

Prepared for:
City of Phoenix
112 W 2nd Street
Phoenix, OR 97535

Prepared by:
Community Service Center
University of Oregon
Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management



PHOENIX PARKS MASTER PLAN

DECEMBER 2016

VOLUME I
FINAL REPORT

Special Thanks & Acknowledgements

Community Planning Workshop wishes to thank the following individuals for their assistance with this project. We thank Theresa Syphers, Matias Mendez, Matt Brinkley, and Steffen Roennfeldt from the City of Phoenix for their advice and assistance throughout the project. We also thank the Phoenix Parks and Open Space Commission for their dedication to this project.

Phoenix Parks and Open Space Commission

Laura Bellah

Dempsey Haller

Lyla Heigl

Nancy Peterson

David van de Velde

Sandra Wine

Carolyn Bartell (*City Council*)

Jason Couch (*Planning Commission*)

Matt Brinkley (*City of Phoenix*)

Matias Mendez (*City of Phoenix*)

Theresa Syphers (*City of Phoenix*)

Community Service Center Research Team

Robert Parker, AICP, Director

Aniko Drlik-Muehleck, Project Manager

Henry Hearley

Megan Knox

Greg Oldson

Katya Reyna

About the Community Service Center

The Community Service Center (CSC) is a research center affiliated with the Department of Planning, Public Policy, and Management at the University of Oregon. It is an interdisciplinary organization that assists Oregon communities by providing planning and technical assistance to help solve local issues and improve the quality of life for Oregon residents. The role of the CSC is to link the skills, expertise, and innovation of higher education with the transportation, economic development, and environmental needs of communities and regions in the State of Oregon, thereby providing service to Oregon and learning opportunities to the students involved.

Table of Contents

Chapter 1: Introduction	1-1
Overview.....	1-1
Purpose of the Plan.....	1-1
The Parks Planning Process	1-2
Relationship to Other Plans.....	1-4
Organization of the Plan	1-4
Chapter 2: Community Profile.....	2-1
Chapter 3: The Phoenix Park System.....	3-1
Planning Area	3-1
Parks Inventory	3-2
Park Classifications.....	3-4
How well are Phoenix residents served by parks?	3-8
Evaluation of the Park System.....	3-10
Chapter 4: Park & Recreation Needs.....	4-1
Facilities, Maintenance, & Safety	4-2
Access and Use.....	4-3
Connection to Nature	4-5
Inclusivity.....	4-6
Chapter 5: Park System Vision, Goals, & Recommendations	5-1
Park System Goals.....	5-2
Chapter 6: Park System Improvements & Expansion	6-1
Part 1 – Existing Park Improvement Objectives	6-1
Part 2 – Park System Expansion	6-8

Chapter 7: Operations & Funding 7-1

- Current Organizational Structure and Operations 7-1
- Operating Budget..... 7-2
- Projected Expenditures 7-3
 - Parkland Improvements 7-3
 - Capital Improvements 7-5
- Additional Funding Tools 7-7

Volume II – Blue Heron Redesign Concept

Blue Heron Park Redesign..... BH-1

Volume III – Appendices

Appendix A: Parkland Acquisition and Level of Service.....A-1

Appendix B: Resources.....B-1

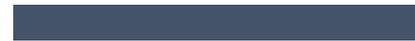
Appendix C: Community Input.....C-1

Chapter 1: Introduction

The Phoenix Parks Master Plan will provide a guiding vision for the development and maintenance of the parks system in Phoenix for the next 20 years. The Phoenix Parks Master Plan articulates the community’s vision to provide healthy and enjoyable recreational opportunities to its residents and visitors, as well as build capacity to accommodate Phoenix’s changing population and needs. The plan provides specific tools and guidance for achieving the goals and vision of city staff and the community at large.

Overview

Parks systems play a vital role in residents’ quality of life. Whether through trails, natural areas, play equipment, sports fields, or open space, a



Quality of Life refers to an individual’s satisfaction with their social and physical surroundings. Parks and recreation are major contributors to the resources, assets, and opportunities that improve quality of life for residents

community’s parks system is a source of diversion, connectivity, aesthetic beauty, natural preservation and enjoyment for its residents. The

parks system shapes the character of communities, provides a gathering place for neighborhood activities, and promotes healthy behaviors and lifestyles.

Creating and maintaining park and recreation facilities is a challenge for local governments. Finite land, resources, and administrative and maintenance capacity may all limit a community’s ability to expand parks and services to meet their growing needs. Identifying system priorities and matching them with available resources requires thoughtful planning. Communities typically develop and adopt Parks System Master Plans to guide development of parks systems in a way that is both beneficial to the community and fiscally feasible.

Purpose of the Plan

This plan provides an extensive, stand-alone update of the 1997/2008 Parks and Recreation Element of Phoenix’s Comprehensive Plan. Phoenix is expected to undergo significant population growth and development in the next 20 years which will require improved parks system capacity to maintain adequate levels of service. The Phoenix Parks Master Plan describes the community’s vision for its

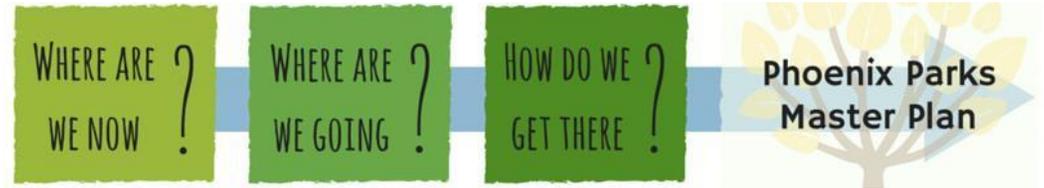
parks and provides specific actions and tools necessary to achieve that vision. The plan:

- Provides a **community profile** that describes demographic, housing, and recreational trends in Phoenix.
- Updates the **park inventory** including city owned property as well as trails and linkages.
- Analyzes areas in the city that are currently **underserved** by park and recreational opportunities.
- Provides a planning framework of **goals, objectives, and specific recommendations** to guide the City's decisions.
- Includes five-year and ten-year **Capital/Parkland Improvement Plans** that prioritize park expenditures based on need.
- Details **strategies for acquiring new parkland** to better serve the community of Phoenix.
- Contains **funding options and opportunities** for park improvement and acquisition recommendations.

The Parks Planning Process

The parks planning process relied on input from residents, the Phoenix Parks Commission, and City staff to answer three key questions:

1. Where are we now?
2. Where are we going?
3. How do we get there?



The process was managed by a planning team consisting of external consultants (from the University of Oregon's Community Service Center) and members of the Phoenix Parks Commission.

Where are we now?

The planning team interviewed stakeholders and completed an inventory of park facilities to understand the current condition of parks. The planning team also hosted a parks planning open house and distributed a mailed and online survey to gather more information from residents about how well the current parks meet their needs.

Where are we going?

The planning team asked for feedback on how residents would like to see their parks improved and added to in the future through a series of public workshops and events, a mailed and online survey, and via an interactive website. This feedback helped the planning team create a Vision for the Phoenix parks system. The Community Service Center's landscape architect also gathered information through site visits, a design workshop, and a public comment event to develop a design concept that re-imagines Blue Heron Park.

How do we get there?

The planning team created a list of small parkland improvements under \$1,200 and a list of capital improvements that details higher cost (\$1,200+) parkland improvements that may require external funding. This document includes suggestions for how to finance park improvements, and a recommended strategy for acquiring new park land. The planning team also crafted a timeline to assist the City with plan implementation.

Community Engagement

Community and stakeholder engagement are critical elements of the planning process. Community engagement provides tangible benefits to the process by: (1) providing insight into community members' values and preferences; (2) developing and nurturing an environment of goodwill and trust; (3) building consensus support for the Plan. Throughout the planning process, the planning team used a variety of methods to gather input from Phoenix residents, including:

- Eight stakeholder interviews
- Five public workshops (including two with middle and high school students)
- Parks Commission meetings
- Site visits
- A printed and online survey
- An interactive website

This Plan combines community input with technical analysis to provide a framework for achieving the goals and objectives that implement the parks system vision. The Plan can also be integrated into other planning decisions that relate to areas of parks planning.



“Welcome to Summer” Workshop at Blue Heron Park
Source: Community Service Center

Relationship to Other Plans

The Phoenix Parks Master Plan complements and integrates with other plans that guide Phoenix and the surrounding area.

The **Parks and Recreation Element of Phoenix’s Comprehensive Plan** (updated concurrently with the Phoenix Parks Master Plan) serves as a technical guide to land use decisions related to parks and recreation. While the Phoenix Parks Master Plan provides a holistic vision and recommendations for cultivating a full-service parks system, the Comprehensive Plan Element focuses more on land use and development policies that will facilitate the implementation of the Master Plan.

The **Bear Creek Greenway Management Plan** is a multi-jurisdictional document that guides the operations, maintenance, and management activities of the Bear Creek Greenway. The Greenway itself is governed by the Jackson County “**Bear Creek Greenway Corridor Ordinance.**” The City of Phoenix contributes to maintenance of the Greenway, and activities involving the Greenway should consider both the Management Plan and the provisions of the Jackson County ordinance.

The **Greater Bear Creek Valley Regional Problem Solving Plan**, adopted in 2011 by Jackson County, was created as part of a collaborative Regional Problems Solving process to deal with issues of rapid population growth and development in the

Bear Creek Valley. The future development patterns described in the plan will have implications for park development in Phoenix. The Regional Plan established Urban Reserve Areas outside of Phoenix’s existing Urban Growth Boundary that will eventually be incorporated into the Phoenix city limits. This means that both Phoenix’s population and physical size will expand, creating the need for parkland expansion in northern Phoenix. The plan specifically identifies a need for between 70 and 90 more acres of parkland and open space.

Organization of the Plan

The remainder of the Phoenix Parks Master Plan is organized as follows:

Chapter 2: Community Profile – Provides information on Phoenix’s planning area, projected growth, and socio-demographic trends.

Chapter 3: The Phoenix Parks System – Provides an overview of the City of Phoenix’s existing parks and recreation facilities, park service areas, and park classifications.

Chapter 4: Parks and Recreation Needs – Presents findings from the community engagement process, including what the community values in a park system and identified needs and wants for future park improvements.

Chapter 5: Park System Vision and Goals — Presents a 20-year vision for the Phoenix park system, including goals and recommended action

items. These recommendations outline specific efforts which the City and community can undertake to achieve the desired vision.

Chapter 6: Park System Improvements and Expansion – Includes recommendations to improve *existing* park and recreation facilities as well as suggestions for *future* expansion of the parks system.

Chapter 7: Operations and Funding – Provides descriptions of (1) the parks system’s current organization structure; (2) current operating budget; (3) projected park system expenditures; and (4) descriptions of funding tools available to the City of Phoenix.

Volume II: Blue Heron Park Redesign – Gives a detailed explanation of the process for developing the Blue Heron Park concept plan and presents goals and recommendations for the park.

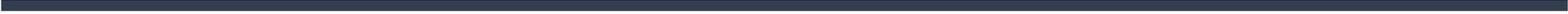
Volume III - Appendix A: Parkland Acquisition and Level of Service – Presents an analysis of Phoenix’s current level of service and projected future parkland needs. It also includes a land acquisition strategy and design guidelines for new parks.

Volume III - Appendix B: Resources – Contains specific resources that will help the City implement the Parks Master Plan, including information about park system staffing, resources for how to form a “Friends of the Park” nonprofit, and a detailed preliminary plan for repairing the horseshoe pits at Colver Road Park.

Volume III - Appendix C: Community Input – Explains the community input process and shares findings from the community workshops, stakeholder interviews, and community survey.



Community Stage at Blue Heron Park
Source: Community Service Center



Chapter 2: Community Profile

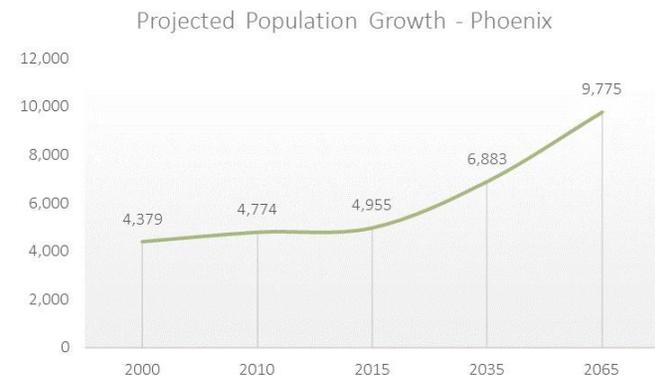
Who lives in Phoenix? What direction is the community headed? The Phoenix parks planning team gathered demographic and economic information to inform the design and planning choices included in the Parks Master Plan. By examining these characteristics, the planning team also identified populations and groups with unique needs that the City of Phoenix must consider as it continues to improve and expand the parks system.

Phoenix is located in the Rogue Valley of Southern Oregon, and much of the surrounding land is agricultural. In 2015, Phoenix had a population of 4,585 with a slightly female-biased gender balance and a median age of 48.^{1,2} The population is predominately white but has experienced significant growth of non-white residents in recent years.³

Phoenix has a labor force of approximately 1,900 people.⁴ More than three-quarters of employees in Phoenix work in services and retail trade, with the highest employment in administrative and support services (20%), elementary and secondary schools (12%), and food and drinking establishments (10%).⁵ Most businesses in Phoenix are fairly small, with 67% having only 1 to 4 employees.⁶

A growing population will require expanded parkland and recreation services⁷

Phoenix's population grew by 395 people between 2000 and 2010, an average annual growth rate of just under 1% per year. However, Phoenix's population is projected to grow at a much higher rate within the next 20 years (1.7% average annual growth rate), with a projected increase of nearly 2,000 residents by 2035. **This means that over the 20 years covered in this plan, Phoenix's population will increase by almost 40%.** By 2065, Phoenix's population is projected to *almost double* from 2015 levels.



Source: PSU Population Research Center. Jackson County Coordinated Population Forecasts 2015-2065.

A growing population demands a comparable increase in infrastructure and public goods. Public amenities such as parks and recreation will play a crucial role in maintaining livability and general welfare of the community, particularly as an influx of new residents drives economic growth and housing development.

Shifting age groups will bring new demands to the parks system⁸

Changing age demographics may create challenges for park planners, as they must find ways to accommodate growing populations on opposite ends of the age spectrum. From 2000 to 2010, the population of children 9 and under increased more than any other age group, at an average annual growth rate of 8.5% per year. Residents aged 65 and older experienced the second most pronounced growth rate during this same period (1.6% per year).

These trends indicate that the City will need to create more **recreation options that serve the needs of young children and families**, as well as an expected increase in adolescents. At the same time, the City must also consider the needs of **senior citizens**, particularly when assessing accessibility of facilities.

A diversifying racial and ethnic makeup will require greater outreach and inclusion⁹

Although Phoenix has a predominantly white population, the amount of residents identifying as people of color has risen significantly within the past decade. While Phoenix's entire population grew nearly 12% between 2000 and 2010, **about two-thirds of the growth occurred in non-white race categories**. The population identifying as **Hispanic or Latino accounts for the single largest demographic increase** in this time period, almost doubling from 9% to 16%.

In the past, park systems have been developed primarily with the needs and desires of a majority white population in mind. As minority populations increase, park systems much change to accommodate different needs and desires, and must seek new ways to be welcoming to traditionally marginalized groups. In Phoenix, the voices of minorities should be considered and sought out in future parks planning processes. Phoenix parks should not only be a welcoming and accessible space for *all* residents, but should also reflect the community's growing diversity with the services, design, and activities offered.

A high disability rate will necessitate investment in accessibility¹⁰

Phoenix has a higher percentage of 18-64 year-olds with a disability than both Jackson County and Oregon: 18% compared to 14% and 12% respectively. Phoenix's youth (under 18) disability rate is also higher than the County and the State at 7% compared to 5% for Jackson County and Oregon.

Living with a disability may bring unique challenges to accessing public goods such as parks. Parks may be difficult to navigate in terms of mobility, may offer limited activities that people with disabilities can enjoy, and/or may not feel like safe and accepting environments. The City must invest resources to ensure there are multiple access points for people with disabilities to each park and park facility, and also bear the needs of this group in mind in future park development and programming.

A high percentage of multi-family and trailer housing means limited private green space¹¹

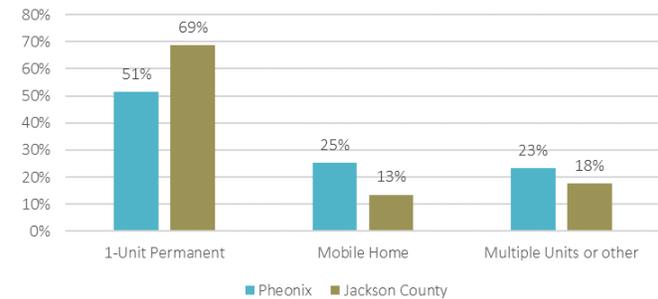
Housing characteristics are important to consider in parks planning as they can indicate growth, economic stability, and permanence of residency. In

occupancy rate, with about 58% owner-occupied and 35% renter-occupied. Of Phoenix’s occupied housing units, **approximately half are either multi-family or trailer park housing**, as opposed to single unit homes. This is higher than in Jackson County as a whole, where less than one-third of housing units are multi-family or trailer park housing.

Multi-family housing and trailer park housing are less likely to offer access to a yard or any private green space, making residents of these homes more dependent on parks for opportunities to spend time outdoors, gather socially, or participate in exercise. The City must consider the needs of residents with limited yard space when developing level of service standards for the parks system. Future park development should also aim to serve areas where multi-family housing and trailer parks are concentrated.

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. “Selected Housing Characteristics: 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5- year Estimates.” Table DP04.

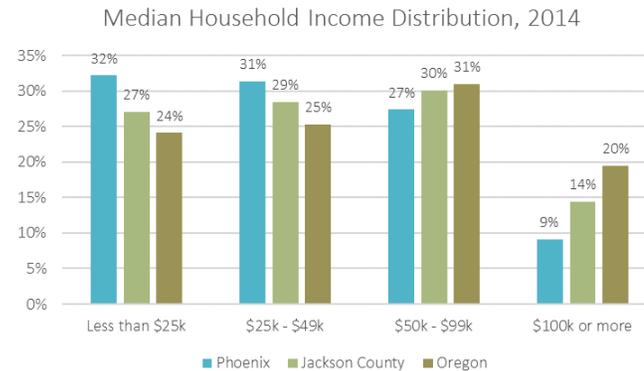
Housing Types in Phoenix and Jackson County, 2014



A large population living in poverty may benefit from parks¹²

In 2014, median income in Phoenix was \$34,478, lower than the Jackson County median (\$44,086) and over \$15,000 below the statewide median. Phoenix also has more households in lower income brackets than Jackson County and Oregon. With about **a quarter of both adults (aged 18-64) and youth (under 18) living below the poverty line**, Phoenix has higher poverty rates than both Jackson County and Oregon.

These data suggest that Phoenix's parks system must seriously consider the needs of those living in poverty, a population that often relies more heavily on public goods such as parks. Facilities should support programming and services that would benefit this demographic, so that the parks may serve as a system of support as well as a source of enjoyment for those who cannot afford other sources of recreation.



Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. "Selected Economic Characteristics: 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates." Table DP03.



Monarch Waystation at Blue Heron Park

Source: Community Service Center

Section Notes

¹ Portland State University Population Research Center. "Certified Population Estimates 2015." <https://www.pdx.edu/prc/population-reports-estimates>

² US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. "Age & Sex: 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates." Table S0101.

³ US Census Bureau. Census 2000 and 2010 Summary File 1, 100% Data. "Race and Hispanic or Latino Origin." Table QT-P3.

⁴ Oregon Zoom Prospector. "Phoenix, OR Community Profile – Labor Force." <http://oregon.zoomprospector.com/>

⁵ Oregon Zoom Prospector. "Labor Force Report (Phoenix, Oregon) – Total Employees by Major SIC (2016) and Total Employees by NAICS (2016)." <http://oregon.zoomprospector.com/>

⁶ Oregon Zoom Prospector. "Labor Force Report (Phoenix, Oregon) – Total Establishments by Size (2016)." <http://oregon.zoomprospector.com/>

⁷ Portland State University Population Research Center. "Coordinated Population Forecast 2015 – 2065, Jackson County: Urban Growth Boundaries (UGBs) and Area Outside UGBs." June 2015.

http://www.pdx.edu/prc/sites/www.pdx.edu/prc/files/Jackson_Forecast_Report_201506.pdf

⁸ US Census Bureau. Census 2000 and 2010 Summary File 1, 100% Data. "Sex and Age." Table QT-P1.

⁹ US Census Bureau. Census 2000 and 2010 Summary File 1, 100% Data. "Race and Hispanic or Latino Origin." Table QT-P3.

¹⁰ US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. "Disability Characteristics: 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates." Table S1810.

¹¹ US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. "Selected Housing Characteristics: 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates." Table DP04.

¹² US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. "Selected Economic Characteristics: 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates." Table DP03.

Chapter 3: The Phoenix Park System

This chapter focuses on Phoenix’s existing park system. The park classification, inventory, and service analyses are critical components of the Master Plan. These components characterize the existing park system and establish a framework that helps identify current and future park system needs.

The City of Phoenix owns three parks: Blue Heron Park, Colver Road Park, and Otto Caster Park. It is also one of the jurisdictions responsible for managing the Bear Creek Greenway, a paved trail that connects towns from Ashland to Central Point. In total, the City of Phoenix currently owns approximately 30 acres of developed parkland and open space, with two more parks currently in the development phase (the downtown plaza and wetlands park). Of these 30 acres, approximately 12 are “developed parkland” – areas with built up infrastructure to serve park visitors. Phoenix’s growing population and changing demographics will require the park system to expand to accommodate the community’s needs.

Planning Area

Phoenix is located in Oregon’s Rogue Valley in Jackson County. The city is situated 3 miles

southeast of Medford, 2.5 miles northwest of Talent, and is traversed by Interstate-5. The Phoenix parks planning process focused on a planning area within the current Urban Growth Boundary and Urban Reserve Areas.

Map 3-1. Phoenix and Its Parks



Source: Jackson County GIS, prepared by Community Service Center

Parks Inventory

A critical step in parks planning is identifying how much parkland exists, where parks are located, what facilities and amenities parks provide, and what condition parks are in. This information is used to create both a parks inventory and a classification system. The parks inventory and classification process identifies the strengths and weaknesses of a park system by revealing areas or activities that are underserved by the system, as well as overall improvements the system requires.

Parks are assessed based on level of development, amenities, size and service area. Parks are categorized into the following classification types using the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) methodology: Pocket Parks, Neighborhood Parks, Community Parks, Regional Parks, Special Use Parks, Linear Parks, Greenways, Open Space/Natural Areas, and Undeveloped. **Table 3-1** on the following page shows an inventory of Phoenix’s current parks system.

Other Recreation Assets

The Bear Creek Greenway

The Bear Creek Greenway connects Ashland, Talent, Phoenix, Medford, and Central Point as a 20 mile paved trail. The greenway is open to walkers, bikers, joggers and all other non-motorized vehicles, providing an opportunity for recreation and transportation to residents and visitors of these

communities. The trail parallels I-5, Highway 99, and Bear Creek, with parks along the route providing parking, restrooms, and drinking water. Blue Heron Park is the main point of access between Phoenix and the Greenway, and serves as a resting point for those using the trail.



Bear Creek Greenway through Blue Heron Park
Source: Community Service Center

Table 3-1. Park System Inventory

Park Name	Address	Acres	Development Level	Parking	Amenities	Facilities	Classification
Blue Heron Park	4361 Bear Creek Dr	7	7 acres developed 17 acres undeveloped	44 (2 ADA)	2 play structures, community garden, community stage, community activity board, access to Bear Creek Greenway	Basic: water fountain, 7 trash cans, restrooms, 5 benches Food: 2 covered eating pavilions, 15 picnic tables , 2 BBQ stands, 1 water spigot	Community Park
Colver Road Park	4042 Colver Rd	5	Developed	53 (2 ADA)	4 play structures, bike/foot path around park perimeter	Basic: restrooms, 4 trash cans, 4 benches, drinking fountain Food: 3 covered eating pavilions (2 single table, 1 multi), 9 picnic tables, concessions stand, BBQ stand Sports: baseball field, basketball court, horseshoe pits, open field area	Neighborhood Park
Otto Caster Park	510 W. 1st St	0.5	Developed	None	2 play structures, miniature library, library access via footpath, public art features	Basic: drinking fountain, 2 trash cans Food: 5 picnic tables, covered pavilion	Pocket Park
Downtown Wetlands Park	-	-	Developing	-	-	-	Nature Parks, Green Space & Trails
Downtown Community Center Park	-	-	Developing	-	-	-	Urban Plaza Parks

Park Classifications

Park classifications are provided to give city staff, community members, developers, and consultants common language when discussing potential parks improvements and new park development. These parks classifications can provide a framework for the planning of new parks but are not a substitute for site-specific design. The park classifications described here come from classification system adopted by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.¹



Playground at Colver Road Park
Source: Community Service Center

Pocket Parks

TYPICAL ACREAGE	0.25 – 2 acres
SERVICE AREA	Serves nearby residents, ¼ mile radius
EXISTING PARKS	Otto Caster Park
DEFINITION	Pocket parks provide basic recreation opportunities on small lots within residential areas. Typically less than two acres in size, these parks are designed to serve residents in immediately adjacent neighborhoods. These parks provide limited recreation amenities, like playgrounds, benches, and picnic tables. Mini parks can be expensive to construct and maintain on a per unit basis but can be very valuable in neighborhoods that do not have parks or open space in close proximity.
BENEFITS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Provides access to basic recreation opportunities for nearby residents → Contributes to neighborhood identity → Provides green space within neighborhoods → Protects the City's tree canopy → Contributes to health and wellness
DESIGN CRITERIA	Fencing should offer privacy to residents abutting the park property line while still providing transparency. A four-foot fence lined with trees that are limbed up 4 feet and shrubs that are generally 2 to 3 feet high will create a barrier for the park neighbors while still allowing the neighbors to enjoy the view of the park from their yard. Adjacent neighbors of the park should have a lockable gate to allow them direct access to the park from their yards.

¹ Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. "Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan: 2013-2017 – Parkland Classification System." P. 104-108. https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/PLANS/docs/scorp/2013-2018_SCORP/2013-2017_Oregon_SCORP.pdf

Neighborhood Parks

TYPICAL ACREAGE	2 – 15 acres
SERVICE AREA	Serves residents within walking and biking distance, ½ mile radius. May include sports fields that attract users from greater distances.
EXISTING PARKS	Colver Road Park
DEFINITION	Neighborhood parks provide close-to-home recreation opportunities for nearby residents. Typically 5 to 10 acres in size, these parks are designed to serve neighbors within walking and bicycling distance of the park. Neighborhood parks include amenities such as playground equipment, outdoor sport courts, sport fields, picnic tables, pathways, and multi-use open grass areas. A neighborhood park should accommodate the needs of a wide variety of age and user groups. These spaces are designed primarily for non-supervised, non-organized recreation activities. The needs of pedestrians, bicyclists and other non-motorized travelers should be a high priority consideration in the design of these parks. Connectivity to the surrounding neighborhood is vital to these parks. Sidewalks, bike paths, crosswalks and connections to larger trail systems should be established. These parks may be co-located with school facilities.
BENEFITS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Provides a variety of accessible recreation opportunities for all ages → Provides opportunities for social and cultural activities → Contributes to community identity → Serves recreation needs of individual, families, small and large groups → Provides green space within neighborhoods → Protects and enhances the City’s tree canopy → Contributes to health and wellness → Connects residents to nature → Provides green space within neighborhoods
DESIGN CRITERIA	Approximately two-thirds of a neighborhood park should be reserved for active recreation uses such as: ball fields, tennis, basketball, and volleyball courts, open grass area for free play, children’s playgrounds and space for outdoor events. Viewsheds should be highlighted by the placement of picnic areas (some should be reserveable), benches, gardens and natural areas. Vegetation can be thinned or planted on the site to accentuate or hide scenes of the surrounding valley. Paved pathways should direct users to areas within the park as well as to adjacent trails, greenways, streets and sidewalks. Housing developments need to create access to parks if they are located on the boundary of a park. To promote further connectivity, these developments should connect to other neighborhoods as well, especially if those other neighborhoods are connected to a park.

Baseball field at Colver Road Park
Source: Community Service Center



Community Parks

TYPICAL ACREAGE	15 – 100 acres
SERVICE AREA	May draw residents from the entire community, 1-mile radius. Provides access from a collector or arterial street. Should be located to incorporate bus and transit access. Supports bicycle and pedestrian access for nearby neighbors.
EXISTING PARKS	Blue Heron Park
DEFINITION	Community parks provide both active and passive recreation opportunities that appeal to the entire community. Typically 20-30 acres, these sites draw residents from throughout the community. Community parks accommodate large numbers of people and offer a wide variety of facilities, such as group picnic areas and shelters, sport fields and courts, children’s play areas, horseshoes, gardens, trail or pathway systems, community festival or event space and green space or natural areas. There is also an opportunity to provide indoor facilities because the service area is much broader and therefore can meet a wider range of interests. Community parks require additional support facilities, such as off-street parking and restrooms. The size of these parks provides opportunities to offer active and structured recreation activities for young people and adults.
BENEFITS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Provides a variety of accessible recreation opportunities for all ages → Provides opportunities for social and cultural activities → Contributes to community identity → Serves recreation needs of individual, families, small and large groups → Provides green space within neighborhoods → Protects and enhance the City’s tree canopy → Contributes to health and wellness → Connects residents to nature → Provides green space within neighborhoods
DESIGN CRITERIA	Approximately two-thirds of a community park should be reserved for active recreation uses such as: ball fields, tennis, basketball and volleyball courts, open grass area for free play, children’s playgrounds and space for outdoor events. Viewsheds should be highlighted by the placement of picnic areas (some should be reserveable), benches, gardens and natural areas. Vegetation can be thinned or planted on the site to accentuate or hide scenes of the surrounding valley. Paved pathways should direct users to areas within the park as well as to adjacent trails, greenways, streets and sidewalks. Housing developments need to create access to parks if they are located on the boundary of a park. To promote further connectivity, these developments should connect to other neighborhoods as well, especially if those other neighborhoods are connected to a park.



“Welcome to Summer” workshop in Blue Heron Park
Source: Community Service Center

Nature Parks, Green Space, and Trails

TYPICAL ACREAGE	Size and shape will vary depending on its function, use and available land.
SERVICE AREA	Service area will vary depending on its function, use and available land.
EXISTING PARKS	Bear Creek Greenway Parts of Blue Heron Park (riparian area) Wetlands Park (in development)
DEFINITION	Green space provides natural or landscaped areas within the City in contrast to the built landscape. The size, shape, and service area of green space will vary depending on its function and use. Green space may be managed for different purposes, including: stormwater management, wildlife habitat, and flood retention. Natural areas and greenways are designed to protect or conserve significant natural features, such as trees and tree canopy, rivers and streams, wetlands, steep hillsides, environmentally sensitive areas, and wildlife habitat. Where appropriate, these parks may also support outdoor recreation, such as trail-related opportunities, bird and wildlife viewing, environmental interpretation and education, and small-scale picnicking. Trail corridors are linear-shaped parks that may follow streams, abandoned railroad lines, transportation or utility rights-of-way, or elongated natural areas. These parks typically support facilities such as soft or hard-surfaced trails, interpretative and informational signage, and trailheads. Trail corridors may support non-motorized transportation, recreation, exercise, and community access by connecting significant destinations within the City. Trails should be looped and interconnected to provide a variety of trail lengths and destinations. They should link to various parts of the community, as well as existing park sites.
BENEFITS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Protect valuable natural resources and open space → Contribute to the environmental health of the community, including protecting the tree canopy and improving water and air quality → Contribute to community identity and quality of life → Provide wildlife corridors through the City → Improve the aesthetic quality and beauty of Phoenix → Encourage non-motorized transportation, such as walking and biking → Improve community connectivity, by linking parks and other community destinations, such as schools, neighborhoods, shopping areas, and recreation opportunities provided by others → Provide opportunities for nature-based recreation and environmental education
DESIGN CRITERIA	Sensitive areas such as wetlands, riparian zones and other ecologically sensitive areas should be protected. Trails that pass through sensitive areas should be designed with site sensitive materials as to not harm the resource. Providing views to these areas can be achieved through proper site layout.

Bear Creek: view from the Greenway
Source: Community Service



Urban Plaza Parks

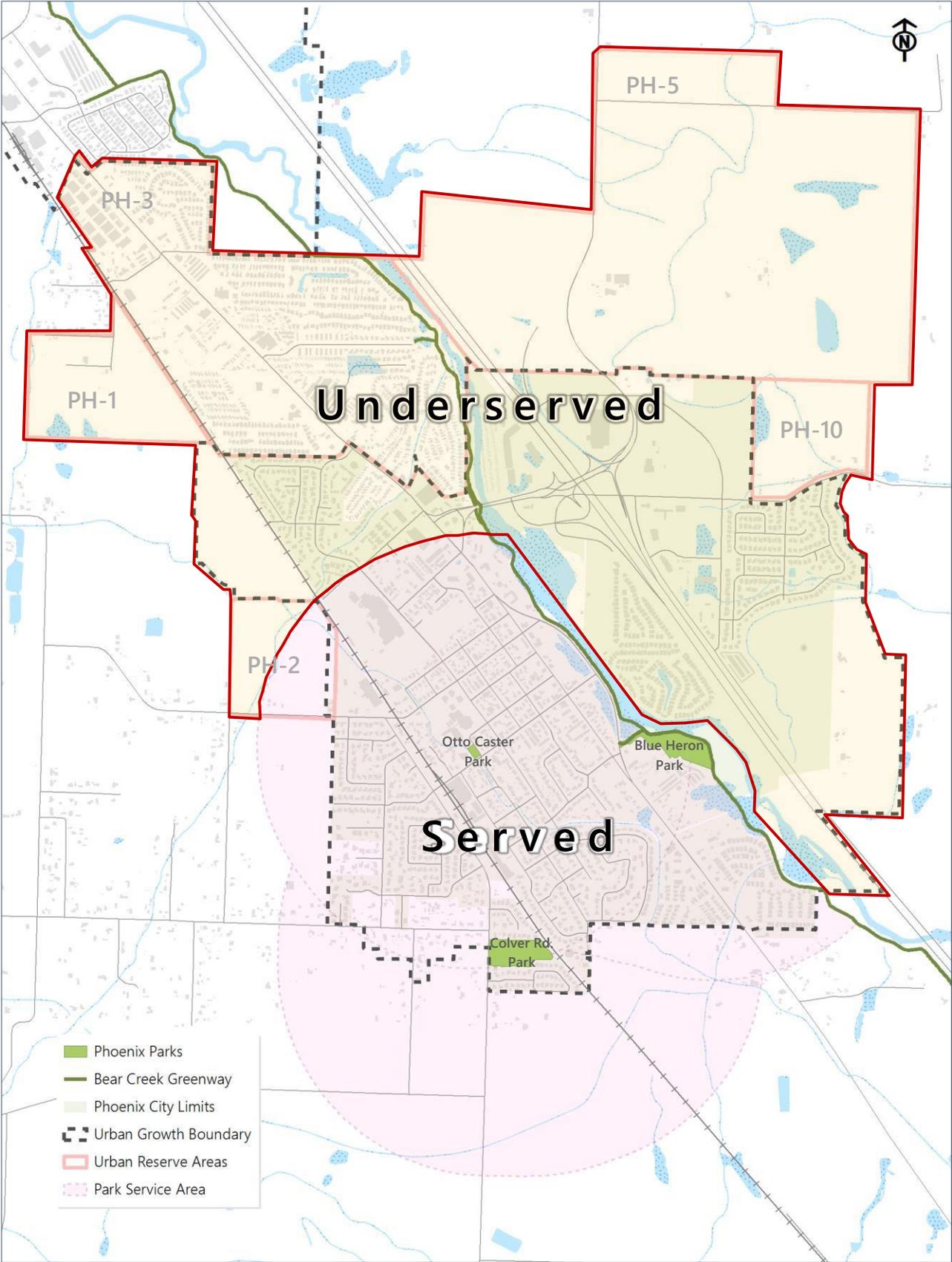
TYPICAL ACREAGE	0.25 – 3 acres
SERVICE AREA	Users of the urban area.
EXISTING PARKS	Downtown Community Center Park (in development)
DEFINITION	Urban plaza parks are public gathering spaces in urban spaces that foster community interaction and civic pride. They are small in size (¼ to 3 acres) and intensely developed. Visitors will tend to be those who are already in the neighborhood for other purposes, such as shopping, work, dining and/ or those who live in or near densely developed urban areas. Urban plaza parks typically include amenities such as drinking fountains, benches, litter receptacles, trees and shrubs, paved walkways and plazas.
BENEFITS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Creates a source of civic pride → Contributes to community identity and quality of life → Provides a central gathering areas in dense urban spaces → Improves the aesthetic quality and beauty of Phoenix → Provides a place for employees to enjoy work breaks near their place of work → Provides opportunities for historical and cultural education
DESIGN CRITERIA	The site should be located in a dense urban or downtown setting. It is ideally located near government and/or commercial facilities. Plazas should be open with site lines throughout the space. Avoid use of elements around edges that create barriers to entering the space such as fences, gates, and railings. Use high quality materials such as brick, stone and wrought iron. Incorporate historic or cultural themes to create a unique character for the plaza. Include artwork as an integrated design element on the walls, floors and ceilings of outdoor space. Promote participatory artwork that moves or responds to the viewer. Include artwork as an integrated design element on the walls, floors and ceilings of outdoor space. Promote participatory artwork that moves or responds to the viewer.

