Parks & Recreation BIRMINGHAM, MASTER PLAN

2018 Parks & Recreation Master Plan City of Birmingham, Michigan

Adopted by the City of Birmingham City Commission on March 26, 2018

Prepared by:



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Acknowledgements

Thank you.

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In particular, we acknowledge the efforts of:

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Introduction

Welcome

Welcome to the City of Birmingham's 2018 - 2022 Parks and Recreation Master Plan. This Plan reflects a vision for the City of Birmingham's parks and recreation facilities: their operations, maintenance, and enhancements for the next several years. It serves as a roadmap for future recreation facilities and programs by considering existing parks and programs in and around the City and the anticipated demand for additional or improved recreation facilities.

This Plan also forms the basis for potential recreation grant funding from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) and other agencies and foundations. The City of Birmingham's Plan was prepared in accordance with MDNR's Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans.

Most importantly, this Plan will act as City of Birmingham's playbook for community building as it relates to parks and recreation over the next five or more years.



Tradition of Excellence

During the last five-year planning process, the City of Birmingham continued its tradition of parks and recreation excellence. Specifically, the City made considerable strides in institutionalizing outstanding design and recreation provision, as well as achieving the goals and objectives identified in the previous plan.

The City continually strives to provide parks and recreation facilities that are of the highest quality, which preserve open space, and are accessible to all residents. The Department of Public Services installed electrical outlets and water fountains at numerous parks. In addition, the department completed open space maintenance at three of the City's parks. As stewards of open space, the department completed ongoing reforestation in all its parks which included significant reforestation efforts at Manor Park and Quarton Lake with funds awarded to the City through Releaf Michigan and DTE Grants in 2015 and 2016.

Furthermore, the City is committed to providing opportunities that promote and encourage active lifestyles. The City prioritized the maintenance of tennis courts and softball/baseball fields, two of the City's most popular recreation activities, at five of its parks. In addition, the City is currently in the process of extending the Booth Park trail system to connect runners and walkers to W. Maple Rd. Accessible walking paths and running trails were also incorporated into the specific park master plans developed during the past five years.

The City further solidified its commitment to world-class design by completing its renovations to Shain Park in 2010. The park, which was identified during this planning process as the most visited park facility, is located in the heart of Birmingham's downtown and features a plaza fountain with granite décor, a band shell, modern children's play area, granite paved streets, lawn space, and a performance stage. The City also completed the implementation of Phase 2 of the Barnum Park master plan, which included improvements to the play area, landscaping, installation of pergolas, and seating.

Another significant effort the City completed in the past five years was the development of three park master plans. Between 2014 and 2016 the City, through a process of resident engagement and collaborative design, completed master/concept plans for Adams Park, Kenning Park, and Poppleton Park.

Planning Process

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan was prepared with technical assistance from McKenna, a planning and design consulting firm, and with the active involvement of the City's administration and the City of Birmingham's Parks and Recreation Board Master Plan Sub-Committee.

Citizen input and action, through an online survey, public meetings, and a public hearing, played a critical role in the development of the plan. As a result, recommendations described within the action plan reflect the needs and ideas of those who use Birmingham's Parks and Recreation facilities.

Following several discussions held by the Parks and Recreation Board Master Plan Sub-Committee and a draft review by the Parks and Recreation Board and City Commission, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan was submitted to Birmingham City Commission for adoption. Throughout the process, all meetings were open to the public. Notices were posted beforehand, and where required, advertised in the newspaper, as provided by the Open Meetings Act. The planning process kicked off in July of 2017 and concluded with the adoption of the Plan in March of 2018.



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Community Setting

Community Description

A welcoming community, Birmingham maintains its small town feel while offering the recreational and cultural advantages of an urban area. Birmingham's thriving pedestrian- friendly downtown includes restaurants, movie theaters, art and antique galleries, retailers, and serves as a center for real estate, accounting, finance, insurance, legal, and other services.

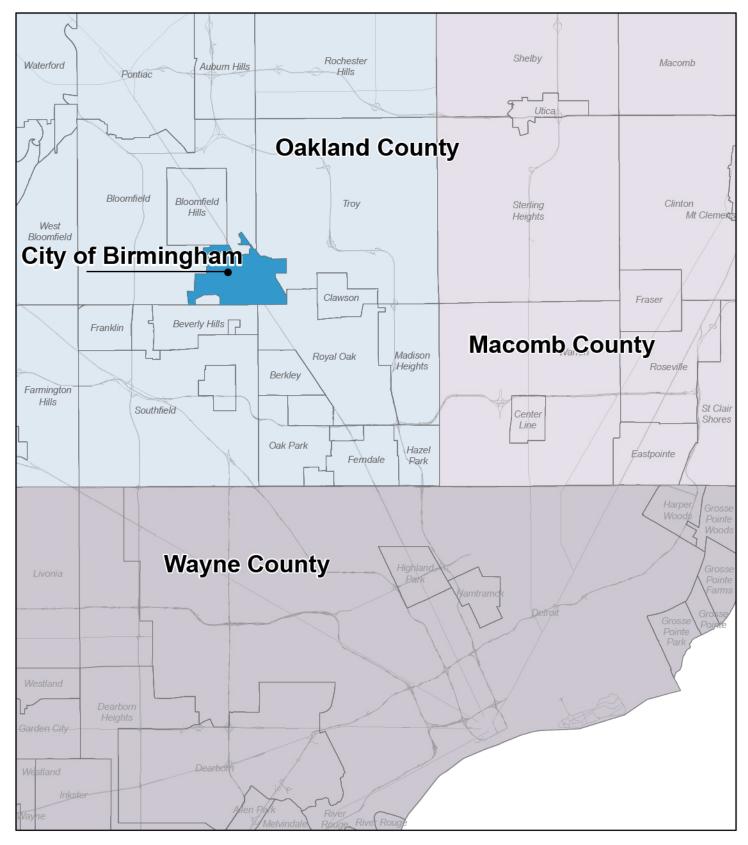
The Community Setting is a picture of the various physical and socioeconomic characteristics of the City of Birmingham. This information provides valuable insight into determining future parks and recreation facility development, maintenance, and programming needs for the community.



Regional Setting

The City of Birmingham is located in southeast Oakland County, Michigan, and is bordered by five communities: Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Township, Beverly Hills, Royal Oak, and Troy. Birmingham incorporated as a city in 1933 and its history dates before 1819. Throughout its past, Birmingham has enjoyed a substantial level of citizen involvement, which has contributed to the high quality of life in the community.

Birmingham covers 4.8 square miles and is centrally located between the Cities of Detroit and Pontiac. Woodward Avenue serves as a major artery through two miles of the city, running in a southeast to northwest direction from 14 Mile Road to Big Beaver Road (16 Mile). The city is accessible within Metropolitan Detroit via three major routes: US-24 located approximately 1-34 miles to the west, I-696 four miles to the south, and I-75 approximately four miles east.



Map 1 Regional Location

City of Birmingham, Michigan

March 26, 2018

Data Source: SEMCOG, 2017

3 MILES



1.5

0

Demographic Characteristics

The City of Birmingham's current demographic situation and trends provide understanding to the types of recreation facilities and amenities that are needed. The figures used in this Plan come from the US Census Bureau's 2011/15 ACS 5year data, which uses statistical sampling over a 5-year period to describe the average characteristics over the period of collection. Information for smaller geographic regions generally have a higher margin of error in statistical sampling, yet the ACS is considered very reliable and is a dataset that we believe can provide the most accurate portrayal of the changing population in the City and surrounding communities. Comparison data also comes from the US Decennial Census.

DEMOGRAPHIC TAKEAWAYS

The City of Birmingham's population will shape the park and recreation needs for the next five years. The City's driving demographic trends include:

- There was an increase in the population that is under the age of five and aged 5-9 from 2010 to 2015. Youth are the largest users of parks facilities and are likely to participate in organized sports and recreation programming.
- The City of Birmingham's average household size continues to increase. This shows that the City remains a popular community for families with children. The parks facilities are likely one of the reasons people choose to raise their families in the City.
- Nearly 6% of the City's population has a disability. Trails, playscapes, and other amenities must be accessible to this population.
- The City's median income and percent of the population with a bachelor's degree or higher is larger than the surrounding area. Residents will expect high quality parks and recreation service and programs that provide an educational benefit.

Source: 2010 Census and the 2011-2015 American Community Survey

POPULATION

Trends in the number of people residing in a community are an important indicator for parks and recreation planning. Growing communities have different parks and recreational needs than communities with stable or declining populations.

According to the 2011-2015 ACS estimates, the City of Birmingham's population is 20,489 which is a slight increase in population, approximately 1.9 percent between the 2010 and 2015 period. The City of Birmingham's population growth in the past five years indicates that Birmingham continues to be a desired community and that its residents are aging in place.

HOUSEHOLDS

This section analyzes the composition and characteristics of households in the City of Birmingham. Household growth has a different impact on demand for recreational services than population growth. If the population is growing faster than the number of households, this would suggest that more children are being born to existing households. If households are growing faster than population, this typically suggests that more singles or couples are moving into the community.

The number of households in the City has decreased by 2.3 percent since 2010. However, the number of married-couple family households with and without children under 18 increased by 5.9 percent and 4.7 percent respectively. The increase in married-couple family households and the increase in total population indicates that existing residents are choosing to start their families, either by marriage or with children, in the community. The age data below further indicates that the slight population increase is due to the rise of children under 18 years.

Age Group	2010 Population	2015 Population	Percent Change
Under 18 Years	4,939	5,201	5.3%
Under 5 years	1,291	1,346	4.3%
5-9 years	1,462	1,641	12.2%
0-17 years	2,186	2,214	1.3%
18-65 years	12,401	12,443	0.3%
65 years and over	2,763	2,845	3.0%
otal Population	20,103	20,489	1.9%

Table 1: Age Structure, 2010-2015

Source: 2010 Census and the 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Average household size is another indicator of community composition. Larger average household sizes generally mean more children and fewer single-parent families. Nationally, household sizes have been shrinking as young singles wait longer to get married and life expectancy increases for the senior population.

Contrary to national trends, Birmingham's household size increased from 2.2 to 2.3. The 3.5 percent increase in household size for Birmingham shows that the City is a popular community for families with children and two-person households. This reaffirms the trends seen in the previous section where there was an increase in number of married-family households with children under 18 and an overall increase in population.

DISABILITY

The type of disability and number of residents impacted will shape the design and accommodations made for them on the City Parks and Recreation Plan. The US Census Bureau reports that approximately 5.9 percent of the City of Birmingham residents have a disability of some sort, with the most impacted populations being the 65 and over subgroups. The most prevalent disabilities within the population are ambulatory and hearing difficulties, followed by independent living difficulties. Ambulatory difficulties encompass serious difficulties with walking or stairs, issues that limit physical activity, leading to steeper decline in health. Giving consideration to these difficulties in planning for parks and recreation activities could result in positive health outcomes for a population that already experiences great difficulty on a day-to-day basis. Accommodations could include ramps or pavement improvements in order to ease accessibility concerns for those who suffer from ambulatory difficulties, or by installing audible and visually assisted cross walks that are conscious of those who may be visually or hearing impaired.



Economic Characteristics

Birmingham residents are highly educated with 77.2 percent of the community holding a bachelor's degree or higher. The City of Birmingham is also an affluent community with a median household income of \$108,137, which is 38 percent higher than Oakland County's median household income of \$67,465.

Birmingham's highly educated population will impact the City's parks and recreation needs. This population may have high expectations for involvement in programming and quality of recreation facilities. Birmingham's educated population may also be interested in interpretative nature and cultural programming.

Furthermore, as incomes rise within a community, individuals and families may begin to take a market approach to recreation, meaning that affluent residents may be willing to pay for private or nonprofit recreation options if the provider offers a service that addresses their unique recreation needs. This trend indicates that as a City's median household income rises, public recreation facilities will face more competition from private and non-profit providers. For example, residents may choose to belong to a private golf club because of differences in operation and access to other recreation amenities. As the City of Birmingham plans future facility and programming investments, there should be an emphasis on value, the provision of multiple recreation options, and public/private partnerships.

Birmingham has a wide variety of housing styles and sizes with consistently rising property values. There are few remaining sites on which to build new homes, so developers and homeowners renovate, enlarge, raze and/or rebuild on existing property. The 2011-2015 ACS estimates the median house value of a Birmingham resident's home as \$410,700. Many Birmingham neighborhoods have active neighborhood associations which work to boost the sense of pride neighbors take in owning and caring for their homes as well as preserving the character of neighborhood parks.

There are a large number of historic homes and buildings which are reviewed by the city's Historic District Commission (HDC). The HDC and the Birmingham City Commission give yearly Historic Preservation Awards to residential and commercial property owners and merchants recognizing their efforts in preservation and maintenance of historic properties. Many Birmingham Parks, such as Booth, Shain Park, and the Birmingham Museum reflect the historic character of the City.



Physical Characteristics

The City of Birmingham is a historic and developed community with very little vacant land. The existing land use patterns within the City show residential and transitional uses radiating from the downtown core. The City's downtown which is anchored at the intersection of Old Woodward Avenue and Maple Avenue, is a lively and walkable district. Woodward Avenue and Maple Avenue split the City into neighborhood quadrants. Each neighborhood consists largely of single family homes with a small variety of parks, institutional uses, and multifamily residences. Homes in northeast, northwest, and southwest quadrants are typically located on larger lots. Homes in southeast quadrant including the emerging Rail District are generally are on smaller lots and are sited closer to new mixed use residential, creative industry, and commercial.

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Administrative Structure and Funding

Management and planning for the City of Birmingham's parks, recreation facilities and limited programming is primarily completed by two groups: The City of Birmingham Department of Public Services and the Parks and Recreation Board.

Public Act 156 of 1917 entitled Local Government; operate System of Public Recreation is an act authorizing Cities, Villages, Counties, Townships, and School Districts to operate systems of public recreation playgrounds.

Administration

The City Charter of the City of Birmingham was first adopted in 1933, providing for a City Manager, Commission form and division of legislative and administrative functions. The Charter provides that all powers are vested in the Commission, consisting of seven members, all elected at large on a non-partisan basis. Commissioners serve staggered terms of four years and elect from their own members each year a Mayor who is a voting member of Commission. A Mayor Pro-Tem is also elected to serve in the absence of the Mayor.

The City Manager oversees the administrative functions of the City, including the operations of all City Departments and Department Directors are all appointed by the City Manager, while the City Clerk is appointed by the Commissioners and then reports to the City Manager.

The City Commission is responsible for establishing policies to guide the overall operation and development of Birmingham and making all decisions concerning land acquisition and purchase of major recreation facilities based on recommendations received from staff. The budget for recreation facilities and programs is adopted annually by the City Commission, as part of the total annual budget after appropriate public hearings. The City Commission is advised by a number of public Board and Commissions, whose members are appointed by the City Commission.

As part of each budgeting process, the City Commission holds a goal-setting session with administrative staff and a facilitator. During the 2016 process, the following five primary goals were deemed essential to implementing the Commission's vision for the community:

- 1. Provide sound leadership and responsible governance to maintain financial stability.
- 2. Be innovative and responsive in how services are provided to the community.
- 3. Support the vitality of both the residential and business communities that depend upon each other for success.
- 4. Cultivate a safe, healthy, and dynamic City.
- 5. Continue to be proactive with infrastructure maintenance programs and reinvestment in cost-effective improvements to roads, sewers, water mains, parking, parks and public facilities.

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD AND SUBCOMMITTEES

The Parks and Recreation Board was established in 1963 by ordinance. It is charged with the duties detailed in Chapter 78 of the City Code entitled Parks and Recreation. The ordinance states that the Parks and Recreation Board shall consist of seven members who are electors in the city and appointed by City Commission, with each member serving a three-year term. The Board serves solely in an advisory capacity and may not assume any legislative or administrative authority.

