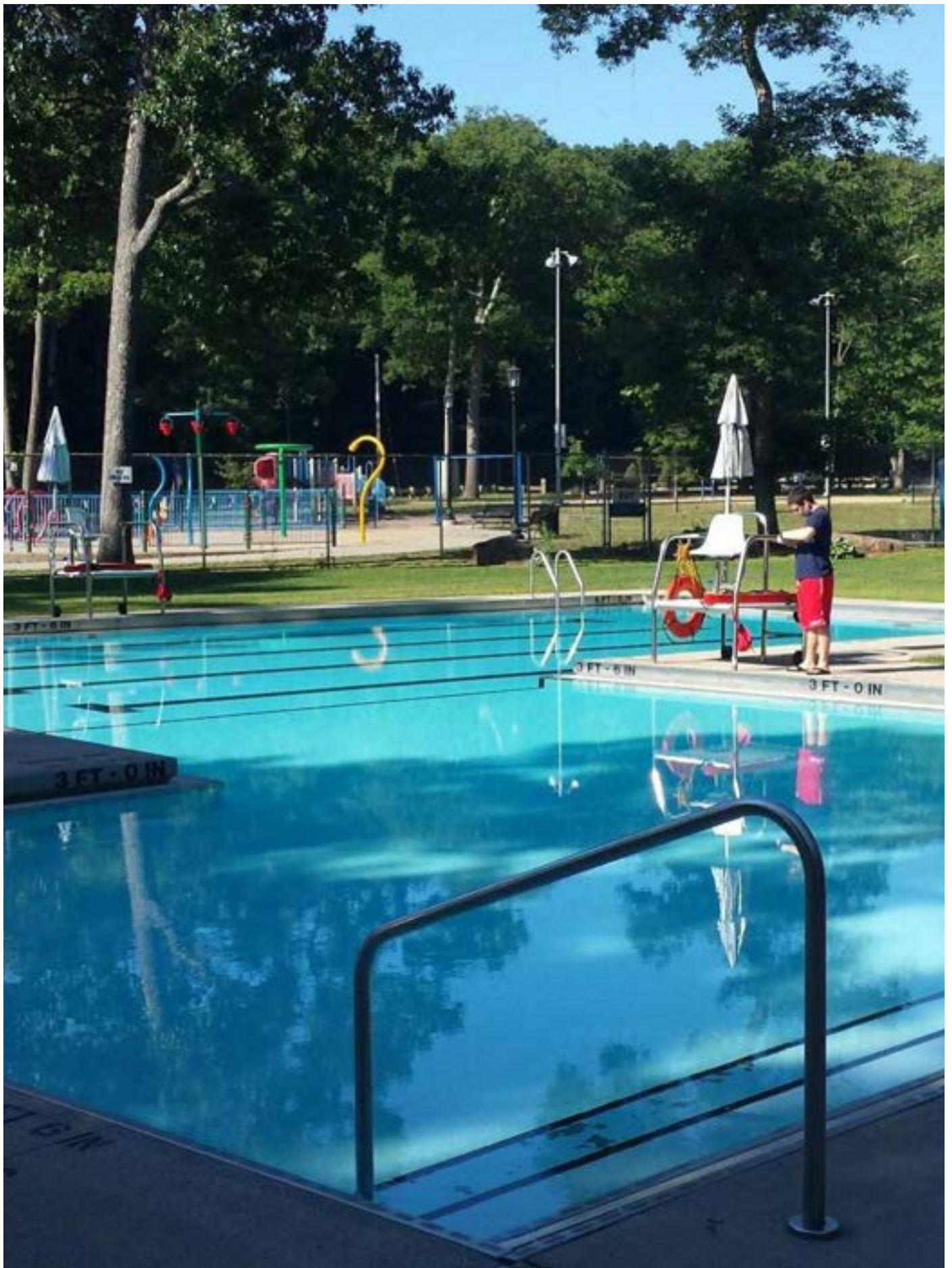


CITY WIDE PARKS, RECREATION, YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES MASTER PLAN

CITY OF BRISTOL | February 5, 2021





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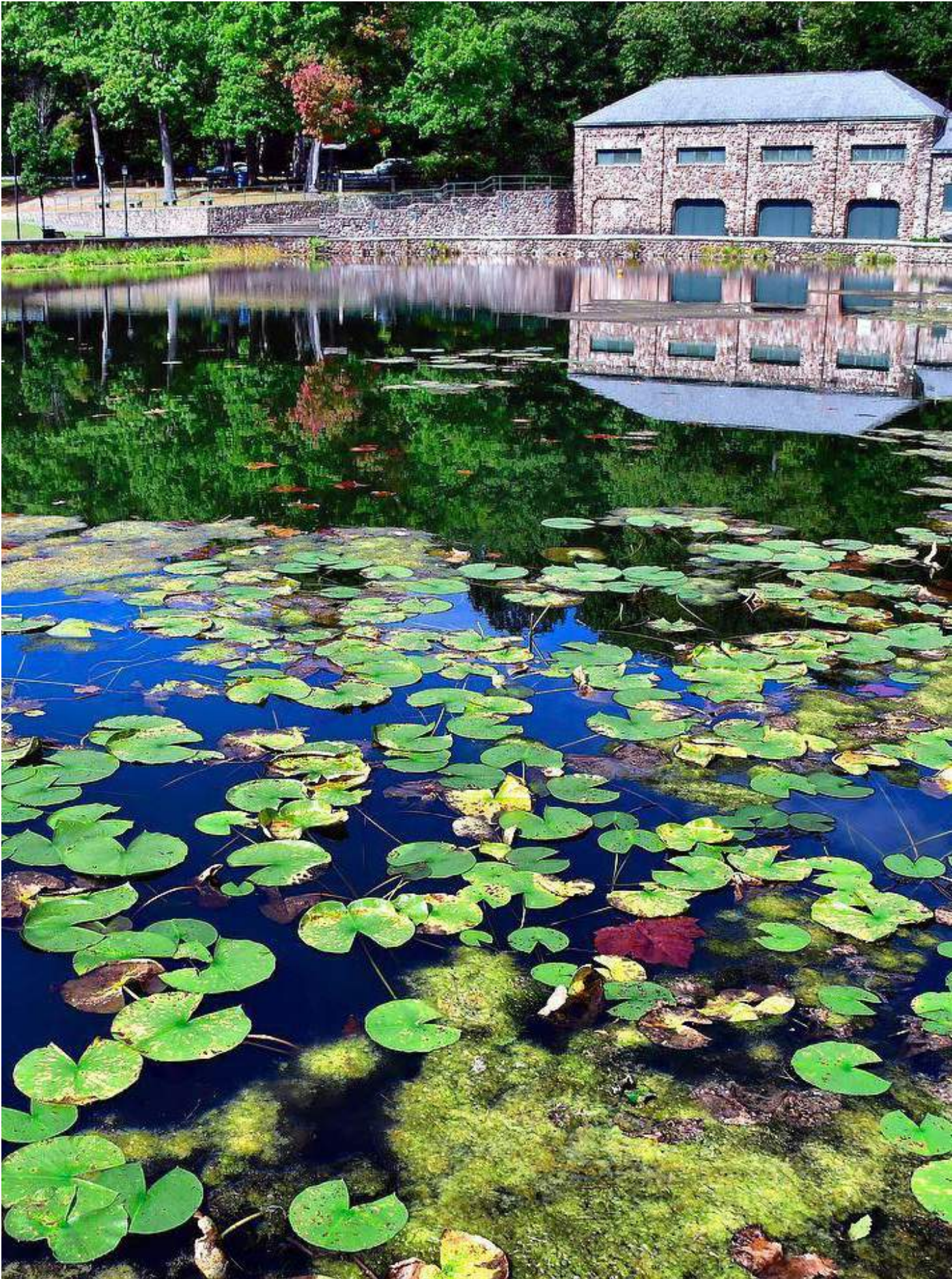


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1 INTRODUCTION



1.1 INTRODUCTION

The City of Bristol is located 20 miles southwest of Hartford. This family friendly community offers a wide range of opportunities for its residents. Bristol is known as the home of ESPN and is also home to Lake Compounce, America's oldest continuously operating theme park.

The Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services Department (BPRYCS) is dedicated to providing parks and services to protect the well-being and enhance the quality of life for Bristol residents. Continuing with the BPRYCS's dedication, the City-Wide Parks and Recreation Master Plan identifies current and future needs of the City of Bristol.

The BPRYCS oversees over 730 acres of park land, including two major parks (Page and Rockwell), 8 neighborhood parks, a lighted stadium (Muzzy Field), an indoor aquatics center, an adventure course (Pine Lake Adventure Park), and many others. In addition, the Department provides programming for residents including, sports leagues, summer camps, and B.E.S.T. (Bristol Eliminating Substance Use Together).

A Parks and Recreation Master Plan was performed in 2004 which focused on four specific parks; E.G. Stocks Playground, Page Park, Brackett Park and Rockwell Park. Renovations and improvements that were recommended in the master plan were implemented at E.G. Stocks Playground, Brackett Park and Rockwell Park. Although improvements have occurred at Page Park, the improvements are not consistent with what was proposed in the master plan.

There has never been a review of the Department and facilities in its entirety. This city-wide plan establishes recommendations for the Department to achieve the vision of the community without diminishing the quality of the parks and programs available to users across the entire City of Bristol.

The City Wide Parks, Recreation, Youth & Community Services Master Plan process was conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, the process was slightly altered due to the inability to conduct in-person public meetings, and focus group interviews, however, by use of virtual meetings, the process was able to be altered in order to achieve the same result that would have occurred without the pandemic.

1.2 MASTER PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

This plan identifies current and future needs for the City of Bristol to help guide the Department for the next 5 to 10 years.

The goals of the City Wide Parks and Recreation Master Plan include:

- Gain a better understanding of community needs
- Identify gaps of service, programs and facilities not currently being met
- Identify future trends and benchmarking through the National Recreation and Parks Association and other standards
- Creation potential park renovation/improvement designs for future development with estimated associated costs for such improvements
- Address plans for deferred maintenance
- Define future Capital Improvement Projects as well as staffing/equipment needs to meet recreation and park objectives
- Guidance in the prioritization of projects
- Develop a phased plan for ADA Compliant Upgrades
- CAPRA Accreditation Review

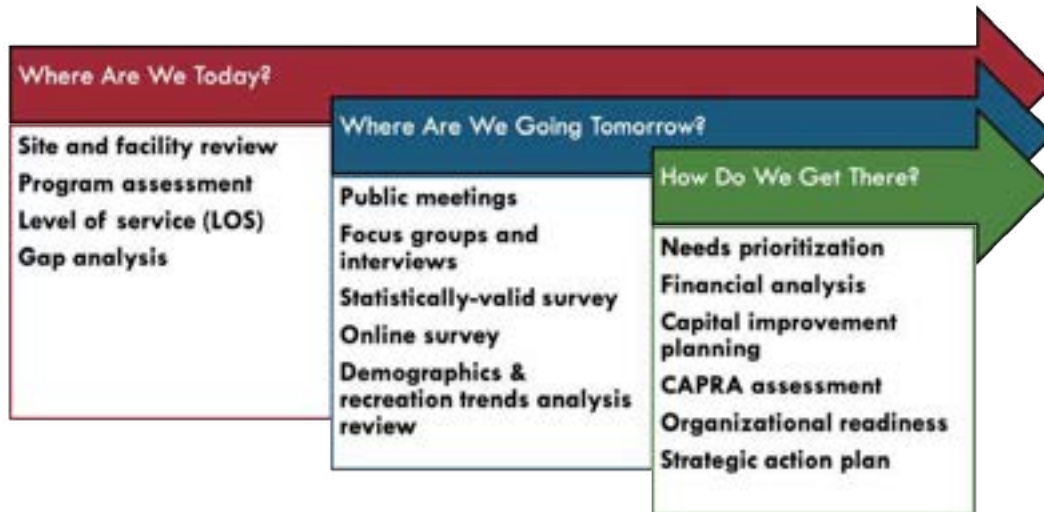
In order to achieve these goals, the following tasks were completed:

- Review and research of existing documentation to build upon what has been previously developed
- Comprehensive, systematic community engagement process
- In-depth site analysis for all of the city parks
- Review each park for ADA compliance and provide recommendations where necessary
- In-depth comprehensive site plan for Page Park
- High level overview of Board of Education facilities
- Inventory of existing city park assets
- Review of city open space and properties
- Identify and recommend programming and maintenance plans
- Identify sustainability plans and green initiatives
- Recommendations for aggressive and sustainable funding sources

- Assist with goal setting and project prioritization for next 5-7 years

1.3 PLANNING PROCESS

The City of Bristol followed an iterative process of data collection, public input, on-the-ground study, assessment of existing conditions, market research, and open dialogue with local leadership and key stakeholders



The community was involved throughout the plan's development as the process sought public input to identify their vision and expectations for public recreation services in Bristol. Stakeholder interviews and focus group meetings were held early in the process (virtually) and were combined with public meetings, staff meetings, stakeholder phone interviews and on-site assessments. A statistically-valid community needs survey was distributed to a random sample of City residents and an online survey was offered to also help prioritize and identify recreation and park related issues. The information gleaned from the community engagement process was combined with technical research to produce the final Master Plan.

1.4 CAPRA ACCREDITATION

The National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) implements a nationwide management system of best practices. CAPRA is the only national accreditation of park and recreation agencies and is a valuable measure of an agency's overall quality of operation, management, and service to the community. At the development of this Master Plan, there 186 accredited parks and recreation agencies. The City of New London is the only accredited agency in Connecticut.



There are 151 standards for national accreditation. To achieve accreditation, an agency must comply with all 37 Fundamental Standards, and 103 (out of 114) Non-Fundamental Standards. One Fundamental Standard is 2.4 – Park and Recreation System Master Plan. This standard ensures there is a comprehensive park and recreation system plan that provides recommendations for provision of facilities, programs, and services; parkland acquisition and development; maintenance and operations; and administration and management. The current Master Plan fulfills this Fundamental Standard requirement, and also has the added benefit of providing additional information that flows into other CAPRA standards.

As part of the Master Plan development process, the Consultant Team performed a CAPRA Readiness

Assessment and worked with Department staff to understand existing standard gap areas as outlined in the Sixth Edition Standards (2019). It is the intent of the Department to begin the process toward CAPRA accreditation and this Master Plan serves as the foundational support to begin that process.

1.5 KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations are separated into five categories. A further explanation of each recommendation and the associated requirements can be found in **Chapter 6**.

APPROACH TO SYSTEM ENHANCEMENTS

- Page Park
 - Renovate and update the existing amenities and facilities, enhance walkability within the park, and enhance parking availability onsite.
- Robert's Property
 - Maintain property as a passive park with enhanced open space, pathways & trails
- System-wide Improvements
 - Define deficiencies in existing facilities and make recommendations for repair, replacement, expansion or removal; and to bring the facilities up to current recreation, state, and federal standards.
 - Include costs of developing/improving parks, fields and recreation facilities
 - Address ADA compliance issues
- Level of Service (LOS)
 - Need to increase Board of Education facility access and maintenance to address facility deficits.
- Capital Improvements Planning (CIP)
 - Costs of developing/improving parks, fields and recreation facilities
 - Critical
\$23,766,000
 - Sustainable
\$7,500,000
 - Visionary
\$20,000,000

FUNDING AND FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

- Create an economic development package: City Economic and Community Development (ECD), Business Improvement District (BID), and utilizing Tax Increment Financing (TIF) for park development and enhancement
- Explore a capital improvement fee on revenue-generating facilities such as Muzzy Field and Dennis N Malone Aquatic Center.
- Create a maintenance endowment fund with a goal of at least 3% of total asset value (excluding land value)
- Work with the City Comptroller and Park Board to explore the use of impact fees for park facility development and enhancement
- Consider selling WiFi advertising space
- Establish a land dedication ordinance for open space

UNIFIED DEPARTMENT VISION AND DIRECTION

- Vision

“The Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services Department is an essential department impacting the lives of all Bristol residents by shaping positive public perceptions, fostering cultural unity, creating responsible and healthy citizens, and inspiring advocacy.”

- Mission

“It is the mission of the Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services Department to deliver high-quality services and facilities that enhance the community’s quality of life, meet the diverse needs of all citizens, and build a sustainable future.”

- Values

Commitment to Service: Utilize a responsive, customer-centric, resident-driven professional approach to all areas of service delivery which includes transparency, strong communication and public outreach.

Commitment to Partnership: Develop strong internal and external partners and sponsors to ensure the changing recreation, leisure, and community service needs of a diverse community are being met.

Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Ensure every resident feels welcome and has access to high-quality parks and services; regardless of age, ability, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and socio-economic status.

Commitment to Stewardship and Conservation: Manage city parks and open space to preserve natural resources and park assets for future generations.

Commitment to Fiscal Stewardship: Engage in strong financial leadership across every level of the organization to ensure all areas of service are administered in a fiscally responsible way.

Commitment to Innovation: Commit to being at the forefront of solution-based problem solving and creativity to address current and future challenges facing the City of Bristol.

APPROACH TO DELIVERING PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

- Align program offerings with community needs and priorities
- Treat core program areas as core businesses

2 COMMUNITY PROFILE



2.1 DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

The Park, Recreation Youth and Community Services Department is organized into 5 operational divisions: Administration, Parks, Grounds & Facilities, Recreation, and Aquatics, Youth and Community Services. The professional staff consists of 31 full-time employees and more than 200 part-time seasonal employees. Policy is set by a 7 member Board of Park Commissioners.

Administration is responsible for developing a fiscally responsible department budget that meets the changing and dynamic needs of the community. Administration provides stewardship to the many benefactors of the Parks and Recreation Department which include 8 trust and endowment funds, as well as, the Friends of Bristol Parks and Recreation Fund through the Main Street Community Foundation.

The Parks, Grounds and Maintenance division is responsible for over 730 acres of park land which includes two major active parks with over 100 acres each, eight neighborhood parks, a lighted stadium, an indoor aquatics facility, a veteran's memorial park, and four open space, passive parks. This division is responsible for the upkeep of park amenities including 3 water spray parks, 14 tennis courts (5 lighted), 6 lighted sand volleyball courts, 1 modified pickleball court, 7 fishing areas, 2 horseshoe pits, 2 bocce courts, 6 basketball courts, 6 pre-school playscapes, an ADA compliant accessible playground, para-fitness course, 4 baseball diamonds, 6 (3 lighted) softball diamonds, jogging path, metered walking path, hiking trails, 2 eighteen hole disc golf courses, 2 off-leash dog park, and a skatepark plaza.

The Recreation division is responsible for administering hundreds of recreational programs and special events throughout the year. A variety of programs are offered; serving the varied interests of Bristol residents from pre-school to senior citizens. This includes popular summer camps, sports clinics, arts instruction, Summer Concerts, Santa Land Village, and much more. Recreational programs increase physical, social, and emotional wellness and serve to enhance community spirit, as well as, the quality of life for every resident. The division also coordinates with dozens of non-profits, sports organizations, and civic groups that utilize park space for events including the Mums Festival, West End Association Summer Festival, and Veterans organizations - drawing thousands of visitors into the city each year.

The Aquatics division is responsible for the oversight of the Dennis Malone Aquatics Center and two outdoor park pools at Page and Rockwell. The division offers seasonal memberships and daily passes to thousands of patrons annually. An extensive American Red Cross Learn to Swim program is offered at all 3 facilities; annually teaching thousands of Bristol youth this critical life skill. In addition, the division offers water fitness programs, training classes, recreational swim teams, special events, and more. The Dennis Malone Aquatics Center is also host to BCHS/BEHS Swim Teams, St. Paul and Lewis Mills Swim Teams, private rentals and Bristol Hospital for water therapy.

2.2 YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

The Demographic Analysis describes the population within the City of Bristol, Connecticut ("City"). This assessment will provide supplementary demographic data to the City's Master Plan including current (2019) and future population projections, age segment breakdowns, race and ethnicity distribution, as well as income characteristics. It is important to note that future projections are based on historical patterns and unforeseen circumstances during or after the time of the analysis could have a significant bearing on the validity of the projected figures.

Demographic Overview (2019 - 2034)



Population:	Age:	Race:	Income:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60,111 people currently live in Bristol City is expected to decrease to 59,806 by 2034 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Median age: 42.3 By 2034, the 55+ age segment will encompass 32% of the population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 83% of the population is "White Alone" 6% of the population is "Some Other Race" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Median household income: \$61,134 Median household income is significantly above the state and national averages

METHODOLOGY

Demographic data used for the analysis was obtained from U.S. Census Bureau and from the Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI), the largest research and development organization dedicated to Geographical Information Systems (GIS), and specializing in population projections and market trends. All data was acquired in September 2019 and reflects actual numbers as reported in the 2010 Census. ESRI then estimates the current population (2019) as well as a 5-year projection (2024). PROS utilized straight line linear regression to forecast demographic characteristics for 2029 and 2034. The City boundaries shown below were utilized for the demographic analysis.

(Figure 1)

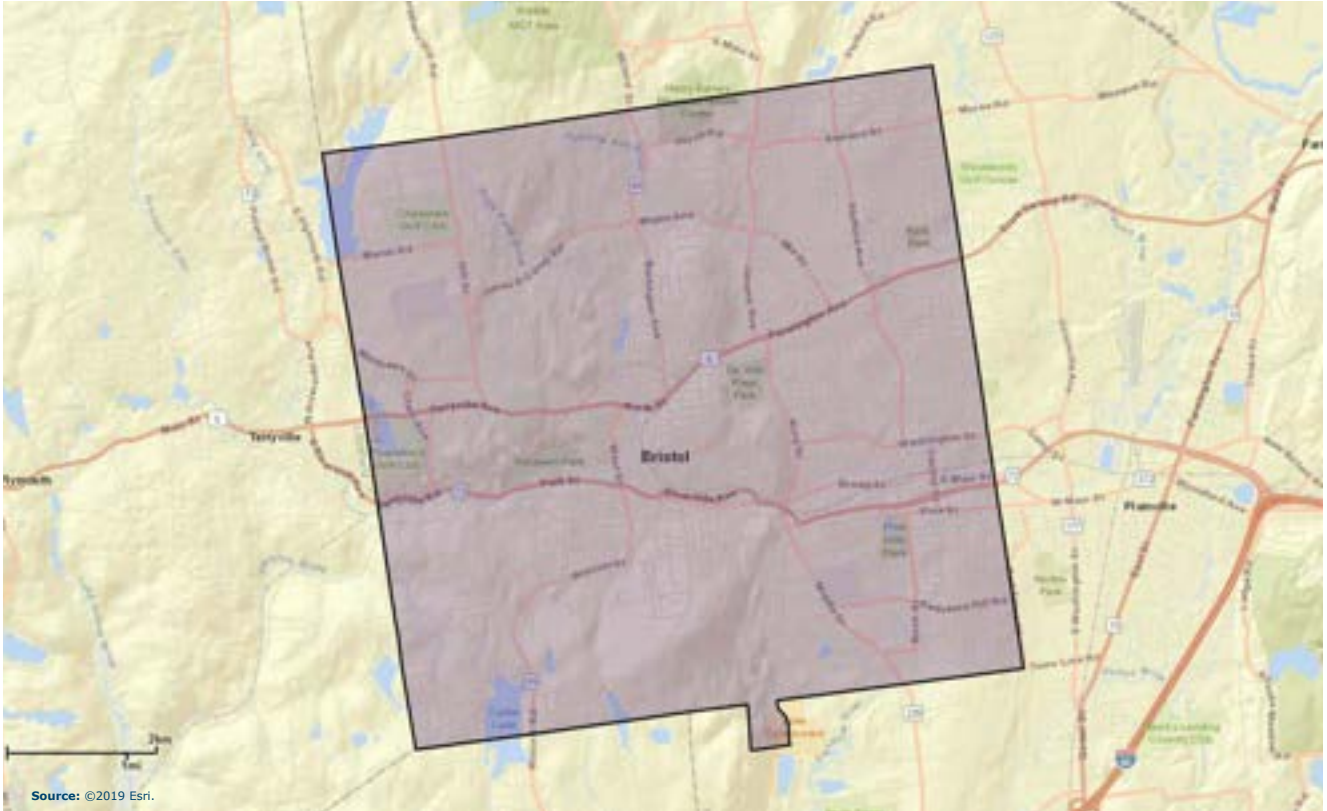


Figure 1: City Boundaries

BRISTOL POPULACE

POPULATION ENHANCEMENTS

The City's population has experienced a minor decline in recent years, decreasing -0.07% from 2010 to 2019 (-0.03% per year). This is well below the national annual growth rate of 0.85% (from 2010-2019). Similar to the population, the total number of households also experienced a slight decrease in recent years (-0.11% since 2010).

Currently, the population is estimated at 60,111 individuals living within 25,063 households. Projecting ahead, the total population and total number of households are both expected to continue decreasing at a below average rate over the next 15 years. Based on 2034 predictions, the City's population is expected to have 59,806 residents living within 24,737 households (**Figures 2 & 3**).

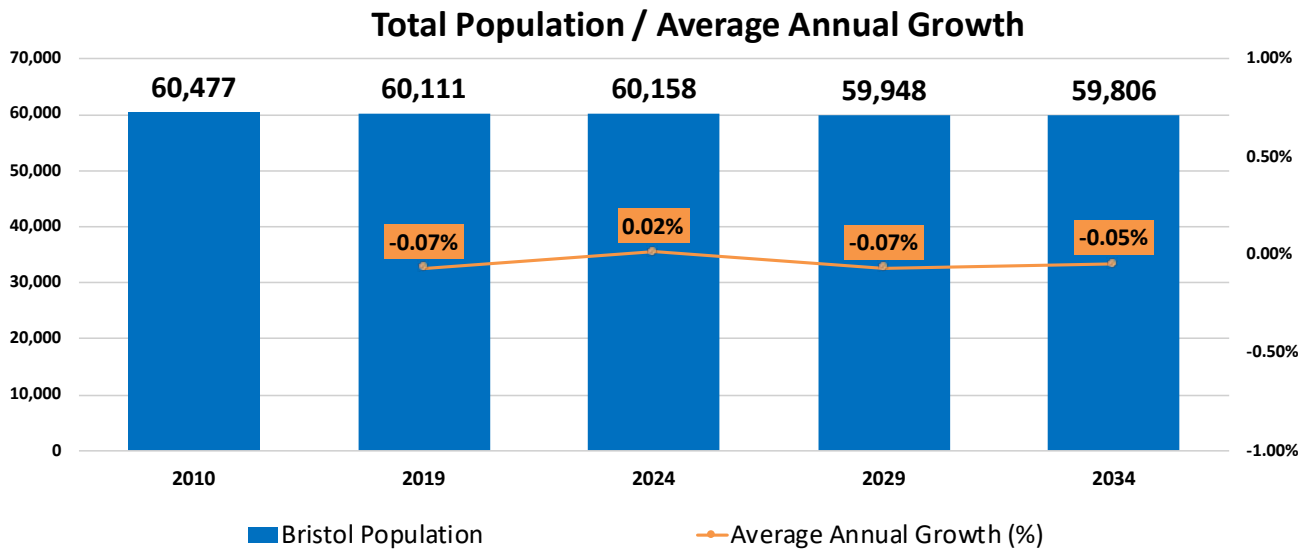


Figure 2: Total Population Projections

HOUSEHOLD

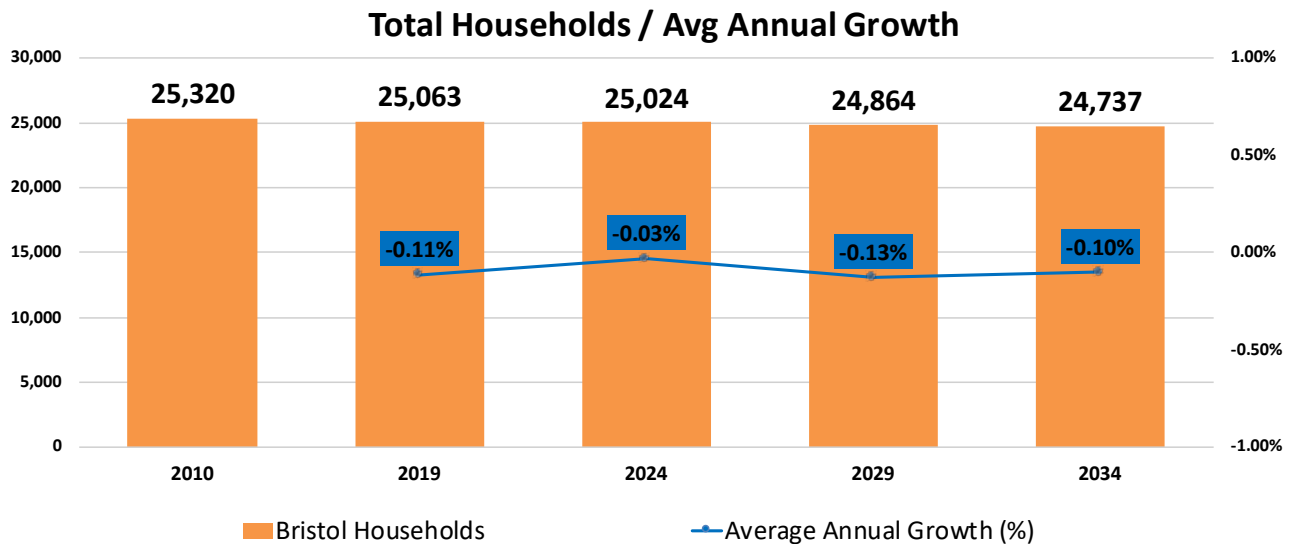


Figure 3: Total Household Projections

AGE SEGMENT

Evaluating the City's total population by age segments, Bristol exhibits a strong middle age population in the community, with approximately 67% of its residents being under 54 years old. The population has a median age of 42.9 years old which is marginally above the U.S. median age of 38.5 years. Assessing the population, the City is projected to continue aging in the foreseeable future. Over the next 15 years, the 55+ population is expected to grow an additional 7%, totaling 32% of the City's population. This is largely due to the increase in life expectancy coinciding with the remainder of the Baby Boomer generation shifting into the senior age groups (**Figure 4**).

Due to the continued growth of the older age segments, it is useful to further segment the "Senior" population beyond the traditional 55+ designation. Within the field of parks and recreation, there are two commonly used ways to partition this age segment. One is to simply segment by age: 55-64, 65-74, and 75+. However, as these age segments are engaged in programming, the variability of health and wellness can be a more relevant factor. For example, a 55-year-old may be struggling with rheumatoid arthritis and need different recreational opportunities than a healthy 65-year old who is running marathons once a year. Therefore, it may be more useful to divide this age segment into "Active," "Low-Impact," and/or "Social" Seniors.

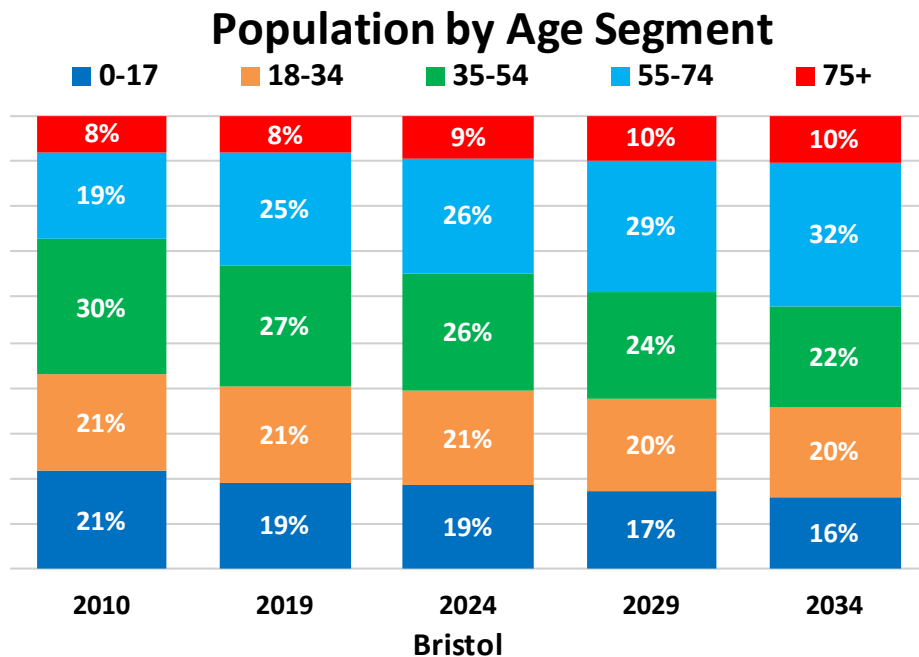


Figure 4: Projection by Age Segments in the City of Bristol

RACE AND ETHNICITY DEFINITIONS

The minimum categories for data on race and ethnicity for Federal statistics, program administrative reporting, and civil rights compliance reporting are defined as below. The Census 2010 data on race are not directly comparable with data from the 2000 Census and earlier censuses; therefore, caution must be used when interpreting changes in the racial composition of the US population over time. The latest (Census 2010) definitions and nomenclature are used within this analysis.

- **American Indian** – This includes a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment
- **Asian** – This includes a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam
- **Black** – This includes a person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa

- **Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander** – This includes a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands
- **White** – This includes a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa
- **Hispanic or Latino** – This is an ethnic distinction, a subset of a race as defined by the Federal Government; this includes a person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race

Please Note: The Census Bureau defines Race as a person's self-identification with one or more of the following social groups: White, Black or African American, Asian, American Indian and Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, some other race, or a combination of these. While Ethnicity is defined as whether a person is of Hispanic / Latino origin or not. For this reason, the Hispanic / Latino ethnicity is viewed separate from race throughout this demographic analysis.

RACE

Analyzing race, the City's current population is predominantly White Alone. The 2019 estimate shows that 5% of the population falls into the Black Alone category, with White Alone (83%) representing the largest population segment. The racial diversification of the City is significantly less diverse than the national population, which is approximately 70% White Alone, 13% Black Alone, and 7% Some Other Race. The predictions for 2034 expect the population to remain relatively unchanged with just a modest decrease in the White Alone population, accompanied by minor increases to all other race categories (**Figure 5**).

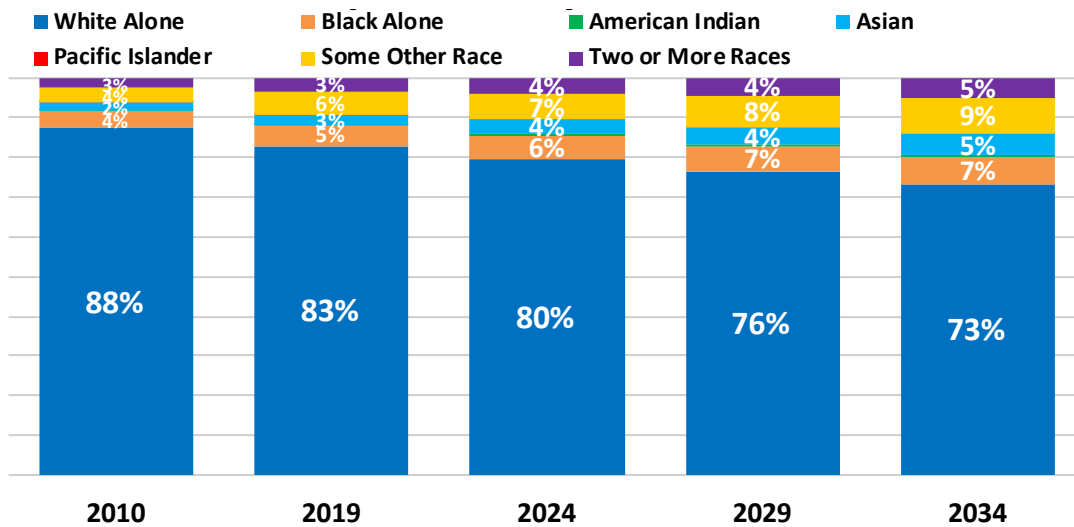


Figure 5: City of Bristol Population by Race

ETHNICITY

The City's population was also assessed based on Hispanic/Latino ethnicity, which by the Census Bureau definition is viewed independently from race. It is important to note that individuals who are Hispanic/Latino in ethnicity can also identify with any of the racial categories from Figure 5. Based on the 2010 Census, those of Hispanic/ Latino origin currently represent approximately 14% of Bristol's current population, which is only slightly below the national average (18%). The Hispanic/Latino population is expected to continue growing almost the same as it did from 2010 to 2019 in the next 15 years, increasing to 23% of the City's total population by 2034 (**Figure 6**).

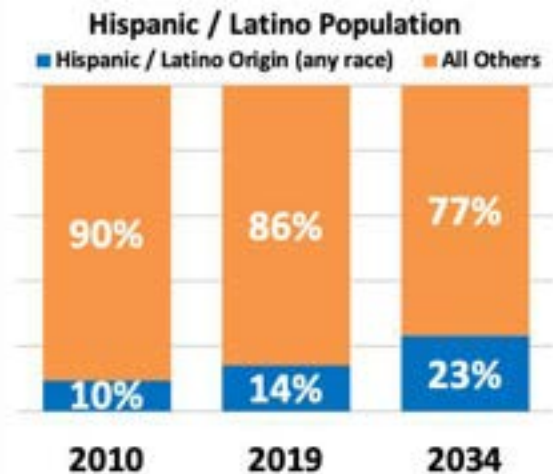


Figure 6: City of Bristol Populations by Hispanic / Latino Population

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

As seen in **Figure 7**, the City's income characteristics fall below state averages. The City's per capita income (\$33,546) and median household income (\$61,434) are nearly the same as the national averages (\$33,028 & \$60,548, respectively). Understanding the income characteristics as compared to the state averages becomes relevant when the City's Parks, Recreation, Youth, and Community Services is pricing out programs and calculating cost recovery goals. It is evident the Division can offer fair market programming, knowing the average resident has income at least close to the national average.

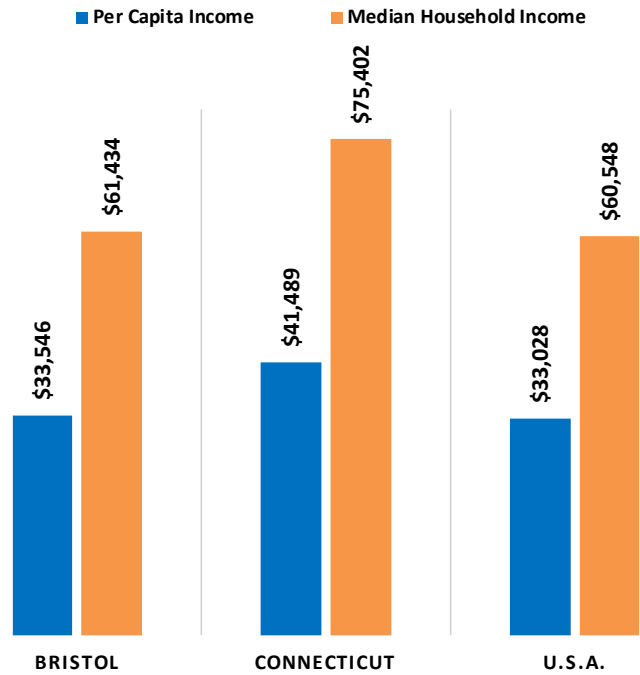


Figure 7: Income Characteristics

2019 Demographic Comparison		Bristol	Connecticut	U.S.A.
Population	Annual Growth Rate (2010-2019)	-0.07%	0.18%	0.85%
	Projected Annual Growth Rate (2019-2034)	-0.03%	0.20%	0.90%
Households	Annual Growth Rate (2010-2019)	-0.11%	0.12%	0.80%
	Average Household Size	2.37	2.54	2.59
Age Segment Distribution	Ages 0-17	19%	21%	22%
	Ages 18-34	21%	22%	23%
	Ages 35-54	27%	26%	25%
	Ages 55-74	25%	25%	23%
	Ages 75+	8%	8%	7%
Race Distribution	White Alone	82.8%	73.5%	69.6%
	Black Alone	5.0%	11.1%	12.9%
	American Indian	0.3%	0.4%	1.0%
	Asian	2.9%	4.9%	5.8%
	Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
	Some other Race	5.6%	7.0%	7.0%
	Two or More Races	3.4%	3.2%	3.5%
Hispanic/Latino	Hispanic / Latino Origin (any race)	14.1%	17.0%	18.6%
	All Others	85.9%	83.0%	81.4%
Income Characteristics	Per Capita Income	\$33,546	\$41,489	\$33,028
	Median Household Income	\$61,434	\$75,402	\$60,548

■ Significantly higher than the state average
■ Significantly lower than the state average

Figure 8: Demographic Comparative Summary Table

DEMOGRAPHIC COMPARATIVE SUMMARY

Figure 8 is a summary of the City's demographic characteristics. These characteristics are then compared to the state and U.S. This type of analysis allows Bristol to see how their population compares on a local and national scale. The highlighted cells represent key takeaways from the comparison between the City and the state population.

DEMOGRAPHIC SUMMARY

- The City's recent population **annual growth rate** (0.07%) is significantly lower than the U.S.'s (0.85%) growth rate.
- The City's **household annual growth rate** (0.11%) is also significantly lower than the national (0.80%) average.
- When assessing **age segments**, Bristol exhibits a slightly older population.
- The City's **racial distribution** has a significantly higher White Alone population (83%), lower Black Alone, and Asian populations when compared to national and state percentage distributions.
- The percentage of **Hispanic/Latino population** (14%) is moderately below the national average (18.6%).
- The City's **per capita income** (\$33,546) and **median house income** (\$61,434) are both very close to the per capita income and median household income averages (\$33,028 and \$60,548 respectively).

DEMOGRAPHIC IMPLICATIONS

While it is important not to generalize recreation needs and priorities based solely on demographics, the analysis suggests some potential implications for the City.

First, with the population expecting to be decreasing for the foreseeable future, it's suggested that the City focus on the upkeep of existing amenities and facilities before considering building new facility spaces.

Second, the City's slight aging trend may indicate the need to provide more programs and services for the 55+ population. Such a focus could also potentially attract baby boomers to retire in Bristol. However, it will also be important to continue providing services for the 75% of residents who are currently under 55 years old.

Third, the City's nearly equal average income characteristics to the US (but below the State's) suggest there may not be much opportunity to increase prices for program services. They should be mindful of this when pricing out programs and events.

Finally, the City should ensure growing minority races are being reflected in marketing and communications outreach, program participation figures, and response rates when surveying the community.



2.3 RECREATIONAL TRENDS ANALYSIS

The Trends Analysis provides an understanding of national, regional, and local recreational trends as well recreational interest by age segments. Trends data used for this analysis was obtained from Sports & Fitness Industry Association's (SFIA), National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), and Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI). All trends data is based on current and/or historical participation rates, statistically-valid survey results, or NRPA Park Metrics.

NATIONAL TRENDS IN RECREATION

METHODOLOGY

The Sports & Fitness Industry Association's (SFIA) Sports, Fitness & Recreational Activities Topline Participation Report 2020 was utilized in evaluating the following trends:



- National Recreation Participatory Trends
- Core vs. Casual Participation Trends
- Non-Participant Interest by Age Segment

The study is based on findings from surveys carried out in 2019 by the Physical Activity Council (PAC), resulting in a total of 18,000 online interviews. Surveys were administered to all genders, ages, income levels, regions, and ethnicities to allow for statistical accuracy of the national population. A sample size of 18,000 completed interviews is considered by SFIA to result in a high degree of statistical accuracy. A sport with a participation rate of five percent has a confidence interval of plus or minus 0.32 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence level. Using a weighting technique, survey results are applied to the total U.S. population figure of 302,756,603 people (ages six and older).

The purpose of the report is to establish levels of activity and identify key participatory trends in recreation across the U.S. This study looked at 122 different sports/activities and subdivided them into various categories including: sports, fitness, outdoor activities, aquatics, etc.

CORE VS. CASUAL PARTICIPATION

In addition to overall participation rates, SFIA further categorizes active participants as either core or casual participants based on frequency of participation. Core participants have higher participatory frequency than casual participants. The thresholds that define casual versus core participation may vary based on the nature of each individual activity. For instance, core participants engage in most fitness activities more than 50-times per year, while for sports, the threshold for core participation is typically 13-times per year.

In a given activity, core participants are more committed and tend to be less likely to switch to other activities or become inactive (engage in no physical activity) than causal participants. This may also explain why activities with more core participants tend to experience less pattern shifts in participation rates than those with larger groups of casual participants.

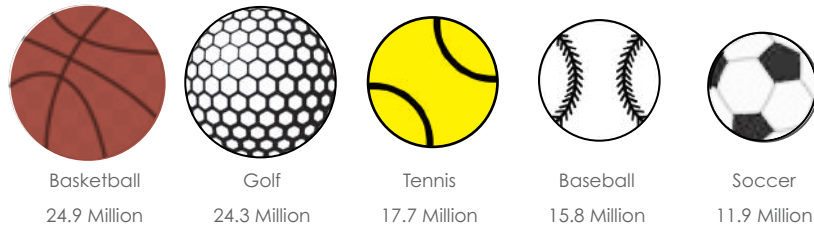
NATIONAL SPORT AND FITNESS PARTICIPATORY TRENDS

NATIONAL TRENDS IN GENERAL SPORTS

PARTICIPATION LEVELS

The sports most heavily participated in the United States were Basketball (24.9 million) and Golf (24.3 million), which have participation figures well in excess of the other activities within the general sports category (**Figure 9**). These activities are then followed by Tennis (17.7 million), Baseball (15.8 million), and Outdoor Soccer (11.9 million).

The popularity of Basketball, Golf, and Tennis can be attributed to the ability to compete with relatively small number of participants. Basketball's success can also be attributed to the limited amount of equipment needed to participate and the limited space requirements necessary, which make basketball the only traditional sport that can be played at the majority of American dwellings as a drive-way pickup game. Even though Golf has experienced a recent decrease in participation in the last 5-years, it still continues to benefit from its wide age segment appeal and is considered a life-long sport. In addition, target type game venues or Golf Entertainment Venues have increased drastically (84.7%) as a 5-year trend. Using Golf Entertainment has a new alternative to breathe life back into the game of golf.



FIVE-YEAR TREND

Since 2014, Golf- Entertainment Venues (84.7%), Pickleball (40.5%), and Flag Football (23.1%) have emerged as the overall fastest growing sports. During the last five-years. Similarly, Baseball (20.2%) and Indoor Soccer (17.8%) have also experienced significant growth. Based on the trend from 2014-2019, the sports that are most rapidly declining include Ultimate Frisbee (-49.4%), Squash (-23.4%), Touch Football (-21.5%), Badminton (-15.1%), and Tackle Football (-14.6%).

ONE-YEAR TREND

In general, the most recent year shares a similar pattern with the five-year trends; with Boxing for Competition (8.2%), Golf- Entertainment Venues (6.7%), and Pickleball (4.8%) experiencing the greatest increases in participation this past year. However, some sports that increased rapidly over the past five years have experienced recent decreases in participation, such as Rugby (-10.8%) and Gymnastics (-1.5%). Other sports including Ultimate Frisbee (-15.5%), Sand Volleyball (-7.8%), Roller Hockey (-6.8%), and Touch Football (-6.3) have also seen a significant decrease in participate over the last year.

CORE VS. CASUAL TRENDS IN GENERAL SPORTS

Highly participated in sports, such as Basketball, Baseball, and Slow Pitch Softball, have a larger core participant base (participate 13+ times per year) than casual participant base (participate 1-12 times per year). In the past year, Ice Hockey and Softball -Fast Pitch have increased core participation. While less mainstream sports, such as Boxing for Competition, Roller Hockey, Badminton, and Racquetball have larger casual participation base. These participants may be more inclined to switch to other sports or fitness activities. Please see the **Appendix A** for full Core vs. Casual Participation breakdown.

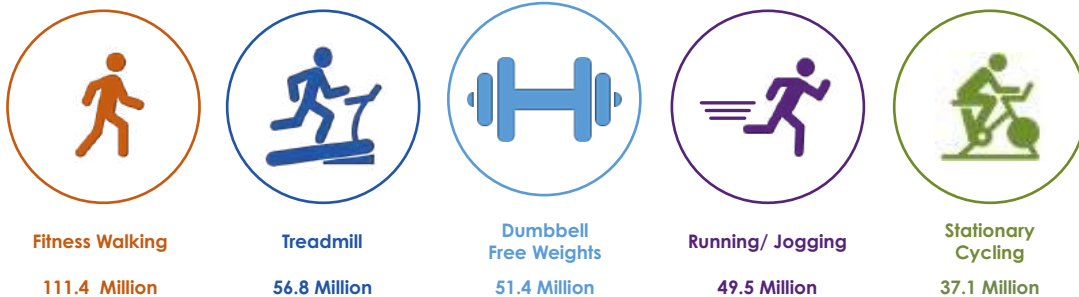
National Participatory Trends - General Sports					
Activity	Participation Levels			% Change	
	2014	2018	2019	5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
Basketball	23,067	24,225	24,917	8.0%	2.9%
Golf (9 or 18-Hole Course)	24,700	24,240	24,271	-1.7%	0.1%
Tennis	17,904	17,841	17,684	-1.2%	-0.9%
Baseball	13,152	15,877	15,804	20.2%	-0.5%
Soccer (Outdoor)	12,592	11,405	11,913	-5.4%	4.5%
Golf (Entertainment Venue)	5,362	9,279	9,905	84.7%	6.7%
Softball (Slow Pitch)	7,077	7,386	7,071	-0.1%	-4.3%
Football, (Flag)	5,508	6,572	6,783	23.1%	3.2%
Volleyball (Court)	6,304	6,317	6,487	2.9%	2.7%
Badminton	7,176	6,337	6,095	-15.1%	-3.8%
Soccer (Indoor)	4,530	5,233	5,336	17.8%	2.0%
Football, (Touch)	6,586	5,517	5,171	-21.5%	-6.3%
Football, (Tackle)	5,978	5,157	5,107	-14.6%	-1.0%
Gymnastics	4,621	4,770	4,699	1.7%	-1.5%
Volleyball (Sand/Beach)	4,651	4,770	4,400	-5.4%	-7.8%
Track and Field	4,105	4,143	4,139	0.8%	-0.1%
Cheerleading	3,456	3,841	3,752	8.6%	-2.3%
Pickleball	2,462	3,301	3,460	40.5%	4.8%
Racquetball	3,594	3,480	3,453	-3.9%	-0.8%
Ice Hockey	2,421	2,447	2,357	-2.6%	-3.7%
Ultimate Frisbee	4,530	2,710	2,290	-49.4%	-15.5%
Softball (Fast Pitch)	2,424	2,303	2,242	-7.5%	-2.6%
Lacrosse	2,011	2,098	2,115	5.2%	0.8%
Wrestling	1,891	1,908	1,944	2.8%	1.9%
Roller Hockey	1,736	1,734	1,616	-6.9%	-6.8%
Boxing for Competition	1,278	1,310	1,417	10.9%	8.2%
Rugby	1,276	1,560	1,392	9.1%	-10.8%
Squash	1,596	1,285	1,222	-23.4%	-4.9%
NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over					
Legend:	Large Increase (greater than 25%)	Moderate Increase (0% to 25%)	Moderate Decrease (0% to -25%)	Large Decrease (less than -25%)	

Figure 9: General Sports Participatory Trends

NATIONAL TRENDS IN GENERAL FITNESS

PARTICIPATION LEVELS

Overall, national participatory trends in fitness have experienced strong growth in recent years (Figure 10). Many of these activities have become popular due to an increased interest among Americans to improve their health and enhance quality of life by engaging in an active lifestyle. These activities also have very few barriers to entry, which provides a variety of options that are relatively inexpensive to participate in and can be performed by most individuals. The most popular general fitness activities amongst the U.S. population include: Fitness Walking (111.4 million), Treadmill (56.8 million), Free Weights (51.4 million), Running/Jogging (49.5 million), and Stationary Cycling (37.1 million).



FIVE-YEAR TREND

Over the last five years (2014-2019), the activities growing most rapidly are Trail Running (46.0%), Yoga (20.6%), Cross Training Style Workout (20.2%), and Stationary Group Cycling (17.5%). Over the same time frame, the activities that have undergone the biggest decline include: Traditional Triathlon (-9.2%), Running/Jogging (-8.7%), Free Weights (-8.3%), and Fitness Walking (-1.0%).

ONE-YEAR TREND

In the last year, activities with the largest gains in participation were Trail Running (9.9%), Dance, Step, & Choreographed Exercise (7.0%), and Yoga (6.0%). From 2018-2019, the activities that had the largest decline in participation were Traditional Triathlons (-7.7%), Non-Traditional Triathlon (-7.4%), Bodyweight Exercise (-2.8%), and Running/Jogging (-2.6%).

CORE VS. CASUAL TRENDS IN GENERAL FITNESS

The most participated in fitness activities all have a strong core users base (participating 50+ times per year). These fitness activities include: Fitness Walking, Treadmill, Free Weights, Running/Jogging, Stationary Cycling, Weight/Resistant Machines, and Elliptical Motion/Cross Training, all having 48% or greater core users. Please see the **Appendix A** for full Core vs. Casual Participation breakdown.

National Participatory Trends - General Fitness					
Activity	Participation Levels			% Change	
	2014	2018	2019	5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
Fitness Walking	112,583	111,001	111,439	-1.0%	0.4%
Treadmill	50,241	53,737	56,823	13.1%	5.7%
Free Weights (Dumbbells/Hand Weights)	56,124	51,291	51,450	-8.3%	0.3%
Running/Jogging	54,188	50,770	49,459	-8.7%	-2.6%
Stationary Cycling (Recumbent/Upright)	35,693	36,668	37,085	3.9%	1.1%
Weight/Resistant Machines	35,841	36,372	36,181	0.9%	-0.5%
Elliptical Motion Trainer	31,826	33,238	33,056	3.9%	-0.5%
Yoga	25,262	28,745	30,456	20.6%	6.0%
Free Weights (Barbells)	25,623	27,834	28,379	10.8%	2.0%
Dance, Step, & Choreographed Exercise	21,455	22,391	23,957	11.7%	7.0%
Bodyweight Exercise	22,390	24,183	23,504	5.0%	-2.8%
Aerobics (High Impact/Intensity Training HIIT)	19,746	21,611	22,044	11.6%	2.0%
Stair Climbing Machine	13,216	15,025	15,359	16.2%	2.2%
Cross-Training Style Workout	11,265	13,338	13,542	20.2%	1.5%
Trail Running	7,531	10,010	10,997	46.0%	9.9%
Stationary Cycling (Group)	8,449	9,434	9,930	17.5%	5.3%
Pilates Training	8,504	9,084	9,243	8.7%	1.8%
Cardio Kickboxing	6,747	6,838	7,026	4.1%	2.7%
Boot Camp Style Cross-Training	6,774	6,695	6,830	0.8%	2.0%
Martial Arts	5,364	5,821	6,068	13.1%	4.2%
Boxing for Fitness	5,113	5,166	5,198	1.7%	0.6%
Tai Chi	3,446	3,761	3,793	10.1%	0.9%
Barre	3,200	3,532	3,665	14.5%	3.8%
Triathlon (Traditional/Road)	2,203	2,168	2,001	-9.2%	-7.7%
Triathlon (Non-Traditional/Off Road)	1,411	1,589	1,472	4.3%	-7.4%

NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over

Legend:	Large Increase (greater than 25%)	Moderate Increase (0% to 25%)	Moderate Decrease (0% to -25%)	Large Decrease (less than -25%)
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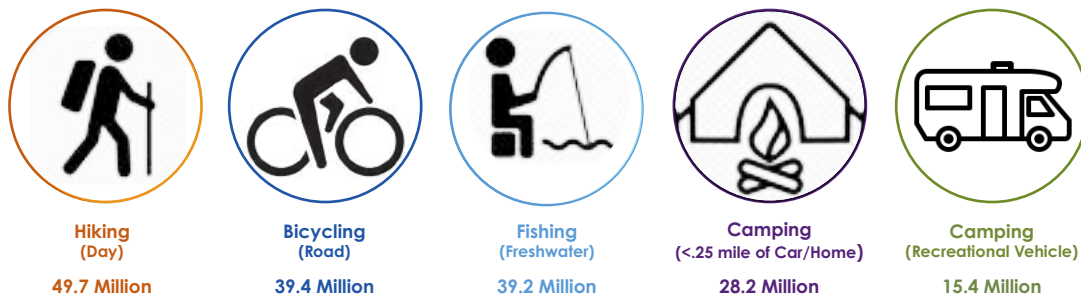
Figure 10: General Fitness National Participatory Trends

NATIONAL TRENDS IN OUTDOOR RECREATION

PARTICIPATION LEVELS

Results from the SFIA report demonstrate a contrast of growth and decline in participation regarding outdoor/adventure recreation activities (Figure 11). Much like the general fitness activities, these activities encourage an active lifestyle, can be performed individually or within a group, and are not as limited by time constraints. In 2019, the most popular activities, in terms of total participants, from the outdoor/adventure recreation category include: Day Hiking (49.7 million), Road Bicycling (39.4 million), Freshwater Fishing (39.2 million), and Camping within ¼ mile of Vehicle/Home (28.2 million), and Recreational Vehicle Camping (15.4 million).

FIVE-YEAR TREND



From 2014-2019, BMX Bicycling (55.2%), Day Hiking (37.2%), Fly Fishing (20.1%), Salt Water Fishing (11.6%), and Mountain Bicycling (7.2%) have undergone the largest increases in participation. The five-year trend also shows activities such as In-Line Roller Skating (-20.5%), Archery (-11.7%), and Adventure Racing (-9.5%) experiencing the largest decreases in participation.

ONE-YEAR TREND

The one-year trend shows activities growing most rapidly being BMX Bicycling (6.1%), Day Hiking (3.8%), and Birdwatching (3.8%). Over the last year, activities that underwent the largest decreases in participation include: Climbing (-5.5%), In-Line Roller Skating (-4.4%), and Camping with a Recreation Vehicle (-3.5%).

CORE VS. CASUAL TRENDS IN OUTDOOR RECREATION

A majority of outdoor activities have experienced participation growth in the last five- years. Although this a positive trend, it should be noted that all outdoor activities participation, besides adventure racing, consist primarily of casual users. This is likely why we see a lot of fluctuation in participation numbers, as the casual users likely found alternative activities to participate in. *Please see the Appendix A for full Core vs. Casual Participation breakdown.*

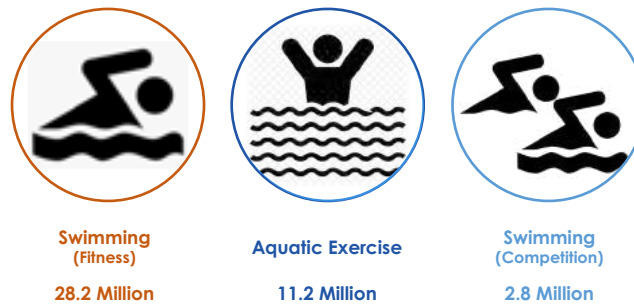
National Participatory Trends - Outdoor / Adventure Recreation						
Activity	Participation Levels			% Change		
	2014	2018	2019	5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend	
Hiking (Day)	36,222	47,860	49,697	37.2%	3.8%	
Bicycling (Road)	39,725	39,041	39,388	-0.8%	0.9%	
Fishing (Freshwater)	37,821	38,998	39,185	3.6%	0.5%	
Camping (< 1/4 Mile of Vehicle/Home)	28,660	27,416	28,183	-1.7%	2.8%	
Camping (Recreational Vehicle)	14,633	15,980	15,426	5.4%	-3.5%	
Fishing (Saltwater)	11,817	12,830	13,193	11.6%	2.8%	
Birdwatching (>1/4 mile of Vehicle/Home)	13,179	12,344	12,817	-2.7%	3.8%	
Backpacking Overnight	10,101	10,540	10,660	5.5%	1.1%	
Bicycling (Mountain)	8,044	8,690	8,622	7.2%	-0.8%	
Archery	8,435	7,654	7,449	-11.7%	-2.7%	
Fishing (Fly)	5,842	6,939	7,014	20.1%	1.1%	
Skateboarding	6,582	6,500	6,610	0.4%	1.7%	
Roller Skating, In-Line	6,061	5,040	4,816	-20.5%	-4.4%	
Bicycling (BMX)	2,350	3,439	3,648	55.2%	6.1%	
Climbing (Traditional/Ice/Mountaineering)	2,457	2,541	2,400	-2.3%	-5.5%	
Adventure Racing	2,368	2,215	2,143	-9.5%	-3.3%	
NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over						
Legend:		Large Increase (greater than 25%)	Moderate Increase (0% to 25%)	Moderate Decrease (0% to -25%)	Large Decrease (less than -25%)	

Figure 11: Outdoor / Adventure Recreation Participatory Trends

NATIONAL TRENDS IN AQUATICS

PARTICIPATION LEVELS

Swimming is deemed as a lifetime activity, which is most likely why it continues to have such strong participation (Figure 12). In 2019, Fitness Swimming was the absolute leader in overall participation (28.2 million) amongst aquatic activities, largely due to its broad, multi-generational appeal.



FIVE-YEAR TREND

Assessing the five-year trend, all aquatic activities have experienced growth. Aquatic Exercise stands out having increased (22.7%) from 2014-2019, most likely due to the ongoing research that demonstrates the activity's great therapeutic benefit, followed by Fitness Swimming (11.5%) and Competition Swimming (4.1%).

ONE-YEAR TREND

From 2018-2019, Competitive Swimming (-7.3%) was the only aquatic activity that declined in participation. While both Aquatic Exercise (6.4%) and Fitness swimming (2.3%) experienced increases when assessing their one-year trend.

CORE VS. CASUAL TRENDS IN AQUATICS

All aquatic activities have undergone increases in participation over the last five years, primarily due to large increases in casual participation (1-49 times per year). From 2014 to 2019, casual participants for Aquatic Exercise (35.7%), Competition Swimming (22.7%), and Fitness Swimming (18.4%) have all grown significantly. However, all core participation (50+ times per year) for aquatic activities have decreased over the last five-years. Please see the **Appendix A** for full Core vs. Casual Participation breakdown.

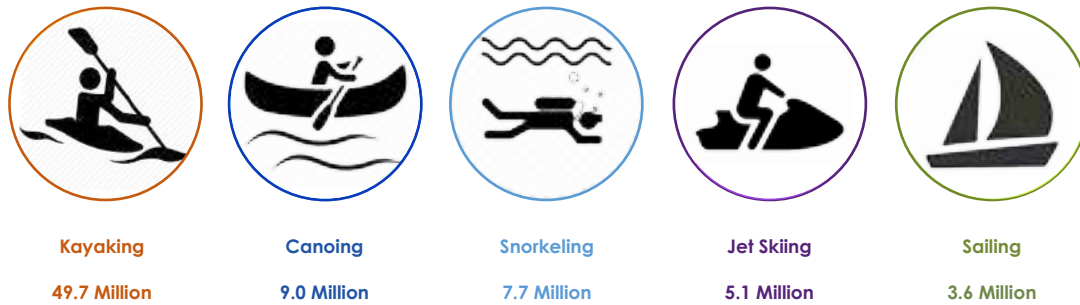
National Participatory Trends - Aquatics					
Activity	Participation Levels			% Change	
	2014	2018	2019	5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
Swimming (Fitness)	25,304	27,575	28,219	11.5%	2.3%
Aquatic Exercise	9,122	10,518	11,189	22.7%	6.4%
Swimming (Competition)	2,710	3,045	2,822	4.1%	-7.3%
NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over					
Legend:	Large Increase (greater than 25%)	Moderate Increase (0% to 25%)	Moderate Decrease (0% to -25%)	Large Decrease (less than -25%)	

Figure 12: Aquatic Participatory Trends

NATIONAL TRENDS IN WATER SPORTS / ACTIVITIES

PARTICIPATION LEVELS

As shown in Figure 13, The most popular water sports / activities based on total participants in 2019 were Recreational Kayaking (11.4 million), Canoeing (8.9 million), and Snorkeling (7.7 million). It should be noted that water activity participation tends to vary based on regional, seasonal, and environmental factors. A region with more water access and a warmer climate is more likely to have a higher participation rate in water activities than a region that has a long winter season or limited water access. Therefore, when assessing trends in water sports and activities, it is important to understand that fluctuations may be the result of environmental barriers which can greatly influence water activity participation.



FIVE-YEAR TREND

Over the last five years, Stand-Up Paddling (29.5%) and Recreational Kayaking (28.5%) were the fastest growing water activity, followed by White Water Kayaking (9.9%) and Surfing (8.9%). From 2014-2019, activities declining in participation most rapidly were Water Skiing (-20.1%), Jet Skiing (-19.6%), Scuba Diving (-13.7%), Wakeboarding (-12.7%), and Snorkeling (-12.5%).

ONE-YEAR TREND

Similarly, to the five-year trend, Recreational Kayaking (3.3%) and Stand-Up Paddling (3.2%) also had the greatest one-year growth in participation, from 2018-2019. Activities which experienced the largest decreases in participation in the most recent year include: Boardsailing/Windsurfing (-9.7%), Sea Kayaking (-5.5), and Water Skiing (-4.8%).

CORE VS. CASUAL TRENDS IN WATER SPORTS/ACTIVITIES

As mentioned previously, regional, seasonal, and environmental limiting factors may influence the participation rate of water sport and activities. These factors may also explain why all water-based activities have drastically more casual participants than core participants, since frequencies of activities may be constrained by uncontrollable factors. These high casual user numbers are likely why a majority of water sports/activities have experienced decreases in participation in recent years. Please see the **Appendix A** for full Core vs. Casual Participation breakdown.

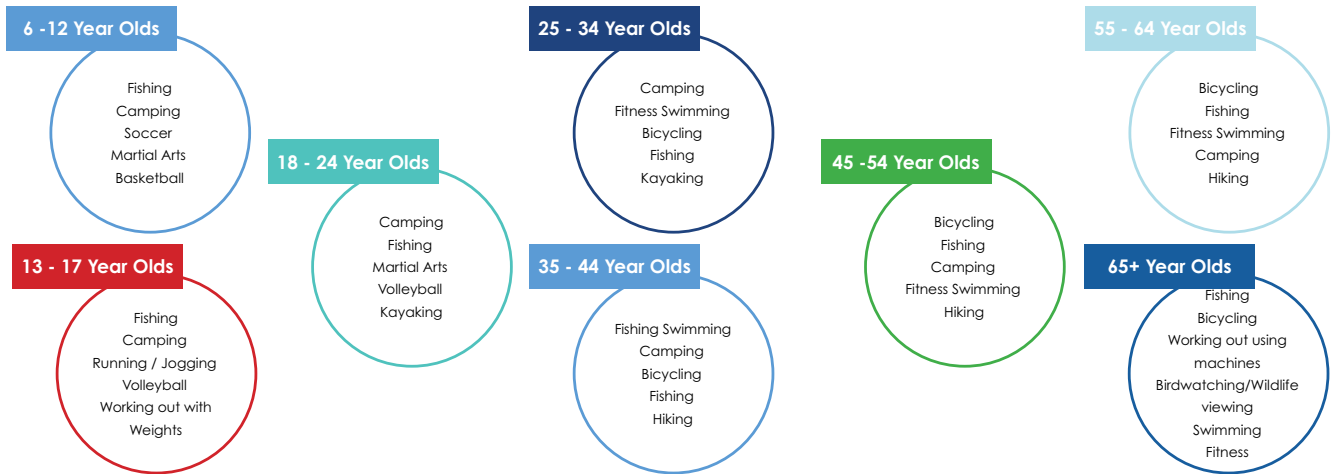
National Participatory Trends - Water Sports / Activities					
Activity	Participation Levels			% Change	
	2014	2018	2019	5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
Kayaking (Recreational)	8,855	11,017	11,382	28.5%	3.3%
Canoeing	10,044	9,129	8,995	-10.4%	-1.5%
Snorkeling	8,752	7,815	7,659	-12.5%	-2.0%
Jet Skiing	6,355	5,324	5,108	-19.6%	-4.1%
Sailing	3,924	3,754	3,618	-7.8%	-3.6%
Stand-Up Paddling	2,751	3,453	3,562	29.5%	3.2%
Rafting	3,781	3,404	3,438	-9.1%	1.0%
Water Skiing	4,007	3,363	3,203	-20.1%	-4.8%
Surfing	2,721	2,874	2,964	8.9%	3.1%
Wakeboarding	3,125	2,796	2,729	-12.7%	-2.4%
Scuba Diving	3,145	2,849	2,715	-13.7%	-4.7%
Kayaking (Sea/Touring)	2,912	2,805	2,652	-8.9%	-5.5%
Kayaking (White Water)	2,351	2,562	2,583	9.9%	0.8%
Boardsailing/Windsurfing	1,562	1,556	1,405	-10.1%	-9.7%
NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over					
Legend:	Large Increase (greater than 25%)	Moderate Increase (0% to 25%)	Moderate Decrease (0% to -25%)	Large Decrease (less than -25%)	

Figure 13: Water Sports / Activities Participatory Trends

NON- PARTICIPANT INTEREST BY AGE SEGMENT

In addition to participation rates by generation, SFIA also tracks non-participant interest. These are activities that the U.S. population currently does not participate in due to physical or monetary barriers, but is interested in participating in. Below are the top five activities that each age segment would be most likely to partake in, if they were readily available.

Overall, the activities most age segments are interested in include: Camping, Bicycling, Fishing, and Swimming for Fitness. All of which are deemed as low-impact activities, making them obtainable for any age segment to enjoy.



NATIONAL AND REGIONAL PROGRAMMING TRENDS

PROGRAMS OFFERED BY PARK AND RECREATION AGENCIES (NEW ENGLAND)

NRPA's Agency Performance Review 2019 summarizes key findings from NRPA Park Metrics, which is a benchmark tool that compares the management and planning of operating resources and capital facilities of park and recreation agencies. The report contains data from 1,075 park and recreation agencies across the U.S. as reported between 2016 and 2018.

Based on this year's report, the typical agency (i.e., those at the median values) offers 175 programs annually, with roughly 63% of those programs being fee-based activities/events.

According to the information reported to the NRPA, the top five programming activities most frequently offered by park and recreation agencies, both in the U.S. and regionally, are described in **Figure 15**. A complete comparison of regional and national programs offered by agencies can be found in **Figure 16**.



Figure 14: National Regions

When comparing New England agencies to the U.S. average, individual sports is in the top five for New England whereas fitness enhancement classes is in the top five nationally.

TOP 5 MOST OFFERED CORE PROGRAM AREA (Offered by Parks and Recreation Agencies)	
New England (% of agencies offering)	U.S. (% of agencies offering)
Themed Special Events (94%)	Themed Special Events (87%)
Team Sports (94%)	Team Sports (87%)
Social Recreation Events (89%)	Social Recreation Events (86%)
Individual Sports (89%)	Health & Wellness Education (80%)
Health & Wellness Education (86%)	Fitness Enhancement Classes (79%)

Figure 15: Top 5 Core Program Area

Overall, New England parks and recreation agencies exceed the national average in many core program areas (**Figure 16**). Areas New England agencies offer below the national average include martial arts, visual arts, cultural crafts, natural & cultural history activities, and running/cycling races.

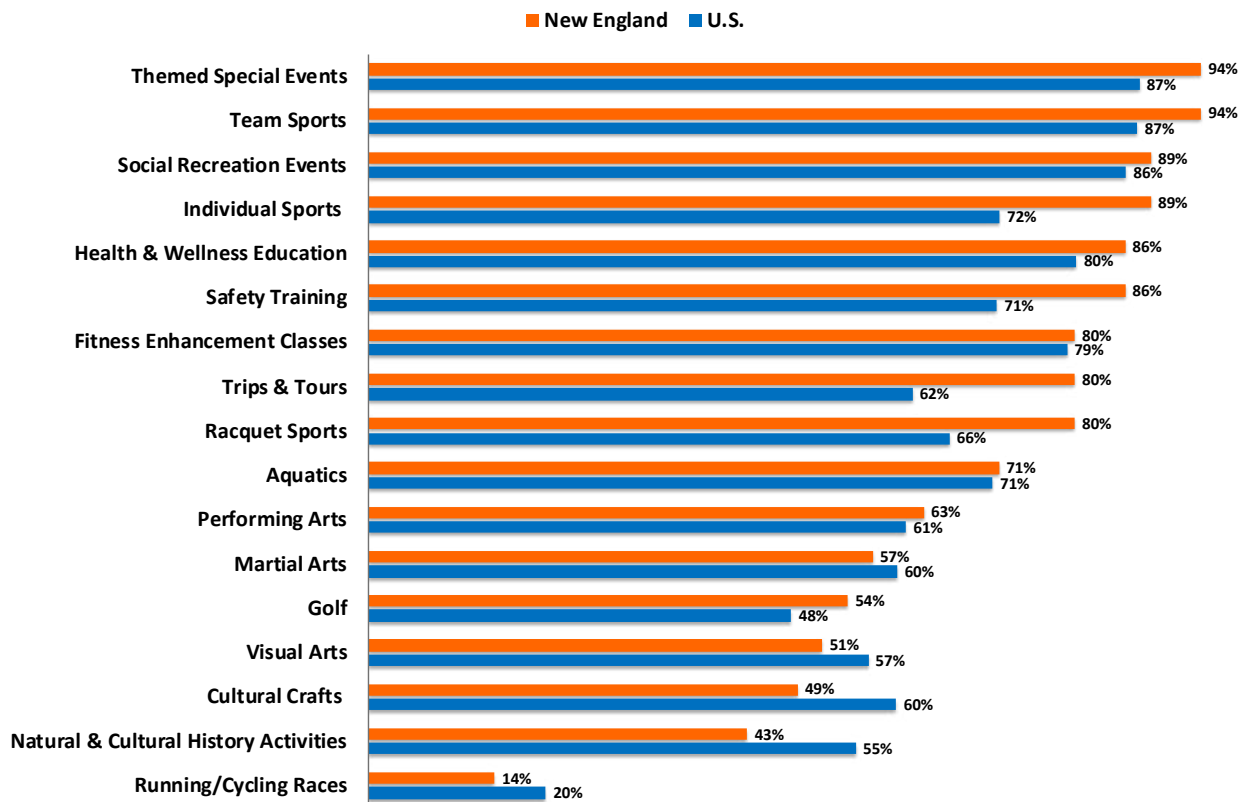


Figure 16: Core Programs Offered by Parks and Recreation Agencies (Percent of Agencies)

TARGETED PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN, SENIORS, AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

For a better understanding of targeted programs (programs that cater to a specific age segment, demographic, etc.), NRPA also tracks program offerings that are dedicated specifically to children, seniors, and people with disabilities. This allows for further analysis of these commonly targeted populations on a national and regional basis.

Based on information reported to the NRPA, the top three targeted programs offered by park and recreation agencies, nationally and regionally, are described in **Figure 17**. A complete comparison of regional and national targeted program offerings can be found in **Figure 18**.

TOP 3 MOST OFFERED CORE PROGRAM AREAS (Targeting Children, Seniors and/or People with Disabilities)	
New England (% of agencies offering)	U.S. (% of agencies offering)
Summer Camp 97%	Summer Camp 82%
After School Program 77%	Senior Program 78%
Specific Teen Programs 75%	After School Programs 77%

Figure 17: Top 3 Most Offered Core Target Program Areas

Agencies in the New England Region tend to offer targeted programs at or above the national average for five out of eight tracked activities. New England agencies are currently offering specific senior programs, programs for people with disabilities, and full daycare at lower rates than the national average (**Figure 18**).

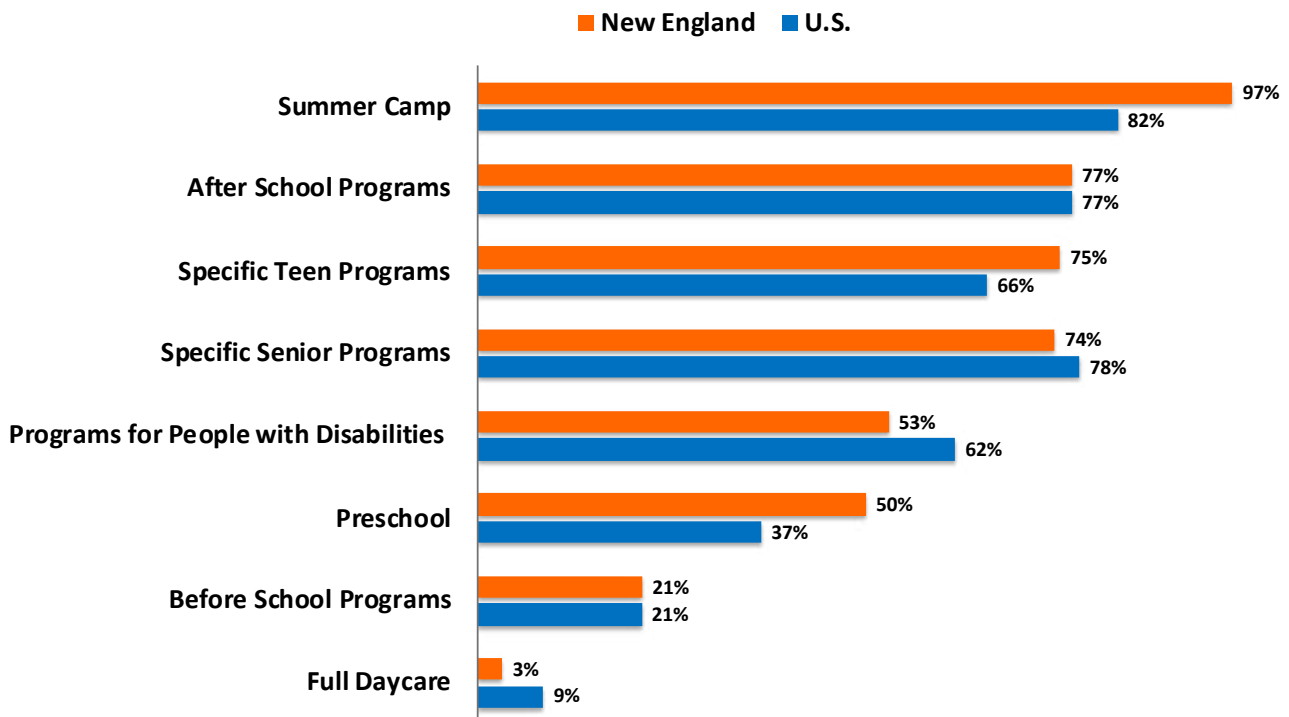


Figure 18: Core Program Areas Targeted for Children, Seniors, and People with Disabilities (Percent of Agencies)

3 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



3.1 STAKEHOLDER AND FOCUS GROUPS

The Consulting Team scheduled in-person stakeholder interviews and focus group meetings in March 2020. Due to COVID-19 related restrictions, the in-person visit was canceled and replaced with a virtual engagement strategy conducted in April and May 2020. The Consultant Team utilized WebEx, Zoom, a Crowdsourcing website, and phone conversations to solicit stakeholder feedback. Invited stakeholders included City staff, elected officials, Chamber of Commerce, Board of Education, Public Works, and special interest groups such as Little League, football and cheerleading, youth lacrosse, disc golf, mountain biking, soccer, collegiate athletics, and local sports businesses.

Based on feedback from these stakeholder interviews and focus groups, the following key themes regarding the Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth, and Community Services Department ("Department") emerged. **It should be noted, however, this summary reflects responses provided by participants and comments do not necessarily constitute consultant recommendations.** The following key themes are not provided in any prioritized order.

SYNTHESIS AND KEY THEMES

There is a lot to like about the park system. Stakeholders indicate the park system offers a quality of life that helps attract new residents. Once here, the system offers a program portfolio filled with diverse programmatic opportunities. In fact, many stakeholders are surprised to know how many different programs and services the Department offers. Many stakeholders expressed the Department has an almost "renewed" focus on parks and programming in the recent years.

Staff leadership is an asset. Many respondents felt as though the Department is very attentive to community needs and exhibit a willingness to try new programming. Emphasizing this point is the Department's ability to create touch points with the community and have a leadership that is approachable.

A unified direction is needed. Stakeholders expressed the need for the Department's true identity to be established. Being the Department's first Master Plan endeavor, stakeholders understand that this will be an outcome of the process. Additionally, since the Department is going through a merger, stakeholders stress the criticality of identifying a holistic vision for the future in light of merged services.

Park design and layout needs attention. ADA accessibility, walkability, and controlled access are all areas stakeholders brought forward. Bristol has great park sites but accessing them can be a challenge due to poor walkability and ADA issues. Controlled access refers to limiting the access point into a park space. Stakeholders mentioned there are areas in which park users can simply walk through other use areas which may disrupt the existing recreation use.

Indoor recreation space is needed. Given the fact that Bristol is a four-season City, stakeholders expressed a desire to see more indoor recreation space available for programming and rental purposes. Many sport groups indicated a need to secure indoor space for hosting clinics, workshops, and winter practices. Additionally, stakeholders desired to see more general indoor recreation programming offered by the Department.

There seems to be competition among recreation providers. Stakeholders identified the Boys and Girls Club as being a rather large competitor to the Department. Therefore, stakeholders expressed a desire to see the Department focus on core programs that are not duplicative in nature and are instead complimentary. Stakeholders desire to see an overall complimentary system within Bristol.

Page Park is a great asset that is need of a formal planning process. As part of the Master Plan process, Page Park is subject to a site design analysis. Knowing this, stakeholders provided input for what works well and what areas need improvement. Stakeholders agree that the park is popular and boasts nice views and facilities; however, parking, walkability, traffic congestion, amenity layout, and ADA challenges are expressed as the top areas for park improvement. Stakeholders acknowledge that the Department can continue activating the park through programming and amenities, but increased park use needs to be supported by adequate parking and mobility throughout the entire park site.

Marketing practices currently used are good. Stakeholders acknowledge there is good connection to both the Department and the Mayor. The transparency provided by City leadership has helped facilitate communication between the City and residents. Areas mentioned for improvement include ensuring marketing materials are available in multiple languages and allowing individual facilities/divisions to have separate social media pages.

Special interest groups have a good working relationship with the Department. Many stakeholders expressed a positive viewpoint toward their interactions with the Department. They believe the Department has done a nice job opening communication channels with organizations. In fact, stakeholders admitted to understanding Departmental decisions even if they do not necessarily agree with the outcome. The notion of transparency and clear communication is evident.

Partnerships will be important for adding more niche opportunities. There are additional groups/leagues, boards, and associations the City can partner with to bring enhanced programming to the community. Organizations such as the International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA), New England Mountain Bike Association, and National Disc Golf Board are just three entities that could help provide support for growing recreation opportunities.

Sustainable growth will be key. Stakeholders desire to see a unified approach to developing the Bristol park and recreation system. Sustainability means several things:

- Ensuring low cost programming is available while also being mindful of revenue generation
- Providing adequate park and facility maintenance
- Expanding facility access and playability through multi-use designs
- Maximizing underutilized places and spaces
- Creating a resilient park system and Department structure as a whole

Continued investment in people along with the system's infrastructure. Understandably, stakeholders do not want to see the great staff in place today be gone tomorrow. Therefore, a focus on staff development through cross-training, succession planning, and recruitment processes is vital to the Department's ongoing success. Additionally, an emphasis should be made to embrace and articulate the entire portfolio of programs and services available to residents as a result of the Department's recent merger.

Field space allocation. Since there are many sports groups that utilize the Department's athletic fields, a deeper analysis is warranted to ensure there is equitable distribution and access. Stakeholders believe this analysis should consider natural turf versus synthetic turf discussions along with aligning maintenance standards and playability. Additionally, it was mentioned to consider developing a softball facility equivalent to the baseball facilities within the park system.

Emphasize community services throughout the entire Department. There is an opportunity for the Department to connect the dots in relation to addressing homelessness, reducing waste and litter, alleviating transportation needs, and instilling a connection to the nature and environment by promoting environmental stewardship. As the Department moves toward a unified vision, stakeholders agree that it will be imperative to leverage all aspects of the Department.

3.2 FIRST PUBLIC MEETING

A community meeting was held the evening of Wednesday, May 13, 2020 via Zoom. This meeting format allowed for a larger turnout due to social distancing guidelines. The meeting was designed to encourage participant feedback by asking and answering questions in real time. Additionally, the Consultant Team presented an overview of the Master Plan process and preliminary information collected to date. There were approximately 75 people that attended the online meeting and provided input. The following sections detail the information gleaned from the public forum. Three modes of data collection were utilized:



Figure XX: Screenshot from May 13, 2020 City of Bristol Public Forum

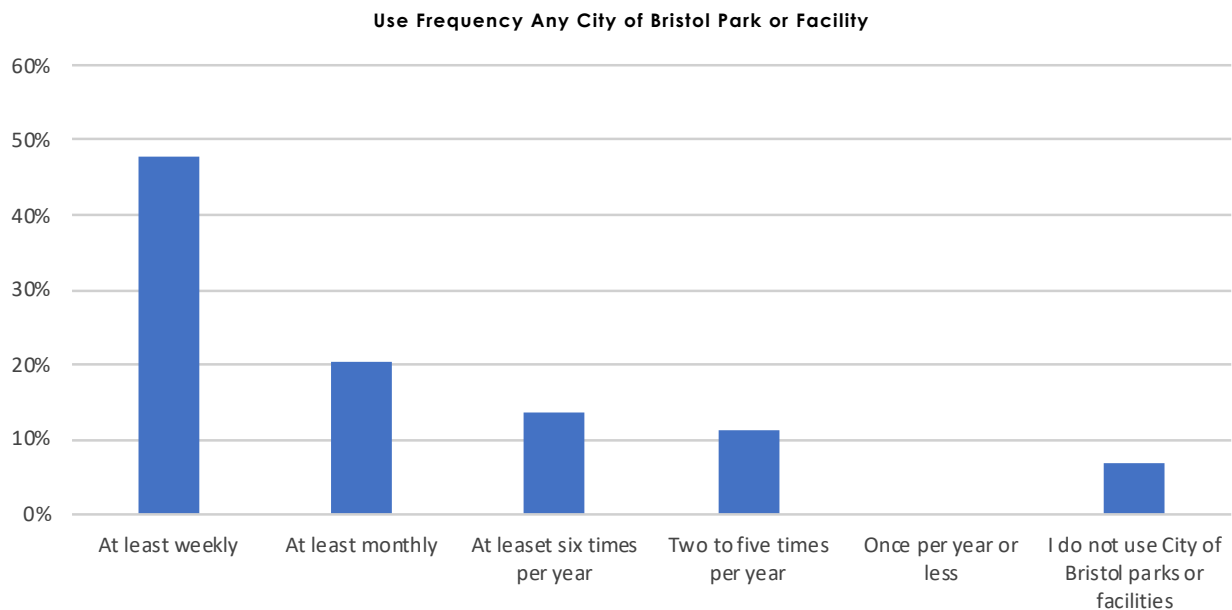
1. Interactive polling exercise during the presentation component
2. General inquiries received via the Q&A chat pod
3. Additional comments received via the Crowdsourcing website or direct email

INTERACTIVE POLLING

The Consultant Team created a series of polls to solicit feedback from meeting attendees. Although not statistically-valid or a true representation of community opinion, the polling exercise allowed the Consultant Team to understand a little bit more about who was attending the meeting while also allowing more quantitative data to be collected in preparation for developing the statistically-valid community survey. The following sections present the findings.

