OPEN FOR

# ADVENTURE

# PARKS MASTER PLAN

## CITY OF BELLEVUE, NE

*2023*

Bellevue NEBRASKA

We Influence The World!



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Bellevue NEBRASKA
We Influence The World!

City of Bellevue
Office of the Mayor
1500 Wall St. • Bellevue, Nebraska • 68005 • 402-293-3022

As your Mayor, I am excited for the release of *Open For Adventure*, the Parks Master Plan for the city of Bellevue. Parks are an essential piece of our community and a hallmark to the quality of life for residents, employees and visitors of Bellevue. This Master Plan represents a major milestone in our efforts to effectively manage our parks, introduce new experiences, and to ensure that parks continue to meet the needs of our growing city.

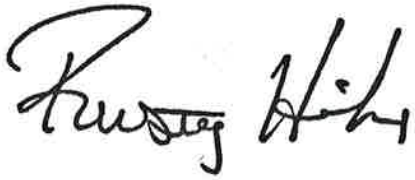
Our parks are a critical component of our city's character and have been the setting for celebrations, connecting with neighbors, spending time in nature, and many recreational adventures for young, old, and everyone in between. The Parks Master Plan provides a path forward to create even more memories and ensure that Bellevue is a destination for adventure, have parks that create a sense of wonder and joy, and a place to call home.

However, as our city has grown and evolved, so too have the demands placed on our parks system. We need to ensure that our parks are accessible and welcoming to all residents, regardless of their age, ability, or background. We need to provide a diverse range of recreational opportunities that reflect the changing interests and preferences of our community. We need to do all of this in a way that is sustainable, both environmentally and financially.

The Parks Master Plan represents our path in meeting these challenges and realizing our vision for a parks system that keeps people coming back and is an investment in high quality park experiences for all. It provides a comprehensive framework for the development, maintenance, and improvement of our parks, and it outlines specific strategies and recommendations for achieving our goals.

I encourage all residents to review the Parks Master Plan and to get involved in its implementation. The success of the plan relies on your partnership. Whether you are a frequent park user, a concerned citizen, or a community leader, your engagement will be critical to ensuring that our parks system continues to meet the needs of our community now and for generations to come.

I want to thank the working group, the Steering Committee, Planning Commission, and City Council for their leadership on this important endeavor!



City of Bellevue
Public Works Administration
1510 Wall St • Bellevue, Nebraska • 68005 • 402-293-3030

In my role as Public Works Director, I've had the honor of working with residents, colleagues, and leaders in Bellevue to create *Open for Adventure*, the Bellevue Parks Master Plan. This ambitious plan represents a significant step forward in our efforts to create a vibrant, sustainable parks system that meets the needs of our diverse and growing community.

The Parks Master Plan is a comprehensive guide for connecting the park system through a cohesive communication strategy, streamlined maintenance, balancing park improvements, and creating new and unique park experiences in all areas of Bellevue. The Parks Master Plan is representative of the voice and vision of our residents. It reflects the input of a wide range of stakeholders, citizens, community groups, and city staff. It outlines specific strategies and recommendations for enhancing our parks, while also providing a framework for ongoing maintenance and management.

One of the key goals of the Parks Master Plan is to create new park experiences that reflect the changing needs and interests of our community. This includes the development of new recreational opportunities, such as adventure parks, skate parks, and outdoor fitness facilities. It also includes creating spaces that will celebrate the history of service and the diversity of our community to promote understanding and engagement.

Another important goal of the Parks Master Plan is to connect our parks system in new and innovative ways. This includes the development of new trails and greenways that promote active transportation and healthy lifestyles.

Finally, the Parks Master Plan emphasizes the need for more efficient and effective management of our parks system. This includes the development of new maintenance and management practices that reduce costs, improve quality, and ensure long-term sustainability.

Some of the key goals of the Parks Master Plan include:

- Increasing access to parks and open spaces for all residents, regardless of age, ability, or background
- Expanding our network of trails, greenways, and bike lanes to promote active transportation and healthy lifestyles.
- Connecting key destinations throughout Bellevue
- Incorporating sustainable design practices into our parks and facilities to reduce our environmental footprint and ensure long-term viability.
- Promoting cultural and recreational opportunities that reflect the diversity of our community.

A special note of thanks to Mr. Doug Clark the city's Public Works Director who helped make this master park plan possible. Doug has left the city to pursue a job opportunity in Arizona.

Please, get involved in your parks. Continue to make Bellevue the most livable city in Nebraska!

Best Regards

Mark Elbert



Interim Public Works Director/Community Development Director

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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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- Krista Hoffart — Offutt Air Force Base
- Sue Cutsforth — City of Bellevue Planning Commission
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- Thomas Burns — Bellevue City Council
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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## CITY COUNCIL

- Thomas Burns – Ward 1, South Bellevue
- Rich Casey – Ward 2, Olde Towne
- Paul Cook – Ward 3, Southwest Bellevue
- Kathy Welch – Ward 4, Fontenelle Hills
- Don Preister – Ward 5, Northwest Bellevue
- Jerry McCaw – Ward 6, Central Bellevue

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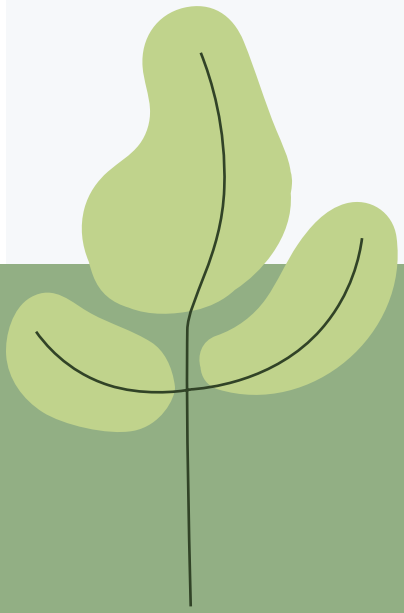

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# PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND



# PURPOSE + BACKGROUND



## IN THIS SECTION:

- INTRODUCTION
- MISSION
- GOALS
- HISTORY + SUPPORTING PLANS
- WHY PLAN?

# INTRODUCTION

**What does it mean to be Open for Adventure?**

What does it mean to be Open for Adventure? Like many communities, Bellevue faces a future of growth and change. As it seeks to leverage its unique resources, market its strengths to businesses and new residents, and chart a path forward together with the community for a bright future, its parks and green spaces play a key role.

This Parks Master Plan lays the groundwork for planning and completing park improvements, guiding efforts to improve park access and meeting the community's high expectations for parks, recreation facilities, programs, services and experiences. It will guide City decisions for improvement projects within 6 planning zones and inform future programming.

With 55 parks totaling over 14% of Bellevue's total land use, the City of Bellevue embarked on a master planning process to develop a vision and framework for Bellevue's parks. The plan combines community input with best practices to create a long-term vision for Bellevue's parks, trails, facilities and programs.

Due to the age of the parks, changing community needs, and trends in recreation, there will always be more needs and opportunities to fund. This plan outlines which parks should receive investment and what types of investment, new amenities, and park experiences should be prioritized.

Building on the goals and accomplishments of past park planning efforts, this plan explores how the community's connection to parks and the parks' relationship to Bellevue's identity as a unique environment open up new avenues for exploration, adventure, connection, play, and peace.

## ABOUT THE PLAN

**Who does the plan impact?**

All people of all backgrounds and abilities – including long-term and transient residents, regional users from the Council-Bluffs-Omaha Metro Area and surrounding communities, and visitors.

**For how long?**

This plan is a vision for the parks system for the next 15-20 years.

**Where does it apply?**

This parks plan governs decisions made about the parks system, creates policies relating to parks and recreation land use and operations, and provides a vision for the physical form of Bellevue's parks. It also provides recommendations for smaller areas of Bellevue – Park Access Zones – as well as park-by-park recommendations.

**Who will use it, and how?**

This plan is a public document, and contains feedback and input received by members of the public through intensive public engagement.

While its primary purpose is to be used during the decision-making processes of City staff and governing bodies, it also serves as a line of communication between the City and the public – that input was received and considered in creating a structure for the future of parks system decision-making. Members of the public should have access to this guiding document so they are aware of the system's direction, function, and basis in the needs of the community.

**Periodic review and renewal process.**

This plan is based on data collected in 2021 and 2022, and as updates to parks and the Parks System are made, information about the number of amenities available, connectivity, and other factors may become out-of-date quickly.

To prevent this plan from becoming obsolete, periodic review and renewal of the document and all related information is key. This plan has been developed to be reviewed and renewed every five years throughout its lifespan.

A GIS (Geographic Information Systems) database created as part of this plan should be updated regularly to reflect any updates made to parks. The information in this document, as a reference for the baseline, may remain unchanged, so that GIS data can be compared against it to measure progress toward a shared vision for the system.

# MISSION + GOALS

## OUR MISSION

In more ways than one, Bellevue is Open for Adventure: a tight-knit, unique community where people of all ages get outside and find new adventures to explore together.

This plan is also a testament to Bellevue's ongoing commitment to celebrate shared purpose and values and move toward a more connected future.

## PLAN GOALS

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

### ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY

Engage the community in the planning process so decision-making can be shaped by community values, wisdom, and lived experience.

### ENABLE SUSTAINABLE PARK DEVELOPMENT

Develop a framework for creating, maintaining, and graduating parks to ensure system growth is sustainable, each park can reach a high level of service to the community, and ineffective parks can find new use that improves the parks system overall.

### BALANCE THE SYSTEM

Create a balanced operational system that can be effectively and efficiently maintained to a high level of service to the community.

### DISTRIBUTE AMENITIES AND PROGRAMS

Enable access to a variety of high-quality amenities and programs across the city.

### ENABLE COMMUNICATION

Open lines of communication between the parks, the City, and the community.

### CONNECT THE SYSTEM

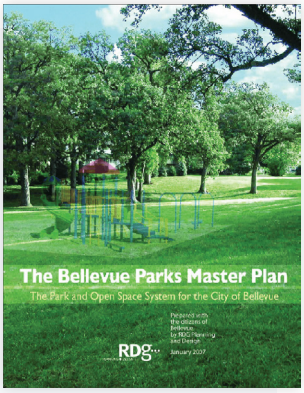
Envision the parks system as a safe and connected network of green and open spaces accessible by biking, walking, riding, and driving.

### EMPOWER PARTNERSHIP

Identify and empower community partners in the long-term improvement of the parks system and quality of individual parks.

# SUPPORTING PLANS

## 2007 PARKS MASTER PLAN

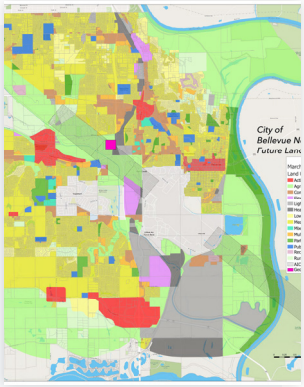



The last Bellevue Parks Master Plan was completed in 2007.

It provided park by park recommendations and identified the AICUZ zone as a potential greenway to be developed.

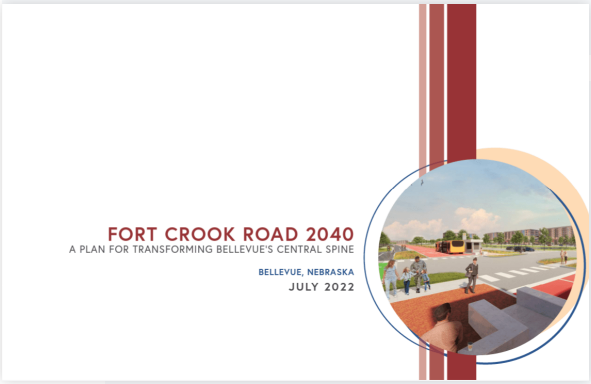
The plan proposed a new park in each new development.

## 2008 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



Bellevue updated its comprehensive plan in 2008. The park and recreation goals included a park within a ¼ mile of every resident of Bellevue.

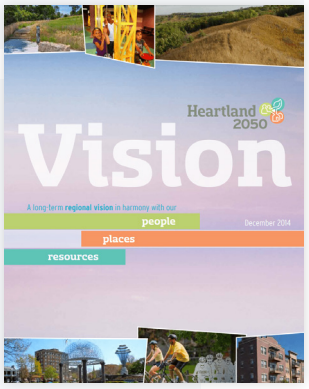
It called for the identification of districts for the City and to connect the parks within each district.




## 2040 FORT CROOK ROAD REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Fort Crook Redevelopment Plan was completed in 2022. It is a long term vision for the Fort Crook Corridor that highlights the need for a more dense land use pattern served by transit and bike mobility. Smaller neighborhood parks were identified as a need to provide green and open space to new multi-family, mixed-use development.

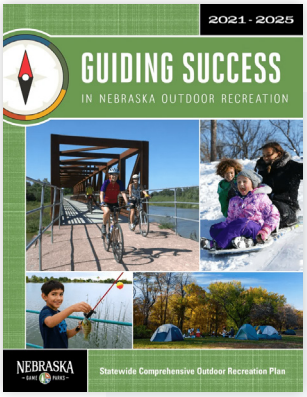
## HEARTLAND 2050 REGIONAL VISION




Heartland 2050 is a long-range vision for the future of Omaha-Council Bluffs region. One of the guiding principles is increasing access to outdoor spaces.

Within the action plan is a recommendation for parks to be developed for a range of uses, choices and ages.

# SUPPORTING PLANS




## 2021 NEBRASKA GAME + PARKS STATE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN

The Statewide Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is used to help guide the state, Natural Resource Districts, counties and communities in developing, improving, or renovating land for outdoor recreation use.

Recommendations for Region 1, which includes Sarpy County are to increase access the biologically unique landscapes to provide an array of recreation and educational opportunities.

## OFFUTT JOINT LAND USE PLAN




The Joint Land Use Study is a proactive land use approach in partnership with Offutt Air Force Base.

The AICUZ zone is an open space within the flight path in which the risks to civilian safety from potential crashes is a concern.

Greenways along the Papio Creek connect Bellevue residents to the region while maintaining the avoidance of further development or gathering within the AICUZ crash zones.




## 2023 OMAHA NATURAL SURFACE TRAILS FEASIBILITY STUDY

The Omaha Natural Surface Trails Feasibility Study seeks to identify locations for trails, bike skills development features, bike parks, and bicycle playgrounds and create a connected network of trails and bike facilities within the Omaha Metro Area.

# SUPPORTING PLANS




## AMERICAN HEROES PARK CONCEPTUAL SITE MASTER PLAN

With a conceptual design including an event plaza, nature + adventure play, sports fields, and lake, American Heroes Park has been master planned to be an inclusive destination park celebrating the people of service in our communities throughout all seasons.
**Shown below:** graphics from the Conceptual Site Master Plan.






# HISTORY

**Bellevue is Nebraska's oldest community.**

Established in 1822, Bellevue's identity as a trading post for trappers, manufacturers, and Native American tribes fostered its prosperity. As trade and business shifted with the changing times, Bellevue changed, too - building and developing to support an influx of new settlers. However, when plans to make Bellevue the capital city fell through and Omaha was selected instead, Bellevue's growth faltered.

Bellevue made additions to the community that ensured its survival, establishing Bellevue college in 1880 and Fort Crook in the 1890s - the latter a large part of Bellevue's growth.



**Bellevue's future is in its identity.**

Today, Bellevue's growth and stability comes primarily from expansion in civilian employment, the building boom associated with the Kennedy Freeway construction, and significant economic attractions: Fontenelle Forest and Offutt Air Force Base.

Bellevue is known throughout the region for its commitment to service, its small-town feel, and its natural landscapes.

As it continues to grow, Bellevue's future is tied to activities that strengthen community ties, enhance economic success, and center and protect Bellevue's natural and green spaces.



# WHY PLAN?

At the simplest, plainest level, what should a park's purpose be, and why is it so important that our planning process for parks be equitable, realistic, and transparent?

+ **Parks are not incidental, they are created.** Empowering the community to provide input and guide the purpose of parks for the future of Bellevue aligns park investments with community goals, momentum, and support systems.
+ **Parks are critical infrastructure.** Parks and green spaces are vital to a healthy community, both on an individual basis and on the health and operations of a successfully functioning city.

*What value do parks and green spaces provide?*

According to the National Recreation and Park Association (NPRA), parks play three vital roles:

## 1. Economic Support

By improving property values, retaining stormwater, cooling the air, and providing space for local arts, sports, and community events, parks and green spaces contribute to economic success.

+ Parks improve not only property values and the tax base but enhance the desirability of a neighborhood and add to the character of the city.
+ Parks and trees serve as stormwater retention, saving money that would be otherwise used to divert & process stormwater.
+ Parks, trees, and green spaces reduce the urban "heat-island" effect, cooling cities and reducing power usage.
+ Parks are one of the top three reasons businesses choose to locate in a city.
+ Parks and Recreation programs generate operational costs, but generate fee revenue for cities.
+ Parks provide spaces for economic revenue generators, like sports tournaments, festivals, concerts, and markets.

## 2. Health & Wellness

Parks and green spaces reduce stress and stress-related illness, improve mental health, and promote healthy lifestyles through exercise & sports.

+ Park amenities like trails, open spaces, sports facilities, and exercise equipment provide spaces for people to stay healthy and fit through exercise.
+ The number of residents who exercise 3x per week can grow by 25% just by creating, improving, and promoting places to be active.
+ Spending time among trees and wilderness areas reduces blood pressure, improves autonomic and immune functions, alleviates depression, and improves mental health.
+ Long stays in parks can reduce stress, lower blood pressure, and individuals' perceived physical health.

## 3. Social Connection

Parks and green spaces help us build strong social connections through opportunities to gather, play together, and feel part of something bigger.

+ Parks are a tangible reflection of the quality of life in a community. They provide identity for citizens and are a major factor in the perception of quality of life in a given community.
+ Parks and recreation services are often cited as one of the most important factors in surveys of how livable communities are.
+ Parks provide gathering places for families and social groups, as well as for individuals of all ages and economic status, regardless of their ability to pay for access.

# PARKS + WELLNESS

Overall, parks support the wellness of individuals and of the community as a whole. The Global Wellness Institute defines wellness as multidimensional, containing physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, social, and environmental wellness.

Parks have a role to play in the ongoing wellness of people, and in turn, their ability to form strong community bonds across boundaries.



## Spiritual + Environmental Wellness

Parks not only clean up the air, reduce the heat-island effect, and protect drinking water, but they are home to native wildlife.

Being immersed in natural and wild spaces helps people slow down and take time to think. In this way, parks help people feel more connected to a bigger purpose and find meaning in life.

## Mental + Emotional Wellness

People who live near natural spaces feel less stress, anxiety, and depression. Just **20 minutes** in a park can significantly improve feelings of well-being and satisfaction.



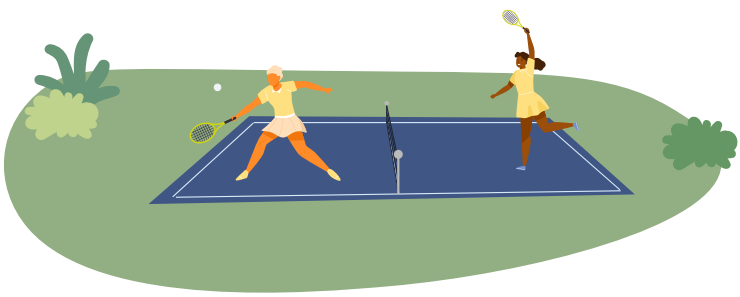


## Physical Wellness

Improving outdoor spaces for physical exercise has been shown to increase the number of residents who exercise at least 3 times per week by **25%**. Research also shows that physical activity done in green spaces is more beneficial for mental health.

## Social Wellness

People who visit local parks are more likely to feel a sense of ownership and pride in their community. Because parks are public and free, they are a special space where people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities can meet, learn about each other, and form strong community bonds.



# COVID-19 IMPACT

**Parks are vital spaces that help us build resilience to sudden and unexpected change.**

2020 was a year of challenges. Beyond the COVID-19 pandemic, which disrupted daily life and severed established community systems, communities nationwide dealt with the fallout from a record number of climate disasters, financial insecurity, and a racial justice movement.

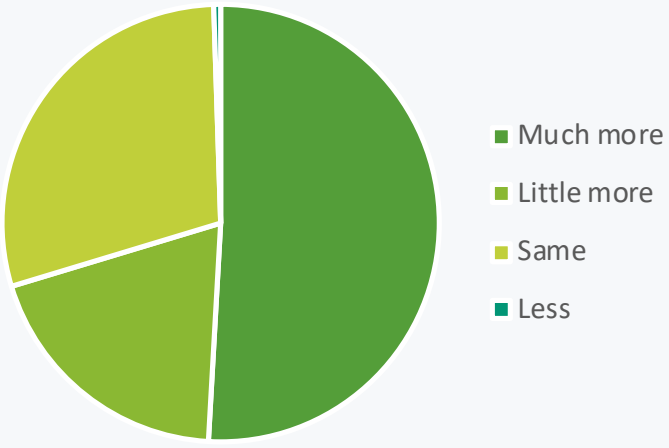
With gathering indoors off-limits, and work and school reduced to online experiences, parks and green spaces' importance in community life was renewed - enabling safe gathering, providing space to exercise, and allowing for a respite from digital spaces.

In late April 2020, when shelter-in-place orders and restrictions were at their strongest, **86% of Parks and Recreation agencies nationwide kept all of their trails open. Three quarters of agencies kept all their parks available to the public.**

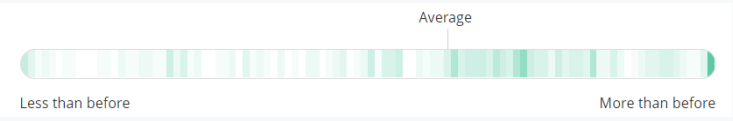
Communities nationwide agree that appreciation for parks, trails, and open spaces is at an all-time high.

### Community Engagement Results — Bellevue

*Since the pandemic started, how are you or your family feeling about parks in general?*




*Since the pandemic started, have you or your family spent more or less time in parks?*




### National Recreation + Park Association Park Snapshot Data, 2020

**2 IN 3**

park and recreation leaders reported increased usage of their agency's parks, compared to 2019, with a median rise in usage of 25%.

**>80%**

of park and recreation leaders reported increased usage of trails, with a median rise of 35%.

**3 IN 5**

people — more than 190 million adults and children — visited a park, trail, public open space, or recreation facility between mid-March and June 2020.

**83%**

of adults agree that visits to parks, trails, public open spaces, and recreation facilities were essential to their mental and physical well-being.

# THE STATE OF PARKS

55
TOTAL PARKS

making up
14%
of Bellevue's total land.



756
ACRES

1 PARK
1163
RESIDENTS

(that's
TWICE
as many as the average system.)

81 ACRES
RESIDENT

(that's 9X the national average.)


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# THE PLANNING PROCESS



## IN THIS SECTION:

- PLAN DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE
- COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

# PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Completed in three phases over the course of 18 months, and guided by the input of local stakeholders, City staff members, and an intensive community engagement effort, this plan has been created collaboratively by the people of Bellevue.

### Was the process equitable and inclusive?

Equity and inclusion were a focus of this process, and the engagement strategy, tools, and tactics used reflected this.

People from all over Bellevue and the Metro area, of all ages, backgrounds, races, abilities, and family units, provided their input through a variety of inclusive formats.

### Who was involved in the process?

These recommendations, and the needs they are designed to respond to, have been developed through a thorough assessment of the City's existing infrastructure, collaboration with Public Works, Planning, and Community Development, and extensive stakeholder and community engagement from Fall 2021 — Spring 2023.

## GOALS OF THE PLANNING PROCESS

1. ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY
2. ENABLE SUSTAINABLE PARK DEVELOPMENT
3. BALANCE THE SYSTEM
4. DISTRIBUTE AMENITIES AND PROGRAMS
5. ENABLE COMMUNICATION
6. CONNECT THE SYSTEM
7. EMPOWER PARTNERSHIP



# PLAN DEVELOPMENT

## PHASE I: DISCOVERY + ANALYSIS

### Park Amenity Assessment

Assessed safety and condition of park equipment in existing parks.

### Staff and Stakeholder Interviews

Interviewed 20 City staff members and 28 community stakeholders, including BJSA staff, maintenance staff, nonprofit leaders, law enforcement officers, recreation providers, and school officials.

### Park Benchmarking

Using National Parks and Recreation Association data, Bellevue was benchmarked against cities nationwide. Two peer cities were selected based on similar spatial and demographic makeup.

## PHASE II: ENGAGEMENT

### Community Event Pop-Ups

Representatives met with community members at Farmers Markets and "Open Office Hours" events at local coffee shops and destinations. Interactive presentations were given to local community organizations.

### Community Workshops

Participants at any of five community workshops learned about the need for the parks plan and gave their input through an interactive park design exercise.

### Park Experience Survey

Survey respondents rated each park based on their experience there, giving feedback on amenity conditions, safety, accessibility, inclusivity, and purpose.

### Open House

An open house was held to get final community input on the plan's direction and early recommendations. Attendees gave their feedback on new park experiences, park zone maps, and potential community partnerships for strategies and actions.

## PHASE II: ENGAGEMENT

### Values Survey

Survey respondents reported their park usage, accessibility needs, desired amenities, and top values for the parks system.

### Working Group and Steering Committee Input

The Working Group, consisting of members of City of Bellevue staff and facilitated by members of the consultant team, met regularly throughout the project to provide input and guidance on the development of policies, systems, & structures for the plan.

The Steering Committee, which consisted of local stakeholders for parks and natural spaces, met throughout the plan to review progress, provide high-level guidance and feedback, and promote public involvement in the planning process.

## PHASE III: ALIGNMENT

### Focus Groups

Four focus groups were held to get feedback on emerging themes. Real Estate, Recreation, Economic Development, and Education subject matter experts gave their feedback on Bellevue's Park System's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.

### Strategy Development

Using community input and best practices, the consultant team finalized development of key recommendations and strategies to meet the community's park goals.

### Reviews

Draft plans were reviewed by City staff, the Complete Streets Advisory Committee, and the Bellevue Planning Commission.

### Presentation

The plan was presented to Bellevue's City Council for approval and adoption.

> **IF THE PARKS ARE FOR THE PEOPLE, THE PEOPLE SHOULD HELP DECIDE THEIR FUTURE.**
>
> DOUG CLARK, FORMER PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

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# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## Interviews

The planning consultant conducted 35 stakeholder interviews to develop an understanding of the internal relationships, operations, and policies supporting the park system. Interviewees included parks maintenance staff, City Council members, local business owners, Public Works, Planning, and Engineering staff, and Chamber of Commerce representatives.

*Themes*

+ Parks can be a driving force in locational decisions for individuals, families, and businesses
+ Increased wayfinding and connectedness of park system needed

## Surveys — Values Survey

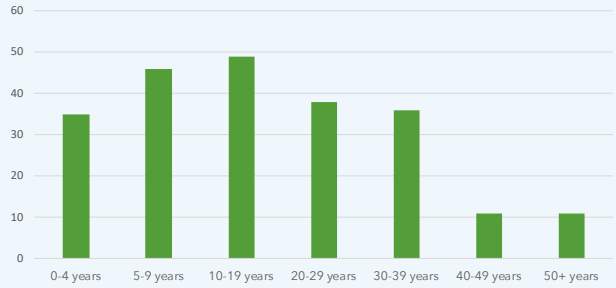
The first survey, the Park Values Survey, was available for response from March 15 - May 31, 2021. It gathered information on the relationships between self-reported residency, accessibility needs, and family styles with self-described park needs.

The survey was promoted via email blast, social media posts, paper survey availability at libraries and City buildings, and media spots.

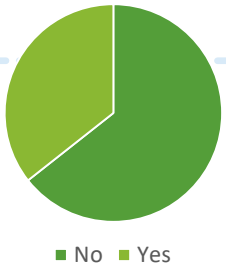
**748** Total Participants

**9,662** Total Responses

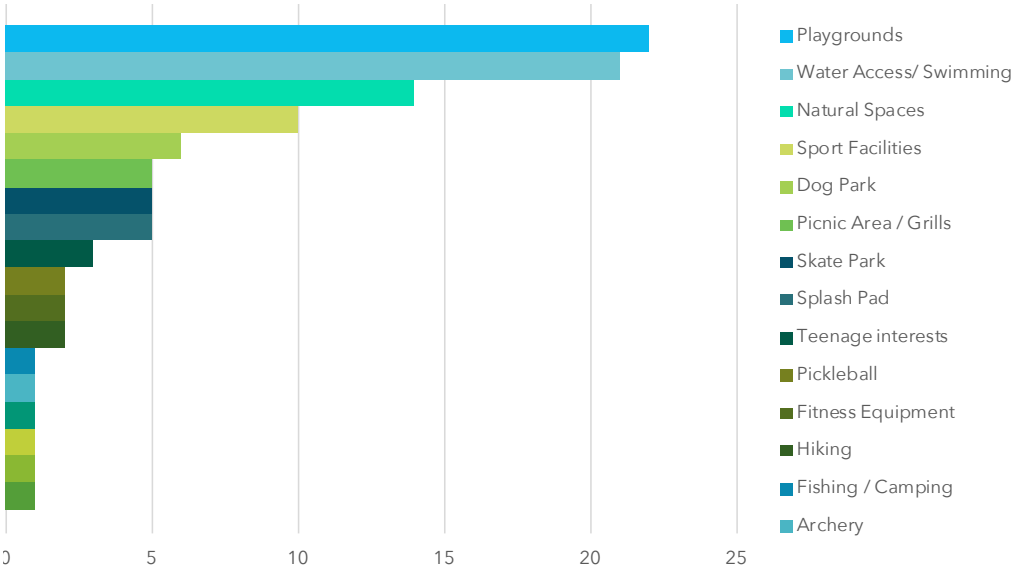
*Length of time lived in Bellevue*




Are Bellevue's parks **meeting the needs** of the community?

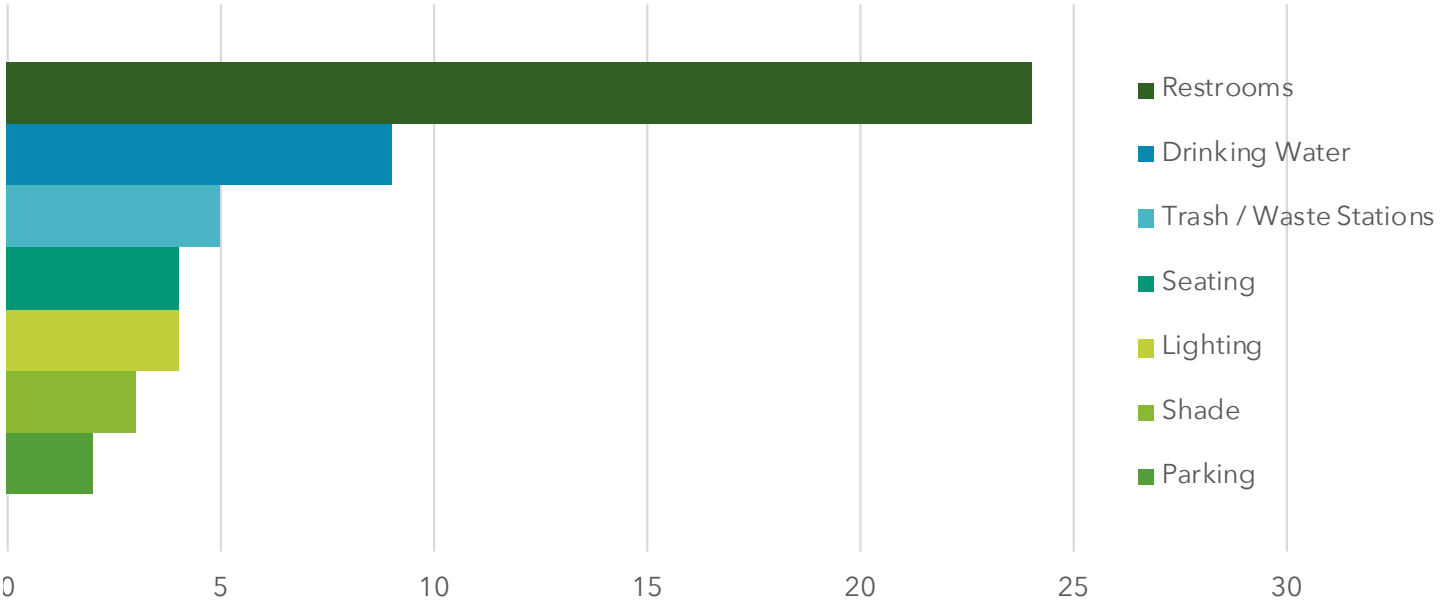



Which needs are **not being met**?

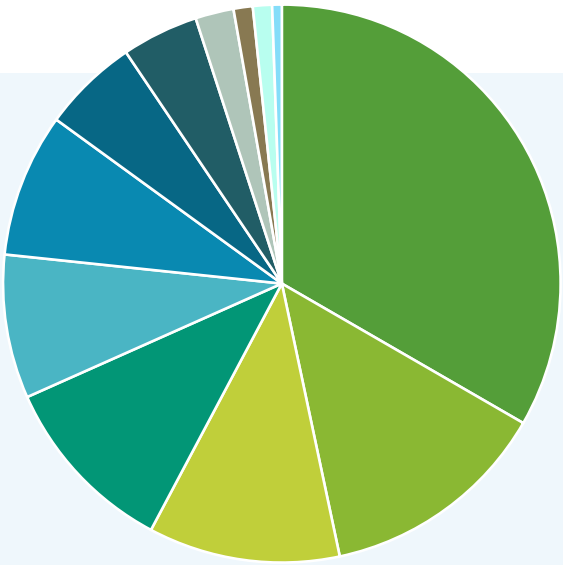


# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## Which needs are **not being met**?




## What **keeps you** from visiting parks?



- Lack of specific amenities
- Poor upkeep and maintenance
- Don't have time
- Don't know where parks are
- Parks are too far away
- Don't like available amenities
- Weather
- Parks lack walking + biking access
- Don't have children
- Parks are too small
- Personal mobility challenges
- Don't feel welcome in parks

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Which values are **most important** to you?

1. RECREATION + PLAY

*Bellevue residents should have access to joy, wonder, play and peace through the parks.*

2. TAKING CARE OF OUR COMMUNITY + ENVIRONMENT

*Clean and beautiful parks are a part of Bellevue's commitment to stewardship of community and the environment.*

3. RANGE OF USES + CHOICES

*The parks system should offer Bellevue residents equal opportunity to access a variety of park types + recreation options.*

4. SAFETY

*The Bellevue parks system should be safe for all users and encourage positive experiences.*

5. ACCESSIBILITY

*Bellevue's parks should be clearly connected, well known, and easy to access for all.*

6. BELONGING

*Parks should be a place where people of all ages, races, genders, abilities and family units feel welcome.*

7. RELIABILITY + CONSISTENCY

*Efforts made to improve and connect the park system should endure over the long-term and remain faithful to the community's values.*

8. CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

*Bellevue residents should feel engaged in the decisions made about our parks.*

9. PURPOSE

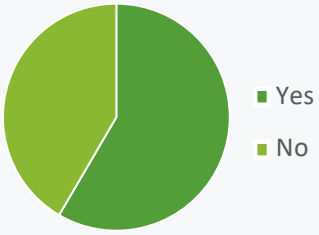
*Parks should be designed with clear purpose & people in mind.*

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

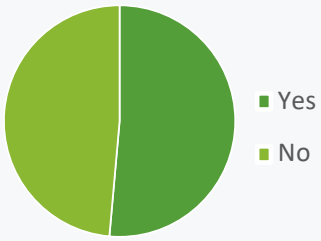
### Values Survey - Connectivity

A key theme in survey data was the impact of connectivity and mobility infrastructure on park usage and reported access to parks.

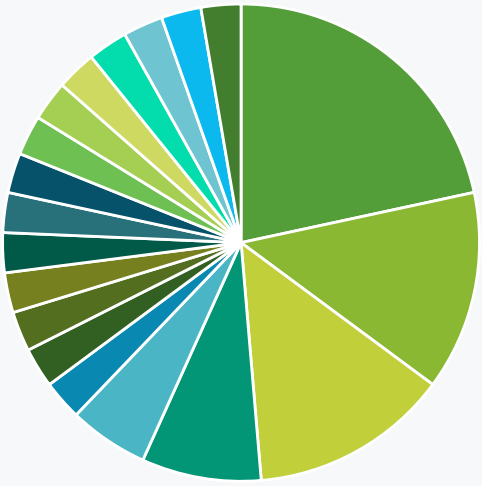
Do you have **walking or biking access** to the parks you want to visit?



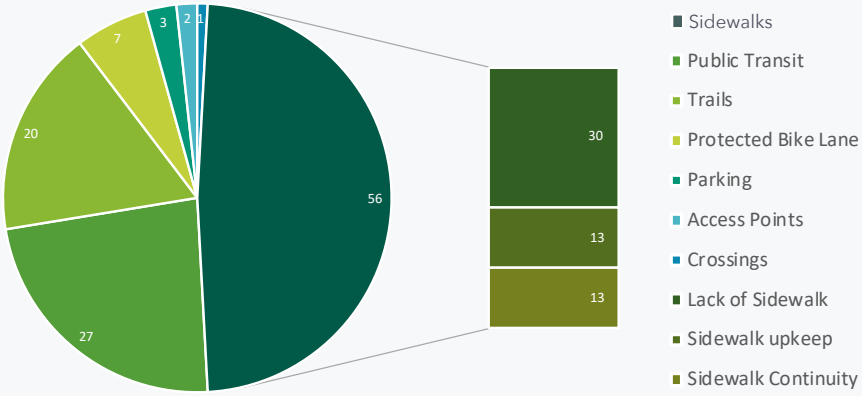

Is your access to the parks **limited** by trails, public transportation, or sidewalks in your area?



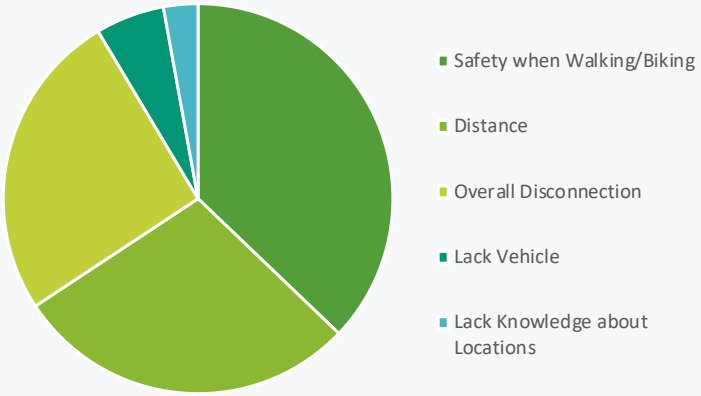

Most requested routes for **sidewalk improvements:**




**Key barriers** in comments regarding limitations to park access:




**Key concerns** in comments regarding limitations to park access:



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## Surveys — Park Experience Survey

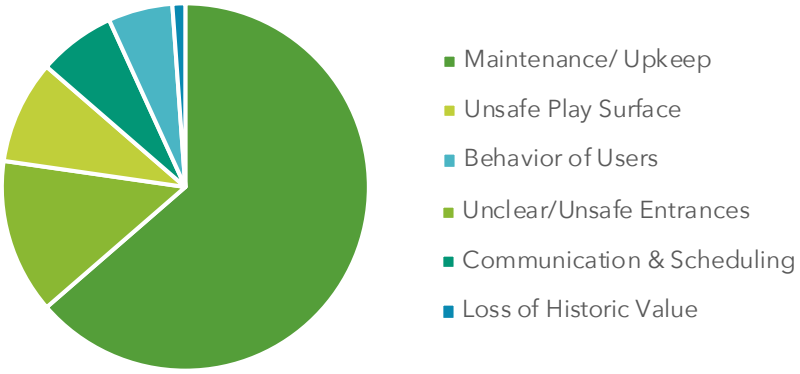
The second survey, the Park Experience Survey, allowed the public to assess the parks themselves, reporting on whether a park's amenities met their expectations, overall safety, accessibility, inclusivity, and potential future uses. This survey also served to measure park usage.

The survey was promoted by signs in the parks, media spots, and social media posts, and was available from June 1 to August 15. It received over 500 total responses and scored 48 of 55 parks.

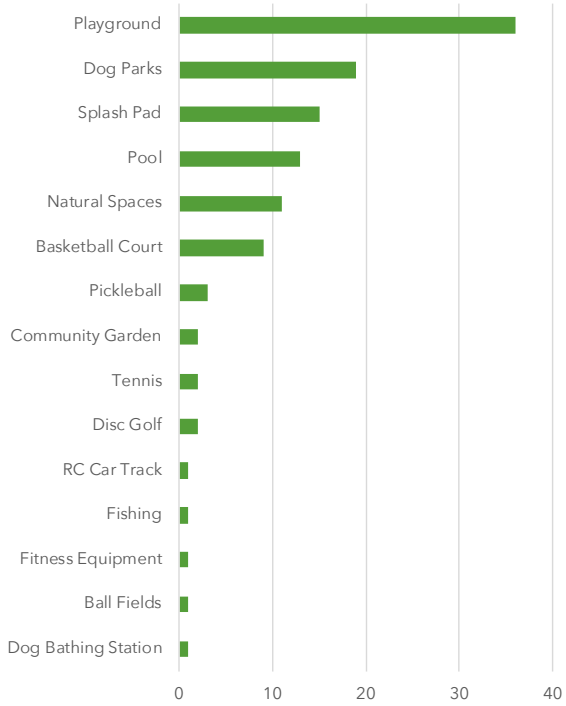
Data displayed here shows overall feedback received through this survey. Feedback on individual parks is included in each park's park score (page 108)

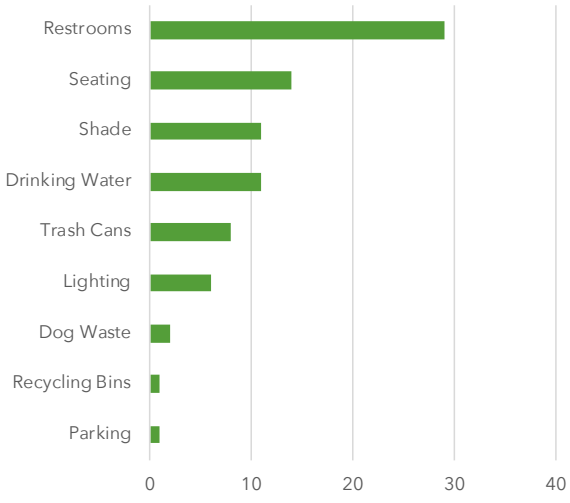



### Key **concerns** in park experience comments:




### Most-desired **park experiences**:



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## Community Workshops

Workshops were held in all service areas of Bellevue and included an additional youth focused workshop. In total, 5 workshops took place. Participants were asked to describe the opening day of their ideal park and note the type of experiences that people may have.

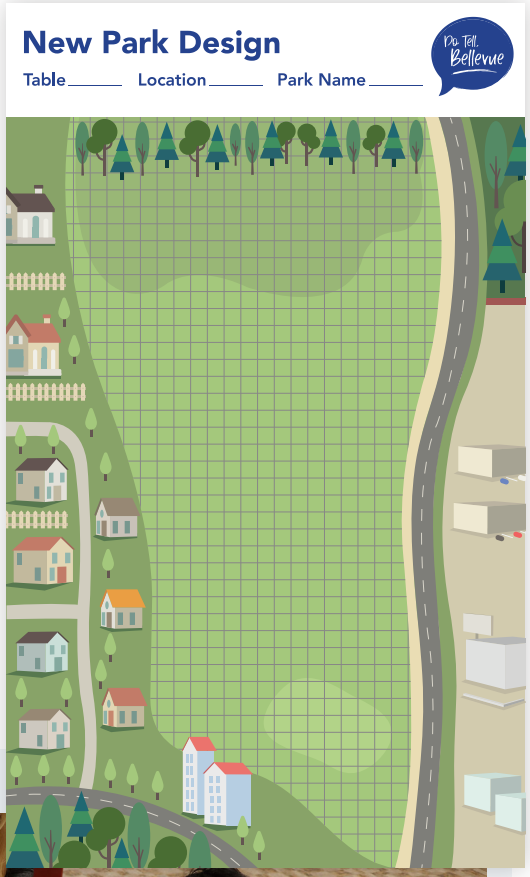
The groups completed a design exercise: brainstorming needs and desires for park uses, determining which values would drive the design decisions, then enacting those values in the design of a fictional park similar to Swanson Park.

The groups designed their ideal park by selecting amenities and placing them within the park. Each amenity's associated "cost" was based on real world value, making each decision representative of the types of decisions the City must make when designing a park.

**5**
Workshops

**67**
Total Participants

**18**
"Ideal Parks" Designed













# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## Community Workshop Outcomes

Data collected during the workshops included comments on interactive boards, park experience cards, where participants could list the activities they visit their favorite parks for, group brainstorming data from the "Ideal Park" exercise, and the park maps themselves.

Park maps were cross-referenced against focused conversation results and selected values to get a full picture of how values were put into action.

Goals and strategies in the action plan support partnerships and programming that was visioned during the workshops.

Zone recommendations, communication, park amenities in this plan have been ground truthed through the public workshop process.

### Evaluation of Map Data

By cross-referencing map designs with data collected in the focused conversation, patterns between values, park layouts, and amenities were uncovered.

Evaluation of the maps created during the workshops show that the public prefers parks that meet the following objectives:

*Accessible Locations*

+ Accessible from the neighborhood and the zone
+ Connected to adjacent neighborhood via trail/ path
+ Connected to zone via trails, multiple entrances
+ Bike amenities on site
+ Highly visible with frequent wayfinding

*Accessible Design*

+ Playground equipment
+ Playground surfaces
+ Internal trails and paths connecting amenities
+ Lighting

*Safety*

+ Multiple entrances/exits
+ Lighting
+ Internal trail and paths

### Workshop Values

The top three values participants selected to guide their park designs were:

1. ACCESSIBILITY
2. TAKING CARE OF OUR COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT
3. PURPOSE

Additionally, participants selected:

4. RANGE OF USES + CHOICES
5. SAFETY
6. RECREATION + PLAY

*Uses*

**Active**

+ Skate parks
+ Performance space
+ Playground
+ Ball fields
+ Exercise equipment

**Passive**

+ Ponds
+ Gathering spaces
+ Nature observation
+ Walking trails

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## Community Workshop Outcomes — Map Evaluations

Maps of the ideal park exercise helped the plan develop new park experiences based on what participants created in their park.




### PARK EXPERIENCE

Participants strategically placed waste receptacles, seating, and shelters near intersections, entrances, and along trails for user comfort.

Art was frequently used in tandem with natural and passive-use areas.

Amenities which produced noise were frequently positioned away from the neighborhood or against the high point of the park to absorb sound.

Restrooms were frequently utilized.