The Parks and Recreation Board objectives and duties include:

- Serve as a forum for the consideration of policy matters related to the operation of a park and recreation program.
- Advise the public with regard to the policies established by the City Commission relating to the park and recreation program.
- Serve in an advisory capacity to the City Commission in regard to all matters affecting parks and recreation which are referred to it by the City Commission.
- Recommend to the City Commission a recreation program, fee schedules, and the adoption of long range program for the development of park areas and facilities.
- Recommend to the City Commission hours of operation and allocation of facility use.

In addition to the seven-member Parks and Recreation Board, there are several Department of Public Services (DPS)/City of Birmingham administered committees and Parks and Recreation Board sub-committees. The Parks and Recreation Board appoints Board liaisons to specific DPS/City committees and assemble Board sub-committees as necessary. The DPS/City committees and Board sub-committees give citizens the opportunity provide information about the operations, maintenance, and improvement of parks and recreation facilities.

The City also has a four-member Martha Baldwin Park Board to provide input on the design and maintenance of Martha Baldwin Park. In addition, there is a Birmingham Museum Board, which is an advisory board that participates in strategic planning and policy recommendations for the museum and grounds. The site consists of two historic buildings on nearly four acres and is adjacent to the Rouge River.

DPS / CITY COMMITTEES

- In the Park (Admin. Staff, Birmingham School District, etc.)
- Ice Arena (1 Parks and Recreation Board Liaison)

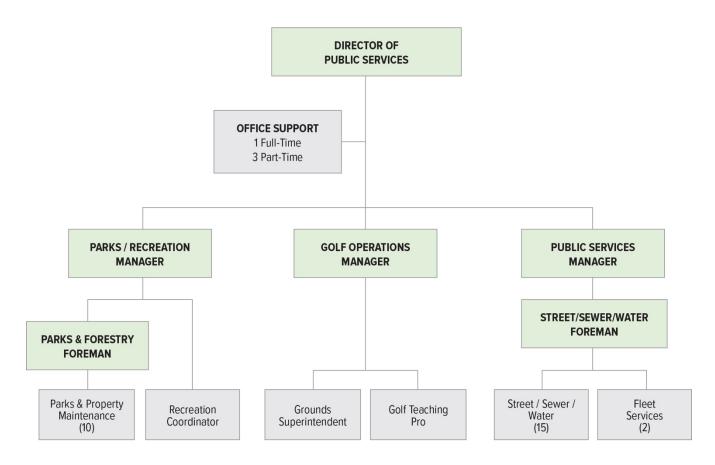
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD SUB-COMMITTEES

- Crowdfunding Sub-Committee
- Golf Sub-Committee
- Ice Arena Committee
- Kenning Park Field
 Sub-Committee
- Master Plan Committee
- Next
- Poppleton Park Sub-Committee
- Trail Sub-Committee

THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES (DPS)

The DPS oversees the operation of the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena, two popular nine-hole golf courses, maintenance of more than 230 acres of parkland and two miles of trails along the Rouge River. DPS is also responsible for forestry items such as the removal, transplanting and/or maintenance of 25,000 street and park trees. Other responsibilities include: Placement of holiday decorations, maintenance of public horticulture gardens, and providing logistic support for the summer "In the Park" concert program. In addition, this department is responsible for park improvements, park signage, support for special events, maintenance of the Greenwood Cemetery, various contractual services such as forestry services, park mowing, invasive vegetation removal, commercial/residential sidewalk snow removal and residential noxious weed enforcement. Figure 1 shows the administrative organization of the Department of Public Works.

Services Organizational Chart



Parks and Recreation Funding and Grant History

The estimated Department of Public Services operating budget for the 2017-2018 fiscal year is \$3,200,160. The various funds below describe the actual, adopted, and planned budget information for revenues and expenditures during the fiscal years between 2015/16 to 2018/19 (Table 2 and Table 3). Community Activities, Parks and Recreation Property/Programs, and the Ice Arena are funded by the general fund account. The two golf courses listed below are enterprise funds.

Primary funding for the maintenance and programming of Birmingham's recreation facilities comes almost entirely from sub-accounts of the City's general fund. Alternative funding sources and revenues include bonds, passes and registration fees, and donations from individuals / private organizations. Businesses, corporations, private clubs, community organizations, and individuals will at times, contribute to recreation and other improvement programs to benefit the City.

Table 2: Recreation Revenue (Fiscal Year 2015-2019)

Division Detail	2015-2016 Actual	2016-2017 Budget	2017-2018 Approved	2018-2019 Planned
Parks and Recreation	114,046	113,500	117,000	117,000
Community Activities	18,097	18,800	19,790	20,880
Ice Sports arena	512,045	518,400	499,900	500,900
*Lincoln Hills Golf Course	737,604	666,230	694,790	706,330
*Springdale Golf Course	446,731	504,770	522,020	503,050
Total:	1,828,523	1,821,700	1,853,500	1,848,160

* Enterprise Fund

Source: City of Birmingham Adopted 2017-2018 Budget, 2017

Table 3: Recreation Expenditures (Fiscal Year 2015-2019)

Division Detail	2015-2016 Actual	2016-2017 Budget	2017-2018 Approved	2018-2019 Planned
Parks and Recreation	863,326	1,054,358	1,047,630	1,002,650
Community Activities	273,436	299,544	271,220	278,860
Ice Sports arena	592,835	681,184	672,110	667,750
*Lincoln Hills Golf Course	538,086	566,750	687,180	686,350
*Springdale Golf Course	439,680	504,770	522,020	500,120
Total:	2,707,363	3,106,606	3,200,160	3,135,730

* Enterprise Fund

Source: City of Birmingham Adopted 2017-2018 Budget, 2017





Parks and Recreation

This activity provides for park maintenance and recreation programming of park facilities, excluding the golf courses. Maintenance is provided for over 230 acres of parks and public properties, including passive-recreation areas along the Rouge Trail, in Manor Park and at similar locations.

Recreation facilities maintained under this activity include: 16 asphalt-surfaced tennis courts; five Little League baseball diamonds; one baseball diamond and three softball diamonds; a developed picnic area and shelter at Springdale Park; 22 park areas of various sizes and stages of development; a six-acre nature preserve at Manor Park; several miles of river trails; the 14-acre Quarton Lake; the winter-sports area at Lincoln Hills; a skate park located at Kenning Park; and a .85-acre dog park located at the Lincoln Hills Golf Course, which opened in November of 2010.

This activity provides funds for the maintenance of approximately 13,000 trees in City parks and on other City properties (excluding trees within the street rights-ofway, which are maintained under another fund). Tree and stump removal, tree trimming and tree planting in City parks are also included in this activity. The department utilizes both staff and outside contractors for services such as forestry, lawn care and property maintenance.

Community Activities

This line item includes expenditures incurred by the Department of Public Services in connection with the Village Fair; art shows in Shain Park and in the Central Business District (CBD) sponsored by the Birmingham-Bloomfield Art Center and Common Ground; placement of United States flags in the CBD on seven occasions during the year; the winter holiday-decoration program; and preparatory and clean-up work involved in other civic and Chamber of Commerce and Principal Shopping District activities, including: the "Cruise Event", "Winter Market" and "Day on the Town." Of particular note and pride is that the department decorates over 340 trees with LED lights as part of the Holiday Lighting program. Approximately 220 United States flags are placed on the streets in the CBD on the occasions listed below. Flags may be placed on the streets during other commemorations as directed by the City.

- Commission Government Day (Monday of Celebration Birmingham Week)
- Memorial Day
- Flag Day
- Fourth of July
- Citizenship Day of Constitution Week
- Veterans Day
- 9/11 Day

Administrative Structure **19** and Funding

ICE SPORTS ARENA

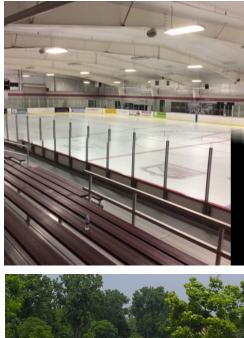
The City of Birmingham operates and maintains this facility, open from mid-August until late-May. The schedule includes a variety of activities that include: instructional skating program to teach both figure skating and hockey elements; youth and adult hockey; home ice to the Birmingham United High School hockey teams for all home games and open skating and club activities such as the Birmingham Figure Skating Club and Birmingham Hockey Association. In addition, the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena provides skate rentals, skate sharpening and a full-service concession stand.

The budget assumes a continuation of ice use of the arena for a 35-week period, which includes an annual ice show. In addition, Parks and Recreation operation is housed year-round in the facility office. During the summer of 2016, the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena hosted three Mom to Mom Sales and will again host Mom to Mom Sales during the 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 fiscal years. In the past, off-season summer activities have included dog shows, garage sales, pickle ball and roller blading. The City continues to explore opportunities to offer rentals during the summer months (June 1st – July 31st) including ways of partnering with other community groups to best utilize the Arena facility. In addition, the Arena hosts various events and hockey tournaments.

LINCOLN HILLS GOLF COURSE

Lincoln Hills, located at 2666 West Fourteen Mile Road, is one of two municipal golf courses owned by the City of Birmingham. With its unique elevation changes, tree-lined fairways and alternative tee boxes, it makes for a very challenging round of golf. The golf course total yardage is just over 3,000 yards and plays to a par 35.

Lincoln Hills, a Jerry Matthews design, opened in 1964 and offers a clubhouse overlooking the course that was recently renovated in 2010. City staff operates the clubhouse and maintains the golf course and grounds. The operation is overseen by the Golf Operations Manager. The clubhouse staff is comprised of seasonal staff that provide a variety of services, including tee-time reservations, collecting green fees, renting golf cars, selling food and beverage items, and running club and outside golf tournaments. The maintenance staff, which includes full-time and seasonal employees, maintain the golf courses.







SPRINGDALE GOLF COURSE

Springdale, a Jerry Matthews design, dates back to the 1920's and it is the older of the two nine-hole golf courses. The golf course and Springdale Park encompass approximately 55 acres.

Since 2001, Springdale has gone through many changes, including the remodeling of the golf course (2001) which included: adding or rebuilding 26 sand bunkers; different teeing locations on each hole; three new putting greens; a pond; and additional mounding around the golf course. A stream bank restoration project was also completed in 2001. This helped to prevent erosion along the banks of the Rouge River. In the fall of 2006, a new pump house and pump station were installed to improve the irrigation system.

City staff operates the clubhouse and maintains the golf course. The operation is overseen by the Golf Operations Manager. The clubhouse staff is comprised of seasonal staff that provide a variety of services, including tee-time reservations, collecting green fees, renting golf cars, selling food and beverage items, and running club and outside tournaments. The maintenance staff, which includes fulltime and seasonal employees, maintains the golf courses.

In 2016, the golf course added new sand to all bunkers with an addition of a new forward tee on #3. The parking lot is scheduled to be resurfaced in 2017 along with new tee signs and irrigation upgrades.

Parks and Recreation Bonds

In November 2001, City voters authorized the City of Birmingham to issue generalobligation unlimited tax bonds in an amount not to exceed \$25 million. The bonds could be sold in one or more issues. The proceeds from the bond sales were used to implement the Recreation 2000-2005 Master Plan. The Master Plan outlined the City's long-range goals for the acquisition and/or enhancement of parkland and recreational facilities. The first bond issue in the amount of \$15.7 million was sold in December 2002. A second bond issue in the amount of \$4 million was sold in June 2008.

Completed park improvement projects using the bond funding include the purchase of the Barnum building and land; the dredging and recreational improvements at Quarton Lake; Quarton Dam and Spillway improvements; construction of a skate park; purchase of the Dewey and Roeper properties; various site improvements at the Birmingham Museum; and improvements at Booth Park and Barnum Park. Improvements at Shain Park are also complete.

In 2006, the City issued refunding bonds totaling \$7,940,000 to refinance \$8.3M of the 2002 recreation bond series. In 2016, the City issued refunding bonds totaling \$14,375,000 to refinance the remaining 2006 refunding bonds, most of the remaining 2008 recreation bond series, and the remaining 2004 sewer improvement refunding bonds. Out of the \$14,375,000 in refunding bonds, \$10,360,000 was related to refinancing the 2006 and 2008 recreation bond series. The 2016 refunding bonds are serial bonds due in varying annual installments through October 2028. The bonds bear interest rates ranging from 2%-5%. The remaining 2008 recreation bonds mature on October 2018 with an interest rate of 3.6%. Property taxes generated from a debt levy are used to pay the annual debt service costs of these bonds.

Grant History

When preparing a Recreation Plan, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources requires that information be provided concerning grants that have been received in the past for acquisition or development of recreation facilities. As of December 2017, the City of Birmingham has not received any grant funding from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) nor the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). The City of Birmingham has received grants from other sources not associated with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Related Initiatives

There are several related planning initiatives that are significant in terms of their relevance to the provision of recreation within the City of Birmingham. Each initiative is described in further detail in Table 4:

Table 4: City of Birmingham Planning Initiatives

City of Birmingham Parks and Recreation Initiatives

INITIATIVE	SUMMARY	PARKS AND RECREATION IMPLICATION
Poppleton Park Concept Plan (2016)	In 2016, the City prepared a concept plan which was endorsed by the Parks and Recreation Board and received by the City Commission.	The Department of Public Services is in the process of requesting funding, applying for grants, and soliciting donations for the implementation of the Concept Plan.
Adams Park Concept Plan (2016)	The Adams Park Concept Plan presents proposed phasing and development plans for renovations to the park. The Adams Park Concept Plan was endorsed by the Parks and Recreation Board in August 2016 and received by the City Commission in October 2016.	The Department of Public Services is in the process of requesting funding, applying for grants, and soliciting donations for the implementation of the Concept Plan.
Kenning Park Concept Plan (2014)	In 2014, the City prepared a concept plan which included ball field expansion and improvements. The Plan was endorsed by the Parks and Recreation Board and approved by the City Commission.	The Department of Public Services is currently in the process of seeking partnerships to assist in the implementation of selected elements of the concept plan.
Booth Park Phase III Concept Plan (2007)	In 2007, residents and business owners throughout the community participated in the development of a Booth Park Concept Plan which identified three improvement phases.	DPS has already implemented Phase I and Phase II of the Booth Park Concept Plan. In the next five years, the City anticipates implementing Phase III of the plan which includes the development of the entrance plaza.
Barnum Park Phase II Concept Plan (2012)	The Barnum Park Phase II Concept Plan was developed in 2012. The Concept Plan calls for the construction of four shade structures and various landscape improvements.	Landscape improvements and the installation of two of the proposed four shade structures were completed in 2013. In the next five years, the City anticipates the installation of the final elements of the Barnum Park Phase II Concept Plan.
The Rouge River Trail Corridor Master Plan (2006)	The Rouge River Trail Corridor Master Plan identifies specific goals, trail improvements, concerns and desires for the River Rouge Trail Corridor as expressed by residents, City Commission, and Parks and Recreation Board.	The Rouge River Trail Corridor Master Plan has served as a guide map for the development of the trail system in Birmingham. The DPS is actively implementing trail connections and improvements identified in this plan.

*The City and Parks and Recreation Board are exploring partnership opportunities with Birmingham Little League to assist in the implementation of the Kenning Park Concept Plan. Birmingham Little League has proposed modifying the Kenning Park Concept Plan by removing one of the three proposed ball fields.