PARKS AND FACILITIES

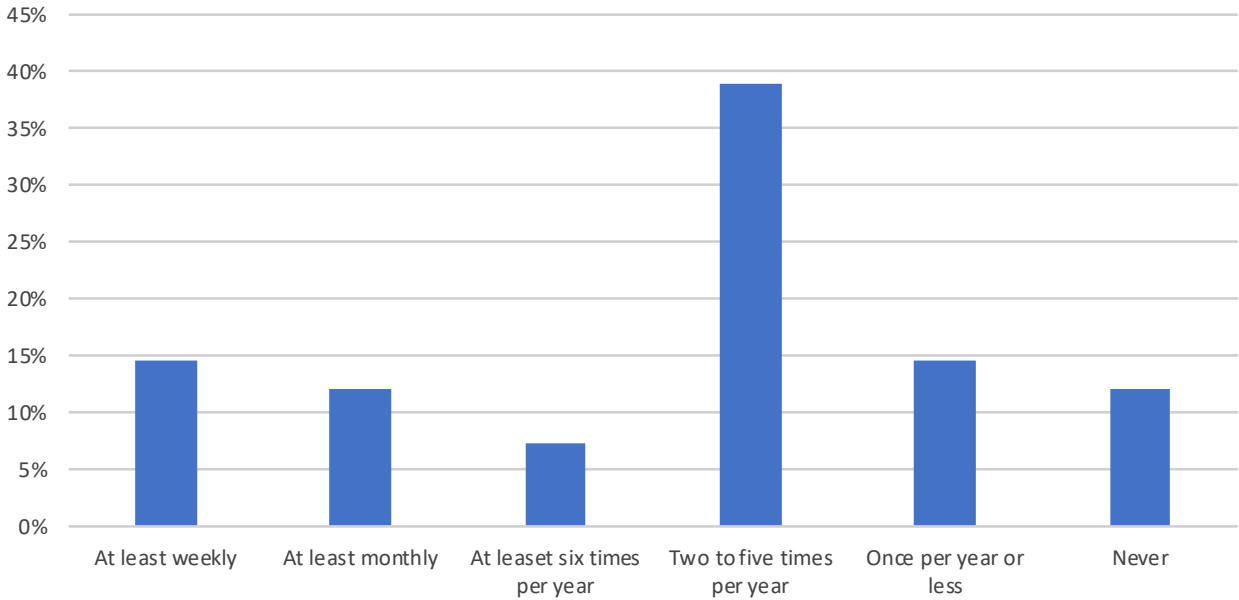
Respondents were asked to indicate how often they use any City of Bristol park or facility. Then, they were to indicate what they use most often and their viewpoint on how the overall quality is of those parks and facilities. The majority of the meeting attendees use Bristol parks or facilities at least weekly. The two most well-used facilities include bike trails & walking paths and general park open space. Approximately 82% of meeting attendees indicated the overall quality of Bristol parks and facilities as Good (52%) or Excellent (30%)



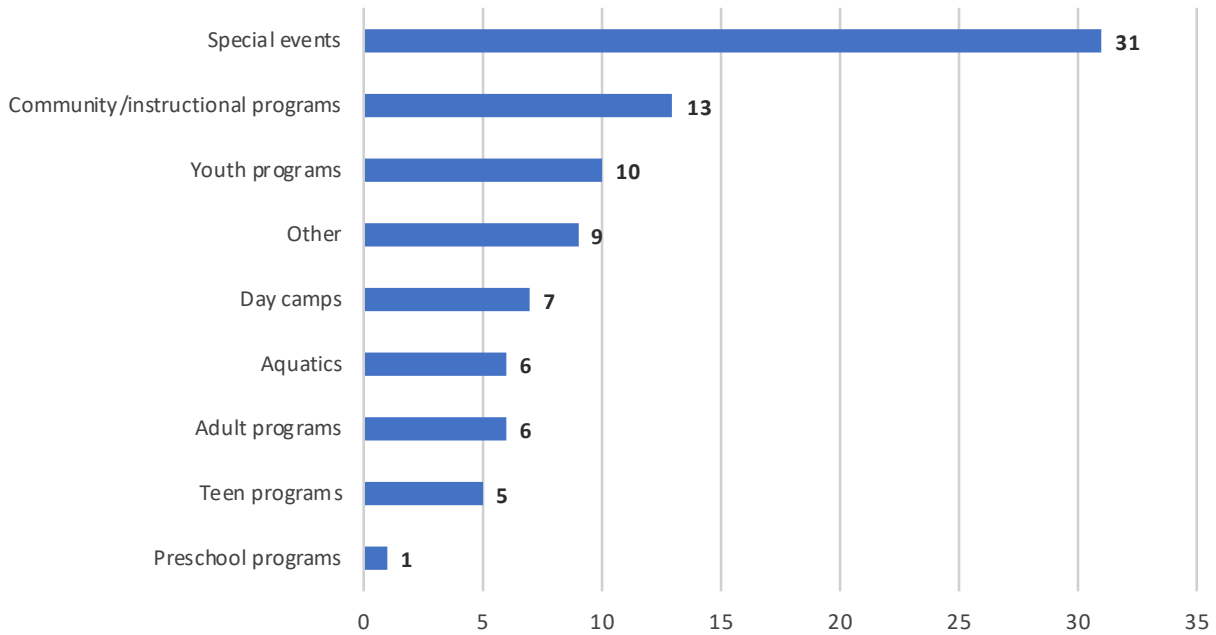
PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Respondents were asked to indicate how often they use any City of Bristol BPRYCS program. Then, they were to indicate what they participate in most often and their viewpoint on how the overall quality is of those programs. The majority of the meeting attendees use Bristol programs one to five times per year. The most well-used program by far is special events. Approximately 83% of meeting attendees indicated the overall quality of BPRYCS programming as Good (44%) or Excellent (39%).

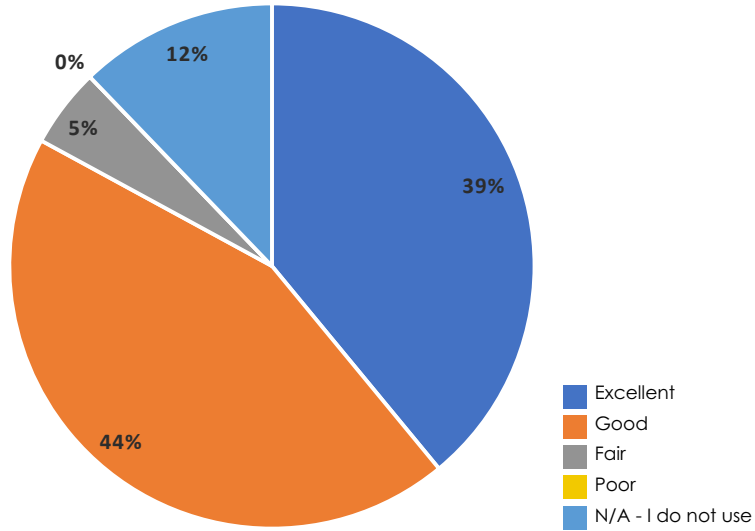
Use Frequency Any City of Bristol PRYCS Program



Programs/Services With the Most Participation



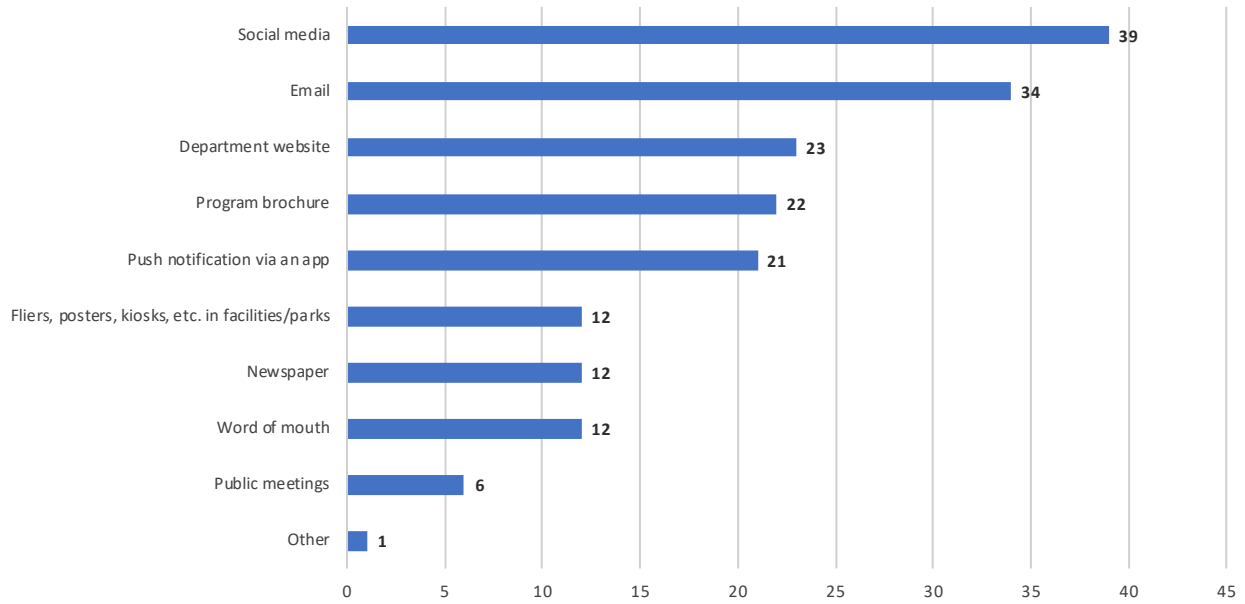
Overall Quality of City of Bristol PRYCS Programs



MARKETING

Meeting attendees were asked to indicate what their preferred ways are to learn about City of Bristol PRYCS programs and events. The top two preferred methods indicated were social media and email.

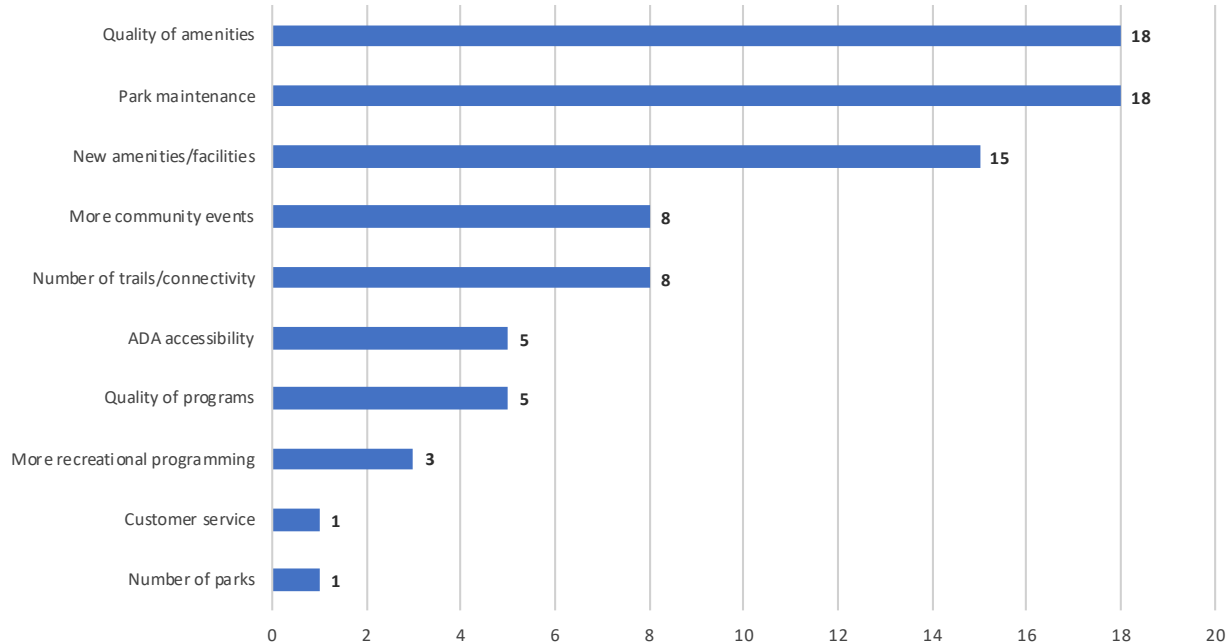
Preferred Ways to Learn About City of Bristol PRYCS Programs and Events



SERVICE PRIORITIZATION

In an effort to have meeting attendees provide prioritized direction, they were asked to indicate what parks and recreation services should receive the most attention from the City of Bristol over the next two years. Three services in particular rose to the top: quality of amenities, park maintenance, and new amenities/facilities.

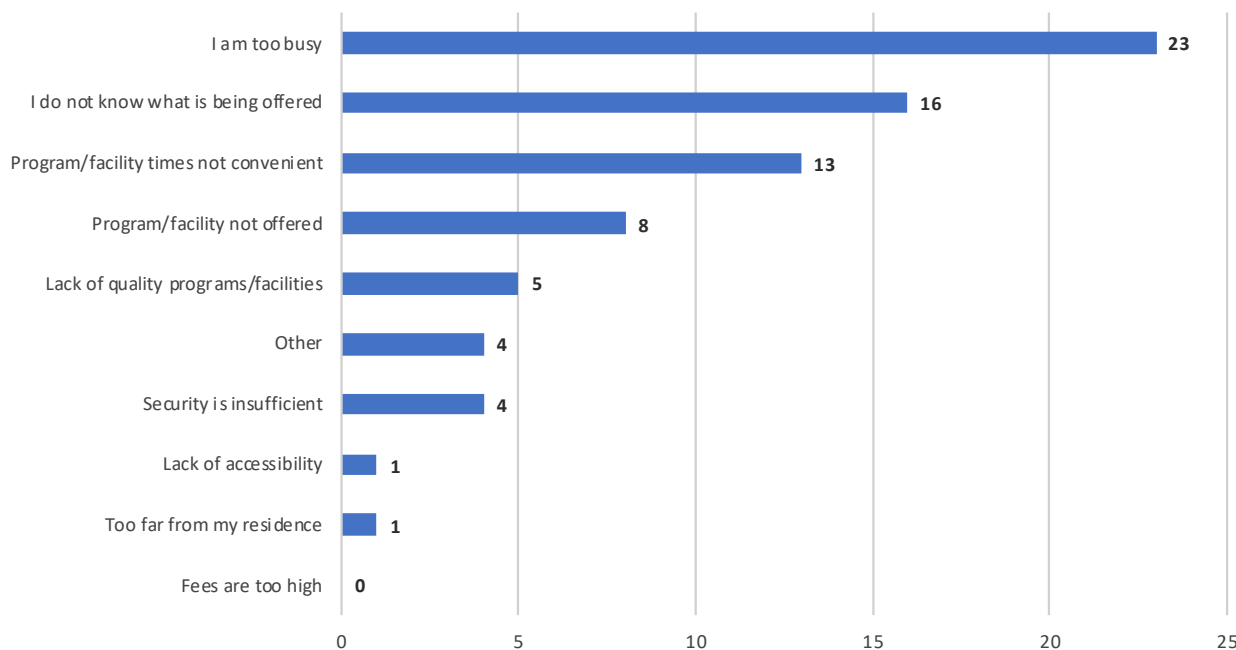
Parks and Recreation Services That Should Receive The Most Attention Over The Next Two Years



BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION

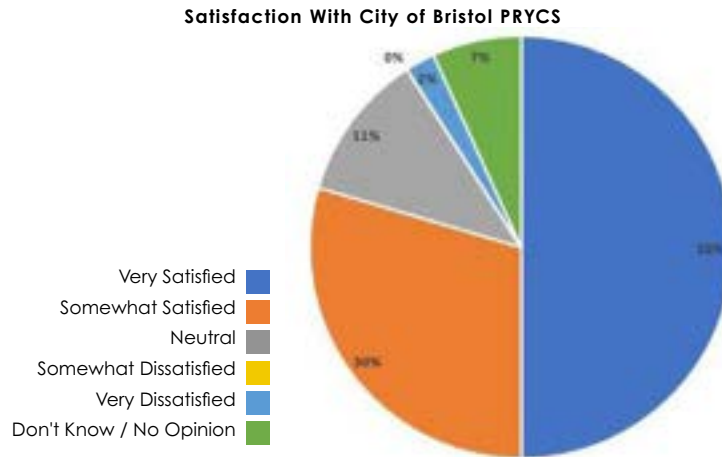
To understand a little more about park, facility, and programming usage, meeting attendees were asked to indicate what prevents them from using BPRYCS facilities or programs more often. The top three reported barriers included: I am too busy, I do not know what is being offered, and program/facility times not convenient.

Barriers to Using City of Bristol BPRYCS Facilities or Programs More Often



SATISFACTION

Lastly, meeting attendees were asked to consider all the things discussed during the previous polling questions. They were asked to rate their satisfaction with the overall value they receive from the City of Bristol BPRYCS. Meeting attendees indicated a high level of satisfaction (80%) when combining Somewhat Satisfied (30%) and Very Satisfied (50%). Only 2% indicated being dissatisfied and the remaining 18% were either neutral in their opinion or did not offer an opinion.



PARTICIPANT Q&A

To increase meeting interactivity, the Consultant Team organized a Chat Pod and Q&A function. This process allowed meeting attendees to directly converse with the Consultant Team and staff leadership. As a result, 18 questions and/or comments were received. The following questions and corresponding answers were provided:

I am curious about the process for selecting a location for the Little League Softball Complex. Are you able to share some insight as to what goes into that process (key dates, drivers, deterrents, etc.)?

The project team is currently developing a site analysis for the parks in the City. Part of this will be to understand what parks (if any) have opportunities to either modify existing fields or have space available to build new fields. Softball is a field many residents have said is lacking in the City.

Have you worked with other departments that include youth services in their parks department? Will that connection point have an impact on the end result of the plan?

The project team has! This connection point is what they will keep in mind as they develop the vision and the recommendations for this plan.

When is the last time a master plan was developed for the city's parks?

This is actually the first time the department has ever had a system wide master plan. We have had a number of site-specific master plans but not a community driven department plan.

As a senior citizen and an avid pickleball player (#1 growing sport in America if not the world!), I am interested in learning how this sport will be made available to all ages. As of now, there are no designated courts for pickleball. How will the city incorporate this into the master plan?

Based on the project team's observations with trends nationwide, Pickleball has certainly been one of the fastest growing sports in the last 5 years nationwide. They will certainly be making recommendations to the City incorporating this trends data, the community input you all share, and also benchmarks from other agencies that have developed Pickleball courts in their communities.

Can the BLVD be kept closed as it is now and developed into a park? It is being used in a wonderful way. It is serving a purpose that I feel the other parks don't offer.

This has been something our department has considered in the past but the idea posed potential issues with traffic in and out of the city. Based on the findings of the master plan this may be considered and discussed with the Police Traffic Division and Parks Board.

Has there been any discussion of summer programs?

At this time Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services will be offering Summer Camp starting June 29, 2020 under the protocols and procedures outlined by the Office of Early Childhood. All other programs are being reviewed in consultation with state guidelines for re-opening.

Has there been any discussion about continuing the teen program that was started in the fall?

Our popular Teen Night Social will return as soon as it is safe to do so. Our team is already planning future activities for when the program is safely able to return.

Is this basically a plan for the future or is there anything that will or can be accomplished right away? For example, we have a number of tennis courts in the city that are cracked and basically unusable. Can anything get done by the City of Bristol to fix these courts so we can use them to play Pickleball and not leave to use courts outside of the City?

The project team will be identifying the conditions of each park and will be providing recommendations for renovations along with order of magnitude costs to perform these renovations. Pickleball is growing across the entire country and we will be looking to see what facilities could support pickleball as well. Additionally, staff is waiting to address the cracks as well as other needs for just a little while more to get the full community input and analysis from this Master Plan. This will help determine all the needs holistically and determine what will be converted to Pickleball, basketball etc. and they will be in implementation mode as soon as July 2021.

Will you recommend developing the Roberts property?

Roberts is being looked at to understand the opportunities and constraints, but the project team is not providing design for that property at this time.

If we have specific ideas for the development of a particular park, what is the best way of communicating this to you?

The best way to communicate with the project team is to visit www.bristolparksplan2020.com and send us a comment!

Thoughts on making Memorial Boulevard Park road closure permanent?

This has been something our department has considered in the past but the idea posed potential issues with traffic in and out of the city. Based on the findings of the master plan this may be considered and discussed with the Police Traffic Division and Parks Board.

Will the handicap program happen?

We are hoping to be able to offer the Special Needs Social program this summer. Again, it hinges on guidance from the state as to whether or not it can be operated safely.

How many children do you feel you will be able to accommodate for each age group for summer camp?

As of 5/18/2020 we are following the OEC guidelines of 10 children per group with 2 staff members.

Will you be able to expand more 4-season uses and programs (referring to winter programs and such)?

We are always looking at expanding and modifying seasonal programs to meet the community's interest. If anyone has specific program ideas or would like to instruct a program, they can complete an instructor application at www.bristolrec.com.

When you say accommodate delayed programs, does that mean current permit dates would be extended?

As the state allows us to resume normal or modified levels of activity in the parks, we will be reaching out to all user groups to see how we can best extend the seasons and allow kids to play.

Will the master plan address adjacent park assets like neighborhoods, businesses etc. to augment park usage?

Absolutely! As part of the overall Master Plan process, a level of service (LOS) analysis will be conducted. This analysis will take into account existing City of Bristol parks and recreation inventories along with similar providers such as neighborhoods (HOAs) and other prominent providers of parks and recreation facilities and park land.

Will there be a waiver or accommodation for individuals with special needs who require one to one supervision during activities that may not be consistent with the strict requirements of social distancing?

We are expecting more guidance on this out of the OEC office in the coming days. Our department remains committed to serving all Bristol residents and ensuring the program is as equitable and inclusive as possible.

Is it possible to place signs throughout the parks that describe wildlife, flora, fauna and trees visible?

This is a great idea and we will explore doing this in the future. We have put up similar signs near our new rain garden at Page Park.

CROWDSOURCING WEBSITE

A standalone project website was created to help facilitate consistent communication with City of Bristol residents. Residents (and non-residents) can navigate to www.bristolparksplan2020.com to send feedback and provide input directly to the Consultant Team. To date, community input received relates to:

- Addition of more exercise stations at Rockwell Park
- Addition of signage indicating the mileage a participant has walked/ran along the fitness circuit at Rockwell Park
- A desire to see more tennis courts resurfaced/redone to help promote Bristol as a tournament destination

3.3 NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

STATISTICALLY-VALID COMMUNITY SURVEY

OVERVIEW

ETC Institute administered a parks and recreation needs assessment in the Summer of 2020 for the City of Bristol. This assessment was administered as part of the City's efforts to develop area parks, facilities, and programs. Information compiled from the assessment will provide key data to set a clear vision for the future. This survey will determine priorities for parks, recreation facilities, program offerings, and special event offerings in the City.

METHODOLOGY

ETC Institute mailed a survey packet to a random sample of households in Bristol, CT. Each survey packet contained a cover letter, a copy of the survey, and a postage-paid return envelope. Residents who received the survey were given the option of returning the survey by mail or completing it online at www.BristolSurvey.org.

Ten days after the surveys were mailed, ETC Institute sent emails to the households that received the survey to encourage participation. The emails contained a link to the online version of the survey to make it easy for residents to complete the survey. To prevent people who were not residents of the City from participating, everyone who completed the survey online was required to enter their home address prior to submitting the survey. ETC Institute then matched the addresses that were entered online with the addresses that were originally selected for the random sample. If the address from a survey completed online did not match one of the addresses selected for the sample, the online survey was not counted.

The goal was to obtain completed surveys from at least 385 residents. The goal was accomplished with a total of 410 residents completing the survey. The overall results for the sample of 410 households have a precision of at least +/-4.8% at the 95% level of confidence.

The major findings of the survey are summarized in the following sections.

BRISTOL PARKS, RECREATION, YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

RESIDENT SATISFACTION

Over half (51%) of residents are either very satisfied (14%) or satisfied (37%) with the overall value they receive from the Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services (BPRYCS) Department.

PUBLIC FAMILIARITY

Thirty-six percent (36%) of responding households indicated they are either extremely familiar (9%) or moderately familiar (27%) with what the BPRYCS Department provides to the community. Twenty-eight percent (28%) are somewhat familiar and 36% respondents are either slightly familiar (20%) or not at all familiar (16%) with what services BPRYCS provides the community.

DEPARTMENT VALUE

Respondents were asked their opinion on how valuable of a contributor BPRYCS is in addressing community issues. The community issues that were rated the highest, based on the sum values of "very valuable contributor" and "somewhat valuable contributor" responses among residents who had an opinion, were: making living in Bristol fun (72%), preserving and protecting the natural environment (71%), and enhancing community connection to each other (71%).

SATISFACTION WITH DEPARTMENT

The highest levels of satisfaction with services provided by BPRYCS, based on the sum of "very satisfied" and "somewhat satisfied" responses among residents who had an opinion, were: amount of open greenspace (64%), ease of registering for programs (59%), maintenance of parks/facilities (58%), and user friendliness of website (55%).

The services that residents think should receive the most attention from BPRYCS over the next two years, based on the sum of respondents' top three choices, were: maintenance of parks/facilities (39%), availability of information about programs and facilities (30%), and connectivity of trails and pathways (28%).

BRISTOL PARKS AND FACILITIES

USE

The City parks/facilities that were used most, by responding households, during the past 12 months before the COVID-19 Pandemic were: Rockwell Park (58%), Page Park (50%), and Memorial Boulevard (47%). The parks/facilities that were used most during the past year, based on the sum of respondents' top three choices, were: Rockwell Park (46%), Page Park (40%), and Memorial Boulevard (28%).

RATINGS

Respondents that had used City parks/facilities during the past 12 months (before the COVID-19 Pandemic) were asked to rate the condition of each respective park/facility used. The parks/facilities with the highest rating, based on the sum of "excellent" and "good" responses among residents, were: Quinlan Park (100%), Dennis N. Malone Aquatic Center (95%), and Muzzy Field (92%).

FACILITY NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

FACILITY NEEDS

Respondents were asked to identify if their household had a need for 28 facilities and rate how well their needs for each were currently being met. Based on this analysis, ETC Institute was able to estimate the number of households in the community that had the greatest "unmet" need for various facilities. The four facilities with the highest percentage of households that have an unmet need were:

1. Biking trails – 6,361 households (or 24%),
2. Adventure facility – 5,537 households (or 21%),
3. Walking trails – 4,120 households (or 16%), and
4. Community gardens – 3,694 households (or 14%).

The estimated number of households that have unmet needs for each of the 28 facilities that were assessed is shown in **Figure 1**.

Estimated Number of Household Whose Needs for Facilities are Mostly Unmet or Fully Unmet
by number of households based on an estimated 26,465 household in Bristol, CT

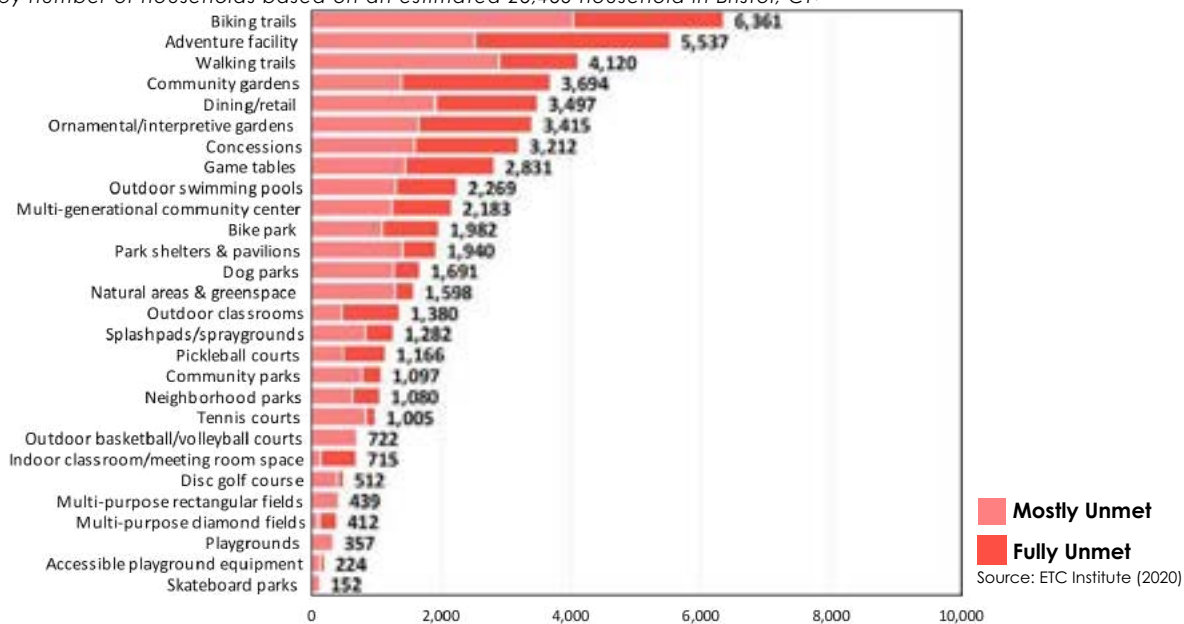


Figure 1: Estimated Number of Household Whose Needs for Facilities are Mostly Unmet or Fully Unmet

FACILITY IMPORTANCE

In addition to assessing the needs for each facility, ETC Institute also assessed the importance that residents placed on each facility. Based on the sum of respondents' top four choices, the four most important facilities to residents were:

1. Walking trails (47%),
2. Biking trails (27%),
3. Natural areas and green space (20%), and
4. Dining/retail (20%).

The percentage of residents who selected each facility as one of their top four choices is shown in **Figure 2**.

Facilities Most Important to Households

by percentage of respondents who selected the items as one of their top four choices

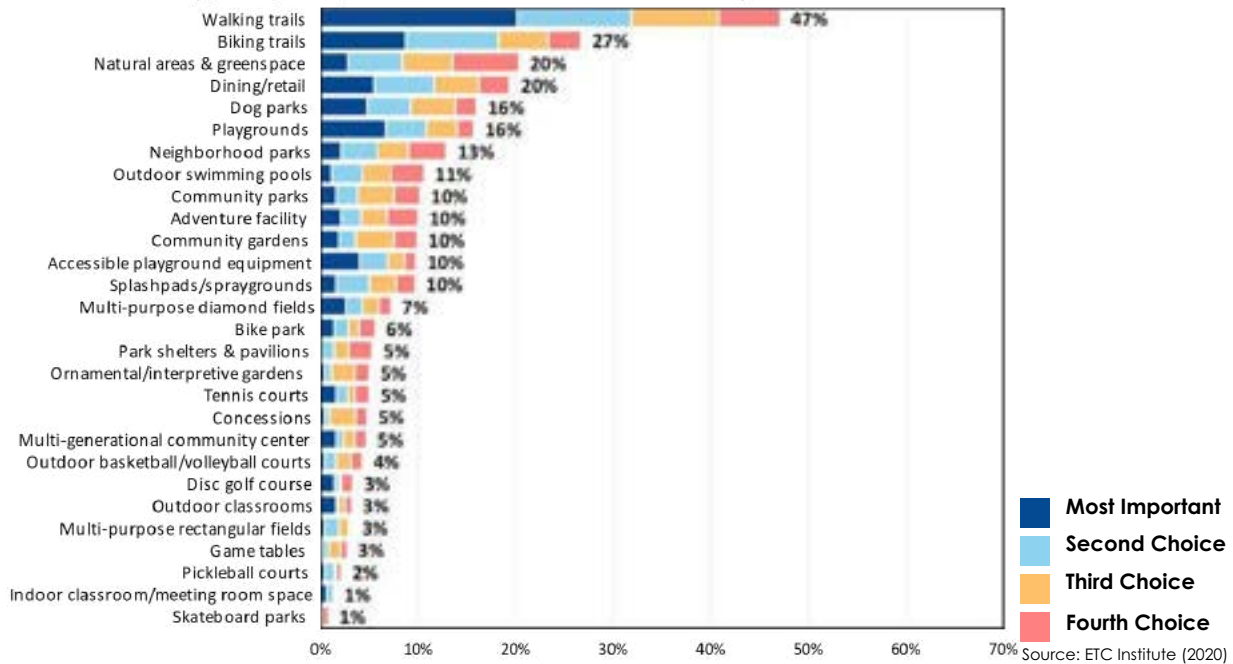


Figure 2: Facilities Most Important to Households

PRIORITIES FOR FACILITY INVESTMENTS

The **Priority Investment Rating (PIR)** was developed by ETC Institute to provide organizations with an objective tool for evaluating the priority that should be placed on Parks and Recreation investments. The Priority Investment Rating (PIR) equally weighs (1) the importance that residents place on amenity/program and (2) how many residents have unmet needs for the facility/program.

Based the Priority Investment Rating (PIR), the following three facilities were rated as high priorities for investment:

1. Walking trails (PIR=165)
2. Biking trails (PIR=157)
3. Adventure facility (PIR=108)

Figure 3 shows the Priority Investment Rating for each of the 28 facilities that were rated.

Top Priorities for Investment for Facilities Based on the Priority Investment Rating

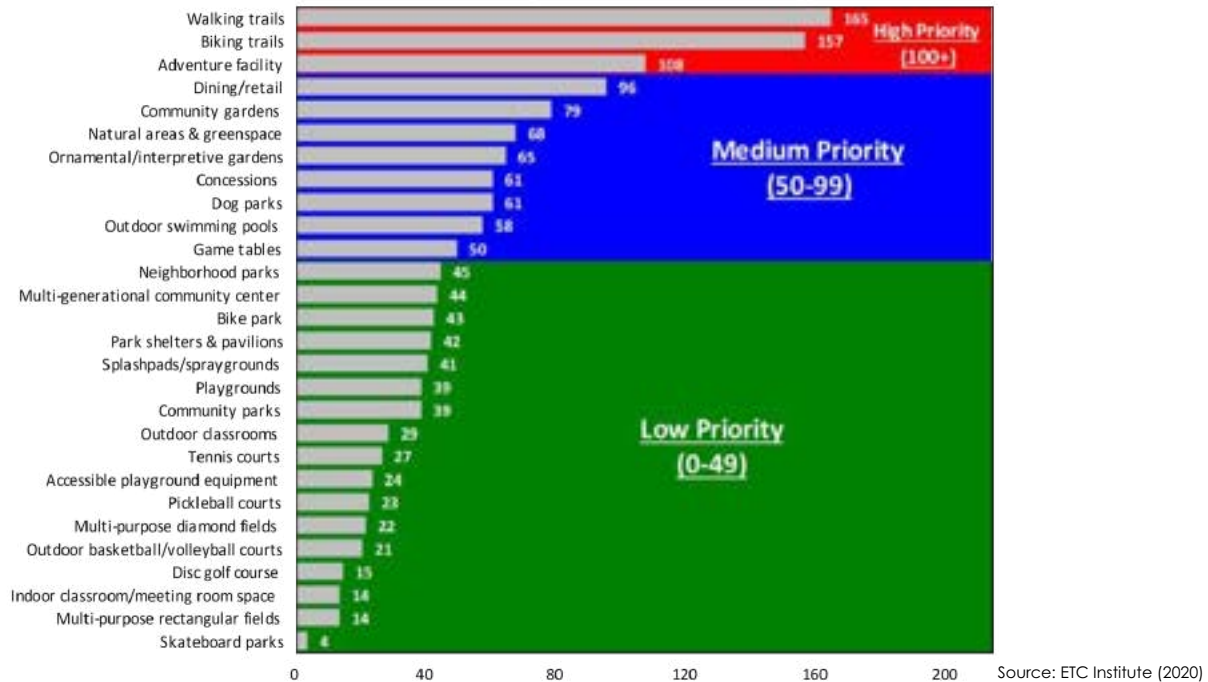


Figure 3: Top Priorities for Investment for Facilities Based on the Priority Investment Rating

CITY RECREATION OR YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAMS

PARTICIPATION

Twenty-eight percent (28%) of responding households indicated they participated in recreation or youth and community services programs offered by BPRYCS during the past 12 months (before the COVID-19 Pandemic). Of the respondents that have participated in programs (28%),

1. 43% participated in 1 program
2. 46% participated in 2 to 3 programs,
3. 10% participated in 4 to 6 programs, and
4. 1% participated in 7 or more programs.

RATINGS

Of the respondents that used BPRYCS programs (28%) and who had an opinion of the quality of programs participated in;

- 40% rated the programs as excellent,
- 54% rated the programs as good, and
- 6% rated the programs as fair.

PROGRAM NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

PROGRAM NEEDS

Respondents were also asked to identify if their household had a need for 27 programs and rate how well their needs for each program were currently being met. Based on this analysis, ETC Institute was able to estimate the number of households in the community that had “unmet” needs for each program.

The four recreation programs with the highest percentage of households that have an unmet need were:

1. Culinary arts – 4,844 households (or 18%),
2. Adult fitness and wellness programs – 4,834 households (or 18%),
3. Cultural enrichment and arts programs – 3,587 households (or 14%), and
4. Outdoor skills/adventure programs – 3,512 households (13%).

The estimated number of households that have unmet needs for each of the 27 programs that were assessed is shown in **Figure 4**.

Estimated Number of Household Whose Needs for Programs are Mostly Unmet or Fully Unmet
by number of households based on an estimated 26,465 household in Bristol, CT

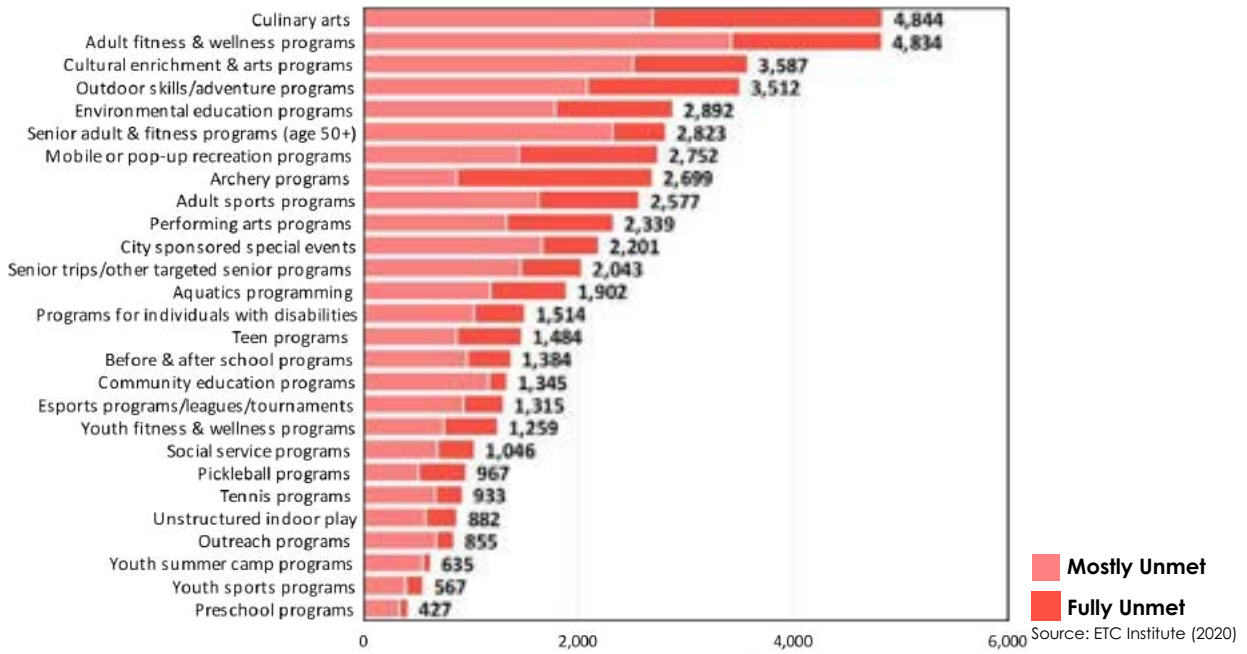


Figure 4: Estimated Number of Household Whose Needs for Programs are Mostly Unmet or Fully Unmet

PROGRAM IMPORTANCE

In addition to assessing the needs for each program, ETC Institute also assessed the importance that residents placed on each program. Based on the sum of respondents' top four choices, the four most important programs to residents were:

1. Adult fitness and wellness programs (27%),
2. City sponsored special events (21%),
3. Aquatics programming (18%), and
4. Senior adult and fitness programs (14%).

The percentage of residents who selected each program as one of their top four choices is shown in **Figure 5**.

Programs Most Important to Households

by percentage of respondents who selected the items as one of their top four choices

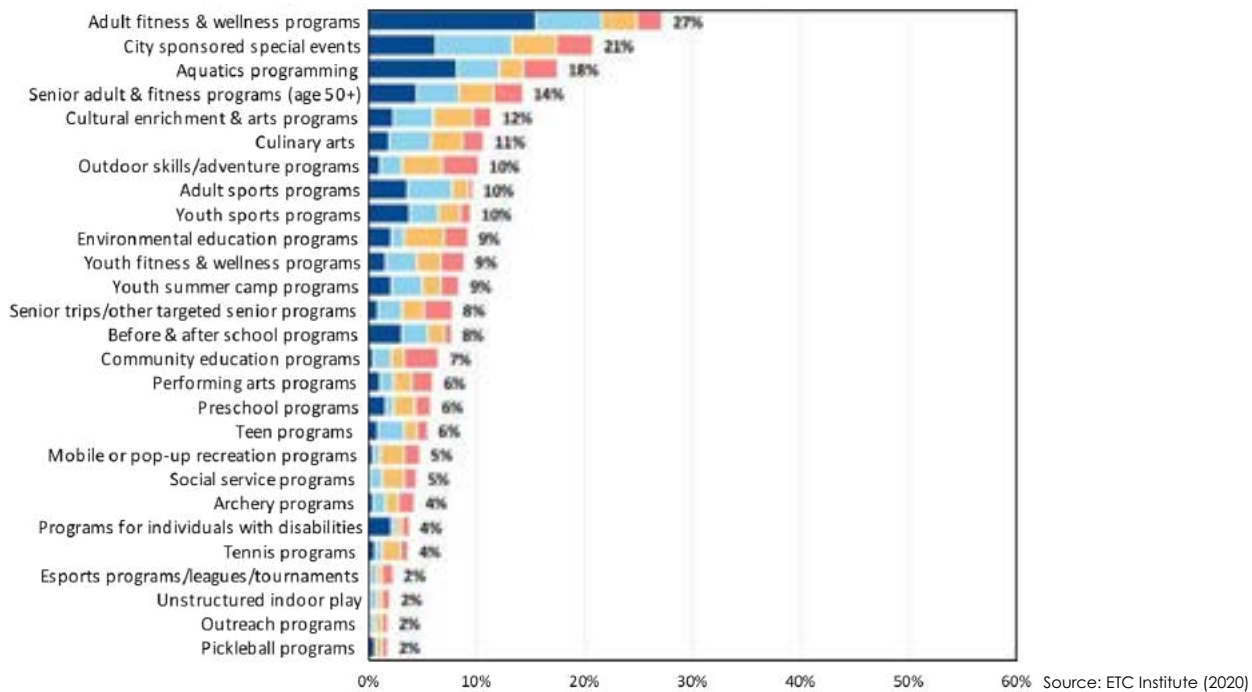


Figure 5: Programs Most Important to Households

PRIORITIES FOR PROGRAM INVESTMENTS

Based on the priority investment rating (PIR), the following seven programs were rated as “high priorities” for investment:

1. Adult fitness and wellness programs (PIR=200)
2. Culinary arts (PIR=140)
3. City sponsored special events (PIR=122)
4. Cultural enrichment and arts programs (PIR=116)
5. Senior adult and fitness programs (PIR=111)
6. Outdoor skills/adventure programs (PIR=110)
7. Aquatics programming (PIR=104)

Figure 6 shows the Priority Investment Rating for each of the 27 programs that were rated.

Top Priorities for Investment for Programs Based on the Priority Investment Rating

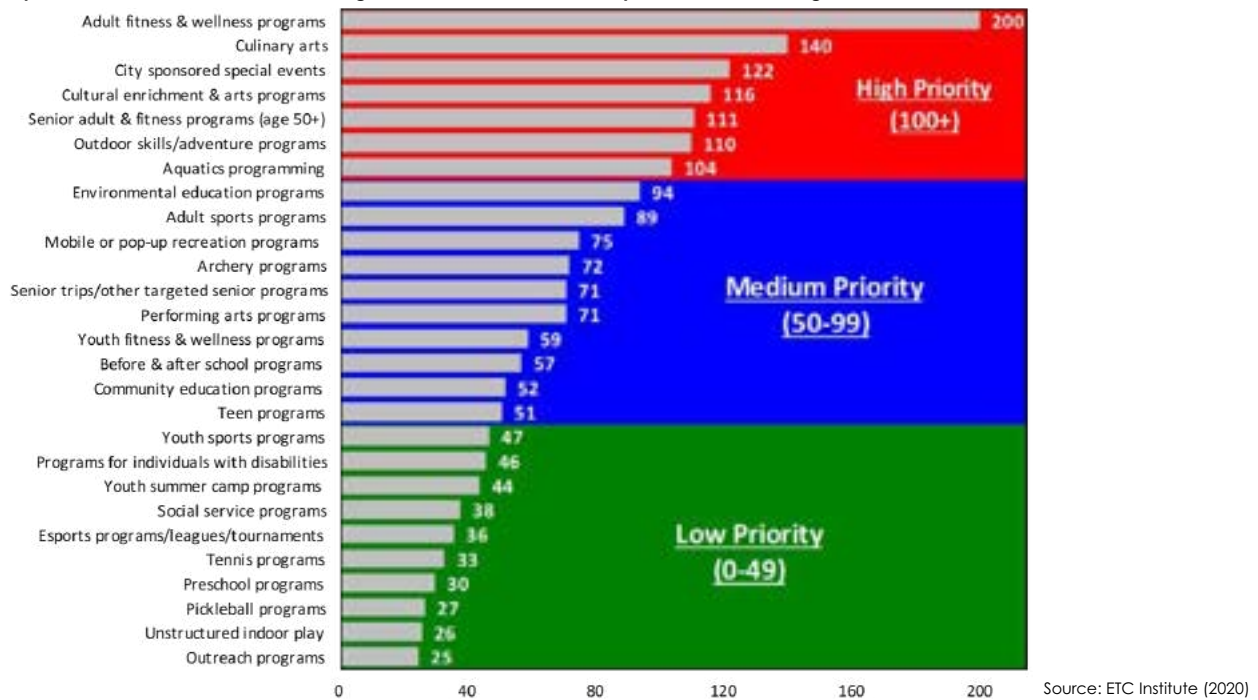


Figure 6: Top Priorities for Investment for Programs Based on the Priority Investment Rating

POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS

TAXES VERSUS USER FEES

Programs that residents perceived should be supported more by taxes than user fees were: senior programs (52%), social service programs (50%), community special events/festivals (42%), and preschool programs (42%).

PAGE PARK

The highest levels of support for potential options for Page Park, based on the sum of “very supportive” and “somewhat supportive” responses, among residents who had an opinion, were: renovate/update the existing amenities and facilities (76%), enhance walkability within the park (74%), and enhance parking availability on site (68%).

ROBERTS PROPERTY

The item with the highest level of support, based on the sum of “very supportive” and “somewhat supportive” responses among residents who had an opinion, was to maintain property as a passive park with enhanced open space, pathways, and trails (58%).

IMPROVEMENTS

Respondents were asked how they would prioritize spending \$100 on potential Parks and Recreation improvements in the City. Responding households indicated they would spend,

1. \$28 on the improvement/maintenance of existing parks and recreation facilities,
2. \$24 to acquire and develop pathways and greenways,
3. \$18 to develop new facilities,
4. \$16 to acquire new parkland and open space, and
5. \$14 to construct new sports field and courts.

ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

ORGANIZATIONS USED

Organizations that households have used most for indoor and outdoor recreation during the last 12 months (before the COVID-19 Pandemic) were: public schools (28%), neighboring cities (26%), and places of worship (26%).

METHOD OF COMMUNICATION

Responding households were asked what method(s) they used to learn about BPRYCS programs, activities, and facilities.

1. 49% use the Department website,
2. 48% learn from friends and neighbors,
3. 42% learn from temporary signs/banners at parks or around the City, and
4. 38% learn from the newspaper.

The methods of communication that are most preferred, based on the sum of respondents' top three choices, were: the Department website (42%), e-mails (39%), Facebook (35%), and temporary signs/ banners at parks or around the City (31%).

BARRIERS OF USE

Responding households were given a list of twenty-four (24) potential barriers that would prevent the use of City parks, facilities, and programs. The three most popular responses were: I do not know what is being offered (36%), we are too busy (26%), and lack of restrooms (18%).

PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS

Residents indicated the items that make a **public park** the most welcoming were: facility/park cleanliness (81%), shade from trees (65%), mowed grass (64%), and lighting (62%). Residents indicated the items that make a **public program** the most welcoming were: not overcrowded (57%), close to home (55%), quality of instruction (49%), and familiar staff presence (43%).

Over half (65%) of respondents indicated they strongly agree (29%) or somewhat agree (35%) that they feel welcomed, respected, and safe in the City.

CONCLUSIONS

To ensure that the City continues to meet the needs and expectations of the community, ETC Institute recommends that the Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services Department sustain and/or improve the performance in areas that were identified as "high priorities" by the Priority Investment Rating (PIR). The facilities and programs with the highest PIR ratings are listed below.

FACILITY PRIORITIES

1. Walking trails (PIR=165)
2. Biking trails (PIR=157)
3. Adventure facility (PIR=108)

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

1. Adult fitness and wellness programs (PIR=200)
2. Culinary arts (PIR=140)
3. City sponsored special events (PIR=122)
4. Cultural enrichment and arts programs (PIR=116)
5. Senior adult and fitness programs (PIR=111)
6. Outdoor skills/adventure programs (PIR=110)
7. Aquatics programming (PIR=104)

3.4 COMPARISON OF THE STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY AND ELECTRONIC SURVEY RESULTS

METHODOLOGY

A statistically-valid community survey was distributed to a random sample of the City of Bristol "(BPRYCS)" residents. The survey was administered in the summer of 2020 and served the purpose to solicit feedback on a variety of parks and recreation-related topics.

An online survey (powered by SurveyMonkey) was deployed to gain a better understanding of the characteristics, preferences, and satisfaction levels of the BPRYCS users. The survey was available from September 10 through October 1, 2020 and received a total of 196 responses.

The online survey emulated the statistically-valid survey questions distributed by ETC. This allowed other residents another opportunity to provide input even if they did not receive the statistically-valid survey.

An important distinction is made between the general online community survey and the statistically-valid survey completed (besides the statistical validity of the results); that is, 410 households completed the ETC Survey having a precision of at least +/- 4.8% at the 95% level of confidence.



Overall, the findings from the online community survey have similarities to the statistically-valid survey results.

COMPARISON

The following sections present a side-by-side comparison of survey results. **All areas of congruence (in terms of order or response percentage range) are shaded green in each table.**



MARKETING

Respondents were asked to identify their preferred method(s) to learn about the system. The top three responses were the same, but in different order: department website, emails, and Facebook.

 STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY	 ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY
1. Department website (42%)	1. Email (60%)
2. Emails (39%)	2. Department website (57%)
3. Facebook (35%)	3. Facebook (47%)
4. Temporary signs/banners (31%)	4. Program brochure (38%)



VALUABLE CONTRIBUTORS

When combining very valuable and somewhat valuable contributors to community issues, four of the top five were the same on both surveys.

 STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY	 ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY
Making living in Bristol fun (72%)	Enhancing community connection (77%)
Preserving & protecting the natural environment (71%)	Making living in Bristol fun (74%)
Enhancing community connections (71%)	Enhancing healthy aging (70%)
Enhancing healthy aging (69%)	Preserving and protecting the natural environment (68%)
Enhancing community health by combating... (67%)	Enhancing community health by combating... (67%)



PARKS & FACILITIES USED

In terms of parks and facilities used, respondents use the same top four parks, but in a slightly different order.

 STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY	 ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY
Rockwell Park (58%)	Page Park (75%)
Page Park (50%)	Rockwell Park (70%)
Memorial Boulevard (47%)	Memorial Boulevard (50%)
Muzzy Field (27%)	Muzzy Field (35%)
Federal Hill Green (22%)	Dennis N Malone Aquatic Center (35%)



BARRIERS

Three of the top five barriers were the same for both surveys.

 STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY	 ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY
I don't know what is being offered (36%)	I don't know what is being offered (33%)
We are too busy (26%)	Lack of restrooms (28%)
Lack of restrooms (18%)	Program times and not convenient (25%)
Do not feel safe or socially welcome (16%)	Security is insufficient (24%)
Facilities are not well maintained (15%)	Facilities are not well maintained (21%)



FACILITY & AMENITY NEEDS

In terms of facility and amenity needs, respondents want the same four of the top five options.

 STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY	 ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY
Walking trails (67%)	Walking trails (75%)
Natural areas & greenspace (46%)	Biking trails (53%)
Biking trails (44%)	Natural areas and greenspace (51%)
Dining/retail (38%)	Adventure Facility (43%)
Neighborhood parks (37%)	Neighborhood parks (41%)



FACILITY & AMENITY IMPORTANCE

In terms of facility and amenity importance, respondents show an agreement for four of the top five.

 STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY	 ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY
Walking trails (47%)	Walking trails (54%)
Biking trails (27%)	Playgrounds (24%)
Natural areas and greenspace (20%)	Biking trails (23%)
Dining/retail (20%)	Natural areas and greenspace (20%)
Dog parks (16%)	Dog parks (16%)



RECREATION OR YOUTH SERVICES PARTICIPATION

Respondents were asked to identify their household's participation in recreation programs in the past year (before the COVID-19 Pandemic). Understandably, the online survey resulted in more users; however, the number of programs taken were very similar.

 STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY	 ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY
Yes (28%)	Yes (54%)
No (72%)	No (46%)
FREQUENCY /12 MONTHS	
2 to 3 programs (46%)	2 to 3 programs (47%)
1 program (43%)	1 program (40%)
4 to 6 programs (10%)	4 to 6 programs (6%)
7 to 10 programs (1%)	7 to 10 programs (7%)



PROGRAMS NEEDS

Four of the top five programs needs were the same for both surveys: adult fitness and wellness, aquatics, City sponsored special events, and senior adult & fitness programs.

 STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY	 ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY
Adult fitness and wellness programs (47%)	Adult fitness and wellness programs (51%)
City sponsored special events (38%)	Aquatic Programming (42%)
Aquatic Programming (30%)	City sponsored special events (31%)
Senior adult and fitness programs (25%)	Youth sports programs (29%)
Cultural enrichment & arts programs (25%)	Senior adult and fitness programs (29%)



PROGRAM IMPORTANCE

Four of the top five most important programs were the same for both surveys: adult fitness and wellness, aquatic, senior adult & fitness, and City sponsored special events.

 STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY	 ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY
Adult fitness and wellness programs (27%)	Adult fitness and wellness programs (40%)
City sponsored special events (21%)	Aquatic programming (30%)
Aquatic programming (18%)	Senior adult and fitness programs (29%)
Senior adult and fitness programs (14%)	City sponsored special events (26%)
Cultural enrichment & arts programs (12%)	Youth sport programs (19%)



PROGRAM QUALITY

Participants similarly rated program quality between the surveys.

 STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY	 ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY
Excellent (40%)	Excellent (40%)
Good (54%)	Good (55%)
Fair (6%)	Fair (5%)
Poor (0%)	Poor (1%)



WELCOMING PARKS & PROGRAMS

Respondents from both surveys mostly agree with the ways to make parks and programs more welcoming. However, the statistically-valid survey respondents (which consists of more non-users of the system) indicate a stronger prevalence of not feeling welcomed, respected, or safe within the park system.

WELCOMING PARK	
 STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY	 ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY
Facility or Park Cleanliness (81%)	Facility or Park Cleanliness (88%)
Shade from trees (65%)	Lighting (65%)
Mowed grass (64%)	Shade from trees (63%)
Lighting (62%)	Mowed grass (59%)
Close to home (56%)	Presence of police/Security (51%)
WELCOMING PROGRAMS	
Not overcrowded (57%)	Quality of Instruction (68%)
Close to home (55%)	Not overcrowded (54%)
Quality of instruction (49%)	Friends participate in the program (48%)
Familiar staff presence (43%)	Close to home (48%)
Friends participate in the programs (34%)	Familiar staff presence (43%)
FEELING WELCOME, RESPECTED, AND SAFE	
Somewhat & Strongly Agree (64%)	Somewhat & Strongly Agree (83%)
Somewhat & Strongly Disagree (12%)	Somewhat & Strongly Disagree (3%)



SERVICES THAT NEED THE MOST ATTENTION

Respondents agree on all top five services that need the most attention.

 STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY	 ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY
Maintenance of parks/facilities (39%)	Maintenance of parks/facilities (61%)
Availability of information (30%)	Connectivity of trails & pathways (34%)
Connectivity of trails and pathways (28%)	Availability of information (34%)
Park & facility rule awareness & enforcement (19%)	Park/Facility rule awareness and enforcement (29%)
Quality & number of outdoor amenities (12%)	Quality/number of outdoor amenities (23%)



PAGE PARK SUPPORT

When combining very supportive and somewhat supportive, respondents' indicate similarities for four of the top five potential options for Page Park.

 STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY	 ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY
Renovate/update the existing amenities & facilities (76%)	Enhance walkability within the park (84%)
Enhance walkability within the park (74%)	Renovate/update the existing amenities and facilities (82%)
Enhance parking availability on site (68%)	Enhance parking availability on site (77%)
Activate the park via additional amenities & facilities (67%)	Activate park via additional amenities and facilities (75%)
Activate the park via additional programming (63%)	Activate park via special event and facility rentals (73%)



ROBERTS PROPERTY SUPPORT

When combining very supportive and somewhat supportive, greater than 37% support all actions listed in both surveys. The greatest support is for maintaining the property as a passive park with enhanced open space, pathways, and trails.

 STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY	 ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY
Maintain the property as a passive park with enhanced open space, pathways, and trails (58%)	Maintain the property as a passive park with enhanced open space, pathways, and trails (63%)
Maintain the property as it currently exists (40%)	Maintain the property as it currently exists (48%)
Maintain the property as an active park with programming, new amenities, and new facilities (37%)	Maintain the property as an active park with programming, new amenities, and new facilities (41%)



ALLOCATION OF FUNDS (\$100)

Survey respondents have varying opinions about where to prioritize funding when allocating \$100 across different projects. The number one option was selected in both surveys: improve/maintain existing parks and recreation facilities. Prioritization for the remaining four categories varied between the two surveys.

 STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY	 ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY
Improve/maintain existing parks and recreation facilities (\$28.00)	Improve/maintain existing parks and recreation facilities (\$42.90)
Acquire and develop pathways and greenways (\$24.00)	Develop new facilities (\$31.45)
Development of new facilities (\$18.00)	Acquire and develop pathways and greenways (\$31.44)
Acquire new parkland and open space (\$16.00)	Construct new sports fields and courts (\$28.45)
Construct new sports fields and courts (\$14.00)	Acquire new parkland and open space (\$18.93)

OVERALL SATISFACTION

Respondents indicated a similar satisfaction rating for the value their household receives from BPRYCS. When combining "Very Satisfied" and "Satisfied," online survey respondents and statistically-valid respondents were at least 50% satisfied.

	 STATISTICALLY-VALID SURVEY	 ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY
Very Satisfied	14%	24%
Satisfied	37%	39%
Neutral	39%	30%
Dissatisfied	8%	5%
Very Dissatisfied	2%	2%

IMPLICATIONS

After analyzing the data collected from the public engagement process, there are several noticeable public priorities:

- Marketing could be enhanced to support current users and enhance future users.
- Facilities, amenities, and park maintenance should focus on increasing trails system, adding additional bathrooms, and maintaining current park properties.
- Programs should increase opportunities for adults and seniors, especially in the area of fitness and wellness.
- Overall, the system should focus on making all programs, parks, and facilities more welcomed and safer.



Image 1: City of Bristol 's Master Plan Crowdsourcing Website

CROWDSOURCING WEBSITE

The Consultant Team created a standalone project website at the beginning of the Master Plan creation process. The “crowdsourcing” website allowed for consistent and transparent communication between the Consultant Team and City of Bristol residents. The site (bristolparksplan2020.com) contained the following elements:

- Department background
- Frequently asked questions (FAQs)
- Technical reports from the Consultant Team
- Announcement of key events along the way
- An ability to contact the Consultant Team directly
- An opportunity to take part in the online community survey
- A comment feature that allowed residents to submit comments, concerns, needs, wishes, and questions directly to the Consultant Team to be analyzed as part of the public engagement data

3.5 SECOND PUBLIC MEETING

A second community meeting was held the evening of Wednesday, October 28, 2020 via Zoom. The Consultant Team presented an overview of the Master Plan process, overview of in-depth site analysis, results of the needs assessment, preliminary capital improvements and preliminary master plan of Page Park. There were approximately 26 people that attended the online meeting and provided input.

Prior to this public meeting, the public engagement and needs assessment findings were presented to the Youth Commission and the in-depth site analyses and preliminary capital improvements plan (CIP) was presented to the Board of Park Commissioners. Refer to **Chapter 4** for In-Depth Site Analysis and Level of Service and **Chapter 6** for Capital Improvements Plan.



Image 2: Introductory Slide from the Second Public Meeting

PUBLIC MEETING Q&A

Are you aware there was a committee that looked at field study when we discussed turf fields?

The Master Plan firms have been provided with the plans. Previous studies were provided as part of our data download at the beginning of the project. As this master plan continues to evolve, we will take a fresh look at the Use Analysis to make sure it aligns with our recommendations for improvements and maintenance practices.

Page Park needs upgraded and better signage. Current signs need to be replaced as they have seen better days.

Improvements to signage, wayfinding and park gateways are being explored as part of the conceptual plan for Page Park.

When is the next meeting?

We do not have anything scheduled at this time. But, it will be a Board of Park Commissioners meeting most likely.

Live Answered Questions

The following questions were asked during the presentation and were answered live.

- Can you speak to recommendations for the ongoing maintenance of our park assets?
- Under capital improvement - critical items... How does security play into your plans?
- It looked like there was a new parking lot proposed near Woodland Street. How large is that parking lot?
- I heard Robert's Property mentioned earlier and a picture was just flashed of the property. Has there been any conversations regarding that property as it pertains to the long term plan?
- Is there a plan to coordinate fields with the local schools? There seems to be a disconnect between the two City departments.
- I've heard that there will be dedicated pickleball courts. Where would the courts be located?
- Any chance of building bike trails that can possibly connect to bike trails in adjoining towns?
- Is there a plan for some sort of community space?
- How does the number of parking spaces proposed compare to actual spaces that exist now? And will there be consideration of spaces for vans that transport children in wheelchairs?
- Any plans of adding additional disc golf courses in town? Maybe become an even more of a destination spot for disc golf?

4 NEEDS PRIORITIZATION



4.1 PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

INTRODUCTION

As part of the Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services Master Plan development process, the planning team completed a Program Assessment of the services offered by the City of Bristol ("BPRYCS"). The assessment provides an in-depth perspective of program and service offerings and helps identify strengths, challenges, and opportunities regarding programming. It also assists in identifying core programs, program gaps within the community, key system-wide issues, areas of improvement, and future programs and services for residents and visitors.

FRAMEWORK

The City provides a broad range of recreation and leisure programming for all ages including special events, day camps, preschool programs, youth programs, teen programs, adult programs, adventure education, aquatic programs, and youth development programs. Programming is supported by a park system that includes pocket, neighborhood, community, and special use parks.

CORE PROGRAM AREAS

To help achieve the Department's mission, it is important to identify core program areas based on current and future needs to create a sense of focus around specific program areas of greatest importance to the community. The philosophy of the core program is to assist staff, policy makers, and the public to focus on what is most important. Program areas are considered as "core" if they meet a majority of the following categories:

- The program area has been provided for a long period of time (over 4-5 years) and/or is expected by the community.
- The program area consumes a relatively large portion (5% or more) of the agency's overall budget.
- The program area is offered 3-4 seasons per year.
- The program area has wide demographic appeal.
- There is a tiered level of skill development available within the program area's offerings.
- There is full-time staff responsible for the program area.
- There are facilities designed specifically to support the program area.
- The agency controls a significant percentage (20% or more) of the local market.

EXISTING CORE PROGRAM AREAS

In consultation with the Department staff, the planning team identified the following Core Program Areas currently being offered:

Special Events

Special events are seasonal and themed events designed to build community and engage residents in parks. The goal is for events to bring all age segments of the population together to build a sense of community amongst the residents while increasing park usage and reducing vandalism in the parks.

Day Camps

Day camps are a safe, affordable childcare option for residents that allow Bristol's youth to engage in fun and informative activities. A few program goals include providing subsidized opportunities to families at low to no cost for Bristol residents, achieving full cost recovery for advanced skill or specialized camps, providing residents with extended care options, and maintaining students' education levels through the educational curriculum. This core program area is also transitioning into a benefits-based program model.

CORE PROGRAM AREAS
Special Events
Day Camps
Preschool Programs
Youth Programs
Teen Programs
Adult Programs
Adventure Education
Aquatic Programs
Youth Development Programs

Figure 1 : Core Program Areas

Preschool Programs

Preschool programs are coordination and skill-building programs, as well as bonding and social development opportunities to encourage healthy, age-appropriate development. The goal is to achieve full cost recovery, encourage participants to develop new skills, and improve their performance at a given task while helping each participant gain a deeper understanding of and application for their skills and abilities.

Youth Programs

Youth programs are skill-building activities designed to encourage and develop youth fitness and creative pursuits to promote lifelong recreation interests. The goal is to provide a diverse range of youth programming in which participants develop proficiency in an established skill set.

Teen Programs

Teen programs are skill refining activities that focus on providing teens with access to affordable recreation at intermediate or advanced skill levels. The goal is to provide otherwise inaccessible programs within the community due to pricing or skill level.

Adult Programs

Adult programs are exercise, skill-building, and social opportunities to promote physical and mental health in adults. A few goals include providing subsidized programs for adults with special needs while delivering measurable impact on participants' physical and mental health.

Aquatic Programs

Aquatic programs include introductory, intermediate, and advanced swim lessons that promote water safety, exercise, and therapeutic classes to help residents meet their health goals. Program goals include providing subsidized introduction swimming lessons that ensure all participants understand water safety. Also, provide affordable memberships that help offset the costs of running a facility, and provide residents with opportunities to engage in low impact, low-stress fitness programs to improve physical wellbeing. Aquatic programs are also striving to achieve cost recovery for non-essential programs and prioritize resource utilization (staffing) while becoming a benefits-based program.

Adventure Education

Adventure education is programming that inspires personal and communal growth and nature education by using creative experiential-based initiatives. The goal is to achieve full cost recovery by expanding offerings to include a pay-to-play model to increase Bristol residents' course use with a participation goal of 50%.

Youth Development Programs

Youth development programs are essential life services for Bristol youth in need by enhancing the network and support between family, school, peer, and community environments by creating opportunities for positive social and emotional development for youth. The goal is to provide programs and facilities that have a measurable positive impact on Bristol youth's social and emotional health ages 6-17.



Image 1 : Supportive Community

PROGRAM STRATEGY ANALYSIS

AGE SEGMENT ANALYSIS

Figure 2 depicts each Core Program Area and the most prominent age segments they serve. Recognizing that many core program areas serve multiple age segments, Primary (noted with a ‘P’) and Secondary (noted with an ‘S’) markets are identified.

Primary refers to the main target of programs within a core program area, the age segment that benefits the most. Secondary refers to an age segment(s) that is not the target of services, but are enticed to participate from either interest or specific marketing.

Core Program Area	Preschool (5 and Under)	Elementary (6-12)	Teens (13-17)	Adults (18-34)	Adult (35-54)	Adult (55-74)	Adult (75+)	All Ages Programs
Special Events								P
Day Camps	S	P	S					
Preschool Programs	P							
Youth Programs	S	P	S					
Teen Programs		S	P					
Adult Programs				P	P	P	S	
Aquatics Programs								P
Adventure Education		P	S	P	P	S		
Youth Development Programs		P	P	S	S			

Figure 2: Age Segmentation

AGE SEGMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the City’s demographics, current programs seem reasonably well-aligned with the community’s age profile. However, as the 75+ age segment continues to increase, the Department should consider developing an “Active Adult” core program area that may include programs related to social services, community engagement, mental and/or physical health.

While considering age segments, the City should develop a marketing plan that includes best practices to target specific age segments. This plan may consist of an established message, marketing methods to use, social media campaigns, and a measurement of marketing success.

PROGRAM LIFECYCLE

A Program LifeCycle Analysis involves reviewing each program to determine the stage of growth, maturation, or decline. The LifeCycle Analysis provides a key performance indicator to make informed decisions about the overall mix of programs managed by the Department. They ensure that an appropriate number of programs are “fresh” and that relatively few programs need to be discontinued. This analysis is based on quantitative data and staff members’ knowledge of their program areas and participation history.

Figure 3 shows the percentage distribution of the various life cycle categories of the Department's programs. These percentages were obtained by comparing the number of programs in each individual stage with the total number of programs listed by staff members.

Program Lifecycle Analysis				
Lifecycle Stage	Description	Actual Program Distribution		Recommended Distribution
Introduction	New Program; modest participation	20%	52% Total	50 - 60% Total
Take-Off	Rapid Participation growth	17%		
Growth	Moderate, but consistent participation growth	15%		
Mature	Slow participation growth	17%	17%	40 %
Saturation	Minimal to no participation growth; extreme competition	21%	32% Total	0 - 10% Total
Decline	Declining participation	11%		

Figure 3: Lifecycle Stages

LIFECYCLE RECOMMENDATIONS

The combined total of the Introduction, Take-off, and Growth stages are on target. Increasing Mature programs will help the department stabilize participation and cost recovery expectations as new programs being introduced are taking-off and declining programs are being removed from the system.

A natural progression for programs will eventually evolve into saturation and decline. However, if programs reach these stages rapidly, it could indicate that there is not as much of a demand for the programs. As programs enter into the Decline stage, they must be reviewed and evaluated for repositioning or elimination. The Department should evaluate Saturated programs to determine if they need to be reprogrammed or if facility space is limiting their growth.

The Department should complete a Program Lifecycle Analysis on an annual basis and ensure that the percentage distribution closely aligns with the desired performance. Furthermore, the Department could include a yearly review of performance measures for each core program area to track participation growth, customer retention, and the percentage of new programs aligned with community priorities.

Program Evaluation Cycle (with Lifecycle Stages)

Using the Lifecycle analysis, program staff should evaluate programs annually to help determine program mix. A diagram of the program evaluation cycle and program lifecycles can be found below. During the introductory stages, program staff should establish program goals, design program scenarios, and develop the program operating/business plan. All stages of the lifecycle should conduct regular evaluations to determine the program's future. A program operating/business plan will be in the next section, *Program Strategy Best Practices*.

If participation levels are still growing, continue to provide the program. When participation growth is slow to no growth, or competition increases, staff should look at modifying the program to re-energize the customers to participate. When program participation is consistently declining, staff should terminate the program and replace it with a new program based on the public's priority ranking, in activity areas that are trending, while taking into consideration the anticipated local participation percentage.

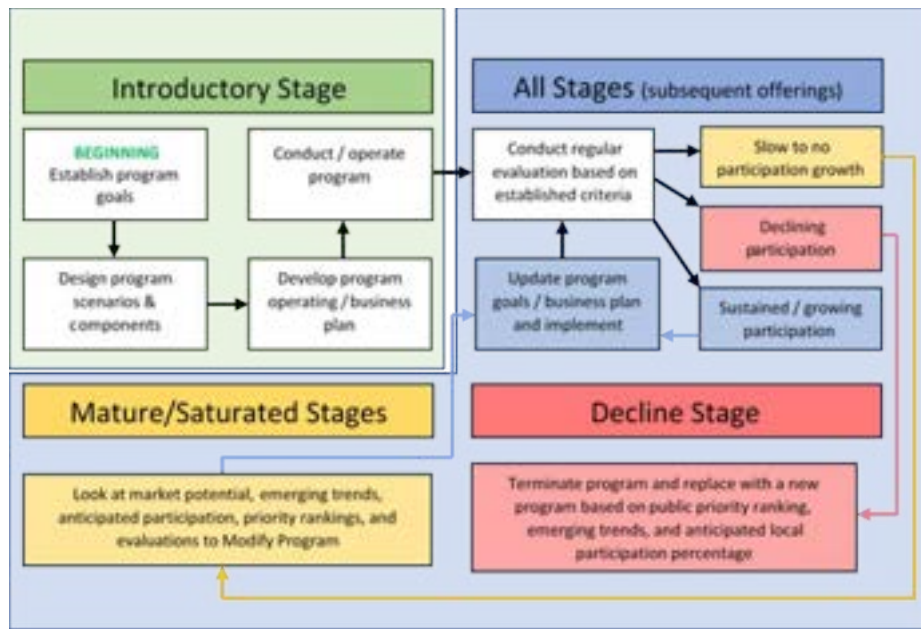


Figure 4: Lifecycle Evaluation

PROGRAM CLASSIFICATION

Conducting a classification of services informs how each program serves the overall organizational mission, the goals and objectives of each core program area, and how the program should be funded concerning tax dollars and/or user fees and charges. How a program is classified can determine the most appropriate management, funding, and marketing strategies. Classification also ensures that programs and services essential to the public that fills an identified need are continued.

Program classifications are the degree to which the program provides a public benefit versus a private benefit. Public benefits everyone receiving the same level of service with equal access, whereas private benefit is the user receiving exclusive service above what a general taxpayer receives for their personal benefit. The City uses a classification method based on three indicators: Essential Services, Important Services, and Value-Added Services. Where a program or service is classified depends upon alignment with the organizational mission, how the public perceives a program, legal mandates, financial sustainability, personal benefit, competition in the marketplace, and access by participants.

Figure 5 describes each of the three program classifications.

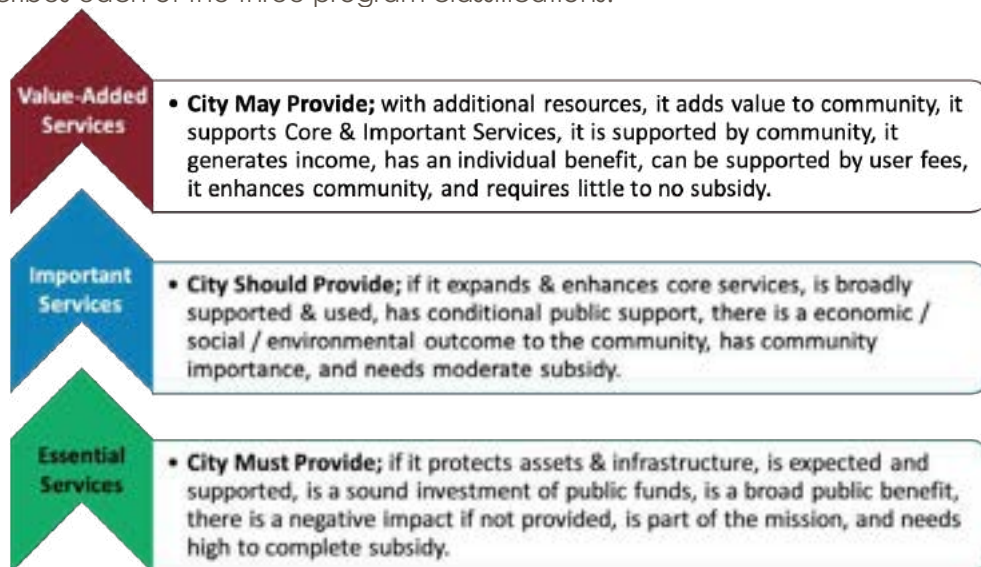


Figure 5: Program Classifications

With assistance from staff, a classification of programs and services was conducted for all of the recreation programs offered by the City. The results, presented in the following figure, represent the current classification of recreation program. There are three classification areas: Essential, Important, and Value-Added services. Currently, 40% of total programs are considered Essential, 24% are considered Important, and 35% are Value-Added. **Figure 6** shows the distribution of programs by core program area and corresponding classification. Aquatics has the greatest number of individual programs offered but they are evenly distributed across the three service categories. Conversely, youth development programs are exclusively essential services. A full list of programs and their classification can be found in **Appendix D**.

	Essential	Important	Value-Added
Total	40%	24%	35%
Special Events	6%	4%	2%
Day Camps	4%	0%	3%
Preschool Programs	2%	1%	2%
Youth Programs	9%	6%	6%
Teen Programs	0%	2%	3%
Adult Programs	2%	3%	9%
Adventure Education	0%	0%	2%
Aquatic Programs	10%	9%	9%
Youth Development Programs	8%	0%	0%

Figure 6: Program Classification Distribution

COST OF SERVICE & COST RECOVERY

Cost recovery identifies the actual cost of service; this includes direct costs, and preferably, indirect costs as well. With assistance from staff, cost recovery targets were identified for each core program area, and for specific programs or events where realistic.

Determining cost recovery performance involved a three-step process:

1. Classifying all programs and services based on the public or private benefit they provide (as completed in the previous section).
2. Conducting a Cost of Service Analysis to calculate the full cost of each program.
3. Establishing a cost recovery percentage for each program or program type based on the outcomes of the previous two steps and adjust program prices accordingly.

The following provide more detail on steps 2 & 3.

Current Cost Recovery

Figure 7 provides a breakdown of cost recovery goals and actual percentages (from the most recent fiscal year available) for each core program area. It should be noted that the actual cost recovery percentages are an average of individual activity expenses and revenues. These metrics were influenced by COVID-related closures, program participation minimums, and the use of outside contractors to deliver programs. All core program areas met their desired cost recovery goal except for special events and adventure education when using averages.

Cost Recovery		
Core Program Area	Cost Recovery Goal	Actual Cost Recovery
Special Events Average	47%	43%
Day Camps Average	98%	107%
Preschool Programs Average	100%	167%
Youth Program Average	83%	152%
Teen Program Average	92%	109%
Adult Programs Average	89%	131%
Adventure Education Average	100%	22%
Aquatic Programs Average	95%	166%
Youth Development Programs Averages	0%	0%

Figure 7: Cost Recovery by Core Program Area

Utilizing the overall cost recovery goal average, the Department has a goal of 78%. **Figure 8** shows current cost recovery goals for those core program areas that have a goal in place and actual cost recovery made. In all, the Department is right at 100% cost recovery when using direct programming costs.

Cost Recovery		
Core Program Area	Cost Recovery Goal	Actual Cost Recovery
Total Cost Recovery	78%	99%

Figure 8: Cost Recovery Total

Cost Recovery Best Practices

Cost recovery targets should reflect the degree to which a program provides a public versus individual good. Programs providing public benefits (i.e. Essential programs) should be subsidized more by BPRYCS; programs providing individual benefits (i.e., Value-Added programs) should seek to recover costs and/or generate revenue for other services. To help plan and implement cost recovery policies, the planning team has developed the following definitions to help classify specific programs within program areas.

As the BPRYCS continues to evolve to better meet the community's needs, there could be an added benefit to managing the services if they all were classified according to the Cost Recovery Model for Sustainable Services depicted below which (**Figure 9**) offers even more granularity for cost recovery targets. Programs should be assigned cost recovery goal ranges within those overall categories.

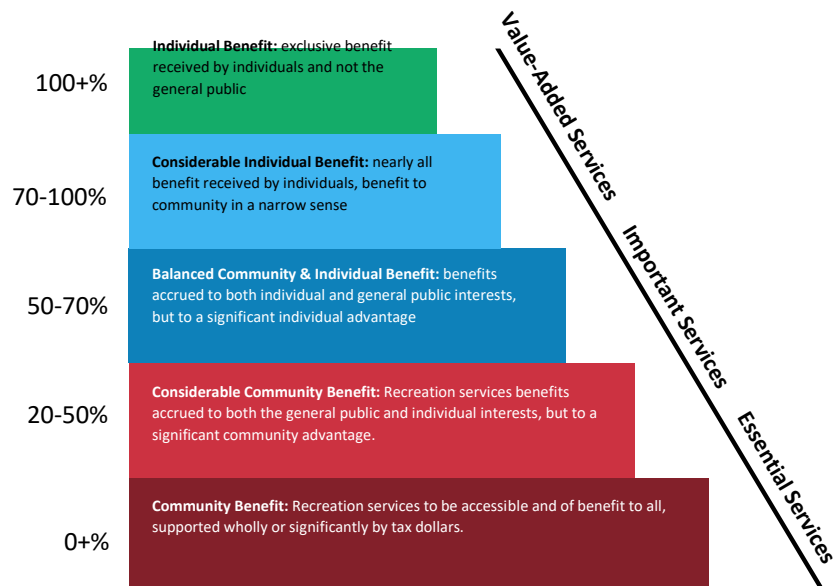


Figure 9: Cost Recovery Model for Sustainable Services

PRICING

Overall, BPRYCS's pricing strategies are relatively limited (**Figure 10**). Pricing tactics focus on cost recovery goals, with a few other pricing tactics used by other core program areas. The most diverse core program area pricing model relates to adventure education.

The current pricing model is stable for BPRYCS to reach cost recovery goals. However, considering all pricing strategies may be valuable when setting prices for programs not reaching the cost recovery goal, such as adventure education. These untapped pricing strategies could also be useful to help stabilize usage patterns for programs that may have a wait list during certain times of the day. Specifically, dynamic pricing strategies (weekday/weekend and prime/non-prime time) could help BPRYCS.

PRICING STRATEGIES										
Core Program Area	Age Segment	Family / Household Status	Residency	Weekday / Weekend	Prime / Non-Prime Time	Group Discounts	By Location	By Competition (Market Rate)	By Cost Recovery Goals	By Customer's Ability to Pay
<i>Special Events</i>										
<i>Day Camps</i>										X
<i>Preschool Programs</i>									X	
<i>Youth Programs</i>									X	
<i>Teen Programs</i>									X	
<i>Adult Programs</i>									X	
<i>Aquatics Programs</i>			X				X		X	
<i>Adventure Education</i>						X	X	X	X	
<i>Youth Development Programs</i>										

Figure 10: Pricing Strategies

PRICING RECOMMENDATIONS

The consulting team recommends that all core program areas continue to use cost recovery goals as a major factor in determining pricing. Additionally, using dynamic pricing to entice participation during low volume times and manage excessive demand for programs should be considered as well. Residency and competition can also contribute to overall management of demand for services. Staff should continue to monitor the effectiveness of the various pricing strategies they employ and make adjustments as necessary.

PROGRAM STRATEGY BEST PRACTICES

The BPRYCS's program staff should continue the cycle of evaluating programs on both individual merit as well as the program mix as a whole. This can be completed at one time on an annual basis, or in batches at key seasonal points of the year, as long as each program is checked once per year. The following tools and strategies can help facilitate this evaluation process:

PROGRAM OPERATING/BUSINESS PLAN

The consultant team recommends that Mini Business Plans (2-3 pages) are created for each core program area which are updated on a yearly basis. These plans should evaluate the core program area based on meeting the outcomes desired for participants, cost recovery, percentage of the market, cost of service, pricing strategy for the next year, and marketing strategies that are to be implemented. If developed regularly and consistently, they can be effective tools for budget construction and justification processes in addition to marketing and communication tools. Currently, there is a business plan for the Pine Lake Adventure Park.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT & DECISION-MAKING MATRIX

When developing program plans and strategies, it is useful to consider all of the core program areas and individual program analysis discussed in this Program Assessment. Lifecycle, age segment, classification, and cost recovery goals should all be tracked. This information and the latest demographic trends and community input should be factors that lead to program decision-making.

Figure 11 are simple, easy-to-use tools that will help compare programs and prioritize resources using multiple data points, rather than relying solely on cost recovery. In addition, this analysis will help staff make an informed, objective case to the public when a program in decline, but beloved by a few, is retired. When a program/service is determined to have strong priority, appropriate cost recovery, good age segment appeal, good partnership potential, and strong market conditions, the next step is to determine the marketing and promotional methods.

PROGRAM MARKETING

The BPRYCS currently communicates with residents through program guides (print and online), the website, fliers and brochures, email lists, roadside marquees, paid advertisements, and radio. Also, the BPRYCS advertises through social media such as Facebook, Instagram, and a YouTube Channel.

Effective communication strategies require striking an appropriate balance between the content and the volume of messaging while utilizing the “right” delivery methods.

A strategic marketing plan should address the following:

- Target audiences/markets identification
- Key messages for each target market
- Communication channels/media for each target market
- Graphic identity and use protocols
- Style handbook for all marketing material
- Social media strategies and tactics
- Communication schedule (content calendar)
- Marketing roles and responsibilities
- Staffing requirements

An effective marketing plan must build upon and integrate with supporting plans, such as the overall Master Plan, and directly coordinate with organization priorities. The plan should also provide specific guidance on how the BPRYCS’s identity and brand are consistent across the multiple methods and deliverables used for communication.

Figure 11: Program Business Plan Template

Marketing Methods	YES	
Program guides (print)	x	
Program guides (online)	x	
Website	x	
Smart/mobile phone enabled site	x	MyRec is not designed for but is compatible with smart phone access.
Apps		
Flyers and/or brochures	x	
Direct mail		Only when requested
Email blasts and/or listserv	x	
Public Service Announcements (PSAs)		
Roadsign marquees	x	City run electronic signs
Paid advertisements	x	Gas station radio or Billboard
Radio (paid or free)	x	Paid
TV (paid or free)		Occasional news coverage
On-hold pre-programmed phone messages		Not for marketing
SMS/MMS/Text Message marketing		Only to communicate program specific information during a program session
Newsletters (print)		
Newsletters (online)		
In-facility signage		
Facebook	x	
Instagram	x	
Twitter		
Flickr		
YouTube channel	x	
Blogs / vlogs		
Webinars		
QR Codes		

Figure 12: Marketing Methods

WEBSITE

The current website is user-friendly and quick links on the homepage make it easy for the user to access more popular/desired information. The mobile-friendly website is good and a key tool in today's times of increased smartphone utilization. The Banner section, front and center, is a good practice that directly drives users' attention to upcoming events, program guides, or essential information residents may have not previously known.



Figure 13: Department Website

SOCIAL MEDIA

The Department utilizes Web 2.0 technology with Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. The key to successful implementation of a social network is to move the participants from awareness to action and creating greater user engagement. This could be done by:

- Allowing controlled 'user generated content' by encouraging users to send in their pictures from City special events or programs
- Introducing Facebook-only promotions to drive greater visitation to Facebook
- Leveraging the website to obtain customer feedback for programs, parks and facilities and customer service
- Expanding opportunities for Crowdsourcing information on an ongoing basis. Crowdsourcing is use for a call out of all types of resources such as man power, volunteers, and equipment to help accomplish your set goal.
 - Some existing resources include mindmixer.com and peakdemocracy.com which can be evaluated if the Department has the resources and can utilize it on an on-going basis.
 - Crowdsourcing options could include printing program guides or developing marketing material.
- Providing opportunities for Donations or Crowdfunding through the website. Crowdfunding is a monetary call out to complete a project or meet a goal.
 - kickstarter.org / indiegogo.com / razoo.com these sites help bring small amounts of money together to create needed capital.
- Maximizing the website's revenue generating capabilities
- Conducting an annual website strategy workshop with the staff to identify ways and means that the website can support City social media trends.

Social Media Users

Over the last decade, social media has become one of the Country's fastest-growing trends. With only ten percent of the Country using social media in 2008, today, an estimated seventy-nine percent of the U.S. population is currently using social media. With such a large percentage of the population using these online media platforms in their daily lives, it becomes essential for the City to take advantage of these marketing opportunities. Social media can be a useful and affordable tool to reach current and potentially new system users.

