

# Lee's Summit, MO Parks Master Plan Update

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## Acknowledgements

### Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation Board

Lawrence Bivins, President  
James Huser, Vice President  
Samantha Shepard, Treasurer  
Mindy Aulenbach, Past President  
Bernadette Basham  
Casey Crawford  
Jon Ellis  
Wesley Fields  
Tyler Morehead

### Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation Department Staff

### City of Lee's Summit Staff

### Partner Organizations

Metropolitan Community College-Longview Campus  
Jackson County Parks + Rec  
Lee's Summit Baseball Association  
Lee's Summit Football Association  
Lee's Summit Soccer Association  
Lee's Summit Softball Association

### Consultant Team

Shockey Consulting Services, LLC

### Lee's Summit Residents

A special Thank You to the residents of Lee's Summit who provided important input into the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update through survey responses and Task Force meetings. Their participation and engagement are valued and appreciated.

## Introduction & Purpose

After the 2017 Parks and Recreation Master Plan was adopted, the Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation Department (LSPR) began working towards fulfilling the 8 priorities and 33 goals established in the plan. This plan update revisits the previous priorities and goals to benchmark progress and establishes new community needs and priorities.

This plan also considers future park and open space acres needed to meet community growth based on City development priorities defined in the [2020 Ignite Comprehensive Plan](#) which guides the goals and vision for the City of Lee's Summit for the next 20 years for parks and recreation, natural resources, along with economic growth, transportation, housing, and more.

## Progress from 2017 Master Plan Goals and Priorities

The following Priorities and Goals were developed in 2017. Progress for each has been noted and many goals remain in progress.

### Neighborhood Park Acquisition & Development

- Acquire and develop open green space to address the outdoor recreational needs of our community. Est. cost: \$12.5m (\$2.5m/park x 5 parks)
  - Progress: LSPR has developed North and South Lea McKeighan Park since 2016 and acquired the 30-acre Unity Village Property. This updated master plan identifies potential neighborhood and regional park sites in undeveloped PRI properties.
- Develop additional youth practice space. Est. cost: \$1.5m
  - Progress: Youth practice space enhancements have been made at Summit, Pleasant Lea, Howard, Lea McKeighan South, and Lea McKeighan North during the last 6 years. Girls' softball batting cages and tee ball fields have also been developed.
- Develop a sled hill
  - Progress: Reviewing feasibility and locations.
- Develop a park within 1/2 mile of every residence where feasible.
  - Progress: Currently 72% of residents have access to a park within a half-mile radius.
- Develop 10 acres of neighborhood parks per 1,000 population Current acreage LSPR has for neighborhood parks, 500 acres.
  - Progress: Currently 12.5 acres per 1,000 residents. To meet population projections in 2040, the community needs an additional 520 acres.



### Community Vision

A vibrant community ensuring the finest quality of life for all generations.

*Source: 2020 Ignite Comprehensive Plan*

*To accomplish the Community's Vision, continued investment in an outstanding parks and recreation system is critical.*

### Neighborhood Park Renovation

- Improve existing parks to include, but not be limited to, upgrades and/or installation of the following amenities: shelters, shade, restrooms, rails, outdoor fitness equipment, playgrounds, and climbing structures. Est. cost: \$6m (\$400k/yr. x 15 yrs.)
  - Progress: Neighborhood park redevelopment at the following locations have addressed these amenities: Summit Park, Howard Park, Lea McKeighan South, Lea McKeighan North, Hartman, Velie, Pleasant Lea. Improvements are planned for Williams Grant and Lower Banner Parks.
- Review parks annually and redevelop with citizen input as needed
  - Progress: The following parks have held community engagement workshops during the past six years: Summit, Howard, Velie, Pleasant Lea. Neighborhood meetings planned for Williams Grant and Lower Banner Parks.
- Add splashpads in areas of our community under-served by water play opportunities. Est. cost: \$1m (\$250k per).
  - Progress: Splashpads were added in the renovations at Howard and North Lea McKeighan Park within the last 6 years

### Community Outdoor Facilities

- Development of an outdoor adventure park with various elements to challenge participants of all ages. Est. cost: \$2m
  - Progress: The development of North Lea McKeighan Park includes various outdoor adventure play elements.
- Development of an ice rink. Est. cost: \$1m
  - Progress: Ice rink developed at North Lea McKeighan Park in 2018
- Continued development of Sylvia Bailey Park. Est. cost: \$2.5m
  - Progress: A plan for improvements including nature center and outdoor event spaces is planned to begin in 2024
- Continue to make improvements to Summit Waves including more open swim water. Est. cost: \$5m
  - Progress: A \$4.5m expansion to Summit Waves was completed in 2020 that includes a new wave pool, restrooms, and other site amenities including shade, seating, and play features
- Development of a safety town facility. Est. cost: \$800k
  - Progress: Reviewing feasibility and locations

### Community Indoor Facilities

- Development of an athletic field house to serve the diverse recreational needs of our community. Est. cost: \$12m
  - Progress: Reviewing potential locations to acquire property and begin planning in FY 23
- Development of a fourth and fifth community center in the south and north areas of our community. Est. cost: \$10m (\$5m ea.)

- Progress: Acquisition of Longview Community Center in 2018 fulfilled fourth community center in south and west area of Lee's Summit. A fifth community center is still needed.
- Development of a nature center. Est. cost: \$3m
  - Progress: Bailey Park Master Plan identified a nature center. Plans to move forward with park development including a nature center are scheduled for 2024

### Trails/Greenway & Blueway Development

- Complete the greenway master plan and connect parks to neighborhoods. Est. cost: \$3.75m (\$250k/yr. X 15 yrs.)
  - Progress: A greenway master plan update was completed in 2019. Approximately 92 miles have been installed
- Development of a blueway for recreational water use along the Little Blue Trace. Est. cost: \$1.5m
  - Progress: No activity currently
- Support acquisition and development of the Rock Island corridor and connection to the Katy Trail
  - Progress: Completion of the first phase of the Rock Island Trail through LS was completed in 2018 developing approximately 7 miles. An additional 8 miles was completed north of LS in 2020. Funding and plans to extend trail from Jefferson St to Hamblen Road will be completed by 2024. LSPR completed a new trailhead at Hartman Park at a cost of \$250,000 to support trail connection to the Rock Island.
- Development of off-road dirt trails for biking and running
  - Progress: 1014 Trail was constructed in partnership with Urban Trail Company in 2020. Approximately three miles in Legacy Park. More off-road trails are being planned.
- Advocacy for the continuation of the Livable Streets concept.
  - Progress: LSPR staff supports and collaborates on a continual basis with LSAC and supports goals and objectives of Livable Complete Streets.

### Programs & Events

- Development of programming specifically for teens.
  - Progress: On going and community input was gathered for the Park Master Plan Update
- Development and/or support individual and group community fitness opportunities such as 5k's, marathons, bike rides, and obstacle course races.
  - Progress: Outdoor Fitness activities at Legacy Park Amphitheater and Lowenstein Park. Tour de Lake and Night Flight have been reintroduced after pandemic. LSPR supported training rides for Tour de Lakes. LSPR supports several not-for-profit organizations host runs and walks in Lee's Summit parks.
- Support Cultural Arts through the addition of public arts in parks, programming, and amphitheater events. Est. cost: \$150k (\$10k/ yr. X 15 yrs.)
  - Progress: Arts In the Parks program. Sculptures have been added at Legacy Park Amphitheater, Summit Park, and Lowenstein Park.
- Continued development and support for community wellness programs such as individual and group fitness and RevUP.

- Progress: Programs continue to sustain and are desired within the community. Over 5,200 classes are offered by LSPR per year.
- Develop programming to support outdoor education.
  - Progress: Continue to support expanding outdoor educational offerings in the future and through the Park Plan Update.

### Operations & Maintenance

- Continue to invest in the maintenance of the existing parks at a standard meeting or exceeding the expectations of our community.
  - Progress: LSPR continues to make a commitment to safe, clean, and well maintain parks as a priority from the community survey completed in March 2019 by ETC.
- Utilize the best practices for the maintenance and operations of parks and facilities including energy efficiencies, sustainable landscape, and storm water management.
  - Progress: Continue to prioritize efficient, cost-effective means of maintaining parks, facilities, and support green infrastructure programs in parks.
- Develop an asset management and needs assessment plan for all parks and facilities.
  - Progress: Implementation of asset management plan for park maintenance will occur by Fall 2022.
- Continue to provide an annual operational subsidy for Gamber Community Center. Est. cost: \$2.625m.
  - Progress: The subsidy of Gamber Community Center will continue through 2033.

### Administrative

- Seek partnership opportunities with other government and non-government organizations to support and enhance the outdoor, indoor, and programming needs of our community.
  - Progress: Continue to work on partnerships and leverage financial opportunities. Partnerships with Hunt Midwest for Mouse Creek Trail. LSPR has partnered with private development on enhancements to Lowenstein Park (Drake Development). Partnership with YMCA and Jackson County special populations programming.
- Seek grants and alternative funding to complement the existing financial resources.
  - Progress: Awarded \$250,000 for Pleasant Lea Park through LWCF. Sign language signs donated by Truman Heartland Foundation. Inclusive playground equipment donated by EITAS.
- Continue to engage the community and solicit input through facility membership and program listening sessions, program and event surveys, comment cards, focus groups, task forces, and community surveys.
  - Progress: LSPR continues to engage community in various methods related to new projects, neighborhood improvements, programs, activities.

## Project Engagement Summary

LSPR began the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update in October 2021. Existing Parks and Recreation plans, future trends, and metrics were reviewed and considered before convening four stakeholder workshops.

### Workshops

The first three workshops met in late November 2021 and included LSPR staff, City of Lee's Summit staff, and partner agencies involved with LSPR. Each group provided thoughts on the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats LSPR faces. Below is a summary of responses across all three groups (results broken down from each group can be found in the appendix of this plan).

Mapping activities at each of the workshops provided the opportunity to markup specific needs and wants while considering existing amenities and access. LSPR staff reviewed future trends in parks and recreation and brainstormed where future parks should go, thinking about the park system holistically. City staff then reviewed what LSPR staff suggested and focused on

Activity Center development and how parks development fits into the City of Lee's Summit IGNITE Comprehensive Plan. External agencies then provided input on programming and amenities they would like to see in future parks. After the three workshops, the Parks and Recreation Board met in February 2022 to provide similar input on where future parks and amenities are needed as well as any program needs.



*Workshop 1 Parks & Recreation Staff*



*Workshop 2 City Staff*



*Workshop 3 External Agencies*

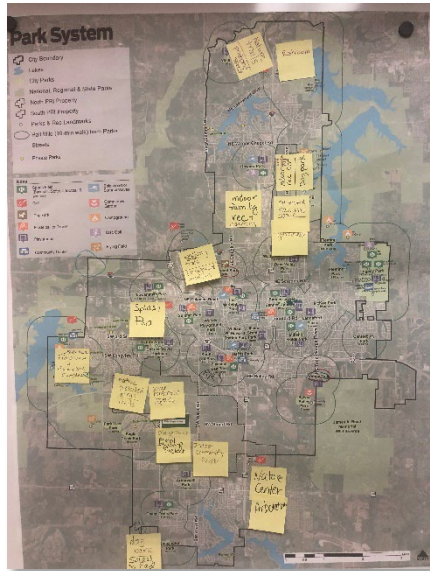
## SWOT Summary

Each stakeholder group was asked to complete a SWOT survey before attending the workshops. The following summary highlights similarities across all groups.

<h1>S</h1> <b>trengths</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Variety of programs</li> <li>• Positive Staff attitude</li> <li>• Strong community support</li> <li>• Amount of parks and parkland</li> <li>• Innovative and progressive parks planning</li> </ul>
<h1>W</h1> <b>eaknesses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technology efficiency</li> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Reactive vs Proactive</li> <li>• Resident awareness of internal workings and park offerings</li> </ul>
<h1>O</h1> <b>pportunities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available land</li> <li>• Landfill project</li> <li>• Sales tax revenue</li> <li>• Community financial support</li> <li>• Completing greenway plans</li> <li>• Regional trail connections</li> </ul>
<h1>T</h1> <b>hreats</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staffing and supply chain, material costs</li> <li>• Pandemic effects</li> <li>• Increased cost of services and maintenance</li> <li>• Lack of developer requirements for public parks</li> </ul>

## Community Survey and Engagement Workshops


Once the stakeholder workshops were complete, a community survey launched in March to gather community input on Parks and Recreation priorities and needs. The survey was advertised with yard signs in parks, email blasts, and social media and was open for three weeks. Close to 1,100 responses were collected (see appendix for results) which



informed the goals of this plan. One result of the survey was a list of individuals interested in participating in Task Force meetings to further explore Parks and Recreation Planning in Lee's

Summit. Over 40 people participated across four Task Force meetings to discuss parks, facilities, natural resources, programming, funding, and trails in Lee's Summit. The meetings provided education on the Parks and Recreation Department and an opportunity to guide plan recommendations and priorities through discussion and mapping activities to identify future parks, amenities, and trail locations.

PLAYBOOK



**Date:** June 8th, 08 9th  
**Time:** 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
**Location:** Gamber Community Center Ball Room

**Meeting Purpose:**  
 Discuss and gather input for the Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update based on outcomes from the recent community wide survey and workshops completed with City Staff, Parks, the Parks Board, and external agency stakeholders.

**Meeting Topics:**  
 Parks, Facilities, Natural Resources

Time	Agenda Item	Discussion Lead
6:00 PM	Introductions, Purpose and Outcomes	Project Team
6:15 PM	Results of staff, partners, Parks Board work sessions	Project Team
6:30 PM	Survey results and potential conclusions and action plans	Project Team
6:40 PM	BREAK	ALL
6:50 PM	Introduction of brainstorming/breakout sessions	Project Team
7:00 PM	Break Out Discussions	ALL
7:45 PM	Team Report Out and Next Steps	ALL Project team

## Trends in Parks and Recreation

How people use parks and recreation facilities changes over time while the demand for access to parks and trails continues to increase across the country. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been an increased appreciation and desire for parks and the expansion of pedestrian spaces in dense urban areas. The expansion of outdoor dining on urban streets, the conversion of streets to bike lanes and trails, and the installation of “parklets” in parking spaces and former travel lanes have opened all kinds of possibilities for new types of urban parks and highlight how parks development can be a key economic driver for communities. Some of the strongest trends emerging for parks and recreation are focused on equity, inclusion, health, and the environment and are expected to last.

Technology in parks programming is increasing as enthusiasm for drones and e-gaming rise among younger generations. Communities are also looking for ways to increase opportunities for inter-generational socializing such as dog parks, cultural events, and activities designed for people of all ages and abilities to enjoy and create community connections.

LSPR strives to maintain a standard of excellence which means more than adding new facilities. Understanding and keeping up with new industry trends and changes in culture guide the development of parks and recreation offerings.



## Future Projections & Development

### Population Growth

Based on projections calculated in the 2020 Ignite Comprehensive Plan, Lee’s Summit is expected to grow 38% over the next 20 years, or 37,700 people. As the population increases, density rises, and development occurs, it’s crucial for Lee’s Summit to ensure land is set aside and dedicated to trails and park development to ensure current level of service standards.

#### 38% Increase in Population

	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	Population Growth
<b>Total Population Estimate</b>	100,300	108,100	116,300	126,700	138,000	37,700

Projected Population Growth	2020-2025	2025-2030	2030-2035	2035-2040	2020-2040	% CHANGE
Net Additional Population	7,800	8,200	10,400	11,300	37,700	38%
% Change in Population	8%	8%	9%	9%	38%	
<b>Estimated Park Acres to Add</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>43%</b>

Source: 2020 Ignite Comprehensive Plan

Note: These are projections. Population growth will vary by year and parkland acquisition should be out in front of development.

### Acres of Park per Thousand Residents

To maintain the current Acres of Parks Per Capita, 12.5 acres per 1,000 residents which is well above the national average of 9.9 acres, Lee’s Summit will need a total of 1,725 park acres which is an

increase of 520 park acres by 2040. Lee’s Summit residents benefit from extensive county-owned regional parks and lakes as well as the many privately-owned open space and recreational amenities through neighborhood Home Owners Associations.

