

Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan

It's all about quality of life



Importance of Parks, Recreation, and Open Space



Importance of Parks, Recreation, and Open Space

- High Quality of Life
 - *High Quality Education*
 - *Healthy Community*
 - *Stewardship of Nature*
- Economic Success
- Community Safety
- Stronger Neighborhoods



Quality of Life

Better parks, recreation, and open space

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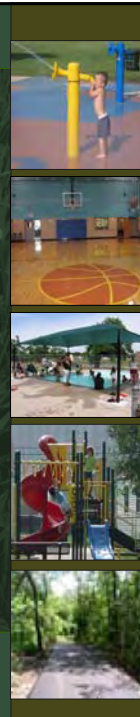
Better educations, better health, more recreational opportunities, and more scenic community

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Better quality of life

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Stronger economy, safer community, and more vibrant neighborhoods



High Quality Education



- A 2002 study by the California Department of Education revealed that the physical well-being of students has a direct impact on their ability to achieve academically.



Healthy Community



- The US Surgeon General has reported that seven out of 10 Americans who die each year, die of chronic disease. Diseases that are prevented by healthy eating, not smoking, and being physically active.
- A study conducted in 2000 found that physically active individuals had lower direct medical costs than inactive people, approximately \$330 per person.



Stewardship of Nature



- An American Forest sponsored study revealed that the trees in the City of Atlanta remove 19 million pounds of pollutants each year.
- Philadelphia, Washington D.C., and Lenexa are all utilizing parks to help absorb pollutants before they enter waterways.



Economic Success



- A 1998 KPMG survey of high-tech workers revealed that quality of life was the second most important factor when deciding between jobs.
- Arthur Anderson's Best Cities 2000 survey of 1,433 executives found that the top two factors for business relocation are the local availability of professionals and entrepreneurial activity.
- A 2004 Gallup survey Soul of the City, found that aesthetics and diversity are the most important factors for attracting creative sector employees.



Community Safety



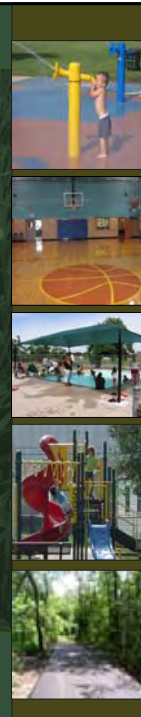
- The Wichita Police Department observed a 32 percent decrease in juvenile crime in the Planeview area following the creation of the Planeview Activity Camp for Kids (PACK).



Stronger Neighborhoods



- Parks create areas for neighbors to interact and create stronger neighborhoods.
- The City of Denver Central Platte Valley park improvements have helped to attract significant amounts of private investment to the former industrial rail yard located north of downtown.
- McAdams, Historic Midtown, Delano, Central Northeast Area, South Central

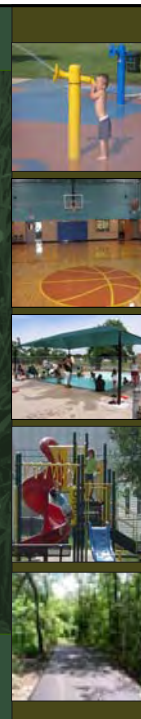


Parks and Recreation in the City of Wichita



Facilities

- 10 recreation centers
- 11 pools and 4 spray parks
- 22 baseball / softball fields
- 74 playgrounds
- 110 miles Pathways / Trails
- 113 courts (*tennis and basketball*)
- 117 parks



Program Attendance

▪ Recreation Centers	459,380
▪ Aquatics	95,960
▪ Athletics	143,758
▪ Watson Park	100,609
▪ Great Plains Nature Center	144,536
▪ Total	943,243

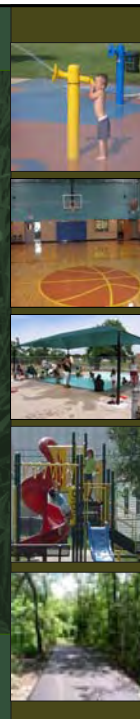


Maintenance

- Park area maintained **4,350 acres**
- Non-park area maintained **2,400 acres**

These geographically scattered sites add up to approximately 10 square miles

- **2,300 linear miles** – tree maintenance for streets, alleys, right-of-way, rivers and streams



Staff and Equipment

- Number of staff
 - 181 full time
 - 689 part time and seasonal
- 700 pieces of equipment



Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Planning in Wichita



Why Have a PROS Plan?



