

Parks and Open Space Master Plan Evaluation *for the* City of Lake Worth

The University of Texas at Arlington
CAPP Department of Public Affairs

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Executive Summary

Over the past few years, city leaders have invested their efforts on enhancing and increasing the economic development and quality of life in the City of Lake Worth. Per the request of the City of Lake Worth, the Master Plan was created to aid city officials and staff in determining a new initiative for its parks due to the sale of Fair Park for the development of The Home Depot in late 2000. Through the updated Master Plan, city officials and staff have focused their efforts on identifying opportunities to capitalize on its proximity to the Trinity Trails system, connect the community's existing and future parks with the greenbelts, analyze key connections for sidewalks throughout the city, emphasize community sports leagues, and gain an inventory of the need for its undeveloped parks. With these key perspectives, city officials look to increase revenues generated through parks and recreation activity to counterbalance the expenses related to a new and improved park system, bring in more visitors to Lake Worth spurring economic growth, and create outdoor spaces to support the beautification of neighborhoods and encourage community cohesiveness.

The city manager and senior staff of the City of Lake Worth requested assistance from the University of Texas at Arlington's CAPP Department of Public Affairs to determine the feasibility of implementing the master park plan and developing a park and recreation department. A team of four MPA students, completing the Capstone semester, worked on Phase I of the project, which included the following goals and objectives:

- Perform a cost-benefit analysis of the proposed master park plan.
- Research and report similar master park plan efforts within the State of Texas.
- Prepare recommendations for funding the master park plan.
- Determine the feasibility of creating a park and recreation department.
- Conduct field research about the level of activities especially soccer leagues and tournaments.
- Develop and administer a comprehensive survey of residents and users.

Over a three-month period, the Capstone team created and completed a comprehensive survey of residents and park users to gain their feedback, analyzed data from the survey to better understand the community's wants and needs, researched and communicated with other cities in Texas that have experience in implementing a master park plan and running a parks and recreation department, completed a cost-benefit analysis of the master park plan, and researched possible funding options for the City of Lake Worth to consider. This report outlines the methodology the team used to gather information, the results from the data gathered, and a list of recommendations

for the City of Lake Worth to consider when make future decisions regarding the vision of their park plan.

Phase II of the project is slated to be completed by the Capstone cohort in the fall of 2019. This cohort team will collect additional data, beyond the comprehensive survey results, to finalize a comprehensive report to support the outlined benefits provided in cost-benefit analysis in Phase I. The Phase II team can also complete a deeper dive of research into exact numbers for the development of a parks department.

Introduction and Background

In November 2018, the City of Lake Worth worked with Kimley Horn to update The Parks and Open Space Master Plan that was completed in 2004. With an anticipated growth in population to over 5,000 residents by 2034, the park plan completed in 2004 would not adequately support the anticipated increase in population and needs of the community. Kimley Horn's study determined the current state of the city's existing park system, identified undeveloped parks, examined connections for sidewalks throughout the city, and highlighted future improvements.

With an updated 2019 master park plan in hand, the City of Lake Worth focused its efforts on improving upon existing conditions and inventory. The city utilized community input, gathered through surveying city staff and the public, as a means to realize its vision to improve the park system. Their overall goal is to expand growth, increase inclusivity amongst the community, showcase the city's convenient location and amenities, and continue to be an attractive city for visitors and residents alike. With this vision in mind, the City of Lake Worth and their leadership team determined a set of goals and objectives that would allow for revitalization of its parks and trails. Such revitalization, would allow the City of Lake Worth to capitalize on its proximity to Trinity Trails system, connect existing and future parks with greenbelts, and emphasize the community sports leagues.

The City of Lake Worth faced a list of constraints that potentially impeded their vision. Among them: land acquisition due to limited open space throughout the city, funding for all parks improvements, and park connectivity throughout the city due to existing and planned roadways, created hurdles which the city looks to overcome. To do so, the City of Lake Worth collaborated with the University of Texas Arlington's CAPP Capstone program as a next step to determine the feasibility of implementing the most economical master park plan concept.

Methodology

The Capstone team took several approaches in order to provide useful data to the City of Lake Worth in regards to specific decisions for the Master Park Plan, as well as the development for a parks and recreation department. These methods involved both primary data sources via survey, and secondary data sources through research and contact with other cities in Texas. Initially, the team developed and implemented a survey to track opinions of both Lake Worth citizens and other citizens that use and/or benefit from the parks in the area. The team also reached out to multiple cities of similar size, or that had experience in park development, in order to determine best practices for Lake Worth in their efforts to move forward with their plan for economic development via park improvement. Through this feasibility study, the team also received feedback from various cities regarding the implementation of a new parks department, for the city of Lake Worth. The team developed a cost-benefit analysis for the three suggested master park plan options, each with unique design based on cost capabilities and/or general usage in order to supplement information in both analyses.

Overall, the goal of each analysis method (survey, feasibility study, and cost-benefit analysis) is to consider all impacted by each park proposal. Information on the effect on surrounding cities whose citizens visit the city because of the development are also considered. Finally, the team considers the large commuter population's opinions and contributions to Lake Worth in order to provide overall recommendations.

2019 City of Lake Worth Park Usage Survey

As mentioned above, the team created and implemented a survey (Appendix 1) to determine the specific needs and priorities for Lake Worth Park as determined by its users and other citizens impacted by future development. The survey contains 19 questions exploring park usage and activities, local spending, and demographic information. The questions are a mix of closed and open-ended questions, some with multiple responses. Each question is broken down into individual variables for analysis.

In order to distribute the survey, the team worked in conjunction with the City of Lake Worth Public Works Director, Sean Densmore, to gain access to Lake Worth's websites (both traditional and social media). The survey, accessible through SurveyMonkey, had links posted on the City of Lake Worth web page (http://lakeworthtx.org/page/city_parks), as well as the city's Facebook page. The survey was available for online completion from March 14 through March 24. The team also conducted surveys in person at Lake Worth Park in order to capture users of the park that may not visit the City of Lake Worth sites. The team visited the park on the evening of April 4, 2019 in order to distribute the survey. This particular day at Lake Worth Park saw users accessing the

baseball and soccer fields, as well as the playground and skate park that are also on-site. Cowtown Soccer Director, Marc Asmode, also independently distributed the survey. These particular surveys were distributed to parents involved in league soccer, with completed surveys returned to the City of Lake Worth administrative offices. All surveys were available in both English and Spanish. Overall, through these distribution methods, the team was able to obtain a sample size of 197 participants spanning 26 different cities, to include Lake Worth (Appendix 3).

Methods

The survey acts as a non-experimental data source with the sample created in a manner congruent convenience sampling, as the potential respondents were easily accessible via the city's website, as well as in the actual park for which the survey was conducted. In order to provide supporting information for the team's overall analysis, basic descriptive statistics and cross-tabulation analyses are provided via SPSS (results in Appendix 8-11). Ten total responses were removed from the data set for answers inconsistent with the question, all of which were multiple responses to a single-response question (1 removed for question 9a, 9 removed for question 6). As the percentage of incorrect responses is so low, the questions will be kept in the survey for the current analysis.

Results

The following survey results should be viewed as preliminary only. More research should be conducted in the future in order to bolster the current findings. Overall, the survey gathered data from respondents from 26 different cities, to include Lake Worth. The demographics of the surveyed population are as follows:

The sample is 45% Lake Worth residents and 55% Non-residents (Chart 1), with 37% male and 58% female (Chart 2).

Chart 1. Lake Worth Residency

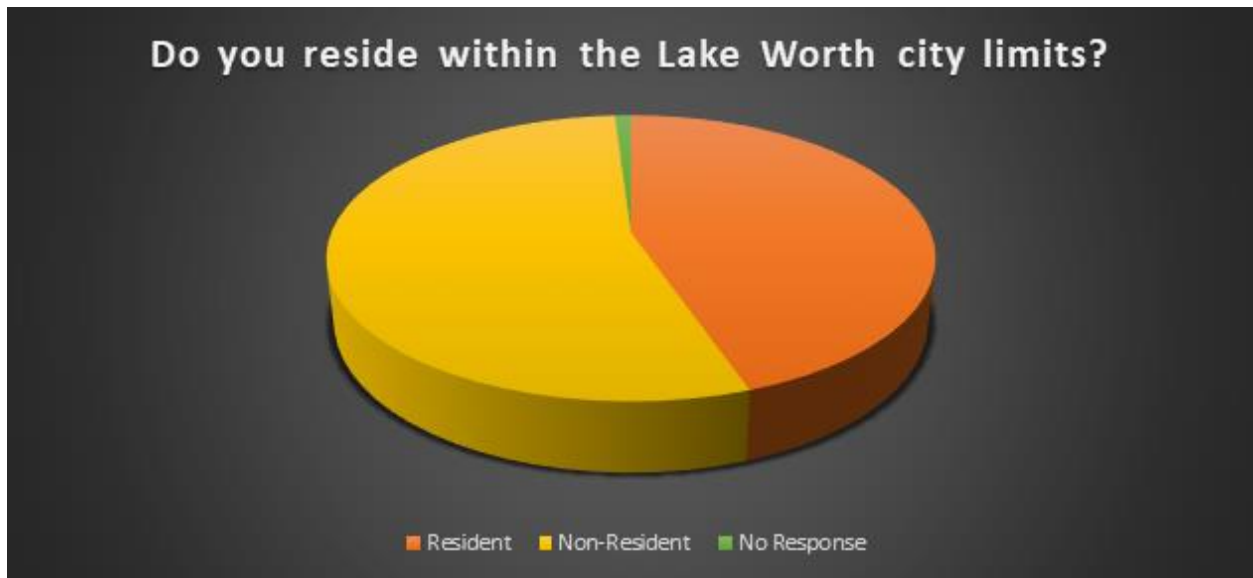
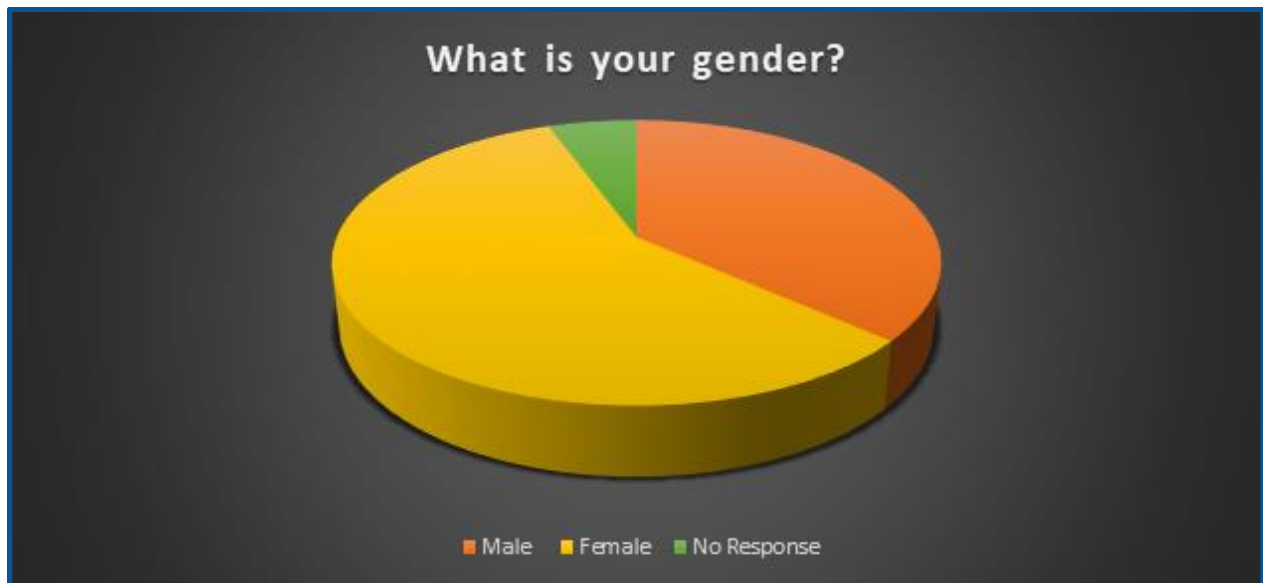
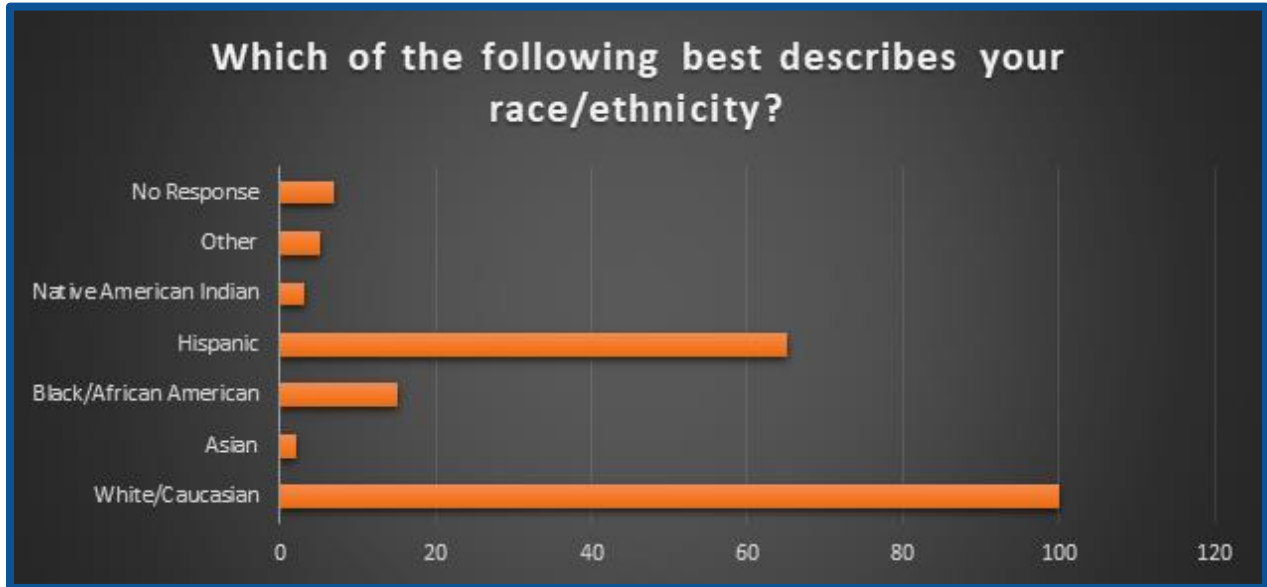