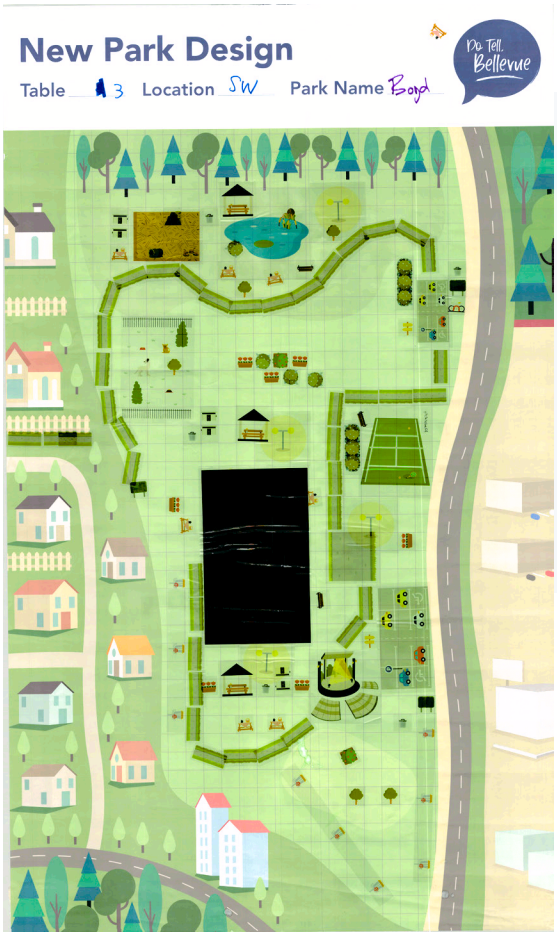



### VISIBILITY + SAFETY

Park visibility from the street and neighborhood was a priority in order to maintain sight lines and provide a sense of safety while using the park.

Participants strategically placed wayfinding throughout the park at key intersections, entrances and points of pause.

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT




## ACCESS + MOBILITY

The type of equipment and surfaces used provided equal access to making use of amenities for anyone with limited ability or mobility.

Parking was often paired with highly active uses – for instance, sports fields and amphitheaters.

Bicycle amenities were frequently paired with trails, entrances, and parking.

## USES

A consistent, wide range of user experiences that considered age, ability, and how a visitor arrived at the park appeared in park maps.

Natural play amenities were popularly chosen in addition to adventure play amenities.

Water was a prominent feature, whether a pond, splash pad, or pool.

Opening Day visioning lists included a mix of active uses, like play and events, with groups adamant that quiet and tranquil natural experiences be included. Participants used words like “sounds of rushing/bubbling water” “birds chirping” and “leaves in the wind” to describe their ideal experiences.



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## SUSTAINABILITY

Participants implemented recycling receptables alongside traditional waste receptacles.

They consistently chose to place water access at the low point of the park to conserve water.

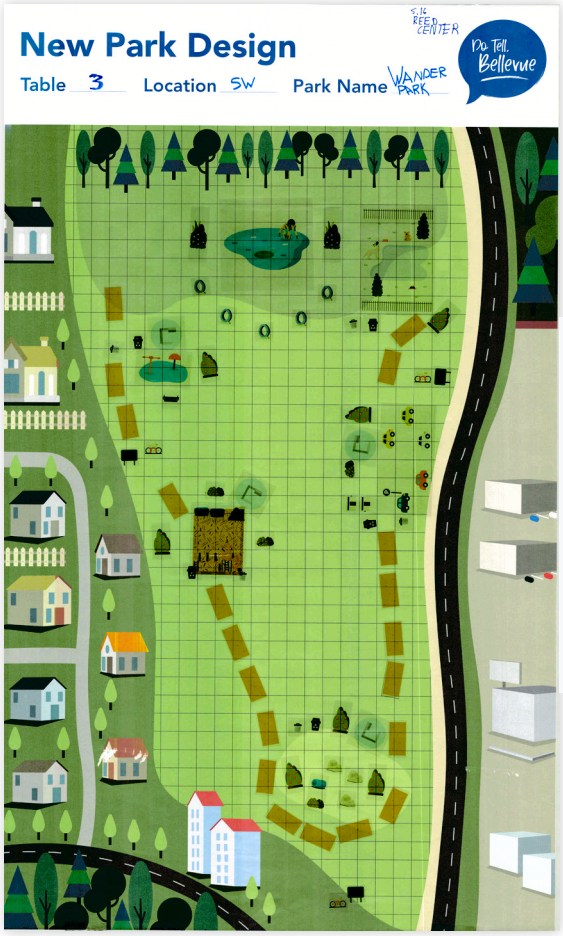
Parks were designed with a small percentage of impervious surfaces.

Lighting throughout the park utilized solar power over traditional lighting.

Native plantings and trees were frequently used for landscaping over traditional planting beds.

Additional trees beyond what was provided in the participant packets were consistenly requested by participants to increase shade access and natural spaces for park users.




## TRAILS

Participants designed trails that entered into the park and paths that help a user navigate all segments of the park they are visiting.

Loop trails were a popular design.

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## Pop-up Engagement Opportunities

To increase the accessibility of the public outreach, the consultant offered "Open Office Hours" during the day at a location near where the workshop would take place. These events offered opportunities for residents to engage with the consultant.

Throughout the month of June, park planning consultants rented a booth at the Bellevue Farmers Market to engage the community and raise awareness of opportunities for the public to provide feedback.



## Presentations

The consultant team provided presentations to partner organizations to increase awareness of the planning process. Presentations were provided to the Bellevue Chamber of Commerce, Citizen Complete Streets Advisory Committee, Bellevue Garden Club, and the Kiwanis Club.

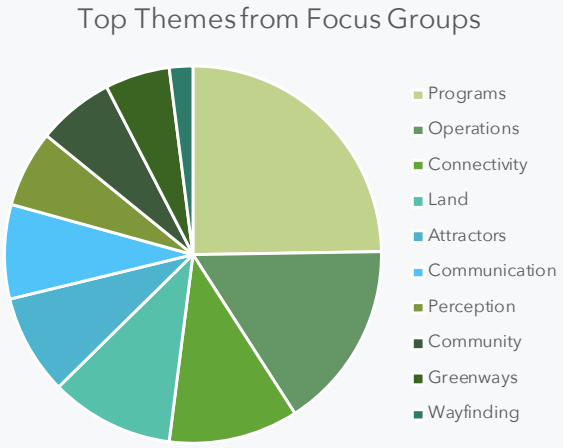
## Focus Groups

Four focus groups were held, convening local and regional stakeholders from the Real Estate, Recreation, Development & Engineering, and Economic Development sectors.

Attendees participated in a SWOT analysis and focused conversations about the parks and parks system, and helped identify potential new areas for park land and new experiences.

*Key Takeaways*

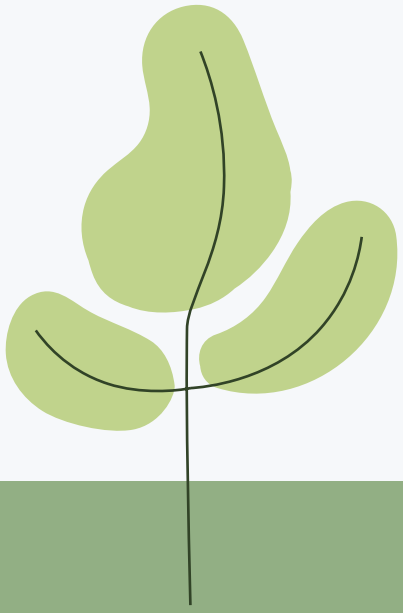
+ Bellevue's natural topography, natural areas, and greenways are a unique benefit to potential programming and park design
+ Bellevue's identity can and should be tied to the parks system and outdoor recreation activities
+ The economic benefit of the parks system cannot be understated
+ 36th Street and Capehart Road is a key growth area and intersection for the parks system




## Open House

The Parks Open House was held at the Beardmore Event Center. The open house gave residents a chance to look at the top values of the parks plan, key strategies and actions, give feedback on new park experience and potential partners for implementation. Attendees provided responses to two potential new park concepts: the Daniell's Farm Recreational Lake and Park Trail System.


OUR PARKS



# OUR PARKS

## IN THIS SECTION:

- PARK CLASSIFICATIONS
- SYSTEM + ZONES
- BENCHMARKING

# PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

Identifying the park types present in Bellevue helps to analyze each park's level of service to the community and plan for improvements that best fit the park's characteristics and the community's need. Look for the park classification badges in the Park Profile section and Park Design section to identify which parks should receive which types of improvements. These classifications are based on NRPA definitions; staff and consultant analysis; and community engagement.

## REGIONAL PARKS

Regional parks are large, multi-use parks that serve several communities within a particular region. They are 150 acres or larger in size and serve those areas within a one-hour drive.

The regional park provides both active and passive recreation opportunities, with a wide selection of facilities for all age groups. They may also include areas of nature preservation for activities such as sightseeing, nature study area, wildlife habitat, and conservation.

## COMMUNITY PARKS

Community Parks are intended to be accessible to multiple neighborhoods and should focus on meeting community-based recreational needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. Community Parks are generally larger in scale than neighborhood parks, but smaller than regional parks and are designed for residents living within a three-mile radius.

Community Parks generally range from 20 to 100 acres depending on the City. Community Parks serve a larger area – radius of one to three miles and contain more, larger, and more varied recreation amenities than a Neighborhood Park.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Often the centerpiece of a neighborhood, these parks should fit seamlessly into the fabric of the community. Neighborhood Parks contribute to a distinct neighborhood identity, reflecting the needs of the residents that live immediately around them – the parks' primary users. A Neighborhood Park is typically three to 10 acres; however, some Neighborhood Parks are determined by use and facilities offered and not by size alone. The service radius is typically one-half mile or six blocks.

### National Park Standards

These classifications are based on definitions provided by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), the leading not-for-profit organization dedicated to building strong, vibrant and resilient communities through the power of parks and recreation.

NRPA's network of more than 60,000 park and recreation professionals and advocates represents public spaces in urban communities, rural settings and everything in between. NRPA champions and supports the field of parks and recreation through professional development, advocacy, grants and programs, research, publications and more.



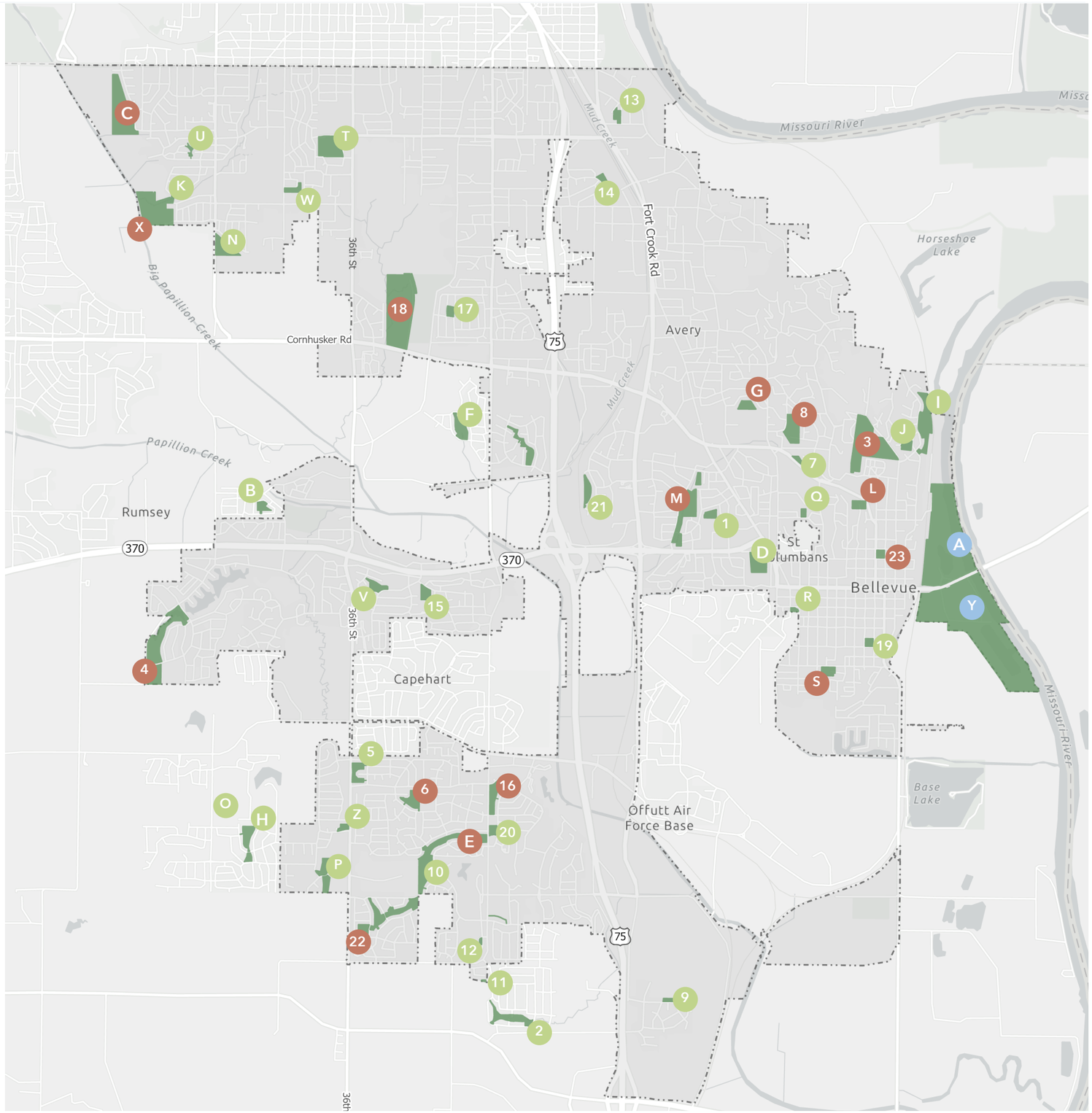
# PARKS TODAY

KEY

- A American Heroes
- B Ashford Hollow
- C Aspen/Sun Valley
- D Baldwin Field
- E Blackhawk
- F Brook
- G Cascio
- H Clearwater Falls
- I College Heights
- J College Heights - North Field
- K Copper Creek
- L Dowding
- M Everett
- N Faulkland Heights
- O Falcon Pointe
- P Fox Ridge
- Q Freeman
- R Gemini
- S Gilbert
- T Gilder
- U Glenmorrie
- V Golden Hills
- W Goldenrod
- X Hastings Banner
- Y Haworth
- Z Heartland Hills
- 1 Heber
- 2 Hyda Hills
- 3 Jewell
- 4 Lakewood Villages
- 5 Leawood Oaks II
- 6 Lookingglass II
- 7 Mason
- 8 McCann
- 9 Normandy Hills
- 10 Oakhurst
- 11 Orchard Valley
- 12 Piper's Glen
- 13 Sorenson
- 14 Southgate/Southwoods
- 15 Southern Oaks
- 16 Stonecroft
- 17 Sunrise III & IV
- 18 Swanson
- 19 Thompson
- 20 Tregaron
- 21 Twin Ridge
- 22 Two Springs
- 23 Washington
- 24 Willow Springs

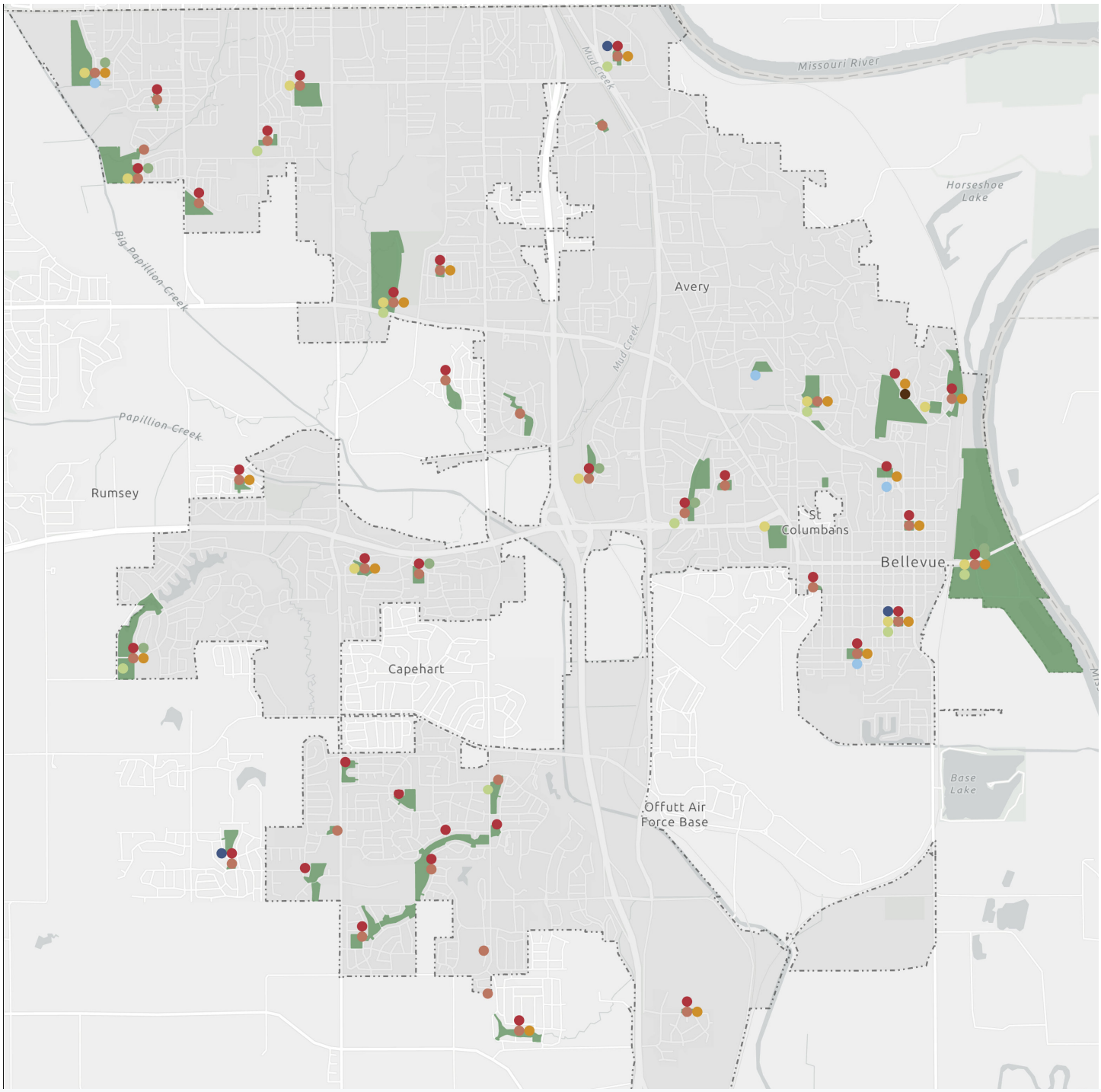
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- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks
- Regional Parks



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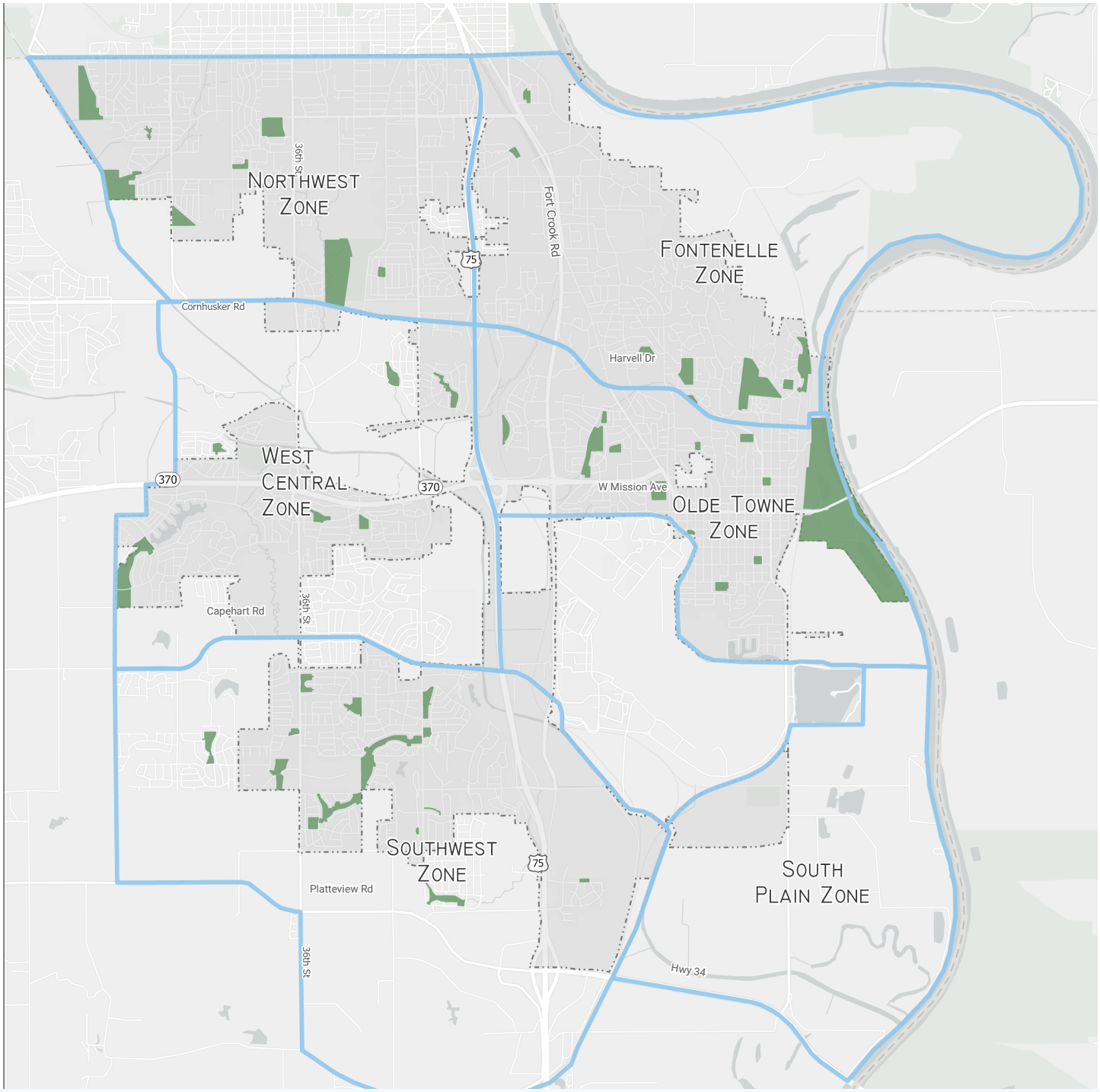
# AMENITY ACCESS TODAY




## MAP KEY

- Playgrounds
- Basketball
- Athletic Field
- Ballfield
- Tennis
- Pickleball
- Pools
- Dog Parks
- Shelters & Picnic Areas
- Park Land
- Bellevue ETJ Boundary

# PARKS BY ZONE




## ZONE BOUNDARIES

Zones were determined by major infrastructure barriers present in Bellevue, which limit pedestrian and bicycle access. Because vehicle access is largely unlimited throughout Bellevue, access zones - in which a person can reasonably reach park land on foot or by bicycle - exist in the spaces between roadway corridors.

Additional zone boundaries are created by the AICUZ and Offutt Air Force Base, as well as floodplain and drainage corridors, which limit development types and expected growth patterns. The West Central Zone, Southwest Zone, and South Plain Zone are most impacted by these additional constraints.

# PARKS BY ZONE

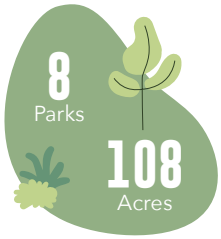
## NORTHWEST ZONE




| | |
|---|---|
| 7 | *Neighborhood Parks* |
| 3 | *Community Parks* |
| 0 | *Regional Parks* |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | Playgrounds | 1 | Pools |
| 6 | Trails | 1 | Splash Pads |
| 11 | Sport Courts & Fields | 0 | Dog Parks |
| 1 | Frisbee Golf | 10 | Shelters + Picnic Areas |

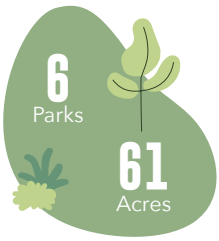
## FONTENELLE ZONE




| | |
|---|---|
| 6 | *Neighborhood Parks* |
| 2 | *Community Parks* |
| 0 | *Regional Parks* |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | Playgrounds | 1 | Pools |
| 2 | Trails | 0 | Splash Pads |
| 9 | Sport Courts & Fields | 1 | Dog Parks |
| 0 | Frisbee Golf | 4 | Shelters + Picnic Areas |

## WEST CENTRAL ZONE




| | |
|---|---|
| 5 | *Neighborhood Parks* |
| 1 | *Community Parks* |
| 0 | *Regional Parks* |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | Playgrounds | 0 | Pools |
| 6 | Trails | 0 | Splash Pads |
| 7 | Sport Courts & Fields | 0 | Dog Parks |
| 0 | Frisbee Golf | 7 | Shelters + Picnic Areas |

## OLDE TOWNE ZONE




| | |
|---|---|
| 5 | *Neighborhood Parks* |
| 5 | *Community Parks* |
| 2 | *Regional Parks* |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | Playgrounds | 2 | Pools |
| 5 | Trails | 1 | Splash Pads |
| 18 | Sport Courts & Fields | 0 | Dog Parks |
| 0 | Frisbee Golf | 16 | Shelters + Picnic Areas |

## SOUTHWEST ZONE




| | |
|---|---|
| 13 | *Neighborhood Parks* |
| 5 | *Community Parks* |
| 0 | *Regional Parks* |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | Playgrounds | 0 | Pools |
| 7 | Trails | 1 | Splash Pads |
| 4 | Sport Courts & Fields | 0 | Dog Parks |
| 0 | Frisbee Golf | 12 | Shelters + Picnic Areas |

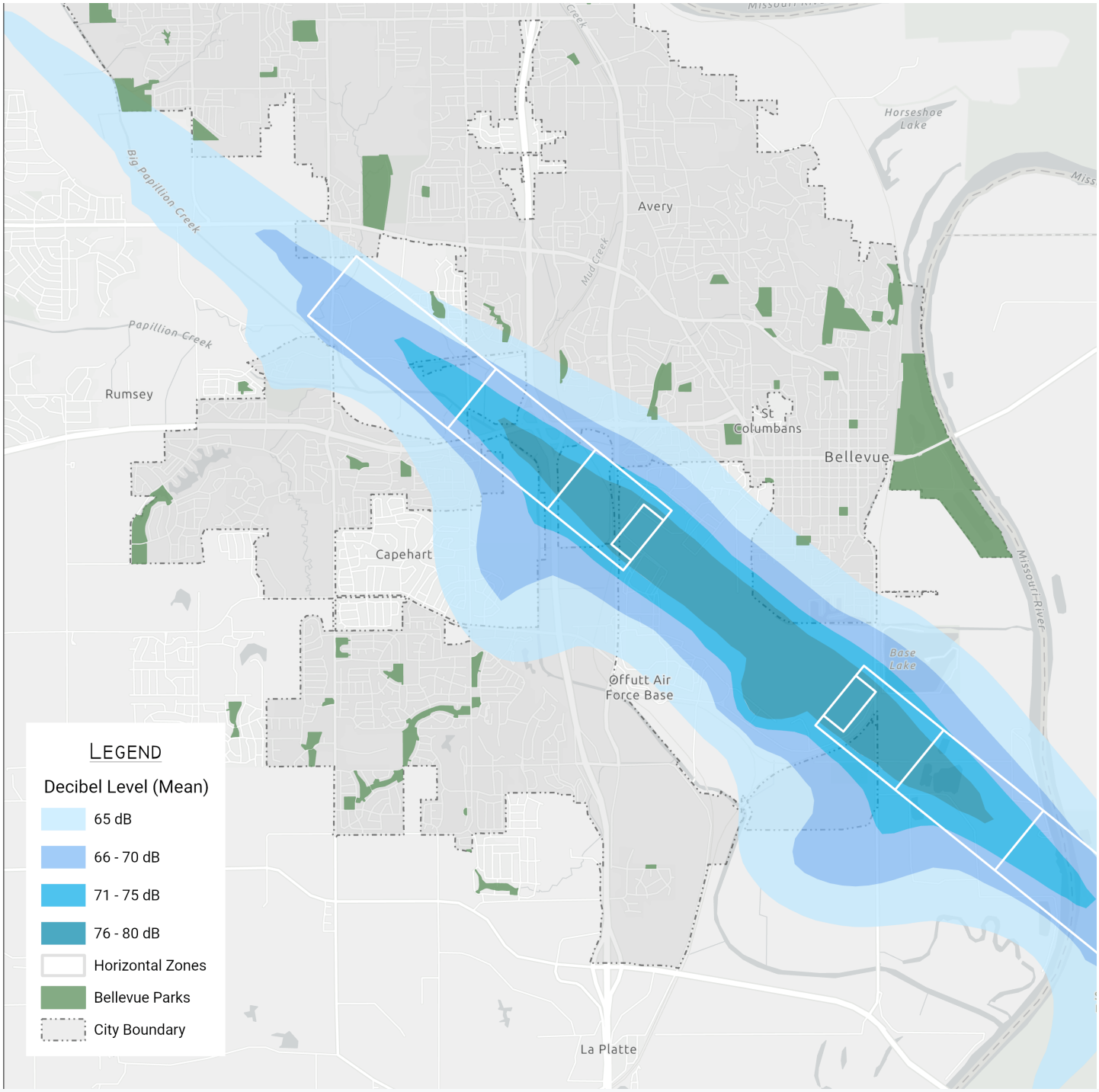
## SOUTH PLAIN ZONE




| | |
|---|---|
| 0 | *Neighborhood Parks* |
| 1 | *Community Parks* |
| 0 | *Regional Parks* |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | Playgrounds | 0 | Pools |
| 1 | Trails | 0 | Splash Pads |
| 0 | Sport Courts & Fields | 0 | Dog Parks |
| 0 | Frisbee Golf | 0 | Shelters + Picnic Areas |

# EXISTING SYSTEM

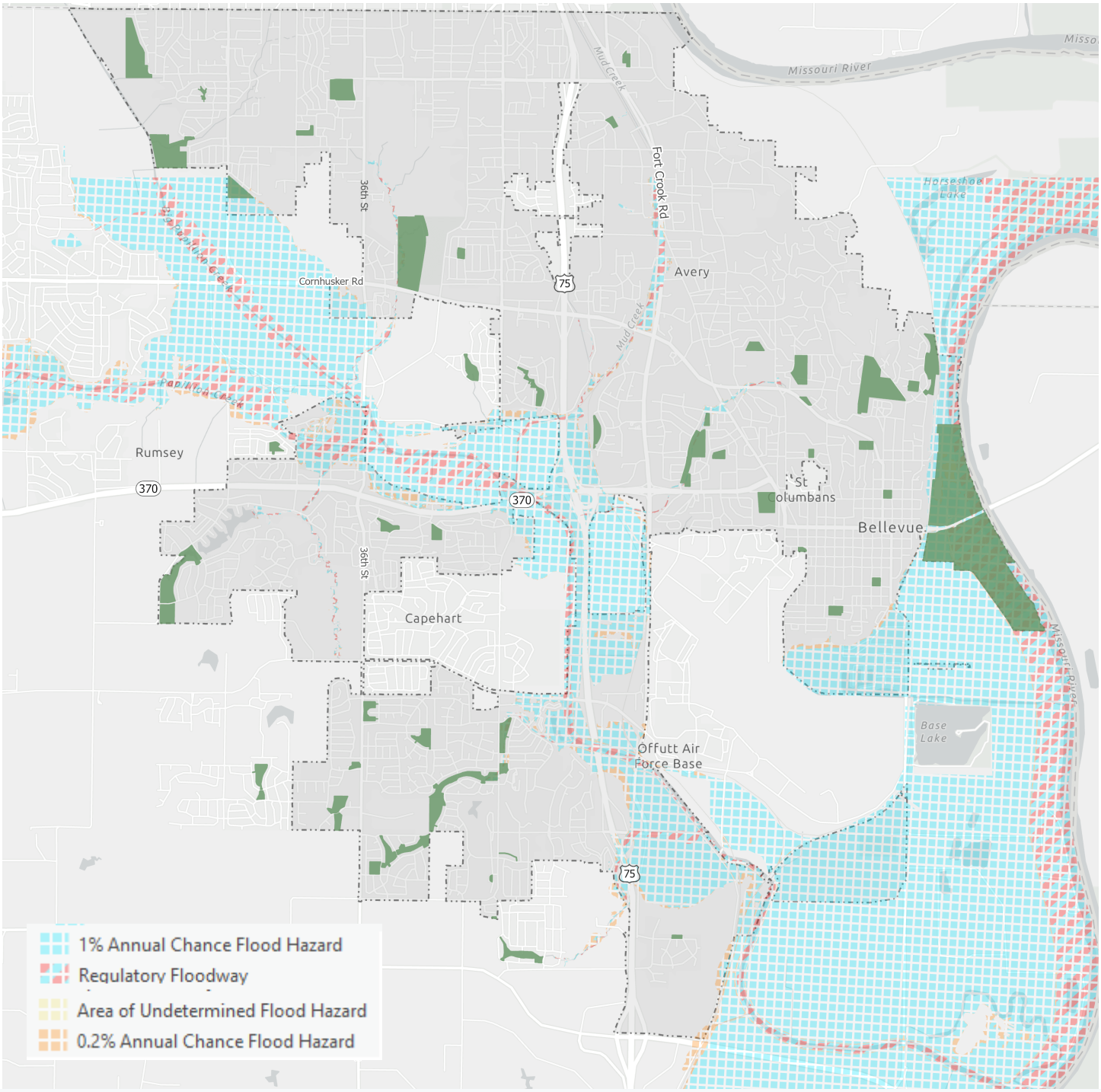



## AICUZ + OFFUTT AIR FORCE BASE

Offutt Air Force Base is an integral part of Bellevue. Covering 260 acres and employing 10,000 military and civilian staff, its presence impacts transportation circulation, development, and community makeup. In addition, the AICUZ (Air Installation Compatible Use Zone) bisects Bellevue with undevelopable land, on which residence, business, and gathering are not permitted for the safety of civilians.

Utilizing the AICUZ zone with amenity choices that are accepted under the AICUZ agreement will be key in the creation of a uniform and accessible greenway and park system.

# EXISTING SYSTEM



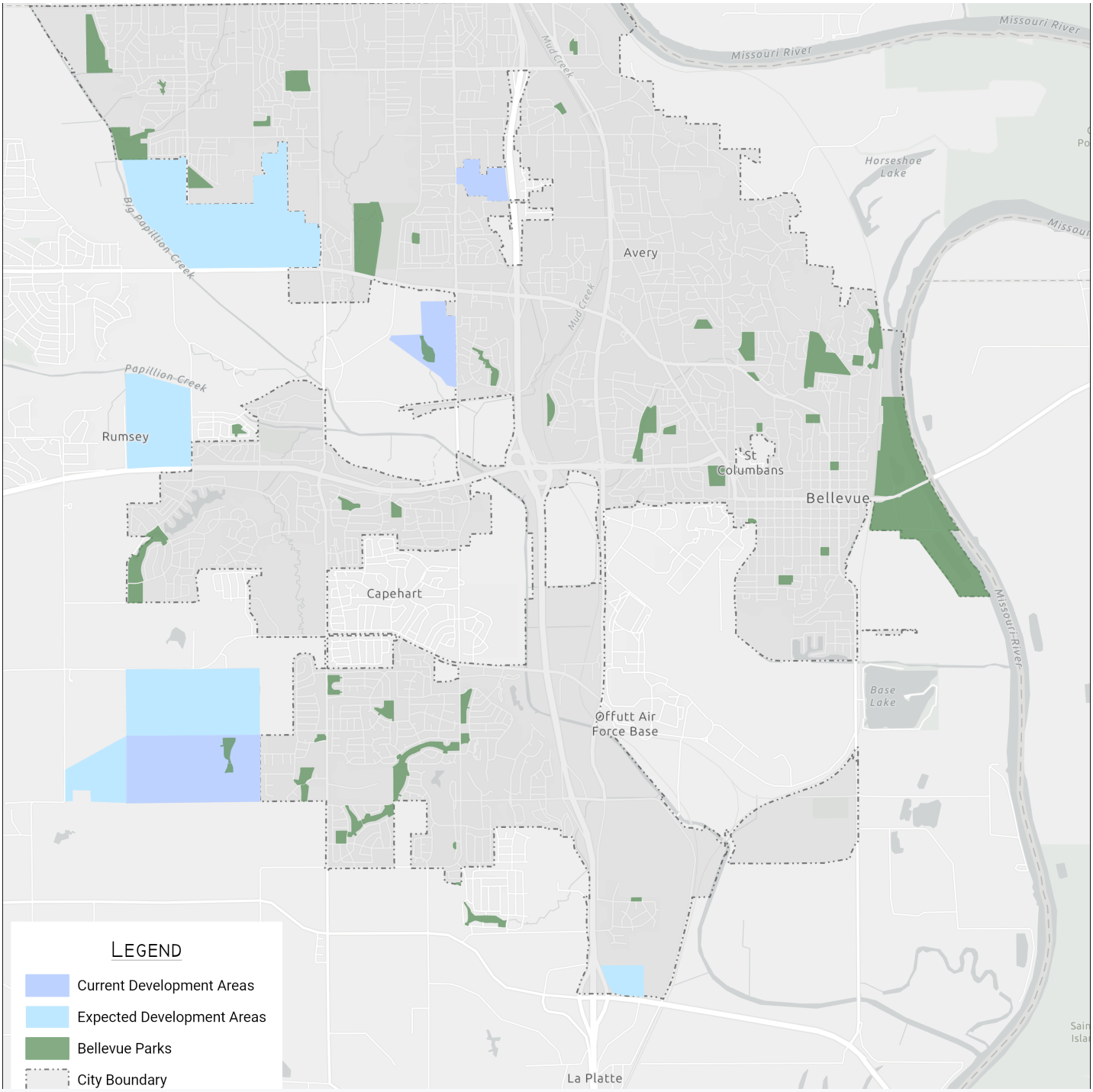

## FLOODPLAIN + DRAINAGEWAYS

Located in the Missouri River floodplain, Bellevue's growth is constrained by flooding. Much of southeast Bellevue is located in flood zones with a 1%-2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard. In addition, steep topography creates drainageways which branch out throughout much of northwest Bellevue into the AICUZ zone.

Flood-resistant design will be paramount to trails and parks located in the floodplain.

Utilizing drainageways for natural recreation amenities and augmenting the natural areas in existing park drainageways is one way to leverage this naturally occurring resource into a unique and meaningful feature.

# EXISTING SYSTEM

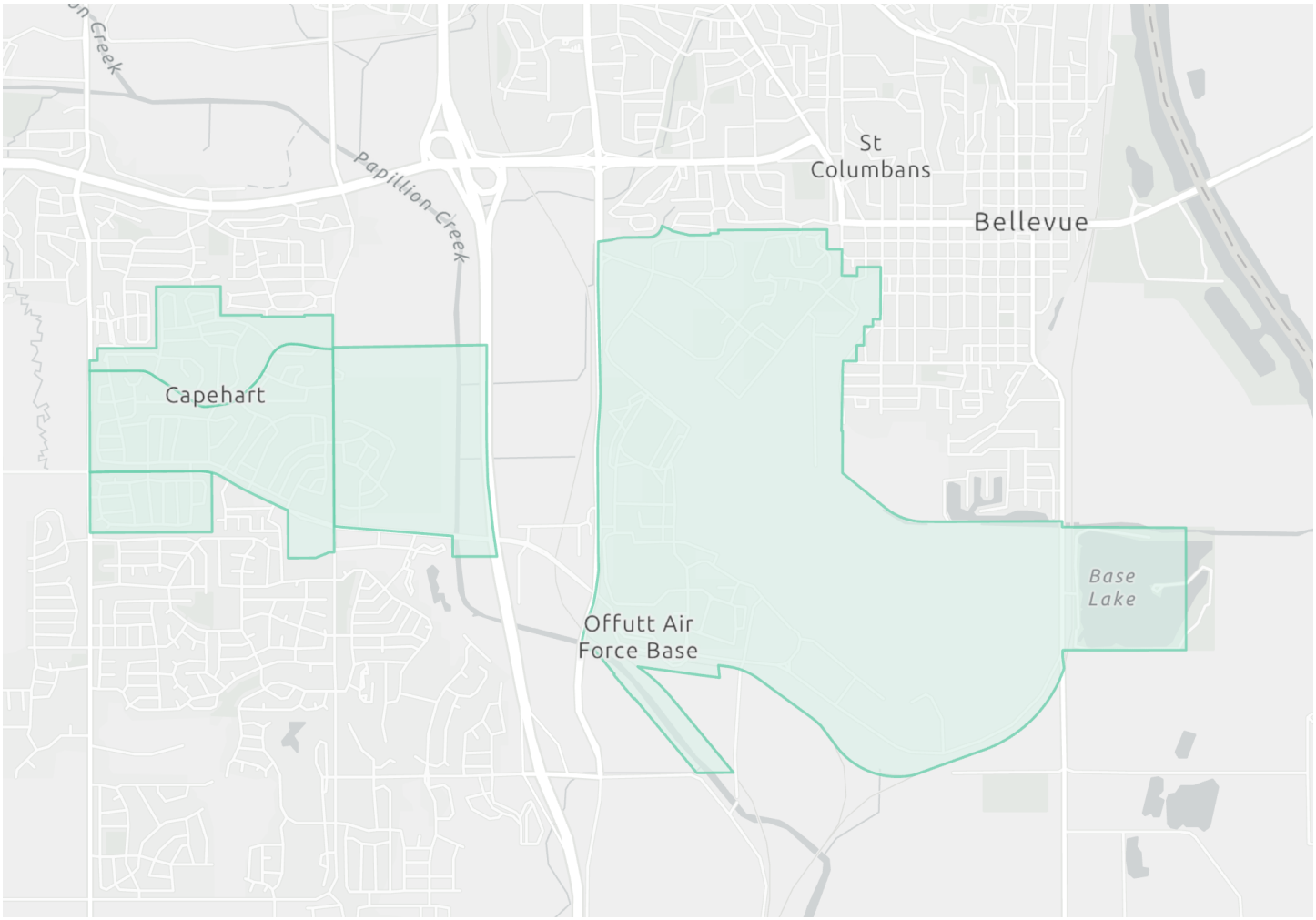



## GROWTH + DEVELOPMENT

Bellevue's population has grown rapidly over the past several years due to SID (sanitary improvement district) annexations. However, the expected future growth rate from annexation is projected to decrease as single-family residential development slows to the pace of infrastructure improvements in Southwest Bellevue.

The area of downtown Bellevue undergoing a re-branding to become the Frontier District is expected to spur increased commercial and mixed-use development toward Bellevue's downtown. Increased density will impact park usership in these areas and further the need for an accessible and walkable parks and trails network.

# EXISTING SYSTEM










## OFFUTT + BASE HOUSING ACCESS

Offutt Air Force Base offers military members and their families access to parks and recreation facilities located on Federal land.

In addition to the Base Lake, the Rising View base housing includes trails, open green spaces, and play amenities, as well as sports fields.

# BENCHMARKING

## Sources of Benchmarking Data

Benchmarking data was developed by Ballard*King & Associates, a recreation consulting firm specializing in recreation and sports feasibility studies, parks and/or recreation master plans, operational audits and assessments for recreation, sports and wellness facilities, and management solutions for parks and recreation departments or organizations.

Demographic information was accessed from Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) who utilizes 2010 Census data and their demographers for 2021-2026 projections. At the time of this report, 2020 Census data had been collected but not yet released. In addition to demographics, ESRI also provides data on housings, recreation, and entertainment spending and adult participation in activities.

This report also uses information produced by the National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA) to overlay onto the demographic profile to determine potential participation in activities.

*Primary Service Area*

Demographic data is relevant to the Primary Service Area - Bellevue, NE. Primary Service Areas are defined as the distance people will travel on a regular basis (a minimum of once a week) to utilize recreation facilities. Use by individuals outside of this area will be much more limited and will focus more on special activities or events.

Service areas can expand or contract based upon a facility's proximity to major thoroughfares. Other factors impacting the use as it relates to driving distance are the presence of alternative service providers in the service area. Alternative service providers can influence participation, membership, daily admissions and the associated penetration rates for programs and services.

## BELLEVUE

**65,650** Population (2020)

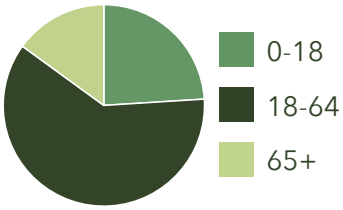
**21,000** Households

**2.56** Average Size Household

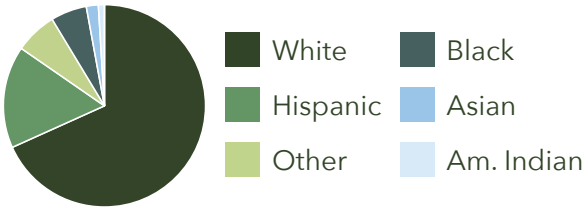
**$78,887** Median Household Income

**1.01%** 2021-2026 Population Annual Growth Rate

Population by Age:




Population by Race:




**71%** Of residents live within a 10 min. walk of a park

**720** Total park acres



**$2,100,000** 2023 Parks & Recreation budget

**9** 2022 FTEs

**40** 2022 PTEs

# BENCHMARKING

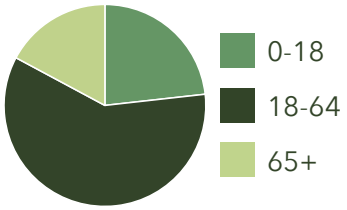
## STATE + NATIONAL COMPARISONS



**2.47**
Average Size Household

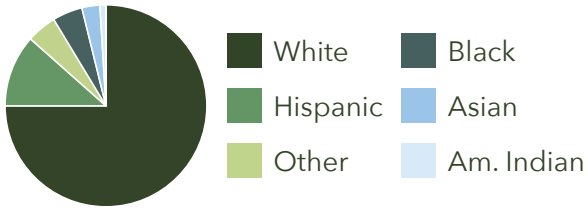
**$68,890**
Median Household Income

Population by Age:




**.55%**
2021-2026 Population Annual Growth Rate

Population by Race:

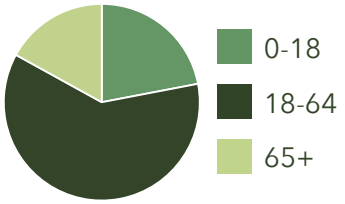





**2.55**
Average Size Household

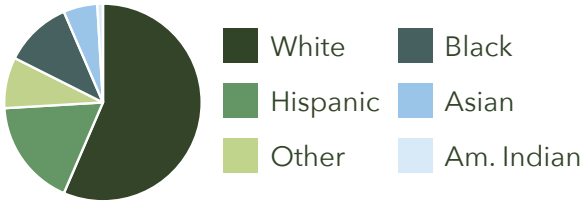
**$72,414**
Median Household Income

Population by Age:




**.57%**
2021-2026 Population Annual Growth Rate

Population by Race:



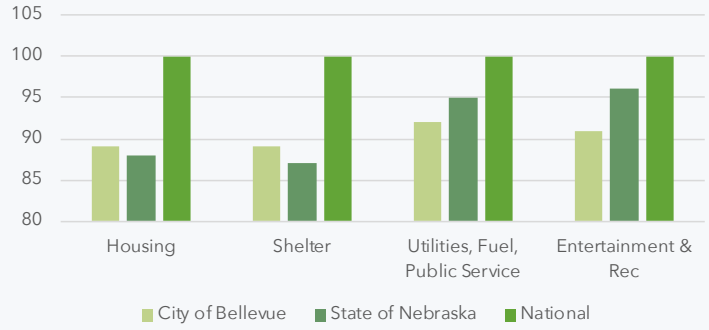

**66%** of residents live within a 10 min. walk of a park

**9.9** avg. park acres per 1,000 people



### HOUSEHOLD SPENDING

It is somewhat uncommon to see a median household income that is greater than the national number, while less is being spent on housing. It also points to the fact that compared to a National level of the dollars available, the money being spent in the City of Bellevue is less.



