

CHART OUR FUTURE

The City of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Department 10-Year Strategic Master Plan

May 2019 through April 2029

Adopted June 3, 2019

Parks and Recreation Board

Charles Kohlmeier
Chairman

Rich Adams
Board Member

Paul Best
Board Member

Nancy Duffy
Board Member

Shannon Maguire
Board Member

Steve Reimer
Board Member

Melanie Walsh
Board Member

William Zordani
Student Board Member

Parks and Recreation Department Staff

Sally Swarthout
Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry

Joe Mobile
Superintendent of Recreation

Chuck Myers
Superintendent Cemetery, Parks, and Forestry

Friends of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Foundation

Patrick Marshall
Board Member, Strategic Planning Committee Chair

Ed Zarek
Board Member, Strategic Planning Committee Member

LAKE FOREST



Project Team
Hitchcock Design Group
Planning and Landscape Architecture



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Together, we've **Charted our Future!**

The Chart our Future 10-year Strategic Master Plan has been a year in the making and is the roadmap for the City of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation key stakeholders to align and drive continual growth and improvement of open space, facilities, recreation systems, and services. A coordinated team from the Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Department (LFPRD) and the Friends of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Foundation drove and funded this planning project. We listened carefully and are thrilled by how the community helped shape this vision, including its purpose-driven **Action Plan** (page 34) to guide development. The Parks and Recreation Department adopted its previous plan in 1995 and issued an update in 2008. This plan was instrumental in developing the successful parks and recreation system enjoyed by Lake Forest residents today.

The goal of this new 2019-2029 **10-Year Strategic Master Plan** is to expand on the previous plan's success and outline how our community and key stakeholders, led by LFRPD, will continue to provide quality parks, facilities, and services to current and future Lake Forest residents. The planning process identified infrastructure requirements, recreation trends, community needs, and resident expectations through an extensive data-gathering and community outreach process.

This process included **public workshops, focus groups, and surveys with over 740 Lake Forest residents** participating. The focus groups also included key individuals in the community with 13 participants representing 9 organizations including program/athletic associations and other public or not-for profit agencies. This information was supplemented with an analysis of regional, state, and local demographics and recreation trends. In addition to the extensive community outreach, a detailed inventory of the City's parks, open space, and indoor recreational facilities was conducted comparing them to national, state, and regional benchmarks of similar neighboring communities.

These results were used to develop **27 goals for facility, park and open space, and planning and policy improvements** ranging in scope and scale, organized in the action plan. Goals rising to the top of the list included:

- Improve existing and/or add new indoor recreational space
- Systematically upgrade and improve the most utilized and/or aging parks including athletic field conditions and drainage; and
- Evaluate new park amenities to bring into the community.

This **Action Plan** is a living-document that will be updated regularly to achieve the targeted-objectives in a fiscally responsible manner. The plan targets the highest priority items early in the timeline to enable appropriate feasibility assessments and provide time to seek public-private partnerships to help fund and implement the plan. As the strategy unfolds, the objectives will advance until the plan is accomplished. If funding or community priorities change, the timing of the objectives may shift to provide the sustainable future this plan prescribes.

We believe **Chart our Future** accurately responds to the City of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Department's current context, and future position in the community. As **Chart our Future** is implemented over the next ten years, it will continue to support the City's mission to "be the best-managed, fiscally-responsible, and appealing community which promotes a community spirit of trust, respect, and citizen involvement". Residents are encouraged to provide ongoing feedback, which will be incorporated as the plan advances.

Thanks for your help, and we'll see you at the park!





INTRODUCTION

The City of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Department, in partnership with the Friends of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Foundation, developed this plan, to guide park, facility, and program development decisions for the next ten years.

Purpose

The purpose of this Strategic Plan is to:

- Assess existing parks and facilities
- Determine community opinion about services and facilities
- Identify park, facility and program needs
- Define strategic and measurable needs and strategies
- Provide an action plan to implement strategies over the next ten years
- Benchmark Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Department assets relative to statewide industry standards and against other and local peer communities.
- Solicit community opinion regarding the current and/or desired state of Department facilities, assets, and associated uses.
- Define measurable needs and high level strategies to accomodate such needs.

Planning Process

The comprehensive planning process covers four key phases: Analyze, Connect, Envision, and Implement. This Master Plan compiles the results of the first two phases to develop the goals and objectives that will be accomplished through the 10-year action plan developed in the last two phases. The use of this document will assist in accomplishing the final phases of implementation and planning.

The planning process began in the spring of 2018 with an extensive inventory and analysis of the Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Department's parks and open spaces, indoor facilities, and community context. Staff, stakeholders, the Friends of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Foundation (Friends), Parks and Recreation Board, and the community shared their opinions about the Department's parks, facilities, programs, and needs during the Connect phase.

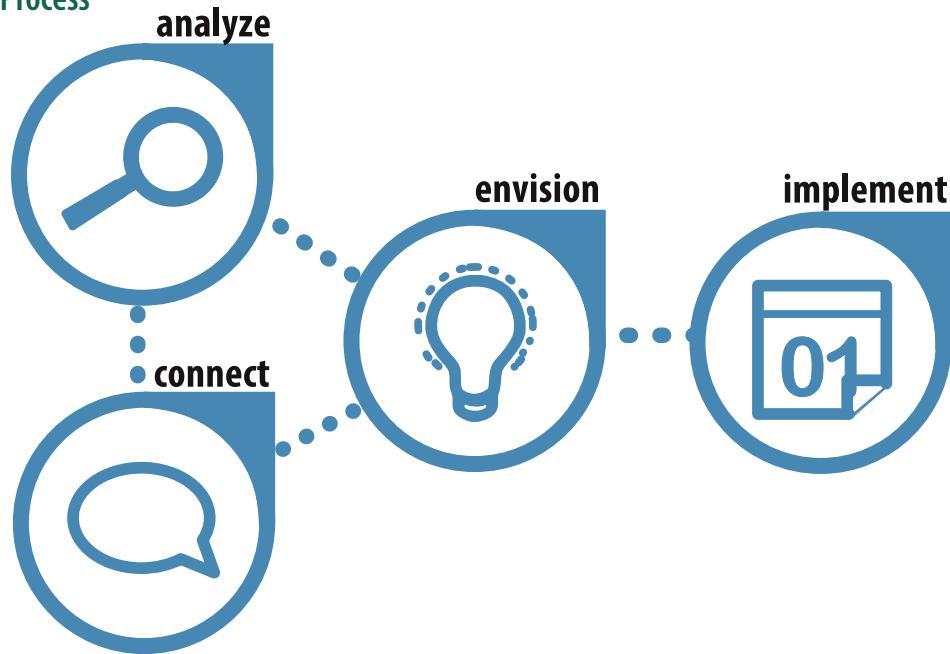
Upon completion of the Analyze and Connect phases, the planning team developed and prioritized alternative strategies which were organized into a ten-year action plan. Input from the staff and a joint Friends and Park Board meeting refined the strategies and their prioritization.

How to Use the Plan

This Comprehensive Plan document will be used by the Parks and Recreation Department as a guide to implementing action items over the next ten years. The first two chapters provide recommendations for the Department's next ten years while the last two chapters provide supporting evidence of those recommendations gained through the Analyze and Connect phases. The Action Plan in Chapter Two should be thought of as a "working list" that will need to be updated annually.

STRUCTURE OF THE DOCUMENT

Planning Process



Chapter One

Envision: Strategies

Chapter One outlines the needs that arose during the Analyze and Connect phases. It provides the background of those needs, synthesizing the results from the previous phases into justification and background for future action items and the strategies to achieve them.

Chapter Two

Implement: Action Plan

Chapter Two outlines the highest priority needs into a ten-year action plan. The action plan designates when strategies will occur and how to accomplish them.

Chapter Three

Analyze: Inventory and Analysis

Chapter Three provides a detailed inventory of parkland, open space, Department facilities, schools, and relevant adjacent land uses. Park assets are classified and quantified by standards, size, location, and amenities.

Chapter Four

Connect: Community Engagement

Chapter Four includes national, state, and local parks and recreation trends. It also includes summaries of the online engagement platform results, stakeholder interviews, staff workshops, and the joint Parks and Recreation Board and Friends of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation workshop.

Chapter Five

Appendix

Chapter Five Contains

- City of Lake Forest Resident Survey - Executive Summary
- Online Engagement Results
- Stakeholder Interview Summary
- Staff Workshop Summary
- Joint Board Workshop Summary

DEPARTMENT PROFILE

The Parks and Recreation Department serves the City of Lake Forest which covers approximately 17 square miles and serves a population of over 19,000 people. Located in Lake County, the Department maintains about 580 acres of recreation, special use, and school properties.

The Department properties include a golf course, a historic farm, a beach on Lake Michigan, and parks providing active and passive recreation located throughout the City. The Department also owns several facilities for indoor recreation, education, administration, and support services.

The City of Lake Forest is located on the eastern edge of Lake County, on the shore of Lake Michigan. The city is adjacent to the communities of Lake Bluff, Knollwood, Green Oaks, Mettawa, Lincolnshire, Bannockburn, Highland Park, and Highwood as well as sections of unincorporated Lake County. The City boundary overlaps the service areas of the Lake County Forest Preserve, Lake Forest Open Lands, Lake Forest Community High School District 115, Libertyville Community High School District 128, Lake Forest School District 67, Rondout School District 72, Lincolnshire-Prairieview School District 103, and North Shore School District 112.

The Park and Recreation Department works closely with multiple local agencies through cooperative relationships. Through their partnership with local school districts, the Department maintains specified playgrounds and a tennis court in exchange for use of the grounds and indoor program space outside of school hours. The Parks and Recreation Department also collaborates regularly with other City of Lake Forest Departments and has a history of private and public agreements that has resulted in land acquisitions, land swaps, park, and facility development and renovations, and program and facility operation.

In addition to partnerships, the Department is supported by the Friends of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Foundation. This volunteer group is lead by its own board of directors with the mission to promote the Department and the City's natural environment. The Foundation provides a number of services

to City Residents and the Department by providing participation scholarships, organizing events, advertising programs and facilities, and fundraising for significant recreation projects.

The Parks and Recreation Department is predominately funded through city taxes. User fees, donations, grants, and sales from rentals, concessions, and merchandise also contribute to Department Funding. The Department has also received donations of land and cash from individuals and business in the past.

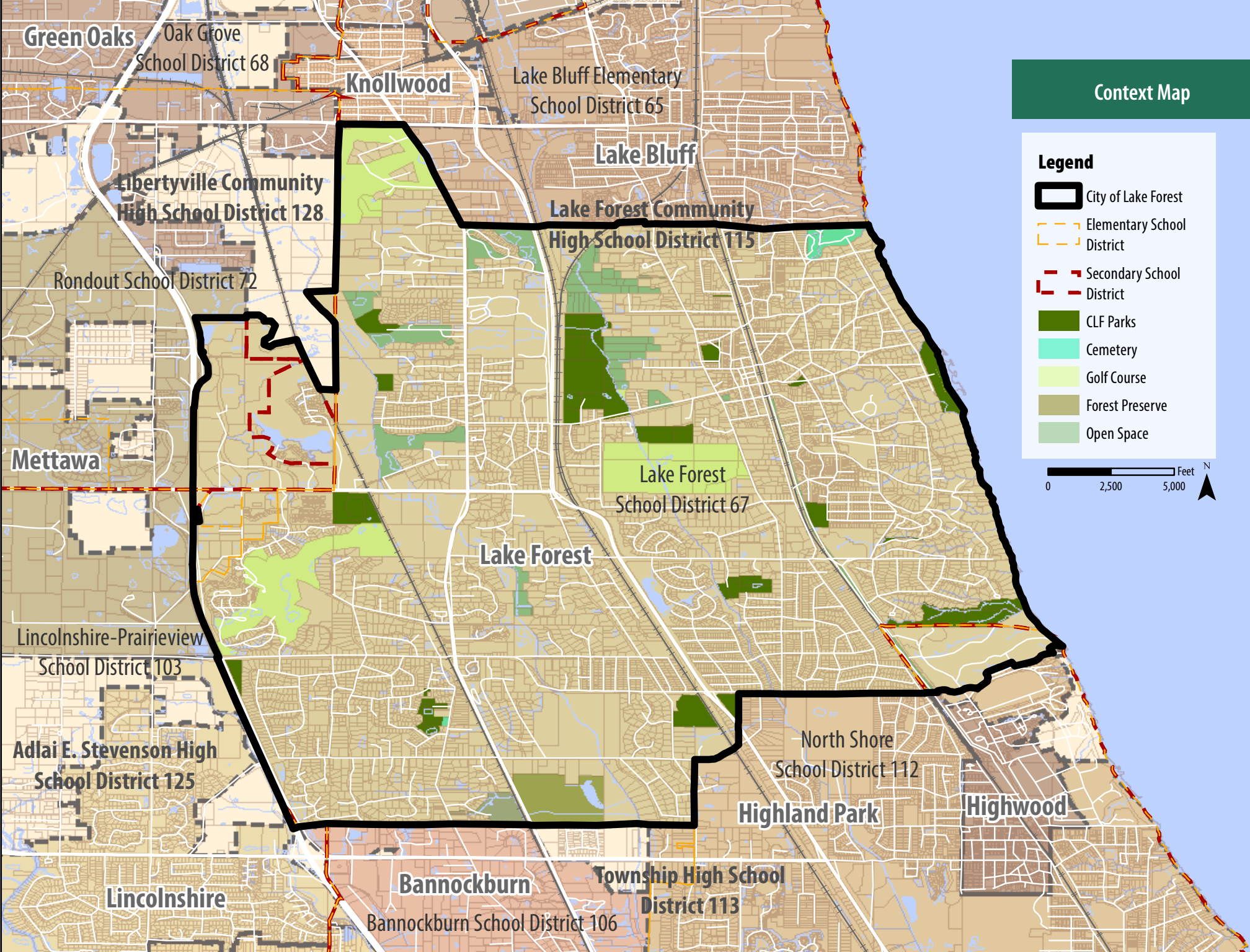
Organizational Structure

The seven-member Parks and Recreation Board serves the City and Department as an advisory body for development and operation of recreation programs, playgrounds, and all Department-owned facilities and properties. The Parks and Recreation Department is divided into three areas, Parks, Forestry, and Recreation. The Director is responsible for overseeing daily parks and recreation activity.

Related Plans

Related documents referenced during the master planning process included:

- Comprehensive Park and Facilities Plan for the City of Lake Forest Department of Parks and Recreation (2008)
- Lake Forest Sustainability Plan (2016)
- Bicycle Master Plan (2013)
- City of Lake Forest Resident Survey Report of Results (2016)
- The City of Lake Forest Zoning Map
- The City of Lake Forest Street Map



CHAPTER ONE

Envision: Strategies





OVERVIEW

This Chapter documents the Envision: Strategies Phase of the comprehensive master planning process outlining the community needs and strategies to meet them.

Purpose

The purpose of the Envision: Strategies Phase is to develop actionable items for the Parks and Recreation Department to strive to accomplish over the next ten years.

The project team conducted a visioning workshop to develop a series of community needs revealed during the Analyze and Connect Phases. These needs were then organized into primary goals and strategies to accomplish them. Following the visioning workshop, the planning team met with the Master Plan Task Force to review and build upon the proposed strategies.

Chapter Outline

This chapter is organized by the defined goals as listed in the following pages. Each goal includes a list of strategies and a description that relates back to the needs that were identified in the Analyze and Connect phases. These goals were later organized into a ten-year Action Plan or listed as recurring best practices in chapter 2.

ACTION PLAN ITEMS

Action Plan goals were identified by the Planning Team and refined by the Master Plan Task Force. Each goal was classified as a facility, park and open space, or planning and policy improvement or plan update that should be accomplished over the course of the next ten years.

Purpose

Items identified in the Action Plan focus on major changes to existing programs or infrastructure or the addition of new items that will meet the community needs identified in the Analyze and Connect phases.

Section Outline

Each goal is categorized as a facility, park and open space, planning and policy or plan update and includes a set of strategies to achieve the goal as well as a description of the need for the goal.

Facilities:

- Complete **Recreation Center Updates**
- Conduct **Indoor Space Needs Study**
- Complete **Recreation Center Renovations** per Indoor Space Needs Facility Study (if approved)
- Develop **New/Expanded Indoor Recreation Facility(s)** per Indoor Space Needs Facility Study (if approved)
- Develop **Forest Park Beach Boathouse**

Parks and Open Space:

- Improve **Vehicular and Pedestrian Access to Forest Park Beach**
- Continue to Implement **Deerpath Golf Course Improvements** per Master Plan
- Implement **South Park Improvements** per 2017 Master Plan
- **Conduct Feasibility Study to Provide Outdoor Aquatics** with Indoor Aquatics Development
- Implement **Deerpath Community Park Improvements**
- Develop **New Sports Complex and Repurpose Fields in Poor Condition**
- Implement **Meadowood Park Improvements**
- Implement **Northcroft Park Improvements**
- Implement **Elawa Farm and Elawa Park Improvements**
- Implement **Triangle Park Improvements**

Planning and Policy:

- **Determine Community Use of Other Open Space Providers**
- Develop and Implement **Marketing Campaign to Promote Action Plan Items**
- **Develop Focus Group to Determine Needs**
- Work with area partners to update **Bicycle Master Plan**

Plan Updates:

- Complete **Annual Action Plan Update** and **Master Plan Update**

FACILITIES

Complete Recreation Center Updates

- Complete planned repairs and maintenance

Description

The current Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) plan has identified necessary improvements to the Recreation Center to be completed during the May 2018 to April 2019 fiscal year. The planned improvements will improve the Recreation Center's north main entrance and fix ADA non-compliant conditions throughout the building. Due to the age of the Recreation Center, there are additional deteriorating and outdated sections of the building that will require attention. However, the need for new indoor space that was identified during the planning process has the potential to affect the future use and requirements of the current building. The first phase only includes repairs and maintenance critical to safe and compliant building use. The required work and timing of any future renovations will be determined in conjunction with the Indoor Space Needs Study results.

FACILITIES

Conduct Indoor Space Needs Study

- Evaluate Recreation Center renovation/expansion or new construction including:
 - Expand/add in-demand amenities
 - Additional gym space
 - Court space for racket sports
 - Upgrade restroom and locker facilities
 - Provide new, trending amenities
 - Indoor aquatics
 - Walking/running track
- Consider additional space for Kinderhaven
 - Investigate opportunities to expand the current location
 - Identify a location for a new facility
 - Incorporate before-school care
- Upgrade/modernize furnishings, materials, and technology
- Conduct feasibility study for Nature Discovery Center expansion or relocation
- Determine cost recovery goals for expansion and/or new construction

Description

The Department of Parks and Recreation currently operates a recreation center, a golf club, the Stirling Hall Arts Center, and the Wildlife Discovery. However, only the Recreation Center offers recreation and program space that is regularly available to the public and according to the Planning Team's Chicagoland benchmark of recommended open space, the Department is deficient in almost 6,000 square feet for an agency of their size. The Department is also deficient in indoor aquatics square footage as it does not have any indoor pool facilities and when combined, there is a deficit of 15,632 square feet of indoor recreation, program, and aquatics space. In addition to these owned spaces, the City of Lake Forest also has limited access to some indoor space at the public schools and at other facilities at The Grove Cultural Campus which is owned by the City. The Kinderhaven Preschool Academy is operated by the Parks and Recreation Department and is located at the Recreation Center. The Department also has two classrooms in a building attached to Everett Elementary School. The Parks and Recreation Department has limited access to School and City buildings and the use of these additional facilities is not enough to fully meet the community's need for indoor space.

Specific indoor space amenities that are lacking in the City of Lake Forest were identified through the Connect Phase with the most highly prioritized recommendations including indoor aquatics and indoor turf fields. Additional court space, gymnasiums, and rental rooms were also noted as lacking by Connect Phase participants. Additionally, the Kinderhaven program was identified by online survey participants and stakeholders as a valuable offering that is in need of a larger space. Due to the wait list for enrollment, the addition of more classrooms and other operation space could allow for program growth. The final indoor need identified by all of the Connect phase participant groups was to expand storage capacity and provide indoor classroom space for the sailing program at the Beach.

In addition to the lack of amenities, residents identified unsatisfactory conditions within the existing indoor space (145 people were unsatisfied with the Recreation Center, 5 with Everett Preschool Classroom, and 9 with Stirling Hall Art Center). On the online survey, the top reasons residents selected for why they are unsatisfied with indoor facilities were a lack of modern amenities/technology, restroom/locker room quality, and program and rental space appearance. Some stakeholders and staff members also mentioned challenges at the Nature Discovery Center where the size of the facility and other uses at Elawa Farm significantly limit programming and negatively impact the visitor experience.

FACILITIES

Complete **Recreation Center Renovations** per Indoor Space Needs Facility Study (if approved)

- Upgrade restrooms and locker rooms
- Renovate Park and Recreation Department offices
- Replace damaged and outdated furnishings and materials
- Consider repurposing existing space to serve the highest demand

Description

The Recreation Center was frequently described by the Connect Phase participants as outdated, too small, and lacking the necessary amenities and spaces. When asked why they were unsatisfied with indoor space, the most common reasons reported in the online survey were that it needed improvements to modern amenities/technology, restrooms/locker rooms, and program and rental space appearance (over 15% of responses each). Stakeholders and staff members also commented on the need to modernize indoor space. In addition to improvements and upgrades, a number of new and expanded amenities were identified that necessitate an Indoor Space Needs Study to determine the future of all Department of Parks and Recreation facilities including future changes to the Recreation Center. If the results of the study recommend that the current facility maintain its current use, the second phase of renovations to address restroom and locker room, office, and furnishing and materials renovations can be completed. If the study suggests major changes to the Recreation Center such as a replacement of the facility or change of use, these renovations may not be necessary as the needs will be met in other ways.

FACILITIES

Develop **New/Expanded Indoor Recreation Facility(s)** per Indoor Space Needs Facility Study (if approved)

- Determine a location for new indoor recreation considering:
 - Expansion of existing Recreation Center
 - Demolition and replacement of existing Recreation Center
 - Land acquisition for new development
- Consider new and expanded amenities such as:
 - Indoor aquatics
 - Indoor ice
 - Indoor synthetic turf
 - Additional gymnasiums
 - Additional studio rooms
 - Walking track
 - Meeting rooms/rentable space
 - Age-specific space (teens, seniors)
 - Modern restrooms and locker rooms
- Identify cost recovery goals
- Identify public and private partnership opportunities

Description

Due to the number of new indoor amenities identified as needs in the Analyze and Connect Phases, it is unlikely that the Parks and Recreation Department will be able to accommodate all of the new indoor space in existing facilities. The most popular new indoor amenities, as determined by workshop prioritization and stakeholder comments was indoor aquatics and synthetic turf fields. Other new amenities that could be located in a new facility are indoor ice and/or a walking track. Connect Phase participants also requested adding to and improving existing indoor space amenities including gymnasiums, studios, and rentable space.

There are several strategies available to the Parks and Recreation Department to develop a new recreation facility. Building off of the findings of the Indoor Space Needs Study, the new facility may be constructed as an addition and/or renovation to the existing Recreation Center or may replace it entirely with new construction. It is also possible that the new indoor space will not fit within the Recreation Center site and that a new facility will be needed. Due to the high investment requirements of developing a new facility, the Department should investigate potential partnership opportunities to gain space at an existing facility or to share development and operational costs with other agencies. Potential public partners may include school districts, neighboring municipality recreation providers, and other City of Lake Forest Departments. Private partnerships could be successful with like-minded industries such as wellness providers like hospitals, physical therapists, and healthy living businesses. These partnerships may contribute to the construction of a new facility or may offer cost recovery options through rentable commercial spaces within the new facility. Lake Forest residents also have a history of supporting recreation development and renovation through private donations and could become a source of funding as well.

FACILITIES

Develop Forest Park Beach Boathouse

- Design and construct a facility at Forest Park Beach to provide support and programming space for the sailing program and other boating and beach uses.

Description

Forest Park Beach offers unique programming and recreational services through the boating center. The Parks and Recreation Department rents kayaks, sailboats, and paddleboats out of this facility and operates the sailing programs for child and adult education. These programs and activities are fairly unique in the Chicagoland area and are popular among Lake Forest residents and non-residents. Many participants in the Connect Phase suggested that sailing and boating could be improved and expanded with the addition of indoor space at Forest Park Beach specifically designed for the support of these activities. Currently, classes are held off-site at the Recreation Center or under the open-air pavilion at the beach. Neither option is meeting program needs as the Recreation Center lacks the size and purpose-driven space to teach specialty classes and the shelter is unusable during inclement weather and in the winter. In addition to providing sailing-specific program and classroom space, a new boathouse will likely need boat and equipment storage and high-quality restrooms and locker rooms. Other in-demand indoor amenities identified in the Indoor Space Needs Study may also be appropriate at the boathouse such as rental space, multi-purpose program space, or a small performance venue.

Improve Vehicular and Pedestrian Access to Forest Park Beach

- Complete erosion control and road improvements on the north access road to Forest Park Beach
 - Consider adding an adjacent designated lane or path for bike use
- Monitor and control slope erosion

Description

Forest Park Beach is located along the shore of Lake Michigan at the bottom of a steep bluff which is experiencing serious erosion. In the summer of 2017, the Parks and Recreation Department had to close half of the north access road reducing the road to a single lane due to erosion which made the paving unsafe for vehicular traffic. In the summer of 2018, the wooden boardwalk and the other half of the northern road were also closed to the public when further slope erosion made them structurally unsound. This boardwalk was removed later in 2018. Following these closures, the only access to the beach is the southern access road and the staircases at the middle and south of the beach. None of these routes are accessible and this has severely limited parking at Forest Park Beach with the north lot being inaccessible.

The beach is a very popular destination in the City of Lake Forest and was the overwhelming favorite park reported in the online survey (41.9% of respondent's favorite). Many users do not live near Forest Park Beach and drive to the park to visit. Parking was in high-demand before the road closures and improving access to the beach was suggested by many online survey respondents and stakeholders. Most of the comments regarding vehicular access called for repairing and fully reopening the north access road. For pedestrian access, comments cited a lack of seating along the paths and difficulty physically getting to the beach from the top of the bluff. Even before the wooden boardwalks were closed, there were no ADA accessible paths down the bluff. Additionally, a few stakeholders and survey respondents commented that bicycles are not allowed in Forest Park Beach, further limiting resident's options for access and alternative transportation methods.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Continue to Implement **Deerpath Golf Course Improvements** per Master Plan

- Complete planned Deerpath Golf Course improvements

Description

The Deerpath Golf Course is the only public course in the City and has maintained a strong user base in contrast to the sport's general decline in other communities. In 2012, the City of Lake Forest hired a golf course management company to improve operations of the course. In coordination with the Parks and Recreation Department, it was determined that in order to maintain the course and continue to attract players, a series of maintenance and improvement projects were needed. In total, \$3.5 million has been raised through public and private funding to complete all of the needed improvements. New improvements include new golf carts, a new cart barn, a halfway house, a training center, a short course, and a driving range expansion.

Implement **South Park Improvements** per 2017 Master Plan

- Identify the development phases
- Secure funding source for phase 1

Description

The Parks and Recreation Department completed a master plan for South Park in the spring of 2017 to improve active recreation amenities through the addition of nature-based play, a splash pad, a basketball court, fitness stations, an outdoor plaza, and additional shelters and restrooms. The plan also calls for improvements to the existing tennis and baseball facilities, expanded storage, adding an internal trail system, and improving park roads and parking. In the summer of 2018, the IDNR reopened the state OSLAD grant programs for application with grant awards expected in early 2019. The Parks and Recreation Department applied for a grant during the 2018 cycle to develop phase 1 of the South Park Master Plan. Phase 2 and other future phases of development will be improved as city resources and other funding sources become available.

Conduct Feasibility Study to Provide **Outdoor Aquatics** with Indoor Aquatics Development

- Consider including outdoor components if an indoor aquatics facility is approved

Description

While it was suggested by relatively few participants during the Connect Phase and was not highly prioritized, the Parks and Recreation Department may wish to determine the feasibility of providing outdoor aquatics. It is unknown if the City will have the resources to provide a separate outdoor aquatics facility or waterpark but it may be able to provide some outdoor elements in conjunction with an indoor aquatics facility.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Implement **Deerpath Community Park Improvements**

- Coordinate potential Recreation Facility renovation or reconstruction with park master plan
- Consider trending and in-demand amenities with regional draw including:
 - Splash pad
 - Artificial turf fields and sports lighting
 - Obstacle/challenge course play components
 - Restrooms with water fountains
- Improve park drainage to reduce flooding
 - Consider relocating and/or reorienting sports fields to improve playability

Description

Deerpath Community Park is one of the City of Lake Forest's two community parks and is one of the more centrally located properties. It is also the location of the Parks and Recreation Department offices and Recreation Center and is located adjacent to Deerpath Middle School. This park is highly visible in the community due in part to its location and surrounding land uses, and as one of the only locations with multiple sports fields. As with many other Department amenities, Deerpath Park has been described by residents as outdated and lacking the necessary activities. Additionally, the site experiences frequent flooding along the western edge that causes soccer field closures which affect practices and games.

The Lake Forest community identified several outdoor amenities that could be developed at Deerpath Community Park to revitalize resident interest and meet the demand for new and trending activities. Because of its classification as a drive-to community park, overall size, large amounts of available parking, and high visibility and use, Deerpath Community is a viable location for in-demand amenities that will be regional draws. Splash pads were mentioned frequently as desired amenities by all of the Connect Phase groups. These are typically popular amenities and require additional support amenities to maximize success such as parking, easy utility access, and nearby restrooms and/or locker rooms, all which already exist within Deerpath Community Park. One of the most frequent critiques of Connect Phase respondents was the need to modernize and update playgrounds to provide trending and exciting options. Similarly to splash pads, large, unique playgrounds such as obstacle or challenge courses tend to draw large crowds from all areas of the community. Providing high-quality sports fields for practice and games was one of the most highly prioritized amenities identified by stakeholders, board members, staff members, and online survey respondents. One way to improve sports fields and maximize the playable season is through the installation of artificial turf and other enhancements such as sports lighting. Deerpath Community Park is a good location for synthetic turf as it is already one of the only locations with multiple playing fields and could also provide partnership opportunities by allowing school use. Additionally, artificial turf would help mitigate some of the drainage challenges that frequently lead to canceled practices and games.

While restrooms are available at the Recreation Center, it may not always be convenient for park users to use them due to the size of the park or they may be unavailable when the building is closed but the park is still in use. Flushable restrooms are becoming increasingly expected in affluent communities such as Lake Forest. A centrally located restroom specifically for park use would likely enhance visitor comfort and would be beneficial for special events such as sports games and camps. Such a building could also incorporate a shelter and seating.

Potential changes to the Recreation Center also have the potential to affect park use and available open space. The recommendations for this facility determined by the Indoor Space Needs study should be considered when developing the park improvements.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Develop **New Sports Complex and Repurpose Fields in Poor Condition**

- Determine a location for new sports complex considering:
 - Deerpath Community Park
 - Townline Community Park
 - Land acquisition for new development
- Identify public and private partnership opportunities
- Develop field house with turf fields and other in-demand amenities per Indoor Space Needs Study

Description

Upgrading turf fields was a high priority among many Connect Phase participants with most supporting the conversion of natural fields or development of synthetic turf. Staff members presented the idea of creating a sports complex to host games and tournaments at a single location. A new sports complex would feature synthetic turf fields with sports lighting, practice fields, spectator seating, restrooms, and water fountains and might include a field house with indoor fields as well. Other outdoor amenities to consider would be sport courts, a playground, and walking paths. The development of a field house may also include other compatible, in-demand indoor amenities. With the development of new fields, the Department may be able to convert existing fields in poor condition to other uses that will better meet outdoor amenity demands.

Implement **Meadowood Park Improvements**

- Master Plan park development including
 - Improvements to park access
 - Internal circulation
 - Visitor comfort
 - Recreation amenities such as
 - Playground
 - Shelter
 - Basketball court
 - Backstop or baseball/softball field

Description

Meadowood Park is located in a residential neighborhood adjacent to the Middlefork Savanna. It is currently undeveloped with limited path access. In 2018, the Parks and Recreation Department cleared a section of the site to provide additional open field space and prepare for future development. The park is accessible through a dead-end street but has no parking. Meadowood Park is not heavily visited and is expected to primarily serve residents living in the immediate vicinity. Due expected user group and size, this park is best suited for informal activity. A playground, shelter, basketball court, and/or ballfield or backstop would all be appropriate amenities that would not attract large crowds or turn the park into a drive-to destination. Upon development, providing park identification signage, a path system, and benches or picnic tables would also improve visitor experiences and awareness of the park. Due to the close proximity of the Middlefork Savanna trail system, there is also an opportunity to include Meadowood Park on this trail system and connect residents to other destinations including Elawa Farm and Elawa Park.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Implement **Northcroft Park Improvements**

- Develop a site master plan for improvements including
 - Internal path system and accessibility improvements
 - Basketball courts
 - Resurface tennis courts
 - Baseball field
 - Wayfinding signage and regional path map

Description

Northcroft Park currently provides a variety of active recreation amenities but also lacks some basic features and has several features that are outdated or in poor condition. The section of the park north of the shelter is in significantly worse condition than to the rest of the site. This area includes a softball field and open fields for soccer both of which are in poor condition. There is also a depression that is flooded to create an ice rink in the winter and is serviced by the enclosed shelter immediately to the south, however, there is a steep slope between the two and there are no path connections or permanent seating at the ice rink. The northern half of the park is surrounded by a perimeter walking path but this paving does not extend to any of the amenities. The south side of the park is in much better condition and includes tennis courts, seating areas, a playground, and open space for soccer fields. These amenities are generally in good condition with the exception of the tennis court paving. Paths in the south part of the park connect to the built amenities and connect to a trail to the Grove Cultural Campus.

Currently, the park is disjointed, divided by the enclosed shelter and elevation changes located in the center of the site. It is recommended that the Parks and Recreation Department complete a master plan to reassess the park use and available amenities. Residents in the online survey specifically requested repairs to the tennis courts at this location and adding basketball courts throughout the City. The city is also deficient in basketball courts according to Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) benchmarks and would benefit from the addition of at least one additional court. Staff commented on the poor condition of the baseball field and stated that it is rarely used. Depending on resident use and park needs, the baseball field and other amenities in this area of the park may require replacement with in-demand items that will encourage greater resident use. It is also recommended that the master plan address park circulation to improve access to existing and new amenities and to better advertise the connection to the Grove Cultural Campus.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Implement Elawa Farm and Elawa Park Improvements

- Coordinate potential Wildlife Discovery Center renovation or relocation with park master plan
 - If renovated or expanded, improve accessibility to outdoor exhibits and increase the separation between the facility and special event/rentable space to allow simultaneous operation
 - If removed, convert indoor space for special event/rental use and repurpose outdoor space considering:
 - Additional patio space for events and seating
 - Community gardens
 - Ornamental/specialty plantings
 - Native habitat restoration
- Improve/expand access to trail system at Middlefork Savanna
- Construct planned restrooms at Elawa Park per CIP plan
- Consider trending and in-demand amenities at Elawa Park such as:
 - Community gardens
 - Baseball/softball field improvements
 - Internal path system improvements

Description

Elawa Farm and Elawa Park are located adjacent to each other and are surrounded by Forest Preserve and Open Lands properties. The farm is a historic property that is predominately maintained and programmed by the Elawa Farm Foundation which operates independently from the City. The Parks and Recreation Department operated the Wildlife Discovery Center out of one of the farm buildings and maintains the outdoor exhibits. Elawa Park is fully maintained by the Department and provides active recreation amenities. Both sites share a parking lot with the Forest Preserve's Middlefork Savanna and the Department maintains two trail connections to the Middlefork trail system.

Elawa Farm is a heavily programmed site through rentals and foundation programming which sometimes leads to conflicts with the Nature Discovery Center. Additionally, the Discovery Center is small and has limited opportunities for indoor and outdoor space expansion. As identified during the Connect Phase, it may be necessary to relocate the Nature Discovery Center to a new site. The future of this facility will be assessed during the Indoor Space Needs Study and the resulting recommendations should be coordinated with future improvements to Elawa Farm and Park.

Community gardens were the most highly prioritized amenity determined during the online survey. Gardens already exist in the City of Lake Forest at Deerpath Middle School and at Elawa farm, however, neither offer plots for resident use. The programming at Elawa Farm and potential available open space at the farm and park make either a logical site to provide community garden plots. Elawa Park already has the capacity to support garden plots but a community garden would only be feasible at Elawa Farm if an existing outdoor amenity were removed (such as the possible relocation of the Nature Discovery Center) and if the plots will not negatively impact the Elawa Farm Foundation programming. In addition to the need for a community garden identified in the Connect Phase, the planning team noted other amenities that could be improved at Elawa Park. The backstop and the horseshoe pits were both noted to be in poor condition and an infield, bases, and line fencing could be included to create a playable baseball/softball field. The internal path system and wayfinding could also be enhanced to provide a larger internal trails system at Elawa Park and provide an accessible connection to the Middlefork Savanna trail system from the north edge of the park. The Parks and Recreation Department has also planned the installation of a flushable restroom for Elawa Park in the CIP plan.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Implement **Triangle Park Improvements**

- Master Plan park development including
 - Shelter/gazebo
 - Additional seating

Description

Triangle Park is located in the northeast corner of the city and is considered a legacy park, meaning it is prohibited from active recreation development. Currently, the park includes a walking path and a variety of planting materials. The park is surrounded by residences and additional seating areas and a gazebo or small shelter could be added to better serve these resident's passive recreation needs

PLANNING AND POLICY

Determine Community Use of Other Open Space Providers

- If resident needs are being met, investigate ways to improve resident access at existing services if needed
- Identify gaps in the provided services and form partnerships to meet resident needs

Description

At the time of the planning process, the Lake Forest Park and Recreation Department provided active recreation service to 6,089 of the City residents leaving 68% of the community underserved as measured by NRPA recommendations. While this is a very large number of underserved residents, there are numerous other open space providers in the community who may be meeting resident needs. Area public schools also provide public, active recreation amenities, some of which the Department maintains. Private active recreation providers such as golf clubs and recreation clubs provide additional active recreation services to their members.

In addition to these active recreation spaces, the Parks and Recreation Department department offers five additional properties that serve passive recreation needs. The Lake County Forest Preserves and Lake Forest provide additional, publicly available open space typically used for passive recreation as well. Due to the large number of other open space providers and acreage within the City of Lake Forest, the Parks and Recreation Department should determine how residents in underserved areas of the community actually use Department and other agencies' services. If resident needs are being met through these other sources, the Department should not utilize resources to develop new recreation that duplicates existing amenities or are unlikely to be used. In areas where residents are underserved but other open space providers exist, the Department should determine if there are opportunities to develop partnerships to provide better access to these facilities for City residents.

PLANNING AND POLICY

Develop and Implement **Marketing Campaign to Promote Action Plan Items**

- Develop and implement an annual marketing strategy to educate residents on upcoming Action Plan initiatives and generate project support

Description

The ten-year Action Plan includes numerous items that range from small-scale, staff-driven initiatives to larger, high-value investments into new amenities for the community. While some items are already planned and in-progress, most of the proposed items will require additional time and resources to plan, fund, and implement. The City of Lake Forest community should be aware of the planned development and available opportunities. This Ten-Year Strategic Master Plan will be available to the public but a campaign to promote the published document should be made to reach all residents, especially who have not been unaware of the process. After the initial notification about the report, annual updates summarizing accomplished items, project status, and upcoming efforts can be made to maintain community interest and involvement.

Develop Focus Group to Determine Needs

- Develop and leverage focus groups of residents to provide insight on community needs
- Conduct public outreach to determine recreation and programming needs of growing and underserved demographics
- Monitor population increases and demographic shifts to ensure appropriate recreation opportunities are available to all residents considering:
 - Age groups
 - Cultural groups
- Identify partnership opportunities with Dickinson Hall to supplement active adult and senior opportunities

Description

The City of Lake Forest is currently experiencing a change in the community make-up as the number of children and teenagers is decreasing and the number of adults 25-44 and 65 and older is increasing. Overall, the City of Lake Forest is aging-in-place, the age group expecting the largest increase in population is seniors aged 65+. The city is also beginning to see an increase in diversity. 5.8% of the population identify as Asian and 3.5% as Hispanic. Both these population groups, and all other minority groups are expected to increase in population in the next five years.

The senior and active adult age groups are the largest in the City but are served through City-provided services at Dickinson Hall. While not the primary provider, the Parks and Recreation Department may still have opportunities to provide supplemental services and to ensure that there activities and accommodations for all age groups at the outdoor open spaces and recreation facilities. As the population of residents from different cultural backgrounds grows it will also become more critical for the Department to offer a greater variety of services for key population segments. Forming focus groups will help build awareness of the different ages and cultures in the community and ensure that the Department is receiving input to determine appropriate and interesting recreation opportunities for residents of all backgrounds and abilities.

PLANNING AND POLICY

Work with area partners to update **Bicycle Master Plan**

- Coordinate implementation with and update the 2013 City of Lake Forest Bicycle Master Plan in Coordination with the City of Lake Forest Comprehensive Master Plan Update

Description

The Bicycle Master Plan is part of the City of Lake Forest's Comprehensive Master Plan. The city-wide plan is expected to be updated within the next five years and will likely include an update to the Bicycle Master Plan. As a recreation provider with bicycle trails in the parks and several existing and potential connections to other trail systems, the Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Department should be involved future planning to ensure major recreation destinations are included in future connections. The Department should also construct future trail improvements that are aligned with the City Bicycle Plan recommendations and best practices.

PLAN UPDATES

Complete **Annual Action Plan Update** and **Master Plan Update**

- Conduct Action Plan and Master Plan update to determine future objectives, reflecting
 - Completion and results of previous plan objectives
 - Major recreation market changes
 - Population and demographic changes
 - Fiscal climate

Description

The Action Plan in the following chapter is a living document that is intended to provide a realistic and achievable set of goals for the Parks and Recreation Department development over the next ten years. The Action Plan should be updated annually while the entire Master Plan should be revisited on a five-year cycle. Each update to the plans should take into account any major changes within the City and the Parks and Recreation Department such as the completion or delay of previous plan goals, market changes, population and demographic changes, and the current fiscal climate.

RECURRING ITEMS

Some of the strategies identified by the staff and planning team are recurring items that should occur on a regular basis to help the Department make operational decisions and inform future projects.

Purpose

In order to keep up with the fast-paced recreation market, it is important that agencies reassess their facilities, programs, staff, and users on a regular basis. This recurring self-reflection will help the Department stay aware of changing demographics and industry trends and monitor their assets' evolving strengths and weaknesses.

Section Outline

As with the Action Plan items, the Recurring items are formatted as goals with corresponding strategies to achieve the desired outcomes.

Recurring Items

- **Reassess Existing Partnerships on a Regular Basis or After Major Organization Changes**
- **Provide Consistent Website and Social Media Updates**
- **Improve Park and Facility Entrance Signage** with Park Master Plans and Planned CIP Projects
- **Coordinate ADA Improvements** with Park Master Plans and Planned CIP Projects
- **Identify Potential Partnerships to Provide Additional Indoor Recreation**
- Develop and Implement **Marketing Campaign to Promote Action Plan Items** (Summary included Action Plan Items)
- Complete **Annual Action Plan Update** and **Master Plan Update** (Summary included Action Plan Items)

RECURRING ITEMS

Reassess Existing Partnerships on a Regular Basis or After Major Organization Changes

- Continue to evaluate existing partnerships to maintain mutually beneficial agreements

Description

Developing partnerships was a frequently received comment during the online survey and stakeholder interviews. Many of these supported partnerships as a way to improve and maintain amenities without increasing the financial burden on the City and taxing body. The Parks and Recreation Department already has partnership agreements with several local agencies. Two notable examples are the Department's maintenance of some outdoor School-owned active recreation space in exchange for indoor space use and the partnership with the Elawa Farm Foundation to operate and program Elawa Farm. The Department also has a history of working with other community groups and agencies to accomplish long-term and short-term goals. The Department already has an agreement with the Lake Bluff Park District in which residents in either community get resident fee rates for most of the other communities programs. The two agencies have also combined programs to meet enrollment requirements. To maintain mutually beneficial relationships and identify new opportunities, existing partnerships should be periodically revisited to discuss successes and challenges and identify any changing needs for both agencies.

Provide Consistent Website and Social Media Updates

- Develop website and social media updates into consistent and accurate sources of Department information
- Use online connections to conduct "check-ups" the effectiveness of the Parks and Recreation Department
 - Continue to leverage the Friends of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Foundation as a community liaison

Description

Awareness of parks, facilities, and programs is a frequent challenge for recreation agencies. With internet and social media communications becoming a more common and preferred method of communication for people of all ages, these platforms are one of the easiest and most effective ways to communicate with recreation users. The Department has several pages on the City website and a Facebook page and has been featured on the City's Twitter and YouTube accounts. The Friends of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Foundation also has a website dedicated to supporting the City's open space and Parks and Recreation Department. Regular posting is a good way to stay in the public eye and share news with minimum intrusion into people's daily lives. Monitoring activity such as comments, attendance RSVPs, and "likes" on these pages also provides an informal gauge on how residents respond to and view the Department.

RECURRING ITEMS

Improve Park and Facility Entrance Signage with Park Master Plans and Planned CIP Projects

- Develop signage standards for materials, size, and placement
 - Provide identification signage at all vehicular entrances
 - Consider directional/wayfinding at community parks with multiple playing fields and access points

Description

Several comments received during the Connect Phase indicated that not all Lake Forest residents are familiar with the parks, facilities, and programs offered by the Department of Parks and Recreation. The Planning Team also observed inconsistencies with park signage standards and saw locations entirely lacking in identification. All park properties should include a standard entry signage with consistent materials, colors, size, and location. The Department should also consider park access and wayfinding for pedestrian and bicycle traffic and implement secondary signage to guide non-vehicular access where necessary. Developing and implementing consistent standards will improve visitor recognition of Department parks and facilities by aligning each property with the established Parks and Recreation Department brand.

Coordinate ADA Improvements with Park Master Plans and Planned CIP Projects

- Continue to improve accessibility at all parks and facilities in conjunction with other planned improvements

Description

Providing equal access to public facilities is a crucial requirement for any public agency. Adding paved trails and maintaining existing paths and amenities at ADA accessible standards will ensure that the Department is providing the recreation opportunities for users of all abilities.

Identify Potential Partnerships to Provide Additional Indoor Recreation

- Consider partnerships with other public agencies and/or private parties to provide indoor recreation opportunities

Description

Due to the high demand for improved and expanded indoor recreation, the Parks and Recreation Department will consider making significant investments to meet these needs. One method of sharing investment is through partnerships with governmental agencies and/or private parties. Public partnerships could be utilized to gain Lake Forest residents access into existing recreation facilities in neighboring communities, or could utilize joint resources to develop new, shared facilities for multiple communities.

