

Parks and Recreation Master Plan



Westlake, Ohio

January 27, 2015



Agenda

- Public Input Summary
- Vision and Goals
- Key Recommendations
- Park Concept Plans
- Key Decisions
- Near Term Actions



Public Workshops & Stakeholder Groups

- Kick-off event
 - Success despite rain
 - 50 people completed surveys
 - 97 used "Westlake Dollars"
- Stakeholder Groups
 - Community Services Center – 20 seniors
 - Recreation Staff, Mayor, City Manager, and Finance Director
 - Westlake groups including: School Board, Council of PTA's, Garden Club, Arts Council, Historical Society, Boys Baseball, Girls Softball, Lacrosse Association, Soccer Association, Porter Library, Senior Center Advisory Board, Police Department, Services Department, 5th and 6th Grade Classes, Planning Commission



Common Themes

Reoccurring themes from these meetings

- Upgrade Peterson Pool
- Peterson Pool for residents only
- More bike trails and bike lanes
- More access to restrooms in parks
- Fix what we have
- Improve athletic fields and better maintenance
- Upgrade Clague Park playground
- More passive park space

Dollar Voting

- Participants given \$1,000 to distribute
- 153 total participants

Park Improvement	Total	%
Development of walking and biking trails	\$29,500	19%
Redevelop or relocation of the Peterson Pool	\$27,200	18%
Expand the existing Recreation Center	\$24,700	16%
Development of new outdoor parks and recreation facilities	\$16,100	11%
Develop a driving range at Meadowood Golf Course	\$15,800	10%
Improvements/construction of new athletic fields	\$12,500	8%
Acquisition of land for open space/green space/future parkland	\$10,300	7%
Develop new or improve the Westlake Community Services Center	\$7,200	5%
Other facilities	\$9,100	6%
	\$152,400	100%

- Other ideas – specific trail improvements and park facilities (dog park, ice rink)

Live Well, Play Hard! Web Based Community Engagement

- Snap Shot of Visitation



Live Well, Play Hard!

Topics and Responses

- Visioning Westlake Parks and Recreation

Idea	Points
Renovate/enhance Peterson Pool	109
More bike lanes	54
More soccer fields	52
Splash pad at Recreation Center	46
New outdoor pool with splash pad	40
Dedicated soccer/lacrosse park	39
Better outdoor pool	36
Open a community garden	31
Ice Rink	28
Bike paths links to Metroparks	24
Artificial turf at the high school stadium field	24
Make Peterson pool Residents only	23
Outdoor pool at Recreation Center (included with membership)	23
Purchase remaining green space	20
Scenic bike trails & walking trails	18
Outdoor pool & splash pad on the Rec Center grounds	18

Live Well, Play Hard!

