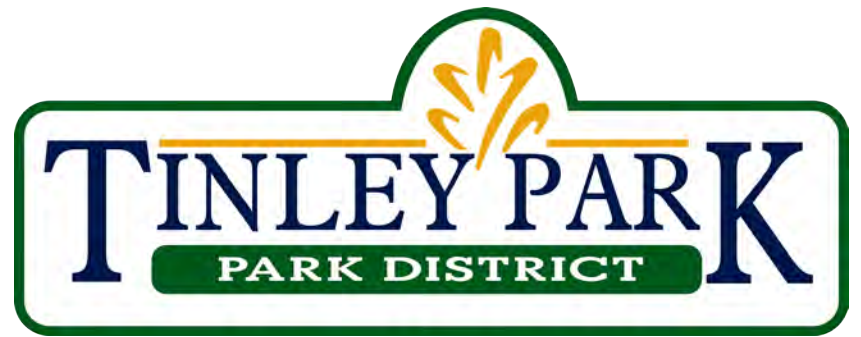




COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN

2026-2031



Experience the Fun 🌿



2026-2031 Comprehensive Master Plan

Tinley Park-Park District 2026-2031 Comprehensive Master Plan is hereby adopted by the Park District Board of Commissioners on 17th day of August in the year 2026.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Lisa O'Donovan", written over a horizontal line.

Lisa O'Donovan, President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Shawn Roby", written over a horizontal line.

Shawn Roby, Executive Director



RESOLUTION NO 26-R-30

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE TINLEY PARK-PARK DISTRICT 2026-2031 MASTER PLAN AND UPDATED MISSION, VISION, AND VALUES

WHEREAS, the Tinley Park-Park District is located in Cook & Will Counties of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the Tinley Park-Park District has undertaken a comprehensive Master Plan process to establish priorities and guide the District's planning and decision-making over the next five years; and

WHEREAS, the Master Plan was developed through a comprehensive planning process that included a Board retreat, a statistically valid public survey, an employee survey, a park inventory, and stakeholder input; and

WHEREAS, the information and recommendations gathered through this process have been incorporated into the Tinley Park-Park District 2026-2031 Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, through the Master Plan process, updated Mission, Vision, and Values statements have also been identified to better reflect the District's current direction, priorities, and commitment to the community; and

WHEREAS, the updated Mission, Vision, and Values will be incorporated into the District's applicable policies, manuals, plans, and other organizational materials; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Tinley Park-Park District finds that it is in the best interest of the District to approve the Tinley Park-Park District 2026-2031 Master Plan and the updated Mission, Vision, and Values statements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commissioners of the TINLEY PARK-PARK DISTRICT as follows:

SECTION 1: The Preambles hereto are hereby made a part of, and an operative provision of, this Resolution as if fully restated herein.

SECTION 2: The Tinley Park-Park District 2026-2031 Master Plan is hereby approved and adopted as the District's guiding plan for the next five years.

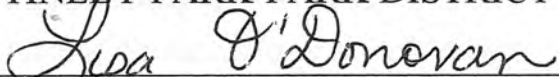
SECTION 3: The updated Mission, Vision, and Values statements identified through the Master Plan process are hereby approved, and the Executive Director and District staff are authorized to incorporate them into the District's applicable policies, manuals, plans, publications, and other organizational materials as appropriate.

SECTION 4: That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect on the date approved and passed by the Board of Commissioners of the TINLEY PARK-PARK DISTRICT.

Approved and passed this 17th day of August 2026.

AYES: 3
NAYS: Ø
ABSENT: 2
ABSTAIN: Ø

TINLEY PARK-PARK DISTRICT



President, Board of Park Commissioners

Attest:



Secretary, Board of Park Commissioners



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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Board Of Commissioners

Lisa O'Donovan, President
Bernie O'Boyle, Vice President
Marie Ryan, Treasurer
Ashley Rubino, Secretary
Lisa Butler, Commissioner

Park District Administrative Staff

Shawn Roby, Executive Director
Patricia Peccia, Business Manager
Mary Ann Troc, Human Resources Supervisor
Tricia Iraci, Administrative Assistant

Park District Facility Staff

Mandi Vinson, Facilities Manager
Kevin Hullinger, Tinley Fitness Manager
Rose Sessler, Tinley Fitness Assistant Manager
Susan Stiers, Facilities Supervisor
Amber Furman, Aquatics Supervisor

Park District Parks Staff

Ryan Veldman, Superintendent of Parks
Chad Hofstra, Park Foreman

Park District Recreation & Marketing Staff

Meghan Fenlon, Superintendent of Recreation
Debbie Maloney, Recreation Supervisor
Bailey Hecker, Recreation Supervisor
Rocco Merlo, Recreation Supervisor
Ron Woodworth, Athletic Supervisor
James Gorecki, Assistant Athletic Supervisor
Angela Marquez, Marketing and Communications Specialist
Andrew Pappas, Marketing and Communications Specialist

Park District Staff, Stakeholder and the Community

Thank you to the many Park District staff, stakeholders, partners and residents whose participation gave valuable input and feedback throughout the planning process.

Consultant Team

Design Perspectives, Inc,
Public Research group, LLC
Steven Muenz, CPRP
Wight & Company

Technology

This plan incorporated technological tools to support the analysis, including the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) platforms.

Community At The Heart of Everything We Do Tinley Park-Park District

On July 1, 1967, residents of Tinley Park voted to approve the formation of the Tinley Park-Park District. The Village population was 8,000. The Village turned over Lewis Park and Memorial Park to the Park District.

Tinley Park-Park District now stands at 40 plus park sites, with over 400 full-time, part-time, and seasonal employees serving the Village population that has increased seven-fold since 1967, as well as many non-resident park patrons.

Our Park District reflects the commitment and vision of our Park Commissioners, who serve as community representatives, and the dedicated staff who bring that vision to life each day. Together, they continually raise the standard of excellence in providing exceptional parks, facilities, programs, and recreation experiences for the community.



Executive Summary

Community at the Heart of Everything We Do

These words capture the essence of the Comprehensive Master Planning journey. Throughout this process, the Tinley Park-Park District placed the community at the center of every conversation, decision, and recommendation. The Master Plan was developed through extensive public engagement, stakeholder collaboration, demographic analysis, recreation assessments, financial evaluation, and facility planning to ensure the Park District's future reflects the needs, aspirations, and values of those it serves.



This Plan is more than a roadmap for parks and recreation—it is a shared vision for enhancing quality of life. It recognizes the Park District's proud history of providing exceptional parks, facilities, programs, and services while embracing opportunities to evolve alongside a changing community. The result is a forward-looking strategy that balances fiscal responsibility with innovation, preserves existing assets while investing in new opportunities, and strengthens the Park District's commitment to serving residents of all ages and abilities.

Throughout the planning process, residents, staff, Board members, community stakeholders, and partner organizations contributed valuable insight regarding the Park District's strengths, opportunities, and future priorities. Their collective input consistently reinforced the Park District's reputation as an organization that provides extraordinary recreational opportunities, quality parks and facilities and dedicated staff committed to improving the quality of life within the community. At the same time, participants identified opportunities to modernize facilities, expand recreation offerings, improve organizational communication, strengthen partnerships, and strategically invest in new recreational assets.

A comprehensive evaluation of demographic trends indicates that Tinley Park's population will remain relatively stable over the coming years while experiencing gradual growth in older adult age groups. These changes reinforce the importance of providing flexible recreation opportunities that serve residents throughout every stage of life. Future programming will require increased emphasis on wellness, lifelong learning, active adult recreation, intergenerational activities, inclusive programming, and community gathering opportunities while continuing to maintain strong youth and family programming.

The community survey confirmed that the Tinley Park-Park District enjoys an exceptionally strong reputation among residents. Participants consistently praised the quality and diversity of recreation programs, the cleanliness and maintenance of parks and facilities, the professionalism of Park District staff, and the organization's positive contribution to community life. The survey also demonstrated broad public support for continued investment in parks, recreation, and facilities to meet the evolving needs of a growing and changing community.

The recreation program assessment identified several important trends within the Park District's program portfolio. While successful areas such as camps continue to demonstrate strong participation and long-term stability, other seasonal recreation programs are experiencing declining enrollment and an increasing number of programs reaching the declining stage of their lifecycle. While it is important to add new programs into the portfolio, the analysis places great opportunities in strategically evaluating existing offerings, retiring programs with consistently low participation, reinvesting in successful programs, and intentionally developing innovative recreational opportunities that better reflect evolving community interests. This approach will strengthen the overall program portfolio while improving operational efficiency and customer satisfaction.



Financially, the Park District remains in a strong and stable position. Positive operating results, healthy fund balances, and continued fiscal responsibility provide a solid foundation for future capital investment. Although recent increases in Equalized Assessed Valuation have strengthened the Park District's financial capacity, limited long-term population growth reinforces the need to diversify revenue sources, actively pursue grants and partnerships, and carefully prioritize capital improvements that provide the greatest community benefit.



The Parks and Facilities Assessment confirms that the Tinley Park-Park District maintains an extensive and diverse park system that exceeds nationally recognized level-of-service benchmarks for park acreage per resident. The continued investment in maintaining and modernizing these facilities will ensure they remain attractive, accessible, and financially sustainable while meeting changing recreation trends and community expectations. An emphasis has been placed on improving accessibility, expanding operational efficiency, strengthening preventative maintenance practices and implementing a long-term Capital Asset Replacement Program to invest in the Park District's significant public park and recreation infrastructure.

The redevelopment of the 280-acre former state-owned property represents one of the most significant opportunities in the history of the Tinley Park-Park District. While the site's transformation has required extensive environmental remediation and cleanup, this important work is now nearing completion. Guided by the Park District's commitment that Community is at the Heart of Everything We Do, the next phase will shift from environmental restoration to community-building. This phase through thoughtful planning, public engagement, phased implementation, and strategic grant funding, will advance the property closer to becoming the Park District's defining recreational asset for future generations.

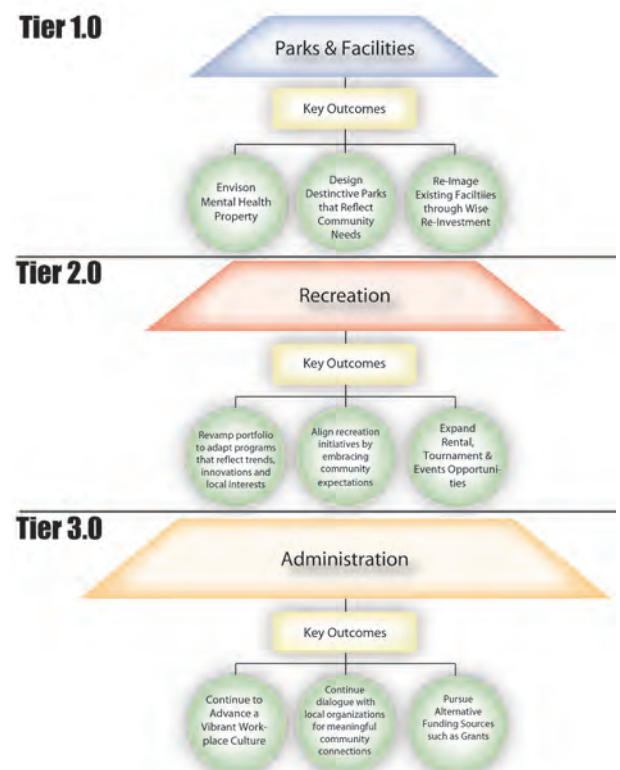


What was once a restricted brownfield site will evolve into a dynamic destination that enhances recreation, preserves natural resources, supports community wellness, and creates meaningful opportunities for residents of all ages. The successful redevelopment of this property will require a thoughtful, phased implementation strategy that balances long-term vision with fiscal responsibility, strategic partnerships, and sustainable design. As each phase is completed, the site will be transformed into a vibrant community asset that reflects the aspirations of Tinley Park residents and serves as a lasting legacy for future generations.

The Master Plan organizes its recommendations around six Cornerstone Pillars that provide the framework for future decision-making:

- Parks & Facilities
- Customer Service & Experience
- Staff Environment
- Fiscal Responsibility
- Environmental Impact
- Community Engagement

These Cornerstone Pillars support twenty-one strategic goals addressing every aspect of the Park District environment. The goals focus on modernizing parks and facilities, strengthening recreation programming, expanding community engagement, improving organizational effectiveness, investing in staff development, embracing technology, maintaining fiscal sustainability, and building stronger partnerships throughout the community. Together, these initiatives provide a balanced strategy that integrates capital improvements, recreation services, financial stewardship, and organizational excellence into a single coordinated vision.



The strategic atlas illustrates the overview of the anticipated major outcomes of the master plan. This is accomplished by assigning a level of importance to these three categories from the plan's goals and objectives, based on their level of importance which include:

(High Priority) Tier 1 – Parks & Facilities

(Mid Priority) Tier 2- Recreation

(Low Priority) Tier 3 – Administration



This hierarchy recognizes that outstanding parks, facilities, and recreation experiences remain the Park District's primary mission while emphasizing that sound governance, financial management, and organizational leadership are essential to sustaining long-term success.

Successful implementation of this Comprehensive Master Plan will require ongoing collaboration between the Board of Commissioners, Park District staff, residents, community partners, and elected officials. The Plan is intended to be a living document that guides annual budgeting, capital planning, program development, grant applications, and policy decisions while remaining flexible enough to adapt to changing community needs and emerging opportunities.

At its core, this Comprehensive Master Plan demonstrates that successful parks and recreation systems are built through meaningful partnerships with the community. By listening, planning, and investing strategically, the Tinley Park-Park District is well positioned to create vibrant parks, engaging recreation experiences, and lasting community connections for generations to come. Together, we are ensuring that community remains at the heart of everything we do.



Our Mission

The Tinley Park-Park District is committed to creative recreational programming opportunities and outstanding customer service while providing and maintaining quality recreational facilities and parks to enhance the quality of life in Tinley Park.

In review of the Mission statement above, an alternative version was created during the master planning process that captures the essence of the mission of the Park District with the following:

Enriching the quality of life for all ages in the Tinley Park community.



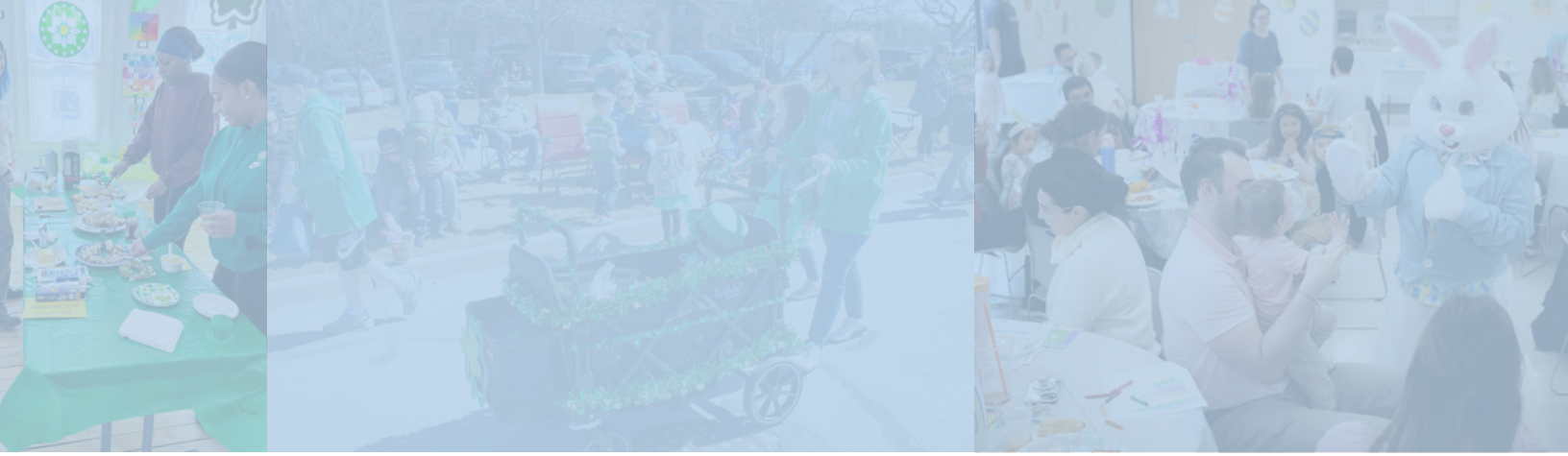


Vision

The vision of Tinley Park-Park District is to be the first choice of the residents in their pursuit of recreational opportunities.

In review of the Vision statement above, an alternative version was created during the master planning process that captures the essence of the vision of the Park District with the following:

To create vibrant and meaningful recreational experiences that enhance the everyday life for everyone that calls Tinley Park home.



Values

The organization is guided by five core values: Respect, Integrity, Accountability, Excellence, and Teamwork. Together, they emphasize treating people with dignity, acting ethically and responsibly, being transparent and accountable for performance, delivering high-quality and safe services with continuous improvement, and working collaboratively to serve the community effectively.

Respect

We serve our patrons with courtesy and dignity, recognizing the impact our actions have on the quality of life now and in the future. We value each other's opinions and ideas as well as those of others.

Integrity

We fulfill commitments in a timely and accurate manner, using resources responsibly and creatively, and observing all legal, moral, and ethical standards to meet the needs of the community.