Chart 2. Respondent Gender



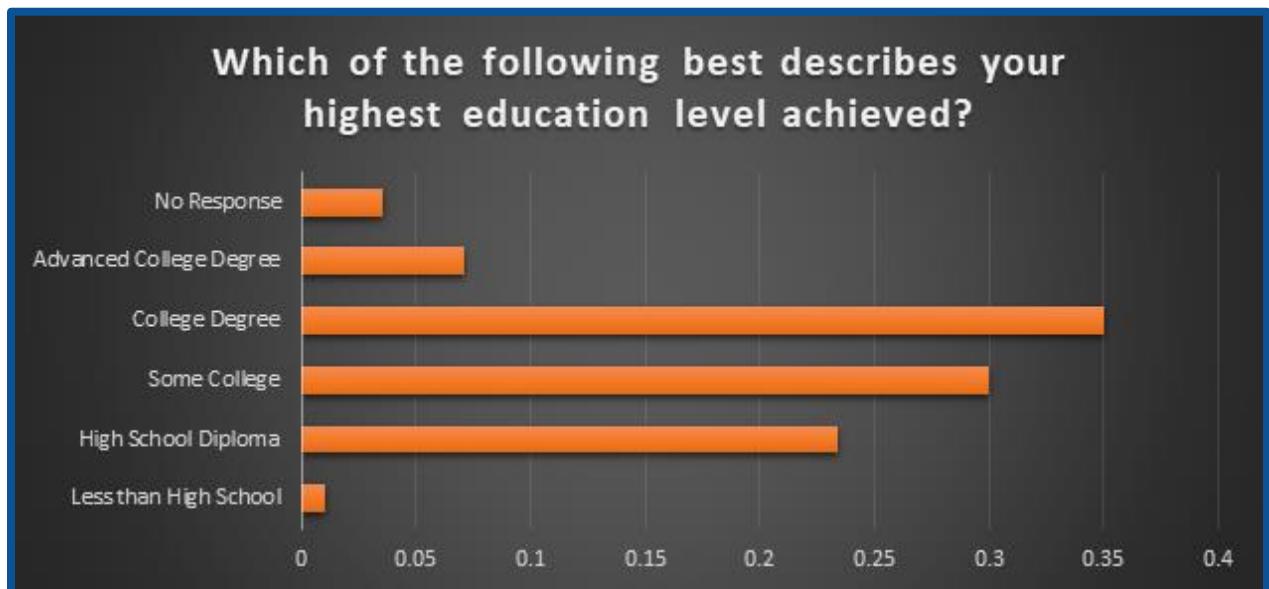
The respondents are primarily White/Caucasian and Hispanic at 51% at 33%, respectively (Chart 3). This is relatively congruent with 2016 census data, indicating a population mix of predominantly White/Caucasian and Hispanic at 65.2% at 33.2% (<https://datausa.io/profile/geo/lake-worth-tx/#demographics>).

Chart 3. Respondent Ethnicity



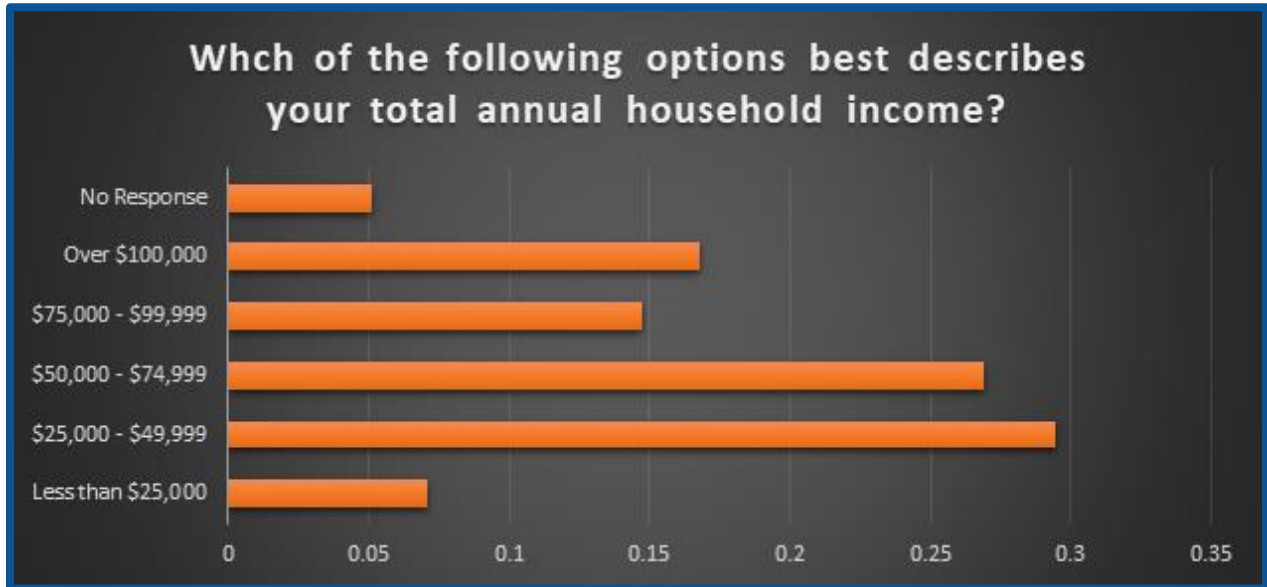
Eighty-eight percent combined have completed High School, taken some college courses, or completed a college degree, with the highest percentage of participants having a college degree at 35% (Chart 4).

Chart 4. Respondent Education Level



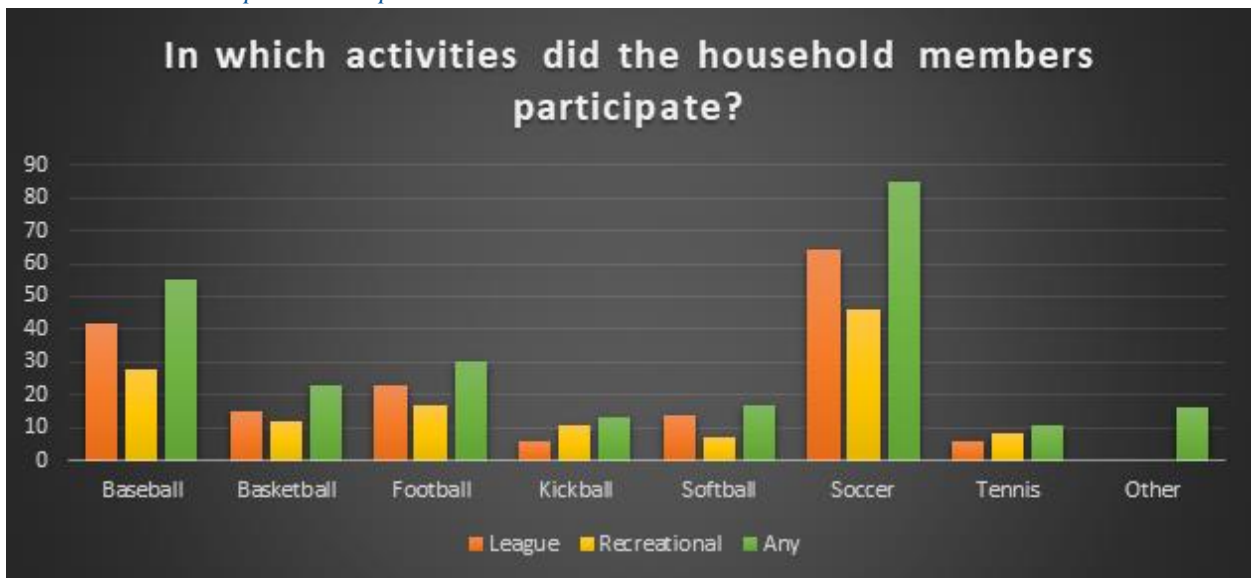
Over half of the respondents earn \$25,000 - \$75,000 annually (Chart 5).

Chart 5. Respondent Income Level



As mentioned above, the survey also examined which sports are played at Lake Worth Park, and whether those sports are being played at the recreational or league level (Chart 6). This information will help understand which park plan is appropriate, as the designs vary in number of baseball and soccer-type fields. As multiple answers were allowed in the survey, the following is a response count:

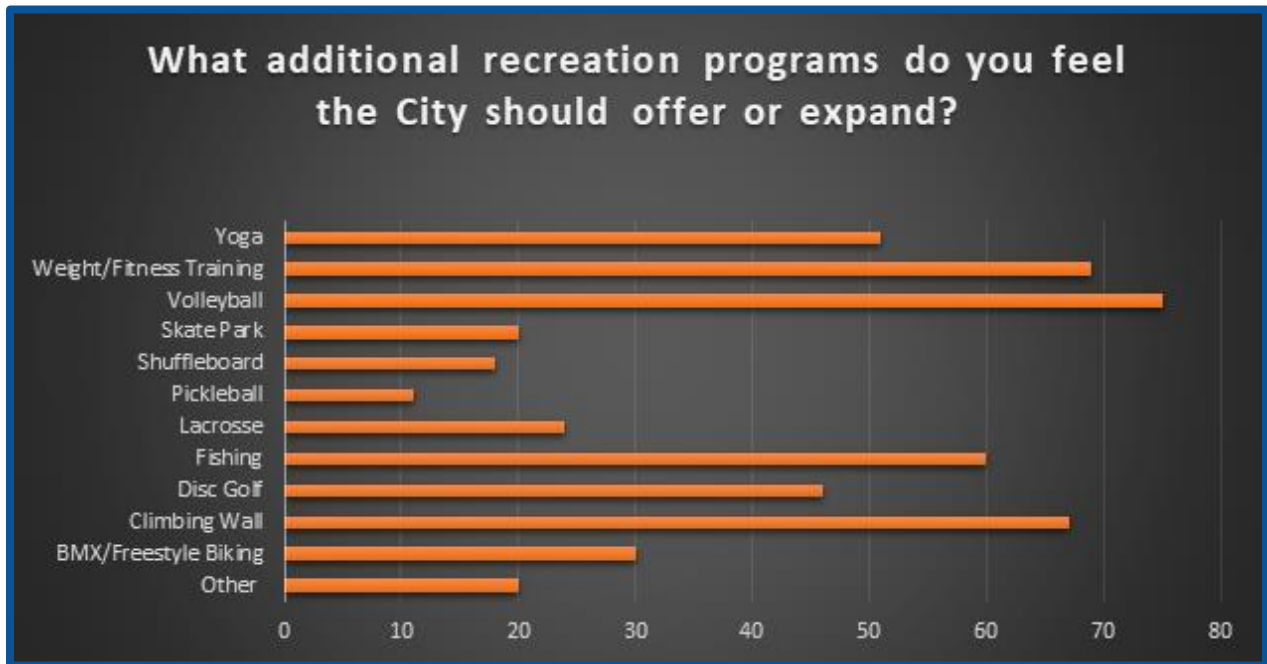
Chart 6. Household Sports Participation



The “any” field is representative of if a respondent marked either league, recreational, or both in the selected sport (see Appendix 4 for a list of “Other” responses).