1. Provides direction and guidance for public investments and programs
2. Provides an opportunity for the public to be involved in the decision making process
3. Facilitates a process for the community to develop a vision and goals



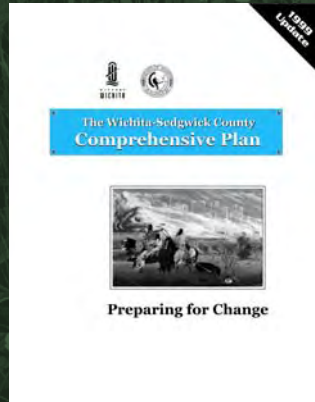
Why Have a PROS Plan? Cont.



4. Ensures effective efforts to meet community goals
(where, when, who, and how)
5. Ensures effective funding to meet community goals
(how we afford it)



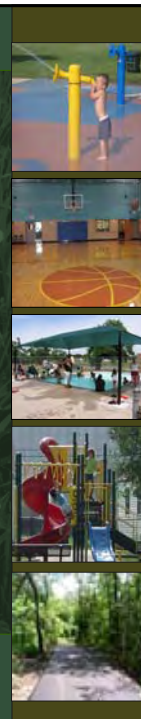
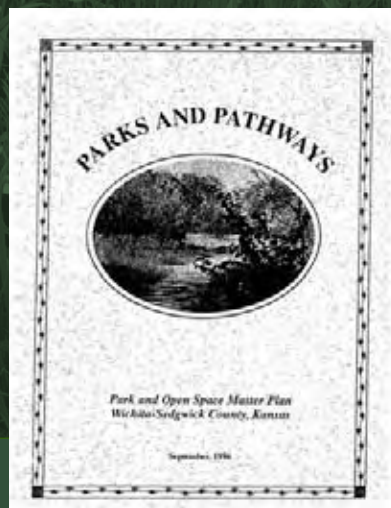
Wichita-Sedgwick County Comprehensive Plan



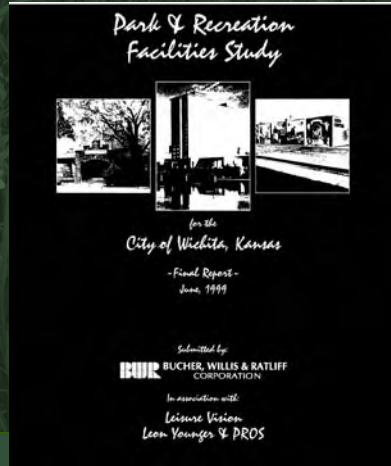
- VII. Goal: Enhance the **quality of life** and image of the City and County through the provision and proper maintenance of recreation facilities and programs, open space and natural resources
- More than 17 priorities



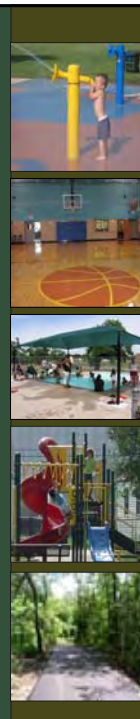
1996 Parks and Pathways Plan



1999 Park and Recreation Facilities Study



How Should We Plan for
Parks, Recreation, and Open
Space?