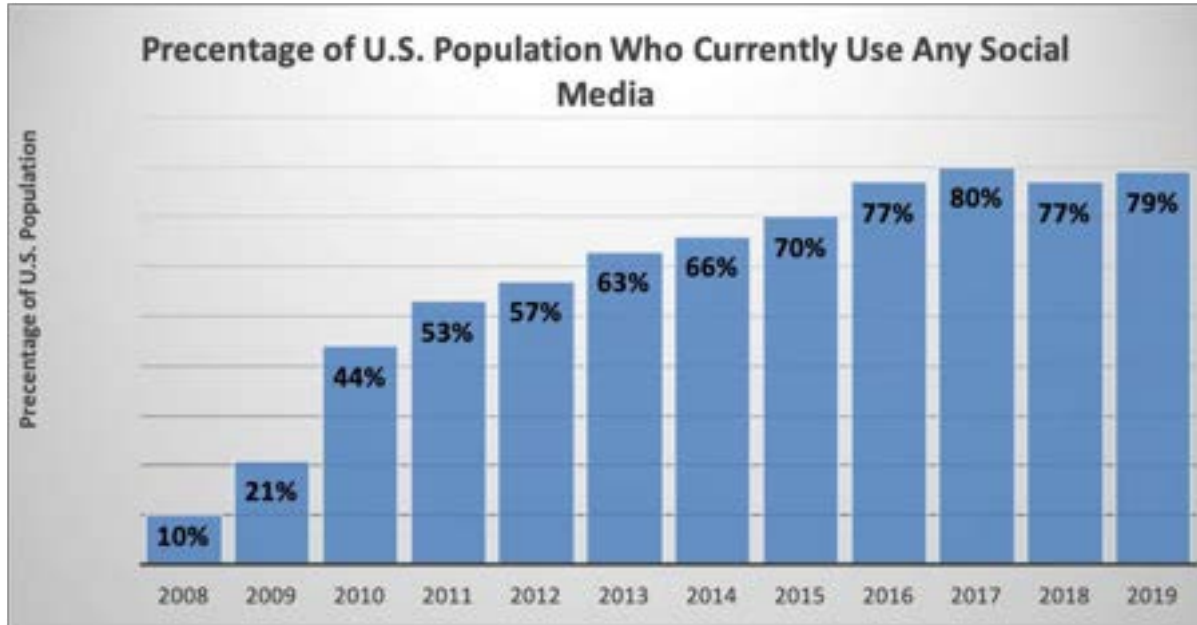


Figure 14: National Social Media Trends
 Source: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/273476/percentage-of-us-population-with-a-social-network-profile/>

Social Media Platforms

Figure 15 depicts the most frequently used social media sites throughout the world. As of August 2019, Facebook stands out as the most heavily trafficked social media platform, with an estimated 2.2 billion visitors per month. With YouTube coming in second with 1.9 billion visitors per month.

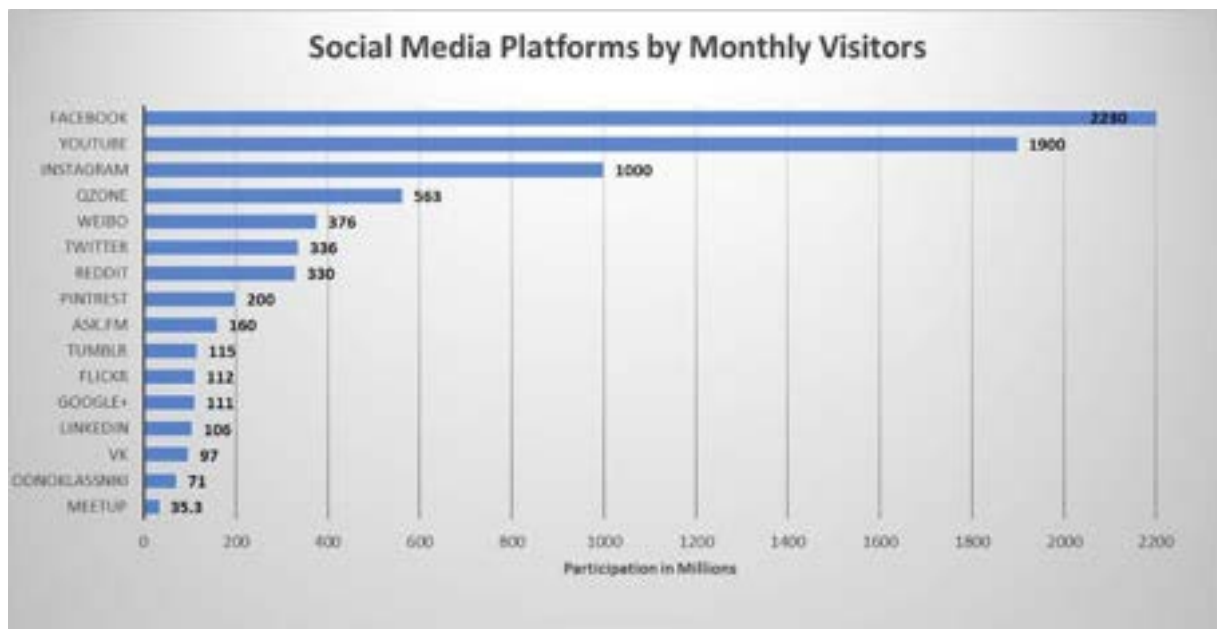


Figure 15: National Social Media Users by Platform
 Source: <https://www.dreamgrow.com/top-15-most-popular-social-networking-sites/>

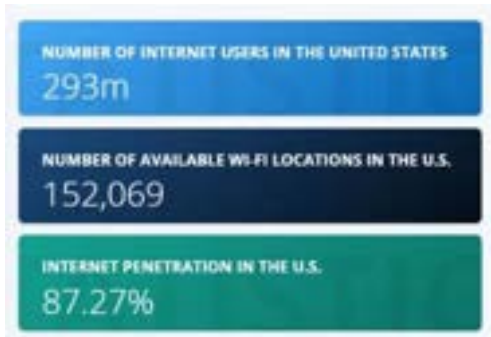


Figure 16: National Internet User Statistics
 Source: <https://www.statista.com/topics/2237/internet-usage-in-the-united-states/>

United States Internet Users

Figure 16 is taken directly from Statista.com depicts the number of internet users in the United States, number of available Wi-Fi locations, and Internet penetration in the US. Only 10% of surveyed adults state they do not use the internet in 2019. As of 2018 Statista, the United States has the largest online market in the world with 312 million users.

MARKETING RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that BPRYCS develop a marketing plan for parks, programs, events, and volunteers that factors in current successes with centralized and decentralized processes that complement any City efforts.

PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

In order to improve program service delivery, it is imperative to examine the use of performance standards. Performance standards can represent many categories including: performance measures, HR practices, public input methods, volunteerism, use of partnerships and sponsorships, and market competition. **Figure 17** indicates the various performance standards used by the BPRYCS.

It is recommended that BPRYCS add the following performance standards to implement recreation programs and services:

- Track customer retention rates and utilize this information for marketing purposes
- Conducting regular instructor quality checks
- Utilize Crowdsourcing tools/mechanisms to increase use of qualitative feedback data collection methods
- Conduct recurring statistically-valid community surveys every 3-5 years
- Adopt a formal volunteer policy
- Formalize partnership agreements and standards
- Maintain a list of similar providers/competitors and update it regularly

Performance Standards		
Concentration Areas	Currently Performed	Notes
Performance Measures		
Total participants	X	
Participant to staff ratio	X	
Program cancellation rate (% describing number of programs cancelled due to insufficient numbers)	X	Our software tracks this information, but I don't think it has ever been utilized
Customer satisfaction level	X	We only send out surveys for our Summer Programs
Customer retention rate		
HR Practices or Standards		
Regularly and consistently update policies & procedures	X	Yearly
Instructor quality check		
Lesson plans		Unless provided by external organization (Red Cross)
Program evaluation system		Only revenue
Customer service training	X	For summer camp and pool staff
Basic life safety training (ex. CPR, First Aid)	X	
Enhanced life safety training	X	
Specialty skill training		Only for FT staff
Marketing training	X	For FT staff only
Training on calculating/tracking total cost of facility operations	X	
Training on calculating/tracking cost of service	X	
Continuing education	X	
Diversity training	X	
Performance reviews; full-time		Unionize; no city-wide performance evaluations
Performance reviews; part-time		
Performance reviews; seasonal	X	Summer Camp staff only
Public Input Methods		
Pre-program surveys		
Post-program surveys	X	For summer programs
Regular/recurring user surveys		
Lost customer/user surveys		
Non-customer/non-user surveys		
Focus groups		
Statistically valid surveys		
In-facility, in-park, or on-site surveys		
Crowdsourcing tools (e.g., Peak Democracy, Chaordix, Mind Mixer, etc.)		
Other		
Volunteerism		
Track the number of individual volunteers used annually?	X	
Track the number of volunteer hours donated annually?	X	
Have a formal/adopted volunteer policy?		Currently creating policy, volunteer programs are not fully accepted by HR
Sponsorships and Partnerships		
Maintain a list or database of all partner organizations?	X	
Have a formal/adopted partnership policy?		
Require a written agreement for all partnerships?		
Identify measureable outcomes for each partnership?		
Market Competition		
Maintain a list or database of major competitors/similar providers?		
Regularly (e.g., annually) conduct an environmental scan of competitors' offerings, pricing, and marketing?		Beginning to implement

Figure 17: Performance Standards Used by Department

VOLUNTEERS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Today's realities require most public parks and recreation departments to seek productive and meaningful partnerships with community organizations and individuals to deliver quality and seamless services to their residents. These relationships should be mutually beneficial to each party to better meet overall community needs and expand the positive impact of the BPRYCS's mission. Effective partnerships and meaningful volunteerism are key strategic areas for the Department to meet the community's needs in the years to come.



Image 2: Community Beautification

CURRENT VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

When managed with respect, educated about the impact of their volunteer efforts and the outcomes being achieved, volunteers can serve as the primary advocates for BPRYCS and its offerings. Currently, the BPRYCS has limited volunteer opportunities to help supplement the labor needs. Volunteer management should include regularly tracking individual volunteers, their skills, and hours volunteered. Tracking volunteer hours can be used in budget discussions showing how well the City is able to leverage limited resources.

Currently, the City has the Bristol Green Team. This is a park clean-up volunteer program. Information about this program can be found through general online searching; however, this particular program was hard to find on the Department's website.

VOLUNTEER BEST PRACTICES

In developing a volunteerism policy, some best practices that BPRYCS should be aware of include:

- Involve volunteers in cross-training to expose them to various organizational functions and increase their skills. This can also increase their utility, allowing for more flexibility in making work assignments, and can increase their appreciation and understanding of BPRYCS.
- Ensure a Volunteer Coordinator (a designated program staff member with volunteer management responsibility) and associated staff stay fully informed about the strategic direction of the agency overall, including strategic initiatives for all divisions. Periodically identify, evaluate, or revise specific tactics the volunteer services program should undertake to support the larger organizational mission.
- A key part of maintaining the desirability of volunteerism in the agency is developing a good reward and recognition system. The consultant team recommends using tactics similar to those found in frequent flier programs, volunteers can use their volunteer hours to obtain early registration at programs, or discounted pricing at certain programs, rentals or events, or any other Department function. Identify and summarize volunteer recognition policies in a Volunteer Policy document. Currently, the Department has a Volunteer Manual that does include a recognition program.
- Regularly update volunteer position descriptions. Include an overview of the volunteer position lifecycle in the Volunteer Manual, including the procedure for creating a new position.
- Add end-of-lifecycle process steps to the Volunteer Manual to ensure formal documentation of resignation or volunteers' termination. Also, include ways to monitor and track reasons for resignation/termination and perform exit interviews with outgoing volunteers.

In addition to number of volunteers and volunteer hours, categorization and tracking volunteerism by type and extent of work, is important:

- **Regular volunteers:** Those volunteers whose work is considered to be continuous, provided their work performance is satisfactory and there is a continuing need for their services.
- **Special event volunteers:** Volunteers who help out with a particular event with no expectation that they will return after the event is complete.
- **Episodic volunteers:** Volunteers who help out with a particular project type on a recurring or irregular basis with no expectation that they will return for other duties.
- **Volunteer interns:** Volunteers who have committed to work for the agency to fulfill a specific higher-level educational learning requirement.
- **Community service volunteers:** Volunteers who are volunteering over a specified period of time to fulfill a community service requirement.

The BPRYCS should encourage employees to volunteer themselves in the community. Exposure of staff to the community in different roles (including those not related to Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services) will raise awareness of the agency and its volunteer program. It also helps staff understand the role and expectations of a volunteer if they can experience it for themselves.

RECREATION PROGRAM PARTNERSHIPS

Partnerships can help departments manage resources, including limited staff, to provide meaningful programs and resources to the community. Having a strong agreement is the first step in making partnerships successful.

Partnership agreements should be developed to promote fairness and equity while helping staff manage against potential internal and external conflicts. Certain partnership principles must be adopted by the Department for existing and future partnerships to work effectively. These partnership principles are as follows:

- All partnerships require an operating agreement with measurable outcomes and with regular evaluation. The contract should include reports to the agency on the partnership's performance and outcomes, including an annual review to determine renewal potential.
- All partnerships should track costs associated with the partnership investment to demonstrate the shared level of equity.
- All partnerships should maintain a culture that focuses on collaborative planning, regular communications, and annual reporting on performance and outcomes to determine renewal potential and strengthen the collaboration.
- As with tracking of volunteer hours, tracking partnerships helps show leadership making budget decisions how well the staff can leverage resources.
- In many instances, partnerships are inequitable to the public agency and do not produce reasonable shared benefits between parties.

POLICY BEST PRACTICE FOR ALL PARTNERSHIPS

All partnerships developed and maintained by the Department should adhere to common policy requirements:

- Each partner will meet with or report to Department staff regularly to plan and share activity-based costs and equity invested.
- Partners will establish measurable outcomes and work through key issues to meet the coming year's desired outcomes.
- Each partner will focus on meeting a balance of equity agreed to and track investment costs accordingly.
- Measurable outcomes will be reviewed quarterly and shared with each partner, with adjustments made as needed.
- A working partnership agreement will be developed and monitored together on a quarterly or as-needed basis.
- Each partner will assign a liaison to serve each partnership agency for communication and planning purposes.

- If conflicts arise between partners, the Department-appointed lead and the other partner's highest-ranking officer will meet to resolve the issue(s) promptly. Any exchange of money or traded resources will be made based on the terms of the partnership agreement. Each partner will meet with the other partner's respective board annually to share the partnership agreement's updates.

POLICY BEST PRACTICE FOR PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

The recommended policies and practices for public/private partnerships, that may include businesses, private groups, private associations, or individuals who desire to make a profit from use of City facilities or programs, are detailed below. These can also apply to partnerships where a private party wishes to develop a facility on park property, provide a service on publicly-owned property, or contract with the agency to provide a task or service on the agency's behalf. These unique partnership principles are as follows:

- Upon entering into an agreement with private business, group, association, or individual, staff and political leadership must recognize that they must allow the private entity to meet their financial objectives within reasonable parameters that protect the mission, goals, and integrity of the Department.
- As an outcome of the partnership, the Department must receive a designated fee that may include a percentage of gross revenue dollars fewer sales tax regularly, as outlined in the contract agreement.
- The partnership's working agreement must establish a set of measurable outcomes to be achieved and a tracking method of how the agency will monitor those outcomes. The outcomes will include standards of quality, financial reports, customer satisfaction, payments to the agency, and overall coordination with the Department for the services rendered.
- Depending on the level of investment made by the private contractor, the partnership agreement can be limited to months, a year, or multiple years.
- If applicable, the private contractor will provide a working management plan annually that they will follow to ensure the Department's outcomes. The management plan can and will be negotiated, if necessary. The monitoring of the management plan will be the responsibility of both partners. The Department must allow the contractor to operate freely in their best interest, as long as the outcomes are achieved and the partnership agreement's terms are adhered to.
- The private contractor cannot lobby agency advisory or governing boards for renewal of a contract. Any such action will be cause for termination. All negotiations must be with the Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services Superintendent or their designee.
- The agency has the right to advertise for private contracted partnership services or negotiate on an individual basis with a bid process based on the service's professional level.
- If conflicts arise between both partners, both sides' highest-ranking officers will try to resolve the issue before going to each partner's legal counsels. If none can be achieved, the partnership shall be dissolved.

Additional partnerships can be pursued and developed with other public entities such as neighboring cities, colleges, state or federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private, for-profit organizations. Standard policies and practices should be applied to any partnership and those that are unique to relationships with private, for-profit entities.

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

These partnership opportunities are both an overview of existing partnerships available to the

Department and a suggested approach to organizing partnership pursuits. These opportunities are not an exhaustive list of all potential partnerships but a reference tool for developing its partnership development priorities.

1. **Operational Partners:** Other entities and organizations that can support the efforts of the Department to maintain facilities and assets, promote amenities and park usage, support site needs, provide programs and events, and/or maintain the integrity of natural/cultural resources through in-kind labor, equipment, or materials.
2. **Vendor Partners:** Service providers and/or contractors that can gain brand association and notoriety as a preferred vendor or supporter of the Department in exchange for reduced rates, services, or some other agreed-upon benefit.
3. **Service Partners:** Nonprofit organizations and/or friends' groups that support the agency's efforts to provide programs and events and/or serve specific constituents in the community collaboratively.
4. **Co-Branding Partners:** Private, for-profit organizations that can gain brand association and notoriety as a supporter of the Department in exchange for sponsorship or co-branded programs, events, marketing, and promotional campaigns, and/or advertising opportunities.
5. **Resource Development Partners:** A private, nonprofit organization with the primary purpose to leverage private sector resources, grants, other public funding opportunities, and resources from individuals and groups within the community to support the goals and objectives of the agency on mutually agreed strategic initiatives.

CONCLUSION

The consultant team has highlighted a few important recommendations from the report. These recommendations may change with any shifts in demographics, Department structure, and community and City priorities.

- **Core Program Areas:** Continue to evaluate Core Program Areas with shifting community priorities and demographics.
- **Age segments:** consider the long-term development of programs for Active Adults that may include social services, community engagement, mental, and/or physical health goals.
- The Department should complete a **Program Lifecycle Analysis** on an annual basis and ensure that the percentage distribution closely aligns with the desired performance. Furthermore, the Department could include annual performance measures for each core program area to track participation growth, customer retention, and percentage of new programs as an incentive for innovation and alignment with community trends.
- Use dynamic **pricing** to encourage program participation for programs not reaching cost recovery targets/goals. Pricing strategies may also assist with spreading encouraging non-prime time use of programs and/or facilities.
- **Program Development and Marketing Plan:** Each new program and existing program should have a solid program development and marketing plan. The Department needs to ensure target markets and age segmentations are being addressed through the appropriate media.
- **Volunteer** opportunities should be highlighted on the Department's main website page. The Department should develop a volunteer manual/agreement to assist with recruiting, evaluating, marketing, and highlighting the value that volunteers bring to the Department.
- **Partnership policies** will promote fairness and equity within the existing and future partnerships while helping staff to manage against potential internal and external conflicts while developing best-practice standards such as background checks.

4.2 IN-DEPTH SITE ANALYSIS

The Consultant Team visited each of the park and recreation facilities to review their existing conditions. With the use of online aerial mapping and available GIS information, in-depth site analyses were developed for each facility. Each site analysis identified and illustrated the following information (as applicable)

- Property lines
- Resource areas and associated buffers/setbacks located within the facility's property lines
- Existing vehicular circulation
- Existing pedestrian circulation
- Existing access points
- Existing parking areas
- Existing athletic fields (hardball, softball or rectangular fields)
- Existing courts (basketball and tennis courts)
- Existing playgrounds
- Existing walking and hiking trails
- Existing fencing and athletic ball netting
- Solar orientations
- Prevailing wind directions (summer and winter)
- Existing topography and slopes (directions and percentages)
- Existing accessible parking, curb ramps, routes and their compliance with ADAAG requirements

Based on our review of these existing conditions, common themes throughout the park and recreation facilities included the following:

- Several existing basketball and tennis courts had significant cracks and surface wear and are in need of repair or reconstruction
- Existing bleachers at several facilities do not have fully closed decking or appropriate fencing around the back and sides required by current building codes
- Playground mulch at particular playgrounds is low and is not flush with the adjacent pavement which does not meet ADAAG requirements
- Particular athletic fields do not have adequate grass coverage due to over compaction, inadequate surface drainage and require aggressive maintenance and/or renovations
- Backstop and team area/dugout fencing, particular at hardball and softball fields, is not tall enough, potentially creating safety concerns due to foul balls, and the conditions may also require replacement
- Existing curb ramps do not meet current ADAAG requirements
- Various accessible parking areas do not meet current ADAAG requirements including providing accessible routes from parking aisles to facility accessible routes
- Particular facilities do not provide accessible routes to all amenities and athletic fields/courts

Refer to **Appendix F for In-Depth Site Analysis** Drawings, Existing Conditions images, and narratives for each facility.

4.3 LEVEL OF SERVICE

OVERVIEW

Level of Service (LOS) standards are guidelines that define service areas based on population that support investment decisions related to parks, facilities, and amenities. LOS standards can and will change over time as industry trends change and demographics of a community change.

The Consultant Team evaluated park facility standards using a combination of resources. These resources included market trends, demographic data, recreation activity participation rates, community and stakeholder input, NRPA Park Metrics data, the statistically-valid community survey, and general observations. This information allowed standards to be customized to Bristol.

It is important to note that these LOS standards should be viewed as a guide. The standards are to be coupled with conventional wisdom and judgment related to the particular situation and needs of the community. By applying these standards to Bristol's population, gaps or surpluses in park and facility types are revealed.

PER CAPITA "GAPS"

The existing Level of Service meets and exceeds best practices and recommended service levels for many items; however, there are areas that do not meet recommended standards.

For park acres, the City of Bristol exceeds overall park land acreage level of service standards. However, as indicated by the park classification system, there is a deficit in neighborhood park acres.

For outdoor amenities, Bristol exhibits a high service level for natural (unpaved) trails; however, there is a mileage deficit for paved trails (~6 miles). Additional outdoor amenity considerations include: park shelters and pavilions, youth diamond fields, outdoor basketball courts, playgrounds, sand volleyball pits, and Pickleball courts. Additional context should be given for Board of Education facilities. Publicly accessible facilities are included in the analysis but not all facilities have 100% public access. Additionally, the City of Bristol has an additional six youth diamond fields in their inventory; however, they are leased to specific user groups which removes them from public access.

In terms of indoor space, Bristol has a shortage of approximately 23,000 square feet of indoor recreation space. Indoor recreation space is of particular interest/importance because community engagement identified several "high need" program interest areas that would utilize indoor space such as: culinary arts, special events, cultural enrichment & arts, and senior fitness.

The standards that follow in **Figure 18 and 19** (*following pages*) are based upon population figures for 2019 and 2024, the latest estimates available at the time of analysis.

Bristol Level of Service Standards

Parks											
2020 Inventory - Developed Facilities											
Park Type	Bristol Inventory	Bristol Board of Education	Bristol Inventory	Current Bristol Service Level Based Upon Population			NRPA / BEST PRACTICE			Bristol Difference	NEEDS ASSESSMENT PRIORITY
Pocket Parks	0.40		0.40	0.01	acres per	1,000	-	acres per	1,000	0	Low
Neighborhood Parks	44.76		44.76	0.74	acres per	1,000	2.00	acres per	1,000	(75)	Low
Community Parks	308.19		308.19	5.13	acres per	1,000	4.00	acres per	1,000	68	Low
Special Use	25.20		25.20	0.42	acres per	1,000	-	acres per	1,000	25	-
Nature Preserves	270.00		270.00	4.49	acres per	1,000	-	acres per	1,000	270	Medium
Open Space	83.42		83.42	1.39	acres per	1,000	-	acres per	1,000	83	Medium
Total Park Acres	731.97		731.97	12.18	acres per	1,000	9.90	acres per	1,000	137	
TRAILS:											
Paved Trails	3.17		3.17	0.05	miles per	1,000	0.40	miles per	1,000	(21)	High
Natural Trails	14.52		14.52	0.24	miles per	1,000	0.20	miles per	1,000	2	High
Total Trail Miles	17.69		17.69	0.29	miles per	1,000	0.50	miles per	1,000	(12)	
OUTDOOR AMENITIES:											
Park Shelters/Pavilions	11.00		11.00	1.00	site per	5,465	1.00	site per	3,000	(9)	Low
Youth Diamond Fields (Baseball and Softball)	1.00	4.00	5.00	1.00	field per	12,022	1.00	field per	7,000	(4)	Medium
Adult Baseball Fields	3.00	8.00	11.00	1.00	field per	5,465	1.00	field per	12,000	6	Low
Adult Softball Fields	4.00	7.00	11.00	1.00	field per	5,465	1.00	field per	12,000	6	Low
Rectangular Multi-Purpose Fields	4.00	17.00	21.00	1.00	field per	2,862	1.00	field per	8,000	13	Low
Basketball Courts	6.00		6.00	1.00	court per	10,019	1.00	court per	7,000	(3)	Low
Tennis	19.00	11.00	30.00	1.00	court per	2,004	1.00	court per	5,000	18	Low
Playgrounds	8.00	6.00	14.00	1.00	site per	4,294	1.00	site per	3,500	(3)	Low
Volleyball Pits	3.00		3.00	1.00	site per	20,037	1.00	site per	12,000	(2)	Low
Dog Parks	2.00		2.00	1.00	site per	30,056	1.00	site per	40,000	0	Medium
Skateparks	1.00		1.00	1.00	site per	60,111	1.00	site per	50,000	(0)	Low
Splashpads	3.00		3.00	1.00	site per	20,037	1.00	site per	40,000	1	Low
Outdoor Pools	2.00		2.00	1.00	site per	30,056	1.00	site per	40,000	0	Medium
INDOOR AMENITIES:											
Indoor Recreation Space (Square Feet)	6,991.00		6,991.00	0.12	SF per	person	2.00	SF per	person	(113,231)	Medium
2019 Estimated Population											
60,111											
2024 Estimated Population											
60,158											

Notes:

Indoor space is important to support "high need" programs such as culinary arts, special events, cultural enrichment & arts, and senior fitness.

Other considerations for system additions include: dedicated Pickleball courts, community gardens, ornamental/interpretive gardens, concessions (dining), outdoor exercise equipment.

Board of Education facilities are not 100% public access but the inventory numbers are reflective of available facilities in general.

			2020 Facility Standards		Anticipated Future Park Development 2020 - 2025		2025 Facility Standards			
Recommended Bristol Service Levels; Revised			Meet Standard/ Need Exists	Additional Facilities/ Amenities Needed	Inventory	Total 2020-2025	Meet Standard/ Need Exists	Additional Facilities/ Amenities Needed		
0.01	acres per	1,000	Meets Standard	- Acre(s)			Meets Standard	-	Acre(s)	
1.00	acres per	1,000	Need Exists	15 Acre(s)		-	Need Exists	15	Acre(s)	
5.13	acres per	1,000	Meets Standard	- Acre(s)		-	Need Exists	0	Acre(s)	
0.40	acres per	1,000	Meets Standard	- Acre(s)		-	Meets Standard	-	Acre(s)	
4.49	acres per	1,000	Meets Standard	- Acre(s)		-	Meets Standard	-	Acre(s)	
1.16	acres per	1,000	Meets Standard	- Acre(s)		-	Meets Standard	-	Acre(s)	
12.18	acres per	1,000	Meets Standard	- Acre(s)	Total Park Acres	-	Need Exists	0	Acre(s)	
0.15	miles per	1,000	Need Exists	5.85 Mile(s)		-	Need Exists	5.85	Mile(s)	
0.24	miles per	1,000	Meets Standard	- Mile(s)		-	Meets Standard	-	Mile(s)	
0.39	miles per	1,000	Need Exists	5.75 Mile(s)		-	Need Exists	5.77	Mile(s)	
1.00	site per	4,500	Need Exists	2 Sites(s)		-	Need Exists	2	Sites(s)	
1.00	field per	8,000	Need Exists	3 Field(s)		-	Need Exists	3	Field(s)	
1.00	field per	6,000	Meets Standard	- Field(s)		-	Meets Standard	-	Field(s)	
1.00	field per	6,000	Meets Standard	- Field(s)		-	Meets Standard	-	Field(s)	
1.00	field per	8,000	Meets Standard	- Field(s)		-	Meets Standard	-	Field(s)	
1.00	court per	8,000	Need Exists	2 Court(s)		-	Need Exists	2	Court(s)	
1.00	court per	3,500	Meets Standard	- Court(s)		-	Meets Standard	-	Court(s)	
1.00	site per	4,000	Need Exists	1 Site(s)		-	Need Exists	1	Site(s)	
1.00	site per	20,000	Need Exists	0 Site(s)		-	Need Exists	0	Site(s)	
1.00	site per	35,000	Meets Standard	- Site(s)		-	Meets Standard	-	Site(s)	
1.00	site per	60,111	Meets Standard	- Site(s)		-	Need Exists	0	Site(s)	
1.00	site per	25,000	Meets Standard	- Site(s)		-	Meets Standard	-	Site(s)	
1.00	site per	35,000	Meets Standard	- Site(s)		-	Meets Standard	-	Site(s)	
0.50	SF per	person	Need Exists	23,065 Square Feet		-	Need Exists	23,088	Square Feet	

...e stations, walking path exercise signage, and outdoor game tables.

Figure 18: City of Bristol Level of Service Standards

Existing Parks	Council District	Address	Classification	Acreage	Picnic Shelter	Pavilions	Youth Diamond Fields (Baseball and Softball)	Adult Baseball Fields	Adult Softball Fields	Rectangular Multi-Use Fields
Quinlan			Pocket	0.4						
Pocket park total				0.4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Hill Green			Neighborhood	2.1	1		1			
Brackett			Neighborhood	2.3	1					
Seymour			Neighborhood	5.2				1		
Stocks Playground			Neighborhood	2.26	1					
Wilson Playground			Neighborhood	2					1	
Kern			Neighborhood	24.7						
Peck			Neighborhood	6.2			0	0	0	
Neighborhood park total				44.76	3	0	1	1	1	0
Memorial Boulevard			Community	26.19	2					
Page			Community	87	2		0	1	1	1
Rockwell			Community	119	4					1
Pine Lake			Community	76						
Community park total				308.19	8	0	0	1	1	2
Casey Field			Special Use	8.24					1	0
Dennis Malone Aquatics Center			Special Use	1.08						
Muzzy Field			Special Use	5.24				1		1
Mix Street			Special Use	5.7					1	
Fraser Field			Special Use	4.94			0			
Special use total				25.2	0	0	0	1	2	1
Birge Pond/Hoppers			Nature Preserve	270						
Nature preserve total				270	0	0	0	0	0	0
Roberts Property			Open Space	34.22						
Nelson's			Open Space	49.2						
Open space total				83.42	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bristol park total				731.97	11	0	1	3	4	3

Basketball Courts	Tennis Courts	Playgrounds	Sand Volleyball Pits	Dog Park	Skatepark	Splash Pads	Outdoor Pool	Paved Trails (Miles)	UnPaved Trails (Miles)	Indoor Recreation Space (Sq. Ft.)	Indoor Aquatic Space (Sq. Ft.)	Comments
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		1						0.07	0			Field only used for T-Ball
1		1						0.26	0			
1	2	1						0.07	0			
1		1	1			1		0	0			Bathrooms
1		1						0	0			
	4							0	0.75			Tennis Courts in poor condition, being removed
	4	1						0.08	0.02			
4	10	6	1	0	0	1	0	0.48	0.77	0	0	
	4							0.56	0.25			School controls fields. Tennis courts in poor condition.
1	5	1				1	1	0	0.4	4111		Bathrooms
1		1	2	1	1	1	1	1.51	4.4	2880		Bathrooms
								0.01	0			
2	9	2	2	1	1	2	2	2.08	5.05	6991	0	
								0.45	0			Slo-pitch infield
											14637	
								0	0			Slo-pitch infield
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.45	0	0	14637	
								0.16	7.4			
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.16	7.4	0	0	
				1					1.3			
								0	0			
0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1.3	0	0	
6	19	8	3	2	1	3	2	3.17	14.52	6991	14637	

Figure 19: City of Bristol Inventory

4.4 PRIORITY RANKINGS

The purpose of the Priority Rankings is to provide a prioritized list of facility needs and recreation program needs for the community. This model evaluates both quantitative and qualitative data:

- Quantitative data includes the statistically-valid community survey, which asked residents to list unmet needs and rank their importance.
- Qualitative data includes resident feedback obtained in community input, stakeholder interviews, staff input, local demographics, recreation trends, and Consultant Team observations.

A weighted scoring system is used to determine the priorities for parks and recreation facilities and recreation programs (**Figure 20**).

Data Source	Component	Weighting
Quantitative Data	Unmet needs reported by the community survey is used as a factor from the total number of households stating whether they have a need for a facility/program and the extent to which their need for facilities/programs has been met. Survey participants were asked to identify this for 28 different facilities and 27 different programs.	35%
	Importance rankings reported by the community survey is used as a factor from the importance allocated to a facility or program by the community. Each respondent was asked to identify the top four most important facilities and programs.	35%
Qualitative Data	Synthesis of trends and anecdotal information is derived from the Consultant Team's evaluation of facility/program priority based on survey results, community input, stakeholder interviews, staff input, local demographics, and recreation trends.	30%

Figure 20: Priority Rankings

These weighted scores provide an overall score and priority ranking for the system as a whole (**Figures 21 and 21**). The results of the priority ranking are tabulated into three categories: High Priority, Medium Priority, and Low Priority. It should be understood that the Department needs to be flexible when addressing priority rankings. The Department should be agile to address lower priority needs when situations arise that facilitate "easier to implement" projects and services such as grant funding, volunteer support, etc. Ultimately, higher ranking priorities should be addressed first, but common sense should be taken when addressing community needs.

Program	Overall Rank
Adult fitness & wellness programs	1
City sponsored special events	2
Senior adult & fitness programs (age 50+)	3
Aquatics programming (e.g. swim lessons, recreation/lap swim, competitive training)	4
Outdoor skills/adventure programs	5
Culinary arts (e.g. cooking, baking)	6
Adult sports programs	7
Cultural enrichment & arts programs	8
Senior trips/other targeted senior programs	9
Environmental education programs	10
Before & after school programs	11
Youth sports programs	12
Teen programs	13
Social service programs	14
Community education programs	15
Performing arts programs	16
Youth fitness & wellness programs	17
Archery programs	18
Mobile or pop-up recreation programs (i.e. programming brought directly to neighborhoods)	19
Youth summer camp programs	20
Programs for individuals with disabilities	21
Pickleball programs	22
Preschool programs	23
Tennis programs	24
Esports programs/leagues/tournaments	25
Unstructured indoor play	26
Outreach programs	27

Figure 21: Priority Rankings - Programs

Facility	Overall Rank
Walking trails	1
Biking trails	2
Natural areas & greenspace	3
Adventure facility (rock wall, ropes course)	4
Dining/retail	5
Neighborhood parks (Less than 10 acres)	6
Community gardens	7
Dog parks	8
Playgrounds	9
Outdoor swimming pools	10
Park shelters & pavilions	11
Bike park (pump/skills track)	12
Accessible playground equipment	13
Community parks (10+ acres)	14
Ornamental/interpretive gardens	15
Concessions	16
Splashpads/spraygrounds	17
Indoor classroom/meeting room space	18
Multi-generational community center	19
Multi-purpose diamond fields (baseball/ softball/cricket)	20
Game tables (e.g. chess, checkers, dominoes)	21
Tennis courts	22
Pickleball courts	23
Disc golf course	24
Multi-purpose rectangular fields (soccer/football/rugby)	25
Outdoor classrooms	26
Outdoor basketball/volleyball courts	27
Skateboard parks	28



Figure 22: Priority Rankings - Facilities



5.1 PAGE PARK MASTER PLAN

As part of this Master Plan, the Consultant Team was tasked with updating the Page Park master plan that was developed in 2004. Since the original master plan was completed, the park has seen renovations that include reconstruction of the existing tennis courts from asphalt to post-tension concrete, renovations to the playground adjacent to King Street, baseball infield renovations, development of the 18 hole disc golf course, and renovations to the existing pool.

Following the development of the in-depth site analysis of Page Park (refer to Chapter 4 and Appendix D), community input on Page Park was provided through the needs assessment focus group interviews and surveys. The following questions and responses were provided:

What works well:

- Playground
- Outdoor pool
- Tennis courts
- Basketball court
- Disc golf course

What does not work well:

- Pedestrian circulation through the park
- Lack of ADA accessibility and connectivity through the park
- Lack of parking
- No separation of vehicular and pedestrian circulation is dangerous
- Baseball and softball fields are not fenced in and can not be used simultaneously

What can be improved:

- Building/improve walking trails
- Athletic and site lighting
- ADA accessibility and improved walkability
- Utilize and renovate existing buildings for more programming
- Renovate baseball and softball fields to add fencing so that they can be used simultaneously

Based on this community input and results of the Page Park in-depth site analysis, the goal in preparing the master plan improvements was to maintain the existing amenities that have been recently renovated or developed and to work to improve the park around those existing amenities to address issues noted above. This meant that the existing pool, tennis courts, playground and disc golf course would remain in their existing locations and would receive minor improvements as part of the master plan. One of the challenges of this master plan was working with the existing topography of the park in order to provide accessible routes and develop areas as cost effective as possible which meant staying out of extremely steep slopes and working with existing grades to reduce the need for significant earthwork and retaining walls.

In order to address community concerns, the Consultant Team focused on two areas, the northeast corner of the site along King Street and the southern portion of the park (Ingraham Field). Based on the feedback from focus groups and the Level of Service (Chapter 4), the park system currently has a deficiency in youth diamonds. Based on its current configuration, a baseball and softball game can not occur at the same time. Therefore, the existing hardball fields along King Street are proposed to be converted from a natural grass field to synthetic turf with lights. This would allow the field to be used for either youth or full size baseball (in the same diamond area) and for rectangular sports in the outfield. This would then relocate the existing softball field to Ingraham Field. This would allow the two fields to be used for youth baseball, full size baseball and softball and allows two games to occur simultaneously where only one can occur at this time.

In order to address the parking issues identified, new parking has been proposed between the synthetic turf field and Dewitt Page Park Road. South of the road, the existing parking lot would be renovated and expanded south over the existing basketball courts that would be relocated. Five additional parking areas (7 total) are proposed; one adjacent to the tennis courts, one across the road from the pool, one north of the indoor pavilion, a formalized parking area were users of the disc

golf course currently park and enter the course, and additional parking adjacent Ingraham Field. North of the existing tennis courts, four (4) new pickle ball courts with shade structures are proposed. North of the proposed parking adjacent to the tennis courts are two (2) new picnic shelters and an outdoor fitness station with equipment. A new full basketball court with two (2) additional basketball hoops for practice is proposed west of the new tennis court parking. The basketball court can be accessed from Dewitt Page Park Road and the proposed parking at tennis.

Currently the hill between the pool and tennis courts is often used for sledding in the winter months. Due to the proposed development of this area, this master plan proposes to remove the outdoor stage south of the ski lodge and this existing hill side west of this area would be cleared to allow sledding south of the expanded parking (where the existing basketball court is located)

Pedestrian walkways are proposed adjacent to Dewitt Page Park Road to allow separation of pedestrian and vehicular circulation through the park. There are also a series of walkways that provide accessible routes from the parking adjacent to the proposed synthetic turf field up to the tennis court elevation and then continuing up to the proposed basketball courts and pavilion.

Other park improvements include renovations to the disc golf course (which includes replacing tee pads, baskets, access between holes, etc.), Dewitt Page Park Road improvements, site lighting, pond wall improvements, park gateway enhancements, signage and wayfinding improvements and associated site and landscape improvements.

The total costs for all of the Page Park Master Plan improvements is \$13,600,000. This number includes 15% for general conditions, contractor overhead and profit, 20% design contingency and 10% for soft costs (survey, design, engineering, permitting, bidding, and construction administration). This cost assumes tax exempt, prevailing wage construction and does not include rock or ledge removal or removal of unsuitable, contaminated or hazardous materials.

Refer to **Appendix G** for the Page Park Master Plan Rendering.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS



6.1 VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

As part of this updated Master Plan, the BPRYCS's vision, mission, and core values were revisited. The update process utilized the needs assessment findings and community values ascertained through the Master Plan's development. Then, an iterative process used Consultant Team recommendations followed by a series of Department staff feedback and revisions.

VISION

"The Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services Department is an essential department impacting the lives of all Bristol residents by shaping positive public perceptions, fostering cultural unity, creating responsible and healthy citizens, and inspiring advocacy."

MISSION

"It is the mission of the Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services Department to deliver high-quality services and facilities that enhance the community's quality of life, meet the diverse needs of all citizens, and build a sustainable future."

VALUES

Commitment to Service: Utilize a responsive, customer-centric, resident-driven professional approach to all areas of service delivery which includes transparency, strong communication and public outreach.

Commitment to Partnership: Develop strong internal and external partners and sponsors to ensure the changing recreation, leisure, and community service needs of a diverse community are being met.

Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Ensure every resident feels welcome and has access to high-quality parks and services; regardless of age, ability, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and socio-economic status.

Commitment to Stewardship and Conservation: Manage city parks and open space to preserve natural resources and park assets for future generations.

Commitment to Fiscal Stewardship: Engage in strong financial leadership across every level of the organization to ensure all areas of service are administered in a fiscally responsible way.

Commitment to Innovation: Commit to being at the forefront of solution-based problem solving and creativity to address current and future challenges facing the City of Bristol.



6.2 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

This section of the Master Plan reflects the capital improvement recommendations that are necessary to fulfill the park and recreation facility needs of the community. In order to plan and prioritize capital investments, the Consultant Team recommends that the City of Bristol applies specific guiding principles that balances the maintenance of current assets over the development of new facilities. The framework is also utilized to determine and plan CIP projects and make budget decisions that are sustainable over time. These criteria (e.g., ADA compliance, commitment, efficiency, and revenue) and priorities are also focused on maintaining the integrity of the current infrastructure and facilities before expanding and/or enhancing programs and services.

The community, through the planning process, has indicated strong support for this concept of prioritization. The result is the recommendation to develop a three-tier plan that acknowledges a prioritization process for addressing community needs. Each tier corresponds with a different type of capital improvement.

Critical Projects are associated with addressing deferred maintenance (as outlined in Chapter 4) accessibility issues, and other critical needs at existing facilities. This also includes implementation of improvements identified in the Page Park Master Plan. Typically, these types of projects are funded via existing CIP monies. The subtotal for the Critical Projects is \$23,766,00.

Sustainable Projects include the extra services or capital improvements that should be undertaken when additional funding is available. This includes strategically enhancing existing programs, beginning new alternative programs, adding new positions, efficiency upgrades, or making other strategic changes that would require additional operation or capital funding. This also includes adding amenities and facilities that would enhance the existing user experience within parks such as court and field sports lighting, expansion of paved trails, and new volleyball pits, playgrounds and park shelters. The subtotal for Sustainable Projects is \$7,500,000.

Visionary Projects represent a larger set of services and facilities desired by the community. It can help provide guidance by illustrating the ultimate goals of the community and by providing a long-range look to address future needs and deficiencies. In this Master Plan, Visionary Projects addresses the development of a new indoor recreation building, neighborhood parkland and community ornamental/interpretative gardens. The subtotal for Visionary Projects is \$20,000,00.

Project Name	Amount Requested	21/22	22/23	23/24
Birge Pond Hoppers Trail/Site Improvements	1,000,000			
Brackett Park- Playground and Basketball Court Upgrades	300,000			
City Wide Parks and Recreation Master Plan	150,000			
DMAC-Energy Upgrades, Filtration/Pool System Upgrades	300,000			
DMAC- Interior Upgrades, Painting, Ceiling Finishing	100,000			
E. G. Stocks Playground & Splash Park Upgrade	600,000	600,000		
Federal Hill- Playground Updates & Relocation and ADA	200,000			200,000
Kern Park- Site Planning and Improvements	200,000		200,000	
Memorial Blvd- Tennis Court Renovations & ADA improvements	550,000			
Memorial Blvd - Bathrooms	150,000	150,000		
Page Park- Pavilion Renovation Phase 2	600,000	600,000		
Page Park- Pool Upper Facility Phase 2 Upgrades	500,000			
Page Park Renovation	13,600,000	2,000,000	3,000,000	5,050,000
Peck Park Site Upgrades	710,000			
Pine Lake- ADA Canoe/Kayak Boat Ramp	200,000			
Pine Lake- Indoor Programming Facility	1,500,000			
Roberts Property Development	1,000,000			
Rockwell Park- Bathhouse Renovations	200,000			200,000
Rockwell Park-Parafitness Course Repairs and Upgrades	200,000		200,000	
Rockwell Park- Playground Replacement	200,000			
Rockwell Park- Pool Resurfacing and Renovation	300,000			
Seymour Park- Playground and field Upgrades	256,000			
Seymour Park-Tennis/Bball repairs and pickleball conversion	250,000	250,000		
Showmobile Replacement/Upgrades	300,000			
Wilson's Field- Playground and Site Upgrades	400,000			
	\$23,766,000	3,600,000	\$3,400,000	\$5,450,000

24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28	28/29	29/30	30/31	Grant Funding Option
	1,000,000						X
					300,000		
					150,000		
			300,000				X
			100,000				
		550,000					
			500,000				
3,550,000							
	710,000						
			200,000				
						1,500,000	
	1,000,000						
							X
				200,000			
300,000							
		256,000					
				300,000			
					400,000		
\$3,850,000	\$2,710,000	\$806,000	\$1,100,000	\$500,000	\$850,000		

Figure 1: City of Bristol Capital Improvements Plan



Image: Sample of a field irrigated; Not located within City of Bristol.

6.3 MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Maintenance Standards: Three maintenance levels are generally defined. The difference between levels is frequency of maintenance as determined by ability. Maintenance Standards have these general characteristics.

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

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

Maintenance standards are organized by three Levels of Service. Maintenance standards can change by season and month depending on the type of park area level of use. Standards shall be calculated by time and equipment proposed for all parks in the system.

This format provides guidance in terms of understanding the required work activities and elements in a descriptive manner that then can be quantified numerically. Following are descriptions of the levels of service and both qualitative and quantitative maintenance standards as proposed for all parks in the system.

LEVEL ONE MAINTENANCE STANDARDS AND DEFINITIONS FOR PARKS

- Turf Maintenance – high profile areas (small areas, entire area visible to foot traffic)
 - Mowing will occur 2 times/week
 - Mowing heights
 - » 2.5" during warm season (day time highs consistently above 75 degrees)
 - Edging of all turf perimeters will occur 1 time/week
 - 95% turf coverage
 - 3% weed infestation for existing areas (all efforts should be made to keep new areas 100% weed free)
 - 2% bare area
 - Remove grass clippings if visible
 - Aerate 1 time/year (additionally if needed)
 - Inspect thatch layer regularly and remove as needed
 - Test soil and water annually
 - » Additional testing will occur if deemed necessary
 - Soil moisture will be consistent
 - » No wet areas
 - » No dry areas

- » Firm enough for foot and mower traffic
 - » Apply wetting agents to assist in uniform soil moisture
 - » Hand water as needed
- Inspect daily for insects, disease, and stress and respond to outbreaks within 24 hours
- Fertilize (3) times per year
- Top dress/over seed once a year
- Tree and Shrub Maintenance
 - Prune/trim trees and shrubs as dictated by species once annually
 - Remove sucker growth annually
 - Test soil annually to ensure application of appropriate nutrients as needed
 - Apply fertilizer to plant species according to their optimum requirements as needed or yearly
 - Inspect regularly for insects and diseases. Respond to outbreaks within 48 hours
 - Place 2" of organic mulch around each tree within a minimum 18" ring
 - Place 2" of organic mulch around shrub beds to minimize weed growth
 - Remove hazardous limbs and plants immediately upon discovery
 - Remove dead trees and plant material immediately unless located within an environmental area
 - Remove or treat invasive plants within 5 days of discovery
 - Flower bed maintenance done yearly
 - Fertilize once a year
 - Pond maintenance done yearly and inspect weekly
 - Water features maintained weekly
 - Invasive plant removal annually
 - Water non-established Memorial Trees twice a week
- Storm Cleanup
 - Inspect drain covers at least twice monthly, before rain and immediately after flooding
 - Remove debris and organic materials from drain covers immediately
 - Maintain water inlet height at 100% of design standard
- Irrigation Systems
 - Inspect irrigation systems at least once per month or computer monitors as necessary
 - Initiate repairs to non-functioning systems within 24 hours of discovery
 - Back flow testing done annually
- Litter Control
 - Pick up litter and empty containers at least once daily or as needed
 - Remove leaves and organic debris once a week or as necessary

- **Playground Maintenance**
 - Audit each playground to ensure compliance with the current version of ASTM Performance Standard F1487 and the Consumer Product Safety Commission “Handbook for Public Playground Safety”
 - Complete low-frequency playground inspections at least bi-monthly or as required. All low-frequency inspections are to be completed by a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI). Complete safety-related repairs immediately, and initiate other repairs within 48 hours of discovery
 - Complete high-frequency inspections at least weekly
 - Groom surface three times weekly, nine months a year
 - Complete full playground inspection following hurricane, tropical storm, blizzard, or other high wind events
- **Hard Surface Maintenance**
 - Remove debris and glass immediately upon discovery
 - Remove sand, dirt, and organic debris from walks and hard-court surfaces weekly
 - Remove trip hazards from pedestrian areas immediately upon discovery
 - Paint fading or indistinct instructional / directional signs annually
 - Blow grass clippings after mowing around hard surfaces
 - Remove grass growing in cracks as needed
- **Outdoor Court Maintenance**
 - Inspect tennis and basketball courts at least once monthly. Complete all repairs within 48 hours of discovery
 - Repaint lines at least once each year
 - Replace basketball nets when frayed, broken, or removed
 - Maintain basketball goal posts, backboards, rims, tennis net posts, fencing, and hardware to original design specifications
- **Trail Maintenance**
 - Inspect hard and soft surface trails at least once monthly
 - Remove dirt, sand, and organic debris from hard surfaces at least once weekly
 - Remove organic debris from soft surfaces at least once weekly
 - Maintain a uniform 3-4” depth of compacted material on soft surface trails at all times
 - Graffiti removed weekly
 - Remove overhanging branches within 84” of the trail surface at least twice annually
 - Mechanically or chemically control growth 24” on either side of the trails
 - Inspect signs, benches, and other site amenities at least once monthly. Complete repairs within 10 days of discovery
 - Inspect and make necessary repairs to lighting systems at least once monthly
 - Repair / replace bulbs to maintain lighting levels to design specifications at all times
- **Site Amenity Maintenance**
 - Inspect benches, trash containers, picnic tables and grills, bicycle racks, flag poles, drinking fountains, and other site amenities at least monthly. Complete repairs within 24 hours of discovery
 - Cleaning, scrub and power wash of amenities twice yearly
 - Inspect daily for insects, disease, and stress and respond to outbreaks within 24 hours

- Athletic Fields Grounds Maintenance (Baseball, Soccer, and Softball)
 - Fields that are dedicated to softball, baseball, and soccer only
 - Use mower capable of “striping” the turf
 - Mowing will occur twice weekly
 - Mowing heights
 - » 2” during cool season (day time highs consistently below 75 degrees)
 - » 2.5”-4” during warm season (day time highs consistently above 80 degrees)
 - Edging of field perimeters will occur twice monthly
 - 95% turf coverage at the start of every season
 - 80% turf coverage after play begins
 - 5% weed infestation
 - 0% bare area at the start of every season
 - 15% bare and weak areas will be acceptable after play begins
 - Apply pre-germinated seed to heavily worn areas after every tournament
 - Remove grass clippings if visible
 - Aerate 3 times annually
 - Spot aerate high use areas as needed
 - Inspect thatch layer regularly and remove as needed
 - Test soil and water annually
 - » Additional testing will occur if deemed necessary
 - Soil moisture will be consistent
 - » No wet areas
 - » No dry areas
 - » Firm enough for foot and mower traffic
 - » Apply wetting agents to assist in uniform soil moisture
 - » Hand water as needed
 - Inspect daily for insects, disease, and stress and respond to outbreaks within 24 hours
 - Fertilize monthly
 - Aerate and over seed yearly
- Fence and Gate Maintenance
 - Inspect fences, gates, and bollards at least twice annually. Complete safety-related repairs immediately. Complete other repairs within 48 hours of discovery
 - Annually free fence of debris
- Sign Maintenance
 - Inspect sign lettering, surfaces, and posts at least once monthly
 - Repair / replace signs to maintain design and safety standards within 24 hours of discovery
 - Clean signs twice a year
 - Cut back plant material annually or more if needed
- Pest Control
 - In accordance with the Department's Integrated Pest Management Program (IPM), problem areas are inspected monthly and remedied immediately upon discovery

- Vandalism and Graffiti Removal
 - Initiate repairs immediately upon discovery. Document and photograph damage as necessary
 - Picnic shelters restored back to existing state within 24 hours of graffiti identification; closed immediately for reservation/use if vandalism affects patron health, life, and safety
 - Reserved units cleaned and litter removed prior to and after each reservation
 - Minor repairs are made immediately upon discovery
 - Non-reserved units are cleaned weekly by power washing, or as necessary
- Lighting Security/Area
 - Foot-candle levels will be maintained to preserve original design
 - Light timers will be inspected quarterly and following daylight savings
 - Light poles and bulbs inspected once a month
 - Repairs/bulb replacement will be completed within 24 hours of discovery
- Aquatic Center Standards
 - Vacuum pool weekly
 - Manually check water chemistry every two hours of operation
 - Check water electronically on a continuous basis
 - Water checked for temperature, chlorine, and pH
 - Check flow rates every 2 hours of operation
 - Water checked for clarity on a continuous basis
 - Clean concrete areas daily
 - Repaint pool tank every two years
 - Pressure wash concrete areas weekly
 - Clean restrooms two times daily
 - Inspect facility and associated equipment daily
 - Maintain all equipment per manufacturers suggestions
 - Inspect sand filter annually
- Broken Equipment Standard
 - Broken equipment shall be repaired immediately, as staff is capable and as parts are available when noticed or reported as funding allows.
 - If staff is not able to repair, the broken equipment will be signed and roped off with emergency tape indicating that the amenity is broken, not to be used, and if and when it will be repaired
- Lifecycle Replacement
 - The City has developed a lifecycle replacement program that must be built into the Capital Improvement Program based on contractor and product specifications
- Concession Standards (Outdoor)
 - Concession facilities cleaned, wiped down, and sanitized before opening
 - Electrical appliances checked for compliance and repaired if damaged
 - Lights checked and repaired as needed
 - Concession operating permits secured before opening

- Appliances cleaned thoroughly before opening
- Prices for concessions will be posted
- Cash registers tested to ensure they work properly
- Circuit breakers tested prior to opening
- Cleaning and sanitation supplies on hand before opening
- Pick up debris daily
- Closing Concession Standards (Outdoor)
 - Equipment cleaned thoroughly
 - Supplies removed and discarded
 - Electricity should be turned off
 - Refrigerators and cables turned off and sealed
 - Facility floors, sinks, and counters cleaned thoroughly
 - Hoses cleaned and drained
 - Kitchen cleaned thoroughly
 - Inspections of standards will occur monthly
- Restrooms
 - Restrooms cleaned twice per day unless contracted
 - Restrooms inspected hourly
 - Restrooms locked/unlocked daily
 - Replace waterless urinal cartridges monthly
 - Leaks dealt with immediately and repaired within 24 hours of discovery
- Open Space Standard
 - Maintain natural appearance to open space areas
 - Remove trees and branches that pose a hazard to the users of the area
 - Respond to disease and insect outbreaks within 24 hours of identification
 - Inspect areas monthly
 - Remove and clean dump sites within 48 hours of identification
 - Post and maintain appropriate signage for each individual area
 - Implement strategies to assist in reducing the stand of non-native invasive plants by 5% annually
 - No large branches or debris will be allowed in parks and along perimeters
- Snow/Ice Removal Standard
 - Plowing/salting
 - » As much as is possible, plow in straight/square line
 - » In open areas plow from middle and plow in both directions
 - » Plow to curb; if the curb is a sidewalk edge, plow away from the walk

- » Do not plow and pile snow into shrubbery
- » When plowing parking lot entrances, take caution not to block sidewalks
- » Plow should be angled and overlap last pass to keep snow from rolling out the back edge; let the plow and truck do the work
- » Watch for obstructions as manholes, curbs, and light poles may not be marked
- » Check the plow for proper operation hourly (shoes, hoses, etc.)
- » In some circumstances, it may be necessary to drop plow and pull snow away from doors
- » Plow snow to all edges, park walks, parking lots, etc.
- » Engage PTO on salt truck with shift lever in drive and truck stopped; auger speed should be set at 1-2; spinner speed set at 6-9 (depending on location); disengage PTO when finished salting an area; and adjust settings as needed
- » When raising bed to move salt into auger, do not raise higher than where you can see bottom of bed in rear view mirror; backing and braking at this point will move salt into auger; and be aware of overhead obstacles, wires, etc.
- » Guard against spreading salt onto/into lawn areas and ornamental beds
- » Suggest to keep at least one (1) bucket load of salt in truck
- » Do not travel with bed in raised position
- » Keep flat shovel with truck at all times
- » When emptying truck at salt pile, have extra person to assist in operation
- Sidewalks
 - » Shovels and brooms for light accumulations (up to 1")
 - » Snow blowers for use in accumulations of 1" or more
 - » Ice melter spreaders should be used to distribute ice melter (except for steps); use 5-gallon buckets to spread material on steps and other inaccessible areas
 - » Use ice melter around the main entrances
 - » All priority "A" walks will be cleared to bare pavement; edge to edge; priority "B" and "C" cleared of snow; ice melter will not be used unless specified
 - » Unloading ice melter spreader from vehicle should be a 2-person operation; do not allow spreaders to drop to pavement
 - » When snowing hard and additional accumulation is expected, keep main entrances open where activities are in progress; remainder of priority walks can be cleared after snow subsides
- Other
 - » All equipment is to be cleaned, checked, and stored in proper location at end of operation
 - » Before using equipment and leaving service area, be sure that all equipment is operating and functional
 - » Helping motorists: advise, radio for help; do not push or pull citizen vehicle with City vehicle
 - » Help police and fire if requested
 - » Fire hydrants are to be cleared within 24 hours of the end of a storm.

LEVEL TWO MAINTENANCE STANDARDS FOR PARKS

Maintenance standards can change by season and month depending on the park and level of use. Standards will be calculated by time and equipment needed to develop the required operation budgets. The difference between Level 1 and Level 2 standards is the frequency rate.

- Turf Maintenance
 - Mowing will occur once weekly
 - Mowing heights
 - » 2.5" during cool season (day time highs consistently below 75 degrees)
 - Edging of all turf perimeters will occur weekly during season and every 2 weeks in off-season
 - 88% turf coverage
 - 8% weed infestation
 - 4% bare area will be acceptable after play begins
 - Remove grass clippings if visible
 - Aerate once annually in low use areas
 - Aerate twice annually in high use areas (additional if needed)
 - Inspect thatch layer regularly and remove as needed
 - Test soil and water annually
 - » Additional testing will occur if deemed necessary
 - Soil moisture will be consistent
 - » No wet areas
 - » No dry areas
 - » Firm enough for foot and mower traffic
 - » Apply wetting agents to assist in uniform soil moisture
 - » Hand water as needed
 - Inspect weekly for insects, disease, and stress, and respond to outbreaks within 24 hours
 - Fertilize twice yearly
- Tree and Shrub Maintenance
 - Prune/trim trees and shrubs as dictated by species at least once annually
 - Apply fertilizer to plant species only if plant health dictates
 - Remove sucker growth as needed
 - Inspect regularly for insects and diseases. Respond to outbreaks within 48 hours
 - Place 2" of organic mulch around each tree within a minimum 18" ring
 - Place 2" of organic mulch around shrub beds to minimize weed growth
 - Remove hazardous limbs and plants immediately upon discovery
 - Remove dead trees and plant material within 30 days of discovery
 - Remove or treat invasive plants yearly
 - Water established Memorial Trees twice weekly during droughts
 - Invasive plant removal once a year or as needed

- Storm Cleanup
 - Inspect drain covers at least once monthly and immediately after flooding occurs
 - Remove debris and organic materials from drain covers within every other month
 - Inspect and clean drains before forecasted storms begin
 - Maintain water inlet height at 100% of design standard
 - Drain system maintenance done once a year
- Irrigation Systems
 - Inspect irrigation systems a minimum of once per month and as necessary
 - Initiate repairs to non-functioning systems within 48 hours of discovery
 - Annual back flow inspection done yearly
- Litter Control
 - Pick up litter and empty containers at least every other day or as needed
 - Remove leaves and organic debris once a week
- Playground Maintenance
 - Audit each playground to insure compliance with the current version of ASTM Performance Standard F1487 and the Consumer Product Safety Commission "Handbook for Public Playground Safety"
 - Complete low-frequency playground inspections at least bi-monthly or as required. All low-frequency inspections are to be completed by a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI). Complete safety-related repairs immediately and initiate other repairs within 48 hours of discovery
 - Complete high-frequency inspections at least weekly
 - Grooming surface two times weekly
- Hard Surface Maintenance
 - Remove debris and glass immediately upon discovery
 - Remove sand, dirt, and organic debris from walks, lots, and hard surfaces every 30 days
 - Remove trip hazards from pedestrian areas immediately upon discovery
 - Paint fading or indistinct instructional/directional signs every other year
 - Remove grass in the cracks monthly
- Outdoor Court Maintenance
 - Inspect basketball courts at least once monthly. Complete repairs within 10 days of discovery
 - Repaint lines at least once every 2 years
 - Replace basketball nets within 10 days when frayed, broken, or removed
 - Maintain basketball goal posts, backboards, rims, fencing, and hardware to original design specifications. Complete repairs within 10 days of discovery
- Trail Maintenance
 - Inspect hard and soft surface trails at least once monthly
 - Remove dirt, sand, and organic debris from hard surfaces at least once monthly
 - Remove organic debris from soft surfaces at least once monthly
 - Maintain a uniform 2-4" depth of compacted material on soft surface trails
 - Mechanically or chemically control growth 24" on either side of the trails
 - Remove overhanging branches within 84" of the trail surface at least once annually
 - Inspect signs, benches, and other site amenities at least once monthly. Complete repairs

within 10 days of discovery

- Site Amenity Maintenance
 - Inspect benches, trash containers, picnic tables, grills, bicycle racks, drinking fountains, and other site amenities at least monthly. Complete repairs within 5 days of discovery
 - Cleaning and washing annually
 - Inspect daily for insects, disease, and stress and respond to outbreaks within 24 hours
- Athletic Field Grounds Maintenance (Baseball, Soccer, and Softball)
 - Fields that are dedicated to soccer, baseball, softball
 - Mowing will occur twice weekly
 - Mowing heights
 - » 2.5" during cool season (day time highs consistently below 75 degrees)
 - » 2.5-4" during warm season (daytime highs consistently above 80 degrees)
 - Edging of all field perimeters will occur once monthly
 - 80% turf coverage at the start of every season
 - 65% turf coverage after play begins
 - 20% weed infestation
 - 5% bare area at the start of every season
 - 15% bare and weak areas will be acceptable after play begins
 - Remove grass clippings if visible
 - Aerate once annually
 - Inspect thatch layer regularly and remove as needed
 - Test soil and water annually
 - » Additional testing will occur if deemed necessary
 - » Soil moisture will be consistent
 - No wet areas
 - No dry areas
 - Firm enough for foot and mower traffic
 - Inspect weekly for insects, disease, and stress, and respond to outbreaks within 24 hours
- Fence and Gate Maintenance
 - Inspect fences, gates, and bollards at least once annually. Complete safety-related repairs immediately, and complete other repairs within 5 days of discovery
 - Clean debris annually
- Sign Maintenance
 - Inspect sign lettering, surfaces, and posts at least once every 3 months
 - Repair/replace signs to maintain design and safety standards within 5 days of discovery
 - Clean sign once a year
- Pest Control
 - In accordance with the Department's Integrated Pest Management Program (IPM), inspect problem areas monthly and remedy immediately upon discovery

- Picnic Shelters
 - Reserved units cleaned and litter removed prior to and after each reservation
 - Minor repairs are made immediately upon discovery
 - Non-reserved units are cleaned bi-weekly, or as necessary
- Lighting Security/Area
 - Inspect quarterly
 - Repairs/bulb replacement will be completed within 72 hours of discovery
- Restrooms
 - Restrooms cleaned daily unless contracted
 - Restrooms inspected every three hours
 - Restrooms locked/unlocked daily
 - Replace waterless urinal cartridges monthly
 - Leaks dealt with immediately and repaired within 24 hours of discovery

LEVEL THREE MAINTENANCE STANDARDS FOR PARKS

Maintenance Standards can change by season and month depending on the type of park and level of use. Standards will be calculated by time and equipment needed to develop required operation budgets.

- Turf Maintenance
 - Mowing will occur once every 10 days
 - Mowing heights
 - » 2.5" during cool season (day time highs consistently below 75 degrees)
 - 50% turf coverage
 - » Up to 50% weed coverage for existing
 - » Up to 20% bare area
 - » Safety of hazard only action
 - » Inspect fences monthly

MAINTENANCE ITEMS FOR SPLASH PADS AND POOLS

The Department shall establish and implement a maintenance program to assure safe and enjoyable splash pad and pool conditions.

MINIMUM STANDARD

The Department shall establish and administer programs for all areas of the splash pads and pools. These shall be maintained in good condition in conformance with the Department's minimum standards. The policies that will govern minimum standards for maintenance operations include but not are limited to:

- Customer Service
 - Safety and directional signs are properly positioned
 - Entrance is clearly visible with appropriately placed road signs to access the splash pads and pools
 - Entrance is well landscaped with a "Welcome To" sign in place
 - Parking lot is clean and well maintained
 - Parking lot has designated handicapped slots
 - Area surrounding splash pads and pools is neatly groomed and landscaped
 - Maintenance building is neat and clean

- Buildings and structures
 - Bathhouse and restrooms floors should be disinfected daily
 - Pool decks should be rinsed daily
 - Buildings and structures shall be maintained in good repair at all times in a fashion which is consistent with fire and safety codes and regulations.
 - Tools, supplies and equipment will be organized in an orderly fashion
 - Chemical storage shall be reported to the Department on an annual basis as part of SARA III reporting requirements. All chemicals shall be stored in a fashion consistent with local/state storage recommendations

- Restrooms shall be checked at least hourly on a daily basis and maintained in a manner to provide clean and sanitary facilities. Soap, towels, toilet issue, etc., shall be provided in adequate quantities at all times.

- Park Amenities and Slides
 - All slides are inspected on a daily basis for problems. Slides are waxed on a yearly basis
 - All in-park amenities are inspected daily and repaired as need
 - Sand in play areas are raked daily as it applies to play areas and volleyball areas
 - Picnic areas washed down daily prior to visitors the water park and tables inspected for repairs
 - Park pool painted and striped on a yearly basis

- Pools
 - Check the operation of the recirculation pump and motor daily
 - Check the operation of the disinfectant and pH chemical feeder daily
 - Check the filter operation, read the pressure gauges, and backwash, if necessary daily
 - For all closed filters, manually release the air daily
 - Skimmer strainer baskets must be cleaned daily
 - Clean the bottom of the pool and manually skim debris from the surface daily
 - Measure and record the chlorine or bromine residual and the pH at least twice a day

- The staff shall keep true, accurate, and complete records of pool and splash pad maintenance, chemical applications, and safety inspections

- Planters (All areas planted with ornamental plants, and having a definable border)
 - Planters shall be maintained free of trash and debris such as (e.g., paper, drinking cans, bottles, fallen limbs and leaves, and etc.)
 - Planters shall be maintained free of weeds or grass by mechanical, manual or chemical means
 - Plant material (e.g., trees, shrubbery and ground covering) in planters shall be trimmed for protection from wind, insect damage, and appearance
 - Various planting areas throughout the facility will be cultivated, weeded, pruned, and fertilized regularly, with at least 2 replanting programs for annuals scheduled yearly

- Irrigation (All equipment required to irrigate all areas of the property)
 - Repair or replace all heads, valves, control equipment, wiring and pipe as needed to maintain the proper operation of the irrigation system on an ongoing basis

- Fences (All fences, chain links, walls, or barbed wire on or within boundaries of the property)
 - Repair all broken or damaged fencing as necessary
 - Immediately repair or replace all fences, gates and locking devices as needed for the protection of the pool and splash pad

- Parking, Sidewalks and Hardscape
 - All sidewalks, patios, and concrete paths must be kept edged. Edging around valve boxes, meter boxes, backflow preventers, etc., shall be done as needed to ensure there is no obstruction of play or maintenance from growth around these areas
 - Any change in the physical characteristics of the pool and splash pad or the modification of any portion of the grounds or structures, shall only be undertaken with the direct approval of the Department
 - Trash and refuse shall be collected daily and removed from the property as necessary to ensure minimal problems from refuse odors, insects, etc.

DOG PARKS MAINTENANCE

- Mow park at least once a week at 3"
- Clean restroom at least once a week
- Inspect signage on how to use the park properly
- Move dog areas every two weeks to keep areas from getting beat down
- Grade parking lot on a monthly basis or as needed
- Inspect fencing on a weekly basis
- Inspect safety lighting on a weekly basis
- Collect garbage from dog park weekly



6.4 FUNDING AND REVENUE STRATEGIES

The following sections outline existing and potential funding sources for the City of Bristol parks and recreation system.

EXISTING FUNDING SOURCES

Taxes. The General Fund is used to cover expenses related to the general administration, operation, and maintenance of the park system.

User Fees. User fees support programs and facilities where the user receives a higher level of benefit above the general taxpayer when they use services and facilities that were created to support these facilities and programs. These include field rentals, concessions, pool use, and general programs like day camps, sports lessons and clinics, and individual-based program services.

Trust and Endowment Funds. The City of Bristol utilizes multiple trust/endowment funds to help with specific park improvements, care, and maintenance of parks. These funds are largely available for improvements to Page Park, Rockwell Park, and Peck Park. However, there are funds available for general system improvements.

Recreation Revolving Accounts. The Recreation Supervisor is responsible for oversight of the Recreation revolving accounts. The Aquatics Supervisor is responsible for the oversight of the Aquatics revolving accounts. All program revenues and all associated costs of that program are billed to the appropriate revolving accounts. The overall revolving accounts must be generating a profit and may not run in the red. These accounts are designed to re-invest in existing revolving account programming and to create new programs; it is not intended to fund capital or larger scale projects. Net revenues of the credit card revolving accounts may be modestly draw upon and utilized for special projects, programs, initiatives, and events with Superintendent approval.

Friends of Bristol Parks and Recreation Fund. This fund, established in 2013, serves as a collection mechanism for the Bristol Park, Recreation, Youth and Community Services Department. This fund is housed within the Main Street Community Foundation and tax deductible.

Grants. Various grant monies are sought to help with park improvements and delivering new programming.

Sponsorships. Typical sponsorships come in the form of a title sponsor, presenting sponsor, associate sponsor, and food sponsor. Sponsorships need to be developed based on the number of impressions a program, service or event will receive and is usually about .05 cents per impression point for the value of the sponsorship. Sponsorships are usually applicable for core programs, special events, destination facilities, clinics, and youth-driven programs. Currently, the Department uses sponsorships for events.

Consistent Bonding. As the municipality buys down bonds over time, they typically continue to use their bond capacity as a revenue source without increasing taxes to take care of what they already own.

Economic and Community Development Funds. Connecticut has several funding sources that assist with economic and community development. The Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) provides a tax credit program designed to provide funding for municipal and tax-exempt organizations and the Community Development Block Grant Program funds local projects. Additionally, grant funding is available for projects that remediate contaminated properties known as Brownfields.

Partnerships (public/public; public/private; public/non-profit). Local municipalities can partner with a host of agencies in developing and maintaining partnerships to help offset the cost to develop, operate, and maintain the park system. Policies need to be established on how to develop and manage partnerships that focus on true equity of investment and daily operational costs to maximize the value of the municipality's financial dollars and the partnership dollars involved.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Opportunities exist for funding many areas of the Department's programs, services, amenities, and programs. The following sources are financial options for the City of Bristol to consider in identifying funds to support the recommendations outlined in this Master Plan. This list is intended to serve as a resource to fit a variety of project-, operational-, or partner-specific initiatives as well as provide inspiration in considering other strategies beyond these recommendations.

1. **BID District.** Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) are created in areas where a park provides added value to businesses such as a central park facility that is surrounded by businesses who benefit from the park directly from users of the park who buy food, retail items, and services that are allowable in the park.
2. **Tax Increment Financing.** Tax Increment Financing (TIF), is a financing method used to catalyze economic development. It uses anticipated future increases in property tax revenues to generate incremental tax revenues from a specific development project or projects across a designated district to help pay for current costs associated with development. These can be public and/or private costs. TIF is a local economic development policy and program that is enabled and guided by state law, Connecticut Public Act No. 15-57. It does not require State approval and its structure and details are determined by the local legislative process. Bristol has a Downtown TIF District which encompasses existing park spaces such as Brackett Park, Federal Hill Green, and Memorial Boulevard Park. The TIF monies can also be used for land acquisition in the Downtown District.
3. **Land Dedication Fees for Open Space.** The funding source requires developers who create additional density for housing provide land for parks to support their additional density or cash-in-lieu of that can be used by the City to buy park property in the area of the density to support the people who live in the area.
4. **Impact Fees.** The maximum fees are defined by a state established formula that factors in the community's historical capital investment within the park system. Recognizing that the new residential development of the resulting increase in population places a greater demand for park infrastructure, the state allows communities to assess an impact fee (for residential and/or retail) to fund the new capital development to accommodate the increased demand. These fees can only be used for capital improvements. At this time, it does not appear that Connecticut municipalities can collect impact fees.
5. **Park Foundation.** Parks and recreation systems across the United States develop a park foundation to support their system that allows individuals, businesses, and corporations to invest through private gifts, donations, land, and amenities. The Department does work with Main Street Community Foundation and has a Friends of Bristol Parks and Recreation Fund established. Although a dedicated park foundation is not established, there is an existing quasi-use foundation method currently used.
6. **Land Leases on Park Property.** Many agencies develop a land lease strategy where they lease land for retail recreation purposes along trails and within parks to restaurants, bike shops, and concession entities that support users in a park or along a trail. The land lease includes the value of the land typically at 15% paid annually and a percentage of gross.
7. **Fiber Optic Land Lease Rights.** This funding source allows the municipality to lease land below the ground for optic cable lines. The fees paid are for a land lease on a per foot basis.
8. **Naming Rights.** Municipalities seek naming rights for major attractions they manage now and in the future. Many municipalities across the United State have naming rights for various facilities and amenities such as outdoor pavilions, indoor recreation centers, sport fields, event areas, etc. The naming rights typically cover 20% of the cost to develop the site and usually include an operational and maintenance endowment, or at least seed money.

9. **Advertising Fees.** These fees are used to support program websites, one-time events, and social media sites. Rates are determined by the number of people who will see the ad. Advertisement opportunities can be included in Department newsletters, brochures, and websites (among others).
10. **Go-To Funds.** Go-To Funds are used to support a specific project online via a short-term social network platform to raise money in small amounts to achieve a goal for a program or amenity needed in the community. This funding source is used well for supporting people and families in need or updating a facility that has a long history in the community and has generational support.
11. **Capital Improvement Fee.** This fee is usually associated with a specific facility that is designed to produce revenue for the Department. The capital improvement fee is attached to the user fee to replace or repair an amenity within a revenue producing facility for a period of time until the repair or improvement is paid off.
12. **Maintenance Endowment.** The goal should be to have at least 3% of total asset value (excluding land value) in a maintenance fund to take care of what the municipality already owns.
13. **Business Development Office.** Some municipalities establish a Business Development Office that submits for grants, creates alliances to develop facilities and programs jointly, and creates partnerships and sponsorships for earned income purposes. The office is dedicated to developing earned income, holding partners accountable to what they say they are doing, and developing and seeking grants.
14. **Wi-Fi Revenue.** Some municipalities establish Wi-Fi areas whereby a Wi-Fi vendor is able to sell the advertising on the Wi-Fi access banner to local businesses targeting the users of the site.
15. **Wind Energy and Solar Panels.** Some municipalities leases areas on park land that help reduce the park site's energy consumption costs.
16. **Grants.** Grants provide parks and recreation systems nationwide money for land acquisition, capital improvements, and operational dollars. Grants can come from the Connecticut state DNR program, land and water funds, redevelopment funds, and foundations who want to support parks, recreation, and open space. Most grants require some form of matching dollars if it is federal monies and foundations typically do not have a match. Some systems have a dedicated grant writer position; those that do not typically contract with one to submit grants on their behalf.

6.5 ACTION PLAN

The Action Plan provides a summary of the key action items recommended throughout the Master Plan. Items are organized into five major sections:

- Park and Facility Development
- Park and Facility Management
- Programs and Services
- Financial and Budgetary Development
- Policies and Practices

Within each section, key **Strategies** for implementation are listed. These strategies represent the major ideas or philosophies recommended by the Consultant Team that are required by the Department to implement the Master Plan. To help achieve each Strategy, **Tactics** are identified along with recommendations for the **Group Responsible**, and **Performance Measure**.

The Action Plan is intended to serve as a dynamic document, reviewed on a regular basis by the Park Board, City Council, and Department staff to plan work tasks and support decision-making in order to carry out the Master Plan. By reviewing the Action Plan quarterly or annually, accomplishments can be noted, adjustments can be made, and new items can be added.

Park and Facility Development Improvements					
Strategy	Timeframe	Tactics	Group Responsible	Performance Measure	Start Date
1	Prioritize capital improvement projects for recreation needs, system connectivity, and preservation of nature due to the increase of development pressure and impact on the Bristol system.	Short-Term (now through 2022)	A. Prioritize "critical" CIP projects and begin to develop plans for expanded paved and unpaved trail mileage.		*Funded in CIP
		Mid-Term (now through 2025)	B. Prioritize "sustainable" CIP projects while also being mindful of adding neighborhood park acreage, Pickleball (dedicated) courts, community gardens, ornamental/interpretive gardens, and outdoor game tables.		*Funded in CIP
		Long-Term (now through 2029)	C. Prioritize "visionary" CIP projects while planning for larger system additions such as picnic shelters, diamond fields, outdoor basketball courts, playgrounds, and dedicated indoor recreation space.		*Funded in CIP
2	Implement and/or develop system-wide site plans for signature parks.	Short-Term (now through 2022)	A. Begin implementation for Page Park site Master Plan.		*Percentage funded and completed annually
		Mid-Term (now through 2025)	B. Develop a Rockwell Park site Business Plan/Master Plan.		*RFP/RFQ issued *Business plan/site master plan completed
			C. Develop a Pine Lake site Master Plan.		*RFP/RFQ issued *Site master plan completed
3	Ensure the existing system is maintained to the public's expectation.	Short-Term (now through 2022)	A. Create a City-wide ADA Transition Plan.		*ADA Plan adopted
			B. Prioritize ADA improvements in CIP planning.		*# or % of ADA deficiencies corrected annually
			C. Adopt system-wide design standards.		*Published
			D. Conduct a field use analysis to determine field space needs.		*Study funded and completed
		Mid-Term (now through 2025)	F. Update existing athletic fields to enhance turf conditions and overall playability; consider natural turf to synthetic turf conversions to increase playability and reduce maintenance costs.		*Facility condition ratings
Park and Facility Management					
4	Establish consistent and comprehensive maintenance and design standards for parks, trails, and facilities to uphold the quality of user experience and promote financial sustainability.	Short-Term (now through 2022)	A. Adopt/formalize maintenance standards.		*Maintenance standards documented and reviewed annually
			B. Develop a maintenance management plan for the park system.		*RFP/RFQ issued (if not done in-house) *Maintenance plan completed
			C. Adopt park classification design standards that include: appropriate age segment appeal through amenities/park elements, defined land usage, defined programming, defined maintenance standards, and defined intended service radius.		*Park classifications approved and reviewed annually
		Mid-Term (now through 2025)	D. Develop design criteria that relates to "SMART" parks and integrating technological and energy efficiencies into the design and enhancement of current and future facilities.		*Design criteria reviewed and formalized into a document
			E. Utilize a work order management system to assist with calculating and tracking operations and maintenance costs.		*Work order management system used regularly *Work order completion statistics and data analytics used to help set maintenance
5	Enhance public awareness of the Department.	Short-Term (now through 2022)	A. Create and adopt a Department marketing plan.		*Marketing plan adopted
			B. Enhance Crowdsourcing tools/mechanisms to increase the use of qualitative feedback data collection methods.		*# of residents/users communicated with annually
		Mid-Term (now through 2025)	C. Consider developing a Department app that enables users to provide real time feedback.		*# of residents/users communicated with annually
			D. Conduct a recurring statistically-valid community survey every 3-5 years.		*Longitudinal performance measures such as customer satisfaction, decreasing "need gaps", etc.