Some of the activities listed under “other” include skateboarding, cheer, walking, and playground. When asked which activities should be improved or expanded (Chart 7), responses tally as follows:

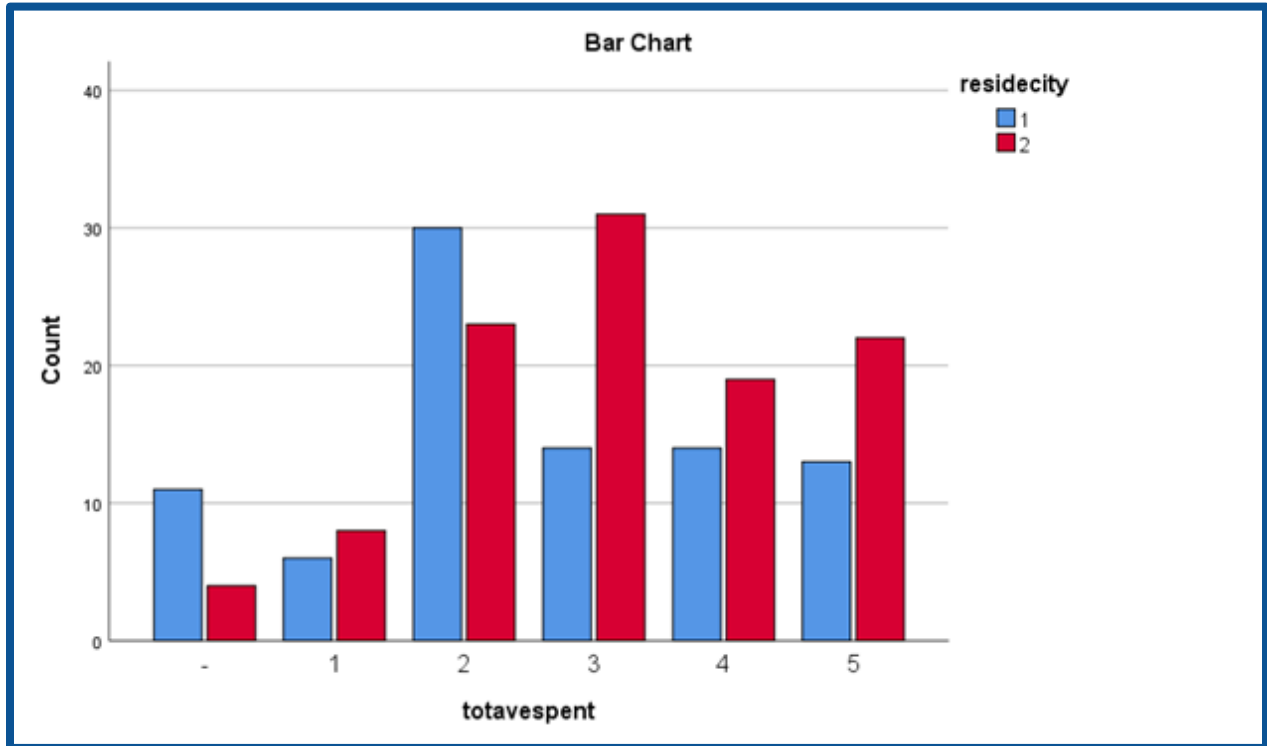
Chart 7. Respondent Preference on Recreation Program Expansion/Creation



Some of the responses from the “other” category in this instance include bubble soccer, Zumba, and summer programs (Appendix 5).

Due to the level of data in the survey (primarily ordinal and nominal), the team also ran cross-tabulation statistics in SPSS. First, the total amount of money spent at Lake Worth businesses is determined in relation to whether a respondent is a resident or non-resident. Specifically, the survey question asks the amount spent at these businesses when the respondent is visiting Lake Worth Park. This information is used to begin determining the economic impact of the park, and the potential impact of improvements that may bring more visitors to the park over time. From the analysis (Chart 8), it is determined that, of the residents of Lake Worth (1), the most commonly spend in the \$20 - \$40 range each time they use the park at 34.1%. The non-residents (2) most commonly spend in the \$40 - \$80 range, at 29%. The most common range for both populations is between \$20 - \$80. This range accounts for about half of the respondents spending amounts (50.3%).

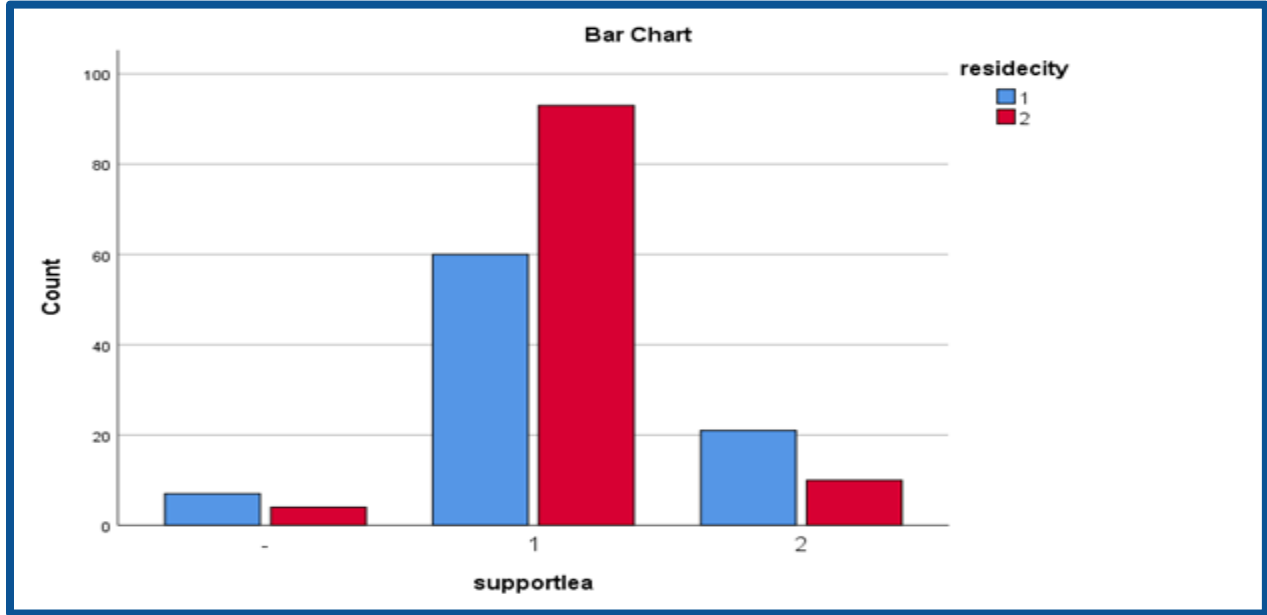
Chart 8. Respondent spending averages based on Lake Worth residency*



*Residency: Residents=1, Non-Residents=2; totavespent: “-“=no response, 1=\$0-\$20, 2=\$20-\$40, 3=\$40-\$80, 4=\$80-\$100, 5=\$100+

Next, the team examined the opinions of the residents versus non-residents on whether the city should offer league sports (Chart 9). This analysis shows that most residents and non-residents support the city offering league sports at 78.5%.

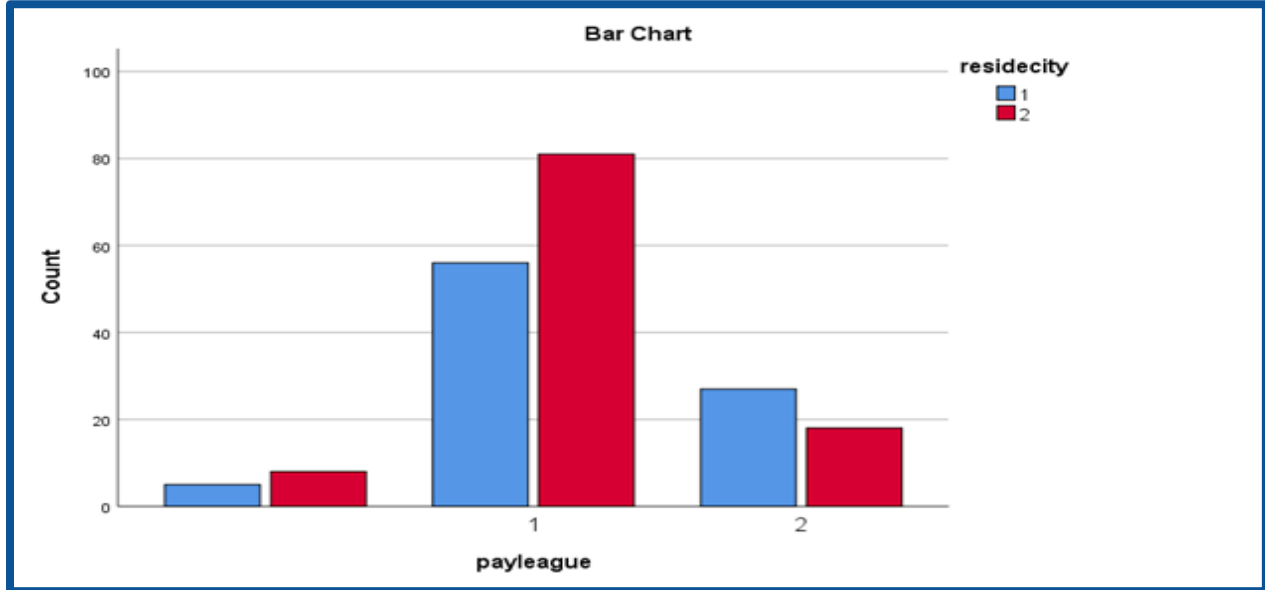
Chart 9. Respondent support for city provision of league sports based on Lake Worth residency*.



*residecity: 1=resident, 2=non-resident, supportlea: “-“=no response, 1=Yes (willing to pay), 2=No

Finally, the team examined if there are any differences in residents versus a non-residents in regards to willingness-to-pay for league sport participation (Chart 10). Here, we see that most residents and non-residents are willing to pay for league sport participation at 70.3%. It is worth noting that, of those not willing to pay, residents are least likely to support paying for the city to develop league sports at 30.7%, as compared to 16.8% of non-residents.

Chart 10. Respondent willingness-to-pay for league sports based on Lake Worth residency*



*residecity: 1=resident, 2=non-resident, payleague: “-“=no response, 1=Yes (willing to pay), 2=No

Overall, these findings are congruent with the overall support of the City of Lake Worth providing league sports at their parks.

The survey included multiple open answer fields in which respondents could submit their own words for a responses, some of which were included above. At the conclusion, the survey asked whether the respondents had any additional thoughts they would like to include. While many mentioned support for the parks and their overall improvement, it is important to note that many respondents mentioned a need for improvements to the city roads and the addition of sidewalks and lighting at the existing parks. Additionally, traffic in the area was also mentioned as a concern once the park is improved and usage increases. A list of all responses to this question (Question 19) are available in Appendix 7.

Validity and Reliability

As with any survey, reliability and validity are important in order to ensure the data collected is usable. External validity is low with this particular survey, as the sample size is low and does not necessarily reflect the population of Lake Worth residents and park users considering the skewed distribution. However, it should be noted that the overall goal of the research for the City of Lake Worth is ultimately to supplement a decision-making process that is already in progress. For the sake of the information needed by the client, the external validity may be less important. Ultimately, the survey collects the data needed by the client in order to make informed decisions regarding which park plan will best serve their citizens and park-users, as well as provide

information indicating the potential economic benefits. This is further outlined by the cost-benefit analysis. A positive in the results from this batch of data is that the population is relatively balanced in regards to citizens versus non-citizens.

Reliability of the survey results are likely in question, as well. Again, the survey was distributed by an individual not on the project team, and when the project team conducted surveys on April 4, the primary users were participating in soccer. The team ultimately distributed the surveys to those not participating in soccer on that evening. However, the results still may be viewed as skewed. The in-person survey distribution methods likely produced a specific type of response, as the participants are from similar, non-random populations. Further, different sports have seasons throughout the year, and different sports participants are likely to answer various questions differently. As such, the team cannot suggest that the survey would yield similar results if completed in a different time frame. Additionally, some questions elicited multiple responses even though they were single response questions. Future users may consider altering the questions, deleting them, or including instructions.

Due to the overall issue with validity and reliability of the survey, it is suggested that this iteration of the survey act as pilot. The survey should be redistributed with consideration on how the questions are worded so that responses will not need to be omitted. Further, the analysis available from the variables did not lend itself to many analysis types, as much of the data was nominal and ordinal. Also, a future survey should try to capture specific park usage data, such as time spent in park, etc. in order to ascertain specific health data for the cost-benefit analysis.

Limitations

Overall, the main limitation to the survey is that the results herein are preliminary. Additional survey responses would add to findings, as well as capture park users during other sports seasons. Although the sample size was higher than expected, the low number (n=197) influenced not only the results provided by SPSS, but also the reliability and validity of the overall survey as mentioned above. Additionally, it is likely that the survey data is skewed due to the addition of the surveys conducted by Marc Asmode. Though helpful in increasing sample size, the team is unable to speak to any influence Mr. Asmode may have had on respondent's answers, or how he may have clarified any questions a respondent had in regards to the survey during completion. Additionally, Mr. Asmode distributed the survey primarily, if not totally, to soccer league participants. As mentioned above, some survey questions had incorrect response values. Had the team had more time to pilot the survey questions, the reliability of the survey would have increased, and it would not have been necessary to omit those responses from the overall analysis. Finally, many respondents included answers in open-ended fields. Again, due to the time constraint, these answers were not coded for

analysis. However, some of the responses were included in order to provide qualitative data to support the quantitative.