### Parks

- By 2040, Maintain the Acres of Parks Per Capita (12.5 per 1000).
  - Lee’s Summit is projected to have a population of 138,000 by 2040.
  - In order to maintain the current level of parks per capita, Lee’s Summit will need a total of 1,725 park acres, an increase of 520 park acres over the current city owned park acres.
- By 2040, Increase Percent of Population Within 10-Minute Walk of a Park.
  - Lee’s Summit currently has almost 30,000 dwelling units within a 10-minute walk distance (1/2 mile) from current local and regional parks in Lee’s Summit.
  - Undeveloped land currently within a 10-minute walk distance totals almost 6,000 acres.

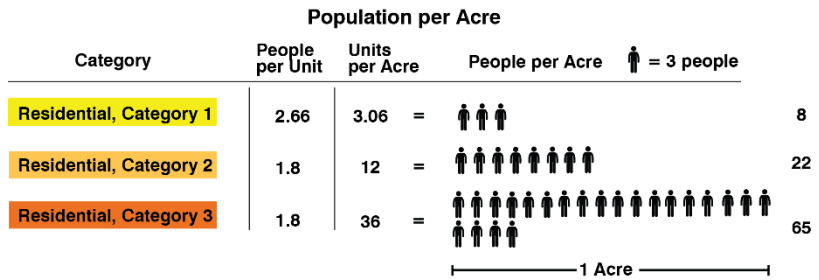
Source: 2020 Ignite Comprehensive Plan

***Metric Target:**  
12.5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents – approximately 520 new acres if population grows by 37,700 by 2040 as projected.*

Source: 2020 Ignite Comprehensive Plan

### Population Per Acre Based Upon Land Use Category

The Future Land Use Plan for the City includes Residential Category 1, 2, and 3 based upon density of units. This was used to project number of people per acre to help assign how many acres of parkland is needed to meet the 12.5 acres of parks per 1,000 capita target within each future growth area and Activity Center. This equates to 0.0125 acres of parkland per person.



Source: 2020 Ignite Comprehensive Plan

Note: Density will vary but this graphic from the Comprehensive Plan will help guide the amount of parkland needed by residential land use category.

### 10-Minute Walk

Currently, there are about 30,000 dwelling units within a 10-minute walk distance (1/2 mile) from current local and regional parks in Lee’s Summit which includes 72% of Lee’s Summit’s population. This does not include trails or private Homeowners Association owned parks. The Comprehensive Plan identified this metric as a target to improve as the community grows.

### Projected Housing Units Inside and Outside of Activity Centers

Projected Housing Demand	Existing Dwelling Units	New Dwelling Units	2040 Total Dwelling Units	% New Units Allocated	% Total Dwelling Units
Activity Centers	5,930	9,800	15,730	56%	27%
Outside Activity Centers	35,895	7,655	43,550	44%	73%
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,825</b>	<b>17,455</b>	<b>59,280</b>		

The numbers in the table above only include growth projected to 2040. More housing units are expected both inside and outside of the Activity Centers to full-build out.

Source: 2020 Ignite Comprehensive Plan

There are close to 6,000 acres of undeveloped land within a 10-minute walk of existing parks. Most of the new development will be in Activity Centers (described below).

**Metric Target:**  
**85% of the new population growth**  
**should be located within a 10-minute walk of parkland (new and existing).**

Source: 2020 Ignite Comprehensive Plan

### Activity Centers

Most of the growth in Lee’s Summit will be concentrated in five key Activity Centers. The Ignite Comprehensive Plan establishes five key Activity Centers, or Areas to Transform, representing significant opportunities for development over the next two decades. Additional Activity Center locations may continue to emerge as the community grows, which includes the future Blackwell Activity Center. Strategic planning and land acquisition are the most critical components to ensuring continued success of the Lee’s Summit Parks system. From the edges of each Activity Center to its center is a 15-minute walk.

**BIG IDEA #3**

**Concentrate multi-family & commercial development in five special & unique Activity Centers.**

*Source: 2020 Ignite Comprehensive Plan*

#### Acres Available for Parkland (Currently Undeveloped) by Activity Center

Activity Center	Total Acres in Activity Center	Total Acres Currently Developed In Activity Center	Total Acres Undeveloped in Activity Center	% of Activity Center Developed
Downtown Activity Center	1,329	1,301	28	98%
Rock Island Urban Center within South PRI	589	13	576*	2%
Summit Activity Center	552	377	175	68%
Woods Chapel Activity Center within the North PRI	451	0	451*	0%
New Longview Activity Center	325	306	19	94%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,246</b>	<b>1,997</b>	<b>1,249</b>	<b>62%</b>

*Source: 2020 Ignite Comprehensive Plan and 2021 GIS Land Use Data*

\*Areas with the greatest potential for park development.

To maintain the 12.5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents, the table identifies the amount of new park/open space required in each Activity Center to accommodate the population growth.

**New Parkland by Activity Center – Acres Per Capita Metric**

Activity Center	TOTAL PROJECTED POPULATION	METRIC TARGET 12.5 Acres of Parkland/1000 People
Downtown Activity Center	3960	49.5
Rock Island Urban Center within South PRI	7700	96.25
Summit Activity Center	3300	41.25
Woods Chapel Activity Center within the North PRI	4400	55
New Longview Activity Center	2200	27.5
Total	21560	269.5

*Source: 2020 Ignite Comprehensive Plan and 2021 GIS Land Use Data*

**Place Types**

To further guide future development within the Activity Centers, as well as along corridors, place types provide more specific recommendations and design guidance for the land use mix, building heights and massing, density, building/parking disposition, and general development character for new development.

Based on the Place Type design guidance, the land use mix for most Activity Centers requires 15 percent parkland/open space. The 15 percent can be publicly owned parks or privately owned open space. The Downtown Place Type requires 10 percent of the land use to be parks/open space because it is already developed.

The following table describes each of the Activity Centers in terms of the total acreage that should be dedicated to parks/open space, regardless of public or private ownership. These figures derive from the place type land use designations identified in the Ignite Comprehensive Plan.

### Acres of Parkland/Open Space by Activity Center Based Upon Place Types

Activity Center	Total Acres of Existing Parkland In Activity Center	% of Developed Land Currently in Parkland	METRIC TARGET % of Land for Parkland/Open Space (From Place Types)	METRIC TARGET MINIMUM # of Acres of Parkland/Open Space (From Place Types)	TOTAL ACRES OF PARKLAND/OPEN SPACE BY ACTIVITY CENTER (Current + Placetype Acres)
Downtown Activity Center	47	4%	10%	2.8	49.8
Rock Island Urban Center within South PRI	0	0%	15%	86.4	86.4
Summit Activity Center	15	4%	15%	26.25	41.25
Woods Chapel Activity Center within the North PRI	0	0%	15%	67.65	67.65
New Longview Activity Center	12	4%	15%	2.85	14.85
Total	74	4%		185.95	259.95

Source: 2020 Ignite Comprehensive Plan and 2021 GIS Land Use Data

### Recommended Parkland by Activity Center

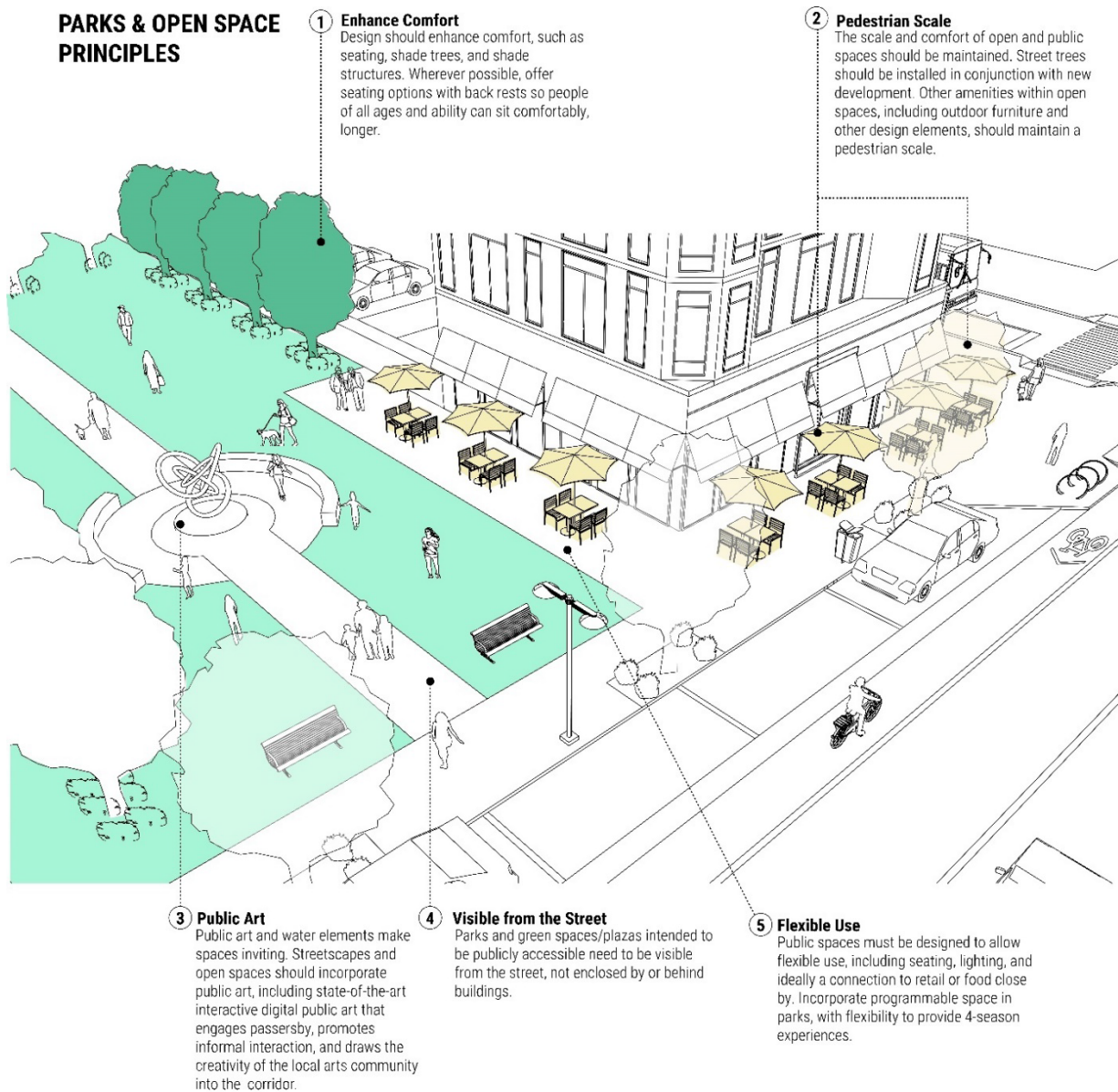
Activity Center	Total Acres Undeveloped in Activity Center	Total Acres of Existing Parkland In Activity Center	METRIC TARGET MINIMUM # of Acres of Parkland/Open Space (From Place Types)	TOTAL ACRES OF PARKLAND/OPEN SPACE BY ACTIVITY CENTER (Current + Placetype Acres)	METRIC TARGET 12.5 Acres of Parkland/1000 People	RECOMMENDED TARGET PARKLAND TO ACQUIRE	% of Undeveloped Acres in Activity Center	% of Total Acres Needed (520)
Downtown Activity Center	28	47	2.8	49.8	49.5	3	11%	1%
Rock Island Urban Center within South PRI	576	0	86.4	86	96.25	96	17%	18%
Summit Activity Center	175	15	26.25	41.25	41.25	26	15%	5%
Woods Chapel Activity Center within the North PRI	451	0	67.65	67.65	55	68	15%	13%
New Longview Activity Center	19	12	2.85	14.85	27.5	16	84%	3%
Total	1,249	74	185.95	259.95	269.5	209	17%	40%
					OUTSIDE ACTIVITY CENTER	311	7%	60%

Source: 2020 Ignite Comprehensive Plan and 2021 GIS Land Use Data

Most of the additional parkland outside of the activity centers will be to the south and west to serve the new growth from the South PRI and in the north, to serve the new growth from North PRI.

## DESIGN PRINCIPLES

Community design principles provide guidance for the future development and redevelopment of Lee's Summit's Activity Centers and corridors. While the principles are not prescriptive, they do provide overarching guidance for new streets, parkland, open spaces, and buildings. They serve as the basis for the review of development applications, revisions to, or the development of, future regulatory guidance, and as a signal to the community regarding the character and quality of development that is expected.



Source: 2020 Ignite Comprehensive Plan

## New 2022 Priorities and Goals

Cultural, Parks and Recreational Amenities goals, objectives and strategies (described below) are included in the Ignite Comprehensive Plan. This is the basic framework for the 2022 Parks Master Plan Update. Priorities were set as a part of the follow-on process to develop the Parks Master Plan Update.

### Cultural, Parks and Recreational Amenities

Create a community that celebrates, welcomes, and supports cultural and recreation amenities.

Parks, recreation, historical, and cultural resources are critical to achieving the finest quality of life and a safe, fun, and healthy environment. To maintain a high quality of life for our residents, we must continue to

invest in exceptional services and amenities to ensure the finest quality of life for all generations.

The community supports the preservation of historic resources and expansion of recreational services, amenities, and cultural resources needed to maintain a high quality of life into the year 2040.

#### GOAL:

Create a community that celebrates, welcomes and supports cultural, parks and recreational amenities.

#### OBJECTIVE:

Increase funding for projects and plans related to art, culture, festivals and celebrations.

#### OBJECTIVE:

Increase the percent of residents within 1/2 mile of a park.  
Maintain the number of park acres per capita as the community grows.

#### STRATEGIES:

- Create policies that expand and prioritize park investments, recreational programming, facility needs and identify funding strategies.
- Make investments in parks and recreational amenities that increase participation and improve access.
- Work with community partners to enhance parks and recreation opportunities.

*Source: 2020 Ignite Comprehensive Plan*

## Priority 1: Set aside land for trails and future parks prior to development or as part of the development process.

1.1 Actively pursue opportunities to expand the parks system in new developments as development patterns arise in undeveloped PRI properties and Activity Centers.

**Activity Centers:** refer to Future Land Use Map on page 23

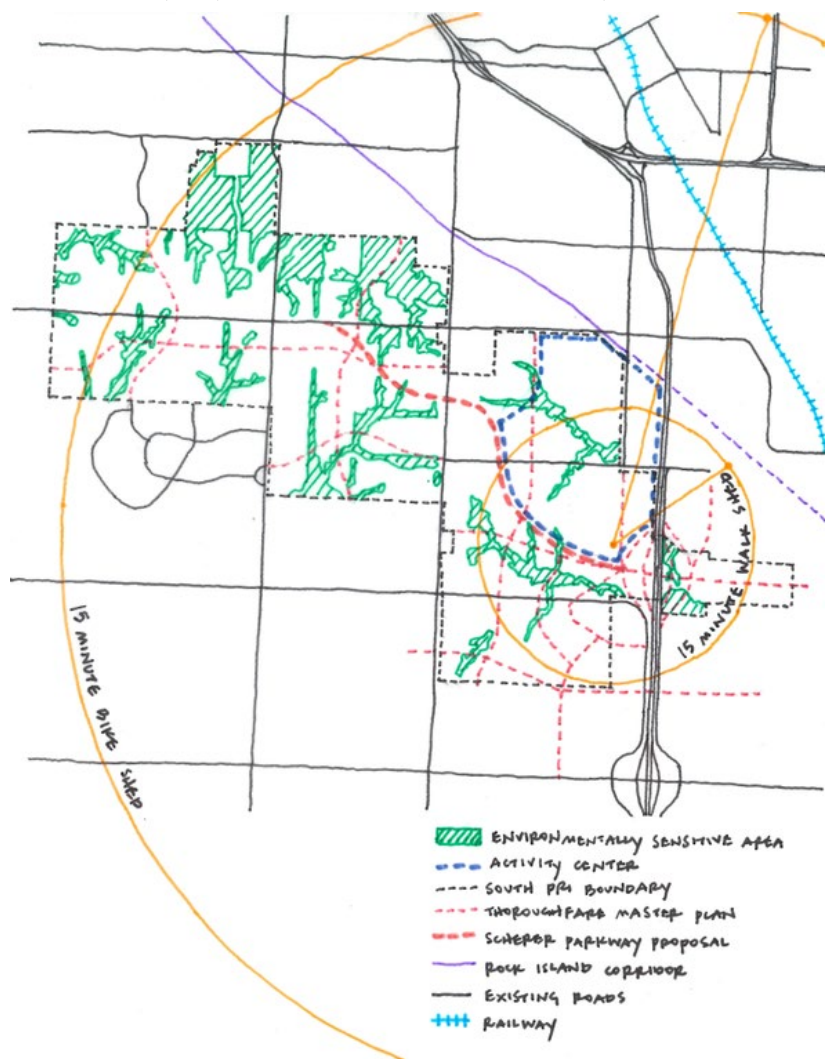
### 1.1.1 Downtown Activity Center – 3 acres of parkland needed

Downtown Lee's Summit is the traditional core and heart of the community and will continue to serve as such with a mobility hub that serves multiple means of transportation. Connecting trails and incorporating parks within development will play a large role in creating a vibrant downtown where people want to be and gather. The way parkland and open space is incorporated and identified in the downtown will be unique from other areas because of the dense development and lack of available land making the feasibility to achieve the calculated new acres of parkland/open space low. Parks within development, smaller pocket parks, and outdoor gathering places are some of the options to explore.