6	Ensure maintenance and operations are positioned to manage the existing and future park system.	Short-Term (now through 2022)	A. Create, adopt, and track capital replacement schedules for fleet and equipment.		*ROI calculated for fleet repairs vs. replacement	
		Mid-Term (now through 2025)	B. Develop a shop/operations storage plan for development and enhancement.		*Plan completed	
7	Increase access to public recreation facilities.	Short-Term (now through 2022)	A. Work with the Board of Education to create a partnership policy (with maintenance standards) that increases public use of existing facilities.		*Policy established	
		Mid-Term (now through 2025)	B. With increased maintenance responsibility, consider adding sports turf management position(s) to ensure facilities are maintained to public expectations; this could involve separating general park maintenance from sports turf.		*Maintained park acres/FTE	
			C. In lieu of increased staffing, seek contracted maintenance services.		*ROI	
Programs						
8	Align program offerings with community needs and priorities.	Short-Term (now through 2022)	A. Annually assess relevance of selected core program areas and determine if changes need to be made based on current trends, demographics, and community surveys.		*Decision-matrix utilized annually	Ongoing
			B. Track the lifecycle of all programs to ensure they match the distribution recommended in the program assessment.		*Lifecycle distribution discussed annually and aligns with best practice	Ongoing
		Mid-Term (now through 2025)	C. Sunset programs that fall into the decline and or saturation phase.		*Programs identified and ended	Ongoing
			D. Create a new core program area: Active Adults.		*Core program areas expanded with business plans	
			E. Continue to emphasize and prioritize existing programming that is of high community interest: adult fitness & wellness, City-sponsored special events, senior adult & fitness programs, aquatics, outdoor skills, culinary arts, adult sports, cultural enrichment, senior trips, and environmental education.		*New programs/activities are implemented annually in the "high priority" areas	
9	Treat core program areas as core businesses.	Short-Term (now through 2022)	A. Adopt and track Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) by core program area including: program lifecycle, program classification and corresponding cost recovery, age segmentation and relation to demographic projections, cancellation rates, customer retention, and participation trends.		*KPIs adopted and monitored annually at a minimum	
		Mid-Term (now through 2025)	B. Create core program area business plans at least every two years (at a minimum; preference is annually) that outline projected revenue and expenses, cost recovery, target audience(s), method of delivery, market analysis/environmental scan, potential partnership(s), sponsorship(s), and then have actual expenses and revenues added to them at the end of the seasons.		*Business plans created *Business plan review cycle established	
			C. Edit and adopt a new fee schedule that introduces/includes dynamic pricing options.		*Fee schedule adoption	
			D. Maintain a list of similar providers/competitors and update it regularly.		*Market saturation/share/control	
			E. Utilize the MacMillan Matrix as a central philosophy to program planning.		*Matrix reviewed and updated annually	
10	Establish volunteerism as a core program area.	Short-Term (now through 2022)	A. Create a volunteer handbook.		*Handbook completed and reviewed on a regular basis	
		Mid-Term (now through 2025)	B. Identify communication channels to recruit volunteers.		*Volunteerism recruitment process established	
		Long-Term (now through 2029)	C. Move toward volunteerism accounting for 15% of total O&M workforce labor hours annually.		*Hours donated *Value of volunteerism	
Finances						
11	Develop a consistent approach to financing the system.	Short-Term (now through 2022)	A. Adopt a 5-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) based on prioritized/order of magnitude (critical, sustainable, and visionary) projects and review and update annually.		*CIP approved annually	
			B. Ensure financial stability through short- and long-range financial forecasting that uses a Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) approach.		*TCO costs calculated for every new amenity/facility	
			C. Ensure the annual operating budget will project and produce at least a balanced budget for each fiscal year.		*Projections calculated annually	
			D. Set and achieve an overall system cost recovery goal and reflect it in the budget.		*Cost recovery goal established and tracked annually	

			E.	Continue to expand the ability to track revenues and expenses by both core program area and facility.		*Adjust operational budget to identify and track costs by program area and facility	
			F.	Commit to financial transparency by providing easy access to the District's financial data and reports.		*Financial report developed annually and posted to District website	
		Mid-Term (now through 2025)	G.	Establish a dedicated parks foundation outside of the existing fund in place.		*Park foundation established *Monetary contribution annually	
			H.	Develop a long-term financial strategy that includes implementing a five-year budget worksheet that is reviewed and updated annually.		*Budget worksheet created and reviewed annually	
12	Incorporate different funding strategies to finance the system.	Short-Term (now through 2022)	A.	Adopt an overall fee collection philosophy and framework for user groups, reservations, and rentals based on a classification of services model (essential/core, important, and value-added).		*Fee/pricing policy created	
			B.	Designate one City staff member to search for, review, write, and submit grants; the goal is to apply for at least 1 new grant each year for park system funding.		*Number of grants applied for annually	
		Mid-Term (now through 2025)	C.	Create an economic development package that incorporates establishing an overall City Business Development Office, implementing a Business Improvement District (BID), and utilizing Tax Increment Financing (TIF) for park development and enhancement.		*Number of dedicated funding sources	
			D.	Implement a capital improvement fee on revenue-generating facilities such as Muzzy Field and Dennis N Malone Aquatic Center.		*# of projects associated with capital improvement fee	
			E.	Create a maintenance endowment fund with a goal of at least 3% of total asset value (excluding land value).		*Fund balance	
		Long-Term (now through 2029)	F.	Work with the City Comptroller and Park Board to explore the use of impact fees for park facility development and enhancement.		*Impact fee ordinance established (if applicable)	
			G.	Consider selling WiFi advertising space.		*WiFi revenue	
			H.	Establish a land dedication ordinance for open space.		*Land dedication ordinance established	
Policies							
13	Formalize needed policies and procedures.	Short-Term (now through 2022)	A.	Discuss and adopt a partnership policy that includes public/public, public/private, and public/nonprofit partnerships.		*Policy established	
			B.	Create and adopt an athletic field use policy that includes (at a minimum) field allocation procedures, usage hour limitations (annually), prioritization for recognized organizations, and pricing.		*Policy established	
		Mid-Term (now through 2025)	C.	Create and adopt a sponsorship policy for City-wide events, programs, facilities, and services.		*Policy established	
			D.	Develop policy-supported criteria for contracting operations and maintenance services. The policy should support the guidelines for what work should be done in-house and what can be outsourced. Criteria and key performance indicators (KPIs) should be developed to trigger an automatic review.		*Policy established	
14	Ensure the City's sustainable future is documented through planning and a concerted effort toward being an industry leader.	Short-Term (now through 2022)	A.	Ensure feasibility studies/business plans are conducted before any approved capital development occurs.		*Policy established	
		Mid-Term (now through 2025)	B.	Seek and achieve CAPRA accreditation.		*Number of CAPRA deficiencies corrected annually	
15	Invest in human resources and supporting systems infrastructure.	Mid-Term (now through 2025)	A.	Continue to offer and expand upon the staff training and professional development budget that includes (at a minimum) basic life safety; equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) training; and customer service training.		*Number of staff receiving training *Training budget % of total agency budget	

Appendix A

CORE VS CASUAL PARTICIPATION TRENDS

2.4.1 General Sports

National Core vs Casual Participatory Trends - General Sports								
Activity	Participation Levels						% Change	
	2014		2018		2019		5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
	#	%	#	%	#	%		
Basketball	23,067	100%	24,225	100%	24,917	100%	8.0%	2.9%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	7,321	32%	9,335	39%	9,669	39%	32.1%	3.6%
<i>Core(13+ times)</i>	15,746	68%	14,890	61%	15,248	61%	-3.2%	2.4%
Golf (9 or 18-Hole Course)	24,700	100%	24,240	100%	24,271	100%	-1.7%	0.1%
Tennis	17,904	100%	17,841	100%	17,684	100%	-1.2%	-0.9%
Baseball	13,152	100%	15,877	100%	15,804	100%	20.2%	-0.5%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	4,295	33%	6,563	41%	6,655	42%	54.9%	1.4%
<i>Core (13+ times)</i>	8,857	67%	9,314	59%	9,149	58%	3.3%	-1.8%
Soccer (Outdoor)	12,592	100%	11,405	100%	11,913	100%	-5.4%	4.5%
<i>Casual (1-25 times)</i>	6,622	53%	6,430	56%	6,864	58%	3.7%	6.7%
<i>Core (26+ times)</i>	5,971	47%	4,975	44%	5,050	42%	-15.4%	1.5%
Softball (Slow Pitch)	7,077	100%	7,386	100%	7,071	100%	-0.1%	-4.3%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	2,825	40%	3,281	44%	3,023	43%	7.0%	-7.9%
<i>Core(13+ times)</i>	4,252	60%	4,105	56%	4,048	57%	-4.8%	-1.4%
Football, Flag	5,508	100%	6,572	100%	6,783	100%	23.1%	3.2%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	2,838	52%	3,573	54%	3,794	56%	33.7%	6.2%
<i>Core(13+ times)</i>	2,669	48%	2,999	46%	2,989	44%	12.0%	-0.3%
<i>Core Age 6 to 17 (13+ times)</i>	1,178	52%	1,578	54%	1,590	56%	35.0%	0.8%
Volleyball (Court)	6,304	100%	6,317	100%	6,487	100%	2.9%	2.7%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	2,759	44%	2,867	45%	2,962	46%	7.4%	3.3%
<i>Core(13+ times)</i>	3,545	56%	3,450	55%	3,525	54%	-0.6%	2.2%
Badminton	7,176	100%	6,337	100%	6,095	100%	-15.1%	-3.8%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	5,049	70%	4,555	72%	4,338	71%	-14.1%	-4.8%
<i>Core(13+ times)</i>	2,127	30%	1,782	28%	1,756	29%	-17.4%	-1.5%
Football, Touch	6,586	100%	5,517	100%	5,171	100%	-21.5%	-6.3%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	3,727	57%	3,313	60%	3,065	59%	-17.8%	-7.5%
<i>Core(13+ times)</i>	2,859	43%	2,204	40%	2,105	41%	-26.4%	-4.5%
Soccer (Indoor)	4,530	100%	5,233	100%	5,336	100%	17.8%	2.0%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	1,917	42%	2,452	47%	2,581	48%	34.6%	5.3%
<i>Core(13+ times)</i>	2,614	58%	2,782	53%	2,755	52%	5.4%	-1.0%
Football, Tackle	5,978	100%	5,157	100%	5,107	100%	-14.6%	-1.0%
<i>Casual (1-25 times)</i>	2,588	43%	2,258	44%	2,413	47%	-6.8%	6.9%
<i>Core(26+ times)</i>	3,390	57%	2,898	56%	2,694	53%	-20.5%	-7.0%
<i>Core Age 6 to 17 (26+ times)</i>	2,590	43%	2,353	44%	2,311	47%	-10.8%	-1.8%
Gymnastics	4,621	100%	4,770	100%	4,699	100%	1.7%	-1.5%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	2,932	63%	3,047	64%	3,004	64%	2.5%	-1.4%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	1,689	37%	1,723	36%	1,695	36%	0.4%	-1.6%
Volleyball (Sand/Beach)	4,651	100%	4,770	100%	4,400	100%	-5.4%	-7.8%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	3,174	68%	3,261	68%	2,907	66%	-8.4%	-10.9%
<i>Core(13+ times)</i>	1,477	32%	1,509	32%	1,493	34%	1.1%	-1.1%

NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over

Participation Growth/Decline	Large Increase (greater than 25%)	Moderate Increase (0% to 25%)	Moderate Decrease (0% to -25%)	Large Decrease (less than -25%)	
Core vs Casual Distribution	Mostly Core Participants (greater than 75%)	More Core Participants (50-74%)	Evenly Divided (45-55% Core and Casual)	More Casual Participants (55-74%)	Mostly Casual Participants (greater than 75%)

2.4.1 General Sports (continue)

National Core vs Casual Participatory Trends - General Sports								
Activity	Participation Levels						% Change	
	2014		2018		2019		5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
Track and Field	4,105	100%	4,143	100%	4,139	100%	0.8%	-0.1%
<i>Casual (1-25 times)</i>	1,797	44%	2,071	50%	2,069	50%	15.1%	-0.1%
<i>Core(26+ times)</i>	2,308	56%	2,072	50%	2,070	50%	-10.3%	-0.1%
Cheerleading	3,456	100%	3,841	100%	3,752	100%	8.6%	-2.3%
<i>Casual (1-25 times)</i>	1,841	53%	2,039	53%	1,934	52%	5.1%	-5.1%
<i>Core(26+ times)</i>	1,615	47%	1,802	47%	1,817	48%	12.5%	0.8%
Pickleball	2,462	100%	3,301	100%	3,460	100%	40.5%	4.8%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	1,459	59%	2,011	61%	2,185	63%	49.8%	8.7%
<i>Core(13+ times)</i>	1,003	41%	1,290	39%	1,275	37%	27.1%	-1.2%
Racquetball	3,594	100%	3,480	100%	3,453	100%	-3.9%	-0.8%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	2,435	68%	2,407	69%	2,398	69%	-1.5%	-0.4%
<i>Core(13+ times)</i>	1,159	32%	1,073	31%	1,055	31%	-9.0%	-1.7%
Ice Hockey	2,421	100%	2,447	100%	2,357	100%	-2.6%	-3.7%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	1,129	47%	1,105	45%	1,040	44%	-7.9%	-5.9%
<i>Core(13+ times)</i>	1,292	53%	1,342	55%	1,317	56%	1.9%	-1.9%
Ultimate Frisbee	4,530	100%	2,710	100%	2,290	100%	-49.4%	-15.5%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	3,448	76%	1,852	68%	1,491	65%	56.8%	-19.5%
<i>Core(13+ times)</i>	1,082	24%	858	32%	799	35%	26.2%	-6.9%
Softball (Fast Pitch)	2,424	100%	2,303	100%	2,242	100%	-7.5%	-2.6%
<i>Casual (1-25 times)</i>	1,158	48%	1,084	47%	993	44%	-14.2%	-8.4%
<i>Core(26+ times)</i>	1,266	52%	1,219	53%	1,250	56%	-1.3%	2.5%
Lacrosse	2,011	100%	2,098	100%	2,115	100%	5.2%	0.8%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	978	49%	1,036	49%	1,021	48%	4.4%	-1.4%
<i>Core(13+ times)</i>	1,032	51%	1,061	51%	1,094	52%	6.0%	3.1%
Wrestling	1,891	100%	1,908	100%	1,944	100%	2.8%	1.9%
<i>Casual (1-25 times)</i>	941	50%	1,160	61%	1,189	61%	26.4%	2.5%
<i>Core(26+ times)</i>	950	50%	748	39%	755	39%	-20.5%	0.9%
Roller Hockey	1,736	100%	1,734	100%	1,616	100%	-6.9%	-6.8%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	1,181	68%	1,296	75%	1,179	73%	-0.2%	-9.0%
<i>Core(13+ times)</i>	555	32%	437	25%	436	27%	-21.4%	-0.2%
Boxing for Competition	1,278	100%	1,310	100%	1,417	100%	10.9%	8.2%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	1,074	84%	1,118	85%	1,204	85%	12.1%	7.7%
<i>Core(13+ times)</i>	204	16%	192	15%	212	15%	3.9%	10.4%
Rugby	1,276	100%	1,560	100%	1,392	100%	9.1%	-10.8%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	836	66%	998	64%	835	60%	-0.1%	-16.3%
<i>Core(8+ times)</i>	440	34%	562	36%	557	40%	26.6%	-0.9%
Squash	1,596	100%	1,285	100%	1,222	100%	-23.4%	-4.9%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	1,209	76%	796	62%	747	61%	38.2%	-6.2%
<i>Core(8+ times)</i>	388	24%	489	38%	476	39%	22.7%	-2.7%

NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over

Participation Growth/Decline	Large Increase (greater than 20%)	Moderate Increase (0% to 20%)	Moderate Decrease (0% to -20%)	Large Decrease (less than -20%)	
Core vs Casual Distribution	Mostly Core Participants (greater than 75%)	More Core Participants (55-74%)	Evenly Divided (45-55% Core and Casual)	More Casual Participants (55-74%)	Mostly Casual Participants (greater than 75%)

2.4.2 General Fitness

National Core vs Casual Participatory Trends - General Fitness								
Activity	Participation Levels						% Change	
	2014		2018		2019		5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
	#	%	#	%	#	%		
Fitness Walking	112,583	100%	111,001	100%	111,439	100%	-1.0%	0.4%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	35,694	32%	36,139	33%	36,254	33%	1.6%	0.3%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	76,889	68%	74,862	67%	75,185	67%	-2.2%	0.4%
Treadmill	50,241	100%	53,737	100%	56,823	100%	13.1%	5.7%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	22,525	45%	25,826	48%	28,473	50%	26.4%	10.2%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	27,716	55%	27,911	52%	28,349	50%	2.3%	1.6%
Free Weights (Dumbbells/Hand Weights)	56,124	100%	51,291	100%	51,450	100%	-8.3%	0.3%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	18,195	32%	18,702	36%	19,762	38%	8.6%	5.7%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	37,929	68%	32,589	64%	31,688	62%	-16.5%	-2.8%
Running/Jogging	51,127	100%	49,459	100%	50,052	100%	-2.1%	1.2%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	23,083	45%	24,399	49%	24,972	50%	8.2%	2.3%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	28,044	55%	25,061	51%	25,081	50%	-10.6%	0.1%
Stationary Cycling (Recumbent/Upright)	35,693	100%	36,668	100%	37,085	100%	3.9%	1.1%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	18,255	51%	19,282	53%	19,451	52%	6.6%	0.9%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	17,439	49%	17,387	47%	17,634	48%	1.1%	1.4%
Weight/Resistant Machines	35,841	100%	36,372	100%	36,181	100%	0.9%	-0.5%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	14,590	41%	14,893	41%	14,668	41%	0.5%	-1.5%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	21,250	59%	21,479	59%	21,513	59%	1.2%	0.2%
Elliptical Motion/Cross Trainer	31,826	100%	33,238	100%	33,056	100%	3.9%	-0.5%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	15,379	48%	16,889	51%	17,175	52%	11.7%	1.7%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	16,448	52%	16,349	49%	15,880	48%	-3.5%	-2.9%
Yoga	25,262	100%	28,745	100%	30,456	100%	20.6%	6.0%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	14,802	59%	17,553	61%	18,953	62%	28.0%	8.0%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	10,460	41%	11,193	39%	11,503	38%	10.0%	2.8%
Free Weights (Barbells)	25,623	100%	27,834	100%	28,379	100%	10.8%	2.0%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	9,641	38%	11,355	41%	11,806	42%	22.5%	4.0%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	15,981	62%	16,479	59%	16,573	58%	3.7%	0.6%
Dance, Step, Choreographed Exercise	21,455	100%	22,391	100%	23,957	100%	11.7%	7.0%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	13,993	65%	14,503	65%	16,047	67%	14.7%	10.6%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	7,462	35%	7,888	35%	7,910	33%	6.0%	0.3%
Bodyweight Exercise	22,390	100%	24,183	100%	23,504	100%	5.0%	-2.8%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	8,970	40%	9,674	40%	9,492	40%	5.8%	-1.9%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	13,420	60%	14,509	60%	14,012	60%	4.4%	-3.4%

NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over

Participation Growth/Decline	Large Increase (greater than 20%)	Moderate Increase (0% to 20%)	Moderate Decrease (0% to -20%)	Large Decrease (less than -20%)	
Core vs Casual Distribution	Mostly Core Participants (greater than 70%)	More Core Participants (50-74%)	Evenly Divided (45-55% Core and Casual)	More Casual Participants (55-74%)	Mostly Casual Participants (greater than 70%)

2.4.2 General Fitness (continue)

National Core vs Casual Participatory Trends - General Fitness								
Activity	Participation Levels						% Change	
	2014		2018		2019		5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
	#	%	#	%	#	%		
Aerobics (High Impact/Intensity Training)	19,746	100%	21,611	100%	22,044	100%	11.6%	2.0%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	10,242	52%	11,828	55%	12,380	56%	20.9%	4.7%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	9,504	48%	9,783	45%	9,665	44%	1.7%	-1.2%
Stair Climbing Machine	13,216	100%	15,025	100%	15,359	100%	16.2%	2.2%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	7,679	58%	9,643	64%	10,059	65%	31.0%	4.3%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	5,537	42%	5,382	36%	5,301	35%	-4.3%	-1.5%
Cross-Training Style Workout	11,265	100%	13,338	100%	13,542	100%	20.2%	1.5%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	5,686	50%	6,594	49%	7,100	52%	24.9%	7.7%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	5,579	50%	6,744	51%	6,442	48%	15.5%	-4.5%
Trail Running	7,531	100%	10,010	100%	10,997	100%	46.0%	9.9%
Stationary Cycling (Group)	8,449	100%	9,434	100%	9,930	100%	17.5%	5.3%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	5,353	63%	6,097	65%	6,583	66%	23.0%	8.0%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	3,097	37%	3,337	35%	3,347	34%	8.1%	0.3%
Pilates Training	8,504	100%	9,084	100%	9,243	100%	8.7%	1.8%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	5,131	60%	5,845	64%	6,074	66%	18.4%	3.9%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	3,373	40%	3,238	36%	3,168	34%	-6.1%	-2.2%
Cardio Kickboxing	6,747	100%	6,838	100%	7,026	100%	4.1%	2.7%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	4,558	68%	4,712	69%	4,990	71%	9.5%	5.9%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	2,189	32%	2,126	31%	2,037	29%	-6.9%	-4.2%
Boot Camp Style Training	6,774	100%	6,695	100%	6,830	100%	0.8%	2.0%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	4,430	65%	4,780	71%	4,951	72%	11.8%	3.6%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	2,344	35%	1,915	29%	1,880	28%	-19.8%	-1.8%
Martial Arts	5,364	100%	5,821	100%	6,068	100%	13.1%	4.2%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	1,599	30%	1,991	34%	2,178	36%	36.2%	9.4%
<i>Core(13+ times)</i>	3,765	70%	3,830	66%	3,890	64%	3.3%	1.6%
Boxing for Fitness	5,113	100%	5,166	100%	5,198	100%	1.7%	0.6%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	2,438	48%	2,714	53%	2,738	53%	12.3%	0.9%
<i>Core(13+ times)</i>	2,675	52%	2,452	47%	2,460	47%	-8.0%	0.3%
Tai Chi	3,446	100%	3,761	100%	3,793	100%	10.1%	0.9%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	2,053	60%	2,360	63%	2,379	63%	15.9%	0.8%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	1,393	40%	1,400	37%	1,414	37%	1.5%	1.0%
Barre	3,200	100%	3,532	100%	3,665	100%	14.5%	3.8%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	2,562	80%	2,750	78%	2,868	78%	11.9%	4.3%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	638	20%	782	22%	797	22%	24.9%	1.9%
Triathlon (Traditional/Road)	2,203	100%	2,168	100%	2,001	100%	-9.2%	-7.7%
Triathlon (Non-Traditional/Off Road)	1,411	100%	1,589	100%	1,472	100%	4.3%	-7.4%

NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over

Participation Growth/Decline	Large Increase (greater than 20%)	Moderate Increase (0% to 20%)	Moderate Decrease (0% to -20%)	Large Decrease (less than -20%)	
Core vs Casual Distribution	Mostly Core Participants (greater than 70%)	More Core Participants (50-74%)	Evenly Divided (40-55% Core and Casual)	More Casual Participants (50-74%)	Mostly Casual Participants (greater than 70%)

2.2.5 Outdoor / Adventure Recreation

National Core vs Casual Participatory Trends - Outdoor / Adventure Recreation								
Activity	Participation Levels						% Change	
	2014		2018		2019		5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
	#	%	#	%	#	%		
Hiking (Day)	36,222	100%	47,860	100%	49,697	100%	37.2%	3.8%
Bicycling (Road)	39,725	100%	39,041	100%	39,388	100%	-0.8%	0.9%
<i>Casual (1-25 times)</i>	19,269	49%	20,777	53%	20,796	53%	7.9%	0.1%
<i>Core (26+ times)</i>	20,456	51%	18,264	47%	18,592	47%	-9.1%	1.8%
Fishing (Freshwater)	37,821	100%	38,998	100%	39,185	100%	3.6%	0.5%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	19,847	52%	21,099	54%	20,857	53%	5.1%	-1.1%
<i>Core (8+ times)</i>	17,973	48%	17,899	46%	18,328	47%	2.0%	2.4%
Camping (< 1/4 Mile of Vehicle/Home)	28,660	100%	27,416	100%	28,183	100%	-1.7%	2.8%
Camping (Recreational Vehicle)	14,633	100%	15,980	100%	15,426	100%	5.4%	-3.5%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	7,074	48%	9,103	57%	8,420	55%	19.0%	-7.5%
<i>Core (8+ times)</i>	7,559	52%	6,877	43%	7,006	45%	-7.3%	1.9%
Fishing (Saltwater)	11,817	100%	12,830	100%	13,193	100%	11.6%	2.8%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	6,999	59%	7,636	60%	7,947	60%	13.5%	4.1%
<i>Core (8+ times)</i>	4,819	41%	5,194	40%	5,246	40%	8.9%	1.0%
Birdwatching (>1/4 mile of Vehicle/Home)	13,179	100%	12,344	100%	12,817	100%	-2.7%	3.8%
Backpacking Overnight	10,101	100%	10,540	100%	10,660	100%	5.5%	1.1%
Bicycling (Mountain)	8,044	100%	8,690	100%	8,622	100%	7.2%	-0.8%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	3,707	46%	4,294	49%	4,319	50%	16.5%	0.6%
<i>Core (13+ times)</i>	4,336	54%	4,396	51%	4,302	50%	-0.8%	-2.1%
Archery	8,435	100%	7,654	100%	7,449	100%	-11.7%	-2.7%
<i>Casual (1-25 times)</i>	7,021	83%	6,514	85%	6,309	85%	-10.1%	-3.1%
<i>Core (26+ times)</i>	1,414	17%	1,140	15%	1,140	15%	-19.4%	0.0%
Fishing (Fly)	5,842	100%	6,939	100%	7,014	100%	20.1%	1.1%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	3,638	62%	4,460	64%	4,493	64%	23.5%	0.7%
<i>Core (8+ times)</i>	2,204	38%	2,479	36%	2,521	36%	14.4%	1.7%
Skateboarding	6,582	100%	6,500	100%	6,610	100%	0.4%	1.7%
<i>Casual (1-25 times)</i>	3,882	59%	3,989	61%	4,265	65%	9.9%	6.9%
<i>Core (26+ times)</i>	2,700	41%	2,511	39%	2,345	35%	-13.1%	-6.6%
Roller Skating (In-Line)	6,061	100%	5,040	100%	4,816	100%	-20.5%	-4.4%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	4,194	69%	3,680	73%	3,474	72%	-17.2%	-5.6%
<i>Core (13+ times)</i>	1,867	31%	1,359	27%	1,342	28%	-28.1%	-1.3%
Bicycling (BMX)	2,350	100%	3,439	100%	3,648	100%	55.2%	6.1%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	1,205	51%	2,052	60%	2,257	62%	87.3%	10.0%
<i>Core (13+ times)</i>	1,145	49%	1,387	40%	1,392	38%	21.6%	0.4%
Climbing (Traditional/Ice/Mountaineering)	2,457	100%	2,541	100%	2,400	100%	-2.3%	-5.5%
Adventure Racing	2,368	100%	2,215	100%	2,143	100%	-9.5%	-3.3%
<i>Casual (1 times)</i>	1,004	42%	581	26%	549	26%	-45.3%	-5.5%
<i>Core (2+ times)</i>	1,365	58%	1,634	74%	1,595	74%	16.8%	-2.4%

NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over

Participation Growth/Decline	Large Increase (greater than 25%)	Moderate Increase (0% to 25%)	Moderate Decrease (0% to 25%)	Large Decrease (less than -25%)
Core vs Casual Distribution	Mostly Core Participants (greater than 75%)	More Core Participants (50-74%)	Evenly Divided (45-55% Core and Casual)	More Casual Participants (55-74%)

2.2.5 Aquatics

National Core vs Casual Participatory Trends - Aquatics								
Activity	Participation Levels						% Change	
	2014		2018		2019		5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
	#	%	#	%	#	%		
Swimming (Fitness)	25,304	100%	27,575	100%	28,219	100%	11.5%	2.3%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	16,459	65%	18,728	68%	19,480	69%	18.4%	4.0%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	8,845	35%	8,847	32%	8,739	31%	-1.2%	-1.2%
Aquatic Exercise	9,122	100%	10,518	100%	11,189	100%	22.7%	6.4%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	5,901	65%	7,391	70%	8,006	72%	35.7%	8.3%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	3,221	35%	3,127	30%	3,183	28%	-1.2%	1.8%
Swimming (Competition)	2,710	100%	3,045	100%	2,822	100%	4.1%	-7.3%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	1,246	46%	1,678	55%	1,529	54%	22.7%	-8.9%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	1,464	54%	1,367	45%	1,293	46%	-11.7%	-5.4%
NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over								
Participation Growth/Decline	Large Increase (greater than 25%)		Moderate Increase (2% to 25%)		Moderate Decrease (2% to -25%)		Large Decrease (less than -25%)	
Core vs Casual Distribution	Mostly Core Participants (greater than 75%)		More Core Participants (55-74%)		Events Divided (45-55% Core and Casual)		More Casual Participants (55-74%)	
							Mostly Casual Participants (greater than 75%)	

2.2.6 Water Sports / Activities

National Core vs Casual Participatory Trends - Water Sports / Activities								
Activity	Participation Levels						% Change	
	2014		2018		2019		5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
	#	%	#	%	#	%		
Kayaking (Recreational)	8,855	100%	11,017	100%	11,382	100%	28.5%	3.3%
Canoeing	10,044	100%	9,129	100%	8,995	100%	-10.4%	-1.5%
Snorkeling	8,752	100%	7,815	100%	7,659	100%	-12.5%	-2.0%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	6,935	79%	6,321	81%	6,192	81%	-10.7%	-2.0%
<i>Core(8+ times)</i>	1,818	21%	1,493	19%	1,468	19%	-19.3%	-1.7%
Jet Skiing	6,355	100%	5,324	100%	5,108	100%	-19.6%	-4.1%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	4,545	72%	3,900	73%	3,684	72%	-18.9%	-5.5%
<i>Core(8+ times)</i>	1,810	28%	1,425	27%	1,423	28%	-21.4%	-0.1%
Sailing	3,924	100%	3,754	100%	3,618	100%	-7.8%	-3.6%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	2,699	69%	2,596	69%	2,477	68%	-8.2%	-4.6%
<i>Core(8+ times)</i>	1,225	31%	1,159	31%	1,141	32%	-6.9%	-1.6%
Stand-Up Paddling	2,751	100%	3,453	100%	3,562	100%	29.5%	3.2%
Rafting	3,781	100%	3,404	100%	3,438	100%	-9.1%	1.0%
Water Skiing	4,007	100%	3,363	100%	3,203	100%	-20.1%	-4.8%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	2,911	73%	2,499	74%	2,355	74%	-19.1%	-5.8%
<i>Core(8+ times)</i>	1,095	27%	863	26%	847	26%	-22.6%	-1.9%
Surfing	2,721	100%	2,874	100%	2,964	100%	8.9%	3.1%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	1,645	60%	1,971	69%	2,001	68%	21.6%	1.5%
<i>Core(8+ times)</i>	1,076	40%	904	31%	962	32%	-10.6%	6.4%
Wakeboarding	3,125	100%	2,796	100%	2,729	100%	-12.7%	-2.4%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	2,199	70%	1,900	68%	1,839	67%	-16.4%	-3.2%
<i>Core(8+ times)</i>	926	30%	896	32%	890	33%	-3.9%	-0.7%
Scuba Diving	3,145	100%	2,849	100%	2,715	100%	-13.7%	-4.7%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	2,252	72%	2,133	75%	2,016	74%	-10.5%	-5.5%
<i>Core(8+ times)</i>	893	28%	716	25%	699	26%	-21.7%	-2.4%
Kayaking (Sea/Touring)	2,912	100%	2,805	100%	2,652	100%	-8.9%	-5.9%
Kayaking (White Water)	2,351	100%	2,562	100%	2,583	100%	9.9%	0.8%
Boardsailing/Windsurfing	1,562	100%	1,556	100%	1,405	100%	-10.1%	-9.7%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	1,277	82%	1,245	80%	1,112	79%	-12.9%	-10.7%
<i>Core(8+ times)</i>	285	18%	310	20%	292	21%	2.5%	-5.8%
NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over								
Participation Growth/Decline	Large Increase (greater than 25%)		Moderate Increase (2% to 25%)		Moderate Decrease (2% to -25%)		Large Decrease (less than -25%)	

INTERVIEWS AND FOCUS GROUP RESPONSE AGGREGATE

COMMISSIONS AND OTHER CITY STAFF

Q1. Are you a user of the park system? If so, what do you like about the system in terms of parks, green space, and outdoor facilities? What about recreation programs, special events, and indoor facilities?

- A lifelong resident has been a lifelong user of the parks. The parks have improved over the years because the amount of people in Bristol has increased. Seems like there are limitations for people to utilize programs when there isn't enough space. Users may suddenly not be able to participate in programs that they usually can because they have been put on a waitlist. The special events hosted by BPRYCS are great. Thinks that the parks should be all tied together to make them accessible by walking or biking. Addition of an ice-skating rink and pickleball courts would be great additions to the City.
- A user of the parks uses them with family. Likes to hike and use the open spaces. Would like to see an ice-skating facility built, it seems to be a big draw for communities that have one. Roberts Street (Roberts Property) is an unused space that could potentially be used for an indoor skating space. There is a lack of softball space within the City.
- Lifelong user of the parks uses with kids now uses with grandkids. Uses the pool and the parks. Enjoys the concerts at Rockwell, as well as disc golf course. Believes there are a lot of great things that the department does. Feels that sometimes out of town users don't allow residents to utilize programs, but does indicate that the programs are popular. Seems that while there are a lot of fields, there seems to be a lack of playable fields as maintenance has been limited. Hopes the master plan can provide an inventory of what department has and what is available, how it is used and how to properly maintain. User (specifically children) safety should be a big priority of the master plan. Also hoping that the master plan will provide a systematic direction for Bristol to take for spending money rather than just going where the fire is.
- Lifelong user of parks has enjoyed the diversified programs/elements/facilities available at the parks. A specific example of this is the installation of the mountain bike trails at Rockwell. Would like to make sure the department balances anything newly constructed or added with continued maintenance on existing facilities, noting specifically the basketball courts, of which many seem to be beyond repair and may need full renovation.
- Lifelong resident/user currently uses the parks with entire family. Enjoys that there seems to be a little bit of something for everyone. Noted that there are no open spaces within walking distance of house.
- As a lifelong Bristol resident, used the parks and facilities more as a youth. Currently uses Rockwell Park mostly to use the disc golf and dog park. Hasn't utilized any of the programs.
- Mainly uses facilities with daughter. Daughter participates in the basketball program and swim lessons offered through BPRYCS. Likes the parks as it provides opportunities to get outdoors and explore different programs.
- Family uses parks all the time, mainly Rockwell Park and Page Park. Children have participated in swim lessons. Feels that when compared to Waterbury, the programs are more prominent and diverse.
- Uses Page Park more than Rockwell Park as it has quieter spaces and prefers the less busy areas over the busier parks. Enjoys the frozen ponds at Page during the winter.
- I used the parks a lot more in the past when my children were younger.
- Ice skating, walking, hiking, playgrounds, and really any outdoor-related amenities.

- I am a park system user.
- We use the recreation programs the most – Dennis Malone Aquatics Center (indoor public pool) for swim lessons and the Department's summer camps.
- Economic development isn't always about businesses and jobs, it is about perceptions about the community and the park system is a big contributor to that.
- Companies look for things to do for their employees when conserving where to relocate.
- The park system isn't always touted as one of Bristol's economic development drivers but it is.
- The parks are well maintained and we have gateways into the City (Rockwell)

Q2. Page Park

Things That Work Well

- The playground by King Street is very popular.
- The tennis courts especially with the lighting are very popular.
- The baseball field gets a lot of use.
- The disc golf course is very popular.
- Basketball courts, pool, playgrounds, and tennis are very popular amenities in the park and always seems busy.
- Disc golf is a popular attraction and draws a lot of people from outside of Bristol to use.
- The building near the pond is beautiful.
- Pool renovation project is already helping to address some of the issues identified at the park.
- The playground areas are nice
- The pools are being redone which is great
- There is a lot that works about this park (good tennis courts, playgrounds, interesting topography which lends itself to the de-facto (sic) facto sledding hill spot, etc.)

Things That Do Not Work Well

- While some of the issues are currently being addressed, there are drainage issues throughout the park. Particularly near the baseball field, sometimes have to jump over a lot of flowing water to get onto the field.
- There are no pathways or sidewalks throughout the park, particularly connecting the pool to the fields.
- There seems to be a lot of unused space.
- There is a lack of parking.
- The current configuration of the baseball and softball field doesn't allow for games to be run simultaneously.
- Surrounding areas are not a safe area for walking and traffic seems to discourage foot traffic. Users from adjacent neighborhoods may be discouraged from using the park as they do not feel safe walking to it.
- There is not enough parking. During events cars can be seen parking on grass and on side of the road.
- There are existing basketball courts tucked away in the woods within the park, they have become abandoned.
- The park's location is not conducive to people walking to it
- Also, the park is not necessarily conducive to walking within the park due to topography
- Not sure if the park's potential is fully maximized, could be underutilized

Things That Can Be Improved

- Pavilion by the pond used to be used for skating, weather may be a factor but hasn't been in use in the recent past. Would like to explore if there is a way to use it on a more regular basis in the winter.
- The group believes that the old building in the back of the park was used at one time and they wondered if that space could be used again for programs.
- The design should consider available amenities close to Page Park. There are a few basketball courts within a mile of Page Park so adding or keeping the existing one may not be necessary. The needs assessment will help guide what elements are important to community members.
- A trail system could be added to the park to provide connectivity to all of the elements and to the community.
- The aesthetics of the park can be improved upon and included in the new design.
- The stage behind the playground can be revitalized and expanded upon to allow for more outdoor programs to use it.
- The building near the pond can be utilized for more programming. It could even be rented out as potential revenue earning space.
- The park sits on three different elevation levels and as the park is currently organized these levels encourage the separation/segmentation of the park. The new design could work to tie these elevations together to make a more cohesive and unified park.
- Walking trails
- Lighting
- The front field doesn't seem like it has a particular purpose (maybe could be designated for picnics?)
- Could sledding be formalized (not sure of risk management concerns)?
- The pool can be updated (but this is planned)

Things That Could Be Added to Page Park

- Explore the use of the ski hill and tow ropes again.
- Include pickleball courts in design.
- Currently there are no formalized trails like at Rockwell Park. Addition of trails and paths could attract a different user group that does not typically use Page Park.

Q3. What do you believe community residents value most about parks, recreation, youth, and community services within Bristol?

- Programs costs are low and users get a lot for their money.
- There is a big variety of classes and programs offered.
- The community has an appreciation for the parks when they are properly maintained.
- The disc golf courses are great and the community uses them quite a bit.
- People value the open spaces.
- The group believes Bristol is already offering a lot of programs and has a lot of great facilities, but doesn't market or advertise what is offered as much as they could.
- There is a lot of space available that allows for youth to enjoy outdoor areas without the space feeling too busy.
- Basketball courts and swimming pools get used quite a bit.
- There is a good split between passive, quiet spaces and active spaces.
- As youth age, BPRYCS programs and department offer employment opportunities.
- The programs offered seem to be successful; most programs offered fill up.
- The summer camp program sells out every week.

- The athletic programs are popular. Over the years, the overall sizes of the programs have decreased with the increased availability of external programs. However, the BPRYCS offered programs provided opportunities for youth who cannot participate in those external programs to still participate in the given sport.
- The basketball courts and skate park at Rockwell are popular among high school aged students.
- The Rising Stars program seems successful in encouraging students to become active in advocacy.
- Youth services department is good at providing opportunity and access to youth programs.
- When an individual looks to move into a community, they are looking for things to do with their family
- The two biggest concerns we hear from individuals are crime and safety
- The first thing people associate with Bristol, CT is ESPN but people then seem to talk about the park system
- From a community standpoint, parks is a big priority; the summer camp itself is a big priority in the summer for a lot of residents; there are a couple other groups that do summer camps but they are more expensive and have less features
- At minimum, the Department is expected to maintain their system while growing in different ways (not necessarily physically but meeting the needs of various residents)
- Residents look for first-rate facilities as they take a lot of pride within the community
- Parks have different levels of support depending on their location within Bristol

Q4. What are the key policies and mandates we need to be aware of for how programs and services are delivered in Bristol?

- A lot of funding comes from various grants (state, federal, etc.). Funding for some programs are contingent on receiving those funds every year. For example, the Adventure Park funding from the state (via federal funds) has been reducing and the City will need to reexamine how to keep the park open if this funding is depleted.
- Parks Department is the beneficiary of 9 trust funds with specific language about how the funds can be used. These funds may not be able to be used if the needs of the community do not match the specifications of the funds.
- Connecticut requires that every community has a Youth Services Bureau and Youth Review Board. While not every community has a formal one, Bristol is fortunate that it has a formal department.
- The department has strong relationships with other City of Bristol boards and departments, particularly the Board of Education, this can help generate and guide policy and mandate creation that aligns with needs of BPRYCS.

Q4 Alternate. What are your expectations for the parks, recreation, and youth, and community services department to generate non-tax revenue?

- Because they are a department within the City, it is hard to figure out how to balance the budget; there aren't any real facilities to charge memberships, but any little bit of non-tax revenue generation helps
- Not everything can be provided just through taxes and people need to understand this
- I think the Department runs great programs but they shouldn't be doing it at the expense of private industry; that is, we need to be careful using a public department to compete with a private entity for programming
- We need to keep program fees affordable for the community; we don't need to put pressure on the Department to generate revenue each year; don't go overboard

Q5. Are there any recreation amenities or facilities missing within the community?

- The department currently relies heavily on the schools to host indoor programs. An indoor multipurpose court space would allow the department to have their own space. This could also present the opportunity for Bristol to host tournaments in the space. A field house space with a track around the perimeter would be ideal.
- Bristol currently has the mobile showcase they use for concerts; however, they lack anything permanent that can host concerts or host resident art/talent showcases. New Britain has a beautiful amphitheater.
- There currently no facilities specifically for teen use.
- There never seems to be enough field space. There is a higher demand for diamond fields versus rectangular fields.
- Girls' softball currently does not have a dedicated playing field.
- There are talks that the City's three Little League programs may merge which could open up more field time.
- While the youth population has not declined, there is less participation in programs and events. Would like to understand what youth are doing and what is keeping them from participating in programs and events.
- Sand volleyball courts seem popular around City. Would adding more in a geographically different location serve the community?
- While Bristol has some, additional open space and trail systems could be created in the City. Provide more passive recreation opportunities throughout the City.

Q6. What are the key recreation programs or services missing or in need of enhancement from the parks, recreation, youth, and community services department?

- There used to be a popular adult softball program. It has recently been started up again, but would like to see it grow.
- Any programs that are trending nationally that the department is unaware of that can be brought to Bristol.
- The summer camps will provide before and aftercare which can increase enrollment as camp hours typically run from 9am-3pm. Department should consider other programs that may need adjusting to help working families to increase enrollment.
- The department should be able to offer more classes when a class becomes full. It may not be possible because of time, space, and having enough participation to fill another class. However, some programs are so popular people stay up until midnight to sign up.
- There doesn't seem to be a lot of programs offered for or facilities that are usable by the elderly community.
- The Commission would be interested to review the need among the handicapped demographic and what dedicated accessible programs should be provided. The department currently develops adaptive curriculum into programs on a case by case basis but would like to start developing adaptive curriculum for all programs.
- The Commission thinks there is an opportunity to expand the mountain bike trails and start to offer rentals and classes.
- The Commission would like to explore the option for programs that offer support for the homeschool population.
- Is there a desire for outdoor education programming?
- Bristol does not have large amount of programming available for older youth.
- "After dark" programs for older youth to participate in that provide substance free alternatives. Would like to expand and enhance on the successful teen nights that are already planned.

- The current administration has started an initiative on preventing substance abuse and would like to enhance this initiative and develop programs to continue once administration turns over.
- There is a desire to develop a more robust outdoor and adventure program. New Haven has a successful program that allows inner city youth to partake in outdoor programs like ice fishing and hiking. There is an opportunity to tie that into the Adventure Park program.

Q7. What are the key problems in the city you believe parks, recreation, youth, and community services can help solve?

- The department can help bring families together by hosting functions targeting the entire family.
- The department can help increase the overall health of Bristol. Other programs used around the nation that people participate in year-round that is aimed at getting participants moving and outside.
- Josh stated the department could take a role in helping the homelessness community. He wondered if there were amenities that could be provided in the parks that could support this population or if the pools and other facilities be opened for this populations use. The Commission noted that this would have to be done with sensitivity to the other Bristol residents and done in a way that won't attract other homeless populations to Bristol.
- The Commission would like to help reduce the amount of littering around Town. Can the Department develop a program to instill an appreciation for nature and taking care of the natural landscape in Bristol Youth? Can programs be developed that generate and encourage a connection with the Parks?
- Board of Education started having community discussions on diversity and the mayor has started a diversity council, BPRYCS has resources that could be deployed to help integrate Bristol and get a better understanding of the needs of increasingly diverse needs of the City.
- Bristol is becoming a "recovery friendly community" and working to become a safe haven for people in recovery and providing services for those who need it. BPRYCS can provide resources with this.
- BPRYCS can help with transportation and access issues throughout the City by providing connectivity and accessibility within the parks.
- BPRYCS can help to reduce the amount of vandalism around the City, particularly in less popular parks and more secluded areas of parks.
- BPRYCS could be on the forefront of helping to provide support to the homeless and unstably housed population as many use the parks during the day.
- Family participation is important and the Department has a lot to do with young people not getting involved in drugs, alcohol, etc.
- The Department may be able to develop a mentoring program and have park participants help mentor others (e.g., a bike user holding a bike expo to teach other users)
- We have a strong Boys and Girls Club in the community and so partnerships will be very important
- With the merging of the departments, we know that there will be a focus on at-risk youth and their families
- The Department should focus on providing rich programming at affordable prices so residents can enjoy the outdoors
- The Department can make people feel great about their community

Q8. What are the key outcomes you would like to see come from this planning process?

- The Commission would like the master plan to help develop a strategic plan for moving forward that includes a budget and a maintenance plan.
- They would like the plan to help establish which programs should be added moving forward and what kind of funding would be required. The plan should analyze future trends and survey

the community to understand what they are looking for.

- The master plan should include a plan for Page Park which has seemed neglected in recent years and is in need of a major overhaul.
- The upgrades recommended in the plan should include ADA compliant upgrades.
- The plan should help develop a good plan for maintenance.
- The plan should include benchmark pricing and budget numbers to help when planning for projects.
- The plan should help the Commission and the Department backup when making decisions.
- The hope is that the plan will create a planning tool to guide funding and planning to present to the finance committee for projects.
- There seems to be a lot of deferred maintenance of parks and facilities which causes the department to play catchup and reacting to problems rather than developing a plan. The hope is the plan will help develop a strategy to address issues be proactive rather than reactive.
- An outcome would be to identify areas where accessibility is an issue and a plan to address them. Hope is to make all parks or at least sections of all parks accessible for people with all abilities.
- An outcome would be to develop a plan to address the accessibility issues over the next 10 years.
- Identify amenities that would keep residents local and bring other people into Bristol.
- Sometimes Bristol gets a bad reputation but it has so much to offer; we need to highlight the "wow" factor through this planning process
- We need to ensure people know the Bristol has a lot to offer its citizens
- Bristol does not have any rails-to-trails opportunities but it surrounds us; is there a way to connect?
- We need to highlight the Page Park improvements that are happening
- Page Park walkability needs to be addressed; can we encourage some sort of walkability component through this planning effort?
- Nobody really markets enough so we need to make sure every young family learns about what the Department does will be a good thing
- We need to continue building community pride and getting residents to rally behind us
- Help the Department define where they should be and the necessary resources to support that vision.

Q9. What is your long-term vision for parks, recreation, youth, and community services in the next 10 years?

- The renovations to Page Park will be complete and include winter programming. If the renovations are not complete the Department will have a plan for the major improvements of the facilities, paths and relocation of elements within the park.
- Bristol is #2 in the State of Connecticut for park space per capita. The Commission feels that Bristol does not advertise that enough. The Department should be the "Leader of the Fun". The hope would be that residents look to the Department when looking for activities, programs, and events to participate in.
- Would like the City to be fully invested in the 10-Minute Walk campaign and making strides to complete the initiative.
- The Commission would like there to be full connectivity within each park and to each park through the City.
- The Commission would like to keep the parks beautiful. They get the sense that residents would rather just pay for the maintenance than increase taxes.

- That the department achieves CAPRA accreditation.
- The hope is to reduce if not eliminate deferred maintenance and to develop policies and strategies to deal with issues in real time.
- The department will continue and build upon the partnerships and relationships it has with the other departments and boards of the Bristol.
- There is a large population of the city that leaves to find trails and green spaces. To create these spaces within Bristol would allow these people to stay in Bristol and could bring residents of other cities to Bristol instead.
- BPRYCS would like to move in the direction of benefits, to identify challenges that are happening and identify trends to adjust programming and needs as they come up.
- There will be cohesion of entities (public and private) to provide more opportunities for Bristol residents and visitors.
- Everything in Bristol currently is maintained and upgraded while never losing sight as to where it was; baseball is baseball, playing is playing, we need to maintain the quality people have today, tomorrow.
- The Department is leveraged to a point that people understand its contribution to the “feel good” factor of living and working in Bristol
- Continue to interconnect the parks and roadways/pathways throughout Bristol

Q10. Any other questions, concerns, comments, or suggestions?

- It would be nice if the plan could help address vandalism. It is an issue in Bristol.
- A portion of the plan should focus on metrics like cost per participant, revenue per participant and how other agencies and benchmarks compare to what is observed in Bristol.
- “Free, fitness, and family” are three things we need to pay attention to.
- I see a lot of people in other communities that take advantage of picnic shelters and outdoor grills, is this something that can exist within our park system?
- Public Works has a framework for how they would connect the system (not necessarily a formalized plan)
- The Department’s leadership and staff are young, intelligent, and are a great asset to the future of parks and recreation within Bristol.

ALL REMAINING FOCUS GROUPS

Q1. What is the parks, recreation, youth, and community services department doing well that should not be changed?

- There is a lot to like about the department.
- The parks are a highlight of the city, it is one of the reasons people move to Bristol.
- Believes the department is made up of a good group of people, who are a responsible core of the community.
- The amount of contact the department has with the community is fantastic. This communication has grown tremendously over the last few years.
- There are a lot of activities provided for youth of Bristol. There are a lot of options outside of just the typical ball sports.
- The accessibility of the department is great whether it be online or directly (in person or a phone call).
- There are diverse activities for the entire community such as the concerts.
- The department has been very welcoming and supportive of the proposed bike projects that have been brought forward.

- There has been an improvement in communication recently. The department has been able to get what they want out and to the community. They have been able to streamline a lot of things by going online with email blasts. They are able to get to their clientele more easily.
- The department is doing a lot of good things.
- My sons have participated in the summer camps and summer programs offered by the Department and I think they are great. There is a big benefit for the low cost.
- The pools are very cost effective as well.
- The staff are great. The Department as a whole has been very helpful.
- The fields are always ready.
- Believes the department is doing a pretty good job.
- Little League teams primarily use Rockwell Park and overall it is working well.
- Fields and permit process work well. The department has been very cooperative to giving field space when needed.
- The Department is engaged and very approachable.
- There are open lines of communication to and from the Department.
- For the number of parks, the city has done a good job of the general maintenance. There are rarely parts of parks that are broken down for a long time if something breaks.
- The City is always helping out with the disc golf courses.
- It seems like the Department is always in touch with the community and puts mechanisms in place to improve and stay in touch with the community. It seems like they are always looking forward.
- Over the last few years the Department has gotten better at setting up programs and providing varied programs.
- The Department has been paying more attention to parks in general.
- There is a high level of collaboration between most of the departments within the city.
- For a city our size, we take a lot of pride in responding to those needs and work collaboratively to meet those needs.
- We have had a good communication method since Josh has been starting.
- Even with the re-organization we still have overlap in more at-risk and targeted programming/ services and it works because of our collaboration.
- Our relationship with the parks department has increased and there is an increased awareness of Kern Park and its wetlands.
- The presentation we do to the community is well done, we have a new logo, we project the appearance of our unity as a new Department.
- We have this good “outside looking in” presence.
- We have great leadership such as Josh and Jess – they have impressive resumes and are really great supervisors, leaders, etc.
- The Department can't afford to lose the leadership.
- We listen to community needs well (e.g., board of education); we create and adjust programming well based on community needs.
- Youth engagement; we connect with the youth when we are engaging them; ability to utilize them to reach other students as well.
- Program structure works really well (creation, format, recruitment, and implementation).
- We facilitate a great comfortable environment/atmosphere for the youth to really discuss their challenges.

- All of our services are provided for free so this helps us establish relationships with families (and this should not be changing moving forward).
- We still maintain our Divisions.
- Our intake process works well (via phone and in-person with people coming into the office).
- The collaborations with other departments and the Board of Ed, police department, etc. works really well.

Q2. What needs more focus or improvement for parks, recreation, youth, and community services in Bristol?

- There is an equity challenge in Bristol especially for young girls.
- I would really like to see a multiuse facility that could become the home of girls' softball.
- Softball currently uses fields but has conditions. There is only one field for a league of over 200 girls. The softball league has similar numbers to the boys but the boys have more fields to play on.
- My daughter originally started playing on the boys' leagues because I didn't know there was a girls' league.
- The department doesn't seem to have a clear mission. The department needs to determine if they want their focus to be creating revenue opportunities or to provide services or to provide the best possible product for the least amount of money.
- The department doesn't seem to have a true identity.
- The department has had the same mission since 1993 and things have changed since then.
- Bristol has great parks, but accessibility could be holding them back.
- Football and cheer would like the department to become more involved in the program as far as the fields go.
- The program needs help with maintenance of Casey Field. They don't need help with the weekly maintenance but more in the spring with turning over the field and seeding. This is a big expense to the program every year.
- This year the Bristol water department wanted to change its billing process and wanted to install a new water meter so that there is one for the irrigation and one for the bathrooms. The club pays for their own water, but feels like the department should pay for the installation of the meter since they don't own the field.
- The maintenance at the school fields could be improved. At the start of the season the fields aren't really turned over in prep for start of the season.
- Muzzy Field was renovated about 5-6 years ago and now the facility is really nice.
- I've heard that the women's bathroom could use more attention. I'm not sure if something isn't working or if it just needs more regular maintenance.
- A few of the fixtures in the lights are out, however it does not affect game play.
- Muzzy Field could be viewed as being in a rougher area in the City. The police do a good job of parking in the area and making sure it is safe during events. However, there are weak points in the perimeter fence. I've had my motorcycle stolen when it was parked within the facility while the team was traveling. The Bristol Blues have other equipment that is stored in the facility that could be stolen.
- Girls' softball needs a field. The program currently does not have a field and uses Peck Park, Casey Park, and will be using Page Park this year. Program doesn't have just one place to go.
- Little League is competing with lacrosse and soccer and there don't seem to be enough fields for everyone.
- They have to bring in their own mounds at Page Park and Casey Field.
- Page Park is wide open and just anyone can walk through the outfield.

- Post storm maintenance of the disc golf course could be improved upon; sometimes it takes a while to perform.
- The Department should advertise what they offer more. It is better than it has been in the past, because I still find myself wondering what is available and sometimes hunting for programs.
- Comprehensiveness (pre-K through older age); we need to cater to all age segments, not just targeted groups.
- We need to understand what programs go in what spaces and why (especially indoor spaces); outdoor spaces work really well together.
- There is a lot of competing interest from user groups for outdoor field space.
- A Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) is on file for Bristol that needs to could benefit from an increase in focus.
- Bureaucracy is the antithesis of how we need to get stuff done: the upside is it creates boundaries but the downside is it creates too many boundaries; it limits our organization's effectiveness because people will be more worried about checking a box.
- I'd love to see an organizational that is more collegial and that we can go to the person we need to speak to without going through a specific chain of command.
- It would be great if we could do more things electronically as opposed to written documentation.
- The recruitment process has changed; newer generations have a changed perspective/ attitude and reaching/connecting with them needs more focus.
- Staff wear multiple hats and so people's perspective/view point of them can be different based on what "hat" they are wearing.
- Better focus on target audiences for programs (who really needs free programs and who can participate in pay to play); we need not get ourselves into competition with each other though; similar services but not competition.
- Ensuring the community fully understands who is doing what and where (registering for programs, where you are filling out for scholarships, etc.)
- Ensuring the community is always aware that the department is more than "parks and recreation" (even in the name recognition).
- Since the Department is going through the merger, we need to develop and understand the cohesiveness and resources that are available to us as a collective unit.
- The Community Services Department is a Department of one person so it can be easy to lose sight of this work. This is a really important department to the residents we serve.
- We need to make a connection between the homeless population and Community Services.

Q3. Are there any recreation facilities/amenities missing? What about programs, services, or experiences/opportunities?

- There is no indoor facility. When the league wants to run a clinic, they have to rent the space. It seems like the league's money is spent on rentals and not going directly to the program.
- There are no softball facilities that have a permanent bathroom. A large amount of money is spent by the league to bring in rental facilities.
- Addition of lights would allow fields to be used later into the evenings. Currently they can only use the Lower Field at Waters Field.
- The league's focus isn't on generating additional money.
- Mountain biking has a much larger plan that they would like to see implemented. There are lands that currently are not being utilized as much as they could be.
- There seems to be a bit of competition between the BPRYCS Department and the Boys and Girls club. A lot of the afterschool programs are hosted at the school.

- There needs to be more afterschool type programs offered.
- The department needs an indoor facility. The Bristol Boys and Girls club has a facility, but when the department wants to host indoor programs they have to rent school facilities. The armory is hoping to partner with the department to provide some sort of indoor space.
- The use of Muzzy Field by the Bristol Blues makes it difficult for other groups to use it. Pony leagues used to be able to play at Muzzy.
- It seems like the field usage and rentals are not creating enough revenue to help support the required maintenance. The department may have to look outside of Bristol to generate revenue such as hosting AAU tournaments as an example.
- Senior demographic seems to be an under-served (sic) group.
- The addition of a turf field would be a great addition to the City.
- Personally, thinks all the programs, parks, and facilities are all really good. There are a lot of opportunities for kids.
- There is a lot of communication that goes to students at the schools and it seems like there are a lot of programs offered.
- As an outsider, it seems that Bristol does a really good job at providing a variety of activities and facilities. There are a number of things offered that I didn't think that there would be.
- Bristol does a fantastic job with the number of parks that they have.
- They have welcomed the disc golf community and the mountain bike community.
- The library could be improved on, compared to other communities it is lacking.
- The bathrooms could be improved upon, specifically at Page Park and Rockwell Park. At Page Park the bathroom is the farthest point from the disc golf course. There is no signage for when the bathrooms are opened or closed.
- Pickleball courts could be an amenity that is missing in Bristol.
- Would like to see a kids' program to teach and introduce disc golf.
- Believes that there is additional property in Bristol that can be made into field space that could be leased to the league. The league could lease and have complete control over similar to Fraser Field.
- We have one indoor pool for a City of 60,000 and there is great demand for our indoor space from fall-winter.
- We need more attention to accessibility and ADA concerns throughout the system.
- We need to be equity and culturally-aware focused.
- The park department does not really have any year-round indoor facility.
- We need to be mindful of public transit routes and how people are getting to these parks, places, and spaces.
- There are athletics and arts/crafts things but we are lacking at robotics, STEM/STEAM, and other expansive programming that people may be more interested in; programming is pretty 2-Dimensional.
- More programs and services about interacting with natural resources (like composting, green living, etc.)
- Educational components to connect people to the park system (connect to the river through active programming).
- ADA accessible fishing pier is needed (end of Memorial Blvd).
- Rain gardens.
- Green infrastructure.
- Pathways/bike trails along riparian buffers; enhanced Riverwalk over at Memorial Park.

- We are missing indoor rental spaces (we have been looking at renovating Page and Rockwell pavilions).
- Our parks are used for wedding rentals but we don't have any areas for receptions.
- We need a better equipped kitchen area that would offer cooking programs and a better rental experience.
- We have people that are looking for more outdoor rental space as well.
- More on-site (at parks) office spaces (can be dual purpose for youth and community services and recreation staff).
- Accessibility can always be improved within our system.

Q4. Page Park

Things That Work Well

- Page Park is beautiful and has great open spaces.
- The internal portion of the park sees only light traffic.
- Rockwell Park needs more attention than Page Park.
- The disc golf seems extremely busy and highly visited.
- The pool renovation project has been very beneficial to the kids in Bristol.
- Page park has traditionally been one of the nicer parks in Bristol, it is always cleaner compared to the other parks.
- The playground is popular.
- The playing surface is great at the baseball field.
- The renovated pool is great.
- The area in the front of the park is good. All the active facilities are in a centralized location within the park.
- Seems nice for trails.
- The pavilions have come a long way.
- Here children played baseball there and thinks it worked well.
- Tennis courts seem to be popular.
- Location of the playground works well.
- The ball fields work well.
- The playground always seems to be packed.
- In the winter, residents use the park for sledding.
- The location of the frisbee golf park is located in a good spot.
- People can go fishing in the pond.
- The pool is a good facility.
- Little League does use the baseball field and softball will be using the softball field this year.
- Tee-ball uses Ingraham Field. There is no formal field however it has a big open space that works best for younger kids. The field is isolated.
- Page Park has one of the highest rated disc golf courses in the state per a user rating app. This could be because more people use the course, but also people who use it like it.
- The facility is laid out really well with the pool centrally located and works well with the softball fields, playground and basketball courts all next to each other.
- The area where the younger kids play is put together well and gets a lot of use, especially in the summer. The park being located right there is great.
- The disc golf course is great.

- Happy to see the ongoing improvements at the pool.
- There are a lot of amenities at the park.
- The tennis courts are popular.
- People seem to enjoy the play areas.

Things That Do Not Work Well

- Tee-ball on the Ingraham Field side of the park has had to be evacuated a few times because of bear activity.
- The pond area can be improved. Being a shallow pond, I'm not sure what it could be utilized for.
- Baseball and softball are not fenced in.
- The fields do not have lighting.
- The fields do not have any formal dugouts.
- It seems like it is hard to get around the park, there isn't a lot of signage or a map or directory of where things are.
- It isn't easy to get to as a pedestrian.
- There are not a lot of places to park.
- There is limited parking at the disc golf course. Currently there is no actual lot, just a worn-out area where users have pulled off the road. There are a lot of obstacles to get to this space. Before this area became worn out, users originally parked on the side of the road. Users may be hesitant to park on the side of the road due to how narrow it is. For the larger events with more than 100 participants there is not enough parking. There are typically 50 cars and they have to park down by the pond or the pool and walk up to the start of the course.
- Parking is challenging, especially when there are games or tournaments happening at the fields.
- Traffic circulation through the park is a challenge. The road gets narrow and can be tough to navigate.
- Coming up the hill from the fields and playground can be challenging.
- Accessibility throughout the park is lacking.
- Limited parking.
- Limited walkability.
- It is not really a "walkable" park; should be easier to navigate
- There is not enough parking areas

Things That Can Be Improved

- Fields could be reworked to provide additional space between the baseball and softball field.
- The big open areas of the baseball park and softball park could be better utilized.
- An artificial surface could be installed that would bring a lot more activity.
- The older buildings in the park can be utilized for more programming. The pavilions could also be renovated to be used more.
- The pavilions could be renovated to use more and additional pavilions could be built.
- Can the existing recreation buildings be converted into parks offices?
- If the baseball and softball fields were fenced in they could also be converted into turf.
- Spectator seating at the baseball field could be improved. There is currently only one set of bleachers.
- The frisbee golf course maintenance/upkeep could be improved.
- A fence could be installed between baseball and softball to separate the two fields.
- Basketball courts and swimming pools get used quite a bit.

- The disc golf community can regulate the course largely on their own, however finances to improve the course can sometimes be challenging. For example, installation of a concrete pad or a basket or cutting/limbing the trees.
- The group has a long-term plan for improvements that they will share with the project team.
- Permitting and scheduling can be improved. Allow all who would like to use it at least one day to use it. It seems that the league who is closest to it gets the most use.
- A secondary set of bases could be added to the baseball diamond for 50/70 type play.
- ADA concerns.
- There aren't any sidewalks so walkability is a challenge.
- Page Park pavilion could be a beautiful place for corporate settings/trainings so that could be an interesting opportunity programmatically.
- Pedestrian-friendly emphasis.
- Improved vehicular drive width because we need to make sure vehicles and pedestrians can move together.
- Making sure there are a wide variety of age appropriate experiences available at the park.
- The top part of Page Park does not really stand out to people (not really highlighted) – people do not really know about this area.

Things That Could Be Added to Page Park

- There could be a bigger building area down by the playground for activities.
- More programming could be supplied for seniors, specifically pickleball.
- There could be additional group pavilions or picnic spots added.
- Lights could be added to the fields to allow for night time use.
- Installation of more bathrooms closer to the disc golf course.
- Parking improvements all over the park. Parents really only have the one lot for all of the facilities.
- The playground could be expanded.
- The park used to have a sledding hill that was popular.
- Office space

Q5. What are your thoughts about the parks, recreation, youth, and community services department's ability to market itself and create a sense of constant and open communication with community residents?

- The department is made up of fantastic people.
- There are great online resources. There is no one in the city that does not have access to the programs.
- Especially now (during shutdown) there has been good communication when the traditional programming can no longer be used.
- The department's communication is excellent where they are right now. The use of social media and website are good.
- The connection with the department and the mayor is great.
- It could be beneficial to make the Park Board members more visible.
- Josh does a great job; however, sometimes it seems his hands are tied with not being able to provide a program or service because they don't have a location to run it.
- Believes that communication is excellent. They put flyers out, send out emails, post on Facebook and Instagram. They put up signs and the marketing is always really good. They utilize the schools to send information home with students.
- The website is great to sign up for a program and getting permits is straightforward and helpful.

- Edgewood Little League uses social media and has found it easier to reach users currently and potential participants and parents; the department can use it a little more.
- They do a good job. There are a lot of different committees that are open to the public.
- The mayor always has an open door.
- It seems that anyone who has a problem should feel completely comfortable discussing with the City and the Department specifically.
- Believes they are doing a great job.
- The renovations at Rockwell Park have made it into a really nice open facility. I grew up going to Rockwell Park and I believe the department is doing a great job marketing programs that are available there.
- The group believes the Department is doing a good job communicating with residents. There was a thought that maybe they could post with a bit more regularity.
- The City could install a bulletin board for posting seasonal and rotating activities at parks for people who aren't connected with the City or don't have access to the internet.
- As long as someone has social connectivity the flow of information is good. If someone doesn't have connectivity communication can be challenging. Maybe use mailers to reach the demographic without connectivity.
- The Department could have a banner advertisement or link on the League websites and the Department could link to the Leagues.
- Forestville Little League has been working on a partnership with the other leagues and civic leagues.
- They rely on the school system to communicate to parents and in-Town visual boards for communication.
- There are 26 or so languages spoken within Bristol and electronic communication can be translated better.
- There is a desire to hang on to things they have done in the past.
- Communication is good from the Department and they want to include other organizations through planning efforts.
- We do a pretty decent job of marketing; however, we can create a better branded marketing strategy (making sure the message is known and there is consistent branding in terms of our logos, clothes, etc.)
- The Department does a really good job with email and Facebook; they are an inviting presence.
- We need to do more marketing; merging with parks and recreation has increased our marketing methods but historically, our methods have been a lot of word of mouth.
- Social media is an interesting marketing method because there are some that do it and some that don't.
- Allow individual divisions and/or major facilities the ability to have their own pages.
- We need to make our website more functional; look at showcasing programs and services, how to register, make the link between parks and recreation and youth & community services, staff bios, etc.
- I think we do an outstanding job marketing to the community.
- Youth and Community Services was more "low key" before the merger and now the Department uses Parks and Recreation avenues (MyRec, social media, etc.). Youth and Community Services is starting to catch up.

Q6. How would you describe your interactions with the parks, recreation, youth, and community services department? Anything you would like to see changed in how they work with you and your organization?

- The support for the softball league has been great. The department has always been a good help with a permit or helping the league schedule an additional day.
- Department takes the time to get to know residents.
- The department has been supportive of all the mountain bike trail projects. They were supportive of the Rockwell Park mountain bike trail. The project was an 11-acre park which includes a skills area. They were able to pack a lot of stuff into a relatively small area.
- Our relationship with the Department has been good. Whenever we come in with ideas for programs they have been supportive.
- It has been a little frustrating trying to work together through the Armory.
- The Board of Education and BPRYCS don't always see eye to eye. The high school students should be able to use Muzzy Field all year round.
- Bristol Residents should have priority of use for the facilities.
- Nothing but great interactions. I mostly interact with Sarah who is always helpful all the time.
- Program is hoping to get a little more help with the field maintenance.
- Now that the Bristol Blues are under new management it has taken a little while to build the respect of the Department/City but now they have a good relationship.
- Believes that the department could be fairer at spreading things out more evenly to give everyone equal opportunity.
- Currently, Little League participation has been trending downward and such the need for fields. While the leagues have always gotten fields they wanted, the Department assigns fields rather than allowing leagues to request the fields they want.
- Use of Muzzy Field has significantly reduced the use of Muzzy Field by the community. State tournaments can no longer be run there.
- We have had a good dialogue with the Department. Both the Parks and Rec Board and the Department have been open to their ideas and have been happy to be included in the process.
- Communication has been good since Josh has taken the position. Josh has established a dialogue and a relationship.
- I would like to keep those communication lines open and to partner with the Department on certain events in the future. I think there is a partnering opportunity for anything that seems like a natural connection.
- We really do have a great working relationship with the Department.
- There is an opportunity to improve summer leisure activities; the school has a lot of expertise about how youth learn, outcomes, assessments, etc. and this could be an opportunity to expand the relationship and maximize full-day programs (fun, academic, leisure, etc.).
- We have people that take advantage of our programming and it makes sense to extend/expand the services to full-day offerings.
- This administration has done a great job staying in touch with organizations, from Departmental leadership to the Mayor.
- We have strong relationships with the community but this is an area that we can always improve.
- We need to strengthen the relationship between parks and recreation and youth & community services ideas and methods; broaden the understanding of what youth & community services does and why.

- We need to seek out and implement cross-training opportunities (formalize this process); build awareness of services, responsibilities, how to cross-promote and support each other.
- There has been a lot of change/transition within Youth and Community Services and there hasn't been a chance to really organize the team yet.
- We need to host more Department-wide meetings so all staff levels know what is going on within the entire Department; maybe make a sub-committee of staff at least?

Q7. Are there any organizations the parks, recreation, youth, and community services department should consider partnering with now or in the future?

- The Little League/Softball League partnership has been fantastic and has been done with as humane and respectful as an approach as possible; building and strengthening that partnership could be an asset to the city and the softball program.
- Any partnership that can be made that can help improve the facilities.
- Softball league may be able to provide funding for certain upgrades such as for scoreboards, wiring, sounds, storage aesthetic upgrades.
- The department could partner with the mountain bike community especially for funding.
- The International Mountain Bike Association and the New England Mountain Bike Association are both organizations that the department could partner with, especially for funding. Those organizations would be needed to help be out in front of the improvement projects.
- Build on the partnership with the Armory. The department and the Armory are already working together but he would like to expand it.
- Bristol Softball and Bristol Little League could partner with the Department to work together to find field space and for the sharing of equipment. They could also work together more to reach users that either group may not be reaching already.
- Girls' softball needs a field. The original plans to develop the dog park area (Robert's Field) included a softball complex. If this plan was developed it could take some pressure off of the high school fields and other fields.
- An all-purpose field somewhere would be helpful.
- The Brackett Park and Casey Field renovations were good.
- Kern Field is currently sitting there empty and could be a utilized. I anticipate there could be some tricky neighbors nearby.
- A partnership with the National Disc Golf Board would be worth it at this time. The highest level of play is already taking place at Rockwell and the group and the Department is already handling it. A partnership would help just with logistical planning of larger events. If Bristol added a third similar course then a city-wide tournament could be held with participants from all around the region. If the third course were a professional level course then partnership with the National Disc Golf Board may be beneficial.
- Continuing to fostering and developing partnerships with the community sports leagues.
- Is there a way to partner with the senior community to provide more programming targeting seniors?
- The Boys and Girls Club runs programs and it would be great if we took a comprehensive approach and didn't compete against each other; also consider youth groups and athletics, nature centers, public libraries, etc.
- We need to build a better relationship with the Boys and Girls club because they are one of our biggest competitors.
- We need to work better with the library to come across as a coordinated effort for programming because it is easy to step on each other's toes unfortunately.
- We need to get businesses involved in Pine Lake for two reasons: 1) charitable donations and 2) increase corporate training model.

- We should have “adopt a school” or “adopt a grade” programs so the business(es) come out and introduce themselves to the school group(s) and they help the kids understand there is much more in the community; maybe the students would then do a tour of the business? We need to make more connections within the community.

Q8. What are the key outcomes you would like to see come from this planning process?

- A recommendation for a location and a design for a softball facility.
- 4-6 acres would be able to host 4 fields. With the current numbers a facility of this size would be able to host 8 teams a day. Springtime leagues typically have 20 teams and a facility of that size could handle 30-50% of the teams on any given day. Preferably the facility would be grass, but has no strong feelings about the surfacing. The facility would need fencing and netting. Lights on at least one field would be a big asset. The Louisville Complex has a clover design which is nice and may be the best use of the available space.
- Currently there are no formal dugouts at their fields. There are limited spaces for athletes and families to find shade. Currently families bring tents to set up for shade.
- Would like to see water and electricity added to the facilities, noting not necessarily for irrigation but to have water on site.
- Bristol supports Little League for the region and the fields have to be turned over so the girls can then play on those fields. Would love to have a facility so that softball could host similar events.
- It is a challenge for the softball girls to join the league and play without knowing where they are going each week due to the unpredictable scheduling. The boys' leagues are predictable.
- A plan for sustainability and growth.
- Bristol needs another turf field.
- Bristol needs another lit field.
- The department should consider how they are going to support Bristol residents at a low cost but still generate revenue.
- I am hopeful that renovations could be made to the fields that already exist specifically noting Casey Field and Rockwell Park.
- A long-term plan would be to potentially convert Casey Field to a synthetic turf field. This would allow other uses on the field besides football and cheer and would require less maintenance. The program would not need to rent the turf at the high school which is also a larger expense.
- A partnership that develops between the sports leagues and BPRYCS. That there will be open lines of communication and sharing of resources to boost athleticism in Bristol. I hope that there will be a collective ambition across all organizations to get people up and moving.
- Improve on the general upkeep of Muzzy Field. I am hopeful that it continues to be a nice facility and the City continues to put money towards its upkeep each year. This money should include replacing lights when they go out.
- A place for the softball team to call their own.
- There hasn't been a lot of competition for field space between the Little Leagues because we have been doing the scheduling, and I would like to see one person continue to do that. I would also like the balance of other sport use to continue.
- More chance for the local teams to use Muzzy Field.
- Course maintenance and safety improvements. At some point the baskets will need to be upgraded and drainage issues need to be corrected.
- Expanding the courses and adding to the flexibility of parking and the facilities (bathrooms, shelters, etc.)
- Communication from the City has already started to improve but would like to continue with that.
- I want to be sure that Peck Park is not forgotten about in the plan.

- I would like the plan to identify fields that can be converted to multiuse (multi-age (sic) group) fields.
- One of the strengths of Bristol are our parks, we have great open spaces and different activities and amenities available; however, our places can be cleaned up and we need to have a vision for our underdeveloped places (like Roberts).
- Take advantage of our underutilized areas.
- Opportunities for instructional activities but also service activities (giving back from an early age).
- We need the parks to physically connect to the natural resources within Bristol; this will in turn lead to public awareness and advocacy.
- We have adequate natural resources within Bristol; go outside of the box and give credence to how the parks are a part of the wildlife corridor as we have a lot of areas like this to the north of town but extends to the Barnes Nature Center in Bristol (private entity).
- The ability to implement the ideas brought forth in this discussion; create the plan forward for how we implement our ideas.
- If you really want Pine Lake to shine, we really need to have a dedicated person employed and funded through the City of Bristol; a large part of Pine Lake's deficit was due to staffing costs but two positions will soon be going away which will help.
- Ensuring that there is a holistic understanding of what everyone does within the department; common goal and how to achieve it.
- Facilitate communication between parks and recreation and youth & community services; make sure we can triage appropriately, help the community residents find what it is that they really need.
- Ensure the entire department is promoted through marketing, outreach, and branding efforts
- A more seamless merge and community understanding of the whole department.
- We need to have the team building (sic) stage within the department (work towards "norming" and "performing").
- We need to come up with that common vision, mission, and goal that would represent the entire Department; currently, there are two separate focuses and this Master Plan needs to unite the whole Department.

Q9. If you could change just one thing about the parks, recreation, youth, and community services system, what would it be?

- Softball needs a field, the sport and the gender is being under served; however, it may not be entirely up to the department specifically to address that.
- A way to eliminate meetings. If there could be a way to fast track projects, it could avoid burning out ideas and projects.
- The updates to the facilities need to be better. The facilities are outdated and the aesthetics need to be better.
- Accessibility to all fields.
- Nothing really, I've been very happy with how situations have been handled. Even when the Bristol Blues have been on the opposing side of a decision they have been confident the correct decision was made.
- I don't think the department really needs to make any changes. They do a good job listening to people and what the community wants. Whether it be a bike park, dog park, skate park, etc.
- I am hopeful the new merger of BPRYCS doesn't mean the departments will lose track of things.
- That maintenance and refurbishing is spread across all the parks in the City and not just focused on a few parks.
- I'd love to see Page Park more accessible.

- I'd love to see something done with the Roberts Property.
- Continue to work with field maintenance to take the fields on the parks side and school side and make them even better
- I want to see the parks more visibly engaged in reducing waste (reduce, reuse, recycle leaders)
- More emphasis on the value of trees (tree inventory and documenting what is in the system)
- "Resiliency" becomes the mantra for how parks are designed and utilized within Bristol
- Streamlining systems and making processes/roles/responsibilities more understandable in terms of an organizational structure.
- We are seeing a trend that roles and responsibilities change/shift with little notice or direction.
- We need to move toward a benefits-based programming structure.
- The investment in people along with the system's infrastructure.
- We need to move back to a more servant-leadership structure as opposed to top-down
- Residents fully understand where to go, who to go to, etc. to have their needs met (we are a seamless department); and this same understanding needs to be the same for internal staff; identified and solidified roles.
- Every department staff should be able to recognize when and how to point someone to youth and community services.
- A unified Department where everyone knows where to make the appropriate referrals based on the issues present.
- Cross-training is an institutional practice among all staff so the whole Department can understand and take advantage of the collective expertise and knowledge both Departments bring to the table.

Q10. What haven't we discussed that you would like documented in the parks and recreation master plan?

- I don't know if a specific location in Bristol would have preference over another for a softball facility. If a location is recommended, I would like to see the very clear reasons why the location has been selected.
- The dog park area/Roberts Property area may be a difficult situation, however there should be a way to communicate with the community about that area. There should be a way to get all interest groups involved and on board (sic) with a plan. Whenever someone comes up with an idea for that area it is met with a great amount of push back (sic) from the community. If there was a way to get everyone on board (sic) to best utilize the space more people will be supportive of the given plan.
- Memorial Boulevard would be a good spot for a multipurpose field.
- There is a space in Rockwell Park next to the lagoon that could be better utilized.
- Edgewood shares the high school fields with the high school teams and Little League is the secondary use on those fields.
- Maintenance on the school fields specifically grooming, pulling weeds and overgrowth after the winter needs to be done.
- The Northeastern Middle School softball field is pitted and gorged and dangerous to play a ball or run the bases.
- Field #5 at Edgewood School is never groomed by the City and Edgewood Little League maintains it with their own money and considers it a donation to the Board of Education.
- The assessment needs to in mind that there's a lot of people/organizations that need to use the fields.
- Passive recreation isn't the only thing that park spaces should be used for, Bristol needs more fields. There seems to be more users than Bristol has field space for. The leagues have been

making it work but softball still needs its own space.

- There is an opportunity to convert some of the fields to be used by more ages.
- Forestville Little League maintains the fields it uses and including the abutting areas. They are willing to line the fields and perform the game prep, but would like the Departments help with field cutting and other maintenance, field cleanup and general upkeep of the park outside of fields. Forestville can find it difficult to find volunteers to do maintenance and their equipment is out of date.
- We have only one indoor pool and the city of our size makes it difficult to assign/share pool time.
- We are one of the largest municipalities in Connecticut (one of a dozen) that has a chartered water department; we have a unique water source due to our topography.
- We have a Watershed Association that steward a lot of our natural resources; they also shepherd the economic value of natural resources through education of public officials/elected board commissioners.
- The City should look at buying park land (economically valuable natural resources spaces) in Forestville and at the east end of Route 6; one of the properties abuts Kern Park; look into land acquisition strategies.
- Parks and recreation should be in the business of building a healthier community.
- Pine Lake is a big concern and how the department is developing the business plan.
- Brownstone and Adventure Park Stores (Outdoor Adventures) and Adventure Park Bridgeport (Outdoor Adventures).
- The vast majority of Bristol residents do not know Pine Lake exists so we need to do a better job of that.
- COVID-19 may be giving the fields a much-needed rest period.

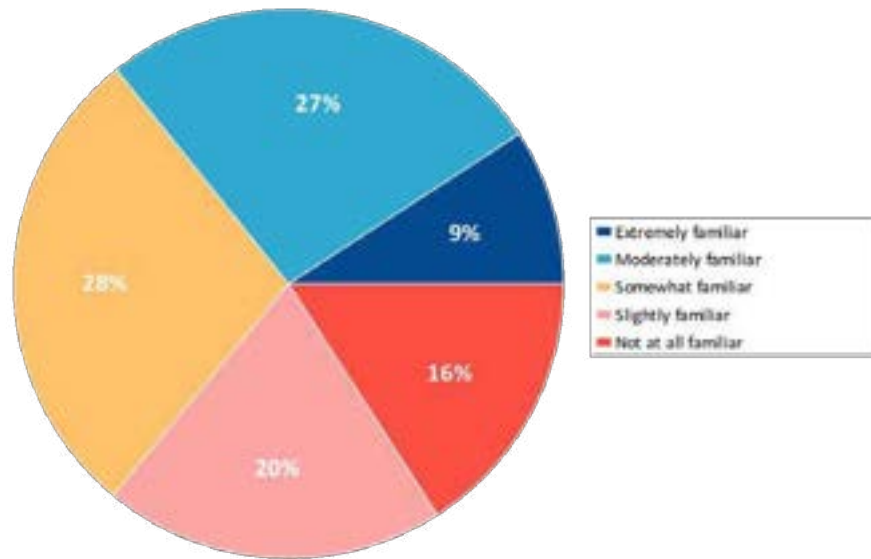
Appendix C



CHARTS AND GRAPHS OF OVERALL RESULTS 2020 PRIORITY INVESTMENT RATING BENCHMARKING

Q1. How familiar would you say you are with what the Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth, and Community Services Department (BPRYCS) provides to the community?

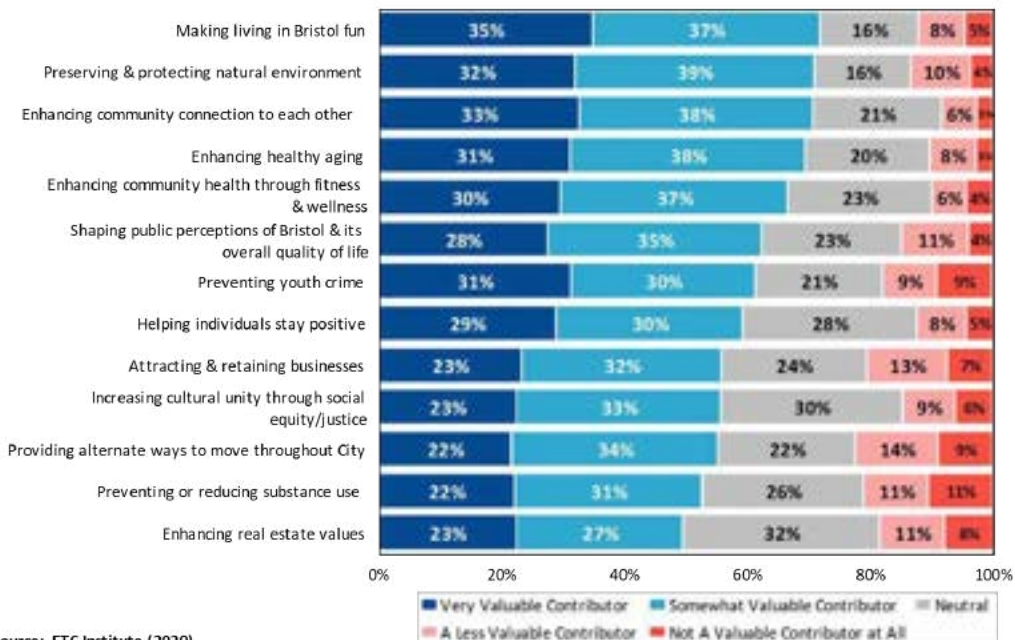
by percentage of respondents (without "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q2. How Valuable of a Contributor BPRYCS is in Addressing Community Issues

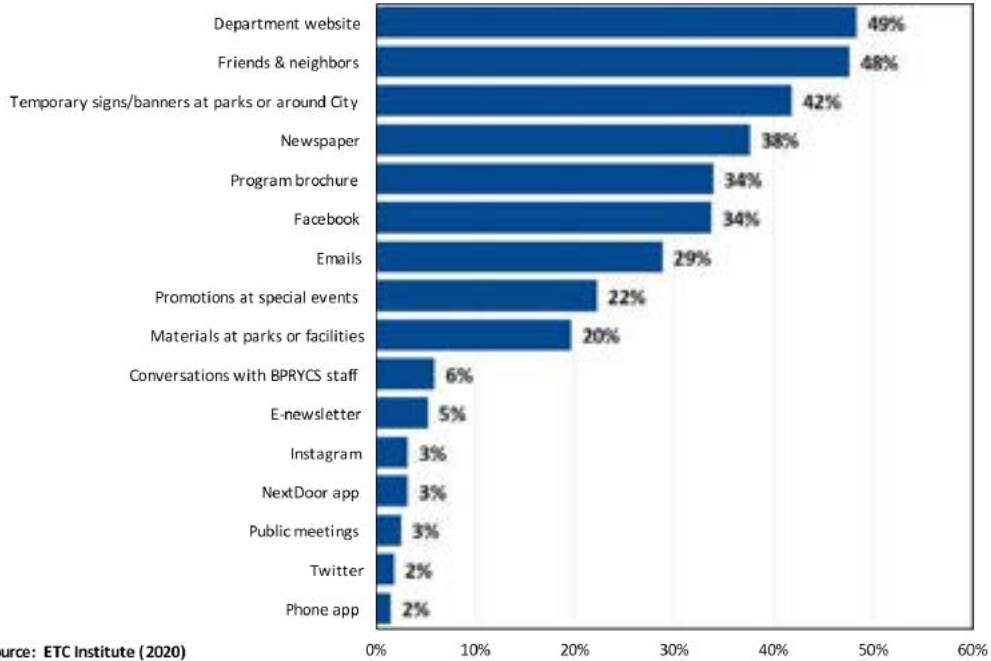
by percentage of respondents using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 means "Very Valuable Contributor and 1 means "Not A Valuable Contributor at All" (without "don't know")



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q3. From the following list, please CHECK ALL of the ways you learn about BPRYCS programs, activities, and facilities.

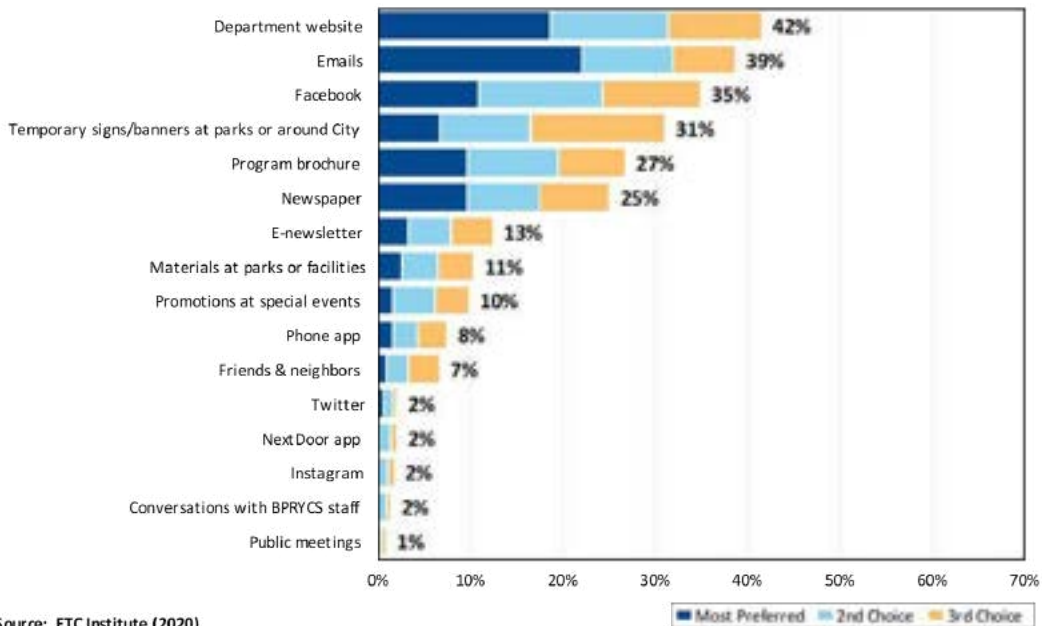
by percentage of respondents (multiple choices could be made)



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q4. From the list in Question 3, which THREE methods of communication would you MOST PREFER the City use to communicate with you about BPRYCS programs, services, activities, and facilities?

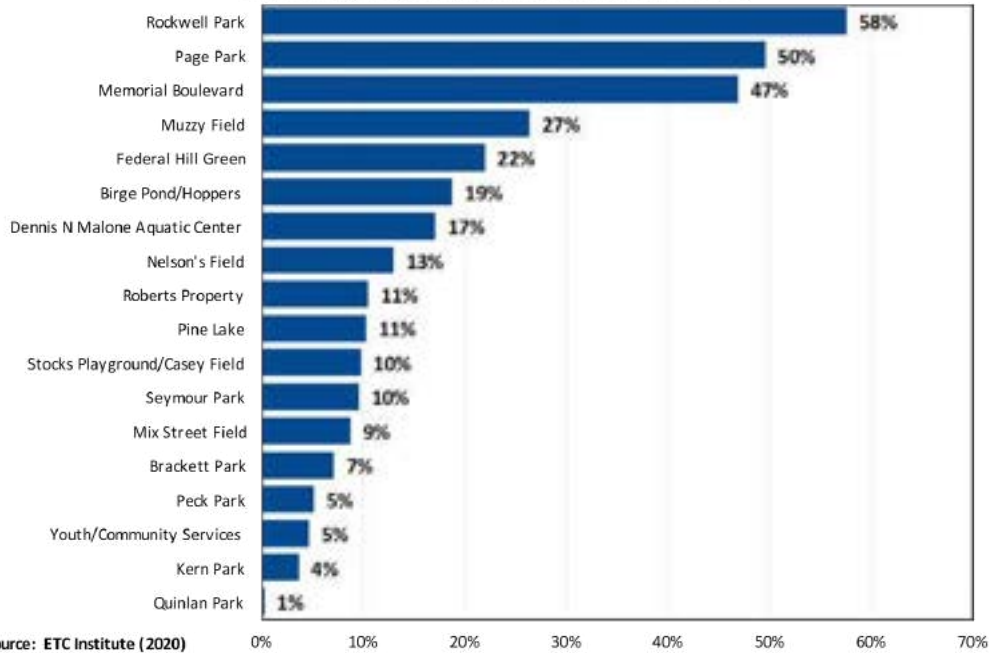
by percentage of respondents who selected the items as one of their top three choices



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

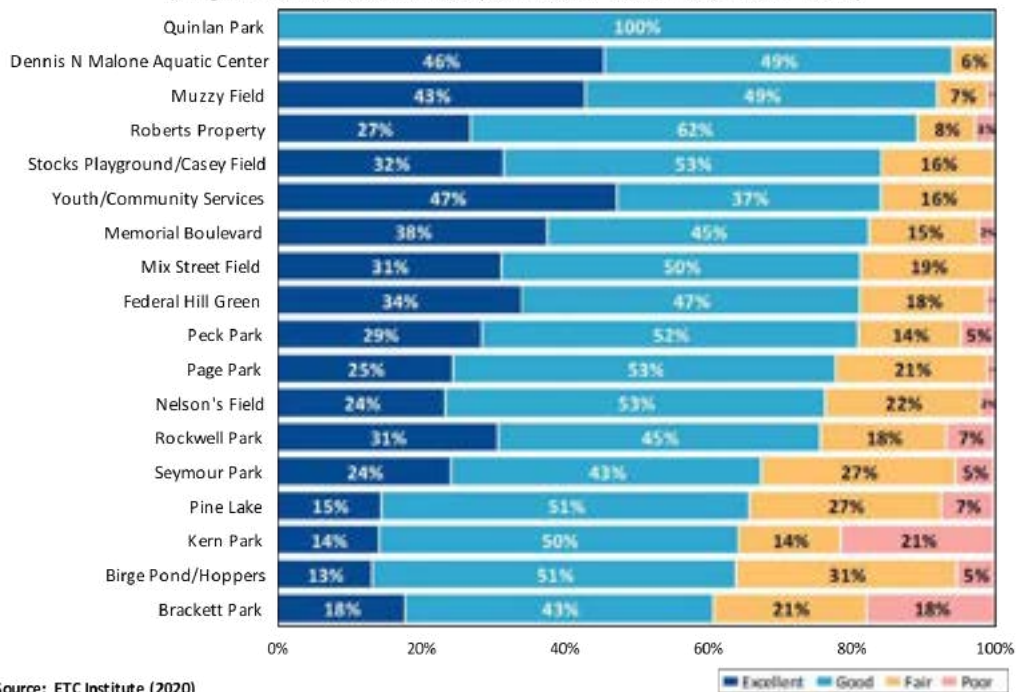
Q5. Please indicate if you or any member of your household has used any of the following City of Bristol parks/facilities during the past 12 months before the COVID-19 Pandemic.

by percentage of respondents (multiple choices could be made)

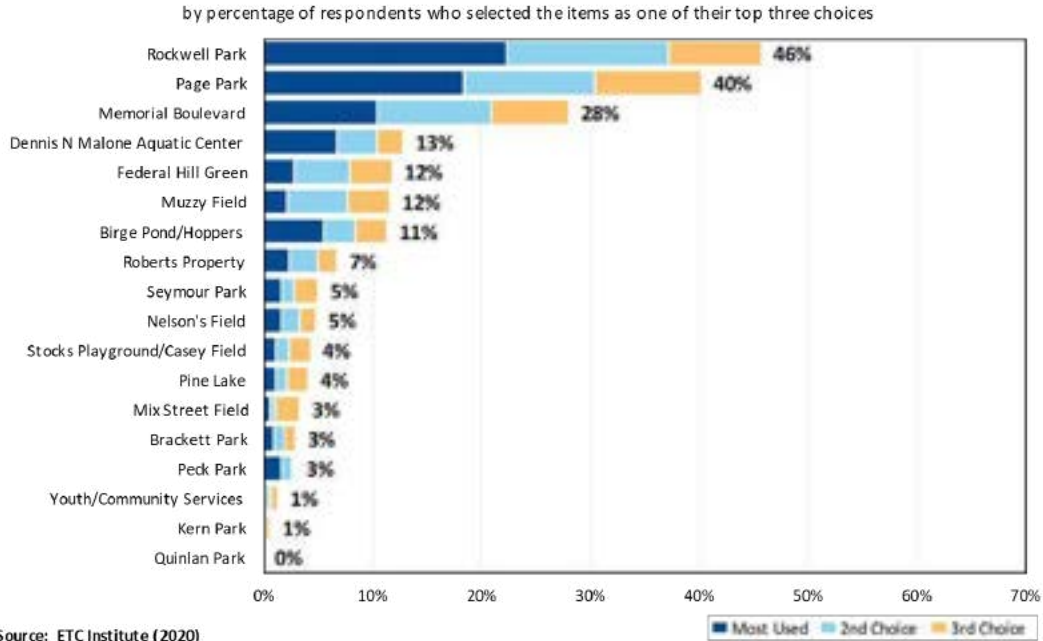


Q5. If "YES," please rate the condition of the park/facility.

