PROPOSAL

Park & Recreation Facilities Study

for the

City of Wichita, Kansas

- Final Report -

June, 1999

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In association with:

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Executive Summary

This document represents the current status of three (3) elements of the City of Wichita Parks and Recreation Department: 1.) conditions of major parks and recreation facilities; 2.) citizen priorities for the Parks and Recreation System; and, 3.) analysis of resources for addressing system deficiencies.

Section I , The Scope of Services, identifies the following elements: Purpose of the Study which is to inventory and analyze conditions of major parks and recreation facility resources currently offered by the City; Phase I - Project Initiation was a meeting between the Consultant Team and representatives of the City to review the Scope of Services and specific tasks which would be required for a successful project;
Phase II - Inventory included a review of parks and facilities, revenue sources, a benchmarking survey, market providers and potential partners review, and public involvement; Phase III - Analysis of Inventories offered a detailed analysis of citizen input, benchmarking survey, facilities and parks, financing alternatives, staff, market providers and partnerships, visioning workshop, capital costs, and a draft interim report; Phase IV - Recommendations included recommended capital cost estimates and facilities and park acreage benchmarked against national standards; and, Phase V - Final Study Document which indicated the number of copies to be provided the City.

Section II is dedicated to Public Input and the Vision Statement. Public input was collected through stakeholder meetings, general public meetings, a visioning workshop and a community survey. Included in these meetings were representatives of non-profit groups, public officials and staff. The Vision Statement was crafted at a workshop on July 9, 1998 by the Recreation and Park Board as follows: **to develop and maintain parks, trails and recreation facilities and programs to the highest level that builds a sense of community pride and ties neighborhoods together. The parks will be accessible, safe and designed to unite families and people through quality passive and active recreation amenities and programs.**

Section III provides information relative to the community survey which was used as one element of the process for collecting community input. Described in this Section is the methodology and

subgroup analysis employed to collect and analyze data. Information gathered in Section III was subsequently used by the Consultant Team and Recreation and Park Board to develop recommendations. Questions included the types of parks and programs that could be offered, importance of developing new parks and facilities, improvements that could be made to the existing facilities, interest in forming partnerships, and sources of funding for future improvements.

Section IV describes and quantifies survey information received from comparative communities in Kansas and other similar Midwest recreation and park systems. Information received from eight (8) communities was benchmarked with Wichita on numbers and types of parks, staffing levels, maintenance practices, fee policies, non-traditional park functions, contract maintenance operations, user group relationships, operating budgets, capital improvement funding sources, and recent capital facilities development.

Section V lists seventeen (17) separate methods of financing park projects used in various Midwest communities. Also described in this Section is a rating matrix for funding sources and their use, or potential use, by the City.

Section VI is an evaluation of the Recreation Division. As described in this Section, the Recreation Division includes youth and adult sports, recreation centers and programs, aquatics, cultural arts, special events and senior services. Analyzed by the consultant team were: facility design with recommendations, marketing program with recommendations, the need for a vision statement, and partnering opportunities.

Recommendation on Recreation Centers and Pools which were visited:

Recommended for Closure:

Lincoln Park Pool
College Hill Pool
Fairmount Pool
County Acres Park Pool

Recommended for Demolition:

McAdams Recreation Center and Pool

Recommended for Modernization:

Aley Pool and Stanley Recreation Center
Evergreen Recreation Center and Pool
Linwood Recreation Center
Orchard Park Community Center and Pool
Harvest Pool

Recommended for Modernization and/or Leasing:

Boston Recreation Center
Lynette Woodard Recreation Center
Edgemoor Recreation Center
Minisa Pool

Specific Facility Design Recommendations are:

1. If the community centers and pools are to remain open and serve the community, some renovation and expansion should occur to better fit the needs of today's customers.

2. Pools need to be redesigned to incorporate more leisure components.

3. Updating color schemes inside and outside the recreation facilities and pools would have a very positive impact on the users and the community.

4. At their present size, consideration should be given for some recreation centers becoming more specialized versus generalized.

Specific Marketing Recommendations are:

1. Market research efforts need to allow for more of a neighborhood approach to programming.

2. Additional staff training related to community based marketing for recreation service delivery would be beneficial.

Specific Recommendations for the Vision for Recreation Services:

1. The vision for the Parks and Recreation Department should take

into consideration the needs of the Recreation Division.

Specific Recommendations for Partnering are:

1. Additional partnering and brokering of services needs to be considered by the City to enhance capacity usage of existing facilities and also to build community advocacy.

2. The recreation staff needs to develop effective performance measures to demonstrate success of their partnering efforts.

3. The community wide arts events should be managed by the Arts Division as a City wide strategy versus each unit within the division doing their own events.

4. The City of Wichita should set up a "matching revenue sources program" to spur collection of fund-raising dollars and other non-city tax sources for funding capital projects.

Section VII is an evaluation of facilities and parks. In this section, facilities and parks are described, and an analysis is given of strengths, weaknesses, possible improvements and recommendations. Facilities and parks included in this Section are: Watson Park, Southlake Soccer and Softball Complex, West Douglas Park, Cessna Park, West Side Athletic Fields, Planeview Park, Boston Recreation Center, Lynette Woodard Recreation Center, Edgemoor Recreation Center, Lincoln Park, McAdams Park, Aley Pool and Recreation Center, College Hill Park, Fairmount Park and Pool, Country Acres Park and Pool, Minisa Pool, Evergreen Park, Recreation Center and Pool, Linwood Park, Orchard Park Community Center and Pool, Riverside Tennis Center, Harvest Pool.

The Consultant's opinion of facility conditions following the visual analysis of "A" Facilities is that the park system appears to be slightly below average and is showing signs of an aging system whose upkeep has not kept pace.

Section VIII is a review of market providers and potential partners. Discussed in this Section are: the Wichita Park Alliance, Grants, Land Purchases, Monetary Contributions to Park Projects, and current park and recreation services offered by other public providers

in Sedgwick County.

Section IX is a description of the deficiencies and capital improvement schedule for the City. Included in this Section are deficiencies/surpluses as compared to national standards.

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a prioritized list from the Board of Park Commissioners in the amount of $9,272,700.00 for specific facility upgrades which they recommend.

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facility deficiencies and land acquisition needs through 1999 in the projected amount of $44,428,000.00.

facility deficiencies and land acquisition needs through 2004 in the projected amount of $2,145,000.00.

facility deficiencies and land acquisition needs through 2009 in the projected amount of $7,554,400.00.

facility deficiencies and land acquisition needs through 2014 in the projected amount of
$4,279,000.00.

facility deficiencies and land acquisition needs through 2019 in the projected amount of $8,092,400.00.

Total projected amount for facility upgrades, new facilities and land acquisition through the year 2019 is $75,771,500.00.

Section I
Scope of Services

PURPOSE:

The principle purpose of the Parks and Recreation Facilities Study is to inventory and analyze the conditions of major parks and recreation facility resources currently offered by the City of Wichita, and to analyze those resources as compared with citizen priorities for the system and resources which could be made available in addressing these priorities.

The major parks and recreation facilities were identified as "A" facilities by the Parks and Recreation Department, and included a comprehensive array of parks, shelter houses and other self directed programming venues and active recreation facilities, including community centers, pools, ball fields, tennis courts, etc.

In order to address these purposes the following Scope of Services was developed for the project.

PHASE 1: PROJECT INITIATION

During this phase the project consultants met with representatives of the City to review the scope of services, specific tasks, review existing records of the City for task items, and establish dates for initial public and stakeholder meetings. An initial discussion of a statistically valid phone & mail citizen survey of a minimum of 700 Wichita households took place and specific key issue areas to concentrate on were reviewed. Please note: The actual survey was of 736 households.

PHASE 2: INVENTORY

During this phase, a comprehensive inventory of factors impacting the success of the Parks and Recreation Facilities Plan was conducted. This inventory included the following:

Review of Parks and Facilities - Site visits were made to all Category "A" parks and recreation facilities including community centers, pools, sports complexes, parks, and other specialized facilities. The inventory looked at both the physical conditions of each facility and also their application for programming needs within the community.

Inventory of Revenue Sources - A listing and definition of over 20 revenue sources to fund capital projects for the park system was compiled and an inventory of those revenue sources currently being used was compiled.

Benchmarking Survey - A comprehensive "benchmarking survey" was developed to compare the operations of the Wichita Park system with similar systems in the Midwest and other systems within Kansas and Missouri. The survey contained questions related to pricing for various programs and facilities, capital and operations financing, parks and recreation facilities inventories, staffing, capital improvement programs, costs for facilities operations, etc.

Surveys were received back from the following communities:

- Des Moines, Iowa
- Johnson County, Kansas
- Lawrence, Kansas
- Lincoln, Nebraska
- Kansas City, Missouri
- Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- Salina, Kansas
- Olathe, Kansas

Market Providers & Potential Partners - An inventory of other major market providers of leisure programs in the Wichita market was developed and information received regarding their major activities. This review included those market providers currently operating through contracts and partnerships with the City. As part of this assessment the consultants used information gathered through the Finance Subcommittee of the Park Board regarding the parks and recreation operations of other cities within Sedgwick County.

Public Involvement - A series of stakeholder meetings and a public meeting was held to listen and gather input regarding the current operations of the park system. Inclusive within this process were meetings with elected leaders and a meeting with staff members from throughout the Parks and Recreation Department. Results from the public meetings and the remaining inventory process was used as a basis for a statistically valid phone/mail survey of 736 Wichita households, developed in association with the Board of Park Commissioners.

PHASE 3: ANALYSIS OF INVENTORIES

A detailed analysis of the inventories that were collected in Phase 2 took place. This analysis included the following:

Citizen Input - A statistically valid phone/mail survey of 736 households was conducted. Results from the survey were summarized and offered for the City as a whole and also for 6 different program planning areas. Therefore the research information was very specific as to current citizen attitudes and preferences for major regions of the community. Results from the citizen survey were shared and discussed with the Board of Park Commissioners and in a series of three public meetings held throughout the community

Benchmarking Survey - Results from the survey were placed into a spreadsheet and compared with similar data compiled from the City of Wichita.

Facilities and Parks Analysis - An analysis regarding the physical conditions and programming practices for Category "A" facilities and parks was conducted. The physical inventory ranked the space conditions on a four point scale from poor to excellent. Strengths and weaknesses for each facility and major park were summarized and potential opportunities for improvements offered. Special attention was paid to matching up this analysis with results from the public involvement process.

Financing Alternatives - An analysis of both currently used and potential sources for funding capital improvement projects was conducted. Recommendations for potential new and continued use of funding options were provided.

Staff Review and Analysis - A series of meetings and a goal setting retreat were held with key members of the recreation staff. Results from the process were shared and discussed as to findings of the report and their impact on current and future operations.

Market Providers and Partnerships - An analysis of opportunities provided to work in partnership with other market providers took place. The analysis was based on a review of current operations, results of discussions with key market providers and members of the Finance Committee, and results from the citizens survey.

Visioning Workshop - A one (1) day board retreat was held to review previously developed information from the Study and develop a

major vision statement and action items to move the department towards its preferred future.

Capital Costs - Based on the results of the citizen survey, the inventory of major facilities and parks, and other study processes, preliminary capital cost projections for major parks and recreation facilities deficiencies are provided.

Draft Interim Report - The results from the eight (8) previously indicated areas were summarized in a"Draft Interim Report" The a "Draft Interim Report" was extensively reviewed by members of the Park Board and staff. In particular over 100 recommendations for improvements to park sites were carefully analyzed and ranked by the Park Board to identify those recommendations of priority importance for the current and future park system.

PHASE 4: RECOMMENDATIONS

Final recommendations included the following:

1st, the consultants developed capital cost estimates based on Park Board priority recommendations. Cost estimates were presented as per the low range, medium range, and high range cost estimates to complete capital construction aspects of the projects. Estimates were developed for 50 different projects.

2nd, the consultants compared (for each major category) the numbers of current recreation facilities and park acreage in comparison to national parks and recreation standards, to determine surpluses or deficiencies for each category. Once deficiencies and surpluses were established for each major category of recreation facilities and open space, capital cost estimates were established to bring the City up to standard. The consultants then estimated future surpluses and/or deficiencies for each major category (over the next 20 years), based on anticipated population growth in the City of Wichita. Again, for these anticipated surpluses/deficiencies capital cost estimates were developed.

PHASE 5: FINAL STUDY DOCUMENT

Twenty-five (25) copies of the final study report will be provided in three ring binders. The City will also be provided a computer disc containing the final study document should additional copies need to be made. The consultants will be available to make a report of findings and recommendations to the City as appropriate.

Section II
Public Input & Vision Statement

The public input process was the driving force behind development of the Parks and Recreation Facilities Plan. All of the public involvement was coordinated through the Board of Park Commissioners and included the following:

Initial public input through stakeholder meetings & public meeting - At the beginning of the planning process a series of stakeholder meetings & a public meeting was held with the general public, representatives of non-profit groups, public officials, staff, and others who work with the Wichita Parks and Recreation Department to understand issues and values of importance to them. The input was incorporated into the planning process.

Community Survey - A statistically valid phone/mail survey was conducted of 736 Wichita households to understand attitudes and priorities regarding a comprehensive range of parks, recreation facilities, funding, maintenance, partnering, and other issues impacting the current system and its future success in serving residents of Wichita. Results from the community survey are in Section III.

2nd Round of Public Meetings - Following the consultants site visits to parks and recreation facilities and other analysis in Phases 1-3 of the study, a series of public meetings were held across Wichita, to discuss these issues and gather further feedback from the public. The results from the meetings are contained immediately following this introduction.

Visioning Workshop - A Visioning Workshop was held with the Board of Park Commissioners on July 9th. The workshop was based on the previously developed public input and resulted in development of a Vision Statement and Action Steps for the parks and recreation system. The results from the visioning workshop are contained in this Section of the study.

Wichita Parks and Recreation Facilities Plan
Public Forum Meetings Report

Public forum meetings for the Wichita Parks and Recreation Facilities Plan were held for three consecutive evenings on May 26, 27, and 28 from 7pm to 9pm. The public meetings were held at McAdams Community Center, Orchard Park Community Center, and at City Hall. The meetings began each evening with the consultant introducing the consulting team, describing the visioning process, explaining the results of the citizen survey and then looking at solutions to key issues identified from the citizen survey. The citizen survey brought out seven key issues that the public felt should be addressed during the planning process. Each one of those key issues were discussed and the public had the chance to advise the consultants on solutions. The key issues identified were as follows:

1. What should the City of Wichita do with recreation centers and pools?

2. Who should the City of Wichita partner with in the delivery of parks and recreation services?

3. Should the City of Wichita renovate existing facilities, eliminate them, or build new ones?

4. What areas of priority should the City of Wichita put on maintenance, safety, and security?

5. What are ways the City of Wichita needs to focus on to improve communication with users and to seek user feedback?

6. How and what methods should the City of Wichita use to fund improvements and programs?

7. What customer service efforts need to be added to meet citizen needs?

The first meeting was held on May 26 at the McAdams Community Center. The findings at this meeting were as follows:

Key Issue No. 1 - What should the City do with recreation centers and pools?

- More communication needs to be established between the school system and the parks and recreation department.
- The recreation centers need to be more family oriented.
- The parks and recreation department should seek more volunteers to help manage the recreation centers.
- Measurable outcomes and performance measures need to be developed by the parks and recreation department staff to demonstrate success of programs to the public.
- The recreation centers and pools need to be upgraded and need to be a safe place for kids.
- A community recreation center advisory committee needs to be established for each site.
- Recreation programs should drive community center usage such as latch key programs and day care (be user friendly).
- The City should contract with Wichita State University to provide training classes such as continuing education in recreation centers.
- Parks need to be linked to what the community and neighborhood needs are.

Key Issue No. 2 - Who should the City partner with in the delivery of parks and recreation services?

- The parks and recreation department should plan jointly with the school district for recreation programs.
- The Colleges and University need to help teach recreation programs.
- Churches
- Neighborhood associations
- Non-profit organizations like the YMCA, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and the Boys and Girls Club
- Private Recreation Service Groups
- The business community for providing mentoring, assisting in funding programs, and providing volunteer support.
- Libraries
- Pre-schools

Key Issue No. 3 - Should the City renovate existing facilities, eliminate them, or build new recreation facilities?

- The City should do what is most cost effective.
- Do renovations on an as needed basis.
- The City needs to revisit the Fairmount Park Pool issue again.

Key Issue No. 4 - What areas of priority should the City put on maintenance, security, and safety?

- The City should consider putting a Community Police Substation in each recreation center.
- More neighborhood watch programs need to be established.
- The recreation centers should be safe places for children to go to anytime.

Key Issue No. 5 - What are the ways the City needs to focus on to improve communication with users and to seek user feedback?

- At least once a year all households should receive recreation program information (by itself or in a newspaper)
- Neighborhood flyers and newsletters.
- Church Bulletins
- The public access channel outside of the City's cable TV channel.

Key Issue No. 6 - How and what methods should the City use to fund improvements and programs?

- CDBG Monies
- Matching grants between City and local business foundations
- Sponsorships
- Some user support but only in the communities where the recreation centers are located.

Key Issue No. 7 - What customer service efforts need to be added to meet citizen needs?

- Convenience to recreation programs and recreation facilities.
- Create a family recreation center atmosphere-one stop shopping
- More multi-dimensional recreation facilities and intergenerational programs.
- Adequate supervision by staff of recreation facilities and programs.

- The recreation centers and pool hours of operation should be more appropriate to the neighborhood.
- More exercise facilities and equipment are needed in the recreation centers.

The second public meeting was held May 27 at the Orchard Park Community Center. The same process for evaluating the key issues was used. Those results are as follows:

Key Issue No. 1 - What should the City do with recreation centers and pools?

- Re-invest in what is already in place.
- Maximize the total usage of the recreation centers and pools; and look at improving the capacity.
- Look to other users (outside of recreation) to use the recreation centers for their needs.
- The addition of skateboard parks located next to some of the recreation facilities is needed.
- Make pools more inviting and user friendly.
- Evaluate usage and make the facilities more targeted to the existing users.

Key issue No. 2 - Who should the City partner with in the delivery of parks and recreation services?

- Churches
- The School district
- Colleges
- Non-profit agencies such as the YMCA, Boys and Girls Club
- Private Recreation Groups

Key Issue No. 3 - Should the City renovate existing facilities, eliminate them, or build new recreation facilities?

- Renovate the existing recreation facilities and pools.
- Look at where recreation facilities are located, then change them to meet the community needs or eliminate them.
- Move to create more specialty facilities that are more multidimensional in design.
- The suburb areas of Wichita are in need of more recreation facilities such as pools and recreation centers.
- More regional destination recreation facilities need to be built or change the existing ones to meet the need.

- Plan more joint usage recreation facilities like with the school district.

Key Issue No. 4 - What areas of priority should the City put on maintenance, safety, and security?

- This should be a high priority.
- More lighting is needed in the parks and around the facilities.
- Higher level of maintenance standards needs to be put in place.
- More neighborhood watch programs and safe house programs need to be established around parks and recreation facilities.
- For safety reasons the recreation equipment needs to be upgraded in the recreation centers and pools.

Key Issue No. 5 - What are the ways the City needs to focus on to improve communication with users and to seek user feedback?

- More channels of distribution need to be explored to get the word out on programs provided.
- Cross promotion with other agencies and programs in the City.
- Neighborhood newsletters; add the recreation program flyers into them.
- The newspaper's community section on Thursday.

Key Issue No. 6 - How and what methods should the City use to fund improvements and programs?

- Non-resident rates.
- Evaluate and improve on user fees and program fees.
- Mix of public tax and direct user support through user fees.
- Develop a more entrepreneurial approach to management of recreation centers and pools.
- Develop a revenue policy for the department that is consistent.

Key Issue No. 7 - What customer service efforts need to be added to meet citizen needs?

- Change hours of operation to suit needs of the community.

The third meeting was held on May 28 in the board room at City Hall. The same method of obtaining public input was used. Those results are as follows:

Key Issue No. 1 - What should the City do with the recreation centers and pools?

- Evaluate the usage based on the need and adjust accordingly.
- Repair the facility if it meets a criteria based on cost benefit.
- Look at how to increase the usage in the facilities through better marketing.
- Do not close the older pools, improve them.

Key Issue No. 2 - Who should the City partner with in the delivery of recreation and parks services?

- Non-profits.
- Anybody who wants to step up and help in the delivery of recreation and park services.
- Get more neighborhood involvement.
- Key Issue No. 3-Should the City renovate existing facilities, eliminate them, or build new recreation facilities?
- Build new recreation and pool facilities in under served areas of the City.
- Update and upgrade existing facilities.
- Add security to all of the facilities.
- Renovate and build new.

Key Issue No. 3 - Should the City renovate existing facilities, eliminate them or build new recreation facilities?

- Renovate the existing recreation facilities and pools.
- Modernize existing facilities to better accommodate user's changing needs.
- Incorporate Design/Programming changes to facilitate greater revenue production.

Key Issue No. 3 - What areas of priority should the City put on maintenance, safety, and security?

- More safety is needed in all areas of the parks and facilities.
- Some of the safety issues are design issues, so change the design.
- Maintenance standards need to be higher.

- Preventative maintenance on the equipment and the recreation and park facilities is needed.
- Partnership on safety between the City, the police, and neighborhoods.

Key Issue No. 4 - What are the ways the City needs to focus on to improve communication with users and to seek user feedback?

- Higher use of media (radio and newspaper).
- Put information where people go: grocery stores, libraries, etc.
- Partner with recreation suppliers.
- Neighborhood newsletters.

Key Issue No. 5 - How and what methods should the City use to fund improvements and programs?

- Promote specialty parks as destination parks for softball and soccer.
- Make it user fee driven.
- Leverage and match community dollars with City dollars.
- Create programs that can generate revenue and help lower tax dollars; then revenues can be shifted to other areas.

Key Issue No. 6 - What customer service efforts need to be added to meet citizen needs?

- Listen and be responsive to neighborhood needs.
- Let the community know what funding is needed and where the money goes.
- Make recreation centers more of a community gathering place.
- Let more neighborhood associations help in the parks and facilities.
- The City needs to use more volunteers to help keep cost down and provide a better service.
- The department should host clean up and fix up days at the parks and recreation facilities.
- Ask the citizens for help and citizens need to ask the City for help.
- Create more events in the parks for the community to come together.
- Dog parks are needed in some areas of the City.

At the conclusion of each meeting each person attending was given three stickers. One was green, one was pink, and one was yellow.

The green represented the persons first choice, the pink the second choice, and the yellow the third choice. Each person was asked to place the stickers on the issues that they felt were most important to them for the City to review. The results are as follows.

There were three issues that had the same equal votes as most important. Those were:

- What should the City do with the recreation centers and pools? This key issue had four votes as most important.

- What areas of priority should the City place on maintenance, safety and security? The key issue also had four responses as top priority.

- How and What methods should the City use to fund improvements and programs?

The issue that those in attendance voted as the second most important was as follows:

- How and what methods should the City use to fund improvements and programs? This had five votes as the second most important issue.

The third most important issue was as follows:

- Who should the City partner with in the delivery of parks and recreation services? That issue had eight votes as the third most important issue.

The meetings were well received, however, the attendance at each meeting appeared to be low. All those in attendance appeared to be in agreement with the issues that have been raised so far in the planning process.

Wichita Parks and Recreation

Vision Statement

The vision for the Wichita Parks and Recreation is to develop and maintain parks, trails and recreation facilities and programs to the highest level that builds a sense of community pride and ties neighborhoods together. The Parks will be accessible, safe and designed to unite families and people through quality passive and active recreation amenities and programs.

To achieve this vision the Wichita Parks and Recreation Department will pursue the following action steps:

- Provide parks and recreation facilities in underserved areas of the City.
- Bring parks and recreation facilities up to a year 2000 standard.
- Develop recreation programs around neighborhood wants and needs.
- Create public advocacy in supporting the parks through effective marketing and communication efforts.
- Maximize and access all available resources within the City to position the parks as a valued investment in the minds of the residents.
- Create earned income opportunities to help finance the park system to the level required to make them safe, accessible and scenic.
- Create more partnerships with other providers of recreation services to leverage the City's resources.
- Target more recreational programs to youth, teens, seniors and families.
- Develop performance measures that hold the staff and board accountable to the recommendation of the Plan.

Wichita Park and Recreation Park Board's Visioning Workshop
July 9, 1998

The key values the Department needs to focus on in the comprehensive plan are as follows:

- Build on developing a sense of community
- Neighborhood ownership of parks
- Communication internal and external
- Safety of participants in parks and programs
- Professionalism of staff
- Quality of parks and programs
- Scenic value of parks
- Accessibility of parks and programs for the public
- Golf
- The river
- Creativity
- Education
- Sports
- Responsible government
- Diversity
- Family oriented activities and facilities
- Linking bikeways and greenways to existing and new parks
- The Botanical Gardens
- Free parks

The **history** the Plan needs to build on is as follows:

- The Boathouse
- Riverside Park
- Community history
- Celebration of parks and facilities needs to be created around anniversary years
- History of the river
- Famous sports people who have been participants in the Wichita parks programs
- War Memorial Park
- Lincoln and Linwood parks
- Indian tribes
- Families of people who donated parks to the City
- Past park board members

Key issues the Park Board sees as critical for the Plan to address:

- Capacity of usage of parks and facilities
- The need for money to operate and maintain the parks
- Maintenance in the parks
- More acquisition of park lands in areas underserved by parks
- Marketing of services and parks to the public
- Updating of master plans for parks
- Positioning of parks with the City Council and key Wichita leadership people as a positive resource to the economic value of the City.
- Recreation and program service quality
- Hours of operation of recreation facilities
- Pools and water related facilities
- Lighting in parks
- High customer satisfaction
- Safety and security in parks
- Infrastructure of park facilities
- Make parks more user friendly
- Green grass

Of these areas the Park Board thought that the following key issues were the most important.

1. Money for capital improvements
2. Improvements in maintenance of parks
3. Marketing of services and parks to the public
4. Re-master planning of parks
5. Positioning the parks and recreation department as a valuable resource in the minds of the elected officials and the key leadership in the City.

The **key issues the community** sees the park system focusing on in the Plan are as follows:

- Renovation of facilities to bring them up to a year 2000 standard and elimination of facilities that are no longer needed and at the end of their useful life.
- Create more partnerships
- Provide parks and recreation services to under served areas.
- Neighborhood involvement in recreation programs and design of parks.
- More marketing of recreation programs, facilities and events.
- Safety in parks.
- Upgrade all equipment in the parks such as playgrounds and picnic shelters.
- Consistent revenue policies.
- Program gaps and elimination of duplication of services.
- Higher levels of maintenance standards in parks and facilities.
- Willingness of the public to pay for quality services.
- Purchase more open space and develop greenways to connect parks.
- Build more capacity of programs, facilities and usage by residents.
- Breaking down of non-beneficial bureaucratic processes.
- More programs targeted to youth and teenagers.
- Neighborhood facilities versus multi-dimensional facilities.

The Park Board would like the department to be known for the following:

- Renovation and upgrading of facilities.
- Beautiful parks that are safe citywide new and old.
- Aggressive approach to park improvements city wide.

The Park Board sees these **barriers** as key components that will keep them from implementing the Plan and their vision

- Not enough public advocates for parks, open space and recreation services
- Naysayers
- Developers
- Marketing
- Time
- Scope of the plan to implement
- Red tape of the system
- Financial structure of the City
- Effective communication to the community of the needs of the department.