### 1.1.2 Rock Island Urban Center within South Property Reserve Inc. (PRI) – 96 acres of parkland needed

South Property Reserve Inc (PRI Land) does not have the same boundaries as the Rock Island Urban Center Activity Center.

- The Rock Island Urban Center is 589 acres, and the entire South Property Reserve Inc. is 3,141 acres.
- Parkland needed to serve the Rock Island Urban Center is 96 acres of the 576 undeveloped acres within the Activity Center (17%).
- Additional parkland needed to serve the area outside of the Rock Island Urban Center in the South PRI is approximately 250 acres according to population projections developed as a part of this update. This would meet the 12.5 acres of parkland per 1000 people.





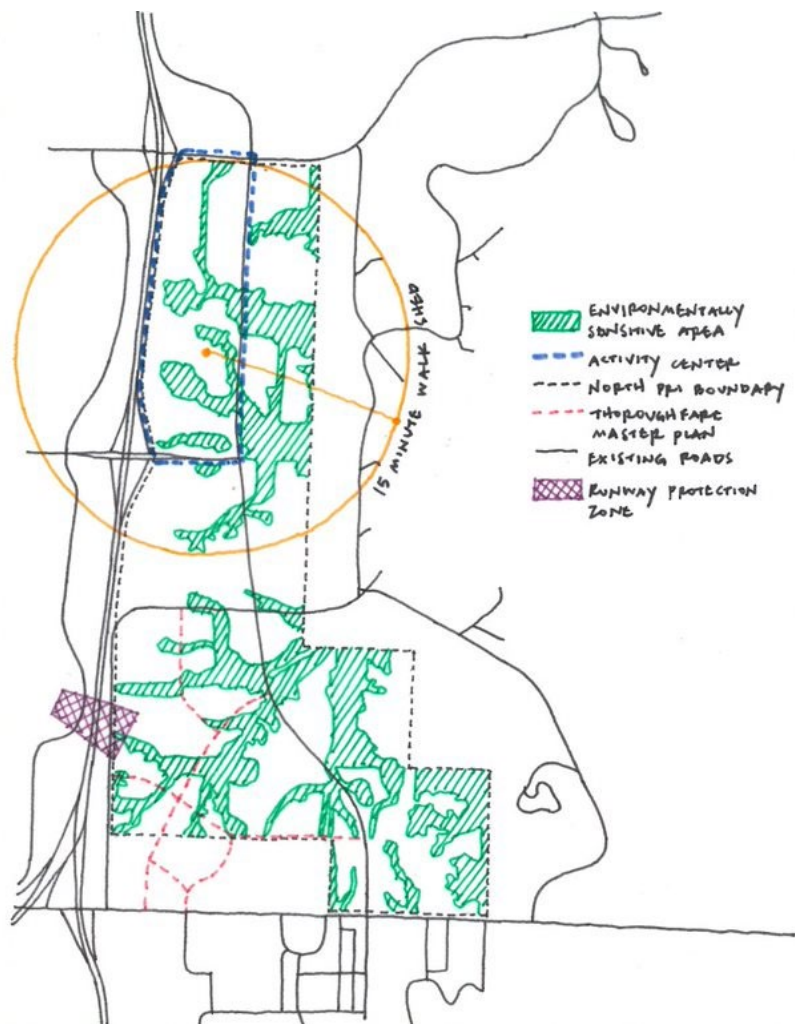
The Rock Island Urban Center within the South PRI has the highest density of the Activity Centers. This area will serve as a transit-oriented development and commuter hub with a focus on connectivity with many trail connections including a direct connection to Rock Island Trail. This Activity Center will serve as a vibrant community gathering center that will be crucial in accommodating the needed park/open space for future growth.

- a. Develop a large regional destination park to address the gap in southern Lee's Summit and the expected population growth.
- b. Include a Regional Stormwater Retention Water Feature such as a lake with non-motorized programming and camping.
- c. Connect trails through Rock Island Urban Activity Center to regional retention facility sited in Mouse Creek watershed in South Property Reserve Inc (PRI) property
- d. Enhance Trailheads with amenities and to draw people in.
- e. Seek out public/private partnerships for smaller neighborhood parks.
- f. Utilize the stream/riparian corridor setbacks for Trails connecting to park development and preserve natural beauty.
- g. Explore options for a community center and a fitness center and sports fields located further south.

### 1.1.3 Woods Chapel Activity Center within North Property Reserve Inc. (PRI) – 68 acres of parkland/open space needed.

North Property Reserve Inc (PRI Land) does not have the same boundaries as the Woods Chapel Activity Center.

- The Woods Chapel Activity Center is 451 acres, and the entire South Property Reserve Inc. is 1,062 acres.
- Parkland needed to serve the Wood Chapel Activity Center is 68 acres of the 451 undeveloped acres within the Activity Center (15%).
- Additional parkland needed to serve the area outside of the Wood Chapel Activity Center in the North PRI is approximately 60 acres according to population projections developed as a part of this update. This would meet the 12.5 acres of parkland per 1000 people.



This Activity Center is characterized by its connections to an abundance of parks and open space opportunities including Lake Jacomo and Jackson County Parks + Rec amenities. Parks and Recreation development in this area should focus on the natural environment and protection of natural resources, while providing a gateway to larger Jackson County Park amenities.

- a. Explore development of a destination park with public/private programming to serve as a gateway park to Jackson County Parks + Rec lakes.
- b. Protect environmentally sensitive areas as depicted on this map. These are primarily hardwood forest.
- c. Develop a neighborhood park with an all-inclusive playground.
- d. Explore options to develop an arboretum and nature center.

#### **1.1.4 Summit Activity Center –26 acres of parkland needed**

The Summit Activity Center includes a range of commercial, industrial, and residential options and will continue to serve as a regional destination with potential to serve as community mobility hub, ensuring increased connectivity to all parts of Lee's Summit.

- a. Enhance pedestrian connectivity potentially through a trail connection at Chipman Road.
- b. Explore options for an arboretum, nature center, splashpad or dog park.

#### **1.1.5 New Longview –16 acres of parkland needed**

The New Longview Activity Center includes an historic component with the Longview Farm and historic gateways to the community. This area is a unique asset to the community and has the potential to evolve and serve a larger regional role through multimodal connections.

- a. Consider the Activity Center's unique asset to the community and potential to evolve and serve a larger regional role.
- b. Connect trails to Longview Lake.
- c. Explore options to add interpretive signage for historical education.
- d. Explore options for a dog park or a fieldhouse.

#### **1.1.6 Blackwell Activity Center – Future Activity Center**

- a. Enhance to serve as a gateway to James A. Reed and connect to the Resource Recovery Park
- b. Newly annexed Barber property in Eastern Lee's Summit in the Blackwell Activity Center will need a neighborhood park and potentially serve as a connection to the James A Reed Nature Preserve.

**1.1.7** Enhance signage and wayfinding to connect downtown.

**1.1.8** Establish a parkland dedication ordinance for developers.

**1.1.9** Develop a funding plan to purchase land for parks and trails ahead of development.

### **Priority 2: Create destination parks, publicly accessible parks, and desired facilities and programming as part of an economic development strategy.**

**2.1** Develop splashpads in the south of Lee's Summit.

**2.2** Develop adventure amenities such as a zipline and climbing wall to create unique attractions.

**2.3** Explore locations to develop a fieldhouse adjacent to Longview Community Center or the North PRI area near Todd George Pkwy.

**2.4** Explore locations to develop a fifth Community Center in the North PRI.

- 2.5 Create more programming for all ages.
- 2.6 Explore teen opportunities such as ice hockey, teens nights, skate park or roller rink, and paintball on unused sports fields.
- 2.7 Explore ways to make the website more user friendly and potential apps for registration.
- 2.8 Increase awareness of senior programming post-Covid.
- 2.9 Create a destination park within the Rock Island Urban Activity Center to serve as a draw to bring people to the commercial area and serve the southern part of Lee's Summit.
- 2.10 Locate the Rock Island Trailhead in or adjacent to the Rock Island Urban Activity Center inside of the Rock Island Urban Activity Center with surrounding commercial and Residential 2 & 3 housing. The Rock Island Trailhead will also drive lodging needs, both rustic and boutique hotel within activity center.
- 2.11 Improve signage connecting people to Downtown from this Rock Island Trailhead.
- 2.12 Increase connectivity to downtown through trails and parks.
- 2.13 Connect trails through Rock Island Urban Activity Center to regional retention facility sited in Mouse Creek watershed in South PRI property and onto Longview Lake and Longview Activity Center.
- 2.14 Develop more all-inclusive playgrounds.
- 2.15 Enhance bicycle infrastructure to increase bicycle connectivity through parks and trails.
- 2.16 Make future improvements to the Legacy Park Amphitheater to appeal to higher caliber performances and improve audience experiences. (Ignite Comprehensive Plan Page 35).

### Priority 3: Create city-owned “entrance parks” into regional parks and trails systems.

- 3.1 By locating “entrance parks” directly adjacent to the existing county, state, lakes, and trail system Lee's Summit residents in the surrounding neighborhoods are invited into the larger systems.
- 3.2 Design entrance parks as neighborhood park facilities.
- 3.3 Use these entrance/neighborhood parks to fill in where there is a gap in the 10-minute walk to parks from neighborhoods.
- 3.4 Connect the Summit Activity Center through the Unnamed parkland to the trail system in Unity Village.
- 3.5 Protect high value natural resources within Wood's Chapel Activity Center for public use adjacent to and as an entrance into Fleming Park with partnership from Jackson County to increase the value of the developable land within the activity center.

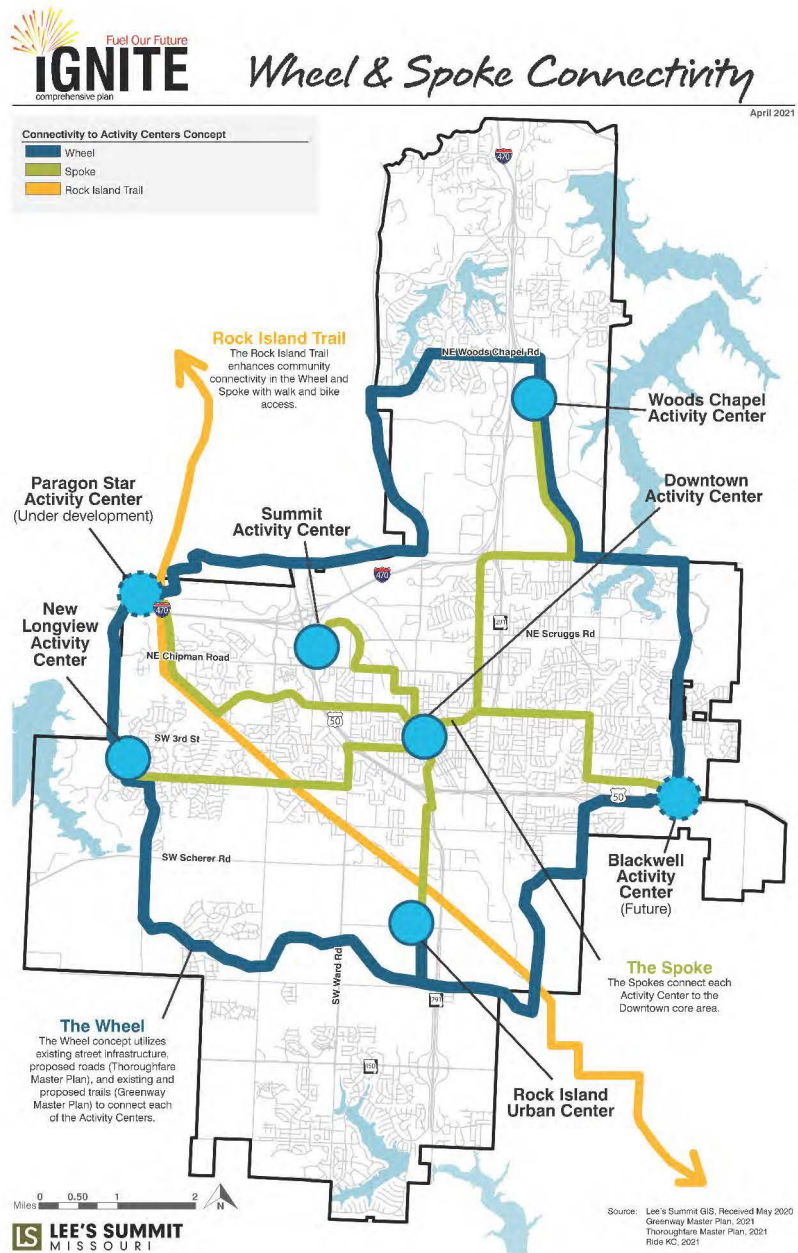
### Priority 4: Create unique facilities and programming in partnership with other agencies and adjacent to existing facilities.

- 4.1 Explore intermural sports for high school aged programming.
- 4.2 Seek ways to increase integration of art, history, and culture in our parks.
- 4.3 Continue to develop indoor and outdoor facilities.
- 4.4 Create opportunities for youth e-gaming to work with and potentially partner with the intercollegiate E-gaming facility at MCC/Longview.
- 4.5 Utilize the new fieldhouse as an indoor space for winter camps using turf fields.
- 4.6 Investigate opportunities to develop indoor baseball/softball batting cages.

- 4.7 Invest in more dog parks, splash pads, and pickleball facilities throughout Lee’s Summit to increase accessibility.
- 4.8 Explore partnerships with the County for drone flying fields.
- 4.9 Increase camping opportunities for trail and large park users such as at the Rock Island Trail Head and the destination park potential in the South PRI.
- 4.10 Establish a policy to determine type of amenity and facility development between City and private parks.

### Priority 5: Connecting parks to each other and Activity Centers with trails.

- 5.1 Prioritize connections from:
  - a. Neighborhoods to parks, schools and community amenities, and retail.
  - b. Downtown to Rock Island and Greenwood-Katy Trail.
  - c. Park connections to Katy Trail.
  - d. Northern Lee’s Summit.
- 5.2 Work to connect Little Blue Trace to Rock Island.
- 5.3 Commercialize key trailheads to include concessions or camping.
- 5.4 Create a neighborhood park to serve the Future Blackwell Activity Center. Connect it through James A Reed to the Resource Recovery Center Park.



Source: Ignite Comprehensive Plan.

## Priority 6: Preserve Lee's Summit's high value resources for enjoyment by future generations.

- 6.1 Develop an arboretum and educational nature center with interpretive areas.
- 6.2 Incorporate interpretive areas for learning and education throughout our natural parks and blueways.
- 6.3 Create an interpretative center at the resource recovery facility/former landfill site to share the environmental value of the reuse.
- 6.4 Pair trails with stream/riparian corridor setbacks to make use of the land while preserving streams and creating a pleasant user experience.
- 6.5 Site a regional retention facility within the Mouse Creek watershed within the south PRI property to serve as a small lake within a regional park facility.
- 6.6 Produce an interconnected network of conservation lands throughout the community.
  - a. Promote Legacy Park as a conservation effort to remain undeveloped.
  - b. Preserve and incorporate natural space throughout Lee's Summit and the park system. (Wildlife habitat protection, watershed management and stream protection, urban forest management.)
- 6.7 Incorporate native plants and landscapes into park design and watershed management.
- 6.8 Incorporate conservation or native areas into more parks.
- 6.9 Seek ways to improve energy sustainability in our parks and programming.