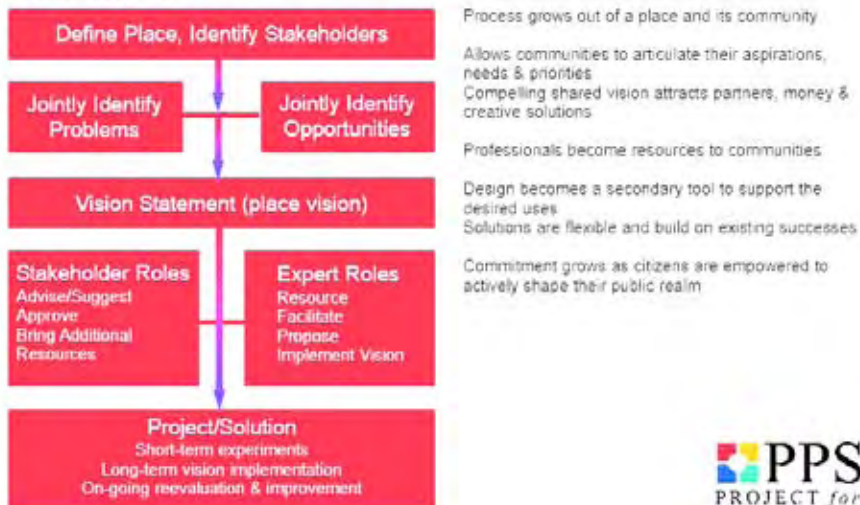


Draft PROS Planning Process



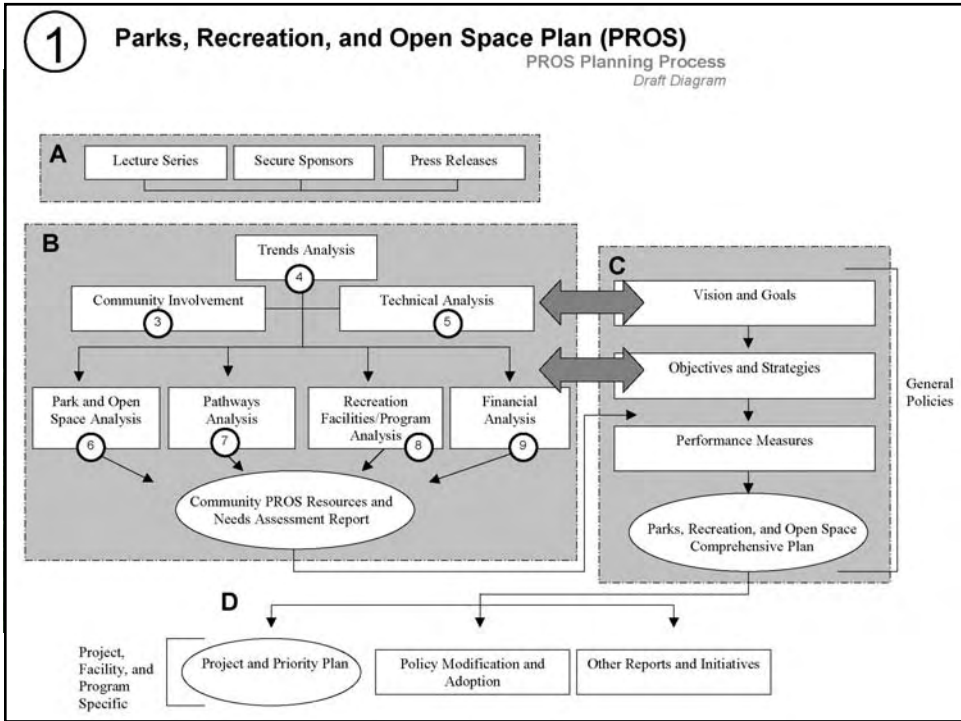
Place/Community Driven Approach

As performed by PPS



Process grows out of a place and its community
 Allows communities to articulate their aspirations, needs & priorities
 Compelling shared vision attracts partners, money & creative solutions
 Professionals become resources to communities
 Design becomes a secondary tool to support the desired uses
 Solutions are flexible and build on existing successes
 Commitment grows as citizens are empowered to actively shape their public realm



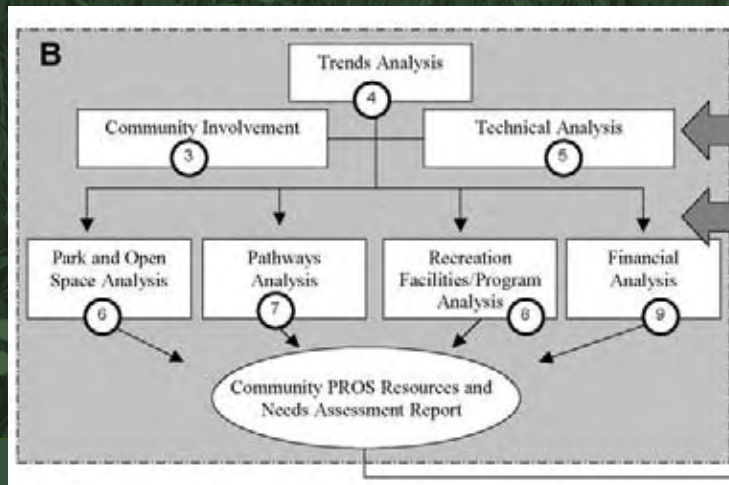


A. Pre-PROS Planning Kickoff

A Lecture Series Secure Sponsors Press Releases

Vertical photo strip: 1. Person on playground structure; 2. Basketball court; 3. Pool area; 4. Colorful playground; 5. Paved path.