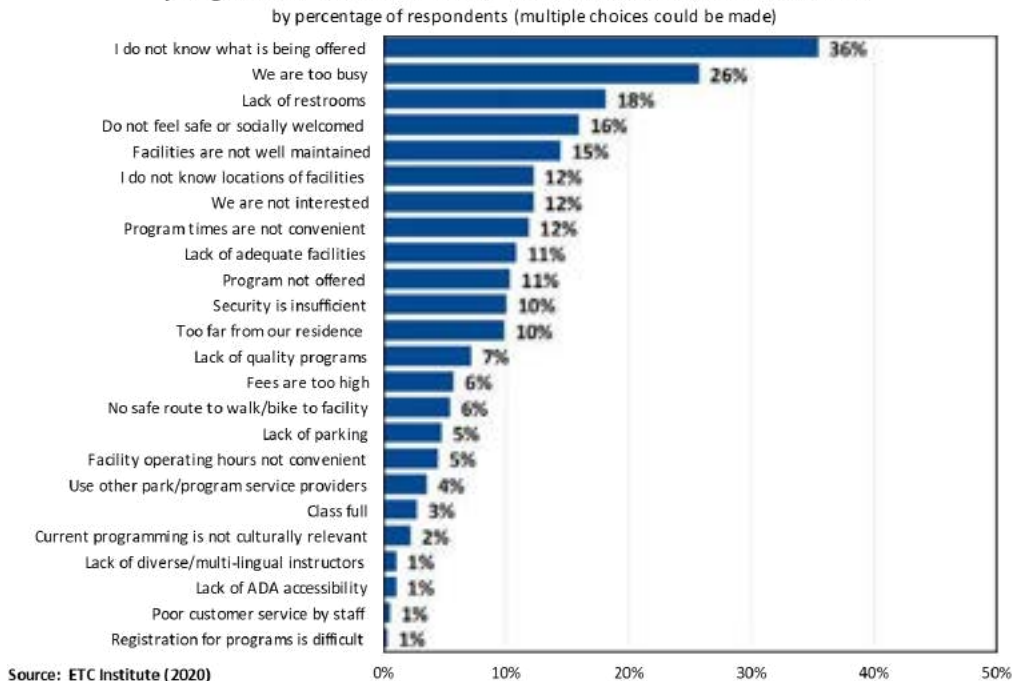
by percentage of respondents that used park(s)/facility
(using a scale of 1 to 4, where 4 means your needs are "Excellent" and 1 means "Poor.")



Q6. Which THREE of the parks/facilities listed in Question 5 have you or members of your household USED MOST during the past YEAR before the COVID-19 Pandemic?

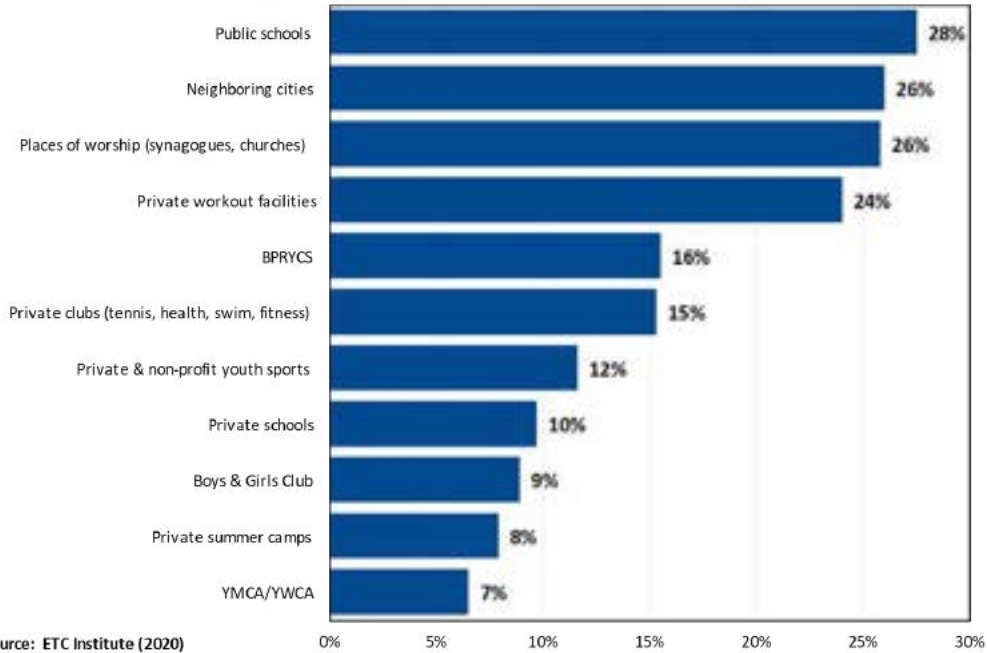


Q7. Please CHECK ALL of the following reasons that prevent you or other members of your household from using City of Bristol parks, facilities, or programs MORE OFTEN before the COVID-19 Pandemic.



Q8. From the following list, please CHECK ALL of the organizations that you or members of your household have used for indoor and outdoor recreation activities during the last 12 months before the COVID-19 Pandemic.

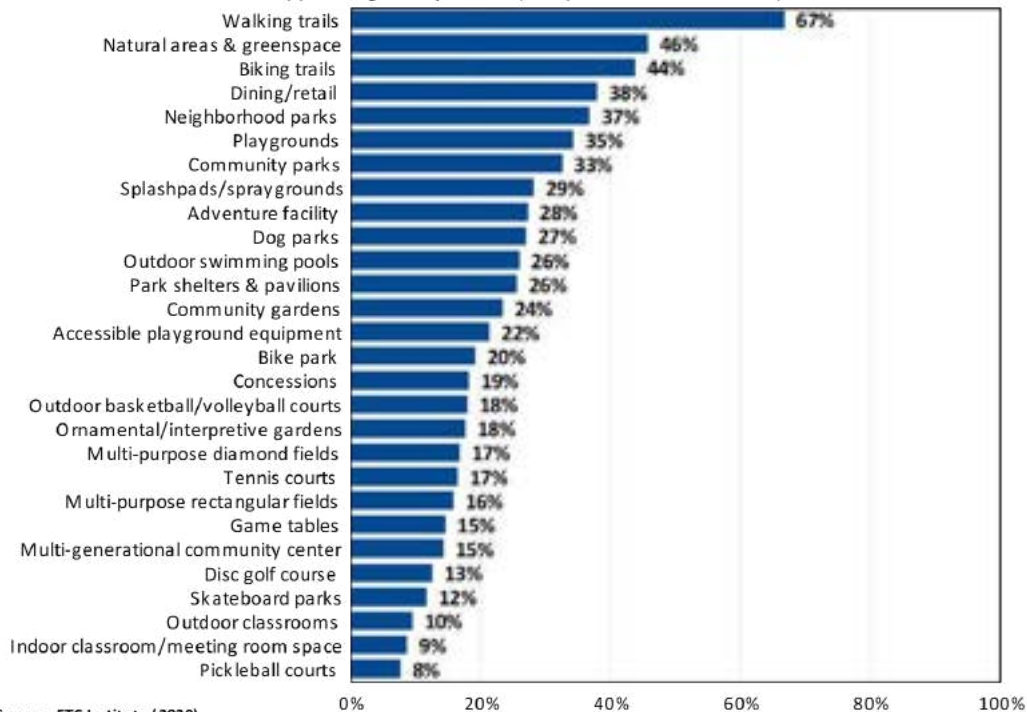
by percentage of respondents (multiple choices could be made)



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q9. Households' Facility Needs

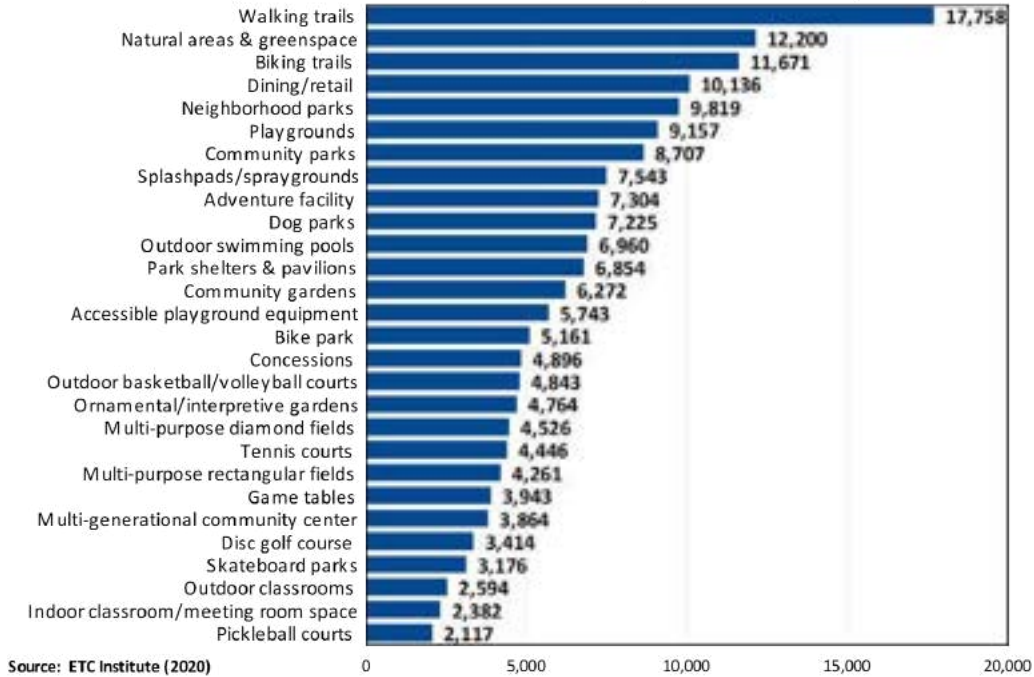
by percentage of respondents (multiple choices could be made)



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

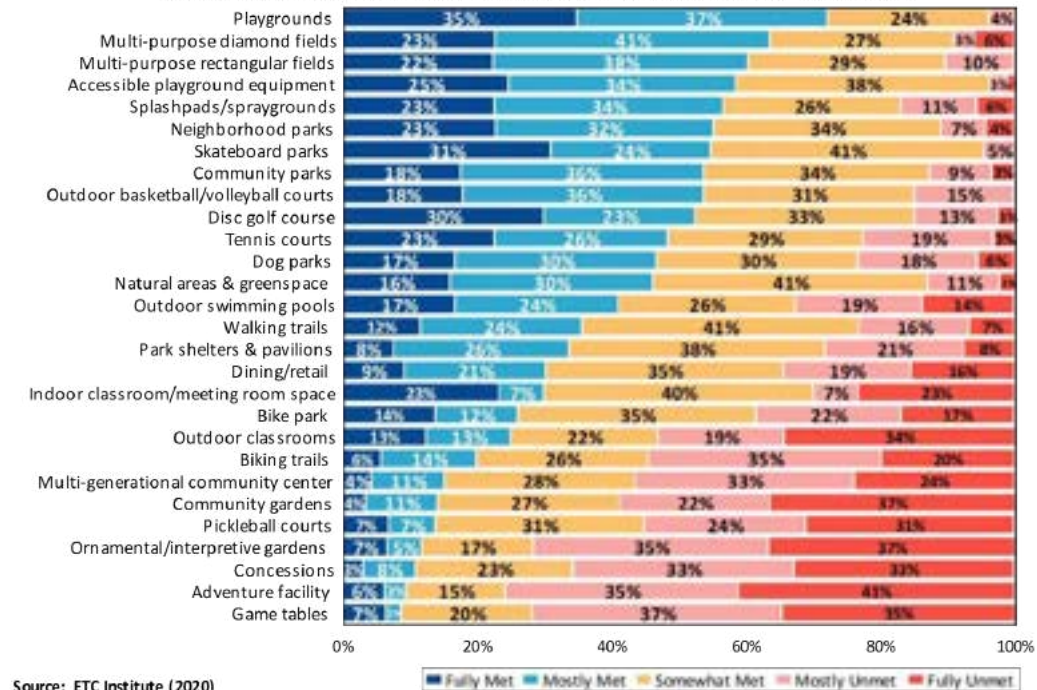
Estimated Number of Households That Have a Need for Various Facilities

by number of households based on an estimated 26,465 households in Bristol, CT



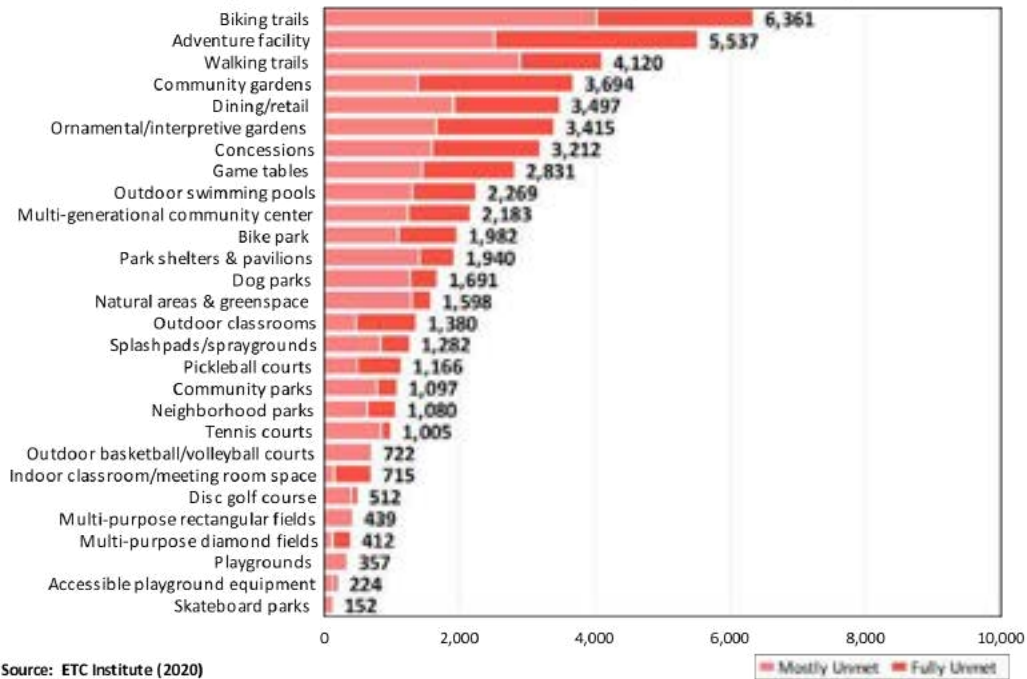
Q9. How Well Facility Meet the Needs of Respondent Households

by percentage of respondents with a need for facilities
(using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 means your needs are "Fully Met" and 1 means "Fully Unmet.")



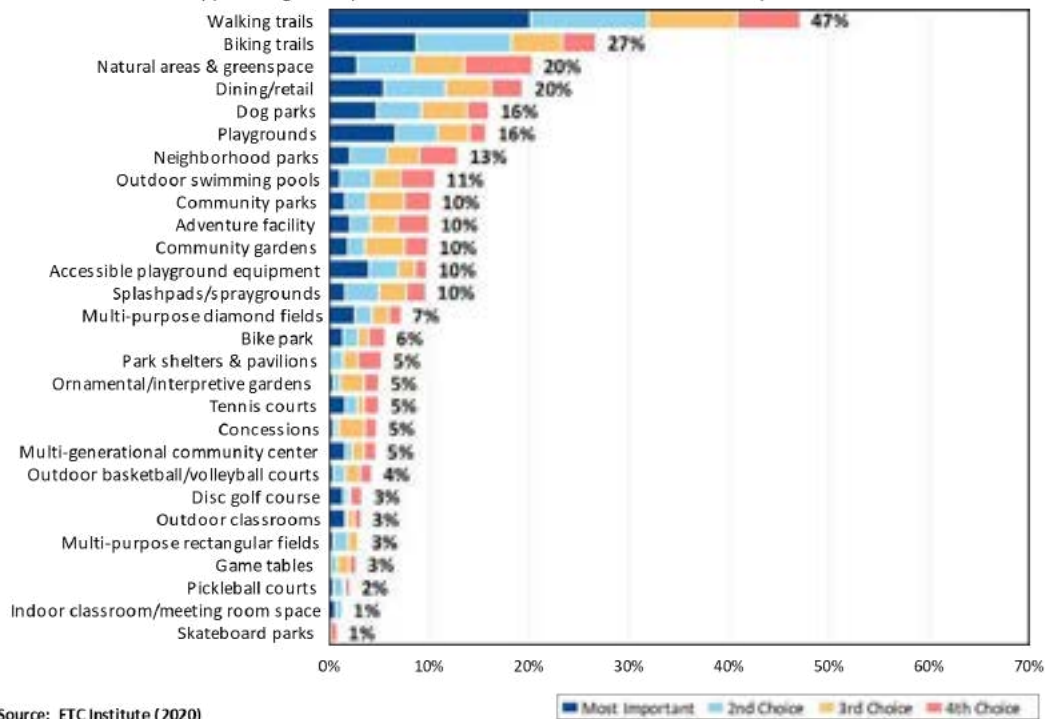
Estimated Number of Households Whose Needs for Facilities Are Mostly Unmet or Fully Unmet

by number of households based on an estimated 26,465 households in Bristol, CT



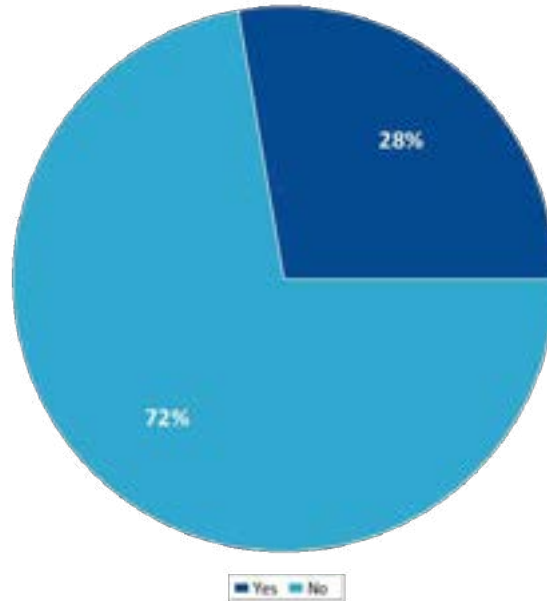
Q10. Facilities Most Important to Households

by percentage of respondents who selected the items as one of their top four choices



Q11. Has your household participated in any recreation or youth and community services programs offered by BPRYCS during the past 12 months before the COVID-19 Pandemic?

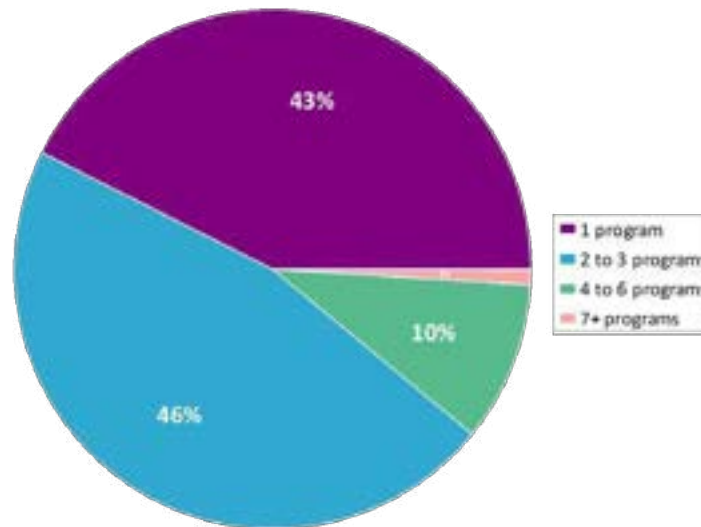
by percentage of respondents (without "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q11a. How many programs offered by the BPRYCS have you or members of your household participated in during the past 12 months before the COVID-19 Pandemic?

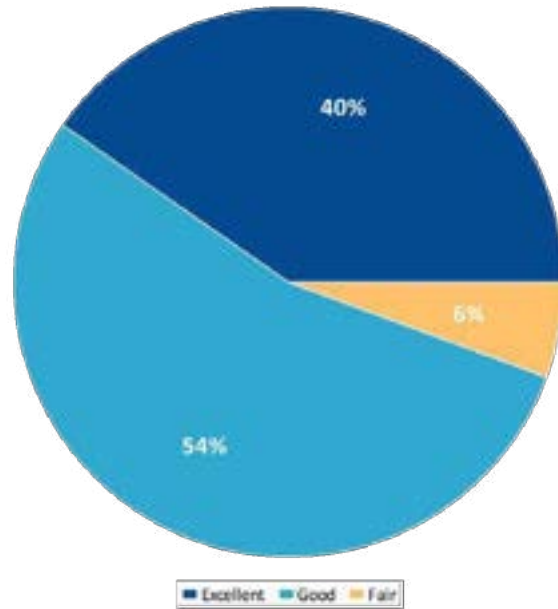
by percentage of respondents that participated in programs



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q11b. How would you rate the overall quality of the BPRYCS programs in which your household has participated?

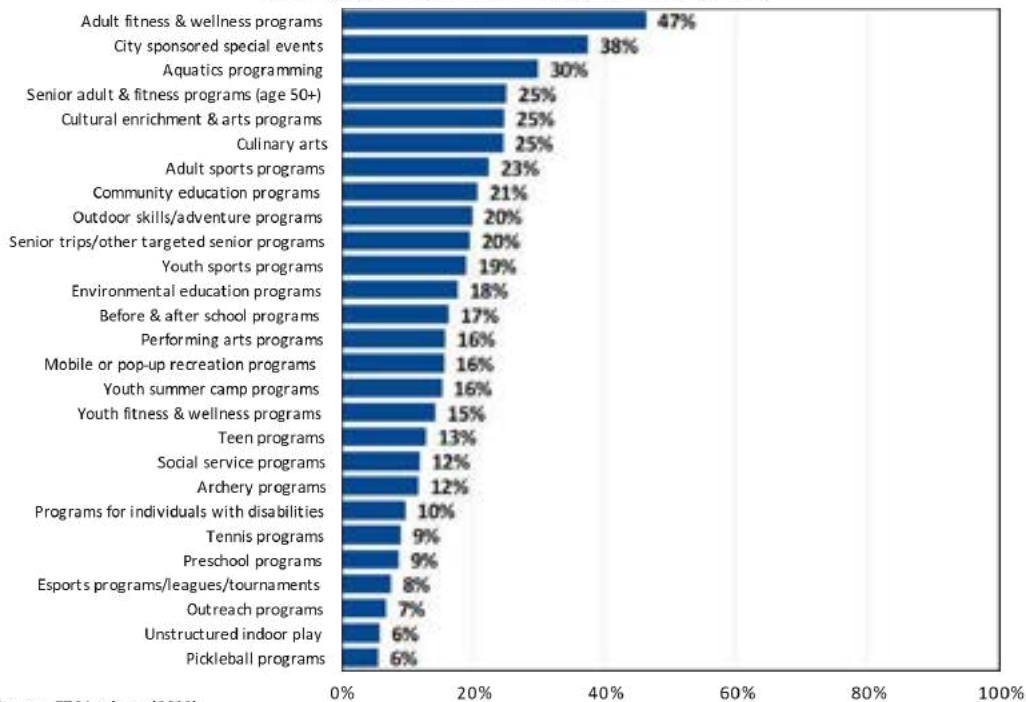
by percentage of respondents that participated in programs (without "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q12. Households' Program Needs

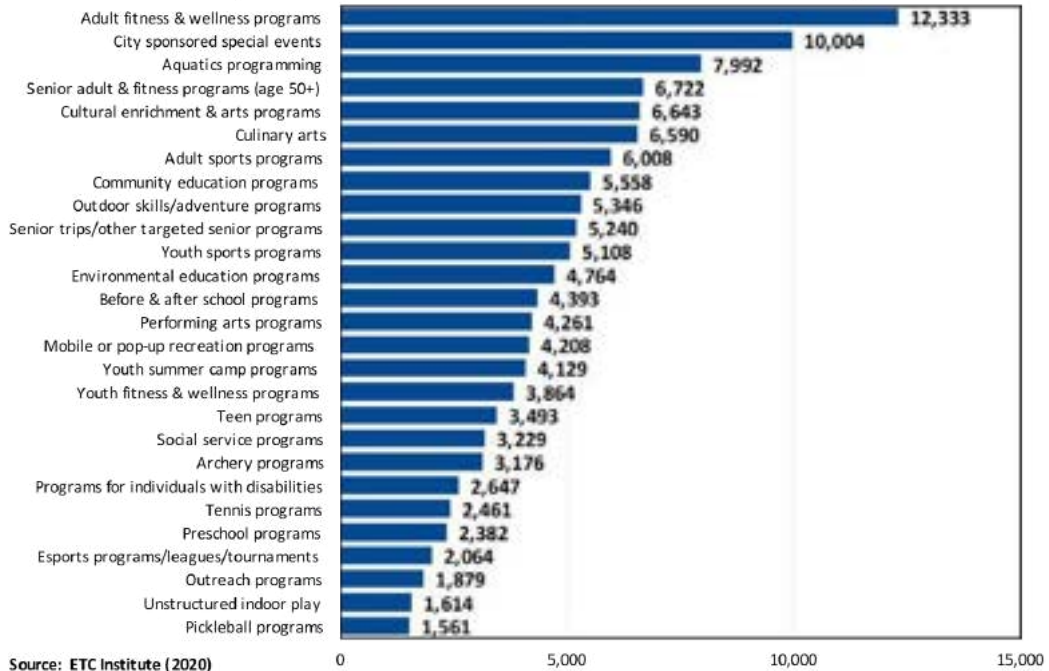
by percentage of respondents (multiple choices could be made)



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

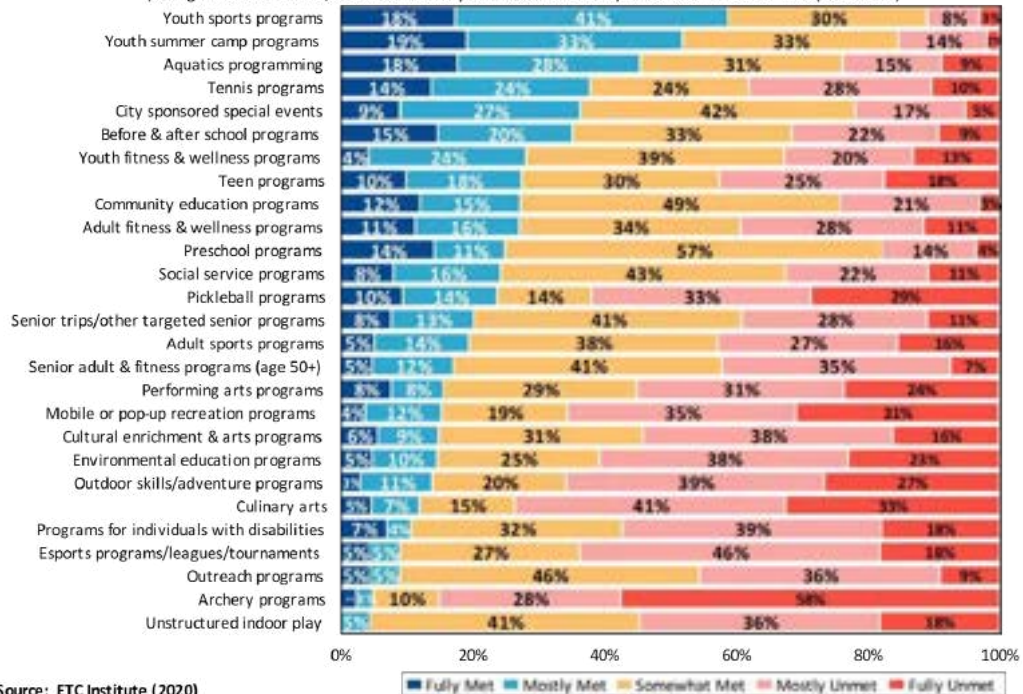
Estimated Number of Households That Have a Need for Various Programs

by number of households based on an estimated 26,465 households in Bristol, CT



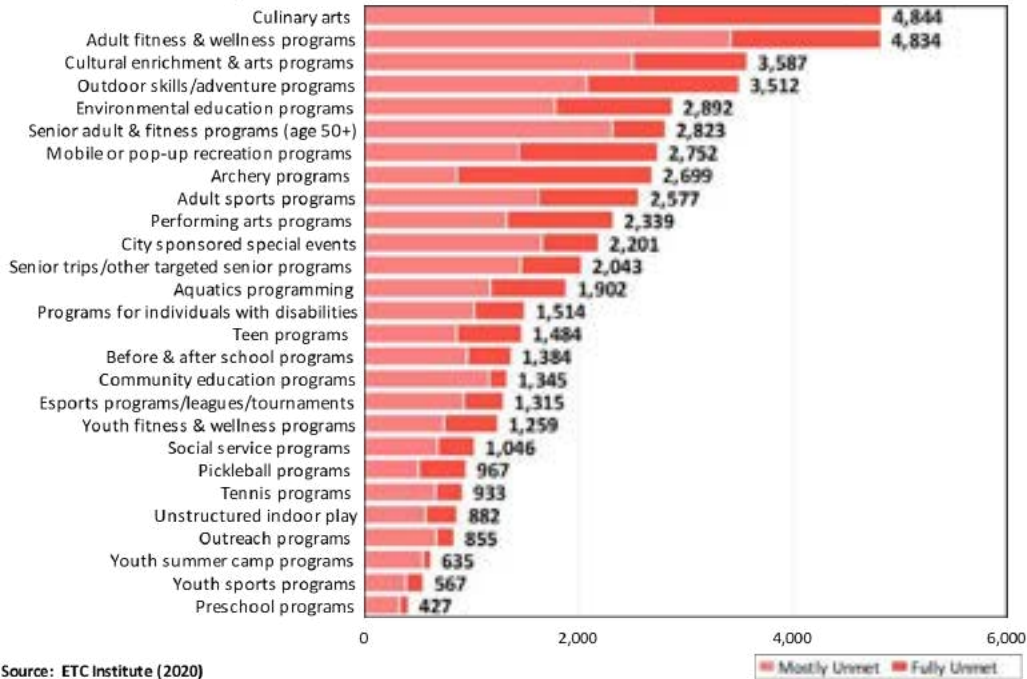
Q12. How Well Programs Meet the Needs of Respondent Households

by percentage of respondents with a need for programs
(using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 means your needs are "Fully Met" and 1 means "Fully Unmet.")



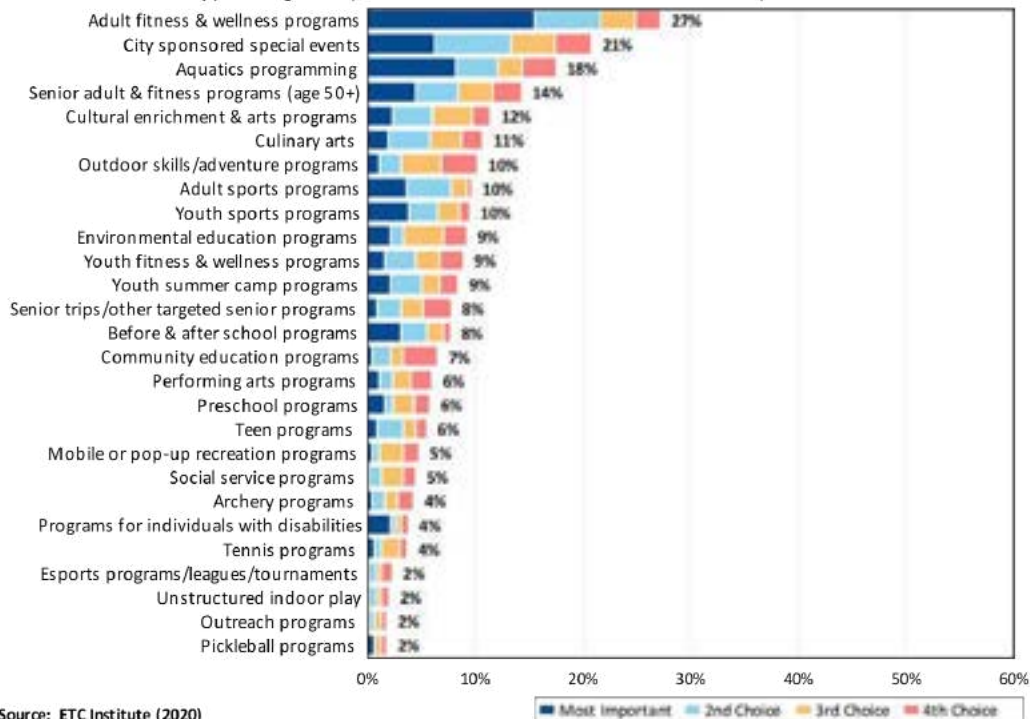
Estimated Number of Households Whose Needs for Programs Are Mostly Unmet and Fully Unmet

by number of households based on an estimated 26,465 households in Bristol, CT



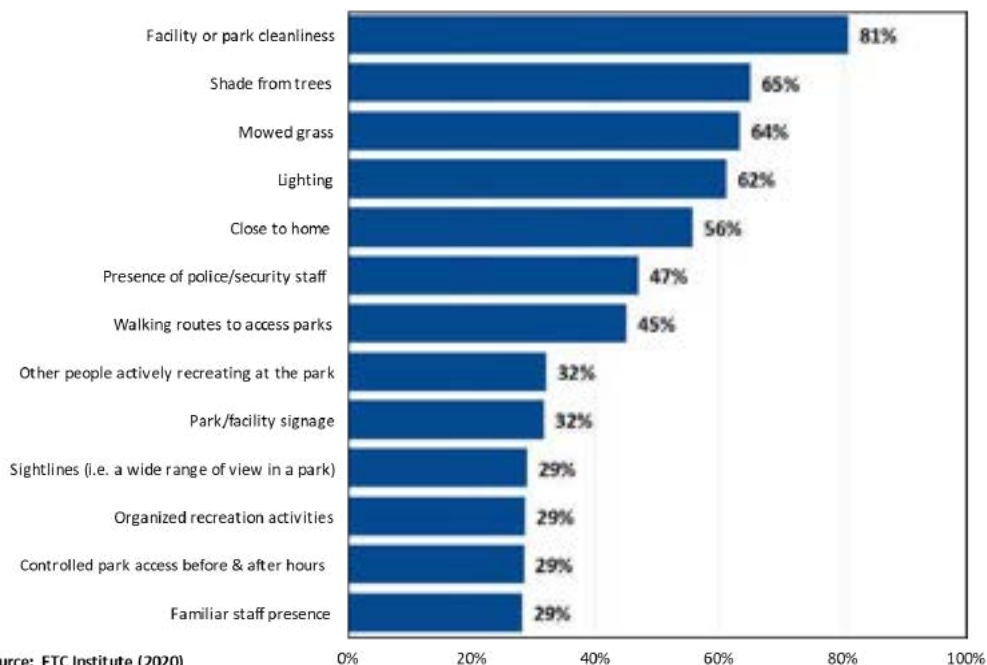
Q13. Programs Most Important to Households

by percentage of respondents who selected the items as one of their top four choices



Q14. Please CHECK ALL of the items below that makes a public park WELCOMING to you and the members of your household.

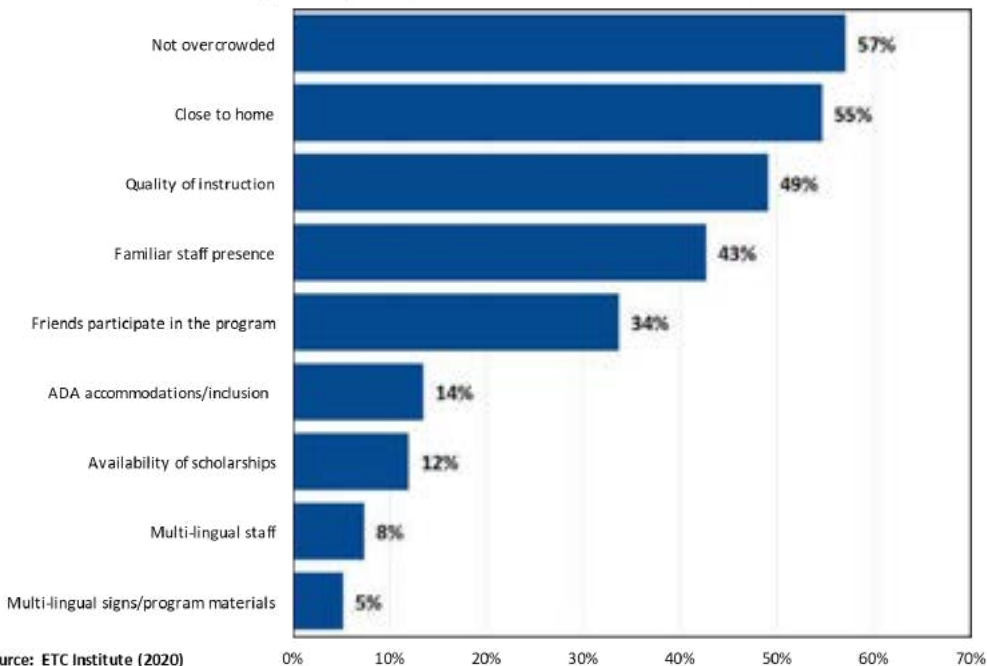
by percentage of respondents (multiple choices could be made)



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q15. Please CHECK ALL of the items below that makes a public program WELCOMING to you and the members of your household.

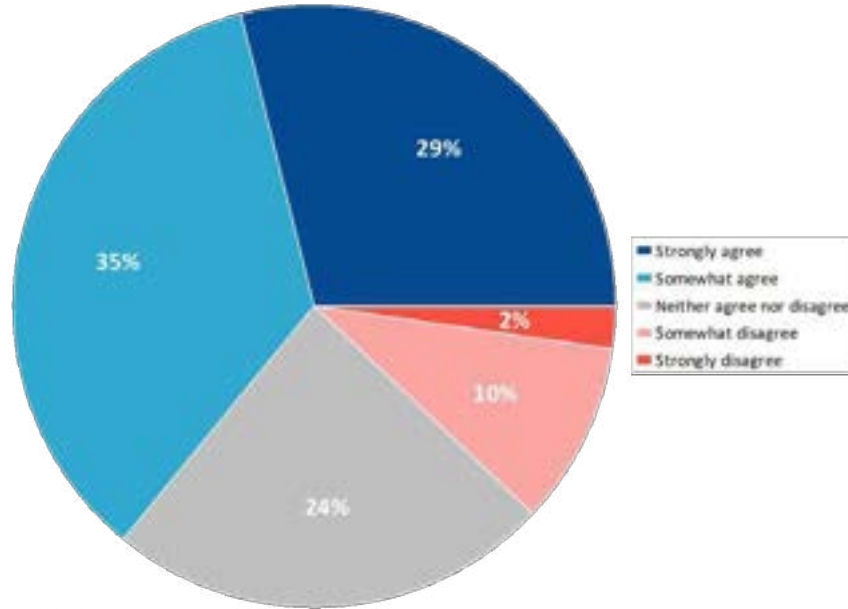
by percentage of respondents (multiple choices could be made)



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q16. Households' Level of Agreement That They Feel Welcomed, Respected, and Safe in the City

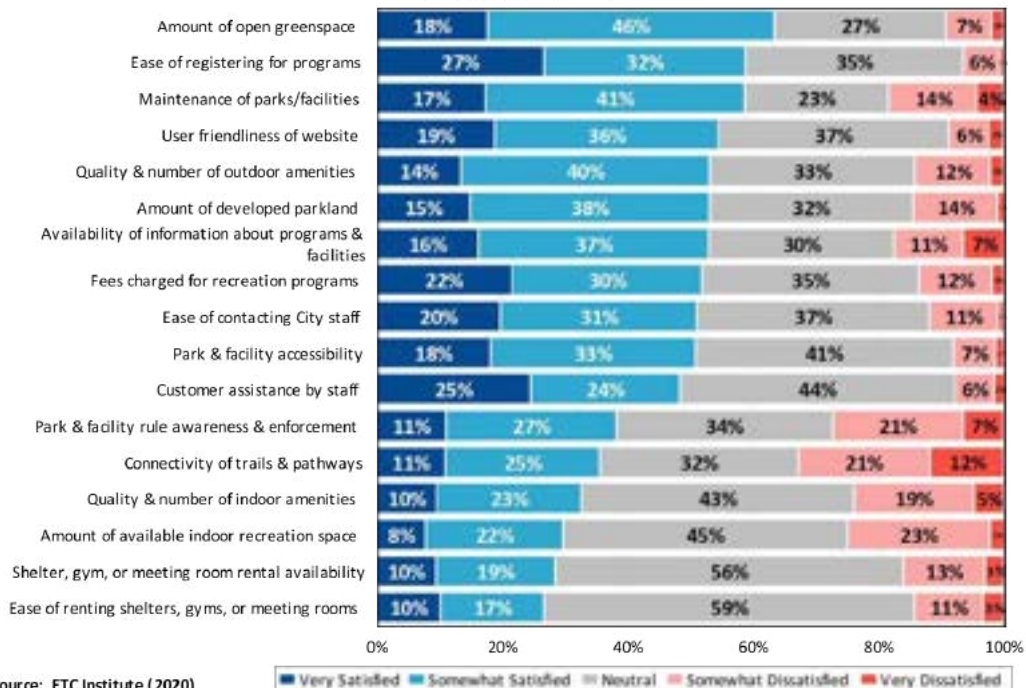
by percentage of respondents (without "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q17. Satisfaction With Services Provided by BPRYCS

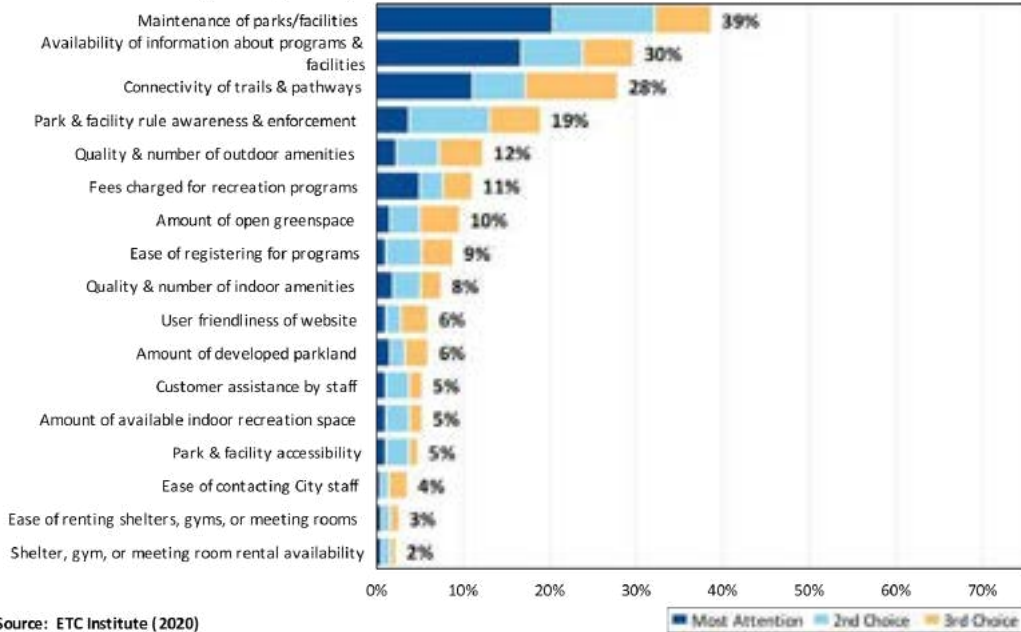
by percentage of respondents using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 means "Very Satisfied" and 1 means "Very Dissatisfied" (without "don't know")



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q18. Which THREE Parks and Recreation services listed in Question 17 do you think should receive the MOST ATTENTION from BPRYCS over the next TWO years?

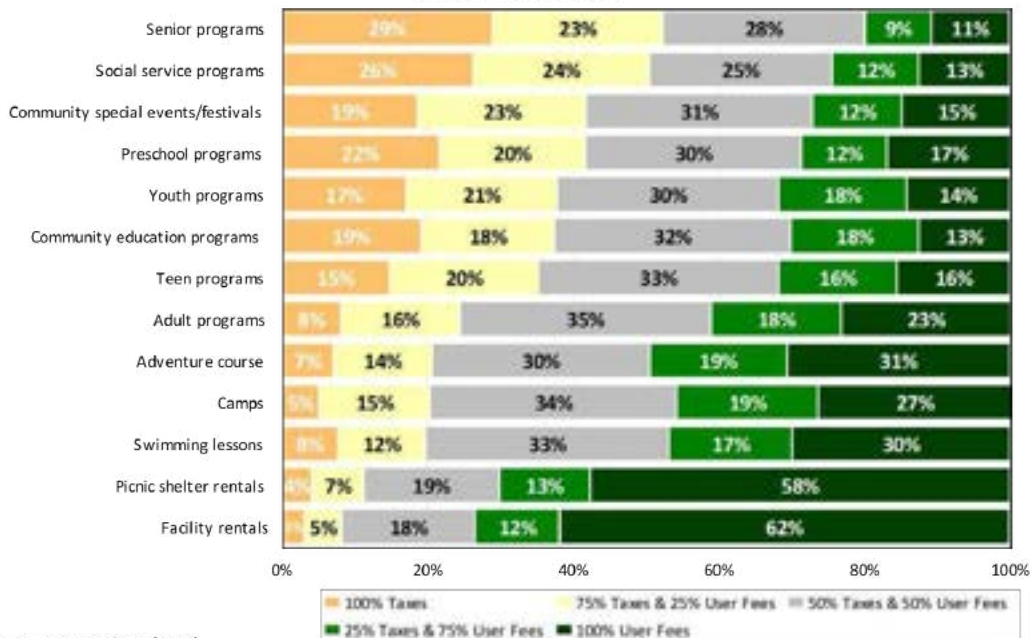
by percentage of respondents who selected the items as one of their top three choices



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q19. Households' Perception of the Appropriate Mix of Support from Taxes Versus User Fees for Specific Program/Service Provided by BPRYCS

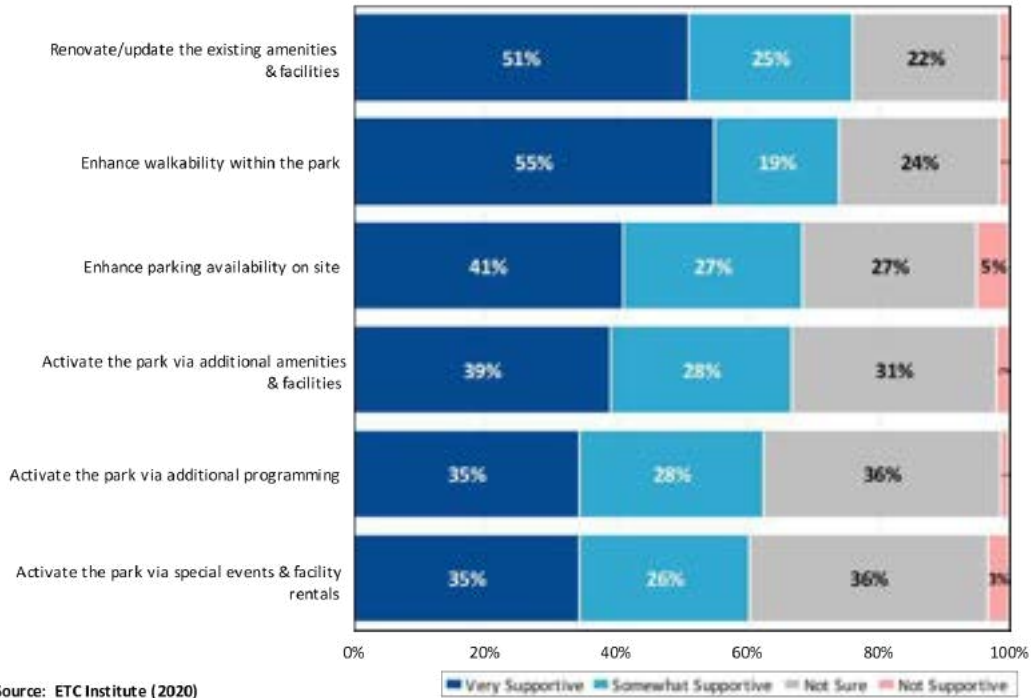
by percentage of respondents using a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 means "100% Taxes" and 1 means "100% User Fees" (without "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

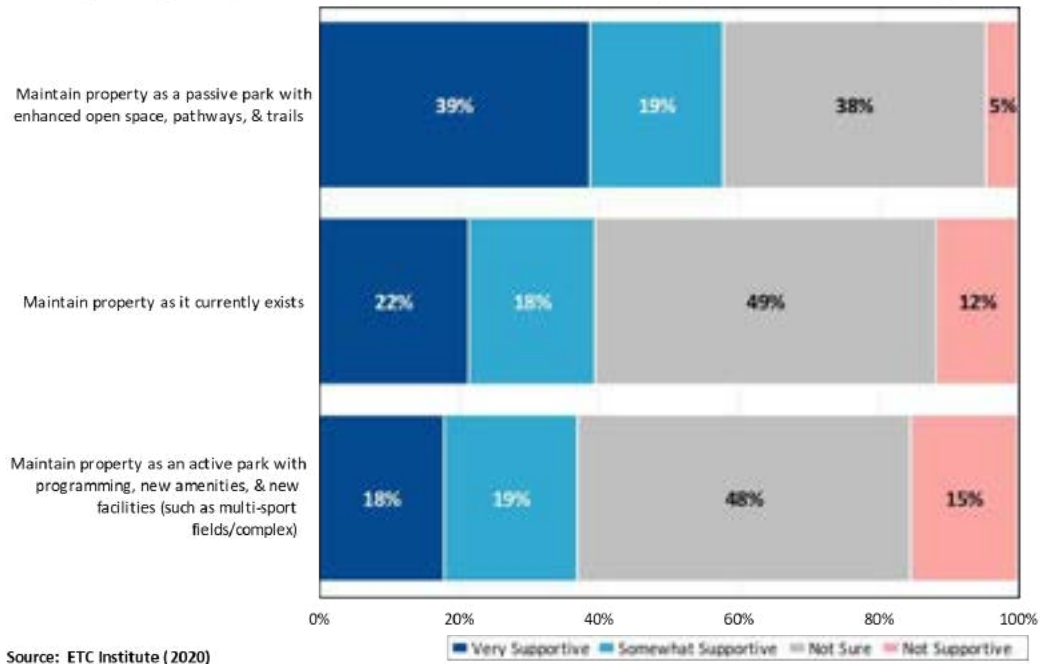
Q20. Level of Support for Potential Options for Page Park

by percentage of respondents using a scale of 1 to 4, where 4 means "Very Supportive" and 1 means "Not Supportive"



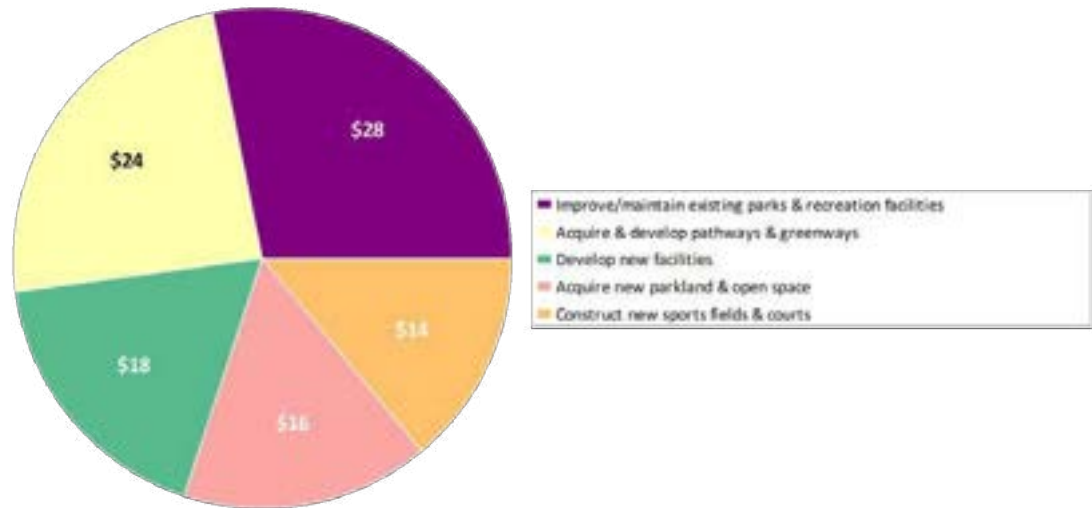
Q21. Level of Support for Potential Options for the Roberts Property (Chippens Hill Dog Park)

by percentage of respondents using a scale of 1 to 4, where 4 means "Very Supportive" and 1 means "Not Supportive"



Q22. If you had an additional \$100, how would you allocate the funds among the BPRYCS categories listed below for the entire system?

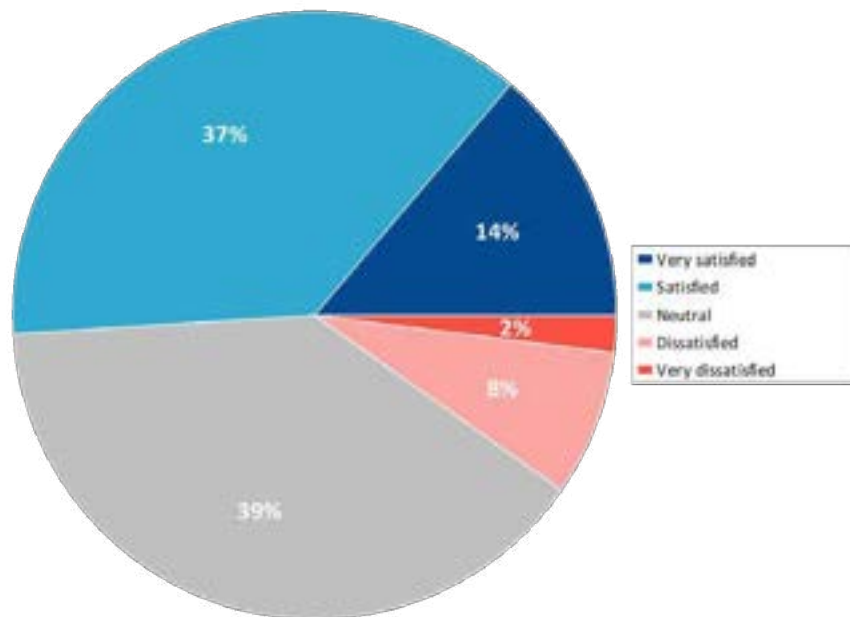
by percentage of respondents



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q23. Please rate your level of satisfaction with the overall value that your household receives from the BPRYCS Department.

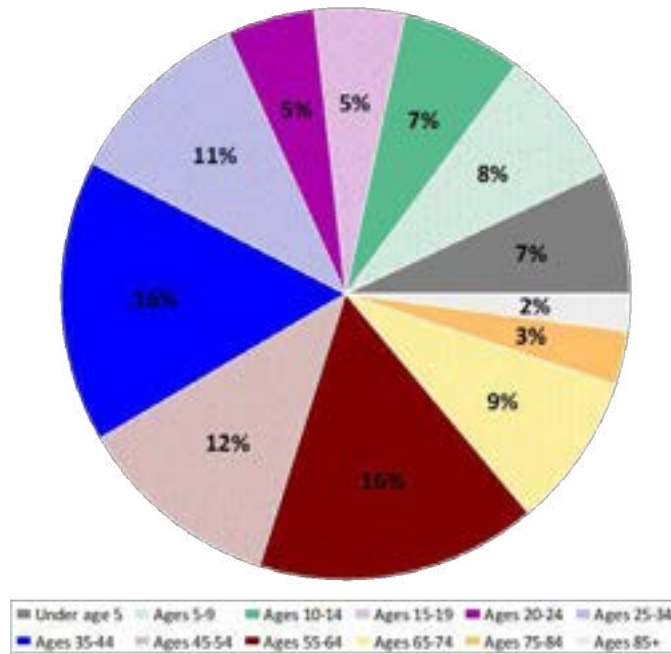
by percentage of respondents (without "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q24. Demographics: Including yourself, how many people in your household are:

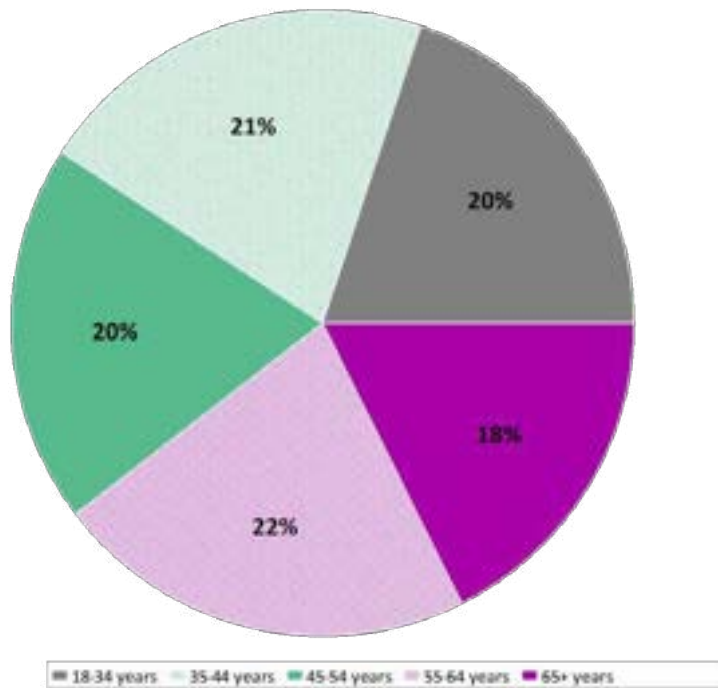
by percentage of respondents



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q25. Demographics: What is your age?

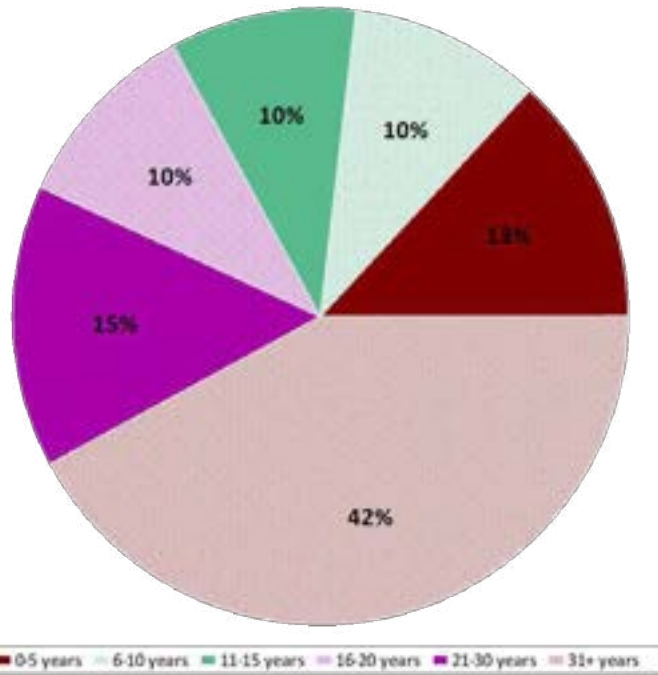
by percentage of respondents (without "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q26. Demographics: How many years have you lived in Bristol?

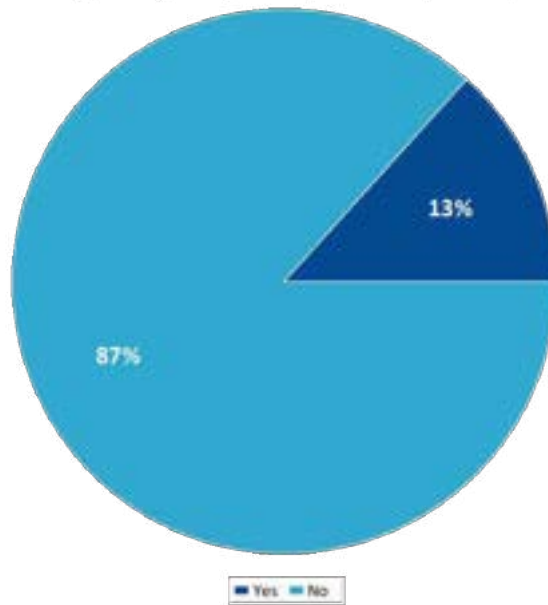
by percentage of respondents (without "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q27. To the extent you feel comfortable, please indicate whether you identify yourself as a person with a disability or are differently-abled.

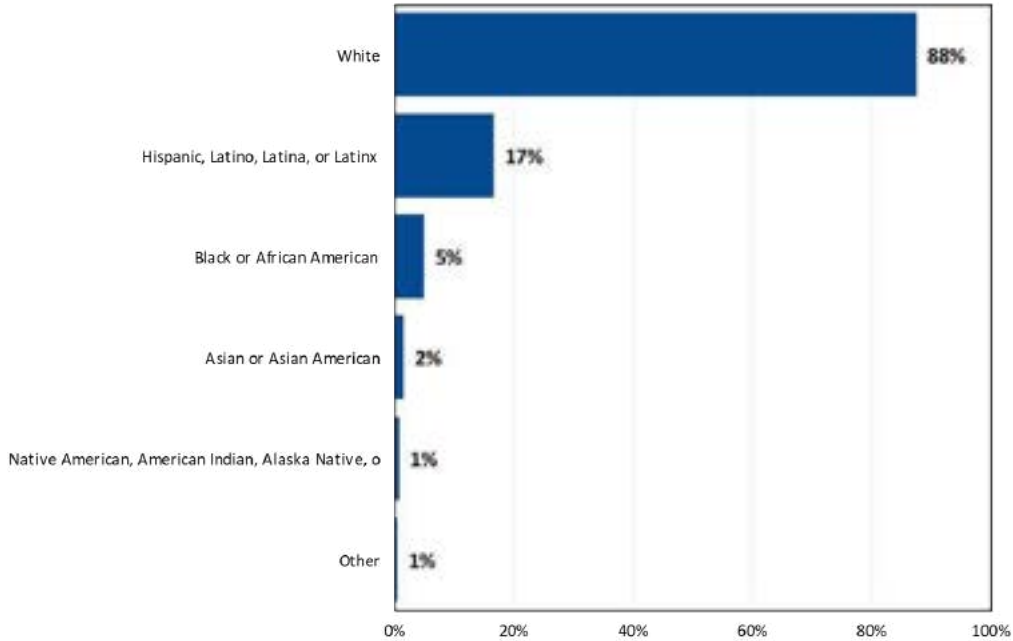
by percentage of respondents (without "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q28. Demographics: Which of the following best describes your race?

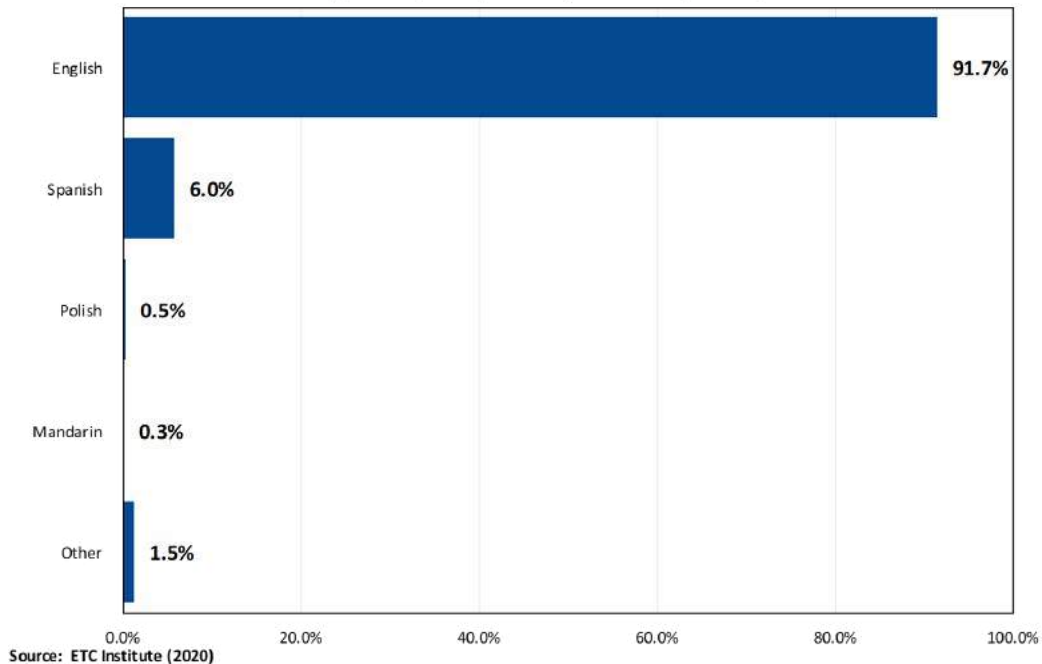
by percentage of respondents (without "prefer not to answer")



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q29. Demographics: Which of the following best describes the primary language spoken at home?

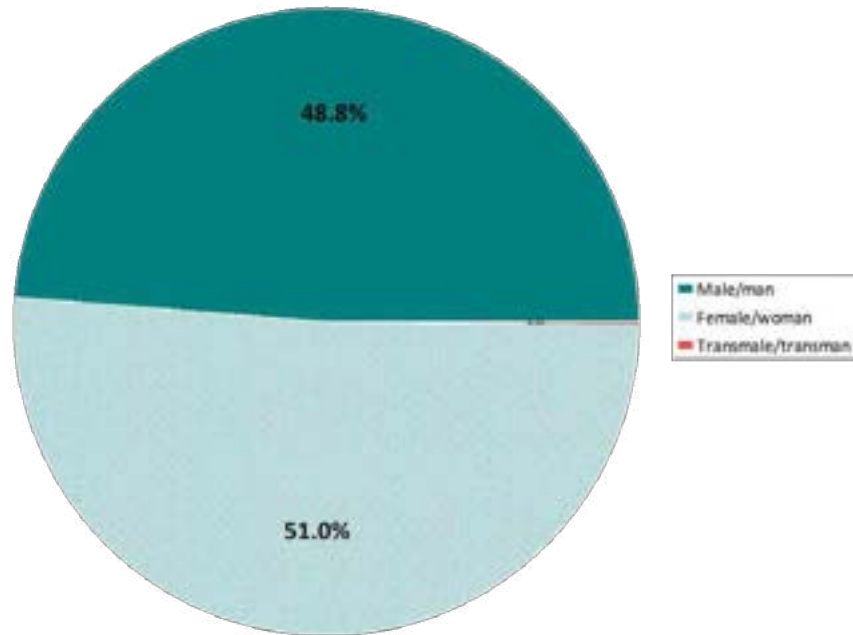
by percentage of respondents (without "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Q30. Demographics: What is your gender identity?

by percentage of respondents (without "decline to answer")



Source: ETC Institute (2020)

Appendix D



ELECTRONIC SURVEY

METHODOLOGY

PROS Consulting conducted an online survey (powered by SurveyMonkey) to understand better the characteristics, preferences, and satisfaction levels of the City of Bristol. The survey was available from September 10, 2020 to October 1, 2020, and received 196 responses.

The online survey emulated the statistically-valid survey questions distributed by ETC. This survey allowed residents, not randomly selected for the ETC survey, the opportunity to be part of the community input process.

FINDINGS

How familiar would you say you are with what the Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth, and Community Services Department (BPRYCS) provides to the community?

Of the respondents, 87% are at least somewhat familiar with the Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth, and Community Services Department.

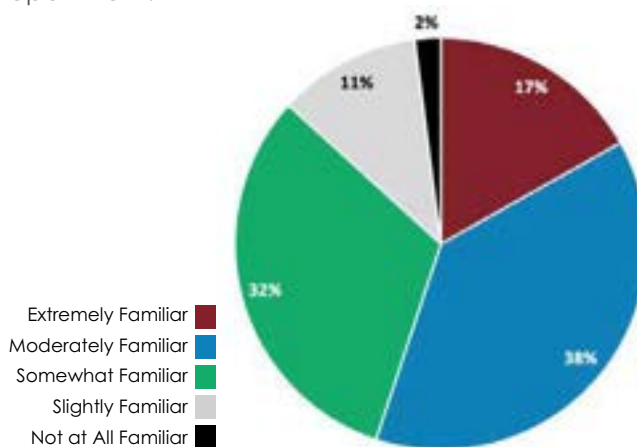


Figure 1: Familiarity With Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services Department

Please indicate how valuable of a contributor you believe BPRYCS is in addressing each of the following community issues using "Very Valuable Contributor" through "Not a Valuable Contributor at All".

A combined rating of "Very" and "Somewhat a Valuable Contributor" to community issues can be seen below. BPRYCS has three issues that rate above 70%: enhancing community connection (77%), making living in Bristol fun (74%), and enhancing healthy aging (70%).

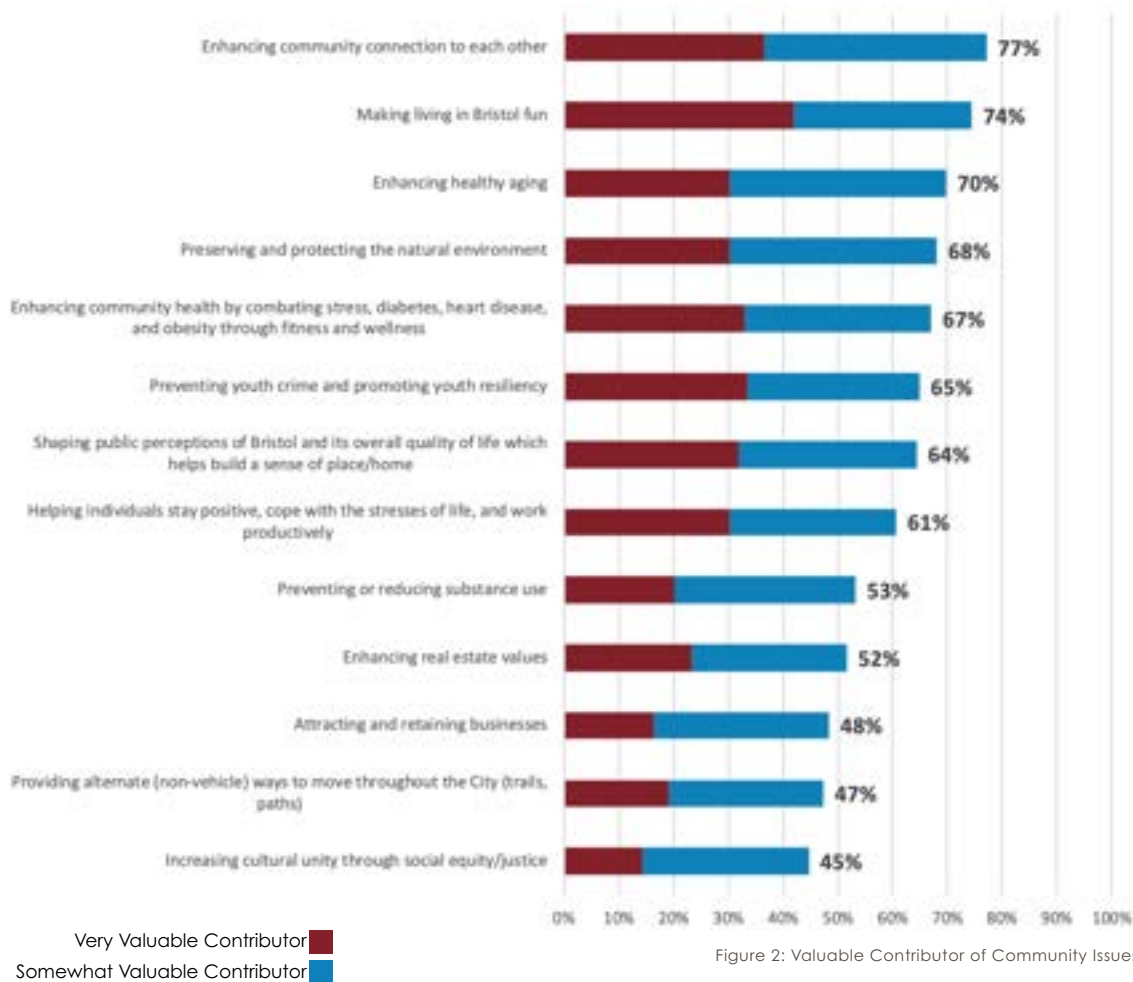


Figure 2: Valuable Contributor of Community Issues

How do you prefer to learn about BPRYCS programs, activities, and facilities? Please check all that apply.

Respondents selected the most preferred ways to learn about programs, activities, and facilities. The most popular choices were emails (60%), Department website (57%), Facebook (47%), and the program brochure (38%).

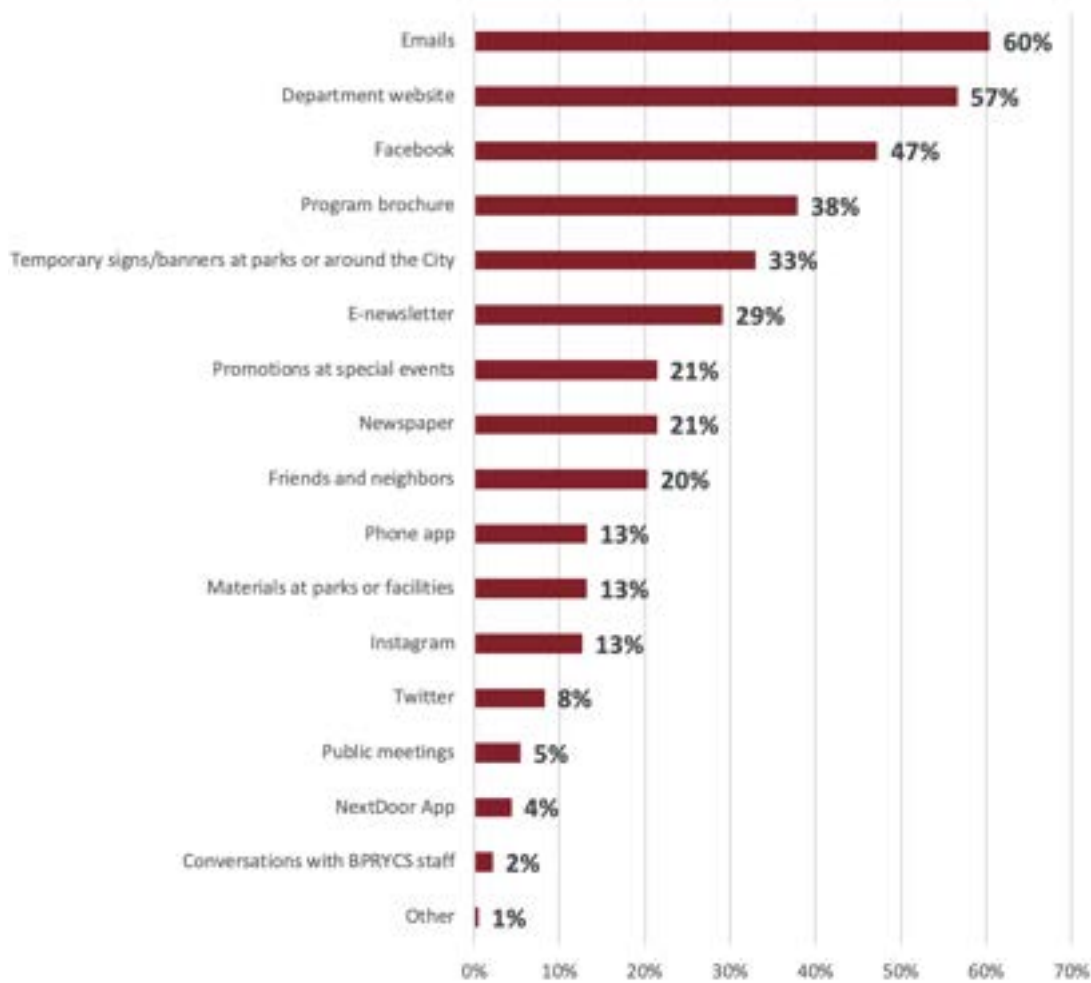


Figure 3: Preferred Ways To Learn About Programs, Activities and Facilities

Please select all the City of Bristol parks/facilities used by yourself or any member of your household during the past 12 months (before the COVID-19 Pandemic). Select all that apply.

When asked what parks/facilities are used by their household, respondents use Page Park (75%), Rockwell Park (70%), and Memorial Boulevard (50%) the most.

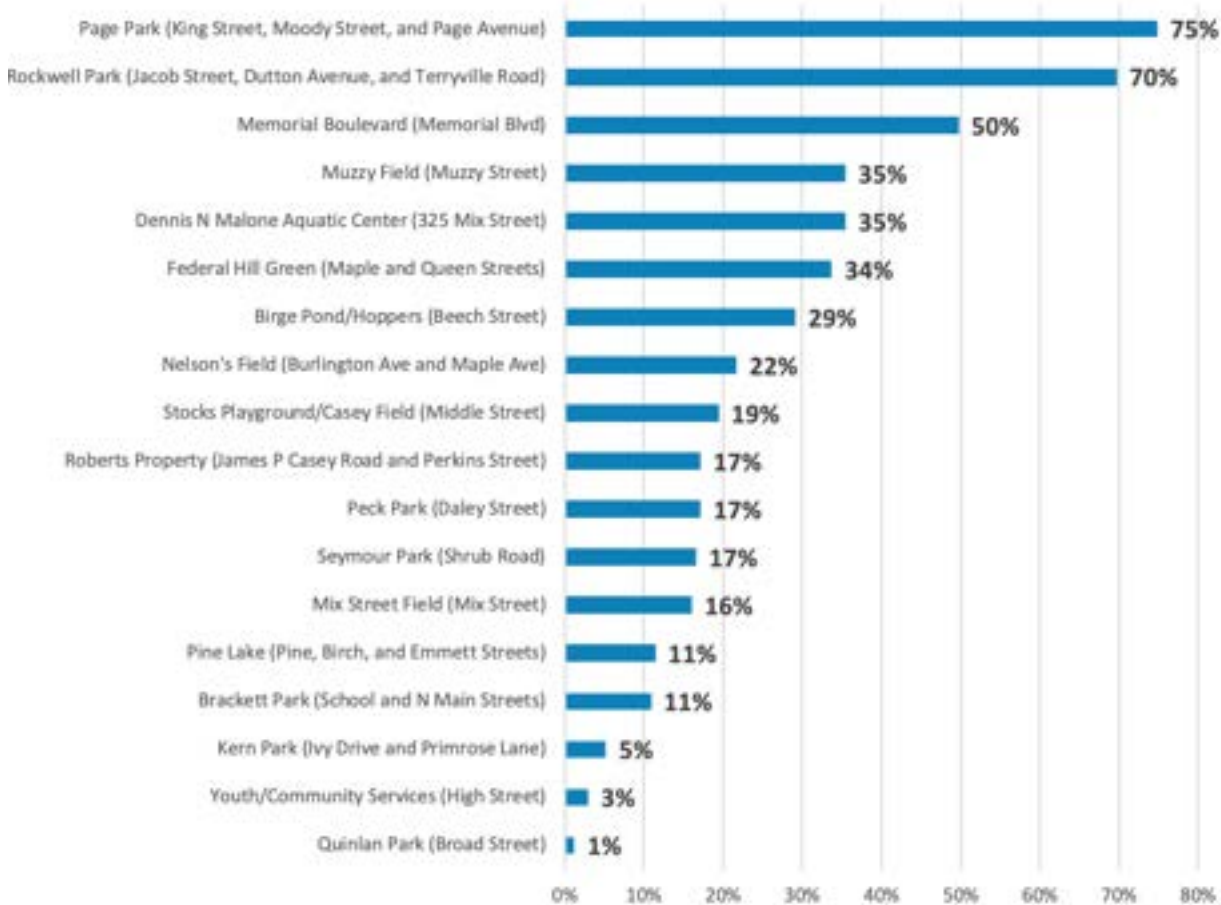


Figure 4: Parks / Facilities Used

Please check all of the following reasons that prevent you or other members of your household from using City of Bristol parks, facilities, or programs more often (before the COVID-19 Pandemic).

The top three barriers that are preventing the use of BPRYCS programs include: I do not know what is being offered (33%), lack of restrooms (28%), and program times are not convenient (25%). Respondents "Other" themes included:

- COVID-19
- Park safety
- Park cleanliness
- No mountain bike paths
- Need lighted tennis courts
- Homeless
- Lack of shade
- Need more programming for different target markets

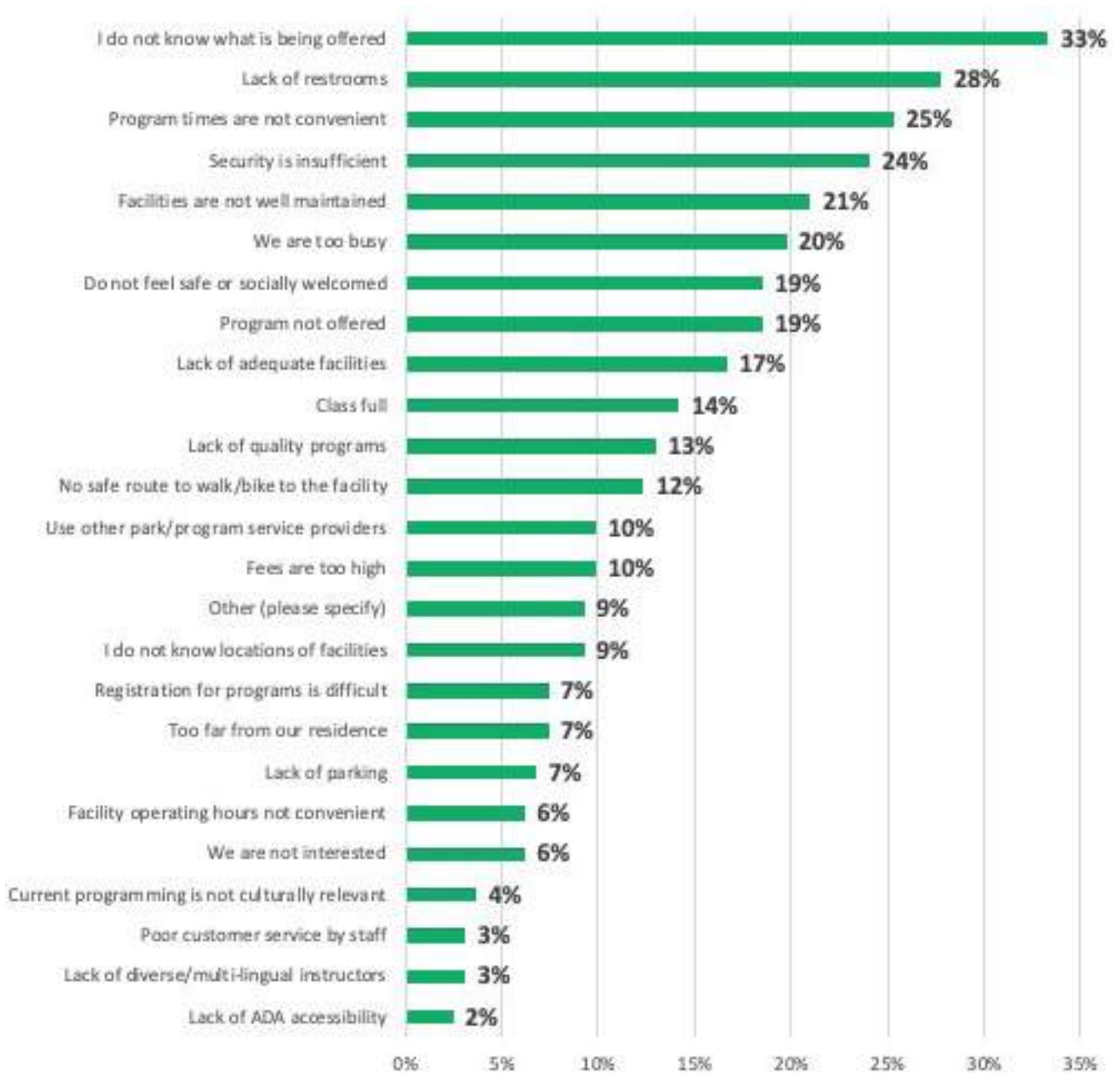


Figure 5: Barriers

Please check all of the organizations that you or members of your household have used for indoor and outdoor recreation activities during the last 12 months before the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Respondents' top three most used indoor and outdoor recreation organizations include: public schools (50%), private workout facilities (37%), and private and non-profit youth sports (31%).

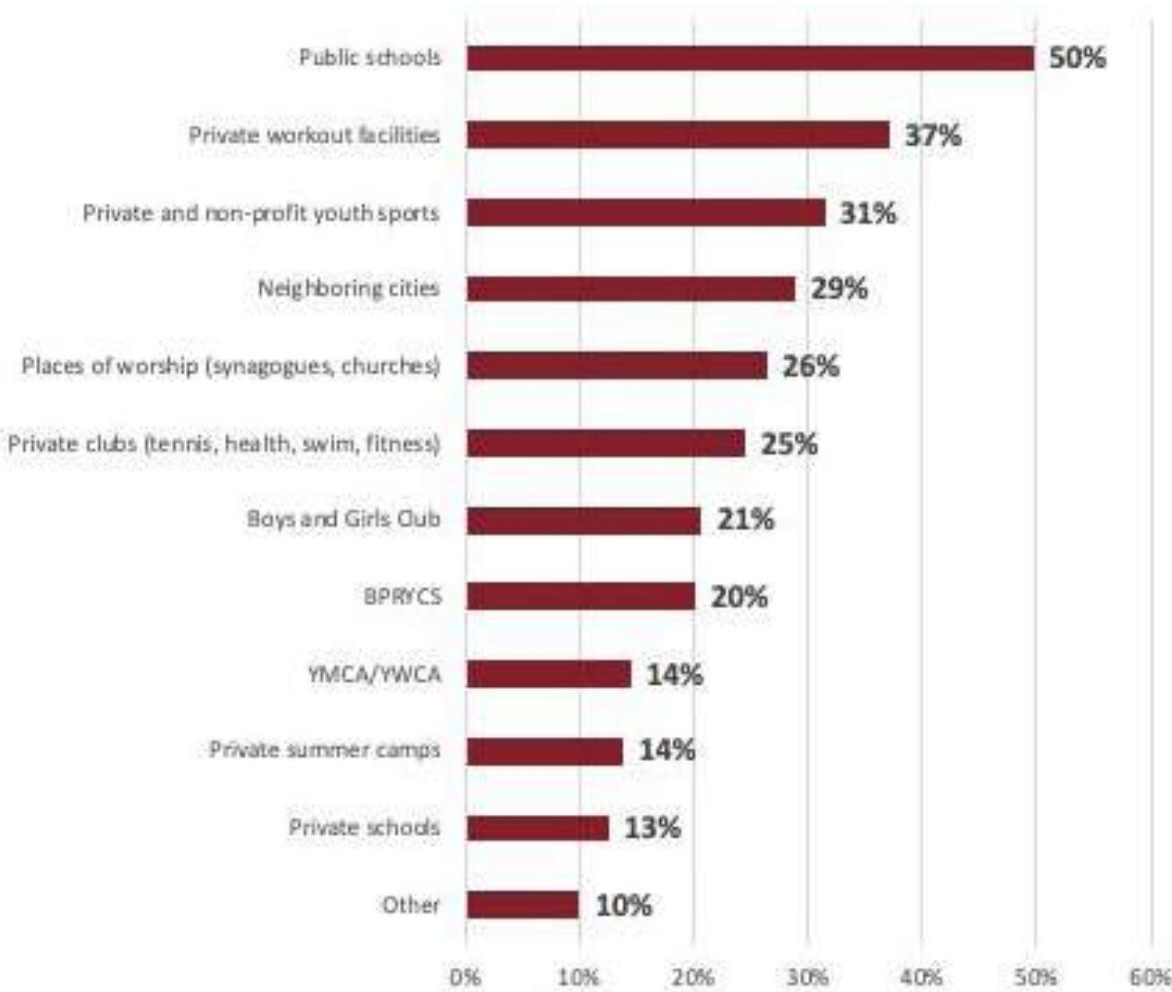


Figure 6: Organizations Used For Indoor/Outdoor Recreation

Please select all the parks and recreation facilities/amenities in the City of Bristol that you or any member of your household have a need for. Select all that apply.