Topics and Responses

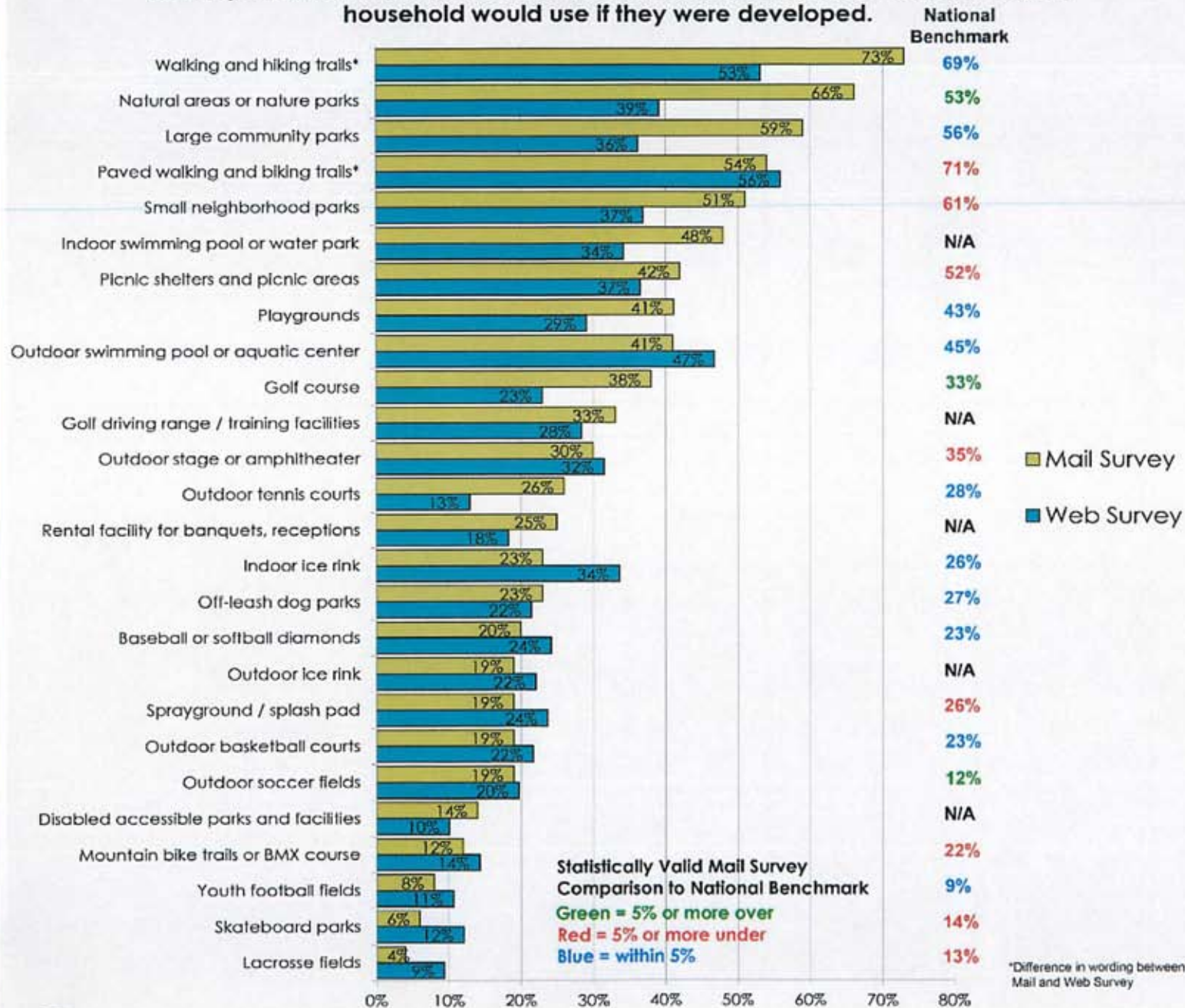
- Making One Change

Idea	Points
Peterson pool should be for residents only	33
Update Peterson Pool	29
Improve softball and baseball facilities	21
New outdoor pool	15
Working bathrooms at all parks	11
Artificial turf field at Westlake High School	8
Drain and update playground at Clague Park	8
Additional lacrosse and soccer fields	8
Shade structures at Recreation Center	7
Add hockey facility	6

Community Attitude and Interest Survey

- Statistically Valid Mail Survey
 - 706 completed surveys (300 goal)
- Web Survey
 - 545 responses (479 Westlake residents)

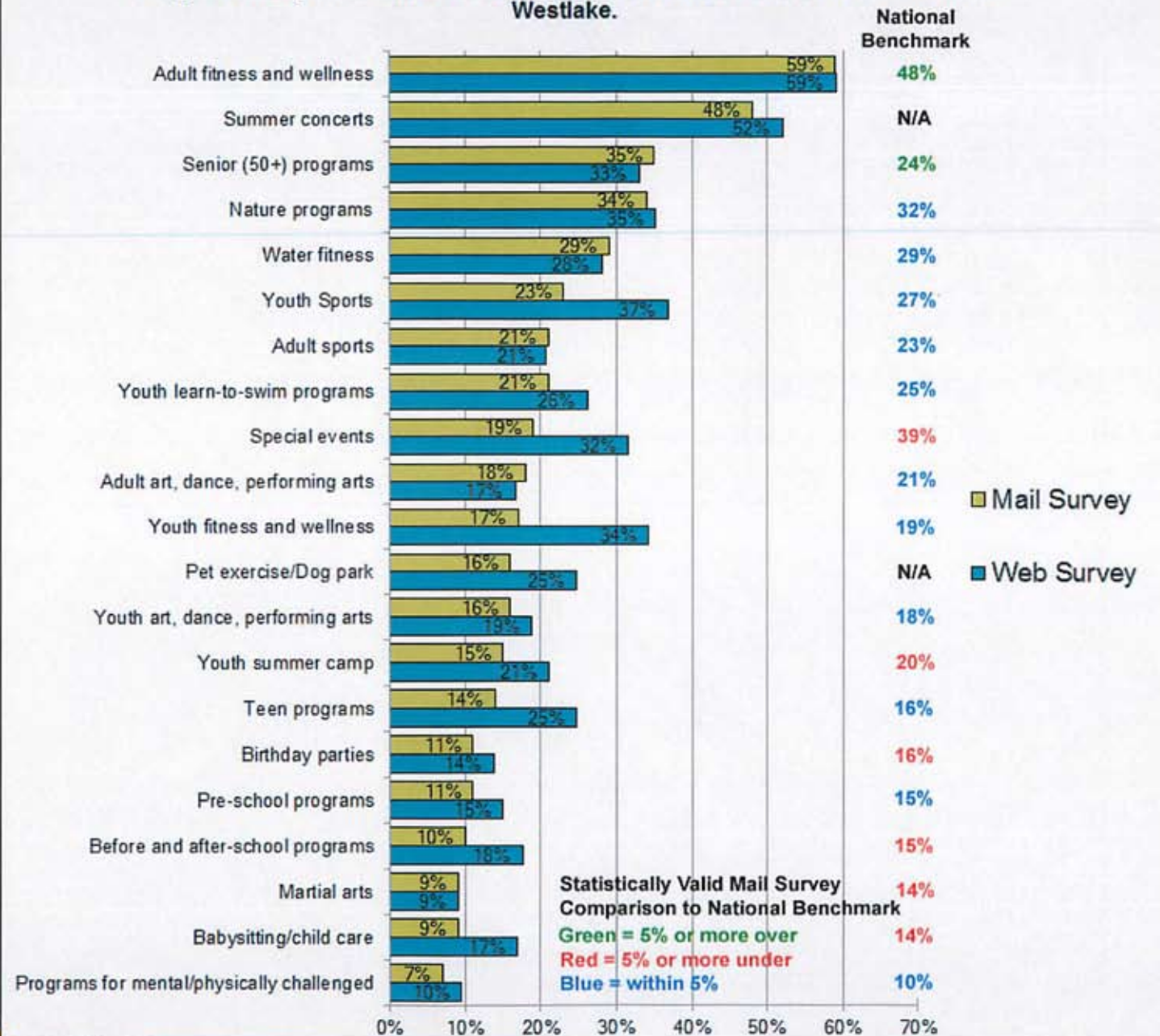
Do you or members of your household have a need for the City of Westlake to develop the following facilities? Select the facilities that you or members of your household would use if they were developed.