How well are Phoenix residents served by parks?

In addition to inventorying and classifying parks, the parks planning team assessed the how well Phoenix’s existing parks serve residents. **Map 3-2** on the following page shows a half-mile buffer around each of Phoenix’s three parks (based on park classifications, these three parks should serve residents within an approximate half-mile radius). The map reveals areas where residents do not have easy access to parks: areas east of I-5 and the northern-most portions of the city west of I-5.

As Phoenix’s population continues to expand, the City will have to develop new parks in underserved areas. **Chapter 6** and **Appendix A** of this plan provide more detail about how the City might work to expand the park system and promote better access to existing parks.

Map 3-2. Areas served and underserved by Phoenix's parks.



Source: Jackson County GIS, prepared by the Community Service Center.

Evaluation of the Park System

For a community of its size, Phoenix has access to a relatively broad range of parks. With Otto Caster, Colver Road, and Blue Heron Parks representing a spectrum of park sizes and functions, the Phoenix parks system currently offers residents a diversity of options for parks and recreation uses.

However, as noted in the Community Profile, **this system will need to expand to meet the growing demands of an expanding and diversifying population.** The City should also work to increase use of existing facilities by increasing community knowledge of parks and investing in necessary changes and improvements.

For a smaller community like Phoenix, parks should maximize their use of space. Colver Road Park currently offers a variety of activities, but could provide more to the neighborhood by making use of some of the open field space. Similarly, Otto Caster, while only a small park, presents recreation opportunities almost exclusively for young children. Each park should aim to provide something for everyone, even if the park is primarily oriented towards a certain age or interest group. In general, Phoenix needs more neighborhood-oriented parks like Colver Road and Otto Castor that provide a safe, accessible, and inviting space for nearby residents.

In addition to traditional play-oriented parks, Phoenix can build on the natural beauty and natural features (such as Bear Creek and surrounding wetlands) that characterize the community. Blue Heron is a good example of a park that incorporates the natural landscape, and in the future, the City has the opportunity to enhance the park's connection to nature by increasing creek access and further incorporating environmental stewardship into its signage and design.

As the City focuses more attention on expanding the park system, it will be important to consider unmet community needs. Parks and their facilities should be targeted towards reaching a previously underserved area (i.e. northern and eastern neighborhoods), demographic (i.e. teens), or function (i.e. dog park). At the same time, the entire park *system* must emphasize connectivity. By creating multiple entry ways, good signage, and walking/biking paths between parks, the City can help to increase overall park use. Ultimately, all park improvements and expansions should strive to improve quality of life and access to recreation opportunities for all residents.

Chapter 4: Park & Recreation Needs

Community input is an essential component of any planning process, allowing residents to have a voice in shaping their community, express their needs and desires, and ensure efficient and desirable use of public resources. The Phoenix Parks planning team sought input from a variety of residents, young and old, to ensure recommendations for the future of Phoenix’s parks aligned with how residents wanted to see parks evolve and change.

Generally speaking, **Phoenix residents who provided input into the parks master plan expressed satisfaction with the parks system.**

Sixty-eight percent of residents who responded to the Parks Master Plan Survey were either satisfied or very satisfied with the overall quality of Phoenix parks, and 65% rated parks as very important to the quality of their life. However, many also identified areas of desired improvement for current or future parks in Phoenix.

This chapter describes key themes to emerge from the community input phase of the master plan process. We derive these themes from a five-month outreach process which included:

- A **community survey** mailed to over 1,500 residents, available online or in paper form (190 responses received)
- Eight **interviews with key community members** who are involved with or interested in parks and recreation
- Three **public workshops** in or near the parks
- Two **youth workshops** with 7th-12th grade students

For community engagement methodology and specific findings from the community engagement process, please refer to **Appendix C**.



Workshop at Phoenix High School
Source: Community Service Center

Facilities, Maintenance, & Safety

Park Facilities

Residents would like to see more variety in the facilities parks provide. The following are some of the facilities of high interest for future addition to parks, as expressed through the survey and conversations with residents:

- **Restrooms** were rated as the **highest priority** for future addition to parks (67% of survey respondents indicated this was a high priority), particularly in Otto Caster where there are currently no bathroom facilities.
- **Water features** were extremely popular in both survey responses and workshop activities. On the survey, 60% rated water, spray, or splash play features as a high priority addition for future investment in the parks.
- **Facilities to accommodate parties and group gatherings** were the third highest priority for park improvements and additions. There was high interest in adding **sheltered or covered areas** (56% of respondents rated this as a high priority) and **picnic tables** (53% of respondents rated this as a high priority).
- Residents would like **off-leash areas for dogs** in the parks. Dog walking was one of the most prevalent activities people self-reported using

the parks for on the survey (36%) and a dog park was rated as a popular option for future additions (45% of respondents rated this as a high priority). Additionally, many residents who commented during public workshops expressed a desire for a dedicated dog park.

- Residents would enjoy more **nature and walking trails** in and outside of parks, as there are limited options for hiking and areas for outdoor pursuit that don't require a car for transportation. Survey respondents rated **green space or natural areas** (57%), **unpaved trails** (39%), **paved trails** (35%) and **bicycle terrain tracks** (26%) as high priority future park improvements and additions.
- Survey respondents also rated features such as additional **playground equipment** (49%), **nature-play playgrounds** (44%), **botanical gardens** (40%) and a **basketball court** (40%) as a high priority for future park improvements and additions.

Park Maintenance

Those who provided input generally felt Phoenix's parks were well maintained.

- During public workshops, complaints over parks maintenance rarely arose.
- Most maintenance related complaints centered on **restrooms** being poorly kept or locked at inconvenient hours during the day.

→ A few residents expressed a desire to more easily access park facilities. Some workshop attendees noted that they would like to use picnic facilities more but power sources were often turned off and water spigots were not accessible.



Vision from Phoenix High School workshop.
Source: Community Service Center

Park Safety

There was general concern and dissatisfaction with safety in the parks, especially related to the riparian areas adjacent to Bear Creek Greenway and Blue Heron Park.

- Survey respondents who did not regularly use parks ranked feeling unsafe as one of the top three reasons they didn't visit parks.
- Survey respondents referenced safety over forty times in their text responses, either as a reason for not visiting the Greenway or as an area of desired improvement. Most comments cited either homeless and itinerant activity or poor lighting as the cause of security issues.
- Many survey respondents and workshop attendees requested more frequent police patrols or better lighting along the Greenway and in other parks to increase safety and allow nighttime walking.

Access and Use

Park Location

Residents identified the concentrated locations of Phoenix's parks as an issue causing underuse.

- Current parks are all located within one geographic area of the city, leaving other

neighborhoods and their residents underserved.

- On the survey and in community workshop discussions, most participants identified the areas in to the east of I-5 and north of the city limits as areas most in need of new parks. These areas currently have no parks, but have experienced recent housing development that is expected to continue in the future.



Vision from Phoenix High School workshop.
Source: Community Service Center

Pedestrian and ADA Access

Residents identified access as an issue both within parks and in transportation to parks.

- **Not all facilities are ADA accessible.** In particular, workshop participants discussed the path to the picnic areas at Colver Road Park as a facility that was difficult for those with limited mobility to navigate. They also commented that there is only one wheelchair-accessible ramp leading from Blue Heron's parking lot to the park itself.
- While many survey respondents thought that all populations were adequately served by parks, 20% of respondents said **people with disabilities** were underserved by the parks system.
- In survey comments and during workshops, residents also expressed frustration over the **difficulty of walking to parks**. They felt there were no easy pedestrian routes through town, and pointed to the poor condition of sidewalks and lack of infrastructure such as crosswalks, road shoulders, and curb cutouts as impediments to walking. Blue Heron in particular came up as the park most difficult to access on foot.

Parking

Those who provided input suggested that parking was an obstacle to park use and event planning in Phoenix.

- In particular, **Blue Heron Park is perceived as having insufficient parking.** The park is the largest in Phoenix, with 24 acres of parkland, but has only 44 parking spots, fewer spaces than the smaller Colver Road Park.
- Lack of parking presents an obstacle for hosting events. Community events at Blue Heron Park have suffered in the past due to insufficient parking for event attendees and performers. The lack of an access road to the community stage also makes it difficult for performers to set up.

Comfort of Use

The hot climate in Phoenix presents a barrier to residents' use of the parks in the summer months.

- Both workshop attendees and survey respondents expressed a desire for more cooling devices or techniques to be used in the parks, particularly Blue Heron Park. Ideas included **increasing shade and providing more water play features.**
- At workshops, participants made many verbal requests for the addition of more shade trees, covered rest and play areas, and artificial shade devices for events on hot days (such as shade canopies).

Recreational Programming

Those who provided input frequently expressed a desire for more community events and park activities.

- Ideas, provided verbally or written on comment boards, often centered on **music and performance**, and/or **classes and workshops** in art, physical activity, and skills such as beekeeping.
- Particularly during stakeholder interviews, **residents expressed an interest in volunteering their time to teach classes or support other parks programming.** Volunteer opportunities can increase use of parks, build social capital, and feed back into the long-term sustainability of the parks system.

Connection to Nature

Green Space and Outdoor Pursuits

Those who provided public input felt that park development should incorporate nature and existing environmental assets.

- Fifty-seven percent of survey participants rated **green and natural spaces** as a high priority for improvement and future development, second only to the desire for restrooms and water features.

- During workshops, **preserving natural landscaping and ‘feel’** in parks was a common theme. Many participants expressed a preference for natural landscaping over inorganic materials and strictly manicured lawns.
- Workshop participants frequently requested more **trees, landscaping, and gardens**, as well as **secluded areas to sit peacefully**. Several participants also expressed interest in having more **fruit trees** in parks.



Vision from Phoenix High School workshop.
Source: Community Service Center

Environmental Education and Stewardship

Many residents expressed a hope that the park system could take a more active role in environmental conservation and education.

- Parks programming and educational initiatives built around environmental stewardship were of high interest to workshop participants and stakeholders.
- Phoenix already has established groups, businesses, and residents who are interested in environmentalism, such as the **garden club and Bee City USA**. Both these groups hoped to **play a role in environmental leadership** by continuing to engage in activities that support the environmental services of parks.
- Some workshop participants were dissatisfied with the amount of pesticides and water used in parks maintenance. They hoped it would be possible to move towards **more sustainable park designs**, suggesting ideas like drought resistant and native plants to reduce water waste.

Inclusivity

Underserved Youth and Seniors

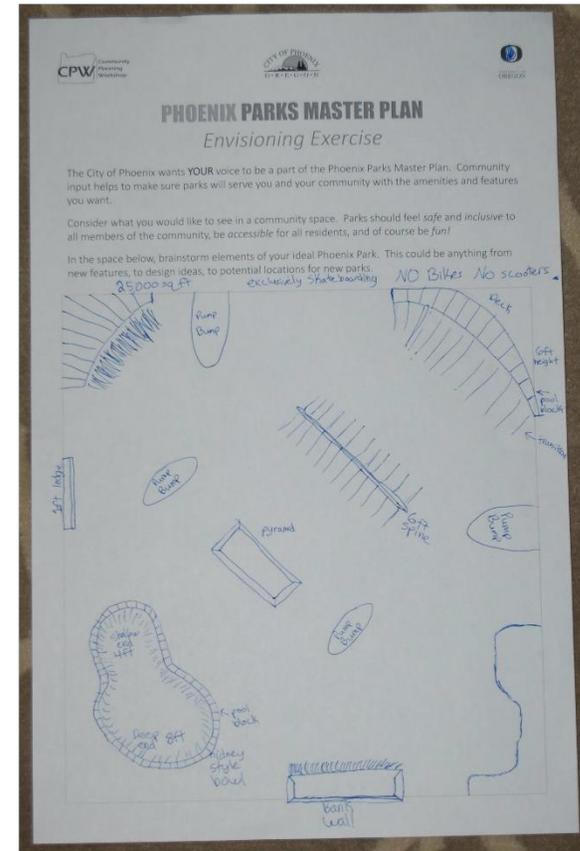
Survey participants identified youth and senior citizens as the top two demographics not adequately served by the parks system – two

demographic groups whose populations have been growing for over a decade.

- In community workshops, especially those conducted in the schools, participants frequently stated that Phoenix has little to offer young adults. The parks have features for young children, but little to no function for teens other than as a gathering space.
- Teens are frequently perceived as ‘loitering’ because there are few public gathering places where they can spend time, especially after dark when the parks close. Participants in the youth workshops specifically requested **extended park hours and park spaces intentionally designed for young adults.**
- A **skate park** was a popular proposed facility that would serve young adults.

Seniors are also in need of more active ways to engage with parks.

- Providing **more walking trails** could encourage exercise and enjoyment, and a **“senior fitness station”** or other fitness equipment was a popular idea in discussions with the public.
- Some workshop participants proposed **classes, music, or public talks** in the parks as forms of entertainment for the retired community.



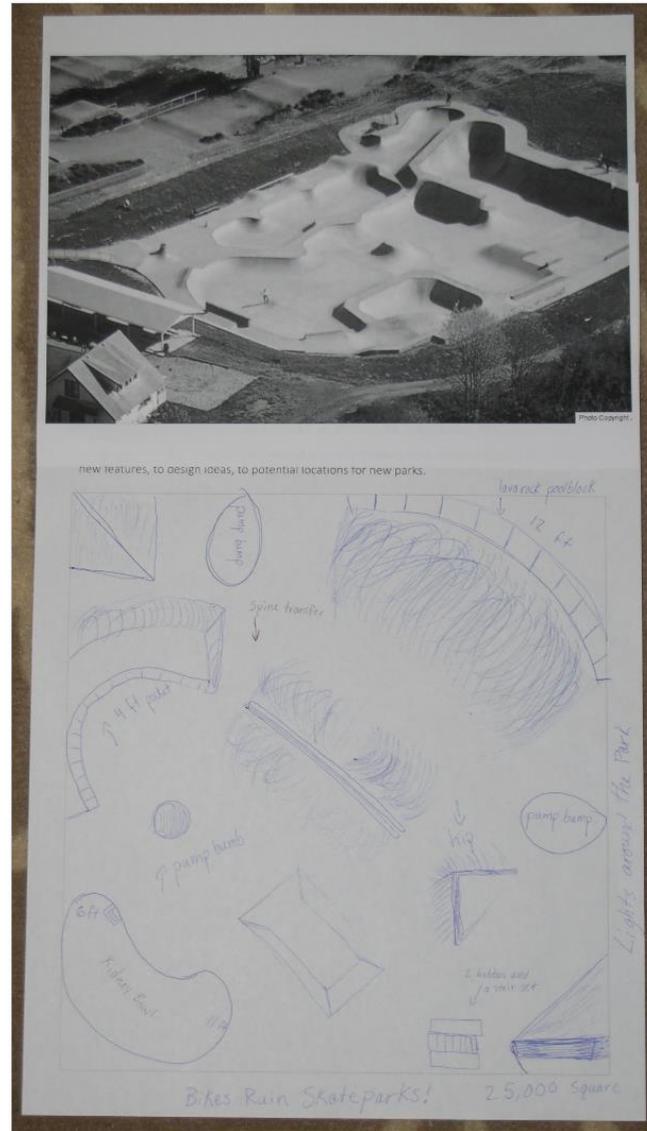
Skate park vision from Armadillo Technical Institute workshop.
Source: Community Service Center

Open to All

Phoenix has a wide range of socioeconomic levels, and has been diversifying in terms of race and ethnicity. However, **those not a part of the majority or “mainstream” sometimes feel invisible in the community identity and unwanted at events or facilities such as parks.** Planning processes and community input often exclude those

who face institutionalized barriers or prejudices, so measures to increase inclusivity should be taken into account for this missing perspective.

- Many who provided input believed that incorporating **bilingual signage** and encouraging **events that celebrate diverse backgrounds** would be helpful in making all residents feel comfortable and welcome in parks.
- During a community workshop, one resident described an incident where they were threatened and asked to leave a park due to their race and language.
- In stakeholder interviews, participants suggested that **events and programming should be free or low-cost** to reach the widest range of residents. Some also thought that festivals and large events should aim to offer some activities that aren't based around purchasing food or luxury items.
- Some residents perceive **biases in who is granted access** to facilities or allowed to host park events.
- There is currently no straightforward process for setting up events and reserving facilities that is widely publicized and easily accessible, such as an online or telephone booking system.



Skate park vision from Armadillo Technical Institute workshop.
Source: Community Service Center

Chapter 5: Park System Vision, Goals, & Recommendations

This chapter presents a 20-year vision including goals, objectives and recommendations for the Phoenix Parks System. Goals represent the general end toward which an organizational effort is directed. Objectives are measurable statements which identify specific steps needed to achieve the stated goals. The goals and objectives serve as an umbrella to categorize certain action item activities. The parks planning team derived action items (recommendations) from the needs analysis and input from the community and Parks Commission.

The values and desires of the City of Phoenix and its residents guide the parks master planning process and future decisions made regarding the parks system. A series of Parks Commission meetings, community workshops, and conversations with City staff led to the development of the vision statement, goals, and recommendations found in this chapter. The vision statement, goals, and recommendations provide guidance for the development of new facilities and other capital improvements as well as operation and maintenance decisions made for Phoenix's system of parks.

Vision

The Phoenix parks system provides recreation opportunities for patrons of all ages and abilities, and promotes the general health and social vibrancy of the community. Parks and trails are well maintained in order to be safe and welcoming spaces for residents and visitors to enjoy, connect with nature, and one another.

Park System Goals

The Phoenix Master Parks Plan update establishes a set of goals that provide a framework for development of the park system. The plan goals are intended to be used as a guide to address current and future community needs. Each goal includes one or more objectives that provide guidance on specific steps to take in order to achieve the goal. Because each goal is equally important, the goals are not listed in priority order.

- ◆ **Provide adequate park system funding.**
- ◆ **Increase capacity for park operations and maintenance.**
- ◆ **Develop and expand recreational programming options.**
- ◆ **Incorporate environmental stewardship practices in park design and maintenance.**
- ◆ **Foster opportunities for community support and involvement.**
- ◆ **Increase inclusion and improve access to parks.**
- ◆ **Develop a vibrant park system and acquire parkland to accommodate future needs.**

Recommendations

The Phoenix Parks Master Plan update establishes a set of recommendations that serve as a framework for development of the park system. The plan

recommendations fall under the umbrella of the stated goals and objectives and provide specific instruction for how the City and community can work towards the park system vision.

Priority Levels

Each recommendation is labeled with a priority level (**Table 5-1**). The level reflects the urgency of need as well as the amount of time needed to complete each recommendation. Priority 1 (P1) is high priority, and should be completed within 5 years. Priority 2 (P2) is medium priority, meaning it is not as urgent as a P1 recommendation but should still be completed within 5 to 12 years. Priority 3 (P3) is low priority. This does not necessarily mean the recommendation is less important, but rather that it may take longer to complete or will not be necessary until other future expansions occur.

Table 5-1: Levels of Priority for Recommendations

P1: High Priority	1-5 years
P2: Medium Priority	5-12 years
P3: Low Priority	13-20 years

Goal 1: Provide adequate park system

Objectives

- 1.1 Identify and evaluate **external** grant, donation, or endowment opportunities to develop outside funding streams for parkland development. The external capital sources could come from non-profits (such as a local parks foundation), state government, or federal agencies.
- 1.2 Evaluate the potential **internal** parks funding sources such as System Development Charges (SDCs), parks and recreation fee on utility bills, or dedicating a portion of a cannabis tax towards parks and recreation.

Recommendations

1. Dedicate a portion of the cannabis tax for the acquisition, development, and maintenance of public parks and public open spaces. *(Survey: 83% of respondents supported using the tax for parks)* **(P1)**
2. Create a parks utility fee in the range of \$2-5 per month that will provide additional funding to the park system. Based on current population, even a modest fee could generate significant revenues. *(Survey: 38% Yes; 40% No; 22% Depends on how much; of pro-fee respondents, 50% supported \$1-3/month, 27% supported \$4-6/month)* **(P1)**
3. Re-evaluate SDC fee structure to accommodate future park development. (See Appendix A for a preliminary evaluation of SDCs.) **(P1)**
4. Establish a park endowment fund that would be managed by 501-C nonprofit organization. This organization would partner with the City to accept grants, donations and other funding that the City itself could not accept (also see *Goal 5. Community Support & Involvement, Recommendation 3*). **(P2)**
5. Re-apply for grant to fund movies and equipment to offer a free “Movies and Music in the Park” summer series at Blue Heron Park with family-friendly films and local music acts, including high school musicians. **(P3)**

Recommendations

1. Establish a part-time Parks Coordinator position in the Public Works Department with responsibility for parks operation and the development of future parks and recreational programming. In the future (5-20 years), this position may be expanded to full-time as the park system grows. **(P1)**
2. Parks Coordinator should establish and manage a clear online booking system for reservation of park space, so that people are more easily able to plan BBQs, family events, etc. **(P2)**
3. Parks Coordinator should create and adopt a standard “Terms and Conditions of Use” for parks and publicize prominently on the online booking system. **(P2)**
4. Install automatic toilets and hand dryers to reduce waste and maintenance needs and allow for extended bathroom hours. **(P2)**
5. Add a minimum of 1 Full-Time Employee (FTE) position for park maintenance and operations as additional parkland is acquired and developed. This should complement the existing staff time dedicated towards parks which currently amounts to about 1 FTE, meaning that in the future, the park system should be served by 2 FTE for maintenance and operations and 0.5 – 1 FTE for operations and recreational programming. (See Appendix B for information about park system staffing in other Oregon cities with 9,000 – 10,000 in population.) **(P3)**
6. Provide additional FTE as seasonal demand requires. **(P3)**

Goal 2: Increase capacity for park operations and maintenance.

Objectives

- 2.1 Hire additional staff to manage parks operation, maintenance, and development of future parks and recreational programming.
- 2.2 Develop a parks maintenance program that informs when replacements, repairs or other improvements should be completed and with what resources and staff.
- 2.3 Build maintenance strategies into future park development and improvements.

Goal 3: Develop and expand recreational programming options.

Objectives

- 3.1 Parks Coordinator develops year-round and seasonal recreational programming. Although some programming should be city-sponsored, opportunities for interested community members to initiate their own programming should also be available.
- 3.2 Measure programming or event attendance and invite public feedback to determine the success of various programs. Use feedback and other metrics to improve recreational programming.

Recommendations

1. Create an annual recreation schedule of activities and distribute as a seasonal brochure or catalog via mail, e-mail and at City Hall. **(P1)**
2. Create opportunities for residents to develop and lead classes at the new community center to build on existing community interests and resources (e.g. resident interested in teaching beekeeping). **(P1)**
3. Build a new skate park to increase the amount of recreational options available to young adults (also see *Goal 7: Park system expansion.*) **(P1)**



Basketball court and horseshoe pits in Colver Road Park
Source: Community Service Center

Recommendations

1. Work with OSU Extension's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program and Bee City USA to explore ways to continue to lessen the amount of *herbicide* used in the parks maintenance. **(P1)**
2. Devote at least 30% of each park's land to native landscaping to reduce water usage. This could include the use of rain gardens and butterfly gardens with pollinator-friendly and drought-tolerant plant species. Refer to OSU Extension Office, Master Gardeners, Saving Water Partnership, USDA, and NRCS for planting guides. Incorporate this theme into the branding and signage of the parks. **(P2)**
3. Create three interpretive signs (one for each park) describing a brief history of the park and its current ecological context. Also highlight and describe the City's restorative and native landscaping practices on site to encourage residents to do the same in their backyards. Signs should be in both English and Spanish. **(P2)**
4. Create at least one interpretive sign for each new park developed in Phoenix describing the park's ecological context and highlighting the City's restorative and native landscaping practices. Signs should be in both English and Spanish. **(P3)**

Goal 4: Incorporate environmental stewardship practices in park design and maintenance.

Objectives

- 4.1 Incorporate environmental stewardship into the design and identity of new and existing parks through environmentally conscious landscaping, maintenance techniques, signage, art, and recreational/educational programming.
- 4.2 Work closely with Bear Creek Greenway Foundation to align environmental stewardship goals with the Comprehensive Enhancement and Restoration Plan for Greenway and Riparian Corridor and collaborate on restoration projects at Blue Heron Park.

Goal 5: Foster opportunities for community support and involvement.

Objectives

- 5.1 Create community events, educational opportunities, and informational material that are geared towards increasing park system awareness and use.
- 5.2 Develop and coordinate volunteer opportunities to assist with the maintenance, fundraising, and recreational programming for parks.

Recommendations

1. Parks Coordinator should establish an Adopt-a-Park volunteer program that targets park maintenance activities. Utilize volunteers, private businesses, group-quartered individuals, students, and other Samaritans in town to perform light maintenance activities like mowing, trash pickup, trail maintenance, and other similar work whenever possible. This will help to lessen the load placed on the City's maintenance staff, freeing them to perform more complicated and difficult maintenance tasks such as building repairs. **(P1)**
2. Work with the newly established Phoenix Public Arts Council to ensure each park has at least one piece of public art. Possible partners for public art projects include local artists and students in the Phoenix-Talent School District. **(P1)**
3. Work with community members to establish a "Friends of the Phoenix Parks" 501(c)3 nonprofit foundation to assist with parks development, maintenance, and programming (also see *Goal 1. Funding, Recommendation 3*). (See Appendix B for information about forming a nonprofit.) **(P2)**
4. Create a "Nature Talks" series where local and regional experts are invited to give brief educational tours touching on various ecological topics regarding native plants, creeks, wildlife, and the human role and impact on the landscape. Possible partners for tour guides include Bear Creek Greenway Foundation, Bee City USA, Nature Center at U.S. Cellular Park, OSU Extension Master Gardner program, and the Rogue Valley Council Governments. **(P2)**
5. Work with the Phoenix Historical Society to provide historic and cultural education through free monthly interpretive tours in the parks. **(P2)**

Recommendations

1. Recruit diverse candidates for future openings on Parks Commission and Friends of the Phoenix Parks to reflect diversity of Phoenix in genders, races, ages, sexual orientations, abilities, and socio-economic status. **(P1)**
2. Create bilingual signage in all parks to ensure accessibility and inclusion of growing Spanish-speaking population. **(P1)**
3. Offer scholarships or subsidized pricing for recreational programming to ensure accessibility for low-income families. **(P2)**
4. Provide at least one free event per month year-round to increase access for all community members. **(P2)**
5. Prioritize connections between parks and neighborhoods in Transportation System Plan and Capital Improvements Plan updates. **(P1), (P2), (P3)**



Play structure at Otto Caster Park
Source: Community Service Center

Goal 6: Increase inclusion and improve access to parks.

Objectives

- 6.1 Create parks and programming with the specific intent of including underserved populations such as young adults, seniors, low-income residents, geographically isolated residents, people with disabilities, and people of color.
- 6.2 Ensure that parks are physically linked to neighborhoods and other parks with safe and well-defined pedestrian, bike, and public transit infrastructure.

Goal 7: Develop a vibrant park system and acquire parkland to accommodate future

See Chapter 6 for recommendations and further information on existing park system improvements and expansion of the park system.

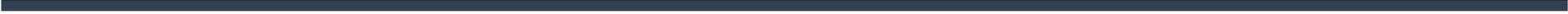
Objectives

Existing Park Improvement Objectives

- 7.1 Upgrade aging or broken equipment to keep parks safe and fun for all ages.
- 7.2 Add amenities like public art, interpretive signs, lighting, and seating to improve parks' aesthetic ambiance and safety.

Park System Expansion Objectives

- 7.3 Expand the park system and services to accommodate the needs of Phoenix's growing population. Continue to evaluate levels of service and concentrate new park development in the underserved areas of eastern and northern Phoenix.
- 7.4 Improve infrastructure such as sidewalks and trails around and between parks to facilitate easy access for pedestrians, bikers, and people with limited mobility.



Chapter 6: Park System Improvements & Expansion

This chapter expands on Goal 7: Develop a vibrant park system and acquire parkland to accommodate future needs. The recommendations for existing park improvements and park expansion should guide staffing and financial planning activities that will contribute to the enhancement of Phoenix’s park system. To complement the recommendations, **Appendix A** includes design guidelines for new parks that the City will develop in the future. For more information regarding the cost of the recommendations presented in this chapter, refer to the park budget, and parkland/capital improvement guides included in Chapter 7.

Goal 7: Develop a vibrant park system and acquire parkland to accommodate future needs.

Part 1 – Existing Park Improvement Objectives

7.1 Upgrade aging or broken equipment to keep parks safe and fun for all ages.

7.2 Add amenities like public art, interpretive signs, lighting, and seating to improve parks’ aesthetic ambiance and safety.



Play structure and path mosaics at Otto Caster Park
Source: Community Service Center



Community garden at Blue Heron Park

Source: Community Service Center

Bear Creek Greenway



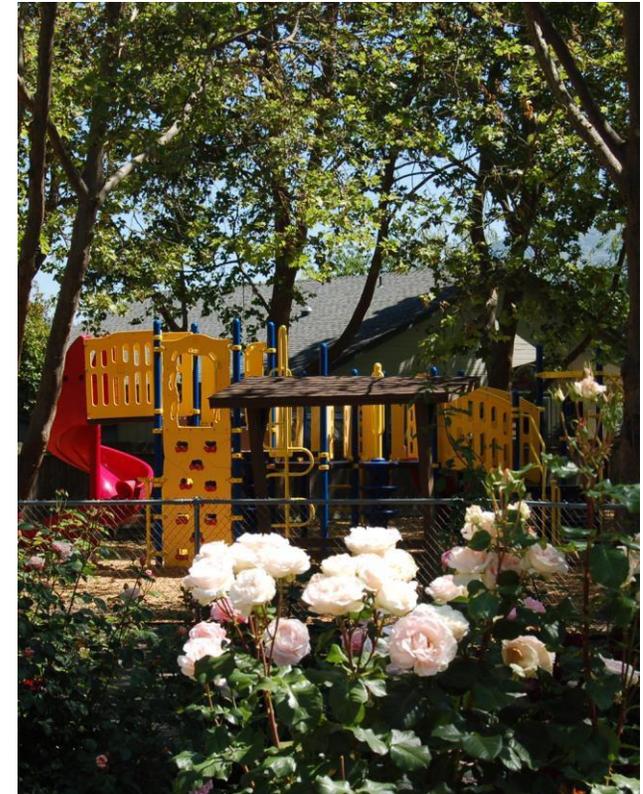
Recommendations

- BCG-1** Use Bear Creek Greenway Management Plan to further protect and develop Bear Creek Greenway (the Greenway). **(P1)**
- BCG-2** Work with the Police Department to coordinate a seasonal volunteer safety patrol on bikes, golf carts or walking along the Greenway. Volunteers should have communication capabilities to report any suspicious or concerning behavior. **(P1)**
- BCG-3** Coordinate volunteers to provide educational and habitat restoration opportunities that enhance the riparian area around Bear Creek. **(P2)**
- BCG-4** Partner with the Bear Creek Foundation, Rogue Fly Fishers, Steelheaders, the Rogue River Watershed Council, and other relevant groups to develop and restore the riparian area around Bear Creek near Blue Heron Park. This could include development of a trail system, vegetation management and restoration (e.g. to clear the invasive blackberries and reestablish native plants), and the creation of picnicking and nature play areas. **(P3)**

Recommendations

- C-1** Develop a lighting plan similar to Blue Heron's to make park safer. **(P1)**
- C-2** Update bathrooms with newer, more efficient toilets, sinks, and hand dryers. **(P1)**
- C-3** Partner with the Horseshoe Club to repair and maintain the horseshoe pits. **(P1)**
- C-4** Install two more trash cans closer to park entrance and at least one trash can next to the backstop of the baseball field. **(P1)**
- C-5** Improve and enhance landscaping at park entrance and parking lot. **(P1)**
- C-6** Provide a shaded swing set separate from current playground equipment area. **(P1)**
- C-7** Designate one acre of field for a fenced off-leash dog area. **(P2)**
- C-8** Address gopher problem in fields with non-lethal options such as castor oil spray, vibrating stakes or gopher traps. **(P2)**
- C-9** Increase ADA access to picnic tables and fields by smoothing out main walking path and repairing cracks on sidewalks. **(P2)**
- C-10** Provide more shade for picnic areas and the walking path. **(P2)**
- C-11** Develop an interpretive sign that discusses the heritage and/or natural environment of Colver Road Park. Signs should be in both English and Spanish. *(Also see Goal 4, Recommendation 4).* **(P2)**

Colver Road Park



Otto Caster Park



Recommendations

- OC-1** Develop lighting plan similar to Blue Heron’s to make park safer. **(P1)**
- OC-2** Install two unisex bathroom facilities. **(P1)**
- OC-3** Install a fence with a latch to protect smaller children from running into traffic. **(P2)**
- OC-4** Increase signage on main roads to better direct people to the park. **(P2)**
- OC-5** Partner with the Phoenix Public Arts Council, local artists, and children to create more public art at the park. **(P2)**
- OC-6** Develop an interpretive sign that discusses the heritage and/or natural environment of Otto Caster Park. Signs should be in both English and Spanish. *(Also see Goal 4, Recommendation 4).* **(P2)**

Recommendations

- BH-1 Develop a trail system and observation areas in the riparian area. (P3)
- BH-2 Enhance natural riparian corridor through restoration and vegetation management. (P3)
- BH-3 Maintain understory vegetation near Bear Creek to provide open site lines and discourage undesirable activities. (P1)
- BH-4 Provide bilingual signage (English/Spanish) to inform visitors about Bear Creek watershed and riparian restoration. (P3)
- BH-5 Incorporate a nature play area near northwest parking lot. (P1)
- BH-6 Use the central parking lot island and additional planting beds as a display garden for native and bee habitat plants. (P1)
- BH-7 Expand the “Monarch Waystation” on the south side of the greenway and add bilingual (English/Spanish) interpretive signage. (P2)
- BH-8 Add 33 parking stalls with 2 designated as accessible. (P2)
- BH-9 Assess potential for parallel parking on southern access road. (P3)
- BH-10 Assess potential for future event parking on adjacent properties. (P3)
- BH-11 Create a system of pathways to separate uses and improve access. (P2)
- BH-12 Construct an access road from the central parking area to the greenway. A section of this road will provide access to the stage. (P2)
- BH-13 Reconfigure east section of playground to have specified uses by age. (P3)
- BH-14 Incorporate a water play area into the existing playground space. (P1)
- BH-15 Add a full size sand volleyball court. (P2)
- BH-16 Add trailside fitness stations (5-10 stations could provide a circuit). (P3)
- BH-17 Add 6 new picnic tables with 6 BBQ grills (at least 2 ADA accessible). (P2)
- BH-18 Install public art at park entrances. (P2)
- BH-19 Install solar lights around playground and along concrete pathways (city currently has 10 fixtures). (P2)
- BH-20 Plant additional shade trees using native and drought tolerant species when possible. (P1)
- BH-21 Create native wetland swales at the southeastern corner of the park (use cut soils to construct berm landforms on the site). (P2)

Blue Heron Park



As part of the 2016 Parks Master Plan update, the planning team developed a redesign concept for Blue Heron Park (see following page). The recommendations to emerge from the redesign are listed here (in a condensed form), and a more detailed description of the redesign process, goals, and recommendations can be found in **Volume II - Blue Heron Redesign**.