Other City of Birmingham Initiatives

INITIATIVE	SUMMARY	PARKS AND RECREATION IMPLICATION
Birmingham Museum Landscape Master Plan (expected 2018)	The Birmingham Museum Landscape Master Plan will build off the museum's overall 2017-2020 Strategic Plan to integrate the museum's mission and priorities, with particular emphasis on the preservation and interpretation of historic elements in the landscape.	The Birmingham Museum is an important element in the Parks system. Recommendations developed in the Master Plan can present opportunities for partnership between Museum Leadership and the Department of Public Services.
Multi-Modal Transportation Plan (2017-2018)	The City of Birmingham is in the process of developing a citywide multi-modal transportation plan. The plan will be used by the City to improve and expand opportunities for pedestrians, bicycles and transit users to respond to the growing demand for alternative forms of travel and to promote safe and comfortable transportation options.	The Multi-Modal Transportation Plan will plan for safe walking, biking, and transit connections to City of Birmingham Parks. The desire for better multi-modal connections was one of the most frequently heard needs from the public engagement process of the Parks and Recreation Plan.
Eton Road Corridor Plan (2013)	This plan addresses development along the Eton Road Corridor. It specifically encourages a mixed used corridor with a mix of commercial, service, light industrial, and residential uses.	The Eton Road Corridor Plan calls for the development of a linear park along the CN Railroad corridor. The linear park could significantly improve park access in the rail district.
Activating Urban Space: A Strategy for Alleys and Passages (2012)	This study identifies alleys and passages in and around Downtown Birmingham and seeks to provide a framework to classify alleys and passages into different categories based on their existing uses and to outline options to capitalize on opportunities for aesthetic improvement and activation of these spaces.	The recommendations in this plan encourage the enhancement of the urban realm by improving pedestrian and bicycle connectivity and better engagement opportunities within alleys. Improved multi- modal access is important to park system and the space created in alleys offer the opportunity for innovative recreation partnerships between DPS, the Planning Department, and the Birmingham Shopping District.
Triangle District Urban Design Plan (2007)	This plan sets forth a new vision for the Triangle District as a vibrant, mixed-use neighborhood of homes, shops, restaurants, offices and public plazas and identifies guidelines, and recommendations to achieve this vision.	The plan identifies opportunities for integrating public plazas and opens space as part of any redevelopment within the district. These public plazas and open spaces will complement the parks system.
Wayfinding & Signage Design Program (2004)	This plan is designed to establish a vision and long- range set of general guidelines for the community's current and future signage needs. The document serves as a blueprint for addressing the signage system as it relates to way-finding around the City and identification of points of interest.	Wayfinding and signage are important elements of the park system. Wayfinding to parks increase residents' knowledge of the system and signage within the parks improves the enjoyment of amenities provided.
Downtown Birmingham 2016: Master Plan (1996)	The Downtown Birmingham 2016 master plan a strategic document for the development of Birmingham for over 20 years. The plan made recommendations establishing the development of a City with a downtown instead of the conventional suburban design. Some topics discussed include: streetscaping, traffic circulation, and overlay zones.	The plan included ten park improvements; a civic square expansion; a traffic-calming boulevard; and specified an entirely new streetscape plan including lighting, benches, and paving. The recommendations in the plan has helped Birmingham develop as economically successful community and as one of the most walkable cities in Southeast Michigan.

Regional Initiatives			
INITIATIVE	SUMMARY	PARKS AND RECREATION	
Oakland County Trails Master Plan (2003)	The Oakland County Trails Master Plan has been developed to provide a framework for creating a connected system of greenways and trails throughout Oakland County.	The non-motorized system serves a diverse range of users within the City, providing safe and well-maintained linkages to important natural, cultural and civic destinations and other points of interest.	
The Rouge Green Corridor (2007)	The effort is a partnership between Oakland County, Southfield, Beverly Hills, Birmingham, the Southeast Oakland County Water Authority (SOCWA), Oakland County Office of the Drain Commissioner, Friends of the Rouge, the Oakland Land Conservancy, and concerned citizens. The partnership has worked on several projects including the Rouge Green Corridor Identity Project, the Urban Habitat Conservation and Stewardship Project, a Self-Guided Tour, Management Plans, Branding Package, etc.	The Rouge is a critical part of the Parks system in Birmingham. Improvements to The Rouge Green Corridor improves City of Birmingham residents' enjoyment and access to one of the region's significant natural features.	



Parks, Recreation, and Trails Inventory

Opportunities for recreation are available year-round in Birmingham. Twenty-six parks with over 230 acres cover more than 10% of the city's total acreage, and the school district also provides recreational facilities. Residents can play baseball, softball, and tennis, and enjoy playgrounds and picnic facilities. Two nine-hole municipal golf courses offer golf and golf lessons. The Birmingham Racquet Club features indoor courts and a waiting area. Those who enjoy winter sports can sled and cross-country ski at Birmingham's Lincoln Hills golf course. Indoor ice skating is available at the Ice Sports Arena which provides for open skating, lessons and ice hockey group and an outside temporary ice arena at Barnum Park is available to use based on the climate.

Birmingham's parks and recreational services extend beyond its residents. The City's exceptional facilities are host to a variety of private organizations and residents of neighboring communities who rely on the recreational facilities for their programming needs. Similarly, Birmingham's parks and programmed events, such as In- The-Park concert series, have become regional destinations.



City Parks and Facilities

Developing a complete inventory of recreation facilities, programs, and events is an essential component of a five-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan as it provides a base of information to use in developing the Action Plan. Understanding what facilities, programs, and events are available to the City of Birmingham residents will assist decision-making in the future.

The following inventory and the adjoining Parks and Recreation Inventory Map details the amenities currently available at each of the 26 public facilities and the facility's respective location.

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) is a national, non-profit service organization dedicated to advancing parks, recreation and environmental efforts that enhance the quality of life for all people. NRPA works closely with national, state and local recreation and park agencies, corporations and citizens' groups in carrying out its objectives. As part of its activities, NRPA has created a hierarchy of park types which recognizes open space services at differing levels based on a number of characteristics including community need, park function, park location, and community size. NPRA provides a number of criteria that help communities establish a similar hierarchy for their communities, all of which are suggested but not required to be followed without modification by each community.

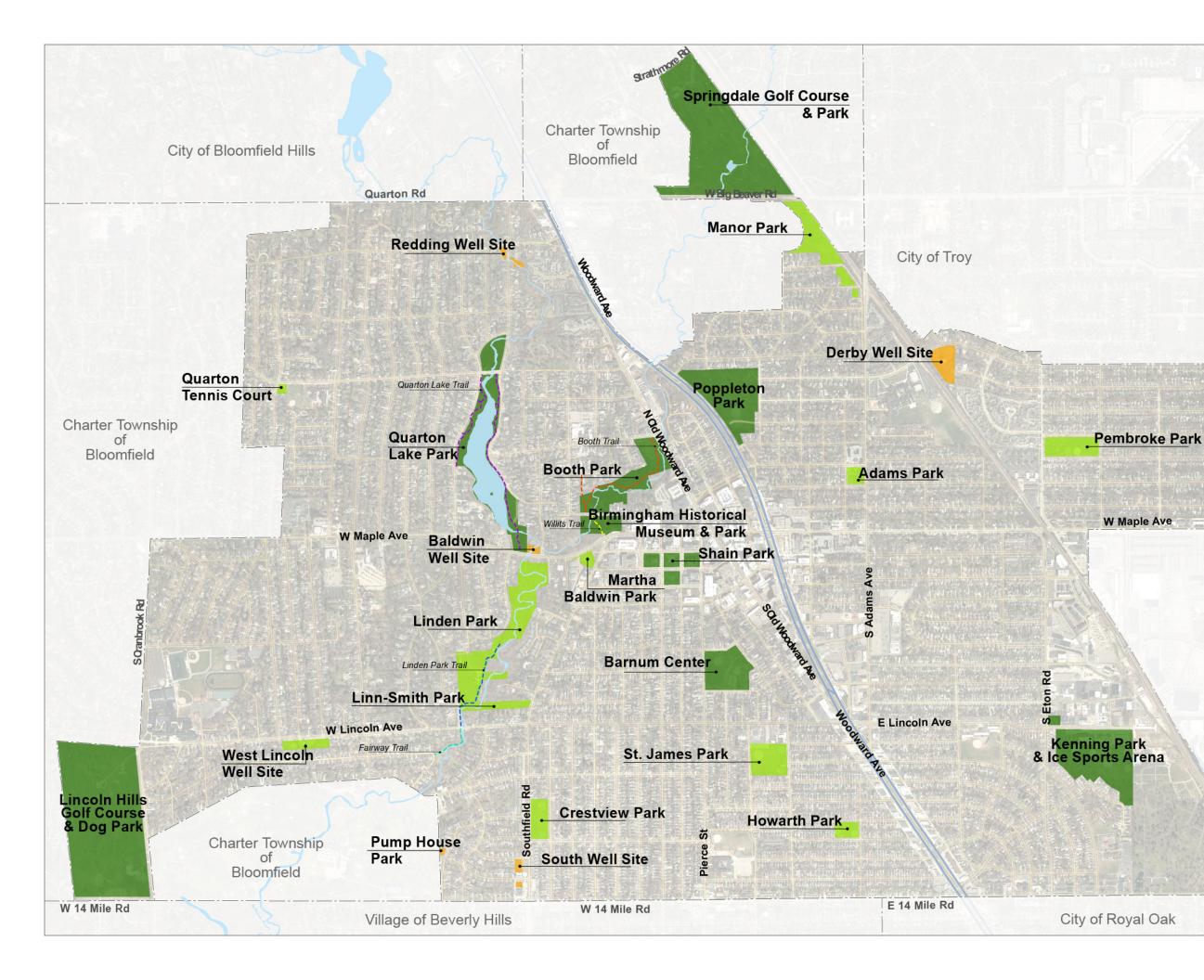
The City of Birmingham is 4.8 square miles large, about 3,072 acres. Of the total acreage within the City, parks, recreation, and school facilities make up 315 acres

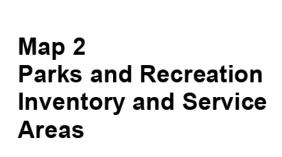
(10.3%), with the City owning and managing only 231 (7.5%) of those acres. While the parks and recreation system in the City of Birmingham is comprehensive, the percentage of acreage owned and maintained as a park by the City is less than half of the amount that many larger cities or more suburban communities have. Therefore, the application of the categories established by NRPA (Mini, Neighborhood, Community, and Regional) have been modified to best reflect the character and use of parks and recreation facilities in the City of Birmingham.

Specifically, the City of Birmingham Department of Public Services considers the following when inventorying and classifying the parks within the its system:

- The range of park sizes within the City. Birmingham has parks and recreation facilities that range from 0.2 acres to 57.13 acres. However, 11 of the City's 26 parks are less than 4 acres large and, with the exception of the golf courses, only three of the remaining parks are larger than ten acres: Quarton Lake, Kenning Park, and Poppleton Park. Due to the lack of variety in park size, specifically the City's dearth of parks larger than ten acres, the City considers park size in conjunction with a variety of factors when establishing its hierarchy of park types.
- The relationship of the parks to one another and their location within the City. While there may not be many large parks, the City considers the park system and each parks' location when establishing park type. For example, Booth Park and Shain Park are not large in acreage but are located near each other and in the City's downtown. Due to the parks' proximity to each other and downtown, as well as their accessibility from other neighborhoods, the spaces are able to serve a larger area.
- Site Characteristics. Often the City considers the specific a property's characteristics when determining the park type, including if the site has areas for passive and/or active recreation, if the site is accessible from nearby neighborhoods, and/or if the site provides a specialized activity or experience.
- The surrounding communities. The City of Birmingham also considers residents' access to parks and recreation facilities in nearby communities. This includes activities that augment the existing system, such as swimming, camping, hiking, dog play etc.
- Other available spaces. The City of Birmingham has one of the best downtown's in southeast Michigan and serves as a gathering space with plazas and areas for walking. While the downtown may not be a park, it often functions as a third place for community members.

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City of Birmingham, Michigan

March 26, 2018

LEGEND



Coolidge Hwy

Mini Parks Neighborhood Parks Community Parks Waterbodies Municipal Boundary



Data Source: Oakland County GIS, 2016 Aerial Data, SEMCOG, 2015



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Mini Parks

Mini parks are categorized as small, specialized parks that usually serve the needs of residents in the immediate neighborhood. These parks usually serve a limited population or specific demographic group. For detailed information about accessibility rankings, see page 51.

Baldwin Well Site	accessibility ranking 1	ACREAGE 0.55	classification Mini Park
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Baldwin Well Site is located at the corner of Baldwin and West Maple. No amenities are located at this site.

Derby Well Site	accessibility ranking 2	ACREAGE 3.57	CLASSIFICATION Mini Park
The Derby Well Site, located on the northeast side of the city adjacent to the railroad along Derby Road, contains no recreational amenities			
Pump House Park	accessibility ranking 1	acreage 0.2	classification Mini Park

The Pump House Park is located in the southwest portion of the city at Wakefield and Norfolk. There is some small play equipment located at this site.

	ACCESSIBILITY	ACREAGE	CLASSIFICATION
Redding Well Site	RANKING 1	0.38	Mini Park

Redding Well Site is located at the corner of Lakeside Drive and Redding in the northwest portion of the city. No amenities are located at this site

The South Well Site, which is broken into two small vacant parcels, is located at Southfield and Southlawn in the southwestern portion of the city.

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks are typically multi-purpose facilities that serve as the recreational and social focus of a neighborhood. They provide areas for both passive and active recreation activities such as field games, court games, playgrounds, picnicking, etc. Neighborhood parks are generally serve residents within one-half mile.

Adams ParkAccessibility RANKINGAcreage 1.45CLASS Neight2

Adams Park is located directly adjacent to Roeper School. In 2006, the City of Birmingham acquired the park property adjacent to the Roeper School. As part of the purchase agreement, the city is responsible for the maintenance, lawn care and snow removal; and the property must be used as a public park so long as the school is operated adjacent to the park. In addition, Roeper will utilize the park during the school year for activities currently undertaken by the school on the grounds. Amenities include a soccer field, open space, and a play area.

In 2016, the Adams Parks Concept Plan was endorsed by the Parks and Recreation Board and received by the City Commission.

	ACCESSIBILITY	ACREAGE	CLASSIFICATION
Crestview Park	RANKING	3.58	Neighborhood Park
	3		

Crestview Park is located near the southern border of Birmingham, north of Southlawn between Southfield and Shipman Roads. Crestview Park contains open space for soccer, two tennis courts, and playground equipment including swings, climbers and a play structure. There are also benches, waste receptacles, and a drinking fountain within the park.

Howarth Park	accessibility ranking 3	acreage 1.98	classification Neighborhood Park
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Howarth Park is located at the intersection of Cummings and Emmons Roads in the southern portion of the city. The park consists of open space, a baseball field, drinking fountain, benches, signage, ADA accessible path to access the park, and play equipment with a woodchip surfacing. The play equipment includes swings, a climber and a play structure. In 2005, the Birmingham Rotary Club was recognized by the Michigan Recreation and Parks Association with a community service award for their donation and improvements to Howarth Park. Improvements included a park bench, drinking fountain, and planting of new trees.

Linden Park is accessed at the intersection of Linden and Brandon, north of Lincoln Road. The park is nestled between residential properties and the Rouge River. The park is predominately open space with a play structure and woodchip surfacing near Brandon Street. A storm-water treatment control station with a gravel access road is also located on the east side of the park, adjacent to the Rouge River. There is access to a Rouge River woodchip trail along the Rouge River via Hawthorne Road. Future expansion of the Rouge trail will connect the play structure and provide trail access from Brandon and Shirley.

Linn-Smith Park is a small, linear shaped park on the east side of the Rouge River. The park consists entirely of open space and is located between the Rouge River and Southfield Road. An entry plaza along Southfield Road and a boardwalk located near the proposed bridge will connect Linn-Smith Park with Linden Park with the trail system.

Manor Park is an undeveloped nature preserve used for passive recreation. The parkland is located off Adams Road in the northern portion of the city, south of Big Beaver Road and adjacent to the Canadian National Railroad. The park is open during daylight hours and contains a variety of hardwood, ornamental and coniferous trees. The park is bordered by a split rail fence along Shepardbush with a gravel off-street parking area. Manor Park has a short chipped trail.