Accountability

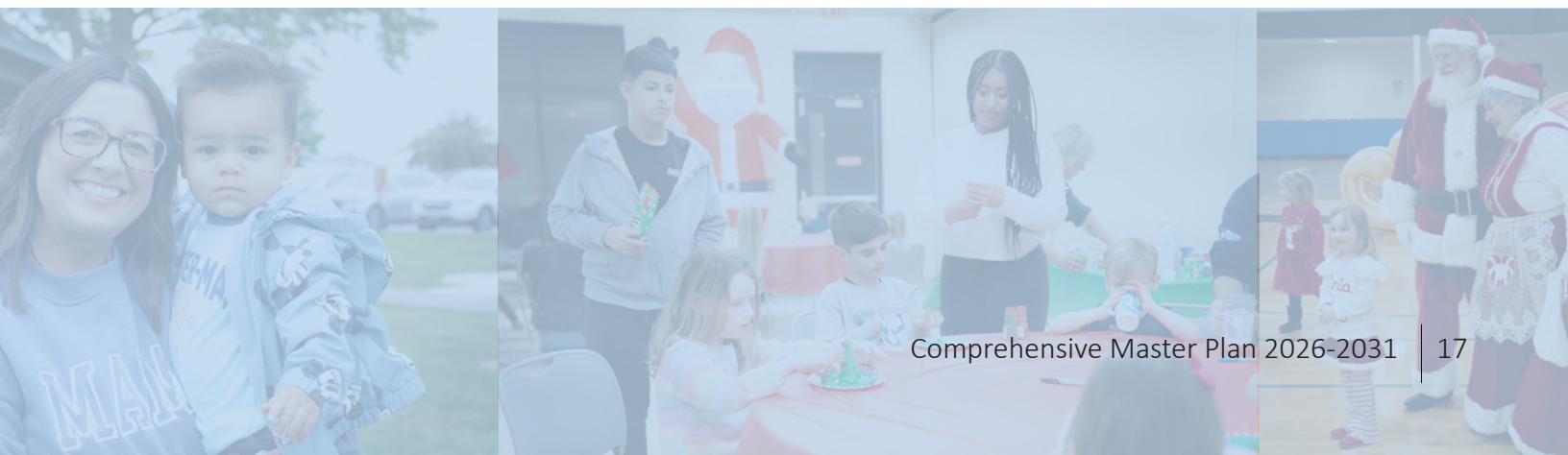
We accept responsibility and are accountable for our performance by acting with fairness, honesty, and with open and transparent communications.

Excellence

We provide quality services focused on customer value and financial performance. We provide a professional environment committed to putting the safety of its patrons and employees first. We strive to continually improve the workplace by rewarding accomplishments and encouraging employee involvement at all levels of the organization.

Teamwork

We lead the way to work together to help each other and the public we serve.





About Tinley Park-Park District

Providing excellent parks, facilities, programs and services for a dynamic community of 49,000 people in the south suburbs of Chicago, Tinley Park-Park District operates significant recreation facilities that include the Canine Campus Dog Park, Landmark Church, Museum and Schoolhouse, McCarthy Recreation Building, The Band Shell, Tinley Fitness, Tinley Junction Mini Golf and Batting Cages, Tinley Park Performing Arts Center, Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center, Vogt Visual Arts Center and the White Water Canyon Water Park.





The former Tinley Park Mental Health Center, previously owned by the State of Illinois, is the newest addition to the Park District, which is 280 acres acquired in 2024. The Park District has been proceeding with an extensive cleanup of the site. As the future unfolds for the project, the vision will certainly be shaped by the Tinley Park community. The state through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) has provided the cleanup funding.

The Tinley Park-Park District is a separate taxing government body, and the facilities include owned and leased parks. The Tinley Park-Park District and the Village do not have the same boundaries (also known as Not Coterminous).

The Park District understands the value of cooperative planning with strategic partnerships to provide effectiveness and efficiencies to advance the mission of the Park District. The Park District over the years has worked with numerous agencies, organizations and businesses that includes but not limited to the Village of Tinley Park, Chicago Southland, the Community Consolidated School District 146, Kirby School District 140, Tinley Park Public Library, Community Representatives, Civic Organizations, Sports Affiliates and Local Businesses that all aide in meeting the recreational needs of the Tinley Park Community.



Comprehensive Master Plan

Purpose & Process

The Comprehensive Master Plan Update for the Tinley Park-Park District was developed through an extensive and collaborative planning process designed to establish a shared vision for the future of the Park District. Central to this effort was a robust community engagement program that provided multiple opportunities for public participation, resulting in valuable feedback and meaningful data that helped shape the direction of this plan.



The Comprehensive Master Plan establishes clear goals, objectives, and implementation strategies intended to achieve measurable progress over time. These recommendations were informed by a comprehensive evaluation of existing parks, facilities, programs, finances, and operations, as well as an analysis of community input, demographic trends, and current service levels to identify both gaps and opportunities within the Park District system.

Comprehensive planning serves as an essential tool for guiding decision-making and prioritizing the allocation of limited resources. To ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness, this plan should be reviewed on a regular basis and updated as needed to respond to evolving social, economic, environmental, and political conditions.

Ultimately, this planning initiative provides a strategic framework and clear direction to ensure the Tinley Park-Park District continues to meet the leisure and recreational needs of the nearly 50,000 residents it serves. By working collectively, the Park District can move confidently toward a stronger, healthier, and more connected future.



Planning Timeframe

In the summer of 2025, the Tinley Park-Park District engaged a team of specialized consultants with extensive experience in park and recreation master planning, including Design Perspectives and the Public Research Group, to assist in the development of this Comprehensive Master Plan Update. Over a period of more than nine months, the consulting team worked collaboratively with Park District staff and the Board of Commissioners while actively seeking input from residents, community organizations, and other key stakeholders.



Past Comprehensive Master Plan

Major Accomplishments

Over the past five years, the Tinley Park-Park District has continued to advance the park and recreation field by pursuing initiatives that deliver lasting value to the community. The COVID-19 pandemic introduced significant restrictions on facility use, programming, and special events, limiting patron access and disrupting normal operations. During this challenging period, the Park District remained resilient, carefully managing operations to preserve its financial stability and ensure long-term sustainability.

Like many agencies, the Park District was not able to fully reopen during the 2020–2021 period. These restrictions significantly limited the operation of facilities, programs, and events that typically generate essential non-property tax revenue, requiring the Park District to adapt its service delivery model while maintaining core community services.

2020 Accomplishments

- Navigated the COVID-19 pandemic landscape to operate to the best of its abilities during heavy restrictions.
- Received recognition as an Illinois Distinguished Agency.
- Retirements and additions of key staff.

2021 Accomplishments

- Completed a significant renovation of St. Boniface Park through an OSLAD grant.
- Recreation programming surged and White Water Canyon served almost 96,000 people with the season becoming the most successful year for the water park.

2022 Accomplishments

- Completed a significant renovation of Volunteer Park through an OSLAD grant.
- White Water Canyon celebrates 20 years of water park fun.
- Replacement of the synthetic turf at Freedom Park.
- Park District intent to acquire the former Tinley Park Mental Health Center.

2023 Accomplishments

- Gov. J.B. Pritzker signs the law turning over the property over the former Tinley Park Mental Health Center to the Tinley Park-Park District for \$1.
- \$15 million grant for environmental remediation for the former Tinley Park Mental Health Center from the state of Illinois through a DCEO grant
- Tinley Fitness celebrates 10-year anniversary.
- The Park District website has been modernized for more intuitive customer experience and a new layer of transparency for our community.
- Created an Adopt-a-Park program for the public to assist with beautification of park sites throughout the district inventory

2024 Accomplishments

- Completed a significant renovation of Buedingen Park through an OSLAD grant.
- Bids are awarded for environmental cleanup, building remediation and demolition, and air-monitoring oversight. Remediation work begins for the former Tinley Park Mental Health Center.
- McCarthy Park Ball field is renovated to improve drainage and upgraded fence.
- Butterfly and pollinator gardens added at Centennial and McAllister Parks. Both locations are certified Monarch Waystations.

2025 Accomplishments

- Commissioners Park playground was replaced.
- The Fourth of July celebration returns to McCarthy Park.
- Bettenhausen Park Phase 1 work was completed.
- \$18 million grant for environmental remediation for the former Tinley Park Mental Health Center from the state of Illinois through a DCEO grant
- Master Plan, inventory, community survey, and ADA Transition Audit & Plan commenced.





Demographics

Our Residents

The Tinley Park-Park District serves a population of 49,272 residents living in 21,071 households, with an average household size of 2.33 people. The community has a relatively older and stable population, with a median age of 44.0 years, and a median household income of \$103,319, which is significantly higher than the Illinois median.

Over the next five years, the Tinley Park-Park District's demographic profile is expected to remain largely stable, with little overall change in population, age structure, race/ethnicity, or household composition. Growth is projected to be flat or slightly declining.

The most notable shifts are modest increases in older adults, growing ethnic diversity, and higher-income households. While these changes are relatively small, they may gradually influence future program offerings and facility planning to better align with evolving community needs.

The demographic profile of the Park District community suggests that recreation programming should continue to evolve to meet the changing needs of residents while maintaining the strong family-oriented foundation that has historically characterized the Park District. Population projections indicate relatively stable overall population growth over the next five years, accompanied by a gradual aging of the community. As a result, future recreation programming should balance services for children and families with expanded opportunities for teens, adults, and older adults.



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

2025-2030 OUTLOOK

Key insights about our community today and the trends shaping our future.

TINLEY PARK-PARK DISTRICT AT A GLANCE (2025)



49,272
POPULATION



21,071
HOUSEHOLDS



2.33
AVG. HOUSEHOLD
SIZE



44.0
MEDIAN AGE



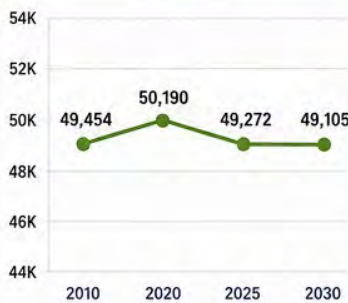
\$103,319
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD
INCOME



KEY TAKEAWAY

The Tinley Park-Park District is projected to remain stable over the next five years, with modest increases in older adults, diversity, and higher-income households. These shifts will guide programs and facilities to meet evolving community needs.

POPULATION TREND 2010-2030



Population growth is forecasted to be flat to slightly declining.
2025-2030 growth rate: -0.34%

AGE DISTRIBUTION HIGHLIGHTS 2025 vs. 2030

YOUNGER AGES (0-24)



Slight decrease
in age 0-24



OLDER AGES (65+)

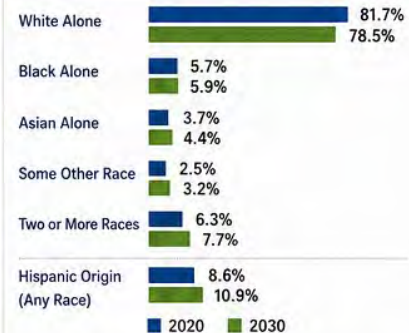


Ages 65+
increase from
16.0% to 18.3%



The biggest shift is a modest aging population as older adults grow.

RACE & ETHNICITY TRENDS 2020 vs. 2030



Increasing diversity with all minority groups showing modest growth.

HOUSEHOLD SNAPSHOT (2025)



Total Households	21,071
Families	13,530
Total Housing Units	22,009
Renter Occupied	23.3%
Vacant	4.3%



Strong homeownership with nearly 1 in 4 households renting.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME TRENDS 2025 vs. 2030



Growth is concentrated in higher income households, with the largest increase above \$200,000.

RECREATION INSIGHTS (2025)



Top Spending Potential Index
Entertainment / Recreation
Fees & Admissions
Administ

114

\$1,068.36

Avg. Spending per Household

TOP TAPESTRY SEGMENTS

K7	Room to Roam	21.9%
L1	Savvy Suburbanites	15.8%
K4	Classic Comfort	12.7%

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR THE FUTURE



Plan for an aging community with more programs and amenities for adults 55 and older.



Continue to expand inclusive programs that reflect our increasing diversity.



Leverage growth in higher-income households to support quality facilities and innovative offerings.



Maintain strong, accessible parks and recreation opportunities for all ages.



STABLE TODAY. STRONG TOMORROW.

Data Source: ESRI Business Information Solutions

Prepared by Design Perspectives

Community Needs Assessment Survey Highlights

The Public Research Group LLC provides a variety of data gathering techniques and types of analysis to help park and recreation agencies identify the needs of their residents. The data gathering techniques used for this study included a random sample survey using postcard mailing and email delivery methods.

Public Research Group, LLC (PRG) conducted a Community Survey during the Fall of 2025 for the Tinley Park-Park District. The purpose of the survey was to gather resident opinions to help set future priorities for the Park District. The survey was designed to obtain statistically valid results from a random sample of households throughout the Tinley Park-Park District. The consultant worked comprehensively with the Park District staff during the survey process.

The survey data was collected from a random sample of a postcard mailer and email blasts. The goal was to obtain a total of at least 400 survey responses. The goal was exceeded with a total of 535 responses received. Statistically, a sample of 535 households provides a margin of error of plus or minus 4.2% at a 95% confidence level ensuring that the findings are representative of the residents of the Park District.



Survey respondents were asked to complete a survey with a total of 35 questions. Within those questions, there were approximately 588 variables, leading to 20,580 possible data points, most of which were statistically quantified with only a limited number of open-ended questions. The open-ended questions were summarized. In addition to the Community Survey, a series of supplemental qualitative research efforts that were completed included a Delphi Committee focus group, public canvassing and stakeholder sessions. All these opportunities provided additional data which is valuable in the overall evaluation of the needs of the community.



TINLEY PARK-PARK DISTRICT COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

535
TOTAL RESPONSES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY FALL 2025 RANDOM SAMPLE SURVEY

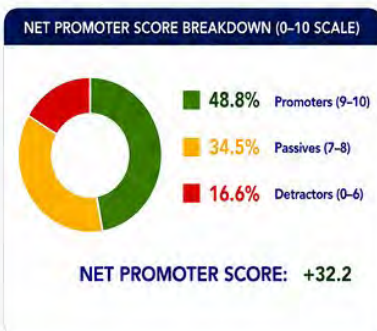
Thank you to the 535 residents who participated in our Fall 2025 random sample survey.

Your feedback helps guide the Tinley Park-Park District as we plan for the future and continue to enhance the parks, programs and facilities you value most.



95%
CONFIDENCE LEVEL

± 5.2%
MARGIN OF ERROR



KEY TAKEAWAY

Residents expressed strong satisfaction with the quality of parks, facilities, programs, and community value provided by the Tinley Park-Park District. Future opportunities focus on enhancing communication, expanding adult and senior recreation opportunities, improving athletic program consistency, and continuing investment in high-quality recreational amenities.



GREAT PARKS.



GREAT PROGRAMS.

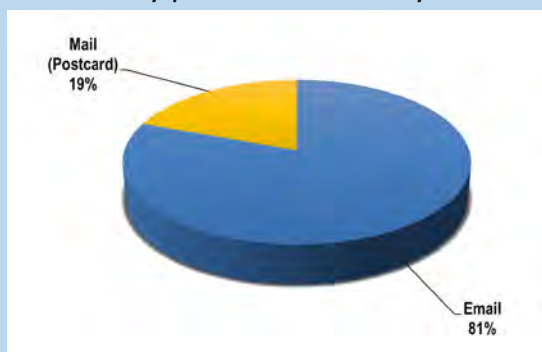


STRONG COMMUNITY.

Together, we make Tinley Park better for all!