Private partnerships could achieve the same goals to provide access to an existing facility or provide support for developing a new facility. Other Chicagoland communities have also had success in establishing partnerships with like-minded private partners such as hospitals, physical therapy business, and other wellness-related providers acting as renters or franchisees. For example, another north-shore community, Glenview Park District, has a successful partnership within their recreation center in which a local health care provider leases office space and gym and pool use for their patients while another private business rents and operates the cafe.



CHAPTER

TWO

Implement: Action Plan



OVERVIEW

The Action Plan Chapter outlines the proposed tasks and projects for the City of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Department over the next ten years.

Purpose

This chapter outlines the steps and potential timeline for implementing the Master Plan strategies identified in Chapter One. They were further refined and finalized through workshops with the staff, Friends of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Foundation, and Parks and Recreation Board to develop the Action Plan. This plan is to act as a guide to assist the Department in implementing the strategies over the next ten years and will be periodically re-evaluated and adjusted to reflect completed projects and the community's changing needs. The Action Plan is organized by fiscal year into quarters (Q1, Q2, Q3, and Q4) to provide a general idea of when each action or action item step might occur within a given year. Each action item is also coded as Facilities, Parks and Open Space, Planning and Policy, or Plan updates.

Detailed descriptions of each action item and corresponding strategies can be found in the previous chapter on pages 11-25.

Ordering Criteria

To help determine when each item should be implemented within the ten-year plan, the following criteria were considered:

- **Current Planned Initiative:** It is a project that is already in progress or has recommended CIP funding
- **Meets Recreation Need/Interest:** It provides for a need or interest identified from the Connect Phase findings
- **Age/Condition:** A facility or amenity is at or nearing the end of its useful life or is in poor

condition

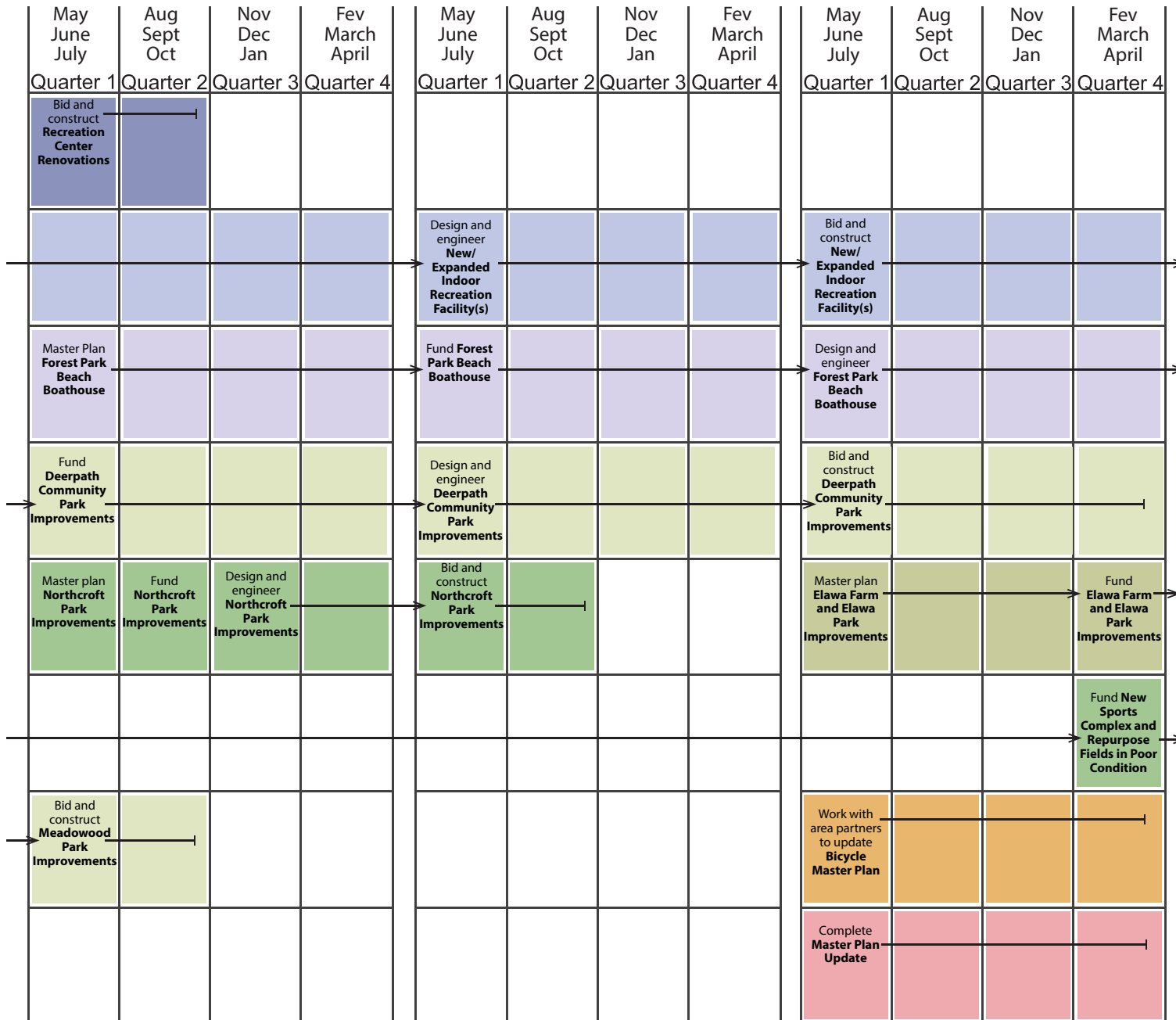
- **Availability/Utilization:** An offering, facility, or amenity has limited availability and/or is highly utilized
- **Attainability:** Considers the City's financial and staff resources to accomplish certain projects over a ten-year period
- **Additional Data Required:** More detailed information is needed concerning indoor space, market, or program needs to inform the required investments

2018 - 2019				Year 1 2019 - 2020				Year 2 2020 - 2021			
May June July	Aug Sept Oct	Nov Dec Jan	Fev March April	May June July	Aug Sept Oct	Nov Dec Jan	Fev March April	May June July	Aug Sept Oct	Nov Dec Jan	Fev March April
Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
	Complete Recreation Center Updates			Conduct Indoor Space Needs Facility Study				Master plan Recreation Center Renovations (if approved)		Fund Recreation Center Renovations	Design and engineer Recreation Center Renovations
		Plan, design and engineer Veterans Park Development		Bid and construct Veterans Park Development - Phase 1				Master plan New/ Expanded Indoor Recreation Facility(s) (if approved)			Fund New/ Expanded Indoor Recreation Facility(s)
				Conduct Feasibility Study to Provide Outdoor Aquatics with indoor aquatic development							
Improve Vehicular and Pedestrian Access to Forest Park Beach								Master Plan Deerpath Community Park Improvements			
Continue to implement Deerpath Golf Course Improvements per Master Plan											
	Fund South Park Improvements per 2017 Master Plan - apply for OSLAD grant		Design and engineer South Park Improvements per 2017 Master Plan		Bid and construct South Park Improvements per 2017 Master Plan			Master plan New Sports Complex and Repurpose Fields in Poor Condition			
		Develop Marketing Campaign to Promote Action Plan Items						Master plan Meadowood Park Improvements	Fund Meadowood Park Improvements	Design and engineer Meadowood Park Improvements	
Determine Community Use of Other Open Space Providers				Develop Focus Group to Determine Needs							

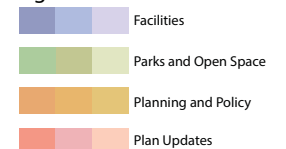
Year 3
2021 - 2022

Year 4
2022 - 2023

Year 5
2023 - 2024







Legend



Year 6 2024 - 2025	Year 7 2025 - 2026	Year 8 2026 - 2027	Year 9 2027 - 2028	Year 10 2028 - 2029	Recurring Items
					Reassess existing partnerships on a regular basis or after major organizational changes
Complete construction for New/ Expanded Indoor Recreation Facility(s)					Provide consistent website and social media updates
Bid and construct Forest Park Beach Boathouse					Improve park and facility entrance signage with park master plans and planned CIP projects
		Master plan Triangle Park Improvements	Design and engineer Triangle Park Improvements	Bid and construct Triangle Park Improvements	Coordinate ADA improvements with park master plans and planned CIP projects
Design and engineer Elawa Farm and Elawa Park Improvements	Bid and construct Elawa Farm and Elawa Park Improvements				Identify potential partnerships to provide additional indoor recreation
Design and engineer New Sports Complex and Repurpose Fields in Poor Condition	Bid and construct New Sports Complex and Repurpose Fields in Poor Condition				Implement Marketing Campaign to Promote Action Plan Items
					Annual Action Plan Update

Legend

	Facilities
	Parks and Open Space
	Planning and Policy
	Plan Updates



CURRENT OBJECTIVES (CURRENT THROUGH APRIL 2019)

FACILITIES

- Complete **Recreation Center Updates**
 - Complete construction

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- Plan, design and engineer **Veterans Park Development**
- Improve **Vehicular and Pedestrian Access to Forest Park Beach**
- Continue to implement **Deerpath Golf Course Improvements** per Master Plan
- Implement **South Park Improvements** per 2017 Master Plan
 - Fund - apply for OSLAD grant
 - Design and engineer

PLANNING AND POLICY

- **Determine Community Use of Other Open Space Providers**
- Develop **Marketing Campaign to Promote Action Plan Items**

FISCAL YEAR 1 (MAY 2019 THROUGH APRIL 2020)

FACILITIES

- Conduct **Indoor Space Needs Study**

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- Bid and construct **Veterans Park Development** - Phase 1
- **Conduct Feasibility Study to Provide Outdoor Aquatics** with indoor aquatic development
- Improve **Vehicular and Pedestrian Access to Forest Park Beach**
 - Complete
- Continue to implement **Deerpath Golf Course Improvements** per Master Plan
- Implement **South Park Improvements** per 2017 Master Plan
 - Complete design and engineering
 - Bid and construct

PLANNING AND POLICY

- **Develop Focus Groups to Determine Needs**

FISCAL YEAR 2 (MAY 2020 THROUGH APRIL 2021)

FACILITIES

- Complete **Recreation Center Renovations** per Indoor Space Needs Facility Study (if approved)
 - Master plan
 - Fund
 - Design and engineer
- Develop **New/Expanded Indoor Recreation Facility(s)** per Indoor Space Needs Facility Study (if approved)
 - Master plan
 - Fund

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- Implement **Deerpath Community Park Improvements**
 - Master Plan
- Continue to implement **Deerpath Golf Course Improvements** per Master Plan
 - Complete
- Develop **New Sports Complex and Repurpose Fields in Poor Condition**
 - Master plan
- Implement **Meadowood Park Improvements**
 - Master plan
 - Fund
 - Design and engineering

FISCAL YEAR 3

(MAY 2021 THROUGH APRIL 2022)

FACILITIES

- Complete **Recreation Center Renovations** per Indoor Space Needs Facility Study (if approved)
 - Bid and construct
- Develop **New/Expanded Indoor Recreation Facility(s)** per Indoor Space Needs Facility Study (if approved)
 - Fund
- Develop **Forest Park Beach Boathouse**
 - Master plan

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- Implement **Deerpath Community Park Improvements**
 - Fund
- Implement **Northcroft Park Improvements**
 - Master plan
 - Fund
 - Design and engineer
- Implement **Meadowood Park Improvements**
 - Bid and construct

FISCAL YEAR 4 (MAY 2022 THROUGH APRIL 2023)

FACILITIES

- Develop **New/Expanded Indoor Recreation Facility(s)** per Indoor Space Needs Facility
 - Design and engineer
- Develop **Forest Park Beach Boathouse**
 - Fund

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- Implement **Deerpath Community Park Improvements**
 - Design and engineer
- Implement **Northcroft Park Improvements**
 - Bid and construct

FISCAL YEAR 5

(MAY 2023 THROUGH APRIL 2024)

FACILITIES

- Develop **New/Expanded Indoor Recreation Facility(s)** per Indoor Space Needs Facility
 - Bid and construct
- Develop **Forest Park Beach Boathouse**
 - Design and engineer

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- Implement **Deerpath Community Park Improvements**
 - Bid and construct
- Implement **Elawa Farm and Elawa Park Improvements**
 - Master plan
 - Fund
- Develop **New Sports Complex and Repurpose Fields in Poor Condition**
 - Fund

PLANNING AND POLICY

- Work with area partners to update **Bicycle Master Plan**

PLAN UPDATES

- Complete **Master Plan Update**

FISCAL YEAR 6 (MAY 2024 THROUGH APRIL 2025)

FACILITIES

- Develop **New/Expanded Indoor Recreation Facility(s)** per Indoor Space Needs Facility
 - Construct
- Develop **Forest Park Beach Boathouse**
 - Bid and construct

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- Implement **Elawa Farm and Elawa Park Improvements**
 - Design and engineer
- Develop **New Sports Complex and Repurpose Fields in Poor Condition**
 - Design and engineer

FISCAL YEAR 7

(MAY 2025 THROUGH APRIL 2026)

FACILITIES

- Develop **New/Expanded Indoor Recreation Facility(s)** per Indoor Space Needs Facility
 - Complete construction

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- Implement **Elawa Farm and Elawa Park Improvements**
 - Bid and construct
- Develop **New Sports Complex and Repurpose Fields in Poor Condition**
 - Bid and construct

FISCAL YEAR 8 (MAY 2026 THROUGH APRIL 2027)

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- Implement **Triangle Park Improvements**
 - Master plan

FISCAL YEAR 9

(MAY 2027 THROUGH APRIL 2028)

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- Implement **Triangle Park Improvements**
 - Design and engineer

FISCAL YEAR 10

(MAY 2028 THROUGH APRIL 2029)

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- Implement **Triangle Park Improvements**
 - Bid and construct



CHAPTER THREE

Analyze: Inventory and Analysis



OVERVIEW

The Analyze: Inventory and Analysis chapter describes and illustrates the existing conditions of the City of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Department, showing a basic understanding of the City's assets and programs

Purpose

This chapter documents the inventory and analysis accomplished during the Analyze phase of the comprehensive master planning process. This phase describes the context in which the Department operates, the recreation services they provide, and the patrons that utilize parks, facilities, and programs.

The following chapter defines the community's demographic context and provides detailed maps of the City that identify parks, open space, and other relevant land uses. It also includes the level of service analysis for parks and amenities, benchmarking the Department's total acreage of parks and open space and the number of amenities to local (North Shore), state, and national benchmarks. A distribution mapping analysis of the geographic location of parks is also found in this chapter. This information provides insight into

potential surpluses or deficiencies the Department has in terms of parks and open space.

Chapter Outline

- Demographics
- Existing Conditions
- Asset Inventory
- Park Classifications
- Park & Open Space Inventory Matrix
- Indoor Facility Inventory Matrix
- Level of Service Analysis
- Acreage
- Distribution
 - Mini Park Distribution Analysis
 - Neighborhood Park Distribution Analysis
 - Community Park Distribution Analysis
 - Overall Park Distribution Analysis
- Amenities
- Facility Square Footage

DEMOGRAPHICS

The demographics review utilized the Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) Business Analyst Online (BAO) software to gather up-to-date demographic data necessary to gain an understanding of the City and its context.

Summary

According to 2017 estimates, the City of Lake Forest has a population of 19,270, however, the City conducted a population count in 2017 that determined the population to be 19,375. The Department is using the City determined population and all other estimates were generated by ESRI. Census population numbers from 2010 indicate the population is growing at an annual rate of 0.11% and is expected to continue growing into 2022. The City's growth is similar to the state growth rate (0.17%) but is far below the national rate (0.83%).

There are an estimated 6,867 households within the City. According to the U.S. Census, a household "includes all the persons who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence." Out of these households, 76.2% (5,230) are families. A family is defined as a household in which one or more people are related to the householder by birth, marriage or adoption. The average household size in Lake Forest is 2.65 people. This is expected to remain consistent.

Age Distribution

The median age of Lake Forest residents is 47.4 and the population is slowly aging in place. According to 2017 estimates, 20.6% of the population is over the age of 55. This is projected to increase to 23.6% of the population

by 2022, entirely due to growth in the 65+ age group. The increase in active adult and senior population growth mirrors that of the state and national trends and these populations are and will continue to be a major City demographic. The young adult and adult age groups (ages 25-44) are also projected to increase in the next five years.

Conversely, ESRI anticipates that all age groups under 20 have decreased in population and will likely continue to do so. This trend has also been observed by the Lake Forest School District 67 enrollment projections.

Race and Ethnicity

According to ESRI, Lake Forest has a diversity index of 17.4. The Diversity Index captures the racial and ethnic diversity of a geographic area in a single number, 0 to 100, and allows for efficient analysis of diversity throughout the U.S. The Diversity Index is "the likelihood that two persons, selected at random from the same area, would belong to a different race or ethnic group." According to demographic estimates, 90.3% of City residents indicate their race as White, which results in a low diversity index. The largest minority group within the City are Asian Americans, with 5.8% of the population reporting their race as "Asian Alone." Additionally, 3.5% of the population identifies as Hispanic in addition to the race they reported as.

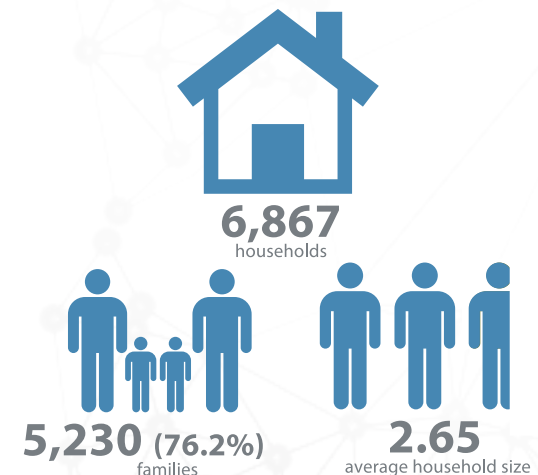
TOTAL POPULATION



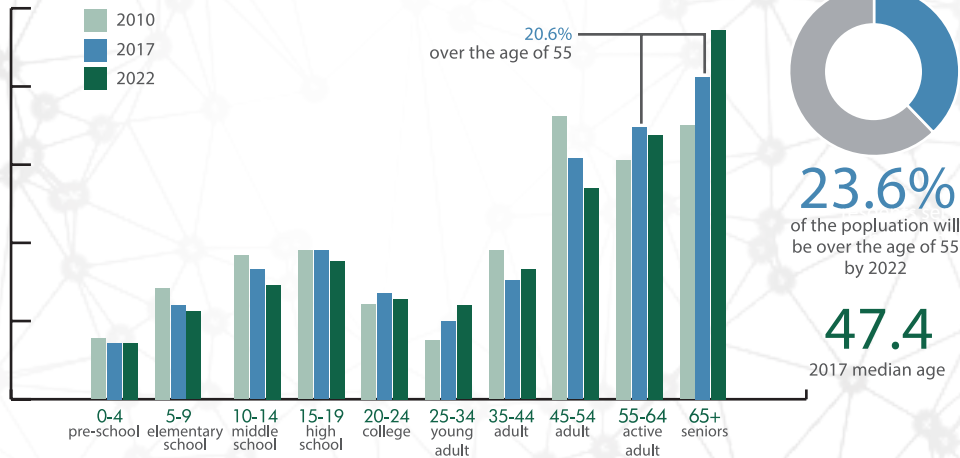
*ESRI projected the 2017 population at 19,270 but the City of Lake Forest has a recorded population of 19,375. Other sources estimate the City of Lake Forest's population as:

- 19,612 (U.S. Census QuickFacts)
- 18,881 (U.S. Census Reporter)

All demographics besides total population were generated using 2017 ESRI projections based on the decennial U.S. Census and annual studies.



AGE DISTRIBUTION

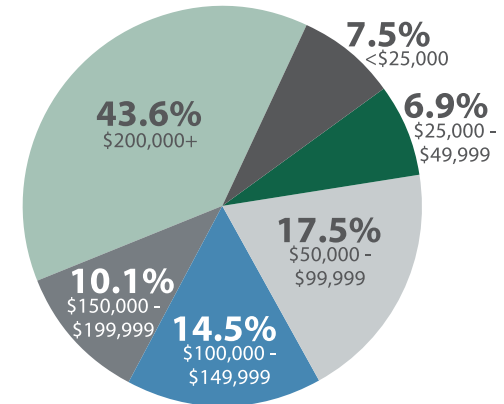


RACE / ETHNICITY



* American Indian Alone: 0.2%
 ** Pacific Islander Alone: 0.0%

INCOME DISTRIBUTION



\$165,232

2017 median HH income

\$59,409

2017 state median HH income

\$169,965

2022 median HH income

\$56,124

2017 national median HH income

Income

More than 40% of Lake Forest households earn more than \$200,000 per year, over six times the percentage of people in this bracket at the state and national level. With a median income over double that of the state and national median, Lake Forest is financially well-off. However, 7.5% of the population makes less than the poverty line of \$25,000 per year as defined by Illinois Legal Aid. Although this is far lower than the state and national percentages (20.4% and 21.5% respectively) it is still a significant number of Lake Forest residents. Median household incomes are expected to increase by an annual rate of 1.98 to \$169,965 by 2021.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The first step in the comprehensive planning process is to understand the City's surroundings and the existing conditions of the Department's assets including land use and open space.

Land Use

The majority of Lake Forest is zoned as single-family residential. There are a few areas that permit multi-family housing, mostly located around the downtown corridor that runs north-south through the eastern portion of the City. The majority of parcels zoned for business are also located in this area with a smaller, secondary group in the south-west. Offices and research campuses are limited to the northwest corner of the City and large areas of private and public open space are distributed throughout the City.

Several major transportation corridors pass through the City of Lake Forest, mostly running north-south. I-94 runs along the City's western edge and state routes 43 and 41, as well as two rail lines, pass through the center. Townline Road runs east-west through the City before terminating in the center.

Open Space Providers

The Parks and Recreation Department is one of many open space and outdoor recreation providers within the community. Lake Forest Open Lands and the Lake County Forest Preserve provide regional active and passive recreation opportunities while preserving significant amounts of open space. School Districts also provide public outdoor recreation opportunities at school properties and private agencies provide pay-to-play opportunities. The map to the right displays public and private open spaces within the City.

Public Open Space

Municipal, Forest Preserve District, State, Federal

The Department of Parks and Recreation owns and/or manages about 435 acres of active and passive open space. There are six conserved open spaces maintained by the Lake County Forest Preserve and about 9 maintained by Lake Forest Open Lands within the City boundaries. The majority of these sites allow public access for passive recreation. There is also one cemetery in the City that is owned and managed by the City.

Institutional Open Space

Elementary, Middle, and High Schools; Colleges / Universities

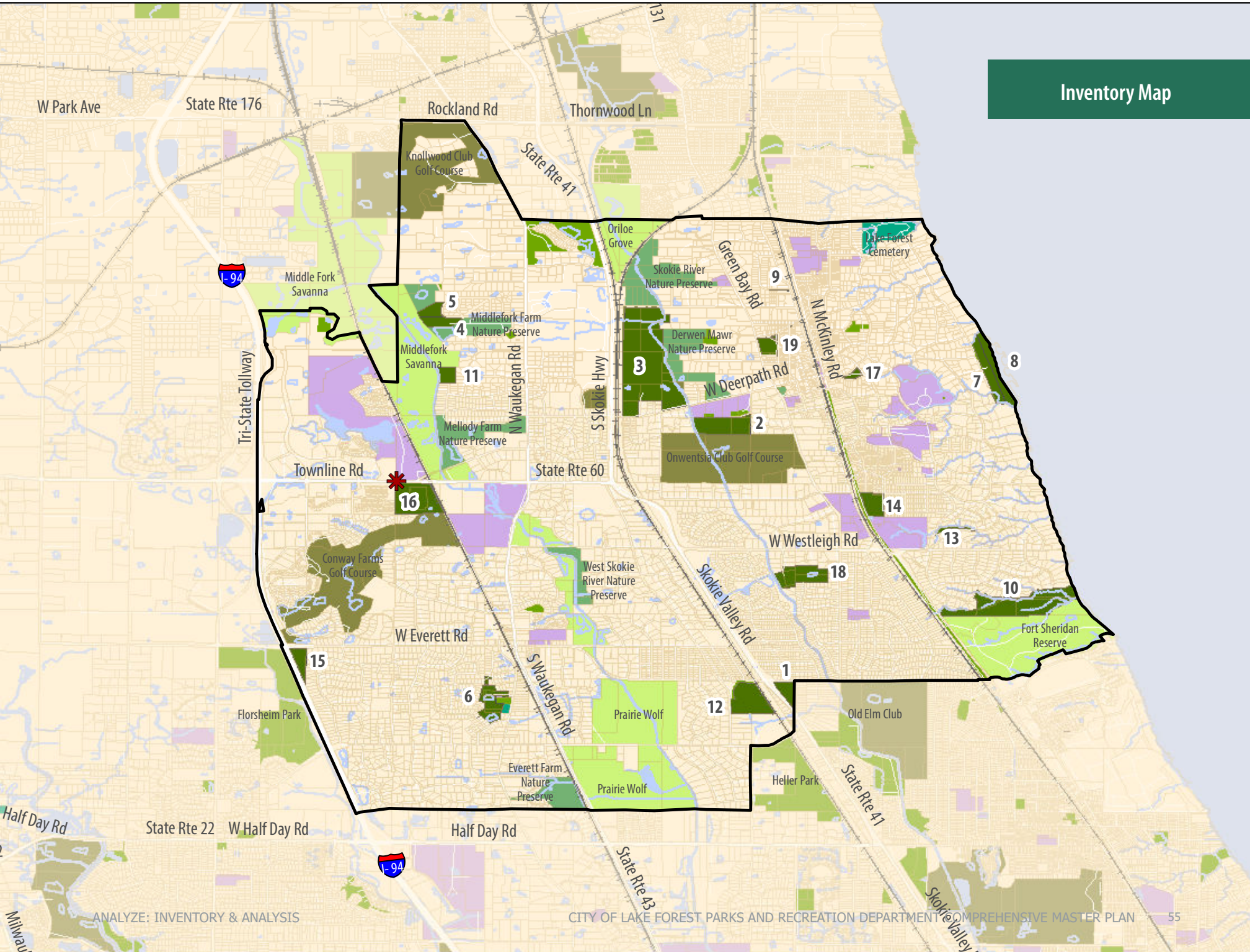
There are two elementary school and four secondary school districts serving City residents. Most of the City is served by Lake Forest School District 67 and Lake Forest Community High School District 115 while the north-west corner is served by elementary districts 72 and 103 and by secondary district 128.

Private Open Space

There are three privately-owned golf courses within the City boundaries and two private recreation clubs. Conway Farms Golf Club, the Knollwood Club, and Onwentsia Club Golf Course are all 18 - hole golf courses and Knollwood and Onwentsia also offer other outdoor recreation amenities. The Winter Club and The Lake Forest Club provides indoor and outdoor activities for their members.



Inventory Map





ASSET INVENTORY

As a part of the planning process, the Planning Team references the guidelines outlined by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) - Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines Manual updated in 1996.

NRPA recommends creating a park classification system to serve as a guide for organizing an agency's parks. Park, Recreation, and Greenway Classification Guidelines are expressions of the minimum amount and development of land a community should provide for different classifications or types of parks, open space, and greenways.

Mini Park, Neighborhood Park, Community Park, Large Urban Park, and Sports Complexes are the six classifications for parks recognized by the NRPA. Commonly, School Parks serve similar functions as Neighborhood Parks and Large Urban Parks and Sports Complexes are included in the Community Park category.

These categories are based on size, function, and use. Mini Parks are the smallest and most limited in function, while Community Parks are typically

the largest parks of a system and serve a variety of functions for the community. Other open space categories recognized by the NRPA are Natural Areas, Trails, Corridors or Linear Parks, and Special Use. Undeveloped Parks are sites not yet developed for meaningful access. This category is recognized for planning purposes but is not an NRPA category. Additionally, School Parks are not an NRPA category but are listed due to the intergovernmental agreement between the Parks and Recreation Department and School Districts.

These classifications are vital to a comprehensive Level of Service analysis. In the park and open space matrix on the following pages, amenities were quantified to understand the Department's total recreational offerings.

The Department's indoor space was also categorized by the type of facility and/or use. The facility matrix follows the park and open space inventory. It categorizes the Department's facilities by condition and identifies the total administration, recreation, and support space allocations within each facility.

PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

Classification	General Description	Service Area	Size Criteria	City of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Department Parks and Facilities
Mini Park* (M)	Mini Parks meet the need for a walkable, drop-in recreation experience. Appropriate elements in these parks include playgrounds, picnic areas, and seating. These parks usually do not include parking. Used to address limited, isolated, or unique recreational needs.	Less than a 0.25-mile distance in a residential setting.	Typically less than 1 acre in size.	Franklin Park, Meadowood Park, Triangle Park
Neighborhood Park* (N)	Neighborhood Parks remain the basic unit of the park system and are generally designed for informal active and passive recreation and community gathering spaces. Elements in these parks often include playgrounds, picnic areas, sports fields, and trail systems. Neighborhood Parks serve as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood.	0.25 to 0.5-mile distance and uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.	Typically ± 15 acres	Elawa Park, Everett Park, Northcroft Park, South Park, Waveland Park, West Park
Community Park* (C)	Community Parks focus on meeting community-wide recreation needs. These parks preserve unique landscapes and often serve the community as gathering places and for general athletics. Elements in these parks include playgrounds, pavilions, trails and path systems, multiple sport courts and fields. Serves broader purpose than neighborhood park. The focus is on meeting community-based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.	Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves two or more neighborhoods and 0.5 to 3-mile distance.	As needed to accommodate desired uses. Usually a minimum of 25 acres.	Deerpath Community Park, Townline Community Park
Natural Area*	Conservation and wildlife areas, wooded areas and waterways that are maintained for the most part in their natural state.	Service radius is unlimited.	No applicable standard.	McCormick Nature Preserve
Special Use*	Special use facilities focus on meeting community-wide recreation needs. Often, these spaces, both indoor and outdoor, are designed as single-use recreation activities. Examples of special use facilities include golf courses, nature centers, recreation centers, and museums. Areas for specialized or single purpose recreational activities. Generally designed for active recreation and focus on meeting community-based recreation needs.	No applicable standard.	Variable, depending on desired the amenity.	Deerpath Golf Course, Elawa Farm, Forest Park, Forest Park Beach
Trails, Corridors, and Linear Parks*	Effectively tie park system components together to form a continuous park environment.	Resource availability and opportunity.	No applicable standard.	None
Undeveloped Park	Lands owned by the agency, but not yet developed with any amenities to provide meaningful access to the site such as trails, seating areas, and other passive and active recreation amenities.	No applicable standard.	Variable.	Buena Park, Tollway Park, Ringwood Park
School Park	The Parks and Recreation Department has an agreement with Lake Forest Community High School District 115 and Lake Forest School District 67 in which the Department manages all or some of the schools' open spaces.	0.25 - 0.5-mile distance and uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers. (The neighborhood park service area is applied to school parks)	Variable.	Cherokee School, Deerpath Middle School, Everett School, Lake Forest High School - East, Lake Forest High School - West, Sheridan School

* from NRPA's Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines.

Park & Open Space Inventory Matrix

	ACREAGE			TRAILS		INDOOR FACILITIES			DAY USE AMENITIES			
	Acreage - Own	Acreage - Lease / Manage	Regional Trail Access	Multi-Use Trails	Nature / Interpretive Trails	Indoor Program / Support Facility	Restrooms	Concessions	Fitness Stations	Dog Park	Picnic Shelter	Playground
PARK AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEM												
Mini Parks												
1 Franklin Park	0.4			0.13								
2 Meadowood Park	7.7			0.04								
3 Triangle Park	2.6			0.18								
Mini Park Acreage	10.7	0.0										
	10.7											
Neighborhood Parks												
1 Elawa Park	7.4		x	0.21							1	1
2 Everett Park	19.1					x	x				1	2
3 Northcroft Park	27.4			0.59	0.24		x				2	1
4 South Park	12.4		x	0.06			x				1	1
5 Waveland Park	23.8			0.25			x					1
6 West Park	8.6			0.07			x					1
Neighborhood Park Acreage	98.7	0.0										
	98.7											
Community Parks												
1 Deerpath Community Park	26.3			1.16		x	x					1
2 Townline Community Park	34.8			0.31	0.70		x				1	1
Community Park Acreage	61.1	0.0										
	61.1											
	170.5	0.0										
TOTAL DEPARTMENT PARK HOLDINGS	170.5		2.00	2.84	0.94	2	7	0	0	0	6	9

SPORTS COURTS AND AMENITIES															WATER-BASED AMENITIES					NATURAL FEATURES			
Basketball	Baseball (turf infield)	Softball (clay infield)	Disc Golf (holes)	Football / Rugby	Golf Course (holes)	Golf Driving Range	Horseshoe Pit	Lacrosse	Pickleball Court	Skate Park	Soccer	Tennis Court	Baggo Game	Bocce Ball Court	Volleyball Court	Swimming Pool	Splash Pad	Ice Skating	Sled Hill	Boat Launch	Fishing	Creek / River / Open Water	Natural Area / Gardens

																							x

0.5							1				2												
1.0	1	1									3	5										x	
	2										2	5											
		2									2	2											
1.0		2									2	3										x	
		1									4						1						

		4		2.5						4													
	1	1																			x	x	

2.5	4	9	0	2.5	0	0	1	0	0	0	15	19	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	1
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	ACREAGE		TRAILS			INDOOR FACILITIES			DAY USE AMENITIES			
	Acreage - Own	Acreage - Lease / Manage	Regional Trail Access	Multi-Use Trails	Nature / Interpretive Trails	Indoor Program / Support Facility	Restrooms	Concessions	Fitness Stations	Dog Park	Picnic Shelter	Playground

OTHER DEPARTMENT OPEN SPACE & FACILITIES

Natural Areas

1 McCormick Nature Preserve	61.6										3	
Natural Area Acreage	61.6	0.0										
	61.6											

Special Use

1 Deerpath Golf Course	130.6					x	x	x				
2 Elewa Farm	8.6			0.28	0.13	x	x					
3 Forest Park	17.1			0.85								
4 Forest Park Beach	27.4			0.15	0.42	x	x	x			2	1
Special Use Acreage	183.7	0.0										
	183.7											

Trails, Corridors, and Linear Parks / Greenways

Trail, Corridor and Linear Park Acreage	0.0	0.0										
	0.0											

Undeveloped Park

1 Buena Park	8.6											
2 Tollway Park	8.3											
3 Ringwood Park	3.1											
Undeveloped Park Acreage	20.0	0.0										
	20.0											

	435.8	0.0										
TOTAL DEPARTMENT OPEN SPACE	435.8		2.00	4.12	1.49	5	10	2	0	0	11	10

Acreage information was derived from GIS data obtained from Lake County Illinois.

BEYOND USEFUL LIFE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AMENITIES AT CURRENT STANDARDS	5	10	2	0	0	11	10

School Parks

1 Cherokee School		6.3		0.31								1
2 Deerpath Middle School		27.8		0.51								1
3 Everett School		20.3		0.09								
4 Lake Forest High School - East		5.1		0.48								
5 Lake Forest High School - West		88.2		1.04								2
6 Sheridan School		4.9		0.02								2
School Park Acreage	0.0	152.6										
		152.6										

SPORTS COURTS AND AMENITIES															WATER-BASED AMENITIES					NATURAL FEATURES			
Basketball	Baseball (turf infield)	Softball (clay infield)	Disc Golf (holes)	Football / Rugby	Golf Course (holes)	Golf Driving Range	Horseshoe Pit	Lacrosse	Pickleball Court	Skate Park	Soccer	Tennis Court	Baggo Game	Bocce Ball Court	Volleyball Court	Swimming Pool	Splash Pad	Ice Skating	Sled Hill	Boat Launch	Fishing	Creek / River / Open Water	Natural Area / Gardens



																							x
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	---

					18	1																x	x
																							x
																							x
															2					x	4	x	



																							x
																							x
																							x

2.5	4	9	0	2.5	18	1	1	0	0	0	15	19	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	4	5	8
-----	---	---	---	-----	----	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.5	4	9	0	2.5	18	1	1	0	0	0	15	19	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	4	5	8

2.0												6											
				1				1			1												
	3	3		1							6	12											

Indoor Facility Inventory Matrix

		SQUARE FOOTAGE
		Total Square Footage
INDOOR FACILITIES		
Recreation & Fitness Programming		
Gymnasium (Rec Center)		7,317
Fitness Center (Rec Center)		4,288
Training Studio (Rec Center)		649
Studio 1 (Rec Center)		1,237
Studio 2 (Rec Center)		1,172
Studio 3 (Rec Center)		1,707
Studio 4 (Rec Center)		781
Studio 5 (Rec Center)		1,119
Racquetball/Squash Court 1 (Rec Center)		790
Racquetball/Squash Court 2 (Rec Center)		789
Racquetball/Squash Court 3 (Rec Center)		812
Recreation & Fitness Programming		20,661
Single-Use		
Kinderhaven (Rec Center)		1,313
Gameroom (Rec Center)		1,144
Single-Use		2,457
Aquatics		
Aquatics		0
Maintenance and Employee Use		
Other Recreation Center Space		13,232
Maintenance		13,232
TOTAL SQUARE FOOTAGE		36,350



LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

This Level of Service analysis evaluates how well the Department's parks, facilities, and amenities are serving the current needs of the community.

The development of a Level of Service standard for parks and recreation began in the 1980s with the development of Levels of Service for other infrastructure such as water, stormwater drainage, sewer systems, and transportation. These benchmarks provide agency officials with the ability to respond to growing communities, evolving demographics and changing needs. It is important to note, however, that these benchmarks are not strict rules that all communities should follow. These Level of Service benchmarks are simply another gauge for agencies to use when determining future needs and services.


According to the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA), the Level of Service is a quantification of the park and recreation delivery philosophy and policy of a community. Its basic utility is in meeting a legal and/or economic requirement of quality service and equity. As a basic rule, a Level of Service benchmark should:

- Be practical and achievable
- Provide for an equitable allocation of park and recreation resources throughout a community with equal opportunity access for all citizens
- Reflect the real-time demand of the citizens for park and recreation opportunities

The Level of Service standard uses four measurements to help a community to evaluate the comprehensiveness and equability of their current park and recreation offerings. These are:

1. **Acreage:** A calculation of the minimum amount of land required to provide all of the recreation activities and facilities required to support such activities
2. **Distribution:** An evaluation of how equitable park and open space sites are placed throughout the community, as well as how accessible existing sites are to residents
3. **Amenities:** A calculation of the minimum number of amenities and facilities required to meet state and/or national averages
4. **Square Footage:** A calculation of the minimum number of indoor square footage required to provide all of the recreation programs and services

Level of Service guidelines are developed by state and national agencies, including the NRPA. Historically, a Level of Service analysis has been limited to total park and open space acreage alone and did not include distribution, amenities or indoor square footage.



The national standard for acreage Level of Service was 10 acres per 1,000 population, but as park and recreation planning developed, professionals saw the need to develop a more comprehensive benchmarking tool that could be adjusted for and specific to each community. Because one size does not fit all, the NRPA recommends using community-specific benchmarks if needed.

Park Metrics is the NRPA's online management tool, designed for public park and recreation agencies. This tool is a supplement to the NRPA standards that have guided land acquisition and development for the past 45 years. Through this tool, agencies have the ability to compare themselves and their offerings with departments and agencies in their state or region. Agencies can also compare themselves to others based on factors such as total population, operating budget and full-time technical equivalent employees. Now, agencies can plan and benchmark with more applicable data than national averages.

Park Metrics has thousands of data points and more than 600 completed profiles. It is now the largest and most comprehensive collection of detailed municipal, county, state and special district data. As more agencies add their data to the database, trends and patterns begin to emerge that help agencies plan and benchmark.

The following Level of Service analyses reference national NRPA standards, Park Metrics benchmarks and local and regional-specific standards set by the State of Illinois and the planning team. The City of Lake Forest was compared against 2017 data for agencies with populations between 15,000 and 25,000 registered with the NRPA's Park Metrics. 27 comparable agencies located in Midwest states were found.

Acreage

Acreage Level of Service benchmarks are calculations of the recommended amount of land required to provide recreation activities and the facilities to support them.

The NRPA's population ratio method (acres/1,000 population) emphasizes the direct relationship between recreation spaces and people and is the most common method of estimating an agency's level of service for parkland and open space. In addition to the baseline of 10 acres/1,000 population used in this analysis, Park Metrics benchmarks are also used to understand how the Parks and Recreation Department compares to agencies of similar population size and region.

Based on the NRPA benchmark of 10 acres per 1,000 population, 193.8 acres of Mini, Neighborhood, and Community Park space is recommended for the City of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Department. The table on the right designates these park assets as "Active Recreation Areas." With 170.5 acres of open space dedicated to Mini, Neighborhood, and Community Park uses, the Department has a 23.2-acre deficiency compared to this benchmark. The Department has a level of service of 8.8 acres per 1,000 population, which is also below the NRPA recommended 10 acres per 1,000.

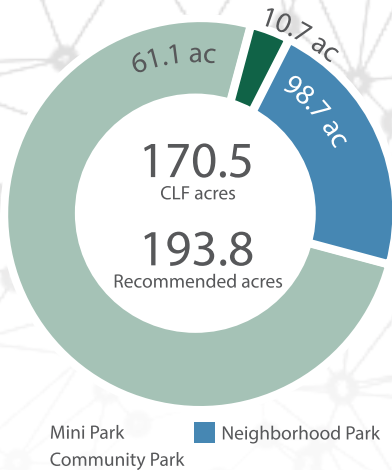
When all Department-owned and maintained open space is added to the Level of Service analysis, the Department has 242.1 acres more than the NRPA recommended 193.8 acres. This Level of Service gauge includes Special Use Sites, Trails, Corridors, and Linear Parks, and Undeveloped Parks, in addition to Mini, Neighborhood and Community Parks. When including all of these properties, the Department has an overall level of service of 21.5 acres per 1,000 population.

The Park Metrics database was referenced to understand how the Parks and Recreation Department compares to agencies across the nation with similar population sizes. The City of Lake Forest has a population of 19,375. Out of over 600 agencies reporting, there were 27 agencies with populations between 15,000 and 25,000. Park Metrics provided information on the following level of service benchmarks:

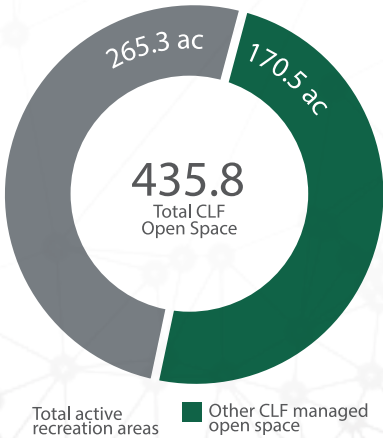
- Total Number of Parks
- Total Park Acres
- Total Acres Managed
- Acres of Parks per 1,000 Residents

The City of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Department has 19 parks that total 435.8 acres, this is comparable with the median of 19 total parks but about double the median of 280 acres as reported by Park Metrics.

Active Recreation Acreage



Total Department Acreage



Park Metrics Benchmarks

15,000-25,000 population

27 agencies

Benchmark	Park Metrics Median	CLF
Total number of parks maintained	16	19
Total acres of parks maintained	280	435.7

Level of Service Analysis: 10 acres / 1,000 population

OWNED / LEASED ACTIVE RECREATION AREAS

Classification	CLF Acreage (Total)	CLF Existing Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	IAPD/NRPA Recommended Acreage	IAPD/NRPA Recommended Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	Acreage deficiency / surplus (acre)
Mini Park	10.7	0.6	9.7	0.5	1.0
Neighborhood Park	98.7	5.1	38.8	2.0	60.0
Community Park	61.1	3.2	145.3	7.5	-84.2
Total Active Recreation Areas	170.5	8.8	193.8	10.0	-23.2

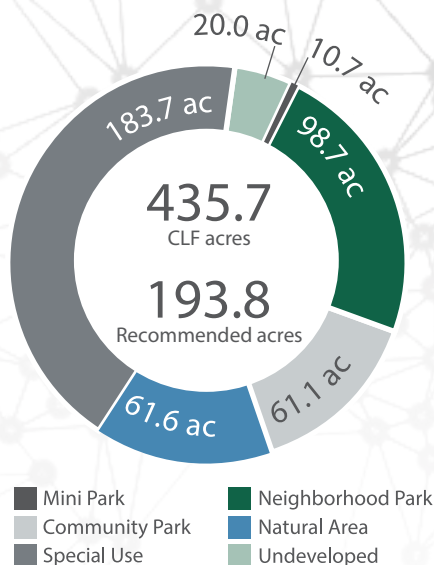
Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 19375

ALL DEPARTMENT MANAGED OPEN SPACE

Classification	CLF Acreage (Total)	CLF Existing Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	IAPD/NRPA Recommended Acreage	IAPD/NRPA Recommended Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	Acreage deficiency / surplus (acre)
Mini Park	10.7	0.6	9.7	0.5	1.0
Neighborhood Park	98.7	5.1	38.8	2.0	60.0
Community Park	61.1	3.2	145.3	7.5	-84.2
Natural Areas	61.6	3.2	0.0	0.0	61.6
Special Use	183.7	9.5	0.0	0.0	183.7
Greenways	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Undeveloped	20.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	20.0
Total Department Open Space	435.8	21.5	193.8	10.0	242.1

Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 19375

Department-Owned Acreage



Distribution

Planning areas are used to analyze park distribution, land acquisition, and park facility redevelopment needs. Planning areas are delineated by major pedestrian barriers, including major roads or highways, railroad corridors, and impassible natural features.

The location and geographic distribution of the parks themselves can offer an indication of how well an agency is serving its residents. By understanding where parks are located in relation to residential development determines who is underserved. This analysis may reveal the need for acquisition to expand service or may reveal that the Department is serving the residents well and should focus on maintaining or updating existing assets.

Methodology

In the City of Lake Forest, arterial roads and railroads serve as the main pedestrian barriers. These pedestrian barriers resulted in nine planning areas

A service area, illustrated in the following maps with an orange halo, was created around each individual park. The shape of each service area is determined by analyzing the existing road and sidewalk infrastructure to identify the actual route and distance one has to travel to access the park. The size of the service area is dependent upon the park classification and is either a quarter-, half-, or one-mile.