Martha Baldwin Park	ACCESSIBILITY RANKING 2	acreage 0.99	classification Neighborhood Park
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The Martha Baldwin Park is located on the west side of Southfield Road at the intersection of Southfield and Maple Roads. The park consists of open space, mature trees, and a water garden. There is a bench and steps leading into the park from Maple.

The park is named after Martha Baldwin who donated the land to the City in 1913. Martha Baldwin, a native of Birmingham, teacher, and elected official significantly contributed to the development of the City. A fourmember board ensures that the wishes and memory Martha Baldwin are preserved at her namesake park.

Pembroke Park	accessibility ranking 3	acreage 5.3	classification Neighborhood Park
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Pembroke Park comprises one block on the east side of Birmingham between Eton, Edenborough, Windemere and Buckingham. The park includes open space and several pieces of playground equipment including swings, slides, climbers, sandboxes, playstructures and rockers installed over a woodchip base. The park also contains a Little League baseball field, picnic tables, two tennis courts, a soccer area, a hard surface basketball area, drinking fountain, and signage.



	ACCESSIBILITY	ACREAGE	CLASSIFICATION
Quarton Tennis Court	RANKING 3	0.43	Neighborhood Park

Quarton Tennis Courts are located at the corner of Oak at Glenhurst. The site includes two tennis courts, one trash receptacle and one drinking fountain.

St. James Park is located in the southern portion of the city, south of Lincoln and directly south of the Birmingham YMCA. St. James Park contains open space which is used for a soccer area during the summer months. The park also has the city's only regulation-size baseball diamond in addition to two tennis courts, and several pieces of ADA- compliant play equipment installed over a woodchip surface. Also, the park contains a hard surface basketball area, benches and trash containers located in the proximity of the play equipment.

The City of Birmingham has discussed partnership opportunities as it relates to St. James Park, specifically with the YMCA.



W. Lincoln Well Site	accessibility ranking 2	acreage 2.24	classification Neighborhood Park
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The Lincoln Well Site is located on the south side of Lincoln Road at Westchester Way. The park contains open space, two tennis courts and play equipment including swings, slides, sandbox and rockers.

Community Parks

Community parks typically contain a wide variety of recreation facilities to meet the diverse needs of residents from the community. Community parks may include areas for intense active recreation as well as passive recreation opportunities not commonly found in mini or neighborhood parks. Community parks generally serve residents within a three-mile radius. Community parks also include smaller parks that are more specialized in nature and are meant to serve the entire community.

Birmingham Museum	ACCESSIBILITY RANKING	ACREAGE 2.83	CLASSIFICATION Community Park
	site: 4		
	PARK & OPEN SPACE: 1		

The Birmingham Museum is located in the City's Mill Pond Historic District at the corner of Maple and Southfield Roads in downtown Birmingham. In 1969, voters approved a bond to purchase the historic 1928 Allen House and surrounding land adjacent to the Rouge River. Shortly thereafter, the 1822 John West Hunter House was donated to the city and relocated to the property next to the Allen House. In 2001, the Birmingham Museum (formerly Birmingham Historical Museum & Park) was established at the site to preserve and interpret Birmingham's unique story. The museum is operated by the City with a seven-member Museum Board functioning in an advisory role. Partial funding is provided by an endowment. The park and historic buildings are maintained by the city. The Birmingham Museum recently updated its overall strategic plan for 2017-2020, and is in the process of updating its historic landscape master plan for 2018 with an emphasis on preserving and interpreting the historic elements of the landscape.

Barnum Park	accessibility ranking 4	acreage 9.0	CLASSIFICATION Community Park
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Barnum Park is located at Pierce and Frank and includes such features as a play structure, softball, soccer fields, a crushed stone walking path, garden sanctuary, treelined promenade and an outdoor ice rink.

Design work and improvements were completed in 2012. These features are the sanctuary, heart of the park, play area and overall landscape improvements. The improvements were primarily funded using donation dollars. In 2013, the City completed landscape improvements which included the installation of two of the planned four shade structures.



Booth ParkACCESSIBILITY RANKINGACREAGE 3.93CLAS Comm4
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Booth Park is located at the southwest intersection of Old Woodward and Harmon, north of the Rouge River branch. Its features include an expansive playscape, a labyrinth and tunnel, turf hill/amphitheater, during the winter months an area for sledding, rain garden, stabilized stream banks, native plantings, a trail connecting to the Rouge River Trail, and open green space.

The award-winning park was originally the site of the turn- of-the-century inter-urban railway system. It was later purchased by the Booth family and then donated to the City by the Cranbrook Foundation. It is now a beautiful recreational area attracting hundreds of visitors from all over southeast Michigan.

In 2007, residents and business owners throughout the community raised more than \$170,000 in private donations and also participated heavily in the planning of the park. In the span of just one week, the playscape structures were built thanks to the helping hands of hundreds of community residents.



	ACCESSIBILITY	ACREAGE	CLASSIFICATION
Kenning Park	RANKING 3	21.71	Community Park

Kenning Park is located in the southeast portion of the city adjacent to Lincoln Road. The site is the primary recreation complex in the community and is home to the Ice Sports Arena. Outdoor facilities at Kenning Park include three Little League baseball diamonds and one softball diamond, four tennis courts, open space and playground equipment with an ADA accessible path leading from the parking area to the playground.

In 2004, a skate park was installed on the east side of the arena. The city has also negotiated a long-term lease for the Racquet Club at Kenning Park. The contractor provides two tennis bubbles which cover six courts during the winter months. These bubbles meet the demand for year-round tennis opportunities for area residents. Inside the racquet club are locker rooms, a pro shop, and children's nursery. Adult and junior lessons, tennis leagues, club mixers, and court time for individual play are part of the 32-week indoor season.

Birmingham residents pay a reduced membership fee.

In 2014, the City prepared a concept plan which was endorsed by the Parks and Recreation Board and received by the City Commission. This plan included a partnership with the Birmingham Little League, who offered to partner in making significant improvements to the ball fields. The City and the Parks and Recreation Board continue to discuss bringing some elements of the Master Plan to fruition.







Ice Sports Arena	accessibility ranking 4	acreage 21.71	CLASSIFICATION Community Park
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ACCESSIBILITY

RANKING

4

The Birmingham Ice Sports Arena is located on the Kenning Park property in the southeast portion of the city. The indoor arena contains a regulation sized ice rink with bleacher seating for 920 spectators. A smaller, studio arena is used for lessons and skate parties within the complex. The arena has a contracted pro shop and is open for use August through May.



ACREAGE

57.13

CLASSIFICATION

Community Park

Lincoln Hills Golf Course

The nine-hole municipal Lincoln Hills Golf Course is located in the southwest portion of the city off 14 Mile Road.

Some of the amenities offered are: power golf cart and pull-cart rentals; lessons; rental clubs; and merchandise, food and beverage for purchase. A membership is available to Birmingham residents, Birmingham property owners, Birmingham businesses, and nonresidents. Non-members may play during April and October. Lincoln Hills is also made available for winter activities including sledding and cross-country skiing.

In fall 2010, an off-leash dog area was established at Lincoln Hills Golf Course. The city has installed fencing, signage, waste receptacles, and a dog waste bag dispenser for the designated dog park area. Resident and non-residents access the dog park through a key fob.





Poppleton Park	accessibility ranking 3	acreage 17.21	CLASSIFICATION Community Park
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ACCESSIBILITY

RANKING

3

Poppleton Park comprises a significant piece of property in the northern portion of the city, east of Woodward Avenue. The park is accessed from Oxford and Rivenoak Roads, both of which are residential streets. The north end of Poppleton Park contains several pieces of play equipment including swings, climbers, sandboxes, and playscapes. There are also benches and trash containers in this area as well as considerable open space. Poppleton Park also contains a softball field with an athletic mix infield, grassy outfield, warning track, homerun fence and bleachers. A paved parking lot is located at the end of Rivenoak Road. A drinking fountain is located between the parking lot and baseball field. The park also has two tennis courts.

In 2016, the City prepared a concept plan which was endorsed by the Parks and Recreation Board and received by the City Commission.



Quarton Lake

Quarton Lake, located on the city's west side, is fed by the Rouge River. The Quarton Lake Park surrounds the lake almost entirely and provides passive recreation areas for the public. In 2005, the park and lake underwent restoration which included: dredging of sediment, removal of invasive species, shoreline stabilization, creation of a fish habitat, and an assessment of the tributary stream corridor. Lake restoration activities were coordinated with improvements to the adjacent park. Park improvements included the clean-up and beautification of the historic park grounds and the extension of several pathways and parking areas to improve accessibility. Further improvements also included creating several viewing areas, installing a footbridge over the water just below the dam, adding a new fishing pier, and improving the pathway system.



ACREAGE

57.13

CLASSIFICATION

Community Park

Shain Park

Shain Park (located on Merrill Street in downtown Birmingham) is often considered the heart of the City. The 2010 renovations include a plaza fountain with granite décor, a band shell, a new children's play area, paved Merrill Street, the relocation of the Marshall Fredericks statue, installation of a performance stage area with open lawn space for large audiences, and a reconstructed parking lot.

ACCESSIBILITY RANKING 2.26

CLASSIFICATION Community Park



Springdale Park and Golf Course

ACCESSIBILITY RANKING 3

CLASSIFICATION Community Park

The Springdale Park and Golf Course, the older of the City's two golf courses, was designed by Jerry Matthews and built in the 1920s. The course is characterized as challenging and picturesque with its location along the Rouge River in the northeast corner of the City. A Par 34 with total yardage of 2,700 from the back tees will challenge weekly golfers looking to brush up on their short game and provide fun for players of all levels.

The par for men and women is 34, and the course yardage from the blue tees is 2,732 yards and 2,196 from the red tees. The clubhouse offers power carts, pull carts, food and beverage for purchase, and league play.

A membership is available to Birmingham residents, Birmingham property owners, Birmingham businesses, and non-residents.

In addition to the golf course, the site also offers Springdale Park which is a popular venue for all types of parties, family events and "get together." The park portion of the property is located at the north end of the property. There is a paved drive and parking area, large pavilion with tables and benches, ADA compliant playground equipment with woodchip surfacing, grills, a drinking fountain, and open space. Park-goers have access to the clubhouse restrooms while using the park facilities. The pavilion is available for group rentals.



ACREAGE

45.03

Table 5: Recreation Inventory

		Accessibility Assessment	cal Outlets	D	smo	sa	Racks	Irash Receptacles	ark	II Field	Park	eague nds	ll Diamond	Regulation diamond	. Area	ig Path	Courts	Skating	Space	Areas	tball Hoop	Volleyball Court	Shelter	Tables		Golf Course	Drinking Fountain	Бu	Country		ig Space	×	Gymnasium	Swimming Pool
	Acres	ssess	Electrical	Parking	Restrooms	Benches	Bike R	ash l	Dog Park	ootball	Skate Park	Little Leagu Diamonds	Softball Die	egula	Soccer	Walking	Tennis	lce Ska	Open S	Play A	3asketball	olleyl	Picnic	Picnic	Grills	9-Hole	rinkir	Sledding	Cross (Skiing	Fishing	Meeting	lce Rink	ymne	vimn
PUBLIC RECREATION FACILITIES	Ă I	A A	Ē	č	Ř	ă	Ö	Ē	Ď	Ľ	S	מב	Ň	α ̈́́Ε	Ň	3	Ĕ	<u>ں</u>	0	₫	ä	>	Ā	ä	Ū	ດ່	Ō	S I	ิเว	Ϊ	Σ	<u> </u>	Ű	Ś
Pump House Park	0.2	1				x		x											x	х														
Redding Well Site	0.38	1				~		~											x	~														
Baldwin Well Site	0.55	1																	x															
South Well Site	0.64	1																	x															
Derby Well Site	3.67	2																	x					1										
Quarton Tennis Court	0.43	3				x		х									2		~					-			1							
Martha Baldwin Park	0.99	2				x		x									2		x															
Adams Park	1.45	2				x		x							x				X	х	1													
Howarth Park	1.98	2				X		x				1			^				X	x	- 1			3			2							
Linn-Smith Park	2.04	3 1				^		^				1								^				5			2							
West Lincoln Well Site	2.04			x		x		x									2		X X	x				2			1							
Crestview Park	3.58	2		X													2		X					3			1							
Pembroke Park		3			-	X	1	X				1			X		2		× *	X				4			2							
St. James Park	5.3 5.98	3			-	X	1	X						1	x x		2		X	x x	X X			3			2							
		2		Х		X	1	X						I	X		2		X		X			3			Z							
Linden Park	7.37	2				X		X								X			X	Х														
Manor Park	8.47	1				×		X								X			X															
Shain Park	2.26	4	х	Х		X	x	x											X	Х				x			2							
Birmingham Museum	2.83	4	X	X	x	X		X											X															
Booth Park	3.93	4	х			X		X								X			X	х				3			1	x						
Barnum Park	9	4		X		X		Х					1		x	X	-	х	X	х				8			2							
Poppleton Park	17.21	3		X		X		x					1				2		X	х				3			1							
Kenning Park	21.71	3		X		X		x			х	3	1		X		4		X	х				3			3							
Quarton Lake	27.03	3		X		X	4	x								X			X											X				
Springdale Park and Golf Course	45.03	3	Х	X	x	X		x											Х	х			Х	X	X	х	1							
Lincoln Hills Golf Course	57.13	4		X	X			x	X																	х		X	Х		X			
Ice Sports Arena	na	4		X	X	X		x										х													X	x		
TOTAL ACREAGE	231.4																																	
PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES																																		
Quarton School	6.85		х	x	x							2			х					х	4										X		х	
Pierce School	10.9		х	x	x							x	х		х					х	2										х		х	
Derby Middle School	21.44		х	x	x									x	2						3										х		х	х
Seaholm High School	44.54		х	x	x					x				2	x		7		x			2									x		x	х
Midvale Center	n/a		х	х	x															х											х		х	
TOTAL ACREAGE	83.73																																	
PRIVATE SCHOOL FACILITIES																																		
Roeper School	1.52		x	х	x	×		х		x																		ļ			x			
Holy Name Catholic School	3.52		х	х		x		х																							x			
Eton Academy	4.43		х	х		x		х											x												x			
Our Shepherd Lutheran	9.17		х	х	x	x		х											x	х	2										х			
TOTAL ACREAGE	19.14																																	
PRIVATE RECREATION FACILITIES																																		
Community House	0.85		х	х		x																									X			
YMCA	1.52		х	х		x																											х	х
Forest Hills Swim Club	1.65		х	х		x																												х
Birmingham/Bloomfield Art Center	3.43		x	х		×																												
Birmingham Racquet Club	na																6																	
TOTAL ACREAGE	7.5																																	
TOTAL ACREAGE (ALL ABOVE)	451.94																																	

Mini Park

Neighborhood Park

Community Park

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School Facilities

The City of Birmingham maintains a working relationship with the Birmingham Public School District. As is detailed in the next chapter, the school district provides much of the recreation programming through the Community Education Program. The city and schools maintain communication for use of city and school facilities with an informal policy for scheduling.

PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES

A total of five public school properties were inventoried for available recreation facilities. While school facilities are not accessible at all times and are not maintained or upgraded by the City of Birmingham, they do play an important role in the provision of recreation opportunities and facilities to residents.

Derby Middle School:

Derby Middle School is located in the northeast portion of the city between Adams Road and the Canadian National Railroad. The school is located on a large piece of property which includes a practice football field, two soccer fields, a regulation-size baseball field and a football field with goal posts. The school site also has three basketball hoops and a partial asphalt path leading past the baseball field near the railroad tracks. The school also has an indoor pool.

Midvale Center:

The Midvale Center is located adjacent to the Seaholm High School property along Midvale Street. The center includes the Birmingham Area Senior Group (NEXT) and the BPS Early Childhood Center. There are swings, a play structure, tot lot structure and baseball field on the west side of the Center.