Community Attitude and Interest Survey Results

- Top Ten Unmet Facility Needs
 1. Walking & hiking trails
 2. Paved bike trails
 3. Nature areas and nature parks
 4. Golf driving range and training facilities
 5. Indoor ice rink
 6. Golf courses
 7. Outdoor stage or amphitheater
 8. Outdoor swimming pool/water park
 9. Off-leash dog park
 10. Outdoor ice rink

Programs that you or members of your household have a need to be offered in Westlake.



Community Attitude and Interest Survey Results

- Top Ten Unmet Program Needs
 1. Adult fitness
 2. Summer concerts
 3. Nature programs
 4. 50+ programs
 5. Adult sports programs
 6. Water fitness programs
 7. Pet exercise
 8. Adult art, dance, performing arts
 9. Youth art, dance, performing arts
 10. Special events

Community Attitude and Interest Survey Results

- Other Major Findings
 - 46% stated that walking and hiking trails were the most important facility to their household.
 - 41% state that adult fitness and wellness programs are the most important to their household.
 - 36% of households are willing to walk or bike 10-15 minutes for programs or parks and recreation facilities. Only 10% will walk over 30 minutes.

Top Unmet Facility Needs

- Picnic Shelters 2
- Playgrounds 2
- Paved Trails 7 miles
- Unpaved Trails 2.4 miles
- Outdoor Theater 1
- Small Diamonds 3
- Large Diamonds 1
- Rectangular Fields 9
- Outdoor Basketball 2.5
- Indoor Game Court 1

Vision, Guiding Principles, Mission, and Goals

Vision Statement

- The vision for the City of Westlake is to be at the *cutting-edge* of parks and recreation services with *premier facilities* that *inspire citizens* to be healthy and *instill community pride*. The vision will be accomplished through *planning* to assure parks and facilities meet the expressed *needs* of the community while providing *uniformity* of appearance.

Vision Statement

- The City will continue improving its *service delivery* with continuous *monitoring* of customer satisfaction. The City will continue to research and monitor *trends* to remain a *leader* in Parks and Recreation services. Finally, Westlake will provide *welcoming, attractive parks* that are *clean, safe, and connected* to the community.