B. Community PROS Resources and Needs Assessment



B. Community PROS Resources and Needs Assessment

Community Involvement Process

- Surveys
 - *Identify: needs, priorities, opinions*
 - *Topics: parks and open space, pathways, recreation, funding*
- Internet survey
- Stakeholder interviews
- Focus groups
- Display at river festival and other events
- Public forums



B. Community PROS Resources and Needs Assessment

Trends Analysis

- Visioneering Wichita
- Wichita-Sedgwick County Comprehensive Plan
 - Area plans
 - Neighborhood plans
- Demographic trends
- Development trends

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B. Community PROS Resources and Needs Assessment

Trends Analysis Cont.

- Economic trends
- Other surveys and reports
- Other Sedgwick County municipalities parks and recreation developments and plans
- Private park, recreation, and open space developments – nation and Wichita



B. Community PROS Resources and Needs Assessment

Technical Analysis

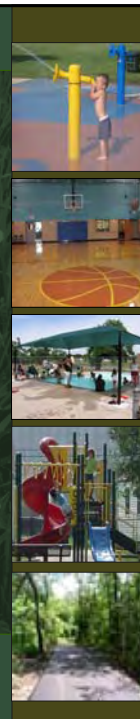
- Parks and Open Space
- Pathways
- Recreation (facilities and programs) Analysis
- Financial Analysis



B. Community PROS Resources and Needs Assessment

Technical Analysis Cont.

- *Park and Open Space Analysis*
 - Inventory of parks and open space
 - Parks evaluations
 - Natural areas evaluations
 - Survey of comparative communities
 - Key findings



B. Community PROS Resources and Needs Assessment

Technical Analysis Cont.

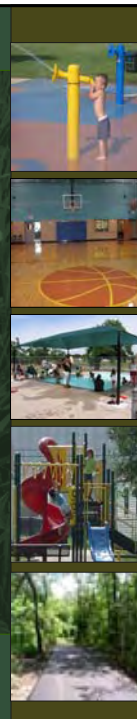
- *Pathways*
 - Inventory of pathways
 - Evaluate pathways conditions
 - Survey comparative communities
 - Key findings



B. Community PROS Resources and Needs Assessment

Technical Analysis Cont.

- *Recreation*
 - Inventory of recreation facilities
 - Assess condition of recreation facilities
 - Inventory of recreation programs
 - Economic benefits of recreation calculation
 - Description of program costs
 - Key findings



B. Community PROS Resources and Needs Assessment

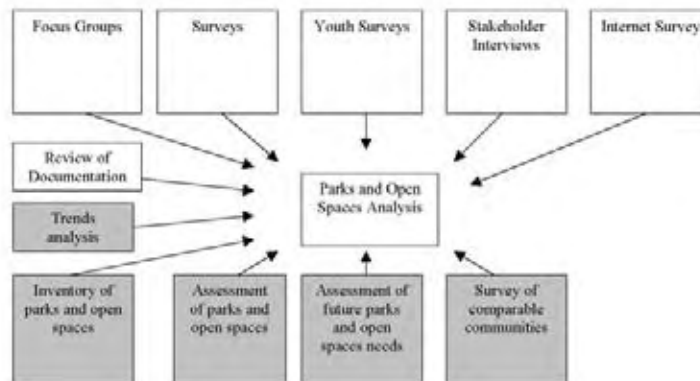
Technical Analysis Cont.

- *Financial Analysis*
 - Quantified community benefit of parks, recreation, and open space
 - Maintenance costs
 - Capital costs
 - Revenue
 - Funding
 - Programming costs for recreation