BLUE HERON PARK CONCEPTUAL DESIGN



Part 2 – Park System Expansion

Currently, Phoenix’s park system serves the southwestern portions of the city well, but residents to the east of I-5 and north of the high school have very limited access to parks and open space. Furthermore, Phoenix’s population is expected to increase 40% by 2035, which will augment issues of park service and access.

In the next 20 years, the City will need to focus on expanding parks and connections to parks in underserved areas. The following objectives and recommendations are designed to guide expansion of Phoenix’s park system. For more detailed information about how the parks planning team arrived at these recommendations, see **Appendix A: Parkland Acquisition and Level of Service**. This appendix also includes a land acquisition strategy for the City and design guidelines for new parks the city develops.

Park System Expansion Objectives

7.3 Expand the parks system and services to accommodate the needs of Phoenix’s growing population. Continue to evaluate levels of service and concentrate new park development in the underserved areas of eastern and northern Phoenix.

7.4 Improve infrastructure such as sidewalks and trails around and between parks to facilitate easy access for pedestrians, bikers, and people with limited mobility.



Field in Colver Road Park
Source: Community Service Center



Residents give feedback in Blue Heron Park
Source: Community Service Center

Park System Expansion

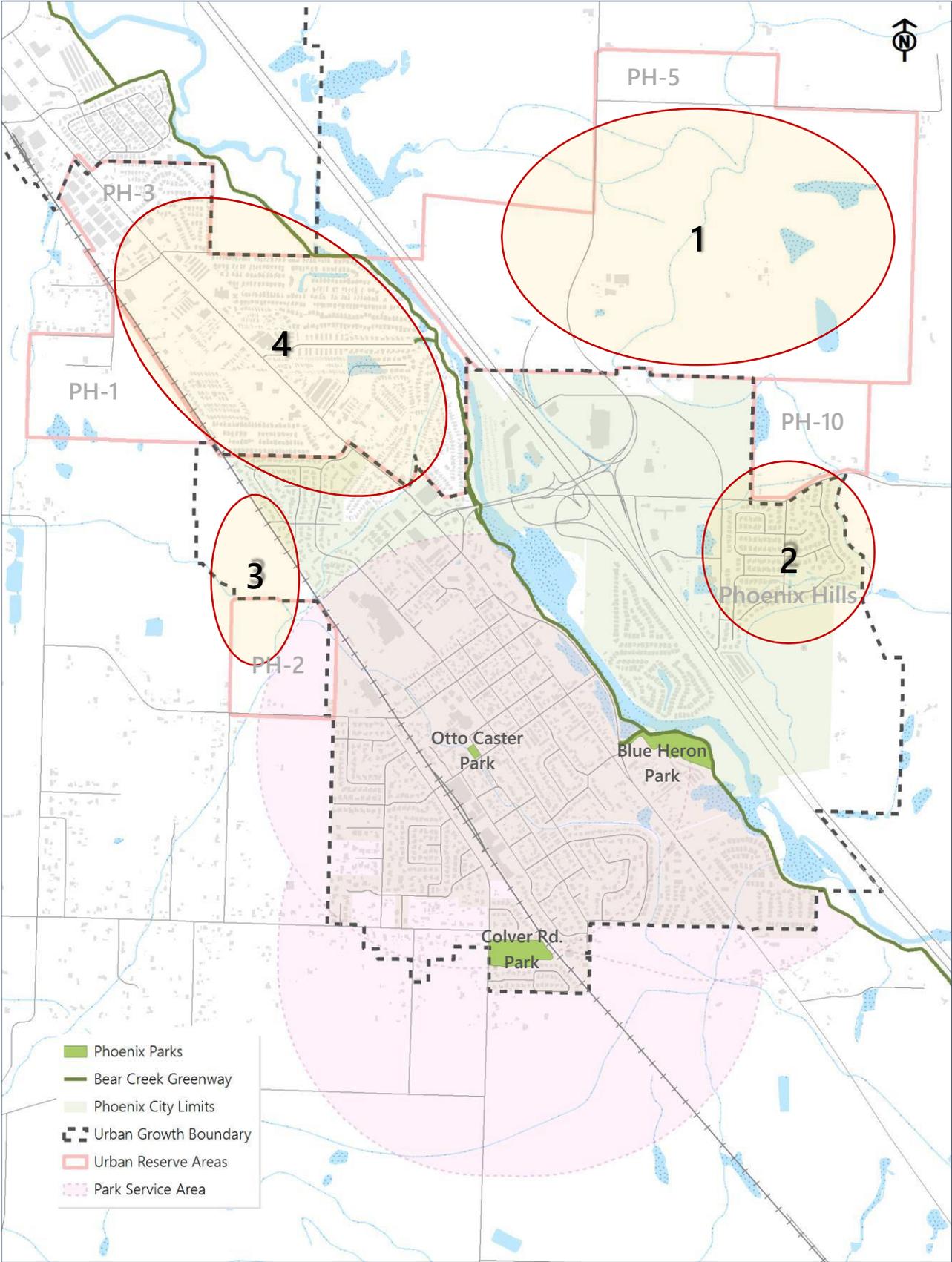


Recommendations

Based on the Level of Service analysis presented in **Appendix A**, Phoenix will require an additional **11.2 acres** of parkland within the urban growth boundary to sustain the current level of service. The city, however, is expected to grow substantially over the next 20 years. The Regional Problem Solving Plan specifies that Phoenix will require an additional **69 acres** of parkland and open space in the Urban Reserve Areas. In total therefore, **Phoenix will require between about 70 new acres of parkland** to be added in the future. See **Map 6-1** on the next page for a visual representation of the areas to be targeted for park development.

1. Build a new skate park, likely downtown (also see *Goal 3, Recommendation 3*). **(P1)**
2. In PH-5 and PH-10, develop the following: **(P3)**
 - a. 1 Community Park (5 – 20 acres) in residential areas
 - b. 1 Urban Plaza in the employment area
 - c. 2-4 Pocket or Neighborhood Parks (.25 – 5 acres) in residential areas
 - d. A trail system that connects parks in PH-5 to Medford's Chrissy Park, and possibly Jackson County's Prescott Park
3. In the Phoenix Hills neighborhood (to the east of I-5), develop at least 1 Pocket or Neighborhood Park (.25 – 3 acres). **(P3)**
4. Create a functional open space on the City's property west of the railroad tracks currently accessible by an informal path extending from Dano Way. **(P3)**
5. Explore opportunities to create at least 1 Pocket or Neighborhood Park in northern Phoenix (land currently in city limits, in the Urban Growth Boundary, or in PH-1, PH-2, or PH-3). **(P3)**
6. Connect all parks with biking infrastructure: develop dedicated bike streets (using sharrows and/or signs), bike lanes, and/or off-street paths that create a link between all parks. **(P3)**
7. Place directional signs at key intersections to inform park visitors of parks' location relative to their position. **(P3)**

Map 6-1. Areas for future park development.



Source: Jackson County GIS, prepared by the Community Service Center.

Chapter 7: Operations & Funding

A vibrant, well-used park system relies on a solid foundation of organizational and financial support. As Phoenix’s park system grows, so must the funding and staff support required to provide engaging programming and high-quality maintenance. This chapter describes the current organizational and financial structure of Phoenix’s park system and provides resources that will help the City move from a 3-park system to a 6+ park system with recreational programming by 2035.

Current Organizational Structure and Operations

Phoenix Public Works Department oversees the Phoenix park system. The Department is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of City-owned parks, trails, and undeveloped open space, as well as landscaping on other City-owned properties. Work is carried out by Public Works Department employees, Jackson County Parks (contracted to provide mowing services), the Community Justice work crew (for occasional

assistance with debris pick-up and leaf, brush, and weed removal), and community volunteers.

The Phoenix “parks staff” includes:

- **Public Works Director** – approximately 0.01 FTE dedicated towards parks
- **1 Lead Utility Worker** – approximately 0.05 FTE dedicated towards parks
- **5 Utility Workers** – a combined total of approximately 0.95 FTE dedicated towards parks between the five workers
- **1 Seasonal hire** serving between May and September

In addition to the public works staff who manage park operations and maintenance, the City of Phoenix has established and appointed a Parks Commission. The Parks Commission consists of seven appointed members who serve four year terms, and meet at least quarterly.² The Commission also has one City Council Liaison, and the Public Works Administrative Assistant acts as the Commission’s secretary. The Parks Commission serves as a vision- keeper for the Phoenix park system. Its members often volunteer to put on events and support other recreational activities. As of 2016, the park system

²City of Phoenix Parks Commission webpage (as of September 2016): <http://www.phoenixoregon.gov/prc>

had no paid staff responsible for recreation and special event programming.

Operating Budget

The Phoenix Parks operating budget accounts for ongoing costs such as staffing, operations, maintenance, and equipment. It does not include longer term, “big ticket” items such as equipment purchases for a new park; these items are instead incorporated into the Public Works Department’s Capital Improvement Plan when they arise.

The operating budget is developed during the normal budget cycle each year. Beginning in January, the Public Works Director works with the Finance Director and City Manager to discuss budget estimations for the upcoming fiscal year. The budget is then drafted and approved by June 30. This section presents park operating budget information from FY 2011-2012 through FY 2015-2016.

Revenues & Expenditures

Revenue for parks comes from property taxes (General Fund), System Development Charges (SDCs), and any grants the City receives (**Table 7-1**). The SDC Fund also maintains working capital which may or may not be used each year (**Table 7-2**).

Park expenses fall into three main categories: personal services, materials and supplies, and capital outlay. Personal services and materials and

services are currently covered by General Fund revenue. Capital outlay, on the other hand, is currently covered by the SDC Fund, both from annual SDC Fund revenue and from the SDC Fund’s working capital.

Table 7-1. Phoenix Parks Operating Budget

	FY 11-12	FY 12-13	FY 13-14	FY 14-15	FY 15-16
Revenue					
General Fund					
General Fund Total	\$ 79,978	\$ 65,422	\$ 70,692	\$ 83,955	\$ 93,514
SDC Fund					
SDC Fund Total	Not Available	Not Available	\$ 10,095	\$ 819	\$ 1,279
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 79,978	\$ 65,422	\$ 80,787	\$ 84,774	\$ 94,793
Expenses					
Personal Services (Covered by General Fund)					
Total Personal Services	\$ 51,106	\$ 43,025	\$ 44,172	\$ 42,340	\$ 50,157
Materials & Services (Covered by General Fund)					
Total Materials & Services	\$ 28,872	\$ 22,397	\$ 26,520	\$ 41,615	\$ 43,357
Capital Outlay (Covered by SDC Fund)					
Total Capital Outlay	Not Available	Not Available	\$ 416	\$ 1,510	\$ 14,600
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 79,978	\$ 65,422	\$ 71,108	\$ 85,465	\$ 108,114

Source: City of Phoenix Budget

Table 7-1. SDC Fund Working Capital Balance

	FY 11-12	FY 12-13	FY 13-14	FY 14-15	FY 15-16
Fund Balance					
System Development Charges Fund					
Fund Working Capital	Not Available	Not Available	\$ 96,190	\$ 105,869	\$ 105,178

Source: City of Phoenix Budget

Projected Expenditures

Based on the recommendations provided in Chapter 6, this plan includes projected expenditures for both small-scale parkland improvements and large-scale capital improvements.

Parkland Improvements

Parkland improvements are specific low-budget projects (\$1,000 or less) that are included each year in the park's operating budget. These project should be reevaluated and updated each year to reflect completed projects and new upcoming projects.

Table 7-3 and **Table 7-4** on the following page show parks improvements proposed for the next five years and ten years (P1 and P2 recommendations). The tables contain costs associated with improvements to Colver Road and Otto Caster Parks (Blue Heron Park is included in a separate section). This cost table should be used to help the City budget for near-term park improvements, beginning with the next fiscal year budget. Costs are only *estimates*.

Estimated costs *do not* include labor. This means that if the City contracts out the work, the actual cost of improvements will likely be higher than those reported here. Just under \$11,000 in parks improvements are proposed for the next ten years. Contingency costs are built into project costs to account for unanticipated issues such as permitting

fees that may arise or unexpected increases in material costs.



Cyclist on Bear Creek Greenway
Source: Community Service Center

Table 7-3. P1 Parkland Improvements (FY17-18 through FY22-23)

Program Element	Quantity	Unit	Cost/Unit	Total
Colver Park				
C-4: Trash cans	3	Each	\$ 350.00	\$ 1,050.00
C-5: Landscaping at entrance and parking lot	--	--	--	
Shrubs- 1 gallon (installed)	10	Each	\$ 10.00	\$ 100.00
Shrubs- 3 gallon (installed)	6	Each	\$ 27.00	\$ 162.00
Ground Cover plants- 4" pots (installed)	20	Each	\$ 2.50	\$ 50.00
			Subtotal	\$ 1,362.00
			SUBTOTAL	\$ 1,362.00
			Add 10% Design/Engineering	\$ 136.20
			Add 15% Contingency	\$ 204.30
			Add 2% Fees	\$ 27.24
			TOTAL	\$ 1,729.74

Source: Community Service Center estimates.

Table 7-4. P2 Parkland Improvements (FY23-24 through FY28-29)

Program Element	Quantity	Unit	Cost/Unit	Total
Colver Park				
C-7: Dog Park-specific furnishings	--	--	--	--
Water line and Spigot	1	Each	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Doggie Crawl	1	Each	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00
Stepping Paws	1	Each	\$ 925.00	\$ 925.00
Weave Posts	1	Each	\$ 725.00	\$ 725.00
Hoop Jump	1	Each	\$ 550.00	\$ 550.00
C-8: Gopher Twin Pack Sonic Spikes	14	Each	\$ 25.00	\$ 350.00
C-9: Crusher fines on pathway	500	Sq. Ft.	\$ 0.74	\$ 370.00
C-10: Shade Sail for picnic area	1	Each	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
C-11: Heritage Interpretive Sign	1	Each	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
			Subtotal	\$ 6,120.00
Otto Caster Park				
OC-4: Park Identification Signage	1	Each	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
OC-6: Heritage Interpretive Sign	1	Each	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
			Subtotal	\$ 1,000.00
			SUBTOTAL	\$ 7,120.00
			Add 10% Design/Engineering	\$ 712.00
			Add 15% Contingency	\$ 1,068.00
			Add 2% Fees	\$ 142.40
			TOTAL	\$ 9,042.40

Source: Community Service Center estimates.

Capital Improvements

Capital Improvements are projects that require a larger financial investment (in this case greater than \$1,000) that are expected to have a useful life greater than three years. **Table 7-5** and **Table 7-6** on the following page show capital improvements proposed for implementation in the next five years and ten years (P1 and P2 recommendations). It covers improvements for Colver Road and Otto Caster Parks.³ **Table 7-7** shows costs for the Blue Heron Park Redesign, which do not necessarily need to take place in the next five years. Similar to the parkland improvement cost table, these cost tables should be used to help the City estimate how much to include in the Public Works Capital Improvement Plan, and are *estimates* only that *do not* include labor.

A total of about \$267,000 of capital improvements are proposed of Colver Road and Otto Caster Parks. Blue Heron estimated capital improvements total just over \$770,000. With the SDC Fund as the primary source for covering capital improvement costs, it should be noted that at the current rate of SDC revenue will not be sufficient to support the proposed schedule of capital improvements. As with the parkland improvements cost table, contingency costs have been built in to account for

unanticipated issues such as permitting fees that may arise or unexpected increases in material costs.



Memorial rock at Blue Heron Park
Source: Community Service Center

³ Note that the Rogue Valley Pitchers (the organized group that uses the horseshoe pits at Colver Rd. Park) have provided a detailed preliminary plan for horseshoe pit upgrades. This plan is included in Appendix B and should be used to create more accurate cost estimates in the future.

Table 7-5. P1 Capital Improvements (FY17-18 through FY22-23)

Program Element	Quantity	Unit	Cost/Unit	Total
Colver Park				
C-1: LED luminaire (every ~50 ft on major pathways)	40	Each	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 60,000.00
C-2: Remodel bathrooms	1	Each	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
C-3: Repair horseshoe pits	12	Each	\$ 300.00	\$ 3,600.00
Replace south fence (4ft high)	1	Each	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00
Replace cement walkways	1	Each	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
C-6: Swing set with soft fall	1	Each	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 9,500.00
			Subtotal	\$ 104,700.00
Otto Caster Park				
OC-1: LED luminaire	10	Each	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 15,000.00
OC-2: Build 2 bathroom facilities	1	Each	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
			Subtotal	\$ 90,000.00
			SUBTOTAL	\$ 194,700.00
			Add 10% Design/Engineering	\$ 19,470.00
			Add 15% Contingency	\$ 29,205.00
			Add 2% Fees	\$ 3,894.00
			TOTAL	\$ 247,269.00

Source: Community Service Center estimates.

Table 7-6. P2 Capital Improvements (FY23-24 through FY28-29)

Program Element	Quantity	Unit	Cost/Unit	Total
Colver Park				
C-7: Fence for 1-acre dog area	834	Linear Ft.	\$ 17.00	\$ 14,178.00
C-7: Dog Park-specific furnishings	--	--	--	--
Seating benches	2	Each	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,000.00
Information kiosk/Doggie bag station	1	Each	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
			Subtotal	\$ 19,178.00
Otto Caster Park				
OC-3: Fence	200	Linear Ft.	\$ 17.00	\$ 3,400.00
			Subtotal	\$ 3,400.00
			SUBTOTAL	\$ 22,578.00
			Add 10% Design/Engineering	\$ 2,257.80
			Add 15% Contingency	\$ 3,386.70
			Add 2% Fees	\$ 451.56
			TOTAL	\$ 28,674.06

Source: Community Service Center estimates.

Table 7-7. Blue Heron Redesign Cost Estimates

Program Element	Quantity	Unit	Cost/Unit	Total
Parking Improvements				
Parking cost per space (does not include demolition and removal of existing materials)	33	1 space	\$ 1,692.50	\$ 55,852.50
				Subtotal \$ 55,852.50
Playground Improvements				
Splash pad (1200 - 1500 sq. ft.)	1	Each	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
2-5 year old play area (1000 sq. ft.)	1	Each	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
				Subtotal \$ 135,000.00
Site Amenities				
Nature play area	1	Each	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
Art sculptures	TBD	Each	TBD	--
Picnic tables	6	Each	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 9,000.00
BBQ grills	6	Each	\$ 150.00	\$ 900.00
Trailside fitness station (8-10 stations along trail)	1	Each	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Seating benches (6' ADA)	6	Each	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
Sand volleyball court (50' x 80' with concrete border)	1	Each	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
River observation deck	2	Each	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
Bike racks	2	Each	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 2,400.00
Garbage cans	4	Each	\$ 500.00	\$ 2,000.00
				Subtotal \$ 141,300.00
Paths				
Paved paths (4" concrete)	5,300	Sq. Ft.	\$ 7.50	\$ 39,750.00
Unpaved paths (crushed gravel)	8000	Sq. Ft.	\$ 0.74	\$ 5,920.00
10' Multi-purpose access roads	6,860	Sq. Ft.	\$ 7.00	\$ 48,020.00
Solar lighting (45' spacing along major pathways)	35	Each	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 52,500.00
Gates	2	Each	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 2,400.00
				Subtotal \$ 148,590.00
Earthwork				
Earth moving/ regrading/ ampitheatre berm	1000	C.Y.	\$ 15.60	\$ 15,600.00
				Subtotal \$ 15,600.00
Vegetation				
Trees (2" caliper)	60	Each	\$ 250.00	\$ 15,000.00
Planting beds (Soil prep, fertilizers, plant materials, mulch)	10550	Sq. Ft.	\$ 3.50	\$ 36,925.00
Grass/native forbs seed	25000	Sq. Ft.	\$ 0.35	\$ 8,750.00
				Subtotal \$ 60,675.00
Riparian Restoraton				
	7	Acre	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 45,500.00
				Subtotal \$ 45,500.00
Signage				
Interpretive signs	8	Each	\$ 500.00	\$ 4,000.00
				Subtotal \$ 4,000.00
				SUBTOTAL \$ 606,517.50
				<i>Add 10% Design/Engineering \$ 60,651.75</i>
				<i>Add 15% Contingency \$ 90,977.63</i>
				<i>Add 2% Fees \$ 12,130.35</i>
				TOTAL \$ 770,277.23

Source: Community Service Center estimates.

Additional Funding Tools

This section presents potential funding tools available to the City for park system improvements and maintenance. This information was gathered through a case study review of other cities' Park Master Plans within the State of Oregon – such as Sweet Home, Brookings, and Grants Pass – as well as professional knowledge of parks planning and general research. City of Phoenix must work to develop the most appropriate funding strategy for the community's park system given the fiscal environment and other influencing community factors.

General Fund

The general fund accounts for all city financial resources that are not specifically tied to another fund. Resources come from a wide variety of revenue streams and support essentially all of the local government's essential functions, including policy and legislation, public safety, code enforcement, economic development, city officials, and so on. Use of the general fund may not be the most appropriate revenue structure because the general fund has competing priorities with essential City services. A more appropriate structure may be to create a more self-sustaining park system with expenditures stemming from this funding tool. The general fund may potentially be used to offset administrative, liability, or fleet operation

expenditures of the park systems rather than capital improvement projects or park systems maintenance. Currently, Phoenix parks rely very heavily on the General Fund.

Utility Fees

Utility fees, or park maintenance fees, are a popular funding tool used to generate stable revenue streams for parks maintenance. A standard utility fee is added to each residence’s utility bill and collected by the City on a monthly basis. Utility fees allow local governments to collect a continuous revenue stream throughout the year and can fund a wide variety of functional tasks and aspects of the park system.

Parks utility fees are used by local governments across the State of Oregon. Cities such as Medford, Talent, and West Linn have successfully implemented Parks Utility Fees for the operation and maintenance of parks, facilities, beautification and right-of-way areas. Parks Utility Fees for these three cities range from \$2.80 in the City of Talent to \$9.20 in the City of West Linn. Based on the population (and projected population growth) of Phoenix, a \$2-5 monthly utility fee is recommended.

When surveyed, City of Phoenix residents were supportive of a monthly utility fee to fund parks and safety. The City of Phoenix Parks Commission also supports the use of utility fees.

Implementation of parks utility fee allows local governments to continually invest in parks, making it possible for these assets to be used by residents. The parks utility fee can be increased to stabilize the on-going maintenance needs which represent a large long-term cost to the City. This would relieve the park system’s reliance on revenue from the City’s General Fund.

Table 7-8 presents the estimated revenue generation, based on the number of housing units in Phoenix in 2016, from a parks utility fee. It also includes estimates based on the projected 20-year population growth, which would greatly increase revenue.

Table 7-8. Park Utility Fee Revenue Potential

Monthly Fee (\$)	2016 Revenue Potential		Estimated 2035 Revenue Potential*	
	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual
\$1	\$1,400	\$16,800	\$1,960	\$23,520
\$2	\$2,800	\$33,600	\$3,920	\$47,040
\$3	\$4,200	\$50,400	\$5,880	\$70,560
\$4	\$5,600	\$67,200	\$7,840	\$94,080
\$5	\$7,000	\$84,000	\$9,800	\$117,600

*Based on an assumed 40% increase in utility fee payers (Phoenix's population is expected to grow 40% by 2035)

Source: City of Phoenix utility billing database.

Cannabis Tax

A percentage of the cannabis tax revenue can be applied to the acquisition, development, and maintenance of public parks and public open spaces. Other cities in Oregon and Colorado have used these tax dollars for public services. The

current estimated annual revenue from the cannabis tax in Phoenix is \$120,000. Depending on what percentage of this tax revenue is allocated towards the funding of parks and safety, the City could have anywhere between \$6,000-\$48,000 per year for parks.

When surveyed, 83% of City of Phoenix residents were supportive of using a portion of the Cannabis tax revenue to fund parks (improvements, maintenance, and new park development). The City of Phoenix Parks Commission also supports the use cannabis tax revenue.

Table 7-9 presents the estimated revenue generation, based on the tax’s current estimated total revenue of \$120,000.

Table 7-9. Cannabis Tax Potential

% of Cannabis Tax for Parks	Revenue Potential	
	Monthly	Annual
5%	\$500	\$6,000
10%	\$1,000	\$12,000
15%	\$1,500	\$18,000
20%	\$2,000	\$24,000
40%	\$4,000	\$48,000

Source: City of Phoenix finance department.

Sponsorship

Sponsorship is a funding mechanism used to offset operations and maintenance costs for parks systems. The City of Phoenix should establish an

“Adopt-A-Park” program, which would help provide volunteer labor for the parks system. The City or Parks Commission may increase solicitation of sponsors (either individuals, private groups, or businesses) who are willing to pay for advertising, signage, naming rights, park infrastructure, or special events or programs.

Public, Organizational or Government Grants

Grants provide a source of revenue not otherwise accessible within a local community. This funding source can be used for either large or small-scale projects.

This funding tool is best used for projects that have a set goal(s) or tangible improvement. On-going administrative functions, maintenance, and strategic planning projects are less attractive to donors. Grant contributions should not be considered a primary funding tool for a self-sustaining park system, but rather to supplement occasional special projects.

Grants can be highly competitive and often require matching contributions. When applying for grants it is important to do substantial outreach and research to ensure the proposed project or initiative adheres to the criteria set forth in the grant. In recent years the number of transportation related grants, especially for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, has increased substantially. Other

park related projects or initiatives well-suited for grants include building trails and greenways, natural resource conservation and water quality, public safety, and tree planting.

Local Improvement District or Parks and Recreation District

Forming a local improvement district or parks and recreation district are common funding tools for a park system. Both types of designated districts establish a tax on real property within a specified area to off-set all or part of the costs of a public revitalization or development initiative. This provides a long-term and stable revenue stream to be used for either maintenance or capital improvements to local parks.

Parks and recreation districts establish a set rate, or tax, on local residents to support the park system. In a local improvement district, rates are apportioned according to the estimated benefit that will accrue for each property. Bonds are then sold for the amount of the improvement or special project.

These tools present an opportunity for local residents to invest in their neighborhoods and support projects and initiatives they have identified as a priority. Funding is generated from a tax levy on real property within a specified area. In turn, these funds directly benefit the designated area and the local residents therein.

A parks and recreation district requires a majority vote from property owners or electors within the proposed district area and therefore should only be used if the community has expressed strong support for their park system. Once established, all or partial control of a parks and recreation district is given to a local organization or board. This loss of management could be considered a benefit or drawback for a local government depending on local political and economic climate.

Donations, Contributions and Volunteer Support

Donations of labor, cash, land, or park infrastructure (such as benches, trees, or playground equipment) can be used for specific projects. Examples of donations from community members for capital improvement projects could include an annual tree planting day sponsored by a local organization, property donation to the City, a fundraiser drive, or “legacy planning” through individual estates. This funding tool is well suited for capital improvements projects because it provides a tangible enhancement or “finished product” to the local park system to which donors or participants can feel connected.

Tax Levy

A tax levy is a common tool for continued maintenance and land acquisition for a park system.

This tool can stem from a variety of local taxes or license fees. Tax levies commonly support a local government's general fund unless a parks and recreation district is in place, in which case levies can be collected by the district. A tax levy can be used for long-term system-wide improvements or short-term targeted improvements (i.e. special projects fund) and provide a dedicated and permanent source of funding. However, it is important to assess whether or not there is adequate community support for the goals and actions laid out in the Parks Master Plan prior to initiating this tool.

Park Dedication in Lieu of Fees

Phoenix may explore offering land developers the option of dedicating parkland to the parks system in lieu of system development charges. Public dedication offers guaranteed land for the parks system expansion in step with land development trends and also helps to relieve the pressure of new development on the parks system. This tool is best utilized when coupled with strong outreach efforts to land developers. To apply use of public dedication, Phoenix should adopt an ordinance in the City's development code and in the City's Comprehensive Plan update offering guidelines for the use of Park Dedication in Lieu of Fees. The ordinance should include specified criteria to ensure that in-lieu land dedications are appropriate for park development.

User Fees

User fees may be collected from individuals for facility rental as the park system. The City currently rents pavilions and picnic structures in Colver Road and Blue Heron Parks to individuals and groups for events and gatherings. As the park system expands and new facilities are built, this reservation program could expand. Parking fees could potentially be expanded to special events. Although user fees will typically only make up a small amount of the total park system revenue, these fees could help offset day-to-day maintenance costs. This program could potentially be expanded to include ballfields maintained by the City and used by private organized sports leagues. When considering renting city owned facilities it is important to have a fair fee structure applicable to all interested parties regardless of affiliation.

Land Trust and Easements

Land trusts and easements are often considered a win-win solution to set aside land for parks, natural areas, or rights of way. This is because these tools (1) are a voluntary action on the part of a local community member, business, advocacy group, or other organization and (2) offer tax incentives for the benefactor.

Trusts can be acquired by the City or partnering organization through a donation, estate will, reduced priced sale, or exchange. Private property

owners can acquire easements. Easements may be an especially attractive tool for accessibility projects and initiatives that aim to connect parks and natural areas throughout the city that may be separated by numerous public and private properties. Private property owners are able to allow full or limited access through their property without forfeiting other property rights.

The drawbacks of land trusts and easements are that these tools can take a considerable amount of time and effort from City staff. If land trusts are considered for the Phoenix park system, the City or Parks Commission may want to partner with a nearby conservancy group for advising or management assistance.

Wetland Mitigation Banking

Wetland mitigation banking is a planning and funding tool used to protect, restore, and enhance critical conservation areas, including wetlands, streams, and sensitive habitat areas. It should not be considered for a manicured or highly maintained park, but rather for natural areas where development is unlikely.

Wetland mitigation banking aims to consolidate small fragmented mitigation projects into larger contiguous sites. A mitigation banker (in this case the City of Phoenix) would undertake a design and compliance process to preserve a conservation area under its jurisdiction. Once the process is complete,

the banker can acquire “credits” or payments from private developers for certain applicable projects. Developers buy credits from the City when they wish to improve a property for commercial purposes that would impact a wetland, stream, or habitat area on that property. In theory the loss of a small wetland, stream, or habitat area on the developer’s property would be compensated with the preservation of a larger conservation area on the City’s property.

Wetland mitigation banking has a significant amount of compliance and a steep learning curve; however, this tool has continued to grow in popularity and can be used to offset management costs for natural and open spaces that meet specified requirements. Wetland mitigation banking should not be considered a short-term strategy, as it takes substantial commitment and upfront investment from a city.

During the first five years or initial phase, the City would be required to fund management plans and any necessary retainers. The City also must work with federal land agencies, such as the Army Corps of Engineers, and subject matter experts for planning purposes. After the first five years, the local wetland mitigation banking program typically enters into a maintenance phase with substantially less operating and management costs.

In order for the City of Phoenix to be approved for wetland mitigation banking they must meet certain

criteria, including (1) owning a site that is conducive and appropriate for wetland mitigation (i.e. vegetation, hydrology, and soil types), (2) having necessary up front capital and commitment, and (3) access to necessary resources (i.e. subject matter expertise and earthmoving equipment).

According to the City of Roseburg, which currently uses wetland mitigation banking, there is a potential for the initiative to be profitable once it enters the maintenance phase. An established 15 acre wetland area under Roseburg’s jurisdiction costs the City roughly \$5,000 to maintain annually; whereas conservation credits are being sold for \$85,000 – 100,000 per acre⁴. Furthermore, the City of Roseburg has experienced a relatively high demand for conservation credits, making this funding tool a reliable source of revenue. Today, there are only a limited number of local jurisdictions using wetland mitigation banking. The demand for conservation credits from developers is higher than what is currently available through supply⁵.

The first step for consideration of this option is to identify suitable properties within the Urban Growth Boundary.

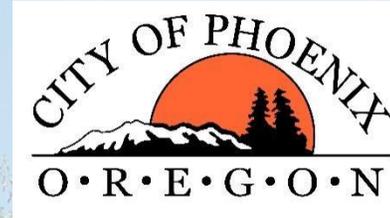
⁴ Pope, Tracy, interview by Jennifer Self. Parks Director, City of Roseburg (December 2014).

⁵ *Ibid.*



Colver Road Park in Summer

Source: Community Service Center



Prepared for:
City of Phoenix
112 W 2nd Street
Phoenix, OR 97535

Prepared by:
Community Service Center

University of Oregon
Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON



PHOENIX PARKS MASTER PLAN

DECEMBER 2016

VOLUME II - BLUE HERON
DESIGN CONCEPT

Special Thanks & Acknowledgements

Community Planning Workshop wishes to thank the following individuals for their assistance with this project. We thank Theresa Syphers, Matias Mendez, Matt Brinkley, and Steffen Roennfeldt from the City of Phoenix for their advice and assistance throughout the project. We also thank the Phoenix Parks and Open Space Commission for their dedication to this project.

Phoenix Parks and Open Space Commission

Laura Bellah

Dempsey Haller

Lyla Heigl

Nancy Peterson

David van de Velde

Sandra Wine

Carolyn Bartell (*City Council*)

Jason Couch (*Planning Commission*)

Matt Brinkley (*City of Phoenix*)

Matias Mendez (*City of Phoenix*)

Theresa Syphers (*City of Phoenix*)

Community Service Center Research Team

Robert Parker, AICP, Director

Greg Oldson, Landscape Designer

Aniko Drlik-Muehleck, Project Manager

Henry Hearley

Megan Knox

Katya Reyna

About the Community Service Center

The Community Service Center (CSC) is a research center affiliated with the Department of Planning, Public Policy, and Management at the University of Oregon. It is an interdisciplinary organization that assists Oregon communities by providing planning and technical assistance to help solve local issues and improve the quality of life for Oregon residents. The role of the CSC is to link the skills, expertise, and innovation of higher education with the transportation, economic development, and environmental needs of communities and regions in the State of Oregon, thereby providing service to Oregon and learning opportunities to the students involved.