The table on **page 57** notes the various recommended service area distances for Mini, Neighborhood, and Community Parks. Natural Areas, Special Use Sites, Undeveloped Sites, and School parks are not included in this analysis.

Service area buffers for Mini and Neighborhood Parks were truncated to the planning area boundaries in which the park is located. Planning Area boundaries are considered barriers to safe or comfortable pedestrian access, and Mini and Neighborhood Parks are considered walk-to (walkable) destinations. For Community Parks, the boundaries were not truncated because these parks are seen as drive-to destinations.

Finally, overlaying service area maps reveal which areas are most and least served by the existing park system. The most served areas are illustrated by the dark orange, while the least served areas are illustrated by the lack of orange. The orange service area buffers overlap to form a gradient that illustrates the degree to which residents are served. The darker the orange, the better these residents are served. Residents who fall within the darker or opaque orange areas are served by multiple parks and their amenities. Population for each planning and service area further informed the level of service analysis.

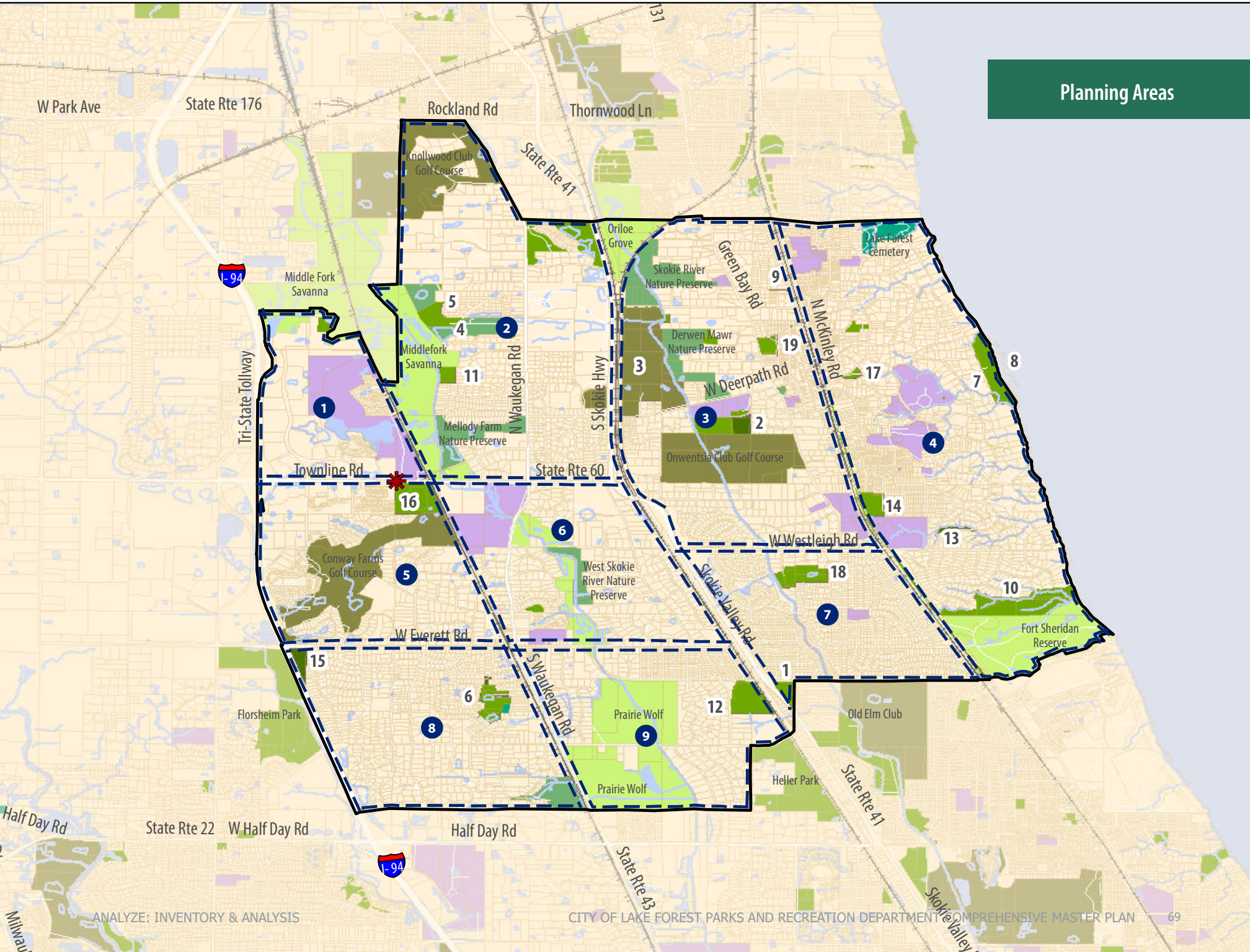
Planning Area Populations

PA*	Total Population
1	242
2	2,155
3	2,750
4	5,562
5	1,216
6	950
7	2,925
8	2,235
9	1,232

*Planning Area (PA)



Planning Areas



Mini Park Distribution Analysis

Mini Parks meet the need for a walkable, drop-in recreation experience. Appropriate elements in these parks typically include playgrounds, picnic areas, and seating opportunities.

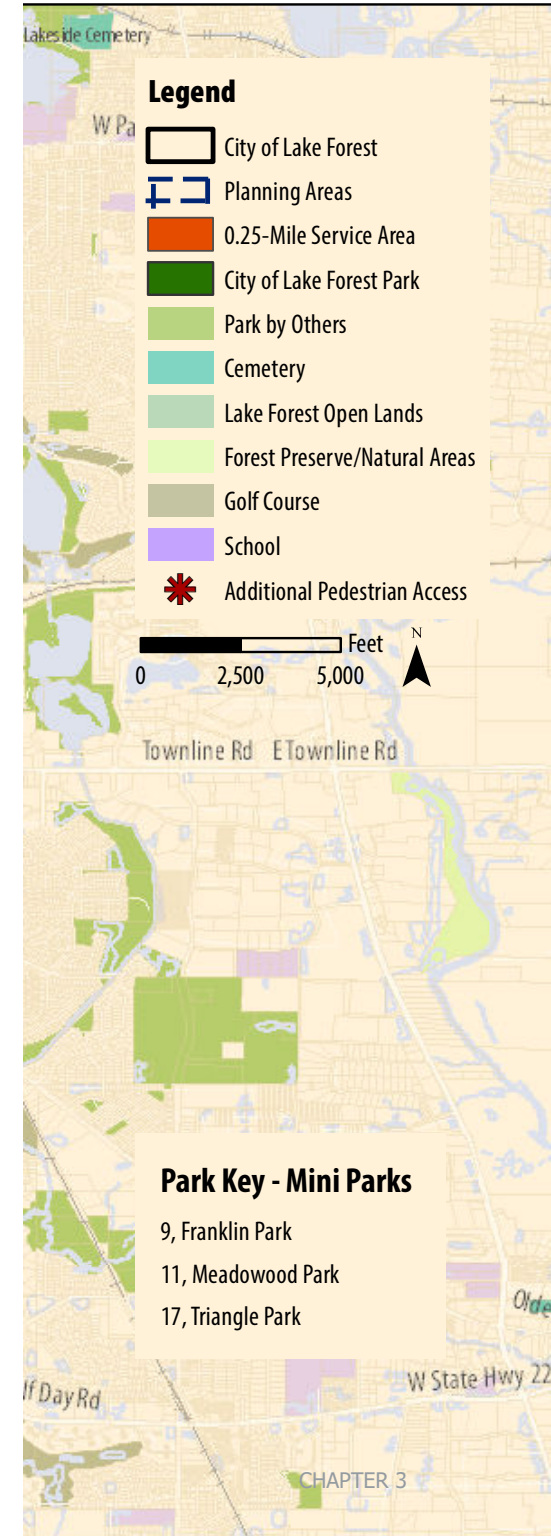
The purpose of the Mini Park Distribution Analysis is to determine which planning areas are underserved by the Department's existing Mini Park land holdings. Currently, the Department has three Mini Parks that range from 0.4 acres to 7.7 acres in size.

The map to the right illustrates the quarter-mile (0.25-mile) service area reach for Mini, Neighborhood, and Community Parks shown in orange. Quarter-mile service areas are also shown for Neighborhood and Community Parks, as these parks serve the function of a Mini Park for those residents within a quarter-mile distance from the park.

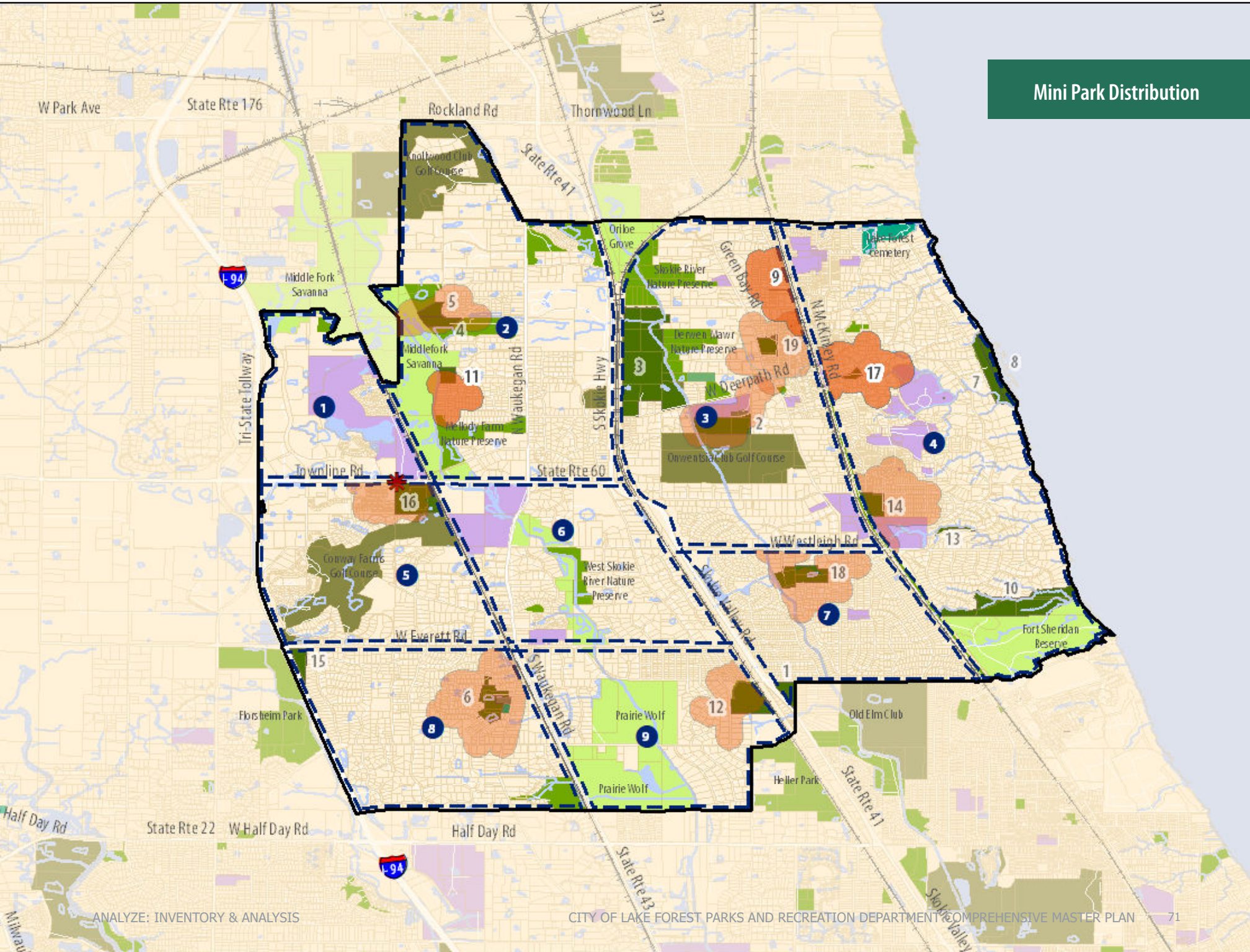
The map illustrates where Mini Park service is concentrated within the City. The majority of Lake Forest residents do not have access to active recreation within a 0.25-mile walk of their homes. Planning Areas 1 and 6 do not have any City parks but also have the lowest populations of residents. Some residents in Area 1 may actually have access to Townline Community Park via the pedestrian bridge crossing Townline Road. While the Department does provide active recreation in the other seven Planning Areas, the service areas only cover a small portion of the planning area and all have populations of over 1,000 residents with most in the 2,000s leaving a large number of residents underserved.

Although the Parks and Recreation Department is not providing Mini Park service to most of the population, other open space recreation providers may be meeting resident needs. Public schools, located in Planning Areas 1, 3, 4, 6, and 7, typically provide some active recreation amenities and Forest Park Beach in Planning Area 4 also provides some active recreation amenities despite its classification as a special use park. Additionally, there are public passive recreation providers such as forest preserve, Open Lands, and other Department properties in nearly every Planning Area. While these properties do not serve the same function as Mini Parks, residents may use them instead of a Mini Park.

When considering all of the public open space in Lake Forest, Planning Area 8 and sections of Planning Area 4 are the most likely to have a need for more Mini Park service based on available open space and population.



Mini Park Distribution



Neighborhood Park Distribution Analysis

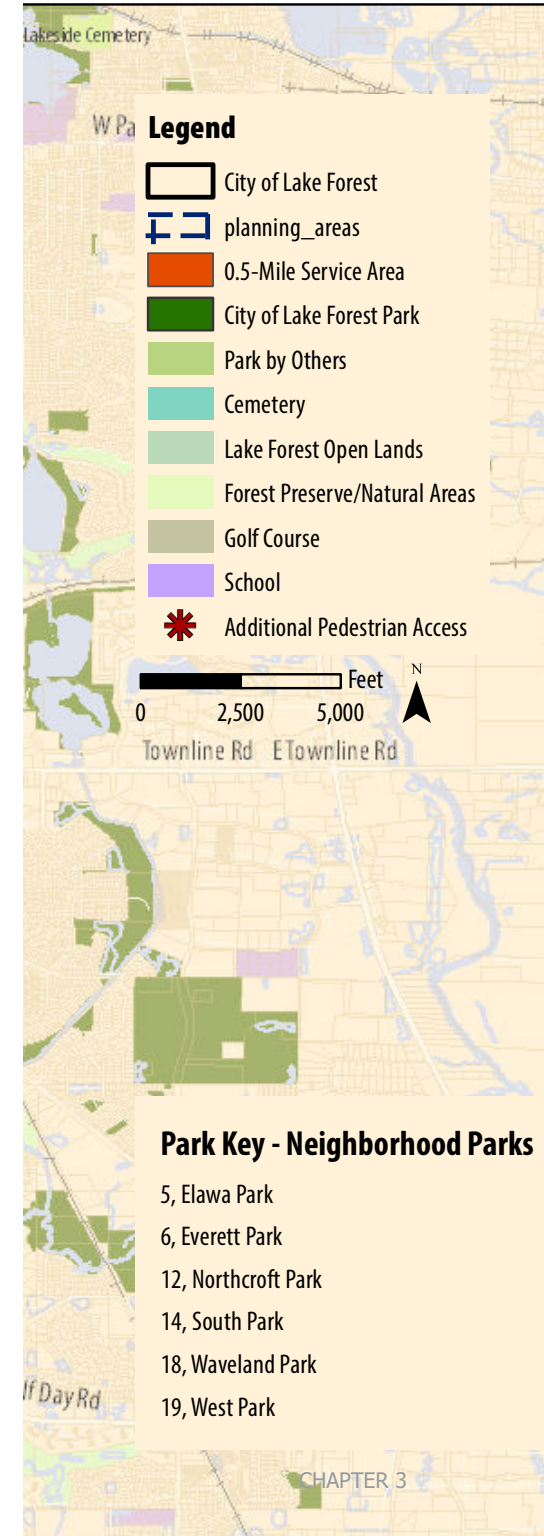
Neighborhood Parks remain the basic unit of the park system and are generally designed for informal active and passive recreation and community gathering spaces.

The purpose of the Neighborhood Park Distribution Analysis is to determine which planning areas are underserved by the Department's existing Neighborhood Park land holdings. Currently, the Department has 6 Neighborhood Parks that range from 7.4 acres to 27.4 acres in size.

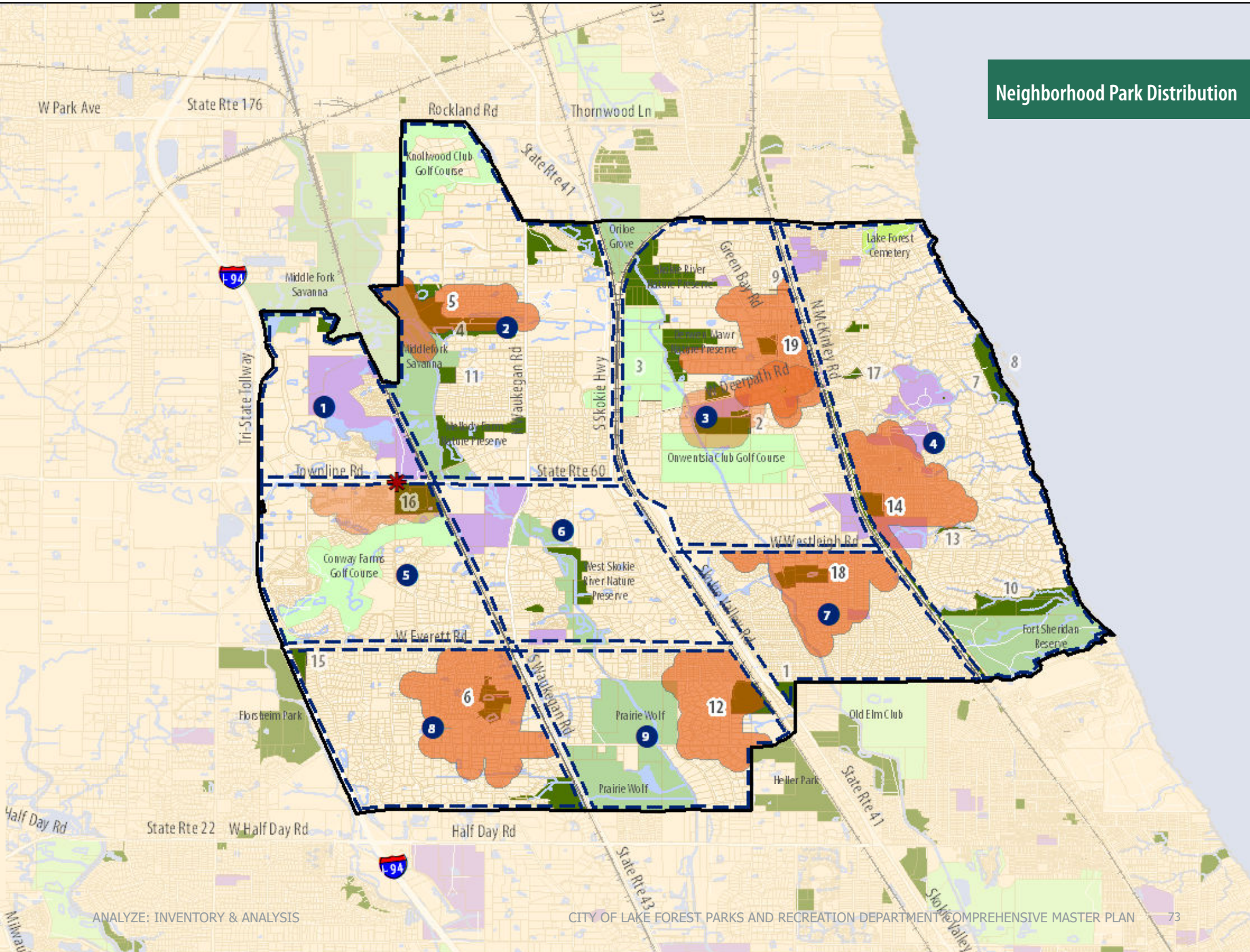
The map on the right illustrates the half-mile (0.5-mile) service area reach for Neighborhood parks. This plan also illustrates a half-mile service area (shown in orange) for Community Parks, as these parks can serve the function of a Neighborhood Park for residents within a 0.5-mile from the park. According to NRPA's Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Guidelines, Neighborhood Park service areas do not include residents who must cross a planning area boundary to reach the park. Service areas are truncated to all planning area boundaries.

The map to the right illustrates where Neighborhood Parks service is concentrated within the Department. All of the Planning Areas except 1 and 6 contain at least one Neighborhood or Community Park but the majority of residents in the City are still underserved within 0.5-miles of their home. As was the case with Mini Parks, Areas 1 and 6 have fewer residents than the rest of the Department and the pedestrian bridge across Townline Road may extend park service to Area 1 residents. Other public open space and public passive recreation providers may be contributing to resident service at the Neighborhood Park level as well.

When considering all of the available open space, Planning Areas 2 and 4 appear to have the largest underserved geographic areas and both have a large population.



Neighborhood Park Distribution



Community Park Distribution Analysis

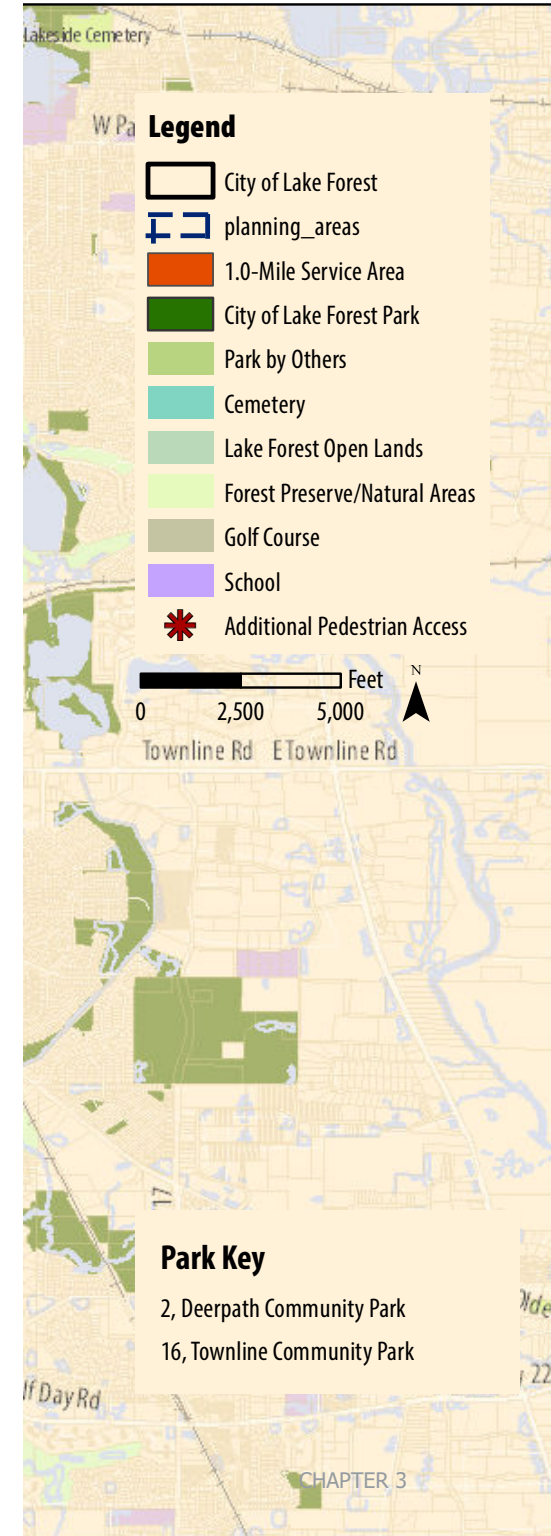
Community Parks focus on meeting community-wide recreation needs. These parks may preserve unique landscapes and often serve as event and recreational team sport spaces.

The purpose of the Community Park Distribution Analysis is to determine the location of gaps in Community Park service area coverage. Currently, the Department has two Community Parks that are 26.3 acres and 34.8 acres in size.

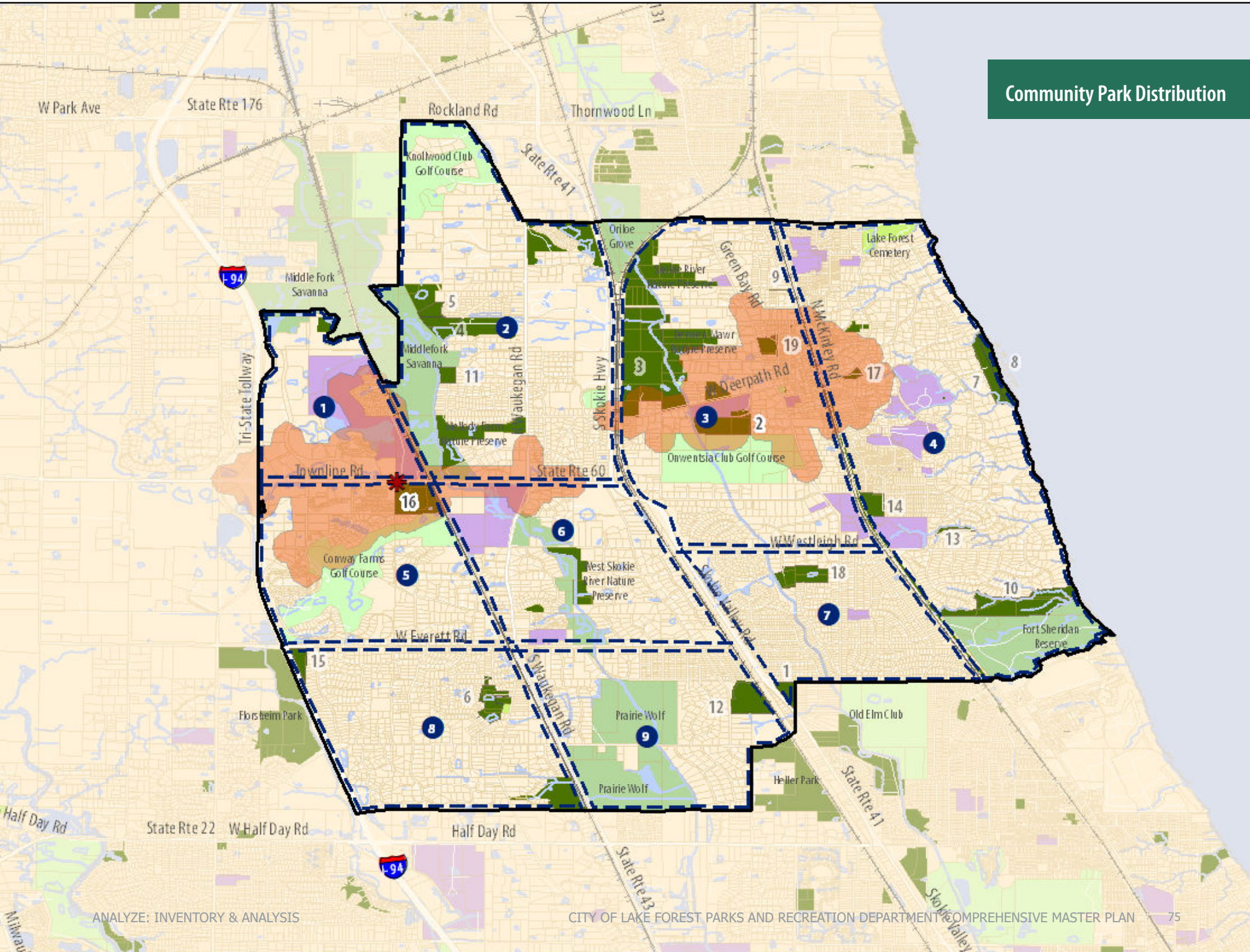
The map on the right illustrates the one-mile (1-mile) service area reach for Community parks, shown in orange. Unlike Mini, and Neighborhood Parks, Community Parks are considered drive-to recreation destinations so service areas are not limited to the boundary of the planning area in which they are located. These drive-to destinations cover multiple planning areas and are community destinations for City residents.

Overall, very few residents are served by a Community Park. Planning Areas 1, 3, and 5 are the best served within 1.0-miles but still have about half of the area underserved. Due to their function in the community, there are few other public open spaces that could meet a Community Park need. The two high schools and the middle school, located in Areas 3, 4, and 6 offer the appropriate amenities to serve a Community Park need when they are not in use by the schools.

While some resident need may be met by passive recreation providers, these properties do not serve the same active recreation service as a Community Park. When considering Planning Area population and all open space, Planning Areas 2, 4, 7, 8, and 9 are all in need of Community Park service.



Community Park Distribution

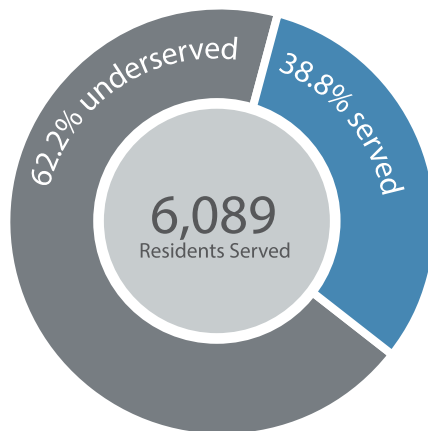


Overall Park Distribution Analysis

The Overall Distribution Analysis illustrates the Department-wide deficiencies for Mini, Neighborhood, and Community Park assets combined.

The map on the right illustrates the service areas for all mini (quarter-mile), Neighborhood (half-mile), and Community (one-mile) Parks. Per NRPA Guidelines, the Mini and Neighborhood Park service areas are truncated to the boundaries of the individual planning areas in which they reside. Community Parks are considered drive-to destinations, so those service areas are not truncated to the planning area boundaries. Natural Areas, Special Use facilities, Parkways, and Undeveloped land holdings are not included in this analysis.

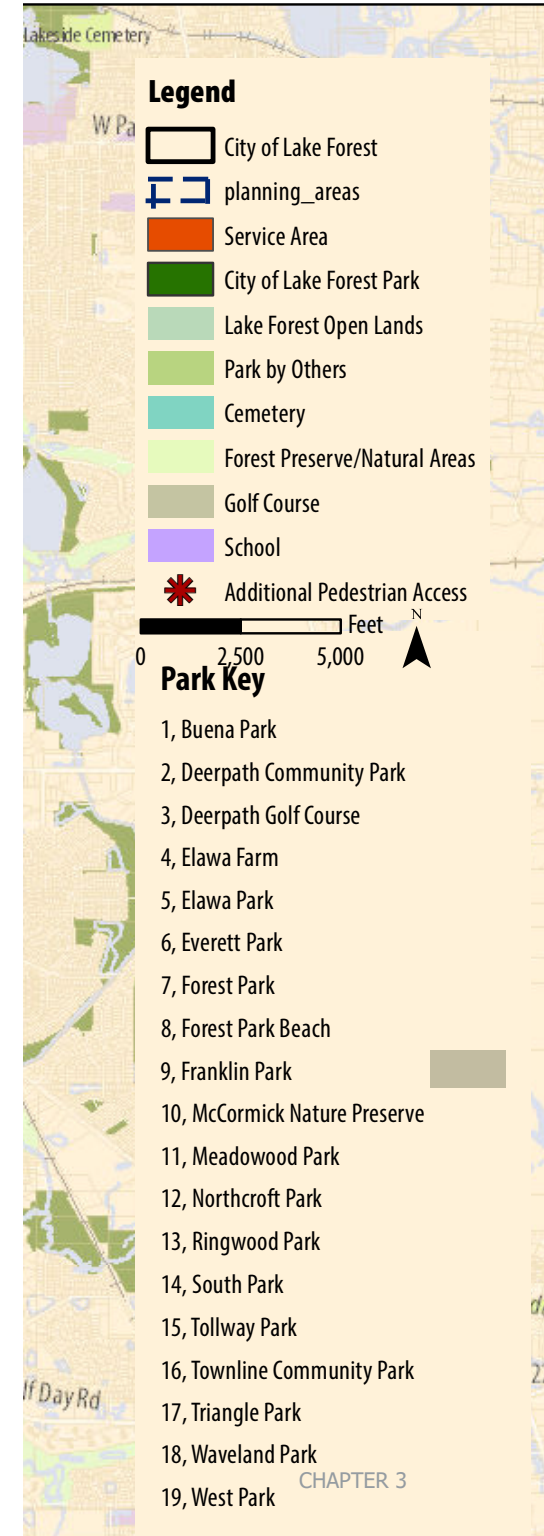
Park service in the City of Lake Forest is evenly distributed but serves relatively few people. Overall, 31.4% of Lake Forest residents have access to a Mini, Neighborhood, and/or Community Park resource within the recommended distance of where they live. The largest area of residential development not served by a Mini, Neighborhood, or Community Park exists in Planning Area 4 which has the largest population but few parks providing active recreation. Planning areas 2, 3, 7, and 8 also have minimal service and all have populations near or over 1,000 residents. The median Overall Distribution Level of Service, according to the planning team's database, is 79.7%. The City of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Department Level of Service is well below this median overall level of service.



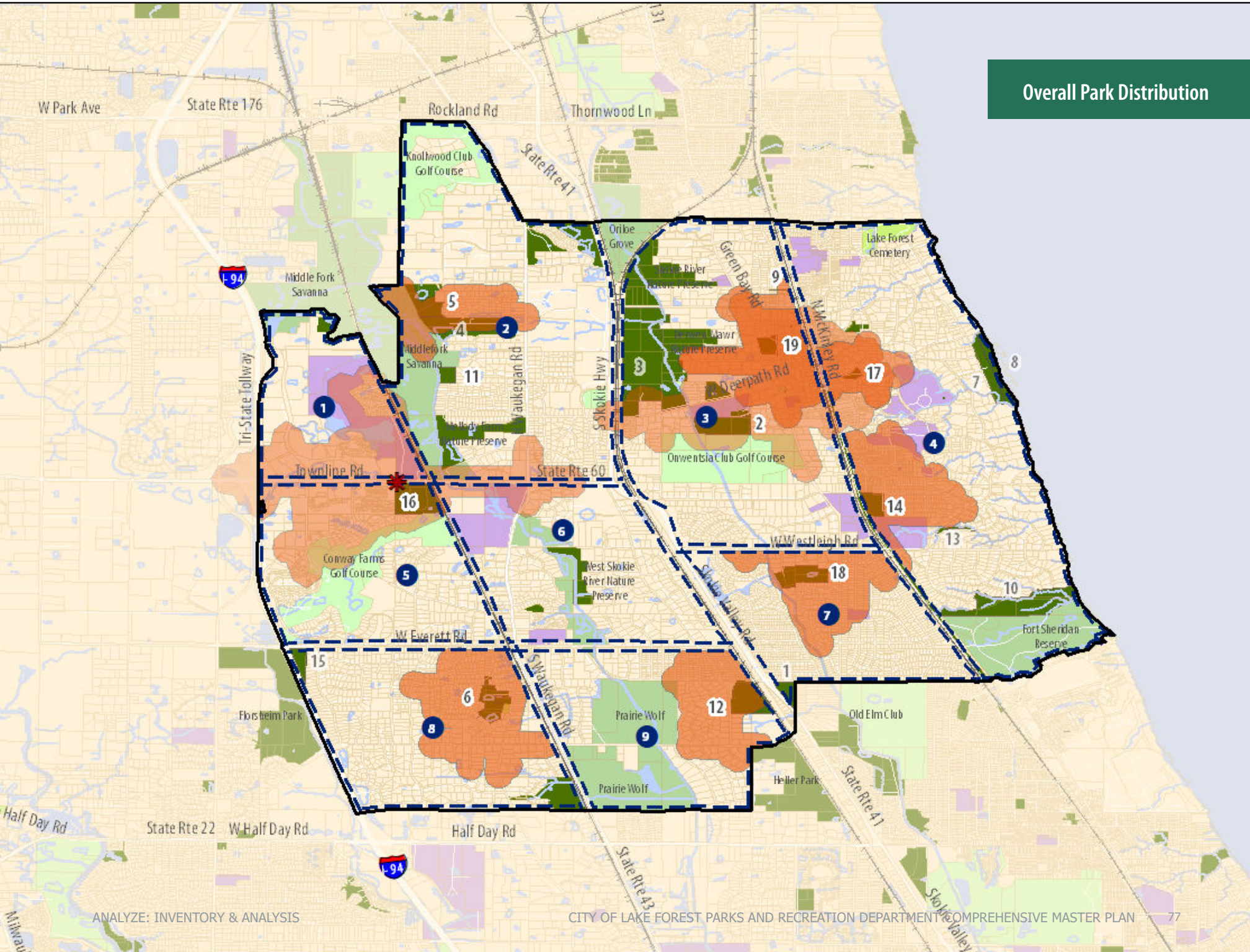
Analysis

PA*	Population Served	% Served	Population Unserved	% Unserved
1	242	100%	0	0%
2	256	11.9%	1,899	88.1%
3	929	33.8%	1,821	66.2%
4	2,032	36.5%	3,530	63.5%
5	353	29.0%	866	71.0%
6	49	5.2%	901	94.8%
7	748	25.6%	2,177	74.4%
8	1,002	44.8%	1,233	55.2%
9	478	38.8%	754	61.2%
TOTAL	6,089	31.6%	113,181	68.4%

*Planning Area (PA)



Overall Park Distribution



Amenities

In addition to park acreage and distribution, another measure of Level of Service is the total recreation amenities available to residents. These benchmarks come from the Illinois Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Park Metrics, and comparable north shore communities.

SCORP Comparison

Based on the Illinois SCORP, the Department meets or exceeds the recommended number of amenities for 13 of the 21 amenities outlined in the chart to the right. Amenities that meet or exceed the recommendation are identified by green text in the “Surplus / Deficit” column.

Items with red text noted in the “Surplus / Deficit” column are deficiencies. The five amenities with the greatest deficiencies, according to the comparison against SCORP averages are:

- Volleyball Courts: -1.3
- Spray Grounds / Splash Pads: -0.6
- Swimming Pools: -0.5
- Basketball Courts: -0.5
- Skate Park: -0.3



SCORP Amenities Needs Analysis - Department Assets Only

Existing Population 2017

	City of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Department			Illinois Facility Average		Surplus / Deficit
	Existing # of Facilities (total)	Existing # of Facilities at current standards	Existing # of Facilities per 1,000 population	Total # of Facilities needed to meet IL Average	IL Average # of Facilities per 1,000 population	Surplus / Deficit
WATER-BASED FACILITIES						
Fishing Pier / Docks	4	4	0.21	0.9	0.04	3.1
Swimming Pools	0	0	0.00	0.5	0.02	-0.5
Spray Grounds / Splash Pads	0	0	0.00	0.6	0.03	-0.6
TRAILS						
Multi-Use Trails (Miles)	4.12	4.12	0.21	2.6	0.13	1.6
Nature / Interpretive Trails (Miles)	1.49	1.49	0.08	0.2	0.01	1.2
DAY USE FACILITIES						
Picnic Shelters	11	11	0.57	4.2	0.22	6.8
Playgrounds	10	10	0.52	7.6	0.39	2.4
Interpretive Centers	1	1	0.05	0.2	0.01	0.8
SPORTS COURTS AND FACILITIES						
Tennis Courts	19	19	0.98	3.8	0.20	15.2
Basketball Courts	3	3	0.13	3.0	0.16	-0.5
Volleyball Courts	2	2	0.10	3.3	0.17	-1.3
Baseball Fields	4	4	0.21	3.9	0.20	0.1
Softball Fields	9	9	0.46	2.7	0.14	6.3
Football Fields	3	3	0.13	0.8	0.04	1.7
Soccer Fields	15	15	0.77	3.4	0.18	11.6
Golf Course (Course)	1	1	0.05	0.2	0.01	0.8
Ice Rinks (Outdoor)	1	1	0.05	0.3	0.02	0.7
Horseshoe Pits	1	1	0.05	1.1	0.06	-0.1
Bocce Court	0	0	0.00	0.2	0.01	-0.2
Disc Golf (Course)	0	0	0.00	0.2	0.01	-0.2
Skate Park	0	0	0.00	0.3	0.02	-0.3

■ Surplus Amenities

■ Deficit Amenities

Park Metrics Comparison

In addition to the SCORP averages, the planning team referenced NRPA's Park Metrics to identify how the City of Lake Forest compares to other agencies in the Midwest states with populations of 15,000 to 25,000. Park Metrics provided information about the total population per facility for swimming pools, playgrounds, dog parks, tennis courts, basketball courts, baseball fields, softball fields, football fields, soccer fields, multipurpose fields, 9- and 18-hole golf courses, driving ranges, skate parks, and ice rinks for the 27 agencies within this population range. The table below compares the total number of City-owned and managed facilities to agencies with similar populations.

Park Metrics Amenity Needs Analysis - Department Amenities Only

Existing Population 2017

City of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Department				Illinois Facility Average	Surplus / Deficit	Population per Facility
Existing # of Facilities (total)	Existing # of Facilities at current standards	Existing # of Facilities per 1,000 population	Total # of Facilities needed to meet the NPRA Park Metric median	Surplus / Deficit	Population Per Facility (per the NPRA Park Metric)	
WATER-BASED FACILITIES						
Outdoor Swimming Facility	0	0	0.00	1.1	-1.1	17537
DAY USE FACILITIES						
Playgrounds	10	10	0.52	10.0	0.0	1947
Dog Park	0	0	0.00	1.1	-1.1	17650
SPORTS COURTS AND FACILITIES						
Tennis Courts	19	19	0.98	6.9	12.1	2812
Basketball Courts	3	3	0.13	3.8	-1.3	5121
Baseball Fields	4	4	0.21	5.8	-1.8	3360
Softball Fields	9	9	0.46	3.7	5.3	5262
Football Fields	3	3	0.13	3.1	-0.6	6303
Soccer	15	15	0.77	5.8	9.2	3361
Multipurpose Field	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.0	17537
9-Hole Golf Course	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.0	12858
18-Hole Golf Gourse	1	1	0.05	0.0	1.0	21061
Driving Range	1	1	0.05	0.0	1.0	960
Skate Park	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.0	19838
Ice Rink (Outdoor)	1	1	0.05	1.3	-0.3	15365

Surplus Amenities

Deficit Amenities





North Shore Communities Comparison

The planning team also compared the City of Lake Forest's amenities against several north shore recreation providers selected by the task-force. Data for each community was obtained from the most recently completed master plan when available or verified by the agency.

The City of Lake Forest was compared against each of the north shore communities (Glencoe Park District, Glenview Park District, Highland Park District, Village of Libertyville, Northbrook Park District, Northfield Park District, and Winnetka) in population, the number of park properties, acreage, and number of amenities. Amenity level of service was also compared using the SCORP standard of number of amenities per 1,000 population. This information is summarized on the following pages.