Section III
Community Survey

The Wichita Board of Park Commissioners conducted a citizen survey during the Spring of 1998 to help determine parks and recreation priorities for the community. Residents were asked their preferences concerning a wide range of issues including:

- types of parks and recreation programs that could be offered by the City
- the importance of developing new parks and recreational facilities
- improvements that could be made to existing facilities
- interest in forming partnerships with other organizations
- sources of funding for future parks and recreation improvements

Methodology

The random sample of 736 households has a 95% level of confidence with a margin of error of +/- 3.5%. There were 2,095 persons living in the 736 households for an average of 2.8 persons per household.

The survey was administered by phone and mail. Participation rates for each method of administration are listed below:

Mail: A total of 2400 surveys (400 to each commission district) was mailed to registered voters living in the City of Wichita. The sample population was selected at random from local voter registration records. Surveys which were non-deliverable for a variety of reasons (e.g., unit was vacant, person moved) were remailed using random replacement. When telephone interviewing began, surveys were no longer remailed. Approximately 150 surveys were not deliverable. A total of 611 of the mail surveys were completed for a response rate of 27%.

Phone: A total of 125 surveys was completed by phone. Those surveyed were selected at random. Phone surveys were conducted until the final sample had at least 114 completed responses (mail or phone) from each of the six districts.

Subgroup Analysis

Subgroup analysis was conducted for two major categories: commission district and household formation.

a. Commission District. The distribution by City Council District is shown below:

- 16% (N=118) District 1
- 17% (N=124) District 2
- 16% (N=114) District 3
- 16% (N=120) District 4
- 18% (N=133) District 5
- 17% (N=127) District 6

b. Household Formation. Since the ages of persons living within a household often affect the recreational interests of the household, separate analyses were completed for four household groups based on the age of the occupants. The household categories that were analyzed are listed below. These subgroups are not mutually exclusive. For example, if a household had someone under age 10 and someone age 10 to 19, the household was counted in both subgroups.

- Households with a child under age 10 (26% of the households; N=191)
- Households with someone age 10 to 19 (19% of the households; N=142)
- Households with persons age 20 to 54 ONLY -- no one under age and no one age 55 or older (21% of the households; N=155); this group is mutually exclusive from the other groups.
- Households with someone age 55 or older (34% of the households; N=253)

Parks Closest to People's Home

More than one-tenth (12%) indicated that they lived closest to Linwood Park. Six percent (6%) said they lived closest to Edgemoor and another six percent (6%) lived closest to Riverside. Eighty-three (83%) of those surveyed knew the name of the park closest to their home; 17% did not.

Swimming Pool Use

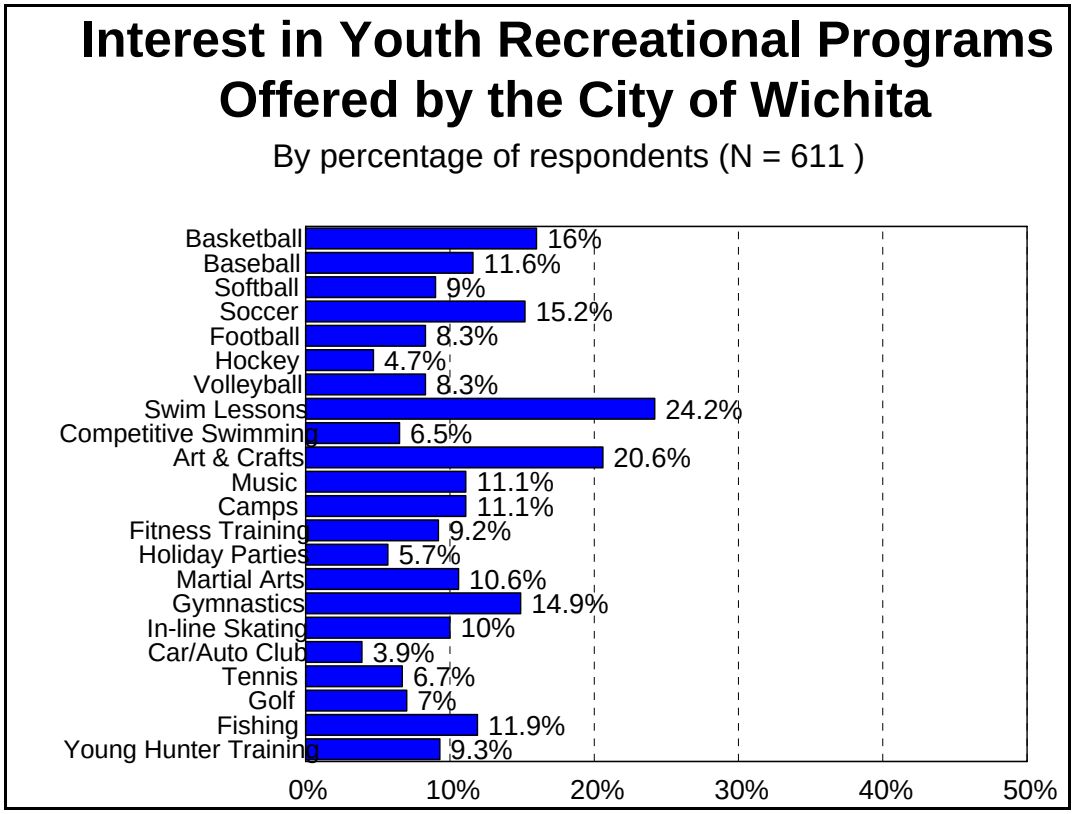
Most (79%) of the respondents had not been to one of the City's swimming pools during the past year. The most frequently cited reasons for not visiting the City's pools were: members of my family are not interested in swimming (38%), respondents use facilities provided by other organizations (30%), and pools are not located near the respondent's home (11%).

Community Recreation Center Use

More than two-thirds (68%) of the respondents had not been to one of the City's community recreation centers during the past year. The most frequently cited reasons for not visiting the City's community recreation centers were: not knowing what programs are offered (45%), using facilities provided by other organizations (22%), not interested in the programs that are currently offered (19%).

Youth Programs

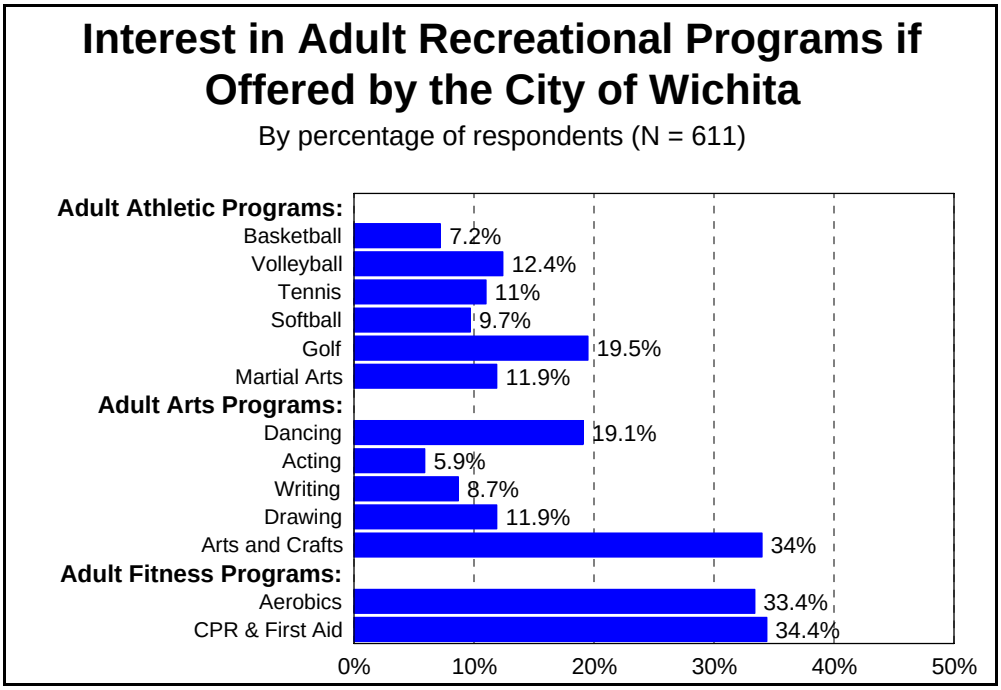
Respondents were given a list of 22 specific youth programs and asked to indicate which ones they



or other members of their household would be interested in if the programs were offered by the City of Wichita. Listed below are the programs along with the percentage of respondents that said they would be interested in the program.

Adult Programs

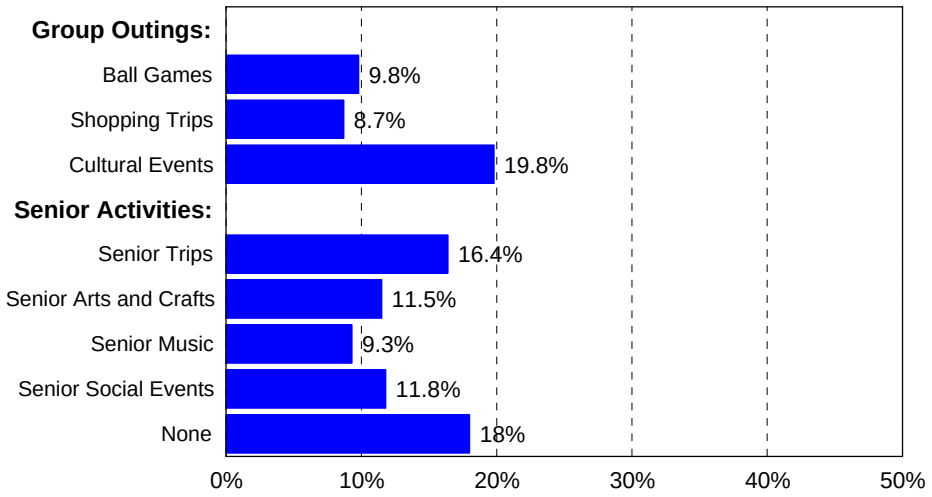
Respondents were given a list of 20 adult programs and asked to indicate which ones they or other



members of their household would be interested in if the programs were offered by the City of Wichita. Listed below are the programs along with the percentage of respondents that said they would be interested in the program.

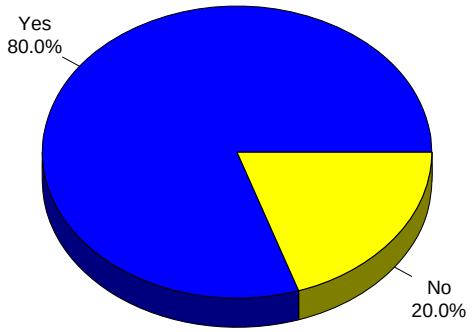
Interest in Adult Recreational Programs It Offered by the City of Wichita

By percentage of respondents (N = 611)



Have You or Members of Your Household Visited any of the City Parks in the Past Year

By percentage of respondents (N = 730)

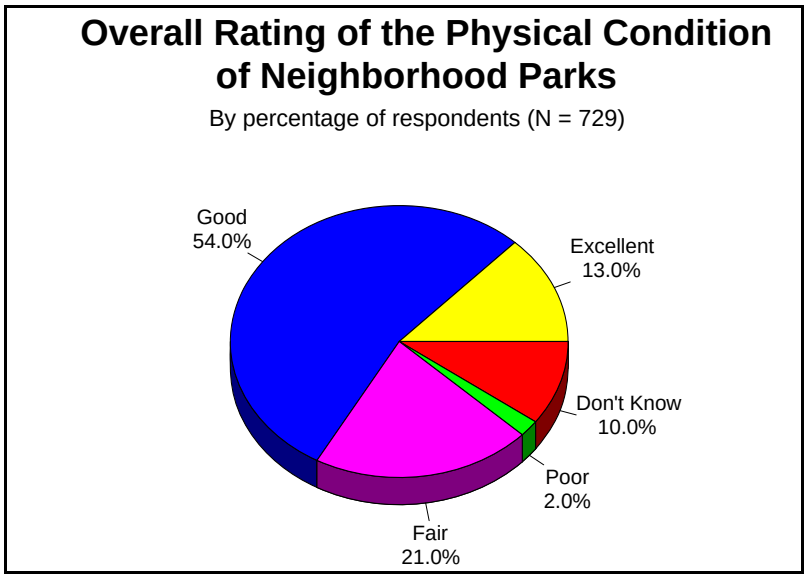


Use of Recreation Programs and Facilities Provided by Other Organizations

More than half (54%) of those surveyed indicated that they used recreation programs and facilities provided by other organizations. The organizations mentioned by more than 20% of the respondents were: YMCA (36%), private health/fitness club (30%), and churches (29%).

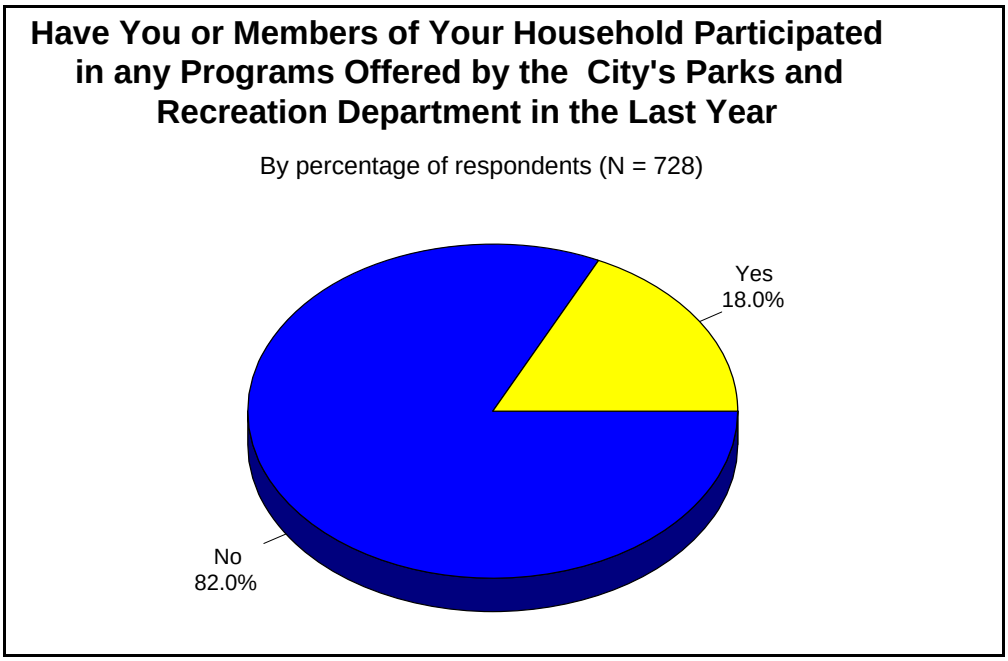
Physical Condition of Neighborhood Parks

Most (80%) of the respondents said that they had been to a City park during the last year. Two-thirds (67%) rated the physical condition of the parks as either excellent (13%) or good (54%). Less than one-fourth (21%) rated the condition as fair (needs some improvements), and 2% rated the condition as poor (needs many improvements).



Overall Rating of Recreation Programs

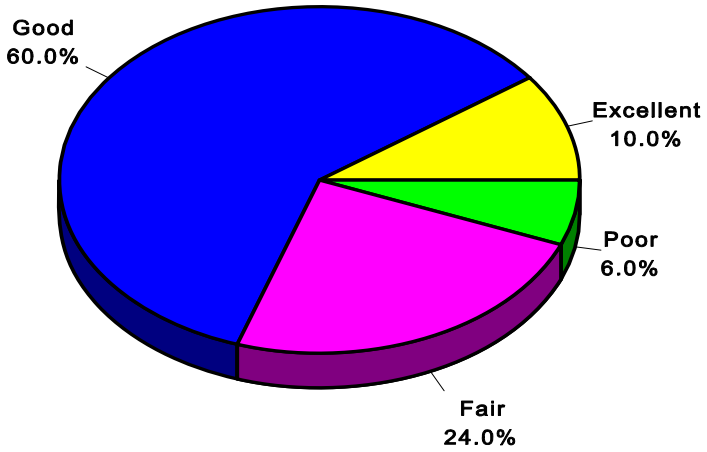
Most (82%) of the respondents had not participated in any programs offered by the City's Park and Recreation Department during the last year. More than half (51%) of the respondents did not know



how they would rate the programs offered by the Parks and Recreation Department. Of those who provided ratings, 70% rated them as excellent (10%) or good (60%).

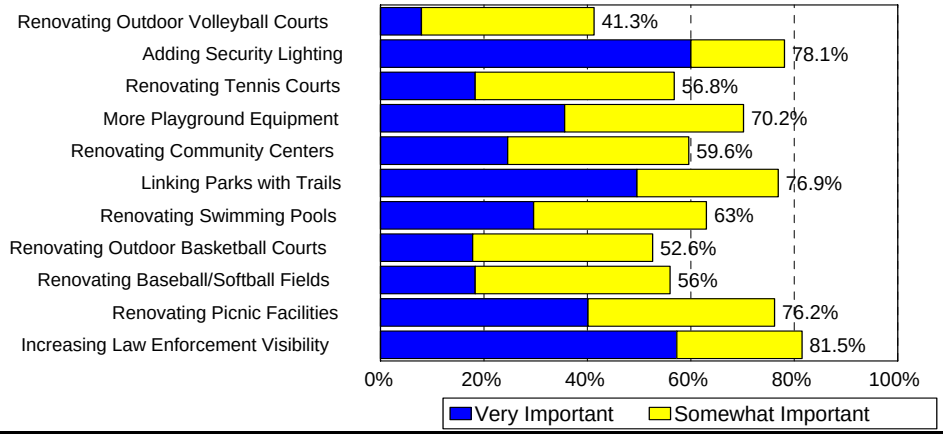
Overall Rating of Programs Offered by the City's Parks and Recreation Department

By percentage of respondents who rated the programs (N = 354)



Importance of Improvements to Existing Recreation Facilities

By percentage of respondents (N = 736)



Improvements to Existing Parks and Recreation Facilities

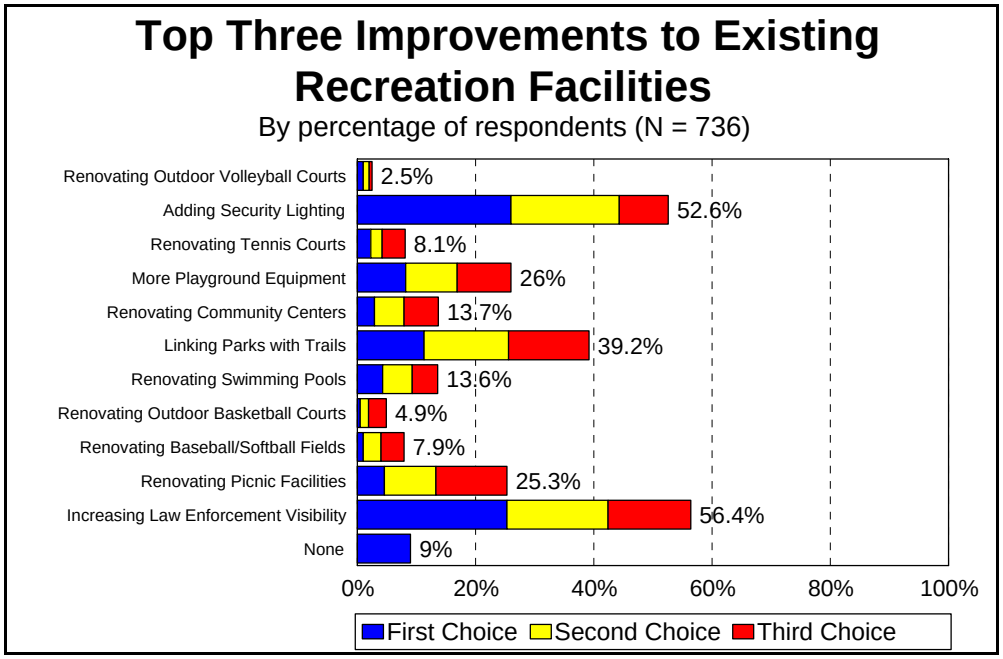
Respondents were asked to rate the importance of 11 specific improvements to existing parks and recreation facilities. Five improvements were considered either very or somewhat important by at least 70% of the respondents: increasing the visibility of law enforcement at parks (81.5%), adding security lighting at facilities (78.1%), linking neighborhood parks with walking/biking trails (76.9%), renovating existing picnic facilities (76.2%), and adding more playground equipment to parks (70.2%).

One technique to examine the results of the survey with regard to the importance of making improvements to existing facilities is to compare the ratio of "very important" and "not important" responses. The ratio is determined by dividing the percentage of "very important" responses by the percentage of "not important" responses. For example, 60% of respondents thought it was "very important" and 2% thought it was "not important" to add security lighting. The ratio for adding security lighting, therefore, is 30. This ratio is a good indicator of the relative amount of support or resistance to specific projects. As a general rule, if the ratio is approximately 2.0 or higher, a community should at least consider further discussion about the project. Facilities that meet this criteria are listed below:

Ratio	Facility
30.0	Adding Security Lighting
14.0	Increase the Visibility of Law Enforcement at Parks
10.0	Renovating Existing Picnic Facilities
5.4	Linking Neighborhood Parks with Walking/Biking Trails
5.0	Adding More Playground Equipment to Parks
3.4	Renovating Existing Community Recreation Centers
3.0	Renovating Existing Swimming Pools

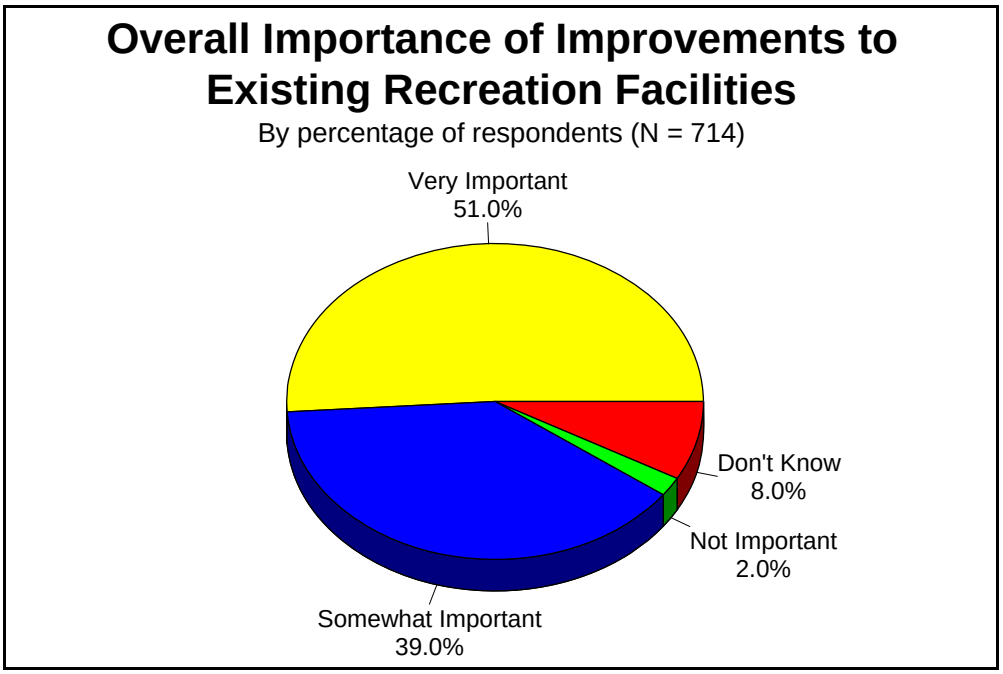
Most Important Improvements to Existing Parks and Recreation Facilities

Respondents were asked which three improvements they would consider to be the most important. Five improvements were rated as one of the top three improvements by at least 25% of the



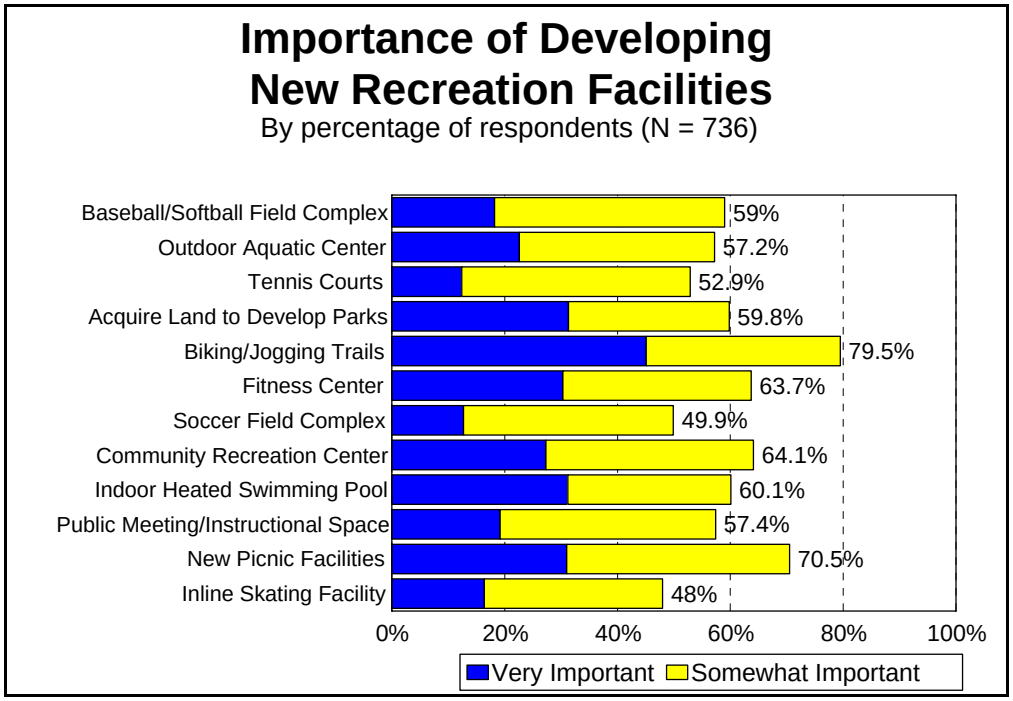
respondents: increasing the visibility of law enforcement at parks (56.4%), adding security lighting at facilities (52.6%), and linking neighborhood parks with walking/biking trails (39.2%), adding more playground equipment to parks (26.0%), and renovating existing picnic facilities (25.3%).

Overall Importance of Making Improvements to Existing Recreation Facilities



Most (90%) of the respondents thought that making improvements to existing recreation facilities was either very (51%) or somewhat (39%) important; only a few thought that it was not important (2%).

Importance of Developing New Parks and Recreation Facilities



Respondents were asked to rate the importance of 12 specific new facilities that the City of Wichita could develop. Two new facilities were considered either very or somewhat important to develop by at least 70% of the respondents: biking/jogging trails (79.5%) and new picnic facilities (70.5%).