The chart below indicates facility and amenity needs. The top three facility needs include: walking trails (75%), biking trails (53%), and natural areas and greenspace (51%).

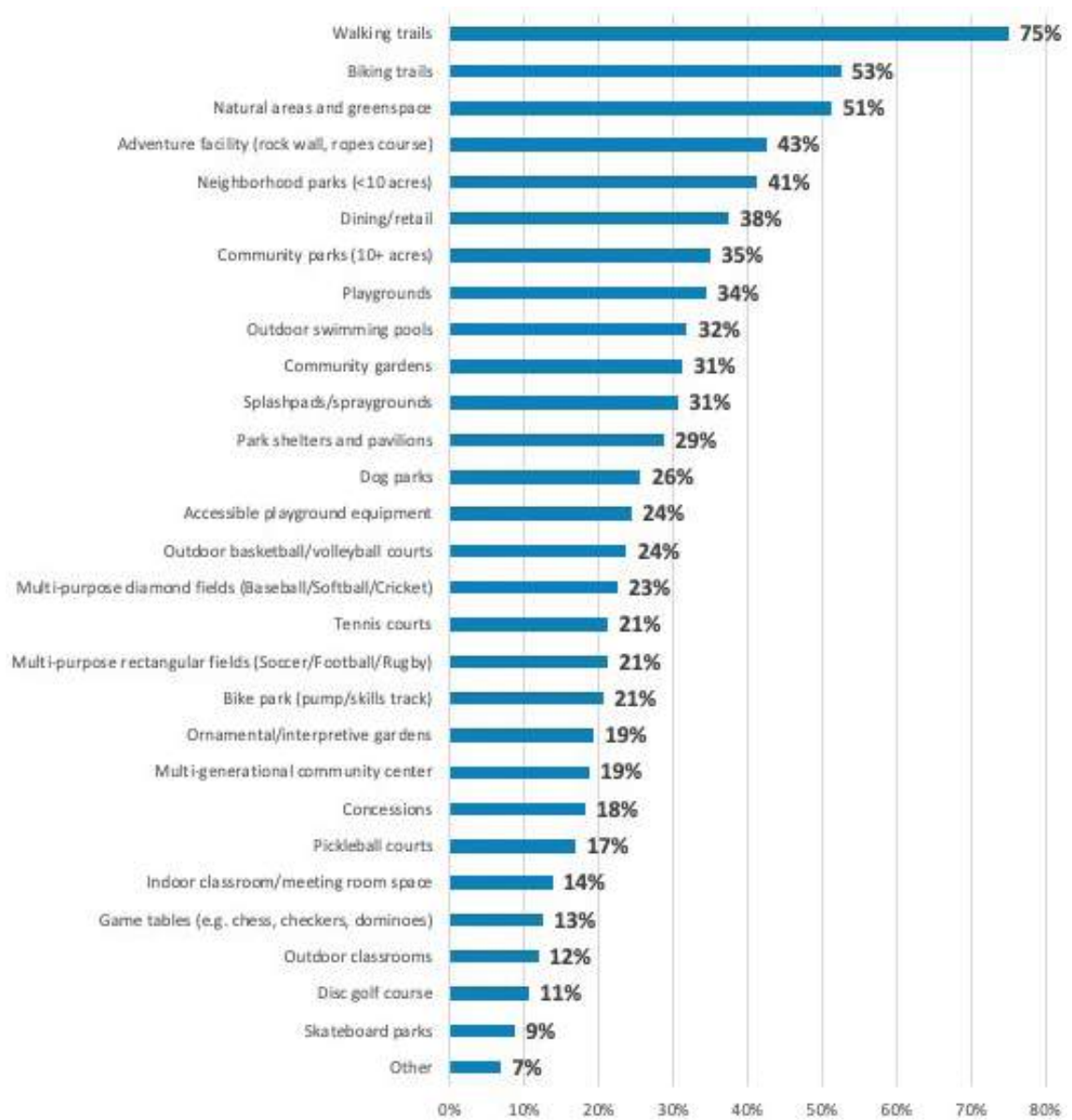


Figure 7: Facility & Amenity Needs

Which four facilities/amenities are most important to your household?

Respondents' top three most important facilities/amenities selected include: walking trails (54%), playgrounds (24%), and biking trails (23%).

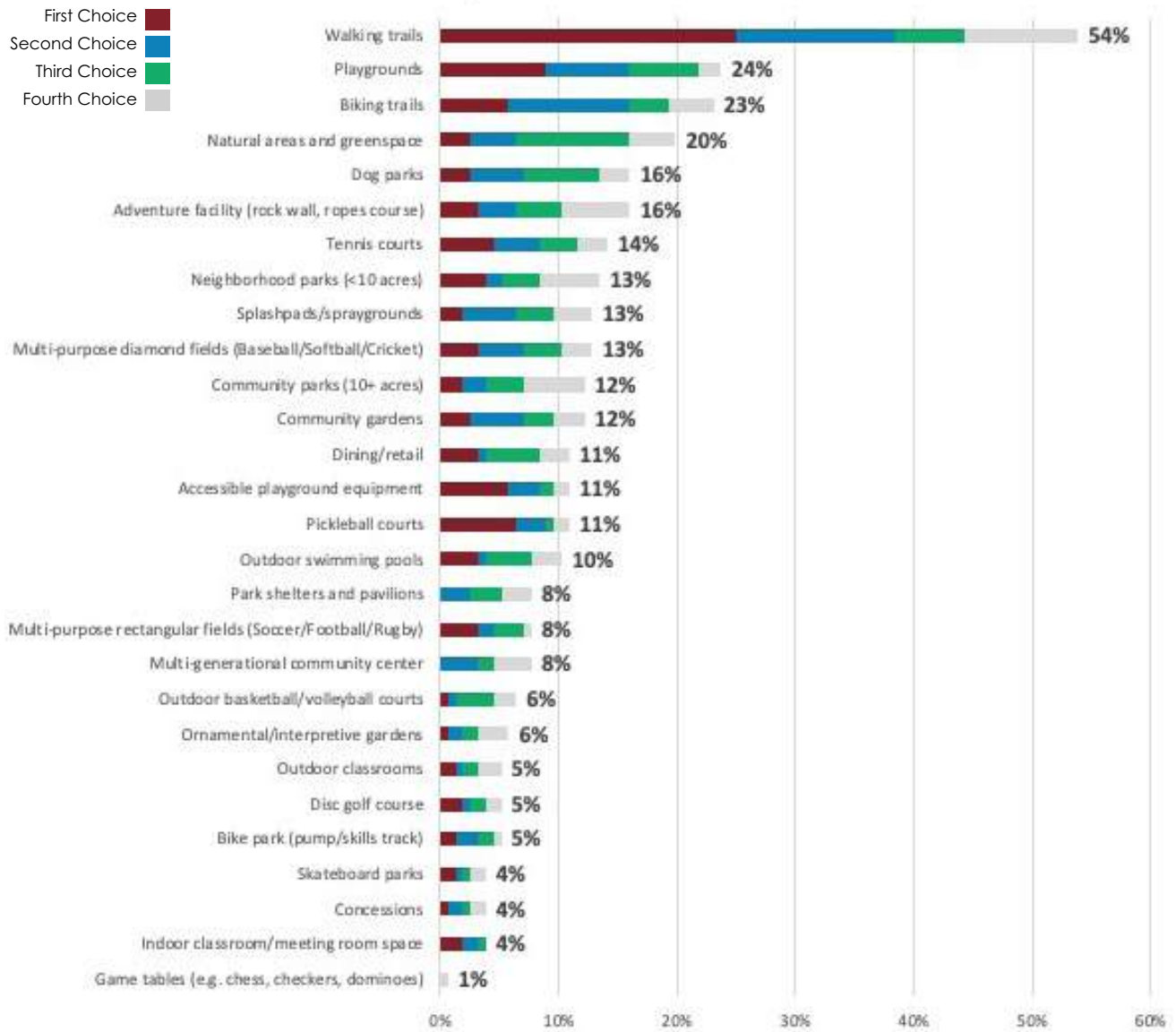


Figure 8: Most Important Facilities & Amenities

Has your household participated in any recreation or youth and community services programs offered by BPRYCS during the past 12 months (before the COVID-19 Pandemic)?

Of the respondents, 54% have participated in recreation or youth services programs offered by BPRYCS (before the COVID-19 Pandemic).

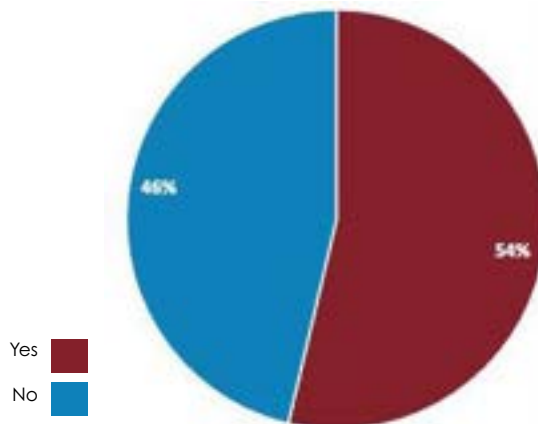


Figure 9: Participated in Recreation or Youth Services

How many programs offered by the BPRYCS have you or members of your household participated in during the past 12 months (before the COVID-19 Pandemic)?

Those that indicated they use programs, 47% of users participate in 2 to 3 programs a year. The next highest response rate was 40%, with participation in one program a year. Only 13% participated in more than four or more programs a year.

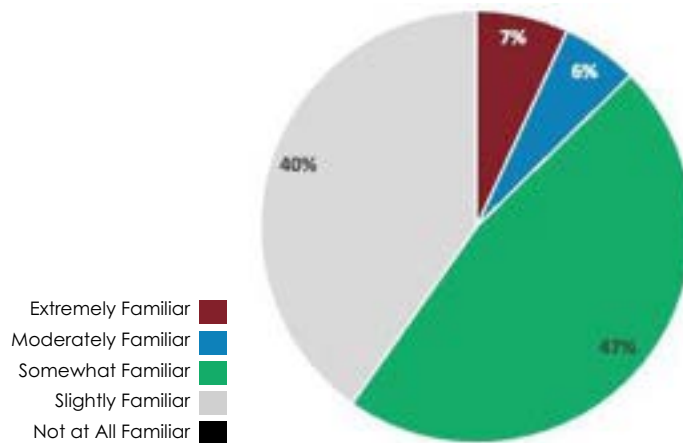


Figure 10: Number of Programs Participated

How would you rate the overall quality of the BPRYCS programs in which your household has participated?

Respondents using BPRYCS programs in the last year indicated a high quality was provided by those programs (95% when combining Excellent and Good). Only 5% of responses selected fair quality, while 1% indicated poor quality programs. Percentages have been rounded and may not equal exactly 100%.

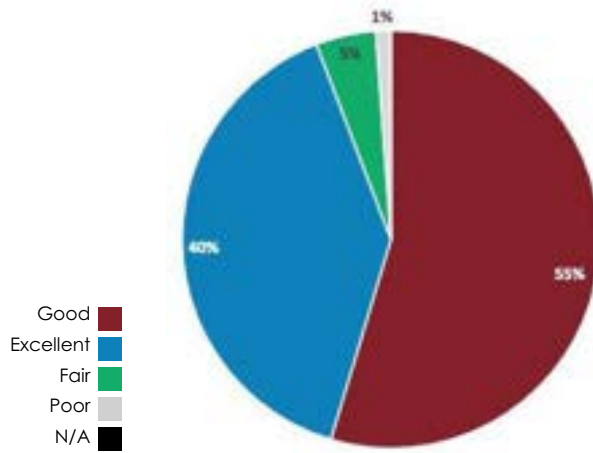


Figure 11: Quality of Programs

Please select all the programs in the City of Bristol that you or any member of your household have a need for. Select all that apply.

The chart below indicates program need. The top three program needs include: adult fitness and wellness programs (51%), aquatic programs (42%), and city-sponsored special events (31%).

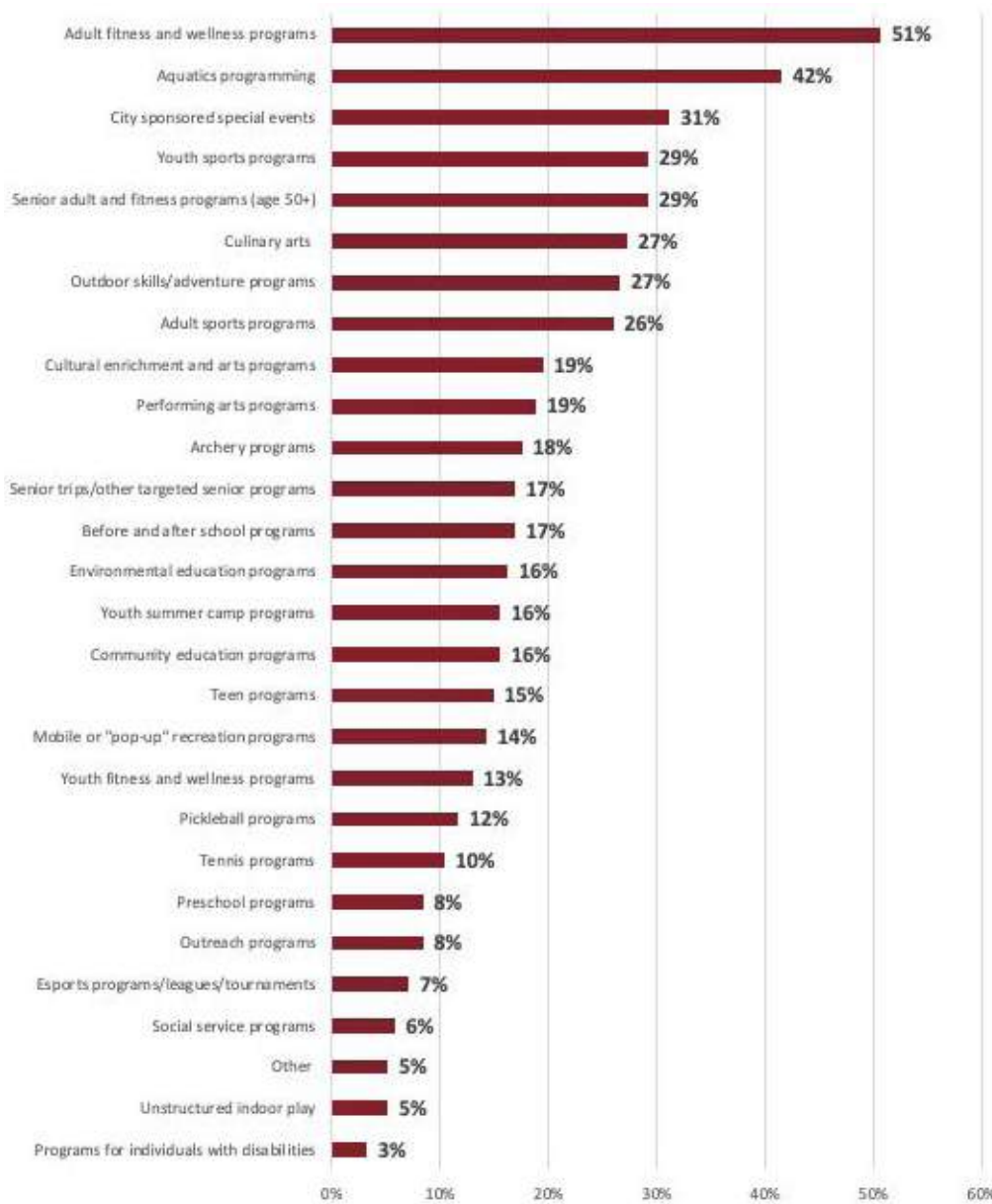


Figure 12: Program Needs

Which four programs are most important to your household?

Respondents' top three most important programs selected include: adult fitness and wellness programs (40%), aquatic programs (30%), and senior adult and fitness programs for 50+ (29%).

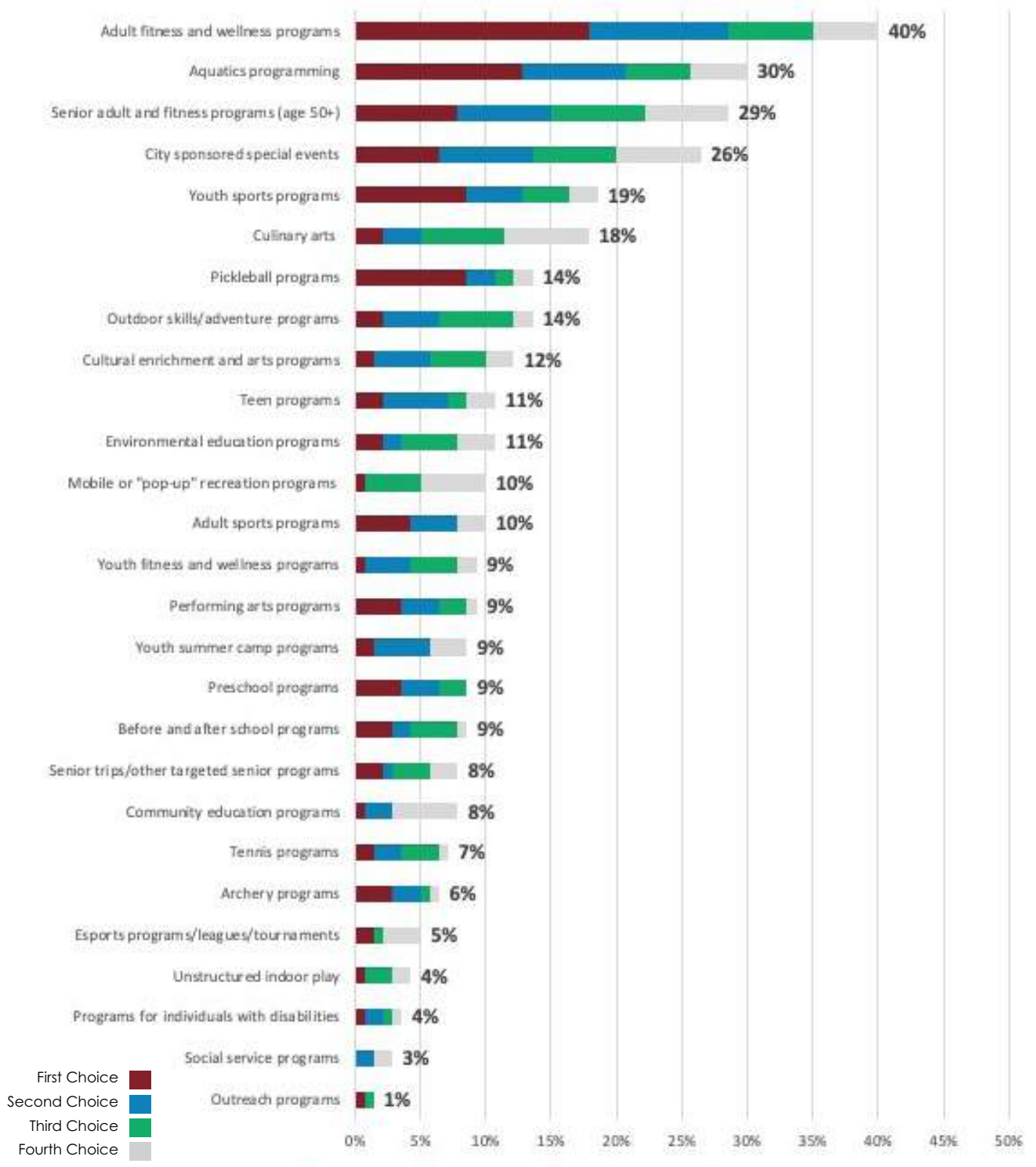


Figure 13: Most Important Programs

Please check all of the items below that makes a public park welcoming to you and the members of your household.

Respondents were asked what items make a park feel welcoming; the top three answers include: facility or park cleanliness (88%), lighting (65%), and shade from trees (63%).

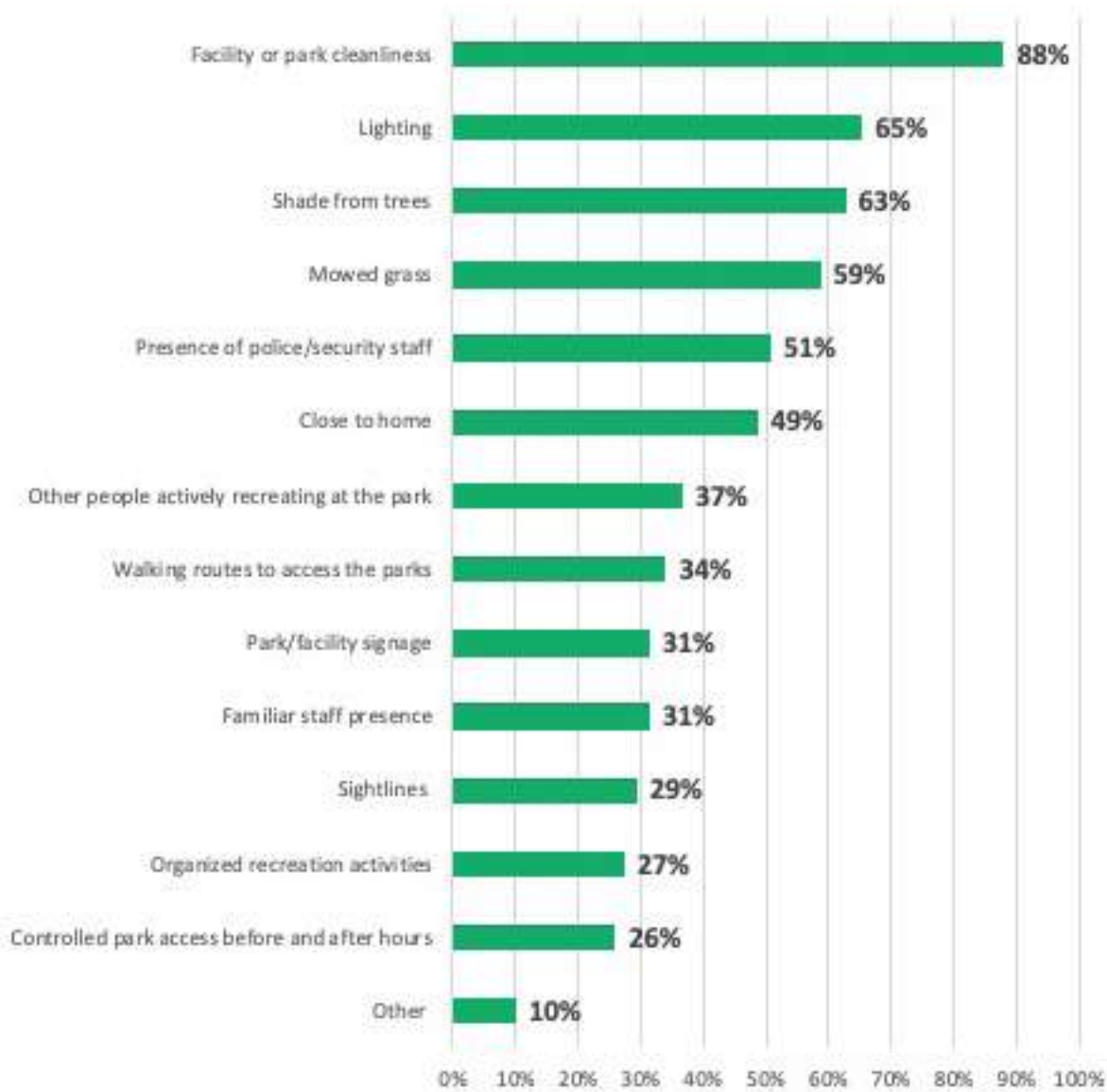


Figure 14: Welcoming Parks

Please check all of the items below that makes a public program welcoming to you and the members of your household.

In addition to the parks being welcoming, respondents were also asked what makes a public program welcoming. The top three answers include: quality of instructors (68%), not overcrowded (54%), and friends participate in the program (48%).

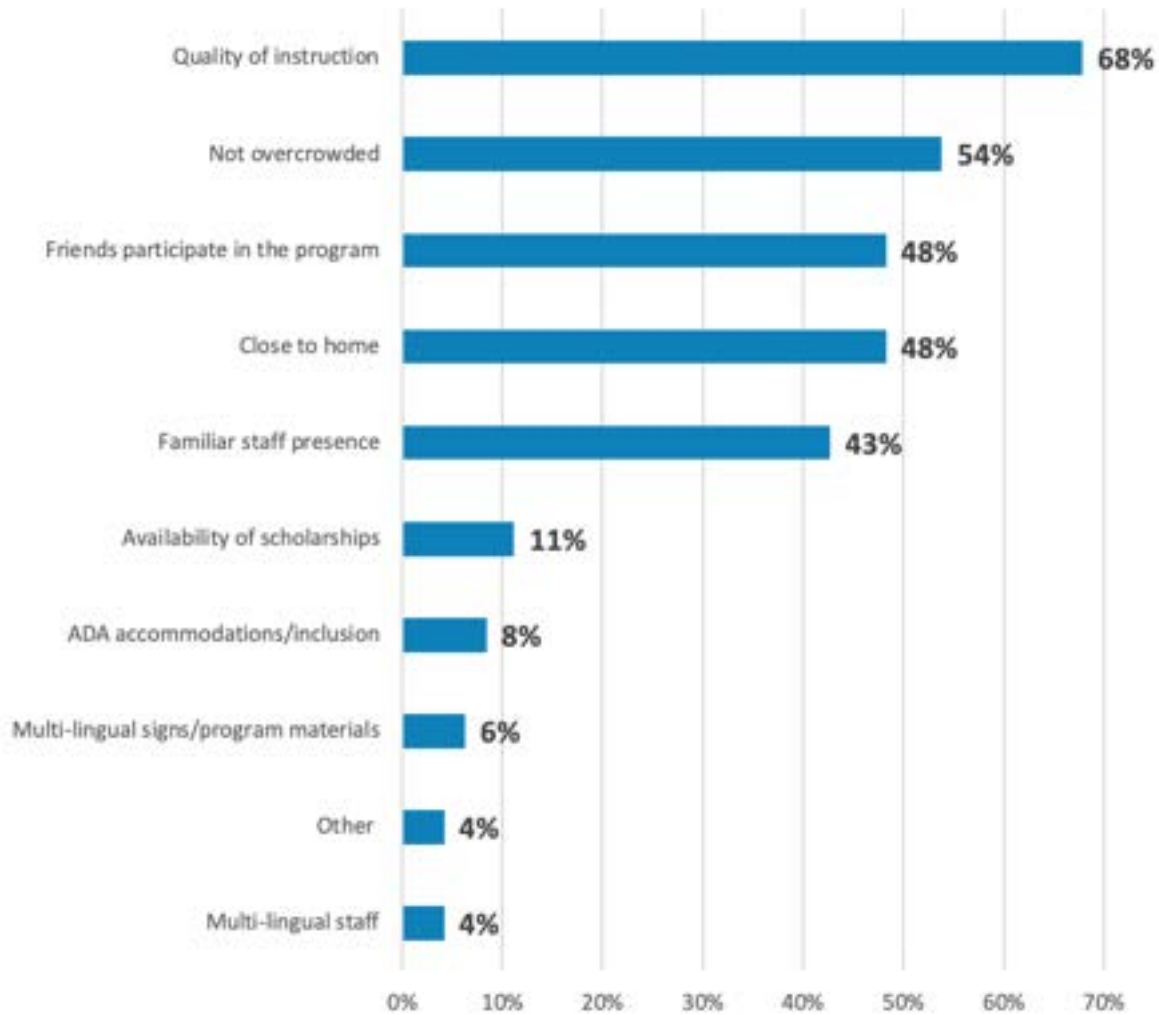


Figure 15: Welcoming Public Programs

Please indicate how much you agree that you and members of your household feel welcomed, respected, and safe in City of Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth, and Community Services Department parks and programs using "Strongly Agree" through "Strongly Disagree".

When asked how welcomed, respected, and safe respondents feel in parks and programs, 88% at least somewhat agree that they do.

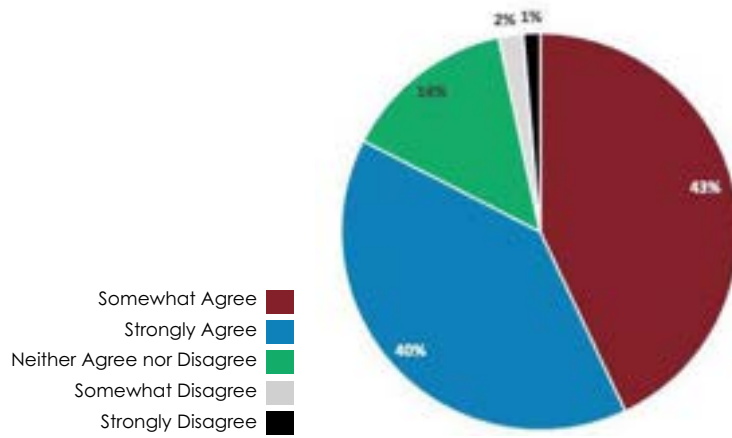


Figure 16: Feeling, Welcomed, Respected and Safe

Which three parks and recreation services listed below do you think should receive the most attention from BPRYCS over the next two years?

Respondents believe maintenance of parks/facilities (61%), connectivity of trails and pathways (34%), and availability of information about programs and facilities (34%) should receive the most attention over the next two years.

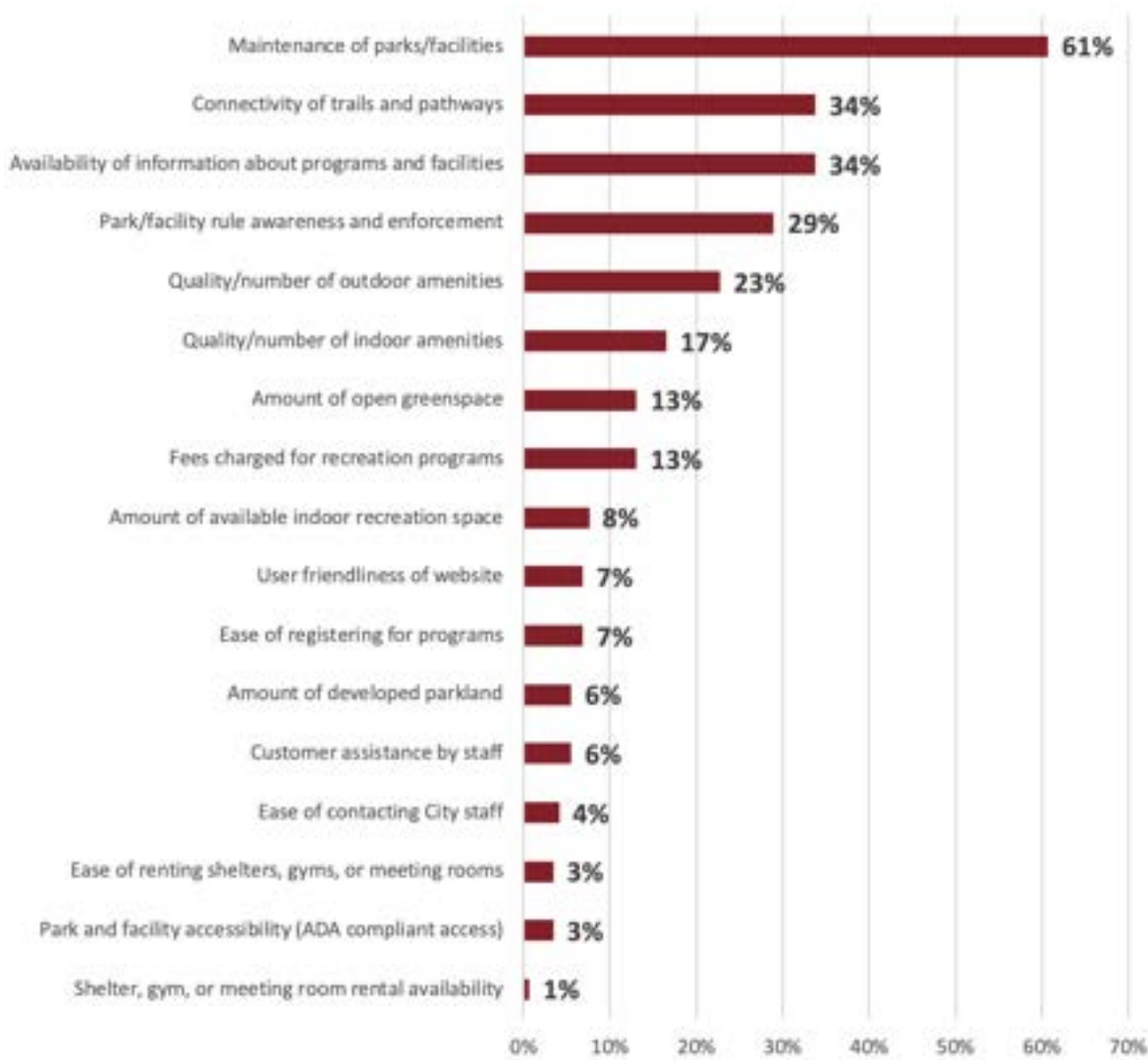


Figure 17: Services That Need The Most Attention

Please indicate what you believe is the appropriate mix of support from taxes versus user fees for each program/service provided by BPRYCS.

Respondents indicated social services, senior programs, and community special events/festivals should be supported more with tax-based fees. Whereas, facility rentals, picnic shelter rentals, and adventure courses should be more user fee-based funding.

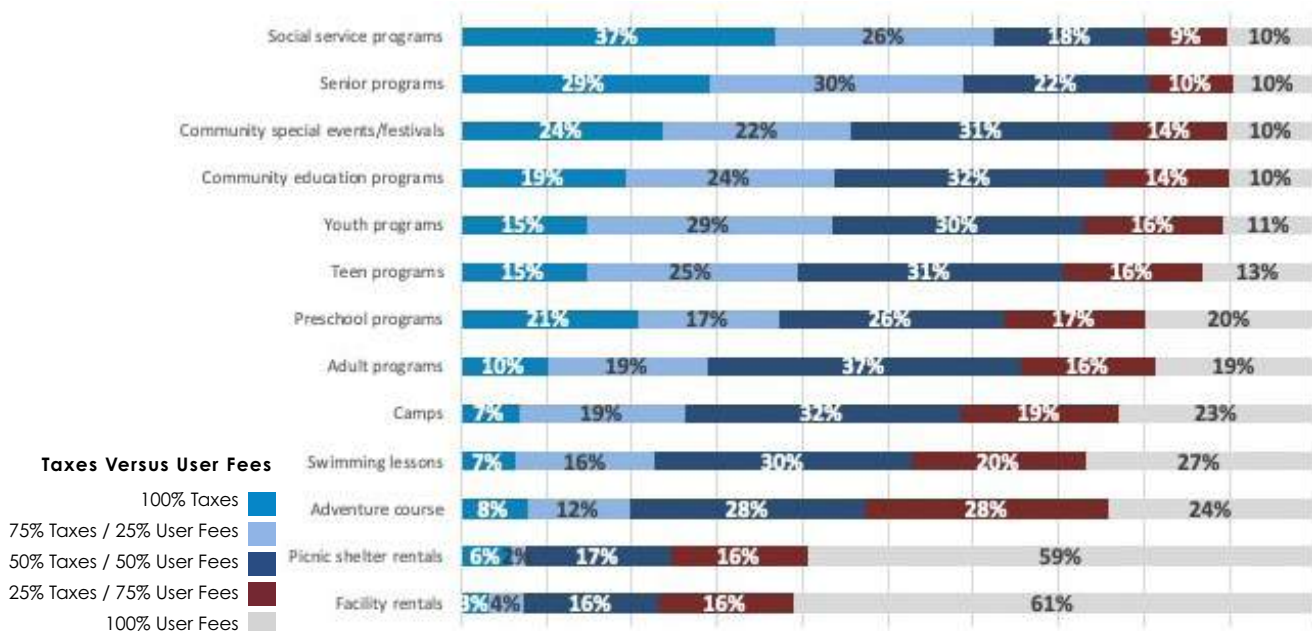


Figure 18: Taxes vs User Fees

Please indicate how supportive you are of each of the following potential options for Page Park, by using "Very Supportive" through "Not Supportive."

Respondents in general indicate a lot of support for various actions at Page Park. The most support is for enhancing walkability, renovating/updating existing amenities and facilities, and enhancing parking.

Taxes Versus User Fees
 Very Supportive
 Somewhat Supportive

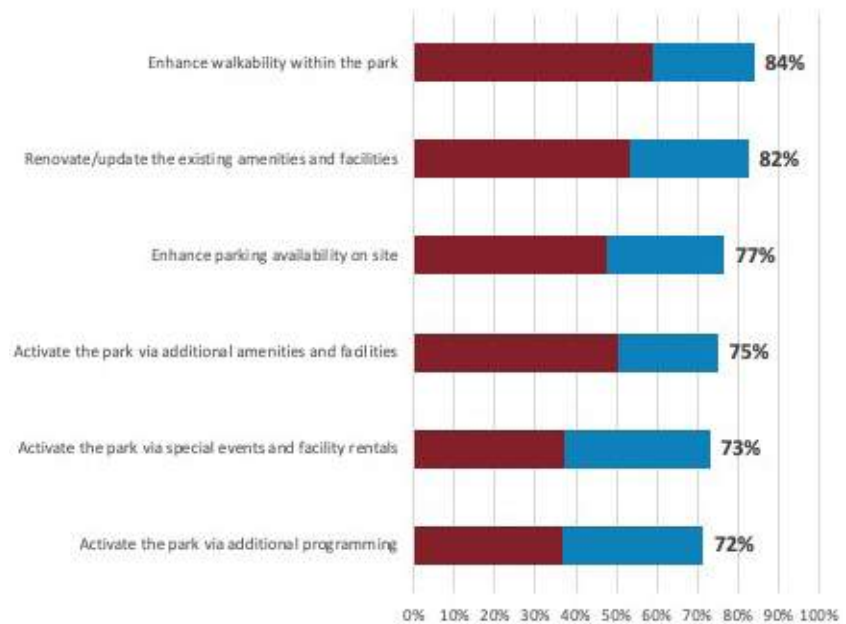


Figure 19: Page Park Support

Please indicate how supportive you are of each of the following potential options for the Roberts Property (Chippens Hill Dog Park), by using "Very Supportive" through "Not Supportive."

Respondents most strongly support maintaining the Roberts Property as a passive park with enhanced open space, pathways, and trails (63%).

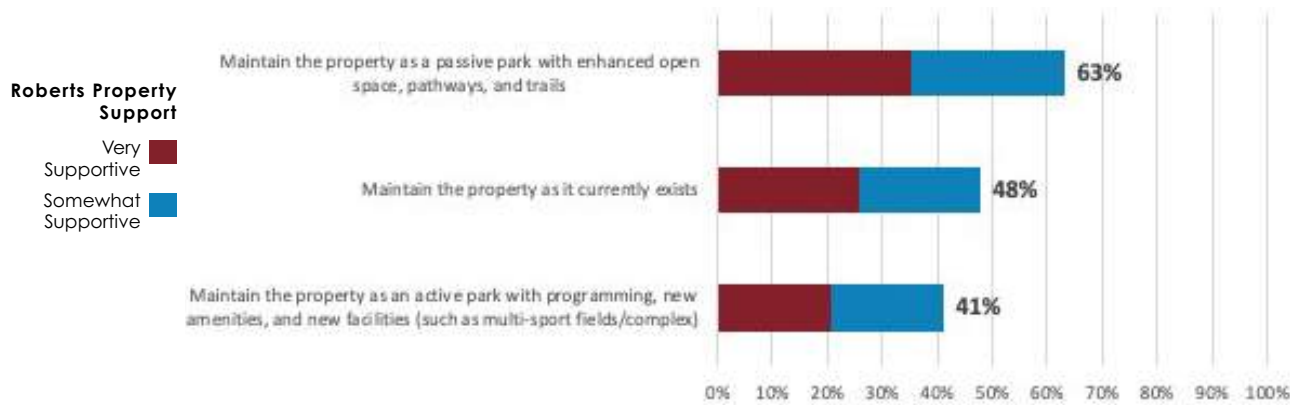


Figure 20: Roberts Property Support

If you had an additional \$100, how would you allocate the funds among the BPRYCS categories listed below for the entire system? Please be sure your total adds up to \$100.

Respondents were asked to allocate \$100 across specific priorities. When averaging the respondents' allocations, "improve/maintain existing parks and recreation" was the most prioritized area (\$42.90). The least prioritized, but still considered valuable, is "acquire new parkland and open space" with an average of \$18.93. These are averages of the responses which will not add up to the original \$100 amount.

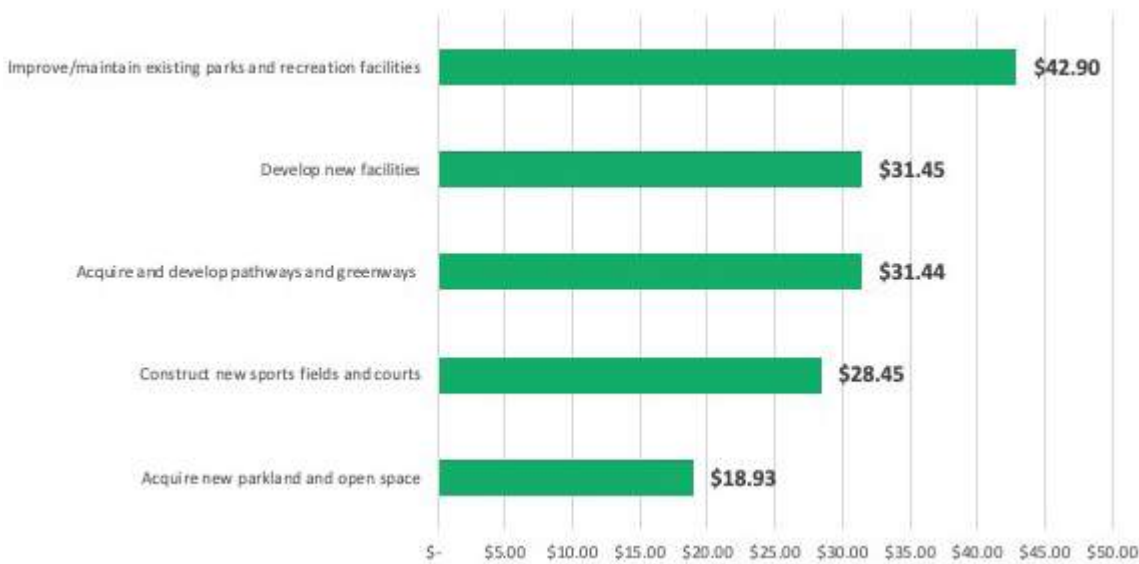


Figure 21: \$100 Allocation Among Competing Priorities

Please rate your level of satisfaction with the overall value that your household receives from the BPRYCS Department.

Overall, 63 % of respondents were satisfied with BPRYCS when combining “Very Satisfied” and ‘Satisfied”.

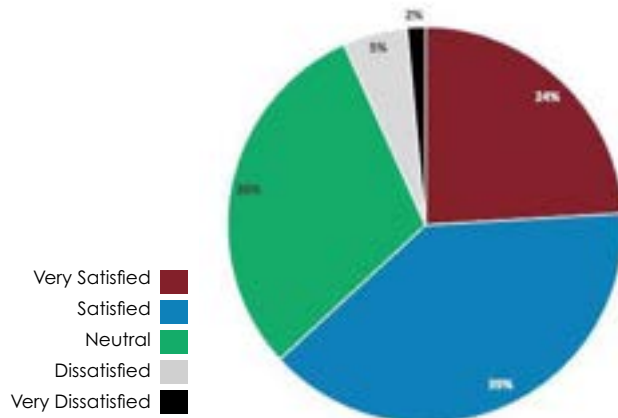


Figure 22: Level of Satisfaction

DEMOGRAPHICS

Including yourself, please select the age segments that represent all those that live within your household. Select all that apply.

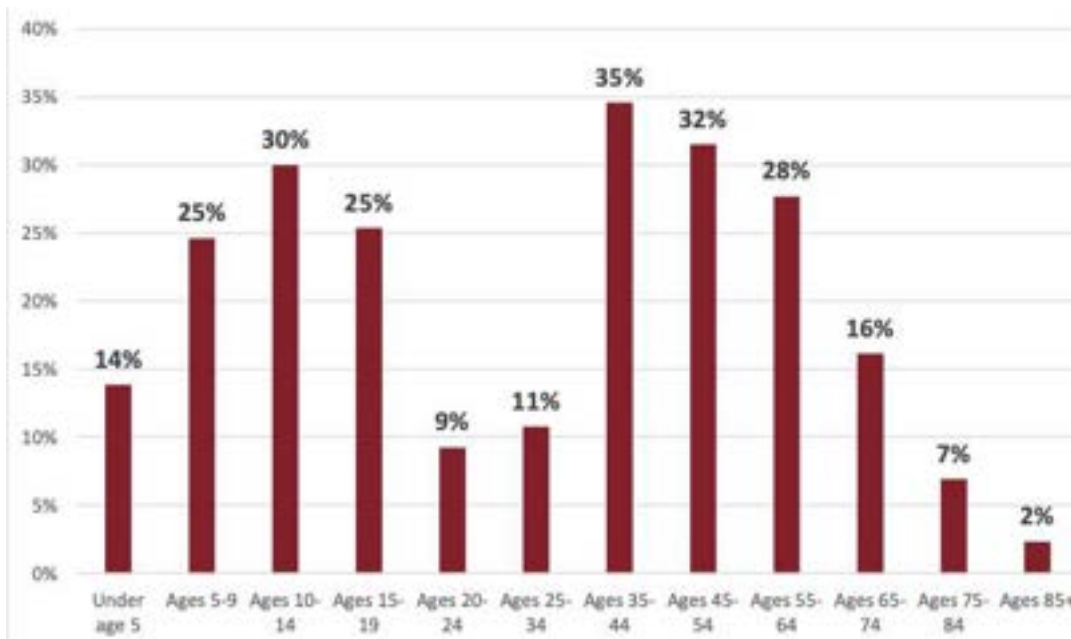


Figure 23: Age Segments Represented

What is your age?

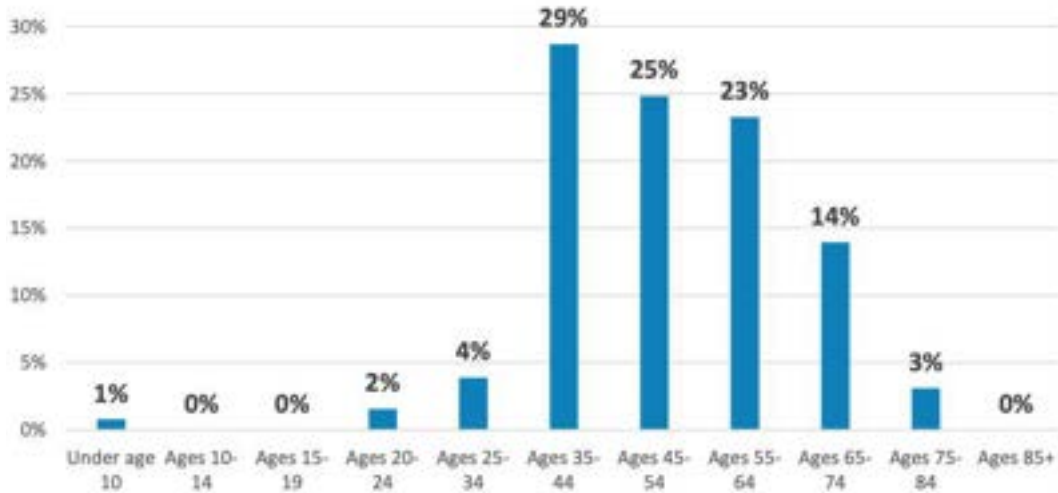


Figure 24: Respondent's Age

How many years have you lived in Bristol?

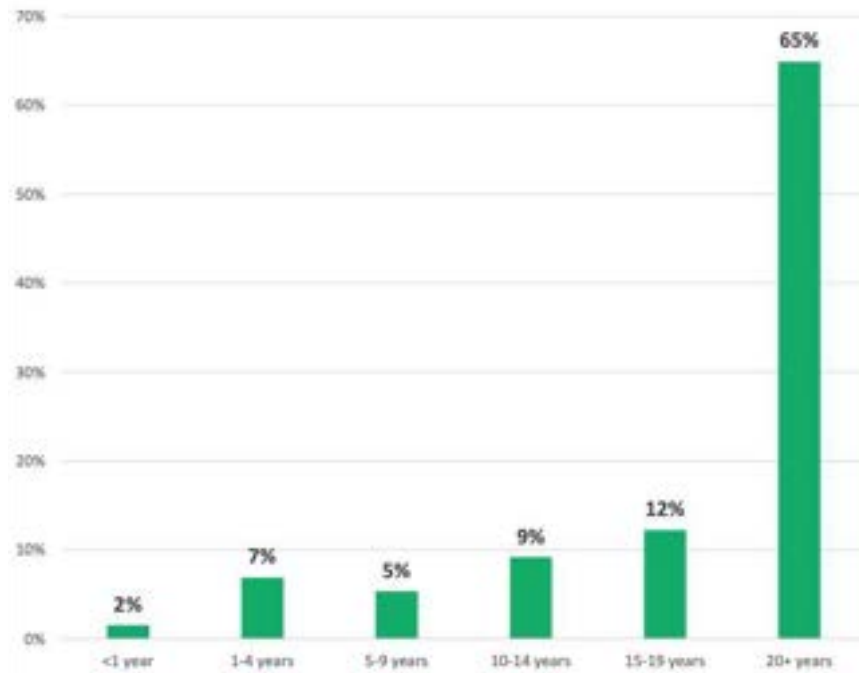


Figure 25: Years Lived in Bristol

To the extent you feel comfortable, please indicate whether you identify as a person with a disability or are differently-abled.

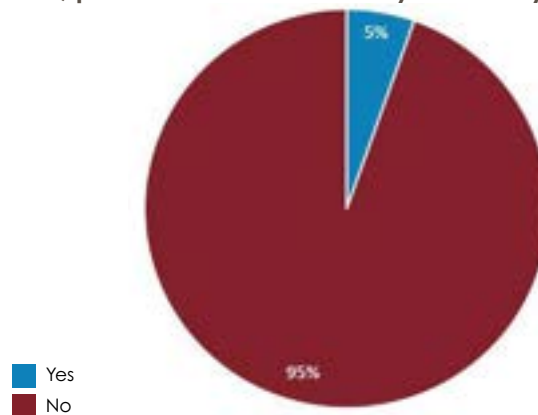


Figure 26: Identify as a person with a Disability or Are Differently-Abled

Which of the following best describes your race? Check all that apply.

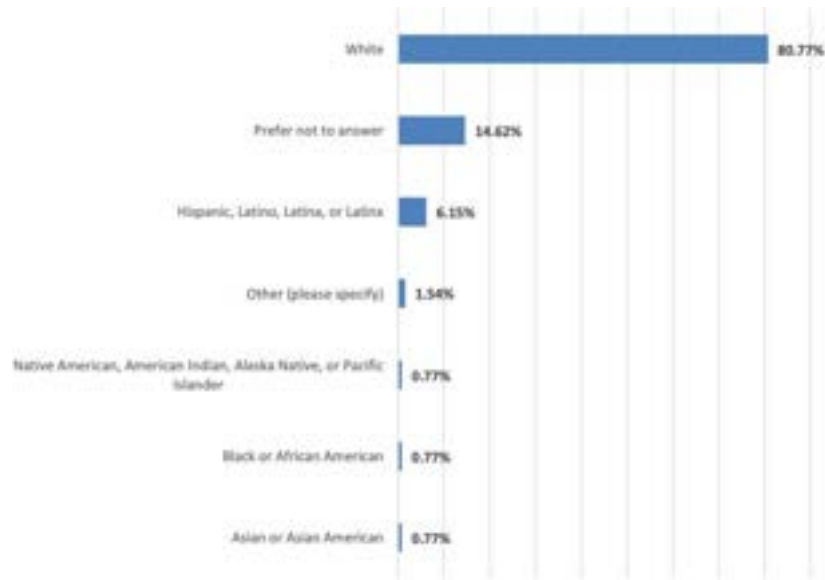


Figure 27: Respondent's Race

Which of the following best describes the primary language spoken at home?

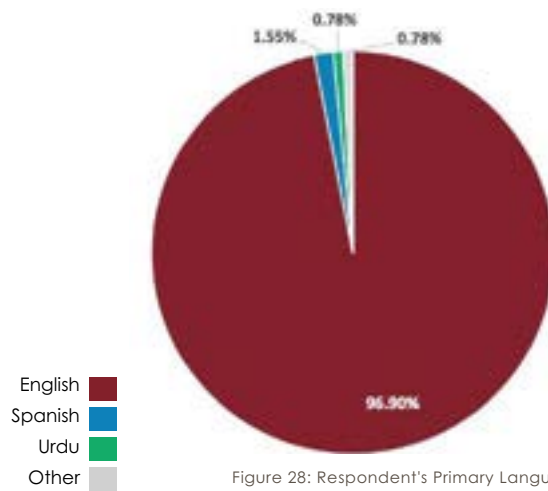


Figure 28: Respondent's Primary Language

What is your gender identity?

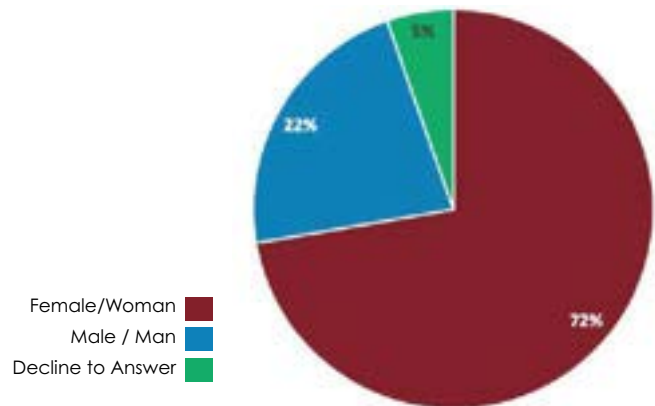


Figure 29: Respondent's Gender

CONCLUSION

The consulting team recognizes the BPRYCS Community Input Survey was completed by individuals who are familiar with the Department (87%) and mostly represent those aged 35-64 (77%). These age segments also represented the most individuals in a household with the addition of ages 10-14. Of the respondents, 81% identified as White and 15% prefer not to answer. The following represents key takeaways based on the electronic survey results:

MARKETING

- Respondents indicate being at least “somewhat familiar” with Department offerings (87%).
- Respondents prefer to learn about programs, services, and park activities via email (60%), Department website (57%), and Facebook (47%).
- Respondents' highest-ranking barrier for not using the system more is “I do not know what is being offered” (33%).

PARKS/FACILITIES

- The top three park/facility used include Page Park (75%), Rockwell Park (70%), and Memorial Boulevard (50%).
- The top three facility and amenity needs include walking trails (75%), biking trails (53%), and natural areas and greenspace (51%).
- The most important facilities and most used facilities include walking trails (54%), playgrounds (24%), and biking trails (23%).

PROGRAMS

- Respondents' top three program needs include adult fitness and wellness programs (51%), aquatic programming (42%), and City-sponsored special events (31%). The programs that are most important to respondents include adult fitness and wellness programs (40%), aquatic programming (30%), and senior adult and fitness programs for 50+ (29%).

WELCOMING PARKS AND FACILITIES

- Respondents indicate they like to see facility and park cleanliness (88%), lighted parks and facilities (65%), and increased shade (63%) to feel welcome in parks and facilities.
- Respondents feel welcomed into programs when there is a high quality of instruction (68%), not overcrowded (54%) and friends participate in the program (48%).

Overall concerns highlighted in the comment section of the survey ([which can be read in the following pages](#)) include:

- Maintenance of parks and facilities need the most attention
- Park cleanliness and safety is mentioned as a point of emphasis
- Increase accessibility throughout the system is desired

Additional Comments

Please share any additional comments that can assist the City of Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services Department in improving services to your household.

1	So many of us would absolutely love to see Softball fields for the girls!
2	I'm tired of seeing mediocrity in the Parks Dept., employees, and programs. Tired of seeing a lot of money spent on "maintaining" baseball fields. Parks Dept a horrific job repairing the tennis court cracks on Shrub Road, there was no real supervision over the staff or the materials they used. Parks dept management needs to own up to that mess and fix it with the correct fill in material, later this year. Parks Dept. needs to let both Tennis and pickleball use facilities around the city, not just Shrub Road park. I've paid real-estate taxes to the city of Bristol for over 30 years and this is the first time in years I've used a court, I had to go out of town other times. Also, you need walking trails or designated walking paths in the northeast side of town. Get school gyms open in the winter on weekends and let people walk indoors.... PUBLICIZE things so we know it's there for middle to older adults and family. Bristol is lagging behind in so many ways, but has the facilities to reactivate a fitness, wellness revival.
3	<p>Please put backs on the new aluminum seats in the first base grandstand at Muzzy Field. Add bleachers on the left and right field sides of Muzzy Field so it can attract bigger events. Too many seats have been removed so it has lowered its 5000-seat capacity. Glad to see the lighting is being improved, but think long-term about procuring a field cover for the infield for rain. The NECBL and college teams want this if they are going to play there over a period of time. Please get Muzzy Field and Page Park ready for baseball by the last week of March or first week of April. The local high teams have big problems using their own fields in the early spring, and this business of</p> <p>Opening Muzzy Field, the last week in April and the first week in May for these schools is killing their programs.</p> <p>The fields were always ready the first week of April when the Bristol Red Sox played in the 1970s. Unlike softball, baseball teams cannot use the same pitcher every day. Sometimes, a high school can get one of its fields ready, but the j.v. or freshmen game is postponed and never made up. Parents get upset, and kids lose interest in playing. Park field access would alleviate this problem.</p>
4	The parks need a lot of cleanup from storms
5	I love the direction the department has been moving. Keep up the good work!
6	Improve surface on Seymour park Pickleball courts
7	I started playing pickleball in 2019 at the Senior center. It is a fast growing sport which needs increased courts outside and an indoor facility with winter approaching and the Senior Center currently closed due to Covid 19.
8	When allocating how my \$100 should be spent, my dollars for adding more ball fields is low. These field are in demand for the good weather months only. Consequently, why is there always an emphasis on establishing more fields for that use?

9	<p>When there are last minute updates or changes with program times due to weather, etc. it would be convenient to have real-time alerts/emails/texts.</p> <p>I was very happy with the professionalism in the coaches with the activities we've been involved with.</p> <p>The prices are fair.</p>
10	Having access to restrooms would be a HUGE plus!!! There are not enough swings, slides or other playground equipment. Plainville has great playground equipment.
11	Please take care of the parking lots and roads in Page Park
12	Keep the focus on the parks network...please...as it is likely to be a focal point for residents' post pandemic
13	Food concessions would be great. Better lighting at tennis courts. Bigger practice wall for tennis. Thanks.
14	Get more police security, I would use the parks much more except I don't feel safe nor should I the amount of nonsense that goes on is ridiculous and illegal
15	I think the parks and rec is the best and most valuable part of Bristol. We play disc golf all year long and have met so many friendly people from many towns. We live near the Roberts field and Hoppers and you pry don't realize how much it is utilized. We ride bikes back there, hike, walk our dogs. There are so many people and families that have gotten to know each other because we're always there. New people and families are constantly coming and using it. I think it has the best sense of community in Bristol by far.
16	Would like to see aerobics with Kathy started up again
17	Additional street lighting
18	The number of homeless people is out of control. Weekly of the 3 benches in the Rockwell Lagoon area, 2 or all 3 have been occupied with sleeping homeless people and they have taken over the pagoda. I understand they need to be somewhere but this is a space for all to use, not their living room.
19	Clean up
20	We have a large group who have been playing pickleball at Seymour Park since early May. We would love to have alternate places to play inside and outside. Most cities in Connecticut have beautiful courts and would like to have Bristol consider the same. Pickleball is a sport that is definitely picking up interest and is great exercise. The 20 plus seniors who play 3-4 times a week enjoy the sport! We appreciate what the mayor and council did to help with temporary courts!
21	More indoor/outdoor facilities for Pickleball
22	More And regular info please.
23	More adult fitness classes, aerobics!
24	Stupid survey. Waste of time and money.

25	Need to put up speed limit signs for road on the back side of Rockwell Park where disc golf, BARK Park, and mountain bikers frequently cross the road. Would highly suggest staff work Saturdays and Sundays during warmer weather to enforce park rules and property maintenance (empty trash).
26	I took my daughter to Page Park on a recent morning and the parking was completely taken up by the baseball families across the street. They should have their own parking lot. Also, it is closer for us to go to Wolcott then to drive to the other side of town to use Page Park. We wish there was a pocket park we could walk to from our house off Witches Rock. The splash pad at Rockwell Park is awesome but the people who use it are less than desirable and make me feel unsafe. We recently rented the pavilion at Plainville's splash pad for a birthday party because we were worried Rockwell Park would be overcrowded as it always is.
27	There are three youth little league facilities for the boys. There are none for the girls and there are more girls playing softball then any of the three boys leagues.
28	X
29	We need a park on the Mt. View side of town where children on this side can meet and be safe.
30	Enforce existing rules, and increase security. Especially at Rockwell park
31	Our children & family have been using the park department programs for almost 30 years now. We have loved being part of all of the programs, and look forward to participating as "seniors" and grandparents now.
32	The "family" changing room at the Dennis Malone pool is a disgrace. There are no lockers for the patrons, the one shower can be tied up for 10 to 15 minutes. The room floods. I realize space is limited but it's time to add on another changing room. To ask an outside guest to use this room , well I just won't do it. It is an embarrassment !
33	I love Bristol Parks! I love getting out and walking and being in nature close to home. Trails absolutely need to get improved if possible but there's a decent system now. BUT Bracket park is disgusting and the city needs to do something about all the drug addicts because I will not go there due to being unsafe. (Nor will any normal tax paying citizen) Also the dog park on Chippens Hill is an absolute waste of a gorgeous open space. No one adheres to the rules. Dogs are never leashed and it cuts that huge parcel off from the majority of Bristol residents due to animals freely roaming & There's dog crap everywhere.
34	Usually I am raving about the numerous quality, clean facilities we have here in Bristol. However, this year we missed the Pooch Plunge which we have rearranged our schedule for every year since we moved here. I didn't see any information about it this year and it seemed early (yes I realize now it is on the 3rd Monday of August annually, the 17th felt super early considering a late Labor Day year) and I AM STILL NOT OVER IT! My husband, daughter, and DOG are all still mad at me about it too because it is their favorite Bristol event. I wish I had heard about it before I missed it :(
35	Open snack place at rockwell park and have more programs for outdoor arts and crafts for adults
36	Advertise more!

37	I want to keep the Children's and Adult Art Program with Ms. Tisa
38	swimming for kids under 5 should be key for safety.
39	More programs for toddlers.
40	You should offer a youth soccer program, even if that means taking over the private club on Emmett street.
41	Keep doing great things. Bristol has one of the best Park and Recs around!
42	Build more bike/skate parks. Do something with the Chic Miller property. Make the dog park flat with no wooded area with bugs, have police patrol the parks, have indoor clean working bathrooms. Improve the page park splash pad.

APPENDIX E

Program Classification List

Essential	Important	Value-Added	
Bristol Green Team	Santa Land Village	Federal Hill Concert	
Kids to Parks Day	All Heart Nests	Feed Our Feathered Friends	
Mayor's Back to School Pencil Hunt	Celebrating a Life Memorial Tree Program	Food Explorers Camp	
Movie on Main Drive-In Movie Series	Halloween Spooktacular	Performing Arts Camp	
National Parks and Recreation Month	Spring Gala	Skyhawks Mini- Camp	
Reverse Holiday Children's Parade	Parent and Child Music	Skyhawks Sports and Games Camp	
Summer Concert Series	Turkey Shoot Basketball Contest	Skyhawks Soccer Camp	
Teen Adventure Quest Camp	Bristol Track and Field Club	Skyhawks SoccerTots	
February Vacation Camp	3 on 3 Basketball	Skyhawks Tiny Hawks	
April Vacation Camp	Express Art Classes for Youth	Community Choir	
Little Explorers Camp	Herens Family Classic (Tennis)	Ascension Martial Arts	
Summer Fun Camp	Ralph Strong Tennis Tournament	Indoor Instructional Baseball Camp	
Mini Hoops Basketball	Softball Clinic	Learn to Rollerblade	
Pee Wee Tennis	Pony League Baseball	Pequabuck Junior Golf Camp	
Tennis Lessons	Boys Basketball League	Skyhawks STEM & Play Football	
Basketball Skills	Adult Bootcamp	Skyhawks Track and Field	
Co-Ed Flag Football	Adult Pickleball	Sports Conditioning	
Dance Classes	Amped-Up Aerobics	Skyhawks Volleyball Camp	
Perry J. Spinelli Fishing Derby	Zumba	Soccer Prep Clinic	
Sandlot Baseball	Family Night at the Pool	Team Tennis	
Youth Special Needs Bowling	Fit Float Water Exercise	Co-Ed Indoor Soccer	
Sports Fun	Intensive Week Long Swim Lessons	Adult Cornhole League	
Art Instruction	Kid's Stroke and Fitness	Co-Ed Indoor Volleyball	
Youth Basketball Clinic	Neon Night Float Night	Co-Ed Indoor Volleyball League	
Youth Co-Ed Indoor Soccer	Pirate Treasure Dive	Dog/Puppy Obedience Classes	
Adult Summer Social	Private Swim Lessons	Express Art Classes for Adults	
Pilates and Yoga Fusion	Red Cross Lifeguard Training	Ladies Golf Clinic at Pequabuck	
Adult Special Needs Bowling	Spring Splash Bash	Men's Softball League	
Splash Swim Team	Teen Night at the Pool	Men's 40+ Softball League	
Parent and Child Swim Lessons	Toddler Time at the Pool	Retiree Golf League	
Preschool Aquatics Swim Lessons	Water Safety Instructor Training	Rock Your Workout	
Learn to Swim 1		Challenge Quest Camp	
Learn to Swim 2		Climbing Camp at Pine Lake	
Learn to Swim 3		USA Swim Team	
Learn to Swim 4		Adult Mini-Camp	
Learn to Swim 5		Afterschool Homework Helper	
Learn to Swim 6		Holiday Music Karaoke	
Red Cross Lay Responder First Aid/CPR		Junior Lifeguarding	
Specialized Swim Lessons		Kids Crafts at the Pool	
Water Exercise		Lifeguard Instructor Training	
Water Safety Month		Pooch Plunge	
Teen Night Social	Core Program Areas	Red Cross One Day Babysitting	
B.E.S.T. - 4- Bristol Youth Coalition			Setback and Swim
Field Daze		Special Events	Springboard Diving Clinic
Girls with a Purpose		Day Camps	Competitive Swimming Training Camp
Man-Up		Preschool Programs	
Rising Stars		Youth Programs	
Lunch Buddies		Teen Programs	
The Banana's Split, Too		Adult Programs	
Young Men's Issues Group		Adventure Education	
Young Women's Issues Group		Aquatic Programs	
		Youth Development Programs	

Similar Providers

Other Service Providers				
Name of Agency	Location	Operator	General Description	Distance (Miles)
Bristol Boys and Girls Club	255 West St. Bristol, CT 06010	Not-For-Profit	Provide programs and services promote and enhance the development of boys & girls by instilling a sense of competence, usefulness & belonging.	1
Indian Rock Nature Preserve	501 Wolcott Road Bristol, CT 06010	Not-For Profit	ELCCT offers a diversity of hands-on nature-based, experiential programs using a variety of resources and facilities.	3
YMCA	149 Farmington Ave Bristol, CT 06010	Not-For Profit	Build lifelong success for all by advancing Youth Development, Healthy Living and Social Responsibility	6
Health Trax	842 Clark Ave Bristol, CT 06010	For Profit	Promoting the long term health of you and your family is our number one priority.	3
Bristol Sports Armory	61 Center St. Bristol, CT 06010	For Profit	BSA is a multi-purpose sports training facility with rollaway synthetic turf that can be used for indoor soccer, softball and baseball.	1
Bristol Adult Ed	210 Redstone Hill Rd. Bristol, CT 06010	Public	Bristol Adult Education offers adults, age 17 and older, a variety of educational programs and services. We are committed to helping you achieve your dreams and goals through our program offerings.	3
Bristol Senior Center	240 Stafford Ave. Bristol, CT 06010	Public	The Senior Center offers a variety of services and programs to our area's senior population.	3
Bristol Public Library	5 High Street, Bristol, CT 06010	Public	The Library advances the knowledge of residents by providing print and virtual resources for public access.	1

Appendix F



IN-DEPTH SITE ANALYSES

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1 | BIRGE POND/HOPPERS POND

Address: Ambler Road/Crescent Drive

Property Size: 223 Acres

Zone: R-25 / R-40

Park Classification: Open Space / Nature Preserve

Site Overview

The Birge Pond/Hoppers Pond property is mostly wooded with trails connecting throughout. There is a pond area with a few viewing platforms at the water's edge. There are three apparent access points to the Birge Pond/Hoppers Pond trail system. One is off of Perkins Street (Robert's Property), one off of Ambler Road and one at the end of Crescent Drive. The properties are bound by several streets and residential properties.

There is a viewing platform for the pond at the Ambler Road entrance. There are no sidewalks on either side of Ambler Road. The viewing platform is near the edge of the lake and there is a set of stairs and an accessible route from the road and parking spaces.

There is another viewing platform for the pond at the Crescent Drive entrance. There is a set of stairs and an accessible ramp that leads from the parking area to the platform area. At the top of stairs, the pavement has begun to settle, creating a potential trip hazard. There is also a cleared area at the Beech Street entrance. A set of stairs leads from the parking area to the pond's edge. The stairs end within the steep grass slope that leads down to the pond edge. The grass slope has large areas of erosion and channelization of runoff down the hill.

Parking

Parking is provided at the three entrances to the properties. The parking area at the Perkins Street entrance (Robert's Property) is paved and has 20 spaces including 2 accessible spaces. Neither are van accessible.

Parallel parking of Ambler Road is gravel except for the accessible parking space which is paved with asphalt and has a painted aisle next to it. There are six spaces (including one accessible space) that are defined by granite in the gravel.

The parking off of Crescent Drive is gravel with the two accessible parking spaces identified by signage and wheel stops. Except for the accessible parking spaces, there are no formal parking spaces defined.

ADA Compliance

Trails are currently not regulated by ADAAG. However, regulations for trails have been set forth by the U.S. Access Board that oversees federally funded facilities. Should the City of Bristol want to make a portion of the trails within the Birge Pond/Hoppers property more equitable, these standards could be used as a guideline.

The parking area at Perkins Street (Roberts Property) has two accessible spaces which exceeds what is required of a 20 spaces. One of the spaces should be a van accessible space. The accessible space on the south side of the parking lot connects directly to the trail that heads into the woods. The northern accessible space does not directly connect into a trail. There is a flush transition from the parking lot to the existing trails that heads east.

There is an accessible route to the viewing platform from the parking at Ambler Road. There is settlement where the asphalt meets the viewing platform and concrete stairs and shall be addressed.

There accessible parking space at Ambler Road has an van aisle adjacent to it. The space has the International Symbol of Accessibility painted in it. The space requires a sign that is a minimum of 60 inches from the ground surface to the bottom of the sign to mark the space.

There is also an accessible ramp down to the viewing platform from the parking lot at Crescent Drive. There is a staircase that provides access to the lake however that is not an accessible route. The two accessible parking spaces off Crescent Drive have compliant signage, however, the spaces do not have painted lines. There is also no accessible route from the accessible spaces to the paved walkway to the viewing platform.

Other Observations

There are no trails maps provided at the entrances or within the trail area.

Recommendations

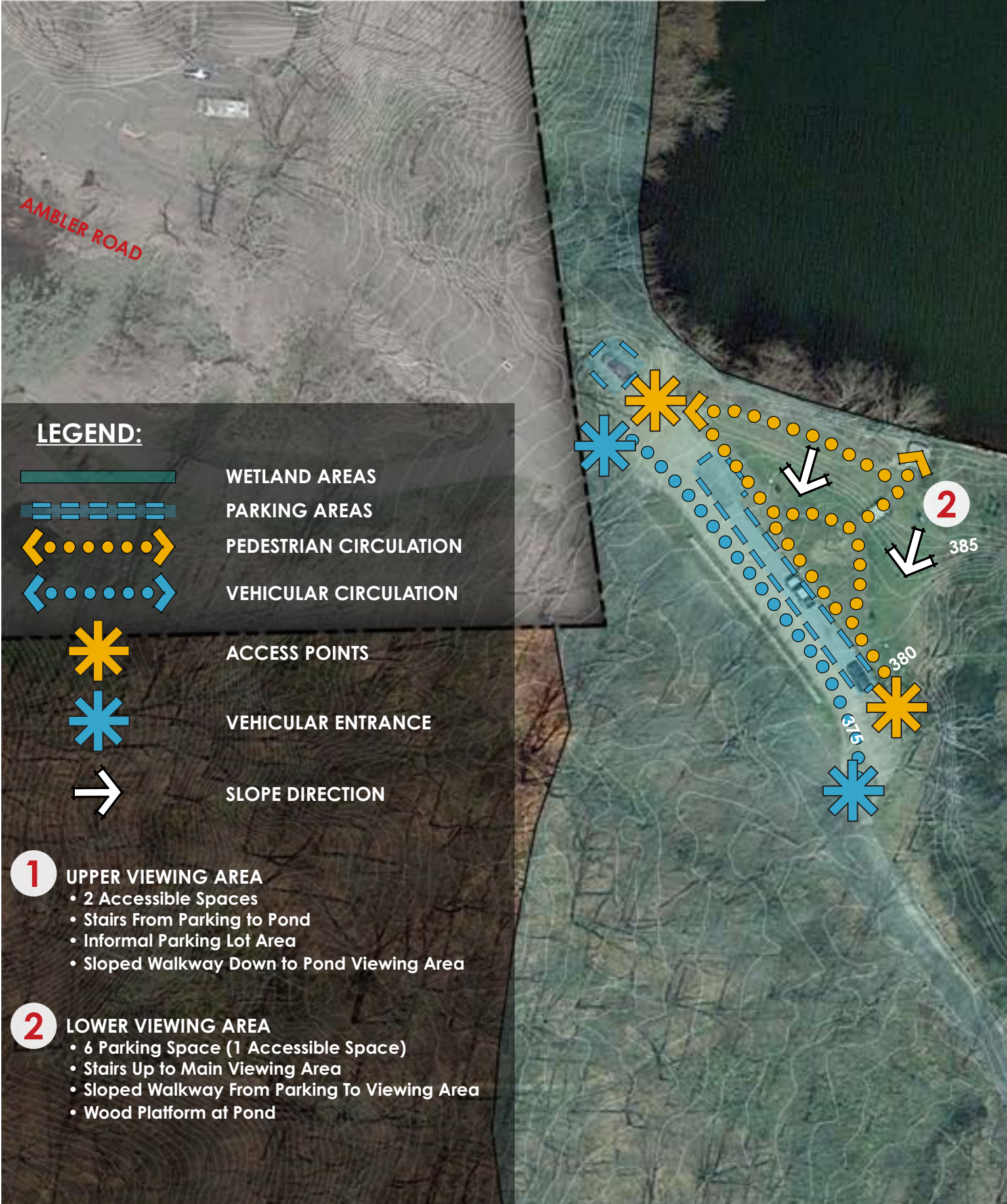
- Accessible parking improvements at each parking area to comply with ADAAG requirements.
- Maintenance of existing asphalt and access to pond.
- Permanent accessible trail system surrounding pond.
- Improve/install trail markers and informational signage along the trail system.

SITE ANALYSIS | BIRGE POND / HOPPERS





SITE ANALYSIS | BIRGE POND / HOPPERS





EXISTING CONDITIONS | BIRGE POND / HOPPERS



ASPHALT ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACE WITH NO SIGNAGE AND GRAVEL



SETTLEMENT OF ASPHALT AT CONNECTION TO STAIRS LEADING TO OVERLOOK



ENTRANCE TO GRAVEL PARKING AREA



STEEP, GRASSY SLOPE LEADING TO WATER



NON-MARKED ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES WITH SIGNAGE AND WHEEL STOPS



ACCESSIBLE ROUTE TO VIEWING PLATFORM



2 | BRACKETT PARK

Address: School Street

Property Size: 2.34 Acres

Zone: BD-1

Park Classification: Neighborhood

Site Overview

Brackett Park is bound by North Main Street on the east, School Street on the south, and parking lots associated with adjacent businesses and residences to the north. A 6' high fence runs along the northern property line and the west corner of the park. There are sidewalks along North Main Street and School Street adjacent to the park. The park includes the following amenities:

- Playground (6-23 months and 5-12 years old) with 3 play structures, 1 swing set, 4 ground level elements and enclosed by fencing
- Gazebo
- Basketball Court
- Benches
- Checker/Chess Table
- Site Lighting
- Flagpole with uplighting

There are three entrances into the park. One is located from School Street, one from North Main Street and one at the intersection of School and North Main Streets. There is an intersection at the southeast entrance to the park that is controlled by traffic lights. There are three crosswalks that connect the opposite sides of North Main Street to the sidewalk adjacent to the park. A Brackett Park sign is attached to an ornamental wall with piers at the southeast entrance. The other two entrances to the park also have ornamental piers, fencing and unit pavers. There are several paved walkways within the park. The walkways connect each of the entrances to a majority of the site amenities.

The basketball court surfacing appears to be slick and may require resurfacing in the near future.

Parking

There are no parking facilities associated with Brackett Park.

ADA Compliance

The existing paved walks internal to the park meet ADAAG requirements. There are curb ramps installed on the sidewalks at all of the entrances, except for at the crosswalk crossing School Street at the intersection. A detectable warning strip is installed at the curb ramp at the School Street entrance. There are no detectable warning strips installed at the curb ramps at the other entrances.

There are accessible routes to the basketball court and gazebo. There are two accessible routes to entrances into the playground area, however, access into the playground is not accessible. The elevation of the playground surface (mulch) is approximately 6" to 7" lower than the park and shall be addressed. The chess/checker table has four permanent seats and is located in the grass off of one of the paths. While outdoor tables are currently not required to comply with ADAAG, providing an accessible route to the table promotes equitable use of this amenity. ADA may be a consideration as well.

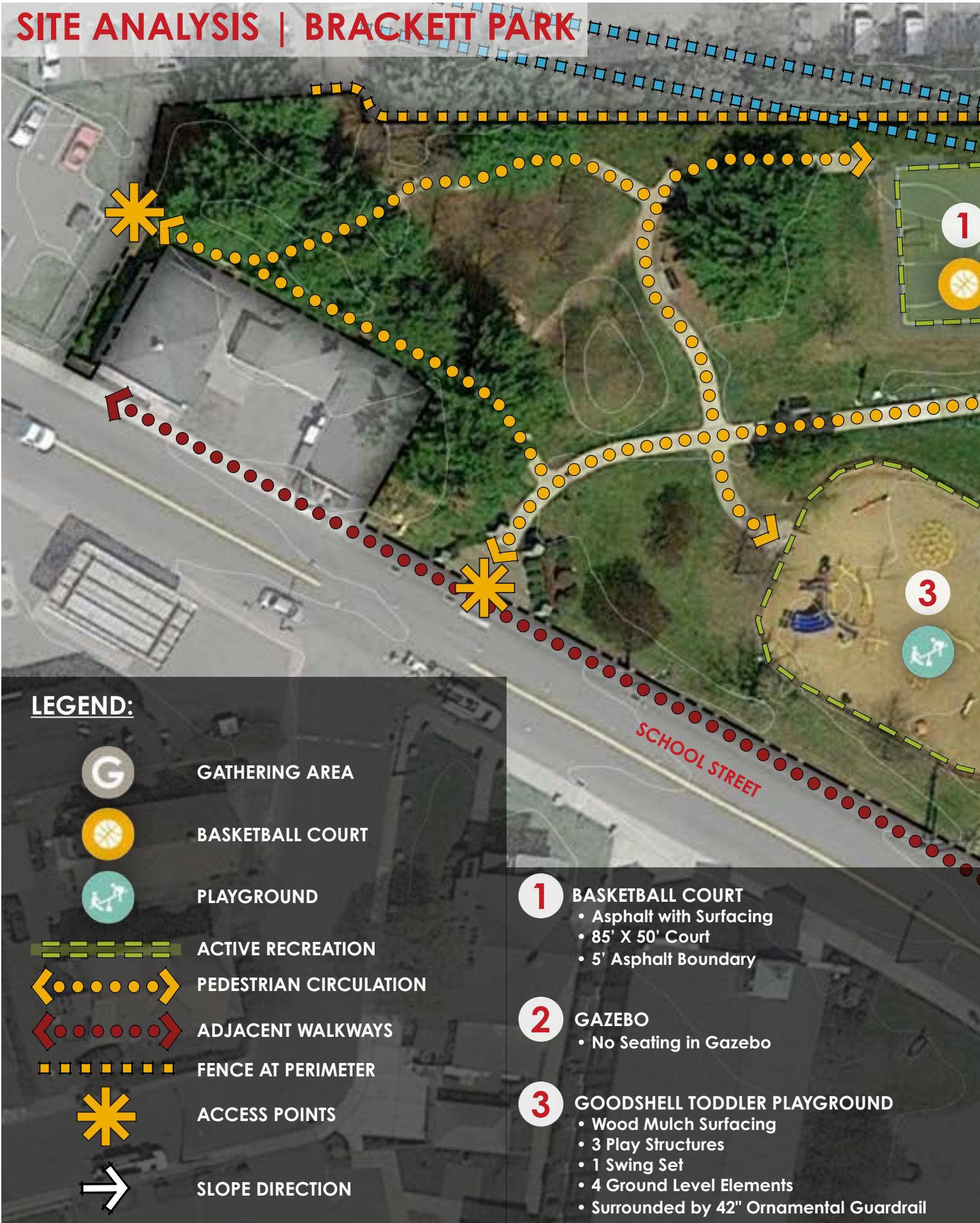
The drinking fountain onsite has a spout compliant with the standards for use by someone in a wheelchair and a spout compliant with the standards for use by someone standing.

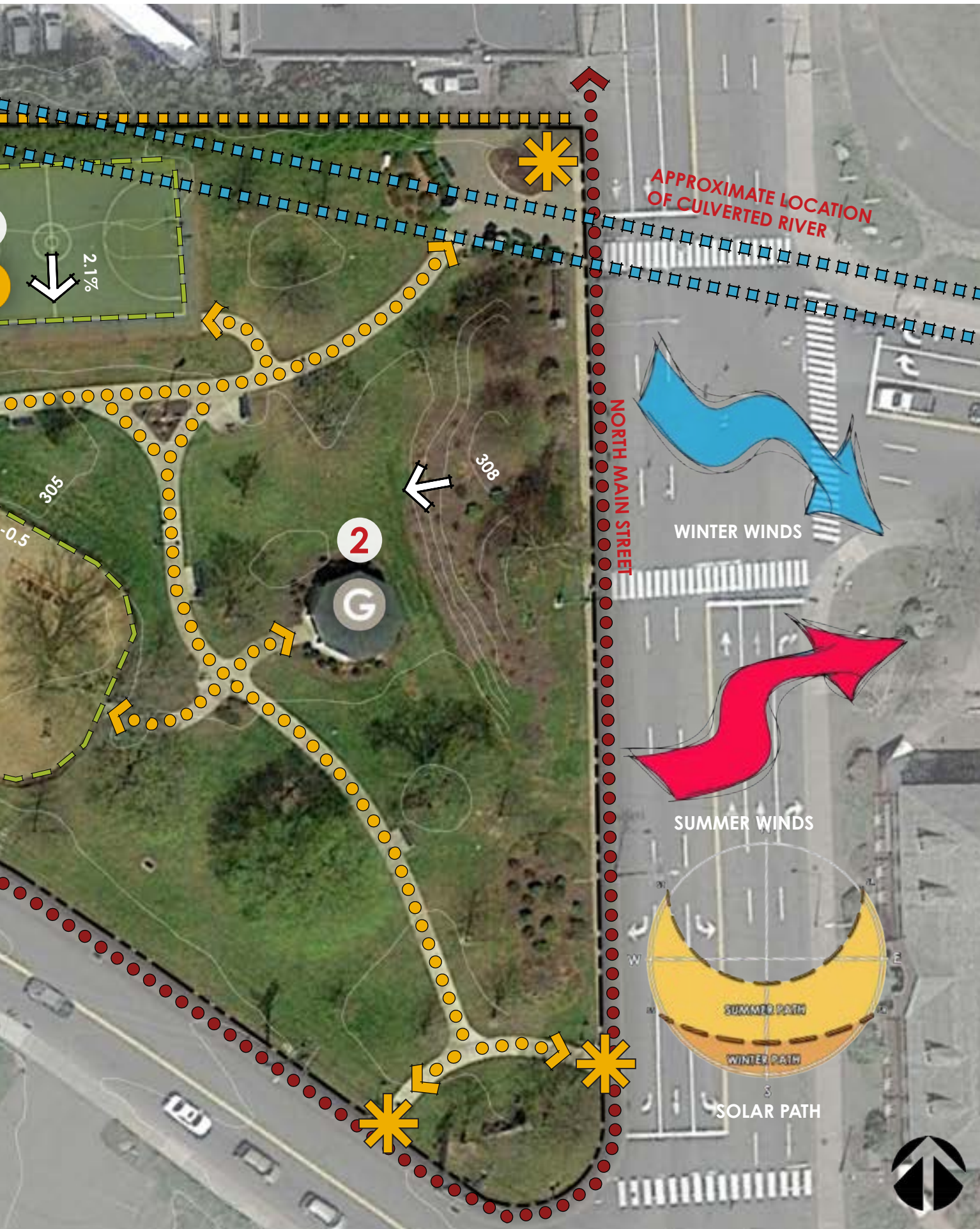
There is not a accessible route to and around the existing flagpole as it is located in a plant bed.

Recommendations

- Address ADAAG compliance issues at the playground entrances, additional wood chips surfacing should be installed (while still achieving ASTM-1951 compliance*).
- Upgrade playground.
- Curb ramp improvements that include installing detectable warning strips.
- Accessibility improvements at the flagpole.
- Resurface existing basketball court.