Pierce Elementary School:

Pierce School is located near the southern border of the city, east of Pierce Road. The site contains two basketball hoops, a baseball field, two soccer field, and play equipment including swings, three play structures, climbers, etc.

Quarton Elementary School:

The Quarton Elementary School is located near the western border of the city, off Oak Street. The school property includes a practice soccer field, baseball fields, four basketball hoops, and play equipment including swings, climbers and two play structures. Also, adjacent to the school sits two tennis courts, a bench, trash receptacle and a drinking fountain.

Seaholm High School:

Birmingham Seaholm High School is located on the western edge of the city, north of Lincoln Road. The high school property includes seven tennis courts and a football/soccer stadium with lights, a press box, scoreboard and bleachers, a baseball and softball field with bleachers as well as open areas for practice fields. The high school has an indoor pool, outdoor track and a climbing high rope course. The property is also the location of the Birmingham Community Education Department.







PRIVATE SCHOOL FACILITIES

There are four private schools within the city boundaries including:

Eton Academy:

Eton Academy is located in the southeast portion of the city, adjacent to Melton Road, south of Kenning Park. The Academy has one soccer field, benches and a small open area with swings and a playscape.

Holy Name Catholic School:

Holy Name Catholic School is located north of Harmon Street, west of Old Woodward Avenue. The school has a small playscape.

Our Shepherd Lutheran:

Our Shepherd Lutheran School is located in the southeast portion of the city, south of Lincoln Street. The property includes a practice softball diamond, a soccer field, indoor gym, open space and play equipment.

Roeper School:

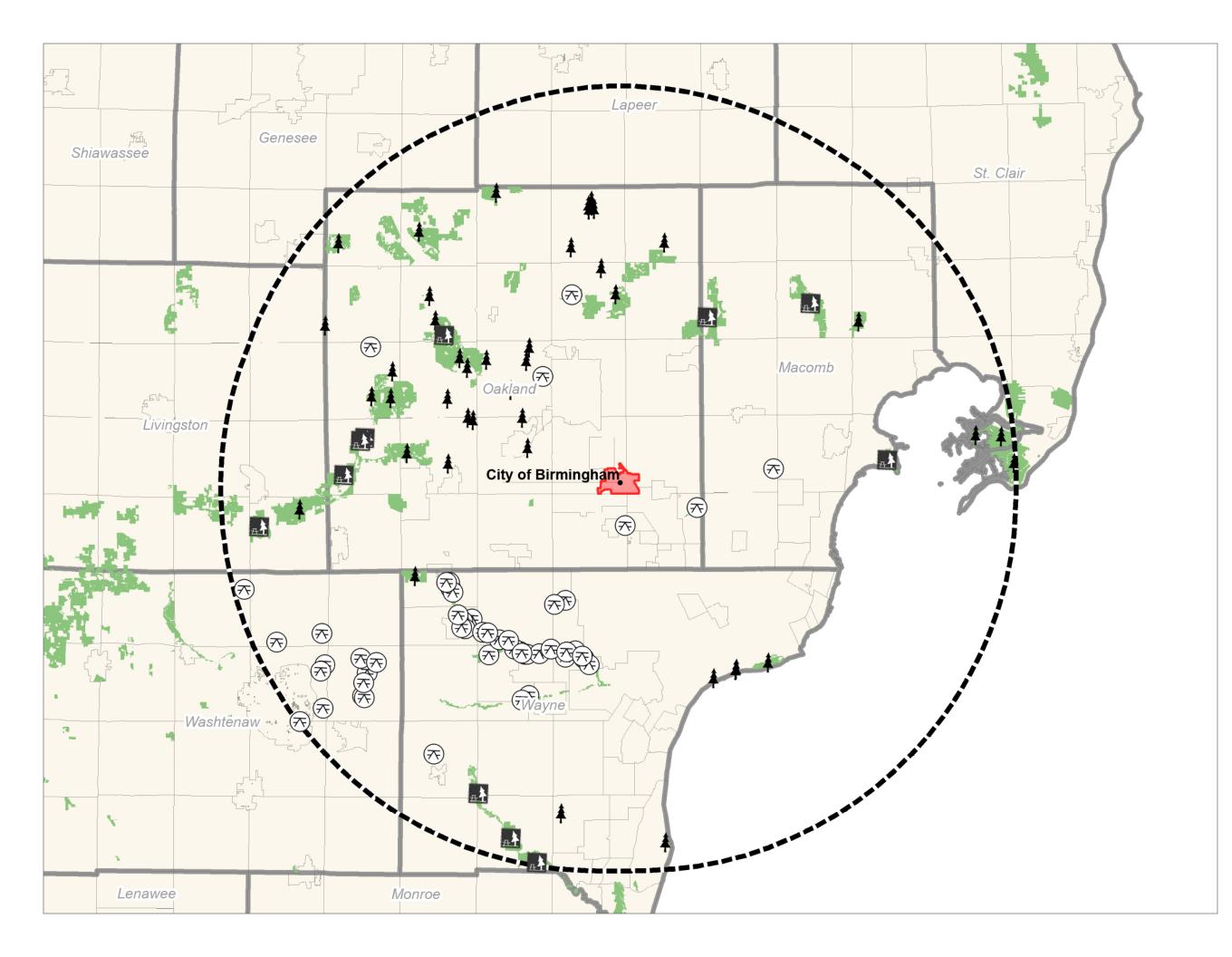
Roeper School is located in the northeast portion of the city, north of Maple Road. The school is adjacent to Adams Park. The property includes a soccer field, basketball court, open space, and a play area.



Regional Parks and Facilities

Regional parks offer unique natural features that are particularly suited for outdoor recreation, such as viewing and studying nature, fishing, boating, hiking, and trail use. Many also include active play areas such as ball field or courts. While these parks are not used for formal programming by the City of Birmingham, they provide active and passive recreational opportunities to the residents of the community. Regional facilities are provided by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the Huron Clinton Metropolitan Authority, and Oakland County Parks System. The regional parks located within close proximity (30 miles) of the City are sown on Map 3- Regional Parks and Facilities. While the following describes the nearly 6,000 acres of natural landscapes and outdoor recreation provided through the Oakland County Parks System.

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Мар 3 **Regional Parks** and Facilities

City of Birmingham, Michigan

March 26, 2018

LEGEND

Regional Parks



Huron Clinton Metropolitan Authoirty State Park County Parks

30 mile radius



Data Source: SEMCOG, 2017



MCKENNA



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Parks, Recreation, **49** and Trails Inventory |

Addison Oaks:

Addison Oaks is a scenic 1,139-acre park in northeast Oakland County with two lakes and spring-fed ponds.

Catalpa Oaks:

Catalpa Oaks' nearly 24 acres of open space is nestled in Southfield, just west of Greenfield Road. The park currently features six soccer fields, a baseball diamond and softball field. Fields are reserved by permit.

Glen Oaks:

The Glen Oaks Golf Course features an 18-hole, Par 70 course with challenging Par 3 holes crossing streams, with rolling terrain. The 122-acre course includes a 1920's English-style stone clubhouse designated as a Michigan Historical Building serves as a beautiful setting for banquets, weddings and golf outings (food service provided by Oak Management). There's also a formal garden ideal for outdoor weddings.

Groveland Oaks:

Groveland Oaks County Park is a summer family favorite, with picnicking, swimming and family camping on 362 acres near Holly.

Highland Oaks:

Highland Oaks offers 302 acres of picturesque rolling hills, wetlands and old pastures. Located within the headwaters of the Shiawassee River, Highland Oaks preserves sensitive habitat while providing recreational experiences in a natural setting.

Independence Oaks:

Enjoy year-round recreation in this naturally-maintained 1,285-acre park near Clarkston.

Lyon Oaks:

Lyon Oaks in Wixom preserves 800 acres of environmentally sensitive wetlands within a 1,041-acre park. The park features a 13-acre, fenced dog park.

Orion Oaks:

Orion Oaks County Park preserves more than 916 acres of environmentallysensitive green space.

Red Oaks:

At this 163-acre park built on the Red Run Drain, golfers, dog lovers and sports enthusiasts will find clean, safe facilities and opportunities to enjoy the outdoors with family and friends.

Rose Oaks:

Rose Oaks Park preserves 640 acres of gently rolling open meadows and wooded uplands, including approximately 200 acres of valuable wetlands and frontage on several glacial lakes within the site.













Springfield Oaks:

Springfield Oaks County Park's 332 acres is home to the annual Oakland County Fair, the historic Ellis Barn, the Springfield Oaks Golf Course and a Community Service Garden.

Waterford Oaks:

Waterford Oaks is a 185-acre park near Pontiac, headquarters of the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission.

White Lake Oaks:

White Lake Oaks is a scenic 18-hole, par 70 course. The 197-acre course is a well-manicured, player-friendly layout with front nine open and back nine tight, featuring wetlands and woodlands. The new clubhouse features a pro shop, club room, garden patio, and banquet facilities for groups up to 200.

Barrier Free Accessibility

The passage of the American Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) requires all areas of public service, including parks and other recreation facilities, to have barrier-free accessibility. An evaluation of the City of Birmingham's parks and recreation facilities has been conducted as part of the inventory. In accordance with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) standards, facilities were evaluated to determine if a person with any of the following criteria can safely and independently access and use the park or facility:

- Has limited sight or is blind
- Uses a wheelchair
- Has a hearing impairment or is deaf
- Uses a walking aid
- Has a mental impairment

A five-point evaluation system was used to rank each facility's accessibility. The system is described below and the accessibility rankings can be found in the Inventory Tables starting on page 31.

- **Level 1.** The park is not accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. The site includes little paved areas and the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are not easily accessible.
- **Level 2.** The park is somewhat accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Either the parking area or pathways are paved, but not both. Many of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are not easily accessible.
- **Level 3.** The park is mostly accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Most of the parking areas and pathways are paved, and some of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are accessible but may not be completely barrier-free.
- **Level 4.** The park is completely accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Parking areas and pathways are paved, and most of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are easily accessible.
- **Level 5.** The entire park was developed or renovated using the principles of universal design, a design approach which enables all environments to be usable by everyone, to the greatest extent possible, regardless of age, ability, or situation.

INCLUSIVE PLAY

For children with and without disabilities, the community playground can facilitate a positive environment for physical activity and inclusion.

The ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG), signed into law in 2010, detail enforceable standards for physical accessibility. However, these standards do not include elements designed for children with Down syndrome, sensory disorders, and visual and hearing impairments.

New attention has been focused on inclusive playgrounds and universal design that can serve a diverse population, including children with physical, cognitive, emotional and sensory disabilities.

The following elements are considered essential activities for inclusive play:

- Sensory play
- Music
- Swinging
- Spinning
- Sliding
- Socialization/imaginative
- Safety, comfort and access

Sources: United States Access Board, Landscape Structures; InclusivePlaygrounds.org Image Source: www.playlsi.org







INTERACTIVE PLAY – SPLASH PADS

Splash pads or spray parks have made a big splash as a common replacement for aging swimming pools or alternative aquatic amenity, particularly because they still provide the community with aquatic experiences without the high operating costs of traditional pools. Spray parks do not require high levels of staffing, require only minimal maintenance and offer a low-cost alternative to a swimming pool. They typically appeal to kids 2–12 year olds and can be a stand-alone facility in a community park or incorporated inside a family aquatic center.

- Splash pads tend to serve as a regional amenity, with some cities reporting over 10,000 visitors at parks from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Cities can choose to charge an admission fee for residents and/or nonresidents to control crowds and ensure enough revenue to fund maintenance and staffing.
- The location of a splash pad is important. Cities should analyze several potential locations for visibility, parking capacity, screening from neighbors and accessibility for the public.

Source: National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) Aquatic Trends, 2016



Quasi-Public and Private Recreation Facilities

Recreation facilities which are not owned or operated by the City of Birmingham or the Public School District were also inventoried due to their relevance in the provision of recreational opportunities to Birmingham residents.

Birmingham/Bloomfield Art Center: The Birmingham/Bloomfield Art Center is located in the southwest portion of the city, west of Cranbrook Road, adjacent to the Lincoln Hills Golf Course. The non-profit Art Center offers over 500 highquality art classes and workshops annually for students of all ages and abilities. The Center also holds a children's art camp, changing exhibitions and competitions, works of fine art for purchase or rental and a student pottery sale. The annual Birmingham Fine Arts Festival is held each year in May. A Gallery Shop is located in the Center, providing an opportunity to purchase high quality fine works of art by regional and national artists.

First United Methodist Church: The Christian Life Center, located on Maple, west of Southfield. The center offers a wide range of physical, social and spiritual enrichment activities that can be integrated through recreation, education and fellowship and serves all ages.

Park, is a private swim club in Birmingham that is open from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

The Community House: On January 5, 1921, a small group of women officially committed themselves to the concept that "a house big enough for dances, mass raise funds to establish such a center. In April 1923, they rented a small house on the corner of Bates and Maple, officially establishing the first Community House.

When the community recognized the need for a larger establishment, a campaign was initiated and on April 28, 1930, The Community House on Bates Street opened to the public. The original structure covered the area from Townsend Street on the south to the middle of the block, where the center chimney is now, on the north. The rest of the building (from the center chimney to Merrill Street) was added in October 1990.

In its more than 90 years of existence, and in spite of overwhelming changes in our society, The Community House has stayed true to its mission of building a strong community. People of all ages and interests continue to be served by the many and varied programs and services offered by The Community House.

Birmingham Family YMCA: The Birmingham YMCA is located adjacent to Lincoln Road, west of Woodward and directly north of St. James Park. The YMCA offers classes, programs and activities for all ages, that are detailed in the 'programs' portion of this chapter. The YMCA has gymnasiums, swimming pools, weight rooms, exercise rooms and a variety of individual meeting rooms.

Programming

An understanding of the programs and events which are currently offered by the City of Birmingham as well as programs offered by other entities within the city will help identify programming needs and avoid the duplication of services.

Birmingham Next (formerly Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council and Center): Birmingham Next is a non-profit tax-exempt organization providing services to persons 55 and older in the Birmingham School District and surrounding communities. The Senior Center is located within the Midvale Center with membership costs varying. Next offers such services as activities and travel programs, meal programs, medical equipment for loan, housing information, support groups, transportation and information and referrals. Next publishes a newsletter highlighting activities, classes, information and opportunities such as new tax laws, holiday parties, computer classes, aerobics, golf and bowling leagues, card games and support groups.

City of Birmingham Golf Courses: The Junior Golf Program is available for children between the ages of 7 and 14 during the summer school break. The program teaches golf fundamentals and offers golf on the Course. Adult golf leagues are a staple at both golf courses during the week.

City of Birmingham Ice Sports Arena: Programs offered through the City of Birmingham at the Ice Sports Arena include skating lessons for beginners to freestyle, an annual ice show, group parties, parents and tots skating and hockey, and adult hockey. Open skating is available on various days and times.

City of Birmingham In-the-Park Summer Concerts: "In-the-Park" concerts are offered Wednesday evenings in Shain Park from mid-June to mid-August. The event highlights a wide variety of musical talents from the surrounding areas.

YMCA: The YMCA offers many programs and activities for all ages. Membership fees vary. Some of the classes and activities offered include:

- Babysitting
- In-line hockey
- Open swim
- Senior activities
- Weight training
- Yoga
- Dance
- Fitness screeningKickboxing
- Wellness classes

Parties and events

Day camps

Soccer

- Gymnastics
- Massage therapy
- Preschool programs
- Swim lessons
- Wrestling

Volunteer Organizations/Leagues/Associations/Public/Private Partnerships: In addition to the above listed recreational programs, many other clubs and groups offer social, competitive, and child-oriented recreational activities. Many of these groups are volunteer organizations requiring payment of annual or monthly dues to support activities.