### BIG IDEA #1

**Preserve natural resources, open space, recreational, cultural and historic resources.**

*Source: Ignite Comprehensive Plan.*

#### Open Space

Protect natural green infrastructure, providing places for recreation, preserving important environmental and ecological functions, sustaining wildlife corridors, and enhancing quality of life.

*Ignite Comprehensive Plan 2020 – Future Land Use Guidance*

## Priority 7: Maintain existing parks, facilities, and trails to ensure industry standards are met.

This is ongoing. See previous plan for progress update.

### BIG IDEA #5

**Sustain and enhance City services, public facilities and infrastructure to protect a high quality of life.**

*Source: Ignite Comprehensive Plan.*

## Priority 8: Ensure funding sources and levels are diverse, sustainable, and meet the needs of the community.

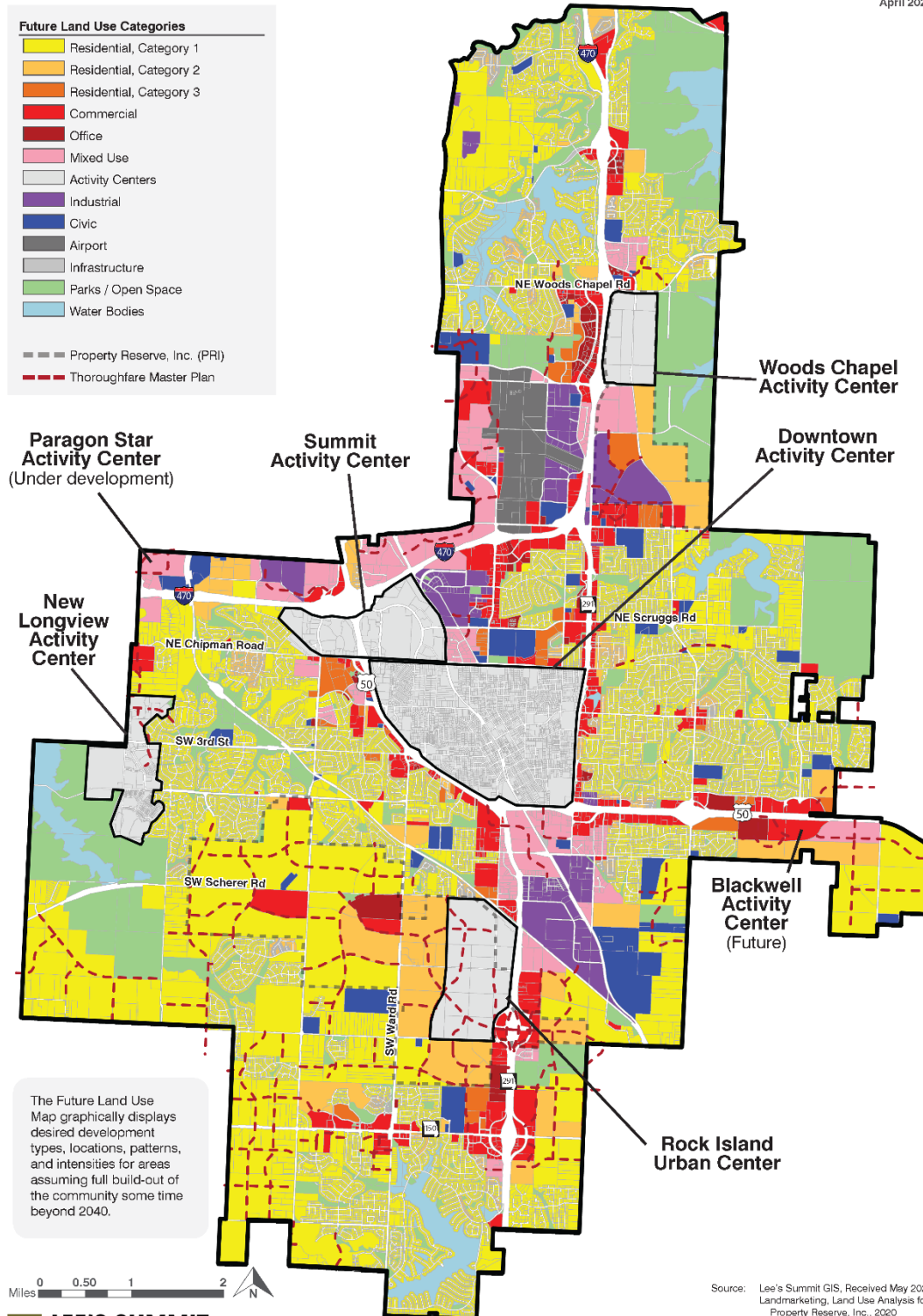
- 8.1 Continue to seek federal, state, and local grants, such as placemaking or stormwater grants, to fund park system development
- 8.2 Implement an impact fee or land dedication ordinance to ensure open space with increased development.
- 8.3 Encourage private donation to fund park system development

# Future Land Use

April 2021

**Future Land Use Categories**

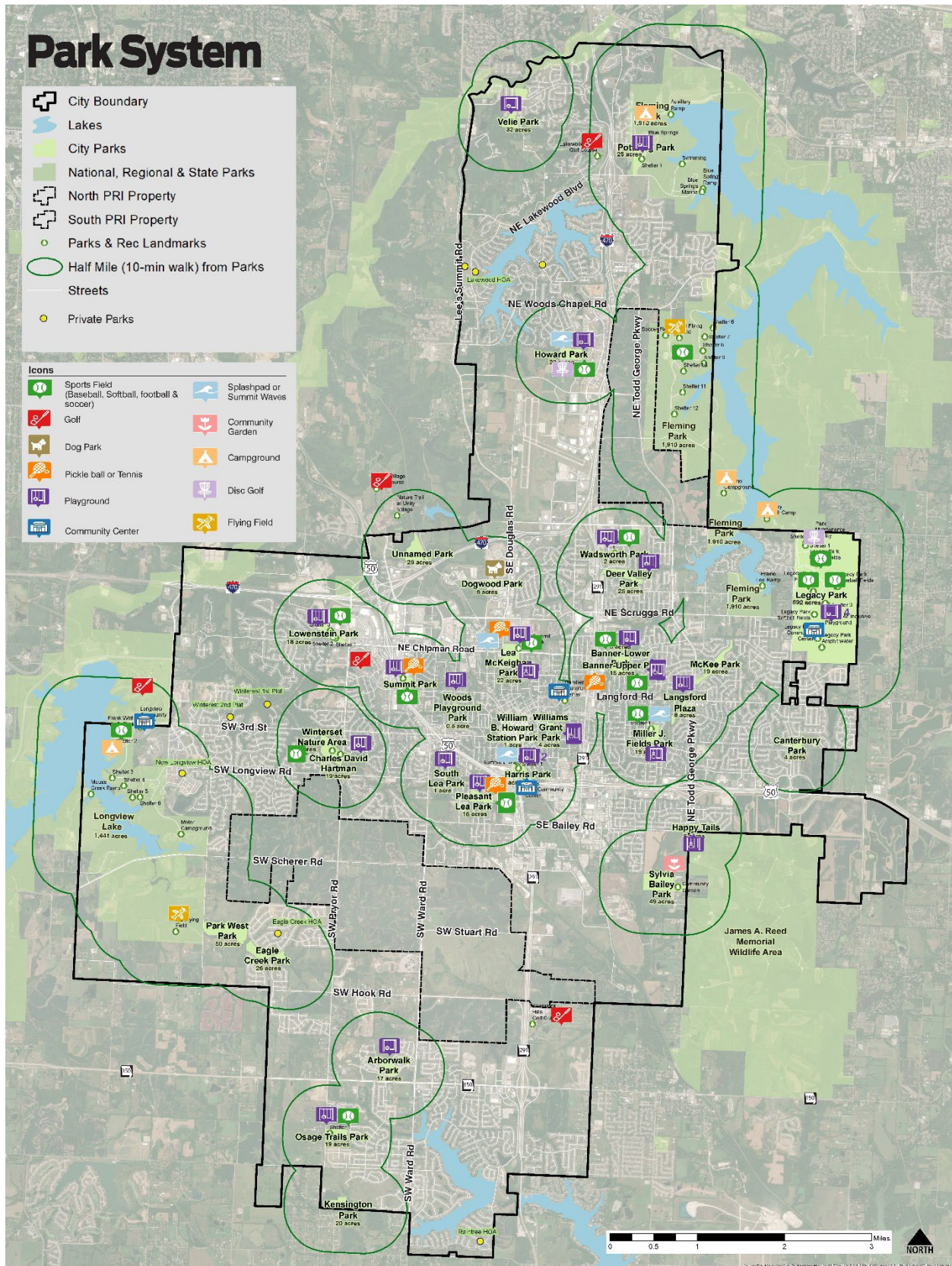
	Residential, Category 1
	Residential, Category 2
	Residential, Category 3
	Commercial
	Office
	Mixed Use
	Activity Centers
	Industrial
	Civic
	Airport
	Infrastructure
	Parks / Open Space
	Water Bodies
	Property Reserve, Inc. (PRI)
	Thoroughfare Master Plan

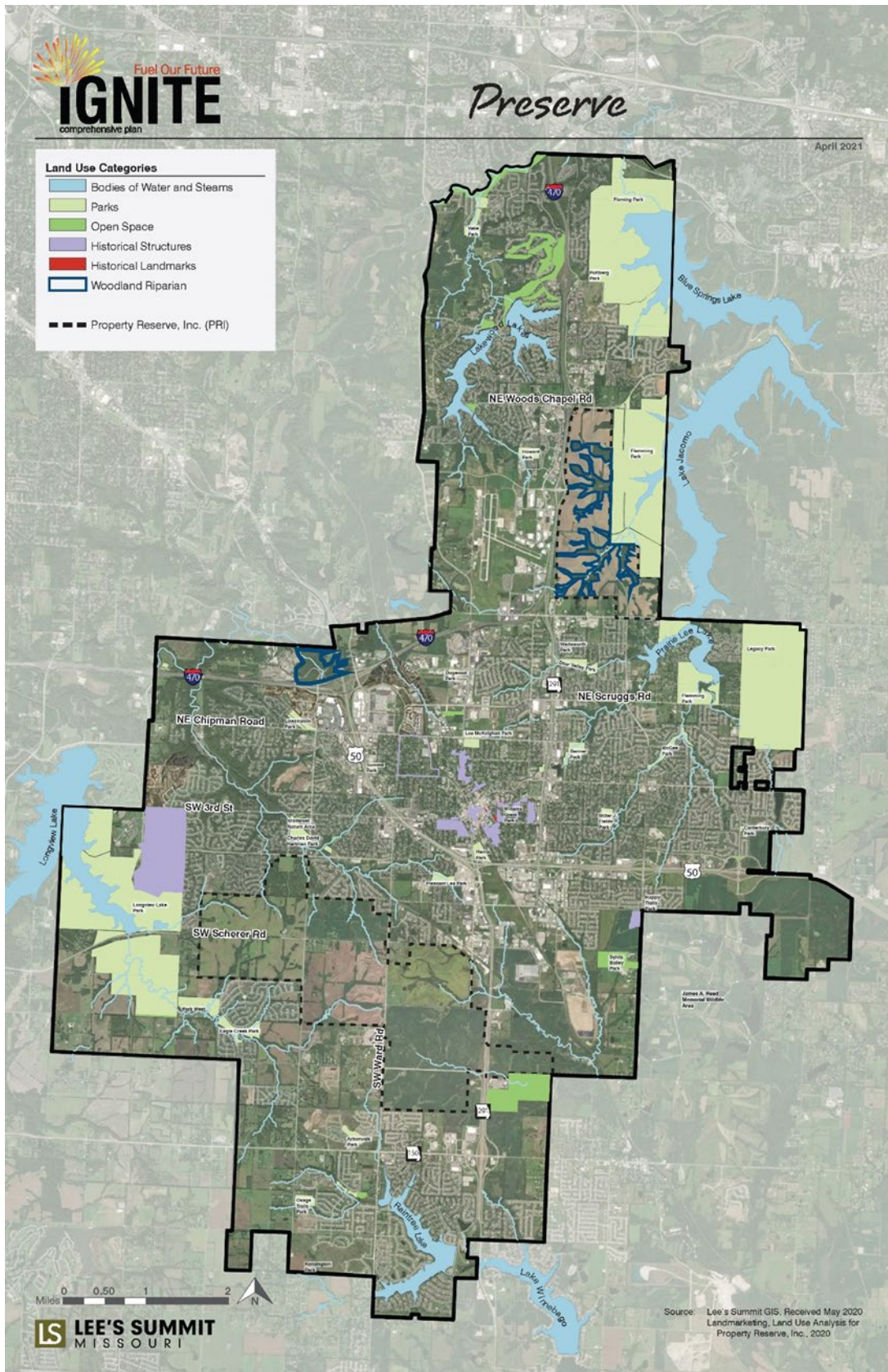


The Future Land Use Map graphically displays desired development types, locations, patterns, and intensities for areas assuming full build-out of the community some time beyond 2040.



Source: Lee's Summit GIS, Received May 2020  
Landmarking, Land Use Analysis for  
Property Reserve, Inc., 2020  
Lee's Summit Thoroughfare Master  
Plan, 2020







# APPENDIX

## SWOT Summaries

### Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation Staff Responses

S	W	O	T
<p><b>Park Responses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality of amenities</li> <li>• Community Support &amp; Engagement</li> <li>• Variety of programs /amenities</li> <li>• Innovative &amp; Progressive</li> <li>• Communication, Reputation &amp; staff attitude/teamwork</li> <li>• High work standards</li> <li>• Attention to detail</li> <li>• Fiscally responsible &amp; funding sources (property/sales tax)</li> <li>• Leveraging resources</li> <li>• Industry trend identification</li> <li>• Family-friendly</li> <li>• Affordable</li> <li>• Customer service oriented</li> <li>• Accessible</li> <li>• Existing plans (greenway etc.)</li> <li>• Park Board is diverse &amp; committed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technology               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not user friendly</li> <li>• Holds back operations and efficiency</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Staff shortage compared to size of operation</li> <li>• Reactive v. proactive               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance band aids instead fixing root of problem</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Take negative external comments too seriously sometimes</li> <li>• Lack of funding to reach aspirations</li> <li>• Financial viability of community centers due to pandemic</li> <li>• Lack of public awareness &amp; marketing</li> <li>• Diversity</li> <li>• Welcoming change &amp; thinking outside the box</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land &amp; Fieldhouse</li> <li>• PRI Property &amp; other available land for expansion</li> <li>• Land dedication or impact fees</li> <li>• Landfill project</li> <li>• Partnerships with agencies &amp; city</li> <li>• Have specialized athletic trainers for sports</li> <li>• Secured funding for future development</li> <li>• Sales Tax revenue</li> <li>• Community financial support</li> <li>• Use pandemic shifts to advantage               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Streamline business practices &amp; enrollments</li> <li>• Shorten wait times and reduce staffing needs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• EX. QR codes, pre purchased tickets, online purchasing easier</li> <li>• E-Bike rental/Bike-sharing,</li> <li>• Rock Island &amp; Katy Connections</li> <li>• More trail hubs/trailheads</li> <li>• A "Legacy Park" West</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development without parks and trails consideration               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support from city</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Vandalism</li> <li>• Private sector - competition</li> <li>• Staffing difficulties – supply chain and materials costs</li> <li>• Pandemic effects &amp; future concerns</li> <li>• Sales tax funding – drop in revenues to budget</li> <li>• Cost of land &amp; construction</li> <li>• Lower membership revenue (from pandemic)</li> <li>• Katy Trail not in Lee's Summit</li> <li>• Land acquisition for more parks</li> <li>• Increased cost of services/facilities</li> </ul>