Overall, the City of Lake Forest is fairly similar to the other north shore communities with a few noted differences. When comparing the averaged amenities per 1,000 population there are a few items that are below or above the North Shore benchmarks. The top five amenities Lake Forest is below the benchmark are:

- Fitness Stations: -8
- Playgrounds: -7
- Baseball: -4
- Basketball Courts: -3.5
- Pickleball Courts: -3

A few Lake Forest amenities are above the North Shore benchmark. The amenities in which Lake Forest is most above are:

- Golf Course Holes: +7
- Soccer Fields: +3
- Picnic Shelters: +2
- Softball Fields: +2
- Fishing: +2

North Shore Comparison Matrix

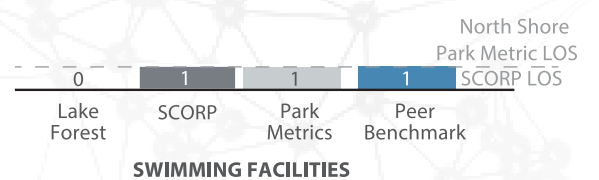
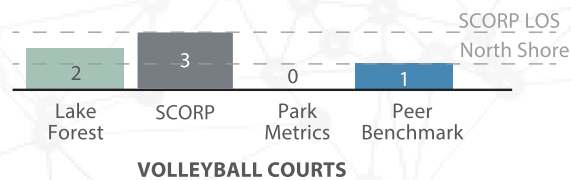
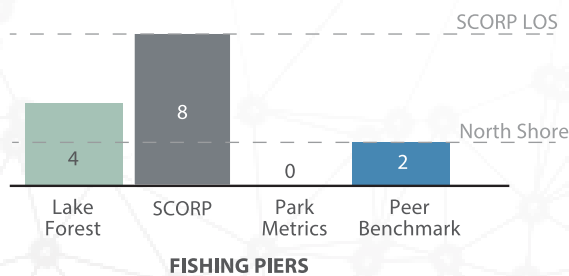
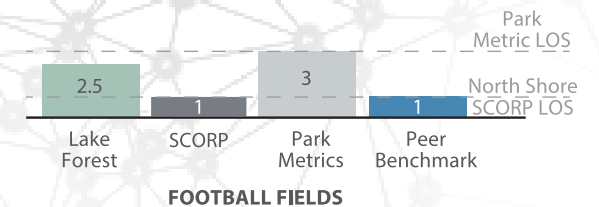
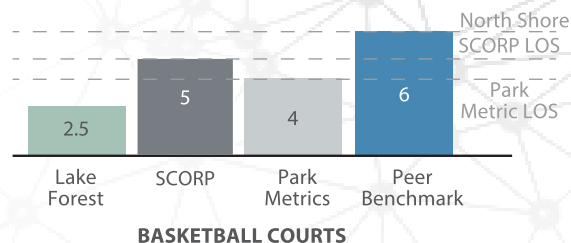
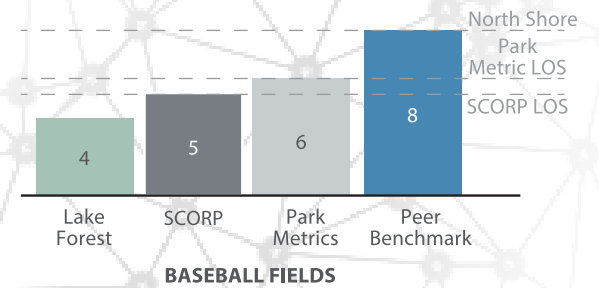
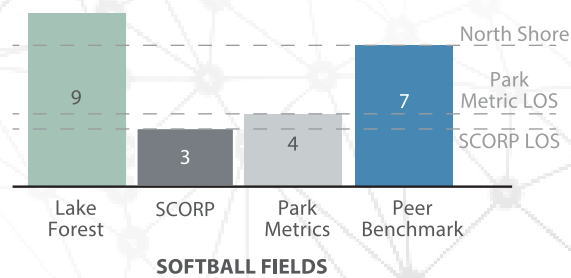
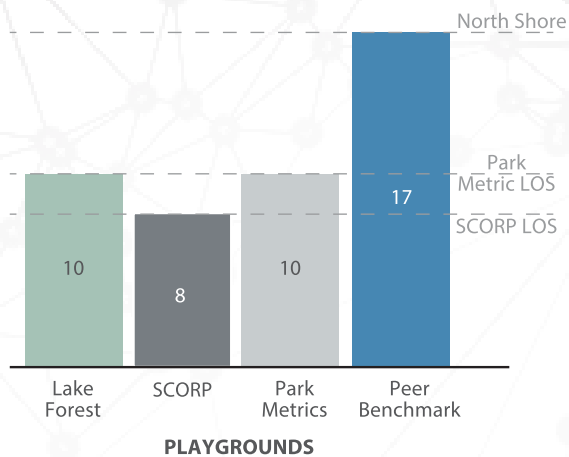
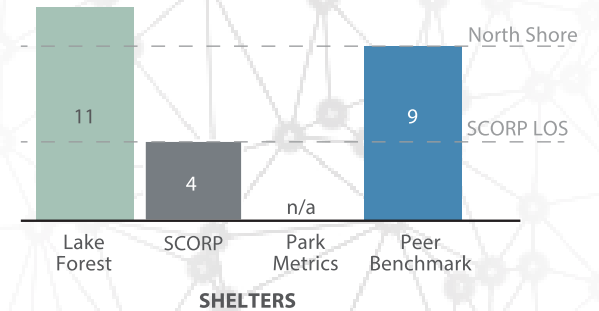
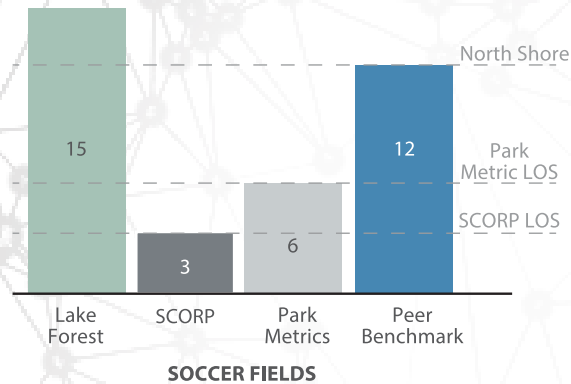
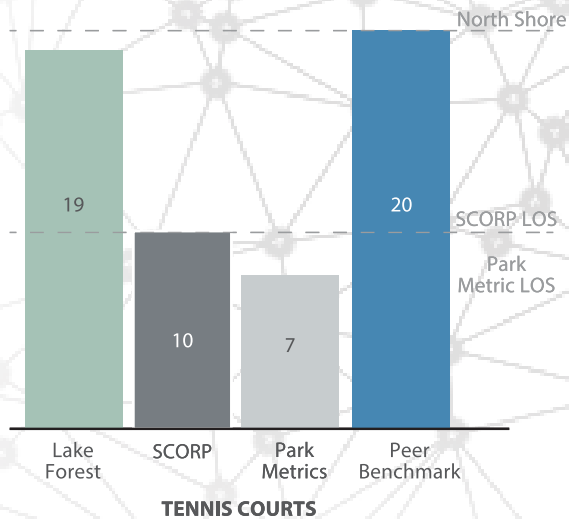
		Population (at time of plan)	Number of Properties	ACREAGE		INDOOR FACILITIES			DAY USE AMENITIES			
				Acreage - Total	All Trails	Indoor Program / Support Facility	Restrooms	Concessions	Fitness Stations	Dog Park	Picnic Shelter	Playground
2015	Glencoe Park District	8,663	43	99.78	1.57		2				3	15
2018	Glenview Park District	58,183	44	334.80	16.89	13	7	2	4	1	15	33
2015	Highland Park Park District	30,146	44	735.24			12	6		3	15	35
2018	Village of Libertyville	20,432	21			1	4	2	0	0	8	17
2017	Northbrook Park District	33,932	33	511.30	7.72	8	6	2	16	1	9	14
2014	Northfield Park District	4,290	3	33.78	0.50		6	2	3		4	2
2018	Winnetka Park District		26		4.25	15	4	1		1	5	11
North Shore Peer Average			31	343	6.19	9	6	3	6	1	8	18
2018	CITY OF LAKE FOREST OPEN SPACE	19,375	19	427.6	5.61	5	10	2	0	0	11	10
PER 1,000 POPULATION												
North Shore Peer Benchmark				250	3.95	4	9	4	8	1	9	17
CITY OF LAKE FORESTS OPEN SPACE				177.3	1.66	1	1	-2	-8	-1	2	-7

All information was obtained from resources provided by the City of Lake Forest and contacted agencies.

Where data was not available, boxes were left blank

SPORTS COURTS AND AMENITIES															WATER-BASED AMENITIES							NATURAL FEATURES		
Basketball	Baseball	Softball	Disc Golf (holes)	Golf Course (holes)	Golf Driving Range	Horseshoe Pit	Pickleball Court	Skate Park	Soccer	Football / Rugby	Lacrosse	Tennis Court	Baggo Game	Bocce Ball Court	Volleyball Court	Swimming Pool	Splash Pad	Ice Skating	Sled Hill	Boat Launch	Fishing	Creek / River / Open Water	Natural Area / Gardens	
3	4		9					1	3			13			1	1	1	1	1	2		1	8	Glencoe Park District
23	20	14	10	0	0	2	6	3	29	3	0	43	6	9	5	2	2	2	2	0	12	3	3	Glenview Park District
16	12		18	18				1		26		39						1	1	1	5			Highland Park Park District
4	15	6	9	0	1	0	0	0	5	2	0	7			0	2	0	4	4	3	1	5	2	Village of Libertyville
9	20	11	0	36	1	0	6	1	24	2		22			2	2	0	4	2	1	2			Northbrook Park District
0	2	2	0			0		0	3	0		4	0	0	0	0	0	1			0			Northfield Park District
1.5	3	5		18	1			1	5			14	1	1			1	3		1		4	4	Winnetka Park District
8	12	8	8	14	1	1	4	1	15	2	0	20	3	5	2	1	1	2	2	1	4	3	4	Average
2.5	4	9	0	18	1	1	0	0	15	2.5	0	19	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	4	5	8	
6.0	8	7	7	11	0	0	3	1	12	1	0	20	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	9	
-3.5	-4	2	-7	7	1	1	-3	-1	3	1.8	0	-1	-1	-1	1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	2	3	-1	

*The Winnetka Park District was also contacted but no data was received, information was collected from the Park District website





Amenity Distribution Analysis

The location and distribution of amenities is an important factor in an agency's level of service. Just as the parks themselves should be equally distributed, so should the recreational amenities available to residents.

The National Parks and Recreation Association (NRPA) established service areas to for each park classification and individual recreation amenities in its 1990 and 1996 publications of the Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Guidelines.

The amenity service area table describes the recommended service area per NRPA recommendations for each amenity and lists the number of each amenity owned and operated by the Parks and Recreation Department. The map to the right illustrates the density of amenities throughout the City. The white dots represent an individual amenity and the surrounding orange halo illustrates that amenity's service area. The darkest shades of orange indicate the overlap of multiple amenity service areas while the lightest shade of orange represents coverage by a single amenity only.

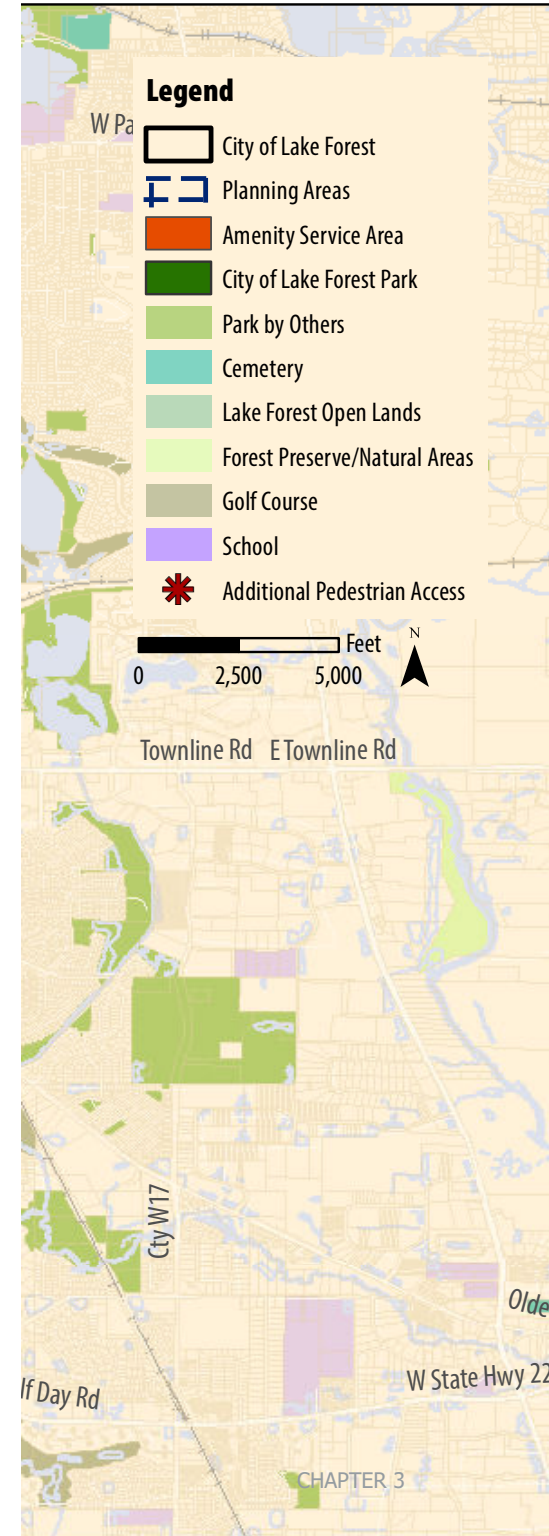
The graphics on the following pages illustrate the service area coverage for various individual amenities.

Amenity Service Area

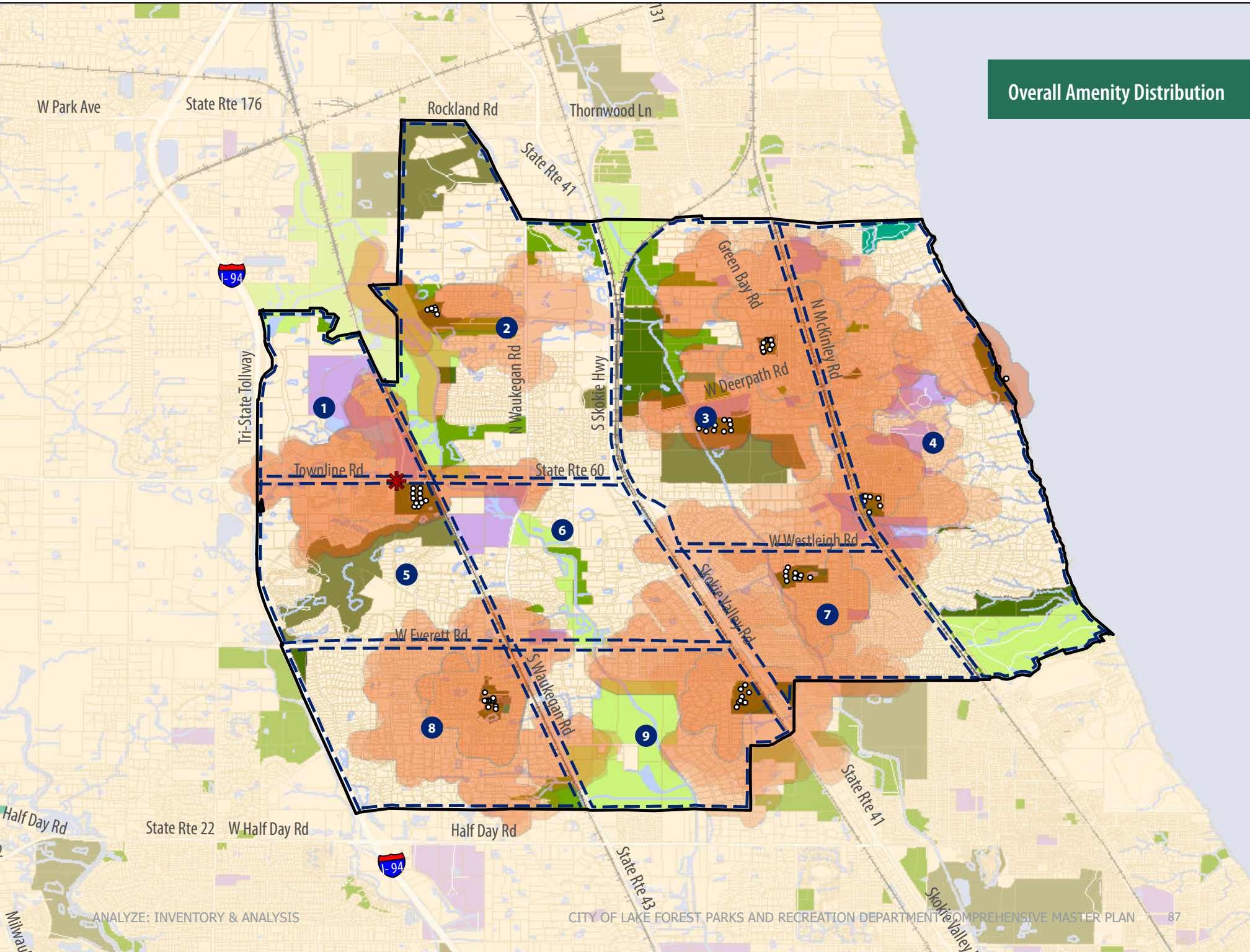
Amenity	Service Area	SCPD Amenities
Baseball Field	0.5-mile	4
Softball Field	0.5-mile	9
Basketball Court	0.5-mile	2.5
Football Field	1.0-mile	2.5
Ice Skating / Hockey (outdoor)	1.0-mile	1
Playground / Tot Lot	0.25-mile	10
Shelter*	0.5-mile	11
Soccer Field	1.0-mile	15
Swimming Pool	1.0-mile	0
Tennis Court	0.5-mile	19
Volleyball Court	1.0-mile	2
Trail System**	1 per district	1

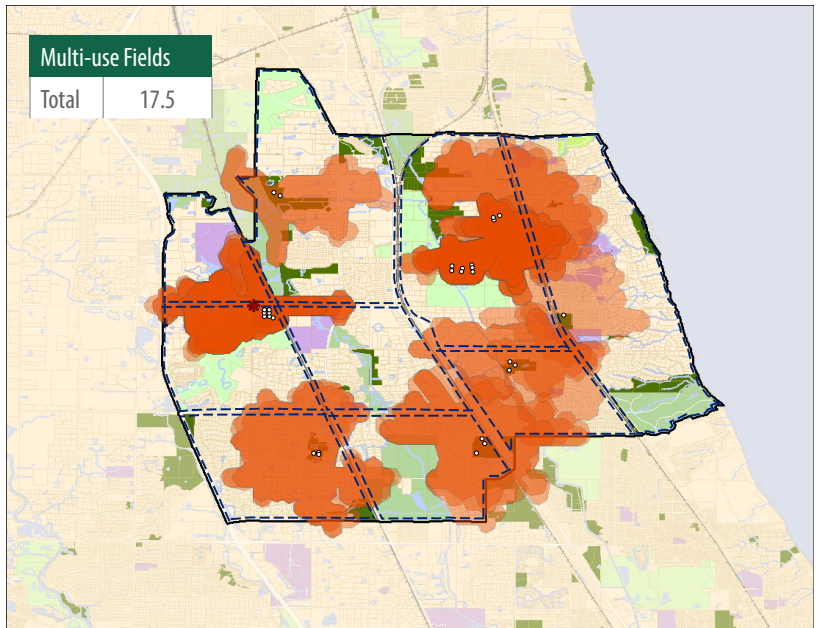
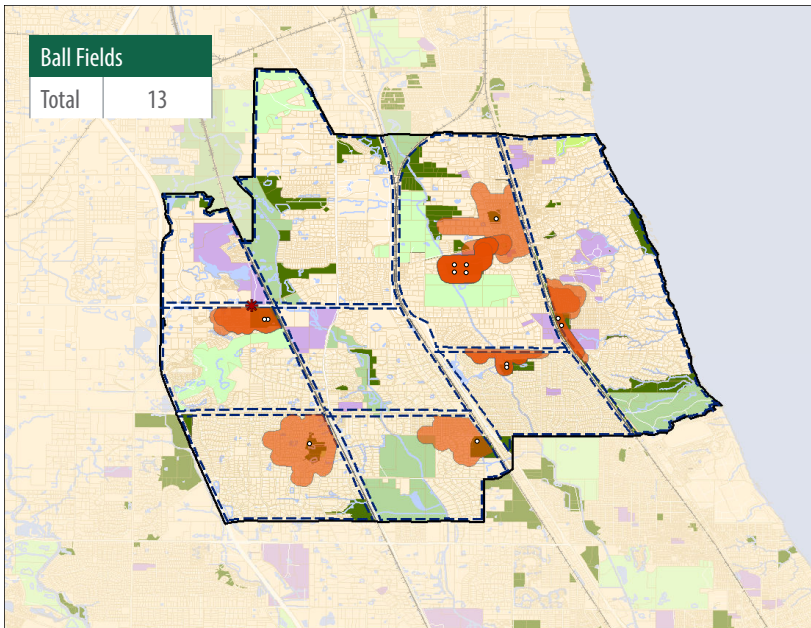
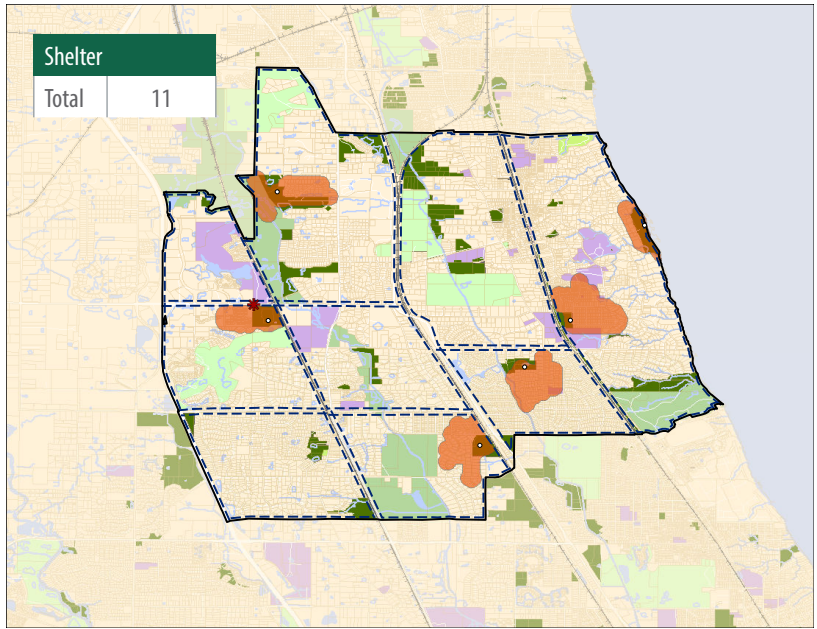
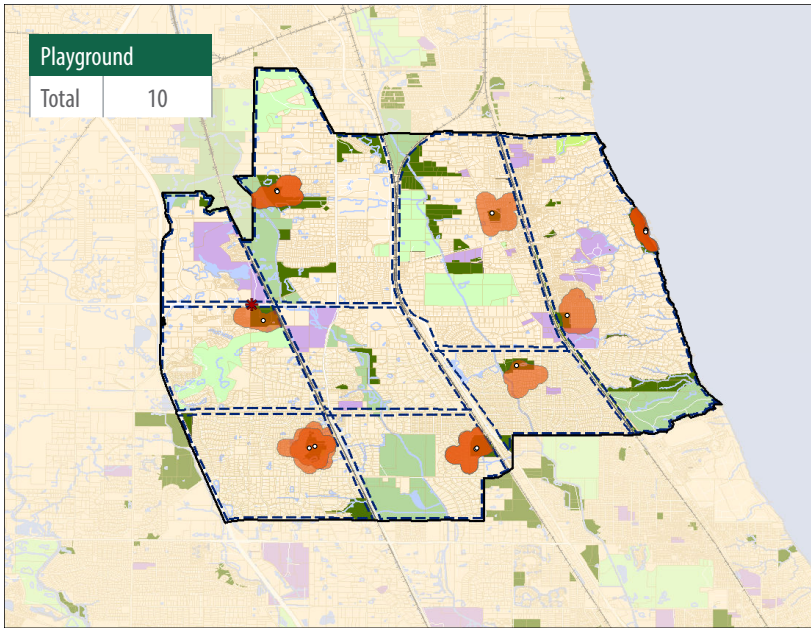
*Service areas determined by the planning team, as there are no NRPA suggested outdoor development standards for these amenities.

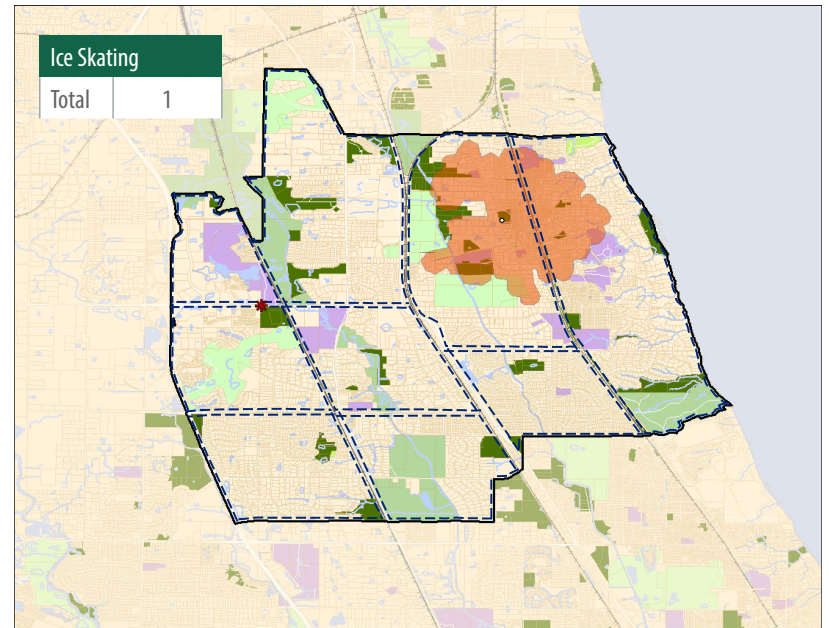
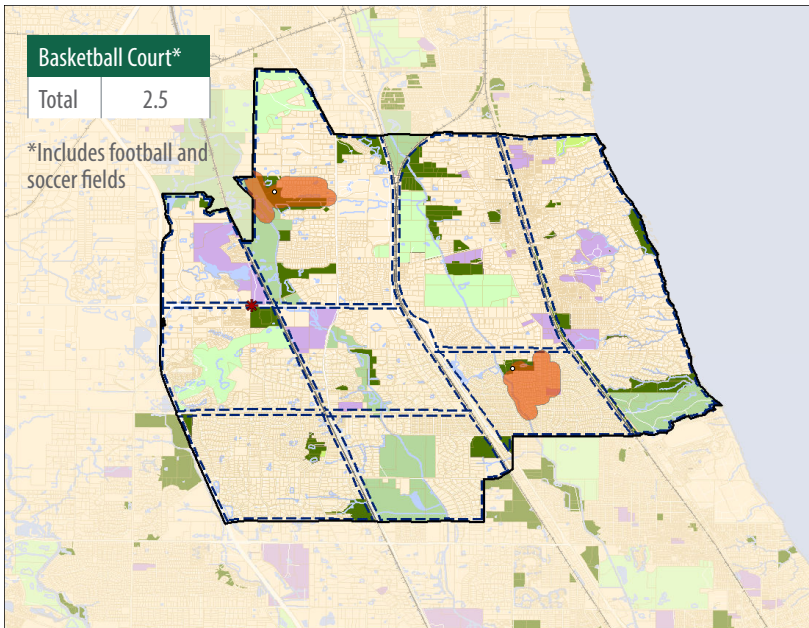
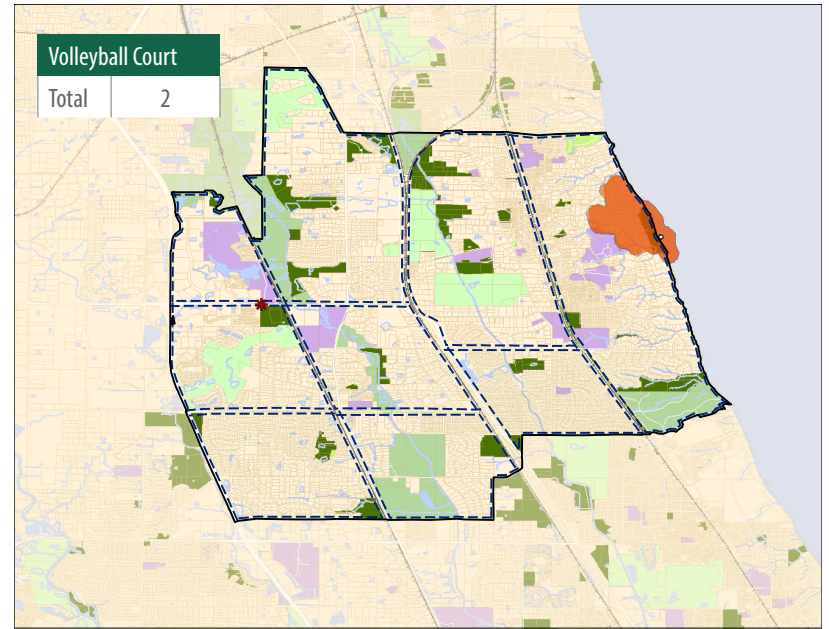
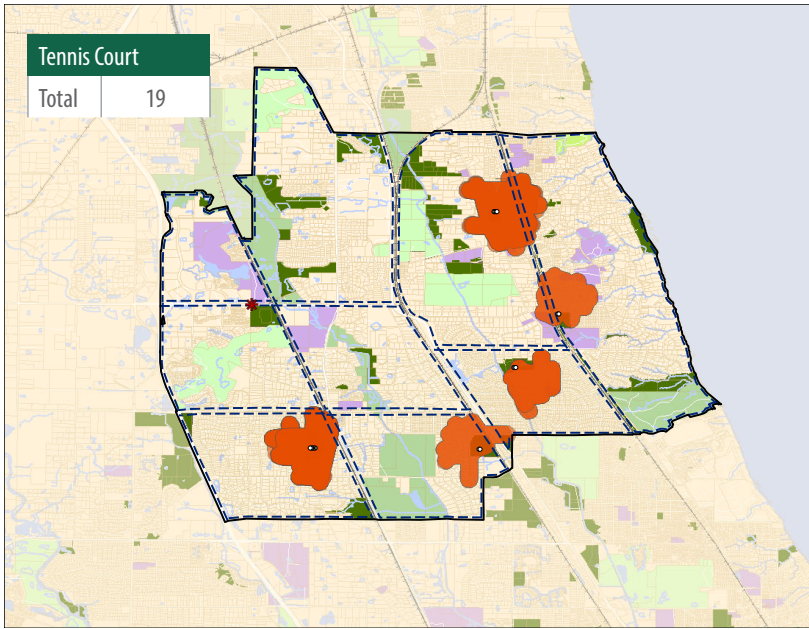
**Amenity not shown on map



Overall Amenity Distribution







Facility Square Footage

Square Footage Level of Service benchmarks are calculations of the minimum amount of indoor space recommended to provide all indoor recreation activities. It also includes considerations for specific facilities recommended to support programs and activities.

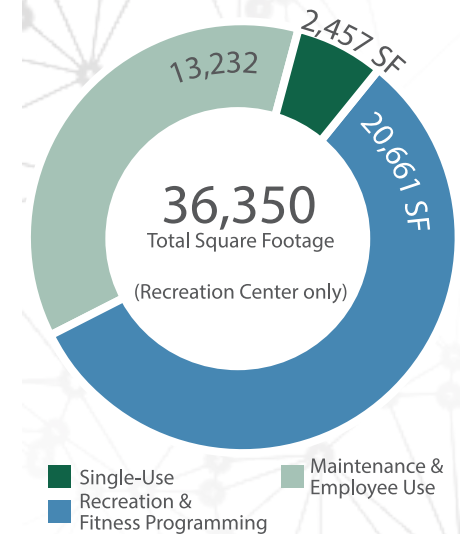
Level of Service (LOS) guidelines for indoor space is less established than the guidelines for parks and open spaces, but the planning team utilizes a Chicagoland benchmark of two square feet per person with 1.5 square feet consisting of indoor classroom-based or active recreation space and 0.5 square feet consisting of indoor aquatics.

The Department has a total of 20,661 square feet of indoor recreation space and 2,457 square feet of single-use space. According to the indoor square footage level of service analysis, the Department has a total public indoor level of service of 1.2 square feet per person. Compared to the Chicagoland benchmark of 2.0 this is 0.8 square feet per person below the benchmark and a deficit of 5,944.5 square feet.

In addition to the deficit in indoor recreation and program space, the City of Lake Forest is lacking indoor aquatics. The City has no indoor aquatics facilities but the Chicagoland benchmark recommends 0.5 square feet per person. In terms of square footage, the City of Lake Forest has a 9,687.5 square foot deficit of indoor aquatic space.

When considering combined recreation, program, and aquatic indoor space, the City has a total deficit of 15,632 square feet compared to Chicagoland benchmarks.

Indoor Facility Types



Level of Service Analysis: Chicagoland Benchmark

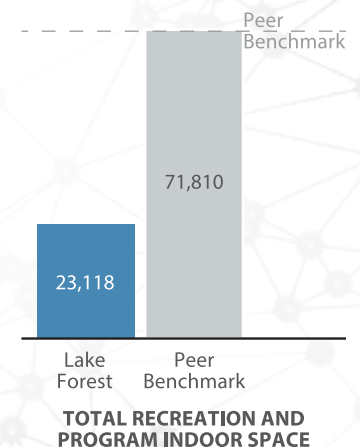
INDOOR RECREATION SPACE

Classification	CLF Square Feet (Total)	CLF Existing Level of Service (SF / population)	Recommended Square Footage	Recommended Level of Service (SF / population)	Square Footage deficiency / surplus (SF)
Indoor Recreational and Program Space	23,118.0	1.2	29,062.5	1.5	-5,944.5
Indoor Aquatics	0.0	0.0	9,687.5	0.5	-9,687.5
Total Square Feet	155,215.0	1.2	38,750.0	2.0	-15,632.0

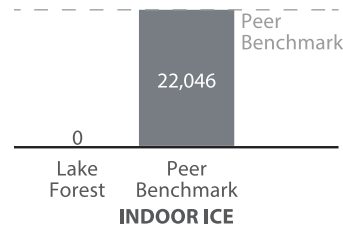
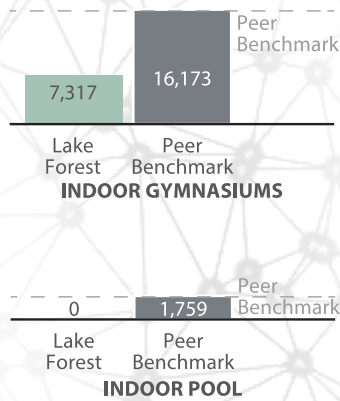
Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 19,375

Surplus Amenities

Deficit Amenities



The planning team also compared the City of Lake Forest facilities against other north shore recreation providers selected by the task-force. Data for each community was obtained from the most recently completed master plan where available or provided directly from the recreation agency to the City of Lake Forest.



The City of Lake Forest was compared against each of the north shore communities (Glenview Park District, Highland Park District, Village of Libertyville, Northbrook Park District, and Northfield Park District) in population, recreation and program square footage, and number of amenities. The number of amenities was also compared using the Chicagoland standard of square foot per person.

Overall, Lake Forest is very similar to the other north shore communities when comparing square feet per person. However, there are some significant amenities that the City does not offer. Of the five communities, two have indoor pools, three have at least one ice rink, one has indoor turf, and one has an indoor track. Lake Forest does not have any of these amenities.

Level of Service Analysis: North Shore Peer Benchmark

	LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS: NORTH SHORE TOWN BENCHMARK															
	INDOOR FACILITIES SF															
	Population	Recreation and Program Total SF	Number	Gymnasiums Square Footage	Number	Indoor Pool Square Footage	Number	Indoor Ice Square Footage	Number	Indoor Turf Square Footage	Number	Indoor Track Square Footage	Number	Indoor Studios/Specialty Rooms Square Footage	Number	Indoor Courts Square Footage
CLF PROGRAM AND RECREATION SF	19,375	23,118	1	7,317	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	13,410	3	2,391
Glenview Park District	58,183	380,840	4		1	14,900	2	46,000	0		0		7		9	
Highland Park Park District	30,146	26,374	3	18,918	1	3,225	1	17,000			1	*	8	26,374	10	45,498
Northbrook Park District	33,932	94,280	2	1,280	0	0	2	89,000	0	0	0	0	4	4,000	0	
Northfield Park District	4,290	7,700	1	7,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	700	0	0

All information was obtained from resources provided by the City of Lake Forest

**The Glencoe Park District and Winnetka Park District were also contacted but no data was received

Where data was not available, boxes were left blank

*Square footage included with other amenities

SQUARE FOOT

North Shore Community Benchmark	71,810	16,173	1,759	22,046	0	0	2,723	0
CLF PROGRAM AND RECREATION SF	-48,692	-8,856	-1,759	-22,046	0	0	10,687	2,391



CHAPTER

FOUR

Connect: Community Engagement



OVERVIEW

Connect: Community Engagement and Needs Assessment. This chapter documents trends in the recreation industry and specific input received from the City of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Department.

Purpose

The purpose of understanding park and recreation trends is to determine probable demands for certain services and amenities. Recreation trend reports were compiled from nationally-recognized sources to explore spending, participation, and inactivity trends.

In order to increase participation, knowing the trends and interests of various user groups is crucial. Significant changes in specific activities (both increases and decreases) from national, state, and local trends are summarized. Summaries of all engagement sessions follow the national, state and local trends report.

During the Connect phase of the master planning process, the planning team reviewed trends, conducted stakeholder surveys, and led workshops with Department staff and the Park Board. An

online engagement platform, available 24/7 for a four-week period, gathered input from residents about their thoughts on parks, programs, and facilities. The planning team also considered the results of the community survey conducted in November 2016 independently of the planning process.

Chapter Outline

- Stakeholder Input
 - Staff Workshops
 - Stakeholder Interviews
 - Foundation and Board Input
-
- Methodology
 - Review of Trends
 - National
 - State
 - Local
 - Community Meetings
 - Online Engagement

METHODOLOGY

Review of Trends

National trends were derived from the 2017 Sports, Fitness and Recreational Activities Topline Participation Report that was facilitated by the Sports & Fitness Industry Association (a top national researcher in the sports and fitness industry) as well as the 2017 Outdoor Foundation's Outdoor Recreation Participation Topline Report. State trends were derived from the 2015 Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). ESRI's Business Analyst provided local recreation participation trends.

Online Engagement

City residents were invited to participate in an online survey composed of multiple choice and open-ended questions about City amenities and participation. In total, 740 people completed the survey.

Stakeholder Input

Stakeholder input consisted of stakeholder interviews and staff workshops. Stakeholder interviews were held for specific interest groups relevant to the Parks and Recreation Department. These meetings facilitated independently of one another presented a series of questions about goals, objectives, and desires of how groups might utilize recreation resources in the future. Stakeholders were also asked for their opinions on the current state of the Parks and Recreation Department.

Staff workshops consisted of a participatory session held to gather input from City staff members representing all of the Parks and Recreation Departments. Input was collected staff about their goals, objectives, desires, and hopes for the next ten years as well as their opinions on the current state of the Department.

Foundation and Board Input

A joint board workshop was held to allow Friends of Lake Forest Parks Foundation and Recreation Foundation and Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Board members the opportunity to generate and prioritize ideas for potential improvements, additions, and goals for the Parks and Recreation Department over the next ten years.

NATIONAL TRENDS

Derived from the statistically valid surveys facilitated by the Sports and Fitness Industry Association with the Physical Activity Council and The Outdoor Foundation, the following data will help inform the planning team's recommendations.

The Physical Activity Council (PAC) is a partnership of six major trade organizations in U.S. sports, fitness, and leisure activities. These organizations are the Sports & Fitness Industry Association (SFIA), the National Golf Foundation (NGF), Outdoor Industry Association (OIA), the International Health, Racquet, and Sports Club Association (IHRSA), the Tennis Industry Association (TIA), the United States Tennis Association (USTA), and Snowsports Industries America (SIA).

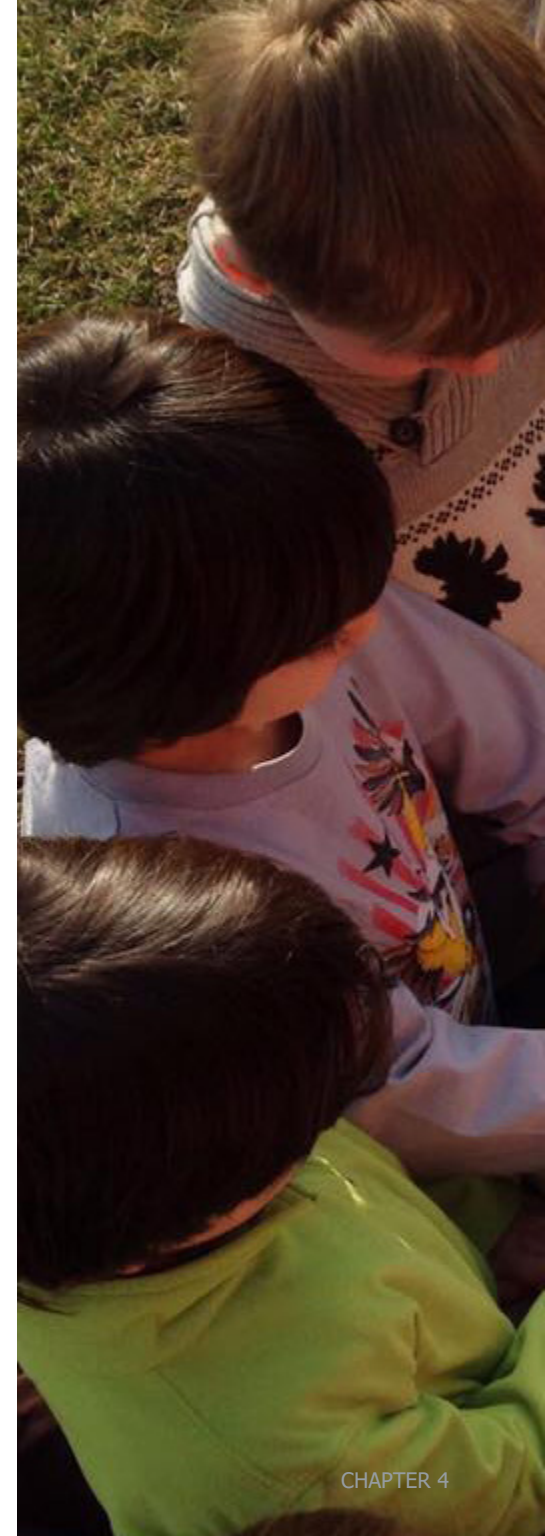
The PAC produces an annual Sport, Fitness & Recreational Activities Topline Participation Report providing information on participation, inactivity, spending, aspirational participation, and projections. The 2017 report compiled and analyzed 24,134 online responses. These surveys were then weighted against the total national population of 296,251,344 ages 6 and older from the data collected in 2016. The following variables were used: gender, age, income, household size, region, population density, and panel join date. Other research incorporated in this chapter references the Outdoor Recreation Participation Topline Report, created by the Outdoor Foundation, in association with the Outdoor Industry Association. This annual report tracks American outdoor recreation trends with a focus on youth, diversity, and the future of the outdoors.

Sports and Fitness Participation

Leisure activity has fluctuated over the past six years with 2016 showing an overall increase in total activity but a decrease in the number of both active and casual participants. The majority of Americans prefer participating in fitness sports followed by outdoor sports, individual sports, team sports, water sports, racquet sports, and winter sports. Among these categories, participation rates in fitness, outdoor, racquet, team and winter sports have increased over the past year. Individual and water sport participation decreased in 2016.

Activity participation is measured by core participation and growth. Core participants are defined as those who participate in a sport or activity on a regular basis. Based on core participation, the top ten activities in 2016 defined by the number of participants, are:

- Walking for Fitness (50+ times/year): 73.4M
- Hiking (1+ times/year): 42.1M
- Free Weights (Dumbbells/Hand Weights) (50+ times/year): 33.3M
- Treadmill (50+ times/year): 28.4M
- Camping within 1/4 mile of vehicle/home (1+ times/year): 26.5M
- Running/Jogging (50+ times/year): 25.6M
- Stretching/flexibility training/warm up/cool down/mobility (50+ times/year): 24.0M
- Weight/Resistance Machines (50+ times/year): 21.4M





- Wildlife Viewing more than 1/4 mile from Home/Vehicle (1+ times/year): 20.7M
- Bicycling (Road/Paved Surface) (26+ times/year): 19.1M

In addition to referencing the current most popular activities by measuring core participation, The Overview Report also lists the growth of activities over one-, three- and five-year periods. These predictions can be used to recognize ongoing recreation trends and predict future areas of growth. The top ten core growth activities over the past three years are:

- Stand Up Paddling (18.2%)
- Adventure Racing (17.4%)
- Mixed Martial Arts for Competition (17.2%)
- Cardio Tennis (11.5%)
- Squash (9.7%)
- Trail Running (8.1%)
- Boardsailing/Windsurfing (7.7%)
- Hiking (Day) (7.1%)
- Boxing for Competition (6.6%)
- Climbing (Traditional/Ice/Mountaineering) (6.4%)

As evidenced by the above lists of activities, outdoor fitness-related activities are currently a popular form of recreation with four of the ten activities falling into this category based on the number of participants. Aerobics activities are also popular with three of the top ten items listed in this category. Growth trends, however, indicate a different, more diverse trend. The largest growth is occurring in individual sports (four activities in the top ten) with racquet sports, outdoor activities, and water sports each having two activities in the top ten growing activities.

These trends reveal that active people are increasingly looking for non-traditional health and recreation experiences that offer a fun physical, emotional and mental experience. While the largest amount of growth is being seen in less traditional sectors, class-based group fitness and exercise programs remain strong and are expected to grow in popularity, albeit at slower rates.

While many Americans enjoy watching team sports, both in-person and on television, they are increasingly disinterested in participating in them for their fitness needs. Ultimate frisbee and touch football had the largest decrease in participation over the past three years with other team sports including basketball, soccer, softball, wrestling, volleyball, and track and field are also declining. While team sports participation is declining as a whole, a few team sports are growing: rugby, roller hockey, and lacrosse.

Racquet sports such as squash, tennis, cardio tennis, and pickleball have maintained popularity over the last three years. Pickleball, in particular, is a trend to watch, as it has been growing in popularity in the recreation industry but was overtaken in 2016 by cardio tennis in growth and had nearly equal participation.

The above findings are confirmed by the Worldwide Survey of Fitness Trends for 2017 which conducts an annual international survey among practitioners in the commercial, clinical, community and corporate fitness industries. In their predictions for 2017, the majority of activities in the top ten and the top 20 could be described as fitness related, while other trends can be classified as outdoor sports or technology. 17 of the top 20 trends reported remained from the previous year but worksite health promotion, smartphone exercise apps, and outcomes measured all moved out of the top 20 trends for 2018.

- High-intensity interval training (HIIT uses short bursts of high-intensity exercise followed by short recoveries)
- Group training (motivational, instructor lead classes of five or more people)
- Wearable technology (activity trackers, smart watches, heart rate monitors, GPS trackers, and smart eyeglasses)

- Body weight training (uses minimal equipment for cost savings)
- Strength training (common but limited to using weights, strength training is often incorporated into comprehensive exercise routines)
- Educated, certified, and experienced fitness professionals (training by third-party accredited exercise professionals)
- Yoga (utilizes a series of specific bodily postures for health and relaxation)
- Personal training (services provided by professionals with proper education, training, and credentials)
- Fitness programs for older adults (older, retired adults are increasingly healthier than previous generations and interested in participating in safe, age-appropriate exercise)
- Functional Fitness (uses strength training to improve balance, coordination, force, power, and endurance as applies to one's daily functions)

OUTDOOR SPORTS & PARTICIPATION

According to the Outdoor Foundation 2017 Topline Report, almost half the U.S. population (48.6%) participated in one or more outdoor sport or activity. These 144 million people went on a reported total of 11 billion outings over the course of the year. While these numbers reflect an overall increase in participation, the total number of outings declined as individuals went on fewer outings each. Compared to previous years, outdoor sports participation have increased. The largest increase last year compared to all other outdoor sports has been in BMX biking while Stand up paddling has had the most growth over the last three years. Running, jogging, and trail running has continued to be the most popular activity by participation for several years.

Across all age groups, running, jogging and trail running remained the top form of outdoor outings by both participation rates and frequency. Bicycling and fishing were also among the top five activities for all ages. The most popular activities for youth (age 6-24) determined by participation rates were:

- Running, jogging, and trail running (25.3% or 20.3M)
- Bicycling (road, mountain, and BMX) (22.6% or 18.2M)
- Fishing (fresh, salt, and fly)(19.5% or 15.6M)
- Camping (car, backyard, and RV) (19.0% or 15.3M)
- Hiking (15.5% or 12.5M)

The favorite activities for youth, based on the frequency of participation, were running, jogging and trail running, bicycling, fishing, skateboarding, and camping.

For adults (age 25+), the most popular activities by participation rates were:

- Running, jogging, and trail running (14.8% or 32.0M)
- Fishing (fresh, salt, and fly)(14.6% or 31.5M)
- Hiking (13.7% or 29.7M)
- Bicycling (road, mountain, and BMX) (12.8% or 27.7M)
- Camping (car, backyard, and RV) (11.7% or 25.2M)

The top five favorite adult activities based on the frequency of participation were running, jogging, and trail running, bicycling, fishing, hiking, and wildlife viewing.

Three-year growth trends indicated that the following ten activities have seen increasing participation and will likely continue to provide opportunities to engage more people in the future:

- Stand up paddling
- BMX bicycling
- Skiing (cross-country)
- Adventure racing
- Kayak fishing
- Boardsailing/windsurfing
- Trail Running\
- Triathlon (traditional/road)
- Hiking (day)
- Climbing (traditional/ice/mountaineering)

Three-year trends also identified ten activities with declining participation in the last three years. In order of largest to smallest decrease, they are:

- Birdwatching more than 1/4 mile from Home/Vehicle
- Running/Jogging
- Snowshoeing
- Wakeboarding
- Rafting
- Camping within 1/4 mile from Vehicle/Home
- Bicycling (road/paved surface)

- Wildlife viewing more than 1/4 mile from Home/Vehicle
- Scuba Diving
- Canoeing

Engaging Inactives

An “inactive” person is defined by the Physical Activity Council as one who does not participate in any of the sports/activities covered in the PAC Overview Report. In the past year, 8.1 million Americans or 27.5% of the population, were inactive, reflecting an increase in activity from last year with 0.2 million people becoming active. By age group, 6-12 year-olds are the most active with activity among 13-17 year-olds rising to nearly the same levels. Of the eight age groups, only 35-44 year-olds saw a decrease in the percent of the active population from 2015 to 2016. Americans over 65 have the largest rates of inactivity, reflecting the trend that people generally become less active as they age.