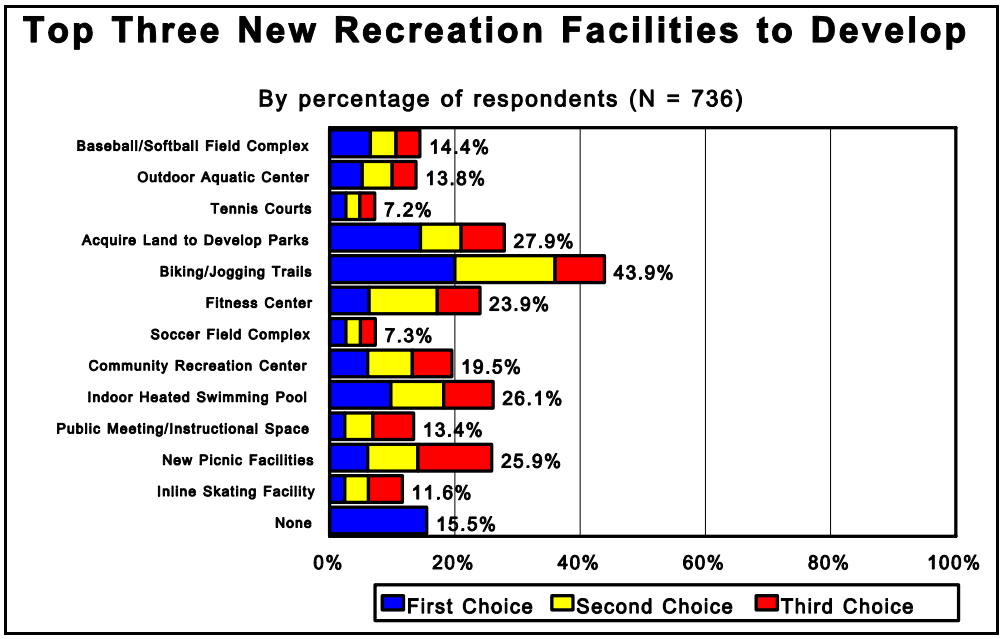
The ratio of “very important” and “not important” responses was used to examine the results. The ratio is determined by dividing the percentage of “very important” responses by the percentage of “not important” responses. For example, 30% of respondents thought it was “very important” and 17% thought it was “not important” to develop a fitness center. The ratio for a fitness center, therefore, is 1.8.

This ratio is a good indicator of the relative amount of support or resistance to specific projects. As a general rule, if the ratio is approximately 2.0 or higher, a community should at least consider further discussion about the project. Facilities that meet this criteria are listed below:

Ratio	Facility
6.4	Biking/Jogging Trails
2.8	New Picnic Facilities
1.9	Community Recreation Center
1.8	Fitness Center
1.7	Acquire More Land to Develop Future Parks

Most Important New Facilities to Develop

Respondents were asked which three of the new facilities they would be most willing to pay additional taxes to support. Five new facilities were rated as one of the top three facilities that respondents would be willing to support by at least 25% of the respondents: biking/jogging trails (43.9%), acquire more land to develop future parks (27.9%), indoor heated swimming pool (26.1%),

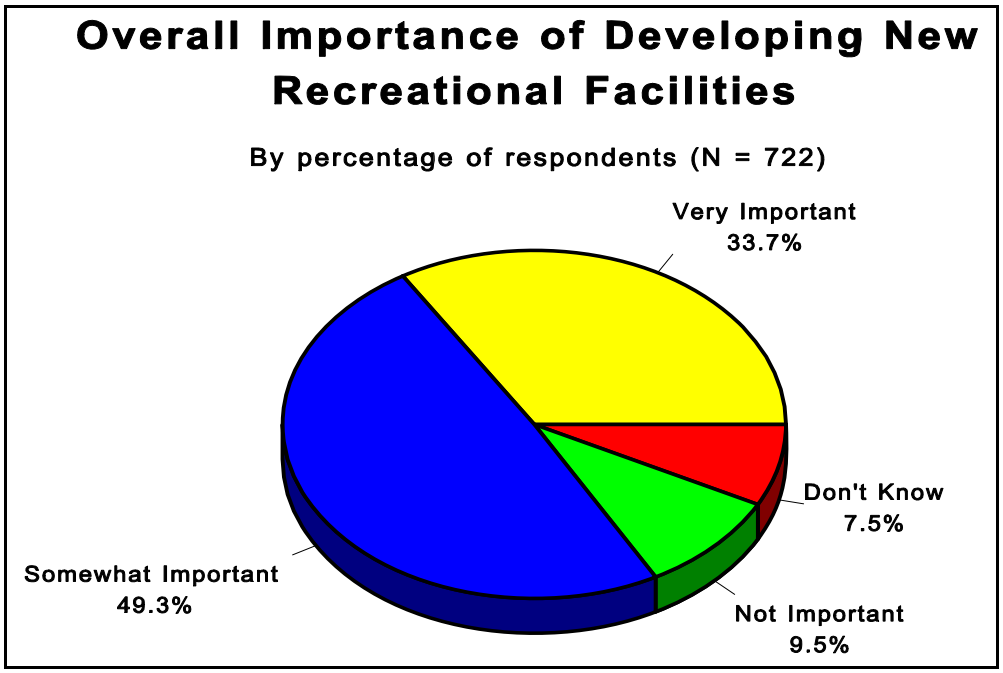


new picnic facilities (25.9%), and a fitness center (23.9%).

Overall Importance of Developing New Recreation Facilities

Most (83%) respondents thought that developing new recreational facilities is either very (33.7%) or somewhat (49.3%) important; less than one-tenth (9.6%) thought that it was not important.

Almost half (45%) of those surveyed would prefer that the City build more small, neighborhood-



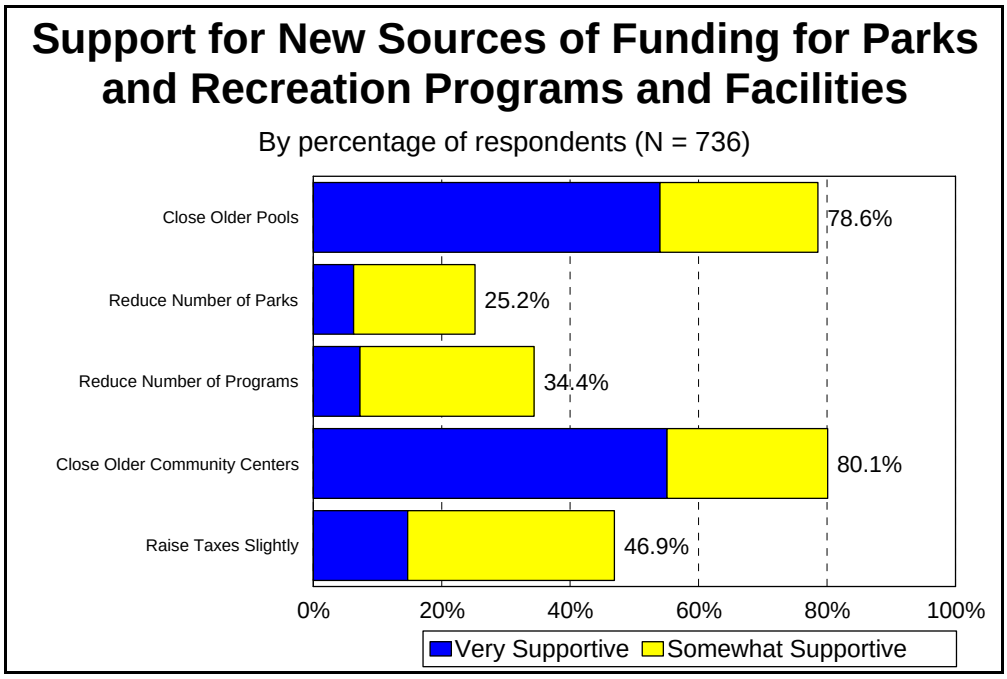
oriented facilities. Less than one-third (29%) preferred that the City build fewer large facilities; one tenth (10%) thought that the City should not build any new facilities.

Types of New Parks

More than half (52%) of the respondents indicated that they would prefer to have the City build more small neighborhood oriented parks. More than one-fourth (28%) would prefer to have fewer large community parks that have a wide range of features and attractions. One-tenth (10%) did not want the City to build any new parks.

Support for Various Sources of Additional Funding

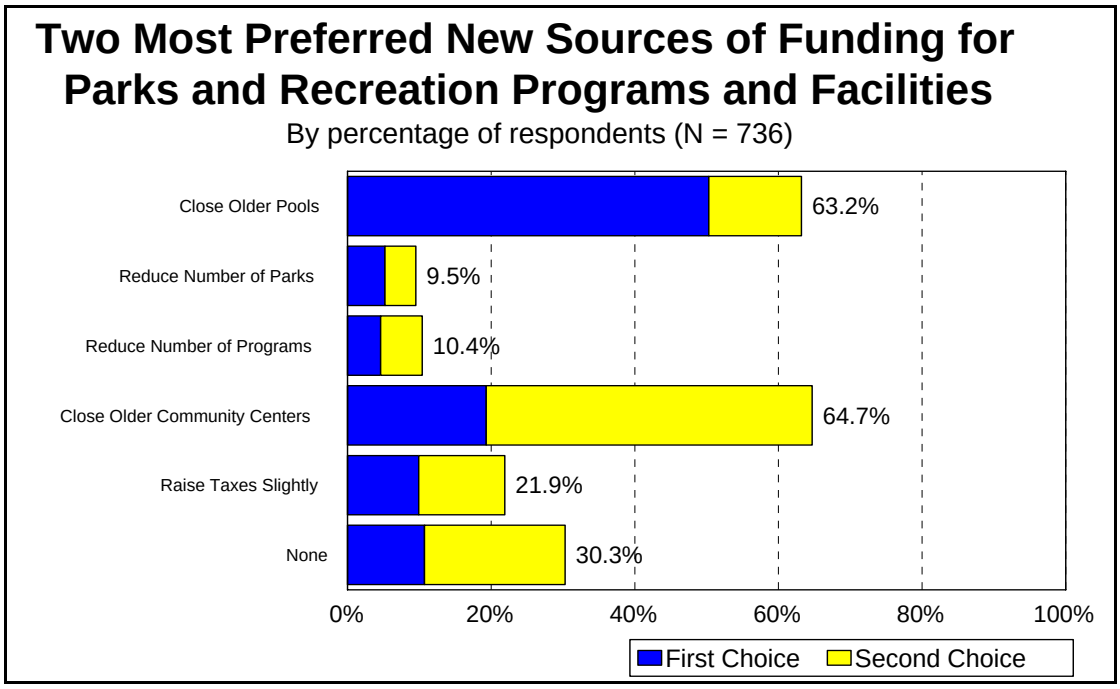
Respondents were asked how supportive they would be for various new sources of funding for new parks and recreation programs and facilities. More than three-fourths (80.1%) were either very (56%) or somewhat (24%) supportive of closing older, under used community centers. Almost as



many (79%) were either very (54%) or somewhat (25%) supportive of closing older, under used pools. Less than half (47%) were either very (15%) or somewhat (32%) supportive of a slight tax increase.

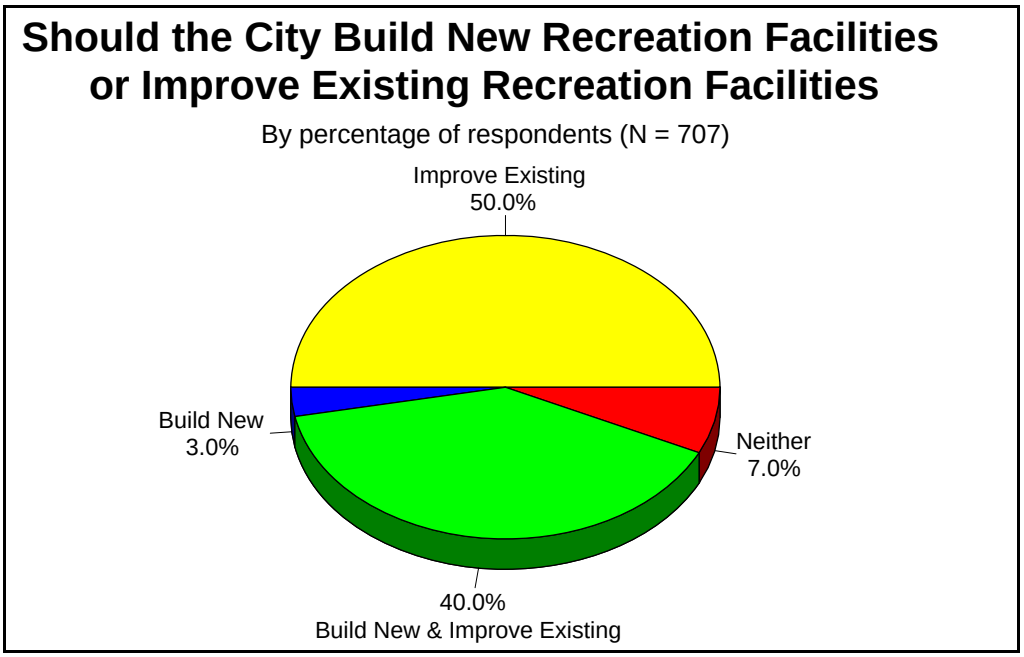
Preferred Sources of Additional Funding for Programs and Facilities

The respondents were asked which two sources of new funding for parks and recreation programs and facilities they preferred most. Two sources of funding were rated as one of the top two most preferred by at least 25% of the respondents: close older pools that are not being used (64.7%), close



older community centers that are not being used (63.2%).

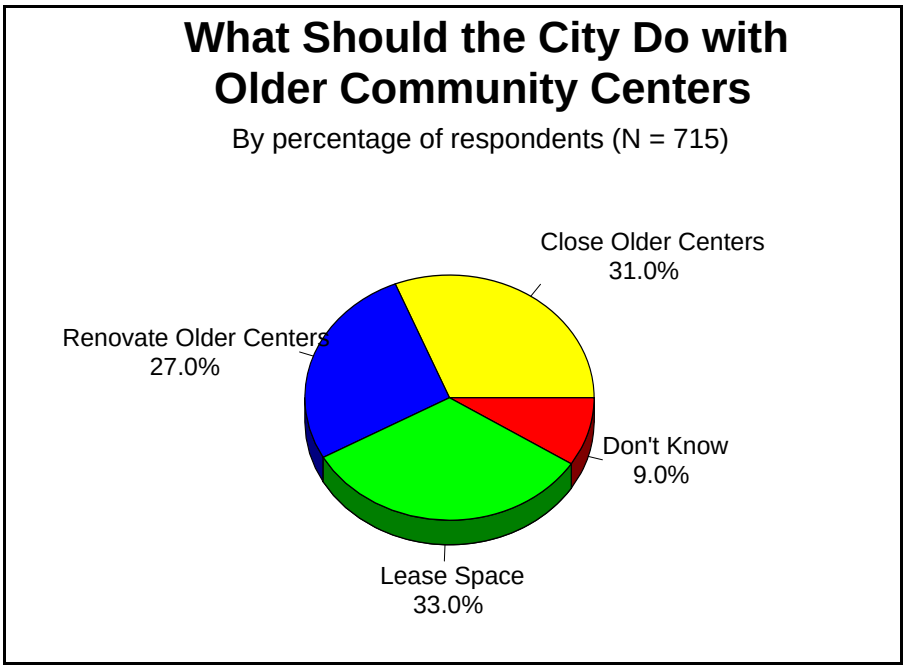
Funding Options



Most (90%) of the respondents think the City should improve existing facilities. Almost half (43%) want the City to build new ones facilities. Only 7% indicated that no improvements or new facilities are needed.

Preferred Uses for Older Community Centers

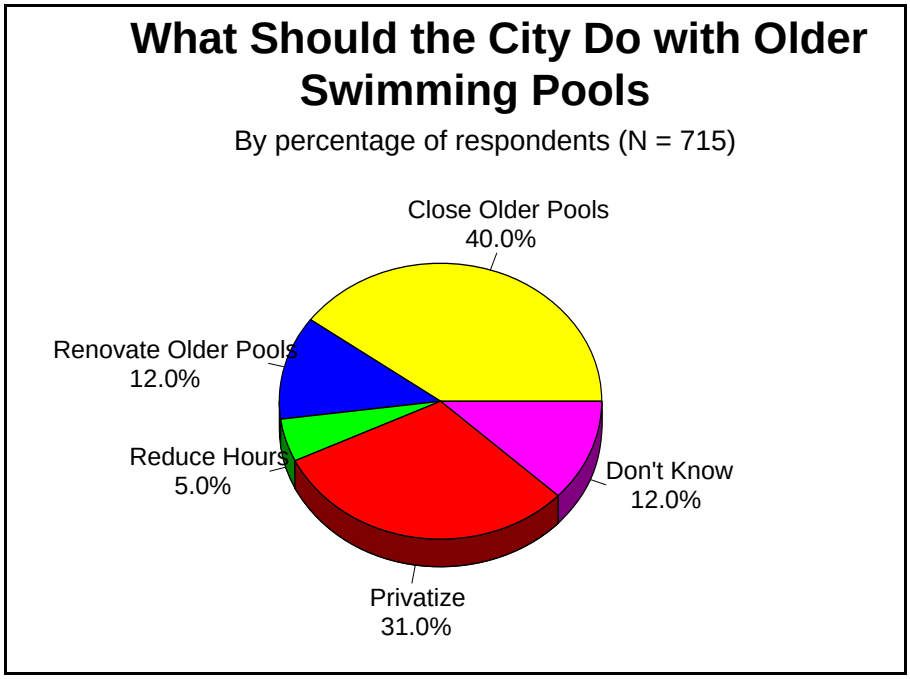
One-third (33%) of the respondents indicated that they would prefer to have the City lease space in old community centers to other organizations. About one-third (31%) felt that the City should close



the under used community centers. More than one-fourth (27%) said that they would rather see the City renovate the centers.

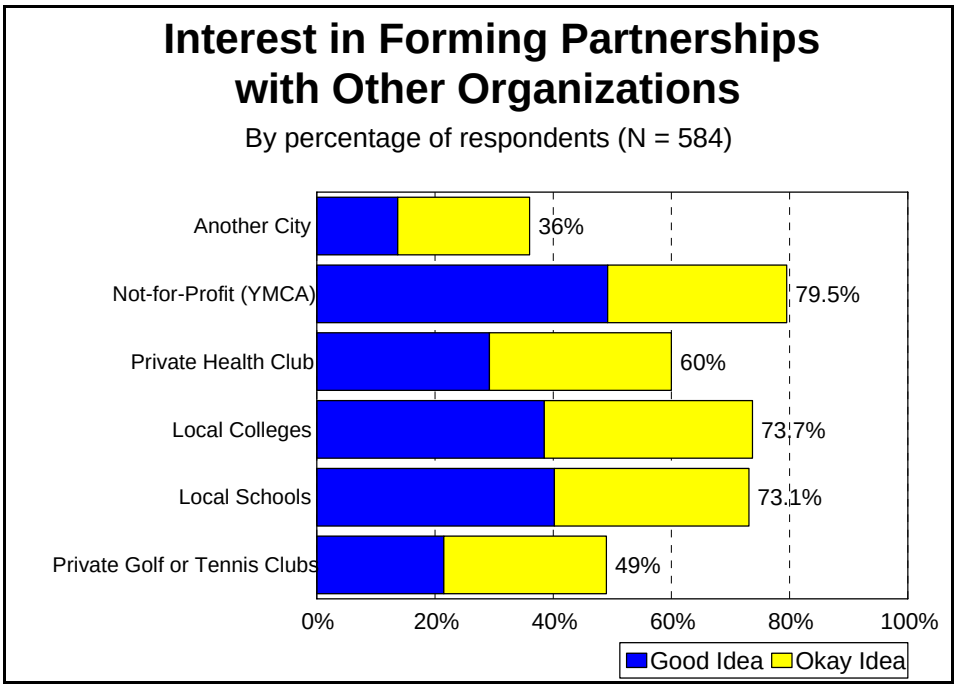
Preferred Uses for Older Swimming Pools

Two-fifths (40%) of the respondents think the City should close older pools. About one-third (31%) felt that the City should privatize the older pools. About one-tenth (12%) indicated that they would like to see the City renovate the older pools.



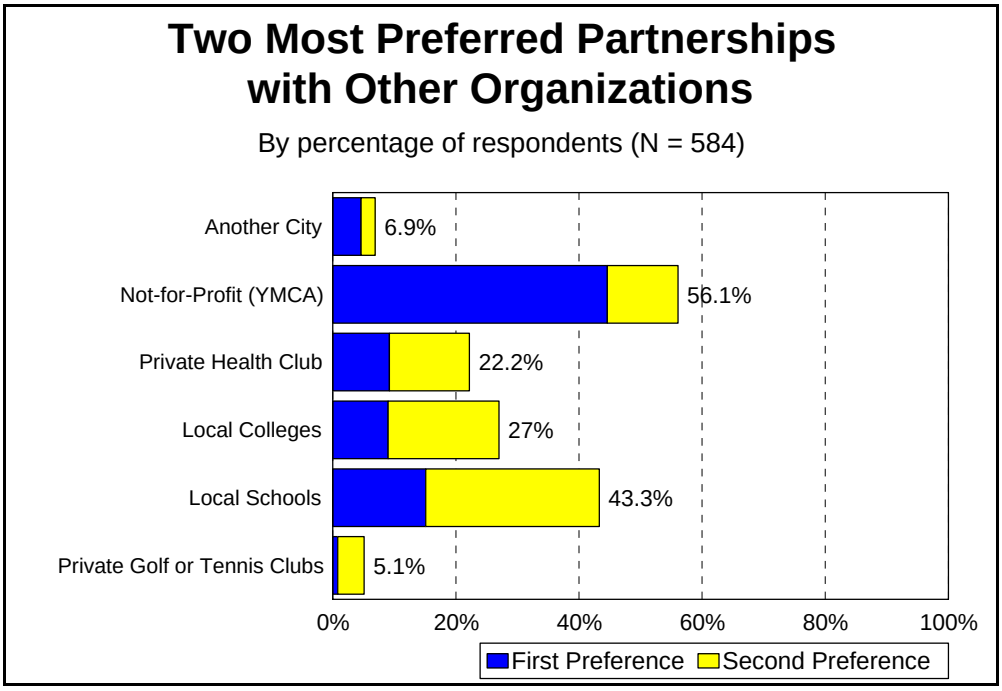
Partnerships with Other Organizations

Respondents were asked how interested they would be in having the City form partnerships with various types of organizations. Three partnerships were considered either a good or an okay idea by



at least 70% of the respondents: not-for-profit organizations such as the YMCA (79.5%), local colleges (73.7%), and local schools (73.1%).

Most Preferred Partnerships

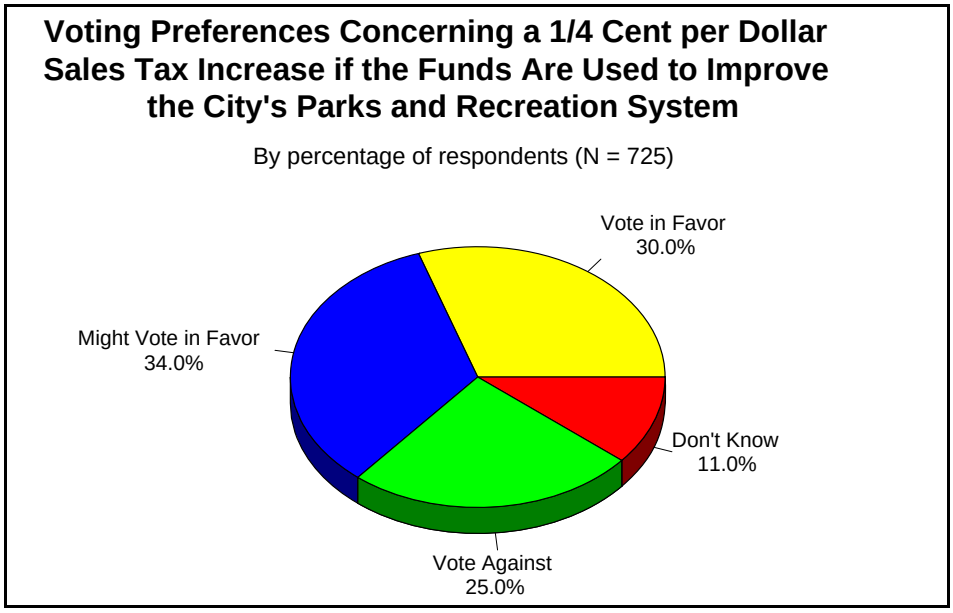


Respondents were asked which two of the partnerships they preferred most. Three partnerships were rated as one of the top two most preferred partnerships by at least 25% of the respondents: not-for-profit organizations such as the YMCA (56.1%), and local schools (43.3%), and local colleges (26%).

Voting Preferences on Tax Issues

More than two-thirds (64%) of the respondents indicated that they either would vote in favor or might vote in favor of a 1/4 cent per dollar sales tax increase if the funds were used to improve the City's parks and recreation system. One-quarter (25%) said they would vote against a sales tax increase.

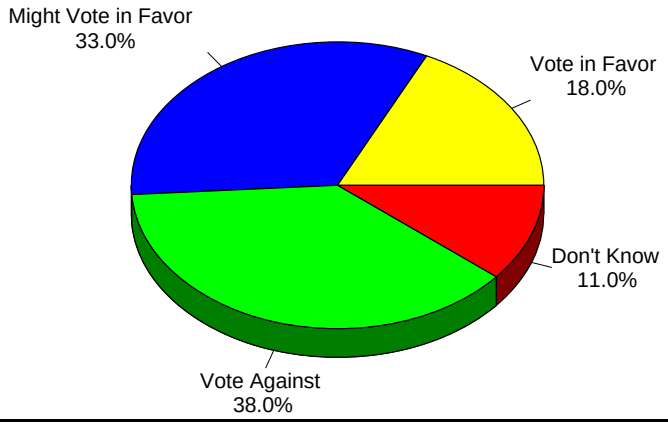
Half (51%) indicated that they either would vote in favor or might vote in favor of a property tax increase. Almost two-fifths (38%) of the respondents indicated that they would vote against a



property tax increase if the funds were used to improve the City's parks and recreation system.

Voting Preferences Concerning a Property Tax Increase if the Funds Are Used to Improve the City's Parks and Recreation System

By percentage of respondents (N = 725)



Demographics

Question 1. Counting yourself, how many people live in your household?

Number in Household	Percentage of Respondents
One	12
Two	40
Three	17
Four	18
Five	8
Six or more	4

Question 2. How many persons in your household (counting yourself) are?

Age	Percentage of Respondents
Under 5 years	8
5 - 9	7
10 - 14	8
15 - 19	7
20 - 24	5
25 - 34	12
35 - 44	15
45 - 54	15
55-64	10
65+	13

Question 3. Which City Park is closest to your home?

City Park Nearest Home	Percentage of Respondents
Linwood	12
Edgemoor	6
Riverside	6
Osage	5
Buffalo	5
College Hill	4
Watson	4
Boston	4
Orchard	4
Evergreen	4
Aley	3
Harrison	2
Sedgwick County	2
Sim	2

Others, which are not necessarily city parks, and mentioned by less than 2% included: Fairmount, Henry, Chisolm Creek, Murdock, Sleepy Hollow, Schweiter, Barton-Friendship, Eastview, Hillsdale, Coleman, Cottonwood, Pawnee, Planeview, Herman Hill, Emery, Rivera, Cessna, Woodland, Kiwanis, Mayberry, Columbine, Sunset, Harvest, Swanson, Country Acres, Sycamore, Brownthrush, Red Barn, Meadows, Minisa, Jamesburg, Air Capital Memorial, Horseshoe, Hyde, Sunnyside, Stanley, Nature, Park City

Don’t know	17

Question 4: Have you or other members of your family been to one of the City's swimming pools during the past year?