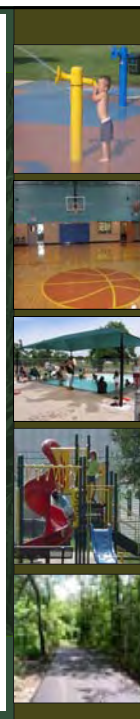


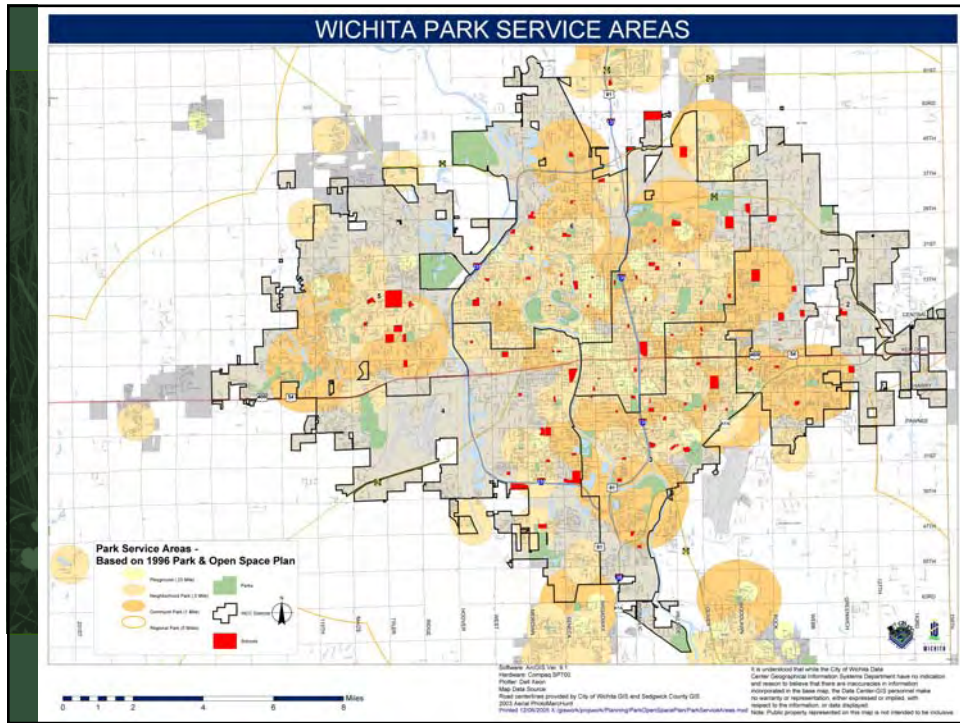
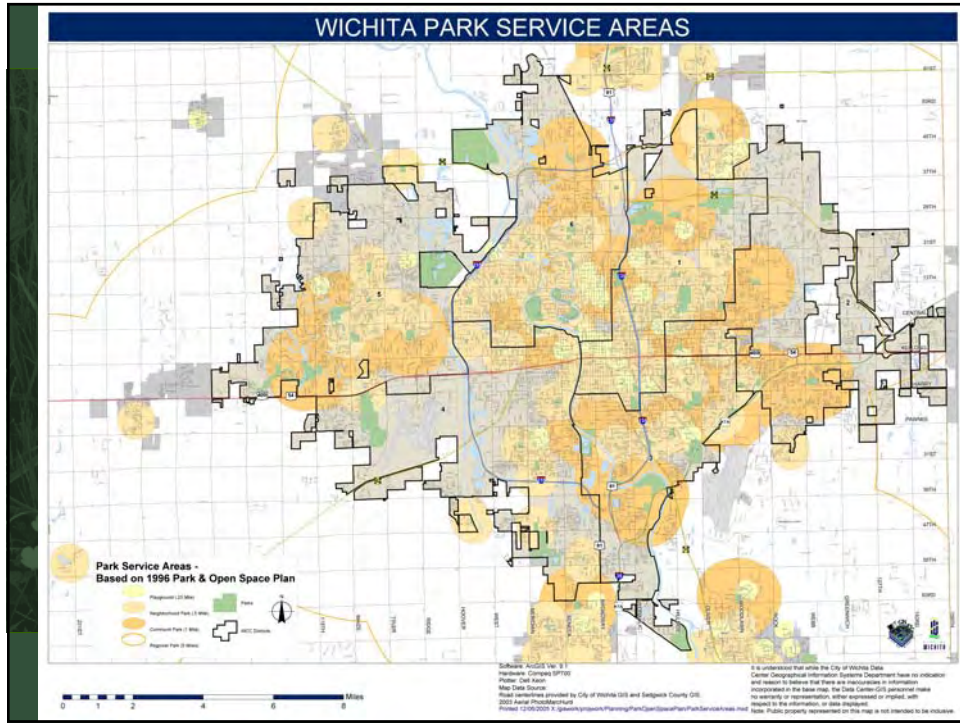
6 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (PROS)