In order to understand how to engage inactives in sports and activities, the PAC survey lists “aspirational” activities that inactives are interested in participating in. For all age groups under 65, camping is within the top three aspirational activities. Swimming for fitness and bicycling are also listed in the top ten for every age group and both are within the top five activities for all groups over the age of 12.

For inactives 6-12, other activities of interest focus on team sports such as football, soccer and team swimming. As Americans age, interest in outdoor sports such as hiking, fishing, and backpacking grows as does working out with weights and machines. Adults 65 and older list bird watching/wildlife viewing followed by fishing as their top aspirational activities. Hiking and camping are also within the top ten activities for this age group

resulting in four of the ten items focused on outdoor activities.

Active adults, as well as inactives, are interested in social programs and sports leagues as well as active recreation. Active Network recommends the following activities for adult recreation programs:

- Sports - Broomball, Inner Tube Water Polo, Pickleball, Wallyball
- Exercise - Zumba Gold, Dance Buffet, Kettlebells, Outdoor FitnessTechnology - Beginner’s Guide to iPad, Social Media, Digital Photography
- Entertainment - Karaoke, Improv, Murder Mystery Dinners, Speed Dating, Wii for Seniors
- Art - Cooking, Drawing/Painting, Jewelry Making, Mixed Media Arts, Pottery, Quilting
- Professional/Other - Languages, Estate Planning, Self-Publishing, Brain Fitness, Voice-Overs, Memoirs

Many agencies are “branding” their active adult programs for younger populations than the traditional senior. Two local examples include Schaumburg Park District’s *Club 55* and *50 Plus!* at the Champaign Park District.

STATE TRENDS

Data from the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is used to compare the City of Lake Forest amenities to other recreation providers in the state of Illinois.

The Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is prepared as a five-year document by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to maintain Illinois' eligibility to participate in the Land Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program). Its purpose is to "evaluate the outdoor recreation needs of Illinois citizens and determine how best to meet those needs". The state's natural resources, recreational lands, facilities, and socioeconomic factors are considered in this vision document.

A major finding in the 2015-2019 SCORP is the state's long-standing deficit of outdoor recreation lands and facilities. While Illinois has not been able to achieve the per capita equivalent of other states with more lands and fewer people, park and recreation agencies throughout the state consistently plan for and achieve a high level of excellence with the recreation opportunities they provide to their communities.

Recreation Facilities and Park Lands Inventory


There are more than 1.5 million acres of outdoor recreation land in Illinois ranging from federal and state lands to schools and private commercial lands. Municipal agencies, which include park and recreation departments, park districts, forest preserve districts, conservation districts, and county-level park departments, provide a

total of 350,915 acres of park sites. They also own 195,753 acres of natural areas and lease/manage another 15,612 acres of open space.

The state itself offers 470,000 acres of open space throughout the state, primarily handled by the IDNR. State lands include parks, fish and wildlife areas, conservation areas and recreation areas to name a few. Federal lands include the 280,000 acre Shawnee National Forest and seven National Wildlife Refuges sites throughout the state. Other providers include schools, non-profits and private entities that provide unique outdoor recreation opportunities for the people of Illinois. The lands managed by these providers were not included in the SCORP.

Based on the 2015 Illinois Community Recreation Facilities and Park Lands Inventory, there are approximately 347.08 acres and 17.9 park sites on average per community throughout the state. Typically, park districts provide more acreage and park sites than city/village recreation agencies.

Top trends across the state are pickleball, disc golf, and splash pads. The increasing popularity of pickleball is in response to aging populations found in all communities across the state, while the popularity of splash pads is in response to the financial constraints of outdoor swimming pool renovations. The popularity of disc golf demonstrates



a growing preference for alternative outdoor recreation activities. Footgolf is another example of an alternative outdoor recreation activity that has increased as golf course owners look for new uses for their assets.

Top Activities

The top activities identified by the IDNR community-wide survey were pleasure walking and observing wildlife/ bird watching. Picnicking, using a playground, on-road bicycling, and swimming at outdoor pools were also among the most prevalent activities for Illinois residents. Activities with lower participation numbers include lacrosse, pickleball, snowmobiling, trapping, in-line skating, sailing, and cross-country skiing. Reasons for some sports having lower participation rates may include smaller interest groups, no available facility, or that the trend is still growing, like pickleball.

According to the survey, city parks or county preserves are used most for visiting an amphitheater or band shell, softball/baseball, lacrosse, soccer, and mountain biking. State parks are used most for tent camping, vehicle camping, hiking, motor boating, and water skiing. Federal lakes or forests are primarily used for sailing, water skiing, and motor boating. Hunting is the most prevalent reason residents visit private areas for recreation.

Attitudes about Outdoor Recreation

Respondents were asked to rate the various factors they considered to be important when making decisions about engaging in outdoor recreation opportunities. Top contributing factors to respondent's decisions to participate in outdoor recreation activities include exercise/health, experience nature, have fun, and spend time with family and friends.

Survey respondents indicated that the primary role of parks and recreation facilities for Illinois communities should be to preserve open space. Other primary roles include making the community more desirable, improving fitness, enhancing a sense of place, and increasing

property values. Most (56.3%) respondents believe that local, state and federal open space and recreation agencies are underfunded. The top two priorities for providers in the state are the operation and maintenance of existing park facilities and long-term planning and management. The most important items in terms of park and open space development are recreational facility variety, followed closely by camping, trails, fishing, and boating facilities. Regional and community trails are also important to approximately 80% of respondents.

Outdoor Recreation Priorities

Priorities identified by the IDNR are listed in the 2015-2019 State of Illinois SCORP as:

- Healthy people and communities
- Access to outdoor recreation
- Natural resource stewardship
- Conservation education
- Cooperative partnerships

LOCAL TRENDS

Trend information was derived from the Environment Science Research Institute (ESRI) Sports and Leisure Market Potential Report.

This data is based on national inclination to use various products and services, applied to the local demographic composition of the City of Lake Forest area. Usage data was collected by Growth for Knowledge Mediamark Research and Intelligence, LLC. (GfK MRI) in a national survey that was representative of U.S. households. Market Potential Index (MPI) measures the relative likelihood of the adults in specific areas to exhibit certain consumer behaviors or purchasing patterns compared to the U.S. population as a whole. An MPI of 100 represents the U.S. average while numbers under 100 indicate a lower than average representation and numbers above 100 represent a higher than average representation

The number of MPIs over 100 for Lake Forest is typical of what the planning team typically finds in the Chicagoland region. Having 23 activities that score over 100 speaks to an active community which bodes well for future program expansion. With activities split between indoor and outdoor recreation opportunities, there are several areas in which the City can grow its parks and facilities.

Based on projected population, the top ten recreational activities Lake Forest residents will participate in are:

- Walking for exercise (5,345)
- Attend sports events (3,894)
- Hiking (3,406)
- Jogging/running (3,282)
- Swimming (3,271)
- Weight lifting (2,474)
- Yoga (2,233)
- Bicycling (road) (2,128)
- Golf (1,854)
- Aerobics (1,841)

Sports and Leisure Market Potential

*Participation in the last 12 months

Product/Consumer Behavior	Expected # of Adults/HHs	Percent	MPI
Participated in skiing (downhill)	1,089	7.4%	248
Participated in Pilates	894	6.0%	216
Participated in tennis	1,091	7.4%	212
Participated in hiking	3,406	23.0%	190
Participated in yoga	2,233	15.1%	185
Participated in jogging/running	3,282	33.2%	172
Participated in weight lifting	2,474	16.7%	160
Participated in aerobics	1,841	12.4%	158
Attend sports events	3,894	26.3%	156
Participated in ice skating	693	4.7%	156
Participated in bicycling (mountain)	928	6.3%	154
Participated in walking for exercise	5,345	36.1%	149
Participated in ping pong	832	5.6%	149
Participated in Zumba	816	5.5%	148
Participated in golf	1,854	12.5%	145
Participated in bicycling (road)	2,128	14.4%	142
Participated in canoeing/kayaking	1,357	9.2%	139
Participated in swimming	3,271	22.1%	136
Participated in soccer	747	5.1%	122
Participated in backpacking	617	4.2%	116
Participated in Frisbee	702	4.7%	114
Participated in boating (power)	824	5.6%	109
Participated in bowling	1,502	10.2%	105
Participated in rock climbing	241	16.0%	95
Participated in basketball	1,100	7.4%	90
Participated in softball	360	2.4%	88
Participated in volleyball	419	2.8%	86
Participated in horseback riding	270	1.8%	81
Participated in target shooting	497	3.4%	77
Participated in baseball	467	3.2%	76
Participated in football	376	2.5%	58

CHART OUR FUTURE

Residents shared their ideas for the next five to ten years via an online survey called *Chart our Future*.

The online engagement platform consisted of a webpage and a survey hosted through SurveyMonkey. Both were available 24/7 to provide information on the planning process and allow participants the opportunity to give input on programs, parks, and facilities at their leisure. The survey consisted of 17 multiple choice questions with opportunities for residents to add comments after several of the questions. The platform served as a replacement to in-person community meetings and to supplement the previously completed mail-out survey. It did not produce statistically valid results.

Participation and Traffic

Launched on May 18, 2018, Chart our Future was one method for engaging Parks and Recreation Department users about parks, programs, and facilities. Over the four-week period, 740 people completed all or part of the survey. The average completion rate for the survey was 75%. In addition to links on the project website, the survey was shared on the City's website and the Department Facebook page.

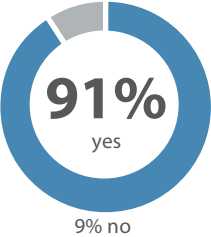
Topic Overview

The survey questions were divided into four overarching question groups: Demographics, Parks, Facilities, and goals. The survey was open for the full four-week period. All questions were optional and provided participants with the opportunity to skip the question. The following results do not reflect the views of all respondents but are a summary of the multiple-choice questions and the most prevalent comments.

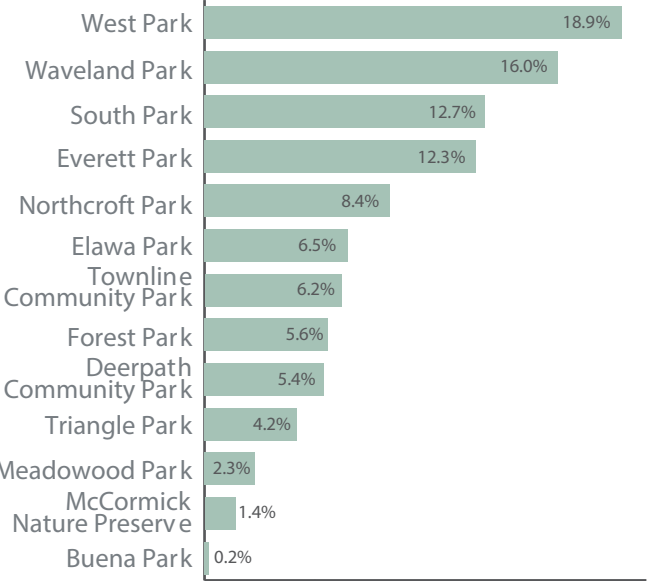
Due to a survey error question 6 was not available to survey participants and was omitted from the data set.

Responses

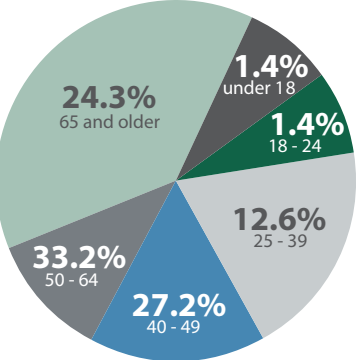
1. Are you a resident of the City of Lake Forest, Illinois? Skipped: 0



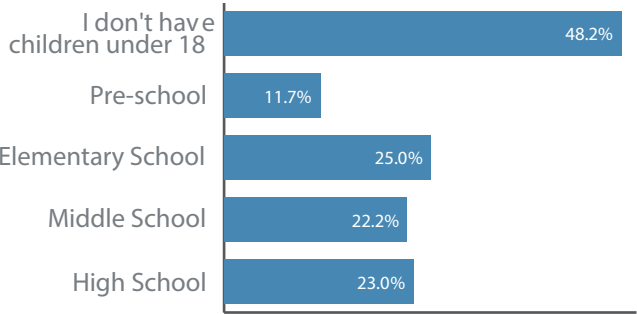
2. Which Lake Forest park do you live closest to (pick one)? Skipped: 95



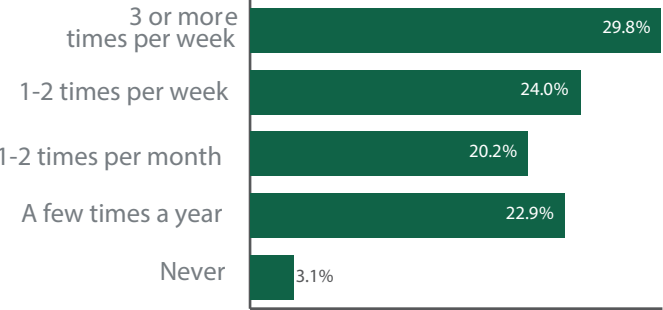
3. What is your age? Skipped: 31



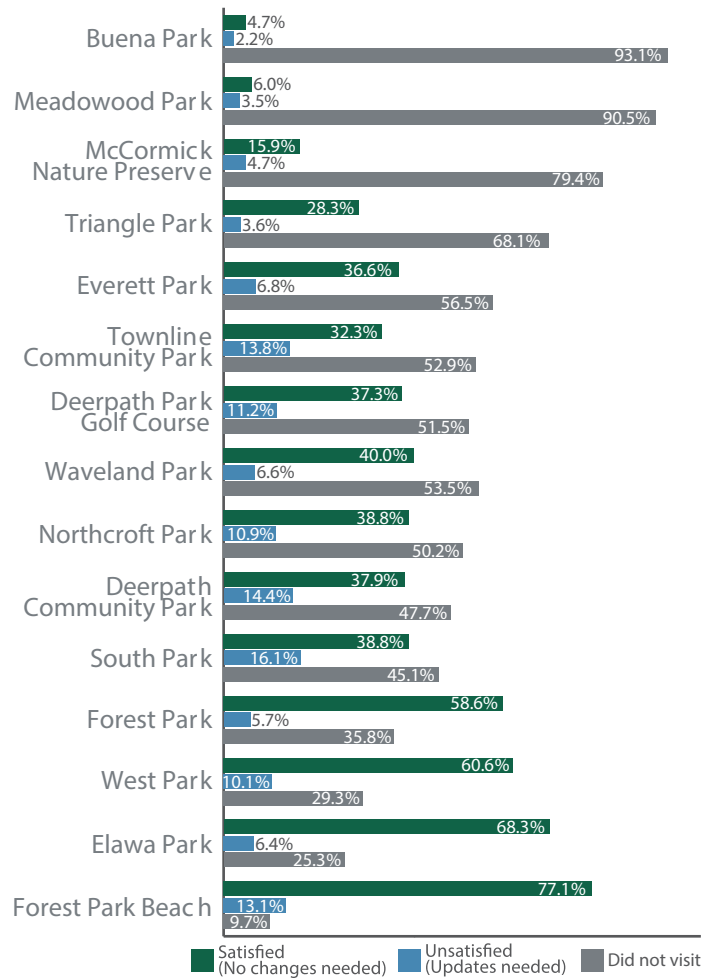
4. If you have any children under 18, please indicate where they are in school age. (Select all that apply) Skipped: 45



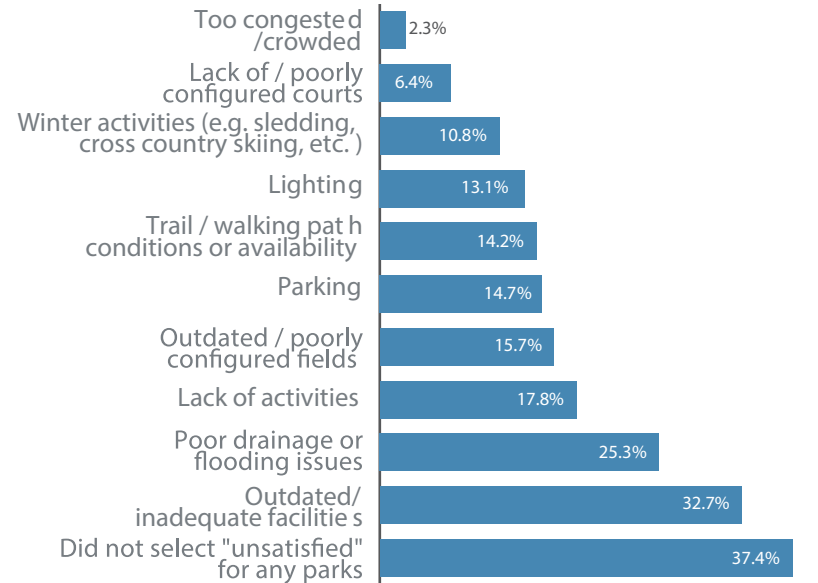
5. About how many times have you or members of your household visited City of Lake Forest parks throughout the past 12 months? (Pick one) Skipped: 36



7. Of the City of Lake Forest parks you or your family have visited in the last 12 months, how satisfied were you with each park? Skipped: 203



8. If you selected “Unsatisfied” with any of the parks you’ve visited, what do you feel needs improvement? Select all that apply. Skipped: 352



About 20 of the responses were about turf athletic fields. Most of the comments referenced the frequent lack of availability due to poor drainage and flooding of the fields. Residents also suggested that there are enough fields in the city with 4 comments asking specifically for lacrosse and field hockey fields. About 5 comments suggested the addition of synthetic turf fields or the conversion of existing natural fields as a solution and a few comments also suggested adding sports lighting. Improving baseball fields was also suggested by 5 respondents, these suggestions included adding synthetic turf, adding sports lighting, and improving general upkeep.

Approximately 35 comments referred to the Department’s playgrounds. 8 of the comments expressed disappointment in the lack of exciting and unique play elements, particularly at recently remodeled locations. In addition to playground equipment, respondents also requested adding shade structures (5 comments) and splash pads (3 comments). Safety was a concern of many respondents with about 10 related comments. About 7 respondents felt that the equipment itself was unsafe or was poorly located within the playground. 3 comments expressed concerns about the age appropriateness of the playgrounds and suggested adding designated areas for the youngest children. 1 comment requested adding exercise equipment or other adult activities at playgrounds. 7 comments also suggested the complete removal of engineered wood fiber, most suggested replacing it with rubber surfacing.



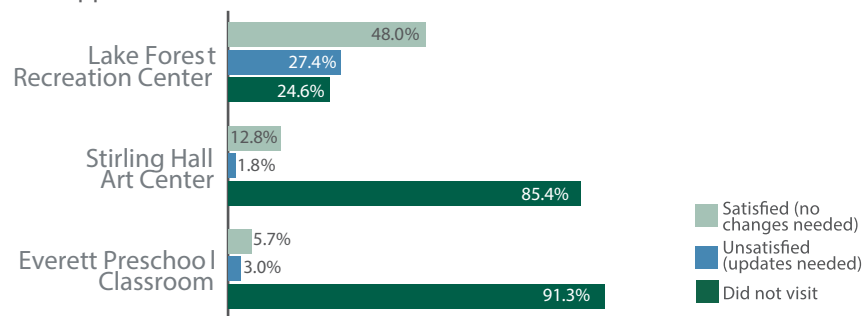
A few other comments were received, relating to outdoor amenities. 1 respondent recommended repairs to the basketball courts and 6 comments requested tennis court repairs, specifically with the quality of the paving. 9 comments requested adding new or expanded restrooms for park visitors. 6 comments about the golf course ranged from improving the holes and paths to offering better equipment. Respondents also requested an outdoor pool (3 comments), more shelters (2 comments), refrigerated outdoor ice (2 comments), a sled hill (1 comment), expanding the marina (1 comment), and improving entry signage (1 comment). Respondents were conflicted about dog use of parks. Most of the comments referred to dogs at Forest Park Beach with 7 comments requesting dogs be banned from the park and 5 suggesting a dog park be established, potentially at the beach.

Respondents also shared a number of general comments about park conditions. 12 suggested that better upkeep and cleanliness are needed. 5 specifically mentioned needed better maintenance of ornamental and native plantings with 2 comments suggesting a naturalist position be added to the Department staff. Pest control was also mentioned, 3 comments requested additional mosquito control and 2 had concerns about the number of coyotes and raccoons in the parks. Respondents also questioned the value of undeveloped land ownership. 2 comments each requested the development of Buena Park and Meadowood Park and 4 expressed interest in the future of McCormick Nature Preserve.

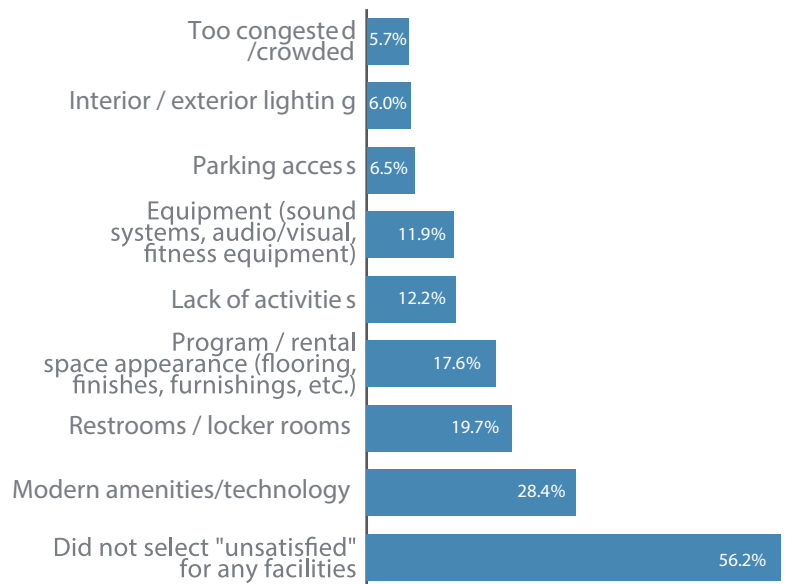
A number of comments about access were also received. About 10 respondents identified parking challenges at the neighborhood parks and most frequently at Forest Park and Forest Park Beach. The beach was the subject of several other comments including 3 requesting ADA accessible amenities and pedestrian paths, and 4 requesting repairs to the road. Residents also expressed interest in expanding trail systems within the parks and improving trail quality by paving stone paths, adding seating, adding bike racks and proving drinking fountains.

The final set of comment referenced outdated buildings. 5 comments called for improvements to the Fitness Center including the locker rooms as well as new indoor space such as turf, an indoor pool, more gymnasiums, and indoor ice (1 comment each).

9. Of the following City of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation facilities you or your family have visited in the last 12 months, how satisfied were you with each? Skipped: 211



10. If you selected "Unsatisfied" with any of the facilities you've visited, what do you feel needs improvement? (Select all that apply.) Skipped: 370

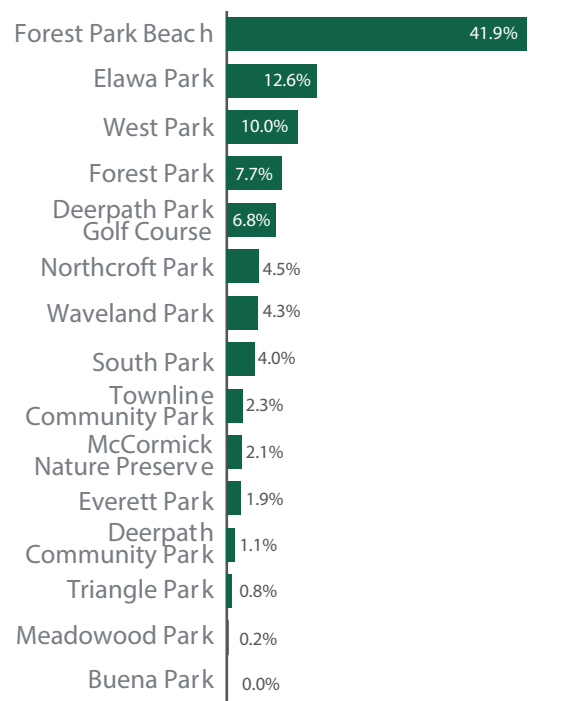


A large number of comments referred to the Recreation Center. 13 comments requested updates to the recreation spaces with 12 specifically stating that the building is outdated. Within the Recreation Center, comments included updating technology (3 comments), updating the locker rooms and restrooms (1 comment), and improving lighting (1 comment). An additional 4 comments requested better cleanliness and maintenance both inside and on the exterior.

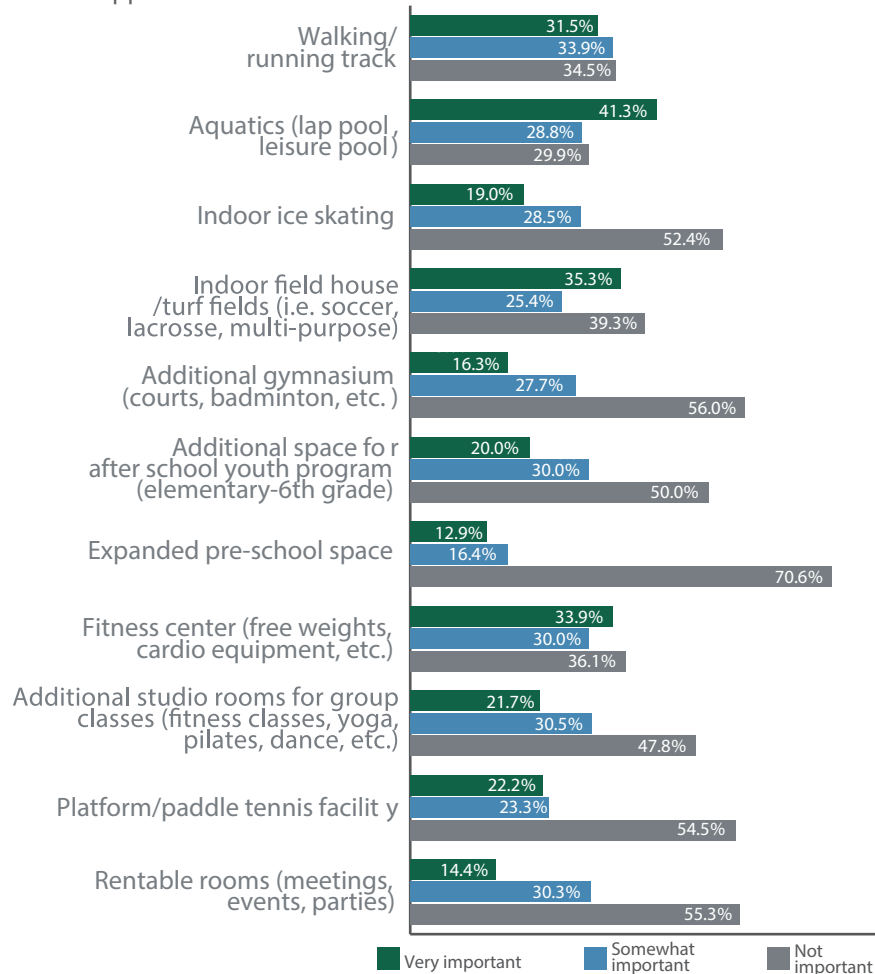
Other indoor facilities were requested to be incorporated in expansions or as new facilities. New indoor amenities included an indoor pool (6 comments), pickleball or squash courts (3 comments), indoor turf fields (2 comments), a climbing wall (2 comments), and a walking track (2 comments). Expansions were requested for the fitness center (3), studio spaces (2), and gyms (3 comments) including basketball (1 comment). Expanding both the programs and facility for Kinderhaven was suggested in 7 comments.

Respondents also provided suggestions for program changes. While none were mentioned in more than 2 comments additional programs for the following groups, young children, teens, adult art, adult recreation, evening hours, boys, middle schoolers, and an increased variety of subjects were suggestions.

11. What is your favorite City of Lake Forest Park? (Pick one) Skipped: 208



12. Please tell us how important the following potential improvements to INDOOR facilities would be to you and your family or the community overall: Skipped: 212



Improvements and expansions to the Recreation Center were suggested in 2 comments and 3 comments recommended constructing a new recreation center facility. For existing indoor amenities at the Recreation Center, respondents suggested adding separate racquet sport courts for squash (3), pickleball (3), paddle tennis (2), and racquetball (1), adding more studio space (1), expanding gymnasium space (1), and improving locker room and restrooms (1).

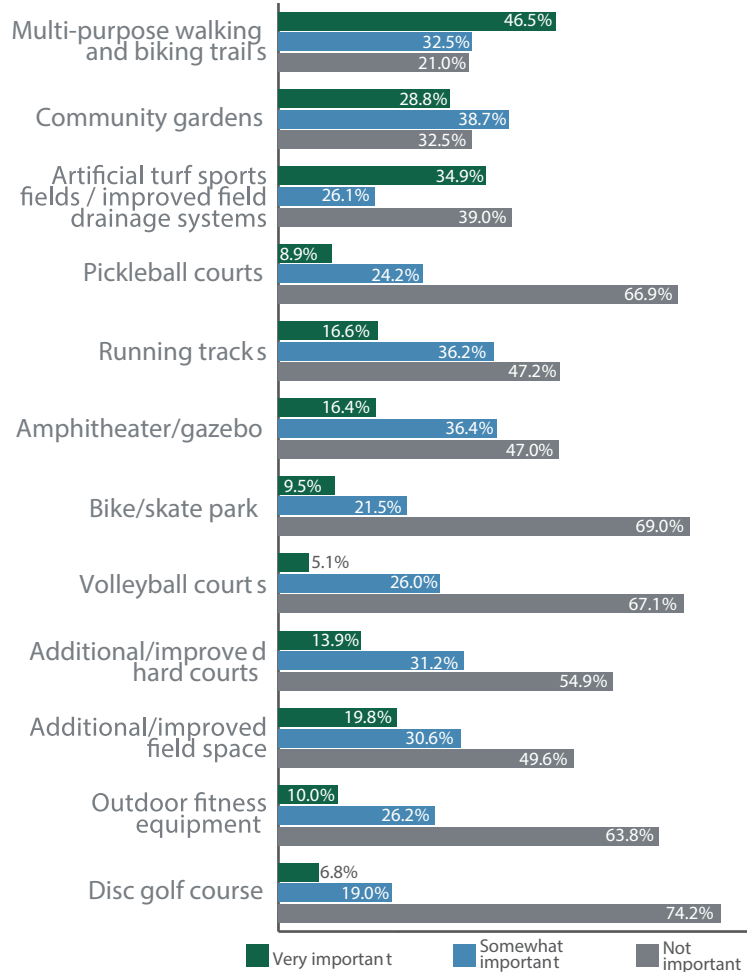
Suggestions for existing indoor amenities also included providing more rentable rooms (3), relocating the Wildlife Discovery Center to a larger site (1 comment), improving the West Park Fieldhouse for winter use center (1 comment), upgrading spaces for teenagers (1 comment), and modernizing the fitness center (1 comment). Once again, Kinderhaven was a high priority with 5 responses calling for expansion. 1 comment also requested before-school care.

New indoor amenity comments included an indoor pool (3 comments), a walking track (2 comments), an ice rink (1 comment), theater space (1 comment), and a spa (1 comment). 1 comment also suggested adding a field house which could include additional sports courts and/or synthetic turf fields (3 comments each).

10 respondents did not think indoor improvements were needed. 4 respondents do not support indoor development because they don't want to increase department spending while 6 prefer to maintain the existing indoor facilities instead of developing anything new.

Although asked about indoor space, a few respondents also mentioned outdoor amenities including a sled hill, a pool, synthetic turf fields, sports lighting, and an ice rink.

13. Please tell us how important it is to add or provide the following OUTDOOR park activities or amenities for you and your family or the community overall: Skipped: 209

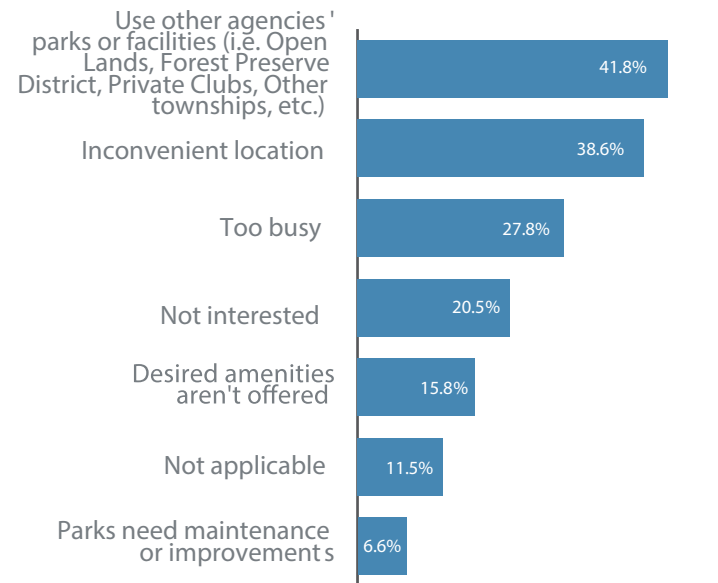


Constructing an outdoor pool received the most comments with 9 respondents requesting either a pool or waterpark. 2 respondents also requested adding a splash pad. Synthetic turf fields were also mentioned in 5 comments and 4 comments called for improved drainage on sports fields. Sports lighting, both at the tennis courts and at any synthetic turf fields was mentioned. 2 comments each were received for adding refrigeration at West Park and improving the volleyball courts. Finally, multiple suggestions were made to improve boating at Forest Park Beach including upgrading the boats and adding storage and

capacity. The remaining comments were only mentioned once. These include adding basketball, building a gazebo downtown and at Forest Park Beach, unspecified golf course improvements, making parks pet-friendly, adding a dog park or beach, adding a skate park, adding a lacrosse field, and improving the baseball diamonds.

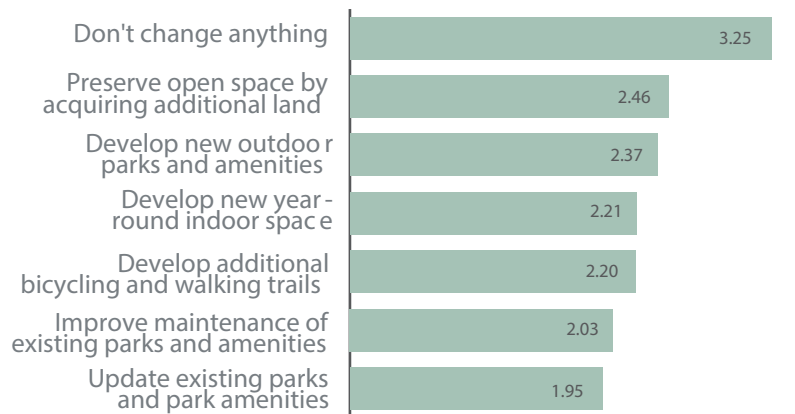
Once again, a group of respondents did not support adding outdoor amenities. 4 respondents prefer to maintain or reduce Department spending and 3 respondents feel the Department should maintain what is already available instead.

14. For those Lake Forest parks you do not visit, please explain why. (Pick all that apply) Skipped: 297

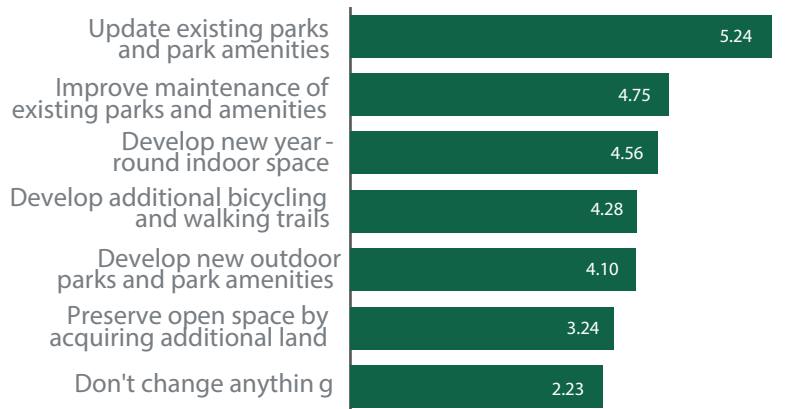


15. The Friends of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation and the City of Lake Forest know that many of these long-range projects will require funding assistance through public / private partnerships. For each strategy listed below, please indicate whether you support each strategy knowing it may require partnerships and fundraising. Skipped: 192

The survey results were calculated by assigning a numerical value to each response and determining the averaged totals: "Full Support" (1), "Somewhat Support" (2), "Neutral" (3), and "Do Not Support" (4). The response with the lowest averaged number indicates the greatest level of support.



16. What should Lake Forest's primary goals be for Parks and Recreation over the next ten years? Rank the list below from 1-7 with 7 being the most important. Skipped: 198



17. Thank you for your participation. If you have any additional comments, please write them here or direct them to friendslfp@cityoflakeforest.com

STAKEHOLDER INPUT

The following summary is an overview of input received from the stakeholder interviews and staff workshops facilitated as part of the comprehensive master planning process.

Stakeholder input was collected through two processes. On June 6, the planning team conducted a workshop with 10 staff members from the Parks and Recreation Department. Participants were asked to generate ideas answering the question “What should the City of Lake Forest focus on over the next ten years?”. Each participant submitted their highest priorities and the group voted on the items they thought were the most important.

The planning team also facilitated a series of stakeholder interviews on June 6 in which 10 stakeholders from associated resident, business, and government organizations shared their observations about the Department and suggestions for the future in a conversational format. An additional 3 representatives provided input via phone interviews on June 13 and 14. Participants represented the following organizations: Lake Forest Dance Academy, CROYA, Kinderhaven, MSSRA, AYSO, the Sailing Program, and Lacrosse, Soccer, and Baseball Associations. The following summarizes the results of the staff and stakeholder meetings.

Indoor Space and Facilities

Comments regarding the City’s indoor space largely fell into two categories: updates and new amenities. A general comment heard from staff and stakeholders is that the indoor spaces, especially the fitness center, are outdated and not up to the standards of comparable, affluent communities in the area. Staff commented that the entire Recreation Center, including the fitness center, is in need of updates and renovation. They also suggested new spaces including homework/study and social spaces.

For new amenities, stakeholders suggested adding indoor turf and adding more gymnasiums. Some requested an expansion to the fitness center while others prefer it remains small so as not to compete with private providers. Staff suggested adding an indoor pool and artificial turf, potentially in a new field house or recreation center if the existing building cannot accommodate the City’s indoor space needs.

Programs

Staff did not address programming but stakeholders had several positive comments. Specifically, the stakeholders praised the Dance and Kinderhaven programs but feel both could expand if more space were available.

Parks and Open Space

While open space in Lake Forest is generally well-received by the stakeholders, participants suggested a few areas that could be improved including the expansion of paths for walking and biking and the need to keep up with trends. Stakeholders also suggested that awareness of the available resources and parks could be improved.

Athletic fields were one of the only amenities in which stakeholders and staff expressed dissatisfaction. The City provides a good quantity of fields but many have drainage issues that limit playability. Both groups suggested the addition of synthetic turf and sports lighting to improve playability. Staff suggested additional solutions including the creation of a new grid field complex and/or indoor turf. There was debate among the stakeholders if multi-use or single-purpose fields are more appropriate for the community.

Staff also suggested improvements to the City baseball and softball fields such as adding fencing and scoreboards.

In addition to updating current amenities, staff proposed the addition of outdoor performance space, a disc golf course, and water play at a playground.



A few stakeholders commented on the ongoing improvements at the Deerpath Golf Course. Some think very highly of the improvements, while others questioned the overall community benefit compared to cost.

Biking and trail use was a topic of conversation for several stakeholders. Safety was the chief concern with stakeholders commenting that they support separating bicycle and vehicle traffic through the addition of bike lanes or designated paths, particularly in areas with a large number of children. Some stakeholders also suggested constructing a bike/skate park in addition to trails.

Beach and Sailing

The majority of stakeholders and staff highly value the beach, and amenities and programs located there. The need for indoor teaching and storage space was cited by multiple stakeholders and staff. Stakeholders also requested that the equipment and boats be replaced on a regular schedule to improve safety. Staff suggested introducing an automatic gate system to control beach access.

Safety was also mentioned in relation to beach activities by stakeholders and staff. Staff emphasized the general importance of safe and proper amenities when adding to the site while stakeholders specifically had concerns about the new alcohol service policy.

FOUNDATION AND PARK BOARD INPUT

The following summary is an overview of input received from the joint board workshop completed by the Friends of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Foundation and Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Board.

The seven-member Parks and Recreation Board and approximately 10 members of the Friends of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Foundation met on June 19th to provide suggestions for the Department's direction over the next 10 years. Participants were asked to approach the question from their perspectives as residents and users of the parks and recreation amenities and as elected officials or volunteers. Each person contributed the three ideas most important to them and the group voted on the ideas to determine which had the most support.

Indoor Space and Facilities

The Friends and Board members had numerous suggestions for indoor space improvements and rated the category of Expand Indoor Space as the second highest priority. Within this category, suggestions included updating and expanding the entire Recreation Center to add multipurpose space and improve the fitness center and locker rooms.

Participants also suggested new indoor amenities for the City including indoor turf for multiple sports, an ice rink, and an indoor pool/aquatics center. Indoor ice specifically was the third most supported suggestion while indoor pool also received a small number of votes. Through group discussion, it was

determined that these amenities would require a new facility which could be located at Townline Park. This category received a small number of votes as well.

Programs

The Friends and Board members had few suggestions for the Parks and Recreation Department programs. One suggestion was made that the number of programs for families could be expanded. A few people commented on the Kinderhaven program, suggesting that space is expanded at its current location.

Parks and Open Space

Participants had several recommendations for Lake Forest parks and outdoor amenities. Providing high-quality sports fields was widely suggested and adding outdoor fields with synthetic turf and sports lighting was the most highly prioritized suggestion. with both Townline Community Park and Deerpath Community Park recommended as field locations. In addition to or instead of these improvements, some participants suggested the City focus on filed drainage to improve quality.

A number of other outdoor amenities were proposed at the workshop including improving and adding outdoor ice rinks, adding a sled hill, adding an amphitheater, and providing bottle fillers at drinking fountains. A few general comments about park condition were also received regarding maintenance and cleanliness expectations and an interest in eco-friendly herbicide and fertilizer.

Friends and Board members also had a few comments about adding and improving paths, both within parks, and throughout the City. Specifically, Waveland Park was mentioned as needing improvements and better connectivity for both bikes and walking was mentioned as a general need.

Beach

As with the other groups, the Forest Park Beach was classified as a separate category from the other open space. Most of the comments regarding the beach focused on adding indoor space for storage, programming, and a restaurant. One participant also suggested changes to beach access regulations during the weekdays while another commented on the importance of good maintenance.



Partnerships

The only partnership mentioned at the Joint Board meeting was in relation to the are school districts. One participant suggested looking into sharing more services with School District 67 and School District 115. Another agreed that better coordination is needed with the high school which is part of District 115.

CHAPTER

FIVE

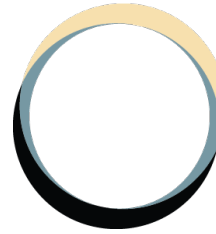
Appendix



CITY OF LAKE FOREST RESIDENT SURVEY

Report of Results

NOVEMBER 2016



NRC
National Research Center Inc

2955 Valmont Road Suite 300 • Boulder, CO 80301
303-444-7863 • nrc@n-r-c.com • www.n-r-c.com

Executive Summary

Survey Background

- In 2016 the City of Lake Forest contracted with National Research Center, Inc. (NRC) to administer a community survey to all residents of Lake Forest to provide the opportunity to rate quality of life in the city, their use of city amenities, their opinion on policy issues facing the city and their assessment of city service delivery.
- The City of Lake Forest Resident Survey was administered to all 7,458 households. Of the 7,172 eligible households who received the survey, 2,133 responded to the mailed questionnaire, giving a total response rate of 30%.
- Survey results were weighted so that respondent age, gender and housing tenure (rent vs. own), and ward were represented in the proportions reflective of the entire city.
- The margin of error is plus or minus two percentage points around any given percentage point for the entire sample. Differences between survey years can be considered meaningfully different if they are greater than four percentage points.
- When a table for a question that only permitted a single response does not total to exactly 100%, it is due to the customary practice of rounding values to the nearest whole number.

City of Lake Forest Resident Survey Highlights

Residents enjoy a high quality of life.

- In 2016, 93% of survey respondents rated their overall quality of life as excellent or good. Lake Forest residents gave higher ratings to the overall quality of life in comparison to communities across the nation, but gave similar ratings as respondents in select peer cities.
- Nearly all residents (98%) gave positive marks to Lake Forest as a place to live and only slightly fewer gave favorable ratings to Lake Forest as a place to raise children (96%). About 8 in 10 also awarded high scores to the city as a place to work and as a place to visit. Ratings for aspects of quality of life tended to be higher than national benchmarks and similar to peer communities.
- When asked what factors influenced residents' decisions to live in Lake Forest, close to half reported that the public school system, natural environment, public amenities such as parks, the library and recreation and the quietness of the community influenced their decision to live in the city.

Residents feel safe in their community.

- Almost all respondents (98%) reported that they felt very safe or somewhat safe overall in Lake Forest, a level that was much higher than communities across the nation and similar to peer communities.
- When asked what factors influenced residents' decisions to live in Lake Forest, about 7 in 10 indicated that the safety of the community played a role in their decision to live in the community.

Respondents appreciated dimensions of the community related to the environment.

- The overall natural environment of Lake Forest was rated as excellent or good by 98% of participants, which was higher than both national and peer comparisons communities.
- Additionally, about 9 in 10 or more also awarded high marks to public parks, the public beach, the amount of open space, bike paths and walking trails, cleanliness and overall appearance/attractiveness of Lake Forest. These ratings tended to be higher or much higher than national and peer benchmarks.
- Compared to 2011, evaluations for overall appearance/attractiveness, public parks, the public beach, amount of open space and bike paths and walking trails have remained stable over time.
- When asked about City budget priorities, about 6 in 10 indicated that environmental sustainability is essential or very important for the future of Lake Forest.