# BENCHMARKING

## Market Assessment Summary

To determine the likely usership of parks and recreation programs and amenities, an assessment of Bellevue's demographic makeup for key indicators was performed.

*Population*

The City of Bellevue has a significant population that will support parks and recreation facilities.

*Median Age*

The median age is lower than the state and national levels. This points to the presence of families with younger children, who are significant users of indoor and outdoor parks and recreation facilities. The adjacency of the Air Force base can also have a similar impact on median age.

*Median Household Income*

Bellevue's median household income is greater than the state and the national numbers. It is unique to have a median household income that is greater than those figures, but still have a lower rate of spending on housing and recreation.

There is a great deal of consistency with the median household income, household budget expenditures and recreation spending potential. Specific to recreation and entertainment spending, it must be noted that these dollars are already being spent.

*Race & Ethnicity*

Within the City of Bellevue there is a significant (17.7%) Hispanic population. The National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA) does track participation of Hispanic population and it can impact rates of participation.

### TAPESTRY SEGMENTS

Tapestry segmentation represents the 4th generation of market segmentation systems that began 30 years ago. This system classifies U.S. neighborhoods into 65 unique market segments.

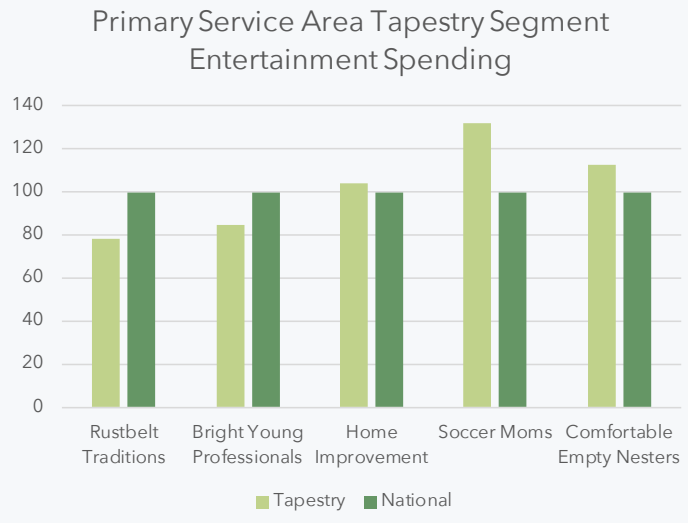
Neighborhoods are sorted by more than 60 attributes including income, employment, home value, housing types, education, household composition, age, and other key determinates of consumer behavior.

The top 5 Tapestry segments in the Primary Service Area account for 65.4% of the Town's population. In 4 of the 5 top segments the rate of participation in entertainment and recreation is greater than the national number.

The market potential index for adult participation points to a moderately active and engaged community.

Bellevue's top five tapestry segments are:

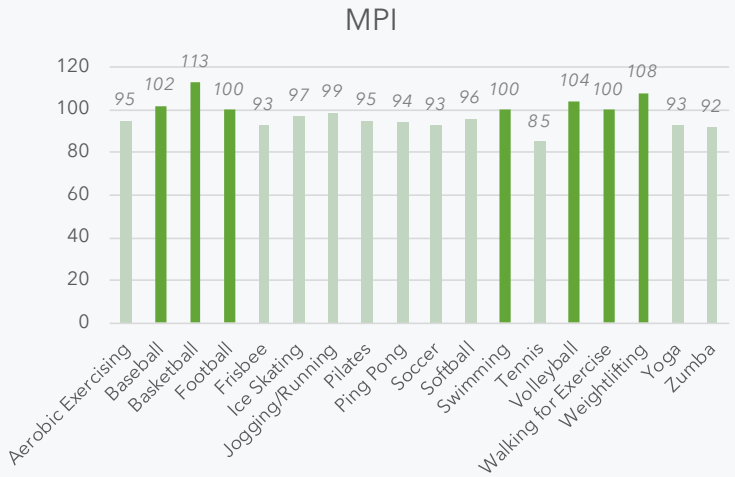
+ Rustbelt Traditions
+ Bright Young Professionals
+ Home Improvement
+ Soccer Moms
+ Comfortable Empty Nesters



# BENCHMARKING

## MARKET POTENTIAL INDEX FOR ADULT PARTICIPATION

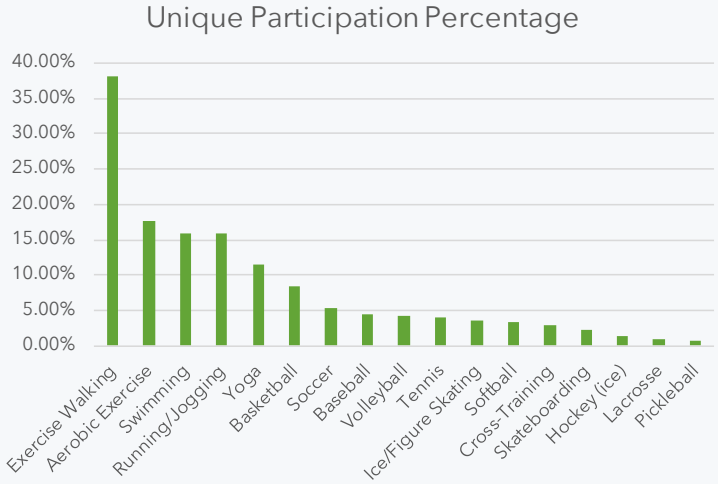
The following information illustrates participation rates for adults in outdoor activities. Of the 18 activities identified, 7 have a rate of participation higher than that of the national number (100) - Baseball, Basketball, Football, Swimming, Volleyball, Walking for Exercise, and Weightlifting. This points to a moderately active community.




## PARTICIPATION

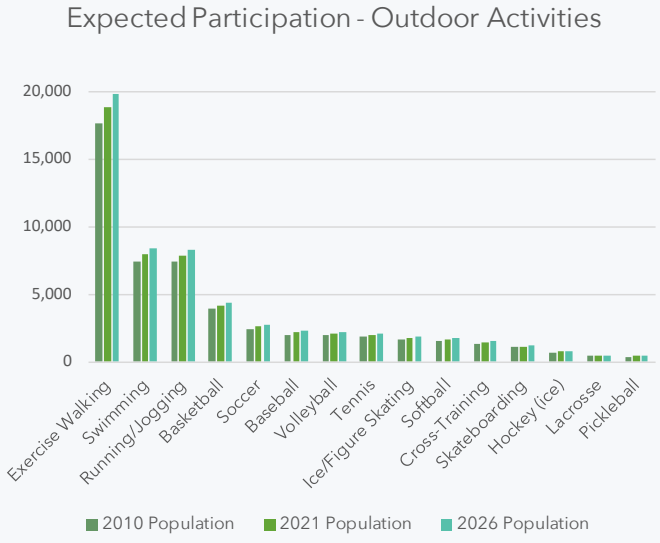
On an annual basis, the National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA) conducts an in-depth study and survey of how Americans spend their leisure time. The information contained in this report utilizes the NSGA's most recent survey, collected in 2019 and issued in June of 2020.

Participation percentage is determined by combining & averaging the national average and participation percentages of the service area based on age distribution, median income, region, and National number.




## ANTICIPATED PARTICIPATION NUMBER

Utilizing the average percentage from above plus the 2010 census information and census estimates for 2021 and 2026 (over age 7) the following comparisons are available.



# BENCHMARKING

## NRPA Park System Resources

The National Parks and Recreation Association collects data regarding park system resources and efficacy. The below information is based on the 2022 NRPA Agency Performance Review.

### STAFFING

A typical Parks and Recreation Agency includes at least 41 full-time equivalents (FTEs), with a mix of full-time and part-time staff members.

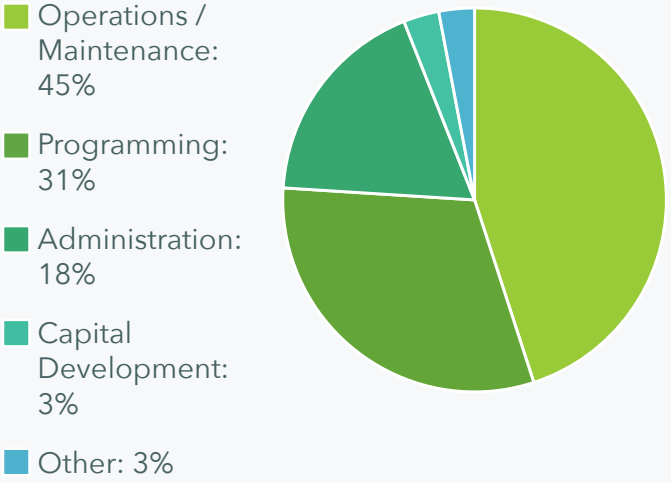
Staff size expands rapidly as the agency's service area expands: agencies serving a population of 20,000 or fewer have a median of 10 FTEs on staff, while agencies serving areas with a population of 50,000-99,999 have a median 60.2 FTEs. Areas with populations of 250,000 or more have a median 289.7 FTE staff.

*Additional staff size correlations*

- Number of parks maintained: systems with <10 parks = median12.9 FTEs; >50 = median 221.2 FTEs
- Operating expenditures: <$500k = median 3.7 FTEs; >$10 million = median 201 FTEs
- Population served: <500 / sq. mile = 17.5 FTEs; >2,500 / sq. mile = 79.1 FTEs

### RESOURCE ALLOCATION

Operations and maintenance are the primary work responsibility for park and recreation professionals. But there are other areas where staff devote their energies. On average, an agency's full-time staff dedicate their time to the following general activities:

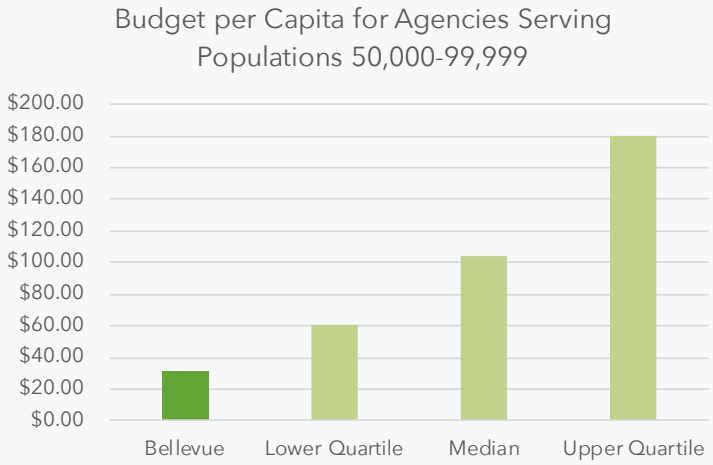



### BUDGET

The typical park and recreation agency has annual operating expenses of $81.19 per capita. The City of Bellevue spends $30.89 per capita.

*Budget Expenditure Categories*

- Personnel: 54%, includes salaries, wages, and benefits for personnel and contracted individuals
- Operations: 38%, funds agency operations, including operational support for force-accounted employees
- Capital funds: 5%, repays operating budget, enterprise funds, transfers, and capital debt service.
- Other: 3%



# BENCHMARKING

**Budget (continued)**

Funding sources for park and recreation operations vary greatly by agency, but support from the local jurisdiction general fund tax base is common.

The second-largest source of revenue for most agencies is earned/generated revenues, accounting for an average of 24 percent of operating expenditures.

Many agencies have access to special, dedicated taxes that cover a part of their budgets, while others obtain much of their funding from tax levies dedicated to park and recreation purposes approved by citizen referenda.

### GENERAL FUND SUPPORT

On average, park and recreation agencies derive **three-fifths** of their operating expenditures from general fund tax support, although the percentage of funding from general fund tax support tends to be lower at agencies with larger operating budgets.

The typical park and recreation agency generates $1 million in non-tax revenues on an annual basis, although this amount can vary greatly based on agency size, services and facilities offered by the agency and the mandate from agency leadership and policymakers.

### OPERATING BUDGETS

Agencies with annual operating budgets under $500,000 typically derive $47,038 in non-tax revenues, while those with annual budgets greater than $10 million generate a median of nearly $6 million from non-tax revenue sources. The typical park and recreation agency generates $20.93 in revenue annually for each resident in the jurisdiction it serves.

### DENSITY

Agencies in less densely populated areas generate less revenue than areas with greater population density. Agencies in jurisdictions with fewer than 500 people/sq. mile realize a median $7.92 in annual revenue per capita compared to a median of $26.68 for agencies serving a jurisdiction with more than 2,500 people per square mile.

### POPULATION SIZE

Small- & medium-sized agencies generate more revenue on a per capita basis than large ones. Agencies serving jurisdictions with less than 20,000 people generate $27.00 in per capita revenue per resident – nearly matching agencies serving populations between 50,000 and 99,999, with a median of $25.34 in annual per capita revenue.

In comparison, agencies serving populations over 250,000 generate $7.41 per capita in revenue, with the amount declining to $6.04 in jurisdictions of greater than half a million residents.

All municipal agencies search for alternative funding sources to meet the demands placed on them for capital improvements/facilities, programs, services, maintenance and operations. The City of Bellevue is certainly no exception, thus the need to identify as many sources as possible.

# BENCHMARKING

## PEER CITY

### Shawnee, KS

**67,975** Population (2020)

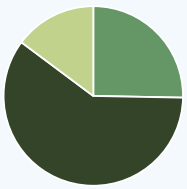
**26,009** Households

**.44%** 2021-2026 Pop. Annual Growth Rate

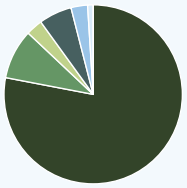
**2.6** Avg. Household Size

**$98,242** Median Household Income

Population by Age:




Population by Race/Ethnicity:




**55.7%** Of residents live within a 10 min. walk of a park

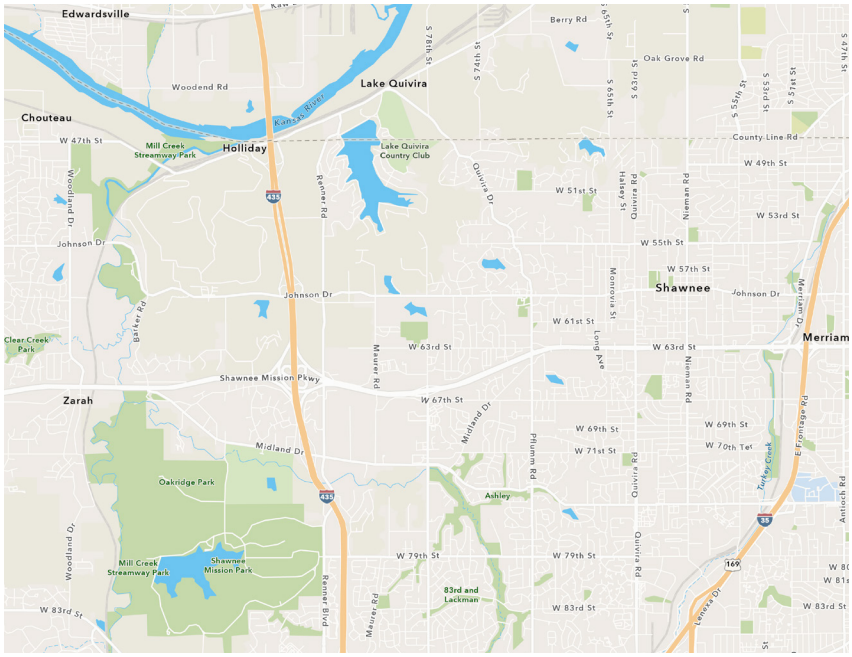
**1,010** Total park acres

**$9,629,775**

2023 Parks & Recreation budget

**22** 2022 FTEs

**28** 2022 PTEs




### System Overview

Shawnee, Kansas is a city in Johnson County, Kansas - part of the greater Kansas City Metropolitan Area. Similar to Bellevue, Shawnee's relationship to a larger urban area, large natural park area, riverfront access, and divisive highway and interstate barriers impact park access and investment across the city.

Major attractions include role bolle, skate parks, and Pioneer Crossing Park. Shawnee employs a full time Adaptive Recreation Coordinator to provide special programming and accommodations in parks.

*Success Areas*

+ Easy-to-use web page with amenity and program listings, registrations & sign-ups, sponsorship information, etc.
+ Transparent park progress updates, frequent park master planning, and improved visibility of parks from collector and arterial streets

### MASTER PLAN

In 2020, the City of Shawnee updated their Parks Master Plan for their 39 parks, aquatic facilities, recreation programs, and civic centers.



# BENCHMARKING

## PEER CITY

### Lynchburg, VA

**79,337** Population (2020)

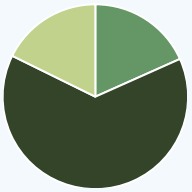
**30,487** Households

**.18%** 2021-2026 Pop. Annual Growth Rate

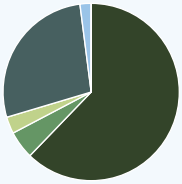
**2.25** Avg. Household Size

**$57,056** Median Household Income

Population by Age:




Population by Race/Ethnicity:




**34.9%** of residents live within a 10 min. walk of a park

**927** total park acres

**$4,522,881**

2023 Parks & Recreation budget

**37** 2022 FTEs

**27.76** 2022 PTEs




### System Overview

East of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Lynchburg, Virginia is home to a diverse population of residents. Situated on the James River and divided into distinct areas by the highway system, its 850 acres of 17 parks are a mix of small neighborhood parks to large regional parks. With Virginia's 51 military bases and 1,514 military personnel per 100,000 people, the culture of service and patriotism is similar to Bellevue.

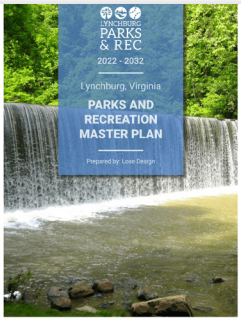
Lynchburg's parks are connected through 40 miles of unique urban trail systems. Their parks feature skate parks, athletic fields and hiking trails, as well as wildlife and plant observation. Many parks offer community event space. Specialty staff include a Senior Activities Coordinator and Landscape Architects.

*Success Areas*

+ Dynamic and informative dedicated website
+ Interactive My City Services GIS tool to find public resources, including parks, markets, and trails, near an address

### MASTER PLAN

The City of Lynchburg updated their Parks Master Plan in 2022, supporting their 34 parks of varying sizes, signature amenities, and levels of service.

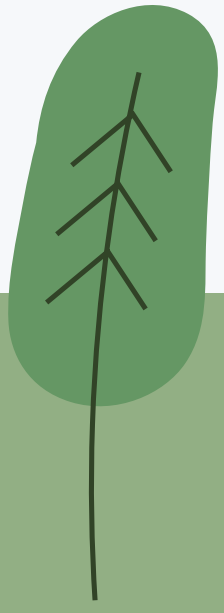



OUR FUTURE

# OUR FUTURE

## IN THIS SECTION:

- CREATING OUR FUTURE - HOW COMMUNITY VISION FUELS ACTIONS
- GOALS, STRATEGIES, + ACTIONS
- ROLES + RESPONSIBILITIES
- PARTNERSHIPS
- COMMUNICATIONS + WAYFINDING
- CONNECTIVITY
- PARK DECOMMISSIONING
- NEW PARK ACCESS
- PARK MAINTENANCE STANDARDS
- PARK DESIGN STANDARDS
- NEW PARK AMENITIES + EXPERIENCES
- ZONE RECOMMENDATIONS



# CREATING OUR FUTURE

Where do the strategies and recommendations in this plan come from? From the first meeting of the Working Group to the final acceptance of the plan, the community's input into the direction of the parks system has been the foundation and filter for recommendations.

## PLAN GOALS *pg. 11*

## PLAN PURPOSE *pg. 16*

## COMMUNITY VALUES *pg. 24*

## STRATEGIES *pg. 57*

For the system to have a recognizable feeling of cohesion, coordination, thoughtfulness, and momentum, each recommendation supports a comprehensive approach to a successful parks and recreation system. **Goals, Strategies, and Actions** drive all recommendations.

*SYSTEM GOAL 1* *SYSTEM GOAL 2*

| STRATEGY 1 | STRATEGY 2 | STRATEGY 3 |
|---|---|---|
| **Community Education + Engagement** | **Land Use** | **Operational Stewardship** |

## RECOMMENDATION LENSES *pg. 61*

**Recommendations are linked to Action Steps via Lenses. System Lenses** organize operations, communications, and land use at the System level, where actions have wide-reaching impacts and affect the cohesion of the system. **Park Lenses** organize recommendations for communications, operations, and land use decisions at the park level.

### SYSTEM LENSES

- ROLES + PARTNERSHIPS
- COMMUNICATION + WAYFINDING
- CONNECTIVITY
- EQUITY
- MAINTENANCE + DESIGN

### PARK + ZONE LENSES

- PARK LAYOUT PLANNING
- SUSTAINABILITY
- AMENITIES
- ACCESS + MOBILITY

# SYSTEM-WIDE STRATEGIES

While each strategy has its own focus, all strategies and action steps fulfill **two overarching goals**:

1. Create a park + open space system that is responsive to the needs and values of Bellevue residents
2. Provide park land, recreation facilities, and programs to meet the needs and desires of Bellevue residents

## STRATEGY 1

### Community Education + Engagement

*Fostering the relationship between parks and people, this strategy improves awareness, understanding, and engagement in park activities by Bellevue residents. It creates open lines of communication between residents and the City Parks staff, and provides central resources for learning about and improving the parks long-term.*

### ACTION STEP 1.1

*Create a recognizable Park System Identity and brand, supported by a Parks Communication and Wayfinding program to assist in the recognition and navigation of park facilities and programming by residents and visitors.*

- Engage a branding professional to develop a system-wide brand strategy and guidelines for wayfinding and materials
- Using brand strategy and guidelines, engage a signage and wayfinding professional to produce updated park signage, maps, and kiosks
- Contract with a web developer to create an updated Parks and Recreation website and perform ongoing updates, including a park maintenance request form
- Engage a GIS professional and/or coordinate with Sarpy County GIS to create an interactive parks and recreation tool to be hosted on Bellevue.net.
- Hire a full-time Parks and Recreation Communications Specialist or Manager to oversee day-to-day parks communications and messaging, web page and tools, and materials
- Create a formal Parks Partnership program through which communications are distributed

### ACTION STEP 1.2

*Include residents and stakeholders in ongoing park planning and design.*

- Establish a Park Planning Committee at the onset of each Park Design and Master Plan. Committee members should include homeowners, renters, city staff, public health organizations and parks board members
- Engage community-based organizations, existing community advisory councils, or establish a new council representative of the community's diversity to inform infrastructure, programming and other services provided in a park
- Develop partnerships and support community-based organizations to activate the park, trail, or greenway through programming and other activities (community engagement, public awareness, and access enhancement activities
- Conduct community-centered design sessions to plan park or trail improvements
- Utilize multiple methods of engagement with community such as focus groups, community events, design charettes
- Engage community members of all ages and backgrounds — especially community members who have historically faced barriers and limited access to parks, trails, greenways, and physical activity opportunities — about new or improved park, trail, and greenway infrastructure, program & park services needs/preferences, and preferred means of connection with community members during public engagement approaches

# SYSTEM-WIDE STRATEGIES

### ACTION STEP 1.3

*Create a formal Parks Partnership program.*

- Develop formal agreements, guidelines, roles and responsibilities of partners and the City of Bellevue
- Build partnerships with organizations that plan, build, or manage trails, greenways or other public spaces
- Increase partnerships with organizations that serve communities who historically have lacked access to parks due to income level, race, or socio-economic status
- Build partnership with Sarpy-Cass Public Health Department

### ACTION STEP 1.4

*Develop programming to meet the needs of the community.*

- Add programming based on community interests (e.g., walking groups, birdwatching, pickleball, physical activity classes, summer, and after-school programming)
- Promote activities so the public is aware of available opportunities
- Host a community-wide event like a 5K fun walk/run, promote existing initiatives and campaigns like Beat the Heat, or Swanson Shootout and Mountain Bike Race Series or take part in existing events like Family Health and Fitness Expo
- Host pop-up demonstrations of street improvements, signage, lighting infrastructure, and other access enhancements that would increase safe park access and usage
- Ensure staff and volunteers are representative of the target population and programming is inclusive and adaptive

## STRATEGY 2

### Land Use

*Land is a resource for Bellevue's parks system, and using it effectively is vital to the connectedness of the system and the purpose of each individual park. This strategy enables the City of Bellevue to align parkland and green spaces with a vision for a more connected, more beautiful, and more sustainable Parks System.*

### ACTION STEP 2.1

*Encourage development that is compatible with the natural and built environment and protects environmentally sensitive wetlands, streams, woodlands, and critical habitats.*

- Include green infrastructure element to the Comprehensive Plan
- Link land conservation with other Smart Growth principles such as creating a range of housing opportunities and choices, and strengthen and direct development towards existing communities.

# SYSTEM-WIDE STRATEGIES

## ACTION STEP 2.2

*Enhance the aesthetic qualities of Bellevue by establishing land use development policies and regulations that preserve and enhance the visual qualities of existing and future parks.*

- Establish a Park Design process with roles and responsibilities defined
- Park designs should consider sustainable priorities, safety, ADA standards, longevity and durability of equipment
- Seating areas can include park benches, rock and landscaping feature to provide relief and rest areas
- Plantings should include drought tolerant vegetation and water saving methods to limit excessive water usage
- Incorporate the neighborhood theme into the park design
- Implement and enforce design guidelines for parks and trails

## ACTION STEP 2.3

*Preserve and enhance open space, cultural landscapes, and natural resources.*

- Design and implement zoning tools that preserve open space
- Add language to zoning codes that allows builders to create a greater number of lots than normally allowed in exchange for dedicating additional open space
- Cluster development zoning to require that development be placed on smaller portion of parcel

## ACTION STEP 2.4

*Through the parks system, improve the physical form and appearance of Bellevue*

- Support tree preservation through public-private partnerships with the Tree Board

## ACTION STEP 2.5

*Provide an open space system that links parks, schools, greenbelts, natural areas, open spaces, and cultural landscapes*

- Promote public transit to the park, trail, or greenway
- Schedule fields for sports and other permitted programs equitably to ensure that affordable and accessible recreational opportunities are available for all
- Expand hours of operation, add signage and wayfinding, improve crosswalks
- Install bike storage and/or e-charging
- Incorporate land conservation into transportation planning

# SYSTEM-WIDE STRATEGIES

## STRATEGY 3

### Operational Stewardship

*The short and long-term success of this plan depends on building systems and relationships to support it. This strategy identifies the relationships, partnerships, policies, and mechanisms for funding and supporting this plan in its implementation.*

### ACTION STEP 3.1

*Develop Funding Mechanisms to supplement the City of Bellevue's resources*

- Expand the use of innovative financing tools to facilitate park improvements
- Create a Park Foundation to support the financial elements of the park system
- Create a dedicated budget for the Parks and Recreation Department with its own sources and allocation.

### ACTION STEP 3.2

*Develop a Capital Improvement Plan to assess fiscal requirements and future funding needs*

- Create dedicated funding source within the Capital Improvement Plan to keep a balanced approach to investments in land, facilities, and programs
- Evaluate new economic impact from future connected trail systems, development of new parks and amenities, and natural spaces

### ACTION STEP 3.3

*Develop a governance structure that includes the City Council, Planning Commission, and City departments to facilitate implementation of the Parks Master Plan*

- Create Park Plan & Design Working group when individual Park Plans commence
- Provide regular updates between Parks Board & Planning Commission on Park Plan progress
- Coordinate and maintain compliance with existing City plans and documents, including the Comprehensive Plan and Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan

### ACTION STEP 3.4

*Maintain all Bellevue parks and recreation facilities to a superior and sustainable condition*

- Create a data collection program to understand usage, permits and activities of each park
- Create a GIS database of park amenities and conditions
- Conduct an economic impact assessment of the value of parks and recreation to the City of Bellevue

# ROLES + RESPONSIBILITIES

Departments within the City of Bellevue maintain ownership and responsibility over various parks and trails-related responsibilities. The below chart suggests how departments might work together to implement the recommendations in this plan.

- **Lead** an initiative, coordinating actions and owning and maintaining forward movement toward a park initiative or goal.
- **Support** an initiative, aligning department functions with the direction of a goal to further the success of the initiative.
- **Amplify** an initiative, using platforms and connections to support an initiative's success and providing constructive feedback.

| ROLE / RESPONSIBILITY | DEPARTMENTS / ENTITIES |
|---|---|
| Providing and managing park facilities and equipment | + Parks and Recreation<br>+ Public Works |
| Maintaining park grounds, mowing, snow removal, and landscaping | + Parks and Recreation<br>+ Public Works |
| Ensuring safety and security in parks | + City of Bellevue<br>+ Bellevue Police Department<br>+ Home-Owners Associations<br>+ Public Works<br>+ Parks and Recreation |
| Planning and organizing park events and activities; coordinating with community partners | + Parks and Recreation<br>+ Planning |
| Providing trash and waste removal services | + Parks and Recreation |
| Ensuring park accessibility for all, utilizing ADA design recommendations and maintaining compliance | + Public Works<br>+ Planning |
| Implementing and enforcing design guidelines for park design in new development | + Planning<br>+ Public Works |
| Implementing and enforcing trail connectivity requirements for new development | + Planning |
| Preserving, enhance and protecting natural resources and wildlife; coordinating with community partners | + Planning |
| Implementing park rules and regulations | + Parks and Recreation<br>+ Public Works |
| Funding park maintenance and improvement projects; coordinating and soliciting funding partnerships from community and philanthropic organizations | + City of Bellevue<br>+ Nebraska State Parks and Recreation<br>+ Grow Sarpy County |
| Collaborating with community organizations for park initiatives | + City of Bellevue Communications<br>+ Planning<br>+ Parks and Recreation |
| Distribution of communications regarding parks and recreation amenities, facilities, and programming | + Parks and Recreation |

# PARTNERSHIPS

Partnerships between the City of Bellevue and community organizations, public agencies, and institutions are powerful tools to enact the actions outlined in this plan. Partnerships with individuals, organizations, local businesses and other agencies help connect local enthusiasm and resources with opportunities to make an impact.

Overall, partnerships create community ownership of the parks through shared investment, helping everyone see their role in the stewardship of a successful and resilient park system.

### Partnerships Recommendations

- Form partnerships with local businesses to provide funding for park upkeep and maintenance.
- Develop public-private partnerships with local universities to provide programming and activities for park users.
- Work with local community groups to create volunteer opportunities to help maintain and beautify the parks.
- Partner with nonprofit organizations to provide educational programming and activities.
- Collaborate with local city agencies to ensure proper park safety measures are in place.
- Establish relationships with local restaurants and food vendors to provide healthy and affordable food options within the parks.
- Develop public-private partnerships with local arts organizations to provide cultural programming and activities.
- Partner with local health organizations to provide fitness classes, sports leagues, and other physical activities within the parks.
- Reach out to local foundations and sponsors to provide financial support for park projects

### Current / Potential Community Partners

- THOR (Trails Have Our Respect) *Currently a partner at Swanson Park and Jewell Park*
- Bellevue Parks Board
- Bellevue Tree Board
- Sarpy-Cass County Health Department
- Non-profit Association of the Midlands
- The Wellbeing Partners
- Bellevue Chamber of Commerce
- Bellevue Community Foundation
- Greater Omaha YMCA
- Fontenelle Forest
- Sierra Club
- Bike Walk Nebraska
- Papio-Missouri Natural Resource District
- Bellevue University
- Bellevue Public Schools
- Omaha Public Schools
- Papillion-La Vista Public Schools
- Local faith communities
- Grow Sarpy County
- Green Bellevue

# COMMUNICATIONS + WAYFINDING

From signage and wayfinding to online services to adequate resources to manage communications, these recommendations will allow Bellevue to not only communicate with residents, but differentiate itself with a unique and memorable visual identity.

## Wayfinding, Signage, and Inventory Recommendations

Complete a phased overhaul of Parks and Recreation communications, wayfinding, and branding.

- Phase I: Update current platforms (website, GIS, social media platforms, print materials) with correct and updated park information (names, locations, amenities)
- Phase II: Hire a consultant to complete updated assets for use by the Parks and Recreation System (signage, print materials, artwork & logos, fonts & typefaces, website/digital materials)
- Phase III: Hire a consultant to create an updated web presence for the Parks & Recreation department, as well as an interactive Parks and Recreation application/ online resource

## Website + Park Services Tool

An updated and dedicated Parks and Recreation website or web page on Bellevue.net is required to effectively communicate park amenities and manage reservations, registrations, and events.

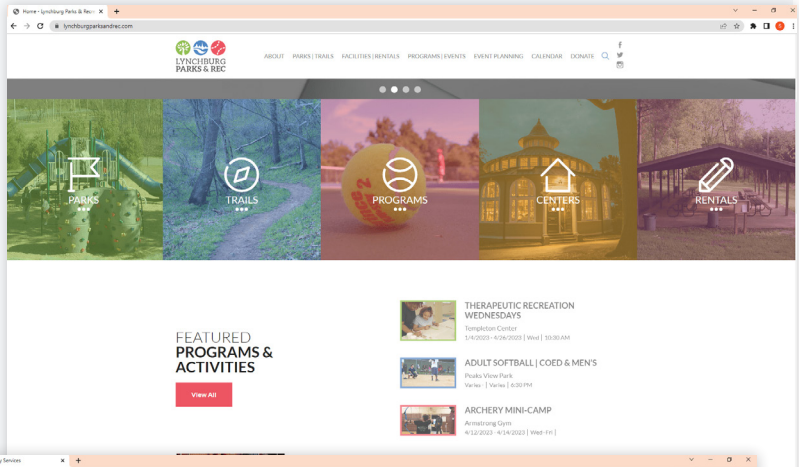
### PEER CITY: LYNCHBURG, VA PARKS WEBSITE & CITY SERVICES GIS TOOL

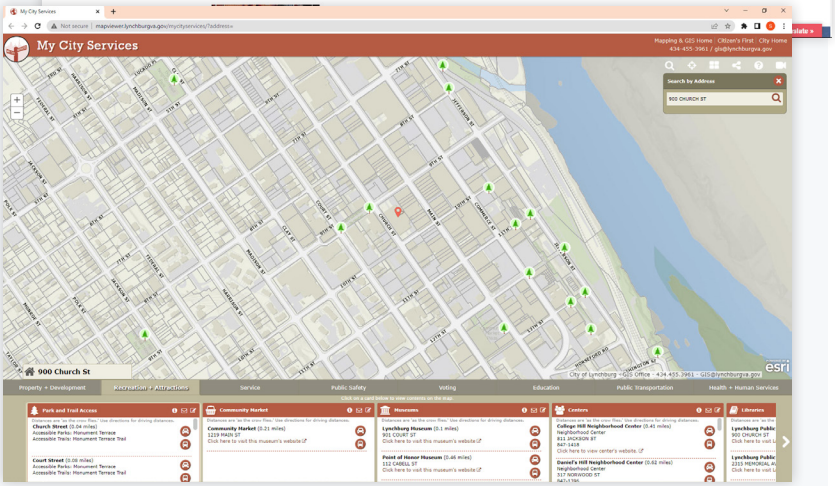
The website is well-developed, with clear menus, pages, working links, and engaging colors and images. The identity of the parks department is clear through the consistent branding.

There are multiple opportunities throughout the site to contact the parks department, rent facilities, get information on upcoming events and programs, and learn more about each park and upcoming plans.

The ArcGIS CityServices tool indicates not only zoning, allowable uses, and information about a parcel, but indicates the closest parks and recreation opportunities to an entered address.

This tool has many applications beyond helping Bellevue residents find the closest parks and trails with the amenities they are looking for, and would be a useful tool across Public Works and Planning functions.



# COMMUNICATIONS + WAYFINDING

Updates to the design of park wayfinding should occur as a system-wide activity, not on a park-by-park basis, and should be consistent with updates to the Park System's online presence. The addition of signage to a park when signage already exists may be completed for individual parks.

## Entrance Signs (Primary and Secondary)

Entrance signs should be large and prominently located at the entrance to the park where they can be seen from roadways, sidewalks, and trails. If a park entrance is somewhat secluded, the sign should be placed in clear view outside the entrance and direct the user in the direction of the park entrance. Main entrance signs can indicate the types of amenities offered at the park using symbology.




## In-Park Wayfinding, Trail Wayfinding

In larger parks, linear parks, heavily wooded parks, and on trails, wayfinding indicating the distance of trails, directions of entrances and exits, and the locations of amenities help users find their way. This wayfinding is especially recommended for Park Corridors. Simple signposts and trail markers are also recommended.






## Educational and Historical Signage

A key part of Bellevue's unique park identity is its natural areas and historic significance. Signage that expands on the experience for users by helping them engage with the environment or learn is an enriching part of the overall park experience. Signage for these uses should have a recognizably unique look yet be standardized across parks and cohesive with other park signage.






## Kiosks

Offering users the ability to pick up brochures and maps, dog waste bags, and other consumables, as well as providing a place to display changing information about programs and events, kiosks create a centralized location for park information. They are best used in centralized areas like common entrances or plazas.



## Interactive Experiential Signage

From traceable topographic or waterway maps to QR codes to signs that change as the user manipulates them, interactive signs add to the magic of the park experience for users of all ages and abilities. They can be placed along a significant route as an educational experience, at the start of a trail, or added to a kiosk for a particular park.



# COMMUNICATIONS + WAYFINDING

Communicating successfully with the public about city parks is essential to building a feeling of trust and ownership in the future of the parks system. The following guidelines relate to communications with the public regarding park activities. **Refer to Action Step 1.2 (page 105)** for guidance on how to engage the community during park improvement projects.

Develop standard messages regarding common park activities, like closure for maintenance, safe park behaviors, upcoming changes to park access, new programs, and other activities. Messages should be clear, direct, respectful, and foster a feeling of trust and positivity between the public and the City.

Distribute these messages to appropriate community partners and City departments to use in their communications and share with their audiences when needed.

Complete public engagement activities when undertaking major park improvements and master planning. These activities can include surveys, open houses, design workshops, public forums, among others. Contract with a consultant when needed or for significant park changes.

Provide information in a variety of formats and languages that ensure all residents of Bellevue are able to learn about parks and any changes which may affect them. These formats can include print materials, updates to the Parks and Recreation web page, videos posted on the Parks and Recreation website, social media posts, direct mail to affected households.

Work with local media professionals to ensure messages about the Parks System are in the news when necessary, distributing press releases for noteworthy park improvements and programs. Develop messaging ahead of time and distribute it to the relevant internal parties when possible so responses to press requests are clear, accurate, and consistent.

## TIMING PARK COMMUNICATIONS

+ When **informing** the public about a change to a park is the goal, ensure communications are distributed that any planned programs or uses can be rescheduled or moved to another location, when possible.

  Two weeks prior to a change, send out communications via all channels and communicate with any individuals or organizations who have scheduled events, volunteer work, or use of facilities to reschedule or relocate reservations.

+ When the public's **input** on a change to a park is desired, communications about parks should be distributed with enough time to give the public a chance to provide their input. These communications should be part of a wider communications strategy.

  Communicate the timeline of the project, the dates and timing of all the opportunities available to provide input, and how input will be used ahead of requesting input. When possible, contract with a qualified consultant to develop a strategy, schedule, and implementation plan for communications.

# EQUITY



It's essential for park access and park investment to be distributed equitably across the city so every resident has opportunity to enjoy the parks. To this point, recommendations surrounding park decommissioning, new park access areas, new park experiences, connectivity, and improvements to park design and amenities are made with equity in mind.

Each park's recommendations, found in How We Get There (starting on page 104) were evaluated through park-level "lenses", based on public input and national standards for park design: planning, sustainability, design, and access & mobility. Additionally, park amenity access has been mapped to show areas where amenities are in overabundance or lacking.

### Equitable Park Access - System

Equity in the park system ensures that regardless of location, race, age, ability, family unit, or other identifying factors, people are able to access and enjoy park amenities that are of a consistent quality and level of service as represented by the system as a whole.

+ Prioritize trail, bicycle, transit, and pedestrian improvements that increase access in "gray areas" (reference Connectivity Map, page 67.)
+ In conjunction with Ft. Crook Rd. Master Plan, implement pocket parks at transit stops and wherever streetscape improvements occur.
+ In conjunction with redevelopment in Olde Towne, implement pocket parks and green spaces.
+ In conjunction with infrastructure or roadway improvement or widening (especially in Northwest, West Central, and Southwest Bellevue) implement biking and walking trails.
+ Complete necessary traffic safety improvements to crossings and speed reduction to improve on-street biking and walking safety - especially in the Fontenelle, West Central, and Southwest Zones.

### Equitable Park Access - Parks

+ Implement highly requested amenities in all six zones (Park Improvement recommendations take this into account.)

On rare occasions, user activity and behavior has inhibited overall park access and experience for other users. It is recommended that to reduce vandalism and improve park safety:

+ Create partnership with Bellevue Police to implement Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles.

# SYSTEM CONNECTIVITY

An overall connectivity strategy connects parks, schools, and other public destinations with walkable and bikeable infrastructure improvements.

Bellevue's trail system is a critical part of park access, safety, and experience.

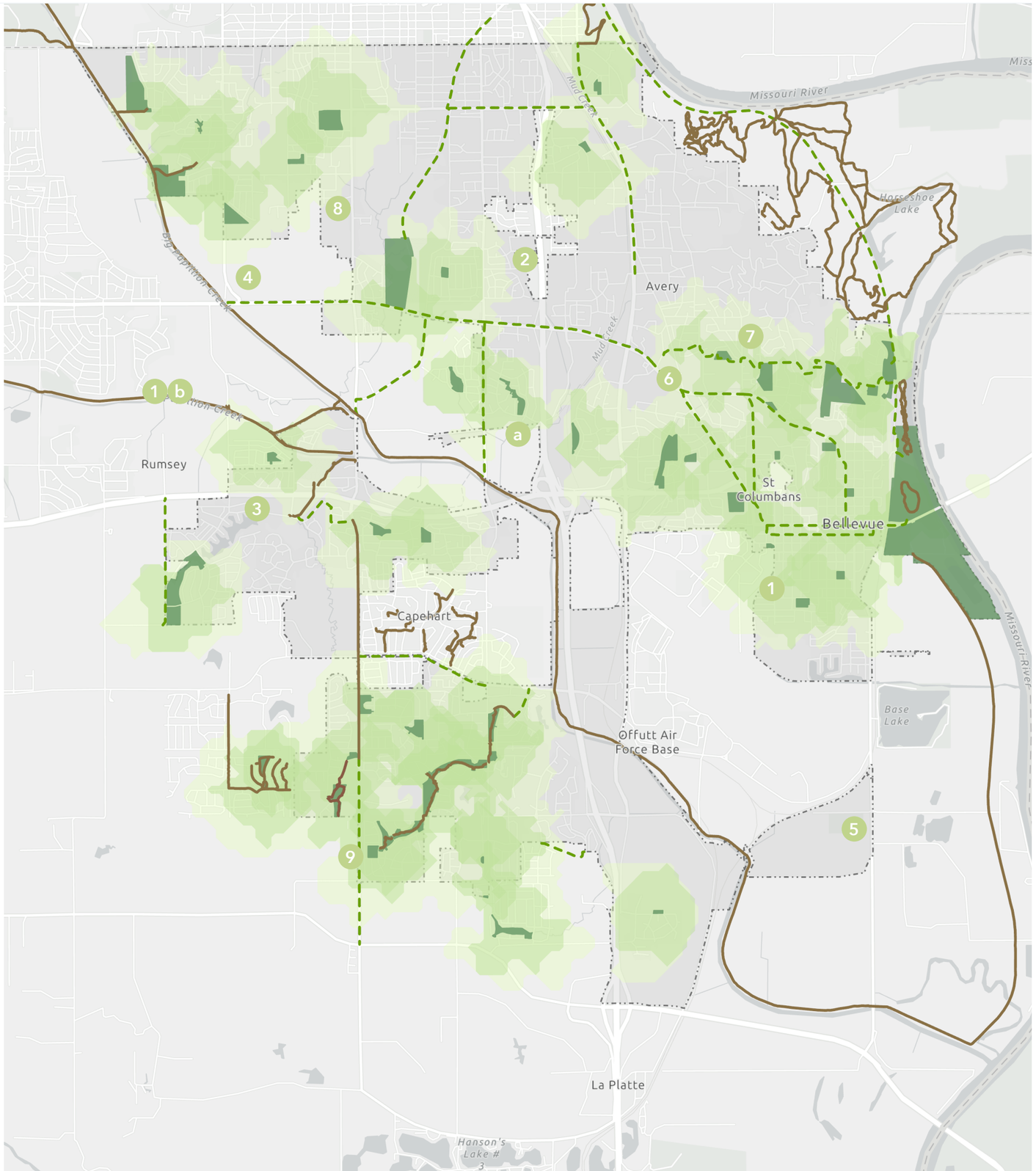
With many trails efforts already underway, connecting existing high-use trail corridors will not only help more residents and regional visitors visit Bellevue's parks, but they will have wide-reaching benefits: reduction in air pollution, reduction in overreliance on automobiles for transportation, and more equitable access to services.

## PRIORITY TRAIL CORRIDORS

1. East-to-West Trail on Cornhusker Rd.
   - a. Phase I: Ft. Crook Rd. to Bridge
   - b. Phase II: West Papio Trail to Ft. Crook Rd.
2. Ft. Crook Rd. Corridor
3. Marv Holubar connections North and East
4. Northwest trail connection from Swanson Park, along Cornhusker Rd., to Faulkand Heights Park, Hastings Banner, etc.
5. Linear parks on Bellevue Loop Trail
6. Fontenelle Hills on-street facility connecting College Heights, Jewell, McCann, and Cascio
7. Northbound Trail from American Heroes to South Omaha
8. Northeast Trail from Swanson Park to South Omaha
9. Connection from Two Springs Park to Hyda Hills Park

## MAP KEY

- Park Land
- 10-Minute Walk
- Bellevue ETJ Boundary
- 15-Minute Walk
- Future Trails
- Existing Trails



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# PARK DECOMMISSIONING

## Park Decommissioning

Part of a sustainable future for the parks system is a decision to graduate parks which are not serving the community at a high level to new use for the community.

Criteria for identifying parks to decommission included redundant service areas, poor visibility, poor land usage, low community use, and a higher than average level of investment required to bring the park up to an acceptable level of service.

| PARK NAME | ZONE | ACRES | JUSTIFICATION OF DECOMMISSION |
|---|---|---|---|
| College Heights — North Field | Fontenelle | 2.8 | Overlap of park services with other nearby parks. |
| Freeman Park | Olde Towne | 1.4 | Lack of use, widespread knowledge, and purpose. Large amount of investment required to bring up to minimum standard. |
| Gilder Park | Northwest | 5.3 | Redundancy with amenities provided at Gilder Elementary. |
| Goldenrod Park | Northwest | 3.8 | Future use as a City facility; unclear park boundaries or location beyond immediate neighborhood. Recently updated amenities can be relocated to another park. |
| Heber Park | Olde Towne | 2.9 | Poor visibility, lack of purpose, redundancy with services provided by Everett Park. |
| Leawood Oaks II Park | Southwest | 5.3 | Poor visibility, lack of use beyond immediate neighborhood, inaccessibility, lack of purpose. |
| Mason Park | Fontenelle | 1.4 | Poor land use, unsuitable topography. Large amount of investment required to bring up to minimum standard. |
| Southern Oaks Park | West Central | 4.2 | Poor land use, unsuitable topography. Unsafe visibility and inaccessible entrances. Low community use. |

## Future Uses for Decommissioned Parks

There are a variety of potential future uses for decommissioned park land, including the following:

+ Transfer of land for Public use; for instance, creation of additional City facilities or relocation of existing facilities
+ Sale for development (if zoning and law allows); funds acquired to fund park improvements elsewhere in zone
+ Sale or gift of land to adjacent property owners
+ MOU with business entity or community organization for management of land; for instance, a community garden or nature area
+ Gift to Public entity; for instance, the Bellevue Public School System

# NEW PARK ACCESS

## Park Corridor Development

Bellevue's topography, greenways, and existing trails make Park Corridors, or parks situated along a trail, a perfect strategy for developing memorable and accessible park experiences. As Bellevue grows, balancing park land and resources will require the strategic implementation of trails or parks, depending on which is needed, in new residential and multi-use developments.