SITE ANALYSIS | BRACKETT PARK





EXISTING CONDITIONS | BRACKETT PARK



NO ACCESSIBLE ROUTE TO FLAGPOLE



APPROXIMATE 6" DROP AT ENTRANCE TO PLAYGROUND AREA, GATES NEED TO BE REPLACED



APPROXIMATE 6" DROP AT ENTRANCE TO PLAYGROUND AREA, GATES NEED TO BE REPLACED



BASKETBALL COURT SHOULD BE RESURFACED



PARK ENTRANCE WITH PUBLIC SEATING



NO CURB CUT AT CROSSWALK



3 | CASEY FIELD

Address: Lake Avenue

Property Size: 8.24 Acres

Zone: R-40

Park Classification: Special Use

Site Overview

Casey Field is bound by Stocks Playground to the east, Lake Avenue to the north and west, and private properties to the south. There are two parking areas that are accessed from Lake Avenue. There is also a parking area off Middle Street that can be used to access the fields. There are several sidewalks around the perimeter of the facility and internal to the park that provides accessible routes to the fields. There is a sign attached to a stone wall with piers at the intersection of Lake Avenue and Middle Street along with a curb cut and sidewalks that connect to the site's internal walkways. The park includes the following amenities:

- Softball Field (60' baselines, 235' Left Field, 285' Right Field) with tall chain link fence backstop and 8' fencing around the perimeter of the field, sports lighting, stone dust team areas with benches, and semi-portable bleacher along 1st base foul line
- Youth Football Field with sports lighting, press box building, scoreboard, and bleachers.
- Parking
- Drinking Fountain adjacent to softball field

The softball field is natural grass with a skinned infield. The field has a north/south orientation from home plate through the mound which is the second preferred orientation for softball (south/north is preferred). There is galvanized chain link fence and backstop that complete encloses the field. The outfield is oversized for softball to allow use in the outfield for rectangular sports. The outfield grass appeared to be in good condition during a site visit in September 2020.

The youth football field is currently leased and used exclusively by Bristol Youth Football & Cheer. Access to the field is gate controlled that is locked when the field is not in use. The storage containers, buildings, and bleachers are all owned by Bristol Youth Football & Cheer. The field has a east/west orientation, the preferred orientation for a football field is north/south. The field appeared to be in poor condition with the presence of weeds, minimal grass cover and appeared to be worn and over compacted in heavy football wear areas.

Parking

There are two parking areas that directly support Casey Field. Both parking areas are located off of Lake Avenue. The northern parking lot is shared has 91 parking spaces, five of which are accessible. The southern parking area is adjacent to the football field and has 40 parking spaces, six of which are accessible. Some of the wheel stops associated with the accessible parking spaces adjacent to the youth football field are pushed onto the adjacent sidewalks.

There is a third parking area on the property that is located east of the football that is accessed from Middle Street. This parking lot is directly adjacent to Stock's Playground. There is an paved walkway that connects this parking lot to the northern parking area.

ADA Compliance

The existing paved walks along Lake Avenue and internal to the parking lots and site meet ADAAG requirements. There are curb ramps adjacent to the accessible parking spaces. There are detectable warning strips at the accessible parking spaces west of Casey Field, however, there are not detectable warning strips for the accessible parking spaces north of Casey Field. There are detectable warning plates at the curb ramps that cross the vehicular entrances to the parking lots.

There are accessible routes to the softball field and both team areas. The surface of the team areas are stone dust and should be concrete to meet ADAAG requirements. There shall be a wheelchair space in team seating area. A wheel chair space shall be a minimum of 36 inches wide and a minimum of 48 inches deep with a slope no steeper than 1:48 (2.08%). An accessible route shall adjoin to the wheelchair space. Although there is a space at the end of the benches in both team areas that meets ADAAG requirements, the space would be directly in front of one of the two openings in the fence. A shorter bench could be installed to provide a wheelchair space within the team area and keep both fence openings usable while the space is occupied.

Both parking areas provide accessible parking that exceeds ADAAG requirements.

In the northern parking area, there are three accessible parking spaces that can be used by Casey Field and Stocks Playground and two of the accessible parking spaces provide direct access to the softball field team areas. There are concrete aprons with detectable warnings that connect to accessible routes. One of the two accessible spaces adjacent to the softball is a van accessible space, but is not identified as one. There is signage associated with all 5 spaces. Signs are required to be a minimum of 60 inches from the ground surface to the bottom of the sign to denote the space as an accessible space are required. The signs are mounted on wooden bollards that are below 60 inches.

In the southern parking area, three of the six accessible spaces have concrete aprons with detectable warning that connect to accessible routes. Three of the accessible spaces that are immediately adjacent to the football field do not have concrete aprons, detectable warnings or a connection to an accessible route. There is also not an accessible route from the site walkways to the football field. The four accessible parking spaces in the northern portion of the southern parking area do not have signage.

The drinking fountain behind the backstop at the softball field has two spouts; one compliant with the standards for use by someone in a wheelchair and one compliant with the standards for use by someone standing.

Other Observations

There is a wooden guardrail that runs along the western side of Casey Park adjacent to Lake Avenue.

Recommendations

- Install accessible parking signs compliant with ADAAG at accessible parking spaces.
- Reinstall wheel stops at accessible parking spaces and pin to asphalt to prevent from moving in the future.
- Construct an accessible route to the football field.
- Renovate football field.
- Install concrete pads in team areas.
- Renovate/replace bleachers with closed decking.

SITE ANALYSIS | CASEY FIELD

LEGEND:



SOFTBALL



FOOTBALL



PARKING AREA



ACTIVE RECREATION AREA



PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION



24' HIGH CHAIN LINK FENCE



6' HIGH CHAIN LINK FENCE



4' HIGH CHAIN LINK FENCE



ACCESS POINTS



VEHICULAR ENTRANCE



SPORTS LIGHTING



SLOPE DIRECTION

1 PARKING LOTS

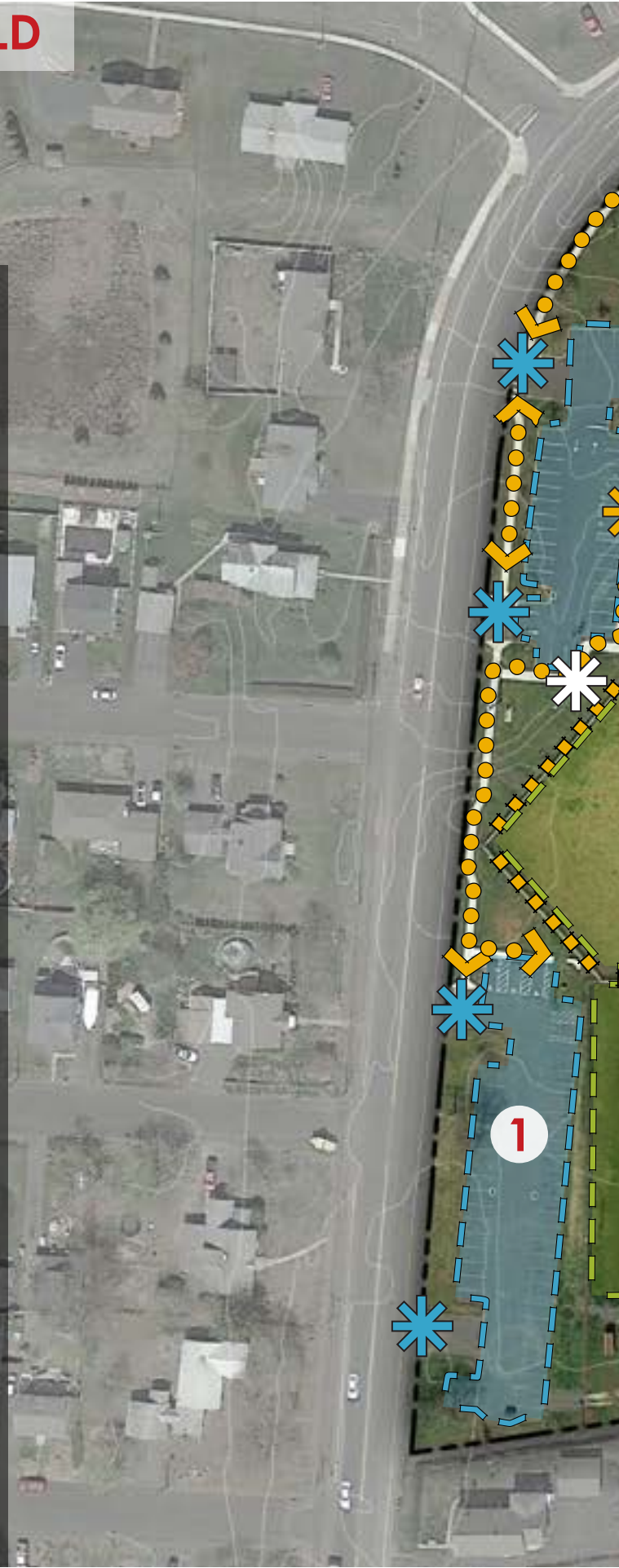
- Casey Field
91 Parking Spaces (5 Accessible)
- Football Field
40 Parking Spaces (6 Accessible)

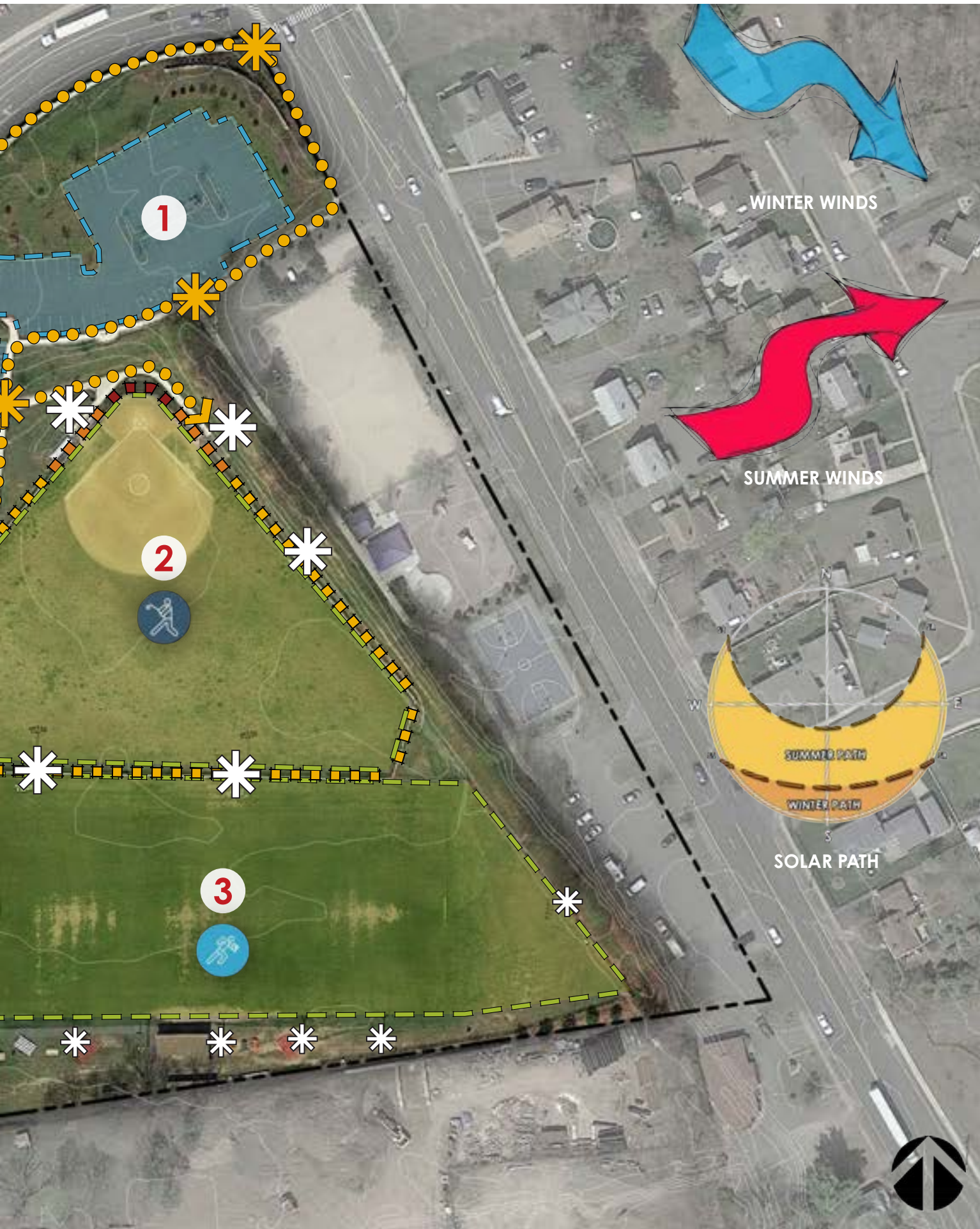
2 CASEY FIELD

- Natural Grass Softball Field with Infield Mix
- RF = 285'
- LF = 325'
- CF = 285'

3 FOOTBALL FIELD

- Natural Grass Field
- Press Box and Support Building
- 3 Semi-Portable Bleachers





EXISTING CONDITIONS | CASEY FIELD



**ACCESSIBLE
ENTRANCE WITH SIGNAGE
AND ACCESSIBLE WARNING STRIP**



**MAINTENANCE ENTRANCE AT THE BACK
OF BASEBALL/SOFTBALL FIELD**



**ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES WITH FLUSH
CURB BUT NO DETECTABLE WARNING
STRIPS**



**GRAVEL ENTRANCE TO FOOTBALL FIELD
NEEDS ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS**





ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES DO NOT HAVE DETECTABLE WARNING STRIPS

SOFTBALL FIELD IS IN GOOD CONDITION

FOOTBALL FIELD IS IN POOR CONDITION



4 | FEDERAL HILL GREEN

Address: Maple Street and Queen Street

Property Size: 2.1 Acres

Zone: R-15

Park Classification: Neighborhood

Site Overview

Federal Hill Green is bound by Maple Street, Queen Street, and Center Street. There is a sidewalk abutting the park along Maple Street. A wooden fence runs parallel to a majority the sidewalk adjacent to Maple Street. There are sidewalks across the street from the park parallel to Queen and Center Streets. The park includes the following amenities:

- Playground (2-5 years old) with 2 play structures, 3 swing sets and 1 ground level element
- Gazebo
- Memorial Area with plaques and flagpole
- Open Grass Area with 24' high chain link fence backstops (Tee-ball)

There are four access points into Federal Hill Green. One is located at the corner of Maple Street and Center Street and the entrance is identified by a Federal Hill Green sign located next to the pathway. The intersection is controlled by a traffic light with four crosswalks connecting each corner of the streets. Two access points are located from Queen Street and the fourth is from Maple Street.

There are two paved walkways within the park. One runs from the southwest corner of the park at the intersection of Maple and Center Street to the access point on Queen Street across from the St. Joseph Church. The other walkway connects the access points on Maple and Queen Street to the memorial flagpole area. There are no formalized walkways to the gazebo or the playground area.

Parking

There are 34 angled parking spaces adjacent to the park along Queen Street. There are additional parallel parking spaces on the opposite of the park as well. There are no walkways or handicap accessible access from the parking spaces into the park.

ADA Compliance

The existing paved walks internal to the park meet ADAAG requirements. There are two curb cuts for the sidewalk adjacent to Maple Street, however, they do not have detectable warning, do not meet current ADAAG requirements, and are in need of repair. The two access points from Queen Street do not have curb cuts.

There are no accessible routes to the gazebo or playground. Access to the gazebo is via stairs and access to the playground is from the adjacent lawn.

Recommendations

- Install accessible routes to the gazebo and playground.
- Renovate/install ADAAG compliant curb cuts (four locations).
- Upgrade playground.

SITE ANALYSIS | FEDERAL HILL

LEGEND:



GATHERING AREA



ACTIVE PROGRAMMING OPPORTUNITY



PLAYGROUND / TOT LOT



MEMORIAL LOCATION



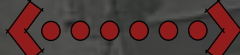
PARKING AREA



ACTIVE RECREATION AREA



PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION



ADJACENT CIRCULATION



WOODEN FENCE AT PERIMETER



ACCESS POINTS



SLOPE DIRECTION

1

OPEN LAWN
• Natural Grass Field

2

JAMES F RIORDAN PLAYGROUND
• Wood Mulch Surfacing
• 2 Play Structures
• 3 Swing Sets
• 1 Ground Level Element

3

GAZEBO
• Open Gazebo with Stairs Leading to Entrance
• Small “Library” Box with Books

4

PARKING
• 34 Formal Parking Spaces Along Road





EXISTING CONDITIONS | FEDERAL HILL





CURB CUT IS NOT FLUSH WITH SURROUNDING PAVEMENT



FLOOR OF GAZEBO IS NOT FLUSH WITH SURROUNDING LAWN AREA

5 | FRASER FIELD

Address: Spruce Street

Property Size: 7.7 Acres

Zone: R-40

Facility Classification: Special Use

Site Overview

The Fraser Field area is leased and used exclusively by McCabe-Waters Little League. The buildings, storage containers, shelters, batting cages, and bleachers are all owned by the league.

Fraser Field is bound by Rockwell Park to the north, west and east and private residences to the south. The park includes the following amenities:

- Hardball Field #1 (200' outfield, 30' high ball netting and 12' high chain link fence backstop, 8' high chain link fence at team areas, 6' high chain link fence in outfield, 4' high fence along foul lines, skinned infield, concrete block dugouts, bullpen for each dugout with 8' high chain link fence, the Robert E. Casey Field House support building for game management, bathrooms and concessions, and a 5-row bleacher in right field and a 10-row bleacher in left field)
- Hardball Field #2 (190' outfield, 24' high chain link fence backstop, 8' high chain link fence at team areas, 6' high chain link fence in center and right field, 12' high chain link fence in left field, 4' high fence along foul lines, skinned infield, concrete block dugouts, support building for game management, bullpen for each dugout with 8' high chain link fence, scoreboard, and 5-row bleachers in center and left field)
- Softball Field (200' outfield, 15' high chain link fence backstop, 6' high chain link fence at team areas, 4' high chain link fence in outfield and foul lines, 10' high netting at backstop and right field corner, skinned infield, sports lighting, fenced team areas on concrete, scoreboard, and 5-row bleacher on 1st foul line)
- Tee-Ball Field (145' left and right field, 135' center field, 10' high chain link fence backstop, 4' high chain link outfield fence, benches, and 3-row bleacher on the 3rd base foul line)
- Batting Cage Area with two batting tunnels with netting, one batting tunnel without netting, paved with asphalt and a support building.
- Overhead pavilion with concrete floor and picnic tables
- Flagpole, memorial plaque and McCabe Waters

Fraser Field is located on the southwest corner of the Rockwell Park property. The softball field is located near Rockwell Park's Back Playground Shelter and can be accessed from Rockwell Park and stairs from the hardball fields. Spruce Street can be used to access the field complex near Hardball Field #1. The fields can also be accessed by Divinity Street.

There are gravel and dirt paths that connect the hardball fields and the tee-ball fields to on another. The area behind Hardball Field #1's backstop is paved asphalt. There is a significant grade change between the softball field and the rest of the fields which is connected by a large wooden staircase. There is a formalized paved walk connecting Rockwell Park to the softball field's right field team area. There are also stone and dirt paths that connect the softball backstop to the staircase and the softball parking area.

Parking

There are three parking areas associated with Fraser Field. One parking area is along Park Hill Road at the end of Spruce Street. The spaces are unmarked. Two spaces have signage indicating they are reserved for accessible parking. The other two areas accessed from Divinity Street. The area closest to the tee-ball field is mostly gravel with three paved parking spaces; one of which is accessible. The rest of the gravel parking is unmarked. The third parking area is located at the end of Divinity Street adjacent to the softball field. The parking area is gravel and unmarked. Rockwell Park parking south of the volleyball courts can also be used to support Fraser Field.

ADA Compliance

There is an accessible route from Spruce Street to the paved area behind Hardball Field #1. The pavement ends just passed the building on the third base line and transitions to stone dust near Hardball Field #2. The stone dust is not compacted and is not compliant with ADAAG guidelines. There is an informal dirt path that is located south of Hardball Field #2 and the tee-ball field that connects to Divinity Street. There are accessible walkways from the Rockwell Park parking area near the softball field that leads to the softball field; however, the pathway abruptly stops without providing a direct connection to the field area, team areas, or the spectator seating areas. There is a gravel and dirt path that leads from the parking area west of the softball field to the backstop that is not stable or firm.

The dugouts at Hardball Field #1 have concrete pads. The softball field team areas are a combination of concrete and dirt and have tripping hazards in them making them inaccessible. The tee-ball benches are located in the grass. The concrete pad at the covered pavilion is approximately 6" higher than the surrounding stone dust and is not accessible.

Due to the grade change between the softball field and the upper fields, there is no accessible route between the softball field and other fields. The wooden staircase between the softball field and upper fields also does not meet current accessibility requirements for landings and handrails.

The two parking spaces marked as accessible (with signage) at the end of Spruce Street are gravel, don't have accessible aisles or routes to the site and therefore are not accessible. Users parking on Spruce Street need to travel along Spruce Street to get into the field complex. There is no accessible route down to the complex from Spruce Street.

One paved space at the parking area near the tee-ball field is striped as accessible; however, there is no signage or accessible route from the space to the site. There are no accessible parking spaces in the parking area near the softball field.

There does not appear to be an accessible route to the second floor of the support building behind Hardball Field #1's backstop.

Recommendations

- Construct paved accessible routes to all the fields, spectator seating areas and dugouts/team areas within the park from Spruce Street and Divinity Street.
- Provide flush accessible route to overhead pavilion concrete slab.
- Build code compliant accessible parking spaces, signage and accessible routes.
- Renovate the 3rd base dugout at Hardball Field #2 that appears to be settling.
- Renovate/replace bleachers with closed decking.
- Provide accessible routes to flagpole area behind the Hardball Field #1 outfield.
- Install concrete pads at all dugouts/team areas.
- Consider accessible route to second floor of support building behind Hardball Field #1's backstop.

SITE ANALYSIS | FRASER FIELD

LEGEND:



HARDBALL / SOFTBALL



ACTIVE RECREATION AREA



PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION



VEHICULAR CIRCULATION



ACCESS POINTS



SLOPE DIRECTION

1

HARDBALL FIELD #1

- Natural Grass with Infield Mix
- Galvanized Chain Link Fence and Backstop
- Dugouts
- Outfield=200'
- Bullpens
- Support Building

2

SOFTBALL FIELD

- Natural Grass with Infield Mix
- Galvanized Chain Link Fence and Backstop
- Team Areas
- Outfield=200'
- Bullpens
- Sports Lighting

3

HARDBALL FIELD #2

- Natural Grass with Infield Mix
- Galvanized Chain Link Fence and Backstop
- Dugouts
- Outfield=190'
- Bullpens

4

TEE-BALL FIELD

- Natural Grass with Infield Mix
- Galvanized Chain Link Fence and Backstop
- Bench Area
- Left Field=145', Right Field = 135'

5

BATTING CAGE AREA

6

OVERHEAD PAVILION

7

FLAGPOLE





EXISTING CONDITIONS | FRASER FIELD



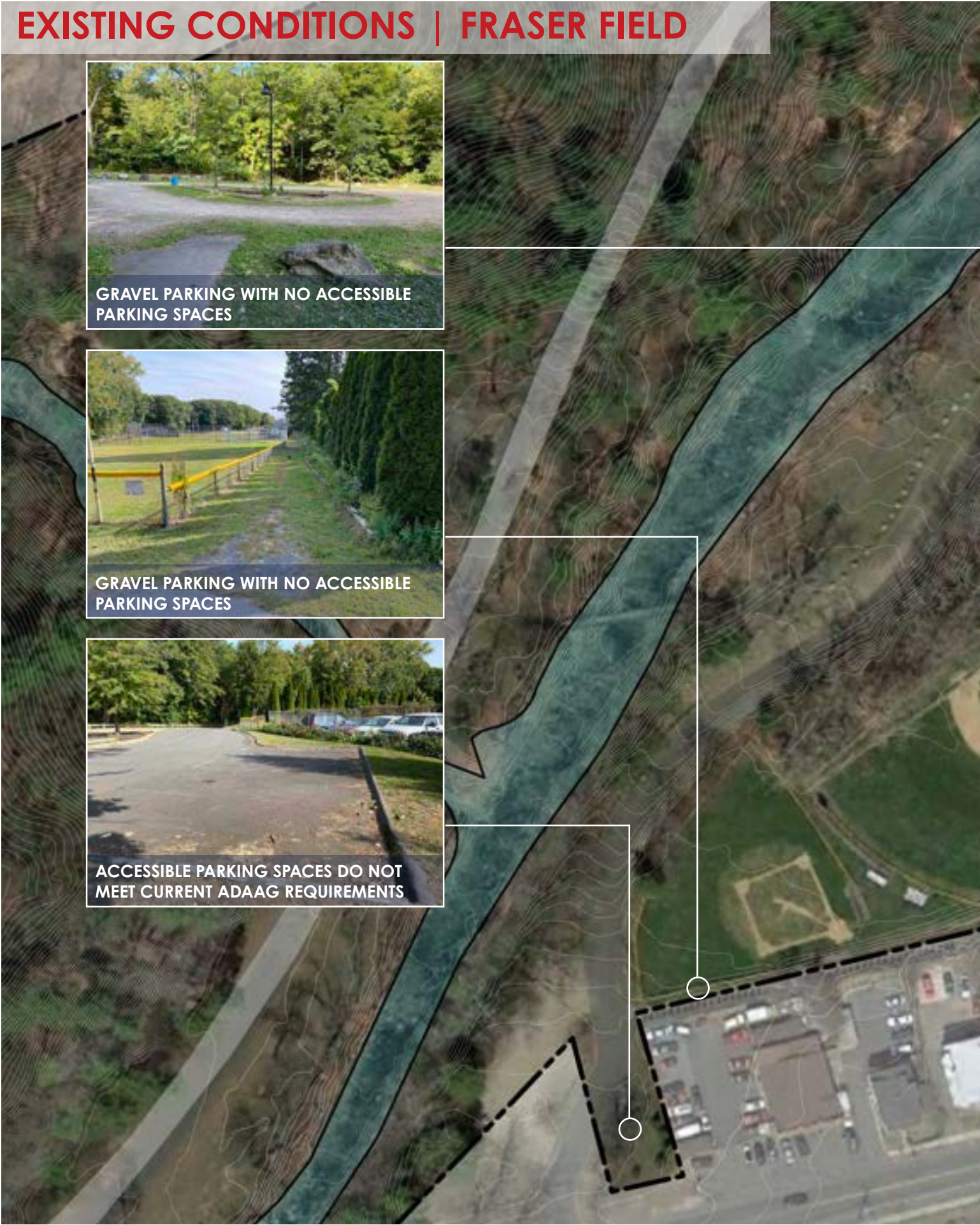
GRAVEL PARKING WITH NO ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES



GRAVEL PARKING WITH NO ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES



ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES DO NOT MEET CURRENT ADAAG REQUIREMENTS





**STAIRCASE FROM SOFTBALL FIELD UP TO
HARDBALL FIELDS**



NON-ACCESSIBLE ACCESS INTO FACILITY



**OVERHEAD PAVILION CONCRETE SLAB IS
NOT ACCESSIBLE**



DUGOUT IS SETTLING



6 | KERN PARK

Address: Ivy Drive & Primmrose Lane

Property Size: ~22 Acres

Zone: BG

Park Classification: Neighborhood Park

Site Overview

Kern Park is bound by private properties to the west, east and south. Ivy Drive School bounds the park to the north. Per the City of Bristol's Assessors Office, the school and the park are on the same property parcel. A metal guardrail creates a boundary that defines the school's outdoor space and the Kern Park area. An old 4-battery tennis court is located between the school and park.

There are several access points into Kern Park's trail system. There are a few north of the park that can be accessed from the Ivy Drive School outdoor spaces. There is an access point at the end of Primrose Lane that has concrete barriers that deter vehicular access into the park. There are two access points behind the Bristol Farms Plaza Shopping Center. The final access point is at the end of Couture Drive across Sims Road. There is a trail head at this spot, however there is no signage indicating entrance into the park.

There is a 4 battery tennis court north of the park that have severe cracking and are in need of reconstruction if the area will be used as a tennis court in the future.

Parking

There are no parking areas that are specifically to Kern Park.

ADA Compliance

There is no accessible route that connects the tennis courts to a parking area or any other portion of the park.

Trails are not currently regulated by ADAAG. However, regulations for trails have been set forth by the U.S. Access Board that oversees federally funded facilities. Should the City of Bristol want to make a portion of the trails within the Kern Park property more equitable, these standards can be used as a guideline.

Opportunities

- The existing tennis courts could be renovated in kind or to create an outdoor classroom setting.
- Develop the trails to encourage a relationship between the natural resources and the users. Education kiosks can be installed throughout the trail system.

Recommendations

- Create more formal entrance areas at the shopping center entrance and the Couture entrance with signage.
- Provide trail maps at all entrances.
- Renovate the tennis courts.

SITE ANALYSIS | KERN PARK

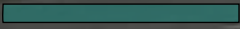
LEGEND:



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING OPPORTUNITY



TENNIS COURTS



WETLAND AREA



ACTIVE RECREATION AREA



AREA PASSIVE RECREATION



PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION



FENCE AT PERIMETER



ACCESS POINT



SLOPE DIRECTION

1

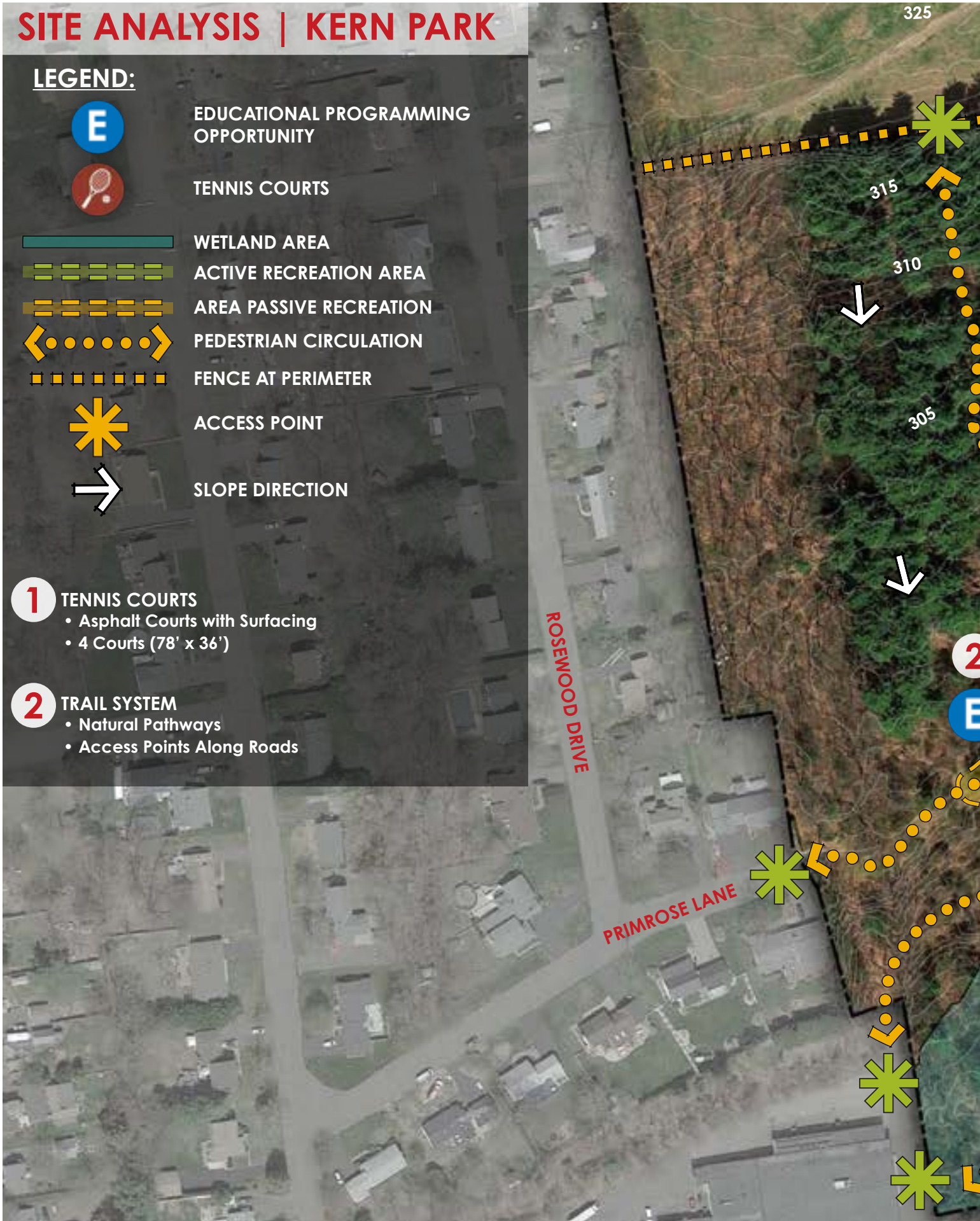
TENNIS COURTS

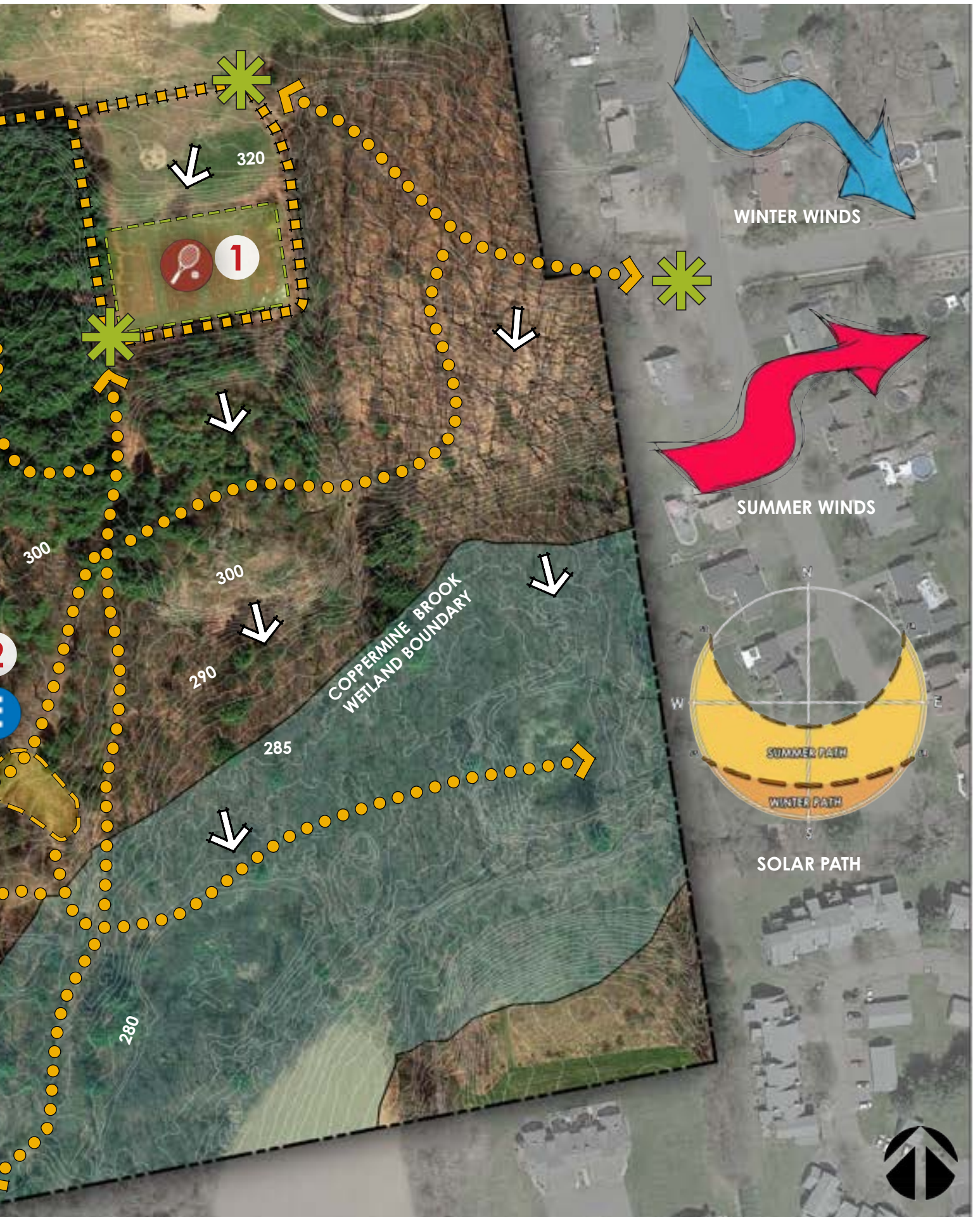
- Asphalt Courts with Surfacing
- 4 Courts (78' x 36')

2

TRAIL SYSTEM

- Natural Pathways
- Access Points Along Roads

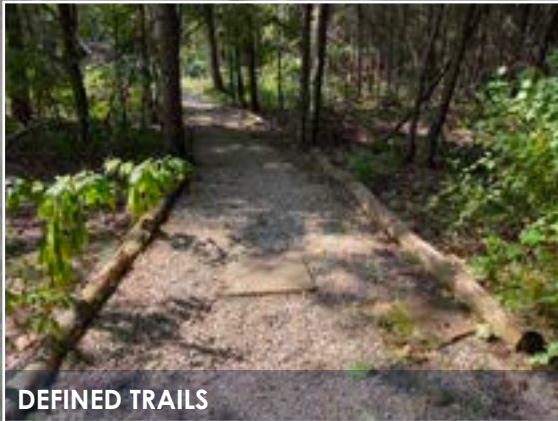




EXISTING CONDITIONS | KERN PARK



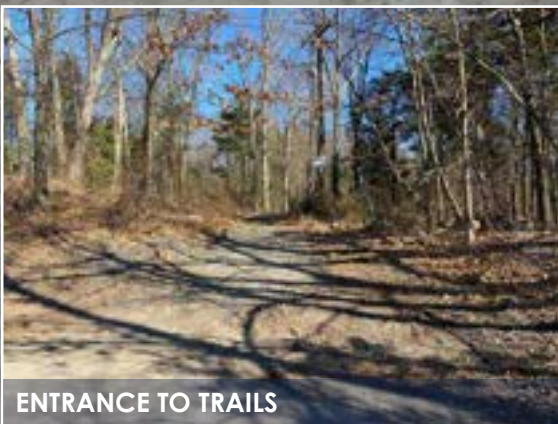
TENNIS COURT HAS SIGNIFICANT CRACKING AND IS IN NEED OF REPAIR



DEFINED TRAILS



PRIMROSE LANE ENTRANCE TO PARK



ENTRANCE TO TRAILS





ACCESS POINT TO TRAILS

DEFINED TRAILS

7 | MEMORIAL BOULEVARD

Address: Memorial Boulevard

Property Size: 26.19 Acres (includes property associated with veteran's memorial)

Zone: R-40

Park Classification: Community

Site Overview

Memorial Boulevard includes a number of park spaces that are located north and south of Memorial Boulevard. The southern portions of the park are bound by South Street. The northern portions of the park are bound by the Pequabuck River. Willis Street bounds the park to the west of the future Memorial Boulevard Intradistrict Arts Magnet School, Mellen Street and East Street run north/south bisecting the park, and Downs Street bounds the park to the east. The park includes the following amenities:

- Lacrosse Field with Hardball and Softball Backstops
- Walking Track
- Tennis Courts (4 courts)
- Pavilion
- Memorial Area

Memorial Boulevard is a two way road with two lanes in each direction with a landscape median between the east and west traveling lanes. There are four way stop signs at the intersections of Memorial Boulevard and Mellen Street and Memorial Boulevard and East Street. Each of these intersection has curb cuts and crosswalks at each corner. There is a large memorial at the intersection of Memorial Boulevard and Mellen Street.

There are pedestrian sidewalks adjacent to all of the roads that abut the park. The walkways that are internal to the park connect the memorials in the eastern portion of the park. Signs at both ends of Memorial Boulevard indicate entrances into the park.

Historic online imagery shows that the hardball and softball fields' infields used to be skinned, however, they are both overgrown with weeds and some grass cover. If the intent is to use these fields for hardball and softball, the infields shall be renovated. The field currently has a cross pitch of 0.75% from the baseball right field corner toward the softball right field corner. This is shallow for a native soil field and regrading shall be considered. The field also appears to be over compacted.

The walking track around the hardball and softball field is currently stone dust.

The condition of the existing tennis courts is beyond repair and requires complete renovation, due to severe cracking and the tennis court surfacing is worn.

There are several bus stops located on South Street along the length of the park.

Parking

There are three parking areas associated with Memorial Boulevard. One is located off of South Street near the veteran's memorial area. This parking area has twelve spaces, one of which has an accessible aisle painted, but does not have signage, accessible route associated with it, and it appears to not meet ADAAG requirements. The space should also be sized for a accessible van.

The second lot is located off of East Street near the pavilion area. This parking area has eight spaces, three of which are accessible. None of the spaces are van accessible and one should be. There is an accessible route from the handicap parking spaces to the sidewalk along Memorial Boulevard.

The third is associated with the school building. The school is currently being renovated and it is assumed that the parking lot will be renovated as part of the school project.

ADA Compliance

Most of the existing sidewalks along Memorial Boulevard meet ADAAG standards. There are curb cuts located in the sidewalks at all the intersections and crosswalks; however, all of them do not have a detectable warning strip. Some of the curb cuts may also require renovations to meet current ADAAG requirements.

The stone dust walking track around the hardball and softball fields is not considered accessible. There are also gates around the walking track, however, there are no accessible routes between the walking track and sidewalks adjacent to the roads.

There are accessible routes from the sidewalks adjacent to Memorial Boulevard into the veteran's memorial areas on both sides of Memorial Boulevard. Portions of the walkway from the parking area off South Street to the memorial areas do not meet ADAAG requirements. An accessible route from the parking area off East Street directly to the memorial area may be a consideration. There are currently no accessible routes to the pavilion located adjacent to the East Street parking area.

There are three walkways into the existing tennis courts that are not accessible.

Other Observations

There are cameras mounted on street lights that may capture parts of the park area.

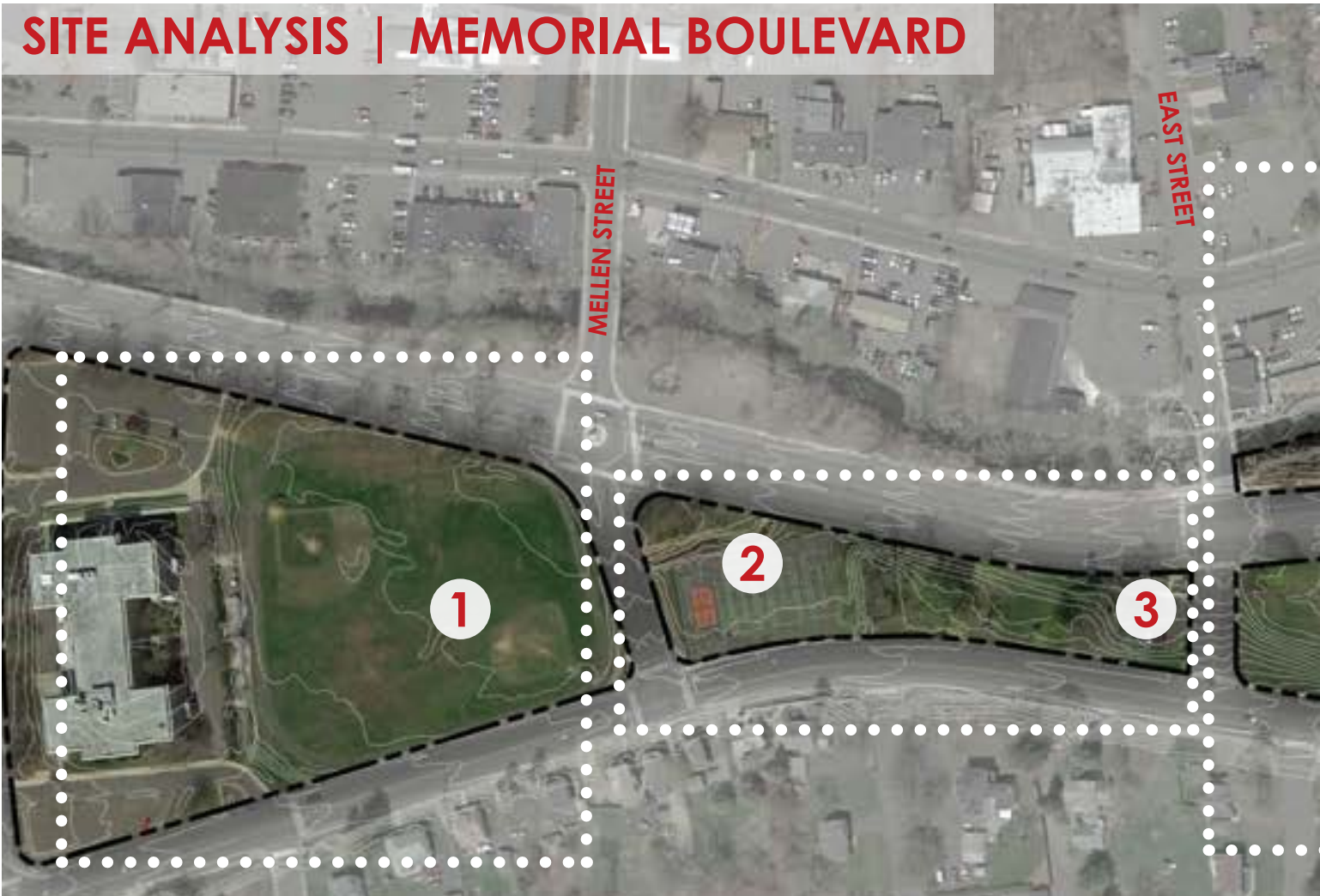
Opportunities

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department closed Memorial Boulevard to vehicular traffic to provide Bristol residents with an additional area for safe passive recreation. Permanent closure of Memorial Boulevard could provide a large area for both passive and active recreation in the heart of Bristol.

Recommendations

- Renovate accessible parking area off of South Street and provide accessible route into memorial area. Consider accessible route from East Street parking area to memorial area.
- Construct an accessible route to pavilion area adjacent to East Street parking areas.
- Renovate tennis courts and associated accessible walkways into the tennis courts.
- Renovate hardball and softball fields: regrade to promote proper drainage across the fields and fix compaction issues; renovate both infields, provide team areas with accessible routes.
- Curb ramp renovations for all walkways adjacent to Memorial Boulevard.

SITE ANALYSIS | MEMORIAL BOULEVARD



LEGEND:

- 1** **HARDBALL AND SOFTBALL FIELD**
 - Natural Grass Field
 - Galvanized Chain Link Fence
 - 12' High at Backstop
 - 6' High At Dugouts
 - 4' High Around Fields at Street
 - Stone Dust Track Surrounding Fields

- 2** **TENNIS COURTS**
 - Asphalt Courts with Surfacing
 - 4 Courts (78' x 36')

- 3** **PARKING AREAS**
 - East Street - 8 Parking Spaces
 - South Street - 12 Parking Space

- 4** **MEMORIALS**
 - Memorials Along Memorial Boulevard
 - Pedestrian Sidewalks



SITE ANALYSIS | MEMORIAL BOULEVARD

325

286

WILLIS STREET



290

LEGEND:



BOYS LACROSSE



HARDBALL / SOFTBALL



WALKING TRACK



ACTIVE RECREATION AREA



PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION



ADJACENT PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION



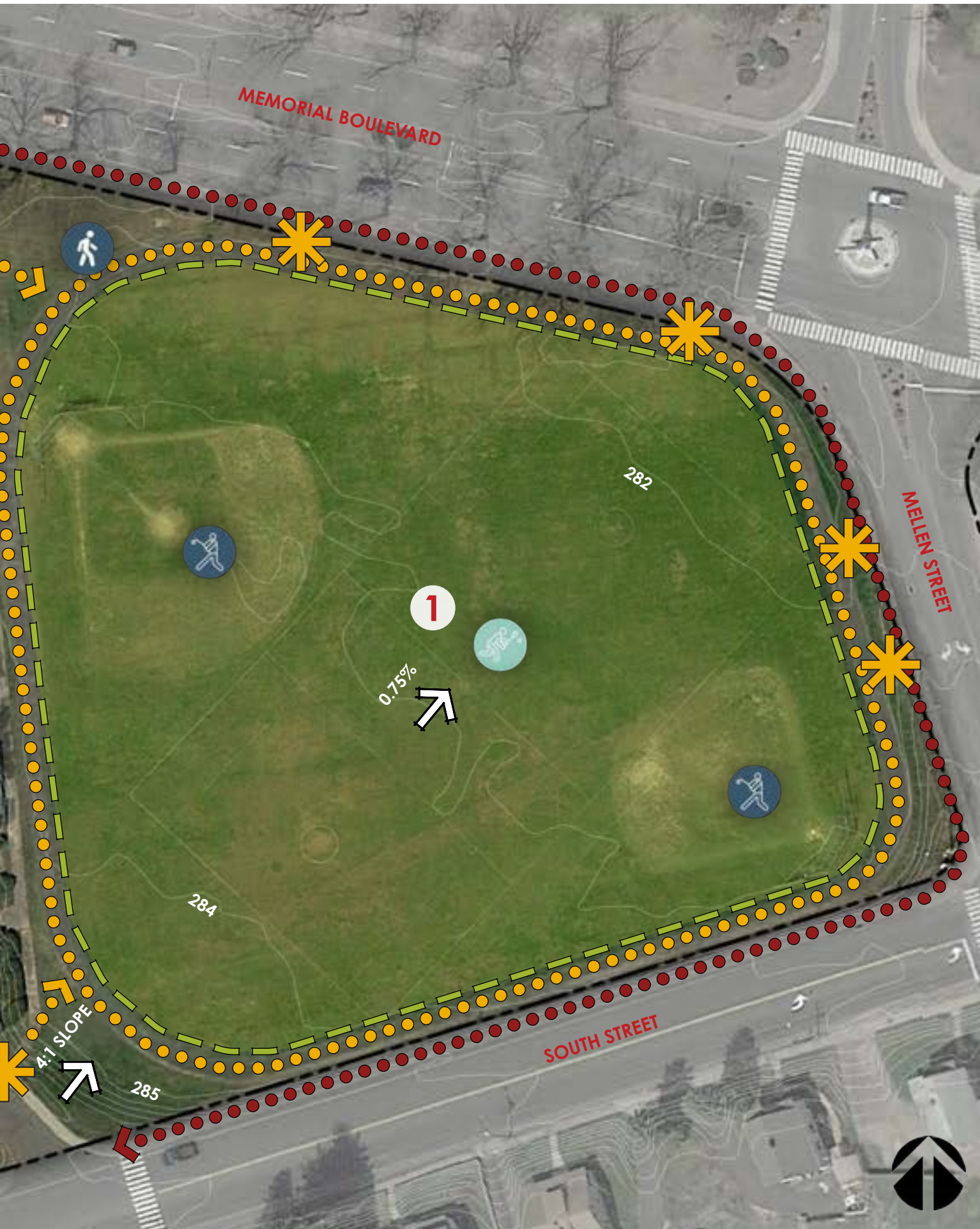
ACCESS POINTS



SLOPE DIRECTION

1 BOYS LACROSSE, HARDBALL AND SOFTBALL FIELD

- Natural Grass Field
- Galvanized Chain Link Fence
 - 12' High at Backstop
 - 6' High At Dugouts
 - 4' High Around Fields at Street
- Stone Dust Track Surrounding Fields



EXISTING CONDITIONS | MEMORIAL BOULEVARD



NO ACCESSIBLE ROUTE DOWN TO ATHLETIC FIELDS AND WALKING TRACK



INFIELD OF FIELDS IS IN POOR CONDITION



NO TEAM AREAS OR ACCESSIBLE ROUTES TO ATHLETIC FIELDS





WALKING TRACK IS IN NEED OF MAINTENANCE

SITE ANALYSIS | MEMORIAL BOULEVARD



LEGEND:



GATHERING AREA



TENNIS COURT



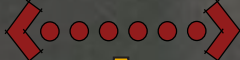
PARKING AREA



ACTIVE RECREATION AREA



PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION



ADJACENT CIRCULATION



ACCESS POINTS



VEHICULAR ENTRANCE



SLOPE DIRECTION



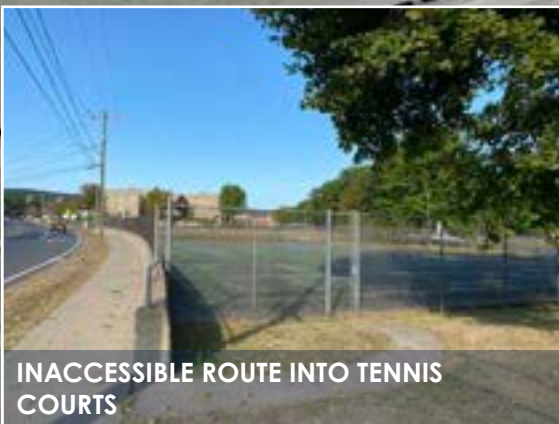
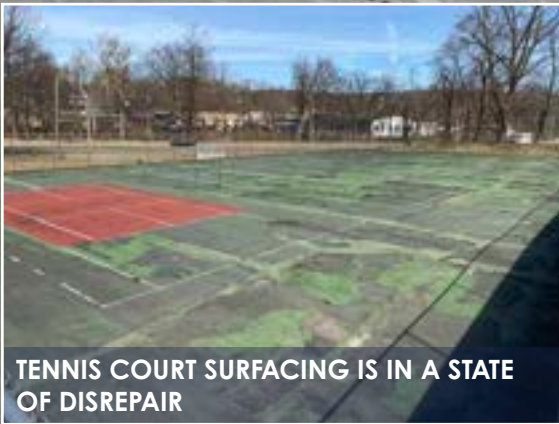
TENNIS COURTS
 • Asphalt Courts with Surfacing
 • 4 Courts (78' x 36')



PARKING AREAS
 • 8 Parking Spaces (3 Accessible Spaces)



EXISTING CONDITIONS | MEMORIAL BOULEVARD

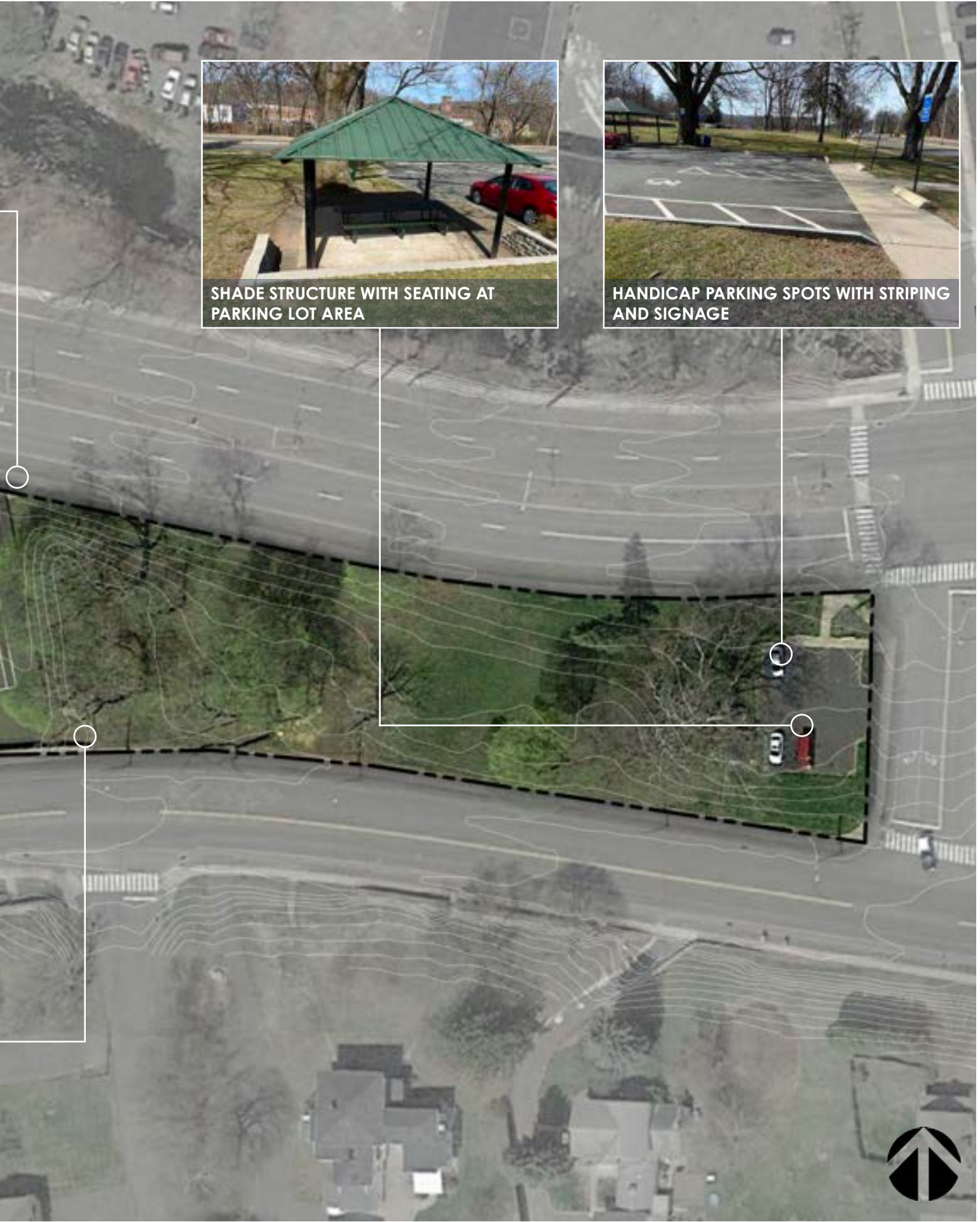




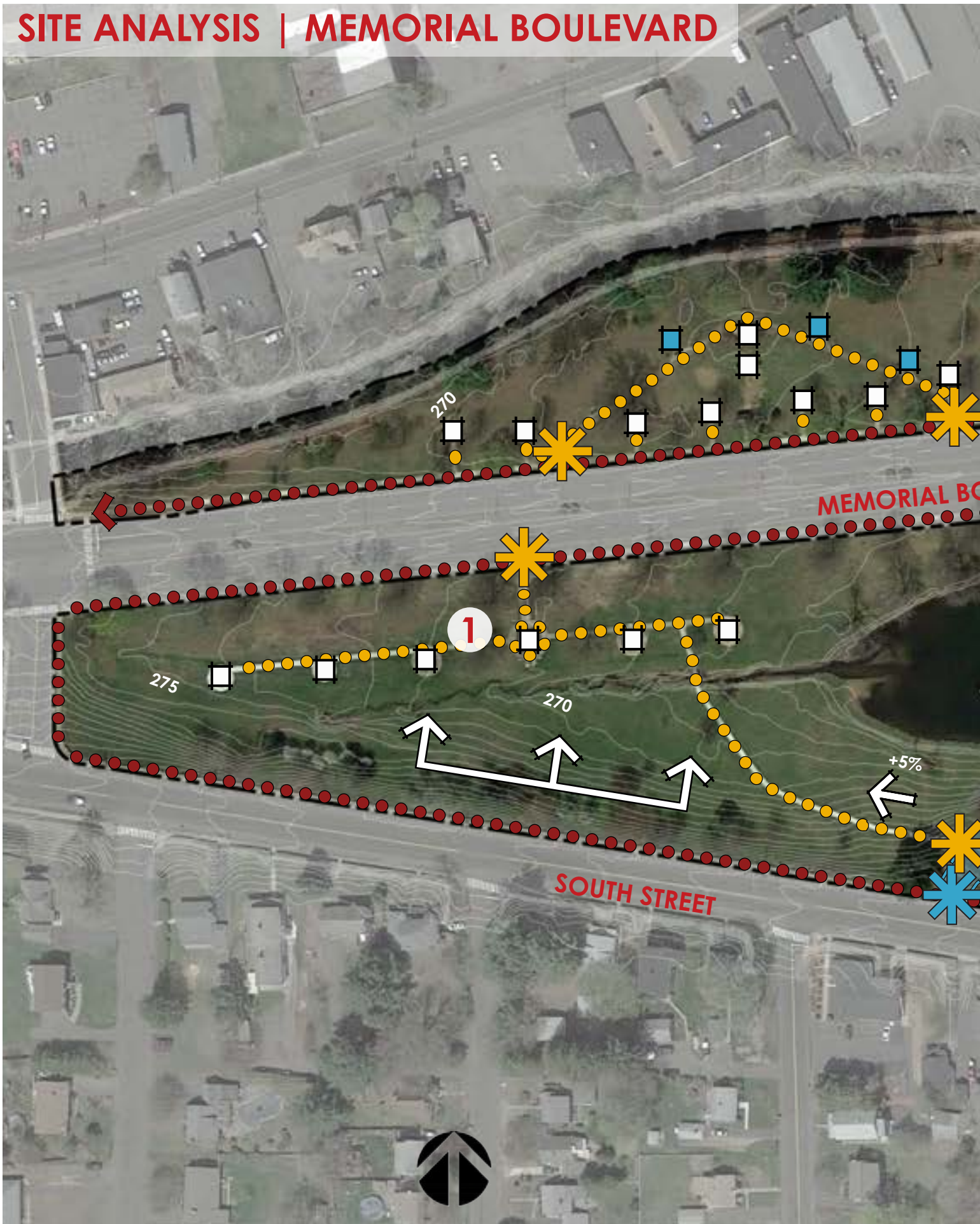
SHADE STRUCTURE WITH SEATING AT PARKING LOT AREA



HANDICAP PARKING SPOTS WITH STRIPING AND SIGNAGE



SITE ANALYSIS | MEMORIAL BOULEVARD





EXISTING CONDITIONS | MEMORIAL BOULEVARD



ACCESS ALONG SIDEWALK TO GATHERING AREAS AND MEMORIALS



CURB RAMPS DO NOT MEET ADAAG REQUIREMENTS



FLAGPOLES IN MULCH BEDS WITH UPLIGHTING



PARKING DOES NOT MEET ADAAG REQUIREMENTS



PORTION OF WALKWAY FROM PARKING TO MEMORIAL STEEPER THAN 5%



8 | MIX STREET FIELD

Address: Mix Street

Property Size: 5.7 Acres

Zone: R-40

Park Classification: Special Use

Site Overview

Mix Street Field is bound by Mix Street to the west, Maltby Street to the north, and wooded area owned by New Britain Water Department to the south and east. There are no sidewalks on the park side of Mix Street or Maltby, however, there is a sidewalk on the opposite side of Mix Street. There is a concrete curb along the park side of Mix Street and boulders located near the intersection of Mix Street and Maltby Street to deter parking along the Mix Street. There are 2 crosswalks in the northwest corner of the park at the Mix Street and Maltby Street intersection that don't connect to a curb cut or accessible route. The park includes the following amenities:

- Softball Field (60' baselines, 300' Left Field, 300' Right Field) with tall chain link fence backstop and 6' high fencing at team areas and 5' high chain link fence around the perimeter of the field, sports lighting, concrete team areas with benches, and semi-portable bleacher behind home plate
- Open Grass Field used for football
- Storage Building with Scoreboard mounted to it
- Informal gravel parking area (currently blocked off)

The softball field has a northeast orientation from home plate through the pitching mound which is preferred in the northeast. The grass field has a north south orientation. There are no internal walkways to either field.

Parking

There is an informal gravel parking area south of the softball backstop. None of the spots are lined. The area is currently blocked off with concrete blocks and chains preventing parking in the area. The no parking signs in this area note 'City of Bristol Water Department'.

ADA Compliance

There are no accessible routes to the park or to the individual amenities on the park property.

Other Observations

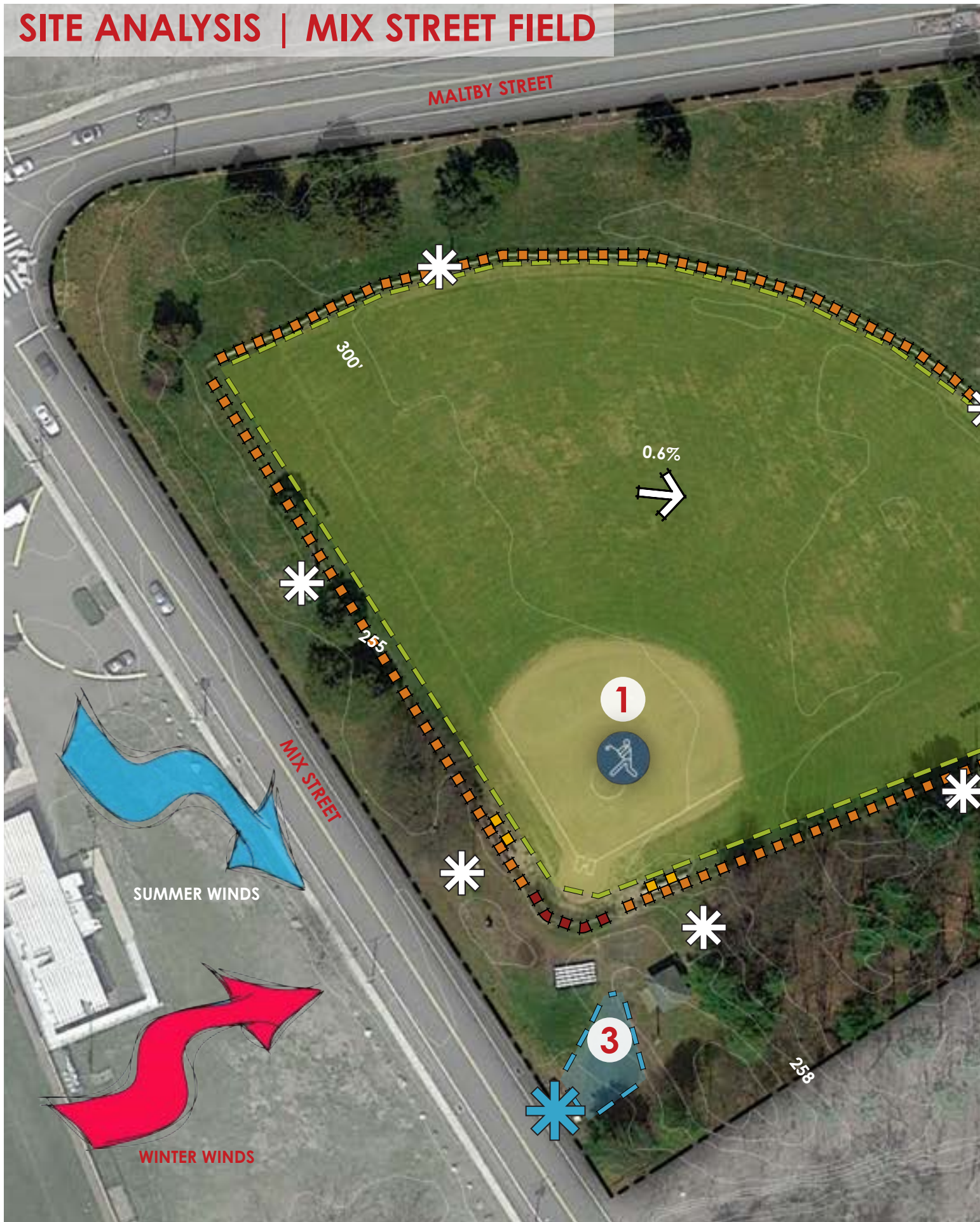
There are a few trails that begin in the parking lot area and lead off into the woods on the property owned by New Britain Water Department.

The bleachers behind the softball backstop do not have handrails and do not meet the current building code requirements for bleachers.

Recommendations

- Develop a formalized entrance at the corner of the park where Mix Street and Maltby Street intersect. Formalized accessible routes should be constructed between the new entrance to the backstop and team areas of the softball field.
- If the City does not want to provide parking at this park, the informal parking area can be renovated into a plaza or grass space.
- Renovate/replace bleachers with closed decking.

SITE ANALYSIS | MIX STREET FIELD





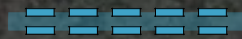
LEGEND:



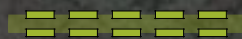
ACTIVE PROGRAMMING OPPORTUNITY



SOFTBALL FIELD



PARKING AREA



ACTIVE RECREATION AREA



24' HIGH BACKSTOP



6' HIGH CHAIN LINK FENCE



4' HIGH CHAIN LINK FENCE



VEHICULAR ENTRANCE



SPORTS LIGHTING



SLOPE DIRECTION

1

SOFTBALL FIELD

- Natural Grass Field with Infield Mix
- Right Field = 300' Left Field = 300'
- Galvanized Chain Link Fence
 - 24' High at Backstop
 - 5' High Surrounding Field
 - 4' High at Dugouts
- 5-Row Bleacher Behind Backstop
- 6 Sports Light Fixtures

2

OPEN PRACTICE FIELD

- Natural Grass
- Approximately 260' x 160'

3

PARKING AREA

- Informal Parking Area
- Gravel Lot
- Currently Roped off with Concrete Blocks at Entrance



EXISTING CONDITIONS | MIX STREET FIELD



CHAIN LINK FENCE IS IN NEED OF REPAIR



NO WALKWAY OR PAVEMENT AT ENTRANCE TO FACILITY



**NO CURB CUT OR ACCESSIBLE ROUTE
LOCATED AT CROSSWALK**



**OPEN DECKING BLEACHER IS NOT UP TO
CURRENT CODE**



BUILDING IS IN NEED OF REPAIR



9 | MUZZY FIELD

Address: Muzzy Street

Property Size: 8.5 Acres

Zone: R-40

Facility Classification: Special Use

Site Overview

Muzzy Field is a natural grass baseball field located adjacent to Rockwell Park. Muzzy Field is the home of the Bristol Blues and is also used by Saint Paul Catholic High School and Bristol Central and Eastern High School for football and baseball. Muzzy Field is bound by Park Street to the south, Muzzy Street to the east, Dutton Avenue to the west and Jacobs Street to the north. The baseball field has outfield dimensions of 339' to left field, 402' to center field and 330' to right field. There is a brick-faced grandstand behind the backstop and 3rd base foul line with a seating capacity of approximately 4,900. The perimeter of the field is enclosed by chain link fencing and the field has sports lighting. Spectator access is located south of the field from a plaza and ticket booths located between Park Street and Muzzy Field. Plaza and pedestrian circulation improvements were installed between 2013-2014. Mature vegetation borders the outfield fence.

In the fall of 2020, renovations to Muzzy Field will include renovations to the existing irrigation system, regrading the field, and installation of new infield mix and sod. The lighting system will also be upgraded to an LED sports lighting system.

Parking

Parking associated with Dutton Avenue and Jacobs Street that is part of Rockwell Park can be used by spectators to Muzzy Field. Refer to Rockwell Park for parking information.

ADA Compliance

There is an accessible route from the sidewalks along Park Street into the plaza south of Muzzy Field and to the ticket booths and pedestrian circulation around the outside of Muzzy Field. Circulation inside Muzzy Field was not reviewed as part of this site analysis.

Recommendations

- None at this time.

SITE ANALYSIS | MUZZY FIELD

LEGEND:



HARDBALL



ACTIVE RECREATION AREA



PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION



VEHICULAR CIRCULATION



ADJACENT CIRCULATION



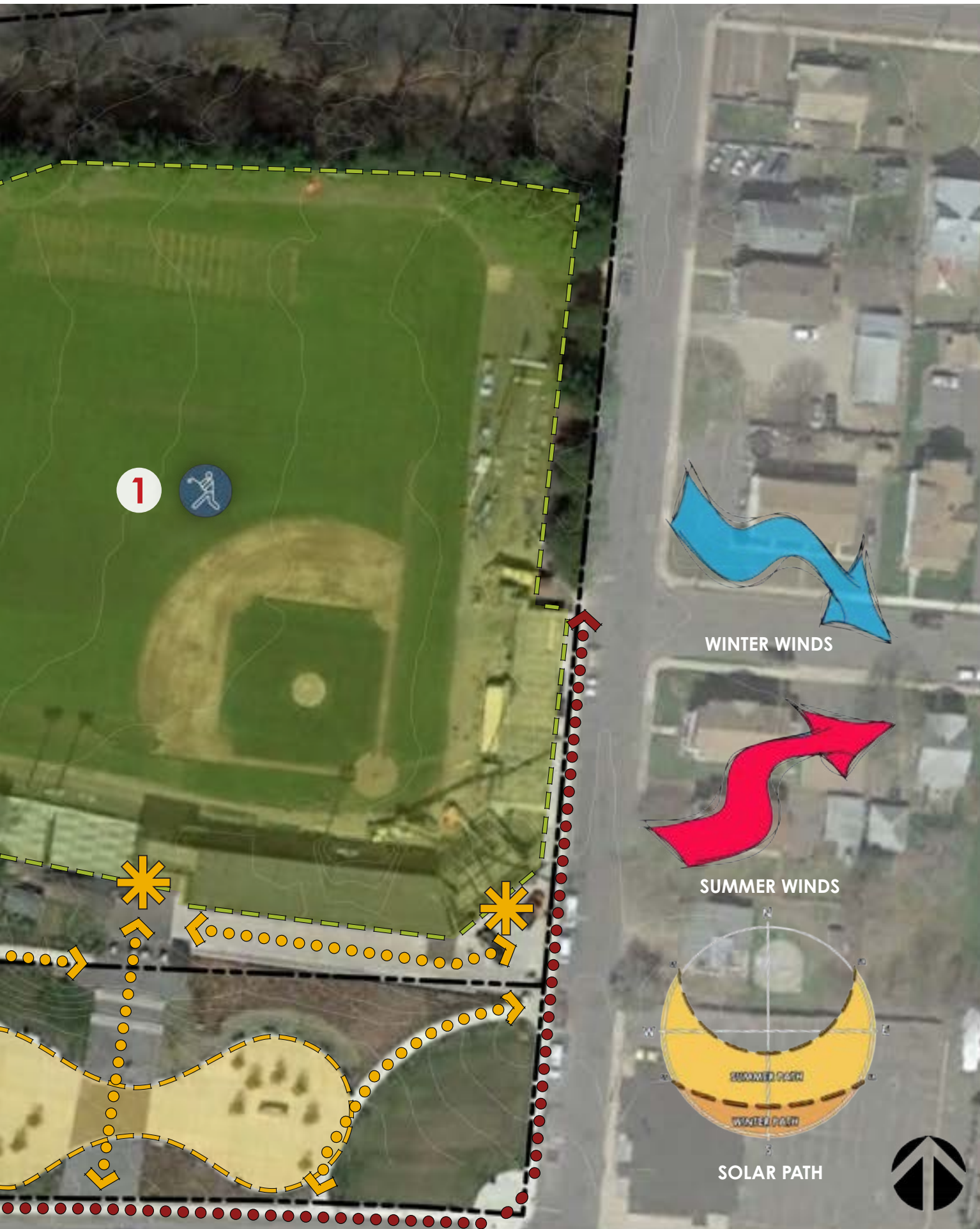
ACCESS POINT

1

MUZZY FIELD

- Natural Grass with Infield Mix
- Right Field=330'
- Center Field=402'
- Left Field=339'





10 | NELSON'S PARK

Address: Burlington Avenue

Property Size: 44.9 Acres

Zone: R-25

Park Classification: Open Space

Site Overview

Nelson's Park is an open space area. The park is bound by Maple Avenue along the northern edge and Burlington Avenue along the western edge. Private residences abut the property along the southern and eastern property lines. There is no defined entrance to Nelson's Park. There is a parking area located in the northwest corner of the property near the intersection of Burlington Avenue and Maple Avenue. There are no formal amenities provided. There are sidewalks on the opposite sides of Burlington and Maple Avenues, however there are no crosswalks providing connection to the parking area.

There are no formalized trails within the park. There are worn paths that lead into the wooded areas, but no clearly defined paths. The park is used for passive recreation and noted particularly for bird watching and sledding.

Polkville Avenue Brook runs through the northeast portion of the site. There are several tributaries that are connected to the Brook and bordering vegetated wetlands adjacent to these tributaries. There are also a few water bodies located in the middle and southern portion of the site.

Parking

There is an informal gravel parking area that has two access points off of Burlington Avenue. The parking area is bound by logs and doesn't have permanent parking spaces marked out. There are areas where grass and weeds are beginning to grow within the parking area and the asphalt apron from Burlington Avenue into the parking area is damaged. There was also an area where the gravel was beginning to erode. Runoff is being channelized in this area and is beginning to cause erosion in the grass area.

ADA Compliance

There are no accessible entrances to the park, no accessible parking spaces, or accessible walkways internal to the park.

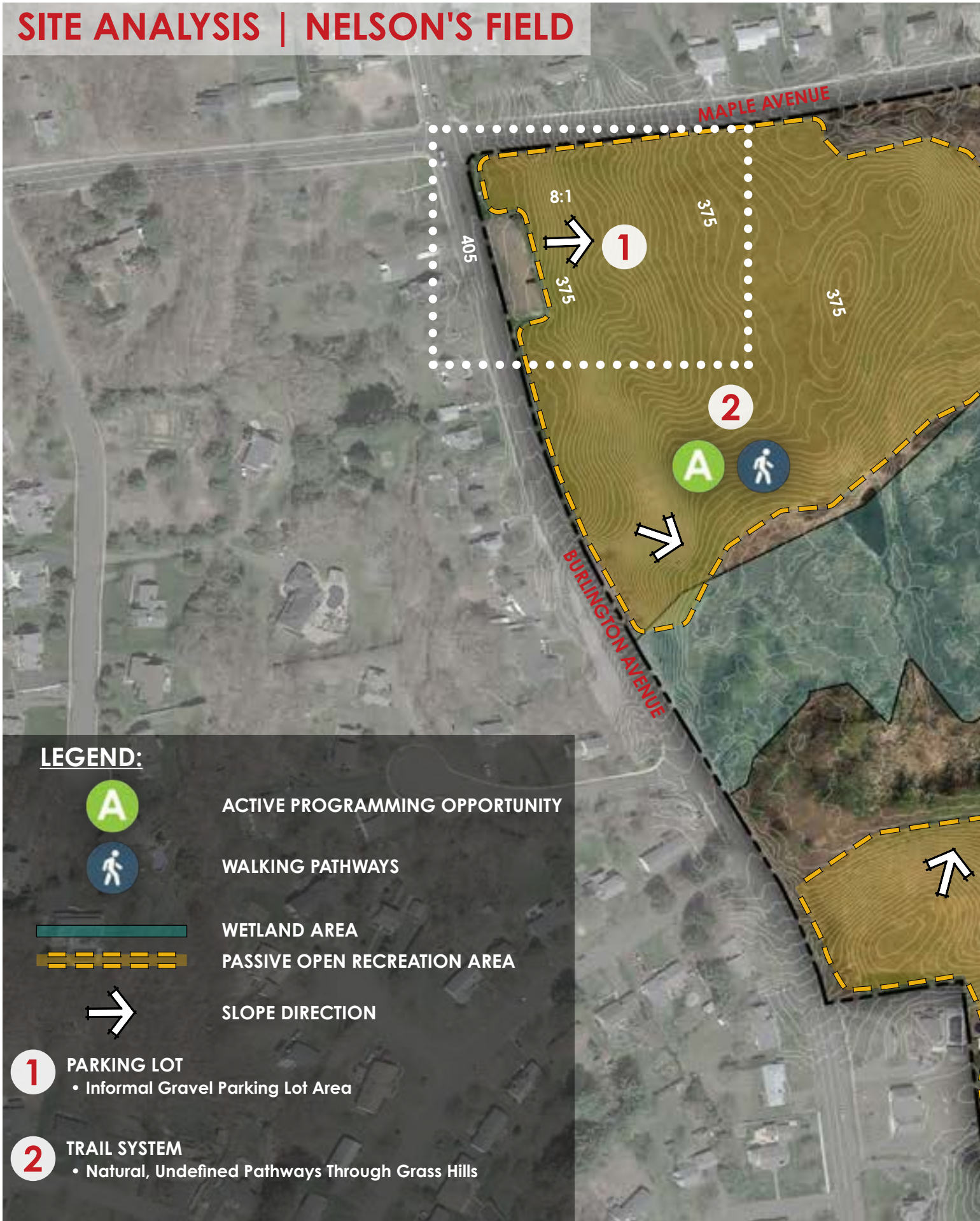
Opportunities

- A trail system could be developed within the park. There are a series of streams and ponds in the woods that could provide educational opportunities.
- Regrade existing open space to provide space for organized sports.

Recommendations

- Pave parking area with formalized parking spaces and accessible access into the park.

SITE ANALYSIS | NELSON'S FIELD



LEGEND:



ACTIVE PROGRAMMING OPPORTUNITY



WALKING PATHWAYS



WETLAND AREA



PASSIVE OPEN RECREATION AREA



SLOPE DIRECTION

1

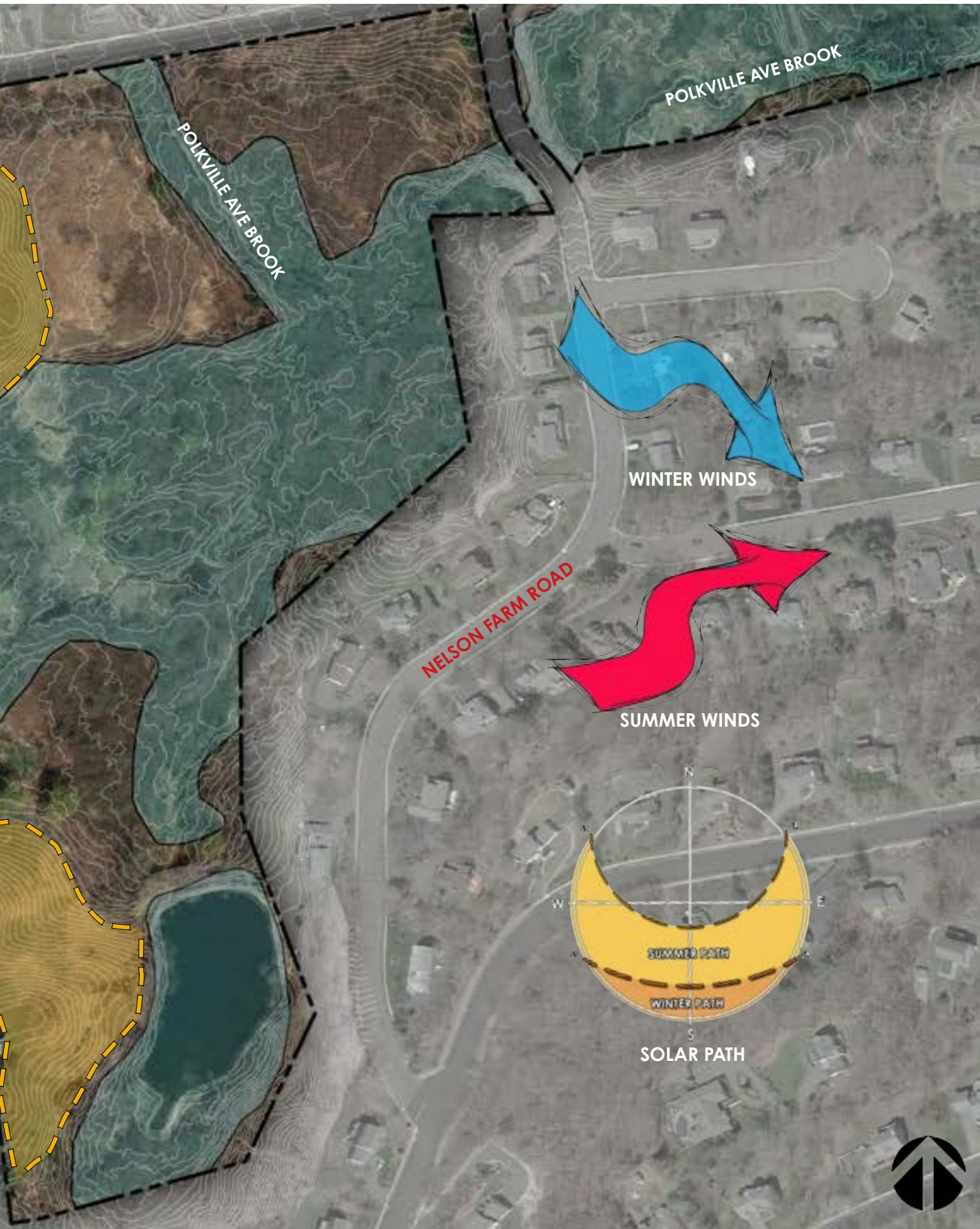
PARKING LOT

- Informal Gravel Parking Lot Area

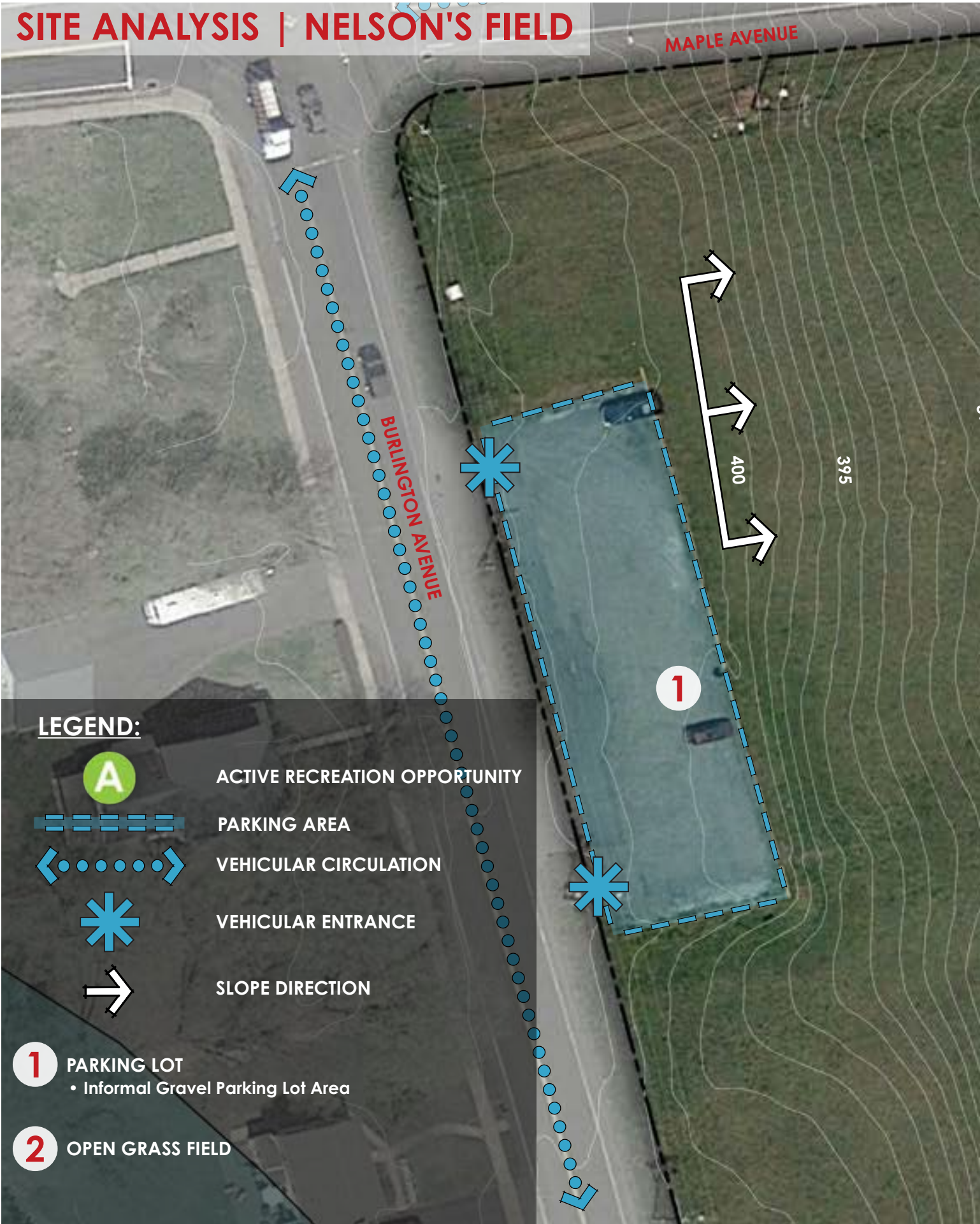
2

TRAIL SYSTEM

- Natural, Undefined Pathways Through Grass Hills



SITE ANALYSIS | NELSON'S FIELD



LEGEND:



ACTIVE RECREATION OPPORTUNITY



PARKING AREA



VEHICULAR CIRCULATION



VEHICULAR ENTRANCE



SLOPE DIRECTION



PARKING LOT
• Informal Gravel Parking Lot Area



OPEN GRASS FIELD

FLARED END
SECTION

370



375

380

385



EXISTING CONDITIONS | NELSON'S FIELD





11 | PAGE PARK

Address: King Street

Property Size: 80.6 Acres

Zone: R-40

Park Classification: Community

Site Overview

Page Park is a large City park area that is bound primarily by private residences. Bristol Eastern High School is located east of one of the park's main entrances off of King Street. The park can also be accessed from Woodland Street and Page Avenue. Dewitt Drive and Dewitt Page Park Road provide the primary vehicular circulation through the park. The park includes the following amenities:

- Softball Field (330' Right Field, shared left field with hardball field, chain link fence backstop and 4' high fence at team areas, skinned infield, sports lighting and 2 5-row bleacher units)
- Hardball Field (330' Left Field, shared right field with softball field, 24' high chain link fence backstop, skinned infield, and 2 5-row bleacher units)
- Tennis Courts (5 post-tension tennis courts with 10' chain link fence around perimeter and lighting)
- Playground (2-5 years old and 5-12 years old) 2 play structures, 2 swing sets, splash pad, various ground level elements with a combination of wood mulch surfacing and poured-in-place surfacing
- Basketball Court with 4' high chain link fence around perimeter
- Ski Lodge
- Outdoor Pool and Bathhouse
- Lagoon (viewing and stocked fishing area)
- Page Park Pavilion with deck overlooking pond
- Upper Playground Shelter with dirt floor and picnic tables
- Horseshoe Pavilion with dirt floor and picnic tables
- Horseshoe Courts (6 courts)
- Recreation Division Building Area
- Disc Golf Course (18 holes)
- Ingraham Field (open natural grass space)
- Formal and informal parking

All of the amenities can be accessed Dewitt Drive and Dewitt Page Road. The main entrance to the park is at the traffic light at the intersection of Dewitt Page Road and King Street. There is a small wooden sign at this entrance identifying "Page Park". The entrance off Woodland Street has an "Ingraham Park" sign. There is no signage at the other entrances.

