



# Oregon Park District

2017 Comprehensive Master Plan

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Brian Beckman, *Superintendent of Environmental Resources*

## **Planning Team**

Hitchcock Design Group, *Landscape Architecture & Planning*

Williams Architects, *Architecture and Facilities*

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# Introduction

From changes in leadership and administrative staff to shifting demographics, today's Oregon Park District community looks very different than the Oregon Park District of 2008, the last time the District completed a comprehensive master plan.

## Planning Process

The planning process covers five key stages including Analyze, Connect, Envision, Prioritize, and Implement. This Master Plan compiles the results of the first four phases, and the use of this document will accomplish the final phase – Implementation.

The planning process began in the fall of 2016 with an extensive inventory and analysis of the District's park and open space assets, indoor facilities, and community context. Next, staff, stakeholders, the Board of Commissioners, and community shared their opinions about the District's parks, facilities, and needs.

Upon completion of the Analyze and Connect phases, the planning team met to develop alternative strategies. Input from the Board of Commissioners and staff prioritized and incorporated these strategies into an action plan that will be implemented over the next ten years.

## Goals

Goals for this Comprehensive Plan are:

- Assess existing park and facility conditions.
- Determine community sentiment about existing services and facilities.
- Identify park and facility needs.
- Provide an action plan to implement strategies over the next ten years.

## How to use the Plan

This Comprehensive Plan document should be used by the Oregon Park District as a guide to implement action items over the next five to ten years. The Action Plan should be thought of as a "working list" that will need to be updated annually.

# STRUCTURE OF THE DOCUMENT



1

**analyze**

## Chapter One

*Analyze: Inventory & Analysis*

Chapter One provides a detailed inventory of all parkland, open space, District facilities, schools, trails, and relevant adjacent land uses. Park assets are classified and quantified by standards, size, location, and amenities. Chapter One also documents the Level of Service. It concludes with inventories for each park and facility.



2

**connect**

## Chapter Two

*Connect: Community Engagement & Needs Assessment*

Chapter Two includes national, state, and local park and recreation trends. It also includes summaries of the online engagement platform, stakeholder interviews, staff workshops, and Board of Commissioners workshop.



3

**envision**

## Chapter Three

*Envision & Prioritize: Alternative & Preferred Strategies*

Chapter Three outlines the needs that arose during the Analyze and Connect phases. It provides the background of those needs, synthesizing the results from the previous phases into justification and background for future action items. Chapter Three also identifies the selected goals and strategies categorized by: Facilities, Parks and Open Space, Demographics, and Park-Specific Strategies.



4

**prioritize**

## Chapter Four

*Plan: Action Plan*

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



5

**implement**

## Chapter Five

*Appendix*

Chapter Five contains IDNR Useful Life Criteria and the Oregon Park District organizational structure flow chart.

# District Profile

The Oregon Park District (OPD) service area covers approximately 102 square miles and serves a population of almost 6,800 people. Located in Ogle County, the Park District maintains nearly 150 acres of parks and playgrounds.

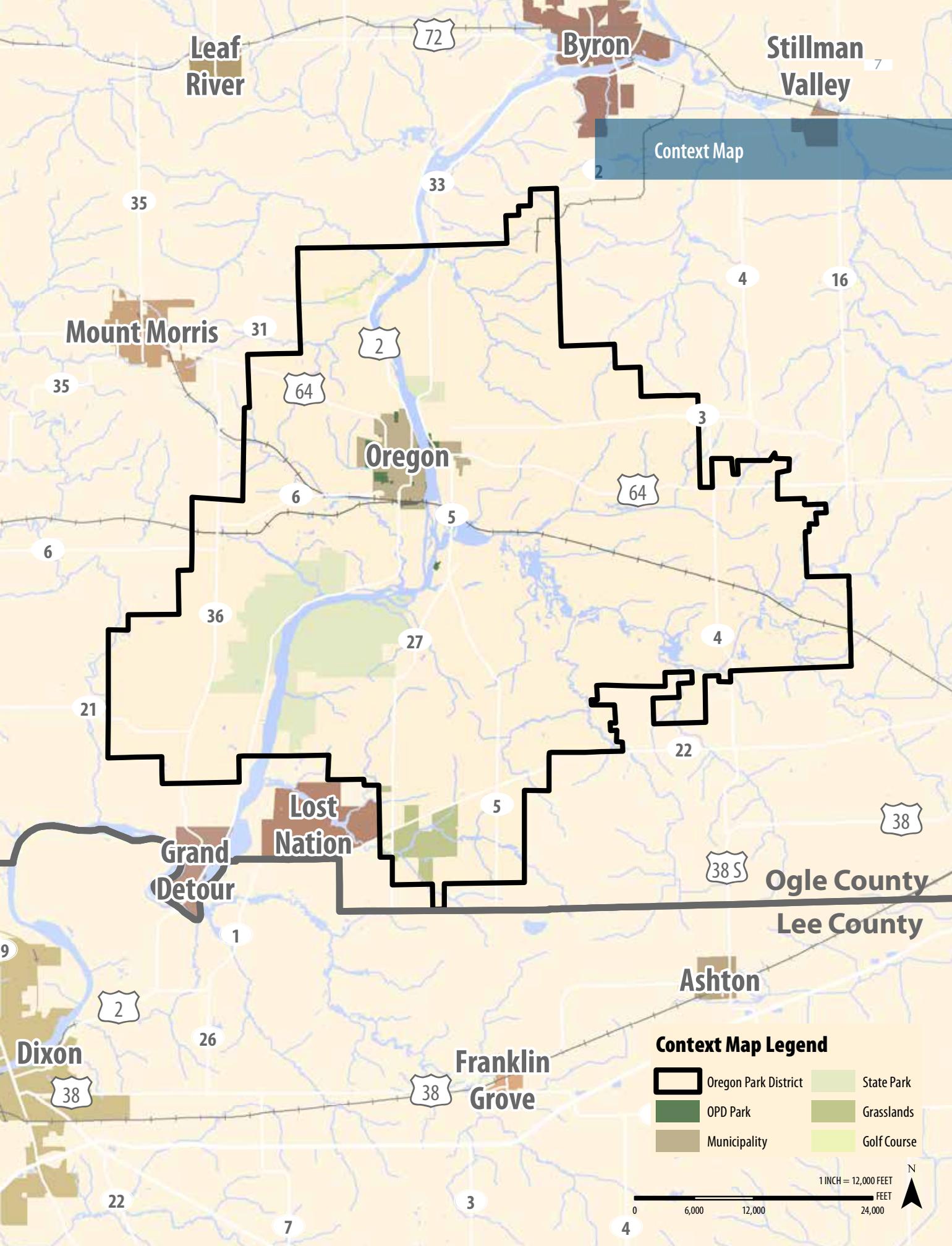
## History

The Oregon Park District was formed in December of 1966. Located in central Ogle County, approximately 30 miles southwest of Rockford, the District includes two complete townships and portions of five other townships, totaling 102 square miles. The population served by the Park District is estimated to be greater than Oregon's population. Many of the nearby towns and rural areas have limited or no other access to recreation facilities or organized programs.

Oregon is the County Seat for Ogle County featuring a naturally scenic and historically rich region in the Rock River Valley. This is evidenced by three state parks, a state forest, three large church camps, numerous youth camps, three private campgrounds and Northern Illinois University's Lorado Taft Field Campus all within or adjacent to the District.

The Oregon Park District's tax base includes agricultural, E.D. Etnyre, Unimin, Woods Equipment Company, Exelon Corporation's Byron Nuclear Generating Facility and a comprehensive blend of retail facilities, services and light manufacturing. Oregon offers a complete range of retail establishments including Conover Square Mall, a unique shopping area housed in a former piano factory; a medical clinic; entertainment establishments; and a variety of dining establishments. The town is served by State Routes #64 and #2, which intersect in the center of town. Northern Illinois University, Rockford College and four community colleges serve the Oregon area and the towns of Rockford, DeKalb, Sterling, Freeport, Dixon and Rochelle are all within a 35 mile radius of Oregon.

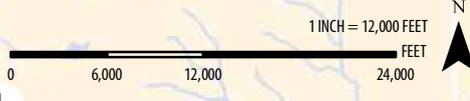
The Oregon Park District owns or manages eleven park sites. Facilities include four tennis courts, five ball diamonds (three lighted), eight playgrounds, twelve sheltered picnic areas,



Context Map

**Context Map Legend**

-  Oregon Park District
-  OPD Park
-  Municipality
-  State Park
-  Grasslands
-  Golf Course



sand volleyball courts, a concert area, multi-use trails, a boardwalk, river fishing areas and a fishing pier. Some of the first land acquisitions were property along the Rock River and a large community park, Park West.

opportunities and intergovernmental relations with a wide variety of local and state entities.

One of the many interesting relationships with the community is between the Park District and the fine arts. Oregon is home to the Laredo Taft campus, the

## The Oregon Park District offers more than 120 recreation programs annually, including those for senior citizens, youth, preschoolers, and families.

The District also owns and operates two recreation centers. In 1983 the District purchased the Nash School and began renovations that resulted in Nash Recreation Center. After two additional renovations, Nash Recreation Center currently houses the administrative offices, meeting rooms, a gymnasium, fitness center and indoor pool. In 1996 the Park Board agreed to build the Blackhawk Center, a 59,000 square foot field house serving both the Park District and the School District. The building is adjacent to Oregon High School for Oregon School District to use for high school physical education, athletic practices and competitions. The Park District hosts programs, special events and rentals at the Blackhawk Center. The Center contains four basketball courts, an aerobic room, weight room, classroom, concession area, three lane 165 meter track, six locker rooms, training rooms, two batting cages and a conference room

The Oregon Park District offers more than 120 recreation programs annually, including those for senior citizens, adults, youth, preschoolers and families. The District also operates several sports leagues and has over 4,000 participants in the programs each year.

The District has an assessed valuation of over \$600,000,000. Staffing consists of 17 full-time and 70 seasonal or part-time employees. The District is a local unit of government formed to provide public recreation programming and facilities to the District's constituents. The District is a member and/or cooperates with IPRA, IAPD, NRPA, Blackhawk Waterways Convention and Visitor Bureau, Rock River Development Commission, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Oregon Chamber of Commerce, the City of Oregon, Oregon Community Unit School District #220 and the Rock River Center. The District regularly participates in cooperative ventures, grant

Eagle's Nest Art Colony and a fabulous collection of fine paintings and sculptures. The oldest park in Oregon, Mix Park was dedicated in 1920 and given to the City. Mix Park has a 13 foot bronze statue of Abraham Lincoln and Blackhawk. The statue is known as "Paths of Conviction Footsteps of Fate". The District also plays host to a handful of other sculptures including "From the Waters Comes My Bounty" located at Park East, "Solar Reef" located at Park West, "Harvest Hunter" at the Nash Recreation Center, and "Working the Fields" at Hawk Prairie and the Community Garden.

Another special service by the Oregon Park District is the preservation of the 1830s Chana School House, now located in Park East. In the 1990s a partnership was formed between Chana School Foundation and the Park District. The partnership decided to preserve and relocate the Chana School House. With the assistance from the District, the Foundation moved the historic building to Park East. The school now sits next to a stand of White Pines and an open meadow, serving as a Living History Museum. In 2003 the facility was placed on the National Historic Registry.

The District is committed to continuing its long history of providing the community with quality programming, superb facilities and protecting open space. The District will continue the vision of 'Creating fun for a Lifetime,' and in 2017, the Oregon Park District will celebrate its 50th anniversary.

### Organizational Structure

The five-member volunteer Board of Commissioners is the legal governing authority of the Park District. District residents elect Commissioners at large to serve staggered four-year terms. This governing body is responsible for, among other things, passing





ordinances adopting the budget, and overseeing the Park District Executive Director. The Executive Director is responsible for carrying out the policies and ordinances of the District, overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Park District, and hiring qualified and professional employees. A graphic representation of Oregon Park District's organizational structure can be found in the appendix.

## In 2017, the Oregon Park District will celebrate its 50th anniversary

### Related Plans

Related documents referenced during the master planning process included the:

2008 Oregon Park District Master Plan

2016 City of Oregon Comprehensive Plan Update

2012 City of Oregon Capital Improvement Plan





# Analyze

Inventory & Analysis



# Overview

The Analyze: Inventory and Analysis Chapter of the report describes and illustrates the existing conditions of the Park District. The information in this chapter is used to develop a base-line understanding of the Park District's assets and facilities.

## Purpose

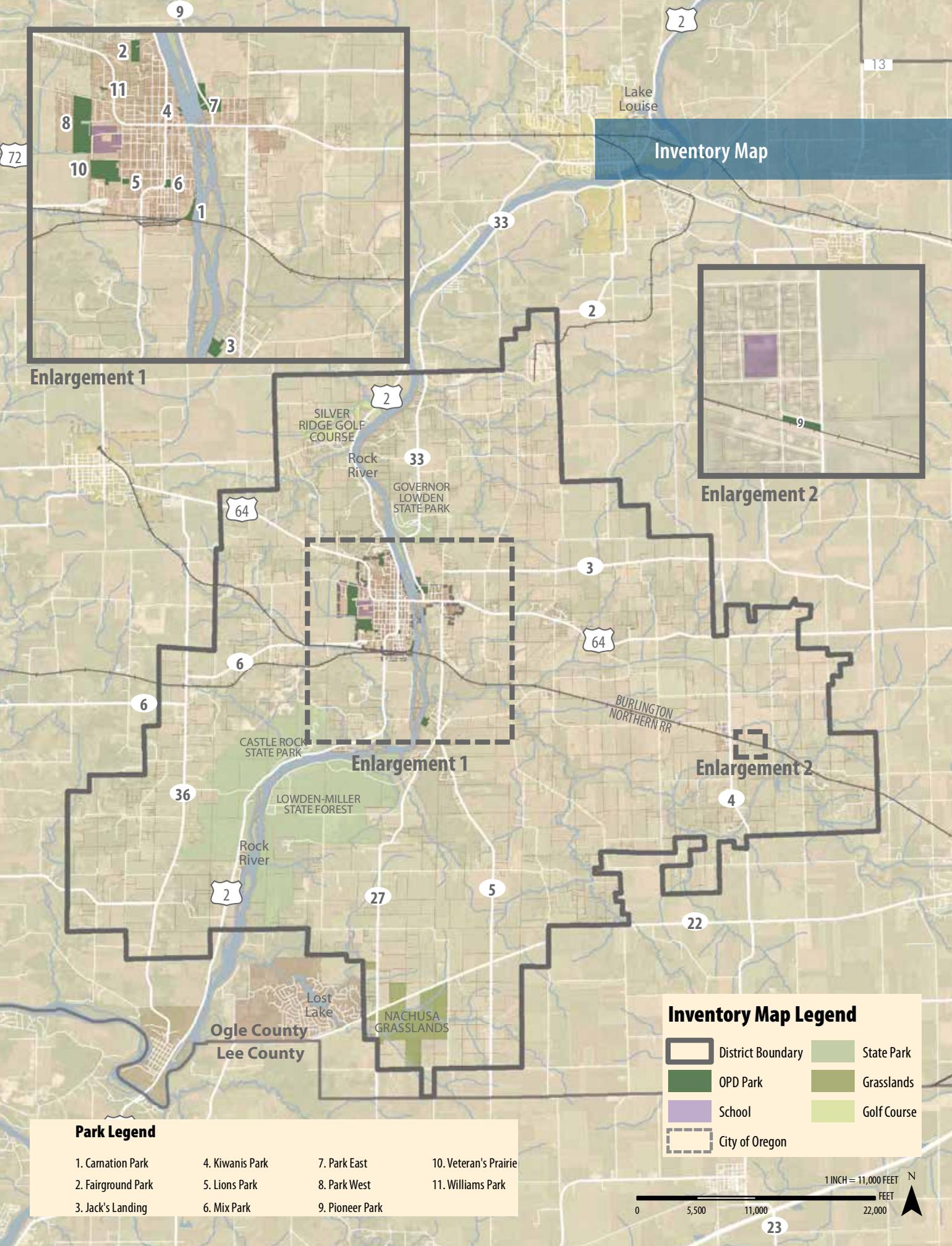
This chapter documents the inventory and analysis accomplished during the "Analyze" phase of the comprehensive master planning process. This phase describes the context in which the District operates and the patrons that utilize the parks and facilities.

Included in the chapter is information that defines the community's demographic context and detailed maps of the District that identify parks, trails, and other relevant land uses. This chapter also includes the level of service analysis for parks and facilities comparing the District's total acreage of parks and open space and indoor facility square footage to local, state, and national benchmarks. A distribution mapping analysis of the geographic location of parks is also found in this chapter. This information provides insight into potential surpluses or deficiencies the District has in terms of parks, open space, and facilities.

The chapter concludes with detailed inventories of each park and facility that include site observations, character images, and aerial photography.

## Chapter Outline

- Demographics
- Existing Conditions
- Asset Inventory
- Level of Service Analysis
- Assess: Inventory and Analysis Summary



# Inventory Map

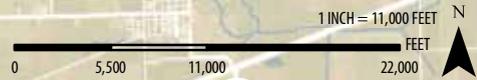
Enlargement 1

Enlargement 2

Enlargement 1

Enlargement 2

Ogle County  
Lee County



# Demographics

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

## Summary

According to 2016 estimates, the Oregon Park District has 6,746 residents living within the District. Total population numbers from 2010 indicate a small, steady decline of 1.9%. That rate of decline is projected to remain steady into 2021, when the population will reach 6,615. The Park District's decline is in opposition of both the state and national rates of 0.22% and 0.84% growth, respectively.

Currently, there are 2,915 households with more than 64% (1,874) of those households consisting of families. On average, these households have 2.24 individuals. A household, according to the U.S. Census, "includes all the persons who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence." Oregon Park District's average household size has decreased slightly since 2010 (2.27), and it will continue to decrease slightly into 2021 (2.22).

## Age Distribution

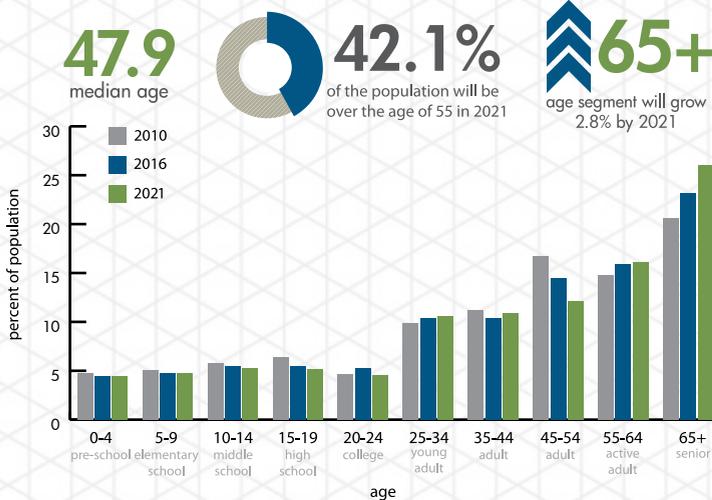
With a median age of 47.9, the Park District has a mature, aging population. According to 2016 estimates, nearly 64% of the Park District's population is over the age of 35, with the 55-64 age group being the largest segment. This age group's growth mirrors that of the state and national trends. The aging, active adult and senior populations are, and will continue to be, a major District demographic. By 2021, over 42% of the District's population will be over 55, an increase of three percent.



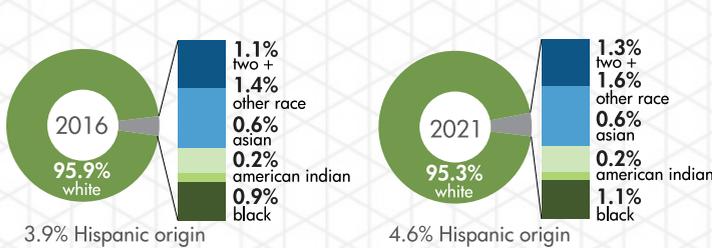
Population



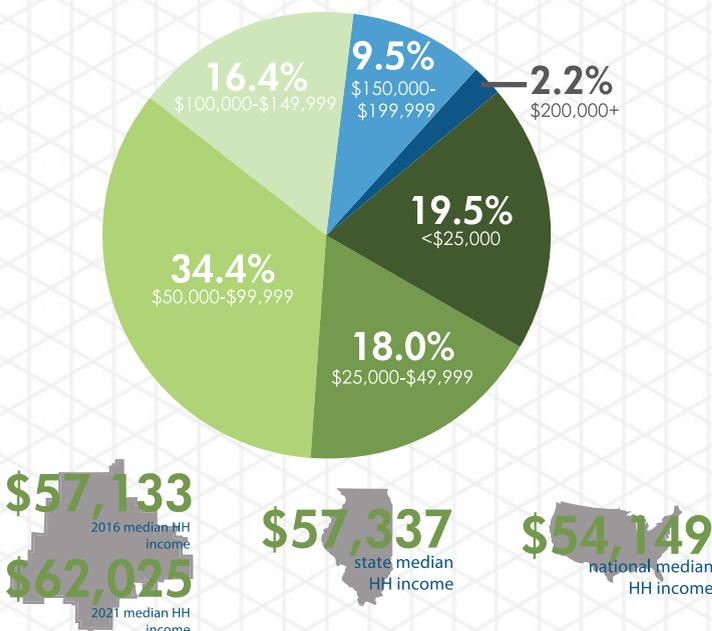
Age



Race



Income



Race and Ethnicity

According to ESRI, the Oregon Park District has a diversity index of 8.0. The Diversity Index captures the racial and ethnic diversity of a geographic area in a single number, 0 to 100 and allows for efficient analysis of diversity throughout the US. The Diversity Index is “the likelihood that two persons, selected at random from the same area, would belong to a different race or ethnic group.” At an index of 8.0, the Park District is monochromatic, with over 95% of the population indicating their race as White. Only 1.4% consider themselves “Some other race alone” while 1.1% indicated their race as two or more races. Finally, 0.9% indicated their race as Black, 0.6% indicated Asian, and 0.2% indicated American Indian.

Income

The Oregon Park District’s median household income, according to 2016 estimates, is \$57,133. Oregon Park District’s median household income will increase by an annual rate of 1.71%. By 2021, the median household income will be \$62,025. These numbers are right in line with the state median household income of \$57,337 in 2016 and \$61,215 in 2021.

# Existing Conditions

The first step in the comprehensive planning process is to understand not only the context around the District, but also the existing conditions found within the District itself. This includes land use, open space, natural features, and trail resources.

## Land Use

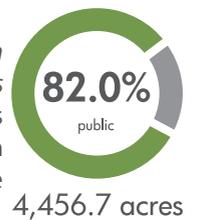
Most of the Park District is zoned as agricultural land. The areas immediately surrounding the incorporated city of Oregon are zoned for R-2 single family residence. Some intermediate agriculture, rural residence, business, business recreation, and industrial zones are also present in small concentrations. Industrially zoned properties are primarily concentrated south of the City of Oregon to the banks of the Rock River.

## Open Space Providers

The Park District is one of the open space and outdoor recreation providers within the community. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) provides regional active and passive recreation opportunities as well as conserves significant open space assets through the multiple state parks within the Park District boundaries. School districts also provide outdoor recreation opportunities at elementary, middle, and high school sites. The map to the right displays public and private open spaces within the Oregon Park District.

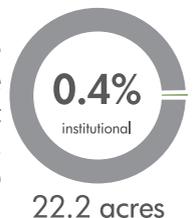
## Public Open Space

*Park District Open Space, Municipal Open Space, Forest Preserves, State and Federal Lands*  
The Oregon Park District owns and manages nearly 150 acres of active and passive open space. IDNR owns 4,307 acres of open space within the District boundaries.



## Institutional Open Space

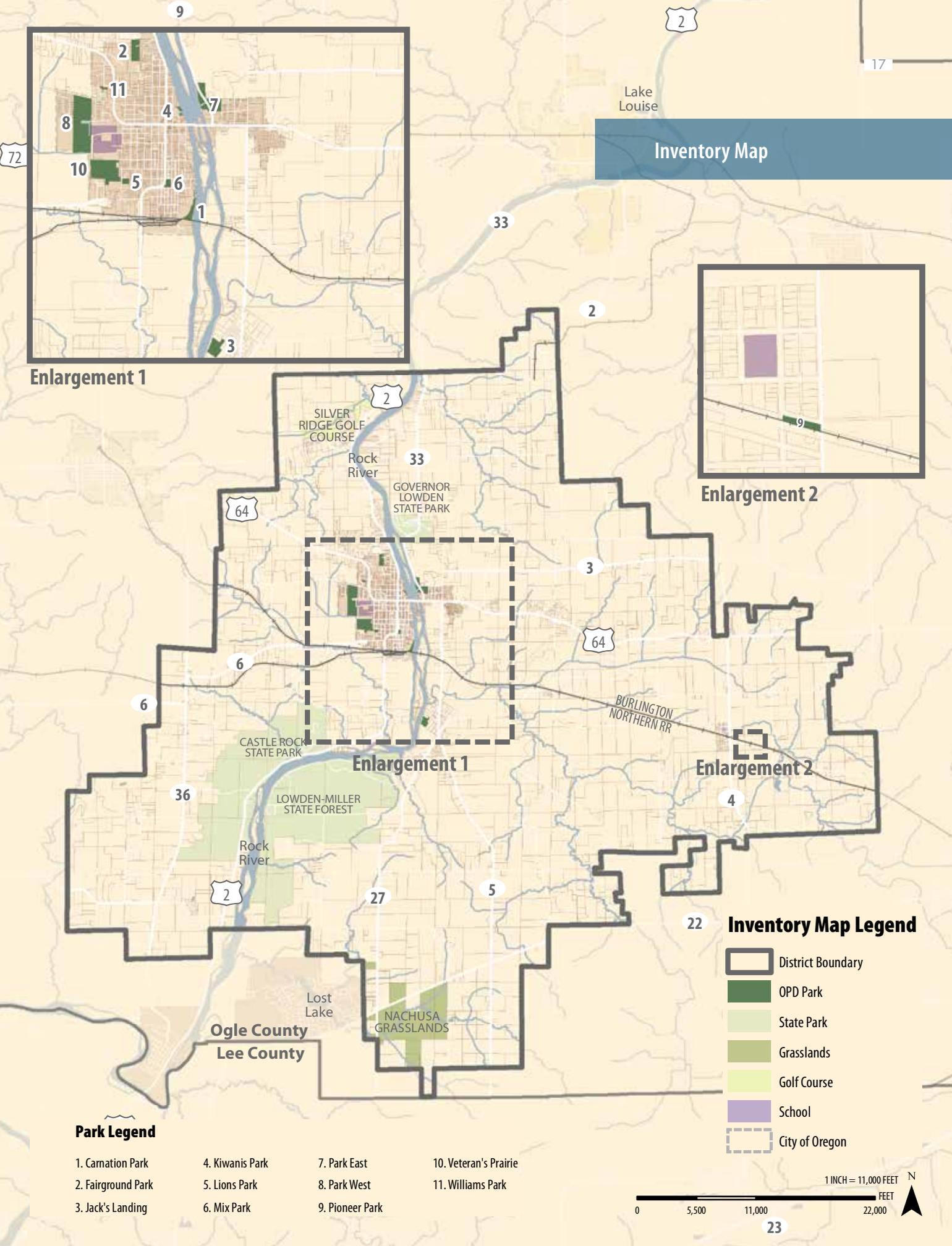
*Elementary, Middle, and Senior High Schools, College and Universities*  
There is one elementary school, one middle school, one high school, and one education center serving Park District residents. There are approximately 22 acres of school open space available to Park District residents.



## Private Open Space

*Private Recreational Facilities, Cemeteries, Golf Courses*  
The Silver Ridge Golf Course totals 167.8 acres of open space at the northern edge of the Park District, just west of the Rock River and Illinois Route 2. Nachusa Grasslands covers 3,500 acres in Ogle and Lee Counties. Of those 3,500 acres, 788.6 acres fall within Oregon Park District boundaries.





# Inventory Map

Enlargement 1

Enlargement 2

Enlargement 1

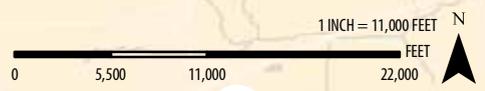
Enlargement 2

## Inventory Map Legend

- District Boundary
- OPD Park
- State Park
- Grasslands
- Golf Course
- School
- City of Oregon

## Park Legend

- |                    |                 |                 |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Carnation Park  | 4. Kiwanis Park | 7. Park East    | 10. Veteran's Prairie |
| 2. Fairground Park | 5. Lions Park   | 8. Park West    | 11. Williams Park     |
| 3. Jack's Landing  | 6. Mix Park     | 9. Pioneer Park |                       |



## Natural Features

This section outlines the existing natural features present within the District. This includes watersheds, riparian corridors, floodplains and wetlands. These have been identified to provide a baseline of information and data for long-term decision-making.

### Watersheds & Riparian Corridors

The Oregon Park District falls fully within the Rock River Watershed. According to the IDNR, the Rock River Watershed is approximately 6400 square miles and is mostly non-urbanized. Only 4.3% of the entire watershed is built up.

### Floodplain

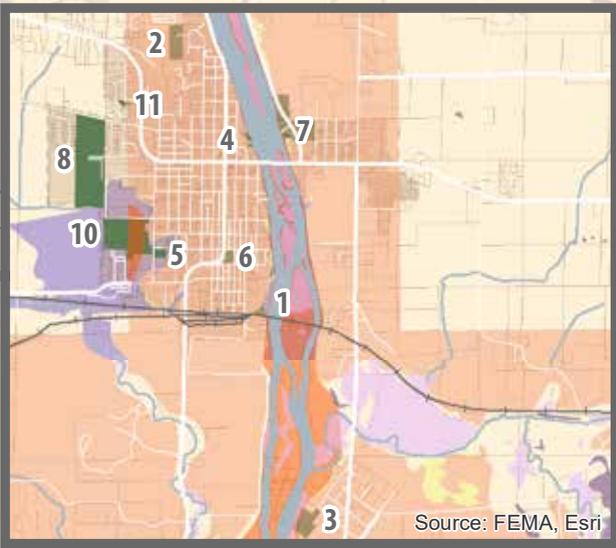
The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), through the National Flood Insurance Program, produces Flood Hazard Boundary maps for areas prone to flood hazards. The 100-year flood plain associated with each of the creeks is shown in purple on the Natural Features Map. The 100-year flood plain denotes the area potentially impacted by the level of flood water expected to be equaled or exceeded every 100 years on average or have a 1% chance of being equaled or exceeded in any single year.