## City of Lee's Summit Planning Staff Responses

S	W	O	T
<p><u>City Responses</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adding dog parks</li> <li>• Large, spacious parks</li> <li>• Quality and unique parks for all interests</li> <li>• Diverse program offerings (classes &amp; facilities)</li> <li>• Community Support and engagement</li> <li>• Balanced park locations</li> <li>• Maintenance &amp; asset management</li> <li>• Summit Waves, Ice Rink &amp; splash pads</li> <li>• Amount of Parkland and quality of open space</li> <li>• Positive organizational attitude &amp; "QOL" provisions</li> <li>• Employee attitudes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pocket parks closer to neighborhoods</li> <li>• Facility costs &amp; program fees (particularly for low-to-moderate households)</li> <li>• Internally focused – lack of external perspective</li> <li>• Competition with private sector limits revenue to support goals</li> <li>• Southern LS lacking regional park like Legacy</li> <li>• Citizen awareness of park offerings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop new facilities in southern LS.</li> <li>• More group class offerings</li> <li>• More people are moving to LS which increases tax base</li> <li>• Completing greenway plans through subdivision development</li> <li>• PRI property becoming available along with the Activity Centers</li> <li>• Additional outdoor pool offerings</li> <li>• Outdoor winter programming (sledding, snowboarding, etc)</li> <li>• Partnerships with School Districts (resources, employees)</li> <li>• 4,300 acres of future development</li> <li>• Regional trail connections increasing multimodal community &amp; promoting healthy activities</li> <li>• Growing individual health aspirations will draw people to facilities/classes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No requirements for developers to be set aside for park development and public use</li> <li>• Private providers</li> <li>• Staffing shortages</li> <li>• Private market offerings that compete with existing or new potential programming.</li> <li>• Increases in costs</li> <li>• Future health pandemics</li> <li>• Global warming as it relates to energy cost, property insurance, general climate for outdoor activities</li> <li>• Increased maintenance costs that lead to a reduction in quality or replacement frequency</li> <li>• Growing density and park capacity &amp; demand</li> </ul>

## Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation Board Responses

S	W	O	T
<p><u>Board Responses</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large variety for patrons across all ages</li> <li>• Well maintained and actively used</li> <li>• Park staff is always looking forward and responsive to our patrons</li> <li>• Park department is well funded and supported</li> <li>• Many new projects and the visibility in the community is very positive</li> <li>• Good leadership and staff</li> <li>• Community support</li> <li>• Taxpayer support</li> <li>• Strong and caring board</li> <li>• Overall amount of parks, activities and facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should prioritize completion of more trails</li> <li>• Would like to see more parks in the northern part of LS</li> <li>• Covid draining opportunities for programming. Will it end or is this the new norm?</li> <li>• Lack of public understanding of government restrictions, participation, and revenue</li> <li>• Quick to change and lead in the modernization of facilities and programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquire and develop more park acreage</li> <li>• Be flexible and always look at the best priority given the current economic and funding situation</li> <li>• Acquire more donated land in strategic areas to our residents</li> <li>• Maintain taxpayer support</li> <li>• Aligned with the future enhancement projects in the long-term plan and approved sales tax funding</li> <li>• Develop the old dump</li> <li>• Our size (land mass)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inability to buy land specifically for park development due to development priorities and/or funding limitations</li> <li>• Access to constant funding to grow, develop, and operate parks, facilities, and programs</li> <li>• Not following a clear and consistently updated priority plan</li> <li>• Ongoing pandemic and unknowns</li> <li>• Will inflation impact cost of projects? Labor shortages?</li> </ul>

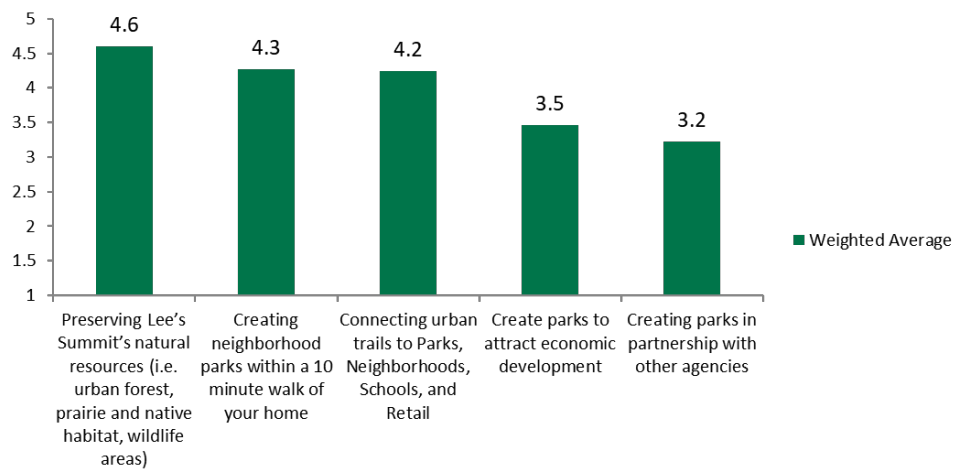
# Lee's Summit Parks & Recreation Master Plan

## Visioning Survey

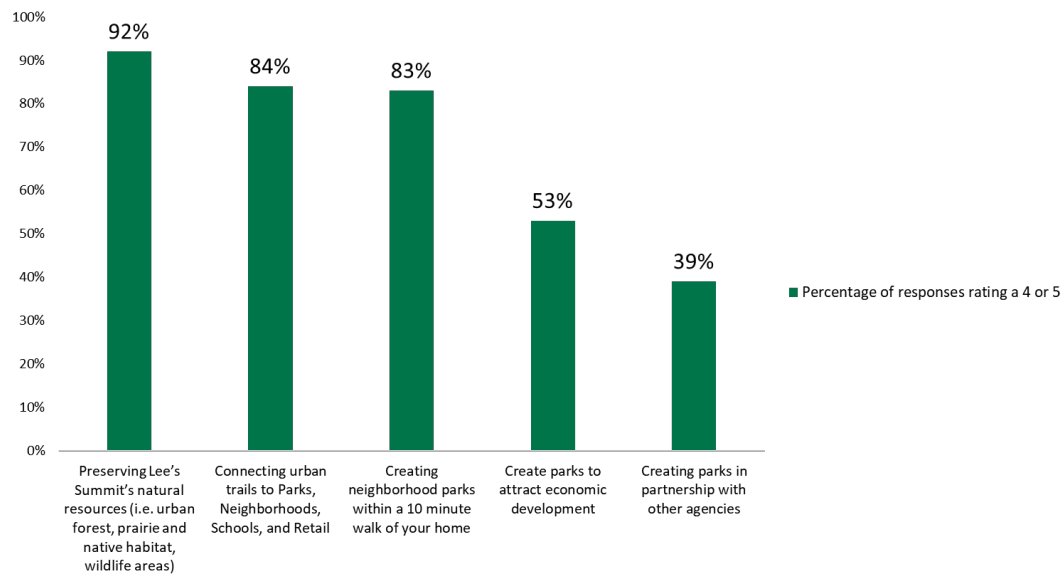
### Summary Report

#### Question 1 | 1,075 responses

Please rate how important the following park development priorities are to you

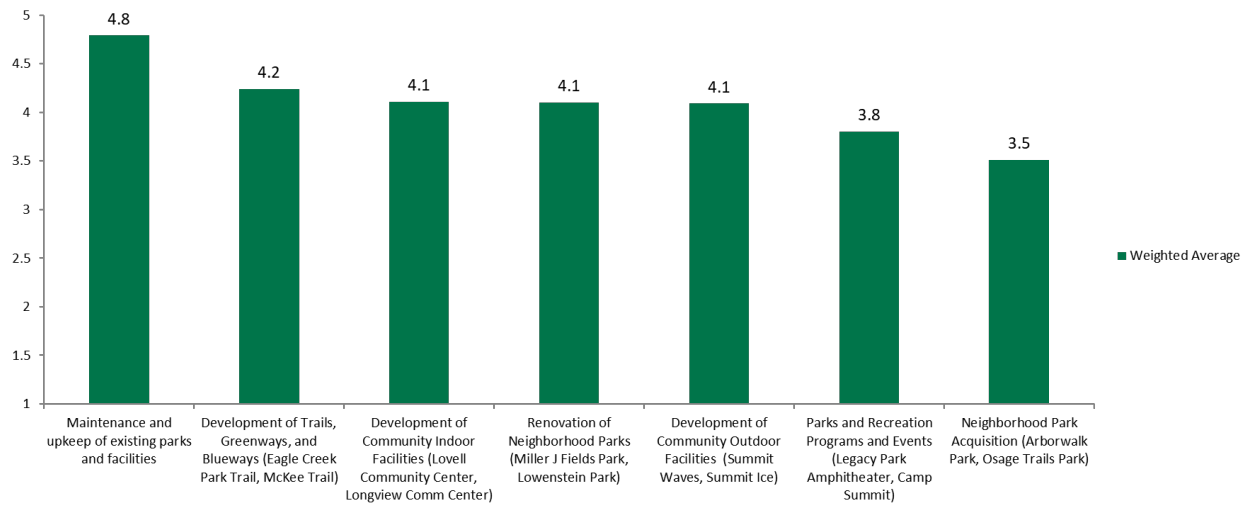


Please rate how important the following park development priorities are to you

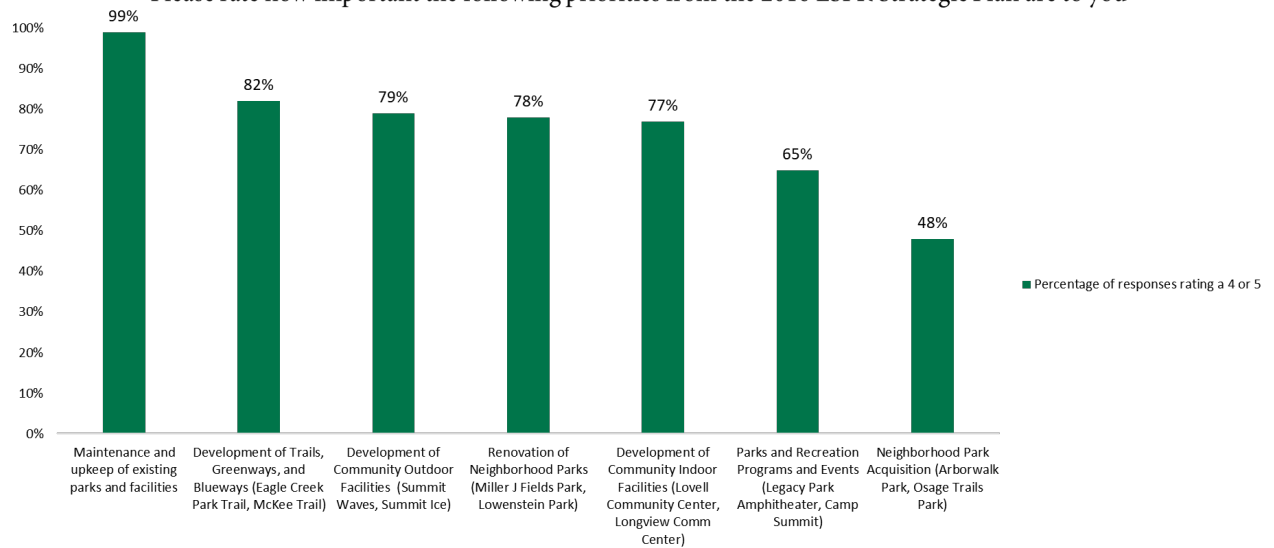


#### Question 2 | 1,020 responses

Please rate how important the following priorities from the 2016 LSPR Strategic Plan are to you



Please rate how important the following priorities from the 2016 LSPR Strategic Plan are to you



**Question 3** | 416 responses

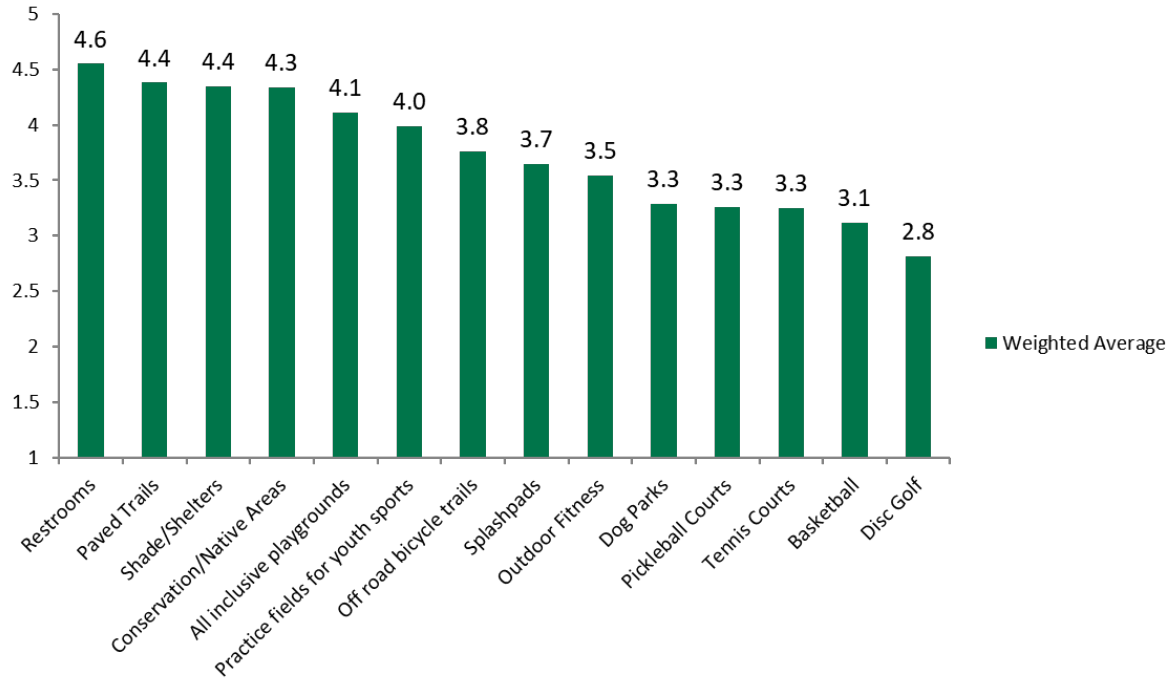
In a vibrant and growing community like Lee's Summit, are there other priorities not listed that LSPR should consider?