These groups serve an integral role in recreation planning because they offer programs for residents that are not offered by the City of Birmingham. The following groups are active in Birmingham and utilize city properties and facilities:



- **Birmingham Baseball Little League** ٠
- Birmingham Beverly Hills Church Softball League
- **Birmingham Bloomfield Soccer Club**
- Birmingham Figure Skating Club
- **Birmingham Friends and Relatives Conservatory**
- Birmingham Girls Softball League
- **Birmingham Hockey Association**
- **Birmingham Racquet Club**
- Birmingham United Soccer
- **Birmingham-Bloomfield Art Association**
- Holy Name Hurricane Club Holy Name School

Special Events: Additional special events held in Birmingham throughout the year include:

- Art Birmingham •
- Birmingham Winter Market
- Celebrate Birmingham • Hometown Parade
- Dash for Destiny
- Day on the Town •
- Farmer's Market
- Fine Art Festival
- Halloween Parade
- Holiday Tree Lighting

- Memorial Day Ceremony
- Night on The Town ٠
- Our Town Art Exhibition • and Sale
- **Pumpkin Patch**
- Summer in the City
- Veteran's Day Ceremony ٠
- Village Fair
- Woodward Dream Cruise .

Public Schools Community Education: The Birmingham Public Schools offer many classes and organized activities throughout the year, some of which include:

- Aerobics and Pilates .
- Baseball camp •
- Beading classes
- Boating
- Culinary arts and • entertaining classes
- Dance
- **Digital photography** •
- Fencing

- Home, garden and pet . classes
- Languages
- Martial Arts/Self Defense •
- Music
- Safety/first aid and CPR • classes
- Skating
- Swim lessons
- Tennis
- Yoga

•



Basis for Action Plan

An essential task in the recreation planning process is to determine the needs of the community. The needs serve as a basis for the development of the Action Plan. This task is accomplished using a compilation of several methods, including information gathered during the public input process and surveys, comparing the City to national recreation guidelines for the size of the community, and consultation with the Department of Public Services and the Parks and Recreation Board.







Planning and Public Input

Working together with the City of Birmingham Department of Public Services and Parks and Recreation Board Subcommittee, McKenna coordinated and conducted various outreach events throughout the planning process for robust and open community input. Participants at such events included residents, specific parks and recreation stakeholders, and community organizations' representatives. In total, there were four methods used as part of this program that have resulted in meaningful public engagement:

 Farmers Market "Field Day" – On Sunday, September 17, 2017 the City of Birmingham parks and recreation team and McKenna conducted public engagement during the Harvest Festival Farmers Market. Teams were on-site from 9:00AM until 2:00PM to facilitate quick, fun engagement exercises with visitors to the market. In total, the McKenna team estimated engaging over 450 individuals during the five-hour engagement period. Participants included young families and older individuals.

Input collected from the field day highlight family-friendly ideas such as the development of a splash pad, park design improvements for supervising multiple children, the incorporation of rubber surface materials, and universally accessible playgrounds. In addition, residents contributed ideas for capital development-focused facilities improvements like improved parking, an outdoor pool, and restrooms.

- 2. Online and Hard Copy Surveys McKenna launched online and hard copy surveys related to the City's overall parks and recreation program, and the Ice Sports Arena and Golf Courses specifically. Links to the surveys were made available at the City of Birmingham Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update website and on social media. Hard copy surveys were located at strategic locations throughout the City including City Hall and the Library. The surveys were made available for 45 days. At the end of the survey period, the City received the following number of survey responses:
 - 2018 Parks and Recreation Master Plan Survey: 417 responses
 - 2018 Parks and Recreation Golf Courses Survey: 324 responses
 - 2018 Parks and Recreation Ice Arena Survey: 260 responses

Most of the completed surveys were from residents between the ages of 35-49 and 50-64, 38% and 37% of all responses respectively. Individuals aged 65 and better made up 15% of all responses and just 10% of the responses were from individuals 18-34 years old. No responses were received from individuals 17 and younger.

Individuals in Quadrants B and D were equally represented, each accounting for 34% of the total survey responses. Quadrant A and Quadrant C also were equally represented accounting for 17% and 16% of all survey responses.

Generally, residents were familiar with the facilities and programs offered by Birmingham Parks and Recreation (88%). While most reported using parks for exercise, fitness, and casual sports (87%) followed by children's play and cultural events (45% each).



PUBLIC RESTROOMS DESIGN AND SITING

Throughout the public engagement process, many residents expressed a desire for restrooms and portable toilets to be sited at neighborhood and community parks. With the increased importance of parks and recreation facilities over the next twenty years, many government agencies are recognizing the benefits of investing in bathrooms that serve users of outdoor athletics and recreation facilities. However, there are specific design and maintenance considerations that should go into the development of a restroom or portable toilet location.

- Achieving exterior restroom design that matches local community architecture creates a local feel to park restrooms. New restrooms that architecturally match the neighborhood blend in to create a community acceptance.
- Portable toilets can also be screened from view to improve the aesthetics of a neighborhood park. In Santa Cruz, California, many portable toilets are screed with trellises that grow attractive vines or the enclosure is framed with a poster or public art.
- The cost of restroom maintenance can be reduced by building with longerlasting, stronger components. In addition, many parks and recreation providers utilize security cameras to supervise facilities when facilities are locked and staff are off the clock.
 Security cameras are a relatively lowcost way to keep vandalism down.

Overall the survey sought to gauge to what degree residents value the parks and recreation system, if the current parks and recreation facilities meet the needs of residents, and what should be the Department's future priorities.

Overwhelmingly, participants recognized that parks and recreation programs are important to their quality of life, regardless if they use the programs on a regular basis (99% of all respondents). Respondents largely rated the maintenance of parks and recreation facilities, availability of public spaces, and overall existing outdoor facilities to be excellent or good (over 80%). Similarly, over 60% of residents reported that the existing parkland, playgrounds, community and special events, and golf courses meet the needs of the community. However, over 50% of respondents reported that the existing walking and biking trails fall short of the needs of the community and over 30% agreed that the available WIFI connections, environmental/nature education programs, and aquatic programs also fall short of the needs of the community.

When asked what new or enhanced opportunities residents would like to see within the City, nearly 47% of all respondents choose hiking/walking trails, followed by restrooms (44%), adult fitness and wellness (36%), community gardens (33%), and bicycling (32%). These responses were very similar to the open-ended questions that asked what residents felt are the top three recreational priorities for Birmingham in the next 10 years. The word cloud below shows the most frequently used phases for respondents' number one priorities.

What do you feel is the top recreation priority for Birmingham in the next 10 years?

Fitness Splash Pad Community Ice Arena Access Road Green Space Play Bike Paths Open Space Existing Programs Walking Natural Park Safe Trails Senior Playgrounds Bicycle Facilities Traffic Restrooms Golf Courses Center Maintain Current Swimming Pool

This word cloud is a visual representation of the most frequently used answers to the above survey question. The larger the word the more often it was used. The Ice Sports Arena and Golf Course Surveys sought to understand specific users' experience with each facility. Respondents' experiences with the golf courses were positive. Nearly 93% of all respondents reported satisfaction with the City of Birmingham Golf Course with 56% of all respondents living in Birmingham. Half of respondents felt that the City should prioritize the golf course the same as other parks within the city. Improvements suggestions included: improved general maintenance, speed of play and the greens, and improved bunkers/sand traps.

Respondents to the Ice Sports Arena were split 58% residents, 42% nonresidents. Satisfaction with the facility was mixed; 47% of respondents reported satisfaction with 59% of survey respondents believing that the City of Birmingham should prioritize improvements to the Ice Arena more than other parks. 42% of respondents are willing to pay between zero and ten percent more in fees for improvements. While, 38% of respondents would be willing to pay more than 10% in increased fees for improvements. The word cloud below shows the most commonly provided suggestions for improvement to the Ice Sports Arena, with larger locker rooms being mentioned approximately 100 times.

What do you think [about the Ice Arena] could be improved?

Open during Summer Instead Pro Shop Food Stands Lighting Year Round Locker Rooms are Tiny Bigger Locker Rooms Off-ice Training Larger Locker Rooms Temperature Hockey Seating ICe Snack Bar Locker Room Size Own Locker Room High School Heaters Space Crowded Bathrooms Install Lobby Visiting Offer

This word cloud is a visual representation of the most frequently used answers to the above survey question. The larger the word the more often it was used. Roundtable Discussions – On September 21, 22, and 26, 2017, McKenna conducted Roundtable Discussions with a number of stakeholders. The Roundtable Discussions ensured that representatives from specific stakeholder groups were able to provide feedback about their organization's perceived parks and recreation needs.

City Leadership and Boards and Commission Liaisons stressed the importance of coordination in planning activities, especially with the development of the non-motorized transportation system and in efforts to acquire land for a linear park in the triangle district. The Birmingham Public Schools recognized both the schools and the parks limited capacity to provide space for organized sports league. Representatives from various leagues, associations, and nonprofits expressed a strong interest in developing partnerships with the department to improve their operations. The neighborhood associations shared their commitment to their respective neighborhoods and a desire for the parks to remain a special place within their communities.

- City Leadership, Boards & Commissions Liaisons
- Coordination
- Birmingham Public Schools
- Capacity
- Leagues, Associations, Nonprofits
- Partnership
- Neighborhood Associations
- Commitment
- 4. Open House and Presentation On October 3, 2017, McKenna hosted an Open House before the start of the regularly scheduled Parks and Recreation Board Meeting. Using the exercises from the Farmers Market "Field Day" and open-ended comment cards, the team collected additional public input. During the Parks and Recreation Board Meeting, McKenna made a presentation on the 2018 Parks and Recreation Master Plan Planning Process and accepted public comment. An estimated thirty to forty residents participated in the Open House and attended the following presentation. The participants generally were older couples and individuals.

The input received at the Open House reflected the needs of the specific residents that were present the Open House. Common themes that emerged were multimodal connections, the desire for natural resource/open space preservation and management, and capital improvements.

MAJOR THEMES FROM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Throughout the public engagement process people were generally positive about the parks and recreation facilities in Birmingham. However, several community values emerged throughout the process that can be used to prioritize improvements to the system. These include:

Natural Area Stewardship: Throughout the engagement efforts, many comments were made about the desires to preserve and maintain natural areas and open spaces within the City. When asked what the City of Birmingham's priorities for the next ten years should be over 14% of respondents mentioned the need to preserve and manage open space.

Inclusive Community: The City of Birmingham was able to engage many types of residents throughout the planning process and what emerged was a desire for the parks and recreation system to accommodate the variety of users in the City, ranging from young children to seniors. Improvements that were suggested in order to keep parks inclusive of the City's diverse community included restrooms at park facilities, barrier-free playgrounds and pathways, community programs and festivals, dog parks, and the development of a community center. Furthermore, many residents expressed concern that individuals in the Triangle and Rail Districts do not have easy access to the parks system.

Health and Fitness: Over three fourths of survey respondents reported that they use the parks system for fitness and casual sports. Over 20% of survey respondents believed that health and fitness related improvements should be a priority. They believe there is a need for improved or enhanced walking and running trails, adult and youth fitness classes, and improved organized sports facilities and programs like pickleball and lap swim.

Connectivity: Many residents largest concern about the park system was not the parks themselves but the system of connectivity that gets residents from their homes or from local business to parks. Over 20% of survey respondents and many more at the Field Day and Open House mentioned a need for improved bicycle paths, sidewalks, and parking (both bicycle and automobile).

Customer Service: A large number of residents expressed satisfaction with the parks and recreation system in Birmingham. Nearly 15% believed that the City's priority for the next ten years should be maintaining, updating, and advertising the existing system.

Parkland Analysis and Service Areas

Approximately 315 acres of parks and facilities exist within Birmingham, with 231 acres owned by the City and managed by the Department of Public Services. The Birmingham Public Schools own the remaining 84 acres.

As required by the MDNR, the Birmingham parkland and facilities were compared to the minimum guidelines set forth by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA, 1983, 1995). Although the NRPA's updated guidelines were set more than 13 years ago, the MDNR still recommends their use as standards to establish minimum community needs in terms of land area and number of facilities.

Caution must be exercised in the interpretation of these results given that these guidelines were set over a decade ago and may not represent current popular activities and trends. Each community, based on its own particular resources and resident preferences and demands, are encouraged to establish its needs and requirements so that the plan best suits the community's desires for recreation. Recreation needs are often better documented through public input rather than relying only on the national guidelines. The NRPA guidelines and the MDNR standards were considered in the development of the Action Plan but not weighted heavily. The information gathered during the many methods of public input directed the Action Plan directly.

Table 6 and the following discussion compares the amount of parkland as it relates to the conditions of the City and the MDNR standards based on the 2015 ACS population estimate of 20,489. Park classifications used by the MDNR are defined as follows and described in further detail in Table 6.

Mini/Neighborhood Park. Mini/Neighborhood parks serve an area up to a onehalf mile distance and are typically less than 10 acres in size. Birmingham has five mini-parks, 11 neighborhood parks and four school facilities that provide more than the recommended acreage for mini/neighborhood parks.

- **Community Park.** Community parks typically serve an area within onehalf to three miles and are between 30 to 50 acres in size. However, since the City of Birmingham is only 4.4 square miles many of the City's community parks are smaller than the guidelines, but serve a communitywide function. The City owns 186 acres of community parkland, thus exceeding the recommended 402 acres by 222. In addition to the Cityowned land, Seaholm High School contributes 45 acres of land since it is categorized as a community park.
- School Park. School properties can fulfill the requirements for other classes of parks such as neighborhood, community, sports complex, and special use. For the purposes of this inventory all childhood centers and elementary and middle school facilities were classified as neighborhood parks, and Seaholm High School was considered a community park.
- **Regional Park.** Regional facilities offer a variety of active and passive recreational opportunities which help in meeting the need for local parkland and help balance the deficiencies in facilities. Birmingham does not have a regional park within its borders. However, it should be noted that a number of regional parks are within a short distance from the City despite not being within its borders.

 According to the above guidelines, the City of Birmingham exhibits a surplus in all of the parkland categories. Overall, the City is providing an exceptional amount of parkland for its residents given the constraint of its municipal boundaries and relatively dense land use.

Park Classification	NRPA Guideline Minimum Acres/1,000 Residents ¹	Recommended Acreage for Birmingham ²	Public City Park	Public School Park ³	City Total	Surplus (Deficiency)
Mini Parks	0.25-0.5	5.1-10.2	5.44		5.44	-4.76
Neighborhood Parks	1.0-2.0	20.5-41.0	39.83	39.19	79.02	+38.02
Community Parks	5.0-8.0	102.4-163.9	186.1	44.54	230.67	+66.77
Total	-	128.1-215.1	231.4	83.73	315.13	+100.03

Table 6: Birmingham Public Parkland Acreage Analysis

¹ Source: Lancaster, R. A., Ed. Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines. Alexandria, VA: NRPA, 1983.; Mertes, J.D. and J. R. Hall. Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines. Alexandria, VA: NRPA, 1995.

² Based on 2011-2015 American Community Survey Population Estimates, 20,489

³ All early childhood centers and elementary schools classified as neighborhood parks, and all middle and high schools classified as community parks.