Survey respondents think highly of City services.

- Respondents continued to feel positively regarding the overall quality of services provided by the City of Lake Forest with 95% awarding excellent or good scores. This rating has remained stable 2011 and was similarly evaluated compared to residents in communities similar to Lake Forest, but higher than residents across the country.
- Of the 20 services rated by residents, 12 of them were rated as excellent or good by 9 in 10 or more, including police, fire, ambulance or emergency medical services, 911 dispatch, maintenance of parks and of the beach, garbage collection, recycling, library services and senior and youth services. Evaluations of garbage collection and recycling services were higher than both sets of comparisons, while most other services were rated higher than communities across the U.S. and similar to peer cities when comparisons could be made.
- When comparisons over time could be made, ratings for a few services remained consistent with levels seen in 2011, including police, fire and ambulance, library, senior and youth services, maintenance of parks and the beach and the Recreation Center. However, several decreases were seen within City services, such as drinking water, street repair, sewer services, snow and ice removal and building permit and inspection process services.
- Of the 18 possible budget priorities for the City, about 8 in 10 indicated that crime prevention and fire response were top priorities for the Lake Forest budget, while about 4 in 10 placed high importance on code enforcement, neighborhood revitalization and CROYA services and one-third thought that Dickinson Hall services were essential or very important.

The performance of the City of Lake Forest government is viewed favorably by residents.

- At least two-thirds or more of respondents gave high ratings to the City's response to citizen questions or concerns, the overall direction of Lake Forest government, the value of services for taxes paid, the job the City does at managing tax dollars and to the overall confidence in Lake Forest government.
- Ratings for government performance tended to be similar or higher than communities across the nation and in selected peer communities when comparisons could be made.

Lake Forest residents do a majority of their shopping in the city, but would increase their spending if apparel and casual dining were available.

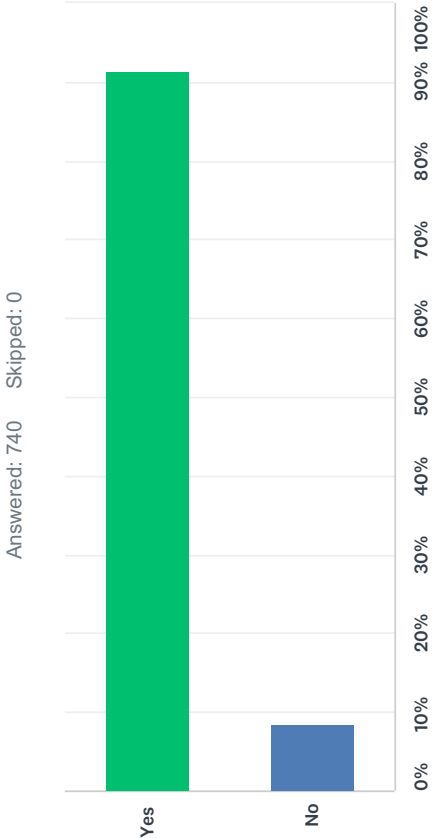
- Less than 4 in 10 awarded high marks to the shopping opportunities provided by the City of Lake Forest and about one-quarter reported that shopping variety was excellent or good; both of these ratings decreased since 2011. Ratings for shopping opportunities were similar to those across the nation, but much lower when compared to peer cities.
- Almost all residents (98%) reported that they make a purchase at least once a month in Lake Forest, which was a higher rate than purchases made elsewhere. Additionally, close to 9 in 10 also indicated that they dined in the community at least once a month.
- About half of residents stated that they were more likely to spend a little more or a lot more in Lake Forest if apparel, home accessories or hardware stores were available. Less than 1 in 10 reported that the availability of fine jewelry or financial services would increase their spending in the community.
- Over half of residents indicated that they spend \$100 or more on dining out in an average week and over one-third spend between \$25 and \$100 on meals away from the home. Most residents (79%) reported that they eat out during the evening hours; while over half communicated that they typically choose to dine out on Saturday during a typical week.

Maintenance of infrastructure and parks are top priorities for residents.

- In addition to budget priorities, survey participants were also asked to rate the importance of a variety of aspects related to quality of life in Lake Forest. Residents indicated that maintenance of City infrastructure, such as streets, sidewalks and sewers, and the maintenance of City parks and facilities were essential or very important, with over 9 in 10 placing high importance on these aspects.
- Additionally, about 8 in 10 stated that management of traffic flow would be at least very important, while the lowest rated priorities included encouraging increased use of existing bus transportation for school children and increased variety of housing options, sizes and price points with 47% of respondents ratings these as essential or very important.



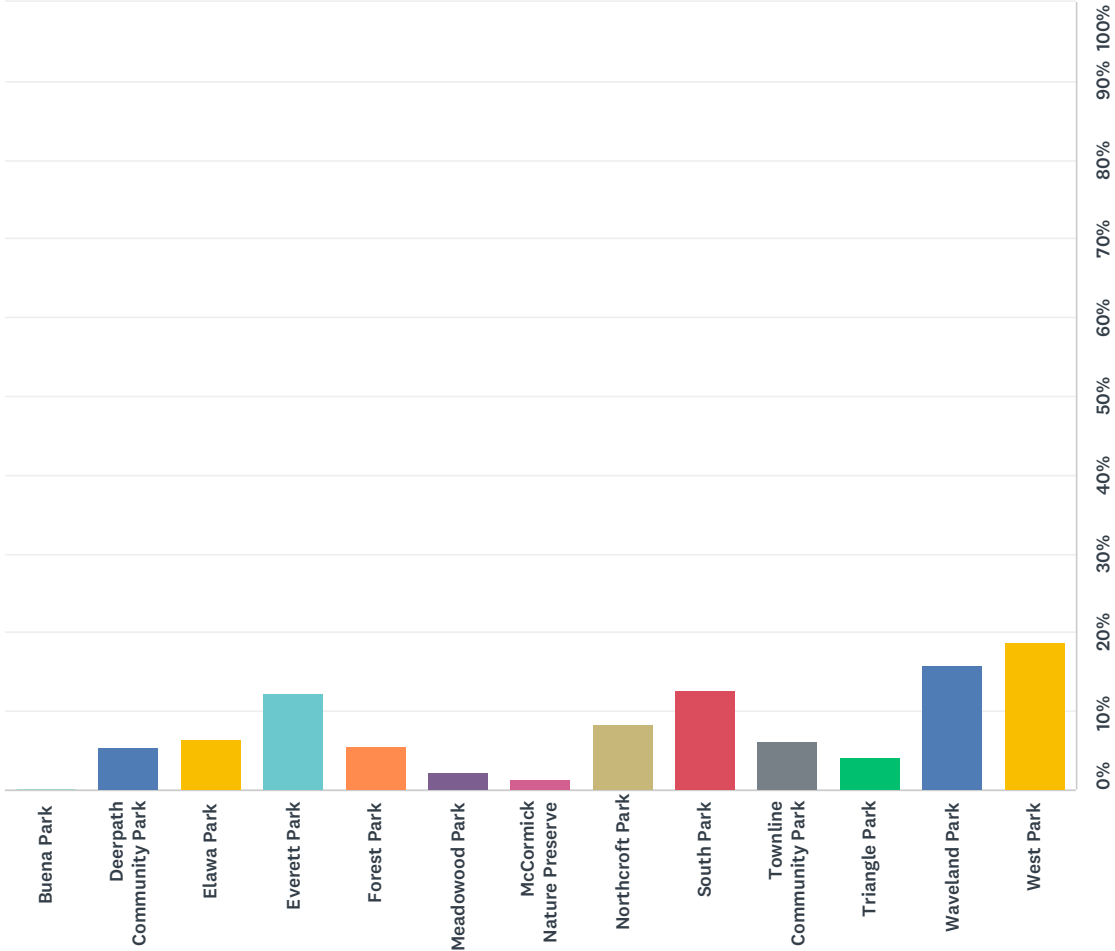
Q1 Are you a resident of the City of Lake Forest, Illinois ?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	676
No	64
TOTAL	740

Q2 Which Lake Forest park do you live closest to (pick one)?

Answered: 645 Skipped: 95



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Buena Park	1
Deerpath Community Park	35
Elawa Park	42
Everett Park	79
Forest Park	36
Meadowood Park	15

McCormick Nature Preserve	1.40%	9
Northcroft Park	8.37%	54
South Park	12.71%	82
Townline Community Park	6.20%	40
Triangle Park	4.19%	27
Waveland Park	15.97%	103
West Park	18.91%	122
TOTAL		645

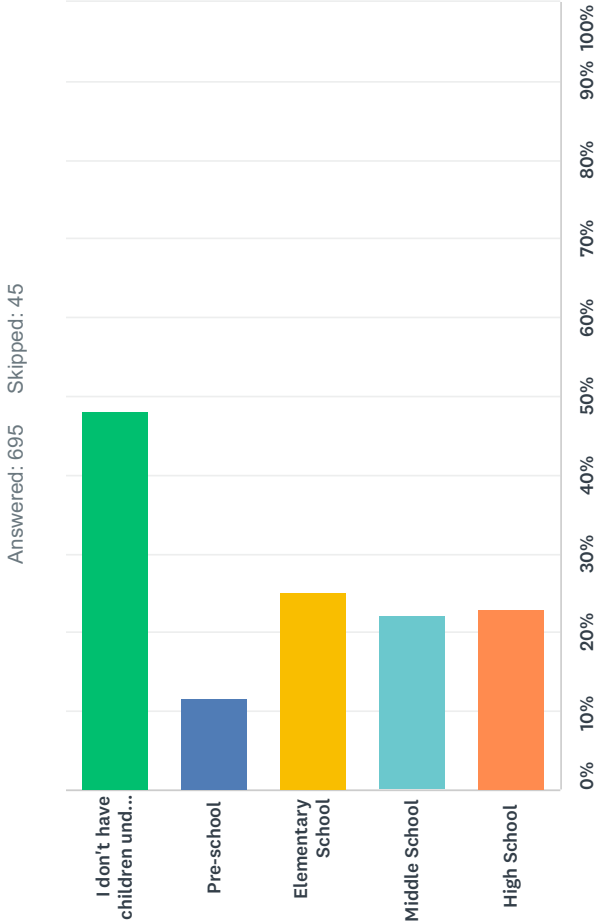
Q3 What is your age?

Answered: 709 Skipped: 31



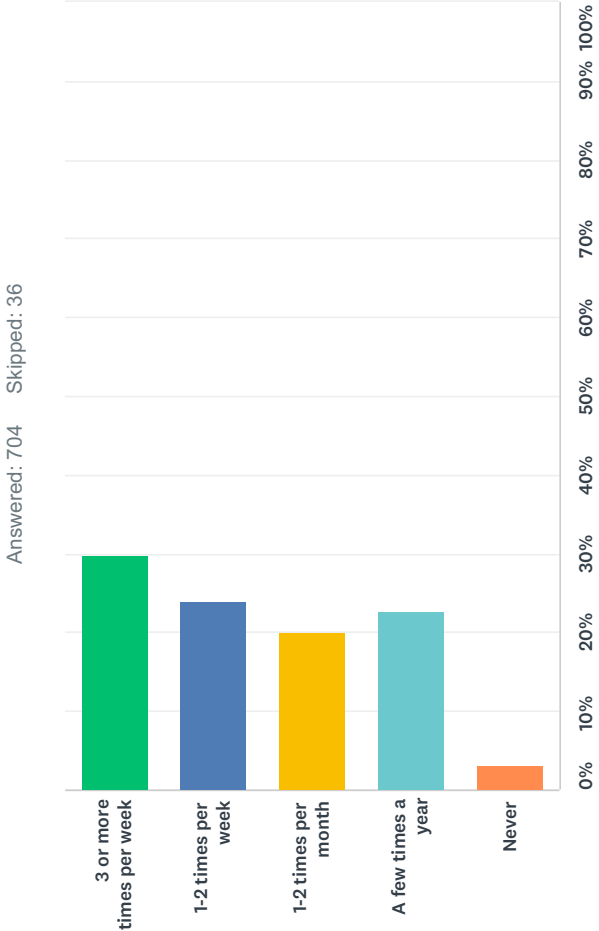
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Under 18	10
18-24	10
25-39	89
40-49	193
50-64	235
65 and older	172
TOTAL	709

Q4 If you have any children under 18, please indicate where they are in school age. (Select all that apply)



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
I don't have children under 18	335
Pre-school	81
Elementary School	174
Middle School	154
High School	160
Total Respondents: 695	

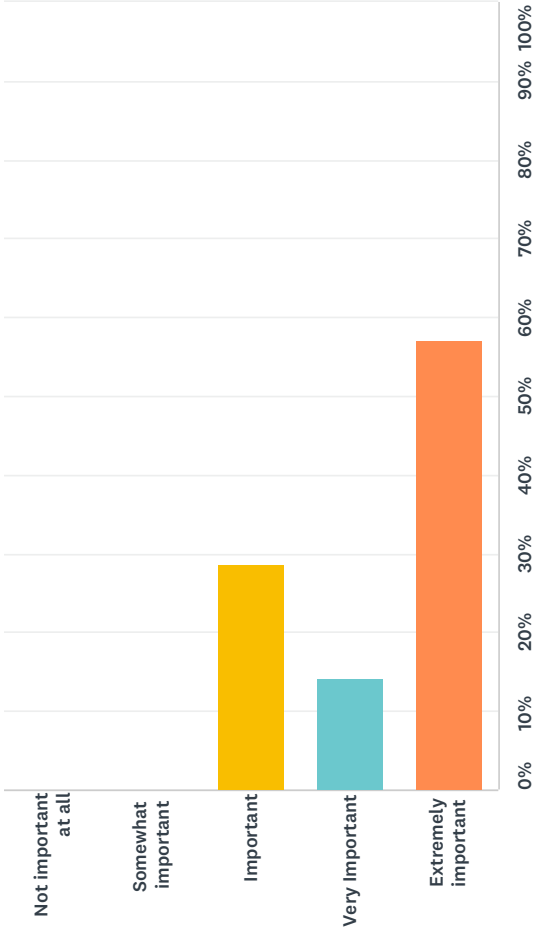
Q5 About how many times have you or members of your household visited City of Lake Forest parks throughout the past 12 months? (Pick one)



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
3 or more times per week	210
1-2 times per week	169
1-2 times per month	142
A few times a year	161
Never	22
TOTAL	704

Q6 Please indicate how valuable you believe Lake Forest Parks and Recreation is to the overall value of the Lake Forest Community?

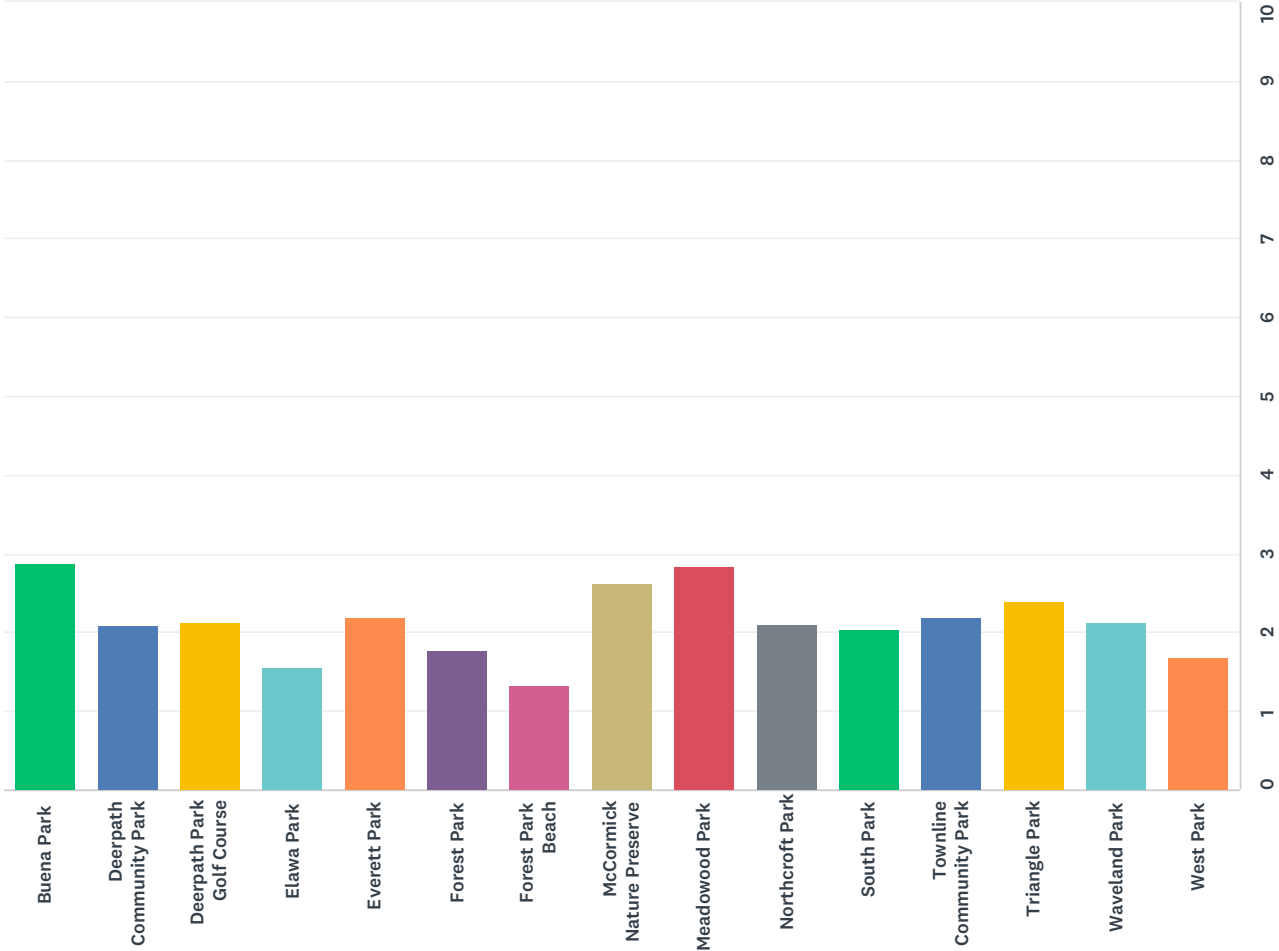
Answered: 7 Skipped: 733



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Not important at all	0 0.00%
Somewhat important	0 0.00%
Important	2 28.57%
Very Important	1 14.29%
Extremely important	4 57.14%
TOTAL	7

Q7 Of the City of Lake Forest parks you or your family have visited in the last 12 months, how satisfied were you with each park?

Answered: 537 Skipped: 203



	SATISFIED (NO CHANGES NEEDED)	UNSATISFIED (UPDATES NEEDED)	DID NOT VISIT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Buena Park	4.71% 21	2.24% 10	93.05% 415	446	2.88

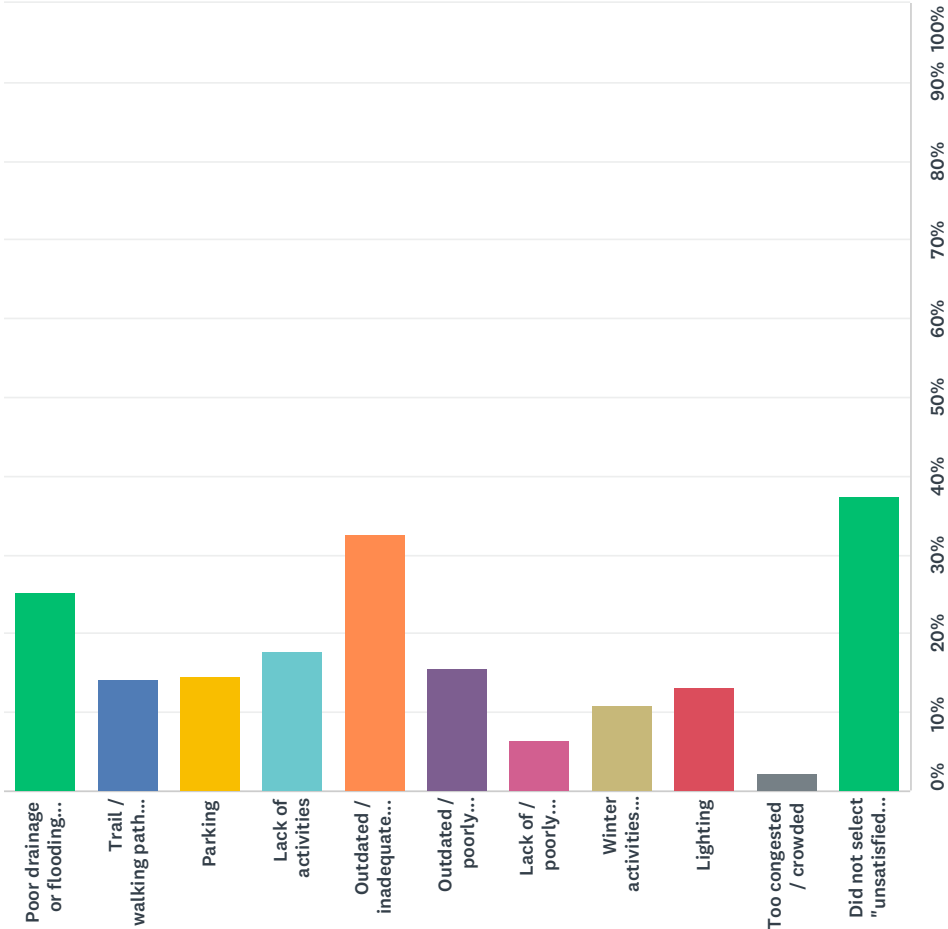
Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Strategic Master Plan

SurveyMonkey

Deerpath Community Park	37.92% 171	14.41% 65	47.67% 215	451	2.10
Deerpath Park Golf Course	37.29% 176	11.23% 53	51.48% 243	472	2.14
Elawa Park	68.30% 321	6.38% 30	25.32% 119	470	1.57
Everett Park	36.64% 166	6.84% 31	56.51% 256	453	2.20
Forest Park	58.58% 280	5.65% 27	35.77% 171	478	1.77
Forest Park Beach	77.14% 388	13.12% 66	9.74% 49	503	1.33
McCormick Nature Preserve	15.88% 71	4.70% 21	79.42% 355	447	2.64
Meadowood Park	5.98% 26	3.45% 15	90.57% 394	435	2.85
Northcroft Park	38.84% 174	10.94% 49	50.22% 225	448	2.11
South Park	38.84% 181	16.09% 75	45.06% 210	466	2.06
Townline Community Park	33.26% 149	13.84% 62	52.90% 237	448	2.20
Triangle Park	28.31% 126	3.60% 16	68.09% 303	445	2.40
Waveland Park	39.96% 183	6.55% 30	53.49% 245	458	2.14
West Park	60.63% 288	10.11% 48	29.26% 139	475	1.69

Q8 If you selected “Unsatisfied” with any of the parks you’ve visited, what do you feel needs improvement? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 388 Skipped: 352



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Poor drainage or flooding issues	98
Trail / walking path conditions or availability	55
Parking	57
Lack of activities	69
Outdated / inadequate facilities	127
Outdated / poorly configured fields	61
Lack of / poorly configured courts	25
Winter activities (e.g. sledding, cross country skiing, etc.)	42
Lighting	51

Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Strategic Master Plan

SurveyMonkey

Too congested / crowded		2.32%	9
Did not select "unsatisfied" for any parks		37.37%	145
Total Respondents: 388			
#	OTHER, PLEASE SPECIFY	DATE	
1	In general all of the parks outside of the downtown area has frequent dog feces (despite the newer free bag stations) and unleashed dogs. Northcroft overall is very nice, the tennis courts were very poorly resurfaced just a few years ago, I met with the contractor and city employees during the work detailing the faults, and the surface lasted only a few months. That should be fixed at the contractors expense. The mosquitos are terrible there as well, worse than Waveland. When our kids were younger, after LFUnited soccer club folded and many kids move to Magic (HP), the team was kicked out of Northcroft by LFPD on a summer afternoon because the majority of kids were not from LF. We complained to Parks & Rec and were told the fields were for LF residents and since the team was not predominantly LF they could not practice on the fields. Now the soccer fields have turned into Liga Mexico whenever LFSA is not there, even with refs and scheduled games there. NONE of the people on the field are from LF. The double standard is not appreciated.	6/15/2018 10:19 PM	
2	get rid of wood chips, and please spray for bugs at beach-	6/15/2018 7:20 PM	
3	Rust and sharp edges on play equipment.	6/15/2018 5:33 PM	
4	Wood chips! Not clean	6/15/2018 8:03 AM	
5	Forest Park Beach is wonderful but the handicap ramp needs attention. Its sliding with erosion. Its sooooo cool, i hope you keep it. Wood Chips need replacing at Northcroft and Elawa With Cork bouncy flooring. West Park DESPERATELY needs an area for small children, the 4th grader designed playground is DANGEROUS for kids under 5. South Park and West Park need fencing around the playgrounds with 1 way in and out so parents can easily keep track of multiple children without worrying about them getting into the streets. ALL of your parks need signage telling dog owners to KEEP THEIR DOGS ON LEASHES OR FACE FINES! Also, PLEASE put signs up asking for dogs to be kept out of playgrounds (Fencing would also help with that).	6/13/2018 9:30 PM	
6	you did not mention Market Square- Please , please take better care of trees and bushes. How ABOUT ADDING A HORTICULTURIST TO THE CITY STAFF FOR ALL THE PARKS! IT IS BADLY NEEDED	6/13/2018 7:31 PM	
7	Northcroft wood chips need to be replaced with a surface	6/13/2018 4:07 PM	
8	There are tons of ticks at Elawaa-not sure how you can remedy that..	6/13/2018 2:36 PM	
9	Would love to see a splash pad feature at any of the parks!	6/13/2018 2:00 PM	
10	Closed or trails closed to dogs	6/13/2018 10:07 AM	
11	1.) canopy over equipment for shade & more exciting equipment	6/13/2018 10:07 AM	
12	A splash area would be a great benefit to the beach. Similar to Glencoe beach. Also more shaded areas on the beach would be great.	6/13/2018 9:52 AM	
13	Not well equipped for Toddler play.	6/13/2018 9:05 AM	
14	Failure at Forest Park to consider needs of older Lake Foresters, or handicapped, who can only sit in their cars and look out at our treasure, the Lake. No provision for a look out or place where wheelchairs could be used. I am a 45 year resident of LF, who used the Park and Beach 4-5 times a week. My 90 something Mother greatest joy was to be driven to Lake just to look. I brought this consideration several times to City meetings during planning stages, but was consistently met with resistance.	6/13/2018 1:30 AM	
15	Every park building including the rec center is very outdated.	6/12/2018 11:19 PM	

Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Strategic Master Plan

SurveyMonkey

16	I would like to see more fitness equipment for adults, like there is play equipment for children. We went to a cool park along the Great Greenway Trail in Ireland, where they had outdoor exercise equipment for adults where one could warm up before a walk/run on, for example, a scissor leg machine. They had 5-6 pieces of equipment. Could encourage adult use of the parks more when kids are in school. Also, I would like to see a walking path around the perimeter of Waveland Park, like the one at Everett Park. Also, I think we need regularly scheduled maintenance of the parks to repair fence closures, etc. Lastly, we could use with some weeding in the beds! And, there are a few dead trees.	6/12/2018 10:36 PM
17	Turf fields at 1-2 of the parks would be awesome!	6/12/2018 7:00 PM
18	We need turf fields for lacrosse and field hockey (other towns have, fastest growing sport) A public pool (several friends have not moved here because we did no have) More parking at the rec center, health club like LB's,	6/12/2018 6:24 PM
19	need obstacle/training course for older kids/adults in a couple of these parks	6/12/2018 4:13 PM
20	West park is newly redone but remains fairly uninspiring compared to the fabulous new park in Lake bluff near their fire station. Obviously lb devoted a great deal of thought in it's design and execution. Can't say the same for west Park. Yes there is a zipline but that's about the only thing really innovative. Unfortunate waste of resources and very poor planning.	6/12/2018 3:02 PM
21	Trees need pruning/removal, or trees need to be added. Plants at FP need to be thinned, weeded. Bluff needs to be burned, too weedy. Belvedere garden is a big improvement.	6/12/2018 2:29 PM
22	The city needs to do a better job of providing recycling bins at all locations. In the evenings at the beach the garbage bins are overflowing including items that could be in recycling and racoons are dipping into the trash cans.	6/12/2018 1:30 PM
23	Would like to see more seating with lake views	6/12/2018 6:31 AM
24	The situation with McCormick is completely unacceptable. We are prevented from walking in the park nearest our home. What is the hold up? There are no reports to the affected community, there are no longer camps held there, which is very sad, and in general, you have let the lawyers dream up minute risks and disrupt the daily enjoyment of lots of people. No one is going to sue you for environmental risks. Who is a likely plaintiff? Make a report to your community and let us know when we can expect to enjoy the walk that led my husband to agree to buy our home. Now that Vic is gone, let's hope that things move forward. This is how you treat a resident who donates 10 million? Completely unacceptable.	6/12/2018 5:58 AM
25	Buena Park, why do we own it? McCormick Park, could use parking. West Park, Northcroft Park or Townline Park, needs an outdoor ice skating / hockey rink with refrigerated ice. Something like Winter Club or Watts in Glencoe	6/11/2018 10:38 PM
26	Wooden Walking path needs new support and leveling soon. Needs updating.	6/11/2018 10:14 PM
27	Tennis courts work!	6/11/2018 7:25 PM
28	Need a turf field for spring sports	6/11/2018 7:21 PM
29	There is no sledding hill in town. The golf course hill is no longer available. Would be nice for us to have one	6/11/2018 6:20 PM
30	Please allow dogs at the far north end of Lake Forest Beach Park. My friends and I would be willing to pay for a dog pass similar to other beach parks. I would pay well for a annual dog pass.	6/11/2018 6:20 PM
31	We really need a paved path in the South park for the younger children to bicycle and roller blade. Right now it's all grass and they can only use the neighborhood sidewalks. I was wondering if the Nature Preserve parking could be made available for dog walkers. The steps to the beach need updating.	6/11/2018 5:58 PM
32	Wood chips are dangerous and the soft platform at Waveland needs a lot of repair.	6/11/2018 5:48 PM
33	You didn't ask about parks we drive by and around. I have taken an over 90 year old on drives by Forest Park and the beach below, South Park, Deerpath Park, etc. I think this survey is loaded to seek out problems we have, while for our level of taxes these are very good. Generally, too many people spend too much time in air-conditioning in summer. They should picnic more. It could be more user friendly about the beach pavilions to encourage more use. These are great and could host block parties, organization picnics, etc. Even hold a city meeting or two a year down there. If there are no life guards when supposed to be, the gate keepers should be able to step in for them, cross-training. That's more important than keeping people out.	6/11/2018 5:40 PM

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34	Feel like the "renovation" made the park much less appealing. To me, it looks very unfinished.	6/11/2018 5:30 PM
35	Attended a baseball banquet at the northcroft park and the removable walls were not yet removed for spring and the lighting didn't work The park looked like it needs major TLC	6/11/2018 5:30 PM
36	The driveway that goes around behind South Park is in dire need of re-paving.	6/11/2018 5:19 PM
37	Too many parties and reduced access to Wildlife Discovery Center due to the exceedingly increasing banquet type parties at Elawa Farm.	6/11/2018 5:19 PM
38	Need a indoor turf field facility like many other communities.	6/11/2018 5:18 PM
39	I am satisfied with the parks but that's not to say I wouldn't appreciate and expect investment and updates over time. For example, I am thrilled that DPGC is benefitting from investment but I would like to see that plan continue and be completed.	6/11/2018 4:54 PM
40	Townline park is a terrific facility that is way under utilized due to drainage issues on the fields. Soccer, lacrosse and baseball seasons (spring) are horrible because numerous practices/games get cancelled due to flooding.	6/11/2018 4:47 PM
41	would be nice to have other facilities like maybe a swimming pool or ability to bbQ or have picnic tables, etc	6/11/2018 4:46 PM
42	Tired of seeing people bring their dogs (which are not allowed) to the beach, and is the only pet free zone our family can enjoy as we are allergic. Our community has plenty of beautiful dog parks and the area above the beach is pet friendly. I think more posting is required for new neighbors, college students and the like.	6/11/2018 4:38 PM
43	some holes are too narrow	6/11/2018 4:37 PM
44	WDC and Elawa each need more room.	6/11/2018 4:30 PM
45	even though it has just undergone a big renovation, the structures and design of the playground were poor and and not engaging to young children when you compare it to South Park , Artesian Park etc.	6/11/2018 4:27 PM
46	Lake Forest should have a local swimming pool.	6/11/2018 4:24 PM
47	South Park: dangerous having that zip swing in the middle where little kids run around back and forth, Very BAD location for it. NEXT: Normal bench or benches at Forest Park looking out at lake. FINALLY: Baby swings squeak sooo badly at beach dangerous for babies and toddlers.	6/11/2018 4:18 PM
48	Keep the grass mowed!	6/11/2018 4:15 PM
49	the fitness center is well below the caliber that should be expected of our town. many of the fitness machines aren't in great shape. the locker room amenities are unappealing.	6/11/2018 4:12 PM
50	Please update the facilities especially bathrooms, provide trails and high quality tennis courts and playing fields. Also, better parking and working water fountains.	6/11/2018 4:09 PM
51	1) Real "Lake Michigan Sand" on the Beach! Since 1988 the one thing I extremely dislike is the grade of sand placed and used- under the misconceptions of Erosion Control - Lake Michigan is a natural wonder and one of the many attributes is its SAND! 2) Tricks out of control @ Elawa and a few other places. 3) Drainage is an issue at many of the parks.	6/6/2018 10:41 AM
52	FOREST PARK BEACH - north end entry is a nightmare and needs to be addressed. In addition, there is never enough parking for RESIDENTS. More signage about NO dogs, smoking, music, bikes, etc. would be great. TOWNLINE - we pay an insane amount of money for our children to play sports that occur at this park and many of the practices/games are canceled due to the fields. We need better drainage or turf and lights.	6/6/2018 9:54 AM
53	The North Shore bike path north of Westmoreland is in terrible condition!!! The sidewalk has cracks, missing concrete and it's uneven!!! It's a challenge riding you bike on the path!	6/6/2018 9:21 AM
54	I'd like to see a few things: 1. Baseball fields - we need greatly improved diamonds, with grass infields fences at many more locations. In relation to most neighboring towns, our fields (e.g. Waveland, Deerpath) are much less up to par 2. Drainage - the Deerpath and Townline (those West of the dump) need to have much better drainage	6/4/2018 8:54 AM
55	West Park is too dangerous for kids under the age of 4. Especially the glider.	6/3/2018 9:17 PM

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56	Does this include Rec Center? Large parks with outdated facilities. Outdoor space gets limited usage for 8 months out of the year -- October through May. Should get more year round use somehow -- would a retractable field house or a bubble type facility work here?	6/3/2018 7:35 AM
57	Please give us some turf fields and update the drainage on grass fields. We also need lights on our practice fields. We have been told we can't ride our bikes to and from the beach parking lots. I'm fine not riding on the boardwalk, we should be able to ride up and down the hills and in the parking lots. Didn't see any signs that say no bikes, skateboards, roller blades, etc.	6/2/2018 11:15 PM
58	I have just recently moved back to Lake Forest, so we haven't used the parks and services. We do plan to visit the Open Lands and Elawa Farms, Waveland, Northcroft, Everett Parks, etc. Lake Forest has many beautiful parks and open lands!	6/2/2018 1:35 PM
59	Beach needs an expanded marina - total 200 boat slips and moorings. Emphasize plan would have to make the marina consistent with our community values. This would make Lake Forest unique on the north shore and would allow us to better leverage amazing Lake Michigan.	6/2/2018 11:17 AM
60	Activities for kids thru park district (i.e. soccer, kickball, rugby, etc.)	6/2/2018 10:53 AM
61	My son is on Lake Forest Sailing, and it seems they have very outdated equipment that needs replacement, especially boats.	6/1/2018 11:40 AM
62	We need turf fields!!!! We are the only community nearby without turf fields. It would prevent cancellations from rainy / flooded fields and would be safer for the kids to play games. And lighted fields for our kids to practice in the fall.	6/1/2018 9:34 AM
63	the wood chip ground cover is not ideal for the baby/toddler area. otherwise the facilities are great	6/1/2018 5:39 AM
64	Turf Fields -- we are the only town on the North Shore that doesn't have turf fields available to youth sports Better Fields -- Our fields shouldn't close once rain starts falling Lighted Fields -- Lights at Townline would make Fall Ball much better (Outdoor practices are impossible to schedule in October) and give us flexibility around practice start times	5/31/2018 3:35 PM
65	The signs leading to the beach states that there are to be no animals. I am at the beach maybe twice per day year round and there are no city employees or the police attempting to enforce the rule.Perhaps you should change the fine to \$300.00. The sewers on the new south beach road have never had the heavy cloth removed-the road is beautiful but these sewers need to be addressed.	5/31/2018 12:21 PM
66	Townline has been very poorly planned since the beginning and should have field turf and lights	5/31/2018 11:38 AM
67	Field is too wet. Practices get cancelled after a rainy day.	5/31/2018 11:18 AM
68	Lack of shade at the beach, especially with not being allowed to use umbrellas/other shade structures. It's unpleasant having to sit in the blazing sun on the sand.	5/31/2018 9:40 AM
69	Need turf fields	5/31/2018 9:21 AM
70	Mulch needs to be eliminated from all of our parks.	5/30/2018 6:39 PM
71	The wooden ramp walk from Forest Park parking lot to Forest Park Beach is deteriorating and is now slanted & dangerous, especially when it is wet or covered in snow. This wooden ramp access is a beautiful walk in all seasons and should be repaired. Garbage under walkway should be picked up. The plastic walkway installed for the summer season from paved sidewalk toward water is placed in the center of our beachfront is not consistent with our handsome beachfront design. Is it a way to use extra plastic boat ramp sections? I am a regular beach visitor and have never seen a person, able-bodied or disabled, use the walkway. As it ends abruptly without access to the water, it does not appear to aid water access. If special access is needed, could the access be added beside one of the groynes? Thus it would blend into the landscape. Could the lifeguards take a busy week and count the number of beach ramp users to give you an idea of need for this devise. I assume that it is extra work during beach cleaning. Is it of value to the community? Please reconsider dog use at Forest Park Beach. There is heavy use by dog owners at Forest Park and South Park and street walking. The culture has shifted in our community and they are doing a good job of pop cleanup. (Not perfect, but good). Suggestion: Two dog seasons. One starting after Labor Day weekend to before Memorial Day weekend "Off Season" and the other during the "High Summer Season". During "Off Season" dogs would be invited to far north (adult) beach cell off leash under owner control on the beach and on leash in parking lot and down the stairs to the cell between certain hours. Dogs on leash would be welcome on the beach sidewalk. During "High Season" dogs would have same rules, but more limited hours, perhaps very early in the morning. A dog waste station would be placed at edge of cell. Could you discuss with other towns to find out what the potential issues would be?	5/30/2018 4:11 PM

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72	Lake Forest is only town without turf fields. All sporting activities get cancelled at the sight of rain and result in loss of money for the residents. Spring sports are impossible to play given the Chicago climate and the rainouts. The city closes fields too quickly.	5/30/2018 6:21 AM
73	Need turf field for soccer and lax to enhance year round activity, potentially put bbble over in winner and spring. Also deerpath driving range is in bad shape and balls are really poor. Need improvement and purchase of new balls	5/30/2018 1:52 AM
74	Need turf - our town is outdated and kids are not exercising due to rain outs, etc.	5/29/2018 1:42 PM
75	Townline fields have such poor drainage they are terrible for sports. Would it be possible to turn that into a multi-field turf facility that could have year-round use?	5/29/2018 1:27 PM
76	Our fields are severely behind in the quality of surrounding towns and the fact that we do not have 1-2 turf fields at this point puts us at a disadvantage due to the number of rain outs we deal with and the poor ongoing field conditions.	5/29/2018 1:17 PM
77	Baseball score boards & lights	5/29/2018 9:53 AM
78	Waveland Park basketball court should be periodically checked around where the poles attach to ground as I think I saw some area for repair. Also keep the cage open all year so people can shoot whenever. Also There might be coyotes over there as one came close and I thought it was someone's dog without a leash. It seemed somewhat tame to me and behaved differently than the ones I see elsewhere (not wild). Also it looks like the raccoons are already staying inside the garbage cans over at the beach.	5/29/2018 8:24 AM
79	Love Deerpath Golf however could be a little more aesthetically enhanced with more color. Like outdoor improvements.	5/28/2018 6:42 PM
80	bike parking, more bike trail friendly	5/28/2018 9:39 AM
81	The Elawa Park needs some trees	5/28/2018 8:22 AM
82	I'm over at South Park nearly every day walking the dog. 95% of the time there's no one there -- in the entire park. Given the scale of the park, why isn't there a large enclosed dog area?	5/27/2018 8:06 PM
83	Need to rehab restrooms Need better drinking fountains	5/27/2018 5:32 AM
84	Create a off leash dog play area there in unused space. I would love a dog park I could walk to. We go to Prairie Wolf, but I believe even a small space at Waveland would bring people out of their homes. I know other people in the area would like the same.	5/25/2018 5:44 PM
85	Tennis Courts need attention, parking is a challenge so people park everywhere, back road to bike path needs to be addressed, when there is heavy rain the space to the south of the playground becomes a pond.	5/25/2018 3:52 PM
86	The grass / ground is not as nice as many parks I have been to in surrounding communities.	5/25/2018 3:41 PM
87	Tennis courts at South Park are difficult to access and in need of repair.	5/25/2018 2:43 PM
88	We need larger and bigger and better indoor facilities. Our children have to go to other communities and private facilities to train indoors during 6-7 month winter season. There is one old and acoustically challenged gymnasium, no indoor turf fields, no indoor skating no indoor pool. And also no outdoor turf fields.	5/25/2018 2:43 PM
89	We use the parks very regularly for soccer & are unhappy with the poor drainage in many & lack of lights for night game options. Tennis courts at south park are in total disrepair.	5/25/2018 2:39 PM
90	Given the amount of field sports that children in our community play, I'd like to see lit turf facilities.	5/25/2018 2:28 PM
91	The Golf course struggles with flooding.	5/25/2018 2:24 PM
92	Need to continue to update/improve Deerpath golf course--cart paths and removal of buckthorn and bushes has been a big improvement so far. Clubhouse is a good spot for food/beer and patio is nice--push to continue good food with a variety of draft beers.	5/25/2018 2:03 PM
93	The parks are fantastic, please keep up the current conditions!	5/24/2018 2:05 PM
94	Rubberized surface instead of woodchips on playground	5/24/2018 9:54 AM
95	Path to Access beach blocked for years	5/24/2018 8:23 AM

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96	I am disappointed that the city does not have a horticulturist on its staff. With as many areas of open space- it is very sad to not have the kind of expertise that is needed . Just think what we could do and learn in care and planning with this kind of training. Emphasis is on recreation which is good but should be accompanied by knowledge of the land and flora which is not brought to the same level.	5/24/2018 8:14 AM
97	Baseball fields are poorly constructed and maintained. Glass, stones, weeds throughout infield and outfield, even before LFBA games. Fields remain wet/soggy for days after rain. Extremely inadequate facilities for baseball, such as no L-Screen's. Hitting cages need upgrading. The poor condition and status of LF parks/diamonds is a main reason parents/kids play baseball for other towns and organizations outside LF.	5/24/2018 6:45 AM
98	more comfortable seating at ballfields	5/23/2018 11:27 PM
99	I don't necessarily feel "unsatisfied," but just curious when the grass along the recently widened paths will be re-planted at Everett Park?	5/23/2018 9:16 PM
100	currently a waste of space due to poor conditions and horrible drainage. The pavilion is too isolated.	5/23/2018 7:46 PM
101	Is there a public bathroom available at Elawa?	5/23/2018 7:15 PM
102	West Park - Maybe some more seating available.	5/23/2018 2:47 PM
103	The concession at the beach could be improved. "Ragin Kitchen" was so great we brought friends there for breakfast or lunch. We were very sorry to see them go.	5/23/2018 2:46 PM
104	Basketball court needs court lines, lighting under the shelter, more trees	5/23/2018 2:23 PM
105	improve entrance off of Deerpath to the golf course..now very dangerous !!!!!	5/23/2018 12:42 PM
106	Why hasn't Open Lands opened McCormick Ravine to the public?	5/23/2018 11:43 AM
107	While not selecting "unsatisfied" the above selections are applicable to the parks we visit.	5/23/2018 10:12 AM
108	I love the habitat restoration that is going on in parts of Lake Forest and for many of the parks noted as "unsatisfied" I would like to see more transition to native habitat as much as possible.	5/23/2018 10:07 AM
109	Love the beach. Just wish you didn't charge so much to use it.	5/23/2018 9:59 AM
110	The updated playgrounds at west and south parks specifically do not seem well thought out and are more dangerous than necessary (i.e. zip lines). Play structures were just really poorly designed to play on, accommodate the necessary number of children, etc. Too bad, many people were let down after being very excited for the updates. Waveland and Townline both have great playgrounds.	5/23/2018 9:45 AM
111	The new configuration of Forest Park south end parking is a mess. The parking at that end needs to be used only for people that have boating passes and the design of the upper parking area, and the reduction of parking spots there was a mistake.	5/23/2018 9:43 AM
112	Looking forward to Lake Forest Open Lands completing McCormick Preserve as a nature preserve.	5/23/2018 9:04 AM
113	No bathroom	5/23/2018 8:27 AM
114	Need to cull the coyotes. Too dangerous to walk with dogs @ McCormick	5/23/2018 8:17 AM
115	Need to put picnic table back in Meadowood Park, reconstruct the trail to the Middlefork and finish clearing the buckthorn & ash on the west side of the park where the County SWM cleared along the river bank.	5/23/2018 8:07 AM
116	Park Benches are required not concrete slabs to sit on. Parking restored to what it was not safe to park where we are now required to park too isolated when guards are not present. Too difficult for dogs to walk on the gravel paths.	5/23/2018 7:29 AM
117	Boring. Old. No innovation. No indoor abilities. And we live in cold 7 months. Outdated.	5/23/2018 7:02 AM
118	I am surprised that the road leading to the parking area of Forest Park beach has not been repaired. The shoulder is crumbling away and the stop sign/one way configuration is a hazard. I've spoken to residents who are so uncomfortable with the driveway that they no longer go. After all the money that has been put into that park over the past years, you would think we would have better access to the beach.	5/23/2018 6:59 AM