On the following pages, the top Park Corridors to develop in new areas of growth are outlined with recommendations for either additional park land or trail access listed.

### MINI-MAP KEY

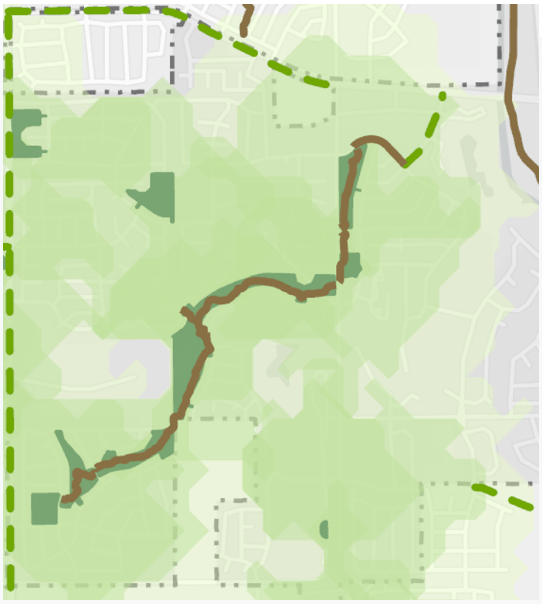
- Park Land
- Bellevue ETJ Boundary
- Future Trails
- 10-Minute Walk
- 15-Minute Walk
- Existing Trails

### DANIELL TRAIL CORRIDOR

Already a well-used and successful park corridor, this park corridor will benefit from the improvement of its southernmost park, Two Springs, implementation of cohesive park amenities and color schemes, and the implementation of park amenities along the trail.

Additional wayfinding along the trail indicating which parks and amenities can be found in which direction, and how far away they are from the user, should be implemented.

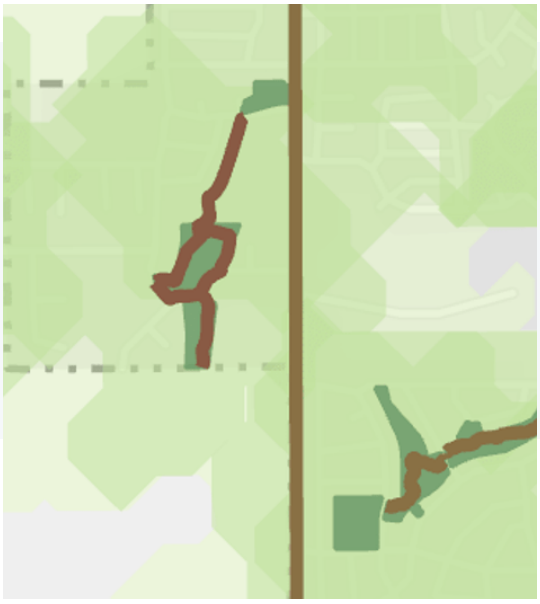
In the future, Daniell Trail should be connected to the 36th Street Trail to the South from Two Springs Park and the Papio Trail to the North from Stonecroft Park.



### 36TH STREET TRAIL CORRIDOR

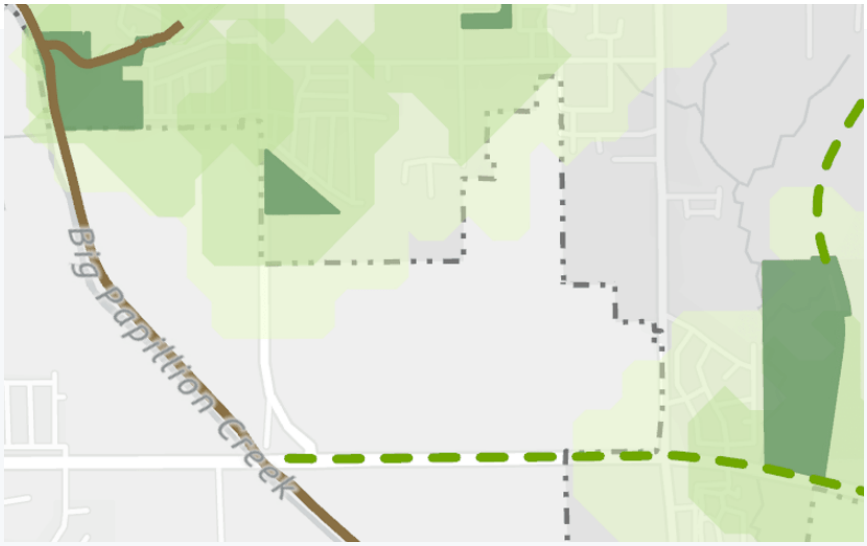
With newly completed trail along 36th Street, parks in this corridor will benefit from improved wayfinding and programming along this corridor.

Installation of directional wayfinding, bicycle amenities, and improved park visibility along the 36th St. Corridor will improve pedestrian and bicycle use and access for these parks.



# NEW PARK ACCESS

## SWANSON-PAPIO LINK CORRIDOR



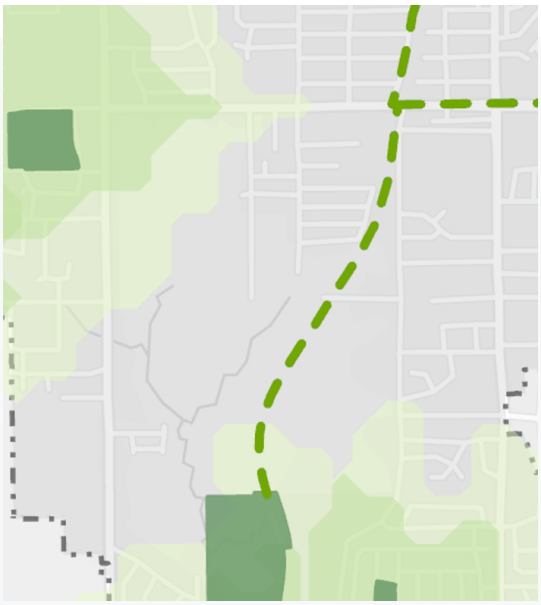

The Papio Creek Trail section through northwest Bellevue carries many cyclists throughout the region.

Connecting these riders to a mountain bike experience at Swanson Park is vital to continue making Swanson Park a regional destination.

Utilizing the OPPD right of way to the north of Swanson Park can connect to S. 36th street and the improved trail section along the 36th street corridor.

Future development west of S. 36th should maintain right of way for the trail to be extended west to Faulkand Heights Park. Crossing 48th street from Faulkland Heights to Hastings Banner park will bring riders directly to the Papio Creek Trail.

## NORTH CENTRAL LINK CORRIDOR



The North Central Trail Link Corridor would connect Swanson Park to Brown Park in South Omaha. Swanson Park is a major bike attraction in the region with mountain biking trails.

Utilizing the utility line corridor north of Swanson Park close to Sherwood Drive, the trail would then turn north and east to Sarpy Avenue.

Sarpy Avenue continues northeast through the West Central and Fontenelle zone of Bellevue, eventually connected via Polk Street to Gilmore Avenue.

Gilmore Avenue is a low volume neighborhood street that runs underneath Highway 75 into South Omaha.

The trail continues along Gilmore Avenue to W Street which gets users to Marrs Middle School and the recently redeveloped Brown Park in the City of Omaha.

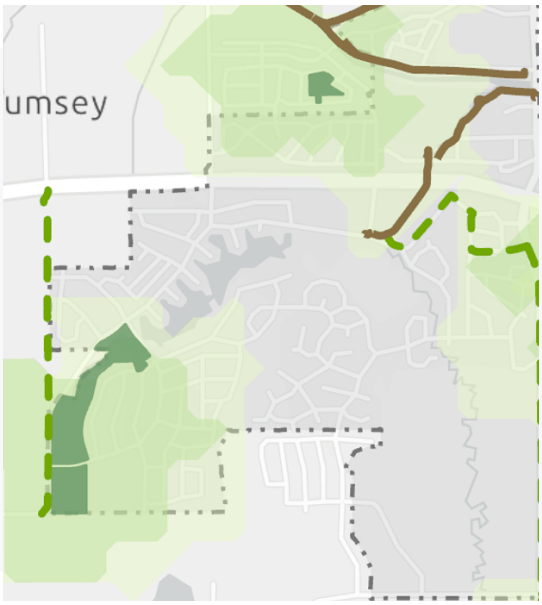
# NEW PARK ACCESS

## MARV HOLUBAR TRAIL CORRIDOR

Providing much-needed access across Hwy 370, the Marv Holubar Trail connects the Southwest Zone to the West Central Zone.

A continuation of this trail southwest to the Lakewood Villages trail network on Maas Rd. would justify additional trail access south of Lakewood Villages, and eliminate the need for additional neighborhood-style parks south of Lakewood Villages Park.

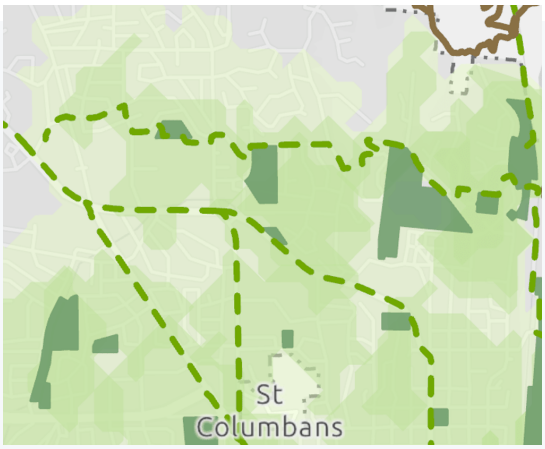
A trail spur extending east from Marv Holubar would extend this Park Corridor to Golden Hills Park.




## JEWELL PARK CORRIDOR

Jewell Park mountain biking trails act as a node along the Jewell Park Trail corridor. American Heroes Park is a regional destination and OPPD right of way north of American Heroes Park can be developed into primitive biking trail towards South Main Street near College Heights Park.

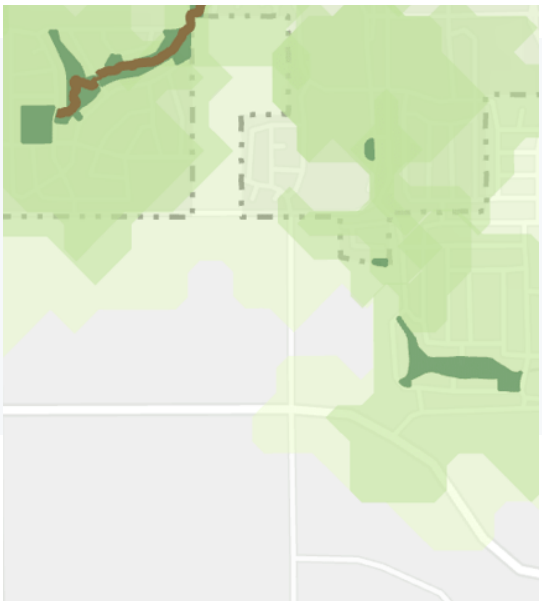
Traveling along Main Street to connect to Jewell Park trails. The west end of Jewell Park can bring riders to Bellevue Boulevard, then south to Jewell Road which will connect the rider to the Harvell Drive bike corridor.




## HYDA HILLS LINK CORRIDOR

Platteview Road is a priority corridor for Sarpy County based on the study conducted by MAPA in 2016. Development will continue to occur along Platteview Road with the new sewer being installed.

Neighborhoods west and north of Hyda Hills should maintain connections to link Hyda Hills Park to Two Springs Park.



# NEW PARK ACCESS

## Land Acquisition

The following policy for land acquisition should be considered by the Department to help the City acquire park land in redevelopment scenarios. Increased densities in areas of the City are highlighted in planning documents such as the Fort Crook redevelopment plan. Park land will need to increase to meet the needs of an increased, denser neighborhood.

A policy should be developed that allows the Department to acquire land based on a set criterion versus because an opportunity came along:

- The proposed land supports an unmet need in the community and is located in an under-served area of the community for that classification of park.
- The land is identified as park land in city studies, planning documents, or area plans.
- The land is adjacent to an existing park or trail and will provide greater access for the community to enjoy the resource.
- The land supports a recreation facility needed in the community such as nature center, regional playground facility, and/ or a sports complex which is an unmet need.
- The land supports a connectivity route for an existing or future trail extension.
- The land is adjacent to a school where the value can be maximized by the School District and the Parks Department for needed programs.
- The land supports and protects environmentally sensitive and/ or natural resource areas in the City and needs to be protected.
- The land is donated, and it meets one of these top seven criteria



# PARK MAINTENANCE STANDARDS

In general, park maintenance should be prioritized based on an activity's impact for the user. At all levels, the user's safety is paramount. Beyond ensuring the safety of users, maintenance activities vary in priority. The goal of all maintenance activities should be to ensure the park has a high level of service.

It is recommended the Parks and Recreation Department regularly conduct an audit of park facilities to measure their level of wear, age, and needed landscaping due to erosion, foot traffic, scorching, storm damage, and other wear-and-tear. A GIS-based tool with existing park amenity measurements is provided as part of this planning document and can be updated in real-time by staff.

### MAINTENANCE REQUEST FORM

A web-based form through which park users can submit park maintenance requests is one low-cost tool that can be used to collect and document park maintenance activities. A QR code and link to the form can be added to park signage and posted in recreation facilities, and paper versions of the form can be available at City offices for submission.

Request and response data can be documented and analyzed to report on maintenance completed and inform any needed investment in additional staff or resources during budget creation.

*All Levels: Turf, Landscaping, and Open Spaces Maintenance Standards*

### HIGH TRAFFIC

High profile areas where the entire area is visible to foot traffic such as entrances to community centers, signature facilities, and areas where funding accommodates a higher level of maintenance.

*Suggested maintenance activities include:*

Mowing 2x/week

95% turf coverage at the start of season with 5% weeds & no bare areas

Edging 1x/week

Tree pruning cycle 1x annually

Litter pickup 2x/week

### MODERATE TRAFFIC

Moderate to heavy use areas typical of most parks.

*Suggested maintenance activities include:*

Mowing and edging 1x/week

88% turf coverage at the start of the season with 8% weeds and 4% bare area

Tree pruning cycle every seven years

Litter pickup 1x/week

### LOW TRAFFIC

Typical low-usage areas in parks or when funding is limited.

*Suggested maintenance activities include:*

Mowing and edging every 10 days

80% turf coverage at the start of season with 20% weeds

Edging once per week or every 2 weeks in off-season

Tree pruning cycle every 10 years

Litter pickup every other week

# PARK MAINTENANCE STANDARDS

The maintenance standards below should be used and updated to serve the Parks and Recreation Department in identifying and addressing park maintenance and investment needs.

Each level of maintenance contains its own actions and the actions included in the level before it: parks for identified for Level 2 maintenance should also receive Level 1. A park which has not received enough maintenance that the items in Level 2 have not been addressed should not receive Level 3 maintenance until items in the lower levels have been addressed.

During all stages of maintenance, maintenance activities which leave a portion of the park or an amenity inaccessible or unusable to users should be communicated to the public via the City's website and clearly posted signage, with indication of when the maintenance will be completed and when the park or amenity will be available.

## LEVEL 1 MAINTENANCE

- Safety concerns
- Objects in fall zone of equipment
- Hazards from wildlife, insects, and weeds
- Unsafe and/or inaccessible walkways
- Downed branches and trees
- Erosion and degradation of turf, surfaces
- Repair or remove and replace broken, aged, or deteriorating equipment, facilities, and amenities
- Lighting & safe sight lines

## LEVEL 2 MAINTENANCE

- Comfort concerns
- Irrigation of turf
- Painting
- Replacement of outdated equipment
- Additional seating, waste receptacles, shade
- Maintaining and irrigating plantings throughout growing season
- Replacement of dead trees
- ADA compliance of any new surfaces

## LEVEL 3 MAINTENANCE

- Aesthetic concerns
- Additional and/or improved signage and wayfinding
- Addition of water stations, restroom facilities
- Installation of art/visual elements
- Design of new plantings
- Improved seating, shade, waste receptacles
- Addition of new/improved amenities

# PARK DESIGN RECOMMENDATIONS

## NEIGHBORHOOD PARK DESIGN STANDARDS



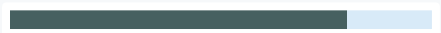

**Acres:** .5 - 17 **Visit Duration:** <60 min. **Service Area:** .5 mile (15-min. walk)

**Siting Preference:** Local or collector street. Where possible, near a school or community center. Links to other parks via trails and sidewalks encouraged.

**Amenities:** One signature programmed amenity. No restrooms unless required by amenity type. Loop trails when possible. Benches, small shelters, shade, water access suggested.

**Landscape Design:** Minimum 15% park area as native plantings + natural areas, 20-35% typical. Conversion of grass surface to native plantings or low-maintenance turf in passive use areas required.

**Land Usage:**



*80% active* *20% passive*

**Programming:** Dependent on signature amenity.

**Wayfinding:** Entrance, directional, amenity-specific. Focus on connection to nearby parks, trails.

**Maintenance:** Provide highest level of maintenance with available funds. Seek a Level 2 maintenance goal. Complete public engagement to customize amenities and uses to service area.

**Parking:** Include widened on-street parking adjacent to park. Where necessary, provide 5-10 in-park spaces, including handicap spaces, with the goal of maximizing usable park area. Traffic-calming devices strongly encouraged.

**Lighting:** Security or amenity only. Dual system with 50% of lights off at set times and 50% on through the night is ideal.

**Safety:** Meet Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) standards.

**Internet:** City-provided wireless fiber Internet at parks with structures/shelters/high traffic.

**Stormwater:** Single-use stormwater facilities (ponds, infiltration basins) no more than 10% of active park area. Multi-functional Green Infrastructure (GI) encouraged; collaborate with Engineering to integrate GI into parks.

# PARK DESIGN RECOMMENDATIONS

## COMMUNITY PARK DESIGN STANDARDS



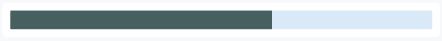
**Acres:** 20 - 60 **Visit Duration:** 1-2 hrs. **Service Area:** 1-3 miles

**Siting Preference:** Two collector streets minimum, preferably arterial street with natural or artificial barrier. Minimal residences abutting site. Preferred streets on 4 sides or 3 sides with school or municipal use abutting. Trail and transit linkage encouraged.

**Amenities:** Four signature programmed amenities at minimum; at least one revenue-generating facility. Public restrooms. Sports fields & complexes, loop trails typical.

**Landscape Design:** Minimum 30% park area as native plantings + natural areas unless a sports facility is present. Enhanced landscaping at park entrances and focal points preferred.

**Land Usage:**



*65% active* *35% passive*

**Programming:** Minimum four essential program services typical (day camp, sports, aquatics, etc.)

**Wayfinding:** Entrance; directional; amenity-specific; connections to trails, parks, schools; partnerships. Kiosks in high-traffic/use areas.

**Maintenance:** Provide highest level of maintenance with available funds. Seek a Level 2 maintenance goal. Complete public engagement to customize to service area. Consistent & appealing color scheme ideal.

**Parking:** Include widened on-street parking adjacent to park. Traffic-calming devices strongly encouraged. Parking should occupy no more than 10% of land for special use, 5% for typical.

**Lighting:** Amenity-based, including sport field lights. Dual system with 50% of lights off at set times and 50% on through the night is ideal.

**Safety:** Meet Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) standards.

**Internet:** City-provided wireless fiber internet at parks with structures/shelters/high traffic.

**Stormwater:** Single-use stormwater facilities (ponds, infiltration basins) no more than 10% of active park area. Multi-functional Green Infrastructure (GI) encouraged; collaborate with Engineering to integrate GI into parks.

# PARK DESIGN RECOMMENDATIONS

## REGIONAL PARK DESIGN STANDARDS

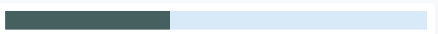
**Acres:** 60+ **Visit Duration:** 2-5 hrs. **Service Area:** 5-25 miles

**Siting Preference:** On major arterial road or access from highway or interstate system. Encourage trail linkage to other parks and transit route stops.

**Amenities:** 6 signature amenities at minimum. Natural areas for passive use balanced with active programming areas. Natural area-based activities like fishing, hiking ideal, as well as wide range of activity types available in park. At least one revenue-generating facility ideal.

**Landscape Design:** Appropriate design to enhance the park theme/use/experience. Enhanced landscaping at park entrances and key areas throughout park. Natural areas desired at 60% min. unless a special use sports facility.

**Land Usage:**



*40% active* *60% passive*

**Programming:** Minimum 4 essential program services typical.

**Wayfinding:** Directional; amenity-specific; connections to trails, parks, schools; partnerships. Kiosks in high-traffic/use areas.

**Maintenance:** Provide highest level of maintenance with available funds. Seek a Level 2 maintenance goal. Complete public engagement to customize to service area. Consistent & appealing color scheme ideal.

**Parking:** Occupies no more than 10 percent of the park for special use facilities or 5% for traditional community parks. Design should include widened on-street parking area adjacent to park. Goal is to maximize usable park space.

**Lighting:** Amenity lighting includes sport field light. Dual system with 50% of lights off at set times and 50% on through the night is ideal.

**Safety:** Meet Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) standards.

**Internet:** City-provided wireless fiber internet at parks with structures/shelters/high traffic.

**Stormwater:** Single-use stormwater facilities (ponds, infiltration basins) no more than 10% of active park area. Multi-functional Green Infrastructure (GI) encouraged; collaborate with Engineering to integrate GI into parks.

# AMENITY RECOMMENDATIONS

**All Amenities**

Neighborhood, Community, and Regional parks all need a mix of passive use and active use to serve the community well. Based on input from the public, steering committee, working group, and focus groups, the following amenities are recommended to be implemented in existing and new parks.

The top requested amenities and recommendations for the specific parks in which they should be located are listed in the following pages. Additionally, three new park concepts have been developed to fill access and amenity gaps. Regardless, all amenities listed here have been identified as aligned with the desires of the community and the cohesion of the system.

Amenities have been listed by Passive and Active Use to align with design criteria for each park type as listed in pages 76 - 78.

## PASSIVE USE / UNPROGRAMMED

*Passive Use spaces are flexible enough . They are relatively unprogrammed and can be used for a variety of purposes, including rest, exercise, and gathering.*

- Public Art
- Sculpture Garden
- Movie Night
- Food Vendors / Food Truck Rally
- Running/Walking
- Yoga
- Kite Flying
- Reading
- Fishing
- Water Overlook
- Sunset-watching Hill
- Stargazing
- Farmers' Markets
- Nature Areas
- Tables & Chairs for Board & Card Games
- Hammock Posts
- Cross-Country Skiing & Snowshoeing
- RC Airplanes



# AMENITY RECOMMENDATIONS

## ACTIVE USE / PROGRAMMED

*Active Use Spaces are programmed for a specific use or uses. They typically have dedicated amenities for one or two purposes, often highly active activities.*

- Dog Park
- Disc Golf
- Skate Park
- Exercise Equipment
- Splash Pads
- Community Garden & Orchard
- Pools
- Zip Lines
- Baseball / Softball Fields
- Football / Soccer Fields
- Basketball Courts
- Tennis Courts
- Pickleball Courts
- Volleyball Courts
- Rock Climbing Walls
- Ice Skating
- Cooking Stations
- Amphitheater
- Playgrounds
- Natural Play



# SIGNATURE AMENITIES

## SAND VOLLEYBALL

Sand volleyball is a team sport played on a sand court divided by a net. The objective of the game is to send the ball over the net and to ground it on the opponent's side of the court.

Courts are typically 52.5 feet long and 26.2 feet wide surrounded by clear space of 10 feet on all sides. Sand volleyball is fun for all ages and abilities.

Currently, there is a lack of public, free, all ages volleyball opportunities within the metro area.



### LEVEL OF NEED

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

### APPROXIMATE COST

$40,000 - $120,000

### RECOMMENDED PARKS

+ Haworth Park

## DOG PARKS

These features are social hubs for dog owners and provide a destination for walks. Off-leash areas are great neighborhood gathering places.

Experience shows that off-leash areas build strong neighborhoods and communities. Crime has decreased in many cities near the off-leash areas and people who normally would not talk to each other will start conversations when a dog is there to break the ice.

Facilities such as dog waste stations, water stations, and shade should be provided at all dog park facilities and at popular dog walking areas throughout the City.



### LEVEL OF NEED

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

### APPROXIMATE COST

$25,000

### RECOMMENDED PARKS

+ Jewell Park
+ Gilbert Park
+ Golden Hills Park
+ Two Springs Park

# SIGNATURE AMENITIES

## SPLASH PADS

Splash pads have become a popular recreation amenity in parks. They are not meant to replace pools, but they do provide an aquatic experience at a reasonable cost. Splash pads typically do not have standing water, so a lifeguard is not needed and requires less supervision.

Maintenance and cost of water can be an issue for systems that use city water but do not recirculate. Re-circulating systems are typically more expensive at the outset and require additional maintenance to ensure filters are changed out and safe water is provided. Other components that are important with splash pads are access to restrooms and shaded seating areas for supervising visitors.



### LEVEL OF NEED

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

### APPROXIMATE COST

$150,000

### RECOMMENDED PARKS

+ Sorenson Park
+ Lakewood Villages Park

## NATURAL AREAS

Increased daily access to nature and natural areas was a theme during public engagement, and a variety of solutions were provided and analyzed.

Overall, investing in beautifying and improving access points to existing streams, bodies of water, wooded areas, nature trails, and native grasslands can be done effectively in existing parks to imbue each zone with a sense of natural wonder, peace, and educational value. Several parks already lend themselves well to this treatment.

Landscaping drainageways and unused areas in Bellevue's urban parks to make them safe and inviting for visitors to experience is one way to bring a sense of nature and adventure to more urban locations.



### LEVEL OF NEED

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

### APPROXIMATE COST

$50,000

### RECOMMENDED PARKS

+ Everett Park
+ Gilbert Park
+ Fox Ridge Park
+ Swanson Park
+ Twin Ridge Park
+ Heartland Hills Park
+ Jewell Park

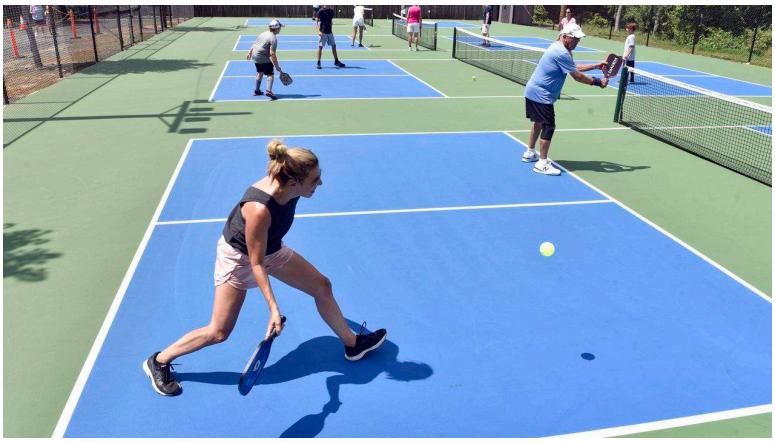
# SIGNATURE AMENITIES

## PICKLEBALL

Pickleball is a fast-growing sport throughout the United States. A racket sport, it combines elements of badminton, tennis, and table tennis. Two or four players use solid paddles made of wood or composite materials to hit a perforated polymer ball over a net.

Numerous leagues and tournaments have developed throughout the region due to the social and age-inclusive nature of the sport. While significant growth has taken place in higher age demographics, pickleball is spreading among all age ranges.

Because the courts are relatively small (44' x 20' typical) courts can be integrated into older, underused tennis courts. Multiple pickleball courts can be re-striped into the same footprint as one tennis court.



### LEVEL OF NEED

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

### APPROXIMATE COST

$150,000

### RECOMMENDED PARKS

+ Everett Park
+ Clearwater Falls Park

## BIKE PLAYGROUND

Bike playgrounds and skills areas with emphasis on balance maneuvers, bike skills development, and progression in riding capabilities appeal to a wide market including youth and beginners, as well as more advanced riders.

Typically dirt surfaced, pump tracks can include hardened surfaces such as asphalt. Skills areas with jumps and ramps that appeal to more advanced riders are typically smaller scale, not centralized, and found throughout a trail system or at trailheads and ride centers. They can also be fit into the fabric of an existing park and function as standalone facilities that could accommodate bikes, scooters, skateboards, or other wheeled vehicles.



### LEVEL OF NEED

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

### APPROXIMATE COST

$100,000-
$250,000

### RECOMMENDED PARKS

+ Dowding Park
+ Swanson Park (in Natural Surface Trails Study)

# SIGNATURE AMENITIES

## SKATE PARK

Skate parks are an important part of a modern park system. The same facility can host recreational and meetups for skateboarders, rollerbladers and rollerskaters, scooter riders, and BMX cyclists.

While skate parks were once considered "alternative" to traditional athletics, they have become a well-used, popular, and mainstream park facility.

Skateparks have been found to reduce illicit behavior, enhance the safety of skate sports, reduce damage to private property, provide physical and mental health benefits, and provide a positive economic impact on the local community.



**LEVEL OF NEED**

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

**APPROXIMATE COST**

$500,000

**RECOMMENDED PARKS**

+ Aspen/Sun Valley Park

## NATURAL PLAY

Natural Play elements have the potential to be a defining feature of Bellevue's park system. In line with the identity of a natural haven for outdoor adventure, these types of play areas were popular with both children and adults who participated in this plan's engagement phase.

Natural play areas are less programmed than traditional play sets, featuring natural materials and allowing for imaginative play. They often feature nature motifs, like woodland animals, and are manufactured in colors that complement the surrounding natural environment.

These amenities are highly recommended for parks with existing natural areas in need of playground upgrades.



**LEVEL OF NEED**

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

**APPROXIMATE COST**

$350,000

**RECOMMENDED PARKS**

+ Aspen/Sun Valley Park
+ Fox Ridge Park
+ Gilbert Park
+ Heartland Hills Park
+ Oakhurst Park
+ Twin Ridge Park

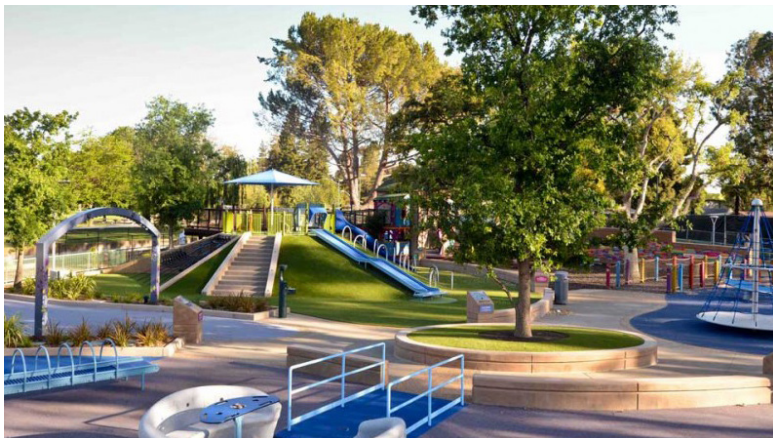
# SIGNATURE AMENITIES

## INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUNDS

Inclusive playgrounds are designed to provide universal access and sensory-rich environments that enable children to develop physically, socially and emotionally.

Inclusive playgrounds should be located at parks that have existing services such as restrooms, close proximity parking, and are located on arterial streets that are easy to navigate. Playground users are often accompanied by a caretaker who may not be familiar with the area, so easy access is important.

Accessible and safe surfacing is important for inclusive playgrounds, and shade structures should be included in the design to provide comfort for playground users and parents or caretakers.



### LEVEL OF NEED

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

### APPROXIMATE COST

$25,000 - $500,000

### RECOMMENDED PARKS

+ Whenever play equipment is removed/replaced

## BOULDERING/CLIMBING STRUCTURE

Bouldering is a form of rock climbing where the climber does not need ropes because the walls are not as tall as typical rock-climbing walls. The routes across the climbing structure vary for difficulty.

The boulders are custom-designed and artificial, which cater to all ages and abilities.

Climbing offers health benefits such as improved cardiovascular health and muscle density.



### LEVEL OF NEED

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

### APPROXIMATE COST

$50,000 - $400,000

### RECOMMENDED PARKS

+ Two Springs Park & Daniell Trail Corridor
+ Jewell Park

# SIGNATURE AMENITIES

## FUTSOL

A futsol court/mini-pitch is a small, customized, hard court surface that is ideal for providing organized and pick up soccer games. Mini-pitches often become a central gathering space and creates a more active community. They typically require around 6000 square feet and can be placed on open, flat concrete or asphalt surfaces.

A mini-pitch system has fencing, goals, benches, lockable storage and LED lighting.



### LEVEL OF NEED

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

### APPROXIMATE COST

$100,000-
$150,000

### RECOMMENDED PARKS

+ Aspen/Sun Valley
+ Sorensen Park



# NEW PARK EXPERIENCES

## AQUATIC CENTER

Locally, Bellevue residents are underserved when it comes to water access, but are still highly involved and interested in recreational and competitive swimming opportunities.

With an average of 1.24 square feet of water per capita, Bellevue has less than the average amount of water available per capita compared to cities of similar size and demographic breakdown (1.37 square feet per capita, less high and low.)

The current market landscape offers limited opportunities for people to enjoy the water. Locals are under-served, while people from across the region have very few choices and must travel large distances. This gap is an opportunity to provide a new, hybrid aquatic facility that expands access to water for Bellevue residents and the region.

The aquatic center could include an indoor waterpark, a 50-meter recreational swim and competition pool.




### ZONE

SOUTHWEST

### LEVEL OF NEED

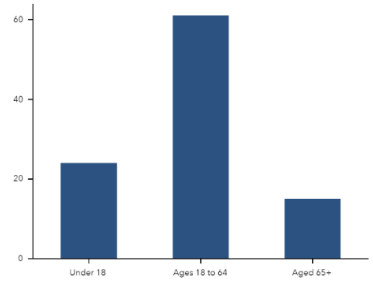
LOW MEDIUM HIGH

### APPROXIMATE COST

$72 - 83 MILLION



POPULATION BY AGE




LAMP RYNEARSON

## POPULATION TRENDS AND KEY INDICATORS

Bellevue, NE

| 54,421 | 21,000 | 2.59 | 36.7 | $69,442 | $183,573 | 146.00 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Population | Households | Avg Size Household | Median Age | Median Household Income | Median Home Value | 2021-2026 Population: Annual Growth Rate (Esri) (Index) |

BEHAVIOR

16% 2021 Participated in Swimming Last 12 Mo (%)

8 2021 Water Sports Equipment (Avg)

123 2021 Fees for Recreational Lessons (Avg)

91 2021 Entertainment/Recreation (Index)

90 2026 Entertainment/Recreation (Index)

91 2021 Membership Fees for Social/Recreation/Health Clubs (Index)

BUSINESS

1,240 2021 Total (SIC01-99) Businesses

17,004 2021 Total (SIC01-99) Employees

2,068,349 2021 Total (SIC01-99) Sales ($000)

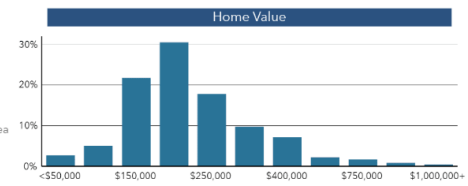
OWNED v RENT

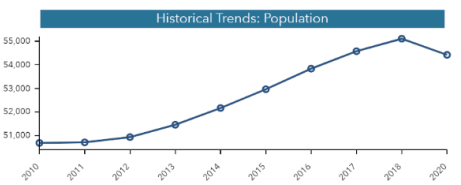
14,256 2021 Owner Occupied Housing Units (Esri)

32% 2021 Renter Occupied Housing Units (Esri) (%)

15,220 2026 Owner Occupied Housing Units (Esri)

31% 2026 Renter Occupied Housing Units (Esri) (%)



# NEW PARK EXPERIENCES

## KEYSTONE GREENWAY

On the existing Bellevue Loop trail that connects Haworth Park to the Keystone Trailhead at Ft. Crook Rd., a collection of trail-adjacent, linear parks is recommended.

These small parks should include elements like picnic areas, bicycle fix-it stations, shade areas, prairie plantings with educational signage, historical markers (where appropriate), and other amenities that make riding the Bellevue Loop Trail a destination and memorable experience for regional riders. Upgrades to the trail should include trail resurfacing, wayfinding and mileage markers, and any necessary safety and accessibility updates. Future connection to Hyda Hills park and to the new Aquatic Center should be considered.



### ZONE

SOUTH PLAIN

### LEVEL OF NEED

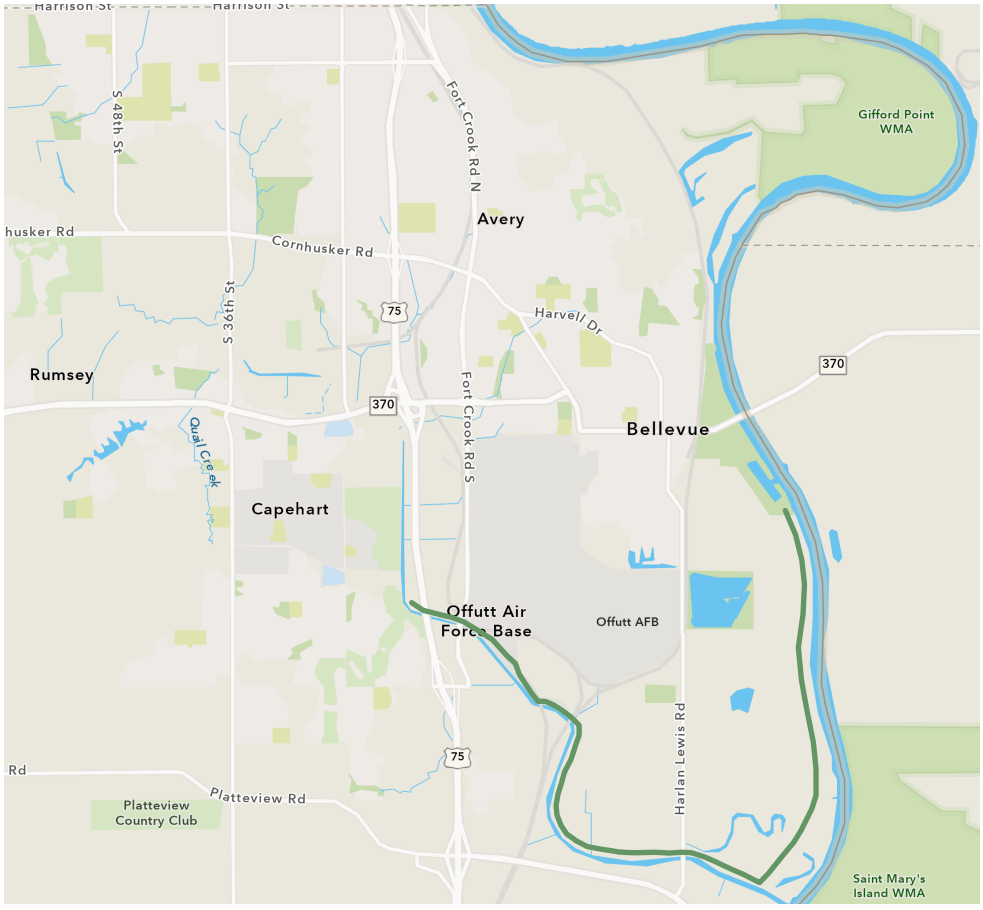
LOW MEDIUM HIGH

### APPROXIMATE COST

$1 MILLION

### LOCATION

— Keystone Greenway



# NEW PARK EXPERIENCES

## DANIELL'S FARM RECREATION AREA

Daniell's Farm Recreation Area is a new, Regional-destination park concept intended to improve access to water and large natural areas in western Bellevue. At the Northwest corner of 36th Street & Capehart Road on ground already controlled by the City, the site was identified many times during community engagement as a prime location for a new park experience, and the concept as an unmet park need.

This conceptual design provides recreational trails, open areas, a dog park, event space, tennis and pickleball, multi-use sports fields, play equipment, fishing, and no-wake water sports opportunities, like kayaking and paddle boarding. The varied topography on the site allows for multiple uses. Future connections to the upcoming residential development along 36th street should be considered, as well as the site's overall impact on regional trail connectivity.

**LEVEL OF NEED**

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

**APPROXIMATE COST**

$5 - 8 MILLION

**ZONE**

WEST CENTRAL








### KEY

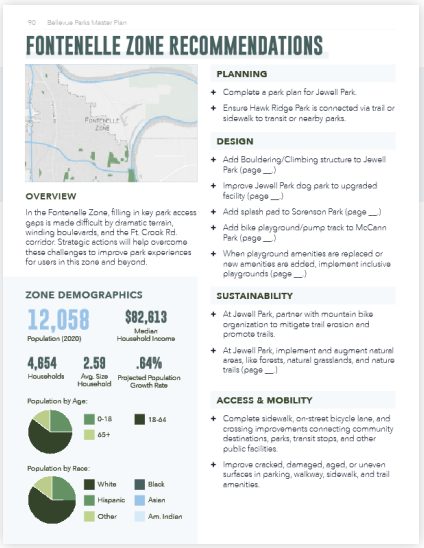
- A Lake
- B Trail
- C Dog Park
- D Parking
- E Open Lawn
- F Playground
- G Recreational Field
- H Pickleball Courts
- I Baseball/Softball Fields

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# ZONE RECOMMENDATIONS

## How to use the Zone Recommendations

Zone Recommendations show how park-level improvements work together with System-Level improvements to improve parks in the four key Park Lens areas: Planning, Design, Sustainability, and Access and Mobility. Use these pages to see how park-level improvements work together to ensure improvements are equitably distributed across the City and communicate with partners about how the initiatives in this plan are integrated.


FONTENELLE ZONE RECOMMENDATIONS

PLANNING
- Complete a park plan for Jewell Park.
- Ensure Hawk Ridge Park is connected via trail or sidewalk to transit or nearby parks.

DESIGN
- Add Bouldering/Climbing structure to Jewell Park (page __)
- Improve Jewell Park dog park to upgraded facility (page __)
- Add splash pad to Sorenson Park (page __)
- Add bike playground/pump track to McCann Park (page __)
- When playground amenities are replaced or new amenities are added, implement inclusive playgrounds (page __)

SUSTAINABILITY
- At Jewell Park, partner with mountain bike organization to mitigate trail erosion and promote trails.
- At Jewell Park, implement and augment natural areas, like forests, natural grasslands, and native trails (page __).

ACCESS & MOBILITY
- Complete sidewalk, on-street bicycle lane, and crossing improvements connecting community destinations, parks, transit stops, and other public facilities.
- Improve cracked, damaged, aged, or uneven surfaces in parking, walkway, sidewalk, and trail amenities.

OVERVIEW

In the Fontenelle Zone, filling in key park access gaps is made difficult by dramatic terrain, winding boulevards, and the Ft. Crook Rd corridor. Strategic actions will help overcome these challenges to improve park experiences for users in this zone and beyond.

ZONE DEMOGRAPHICS

12,058 Population (2020)
$82,813 Median Household Income
4,654 Households
2.59 Avg. Size Household
.84% Projected Population Growth Rate

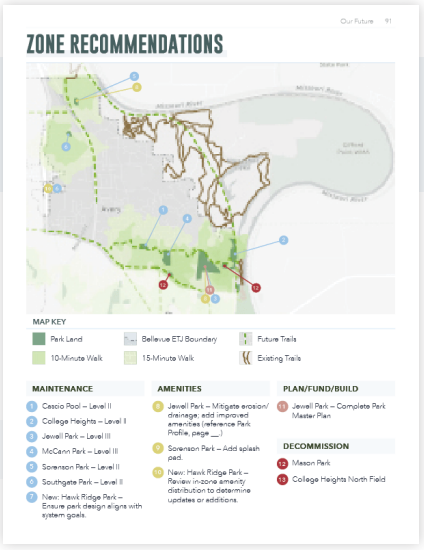
Population by Age: 0-18, 18-64, 65+

Population by Race: White, Black, Hispanic, Asian, Other, Am. Indian

## Page 1: Overview, Demographics, + Zone Recommendations

Page 1 shows an overview of the Zone boundaries, a brief description of the general focus of improvements to this zone, and an overview of the current demographic breakdown of the zone.

Additionally, recommendations that contribute to the Park Lenses are listed here. If associated with a specific park, these recommendations can also be found on the Park Profile Page and the Implementation Plan in the How We Get There section.


ZONE RECOMMENDATIONS

MAP KEY
Park Land, Bellevue ETJ Boundary, Future Trails, 10-Minute Walk, 15-Minute Walk, Existing Trails

MAINTENANCE
- Cascia Pool – Level II
- College Heights – Level II
- Jewell Park – Level III
- McCann Park – Level III
- Sorenson Park – Level II
- Southgate Park – Level II
- New: Hawk Ridge Park – Ensure park design aligns with system goals.

AMENITIES
- Jewell Park – Mitigate erosion/ drainage, add improved amenities (reference Park Profile, page __)
- Sorenson Park – Add splash pad.
- New: Hawk Ridge Park – Review in-zone amenity distribution to determine updates or additions.

PLAN/FUND/BUILD
- Jewell Park – Complete Park Master Plan

DECOMMISSION
- Mason Park
- College Heights North Field

## Page 2: Future Zone Map + Park Recommendations by Type

Page 2 shows how the zone will look with recommendations enacted, and where park-specific improvements are occurring, and what type of improvements are occurring. This map communicates how park imrpovements are equitably distributed across the city.

### MAINTENANCE

Which parks require maintenance, and to what level (page 74)?

### AMENITIES

Where should new amenities be placed (pages 79 - 89)?

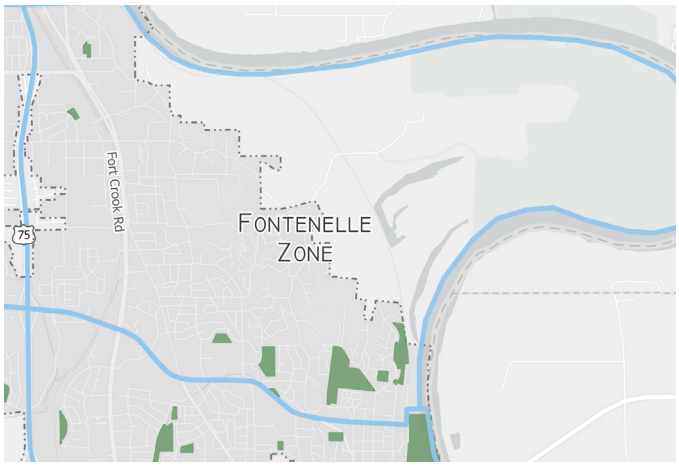
### PLAN/FUND/BUILD

Which parks are part of the Plan/Fund/Build process (page 106-107)? Where will new parks go?