Survey Data Demographics

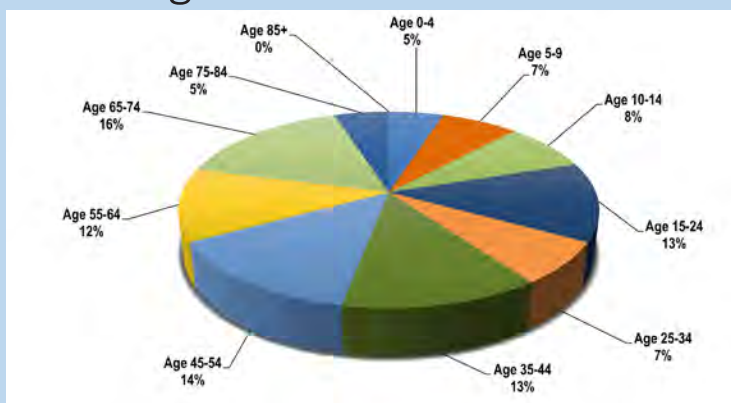
Type of Survey



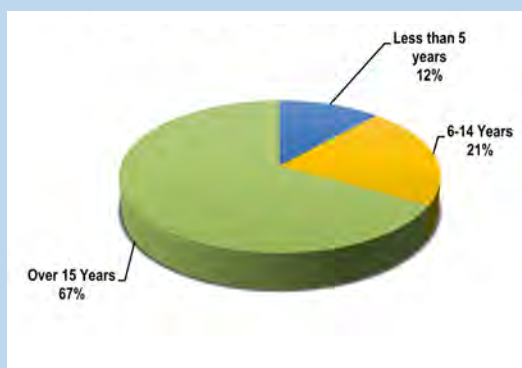
Gender



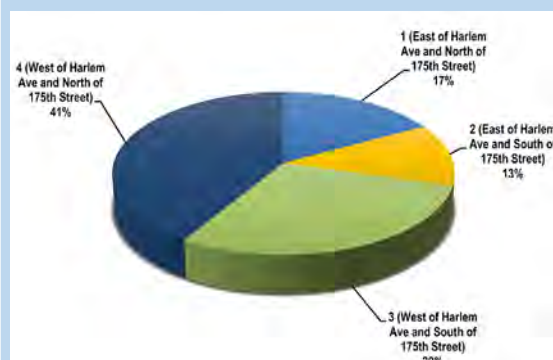
Ages within Household



Length lived within Park District Boundaries

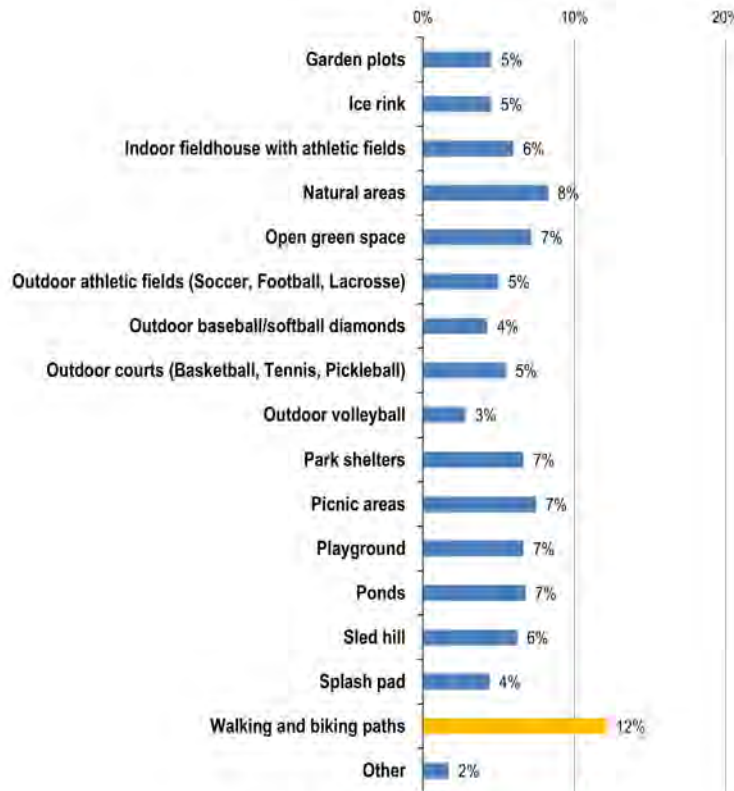


What area do you live in specifically

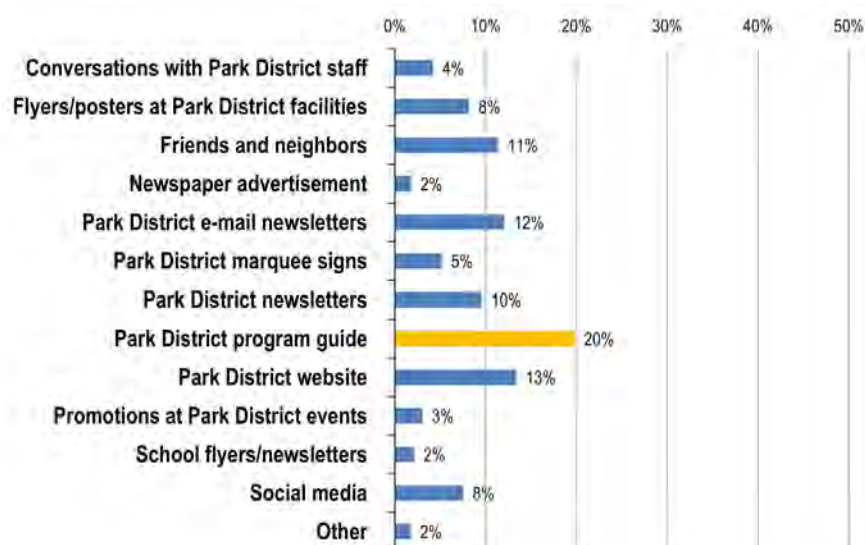


Misc General Park District Questions

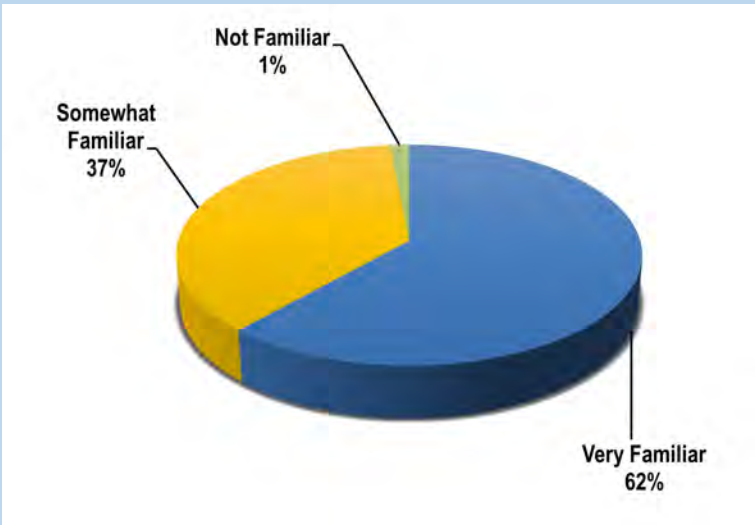
Which of the following would be important to you and your household in the development of the former Tinley Park Mental Health Center
(Check all that apply)



How do you learn about the Park District
(Choose all that apply)



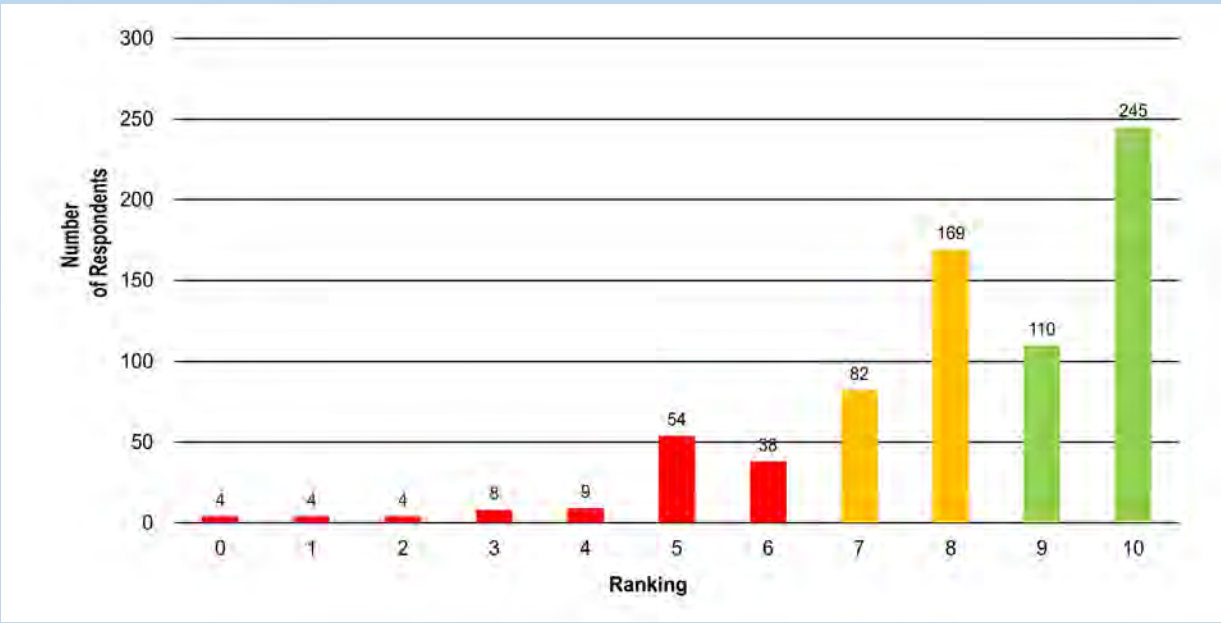
How familiar are you with the Park District



How likely would be to recommend the Park District to a friend, family member or neighbor (0 being not at all and 10 being very likely)

Another approach to gauge brand loyalty to the Park District is the use of The Net Promoter Score (NPS). It is linked to customer loyalty in which a high NPS suggests the potential for greater retention and more opportunities for growth.

The Park District has an NPS overall score of 32.2. If the NPS is higher than 30, that would indicate that the organization is doing great and has far more happy customers than unhappy ones.



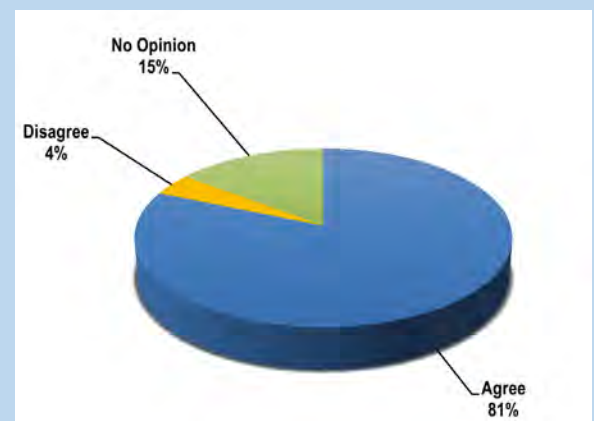
What Residents Like Most About the Park District

The greatest strengths identified by residents include:

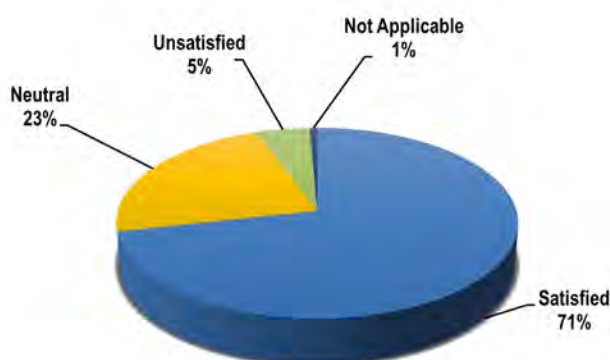
- Wide variety of programs and activities for all ages.
- Clean, safe, and well-maintained parks and facilities.
- Recreation amenities such as Bettenhausen Recreation Center, Tinley Fitness, White Water Canyon, walking tracks, and neighborhood parks.
- Friendly and helpful staff.
- Strong sense of community fostered through programs and events.



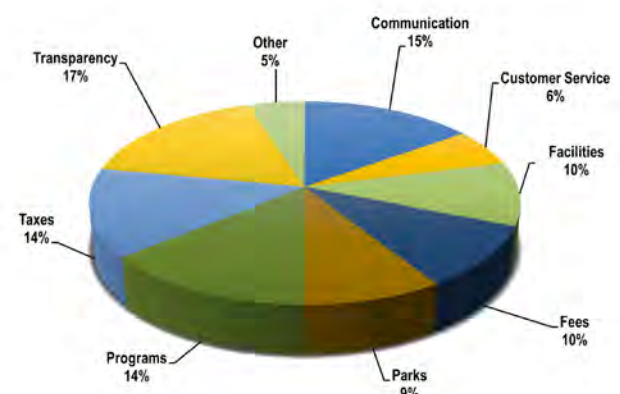
Do you agree that the Park District contributes to your quality of life



How do you rate your overall satisfaction with the Park District

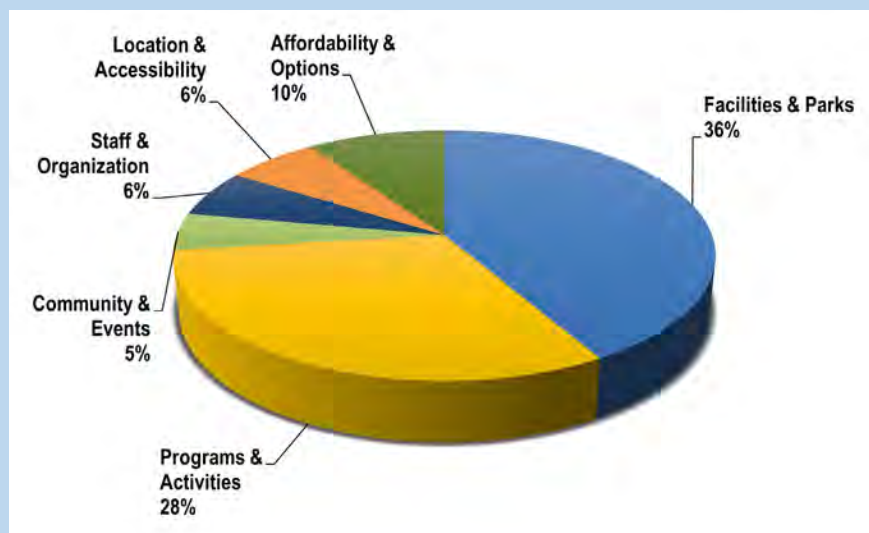


If you answered unsatisfied, which area(s) are you displeased with and why (Choose all that apply)

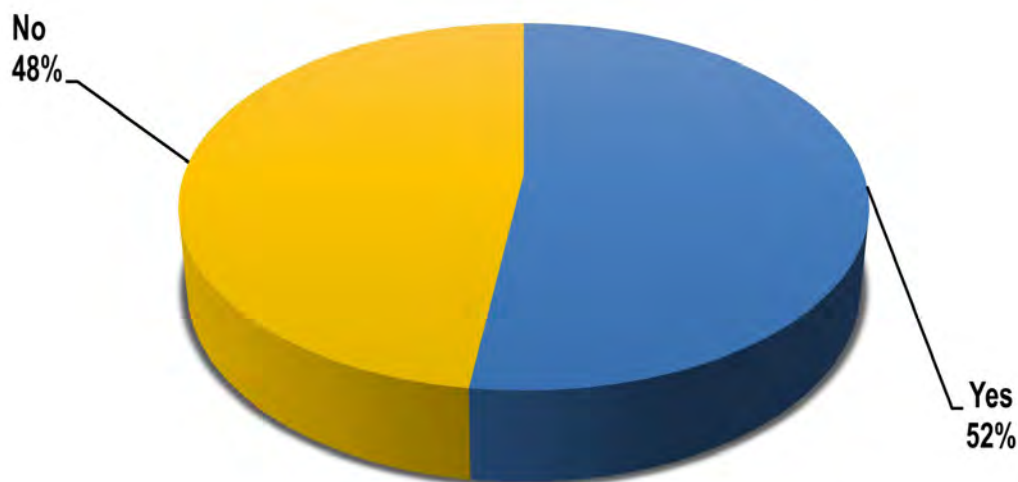




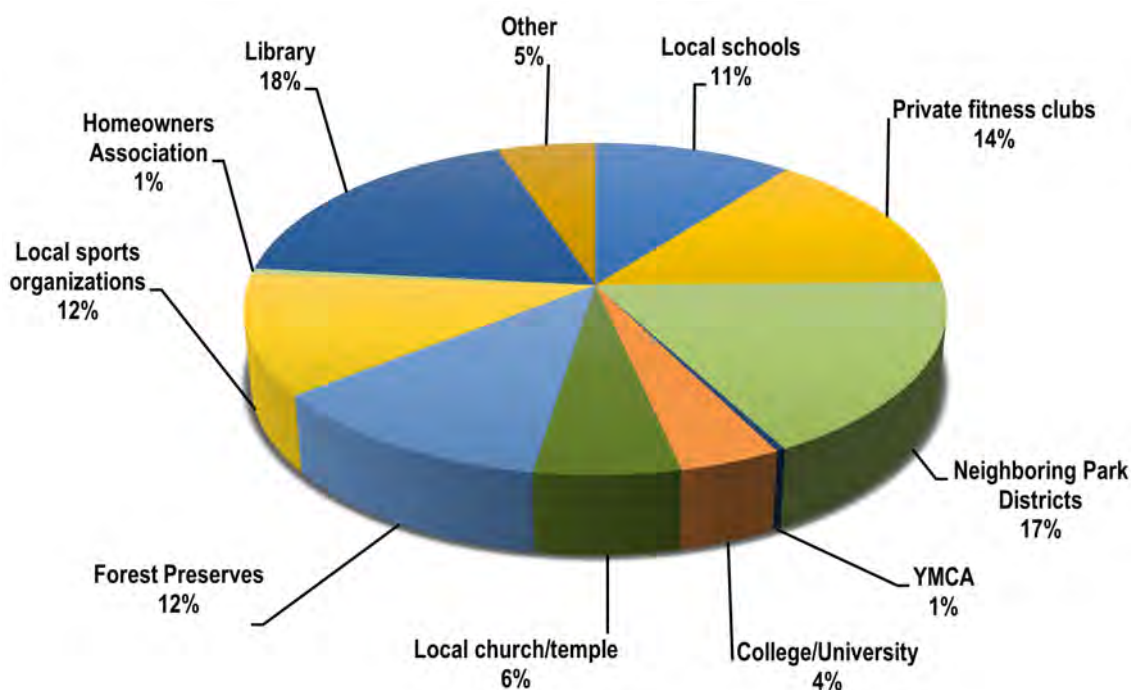
What is the one thing you like the most about the Park District?



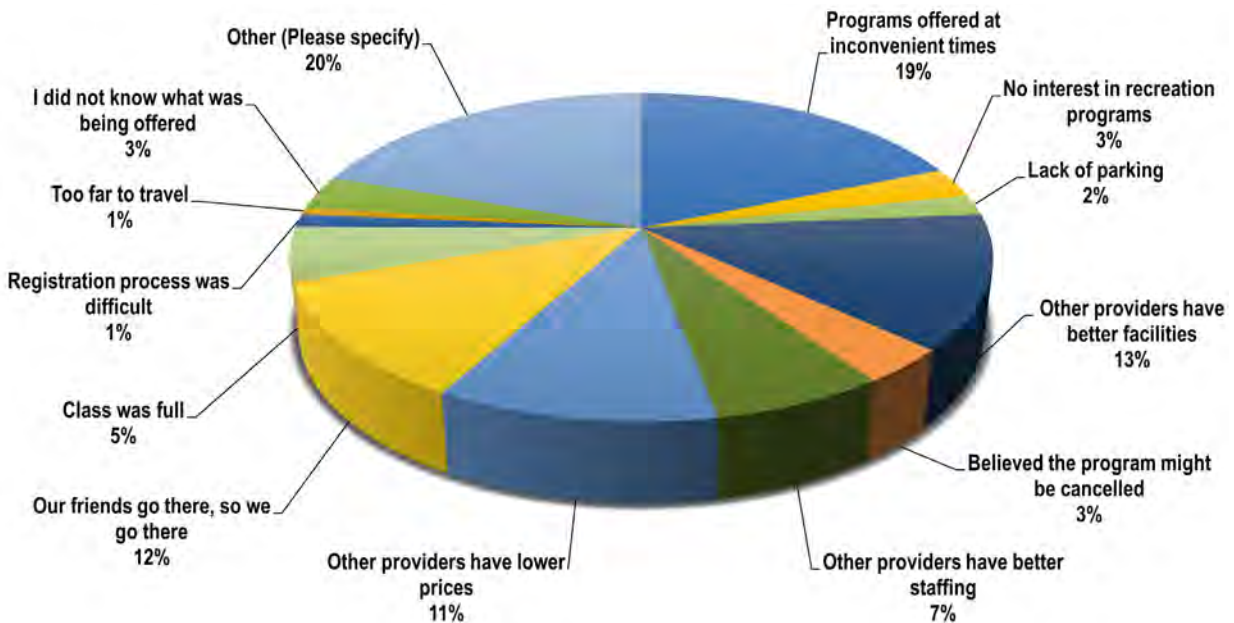
Do you or any of your household go outside the Tinley Park-Park District for recreation program and/or services?