Guiding Principles

- Excitement
 - Provide Cutting-Edge Facilities and Experiences
- Desirability
 - Provide a Welcoming Atmosphere through Inviting Parks, Encompassing Facility Options, and Exceptional Programs and Events
- Connectivity
 - Connect Residents with Parks

Guiding Principles

- Safety
 - Assure that Parks are Safe for Everyone during All Park Hours
- Investment
 - Encourage Creative Funding Opportunities and Partnerships
- Passion
 - Inspire Pride and Ownership in the Community through Leadership

Proposed New Mission Statement

- *Westlake is a great place to live, work, and play. The mission of the Recreation Department and the Parks Division is to be at the cutting-edge of leisure programs, facilities, and services, while offering innovative opportunities that inspire citizens to be healthy, instill pride, and enrich our vibrant community.*

Goals

- **Goal 1:** Generate Excitement in Facilities and Services
- **Goal 2:** Engender Desirability through a Welcoming Atmosphere for Residents and Visitors
- **Goal 3:** Promote Connectivity Between the Community and Parks and Recreation Services
- **Goal 4:** Ensure Safety for Users of Facilities, Programs, and Events
- **Goal 5:** Maximize Investment Opportunities
- **Goal 6:** Intensify Community Passion and Provide Exemplary Leadership

Key Recommendations

1. Improve existing trails and provide additional trails at all existing and future parks, including all purpose trails (cycling, skating, etc.).
2. Redevelop the Peterson Pool as an outdoor family aquatic center.
 - Provide drop-off, lazy river, waterslides, sprayground, lap pool, etc.
 - Consider a residents only policy
3. Develop the land adjacent to the Porter Library as a Community Park.
 - Develop rectangular fields, playground, picnic shelter, etc.

Key Recommendations

4. Expand the Recreation Center to include and auxiliary gym and additional lap pool.
5. Add outdoor basketball courts at selected parks
6. Improve existing athletic fields and facilities
7. Add artificial turf field(s).
8. Improve or replace all playgrounds.
 - Replace Clague Park playground with nature themed all-access playground.
 - Improve Recreation Center Park playground with shade and picnic shelter.
 - Replace other playgrounds.

Key Recommendations

9. Consider redevelopment of all or part of the Meadowood Golf Course as a Community Park.
10. Provide restroom facilities at all parks.
11. Pave walkways to all facilities and spectator areas to improve access and meet ADA guidelines.
12. Redevelop the Community Services Center
 - Choose location – current site, Center Ridge Site (next to library), or Recreation Center.
13. Begin implementation of the existing Citywide Bike Plan.
14. Add outdoor fitness equipment at select parks for exercise and enjoyment.

Key Recommendations

15. Develop two new Neighborhood Parks in areas of Westlake currently underserved by parks.
 - Northeast-Central and southeast areas of the City.
16. Provide Wi-Fi Hotspots in most parks.
17. Improve safety in the parks.
 - Add lighting and security cameras.
18. Partner with other agencies and organizations to provide services and facilities.
19. Encourage volunteer opportunities.

