain
- 7. Fence
  - a. Upgrade perimeter fence from barb wire to two or three wooden post and rail
- 8. Safety
  - a. Increased lighting
  - b. Automated locks for restrooms and gates
  - c. Wi-fi and security cameras

### South Zone

- 1. Brownfield Site
  - a. Concern for sinkholes and mine shafts
- 2. Fence
  - a. Fence for restricted access
- 3. Shooting range maintained and open to public
  - a. Public use requires insurance
  - b. Currently used by regional law enforcement only
  - c. Noise issue for neighbors

### Community Fair Style – Light the Night (typ. Father’s Day weekend)

- 1. Contests
- 2. Games, small
- 3. Food cart
- 4. Band
- 5. Fireworks
- 6. Showcase softball/baseball/soccer game

## **APPENDIX E**

### White Park and Baldwin Park Preliminary Concepts

# WHITE PARK AND BALDWIN PARK PRELIMINARY CONCEPTS

## Summary:

Based on the input from the meeting on January 19<sup>th</sup>, Olsson developed the following preliminary concepts.

- Baldwin Park – Concept 1
  - Leaving the firing range in place
  - Separating the loop road from the parking areas to reduce potential pedestrian/vehicular points of conflict.
- Baldwin Park – Concept 2
  - Changing the firing range to a natural area for trails, picnicking, and play.
  - Including a pond
  - Including additional small ballfields
- Baldwin Park – Sketch 1
  - Reducing primary ballfields to four
- Baldwin Park – Sketch 2
  - Reducing primary ballfields to four
  - Deleting additional small ballfields to allow for ample distance between outfield to parking.
- Baldwin Park – Review of Fireworks locations (past and future)
- White Park – Concept 1
  - Utilizing the existing property
  - Utilizing a round-about at the northern park entrance
  - Amphitheatre on the north side of the creek
  - Basketball court replacing the existing Lion's Club building
- White Park – Concept 2
  - Expanding the park property west over to Carnation Avenue
    - Three additional soccer field.
    - Additional parking.
  - Amphitheatre on the south side of the creek
  - Basketball court near the existing maintenance shop
- White Park – Consideration of Potential Future Land Acquisition and Sale (or Swap)







Baldwin Park – Sketch 2





# White Park – Concept 1

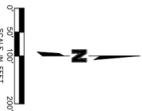
DWG: \\s04.dconsonline.com\file-server\projects\2021\03207-03207\01-Design\AutoCAD\ Preliminary Plans\SheetA\ONCV\rev01\2022.02.24\C\_15001\_02103207.dwg USER: mreynolds  
 DATE: Feb 24, 2022 4:38pm REV: C: 0042\_01103207\_01 C: P: 04\_02103207\_01 C: P: 04\_02103207\_01



**WHITE PARK**  
**MASTER PLAN**  
**CONCEPTUAL LAYOUT #1**

### White Park Wish List

- Low Area**
1. Pedestrian access
  2. Provide connections to facilities
  3. Historical markers
  4. Outdoor musical instruments
  5. Tree species identification markers
  6. Open-air canopy for shade & work. Balance beam, rope bridge
- High Area**
1. All season ADA accessible restroom
  2. ADA compliant parking
  3. Under park entry
  4. Add pavilions
  5. One full basketball court for 3 on 3 tournaments
  6. Playground equipment
  7. Handball wall
  8. Amphitheater at hill by pool
  9. Pool area becomes tennis courts
  10. Update sand volleyball court
  11. Existing sand volleyball court
  12. Upgrade Old Legion Hall to pavilion. Upgrade existing existing building
- General**
1. Plantings
  2. Increase amount of trees
  3. Native plantings and prairie areas
  4. Sound barrier for skate park
  5. Picnic areas under trees
  6. Garden exchange, park, & tree sponsors for planting enhancements
  7. Keep road going through the park
  8. Expand park to Carnation Street



SHEET 1 OF 4	<b>WHITE PARK</b> <b>CONCEPT PLAN 1</b>		REV. NO.    DATE    REVISION DESCRIPTION	
	COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AURORA MO PARKS & RECREATION			
AURORA, MISSOURI			REVISIONS	560 So. Lewis St. Springfield, MO 65806    TEL. 417.890.8802    www.olson.com





## **APPENDIX F**

### Opinion of Probable Construction Costs

# **OPINION OF PROBABLE CONSTRUCTION COSTS**

## **Summary:**

The opinion of probable construction costs (OPC) included in this report are in Spring 2022 dollars. Given the recent inflation due to both the COVID-19 Pandemic, and the war between Russia and Ukraine, as well as the anticipation of continued inflation for a period of time, these costs will need to be reassessed quarterly until supply and demand has rebalanced. Following such, the costs might be able to be reassessed annually.