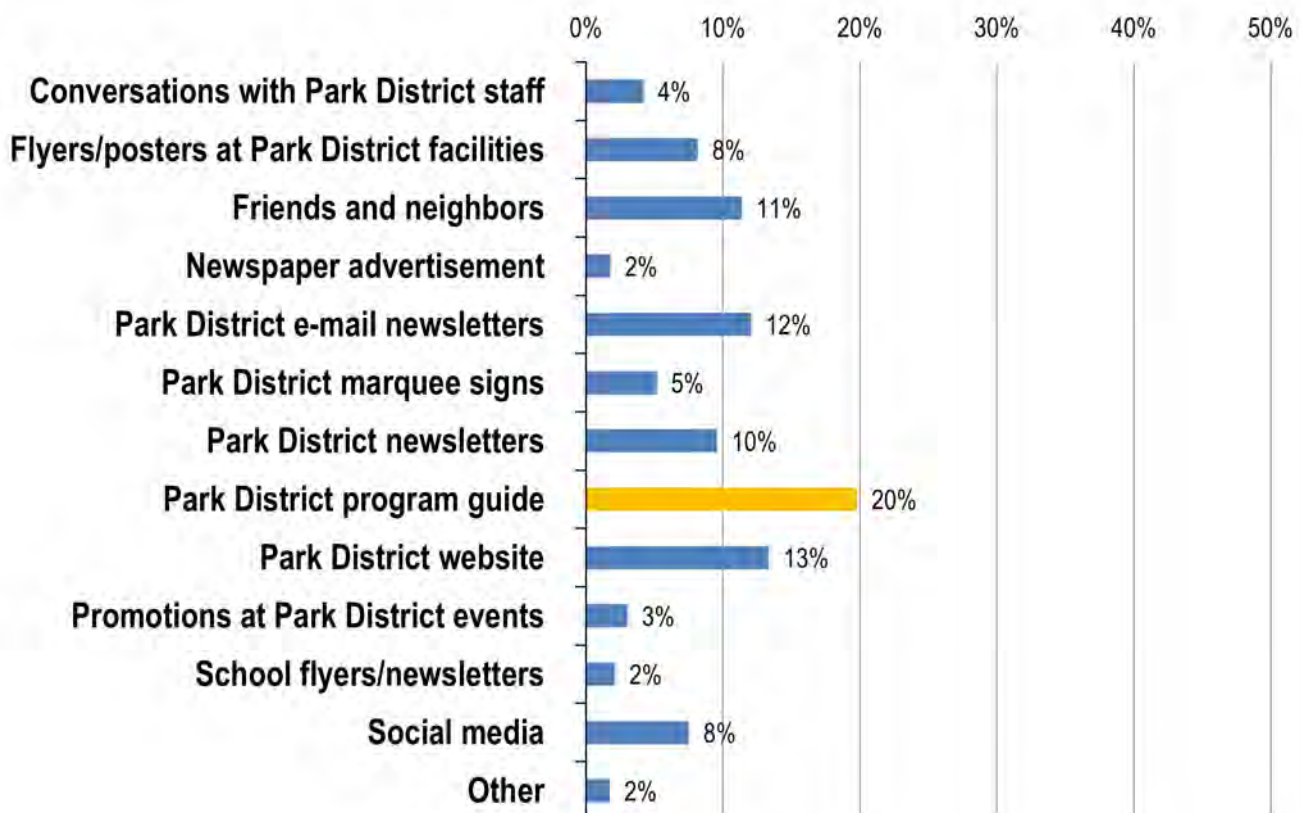
Where do you or your household go for recreation and/or services?
Why do you find it necessary to do so?



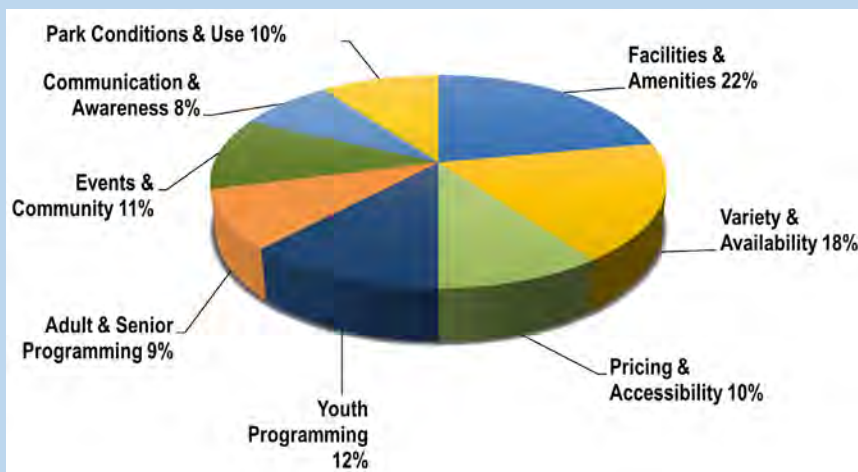
Why do you find it necessary to do so?



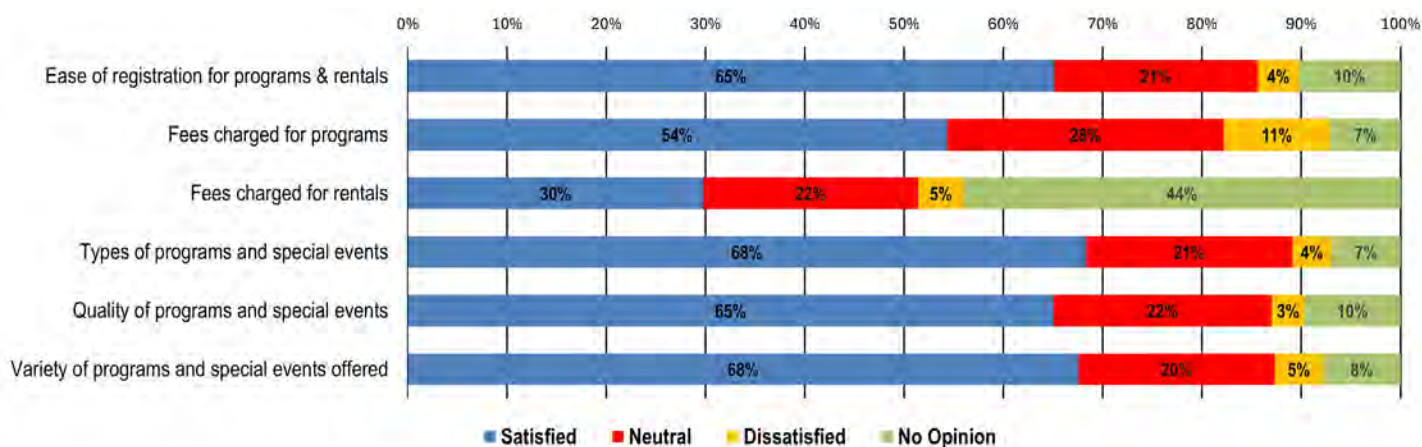
How do you learn about the Park District?



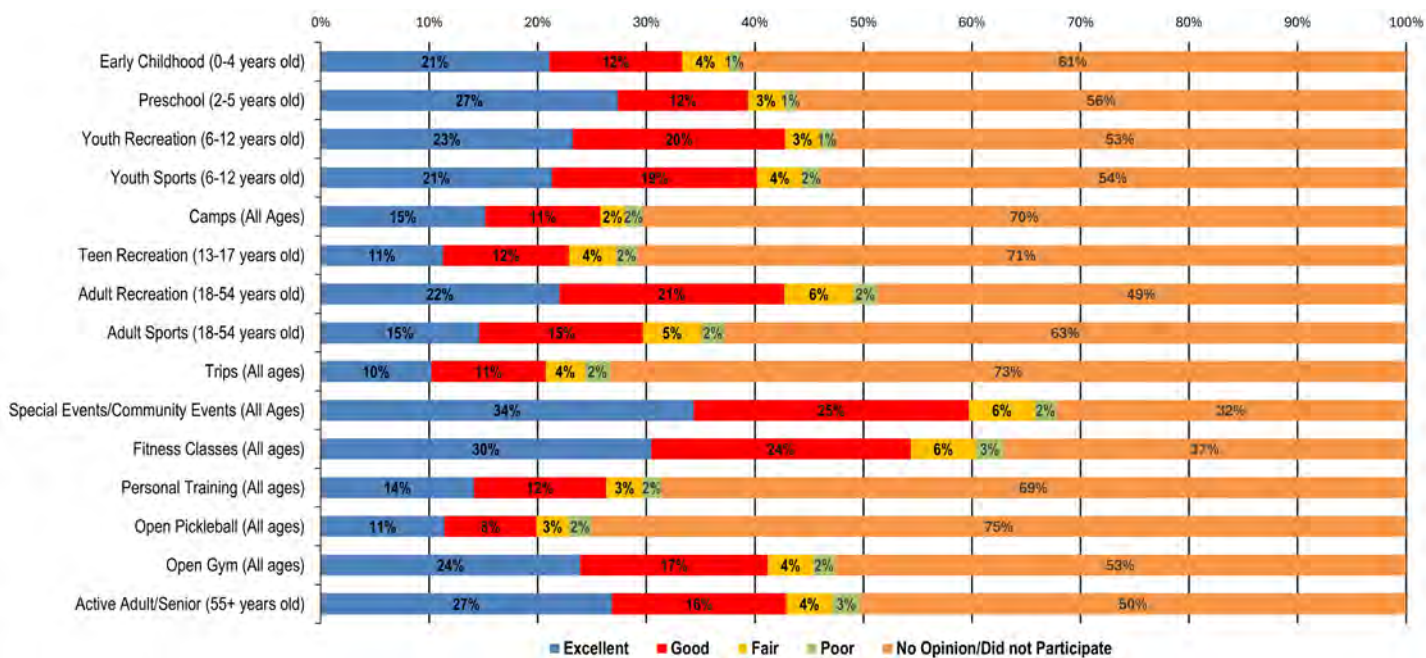
Survey Mentions by Category



Rate your satisfaction with the following recreation experiences provided by the Park District



Rate the overall quality of the Park District recreation programs for the following specific age group below



Cost and Affordability

Although many respondents considered programs reasonably priced, cost concerns were common. Residents expressed concerns regarding membership fees, non-resident fees, refund policies, water park costs, and program affordability compared to neighboring Park Districts.

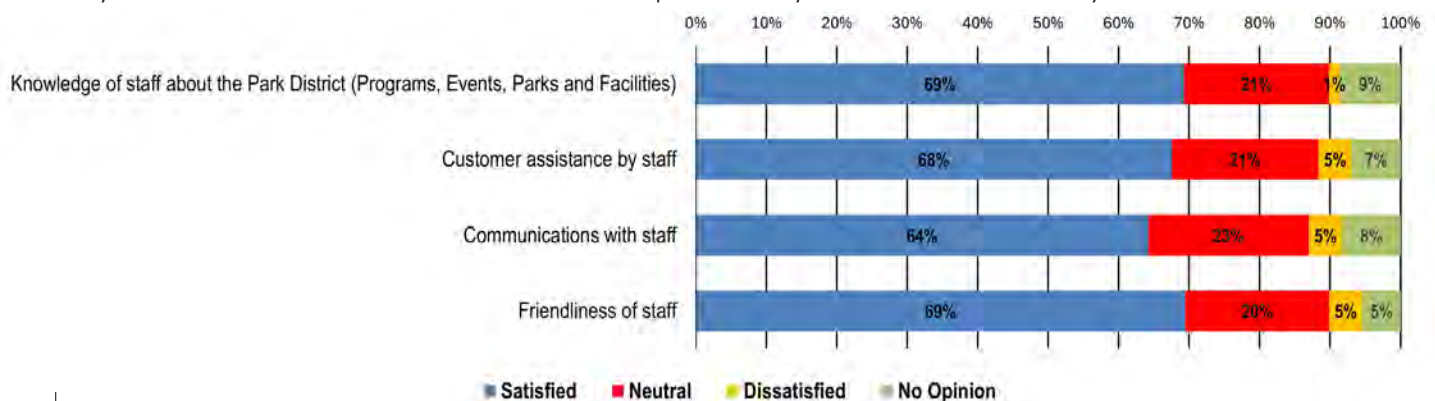
Statement	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	No Opinion	Overall
Ease of registration for programs & rentals	431	136	27	68	662
	65.11%	20.54%	4.08%	10.27%	100.00%
Fees charged for programs	360	185	71	47	663
	54.30%	27.90%	10.71%	7.09%	100.00%
Fees charged for rentals	191	142	30	289	652
	29.29%	21.78%	4.60%	44.33%	100.00%
Types of programs and special events	451	137	26	46	660
	68.33%	20.76%	3.94%	6.97%	100.00%
Quality of programs and special events	430	145	22	64	661
	65.05%	21.94%	3.33%	9.68%	100.00%
Variety of programs and special events offered	448	131	32	52	663
	67.57%	19.76%	4.83%	7.84%	100.00%

Communication and Customer Service

While many respondents praised staff professionalism and helpfulness, communication emerged as one of the most significant areas for improvement. Residents cited concerns regarding class cancellations, delayed updates, inaccurate program information, lack of follow-up on concerns, and inconsistent customer service experiences. Front desk interactions and communication regarding athletics and schedule changes were specifically noted.



Rate your satisfaction with the customer service provided by the Park District staff you have interacted with



Recreation Center Participation

The demographic profile of the Park District community suggests that recreation programming should continue to evolve to meet the changing needs of residents while maintaining the strong family-oriented foundation that has historically characterized the Park District. Population projections indicate relatively stable overall population growth over the next five years, accompanied by a gradual aging of the community. As a result, future recreation programming should balance services for children and families with expanded opportunities for teens, adults, and older adults.



Demographic data also reflects a diverse mix of household types and working families. As employment patterns continue to evolve, residents increasingly expect flexible program schedules, online registration, convenient communication, and year-round programming options. Offering programs during evenings, weekends, and nontraditional hours can improve accessibility while better accommodating working adults and families.

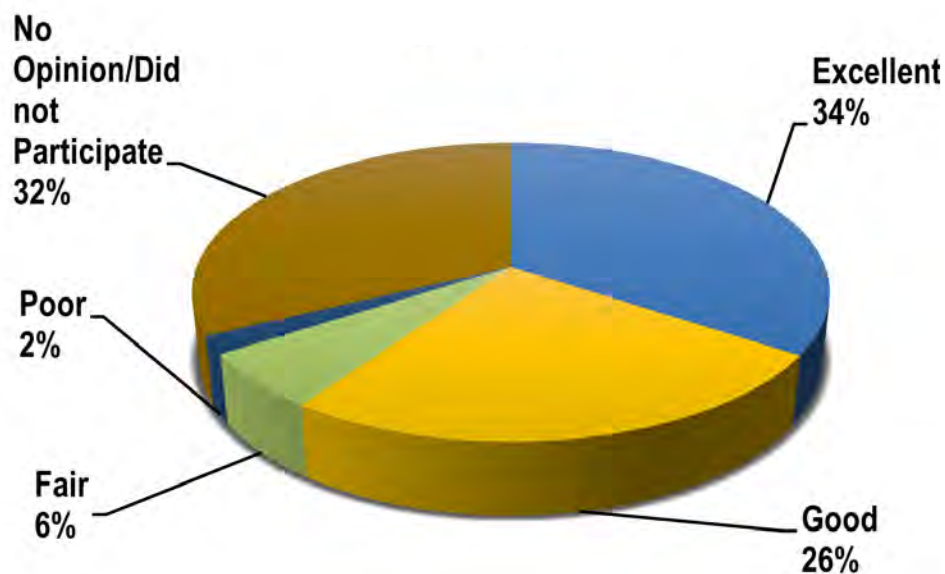
The Park District's community survey further demonstrated customer satisfaction and positive experiences with recreation services. These findings provide a strong foundation for future program development while reinforcing the importance of maintaining high-quality customer service, professional staff, and well-maintained facilities. At the same time, participation trends should continue to be monitored to identify programs experiencing declining enrollment and opportunities to introduce new offerings that better reflect evolving resident interests.

The growing emphasis on health and wellness also supports expanding partnerships with schools, healthcare providers, local businesses, and community organizations. Collaborative programming can increase participation, maximize available resources, and strengthen the Park District's role as a community wellness leader.

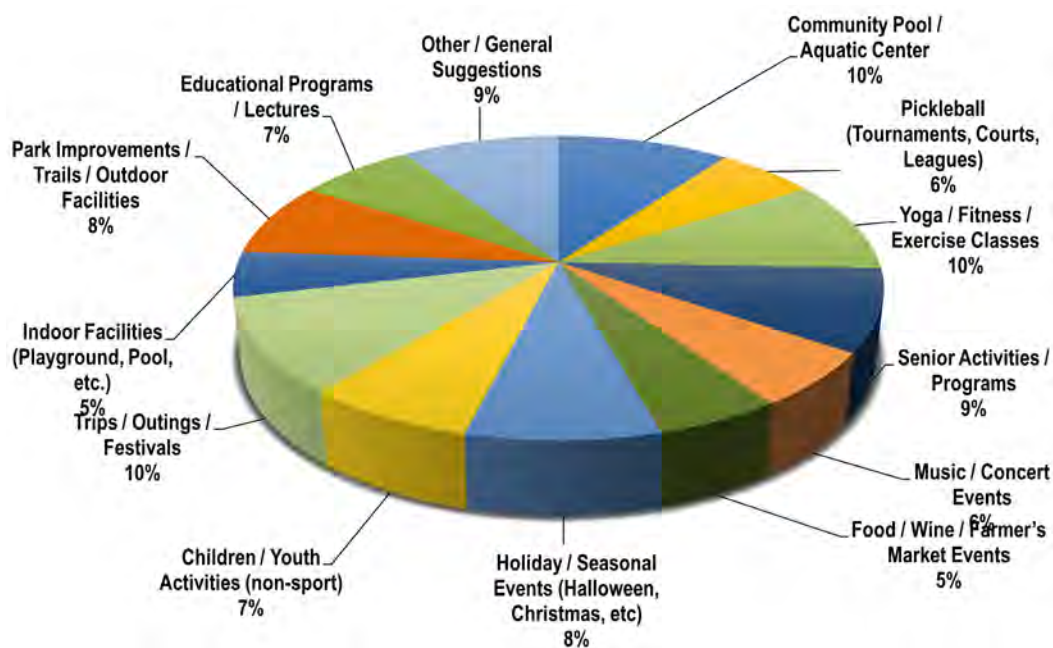
Looking forward, recreation programming should remain responsive to demographic shifts through ongoing community engagement, program evaluation, and market analysis. Regular assessment of participation trends, customer satisfaction, and emerging recreation interests will allow the Park District to proactively adjust its program portfolio while ensuring financial sustainability. By aligning recreation services with changing demographics and community expectations, the Park District can continue providing relevant, inclusive, and high-quality experiences that enhance the quality of life for residents of all ages.