Response	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	21
No	79

Question 4b. Several reasons that may have kept you or other members of your household from using the City's swimming pools are listed below.

Reasons for Not Using City Pools	Percentage of Respondents
City pools are not well maintained	6
Security at the pools is poor	6
The hours of operation are not convenient	8
The location of City pools is not close to my home	11
Members of my household use swimming facilities provided by other organizations	30
Members of my household are not interested in swimming	38
Have our own pool	8
Too busy	4
Don't know where pools are	3
Don't swim	5

Question 5. Have you or other members of your family been to one of the City's community recreation centers during the past year?

Have Been to a City Community Recreation	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	32
No	68

Question 5b. Several reasons that may have kept you or other members of your household from using the City's community recreation centers are listed below.

Reasons for Not Using Community Recreation Center	Percentage of Respondents
Community recreation centers are not well maintained	1
Security at the community recreation centers is poor	3
The hours of operation are not convenient	6
The location of community recreation centers is not close to my home	12
Members of my household use recreation facilities provided by other organizations	22
Community recreation centers do not offer programs that interest me or other members of my household	19
I don't know what programs are offered at the community recreation centers.	45
Too busy	10
Not interested	5

Question 6. Several recreational programs that could be offered by the City of Wichita Park and Recreation Department are listed below. Please CHECK ALL programs that you or other members of your household would be interested in participating in if the programs were offered by the City of Wichita.

	Percentage of Respondents
Youth team sports	
Basketball	16
Baseball	12
Softball	9
Soccer	15
Football	8
Hockey	5
Volleyball	8
Youth aquatics	
Swimming lessons	24
Competitive swimming	7
Other youth programs	
Arts and crafts classes	21
Music	11
Camps	11
Fitness training	9
Holiday parties	6
Martial arts	11
Gymnastics	15
Inline skating	10
Car/auto club	4
Tennis	7
Golf	7
Fishing	12
Young hunter training	10

Question 6. Several recreational programs that could be offered by the City of Wichita Park and Recreation Department are listed below. Please CHECK ALL programs that you or other members of your household would be interested in participating in <u>if the programs were offered by the City of Wichita.</u>

	Percentage of Respondents
<u>Adult athletic programs</u>	
Basketball	7
Volleyball	12
Tennis	11
Softball	10
Golf	19
Martial arts	12
<u>Adult arts programs</u>	
Dancing	19
Acting	6
Writing	8
Drawing	12
Arts and crafts classes	34
<u>Adult fitness and health programs</u>	
Aerobics	33
CPR and first aid	34
<u>Group Outings</u>	
Ball games	10
Shopping trips	9
Cultural events	20
<u>Senior adult programs</u>	
Senior trips	16
Arts and crafts	11
Music	9
Social events	11

Question 7. Do you or other members of your household use recreation programs or facilities provided by organizations other than the City of Wichita?

Use Other Recreation Programs	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	54
No	46

Question 7b. Who provides the recreation programs or facilities that you use?

Other Recreation Program Provider	Percentage of Respondents
YMCA	36
Private health/fitness club	30
Other cities or park districts	10
Churches	29
Condominium/home owner's association	4
Private golf or tennis clubs	8
Other	20

Question 8. Have you or members of your household visited any of the City parks during the past year?

Have Visited City Parks	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	79
No	21

Question 9. Overall, how would you rate the physical condition of the parks in your neighborhood?

Rating of Physical Condition	Percentage of Respondents
Excellent	12
Good	54
Fair (need some improvements)	21
Poor (need many improvements)	2
Don't know	10

Question 10. Have you or members of your family participated in any programs offered by the City's Parks and Recreation Department in the last year?

Participated in Programs	Percentage of Respondents
Yes	18
No	82

Question 11. Overall, how would you rate the programs offered by the City's Park and Recreation Department to residents of your neighborhood?

Overall Rating of Program	Percentage of Respondents
Excellent	5
Good	30
Fair (need some improvements)	12
Poor (need many improvements)	3
Don't know	51

Question 12. Several improvements that could be made to the existing parks and recreation facilities are listed below. For each item, please CIRCLE the number that corresponds to level of importance you think the City should place on the improvements. '1' indicates that you think the improvement is "very important," '2' indicates that it is "somewhat important," and '3' indicates that it is "not important." If you are not sure circle '9' which indicates that you "don't know."

Important Improvements	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	Don't Know
Renovating existing outdoor volleyball courts	7	33	19	41
Adding security lighting at facilities	60	18	2	20
Renovating existing tennis courts	18	38	12	32
Adding more playground equipment to parks	35	35	7	23
Renovating existing community recreation centers	24	35	7	34
Linking neighborhood parks with walking/biking trails	49	27	9	15
Renovating existing swimming pools	30	33	10	27
Renovating existing outdoor basketball courts	18	35	12	35
Renovating existing baseball/softball fields	18	38	11	33
Renovating existing picnic facilities	40	36	4	20
Increasing the visibility of law enforcement at parks	56	25	4	15

Question 13. Which THREE improvements from the list above (question #12) do you think are most important? Write in the letters below for your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice using the letters from the list in question #12 above.

	First Choice	Second Choice	Third Choice	Total Percentage
Renovating existing outdoor volleyball courts	1	1	1	3
Adding security lighting at facilities	26	18	8	53
Renovating existing tennis courts	2	2	4	8
Adding more playground equipment to parks	8	8	9	26
Renovating existing community recreation centers	3	5	6	14
Linking neighborhood parks with walking/biking trails	11	14	14	40
Renovating existing swimming pools	4	5	4	14
Renovating existing outdoor basketball courts	1	1	3	5
Renovating existing baseball/softball fields	1	3	4	8
Renovating existing picnic facilities	4	9	12	25
Increasing the visibility of law enforcement at parks	25	17	14	56
Nothing	9	--	--	9

Question 14. In general, how important do you think it is for the City to make improvements to existing recreation facilities such as those listed on the previous page (question #12)?

Level of Importance	Percentage of Respondents
Very important	51
Somewhat important	39
Not important	2
Don't know	8

Question 15. A list of NEW facilities that the City of Wichita could develop is provided below. Please CIRCLE the number that corresponds to level of importance you think the City should place on each facility. '1' indicates that you think the facility is "very important," '2' indicates that it is "somewhat important," and '3' indicates that it is "not important." If you are not sure circle '9' which indicates that you "don't know."

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	Don't Know
Baseball/softball field complex	18	41	16	25
Outdoor family aquatic center	22	35	19	24
Tennis courts	12	40	22	26
Acquire more land to develop future parks	31	28	18	23
Biking/jogging trails	45	34	7	14
A fitness center	30	34	17	19
Soccer field complex	13	37	22	28
Community recreation center	27	36	14	23
Indoor heated swimming pool	31	29	21	19
Public meeting/instructional activity space	20	37	18	25
New picnic facilities	31	40	11	18
Inline skating facility	16	32	28	24

Question 16. Which THREE of the facilities listed above would you be MOST willing to pay additional tax dollars to support? Write in the letters below for your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice using the letters from the list above.

	First Choice	Second Choice	Third Choice	Total Percentage
Baseball/softball field complex	7	4	4	15
Outdoor family aquatic center	5	5	3	13
Tennis courts	2	3	2	7
Acquire more land to develop future parks	15	7	6	28
Biking/jogging trails	20	16	8	44
A fitness center	6	11	7	24
Soccer field complex	2	3	2	7
Community recreation center	6	7	6	20
Indoor heated swimming pool	10	8	8	26
Public meeting/instructional activity space	3	4	7	14
New picnic facilities	6	8	12	26
Inline skating facility	3	4	6	12
Nothing	12	--	--	12

Question 17. In general, how important do you think it is for the City to develop NEW recreation facilities, such as those listed above in question #15?

Degree of Importance	Percentage of Respondents
Very important	34
Somewhat important	49
Not important	9
Don't know	8

Question 18. If the City were to develop new facilities, which of the following would you prefer?

New Facility Preferred	Percentage of Respondents
Build more small, neighborhood-oriented facilities that have a limited number of features	45
Build fewer large facilities that have several features and serve residents from many parts of the City	29
Do not build any new facilities	10
Don't know	16

Question 19. If the City were to develop new parks, which of the following would you prefer?

Preferred Type of Park	Percentage of Respondents
Build fewer large community parks that have a wide range of features and attractions to serve many neighborhoods	28
Build more small parks that are neighborhood oriented but have a limited number of features	52
Do not develop any new parks	10
Don't know	10

Question 20. Funding for parks and recreation programs and facilities is currently limited. To make improvements to existing programs and/or develop new or improve existing facilities, the City would need new sources of funding. Several possible sources of funding are listed below. Please CIRCLE the number that corresponds to your level of support for each source of funding.

	Very Supportive	Somewhat Supportive	Not Supportive	Don't Know
Close older pools that are not being used and have become expensive to operate and maintain	54	24	11	11
Reduce the number of parks the City currently maintains	6	19	54	21
Reduce the number of programs currently offered	7	27	42	24
Close older community centers that are not being used and have become expensive to operate and maintain	56	24	10	10
Raise taxes slightly	15	32	41	12

Question 21. Which TWO of the options listed above would you be MOST willing to support? Write in the letters below for your 1st and 2nd choice using the letters from the list above.

	First Choice	Second Choice	Total Percentage
Close older pools that are not being used and have become expensive to operate and maintain	51	13	64
Reduce the number of parks the City currently maintains	5	5	10
Reduce the number of programs currently offered	5	6	11
Close older community centers that are not being used and have become expensive to operate and maintain	19	45	64
Raise taxes slightly	10	12	22
None	8	--	8

Question 22. Knowing that funding is CURRENTLY limited and that the City would have to pursue new sources of funding to make improvements or develop new recreation facilities, which ONE of the following options BEST represents your preference about the City's recreation facilities?

Preferred Option	Percentage of Respondents
The City should mainly improve existing facilities	50
The City should mainly build new facilities	3
The City should both improve existing facilities and build new ones	40
No improvements or new facilities are needed	4
Don't know	3

Question 23. Given that some of the community centers in older neighborhoods are under used and have become expensive to maintain, which of the following do you prefer?

Preference	Percentage of Respondents
Close some of the older centers that are under used	31
Renovate older community centers and design them to better serve the people that currently live in the neighborhoods (this option may require an increase in taxes)	26
Lease space in the buildings to other organizations	33
Don't know	10

Question 24. Given that some of the older swimming pools are under used and have become expensive to maintain, which of the following do you prefer?

Swimming Pool Preferences	Percentage of Respondents
Close some of the older pools that are less safe	40
Renovate older pools (this may require an increase in taxes)	12
Continue to operate older pools with reduced hours of operation	5
Privatize older pools. This means private organizations, such as neighborhoods, child care providers, or corporations could lease or purchase the pools from the City and operate the pools independently.	31
Don't know	12

Question 25. Instead of building new facilities, the City of Wichita could consider working with or forming partnerships with other organizations to provide residents of the City with access to facilities that have already been built in the City or in nearby communities. For each of the organizations listed below, indicate whether you think it is a good idea, an OK idea, or not a good idea to consider forming a partnership with the organization.

	Good Idea	OK Idea	Not Good	Don't Know
Another City	14	22	34	30
A Partnership with not-for-profit such as YMCA	49	30	7	14
A Partnership with private clubs (health, tennis, golf, fishing, running, etc.)	29	31	22	18
Partnership with local colleges	38	35	8	19
Partnership with local schools	40	32	7	21
Partnership with private golf or tennis clubs	22	27	26	25

Question 26. Which TWO of these partnerships do you like MOST?

	First Preference	Second Preference	Total Preference
Another City	5	2	7
A Partnership with not-for-profit such as YMCA	45	12	57
A Partnership with private clubs (health, tennis, golf, fishing, running, etc.)	9	13	22
Partnership with local colleges	9	17	26
Partnership with local schools	15	27	42
Partnership with private golf or tennis clubs	1	4	5
None given	16	--	16

Question 27. If a 1/4 cent per dollar sales tax increase were proposed at a future election and the funds from the tax were used to improve the City's parks and recreation system, which of the following best describes the way you would most likely vote?

Likely to Vote	Percentage of Respondents
Vote in favor	30
Might vote in favor	34
Vote against	25
Don't know	11

Question 28. If a property tax increase were proposed at a future election and the funds from the tax increase were used for the specific purpose of improving the City's parks and recreation system, which of the following best describes the way you would most likely vote?

Likely to Vote	Percentage of Respondents
Vote in favor	18
Might vote in favor	33
Vote against	38
Don't know	11

Demographics

Counting yourself, how many people live in your household?

Number in Household	Percentage of Respondents
One	12
Two	40
Three	17
Four	18
Five	8
Six or more	4

How many persons in your household (counting yourself) are?

	Percentage of Respondents
Under 5 years	8
5 - 9	
10 - 14	8
15 - 19	7
20 - 24	5
25 - 34	12
35 - 44	15
45 - 54	15
55-64	10
65+	13

	Percentage Of Respondents
Years Lived in Wichita	
Less than 5	9
6 to 10	8
11 to 15	9
16 to 20	8
21 to 30	20
31 or more	46
Type of Home	
Single family	87
Condo/apartment/multi-family	12
Mobile home	1
When housing was built	
Before 1950	26
1950 to 1975	41
After 1975	31
Don't know	2
Age of Respondent	
Under 25	6
25 to 34	17
35 to 44	21
45 to 54	22
55 to 64	14
65+	19
Household Income	
Under $25,000	18
$25,000 to $49,999	33
$50,000 to $74,999	22
$75,000 to $99,999	8
$100,000 or more	6
Did not provide	12

Section IV
Comparative Communities Survey

To assist in evaluating issues impacting the success of the Wichita Parks and Recreation system, a comparative analysis survey was developed and sent to a select number of Kansas and other similar Midwest parks and recreation systems. The communities were selected in consultation with the client.

Key components of the "Comparative Analysis Survey" included questions relating to:

- Numbers and types of parks and recreation facilities
- Staffing levels
- Maintenance practices
- Fees and fee policies
- Non-traditional park functions provided
- Contract maintenance operations
- Relationships with user groups
- Relationships with school district
- Operating budgets
- Sources of funding capital improvements
- Recent capital facilities development

Surveys were received back and analyzed from the following communities:
- Des Moines, Iowa
- Lincoln, Nebraska
- Johnson County, Kansas
- Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- Kansas City, Missouri
- Olathe, Kansas
- Lawrence, Kansas
- Salina, Kansas

The following pages show the results from these surveys as compared with Wichita operations.

Last, further benchmarking comparisons were completed for the Wichita Parks and Recreation Department that compared numbers of key parks and recreation facilities with the aforementioned communities and also the communities of Derby, Kansas; Overland Park, Kansas; Manhattan, Kansas; Leawood, Kansas and Lenexa,

Kansas. This information is contained in graphs at the end of he chapter. Findings from these additional benchmarking comparisons indicate the following:

Number of Outdoor Pools - Wichita has .39 outdoor pools per 10,000 citizens. Eight of the benchmarked communities had more pools per 10,000 citizens than Wichita. Five communities had less pools per 10,000 citizens.

Number of Indoor Pools - Wichita does not have any indoor pools in its parks system. Only 3 of the 13 benchmarked communities had indoor pools. Those were Derby, Lawrence and Overland Park.

Number of Community Centers - Wichita has .33 community centers per 10,000 citizens. Four of the benchmarked communities had more community centers per 10,000 citizens than Wichita and eight had less community centers.

Number of Adult Softball Fields - Wichita has 1.25 adult softball fields per 10,000 residents. Only four communities have more adult softball fields than Wichita, with nine having less.

Number of Tennis Courts - Wichita has 2.22 tennis courts per 10,000 residents. Only five benchmarked communities have more tennis courts, with 3 having less.

Number of Baseball Fields - Wichita has .17 baseball fields per 10,000 residents. All thirteen benchmarked communities have more baseball fields than Wichita per 10,000 residents.

Number of Parks - Wichita has .37 parks per 1,000 residents. Twelve communities have more parks per 1,000 residents than Wichita and six have less.

Number of Soccer Fields - Wichita has .67 soccer fields per 10,000 residents. Seven benchmarked communities have more soccer fields per 10,000 residents than Wichita and six have less.

Access of Open Space (non-maintained and maintained) - Wichita has 9.72 acres of open space per 1,000 residents. Eleven benchmarked communities have more open space and two communities have less.

Number of Sports Fields, i.e. all Baseball and Softball - Wichita has 1.42 sports fields per 10,000 residents. Ten benchmarked

communities have more total sports fields per 10,000 residents and three have less.

Section V
Potential Capital Investment Sources

An identification and evaluation of financing alternatives and methods for implementation of the capital recommndatons was conducted as part of the study. The process includes:

- Identification and definition of potential funding sources.
- Identification of rating criteria.
- Rating of each potential funding source as per its ability to serve as a principal funding source for the projects.

TYPES AND DEFINITIONS

Parks System projects are funded in a multitude of manners. Indicated are seventeen (17) separate methods of financing projects used in various midwest communities to be considered for usage in funding Parks Systems. These methods and their definitions follow.

Dedication/Development Fees: Fees assessed for the development of residential and/or commercial properties with the proceeds to be used for parks and recreation purposes, such as open space acquisition, community park site development, neighborhood parks development, regional parks development, etc.

Foundations/Gifts: Dollars raised from tax-exempt, non-profit organizations established with private donations in promotion of specific causes, activities or issues. Offers a variety of means to fund capital projects including capital campaigns, gifts catalogs, fund raisers, endowments, sales of items, etc.

Recreation Service Fee: This is a dedicated user fee which can be established by a City ordinance or other City procedures for the purpose of constructing and maintaining recreation facilities. The fee can apply to all organized activities which require a reservation of some type, or other purposes as defined by the City. Examples of such activities include adult basketball, volleyball, and softball leagues, youth baseball, soccer, and softball leagues, and special interest classes. The fee allows participants an opportunity to contribute towards the upkeep of facilities being used. One community who uses this fee is Columbia, Missouri. They generate approximately $125,000 to $130,000 per year from the fee, mainly through sports programs.

Community Development Block Grants: These are federal grants which are distributed to cities and can be used for a wide variety of municipal projects within designated geographic areas which meet program guidelines, such as income levels for area residents.

Intermodal Transportation and Efficiency Act: This funding program, commonly called ISTEA, was authorized by the Federal Government in 1991. Funds are distributed through the State of Kansas. There are several million dollars in enhancement revenues available for transportation related projects including bicycle and pedestrian trails, rail depot rehabilitation, landscaping, and beautification programs.

Land and Water Conservation Fund: Funds awarded for acquisition and development of parks, recreation and supporting facilities through the National Park Service and State Park System.

General Obligation Bonds: Bonded indebtedness issued with the approval of the electorate for capital improvements and general public improvements.

Industrial Development Bonds: Specialized revenue bonds issued on behalf of privately-owned, self-supporting facilities.

Property Tax: Tax levied on the assessed valuation of all non-exempt real and personal property.

Hotel, Motel and Restaurant Tax: Tax based on gross receipts from charges and meal services which may be used to build and operate sports fields, regional parks, golf courses, tennis courts and other special park and recreation facilities.

Sales Tax: Tax on the retail sales of taxable goods and services.

Grants: A variety of special grants either currently exist through the Federal and State governmental systems.

Special Improvement District/Benefit District: Taxing districts established to provide funds for certain types of improvements which benefit a specific group of affected properties. Improvements may include landscaping, the erection of fountains, the acquisition of art, and supplemental services for improvement and promotion, including recreation and cultural enhancements.

Annual Appropriation/Leasehold Financing: This more complex financing structure requires use of a third party to act as issuer of the bonds, construct the facility and retain title until the bonds are retired. The City enters into a lease agreement with the third party, with annual lease payments equal to the debt service requirements. The bonds issued by the third party are considered less secure than general obligation bonds of the City, and therefore are more costly. Since these bonds are issued by a separate corporation, they do not impact the City's debt limitations and do not require a vote. However, they also do not entitle the City to levy property taxes to service the debt. The annual lease payments must be appropriated from existing revenues.

Interlocal Agreement: Contractual relationships entered into between two or more local units of government and/or between a local unit of government and a non-profit organization for the joint usage/development of sports fields, regional parks, or other facilities.

Revenue Bonds: Bonds used for capital projects which will generate revenue for debt service where fees can be set aside to support repayment of the bond.

Private Concessionaires: Contract with a private business to provide and operate desirable recreational activities financed, constructed and operated by the private sector with additional compensation paid to the City.

Definitions of Rating Criteria

The following criteria were used in evaluating potential funding sources to renovate and/or build capital projects.

1 - **Presently/Potentially Used By the City** - Is the funding source presently or potentially being used or being developed? The more a funding source mirrors present usage the more points it received.

2 - **Compatibility With Other City Sources** - Is the funding source compatible with other funding sources and policies? Those funding sources that are received higher points.

3 - **Traditional Source of Funding** - Is the funding source traditionally used for the types of projects being operated or recommended for the Parks System. The better suited the funding source is for such projects the more points it received.

4 - **Used by Comparable Communities** - Is the funding source used by other communities being surveyed. The more a funding source is being used, the more points it received.

5 - **Potential Source of Substantial Funding** - Considerable revenues will be needed to construct the Parks System. Therefore, the greater a revenue source's potential to raise substantial funding, the more points it received.

Point System

Criteria 1-4 were rated on a scale of 0 - 5 (with 5 being the highest rating and 0 the lowest. Criteria #5 (Potential Source of Substantial Funding) were rated on a scale of 0 - 10 (10 the highest and 0 the lowest). This gave extra weight for a source's potential ability to raise significant revenues.

Point ratings for each of the criteria were as follows:

1. Presently Used by the City and/or Parks Department

Points	Definition
5 pts	Yes being used
3 pts	In progress of developing
1 pt	Used in past
0 pts	Not used

2. Compatibility with other City Revenue Sources

Points	Definition
5 pts	Yes
0 pts	No

3. <u>Traditional Source of Funding</u>

Points	Definition
5 pts	Very much
3 pts	Often
1 pt	Occasionally
0 pts	Seldom/Never

4. Used by Comparable Communities

Points	Definition
5 pts	Very much
3 pts	Often
1 pt	Occasionally
0 pts	Seldom/ Never

5. <u>Potential Source of Substantial Funding</u>

Points	Definition
10	Very High
6	High
2	Moderate
0	Low

The following page shows ratings of the potential funding sources.

Ratings of Potential Financing Sources Sources of Funds (Parks and Recreation)	Rating Criteria					Totals
	Presently Used by City	Compatible with other Policies	Traditional Source of Funding	Source Used by Other Communities	Potential Source of Substantial Funding	
Dedication/Development Fee	0	5	5	1	6	17
Foundations/Gifts	5	5	5	3	10	28
Recreation Service Fund	0	5	3	1	6	15
Community Development Block Grants	5	5	5	3	6	24
ISTEA	5	5	5	3	6	24
Land & Water Conservation Fund	1	5	1	1	0	8
General Obligation Bonds	5	5	5	5	10	30
Industrial Development Bonds	0	5	1	1	2	9
Ad Valorem Property Tax	5	5	5	1	10	26
Hotel, Motel and Restaurant Tax	0	5	3	1	6	15
Grants	5	5	5	3	10	28
Sales Tax	5	5	4	3	10	27
Special Improvement District Benefit District	5	5	1	1	6	18
Lease Purchase Financing	0	5	1	1	0	7
Interlocal Agreement	5	5	5	1	10	26
Revenue Bonds	0	5	1	1	2	9
Private Concessionaires	5	5	5	1	6	22

Section VI
Recreation Division Analysis

Recreation Division Analysis Introduction

The Recreation Division for Wichita Parks and Recreation Department includes youth and adult sports, recreation centers and programs, aquatics, cultural arts, special events and senior services. The analysis of the Recreation Division included on site visits to recreation facilities and recreation programs, and focus group interviews with key staff, both supervisors who oversee the divisions and those who directly provide the recreation services.

Facility Design

The design of existing recreation facilities, and in particular recreation centers and pools are not up to current standards.

The vast majority of centers and pools are 25-40 years old. Most of the community centers are between 10,000 and 16,000 sq. ft. Current community centers are being built with average sizes of between 45,000 and 70,000 sq. ft.

At the time the City's community centers and pools were built they were state of the art, but the delivery of recreation services across the United States has changed drastically over the last thirty years and the City needs to rethink how recreation facilities compliment program services.

Many of the existing recreation facilities have an incredible need for infrastructure upgrades. Results from the side visits showed numerous opportunities for improvements, with some of the facilities being in poor condition.

The City should not consider investing in facilities that are no longer desired by the community and are at the end of their useful life. Results from the citizen survey showed support for closing underutilized centers and pools as opposed to raising taxes for their use.

As indicated earlier, new recreation centers being created around the United States and even in Wichita through the YMCA are two and three times larger than the existing city facilities and are very intergenerational in the program spaces provided. People want one

stop shopping of a recreation experience. These facilities can serve a multitude of neighborhoods and can be more self supporting than existing facilities.

Recommendation: If the community centers and pools are to remain open and serve the communities, some renovation and expansion should occur to better fit the needs of today's customers. Results from the community survey indicated that the vast majority of citizens favored improving current facilities, with a strong core of citizens favoring building new facilities.

Typical facility features in modern recreation centers include three or four basketball/volleyball courts, running/walking tracks, and indoor /outdoor aquatic facilities, generally designed for recreation and instructional classes.

Additional features include spaces for cardiovascular training, free weight areas, climbing walls, child care areas, aerobic and dance areas, community rooms with catering kitchens and spaces for teens and seniors. In addition updated recreation equipment is needed in all recreation centers.

Pools need to be redesigned to incorporate more leisure components - Whereas pools have traditionally cost tax dollars to operated, today many facilities operate with a net operating surplus. The most popular features are in water play areas, zero depth entry's expanded out of water play areas, zoned participant spaces, water slides and warmer water.

Many of the existing recreation centers, pools and special facilities have excess capacity that needs to be channeled into high levels of public use. This can be done by the development of greater effective programming, updated recreation facilities and more partnerships with other service providers.

Recommendation: Updating color schemes inside and outside of the recreation facilities and pools would have a very positive impact on the users and the community. Many of the color schemes are the 1960 and 1970 look and should be converted to a year 2000 look.

Recommendation: At their present size, consideration should be given for some recreation centers becoming more specialized versus generalized. We would also recommend increased efforts to

operate in clusters of programming areas.

Marketing

While marketing of programs is done there are opportunities for improvements.

Most of the recreation centers do not have a central focus that the community sees as their niche in program delivery. One exception is the Linwood Recreation Center because of the strong senior program in place.

Recommendation: Market research efforts need to allow a more neighborhood focused approach to programming.

Program evaluation tools are not always done on a consistent basis. The concept of program life cycles in understood by some staff and not others. The tracking of number of programs offered versus those that actually take place is not done on a consistent basis.

Program life cycle's are not being tracked by staff that evaluates emerging, growth, mature and decline stages of activities and special events. When the recreation staff begins to track true costs against program life cycles it will help them to recognize how to market the benefits and values of the program through effective pricing and delivery of the service.

Recommendation: Additional staff training related to community based marketing for recreation service delivery would be beneficial. Staff need to learn niche programming, use of distribution channels, positioning and pricing of services.