Answers included:

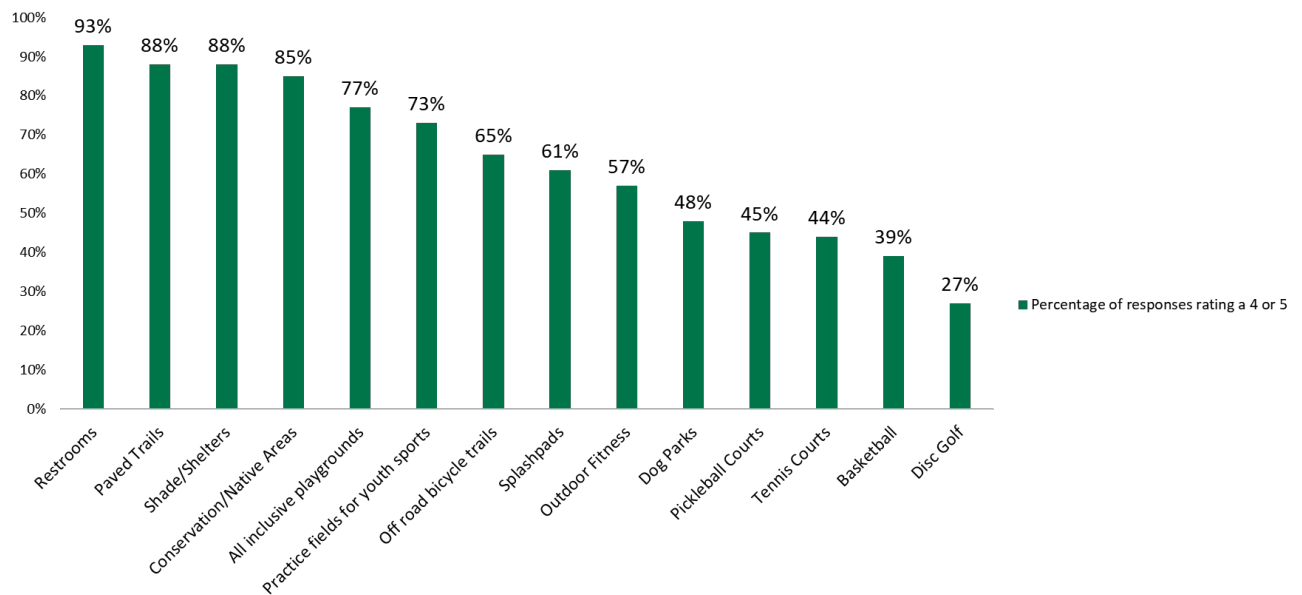
- Request for more off leash dog parks and more pickleball courts – outdoor facilities
- Trails Trails Trails
- Connectivity is mentioned frequently
- Comments by Category
  - Outdoor facilities (145)
  - Trails and Connectivity (77)
  - Programming (54)
  - Environment (29)
  - Park Maintenance (29)
  - Facilities (27)
  - Indoor Facilities (25)
  - Kudos (15)
  - General comments (60)

Question 4 | 999 responses

Please rate how important the following park amenities are to you

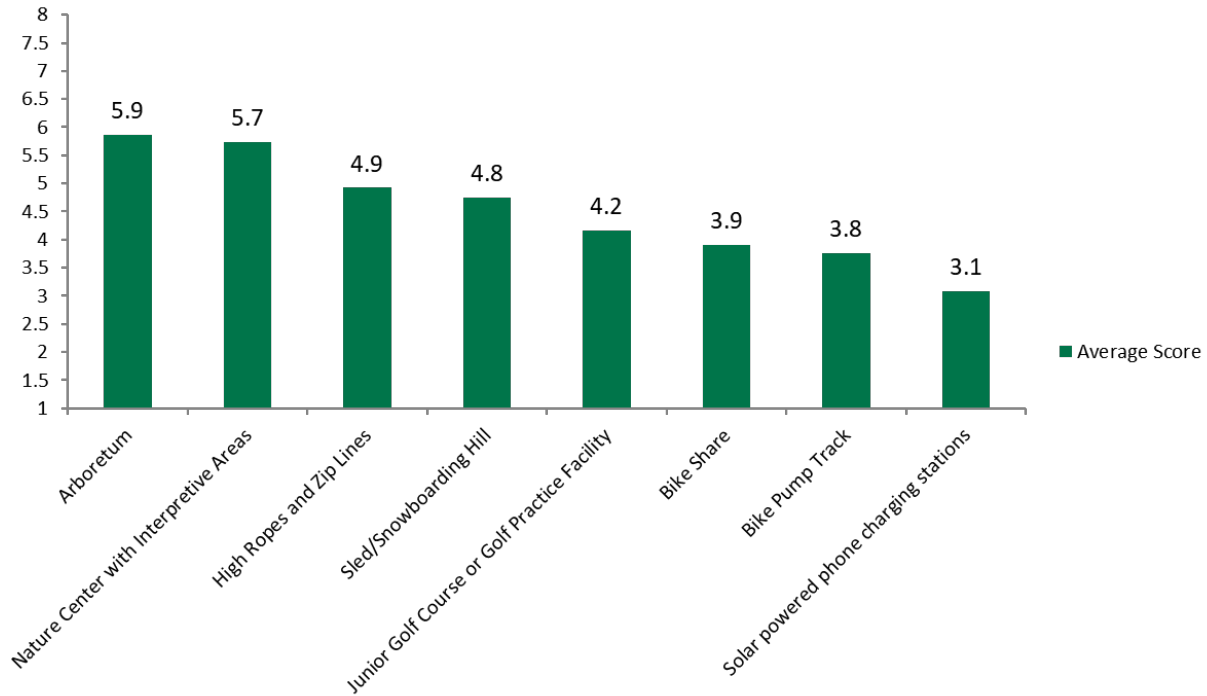


Please rate how important the following park amenities are to you

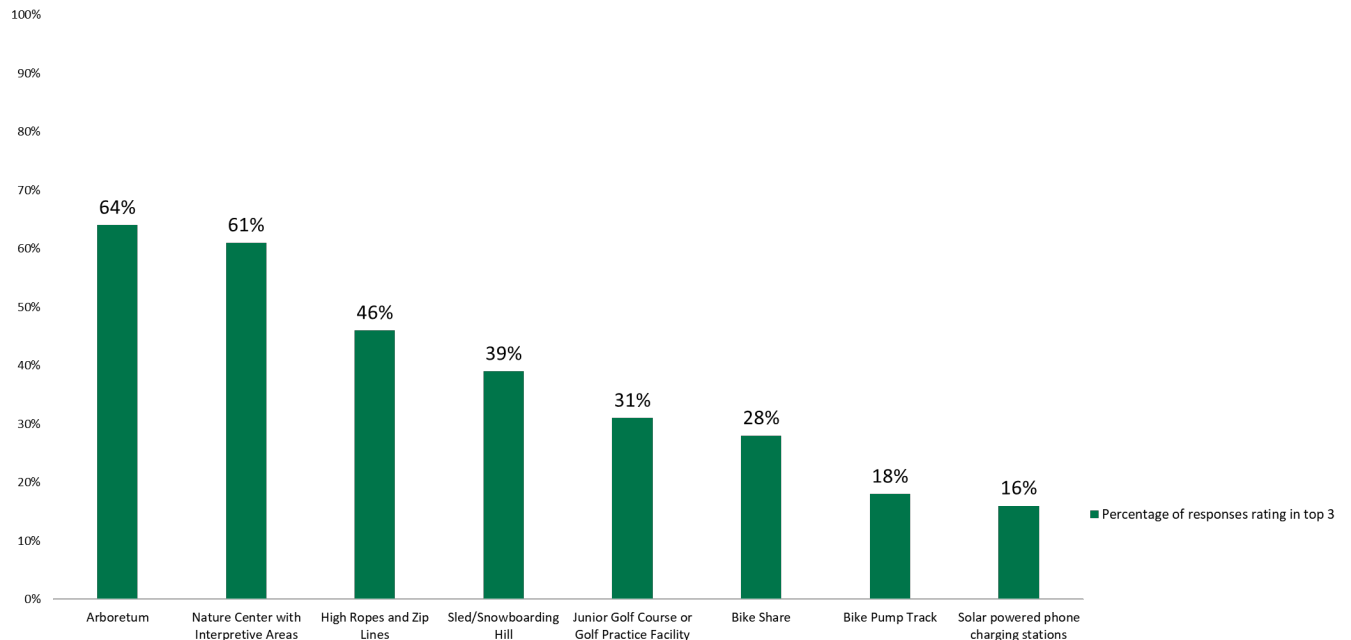


**Question 5 | 933 responses**

Which of the following park amenities not currently offered would you like to see in Lee's Summit? (Rank in Order of most to least interested in)



Which of the following park amenities not currently offered would you like to see in Lee's Summit?





## Question 6 | 403 responses

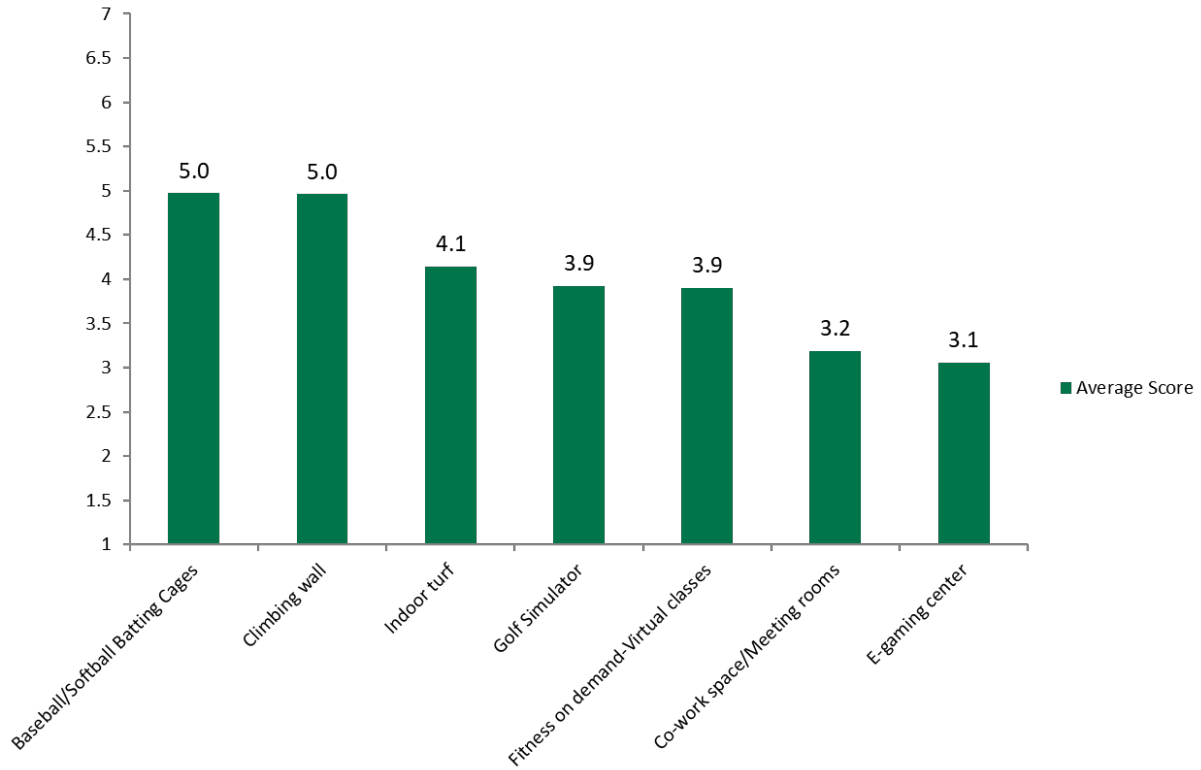
Are there any other park amenities not currently offered that you would like to see in Lee's Summit?

### Frequent Comments

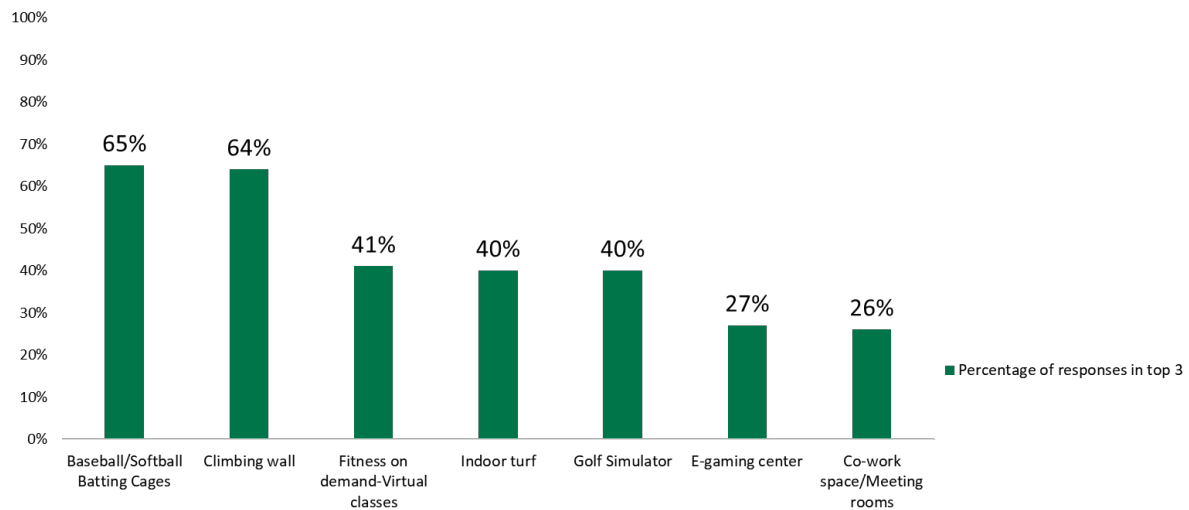
- Convenience are important in parks
- Multi court pickleball complex
- Comments by Category
  - Park amenities (56)
  - Pickleball (18)
  - Aquatics (18)
  - Trails (14)
  - Golf (10)
  - Native Habitat (9)
  - Dirt trails/Pump track (9)
  - Dog Park (8)
  - Adventure activities (8)
  - Skate Park (7)
  - Disc golf (7)
  - Nature Center (7)
  - Accessibility (6)
  - Roller Skating (5)
  - Basketball (5)

**Question 7 | 901 responses**

What types of indoor facilities/amenities should LSPR offer in the future that are not currently offered? (Rank in Order from most to least interested in)



What types of indoor facilities/amenities should LSPR offer in the future that are not currently offered?



**Question 8 | 348 responses**

Are there any other indoor facilities/amenities you would like to have in Lee's Summit?

**Frequent Comments**

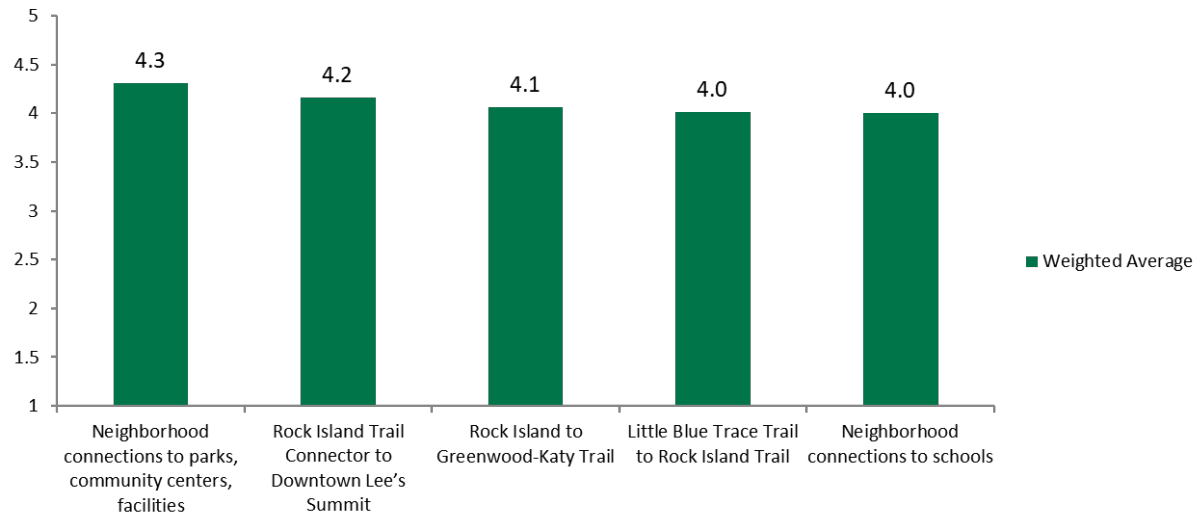
- More pools and open swim
- mentioned frequently
- Fieldhouse development is high
- priority
- Indoor playground space

**Comments by Category**

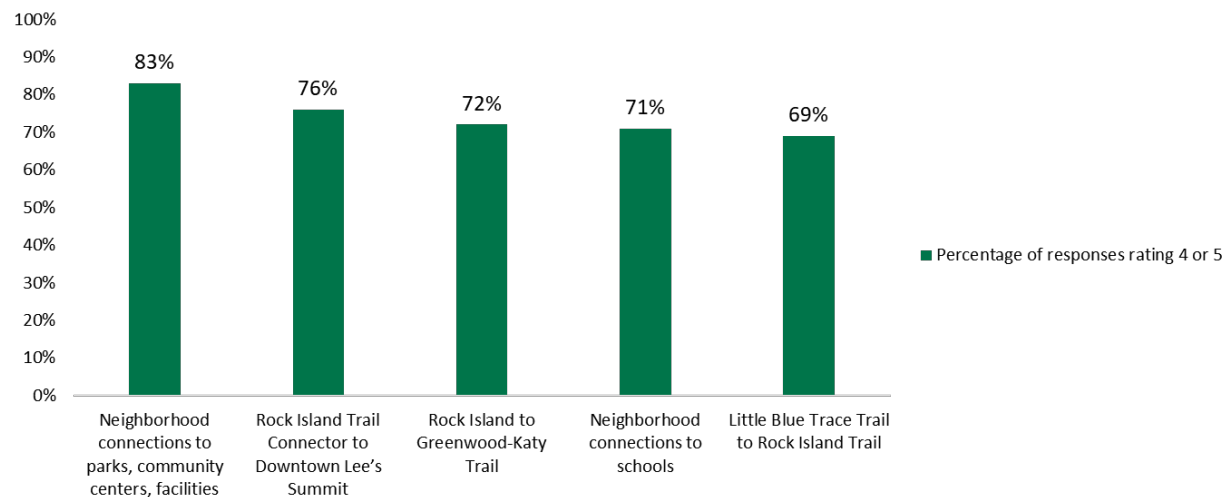
- Aquatics (28)
- Fieldhouse (25)
- Pickleball (24)
- Indoor playground (13)
- Indoor family entertainment (11)
- Programming (12)
- Racquetball (10)
- Tennis (10)
- Adventure (9)
- Cultural Arts (8)
- Indoor ice Rink (8)
- Indoor dog park (2)
- Walking track (7)
- Roller Skating (7)