Special Event Recreational Programming

Special Event (All Ages)

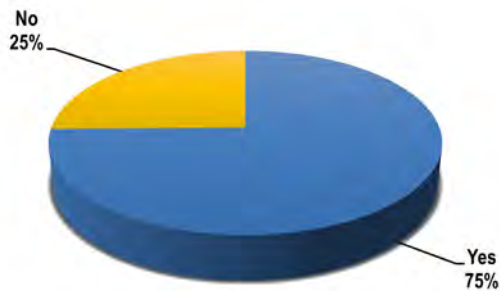


List one new program, special/
community event that the Park District
should consider for the future



Recreation Center and Fitness Center Participation

Do you use the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center?



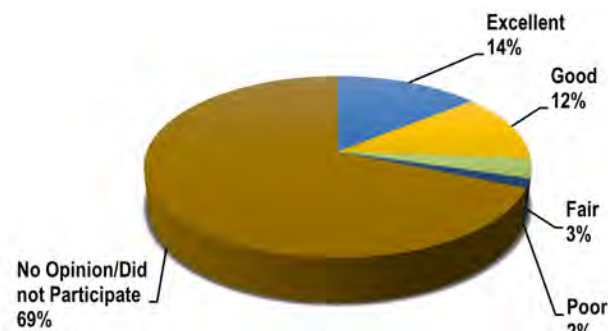
Do you have a membership at Tinley Fitness?



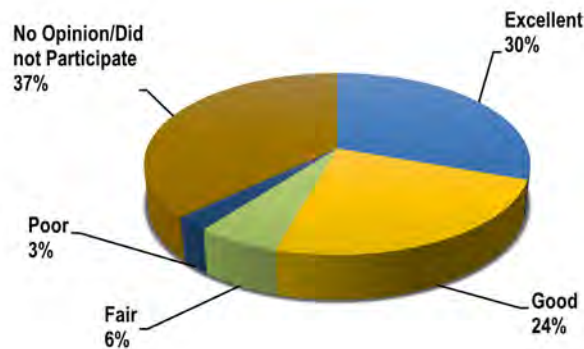
What is the type of activities do you use at Tinley Fitness?



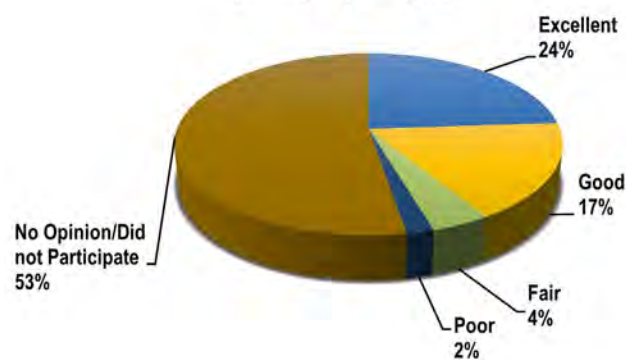
Personal Training (All Ages)



Fitness Classes (All Ages)



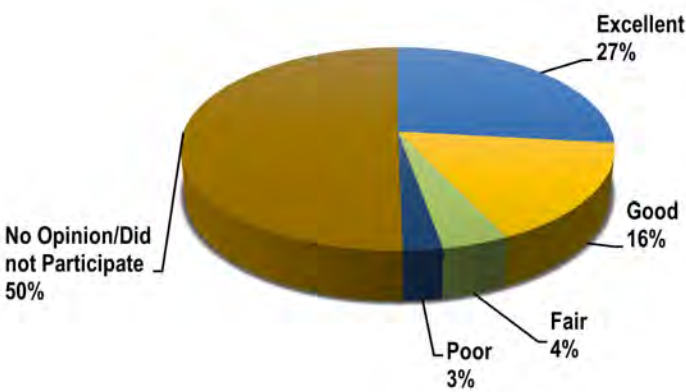
Open Gym (All Ages)



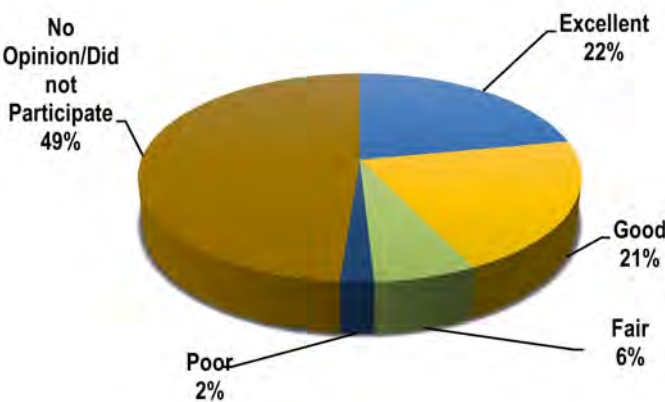
Adult/Senior Programming

The community's mature adult population is expected to increase over the planning period, creating opportunities to expand wellness, fitness, educational, cultural, and social programming. Programs emphasizing healthy aging, active lifestyles, lifelong learning, and social engagement will become increasingly important. Walking clubs, pickleball, group fitness, educational seminars, travel opportunities, and volunteer programs can help support this growing demographic while promoting physical and mental well-being.

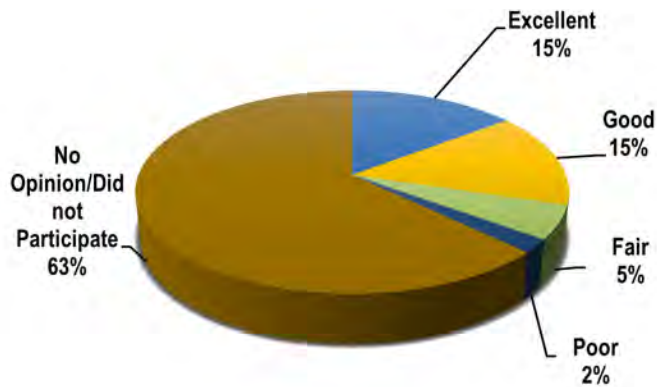
Active Adult/Senior (55+ years old)



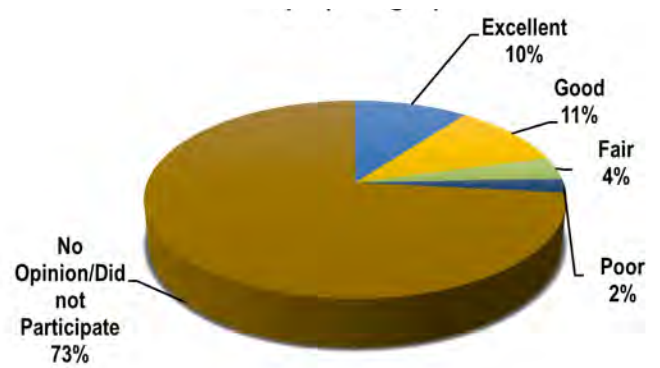
Adult Recreation (18-54 years old)



Adult Sports (18-54 years old)



Trips (All Ages)



Community input consistently identified a desire for additional adult recreation opportunities beyond traditional fitness programming. Residents expressed interest in expanded pickleball programming, adult leagues, instructional classes, hobby-based programs, outdoor recreation, evening activities, and social events. These findings suggest an opportunity to diversify programming for adults between the ages of 25 and 64, an age group that often seeks recreation opportunities outside of youth-focused activities.

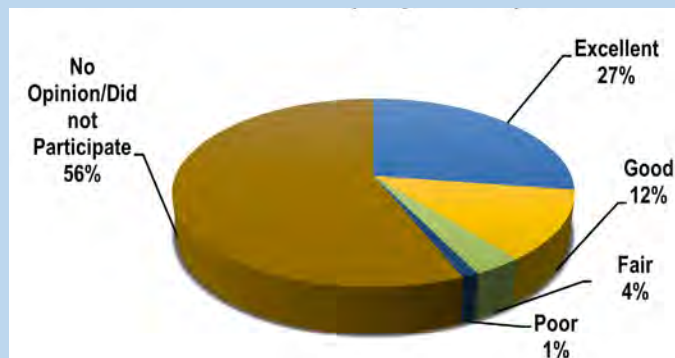


Early Childhood and Camps

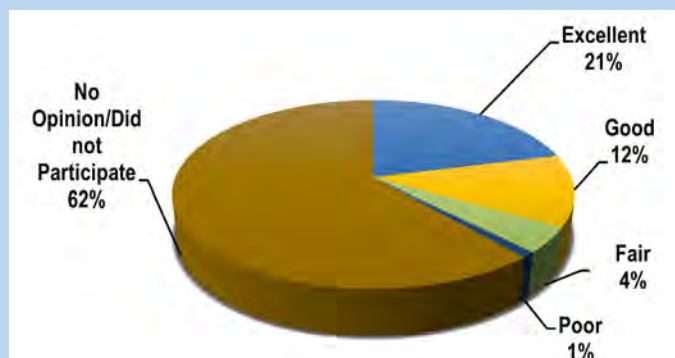
Children and youth will continue to represent an important market for the Park District. Traditional programs including preschool, youth sports, camps, aquatics, dance, gymnastics, and special events remain essential community services. However, recreation trends indicate increasing demand for flexible scheduling, shorter program formats, specialized camps, STEM enrichment, esports, outdoor adventure activities, and inclusive programming for participants of all abilities. Families also continue to seek affordable, convenient, and high-quality experiences that fit increasingly busy schedules.



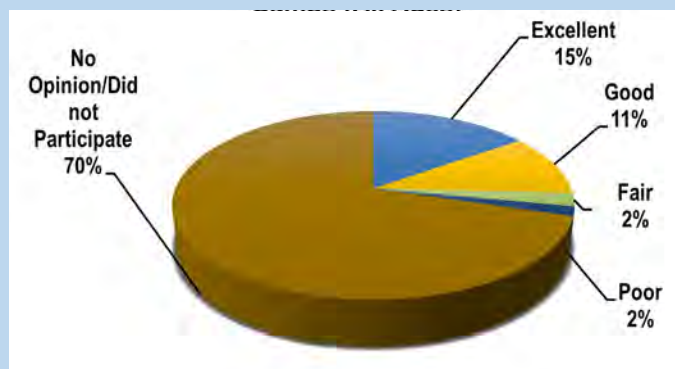
Preschool (2-5 year olds)



Early Childhood (2-4 years old)

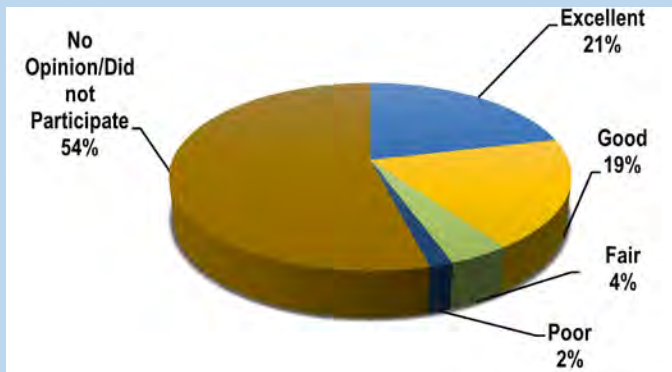


Camps (All Ages)

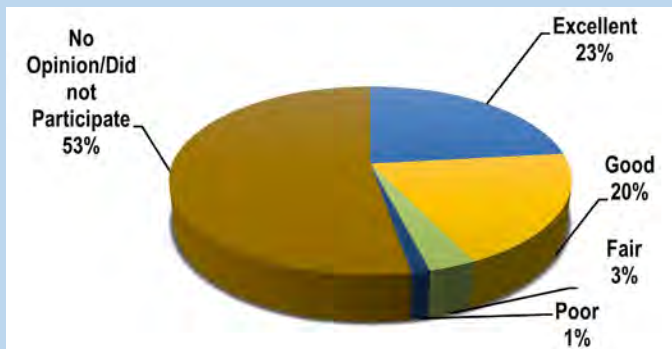


Youth and Teen Programs

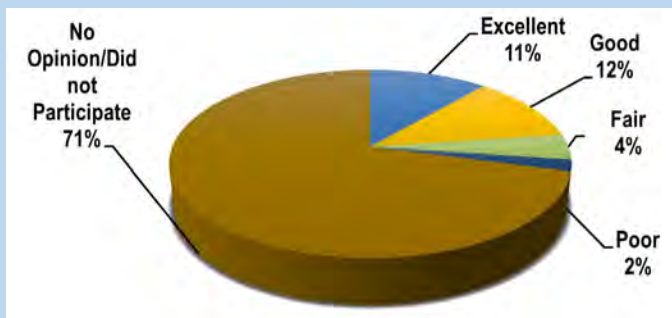
Youth Sports (6-12 years old)



Youth Recreation (6-12 years old)



Teen Recreation (13-17 years old)



Program and Service Strengths

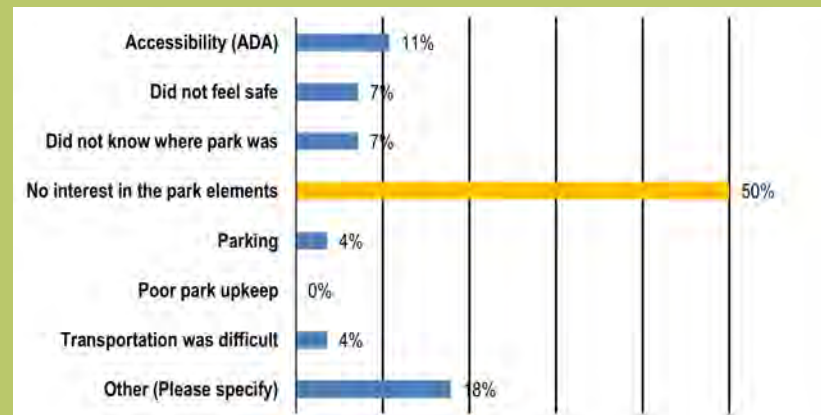
Facilities and parks received very favorable ratings. Residents frequently described facilities as clean, safe, attractive, and well-maintained. Bettenhausen Recreation Center, White Water Canyon, neighborhood parks, and walking paths were among the most highly regarded amenities. Some residents noted that certain facilities and older parks are beginning to show signs of aging and could benefit from renovation or expansion.



How often do you visit
Tinley Park- Park District parks

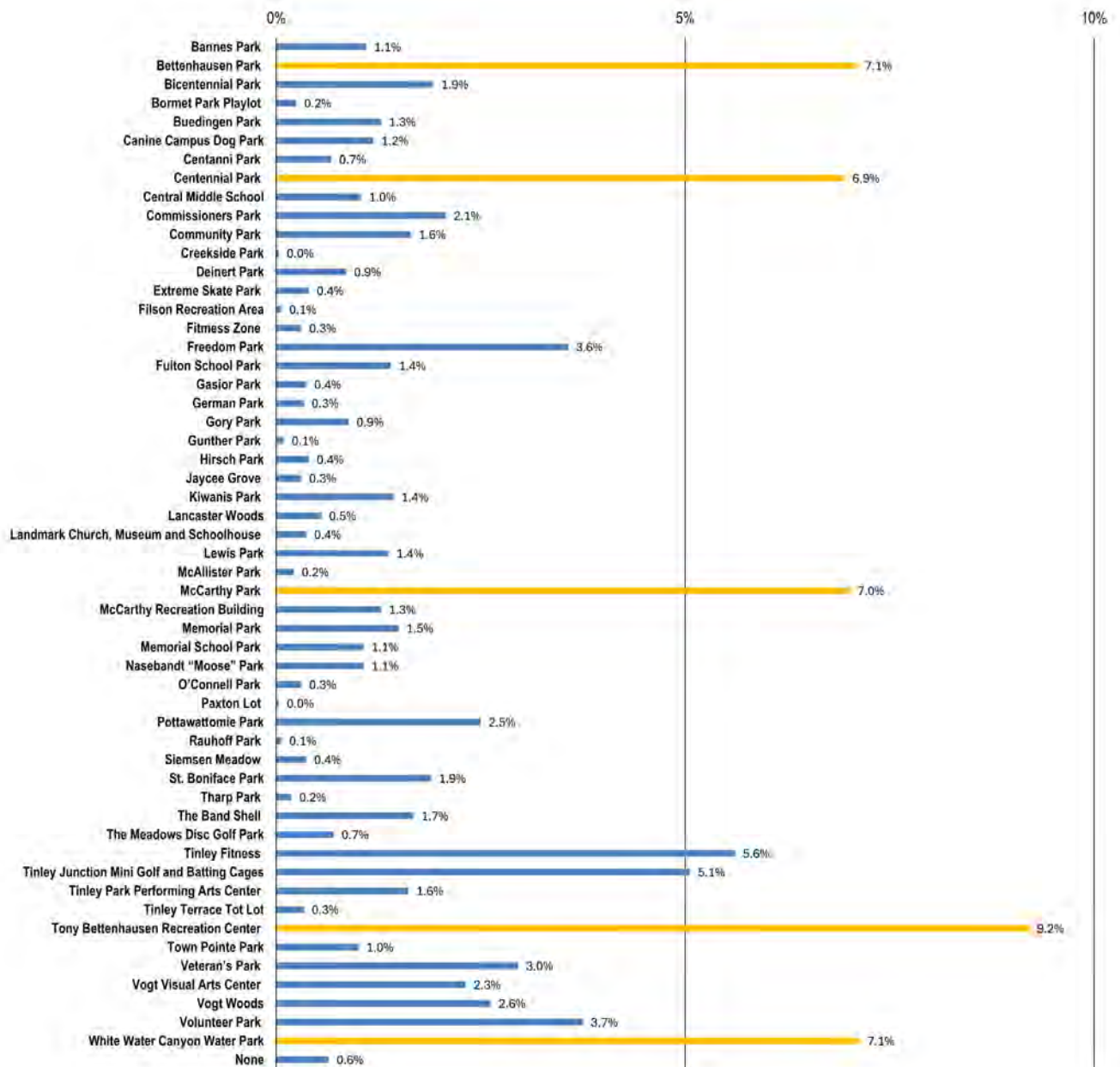


Did any of the following factors prevent you
or a household member from visiting
a Park District Park (Choose all that apply)