Blue Heron Park Redesign Concept

This supplement to the Phoenix Parks Master Plan describes the planning process used to generate a redesign option for Blue Heron Park, presents the final redesign concept along with key goals, and offers a phased breakdown of costs associated with the proposed park improvements. Given the scale of park improvements, we assume that upgrades to Blue Heron Park will likely occur over many years – perhaps ten or more. Although we present a long-term vision for the park, there are many exciting opportunities where the City can take immediate action. We hope that over the years, the park will continue to grow and reach its full potential as a community-wide destination for nature lovers, recreators, families, and friends.

Background

Supplemental to the Phoenix Parks Master Plan, the University of Oregon’s Community Service Center (CSC) planning team was engaged to develop an updated conceptual design for the 24-acre Blue Heron Park. Located adjacent to Bear Creek and including a portion of the Bear Creek Greenway, Blue Heron Park currently consists of undeveloped riparian natural areas as well as many existing recreational park features including covered picnic

pavilions, playground equipment, an events stage and an established community garden. The updated design was informed by a process that included site analysis, public engagement, and feedback from city staff and the Phoenix Parks Commission.

Map B-1. Phoenix and Its Parks



Source: Jackson County GIS, prepared by Community Service Center

Planning Process

The following timeline shows the steps taken by the CSC planning team to arrive at a final design for Blue Heron Park. The process involved extensive input from the public, both during the workshop held in Blue Heron Park, and through conversations with residents and the Parks Commission during community events and meetings.



Welcome to Summer Workshop

Interactive activities and conversations gathering input on concerns, hopes and desires for Blue Heron Park (at Blue Heron Park)

Dog Days of Summer Workshop

Activities including feedback on 3 Blue Heron concept alternatives using post-its, verbal comments, and dots (at Colver Rd. Park)

Parks Commission Meeting

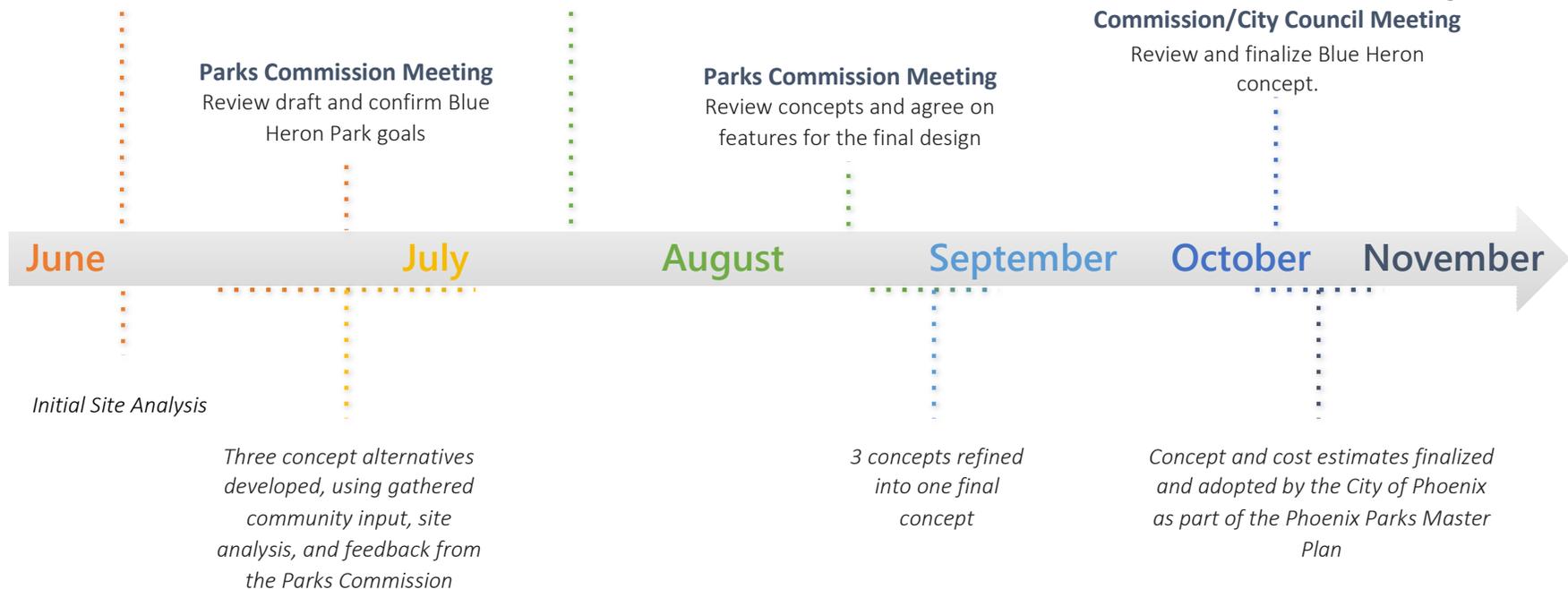
Review draft and confirm Blue Heron Park goals

Parks Commission Meeting

Review concepts and agree on features for the final design

Joint Parks Commission/Planning Commission/City Council Meeting

Review and finalize Blue Heron concept.



Blue Heron Goals and Actions

Based on the desires expressed during the public input phase, the CSC planning team developed six goals the shape the direction of Blue Heron's redevelopment. Those who attended workshops and responded to the survey emphasized a desire to preserve the park's connection to the Bear Creek natural area, increase opportunities to host community and educational events, and increase the park's use by making it more comfortable and adding desirable features.

These desires led to the following six goals, which are coupled with actions in the following pages:

- Goal 1:** Develop connections between the park and the creek.
- Goal 2:** Create park programming around outdoor education.
- Goal 3:** Increase parking capacity.
- Goal 4:** Create a functional, cohesive, and accessible park design.
- Goal 5:** Improve playground and add other desired site elements.
- Goal 6:** Restore wetland areas.

The full design for Blue Heron Park improvements and additions is displayed on the next page.



Bear Creek Greenway looking South
Source: Community Service Center



Goal 1: Develop connections between the park and the creek.

Develop connections between Blue Heron Park and Bear Creek to provide recreational and educational opportunities and increase desirable activity throughout the riparian area.

Actions

1. Develop a gravel or asphalt trail system and observation areas along creek and within riparian area.
2. Enhance natural riparian corridor through restoration and vegetation management (partnership and a phasing plan should be developed to make restoration feasible and sustainable).
3. Maintain understory vegetation between Bear Creek and the greenway path to provide open site lines and discourage undesirable activities.
4. Provide bilingual (Spanish/English) signage to inform visitors about the Bear Creek watershed, riparian restoration, and the site's history.
5. Install additional bench seating in appropriate viewing areas along the Bear Creek Greenway.



Bear Creek at Blue Heron Park
Source: Community Service Center

Actions

1. Incorporate a nature play area near northwest parking lot.
2. Use the central parking lot island and additional planting beds as display gardens for native and bee habitat plants.
3. Expand the “Monarch Waystation” on the south side of the Bear Creek Greenway trail and add bilingual (Spanish/English) interpretive signage.



Monarch Waystation and path to Bear Creek
Source: Community Service Center

Goal 2: Create park programming that promotes outdoor education.



Bear Creek Greenway sign at Blue Heron Park
Source: Community Service Center

Goal 3: Increase parking capacity.

Actions

1. Add 33 parking stalls (with 2 designated as ADA accessible) to the main parking area.
2. Assess potential for parallel parking on the southern access road.
3. Assess potential for future events parking (permanent or temporary) on adjacent properties.



Parking lot near play area and picnic pavilions

Source: Community Service Center

Actions

1. Create a system of concrete pathways to provide form and allow access to and separation of use areas.
2. Construct an asphalt access road from the central parking area to the Bear Creek greenway path to the east. A section of this road will provide access to the stage.



Community Stage at Blue Heron Park
Source: Community Service Center

Goal 4: Create a functional, cohesive, and accessible park

Create a highly functional, cohesive park design that integrates the existing park elements (stage, playgrounds, community garden, open lawns, covered picnic areas, etc.) and is in compliance with guidelines from the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Goal 5: Improve playground and add other desired site elements.

Improve the existing playground area and add site elements that are most desired by the community (as determined through public input).

Actions

1. Reconfigure the east section of the playground area to have specified use areas by age. This should include the addition of a new 2-5 year-old play area.
2. Incorporate a water play area into the existing playground space.
3. Add a full size sand volleyball court.
4. Add trailside fitness stations (5-10 stations could be installed as a circuit along the greenway and new paths).
5. Add 6 new picnic tables with 6 BBQ grills, with at least 2 being ADA accessible.
6. Add public art (potentially sculptures) at park entrances.
7. Install solar lights around the playground and along concrete pathways (currently, the City has 10 light fixtures).
8. Install additional bike parking near the restrooms and at the west entrance to Bear Creek Greenway.
9. Plant additional shade trees using native and drought tolerant species with possible.

Actions

1. Create native wetland swales at the southeastern corner of the park.

Goal 6: Restore wetland areas.



Wetland swale
Source: Community Service Center



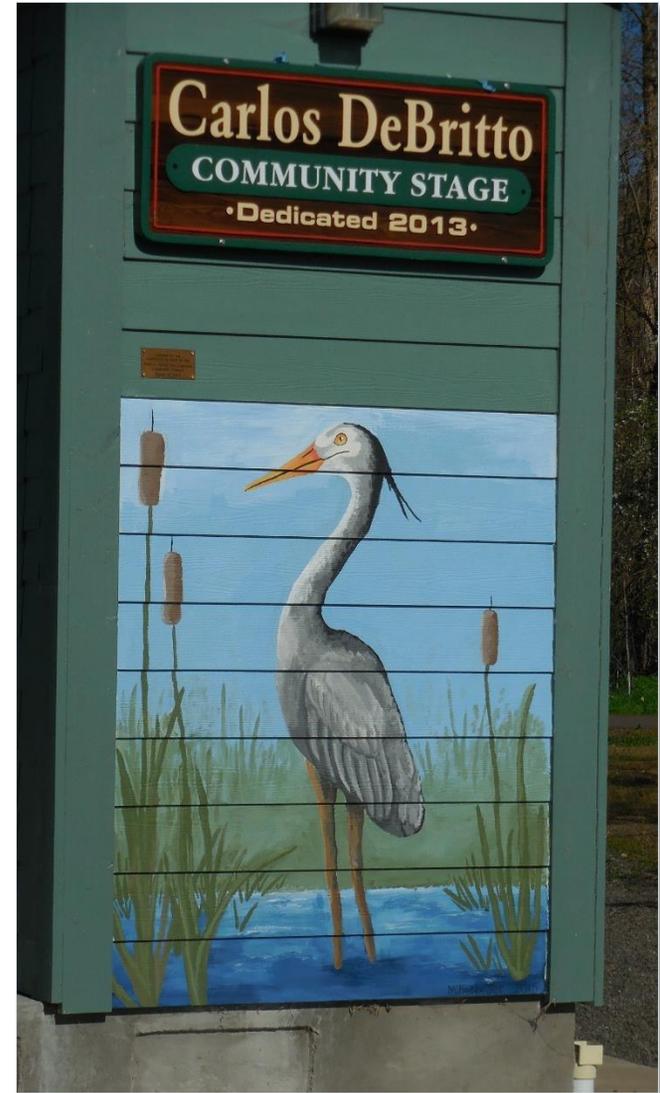
Path down to Bear Creek riparian area
Source: Community Service Center

Cost Estimates and Phasing

We recommend that the City phase in improvements and additions to Blue Heron Park by concentrating on three different areas of the park over time.

Phase 1: Central Parking and Playground Area	1-3 years
Phase 2: Natural Play Area and Wetland Swale Restoration	4-6 years
Phase 3: Bear Creek Restoration	7+ years

This proposed timeline will likely require adjustment based on the availability of funding. On the following pages, we present one possible option for phased additions to the park, along with cost estimates for each park element. These elements should be incorporated into the City’s capital improvements plans, and are estimates only – the City will need to gather more accurate bids to understand the true cost of redevelopment.



Blue heron detail on the Community Stage
Source: Community Service Center

Program Element	Quantity	Unit	Cost/Unit	Total
Central Parking and Playground Area				
<i>Parking Improvements</i>				
Parking cost per space (does not include demolition and removal of existing materials)	33	1 space	\$ 1,692.50	\$ 55,852.50
<i>Playground Improvements</i>				
Splash pad (1200 - 1500 sq. ft.)	1	Each	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
2-5 year old play area (1000 sq. ft.)	1	Each	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
<i>Site Amenities</i>				
Sand volleyball court (50' x 80' with concrete border)	1	Each	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
<i>Paths</i>				
Paved paths (4" concrete)	5,300	Sq. Ft.	\$ 7.50	\$ 39,750.00
Solar lighting (45' spacing along major pathways)	35	Each	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 52,500.00
<i>Vegetation</i>				
Trees (2" caliper)	24	Each	\$ 250.00	\$ 6,000.00
Planting beds (Soil prep, fertilizers, plant materials, mulch)	6850	Sq. Ft.	\$ 3.50	\$ 23,975.00
Subtotal				\$ 333,077.50

	Program Element	Quantity	Unit	Cost/Unit	Total
Phase III	Bear Creek Restoration				
	Site Ammenities				
	River observation deck	1	Each	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
	Paths				
	Unpaved paths (crushed gravel)	5600	Sq. Ft.	\$ 0.74	\$ 4,144.00
	Riparian Restoraton				
		7	Acre	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 45,500.00
	Signage				
	Interpretive signs	8	Each	\$ 500.00	\$ 4,000.00
			Subtotal	\$ 68,644.00	

Combined Phases 1, 2, and 3

Phase 1	\$ 333,077.50
Phase 2	\$ 204,796.00
Phase 3	\$ 68,644.00
SUBTOTAL	\$ 606,517.50
Add 10% Design/Engineering	\$ 60,651.75
Add 15% Contingency	\$ 90,977.63
Add 2% Fees	\$ 12,130.35
TOTAL	\$770,277.23



Community garden at Blue Heron Park
Source: Community Service Center

Phoenix Parks Master Plan – Volume III



December 2016

Volume III - Appendices

Prepared for:

City of Phoenix

112 W 2nd Street
Phoenix, OR 97535

Prepared by:

Community Planning Workshop

A Program of the
Community Service Center,
Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON



Community
Planning
Workshop

Special Thanks & Acknowledgements

Community Planning Workshop wishes to thank the following individuals for their assistance with this project. We thank Theresa Syphers, Matias Mendez, Matt Brinkley, and Steffen Roennfeldt from the City of Phoenix for their advice and assistance throughout the project.

Phoenix Parks and Open Space Commission

Laura Bellah	Carolyn Bartell (<i>City Council</i>)
Dempsey Haller	Jason Couch (<i>Planning Commission</i>)
Lyla Heigl	Matt Brinkley (<i>City of Phoenix</i>)
Nancy Peterson	Matias Mendez (<i>City of Phoenix</i>)
David van de Velde	Theresa Syphers (<i>City of Phoenix</i>)
Sandra Wine	

Community Service Center Research Team

Robert Parker, AICP, Director
Aniko Drlik-Muehleck, Project Manager
Henry Hearley
Megan Knox
Greg Oldson
Katya Reyna

About the Community Service Center

The Community Service Center (CSC) is a research center affiliated with the Department of Planning, Public Policy, and Management at the University of Oregon. It is an interdisciplinary organization that assists Oregon communities by providing planning and technical assistance to help solve local issues and improve the quality of life for Oregon residents. The role of the CSC is to link the skills, expertise, and innovation of higher education with the transportation, economic development, and environmental needs of communities and regions in the State of Oregon, thereby providing service to Oregon and learning opportunities to the students involved.

Table of Contents

APPENDIX A – PARKLAND ACQUISITION & FINANCING	A-1
PART 1: LEVEL OF SERVICE (LOS) ANALYSIS	A-1
PART 2: PARKLAND ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK	A-5
ACQUISITION CONSIDERATIONS	A-5
PART 3: FINANCING LAND ACQUISITION AND PARK DEVELOPMENT	A-10
COST OF LAND ACQUISITION	A-10
COST OF PARK DEVELOPMENT	A-11
CURRENT SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT CHARGES	A-12
UPDATING THE PARK SDC	A-12
APPENDIX B – RESOURCES	B-1
PARK SYSTEM STAFFING	B-1
RESOURCES FOR FORMING A NONPROFIT “FRIENDS OF” ORGANIZATION	B-1
ROGUE VALLEY PITCHERS PRELIMINARY PLAN FOR HORSESHOE PIT UPGRADES	B-2
APPENDIX C – COMMUNITY INPUT	C-1
PUBLIC WORKSHOPS	C-1
STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS	C-2
COMMUNITY SURVEY	C-4
METHODOLOGY	C-4
RESPONSES	C-4

APPENDIX A – PARKLAND ACQUISITION & FINANCING

Communities are strengthened by a sufficient supply and variety of parks, trails and pathways, open space, and natural areas. A holistic approach that focuses on community desires and local capacity is effective in improving the parks system for current users as well as accommodating future growth and changing needs of the community. Based on the assessment and evaluation of the current Phoenix parks system and input from the community and Parks Committee, this appendix outlines developed parkland needs, identifies target areas for future parkland acquisition and development, and discusses financing for new park development and capital improvements for existing parks using revenue from System Development Charges (SDCs).

Part I: Level of Service (LOS) Analysis

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) advocates for a system-wide parkland level of service (LOS) standard. NRPA does not advocate a specific LOS standard for all communities. Rather, the NRPA advocates a community-based approach—the LOS standard should be based on an assessment of local demand and desires for park facilities and the local vision for the park system.

The basic function of the LOS is to ensure quality and equity of service delivery by ensuring that the City is working over the long term to (1) provide adequate park facilities, and (2) ensure they are equitably distributed throughout the community. Moreover, the LOS standard is a measurable target for parkland development (typically measured as developed acres per 1,000 population) that provides the foundation for meeting future community parkland needs and leveraging funding.¹

The LOS is used to project future land acquisition needs based on forecast population growth and appropriately budget for those needs through the City budget process and the Capital Improvement Plan. Since it functions primarily as a target, adopting a LOS standard does not obligate a city to provide all necessary funding to implement the standard—it simply provides the basis for leveraging funds. Moreover, it does not obligate a city to actually acquire and develop land to meet the standard—it establishes a communitywide target or norm.

As part of the park inventory, the parks planning team assessed the level of service provided to residents of Phoenix by the existing parks. Table A-1 shows that Phoenix currently has 29.65 acres of developed parkland in its system. According to the Population Research Center at Portland State University, Phoenix had a 2015 population of 4,955 persons. This equates to a 2015 level of service of 5.98 acres per 1,000 persons.

¹ NRPA does not advocate that cities establish standards for open space, sports courts, bikeways, or other facilities.

Table A-1. Existing Level of Service by Park Classification (Phoenix, 2015)

Classification	Existing Parkland (Acres)	Level of Service (acres per 1,000 residents)
Neighborhood	5.30	1.07
Pocket	0.35	0.07
Urban Plaza	0.00	0.00
Community	24.00	4.84
Total Parks	29.65	5.98

The 1997 Phoenix Comprehensive Plan – Parks Element does not formally establish a system-wide parkland level of service standard.² The 1997 plan simply identified a need for 16.4 additional acres of parkland – 10 acres in a new community park and 6.4 acres for a new neighborhood park.

Phoenix will need to acquire and additional parkland over the 20-year planning horizon to maintain the current LOS of 5.98 acres per 1,000 residents. The official state coordinated population forecast for Phoenix is 6,883 people in the urban growth boundary by 2035. To maintain the current LOS of 5.98 acres per 1,000 residents, Phoenix will need to acquire and develop 11.2 more acres of parkland.

To accommodate regional growth, Phoenix participated in the Regional Problem Solving (RPS) process. That process, acknowledged by the Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission in 2013, established a set of urban reserve areas (URAs) for the City of Phoenix. The analysis identified a need for 416 gross acres of residential land and 376 gross acres of employment land.³ Importantly, the RPS process identified a need for 69 acres of parkland in Phoenix. The city of Phoenix RPS summary states:

The park acreage demand is reasonably proportional with employment growth and population projections for the City of Phoenix. This is especially true when accounting for the transfer of employment and population in the Phoenix-Medford Urban Containment boundary which is essentially builtout and contains minimal urban amenities such as park land and for a fairly sizable built-out employment and population area.⁴

In short, rather than establish an LOS standard, Phoenix established a park land need through the RPS process.

The Phoenix parks planning team identified a need for specific developed park facilities to meet the 69-acre parkland need identified in the RPS process. Table A-2

² Amended ORD 774. February 3, 1997

³ “Greater Bear Creek Valley Regional Plan.” 2013. p. 4-107.
http://www.friends.org/issues/regional_problem_solving

⁴ *Ibid.*

shows that Phoenix will need four new neighborhood parks, four pocket parks, and one community park. In addition, the City will dedicate about eight acres for new bikeways/linear parks and about 20 acres to open space and natural areas.

Table A-2. Parkland Needs, 2015 – 2035

Classification	Facility Need	Average Size	Needed Acres
Bikeway/Linear Park	Opportunity for bikeway/linear park system in Ph-5	na	8.0
Neighborhood	Four neighborhood parks needed.	5.00	20.0
Pocket	Four more pocket parks needed.	0.25	1.0
Urban Plaza	Probably sufficient once new Wetlands Park and Community Center are developed.	na	
Community	One additional large community park needed.	20.00	20.0
Open Space/Natural Areas	As identified to protect significant natural resource areas	na	20.0
Total Parks			69.0

The level of service analysis identified significant areas of Phoenix as underserved by parks. The northwest areas of Phoenix do not have any public parks, but are primarily built out and provide limited opportunity for new parks. Eastern Phoenix (east of I-5) also does not have any public parks, but unlike northwest Phoenix, the area is less developed and presents greater opportunity for park development.

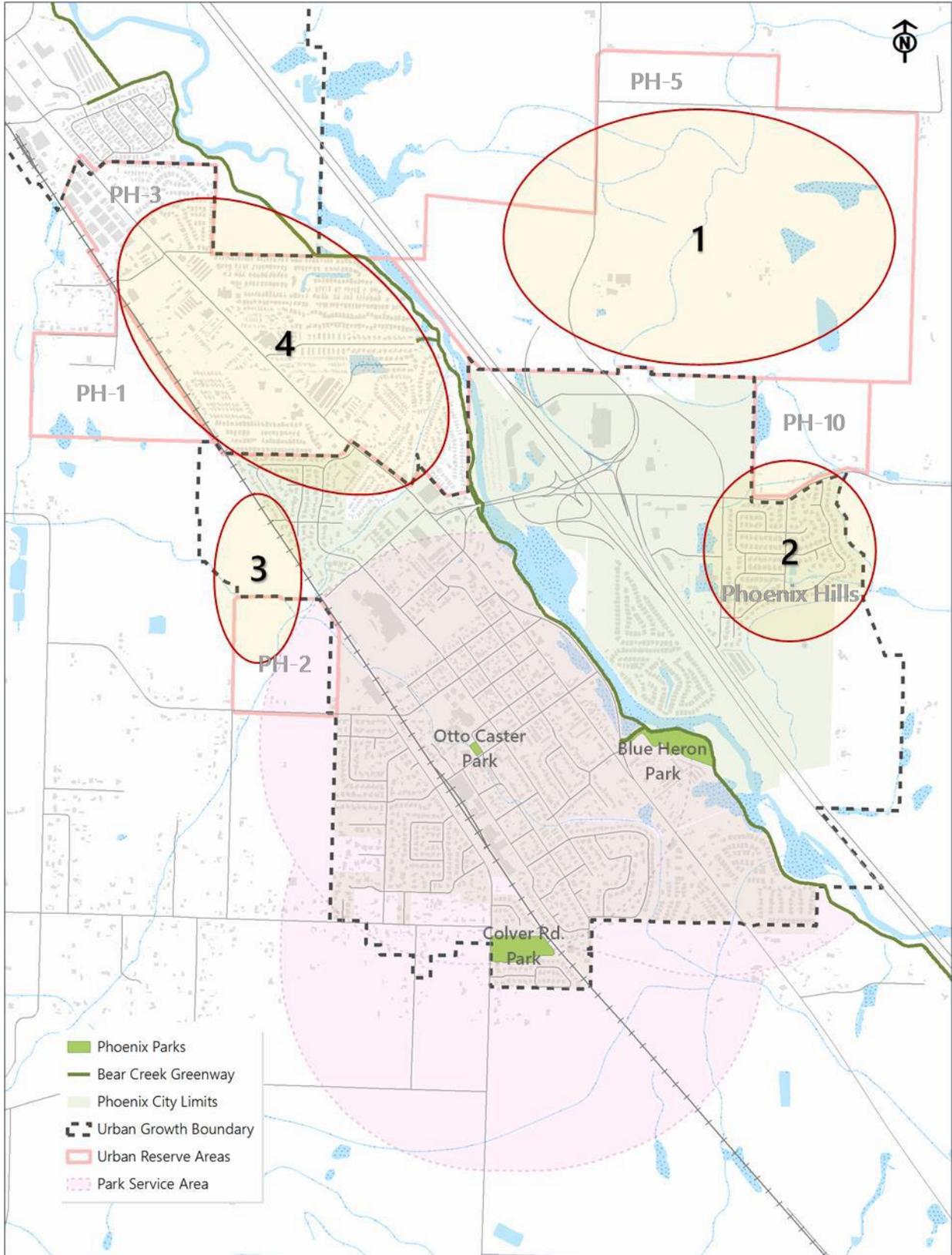
Table A-3 identifies parkland need by urban reserve area. The RPS identifies 20 acres of parkland in PH-2 and 49 acres in PH-5.

Table A-3. RPS Parkland Need by URA

URA	Developable Area (acres)	Park/Open Space	
		Percent	Acres
PH-2	40	50%	20.0
PH-5	412	12%	49.4
Total	452		69.4

Map A-1 on the following page represents the park planning team’s consensus for areas of the city (including urban reserve areas) where future park development should occur. The recommendations for park system expansion listed in Chapter 6 of the main plan provide suggestions for the type, quantity, and size of parks that should be developed in four different sections of the city (circled and labeled on Map A-1). In total, this new development should provide about 70 new acres of parkland for Phoenix residents in the next 20 years, with a *minimum* of 11.2 additional acres required to maintain the current level of service.

Map A-1. Areas for future parkland development.



Part 2: Parkland Acquisition and Development Framework

This section provides evaluation criteria for land acquisition decisions and design guidelines for park development. This framework should help the City set priorities for how it will acquire land and develop the desired new parks identified in Part 1 and Chapter 6 of the main Parks Master Plan.

Note that this plan does not identify specific tax lots or parcels for acquisition; rather, it identifies areas of need consistent with the RPS and matches them with opportunities and approximate locations for future parks (as depicted in Map A-1). Identification of specific parcels for acquisition would place a significant burden on both the City and property owners. It would not allow for reasonable negotiations to occur between the City and property owners during a land acquisition. Moreover, it would place the City at a competitive disadvantage in those negotiations by identifying the City’s interest in a property and potentially inflating prices.

Acquisition Considerations

As the City begins to consider property acquisition in areas underserved by parks, it must carefully evaluate land options to ensure that the land will (1) meet the city’s needs and (2) have minimal accompanying regulatory burdens. Prior to parkland acquisition, the City should conduct or require an environmental assessment of the proposed lands. The City should also assess the following factors when deciding whether to purchase or accept land:

Factors	Desired attributes
Topography, geology, ingress/egress options, parcel size, and location of land	Property is conducive to park development.
Vehicular and pedestrian access	Property provides flexible and easy-to-access options for vehicles and pedestrians.
Nearby property	Property that is adjacent to previously acquired property for parks should be given preference as this expands options for park development.
Land value	The average value per-acre of comparable land over the past three years should not greatly exceed the City’s available park development funds.
Environmentally sensitive areas	New parks should be able to provide either minimal adverse effects on environmentally sensitive areas, or beneficial impacts.
Parks Master Plan and Comprehensive Plan	The property should be compatible with the recommendations and policies of the plans governing park development.

After evaluating potential parkland using these guidelines, the City may decide to purchase or accept donated land. The City must then turn its attention to park development. The park design guidelines tables (Table A-4) on the following pages provide baseline standards to ensure that parks are designed in a way that promotes enjoyment, safety, accessibility, comfort, and sustainability.

Table A-4. Design Guidelines for Phoenix Parks

Program Area	Overview	Guidelines
<p>Safety</p>	<p>Spaces need to be designed to deter transient, illegal, or potentially threatening uses in parklands. Park design should emphasize transparency in public areas while also providing spaces for visitors to feel unmonitored.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vegetation that is directly adjacent to pedestrian areas should be greater than 7 feet or less than 2 feet in height. Shrubs in the formal areas of the park that are taller than 2 feet should be limbed up to provide visual access to users and authorities. • Built structures should be situated for easy observation from areas of frequent use and convenient access by police. • Vehicle access to the park and amenities should allow authorities to patrol parks with some ease and proficiency. This access can also provide emergency services and maintenance. • Sidewalks and paths intended for vehicle use should be at least 8 feet wide. Those that are concrete should be at least 7 inches thick. • Rounded corners at park edges will provide protection from invisible intersections with adjacent areas.
<p>Plantings</p>	<p>The use of native and other drought tolerant vegetation can enhance park design and support the ecological systems unique to the region. The following vegetation and irrigation guidelines assist in the creation of efficient, distinctive, and lush spaces.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☑ Vegetation along trail systems, waterways (creeks, rivers, bioswales and storm water) and within linear parks should consist of native plants and flora. The use of non-native species should be buffered by a broad band of native seed (i.e., tufted hair grass) between lawn and native vegetation. ☑ New planting areas should be designed to require no irrigation after establishment (irrigation should be reserved for areas such as sports fields). The use of native and other drought tolerant vegetation will reduce the need for irrigation. To establish plants, consider using a temporary irrigation system or hand watering. Design the irrigation system so that irrigation heads spray underneath plants or into them, not above them. ☑ Trees planted in groups increase the efficiency of mowing and maintenance. When designing tree groups, it is important to provide a flush border around groups to ease irrigation and mowing. ☑ Planting areas in parking lots should be designed to provide continuous coverage within 3 years. The plants should be hardy, with a track record that indicates their survival in extreme environments. At least 400 cubic feet of the appropriate soil per tree in a planting strip is recommended. ☑ Trees should not be planted next to restrooms because they may provide unwanted access to the roof as well as create hiding places near the structure. Shrubs surrounding restrooms should be less than 4 feet in height and should be limbed up to allow visual access under them. Plantings should allow maintenance access to the roof.

Program Area	Overview	Guidelines
Turf Areas	Turf areas allow different experiences in parks. Groomed areas provide field sports, picnicking, and free play, while rough mowed areas provide an aesthetic to the park while buffering natural and riparian areas. The process of maintaining and mowing turf should be efficient.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rough mown areas are mowed once or twice a year. There should be 15 feet between vertical obstacles in these areas. Maximum mowing slopes for rough turf or natural areas should be less than 5:1. Use native grasses such as Spike Bentgrass (<i>Agrostis exarta</i>), California Oatgrass (<i>Danthonia californica</i>) or Tuffed Hairgrass (<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>), especially in areas buffering waterways. • Groomed turf slopes should be less than 4:1, with less being preferable. Irrigation systems should take into account solar aspect, wind, and topography to minimize the overuse of water. The minimum distance between vertical objects is 7 feet for mower access. Design for continuous mowing, taking care to avoid the creation of dead ends, tight corners, or areas where a mower cannot easily reach. Provide a concrete mowing strip around vertical objects such as fence posts, signs, drinking fountains, light poles, and other site furniture with a 12" minimum off set between the object's vertical edge and turf. Also, plant trees in groups (see Planting). • Providing vehicular access for maintenance personnel is an important consideration. Curb cuts should be provided in logical areas such as turn-a-rounds. Curb edges should have large radial corners to protect adjacent planting or lawn areas. • Herbicide use should be limited to promote stream health as well as health of nearby flora, fauna, and humans.
Parking	Parking lots should be representative of the experience the user will have at the park. The entrance to the parking area should be considered an entrance to the park itself, with trees, other plantings, and signage included.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of 3 to 5 spaces per acre of usable active park area should be provided if less than 300 lineal feet of on-street parking is available. • Park design should encourage access by foot or bicycle. • Provide bicycle racks at each primary access point and at restrooms. • The size of planting areas within the parking lot should be as large as possible with adequate room for maintenance to be performed safely. • Water runoff should be diverted into a bioswale before entering the storm water system to reduce the impact of pollution on stream and creek systems. To achieve water purification and cooling, bioswales should be planted with native or other drought tolerant vegetation (see Planting).

Program Area	Overview	Guidelines
Restrooms	Restrooms are an important public amenity in high-use park facilities. The components, design, and placement of restroom structures are important decisions to consider when specifying facilities. Restroom facilities should be safe, easy to maintain, and consistent with the park system vision.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interior surfaces and exterior surfaces of restrooms should be non-porous for easy cleaning (i.e., glazed block, glazed tile, painted block or painted concrete). The use of heavy concrete partitions between stalls is recommended. Specify only stainless steel restroom fixtures. • The drain inside the structure should always operate correctly. If the facility is near an athletic field, such as volleyball courts or a spray park, there should be an area outside the restroom with a faucet/ shower and drain for users to rinse off. • Including separate storage areas adjacent to the restroom structure can increase efficiency. Storage areas may house recreation equipment for fair weather activities and maintenance supplies for park crews. • Skylights can maximize the use of natural light. Minimizing light fixtures helps prevent tampering, destruction, and keep costs down. Facilities that are open in the evening should have lighting that is designed with vandalism in mind. Use LED lights whenever possible to minimize replacement and energy costs. • A 5 to 6 foot apron around the structure should be provided to protect the building from debris and water. Trees should be avoided next to the restroom (see Plantings).
Play Areas	Playgrounds should meet the needs of children of different ages and abilities. Playground facilities should ensure accessibility and safety for children of all ages.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks that have playground equipment, sports fields and spray parks should be accessible to all children under sixteen. • Play areas should be level to reduce the surface substance from slumping to low points. Consider using beach sand as a cost- effective, low-maintenance playground surface. Do not use engineered wood chip surfaces because decomposition will result in regular and expensive replacement. • Play structures and equipment come in many different materials. Avoid specifying wood because: wood footings will rot, they are prone to termite infestation, the shrink/ swell defect of moisture loosens bolts and creates a safety hazard, and pressure treated wood contains chromate copper arsenate (CCA), a carcinogen. • Wooden play structures that exist presently should be sealed every two years to prevent arsenic leaching. • Natural play areas created from boulders, logs and land forms and playground equipment made from 100% recycled plastic or steel is recommended. Steel can become very hot in the summer months. If it is necessary to use steel, planting trees or other structures to shade the play area is recommended.