Park Concept Plans



Park Concept Plans



Park Concept Plans



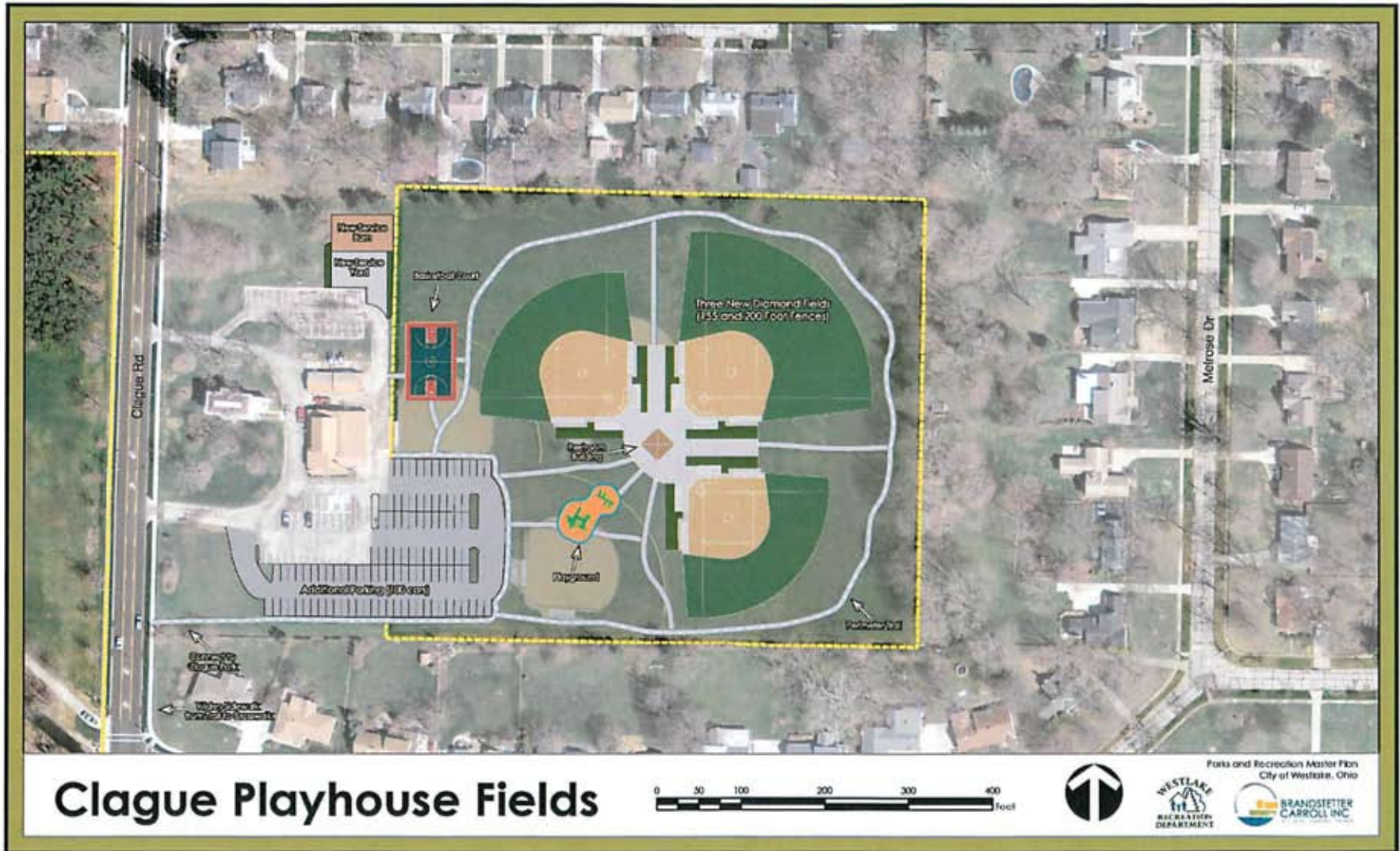
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