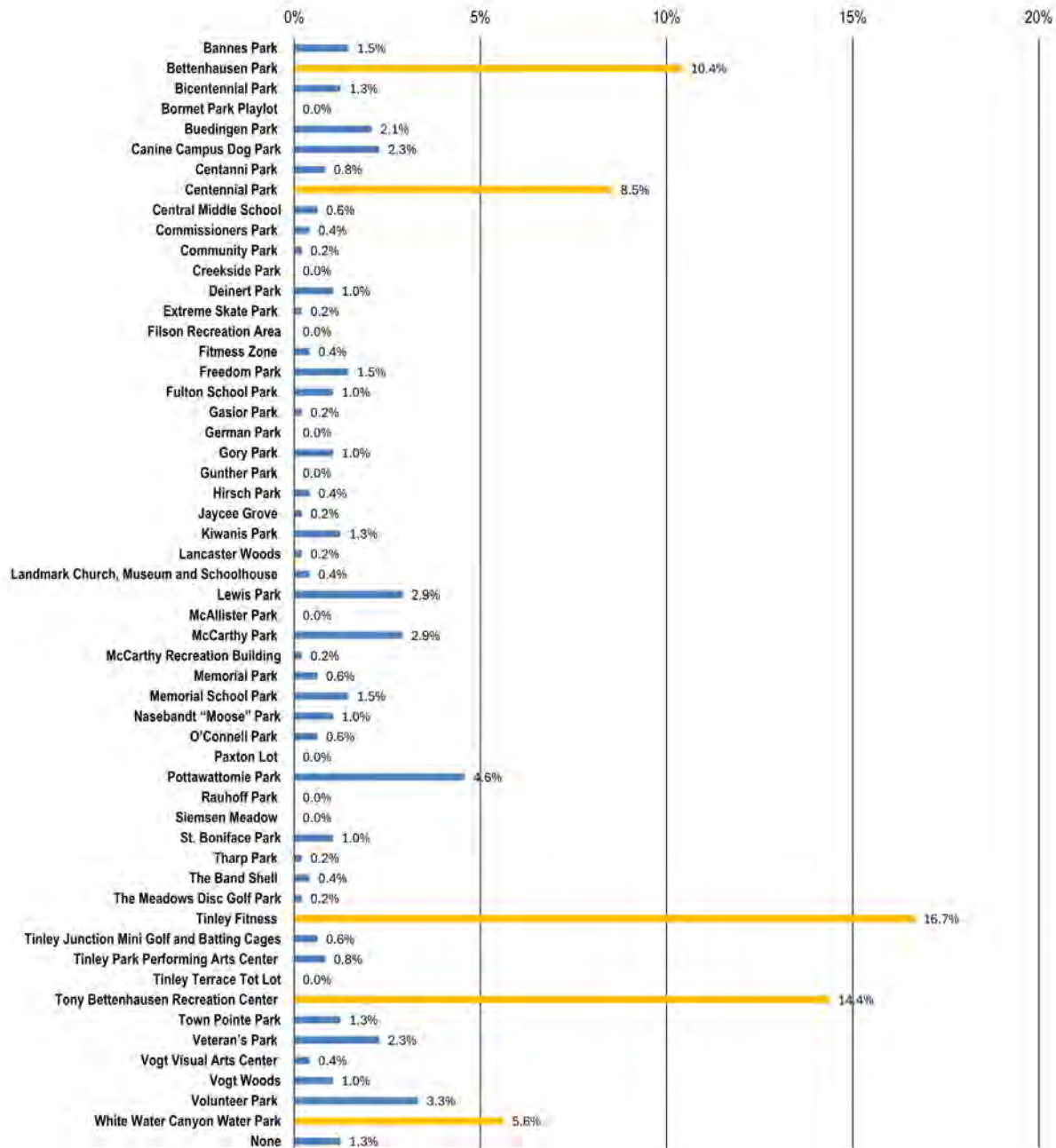


How much of a tax increase would you be
willing to pay to fund the costs to continue to
build, operate and maintain our parks,
trails and facilities

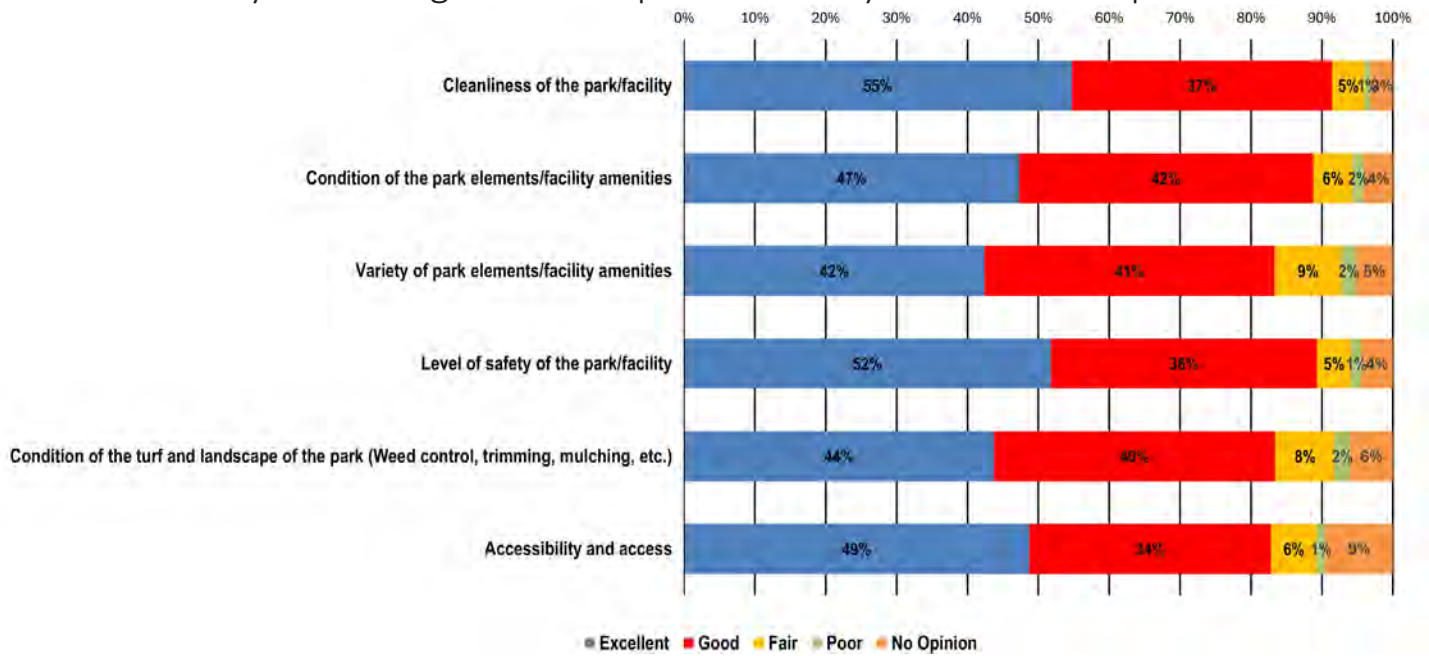
Which following Park District parks and facilities do you or other members of your household use
(Choose all that apply)



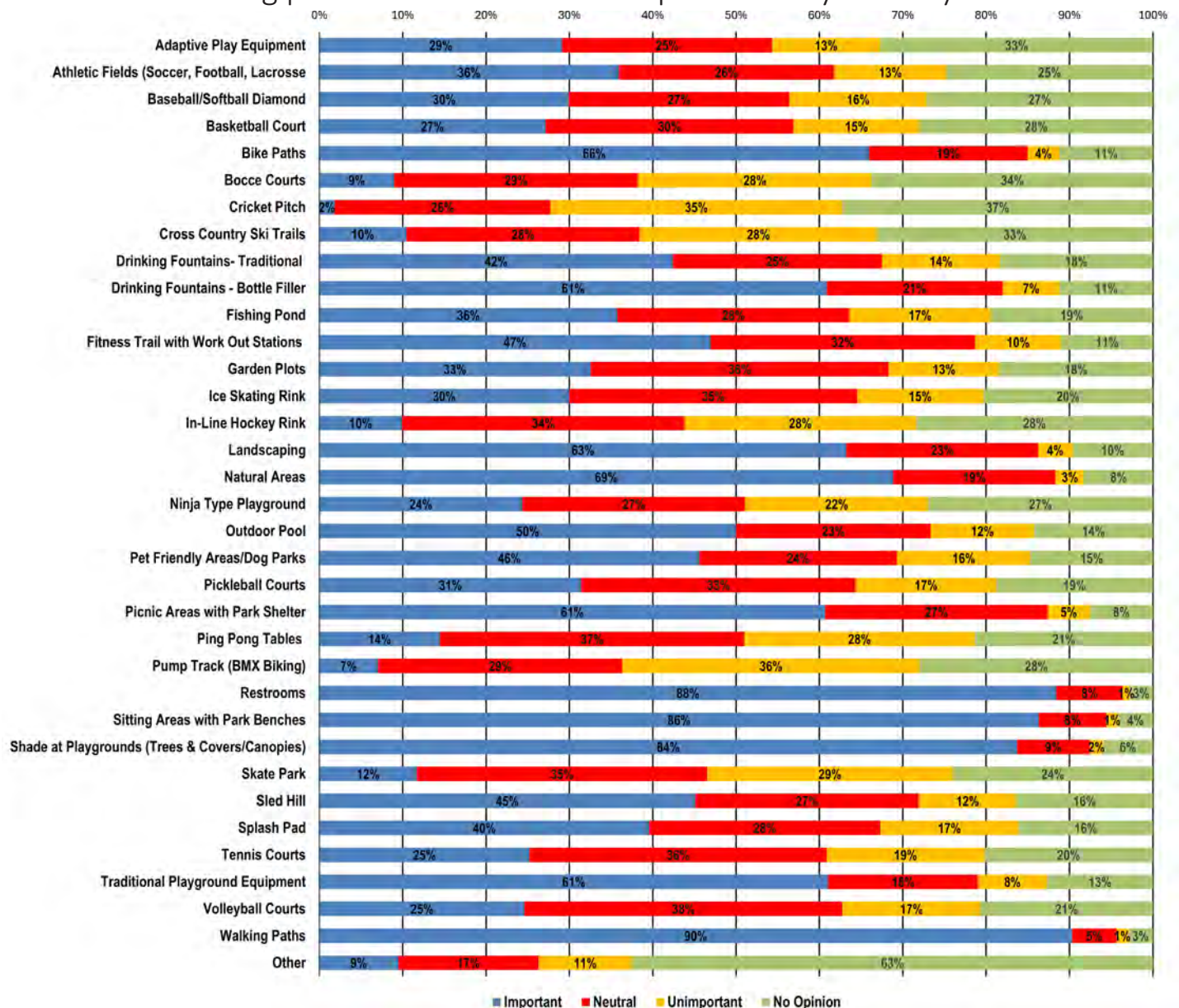
Which park do you most often visit from on this list



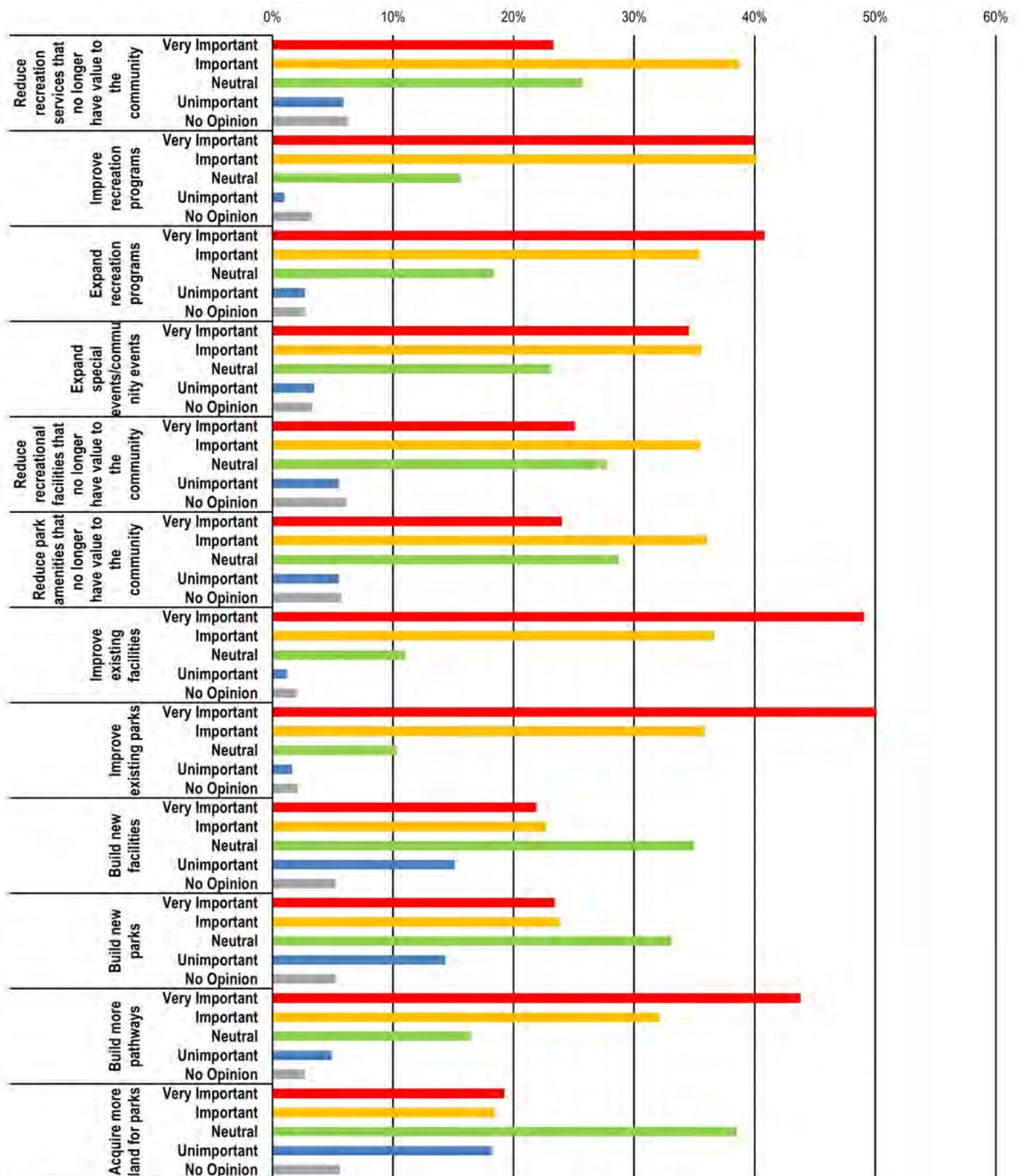
Rate your feeling about the park or facility from the last question



Rate the following park amenities that are important for you and your household



Rate each of the following Park District priorities which would be important to you and your household (Choose all that apply)



Facility Needs and Future Opportunities

Residents identified numerous opportunities for future investment, including:

- Additional adult and evening programming.
- Expanded senior programming and activities.
- More aquatic opportunities, including additional pool capacity and expanded hours.
- Additional pickleball courts and play opportunities.
- Longer walking trails and expanded indoor recreation space.
- Additional indoor gymnasium space for basketball and volleyball.

Statement	Very Important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	No Opinion	Overall
Reduce recreation services that no longer have value to the community	115	191	127	29	31	493
	23.33%	38.74%	25.76%	5.88%	6.29%	100.00%
Improve recreation programs	197	198	77	5	16	493
	39.96%	40.16%	15.62%	1.01%	3.25%	100.00%
Expand recreation programs	198	172	89	13	13	485
	40.82%	35.46%	18.35%	2.68%	2.68%	100.00%
Expand special events/community events	169	174	113	17	16	489
	34.56%	35.58%	23.11%	3.48%	3.27%	100.00%
Reduce recreational facilities that no longer have value to the community	123	174	136	27	30	490
	25.10%	35.51%	27.76%	5.51%	6.12%	100.00%
Reduce park amenities that no longer have value to the community	118	177	141	27	28	491
	24.03%	36.05%	28.72%	5.50%	5.70%	100.00%
Improve existing facilities	241	180	54	6	10	491
	49.08%	36.66%	11.00%	1.22%	2.04%	100.00%
Improve existing parks	243	174	50	8	10	485
	50.10%	35.88%	10.31%	1.65%	2.06%	100.00%
Build new facilities	104	108	166	72	25	475
	21.89%	22.74%	34.95%	15.16%	5.26%	100.00%
Build new parks	111	113	157	68	25	474
	23.42%	23.84%	33.12%	14.35%	5.27%	100.00%
Build more pathways	213	156	80	24	13	486
	43.83%	32.10%	16.46%	4.94%	2.67%	100.00%
Acquire more land for parks	93	89	186	88	27	483
	19.25%	18.43%	38.51%	18.22%	5.59%	100.00%



Governance and Community Trust

A notable theme throughout the survey involved concerns related to politics, transparency, and the relationship between the Park District and the Village. Many residents indicated a desire for stronger cooperation between the Park District and Village leadership.

Overall Community Value

Residents overwhelmingly view the Tinley Park Park District as a valuable community asset. The Park District is widely recognized for providing quality recreation opportunities, enhancing quality of life, fostering community connections, and supporting family-oriented experiences throughout the community.



Community Survey Comparison

The following comparisons can be made between the 2014 and 2025 survey results. Overall, the Park District continues to enjoy strong community support, but resident expectations have evolved considerably over the last decade.

Topic	2014 Survey	2025 Survey	Comparison
Overall Satisfaction	Approximately 77% of households were satisfied with the Tinley Park-Park District.	71% of households were satisfied with the Tinley Park-Park District.	The difference between the two surveys over 10 years was only a 6% decline
Park Usage	Approximately 83% of households reported visiting Park District parks during the previous 12 months.	Residents continue to express strong satisfaction with parks and facilities, with facilities and amenities being the most frequently mentioned theme. (22% of all mentions)	Park usage and importance remain consistently high.
Facility Quality	The facilities received high satisfaction ratings.	Residents frequently describe facilities as “clean,” “well maintained,” and “safe.”	Positive perceptions of facility quality have remained strong over time.
Program Participation & Satisfaction	98% were satisfied with the quality of the programs.	95% were satisfied with variety and 97% were satisfied with the quality of the programs. Program variety remains one of the Park District’s strongest attributes. (18% of all mentions)	Recreation programming continues to be a major community strength.



Major Changes Since 2014

1. Greater Focus on Adult and Senior Programming

The 2025 survey identifies significant demand for:

- Adult evening programs
- Senior-only programming
- Walking groups
- Outdoor fitness opportunities
- Water fitness classes

This suggests that the community has matured demographically since 2014 and now desires more age-specific programming.