Program Area	Overview	Guidelines
Site Furnishings	<p>The selection of site furnishings (i.e., benches, trash receptacles, light poles, etc.) should be based on an established standard for Phoenix. The water fountains, benches, light fixtures and posts, signage and bike racks used in the parks should be consistent with those used in City civic spaces, along streets, and vice versa. Consistency in site furnishings will help establish an identifiable civic image, through the use of repeatable aesthetic elements, for Phoenix and the park system as a whole. These furnishings should offer comfort, aesthetic beauty and be of formidable stature to prevent vandalism.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seating should be made from a material that is comfortable both in winter and the heat of summer while being able to withstand vandalism. Benches should be provided to offer places of rest, opportunities to experience views, and congregate. • Drinking fountains should be available at a ratio of 1 per acre with the exception of pocket parks (typically smaller than 1-acre) which should have one. Drinking fountains should be complementary to other site furnishings, such as benches, and be operational in freezing conditions. Consider drinking fountains that are friendly not only to human users but to canines as well. • Signage should be located in every park in areas visible to all users. For example, place a sign at the entrance of the park that is visible to vehicular traffic, also place signs along greenways and trails to inform pedestrians and bicyclists. Signage should be easy to read and informative. Interpretive signs fall into this category as well. They can be useful in natural and historic areas. When used in natural areas these signs should be placed outside environmentally sensitive areas (i.e., wetlands and endangered habitat) and should be placed in areas that are accessible to all.

Part 3: Financing Land Acquisition and Park Development

This section addresses the cost of land acquisition and park development and provides an evaluation of the existing (2016) System Development Charges (SDC) structure – the City’s main built-in mechanism for park development financing. Additional suggestions for park development financing are included in Chapter 7 of the main Parks Master Plan.

Cost of Land Acquisition

The RPS presents an acknowledged parkland need for Phoenix URAs of about 69 acres. A key question is “How much will it cost to acquire the 69 acres?”

The answer to that question depends on a number of factors including how much of the City’s system is acquired through donations, when acquisitions occur, where they occur, and a myriad of other factors that affect real estate values. Land acquisition costs estimates are needed for the purpose of the plan, and for setting the City’s parks system development charges (SDCs). The estimates presented here are based on the assumption that different types of land have different values:

- Vacant land inside the UGB is more expensive than the vacant land outside the UGB
- Serviced land is more valuable than land without services
- Platted residential lots in subdivisions are more valuable than residential tracts
- Lands closer to existing developed areas are more valuable than lands further from development

Data from Zillow and Realtor.com support these assumptions. Tract land inside the Phoenix and Medford UGBs averages approximately \$250,000 per acre. Land outside the UGBs is considerably less valuable—\$50,000 to \$100,000 per acre. Table A-5 presents a range of land acquisition cost estimates to meet the 69-acre parkland need adopted in the RPS Urban Reserve plan.

Table A-5. Estimated Parkland Acquisition Cost (69.4 acres)

Scenario	Per-Acre Assumption	Total Cost Estimate
Low Cost (per acre)	\$50,000	\$3,472,000
Medium Cost (per acre)	\$100,000	\$6,944,000
High Cost (per acre)	\$150,000	\$10,416,000

Note: Assumptions based on broad averages observed for land for sale on Zillow and Realtor.com in October 2016

The results suggest that land acquisition costs could range from \$3.5 million to \$10.5 million or more. The actual cost of land acquisition will depend on a broad range of factors that cannot be fully modeled. As a general principle, the City should encourage land donations or bargain sales. Acquiring land in the URAs well

ahead of when they are brought in to the urban growth boundary and city limits should result in lower overall costs.

Cost of Park Development

Once the City of Phoenix acquires parkland, the land must be developed. To provide a rough estimate of the costs of developing the RPS stipulated 49 acres of parkland⁵, we use the following per-acre park development estimates⁶:

- **Linear park** - \$82,000/acre (includes grading, irrigation, seeding, landscaping (trees), pathway, site amenities, parking)
- **Neighborhood park** - \$131,000/acre (includes grading, irrigation, seeding, landscaping (trees), playground, picnic area, picnic tables, pathway, basketball and tennis courts, small shelter building, misc. paving and site amenities, signage)
- **Pocket park** - \$107,000/acre (includes grading, irrigation, seeding, landscaping (trees), playground, picnic area, picnic tables, Pathway, misc. paving and site amenities, signage)
- **Community park** - \$113,000/acre (includes grading, irrigation, seeding, landscaping (trees), playground, picnic area, picnic tables, pathway, basketball and tennis courts, large and small shelter buildings, misc. paving and site amenities, signage, sports fields, parking and restrooms)

Based on these estimated development costs, Table A-6 shows projected development costs for the proposed additions of bikeway/liner park acreage, four neighborhood parks, four pocket parks, and one community park. In total, we estimate development of these parks would cost around \$5.6 million.

Table A-6. Estimated Costs of Parkland Development

Classification	Needed Acres	Development Cost per Acre	Total Development Cost
Bikeway/Linear Park	8	\$82,000	\$656,000
Neighborhood	20	\$131,000	\$2,620,000
Pocket	1	\$107,000	\$107,000
Urban Plaza		na	-
Community	20	\$113,000	\$2,260,000
Total Parks	49		\$5,643,000

We therefore estimate the combined cost of new parkland acquisition and development over the next 20 years to be somewhere between **\$9.1 million and \$16.1 million.**

⁵ We assume that the 20 additional acres called out by RPS will remain as undeveloped open space and natural areas. These acres are not therefore not included in parkland development estimates.

⁶ Estimates developed by Greg Oldson based on figures from Willamalane Parks and Recreation District.

Current System Development Charges

In 2008, the City of Phoenix adopted a methodology for calculating system development charges (SDCs) and adopted a base rate for the Park SDC.⁷ Since then, the City has increased the base rate from \$423 per person (the 2008 rate) to \$444.03 per person. To determine the amount charged to a developer, the City multiplies the base rate by an accepted “persons per unit” figure, depicted in Table A-7, then multiplies this by the number of units proposed by the developer.

Table A-7. Per-Unit Park SDC Fee

Housing Type	Persons per Unit	Total SDC Fee
Single Family Units	2.84	\$1,261.05
ADU’s – 65% of SFR	1.84	\$819.68
Attached 2-4 Units	2.12	\$941.85
Multi-family (5 or more)	1.62	\$719.25
Mobile Home Park	1.64	\$728.70

Updating the Park SDC

In light of updated population growth projections and the new proposals for future parkland development yielded by this parks master plan update, we recommend that the City of Phoenix re-evaluate and adjust its SDC base rate. SDCs are an important mechanism for more equitably spreading the costs associated with increased infrastructure use to those creating increased pressure on public facilities (developers and new residents).

To properly update Phoenix’s SDCs, the City should hire an external consultant (as they did in 2008). Here, we provide some resources that should inform the consultant’s update process and assist the City Council as it considers what to adopt.

Total Capital Improvement Cost Estimates – Existing and New

Table A-8 provides a summary of the total costs estimated over the next 18 years. Depending on the cost of land acquisition, we estimate that total costs will be between \$10.1 million and \$17.1 million.

Tables A-9 through A-14 provide more specific cost estimates for capital improvements to Colver, Otto Caster, and Blue Heron Parks. Note that these estimates do not include labor.

The consultant hired to update Phoenix’s SDCs can use these cost estimates when calculating a new fee structure.

⁷ City of Phoenix, Resolution 736. June 16, 2008.

Table A-8. Summary of Capital Improvement Estimates FY17-18 through FY34-35.

Existing Park Improvements	
Capital Improvements - Colver and Otto Caster	\$ 266,799
FY17-18 - FY22-23	\$ 238,125
FY23-24 - FY28-29	\$ 28,674
Blue Heron Improvements	\$ 770,277
FY17-18 - FY22-23	\$ 333,078
FY23-24 - FY28-29	\$ 204,796
FY29-30 - FY34-35	\$ 68,644
<i>Subtotal</i>	\$ 1,037,076

Future Land & Development Acquisition	
Land Acquisition - Low Estimate	\$ 3,472,000
Land Acquisition - Mid Estimate	\$ 6,944,000
Land Acquisition - High Estimate	\$ 10,416,000
Future Park Development	\$ 5,643,000
<i>Low Subtotal</i>	\$ 9,115,000
<i>Medium Subtotal</i>	\$ 12,587,000
<i>High Subtotal</i>	\$ 16,059,000

Low Total	\$ 10,152,076
Medium Total	\$ 13,624,076
High Total	\$ 17,096,076

Table A-9. Capital Improvement Estimates FY17-18 – FY22-23 for Colver and Otto Caster Parks.

Program Element	Quantity	Unit	Cost/Unit	Total
Colver Park				
C-1: LED luminaire (every ~50 ft on major pathways)	40	Each	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 60,000.00
C-2: Remodel bathrooms	1	Each	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
C-3: Repair horseshoe pits	--	--	--	--
Replace south fence (4ft high)	1	Each	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00
Replace cement walkways	1	Each	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
C-6: Swing set with Dyna cushion mats	1	Each	\$ 5,900.00	\$ 5,900.00
			Subtotal	\$ 97,500.00
Otto Caster Park				
OC-1: LED luminaire	10	Each	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 15,000.00
OC-2: Build 2 bathroom facilities	1	Each	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
			Subtotal	\$ 90,000.00
			SUBTOTAL	\$ 187,500.00
			<i>Add 10% Design/Engineering</i>	\$ 18,750.00
			<i>Add 15% Contingency</i>	\$ 28,125.00
			<i>Add 2% Fees</i>	\$ 3,750.00
			TOTAL	\$ 238,125.00

Table A-10. Capital Improvement Estimates FY23-24 – FY28-29 for Colver and Otto Caster Parks.

Program Element	Quantity	Unit	Cost/Unit	Total
Colver Park				
C-7: Fence for 1-acre dog area	834	Linear Ft.	\$ 17.00	\$ 14,178.00
C-7: Dog Park-specific furnishings	--	--	--	--
Seating benches	2	Each	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,000.00
Information kiosk/Doggie bag station	1	Each	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
			Subtotal	\$ 19,178.00
Otto Caster Park				
OC-3: Fence	200	Linear Ft.	\$ 17.00	\$ 3,400.00
			Subtotal	\$ 3,400.00
			SUBTOTAL	\$ 22,578.00
			<i>Add 10% Design/Engineering</i>	<i>\$ 2,257.80</i>
			<i>Add 15% Contingency</i>	<i>\$ 3,386.70</i>
			<i>Add 2% Fees</i>	<i>\$ 451.56</i>
			TOTAL	\$ 28,674.06

Table A-11. Blue Heron Improvement Estimates FY17-18 – FY22-23.

Program Element	Quantity	Unit	Cost/Unit	Total
Central Parking and Playground Area				
Parking Improvements				
Parking cost per space (does not include demolition and removal of existing materials)	33	1 space	\$ 1,692.50	\$ 55,852.50
Playground Improvements				
Splash pad (1200 - 1500 sq. ft.)	1	Each	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
2-5 year old play area (1000 sq. ft.)	1	Each	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
Site Amenities				
Sand volleyball court (50' x 80' with concrete border)	1	Each	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Paths				
Paved paths (4" concrete)	5,300	Sq. Ft.	\$ 7.50	\$ 39,750.00
Solar lighting (45' spacing along major pathways)	35	Each	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 52,500.00
Vegetation				
Trees (2" caliper)	24	Each	\$ 250.00	\$ 6,000.00
Planting beds (Soil prep, fertilizers, plant materials, mulch)	6850	Sq. Ft.	\$ 3.50	\$ 23,975.00
			Subtotal	\$ 333,077.50

SDC Reference Points

Every few years, the League of Oregon Cities conducts a survey of Oregon jurisdictions regarding their SDCs. The most current survey is from 2013. Table A-15 on the following page provides some examples of SDC rates in other cities near Phoenix based on the results of the League of Oregon Cities' SDC Survey Report.

It is unlikely that the City will be able to cover all of the projected costs of capital improvements and land acquisition by increasing SDCs – the SDC base rate would have to be much higher than the public is likely to tolerate. These reference points should help the City Council determine a reasonable rate for Phoenix that will cover some of the park development costs while remaining palatable to developers.

Currently, the City of Phoenix does not collect SDCs on non-residential developments. As the City Council considers mechanisms for funding the additional 69 acres of parkland identified through Regional Problem Solving process, we recommend that Council consider adding a non-residential SDC. Over 40% of the acreage in Phoenix's Urban Reserve Areas is designated for employment (rather than residential) land. Adding an SDC for non-residential development will assist with covering the costs for new parks.

Table A-15. SDCs for Cities near Phoenix

City	Residential				Nonresidential			Basis of Fee
	Improvement	Reimbursement	Other Fee	Total	Improvement	Reimbursement	Total	
Phoenix	\$79	\$1,134	\$5	\$1,218			\$0	\$444.03 Base rate (Improvement fee = 6.52%; Reimbursement fee = 93.48%; Administrative fee = 3.81%). SDC = Base rate*x persons per unit (for example, 2.84 for single family residential)
Ashland				\$1,041			\$488	Residential SDC is a per unit charge. The nonresidential parks and recreation SDC applies to tourist accommodation developments only. A base rate of \$488 is multiplied by the number of tourist accommodation rooms in the development.
Talent	\$867	\$518	\$74	\$1,459			\$0	Cost of existing land owned by city and projected park facilities based on projected population
Medford	\$3,433			\$3,433	\$4,590		\$4,590	Based on type and number of residential units, or number of employees for commercial/retail. City uses the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code to determine the number of employees per business type. Current fee is \$85 per employee for commercial/retail. The SDC for nonresidential was based on 54 employees.
Central Point	\$1,746	\$548	\$85	\$2,379			\$0	Single Family Dwellings are categorized as 2.69 people per household. Our SDC is \$853 per person plus a 3.7% admin fee.
Eagle Point				\$2,304				Set rate per dwelling unit, reduced rate for RV/Trailer spaces. Unsure of breakdown between improvement fee and reimbursement fee.
Grants Pass	\$637	\$512		\$1,149	\$2,917	\$2,277	\$5,194	Improvement fee is acquisition SDC and reimbursement fee is development SDC. Residential is per unit, nonresidential is per parking space.

Source: League of Oregon Cities. "SDC Survey Report – Summary Data and Tables." Summer 2013.

http://www.orcities.org/Portals/17/Premium/SDC_Survey_Report_2013.pdf

Source: City of Ashland. System Development Charges webpage. <http://www.ashland.or.us/Page.asp?NavID=15787>

APPENDIX B – RESOURCES

This appendix compiles resources requested by the Phoenix Parks Commission to assist with taking action on the recommendations included in the main parks plan. It includes information about park system staffing, resources for forming a nonprofit “Friends of the Phoenix Parks” organization, and a preliminary plan for horseshoe pit upgrades provided by the Rogue Valley Pitchers.

Park System Staffing

As the Phoenix park system grows to accommodate population growth and better serve underserved areas, the City must consider the additional effort required to maintain parkland and manage recreational programming. We investigated four Oregon cities with populations between 9,000 and 10,000 to understand how these larger cities manage their parks. This research revealed that park staffing can vary greatly even in cities of a similar size. Ultimately, the City of Phoenix will have to determine what is appropriate for its particular needs, but these case studies provide a starting point for the discussion about future park staffing.

Baker City, Oregon

Population: 9,828

No designated Parks Department. Maintenance is contracted and YMCA recreation centers are shared with the City. 1 FTE for water and street maintenance and 2 FTEs allocate part of their hours to Parks.

Cottage Grove, Oregon

Population: 9,686

Designated Parks Department housed under Public Works with 2 FTEs who split their time between Parks and Buildings & Maintenance Departments.

Newport, Oregon

Population: 9,989

Designated Parks Department with 1 FTE for recreation and 2 FTE and 1 PTE for maintenance (hire extra employees for summer season).

Sandy, Oregon

Population: 9,570

Designated Parks Department with 1 FTE who oversees multiple facilities including Parks and the Parks Board. The Parks maintenance is handled by Public Works Department.

Page | B-1

Resources for Forming a Nonprofit “Friends of” Organization

In Goal 5, Recommendation 3, we recommend that the Phoenix Parks Commission work with community members to form a “Friends of the Phoenix Parks” foundation that can accept charitable contributions. This will require the official

formation of a nonprofit corporation by filing documents with the IRS and Oregon Secretary of State.

We suggest the Phoenix Friends identify an existing “Friends of” organization that may be willing to share their bylaws. Phoenix residents can then easily adapt these existing documents to suit their needs. Ashland has a parks foundation (established in 1995) that might serve as a model:

- Ashland Parks Foundation_
<http://www.ashlandparksfoundation.com/Index.asp>

Another example, more centered around habitat restoration, native landscapes, and trail work, is the Friends of Hendricks Park organization, based in Eugene, OR:

- Friends of Hendricks Park <http://friendsofhendrickspark.org/index.html>

For additional guidance, we recommend interested residents make use of resources from the Nonprofit Association of Oregon (NAO). NAO’s website offers comprehensive guidance on forming a nonprofit. NAP also has knowledgeable, helpful staff who can answer questions.

- NAO’s resources for starting a nonprofit:_
https://www.nonprofitoregon.org/helpline_resources/tools_information/fags/starting_a_nonprofit

Other useful sources of information include:

- Oregon Secretary of State:_
<http://sos.oregon.gov/business/Pages/nonprofit.aspx>
- The Foundation Center:_
<http://foundationcenter.org/gainknowledge/map/oregon.html>

Rogue Valley Pitchers Preliminary Plan for Horseshoe Pit Upgrades

The following text was provided by Alan Ringo of the Rogue Valley Pitchers to assist with planning for upgrades of the horseshoe pits located in Colver Road Park.

Horseshoe Pitching at Colver Park

When was the last time you stopped by Colver Park? Was it taking kids to the playground? Or a Sunday picnic to use one of the covered areas there? Have you hiked in the park on the walkway around the main field and seen the softball/baseball field there? But, have you noticed there are 12 horseshoe courts in the park? And, maybe you have been at the park when a tournament was taking place or a group was practicing or a couple of people were enjoying a game of horseshoes at the courts. How many of you have pitched horseshoes or wondered about the sport as you watched these events? Did you know there is an organized, local club that regularly practices and competes at the Colver Park Horseshoe courts?

The first sanctioned tournament was held on June 29, 1985. City utility foreman Jim Wear and Bill Stoner donated 350 hours labor to install the pits. To this day there

has been a horseshoe club active at the courts. The club now goes by “The Rogue Valley Pitchers.” The group would like everyone to know about them and encourages new members to join in the fun. All ages and skill levels can participate and get instruction. Many members pitch year round – our retired pitchers meet regularly on Tuesday mornings. The busiest time for the club is April thru September. In addition to Tuesday mornings, club members also pitch Mondays at 5pm at Colver Park, Wednesdays at Grants Pass, and Thursdays at Rogue River. Pitching on Saturdays may take place at any of these courts. Beginners can get instruction and everyone can have fun and improve. Those interested in higher levels of competition may opt for local tournaments or joining the Oregon Horseshoe Pitcher’s Association. Winter tournaments and practice are now being scheduled. For more information, contact Alan Ringo at 541-779-6867.

More about the Rogue Valley Pitchers at Colver Park

The membership has ranged from 20-35 members from 2010-2015. This is a group that comes from Southern Oregon (not just Phoenix). The Rogue Valley Pitchers pitch every Tuesday morning year round (weather permitting) and from April – October has a scheduled group practice one evening a week. So, scheduled practice days will see the courts used 75-100 days a year. This does not count random days that members will come to use the courts. I know that others use the courts and picnic groups often include horseshoes in their activity selection. During the April – October time frame we have averaged hosting about 6-8 tournaments a year.

Court and/or Safety Improvements Needed

30-35 years of wear and tear on the cement walkways have seen the walkway cement chipped away on the outer edges of each walkway. Other than an occasional backboard or peg being replaced, there has been little improvements made since the building of the courts in 1985. One exception was the replacement of the North fence about 10-12 years ago, changing the 3-foot fence to that of the present 4-foot fence – a big safety improvement. The courts could stand some improvements for safety and longevity reasons. Some of the possible improvements that would be recommended depending on the budget available would be (there is no particular order of priority in this listing):

1. Replacement of the backboards in all courts.
2. A 4-foot fence on the South side of the courts with 1-2 gates.
3. Fence in the East and West ends – leaving a drive-thru gate on the West end for access and maintenance and small gate on the East end to access water.
4. Add a second gate on the North side near the basketball court area.
5. Cement walkways redone in some or all courts. Bend, Oregon has recently refurbished the entire horseshoe facility at Juniper Park – a good model.
6. Make all pits surrounded by cement (even if front) with imbedded angle iron on the front foul line – this will prevent any foul board/cement replacement in the future.
7. Proper drainage and upgrade of the material covering the infield between pits.

Depending on the budget available, some or all of this could be done. Safety should be the number one concern and longevity a close second so repeat refurbishing is at a minimum. Keep in mind that the Rogue Valley Pitchers do a lot of volunteer upkeep and maintenance throughout the year.

Contact: Alan Ringo – Rogue Valley Pitchers (779-6867) or avringo@charter.net

20 Year Plan for Horseshoe Courts at Colver Park

The main expense in upgrading the horseshoe courts at Colver Park would be cement work and fence replacement. The other repair and upkeep items would be minimal after the initial work. Looking at the original construction being done in 1985 and lasting to the present, if redone properly, the main expenses would occur in the first 4-5 years of the plan with minimal upkeep in the years that follow. Part of the plan has already occurred this year. See a recommended time-line below, if year one is this year with item one already being done:

1. Year one (2016) – Backboard replacement was done in May, 2016. Materials were paid for by the city and the local Rogue Valley Pitcher's horseshoe club did the work.
2. New, four-foot fencing on the South side of the courts – estimate given at \$1600.00 would be the recommended next step for the next budget year. The local horseshoe club would replace foul boards and do basic maintenance at the courts. The city would continue their normal weed spraying schedule, leaf removal at the park as they normally do .
3. The most expensive step would be redoing the cement walkways/pads in some or all of the 12 horseshoe courts. Ideally, having all 12 redone would be the recommendation, but an alternate plan could have 2 or 3 courts done each year over a period of time so that a lesser amount could be budgeted annually for a period of 4-6 years. \$2000-\$2500 each of 4 years would finish 3 courts per year. The costs will vary with the quality of the materials requested. The city of Phoenix may have some contractors that have done quality cement work in the past and seek their expertise in the project.
4. As courts are done, the fill material between all the cement pads would be added. I don't know the cost or what would be chosen.
5. The 14-20 years that follow would require minimal upkeep and replacement – broken backboard and foul board replacements (no foul board replacement if cement/angle iron protection done in front of each horseshoe pit).

The horseshoe courts at Colver Park in Phoenix, along with All Sports Park in Grants Pass, are the only NHPA (National Horseshoe Pitcher's Association) sanctioned courts in Southern Oregon. Roseburg and Bend are the next closest sanctioned courts. Rogue River and Merlin have useable courts for recreational use. The Colver Park horseshoe courts can be used in their present state, but continued breakdown of the edges of the walkways make it more likely to have ankle/knee injuries as the surface becomes more uneven. Few of these injuries occur, but prevention is the goal.

APPENDIX C – COMMUNITY INPUT

This appendix describes the process for gathering input that informed the Phoenix Parks Master Plan and documents the findings from the various public comments we received.

Public Workshops

Armadillo Technical Institute Workshop: May 18, 2016

The first of two workshops at high schools in Phoenix was designed with the intent of getting input from youth, a demographic strongly affected by parks development but which is often not the target of regular community outreach.

At the ATI workshop, the CSC team worked with around 15-20 middle school and high school aged youth, who were strong advocates for the addition of a skate park to Phoenix. The participants enumerated the reasons they believe a skate park is needed in Phoenix and participated in a visioning activity where they drew and designed their ideal park on worksheets.

The students voiced concerns that Phoenix does not offer sufficient activities and recreation for youth, and this lack of options can sometimes lead to behavior deemed “delinquent” such as loitering and skating in non-sanctioned spaces. Whether in the form of a skate park or other diversions for young adults, ATI students hoped that additions to the parks system would intentionally seek to serve young adults, not just children.

Phoenix-Talent HS Workshop: May 18, 2016

The CSC team also met with students in an AP Environmental Science class in Phoenix High School. The class of 25-30 upperclassmen participated in the same “ideal park” visioning activity as in the ATI students in small groups, and then shared their ideas with the whole class in a group debrief.

While their requests were less centered on the idea of a skate park, they also seemed to echo the sentiment that Phoenix needs more activities for youth. Common themes to emerge from the students’ brainstorm included activities-based spaces, such as sporting facilities, holistic and natural design appearance, and water features.

Phoenix Parks Open House: May 18, 2016

The first public workshop was designed to introduce residents to the parks master plan update process and gather initial input on how residents would like to see the parks expand and change.

Activities included dot posters which allowed attendees to select up to 3 features they would like to see incorporated into the current parks by placing dots on a poster displaying a variety of potential park amenities and designs. Workshop

visitors also used a map of Phoenix to indicate where they would like to see future parks, and wrote comments about the park system on a comment board.

Blue Heron Design Workshop: June 4, 2016

The CSC team used a workshop in Blue Heron Park to gather design ideas and feedback for the park's redesign, as well as additional input on the entire parks system. Workshop visitors again participated in the dot poster and map activities, as well as a mini-survey about Blue Heron and general comment boards. The CSC team's landscape designer was present to assess design potential of the park and to gather concept ideas from participants.

Dog Days of Summer Workshop: July 24, 2016

The CSC team staffed a booth at the Dog Days of Summer festival in late July to gather public feedback on the Blue Heron design concepts produced by the team's landscape designer. The three design concepts were displayed on posters, and a landscape architecture student facilitated conversation and critiques to help assimilate the most popular elements of the three posters into a final design concept.

Other CSC team members invited further feedback on parks and recreation needs and desires with the public using the same activities present at the Blue Heron design workshop and through open conversation.

Stakeholder Interviews

Diane Reiling: President of the Garden Club

- Discussion in this interview centered on environmental preservation, especially of pollinator species. The Garden Club was involved in the creation of the current monarch waystations in Blue Heron Park and Reiling would like to see more presence of environmental activism and education in Phoenix parks.
- The Garden Club may be interested in one-time or small scale assistance with installing or maintaining gardens in the parks.

Sandra Wine: Active member of the Community Garden

- The discussion surrounded the community garden and its success as a component of Blue Heron Park. The garden is very active and most plots are usually filled.
- Wine was also involved in starting a small community garden affiliated with a low-income apartment complex. She believes such projects could be a key to civic engagement and food security, especially with the city and parks department's support.

Theresa Sayre: Phoenix-Talent School District Superintendent

- Interview focused on the overlapping needs and services of public parks and school grounds and facilities. School grounds can serve a function similar to parks for the community, but only after school hours or with reservations for some facilities (i.e. track for large groups).

- Sayre believes there is a need for more activities and spaces for teens, particularly those living in trailer parks and apartments. She would also like to see infrastructure improvements around town to make parks more accessible by biking and walking, particularly to serve the North areas of Phoenix that are further from the current parks' service radius.

Mike Foster: Reverend of Presbyterian Church

- Conversation centered on making sure parks developments serve as wide a demographic as possible and are inclusive to all residents. Rev. Foster sees parts of the community that don't typically have a voice in outreach and city government events.
- Phoenix is a fairly low-income community and so parks activities and events should take care to be economically inclusive, either free or at a low price. The City should also put effort into having events that aren't centered on spending disposable income.

Clarkie Clarke: Community member and skate park advocate

- This interview concerned the possibility of building a skate park in Phoenix to create more activities for young adults and serve the community's skateboarder population.
- ❓ Skate parks can be a valuable asset to bring in people from out of town and provide entertainment. There is already a group of youth forming to advocate for one through petitions and other measures.

Aaron Spohn: Skate park builder, located in California

- ❓ Interview concerned gaining information about the practicality of skate park development and possible strategies for implementation.
- ❓ There are many different funding strategies that can remove much of the burden from the City. Oregon has a strong grant program for skate park development that will match city funds at a higher proportion. Skater advocates can also engage in fundraising to raise money, support, and awareness, as well as convey their commitment to creating a skate park.
- ❓ Breaking down the stigma surrounding skateboarding and getting it to be seen as a legitimate sport is an important step, which can be accomplished with public forums and data-based proof.

Sharon Schmidt: Business owner and active member of Bee City USA

- Focused on creating "pollinator and people friendly habitats", as well as educating people about the importance of pollinator preservation and low pesticide use.
- ❓ The parks can play an important role in this mission by planting pollinator friendly habitat, lowering the use of pesticides, and offering classes and educational information about pollinator preservation.
- ❓ Bee City USA would be interested in helping with creating more pollinator gardens in the future, as well as teaching educational classes about the need for pollinators and beekeeping.

Community Survey

The community survey was created to obtain more expansive input on park usage, satisfaction, comments, and funding strategies from a broader range of residents than those who attended public workshops and other outreach events.

Methodology

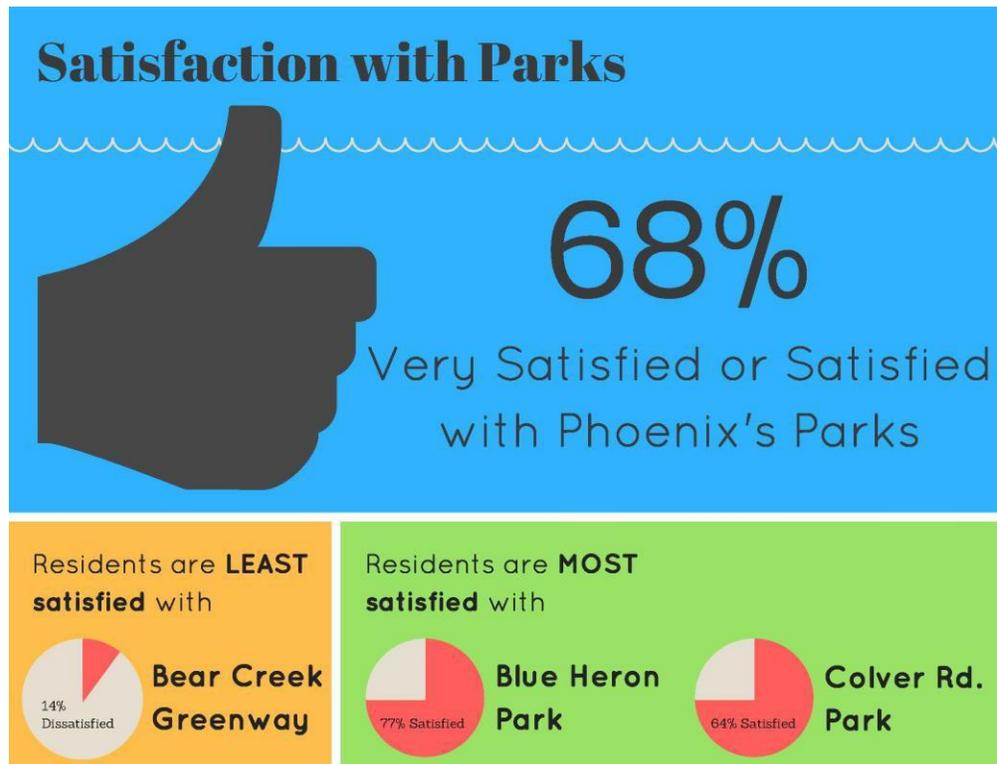
The survey was mailed twice to lists of registered voters in Phoenix (first to a random sample of 1,040 voters, then later to a random sample of 750 voters using a more up-to-date voter registration list). The survey was also made available in paper form at the public library and online. The City of Phoenix promoted the survey link using their Facebook page. In total, the survey received 190 responses.

Since the survey was not conducted as a strict random-sample, the results should not be generalized as representative of the entire Phoenix population’s desires. The results, however, do provide insight into what some residents see as priorities for their parks.

Responses

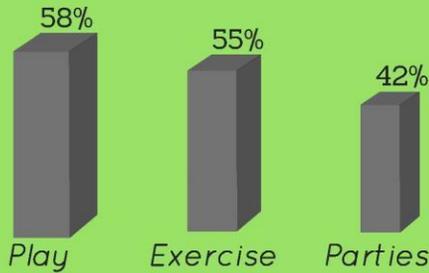
The parks planning team created to following visual summary of key points to emerge from the responses to the survey. We also provide a full summary of responses to each of the survey’s 26 questions (aside from those questions recorded under text responses).

Summary of Key Themes



Park Visitation & Activities

What do people do in parks?



Top 3 Reasons People Don't Visit Parks

1. Don't know where parks are
2. Rather do something else
3. Feel unsafe

Most Visited Parks

1. Blue Heron
2. Colver Road
3. Bear Creek Greenway
4. Otto Caster

Underserved Populations

Many people thought all populations were served adequately (36%), but some arose as being underserved:

1. Teens
2. Seniors (65+)
3. People with disabilities

Priority INDOOR Activities



Lots of interest in...

1. Swimming pool or splash pad
2. Community Center

HIGH

Moderate interest in...

1. Running or walking track
2. Volleyball
3. Basketball
4. Fitness & exercise equipment
5. Tennis

MEDIUM

Not much interest in...

- Art studio & gallery (display space)
- Racquetball
- Performance venue

LOW

Priority OUTDOOR Activities

Lots of interest in...

1. Water, spray, or splash play features
2. Restrooms
3. Green space/natural areas
4. Sheltered/covered areas
5. Picnic tables

HIGH

Moderate interest in...

1. Cooking facilities
2. Tennis Court
3. Basketball Court

MEDIUM



Not much interest in...

- Skatepark
- Football field
- Baseball field

LOW

Funding for Parks

On average, people want to spend the most on

1. Improving existing parks
2. Building new parks



83%

Support using a portion of the cannabis tax for parks

Support a new fee on 38% the utility bill for parks

48% Would be willing to pay \$1 - \$3 for this fee

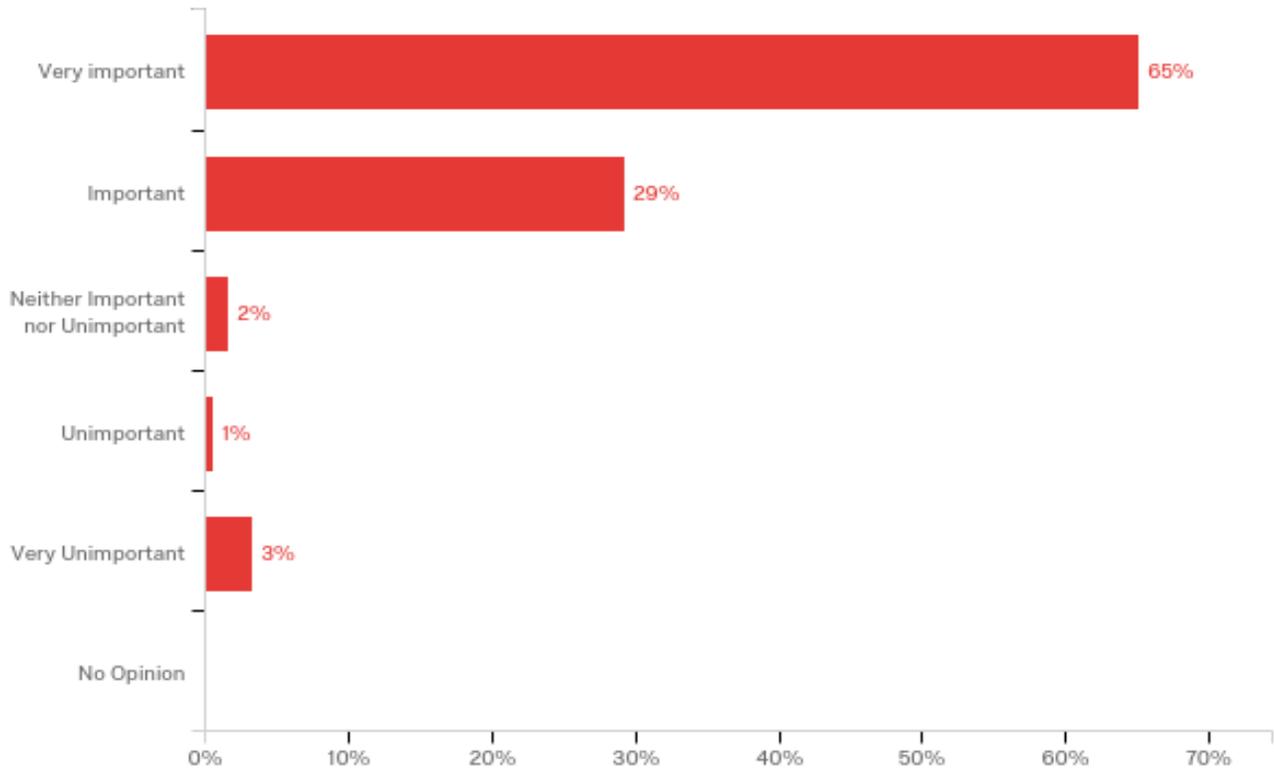
Full Survey Responses

The following pages contain the full responses to the parks survey, excluding questions that required text responses. Text responses are recorded at the end of this appendix.