Parks with property within the floodplain are listed below:

- Veterans Prairie
- Carnation Park
- Kiwanis Park
- Park East
- Jack's Landing

### Wetlands

Wetlands are lands saturated with water. This saturation impacts the soil character, plant and animal communities, and surface conditions of the land. Wetland data from the National Wetlands Inventory conducted by the US Fish and Wildlife Service is depicted in the Natural Resources Map. The types of wetlands found with District are primarily Freshwater Emergent Wetlands and Freshwater Forested / Shrub Wetlands. Emergent wetlands are dominated by perennial plants and may be known as a marsh, meadow, fen, or slough. Forested Wetlands are characterized by tall (+6 m.) wood vegetation and include over story and understory trees, shrubs, and an herbaceous layer of vegetation. Wetlands located within the Park District are designated by shades of pink in the map to the right.

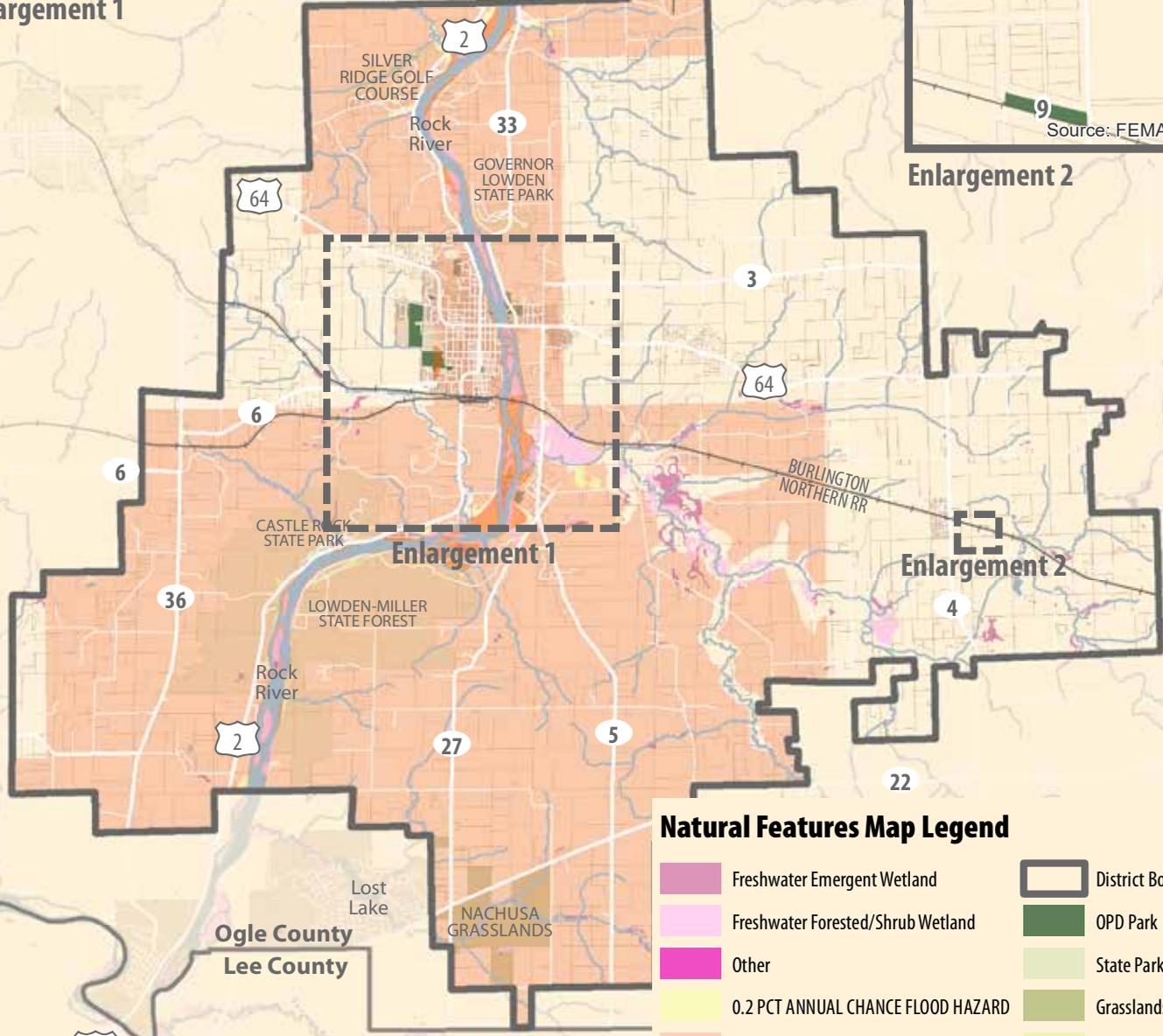


**Enlargement 1**

**Natural Features**



**Enlargement 2**

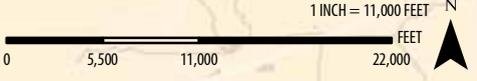


**Natural Features Map Legend**

- |                                    |                   |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Freshwater Emergent Wetland        | District Boundary |
| Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland  | OPD Park          |
| Other                              | State Park        |
| 0.2 PCT ANNUAL CHANCE FLOOD HAZARD | Grasslands        |
| AREA OF MINIMAL FLOOD HAZARD       | Golf Course       |
| FLOODWAY                           |                   |

**Park Legend**

- |                    |                 |                 |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Carnation Park  | 4. Kiwanis Park | 7. Park East    | 10. Veteran's Prairie |
| 2. Fairground Park | 5. Lions Park   | 8. Park West    | 11. Williams Park     |
| 3. Jack's Landing  | 6. Mix Park     | 9. Pioneer Park |                       |



## Trail Corridors

The trail and bike route inventory map illustrates existing trails within the District as inventoried by the county GIS data.

### Local Trails and Bike Routes

Oregon Park District, in partnership with the City of Oregon, own and maintain a bike trail that is nearly seven miles long. This bike trail consists of paved pathways through Park West, Fairground Park, and shared roadways through residential areas in the City of Oregon. Several other parks contain their own internal trail systems as well.

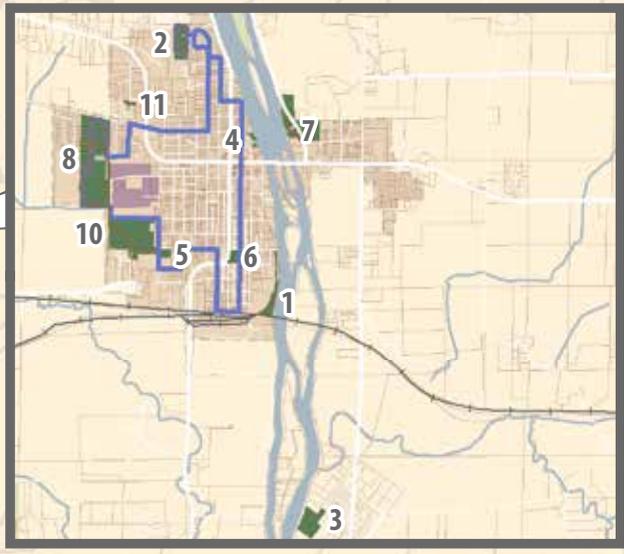
There are five parks and two schools directly adjacent to the Community Bike Trail. Five parks contain trails that total just over three miles. The State of Illinois has nearly 32 miles of trails running through Lowden State Park, Castle Rock State Park, and Lowden-Miller State Forest.

### Regional Trails and Bike Routes

Ogle County has nine different bike trails that traverse the county and pass through the Oregon Park District. The Rock River Trail is a 320-mile stretch of multi-use trail that stretches from Waupun, Wisconsin to Rock Island, Illinois and runs through the Oregon Park District.

Lake Louise

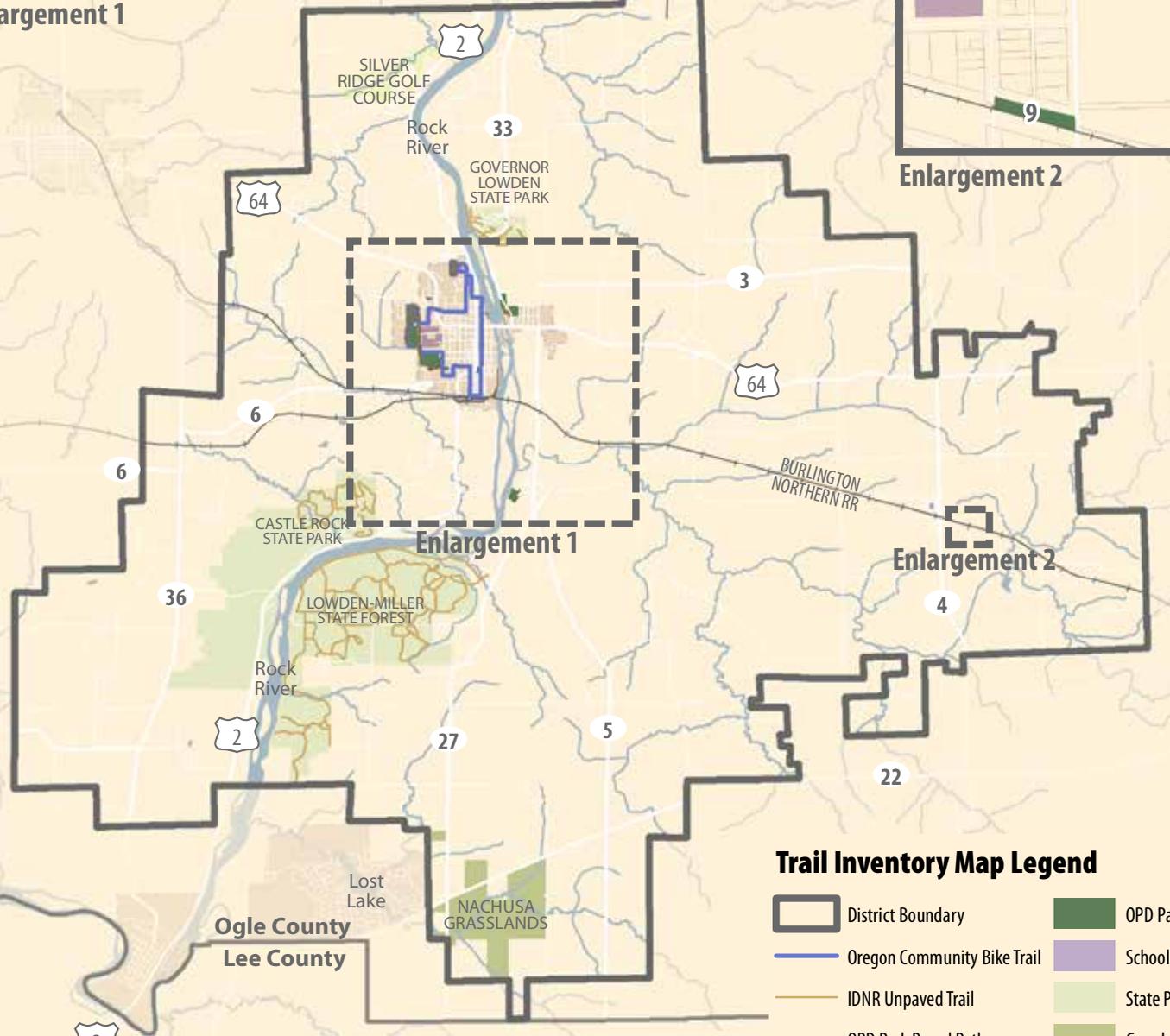
### Trail Corridors



Enlargement 1



Enlargement 2



Enlargement 1

Enlargement 2

Ogle County  
Lee County

Lost Lake  
NACHUSA GRASSLANDS

### Trail Inventory Map Legend

- District Boundary
- Oregon Community Bike Trail
- IDNR Unpaved Trail
- OPD Park Paved Pathway
- OPD Park Unpaved Pathway
- OPD Park
- School
- State Park
- Grasslands
- Golf Course

### Park Legend

- 1. Carnation Park
- 2. Fairground Park
- 3. Jack's Landing
- 4. Kiwanis Park
- 5. Lions Park
- 6. Mix Park
- 7. Park East
- 8. Park West
- 9. Pioneer Park
- 10. Veteran's Prairie
- 11. Williams Park



# Asset Inventory

As a part of the planning process, we referenced the guidelines outlined by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) - Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines Manual.

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

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

These categories are based on size, function, and use. Mini Parks are the smallest size and most limited in function and use while Community Parks are typically the largest parks of a system and their many uses serve a variety of functions for the community. Other open space categories recognized by the NRPA and included in the table to the right are Natural Resource Areas, Special Use, and Greenways or Linear Parks. Undeveloped Parks are sites not yet developed for meaningful access. This category is recognized for planning purposes but is not an NRPA category.

These classifications are vital to a comprehensive Level of Service analysis. In the park and open space matrix on the following pages, amenities were quantified to understand the District's total recreational offerings. The numbers in red text indicate an amenity is beyond its useful life, per the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Useful Life Criteria (found in the Appendix).

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

# PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

<i>Classification</i>	<i>General Description</i>	<i>Service Area</i>	<i>Size Criteria</i>	<i>Oregon Park District Parks</i>
Mini Park*	Mini Parks meet the need for a walkable, drop-in recreation experience. Appropriate elements in these parks include playgrounds, picnic areas, and seating. These parks usually do not include parking. Used to address limited, isolated, or unique recreational needs.	Less than 0.25 mile distance in a residential setting.	0.5 to 3.2 acres in size.	Kiwanis Park Lions Park Mix Park Pioneer Park Williams Park
Neighborhood Park*	Neighborhood Parks remain the basic unit of the park system and are generally designed for informal active and passive recreation and community gathering spaces. Elements in these parks often include playgrounds, picnic areas, sports fields, and trail systems. Neighborhood Parks serve as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood.	0.25 to 0.5 mile distance and uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.	10.5 to 21.3 acres in size.	Fairground Park Park East
Community Park*	Community Parks focus on meeting community-wide recreation needs. These parks preserve unique landscapes, and often serve the community as gathering places and general athletics. Elements in these parks include playgrounds, pavilions, trails and path systems, multiple sport courts and fields. Serves broader purpose than the neighborhood park. Focus is on meeting community based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.	Usually serves two or more neighborhoods and 0.5 to 3 mile distance.	As needed to accommodate desired uses. Usually a minimum of 10 acres. Oregon Park District has a minimum of 58.5 acres.	Park West
Natural Area*	Conservation and wildlife areas, wooded areas and waterways that are maintained for the most part in their natural state.	Service radius is unlimited	No applicable standard.	Veterans Prairie Jack's Landing
Special Use*	Special use facilities focus on meeting community-wide recreation needs. Often, these spaces, both indoor and outdoor, are designed as single-use recreation activities. Examples include golf courses, nature centers, recreation centers, and museums. Areas for specialized or single purpose recreational activities. Generally designed for active recreation and focus on meeting community based recreation needs.	No applicable standard.	Variable, depending on desired amenity.	
Trail / Linear Park	Effectively tie park system components together to form a continuous park environment.	Resource availability and opportunity.	No applicable standard.	Carnation Park
Undeveloped Park	Lands owned by the agency, but not yet developed with any amenities to provide meaningful access to the site such as trails, seating areas, and other passive and active recreation amenities.	No applicable standard.	Variable.	6th and Madison Property

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



# Indoor Facility Matrix

	SQUARE FOOTAGE	RESTROOMS		ADMIN		ACTIVITY ROOMS						RECREATION AND FITNESS						OTHER				
	Total Square Footage	Restrooms	Locker Rooms	Reception Desk	Office	Kitchen	Concessions	Banquet / Community	Classroom / Multipurpose	Art Room	Teen Room	Auditorium	Gymnasium	Indoor Turf	Fitness / Weight Room	Aquatics	Indoor Activity Courts	Dance	Storage	General	Greenhouse	Maintenance
<b>INDOOR FACILITIES</b>																						
<b>Recreation &amp; Fitness Programming</b>																						
Nash Recreation Center	21,620	5	2	1	1			1	2			1		1	1	2	1	1	4			3
Blackhawk Center	31,545	4	4	1	1		1		1			1		1			1		2			1
Recreation & Fitness Programming	<b>53,165</b>																					
*square footage numbers reflect programmable recreation space, not total building square footage																						
<b>Aquatics</b>																						
Nash Recreation Center Indoor Pool	9,400																					
Aquatics	<b>9,400</b>																					
<b>Maintenance</b>																						
Maintenance Operations Center	13,150	1			1														2			1
Maintenance	<b>13,150</b>																					
<b>TOTAL SQUARE FOOTAGE</b>																						
<b>75,715</b>																						
<b>10 6 2 3 0 1 1 3 0 0 0 2 0 2 1 2 2 8 0 0 0 5</b>																						
	SQUARE FOOTAGE	RESTROOMS		ADMIN		ACTIVITY ROOMS						RECREATION AND FITNESS						OTHER				
	Total Square Footage	Restrooms	Locker Rooms	Reception Desk	Office	Kitchen	Concessions	Banquet / Community	Classroom / Multipurpose	Art Room	Teen Room	Auditorium	Gymnasium	Indoor Turf	Fitness / Weight Room	Aquatics	Indoor Activity Courts	Dance	Storage	General	Greenhouse	Maintenance

# Level of Service Analysis

The Level of Service (LOS) analyses evaluate how well the District's parks, facilities, and amenities are serving the current needs of the community. Level of Service is evaluated through four different avenues.

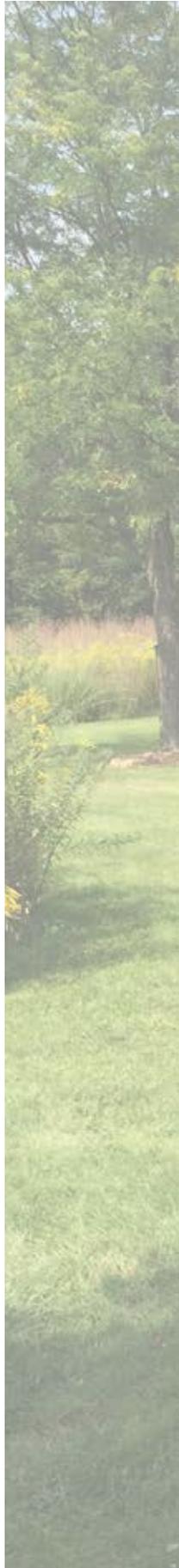
The development of a Level of Service standard for parks and recreation began in the 1980s with the development of Levels of Service for other infrastructure such as water, stormwater drainage, sewer systems, and transportation. These benchmarks provide agency officials with the ability to respond to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

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

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

There are four different Level of Service measurements that help a community understand how equitable and comprehensive their current offerings are. These are:

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





Level of Service guidelines are developed by state and national agencies, including the NRPA. Historically, a Level of Service analysis has been limited to total park and open space acreage alone, and did not include distribution, amenities, or indoor square footage. The global standard for acreage Level of Service was 10 acres per 1,000 population, but as park and recreation planning developed, professionals saw the need to develop a more comprehensive benchmarking tool that could be adjusted for and specific to each community.

Because one size does not fit all, NRPA now recommends using more local and community-specific benchmarks. PRORAGIS, short for Park and Recreation Operating Ratio and Geographic Information System, is NRPA's online management tool, designed for public park and recreation agencies.

This tool is a supplement for the NRPA standards that have guided land acquisition and development for the past 45 years. Through this tool, agencies have the ability to compare themselves and their standards with departments and agencies in their state or region. Agencies can also compare themselves to others based on factors such as total population, operating budget, area of agency, and number of full-time technical equivalent employees. These reports calculate actual numbers, based on real, similar agencies. Now, agencies can plan and benchmark with more applicable data than generic national averages.

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

The following Level of Service analyses reference national NRPA standards, PRORAGIS benchmarks, and local and regional-specific standards set by the State of Illinois and the planning team.

## Acreage

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

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

Based on the NRPA benchmark of 10 acres per 1,000 population, 67.46 acres of Mini, Neighborhood, or Community Park space is recommended for the Oregon Park District. The chart on the right designates these park assets as "Active Recreation Areas." With 98.49 acres of open space dedicated to Mini, Neighborhood, and Community Park use, the District has a 31.03 acre surplus compared to this benchmark. The District has a level of service of 14.60, which is almost 1.5 times the NRPA recommended 10 acres per 1,000.

When all District-owned and maintained open space is added to the level of service analysis, the District has 82.17 acres more than the NRPA recommended 67.46 acres. This Level of Service gauge includes Natural Areas and Corridors and Linear Parks in addition to Mini, Neighborhood, and Community Parks. The District has an overall level of service of 22.18 acres per 1,000.

PRORAGIS was also used to understand how the District compares to agencies across the nation with similar population sizes. The Oregon Park District has a population of 6,746. Out of over 600 agencies, there were 34 agencies with populations between 0 and 10,000. PRORAGIS provided information on the following level of service benchmarks:

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

The Oregon Park District has 8 parks offering active recreation space that total 98.49 acres, which is more than the median of five total parks and 62 acres as reported by PRORAGIS. The median for total acres managed is 68 acres, which is less than the Oregon Park District's 149.63 acres. The Park District is in the upper quartile of agencies in terms of total parkland acres managed or maintained. This information is shown in the chart to the right. Regarding acreage level of service, PRORAGIS recommends 77.58 total parks acres or 11.50 acres per 1,000 population. With 98.49 acres of active recreation areas or parks, the District exceeds the recommended acreage. At 14.60 acres per 1,000 population, the District also exceeds the PRORAGIS recommended level of service. This information is shown in the chart to the right.

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

#### OWNED / LEASED ACTIVE RECREATION AREAS

Classification	OPD Acreage (Total)	OPD Existing Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	IAPD/NRPA Recommended Acreage	IAPD/NRPA Recommended Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	Acreage deficiency / surplus (acre)
Mini Park	8.20	1.22	3.37	0.50	4.83
Neighborhood Park	31.82	4.72	13.49	2.00	18.33
Community Park	58.47	8.67	50.60	7.50	7.87
<b>Total Active Recreation Areas</b>	<b>98.49</b>	<b>14.60</b>	<b>67.46</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>31.03</b>

Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 6746

#### ALL OPD MANAGED OPEN SPACE

Classification	OPD Acreage (Total)	OPD Existing Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	IAPD/NRPA Recommended Acreage	IAPD/NRPA Recommended Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	Acreage deficiency / surplus (acre)
Mini Park	8.20	1.22	3.37	0.50	4.83
Neighborhood Park	31.82	4.72	13.49	2.00	18.33
Community Park	58.47	8.67	50.60	7.50	7.87
Natural Areas	43.54	6.45	0.00	0.00	43.54
Special Use	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Greenways	7.60	1.13	0.00	0.00	7.60
<b>Total OPD Open Space</b>	<b>149.63</b>	<b>22.18</b>	<b>67.46</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>82.17</b>

Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 6746

#### ALL PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

Classification	OPD Acreage (Total)	OPD Existing Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	IAPD/NRPA Recommended Acreage	IAPD/NRPA Recommended Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	Acreage deficiency / surplus (acre)
OPD Total Parks & Open Space	149.63	22.18	67.46	10.00	82.17
School Open Space	22.20	3.29	0.00	0.00	22.20
State Park Open Space	4307.03	638.46	0.00	0.00	4307.03
<b>Total Public Open Space</b>	<b>4478.86</b>	<b>663.93</b>	<b>67.46</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>4411.40</b>

Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 6746

### Level of Service Analysis: PRORAGIS Benchmark

#### OWNED / LEASED ACTIVE RECREATION AREAS

Classification	OPD Acreage (Total)	OPD Existing Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	PRORAGIS Recommended Acreage	PRORAGIS Median, Recommended Level of Service (acres / 1,000 population)	Acreage deficiency / surplus (acre)
Total Active Recreation Areas	98.49	14.60	77.58	11.50	20.91
Total OPD Managed Open Space	149.63	22.18	77.58	11.50	72.05

Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 6746

### PRORAGIS Benchmarks

0-10,000 population		34 agencies
Benchmark		Median
Acres per park		8.1
Acreage Level of Service		11.5

## Distribution

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

Not only is the quantity of park and open space important, but the location and geographic distribution of the parks themselves also offer an indication of how well a parks and recreation agency is serving its residents. By understanding where parks are located in relationship to residential development, we are able to understand who is underserved. This analysis may reveal the need for acquisition in underserved areas of the District or may reveal that the District is serving the residents well and should focus on maintaining or updating their existing assets.

### Methodology

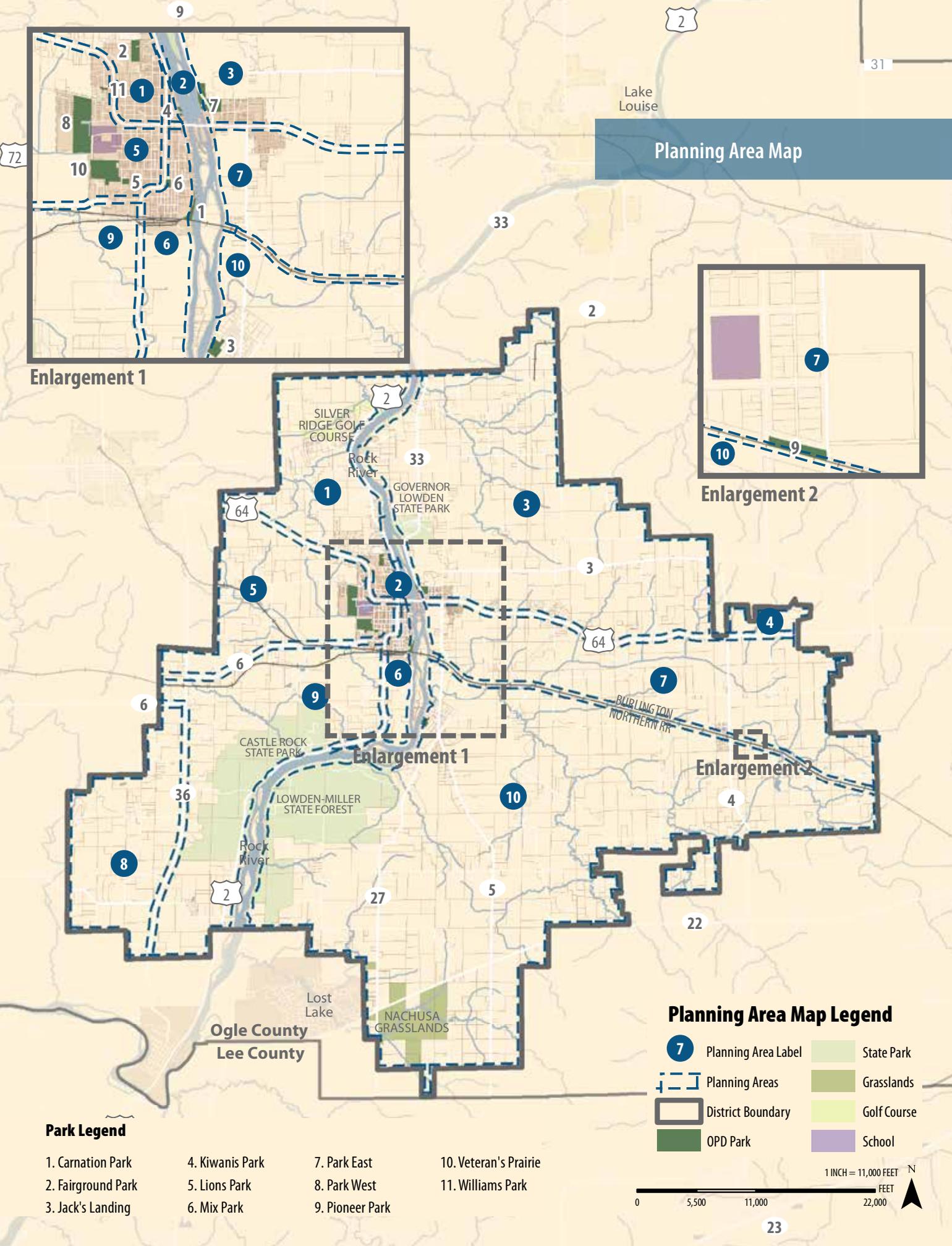
In the Oregon Park District, the major arterial roads, railroad, and Rock River serve as the main pedestrian barriers. These pedestrian barriers resulted in 10 planning areas defined within the District.

After dividing the District into planning areas, the geographic distribution of the parks and open spaces was analyzed. A service area, illustrated in the following maps with an orange halo, was created around each individual park. The shape of each service area is determined by analyzing the existing road and sidewalk infrastructure to identify the actual route of travel and distance one has to travel to access the park. The size of the service area is dependent upon the park classification and is either a quarter, half, or one mile.

The table on page 23 notes the various recommended service area distances for Mini, Neighborhood, and Community Parks. Natural Areas, Special Use Sites, and Undeveloped Sites are not included in this analysis.