2. Increased Demand for Indoor Recreation

In 2025, residents repeatedly requested:

- Additional indoor recreation space
- Expanded fitness opportunities
- More aquatic amenities
- Longer facility hours

The 2014 survey primarily focused on traditional park and facility usage, whereas the 2025 survey places greater emphasis on indoor recreation infrastructure.

3. Communication Has Become a Larger Issue

The 2025 survey identified communication as a notable weakness:

- Program cancellations
- Inconsistent information
- Website concerns
- Lack of timely updates

These issues were not prominent themes in the 2014 survey, indicating that resident expectations regarding customer service and communication have increased.

4. New Community Priorities

The 2025 survey revealed strong interest in:

- Pickleball
- Trail connections
- Environmental restoration
- Former Tinley Park Mental Health Center
- Expanded aquatic amenities

These topics were not significant issues in the 2014 study.





Overall Comparison

The 2014 and 2025 surveys demonstrate remarkable continuity in resident appreciation for the Tinley Park-Park District. In both studies, residents highly value:

- Quality parks
- Well-maintained facilities
- Recreation programs
- Family-oriented services

However, the 2025 survey indicates a shift toward:

1. More specialized programming.
2. Greater expectations for communication, cooperation and customer service.
3. Increased demand for indoor recreation and aquatics.
4. Greater interest in community-wide projects and redevelopment opportunities.

Public Input Summary

Delphi Committee

To gather additional community perspectives, the Park District established a strategic Delphi Committee comprised of local partners, community stakeholders, and volunteer residents. Working independently of the consultant team, the committee provided valuable insight on several key topics that will help shape the Park District's future direction. Discussions focused on the future of the Mental Health Property, recreation programs, existing parks and facilities, and opportunities to strengthen relationships with residents, community organizations, and strategic partners. The committee's recommendations served as an important complement to the broader public engagement process, ensuring that the Comprehensive Master Plan reflects both community priorities and long-term strategic thinking.

The Committee expressed a strong desire for the Park District to expand programs and facilities to better serve residents of all ages, increase participation, and strengthen its role as a community hub. Key priorities include developing advanced and lifelong programming opportunities, enhancing youth sports and pickleball pathways, increasing free community events, and reducing program cancellations. Maintaining and modernizing existing parks and facilities, while ensuring safety and ADA compliance, was also identified as essential. Stakeholders supported strategic investment in new amenities, including athletic fields, playgrounds, destination gathering spaces, and expanded recreational opportunities.

The re-development of the former Tinley Park Mental Health Center emerged as the Park District's most significant long-term opportunity, with strong support for a phased, master plan-driven approach that emphasizes community input, transparency, long-term fiscal responsibility, and potential public-private partnerships. Committee members also stressed the importance of keeping residents informed throughout the planning process, strengthening collaboration with local schools and community organizations, and improving relationships with the Village to maximize community benefits and advance shared goals. Overall, stakeholders emphasized that open communication, community engagement, and strong partnerships will be critical to the Park District's long-term success.





Public Canvas

A series of pop-up public input opportunities at Park District special events were undertaken during the master planning process. The Tinley Park-Park District invited participation in a public input questionnaire to better understand community perceptions, identify priorities, and help guide future investments in parks, facilities, recreation programs, and open space. While the survey represents a modest sample of participants, the responses provide insight into the values and expectations of those engaged community members.

Overall, the public expressed exceptionally positive opinions of the Park District and its services, reflecting the Park District's continued success in delivering high-quality parks, recreation programs, and customer service. Respondents consistently praised the cleanliness and maintenance of parks and facilities, the professionalism and friendliness of staff, the wide variety of recreational opportunities, the Fitness Center, White Water Canyon Water Park, youth programs, and community events.

While residents expressed high satisfaction with current services, they also identified several opportunities that will help shape future investments. Key priorities included continuing to modernize neighborhood parks and playgrounds, expanding indoor recreation and athletic space, enhancing aquatic amenities and adult programming, improving trail connectivity and beautification, strengthening marketing and communication efforts, and leveraging technology to improve customer convenience through online services.

Finally, participants encouraged the Park District to thoughtfully advance the redevelopment of the former Mental Health Center property, including the long term fiscal responsibility for such a large project. Collectively, the public input confirms that the community values the Park District as a trusted community resource that enhances the quality of life for residents.

Staff Vision Meeting

The Public Research Group facilitated a staff visioning workshop in the Fall of 2025. The meeting was used to help identify strengths and issues as perceived by the staff of the Tinley Park-Park District. A series of questions were asked which helped to frame and provide direction to the overall discussion. The Park District is well-positioned with strong internal culture, loyal staff, high-quality programs, and fiscal stability. Opportunities exist to expand brand awareness, enhance community engagement, and maximize key assets like the former Tinley Park Mental Health Center. However, challenges such as limited free programming, internal communication gaps, supervisory inconsistencies, and political or cybersecurity threats require strategic attention. Proactive planning, strengthened collaboration, and focused community engagement will support long-term sustainability and growth.

Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT)

SWOT ANALYSIS	Strength	Weakness	Opportunity	Threat
Very important	A strong, supportive culture with effective, cooperative leadership.	Brand awareness remains limited, and supervisory practices are inconsistent across the organization.	280 project as known as the former Tinley Park Mental Health Center.	Disruptive behavior not conducive for collaboration to address community needs



Organizational Culture & Workplace Environment

The analysis of the organizational culture indicates strong motivation, high job satisfaction, and a clear connection to the Park District's mission. The workplace culture is widely viewed as collaborative, supportive, and team-oriented, with staff taking pride in maintaining clean, welcoming, and inclusive facilities while delivering quality service to the community. Opportunities for continued growth were noted in enhancing communication and information sharing across departments, as well as ensuring consistent access to reliable and up-to-date equipment. Overall, staff feedback reflects a positive and engaged workforce, with clear interest in strengthening coordination and resources to further support already strong operation.



Park Board Retreat

★ Standout Finding:

Overall board satisfaction with the Park District was extremely high—rated at 93 out of 100—despite major emphasis on improving communication, intergovernmental relationships, and future property development.

The Public Research Group and Greg Petry Consulting LLC, facilitated a Park Board Retreat in the Winter of 2026 with full participation from the Board of Commissioners and Executive Director following a pre-workshop survey. The session reviewed and refined the Park District’s mission, vision, and values, resulting in an updated mission—“Enriching the quality of life for all ages in the Tinley Park community”—and an enhanced vision focused on creating vibrant recreational experiences that improve everyday life for residents.



Core values were reaffirmed (Respect, Integrity, Accountability, Excellence) and expanded to include a new emphasis on Teamwork, reflecting both survey feedback and discussion. A PEST analysis highlighted key external influences, including local political relationships (especially with the Village), economic pressures such as inflation and rising costs, social diversity and inclusion needs, and opportunities to leverage technology such as AI and improved registration systems.

A SWOT analysis identified strong programming, facilities, and staff culture as key strengths, while weaknesses centered on communication, front-desk operations, and intergovernmental coordination; opportunities included redevelopment of key properties, expanded programming (including pickleball and inclusive services), and marketing growth; and threats included political tensions and regulatory changes. Priority themes emerging from the workshop emphasized improving communication and public trust, expanding and enhancing programming services, and increasing non-tax revenue through sponsorships, foundations, and data-driven planning.

Strategic initiatives included strengthening intergovernmental relationships, improving customer service training, expanding community engagement efforts, developing a comprehensive communications plan, exploring facility and property re-development, and building new revenue streams to support long-term sustainability.

Summary of Analysis & Outcomes

The community survey and other public input opportunities revealed key themes regarding the Tinley Park-Park District current environment. These findings highlight the Park District’s core strengths and weaknesses, as well as opportunities and challenges across recreation, parks, and facilities, and administration.

When viewed together, these insights create a solid foundation for shaping strategic priorities and guiding the implementation of the master plan.

	Strengths	Weakness	Opportunity	Threats
Administration	- Strong, mission-driven organizational culture and high staff morale - Financially stable with responsible fiscal management - Engaged leadership and board committed to strategic planning	- Inconsistent internal communication and information flow - Limited brand awareness and external messaging consistency - Variability in supervisory practices across departments	- Strengthen communications strategy and public transparency - Expand non-tax revenue (sponsorships, partnerships, foundations) - Improve intergovernmental collaboration and leverage technology (AI, systems upgrades)	- Political and intergovernmental tensions - Cybersecurity risks and data vulnerabilities - Rising administrative and labor costs
Recreation	- Broad range of programs serving all ages - Strong community participation and satisfaction with staff - Dedicated, service-oriented recreation team	- Limited free programming options - Program cancellations due to enrollment/marketing challenges - Registration and communication inefficiencies	- Expand youth sports pathways (including pickleball) and lifelong programming - Improve marketing to increase participation and reduce cancellations - Enhance special events and community engagement offerings	- Competition from private recreation providers - Changing participation trends and demographics - Rising program costs impacting affordability

	Strengths	Weakness	Opportunity	Threats
Parks & Facilities	• High-quality, well-maintained parks and facilities • Strong community support for parks and aquatic amenities • Ongoing investment in improvements and upgrades	• Aging infrastructure in select facilities • Limited indoor/aquatic capacity during peak demand • Continued need for ADA upgrades and modernization	• Redevelopment of former Tinley Park Mental Health Center property • Expansion of athletic fields, playgrounds, and destination spaces • Facility modernization and energy efficiency improvements	• Rising construction and maintenance costs • Long-term capital funding constraints • Infrastructure deterioration and deferred maintenance risks intergovernmental tensions • Cybersecurity risks and data vulnerabilities • Rising administrative and labor costs



Recreation Program Assessment Highlights

Lifecycle Analysis

Design Perspectives has established a metric for gauging the success of the individual program offerings by the Tinley Park-Park District. By looking at the individual program registrations versus the number of open spaces available for each program, a success level, or “heat index”, was established. Programs with a high percentage of spots filled were classified as “hot”, programs that were slightly less successful, but still received a reasonable number of registrations were classified as “medium”, and programs that had very few registrations were classified as “cold”.



The milestones illustrated in this analysis are defined by four categories:

- Beginning: Require cultivating efforts to advance and grow.
- Growing: Possess momentum and demand from the community.
- Steady: Perform consistently and include core programs.
- Fading: Need attention to either be re-invented or removed.

Every Park District has a different matrix of lifespan expectations for a successful mix of programs, but an ideal distribution for a healthy portfolio include:

- Beginning: 15%
- Growing: 25%
- Steady: 45%
- Fading: 15%

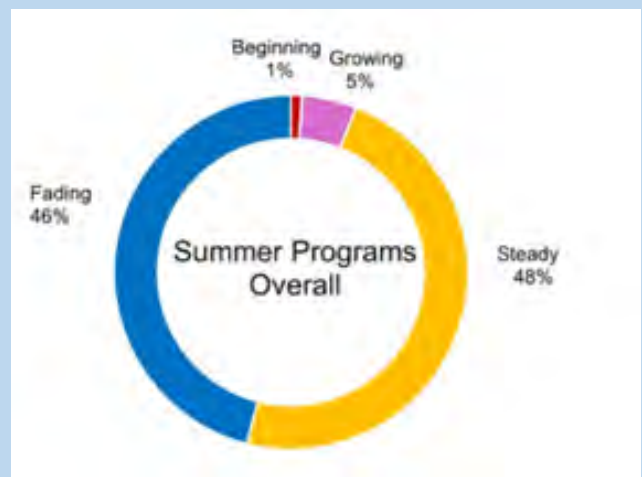
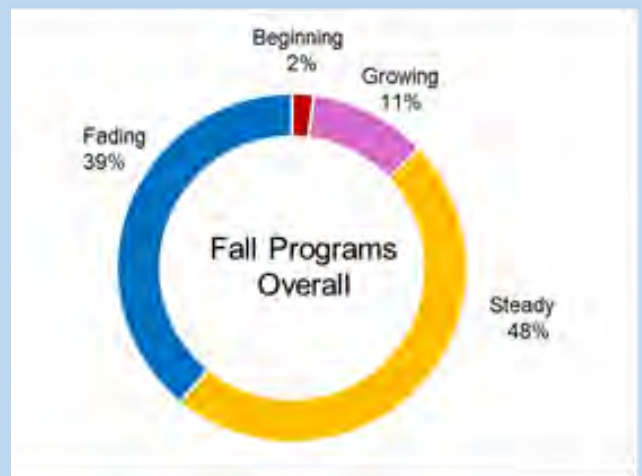


Programs were arranged into one of the four milestones based on the length of time the program has been offered compared to the relative success of the program. Enrollment information, as well as program duration, was provided by the Tinley Park-Park District for each program. The graphs presented on the following pages illustrate the life cycle of programs that have been broken down for the program years of 2023, 2024 and 2025. They were then analyzed for each category based on the “ideal” matrix of life cycle stages. Across most program areas (except Camps), the Park District is experiencing:

- **Declining stability** (Fewer Steady programs).
- **Increasing decline** (More Fading programs).
- **Limited growth** (Growing programs shrinking or flat).
- **Small but emerging new program development** (Beginning programs rising slightly).

The analysis emphasizes the need for:

- **Program evaluation and strategic sunsetting**
- **Reinvestment in high-potential offerings**
- **Intentional development of new programs**
- **Strengthening the pipeline from Beginning → Growing → Steady**

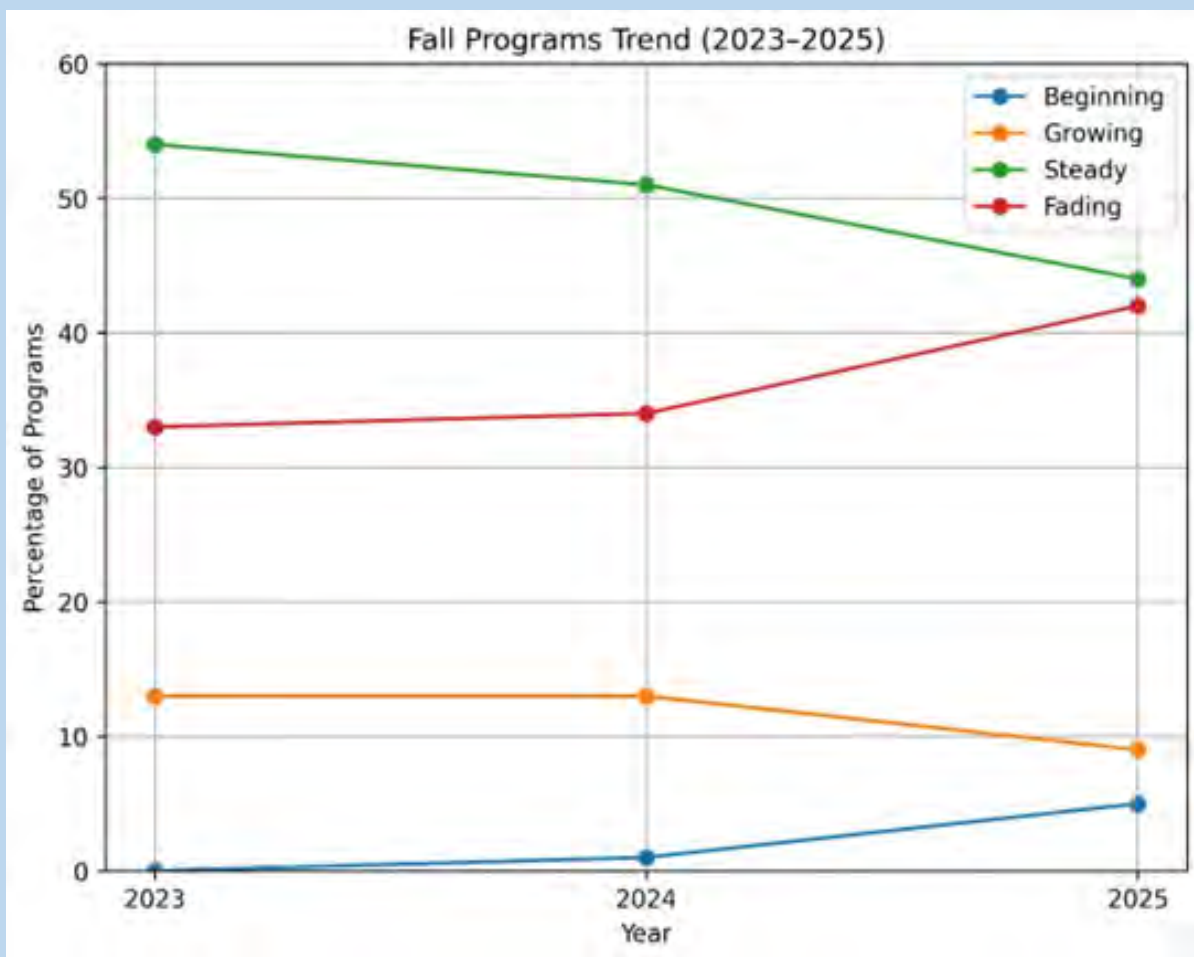


Fall Programs (2023-2025)

Overall Trend: Declining stability and increasing program decline.

Steady programs dropped from 54% (2023) to 44% (2025). “Steady programs declined from 54% in 2023 to 44% in 2025...”

- Fading programs rose from 33% to 42%, signaling declining participation.
- Growing programs fell from 13% to 9%.
- Beginning programs increased from 0% to 5%, showing some new development.