### DECOMMISSION

Which parks can serve the community better in a different way (page 69)?

# FONTENELLE ZONE RECOMMENDATIONS




## OVERVIEW

In the Fontenelle Zone, filling in key park access gaps is made difficult by dramatic terrain, winding boulevards, and the Ft. Crook Rd. Corridor. Strategic actions will help overcome these challenges to improve park experiences for users in this zone and beyond.

## ZONE DEMOGRAPHICS

**12,058**
Population (2020)

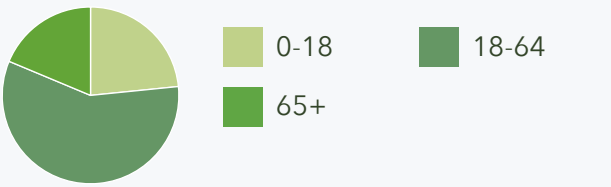
**$82,613**
Median Household Income

**4,654**
Households

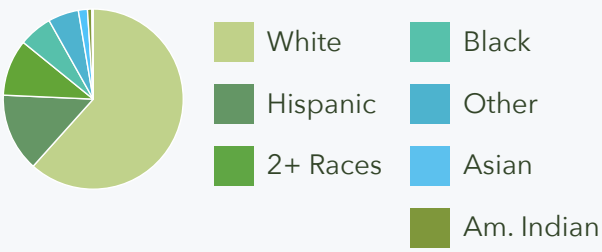
**2.59**
Avg. Size Household

**.64%**
Projected Population Growth Rate

Population by Age:




Population by Race:




## PLANNING

+ Complete a park plan for Jewell Park.
+ Ensure Hawk Ridge Park is connected via trail or sidewalk to transit or nearby parks.

## DESIGN

+ Add Bouldering/Climbing structure to Jewell Park (page 85.)
+ Improve Jewell Park dog park to upgraded facility (page 81.)
+ Add splash pad to Sorenson Park (page 82.)
+ Add bike playground/pump track to McCann Park (page 83.)
+ When playground amenities are replaced or new amenities are added, implement inclusive playgrounds (page 85.)

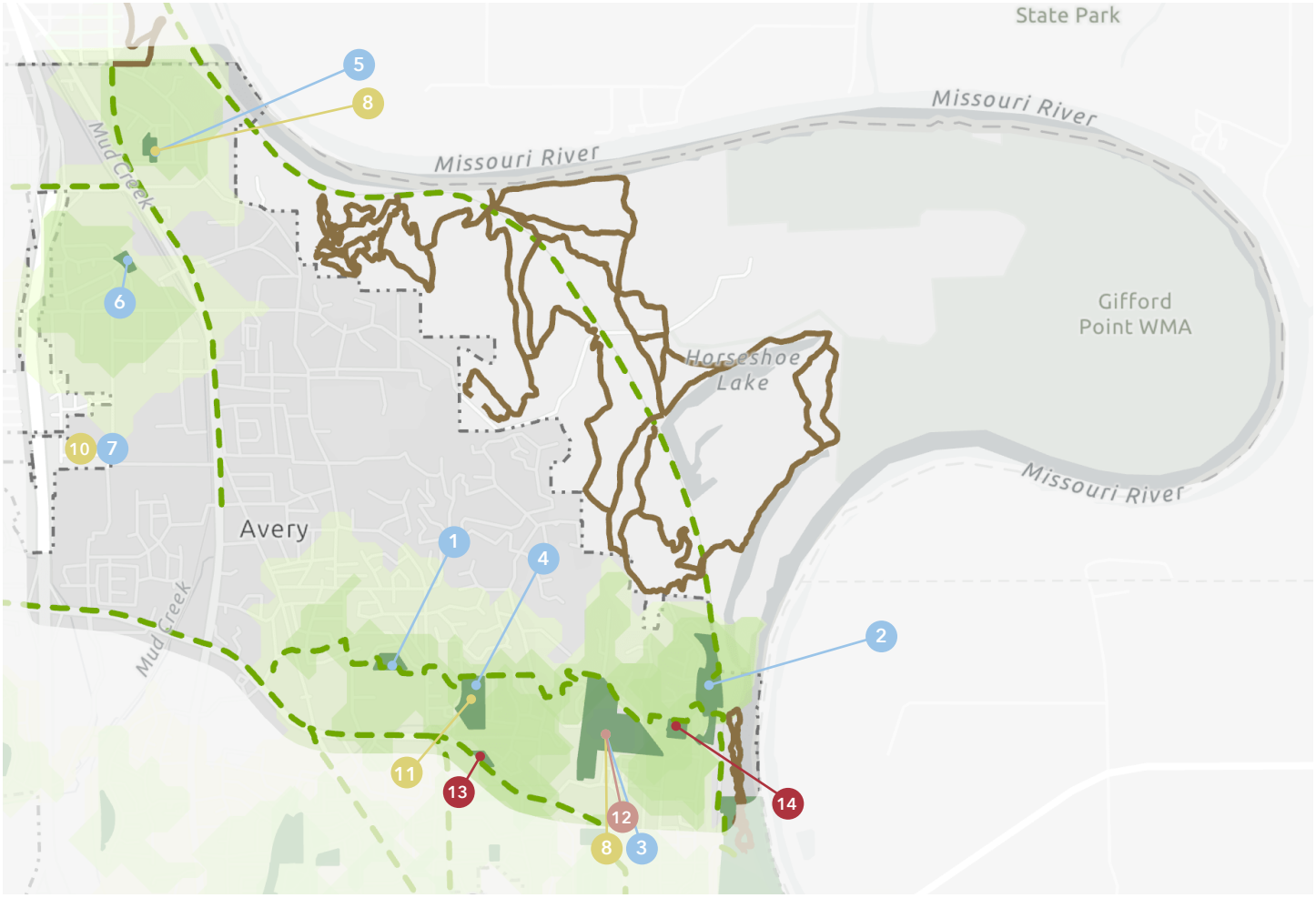
## SUSTAINABILITY

+ At Jewell Park, partner with mountain bike organization to mitigate trail erosion and promote trails.
+ At Jewell Park, implement and augment natural areas, like forests, natural grasslands, and nature trails (page 82.)

## ACCESS & MOBILITY

+ Complete sidewalk, on-street bicycle lane, and crossing improvements connecting community destinations, parks, transit stops, and other public facilities.
+ Improve cracked, damaged, aged, or uneven surfaces in parking, walkway, sidewalk, and trail amenities.

# ZONE RECOMMENDATIONS




## MAP KEY

- Park Land
- 10-Minute Walk
- Bellevue ETJ Boundary
- 15-Minute Walk
- Future Trails
- Existing Trails

## MAINTENANCE

1. Cascio Pool – Level II
2. College Heights – Level II
3. Jewell Park – Level III
4. McCann Park – Level III
5. Sorenson Park – Level II
6. Southgate Park – Level II
7. New: Hawk Ridge Park – Ensure park design aligns with system goals.

## AMENITIES

8. Jewell Park – Mitigate erosion/drainage; add improved amenities
9. Sorenson Park – Add splash pad.
10. New: Hawk Ridge Park – Review in-zone amenity distribution to determine updates or additions.
11. McCann Park – add bike playground.

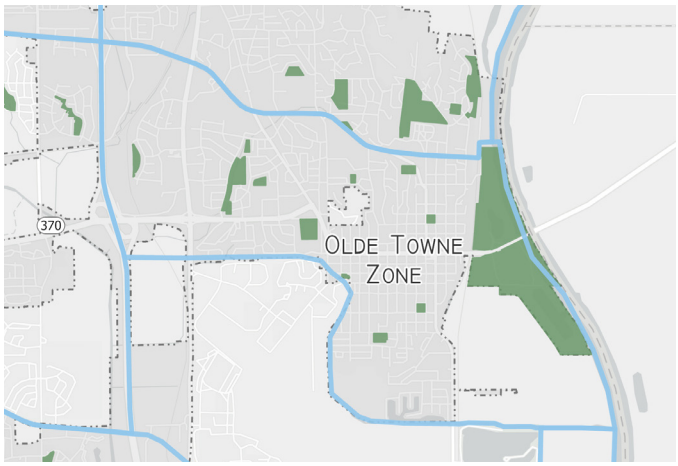
## PLAN/FUND/BUILD

12. Jewell Park

## DECOMMISSION

13. Mason Park
14. College Heights North Field

# OLDE TOWNE ZONE RECOMMENDATIONS




## OVERVIEW

Olde Towne's new developments, streetscapes, and historic parks make it an existing park land destination. Strengthening Bellevue's image in Olde Towne will augment the park system's service area and strengthen community ties at well-loved gathering places for art, food, sports, and more.

## ZONE DEMOGRAPHICS

**12,925**
Population (2020)

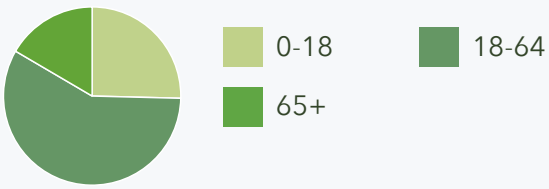
**$58,174**
Median Household Income

**5,324**
Households

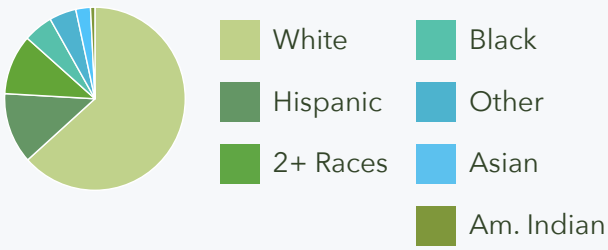
**2.36**
Avg. Size Household

**.66%**
Projected Population Growth Rate

Population by Age:




Population by Race:




## PLANNING

+ Plan and implement East to West trail connection (page 67.)
+ In conjunction with Streetscape Planning improvements, create and/or improve bicycle and pedestrian facilities to connect parks south of 23rd St. to parks north of 23rd. St, consistent with Complete Streets design ordinance.

## DESIGN

+ When playground amenities are replaced or new amenities are added, implement inclusive playgrounds (page 85.)

## SUSTAINABILITY

+ Augment existing drainageways in Gilbert Park and Everett Park with natural and native landscaping that beautifies the waterway while discouraging users from entering it.

## ACCESS & MOBILITY

+ Complete sidewalk, on-street bicycle lane, and crossing improvements connecting community destinations, parks, transit stops, and other public facilities.
+ Improve cracked, damaged, aged, or uneven surfaces in parking, walkway, sidewalk, and trail amenities.
+ Improve on-street park signage for Twin Ridge Park.

# ZONE RECOMMENDATIONS




## MAP KEY

- Park Land
- Bellevue ETJ Boundary
- Future Trails
- 10-Minute Walk
- 15-Minute Walk
- Existing Trails

### MAINTENANCE

1. Level I - American Heroes, Gilbert
2. Level II - Gemini, Thompson, Twin Ridge, Baldwin
3. Level III - Dowding, Everett, Washington

### AMENITIES

4. American Heroes - Adventure Play
5. Baldwin Field - Concessions, Bleachers
6. Dowding - Pump Track
7. Everett - Pickleball, Full-Court Basketball
8. Gilbert - Dog Park, Natural Play
9. Haworth - Bike Fix-It Station, Sand Volleyball
10. Thompson - Portable Restrooms
11. Twin Ridge - Native Grassland
12. Washington - Amphitheater

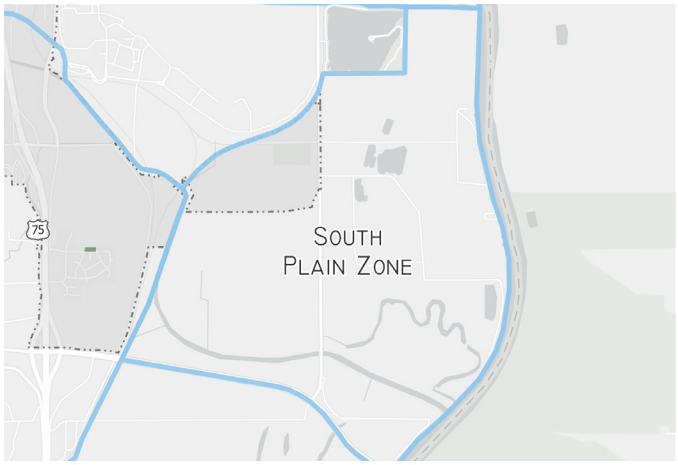
### PLAN/FUND/BUILD

13. American Heroes
14. Everett
15. Gemini
16. Washington

### DECOMMISSION

17. Freeman
18. Heber

# SOUTH PLAIN ZONE RECOMMENDATIONS




## OVERVIEW

While no park acres in South Plain are managed by the City of Bellevue (though there are green spaces and sports facilities available) the major asset to the City is the Bellevue Loop Trail through the floodplain.

## ZONE DEMOGRAPHICS

**50**
Population (2020)

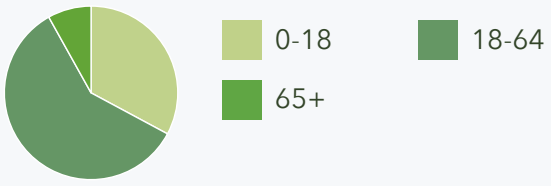
**$103,610**
Median Household Income

**12**
Households

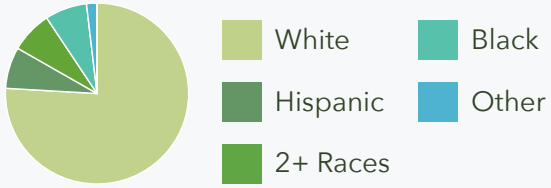
**4.17**
Avg. Size Household

**0.40%**
Projected Population Growth Rate

Population by Age:




Population by Race:




## PLANNING

+ Complete Park Plan for linear greenway along Bellevue Loop Trail (see page 88.)
+ As Highway 34/Highway 75 intersection and Platteview Road corridor develops, study, plan, and construct additional trail facilities to connect Bellevue Loop Trail to parks in Normandy Hills and Hyda Hills.

## DESIGN

+ Implement bicycle fix-it station at intersection with Highway 75 (where trail converts to Keystone Trail.)

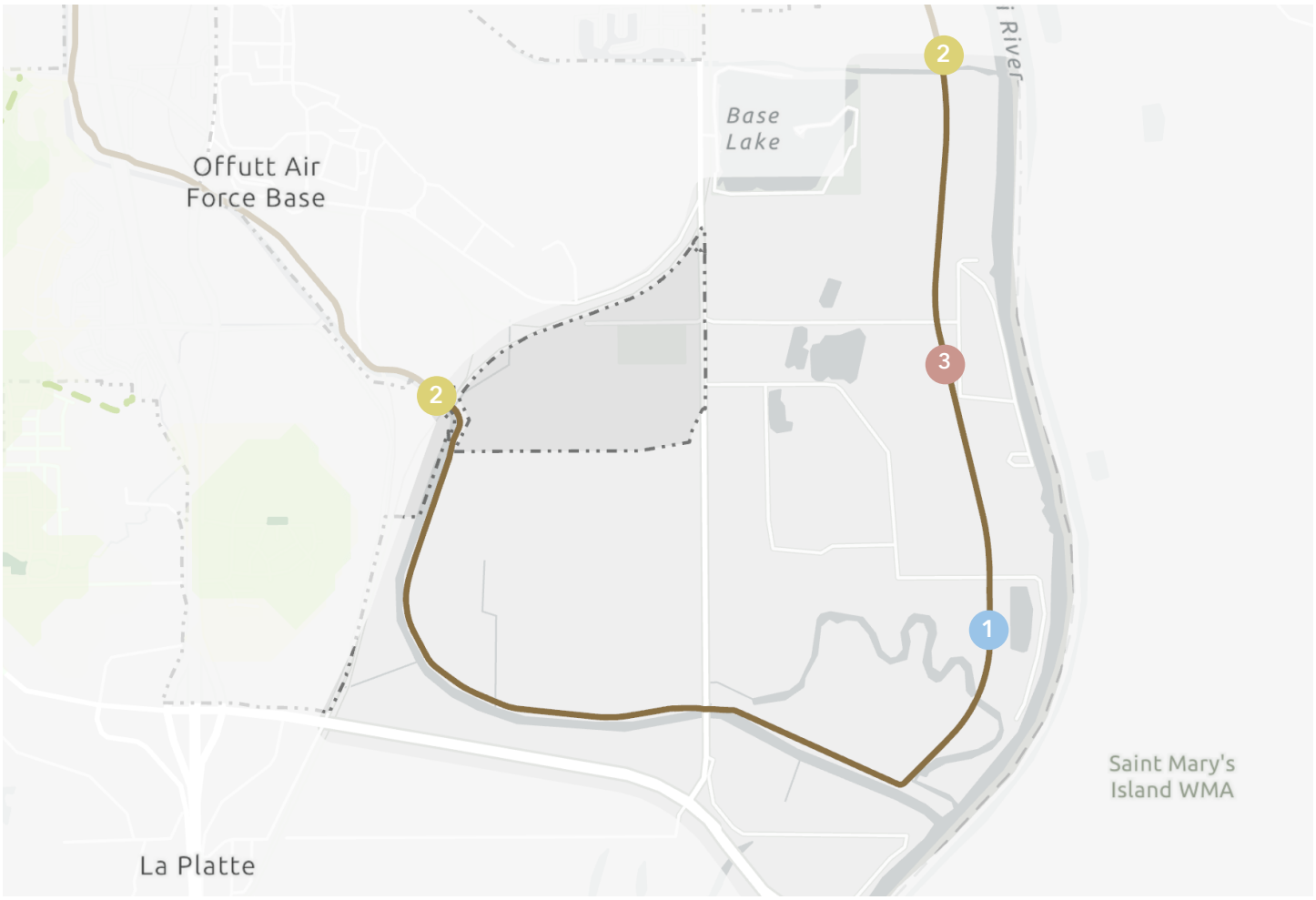
## SUSTAINABILITY

+ In greenway design, utilize native and flood-resistant vegetation.

## ACCESS & MOBILITY

+ Improve biking and walking surface to concrete or asphalt.

# ZONE RECOMMENDATIONS




## MAP KEY

- Park Land
- Bellevue ETJ Boundary
- Future Trails
- 10-Minute Walk
- 15-Minute Walk
- Existing Trails

## MAINTENANCE

1. Trail Surfaces

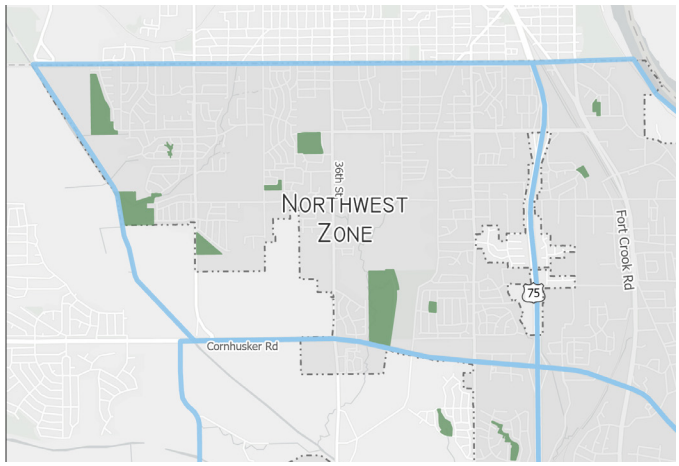
## AMENITIES

2. Bicycle Fix-It Station at Trailhead, Shelters, Seating

## PLAN/FUND/BUILD

3. Keystone Greenway - Linear Parks on Bellevue Loop Trail

# NORTHWEST ZONE RECOMMENDATIONS




## OVERVIEW

Bordered to the east by Highway 75, parks in the Northwest Zone vary in size but are largely disconnected. Connecting parks through strategic trail and new park development will be key to ensuring everyone has equitable access to high quality park amenities and services.

## ZONE DEMOGRAPHICS

**16,458**
Population (2020)

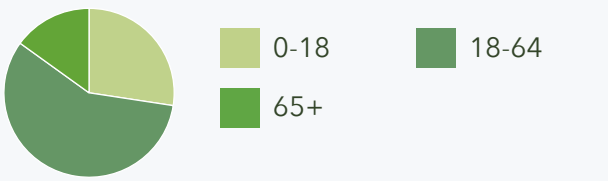
**$69,194**
Median Household Income

**5,987**
Households

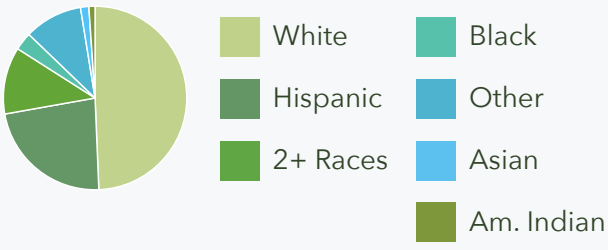
**2.75**
Avg. Size Household

**.55%**
Projected Population Growth Rate

Population by Age:




Population by Race:




## PLANNING

+ Along with East-West trail plans for Cornhusker Rd. corridor (as proposed in Reconnecting Communities Grant Application), complete trail from West Papio Trail to Swanson Park.
+ Study, plan, and construct trail connection in partnership with the City of Omaha from Swanson Park north along former railroad corridor and Gilmore Rd. to Brown Park in South Omaha.
+ Plan and implement trail connection from Swanson Park along power line corridor west to 36th Street, following 36th Street south.

## DESIGN

+ Improve lighting and visibility into parks, especially Faulkland Heights, Hastings Banner, and Swanson Park.
+ Empower neighborhood ownership of park programming, creating formal park partnerships with neighborhood associations and community organizations.

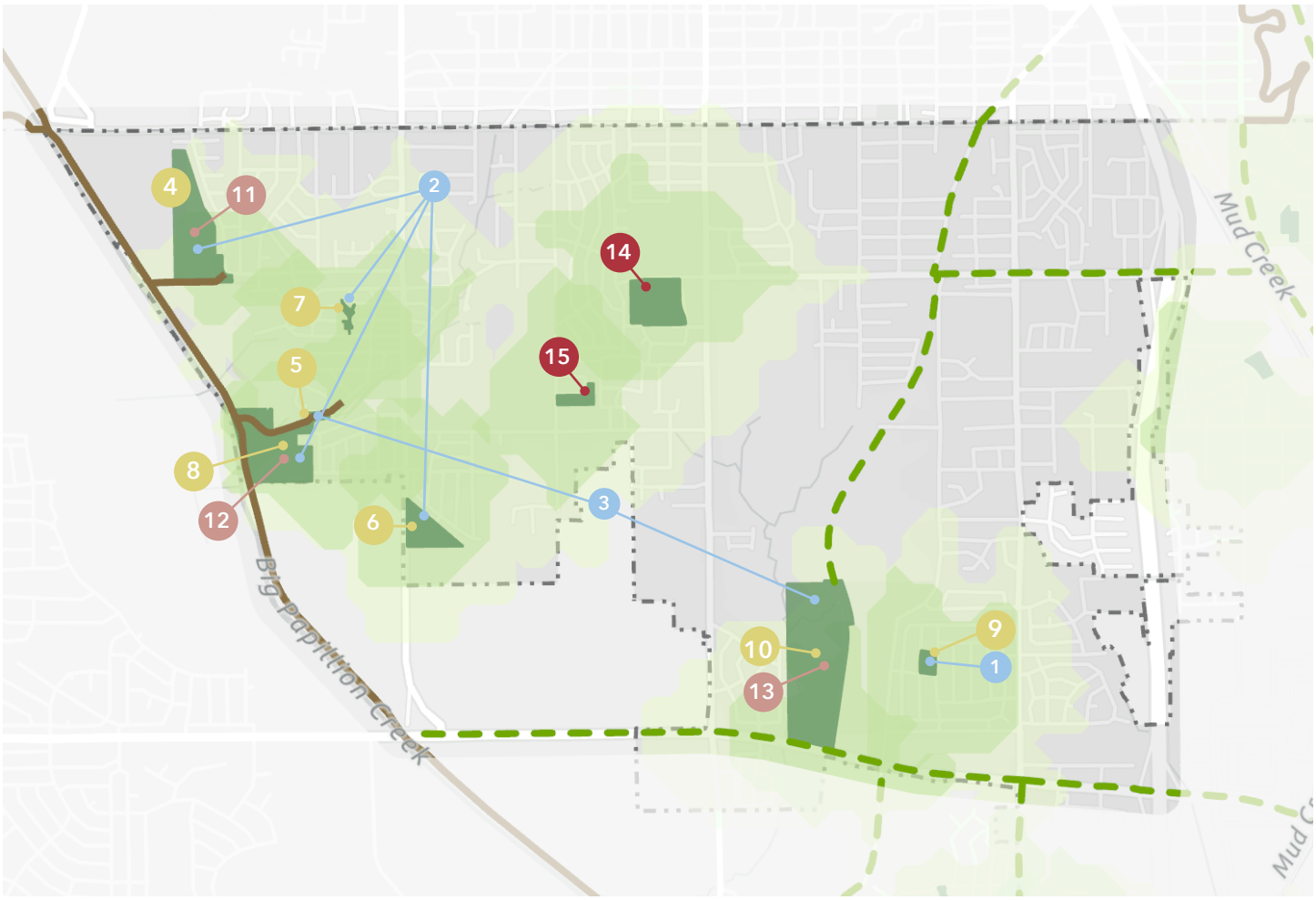
## SUSTAINABILITY

+ Partner with trail organization to mitigate erosion in Swanson Park.
+ Implement tall grass prairie on east side of Swanson Park (on former landfill site.)

## ACCESS & MOBILITY

+ Require trail connectivity in new developments north of Cornhusker Rd. between 36th Street and 48th Street connecting parks on the W. Papio Trail to Swanson Park & Cornhusker Rd.
+ Improve park signage at Faulkland Park to indicate vehicle access.
+ Improve park signage at all three Glenmorrie Park entrances.

# ZONE RECOMMENDATIONS




## MAP KEY

- Park Land
- Bellevue ETJ Boundary
- Future Trails
- 10-Minute Walk
- 15-Minute Walk
- Existing Trails

### MAINTENANCE

1. Level I - Sunrise III & IV
2. Level II - Aspen/Sun Valley, Faulkland Heights, Glenmorrie, Hastings Banner
3. Level III - Copper Creek, Swanson

### AMENITIES

4. Aspen/Sun Valley - Skate Park, Disc Golf, Natural Play, Picnic Areas & Shelters
5. Copper Creek - Playground
6. Faulkland Heights - Games
7. Glenmorrie - Loop Trail
8. Hastings Banner - Ballfields, Seating & Shade
9. Sunrise III & IV - seating, water station
10. Swanson - Native Grassland, Shelters

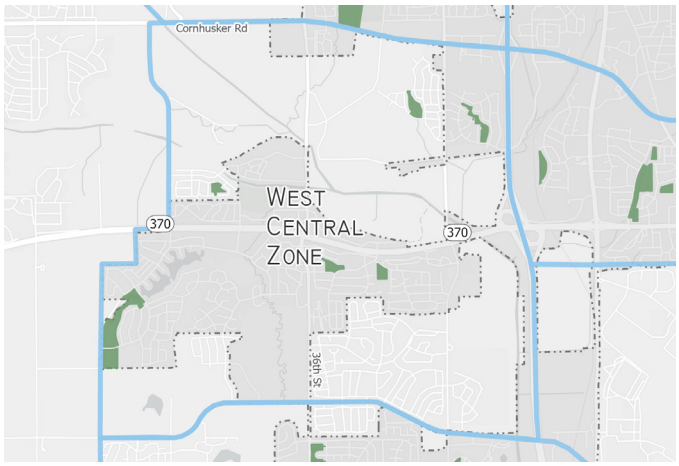
### PLAN/FUND/BUILD

11. Aspen/Sun Valley
12. Hastings Banner
13. Swanson

### DECOMMISSION

14. Gilder
15. Goldenrod

# WEST CENTRAL ZONE RECOMMENDATIONS




## OVERVIEW

Containing Offutt Air Force Base housing and located between two major east-to-west thoroughfares, the West Central Zone has potential for growth. It also has great potential to connect more Bellevue residents to vibrant, new park experiences.

## ZONE DEMOGRAPHICS

**15,564**
Population (2020)

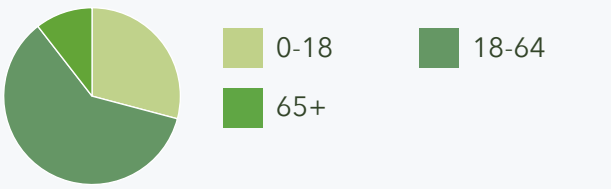
**$87,277**
Median Household Income

**5,966**
Households

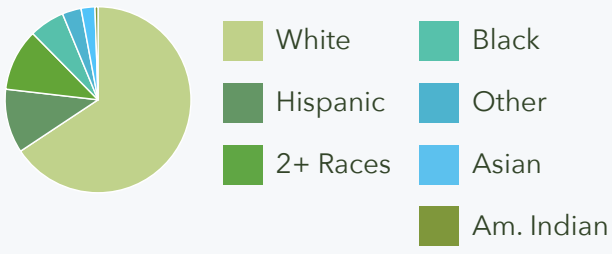
**2.59**
Avg. Size Household

**.83%**
Projected Population Growth Rate

Population by Age:




Population by Race:




## PLANNING

+ Complete Park Plan for Lakewood Villages Park as a community destination park to be part of a trail corridor stretching from the Marv Holubar Trail to Clearwater Falls Park.
+ Plan & Implement Daniell's Farm Recreation Area

## DESIGN

+ Add dog park amenity to Golden Hills Park

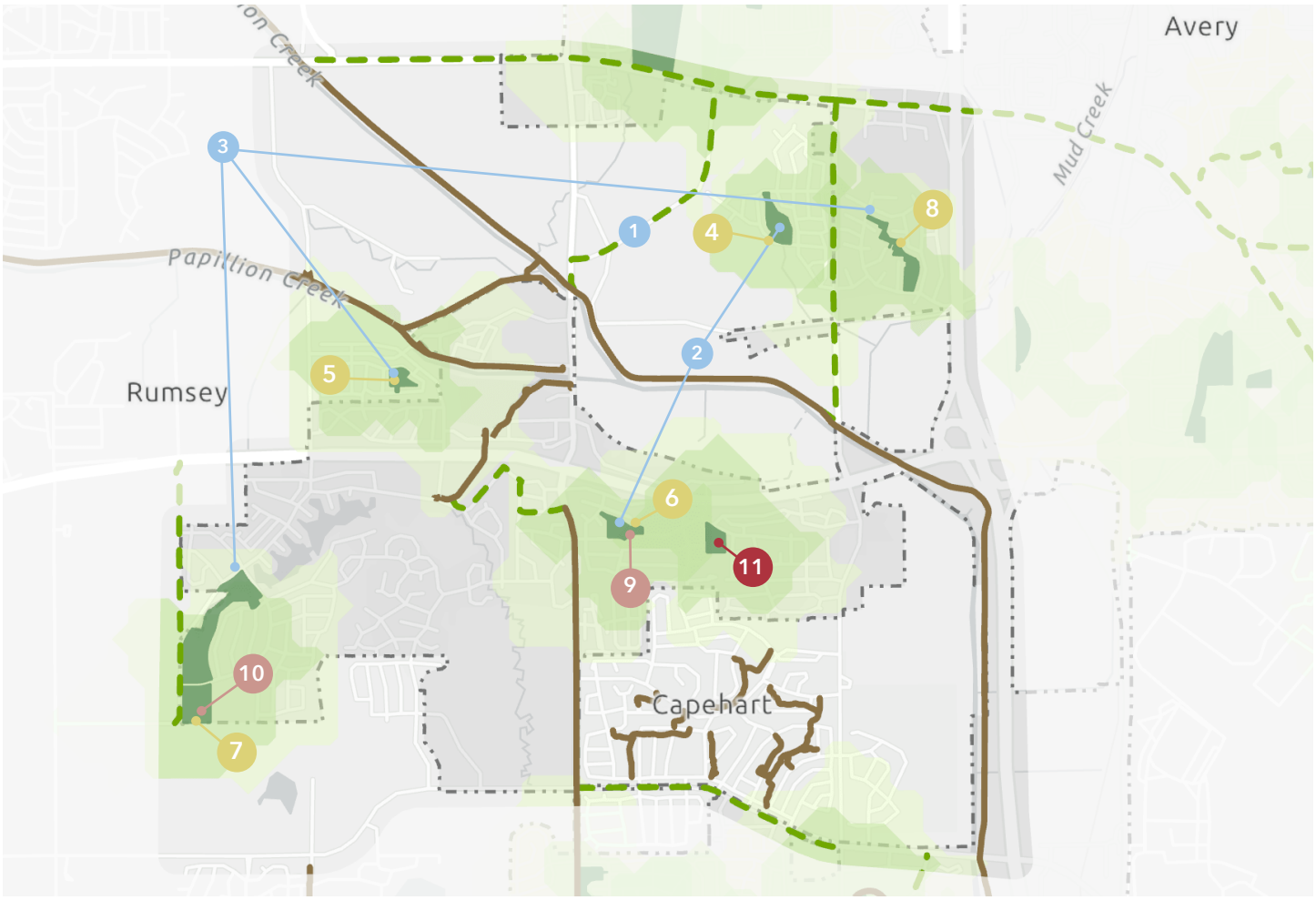
## SUSTAINABILITY

+ Implement green infrastructure strategies at Golden Hills Park
+ Design rain garden at Golden Hills Park

## ACCESS & MOBILITY

+ Study, plan, and complete 8-10 Ft. trail connector to complete bicycle access from Twin Creek Trailhead South to 36th Street Marv Holubar Trail termination.
+ Increase park and trail access from east to west from 25th to 36th south of Cornhusker
+ Ensure connection south of Lakewood Villages to new development
+ Connect Clearwater Falls to Lakewood to Golden Hills – Papio Trail at "The Culvers", coordinating with Lakewood Villages HOA to find a route acceptable to all.
+ Add signage for pedestrian access to Willow Spring Park throughout the subdivision

# ZONE RECOMMENDATIONS




## MAP KEY

- Park Land
- Bellevue ETJ Boundary
- Future Trails
- 10-Minute Walk
- 15-Minute Walk
- Existing Trails

## MAINTENANCE

1. Level I - Sidewalk & trail surfaces (all)
2. Level II - Brook, Golden Hills
3. Level III - Ashford Hollow, Lakewood Villages, Willow Springs

## AMENITIES

4. Ashford Hollow - Swings
5. Brook - Adventure Play, Water Overlook/Fishing Area
6. Golden Hills - Expanded Shelter & Grills, Dog Park, Full-Court Basketball
7. Lakewood Villages - Splash Pad
8. Willow Springs - Seating

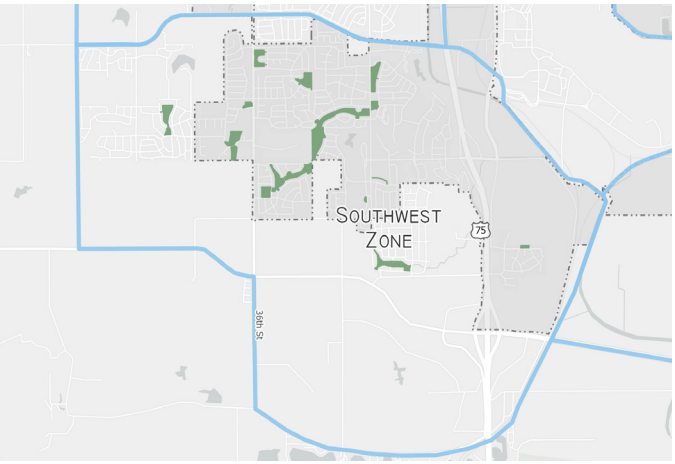
## PLAN/FUND/BUILD

9. Golden Hills
10. Lakewood Villages

## DECOMMISSION

11. Southern Oaks

# SOUTHWEST ZONE RECOMMENDATIONS




## OVERVIEW

The Southwest Zone contains mainly small neighborhood parks in subdivisions. Its growth, population, and organization mean trail-oriented park development and the creation of unique experiences will help Southwest Bellevue stand out from neighboring areas and park amenities.

## ZONE DEMOGRAPHICS

**17,617**
Population (2020)

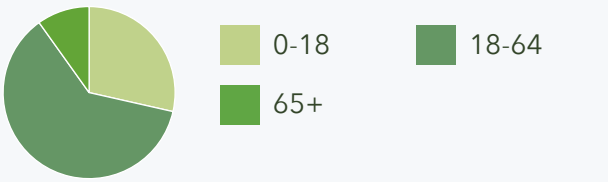
**$101,858**
Median Household Income

**6,314**
Households

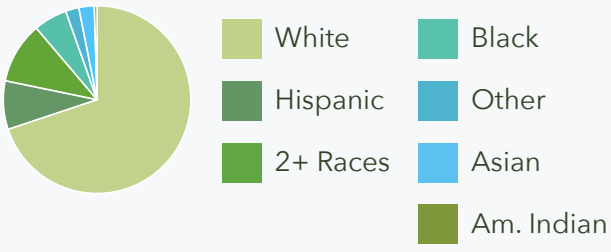
**2.79**
Avg. Size Household

**0.51%**
Projected Population Growth Rate

Population by Age:




Population by Race:




## PLANNING

+ Study, plan, and complete trail connections from Hyda Hills Park to Two Springs Park and the Daniell Trail connection.
+ Complete Park Layout Plan for Two Springs park as an adventure and natural play destination.
+ Merge Oakhurst Park & Blackhawk Park; Tregaron & Stonecroft to clarify wayfinding for users and streamline maintenance efforts

## DESIGN

+ Design highly visible entrance and exits to increase park safety
+ Design passive recreation areas that extend from Blackhawk Park to Two Springs

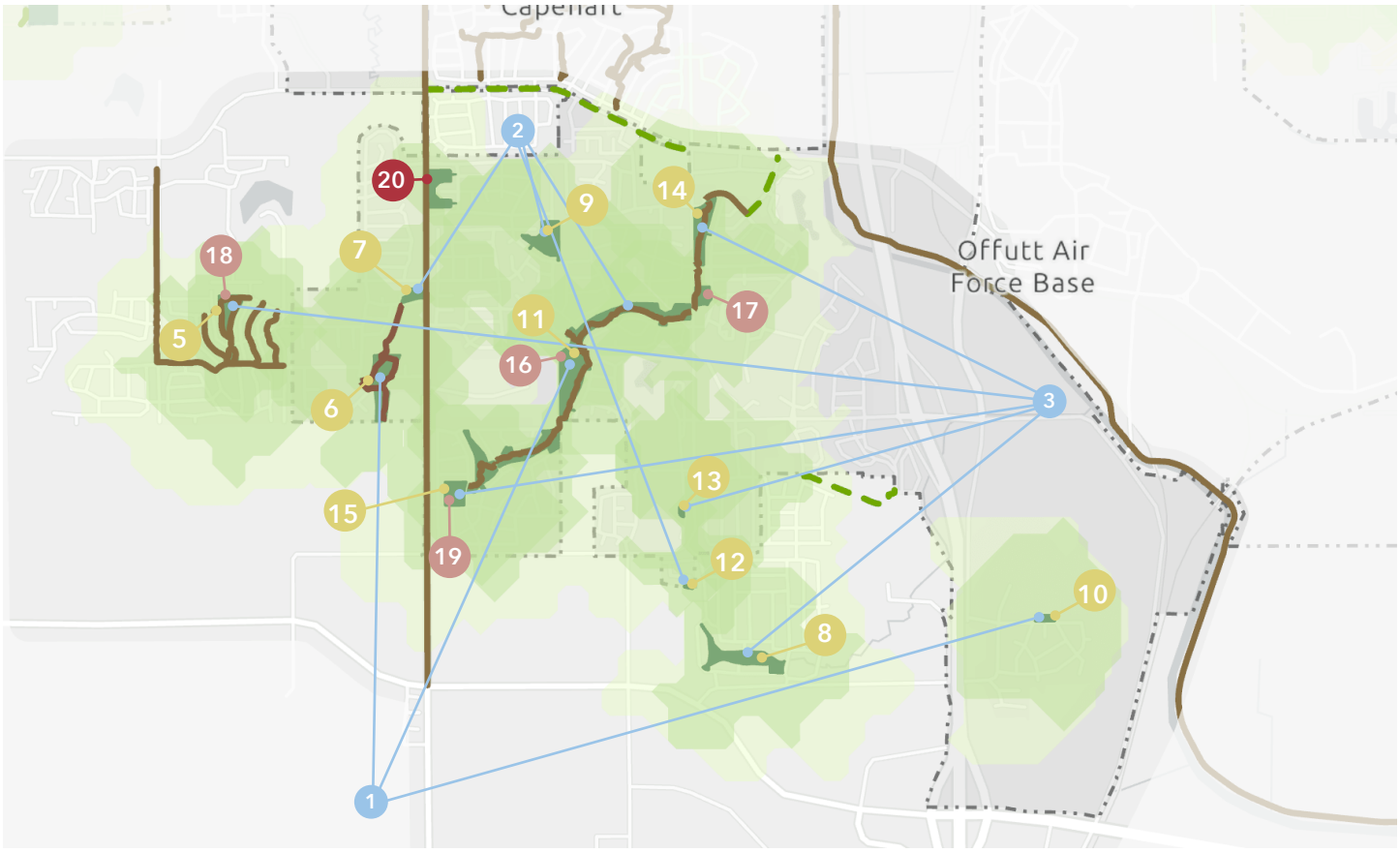
## SUSTAINABILITY

+ Increase tree canopy to improve air quality and cool down parks

## ACCESS & MOBILITY

+ Continue to expand on the 36th north and south trail implementation. 8 foot trail to connect the southwest zone neighborhoods and parks
+ Use Stonecroft Park as model for inclusive play design for parks throughout southwest Bellevue
+ Create wayfinding guide for Daniell Trail

# ZONE RECOMMENDATIONS




## MAP KEY

- Park Land
- Bellevue ETJ Boundary
- Future Trails
- 10-Minute Walk
- 15-Minute Walk
- Existing Trails

## MAINTENANCE

1. Level I - Fox Ridge, Normandy Hills, Oakhurst
2. Level II - Blackhawk, Heartland Hills, Lookingglass II, Orchard Valley
3. Level III - Clearwater Falls, Hyda Hills, Piper's Glen, Stonecroft, Two Springs

## AMENITIES

4. Blackhawk - Dog Waste & Water Stations
5. Clearwater Falls - Grills, Exercise Equipment
6. Fox Ridge - Native Grassland, Shade, Accessible Play
7. Heartland Hills - Natural Play, Water Station
8. Hyda Hills - Upgrade Soccer, Shelter
9. Lookingglass II - Shade & Gathering Spaces
10. Normandy Hills - Seating
11. Oakhurst - Natural Play
12. Orchard Valley - Shade & Seating
13. Piper's Glen - Bike Fix-It
14. Stonecroft - Restrooms
15. Two Springs - Dog Park, Climbing & Adventure Play

## PLAN/FUND/BUILD

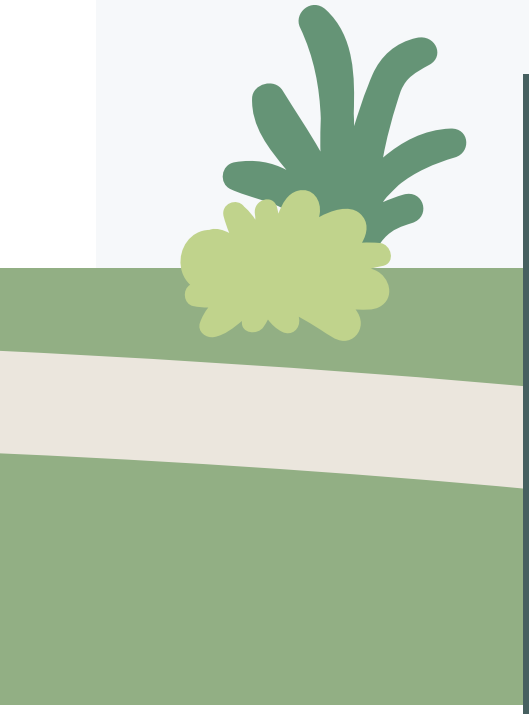
16. Oakhurst - Merge w/ Blackhawk
17. Tregaron - Merge w/ Stonecroft
18. Clearwater Falls - Implement Plan
19. Two Springs

## DECOMMISSION

20. Leawood Oaks II


HOW WE GET THERE

# HOW WE GET THERE



## IN THIS SECTION:

- PLAN / FUND / BUILD PROCESS
- PARK PROFILE PAGES
- BUDGET
- FUNDING SOURCES
- IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

# PLAN, FUND, BUILD

In public input for this master plan, the public indicated a desire for a "Signature Park" in each zone, providing a unique and memorable park experience that cannot be repeated elsewhere in the Bellevue Parks System – giving residents a feeling of ownership and pride in their zone's Signature Park while providing opportunity for residents across the city to travel and gather together outside of their daily sphere.

This method – Plan/Fund/Build – allows the City to systematically make significant and equitable improvements on a cyclical basis, providing support for funds-raising through planning and preliminary design.

### WHAT IS A PARK LAYOUT PLAN?

There's a difference between this document - a Parks Master Plan - and planning an individual park.

Planning a park design overhaul comprehensively improves a single park, engaging qualified design professionals to create a holistic, unified and unique park experience. It is focused on implementing an improved experience at an individual park.

## PLAN

In the Plan phase, the City conducts outreach, designs, and develops a site plan or layout for comprehensive park improvements at an identified park. This phase sets the stage for improvements, communicates upcoming updates to the community, and provides the City and partner organizations with the documentation necessary to pursue outside funding via grants and philanthropy. This phase can last from 8 – 18 months.

Cost — $25-$100K

## FUND

In the Fund phase, the City and partner organizations allocate the portion of the Parks and Recreation budget toward the project, in addition to soliciting funds from local partners and grants to fund the implementation of the park plan. This phase can last from 12 – 18 months.

Cost — Varies

## BUILD

In the Build phase, the City implements or contracts with a consultant to construct planned park improvements, communicating with the public frequently about the current status of the project and the expected schedule for completion. Impacted residents should be provided information on how their park needs can be met within a reasonable distance during construction. This phase can last from 8 – 18 months depending on the scale of improvements.

Cost — $15-500K

### Recommended Schedule – Signature Parks

The schedule for the Plan/Fund/Build cycle is based on input from the community regarding the parks with the most opportunity for improvement, the scale of improvements needed, and a desire for equity in improvements made across the city.