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

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



# Planning Area Map

Enlargement 1

Enlargement 2

Enlargement 1

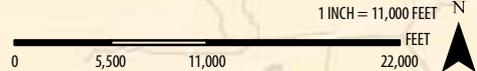
Enlargement 2

## Park Legend

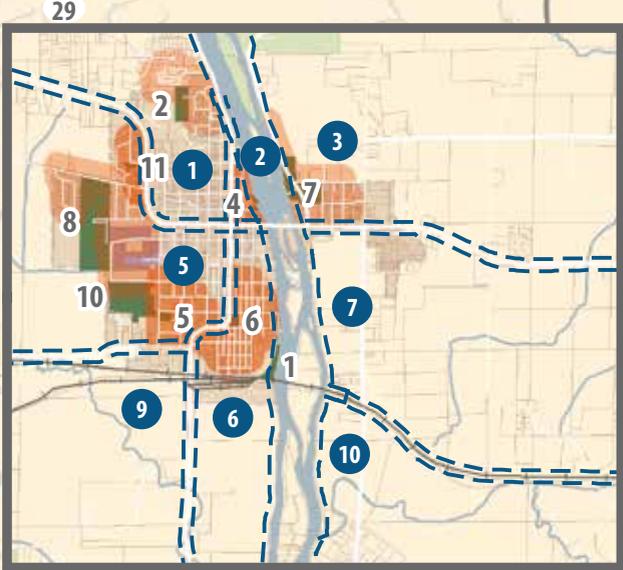
- 1. Carnation Park
- 2. Fairground Park
- 3. Jack's Landing
- 4. Kiwanis Park
- 5. Lions Park
- 6. Mix Park
- 7. Park East
- 8. Park West
- 9. Pioneer Park
- 10. Veteran's Prairie
- 11. Williams Park

## Planning Area Map Legend

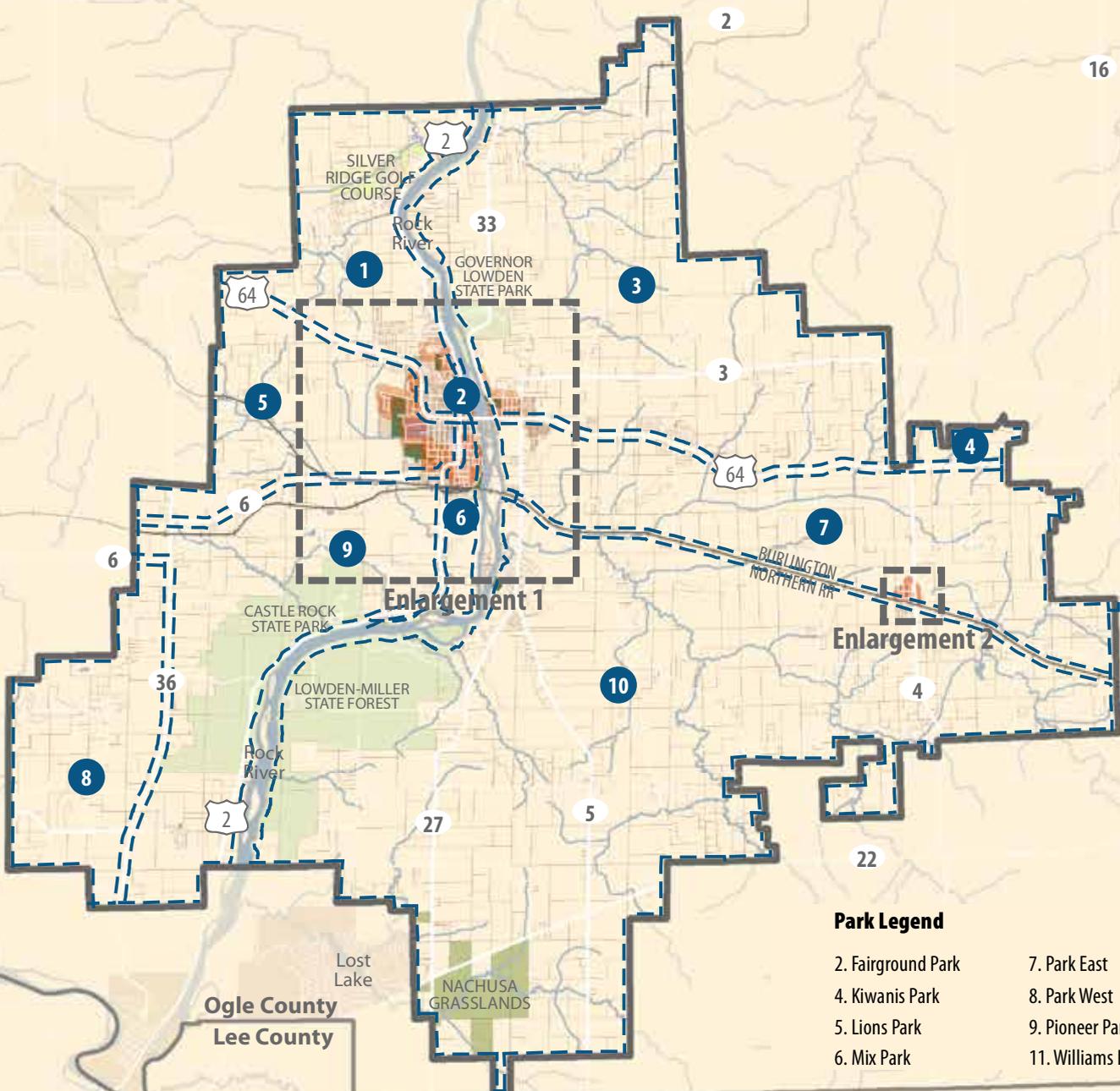
- 7 Planning Area Label
- Planning Areas
- District Boundary
- OPD Park
- State Park
- Grasslands
- Golf Course
- School



# Mini Parks



Enlargement 1



Enlargement 1

Enlargement 2

### Park Legend

- 2. Fairground Park
- 4. Kiwanis Park
- 5. Lions Park
- 6. Mix Park
- 7. Park East
- 8. Park West
- 9. Pioneer Park
- 11. Williams Park

# Mini Park Distribution Analysis

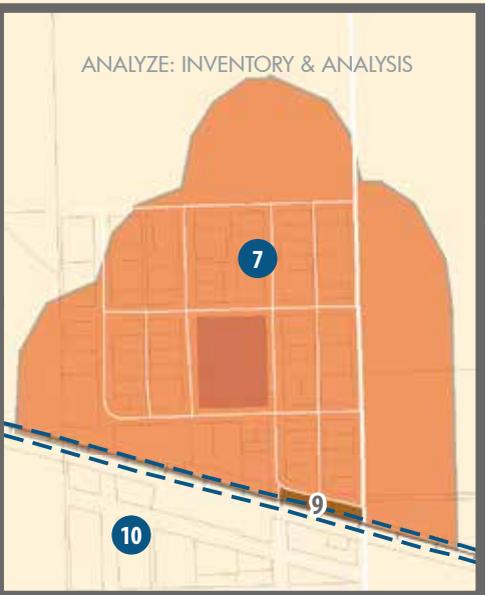
Mini Parks meet the need for a walkable, drop-in recreation experience. Appropriate elements in these parks include playgrounds, picnic areas, and seating opportunities.

The purpose of the Mini Park service area study is to determine which planning areas are underserved by the District's existing Mini Park land holdings. Currently, the District has five Mini Parks that range from 0.3 acres to 2.4 acres in size. In all, the District manages 7.4 acres of Mini Park land holdings.

The map to the left illustrates the 0.25-mile service area reach for Mini, Neighborhood, and Community Parks. Quarter-mile service areas are also shown for Neighborhood and Community Parks, as these parks serve the function of a Mini Park for those residents 0.25-mile distance from the park. According to NRPA's Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Guidelines, Mini Park service areas do not include residents who must cross a planning area boundary to reach the park. Service areas are truncated at all planning area boundaries.

Much of Oregon Park District is rural in nature, and approximately half of the population is concentrated within the City of Oregon boundaries. Although it is not classified as its own Planning Area, it is important to note that over half (53.9%) of residents living in the City of Oregon are served by a park within a 0.25-miles of their home.

Overall, Mini Park coverage is concentrated in Planning Areas 2 and 6, where 64.3% and 78.5% of the populations within those planning areas have access, respectively. The percent of the population within the planning area with access is important, but knowing which populations have the highest total population without access allows the planning team to prioritize based on need. Planning Areas with the most residents not served are Planning Areas 1, 5, and 10. These planning areas have the largest number of residents not served by a park within 0.25-miles of their home. Overall, 31.3% of the Oregon Park District's population has access to a park asset within a 0.25-mile walking distance. This is lower than the median Mini Park Distribution Level of Service of 47.9% within the planning team's database.



Enlargement 2

15

PA*	Population Served	% Served	Population Not Served
1	63	4.03%	1502
2	83	63.34%	46
3	152	19.34%	634
4	0	0%	20
5	953	53.48%	829
6	768	78.45%	211
7	93	23.37%	305
8	0	0%	81
9	0	0%	261
10	0	0%	745

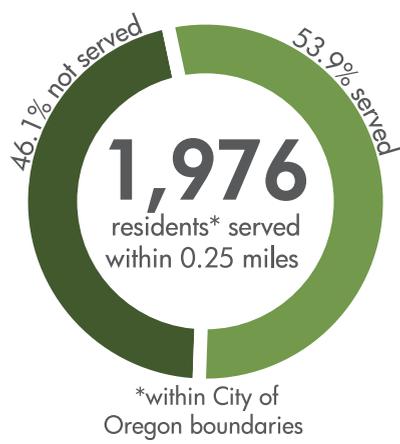
\*Planning Area

## Mini Park Service Area Map Legend

- Planning Areas
- 0.25-mile Service Area, Parks
- OPD Park
- School
- State Park
- Grasslands
- Golf Course
- Waste Ponds

38

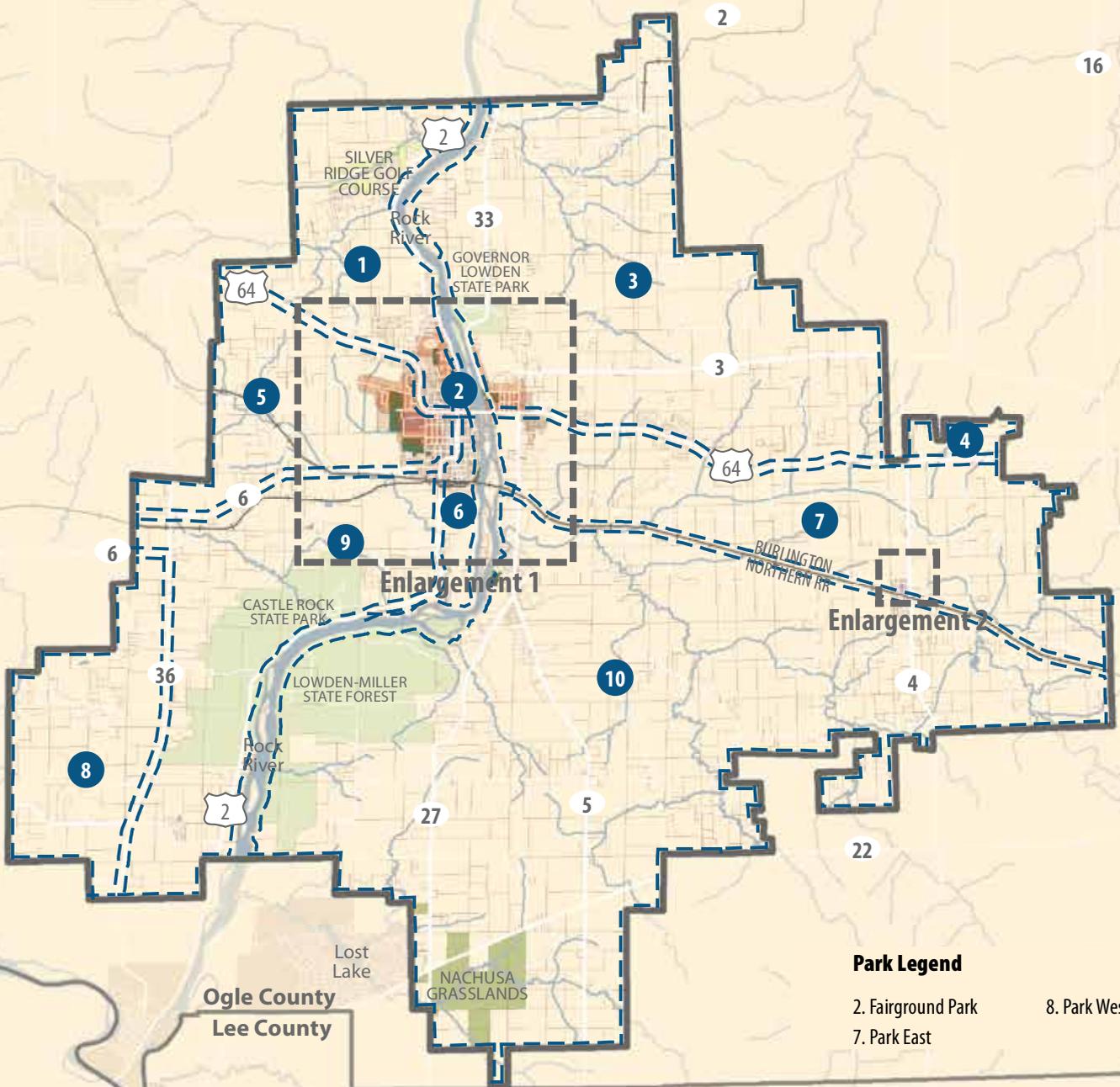
1 INCH = 11,000 FEET



# Neighborhood Parks



Enlargement 1



Enlargement 1

Enlargement 2

### Park Legend

- 2. Fairground Park
- 7. Park East
- 8. Park West

# Neighborhood Park Distribution Analysis

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

The purpose of the Neighborhood Park service area study is to determine which planning areas are underserved by the District's existing Neighborhood Park land holdings. Currently, the District has two Neighborhood Parks that range from 10.5 acres to 21.3 acres in size.

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

The map to the left illustrates where Neighborhood Park service is concentrated within the District. Planning Areas 1, 3, and 5 are the only Planning Areas in which residents have access to a Neighborhood or Community Park within a 0.5-mile distance. Nine percent, 19.3%, and 49.2% of residents are served in these Planning Areas, respectively. These Planning Areas contain the City of Oregon. When looking at the City only, 30.8% of the population is served by a Neighborhood or Community Park within a 0.5-mile distance. Planning Area 1 also has the largest number of residents not served. In this Planning Area, 1,423 residents do not have access to a park within 0.5-miles of their home. The table to the right compares the total population served to the total population not served by a park within 0.5-miles of their home. Overall, 17.3% of the Oregon Park District's population has access to a park asset within 0.5-mile walking distance. This is lower than the Neighborhood Park Distribution Level of Service of 67.0% in the planning team's database.



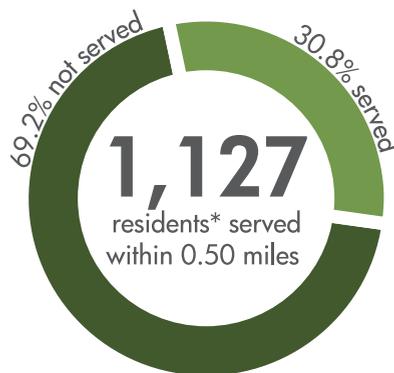
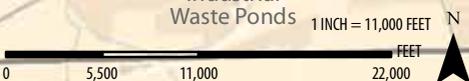
Enlargement 2

PA*	Population Served	% Served	Population Not Served
1	142	9.07%	1423
2	0	0%	129
3	152	19.34%	634
4	0	0%	20
5	876	49.16%	906
6	0	0%	979
7	0	0%	398
8	0	0%	81
9	0	0%	261
10	0	0%	745

\*Planning Area

## Neighborhood Park Service Area Map Legend

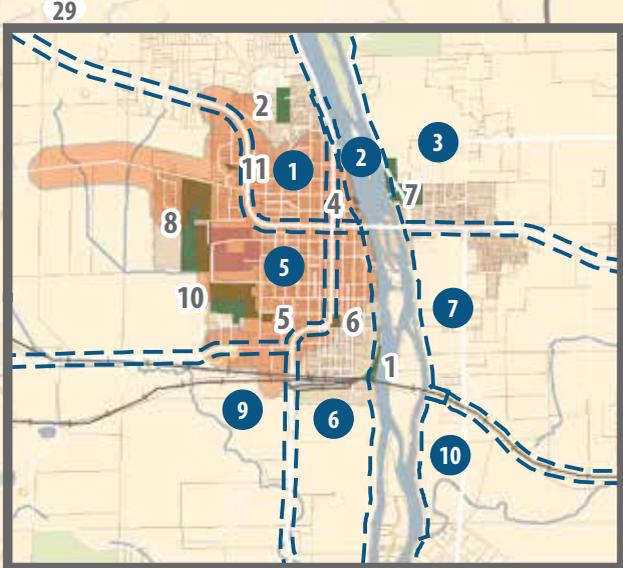
- Planning Areas
- 0.5-mile Service Area, Parks
- OPD Park
- School
- State Park
- Grasslands
- Golf Course
- Industrial Waste Ponds



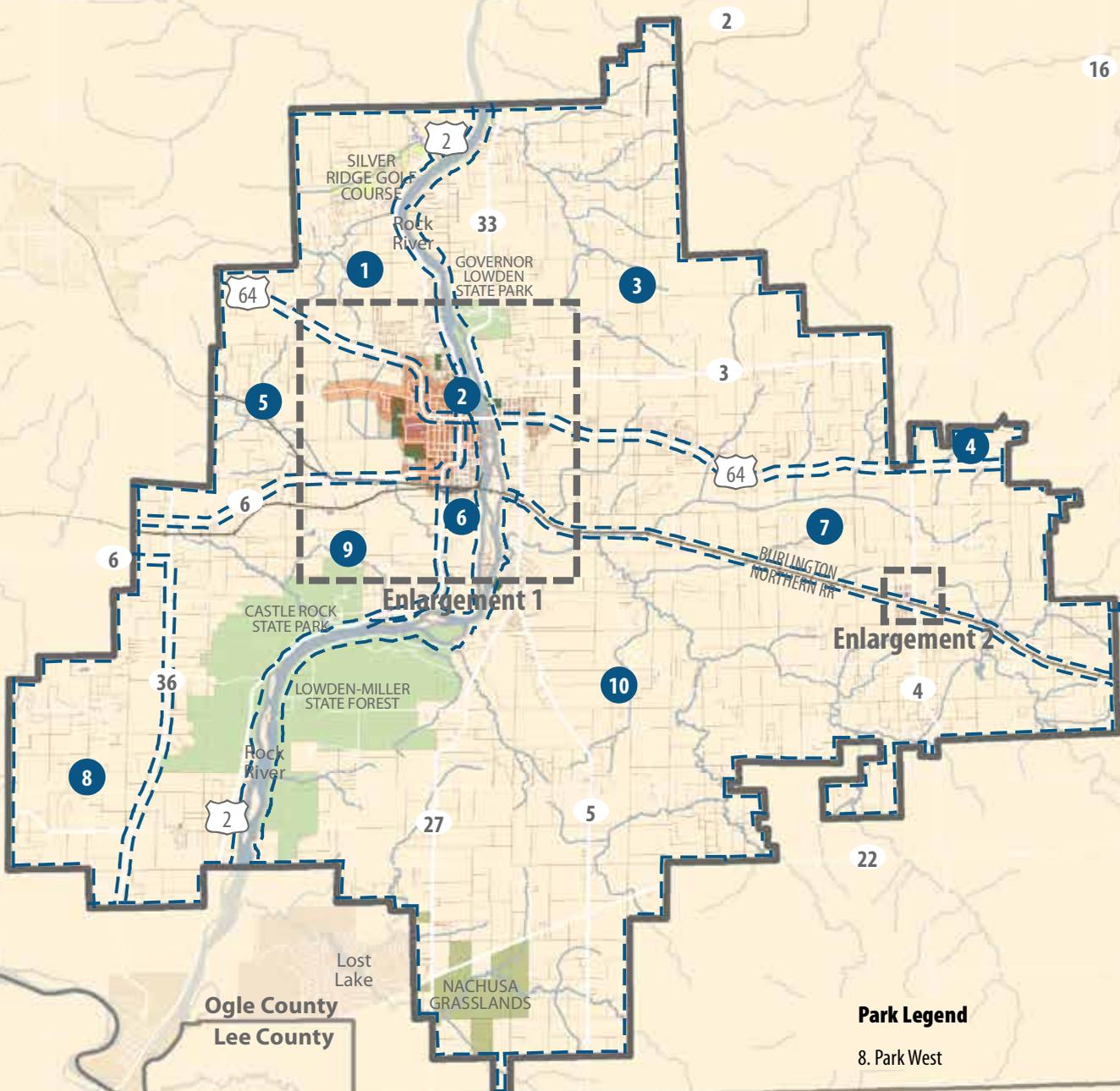
\*within City of Oregon boundaries



# Community Parks



### Enlargement 1



### Park Legend

8. Park West

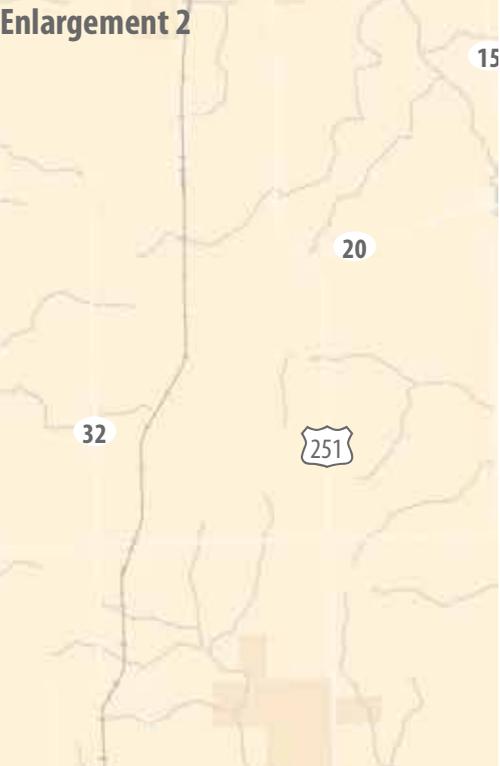
# Community Park Distribution Analysis

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

The purpose of the Community Park service area study is to determine the location of gaps in Community Park service area coverage. Currently, the District has one Community Park that is 58.5 acres in size.

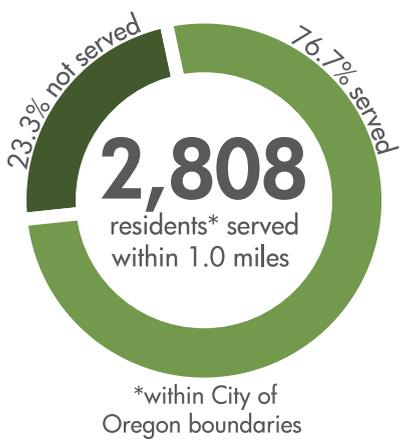
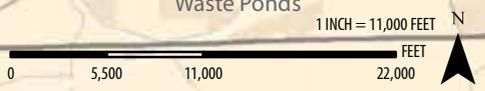
Unlike Mini and Neighborhood Parks, Community Parks are considered a drive-to recreation destination. The service areas, therefore, are not limited to the boundary of the planning area in which they are located. These drive-to destinations cover multiple planning areas and are community destinations for Park District residents.

Overall, 42.0% of the District has access to a Community Park asset within a 1-mile drive from where they live. The largest gaps occur in the Planning Areas that do not contain the City of Oregon. Planning Areas 3, 9, and 10 contain State-owned open space that provides a passive recreation destination for residents, but no Park District-owned Community Park assets exist within the one mile service area. Oregon Park District's Community Park Distribution Level of Service of 42.0% is less than the 78.8% median identified in the planning team's database.

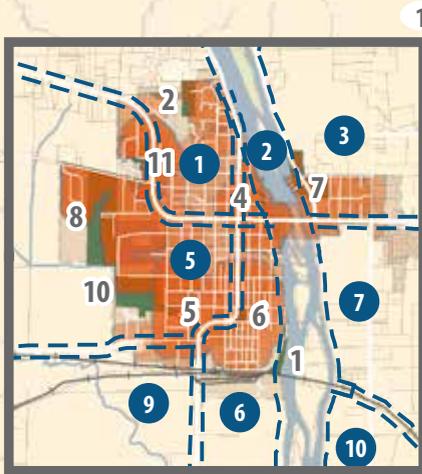


## Community Park Service Area Map Legend

- Planning Areas
- 1.0-mile Service Area, Parks
- OPD Park
- School
- State Park
- Grasslands
- Golf Course
- Waste Ponds



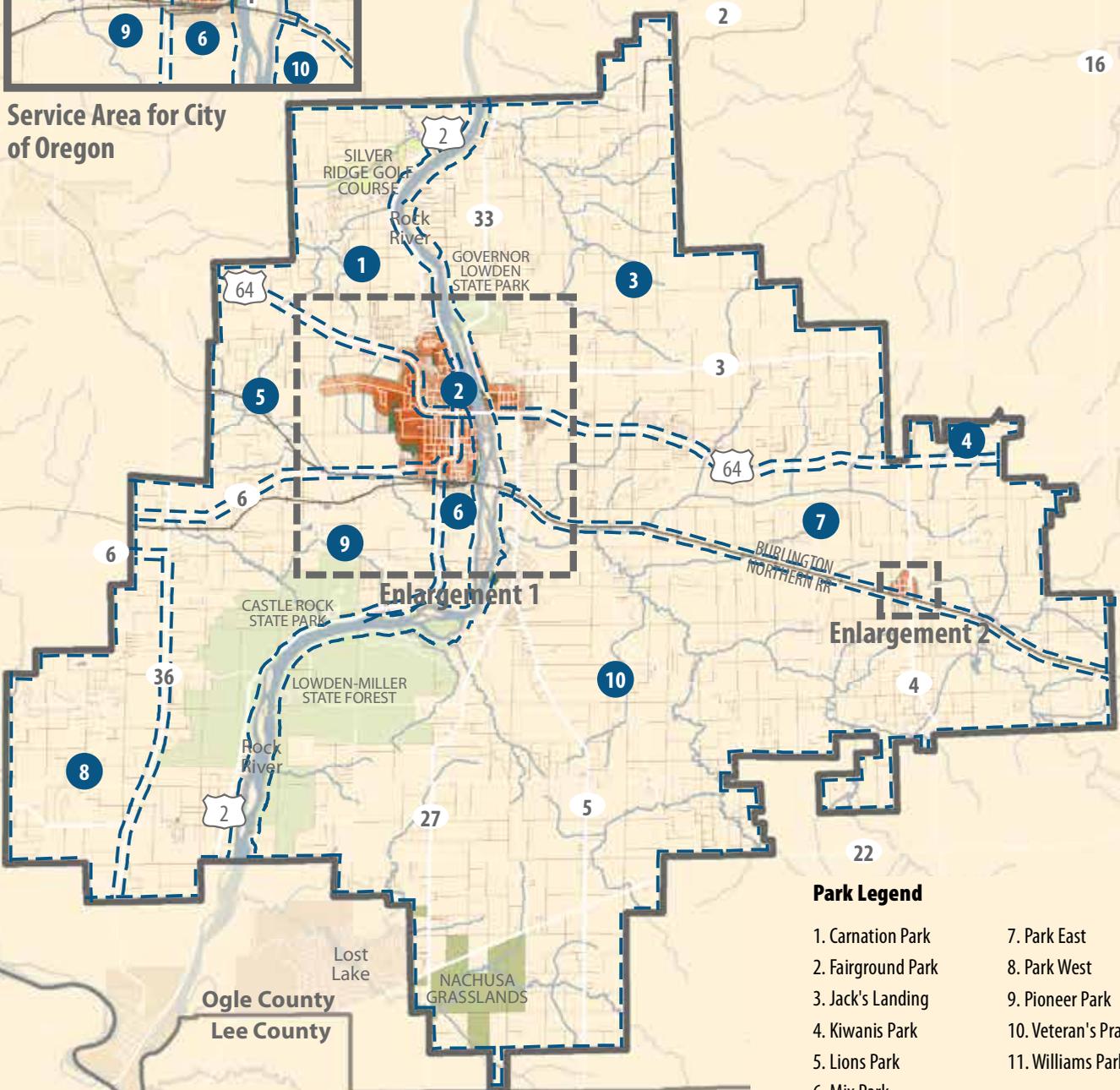
### Overall



Service Area for City of Oregon



Enlargement 1



### Park Legend

- |                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Carnation Park  | 7. Park East          |
| 2. Fairground Park | 8. Park West          |
| 3. Jack's Landing  | 9. Pioneer Park       |
| 4. Kiwanis Park    | 10. Veteran's Prairie |
| 5. Lions Park      | 11. Williams Park     |
| 6. Mix Park        |                       |

# Overall Park Distribution Analysis

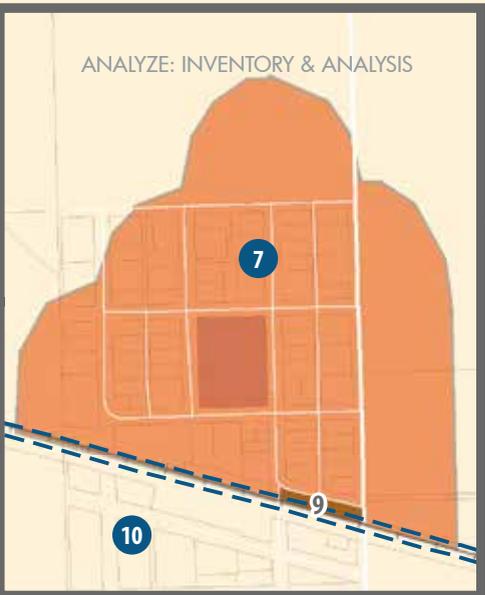
The Overall Service Area Analysis illustrates the District-wide deficiencies for Mini, Neighborhood, and Community Park assets combined.

The purpose of the Overall Park service area study is to develop a District-wide understanding of the location, distribution, and Level of Service for all existing Mini, Neighborhood, and Community Parks within the District system. Natural Areas, Special Use facilities, Parkways, and Undeveloped land holding are not included in this analysis.

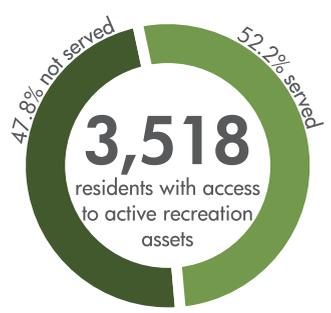
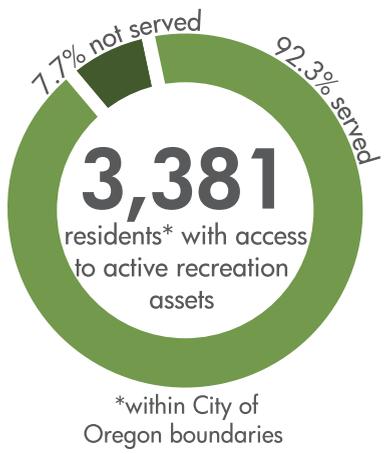
Per NRPA Guidelines, the Mini and Neighborhood Park service areas are truncated to the boundaries of the individual planning areas in which they reside. The Community Parks are considered drive-to destinations, so those service areas are not truncated to the planning area boundaries.

Overall, 52.2% of Oregon Park District residents have access to a Mini, Neighborhood, and/or Community Park resource within a mile of where they live. The largest areas not served all fall outside of the City of Oregon’s municipal boundary. The median Overall Distribution Level of Service, according to the planning team’s database, is 92.7%. The Oregon Park District’s Level of Service is far below the median found in the planning team’s database.

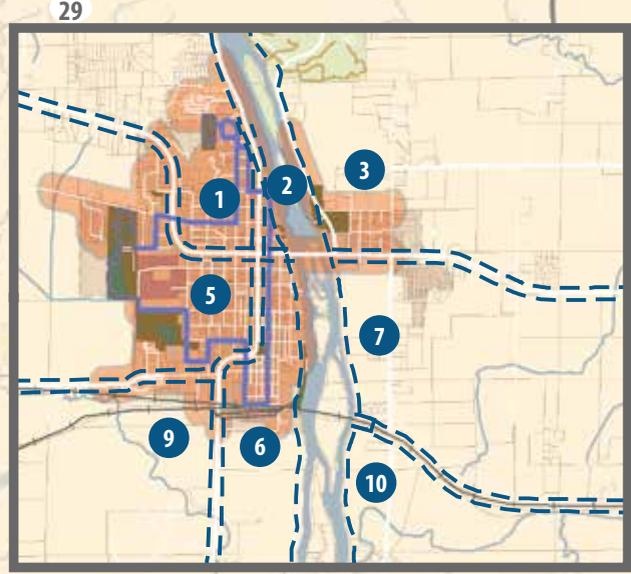
It is important to recognize that the Oregon Park District is located in a largely rural part of Illinois, where populations are often concentrated in particular areas. Fifty-four percent of the Park District’s population resides inside the City of Oregon’s municipal boundary. Within the City boundary, 92.3% of those residents have access to a Mini, Neighborhood, and/or Community Park resource within a mile of where they live. The Overall Distribution Level of Service within the City boundary is comparable to the median Overall Level of Service found in the planning team’s database. The map illustrating the overall park service area truncated to the City of Oregon’s boundary can be seen in an enlargement to the left.