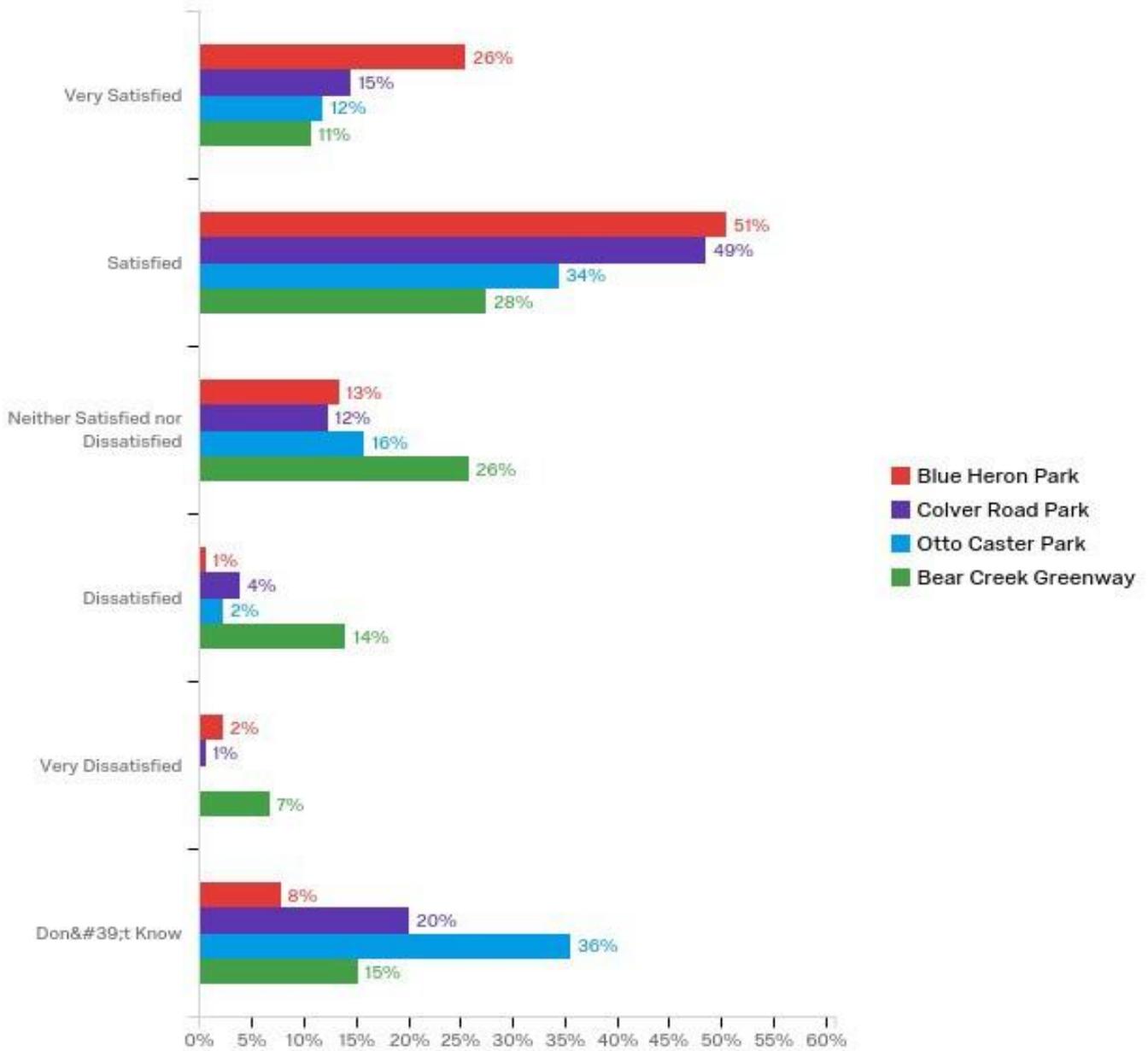
Phoenix Combined Surveys

Q1. In your opinion, how important are parks to Phoenix's quality of life?

(n=181)

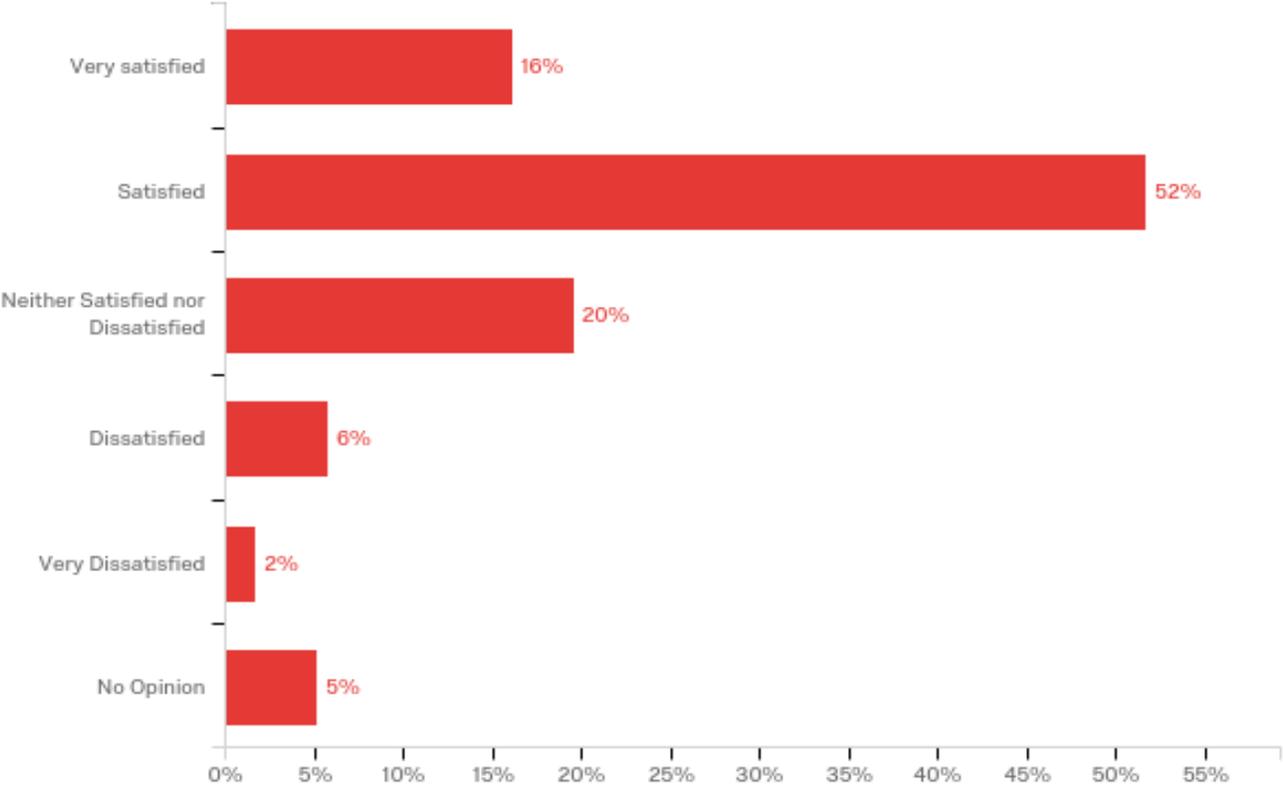


Q2. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the overall quality of the following parks and greenways?

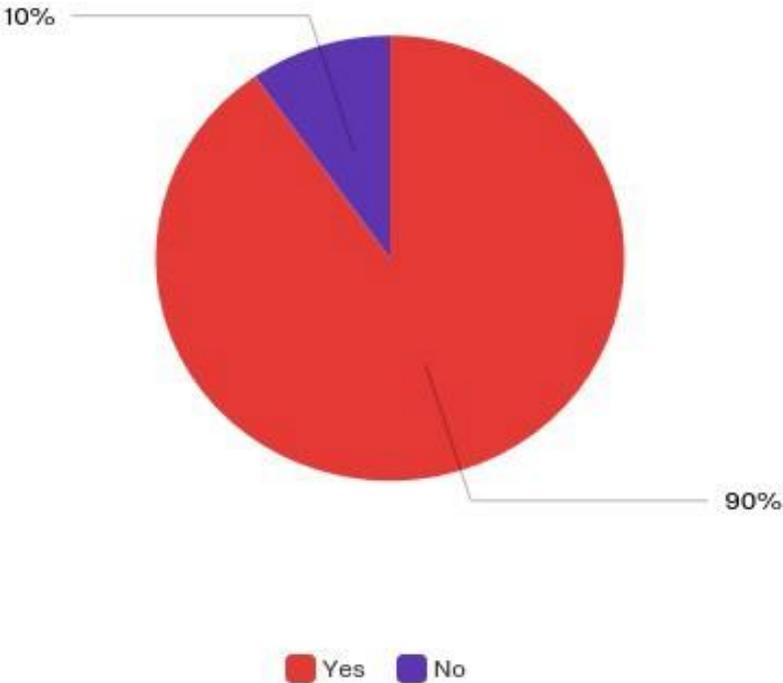


Question	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Don't Know	Total						
Blue Heron Park	26%	46	51%	91	13%	24	1	2%	4	8%	14	180	
Colver Road Park	15%	26	49%	87	12%	22	4%	7	1%	1	20%	36	179
Bear Creek Greenway	11%	19	28%	49	26%	46	14%	25	7%	12	15%	27	178
Otto Caster Park	12%	21	34%	61	16%	28	2%	4	0%	0	36%	63	177

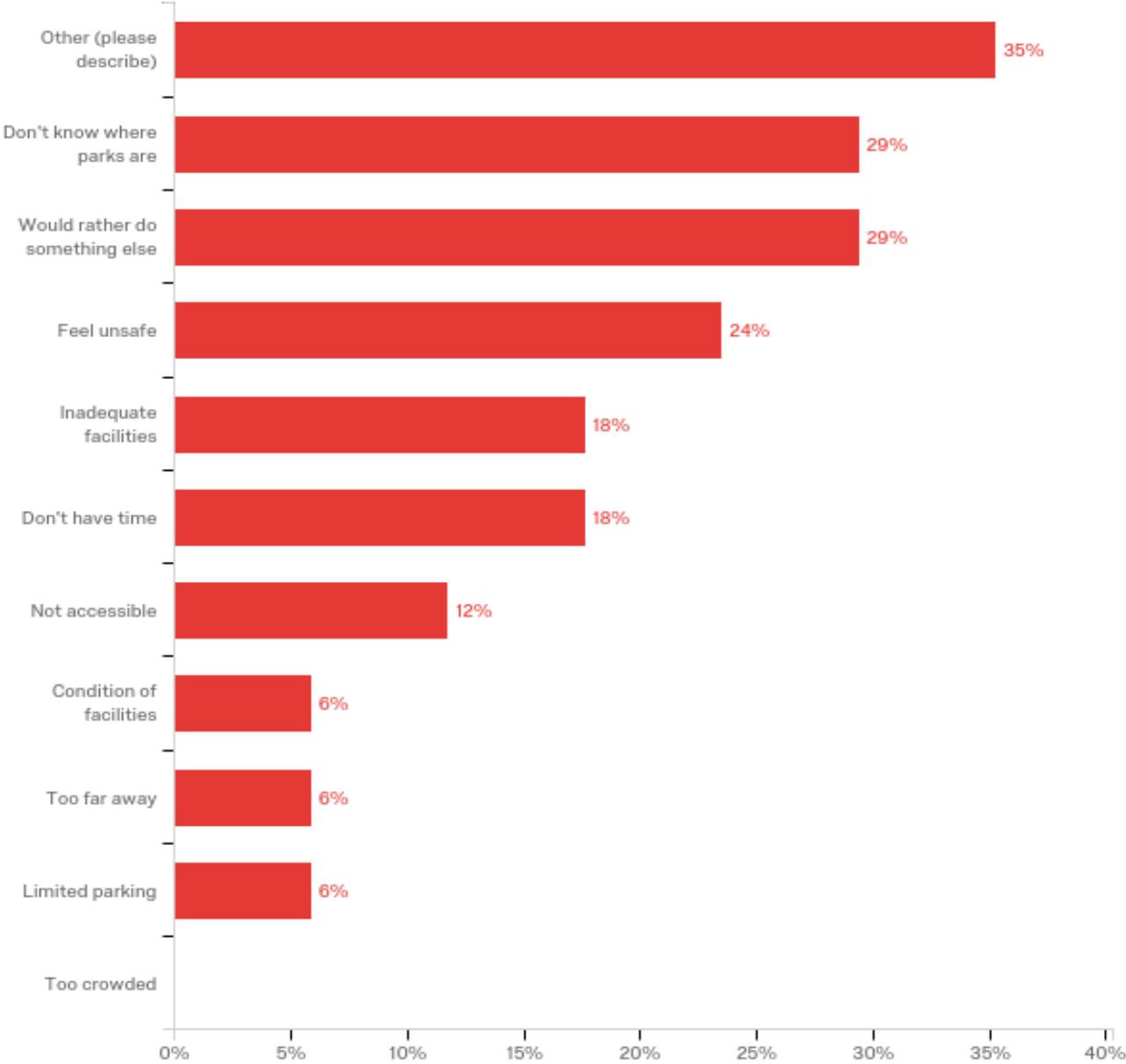
Q3. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the overall quality of Phoenix’s parks system? (n=174)



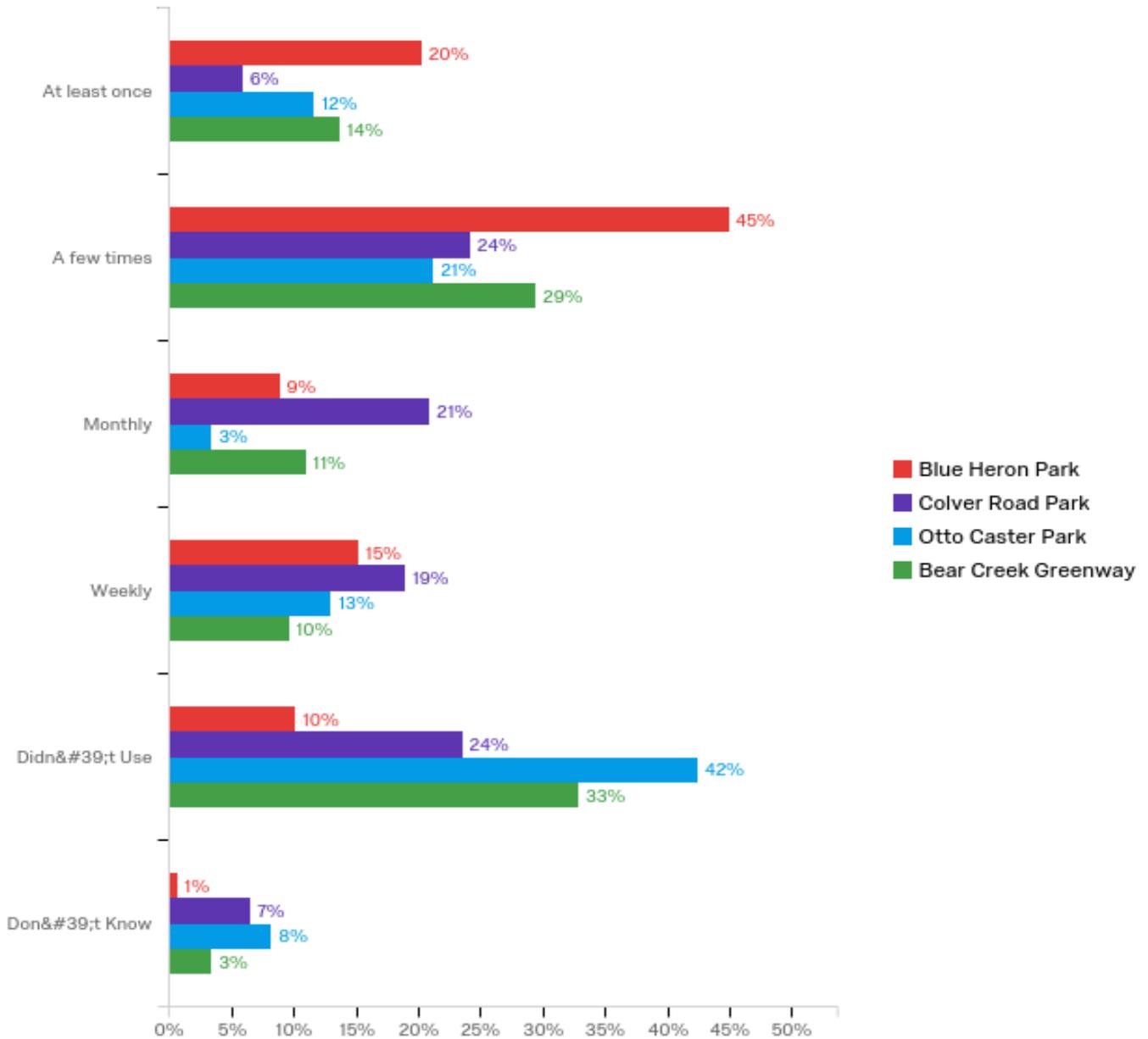
Q5. Have you visited a park or greenway in Phoenix in the last 12 months? (n=184)



Q5a. What are the main reasons you DIDN'T use a park or greenway? Check all that apply. (n=17)

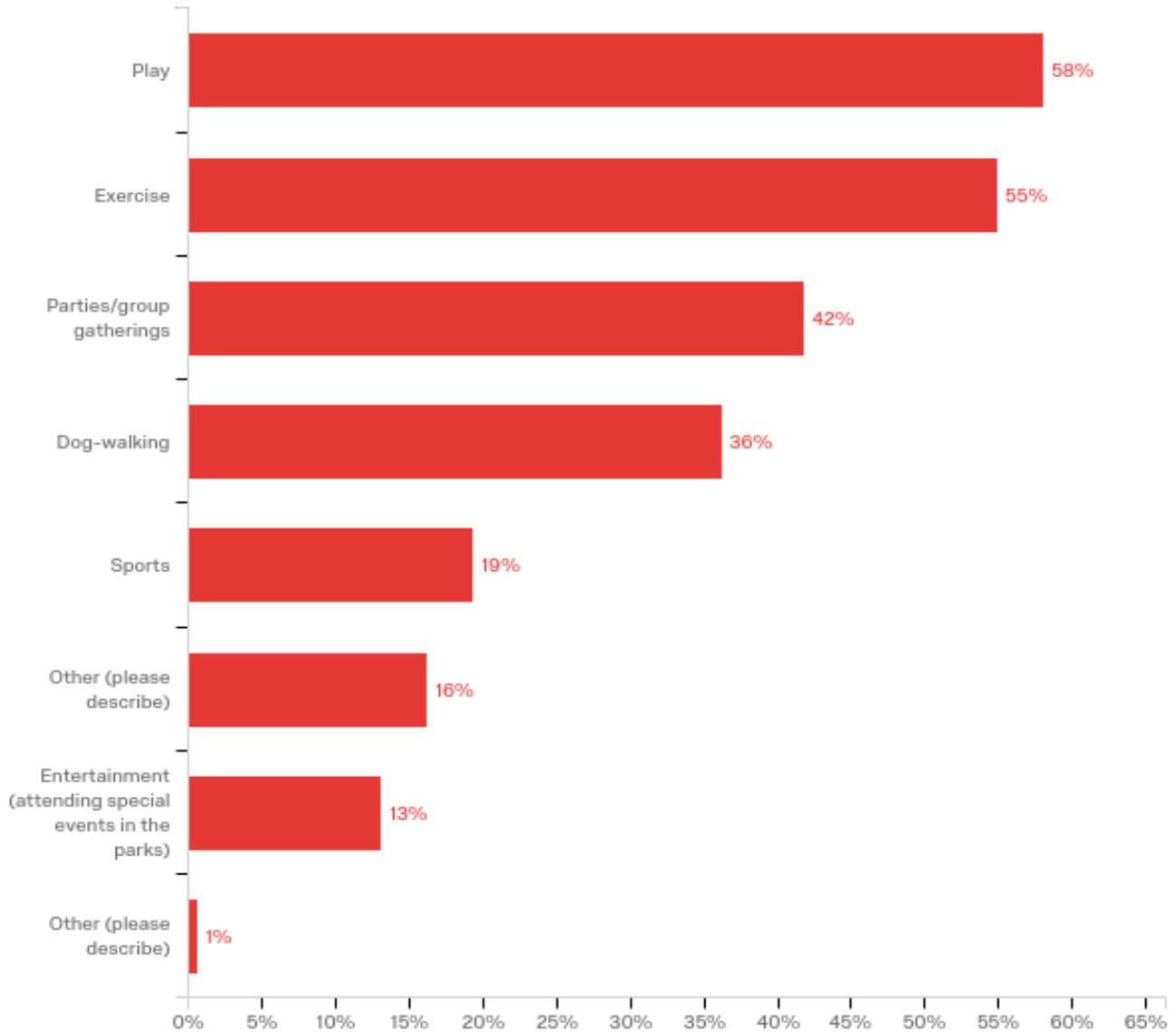


Q6. In the past year, how often did you visit the following parks and greenways in Phoenix?

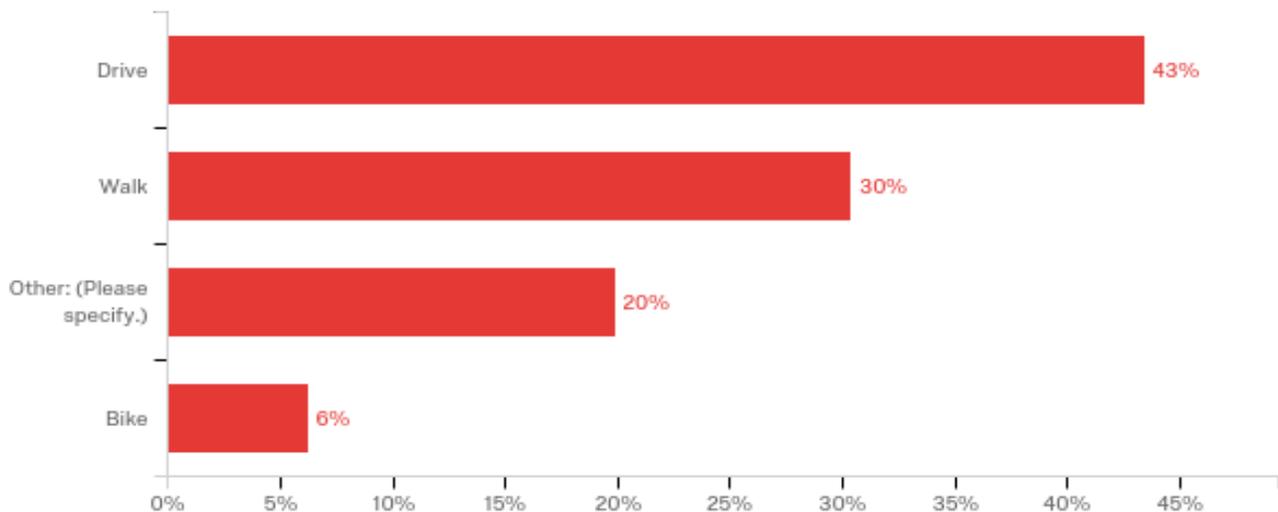


Question	At least once		A few times		Monthly		Weekly		Didn't Use		Don't Know		Total
Blue Heron Park	20%	32	45%	71	9%	14	15%	24	10%	16	1%	1	158
Colver Road Park	6%	9	24%	37	21%	32	19%	29	24%	36	7%	10	153
Otto Caster	12%	17	21%	31	3%	5	13%	19	42%	62	8%	12	146
Bear Creek Greenway	14%	20	29%	43	11%	16	10%	14	33%	48	3%	5	146

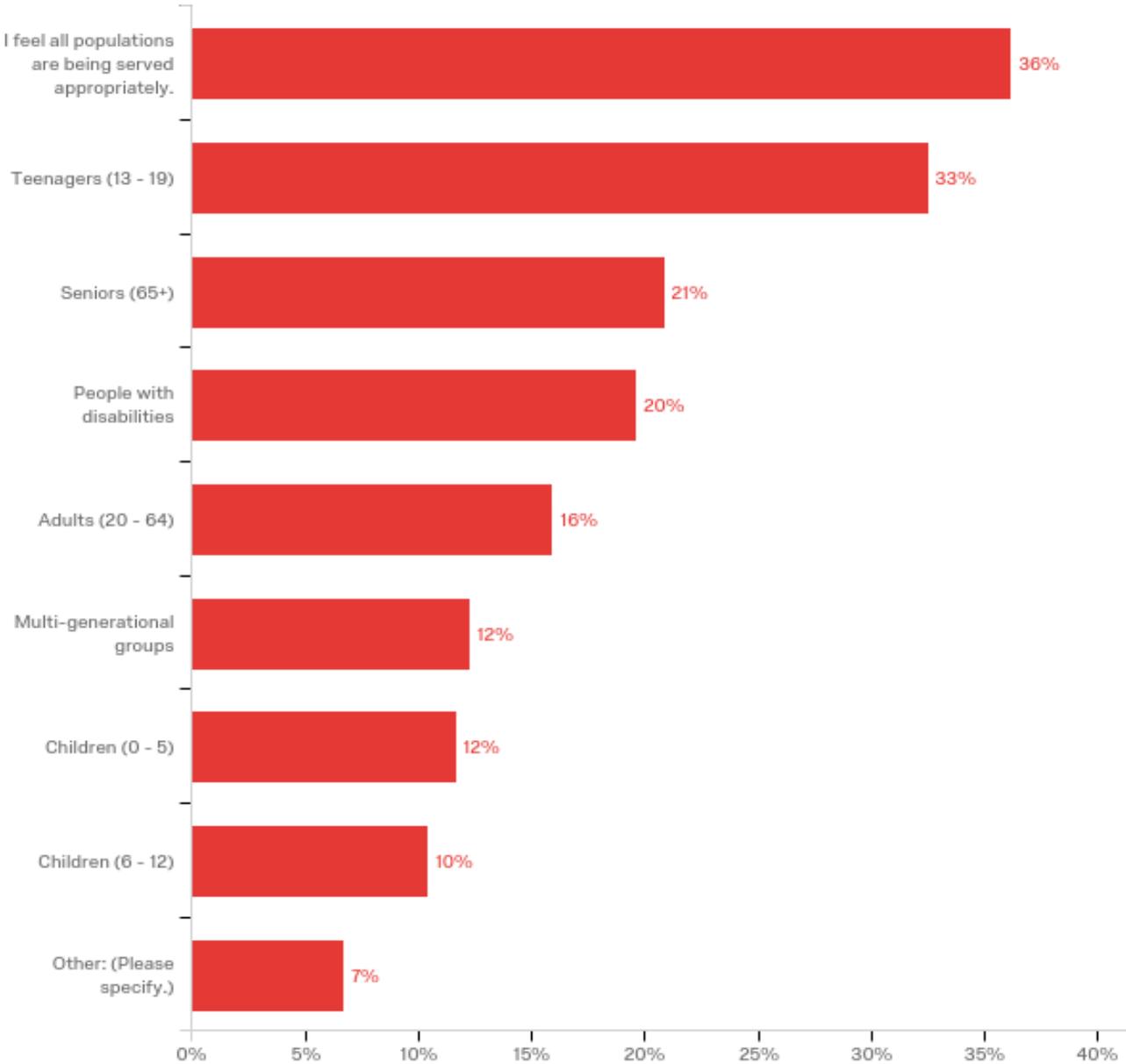
Q7. What activities do you and your family use the parks for? Check all that apply. (n=160)



Q8. How do you most frequently get to the parks? (n=161)



Q9. Check any and all populations you feel are underserved by Phoenix's parks. (n=163)



Q10. How important are the following indoor park facilities to you or your household? Mark your preference for future investment in the improvement or addition of the following park facilities.

Question	High I feel impr ovem ent or additi on of this type of facilit y shoul d be a high priori ty.		Medium Some investm ent in this type of facilit y would be nice.		Low I feel impr ove men t or addi tion of this type of facilit y shoul d be a low prio rity.		Don't Know		Total
Fitness and exercise equipment	25%	41	34%	56	31%	51	10%	16	164
Swimming pools or splash pads	60%	103	16%	28	17%	29	7%	12	172
Running or walking tracks	36%	59	33%	54	23%	37	9%	14	164
Community center	44%	75	28%	48	21%	35	7%	11	169
Performance venue	29%	48	26%	42	35%	57	10%	17	164
Art studio and gallery (display) space	20%	34	31%	51	39%	65	10%	16	166
Basketball court	29%	47	35%	57	25%	41	10%	17	162
Racquetball court	17%	26	30%	47	39%	62	14%	22	157
Tennis court	18%	29	33%	53	33%	52	16%	25	159
Volleyball court	22%	34	36%	57	30%	47	12%	19	157
Other: (Please specify.)	25%	3	25%	3	25%	3	25%	3	12
Other: (Please specify.)	67%	2	33%	1	0%	0	0%	0	3
Other: (Please specify.)	100%	1	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	1

Q11. How important are the following outdoor park facilities to you or your household? Mark your preference for future investment in the improvement or addition of the following park facilities.

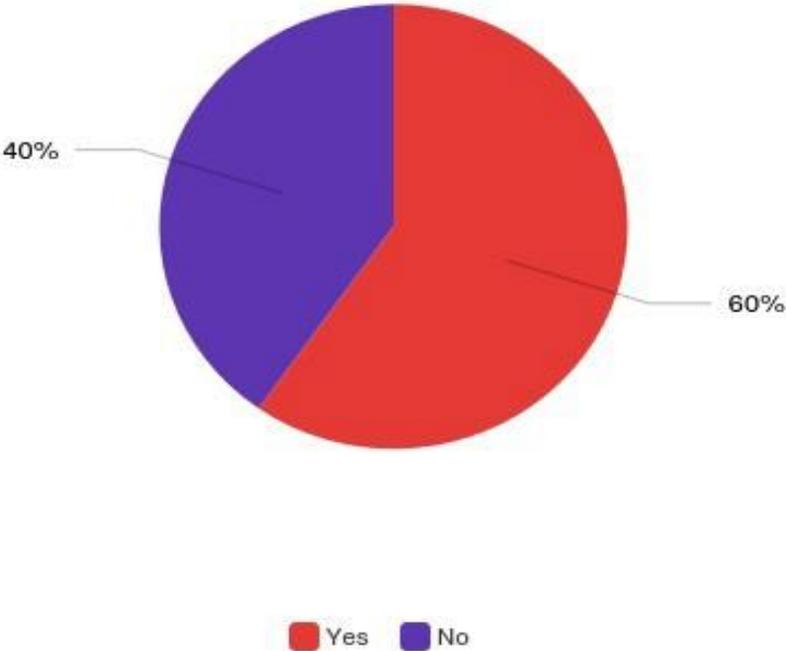
Question	High I feel impr ove men t or addi tion of this type of facili ty sho uld be a high prio rity.		Medium Some investm ent in this type of facility would be nice.		Low I feel imp rove men t or addi tion of this type of facil ity sho uld be a low prio rity.		Total
Playground equipment	49%	79	33%	53	19%	30	162
Covered play areas	39%	63	33%	53	28%	44	160
Nature-play playgrounds	44%	67	36%	55	20%	31	153
Rock climbing features	25%	39	35%	55	39%	61	155
Bicycle terrain tracks	26%	38	36%	52	38%	56	146
Skatepark	24%	37	26%	40	50%	76	153
Water, spray, or splash play features	60%	100	25%	42	14%	24	166
Fitness stations	27%	43	36%	56	37%	58	157
Paved trails	35%	54	35%	54	31%	48	156
Unpaved trails	39%	59	37%	56	24%	37	152
Green space or natural areas	57%	91	28%	44	16%	25	160
Botanical gardens	40%	66	30%	49	30%	49	164
Educational and interpretive signage	33%	53	35%	55	32%	51	159
Performance venue	34%	53	32%	50	35%	55	158
Public art	27%	43	35%	55	38%	60	158

Q11. (Continued...) How important are the following outdoor park facilities to you or your household? Mark your preference for future investment in the improvement or addition of the following park facilities.