# PLAN, FUND, BUILD

**Recommended Schedule – Signature Parks (continued)**

Park Layout Plans go beyond improving the existing level of service, instead creating a completely new and sweeping change to the layout, landscape, amenities, and programming. Park areas eligible for this level of improvement are regional parks and large community parks for which improvements would cause the park to move to the regional status, and Park Corridors, or strings of parks located along trails which translate as one continuous park experience. Park Hubs, or Community Parks which draw wide use, may also have Park Layout Plans.

| SIGNATURE PARKS | *PLAN* | *FUND* | *BUILD* |
|---|---|---|---|
| American Heroes Park | (Already Planned) | 2023-2024 | 2025-2026 |
| Jewell Park | 2029-2030 | 2031-2032 | 2033-2034 |
| Swanson Park | 2023-2024 | 2025-2026 | 2026-2027 |
| Daniell Trail Corridor (Stonecroft to Two Springs) | 2027-2028 | 2029-2030 | 2031-2032 |
| Daniell's Farm Recreation Area | 2025-2026 | 2027-2028 | 2029-2030 |
| Bellevue Loop / "Keystone Greenway" Linear Parks | 2031-2032 | 2033-2034 | 2035-2036 |
| Bellevue Aquatic Center | (Already Planned) | 2023-2024 | 2025-2026 |

| COMMUNITY PARKS | *PLAN* | *FUND* | *BUILD* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Everett | 2025-2026 | 2027-2028 | 2029-2030 |
| Gemini | 2027-2028 | 2029-2030 | 2031-2032 |
| Washington | 2031-2032 | 2033-2034 | 2035-2036 |
| Aspen/SunValley | 2029-2030 | 2031-2032 | 2033-2034 |
| Hastings Banner | 2033-2034 | 2025-2026 | 2027-2028 |
| Golden Hills | 2025-2026 | 2027-2028 | 2029-2030 |
| Lakewood Villages | 2037-2038 | 2029-2030 | 2031-2032 |
| Two Springs | 2035-2036 | 2027-2028 | 2029-2030 |

# PARK PROFILES

### How to use the Park Profiles.

A dedicated page for each of Bellevue's existing parks, these pages showcase the current state of each park and its level of service to users.

Quick Actions on each page are tied to zone-level improvements (found in How We Get There) and to advancing each park toward its classification's design standards (found in Our Future.)

At a baseline level, the Park Profile pages allow for a common understanding of A.) which land owned and maintained by the City can officially be considered a park and B.) a standard for its size, boundaries, and defining characteristics. This information should be used to update current parks directories and information.

**The Park Utilization Score** is a composite measurement of the park's overall impact on the community, measuring the current function and form of its amenities; ratings from members of the public gathered during the Park Experience Survey; its current connectivity to continuous sidewalks, trails, safe crossings, and in-park surfaces; and its overall visibility to users through signage, wayfinding, and communications.

*Identity & Purpose*

Does the park have a strong and unique identity? Are the uses clear?

*Amenities & Design*

What is the quality of existing amenities? How did the public rate park experiences? What range of amenity types are available? How does the park measure against design standards?

*Connectivity & Accessibility*

Is the park connected to other parks and public spaces? Is there adequate parking? Are surfaces in good condition?

*Visibility*

Is the park's purpose well-communicated? Are there clear sight lines into the park?

## WHAT EACH PAGE INCLUDES

Each park profile page includes:

+ A current map of the park
+ A brief description, acreage, and zone
+ A badge indicating the park's classification
+ A list of amenities
+ Photos of the park grounds
+ The park's Utilization Score



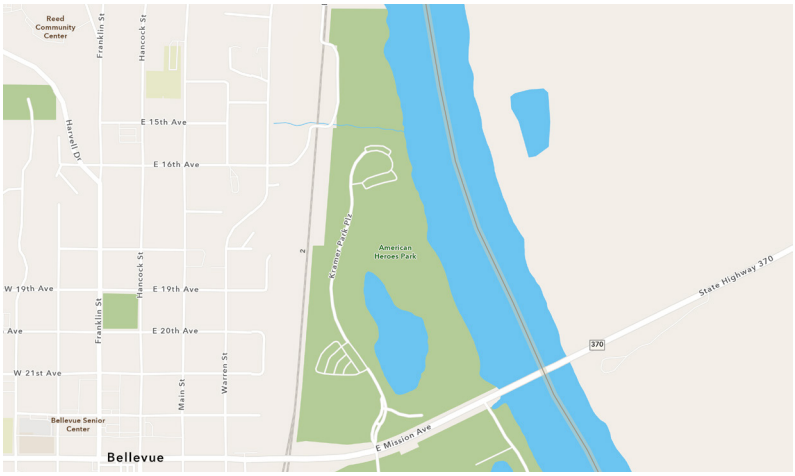
# PARK PROFILE

## AMERICAN HEROES PARK

American Heroes Park is a large riverfront park with a completed master plan, featuring a lake and dock for fishing, a loop trail, parking, and multi-use sports fields.

**Zone:** Olde Towne **Class:**

**Acres:** 115




### Amenities:

- Trail
- Open Space
- Pond
- Dock
- Multi-use sports fields





### Recommendations:

- Complete Level I + Level II Maintenance to existing amenities, especially restroom and trash receptacles.
- Add sand volleyball and adventure play facilities to American Heroes Park.
- Add flood-resistant native plantings and trees.
- Add shade, including structures & trees.
- Implement American Heroes Park Master Plan.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

American Heroes Park's strong and recognized identity can be solidified through implementing the park's Master Plan.




*Amenities & Design:*

Amenities are in good condition, with a wide range of use types. The park was rated highly by the public, with few serious complaints.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

There is adequate parking for vehicle access. Improved walking and biking access can be achieved through the completion of trails.




*Visibility:*

The park is frequently mentioned in City communications. It is widely recognized and highly visible. Wayfinding is adequate but should be improved (reference design standards, page __.)



# PARK PROFILE

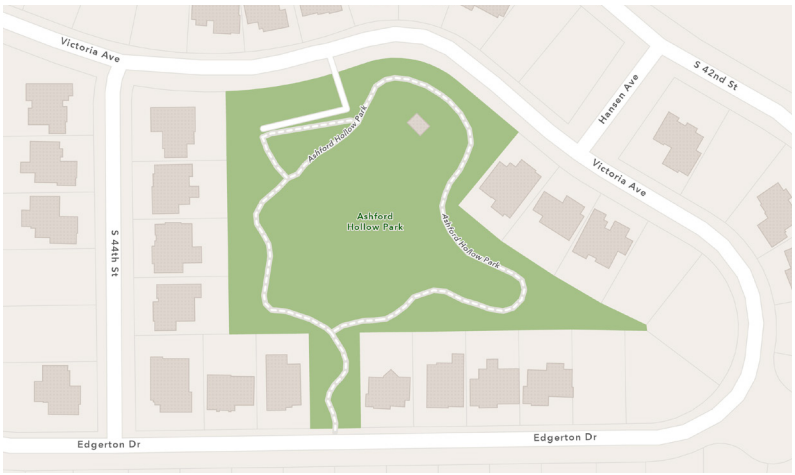
## ASHFORD HOLLOW PARK

Ashford Hollow is a small park with a playground, half-court basketball, loop trail, and parking behind houses in a Southwest Bellevue subdivision.

**Zone:** West Central

**Acres:** 3.1

**Class:**




### Amenities:

+ Playground
+ Walking Trail
+ Basketball Court
+ Shelter





### Recommendations:

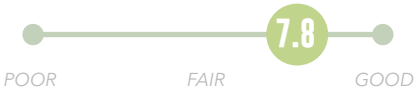
+ Complete Level III Maintenance items.
+ Add swings to playground.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE



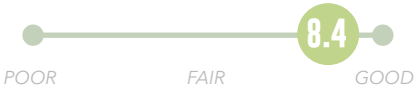

*Identity & Purpose:*

The purpose of Ashford Hollow is easily identifiable from Victoria Ave and Edgerton Dr with fairly unrestricted views. Park design integrates into the neighborhood.



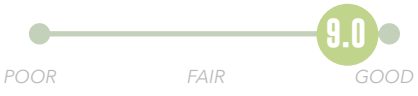

*Amenities & Design:*

Amenities are in good condition and meets ADA requirements. Shelter, basketball and playground meets needs of community.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Internal trail path provides access throughout the park and is connected t the Papio Trail.




*Visibility:*

Purpose of the park is expressed clearly. Sight lines provide a sense of safety with highly visible entrances.



# PARK PROFILE

## ASPEN/SUN VALLEY PARK

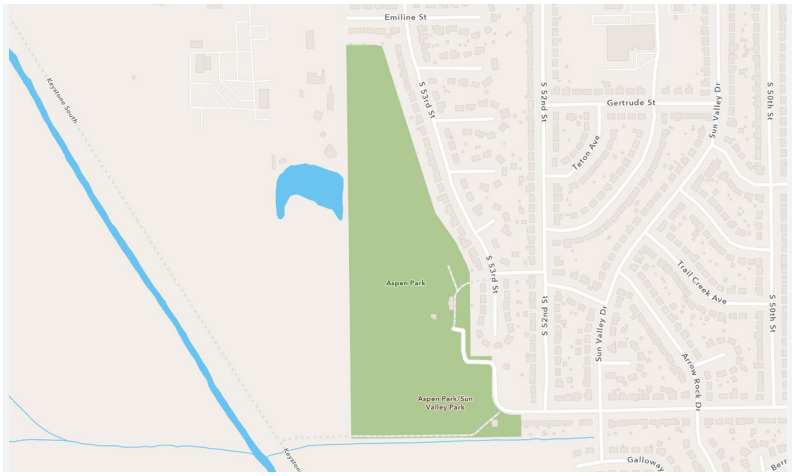
Aspen/Sun Valley is a large community park in Northwest Bellevue, With updates to amenities and connectivity, Aspen/Sun Valley could become a regional park.

**Zone:** Northwest

**Class:**

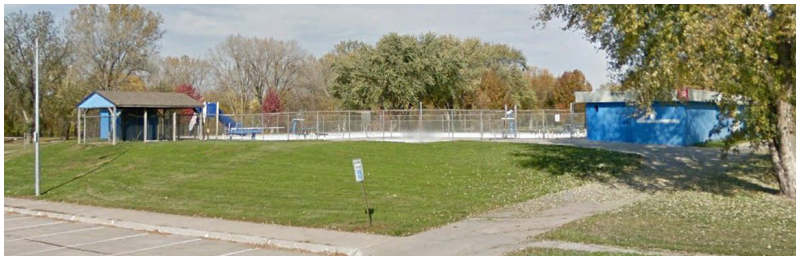


**Acres:** 30.7




### Amenities:

- Playground
- Picnic Area
- Trail
- Soccer Field
- Ballfields
- Pool (closed)
- Concessions
- Restrooms
- Sand Volleyball



### Recommendations:

- Complete Level I + Level II Maintenance.
- Review parking and traffic circulation for efficiency and safety, improve wayfinding and crossings.
- Implement CPTED standards.
- Renovate existing pool into skate park.
- Update Disc Golf amenity with new signage, equipment.
- Remove + replace existing play structure with accessible, natural play structure.
- Add picnic areas + shelters, dog waste receptacles
- Complete Park Layout Plan

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Park purpose is unclear and dependent upon how user approaches park.




*Amenities & Design:*

Some amenities in need of repair (pool, play structure.) Mix of amenities not in line with expressed need through community engagement.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park is connected to the Papio Trail but lacks access to the east with only one main entrance.




*Visibility:*

The north and western perimeter is treelined and restricts view from adjacent neighbors. Park entrances are unclear.



# PARK PROFILE

## BALDWIN FIELD

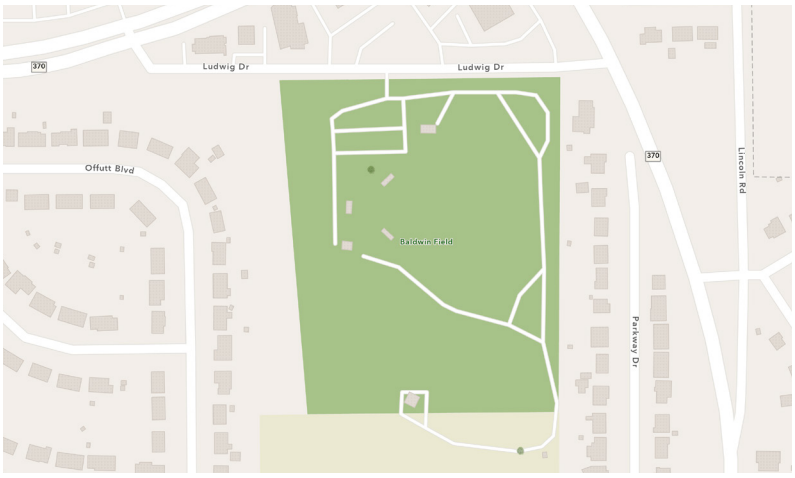
With three dirt-infield ball fields, Baldwin Field can support multiple games and tournaments, and is part of the fabric of the youth sports recreation program.

**Zone:** Olde Towne **Class:**

**Acres:** 11.1

### Amenities:

+ Ballfields








### Recommendations:

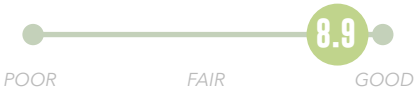
+ Improve surfaces for safety and accessibility.
+ Complete updates to concessions, bleachers.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

With ballfields visible from Ludwig Drive and Belleaire Elementary, park purpose is clear.




*Amenities & Design:*

Park equipment is in good to excellent condtion. Mix of amenities canbe improved to provide additonal uses while ball sports not in session.



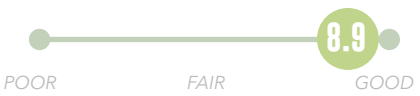

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Safety Officer Report shows paths need improved for ADA access. Condition of equipment throughout the park rates “good” to “excellent”.




*Visibility:*

The purpose of the park is clear to all users. Througout the park users are seen. Park is engaged regularly for ball sports.



# PARK PROFILE

## BLACKHAWK PARK

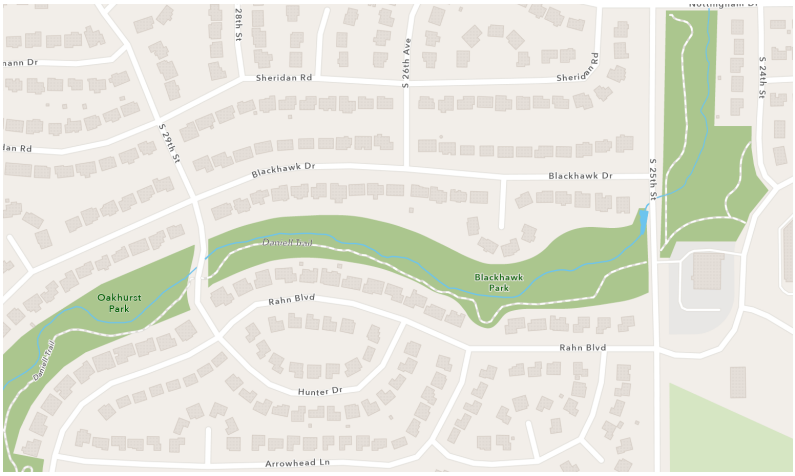
Maintained through a partnership with the Blackhawk HOA, Blackhawk park features a winding trail under dense tree canopy, a stream, benches, tables, and shelters.

**Zone:** Southwest

**Class:**



**Acres:** 23.7




### Amenities:

- Trail
- Shelter
- Stream
- Bridge
- Wooded Area






### Recommendations:

- Complete Level II Maintenance on creek, eliminating stagnant water.
- Improve wayfinding and safe crossings.
- Add dog waste receptacles and water stations.
- Merge with Oakhurst Park under Blackhawk HOA agreement.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE



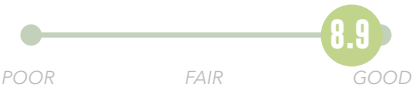

*Identity & Purpose:*

Park design fits the needs of the adjacent neighborhood. Blackhawk Park shelters and gathering spaces serve stated desires.



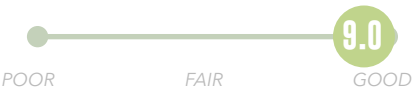

*Amenities & Design:*

Safety Officer Report shows no concerns. Park engagement is strong with active HOA. Park equipment assessment shows minor repairs needed. Overall in excellent condition.



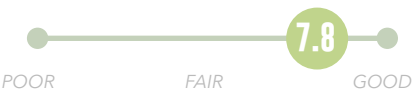

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park provides connectivity from Two Springs to Daniell Trail and Papio Creek Trail.




*Visibility:*

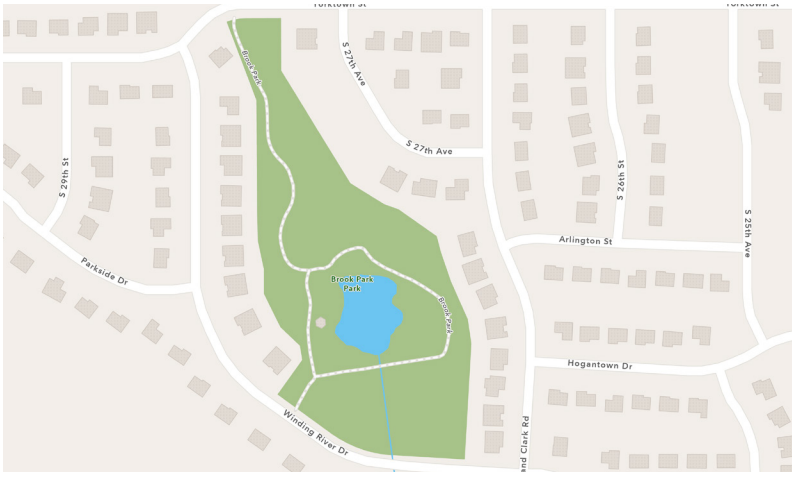
Blackhawk has several access points and clear signage at each entry point. Bend throughout park is gradual to provide sight lines that create sense of safety and purpose.



# PARK PROFILE

## BROOK PARK

A small park with a playground, shelter, loop trail, and stream-fed pond in a West Central Bellevue subdivision.




**Zone:** West Central

**Acres:** 6.8

**Class:**

### Amenities:

+ Playground
+ Shelter
+ Trail
+ Pond





### Recommendations:

+ Complete maintenance to sidewalks and trails for safety. Complete Level II maintenance on all amenities.
+ Add play amenities designed for a wider range of ages.
+ Improve opportunities for users at pond; create fishing area or water overlook.
+ Implement planting plan commissioned by SID.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Brook Park purpose and use fits with public survey data. The park provides a unique experience to the West Central zone.

*Amenities & Design:*

Park design is unique with pond, gazebo and new playground equipment. Existing conditions assessment shows park equipment in excellent condition.

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park paths are in excellent condition. WIth low volume residential streets and connected sidewlk network, park serves all adjacent neighborhoods.

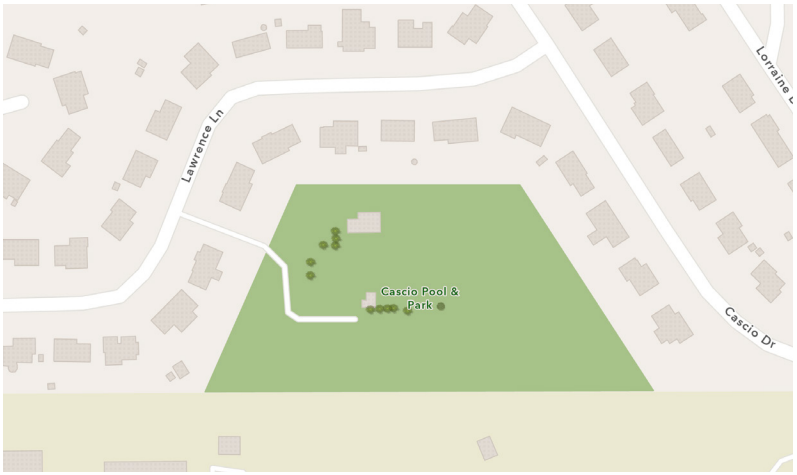
*Visibility:*

Park visibilty is low due to extended trail path from Yorktown and Winding River Dr.

# PARK PROFILE

## CASCIO POOL

Featuring a pool, trail connections, and parking, Cascio is one of Bellevue's few water experience opportunities.




**Zone:** Fontenelle **Class:**

**Acres:** 4

### Amenities:

+ Pool
+ Concessions
+ Restrooms

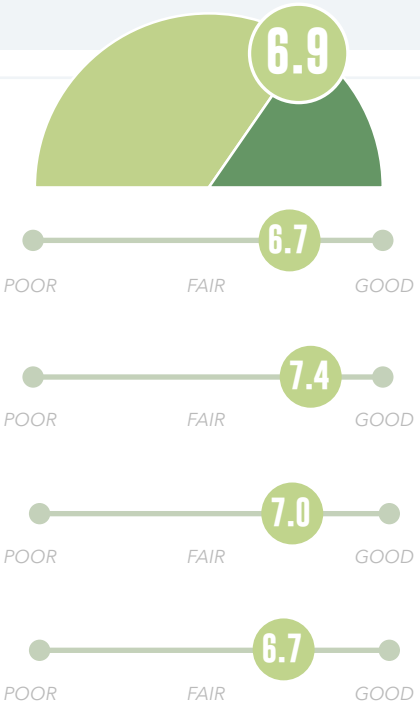




### Recommendations:

+ Complete Level II Maintenance on poolhouse & pool amenities.
+ Improve signage and wayfinding.
+ Add parking.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Cascio Pool's purpose is clearly communicated. Water access continues to be a priority, which Cascio provides.

*Amenities & Design:*

Cascio Pool offers vital and unique experiences for residents of Fontenelle zone and eastern Bellevue.

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Parking is adequate and in good condition. Trail paths allow for access from adjacent schools and neighborhood.

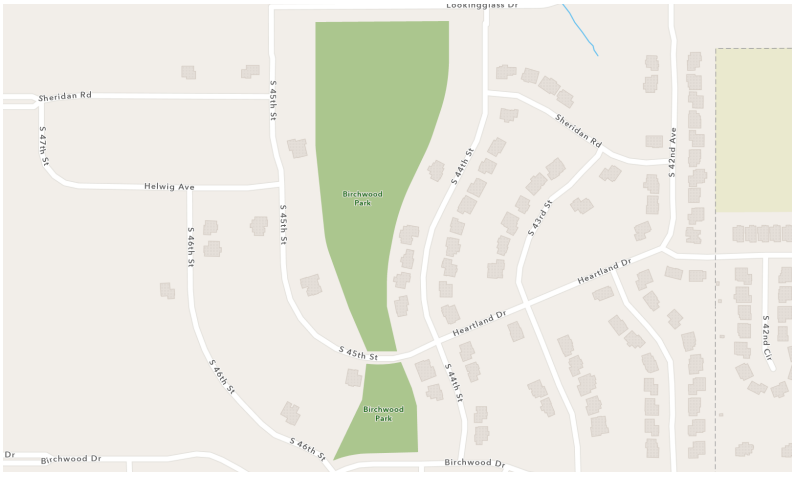
*Visibility:*

Some lighting is out which limits visibility and safety. Pool entrances provide a distinct experience.

# PARK PROFILE

## CLEARWATER FALLS PARK

A small park with a playground, shelter, and loop trail in a Southwest Bellevue subdivision.




**Zone:** Southwest

**Class:** N

**Acres:** 7.7

### Amenities:

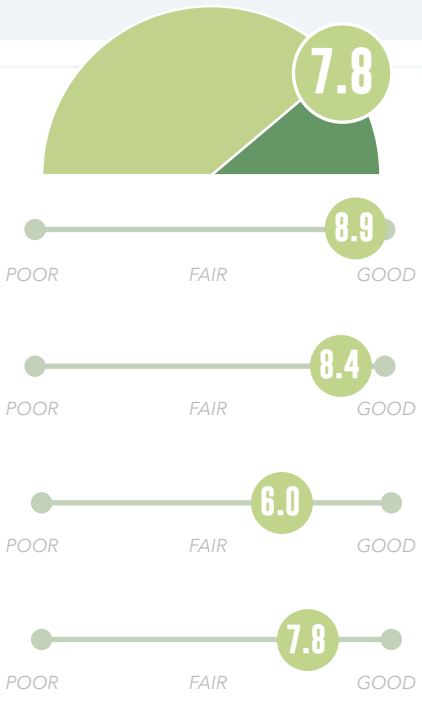
- Playground
- Shelter
- Walking Path



### Recommendations:

- Maintain amenities to a Level III Standard.
- Improve signage and crossings.
- Add food preparation stations and grills to existing shelter area.
- Add exercise equipment along trails.
- Implement Clearwater Falls Park Plan, including addition of pickleball courts.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

The design of park meets current and future needs of residents. The park purpose is easily identifiable.

*Amenities & Design:*

Existing conditions assessment shows amenities and playgrounds to be in good to excellent condition. Upcoming approved park improvements are consistent with park plan recommendations for the Southwest Zone.

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Clearwater Falls current and planned trail connections extend to future development to the north and southwest & Two Springs Park.

*Visibility:*

Park is easily discoverable. With flat topography, sight lines and entrances are clear.

# PARK PROFILE

## COLLEGE HEIGHTS N. FIELD

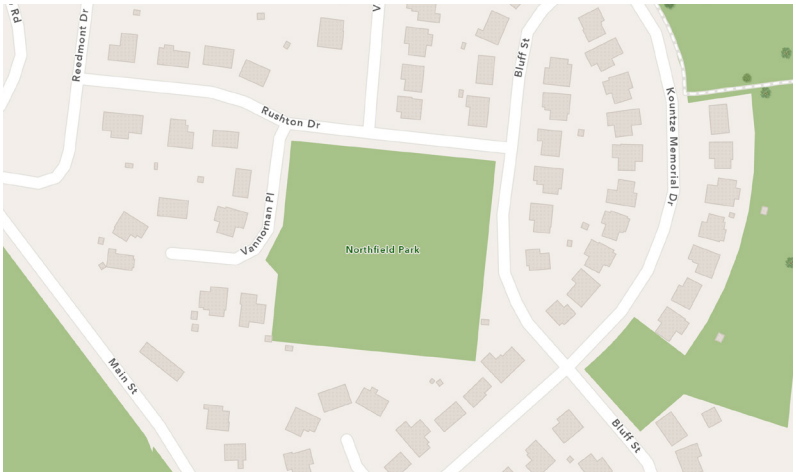
College Heights North Field has the potential to better serve the Fontanelle Zone with a change in use.

**Zone:** Fontenelle **Class:**

**Acres:** 2.8

### Amenities:

+ Ballfield






### Recommendations:

+ Decommission and re-zone to single-family residential for development.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Park has one purpose, ball fields. This purpose can be relocated to the future Haworth Park softball/baseball complex




*Amenities & Design:*

Backstop and bleachers in good condition, which can be repupurposed.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

North Field is is located within one block of College Heights Park. Its connectivity and accessibliilty is redundant to College Heights Park.




*Visibility:*

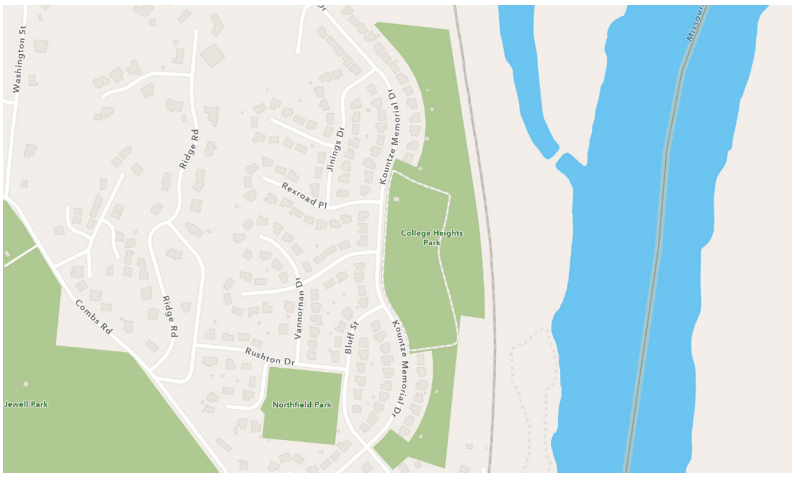
Park is visible only to surrounding neighbors. Size of 5 acres would provide space for 15-20 single family homes



# PARK PROFILE

## COLLEGE HEIGHTS PARK

Located between a residential street and a railroad line, College Heights' few amenities (a playground, shelter, half-court basketball, and a loop trail), large amount of unused and unimproved space, low connectivity, proximity to similar parks, and small service radius make it one of Bellevue's largest Neighborhood parks.








**Zone:** Fontenelle **Class:** N

**Acres:** 17

### Amenities:

- + Playground
- + Shelter
- + Open Space
- + Basketball

### Recommendations:

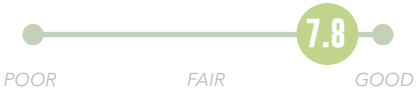
- + Complete Level II maintenance to all amenities and surfaces to bring park up to standard.
- + Add post-and-deck play structure.
- + Add pathways connecting park amenities.
- + Add improved signage.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Park has large percentage of open space that can be reprogrammed to align with survey results.




*Amenities & Design:*

Playground structure and climbing apparatus is in poor condition. Mix of amenities does not meet current needs of neighborhood.



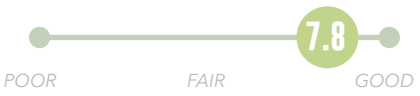

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

It serves the neigborhood it abuts but improper signage off Harvell Drive makes it hard to find for other residents of Bellevue.




*Visibility:*

Residential housing to the west of College Heights face the park, making for a sense of security. Regular traffic on Mary Mallory Dr.



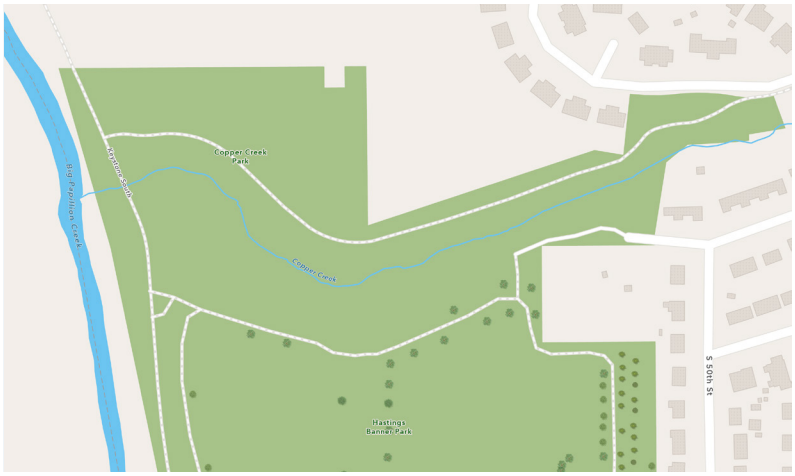
# PARK PROFILE

## COPPER CREEK PARK

With playground structures, sidewalks, and trails and a border of dense tree canopy, Copper Creek Park is a small subdivision park that is well-connected to the regional trail system and sidewalk access.

**Zone:** Northwest **Class:**

**Acres:** 2




### Amenities:

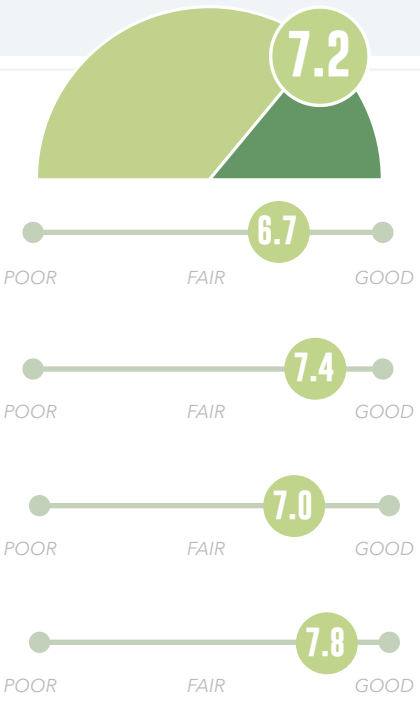
+ Playground
+ Walking Path




### Recommendations:

+ Complete Level II maintenance, specifically to broken play equipment, weeds, and surfaces Maintain surfaces to standard.
+ Complete Level III Maintenance to play structures and other park structures, specifically paint.
+ Add play amenities designed for a wider range of ages.
+ Improve signage.
+ Add water station.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

This small neighborhood park is well designed and clearly defined in its purpose.

*Amenities & Design:*

Trail and paths are ADA compliant. Surfaces are in fair condition. Playground structure paint is fading. Amenity mix serves children but not all ages.

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Integrates with sidewalk network. Keystone Trail connects into the park. Copper Creek prevents direct access to Hastings Banner Park.

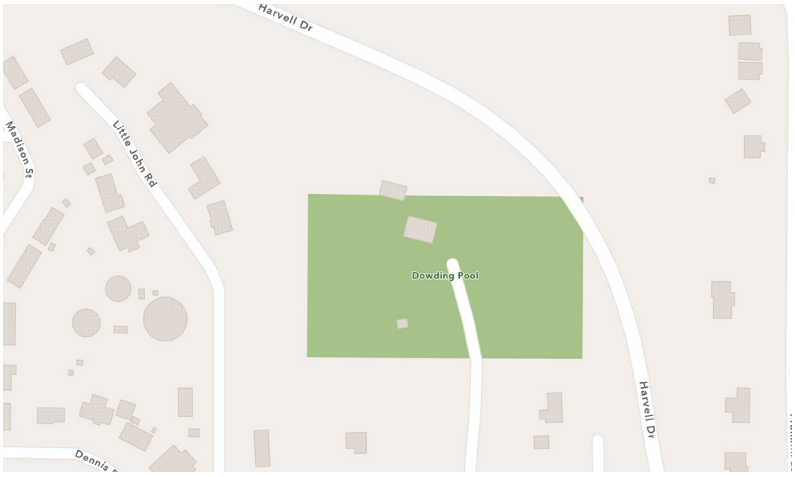
*Visibility:*

Highly visible to traffic on Copper Creek Road. Adjacent housing looks onto the park. Regular trail traffic faciliates engagement to provide safety for all users.

# PARK PROFILE

## DOWDING POOL

One of Bellevue's few water access opportunities, Dowding Pool features a pool, shelter, playground, and parking.




**Zone:** Olde Towne **Class:**



**Acres:** 3.8

### Amenities:

- Pool
- Concessions
- Restrooms
- Shelter
- Playground





### Recommendations:

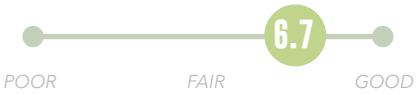
- Complete Level III Maintenance to structures, shelters, benches, and play amenities.
- Add a bike playground/pump track.
- Add shade structures.
- Improve signage so entrances and exits are clear from the street and sidewalks.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE



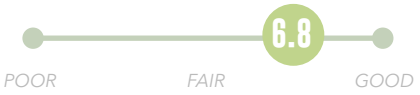

*Identity & Purpose:*

Dowding Pool purpose and use type is clear. Water access continues to be a priority, which Dowding provides.



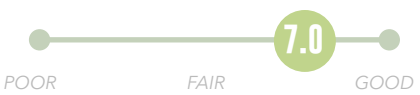

*Amenities & Design:*

Dowding Pool gives Olde Towne residents essential access to an aquatic experience. Childrens pool with zero depth entry gives all ages opportunity to use pool. Non pool amenities are in poor to fair condition.



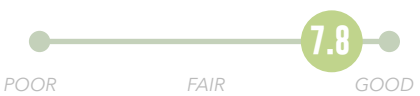

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Dowding Pool has few connections to other public spaces. One way in and out limits is accessibility.




*Visibility:*

Dowding is visible from S. Harvell Drive but access is restricted from most of the neighborhood.



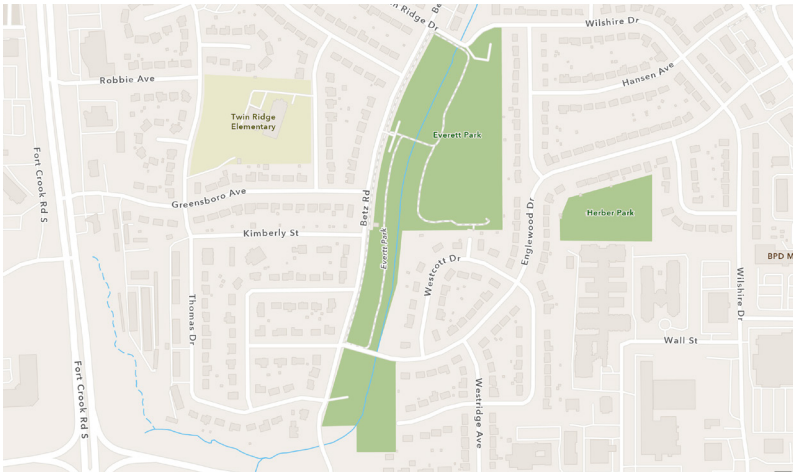
# PARK PROFILE

## EVERETT PARK

Situated around a drainage channel in Olde Towne Bellevue, Everett Park features a wide range of amenities and is well connected via sidewalks and a linear trail that runs the length of the park.

**Zone:** Olde Towne **Class:**

**Acres:** 17.1




### Amenities:

- Splash Pad
- Playground
- Shelter
- Ballfields
- Tennis Courts
- Walking Path
- Soccer Fields
- Restrooms

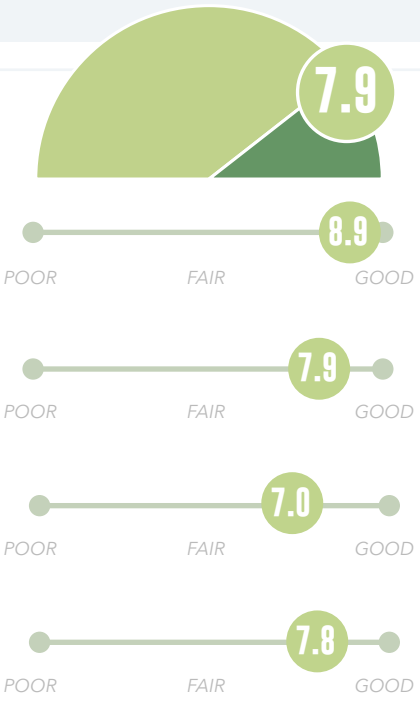




### Recommendations:

- Complete Level III Maintenance to picnic tables. Complete Level II&I maintenance to trash receptacles, shelters, weeds, sidewalks, and surfaces. Improve wood chip play surfaces to more accessible surfacing.
- Augment drainage channel with natural landscaping and native plantings.
- Add pickleball, basketball, shade structures, water stations
- Complete Park Layout Plan.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Park identity is easily understood. Its layout provides a unique experience with passive and active use mix.

*Amenities & Design:*

Linear design with amentity types for all ages and uses is consistent with its classification. Safety report and conditions assessment rate high.

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park is connected to neighborhood through trails, sidewalk network and transit. Park is near Bellevue University Handicap parking supports all users.

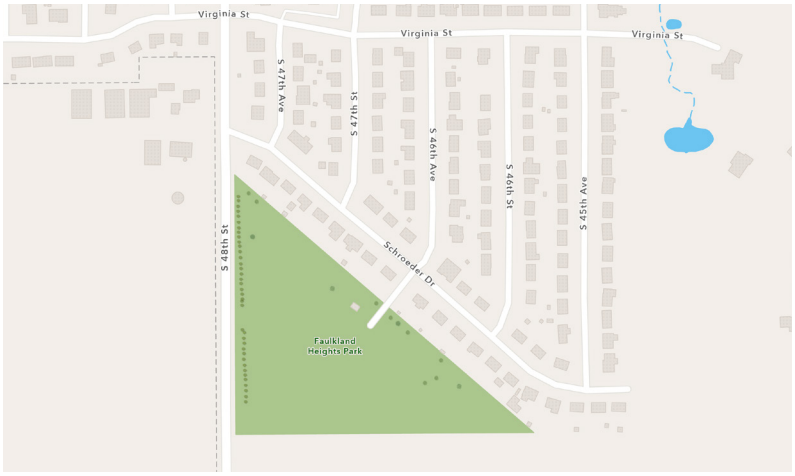
*Visibility:*

Everett is visibile from Harlan Drive, Betz Road and adjacent neighbors. Sight lines are adequate throughout the park.

# PARK PROFILE

## FAULKLAND HEIGHTS PARK

With a large grove of Eastern Cottonwood trees, Faulkand Park also features a loop trail, shelter, playground, and parking.




**Zone:** Northwest

**Class:**

**Acres:** 9.5

### Amenities:

- Playground
- Shelter
- Walking Trail
- Wooded Area



### Recommendations:

- Complete Level I maintenance on park surfaces for safety and access. Replace or complete Level II maintenance on shelter. Eliminate yellow jacket infestation at playground. Improve lighting and visibility throughout the park.
- Add a new park shelter and food preparation amenities (grills, water, etc.)
- Install gathering-oriented games, like horseshoes, bocce ball, etc. near gathering space.
- Improve park signage.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Mature trees and walking trails give the park a unique purpose for northwest Bellevue.




*Amenities & Design:*

Updated play equipment and shelter gives neighborhood access to amenities that are community priorities. Park experience surveys show that park is regularly used by all ages.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Faulkland is connected to adjacent neighborhood to the northeast. South 48th Street is a difficult crossing with speed of traffic.




*Visibility:*

Park signage is visible off South 48th without directional instruction to access the park. Park is closed off to surrounding neighbors and lacks lighting.



# PARK PROFILE

## FOX RIDGE PARK

Featuring a trail along a drainage channel and water retention pond, as well as a small shelter, Fox Ridge has potential to offer an improved experience.

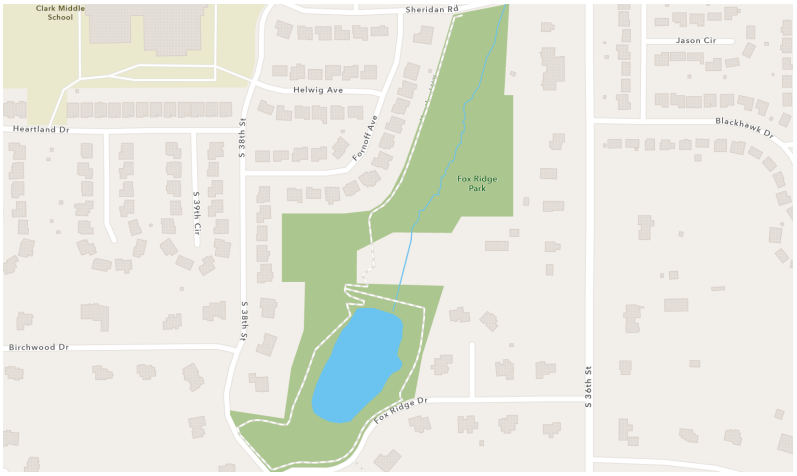
**Zone:** Southwest **Class:**




**Acres:** 10

### Amenities:

+ Trail
+ Shelter



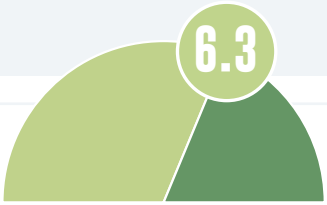





### Recommendations:

+ Level I maintenance to improve visibility from surrounding area on trail, clearing brush and adding lighting where necessary.
+ Implement natural grassland educational area with signage and natural play amenities
+ Add shade structures, play structures that are designed for inclusive access for all users
+ Plan trail connection to future developments.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Fox Ridge identity is not clear. With programming and added amenities park purpose can emerge.



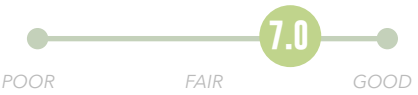

*Amenities & Design:*

Shelter and trails are in excellent condition. Park lacks amenities that can bring a diverse set of users to park. Currently used for light cardiovascular exercise and small gatherings.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Fox Ridge is well connected internally and can be accessed on trail to the north and east.




*Visibility:*

Visiblity is high with multiple entrances and its close proximity to adjancent single family homes. Lacks prominent signage.



# PARK PROFILE

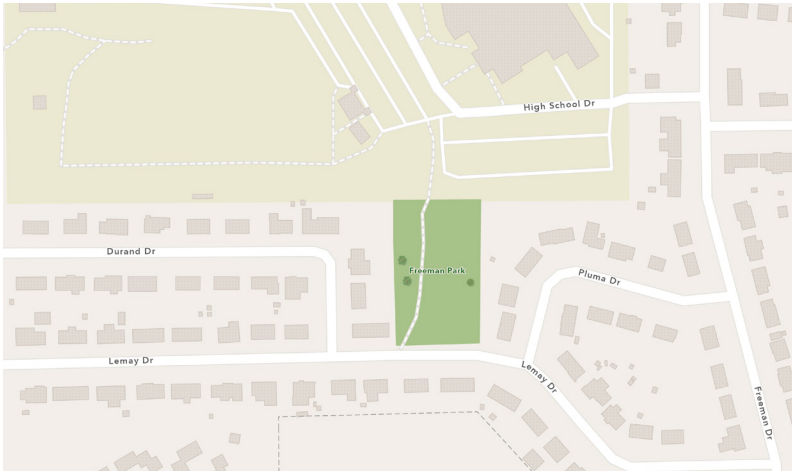
## FREEMAN PARK

A trail connection from Bellevue East to a neighborhood, Freeman Park includes no other amenities than a small section of trail.

**Zone:** Olde Towne

**Acres:** 1.4

**Class:**




### Amenities:

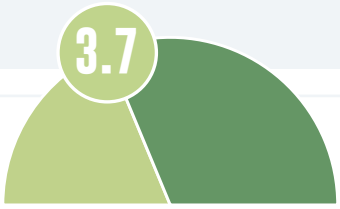
+ Walking Trail



### Recommendations:

+ Decommission Freeman Park for the school's use.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

This open field with walking path does not have an identify to the public as a park. It is better served as potential green space for Bellevue East.



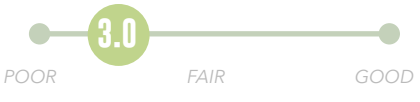

*Amenities & Design:*

Park lacks amenities. Park bench is in good condition.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park/open space sole purpose is to provide access to Bellevue East. Land ownership should be transferred to Bellevue Public Schools




*Visibility:*

Without signage or amenities, this park is not visibile.



# PARK PROFILE

## GEMINI PARK

With a playground, shelter, and historical features, Gemini Park is woven into Bellevue's community fabric.




**Zone:** Olde Towne

**Acres:** 3

**Class:**

### Amenities:

+ Playground
+ Picnic Area
+ Historical Center





### Recommendations:

+ Complete Level II maintenance on gravel surfaces, replacing for more accessible surface, and on trash cans, shelters, picnic tables, and other park amenities.
+ Identify community partner aligned with the spirit of the park to inhabit existing historical society building.
+ Complete Park Layout Plan.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Sarpy County Museum will move out in 3-5 years. Gemini Park still has a sense of purpose to provide educational opportunities for residents of Bellevue.




*Amenities & Design:*

Play equipment is dated but in good condition. Climbing structure is unique to the city.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Easily accessible to neighborhood. Sidewalk improvements are recommended throughout the perimeter of park.




*Visibility:*

Park views are obscured by mature trees and large structures throughout the park. Park is not easily identified by travelling vehicles.



# PARK PROFILE

## GILBERT PARK

Situated on a drainage channel in Olde Towne, Gilbert Park features a variety of play-based amenities and water access.




**Zone:** Olde Towne

**Acres:** 4

**Class:**

### Amenities:

- Playground
- Basketball
- Picnic Area
- Pool
- Concessions
- Restrooms





### Recommendations:

- Complete Level I maintenance to remove noxious weeds. Complete Level II maintenance to surfaces, replacing for more accessible surface material.
- Augment drainage channel with natural landscaping and native plantings.
- Add natural play equipment when exisitng play equipment is replaced.
- Add a dog park to Gilbert Park.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE



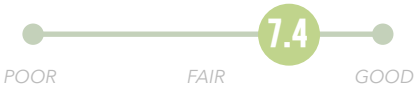

*Identity & Purpose:*

Gilbert Park design complements adjacent pool. Park identity is unique for Bellevue with its creek and bridge.