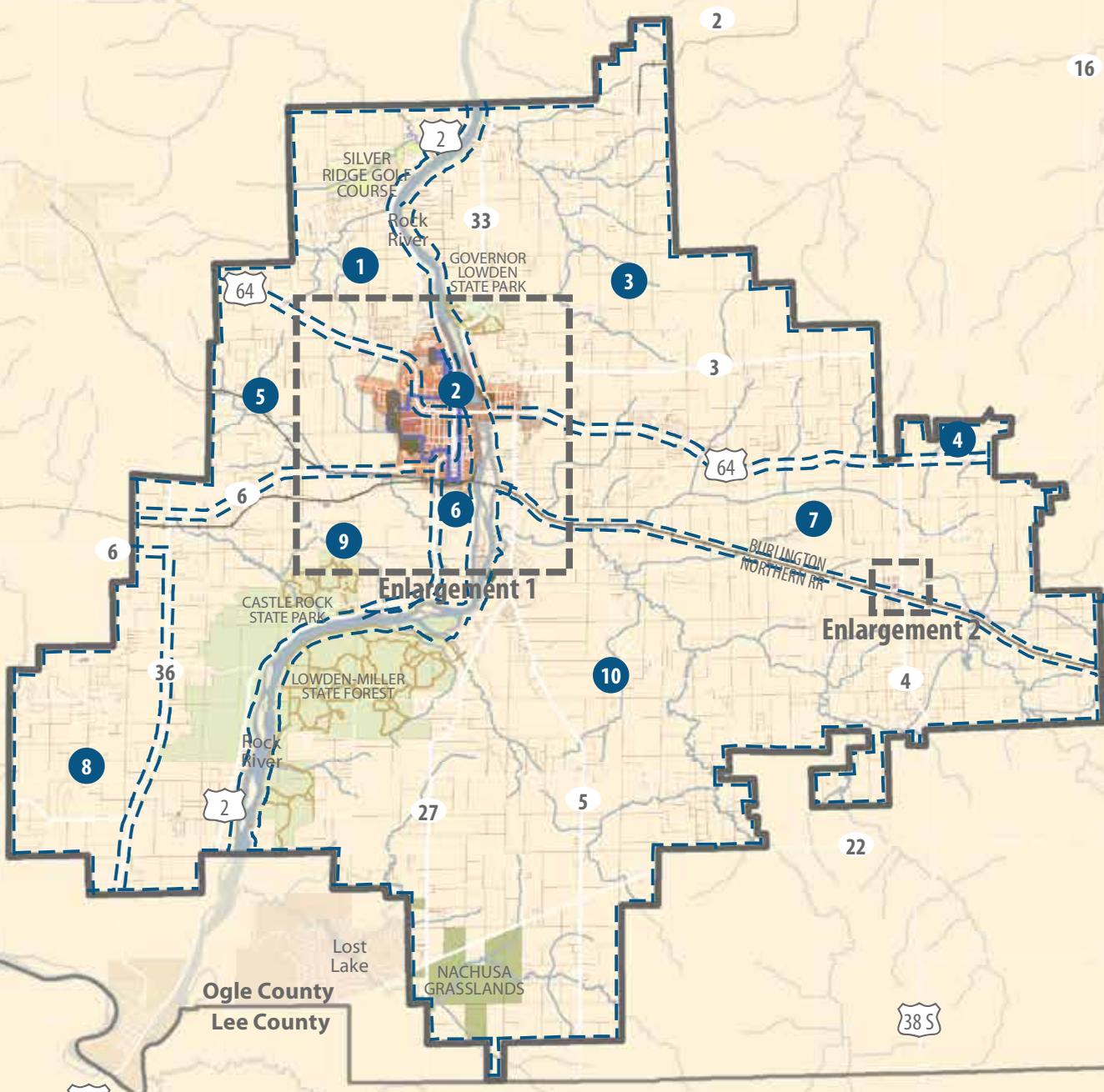
Enlargement 2



# Regional Trail



Enlargement 1



Enlargement 1

Enlargement 2

Ogle County  
Lee County

# Trail Distribution Analysis

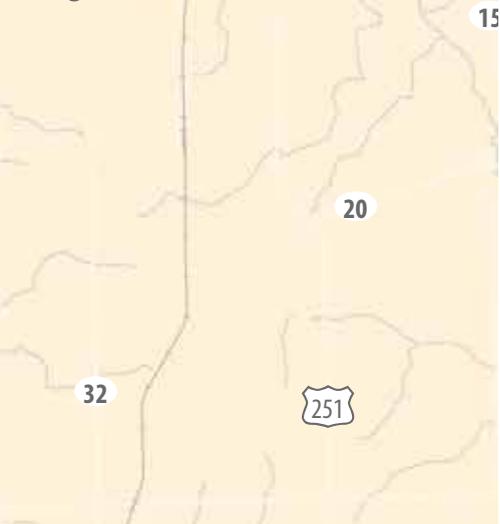
Trails, corridors, and linear parks effectively tie park system components together to form a continuous park environment. The Trail Distribution Analysis illustrates the District-wide deficiencies for trails, corridors, and linear parks.

The map to the left displays all existing trails data for the Oregon Park District, according to the latest GIS information. Trail information was primarily provided by the Ogle County GIS Department and the City of Oregon. According to the Oregon Community Bike Trail map, this trail is a joint effort between the City of Oregon and Oregon Park District. The bike trail runs through Park West, Fairground Park, and shared roadways throughout residential areas in the City of Oregon.

Based on current trail assets, 54.3% of the population lives within 0.5-miles of a trail connection. Because of the direct access to the trail connections and linkages, residents have walkable access to five parks directly along the bike trail or nine parks within a 0.5-mile distance of the trail system. Not included in the distribution analysis, there are almost 32 miles of trails throughout the State Parks within the Oregon Park District boundaries.



Enlargement 2

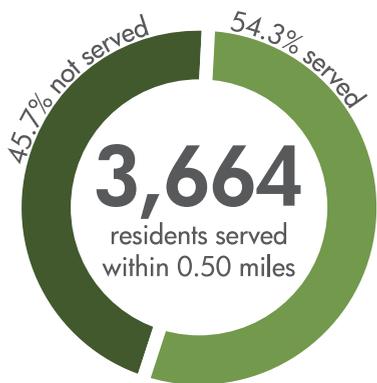


### Trail Service Area Map Legend

-  Planning Areas
-  0.5-mile Trail Service Area
-  City and Park District, Paved
-  IDNR, Unpaved
-  Park District, Paved
-  Park District, Unpaved
-  OPD Park
-  School
-  State Park
-  Grasslands
-  Golf Course

Waste Ponds

1 INCH = 11,000 FEET



## Amenities

In addition to park acreage and distribution, another measure of Level of Service is the total recreation amenities available to residents. These benchmarks come from the Illinois Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and Park and Recreation Operating Ratio and Geographic Information System (PRORAGIS).

### SCORP Comparison

This analysis takes into account useful life criteria as defined by the State of Illinois and defines those amenities that meet current useful life standards. Based on the Illinois SCORP, the District meets or exceeds the recommended number of amenities for 13 of the 25 amenities outlined in the chart to the right. Amenities that meet or exceed the recommendation are identified by green text in the “Surplus / Deficit” column.

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

- Tennis courts, -3.3
- Hiking trails, -2.6 miles
- Marina slips, -1.8

Amenities such as marina slips are not typically present in communities similar to Oregon Park District. The only major expanse of open water the District has access to is Rock River. While boat launches and improved fishing piers, docks, and access might be reasonable amenities to consider in the future, marina slips are not necessarily high priorities or needs.

Some of the amenities that the Park District does not offer or is deficient in, like football fields and boat launches, are offered by others in the area and used by Park District residents. When taken into consideration, these amenities drop from a high or medium priority or need to a low priority or need, as illustrated in the second table to the right.

### PRORAGIS Comparison

In addition to the SCORP averages, the planning team referenced PRORAGIS to identify how the Oregon Park District compares to other agencies throughout the U.S. with populations up to 10,000. PRORAGIS provided information about the total population per facility for recreation and community centers, fitness centers, senior centers, gymnasiums, playgrounds, tennis courts, basketball courts, volleyball courts, baseball fields, softball fields, football fields, and multi-purpose fields within this population range. PRORAGIS also typically provides information about population per facility for indoor ice skating rinks, conference centers, nature and interpretive centers, and performing and / or visual arts centers, but this dataset did not provide adequate information to evaluate this amenity, so the table notes “ISD,” or insufficient data, in the “Population Per Facility” column.

The table on page 44 compares the total number of Park District-owned and managed facilities to agencies with similar populations. According to PRORAGIS benchmarks, the District meets or exceeds the total number of volleyball courts and multi-purpose (soccer, lacrosse, or rugby) fields. The District is most deficient in football fields, tennis courts, and softball fields.

The charts to the right and on the following page illustrate both state (SCORP) and national (PRORAGIS) level of service benchmarks for key park amenities.

### SCORP Amenity Needs Analysis

	Oregon Park District			Illinois Facility Average		Surplus / Deficit	Ranking
	Existing # of Facilities (total)	Existing # of Facilities at current standards	Existing # of Facilities per 1,000 population	Total # of Facilities needed to meet IL Average	IL Average # of Facilities per 1,000 population	Surplus / Deficit	Highest to Lowest Need
<b>WATER-BASED FACILITIES</b>							
Fishing Pier / Docks / Access	4	4	0.59	2.8	0.41	1.2	
Boat Launch Ramps / Access	0	0	0.00	0.8	0.12	-0.8	High Priority
Canoe only access areas	2	2	0.30	0.3	0.04	1.7	
Marina Slips	0	0	0.00	1.8	0.27	-1.8	High Priority
Swimming Pools	0	0	0.00	0.2	0.03	-0.2	Medium Priority
Spray Grounds / Splash Pads	1	1	0.15	0.2	0.03	0.8	
<b>TRAILS</b>							
Multi-Use Trails (Miles)	2.1	2.1	0.31	1.1	0.16	1.0	
Hiking Trails	0.5	0.5	0.07	3.1	0.46	-2.6	High Priority
Bicycle Trails	0.8	0.8	0.12	0.7	0.10	0.1	Medium Priority
Physical Fitness Trails (Stations)	0	0	0.00	1.5	0.22	-1.5	High Priority
Nature / Interpretive Trails (Miles)	0.3	0.3	0.04	0.4	0.05	-0.1	Medium Priority
<b>DAY USE FACILITIES</b>							
Picnic Shelters	12	4	0.59	1.4	0.21	2.6	
Playgrounds	8	6	0.89	2.7	0.40	3.3	
Interpretive Centers	1	1	0.15	0.1	0.01	0.9	
<b>SPORTS COURTS AND FACILITIES</b>							
Tennis Courts	4	0	0.00	3.3	0.49	-3.3	High Priority
Basketball Courts	5	2	0.30	1.7	0.25	0.3	
Volleyball Courts	2	2	0.30	1.1	0.17	0.9	
Baseball Fields	5	2	0.30	1.8	0.26	0.2	Medium Priority
Softball Fields	0	0	0.00	0.9	0.14	-0.9	High Priority
Football Fields	0	0	0.00	0.4	0.05	-0.4	High Priority
Soccer Fields	7	7	1.04	1.2	0.18	5.8	
Horseshoe Pits	2	2	0.30	1.6	0.24	0.4	
Dog Parks	1	1	0.15	0.0	0.01	1.0	
Skate Park	1	1	0.15	0.1	0.02	0.9	

Additional Amenities Needed High Priority
  Additional Amenities Needed Medium Priority
  Additional Amenities Not Needed Low Priority

### SCORP Amenity Needs Analysis (by Others)

	Oregon Park District			Illinois Facility Average		Surplus / Deficit	Ranking
	Existing # of Facilities (total)	Existing # of Facilities at current standards	Existing # of Facilities per 1,000 population	Total # of Facilities needed to meet IL Average	IL Average # of Facilities per 1,000 population	Surplus / Deficit	Highest to Lowest Need
<b>WATER-BASED FACILITIES</b>							
Boat Launch Ramps / Access	2	2	0.30	0.8	0.12	1.2	
<b>TRAILS</b>							
Hiking Trails (Miles)	31.9	31.9	4.73	3.1	0.46	28.8	
<b>SPORTS COURTS AND FACILITIES</b>							
Football Fields	1	1	0.15	0.4	0.05	0.6	

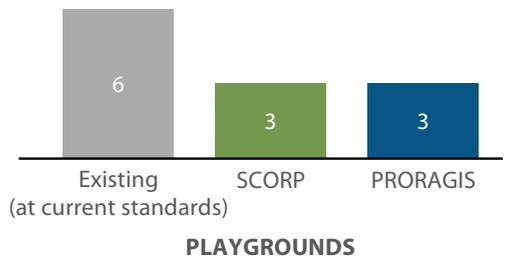
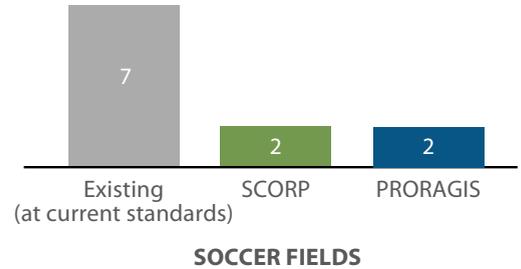
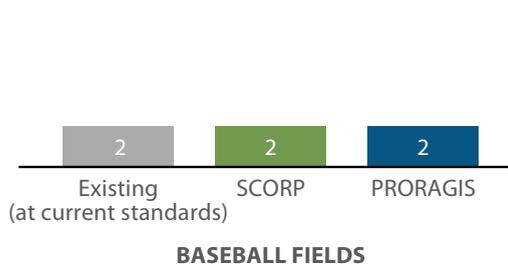
## PRORAGIS Amenity Needs Analysis

	Oregon Park District			PRORAGIS Median	Surplus / Deficit	Ranking	Population Per Facility
	Existing # of Facilities (total)	Existing # of Facilities at current standards	Existing # of Facilities per population	Total # of Facilities needed to meet PRORAGIS median	Surplus / Deficit	Highest to Lowest Need	Population Per Facility (per Proragis)
<b>INDOOR FACILITIES</b>							
Recreation / Community Center	2	2	0	1.0	1.0		6773
Fitness Center	0	0	0	1.2	-1.2		5428
Senior Center	0	0	0	1.0	-1.0		6537
Ice Skating Rink (indoor)	0	0	0	ISD	ISD		ISD
Gymnasium	0	0	0	1.4	-1.4		4948
Conference Center	0	0	0.00	ISD	ISD		ISD
Nature / Interpretive Center	0	0	0.00	ISD	ISD		ISD
Performing and / or Visual Arts Center	0	0	0.00	ISD	ISD		ISD
<b>DAY USE FACILITIES</b>							
Playgrounds	8	6	0	2.6	3.4		2553
<b>SPORTS COURTS AND FACILITIES</b>							
Tennis Courts	4	0	0	2.0	-2.0		3422
Basketball Courts	5	2	0	2.1	-0.1		3232
Volleyball Courts	2	2	0	2.0	0.0		3422
Baseball Fields	5	2	0	1.7	0.3		3893
Softball Fields	0	0	0	1.5	-1.5		4427
Football Fields	0	0	0	3.6	-3.6		1875
Soccer / Lacrosse / Rugby Fields	7	7	0	1.6	5.4		4130

\*ISD denoted insufficient data

Additional Amenities Needed High Priority
  Additional Amenities Needed Medium Priority
  Additional Amenities Not Needed Low Priority

### SCORP - PRORAGIS Key Comparison Graphics - All Amenities Level of Service (LOS)



## Facility Square Footage

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

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

The District has a total of 62,565 square feet of indoor recreational programming space. According to indoor square footage level of service analysis, the District has an indoor level of service of 9.27 square feet per person. Compared to the Chicagoland benchmark, this is a surplus of 49,073 square feet. It is also 7.27 square feet greater than the 2.0 square feet per person.

Although the Park District owns and operates Blackhawk Center at the time of publication, it is primarily used by the School District, Oregon CUSD 220. Even without the square footage provided by the Blackhawk Center, the Park District still remains at a square footage surplus for indoor recreational space. The indoor level of service will drop to 4.6 square feet per person but will still be 2.6 square feet greater than the recommendation.

### Facilities per population (PRORAGIS)

Facility	Median Pop / Facility
Recreation / Community center	6,773
Fitness center	5,428
Senior center	6,537
Indoor ice skating rink	ISD
Gym	4,948
Indoor competitive swimming pool	5,483
Indoor leisure pool	7,437
Conference Center	ISD
Nature / Interpretive Center	ISD
Performing and / or Visual Arts Center	ISD

### Level of Service Analysis: Chicagoland Benchmark

#### INDOOR RECREATION SPACE

Classification	OPD Square Feet (Total)	OPD Existing Level of Service (SF / 1,000 population)	Recommended Square Footage	Recommended Level of Service (SF / 1,000 population)	Square Footage deficiency / surplus (SF)
Indoor Recreational Space	53165.00	7.88	10119.00	1.50	43046.00
Indoor Aquatics	9400.00	1.39	3373.00	0.50	6027.00
<b>Total Square Feet</b>	<b>62565.00</b>	<b>9.27</b>	<b>13492.00</b>	<b>2.00</b>	<b>49073.00</b>

Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 6746

### Level of Service Analysis: Chicagoland Benchmark

#### INDOOR RECREATION SPACE - NOT INCLUDING BLACKHAWK CENTER

Classification	OPD Square Feet (Total)	OPD Existing Level of Service (SF / 1,000 population)	Recommended Square Footage	Recommended Level of Service (SF / 1,000 population)	Square Footage deficiency / surplus (SF)
Indoor Recreational Space	21620.00	3.20	10119.00	1.50	11501.00
Indoor Aquatics	9400.00	1.39	3373.00	0.50	6027.00
<b>Total Square Feet</b>	<b>31020.00</b>	<b>4.60</b>	<b>13492.00</b>	<b>2.00</b>	<b>17528.00</b>

Recommended acreage is based off the existing population of 6746

### PRORAGIS Benchmarks

#### INDOOR RECREATION SPACE

Classification	Population Per Facility	Recommended Number of Facilities	Median Square Feet per Facility
Recreation / Community Center	6773.00	1.00	21301.00
Fitness Center	5428.00	1.24	400.00
Senior Center	6537.00	1.03	6105.00
Ice Skating Rink (indoor)	ISD	ISD	ISD
Gymnasium	4948.00	1.36	12902.00
Indoor competitive swimming pool	5483.00	1.23	2253.00
Indoor leisure pool	7437.00	0.91	200.00
Conference Center	ISD	ISD	ISD
Nature / Interpretive Center	ISD	ISD	ISD
Performing and / or Visual Arts Center	ISD	ISD	ISD
<b>Totals</b>		<b>6.77</b>	<b>43161.00</b>

Information above is based on the 2014 PRORAGIS database information from 34 agencies reporting populations between 0 and 10,000.

# Analyze: Inventory & Analysis Summary

The following conclusions, combined with the information gathered in the Connect Phase, directly influence the strategies developed in later phases of the project.

## Improve and Increase Offerings for Specific Demographic Groups

The Park District has a median age of 47.9, which indicates a mature, aging population. The District is not expected to see an increase in the amount of children under the age of 19, but will, however, continue to see an increase in the number of active adults and seniors. This has implications not only on the type of recreational programs the District will want to offer but also the types of park and indoor space amenities they want to improve.

In addition to the increase of active adults and seniors, the number of low income families and families in need has increased in recent years. The enrollment in the free / reduced lunch program in the School District has increased approximately 300% over the past 15 years. Oregon Park District has an opportunity to increase service to these families through programming and park amenities and keep them involved in the community.

## Utilize Partnerships to Improve Distribution Level of Service

Residents of the Oregon Park District are not limited to Park District properties for their open space and outdoor recreational opportunities. The Illinois

Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and the Nature Conservancy offer over 5,000 acres of open space within OPD boundaries. With these resources to both the north and south of the City of Oregon, there is ample opportunity for an increased trail system connecting these amenities. Rather than try to cover all community recreation and trail needs themselves, partnerships with other open space providers, such as the IDNR, Nature Conservancy, and county, may be a good opportunity to help all agencies provide the highest level of service to Oregon Park District residents while increasing traffic to and through their properties.

Because the Park District is in a rural part of the state and covers a large geographic area, the overall park distribution Level of Service is significantly lower than that of the suburban Park Districts the planning team has worked with. Approximately half of the Park District population lives within the boundaries of the City of Oregon. When analyzing the park distribution Level of Service for the City alone, over 92% of residents are served. Over the next five to ten years, the Park District should focus on maintaining and updating their current amenities, not acquiring new properties. New parks should be considered as new residential areas are developed.





In the meantime, partnerships can be an important asset in filling any Level of Service gaps.

### Improve Existing Facilities, Aquatics, and Indoor Spaces

The Park District has a significant surplus of indoor recreation space, even with only two indoor recreation facilities. The single indoor pool at Nash Recreation Center gives the Park District a surplus of 6,027 square feet of indoor aquatics. One of the two indoor recreation facilities, Blackhawk Center, is also a School District facility, so the Park District does not have full use of the space for programming. If the School District takes over full ownership and use of Blackhawk Center, the Park District will still have a surplus of 11,501 square feet of indoor recreation space at Nash. Although OPD will still operate with a surplus of space, accommodating all programs could become a challenge. The Park District should review their Blackhawk Center agreement with the School District to find an equitable financial solution. They can then focus on ensuring all mechanical systems are up-to-date for both facilities and exploring renovations to get the best use out of the existing space.

### Maintain Existing Amenity Level of Service

The Park District meets or exceeds the recommended number of amenities for 13 of the 25 amenities outlined in the Illinois SCORP. Some of the items outlined, like swimming beaches and marina slips, aren't appropriate for Oregon Park District because of its geographic location, and should not be priorities for the District. Even with a number of amenities beyond their useful life, the Park District still manages to meet or exceed recommended numbers for several categories. Despite meeting a significant proportion of amenity needs, updating aging amenities that are beyond their useful life should be a priority and addressed on an ongoing basis.





# Park & Facility Inventory

This inventory offers a snapshot of the existing conditions for all parks and facilities during the time of this master plan. Aerial photography, character images, observations, and service area information are documented in the following pages.

## Introduction

This section includes a detailed inventory and analysis of each individual park. The planning team performed a site

**Inventory: the act or process of making a complete list of things that are in place**

visit and evaluation for each of the Oregon Park District’s park properties to determine the opportunities and/or potential recommendations for improvements. Each site was visited and photographed, and staff provided information on how the park is used and any issues with the site or site amenities. Listed in alphabetical order, each spread offers a detailed checklist of the elements present within and around the site. The inventory checklist is outlined in three categories: context, site characteristics, and uses and programming. A park matrix is also included, providing the quantity of

each amenity on a per park basis along with the age of the amenity where that information was available. Finally, site aerial and character photos are included.

## Utilization

The inventory and analysis of each individual park aids in the development of individual action items - both district-wide “big picture” items and individual “site specific” items. However, while the inventory and analysis informs the action plan, the information is documented to serve as a general park reference guide. This not only allows for the Park District to utilize these pages to reference the existing conditions of each park at the time of the master plan, but also document the on-going changes and updates to each park as capital improvements and master plan action items are completed.

# Carnation Park

Classification Linear Park  
Acres 8.3

## Context

### Zoning

- residential
- commercial / office
- institutional
- industrial
- open space

Adjacent to disposal plant

## Site Characteristics

### Playground Elements

- modular structure
- independent play elements
- swings
- none

### Trails

- asphalt
- concrete
- other (gravel)
- none

### Site Furnishings

- picnic tables
- benches
- lighting
- trash receptacles
- drinking fountain
- bike rack

Trash receptacle bases show deterioration.

### Parking

- parking lot (21)
- on street
- none

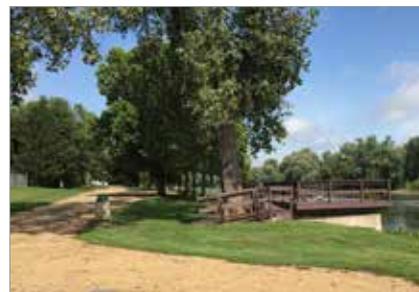
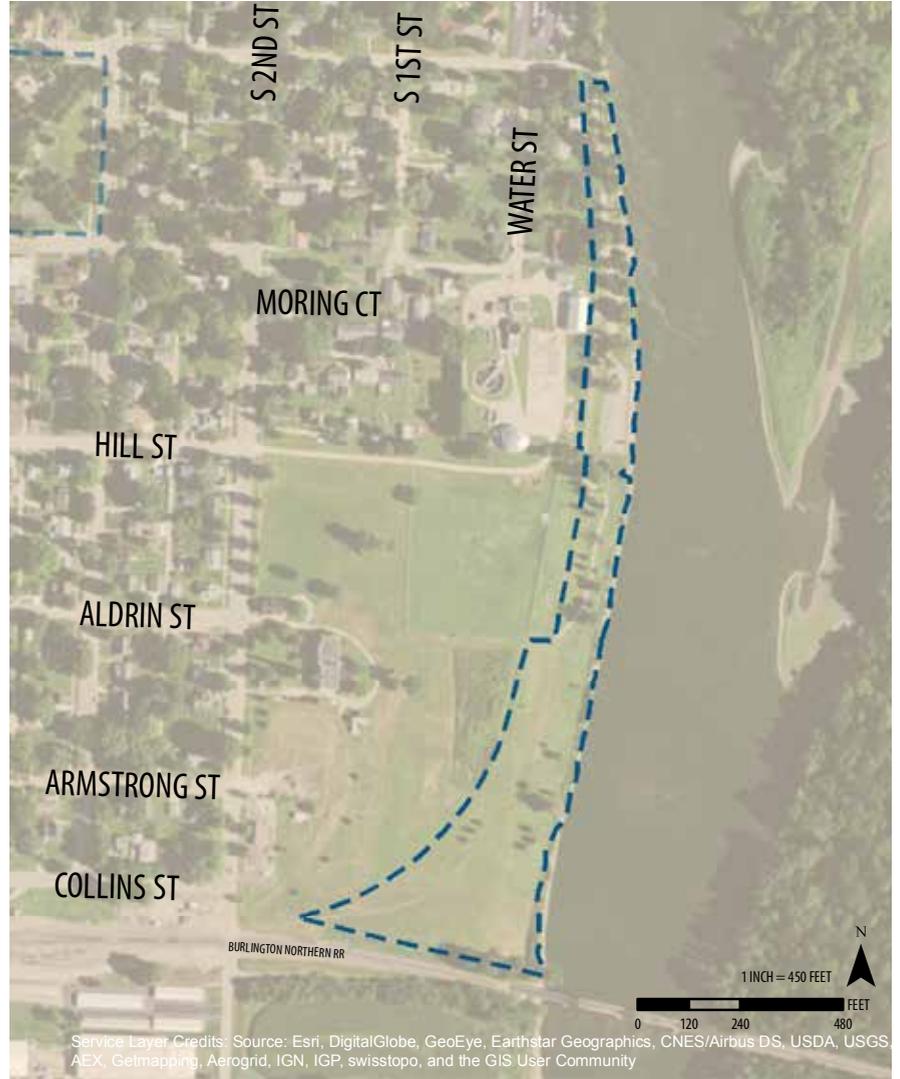
## Users and Programs

### Uses

- recreation programming
- affiliate organizations
- none

## Development History

Quantity	Year Built		
0.4		Trails-Multi-Use (miles)	Trails
		Trails-Hiking (miles)	
		Trails-Bicycle (miles)	
		Trails-Nature/Interpretive Regional Trail Access	
		Indoor Program/Support Restrooms Concessions	Indoor Facilities
✓			
		Fitness Stations Dog Park Picnic Shelter Playground	Day Use Assets
		Basketball Baseball Disc Golf (holes) Football / Rugby Golf Course (hole) Golf Driving Range Horseshoe Pit Lacrosse Pickleball Skate Park Soccer Softball Tennis Volleyball	Sports Courts and Facilities
		Swimming Pool Splash Pad Ice Skating Sledding Boat Launch Fishing	Water - Based Facilities
1			
1			
✓		Creek / River / Open Water	Natural Features
✓		Natural Area / Gardens	
✓		Parking	Other



# Fairground Park

Classification Acres Neighborhood  
10.5

## Context

### Zoning

- residential
- commercial / office
- institutional
- industrial
- open space

## Site Characteristics

### Playground Elements

- modular structure
- independent play elements
- swings (1 belt, 1 tot, 2 ADA, 1 tire)
- none

Engineered wood fiber surfacing and rubber tiles with timber edging. Talk tubes, three spring rockers, and one zip line.

### Basketball (1 total courts)

- color coat
- striping
- full-court
- half-court
- accessibility

Asphalt surfacing.

### Trails

- asphalt
- concrete
- other
- none

### Site Furnishings

- picnic tables
- benches
- lighting
- trash receptacles
- drinking fountain
- bike rack

### Parking

- parking lot (16)
- on street
- none

## Users and Programs

### Uses

- recreation programming
- affiliate organizations
- none

## Development History

Quantity	Year Built		
0.78	1998	Trails-Multi-Use (miles)	Trails
		Trails-Hiking (miles)	
		Trails-Bicycle (miles)	
		Trails-Nature/Interpretive Regional Trail Access	
		Indoor Program/Support Restrooms Concessions	Indoor Facilities
3		Fitness Stations** Dog Park	Day Use Assets
2	1998	Picnic Shelter**	
1	1994	Playground**	
1	1998	Basketball	Sports Courts and Facilities
1		Baseball	
		Disc Golf (holes)	
		Football / Rugby	
		Golf Course (hole)	
		Golf Driving Range	
		Horseshoe Pit	
		Lacrosse	
		Pickleball	
		Skate Park	
		Soccer	
		Softball	
		Tennis	
		Volleyball	
		Swimming Pool	Water - Based Facilities
		Splash Pad	
		Ice Skating	
		Sledding	
		Boat Launch	Natural Features
		Fishing	
		Creek / River / Open Water	Other
		Natural Area / Gardens	
		Parking	

\*text in red indicates amenity is beyond its useful life  
\*\*scheduled for 2017 redevelopment



# Jack's Landing

Classification Natural Area  
Acres 10.7

## Context

### Zoning

- residential
- commercial / office
- institutional
- industrial
- open space

## Site Characteristics

### Playground Elements

- modular structure
- independent play elements
- swings
- none

### Trails

- asphalt
- concrete
- other (packed earth)
- none

Trail susceptible to becoming muddy after rain events.