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119	Drainage in general is awful at most of parks. You must put turf fields in at Townline and probably Deerpath.	5/23/2018 6:57 AM
120	Some equipment needs to be updated. The FBP needs a water feature to work to wash feet not spray to cool off.	5/23/2018 6:23 AM
121	Currently, Meadowood "Park" is a muddy field strewn with empty beer cans. There isn't parking available when neighborhood events (such as the annual Easter Egg Hunt, Block Party, etc.) are held there. Additionally, there aren't any restrooms, only one trash can, and zero play structures/courts.	5/23/2018 1:43 AM
122	Northcroft needs more shade.	5/23/2018 12:44 AM
123	Unleashed dogs	5/22/2018 11:27 PM
124	Would love to see refrigerated ice at West Park so skating and playing hockey is an option more often. However, I know refrigerated ice is very expensive.	5/22/2018 11:25 PM
125	Where is Buena Park? I believe it's just Forest correct?	5/22/2018 10:45 PM
126	The beautiful and historic warming shed at West Park should have an historically sensitive and thorough refurbishment.	5/22/2018 10:29 PM
127	Forest Beach - nice that alcohol was sold but this needs a major step up. Golf cart inadequate, selection poor and the limited square footage one can sit/walk really ridiculous. Why bother if you can't treat adults like adults.	5/22/2018 10:27 PM
128	Park needs a name sign so people know what it is.	5/22/2018 9:57 PM
129	Townline used to have beautiful prairie flowers along trail. Perhaps too hard to keep it up.	5/22/2018 9:49 PM
130	Playgrounds would be nice at Deerpath and Triangle parks.	5/22/2018 9:43 PM
131	South Park - parking situation is awful, but new play set is great! Beach - playset gets really hot. Maybe umbrellas?	5/22/2018 9:40 PM
132	For Deerpath Park and West Park - could you put see thru wind screens on the tennis courts? Both parks have phenomenal courts, but the court placement is in a high wind area. We go to Winter Club courts (not as nice condition) b/c of the wind screens and ideal court placement on wind days. This would really enhance these courts. South Park - needs nice, new tennis courts and enough of them!!! The old, cracked ones still had people waiting just because of the demand around the park despite their poor condition. Why can't South Park be as nice as the other LF parks regarding enough tennis courts? Please, please put more in and keep them in good condition! Deerpath Park - a real bathroom over near the tennis courts would be nice and get lots of use (from baseball, etc.) vs the port a potty or going all the way to the Rec Center	5/22/2018 9:32 PM
133	Tennis courts at South Park need to be updated. Times that dogs could enjoy beach on lease. 6 am to 9 am? Fitness center needs major updates I know not on survey but it is one area we pay for and lacks needed attention. The mist boring fitness center for miles	5/22/2018 9:30 PM
134	South Park gravel road is inadequate	5/22/2018 9:27 PM
135	I wish elawa had a closer restroom	5/22/2018 9:00 PM
136	Needs landscape plan	5/22/2018 8:38 PM
137	Restroom facilities.	5/22/2018 8:26 PM
138	The play equipment at West Park, although new, is not safe for young children, particularly those under age 5. The slides are very steep, and the platform area at the top is not enclosed. The risk of a child falling from it is significant.	5/22/2018 8:06 PM
139	Poor maintenance of baseball diamonds and grass areas where kids play soccer and football resulting in injuries.	5/22/2018 7:57 PM
140	We really wish that Meadowood Park would be developed into a real park with a playground and basketball court.	5/22/2018 7:48 PM
141	Be nice to have family bathrooms at Forest Park beach.	5/22/2018 7:42 PM
142	Unfinished restoration work in the natural areas.	5/22/2018 7:29 PM
143	The fields lack any drainage and there are nonturf fields available for youth sports in the town — both are outliers on the North Shore. Totally inadequate. Embarrassing	5/22/2018 7:28 PM

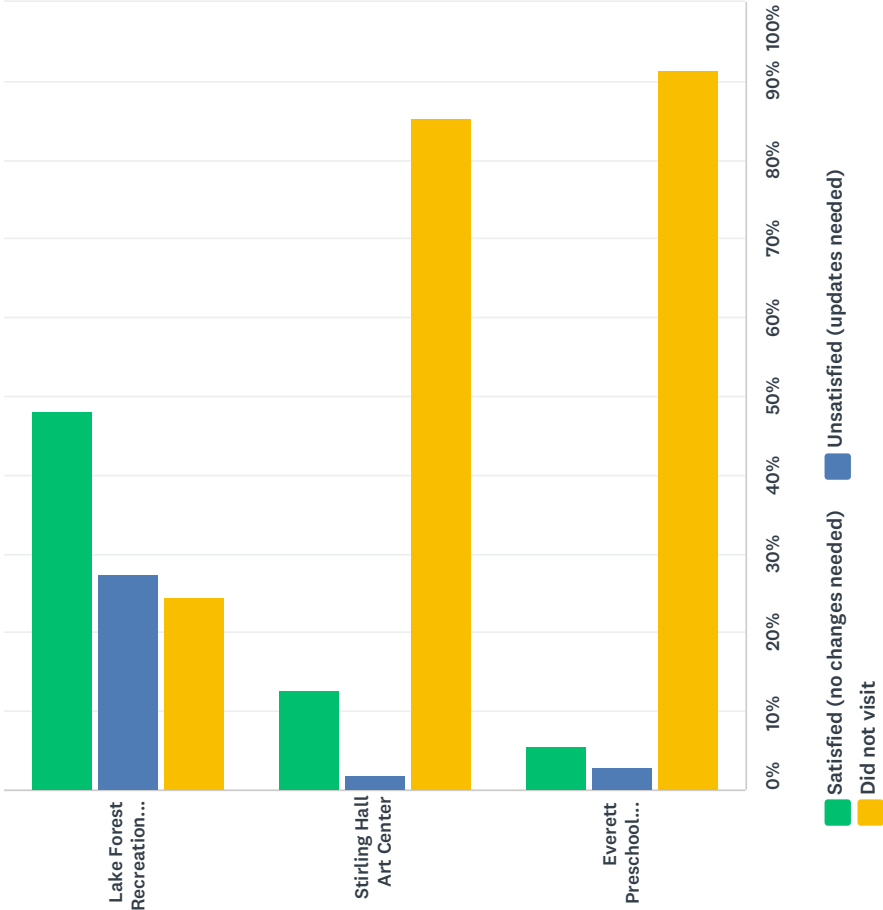
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144	Consider rebuilding bridge connecting Concord Drive to Middlefork Savannah at Meadowood Park	5/22/2018 7:22 PM
145	Need a spray park for younger kids!	5/22/2018 7:18 PM
146	Daughter reports the equipment is outdated	5/22/2018 7:18 PM

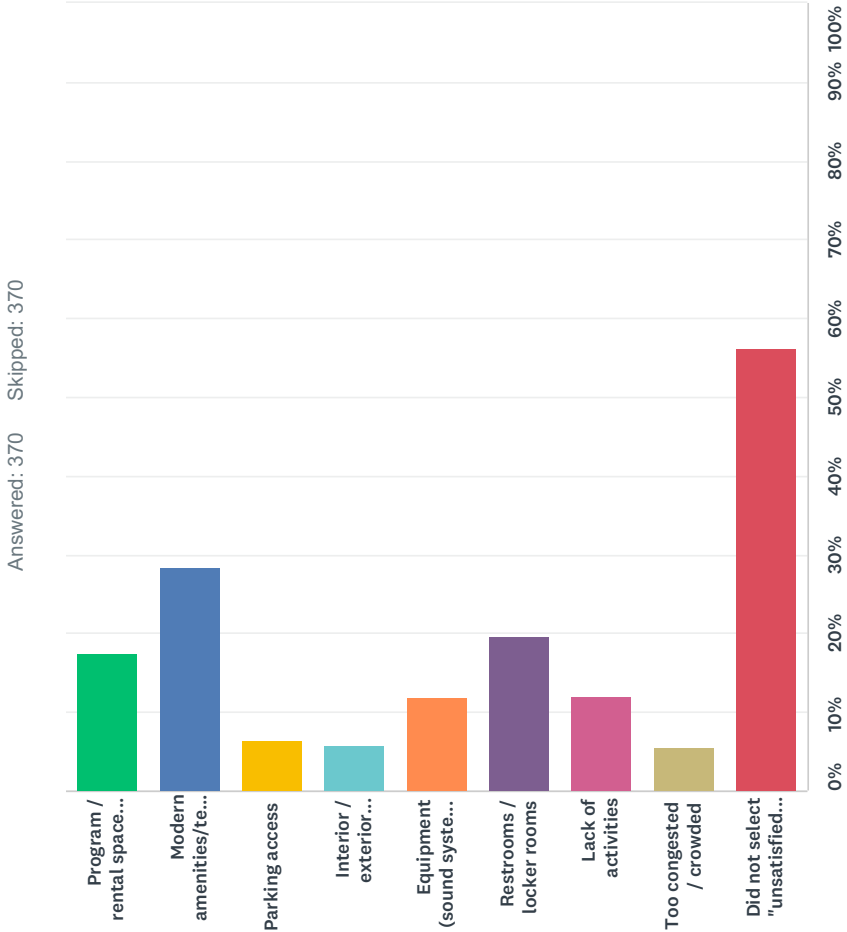
Q9 Of the following City of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation facilities you or your family have visited in the last 12 months, how satisfied were you with each?

Answered: 529 Skipped: 211



	SATISFIED (NO CHANGES NEEDED)	UNSATISFIED (UPDATES NEEDED)	DID NOT VISIT	TOTAL
Lake Forest Recreation Center	48.02% 254	27.41% 145	24.57% 130	529
Stirling Hall Art Center	12.77% 64	1.80% 9	85.43% 428	501
Everett Preschool Classroom	5.65% 28	3.02% 15	91.33% 453	496

Q10 If you selected “Unsatisfied” with any of the facilities you’ve visited, what do you feel needs improvement? (Select all that apply.)



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Program / rental space appearance (flooring, finishes, furnishings, etc.)	65
Modern amenities/technology	105
Parking access	24
Interior / exterior lighting	22
Equipment (sound systems, audio/visual, fitness equipment)	44
Restrooms / locker rooms	73
Lack of activities	45
Too congested / crowded	21
Did not select "unsatisfied" for any facilities	208
Total Respondents: 370	

#	OTHER, PLEASE SPECIFY	DATE
1	wifi is terrible and kinderhaven needs its own protected wifi access just for the teachers and the members of kinderhaven	6/15/2018 7:20 PM

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2	Need to update the Rec center. Improved basketball court area and indoor pool necessary	6/15/2018 4:38 PM
3	The preschool program at Kindercare needs to add additional single aged classes. It fills up immediately, and parents are standing in line at 4am for sign up day.. You also need more activities for toddlers, babies and preschoolers. Playgroups and Open Gym time multiple times per week are important features we haven't been able to find since moving here. Its especially important during bad weather days when small kids and bigger kids need to burn some energy	6/13/2018 9:30 PM
4	We need updated and usable squash courts. Many kids and adults play and this is a real asset for our town.	6/13/2018 8:05 PM
5	SEE OTHER NOTE	6/13/2018 7:31 PM
6	Kinderhaven could really use space to expand. The program is amazing and ot would be wonderful to let more children have the chance to attend.	6/13/2018 3:43 PM
7	Kinderhaven should be expanded to include multiple classrooms for families with multiple kids in the program at the same time but in different classes, which necessitate multiple trips back and forth for drop-off and pick-up.	6/13/2018 2:37 PM
8	Would love to see Kinderhaven be able to expand and have more room!	6/13/2018 10:59 AM
9	Thisnwould be a great facility to update	6/13/2018 10:07 AM
10	shower facilities in locker room are dated	6/13/2018 9:20 AM
11	Kinderhaven needs to expand for the needs of our existing and growing community	6/13/2018 9:05 AM
12	Very outdated, basketball courts are old and there isn't enough, red nick outside is ugly, would love to see big windows/more modern building	6/12/2018 11:19 PM
13	More adult art classes at Sterling Hall. Used to have great painting classes. I know the instructor died, and it might be hard to find a replacement.	6/12/2018 10:36 PM
14	during day hours - need some free places to walk or exercise. also, some activities for teens like open gym even 1-2x/monthym night w/ volleyball nets, etc. --- some place for teens who don't want to just do things at their respective schools, but want to have a place to play bball, vball, etc.	6/12/2018 4:13 PM
15	No evening classes at all. No swimming pool.	6/12/2018 3:02 PM
16	Public pool	6/12/2018 2:59 PM
17	The lawn is disgraceful	6/12/2018 1:35 PM
18	More space. Dedicated yoga room. Ropes course climbing wall. More activities available to middle school age. Not enough open gym.	6/11/2018 10:14 PM
19	Great facilities!	6/11/2018 5:40 PM
20	Healthier food for our kids on automatic machines	6/11/2018 4:52 PM
21	Need more activities for boys !	6/11/2018 4:40 PM
22	As a member for many years, I have enjoyed the small community of local athletic enthusiasts. After an injury, I left to another facility that had a pool and more modern facilities. Many of the staff members are excellent, and engage the members. Others I found were quite apathetic and non-responsive to new ideas. For many years the place was very well maintained, but then commercial operations seemed to have been brought in, and from there the cleanliness declined.	6/11/2018 4:38 PM
23	with the amount of revenue the dance and pre-school programs bring in they deserve more space	6/11/2018 4:34 PM
24	Cleanliness	6/11/2018 4:33 PM
25	Swimming pool	6/11/2018 4:24 PM
26	Needs modern equipment basic indoor running/ walking track	6/11/2018 4:18 PM
27	Lighting at the Recreation center could definitely be better in the dance studios.	6/6/2018 9:54 AM
28	A pickle ball court would be nice!	6/6/2018 9:21 AM
29	It is time for a full makeover of the Rec Center. It is dated and needs a meaningful facelift and modernization	6/4/2018 8:54 AM

Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Strategic Master Plan

SurveyMonkey

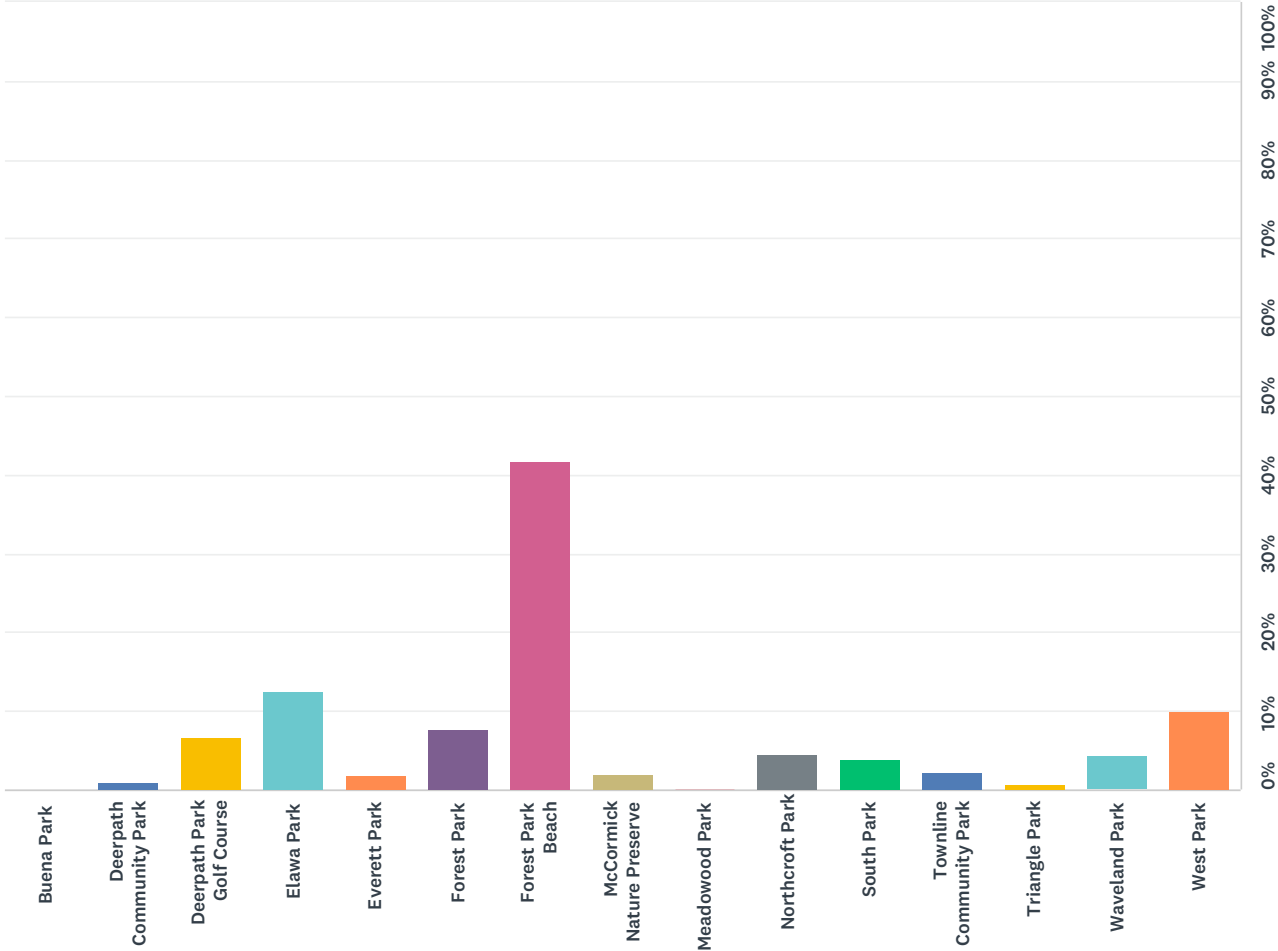
30	The Rec Center is so tired and outdated and space not used well. Feel like I'm walking back to 1982 when I enter that place. And my kids always want to go to open gym on weekends, but it has odd and unaccommodating hours.	6/3/2018 7:35 AM
31	Need outdoor pickleball and turf fields	5/31/2018 9:21 AM
32	All surrounding towns near and far have turf fields.	5/30/2018 6:21 AM
33	needs color - Deerpath Golf	5/28/2018 6:42 PM
34	There needs to be another classroom	5/28/2018 8:22 AM
35	Drainage is needed at Rec center park	5/27/2018 11:49 AM
36	Sterling always offers the same two activities. We would join more often if the activities changed and you had shorter more affordable programs.	5/25/2018 5:44 PM
37	Kinderhaven needs more classroom space to expand their programming.	5/25/2018 3:52 PM
38	Way too outdated. Not enough indoor open space - one loud gym that has very limited open gym time on weekends because it is filled with paid classes. Really challenging in winter months. Should be a "go to place" for kids on the weekends. The TV lounge area is not inviting at all with poor design and outdated features and technology.	5/25/2018 2:43 PM
39	Need artificial turf.	5/24/2018 9:14 AM
40	LF rec center built and designed for toddlers and elementary school kids. Throughout winter, rec center rarely available for kids to work on basketball or play in scrimmage. Often times too many kids creating chaotic atmosphere. Other towns throughout Chicago metro area have far better rec centers.	5/24/2018 6:45 AM
41	Facility is getting a bit outdated. Biggest issue in this vicinity is lack of turf fields considering the rain we get and the drainage issues we have. Too many cancelled practices and games for lack of playable fields.	5/23/2018 10:20 PM
42	The Rec Center is so dated. It needs a complete overhaul, adding amenities like a climbing wall, more courts, and better workout area.	5/23/2018 7:46 PM
43	Lake Forest needs a public pool and related activities	5/23/2018 2:23 PM
44	a yield sign at the entrance of the golf course on Deerpath now very dangerous to enter and exit	5/23/2018 12:42 PM
45	Baseball fields at the Rec center could use some updating and more regular maintenance.	5/23/2018 9:45 AM
46	community pool is sorely missing from our park district offerings.	5/23/2018 9:17 AM
47	Again. Old. Weak amenities. Not youth oriented. No activities.	5/23/2018 7:02 AM
48	You ruined our park on inner lake road. Pushed daily users away. Too modern. Not fit town architecture. A travesty. A jungle	5/23/2018 7:00 AM
49	For the rec, we should consider more of a sports complex.	5/23/2018 6:57 AM
50	More TVs - Fix exercise materials on equipment that are worn out	5/22/2018 10:45 PM
51	Everett is such an opportunity but the space is so outdated. Our rec center is lacking in programming - so much gets cancelled- not sure wh	5/22/2018 9:40 PM
52	Rec center needs to join the current decade	5/22/2018 9:30 PM
53	Adding a pool which be a huge asset for the entire community	5/22/2018 9:12 PM
54	The rec center is small and outdated. The fitness area is dated and needs to be updated. Needs an outdoor pool.	5/22/2018 9:08 PM
55	Everett school area needs new toys	5/22/2018 9:00 PM
56	Very dated.	5/22/2018 8:29 PM
57	The cleanliness and orderliness of the fitness studios is appalling. The locker room and gym are fine.	5/22/2018 8:06 PM
58	The Rec Center needs to be expanded and updated.	5/22/2018 7:48 PM
59	Racket ball courts are a waste of good space. Many of us would love to see that converted to a sauna/steam room area.	5/22/2018 7:23 PM

60 Need updated showers and lockers

5/22/2018 7:18 PM

Q11 What is your favorite City of Lake Forest Park? (Pick one)

Answered: 532 Skipped: 208



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Buena Park	0 0.00%
Deerpath Community Park	6 1.13%
Deerpath Park Golf Course	36 6.77%

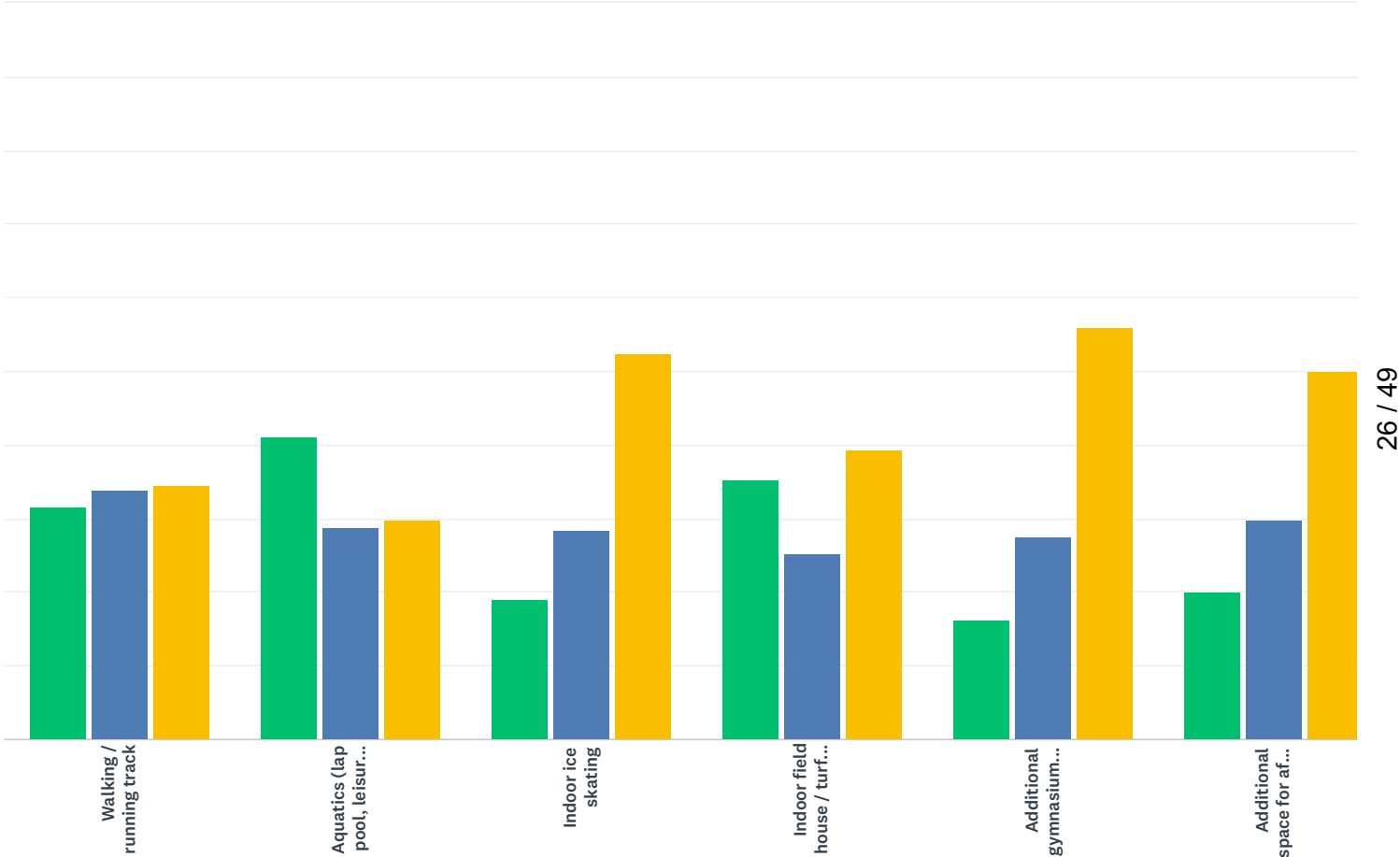
Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Strategic Master Plan

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Elawa Park	12.59%	67
Everett Park	1.88%	10
Forest Park	7.71%	41
Forest Park Beach	41.92%	223
McCormick Nature Preserve	2.07%	11
Meadowood Park	0.19%	1
Northcroft Park	4.51%	24
South Park	3.95%	21
Townline Community Park	2.26%	12
Triangle Park	0.75%	4
Waveland Park	4.32%	23
West Park	9.96%	53
TOTAL		532

Q12 Please tell us how important the following potential improvements to INDOOR facilities would be to you and your family or the community overall:

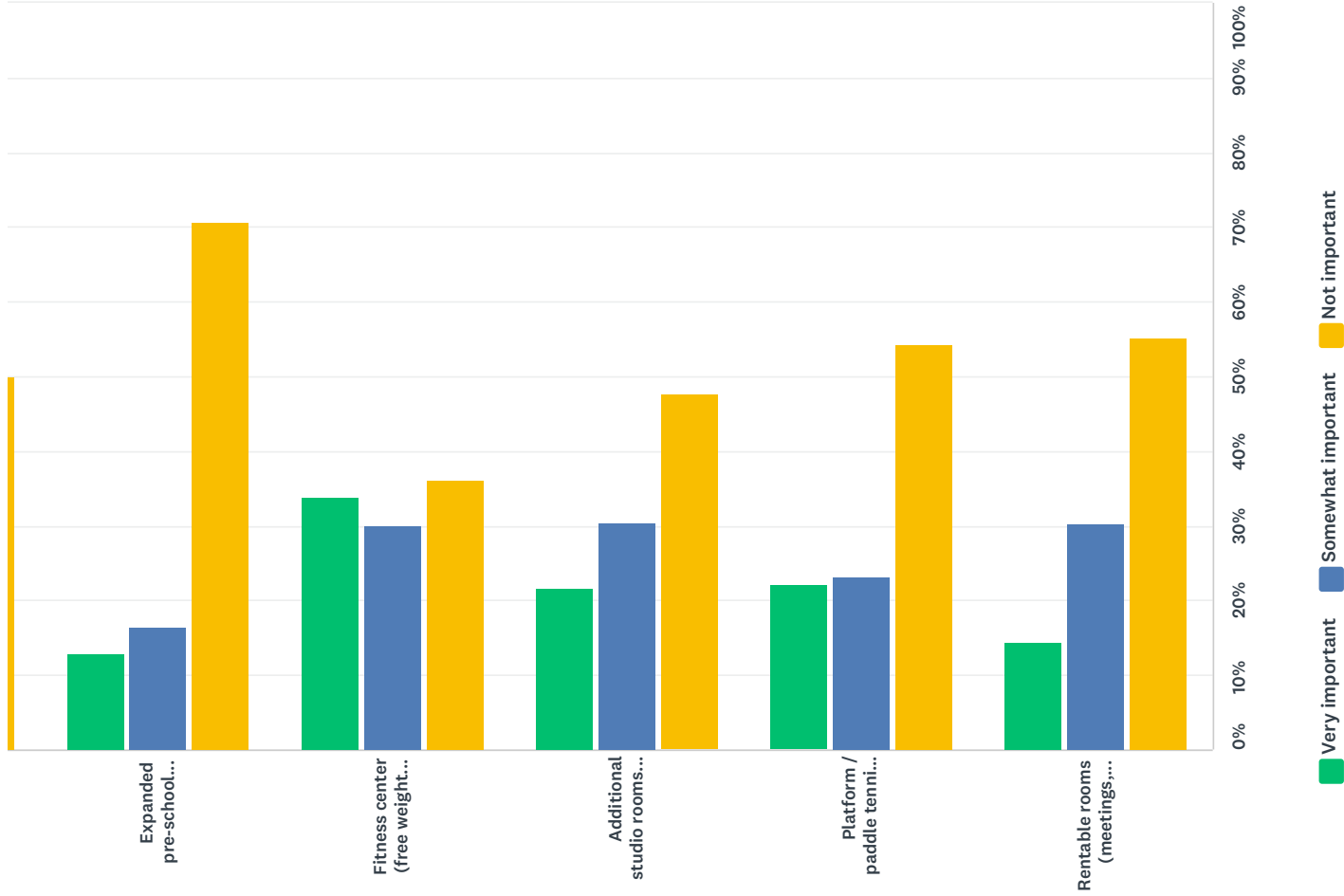
Answered: 528 Skipped: 212



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Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Strategic Master Plan

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	VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT	TOTAL
Walking / running track	31.54% 158	33.93% 170	34.53% 173	501
Aquatics (lap pool, leisure pool)	41.29% 211	28.77% 147	29.94% 153	511

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Indoor ice skating	19.03%	28.54%	52.43%	494
Indoor field house / turf fields (i.e. soccer, lacrosse, multi-purpose)	35.28%	25.40%	39.31%	496
Additional gymnasium (courts, badminton, etc.)	16.32%	27.69%	55.99%	484
Additional space for after school youth program (elementary-6th grade)	20.00%	30.00%	50.00%	490
Expanded pre-school space	12.94%	16.43%	70.64%	487
Fitness center (free weights, cardio equipment, etc.)	33.87%	30.04%	36.09%	496
Additional studio rooms for group classes (fitness classes, yoga, pilates, dance, etc.)	21.72%	30.53%	47.75%	488
Platform / paddle tennis facility	22.24%	23.27%	54.49%	490
Rentable rooms (meetings, events, parties)	14.43%	30.31%	55.26%	485

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	I answered this for 2 50 year olds. For older people indoor walking and fitness is great. For kids it depends on the demand for various sports.	6/15/2018 10:19 PM
2	Please consider Kinderhaven expansion!	6/15/2018 11:42 AM
3	POOL AND WATER PARK in east or central Lake Forest PLEASE!!!!!! A sledding hill in West park would be AMAZING too... West Park Field house needs some love. Putting in an indoor cafe in the existing one for wintertime warm ups and hot cocoa could be a revenue maker as well..	6/13/2018 9:30 PM
4	Squash courts	6/13/2018 8:05 PM
5	if YOU HAVE MONEY TO DO ANY OF THE ABOVE TAKE CARE OF THE LAND FIRST!! THEN ADD FACILITIES	6/13/2018 7:31 PM
6	Would love to see Kinderhaven expand! It's a wonderful program!!	6/13/2018 10:59 AM
7	I'd love to see Kinderhaven expand. I know lots of families that would love to have their children attend, but haven't been able due to size. I'd also love to have the option of morning classes for the red class.	6/13/2018 10:40 AM
8	Worried we will lose our golf course. If there was a place to donate where we wouldn't lose money to the organizer- I'd be all over it.	6/12/2018 8:58 PM
9	Pool!!	6/12/2018 7:00 PM
10	Need to have a clearing house of all available spaces and places that public can use. Eg., Gorton, Library, West Train station, etc. and insure maximum use of what we already have and from there - what we need.	6/12/2018 4:13 PM
11	An indoor track would be wonderful	6/12/2018 1:30 PM
12	Activities / sports groups for older kids	6/12/2018 9:23 AM
13	Pilates studio/equipment would be wonderful!!	6/12/2018 6:31 AM
14	Rentable rooms at reasonable prices would be helpful to lots of organizations. There are a dearth of public meeting spaces.	6/12/2018 5:58 AM
15	Kinderhaven should be a priority for the city. It is a unique program and should be highlighted as the city's preschool.	6/11/2018 7:06 PM
16	more racquetball courts and separated from squash	6/11/2018 6:44 PM
17	I'm all for adding new facilities as long as you reduce your budget at the same time.	6/11/2018 6:38 PM

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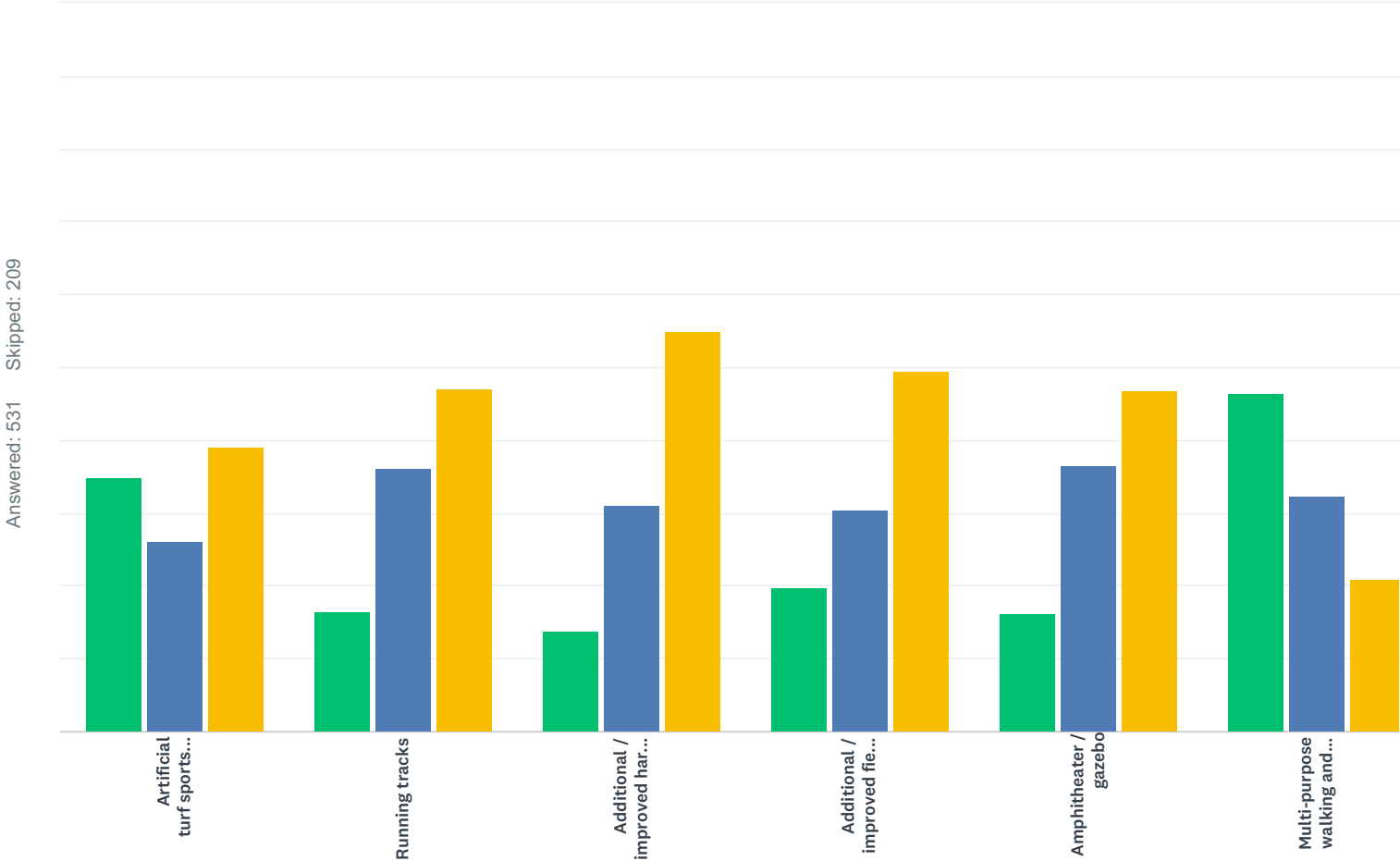
18	Coordinate with local institutions and even churches to not build/maintain extra space for little use.	6/11/2018 5:40 PM
19	I understand pickle ball is a growing sport, may want to put in courts	6/11/2018 5:26 PM
20	Spa like facilities such as jacuzzi and steam room in locker rooms	6/11/2018 5:19 PM
21	Free standing space/building for Wildlife Discovery Center. Ideally, near soccer field at Middlefork.	6/11/2018 4:40 PM
22	I have preschool grandchildren that live right next door.	6/11/2018 4:18 PM
23	Paddle would be great if there is enough interest beyond the private clubs	6/11/2018 4:15 PM
24	Nothing that involves a tax increase	6/11/2018 10:17 AM
25	Being a member of the LB Paddle program, I would love to see paddle here in LF, especially for our children. The LB kids paddle program caters to the LB school system (lessons start after school) at 3pm and that is not conducive to the LF school schedule so we are not able to participate. Paddle tennis is growing in every community and I think there would be a real appetite for it within LF. Indoor ice rink would be HUGE for this community with all of the hockey players. Hotshots is practically falling down and not maintained and does not feel safe.	6/6/2018 9:54 AM
26	Outdoor pool would be nice at deerpath community park...?	6/4/2018 6:14 AM
27	Most of these things are missing or limited in LF? When I moved my family here 5 years ago, I was shocked to realize that they didn't have a Field House to play in the winter and I had them going to other towns and facilities for most of the year when its cold outside.	6/3/2018 7:35 AM
28	Before school care!	6/2/2018 10:53 AM
29	Need turf - our town is outdated and kids are not exercising due to rain outs, etc.	5/29/2018 1:42 PM
30	This community needs to invest in the infrastructure that supports children's sports. That is VERY important to families and Lake Forest needs to compete to appeal to new families with young children.	5/29/2018 1:27 PM
31	Need pickle ball courts	5/28/2018 1:14 PM
32	Pre-school - 6th mentioned but nothing for our HS teen. Need a modern day "Maker Space" where teens can make/mix music, video, dance or just have a coffee and hang WITHOUT alcohol present.	5/28/2018 9:39 AM
33	Squash courts important	5/27/2018 8:36 AM
34	During the 6 months of the year we can't play outdoors, we need a better set of indoor facilities to come to - gyms, Field house, skating, pools, etc. We have a small outdated rec center built a long time ago	5/25/2018 2:43 PM
35	I would not invest \$1 in building paddle tennis facilities. It is a miserable activity and is not a sport.	5/25/2018 2:31 PM
36	more preschool open gym times during school breaks	5/24/2018 9:54 AM
37	Need brand new facility. Make it happen. LF is sleepy in terms of keeping up with sports and activities through its parks and recreation.	5/24/2018 6:45 AM
38	larger theaters that schools can use	5/23/2018 11:27 PM
39	Turf fields of utmost importance	5/23/2018 10:20 PM
40	Clean shower area in Ladies Member locker rooms	5/23/2018 4:17 PM
41	We are members of the fitness center but I can see some people wanting a less costly option. But would it be kept clean? Is there money for that?	5/23/2018 2:46 PM
42	already making improvements to the club house	5/23/2018 12:42 PM
43	Lake Forest has so many fantastic outside spaces that I don't really consider the inside spaces.	5/23/2018 10:07 AM
44	free rooms for small groups to meet irregularly, instead of Starbucks	5/23/2018 9:30 AM
45	Need pickleball courts.	5/23/2018 9:04 AM
46	We are overdue for an outdoor town pool!!!!	5/23/2018 7:53 AM
47	Need a new state of the art field house. Lake forest has the worst park facilities in north shore	5/23/2018 7:02 AM
48	Turf fields outdoors is by far the most important next step for Lake Forest. It's embarrassing that we haven't figured out how to raise this kind of money.	5/23/2018 6:57 AM

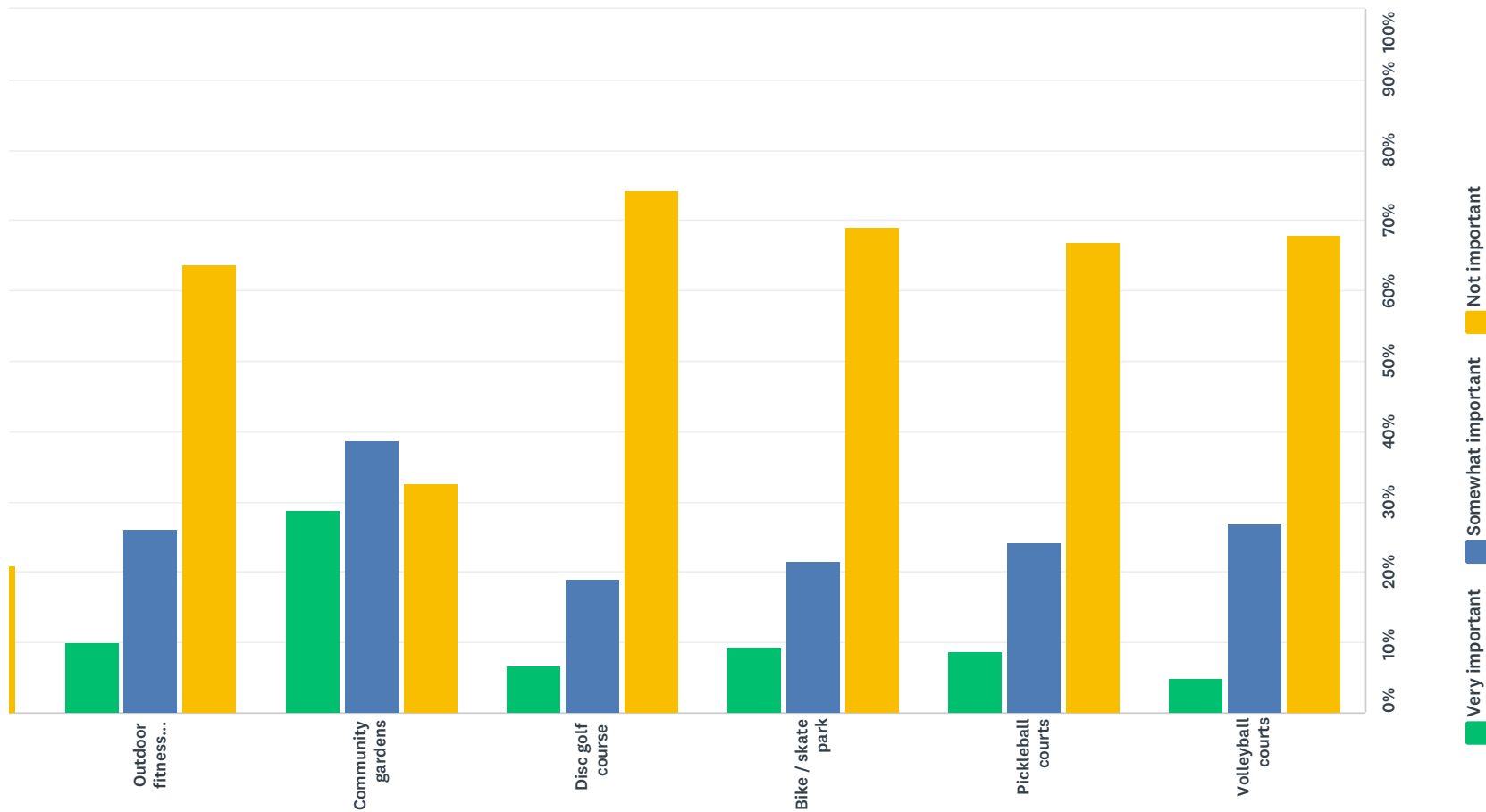
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49	We need a pool facility. We have two swim teams in the town and no public pool!	5/23/2018 5:33 AM
50	Outdoor turf field	5/22/2018 11:43 PM
51	Refrigerated ice at West Park would be great if it's not too expensive.	5/22/2018 11:25 PM
52	Enclosed rentable space at Forest Park Beach	5/22/2018 10:16 PM
53	We already have a lot of the things you ask about above (studio rooms, fitness center, etc.) and there are already more than enough preschool in LF/LB (plus declining enrollment!) More bathrooms in Deerpath Park as mentioned above should get the cap ex dollars first!	5/22/2018 9:32 PM
54	City taxes are going to rise because of our poor finances and pension debt. We should just maintain existing levels of service to keep taxes down.	5/22/2018 9:07 PM
55	I wish that the take two room for the preschool kids was a real classroom and nicer	5/22/2018 9:00 PM
56	Fire Jim Rizzi from fitness center	5/22/2018 8:33 PM
57	Pickleball	5/22/2018 8:32 PM
58	BETTER SQUASH COURTS	5/22/2018 8:15 PM
59	I don't feel we need additional studio rooms. The ones we have now just need to be kept clean and orderly, ie clean floors and mirrors and no random folding chairs, ballet slippers, candy wrappers, etc. in the studios.	5/22/2018 8:06 PM
60	We really feel that Lake Forest needs to expand recreational facilities to become competitive with other communities on the North Shore. We need swimming pool, ice rink, gym space etc. our home teams should be able to sue this space. Better expanded playgrounds. More space for kids to run around and hang out.	5/22/2018 7:48 PM
61	Town lacks turf — outdoor and indoor. And needs lighted facilities other than Deerfield.	5/22/2018 7:28 PM

Q13 Please tell us how important it is to add or provide the following OUTDOOR park activities or amenities for you and your family or the community overall:





	VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT	TOTAL
Artificial turf sports fields / improved field drainage systems	34.87% 174	26.05% 130	39.08% 195	499
Running tracks	16.60% 82	36.23% 179	47.17% 233	494
Additional / improved hard courts	13.85% 68	31.16% 153	54.99% 270	491
Additional / improved field space	19.80% 97	30.61% 150	49.59% 243	490
Amphitheater / gazebo	16.40% 81	36.64% 181	46.96% 232	494
Multi-purpose walking and biking trails	46.50% 239	32.49% 167	21.01% 108	514
Outdoor fitness equipment	10.02% 49	26.18% 128	63.80% 312	489
Community gardens	28.80% 146	38.66% 196	32.54% 165	507
Disc golf course	6.76% 33	19.06% 93	74.18% 362	488
Bike / skate park	9.51% 47	21.46% 106	69.03% 341	494
Pickleball courts	8.89% 44	24.24% 120	66.87% 331	495
Volleyball courts	5.07% 25	26.98% 133	67.95% 335	493