Feasibility Study for a Parks Department

In an effort to explore what would be the best decision for the City of Lake Worth in regards to the Master Park Plan and potential parks department, the team reached out to multiple cities and external. This information was used to determine best practices, as well as potential pros and cons to each option. The sources included in the study are as follows:

Entity	Title/Department
City of Arlington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Athletics Program Director ● Facilities Operations Manager ● Parks Operations Analyst ● Former Director of Parks and Recreation
City of Irving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parks and Recreation Director
City of Kerrville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parks and Recreation Director
City of Lake Worth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Police Department
City of Leander	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parks and Recreation Director
Texas Parks and Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Director of Recreational Grants ● Regional 3 Director

City of Arlington, TX

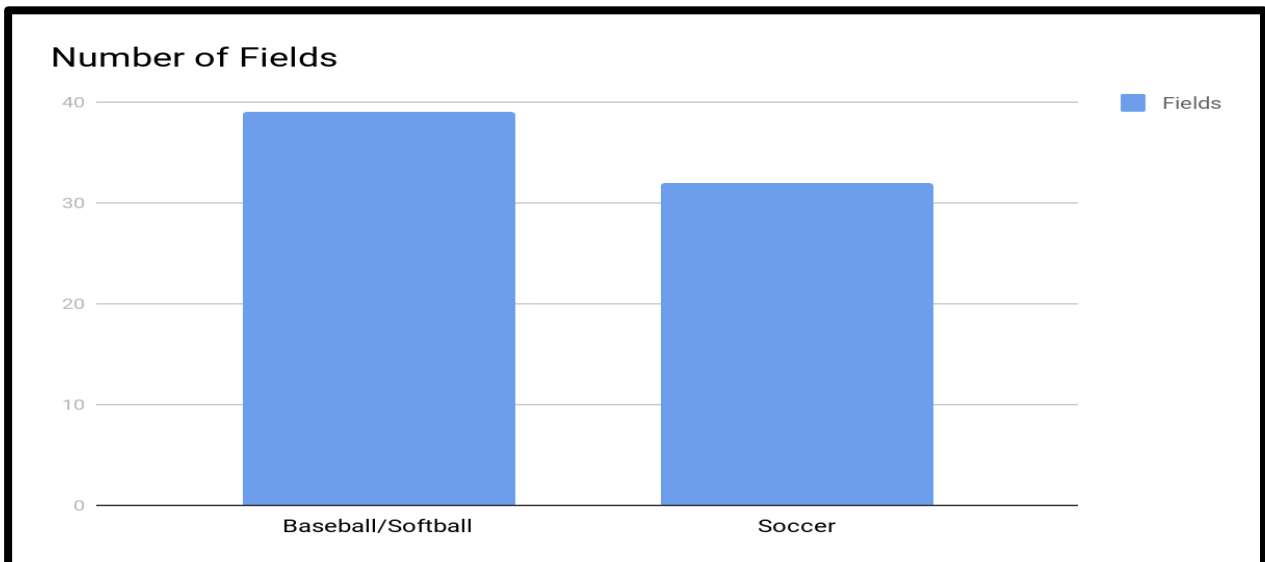
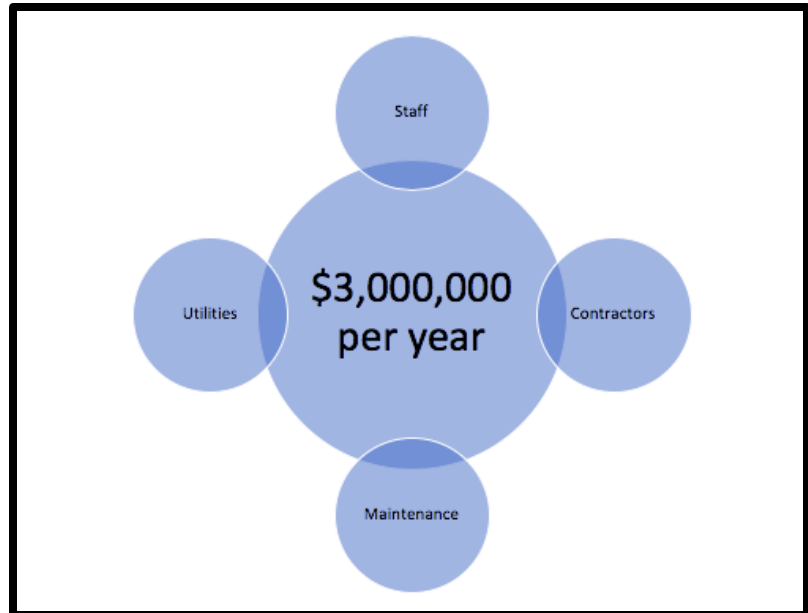
The information gathered from the following sources:

- Wendy Parker - Athletics Program Director. City of Arlington, TX
- Cliff Spangler - Facilities Operations Manager. City of Arlington, TX.
- Cathy Whittington – Parks Operations Analyst. City of Arlington, TX.

- Pete Jamieson – Former Director of Parks and Recreation. City of Arlington, TX.

Staffing & Facilities

Arlington addresses staffing their Parks and Recreation Department based upon the estimated number of hours required to provide service, maintenance, and programming for the specific facility. Arlington has 25 staff members to maintain 39 baseball and softball fields and 32 soccer and football fields. The total cost including city staff, contractors, maintenance, and utilities is approximately \$3,000,000 per year.



As it relates to the feasibility of starting a parks and recreation department, the former Director of Parks and Recreation, Pete Jamieson, recommends starting on a smaller scale, and use only resources available within the community in order to limit unnecessary spending. The team shared with him the possibility of moving four to five employees from the Department of Public Works

to manage the maintenance of the parks. With this as a consideration, Mr. Jamieson recommended that the department, if created by the city, may only consist of one director or manager to manage all aspects of the department along with the maintenance crew. Also, Mr. Jamieson mentioned that the cost of maintaining baseball fields as compared to soccer field should be taken into consideration. Baseball fields intended for league use will cost more to maintain in order to accommodate competitive league standards.

Leagues

Regarding sports participation, the majority of facility users are identified as City of Arlington residents in the sports of baseball and football. However, this is not the case in the sport of soccer. Arlington has a local soccer league, the Arlington Soccer Association, and it is a large association of 5,000 members. An estimated 50% of their members are non-residents of Arlington that play through their youth competitive leagues and their adult leagues. Overall Arlington provides league programs on a internal level. Regarding outside leagues Arlington hosts soccer by providing field space for league participation. Overall participation numbers are about equal with baseball/softball/fastpitch numbers and football is a distant third. Including maintenance and utilities, Arlington recovers about 50% of cost through revenue. Staff recommend the City of Lake Worth to avoid leagues, but if insistent, staffing needs to be heavily considered. After reviewing and discussing the goals of the City of Lake Worth, the suggestion is to start small and have very distinct goals. Afterwards, continue to build upon that foundation into a larger presence within the metroplex.

City of Irving, TX

The information gathered from the following source:

- Joe Moses – Director of Parks and Recreation. City of Irving, TX

Staffing & Facilities

The City of Irving Parks and Recreation Department consists of 373 employees, 137 full time and 236 part time. Director Moses and these employees are responsible for Irving's 80 parks, 30 miles of trails, 8 recreational facilities, 7 pools, 2 aquatic centers, 2 water parks, and 3 seasonal pools. The Parks and Recreation Department budget for 2016-2017 totaled \$17,890,092 and adopted budget of \$23,314,723 for 2018-2019.

Upon discussing the goals and vision of the City of Lake Worth, recommendations were received to assist with cost and feasibility. Director Moses suggested Lake Worth utilize the city's strengths to fulfill its goals. For example, the city could create seasonal jobs for high school and junior

college students to assist in maintenance over the summer. This could be beneficial by saving on the amount spent on contract work during the summer.

Leagues

Partnering with the school district is also a possibility to assist with sports league participation. A recommendation was given to give careful consideration to the creation of sports league, especially if other leagues exist in the surrounding areas. Lake Worth has to ensure they are fulfilling a niche that is currently not being met within the city to be successful. Shall they not, this creates the possibility of competing with a more established sports league. Ultimately, this could be a risk not worth taking at the moment considering the totality of city's current resources. In order to be successful at such an endeavor, the city must utilize the strength of the city (business to sponsor, schools, community colleges). The creation of a league also requires a different skill set in comparison to other city responsibilities. This person has to be able to engage the public and be able to make the leagues marketable.

City of Kerrville, TX

The information gathered from the following source:

- Ashlea Boyle – Director of Parks and Recreation. City of Kerrville, TX

Facilities & Leagues

In 2018, Kerrville's Park and Recreation Department maintained 18 soccer fields (approximately 20 acres), 19 parks, 11 baseball/softball fields, facilitated 1 local high school's winter soccer season, facilitated 2 local youth soccer leagues for their spring season, facilitated 1 youth local baseball league, and hosted over 400 baseball/softball teams. As a result, local hotels reported over 7,000 room nights booked related to athletes competing at the Sports Complex from January to December 2018. Kerrville's 2018 performance measures shows approximately 1,338 soccer participants, 19 D-Bat tournaments, 11 D-Bat leagues, and 206 baseball/softball field rentals. After sharing the vision of Lake Worth, Director Boyle stated based upon her experience the biggest challenge to overcome is allocating appropriate resources such as competent professional staff, adequate staffing levels, and adequate budget. It takes people and money to run and maintain the department / parks system. A new department will need a clear vision, parks, recreation activities, and an open space master plan.

Conclusion

Over the course of the project, information was obtained to determine the feasibility of a proposed master park plan and the development of a parks department. This information was gathered after seeking the input from city and state practitioners. As a result, a better understanding was obtained regarding the challenges associated with the task, and the desire of Lake Worth citizens and visitors. This information was considered and compared to the current resources of the city in conjunction with the cost of the project. In order to correctly advise the city, a cost benefit analysis was conducted to factor the strengths and weaknesses of project execution alternatives. Considering the totality of all information gained and presented, it is the respectful recommendation the City of Lake Worth begin the Parks and Recreation department with a manager and approximately 4-5 employees. This structure will allow the department to start small and develop as budget allows. However, shall the city's create league sports it is recommended the department obtain a director with additional staff, considering the unique challenges associated with league development.

Costs-Benefits of Investing in the City of Lake Worth's Park System

The National Recreation and Park Association – NRPA (2018) reports that seven in ten Americans regularly visit their local park and recreation facilities. An even larger number – nine in ten – agrees that their communities benefit from everything their local park and recreation agencies offer. It is evident, from this data, that park and recreation services play an essential role in enhancing the quality of life for millions of people in cities across the United States.

The City of Lake Worth understands the importance of a investing in parks and recreational services and is moving forward with a vision to improve the park system to encourage economic growth, increase inclusiveness amongst the community, showcase the city's relevant location and amenities, and continue to invest in projects that will meet the needs of residents and visitors. One key project that will contribute to this goal is an investment in the City of Lake Worth Parks and Open Spaces Master Plan.

This plan provides two sets of considerations - the redevelopment of Lake Worth Park and the park improvements and connectivity of three local neighborhood parks. Inevitably, there is a cost associated with improving public parks, however, some would argue that the direct and indirect benefits of park and recreational services far outweigh the incurred costs. This section outlines the costs related to the master park plan project, as well as, the direct and indirect benefits of the investment. The cost-benefit analysis was approached through three perspectives- economic,

social, and environmental impacts. The focus of this cost-benefit analysis in Phase I was related to the data the team obtained through the community surveys. One of the main goals of Phase I was to better understand the needs and wants of the community and include their feedback in the cost-benefit analysis of this report. The Capstone team that will work on Phase II of this project can provide additional data beyond the community surveys to determine if the community needs align with the additional data gathered.

Lake Worth Park	Neighborhood Parks Rayl Family Park, Reynolds Park & Telephone Park
Description: Improve the current facilities at an existing 29.5-acre park and incorporate new amenities to accommodate the heavy utilization of the park.	Description: Create a greenbelt and enhance park connectivity for three of neighborhood parks of the City of Lake Worth.

There is a considerable cost in investing in the parks master plan project. There are two main economic cost factors to consider for this project - direct costs associated with the redevelopment and the increase in cost for park maintenance, operations and security. These factors are inevitable in any form of redevelopment investment. However, it is important to look at the benefits that will come from the project. The considerable investment to enhance the infrastructure of the current park system in the City of Lake Worth is an investment that pays back in economic impact in a variety of other ways including additional revenue from property taxes, sales receipts, and savings for residents and lower health care costs, and increasing quality of life.

ECONOMIC IMPACT	
Economic Costs	Economic Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Direct costs associated with site redevelopment. ● Increase in costs for park maintenance, operations, and security. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Additional revenue from property taxes. ● Additional revenue from sales receipts. ● Direct use value ● Improved health care costs ● Contributes to quality of life

ECONOMIC COSTS

Direct Redevelopment Costs

The City of Lake Worth has several options to consider as it relates to the initial investment of redevelopment of the park systems. As it relates to Lake Work Park, there are three options for consideration – Concept A totaling an estimated \$10.3 million; Concept B totaling an estimated \$4 million; and Concept C totaling an estimated \$8.9 million. The following section provides a brief overview of what key amenities impact the pricing for each design.

Lake Worth Park Concept A:

Concept A of the Lake Worth Park project has an estimated cost of \$10.3 million. This design is the most expensive of the three options because this design is a complete remodel of the entire site. This plan calls for all new baseball and softball diamonds and fields that will support football, soccer and other field type sports or activities. A complete parking redesign providing capacity for 213 parking spaces, and additional amenities that currently do not exist such as a food truck lane.



Key Features of Lake Worth Park Concept A
New and expanded parking to include 213 spaces to accommodate visitors to the park
A fourplex (4) for baseball and softball along with two (2) additional practice fields
Two (2) multi-purpose sports fields to support soccer, football, or other field type activities
Food truck lane
Concession and restroom building

Fencing and lighting
Maintenance building
Pavilion with seating
Rubber surface playground area with shade canopy
Benched seating/bleachers
Sidewalk path around the entire complex

Lake Worth Park Concept B

Concept B of the Lake Worth Park project has an estimated cost of \$4 million. The main focus of this design option is to use existing fields and add one additional baseball/softball field on the southeast corner of the park landscape. Also, the current parking lots will remain, but the plan calls for two additional parking areas. The first new parking lot is slated on the northeast corner of the park providing an additional 64 parking spaces, and the second new parking lot is located at the southwest corner of the park providing an additional 30 parking spaces.