### Site Furnishings

- picnic tables
- benches
- lighting
- trash receptacles
- drinking fountain
- bike rack

### Parking

- parking lot
- on street
- none

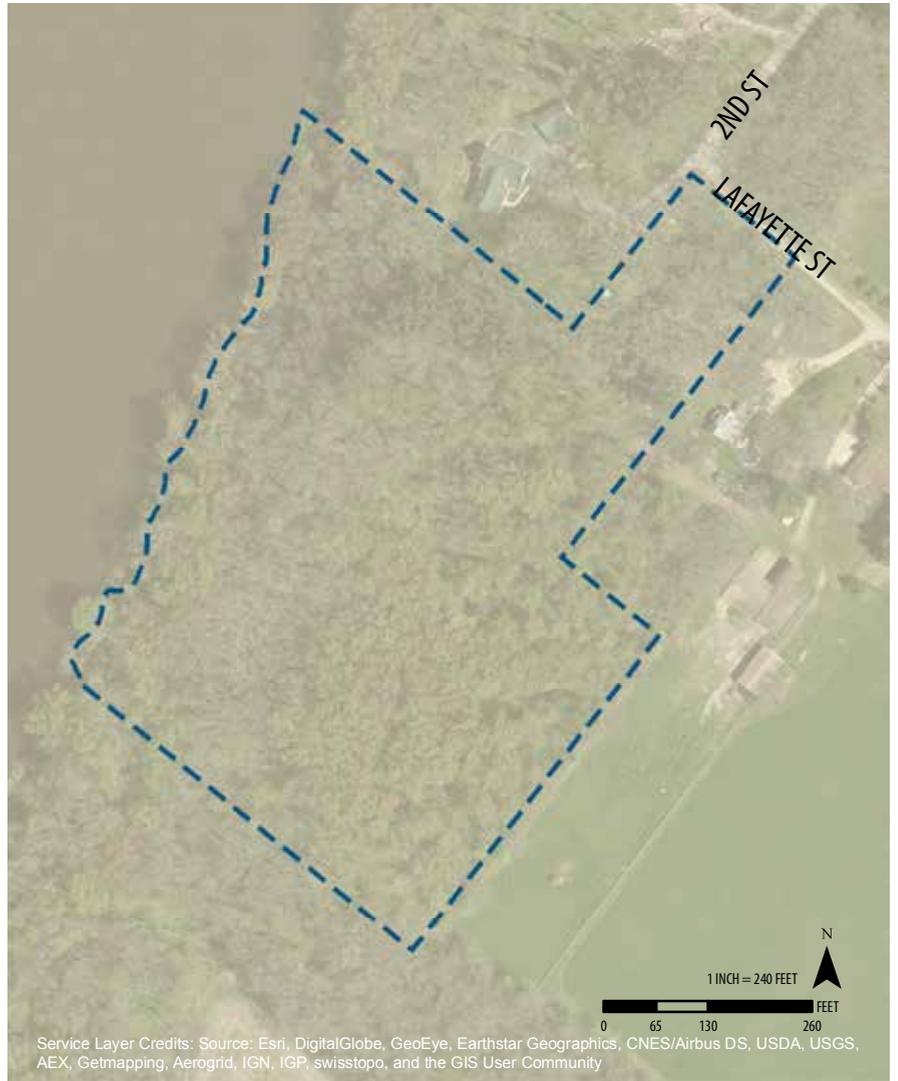
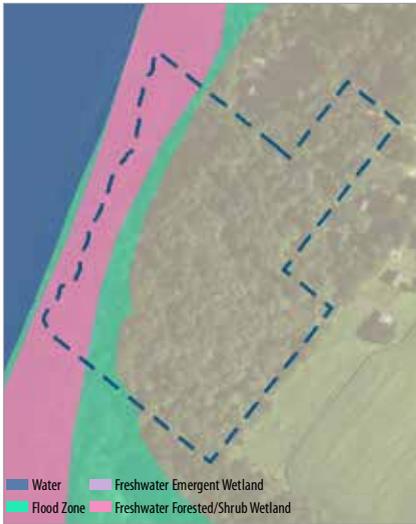
## Users and Programs

### Uses

- recreation programming
- affiliate organizations
- none

## Development History

Quantity	Year Built		
0.50		Trails-Multi-Use (miles)	Trails
		Trails-Hiking (miles)	
		Trails-Bicycle (miles)	
		Trails-Nature/Interpretive Regional Trail Access	
		Indoor Program/Support Restrooms Concessions	Indoor Facilities
		Fitness Stations Dog Park Picnic Shelter Playground	Day Use Assets
		Basketball Baseball Disc Golf (holes) Football / Rugby Golf Course (hole) Golf Driving Range Horseshoe Pit Lacrosse Pickleball Skate Park Soccer Softball Tennis Volleyball	Sports Courts and Facilities
		Swimming Pool Splash Pad Ice Skating Sledding Boat Launch Fishing	Water - Based Facilities
1		Creek / River / Open Water Natural Area / Gardens	Natural Features
		Parking	Other



# Kiwanis Park

Classification    Mini  
 Acres                1.2 owned, 0.2 leased

## Context

### Zoning

- residential
- commercial / office
- institutional
- industrial
- open space

## Site Characteristics

### Playground Elements

- modular structure
- independent play elements
- swings
- none

### Trails

- asphalt
- concrete
- other
- none

### Site Furnishings

- picnic tables
- benches
- lighting
- trash receptacles
- drinking fountain
- bike rack

### Parking

- parking lot (11)
- on street
- none

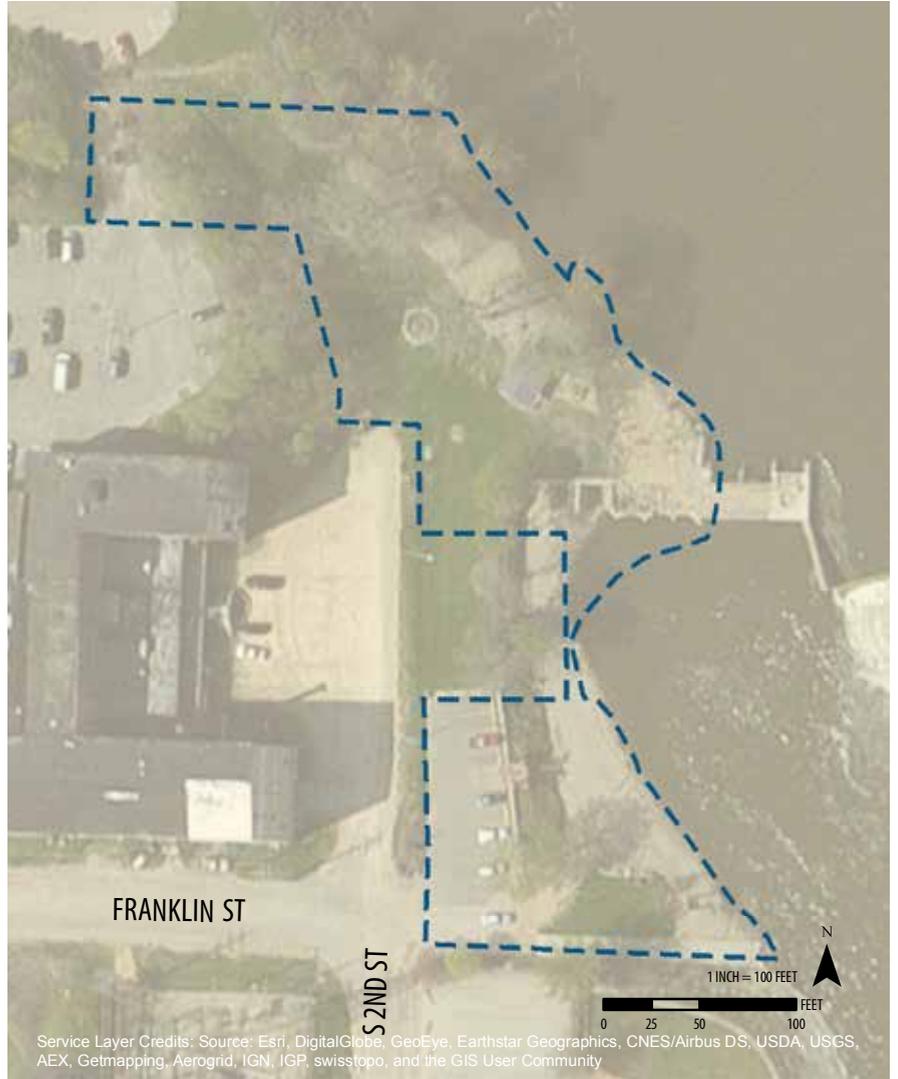
## Users and Programs

### Uses

- recreation programming
- affiliate organizations
- none

## Development History

Quantity	Year Built		
		Trails-Multi-Use (miles)	Trails
		Trails-Hiking (miles)	
		Trails-Bicycle (miles)	
		Trails-Nature/Interpretive Regional Trail Access	
		Indoor Program/Support Restrooms Concessions	Indoor Facilities
✓			
		Fitness Stations Dog Park Picnic Shelter Playground	Day Use Assets
1			
		Basketball Baseball Disc Golf (holes) Football / Rugby Golf Course (hole) Golf Driving Range Horseshoe Pit Lacrosse Pickleball Skate Park Soccer Softball Tennis Volleyball	Sports Courts and Facilities
		Swimming Pool Splash Pad Ice Skating Sledding Canoe / Kayak Launch Fishing	Water - Based Facilities
1			
1			
✓		Creek / River / Open Water Natural Area / Gardens	Natural Features
✓		Parking	Other



# Lions Park

Classification Mini  
Acres 2.2

## Context

### Zoning

- residential
- commercial / office
- institutional
- industrial
- open space

Adjacent to Oregon Living and Rehabilitation Center.

## Site Characteristics

### Playground Elements

- modular structure
- independent play elements
- swings (2 tot)
- none

Engineered wood fiber surfacing with black plastic edging. No ADA access into container. Swings not accessible.

### Baseball / Softball 235'

- outfield fencing
- backstop (trad)
- lighting
- scoreboard
- spectator seating
- dugouts
- batting cages
- irrigation
- under drainage
- accessibility

Picnic tables provide seating. Concrete pad for spectator bleachers present.

### Trails

- asphalt
- concrete
- other
- none

No access to concrete walk from parking lot. Shelter pad in poor condition.

### Site Furnishings

- picnic tables
- benches
- lighting
- trash receptacles
- drinking fountain
- bike rack

### Parking

- parking lot (15)
- on street
- none

## Users and Programs

### Uses

- recreation programming
- affiliate organizations
- none

## Development History

Quantity	Year Built		
		Trails-Multi-Use (miles)	Trails
		Trails-Hiking (miles)	
		Trails-Bicycle (miles)	
		Trails-Nature/Interpretive Regional Trail Access	
		Indoor Program/Support Restrooms	Indoor Facilities
		Concessions	
		Fitness Stations	Day Use Assets
		Dog Park	
1	1985	Picnic Shelter	
1	2006	Playground	
		Basketball	Sports Courts and Facilities
1	1985	Baseball	
		Disc Golf (holes)	
		Football / Rugby	
		Golf Course (hole)	
		Golf Driving Range	
		Horseshoe Pit	
		Lacrosse	
		Pickleball	
		Skate Park	
		Soccer	
		Softball	
		Tennis	
		Volleyball	
		Swimming Pool	Water - Based Facilities
		Splash Pad	
		Ice Skating	
		Sledding	
		Boat Launch	
		Fishing	
		Creek / River / Open Water	Natural Features
		Natural Area / Gardens	
		Parking	Other

\*text in red indicates amenity is beyond its useful life



# Mix Park

Classification Mini  
Acres 2.4 leased

## Context

### Zoning

- residential
- commercial / office
- institutional
- industrial
- open space

## Site Characteristics

### Playground Elements

- modular structure
- independent play elements
- swings (2 belt, 1 tot, 1 ADA)
- none

Engineered wood fiber surfacing and rubber tiles with black plastic edging. No accessibility between rubber tiles and EWF.

### Basketball (1 total courts)

- color coat
- striping
- full-court
- half-court
- accessibility

### Trails

- asphalt
- concrete
- other
- none

### Site Furnishings

- picnic tables
- benches
- lighting
- trash receptacles
- drinking fountain
- bike rack

Grills present.

### Parking

- parking lot
- on street
- none

## Users and Programs

### Uses

- recreation programming
- affiliate organizations
- none

## Development History

Quantity	Year Built		
		Trails-Multi-Use (miles)	Trails
		Trails-Hiking (miles)	
		Trails-Bicycle (miles)	
		Trails-Nature/Interpretive Regional Trail Access	
		Indoor Program/Support Restrooms Concessions	Indoor Facilities
		Fitness Stations Dog Park	Day Use Assets
1	1995	Picnic Shelter	
1	1999	Playground	Sports Courts and Facilities
1	1995	Basketball	
		Baseball	
		Disc Golf (holes)	
		Football / Rugby	
		Golf Course (hole)	
		Golf Driving Range	
		Horseshoe Pit	
		Lacrosse	
		Pickleball	
		Skate Park	
		Soccer	
		Softball	
		Tennis	
		Volleyball	
		Swimming Pool	Water - Based Facilities
		Splash Pad	
		Ice Skating	
		Sledding	
		Boat Launch	Natural Features
		Fishing	
		Creek / River / Open Water	Natural Features
		Natural Area / Gardens	
		Parking	Other

\*text in red indicates amenity is beyond its useful life



# Park East

Classification Acres Neighborhood 21.3

## Context

### Zoning

- residential
- commercial / office
- institutional
- industrial
- open space

Adjacent to agricultural land.

## Site Characteristics

### West Playground Elements

- modular structure
- independent play elements
- swings (1 tire)
- none

Engineered wood fiber surfacing with black plastic edging.

### East Playground Elements

- modular structure
- independent play elements
- swings (2 belt, 2 tot, 1 tire)
- none

Engineered wood fiber surfacing with composite timber and unit wall edging. No ADA access into container.

### Baseball

- outfield fencing
- backstop (trad)
- lighting
- scoreboard
- spectator seating
- dugouts
- batting cages
- irrigation
- under drainage
- accessibility

Shade structure absent from one dugout. Significant erosion along N Jones Terrace.

### Trails

- asphalt
- concrete
- other
- none

### Site Furnishings

- picnic tables
- benches
- lighting
- trash receptacles
- drinking fountain
- bike rack

Grills present.

### Parking

- parking lot (40)
- on street
- none

## Users and Programs

### Uses

- recreation programming
- affiliate organizations
- none

## Development History

Quantity	Year Built		
		Trails-Multi-Use (miles)	Trails
		Trails-Hiking (miles)	
X	1979	Trails-Bicycle (miles)	
		Trails-Nature/Interpretive Regional Trail Access	
		Indoor Program/Support Restrooms	Indoor Facilities
		Concessions	
		Fitness Stations	Day Use Assets
		Dog Park	
2	1979	Picnic Shelter	
2	2002, 2004	Playground	
1	1979	Basketball	Sports Courts and Facilities
1	1979	Baseball	
		Disc Golf (holes)	
		Football / Rugby	
		Golf Course (hole)	
		Golf Driving Range	
		Horseshoe Pit	
		Lacrosse	
		Pickleball	
		Skate Park	
		Soccer	
		Softball	
		Tennis	
		Volleyball	
		Swimming Pool	Water - Based Facilities
		Splash Pad	
		Ice Skating	
		Sledding	
1		Boat Launch	
1		Fishing	
		Creek / River / Open Water	Natural Features
		Natural Area / Gardens	
		Parking	Other

\*text in red indicates amenity is beyond its useful life



# Park West

Classification: Community  
Acres: 58.5

## Context

### Zoning

- residential
- commercial / office
- institutional
- industrial
- open space

Adjacent to Oregon High School, Etnyre Elementary School, and agricultural land.

## Site Characteristics

### North Playground Elements

- modular structure
- independent play elements
- swings
- none

Engineered wood fiber surfacing with composite timber edging. No accessibility into play container.

### South Playground Elements

- modular structure
- independent play elements
- swings (2 belt, 2 tot, and 1 tire)
- none

Engineered wood fiber surfacing with black plastic edging.

### Basketball (2 total courts)

- color coat
- striping
- full-court
- half-court
- accessibility

### Baseball (2 fields)

- outfield fencing
- backstop (trad)
- lighting
- scoreboard
- spectator seating
- dugouts
- batting cages
- irrigation
- under drainage
- accessibility

### Soccer (7 total fields)

- goals
- spectator seating
- irrigation
- under drain
- accessibility

### Tennis (4 courts)

- color coat
- striping
- lighting
- fencing
- accessibility

No accessibility due to kissing gates.

### Trails

- asphalt
- concrete
- other
- none

### Site Furnishings

- picnic tables
- benches
- lighting
- trash receptacles
- drinking fountain
- bike rack

Grills present.

### Parking

- parking lot (237)
- on street
- none

## Users and Programs

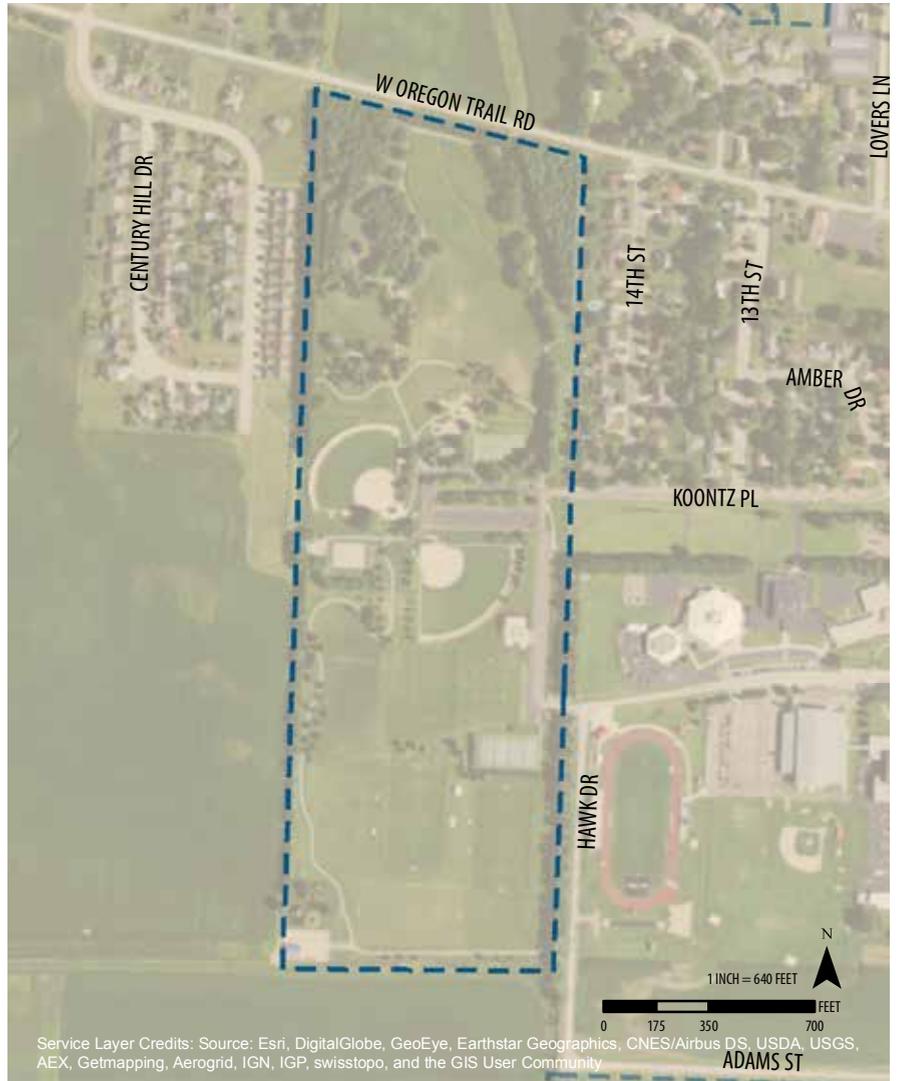
### Uses

- recreation programming
- affiliate organizations
- none

## Development History

Quantity	Year Built		
1.3	2011	Trails-Multi-Use (miles)	Trails
		Trails-Hiking (miles)	
		Trails-Bicycle (miles)	
0.3	2011	Trails-Nature/Interpretive Regional Trail Access	
		Indoor Program/Support Restrooms	Indoor/Facilities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Concessions	
		Fitness Stations	Day Use Assets
		Dog Park	
4	1980	Picnic Shelter	
2	2002	Playground	
2	1980	Basketball	Sports Courts and Facilities
2	1980	Baseball	
		Disc Golf (holes)	
		Football / Rugby	
		Golf Course (hole)	
		Golf Driving Range	
2		Horseshoe Pit	
		Lacrosse	
		Pickleball	
1		Skate Park	
7		Soccer	
		Softball	
4	1980	Tennis	
2	1980	Volleyball	
		Swimming Pool	Water-Based Facilities
1		Splash Pad	
		Ice Skating	
		Sledding	
		Boat Launch	
		Fishing	
		Creek / River / Open Water	Natural Features
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Natural Area / Gardens	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Parking	Other

\*text in red indicates amenity is beyond its useful life



# Pioneer Park

Classification Mini  
Acres 0.3

## Context

### Zoning

- residential
- commercial / office
- institutional
- industrial
- open space

Adjacent to railroad.

## Site Characteristics

### Playground Elements

- modular structure
- independent play elements
- swings
- none

### Trails

- asphalt
- concrete
- other
- none

### Site Furnishings

- picnic tables
- benches
- lighting
- trash receptacles
- drinking fountain
- bike rack

Grill present.

### Parking

- parking lot
- on street
- none

## Users and Programs

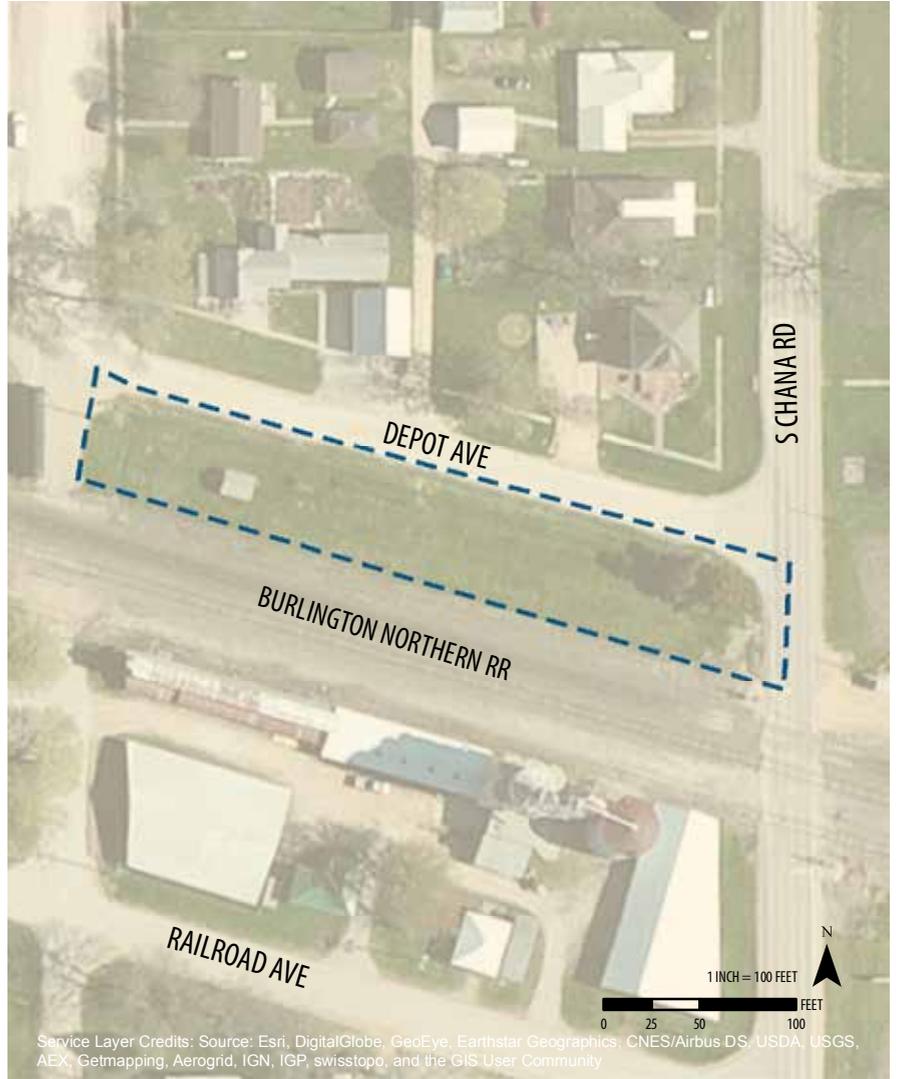
### Uses

- recreation programming
- affiliate organizations
- none

## Development History

Quantity	Year Built		
		Trails-Multi-Use (miles)	Trails
		Trails-Hiking (miles)	
		Trails-Bicycle (miles)	
		Trails-Nature/Interpretive Regional Trail Access	
		Indoor Program/Support Restrooms Concessions	Indoor Facilities
		Fitness Stations Dog Park Picnic Shelter Playground	Day Use Assets
1	1986		
		Basketball Baseball Disc Golf (holes) Football / Rugby Golf Course (hole) Golf Driving Range Horseshoe Pit Lacrosse Pickleball Skate Park Soccer Softball Tennis Volleyball	Sports Courts and Facilities
		Swimming Pool Splash Pad Ice Skating Sledding Boat Launch Fishing	Water - Based Facilities
		Creek / River / Open Water Natural Area / Gardens	Natural Features
		Parking	Other

\*text in red indicates amenity is beyond its useful life



# Veterans Prairie

Classification Natural Area  
Acres 32.8

## Context

### Zoning

- residential
- commercial / office
- institutional
- industrial
- open space

Adjacent to senior services center and agricultural land.

## Site Characteristics

### Playground Elements

- modular structure
- independent play elements
- swings
- none

### Trails

- asphalt
- concrete
- other (boardwalk)
- none

### Site Furnishings

- picnic tables
- benches
- lighting
- trash receptacles
- drinking fountain
- bike rack

### Parking

- parking lot
- on street
- none

## Users and Programs

### Uses

- recreation programming
- affiliate organizations
- none

## Development History

Quantity	Year Built		
		Trails-Multi-Use (miles)	Trails
		Trails-Hiking (miles)	
0.5	2013	Trails-Bicycle (miles)	
		Trails-Nature/Interpretive Regional Trail Access	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Indoor Program/Support	Indoor Facilities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Restrooms	
		Concessions	Day Use Assets
		Fitness Stations	
1		Dog Park	
		Picnic Shelter	
		Playground	Sports Courts and Facilities
		Basketball	
		Baseball	
		Disc Golf (holes)	
		Football / Rugby	
		Golf Course (hole)	
		Golf Driving Range	
		Horseshoe Pit	
		Lacrosse	
		Pickleball	
		Skate Park	
		Soccer	
		Softball	
		Tennis	
		Volleyball	
		Swimming Pool	Water - Based Facilities
		Splash Pad	
		Ice Skating	
		Sledding	
		Boat Launch	Natural Features
		Fishing	
		Creek / River / Open Water	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Natural Area / Gardens	Other
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Parking	



# Williams Park

Classification Acres Mini 1.1

## Context

### Zoning

- residential
- commercial / office
- institutional
- industrial
- open space

## Site Characteristics

### Playground Elements

- modular structure
- independent play elements
- swings
- none

Engineered wood fiber surfacing with black plastic and unit wall edging. Not accessible.

### Trails

- asphalt
- concrete
- other
- none

### Site Furnishings

- picnic tables
- benches
- lighting
- trash receptacles
- drinking fountain
- bike rack

### Parking

- parking lot (4)
- on street
- none

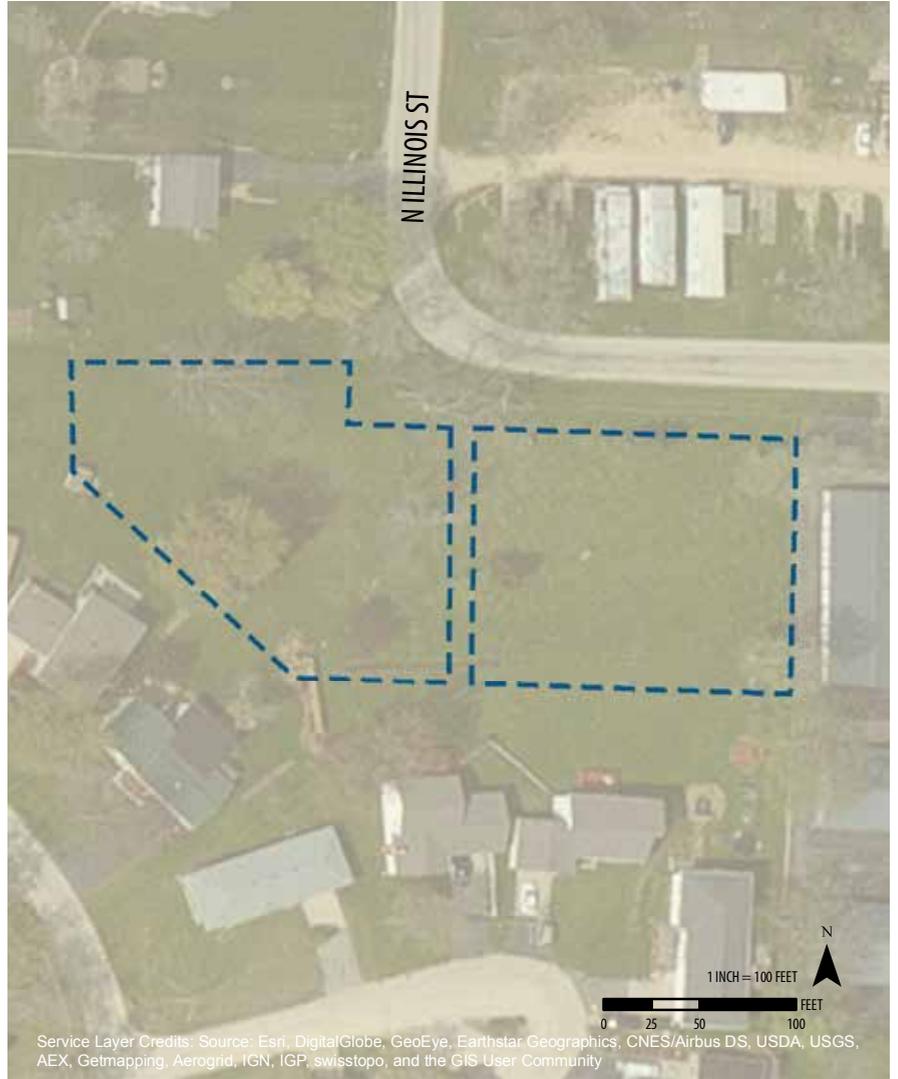
## Users and Programs

### Uses

- recreation programming
- affiliate organizations
- none

## Development History

Quantity	Year Built		
		Trails-Multi-Use (miles)	Trails
		Trails-Hiking (miles)	
		Trails-Bicycle (miles)	
		Trails-Nature/Interpretive Regional Trail Access	
		Indoor Program/Support Restrooms Concessions	Indoor Facilities
		Fitness Stations Dog Park Picnic Shelter Playground	Day Use Assets
1	2011		
		Basketball Baseball Disc Golf (holes) Football / Rugby Golf Course (hole) Golf Driving Range Horseshoe Pit Lacrosse Pickleball Skate Park Soccer Softball Tennis Volleyball	Sports Courts and Facilities
		Swimming Pool Splash Pad Ice Skating Sledding Boat Launch Fishing	Water - Based Facilities
		Creek / River / Open Water Natural Area / Gardens	Natural Features
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Parking	Other



# Blackhawk Center

## Inventory

### History

Constructed as an addition to Oregon High School. Facility is operated by Park District and leased by School District and serves as a field house for high school programs

### Site Conditions / Context

Adjacent to high school and elementary school

### Facility Conditions

- Generally in good condition overall.
- Exterior envelope appears sound; pre-engineered metal building with masonry exterior walls.
- Exterior doors require replacement (project in progress at time of publication to address this issue)
- Interior finishes are basic and show signs of deterioration from high humidity.
- Field house has a pad-and-pour urethane floor system that requires replacement soon. Championship floor is a wood flooring system that has buckled in the past under high humidity levels.
- Large locker rooms for high school PE and athletics.
- Mechanical systems may be nearing end of useful life; high humidity levels noted. W-T Engineering to evaluate further.
- Electrical service capacity is adequate for facility.