The Vision for Recreation Services

Currently there is not written vision for recreation services within the City. Some staff have a vision for their respective work units and individual sections have a focus for their work. In some cases program areas compete with each other for resources and users.
Staff who were interviewed see the need for a coordinated vision as an important issue to come out of the parks and facilities plan.

Some staff are concerned regarding the priority status of recreation services to city leadership.

Community values and principals need to be further incorporated into

the recreation division programs. A future vision for recreation program services needs to incorporate these values and principles into program design. Some values and principles were discussed with the staff and those they felt were most important that need to be included in the parks and recreation facilities plan are as follows:

· Safety for participants and staff
· Convenience for the public to access services
· Cleanliness of facilities and parks
· Meeting customers expectations
· Providing a balance between active and passive recreation
· Proactive responses to problems versus reacting to them
· Teamwork among staff as a top priority
· Effective communication between staff and the public
· Trust among staff members as a high priority
· Customer feedback on services needs to be provided
· Quality program delivery and standards need to be in place
· Efficiency and productivity in accessing resources

Many of the front line program staff have been with the department for many years, and have a limited knowledge of recreation program trends in the market place. Many of the staff recognize the value of these trends but have been unwilling to change programs or eliminate programs and institute these new trend programs being offered by other communities throughout the United States. Some of these program trends include the following:

· Adding more after school programs
· Providing programs for young adults ages 13-18
· Creating more earned income opportunities for centers
· Tracking both direct & indirect costs for programs
· Establishing more day care programs
· Creating more fitness programs for all ages
· Development of neighborhood specific programs
· Creating more participatory family programs
· Developing more intergenerational programs
· Creating community and program specific partnerships
· Seeking appropriate contract management of programs

· Moving from producing to brokering program services
· Pricing services to benefits received
· Reduction in number of program classes provided within a program registration

Recommendation - The Vision for the Parks and Recreation Department should take into consideration the needs of the Recreation Division.

Partnering

The City currently has some successful partnering relationships in both active and passive recreation programming and facility development. The public is very supportive of partnering and sees opportunities for the City to partner with other non-profit community organizations, the public schools and others.

There is resistance by staff to partner for fear that their jobs or programs could be replaced by a partner. Partnerships are the future in providing recreation services. Partnerships efforts can occur between school districts, churches, non-profits, private recreation providers, sponsors and other youth serving agencies.

Recommendation: Additional partnering and brokering of services needs to be considered by the City to enhance capacity usage of existing facilities and also to build community advocacy.

While the staff do a good job of working together, additional partnering opportunities within the recreation division should also be pursued. Cross promotional opportunities exist between units in recreation if the staff can see the value of partnering with each other on the delivery of services. While the City has done a good job in identifying city wide and neighborhood responsibilities in programming, this area needs continued attention.

Recommendation: The recreation staff needs to develop effective performance measures to demonstrate success of their partnering efforts. These performances measures can be tied to individual staff evaluations. Accepted performance measures that are being used by other cities include the following:

· Cost per experience
· Capacity levels met in recreation facilities and programs
· Programs offered versus programs offered and held

· Revenues to expense levels met
· User retention levels me
· Partnerships created

The arts division as well as some local businesses can see the benefits of a United Arts funding process put in place in Wichita. This would allow for a more cohesive approach for how the arts are funded. The cultural plan adopted by the City is working but from our understanding is behind in meeting the goals identified.

Recommendation: We would suggest that community wide arts events be managed by the Arts division as a city wide strategy versus each unit within the division doing their own events.

The City's budget process does not allow for revenue cost centers to be created, except in golf. Revenue cost centers allow dollars earned to stay in the program area where it was developed to create more opportunities. The current budgeting process inhibits incentives for raising private dollars from organizations.

Recommendation: The City of Wichita should set up a "matching revenue sources program" to spur collection of fund-raising dollars and other non-city tax sources for funding capital projects. Organizations that raise private fund-raising dollars, fee revenues, or other sources of non-tax revenues to assist in building capital projects should benefit from these efforts. We would recommend that the City match any dollars raised through these efforts with tax revenues and also give a higher priority status to major capital projects which are funded through a combination of public/private sources.

Consultant Recommendations on Recreation Centers and Pools by Site

Recommendation - Boston Recreation Center

This recreation center is nearly 30 years old and in need of general facility upgrades to modernize the facility. The recreation center ought to be expanded with the addition of another gymnasium. A cardiovascular center should be added to the program space at this site. A designated senior citizen or adult center space needs to be added as well as designated social space for teens. A preschool area needs to be added to the space in the building. These changes will maximize the capacity use of the facility and serve more demographic groups in the surrounding neighborhoods.

These changes should be supported by tax dollars through a bond issue or through partnering with other service agencies to manage each new component in the building. Example: A hospital would develop the cardiovascular center or private fitness club, a church or private day care provider would develop and manage the day care area.

The senior area could be developed and managed by the County Area on Aging. The key to this recreation center is to program and modernize the facility. The hours need to be extended to Saturdays.

Recommendation - Lynette Woodard Recreation Center

This facility needs to be modernized and updated to meet the future needs of the community. The Atwater facility must be connected to the main building or leased out to social service agencies in Wichita to provide complementary services in the Center. The social services agencies could serve many of the needs of the neighborhood outside of the recreation center. Hours for this facility need to be extended to Saturday and Sunday.

The funding for this center should come from a bond issue to improve the building. A full complement of agencies at the site would benefit the taxpayers as a whole.

Recommendation - Edgemoor Recreation Center

This facility needs to be modernized and made to be more revenue driven. The pool needs in-water play features to create a destination facility. The program users for the building need to focus on seniors, youth 6 -12, teens and families. The recreation center needs another

gymnasium, a preschool/day care area, and a cardiovascular space for teens and seniors.

Funding for the improvements of this site must come from a bond issue or from leasing this facility out to a YMCA, Boys and Girls Club or hospital to improve and manage the facility to it's fullest capacity. If the City retains the facility it must be updated to be productive.

Recommendation - Lincoln Park Pool

This pool needs to be closed and youth and families directed to another site in the City. The park site is to small to accommodate a pool that can produce revenue. There is not enough adequate parking available in the park.

Recommendation - McAdams Recreation Center and Pool

The recreation facility is 40 years old and in need of major renovations. The site has much history that the City can capture. The pool needs to be totally renovated into a family aquatic center that can produce revenue to offset operating cost. The recreation center serves a good variety of demographic groups and needs to be updated to meet the neighborhood area needs.

This facility could be totally removed and a new facility built. This would be more cost effective and easier to manage for the City.

Funding for this facility should come from a bond issue. The neighborhood is limited in its ability to be very revenue generating, but renovation or total redesign could gain some revenues.

Recommendation - Aley Pool and Stanley Recreation Center

The center is serving the neighborhood well. The pool needs to be modernized and renovated into a family aquatic center. This facility could be much more revenue driven. Pool facility (Renovation) costs should come from a combination of a bond issue, user fees and sponsorship dollars to improve the pool facility to reach its full

capacity of use and revenue capability.

Recommendation - College Hill Pool

This pool needs to be closed. A new pool could be redeveloped on site, but it must be a family aquatic center with a bather capacity of 800 to 1000 to make a facility work in terms of revenues meeting expenses. There is good demographic support in the neighborhood surrounding the park.

Financing would come from a bond issue. The City could lease space to a YMCA or Boys and Girls Club to build a pool on site if they choose not to redevelop the site.

Recommendation - Fairmount Pool

This pool needs to be closed. The pool site does not set up well in the park. There is a lack of parking, visibility and neighborhood support. The park could serve a new pool well, but it must be repositioned in the park. The site could support a large regional aquatic center but this would drastically change the park.

Recommendation - Country Acres Park

This pool should be closed or transferred to the neighborhood association for their use. The site is very limited. There is very little parking to serve people outside of the neighborhood. It is very difficult for this pool to generate revenue to offset expenses in the present location.

Recommendation - Minisa Pool

This pool needs to be renovated and modernized into a family aquatic center. The pool needs to be expanded to allow for more bather capacity. A bond issue could fund the pool improvements. This pool could be transferred to a YMCA or to a private neighborhood association. The neighborhood is capable of paying more in user fees for access to this pool if upgraded and modernized.

Recommendation - Evergreen Recreation Center and Pool

The recreation center and pool needs to be modernized and improved to meet year 2000 standards. A family aquatic center would be a nice change for the site and would complement the diversity of the neighborhood.

Revenue potential for the site could be greater if changes are made to the recreation center and pool. The recreation center needs to be made larger, a designated senior and teen senior is needed and longer building hours are required.

Funding for this center and pool must be from a bond issue.

Recommendation - Linwood Recreation Center

The recreation center needs to be modernized. The pool needs to be renovated into a family aquatic center. The neighborhood can support increased fees for use of the recreation center and pool if modernized.

The improvements need to come from a bond issue.

Recommendation - Orchard Park Community Center and Pool

This site needs to be modernized. The facility needs to be made larger to serve more neighborhoods by adding a gymnasium, a cardiovascular room, a preschool area and a designated senior and teen center.

The pool needs more in-water play features to make it attractive and revenue producing. The improvements for this site need to come from a bond issue.

Recommendation - Harvest Pool

The pool needs to be modernized and converted into a large regional family aquatic center. The pool can support itself through revenues if converted to a family aquatic center.

Improvements need to come from a bond or a revenue bond issue.

Section VII
Facilities & Parks Evaluation

Review of Parks and Facilities

A visual analysis was conducted to examine the existing conditions at each of the City's designated 'A Facilities'. The inventory and analysis phase took several days to complete and included visitation to each of the City's park sites noting the visual condition of each of the facilities that currently are being utilized for recreational opportunities.

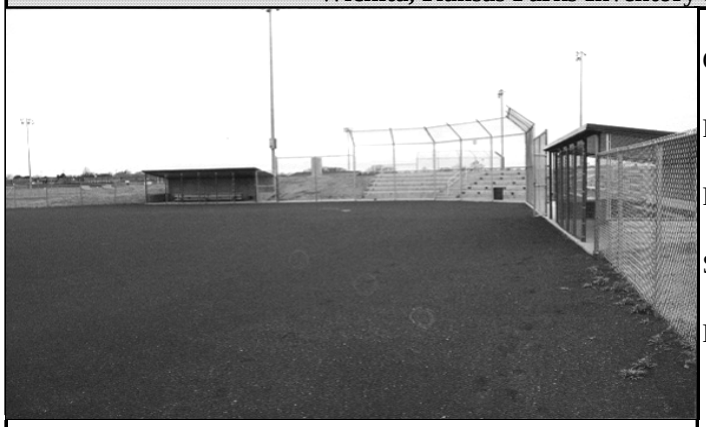
Park Site Inventory

An inventory of each of the 'A Facilities' was conducted. A rating schedule was used which places a value from 0 to 4 on each major amenity within each facility.

The facilities that were inventoried included recreation centers, swimming pools, park shelters, athletic fields, restroom facilities, surface courts, concession buildings, parking lots, site furniture and miscellaneous items that were found within each park. Evaluations for each park are included in this section.

The inventory of the park sites was conducted to gain a better understanding of the existing conditions of the facilities within Wichita as well as gather a more comprehensive inventory of each of the facilities available for public use. The numbers gained through this inventory were then compared to National Parks and Recreation Association standards. As mentioned in the Park Classification section of this report, these standards are meant only as guidelines and benchmarks, but give us a good baseline from which to compare Wichita's existing number of facilities to NRPA standards.

Wichita, Kansas Parks Inventory and Analysis



Community Center:

Pool Facility:

Park: **South Lakes**

Size: **243.5 acres**

Location: **Southwest**

'A' Facilities		Number/ Size	Condition				
			Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor	
Softball Fields		4					
	Concession Building	NA					
	Restroom Building	NA					
	Infields		x				
	Outfields		x				
	Fencing		x				
	Bleachers		x				
	Scoreboard		x				
	Lighting		x				
	Maintenance Facility	NA					
Soccer Fields		17					
	Concession Building	NA					
	Playing Fields			x			
	Goals			x			
	Bleachers						
	Scoreboard	NA					

Facility- Southlake Soccer and Softball Complex

Facility/Program Introduction

The soccer and softball complex has 279 teams that participate in soccer and softball programs each weekend. Softball play has been scaled back from 8 fields to 4 fields, the City is still planning to develop softball back to 8 fields in the future.
The City intends to have the sports complex completed in May of 1998, including restrooms and concession facilities.
At this point the project is 2.5 million over the projected budget.

Current Facility Strengths

- The programs provided have good participation numbers for both soccer and softball.
- The complex is large and when completed will be able to accommodate many participants.
- The complex is an excellent site for soccer and softball.
- The site has great potential economic impact for the City of Wichita from visitors outside of the city who come to play soccer or softball at the complex.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- There was standing water in the complex during the site visit indicating that the fields do not drain well.
- The parking area is not paved.
- Maintenance equipment was stored outside and player protection fencing did not exist.
- Irrigation and drainage on the site appear to be a problem.
- Spreading the softball fields out has lost some of the revenue potential that could be gained by developing them closer in proximity

Possible Improvements

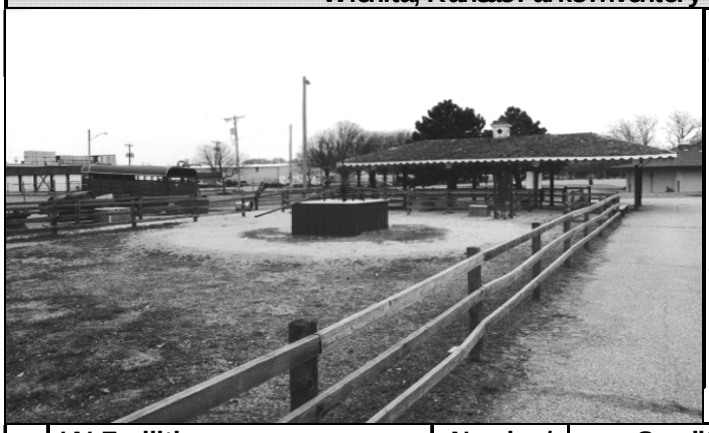
- The city should consider developing sponsorships on site for added revenue to enhance the soccer goals, the player protection fencing, the concession area and to add banners on site. Currently, scoreboards sponsored by Pepsi are being planned.
- Another entrance and exit for traffic needs to be developed as quickly as possible to help alleviate traffic congestion on the site.
- A storage area needs to be developed on the site for maintenance equipment.
- There could be several concession areas developed on the site with restrooms for parent and player accommodations. The city should considered developing a sports theme for the site to give the site special distinction in the minds of the community.
- Traffic flow needs to be one way in and out in both directions for player safety.
- Fees for soccer need to include the cost of maintenance for the fields.
- A detention pond for the soccer fields needs to be added to relieve the water problems on the fields. This may require the removal of a field for soccer. This could also create a park like environment and a picnic area for users.
- Adding drainage tile to the fields should solve the water problem and mitigate the water damage done to the fields. Another option might be to raise the elevation of the soccer fields on site.
- The soccer fields need to have paved parking with angle parking for players safety purposes with a median down the middle of the road.
- Adding split rail fence or board on board fence to protect the players and children is needed.
- The complex needs landscaping throughout as well as at the entrances.
- Signage for each field is needed.
- Designated areas for safety people on site and emergency access for both the softball and soccer is needed.
- The soccer fields need to have a rest system in place for eliminating over use on certain fields to help fields to recover and allow the opportunity to renovate and update the fields as needed.

- The irrigation on site needs to be activated on all fields so that they have proper drainage. If not the soccer fields will be destroyed and the pipes will eventually need to be replaced.
- The City might consider creating an adult beverage area to keep players on site and maximize revenue potential for the complex. This could be privately contracted.
- The softball fields could use batting cages to meet players needs and add additional revenue for the site.
- A single point of entrance needs to be added at the softball fields for collection of fees.
- One softball field could be set up as a championship field for tournaments.
- The site needs a sports theme and a greater park identity for the public to recognize the site throughout the City.

Recommendations

- The Southlake Soccer and Softball Complex is signature sports park for the City of Wichita.
- Within the next five years the City needs to complete the complex as designed with the following additional recommendations.
- Add the additional four field softball complex but design the facility as close as possible to the existing softball complex within safety zones. This will help create more energy for the two complexes.
- The city needs to privatize the concessions and allow for an adult beverage area to be developed on site by the private operator . This will produce more revenue for the sports park.
- The city need to allow sponsorship banners and signs to exist on softball score boards, fences, dugouts and backstops along with soccer goals and soccer player protection fencing.
- The City needs to establish this sports park as a stand alone revenue center to allow all funds from user fees and concessions to stay in the park.
- The city needs to establish a subsidy level for youth sports on a citywide level and allow sports teams to cover the additional cost of maintenance, utilities and supervision to be covered by the users.
- A full activity based costing model needs to be established for soccer and softball to demonstrate to the players and parents of the true cost the city is investing in each sport occurring on the site. All player fees need to include the cost of maintenance.
- The city needs to create as least two concession/restroom areas on the soccer site for player and parent accommodation.
- The city must add player protection fencing between the sports fields and the parking areas.
- One way traffic flow with a middle island needs to be added to move traffic safely and protect players.
- The park needs a yearly theme to build on with a consistent color scheme and strong entrance signage and landscaping.
- The City needs to incorporate a water drainage program for each site to eliminate standing water on the fields.
- The sports complex needs trees and landscaping added to soften the site visually.
- The complex needs a maintenance area for equipment storage.
- Additional earned income opportunities could be created on site with batting cages, establishing one championship field for soccer and softball, charging a per car or per person admission fee for major tournaments held on site.

Wichita, Kansas Parks Inventory and Analysis



Community Center:

Pool Facility:

Park: **Watson**

Size: **119.00 acres**

Location: **Southwest**

'A' Facilities	Number/ Size	Condition			
		Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor
Sand Volleyball Courts	32				
Playing Surface				x	
Nets	NA				
Uprights					
Pony Rides	1				
Stables				x	
Riding Area			x		
Storage Barn			x		
Miniature Train Ride	1				
Train	NA				
Train Shed			x		
Open Shelter Building	5				
Support Structure			x		
Roof		x			
Floor			x		
Paint			x		
Concession Building	1		x		
Storage Building	1			x	
Miniature Golf Course	1				x
Playground	4			x	
Outdoor Restroom Facilities	4		x		

Facility- Watson Park

Facility/Program Introduction

The park has a Wizard of Oz theme in some areas including a yellow brick road.Some of the other amenities include, pony rides, a miniature train, a petting zoo, two new playgrounds, a miniature golf course, 43 sand volleyball courts and an accessible island in the middle of the lake area.

Current Facility Strengths

- Citizens utilize the park, however, there is excess capacity of use in many of the amenities on site and the site could be programmed stronger.
- The park is bringing in fairly good revenues from the various venues on site.
- There were good trails throughout the park.
- The concession building is in good condition as well as is the board walk area down to the boats.
- The picnic shelters and the picnic tables appear to be in good condition.
- The restroom facilities are in good condition and clean.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- There was no consistent color scheme in the park.
- The miniature golf course was in bad condition and needs to be renovated.
- Currently, the sand volleyball courts are not utilized except once a year.
- There is no entrance fee for the park.
- The signage was not consistent.
- Some of the barrels used for trash need painting.
- The park gave the feel of a roadside park because a person drives in and drives out on the same road.
- The entrance road was in need of repair.
- One of the playgrounds had equipment that was outdated and did not meet playground safety code.
- The park has a low image value.
- The restroom doors need paint because of graffiti on them.
- There are no street signs indicating to the public how to access the park.

Possible Improvements

- The island in the lake could be renovated and used for a day camp site, community special events or for reservations.
- The city might consider adding a large regional playground to the park.
- The park should carry a theme throughout the entire park.
- The park would be an excellent place to add a nature/ education area or center.
- Landscaping needs to be added around the park and the picnic areas need better defined landscaping.
- The entire site needs to be programmed by staff on a weekend/ weekday basis.
- This would be an excellent day camp site.
- The sand volleyball sand is too course and a new type of finer sand is needed.
- A skateboard park on site would be a good opportunity to add value to the park and enhance revenue potential.
- The playground ADA section needs to have a padded surface area over the concrete.
- A trail system around the park is needed and along the waters edge or a cantilever boardwalk along the lake would add tremendous value to the users experience.
- The park should capitalize more on the small lake and the island. The park needs to be zoned by activity area for adult and family areas as well as youth. This could be done effectively by

adding positive signage and how to use the park as designed based on meeting the target audience.

- The major off park road entrances needs enhanced and more identification of how to access the park location needs to be established on city streets.
- Visitor security could be an issue in the off road areas of the park and needs to be considered in the park redesign.
- The animal care areas are in need of some major improvements and image enhancements need to be made.

Recommendations

- This park could be a magnet park for the city with the following recommendations developed.
- Create a ride coupon program for families on site so when people visit the park they will take advantage of the amusement amenities on site.
- Contract with a small amusement company to put in a small carnival that operates at least four days a week that can be targeted for families, groups and teens.
- Create an outstanding day camp site on the island that includes a high adventure activity area such as a climbing wall, skateboard area and inline skating area.
- Create a large regional playground on site to attract families.
- Create improved landscaping throughout the park with good use of plant colors and facility colors.
- A walking trail system could be added.
- The park and recreation staff need to create a series of events in the park to bring people to the park as well create visual activities on the lake. These could include small boat regattas, radio-controlled boats, and paddle boats.
- On street signage on how to access the park is needed to help draw attention to the park.
- A marketing plan for the park needs to be implemented to encourage the public to use the park.

Wichita, Kansas Parks Inventory and Analysis

Community Center:	
Pool Facility:	
Park:	**West Douglas**
Size:	**16.77 acres**
Location:	**Southwest**
Area Map Code:	

'A' Facilities	Number/ Size	Condition				
		Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor	
Softball Fields	2					
Concession Building				x		
Infields			x			
Outfields				x		
Fencing				x		
Bleachers					x	
Scoreboard	NA					
Lighting					x	
Maintenance Building	NA					

Facility- West Douglas Park

Facility/ Program Introduction

The site has one softball field, one baseball field and two tennis courts.

Current Facility Strengths

- Participation numbers at the sports complex are good.
- The infields are in good condition and have been amended with shale.
- Outfields for baseball and softball are in fair condition as is the fencing.
- The tennis courts are accessible from a nearby school.

Current Facility Weaknesses

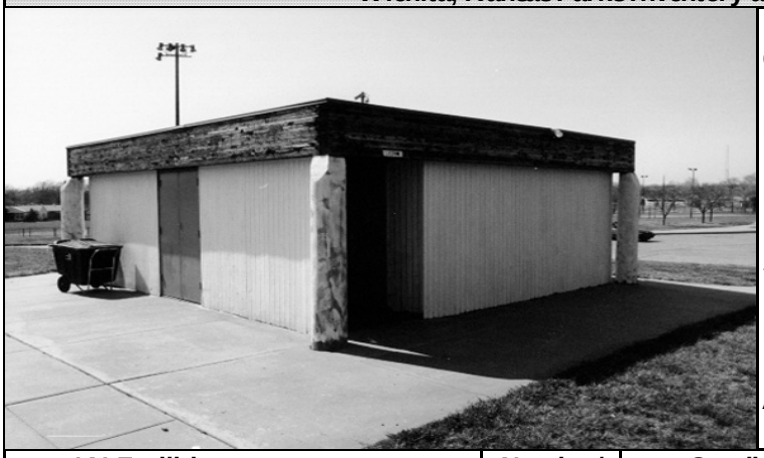
- Tennis courts are in extremely poor condition.
- The bleachers are in poor condition and are sitting on highly eroded, uneven grades.
- Lighting at the park is outdated and at minimal levels.
- At the present there is one concession stand in the park adjacent to the north field. It, however, is no operated on a regular basis if at all.

- The game fields have a very poor spatial relationship to one another.
- The dugouts are not covered.
- There is erosion near at least one of the dugouts revealing the concrete slab. This is creating liability issues for the City.
- Tennis net footings are coming out of the pavement.

Possible Improvements

- The park site has room to be redesigned and the City might consider this.
- Earned income opportunities such as a concession stand could be improved at the site.
- Dugouts on each field could use a roof on them for shade.
- Lighting needs to be updated.
- There is some room to redesign the fields and add additional fields.

Wichita, Kansas Parks Inventory and Analysis



Community Center:	
Pool Facility:	
Park:	**Cessna**
Size:	**40.00 acres**
Location:	**Southeast**
Area Map Code:	

'A' Facilities		Number/ Size	Condition			
			Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor
Softball Fields		2				
	Concession Building	NA				
	Infields				x	
	Outfields				x	
	Fencing					x
	Bleachers					x
	Scoreboard	NA				
	Lighting					x
	Maintenance Building	NA				
Outdoor Restroom		1				
	Roof				x	
	Walls			x		
	Doors			x		
	Paint				x	

Facility- Cessna Park

Facility/ Program Introduction

The site is located in a neighborhood that is very supportive of the park. The park in general is outdated and the recreational usability is outdated. The park image value is very low.

Current Facility Strengths

- The outfield of the softball field is in fairly good condition.
- Restrooms at the facility are in fair condition.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- In it's current condition there is virtually no revenue capability for the park.
- The relationship between the fields is poor.
- Softball fencing is poor and bleachers are in poor condition and have poor outfield grass.
- The infield is in poor condition and is not graded or amended.
- The bleachers are in poor condition.

Possible Improvements

- The tennis courts could be renovated and possibly turned into another amenity, such as a skateboard or roller blade area.
- The ball fields all need to be updated and renovated. A consistent and updated signage plan needs to be put in place for the site.

Recommendations

- The park tennis courts need to be converted into a skateboard park or inline hockey area.
- The ballfields need updated and repaired.
- The entire park needs to be upgraded with an improved color scheme, improved facilities and equipment to serve the neighborhood better.

Wichita, Kansas Parks Inventory and Analysis

Community Center:	
Pool Facility:	
Park:	**West Side Athletic Field**
Size:	**24.83 acres**
Location:	**Northwest**

'A' Facilities	Number/ Size	Condition				
		Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor	
Baseball Fields	1					
Concession Building				x		
Restroom Building				x		
Infields			x			
Outfields			x			
Fencing				x		
Dugouts				x		
Bleachers			x			
Scoreboard			x			
Lighting			x			
Maintenance Facility			x			
Softball Fields	4					
Concession Building				x		
Restroom Building				x		
Infields			x			
Outfields				x		
Fencing	NA				x	
Bleachers			x			
Scoreboard						
Lighting				x		
Maintenance Facility			x			

Facility- West Side Athletic Fields

Facility/ Program Introduction

This athletic complex has 4 softball fields and a legion baseball field. There is also a playground on the site with minimal play equipment. The revenue received from this site is good. The park is a destination park and not a neighborhood park.