Key features of Lake Worth Park Concept B
Use the existing parking - resurface and restripe; Add two (2) new parking lots – NE corner of park for an additional 64 spaces and the SW corner of park for an additional 30 spaces

Use the three (3) existing baseball fields; Add one (1) additional field
Use the existing (1) multi-purpose sports field – re-sodded and striped
Concession and restroom building
Pressbox building with storage
Maintenance building
Pavilion with seating
Rubber surface playground area with shade canopy
Sidewalk path around the entire complex

Lake Worth Park Concept C

Concept C of the Lake Worth Park project has an estimated cost of \$8.9 million. This design includes features from design A and B. The concept C design includes keeping the existing football field and adding two additional fields for field sports and/or activities. A new fourplex for baseball and softball diamonds. Parking design includes the resurfacing, restriping, and reconfiguring of the existing parking lot off the access road with a new parking lot at the north end of the site for overflow parking or visitors utilizing the trails.



Key Features of Lake Worth Park Concept C
New and expanded parking to include 245 spaces to accommodate visitors to the park
A new fourplex (4) for baseball and softball
Use existing multi-purpose field (update); add two (2) new multi-purpose sports fields to support soccer, football, or other field type activities
Food truck lane
Concession and restroom building
Pressbox building with storage
Maintenance building
Pavilion with seating
Rubber surface playground area with shade canopy
Sidewalk path around the entire complex

Neighborhood Parks

Rayl Family Park

This neighborhood park project has an estimated budget of \$1.96 million. The project includes the following enhancements:

- a new parking circle
- Concrete sidewalks
- Shaded playground
- Pavilion
- Lighting
- Prefabricated bridges
- Furnishing allowance
- Pond restoration allowance

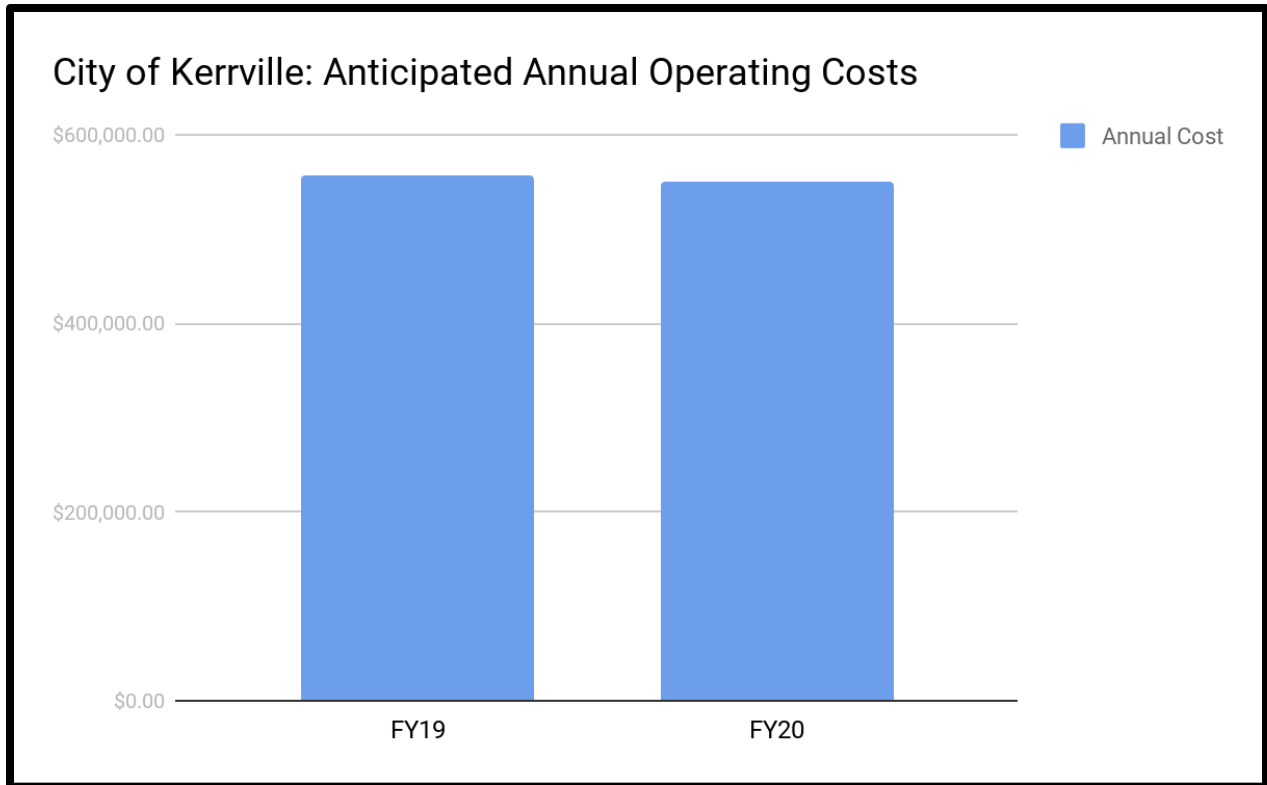


Reynolds Park

This neighborhood park project has an estimated budget of \$2.1 million. The project includes the following enhancements:

- New parking lots
- Concrete sidewalks
- Shaded playground
- Pavilion
- Lighting
- Bleachers
- Field lighting
- Practice baseball and softball fields





City of Kerrville: FY19 - \$557,261; FY20 - \$550,000

The City of Arlington, TX

On the maintenance side of the City of Arlington’s operations, they have 25 staff members to maintain 39 baseball and softball fields and 32 soccer fields, with 42 of the fields being lighted. The total cost including city staff, contractors, maintenance, and utilities is approximately \$3,000,000 annually.

Another significant cost that the City of Lake Worth would need to consider is the increase cost of developing a Parks and Recreation Department to manage the maintenance and operations of the parks as well as possible leagues. In talking with other cities that have established parks departments, the consistent recommendation is to start small and grow the department as needed. The following table shows an estimated cost for staffing on a proposed structure for the parks and recreation department. It is important to note that this estimate includes base salary estimates only, and not total compensation.

#	Position	Annual Base Salary Low	Annual Base Salary High	Estimated Base Salary - Low	Estimated Base Salary - High
1	Park Superintendent	\$61,875	\$84,769	\$61,875	\$84,769
1	Park Crew Leader	\$39,333	\$53,886	\$39,333	\$53,886
2	Park Maintenance Workers II	\$33,000	\$44,700	\$66,000	\$89,400
2	Park Maintenance Workers I	\$29,818	\$38,750	\$59,636	\$77,500
Estimated Total Annual Cost for Parks Department Staffing				\$226,844	\$305,555
Estimated Benefits (30%)				\$68,053	\$91,667
Estimated Total Compensation				\$294,897	\$397,222
Additional Expenses Related to Parks (Actual 2017-2018) *see chart below				\$148,454	\$148,454
Estimated Total Costs for Parks Department				\$443,351	\$545,676

Additional cost related to parks:

	Actual 2017-2018
Gas and oil, janitorial supplies, miscellaneous supplies/tools, office supplies, printing, uniforms, and safety	\$12,401
Building	\$723.32
Other equipment maintenance, vehicle maintenance, park maintenance	\$7,202
Equipment rental-other, insurance - building and general liability, vehicle insurance, schools/dues, travel/lodging, utilities – electric, utilities- water/sewer, park master plan, FW radio trunking, human resources services, other services	\$121,754
Minor equipment	\$6,374
Total	\$148,454.32
Grand Total (Low)	\$591,805.32
Grand Total (High)	\$694,130.32

BENEFITS

The considerable investment to enhance the infrastructure of the current park system in The City of Lake Worth is an investment that pays back in economic impact in a variety of ways – including; additional revenue from property taxes, sales receipts, savings for residents and lower health care costs, and increasing quality of life.

Property Tax

Harnik (2011) reported that studies consistently demonstrated that parks and open space have a positive impact on nearby residential property values. Further, evidence shows that people are willing to pay more for a home close to a nice park. Lake Worth Park, as well as the series of

neighborhood parks, have residential units nearby and in some cases surrounding the park. Investments in park improvements will enhance the character of the area and may increase the desirability to live close to these community assets, thereby, increasing property values of those homes. Increased values in residential properties will contribute to additional property tax revenue to the City.

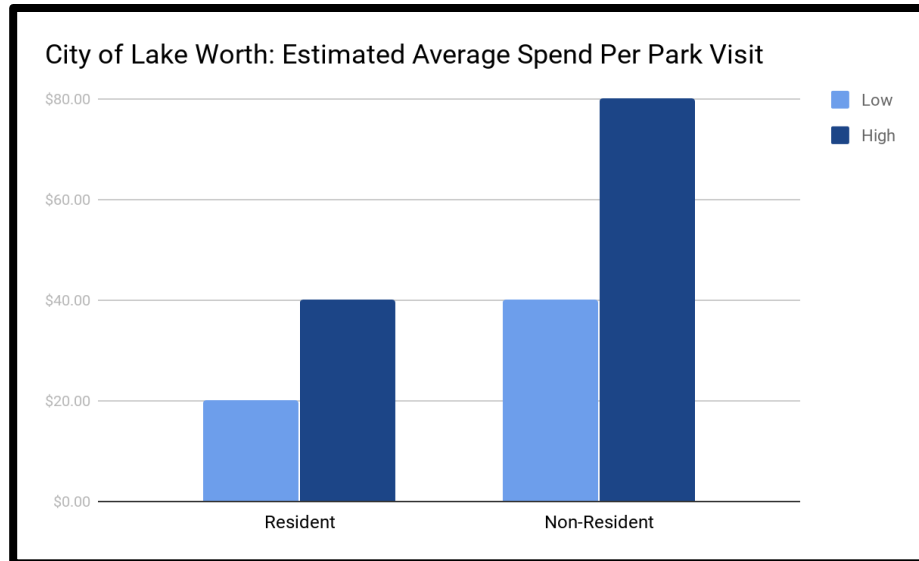
Sales Receipts

A key economic impact of park improvements is an increase in sales tax receipts from spending by residents and visitors because of park facilities and/or activities. NRPA (2018) reports many local park and recreation agency amenities spur tourism to their respective locales, generating significant economic activity, including (but not limited to) increased sales at local restaurants/bars and hotels.

The City of Lake Worth, TX

The City of Lake Worth website reports a robust sales tax revenue of an estimated \$7.4 million in the adopted budget for FY 2018-2019. There are two interesting data sets that the team discovered through the Lake Worth Park Usage Survey that would positively impact the sales tax revenue - the average spending per park visit by park visitors, and the number of park visitors that travel to Lake Worth Park from surrounding cities.

In the current state of Lake Worth Park, data shows that visitors to the park do contribute to the sales tax revenue to the city. From the analysis, it is determined that, of the residents of Lake Worth, the most commonly spend is in the \$20-\$40 range each time they use the park, at 34.1%. The non-residents most commonly spend in the \$40-\$80 range, at 29%. The most common range for both populations is between \$20 - \$80. This range accounts for about half of the respondents spending amounts (50.3%).



Also, more interestingly, data from the park usage survey showed that people travel from around 25 cities in the metroplex to use the Lake Worth Park. This data piece establishes the notion that Lake Worth Park is a regional park that is used by residents of surrounding cities. Visitors come to use the parks and spend their money in the City of Lake Worth at restaurants, shopping venue, gas stations, and other establishments that contribute to the sales tax revenue for the city. The following chart lists the cities in which visitors to the park reside. With enhanced park facilities, Lake Worth Park will continue to draw visitors to the park, which will inevitably benefit sales tax revenue.

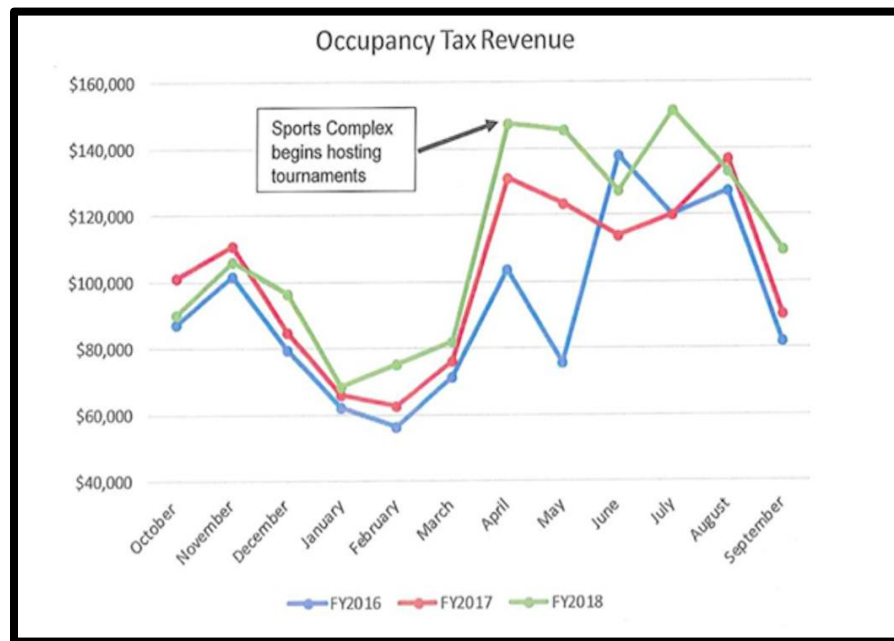
Non-Resident Visitors to Lake Worth Park				
Aledo	Covington	Haltom City	Mansfield	Springtown
Arlington	Crowley	Haslett	North Richland Hills	Watauga
Azle	Eules	Hurst	River Oaks	Weatherford
Bedford	Fort Worth	Kennedale	Saginaw	Westworth Village
Blue Mound	Grapevine	Lakeside	Sansom Park	White Settlement

The City of Kerrville, TX

The City of Kerrville reported successes with the indirect economic impact to the community. People are generating sales tax revenue by traveling to Kerrville for sports tournaments, staying in hotels, eating in restaurants, and purchasing gas. An increase in Kerrville’s hotel and motel tax revenue has increased since the complex began hosting tournaments.