### Users and Programming

- High school and community gymnasium space
- Aerobics and weight training
- After-school “extended time” programs
- Facility offices

### Revenue

- Lease payments from School District
- Extended time programs

Classification	Recreation Facility
Year Built	1996
Year Renovated	N/A
Square Footage	47,000

Quantity	SQ FT	
4	1630	Restrooms
4	6650	Locker Rooms
1	1120	Offices
1	575	Reception / Lobby
		Kitchen
1	700	Concessions / Store
		Banquet / Community
1	840	Classroom
1	200	Conference Room
		Work Room
		Teen Room
		Exhibit Room
		Dark Room
		Music Room
		Art Room
		Auditorium / Stage
1	27200	Gymnasium
		Indoor Turf Field
1	2300	Fitness / Weight Room
		Indoor Track
1	2120	Dance Room
		Aquatics
		Indoor Activity Courts
1	1370	Maintenance
2	1930	Storage



# Maintenance Operations Center

Classification	Maintenance
Year Built	1994
Year Renovated	N/A
Square Footage	13,105

## Inventory

### History

Main Park District maintenance facility; serves all OPD park sites with exception of small satellite maintenance shed at Community Park West.

### Site Conditions / Context

Located in southern portion of downtown area, close to Route 2. Appears well located for size of District and location of most parks.

### Facility Conditions

- Pre-engineered metal buildings; main building is in fair condition; cold storage building appears structurally sound but requires new roof and wall panels.
- No major issues noted with main building. Building is basic in character, but appears to meet District needs.
- Yard and vehicle storage space appears sufficient for maintenance facility needs.
- Electrical service size appears sufficient for maintenance facility needs.
- No staff training/lunch room.

### Users and Programming

- Parks maintenance

Quantity	SQ FT	
1	100	Restrooms
		Locker Rooms
1	150	Offices
		Reception / Lobby
		Kitchen
		Concessions / Store
		Banquet / Community
		Classroom
		Conference Room
		Work Room
		Teen Room
		Exhibit Room
		Dark Room
		Music Room
		Art Room
		Auditorium / Stage
		Gymnasium
		Indoor Turf Field
		Fitness / Weight Room
		Indoor Track
		Dance Room
		Aquatics
		Indoor Activity Courts
1	6400	Maintenance
2	5000	Storage



# Nash Recreation Center

## Inventory

### History

Originally a school facility; expanded and modified on several occasions for Park District use. Serves as Park District administration offices and main programming center.

### Site Conditions / Context

Within a residential neighborhood

### Facility Conditions

- Generally in good condition overall. Several additions and alterations over the years.
- Recently completed parking lot and site improvements project.
- Exterior envelope appears sound; primarily masonry cavity walls and modified bitumen roofing. Park District staff reports multiple roof leaks despite recent re-roofing project. Roof is under warranty.
- Some efflorescence noted at indoor pool exterior walls; design pressure of ventilation system in indoor pool should be verified to ensure negative pressure.
- Most windows and doors are newer and thermally efficient.
- Most interior finishes were replaced in a recent renovation and are in good condition. Fitness center restrooms and small restrooms near multi-purpose space are in fair condition, but dated and in need of updating.
- Finishes in large multipurpose room are in good condition, but very basic. Upgrades to this space may increase rental revenue.
- Indoor pool was recently renovated. Pool mechanical systems are in good operating order, though pool chemicals

stored within the mechanical room has resulted in corrosion of structural steel deck above. Separate containment pallets have been purchased and placed outside of building. Existing corrosion should be addressed.

- Many different types of mechanical systems within facility, resulting in maintenance challenges despite newer building automation system. W-T Engineering to perform separate assessment of mechanical systems including evaluation of useful life.
- Electrical service capacity is adequate for facility.
- Many different types of light fixtures. Replacement of lighting in gymnasium and indoor pool with newer LED units will reduce energy cost and improve lighting quality.
- Inefficiency in hot water heating; domestic water and building heating systems are interconnected.

### Users and Programming

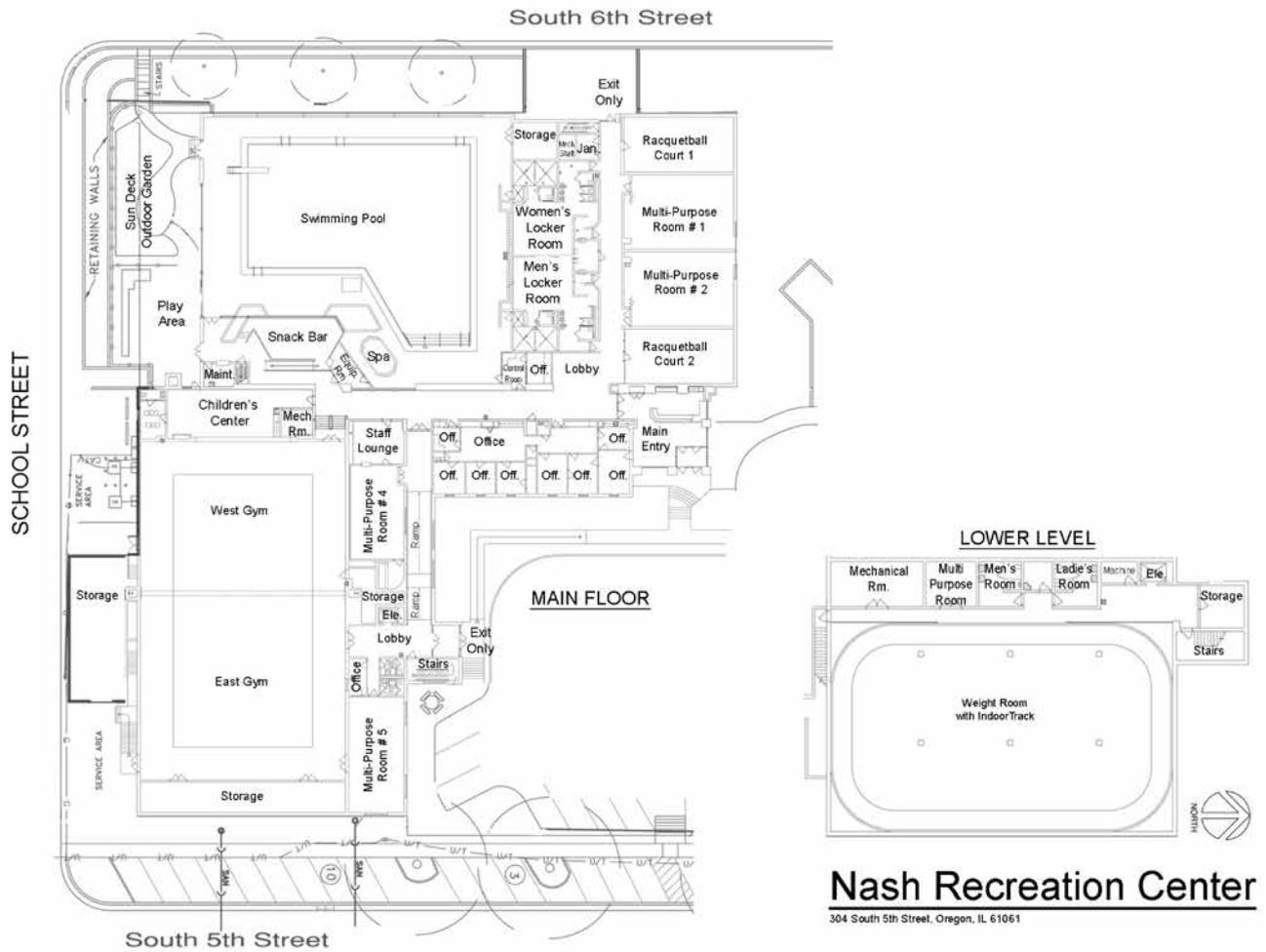
- Indoor aquatics
- Fitness with walking track
- Racquetball/wallyball courts
- Multi-purpose room
- Aerobics/dance room
- Park District administration offices

### Revenue

- Fitness
- Indoor aquatics
- Programs
- Aerobics/dance
- Early childhood/child watch programs

Classification	Recreation Facility
Year Built	1896 with additions in 1913, 1949
Year Renovated	1984, 1990, 1992, 2008, 2013
Square Footage	37,000

Quantity	SQ FT	
5	475	Restrooms
2	2440	Locker Rooms
1	1940	Offices
1	720	Reception / Lobby
		Kitchen
		Concessions / Store
1	2240	Banquet / Community
1	940	Classroom
1	320	Conference Room
		Work Room
		Teen Room
		Exhibit Room
		Dark Room
		Music Room
		Art Room
		Auditorium / Stage
1	9180	Gymnasium
		Indoor Turf Field
1	4800	Fitness / Weight Room
1	1340	Indoor Track
2	1520	Dance Room
1	9400	Aquatics
2	1600	Indoor Activity Courts
3	4800	Maintenance
4	1750	Storage





# Connect

Needs Assessment



# Overview

The Connect: Community Engagement and Needs Assessment chapter outlines the recognized national, state, and local trends in the recreation industry. The chapter also includes summaries of all input received by District residents and stakeholders.

## Purpose

During the Connect: Community Engagement and Needs Assessment phase of the master planning process, the planning team reviewed trends, hosted stakeholder interviews, and workshopped ideas with staff and the Board of Commissioners. An online engagement platform, available 24/7, gathered input from residents for a four-week period about their thoughts on parks and facilities. In all, 85 residents, stakeholders, and staff participated in the community engagement.

The purpose for understanding park and recreational trends is to determine probable demands for certain services and amenities. Recreation trend reports were compiled from nationally-recognized sources to explore inactivity, spending, and participation and are documented in this chapter.

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

## Chapter Outline

- Trends Review
- State Trends
- Local Trends
- Online Engagement Platform (Embrace Oregon)
- Public Input
- Staff Input
- Board Input
- Connect: Needs Assessment & Community Engagement Summary

# METHODOLOGY

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## Review of Trends

### *National, State, and Local Trends*

National trends were derived from the 2014 Sports, Fitness, and Recreational Activities Topline Participation Report facilitated by The Sports & Fitness Industry association, a top national researcher in the sports and fitness industry as well as The Outdoor Foundation's Outdoor Recreation Participation Topline Report (2014). State trends were derived from the 2015 Illinois Department of Natural Resources Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). ESRI's Business Analyst provided local recreation participation trends.

## Stakeholder Input

### *Individual focus group interviews to provide input on parks and facilities*

Specific interest groups, or stakeholders, relevant to the District's programs, operations, parks, and facilities were invited to participate in an interview regarding the needs and priorities for the next five to ten years. The interview was based on a framework of questions that guided discussion.

## Online Engagement Platform

### *Online survey for Park District Residents to provide input on parks and facilities*

Park District Residents were invited to register and participate in an online survey, poll question, and discussion boards. In total, 49 people completed the survey and two comments were received on the discussion boards. Eight people responded to the poll question.

## Staff Workshops

*Individual focus group workshops with various staff members*  
Staff provided input about their goals, objectives, desires, and hopes for the next ten years as well as their opinions on the current state of the District in a series of workshops. Representatives from all District departments participated.

## Board Workshop

### *Input meeting held to gather input from the Board of Commissioners*

Board members provided input about the strengths and weaknesses of the District in response to a series of questions. Additional information regarding future improvements and potential action items for the next five to ten years were also discussed.

# Review of Trends

National, state, and local trends were derived from the recognized industry resources including the Physical Activity Council, Illinois State-wide Comprehensive Open Space and Recreation Plan, and Environmental Science Research Institute (ESRI).

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

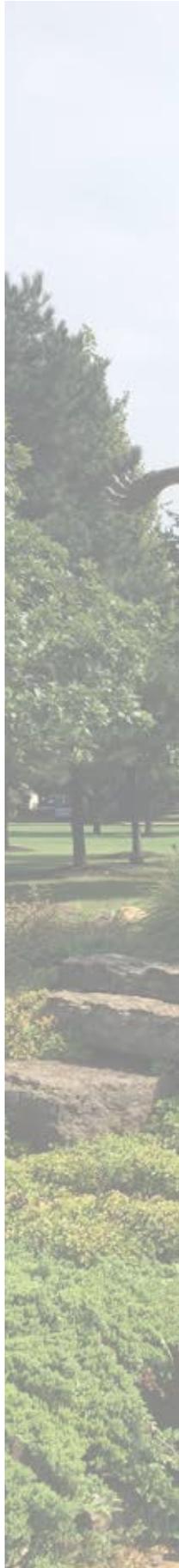
Each year, the PAC produces a report summarizing data about US leisure activity. The 2016 report provides participation, inactivity, spending, aspirational and projection information from 2010 through 2015. Other trends research and reports incorporated into this summary include the Outdoor Industry Association Topline Report, The Sports and Fitness Industry Association Topline Reports, the Worldwide Survey of Fitness Trends, the annual trend forecast from the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) and a recent survey of recreation professionals facilitated by Recreation Management Magazine.

## Sports and Fitness Participation

According to the PAC, leisure activity participation has fluctuated over the last six years. There was a decrease in total activity for 2015, but individual categories such as winter, team, and water sports all experienced participation increases. This may indicate that those categories added new activities to their repertoire. Individual sports have experienced steady decline dropping an average of 1% per year since 2012.

Fitness class activities and the use of various cardio and fitness equipment experienced an increase in participation over the last two years. Fitness-related activities were eight of the ten Core Participation Activities identified in the PAC Overview Report. Core participants are those who participate in a sport or activity on a regular basis. The Top Ten Core Participation Activities, by number of participants, are:

- Activity (definition of core), total number of core participants
- Walking for Fitness (50+ times/year), 76.8M
- Running / Jogging (50+ times/year), 28M





- Treadmill (50+ times/year), 27.7M
- Stretching (50+ times/year), 26M
- Free Weights (hand weights) under 15 lbs. (50+ times/year), 24.8M
- Weight Resistance Machines (50+ times/year), 21.2M
- Bicycling (Road / Paved) (26+ times/year), 20.4M
- Free Weights (dumbbells) over 15 lbs. (50+ times /year), 24.8M
- Fishing (freshwater / other) (8+ times/year), 17.9M
- Stationary Cycling (50+ times/year), 17.4M

The Overview Report reveals Core Participation Activities and insight into the fastest growing sports and activities through the US. The top five percentage growth activities include adventure racing, mixed martial arts (MMA) for competition, off-road triathlons, lacrosse, and traditional triathlons. While this information is helpful, the actual growth activities, based on quantity of participants, provide more insight into what Americans are becoming more interested in for their health, wellness, and fitness needs. The Top Ten Actual Growth Activities are:

- High Impact Aerobics
- Swimming for Fitness
- Yoga
- Adventure Racing
- Mountain Biking
- Traditional Triathlons
- Lacrosse
- Archery
- Off-Road Triathlons
- BMX Bicycling

Class-based group fitness and exercise programs like HIIT (High Intensity Interval Training), Pilates, and Cardio Dance continue to drive the growth in fitness activities. Many of these activities are categorized as “fun” fitness activities. Classes like “P90x,” “Insanity,” or “Crossfit” have been and will continue to grow in popularity at public park and recreation providers and public / private fitness centers and gyms.

Functional fitness is another growing trend. Sandbags, ropes and climbing areas are taking over fitness center and gym floor space as part of this functional fitness movement. Some fitness centers are removing weight machines and are replacing them with open areas of space for people to use as more free-or body-weight strength training, rather than being bound by a machine.

These trends reveal that active people are looking for non-conventional health and fitness experiences. More Americans are looking for activities that provide a fun physical, emotional, and mental experience.

While many Americans enjoy watching team sports like football, basketball, the Olympics, and national championship events, they aren't interested in participating in them for their fitness needs.

The Worldwide Survey of Fitness Trends for 2016 also reported similar trends related to fitness programming. According to this report, the top ten fitness trends for 2016 are, as follows:

- **Wearable Technology:** includes fitness trackers, smart watches, heart rate monitors, and GPS tracking devices.
- **Body Weight Training:** uses minimal equipment making it more affordable.
- **High-Intensity Interval Training (HIIT):** involves short bursts of activity followed by a short period of rest or recovery.
- **Strength Training:** an essential part of a complete exercise regimen for all physical activity levels and genders.
- **Educated, Experienced Fitness Professionals:** professionals certified through programs accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).
- **Personal Training:** Education, training, and proper credentialing for personal trainers have become increasingly important.
- **Functional Fitness:** involves using strength training to improve balance and ease of daily living.
- **Fitness Programs for Older Adults:** age-appropriate fitness programs to keep older adults healthy and active.
- **Exercise and Weight Loss:** Many professionals are successfully integrating exercise into weight loss programs along with diet and nutrition components.
- **Yoga:** utilizes a series of specific bodily postures for health and relaxation.

Racquet sports that have maintained popularity over the last two years include squash and cardio tennis. A growing trend in the recreation industry is Pickleball. Pickleball courts are the same size as doubles badminton courts and is striped similar to a tennis court. Courts can be constructed specifically for pickleball or the striping can be overlaid onto existing tennis or badminton courts. Racquet sports are an activity area typically dominated by Millennials (1980-2000).

Team sports are most popular for Gen Z (2000+). Most activities with consistent or increasing participation include activities facilitated by schools, like cheerleading and swimming teams. Football has seen a consistent decline in participation since 2009, and this is expected to continue. Ultimate Frisbee, an activity popular on college campuses, hit its peak in 2012, but has experienced a consistent decline each year since.

### Outdoor Participation

Nearly half of all Americans (48.4%) participated in at least one outdoor activity in 2016. This is the lowest participation has been since 2006. Extreme weather and unusually cold winters are noted as likely contributors to this decline. Nearly 141.4 million participants went on a collective 11.8 billion outings. An "outing" is defined as an outdoor activity. This equates to 83.4 outings per participant, per year, on average.

The most popular youth (age 6-24) outdoor activities, determined by participation rate, were:

- Running, Jogging, and Trail Running, 25.6% or 20.7M
- Bicycling (Road, Mountain, BMX), 21.2% or 17.2M
- Camping (Car, Backyard, RV), 18.5% or 15.0M
- Fishing (Fresh, Salt, Fly), 18.0% or 14.6M
- Hiking, 12.8% or 10.4M

The top five favorite youth activities, based on frequency of participation were running, jogging and trail running, bicycling, skateboarding, surfing, and bird watching.

The most popular adult (age 25+) outdoor activities, determined by participation rate, were:

- Running, Jogging, and Trail Running, 15.8% or 33.0M
- Fishing (Fresh, Salt, Fly), 15.0% or 31.4M
- Bicycling (Road, Mountain, BMX), 12.8% or 26.8M
- Hiking, 12.4% or 25.9M
- Camping (Car, Backyard, RV), 12.2% or 25.5M

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

Three year growth trends indicated the following top ten activities have seen increasing participation, and may provide opportunities to engage more people in the future.

- Adventure Racing
- Non-traditional off-road triathlon
- Stand Up Paddling
- Kayak Fishing
- Traditional Road Triathlon
- BMX Bicycling
- Traditional Climbing
- White Water Kayaking
- Boardsailing / Windsurfing

## Engaging Inactives

An “inactive” person is defined as one who does not participate in any of the 120 sports / activities covered in the PAC Overview Report. In 2015, 27.7%, or 81.6 million Americans were inactive. This is a decrease of 0.6% from 2014, which had the highest inactivity rate in five years. The additional 1.2 million active people was the most gain of active people over the last five years. Overall, trends indicate that as Americans age, they become less active.

Providing programs categorized as “aspirational” is an effective start when trying to engage inactives in recreation. Swimming for fitness remains the top aspirational activity for inactive Americans. For youth, camping and bicycling also top the list of aspirational sports and activities they would like to try. For adults, 25-64, camping hiking and bicycling are some of the top aspirational activities they would like to try, while for adults 65 and older prefer more passive activities such as birdwatching / wildlife viewing.

Adults over 65 also aspire to try working out with machines, hiking, and fishing. Outdoor activities were an interest for all age groups. Active adults are interested in social program areas, and sports leagues for 45+, 55+ and older. Active Network suggestions the following 40 activities for adult recreation programs:

- Sports - Broomball, inner tube water polo, pickleball, Wally ball
- Exercise - Zumba Gold, Dance Buffet, kettlebells, outdoor fitness
- Technology - Beginner’s Guide to iPad, Social media, digital photography
- Entertainment - Karaoke, improv, Murder Mystery dinners, speed dating, Wii for seniors
- Art - Drawing / painting, jewelry making, mixed media arts, pottery, quilting
- Professional / Other - Estate planning, self-publishing, brain fitness, voice-overs, memoirs

Many agencies are starting to “brand” their active adult programs and create a unique program group geared toward those 45 and older. Two examples of this include Club 55 at the Schaumburg Park District (Schaumburg, IL) and 50 Plus at the Champaign Park District (Champaign, IL).

According to a recent survey of recreation professionals the top 10 recreation program trends included:

- Holidays and special events
- Youth sports teams
- Day camps and summer camps
- Adult sports teams
- Arts & crafts
- Education
- Sport-specific training
- Swimming
- Active older adults
- Sports Tournaments or races

Most surveyed agencies expect to offer environmental education programming in the coming years. Agency respondents indicated the following were their top planned programs:

- Environmental education
- Day camps and summer camps
- Education
- Holidays and special events
- Teen programs
- Mind-body balance
- Fitness
- Adult sports teams
- Arts and crafts
- Active older adults



# State Trends

The Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is prepared as a five-year document by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to maintain Illinois' eligibility to participate in the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program.

Its purpose is to “evaluate the outdoor recreation needs of Illinois citizens and determine how best to meet these needs.” The state’s natural resources, recreational lands, facilities, and socioeconomic factors are considered in this vision document.

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

## Recreation Facilities and Park Lands Inventory

There are more than 1.5 million acres of outdoor recreational land in Illinois ranging from federal and state lands to schools and private commercial lands. Municipal agencies, which include Park and Recreation Departments, Park District, Forest Preserve Districts, Conservation Districts, and County-level Park Departments, provide a total of 350,916 acres of park sites. They also own 195,753 acres of natural areas and lease / manage another 15,612 acres of open space.

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

Based on the 2014 Illinois Community Recreation Facilities and Park Lands Inventory, there are approximately 347.08 acres and 17.9 park sites on average per community throughout the state. Typically, park districts provide more acreage and park sites than City / Village Recreation agencies.

Top trends across the state are pickleball, disc golf, and splash pads. The increasing popularity of pickleball is in response to aging populations found in all communities across the state, while the popularity of splash pads is in response to the financial constraints of outdoor swimming pool renovations. The popularity of disc golf demonstrates a growing preference for alternative outdoor recreation activities. Foot golf is another example of an alternative outdoor recreation activity that has increased as golf course owners look for alternate uses for their assets.

### Top Activities

The top activities for IDNR community-wide survey, conducted during the SCORP planning process were pleasure walking and observing wildlife / bird watching. Picnicking, using a playground, on-road bicycling, and swimming at outdoor pools were also among the most prevalent activities for Illinois residents. Activities with lower participation numbers include lacrosse, pickleball, snowmobiling, trapping, in-line skating, sailing, and cross-country skiing. This may indicate that these activities are primarily done by smaller interest groups, such as lacrosse, that the facilities for the activity are not always available, like sailing, or that the activity is a growing trend and is not yet prevalent in all communities, like pickleball.

According to the survey, City Parks or County Preserves are used most for visiting an amphitheater or band shell, softball / baseball, lacrosse, soccer, and mountain biking. State Parks are used most for tent camping, vehicle camping, hiking, motor boating, and water skiing. Federal Lake or Forests are primarily used for sailing, water skiing, and motor boating. Hunting is the most prevalent reason residents visit and use private areas for recreation.

### Attitudes about Outdoor Recreation

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

Survey respondents indicated the primary role of parks and recreation facilities for Illinois communities is to preserve open space. Other primary roles include making the community more desirable, improving fitness, enhance a sense of place, and increase property values. Most (56.3%)

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

### Outdoor Recreation Priorities

Priorities in the 2015 State of Illinois SCORP are:

- Healthy People and Communities
- Access to Outdoor Recreation
- Natural Resource Stewardship
- Conservation Education
- Cooperative Partnerships



# Local Trends

Local recreation participation trends information was derived from the Environment Science Research Institute (ESRI) Sports and Leisure Market Potential Report.

This data is based upon national propensities to use various products and services, applied to the local demographic composition of the Oregon Park District. Usage data were collected by Growth for Knowledge Mediamark Research and Intelligence, LLC. (GfK MRI) in a nationally representative survey of U.S. households. MPI (Market Potential Index) measures the relative likelihood of the adults in the specified area to exhibit certain consumer behaviors or purchasing patterns compared to the U.S. An MPI of 100 represents the U.S. average.

Based on projected population, the top ten recreational activities Oregon Park District residents will participate in (based on percentage of population as well as above the national average with an MPI over 100) include:

- Archery
- Hunting (with a rifle)
- Fishing (freshwater)
- Hunting (with a shotgun)
- Motorcycling

- Boating (power)
- Bowling
- Canoeing / kayaking
- Walking for exercise
- Target shooting

The number of MPIs over 100 for Oregon is right in line with what the planning team typically finds. There are 12 activities that score over 100 and four additional activities that score 100. This number of highly scoring activities bodes well for program expansion in the future, particularly in outdoor recreation oriented activities. With the limitation of existing indoor space, there may be opportunities to grow some program areas in parks. This is a trend occurring in park and recreation systems nationwide.

### Sports and Leisure Market Potential

Product/Consumer Behavior	Expected Number of Adults / HHs	Percent	MPI
Participated in archery	216	3.9%	144
Participated in hunting with rifle	353	6.4%	141
Participated in fishing (freshwater)	927	16.8%	136
Participated in hunting with shotgun	292	5.3%	135
Participated in motorcycling	206	3.7%	128
Participated in boating (power)	370	6.7%	126
Participated in bowling	590	10.7%	113
Participated in canoeing/kayaking	339	6.2%	110
Participated in walking for exercise	1,568	28.4%	106
Participated in target shooting	275	5.0%	105
Participated in swimming	862	15.6%	101
Participated in golf	511	9.3%	101
Participated in bicycling (road)	547	9.9%	100
Participated in wight lifting	543	9.9%	100
Participated in baseball	253	4.6%	100
Participated in softball	189	3.4%	100
Participated in football	254	4.6%	98
Participated in fishing (salt water)	211	3.8%	97
Participated in backpacking	162	2.9%	96
Participated in Frisbee	220	4.0%	93
Participated in ice skating	123	2.2%	91
Participated in hiking	493	8.9%	90
Participated in aerobics	414	7.5%	89
Participated in basketball	404	7.3%	89
Participated in horseback riding	119	2.2%	87
Participated in bicycling (mountain)	182	3.3%	85
Participated in yoga	326	5.9%	84
Participated in jogging/running	579	10.5%	80
Participated in volleyball	143	2.6%	80
Participated in tennis	173	3.1%	79
Participated in Pilates	119	2.2%	78
Participated in skiing (downhill)	107	1.9%	72
Participated in soccer	139	2.5%	66

\*Participation in last 12 months



# Embrace Oregon

Residents had the opportunity to share their thoughts and ideas for the next five to ten years on an interactive online community engagement forum, Embrace Oregon.

The online engagement platform was available 24/7 and gave residents the opportunity to provide input on parks and facilities at their leisure. Area residents created an account through PlaceSpeak to access topic questions.

This platform contained survey, poll, and open-ended discussion questions. The platform is a crowd-sourcing tool and does not produce statistically-valid results. This was an alternative means of input for Oregon Park District residents and served as a supplement to the in-person community engagement such as stakeholder interviews.

## Participation and Traffic

Launched on October 14, 2016, Embrace Oregon was the key method for engaging residents about parks and facilities. Over the 30 day period there were 1,499 page views and 67 connections. Site interactions include two comments, eight poll responses, and 49 completed surveys. The site was shared on the Park District's website, Facebook page, and published in a County-wide news source.

Approximately 67 individuals registered as participants over the one-month period. Out of these, 59 submitted comments, ideas or survey responses. Site and survey participation was restricted to Oregon Park District residents only, therefore requiring participants to register through PlaceSpeak and provide their address. Any individual could view the site and connect to the topic, but only those whose registered address fell within the Oregon Park District boundary had the ability to comment and answer the survey. Thirty-six, or 53.7%, of connected individuals live with the City of Oregon boundary. Sixteen connected individuals, or 23.8%, live outside of the City boundary but still in the Park District Boundary. The remaining 15 connected individuals live outside of the Park District boundary and were ineligible to complete the survey.