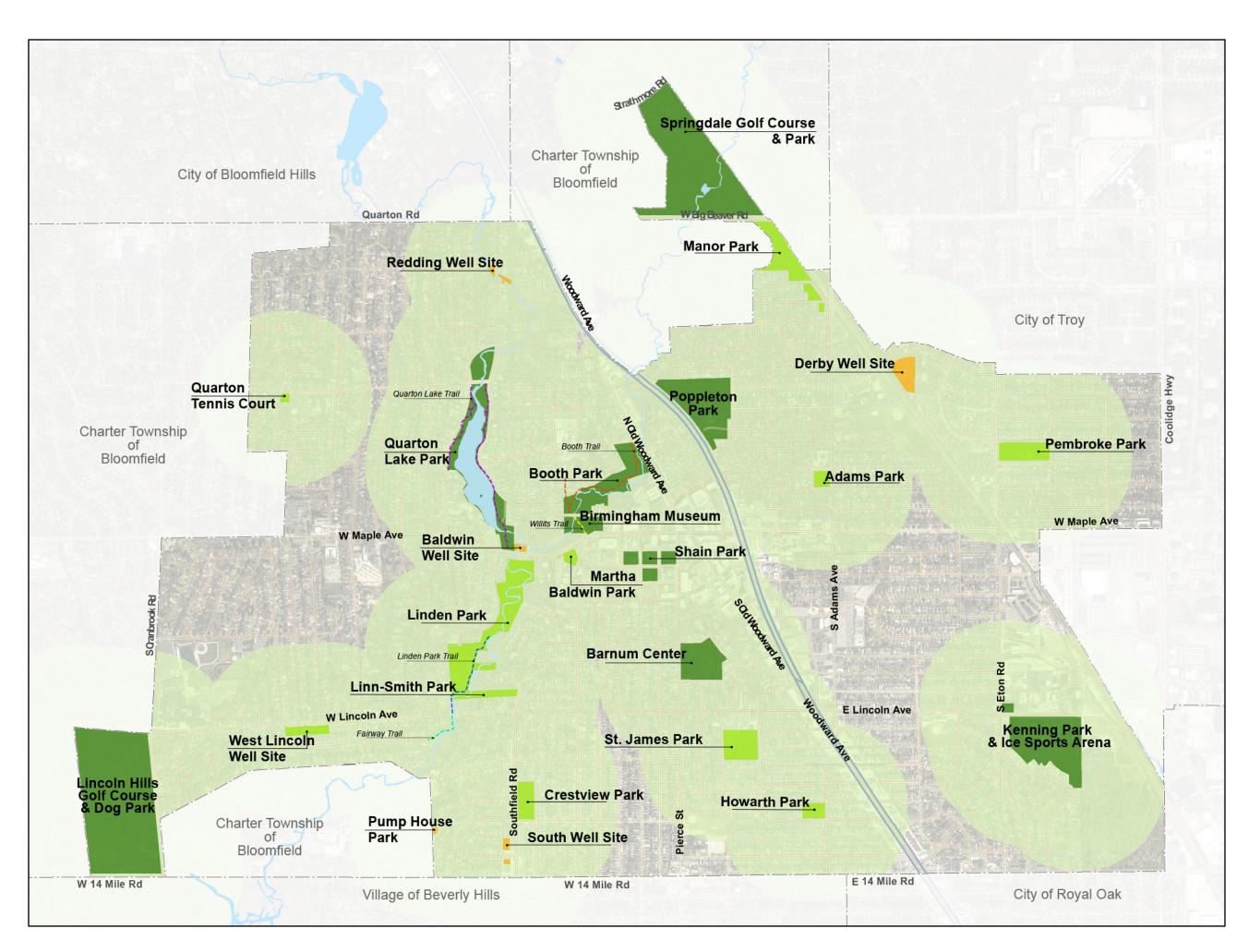
Although it is important to consider the overall amount of parkland in the City, it is also essential to consider the type of parks, their location, and their disbursement throughout the City. When evaluating parks and recreation service areas it is important to closely consider where the residents in the City live and if the residents are within walking distanced to a park, recreation, or school facility. The distance of 0.25 miles is often used as an established standard of how far people would be willing to walk to a park or recreation facility.

The parks and school facilities walkability areas are shown on MAP 4 and MAP 5. For the purposes of measuring the walkability area in the City, a radius of one-fourth mile from each park was used.

There are few service gaps within the City in regard to City owned recreation facilities within one fourth mile. The primary areas without nearby City owned facilities are the southeast part of the City, the area west of Linden Park between Maple and Midvale Street, and the southwestern edge of the City.

When the school facilities are added to the walkability analysis, service gaps decrease. Specifically, Seaholm High School has the potential to serve the residents west of Linden Park. However, the area west of Woodward and south of Adams park still has limited access to a park.

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Map 4 Walkability: City-Owned Parks

City of Birmingham, Michigan

March 26, 2018

LEGEND



Walkability Buffer- 1/4 mile Mini Parks Neighborhood Parks Community Parks Waterbodies Municipal Boundary

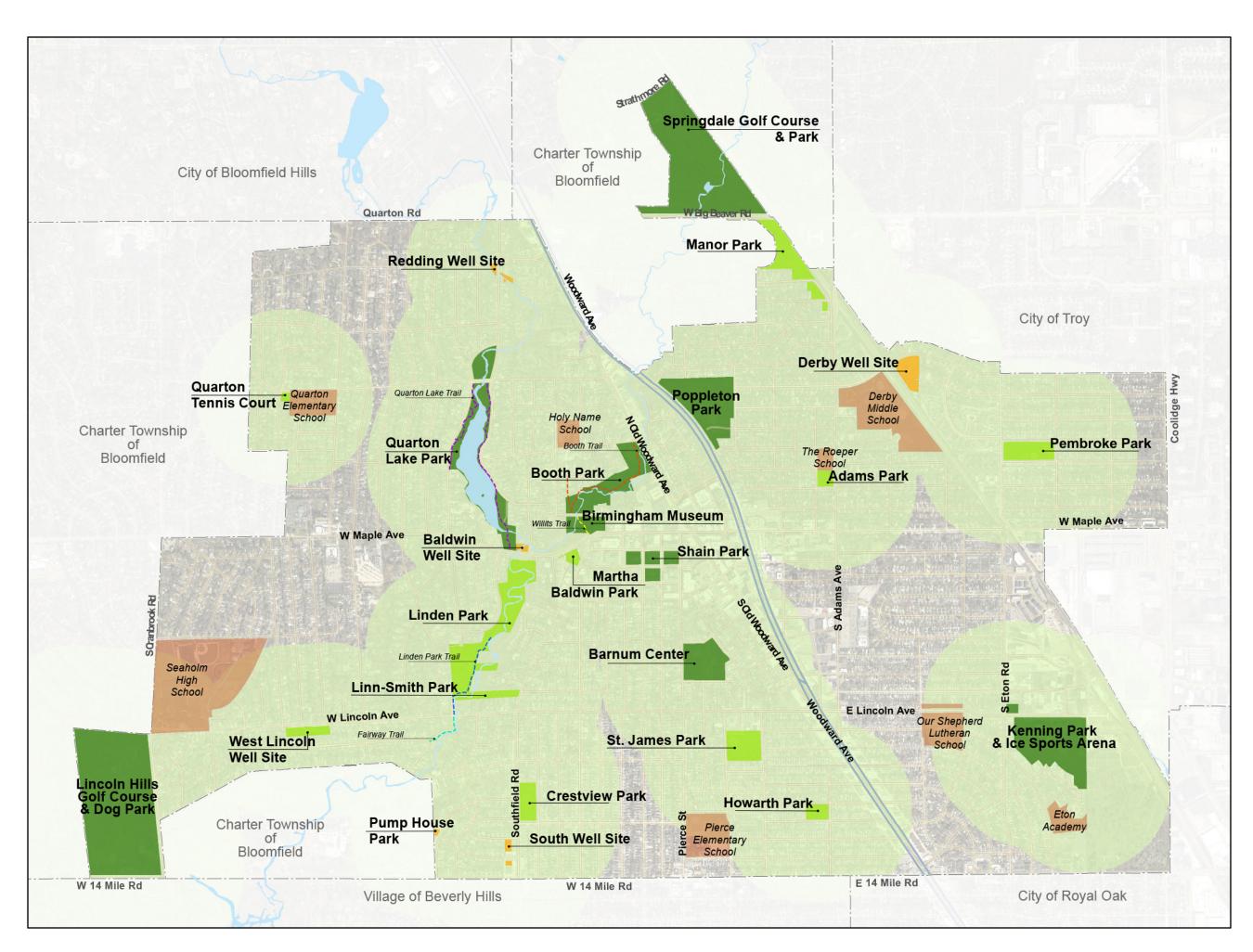


Data Source: Oakland County GIS, 2016 Aerial Data, SEMCOG, 2015





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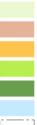


Map 5 Walkability: City-Owned Parks and School Facilities

City of Birmingham, Michigan

March 26, 2018

LEGEND



Walkability Buffer- 1/4 mile

- School Facilities
- Mini Parks
- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks
- Waterbodies
- Municipal Boundary







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Facilities Analysis

In addition to parkland, existing facilities were compared against the recommended guidelines set by the NRPA and the MDNR to determine if they are adequate to meet the needs of residents based on national averages. The analysis takes into account a variety of factors including specific needs and existing conditions in Birmingham, information obtained during the public input opportunities, programming needs, site conditions, as well as national averages. Table 7 indicates the recommended guideline and facilities, the number of facilities in the City, and the surplus or deficiency of facilities. The comments below the table provide further prospective and assist in identifying key issues related to specific facilities.

Park Classi	fication	NRPA Guideline ¹	Recommended Facilities ²	Public Birmingham Facilities	Public School Facilities	Total Facilities	Surplus (Deficiency)
Archery Ra	nge	1/50,000	0	0	0	0	0
Baseball / S	oftball	1/5,000	4	9	7	16	+12
Basketball		1/5,000	4	3	9	12	+8
Football		1/20,000	1	0	1	1	0
Golf Driving	ı Range	1/50,000	0	0	0	0	0
Golf Course	(9-Hole)	1/25,000	1	2	0	2	+1
Golf Course	(18-Hole)	1/50,000	0	0	0	0	0
Ice Rink	Indoor	1/100,000	0	1	0	1	+1
ісе кіпк	outdoor	depends on climate	depends on climate	1	0	1	N/A
Playground		1/3,000	7	10	3	13	+6
Running Tra	ack	1/20,000	1	0	1	1	0
Soccer		1/10,000	2	5	5	10	+8
Swimming	Pool	1/20,000	1	0	2	2	+2
Tennis		1/2,000	10	6	7	11	+1
Trails		1 system per region	1	1 system	0	1 system	0
Volleyball		1/5,000	4	0	2	2	-2

Table 7: Facilities Analysis

¹ Source: Lancaster, R. A., Ed. Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines. Alexandria, VA: NRPA, 1983.;

Mertes, J.D. and J. R. Hall. Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines. Alexandria, VA: NRPA, 1995.

² Based on 2011-2015 American Community Survey Population Estimates, 20,489

A number of the facilities included in Table 7 are owned by Birmingham Public Schools. Though schools provide limited hours and access to the general public, they complement the existing parks and recreation system within the City of Birmingham. Representatives from the Birmingham School District affirmed the idea that the parks and schools work together to provide residents a recreation system. Management of recreation facilities should be done in coordination to ensure that, despite the geographic constraints of providing parks and recreation facilities in a fully developed city, residents have access to their desired amenities. This page intentionally left blank.

Parks & Recreation BIRMINGHAM, MASTER PLAN

Action Plan

By using the comprehensive planning process of trend identification, roundtable discusses, surveys, and public meetings, the City of Birmingham Department of Public Services has effectively established a framework for the Action Plan. The Action Plan describes recommendations for improvements and enhancement of the Birmingham parks and recreation facilities and programming, as well as identifying the tools needed for implementation of the plan components.

A complementary component of the Action Plan is the Capital Improvement Plan. Action strategies that may require significant capital investment from the community have been organized into a five-year plan. The specific projects have been prioritized in the Capital Improvement Plan in order to better manage the Department of Public Services budget and equally distribute the projects over a five-year cycle. The timing of these projects may be influenced, moved, or eliminated depending upon economic conditions, available funding, and/or grant awards. However, the spirit and intent of the project priorities are well defined in the Capital Improvement Plan.

The Action Plan is organized into four sections:

- Vision, Mission, and Community Values
- Department of Public Services Goals and Strategies
- System Wide Recommendations
- Five Year Capital Improvement Plan

Mission and Community Values

To provide a guideline for decision making, the Parks and Recreation Board has developed a mission statement and list of identified community values. Together, these will guide the development of the goals and strategies for the departments future projects, and other efforts.

MISSION

The following Mission presents how the City of Birmingham Department of Public Services and the Parks and Recreation Board will achieve the Vision:

"The Mission of the Birmingham Parks and Recreation Board is to help other organizations and agencies to plan and share family activities in helping to prevent the desires and need to use alcohol, drugs, and tobacco by providing recreational programs for all ages, and to encourage recreational life styles."

COMMUNITY VALUES

The community values that were brought forward during the community input process of the planning process included:

- Natural Area Stewardship: We value the efficient and effective management of our assets and stewardship of our parks and open space, to sustain them for future generations.
- Inclusive Community: We value creating, enhancing, expanding and promoting opportunities for all members of our community to participate in the enjoyment of parks and recreation services.
- **Health and Fitness:** We value the health and well-being of our residents and the benefits that parks, recreation, and open space offer.
- **Connectivity:** We value an interconnected parks and facilities network that provides access to the parks system across the City of Birmingham.
- **Customer Service:** We value our current parks and recreation system and take pride in managing and maintaining world class parks and facilities.



Goals and Objectives

To provide a guideline for decision making, the Department of Public Services and the Parks and Recreation Board developed a list of goals and objectives based on the previous 2012-2016 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and the results of analysis and public input. The following goals and objectives are intended to provide an operational framework for future decisions related to the provision of parks and recreation for Birmingham.

As recommended in the Action Plan, these goals and objectives should be reviewed annually by the Parks and Recreation Board and modified as necessary.

GOAL #1: FOSTER AN INCLUSIVE AND UNIQUE COMMUNITY.

Birmingham is enriched by strong volunteer efforts, including the youth sports league administration, boards, commissions and planning and historical preservation efforts. Numerous special events are held throughout the year, such as festivals, art fairs, farmer's market and organizations. Working together to create a strong sense of an inclusive community, it is only made stronger by the partnerships, trust and collaboration of the stakeholders and elected officials.

- Continue working with local organizations, clubs and institutions to provide a wealth and variety of organized activities and programs within the community. This includes:
 - a. Senior Walking Clubs.
 - b. "Theatrical" programming that involves schools, library, residents and the Community House.
 - c. Seasonal, including winter activities.
 - d. Art and cultural programs.
 - e. Teen and youth programming during the summer and utilizing extended hours.
- Celebrate the community by participation in festivals, community functions and events
- 3. Support and encourage new developments to include areas for active and passive recreation.
- 4. Provide volunteer opportunities in program delivery and improvement projects.

GOAL #2: PROVIDE PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES THAT ARE BEAUTIFUL AND HIGH QUALITY, THAT RESPECT HISTORY, OFFER A VARIETY OF EXPERIENCES, BOTH PASSIVE AND ACTIVE, ARE WELL MAINTAINED AND THAT ARE ACCESSIBLE TO ALL RESIDENTS OF THE COMMUNITY.

Quality and beauty are important to residents and it is expected that community assets are protected and valued. This is true for existing parks and recreation though continued maintenance and the improvement for both existing and new green spaces, facilities and recreational areas.

- 1. Analyze and improve universal accessibility.
- 2. Maintain and improve designated wetlands, Rouge River Corridor and open space.
- 3. Incorporate art/sculptures into park design.
- 4. Encourage central entry areas for sitting and gathering in park design.
- 5. Maintain and update park equipment and facilities as needed, such as playground equipment, ball fields, open space areas including natural landscaping.
- 6. Continue implementation of standardized park design for all City of Birmingham Parks including signage, installation of trees, tree transplanting, improved landscaping, benches, bike racks, and waste receptacles.

GOAL #3: TO CREATE A COMMUNITY OF HEALTHY RESIDENTS BY PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES THAT PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE ACTIVE LIFESTYLES AND MOBILITY.