Question 9 | 928 responses

Please rate how important these trail priorities from the 2019 LSPR Greenway Master Plan are to you

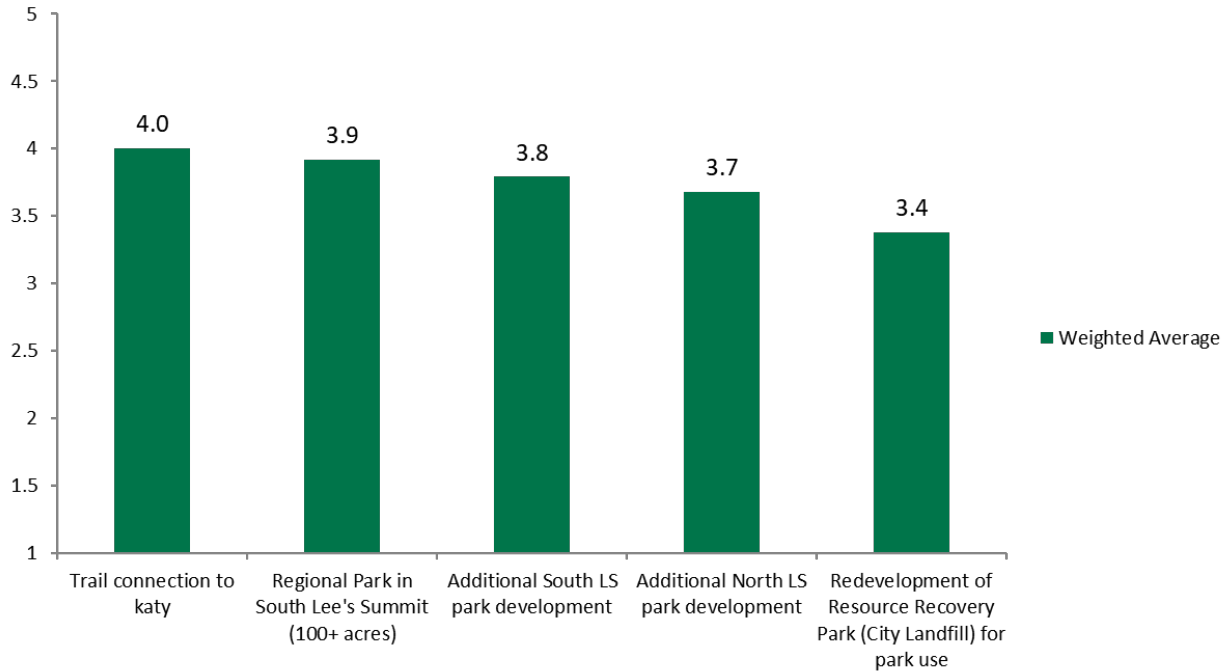


Please rate how important these trail priorities from the 2019 LSPR Greenway Master Plan are to you

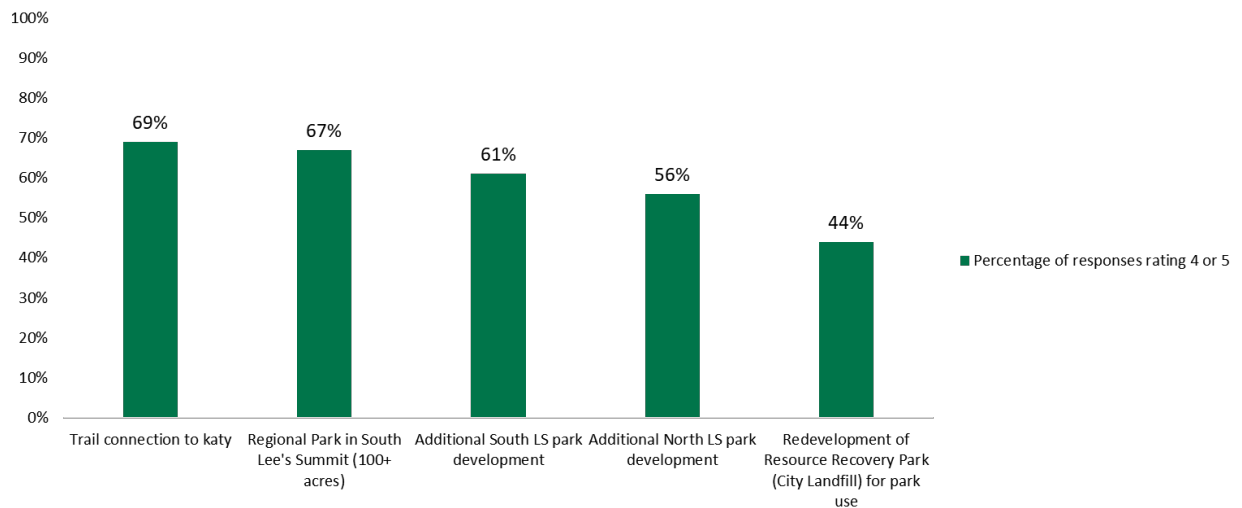


Question 10 | 928 responses

Please rate how important the following community parks development priorities are to you

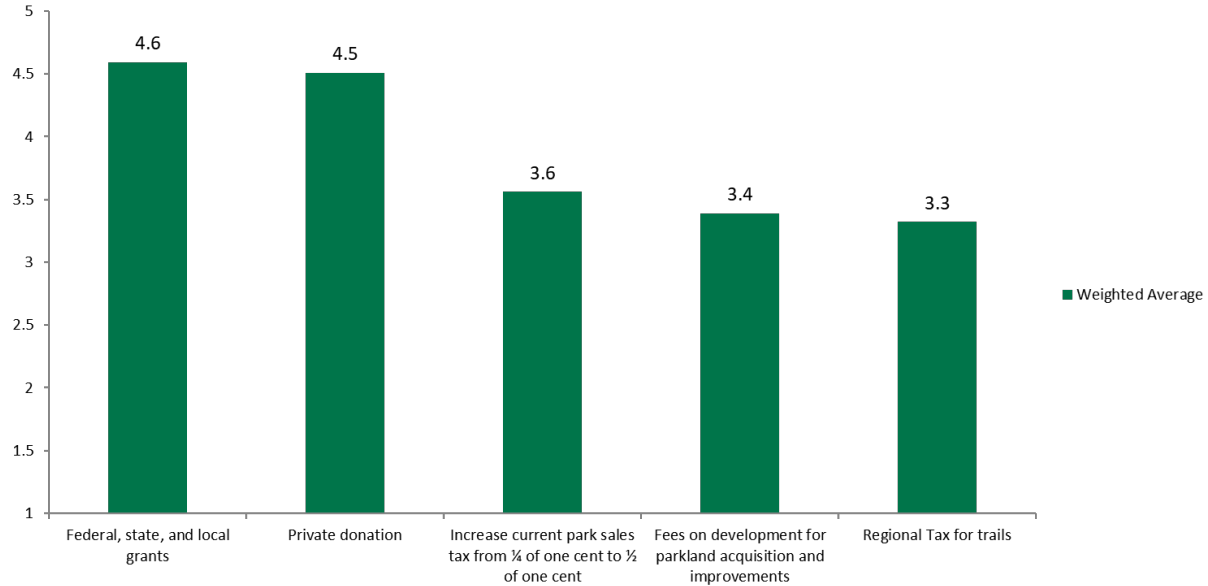


Please rate how important the following community parks development priorities are to you

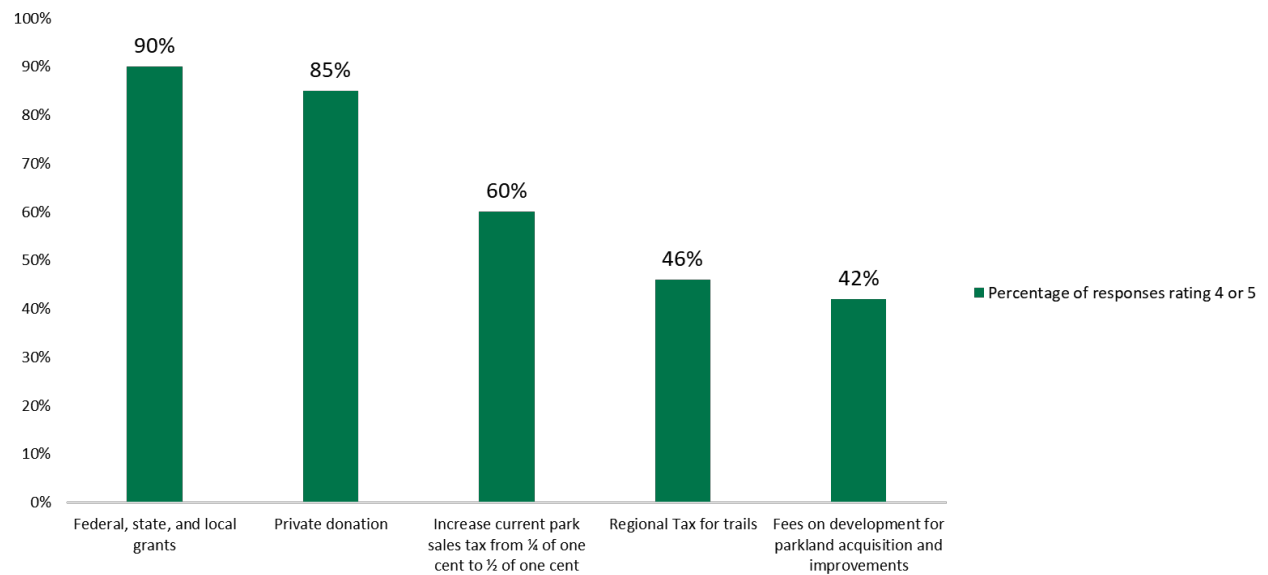


Question 11 | 900 responses

Please rate how supportive you would be of the following funding mechanisms for park system development

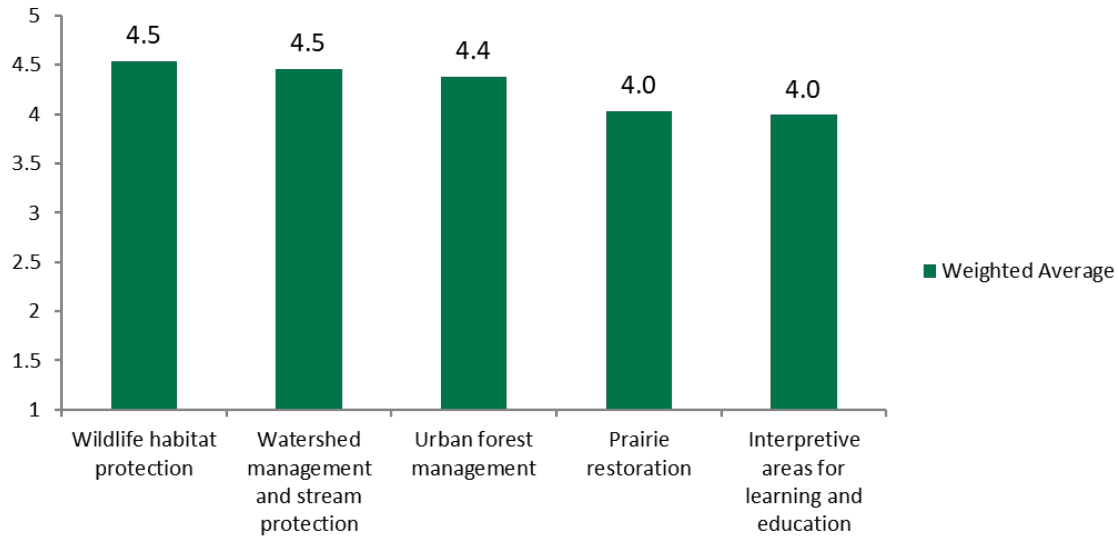


Please rate how supportive you would be of the following funding mechanisms for park system development

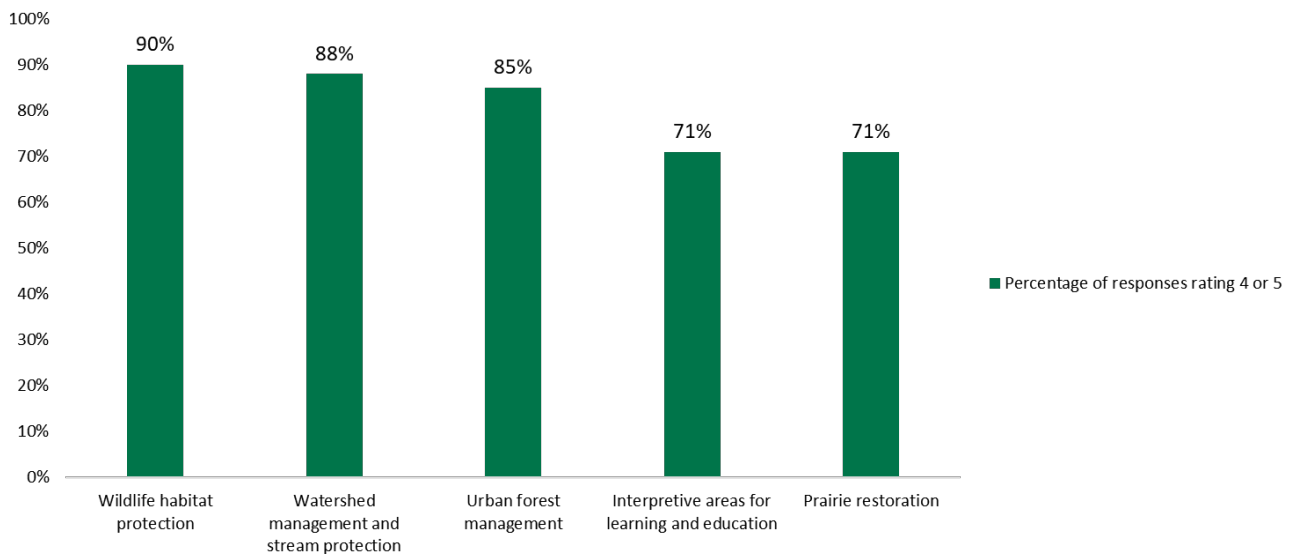


Question 12 | 901 responses

Please rate how important the following priorities for preserving local natural resources are to you



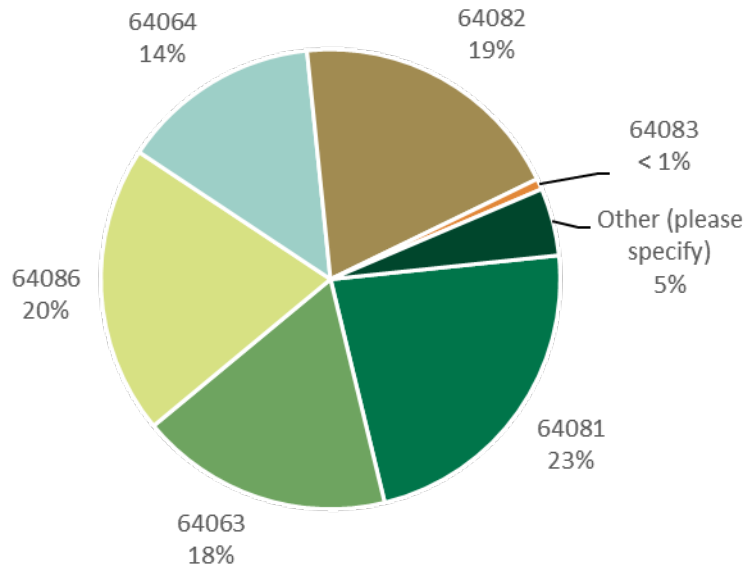
Please rate how important the following priorities for preserving local natural resources are to you