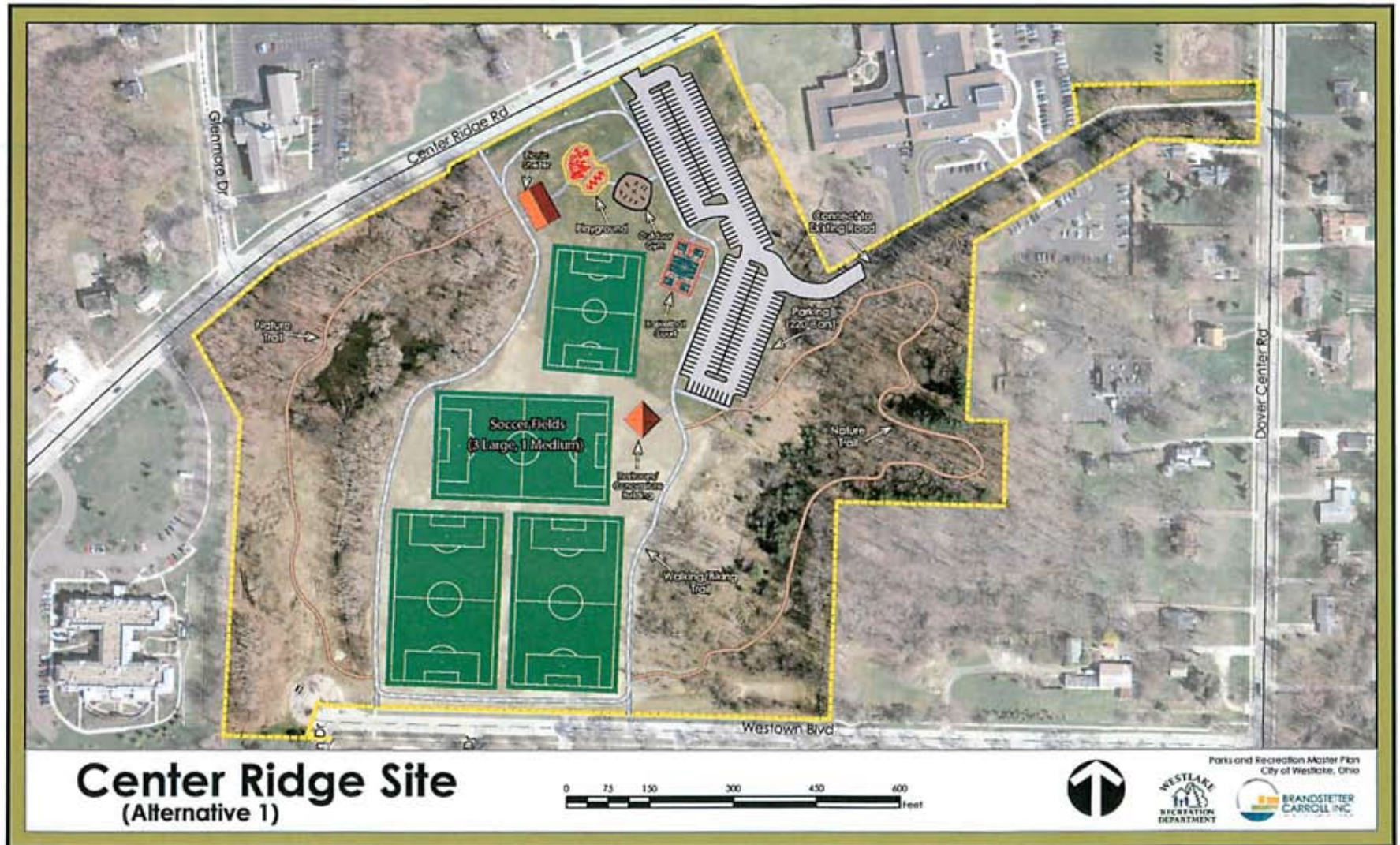
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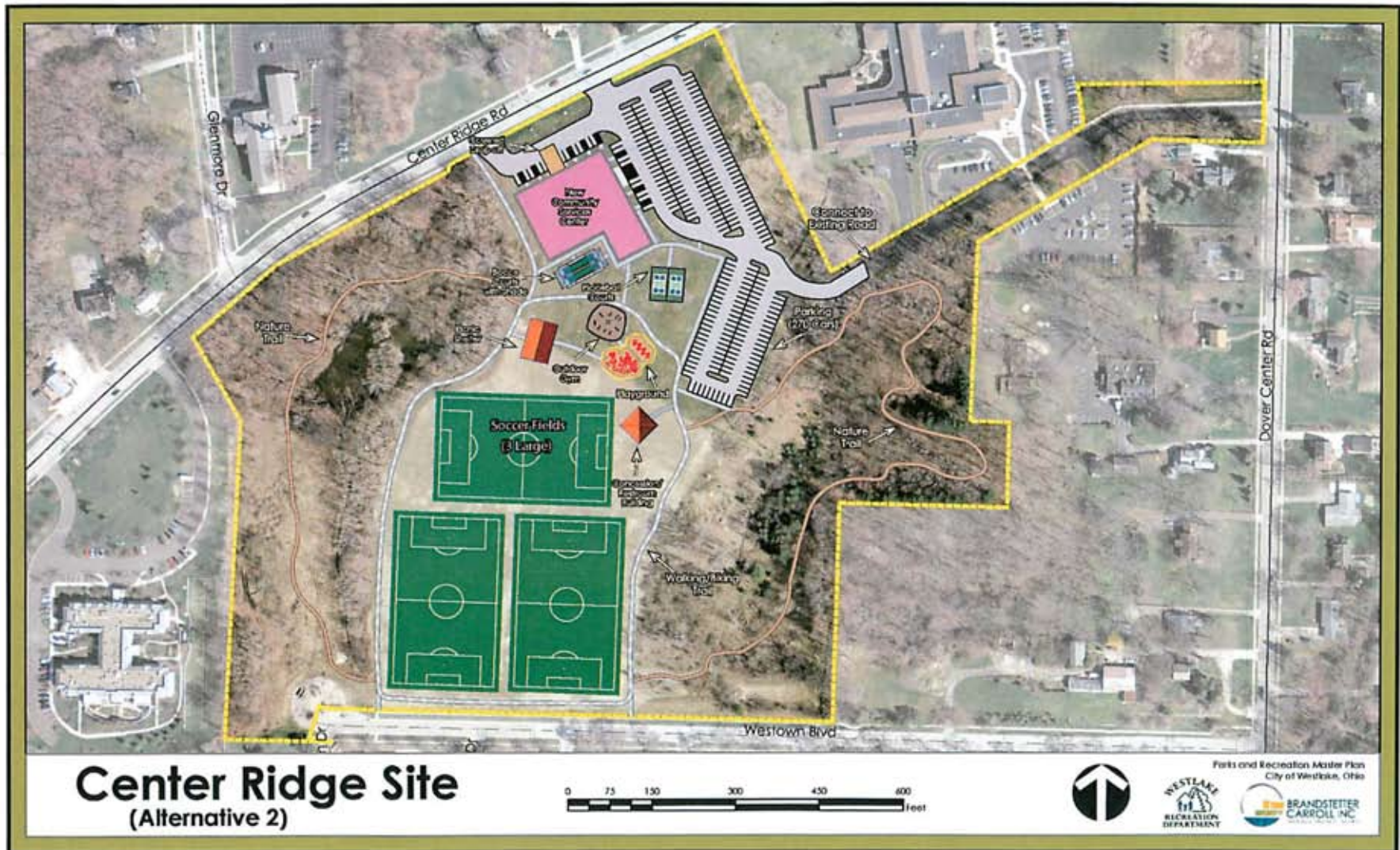
Park Concept Plans