Direct Use Value

Harnik (2011) defines direct use value as a value other than income or revenue gained from the park and recreation services. The direct use value represents the amount of money residents save by not having to pay market rates for the park activities they enjoy (Harnik, 2011, p. 6). The question of how much a person



willing to pay for access or membership to a commercial business that would provide recreational space for the same activities that one could do in an open area provided by parks at no cost, is the direct value saved. Residents have the option to save money by using the City’s affordable and accessible parks and recreation opportunities instead of having to purchase these benefits in the commercial marketplace.

Improved Health Care Costs

The City’s ability to provide access to parkland and recreation opportunities can positively impact health care costs. Parks and recreation provides opportunities for people to practice active lifestyles, engage in exercise, and promote improved physical and mental health. Another important component to include in the health and wellness aspect of parks and recreation is the opportunity for social connection. People can connect to the community in a world that is becoming ever more deficient in face-to-face interactions.

Quality of Life

There are many factors that people consider when defining their expectation of “quality of life.” Many people look at safety, quality educational systems, healthcare options, and/or access to amenities through public libraries or parks and recreation. It can be argued that the quality of life in a community can be enhanced by the quality of the park and recreation system. These are key factors that cities focus on because they all establish a strong foundation for the quality of life pallet that will attract demand for people to want to relocate to the city as well as businesses.

SOCIAL IMPACT	
Social Costs	Social Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● An increase in traffic. ● An increase in unruly activities during non-park hours. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social equity ● Enhance park and recreational amenities ● Connection of neighborhood parks and neighborhood beautification. ● Reduce youth crime ● Community connectedness and pride

A couple of social factors to consider as a cost to implementing park improvements are the increase in traffic and increase in unruly activities during non-park hours. Park renovations tend to attract greater interests in using the park. More people visiting the parks will mean that there will be an increase in traffic. Also, beautiful park amenities are inviting to people at all hours of the day. There may be an increase in unruly activities during non-park hours that will require additional police enforcement to manage. On the other hand, the social benefits of park enhancements, again outweigh the costs.

Social Equity

Like public libraries, public parks are community anchors that are valued by the community. The most important quality about these entities is that they are open and accessible to all regardless of race, gender, age, income level or abilities. Local parks ensure that all members of a community have access to open spaces and recreational opportunities.

Enhanced Park and Recreation Amenities

The investment in park and recreation amenities will expand the City’s ability to provide new opportunities to residents and visitors. Currently, the parks are able to support activities such as baseball and soccer, skateboarding and open play areas. Park enhancements at Lake Worth Park would develop additional spaces for people to engage in the current activities, but it would also provide spaces to grow into other activities such as Lacrosse or other activities to meet the community’s needs.

Connection of Neighborhood Parks

Redevelopment with the three targeted neighborhood parks would create a connection between all three locations, which would enhance the walkability between the park spaces. This project would also contribute to neighborhood beautification and would establish the parks as community anchors for families to enjoy for decades.

Reduce Youth Crime

Park and recreation agencies provide opportunities for children to be engaged in activities that help them develop essential social, emotional, and physical skills. Participating in team sports provides youth with avenues to connect with other children and be a part of a team. Children that are engaged in positive activities have less time to engage in crime.

Community Connectedness and Pride

Parks and open spaces provide areas within the community for families, neighbors, and visitors to engage in activities that support cohesiveness. Parks promote a sense of community. Providing spaces for the community to gather and engage in human connectedness can encourage safer, stronger, and more positive neighborhoods. It is important for people to care about and have pride in their neighborhood and community.

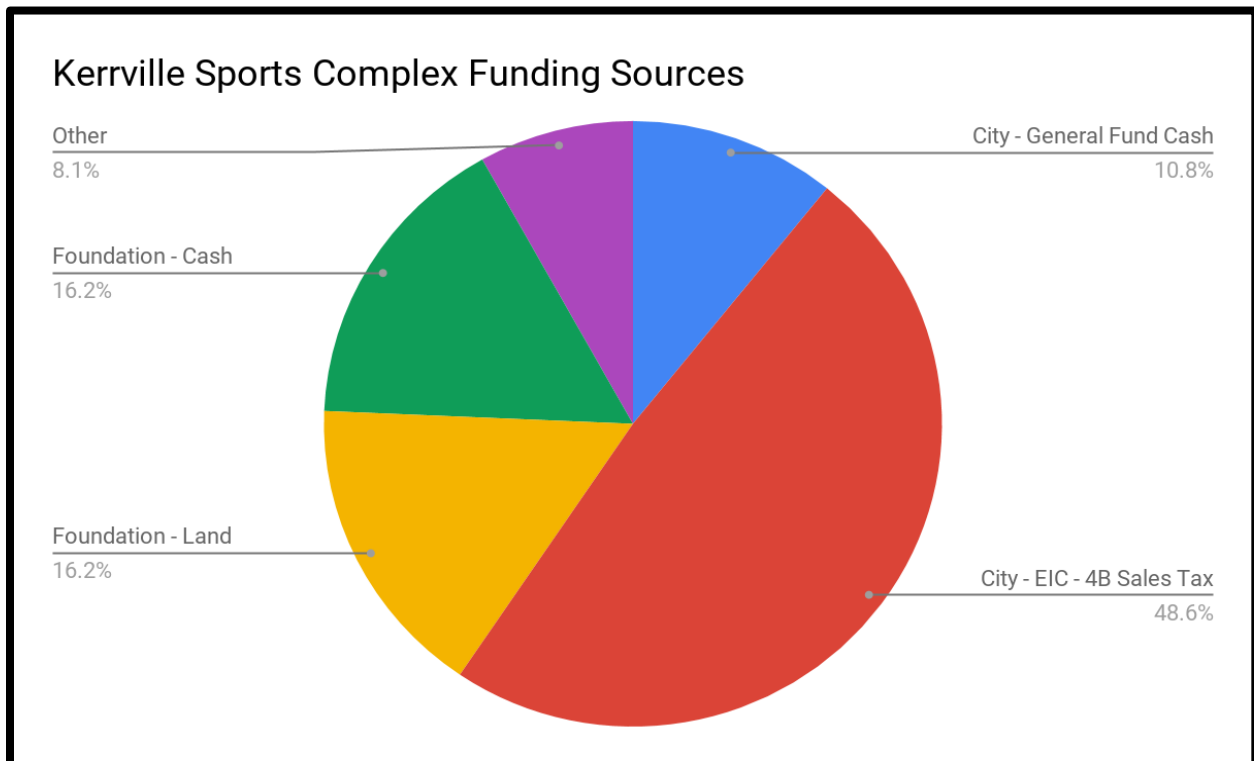
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT	
Environmental Costs	Environmental Benefits
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parkland and open spaces help with stormwater management.

Harnik’s (2011) reported the following:

When stormwater runoff flows off roads, sidewalks, and other impervious surfaces, it carries pollutants with it. Unfiltered rainwater can flow directly into waterways, causing ecological problems. Large previous (absorbent) surface areas allow precipitation to infiltrate and recharge the groundwater, and vegetation intercepts and stores rainwater, allowing some to evaporate before it ever reaches the ground. In effect, urban green spaces function like mini-storage reservoirs – green infrastructure (p.13).

Funding Considerations

The Kerrville Sports Complex was funded through a public-private partnership. The total cost of the project was an estimated \$18.5 million. The City contributed \$9 million in cash through the Economic Improvement Corporation (4B sales tax entity) and an additional \$2 million for construction of the D-BAT building (indoor pro-shop, batting cages, and pitching lanes). A local foundation donated the land to the City, valued at an estimated \$3 million, as well as contributed approximately \$3 million toward the costs associated with the design, survey, engineering, general contractor coordination, site clearing, preliminary site grading, drainage improvements, construction of entrances, entrance signage, and soccer fencing. This project did not increase taxes.



Funding Options

- **General Fund** - Ad valorem and/or sales tax revenues.
- **Bonds** - If the City of Lake Worth has bonding capacity this should definitely be a consideration for funding a high dollar project.
- **Capital Campaign** - Establish a capital campaign committee that would work on fundraising activities that can fund a portion of the project.
- **Grants**
 - Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)
 - Texas Parks and Wildlife Grants
 - Professional Sports Leagues Foundations
- **Texas Rangers Baseball Foundation:** Globe Life, the Texas Ranger Baseball Foundation and FOX Sports Southwest provide grants to youth baseball and softball organizations to promote and support through Texas Rangers territory. The foundation is committed to supporting the growth of the sport and making sure that every child is afforded the opportunity to experience joy and community through baseball and softball. This grant is designed to continue to build base and softball by providing funding for field renovations, equipment needs, uniforms and league development for teams through Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.
- **Crime Prevention Grants**
- *Lieutenant J.T. Manoushagian – Fields Operation Commander, City of Lake Worth, TX Police Department*
 - In an effort to find ways to gain funding to support the improvement of parks within the city, Team 1 inquired of grants target towards crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED). This approach to reduce crime is multidisciplinary and places emphasis on improving the environment to deter crime. Upon contacting LT. Manoushagian, Lake Worth PD currently receives no grants or funding for this specific purpose. LT. Manoushagian expressed hopes that the police department can obtain such grants in the future. Shall the city obtain such grants, it has the potential to assist in park improvements.
- **Park User Fees**
 - The City of Lake Worth website reports park rental revenue of \$3,000 in the adopted budget for FY 2018-2019. Enhancing park amenities would increase opportunities for the City to increase this line item revenue source. One recommendation would be to increase park usage/rental fees and establishing a non-resident fee that is higher than what residents would pay for using park facilities.
 - Note: The City of Kerrville currently does not have resident or non-resident fees. They are recommending the addition of non-resident fee for the FY20 budget.

Kerrville staff reports that this is a fairly common practice among cities due to tax dollars subsidizing services. The main challenge will be to confirm residency.

- **League Fees:**

- League fees would not be a considerable revenue source toward the initial cost of the project, however, it is important to note that the community did show an interest in the City of Lake Worth providing sports leagues with 78.5% responding that the City should provide leagues, and 70.3% responding that they would be willing to pay for leagues.
- Note: Many of the cities suggested that if the City of Lake Worth decided to offer sports leagues for the community it should be implemented in increments. Starting off with a much targeted population such as the very young children ranging from ages three to five. This age group provide parents with a recreational option for youth development and the City would not be competing with competitive leagues of the older ages. City representatives recommended partnering with established leagues to provide more competitive options.

Other Considerations

The City of Lake Worth leaders have three options to consider in regard to options for the Lake Worth Park redevelopment with different price points; option A - \$10.3 million, option B - \$4 million, and option C - \$8.9 million. There are a several datasets from the park usage survey that provide feedback to consider when making the decision on which option to select.

In the survey, the community showed an interest in additional recreational activities with the top ten including the following activities:

1. Volleyball
2. Weight/fitness training
3. Climbing wall
4. Fishing
5. Yoga
6. Disc golf
7. BMX/Freestyle bike
8. Lacrosse
9. Skate park
10. Other - included bubble soccer, Zumba and summer programs

Many of the activities that the community reported an interest in would be better implemented on a multi-purpose field such as football and/or a soccer field rather than a baseball or softball field.

Mr. Jamieson, former Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Arlington, made a notable comment in our discussion with him. In his many years of experience, he noted that maintaining high-quality baseball and softball fields that meet the standards for highly competitive tournament leagues is expensive to maintain, especially compared to a multipurpose field.

With this in mind, planning other field activities on the baseball and softball fields, when not in use, may cause more damage to the integrity of the quality of the fields, which may impact the City's ability to bring in profit-making baseball and softball tournaments. Option A would provide the most space for baseball and softball to flourish at the park.

Option B would provide two additional football and soccer fields that would cater to some of the extra activities that the community is interested in having as a recreational option. Volleyball, fitness classes, bubble soccer, Zumba classes, yoga, disc golf and lacrosse can all be implemented on a multipurpose field. Having three multipurpose spaces would provide more flexibility for these activities to occur than would the baseball and softball fields.

Therefore, it is worth the consideration to save money on the Lake Worth Park redevelopment by selecting option B at \$8.9 million, which would leave some money to being a parks and recreation department and/or put the additional money toward the initial development of Telephone Park.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Over the course of the project information was obtained to determine the feasibility of a proposed master park plan and the development of a parks department. This information was gathered after seeking the input from city and state practitioners. In addition, some of the most valuable input came from disseminating surveys via online and in person. As a result, a better understanding was obtained regarding the challenges associated with the task, and the desire of Lake Worth citizens and visitors. This information was considered and compared to the current resources of the city in conjunction with the cost of the project. In order to correctly advise the city, a cost benefit analysis was conducted to factor the strengths and weaknesses of project execution alternatives. Considering the totality of all information gained and presented, it is respectfully recommended that City of Lake Worth:

1. Look into specific data on financial impact.
2. Place increased emphasis on soccer.
3. Conduct a more critical assessment of a Parks & Recreation Department obtainability.

Additionally, the report also lists suggestions to improve the city's grant applications according to the local park grants program scoring criteria (Appendix 8), recommendations that will align Lake Worth's Master Park Plan with the goals of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. However, while the recommendation provided by TPWD may improve the City of Lake Worth application according to the Local Park Grant Program, the City still faces an unusual situation.