Current Facility Strengths

- The fields are generally in good condition and the infields have recently been amended with red shale.
- The scoreboard in the outfield of the baseball field is sponsored by Coke.
- Softball outfields are well graded and have good grass.
- Participation numbers at this site are good.
- The seating capacity is approximately 700. Large aluminum bleachers on each side of the field can seat around 200 people and are in good condition.
- The baseball outfield is well graded and has nice grass.
- The lighting is in good condition with wood poles on the baseball fields.
- One softball field has a 6 foot high fence which is superior to the 4 foot fences.
- There is a maintenance building on site for easy access to fields.
- Access to the site is good from the street as well as the adjacent neighborhood.
- The baseball field has a great relationship to Central Ave. that runs to the north.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- The complex is built around the parking lot and this design creates bad vehicular circulation. This also creates pedestrian and vehicular conflict. There is also little cohesiveness due to this fact.
- The softball fields have inadequate lighting, which is too low creating glare and slower response times. This makes for unsafe play.
- Sideline game field fences appear to be old and are rusted.
- Two softball fields have 4 foot fencing, which is dangerous.
- The seating is minimal on the softball fields.
- The facility is outdated but still heavily used by the community.
- The parking lot is dirt and is poorly graded. This makes for inefficient parking due to the lack of striping and the presence of physical features such as potholes.
- The concession area at the baseball field does not protray a good image.
- The restroom/concession building is convenient for one field at best and there is little to no signage to help direct users to their destination.
- The softball fields have inadequate lighting, which is too low creating glare and slower response times. This makes for unsafe play.

Possible Improvements

- West Side has the potential of being a state of the art league and tournament facility.
- With the addition of some architectural detailing and facade work to its concrete bleachers a showcase element could be create a new and festive look. Combine this with an enhanced drop off area, entry plaza and a relocated parking lot and the park would be redefined as a state of the art sports complex.
- Re-organization of the fields would allow the use of a centrally located restroom / concession building accessible by all.
- There needs to be an updated signage program in place.
- The City might consider other sponsors to help offset the cost of updating fields and for developing more concession programs.
- Field grading could be improved in some areas.
- The dugouts need covered roofs to provide shade for the players.

Recommendations

- The site needs to be marketed and upgraded to a softball center close to downtown.
- Improved signage, lighting and parking lot improvements are needed.
- Developing dugout and outfield fencing sponsors can enhance the site.
- The concession facilities need updated and relocated to serve the whole park not just the baseball facility.
- The park needs improved landscaping, signage and connection to the river park across the street.

Wichita, Kansas Parks Inventory and Analysis

Community Center:

Pool Facility:

Park: **Planeview**

Size: **116.39 acres**

Location: **Southeast**

Area Map Code:

'A' Facilities	Number/ Size	Condition			
		Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor
Baseball Fields	2				
Concession Building			x		
Restroom Building				x	
Infields				x	
Outfields				x	
Fencing			x		
Bleachers			x		
Scoreboard	NA				
Lighting				x	
Maintenance Facility	NA				
Softball Fields	3				
Concession Building			x		
Restroom Building				x	
Infields					x
Outfields				x	
Fencing				x	
Bleachers			x		
Scoreboard	N/A				
Lighting				x	
Maintenance Facility	N/A				
Soccer Fields	10				
Concession Building	NA				
Playing Fields					x
Goals				x	
Bleachers					x
Scoreboard	NA				
Basketball Courts	1				
Fencing	NA				
Playing Surface				x	
Lighting					x
Striping					x
Goals				x	
Nets				x	

Wichita, Kansas Parks Inventory and Analysis

Community Center:	
Pool Facility:	
Park:	**Planeview**
Size:	**116.39 acres**
Location:	**Southeast**
Area Map Code:	

'A' Facilities		Number/ Size	Condition				
			Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor	
Open Shelter Building							
	Support Structure						
	Roof						
	Floor						
	Paint						
Outdoor Restroom		1					
	Roof		x				
	Walls			x			
	Doors			x			

Facility- Plainview Park

Facility/ Program Introduction

The park is divided into two sections, separated by a vehicular bridge. This site is the home field of region 49 of AYSO. The park has tennis courts as well as athletic fields.

Current Facility Strengths

- This park has a great amount of space and potential for a first class regional facility.
- The softball/baseball facility has a new concession building.
- There are two soccer fields that are well organized and kept in good condition.
- The fencing for the athletic fields is in good condition.
- Tennis courts have good lighting and fencing, however, the nets are in poor condition.
- Bleachers at the baseball and softball fields are in very good condition.
- The soccer field areas are very large and have great potential for leagues and as a tournament facility.
- Two soccer fields are well maintained and irrigated.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- As one enters the park there is little if no indication as to where they are or where they are going.
- Signage in the park is poor overall. It lacks direction on how to get to specific areas in the park.
- The softball and baseball fields are designed around the parking lot, which makes for a negative site synergy. This design is also unfriendly to pedestrians creating many conflicts between them and vehicles.
- Field grading is not optimum. The infields are in fair to poor condition and the grass is poor in the outfields.
- Soccer goals appear to be old and in poor condition.
- The soccer fields have a very low image value because of the design and layout. The lack of organization is this site's greatest weakness.
- Access is good to the ballfields but because of the lack of signage it is very difficult to tell where you need to go once you get into the core. The parking for the soccer fields is virtually nonexistent.
- The lighting is inadequate on softball and baseball fields.
- The tennis court's fencing is in fair condition and the courts themselves are in poor condition and have extreme cracking.
- The soccer fields are in a similar state. There is a great amount of space, however, due to their lack of organization the number of fields is reduced.
- The soccer fields have very little seating and there is no signage to designate field locations.
- Restroom facilities are few and far between and there is no concession building in the soccer complex.

Possible Improvements

- The site needs signage at Oliver to identify the park, what facilities it embodies and how you get there.
- A signage concept also needs to be implemented throughout both facilities to help give organization and aid users in finding their way. This is especially pertinent in the case of the soccer complex as it has a large amount of land organized in a somewhat linear fashion.
- The baseball and softball fields could be reorganized, removing the parking to the periphery of the site. This would create a safer and more energized space. It would also allow for ease of direction as well as making a centrally located restroom and concession facility possible.
- The department should consider covering the dugouts of the softball fields.
- The layout of the soccer area should be reviewed, it could be made more efficient.
- The soccer goals need to be replaced.
- Additional parking is needed closer to the soccer fields.
- Spectator seating needs to be provided at the soccer fields.

Recommendations

- This park needs to be re-master planned to maximize the use of the park and to make it more neighborhood friendly.
- The park needs to have an overall theme with separate activity zones that can be connected by a walking trail that outlines the zoned activity areas.

- A large playground with a large group picnic area is needed to make this park a signature park.
- Consistent lighting, color schemes and landscaping is needed in the park.
- Neighborhood and sports association partnerships are needed to get the community to invest time and energy into the park.
- The park is capable of hosting large neighborhood special events and the city needs to encourage the neighborhood and school to create an event that brings the community together to celebrate.
- Improved maintenance standards in the park are needed in all areas.
- Through a re-master planning process the park can gain energy very quickly and become a destination park.

Project: Wichita Parks Inventory and Analysis
Facility Name: Boston Recreation Center **Date: May 28, 1998**

	Color Scheme	Signage	Condition	Access	Capacity	ADA	CS-Evaluation	CS-Information	Seasonability	Landscape	Lighting	FFE	Pricing	Cleanliness	Flooring	HVAC		**Scale**
Entrance/Lobby	3	2	3	3	2	2	0	0	4		4	3	3	4	3			0 = Does not exist
Pool - Indoor																		1 = Lowest level
Pool - Oudoor																		5 = Highest level
Meeting Room 1	3	2	2	3	2	3	0	0	4		4	3	3	4	3			
Meeting Room 2																		
Community Room																		
Childcare Area																		
Gymnasium 1	3	1	3	3	2	3	0	0	4		4	3	3	4	3			
Gymnasium 2																		
Auditorium																		
Courts 1																		
Courts 2																		
Track - indoor																		
Weight Room																		
Aerobic Room																		
Locker Rooms	3	2	2	2	2	1	0	0	0		2	2			2			
Game Rooms																		
Teen Area																		
Climbing Wall																		
Cardio Area																		
Leisure Pool																		
Rehab Pool																		
Arts/Crafts Area																		
Registration Office																		
Concession Area																		
Pro Shop																		
Parking Lots																		
Fields - outdoor 1																		
Fields - outdoor 2																		
Other																		
Totals	9	5	7	8	6	7	0	0	8	0	10	8	6	8	8	0		

Wichita, Kansas Parks Inventory and Analysis	
	Community Center:
	Pool Facility:
	Park: **Boston**
	Size: **17.50 acres**
	Location: **Southeast**
	Area Map Code:

'A' Facilities		Number/ Size	Condition				
			Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor	
Outdoor Restroom		1					
	Roof			x			
	Walls			x			
	Doors			x			
Open Shelter Building		1					
	Support Structure			x			
	Roof			x			
	Floor			x			
	Paint	NA					

Facility – Boston Recreation Center

Facility/ Program Introduction

The facility was built in the late 70's to early 80's.

Current Facility Strengths

- The lighting in the facility is good.
- The building has good color schemes.
- Office space is good.
- The facility was clean. Program areas are in good condition.
- It appears there is a good variety of program opportunities provided on site.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- The track lighting in place is not used.
- The locker rooms are not utilized except as a storage area.
- There is some excess capacity of available program space in the Recreation Center.

Possible Improvements

- The department should consider renovating the locker rooms into storage or program spaces.
- The outside recreation areas need to be tied more closely to the indoor recreation facility to maximize program capability.
- General cosmetic improvements need to be made to the recreation center on site to keep the facility positioned well in the market place.
- More partnering opportunities need to be considered to fill excess capacity of space.

Recommendations

- The recreation facility needs permanent storage space added to the facility.
- The park needs to be re-master planned to make sure all the facilities in the park feel as if they are connected. The park needs to have a good walking trail established to connect the amenities together.
- The park needs to a large regional playground with picnic facilities to bring families into the park and encourage positive use that can feed both the pool and the recreation center.
- Partnering opportunities should be encouraged with the neighborhood, local businesses, schools in the area, youth groups, sports groups and seniors to maximize the excess capacity in the facility.

Project: Wichita Parks Inventory and Analysis
Facility Name: Harvest Pool **Date: May 28, 1998**

	Color Scheme	Signage	Condition	Access	Capacity	ADA	CS-Evaluation	CS-Information	Seasonability	Landscape	Lighting	FFE	Pricing	Cleanliness	Flooring	HVAC		**Scale**
Entrance/Lobby																		0 = Does not exist
Pool - Indoor																		1 = Lowest level
Pool - Oudoor	3	2	2	3	4	3				2		2		2				5 = Highest level
Meeting Room 1																		
Meeting Room 2																		
Community Room																		
Childcare Area																		
Gymnasium 1																		
Gymnasium 2																		
Auditorium																		
Courts 1																		
Courts 2																		
Track - indoor																		
Weight Room																		
Aerobic Room																		
Locker Rooms																		
Game Rooms																		
Teen Area																		
Climbing Wall																		
Cardio Area																		
Leisure Pool																		
Rehab Pool																		
Arts/Crafts Area																		
Registration Office																		
Concession Area	2	2	1	3	4	3												
Pro Shop																		
Parking Lots																		
Fields - outdoor 1																		
Fields - outdoor 2																		
Other																		
Totals	5	4	3	6	8	6	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	0		

Facility-Harvest Pool

Facility/ Program Introduction

The facility produces $44,000 in revenues. The pool has the highest attendance record for the parks and recreation department. The pool is 40 years old. It is located in the upper middle class area of the City. The pool is “L” shaped with an 11’ deep end and separate wading pool. The bather capacity is 400.

Current Facility Strengths

- The pool has some new play features added to the south end which has been well received by the public.
- There is park land available for expansion.
- The pool offers the opportunity for more in and out of water leisure experience.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- The pool needs an entire image enhancement.
- The bathhouse is in need of renovations.
- The concession area needs renovating.
- The pool needs to be programmed.

Possible Improvements

- The City should consider adding play features in other areas in the pool.
- A play area outside the water would be an added benefit.
- Umbrellas and an updated color scheme is needed. Concession and bathhouse improvements are needed.
- The site needs greater programming.

Recommendations

- The City needs to continue to add in water and out of water play features to the pool site that will drive revenues and participation by the public.
- Concessions need to be added it the site to service the patrons of the pool. This could be privately managed.
- Creating a theme around the pool is the staff can program activities and events are needed.
- Bathhouse improvements need to be made as soon as possible.
- The community wants activities focused around children and families, which can be developed for the site.
- An image upgrade is needed for the pool to include a year 200 color scheme, banners, positive signage, adult layout chairs and fun umbrellas.

Project: Wichita Parks Inventory and Analysis
Facility Name: Lynette Woodard Recreation Center **Date: May 28, 1998**

	Color Scheme	Signage	Condition	Access	Capacity	ADA	CS-Evaluation	CS-Information	Seasonability	Landscape	Lighting	FFE	Pricing	Cleanliness	Flooring	HVAC		**Scale**
Entrance/Lobby	1	1	3	2	2	2	0	0	4		2	2		2	1			0 = Does not exist
Pool - Indoor																		1 = Lowest level
Pool - Oudoor																		5 = Highest level
Meeting Room 1	1	1	3	2	2	2	0	0	4		3	2		2	1			
Meeting Room 2																		
Community Room																		
Childcare Area																		
Gymnasium 1	1	1	2	3	2	2	0	0	4		3			2	2			
Gymnasium 2																		
Auditorium																		
Courts 1																		
Courts 2																		
Track - indoor																		
Weight Room	1	1	1	1	2	2	0	0	4		3			1	1			
Aerobic Room																		
Locker Rooms																		
Game Rooms	1	1	2	2	2	2	0	0	4		3	2		3	4	2		
Teen Area																		
Climbing Wall																		
Cardio Area																		
Leisure Pool																		
Rehab Pool																		
Arts/Crafts Area																		
Registration Office																		
Concession Area																		
Pro Shop																		
Parking Lots	1	2	3	2	3						2							
Fields - outdoor 1																		
Fields - outdoor 2																		
Other																		
Totals	5	6	11	10	11	8	0	0	16	0	14	4	0	8	8	2		

Facility- Lynette Woodard Recreation Center

Facility/ Program Introduction

The facility amenities include, a game room, a small classroom, gym, locker rooms, and a small game room. The facility has a tutorial program in place with high participation numbers. There is an adjoining recreation building that is not attached to the center. The adjacent recreation building has a weight room, kitchen, game room, classroom, and storage area.

Current Facility Strengths

- The game room has a good tile floor. The gym has glass backboards and pull out bleachers.
- The parking lot was well stripped and for the most part in good condition.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- The floors in the recreation center, except the game room, appeared to be in poor condition.
- The color schemes in the facility were out dated.
- The entire recreation center appeared dirty.
- Some of the storage rooms were not organized.
- The Atwater facility, adjoining the center, needs major improvements in most areas.
- The carpet and flooring were in need of repair and dirty.

Possible Improvements

- The department should consider adding staff shirts and name tags for employees so the public knows who is in charge.
- Consistent signage and updated color schemes are needed in both buildings.
- There needs to be a better connection between the two recreation facilities.
- Better lighting is needed in both facilities.
- A maintenance plan for both the recreation centers is need to keep these facilities positioned positively in the minds of users.

Recommendations

- This recreation facility is in a community park that has the potential to be a signature park for the City of Wichita if the following park and facility changes are made.
- The main recreation facility needs to be updated in terms of gym lighting, color schemes, flooring, walls, carpet, signage and cleanliness standards.
- The Atwater facility needs to be connected to the rest of the building for efficiency of supervision, customer safety and ease of access.
- A room by room allocation of Alternative program users for each space in the facility ins needed to improve on program capacity of use. The program space needs to reflect what the community desires based on the results of the citizen survey.
- A full customer service plan needs to be incorporated into the site. This should include staff nametags, staff shirts, positive signage, higher levels of cleanliness, improved recreation equipment and furnishings on site.
- One manager should manage and program both facilities and the park as a whole.
- There appears to be good opportunities to partner with the school across the street and the neighborhood on program development and assistance in maintaining the park and the recreation facilities.

Project: Wichita Parks Inventory and Analysis
Facility Name: Edgemoor Recreation Center and Pool

	Color Scheme	Signage	Condition	Access	Capacity	ADA	CS-Evaluation	CS-Information	Seasonability	Landscape	Lighting	FFE	Pricing	Cleanliness	Flooring	HVAC		**Scale**
Entrance/Lobby	1	1	2	2		3	0	0	4		3	2		4	4			0 = Does not exist
Pool - Indoor	1	1	2	3	2	0	0	0	2	1	2	2	3	2				1 = Lowest level
Pool - Outdoor																		5 = Highest level
Meeting Room 1																		
Meeting Room 2																		
Community Room	1	1	2	3	2	3	0	0	4		3	2	3	2	3			
Childcare Area																		
Gymnasium 1	1	1	2	2	2	3	0	0	4		2	2		2	2			
Gymnasium 2																		
Auditorium																		
Courts 1																		
Courts 2																		
Track - indoor																		
Weight Room																		
Aerobic Room																		
Locker Rooms																		
Game Rooms	1	1	2	3	2	2	0	0	4		3	2	2	4	4	2		
Teen/Senior Area																		
Climbing Wall																		
Cardio Area																		
Leisure Pool																		
Rehab Pool																		
Arts/Crafts Area	1	1	2	2	2	3	0	0	4		3	2	2	3	4	3		
Registration Office																		
Concession Area																		
Pro Shop																		
Parking Lots																		
Fields - outdoor 1																		
Fields - outdoor 2																		
Other																		
Totals	5	5	10	13	10	11	0	0	18	1	13	10	10	13	13	5	0	

Wichita, Kansas Parks Inventory and Analysis

Community Center:	
Pool Facility:	
Park:	**Edgemoor**
Size:	**25.53 acres**
Location:	**Northeast**
Area Map Code:	

'A' Facilities	Number/ Size	Condition			
		Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor
Tennis Courts	8				
Fencing		x			
Playing Surface		x			
Striping		x			
Nets		x			
Lights			x		
Wind Break Fabric	N/A				

Facility- Edgemoore Park- Recreation Center and Pool

Facility- Edgemoor Recreation Center

Facility/ Program Introduction

The recreation center amenities include, a game room, art room, gym, multi-purpose room and club room.The center has good program participation numbers. The pool is currently being renovated.

Current Facility Strengths

- The recreation center was very clean.
- The tile flooring in most areas was in good condition.
- Lighting in the lobby, multi- purpose room and art room is adequate.
- The recreation center has a new roof.
- The wall coverings in all areas are in good condition.
- The tennis courts at this site were in excellent condition.
- The neighborhood compatibility with the park is good.
- The fees for tennis are $4.00 per hour for two people and $8.00 for an hour and a half for 4 people and $2.00 per hour for lights, which is a fair price.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- The color schemes in the facility are outdated.
- The recreation center has some equipment that is in poor condition and needs replaced. The furniture in the game room appeared to be old and needs to be replaced.

Possible Improvements

- There should be consistent signage put in the recreation center and pool.
- The color schemes should be updated in the facility to create a sense of excitement.
- The pool could use an in-water play feature for small children.
- Equipment in the game room needs to be replaced with updated games.
- General cosmetic improvements are needed throughout the recreation center.
- Additional tennis benches are needed for the courts.
- There is a need for an updated master plan for the park.
- The pool needs to be programmed.

Recommendations

- Edgemoore Park is an outstanding community park that needs a updated master plan that can tie the recreation facilities on site together in a more cohesive way.
- This park should be managed by one person totally to ensure consistency in the delivery of services to the community,
- The recreation center and pool need a customer service upgrade. This includes new color schemes, furnishings, equipment, signage and customer service attentiveness. The color schemes for the recreation center and the pool should be the same.
- The recreation center programs need to be marketed to the community based on the results of the citizen survey.
- The entire park needs to be marketed as a destination park with one manger over both the recreation center, pool and all park amenities.
- The pool needs to be programmed based on the revenues from previous years that demonstrate poor attendance.

Project: Wichita Parks Inventory and Analysis
Facility Name: Lincoln Park Pool

	Color Scheme	Signage	Condition	Access	Capacity	ADA	CS-Evaluation	CS-Information	Seasonability	Landscape	Lighting	FFE	Pricing	Cleanliness	Flooring	HVAC		**Scale**
Entrance/Lobby																		0 = Does not exist
Pool - Indoor																		1 = Lowest level
Pool - Oudoor	0	1	1	2	1	0			1	1	0			2				5 = Highest level
Meeting Room 1																		
Meeting Room 2																		
Community Room																		
Childcare Area																		
Gymnasium 1																		
Gymnasium 2																		
Auditorium																		
Courts 1																		
Courts 2																		
Track - indoor																		
Weight Room																		
Aerobic Room																		
Locker Rooms																		
Game Rooms																		
Teen/Senior Area																		
Climbing Wall																		
Cardio Area																		
Leisure Pool																		
Rehab Pool																		
Arts/Crafts Area																		
Registration Office																		
Concession Area																		
Pro Shop																		
Parking Lots																		
Fields - outdoor 1																		
Fields - outdoor 2																		
Other																		
Totals	0	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	

Facility- Lincoln Park

Facility/ Program Introduction

Lincoln park is located in the heart of an older neighborhood. There is a large church adjacent to the park which has a community center. The pool in the park has a 1% to 2% cost recovery and is under utilized by the community.

Current Facility Strengths

- The park has good community support.
- There is a family life center in the church next to the park.
- There is an old firehouse on site that could be used as a community center for the neighborhood and possibly the church.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- The bathhouse is in very poor condition.
- Parking seems to be a problem around the entire park area.
- The playground is old and in very poor disrepair.
- Maintenance is a problem for this park.

Possible Improvements

- There could be a partnership established with the Imanuel Baptist Church to help manage the site.
- The park could be fenced to help keep out the loiterers.
- The City might consider seeking grants for a new pool or renovating the existing pool structure and bathhouse.
- The pool site could be converted to an in-water playground pool.
- The site needs to have an improved playground that meets all playground safety codes and a new shelter for picnics and summer day camp activities.
- The firehouse could be used as a community center facility for the neighborhood.

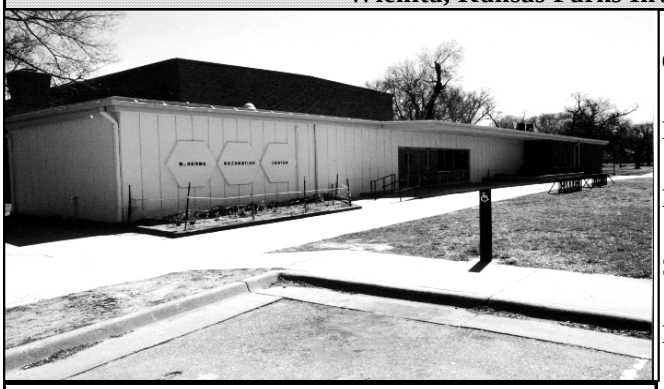
Recommendations

- This park is a neighborhood park. The city needs to remove the small pool and bathhouse on site and replace the pool with a spray pool and a small restroom/bathhouse.
- The city should implement a user fee of $1 for the spray pool to offset the cost to operate the pool.
- The old fire station on site needs to be converted to a small community center operated by the church and neighborhood in the area at no cost to the city but used for public purposes. This would be a great partnership with the church and the neighborhood.
- An improved picnic shelter and playground needs to be installed.

Project: Wichita Parks Inventory and Analysis
Facility Name: McAdams Recreation Center and Pool

	Color Scheme	Signage	Condition	Access	Capacity	ADA	CS-Evaluation	CS-Information	Seasonability	Landscape	Lighting	FFE	Pricing	Cleanliness	Flooring	HVAC		**Scale**
Entrance/Lobby	1	1	2	2		0			1	4			4	2				0 = Does not exist
Pool - Indoor																		1 = Lowest level
Pool - Oudoor	1	0	2	2	4	0				1	2	1	3	1	1			5 = Highest level
Meeting Room 1																		
Meeting Room 2																		
Community Room	1	1	2	3					4		3			3	3	3		
Childcare Area																		
Gymnasium 1	1	1	2	4	2	4	0	0	4		2	2	1	2	1	3		
Gymnasium 2																		
Auditorium																		
Courts 1																		
Courts 2																		
Track - indoor																		
Weight Room																		
Aerobic Room																		
Locker Rooms	1	3	4	2	3	1					4	2		4	4			
Game Rooms	1	2	3	2	2	2			4			3		3	3	3		
Teen/Senior Area	1	2	3	2	2	2			4			2		3	3	3		
Climbing Wall																		
Cardio Area																		
Leisure Pool																		
Rehab Pool																		
Arts/Crafts Area																		
Registration Office																		
Concession Area																		
Pro Shop																		
Parking Lots	0	1	3	3	4	1				2	2			2				
Fields - outdoor 1																		
Fields - outdoor 2																		
Other (landscaping)										2								
Totals	7	11	21	20	17	10	0	0	17	9	13	10	8	20	15	12		

Wichita, Kansas Parks Inventory and Analysis



Community Center:

Pool Facility:

Park: **McAdams**

Size: **57.46 acres**

Location: **Northeast**

'A' Facilities	Number/ Size	Condition				
		Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor	
Baseball Field	1					
Concession Building				x		
Infields			x			
Outfields			x			
Fencing				x		
Bleachers				x		
Scoreboard			x			
Lighting			x			
Maintenance Building			x			
Softball Fields	2					
Concession Building				x		
Infields					x	
Outfields					x	
Fencing					x	
Bleachers					x	
Scoreboard					x	
Lighting					x	
Maintenance Facility	N/A					
Football Field	1					
Concession Building	N/A					
Playing Field				x		
Goals				x		
Bleachers				x		
Scoreboard			x			
Basketball Courts	8					
Fencing	N/A					
Playing Surface			x			
Lighting			x			
Striping				x		
Goals			x			
Nets			x			

Wichita, Kansas Parks Inventory and Analysis

Community Center:	
Pool Facility:	
Park:	**McAdams**
Size:	**57.46 acres**
Location:	**Northeast**
Area Map Code:	

'A' Facilities	Number/ Size	Condition				
		Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor	
Tennis Courts	6					
Fencing	x					
Playing Surface	x					
Striping	x					
Nets	x					
Lights		x				
Wind Break Fabric		x				
Volleyball Courts	2					
Playing Surface						
Net						
Open Shelter Buildings	1					
Support Structure				x		
Roof					x	
Floor				x		
Paint					x	

Facility- McAdams Park

Facility/ Program Introduction

The recreation center was built in 1958. The park has a baseball field and a football field, the football field is named after Barry Sanders. There are 24 teams who participate in the NE Optimist football league. The tennis courts at this site were newly renovated and are in excellent condition. There are also four outdoor basketball courts named for Antoine Carr and 2 softball fields. The pool is 30 years old.

Current Facility Strengths

- The parking lot at the recreation center is in good condition and had good landscaping.