Dewitt Drive and Dewitt Page Park Road are approximately 20 feet in wide and since there is no formalized sidewalk or a shoulder adjacent to the roads that pedestrians can utilize, these roads are used for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Orchard Park Road, which connects the Page Park Pavilion and Ingraham Field, has been blocked off to vehicular traffic for at least 15 years due to its condition. The road is primarily used by pedestrians. The only formal pedestrian circulation at the park is at the playground, parking lot and basketball court area.

The bathhouse, outdoor pool and exiting parking lot have recently been renovated.

The softball and hardball fields currently share outfield space which does not allow both fields to be used at the same time. The post-tension tennis courts were renovated a few years ago. The existing basketball courts have cracks in them are in need of repair. The Disc Golf Course is one of the most highly rated course in Connecticut. In spring of 2019, a rain garden was established adjacent to the ski lodge.

Parking

There are three formal paved parking areas in Page Park and three other informal parking areas. One paved parking area is at the King Street entrance next to the playground and the basketball court. There are 33 spaces including 2 accessible spaces. There are portions of the asphalt berm that is damaged or missing. Another paved parking area is associated with the outdoor pool and bathhouse renovation. The parking lot will have 34 parking spaces including 2 accessible spaces. The third paved parking area is associated with the Page Park Pavilion Pond. The area is striped for 7 cars including one accessible space. There is additional parking next to the fishing platform that is not striped but has room for approximately 4 cars.

One of the informal parking areas is at the King Street entrance near the softball field and tennis courts. Another informal parking area is at Ingraham Field. The third informal parking area is located near the first tee of the disc golf course. Cars park between the trees and wherever they could find space. Cars also park on the side of the road near the disc golf course.

ADA Compliance

There are no formalized walkways or accessible routes to the softball field, hardball field, and tennis courts. The team areas are stone dust and do not have wheelchair access or space adjacent to the existing benches.

The drinking fountain behind the softball backstop seems to be one for use by a standing person and it does not connect to an accessible route. While there is a drinking fountain that is compliant for use by someone in a wheelchair in the playground area, consideration to installing a new drinking fountain compliant for use by a standing person and a person in a wheelchair should be taken to promote equitable use of the ball field and tennis court space.

There is an accessible route from the parking area into the playground area and the Ski Lodge building. There is not an accessible route from the parking area into the basketball court due to a curb between the parking area and basketball court.

The parking area near the King Street entrance has two accessible parking space which is adequate for a parking area of its size. However, one space should be sized for a van and signed as such. Each parking space has an accessible aisle associated with it; however, both are too narrow. The western most accessible aisle would require the accessible route to travel behind the parked vehicle which ADAAG states is not preferred. Two spaces are allowed to share one accessible aisle. The parking spaces and accessible aisles should be reorganized and connect the aisle directly to an accessible route without travel behind vehicles.

The fishing platform that is located by the Page Park Pond complies with ADAAG requirements.

The parking area associated with Page Park Pavilion and the fishing platform has one space designated as accessible which is appropriate of a parking area of this size, however it should be sized and signed for a van space. The slope of the space exceeds the allowable slope and it lacks a compliant accessible aisle.

There are no formalized walkways to the Upper Playground Pavilion, horseshoes pits and pavilions nearby and these areas also cannot be considered compliant with ADAAG.

Other Observations

There is a hill near the playground and basketball court that previously was used as a sledding and skiing hill with a two rope.

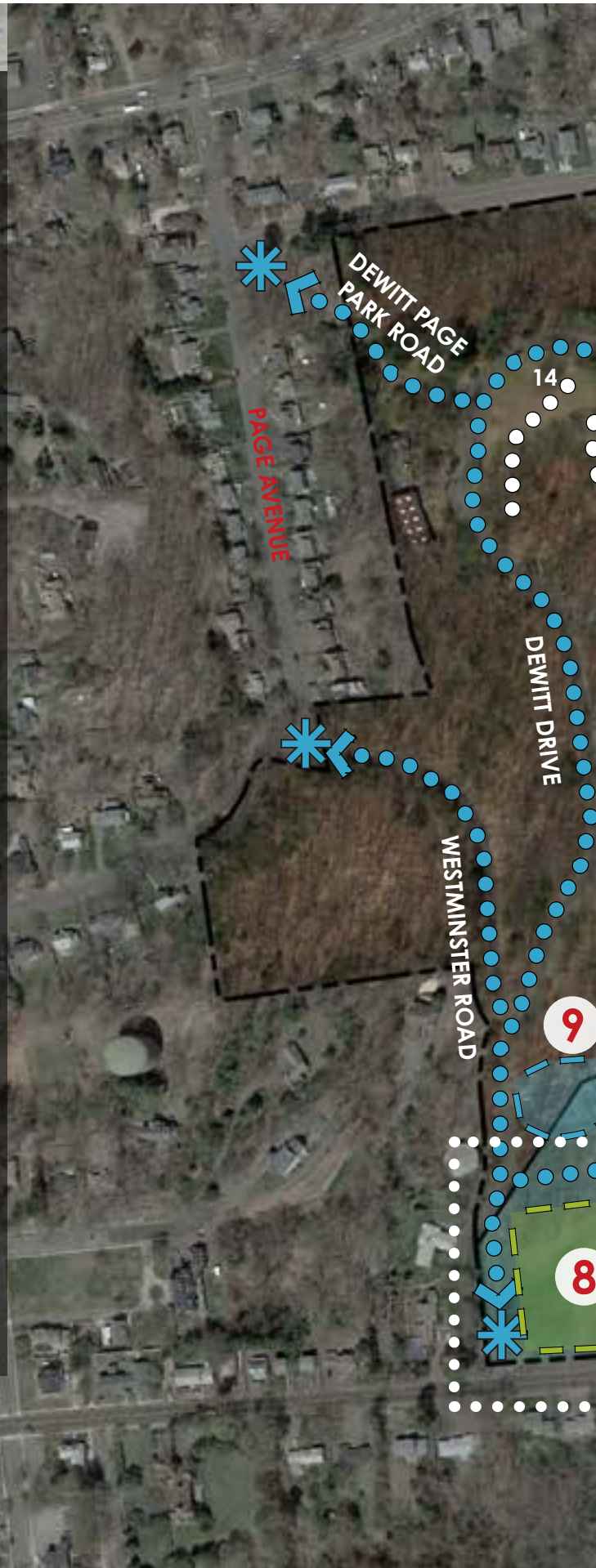
There is a stage area near the playground and basketball court. It has been vandalized and the Department noted it has not been used for some time.

Recommendations

Refer to Page Park Master Plan.

SITE ANALYSIS | PAGE PARK

- 1 UPPER PLAYGROUND**
 - Wood Chip / Rubber Mat Surfacing
 - 2 Play Structures
 - 2 Swing Sets
 - Splash Pad Area
 - Chain Link Fence Enclosing Playground
- 2 BASKETBALL COURT**
 - Asphalt Court with Surfacing
 - 4' High Galvanized Chain Link Fence Enclosing Court
- 3 SOFTBALL FIELD**
 - Natural Grass Field with Infield Mix
 - Galvanized Chain Link Fence Backstop
 - Sports Lighting (6-Poles)
 - Two 5 Row Bleachers Along Foul Lines
- 4 HARDBALL FIELD**
 - Natural Grass Field with Infield Mix
 - Galvanized Chain Link Fence
 - 24' High at Backstop
 - 6' High At Dugouts
 - Two 5 Row Bleachers Along Foul Lines
- 5 TENNIS COURTS**
 - Post Tension Concrete Courts with Surfacing
 - Five Courts (78' x 36')
 - Surrounded by 10' High Chain Link Fence
 - Sports Lighting (7-Poles)
- 6 OUTDOOR POOL**
 - Currently Under Construction
- 7 PAVILION**
 - Event Building with Informal Parking
- 8 INGRAHAM FIELD**
 - Open Grass Area
- 9 DISC GOLF COURSE**
 - 18 Hole Disc Golf Course
 - Informal Parking Area





SITE ANALYSIS | PAGE PARK

LEGEND:



HARDBALL / SOFTBALL



TENNIS COURTS



INFORMAL PARKING AREA



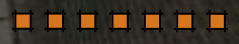
ACTIVE RECREATION AREA



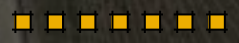
VEHICULAR CIRCULATION



24' HIGH CHAIN LINK FENCE



6' HIGH CHAIN LINK FENCE



4' HIGH CHAIN LINK FENCE



SLOPE DIRECTION

1

SOFTBALL FIELD

- Natural Grass Field with Infield Mix
- Galvanized Chain Link Fence Backstop
- Sports Lighting (6-Poles)
- Two 5 Row Bleachers Along Foul Lines

2

HARDBALL FIELD

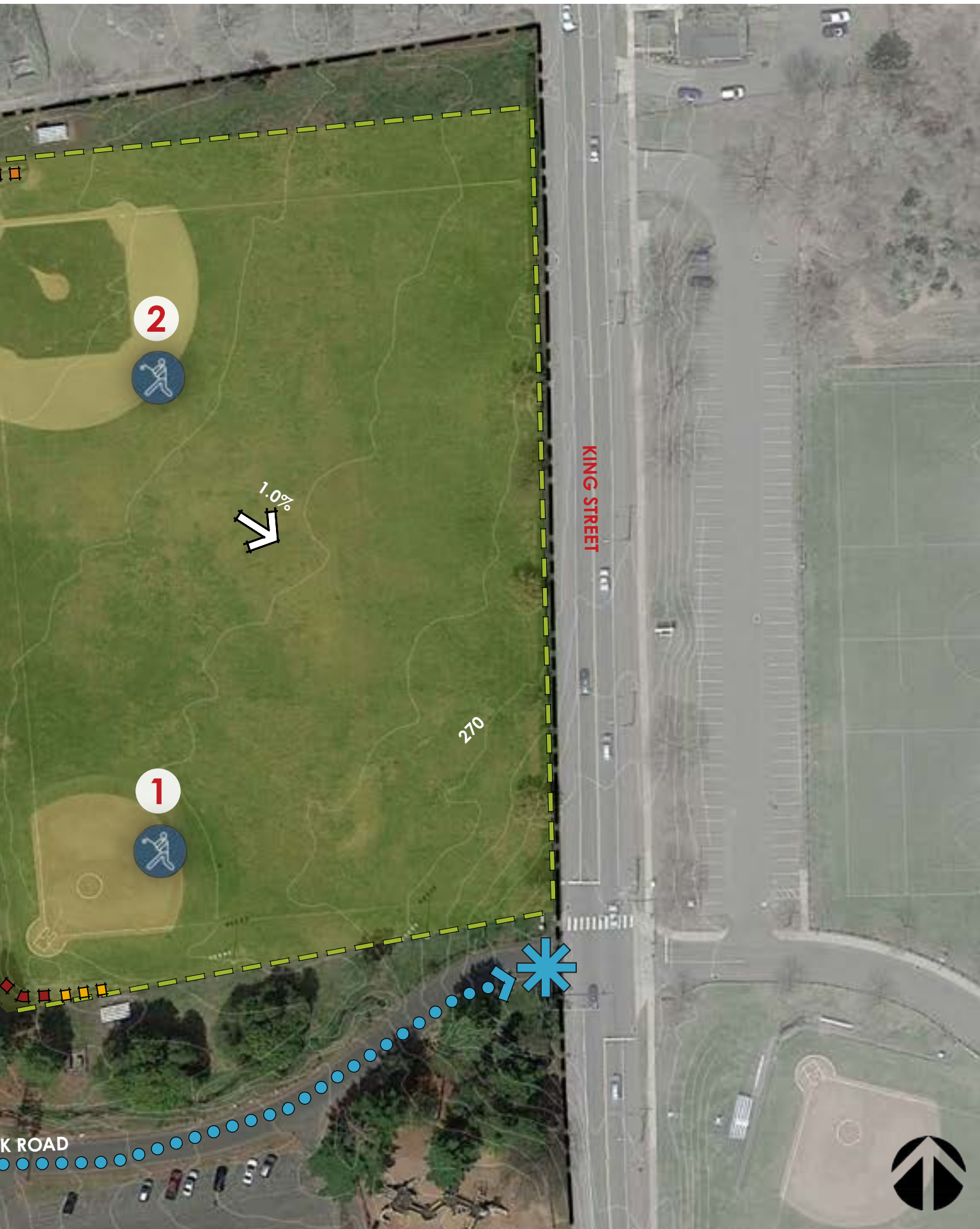
- Natural Grass Field with Infield Mix
- Galvanized Chain Link Fence
 - 24' High at Backstop
 - 6' High At Dugouts
- Two 5 Row Bleachers Along Foul Lines

3

TENNIS COURTS

- Post Tension Concrete Courts with Surfacing
- Five Courts (78' x 36')
- Surrounded by 10' High Chain Link Fence
- Sports Lighting (7-Poles)





SITE ANALYSIS | PAGE PARK



SPORTS LIGHT POLE IS LEANING



TENNIS COURT NOT FLUSH WITH ADJACENT LANDSCAPE



NO ACCESSIBLE ROUTE FROM PARKING TO HARBALL AND SOFTBALL FIELDS



INFIELD HAS BEEN RECENTLY RENOVATED



FIELD IS IN POOR CONDITION



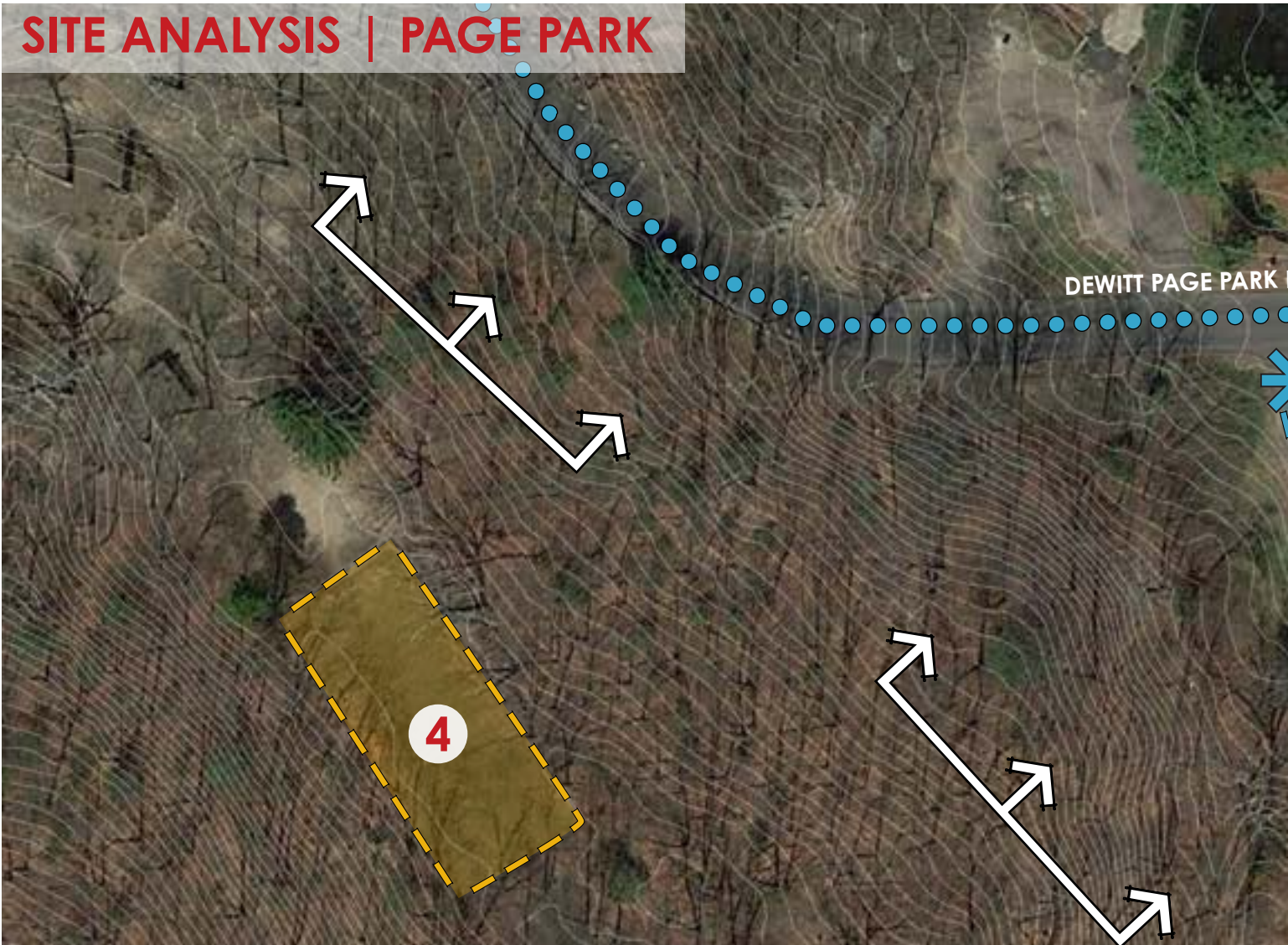
OPEN DECKING BLEACHER IS NOT UP TO CURRENT CODE



BACKSTOP IS SHORT AND SPORT LIGHTS ARE IN FIELD OF PLAY



SITE ANALYSIS | PAGE PARK



LEGEND:



GATHERING AREA



PLAYGROUND / TOT LOT



BASKETBALL COURT



PARKING AREA



ACTIVE RECREATION



PEDESTRIAN ACCESS POINT



VEHICULAR ENTRANCE



SLOPE DIRECTION

1

UPPER PLAYGROUND

- Wood Chip / Rubber Mat Surfacing
- 2 Play Structures
- 2 Swing Sets
- Splash Pad Area
- Chain Link Fence Enclosing Playground

2

BASKETBALL COURT

- Asphalt Court with Surfacing
- 4' High Galvanized Chain Link Fence Enclosing Court

3

SKI LODGE

4

HORSESHOE PITS



SITE ANALYSIS | PAGE PARK



NO ACCESSIBLE ACCESS TO BASKETBALL COURT



COURT ASPHALT AND SURFACING IS IN NEED OF REPAIR



ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES DO NOT MEET CURRENT ADAAG REQUIREMENTS



THERE ARE ACCESSIBLE ROUTES TO THE SKI LODGE



SURFACING IS IN NEED OF REPAIR

SITE ANALYSIS | PAGE PARK

LEGEND:



ACTIVE PROGRAMMING OPPORTUNITY



WETLAND AREA



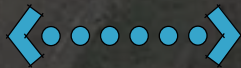
INFORMAL PARKING AREA



ACTIVE RECREATION



VEHICULAR CIRCULATION



PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION



VEHICULAR ENTRANCE

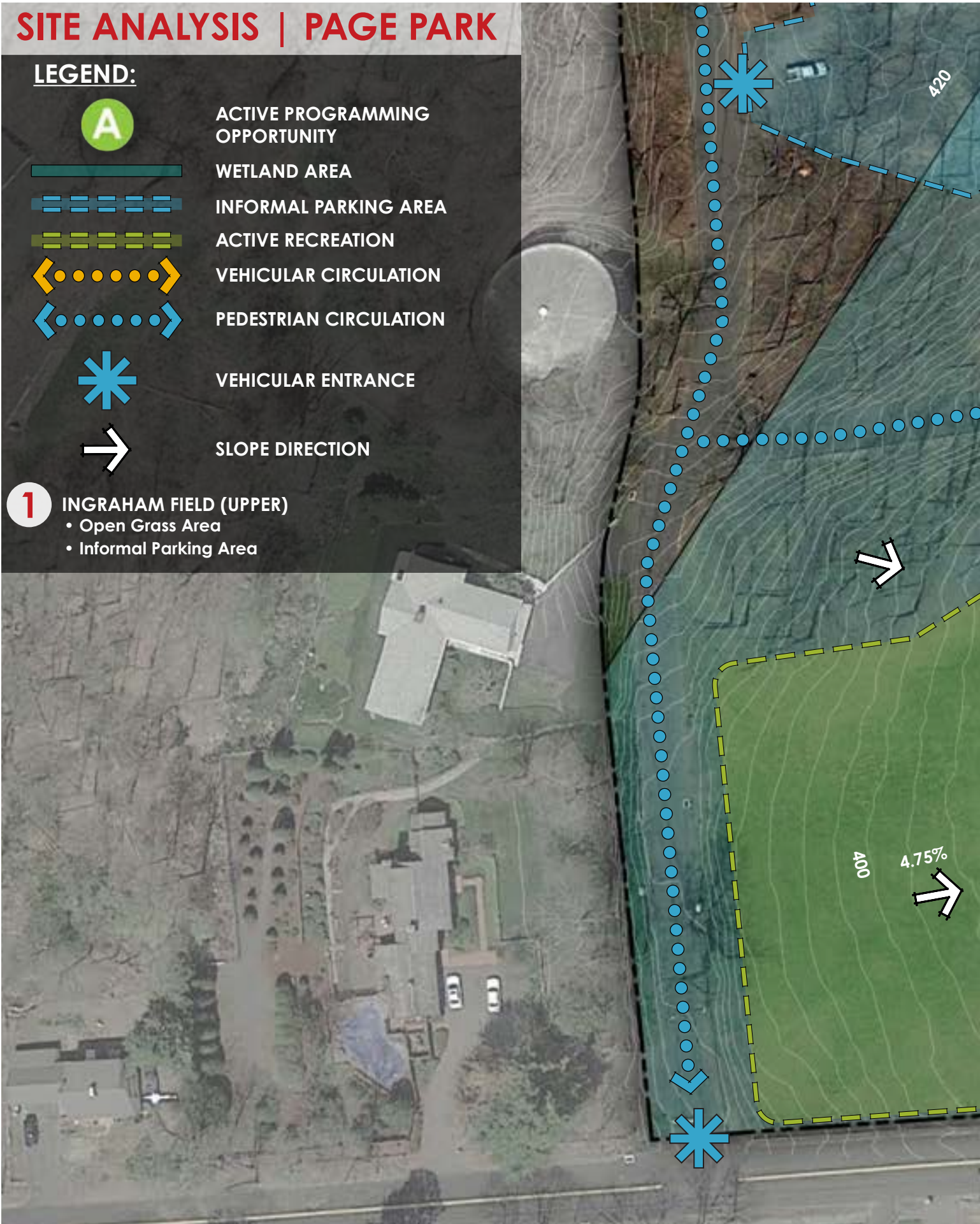


SLOPE DIRECTION

1

INGRAHAM FIELD (UPPER)

- Open Grass Area
- Informal Parking Area





SITE ANALYSIS | PAGE PARK



INFORMAL PARKING AREA FOR ENTRANCE TO DISC GOLF COURSE



SIGNAGE IN INTERIOR OF PARK



INFORMAL ENTRANCE INTO FIELD





LACK OF SIGNAGE AND ACCESSIBILITY AT ENTRANCE OF PARK

12 | PECK PARK

Address: Daley Street

Property Size: 7.0 Acres

Zone: R-40

Facility Classification: Neighborhood Park

Site Overview

The Peck Park hardball fields are leased and used exclusively by Forestville Little League, and Bristol Girls Little League Softball. Peck Park is bound by Greene-Hills School to the north and private residences to the west, east and south. The park includes the following amenities:

- Hardball Field #1 (200' outfield, 24' high chain link fence backstop, 30' high netting along the 1st base dugout, 6' high chain link fence at dugouts, 20' high netting in left field, skinned infield, wooden dugouts with concrete pads, support building for game management, bathrooms and concessions behind the backstop, and 2 wooden bleacher along each foul line roped off to not allow use)
- Hardball Field #2 (12' high chain link fence backstop, 6' high chain link fence at team areas with benches, skinned infield)
- Softball Field (190' outfield, 15' high chain link fence backstop, 6' high chain link fence at team areas, 4' high chain link fence in outfield and foul lines, 10' high netting down foul lines, skinned infield, and 5-row bleacher on 1st foul line)
- Batting / Bullpen Area with two batting tunnels with netting and one bullpen enclosed by 6' high chain link fence.
- Tennis Courts (4 asphalt tennis courts with 10' chain link fence around perimeter)
- Playground (2-5 years old, 1 play structure, 1 swing set, over wood mulch)

Access to Peck Park can occur through a gate and paved drive off of Daley Street or from Greene-Hills School. There is an asphalt drive that provides access to Hardball Field #1 1st base dugout and the north side of the support building. The remaining Hardball Field #1 amenities are accessed by gravel or grass. There is a chain link fence located north of the playground and softball field that provides access to the playground, softball field, tennis courts and Hardball Field #2. The softball field can be accessed by a steep gravel drive into the outfield. There is a drainage swale between the Hardball Field #1 outfield and softball outfield that makes access to the softball backstop and tennis courts difficult. Hardball Field #2 can also be accessed from the batting/bullpen area. The tennis courts have significant cracking and require repair or full replacement. The wooden bleachers are roped off to not allow use. None of the bleaches at the park meet current ADAAG codes for closed decking.

Parking

There are no parking signs along the access road from Daley Street into Peck Park. There are a few informal parking areas along the asphalt drive but there is no formalized parking.

ADA Compliance

The asphalt drive north of Peck Park can be used as accessible route to the support building ticket/concessions window and 1st base team area, however, there are no other paved accessible routes in Peck Park. This includes the 3rd base team area of Hardball Field #1, the batting/bullpen area, Hardball Field #2, the softball field, tennis courts, or playground.

The asphalt stops at the corner of the support building and does not provide paved access to the men's and women's rooms. There is an exterior staircase that provides access to the second floor of the support building, but there does not appear to be an accessible route to the second floor. There are no accessible parking spaces in Peck Park.

Recommendations

- Construct accessible routes to all the amenities within the park.
- Provide formalized parking (including accessible parking).
- Renovate tennis courts.
- Install concrete pads at all team/dugout areas.
- Renovate/replace bleachers with closed decking.

SITE ANALYSIS | PECK PARK

LEGEND:



HARDBALL / SOFTBALL



TENNIS COURTS



PLAYGROUND



ACTIVE RECREATION AREA



PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION



ACCESS POINTS



SLOPE DIRECTION

1

PLAYGROUND

- Wood Mulch Surfacing
- 1 Play Structure
- 1 Swing Set

2

HARDBALL FIELD #1

- Natural Grass with Infield Mix
- Galvanized Chain Link Fence and Backstop
- Team Areas
- Support Building
- Outfield=200'

3

BATTING/BULLPEN AREA

- 2 Batting Tunnels
- 1 Bullpen

4

SOFTBALL FIELD

- Natural Grass with Infield Mix
- Galvanized Chain Link Fence and Backstop
- Team Areas
- Outfield =190'

5

HARDBALL FIELD #2

- Natural Grass with Infield Mix
- Galvanized Chain Link Fence Backstop
- Team Areas

6

TENNIS COURTS

- Asphalt Courts with Surfacing
- 4 Courts (78' x 36')





EXISTING CONDITIONS | PECK PARK



**SWALE BETWEEN SOFTBALL OUTFIELD AND
HARDBALL FIELD #1**



**NO CONTINUOUS PAVED ACCESSIBILITY
ROUTE TO SUPPORT BUILDING RESTROOMS**



**NO ACCESSIBLE ROUTE TO SECOND
FLOOR**



TEAM AREA NOT ACCESSIBLE



EXISTING WOODEN BLEACHERS



TENNIS COURTS IN NEED OF REPAIR



TENNIS COURTS IN NEED OF REPAIR



13 | PINE LAKE

Address: Pine Street

Property Size: 54.6 Acres

Zone: R-40

Facility Classification: Community Park

Site Overview

Pine Lake is bound by Pine Street to the north, private residence to the south, east and west. The Pine Lake property also abuts Emmett Street to the south and Birch Street to the east. Pine Lake is leased to the Bristol Soccer Club that uses pavilion and natural grass soccer fields. The Pine Lake Adventure Park is also located on the property between the northeast corner of the soccer fields and Birch Street. Pine Lake can be accessed from Pine Street. There is a chain link fence that surrounds the perimeter of the field. In the summer of 2020, remediation work will occur to include removal of twelve inches of sediment in the contaminated wetlands and planting close to 1,000 trees to replace the 600 that will be removed.

Parking

The parking lot associated with Pine Lake property is accessed from Emmett Street. The driveway aisles are paved and the parking spaces are gravel. The parking spaces are defined by wheel stops and there are approximately 230 standard parking spaces. There are seven accessible parking spaces located adjacent to the pavilion. There is also a small parking area off of Pine Street with four parking spaces, one of which is accessible.

ADA Compliance

There is an accessible route from the accessible parking spaces adjacent to the pavilion to the pavilion, soccer fields and flagpole area. There is no accessible route from the accessible parking area off of Pine Street to the sidewalk along Pine Street. The flagpole and viewing area north of Pine Lake off of Pine Street is accessible. There is no accessible route from the parking lot to the Adventure Park .

Recommendations

- Accessible route from accessible parking at Pine Street to the street's sidewalk.
- Build indoor programming facility to host camps, programs, or groups using facility.
- Activate natural aquatic facilities in the city with a kayak/boat ramp to expand programming.

SITE ANALYSIS | PINE LAKE

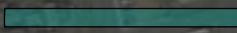
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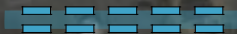
SOCCER



ACTIVE PROGRAM (PINE LAKE CHALLENGE COURSE)



WETLAND AREA



PARKING AREAS



ACTIVE RECREATION AREAS

1

MULTI-PURPOSE SOCCER FIELD

- Natural Grass
- Approximately 450' x 475' (4 Fields)

2

PINE LAKE CHALLENGE COURSE

3

BRISTOL SOCCER CLUB PAVILION AND PARKING AREA

- Approximately 240 Standard Parking Spaces
- 7 Accessible Parking Spaces

4

PARKING AREA

- 3 Standard Parking Spaces
- 1 Accessible Parking Space





14 | QUINLAN PARK

Address: Broad Street

Property Size: 0.13 Acres

Zone: I

Park Classification: Pocket

Site Overview

Quinlan Park is a veteran's memorial park located at the corner of Central Street to the east and Broad Street to the south. The Pequabuck River abuts the park to the north. There is a 4' high ornamental fence that runs along the northern property line where the slope drops down to the river. The park abuts the existing sidewalk parallel to Broad Street flush. The park includes the following amenities:

- Ornamental pavers
- Flagpole with uplighting
- Memorial plaques
- Forestville Honor Roll
- Benches
- Bus stop kiosk.

Parking

There are no parking facilities associated with Quinlan Park.

ADA Compliance







All amenities associated with the park appear to meet ADAAG requirements.

Recommendations

- Repaint/replace benches.
- Install a concrete pad adjacent to the sidewalk to relocate trash and recycling receptacles off of the accessible route. Consider exchanging plastic receptacles with metal receptacles.
- General maintenance.

SITE ANALYSIS | QUINLAN PARK

LEGEND:

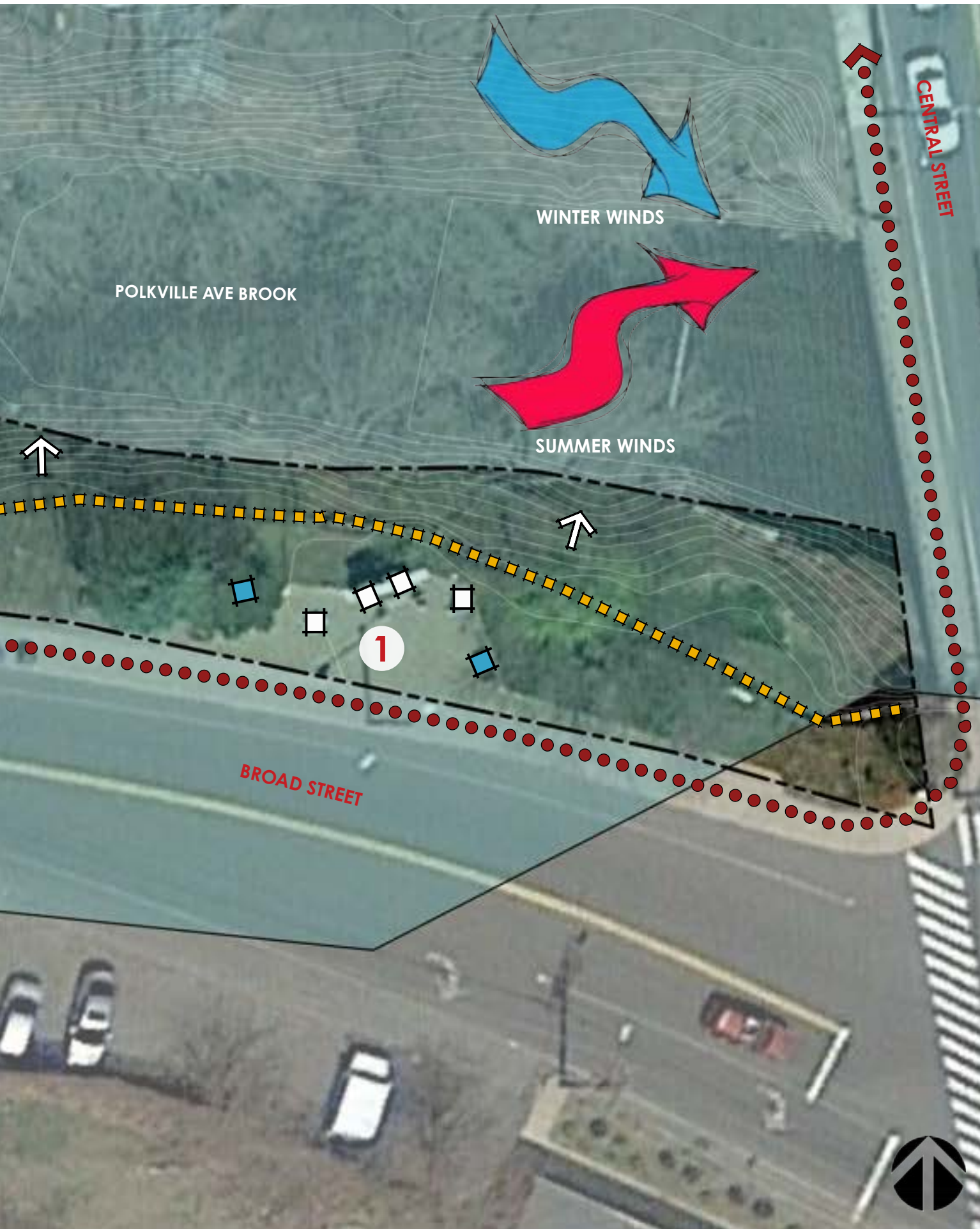
-  WETLAND AREA
-  PARK BENCH
-  MEMORIAL / SIGN
-  ADJACENT PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION
-  CHAIN LINK FENCE AT BORDER
-  SLOPE DIRECTION

- 1** QUINLAN PARK
- Open Plaza Space
 - 4' High Chain Link Fence Along River
 - Paver Field at Memorial Area
 - Honor Roll Sign
 - Bus Stop
 - Trash / Recycle Receptacles



SOLAR PATH





EXISTING CONDITIONS | QUINLAN PARK



PARK BENCHES AT MEMORIAL AREA



PAVER FIELD ADJACENT TO SIDEWALK WITH MEMORIALS





PARK SIGNAGE AND ORNAMENTAL FENCING ALONG RIVERFRONT



15 | ROBERTS PROPERTY

Address: Perkins Street

Property Size: 47 Acres

Zone: R-25 / R-40

Park Classification: Open Space / Nature Preserve

Site Overview

Roberts Property is located northwest of Birge Pond/Hoppers Pond. Roberts Property is a large open space that is utilized as a dog park. The trail system on Roberts Property connects to the Birge Pond/Hoppers Pond trail system. Roberts Property can be accessed from Perkins Street.

The property is bound by James P. Casey Road to the north, Perkins Road to the west, residential properties to the east and Birge Pond/Hoppers Pond to the south. The parking lot is located at the Perkins Street entrance. There is a sidewalk on the east side of Perkins Street that allows access into the property. There are two trails that are accessed from this parking lot.

Parking

The parking area at the Perkins Street entrance is paved and has 20 spaces including 2 accessible spaces. Neither are van accessible.

ADA Compliance

Trails are currently not regulated by ADAAG. However, regulations for trails have been set forth by the U.S. Access Board that oversees federally funded facilities. Should the City of Bristol want to make a portion of the trails within the Birge Pond/Hoppers property more equitable, these standards could be used as a guideline.

The parking area has two accessible spaces which exceeds what is required of a 20 spaces. One of the spaces should be a van accessible space. The accessible space on the south side of the parking lot connects directly to the trail that heads into the woods. The northern accessible space does not directly connect into a trail. There is a flush transition from the parking lot to the existing trails that heads east.

Other Observations

There are no trails maps provided at the entrances or within the trail area.

Recommendations

- Accessible parking improvements at the parking area to comply with ADAAG requirements.
- Enhance existing space with formalized trails and signage, steps from parking lot and invasive species management.

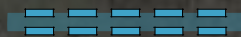
SITE ANALYSIS | ROBERTS PROPERTY



LEGEND:



ACTIVE PROGRAMMING OPPORTUNITY



PARKING AREA



PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION



ACCESS POINT



VEHICULAR ENTRANCE



SLOPE DIRECTION



1 PARKING LOT

- 20 Parking Spaces (2 Accessible Spaces)
- Access to Trail System



EXISTING CONDITIONS | ROBERTS PROPERTY



STEEP, NON ACCESSIBLE ENTRANCE TO TRAIL

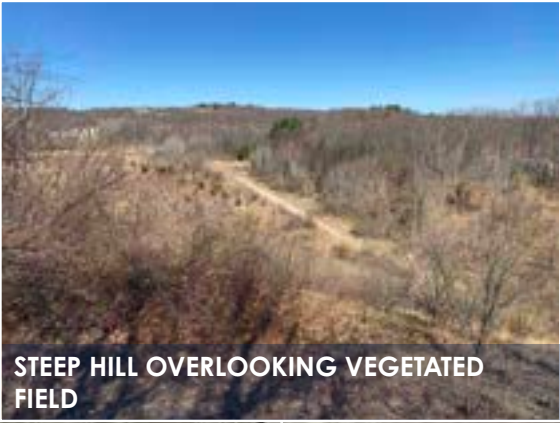


ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACE WITH STRIPING AND SIGNAGE. NON ACCESSIBLE ENTRANCE TO TRAIL IN BACKGROUND



ASPHALT PARKING LOT WITH PARK SIGNAGE





STEEP HILL OVERLOOKING VEGETATED FIELD



PARK SIGNAGE ALONG TRAILS



16 | ROCKWELL PARK

Address: Entrances on Jacob Street, Dutton Avenue, and Park Street

Property Size: ~98 Acres

Zone: R-40/R-15/RM

Park Classification: Community Park

Site Overview

Rockwell Park is a large park area that is largely surrounded by private residences and private businesses. Two other City Parks (Fraser Field and Muzzy Field) are located adjacent to Rockwell Park. Rockwell Park was included in the 2004 Master Plan study. Many of the recommendations outlined in the study were implemented between 2008-2010 including construction of the skate park, playgrounds, and volleyball courts and reestablishing the pond. The park includes the following amenities:

- Amphitheater
- Lagoon
- Fishing Pond with Boardwalk
- Playground (5-12 years old) with wood mulch surfacing
- Playground (2-5 years old) with wood mulch surfacing
- Water Spray Park with 3' high ornamental fence on three sides
- 18-hole Disc Golf Course
- Basketball Court enclosed by 8' high chain link fence
- Para-Fitness Course
- Open Natural Grass Field (painted for soccer)
- Dog Park enclosed by 3' high chain link fence
- Skate Park
- Two Sand Volleyball Courts with sports lighting
- Bocce Ball Court enclosed by 3' high chain link fence
- Horseshoe Pits (2 courts) with 3' high fencing
- Outdoor Pool enclosed by 8' high chain link fence and Locker Room Building
- Mountain Bike Trails
- Gazebo at Open Field
- T-Shelter
- Back Playground Shelter
- Mrs. Rockwell Pavilion
- Stone House
- Bathhouse
- Rockwell Park Maintenance Building

Main vehicular access into the park occurs from Rockwell Park Road North in the northern portion of the park and two entrances off of Jacobs Street and one from Park Street in the southern portion of the park. Pequabuck River runs through the park east/west between Rockwell Park Road North and Jacobs Street. There are pedestrian entrances to the park at the southern entrances.

There are several formalized walkways within Rockwell Park. There is a combination of paved and stone dust walkways that provide connection to the park amenities. Several of the stone dust walkways have edges that are not clearly defined due to gravel migration of grass beginning to grow within the walk. There are also portions of some of the stone dust walks that have no more stone dust and are just hard packed dirt.

Parking

There are four paved parking areas and one gravel parking area in the park. The main parking area is accessed from Jacobs Street and Park Street. This parking is located adjacent to Muzzy Field's outfield. There are 211 parking spaces, six of which are accessible. Another paved parking area is located south of the playground, skate park, volleyball courts and pool. There are 49 parking spaces, seven of which are accessible. Another paved parking area is off the entrance at the end of Tulip Street. There are 13 parking spaces, none of which are accessible. The fourth paved parking area is accessed from Rockwell Park Road North and is located north of the amphitheater/pond area. There are 18 parking spaces, none of which are accessible. The gravel parking area is associated with the dog park.

ADA Compliance

Due to the size of Rockwell Park, compliance with ADAAG was not specifically reviewed for each of the amenities, but apparent conflicts with the standards are summarized below:

- There are accessible routes at the vehicular entrances at Jacobs and Park Street. There are detectable warnings at the curb cuts and crosswalks within the parking lot.
- There is no accessible route to the bocce ball court and horseshoe pits.
- There are no accessible routes to any of the stone picnic tables near the Back Playground Pavilion. Picnic tables are not required to comply with ADAAG, however providing accessible route to them would promote equitable use of the space.
- There is a level change greater than 1/2" between the edge of the pavement and the wood mulch playground surfacing. This could indicate that the wood mulch surfacing is too low and needs to be supplemented.
- There are various areas where a level change of more than 1/2" is created at the transition between paved and stone dust walks.
- Slope and stability of stone dust walks should be reviewed for compliance.
- One accessible parking space and associated accessible aisle is required in the parking area off of Rockwell Park Road North, Tulip Street and the parking area at the dog park. There is also no accessible route from the parking off of Rockwell Park Road North and the internal walkways around the amphitheater.

Other Observations

There is pedestrian lighting throughout the park.

Recommendations

- Install accessible parking space and associated accessible aisle in the parking area off of Rockwell Park Road North, Tulip Street and the parking area at the dog park.
- Install additional stone dust in path locations where it is low.
- Playground upgrades.
- Upgrade para-fitness course to meet Adult fitness needs in community.

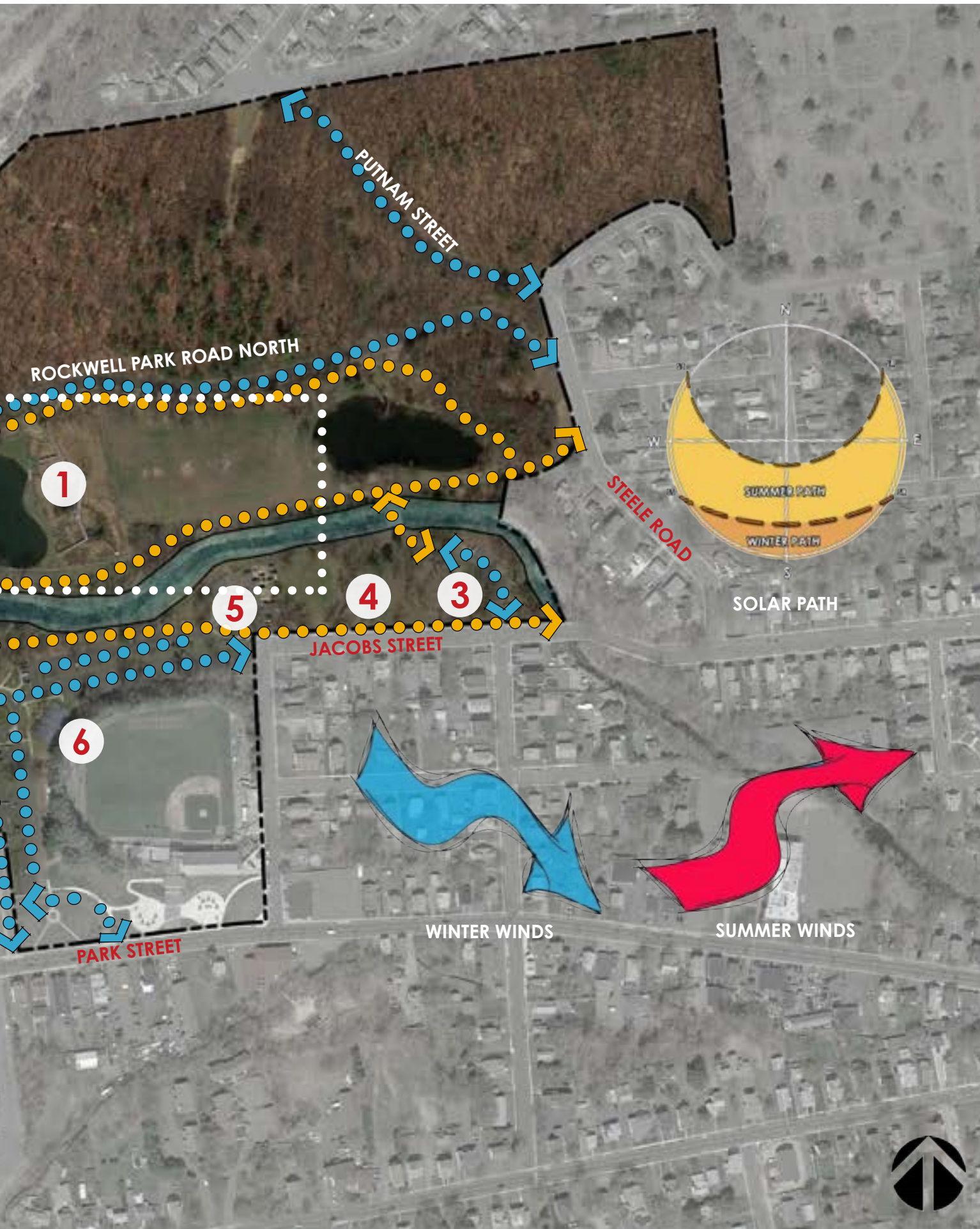
SITE ANALYSIS | ROCKWELL PARK

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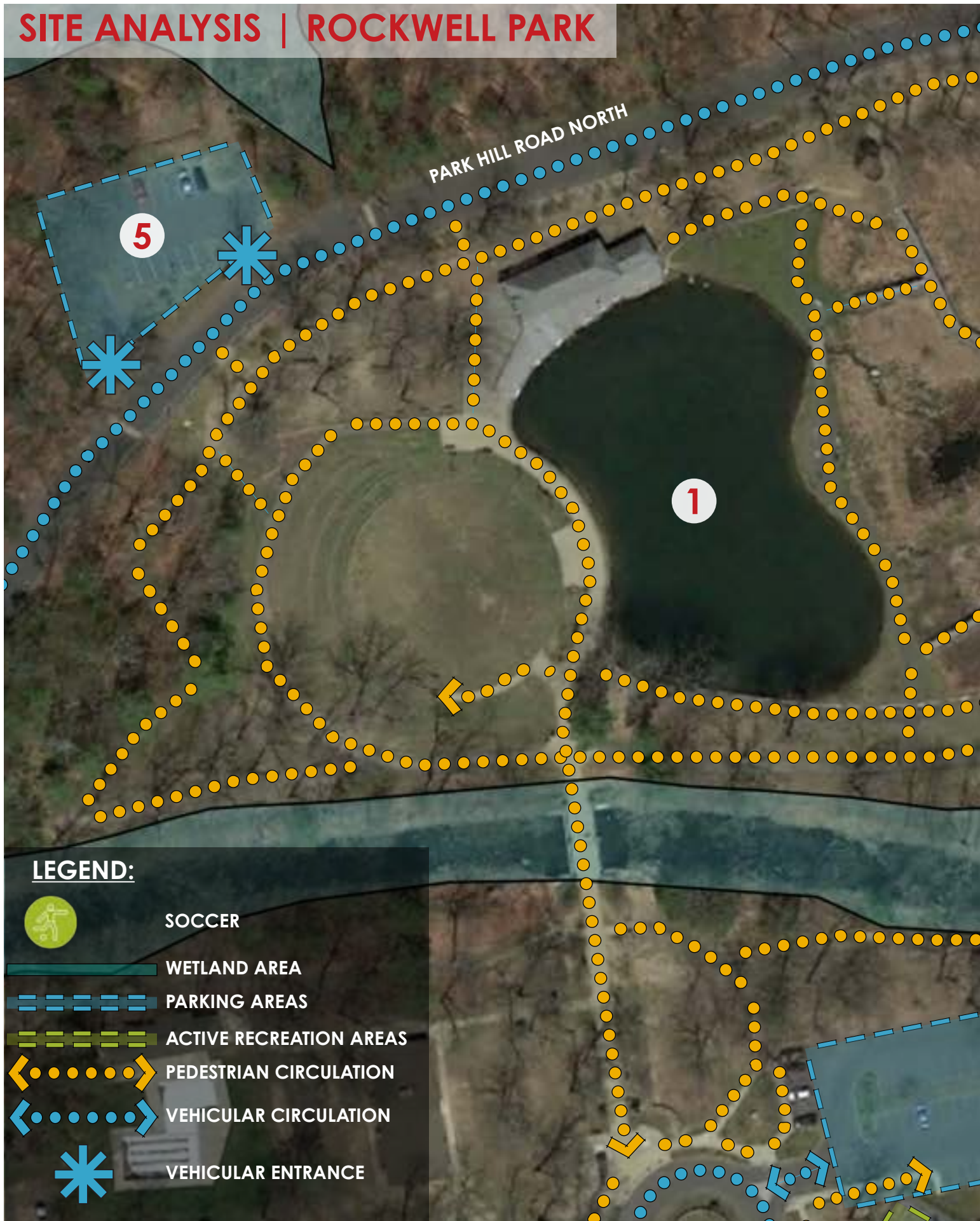
-  RIVERFRONT AREA
-  PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION
-  VEHICULAR CIRCULATION

- 1** AMPHITHEATER / BOARDWALK / OPEN FIELD
- 2** PLAYGROUND / SKATE PARK / POOL
- 3** STONEHOUSE AND PARKING AREA
- 4** SUMMER HOUSE PAVILION
- 5** MAINTENANCE BUILDING
- 6** OUTDOOR BASKETBALL COURT
- 7** B.A.R.K. PARK AND PARKING
- 8** DISC GOLF COURSE





SITE ANALYSIS | ROCKWELL PARK





SITE ANALYSIS | ROCKWELL PARK

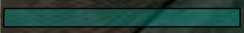
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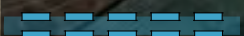
BASKETBALL COURT



PLAYGROUND / SPLASH PAD



WETLAND AREA



PARKING AREAS



ACTIVE RECREATION AREAS



PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION



VEHICULAR CIRCULATION

1

SKATE PARK

2

PLAYGROUND

- Multiple Structures with Wood Mulch
- Splash Pad
- T Shelter

3

OUTDOOR VOLLEYBALL COURTS (2)

4

BACK PLAYGROUND STRUCTURE

5

BOCCE AND HORSESHOE PITS

6

OUTDOOR POOL

7

PARKING AREA

- 49 Spaces (7 HC)

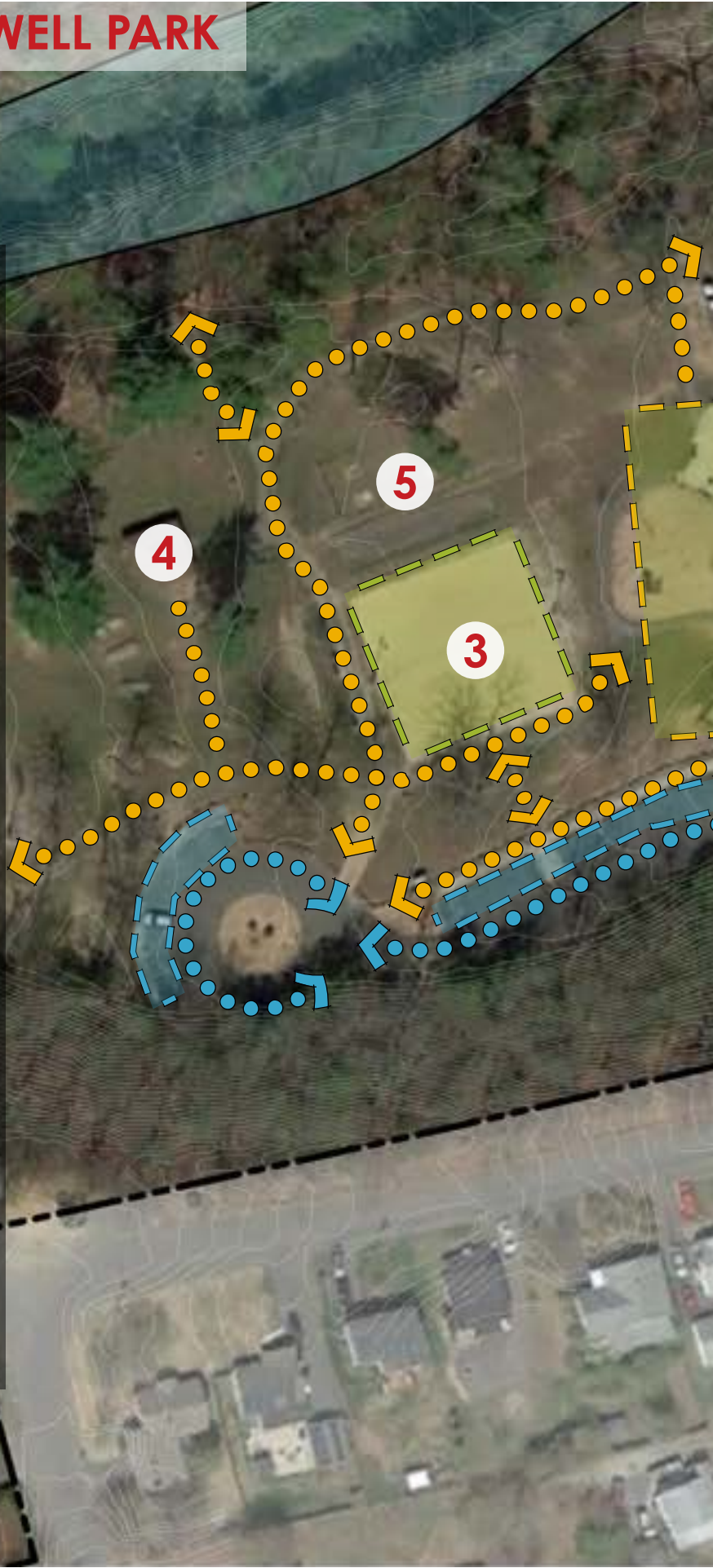
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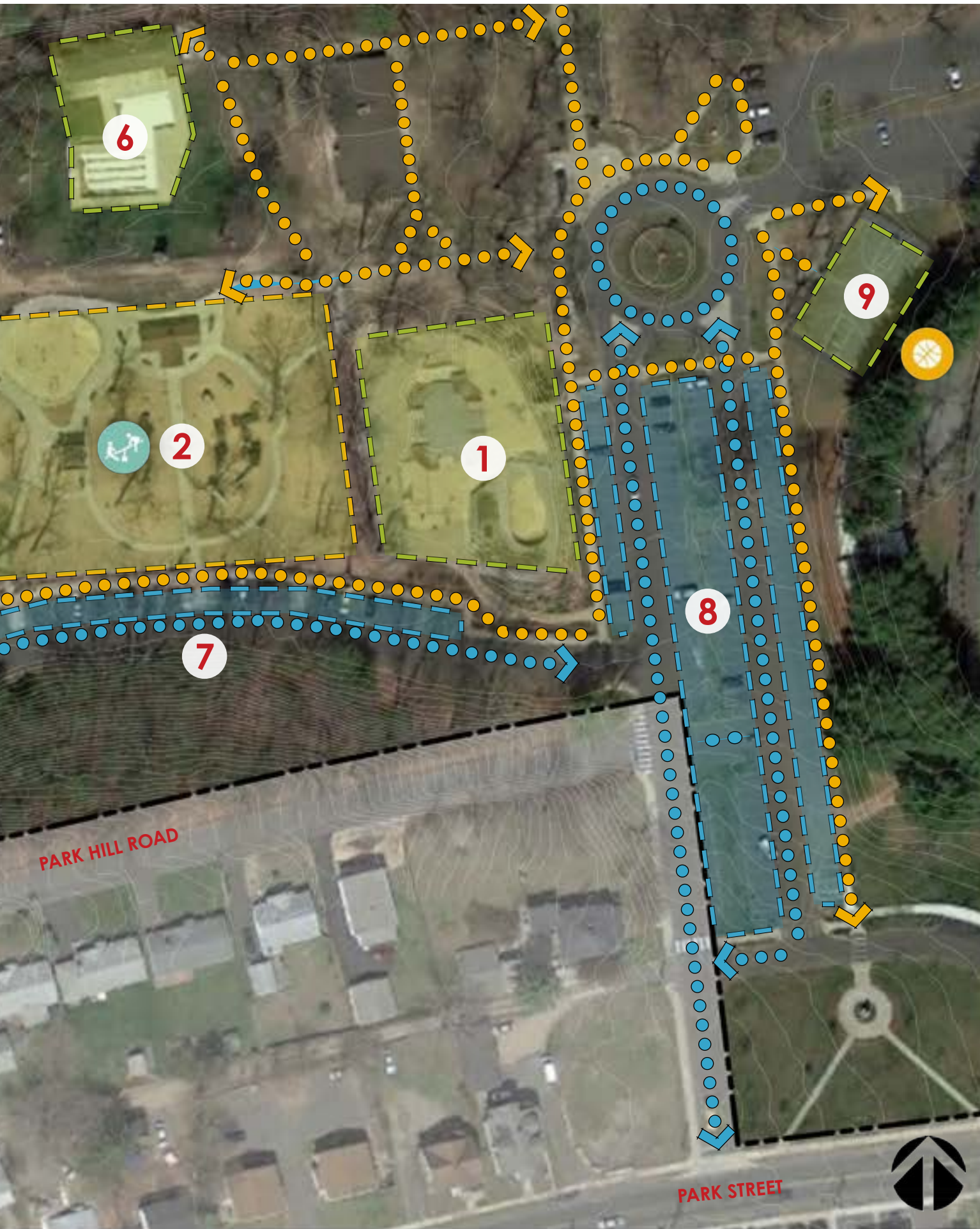
PARKING AREA

- 107 Spaces (6 HC)

9

OUTDOOR BASKETBALL COURT





EXISTING CONDITIONS | ROCKWELL PARK





STONE DUST WALKWAYS REQUIRE MAINTENANCE



CURB RAMP AND PAVEMENT SHOULD BE INSTALLED AT THIS ENTRANCE



STONE DUST / UNIT PAVER TRANSITIONS ARE NOT FLUSH AND REQUIRE MAINTENANCE



STONE DUST / UNIT PAVER TRANSITIONS ARE NOT FLUSH AND REQUIRE MAINTENANCE



NO ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES OR ACCESSIBLE ROUTE INTO PARK



EXISTING CONDITIONS | ROCKWELL PARK



BASKETBALL COURT NEEDS TO BE RESURFACED



PLAYGROUND AREA REQUIRES ADDITIONAL WOODEN MULCH



ADJACENT LANDSCAPE AT SKATE PARK HAS ERODED AND SHOULD BE ADDRESSED



FLAGPOLE DOES NOT MEET ADAAG REQUIREMENTS





17 | SEYMOUR PARK

Address: Shrub Road

Property Size: 5.2 Acres

Zone: R-40

Park Classification: Neighborhood

Site Overview

Seymour Park is bound by Shrub Road to the south, an equine facility to the east, business property to the north and the Harry C. Barnes Memorial Nature Center to the west. Access to the park is through a parking lot that has two access points off of Shrub Road. The park includes the following amenities:

- Hardball Field (90' baselines, 330' Left Field, 305' Right Field) with 24' high backstop fencing, 4' high fencing at the concrete team areas with benches and semi-portable bleacher along the 1st base foul line
- Tennis Courts (2 courts) with 10' high chain link fencing and tennis netting.
- Basketball Court with 4' high chain link fence along west end line and south sideline
- Playground (1 swing set and 1 play structure with mulch)
- Benches
- Parking

The tennis and basketball courts' asphalt has significant cracking that require the pavement to be completely renovated. The tennis court cracking appears to have been filled for the summer of 2020. The tennis court fence post footings have heaved above finished grade and require replacement. Per online GIS information, a portion of the playground appears to be on the abutting equine facility.

There are paved walkways internal to the park that connect the parking lot to the tennis courts, basketball court and playground.

Freeman Hill Brook abuts the western property line and the hardball field and parking lot are located within the bordering vegetated wetland buffer.

Parking

The paved parking lot has 51 parking spaces none of which are accessible.

ADA Compliance

The majority of the existing paved walkways are compliant with ADAAG. However, the cross slope on the walkway between the parking lot and basketball court exceeds the allowable 1:50 (2%). There is one curb cut that accesses the walkway south of the basketball court from the parking lot that is not compliant. There is not an accessible route connecting to the parking lot and internal walkways to the hardball field, team areas, or existing bleacher.

There are no handicap accessible parking spaces provided. Per ADAAG regulations, parking facilities with 51-75 total spaces require 3 accessible spaces (one of which shall be a van accessible). There are currently spaces within the parking lot that are striped to act as an accessible aisle, however, there is not a curb cut or accessible route from the parking aisle to the internal walkways. Both aisles have asphalt ramps from the parking to the existing walkway between the parking lot and hardball field to act as a curb ramp but do not meet current ADAAG requirements.

Recommendations

- Renovate walkway adjacent to the parking area to make complaint with ADAAG.
- Install three new handicap accessible parking spaces (1 van accessible space) along with appropriate curb cuts. Remove or replace existing curb cut south of basketball court.
- Construct an accessible route to the hardball field and associated team areas.
- Renovate tennis courts.
- Renovate basketball court.
- Renovate/replace bleachers with closed decking.
- Upgrade playground.

SITE ANALYSIS | SEYMOUR PARK

LEGEND:



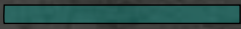
HARDBALL FIELD



TENNIS COURTS



BASKETBALL COURT



WETLAND AREA



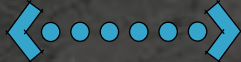
PARKING AREA



ACTIVE RECREATION AREA



PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION



VEHICULAR CIRCULATION



24' CHAIN LINK FENCE



4' CHAIN LINK FENCE



CURB RAMP



VEHICULAR ENTRANCE



SLOPE DIRECTION



1

RILEY BASEBALL FIELD

- Natural Grass Field with Infield Mix
- Right Field = 305' Left Field = 330'

2

TENNIS COURTS

- Asphalt with surfacing
- Surrounded by 10' High Galvanized Chain Link Fence
- Two 78' x 36' Courts

3

BASKETBALL COURT

- Asphalt with surfacing
- Shared 10' High Galvanized Fence with Tennis Courts
- 4' High Galvanized Fence on West and South Side
- One 84' x 50' Court

4

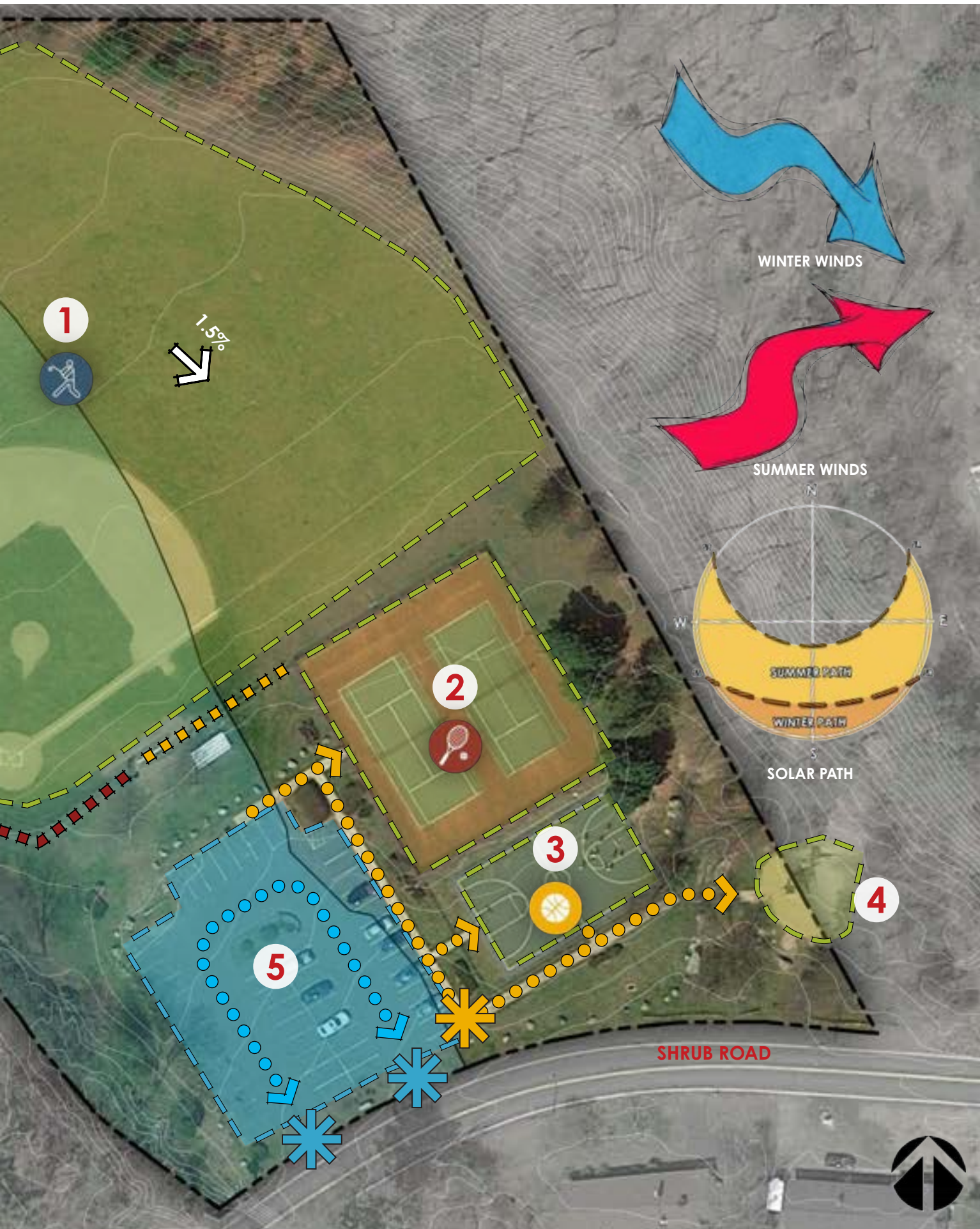
PLAYGROUND

- Wood Mulch Surfacing
- 1 Swing Set
- 1 Play Structure
- Two Benches

5

PARKING LOT

- 51 Parking Spaces
- No Accessible Spaces



EXISTING CONDITIONS | SEYMOUR PARK



DUGOUT FENCING IS NOT HIGH ENOUGH TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE PROTECTION



TENNIS COURT SURFACING IS CRACKING AND IN NEED OF REPAIR



ACCESSIBLE CURB RAMPS AT PARKING SPACES ARE NOT UP TO CURRENT CODE





BASKETBALL COURT SURFACING IS IN NEED OF REPAIR



ENTRANCE TO PLAYGROUND AREA



WALKWAY CROSS SLOPES TOO STEEP, CURB RAMP NOT UP TO CODE



18 | STOCKS PLAYGROUND

Address: Middle Street

Property Size: 2.26 Acres

Zone: R-40

Park Classification: Neighborhood

Site Overview

Stocks Playground was included in the 2004 Master Plan study. Many of the recommendations outlined in the study were implemented in 2007 including relocation and renovation of the basketball court and playground, renovation of the sand volleyball courts, and construction of the pathways.

Stocks Playground is bound by Casey Field to the west, Middle Street to the east, Lake Avenue to the north, and private properties to the south. There is an accessible route between Casey Field and Stocks Playground that is used to access the playground's amenities. There are two parking areas that support Stocks Playground; the northern playground that supports Casey Field as well and the southern parking area off Middle Street. There is a sign attached to a stone wall with piers at the intersection of Lake Avenue and Middle Street along with a curb cut and sidewalks that connect to the site's internal walkways. The park includes the following amenities:

- Basketball Court (50'x84' with surfacing and surrounded by an 8' high chain link fence)
- Playground (5-12 years old) with 2 structures, 1 swing set and 1 splash pad enclosed by a 3' high ornamental fence along Middle Street and 8' high chain link fence associated with the basketball and sand volleyball court
- Sand Volleyball (4 courts enclosed by 8' high chain link fence with lighting)
- Shade Structure (24'x30')
- Bathroom Building (11'x20')
- Site Lighting, Benches and Trash Receptacles

The two access points to the playground are located at the parking areas north and south of the playground. All of the amenities are accessed from a concrete sidewalk that runs north/south between Casey Field and Stocks Playground. The finished grade of the concrete walkways adjacent landscape is lower than the elevation the concrete and shall be addressed. The playground surface is wood mulch and the elevation of lower than the adjacent concrete pavement and should be supplemented with additional mulch. There are cracks in the basketball court pavement that require repair and resurfacing. The asphalt at the top of the wooden stairs that goes to the top of the sewer easement is in poor shape and should be repaired.

Parking

There are two parking areas that directly support Stocks Playground. The northern parking lot accessed from Lake Avenue is shared with Casey Field and has 91 parking spaces, five of which are accessible. The parking area south of the playground is accessed by Middle Street has 44 parking spaces, 2 of which are accessible, neither of which are van accessible.

ADA Compliance

The existing paved walkway between Casey Field and Stocks Playground meets ADAAG requirements. There are curb ramps at each of the two accessible parking areas, however, there are no detectable warning strips. The accessible route from the accessible parking spaces south of the basketball courts are made up of unit pavers that have settled, heaved and shall be reinstalled.

There is an accessible route from the 2 accessible parking spaces into the basketball court. The volleyball courts, playground, splash pad and support building can all be accessed from the accessible route between Casey and Stocks, however, the elevation of the wood mulch surface at the playground is lower than the adjacent concrete sidewalks and shall be supplemented with more mulch.

The parking area south of the playground has 2 accessible parking spaces but neither are van accessible. There is signage for these accessible parking spaces that meet ADAAG requirements. Refer to Casey Field Site Analysis for northern parking accessible parking observations.

Other Observations

There is a wooden guardrail that runs the length of the park adjacent to Middle Street.

There is pedestrian lighting throughout the park.

Recommendations

- Reset existing unit pavers adjacent to southern parking area accessible parking spaces so that the unit pavers meet flush with existing concrete pavement.
- Crack repair or full replacement of existing asphalt and resurface basketball court.
- Address ADAAG compliance issues at the playground entrances, additional wood chips surfacing should be installed (while still achieving ASTM-1951 compliance).

SITE ANALYSIS | STOCKS PLAYGROUND

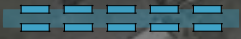
LEGEND:



BASKETBALL COURT



PLAYGROUND



PARKING AREA



ACTIVE RECREATION AREA



PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION



VEHICULAR ENTRANCE



SLOPE DIRECTION

1

OUTDOOR VOLLEY BALL COURTS

- 4 Sand Volleyball Courts
- Lighting
- Enclosed by 8' Chain Link Fence

2

PLAYGROUND AND SPLASH PAD

- 2 Structures
- 1 Swing Set
- 1 Splash Pad
- Restroom Building
- Enclosed by Fence on 3 sides
- Shade Structure Picnic Area

3

BASKETBALL COURT

- Surfaced Asphalt Court (84'x50')
- Enclosed by 8' Chain Link Fence

4

PARKING LOT

- 44 Parking Spaces (2 Accessible Spaces)





EXISTING CONDITIONS | STOCKS PLAYGROUND



BENCH AT VOLLEYBALL COURT ENTRANCE



SETTLEMENT AND CRACKING AT BASKETBALL HOOP FOOTING



BASKETBALL COURT IS CRACKING AND REQUIRES REPAIR AND RESURFACING



UNIT PAVERS AT ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES HAVE SETTLED AND AREN'T FLUSH



UNIT PAVERS AT ACCESSIBLE PARKING



SHADE STRUCTURE AT PICNIC AREA, MULCH ELEVATION IS LOW



PLAYGROUND REQUIRES ADDITIONAL MULCH



19 | WILSON PLAYGROUND

Address: King Street

Property Size: 2 Acres

Zone: R-10

Facility Classification: Neighborhood

Site Overview

Wilson Playground is bound by King Street to the west, Fifth Street to the south, Sixth Street to the north and private residences to the east. There is a sidewalk on the park side of King Street and a sidewalk across from Fifth Street. There is a crosswalk from the corner of Bernside Drive that runs across King Street. The crosswalk does not connect to curb cuts or accessible routes on either side of King Street. The park includes the following amenities:

- Softball Field (200' Left Field, 240' Right Field, 24' high chain link fence backstop, 4' high chain link fence in front of team areas, skinned infield, 2 5-row bleacher units and team benches in grass)
- Basketball Court with 3-row bleacher unit
- Playground (5-12 years old) 1 play structures, 1 swing sets, and wood mulch surfacing

There is a 6' high chain link fence that runs along the entire outside perimeter of the park. There are three breaks in the fence that provide access into Wilson Playground. One break in the fence is at the corner of King Street and Sixth Street. This is the only access point from the park that has access to a sidewalk. The other two fence access points are off of Fifth Street and Sixth Street. There are no sidewalks or crosswalks that provide pedestrian access into the park at these entrances. A stone sign for 'Wilson Field' sign is located at the corner of Fifth Street and King Street.

There are no internal paved pathways between the site amenities. A 4' high chain link fence separates the softball field, basketball court and playground from each other. Evergreen trees screen the playground on four sides and a row of evergreens is between the basketball court and softball left field. It appears that some vegetation near the playground has been removed.

The basketball court has significant cracking and is in need of a renovation.

The bleachers behind the softball backstop do not have handrails and do not meet the current building code requirements for bleachers.

Parking

There are no parking areas provided at Wilson Field.

ADA Compliance

There is a small curb ramp at the corner of Sixth Street and King Street, however the width does not meet the minimum requirements of ADAAG. There are no accessible routes to the fence openings that provide access into the park.

The team benches for softball are located in grass and there are no accessible routes to these areas.

Recommendations

- Install paved accessible routes to fence openings and accessible routes to the team areas, basketball court and playground.
- Renovate basketball court.
- Provide pavement at the team areas.
- Renovate/replace bleachers with closed decking.
- Install curb ramps on sidewalk adjacent to King Street.
- Upgrade playground.

SITE ANALYSIS | WILSON FIELD

LEGEND:



SOFTBALL



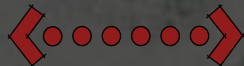
BASKETBALL COURT



PLAYGROUND



ACTIVE RECREATION AREA



ADJACENT PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION



24' HIGH CHAIN LINK FENCE



4' HIGH CHAIN LINK FENCE



ACCESS POINT



SLOPE DIRECTION

1 BASKETBALL COURT

- Asphalt with Surfacing
- One 84' x 50' Court
- 3 Row Bleacher Next to Court
- 4' Pavement Boundary

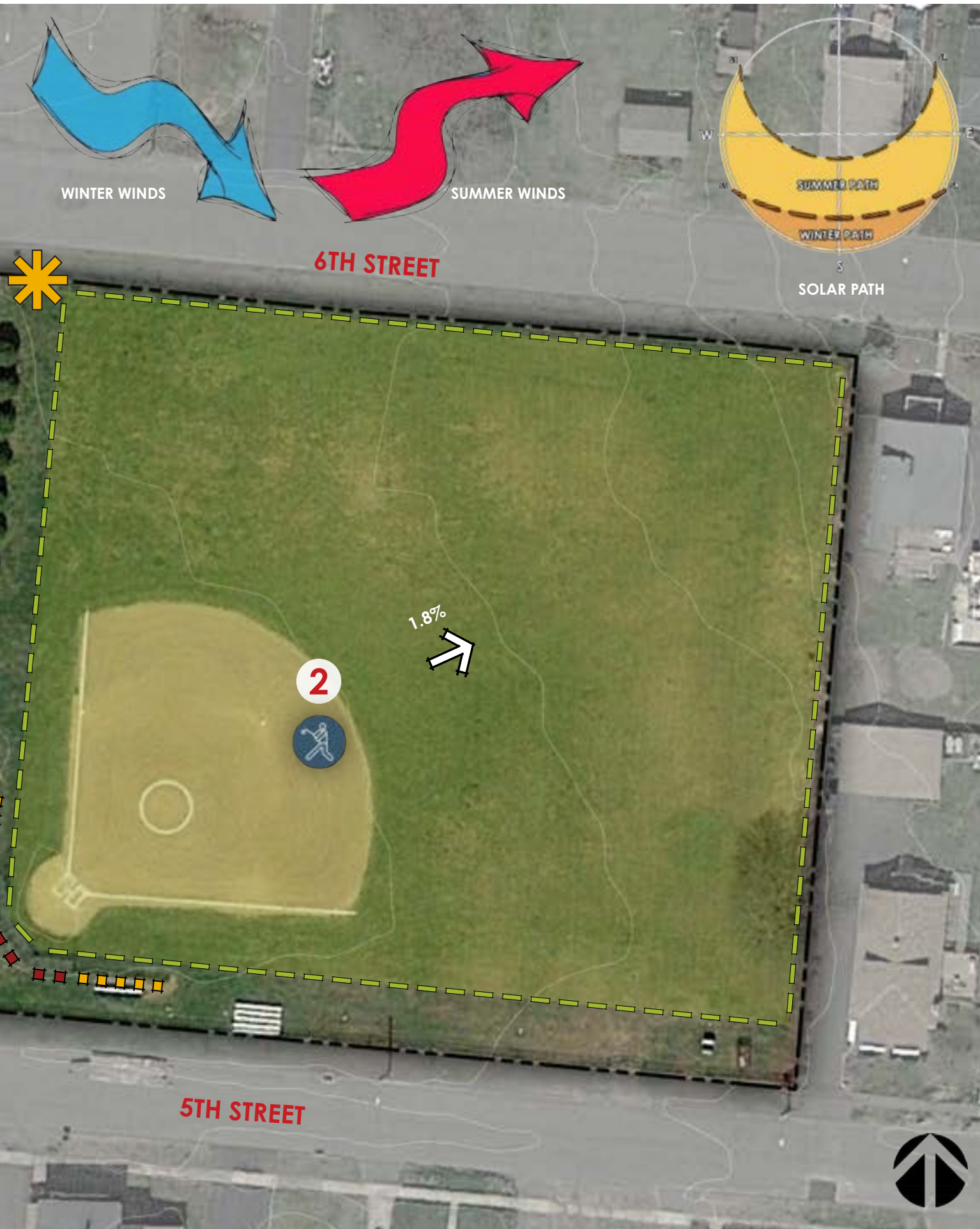
2 SOFTBALL FIELD

- Natural Grass Field with Infield Mix
- RF = 240' LF = 200'

3 PLAYGROUND

- Wood Mulch Surfacing
- 1 Play Structure
- 1 Swing Set





EXISTING CONDITIONS | WILSON FIELD



CURB RAMP DOES NOT MEET ADAAG REQUIREMENTS



OPEN DECKING BLEACHER IS NOT UP TO CURRENT CODE



CURB RAMP DOES NOT MEET ADAAG REQUIREMENTS





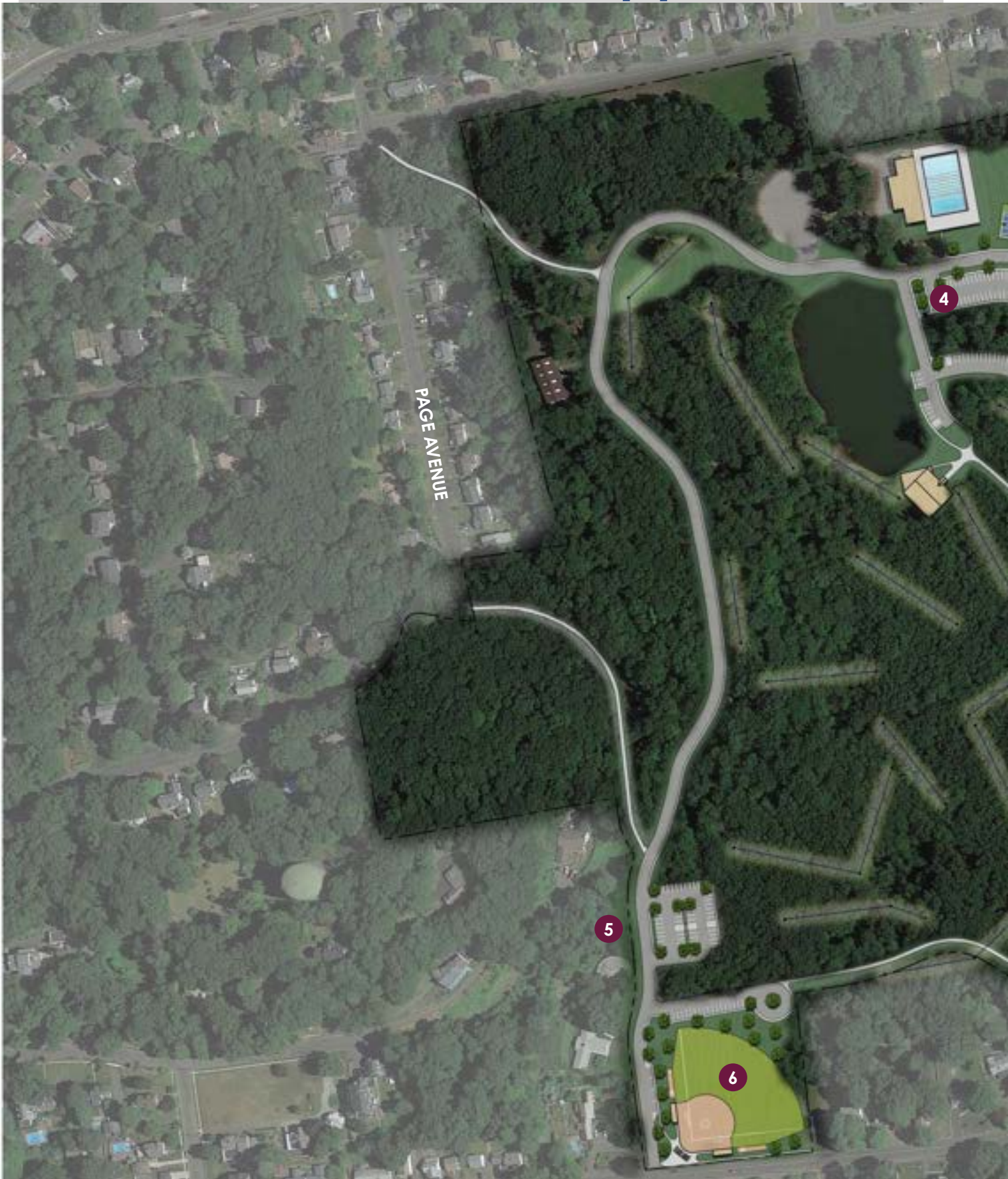
BASKETBALL COURT IS CRACKING AND REQUIRES REPAIR AND RESURFACING



NO ACCESSIBLE ROUTE TO TEAM AREA



Appendix G



PAGE PARK MASTER PLAN



- 1 SYNTHETIC TURF FIELD**
 - BASEBALL/LITTLE LEAGUE INFIELD
 - SOCCER (225' x 360')
 - 2 SOCCERS (180' x 330')
 - SPORTS LIGHTING
 - BACKSTOP AND DUGOUTS
 - 10-RROW BLEACHER

- 2 PARKING RENOVATION/EXPANSION**
 - 26 SPACES ADJACENT TO TURF FIELD
 - 59 SPACES ADJACENT TO PLAYGROUND
 - RENOVATE HILL FOR SLEDDING

- 3 HARD COURT RENOVATIONS**
 - 4 NEW POST-TENSIONS PICKLE BALL COURTS WITH LIGHTS AND SHADE SHELTERS
 - NEW BASKETBALL COURT WITH 4 HOOPS AND LIGHTS
 - 2 NEW PICNIC SHELTERS
 - NEW OUTDOOR FITNESS STATION WITH EQUIPMENT
 - 45 NEW PARKINGS SPACES

- 4 PARKING EXPANSION**
 - 45 NEW PARKING SPACES ACROSS FROM POOL
 - 36 NEW PARKING SPACES NEAR PAVILION

- 5 FORMALIZED DISC GOLF PARKING**
 - 47 PARKING SPACES

- 6 INGRAHAM SOFTBALL FIELD RENOVATION**
 - NATURAL GRASS SOFTBALL FIELD WITH SKINNED INFIELD
 - BACKSTOP AND DUGOUTS
 - 5-RROW BLEACHER
 - 22 NEW PARKING SPACES