Currently, the City of Lake Worth's inability to receive grant funding from TPWD is affected by its location, and its inability to be classified in one of the two categories offered within the programs scoring criteria. The City of Lake Worth's proximity places it near Fort Worth, Texas; and, this location, according to TPWD, disqualifies Lake Worth from meeting requirement for local park funding.

In addition, the City of Lake Worth cannot be classified in the two categories (Urban or Rural) when applying to secure grant funding for park and recreational development.

According to the criteria stated by TPWD, to qualify for park funding a city can only be urban if it has a population of 50,000 or more people. Likewise, when being classified as a rural city, the city must have a population of 2,500 or less, criteria as such creates an unfair advantage for cities like The City of Lake Worth. To address the unusual situation, that The City of Lake Worth faces, the capstone team recommends that The City of Lake Worth advocate for TPWD to create a special category for all cities not able to be classified as urban or rural. The new category would allow

cities to meet the scoring criteria of TPWD, giving all cities a fair chance to apply for local park funding.

References

The City of Lake Worth

The City of Grand Prairie

The City of Arlington

The City of Irving


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Appendix 1. 2019 City of Lake Worth Park Usage Survey

 <p style="text-align: right;">2019 City of Lake Worth Park Usage Survey</p>					
<p>The City of Lake Worth would like your input on the needs and priorities for Lake Worth Park and its future development. This input will assist in directing resources toward expansion and improvement in areas that best support the needs of those who use Lake Worth Park. Your responses to the following questions are completely confidential and anonymous. Each participant should only complete one survey. Please complete this survey by _____.</p>					
PARK USAGE	No Opinion	Very Important	Import ant	Neutr al	Not Import ant
1. How important are parks and recreation programs to the overall quality of life in Lake Worth?					
2. How often do you visit the Lake Worth Park?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Once a week or more b) 1-2 times per month c) Less than 5 times a year d) Never 				

<p>3. Have any household members used recreational programs provided by the City in the last year?</p>	<p>a) Yes b) No</p>		
<p>4. In which activities did the household members participate?</p>	<p>Please check all that apply:</p>		
		<p>League-based</p>	<p>Recreational</p>
	<p>Baseball</p>		
	<p>Basketball</p>		
	<p>Football</p>		
	<p>Kickball</p>		
	<p>Softball</p>		
	<p>Soccer</p>		
	<p>Tennis</p>		
<p>Other: (Describe)</p>			
<p>5. What additional recreation programs do you feel the City should offer or expand?</p>	<p>Please check all that apply:</p>		
	<p>BMX/Freestyle Biking</p>		

	Climbing Wall	
	Disc Golf	
	Fishing	
	Lacrosse	
	Pickleball	
	Shuffleboard	
	Skate Park	
	Volleyball	
	Weight/Fitness Training	
	Yoga	
	Other: (Describe)	
6. What role should the City of Lake Worth assume in organized youth sports organizations?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Develop sports fields and provide maintenance b) Develop sports field and share maintenance costs with outside sports leagues c) Develop and maintain sports fields and manage/develop sports leagues d) Not be involved in youth sports 	
7. Would you like to see the city offer league sports?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Yes b) No 	

8. Would you be willing to pay to participate in league sports?	a) Yes b) No	
LOCAL SPENDING		
9. When visiting Lake Worth Park for recreational activities, which area businesses do you visit?	Please check all that apply:	
	Grocery Store	
	Gas Station	
	Retail Store	
	Restaurant	
	Pharmacy	
	Other: (Describe)	
9a. If you checked one or more boxes for question 9, how much do you spend on average?	a) \$0-\$20 b) \$20-40 c) \$40-80 d) \$80-100 e) \$100+	
DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION		

10. Do you reside within the Lake Worth city limits?	a) Yes b) No
10a. If "Yes", how long have you lived in Lake Worth?	
10b. If "No", what is your current zip code?	
10c. If "No", what is your current city of residence?	
11. Do you own a business within the Lake Worth City Limits?	a) Yes b) No
12. Do you rent or own your home?	a) Own b) Rent
13. Which of the following options best describes your age group?	a) 18-25 b) 26-40 c) 41-50 d) 51-65 e) Over 65

<p>14. Which of the following best describes your race/ethnicity?</p>	<p>a) White/Caucasian b) Asian c) Black/African American d) Hispanic e) Native American Indian f) Other</p>
<p>15. What is your gender?</p>	<p>a) Male b) Female</p>
<p>16. Which of the following best describes your total annual household income?</p>	<p>a) Less than \$25,000 b) \$25,000 - \$49,999 c) \$50,000 - \$74,999 d) \$75,000 – \$99,999 e) Over \$100,000</p>
<p>17. Which of the following options best describes your highest education level achieved?</p>	<p>a) Less than High School b) High School diploma c) Some College d) College degree e) Advanced College degree</p>
<p>18. How many adults (18 or older) live in your household?</p>	

18a. How many children (younger than 18) live in your household?	
19. Is there anything else you would like us to know?	

Appendix 2. Survey Codebook

Variable Name	Definition	Value (Numeric Code)	Value Label
case	Case Number	Open	Open value
colmeth	Collection Method	1	Online
		2	Cowntown Director Collected
		3	Team Collected (4/4/2019)
parkimp	Park program importance rated on scale of 1 - Very Important to 4 - Not Important; 0 - No Opinion.	1	No Opinion
		2	Very Important
		3	Important
		4	Neutral
		5	Not Important
parkvis	Number of park visits	1	Never
		2	Once a week or more
		3	1-2 times per month
		4	Less than 5 times a year
hhproguse	Household recreational program usage	2	No

		1	Yes
hhpartother	Household participation in "Other" (unlisted) sport/activity	2	No
		1	Yes
hhpartleabase	Household participated in league baseball	2	No
		1	Yes
hhpartleabask	Household participated in league basketball	2	No
		1	Yes
hhpartleafoot	Household participated in league football	2	No
		1	Yes
hhpartleakick	Household participated in league kickball	2	No
		1	Yes
hhpartleasoft	Household participated in league softball	2	No
		1	Yes
hhpartleasocc	Household participated in league soccer	2	No

		1 Yes
hhpartleatenn	Household participated in league tennis	2 No
		1 Yes
hhpartrecbase	Household participated in recreational baseball	2 No
		1 Yes
hhpartrecbask	Household participated in recreational basketball	1 Yes
		2 No
hhpartrecfoot	Household participated in recreational football	1 Yes
		2 No
hhpartreckick	Household participated in recreational kickball	1 Yes
		2 No
hhpartrecsoft	Household participated in recreational softball	1 Yes
		2 No
hhpartrecsocc	Household participated in recreational soccer	1 Yes

		2 No
hhpartrectenn	Household participated in recreational tennis	1 Yes
		2 No
anybase	Household participated in either league or recreational baseball	2 No
		1 Yes
anybask	Household participated in either league or recreational basketball	1 Yes
		2 No
anyfoot	Household participated in either league or recreational football	1 Yes
		2 No
anykick	Household participated in either league or recreational kickball	1 Yes
		2 No
anysoft	Household participated in either league or recreational softball	1 Yes
		2 No
anysocc	Household participated in either league or recreational soccer	1 Yes

		2	No
anytenn	Household participated in either league or recreational tennis	1	Yes
		2	No
offexpBMX	Participant promotes expansion of BMX/Freestyle Biking programs	1	Yes
		2	No
offexpclimb	Participant promotes expansion of Climbing Wall programs	1	Yes
		2	No
offexpdisc	Participant promotes expansion of Disc Golf programs	1	Yes
		2	No
offexpfish	Participant promotes expansion of Fishing programs	1	Yes
		2	No
offexplacr	Participant promotes expansion of Lacrosse programs	1	Yes
		2	No
offexppick	Participant promotes expansion of Pickleball programs	1	Yes

		2	No
offexpshuf	Participant promotes expansion of Shuffleboard programs	1	Yes
		2	No
offexpskat	Participant promotes expansion of Skate Park programs	1	Yes
		2	No
offexpvoll	Participant promotes expansion of Volleyball programs	1	Yes
		2	No
offexpweight	Participant promotes expansion of Weight/Fitness Training programs	1	Yes
		2	No
offexpyoga	Participant promotes expansion of Yoga programs	1	Yes
		2	No
offexpoth	Participant promotes expansion of "Other" programs; Description requested	1	Yes
		2	No

sportsrole	Preferred role of city in sports and fields	1 Not be involved in youth sports
		2 Develop sports fields and provide maintenance
		3 Develop sports field and share maintenance costs with outside sports leagues
		4 Develop and maintain sports fields and manage/develop sports leagues
supportlea	Support for city provision of league sports	1 Yes
		2 No
payleague	Willingness to pay for league sports	1 Yes
		2 No
visitgroc	Participant visits grocery store	1 Yes
		2 No
visitgas	Participant visits gas station	1 Yes
		2 No
visitretail	Participant visits retail shop	1 Yes
		2 No
visitrest	Participant visits restaurant	1 Yes

		2 No
visitpharm	Participant visits pharmacy	1 Yes
		2 No
visitoth	Participant visits other location and spends to shop	1 Yes
		2 No
anyvisit	Participant visits any location to shop/spend money	1 Yes
		2 No
totavespent	Total amount spent during visits	1 \$0-20
		2 \$20-40
		3 \$40-80
		4 \$80-100
		5 \$100+
residecity	Is respondent a Lake Worth citizen	1 Yes
		2 No
cityrestime	Length of time lived in Lake Worth	1 0-5 years
		2 6-10 years

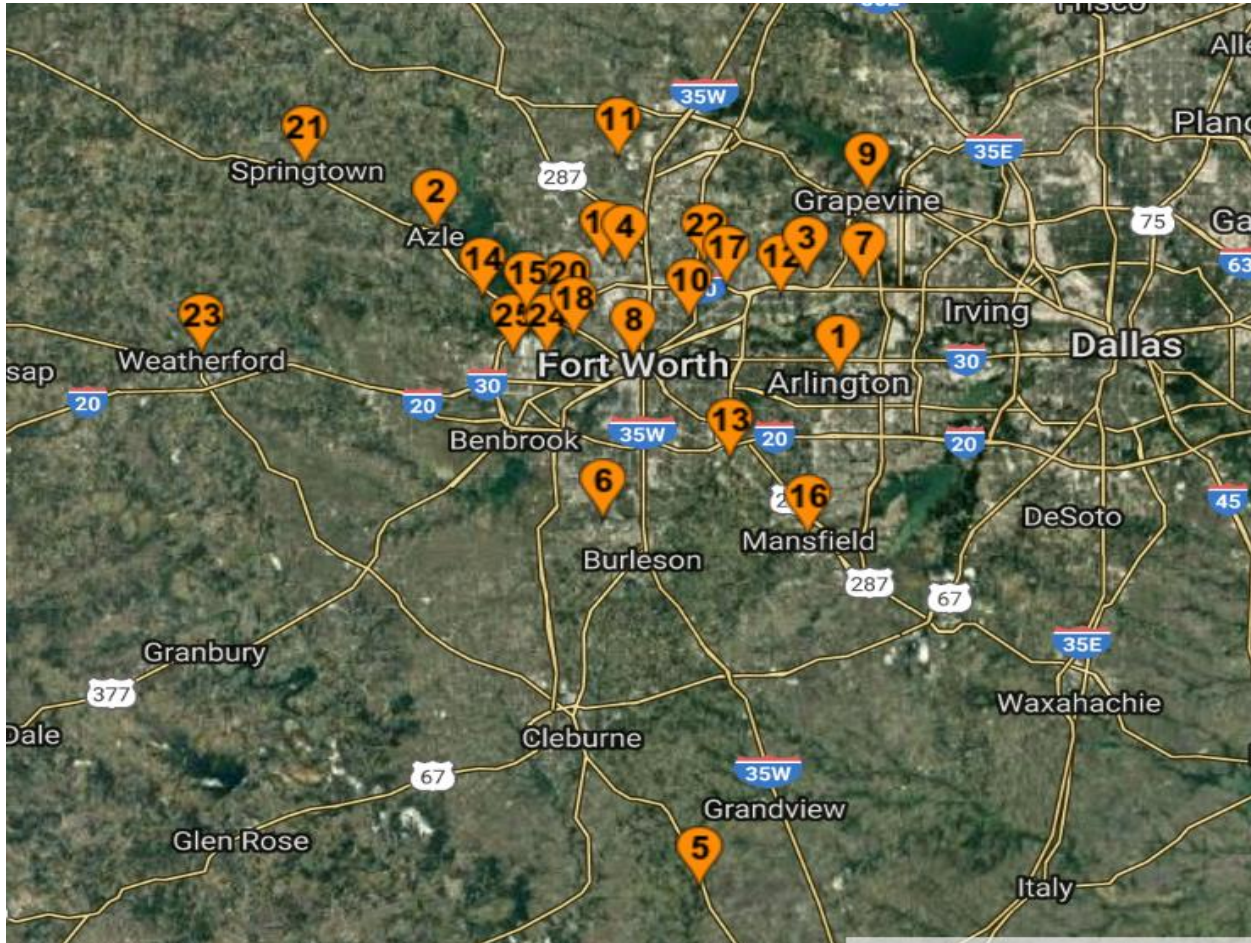
		3	11-29 years
		4	30+ years
zipcode	Zip code of current residence	Number	Open
cityreside	Current city of residence	1	Lake Worth
		2	Aledo
		3	Arlington
		4	Azle
		5	Bedford
		6	Blue Mound
		7	Covington
		8	Eules
		9	Fort Worth
		10	Grapevine
		11	Haltom City
		12	Haslett
		13	Hurst
		14	Kennedale