## Topic Overview

There were three overarching question groups open for public input: Facilities, Parks, Future. The first round of topics was launched on October 14, 2016 and, after a two-week input

period, additional discussion questions were constructed and posted in order to promote discussion on specific issues, opportunities and ideas that arose in the first weeks of input. Topics were open for input between 16 and 30 days. All topic questions, surveys, and polls were optional. Results do not reflect the views of all connected participants, but instead only represent the views of the specific participants who responded to the individual question. Not all participants provided answers for each question.

### Poll and Survey Results

How do Park District programs, parks, and facilities improve your life or the lives of your family members? (Select the one most applicable to you.)



Which Oregon Park District facility have you or any member of your household visited MOST OFTEN in the last 12 months? Choose all that apply.



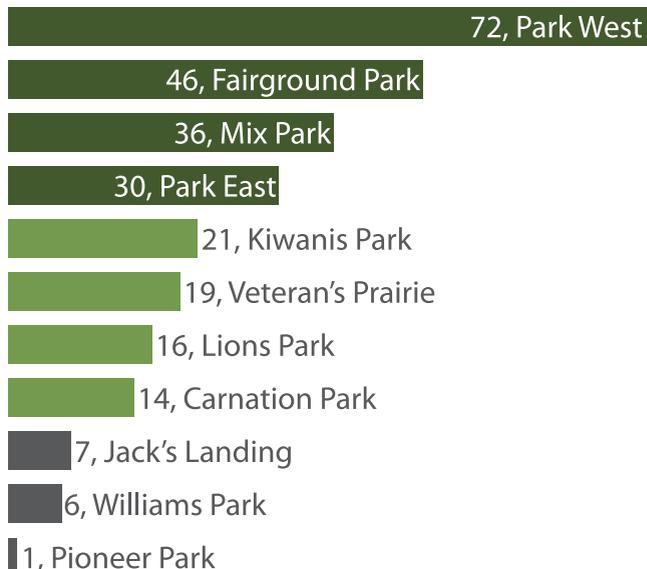
Of the facilities you visited, are there facilities that need improvement?



Have you or any member of your household visited any of the Oregon Park District parks in the last 12 months?



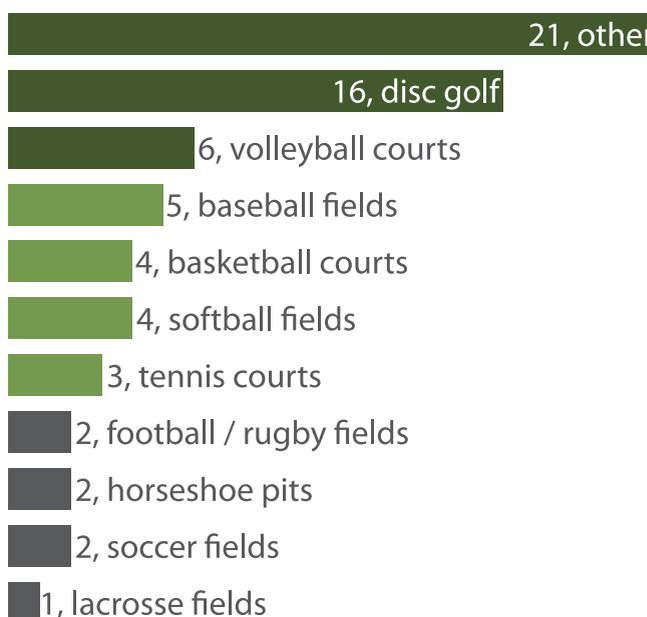
Which parks have you visited?



Of the parks you visited, are there any park amenities that need improvements?



Are there amenities you wish we had in our parks or that you think we need more of? Which park amenities would you like to see ADDED to our park system?



## Open-ended Question Results

In addition to multiple choice questions, the survey consisted of follow-up open-ended questions. The following are summaries of those answers.

*What program or activities have you or any member of your household participated in at those facilities in the last 12 months?*

The programs and activities varied greatly and were commonly general in nature. The most common activities listed were athletics, fitness classes, and aquatics classes. Youth volleyball, basketball, and swimming were the most common sports specified.

*If you answered yes to the previous question (do facilities need improvement?), which facilities need improvements? What improvements would you like to see?*

Answers for facility improvements also varied greatly. Less than half of survey participants felt that either of the facilities need improvements, but some of the most common comments include air conditioning at either facility, more diverse program offerings needed, and extended hours

### Some of the most common comments included air conditioning at either facility.

(morning, evening, and weekend) at both facilities. There were also several comments relating to the fitness room at Nash. One individual commented that the fitness room needs to be in a different location. It currently has no windows and feels closed off. Another resident commented that the equipment there needs to be updated. Finally, a third individual stated that they would like to see an addition to accommodate more equipment.

*If you answered yes to the previous question (have you visited any parks?), which parks have you visited? Why do you visit these parks?*

Of those who answered, only two individuals do not visit OPD parks. The parks receiving the most visits are Park West, Fairground Park, and Mix Park with 42, 33, and 27 visits, respectively. When the same question was posted on the Park District's Facebook page, those numbers increased to 72, 46, and 36 visits, respectively. Jack's Landing, Williams Park, and Pioneer Park are the least visited parks by those answering the survey with 6, 4, and 1 visit respectively.

The reasons given for visiting the parks varied greatly and were often general in nature. The most common reasons related to the amenities at each park. Playgrounds, sports fields, the splash pad, trails, and the river were all frequent

answers for multiple parks. Some of the more unique answers included geocaching, photography, and birdwatching.

*How does your household enjoy our parks? Please list ALL activities you or members of your household enjoy our parks.*

Much like the related facility responses, answers relating to park activities varied greatly. Again, most of the responses related to the amenities at the parks. The most common reasons for visiting the parks are walking/running, walking the dog, using the playgrounds, soccer fields, baseball fields, and splash pad. The variety of amenities and programs offered at Park West seemed to be a major draw for many responders.

*If you answered yes to the previous question (park amenity improvements?), what improvements would you like to see?*

Similar to the other open-ended questions, responses varied greatly and covered a number of topics, including updating current assets, adding new assets, and programs and policy.

First, there were several comments related to updating existing parks and amenities. Carnation Park and Lions Park were listed as needing major updates. The playground at Fairground Park and the basketball courts at Park West need updates. Other responders stated that the play equipment, shelters, and restrooms in general need to be updated. Also, several individuals commented that the splash pad needs to be expanded to accommodate high use in the summer. One commenter was also concerned about the surfacing of the splash pad and the safety of the surrounding stone, noting that the surface is quite slick when wet.

A number of individuals commented on new features or amenities they would like to see in existing parks. The most common new features people noted here were an outdoor pool and ice skating rink. New or extended paths were also desired by multiple survey takers. In addition, several individuals would like to see lighting along the existing trails and in the dog park. An increase in restrooms was requested at several parks. A completely new softball/baseball complex was asked for by one individual. They see an opportunity for OPD to host tournaments and give high school students additional fields to practice and play on.

Finally, there were a few comments related to programs and policies at the parks. First, one individual praised the Concert in the Park series, but voiced a desire for an extended series with more local food vendors. In addition, the program could adapt to include movies in the park. This individual would also like to see more fall and winter activities at the parks. Lastly, another responder is concerned about the safety of the splash pad and would like to see running, food consumption, and pet proximity monitored.

*What should the Oregon Park District's priorities be in the next five years?*

This question garnered the most participation, and many of the responses align with those of staff and stakeholders, as summarized in the following sections of this chapter. All comments fall under the categories of parks and facilities, trails, programs, and partnerships.

### **Parks and Facilities**

About one-third of the comments related to parks and facilities. The most common response was that OPD should continue to maintain their existing amenities. Many responders believe the Park District is doing an excellent job and would like to see that continued. There was a variety of

OPD should continue to  
maintain their existing  
amenities.

comments asking for new or additional amenities including an outdoor pool, disc golf course, baseball/softball fields, family fishing areas, boat ramps, a band shelter in the eastern half of the District, winter recreation facilities, an autistic-friendly gym, and updated fitness equipment. Additionally, responders would like to see Blackhawk Center updated, Oregon Country Club reopened, Nash's weight room moved out of the basement, and more accommodating hours at Nash for working adults and college students.

### **Trails**

Trail comments mostly related to expanding the trail network. One commenter wanted to see OPD work with Byron Park District to build a trail connecting the two communities. Another voiced a desire for town-wide off-road bike trails.

### **Programs**

Another one-third of comments related to programs. Most of the commenters wanted to see more or different types of programs. These included fitness classes later in the evening, day trips for seniors, more performing and visual arts programs, winter programs, young adult and mid-career adult programs, high school student programs, young family programs, nighttime outdoor programs, cooking programs, and more affordable programs. One individual would like to see print copies of the program guide back in circulation. Another individual believed that volunteer feedback would be valuable for improving programs. Twenty-four hour day care was requested by one survey responder. Finally, a need for transportation to and from preschool was stated.

### **Partnerships**

The final group of comments all pertained to OPD partnerships. For the most part, commenters were supportive of partnerships and would encourage the Park District to continue to pursue additional partnerships. One individual warned that partnerships with the City should be monitored and made sure to benefit OPD residents outside of the City limits, too. Several responders believed there is an opportunity to work with Mount Morris and Stillman Valley to provide mutually beneficial programming for all communities involved.



# Public Input Summary

Representatives from ten area organizations met with the planning team to participate in half hour-long interview sessions to discuss their vision for the Park District over the next five years.

In all, there were 10 stakeholders, representing the Oregon School Foundation, Oregon Soccer Club, Village of Progress, OCEC, City of Oregon, Oregon CUSD, Ogle County, Oregon Rotary, Chamber of Commerce, and Oregon Together.

## **Partnerships, Collaboration, and Resource Sharing**

All stakeholder groups were interested in expanding partnerships and collaborations within the Oregon Park District. Some suggestions included resource sharing between the Park District and the City of Oregon or the Park District and School District. Many of the stakeholders suggested working together on programming. They see many opportunities for the Park District to partner with other organizations to fill areas of need in the community. The Park District boundary encompasses a much larger area than just the City of Oregon and stakeholders believe this puts the Park District in a position to take the lead on partnership initiatives. With a majority of the Park District's tax base coming from Exelon, many of the stakeholders agreed that OPD needs to have a long-term sustainability

plan. Some noted that forming strong partnerships now will further solidify the Park District's standing with the community and ensure their continuation in the future.

**All stakeholder groups were interested in expanding partnerships within the Oregon Park District.**

## **Parks, Programs, Facilities, and Trails**

Stakeholders agreed that OPD's parks and facilities are a major asset to residents. Existing parks and facilities should be updated and maintained to a high standard before the Park District considers acquiring new properties. These assets are the reason many individuals and families move to the area. The demographic is aging, and many of the

stakeholders voiced the need to attract and retain young families.

Programs were another major discussion point among all stakeholder groups. New and diverse programs that are geared toward the young professional and young family demographic should be offered. In addition, the free and reduced lunch program in Oregon schools has grown by 300% in the past 15 years and free and discounted programs should be considered to keep this population in the District and involved. All of the stakeholder groups also commented on the desire to increase offerings during the winter season. Finally, inclusive recreation programming should be increased, especially for children. The Village of Progress offers programs for adults with special needs and developmental disabilities, but the younger demographic is underserved. Several stakeholders see this as an opportunity for the Park District to help fill this need.

Youth are seen as an important demographic in the Park District, however, one stakeholder group noted that teens do not have a designated place of their own. Parks close at dusk, and the young people must find somewhere else to go to hang out. Many establishments do not want them loitering on their property, but these young people do not necessarily want to spend their evenings at home.

It was also observed that bike tourism is a growing industry. Some stakeholders suggested that OPD should develop an off-road bike trail that could capitalize on this industry. In addition, a regional trail that connects Lowden State Park to the north and Castle Rock State Park to the south could be a way to funnel State Park visitors through OPD's parks and facilities.

### **Waterfront Access**

As part of the City of Oregon's Comprehensive Master Plan, development of the riverfront will make the Rock River an even bigger asset to the community. Stakeholders believe that this presents ample opportunity for the Park District to provide input and influence the development of the open space along the river, further deepening its roots in the City itself. The City currently owns several of the river's islands and can partner with the Park District to improve these for recreation. Many residents visit riverfront parks to fish and admire the view, but stakeholders have noted that providing boat access at these parks could draw many more visitors to these parks.



# Staff Input

As part of the community engagement process, staff members from Oregon Park District participated in focus groups to share their institutional knowledge and ideas for the next five years.

Individual focus group workshops with the Finance and Technology Administrator, Communications and Marketing Supervisor, Recreation Program Manager, Superintendent of Environmental Services, Horticulture Maintenance Supervisor, Athletic Facility Manager, Superintendent of Parks, Aquatics Manager, Park Maintenance Supervisor, Children's Center, Special Events Coordinator, and Natural Resources Manager.

## Top Priorities

Staff voiced many of the same thoughts as the stakeholders in relation to what the Park District should focus on in the next five years. First and foremost, the most common observation was that the Park District has excellent resources that should be maintained to a high standard. The District's offerings are what attract people to Oregon. Several staff members noted that in order to keep up with maintenance needs, the Park District needs to develop life cycle and capital replacement plans for their resources so as not to be burdened with unexpected costs if equipment fails due to

age. Both park maintenance and horticulture maintenance staff stated that they are lacking some of the necessary equipment to do their jobs efficiently.

The population was then addressed. Staff believes that the current residents often take OPD for granted. Many residents do not realize that the reason people to move to Oregon is because of the Park District. Methods of attracting and retaining young families and young professionals should be developed.

Finally, staff voiced the desire for a long-term sustainability plan. Partnerships could be key in ensuring the longevity of the Park District after Exelon leaves the area. Staff believes OPD should continue to be involved in recreational downtown development, especially where riverfront development is concerned. Their involvement in this development will make them a crucial player in the community's success.

## Parks, Programs, and Facilities

All staff members agreed that current parks should be updated before new parks are built. Many of the shelters are outdated and in poor condition. Storage is severely lacking, and there is an opportunity to provide additional storage space at shelter locations when these amenities are replaced. Also, many of the District's playgrounds are coming to the end of their useful lifespans. Staff noted that they would like to see a variety of playground structures at their parks as opposed to the traditional post-and-deck structures at all of the parks now.

Programs were another point of discussion among all staff members. The low income and aging populations are growing and need to be adequately served. Staff stated that fees are often the largest obstacle for low income residents. In order to keep those children in the area once they enter adulthood, staff believe that they need to be involved in Park District programs from a young age. With the decline of Senior Center programming, OPD has an opportunity to increase its involvement with this age group. Also, inclusive programming, especially for children, should be offered. This type of programming is difficult to find close to Oregon, and provides an opportunity to attract people to the Park District if offered by OPD.

The low income and aging populations are growing and need to be adequately served.

Blackhawk Center is currently owned by the school district, but is operated by the Park District. OPD staff believes that the agreement with the school should be evaluated and a long term sustainable plan be put in place. There are often scheduling conflicts between the school athletic programs and Park District programs, and OPD needs to assess their program locations. Additional space at Nash Recreation Center is desired. Staff voiced the need for an additional workout room. During peak evening hours, the facility is often overcrowded. This issue is also compounded when there is a scheduling conflict at Blackhawk Center and programs must be moved to Nash.



# Board Input Summary

In addition to public and staff input, the Board also provided thoughts on the current status of the District and ideas for the future.

The planning team shared the inventory and analysis data and other community engagement results with the Oregon Park District's Board of Commissioners. The Board shared their thoughts on the results and provided their own comments. In general, Board members agreed with many of the comments provided by the public, staff, and stakeholders. Board members agreed that the current infrastructure needs to be maintained before new properties are acquired. One member stated that aesthetics provide the first impression to visitors, and a good first impression is important. They also agreed that air conditioning is needed in the gymnasiums at Nash and Blackhawk Center. These facilities are heavily utilized and can reach uncomfortable temperatures in the summer months. Also, better riverfront access and additional trails are great opportunities for partnerships with the City. Several Board members voiced that current partnerships are working well, and new partnerships should continue to be explored.

One of the most common comments from the public was that the Park District needs an outdoor pool. Several Board members shared that this topic has been discussed in-depth recently, but decided that it was not financially feasible. The former outdoor pool was closed because the admission rates were much too low to keep up with pool maintenance costs. Also, the Board believes that the indoor pool at Nash is an excellent amenity and an outdoor pool might provide too much competition. The other common comment the Board discussed was that OPD should provide more or different types of programs. The number and type of programs offered has grown each year, and the Board believes that there is an opportunity to educate its residents about the offerings. When compared to neighboring communities, OPD's programs are extremely affordable and are offered to a wide range of age groups and abilities.

Finally, the Board addressed the aging population. Although OPD's population has been decreasing and is projected to decrease into 2021, Board members do not see an aging

population as a negative. Rather, members believe an aging demographic is something to be embraced and there are ample opportunities for the Park District to meet their needs. One major reason for the declining population since 2010 is because of an outsourcing of jobs in Mount Morris. Over 12,000 jobs in the Kable Media industry were outsourced. Many of those jobs belonged to single mothers who, with their children, moved out of the area to find other work. An additional 600 jobs were lost when the printing plant closed. Board members are seeing an older demographic moving into their community, though. This retirement-age crowd is moving from the suburbs and bringing new financial resources with them. Despite the growing low-income population in the younger age groups, this older age group is more financially stable and more likely to pay to participate in Park District sponsored programs and events. The Board would like to see how OPD can meet the needs of this age group while balancing the needs of other demographic groups in the next five to ten years.

## Connect: Needs Assessment Analysis Summary

The following conclusions, combined with the information gathered in the Assess Phase, directly influence the strategies developed in the next phase of the comprehensive master planning process.

### Maintain and Update Existing Parks and Open Spaces

Overwhelmingly, participants in all portions of the Connect phase praised the Oregon Park District's amenities. Over 90% of online survey takers have visited a Park District park in the past year. Many of the comments for park improvements related to updating amenities or adding new types of amenities (ice skating rink, disc golf, etc.). Community, staff, and Board members all noted the importance of maintaining and improving existing facilities and amenities. The state of OPD's amenities leave an impression on visitors, and the Board would like to leave a positive impression. One of staff's highest priority over the next five to ten years was creating a capital replacement plan and maintenance schedule for all facilities, parks, and equipment.

### Maintain and Update Existing Indoor Facilities

Because OPD only has two indoor recreation facilities, the need to keep them well maintained is extremely important. Staff expressed a high need to establish a life cycle plan for the mechanical system at Nash. Their major concern with Blackhawk Center (BHC) was related to programming and overlapping use with the school. Because BHC is a school facility, school programming takes priority, and Park District programs must be relocated to Nash.

Only 32% of online survey takers believe that either of the indoor facilities need improvements, but of those that responded "yes," most felt that air conditioning was needed in the gymnasium of either facility. Additionally, several commenters felt that the fitness and program rooms at Nash need to be larger or in different locations.

Stakeholders felt that special attention should be given to certain demographic groups and their

facility needs. Much of the population is aging, so what can the Park District do with their facilities to attract young families? Also, they stated that teens need their own space, either in an existing facility or a new facility.

Finally, despite numerous requests for an outdoor pool by the general public, the Board noted that it would not be in the best financial interest of the Park District. The community is well served by the existing indoor aquatic facility at Nash.

### Expand Walking / Biking Trails

Like many communities, walking and biking trails are an important asset for the Oregon Park District. Residents are six percent more likely to walk for fitness than the average American. A number of online survey takers indicated that they would like to see more off-road trails and better trail connections between OPD and other open space assets. There is an opportunity to connect OPD parks to Lowden State Park in the north and Castle Rock State Park to the south.

### Achieve Financial Sustainability and Explore Partnerships

All staff and Board members and many stakeholders are aware that there could be a significant shift in the Park District's tax base in the upcoming decades, and they want to ensure that OPD has a sustainable financial plan in place before this happens. One way to achieve this could be through partnerships. All of the stakeholder groups saw resource and program sharing as a possible beneficial opportunity for all. Many stated that strong partnerships now would solidify OPD's standing with the public into the future.



## Demographics

Following local, state, and national trends, Oregon Park District's population is aging in place. Staff and Board members would like to see more young families and young professionals make Oregon their home. All stated a desire to develop programs and add amenities that will attract a younger crowd, while still serving the existing population.

Community members requested a large variety of new programs via the Embrace Oregon platform, but staff and the Board noted that the number of programs offered has steadily been increasing in recent years, and those programs need to be evaluated before adding to the already growing list. Special needs and low income families are also on the rise in Oregon, and their program, facility, and amenity needs should be considered. Several participants in this phase stated the need for a playground and/or indoor space for their children with special recreation needs. Also, one stakeholder noted that a special recreation program or camp could be a huge attractant to families with similar needs outside of the Oregon Park District boundary and could drive more people to OPD. Programs for low income children and families could keep families in Oregon or entice children to come back after college.





# Envision

Alternative & Preferred  
Strategies

# Overview

This Chapter documents the Envision & Prioritize: Alternative and Preferred Strategies phase of the comprehensive master planning process.

## Purpose

The purpose of the Envision & Prioritize: Alternative & Preferred Strategies phase is to develop actionable items for the Park District to accomplish over the next five to ten years.

During this phase, the project team developed a series of strategies addressing a variety of issues and concerns that arose during the first two phases of the process. Staff worked through an initial prioritization exercise to determine high, medium, and low priorities. This phase resulted in the final strategies set forth in this chapter.

Strategies are organized into themes. Each theme includes the background information for the theme, the needs associated with each theme, and the goals and strategies to address the needs over the next five to ten years.

High priority strategies are planned for implementation over the next five years. Low priority strategies are planned for implementation over the next ten years. The timeline for their implementation is in Chapter 4.

## Chapter Outline

This chapter is organized by the defined themes as listed below.

- Theme 1: Facilities
- Theme 2: Parks and Open Space
- Theme 3: Demographics
- Theme 4: Park-Specific Strategies

Staff worked through an initial prioritization exercise to determine high, medium, and low priorities.

# THEME 1: FACILITIES

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## Background

With two recreational facilities, totaling over 62,500 square feet of indoor recreation space, Oregon Park District has a surplus of over 49,000 square feet when compared to similar agencies and recognized standards. Even with the Blackhawk Center not included, OPD will still have a surplus of over 17,500 square feet.

Staff, stakeholders, and Board Members alike agree that the infrastructure of the two facilities needs to be updated and maintained. According to the online engagement site, 22% of respondents believe Nash Recreation and the Blackhawk Center need updates. Developing a life cycle plan and improving infrastructure at Nash are among the top priorities.

## Strategies

- Develop life cycle plan for Nash Recreation Center mechanical (HVAC) systems
- Improve infrastructure at Nash
- Explore renovations at Nash
- Evaluate long term financial goals and agreement with the School and an operational plan for financial sustainability
- Evaluate programs held at Blackhawk vs. Nash including after school programs and determine if any program locations should be adjusted
- Consider façade/building skin improvements and expansion for additional storage and shop space at the maintenance building
- Evaluate current layout for potential minor renovation to increase space usage for added storage at the maintenance building

## THEME 2: PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

### Background

Community engagement results indicated residents frequently use Park District parks and trails. Many respondents believe that OPD does a good job maintaining their parks, but they also would like to see a wider variety of amenities offered at the parks. Despite the good condition of many of the amenities, according to the analysis, many of the shelters and playgrounds are beyond their useful life.

Online survey results also indicated that residents want to see more trails throughout the Park District. OPD is in a unique position, located between two state parks. Residents and stakeholders alike would like to see trail connections from Lowden State Park in the north, through Oregon, to Castle Rock State Park to the south, as well as improvements to existing trails. National and state recreation reports reveal similar trends, with walking for fitness being a top recreational activity for Americans in general.

### Strategies

- Develop/update capital replacement plan and life cycle for all primary park amenities and infrastructure
- Explore partnership opportunities for group procurement and bids
- Continue to explore park development and environmental resource grants
- Develop a tree replacement plan for all Park District properties
- Develop park guidelines and standards for furnishings, equipment, service standards
- Explore preferred products and materials to minimize maintenance resource requirements and extend useful life
- Explore preferred level of service (amenities provided) per park type to minimize long term infrastructure and amenity replacement needs
- Prioritize and prepare park Master Plans to guide renovations, expansions, and budgeting
- Include accessibility improvements for each park
- Address amenity deficiencies and trending opportunities
- Explore locations for trending amenities and amenities to serve growing senior population and teen demographic
- Conduct neighborhood group meetings as part of park planning process
- Evaluate under-utilized park areas/amenities for potential re-purposing to address other deficiencies and trends
- Work with City of Oregon to develop a community wide bikeway plan including off road trail expansions and river trail development
- Develop stronger pedestrian connections and wayfinding from downtown to nearby and outlying parks, improve park identification
- Explore opportunities for streetscape and walk improvements with City of Oregon for primary pedestrian routes from downtown to parks
- Increase recreational utilization of the river
- Explore recreational opportunities for riverfront park development and access in partnership with City of Oregon
- Plan for development of accessible fishing, observation, and non-motorized boating access points along the river with connectivity to expanded trail systems
- Prioritize redevelopment of Park East, Kiwanis and Carnation Parks for riverfront park improvements
- Explore sponsorships to support development and replacement of facilities and major park amenities
- Develop a non-profit fundraising organization for parks
- Develop donor and memorial program for park improvements
- Develop long term plan to address addition of parks in underserved areas to respond to future growth as it occurs

# THEME 3: DEMOGRAPHICS

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## Background

The demographic analysis revealed that the Park District has a mature population that will continue to age over the next five to ten years. As the population over 55 grows, offerings for that age segment will need to grow too. The number of families in need has grown substantially over the past five years. Offerings for this group need to grow in order to keep them involved in the Park District. A number of staff and stakeholders voiced a desire for increased offerings for special needs individuals and families. As the District evaluates its changing demographics, existing programs and amenities may need to be restructured and new programs and amenities implemented.

## Strategies

- Develop a task force or focus group to solicit additional input on program and facility interests, consider establishing follow up meetings to collect ongoing input on an annual or periodic basis
- Active and aging adults:
  - Conduct a detailed survey focused on active and aging adults to solicit additional input on program and facility interests
  - Develop a brand for active and aging adult offerings, align marketing and program materials with the new brand
  - Evaluate opportunities to provide and/or expand walking and lap swimming offerings
  - Add outdoor park amenities that cater toward the adult demographic and community interests such as pickleball and platform tennis
- Low income families and families in-need:
  - Explore improving utilization of existing reduced rate program for low income families
  - Conduct a survey aimed at low income families to specifically address the needs of this population for recreational offerings
- Special needs families:
  - Develop a brand for special recreation offerings, align marketing and program materials with the new brand
  - Partner with other local agencies to increase child-focused programs
  - Add outdoor park amenities that serve a wide range of sensory and mobility needs, such as sensory play equipment and accessible equipment, develop universally accessible playground
  - Evaluate schedule changes and dedicated hours at indoor facilities and pool to meet community preferences and underserved groups

## THEME 4: PARK-SPECIFIC STRATEGIES



Carnation Park

### Carnation Park

- Develop master plan to guide improvements
- Improve pedestrian access and wayfinding connectivity to Mix Park
- Explore river trail and river access / fishing opportunities
- Replace aging overlook structure
- Consider educational and interpretive signage related to riverfront
- Address ADA accessibility and connectivity for parking lot, overlook, and added amenities
- Consider addition of picnic amenities (i.e. shelter, tables, grills)



Kiwanis Park

### Kiwanis Park

- Develop master plan to guide improvements, consider project for grant application
- Improve pedestrian access and wayfinding connectivity to downtown
- Replace aging infrastructure and amenities as part of the updated Capital Replacement Plan and grant redevelopment project
- Develop enhancement for seating and beautification along the shoreline, balance enhancements with preservation of open space and views
- Work with the state to enhance adjacent state property fencing, infrastructure, views
  - Consider signage interpreting history of the remaining foundations
  - Consider partnership with the state to improve the area to allow public access and become an extension of the park
- Address ADA accessibility and connectivity for parking lot and replaced / added amenities
- Enhance access and connection to the river
- Evaluate opportunities for shared use parking of adjacent lot(s) and expansion of open space on park property
- Explore improvements to expand park shelter rental opportunities



Fairground Park

### Fairground Park

- Consider fitness equipment along trail
- Evaluate use of existing amenities and if any should be re-purposed
- Evaluate opportunity for disc golf as an alternative to other park sites (Park East, Park West)



Jack's Landing

### Jack's Landing

- Plan for trail and parking improvements (i.e. surfacing, clearing, drainage)
- Evaluate woodland management plan and costs, develop volunteer stewardship group
- Explore opportunity for boat landing
- Consider educational and interpretive signage related to woodland ecology



Lions Park

### Lions Park

- ❑ Develop master plan to guide improvements, consider project for grant application
- ❑ Replace aging infrastructure and amenities as part of the updated Capital Replacement Plan and grant redevelopment project
- ❑ Address ADA accessibility and connectivity for parking lot and replaced / added amenities
- ❑ Address site drainage issues
- ❑ Evaluate opportunities for field sponsorship and paver donation programs



Mix Park

### Mix Park

- ❑ Develop master plan to guide improvements and replacements
- ❑ Evaluate resident preferences for added amenities
- ❑ Replace aging infrastructure and amenities as part of the updated Capital Replacement Plan
- ❑ Consider this site for the development of a speciality playground in replacement and enhancement of the existing playground
- ❑ Consider this site for development of a history walk, signage, wall, or other interpretive feature
- ❑ Evaluate cost sharing opportunities with the City
- ❑ Explore sponsorship (building and fountain / plaza) and paver donation programs



Park East

### Park East

- ❑ Develop master plan to guide improvements, consider project for grant application
  - Evaluate preferred uses of available open space and potential for addition of small disc golf course as an alternative to other park sites (Park West, Fairground)
  - Consider addition of fitness stations
  - Enhance access and connection to the river
  - Explore improvements to expand park shelter rental opportunities
  - Extend trail and evaluate connectivity to potential larger river trail system
  - Improve pedestrian access and connectivity between park parcels
  - Consider replacement of wood deck overlook with materials requiring less maintenance and having longer life spans
  - Evaluate utilization of existing shelter and playground on east side, size, and location
  - Consider this site for the development of a speciality playground in replacement and enhancement of the existing playground as an alternative to the Mix park site
- ❑ Replace aging infrastructure and amenities as part of the updated Capital Replacement Plan and grant redevelopment project
- ❑ Address ADA accessibility and connectivity for parking lots and replaced / added amenities



Park West

### Park West

- Develop an updated master plan to guide continued improvements
  - Amphitheater access, parking, seating, overall visitor experience enhancements
  - Wayfinding
  - Consider addition of small disc golf course as an alternative to other park sites (Park East, Fairground)
  - Consider addition of fitness stations
  - Evaluate sport courts for replacement and / or re-purposing
  - Evaluate the potential for a small building to serve as a teen center and other additional programming in partnership with other local agencies
- Explore improvements to expand park shelter rental opportunities
- Replace aging infrastructure and amenities as part of the updated Capital Replacement Plan