#	OTHER OR ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	DATE
1	Lights for the West Park tennis courts would be a welcome improvement	6/14/2018 4:15 PM
2	Volleyball nets at the beach would be nice, but honestly not a deal breaker. A gazebo or something downtown or in West Park may help with community building and DIVING PROPERTY VALUES (ie. Lake Bluffs downtown activities draws people in and increases value. Other than Elewa, I've not noticed any basketball courts. They may not get used enough here to validate them	6/13/2018 9:30 PM
3	Golf course needs work	6/13/2018 8:05 PM
4	SEE ABOVE COMMENTS	6/13/2018 7:31 PM
5	We need turf fields available!	6/12/2018 7:00 PM
6	We never take for granted ALL that LF has. For us, it's amazing the facilities and amenities that we have - these are just "wish" lists. We appreciate how much we DO have...	6/12/2018 4:13 PM
7	Outdoor volleyball courts at the beach Outdoor ice rink like at the Winter Club or Watts in Glencoe	6/11/2018 10:38 PM
8	Again, add all you want, but reduce your overall spending	6/11/2018 6:38 PM
9	Don't make spending commitments until we all can absorb our 30% or so property tax increases	6/11/2018 5:40 PM
10	LF is one of the few communities without an outdoor community pool located at the community recreation center ...Why no outdoor pool???	6/11/2018 5:30 PM
11	Nothing that involves a tax increase	6/11/2018 10:17 AM
12	Outdoor pool at deerpath park would be nice..?	6/4/2018 6:14 AM
13	A field house would help in spring and fall when our soggy fields are too wet to play in. Or fix the drainage of fields! Or both!	6/3/2018 7:35 AM
14	amphitheater/gazebo down by the lake would be spectacular!	6/2/2018 11:17 AM

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15	New boats at the boating center	6/1/2018 11:40 AM
16	More boat rental options at beach Dog walking at North end of beach as we are only north shore beach without dog area to swim	5/31/2018 2:22 PM
17	I have lived in LF for 34 years and have three children (10.7.5) that are very active in sports. We travel to communities all over Illinois and I am shocked how much nicer their facilities are than what we have in LF. We need turf fields and fields with better drainage. The rec center is tiny and outdated.	5/31/2018 1:04 PM
18	I cannot stress enough how important synthetic turf field with lights are to robust community athletic programs in 2018.	5/31/2018 11:38 AM
19	Need turf - our town is outdated and kids are not exercising due to rain outs, etc.	5/29/2018 1:42 PM
20	The turf fields in Winnetka are a magnet for families with children in competitive sports. By contrast, families dread playing at Townline.	5/29/2018 1:27 PM
21	Please stop spending money on gazebos and structures that get very little usage when compared with how many kids play on our inadequate fields.	5/29/2018 1:17 PM
22	Baseball diamonds are a joke compared to other communities.	5/29/2018 12:51 PM
23	Keep them "regular" and user friendly. Simple but good.	5/29/2018 8:24 AM
24	Outdoor pool!!!	5/28/2018 6:35 AM
25	DOG PARK???	5/27/2018 8:06 PM
26	A splash pad for younger kids.	5/25/2018 9:00 PM
27	enclosed space	5/25/2018 8:19 AM
28	The drainage on our soccer fields is far worse than most communities of our stature. Let's spend the money to have a few really well drained fields versus lots of poorly drained ones	5/24/2018 10:37 AM
29	Do NOT operate a fitness training operation at the beach. Last year, a personal trainer set up shop on the sidewalk and blocked the view for elderly persons who wanted to park and view the lake. Very annoying!!	5/23/2018 2:46 PM
30	Would like to see an outdoor pool on this list!!	5/23/2018 7:53 AM
31	Need a new state of the art field house and more Indoor gyms. It is beyond sad that my son constantly goes to the Rec to just simply play basketball in the ONE gym this town has and some silly kravie class is going on in There with 2 kids !!! Pathetic	5/23/2018 7:02 AM
32	Turf is a must.	5/23/2018 6:57 AM
33	I use the high school track for running.	5/23/2018 6:37 AM
34	More beach rack space for small boats	5/23/2018 1:14 AM
35	Oops, I put the information about West Park under indoor. I'd love to have refrigerated ice if it's not too expensive. It would be a huge asset to the community if we could skate and play hockey more. On the above list, I would love to see a free skate park. Skateboarding is so popular.	5/22/2018 11:25 PM
36	Why not ask about an outdoor water park?	5/22/2018 10:11 PM
37	What about a community pool? We're the only north shore suburb without one. It's ridiculous. Other lakefront communities also have their own outdoor pool facilities. Definitely needed to attract young families to lf. We should combine resources with LB and have ONE golf course and ONE pool shared and paid for by both communities.	5/22/2018 9:41 PM
38	Again, similar to the answer above, there are already all of these things within LF/LB. The Rec should not duplicate things that already exist just b/c it is operated by some other entity. Use the dollars wisely please!	5/22/2018 9:32 PM
39	Lake Forest needs a outdoor pool for residents.	5/22/2018 9:08 PM
40	We can't afford improvements and pay our debt while keeping taxes low.	5/22/2018 9:07 PM
41	Pet friendly parks.	5/22/2018 8:28 PM
42	Lake Forest would benefit from having each park have a different focus. It's a small enough community to not need to try to attempt to offer all amenities and facilities across the board.	5/22/2018 8:26 PM

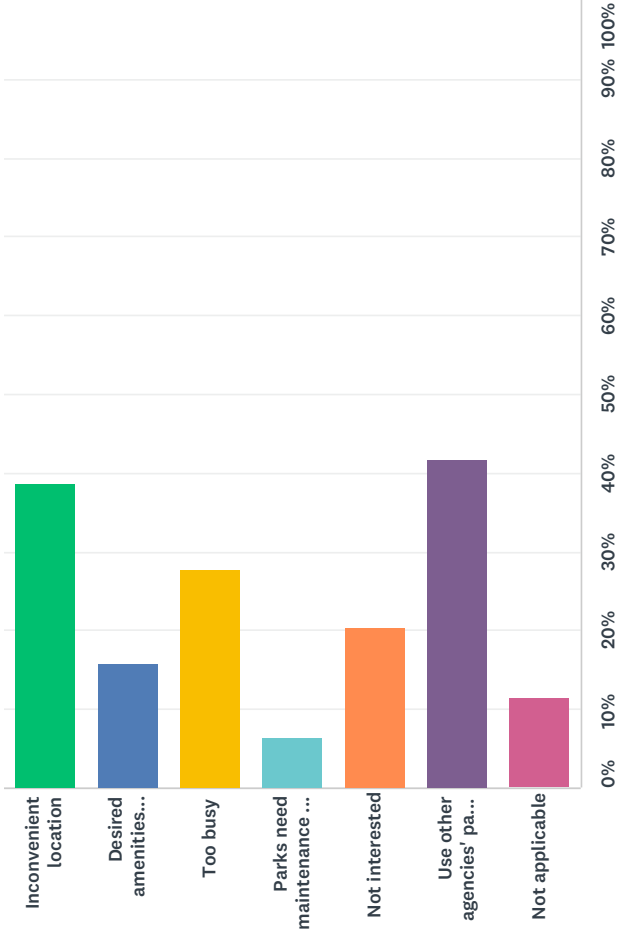
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43	POOL	5/22/2018 8:15 PM
44	Sprayground	5/22/2018 7:51 PM
45	Community swimming pool	5/22/2018 7:42 PM
46	Need turf field for lacrosse.	5/22/2018 7:37 PM
47	We are the only town without turf fields available for youth sports. And the high school won't let anynprograms use the varsity field. Both are a-typical on the north shore.	5/22/2018 7:28 PM
48	Encourage adults to get off the couch Make fitness a community goal	5/22/2018 7:11 PM

Q14 For those Lake Forest parks you do not visit, please explain why.
(Pick all that apply)

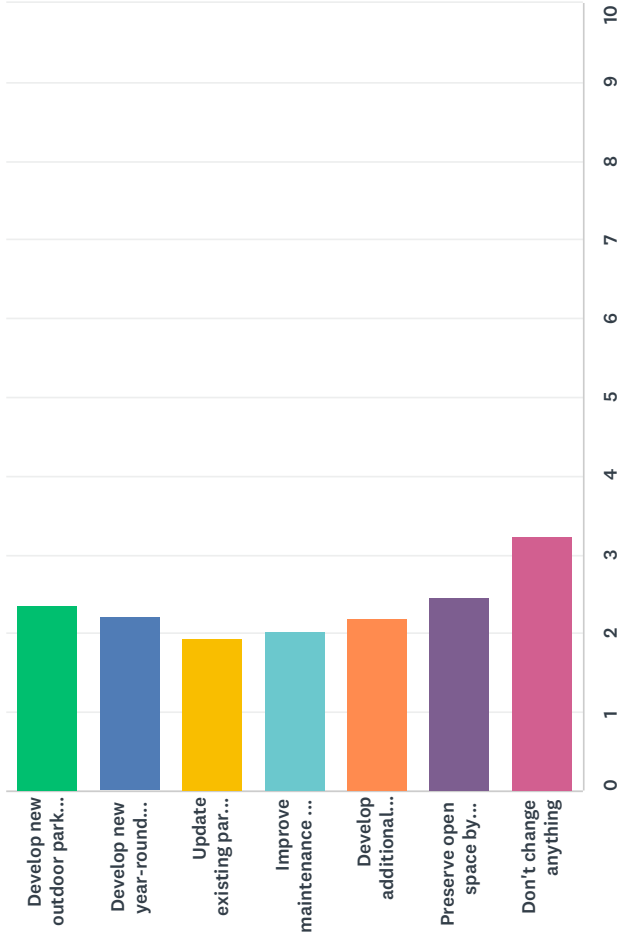
Answered: 443 Skipped: 297



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Inconvenient location	38.60% 171
Desired amenities aren't offered	15.80% 70
Too busy	27.77% 123
Parks need maintenance or improvements	6.55% 29
Not interested	20.54% 91
Use other agencies' parks or facilities (i.e. Open Lands, Forest Preserve District, Private Clubs, Other townships, etc.)	41.76% 185
Not applicable	11.51% 51
Total Respondents: 443	

Q15 The Friends of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation and the City of Lake Forest know that many of these long-range projects will require funding assistance through public / private partnerships. For each strategy listed below, please indicate whether you support each strategy knowing it may require partnerships and fundraising.

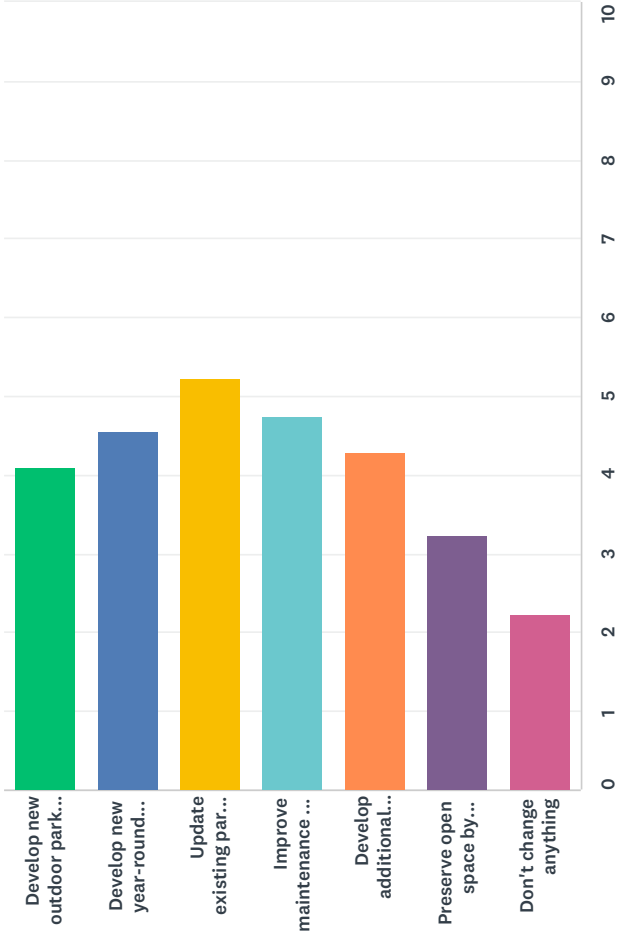
Answered: 548 Skipped: 192



	FULL SUPPORT	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	NEUTRAL	DO NOT SUPPORT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Develop new outdoor parks and amenities	26.54% 138	26.35% 137	30.96% 161	16.15% 84	520	2.37
Develop new year-round indoor space	33.52% 178	27.50% 146	23.35% 124	15.63% 83	531	2.21
Update existing parks and park amenities	41.25% 217	30.04% 158	21.29% 112	7.41% 39	526	1.95
Improve maintenance of existing parks and amenities	37.64% 198	29.28% 154	25.86% 136	7.22% 38	526	2.03
Develop additional bicycling and walking trails	32.14% 171	29.89% 159	23.87% 127	14.10% 75	532	2.20
Preserve open space by acquiring additional land	25.91% 135	26.30% 137	23.61% 123	24.18% 126	521	2.46
Don't change anything	6.31% 28	11.26% 50	34.01% 151	48.42% 215	444	3.25

Q16 What should Lake Forest's primary goals be for Parks and Recreation over the next ten years? Rank the list below from 1-7 with 1 being the most important.

Answered: 542 Skipped: 198



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	TOTAL	SCORE
Develop new outdoor parks and park amenities	14.47% 67	12.31% 57	12.96% 60	16.85% 78	21.38% 99	16.85% 78	5.18% 24	463	4.10
Develop new year-round indoor space	25.10% 122	17.08% 83	10.70% 52	14.20% 69	11.93% 58	11.11% 54	9.88% 48	486	4.56
Update existing parks and park amenities	21.35% 101	24.52% 116	26.43% 125	15.43% 73	9.73% 46	2.11% 10	0.42% 2	473	5.24
Improve maintenance of existing parks and amenities	15.21% 75	20.49% 101	19.88% 98	24.14% 119	11.36% 56	7.10% 35	1.83% 9	493	4.75
Develop additional bicycling and walking trails	12.65% 62	14.90% 73	17.35% 85	15.31% 75	26.12% 128	9.80% 48	3.88% 19	490	4.28
Preserve open space by acquiring additional land	10.16% 50	7.32% 36	10.16% 50	7.93% 39	10.37% 51	40.85% 201	13.21% 65	492	3.24
Don't change anything	8.74% 41	3.84% 18	3.41% 16	6.82% 32	4.90% 23	7.04% 33	65.25% 306	469	2.23

Q17 Thank you for your participation. If you have any additional comments, please write them here or direct them to friendslfp@cityoflakeforest.com

Answered: 120 Skipped: 620

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	No extra comments but feel free to email me, davidnajman@yahoo.com if you would like more info	6/15/2018 10:19 PM
2	Please consider Kinderhaven expansion! Would be wonderful!	6/15/2018 11:42 AM
3	Please expand the amazing Kinderhaven activities! More indoor play space and facilities for young choldreen would be very much appreciated. Thank you!	6/15/2018 8:03 AM
4	Would like a shelter for parties at waveland park. Have wanted this for years.... Cherokee school could use this, bathrooms are already there, would be a real asset to the park.	6/14/2018 6:28 PM
5	More attention needs to be paid to keeping the beach clean. I always see plenty of teen workers there who could be put on regular trash detail. Also, it would be nice if the city allowed after-hours access to the beach for the annual Perseid meteor shower viewings in August.	6/14/2018 4:15 PM
6	none	6/14/2018 6:49 AM
7	We need a pool! I'm tired of going to LB Pool. Every other community around us has a pool , why not LF ? Not everyone belongs to a private club and the lack of beach parking makes it hard for people to enjoy the beach plus the water is not that clean (bacteria) it would be nice for elderly people to have a pool to swim and for therapy . I'm sure if the surrounding communities can afford a public pool so can Lake Forest .	6/13/2018 9:57 PM
8	Your programs and facilities are truly amazing. There really are some small things that can make huge differences (Mostly in playground improvement - and some easy to add things like sledding hills and fencing, and signage). Thank you for doing so well. Your parks and recreation programs were a large contributor to our decision to pick Lake Forest as the town we moved to over towns closer to the city and more inland...	6/13/2018 9:30 PM
9	We would really love to see the preschool expansion in the near future.	6/13/2018 4:07 PM
10	If it should transpire, we are in full support of expanding Kinderhaven facilities. Both of my children will go there in the fall and we love the philosophy and teachings.	6/13/2018 11:30 AM
11	I	6/13/2018 10:46 AM
12	There are no parks East lake forest...the city messed up and should have bought the land on McKinley or eminent domain (across from train station) and built an underground parking garage connected to the library and had a park with gardens on top with a band shell...instead LF let capitalism & al tounian build an ugly expensive condo building there. The city could have bought out & moved the church and made the whole block like a mini Grant park. Shame on the city for not having a backbone or a vision. Stop letting contractors dictate the landscape of lake forest.	6/13/2018 10:07 AM
13	Kinderhaven is such a wonderful school, I'd love to see new families having the opportunity to be a part of this school. It is very difficult to accommodate everyone who wants to be a part of such a wonderful program!!!	6/13/2018 9:05 AM
14	Elawa Farm Foundation events at Elawa Farm have become a nuisance to the neighborhood. Please limit the number of events at Elawa Farm.	6/13/2018 8:25 AM
15	Elawa should not include WLDC!	6/12/2018 11:36 PM
16	I think our parks are beautifully maintained and implemented. We're lucky to have what we have. I would like to preserve what we have and not burden the city with new purchases. Keeping the ones we have should be a priority. The only tjing I would add would be bike/ running paths. Good for exercize, cheaper to build than buildings, and it gets people off busy streets.	6/12/2018 8:58 PM

Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Strategic Master Plan

SurveyMonkey

17	Hard to think of partnerships/parks when other issues in the City need more attention. TRAFFIC is a HUGE issue (and wasn't listed as an option for why a specific park is/isn't used). We have opted in/out of park days and activities based on the traffic during specific times of day (West Park requiring people to navigate Deeppath when there is a lot of traffic = people voting to gather elsewhere). The beach and parks are lovely. The traffic can be a turnoff. Thanks for getting input.	6/12/2018 4:13 PM
18	We need to make sure that during the summer months when it is raining that we are better about getting the mosquitoes and biting bugs under control. Treating areas near the beach so that everyone can enjoy the outdoors	6/12/2018 2:43 PM
19	Removing too many trees from the hill overlooking the beach was a bad mistake, don't allow people who don't know what they're doing take charge.	6/12/2018 9:05 AM
20	Think smaller. Consider 'pocket parks' that children and adults can access on foot. We have enough 'open lands'.	6/12/2018 8:33 AM
21	We need an on indoor/outdoor pool!!!!!! Not all the time I want go to the beach with all the sand!!!!	6/12/2018 2:10 AM
22	Please focus on acquiring private funds for development projects. Our property taxes are already CRAZY high, take pride in achieving more with less. This was how LF was founded...	6/11/2018 6:38 PM
23	I like the parks and think the city does a good job generally. I do not think we need additional or expanded indoor facilities. I do not think that the city should operate a golf course.	6/11/2018 6:26 PM
24	Lake Forest residents are taxed too high as it is. Cuts should be made to the Parks & Rec Dept.	6/11/2018 6:08 PM
25	I find the parks in town to be incredibly well maintained and I enjoy most of them, especially Elawa and Laurel Open Lands.	6/11/2018 6:08 PM
26	Nothing more	6/11/2018 5:48 PM
27	indoor tennis courts, lacrosse/soccer fields, turf the fields so they can be used in the rain/poor weather	6/11/2018 5:40 PM
28	It will take property owners a few years to absorb the new new non-deductibility on state and property taxes over \$10,000. This is for many a one third cost increase. Be careful.	6/11/2018 5:40 PM
29	Better indoor facility for sailors, especially when they are down there in the cooler months.	6/11/2018 5:12 PM
30	You guys are doing a fantastic job. We live in utopia! The only think that I would ever consider suggesting we add is an ice rink / indoor turf facility. There is dearth of both in the area and I know you could probably get some private investment or support from sports clubs like the Falcons, LFLA, LF College.	6/11/2018 5:07 PM
31	More open hours for basketball courts. Maybe open up schools if it's not feasible at Rec Center?	6/11/2018 4:40 PM
32	Thanks for asking!	6/11/2018 4:38 PM
33	our family has participated in a wide variety of programs. the need for new indoor facilities, or greatly expanded facilities is long overdue.	6/11/2018 4:34 PM
34	I'd like to see beautification more than anything to the parks.	6/11/2018 4:33 PM
35	Need outdoor basketball courts	6/11/2018 4:32 PM
36	Ample park facilities and very high quality maintenance provided by top private contractor currently. Many private clubs providing duplicate services. No changes necessary.	6/11/2018 4:23 PM
37	With the elimination of the SALT deduction LFPR needs to spend LESS not more money. The questions about expanding services in this survey are tone deaf to the new economic reality for public taxing bodies. Time to cut expenses!	6/11/2018 4:22 PM
38	Triangle Park, Elawa, South Park, West Park are favorites.	6/11/2018 4:22 PM
39	I think you should have given a deadline for answering the questionnaire and a reminder notice. The people who are most likely to answer with just one notice and no deadline are those who want additions and improvements without consideration of the impact on our property taxes. The one thing I'd like to see improved is the bikeway/sidewalk on the west side of Waukegan. The pavement is cracked, broken and uneven in many places and path is an important way to get to the Savanna for those north of Westmoreland and do not have easy access to any other parks.	6/11/2018 10:17 AM
40	Please provide either turf space or better drainage at Townline	6/6/2018 3:15 PM

Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Strategic Master Plan

SurveyMonkey

41	The North Shore Bike Path is dangerous because home owners don't stop and look both ways before turning onto Waukegan Road! Stop/yield signs need to be added at the end of their driveways. We also have difficulty crossing Waukegan Road to Elawa Farm or to Heinen's/Sunset because of the traffic! I would love to ride my bicycle to the grocery store! Thanks!	6/6/2018 9:21 AM
42	Platform tennis and turf fields are a priority for our family.	6/6/2018 7:07 AM
43	LF is a town with a strong passion for sports and a great tax base. Our indoor/outdoor facilities should better reflect these facts. In my opinion, our indoor/outdoor opportunities are below average.	6/4/2018 8:54 AM
44	Build some better indoor facilities for year round use. Fix fields. All the questions about maintenance and improvements -- that should come out of my current tax dollars and budget. I would think we could raise funds through this wealthy town to make these new indoor spaces	6/3/2018 7:35 AM
45	Please add before school care. Lots of parents work and could use earlier drop off in the mornings.	6/2/2018 10:53 AM
46	We really need turf fields for sports. At the very least the fields we do have need to be improved via better drainage. For a community such as ours, we should have better facilities/fields.	6/1/2018 12:37 PM
47	Dogs are growing demographically. Pay attention to their welcomeness at parks, preserves and especially Lake Michigan which we brag about.	5/31/2018 2:22 PM
48	LF has lots of beautiful parks and there is no need for new ones. We do need to improve the field conditions at the parks because the grounds just hold water. Outdoor multi-purpose turf fields would be optimal especially at Townline where the fields are like marshes for several days after it rains. Its surprising to me that LF doesn't have any Turf fields for youth sports considering that almost all of our neighboring suburbs do. LF community is very generous and i'm sure a joint public/private fundraising project would be provide adequate funding to make that a reality. Additionally, it might help drive younger families to move to LF which in turn helps support the LF real estate market which has been stagnant compared to other communities.	5/31/2018 10:02 AM
49	None	5/31/2018 8:46 AM
50	Year round sports facilities would be ideal given weather issues, especially for the spring season.	5/30/2018 9:25 PM
51	Would be nice to have indoor walking/jogging space that allows strollers for winter time. Outdoor volleyball courts would be great Lacrosse fields/indoor lacrosse training	5/30/2018 4:48 PM
52	Thank you for asking for resident input. I appreciate the time and effort you donate to our town's recreational facilities.	5/30/2018 4:11 PM
53	Turf fields for children of the community.	5/30/2018 6:21 AM
54	We really need turf fields or at least better draining fields for sports like lacrosse and field hockey so that our kids have a better chance to develop at the same level as neighboring cities.	5/29/2018 10:31 PM
55	Need turf - our town is outdated and kids are not exercising due to rain outs, etc.	5/29/2018 1:42 PM
56	Townline needs MAJOR help with improvement to the fields. It could and should be world-class, multi-field turf facility. It could host soccer and lacrosse YEAR ROUND! Please make that a priority.	5/29/2018 1:27 PM
57	It's time to invest in multi-purpose turf fields, we should have done this years ago but now it is critical.	5/29/2018 1:17 PM
58	The work you have done on the golf course is amazing. Hopefully just the start of turning the facility into a world class location. Other thoughts are upgrading the baseball complexes, similar to what Glenview or Vernon Hills has done. What about a golf practice facility (artificial green / bunkers / artificial putting surface) at some of the open park space, not necessarily at deerpath.	5/29/2018 12:51 PM
59	Where can people park to hike in the new park on old elm road on the south side before you get Waukegan road. The is a sign saying forest preserve but that is it	5/29/2018 8:24 AM
60	Think of our community teenagers who want to gather and have fun and not have to deal with peer pressures around alcohol or drugs.	5/28/2018 9:39 AM
61	In need of more indoor space to have more open gym hours for grade school kids	5/28/2018 8:16 AM
62	Am very anxious to know more about the reconstruction of the north end of the beach road	5/28/2018 6:35 AM

Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Strategic Master Plan

SurveyMonkey

63	My kids and I always enjoyed going over to Waveland park and "catching" frogs. Oddly, two winters ago the pond there was cleared of cattails and other plant materials and the frogs appear to be gone. Not sure how this could happen...	5/27/2018 8:06 PM
64	We don't need more Open Lands!	5/26/2018 1:56 PM
65	maureenanger@comcast.net	5/25/2018 8:52 PM
66	Open a small dog park closer to town!!!! One residents can walk to.	5/25/2018 5:44 PM
67	The golf course should be re-done to a more family friendly facility like Winter Park FL. Ask The Fried Egg writer who is a local..	5/25/2018 5:37 PM
68	The fields across from LFA are horrible. City of LF should be embarrassed by the drlnage condition of these fields.	5/25/2018 4:17 PM
69	Thank you for your efforts on behalf of our community.	5/25/2018 3:52 PM
70	Let's go big!	5/25/2018 2:43 PM
71	keep up the excellent work	5/24/2018 2:05 PM
72	na	5/24/2018 9:54 AM
73	Lake Forest could use an outdoor pool to provide children with an opportunity to learn how to swim - a life skill. We have plenty of soccer fields which are provide a very limited use for most citizens. Everyone can use a pool!	5/24/2018 9:12 AM
74	I think that when bike paths exist, riders should be required to use them instead of riding on the road.	5/23/2018 11:27 PM
75	Please clean the Member Ladies Shower area especially grout and floors.	5/23/2018 4:17 PM
76	Is this a make-jobs program? Is there money for any of this? The school districts suck up most of our tax dollars and they already have facilities - so let's not build what won't get used.	5/23/2018 2:46 PM
77	Parks — kids have loved the new zip lines — would love summer water features like splash pads and little water slides (See Adams Park in Chicago down in Lincoln Park neighborhood) For indoor — maybe trampolines and indoor climbing wall, zip lines, ropes course challenges for kids would be a terrific year round addition	5/23/2018 12:14 PM
78	When is McCormick Ravine opening? What has Open Lands been doing in there?	5/23/2018 11:43 AM
79	An out door pool would be tops on my list!!!!	5/23/2018 11:21 AM
80	Thank you for asking, we might also partnering with neighboring municipalities for some activities we do not offer rather than building our own.	5/23/2018 10:48 AM
81	When I moved to Lake Forest from Wisconsin 10 years ago it was the availability of green space and the beautiful park system that caused us to choose this community to make our home.	5/23/2018 10:07 AM
82	Please stop treating power boaters as second class citizens. They pay a substantial amount of money to use the facilities and are constantly struggling for parking and competition for launch facilities (i.e. sail boaters). Also, raise the rates for non-Lake Forest residents to access the boating facilities.	5/23/2018 9:43 AM
83	It would have been helpful to have a larger map of all the parks on the same page as the questions. The map on the first page was very small and hard to read.	5/23/2018 9:30 AM
84	add basketball court to South Park	5/23/2018 9:22 AM
85	no increased taxes	5/23/2018 9:16 AM
86	City of Lake Forest does a wonderful job with existing facilities, especially with the Fitness Center which I use every day (Monday-Friday).	5/23/2018 9:06 AM
87	Lake Forest Open Lands secures our open space at no cost to residents. Let them be in charge of that portion, and invest tax dollars on other infrastructure.	5/23/2018 9:04 AM
88	Why is the McCormick park closed? The gate is always locked when I drive past.	5/23/2018 8:51 AM
89	The road leading to the beach needs to be supported so it can handle two way traffic again.	5/23/2018 8:39 AM
90	Leave beach access alone. Do not need more people	5/23/2018 8:27 AM

Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Strategic Master Plan

SurveyMonkey

91	We are lucky to live in Lake Forest. The Park district does an outstanding job as it is. Our parks are beautiful. Would I like improvements and new amenities? Yes but not at too steep a price as I think things are great as is.	5/23/2018 7:34 AM
92	This town should have laser focus on building A state of the art indoor facility that could give our youth something to do and somewhere to go 6 months out of the year when we have no access to the outdoors due to weather If done properly and top notch it COULD BE the attraction we need for young families to move to LF - which we desperately need. We don't need a campaign on Welcome Home LF - that does nothing We need to be the best on the North Shore with state of the art facilities for our youth !!	5/23/2018 7:02 AM
93	Turf fields is your highest priority.	5/23/2018 6:57 AM
94	I think the LFPD needs to look at the prices they charge for the activities. They keep going up and some are higher than private places to do the same activity. You can make all these improvements but have no users if you price yourselves out.	5/23/2018 6:23 AM
95	Consider a facility similar to RecPlex in Pleasant Prairie...pools, sports facilities. allow a state of the art facility for basketball tournaments, large swim meets, volleyball. Make Lake Forest a go to location!	5/23/2018 5:33 AM
96	A city aquatic facility would be nice	5/22/2018 10:32 PM
97	Park District offers great programs... especially sailing.	5/22/2018 9:59 PM
98	Why doesn't parks and rec get more of our tax money? If you need to fundraise, where is tax money going? Look to Northbrook for outdoor sports facilities and Libertyville for indoor facilities as good examples.	5/22/2018 9:40 PM
99	Improve golf course to rival private clubs so that children will have fun safe place to participate Improve fitness center. People are paying.	5/22/2018 9:30 PM
100	Want to reiterate addition of an indoor pool. Lake Forest lacks aquatic facilities. There is a strong interest in the community and people have a difficult time finding a place for swim lessons or swim teams. Many options (country clubs, Lake Forest Club) are pricey and not everyone can afford it.	5/22/2018 9:12 PM
101	Residents are forced to join Midtown or Lake Forest Club as there is no community pool in the summer. With all the land at the parks one should be converted to an outdoor pool.	5/22/2018 9:08 PM
102	Please limit expenditures until pension issues in IL are fixed. (Bankruptcy) Any new services should be fee based from users. Already can use lap pool at school for a fee.	5/22/2018 9:07 PM
103	I really wish lake forest had an indoor pool. I also wish that the parks all had sunscreen dispensers.	5/22/2018 9:00 PM
104	Fire Jim Rizzi	5/22/2018 8:33 PM
105	b	5/22/2018 8:18 PM
106	Provide additional after school programs for elementary and middle school students of working mothers and fathers.	5/22/2018 8:09 PM
107	Question 15 was poorly designed, so I gave up trying to rank the 7 proposals. My number 1 priority would be to improve the maintenance of the exercise studios at the Rec Center. The floors and mirrors are filthy, equipment is poorly organized and stored, and there are often stray folding chairs, clothing, and empty water bottles in the studios. Check out the LB Rec Center to see how things should look. The facility is pristine.	5/22/2018 8:06 PM
108	Parks are tremendous assets and draws for the community. Money and attention are necessary for keeping and attracting residents.	5/22/2018 8:05 PM
109	I personally would love to see more safe paved biking paths.	5/22/2018 7:52 PM
110	Developer meadowood park and please please have expanded indoor options and outdoor options. Including aquatics and ice.	5/22/2018 7:48 PM
111	Don't do anything - great shape overall Stop planting and replanting new plants like on 60 or fire your vendors for picking Poor choices. I do love Skokie Playfields. We could use turf fields and more parking on 60. You should get rid of the tennis courts by the rec and have the middle school build a performing arts building.	5/22/2018 7:37 PM
112	I think you should give all your hardworking employees benefits, even if they are part time.	5/22/2018 7:36 PM
113	Overall I am very satisfied with the quality of our parks.	5/22/2018 7:31 PM

Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Strategic Master Plan

SurveyMonkey

114	Lake Forest need some turf and lighted fields.	5/22/2018 7:28 PM
115	I inaccurately reputed how often parks are attended. They are attended 2-5 times per week	5/22/2018 7:18 PM
116	None	5/22/2018 7:13 PM
117	Find a new home for wildlife discovery center!	5/22/2018 7:12 PM
118	A community wide initiative would build good will among residents of every age We have well established community assets Add wellness and fitness to this list	5/22/2018 7:11 PM
119	Please consider outdoor turf fields.	5/22/2018 7:10 PM
120	One reason our property taxes are so high is because of the exhorbitant amounts spent on parks and recreation in this town.	5/22/2018 7:09 PM



Memorandum

Date: June 6, 2018
 Time: 12:30 PM – 3:30 PM
 Location: Lake Forest Recreation Center
 Attendance: See Sign-In Sheets

RE: Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan Stakeholder Interview Summary

Stakeholder group interviews were conducted on June 6, 2018 at the Recreation Center. There were 4 group timeslots with a total of 10 participants representing the following organizations: Lake Forest Dance Academy, CROYA, Kinderhaven, NSSRA, AYSO, and the Sailing Program (residents).

There were 3 other stakeholder representatives that were unavailable to attend the group interviews and were offered an opportunity to provide their input via individual phone interviews. Those 3 stakeholders represented the Lacrosse, Soccer, and Baseball associations. The phone interviews were conducted on June 13th and 14th. Below is a summary of the most common topics discussed and a few specific individual comments.

Common Topics and Discussion

- Parks
 - o in good condition, well received and appreciated in the community
 - o need to keep up with the trends
 - o could provide more walking/jogging paths and improve safety/conflict with biking, consider provide lane striping and signs
- Athletic Fields
 - o appreciate the quantity of athletic fields provided for the community, question if there is capacity or if fully utilized
 - o drainage improvements are the top concern of most field types
 - o would like to see turf and lights for most field types, would help with drainage, playability, and scheduling during short daylight seasons
 - o some would like to see more purpose-built fields/complexes, others mentioned maintaining multi-use and flexibility of fields
 - o some commented on fields not being of quality that other affluent communities have and the impact that has on attracting families to the community
- Indoor Space
 - o fitness center needs expansion, it's outdated and could use more equipment and space
 - o differing opinion about fitness center space, some thinking it needs updating and expansion some questioning if it should remain small and not try to compete with other providers
 - o CROYA center is a great resource and does a great job at inclusive recreation, but could use more gym space
 - o multiple comments on more gym space and conflicts between uses and scheduling were noted
 - o lower priority but some mentioned indoor turf would be great, outdoor field improvements higher priority

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- Beach and Sailing
 - o beach is outstanding, concerned about alcohol service policy for beach function and safety
 - o need indoor space for inclement weather and classrooms
 - o equipment/boat replacement and rotation schedule is a need and priority – impacts safety
- Dance
 - o program is a great organization and growing
 - o good program with flexibility for kids' schedules
 - o need more space for dance studios to expand (could be self-funding)
- Kinderhaven
 - o is a great asset for the community
 - o preschool classes can be difficult to get into with the demand and limited space
 - o facility is outdated
 - o need two classes of each level in same building
 - o currently do fundraising
- Biking
 - o bikes are great but concerned about bikes on streets; provide more places for biking
 - o improve safe bike travel for kids
 - o consider bike park for kids and skateboarding
 - o need to be more bike friendly with bike lanes, etc.
- Other
 - o golf course improvements and cart path are great, drainage has improved, would like to see a half-way house
 - o question the golf course investment and value to the community
 - o need to improve awareness of resources and parks

cc: File - HDG



Meeting Summary

Date: June 6, 2018
Time: 10:30 AM
Location: Lake Forest Recreation Center
Attendees: Steve Konters, Hitchcock Design Group (HDG)
Bridget Deatrick, HDG
See Sign-in Sheet for staff members

RE: City of Lake Forest Comprehensive Master Plan

Purpose of Meeting: Staff Input

The planning team conducted a workshop with the Parks and Recreation Department staff with a total of 10 staff participants. Participants were given a notecard and asked to write down their comments and suggestions for the City of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation relating to facilities, parks, and programs. They then selected the three items most important to them. The planning team, along with the participants, organized the responses into the following categories.

1. Outdoor Performance Space
2. Grid Field Complex
3. New Park Amenities
 - a. Frisbee Golf Course
 - b. Add water play on playgrounds
4. Turf Fields
 - a. Turf fields
 - b. Turf fields
5. Baseball Field Improvements
 - a. Baseball scoreboards
 - b. Fences for baseball
6. Beach and Lakefront Improvements
 - a. Continue getting community on the lake
 - b. Automated gates at beach
 - c. Indoor classroom space (sailing/beach)
 - d. Classroom/training center for sailing at the beach
 - e. Boat storage space
 - f. Assets at lake front (safe, proper)
7. Improve/more parking
 - a. Better/more parking at beach
 - b. More parking
 - c. Additional parking at Stirling hall
 - d. Add curb to areas with no curbs on parks
8. Improve Park Drainage
 - a. Drainage in parks to help dry parks faster
 - b. Improved field drainage

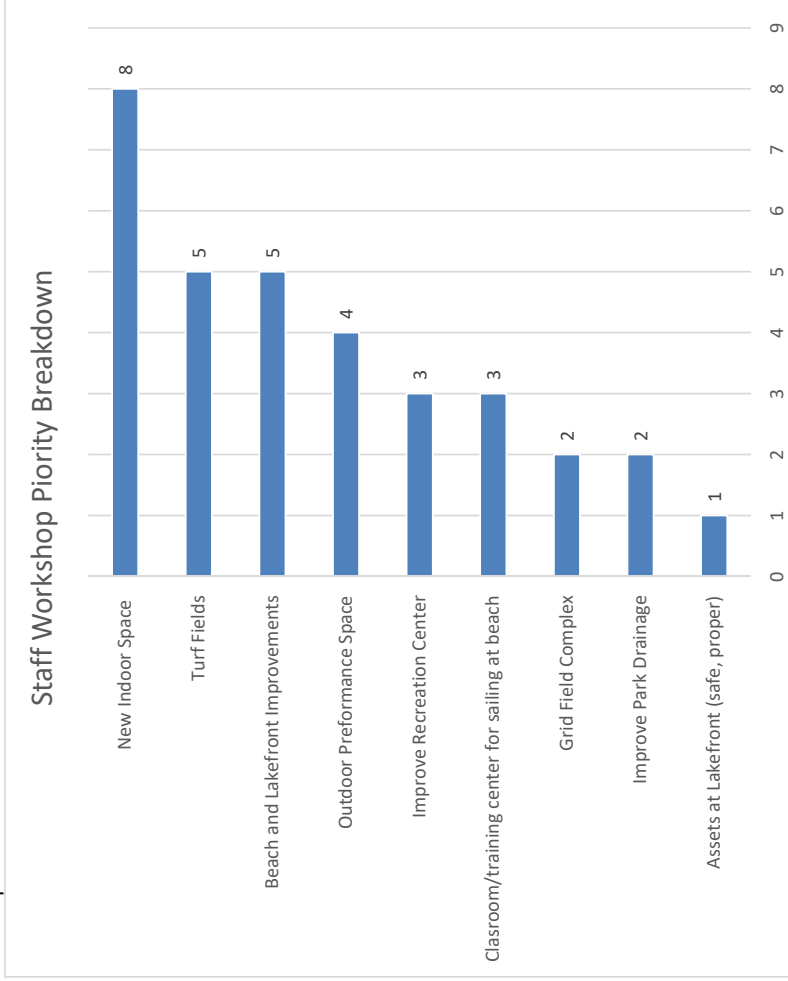
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9. Improve Recreation Center
 - a. Additional rooms at recreation center
 - b. Homework study space at Rec.
 - c. More social space at Rec. Center (i.e. game room, seating for parents, etc)
 - d. Add indoor pool to Rec. Center
10. New Indoor Space
 - a. New updated Rec. Center
 - b. Field house
 - c. New Rec. Center
 - d. Indoor sports complex with turf fields
 - e. Sports complex
 - f. Additional gym



After the categories were established, participants were given three stickers to vote on the items most important to them. They could vote on a category or an item within it and could vote for the same thing multiple times. The following breakdown is the compilation of the results of the three workshops.





Meeting Summary

Date: June 19, 2018
Time: 6:00 PM
Location: Lake Forest Recreation Center
Attendees: Steve Konters, Hitchcock Design Group (HDG)
 Bridget Deatrick, HDG
 See Sign-in Sheet for staff members

RE: City of Lake Forest Comprehensive Master Plan

Purpose of Meeting: Joint Friends of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Foundation and Parks and Recreation Board Meeting

The planning team conducted a workshop with the Friends of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Foundation and Parks and Recreation Board at a joint board meeting. Participants were given a notecard and asked to write down their comments and suggestions for the City of Lake Forest Parks and Recreation relating to facilities, parks, and programs. They then selected the three items most important to them. The planning team, along with the participants, organized the responses into the following categories.

1. Add programs for families
2. Regulate beach access during weekdays
3. Maintain beach
4. Improve Outdoor Ice
 - a. Improved ice
5. Park Improvements
 - a. Place water bottle fillers in outdoor parks
 - b. Mitigate pesticide/herbicide use to Eco-friendly
 - c. Maintenance of current fields/amenities (cleanliness, etc.)
6. Add/improve paths
 - a. More and better bike and walking paths throughout community
 - b. Waveland Park – addition of walking path around perimeter of park
7. Beach Indoor Space
 - a. Public/private indoor beach facility, restaurant, classroom
 - b. Add indoor space at beach
 - c. Add to beach facilities, restaurant
8. Improve/add sled hill
 - a. Sledding hill – lighting and snow maker
 - b. Sledding hill renovation
 - c. Add sledding hill
9. Outdoor amphitheater: performance/film
10. Outdoor turf and lights
 - a. Turf
 - b. Turf fields and lights
 - c. Turf fields at Deerpath Park
 - d. Turf fields access/lighting
 - e. Turf and covered fields/better drainage
 - f. Lighted fields at Townline Park
 - g. Outdoor synthetic turf
 - h. Turf fields with lights
 - i. Turf fields and lights at Townline Park

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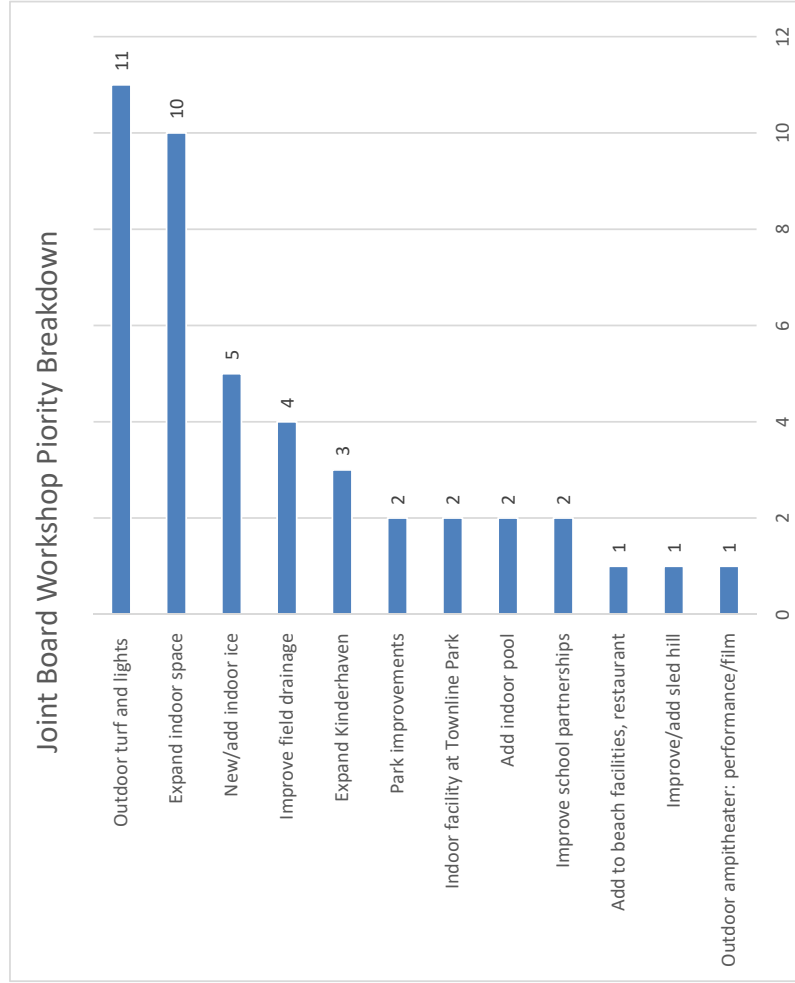
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- j. Turf field
- 11. Improve fields drainage
 - a. Improve drainage on fields
 - b. Fields space drainage/access
- 12. Indoor Facility at Townline Park
 - a. Add indoor turf
 - i. Indoor field: soccer/football, etc. (combo field)
 - ii. Indoor turf (indoor turf field with underground parking and an elevated running track along top)
 - b. New/add indoor ice
 - i. Ice rink
 - ii. Indoor ice rink
 - c. Add indoor pool
 - i. Indoor pool
 - ii. Indoor pool and update Rec Center
 - iii. Aquatics – indoor pool
 - iv. Aquatics center
- 13. Expand indoor space
 - a. Update/expand Rec Center
 - b. More indoor space
 - c. Updated and expanded indoor rec facility
 - d. Update and expand Rec Center
 - e. Indoor multipurpose space
 - f. Improve fitness center (locker rooms and equipment)
- 14. Expanded Kinderhaven
 - a. Expand and improve Kinderhaven
 - b. Expand Kinderhaven, use space next to current building toward the park
- 15. Improve school partnerships
 - a. Shared services with districts 67 and 115
 - b. Better coordinate with high school



After the categories were established, participants were given three stickers to vote on the items most important to them. They could vote on a category or an item within it and could vote for the same thing multiple times. The following breakdown is the compilation of the results of the three workshops.



LAKE FOREST

PARKS AND



RECREATION