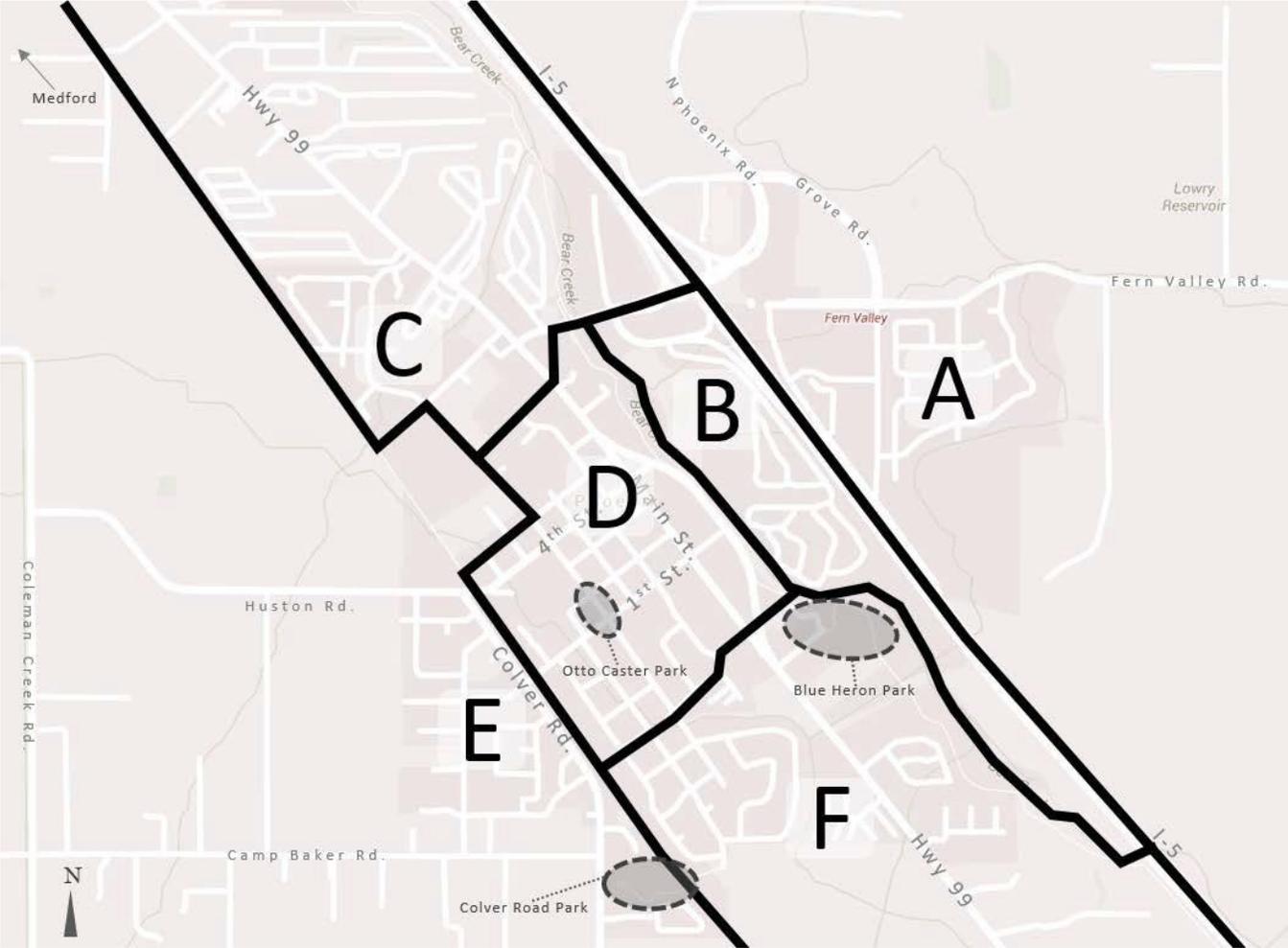
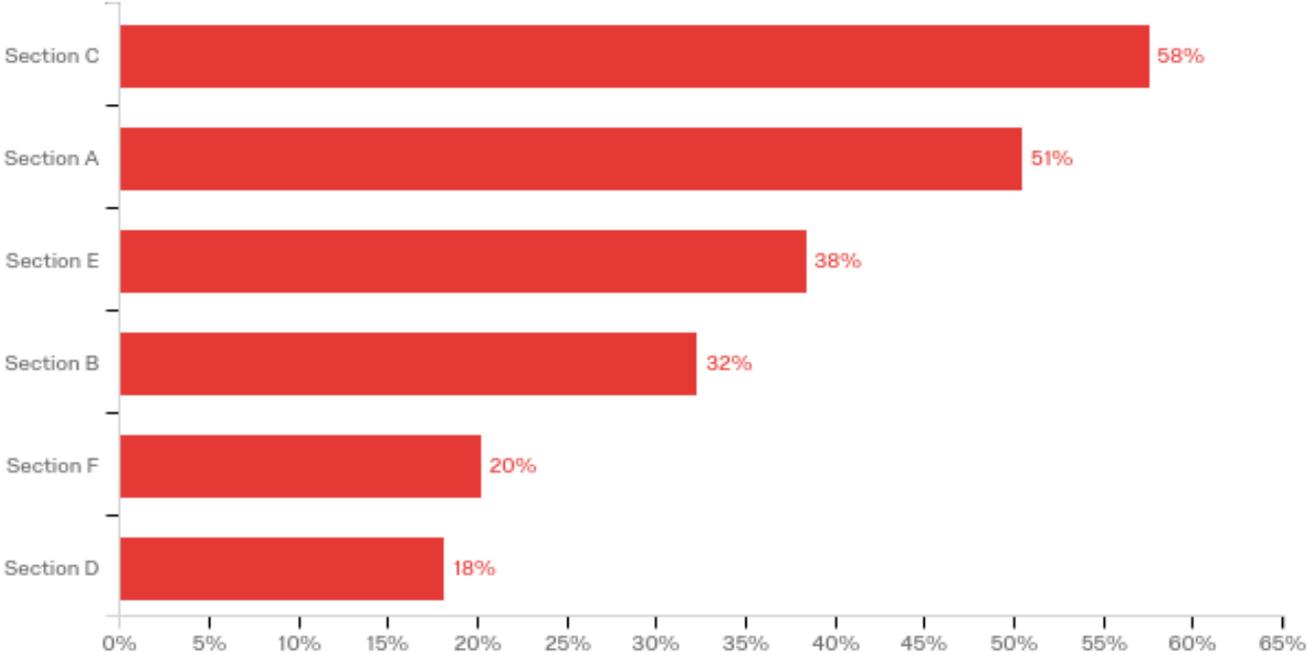
Question	High I feel impr ove men t or addi tion of this type of facili ty sho uld be a high prio rity.		Medium Some investm ent in this type of facility would be nice.		Low I feel impr ovem ent or additi on of this type of facilit y shoul d be a low priori ty.		Total
Restrooms	67%	113	28%	48	5%	8	169
Picnic tables	53%	89	38%	63	10%	16	168
Sheltered or covered areas	56%	93	31%	51	14%	23	167
Dog park	45%	72	29%	46	26%	41	159
Cooking facilities	29%	46	45%	71	26%	41	158
Basketball court	40%	61	40%	61	21%	32	154
Tennis court	29%	45	44%	67	27%	42	154
Volleyball court (sand)	32%	48	39%	60	29%	44	152
Baseball field	23%	35	34%	50	43%	64	149
Disc golf course	28%	41	34%	50	39%	58	149
Softball field	23%	34	38%	57	39%	58	149
Horseshoe pits	26%	39	34%	50	40%	59	148
Football field	21%	30	31%	45	49%	71	146
Soccer field	24%	35	38%	55	38%	54	144
Southern California paddle ball court	15%	17	25%	29	61%	71	117

Other: (Please specify.)	40%	4	20%	2	40%	4	10
Other: (Please specify.)	0%	0	0%	0	100%	2	2
Other: (Please specify.)	0%	0	0%	0	100%	2	2

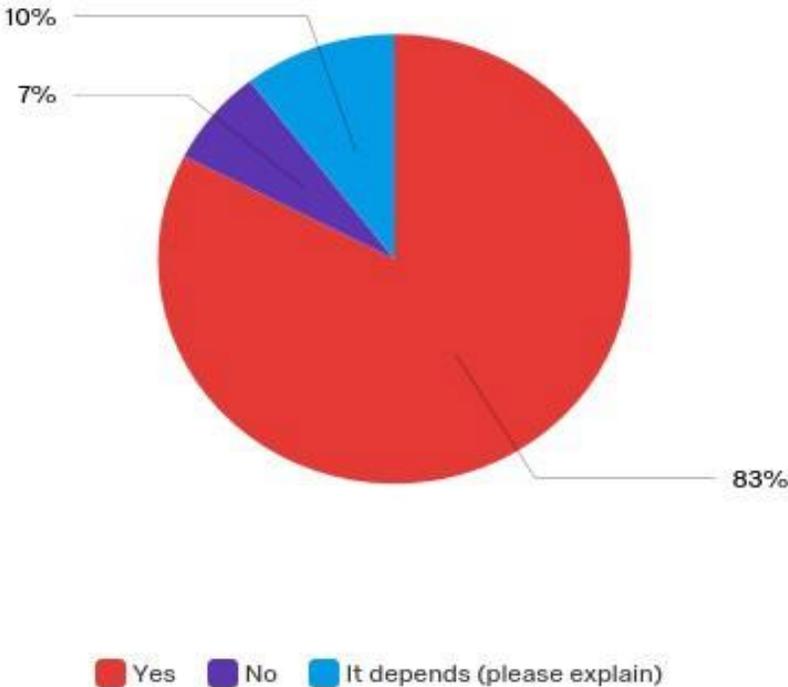
Q12. Do you think the City of Phoenix needs additional parks? (n=174)



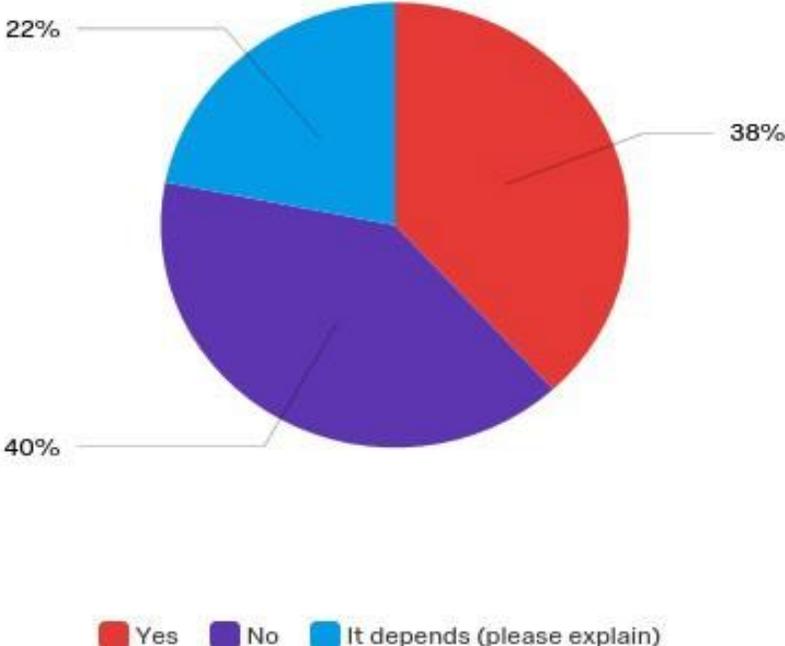
Q13. Please indicate the section of the City where you would like additional parks to be located (refer to map). Check all that apply. (n=99)



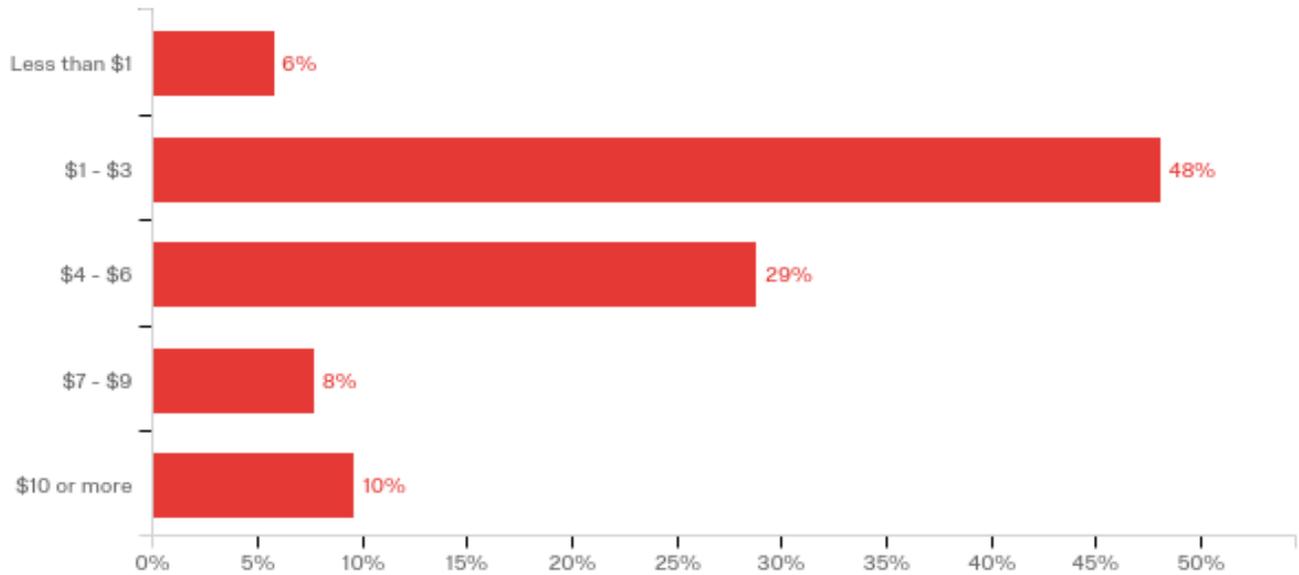
Q15. Do you think the City of Phoenix should allocate a portion of the Cannabis Tax towards park improvements, improved maintenance, and/or new parks? (n=172)



Q16. Would you support a new fee on your utility bill to pay for parks improvements, improved maintenance, and/or new parks? (n=178)



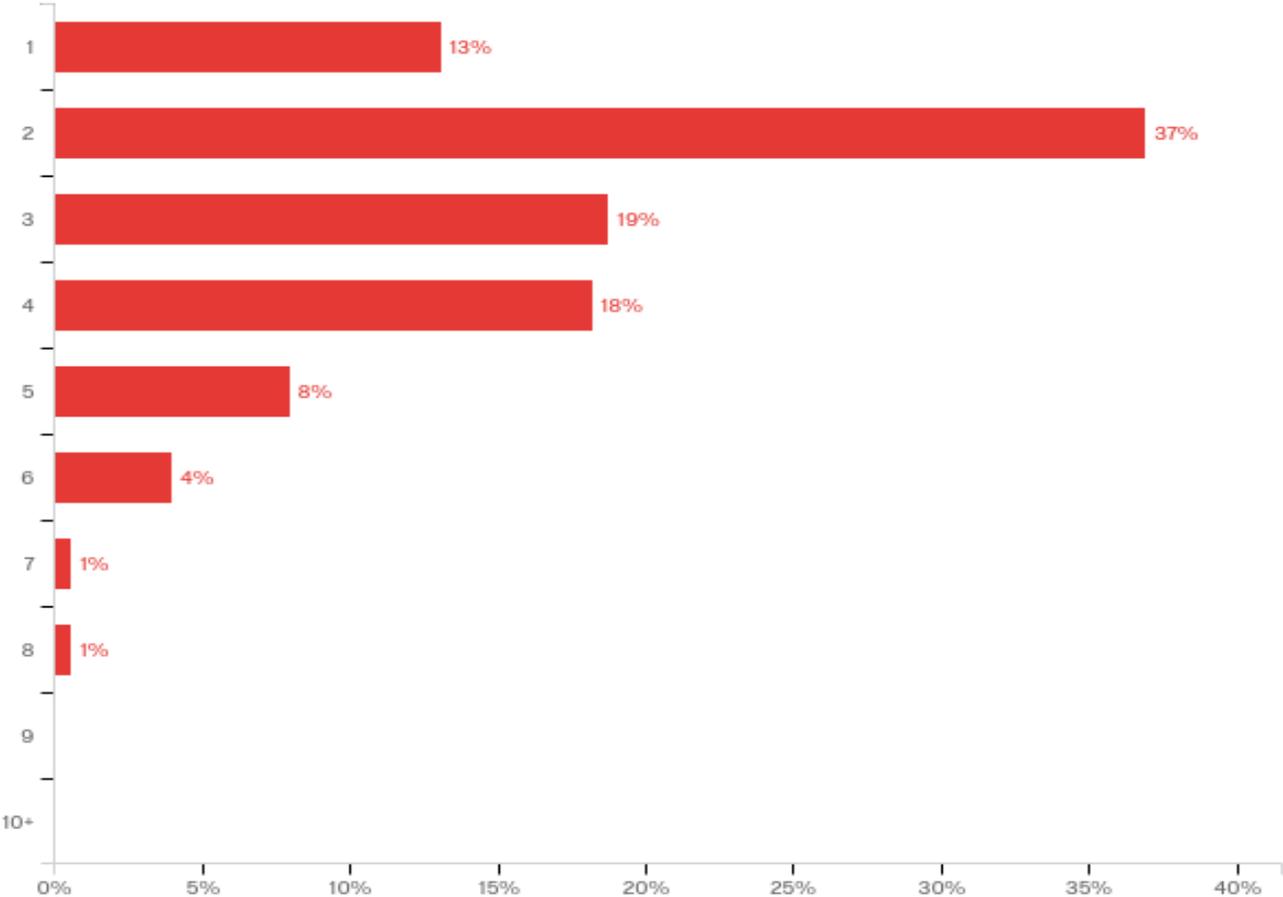
Q16a. What monthly fee would you be willing to pay for a higher level of service? (The table below lists potential uses of the fee for reference.) (n=104)



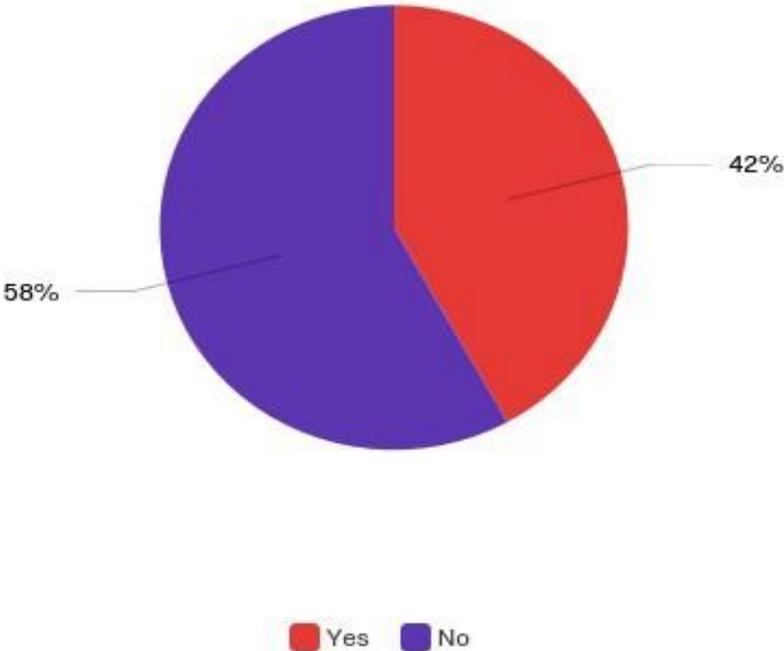
Q17. If you were given \$100 to spend on parks in Phoenix, how would you divide it among the following categories? You may put it all in one category or in any combination of categories. Sum must total 100.

Field	Mean	Count
Improving existing facilities and equipment.	27	181
Building new parks and new park facilities.	25	181
Improving parking (cars and bikes)	5	180
Park maintenance.	18	181
Improving security.	13	180
Other (please describe)	4	180

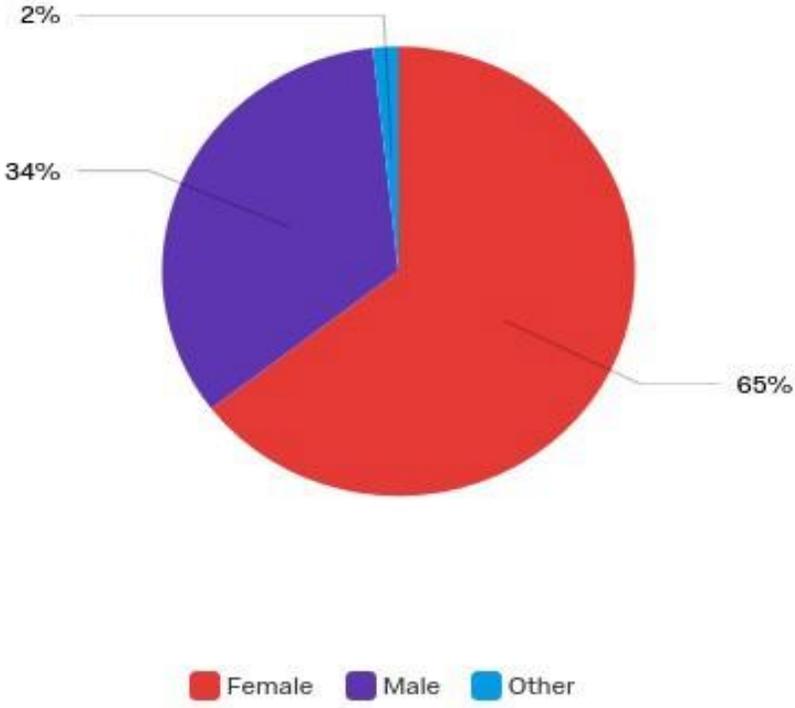
Q21. What is your gender? (n=172)



Q20. Are there children in your household? (n=174)



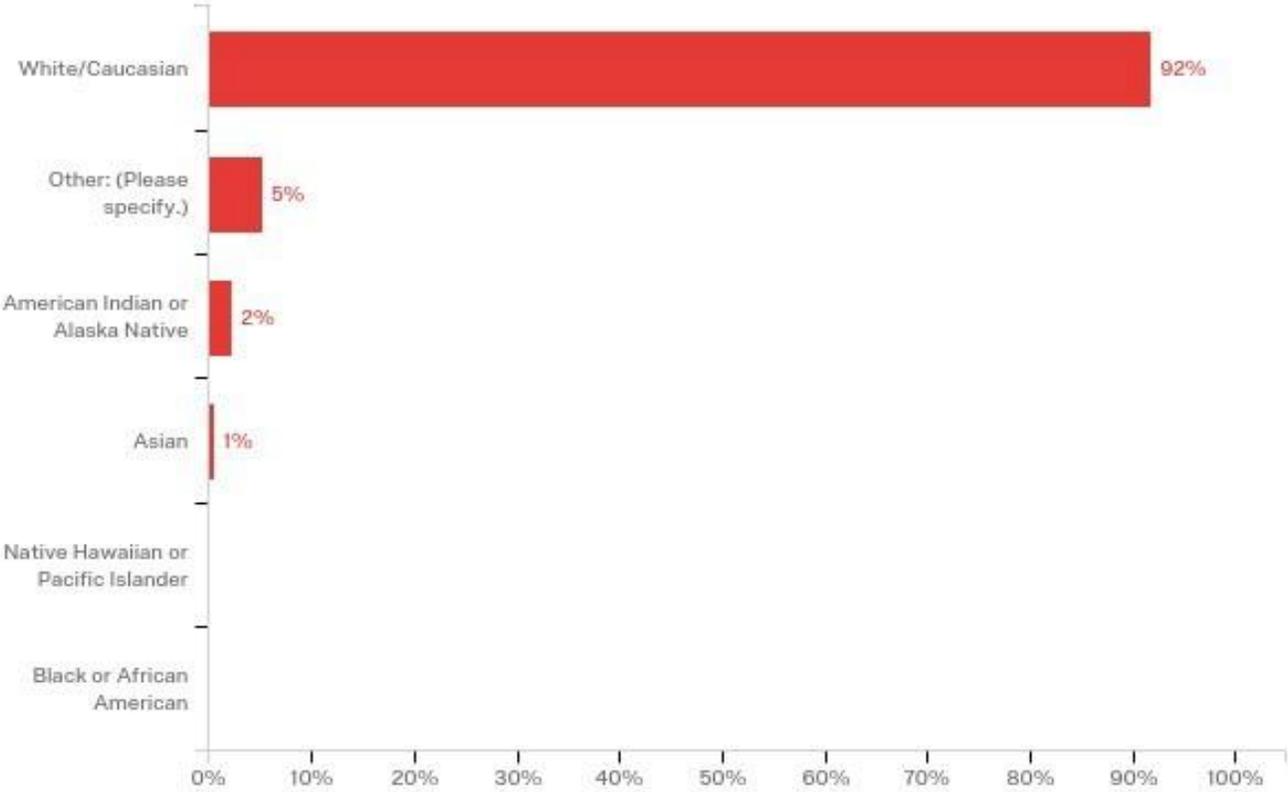
Q23. What is your race? (n=171)



Q22. What is your age?

Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Count
Q22. What is your age?	16	92	48	168

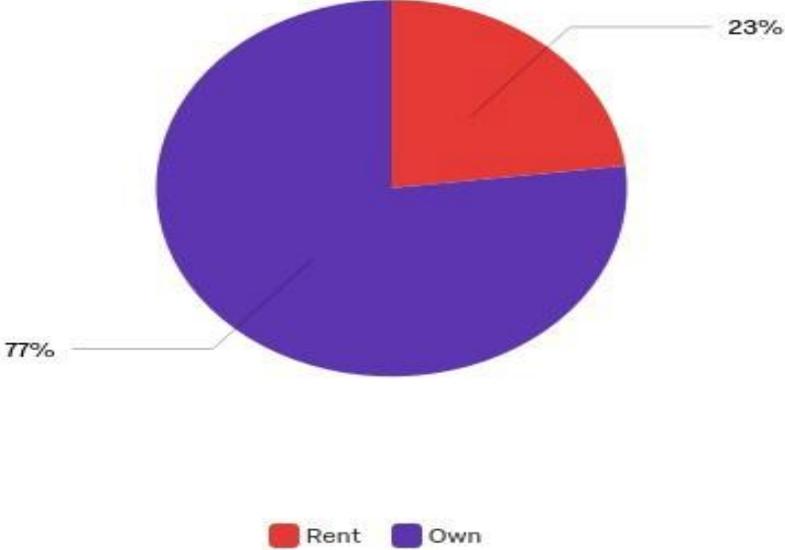
Q25. Do you rent or own your home? (n=173)



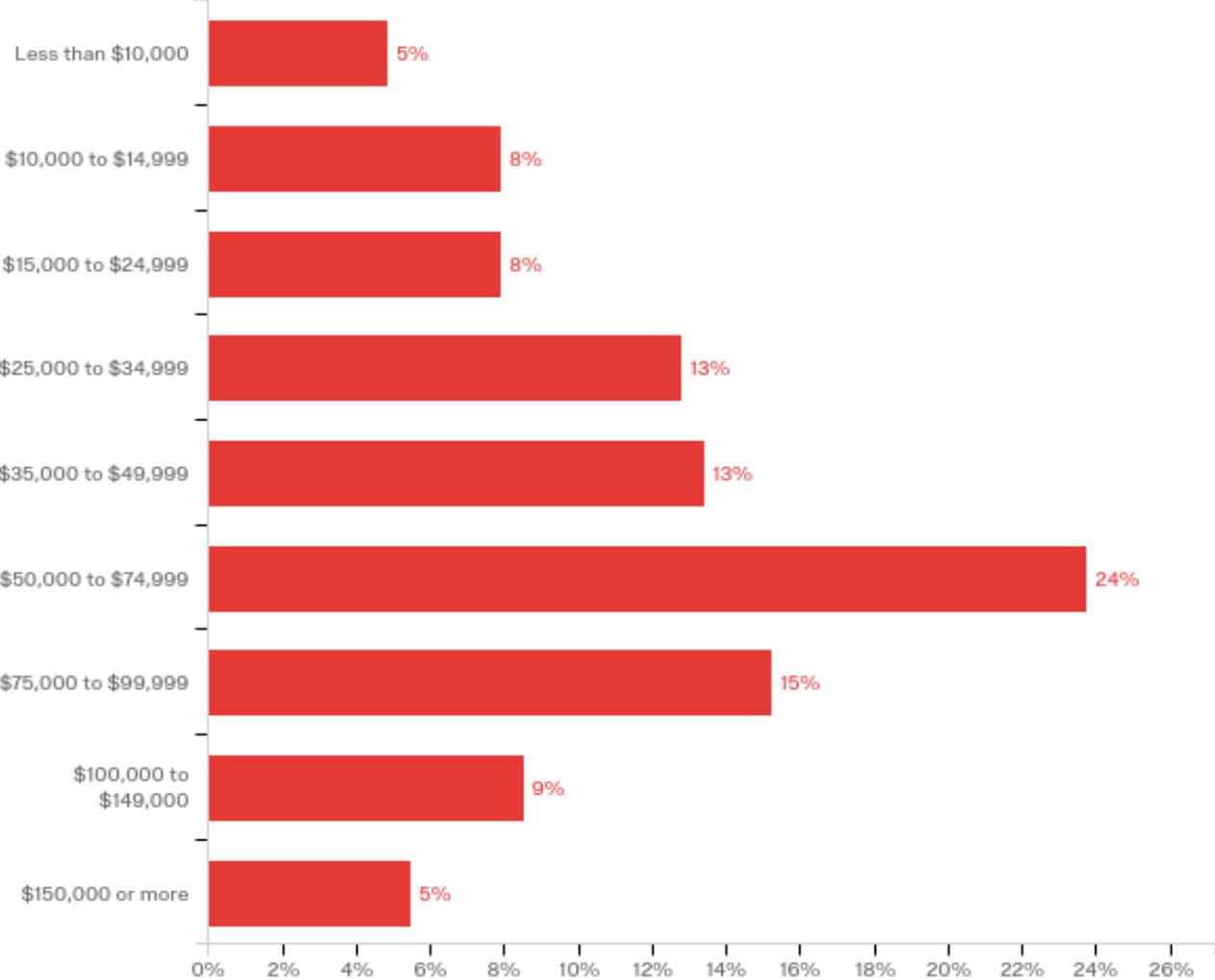
Q24. Do you identify as Hispanic or Latino? (n=165)



Q23. What is your race? (n=171)



Q26. What was the combined income for your entire household last year? (n=164)



Text Responses

The following are categorized text responses for survey questions that asked respondents to write in answers. As categories are broad and some residents offered lengthier responses, some responses could fall into multiple categories; however, they have only been recorded here only in one.

Question 4: Please write any specific comments or concerns you have about parks and greenways in Phoenix in the box below. Consider landscaping, safety, maintenance, etc.

Parks System as a whole

General comments

- I'm very happy parks are in Phoenix
- All fine!
- I think Blue Heron Park is great for families
- In general, I am satisfied
- Nice signs accompanying the park entrances
- Overall good job!
- Overall I'm happy with the park options we have in Phoenix.
- So important as a resource for the people who live in Phoenix
- The parks are great!
- Very happy with everything.

Cleanliness and maintenance

- Bathroom cleanliness is very important to me. I have young children and appreciate a clean place for them to use the restroom while we are out!
- Bathrooms could be kept cleaner
- Functional maintenance of the spaces - like having holes in the fields.
- Great maintenance for small staff number
- I feel our parks staff have done a great job with maintenance
- It seems that when something breaks it takes a long time to get fixed, or just gets removed.
- More maintenance in general
- Mostly in good repair and free of graffiti.
- Restrooms are clean!!
- Should be mowed more frequently
- The fences along Clover Park should be replaced.

Safety

- Greenway safety
- I think all the parks in Phoenix should be smoke free. I am tired of smelling people smoking cigarettes and pot.
- I would like more lighting even though they would be closed at night. I feel the lack light can hide people, drugs, etc.
- I would like more lighting to deter people using the park after hours
- Most locations are great would just like to see more security to monitor certain areas better
- Personal safety around transient population

Q23. What is your race? (n=171)

- ☐ Please keep transients away from the park. Police patrols would alleviate this problem.
- ☐ Provide for residents first. Keep safe from bums/vagrants/panhandlers
- ☐ Safety and keeping them free of homeless and drugs.
- ☐ Shady people, drug addicts, bums and spare changers are ruining the greenway - people take this path to and from work a lot
- ☐ The greenway is horrible
- ☐ These would be important, but for the fact most people would not venture there alone!
- ☐ With many kids to watch, I want good visibility of strangers for safety reasons - I want to see them coming far off in case we need to leave quickly

Desired Additions

- ☐ I feel like the Phoenix area could use some beautifying and parks are a great way to do that.
- ☐ I really appreciate the large open spaces in Colver and Blue Heron, however Otto Caster has no public restroom.
- ☐ I think the kids get a little bored of just climbing, there are no longer slides, swings and merry-go-rounds in most parks, all of which I too enjoyed. Maybe we need a big/ little kid and senior combo park or some unique play toys! I think there is equipment for seniors available, it would be fun to participate with the kids instead of just observe. I think the slats in the plastic equipment could cause compound fractures if a foot or an arm were through one and the child fell.
- ☐ I would like to see the area behind the high school developed into a walking greenway along the TID and connect park space to be developed near Dano.
- ☐ I would love if there were some hiking trails through Phoenix and more spaces for community gardens.
- ☐ I'd like to have Dog-inclusive parks, with no leash requirements
 - We also need a skate park for the youth. They have nothing else to do in Phoenix, the only town without a skate park in southern Oregon. Let's fix that.
- ☐ Less homeless and more water fountains. And more lighting
- ☐ More lights on all parks for walking at night
- ☐ More shade, garbage pits, water rec, ponds, waterfalls, etc.
- ☐ My family has had several children's birthday parties at the Blue Heron Park and especially the Clover Road Park. We would like to see additional playground equipment installed at the Clover Park. Overall, we love these parks. They are quiet, clean and well maintained.
- ☐ Need more restrooms, would be nice to have a water feature or pool for those in the Phoenix area
- ☐ Needs a water/splash pad and a dog park
- ☐ Phoenix needs a dog park!
- ☐ Shade trees are great!
- ☐ There needs to be a dog park in Phoenix. I live in East Phonics on the east side of the interstate. No parks at all over here for that matter. A dog park and a park over here is needed.
- ☐ There should be a basketball court. There should be a park near the Phoenix Hills subdivision.
- ☐ Too much empty space. A skate park needs to be built its good for the community
- ☐ Would love to see a splash area at colver rd
- ☐ Would love to see more trees. Also more for teens like an indoor or outdoor skate park so they don't have to skate on the roads.

Infrastructure and Community Needs

- Need a sidewalk on at least one side of Colver Rd Park. Is there city fund for a park with a "country" view? Which parks have fitness courses?
- Need better access for wheelchairs and bikes. Need ramp in corner closest to the greenway, going straight in.
- Parks are fine the road sucks!
- I think cleaning up the storefronts along 99 should be priority. Returning the road to 2 lanes is also a good idea.
- Get rid of the "road diet" through town
- Need a pool and fitness center in Phoenix

Other comments

- My main concern is that the city stop using astronomical water fees to support anything other than the purchase and delivering of water
- Not Used
- Since I lost my husband 3 years ago I have not revisited our parks as much. I take my grandchildren to the parks when they visit and occasionally have lunch with a friend.
- You have to think about what activity you want to do then decide which park would best work for that

Blue Heron Park

General comments

- Beautiful park, not sure what it offers
- Coming along nicely, keep it up!
- Constantly Improving
- Blue Heron is coming along nicely. When my kids were little, we didn't use the park much because there wasn't much shade. I was nervous to let the kids explore because of the Greenway (transient activity)
- Good
- Good
- Great for families
- Great park! Perfect to take my three year old to just like the other two. Great for a not so hot day
- I haven't been there that often, but when I have, I thought that it was well maintained.
- I like the park
- I really enjoy the open area with all the grass.
- I really like the community garden and fun equipment, thank you
- It's nice, love the community garden.
- Lots of beautiful improvements for families and groups. Community Garden!
- love the band shell
- Nice addition to the community. Improvements have been attractive.
- Our newest and most beautiful park in a very good location along the greenway, Could use more development
- Overall we are lucky to have this park and its connection to the greenway.
- Plenty of green grass. I wrote on another note that if I'm available this fall I could volunteer or spring.
- Popular, well used, like using the community garden

Q23. What is your race? (n=171)

- Happy it has grass and is getting some shade.
- Very attractive and clean
- Very nice capital improvements in the past 5 years have created a lovely space.
- Very nice park - feels safe and well maintained
- Very pretty, it is my favorite Phoenix park
- Very pretty after recent improvements. Look forward to bandshell being utilized more.
- We enjoy this park
- Well maintained

Cleanliness and Maintenance

- Bandshell has chalk drawing on it and has not been cleaned/tended too
- Dogs off leash - people not cleaning up after pet and themselves
- Drinking Fountains need attended
- Goat heads all over the park
- I wish those water pumps were on at the 2 shelters every day
- Needs bark replaced more often and equipment fixed
- Needs more attention to puncture vine (goat's heads) used control. Weeds already growing and setting seeds by bandstands!
- Stop Vector Control from spaying poisons on our bees and Monarch Stations at Blue Heron and other bee, Monarch friendly cities.
- The play structures could be maintained a little better
- Too many goat heads!
- Wish driving fountain was alias on and worked better

Safety

- There seems to be a lot of odd behavior at Blue Heron Park, not sure if it's due to its seclusion but I never feel safe when I go there.
- Due to homeless/transient use of bathroom, they should be checked more often/have found them disgusting more than once.
- Last few times we have went we ended up leaving shortly after due to strange activity and drug deals.
- safety issues due to greenway use
- Safety with the Greenway right there and dense trees at the play equipment - Love the shade but want visibility at play equipment with several children - would love fence along Greenway for safety
- The tire swing seems a bit too hard and heavy because if a toddler should get loose and run into its path he could be very injured, maybe a little fence around it. I don't like the bums being there.