Park Concept Plans



Park Concept Plans



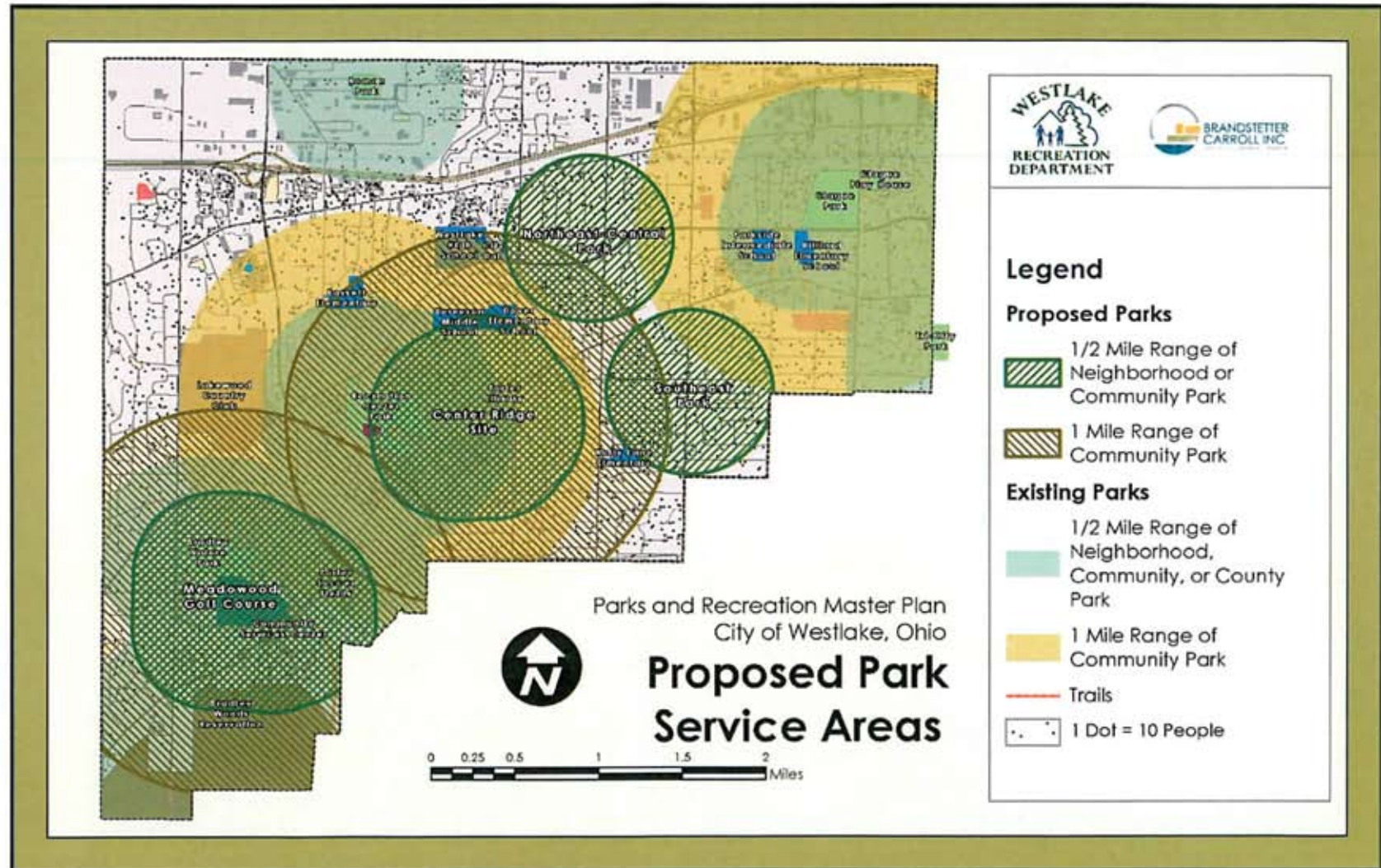
Park Concept Plans



Park Concept Plans



Proposed Park Service Areas



Capital Priority Ranking

Capital Improvements Ranking of Steering Committee Members, City Council, and City Staff		
Capital Projects Rank - High (3), Medium (2), Low (1), or Not Needed (0).		
Average Score	Priority Rank	Capital Improvement
2.53	1	Clague Park - New family aquatic center (to replace Peterson Pool)
2.21	2	Recreation Center Park - Baseball/softball field lights, pave bleacher/dugout areas, and outfield/side fences
2.18	3	Clague Park - New perimeter trail and link/widen existing loops, with outdoor fitness stations
2.13	4	Clague Park - Pedestrian bridge over spillway to complete loop trail around pond
2.08	5	Recreation Center - Auxiliary gym addition
2.05	6	Security cameras and lighting (all parks)
1.97	7	Clague Park - Replace playground (with new nature themed equipment) with picnic shelter
1.95	8	Redevelop the Meadowood Golf Course as an active and passive park with athletic field complexes, trails, picnic areas, natural areas, etc.
1.87	9	Clague Park (Playhouse area) - New diamond field three-plex to replace existing fields with restroom/concessions building and parking
1.86	10	Clague Park lit field improvements
1.84	11	Center Ridge Site (adjacent to library) - Soccer fields (3 large, 1 medium) with restroom/concessions building
1.79	12	Trails and paths outside of parks
1.76	13	Cooperate and invest capital and maintenance funds for facilities on School properties to take advantage of the land and for higher quality fields
1.74	14	Center Ridge Site (adjacent to library) - Paved perimeter trail around central area and nature trails in wooded area
1.68	15	Recreation Center Park - Artificial turf lighted rectangular field with bleachers
1.68	15	Westlake High School - Partner in cost of artificial turf field
1.66	17	All parks - Repave parking lots
1.66	17	Roman Park - Pave bleacher/dugout areas and complete outfield/side fences
1.63	19	Bradley Nature Park - Pave existing trail connection to Crocker Road
1.61	20	Recreation Center Park - Picnic shelter and shade structures at playground
1.61	20	Clague Park - Historic restoration of Clague Cabin to open air pavilion
1.58	22	Clague Park (Playhouse area) - Playground, basketball court, and perimeter trails.
1.55	23	Clague Park - New ball diamond field complex to replace existing Ponytail fields (north of pool)
1.53	24	Recreation Center - New indoor pool addition
1.53	24	Center Ridge Site (adjacent to library) - Playground, basketball court, picnic shelter, outdoor fitness area,
1.50	26	Recreation Center - Fitness area expansion
1.46	27	Wi-Fi Hot Spots (all parks)