- The park and the recreation facility were clean.
- Conditions of the restrooms in the recreation center are good.
- The facility has good lighting and the flooring appeared to be in good condition.
- The Senior Center has high participation numbers. There is a great outdoor stage area on site.
- The basketball courts in the park are in good condition and the goals are in good condition.
- The baseball field is in good condition and well maintained.
- The bleachers at the softball fields have concrete and wood seating and can seat approximately 200 people each. The west field has smaller, aluminum bleachers that can seat 30 to 50 people and are in fair condition.
- The tennis courts and the one reduced court were in good to excellent condition.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- The women's restroom is not ADA accessible.
- Some of the signs located in the building were made of paper and there is not consistent signage in the building.
- The color schemes in the recreation center are outdated.
- The stage area in the gym is not utilized to it s' fullest capacity.
- Carpet in the Senior Center is not clean and should be replaced or repaired.
- The lobby tile is marked and scuffed up.
- The parking area for the outdoor basketball courts is in need of repair. There were mud holes in the parking area and the area is not paved.
- The entry to the baseball field is uninviting. It is a monolithic mass of concrete that allows little light to penetrate the spaces beneath it.
- The softball fields are outdated and the infields are in poor condition. All of the softball outfields are in poor condition with weeds growing in them.
- The softball fields are located in a poor place on the site and are crowded up against the street, which is a safety hazard to participants and vehicles.
- The lights on the fields are too low and too few and need to have higher poles to meet minimum lighting levels for player safety. This results in glare and slower reaction times which is dangerous.
- The dugouts at the east field are open at the home plate end which could be hazardous.
- There is not good access from the neighborhoods to the west.
- There was no sign on the outside of the pool identifying it.
- The pool is in dire need of being painted. Lighting in the pool area was in bad condition. There is no concession area at the pool, only vending machines are available to participants.
- The open shelter building is in poor condition. The steel structure is rusting and needs to be painted if not replaced.

Possible Improvements

- A fitness component could be added to the recreation center.
- The department should consider giving the Senior Center a separate name.
- A large picnic pavilion could be added in the park. This could help increase revenues from reservations.
- The flooring in several areas of the recreation center needs to be replaced.
- The park could use some more passive use areas, such as picnic areas and walking trails.

- A landscape plan needs to be put in place for the entire park site to capitalize on the investment the City has made in the park. New landscaping can tie the amenities and venues together.
- The park needs a nice walking trail that allows people to experience each park amenity.
- The outdoor amphitheater needs to be updated and improved.
- The recreation center looks to need some major renovation efforts in the next couple of years. (how?)
- The facility needs to be painted and updated and made to be more positive in its image.
- The entrance building to the baseball field needs to be addressed. Currently it is uninviting. Ideally a new structure should be built replacing the existing one. Short of this, architectural detailing could be employed on the various surfaces to brighten it up and give it more character. Light needs to be provided, in greater amounts, to the underside of the structure. If this can't be done through modifications to the building lights should be implemented.
- Practically every element composing the softball fields is in poor condition or outdated. The fields need to be reconstructed. The City should consider orienting the fields so that the dugouts are adjacent to the parking lot. This allows for better access and safer overall conditions.
- A new restroom/concession building needs to be constructed. It could be positioned between the parking lot and fields as an entry feature.
- The infields are in good shape and have red shale in the infields but need improved weeding and edging.
- The fencing is in fair condition but rusting in some areas. Some of the outfield fence was leaning and needs to be repaired.
- The metal bleachers are in fair condition and some rusting is occurring.
- The parking lot needs to be re-striped.
- The main park entrance sign needs to be updated and made more prominent.
- The canal route is dangerous and needs an effective trail system that can connect people to the park and to the other side of the waterway through a walking bridge.
- The grading on the Barry Sanders field is uneven and needs to be fine graded and re-seeded.
- The backboards on the basketball courts need to be painted.
- The parking lot adjacent to the basketball courts needs to have an asphalt surface employed.
- The tennis courts could use a management and concession point where reservations can occur and check in can occur. This site could provide another good tennis tournament facility for the City and has good access to the parking lot.
- The pool could use some water play areas.
- Shading and umbrellas would enhance the image of the pool and help break up the concrete look of the pool. There is room to add a birthday party area at the pool, which could enhance revenue potential.

Project: Wichita Parks Inventory and Analysis
Facility Name: Stanley Recreation Center and Aley Pool

	Color Scheme	Signage	Condition	Access	Capacity	ADA	CS-Evaluation	CS-Information	Seasonability	Landscape	Lighting	FFE	Pricing	Cleanliness	Flooring	HVAC		**Scale**
Entrance/Lobby																		0 = Does not exist
Pool - Indoor																		1 = Lowest level
Pool - Oudoor	1	2	2	4	4	1					4	2	3	3				5 = Highest level
Meeting Room 1																		
Meeting Room 2																		
Community Room																		
Childcare Area																		
Gymnasium 1	5		4	5	5	5					4	4		4	3	5		
Gymnasium 2																		
Auditorium																		
Courts 1																		
Courts 2																		
Track - indoor																		
Weight Room																		
Aerobic Room																		
Locker Rooms																		
Game Rooms																		
Teen/Senior Area																		
Climbing Wall																		
Cardio Area																		
Leisure Pool																		
Rehab Pool																		
Arts/Crafts Area																		
Registration Office	3	4	3	3		3					4			4	4			
Concession Area																		
Pro Shop																		
Parking Lot (Pool)		2	2	4	4	5				1	0			3				
Parking Lot (Rec Center)		2	2	4	5	2				1	2			3				
Fields - outdoor 1																		
Fields - outdoor 2																		
Other																		
Totals	9	10	13	20	18	16	0	0	0	2	14	6	3	17	7	5	0	

Wichita, Kansas Parks Inventory and Analysis

Community Center:	
Pool Facility:	
Park:	**Aley**
Size:	**18.90 acres**
Location:	**Southwest**
Area Map Code:	

'A' Facilities	Number/ Size	Condition			
		Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor
Enclosed Shelter Building	1				
Support Structure					
Roof					
Door					
Floor					
Windows					
Paint					
Lighting					
Outdoor Restroom Facility	1				
Roof				x	
Walls				x	
Doors				x	
Basketball Court	1				
Fencing	NA				
Playing Surface					x
Lighting	NA				
Striping					x
Goals			x		
Nets			x		
Volleyball Court	1				
Playing Surface			x		
Net Posts				x	
Net	NA				
Lighting	NA				

Facility- Alley Pool and Recreation Center

Facility/Program Introduction

The recreation center is in a school building. Recreation center staff can not program the building until after 4:00 p.m.

Current Facility Strengths

- The pool has great program potential.
- The recreation center is in good condition and is programmed well with the time that is allowed in the facility.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- There was no sign on the outside if the pool identifying it.
- The pool bathhouse is in need of upgrading. There was no sign on the women's locker room from the pool side.
- The pool in general needs to be made more user friendly and inviting.
- The dumpster located at the recreation center was in a very poor location and smelled bad.

Possible Improvements

- The pool area could use more landscaping and trees for shade.
- Ubrellas would add color and provide areas of shade in the pool area.
- There is no concession area, only vending machines are available.
- Tables and chairs need to be added to the pool.
- There is potential for the addition of a slide at the pool.

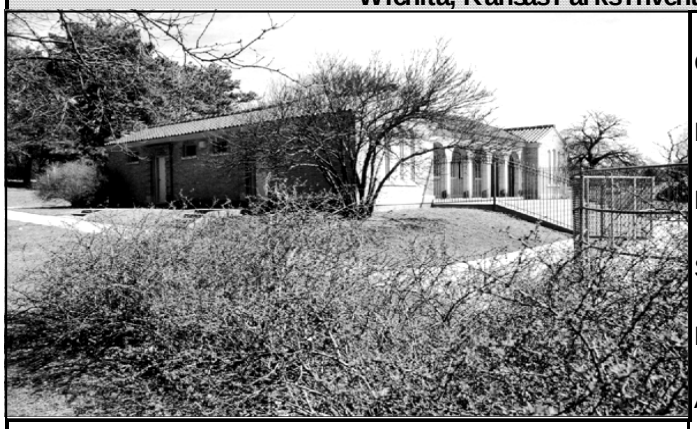
Recommendations

- The City needs to update the existing school partnership agreement on site.
- A total market plan for the park and recreation facilities needs to be developed.
- Improved landscaping, signage and color schemes are needed in the park.
- The outside cleanliness of the site needs to be more user friendly.
- The recreation facilities need to be more tied to the Plainview Park master plan to improve on spatial relation ships.

Project: Wichita Parks Inventory and Analysis
Facility Name: College Hill Pool

	Color Scheme	Signage	Condition	Access	Capacity	ADA	CS-Evaluation	CS-Information	Seasonability	Landscape	Lighting	FFE	Pricing	Cleanliness	Flooring	HVAC		**Scale**
Entrance/Lobby			1															0 = Does not exist
Pool - Indoor	1	1	1	4	1	1				3	1	1	3	3				1 = Lowest level
Pool - Oudoor																		5 = Highest level
Meeting Room 1																		
Meeting Room 2																		
Community Room																		
Childcare Area																		
Gymnasium 1																		
Gymnasium 2																		
Auditorium																		
Courts 1																		
Courts 2																		
Track - indoor																		
Weight Room																		
Aerobic Room																		
Locker Rooms	1		1	1	1	1						1		1	1			
Game Rooms																		
Teen/Senior Area																		
Climbing Wall																		
Cardio Area																		
Leisure Pool																		
Rehab Pool																		
Arts/Crafts Area																		
Registration Office																		
Concession Area																		
Pro Shop																		
Parking Lots																		
Fields - outdoor 1																		
Fields - outdoor 2																		
Other																		
Totals	2	1	3	5	2	2	0	0	0	3	1	2	3	4	1	0	0	

Wichita, Kansas Parks Inventory and Analysis



Community Center:	
Pool Facility:	
Park:	**College Hill**
Size:	**22.00**
Location:	**Northeast**
Area Map Code:	

'A' Facilities		Number/ Size	Condition				
			Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor	
Tennis Courts		32					
	Fencing				x		
	Playing Surface			x			
	Striping			x			
	Nets				x		
	Lights				x		
	Wind Break Fabric	N/A					
Basketball Courts		2					
	Fencing						
	Playing Surface						
	Lighting						
	Striping						
	Goals						
	Nets						
Restroom Facility		1					
	Roof			x			
	Doors			x			
	Walls			x			

Facility- College Hill Park

Facility/ Program Introduction

The park is in a nice neighborhood with good support from the surrounding neighbors. The site appears to have a good image.

Current Facility Strengths

- Lighting in the park is good.
- The tennis courts appear to be in good condition and the fencing is in good condition.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- The basketball and tennis courts have some cracks in the surfaces and need repaired.
- Tennis court stripping is needed and paint is coming off in the low areas where water sits.
- The pool bathhouse is outdated and in need of renovation.

Possible Improvements

- The department might consider updating or renovating the basketball and tennis courts.
- The playgrounds need to be updated to meet ADA standards.
- The pool would benefit with the addition of a leisure facility.

Recommendations

- The City needs to convert the pool to a leisure pool or a spray pool in increase usage and revenues,
- An upgraded bathhouse is needed to match the bather load projected in a redesigned facility.
- The basketball and tennis courts need upgraded.
- The park needs a large regional playground to draw families to the park.
- The park needs a total image upgrade to include safety lighting, color schemes and overall access into the park by increasing parking in the park.
- The park needs an 8ft. wide walking trail around the park to tie the recreation facilities in the park together with positive passive use.
- The picnic pavilion on site needs to be renovated with parking for weddings and community functions.

Project: Wichita Parks Inventory and Analysis
Facility Name: Fairmount Pool

	Color Scheme	Signage	Condition	Access	Capacity	ADA	CS-Evaluation	CS-Information	Seasonability	Landscape	Lighting	FFE	Pricing	Cleanliness	Flooring	HVAC		**Scale**
Entrance/Lobby	1	1	1	1						1				2				0 = Does not exist
Pool - Indoor				1														1 = Lowest level
Pool - Oudoor																		5 = Highest level
Meeting Room 1																		
Meeting Room 2																		
Community Room																		
Childcare Area																		
Gymnasium 1																		
Gymnasium 2																		
Auditorium																		
Courts 1																		
Courts 2																		
Track - indoor																		
Weight Room																		
Aerobic Room																		
Locker Rooms																		
Game Rooms																		
Teen/Senior Area																		
Climbing Wall																		
Cardio Area																		
Leisure Pool																		
Rehab Pool																		
Arts/Crafts Area																		
Registration Office																		
Concession Area																		
Pro Shop																		
Parking Lots																		
Fields - outdoor 1																		
Fields - outdoor 2																		
Other																		
Totals	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	

Wichita, Kansas Parks Inventory and Analysis

Community Center:	
Pool Facility:	
Park:	Fairmount
Size:	19
Location:	Northwest
Area Map Code:	

'A' Facilities	Number/ Size	Condition				
		Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor	
Enclosed Shelter	1					
Support Structure			x			
Roof				x		
Door			x			
Floor				x		
Windows				x		
Paint				x		
Lignting				x		
Outdoor Restroom	1					
Roof			x			
Walls			x			
Doors			x			
Paint				x		

Facility- Fairmount Park and Pool

Facility/Program Introduction

The pool is 60 years old. This pool is not scheduled to open in the 1998 season.

Current Facility Strengths

- The park is a great park and has great open spaces.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- There is very poor parking access to the park and pool.
- The pool has very little participation.

Possible Improvements

- The pool could be turned into a spray pool and leisure pool.
- There need to be more trails throughout the park.

Recommendations

- The park needs interior parking close to the recreation amenities in the park.
- The park needs safety lighting in the parking areas.
- The pool and bathhouse need updated and a leisure component added to the pool to increase revenue.
- The park needs an asphalt walking-trail to tie positive passive use to the park.
- The park needs an updated master plan and new landscaping.

Project: Wichita Parks Inventory and Analysis
Facility Name: Country Acres Pool **Date: May 28, 1998**

	Color Scheme	Signage	Condition	Access	Capacity	ADA	CS-Evaluation	CS-Information	Seasonability	Landscape	Lighting	FFE	Pricing	Cleanliness	Flooring	HVAC		**Scale**
Entrance/Lobby																		0 = Does not exist
Pool - Indoor																		1 = Lowest level
Pool - Oudoor	1	1	2	3	3	2				2	2	2	3	2				5 = Highest level
Meeting Room 1																		
Meeting Room 2																		
Community Room																		
Childcare Area																		
Gymnasium 1																		
Gymnasium 2																		
Auditorium																		
Courts 1																		
Courts 2																		
Track - indoor																		
Weight Room																		
Aerobic Room																		
Locker Rooms																		
Game Rooms																		
Teen Area																		
Climbing Wall																		
Cardio Area																		
Leisure Pool																		
Rehab Pool																		
Arts/Crafts Area																		
Registration Office																		
Concession Area																		
Pro Shop																		
Parking Lots																		
Fields - outdoor 1																		
Fields - outdoor 2																		
Other																		
Totals	1	1	2	3	3	2	0	0	0	2	2	2	3	2	0	0		

Community Center:	
Pool Facility:	
Park:	**Country Acres**
Size:	**2.1 acres**
Location:	**Northwest**
Area Map Code:	

'A' Facilities	Number/ Size	Condition				
		Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor	
Enclosed Shelter Building	1					
Support Structure			x			
Roof			x			
Floor						
Paint				x		
Outdoor Restroom Facilities	1					
Roof			x			
Walls			x			
Doors				x		

Facility- Country Acres Park and Pool

Facility/ Program Introduction

The park amenities include outside basketball, tennis courts and a pool.

Current Facility Strengths

- The basketball and tennis courts are heavily used.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- There was no visible pool name on the outside of the pool.
- There is not consistent signage in place in the park.
- The parking is inadequate.
- This park site is particularly hard to promote.
- The pool is 40 years old and built in the middle of a housing development.
- The bathhouse is in poor condition.
- The site is not ADA accessible.
- There is no park land available for expansion for parking.

Possible Improvements

- A consistent signage program needs to be put in place.
- The pool could use a drop slide and more in water play amenities.
- There could be an out of water play area around the pool. Additional parking is needed at the site.
- The pool needs to be programmed.

Recommendations

- The city of Wichita should consider leaving the pool to the neighborhood served and help them with developing a pool contract to manage the pool. The reason for this recommendation is that there is no parking and the pool requires a higher cost per experience than most pools that serve several neighborhoods.
- The city should attempt to but additional parking for the pool site to assure the opportunity to serve more residents of Wichita than the pool currently serves.
- An upgraded signage and color scheme is needed for the pool to change the image of the site.
- The tennis courts on site need to be converted to a nice playground with a basketball court and green spaces for the neighborhood to enjoy.
- If the City retains and operates the pool the pool should add a drop slide and more in water play features.
- A market plan for the pool site is needed to ensure that the pool operates at capacity and can meet customer expectations. A pool theme is needed so the staff can program activities around that theme.
- The pool needs to add adult layout chairs.

Project: Wichita Parks Inventory and Analysis
Facility Name: Minisa Pool **Date: May 28, 1998**

	Color Scheme	Signage	Condition	Access	Capacity	ADA	CS-Evaluation	CS-Information	Seasonability	Landscape	Lighting	FFE	Pricing	Cleanliness	Flooring	HVAC		**Scale**
Entrance/Lobby																		0 = Does not exist
Pool - Indoor																		1 = Lowest level
Pool - Oudoor	1	1	1	1	2	2				2	0	1	3	2				5 = Highest level
Meeting Room 1																		
Meeting Room 2																		
Community Room																		
Childcare Area																		
Gymnasium 1																		
Gymnasium 2																		
Auditorium																		
Courts 1																		
Courts 2																		
Track - indoor																		
Weight Room																		
Aerobic Room																		
Locker Rooms																		
Game Rooms																		
Teen Area																		
Climbing Wall																		
Cardio Area																		
Leisure Pool																		
Rehab Pool																		
Arts/Crafts Area																		
Registration Office																		
Concession Area																		
Pro Shop																		
Parking Lots																		
Fields - outdoor 1																		
Fields - outdoor 2																		
Other																		
Totals	1	1	1	1	2	2				2	0	1	3	2				

Wichita, Kansas Parks Inventory and Analysis

Community Center:	
Pool Facility:	
Park:	**Minisa**
Size:	**9.60 acres**
Location:	**Northwest**
Area Map Code:	

	'A' Facilities	Number/ Size	Condition			
			Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor
Enclosed Shelter		1				
	Support Structure			x		
	Roof				x	
	Floor					
	Paint				x	
Multi- Use Court		1				
	Fencing	NA				
	Playing Surface				x	
	Lighting					x
	Striping					x
	Goals			x		
	Nets			x		

Facility- Minisa Pool

Facility/ Program Introduction

The pool was built in the late 1970's and is 25 years old. The neighborhood is middle class with good diversity.

Current Facility Strengths

- The location of the site is an asset.
- The pool is in fairly good condition.
- There is an ADA lift on site in the pool.
- There is good park land available for expanding the site.
- The enclosed shelter building is in fair condition. The roof and support structures appear to be in good condition.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- The pool is in dire need of a paint job.
- The park receives very little use.
- There are not lights around the pool area.

Possible Improvements

- The department should consider adding fence screens to keep out the loiterers.
- There should be more out of water experiences provided.
- The department should consider adding in water play areas such as lily pads and log rolls.
- The pool needs to be programmed.
- The style and color of the building make it appear to be in worse condition than it is.

Recommendations

- The City needs to create a larger user space for the people to enjoy the pool. This would include extending the fences to around the pool and creating zones for users.
- The City needs to add in water play features, zero depth entry, slides and an in water playground for this pool to reach it's fullest bather capacity.
- The pool needs a theme that can entice the residents to go there and for the staff to program around.
- The park and community center needs to have the same color scheme as the pool and to give the residents the recognition that they are all tied together.
- The pool needs to add adult layout areas.
- The shelter building should be painted with a new color scheme.
- Landscaping should be added adjacent to the building to make it more attractive.

Wichita, Kansas Parks Inventory and Analysis

Community Center:	
Pool Facility:	
Park:	**Riverside Park South (Riverside Tennis Center)**
Size:	**30.00 acres**
Location:	**Northeast**
Area Map Code:	

'A' Facilities	Number/ Size	Condition				
		Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor	
Tennis Courts						
Fencing		x				
Playing Surface		x				
Striping		x				
Nets		x				
Lights		x				
Wind Break Fabric		x				

Facility- Riverside Tennis Center

Facility/ Program Introduction

The complex is a state of the art tennis center. Other amenities on site include a rowing center, racquetball courts and a pro shop.

Current Facility Strengths

- The prices for the programs offered are very reasonable.
- The complex is clean and very well maintained.
- There is an excellent number of courts available with great court surfaces.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- The atmosphere in the pro shop needs to be improved. The atmosphere was very stale.

Possible Improvements

- The city might consider converting some of the outside racquetball courts into climbing walls.
- A marketing effort is needed to promote more use of the courts.
- Greater programming of the site needs to be developed.

Recommendations

- This tennis center is a outstanding complex for the citizens of Wichita. With the following recommendations made it will serve even better the community and the region.

- The entire tennis complex needs to be marketed as a destination site for the City and “the” place to play tennis.
- A Wichita Tennis Association needs to be formed to assist in the promotion and marketing of programs, events and tournaments at the site.
- The pro-shop should be privately managed with a upgraded decor and a concession facility capable of serving adult beverages similar to a golf course.
- The tennis center should be the host site of local, regional and national events including a professional tour event.

Project: Wichita Parks Inventory and Analysis
Facility Name: Evergreen Recreation Center and Pool

	Color Scheme	Signage	Condition	Access	Capacity	ADA	CS-Evaluation	CS-Information	Seasonability	Landscape	Lighting	FFE	Pricing	Cleanliness	Flooring	HVAC		**Scale**
Entrance/Lobby																		0 = Does not exist
Pool - Indoor																		1 = Lowest level
Pool - Oudoor	3	1	2	2	2	1			2	1	1	2	3	1				5 = Highest level
Meeting Room 1																		
Meeting Room 2																		
Community Room	2	1	2	2	2	3	0	0	4		2	2	3	2	2	3		
Childcare Area																		
Gymnasium 1																		
Gymnasium 2																		
Auditorium																		
Courts 1																		
Courts 2																		
Track - indoor																		
Weight Room	2	1	2	2	2	1	0	0	4		3	2	3	2	1	3		
Aerobic Room																		
Locker Rooms																		
Game Rooms																		
Teen/Senior Area																		
Climbing Wall																		
Cardio Area																		
Leisure Pool																		
Rehab Pool																		
Arts/Crafts Area	1	1	2	2	2	1	0	0	4		3	2	2	1	2	3		
Registration Office																		
Concession Area																		
Pro Shop																		
Parking Lots																		
Fields - outdoor 1																		
Fields - outdoor 2																		
Other (kitchen)	2	1	2	2	2	2	0	0	4		3	2	2	2	2	3		
Totals	10	5	10	10	10	8	0	0	18	1	12	10	13	8	7	12		

Facility- Evergreen Park-Recreation Center and Pool

Facility/ Program Introduction

The facility amenities include, a weight room, a craft room, a multi purpose room, a kitchen and an art center. The community in this area is mostly Spanish speaking.. The pool has no visible signs to help identify it from the street. The pool is 25 years old. It is an "L" shaped pool with a separate wading area. Capacity of the pool is 400.

Current Facility Strengths

- The recreation center and art center is fairly clean. The programs appear to have good participation numbers.
- There are a large number of excellent programs offered at the Art Center for adults as well as youth and special populations.
- The art program generates the majority of it's total budget through user fees.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- The weight room area had only free weights.
- The flooring in the weight room is in poor condition.
- Appliances in the kitchen are outdated.
- The building appears to have inadequate storage.
- The gym is dark and the walls appear to need new paint.

Possible Improvements

- The entire facility needs an updated color scheme.
- Consistent signage needs to be put in place through out the complex.
- The department should consider putting a foundation in place to help support the Art Center.
- The lighting in the gym needs to be improved. The entire recreation center needs cosmetic improvements and better wall and floor surfaces.
- The pool needs to be made more user friendly by incorporating leisure components such as in-water play features, zero depth entry, extended fences, concessions and pool toys.

Recommendations

- This park and recreation facility is in a community park that needs a updated master plan than can tie the recreation facilities together on site.
- The recreation center on site and pool need to be visually tied together by color schemes, signage and landscaping.

- The recreation center and pool needs a color scheme that appears they are connected.
- The entire facility needs to be cosmetically updated to include gym lighting, new colors, a wood gym floor, updated window improvements and positive signage.
- The pool needs to be updated with an improved entryway, restroom and changing area with a connected concession building.

- The pool needs to be made more user friendly by extending the fences, adding inwater play features, fun umbrellas and zoned for different user types.
- Landscaping around the entire park is needed and a strategy to manage the entire park and facility with one manager is recommended.
- The weight room should be made larger and should add cardiovascular machines to compliment the free weight area.

Project: Wichita Parks Inventory and Analysis
Facility Name: Linwood Recreation Center and Pool **Date: May 28, 1998**

	Color Scheme	Signage	Condition	Access	Capacity	ADA	CS-Evaluation	CS-Information	Seasonability	Landscape	Lighting	FFE	Pricing	Cleanliness	Flooring	HVAC		**Scale**
Entrance/Lobby																		0 = Does not exist
Pool - Indoor																		1 = Lowest level
Pool - Oudoor	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0		2	1	1	1	1				5 = Highest level
Meeting Room 1	1	1	2	1	1	2	0	0			2	2	2	3	2	3		
Meeting Room 2																		
Community Room																		
Childcare Area																		
Gymnasium 1	1	1	3	2	1	3	0	0	4		2	2	2	3	2	3		
Gymnasium 2																		
Auditorium																		
Courts 1																		
Courts 2																		
Track - indoor																		
Weight Room																		
Aerobic Room																		
Locker Rooms	1	1	2	2	1	1	0	0			1	1		2	2			
Game Rooms																		
Teen Area	1	1	2	2	1	3	0	0	4		2	2	2	2	2	3		
Climbing Wall																		
Cardio Area																		
Leisure Pool																		
Rehab Pool																		
Arts/Crafts Area																		
Registration Office																		
Concession Area																		
Pro Shop																		
Parking Lots																		
Fields - outdoor 1																		
Fields - outdoor 2																		
Other (kitchen)	1	1	3	1	1	3	0	0	4	3	3	2	2	2	2			
Totals	6	6	13	9	6	13	0	0	12	5	11	10	9	13	10	9		

Wichita, Kansas Parks Inventory and Analysis

Community Center:	
Pool Facility:	
Park:	**Linwood (South)**
Size:	**51.12 acres**
Location:	**Southeast**
Area Map Code:	

'A' Facilities		Number/ Size	Condition				
			Exc.	Good	Fair	Poor	
Softball Fields		3					
	Concession Building					x	
	Restroom Building				x		
	Infields			x			
	Outfields				x		
	Fencing				x		
	Bleachers					x	
	Scoreboard	N/A					
	Lighting					x	
	Maintenance Facility	N/A					
Football Field		1					
	Concession Building	N/A					
	Playing Field					x	
	Goals			x			
	Bleachers					x	
	Scoreboard	N/A					
Basketball Courts		1					
	Fencing						
	Playing Surface						
	Lighting						
	Striping						
	Goals						
	Nets						

Facility- Linwood Park

Facility/ Program Introduction

The recreation center amenities include, a gym, kitchen, teen room, classroom, locker rooms. A senior center and the City's athletic offices are located in this building as well. Linwood is the most highly programmed recreation center in the parks and recreation department system. The neighborhood is for the most part a blue collar area. There is a partnership in place with the library, where the City rents space in

the facility to them. The pool is an "L" shaped pool with a 12' depth and a separate wading pool. The bather capacity for the pool is 400.