		15 Lakeside
		16 Mansfield
		17 North Richland Hills
		18 River Oaks
		19 Saginaw
		20 Sansom Park
		21 Springtown
		22 Watauga
		23 Weatherford
		24 Westworth
		25 White Settlement
		26 Crowley
owncitybus	Respondent owns a business in Lake Worth	1 Yes
		2 No
housing	Does respondent own or rent their home	1 Rent
		2 Own

agegroup	Age group of respondent	1	18-25
		2	26-40
		3	41-50
		4	51-65
ethnicity	Ethnicity of respondent	1	White/Caucasian
		2	Asian
		3	Black/African American
		4	Hispanic
		5	Native American Indian
		6	Other
gender	Gender of respondent	1	Male
		2	Female
hannualinc	Annual income of respondent	1	Less than \$25,000
		2	\$25,000 - \$49,999
		3	\$50,000 - \$74,999
		4	\$75,000 - \$99,999
		5	\$100,000+

highestedlev	Highest level of education of respondent		1	Less than High School
			2	High School Diploma
			3	Some College
			4	College Degree
			5	Advanced College Degree
hhadults	Number of adults in household (18 and older)	Number	Open	
hhchildren	Number of children in household (Under 18)	Number	Open	

Appendix 3. Survey Respondent City of Residence



- | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Aledo | 11. Haltom City | 20. Saginaw |
| 2. Arlington | 12. Haslet | 21. Sansom Park |
| 3. Azle | 13. Hurst | 22. Springtown |
| 4. Bedford | 14. Kennedale | 23. Watauga |
| 5. Blue Mound | 15. Lakeside | 24. Weatherford |
| 6. Covington | 16. Lake Worth | 25. Westworth |
| 7. Crowley | 17. Mansfield | 26. White Settlement |
| 8. Euless | 18. North Richland Hills | |
| 9. Fort Worth | 19. River Oaks | |
| 10. Grapevine | | |

Appendix 4. Question 4: Open-Ended Responses

Open-ended responses for “Other: (Describe)” option (all individual responses listed) for survey question 4. In which activities did the household member participate?

- Enjoying the outdoors
- Play on the park equipment
- Just to enjoy the time there.
- Equipment for exercise at park
- Walking
- Fishing, kayaking, boating, hiking, camping, dancing.
- Kids birthday parties, family gatherings, my babies have played on the play equipment since they were walking!
- Playground
- Senior center, line dancing, playing cards, etc.
- Cheer
- Skate
- Volleyball
- Volleyball
- Skateboarding
- Skateboarding
- Skateboarding Rec.

Appendix 5. Question 5: Open-Ended Responses

Open-ended responses for “Other: (Describe)” option (all individual responses listed) for survey question 5: What additional recreation programs do you feel the city should offer or expand?

- Splash Park
- healthy seniors workout
- More playground equipment
- Walking, hiking
- Shady places to sit ...water to drink
- Fix the roads and finish installing curbs first.
- More side walks through lake worth to walk
- Splash park
- Place for camping , kayaking
- Pet accessible areas
- More playground
- None. Please spend on streetlights and roads.
- Summer programs with eating festivals, "different nationalities" tasting fairs, or festivals...
- Swimming
- Kickball
- Soccer
- Bubble Soccer
- Bubble Soccer
- Zumba

Appendix 6. Question 9: Open-Ended Responses

The following responses are open-ended answers provided for the “Other: (Describe)” response option (all individual responses listed) for survey question 9: When visiting Lake Worth Park for recreational activities, which area businesses do you visit?

- Little corner store
- Walmart
- Soccer Fields
- Roberts Cutoff Park
- Corner Store

Appendix 7. Question 19: Open-Ended Responses

Each of the following represents individual responses to survey question 19: Is there anything else you would like us to know?

- residents on limited incomes cannot afford to supplement youth sports programs. Youth sports managers need to comply with programs that can be supported by grants or some other monies. Develop more green spaces for local citizens that pay taxes and would like to enjoy Lake Worth's parks without a sport attached. Say... maybe a native wildlife (birds and bees) park, with an educational walk with benches.
- The Park on Roberts Cut Off needs more shade trees. Especially by the playground equipment.
- I have 5 grandkids that I enjoy taking to the park
- Would absolutely LOVE a disc golf course
- I really enjoy Hodkins Park for partys and such but it needs a restroom and it would be perfect.
- Having a fenced in park for the kids and a dog park would both be fantastic!
- There is too much traffic as it is. I can hardly get off my street. I'm tired of it.
- If your going to put in parks, get the basketball courts off the streets. It is one thing to have one in your yard, but the kids don't need to play in the streets. They do not care if a car is coming.
- Love your library. Wish we qualified for more Lake Worth things. Fort Worth does not support us since we are really part of Lake Worth. My kids used LW services while growing up. Thank you!
- Great library....Senior center... Need seating by slide in Hodgkins Park.
- We appreciate you!
- I lived in Lake Worth for 10 years. I used to visit the lake but as I get older it seems to get tastier so I moved away. I would love to see more family things to do or to just have a place for the teens to go.
- That park needs swings, slides, something the kids can do besides sit there. Also, the gate latches need to be fixed.
- Road repair is a fundamental function of government. Recreation is not. If you don't have the money to fix, say Hiawatha Trail, you don't have the money to play. Roads before parks. If people prefer parks over roads, let them pay extra.
- No
- No

- I am a 4th generation true Lake Worthian and have witnessed tons of change. Some good, some bad. Graduated from LWHS in 97. We, as a community, need to redirect our focus on the community's youth. Not only parks, but also be involved in the school district events.
- It is really pretty here and I look forward to staying!
- need more benches, place to sit, need more trash cans more police drive bys in the parks
- I wish you would put money's in casino beach again. I think it would be a.great attraction to bring more people. You main attraction is the lake put money into it.
- You really don't want to know.
- We enjoy the many parks Lake Worth has to offer. Rayl Family Park is our favorite. It would be nice to see the public maintenance put forth more effort in cleaning and picking up the trash / litter. The ponds need more attention as well. My family and I take it upon ourselves to pick up the trash on the ground and in the ponds, we take pride in our parks. It doesn't look good on the city to not maintain cleanliness. I see many city park maintenance trucks pass by bags of trash / litter and not stop to get it. They'll change the trash cans but not pick up the soda cans next to it. We love our city and the parks very much, I think the city should love them enough to get the trash off the ground and take pride in doing so. We Love Lake Worth! Thank You for all that you do!
- I love the Lake Worth Ball park! It's a staple to our community and a building block to the future generations. It's important for our children and our children's children to have a place to play, learn and grow. Lake worth Park is important to many!
- sewage cleaned
- More playground equipment
- The timing of the lights at Foster and 199 and Telephone at 199 and Charbonneau at 199 is sketchy. The roads are a mess in Indian Oaks. The pipes under our streets are old. The animal shelter needs funding. Parks are simply not high up my list as a taxpayer.
- No! Lake Worth is very much busy body community. Please try to work on that than-you
- We come every weekend to watch our young players play soccer!
- No thanks.
- Not at the moment. Thank you.
- Marc Asmode does a great job.
- Please make this park beautiful.
- Love our park location.
- Keep up the good work.
- We love sports.
- Yes.
- No.

- This is a beautiful park!
- No.
- No.
- No.
- N/A
- N/A
- No.
- No.
- Build turf fields for Cowtown League!!!
- Fields need turf for soccer.
- No.
- N/A
- Fields need turf for soccer.
- I would like nice soccer fields for my kids.
- N/A

Appendix 8. Texas Parks and Wildlife Recommendations

1. Project proposal includes well-defined goals and objective that support the current TPWD Land and Water Resources Conservation and Recreation Plan, Texas Outdoor Recreation Plan, Local Park Grants objectives, and local priorities. Project goals are specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and timely (Smart).
2. Project proposal is feasible and credible in terms of the acquisition and/ or construction costs and timeline. Proposed budget and timeline are consistent with the narrative and site plan.
3. Site plan/boundary map is clear, easy-to-read and contains all information requested in the application. Proposed development prioritizes direct recreational opportunities. Acquisition only projects include future plans for development.
4. Community need for the project has been clearly demonstrated.
 - a. Applicant has a current Park, Recreation, and Open Comprehensive Plan or other comparable plan on file with the TPWD Local Park Grant Program, at the time of application.
 - b. Applicant has described the needs assessment process used for this project, explained how community needs influenced the site design, provided details on the public input process including timing, methods, and results, and identified other methods of needs assessment such as staff recommendations or threats of a lost opportunity.
5. The proposed project actively protects or restores critical ecosystems and incorporates elements that cultivate support for and awareness of natural and cultural resources.
6. The applicant has successfully demonstrated the integration of sustainable design features and practices.

Appendix 9. SPSS Cross-Tabulation Data - Spending Trends

The following data shows a comparison of spending habits of residents versus non-residents when visiting Lake Worth Park.

Variables:

- Totavespent:
- “-“: no response
 - 1: \$0-\$20
 - 2: \$20-\$40
 - 3: \$40-\$80
 - 4: \$80-\$100
 - 5: \$100+
- Residecity:
 - 1: Respondent resides in Lake Worth
 - 2: Respondent does not reside in Lake Worth

Case Processing Summary						
	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
totavespent * residecity	195	99.0%	2	1.0%	197	100.0%

Crosstabulation		
	residecity	Total

			1	2	
totavespent	-	Count	11	4	15
		% within totavespent	73.3%	26.7%	100.0%
		% within residcity	12.5%	3.7%	7.7%
		% of Total	5.6%	2.1%	7.7%
	1	Count	6	8	14
		% within totavespent	42.9%	57.1%	100.0%
		% within residcity	6.8%	7.5%	7.2%
		% of Total	3.1%	4.1%	7.2%
	2	Count	30	23	53
		% within totavespent	56.6%	43.4%	100.0%
		% within residcity	34.1%	21.5%	27.2%
		% of Total	15.4%	11.8%	27.2%
	3	Count	14	31	45
		% within totavespent	31.1%	68.9%	100.0%
		% within residcity	15.9%	29.0%	23.1%

		% of Total	7.2%	15.9%	23.1%
	4	Count	14	19	33
		% within totavespent	42.4%	57.6%	100.0%
		% within residecity	15.9%	17.8%	16.9%
		% of Total	7.2%	9.7%	16.9%
	5	Count	13	22	35
		% within totavespent	37.1%	62.9%	100.0%
		% within residecity	14.8%	20.6%	17.9%
		% of Total	6.7%	11.3%	17.9%
Total		Count	88	107	195
		% within totavespent	45.1%	54.9%	100.0%
		% within residecity	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
		% of Total	45.1%	54.9%	100.0%

Appendix 10. SPSS Cross-Tabulation Data - City League Support

The following data shows a comparison of residents versus non-residents when determining support for city provision of league sports.

Variables:

- supportlea:
 - 1: Yes - respondent supports city provision of league sports
 - 2: No - respondent does not support city provision of league sports
- Residecity:
 - 1: Respondent resides in Lake Worth
 - 2: Respondent does not reside in Lake Worth

Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
supportlea * residecity	195	99.0%	2	1.0%	197	100.0%

supportlea * residecity Crosstabulation

			residecity		Total
			1	2	
supportlea	-	Count	7	4	11
		% within supportlea	63.6%	36.4%	100.0%

	% within residencecity	8.0%	3.7%	5.6%
	% of Total	3.6%	2.1%	5.6%
1	Count	60	93	153
	% within supportlea	39.2%	60.8%	100.0%
	% within residencecity	68.2%	86.9%	78.5%
	% of Total	30.8%	47.7%	78.5%
2	Count	21	10	31
	% within supportlea	67.7%	32.3%	100.0%
	% within residencecity	23.9%	9.3%	15.9%
	% of Total	10.8%	5.1%	15.9%
Total	Count	88	107	195
	% within supportlea	45.1%	54.9%	100.0%
	% within residencecity	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	% of Total	45.1%	54.9%	100.0%

Appendix 11. SPSS Cross-Tabulation Data - Willingness-to-Pay

The following data shows a comparison of residents versus non-residents when determining willingness-to-pay for Lake Worth Park league sports involvement

Variables:

- Payleague:
 - 1: Yes - willing to pay for league sports
 - 2: No - not willing to pay for league sports
- Residecity:
 - 1: Respondent resides in Lake Worth
 - 2: Respondent does not reside in Lake Worth

Case Processing Summary						
	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
payleague * residecity	195	99.0%	2	1.0%	197	100.0%

payleague * residecity Crosstabulation					
			residecity		Total
			1	2	
payleague		Count	5	8	13

		% within payleague	38.5%	61.5%	100.0%
		% within residency	5.7%	7.5%	6.7%
		% of Total	2.6%	4.1%	6.7%
	1	Count	56	81	137
		% within payleague	40.9%	59.1%	100.0%
		% within residency	63.6%	75.7%	70.3%
		% of Total	28.7%	41.5%	70.3%
	2	Count	27	18	45
		% within payleague	60.0%	40.0%	100.0%
		% within residency	30.7%	16.8%	23.1%
		% of Total	13.8%	9.2%	23.1%
Total		Count	88	107	195
		% within payleague	45.1%	54.9%	100.0%
		% within residency	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
		% of Total	45.1%	54.9%	100.0%