*Amenities & Design:*

Play structure is in good condition. Paths need updated to be ADA compliant according to Safety Report.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park is well connected to the neighborhood. Paths and trails need to be removed and replaced.




*Visibility:*

Park has entrances in multiple directions and surrounded by single family residential. Sight lines are slightly obscured due to topography.



# PARK PROFILE

## GILDER PARK

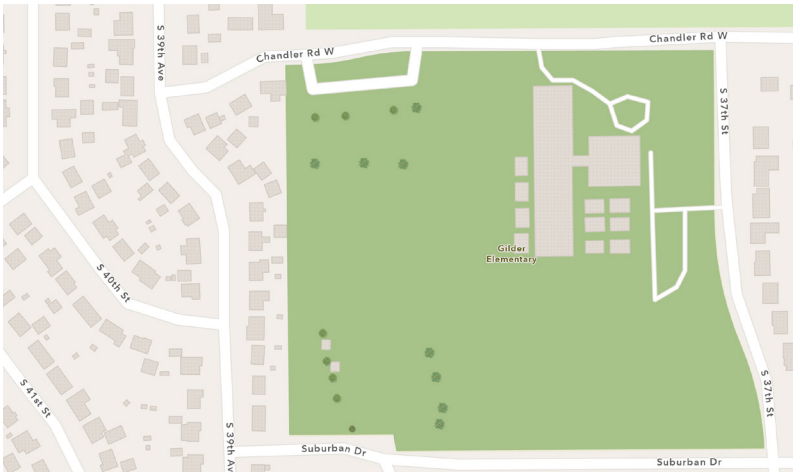
Gilder Park's disconnected and underutilized layout, proximity to other parks and public spaces, and small service area make it a prime candidate for alternate use.

**Zone:** Northwest **Class:**

**Acres:** 5.3

### Amenities:

+ Ballfields
+ Playground
+ Shelter








### Recommendations:

+ Decommission Gilder Park for the school's use.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Purpose and identity of park is redudant with its proximity to Gilder Elementary and their playground.




*Amenities & Design:*

Amenties are in good condition. Updated within last 10 years. Design of park would serve nearby residents and students at Gilder.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park maintains good connectivity to the adjacent neighbors, which trails or backyards that directly connect to park. Surrounding neighborhoods lack sidewalks. Safe Routes to School Planning is recommended.




*Visibility:*

Park has high visibility with regular activity at school, but lacks signage and to public appears to be connected to Gilder Elementary.



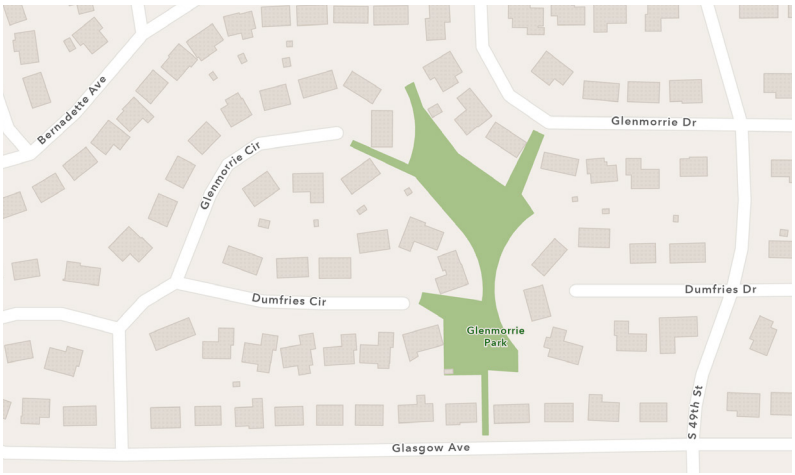
# PARK PROFILE

## GLENMORRIE PARK

Nestled in between houses in a Northwest Bellevue subdivision, Glenmorrie features play structures and shelters, but lacks any trails, sidewalks, or parking, despite a trail into the park.

**Zone:** Northwest **Class:**

**Acres:** 1




### Amenities:

+ Playground
+ Picnic Area

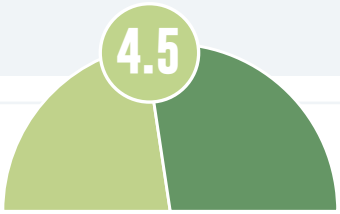




### Recommendations:

+ Complete Level II maintenance on park surfaces for safety and access. Add improved lighting and visibility into park
+ Add in-park loop trail/sidewalks to connect amenities to access points.
+ Add improved signage.
+ Add paths connecting play areas.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Park purpose and identity is clear for surrounding neighbors. The park purpose does not serve neighborhoods beyond the block.




*Amenities & Design:*

Condition of amenities are good. Surfaces need to be updated for accessibility needs.



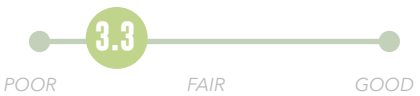

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park is not connected beyond the residences it backs up into. Lack of paved paths make navigating unclear.




*Visibility:*

Park has several entry points within the development but not visible from the street. Entrances are easy to miss as a user must walk between single family homes to access the park.



# PARK PROFILE

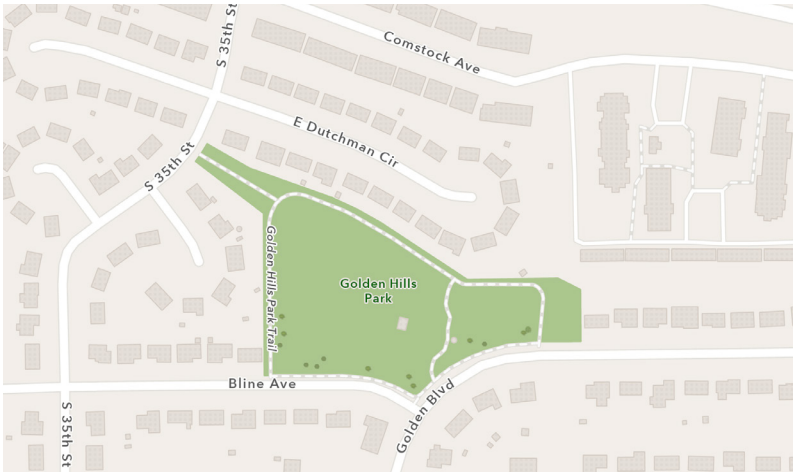
## GOLDEN HILLS PARK

Located south of Cornhusker Rd. in a mixed-use development, Golden Hills Park features a loop trail, playground, half-court basketball, picnic areas, and a shelter. Its improved grass open space has potential for additional amenities.

**Zone:** West Central

**Acres:** 4.7

**Class:**




### Amenities:

- Basketball
- Playground
- Picnic Area
- Shelter



### Recommendations:

- Complete Level II maintenance to amenities and surfaces. Add improved lighting and signage for safety and access. Improve waste receptacles.
- Add a dog park.
- Implement green infrastructure strategies, including a rain garden.
- Upgrade existing shelter, benches, and grills.
- Expand basketball court to a full size court.
- Complete Park Layout Plan.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Park uses are easily identified from the street and throughout the park. Golden Hills large green space gives users opportunity to determine their own use if desired.

*Amenities & Design:*

Amentiies at Golden Hills are mixed and meet the priorities from park plan. Equipment is in good condition and is not in need of repair.

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park access can be increased through wayfinding off of 36th street. Neighborhood sidewalk network is consistent leading to the park.

*Visibility:*

Large open space makes users feel sense throughout the park. Park lacks clear main entrance.

# PARK PROFILE

## GOLDENROD PARK

Spread out across three distinct areas surrounding the City of Bellevue Park Office, Goldenrod Park's boundaries and amenities are unclear and disconnected.

**Zone:** Northwest **Class:**

**Acres:** 3.8




### Amenities:

+ Playground
+ Tennis Courts
+ Picnic Area





### Recommendations:

+ Decommission Goldenrod Park for alternate City use.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Park is disjionted and bisected by Patricia Lane. Frequent heavy machinery due to Bellevue Park Maintenence garage makes park purpose unclear.




*Amenities & Design:*

Play structures are in fair to poor condition. Design of park layout is not cohesive with a mixture of uses that are not complementary.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park lacks visibility. Signage off of S. 42nd street does not provide directional wayfinding.




*Visibility:*

Park is not visibile to traffic on S. 42nd Street. A small group of adjacent home owners can view the park.



# PARK PROFILE

## HASTINGS BANNER PARK

Featuring a variety of play opportunities, a loop trail, shelter, and ball fields, Hastings Banner Park is accessible directly from the Big Papio trail.

**Zone:** Northwest

**Class:**



**Acres:** 22

### Amenities:

- Ballfields
- Playground
- Picnic Area
- Shelter
- Walking Trail
- Splash Pad
- Soccer Field
- Restrooms








### Recommendations:

- Improve lighting and wayfinding for safety and access.
- Add baseball/softball fields.
- Add seating and shade structures.
- In coordination with memorial tree plantings, improve lighting and ensure visibility in planting design.
- Complete Park Layout Plan. Implement tree planting plan.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

When approaching Hastings Banner from east, purpose is not clear. Public engagement shows that it can be utilized as a destination park for soccer and baseball/softball.

*Amenities & Design:*

Mix of amenities is low for a park of its classifcation. Design can be improved to make use of Papio Trail activity.

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Hastings Banner is accessible from the Big Papio Trail and surrounding neighborhood. Interal circulation and parking is a benefit to this park.

*Visibility:*

Park entrance and shelter off of Virginia Street has low visibility. Increased lighting is recommended.

# PARK PROFILE

## HAWORTH PARK

On the riverfront, Haworth Park is managed through a partnership with a private campground owner.




**Zone:** Olde Towne **Class:**

**Acres:** 153

### Amenities:

- Ballfields
- Basketball
- Tennis
- Soccer
- Playgrounds
- Picnic Area
- Shelters
- Walking Trail
- Concessions & Restrooms





### Recommendations:

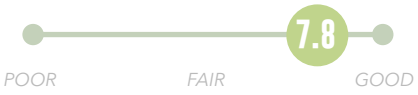
- Review and maintain relationship with private ownership of the park to ensure alignment with park system standards.
- Install bicycle fix-it station at trailhead for the Bellevue Loop Trail.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE



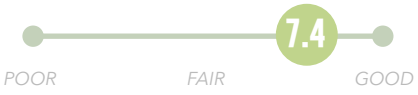

*Identity & Purpose:*

The public private partnership of Haworth gives it a distinct purpose which isn't offered anywhere else in Bellevue. Sporting fields give it a secondary purpose.




*Amenities & Design:*

Conditions assessment show major amenities to be in good condition. Park survey data indicates park is serving its users adequately.



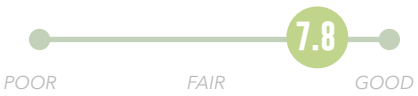

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Well-connected via Bellevue Loop trail. Access from Bellevue Bridge and American Heroes Park makes it a regional destination.




*Visibility:*

With city building and staff present, park feels safe througout. The ball fields and campers bring users to park to remain engaged.



# PARK PROFILE

## HEARTLAND HILLS PARK

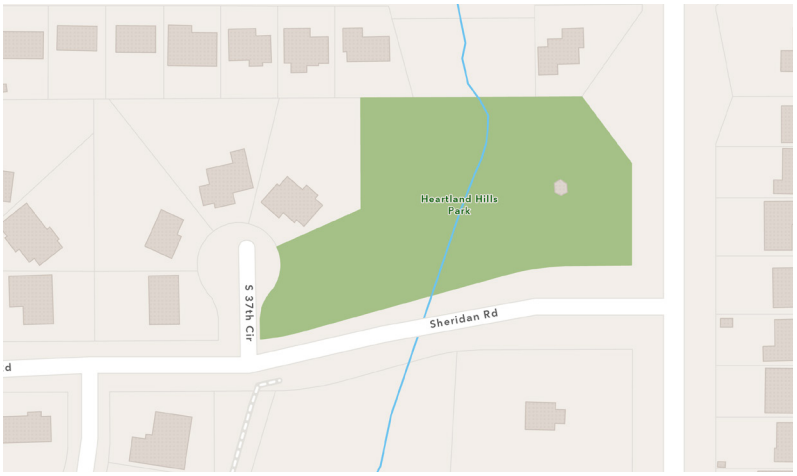
With much of the park covered in dense tree canopy surrounding a drainage channel, Heartland Hills Park's features include a small shelter, play structure, and a short path from a parking lot.

**Zone:** Southwest **Class:** N

**Acres:** 2.16

### Amenities:

+ Walking Trail
+ Playground
+ Shelter








### Recommendations:

+ Level II maintenance to add improved signage and wayfinding to increase safety and visibility.
+ Add water station.
+ Add natural play/educational signage in wooded area of park.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Heartland Hills gives a unique woodland experience for Bellevue.

*Amenities & Design:*

Park equipment is in good to excellent condtion. Adding small amenities to attract wider age range is recommended.

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park is connected with new trail on S. 36th street. Park offers sufficient parking for its size.

*Visibility:*

Heartland Hills is tucked away and doesn't have visible signage to bring visitors to it. Park lacks multiple entry and exit points.

# PARK PROFILE

## HEBER PARK

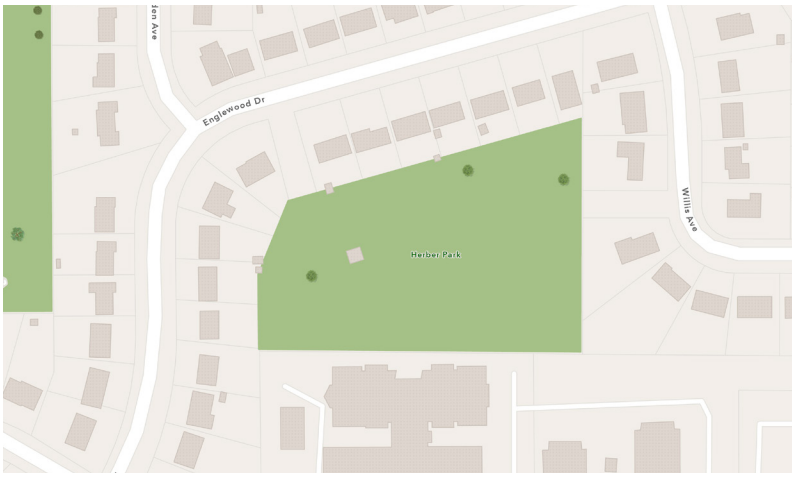
With no paths and few amenities, Heber Park's proximity to Everett Park and unbalanced programming make it redundant.

**Zone:** Olde Towne **Class:**

**Acres:** 2.9

### Amenities:

+ Playground
+ Picnic Area
+ Shelter








### Recommendations:

+ Decommission Heber Park and establish MOU for community garden with local organizations.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Park has little purpose to the surrounding neighbors. It can be repurposed to Hillcrest for use as a community garden, or a new site to implment plan that is currently for Mason Park.




*Amenities & Design:*

Park amenities are in fair condition. All park amentiies in Heber Park are offered at nearby Everett Park which is 200 feet to the west.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park offers one access point which is discrete and not identifieable to surrounding neighbors.




*Visibility:*

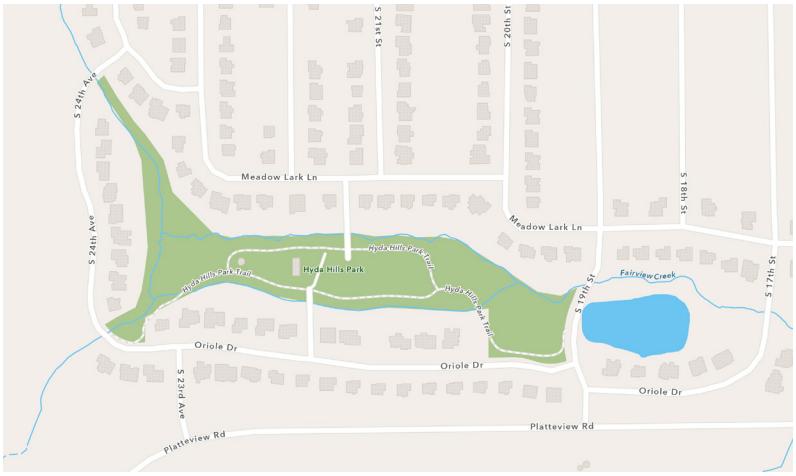
This park is not visible and difficult to locate. Would be better served by adjacent Hillcrest residents.



# PARK PROFILE

## HYDA HILLS PARK

Located in a drainage outlot, Hyda Hills Park features extensive loop trails, parking, play structures, shelters, and a lake.




**Zone:** Southwest

**Class:**




**Acres:** 9.3

### Amenities:

- Pond
- Walking Trail
- Playground
- Shelter
- Open Space

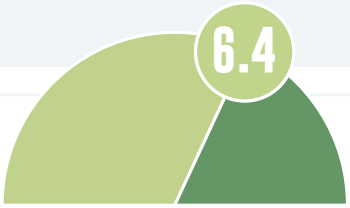




### Recommendations:

- Complete Level III maintenance on surfaces and amenities.
- Upgrade soccer facilities.
- Add signage on Meadowlark Lane.
- Install shelter on east side of park.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Park design is unique to southwest Bellevue and offers a diverse mix of purposes given its small size.




*Amenities & Design:*

Mix of amenities exceeds its classifciation standards. Existing conditions are good.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park is easily navigable within itself. With development to the south, connection to new neighborhoods is essential.




*Visibility:*

Its location fronts two surrounding single famlily housing developments. It isn't visible without intentionally desiring to visit the park.



# PARK PROFILE

## JEWELL PARK

One of Bellevue's large parks, Jewell Park's unique topography, tree canopy, and location give it potential to become a Regional Park with strategic updates.

**Zone:** Fontenelle

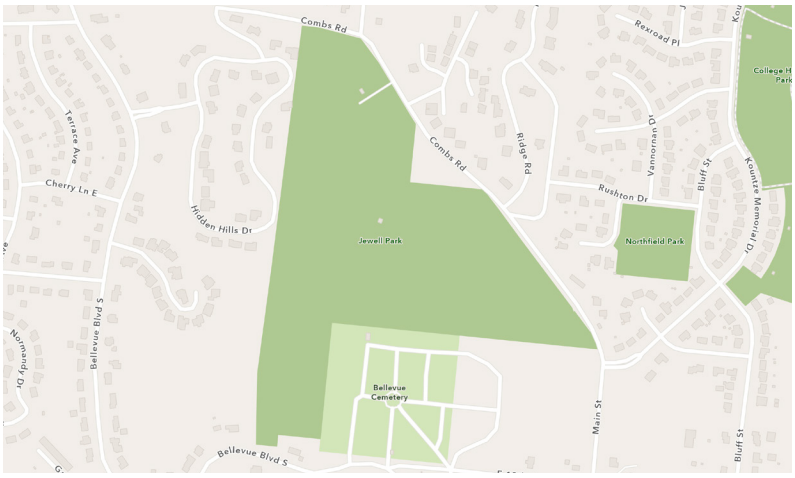
**Class:**



**Acres:** 65

### Amenities:

- Basketball
- Picnic Area
- Walking Path
- Dog Park








### Recommendations:

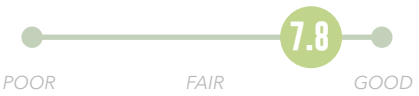
- Complete Level II maintenance on surfaces. Improve stormwater management and drainage. Eliminate water pooling at dog park. Improve lighting and visibility for safety and access. Mitigate erosion/drainage.
- Partner with mountain biking organization to mitigate trail erosion and promote trails.
- Complete Park Layout Plan.
- Implement and augment natural areas, like forests, native grasslands, and trails.
- Add bouldering/climbing structure.
- Add improved dog park facilities to make Jewell Park a destination dog park. Add water & bathing stations, waste receptacles, shade structures.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Jewell is a unique experience in Bellevue and the region. Its purpose as an adventure park makes it distinct.




*Amenities & Design:*

Dog park and hiking/biking trails are popular but in poor condition. Basketball hoop is not consistent with rest of park uses.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Jewell Park is difficult to access from Harvell Drive but does have good access to Olde Towne.




*Visibility:*

Parking near dog park provides good visibility. Hiking and biking trails are secluded and lack lighting or safety features.



# PARK PROFILE

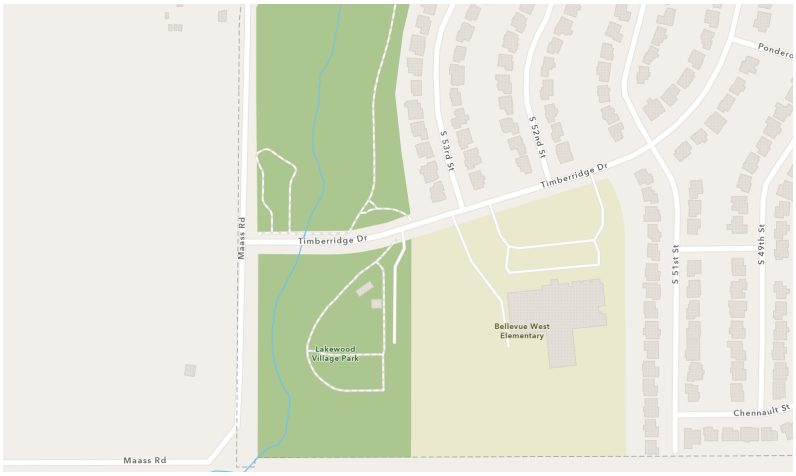
## LAKEWOOD VILLAGES PARK

At the edge of a subdivision, Lakewood Villages park features a heavy emphasis on play near the south end of the park, while the north end features trails, wooded areas, and shelters for a quieter park experience.

**Zone:** West Central

**Acres:** 27

**Class:**




### Amenities:

- Wooded Area
- Pond
- Shelter
- Restrooms
- Tennis Courts
- Basketball
- Playground

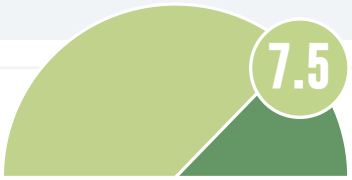




### Recommendations:

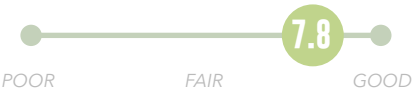
- Complete Level III maintenenace on play amenities. Add improved in-park wayfinding.
- Add in-park trail loop/sidewalks to connect amenities to access points.
- As growth occurs to the south of Lakewood Villages Park, consider adding water amenity (splash pad)
- Plan Lakewood Villages Park as part of a trail corridor stretching from the Marv Holubar Trail to Clearwater Falls Park.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE



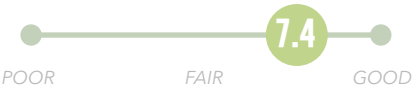

*Identity & Purpose:*

Design has been well managed by SID. The park is unique in the West Central zone.



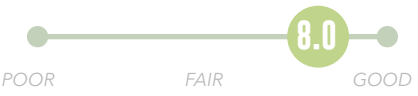

*Amenities & Design:*

Active and passive uses througout the park give it a diverse set of experiences. Safety report and condition assessmen show no concern. Future improvements should be facilitated with the HOA.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park is easily accessible from Maas Road and has new 8 foot trail that connects to surrounding neighborhoods.




*Visibility:*

Northern portion of park is visible from surrounding housing. South portion is limited due to topography and lack of other uses.



# PARK PROFILE

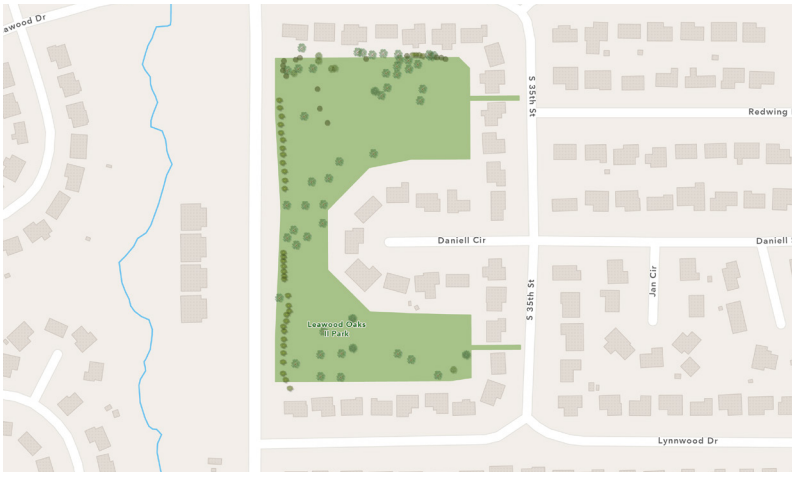
## LEAWOOD OAKS II PARK

Accessible only by walking between residential properties, Leawood Oaks II Park is an open green space behind a subdivision cul-de-sac.

**Zone:** Southwest

**Class:** N

**Acres:** 5.3








### Amenities:

+ Open Space

### Recommendations:

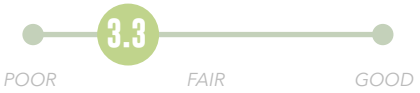
+ Decommission Leawood Oaks II for sale to adjoining property owners.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE



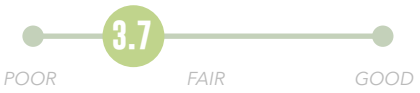

*Identity & Purpose:*

This area lacks purpose. It appears to be a vacant lot.



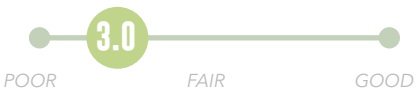

*Amenities & Design:*

Leawood Oaks does not provide any amenities.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park is inaccessible and looks to be part of adjacent land owners property.




*Visibility:*

Visiblity is obscured from S. 36th Street. No observable signage.



# PARK PROFILE

## LOOKINGGLASS II PARK

With newly completed amenities including a splashpad and restrooms with parking, Lookingglass II is a successful Community Park in Southwest Bellevue.

**Zone:** Southwest

**Class:**



**Acres:** 7

### Amenities:

+ Splash Pad
+ Walking Path








### Recommendations:

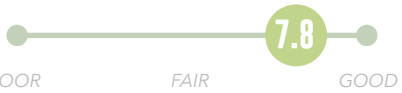
+ Complete Level II maintenance to trash receptacles, surfaces.
+ Add shade structures and gathering spaces throughout the south side of park.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Park has clear sense of purpose and provides water access to most of southwest Bellevue.




*Amenities & Design:*

Splash pad, trails, and restrooms are in excellent condition and serve the neighborhood needs.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Splash pad is an attraction beyond the surrounding neighborhood. Trail access in this section of Bellevue connects Lookingglass to Stonecroft.




*Visibility:*

Surrounded by school and residences provide Lookinglass with visibility at main points of entrance. Low points at southern end of park does obstruct views.



# PARK PROFILE

## MASON PARK

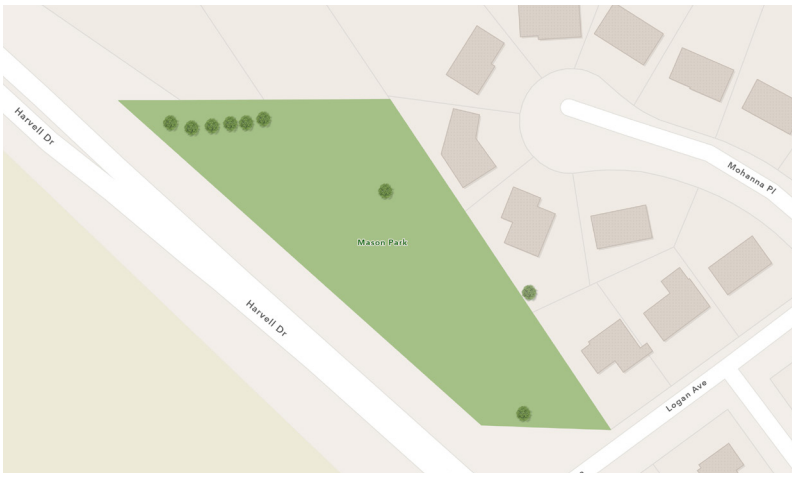
A small piece of open land on a steep incline along a heavily-used roadway, Mason Park has little potential to become a functional Neighborhood Park.

**Zone:** Fontenelle **Class:**

**Acres:** 1.4

### Amenities:

+ None








### Recommendations:

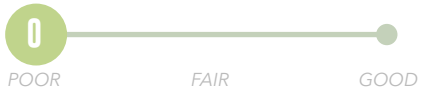
+ Decommission.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE



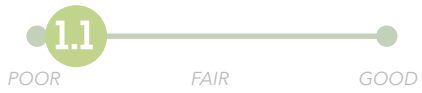

*Identity & Purpose:*

Mason Park does not serve a purpose to the residents of Bellevue that is consistent with the Parks Master Plan.




*Amenities & Design:*

Previous community members have created a plan and design for Mason Park. These designs could be relocated to Heber Park.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park is not connected to neighborhood. Its location and slope limit any future enhancements for accessibiity.




*Visibility:*

Mason Park is not visible to traffic off of Harvell Drive. It is easy to miss and appears to be property belonging to adjacent land owners.



# PARK PROFILE

## MCCANN PARK

With two ball fields, tennis courts, a small play area, and plenty of parking, McCann Park's purpose as a play experience can be augmented.

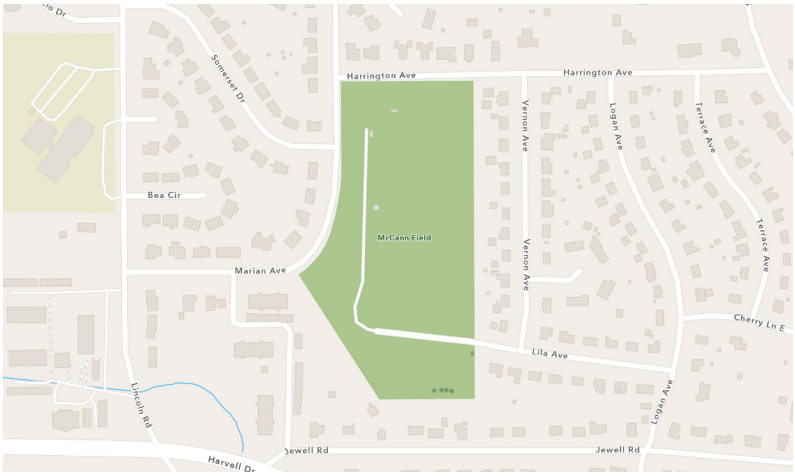
**Zone:** Fontenelle **Class:**



**Acres:** 12.3

### Amenities:

+ Ballfields
+ Basketball
+ Playground
+ Tennis Courts








### Recommendations:

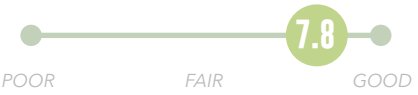
+ Complete Level I + Level II Maintenance to bring amenities, surfaces, and connections up to an acceptable level of service.
+ Improve parking lot and walkway surfaces for safety and aesthetic concerns.
+ Add updated shade structures over ball field seating. Install structures for tickets and concessions.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

McCann Park has several distinct attractions which make it a sustainable park for a variety of purposes.




*Amenities & Design:*

Range of athletic experiences from programmed to unprogrammed. Park assessment shows surfaces to be in good condition.



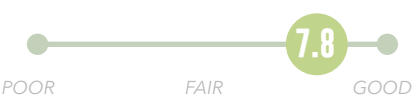

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park access is limited to neighborhood streets. Pavement surfaces uneven throughout Lila Avenue.




*Visibility:*

Uses can be observed from all portions of park and provides sense of safety. With wide range of athletic experiences, park is regularly engaged.



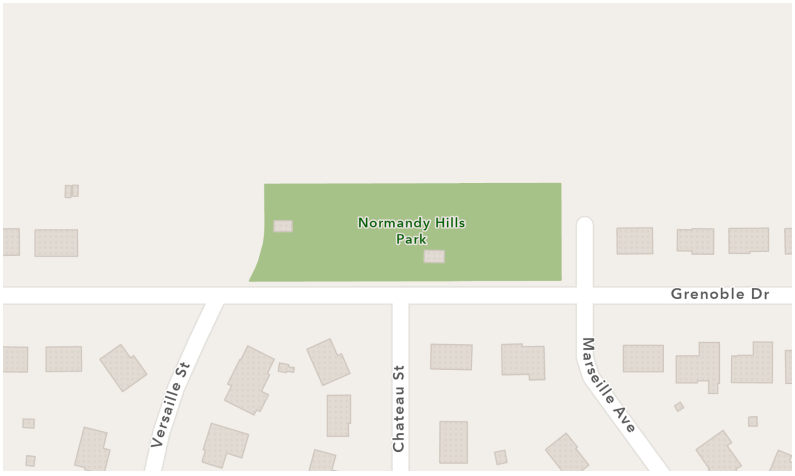
# PARK PROFILE

## NORMANDY HILLS PARK

Situated in several outlots in a southern Bellevue subdivision, Normandy Hills park's land has been leveraged into several play experiences.

**Zone:** Southwest **Class:**

**Acres:** 1.1




### Amenities:

+ Basketball
+ Playground
+ Shelter
+ Tennis Court



### Recommendations:

+ Complete Level I maintenance to fix damaged/aging play amenities. Improve lighting, pathways, and signage to improve park safety and visibility.
+ Upgrade inacessible play and walking surfaces, bicycle storage amenity.
+ Add benches and tables for seating.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Normandy Hills has a limited number of uses. The varying age of amenities gives it a lack of cohesion.




*Amenities & Design:*

Amenities continue to deteriorate and are showing their age. Park design restricts imaginative play and uses.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Access to park is restricted by Highway 75. Development is not contigious to the north which limits connectivity.




*Visibility:*

Park navigation is low to surrounding neighborhood. Lack of diveristy of uses limits overall visibility.



# PARK PROFILE

## OAKHURST PARK

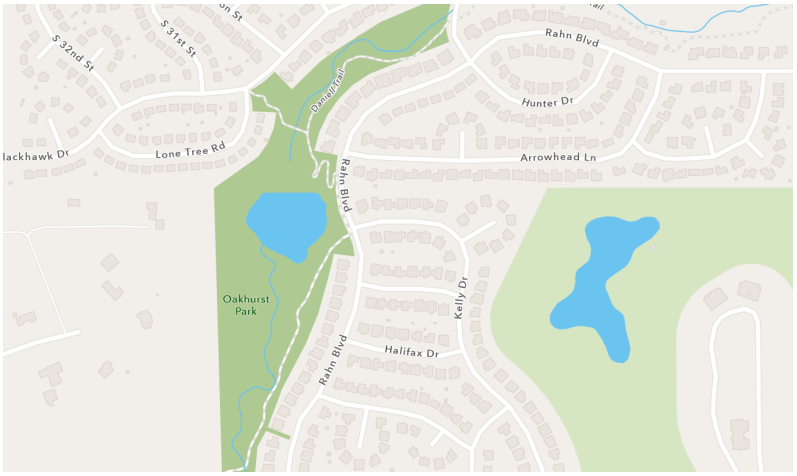
Part of a trail-park corridor starting at Stonecroft Park and extending to Two Springs Park, Oakhurst Park includes a mix of play and natural experiences.

**Zone:** Southwest **Class:** N

**Acres:** 17.9

### Amenities:

+ Shelter
+ Playground
+ Lake
+ Walking Trail








### Recommendations:

+ Complete Level I maintenance to repair broken play structure.
+ Add upgraded natural play amenities.
+ Partner with Blackhawk HOA to merge Blackhawk Park with Oakhurst Park under existing maintenance agreement.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Oakhurst identity is strong given its place as a node on the trail corridor. It provides recreation opportunities that complement Blackhawk Park.




*Amenities & Design:*

Play structures are in good condition and provide stated needs of the community profile. Surfaces can be upgraded to enhance accessibility.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Well connected via Daniell Trail corridor towards Two Springs. Paths are in good condition with benches for rest along the trip.




*Visibility:*

Play area is below grade which can lower visibility. Trail to pond is secluded and one can feel lost easily.



# PARK PROFILE

## ORCHARD VALLEY PARK

A small park with a walking trail behind a southwest Bellevue subdivision, Orchard Valley Park features play amenities.



**Zone:** Southwest

**Class:** N

**Acres:** 1.3

Amenities:

+ Walking Trail
+ Playground



Recommendations:

+ Add improved signage and wayfinding to increase safety and visibility.
+ Add shade structures and seating.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Orchard Valley serves a small number of households and has no discernable and clear identity.




*Amenities & Design:*

Park amenities are in good condition but lacks a mix of experiences that the community desires. Amenities serve 1-2 families at a time.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Without connecting trail extending from Hyda Hills Park, Orchard Valley remains isolated.




*Visibility:*

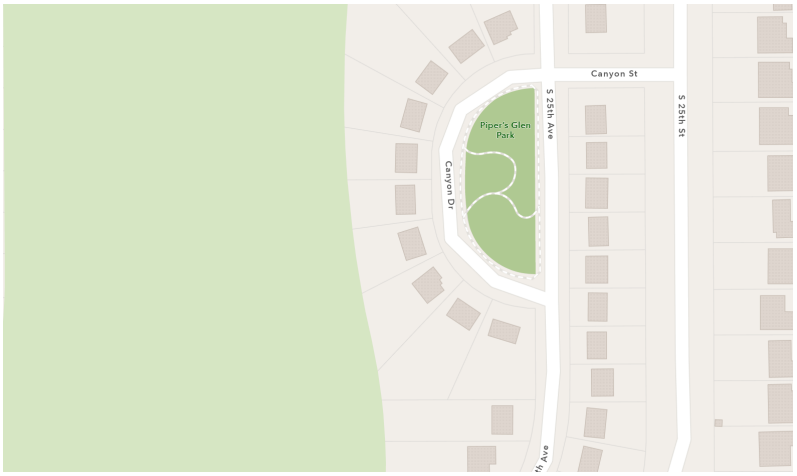
*Park visibility is obscured with its location behind a row of single family homes. Points of entry and exit are limited. Park lacks signage*



# PARK PROFILE

## PIPER'S GLEN PARK

A small park nestled in a southwest Bellevue subdivision, Piper's Glen Park focuses on play amenities.




**Zone:** Southwest **Class:** N

**Acres:** 0.5

### Amenities:

+ Walking Trail
+ Playground
+ Shelter

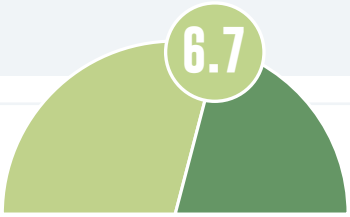




### Recommendations:

+ Maintain amenities to a Level III Standard.
+ Install bicycle fix-it station.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

The purpose of Pipers Glen is clear to the surrounding neighborhood. Features are easily idenified from the street.




*Amenities & Design:*

Park structures are in good to excellent condition. Surfaces should be upgraded to rubber throughout the park.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

With few access points across S 25th street, park connection is low. Which adjacent uses already prescribed, connectivity likely will remain the same.




*Visibility:*

The neighborhood around Pipers Glen can provide safety to the park. Flat terrain allows for consistent sight lines. Park signage needs updated.



# PARK PROFILE

## SORENSON PARK

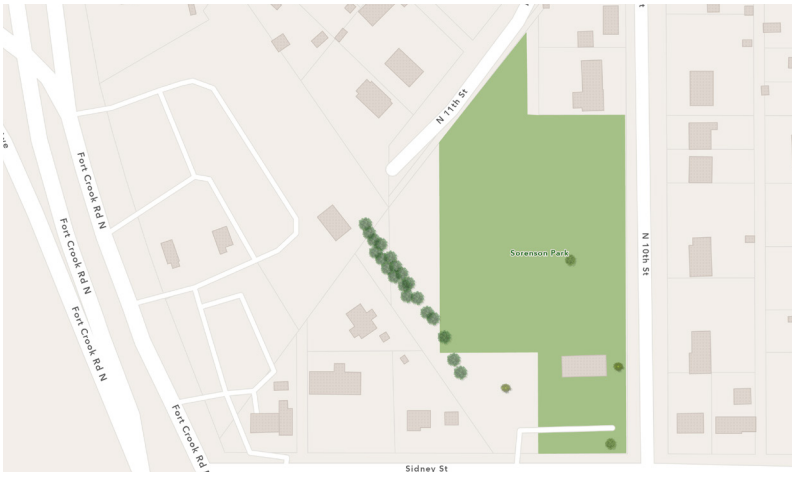
A beloved neighborhood park at the North end of Bellevue's City Limits, Sorenson Park centers play and relaxation.

**Zone:** Fontenelle **Class:** N

**Acres:** 3.8

### Amenities:

+ Playground
+ Tennis Courts
+ Picnic Area








### Recommendations:

+ Add improved signage and lighting for increased safety throughout the park. Improve pathways and entrances.
+ Add splash pad to Sorenson Park.
+ Update amenities consistent with Ft. Crook Rd. Redevelopment Plan.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Currently the only purpose of the park is tennis and unprogrammed green space. Park should receive additonal resources and work with neighbors to determine future uses.



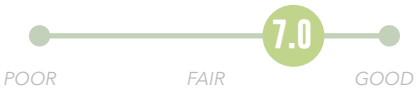

*Amenities & Design:*

With updates to tennis court, new amenities are needed to serve this neighborhood. Current mix is below standards.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park has strong access along the Fort Crook Road corridor. The Fort Crook Road future transportation plan will increase connectivity.




*Visibility:*

Park is low due to the varying topography and mature tree throughout the park. With lack of uses, visibility will remain low due to innactivity.



# PARK PROFILE

## SOUTHERN OAKS PARK

Located on a frontage street near an elementary school without parking, Southern Oaks park's steep topography and tiered design divide usage types.

**Zone:** West Central

**Acres:** 4.

**Class:**




### Amenities:

+ Playground
+ Picnic Area
+ Shelter
+ Soccer





### Recommendations:

+ Decommission Southern Oaks Park for school use.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Southern Oaks purpose is singular and redundant to nearby Golden Hills.

*Amenities & Design:*

Existing conditions analysis shows that park equipment is in fair to poor condition. Amenities are duplicative of Golden Hills Park, which is located less than a quarter mile to the west and Golden Hills Elementary.

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park is connected to Golden Hills Elmentary and would be better served as equipment for the school.

*Visibility:*

Southern Oaks is not visible unless as a pedestrian on Duane Avenue.

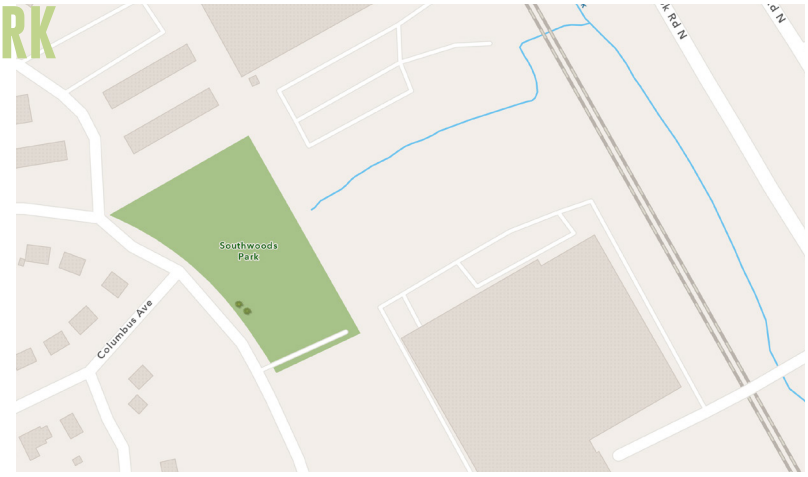
# PARK PROFILE

## SOUTHGATE/SOUTHWOODS PARK

Near an apartment complex, residential neighborhood, and industrial corridor, Southgate Park serves a wide variety of users in a small space.

**Zone:** Fontenelle **Class:** N

**Acres:** 2.1




### Amenities:

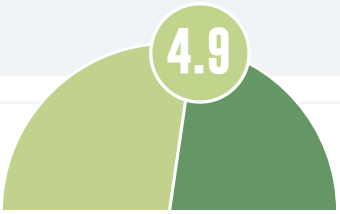
+ Playground




### Recommendations:

+ Through maintenance and repairs, bring amenities, surfaces, and connections up to an acceptable level of service.
+ Update playground amenities.
+ Install signage.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Park ownership and purpose is not clear from the street. Neighbors may believe it belongs to the apartment complex.




*Amenities & Design:*

Park equipment is dated and in poor condition. Adequate space to create new experiences for the neighborhood.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Nebraska Drive is the main road providing access to the park and does not contain sidewalks. Park is located near light industrial uses which brings heavier traffic.




*Visibility:*

Park is not well known to the community based on engagement results.



# PARK PROFILE

## STONECROFT PARK

With the city's first accessible playground and located on Daniell Trail, Stonecroft park is a favorite destination for play and physical activity.

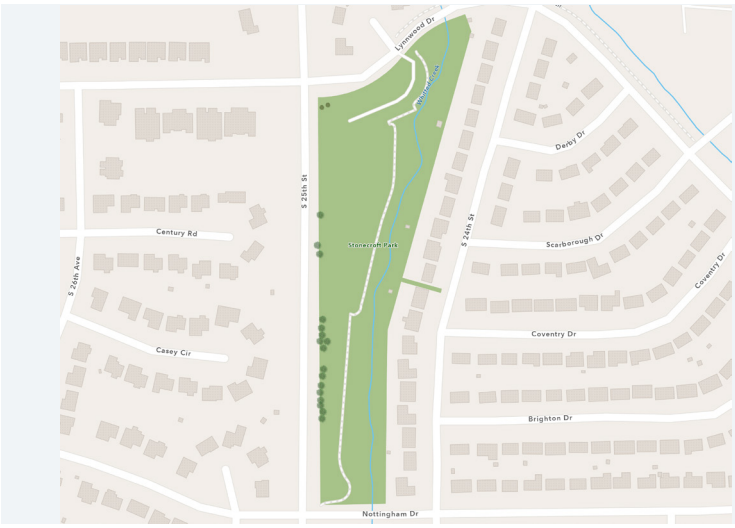
**Zone:** Southwest **Class:**



**Acres:** 7.2

### Amenities:

+ Playground
+ Tennis Courts
+ Walking Path
+ Shelter








### Recommendations:

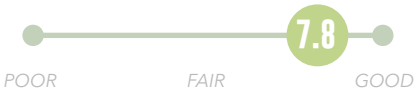
+ Maintain amenities to a Level III Standard.
+ Add restrooms.
+ Add signage indicating directions to access other parks and amenities on Daniell Trail.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Stonecroft Park is one of the most identifiable in the Bellevue system. Purpose of park fits description of community park and design fills a need for residents.



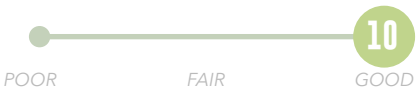

*Amenities & Design:*

Inclusive design that is adaptive for all users. Park engagement surveys indicate high level of usership. Excellent condition.



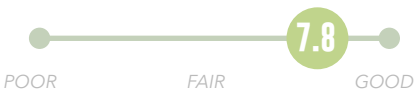

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Connected to Daniel Trail and and the Papio Trail. Recent park upgrades give the park inclusive and universal access.




*Visibility:*

Visibility is good with trail running next to park, and frequent vehicular traffic off of 25th. Range of uses gives park a variety of users which creates social cohesion.



# PARK PROFILE

## SUNRISE III+IV PARK

A small park centrally located in a Northwest Bellevue subdivision, Sunrise Park provides play experiences to a small group of neighbors.