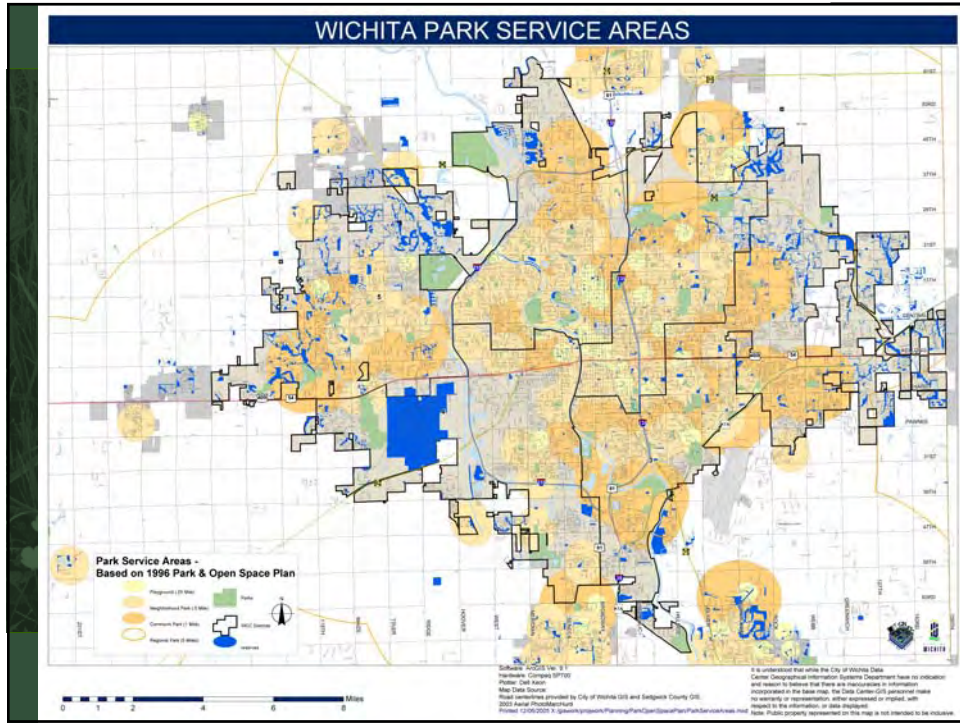
PROS Resources and Needs Assessment
Parks and Open Space Analysis



□ Community Involvement Process
 ■ Technical Analysis







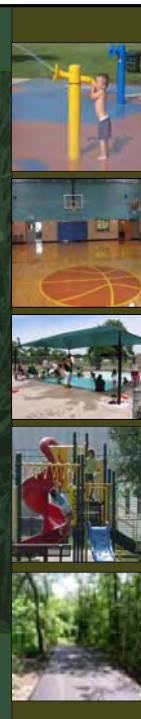
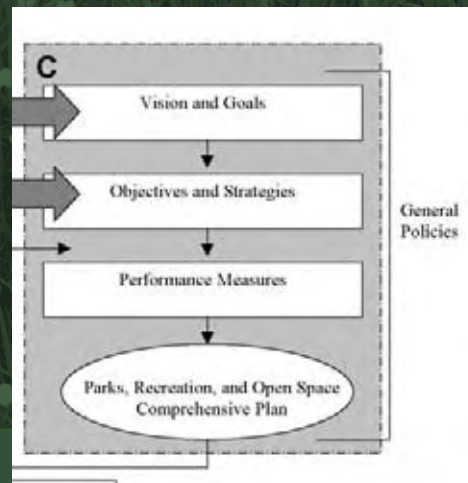
What do you feel the plan should address?

Park Board Meeting 1-9-06

- Utilize the rivers and provide access to them
- Acquire land ahead of development
- Utilize riparian and flood control areas for open space
- Public recreation centers / private recreation providers
- Create an integrated system with the City, County, and neighborhoods



C. Wichita-Sedgwick County PROS Plan



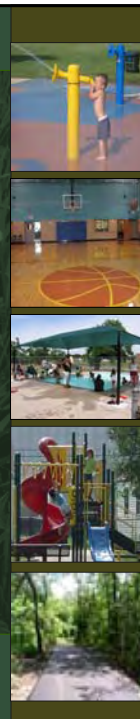
C. Wichita-Sedgwick County PROS Plan

- Vision – the vision of the community’s preferred future, what success will look like.
- Goals – the out comes to be produced when the PROS plan is implemented.
- Strategies – the methods, resources, processes, and systems to accomplish the vision and goals.