- Baldwin Park – Final Concept OPC
- White Park – Final Concept OPC

# Park Master Plan - Aurora, MO, Preliminary Opinion of Probable Costs



5/20/2022

	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Cost
<b>Baldwin Park Improvements</b>				
Main Drive - Asphalt surface with Agg Base (24' wide asphalt)(no curb)	19,350	SY	\$ 55.00	\$1,064,250.00
6' Height Perimeter Chainlink Fencing	3,340	LF	\$ 40.00	\$133,600.00
Gates (per pair)	2	EA	\$ 5,600.00	\$11,200.00
Crosswalks (pavement marking & signage)	1	Lump Sum	\$ 32,000.00	\$32,000.00
Parking Lot - Asphalt surface with Agg Base (no curb)	22,650	SY	\$ 55.00	\$1,245,750.00
Parking Lot Lighting	1	Lump Sum	\$140,000.00	\$140,000.00
Restroom Building	3	Each	\$310,000.00	\$930,000.00
Maintenance Building	1	Each	\$170,000.00	\$170,000.00
Pedestrian Concrete Areas (non-sidewalk)	18,618	SF	\$ 4.80	\$89,366.40
4" Concrete Sidewalks (based on 5' width)	2,960	LF	\$ 24.00	\$71,040.00
4" Concrete Trail (based on 8' width)	10,920	LF	\$ 38.00	\$414,960.00
4" Concrete Trail (based on 12' width)	1,690	SF	\$ 58.00	\$98,020.00
Mountain Bike Trail, unpaved	6,670	LF	\$ 10.00	\$66,700.00
Baseball/Softball Fields (Includes grading from subgrade up (8" topsoil), dugouts with sunscreen, fencing, backstop, foul poles, warning track, infield skins, seeding, irrigation, scoreboard conduit)	2	Each	\$310,000.00	\$620,000.00
Bleachers (2 per softball field, 1 per soccer field)	4	Each	\$ 7,200.00	\$28,800.00
Baseball/Softball Scoreboards	2	Each	\$ 33,000.00	\$66,000.00
Athletic Field Lighting (baseball/softball fields)(per field)	2	Each	\$220,000.00	\$440,000.00
Basketball Court	1	Lump Sum	\$ 80,000.00	\$80,000.00
On Site Irrigation Main	1	Lump Sum	\$ 70,000.00	\$70,000.00
Hosebibs for Watering Fields	1	Lump Sum	\$ 10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Playgrounds (small)	2	Each	\$128,000.00	\$256,000.00
Seeding (areas other than fields noted above)	1	Lump Sum	\$ 28,000.00	\$28,000.00
Splash Pad (and pump house)	1	Lump Sum	\$375,000.00	\$375,000.00
			<b>SUBTOTAL:</b>	<b>\$6,440,686.40</b>
<b>Contingency (20.0%)</b>				<b>\$1,288,137.28</b>
			<b>*Project Total</b>	<b>\$7,728,823.68</b>

**\*Exclusions from Opinion of Probable Cost**

- Surveying and Design Fees
- Renovation of existing roadway
- Renovation of existing restroom/concession
- Earthwork (excavation, compaction, erosion control)
- Landscaping (except for seeding, which is included above)
- Signage
- Offsite and Onsite Utility Extensions to new features/structures
- Storm Drainage
- Park Entry Monument Sign
- Future Basketball Court

# Park Master Plan - Aurora, MO, Preliminary Opinion of Probable Costs



5/20/2022

	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Cost
<b>White Park Improvements</b>				
Round-About - Asphalt surface with Agg Base (no curb)	1,200	SY	\$ 55.00	\$66,000.00
Crosswalks (pavement marking & signage)	1	Lump Sum	\$ 8,000.00	\$8,000.00
Parking Lot - Asphalt surface with Agg Base (no curb)	9,660	SY	\$ 55.00	\$531,300.00
Parking Lot Lighting	1	Lump Sum	\$ 65,000.00	\$65,000.00
Restroom Building	3	Each	\$310,000.00	\$930,000.00
Pedestrian Concrete Areas (non-sidewalk)	1,160	SF	\$ 4.80	\$5,568.00
4" Concrete Sidewalks (based on 5' width)	1,610	LF	\$ 24.00	\$38,640.00
4" Concrete Trail (based on 8' width)	2,340	LF	\$ 38.00	\$88,920.00
Pedestrian Bridge over unnamed tributary (longer and wider)	1	LS	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00
Soccer Field/Mighty Mite Fields (Includes grading from subgrade up (8" topsoil), seed, irrigation, goal posts)	3	Each	\$100,000.00	\$300,000.00
Playing Field Equipment (for 3 fields)	1	Lump Sum	\$ 7,500.00	\$7,500.00
Bleachers ( 1 per soccer field/mighty mite field)	3	Each	\$ 7,200.00	\$21,600.00
Athletic Field Lighting (soccer fields)(per field)	3	Each	\$ 56,000.00	\$168,000.00
Basketball Court	2	Each	\$ 80,000.00	\$160,000.00
Tennis Court	2	Each	\$ 80,000.00	\$160,000.00
Pickleball Court	6	Each	\$ 45,000.00	\$270,000.00
On Site Irrigation Main	1	Lump Sum	\$ 60,000.00	\$60,000.00
Hosebibs for Watering Fields	1	Lump Sum	\$ 10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Seeding (areas other than fields noted above)	1	Lump Sum	\$ 11,000.00	\$11,000.00
Skatepark (all new)	1	Lump Sum	\$ 80,000.00	\$80,000.00
Amphitheater	1	Lump Sum	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
Miniature Golf (9 hole)	1	Lump Sum	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00
Reroute Disc Golf	1	Lump Sum	\$ 10,000.00	\$10,000.00
			<b>SUBTOTAL:</b>	<b>\$3,641,528.00</b>
<b>Contingency (20.0%)</b>				\$728,305.60
			<b>*Project Total</b>	<b>\$4,369,833.60</b>

**\*Exclusions from Opinion of Probable Cost**

- Surveying and Design Fees
- Demolition of existing pavement and structures
- Renovation of existing roadway
- Renovation of existing bathhouse
- Earthwork (excavation, compaction, erosion control)
- Landscaping (except for seeding, which is included above)
- Signage
- Offsite and Onsite Utility Extensions to new features/structures
- Storm Drainage Improvements
- Park Entry Monument Sign
- Potential future soccer fields, parking, restroom, and property acquisition

# **AURORA COMPREHENSIVE PARK PLAN**

City of Aurora, Missouri - 2022

May 2022

Olsson Project No. 021-03207