Pioneer Park

### Pioneer Park

- Consider reclassification from park to open space and explore opportunities for the school park to serve that neighborhood
- Remove shelter and tables and construct new improvements at school park in partnership with the School District



Veterans Prairie

### Veterans Prairie

- Consider addition of lighting for key areas and the dog park
- Evaluate opportunities to replace the boardwalk with materials requiring less maintenance and having longer life spans, and phasing the replacement
- Address ADA accessibility and connectivity for dog park and community garden

### 6th and Madison Lot

- Develop park in accordance with plan
- Fund raise for park development

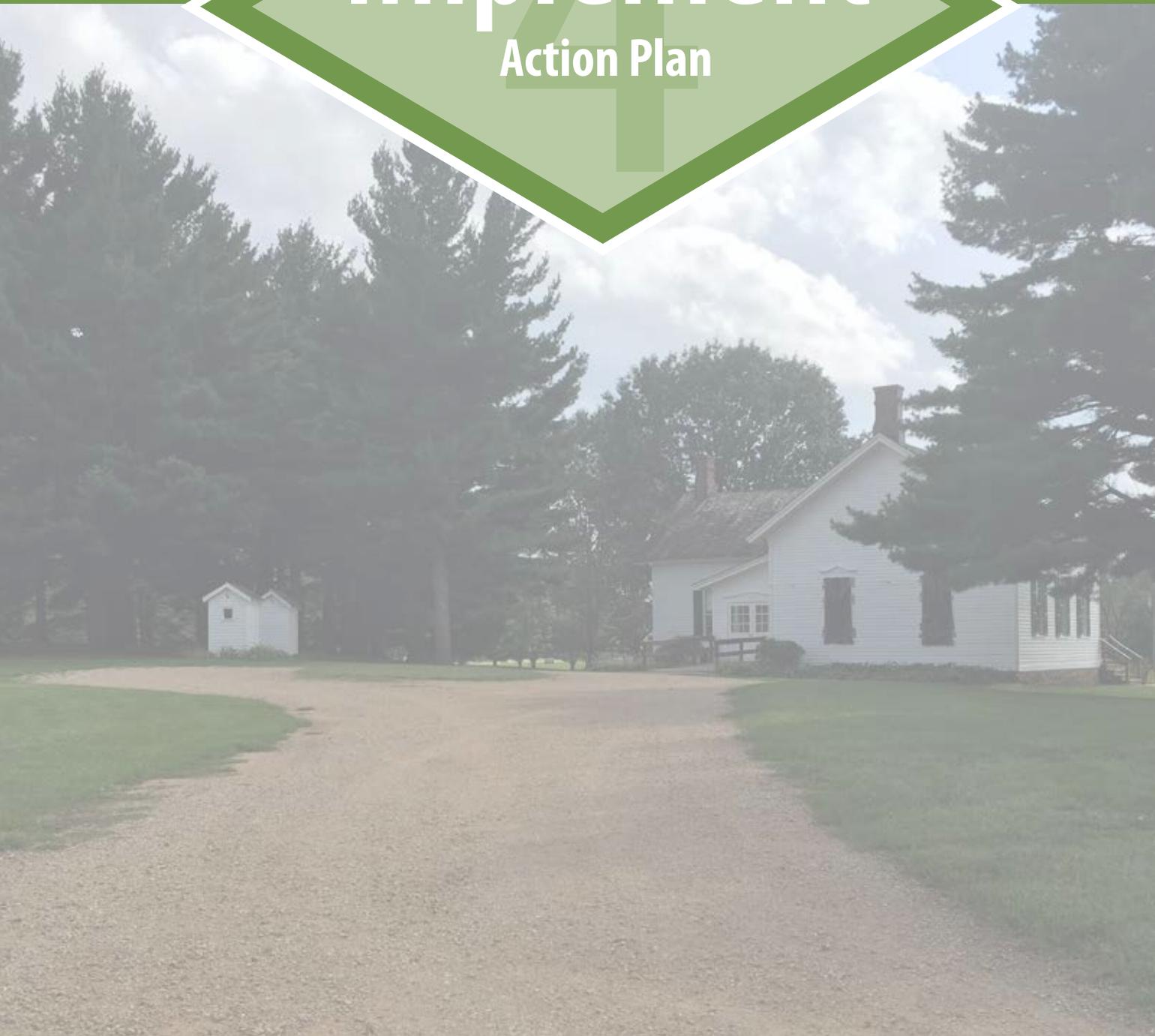






# Implement

Action Plan



# Action Plan

The Implement: Action Plan Chapter outlines the proposed tasks and projects for the Oregon Park District over the next ten years.

## Purpose

This chapter outlines the steps and potential timeline for implementing the Comprehensive Master Plan strategies identified in Chapter 3 from the Envision & Prioritize phase. They were further refined and finalized through workshops with the Oregon Park District staff and Board of Commissioners to develop the action plan. This action plan is to act as a guide to assist the Oregon Park District with implementing the strategies over the next 10 years and is organized as follows:

- An at-a-glance Action Plan timeline with each year divided into quarters (Q1, Q2, Q3, and Q4) to provide a general idea of when each action or action item step might start or end within a given year
- A detailed summary of the action items is provided in a year by year list in chronological order from 2017/18 - 2027
- The action items are further organized within each year according to the following categories:
  - i. facilities
  - ii. parks and open space
  - iii. demographics

The Oregon Park District is following a May to May fiscal year. Both the action plan summary and action plan timeline are organized to represent this.



		facilities			parks and open space		demographics			
		Q1			Q2					
		May	June	July	August	September	October			
2017 - 2018		<b>Nash Recreation Center:</b> develop life cycle plan for mechanical system (HVAC)			<b>Nash Recreation Center:</b> develop life cycle plan for mechanical system (HVAC)					
		<b>Blackhawk Center:</b> create equitable solution, evaluate long-term financial goals and agreement with School and operational plan for financial sustainability			<b>Blackhawk Center:</b> create equitable solution, evaluate long-term financial goals and agreement with School and operational plan for financial sustainability					
		<b>Blackhawk Center:</b> Evaluate programs held at Blackhawk Center vs Nash including after school programs and determine if any program locations should be adjusted			<b>Blackhawk Center:</b> Evaluate programs held at Blackhawk Center vs Nash including after school programs and determine if any program locations should be adjusted					
		<b>Maintenance Facility:</b> evaluate layout of maintenance building for potential minor renovation to increase space usage for added storage								
		<b>Develop / update capital replacement plan</b> and life cycle for all primary park amenities and infrastructure			<b>Develop / update capital replacement plan</b> and life cycle for all primary park amenities and infrastructure					
		<b>Develop a tree replacement plan</b> for all Park District properties			<b>Develop a tree replacement plan</b> for all Park District properties					
		<b>Develop park guidelines and standards</b> for furnishings, equipment, and service standards			<b>Develop park guidelines and standards</b> for furnishings, equipment, and service standards					
		<b>Develop a non-profit fundraising organization for parks</b>			<b>Develop a non-profit fundraising organization for parks</b>					
		<b>Fairground Park:</b> update								
					<b>Lowden - Castle Rock trail:</b> plan and fund Phase 1					
		<b>Conduct a survey</b> aimed at low income families to specifically address the need of this population for recreational offerings								
		<b>Conduct a detailed survey</b> focused on active and aging adults to solicit additional input on program and facility interests			<b>Conduct a detailed survey</b> focused on active and aging adults to solicit additional input on program and facility interests					
		<b>Partner with other local agencies</b> to increase child-focused programs for special needs families			<b>Partner with other local agencies</b> to increase child-focused programs for special needs families					
2018 - 2019		<b>Nash Recreation Center:</b> plan Phase 1 renovations								
		<b>Nash Recreation Center:</b> plan infrastructure improvements								
		<b>6th and Madison Lot:</b> fund			<b>6th and Madison Lot:</b> fund					
					<b>Park West:</b> design and engineer					
			<b>Evaluate schedule changes and dedicated hours</b> at indoor facilities and pool to meet community preferences and underserved groups			<b>Develop task force / focus group</b> to solicit additional input on programs / facility interests, consider establishing follow-up meetings to collect additional input				
		<b>Add outdoor park amenities</b> that serve a wide range of sensory and mobility needs and develop universally accessible playgrounds								
2019 - 2020		<b>Nash Recreation Center:</b> design and engineer infrastructure improvements								
		<b>Park West:</b> bid and construct								
		<b>6th and Madison Lot:</b> design and engineer pending funding			<b>6th and Madison Lot:</b> design and engineer pending funding					
		<b>Lowden - Castle Rock trail:</b> bid and construct Phase 1			<b>Lowden - Castle Rock trail:</b> bid and construct Phase 1					
		<b>Riverfront:</b> master plan								
		<b>Carnation Park:</b> master plan								
		<b>Active and aging adults:</b> develop and implement new programs			<b>Active and aging adults:</b> develop and implement new programs					

		facilities		parks and open space		demographics	
		Q3			Q4		
		November	December	January	February	March	April
2017 - 2018		<b>Blackhawk Center:</b> create equitable solution, evaluate long-term financial goals and agreement with School and operational plan for financial sustainability			<b>Blackhawk Center:</b> create equitable solution, evaluate long-term financial goals and agreement with School and operational plan for financial sustainability		
		<b>Blackhawk Center:</b> Evaluate programs held at Blackhawk Center vs Nash including after school programs and determine if any program locations should be adjusted			<b>Blackhawk Center:</b> Evaluate programs held at Blackhawk Center vs Nash including after school programs and determine if any program locations should be adjusted		
		<b>Develop / update capital replacement plan</b> and life cycle for all primary park amenities and infrastructure			<b>Develop / update capital replacement plan</b> and life cycle for all primary park amenities and infrastructure		
		<b>Develop a tree replacement plan</b> for all Park District properties			<b>Develop a tree replacement plan</b> for all Park District properties		
		<b>Develop park guidelines and standards</b> for furnishings, equipment, and service standards			<b>Develop park guidelines and standards</b> for furnishings, equipment, and service standards		
		<b>Develop a non-profit fundraising organization for parks</b>			<b>Develop a non-profit fundraising organization for parks</b>		
		<b>Park West:</b> update master plan			<b>Park West:</b> fund		
		<b>Lowden - Castle Rock trail:</b> plan and fund Phase 1			<b>Lowden - Castle Rock trail:</b> plan and fund Phase 1		
		<b>Explore improving utilization</b> of existing reduced rate program for low income families			<b>Explore improving utilization</b> of existing reduced rate program for low income families		
		<b>Develop a brand</b> for active and aging adult offerings and align marketing and program materials with new brand			<b>Evaluate opportunities</b> to provide and / or expand walking and lap swimming offerings for active and aging adults		
	<b>Develop a brand</b> for special recreation offerings and align marketing and program materials with new brand			<b>Develop a brand</b> for special recreation offerings and align marketing and program materials with new brand			
2018 - 2019					<b>Nash Recreation Center:</b> fund infrastructure improvements		
		<b>6th and Madison Lot:</b> fund			<b>6th and Madison Lot:</b> fund		
		<b>Park West:</b> design and engineer			<b>Park West:</b> bid and construct		
		<b>Park East:</b> master plan					
		<b>Kiwanis Park:</b> master plan					
		<b>Lowden - Castle Rock trail:</b> design and engineer Phase 1			<b>Lowden - Castle Rock trail:</b> design and engineer Phase 1		
		<b>Work with City of Oregon</b> to develop a community-wide trail and bikeway plan including off-road trail expansions and river trail development			<b>Work with City of Oregon</b> to develop a community-wide trail and bikeway plan including off-road trail expansions and river trail development		
	<b>Develop stronger pedestrian connections and wayfinding</b> from downtown to nearby and outlying parks and improve park identification			<b>Develop stronger pedestrian connections and wayfinding</b> from downtown to nearby and outlying parks and improve park identification			
2019 - 2020		<b>Nash Recreation Center:</b> fund Phase 1 renovations					
		<b>Nash Recreation Center:</b> bid and construct infrastructure improvements					
		<b>6th and Madison Lot:</b> bid and construct pending funding			<b>6th and Madison Lot:</b> bid and construct pending funding		
		<b>Park East:</b> fund Phase 1			<b>Park East:</b> design and engineer Phase 1		
		<b>Active and aging adults:</b> develop and implement new programs			<b>Active and aging adults:</b> develop and implement new programs		

		facilities			parks and open space		demographics			
		Q1			Q2					
		May	June	July	August	September	October			
2020 - 2021		<b>Nash Recreation Center:</b> design and engineer Phase 1 renovations								
		<b>Nash Recreation Center:</b> bid and construct infrastructure improvements								
		<b>Maintenance Facility:</b> plan building skin improvements and expansion for additional storage and shop space								
		<b>6th and Madison Lot:</b> bid and construct pending funding			<b>6th and Madison Lot:</b> bid and construct pending funding					
		<b>Park East:</b> bid and construct								
2021 - 2022		<b>Nash Recreation Center:</b> bid and construct Phase 1 renovations								
		<b>Maintenance Facility:</b> design and engineer facade								
2022 - 2023		<b>Kiwanis Park:</b> bid and construct			<b>Kiwanis Park:</b> bid and construct					
					<b>Mix Park:</b> concept plan					
2023 - 2024		<b>Mix Park:</b> bid and construct								
2024 - 2025					<b>Lions Park:</b> concept plan					
		<b>Lions Park:</b> bid and construct			<b>Lions Park:</b> bid and construct					
2025 - 2026										
2026 - 2027		<b>Fairground Park:</b> master plan								
		<b>Carnation Park:</b> bid and construct			<b>Carnation Park:</b> bid and construct					

	facilities			parks and open space			demographics		
	Q3			Q4					
	November	December	January	February	March	April			
2020 - 2021				<b>Nash Recreation Center:</b> bid and construct Phase 1 renovations					
				<b>Maintenance Facility:</b> fund					
	<b>Kiwanis Park:</b> fund			<b>Kiwanis Park:</b> design and engineer					
2021 - 2022				<b>Maintenance Facility:</b> bid and construct facade					
2022 - 2023	<b>Mix Park:</b> fund			<b>Mix Park:</b> design and engineer					
2023 - 2024	<b>Lions Park:</b> fund			<b>Lions Park:</b> design and engineer					
2024 - 2025									
2025 - 2026	<b>Nash Recreation Center:</b> plan Phase 2			<b>Nash Recreation Center:</b> fund Phase 2					
	<b>Carnation Park:</b> fund			<b>Carnation Park:</b> design and engineer					
	<b>Park East:</b> fund Phase 2			<b>Park East:</b> fund Phase 2					
2026 - 2027				<b>Fairground Park:</b> fund					

# 2017 - 2018 Fiscal Year

## Facilities

### **Nash Recreation Center:** focus investment on Nash

- Develop life cycle plan for mechanical (HVAC) systems (Planning budget: \$9,500)
  - Evaluate several options for mechanical system replacement and associated initial and life cycle costs.
  - Consider sustainable and renewable energy strategies for system replacements and identify initial cost and potential payback period.
  - Identify other architectural or electrical elements that will require modification / replacement as part of a mechanical system replacement project.
  - Prepare recommendations and associated cost estimates.
  - Identify funding strategies and grant opportunities for implementation.

### **Blackhawk Center**

- Evaluate long-term financial goals and agreement with the school and operational plan for financial sustainability (Planning budget: \$15,000)
  - Analyze cost recovery and timeline on potential short term investments. What can you recover in a 5-year window?
  - Evaluate floor replacement opportunities, timing, and costs.
  - Evaluate airflow and humidity control improvements.
  - Explore cost sharing opportunities with the School. Evaluate continued shared use schedule and operations.
- Create an equitable solution
- Evaluate programs held at Blackhawk Center vs Nash Recreation Center, including after school programs and determine if any program locations should be adjusted

### **Maintenance Facility**

- Evaluate layout of maintenance building for potential minor renovation to increase space usage for added storage

## Parks and Open Space

- Develop / update capital replacement plan and life cycle for all primary park amenities and infrastructure
- Develop a tree replacement plan for all Park District properties
- Develop park guidelines and standards for furnishings, equipment, and service standards
  - Explore preferred products and materials to minimize maintenance resource requirements and extend useful life. Explore preferred level of service (amenities provided) per park type to minimize long term infrastructure and amenity replacement needs.
- Develop a non-profit fundraising organization for parks
- **Fairground Park:** update
- **Park West:** update master plan and fund (Planning budget: \$20,000)
- **Lowden-Castle Rock trail:** plan and fund Phase 1

## Demographics

### **Low income families and families in need**

- Conduct a survey aimed at low income families to specifically address the need of this population for recreational offerings
- Explore improving utilization of existing reduced rate program for low income families
  - Evaluate current communications and outreach for the program. Develop a focus group or task force to solicit input on program utilization, awareness, ease of program use, and barriers preventing use.

### **Active and aging adults**

- Conduct a detailed survey focused on active and aging adults to solicit additional input on program and facility interests
- Develop a brand for active and aging adult offerings and align marketing program materials with new brand
- Evaluate opportunities to provide and / or expand walking and lap swimming offerings for active and aging adults

### Special needs families

- Partner with local agencies to increase child-focused programs for special needs families
- Develop a brand for special recreation offerings and align marketing and program materials with new brand

# 2018 - 2019 Fiscal Year

## Facilities

### Nash Recreation Center

- Plan renovations (Planning budget: \$15,000)
  - Expanded fitness and flexible space for class type flexibility and senior / active adult fitness classes in more convenient location
  - Minor multi-purpose room improvements for increased rental opportunities
  - Explore re-purposing part of the gym to provide for other programming needs, trends, demographic context, and development of community / regional draw component (e.g. indoor play space)
  - Re-purpose space for teen center / activities, establish teen task force to gain additional input
  - Conduct a cost-benefit analysis for potential renovations
- Plan infrastructure improvements
  - Update mechanical systems per life cycle plan
  - Build chemical containment room or pallet for pool chemicals to prevent further structural corrosion of steel deck above
  - Install cooling and humidity control, consider commercial ceiling fans in the gyms. Explore utility and energy grants per life cycle plan
  - Improve lighting to conserve energy and properly light all areas
  - Explore contracted maintenance cost benefits and performance-based contract options per life cycle plan
- Fund infrastructure improvements

## Parks and Open Space

- **6th and Madison Lot:** fund
- **Park West:** design and engineer; bid and construct (Design and engineer budget: \$150,000)
- **Park East:** master plan (Planning budget: \$25,000)
- **Kiwanis Park:** master plan (Planning budget: \$15,000)
- Work with the City of Oregon to develop a community-wide trail and bikeway plan including off-road trail expansions and river trail development
- Develop stronger pedestrian connections and wayfinding from downtown to nearby and outlying parks and improve park identification
  - Explore opportunities for streetscape and walk improvements with the City of Oregon for primary pedestrian routes from downtown to parks

## Demographics

- Evaluate schedule changes and dedicated hours at indoor facilities and pool to meet community preferences and underserved groups
- Develop task force / focus group to solicit additional input on programs / facility interests, consider establishing follow-up meetings to collect additional input
- Add outdoor park amenities that serve a wide range of sensory and mobility needs and develop universally accessible playgrounds

# 2019 - 2020 Fiscal Year

## Facilities

### Nash Recreation Center

- Fund renovations
- Design and engineer infrastructure improvements (Architecture and engineering budget: \$112,000)
- Bid and construct infrastructure improvements (Budget: \$1,130,000 if not phased)

### Parks and Open Space

- **6th and Madison Lot:** design and engineer; bid and construct pending funding (Design and engineer budget: \$10,000; Construction budget: \$65,000)
- **Park West:** bid and construct (Budget: \$1,000,000 if not phased)
- **Park East:** fund Phase 1; design and engineer Phase 1 (Design and engineer budget: \$97,000)
- **Lowden - Castle Rock trail:** bid and construct Phase 1
- **Riverfront:** master plan (Planning budget: \$50,000)
  - Explore recreational opportunities for riverfront park development and access in partnership with the City of Oregon
  - Plan for development of accessible fishing, observation, and non-motorized boating access points along the river with connectivity to expanded trail systems
  - Prioritize redevelopment of Park East, Kiwanis, and Carnation Parks for riverfront park improvements
- **Carnation Park:** master plan (Planning budget: \$15,000)

## Demographics

### Active and aging adults

- Develop and implement new programs
- Add outdoor park amenities that cater toward the adult demographic and community interests such as pickleball and platform tennis

# 2020 - 2021 Fiscal Year

## Facilities

### Nash Recreation Center

- Design and engineer renovations (Architecture and engineering budget: \$47,000)
- Bid and construct renovations (Budget: \$236,000 for Phase 1)
- Bid and construct infrastructure improvements

### Maintenance Facility

- Plan building skin improvements and expansion for additional storage and shop space (Planning budget: \$10,000)
- Fund

### Parks and Open Space

- **6th and Madison Lot:** bid and construct pending funding
- **Park East:** bid and construct (Budget: \$650,000 for Phase 1)
- **Kiwanis Park:** fund; design and engineer (Design and engineer budget: \$50,000)

# 2021 - 2022 Fiscal Year

## Facilities

### Nash Recreation Center

- Bid and construct renovations (Budget: \$236,000 for Phase 2)

### Maintenance Facility

- Design and engineer facade (Architecture and engineering budget: \$40,000)
- Bid and construct facade (Budget: \$405,000)

## Parks and Open Space

- **Kiwanis Park:** bid and construct (Budget: \$330,000)

# 2022 - 2023 Fiscal Year

## Parks and Open Space

- **Mix Park:** concept plan; fund; design and engineer (Planning budget: \$10,000; Design and engineer budget: \$57,000)

# 2023 - 2024 Fiscal Year

## Parks and Open Space

- **Mix Park:** bid and construct (Budget: \$377,000)
- **Lions Park:** concept plan; fund; design and engineer (Planning budget: \$10,000; Design and engineer budget: \$80,000)

# 2024 - 2025 Fiscal Year

## Parks and Open Space

- **Lions Park:** bid and construct (Budget: \$533,000)

# 2025 - 2026 Fiscal Year

## Facilities

### Nash Recreation Center

- Plan Phase 2

## Parks and Open Space

- **Carnation Park:** fund; design and engineer (Budget: \$70,000)
- **Park East:** fund Phase 2

# 2026 - 2027 Fiscal Year

## Parks and Open Space

- **Carnation Park:** bid and construct (Budget: \$462,000)
- **Fairground Park:** master plan; fund (Planning budget: \$10,000)

# Annual Action Items

The following items should occur on an on-going basis throughout the life of the ten year action plan.

- Explore park development and environmental resource grants
- Explore partnership opportunities for group procurement and bids
- Develop donor and memorial program for park improvements
- Explore sponsorships to support development and replacement of facilities and major park amenities
- Prioritize and prepare park Master Plans to guide renovations, expansions, and budgeting (see action plan timeline on previous pages for specific parks)
  - Include accessibility improvements for each park
  - Address amenity deficiencies and trending opportunities
  - Explore locations for trending amenities and amenities to serve growing senior population and teen demographic (e.g. small disc golf course, outdoor fitness stations, pickleball courts, adventure / extreme sport opportunities, specialty community playground, and educational and interpretive signage and stations)
  - Conduct neighborhood group meetings as part of the park planning process
  - Evaluate under-utilized park areas / amenities for potential re-purposing to address other deficiencies and trends





# Appendix

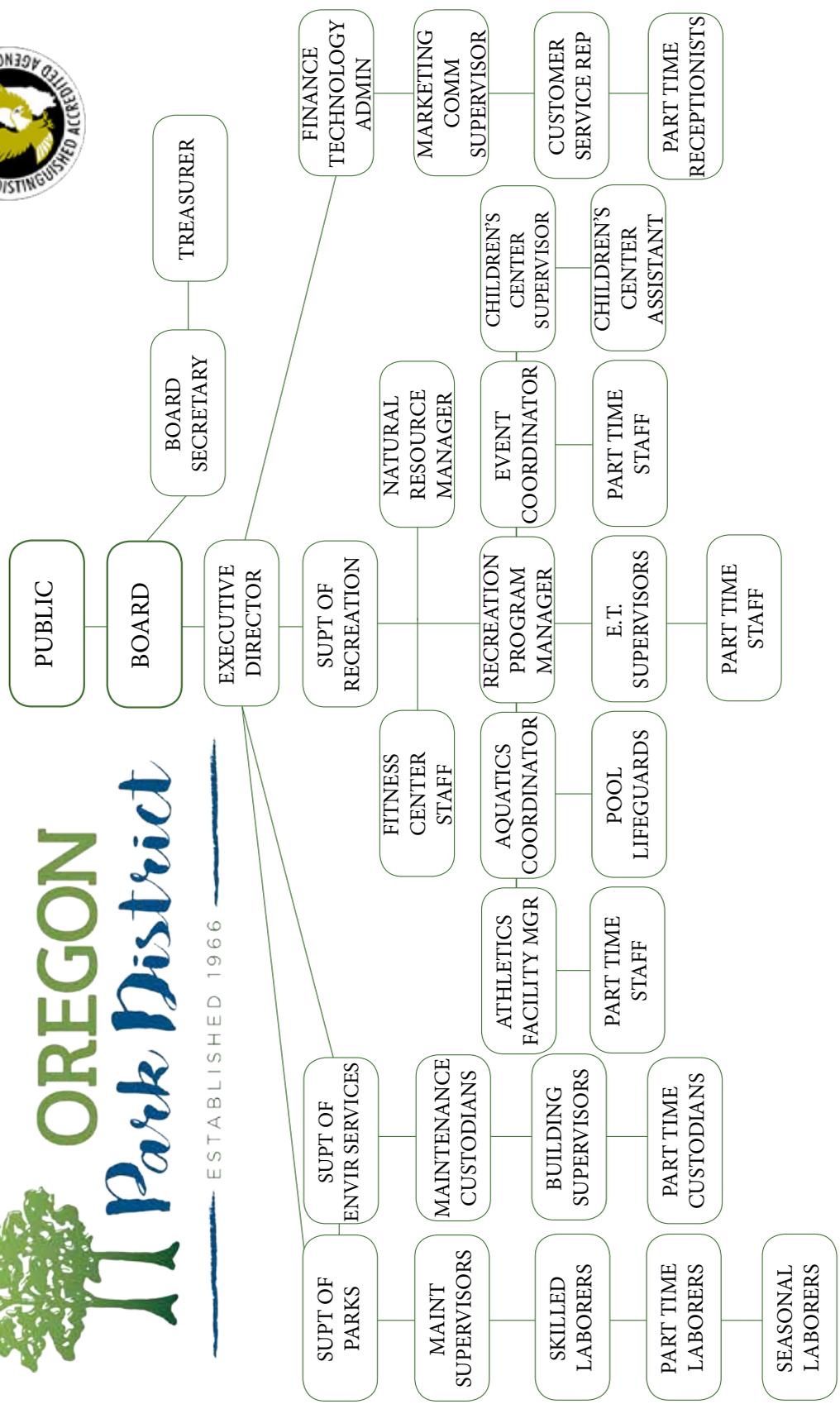


**IDNR Grant Administration Division  
Per IPRA-Park & Natural Resource Management Section's Recommendations**

**USEFUL LIFE CRITERIA**

<u>FACILITY</u>	<u>Expected useful life</u>	<u>Evaluation Criteria – Factor</u>
<u>BB/Softball fields</u>	8-10 years	# Games/week, # Practices/week Grass infields? Maintenance Procedure/Standards Is site used for multiple uses, soccer, football? Is space used for organized or programmed events? Spectator considerations – bleachers Concession stands
<u>BB/Softball Field Lighting</u>	20 years	Pole Type (wood, steel, concrete) Wiring type (aluminum, copper) HID or incandescent fixtures Existing FC vs. new standards Accepted grounding systems? Panel Capabilities/Technology Electrical Code compliance
<u>Soccer Fields</u>	8-10 years	Usage rating A/B/C/D # games/week, # weeks/year, time of year, age of user
<u>Irrigation system</u>	20 years	Irrigated Y/N Usage # games per week Drainage considerations Maintenance standards/levels Is site used for organized or programmed events? To what extent? Is site used for multiple uses? Softball, BB or football
<u>Tennis Courts</u>		Lighted Y/N (Use BB Criteria)
Resurface	12-15 years	Surface clay, asphalt, other
Total Renovation	20-25 years	Color coat/overlay/rebuild Frequency of color coating Location – high water table Fencing material/posts Preventive maintenance Location: Water table concerns Is site used for organized or programmed events? To what extent? Are courts used for making ice?
<u>Basket Ball Courts</u>		Same as tennis courts
Resurface	12-15 years	
Total Renovation	20-25 years	
<u>Volleyball Courts</u>		Sand / Grass? Lighted Y/N Borders Bleachers/spectator area
<u>Shuffleboard</u>		Same as tennis courts
Resurface	12-15 years	
Total Renovation	20-25 years	

<u>Picnic Shelters</u>	25 years	Support structures: masonry, steel, wood Roof type: metal, asphalt, shingle, slate, cedar shake Construction type: post & beam, frame Historical value and consideration Preventive maintenance record Is site used for organized or programmed events? To what extent?
<u>Playgrounds</u>	15 years metal 10 years plastic 8 – 12 years wood	Meet Standards? ASTM, CPSC, ADA Daily usage by intended user group Location: school, or neighborhood park Surfacing Material Preventive maintenance record Border construction material Location: retention area/water?
<u>Boat Launch Ramps</u>	15-20 years	Construction materials, gravel, concrete Location i.e. Lake Michigan Annual Usage Is facility fee generating? Region
<u>Fishing Piers &amp; Docks</u>	15-20 years	Original construction materials plastic, wood, aluminum Location i.e. Lake Michigan Annual volume/usage Winter removal and storage? Preventive maintenance record
<u>Swimming Pools</u> Bathhouse	25 years 25 years	Stand alone site? Heated for winter?
<u>Boathouse</u>	10-15 years	Attached to Community Center Y/N Mechanical room connected? ADA compliance Y/N Local Code compliance? Preventive Maintenance record Location i.e. Lake Michigan
<u>Restrooms</u>	Same as pools	Same as pools
<u>Parking Lots</u> Resurface Total Renovation	10-12 years 20-25 years	Gravel, asphalt or concrete Monthly volume and load use i.e. delivery trucks or garbage Spring use –heavy, moderate, light Seal coating frequency Preventive maintenance record Original construction design loads Location: flooding/water concerns Snow removal or salt use? Curbed or sheet drainage to edges
<u>Bike Paths</u>	Same as Parking lots	Same as Parking lots
<u>Interpretive Center</u>	Same as Bathhouse	Same as Bathhouse



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