Current Facility Strengths

- The overall condition for a facility 30 years old was good.
- The participation numbers are good for most of the programs offered.
- The staff offices have good space.
- For the most part, the facility was clean.
- Most of the rooms have good storage.
- The senior program has very good participation numbers.
- The horseshoe pits in the park are in good condition and well defined. The horseshoe area is managed by a private organization.
- The park area has a nice layout in terms of the size of park.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- The ceiling tiles in some of the rooms are cracked. The locker rooms are dark and the showers do not work.
- In the teen room the carpet was worn in places.
- The pool has no sign on the outside identifying it. Locker rooms at the pool are in poor condition and need to be renovated.
- There is no handicapped parking in front of the pool.
- Excess program capacity exists in some of the facility's program areas. The tennis courts are in very poor condition and are dangerous to users.
- The playground equipment is outdated and in poor condition.
- Adult athletic fields are in poor condition and need to be improved.
- The outfield grass is in fair condition but the grades are uneven.
- The outfield fencing is uneven and the bleachers are old and in poor condition. There is erosion on the fields and some concrete areas are showing in the dugout area.
- The city leases the senior space to the county for free and has little involvement in program design or is recognized as a partner.
- Parking in one of the picnic shelter areas was not paved.
- The lights were out in the pool area and need replaced.
- The pool opens in the middle of June; therefore, the City loses half a month of the key swim season.
- The pool area is in need of landscaping.
- The bathhouse is in poor condition and needs to be upgraded.
- Picnic shelter reservation prices in the park are low for the value received.
- Seating is minimal in the horseshoe area.
- Lighting is fair to poor on the small fields and lighting on the large field is adequate but could be improved. The volleyball area is very crowded by the tennis courts and not useable. Access to the neighborhood center is not good and is not visible.
- Cedar trees are growing over into the sand areas.

Possible Improvements

- The entire park and facility complex needs an updated color scheme and consistent signage put in place, as well as higher maintenance standards.

- The department should consider replacing the gym floor with a wood floor. This would give the gym more of a draw for basketball and volleyball tournaments and for teams wanting to play there.
- The city should consider seeking sponsors for glass backboards and new floor in the gym.
- The pool needs to add water play features and drop slides.
- The fencing in the pool area needs to be replaced.
- A tutorial program at this site would be a benefit to participants. The tennis courts are in need of major renovation and are very dangerous for users.
- The senior center should consider implementing a wellness fitness area operated by the county or a private agency on site.
- A trail system throughout the park would add to its value.
- There are no concessions available in the baseball field location and the city should consider constructing one or contracting with someone to operate a concession area.
- An R.B.I. (Return Baseball to the Inner City) baseball program is needed in this park.
- Cross promotion opportunities between on site venues are tremendous in this park and the City should consider managing this site as a magnet park.
- Having a few horseshoe areas covered and heated with heat lamps will add value for year round play and keep the horseshoe throwers involved longer.
- The athletic fields need to be improved to allow more drainage so water can percolate.
- The player benches need to be improved.
- A focal point is needed to unify the park site versus focusing on the parking lot as a focal point.

Recommendations

- The recreation facility needs some preventative maintenance upgrading to include the restroom and shower repairs. The interior of the facility needs improved furnishings and fixtures.
- The pool needs a total upgrade to a leisure pool with an improved restroom and concession area. The pool needs to extend the fences, zone the areas for different age groups, add inwater play features and funbrellas. The color schemes for the pool need to be updated to a year 2000 color scheme.
- The tennis courts need upgraded or renovated for safety purposes.
- The park sets up well for a one manager concept who can oversee all aspects of the park and program the facility as one site versus separate venues.

	Color Scheme	Signage	Condition	Access	Capacity	ADA	CS-Evaluation	CS-Information	Seasonability	Landscape	Lighting	FFE	Pricing	Cleanliness	Flooring	HVAC		**Scale**
Entrance/Lobby																		0 = Does not exist
Pool - Indoor																		1 = Lowest level
Pool - Oudoor	2	2	3	3	4	2				1	1	2	3	2				5 = Highest level
Meeting Room 1																		
Meeting Room 2																		
Community Room	2	2	2	3	3	3	0	0	4		2	2	2	3	2			
Childcare Area																		
Gymnasium 1	2	1	3	3	3	3	0	0	4		2	3	3	3	2			
Gymnasium 2																		
Auditorium																		
Courts 1																		
Courts 2																		
Track - indoor																		
Weight Room																		
Aerobic Room																		
Locker Rooms																		
Game Rooms																		
Teen Area																		
Climbing Wall																		
Cardio Area																		
Leisure Pool																		
Rehab Pool																		
Arts/Crafts Area																		
Registration Office																		
Concession Area																		
Pro Shop																		
Parking Lots		2	4	5	5	5				1	1			3				
Fields - outdoor 1																		
Fields - outdoor 2																		
Other (child care)	2	2	2	2	3	3	0	0	4		2	2		2	2			
Totals	8	9	14	16	18	16	0	0	12	2	8	9	8	13	6	0		

Facility- Orchard Park Community Center and Pool

Facility/ Program Introduction

The recreation facility is 30 years old and in relatively good condition for the age of the facility. The facility houses the health department, a library and human resources departments. The amenities include a gym, a community room, a child care area and a teen area.

Current Facility Strengths

- The location of the facility is in close proximity to the core of the city.
- The facility has a good cross section of amenities that compliment the recreation center. These include school adjacent to the site, game fields and a pool.
- There is good neighborhood support for this facility with a good variety of programs provided
- The pool has a drop slide.
- Participation levels at the recreation center and pool are average.

Current Facility Weaknesses

- The facility is in need of an image upgrade.
- One person should manage the entire park and the facilities on site with support from other divisions.
- The site is not ADA accessible.
- The pool pump is in poor condition.
- All the lights in the pool area were broken out and need replaced.
- The painting in the pool was in poor condition.
- There is no concession seating in the pool area. There was no sign on the pool identifying it.

Possible Improvements

- Some restoration of the gym is needed.
- The pool needs to be upgraded and made more users friendly.
- More programs centered around the neighborhood demographics are needed.
- Adding an additional gym would be a benefit to the community and tying all park amenities together in a concise plan would be positive.
- The pool area needs to be programmed.

Recommendations

- The City needs to continue it's efforts to upgrade the pool into a full leisure aquatic center. This will include the bathhouse and concession upgrades as well. The city needs to add I water play features. The pool needs to be programmed for activities, events and fun. The hours of the pool need extended.
- The recreation center facility needs to establish a permanent storage facility by converting a room or building a new area.
- The entire park needs to be re-master planned to incorporate connection between the recreation center, pool, gamefields and the park in general.
- One manager should be established to oversee the entire park to include all amenities.
- The recreation center needs an image upgrade to include color schemes, flooring and signage.

- A recreation and park market plan needs to be established for the site that develops programs and services around the neighborhood in the area served.
- Adding an additional gym would help make this site a destination site.
- The site sets up well for an outstanding day camp site in the summer but the addition of an outside shelter, upgraded playground and activity zones needs to be recreated.
- The pool needs to add adult lay out chairs.

City of Wichita Park and Recreation Facilities Study
A' Facility Condition Summary

	Watson Park	South Lakes	West Douglas Park	Cessna Park	West Side Athletic	Planeview	Boston Rec. Center	Edgemoor Park	McAdams Park	Aley Park	College Hill Park	Fairmount Park	Country Acres	Minisa Park	Linwood Park South	Riverside Tennis Center
Baseball Fields (4)					2.60	2.43			2.63							
Softball Fields (20)		4.00	1.83	1.40	2.25	2.00			1.14						1.71	
Basketball Courts (14)						1.60			2.80	1.00	3.00			2.00	1.75	
Football Fields (2)									2.25						1.67	
Soccer Fields (33)		3.00				1.33										
Volleyball Courts (35)	2.00								2.00	2.50						
Tennis Courts (30)								3.80	4.00		2.40					4.00
Playgrounds (4)	2.00															
Open Shelter Buildings (9)	3.25					2.00	3.00		1.50							
Enclosed Shelter Buildings (4)										2.14*		2.28	2.67	2.33		
Concession Building (2)	3.00															
Restroom Buildings (11)	3.00			2.50		2.00	3.00			2.00*	1.00	2.75	2.67			
Miniature Golf (1)	1.00															
Storage Buildings (1)	2.00															
Average @ Park Site	**2.32**	**3.50**	**1.83**	**1.95**	**2.43**	**1.89**	**3.00**	**3.80**	**2.33**	**1.75**	**2.13**	**2.52**	**2.67**	**2.17**	**1.71**	**4.00**

Southview Park		Average
		2.52
		2.24
		2.48
		1.96
2.00		2.31
		2.01
		3.84
		2.00
		2.75
		2.36
		3.00
		2.54
		1.00
		2.00

Section VIII
Market Providers & Potential Partners

Introduction

This section provides a bried overview of organizations that the Wichita Parks and Recreation Department currently work with, as well as potential partners. Additionally contained is information from other Sedgewick County public parks and recreation providers who can potentially plan, develop, finance, and operate parks and recreation facilities and programs with the City of Wichita.

Wichita Park Alliance

The Wichita Park Alliance was formed in the 1970's as a non-profit 501 (C)(3) corporation, designed to assist Wichita's Department of Parks and Recreation by providing funds and volunteers for parks programs and projects. Its board is comprised of private citizens from the Wichita community who a re interested in preserving the Citys parks and ensuring that recreation activities and park facilities are available to all citizens. Project types of the Wichita Park Alliance are as follows:

Grants

As a 501 (C)(3) corporation the Wichita Park Alliance is eligible to receive a number of grants in aid that the Department as a governmental agency would not be eligible to receive. Examples of grants received by the alliance include:

- $500,000 state grant, in cooperation with the City of Haysville, which was used by the City of Wichita to initiate development of the 160 acre South Lakes Sports Complex in South Sedgwick County.

- $50,000 totally was receive from three separate grant awards form the Wichita Greyhounds Charities, Inc., which were used to assist with purchase of a $100,000 portable stage facility. The state of the art portable stage facility was then donated to the City of Wichita by the Park Alliance.

- $4,000 matching grant from Vulcan Chemicals. The Wichita Park Alliance matched this grant with an equal amount to develop interpretive nature displays at Pawnee Prairie Park.

Land Purchases

The Wichita Park Alliance has made numerous park land acquisitions to support the growth of the park system. Examples are as follows:

- The Park Alliance purchased and donated to the City of Wichita a 5 acre parcel of land in south Wichita, now known as Palisade Park.

- The Alliance contributed $5,000 toward the purchase of 10 acres of land along Chisholm Creek to establish an eventual greenway which would connect Chisholm Creek Park and Grove Park in northeast Wichita.

Monetary Contributions to Park Projects

The Park Alliance has made cash contributions to projects. Some significant examples are as follows:

- $17,500 in matching funds to develop the John Firssching Pineturn at Botanica

- $15,000 to assist with development of Botanica=s Woodlawn Glade Garden

- $1,500 cash contributions toward the purchase of Christmas Light displays in downtown parks

- $4,000 matching grant from Vulcan Chemicals. The Wichita Park Alliance matched this grant with an equal amount to develop interpretive nature displays at Pawnee Prairie Park.

Wichita Park Alliance Initiatives

Major initiatives have been the following:

"Botanica" - The Wichita Park Alliance was the major funding source for the development and initial operations of Botanica, the Wichita Gardens.

" *"Wichita Wild/Kansas Wildlife Exhibit"* - Wichita Wild is the City's most visible and successful nature education program. The Exhibit relies on support from the Park Alliance for continuations of its operations. The Park Alliance maintains a restricted account for purposes of receiving funds and helping support activities, such as purchases of food for animals, and program and promotional materials.

"Trees for Neighborhoods" - This program was developed by the Park Alliance in 1989 in response to the needs voiced by the Park Department for the replacement of dead and diseased trees in Wichita neighborhoods. The program encourages citizens to work together within their own neighborhoods to assist with the funding and placement of new trees.

"Premier Showmobile" - The Park Alliance raised over $100,000 in 1991 for purchasing a portable stage facility so that performing arts presentations and other cultural events could be provided in neighborhoods were facilities were inadequate.

"River Festival Events" - The Park Alliance supports the River Festival on an annual basis through sponsoring special events that are held in city parks. Inclusive is the sponsorship of a Golf Tournament at one of the Park=s Departments golf courses, Volleyball on the Beach a the sand volleyball courts in Watson Park, and 3 on 3 basketball at McAdams Park.

Boys and Girls Club

Shiela Yarbrough, Unit Director (316) 529-3910
Melvin Carter, Executive Director (316) 682-5437

The Boys and Girls Club is a nonprofit organization with two (2) building locations in the Wichita metropolitan area. The south location is at 4920 S Clifton and is outside the city limits between Wichita and Derby. The north location is at 21st and Grove. Both

locations have gymnasiums, kitchens, computer rooms, and meetings rooms. The south location shares its cafeteria with the Carlton Learning Center. The north location houses the offices of the executive director.

Approximately 800 youngsters are members of the programs. Each member pays $5.00 per, with scholarships available. Programs are growing. The centers each have active meal sites for youngsters. There is a concentration on computer training and other education programs. Currently there are no active partnerships with the City's parks and recreation department. The south location has a partnership with a private tennis organization for teaching lessons.

YMCA

The YMCA of Greater Wichita is one of the leading providers of recreation, child care, youth sports, aquatics, and family activities in the metro area. Currently, the YMCA has approximately 30,000 members, 50% of which are youth and families. The YMCA operates out of three (3) multi-purpose facilities, each approximately 40,000 to 50,000 square feet in size. They are in the process of developing a larger (70,000 square foot) facility in south Wichita. This facility is on a 65 acre site and will cost approximately $7 million. The site will have 6 soccer and 8 softball/baseball diamonds. They are also looking at building facilities of approximately 50,000 square feet in the NW and NE parts of town. The YMCA partners with approximately 65 organizations throughout the metro area. They have 10 buses to move participants throughout the community and to their program sites. On an annual basis they have 82,000 program participants - 12,000 of which have scholarships. Major program areas include youth sports, aquatics, child care, healthy lifestyles, camping, and outreach/collaboration.

The YMCA has invested more than $10 million in capital projects over the past 4 years. They have purchased and are in the process of developing a 125 acre camp, including lodges and an equestrian area at 71st South and 263rd Street West. The camp is currently licensed for 200 youngsters and will expand to 350 youngsters.

The following pages illustrate current parks and recreation services offered by other public providers in Sedgwick County.

Summary of Parks and Recreation Operations for Other Sedgwick County Communities					
	Maize	**Bentley**	**Derby**	**Park City**	**Mulvane**
Current population:	1,800	415	18,000	5,486	5,400
Interested in parks & recreation development?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Adopted comprehensive plan?	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Have a formal park board or recreation commission?	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
If no formal board, who's responsible?	City Council	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
How many acres of park land?	5	0	232.6	60.55	51
Is there a community recreation facility?	No	No	Yes	No	No
What are the major programs offered by the facility?	N/A	N/A	**********	N/A	N/A
Number of parks?	1	0	**********	4	16
Major improvements to facilities?	Baseball fields, tennis courts, playground equipment and community building	0	**********	Horseshoe pits, lighted baseball diamond, playground equipment	Playground equipment, tables, shelters, basketball, volleyball, tennis

Summary of Parks and Recreation Operations for Other Sedgwick County Communities					
	Maize	**Bentley**	**Derby**	**Park City**	**Mulvane**
How are recreation needs determined?	City Council & Board of Education	Community members	**********	Established by national standards based on population	City ordinance requires land donations from all new development
Park dedication requirements for subdivision developers?	None	No subdivisions	**********	None at this time, under review	City ordinance requires central land donation for all new development
Funding source for parks and recreation development?	General fund taxes	General fund taxes	Annual budget and bond reissue	General fund and alcohol tax	Budget process and donation fund
Funding source for parks and recreation maintenance?	General fund taxes	Fund-raisers and city budget	Annual budget	General budget	Budget process and donation fund
Annual budget?	$21,000	$4,000	$5,500,000	$190,250	$32,000
Interested in collaborating with other communities?	Yes	Yes	Perhaps	Yes	Yes
Preferences for frequency of meetings and times?	Quarterly -early AM any day	Quarterly -Fri. or Sat. AM	N/A	Yearly	Wednesday
Contact person:	Glen Dockery	Laura Fisher	Forrest Nagley	Jack Witson, Director of Planning	Jerry Love

Summary of Parks and Recreation Operations for Other Sedgwick County Communities				
	Valley Center	**Haysville**	**Bel Aire**	**Colwich**
Current population:	4,500	8,561	5,012	1,134
Interested in parks & recreation development?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Adopted comprehensive plan?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Have a formal park board or recreation commission?	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
If no formal board, who's responsibility?	N/A	N/A	N/A	City Council
How many acres of park land?	60	74.6	40+	1.65
Is there a community recreation facility?	Yes	No	Yes	No
What are the major programs offered by the facility?	Old fire station, offices and limited program facilities	N/A	Sports, walking, exercise facilities, table games	N/A
Number of parks?	5	11	7	1
Major improvements to facilities?	Pool, volleyball, basketball, shelters, playground, fishing lake, soccer, baseball	Picnic tables, shelters, restrooms, playground equipment, bandshell, pool, baseball	Playground equipment, baseball, gym (basketball, volleyball, etc), tennis, fishing	Playground equipment, tennis court, picnic table, shelter

Summary of Parks and Recreation Operations for Other Sedgwick County Communities				
	Valley Center	**Haysville**	**Bel Aire**	**Colwich**
How are recreation needs determined?	Ad hoc	Not answered	Recommendations from Park and Recreation Committees	Comprehensive park and development plans
Park dedication requirements for subdivision developers?	None	10% dedicated to parks, playgrounds, open space, or other public facilities	None	Developer asked to dedicate open space and/or park area
Funding source for parks and recreation development?	Donations, grants, fund raisers, general fund	Capital improvements and general funds	General fund and some user fees	General fund
Funding source for parks and recreation maintenance?	General fund	General fund	General fund	Local alcohol tax
Annual budget?	$55,000	Not answered	$180,000	$10,000
Interested in collaborating with other communities?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Preferences for frequency of meetings and times?	Semi annually -Friday AM	Quarterly -Wed. or Friday AM	As needed-Thur. PM	Quarterly -3rd Thur. 1:00 PM
Contact person:	Bob Finkbiner	Robert Carroll	Bryan Hanes	City clerk

Capital Funding Program

The Capital Funding Program is based upon our analysis of the existing conditions of City facilities and current funding

Capital Costs for Priority Replacements and Repairs of Existing Parks and Facilities

An extensive inventory of the condition of current parks and facilities was conducted by the consultants and provided for in Section VII. Using that inventory as a basis for action, the Park Board visited each site, studied deficiencies previously identified and prioritized the most important repairs to the parks. Their recommendations come from the entire list presented them by Bucher, Willis & Ratliff Corporation, not from a separate list which they created. The table on pages 4-7 of Section IX is a result of the Park Board recommendations.

Projected Capital Costs for Recreation Facilities and Parks in Areas of Deficiencies

The table on pages 10-11 of Section IX is the consultants Projected Cost Estimate to address "Deficiencies in Parks and Facilities" over the next 20 years. The information is based on National Recreation and Park Association Standards. It is important to note that these costs reflect contractor's installed prices and do not include the use of the City's work force.

Repair or Replacement of Existing Facilities

It is suggested that these facilities be addressed relative to their specific needs in the next 20 years. Currently, the City has pledged $1,000,000.00 towards playground improvements.

Park Name	Proposed Improvements	Quantity	Projected Costs
Riverside Tennis Center			
	Renovation of Pro Shop	1	$200,000.00
Subtotal			**$200,000.00**
South Lakes Sports Complex			
	Four Additional Softball Fields (scenario ranges from 4 new fields without lighting to	1	$1,500,000.00
	four new fields with lighting).		
	Restroom Concession Buildings (scenario includes structure of approximately 2,500	2	$500,000.00
	square feet with restroom and concession accommodations).		
	Landscaping (scenario ranges from shade tree plantings for heat relief to detailed	1	$125,000.00
	plantings at the site entrances and throughout the site).		
Subtotal			**$2,125,000.00**

Park Name	Proposed Improvements	Quantity	Projected Costs
Watson Park			
	On-Street Signage (scenario ranges from simple monument signage to dramatic	1	$90,000.00
	landmark elements incorporating signage).		
	Walking Trail (scenario ranges from one mile of asphalt trail to two miles of	1	$235,000.00
	concrete trail).		
	Regional Playground (scenario includes various options and levels of play equipment).	1	$150,000.00
	Additional Landscaping (scenarios range from plantings at entries to trees along	1	$310,000.00
	roadway and trees and shrubs at picnic areas, boathouse, playground and on island).		
Subtotal			**$785,000.00**
West Douglas Park			
	Update and Repair Ballfields (scenario ranges from simply replacing existing fencing to	1	$450,000.00
	replacing and re-orienting entire fields and lighting).		
	Renovate Park (scenario ranges from minor improvements to existing soccer fields to	1	$320,000.00
	replacement of soccer fields and addition of a restroom/concession building).		
	Convert Tennis Court to Skate Park (scenario includes demolition and replacement of	1	$250,000.00
	existing surfacing and the addition of a variety of different skating elements).		
Subtotal			**$1,020,000.00**
West Side Athletic Fields			
	Upgrade Site to a Softball Center (scenario ranges from replacement of all backstops,	1	$2,020,000.00
	outfield fencing and dugouts to a total redesign, re-orienting the fields and parking to		
	achieve the best use of the site).		
	New Concessions Building (scenarios include addition of building with restrooms and	1	$250,000.00
	concession).		
	Park Signage (scenario ranges from monument signage at site entrance to architectural	1	$50,000.00
	element with signage incorporated).		
	Site Lighting (scenario ranges from basic security lighting with design lighting at the	1	$120,000.00
	entry to pedestrian scale lighting throughout the site).		
	Parking Lot (scenario ranges from asphalt parking to asphalt parking with curb and	1	$240,000.00
	gutter and lighting).		
	Landscaping (scenario ranges from minimal shade tree plantings to detailed plantings	1	$65,000.00
	of shrubs and perennial color at entries and throughout site.)		
	Connection to River Trail System (scenario includes 1 to 1-1/2 miles of asphalt trail.)	1	$75,000.00
Subtotal			**$2,820,000.00**
Linwood Park Pool			
	Pool Improvements (scenario ranges from individual in-water play feature to a multiple	1	$105,000.00
	feature play system and the addition of funbrellas.)		
	Restroom Improvements (scenario ranges from replacement of toilet and lavatory	1	$35,000.00
	fixtures to the replacement of showers, benches and lockers.)		
	Concession Improvements repair and/or replacement of existing facilities.)	1	$35,000.00
	Fencing Improvements (scenario ranges relocating the existing fence to expand deck	1	$18,000.00
	area to total replacement of fence and addition of additional concrete deck and trellis		
	structures.)		
Subtotal			**$193,000.00**

Park Name	Proposed Improvements	Quantity	Projected Costs
Lynette Woodard Center			
	Gym Floor Improvements (scenario ranges from new tile floor to new wood floor.)	1	$40,000.00
	Gym Lighting Improvements (scenario ranges from replacement of existing fixtures to	1	$35,000.00
	replacement of existing fixtures with the addition of new fixtures.)		
	Carpeting (scenario includes the carpeting of various rooms throughout the complex.)	1	$12,000.00
	Painting and Signage (scenario ranges from painting of entry with identification signage	1	$8,500.00
	at each room to re-painting of entire complex with directional signage.)		
Subtotal			**$95,500.00**
McAdams Park			
	Baseball Field Fencing (scenario ranges from making minor repairs to existing fence to	1	$12,000.00
	total replacement.)		
	Baseball Field Seating (scenario ranges from sanding and repainting of existing bleachers	1	$55,200.00
	to replacement of wood planking to total replacement.)		
	Update Park Entry Signage (scenarios range from simple signage to architectural	1	$20,000.00
	element with signage incorporated.)		
	Additional Landscaping (scenarios range from plantings at the park entry, recreation	1	$75,000.00
	center and swimming pool to plantings at the tennis complex, playground, football		
	field and baseball parking lot.)		
	Paint and Update Swimming Facility (scenario includes creating different user zones	1	$25,000.00
	within pool-deck limits, adding umbrellas and other colorful elements and painting		
	concrete structures throughout the facility.)		
	Repaint Basketball Backboards	1	$1,000.00
	Resurface Basketball Parking Lot (scenarios range from grading site, installing sub-base	1	$35,000.00
	and installing asphalt, to installing asphalt or concrete curb and gutter.)		
	Add Concession Bldg. at Tennis Cts. (scenarios range from the addition of a concession	1	$200,000.00
	building to restroom concession building. Concession may be designed in such a		
	manner that it could serve the swimming facility as well.)		
	Walking Trail (scenario ranges from one mile of asphalt trail to one mile of concrete	1	$98,000.00
	trail.)		
Subtotal			**$521,200.00**
Minisa Park Pool			
	Pool Area Improvements (scenario ranges from relocating the existing fence to expand	1	$18,000.00
	deck area to total replacement of fence and addition of additional concrete deck.)		
Subtotal			**$18,000.00**
Cessna Park			
	Add Roofs to Dugouts (scenarios range from simple wood frame construction with	1	$15,000.00
	asphalt shingles to a system with standing seam metal roof.)		
	Upgrade Lighting (scenarios range from replacement of lighting on one field to	1	$165,000.00
	replacement of all lights and upgrade of electrical system.)		
Subtotal			**$180,000.00**
Planeview Park			
	Large Playground (scenario includes various configurations and levels of play equipment.)	1	$150,000.00
	Picnic Areas (scenarios range from picnic tables on concrete slabs to addition of small	1	$100,000.00
	shelter buildings.)		
Subtotal			**$250,000.00**

Park Name	Proposed Improvements	Quantity	Projected Costs
Boston Recreation Center			
	Large Playground (scenario includes various configurations and levels of play equipment.)	1	$150,000.00
	Picnic Areas (scenarios range from picnic tables on concrete slabs to addition of small	1	$190,000.00
	shelter buildings.)		
Subtotal			**$340,000.00**
Harvest Park Pool			
	Improve Pool Bathhouse (scenario ranges from replacement of restroom and shower	1	$250,000.00
	facilities to the total replacement of the existing building.)		
Subtotal			**$250,000.00**
Orchard Park			
	Upgrade Pool to Aquatic Center (scenario ranges from individual in-water play feature to	1	$85,000.00
	a multiple feature play system.)		
	Add Shelter and Upgrade Playground (scenario includes the addition of a picnic shelter	1	$180,000.00
	and the replacement of playground equipment to meet code.)		
Subtotal			**$265,000.00**
Evergreen Park			
	Extend Fences (scenario ranges from expanding the deck area by relocating the existing	1	$20,000.00
	fence to the addition of concrete deck.)		
	Add In-Water Play Features (scenario ranges from individual in-water play feature to a	1	$85,000.00
	multiple feature play system.)		
Subtotal			**$105,000.00**
College Hill Park			
	Add 8' Walking Trail (scenarios range from the construction of an 8' wide asphalt trail to	1	$60,000.00
	an 8' concrete trail.)		
Subtotal			**$60,000.00**
Fairmount Park			
	Add Safety Lighting at Parking Lot (scenario includes the installation of pole mounted	1	$25,000.00
	lights in the parking lot.)		
Subtotal			**$25,000.00**
Country Acres Pool			
	Upgrade Signage and Color Scheme (scenario includes the replacement of signage with one	1	$20,000.00
	of a consistent theme and the selection of a more attractive color scheme.)		
Subtotal			**$20,000.00**
Total for Prioritized Facility Upgrades from Board of Park Commissioners			**$9,272,700.00**