**Zone:** Northwest

**Class:** N

**Acres:** 2.1

### Amenities:

- Playground
- Basketball Court
- Shelters
- Exercise Equipment








### Recommendations:

- Complete Level I maintenance on park amenities and surfaces for safety and access. Remove weeds
- Eliminate bee infestation in play amenity surfacing; replace surfacing for accessible material.
- Improve lighting and visibility throughout the park.
- Add seating/benches.
- Add water station.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Sunrise design fits into the fabric of the neighborhood. Easily identified as a "center" with strong purpose.




*Amenities & Design:*

Park amenities are in good condition. Some surface removal and replacing is needed. Good mix of amenities and uses.



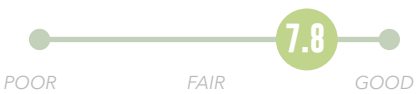

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park is located in an ideal location that gives it access for the entire neighborhood. Sidewalk leading to park is in good condition.




*Visibility:*

Nice buffer between street and park helps users feel seen but still have space to enjoy the park. Multiple points of entry and elevations which add to visibility.



# PARK PROFILE

## SWANSON PARK

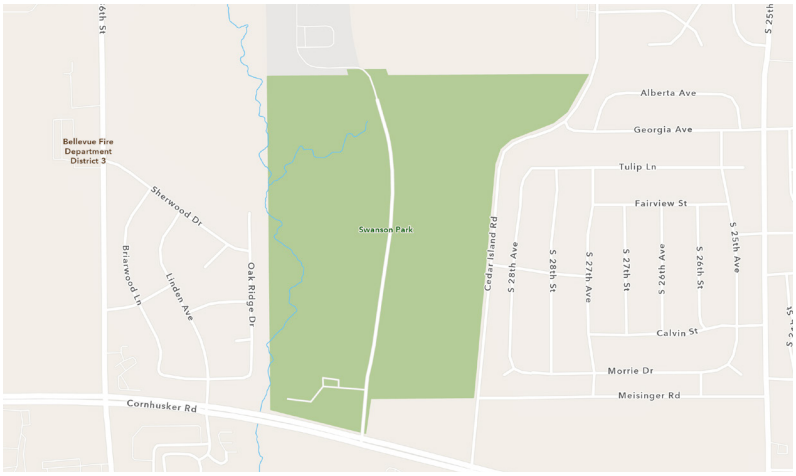
With extensive open space, dense wooded areas, and a variety of park experiences available, Swanson Park has poential to be a regional attractor.

**Zone:** Northwest

**Class:**



**Acres:** 49.7




### Amenities:

- Ballfields
- Playground
- Picnic Area
- Shelter
- Walking Trail
- Mountain Biking Trail
- Frisbee Golf





### Recommendations:

- Level III maintenance, improve lighting and visibility, along with maintenance and repairs of existing amenities. Partner with trail organization to mitigate erosion in Swanson Park.
- Implement tall grass prairie on former landfill site.
- Complete Park Layout Plan (reference Natural Surface Trails Study)
- Study, plan, and construct trail connections.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Known regionally for hiking, mountain biking trails.Programming at park helps bring in users from across the metro area.

*Amenities & Design:*

Trails managed and maintained by THOR (Trails Have Our Respect) Play structures are in good condition. Shelter gives picnic and gathering opportunity.

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Difficult to access for bikers and pedestrians. High connectivity for vehicular traffic. Future trails to north will enhance accessibility.

*Visibility:*

Lower level ball fields feel secluded. Portions of hiking trail and large open areas can make a user feel vulnerable. Heavy tree lined sections near shelter limit visibility.

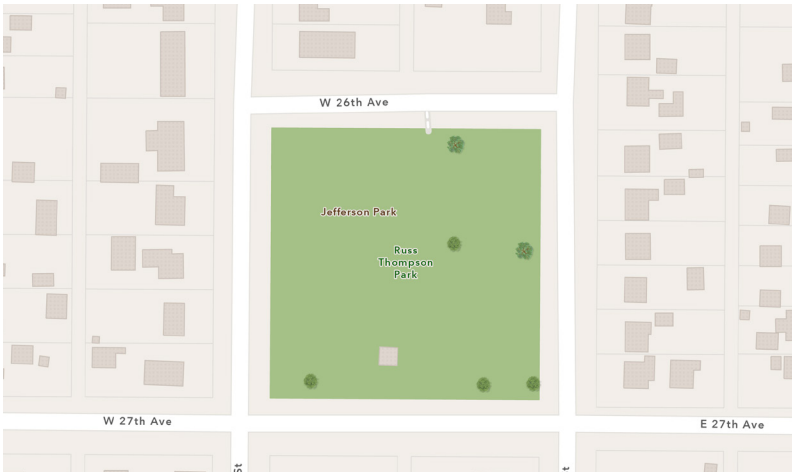
# PARK PROFILE

## THOMPSON PARK

A traditional city park on one square block, Thompson Park has potential to be a high-functioning, well-connected Community Park.

**Zone:** Olde Towne **Class:** N

**Acres:** 2.2




### Amenities:

+ Basketball
+ Playground
+ Tennis Courts
+ Shelter





### Recommendations:

+ Complete maintenance to water station. Complete Level II maintenance to all surfaces for safety and accessibility.
+ Install portable restrooms. Install additional waste receptacles.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE



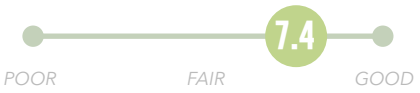

*Identity & Purpose:*

Well-established as neighborhood park in an established community. Purpose has evolved and newer amenities.




*Amenities & Design:*

Play structure, paths, and slides are in excellent condition. Even split of open space and active space gives park variety of uses.



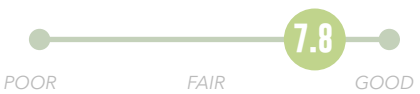

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

One square block in traditional neighborhood, Thompason Park is connected and easily accessible to Olde Towne. Equipment uses are not universally designed.




*Visibility:*

Well situatated in neighborhood for visibility. Open sight lines with multiple entrances and exits enhance safety.



# PARK PROFILE

## TREGARON PARK

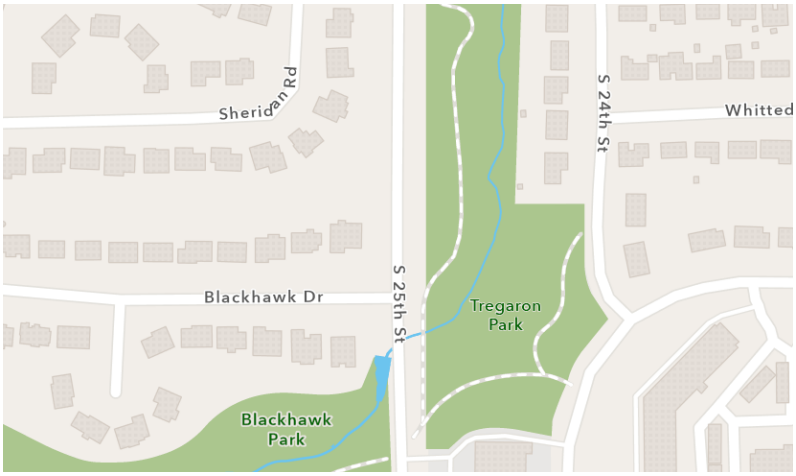
Part of the Daniell Trail corridor, Tregaron Park connects Stonecroft Park to Blackhawk Park and features recent landscaping updates.

**Zone:** Southwest **Class:** N

**Acres:** 4.2

### Amenities:

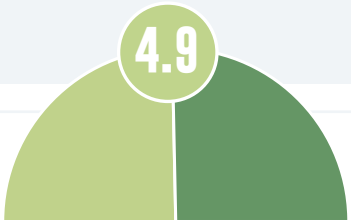
+ Open Space
+ Shelter
+ Walking Trail






### Recommendations:

+ Merge with Stonecroft Park.




### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE

*Identity & Purpose:*

Tregaron is used as a connecting point along the trail. Not easily identifiable as its own distinct park.




*Amenities & Design:*

Park lacks amenities for its own purpose other than a resting place along trail.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

As link in Daniel Trail, it is easily accessible to the southwest and the north.




*Visibility:*

Portions of Tregaron are not easily seen with its access through heavily treed area. With adjacent fire station, park appears to be part of Fire Department property.



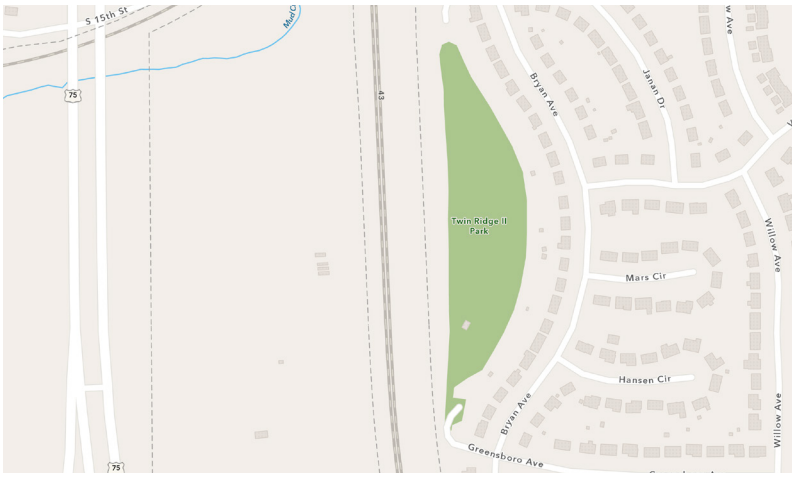
# PARK PROFILE

## TWIN RIDGE PARK

Bordered on one side by the railroad and Highway 75 and on the other by residential back yards, Twin Ridge Park is easiest to access by the immediate neighborhood.

**Zone:** Olde Towne **Class:**

**Acres:** 8.4




### Amenities:

- Ballfields
- Playground
- Shelter
- Trail
- Soccer
- Basketball

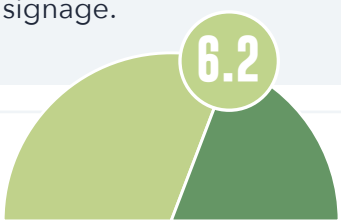




### Recommendations:

- Complete Level II maintenance to surfaces. Eliminate pest infestations at ballfield.
- Add improved lighting and wayfinding for safety and visibility.
- Implement grassland educational area with signage, native grass plantings, and natural play equipment. Add seating.
- Improve on-street signage.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

For the surrounding neighborhood, park is known. Its obscure location makes wider use difficult.




*Amenities & Design:*

Amenities are concentrated to south portion of park and are in good condition. Paths to access amenities need repair.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

At bottom of drainage area, park is not visibile unless immediately next to park. Its location between Highway 75 and Fort Crook Road blocks greater access.




*Visibility:*

Park feels secluded and requires long walks to access main amenities. Parking is limited which restricts usage.



# PARK PROFILE

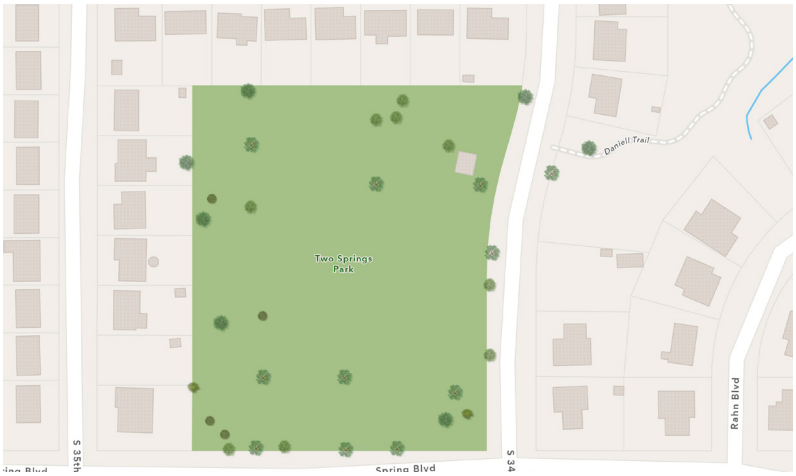
## TWO SPRINGS PARK

The destination for Daniell Trail users coming from Stonecroft Park, Two Springs Park features a variety of play amenities.

**Zone:** Southwest **Class:**

**Acres:** 4.3






### Amenities:

+ Ballfields
+ Playground
+ Shelter
+ Walking Trail





### Recommendations:

+ Maintain amenities to a Level III Standard.
+ Add dog park; add climbing structures and adventure play along Daniell Trail and in park.
+ Add restrooms and water station.
+ Complete Park Layout Plan to complement other parks on the Daniell Trail corridor.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Concentration of amenities near entrance provide immediate purpose to the park.




*Amenities & Design:*

Shelters, play equipment and backstop offer variety of experiences. Major structures in good condition. Some repair needed to climbing apparatus and paths.




*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park is connected and accessibile to trail and neighborhood. Links to development to south and west will enhance accessibility.




*Visibility:*

Trail from east into the park gives it additional visibility. Shelter location for gatherings provide park routine engagement and adjoining neighbors enhance security.



# PARK PROFILE

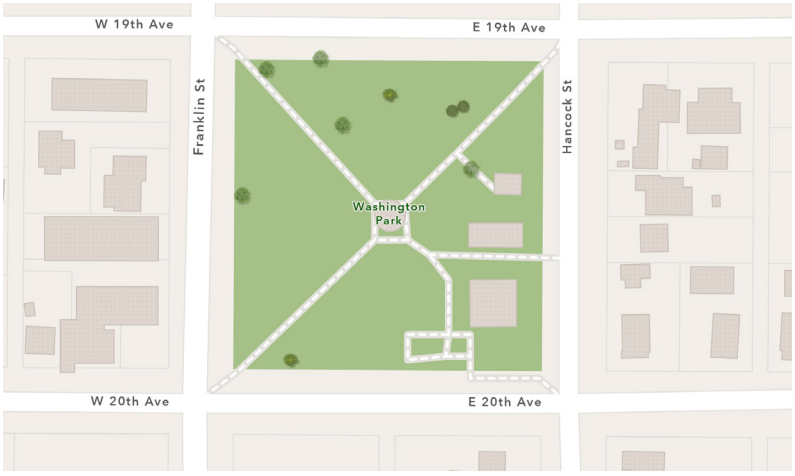
## WASHINGTON PARK

Bellevue's traditional downtown park, Washington Park is known for events and amenities that bring people together.

**Zone:** Olde Towne **Class:**



**Acres:** 2.2




### Amenities:

- Basketball
- Playground
- Shelter
- Restrooms
- Walking Path





### Recommendations:

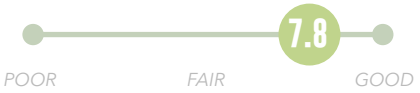
- Maintain amenities to a Level III Standard.
- Implement shade structures for gathering spaces. Remove inacessible play structure on north side of park. Replace with stage/ amphitheater to host music, movie nights, plays, ceremonies.
- Complete Park Layout Plan in coordination with Frontier District.
- Establish community partnerships with ENCAP for volunteer park maintenance and programming opportunities.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE



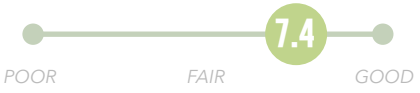

*Identity & Purpose:*

Historic and civically important park for Bellevue. Its programming give it a distinct and identifiable purpose.



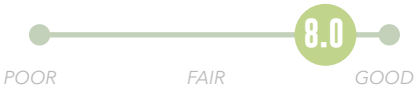

*Amenities & Design:*

Newer amenities, updated gazebo and parking are in excellent condition. Park design faciliates community programs and events.



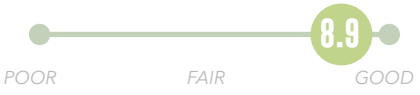

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Park is accesible to Olde Towne, south of Mission, and north on Harvell.




*Visibility:*

Washington Park gives safe sight lines and visible entrances throughout park. Park structures and historic significance provide enhanced visibility.



# PARK PROFILE

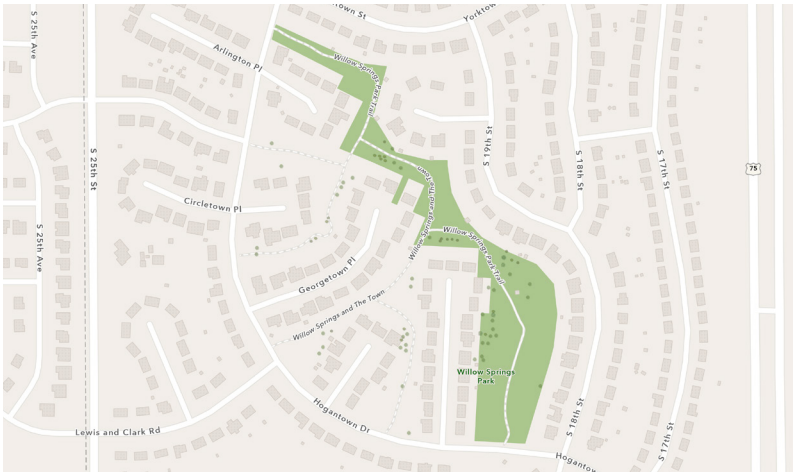
## WILLOW SPRINGS PARK

A winding park between residential back yards in a west Bellevue subdivision, Willow Springs park offers play and relaxation experiences.

**Zone:** West Central

**Acres:** 14

**Class:**




### Amenities:

+ Playground
+ Walking Trail



### Recommendations:

+ Maintain amenities to a Level III Standard.
+ Add signage for pedestrian access to Willow Springs Park throughout the subdivision.
+ Install benches.

### PARK UTILIZATION SCORE




*Identity & Purpose:*

Location and paths make purpose clear. From Hogantown Road it isn't immediately clear how large and linear the park is.

*Amenities & Design:*

Park structures are in excellent condition. Trail paths have been well maintained. Recommend additional benches throughout trail for rest and nature observation.

*Connectivity & Accessibility:*

Trails from surrounding neighborhood lead into the park. Access, while not physically restricted east of 75 feels intuitively restricted due to large infrastructure.

*Visibility:*

Adjacent home owners have easy access and enhance safety for users.

# FUNDING SCENARIOS

Throughout the United States, communities and cities are seeing a shift in the park experiences that they need to offer their citizens. Shifting preferences include:

- Increased investment in park technology, such as smart parks and real-time park usage data tracking
- Expansion of park amenities and programming, such as outdoor fitness equipment, concert venues, and food truck events
- Focus on park accessibility and inclusion, including universal design features and accessible play areas
- Expansion of park-to-park connections and greenway networks
- Increased demand for nature-based recreation and wellness activities
- Growth of urban agriculture and community gardening programs
- Focus on water-based recreation and conservation, including riverfront and lakefront parks and waterways
- Development of parks as community gathering spaces, including public plazas and cultural amenities
- Emphasis on environmental sustainability and eco-friendly park design and management practices
- Integration of parks with
- Adjacent land uses, such as mixed-use developments and transit-oriented developments

As preferences continue to shift and Bellevue continues to grow, strategic funding and budget decisions must be made to support a commitment to a high level of service and beautiful parks. The following scenarios illustrate potential funding and expenditure changes and their assumed impacts.

## SCENARIO 1 - TREND

The Trend Scenario focuses on maintaining the current state of parks with incremental improvements.

In this scenario, only the parks that currently exist and have not been decommissioned are funded for general improvements to existing amenities. Periodically, amenities can be upgraded as funding becomes available. One park per year can be preliminarily planned.

Two full-time employees may be added – one preferably a grounds specialist (Arborist or Landscape Architect) and one a Communications and Engagement Specialist.

| | *% OF EXPENDITURES* | *AMOUNT* |
|---|---|---|
| Personnel | 40% | 800,000 |
| Operations - Total | 50% | 1,000,000 |
| Maintenance | - | 150,000 |
| Trail Improvements | - | 100,000 |
| Park Improvements | - | 750,000 |
| Communications & Admin | - | 0 |
| Other | 10% | 200,000 |
| TOTAL | 100% | 2,000,000 |

# FUNDING SCENARIOS

## SCENARIO 2 - MODERATE GROWTH (RECOMMENDED)

The Moderate Growth scenario aims to change the perception of Bellevue and its parks, improving on what is currently offered and expanding system offerings. It includes a build-out of Phase 1 of the East-to-West Trail route from the bridge to the W. Papio Trail on Cornhusker Rd. in order to connect parks in the eastern portion of Bellevue.

This scenario enables the implementation of large scale amenity recommendations, including frequently requested adventure play amenities (climbing walls, natural play, etc.) dog parks, skate parks, etc. These new park experiences can be installed in each zone at a schedule of one zone per year for the next 6 years.

| | *% OF EXPENDITURES* | *AMOUNT* |
|---|---|---|
| Personnel | 40% | 1,000,000 |
| Operations - Total | 50% | 1,500,000 |
| Maintenance | - | 200,000 |
| Trail Improvements | - | 125,000 |
| Park Improvements | - | 950,000 |
| Communications & Admin | - | |
| Other | 10% | 200,000 |
| TOTAL | 100% | 2,700,000 |

The planning and design of existing parks may occur at a more aggressive pace, with one park per zone in the schedule of Plan, Fund, Build programmatic calendar. Additional staff specialists can be brought on, including Landscape Architects, a dedicated Recreation Director, and Communication and Engagement specialists.



# FUNDING SCENARIOS

## SCENARIO 3 - ADVENTUROUS GROWTH

The adventurous scenario creates a new vision for Bellevue parks.

With this plan, Bellevue is on its way to being the most livable city in Nebraska through a full build-out of the trail system connecting parks, neighborhoods, and popular destinations. The implementation of the American Heroes Park Master plan is funded through this scenario, capitalizing on the riverfront as an asset to the community.

In the western portion of Bellevue, Phase I of Daniell's Farm Recreation Area can begin with planning, preliminary design and engineering. The entire Plan, Fund, Build schedule can begin with completion by 2038.

| | *% OF EXPENDITURES* | *AMOUNT* |
|---|---|---|
| Personnel | 40% | 1,400,000 |
| Operations - Total | 50% | 1,750,000 |
| Maintenance | - | 280,000 |
| Trail Improvements | - | 175,000 |
| Park Improvements | - | 1,330,000 |
| Communications & Admin | | |
| Other | | 200,000 |
| TOTAL | 100% | $3,700,000 |

This scenario enables Bellevue to meet its staff need by adding specialists, dedicated Parks and Recreation department directors, and Communications and Engagement staff.



# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

When comparing the level of investment into the parks as compared to peer cities, Bellevue falls in the bottom of the lowest quartile of per capita spending. Additionally, most cities diversify their funding sources between general funds, revenue, park impact fees, and grants. Bellevue will need to diversity its funding if it does not want to increase taxes to fund its parks.

**Funding Opportunity Types**

*Fees and Revenues*

+ League and recreation fees
+ Space and event rental fees
+ Lesson fees
+ Concessions revenues

*Philanthropy + Gifts*

+ Philanthropic foundations and charitable trusts
+ Private funding: through corporate sponsorships, philanthropic foundations, and community fundraising campaigns
+ In-kind contributions: through donations of materials, labor, and other resources from local businesses and community organizations
+ Crowdfunding: through online campaigns and community fundraising efforts to support specific park projects.

*Award, Partnership, and Policy-based Financing*

+ Sewer Impact Fees/Pioneer Fees: a fee charged to developers for connection to utilities that funds park improvements in that area. Potential for $20 million across upcoming years from impending development hookups to MUD water line.
+ Park Impact Bonds: innovative funding mechanism that leverages the financial impact of park improvements within an area against investment in the park.
+ Public funding: through government grants, subsidies, and taxes.
+ Public-private partnerships: through partnerships with local businesses, community organizations, and other stakeholders
+ Bond issuances: through the sale of bonds to fund park development and improvement projects.
+ Tax-increment financing: through the capture of increased property tax revenues generated by park-adjacent development.

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

| FUNDING SOURCE | DESCRIPTION |
|---|---|
| Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET) | The NET funds conversation, enhancement, and restoration of the natural environments in Nebraska. Their funding is intended to complement activities and programs that are already underway. For the parks, priority areas relate to habitat and surface and ground water. |
| Nebraska Department of Economic Development (NDED) | The Nebraska DED provides several funding opportunities through direct grants and tax credit programs: |
| The Community Development Assistance Act (CDAA) | This act enables the DED to distribute a 40% state tax credit for creation of physical facilities, recreational and educational activities. The grant prioritizes efforts aligned with locally-defined objectives. |
| The Civic and Community Center Financing Fund (CCCFF) | Funding supports the development of civic, community, and recreation centers to Nebraska municipalities and villages. |
| The Shovel Ready Capital Recovery and Investment Act | This funding assists with capital projects related to arts, culture, or the humanities that may have been delayed due to COVID-19. |
| The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) | Eligible programs that align with the goals of the Parks Master Plan include economic development, planning, downtown revitalization, public works, and tourism development. The CDBG funds expand economic opportunities and can be used for planning and construction projects that benefit low- and moderate-income persons, and solve catastrophic health and safety threats. |
| National Endowment of the Arts | The Our Town Program supports creative placemaking that integrates arts, culture, and design activities into efforts that strengthen communities by advancing local economic, physical, and/or social outcomes. |
| National Registry of Historic Places | The Save America's Treasures grant program supports significant historic properties that convey our nations rich heritage for future generations. Preservation or conservation work of historic properties will be funded. |
| USDA | Farmer Market Promotion Program funds projects that develop producer to consumer market to help increase access and availability of locally and regionally produced agricultural products by providing technical assistance, agritourism activities or other direct producer to consumer opportunities. |
| Nebraska Arts Council | The Creative Aging through the Arts Program hires artists to lead workshops to organizations serving older adults. Arts programming is eligible to provide the sharing of expertise through sequential arts lessons, skill development and fostering social engagement. |

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

| FUNDING SOURCE | DESCRIPTION |
|---|---|
| Humanities Nebraska | Humanities Nebraska offers grants to support projects related to the humanities. These include history, literature, language, history, and criticism of the arts. Libraries, museums, civic group, and government agencies are eligible to apply. |
| Nebraska Land and Water Conservation Fund | The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is a federal grant program that was established in 1965 through the National Parks Service within the Department of the Interior. The LWCF stateside assistance grant program has provided funding for community outdoor recreation projects across Nebraska for nearly 40 years. |
| Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program (RCP) | The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) established the new Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) discretionary grant program, funded with $1 billion over the next 5 years.<br><br>It is the first-ever Federal program dedicated to reconnecting communities that were previously cut off from economic opportunities by transportation infrastructure. Funding supports planning grants and capital construction grants, as well as technical assistance, to restore community connectivity through the removal, retrofit, mitigation, or replacement of eligible transportation infrastructure facilities. |



# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

**Five-Year Priorities**

The following implementation plan includes year-by-year actions to be taken to carry out system-wide and park-by-park improvements and fulfill this plan's goals, strategies, and actions.

Over the next five years, the following actions should be taken to advance the mission of this plan.

## YEAR ONE: SYSTEM

| *FOCUS AREA* | *ACTION* |
|---|---|
| Communications | + Update current platforms with correct and current park information (refer to Phase I of Communications & Wayfinding, page 114.)<br>+ Release RFP and engage a branding professional to develop a system-wide strategy and guidelines for wayfinding, etc. (refer to Action Step 1.1, page 105, and Phase II of Communications & Wayfinding, page 114.)<br>+ Release RFP and engage professional for development of interactive parks tool (refer to Communications & Wayfinding, page 114.) |
| Operations | + Create a dedicated budget for the Parks & Recreation Department with its own sources and allocations (refer to Action Step 3.1, page 108.)<br>+ Hire 1 FTE: Parks and Recreation Communications Specialist/Manager to oversee day-to-day parks communications, messaging, and implementation of brand guidelines. |
| Sustainability | + During update of Comprehensive Plan, include green infrastructure element. |
| Partnerships | + Formally re-establish Parks Board as an oversight body for implementing Park Plan, enacting new by-laws for Parks Board to oversee park design and improvements.<br>+ Create a formal Parks Partnership Program to create a network of aligned organizations through which to distribute communications, find volunteers, and complete park improvements (refer to Action Step 1.3, page 106.) |
| Connectivity | + Improve crosswalks through signage and painting (refer to Action Step 2.5, page 107.) |

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

## YEAR ONE: PARKS

| *PARK* | *MAINTENANCE* | *AMENITIES* | *PLAN/FUND/BUILD* | *COST ESTIMATE* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| American Heroes Park | | + Add adventure play facilities to American Heroes Park. | | $150,000.00 |
| Clearwater Falls | | + Install pickleball courts | | $150,000.00 |
| Gilbert Park | | + Install dog park-with small and large dog spaces | | $30,000.00 |
| Hastings Banner | + Improve lighting and wayfinding for safety and access. | | | $20,000.00 |
| Jewell Park | | | + Complete Park Layout Plan. | $25,000.00 |
| Lookingglass | | + Install skate park | | $500,000.00 |
| Regional Aquatic Center | | | + Fund Aquatic Center Preliminary Engineering | $85,000.00 |
| Southgate | | + Remove and replace play structure | | $85,000.00 |
| Swanson Park | | | + Complete Park Layout Plan. | $15,000.00 |
| Washington Park | | + Install shade structure | | $15,000.00 |
| | | | EST. COST | $1,075,000.00 |

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

## YEAR TWO: SYSTEM

| *FOCUS AREA* | *ACTION* |
|---|---|
| Communications | + Release RFP and engage a professional to produce updated park signage, maps, and kiosks based on brand guidelines (refer to Action Step 1.1, page 105, and Communications & Wayfinding, page 114.)<br>+ Release RFP and hire web developer to produce new website, including all necessary forms and scheduling tools (refer to Communications & Wayfinding, page 114.) |
| Operations | + Establish a Park Design process with roles and responsibilities defined, including oversight bodies, review periods, and community engagement (refer to Action Step 2.2, page 107.)<br>+ Create a philanthropic Park Foundation to support park system financial needs (refer to Action Step 3.1, page 108.)<br>+ Create a dedicated funding source within the Capital Improvement Plan (refer to Action Step 3.2, page 108.) |
| Sustainability | + Reactivate Bellevue Tree Board's formal tree-preservation role through partnership with the City of Bellevue (refer to Action Step 2.4, page 107.) |
| Partnerships | + Create formal partnership and process with Bellevue Police Department to undergo Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) training and complete regular review of parks (refer to Equity, page 116.). |
| Connectivity | + Release RFP and hire consultant for Bicycle + Pedestrian Master Plan. |

## YEAR TWO: PARKS

| *PARK* | *MAINTENANCE* | *AMENITIES* | *PLAN/FUND/BUILD* | *COST ESTIMATE* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| American Heroes Park | | | + Begin Phase I of American Heroes Park Master Plan site work. | $750,000.00 |
| Aspen/Sun Valley | | | + Complete Park Layout Plan. | $15,000.00 |

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

## YEAR TWO: PARKS

| *PARK* | *MAINTENANCE* | *AMENITIES* | *PLAN/FUND/BUILD* | *COST ESTIMATE* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Blackhawk Park | + Complete Level II Maintenance on creek, eliminating stagnant water. Improve wayfinding and safe crossings. | | | $100,000.00 |
| Brook Park | + Complete maintenance to sidewalks and trails for safety. Complete Level II maintenance on all amenities. | | | $100,000.00 |
| College Heights Park | + Complete Level II maintenance to all amenities and surfaces to bring park up to standard. | | | $50,000.00 |
| Daniell's Farm | | | + Begin preliminary planning design and engineering | $100,000.00 |
| Dowding | + Complete Level III Maintenance to structures, shelters, benches, and play amenities. | | | $50,000.00 |
| Everett Park | | | + Complete Park Layout Plan. | $20,000.00 |
| Gilbert Park | + Complete Level I maintenance to remove noxious weeds. Complete Level II maintenance to surfaces, replacing for more accessible surface material. | | | $30,000.00 |

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

## YEAR TWO: PARKS

| PARK | MAINTENANCE | AMENITIES | PLAN/FUND/BUILD | COST ESTIMATE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Golden Hills | + Complete Level II maintenance to amenities and surfaces. Add improved lighting and signage for safety and access. Improve waste receptacles. | | | $25,000.00 |
| Heartland Hills Park | + Add improved signage and wayfinding to increase safety and visibility. | | | $20,000.00 |
| Hyda Hills Park | | + Install shade structure | | $15,000.00 |
| Jewell Park | | + Add bouldering/ climbing structure to Jewell Park. | | $150,000.00 |
| Lakewood Villages | + Complete Level III maintenance on play amenities. Add improved in-park wayfinding. | | | $35,000.00 |
| Normandy Hills | + Complete Level I maintenance to fix damaged/aging play amenities. Improve lighting, pathways, and signage to improve park safety and visibility. Upgrade inacessible play and walking surfaces. | | | $50,000.00 |
| Regional Aquatic Center | | | + Begin phase 1 site work | $150,000.00 |

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

| *PARK* | *MAINTENANCE* | *AMENITIES* | *PLAN/FUND/BUILD* | *COST ESTIMATE* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sorenson Park | + Add improved signage and lighting for increased safety throughout the park. Improve pathways and entrances. | | | $20,000.00 |
| Southgate | | + Install park signage | | $5,000.00 |
| Swanson Park | | | + Fund Planned Improvements | $200,000.00 |
| Two Springs | | | + Complete Park Layout Plan. | $15,000.00 |
| EST COST: | | | | $1,900,000.-00 |

## YEAR THREE: SYSTEM

| *FOCUS AREA* | *ACTION* |
|---|---|
| Communications | + Implement new website, including all necessary forms and scheduling tools, and interactive parks tool.<br>+ Implement and install new branded park signage, maps, and kiosks. |
| Operations | + Identify 1 new innovative financing tool to facilitate park improvements (refer to Action Step 3.1, page 108.) |
| Sustainability | |
| Partnerships | + Implement video campaign showcasing improved parks through the lens of known community partners to promote park familiarity. |
| Connectivity | + Install bike storage and/or e-charging stations at trailheads and popular parks (refer to Action Step 2.5, page 107.) |

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

## YEAR THREE: PARKS

| PARK | MAINTENANCE | AMENITIES | PLAN/FUND/BUILD | COST ESTIMATE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| American Heroes Park | | | + Begin Phase II of American Heroes Park Master Plan site work. | $250,000.00 |
| Ashford Hollow Park | + Complete Level III Maintenance items | | | $100,000.00 |
| Aspen/Sun Valley | | + Improve park signage | | $5,000.00 |
| Aspen/Sun Valley | | + Make updates to disc golf amenity, including updated signage. | | $3,000.00 |
| Brook Park | | | + Implement planting plan commissioned by SID. | $90,000.00 |
| Cascio Pool | | + Improve signage and wayfinding | | $15,000.00 |
| Clearwater Falls | | + Add exercise equipment along trails. | | $65,000.00 |
| College Heights Park | | + Install accessible post and deck play structure | | $150,000.00 |
| Copper Creek | + Complete Level II maintenance, specifically to broken play equipment, weeds, and surfaces. Maintain surfaces to standard. Complete Level III Maintenance to play structures and other park structures, specifically paint. | | | $80,000.00 |
| Daniell's Farm | | | + Phase 1 sitework | $100,000.00 |

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

## YEAR THREE: PARKS

| *PARK* | *MAINTENANCE* | *AMENITIES* | *PLAN/FUND/BUILD* | *COST ESTIMATE* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Daniell's Farm Trail Corridor | | | + Master Plan | $15,000.00 |
| Dowding | | + Improve signage so entrances and exits are clear from the street and sidewalks. | | $15,000.00 |
| Faulkland | + Complete Level I maintenance on park surfaces for safety and access. Eliminate yellow jacket infestation at playground. Improve lighting and visibility throughout the park. | | | $50,000.00 |
| Gemini Park | | | + Complete Park Layout Plan. | $15,000.00 |
| Golden Hills | | | + Complete Park Layout Plan. | $15,000.00 |
| Haworth Park | | + Install bicycle fix-it station at trailhead for the Bellevue Loop Trail. | | $5,000.00 |
| Lookingglass | + Complete Level II maintenance to trash receptacles, surfaces. | | | $25,000.00 |
| Normandy Hills | | + Upgrade bicycle storage amenity | | |
| Sorenson Park | | + Install splash pad | | |
| Sunrise | | + Remove and replace play structure | | |

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

## YEAR THREE: PARKS

| PARK | MAINTENANCE | AMENITIES | PLAN/FUND/BUILD | COST ESTIMATE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Swanson Park | | + Add pump/cycle track | | $150,000.00 |
| Two Springs | | + Install dog park | | $25,000.00 |
| Washington Park | + Maintain amenities to a Level III Standard. | | | $25,000.00 |
| EST. COST | | | | $1,418,000.00 |

## YEAR FOUR: SYSTEM

| FOCUS AREA | ACTION |
|---|---|
| Communications | + Create a formal process for updates to park amenity GIS database (refer to Action Step 3.4, page 108.)<br>+ Develop a policy for land acquisition to support increased density and ongoing growth (refer to Land Acquisition, page 120.) |
| Operations | + Digitize ADA Compliance standards and documentation process. |
| Sustainability | + Design and implement zoning tools that preserve open space, adding language to zoning codes that dedicate open space (refer to Action Step 2.3, page 107.) |
| Partnerships | |
| Connectivity | + Implement Bicycle + Pedestrian Master Plan. |

## YEAR FOUR: PARKS

| PARK | MAINTENANCE | AMENITIES | PLAN/FUND/BUILD | COST ESTIMATE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| American Heroes Park | + Complete Level I + Level II Maintenance to existing amenities, especially restroom and trash receptacles. | | | $250,000.00 |

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

## YEAR FOUR: PARKS

| *PARK* | *MAINTENANCE* | *AMENITIES* | *PLAN/FUND/BUILD* | *COST ESTIMATE* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ashford Hollow Park | | + Add amenities to meet community need | | $25,000.00 |
| Brook Park | | + Add play amenities designed for a wider range of ages. Improve opportunities for users at pond; create fishing area or water overlook. | | $150,000.00 |
| Clearwater Falls | + Maintain amenities to a Level III Standard. | | | $50,000.00 |
| College Heights Park | | + Add and improve park signage | | $1,000,000.00 |
| Daniell's Farm Trail Corridor | | | + Fund planned improvments | $150,000.00 |
| Dowding | | + Install pump/ cycle track | | $150,000.00 |
| Everett Park | + Complete Level III Maintenance to picnic tables. Complete Level II&I maintenance to trash receptacles, shelters, weeds, sidewalks, and surfaces. Improve wood chip play surfaces to more accessible surfacing. | | | $45,000.00 |

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

## YEAR FOUR: PARKS

| PARK | MAINTENANCE | AMENITIES | PLAN/FUND/BUILD | COST ESTIMATE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gemini Park | + Complete Level II maintenance on gravel surfaces, replacing for more accessible surface, and on trash cans, shelters, picnic tables, and other park amenities. | | | $50,000.00 |
| Glenmorrie Park | + "Complete Level II maintenance on park surfaces for safety and access.<br><br>Add improved lighting and visibility into park. " | | | $25,000.00 |
| Golden Hills | | + Upgrade existing shelter, benches, and grills. | + Fund planned improvments | $10,000.00 |
| Haworth Park | | + Remove and replace play structure | | $100,000.00 |
| Heartland Hills Park | | + Install adventure/ natural play structures | | $75,000.00 |
| Hyda Hills Park | | + Upgrade soccer fields | | $50,000.00 |
| Jewell Park | | + Add improved dog park facilities, including unique features not found in the area, to make Jewell Park a destination dog park. Add water stations, waste receptacles, shade structures, and bathing stations | | $50,000.00 |

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

## YEAR FOUR: PARKS

| *PARK* | *MAINTENANCE* | *AMENITIES* | *PLAN/FUND/BUILD* | *COST ESTIMATE* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| McCann Park | + Complete Level I + Level II Maintenance to bring amenities, surfaces, and connections up to an acceptable level of service. | | | $25,000.00 |
| Oakhurst Park | + Complete Level I maintenance to repair broken play structure. | | | $65,000.00 |
| Stonecroft Park | | + Install restrooms | | $150,000.00 |
| Sunrise | + Complete Level I maintenance on park amenities and surfaces for safety and access. Remove weeds. Eliminate bee infestation in play amenity surfacing; replace surfacing for accessible material. Improve lighting and visibility throughout the park. | | | $25,000.00 |
| Twin Ridge Park | | + Improve on-street signage. | | $10,000.00 |
| Two Springs | | + Remove and replace play structure | | $65,000.00 |
| Two Springs | + Maintain amenities to a Level III Standard. | | | $15,000.00 |

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

## YEAR FOUR: PARKS

| *PARK* | *MAINTENANCE* | *AMENITIES* | *PLAN/FUND/BUILD* | *COST ESTIMATE* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Washington Park | | + Remove inacessible play structure on north side of park | | $15,000.00 |
| Willow Springs | + Maintain amenities to a Level III Standard. | | | $15,000.00 |
| EST. COST | | | | $2,565,000.00 |

## YEAR FIVE: SYSTEM

| *FOCUS AREA* | *ACTION* |
|---|---|
| Communications | + Create a formal process for updates to park amenity GIS database (refer to Action Step 3.4, page 108.)<br>+ Develop a policy for land acquisition to support increased density and ongoing growth (refer to Land Acquisition, page 120.) |
| Operations | + Digitize ADA Compliance standards and documentation process. |
| Sustainability | + Design and implement zoning tools that preserve open space, adding language to zoning codes that dedicate open space (refer to Action Step 2.3, page 107.) |
| Partnerships | |
| Connectivity | + Implement Bicycle + Pedestrian Master Plan. |

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

## YEAR FIVE: PARKS

| *PARK* | *MAINTENANCE* | *AMENITIES* | *PLAN/FUND/BUILD* | *COST ESTIMATE* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Aspen/Sun Valley | | + Convert swimming pool to skate park amenity. | | $100,000.00 |
| Aspen/Sun Valley | | + Renovate existing pool into skate park. | | $75,000.00 |
| Blackhawk Park | | | + Merge with Oakhurst Park under Blackhawk HOA agreement. | $85,000.00 |
| Cascio Pool | + Complete Level II Maintenance on poolhouse & pool amenities. | | | $65,000.00 |
| Copper Creek | | + Add play amenities designed for a wider range of ages. | | $50,000.00 |
| Daniell's Farm | | | + NEPA | $40,000.00 |
| Everett Park | | + Augment drainage channel with natural landscaping and native plantings | | $25,000.00 |
| Faulkland | | + Install gathering-oriented games, like horseshoes, bocce ball, etc. near gathering space. | | $15,000.00 |
| Golden Hills | | + Install dog park | | $25,000.00 |
| Hastings Banner | | | + Complete Park Layout Plan. | $15,000.00 |
| Jewell Park | | + Remove and replace benches | | $10,000.00 |

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

## YEAR FIVE: PARKS

| *PARK* | *MAINTENANCE* | *AMENITIES* | *PLAN/FUND/BUILD* | *COST ESTIMATE* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lakewood Villages | | + Add in-park trail loop/sidewalks to connect amenities to access points. | | $15,000.00 |
| McCann Park | | + Add updated shade structures over ball field seating. Install structures for tickets and concessions. | | $25,000.00 |
| Normandy Hills | | + Remove and replace post and deck structure | | $65,000.00 |
| Oakhurst Park | | + Add upgraded natural play amenities. | | $35,000.00 |
| Sorenson Park | | + Install play structure and climbing apparatus | | $85,000.00 |
| South Plain Greenway | | | + Complete Park Layout Plan. | $20,000.00 |
| Stonecroft Park | + Add improved signage and lighting for increased safety throughout the park. Improve pathways and entrances. | | | $15,000.00 |
| Sunrise | | + Add seating/ benches. Add water station. | | $15,000.00 |
| Swanson Park | | + Replace gathering space structures. | | $35,000.00 |
| Thompson Park | + Complete maintenance to water station. Complete Level II maintenance to all surfaces for safety and accessibility. | | | $15,000.00 |

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

## YEAR FIVE: PARKS

| PARK | MAINTENANCE | AMENITIES | PLAN/FUND/BUILD | COST ESTIMATE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Two Springs | | + Install rock climbing structure | | $75,000.00 |
| Washington Park | | | + Complete Park Layout Plan. | $15,000.00 |
| Willow Springs | | + Add signage for pedestrian access to Willow Springs | | $10,000.00 |
| EST. COST | | | | $38,750.00 |

## YEAR SIX: SYSTEM

| FOCUS AREA | ACTION |
|---|---|
| Communications | |
| Operations | |
| Sustainability | + Conduct an environmental, health, and traffic impact assessment of improvements to parks and trails system (refer to Connectivity, page 117.) |
| Partnerships | |
| Connectivity | |

## YEAR SIX: PARKS

| PARK | MAINTENANCE | AMENITIES | PLAN/FUND/BUILD | COST ESTIMATE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Aspen/Sun Valley | + Complete Level I + Level II Maintenance. | | | $115,000.00 |
| Aspen/Sun Valley | | + Remove and replace existing play structure with acessible or nature play structure. | + Fund Park Layout Plan. | $75,000.00 |
| Cascio Pool | | + Add 10 parking stalls | | $50,000.00 |

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

## YEAR SIX: PARKS

| *PARK* | *MAINTENANCE* | *AMENITIES* | *PLAN/FUND/BUILD* | *COST ESTIMATE* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Clearwater Falls | | + Add food preparation stations and grills to existing shelter area. | | $10,000.00 |
| Everett Park | | + Add pickleball, basketball to Everett Park. | | $125,000.00 |
| Everett Park | + Remove and replace soccer goals | | | $30,000.00 |
| Faulkland | + Improve signage on 48th street | | | $5,000.00 |
| Fox Ridge | | + "Implement natural grassland educational area with signage and natural play amenities<br>Add shade structures<br>Add play structures that are designed for inclusive access for all users " | | $75,000.00 |
| Gemini Park | | + Remove and replace food preparation stations and grills | | $10,000.00 |
| Glenmorrie Park | | + "Add in-park loop trail/sidewalks to connect amenities to access points.<br><br>Add improved signage.<br><br>Add paths connecting play areas. " | | $30,000.00 |
| Hastings Banner | | + Add baseball/ softball fields | | $100,000.00 |

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

## YEAR SIX: PARKS

| PARK | MAINTENANCE | AMENITIES | PLAN/FUND/BUILD | COST ESTIMATE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hyda Hills Park | | | + Complete Park Layout Plan. | $15,000.00 |
| Jewell Park | + Resurface basketball court | | | $15,000.00 |
| Pipers Glen | + Maintain amenities to a Level III Standard. | | | $20,000.00 |
| Swanson Park | | + Install rock climbing structure | | $150,000.00 |
| Thompson Park | | + Install portable restrooms. Install additional waste receptacles. | | $10,000.00 |
| Twin Ridge Park | | + Remove and replace concrete paths | | $15,000.00 |
| Washington Park | | | + Fund planned improvements | $200,000.00 |
| Willow Springs | | | + Complete Park Layout Plan. | $15,000.00 |
| EST. COST | | | | $1,065,000.00 |

## YEAR SEVEN: PARKS

| PARK | MAINTENANCE | AMENITIES | PLAN/FUND/BUILD | COST ESTIMATE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jewell Park | + Complete Level II maintenance on surfaces. Improve stormwater management and drainage. Eliminate water pooling at dog park. Improve lighting and visibility for safety and access. | | | $75,000.00 |
| Swanson Park | | + Implement tall grass prairie on east side of Swanson Park (on former landfill site.) | | $10,000.00 |
| EST. COST | | | | $85,000.00 |