1.42	28	Clague Park (Playhouse area) - New service barn and service yard
1.39	29	Recreation Center Park - Outdoor fitness equipment along trail
1.37	30	Roman Park - Replace playground
1.34	31	Clague Park - Bandshell (outdoor concerts)
1.32	32	Meadowood - Convert the Yellow Course to a Driving Range
1.21	33	Roman Park - Perimeter trail (with widened sidewalk along Ranney Pkwy)
1.12	34	Improve Tri-City Park
1.05	35	Recreation Center Park - Convert one tennis court to four pickleball courts
1.03	36	Rebranding/New logo for the Recreation Department
0.97	37	Recreation Center Park - Sprayground
0.89	38	New Neighborhood Park (8-10 acres) in the southeast area of the city to fill a gap in service
0.87	39	New Neighborhood Park (8-10 acres) in the northeast central area of the city to fill a gap in service
0.76	40	Perimeter trail and landscaping of upper area at Retention Basin at Crocker Road/I-90

Capital Priority Ranking – Top Ten

1. New Peterson Pool in Clague Park
2. Baseball/softball improvements at Recreation Center Park
3. Perimeter trail at Clague Park
4. Clague Park pedestrian bridge at pond
5. Auxiliary Gym addition at Recreation Center
6. Security cameras and lighting at all parks
7. Replace Clague Park playground
8. Redevelop Meadowood as a park
9. Rearrange Clague Playhouse fields
10. Improve Clague Park lighted fields

Key Decisions

1. Decide whether to redevelop the Peterson Pool.
2. Determine the location of the new or improved Community Services Center.
3. Determine the future of the Meadowood Golf Course.
4. Determine what facilities will be developed at Clague Park (e.g. how many ball diamonds).
5. Decide whether to partner with the School District for the artificial turf field at Westlake High School.
6. Determine how to fund facility improvements (use/renew existing tax, sell naming rights, etc.).

Near Term Actions

1. Adopt this Parks and Recreation Master Plan as a guiding document.
2. Authorize Master Plans for sites with highest development (or redevelopment) priorities.
3. Establish a new logo and branding identity for the Recreation Department.
4. Irrigate and improve grading, drainage, and accessibility of existing fields.
5. Perform an ADA Accessibility Assessment of all facilities, programs, and communications.

Near Term Actions

6. Install lighting and security cameras at most parks.
7. Improve baseball/softball diamonds at Recreation Center Park (grading, drainage, irrigation, infields, lighting, backstops, fences, paved accessible paths, paved spectator areas, covered dugouts).
8. Improve the two lighted fields at Clague Park (new backstops, drainage, and restroom/storage building).
9. Designate a staff person (from Planning & Economic Development) to coordinate trails planning.