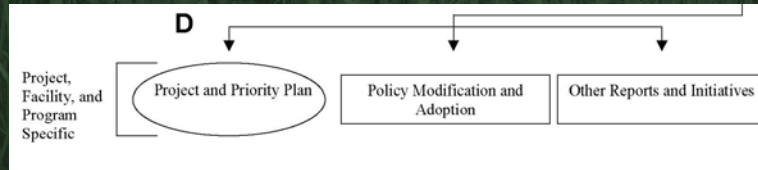


C. Wichita-Sedgwick County PROS Plan

- Performance Measures – measurements that help to evaluate progress towards achieving the goals and vision.

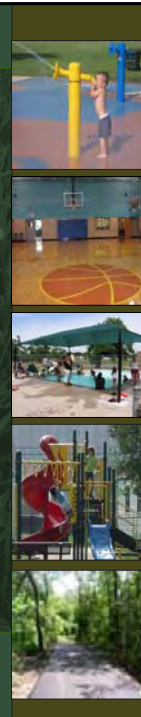


D. Wichita Initiatives



Wichita Project and Priority Plan

- **Capital** and **non-capital** projects to implement the PROS plan.
 - Prioritized
 - Capital projects includes maintenance, acquisition, and development costs
 - Non-capital projects include staffing, material, and supply costs



Visioneering Wichita

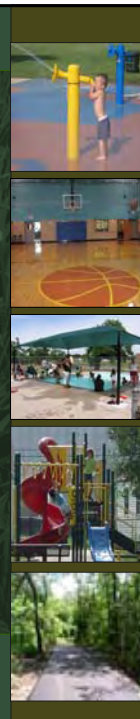
III.B.1. Calls for the development and implementation of a **comprehensive master plan for recreation**

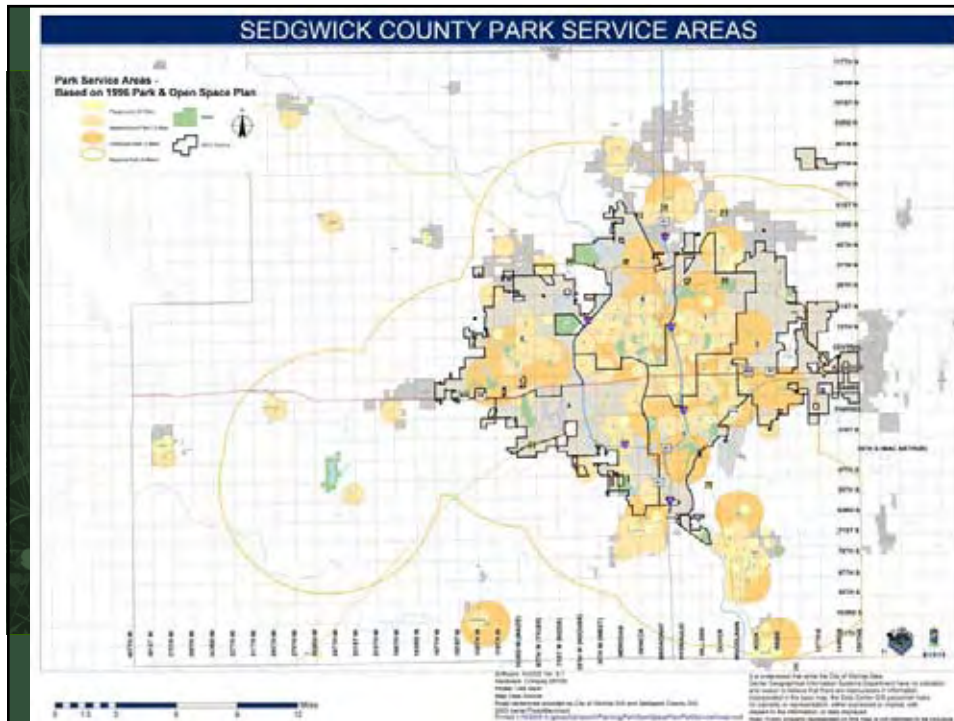
- Level of service standards
- Develop park and recreation facilities as potential regional attractions and as destinations by visitors



Communities Involved?

- **Wichita**
- Sedgwick County?
- Other Sedgwick County Municipalities?
- Other Visioneering local governments?





Visioneering Wichita

- Modifications to the proposed PROS planning process?
 - *Need for a regional vision and goals?*
 - *Possibility of a regional project and priorities plan?*