Desired Additions

- Functional. Good for children. Not so pleasing to the eye.
- Good park - needs a skate park for kids and maybe a water fountain for kids to play in
- How about lighted tennis courts
- It's hard to watch the kids play from the covered tables when we have parties there. It would be nice if it had an additional party area where the kids could play on the playground equipment and be visible to the adults at the tables.
- Large paved track or area for kids to ride bikes. Gets a bit scary or greenway with heavy bike traffic

- Skate park needs to be built ASAP
- Needs more for Kids.
- Needs to be a venue for a festival the puts Phoenix on the map. Take advantage of our Hispanic Heritage. Have a giant Hispanic Themed festival
- Nicely kept - more plants, flowers, sitting areas
- Not enough bathrooms, needs shade, electricity for covered areas, water features, dog area to let off leash
- There could be a better surface under playground equipment and the amphitheater is inadequate for anything but a very small group venue...no natural slant of ground to enhance viewing even on blankets on the ground...what was the thinking for this project?
- Skate park needed for our youth.
- I would like to see a venue board at the highway so we don't miss any fun things like concerts.
- Might need more parking or a shuttle if there is a well-attended event.
- Also would be a great place for a dog park.
- Would like to see more added
- Would like to see more public garden plots

Water Features and Shade

- Could use more play area shade
- More shade
- Need more shade trees!
- Needs a sprinkler park area for kids there is no shade to speak of yet until the tree grows
- Be nice to have a couple of lush places with shade and seating.
- Needs more trees, there isn't any shade
- Would love to have a splash pad.
- Maybe more shaded areas?
- Too much direct sun, but understand it will change with tree growth
- This park needs more shaded areas and a splash pad or skate park would be great. Phoenix has no water park or skate park which would greatly benefit kids of all ages!

Other comments

- Never been yet
- The ingress egress for the bike path is not easy right there.
- Too close to a trailer park, not a very nice looking one either, needs a new location. I would never go there. Also runs along Bear Creek Greenway yuck! See below.
- Use the space better as well as the bandshell

Colver Road Park:

General comments

- Beautiful and quiet
- Beautiful! Wonderful shady park. Perfect for kids parties
- Best of all - leave big field alone
- Clean well maintained

- ☐ I love that they keep it clear so there is visibility all the way to the tracks, nowhere for bums to hide and that I am able to see the kids no matter where they run, I like the fence, the shade, parking, shelters, fruit to pick and the walk way. If the building is rent-able it would be nice if the info. Were posted. The trash bin NOT in a shady parking spot and so close to the kids is nice but I think it should have a lock on it as I see many people that might be bringing their home trash to dump.
- ☐ I think they do a pretty good job maintaining the park. It is hard to keep up with the litter thrown by irresponsible visitor, (and I try to help when I am able to walk) overall they do a darned good job
- ☐ It's a great open space, easily accessible from my neighborhood
- ☐ Kept in good condition although paths are cracked, not a big deal.
- ☐ Love it.
- ☐ Love seeing folks using this park...softball, picnics, playground, horseshoes!
- ☐ Love the horseshoe pits
- ☐ Love the little park. Did a birthday party here
- ☐ Love this park - it is off the road for play, shaded, but visibility of whole park is great
- ☐ Love this park! It is vital to the community!
- ☐ The park is in great shape and well taken care of but there is minor work like removing fallen branches from the trail.
- ☐ Very nice park.

Cleanliness and Maintenance

- ☐ Baseball diamond field and infield in despair
- ☐ Better landscape maintenance. Field needs to be smoothed out.
- ☐ Could be maintained better
- ☐ Could use more often clean-up crews! It is a home people do not pick up after themselves! I see more people leave a mess and I or other people pick up trash!
- ☐ Ground is very uneven and should be smoothed out
- ☐ We frequent the baseball diamond, and the dugouts are often filthy with garbage and drug paraphernalia.
- ☐ It would be nice of the grass was in better shape
- ☐ Wish drinking fountains functioned better
- ☐ hoping for updated bathrooms
- ☐ Would like to see more upkeep! Better maintenance thank you.
- ☐ Maintenance doesn't seem as good as it has been in past (green space)
- ☐ Need field work for ball field and all grass many holes!
- ☐ Would like playground and park to be better maintained
- ☐ Very dirty bathrooms. No child changing tables

Desired Additions

- ☐ Again a splash pad would be a great addition to this park.
- ☐ Basketball court needs to be fenced in better so that we are not chasing ball in the bushes or parking lot. Perhaps some lighting for the courts
- ☐ Big open area - Have adult casual player softball league
- ☐ I would like meow benches/picnic tables. I like the park too
- ☐ I would love see upgraded bathrooms at Colver.

- ☒ If there aren't any swing sets, that needs to be added. Same goes for basketball hoop. If dogs aren't allowed then they need to be allowed and add a cleanup station. The city also needs a pool.
- ☒ It would be nice if you could expand the playground (swings, slides, more climbing obstacles, etc.) Also a sprinkler park would be a nice addition.
- ☒ My son loves this park, although it would nice to have some swings
- ☒ Need more for kids... trees, anyone can take a big field and call it a park...
- ☒ Needs a dog park - perfect place for one
- ☒ needs swings, would be nice if Colver rd had a side walk that ended at the park
- ☒ Needs walking path around green area
- ☒ Nice open field, could use more shade around playstructures
- ☒ No swings for children. Need doggy park,
- ☒ Swings for children. Pathway cracks need fixing
- ☒ Swings needed
- ☒ This would be an ideal spot for a splash park, the younger children and toddlers need a safe place to play too.
- ☒ Upgrade playground
- ☒ We miss the swings!
- ☒ Were it up to me I would remove the horseshoe area and place a water feature
- ☒ Would have some swings at this park. A water park would be awesome!
- ☒ Would love to have swings.

Landscaping

- ☒ Blue Heron is the nearest to my residence so I haven't visited this park for a few years, but at the time we were going there it could have used a little more landscaping as I remember.
- ☒ Good for children, walking, horseshoes, basketball etc. Seems to be a sports park. Wouldn't call it beautiful, pleasing to the eye. What about Rose gardens. Koi ponds in one of the parks. I suppose it's costly.
- ☒ Make it look more appealing, Colorful landscape and plants from the road e.g. around sign at Colver park
- ☒ More flowers and trees
- ☒ More places to sit along the park and shaded areas
- ☒ Uneven ground in the field

Other comments

- ☒ Again, the playground equipment is VERY far away from the covered tables.
- ☒ COLVER Road Park needs more accessibility for people in wheelchairs. More sidewalks - to the picnic area, etc. Picnic tables need wheelchair accessible seating. Playground is NOT accessible in any way, shape, or form. Upgrade the basketball court and add lights for evening use.
- ☒ Don't have any
- ☒ I don't know
- ☒ I'd like to see the baseball diamond being used more.
- ☒ In the summer/spring there are people that are noisy at 10 & 11pm.
- ☒ Needs improvement, I like the doggie bags provided thank you.
- ☒ No idea
- ☒ ok
- ☒ Walk through it

- ☒ Where are they?
- ☒ Many people hang out in car, strange vibe. They don't use parks. Creeps.
- ☒ Safety issue with uneven black top in areas.

Otto Caster Park

General Comments

- ☒ cute park for little kids
- ☒ Cute park great for kids
- ☒ Excellent park. No complaints
- ☒ Good for children
- ☒ Great park for small children /
- ☒ Great place for children, being close to library
- I like the fence that's around it to keep the energetic toddlers in.
- ☒ It is mostly play equipment which is nice
- ☒ Like the tall trees
- ☒ Look like a fun family and school place
- ☒ Love it
- ☒ Small but great
- ☒ This very small park seems adequate as is mainly used by smaller children
- ☒ Very nice location and very clean
- ☒ Very nice.
- ☒ We appreciate the upgrades. Feels safer

Safety and Maintenance

- ☒ As the park nearest the school it seems the security could be better with regular patrolling perhaps by volunteers.
- ☒ Last time I visited there was a lot of gang graffiti on the picnic bench
- ☒ There should be more safety precautions near the streets, such as a latching gate to keep children from running into traffic.
- I think for safety reasons it would be nice to have a latching gate to the entrance when you're coming off the sidewalk from 1st street. Considering it's so close to the road I think it would give parents peace of mind knowing their little ones would be slowed down by a gate if they were to run off. At this time it's just an open gap. Toddlers & small kids are quick even if you are diligently watching them.
- ☒ This park is so small and sweet. I would love to see this park cleaned up a little. Most of all the stones what the kid made are broken or in the creek, there was broken glass all around the tables.

Desired Additions

- ☒ A restroom would be nice
- ☒ Add a swings, public restroom, picnic table because parents would like to sit and watch kids play. Might be dirty to use library bathroom and not always open.
- ☒ Bathroom needed
- ☒ Bathroom?
- ☒ More lighting. I use the park during the day
- ☒ Really small park. but would be nice to expand
- ☒ We were so excited about the "accessible" playground. It didn't really turn out to be that way. In fact, the little ramp thingy into the playground isn't even usable. Once you get a wheelchair user in there, then what?

Other Comments

- Don't have any
- Haven't seen it
- I don't know
- N/A
- Never been
- never been
- Never used it
- No idea
- Phoenix
- We have never been to this park
- We haven't visited in years :(
- Where are they?

Bear Creek Greenway

General Comments

- Great in morning for bike rides.
- Good attempts to keep side growth down!
- I think the greenway is really good
- My husband and I used this a lot while we were able - walking and bike riding. It's great and always wished it would have been created much sooner,
- satisfied with city's commitment
- Use our bikes on it

Cleanliness and Maintenance

- I love the Greenway. I'd like to help remove debris I have experience cutting and maintaining trails.
- Blacktop is in need of maintenance
- Keep the vegetation off the path
- More needs to be done about litter and animal waste as well as the presence of vagrants
- Need to clean up, weed, and remove black berry infestation along the Phoenix stretch
- Needs more/regular maintenance
- Some garbage along path and still don't feel very safe in the area but still ride our bikes. Looking forward to having path down to the main path (near intersection) completed through.
- Some of the thorn bushes extend into the path.
- The Greenway is interspersed with uneven terrain due to tree roots growing through.
- There are numerous cracks and potholes that need attention.
- Tree roots causing bulging on the pike path needs to be dealt with and brush needs to be kept back
- With 1/4 mile markers were repainted to see them better. Otherwise good.

Safety

- Dangerous for people who are on it along given opportunity for homeless to live and harass people - Plus more cost to maintain and for the police to check on
- Do not feel safe to be on the greenway at any location.

- ☐ Don't feel safe walking alone
- ☐ Don't feel safe walking the Greenway with the homeless living along the creek
- ☐ Don't feel safe walking there
- ☐ As a woman alone I feel unsafe or trapped on the greenway because there are not enough exits to leave if I should feel threatened. The Blue Heron Park is next to the greenway and creek which I love but I see many bums ruining the park for me as they lurk around, lay on the tables and destroy the restrooms.
- ☐ Personal safety is a concern with transient population. I would like to see volunteers on golf carts patrolling or a more visible police presence.
- ☐ Feels unsafe due to certain users. I do not allow my teen to use unsupervised.
Safety issues
- ☐ Do not feel safe towards evening. I think it will be better when the remodel is done.
- ☐ Homeless camping issue - need safe trails too. Open water way spots for nature observation.
- ☐ Homeless camping spots in hidden areas
- ☐ homeless people
- ☐ Homeless people camping
- ☐ I don't think I would feel safe on the greenway
- ☐ I feel less safe in this park, because of homeless.
- ☐ I frequently walk here and encounter transient persons and have concerns for my safety
- ☐ I hardly use the greenway due to safety concerns. Are there conversations about lighting?
- ☐ I have not been on the Bear Creek Greenway since the construction on the bridge started. When I did, I thought that it was a very nice way to bike around the valley. There is a problem with vagrancy, but that goes without saying in most parks and areas like the Greenway.
- ☐ I think the Greenway does have a problem with people who I've "outdoors" (the homeless). But that issue must be resolved by our local and state government - it is beyond the scope of the parks.
- ☐ I want it to be safe for my family to go on.
- ☐ It feels closed off and dangerous for a single woman to run on this path. I wish it was more open.
- ☐ It would feel more comfortable with lighting or less brush. Also (though this'll likely be fixed with updated road) it is a hazard to cross the bridge with the busy traffic.
- ☐ My concerns are transient activity, and theft. It's a wonderful system to travel by bike, but if I park my car in the parking lot to travel the Greenway, how safe is my vehicle?
- ☐ Not safe
- ☐ Not very safe in my opinion
- ☐ A fence along the path and the water would make it much safer for my young grandchildren to walk and ride their bikes without the fear of them getting too close to the edge.
- ☐ bikes and skateboarders that I think they own the path - Bikes that don't warn walkers - have been almost hit several times and small dog sideswiped - don't use path alone if a senior.
- ☐ Only use it once in a while. Feels unsafe to go too alone.
- ☐ Pretty but too many homeless hiding

- safety
- Safety
- Safety and homeless
- Seems unsafe because of homeless. No access conveniently for last 2 years. More benches, more patrol. Better paving and cleaning of bike trail.
- Should be patrolled for homeless people more often
- Sketchy/unsafe
- There are many homeless camps along the Greenway that make us question safety
- The Greenway is not a safe place. It is a Rape/Murder waiting to happen. Too bad it could be a great place
- The greenway just seems to attract the worst kinds of people and never seems safe, and being a close resident of it, I wish it was removed.
- This bike path is fine. Too many homeless camps around it. Costs too much money. Should be lanes through town. I hate the "road diet" we need 2 lanes both directions. Bike riders should use the expensive greenway!!!
- too many homeless hang out along Bear Creek
- Too many homeless people camp out along there. I do not feel safe even riding my bike there. That whole area needs to be supervised by police in my opinion.
- Too over grown, dangerous
- Very sketchy and unsafe
- Well maintained, but it's the Greenway (scary) county wide issue. I do feel it is a safer stretch than Medford.
- Worried about safety. Homeless people
- Would like it patrolled for safety
- Would love to utilize the Greenway more with my children but have been afraid because of past experiences with transients. If I felt more secure I would utilize the Greenway much more. Volunteers bike patrollers for safety? Phoenix police (Jackson County) hiring bike officers for the Greenway? (Yes I know it would be an additional tax)

Desired Additions

- In my opinion, need more flowers. Pretty things to look at.
- Lighted path would be great
- Need more restrooms along the way - especially if walkers are going far on the trail. Also, because of the fencing which is understandable - it doesn't always feel safe if a person (not criminal or vagrant) needed to exit the trail sooner than planned

Other Comments

- Excited for the construction to be completed on Fern Valley.
- good after construction of Exit 24
- Creek is not visible - no access available
- I wish bikes used our \$22,000,000 Greenway instead of tearing up our roads and using my taxes to make a 4 lane road 2 lanes with bike lanes I never see anyone use!
- Is this handicap accessible? Where is the access?
- Needs TLC
- Never used it
- None

Question 5: Have you visited a park or greenway in Phoenix in the last 12 months?

5a. If you answered NO, what are the main reasons you DIDN'T use a park or greenway?

- Don't know about accessibility
- I have dogs I would like to bring there and no kids yet
- My dog passed away
- Not much opportunity to do it
- Personal Limitations
- There's no dog parks!

Question 7: What activities do you and your family use the parks for?

Biking, boarding, active transport

- Bicycling
- biking
- Biking
- Cycling
- Relaxation and biking
- Skate boarding, rollerblading, BMXing
- walking
- relaxing and strolling
- Walking

Leisure and socializing

- Enjoyment of outdoors
- Just chilling
- leisure
- relaxation
- relax,
- relaxing and strolling
- Relaxing by Boat Creek,
- to relax
- picnics
- eating during lunch break
- picnicking, lunch
- picnic lunch

Gardening

- Garden
- Garden plot
- community garden use
- gardening at Blue Heron
- Visiting the community garden

Other

- A little of this, a little of that
- bird watching
- bird watching
- Rest stops

Question 9: Check any and all populations you feel are underserved by Phoenix's parks.

- access from parking lot
- Animals
- Different parks serve different groups
- I am disabled and need to sit, please add picnic tables to all parks
- I didn't pay attention to whether or not all populations were being served
- I don't know
- need soccer fields/ tennis courts, more team sports activities
- Our fur babies (pups)... Dogs
- people with dogs/pets
- Water based facilities would be nice
- Water sport needed

Question 10: How important are the following indoor park facilities to you or your household? Mark your preference for future investment in the improvement or addition of the following park facilities.

- community dance classes
- Does the community center mean YMCA? If yes, then it would be medium investment. If anything else, low interest
- Dog park
- Dog park
- Outdoor spaces should be prioritized
- pickle ball
- Sauna, jacuzzi, steam room
- skate park
- SKATEPARK
- soccer field
- Universal Access for all users
- Wall for wallball, and lacrosse
- gymnasium
- outdoor tennis courts
- skate park
- SKATEPARK
- Splash pad
- skate park
- SKATEPARK

Question 11: How important are the following outdoor park facilities to you or your household? Mark your preference for future investment in the improvement or addition of the following park facilities.

- lush creative landscape
- Maybe disc golf
- Obstacle Course
- Pickle ball

- skate park
- Skate Park
- Universal Access for all
- comfortable seating to sit and read...
- ponds, waterfalls

Question 14: If you think Phoenix needs additional parks, please tell us what kind of parks and types of facilities you would like.

Water feature, park, or pool

- a splash park
- Splash park
- A waterpark (aquatic center)
- A water park for the summer
- A water park of some sort would be really nice. Maybe an addition to a current park or in a whole new location all together.
- A water park would be great!
- Splash pad
- water feature parks
- Maybe a water park.
- I would love to see a water park
- splash/ water play area for kids
- Pool and Rec center
- Splash parks, shaded play areas
- Spray park would be wonderful!
- Swim/Rec
- Swimming pool and water park
- Swimming pool, splash park, tennis courts, swings, rock climbing wall
- Swimming pool/community rec/fitness center
- swimming pools
- Water features, covered play areas, and more restrooms
- Water park
- Water park! with restrooms, shaded areas, enough parking
- Water park
- Water/Spray park
- A pool that is indoors, not everyone can afford a pool and it gets very hot here!

Dog Park

- Dog park
- Dog park
- Dog park
- Dog parks
- Doggy parks
- Pup parks please!
- Dog Park
- A dog park would be great (maybe in C)?
- dog park

- ☐ A dog park!
- ☐ We really need an off leash dog park with trees and covered picnic area
- ☐ Dog park

Gardens/landscaping/natural

- ☐ A botanical garden would be cool
- ☐ A nature park with rock climbing features would be fantastic!
- ☐ Comfortable, lush, beautifully landscaped
- ☐ Community farms / botanical learning center
- ☐ gardens and open areas
- ☐ I feel like something more recreational than just a large span of grass would be great.
- ☐ I would like to see natural parks with green spaces, shade trees, and natural looking walking trails
- ☐ Maybe even a botanical garden in addition if finances permit
- ☐ Indoor facilities or a botanical garden.
- ☐ Community garden space.
- ☐ More gardens, nature education like, something that pertains to the eco-system. Place where teens and children would enjoy going to.
- ☐ botanical gardens with tables

Sports/Activity facility

- ☐ A dog. disc golf course along greenway by blue heron park
- ☐ A skate park is a must with bowls and street trick equipment.
- ☐ Tennis courts
- ☐ Skate parks
- ☐ Exercise park or to play sports
- ☐ I would like some fitness equipment along with an area for small children to play.
- ☐ Indoor pool / fitness center
- ☐ Music hall, concert venue, build an amazing venue where people can have fun. Families and adults
- ☐ Outdoor self guided fitness station
- ☐ Pickeball / picnicking
- ☐ performance venues, covered venue areas
- ☐ FOR MUSIC PERFORMANCES LIKE BRIT
- ☐ I'd love to see a performance venue and/or playground in the middle of town. We need to unite the town of phoenix and that starts at the core. We need the town to also look good to attract more families. If we have a nice central area, we could have weekly farmer's markets and other outdoor events.
- ☐ Performance community spaces
- ☐ Skate Park is desperately needed. Lots of skaters in town with no legal place to skate. Every city except Phoenix has one. There is not enough for teens to do.
- ☐ Skate park or bike terrain tracks to give teens something to do.
- ☐ SKATE PARK PLEASE!!!
- ☐ regulation height basketball
- ☐ Tennis courts
- ☐ Tennis Courts, Disc Golf
- ☐ Performance venue.
- ☐ volleyball/basketball court
- ☐ skatepark, an area for sand volleyball & tennis courts

Specific location/demographic

- ☐ I think that every family (and person) should be able to walk to a playground, park, and picnic table area!
- ☐ Family friendly
- ☐ Family parks, water fan, picnic tables and bike paths especially with changes downtown.
- ☐ A multi-use park, similar in layout to colver rd park in desperately needed on the east side of the freeway
- ☐ Better play or gathering area for young children age 0-3 to play and learn.
- ☐ Playgrounds for children
- ☐ Elder friendly park in the south Hwy 99 area.
- ☐ Even a small park so seniors and kids could walk from most places they live, a place seniors could congregate while kids play.
- ☐ Just a family park like cover would be nice. There are no parks over in section C, so even a small park would be good.
- ☐ One that would attract local seniors. Covered patio table, horseshoes, and cooking facilities.
- ☐ There are no parks across the freeway.
- ☐ There is nothing on the A side of the freeway, like Phoenix hills. Children and parents need a park to walk/bike to. This becomes critical as they get to junior high and start creating trouble for neighbors in their gardens. We of need a park in A.
- ☐ Universal Access for all in all aspects. Isn't it easier to make it right from the start so all can play?
- ☐ more activities for adults and teens, and all ages.
- ☐ A flat trail to talk/ride bikes on for elderly/ disabled in east Phoenix.
- ☐ We also need a shooting range in East Phoenix! behind Home Depot area. A park with swings and a slide and picnic table that allows dogs with a public restroom in East Phoenix behind Home Depot.
- ☐ We live off Fern Valley Rd in section A. We have no destination parks or stores or coffee houses or restaurants to walk to in our area (other than big box store Home Depot - don't get me started on that) It would greatly improve the quality of our lives to have some options on this side of the freeway.. and now I hear we're getting another storage facility just around the corner. Really can't we add a cute park, good bean coffee or healthy farmer's market store/restaurant to improve our community?
- ☐ Young kids parks. 0-5 yrs olds

Trails

- ☐ Off leash nature-walk parks
- ☐ Larger parcels of land that presence trees. Putting in parks that could connect up to possible hiking trails.
- ☐ Jogging paths
- ☐ Also more walking paths
- ☐ natural walkways to provide connectivity from open space to park to pocket parks or playgrounds...get away from the need for cars to access park lands with parking, runoff, vehicle related costs.
- ☐ Parks with walking trails that aren't isolated or that could be dangerous for a person to be alone.
- ☐ nature walks
- ☐ Walking trails
- ☐ Walking trails next to waterways - examples: / Eugene - Willamette River all thru town / Springfield - Clearwater Park and trail / Sacramento - American river walk / In Phoenix - Community center - like the YMCA in Medford

- hiking trails without homeless campers

Basic facilities/similar expansion

- Playground, Swings
- Playgrounds with coverings. Dog parks
- Pocket park with playground and picnic area
- Play area, grass, picnic tables & cooking bbq
- More of the same
- Grass, picnic area, tennis court, playground.
- Restrooms
- Similar to Blue Heron and Colver Rd
- Young kid playgrounds with shade areas.

Other

- Get the state to drop the "wet lands" crap on the meadow view property and make it "natural park" - the residents would help.
- Small local fairgrounds
- The giant sandbox in medford's Hawthorne park is also a great feature.
- Colver road park is what I would suggest modeling future parks after.
- For beauty - rest - relaxation - for community - take some of the ... out of B and replace with beauty parks
- Map shoes colver park at wrong side of road. Country View. In old growth tall trees.
- Parks and rec program for children and teens
- Smaller versions of Hawthorne Park and Lithia Park

Question 15: Do you think the City of Phoenix should allocate a portion of the Cannabis Tax towards park improvements, improved maintenance, and/or new parks?

Don't support use of cannabis

- I do not even approve of all the places here that sell it
- I don't believe cannabis should be used at all. Its a drug. I don't support any part of it, even taxing it.
- Not supportive of cannabis for recreational use. I don't know how to support funding from it.
- You don't want growers in your city you should not collect any tax

Use for other needs

- I think they should use it to put the road back to what us tax payers paid for!
- Parks are important, but if the cannabis tax is better served to improve overall quality some place else, then it is better where it should be.
- Should go to police and schools
- Should help pay far above for roads, police and fire debts and schools

Other

- I don't want to over tac these businesses. They create economic opportunity from nothing and invest locally
- If it's going towards a skatepark
- not sure what it goes toward now
- Where else would the money go?
- Who knows?
- YES! AND SCHOOLS!!!

Question 16: Would you support a new fee on your utility bill to pay for park improvements, improved maintenance, and/or new parks?

Depends on amount

- A marginal increase would be fine.
- depends how much
- depends on how high the fee is
- depends on how much
- Depends on money increase
- Depends on price. Would prefer cannabis tax
- How much it costs?
- How much?
- It depends on how high it would be.
- Not a property tax, but if its a decent fee it may be considered if its on a utility bill.
- on how much money is used
- On the amount and the length of time
- What's the plan? How much money?

Depends on what it goes to

- Depends on cost. Would be willing to support dog park.
- Depends on what is improved if I want to contribute
- If it was going towards a skatepark
- Only if it its only for the parks
- What is provided and how often maintained
- yes to build water features, dog park, pool, and fitness center

Other

- I don't live here. I would do it
- I don't live in the city limits.
- I rent and live in apartments. Senior. If fee goes up to owners then rent goes up
- set fee? percentage? permanent? temporary? would it increase over time as most taxes do?
- would first like to see it come from those profiting in our town before those on fixed incomes are asked.
- Would see a proposal to vote on

Question 17: If you were given \$100 to spend on parks in Phoenix how would you divide it among the following categories? You may put it all in one category or in any combination of categories.

- Activity staff. Seasonal youth activities
- Benches on teh Creek
- bills
- Cameras/patrol - greenway
- offset taxes with it
- organizing venues
- pet park
- Pool or water feature
- Skate park
- skate park
- to help add tennis courts, horseshoes, basketball etc

Question 18: Do you have any additional comments or suggestions about how to improve Phoenix's parks and recreation facilities?

General comments

- ☐ As Phoenix develops, I am hopeful it will continue to develop in a community oriented direction. Parks will be essential in expanding community and bringing more families to the area.
- ☐ Glad you brought up parks. Need nice in every park, especially BlueHeron
- ☐ Good job with Blue Heron. Now look at neighborhoods. Thank you.
- ☐ I enjoy the small town feeling of our current parks. I feel comfortable taking my young kids to play. Bear Creek or Hawthorne in Medford are too big and then feel dangerous to me.
- ☐ I love that you're asking the public. Thank You. I also think cannabis dispensaries should be permitted in phoenix =. It would bring a lot of money in the town I feel there's a strong support of that in Phoenix
- ☐ Keep up the good work!
- ☐ Thank you for asking us about our opinion

Park Additions

- ☐ A zen garden with water features would be nice. // The more nature (grass, tress, birds) the better.
- ☐ Both blue Heron and Colver parks have wide open spaces, which is nice to have to some degree, but I feel we can add more activities to parts of these parks to provide more to do in town for local residents. Our parks are fine if I want use a playground, shoot baskets, or just walk. But much of the time we end up going to the parks in Talent and Ashland.
- ☐ Bring in a skate park for the skaters and the youth.
- ☐ Changing tables in bathroom for babies
- ☐ EXPANDING AND IMPROVING THE PARKS. MAKING ALL THE PARKS SMOKE FREE. CONSIDER WATER PARKS, DISC GOLF, UNPAVED TRAILS AND MORE ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS. WE HAVE PLENTY OF PARKS IN PHOENIX. LETS FOCUS ON IMPROIVING THEM BEFORE DECIDING TO MAKE MORE PARKS.
- ☐ I don't believe we need more parks, we need to improve the ones we have and add on to them what we lack. A dog park is a must have for the community. Gang graffiti must be painted over right away.
- ☐ Improving current park qualities and adding a dog park would be great
- ☐ Just to have more options for teenagers & adults. It's great we gave the horseshoe pits but it would be nice to have skateparks, volleyball or tennis courts in addition.
- ☐ Look into San Diego's "Old Town". Need a reason for people to come to Phoenix. Need food trucks, fiestas, music, artist colony, tiny businesses, pop up stuff. Flea market, xmas bazaar in July promote community for up and coming families. It can all be done in our parks
- ☐ Dog park or fenced dog area in existing park.
- ☐ Need a pool in Phoenix
- ☐ Remove some of the many features for younger kids and add skate obstacles. A full sized skate park is also needed due to the large population of skateboarders and teens in general with no place to hang out outside of school.
- ☐ Skate park
- ☐ Skatepark for teens. Activity based improvements/additions for middle school, teens, and families.
- ☐ We need pet parks and a disc golf course
- ☐ Would like to see more county farm look features. Brick designed ground entry to pathways.
- ☐ To me the most beautiful and used parks are those that provide shade during the warm months. Trees and water features or water play areas are what draw my family to a park during the summer. I think its important make the park experience

that's pleasing to the senses. You can have nice playground equipment, but if the grounds aren't pleasing and visually it's less likely families will want to go there.

- ☐ More shade trees. Schools track -fields basketball courts - playground equipment close by and so is down the road 99 to nature
- ☐ More greenery, shade, and water features
- ☐ Both blue Heron and Colver parks have wide open spaces, which is nice to have to some degree, but I feel we can add more activities to parts of these parks to provide more to do in town for local residents. Our parks are fine if I want use a playground, shoot baskets, or just walk. But much of the time we end up going to the parks in Talent and Ashland.
- ☐ A community center that offers classes for hobbies such as sewing, art, jewelry making, gardening, cooking, and classes for youth. Then for teenagers classes such as sports, fitness, music, art, drama, woodshed, gun safety,/ shooting/outdoors, bow shooting, auto shop. I don't see a place for extra curricular activities outside of school for kids. I also didn't see a place offering classes/hobbies/activities for ages 20-40 either that are for a housewife, that is not attending college and can't work/doesn't. All I have is the library and genealogy library. I get very bored and didn't want to go to Medford. / / A shooting range and outdoor/nature park in East Phoenix! Plenty of space for it and a need on this side of the interstate. One that allows dogs, has a flat bike and walking trail and public restroom with picnic tables. // There's no park whatsoever in East Phoenix! We really need one over here! Especially since the new interchange has moved the over pass north of Home Depot. I have 2 dogs, plan on starting a family and I am disabled. I am unemployed and cannot walk until the afternoon so I would love a dog park over here, an indoor pool, a park to take my future kids to and a safe trail that is flat (not uphill) to ride my bike on or go walk. These areas also need extra surveillance due to the homeless and thefts in this area I've had twice!

Maintenance and operations

- ☐ Ability to make reservations at specific locations for parties/gettogethers.
- ☐ At this point I do not feel that security is an issue.
- ☐ Clean up vegetation by the creek. Add security along path.
- ☐ Community garden space should be given to community members first before out of town folks are considered...we all pay for the resource with water, space etc. So it should be open to Phoenix citizens first. Let them create a community garden in their own areas. / Summer rec programs would be nice....perhaps hiring an outdoor educator with any new revenue. A splash park would be a great addition to Blue Heron similar to the Jville or south Medford ones.
- ☐ Fix the bumpy, broken, path around colver park
- ☐ More consistent maintenance.
- ☐ Time and effort on fields
- ☐ Clean up vegetation by the creek.

Programing/publicity

- ☐ announce happenings in many places and early since not every one gets a newspaper, watches/listens to the news etc. maybe fliers at businesses, library, water bills... I hate seeing how wonderful an event "was" on the news as it is too late to go! So have news radio announce "before" events. We need a water play area.
- ☐ Better coverage where the otto caster and colver rd parks are
- ☐ A summer parks and rec program would be beautiful
- ☐ summer program for teens

Security

- ☐ Greenway - improve security open up more
- ☐ I think the parks in Phoenix are great and well maintained, although I would safer if there was more of law enforcement even if it was just a drive by through the parking lot. Blue heron and cover park are pretty secluded during the weekdays and have had a to leave a few times due to feeling unsafe.
- ☐ I would like to see more lighting. I have had experiences finding people sleeping at the park. hiding int the play structures. When it begins to get dark some shady characters are arriving at the parks.
- ☐ More lighting in all parks
- ☐ More lighting on sidewalks and trails
- ☐ more security.
- ☐ We feel the greenway could be made safer.
- ☐ Security police on bikes thru greenway and parks patrolling.
- ☐ Add security along path.
- ☐ All in all the city does a fine job the only true issue area to me is the greenway. If there were a way to reduce access from neighborhoods via wall or fence and monitored with cameras, other means I feel it would improve the city as a whole!

Other

- ☐ I think this questionnaire went way overboard fir a city the size of Phoenix. Maybe you were thinking of Phoenix, AZ where they can expand into the rest of the desert
- ☐ The way they put the lanes to one lane is not very helpful in my opinion.
- ☐ I'm not from here nor live here. Tire blew back and forth from Ashland, Medford, and Grants Pass. (Josephine County Historical Society) Stayed at the Bavarian for 2 weeks 2 months ago and discovered Bear Creek Greenway. / / I would like to apply as the maintenance worker or do some volunteer work.
michaeldcollins06@gmail.com 541-292-6795
- ☐ Some of my earlier comments may belong here
- ☐ No
- ☐ No
- ☐ No
- ☐ No
- ☐ Though I chose no on Q15 & Q16 I agree with weed tax and would be ok with a utility fee if the funds were directly injected in Phoenix Schools. By improving our schools we can increase our property values and increase the tax base. With increased tax revenue we can explore truly great park ideas.
- ☐ I would have the city keep my \$100 and pay the cost of a money managing course for police chief Bowker, who's done nothing but damage to the city by learning behind a distressed property (Rose & 5th) only to move east medford and buy a distressed property on his wife's name/credit. At the same time, Bowker has Phoenix committed to ridiculously leveraged contract. Lower all city officials salaries! More importantly whats Bowker doing with his money?