Birmingham has an active resident base that includes runners, cyclists, soccer players, walkers, skaters, hockey players, golfers, etc. The health of the aging population will need to be maintained through private and public efforts.

- 1. Increase non-motorized transportation connections between parks, historical sites, community facilities and shopping districts that allow residents to cycle, walk and run.
- 2. Develop and promote programming that encourages active lifestyles for all ages.
- Work with Oakland County to develop pathway connections with surrounding communities that include Beverly Hills, Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Twp., Royal Oak, Southfield and Troy with the existing Rouge River Corridor.
- Promote the establishment of the Rouge River Corridor along the Rouge River to encourage the preservation, enhancement and an increase community understanding of this important watershed.
- 5. Develop a wayfinding program for the trail / greenway network that directs users of the non-motorized paths to City parks and other destinations.

GOAL #4: PROVIDE RECREATION PROGRAMMING AND FACILITY OPPORTUNITIES THAT MEET THE NEEDS AND INTERESTS OF THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY.

Residents have indicated that recreation outlets and activities are important to their quality of life. Providing well balanced activity choices, including passive and active opportunities, along with flexible structure is essential.

- 1. Monitor the use of athletic fields and facilities to determine additional needs.
- Create opportunities that go beyond the traditional team sports such as educational components, individual sporting pursuits, training/selfimprovement courses.
- 3. Provide additional environmental-oriented programs and use parks as outdoor classrooms and art theater.
- 4. Coordinate with the Arts Board regarding public art at parks. Coordinate location, lights to illuminate, sprinkler locations, etc.

GOAL #5: TO USE EXISTING COMMUNITY RESOURCES EFFICIENTLY AND TO DEMONSTRATE FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND TO COORDINATE AND PARTNER WITH OTHER ENTITIES TO ENSURE THE AVAILABLE AND OPPORTUNITY FOR COMPREHENSIVE, QUALITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES.

Parks and recreation services, along with all government services, must evaluate and provide cost effective opportunities for residents.

- Explore opportunities with private partnerships and Oakland County Parks to jointly provide desired services and facilities, while minimizing duplication and competition between the agencies.
- 2. Coordinate efforts with Oakland County for opportunities to preserve open space and provide public access along the Rouge River Corridor.
- 3. Recruit civic and business organizations for assistance with park improvement projects.
- 4. Partner for grants & outside funding.
- 5. Foster, promote and encourage cooperative relationship with public and private entities.
- 6. Promote a system for people to approach the City with ideas to collaborate for park improvements.
- 7. Increase opportunities for donation, sponsorships and fundraising efforts.
- 8. Review and update the Parks and Recreation Master Plan every five years to maintain a current assessment and ensure grant funding eligibility.

GOAL #6: TO BECOME A LEADER IN SUSTAINABLE, INNOVATIVE MAINTENANCE PRACTICES TO PROTECT OUR NATURAL COMMUNITY RESOURCES, DEMONSTRATE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND REDUCE ADVERSE HEALTH EFFECTS TO ALL RESIDENTS, WHILE MAINTAIN PUBLIC USE, ACCESS AND ENJOYMENT.

- Continue to implement 'best practices' and safer alternatives in cultivating healthy lawn care in City properties and parks such as heat and hot water weed control techniques and low-maintenance landscape designs. Expand existing practice techniques to include applications such as adding beneficial insects to control destructive pests, and various natural and synthetic mulch materials.
- Continue to implement Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices and develop an IPM policy based on current IPM practices for park maintenance activities.
- 3. Research programming with area school districts to decrease and possibly eliminate spraying at properties surrounding public schools.
- 4. Develop an interpretive signage program in parks to expand educational opportunities about environmental protection.
- 5. Create demonstration projects within parks to showcase native Michigan plants and promote appreciation for natural landscape techniques.
- 6. Develop and implement standards and timeline for achieving sustainable lawn care maintenance practices for parks and recreation facilities.
- 7. Implement a pilot "Pesticide Free Park" program at a City Park.
- 8. Develop maintenance Design Guidelines for future capital and park improvements that encourages low maintenance alternatives.
- 9. Reduce and minimize usage of chemicals in all parks to lessen the potential for adverse health effects to the extent that is practicable.

GOAL #7: OPERATE THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES IN AN EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT MANNER SO AS TO MAINTAIN A HIGH LEVEL OF CUSTOMER SERVICE.

- 1. Expand web-based marketing efforts to inform residents of programs and events.
- 2. Review Parks and Recreation Master Plan annually to establish priorities and responsibilities with Parks and Recreation Board.

System Wide Recommendations

In addition to capital investments into the parks and recreation system, the Department of Public Services must also focus on maintenance of the park system.

The following items describe system wide suggestions that should be coordinated each year.

- **Barrier Free Accessibility:** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) has established guidelines to provide barrier free accessibility at public facilities. It is important to provide access to the City of Birmingham facilities according to these guidelines so that all residents can enjoy the facilities. As parks and facilities are improved or developed, a high priority must be placed on upgrades that improve barrier free accessibility with improvements to proper surfaces for wheelchairs, accessible picnic tables, and play equipment that provides universal access.
- Park Design Improvements: As the park system evolves and each park undergoes its own degree of improvements, it is important to clearly mark park entrances and visually unify the parks so residents are aware that facilities they use are part of Birmingham's park system. This can be accomplished by a uniform set of design themes that symbolize Birmingham parks and are used in the design of lighting, benches, signs, waste receptacles, bike racks, and other amenities. Tree transplanting and improvements is a community focus for all public areas.
- Non-Motorized Connectivity: The City of Birmingham has been committed to the development of non-motorized systems locally as well as regionally. This was substantiated with the City Commission's 2011 support of Complete Streets principles for the City of Birmingham. The Department, in cooperation with Oakland County and surrounding communities, and other supporting agencies, should continue to seek opportunities for planning, land acquisition, access easements, and non-motorized trail development to assist this effort within the community.
- Natural Resource Inventory: As opportunities become available the Department should analyze any critical natural areas in the community through inventories and appropriate studies. This information is critical to prioritizing resources for the acquisition, protection, and management of park natural areas.
- **Recreation Programming:** The City of Birmingham Department of Public Services is only one of several sources of recreation programming for community residents. YMCA, volunteer youth sports organizations, private businesses, and other groups offer leagues, services and programs. To complement these other resources, the Department should partner with these programs when appropriate.
- **Staffing:** The Department of Public Services annually monitors staffing levels and office facility needs as needed for efficient administration, operation, programming and maintenance of the parks and recreation system.

- Park Promotion: The Department of Public Services should use creative promotional approaches to increase awareness of the features available at the various parks. Promotional ideas could include: park maps and park events. Increased awareness of the parks will increase appreciation and support for the park system and could also generate a spirit of volunteerism with maintenance, development and fundraising projects.
- **Fund Raising:** Develop new and creative ways to raise funds for park improvements, such as events, service projects and local fund raising. Continue and expand the popular recognition program for donations of benches, trees and other amenities.
- **Public Involvement:** The Department of Public Services should continue to solicit residents' suggestions on planning, use, and improvement of parks and programming. This can be accomplished with public meetings, surveys, or through resident feedback solicited at special events.

Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan

This section summarizes the overall system recommendations as well as specific improvements to individual parks. Some are multi-year efforts that will involve primarily staff time and coordination, while others are park improvements that require primarily investment.

The Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan incorporates the top priority for capital improvement in the next five years. Priorities should be reviewed on an annual basis and adjusted to respond to updated findings and identification of funding opportunities. In particular, costs should be closely monitored, as the proposed plan estimates are strictly preliminary.

Actual costs for each project will be more specifically determined as site surveys, programming elements and engineering plans are developed. If funding levels are lower than required to implement the plan based on the schedule provided, the implementation could be stretched over additional years.

Table 8: Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan

The following capital improvements are conceptual and subject to change based on annual prioritization; actual funding sources are largely undetermined during conceptual planning, thus, potential funding sources will be investigated and sought as projects move from the conceptual phase to design / funding phase.

ACTION	Completed (2012-2017)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Estimated Total Over Five Years	Potential Funding Source(s) ¹
General Park Enhancements								
Continue general landscape maintenance and beautification		х	х	х	Х	Х	\$45,000	Donations / General Fund
General baseball/softball field maintenance		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	\$25,000	ASA Grant / General Fund
General tennis court maintenance		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	\$60,000	General Fund
Installation of bike racks		Х	Х				\$20,000	General Fund
Installation of drinking fountains		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	\$50,000	Donations / General Fund
Land acquisition opportunities							TBD	Donations / General Fund
Open space maintenance (i.e., seeding, drainage and grading at various parks)		х	х	х	х	Х	\$50,000	Donations / General Fund
Inclusive/accessible playground enhancements ²			х		Х		\$100,000	Donations / General Fund / Grants
Reforestation of public property		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	\$25,000	Donations / General Fund / Grants
Site furnishings (benches, trash receptacles, tables)		х	х	х	х	Х	\$80,000	Donations / General Fund / Grants
Installation of electric outlets			Х				TBD	Donations / General Fund
Installation of park shelters (location TBD)			Х				\$20,000	Donations / General Fund
Update park signage								
Park Enhancements to Explore (Locations T	BD)							
Pickle ball court development							TBD	TBD
Installation of splash pad							TBD	TBD
Platform tennis court development							TBD	TBD
Installation of wi-fi and mobile device charging stations							TBD	TBD
Adams Park								
Implement Adams Park Master Plan ²			х	х			\$582,000	Donations / General Fund / Grants Public-Private Partnership
Develop Adams Park Master Plan	-							

Completed 2012 – 2017

X Planned for 2018 – 2022

Explore and potentially implement 2018 – 2022

Public-private partnerships (P3s) will be investigated and implemented whenever feasible and determined to be in the public interest; projects listing P3s as a funding have already been identified

ACTION	Completed (2012-2017)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Estimated Total Over Five Years	Potential Funding Source(s) ¹
Barnum Park								
Install two new pergolas		Х					\$30,000	Donations / General Fund / Grants
Softball field maintenance	-							
Installation of new tables and chairs	-							
Installation of two pergolas	-							
Soccer / open play field enhancements	-							
Booth Park								
Evaluate bridge trail access							TBD	Donations / General Fund / Grants
Reevaluate Phase 3 entrance plaza							TBD	Donations / General Fund / Grants
Installation of porous paving	-							
Trail system improvements	-							
Crestview Park								
Inclusive/accessible playground enhancements ²					Х		\$200,000	Donations / General Fund / Grants
Soccer / open play field enhancements	-							
Fairway Park								
Bank stabilization	-							
Howarth Park								
Baseball field improvements			Х				\$20,000	Donations / General Fund / Grants
Kenning Park								
Phased implementation of Kenning Park Master Plan (partial) ²		х	х	х			\$1,200,000	Donations / General Fund / Grants Public-Private Partnership
Parking lot and pedestrian-scale lighting			х				\$90,000	General Fund / Grants
Develop Kenning Park Master Plan	-							Capital Improvement Fund / Donations / General Fund
Softball/baseball field maintenance	-							
Tennis court crack repair/paint	-							
Parking lot re-construction	-							
Linden Park								
Inclusive/accessible playground enhancements ²					х		\$75,000	Donations / General Fund / Grants
Trail extension from Linden Park trail to Maple Road	•							

X Planned for 2018 – 2022

Explore and potentially implement 2018 – 2022

¹ Public-private partnerships (P3s) will be investigated and implemented whenever feasible and determined to be in the public interest; projects listing P3s as a funding source are those for which partners have already been identified.

ACTION	Completed (2012- 2017)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Estimated Total Over Five Years	Potential Funding Source(s) ¹
Manor Park								
Reforestation	-							
Martha Baldwin Park								
Improve native plant garden/monarch waystation		Х					\$12,000	Donations / General Fund / Grant
Potential location for artwork							TBD	Donations / General Fund / Grant
Pembroke Park								
Inclusive/accessible playground enhancements ²				Х			\$200,000	Donations / General Fund / Grant
Portable restroom screening		Х					\$10,000	General Fund
Baseball field maintenance								
Soccer / open play field enhancements								
New drinking fountain	•							
Poppleton Park								
Inclusive/accessible playground enhancements ²		Х	Х				\$650,000	Donations / General Fund / Grant
Softball field improvements			Х				\$25,000	Donations / General Fund / Grant
Develop Poppleton Park Master Plan ²	-							
Softball field improvements								
Analyze parking (expansion)								
Crown baseball diamonds	•							
Quarton Lake								
Reforestation		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Donations / General Fund / Grant
Rouge River Trail Corridor								
Removal of debris and riverbank stabilization		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	\$30,000	Donations / General Fund / Grant
Trail system improvements		Х	Х				\$50,000	Donations / General Fund / Grant
Selected master plan improvements				Х	Х	Х	\$500,000	Donations / General Fund / Grant
Shain Park								
Play/musical equipment			х				\$15,000	Donations / General Fund / Grant
Springdale Park								
Shelter site furnishing		Х	х				\$40,000	Donations / General Fund / Grant
Inclusive/accessible playground enhancements ²				Х			\$200,000	Donations / General Fund / Grant

X Planned for 2018 – 2022

Explore and potentially implement 2018 – 2022

¹ Public-private partnerships (P3s) will be investigated and implemented whenever feasible and determined to be in the public interest; projects listing P3s as a funding source are those for which partners have already been identified.

ACTION	Completed (2012-2017)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Estimated Total Over Five Years	Potential Funding Source(s) ¹
St. James Park								
Soccer / open play field enhancements				х			\$15,000	Donations / General Fund / Grants
Inclusive/accessible playground enhancements ²						Х	\$200,000	Donations / General Fund / Grants
Baseball field maintenance								
Soccer / open play field improvements								
Investigate private / public partnerships								
Tennis court crack repair	-							
Ice Arena								
Explore interior building improvements (underway)		Х	Х	х	Х		TBD	Donations / General Fund / Grants
Building/facility assessment		Х	Х				TBD	General Fund
Replace rink refrigeration system - rink floor and piping and mechanical room (main / studio rinks)			х	х			\$1,900,000	Donations / General Fund / Grants
Study locker room/conference room expansion		х	х				TBD	General Fund / Public-Private Partnership
Lincoln Hills Golf Course								
Add cart paths							TBD	Grants / Golf Course Fund
Redesign #1 tee							TBD	Grants / Golf Course Fund
Practice putting green expansion							TBD	Grants / Golf Course Fund
Maintenance building expansion							TBD	Grants / Golf Course Fund
Parking lot lights improvements							TBD	Grants / Golf Course Fund

X Planned for 2018 – 2022

Explore and potentially implement 2018 – 2022

¹ Public-private partnerships (P3s) will be investigated and implemented whenever feasible and determined to be in the public interest; projects listing P3s as a funding source are those for which partners have already been identified.

ACTION	Completed (2012-2017)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Estimated Total Over Five Years	Potential Funding Source(s)			
Springdale Golf Course											
Add cart paths							TBD	Golf Course Fund			
Replace irrigation system			Х	х			\$525,000	Golf Course Fund			
New bathroom on course		х	х				\$15,000	Grants / Golf Course Fund			
Maintenance building expansion					Х	Х	TBD	Golf Course Fund			
Renovate bank #5 and #6		Х	Х				TBD	Golf Course Fund			
New bunker #2		Х	Х				TBD	Golf Course Fund			
Chip seal parking lot			Х	х			\$30,000	Golf Course Fund			
Add parking lot lights		х	Х	х			TBD	Grants			
Patio renovations				х			TBD	Donations / Golf Course Fund			
New dining room furniture			Х	х			TBD	Donations / Golf Course Fund			

X Planned for 2018 – 2022

Explore and potentially implement 2018 – 2022

¹ Public-private partnerships (P3s) will be investigated and implemented whenever feasible and determined to be in the public interest; projects listing P3s as a funding source are those for which partners have already been identified.