## Demographics

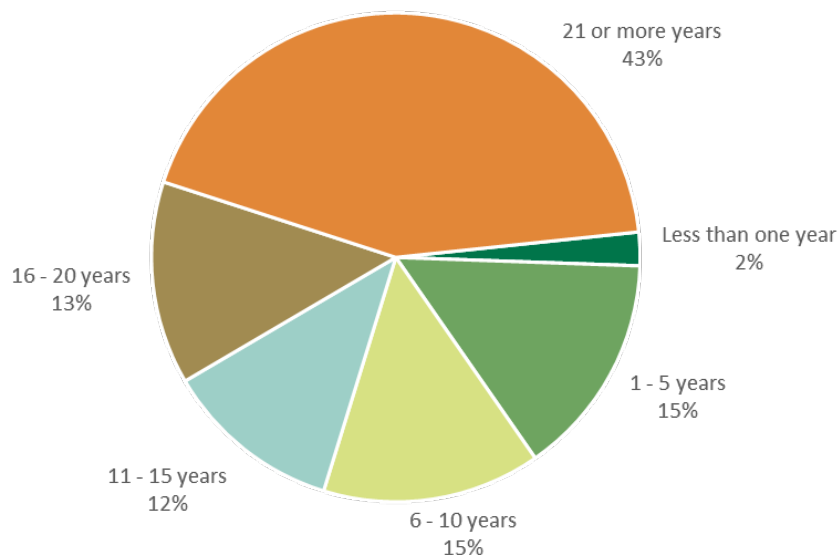
Question 13 | 905 responses

### Please select your Zipcode



Question 14 | 900 responses

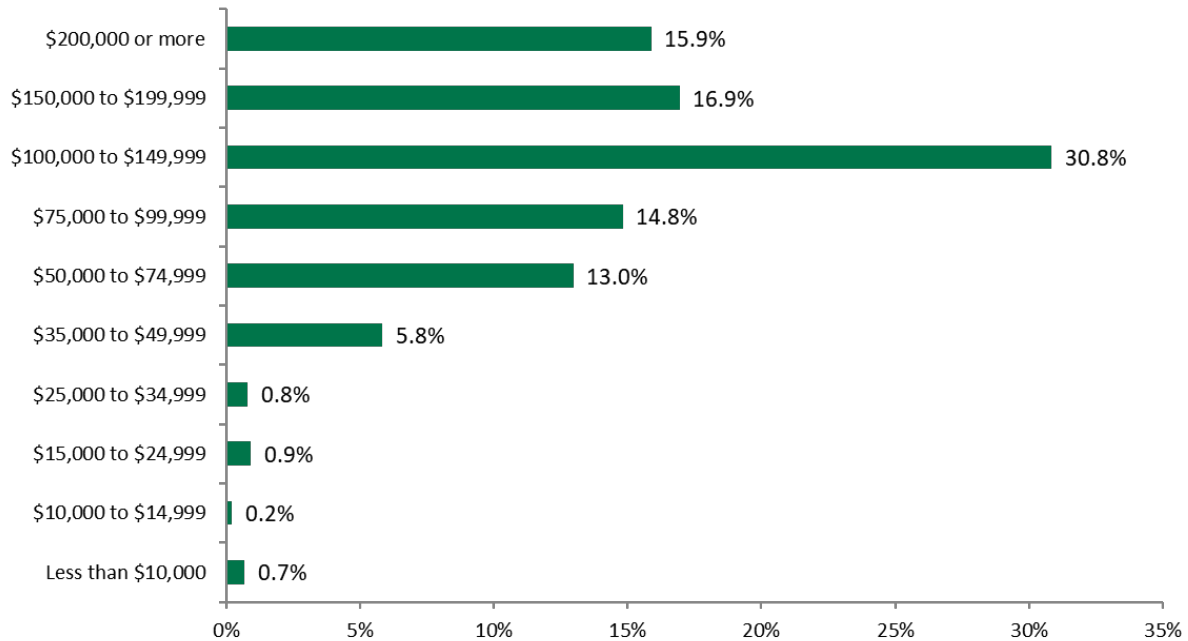
### How many years have you lived in Lee's Summit?





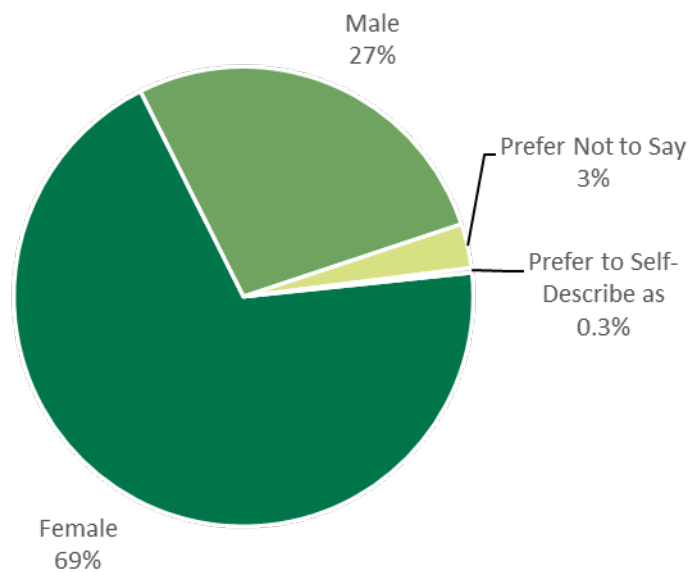
**Question 15** | 856 responses

Please select your annual household income level



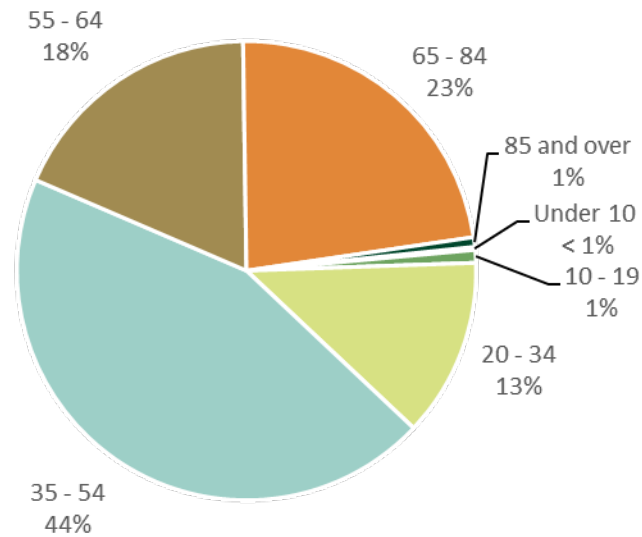
**Question 16** | 901 responses

How would you describe yourself?



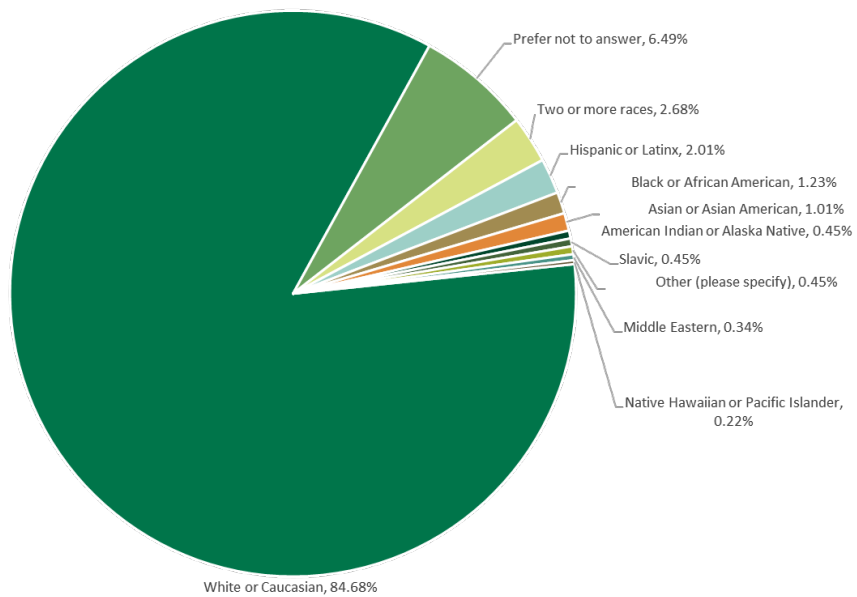
Question 17 | 891 responses

### What is your age?



Question 18 | 894 responses

### What is your race or ethnicity?



**Question 19** | 193 responses

Question 19 asked for contact information for those interested in participating in a task force to assist with future park planning and programming.

**Question 20** | 263 responses

Please take this opportunity to provide any general comments about future parks, facilities and trails:

**Frequent Comments**

- Community is complimentary and appreciate of LSPR
- Continue and improve park maintenance
- Frequent comments about trail connectivity and regional connectors

**Comments by Category**

- Kuddos (81)
- Trails (36)
- Maintenance (16)
- Park Amenities (14)
- Development Impact (10)
- Planning (10)
- Administrative (9)
- Pickleball (8)
- South LS Park Development (8)
- Fiscal Responsibility (7)
- Conservation (6)
- North LS Park Development (5)

## Community Task Force Priorities Summary

Task force meetings were held in June 2022. Two dates were offered for both sessions in attempt to provide a time that worked best for participants' schedules.

### Session 1: Parks, Facilities, and Natural Resources

#### Group 1

- Fieldhouse with pickleball near longview community center
- Fieldhouse with indoor sports and climbing walls
- Dog park near Kensington park undeveloped
- Community centers north and south
- PRI property
  - Indoor community center
  - 150 highway regional park
  - Playgrounds
  - Pool
  - Turf fields for versatility
- Kensington park with splashpad and dog park
- Add e-gaming to any community center
- Community garden closer to population in denser area

#### Group 2

- Canterbury park convert to fitness park with equipment on east side and toddler equipment + accessible equipment
- More open outdoor swimming
- Add more natural features
- More fitness and health trails
- Legacy park south off of hook road
- Arboretum and nature center by unity or eagle creek
- Destination park golf and driving range with batting cages in south LS
- Dog park in north
- Field house in south
- Add open swim pool
- Add pickleball near legacy

#### Group 3

- Partnerships and collaborative funding with Jackson County parks
- Keep connectivity in mind
- South regional park with pickleball and disc golf
- North investiage golf driving range
- North-splashpad and water park
- Legacy park-more shade and picnic areas, or include in new development in the south

- South-new community center

#### Group 4

- Aquatics open and flexible times
- Fieldhouse should have flex use-lacrosse
- South neighborhood parks with destination uses
- Updates and modernization to existing facilities
- 911/wifi in parks

#### Group 5

- Develop what parks currently owns- unity village, Kensington, park west
- Destination playground for larger south neighborhoods
- Arboretum at bailey farm park
- Dog parks and city owned parcels like water towers
- North PRI disc golf and playgrounds
- More swim lanes and swim teams for kids

#### Group 6

- Develop and upgrade what already exists
- Fieldhouse with pickleball at longview
- Need south park development
- Go carts at frontier justice

#### Group 7

- South priorities mini legacy off highway 150 Sports fields and splashpads
- Mechanism in place for developer contributions
- Disc golf on park west property
- Utilize Unity village property for passive uses and connectivity to Unity village
- Bailey park programming for nature focused development or arboretum

#### Group 8

- Utilize LS airport for walking and bicycling
- Develop fieldhouse and vacate Harris park cc
- Legacy Park needs upgrades to stay modern and keep teams from going elsewhere
- Need north LS park development- oaks ridge meadows- areas for nature and passive trails
- South LS mini legacy park

#### Group 9

- More park amenities- shade, water
- More dog parks
- Need destination park in south LS similar to legacy
- Locate fieldhouse with connectivity to Rock island trail

## Session 2: Funding, Programming, Trails

### Funding – Group Discussions

- Evergy has grant program worth looking into doesn't have to be energy related
- Hometown grants from Evergy submit app and people vote on it
- Truman heartland may have opportunities
- EPA for grant opportunity research
- Storm water management grant to create green space Marlborough community in KCMO has done that
- Comments on impact fee/land dedication- yes as much building being done should be pursued majority in favor of that
- Has development slowed in communities due to these ordinances?
- Avenues for alternative funding generating park development data
- Consider placemaking grants for parks and cultural improvements
- How much control does parks have in ordinance language
- Can city group parcels or group fees in ordinances to maximize benefit
- Support for ordinances if it can balance land requirements and \$\$ to develop
- Are there tax advantages to developers contributions under this ordinance
- How are destination parks funded under an ordinance or would funding just be generated for neighborhood park development
- Support for pocket, small parks with in HOA boundaries
- Group supports putting the burden on future parkland acquisition on developers and new residents not on existing tax paying residents

### Parks Programming – Group Discussions

- Other LPA programming - movies in the park; Jim Cosgrove again
- General program ideas- water aerobics; ice hockey not just pond hockey; teens night at ice rink; paintball on youth fields when not being used;
- Any data research on how to reengage seniors coming out of pandemic? Maybe a marketing push for reengagement with seniors
- Silver sneakers and other programs remind the new eligible seniors marketing campaign
- Illustrated make catalog more robust instead of making us go online to find all info
- App based to sign up for courses and events
- Finding ways to make website for programs more user friendly
- Teen programming is a challenge 13-15 group options for sand volleyball and roller skating
- Could 13-15 YO be 'mini counselors' at camp programs?
- Re-examine marketing of programs
- Organize trail groups and trail rides. Is there a common location to meet?
- Need pump track
- Youth theater programs for amphitheater. Find good partners
- Perception of challenges for outside groups to hold events in parks
- Is Aerial arts a trend
- Girls self defense programs should be considered

- Improve mobile app for LSPR
  - Social media
  - Classes (sign ups and listings)
  - Events
  - Feedback
  - Surveys
  - Donations
  - Manage memberships
  - Show new projects timelines and updates
  - Reservations for shelters
  - Crowdsourcing for projects

Trails:

Group 1

- Safe crossings at neighborhoods ex: Langsford and 291- eliminate barriers
- Integrated connections between neighborhoods and regional corridors
- Economic potential with trailhead development- see other examples in other communities, shops, retail, restaurants, lodging.... People will prefer to spend their money in LS over other communities along rock island
- Ranson Road corridor enhancements- work with MoDOT and James a Reed

Group 2

- Trailhead amenities like concessions and camping
- Velie connection to Little Blue Trace -Anderson and Lees Summit Road

Group 3

- Commercialize trailheads like "Crane" concept- potential at three locations in LS
- O'Brien connectivity-needs shoulder improvements and connection to Summit Park
- Build nature trails at Unity Village property- preserve urban forest

Group 4

- Priority for development ordinance
- Little Blue Trace and Rock Island connectivity should be priority
- Todd George connectivity on east side of LS
- Invest in trails on future development on PRI property
- Downtown connector routes should be priority particularly for out of town travelers

Group 5

- Trail into downtown maybe downtown trail could use pedestrian bridge
- Safety for riders and walkers
- Misc:
  - Bike shares and air stations
  - Security buttons and stations

- Trail maintenance clear brush
- Get coffee shop brewery by south LS trail
- Better signage and publicity for what trails are available to the public

#### Group 6

- Need bike retail near trailhead at Paragon Star
- Identify and create clear signage for RI to downtown connector route (s)
- Create trailhead at south terminal point of R.I
- Important to have ingress/egress at Chipman Road and Rock Island- future road improvements?
- Develop Mouse Creek trail corridor

#### Group 7

- Bike Sharing downtown
- Bike Sharing at Hartman Park
- Prioritize R.I to downtown corridor- Jefferson Street create safe passage with existing infrastructure
- Prioritize Blackwell and Shenandoah connectivity

#### Group 8

- Widen Ranson Road
- Trailhead at Paragon Star
- More amenities at Hartman park trailhead
- Bike gathering location at downtown with more bike parking
- Prioritize connector to Little Blue Trace from Oak Ridge meadows