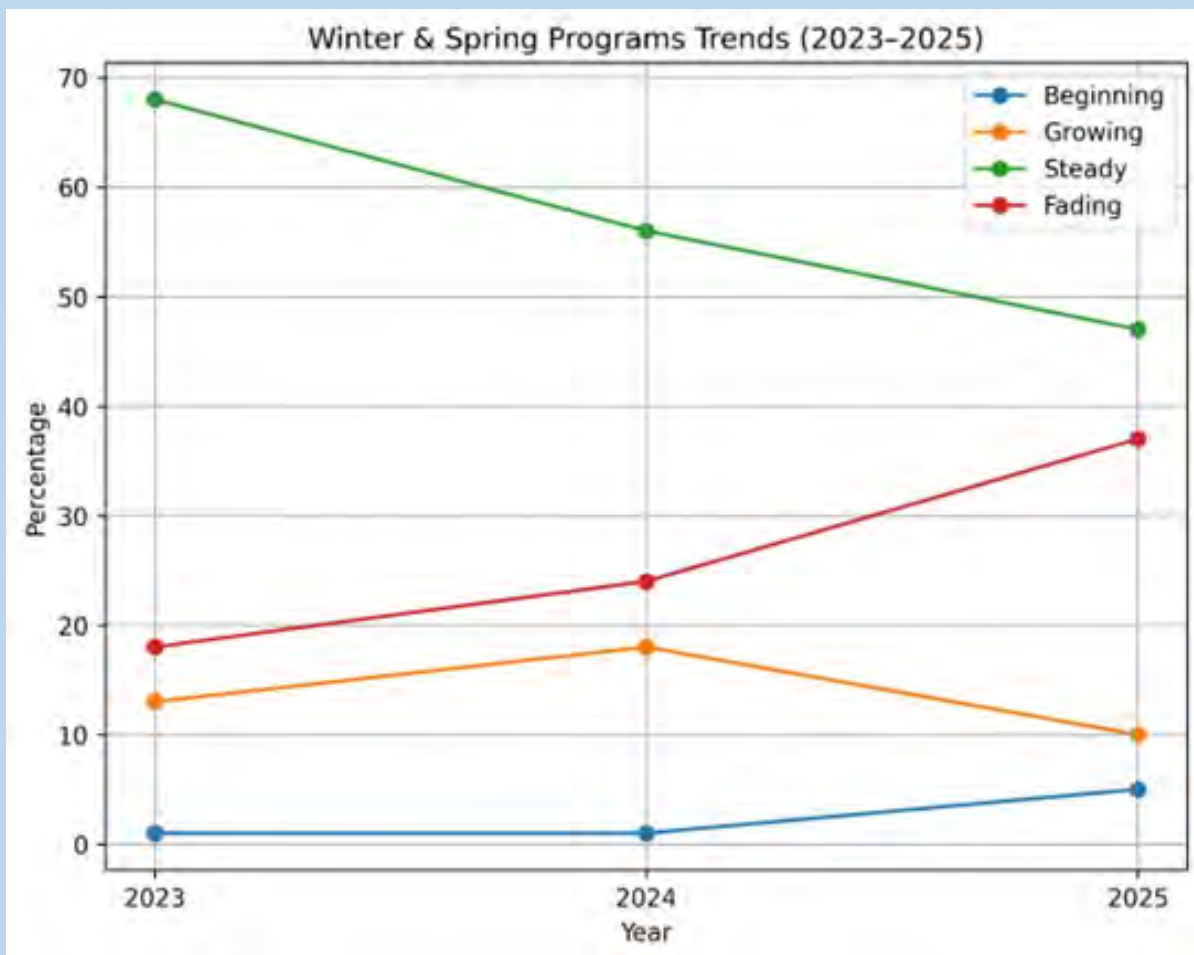


Implication: The portfolio is shifting toward decline, requiring reinvestment, sunsetting of underperformers, and targeted new program development.

Winter & Spring Programs (2023-2025)

Overall Trend: Strong decline in stability with rising fading programs.

- Steady programs fell sharply from 68% to 47%. “Steady programs declined consistently, dropping from 68% in 2023 to 47% in 2025.”
- Fading programs increased from 18% to 37%, the most significant shift.
- Growing programs rose in 2024 but dropped to 10% in 2025.
- Beginning programs increased slightly to 5%.

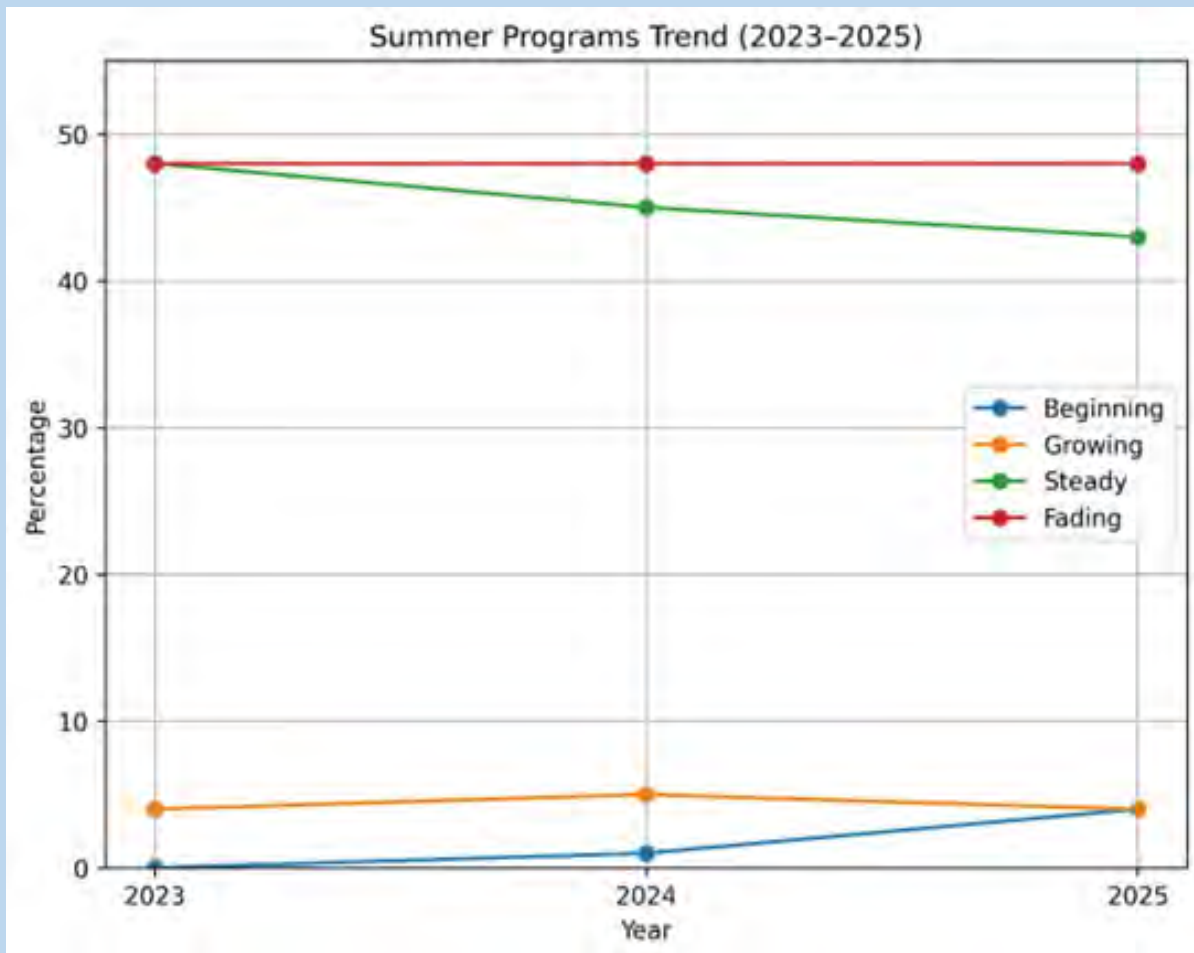


Implication: Without converting new and growing programs into stable ones, the portfolio risks continued contraction.

Summer Programs (2023-2025)

Overall Trend: High proportion of fading programs with slow erosion of stability.

- Fading programs remained consistently high at 48% each year. “Fading programs remained constant at 48% each year...”
- Steady programs declined from 48% to 43%.
- Beginning programs increased from 0% to 4%.
- Growing programs remained low at 4–5%.

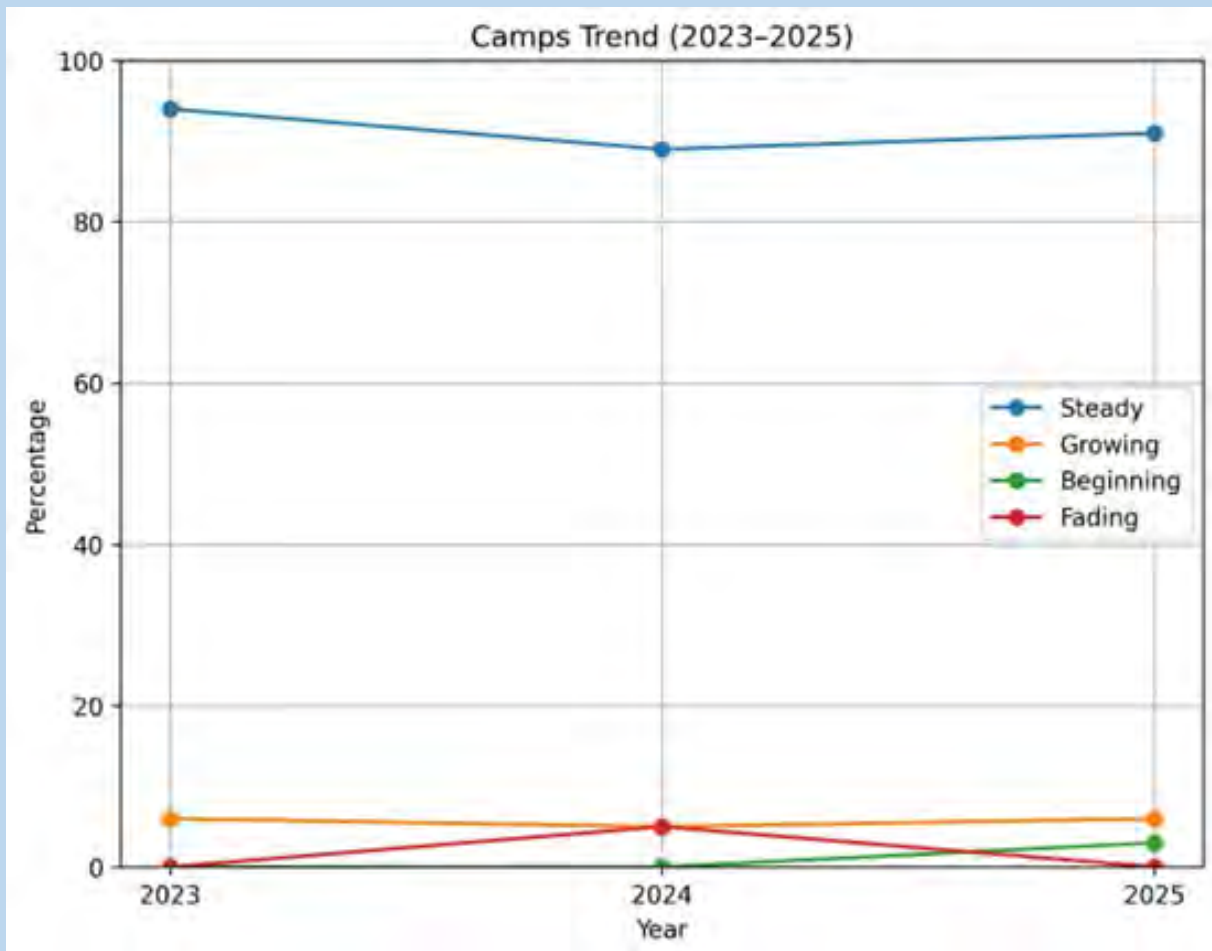


Implication: Summer offerings are heavily weighted toward declining or static programs, with limited growth.

Camps (2023-2025)

Overall Trend: Highly stable and healthy program area.

- Steady programs consistently high: 93–94% in 2022–2023, dipping to 89% in 2024, rebounding to 91% in 2025. “Camps remained overwhelmingly stable while rebounding from a brief 2024 adjustment year...”
- Fading programs appear only in 2024 (5%), then return to 0%.
- Beginning programs emerge in 2025 (3%).
- Growing programs remain steady at 5–6%.



Implication: Camps are a strong, reliable program area with selective innovation and minimal decline.

Timeframe Analysis (Overall Program Longevity)

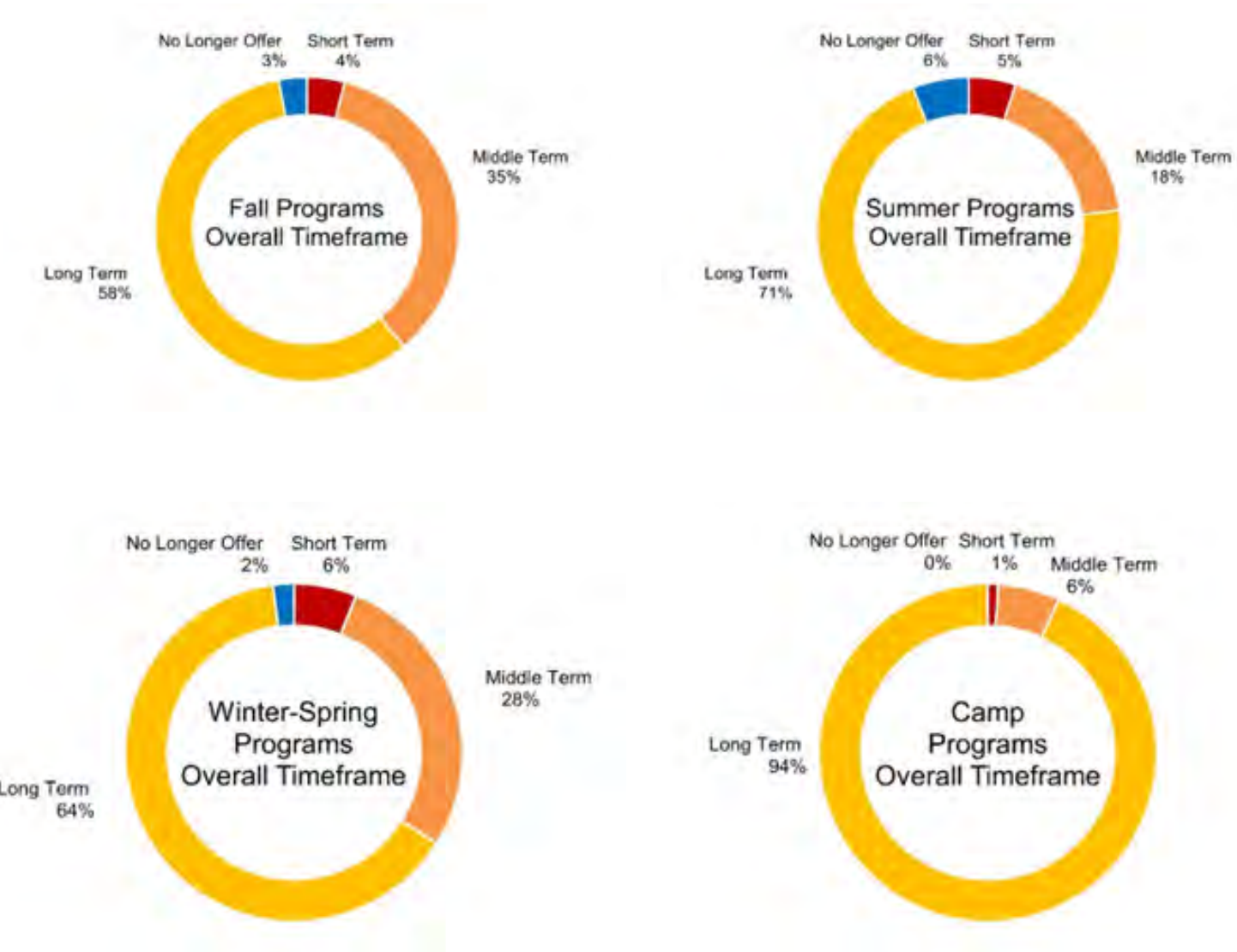
The analysis below categorizes programs by how long they have been offered:

Fall: 58% long-term, 35% mid-term, 4% short-term, 3% no longer offered.

Winter/Spring: 94% long-term, 6% mid-term.

Summer: 71% long-term, 18% mid-term, 5% short-term, 6% no longer offered.

Camps: 64% long-term, 28% mid-term, 6% short-term, 2% no longer offered.



Implication: There is a heavy reliance on long-standing programs across all seasons.

★ **Standout Finding:**

The biggest leverage point isn't adding new programs — it's retiring or redesigning low-value offerings.

Recreation Program Road Map

The analysis leads to a Recreation Program Roadmap outlines a five-year strategy to modernize offerings, strengthen community engagement, enhance operational excellence, and ensure long-term financial sustainability. The roadmap builds on prior lifecycle analyses and positions the Park District for continued growth and innovation. By 2031, Tinley Park-Park District will deliver a more inclusive, efficient, and financially resilient recreation portfolio that advances the community values and supports lifelong engagement

Each initiative progresses through quarterly milestones from **2027 to 2031**, ensuring balanced development and measurable results.

2027–2028: Foundation building — audits, training, and community outreach.

2029–2030: Expansion — new programs, partnerships, and digital modernization.

2031: Evaluation — performance review and next-phase planning.





Recreation Trends in Illinois

Illinois is riding a wave of exciting and meaningful recreation trends in 2026, shaped by broader national movements and local community needs. Here's a breakdown of the most impactful developments:

- Volunteering is booming.
- Programs are being designed to foster intergenerational connections and community bonding to address social isolation.
- Playgrounds are prioritizing immersive and inclusive environments.
- Curated meetups are gaining traction for low-cost fellowship.
- Therapeutic recreation and adaptive sports like nature walks and climbing are expanding.
- Pickleball is exploding, with youth and senior leagues forming across suburbs.
- Low impact fitness and sports are gaining popularity among older adults.
- AI-powered training, performance dashboards, and self-serve kiosks are being introduced.
- Hybrid Recreation Centers are doubling as multi-generational hubs by adding esports lounges to engage teenagers and expanded indoor walking tracks for active seniors.
- Agencies are investing in next generation mobile apps and online booking systems to streamline access.

Current Environment

The operational systems of an organization provide the framework for its overall effectiveness and long-term success. For agencies committed to excellence, continuous evaluation and improvement of these systems are essential. Within the Park District, administrative and financial systems serve as the foundation of daily operations and organizational performance. This section examines these critical operational areas, identifying opportunities for enhancement and positive change that can improve efficiency, strengthen decision-making, and support the Park District's continued success in serving the community.

Administration

The foundation of the Park District's operations is built upon two critically important and interdependent entities: the Park Board and the management team. The elected Park Board provides governance through policy development, strategic leadership, and financial oversight, while the management team, under the direction of the Executive Director, is responsible for the administration of daily operations and implementation of Board policies. The Park District's ability to operate effectively and achieve its mission depends on strong collaboration and clear communication between these two entities. To ensure organizational success, the Park Board must remain focused on governance, policy, and long-term strategic



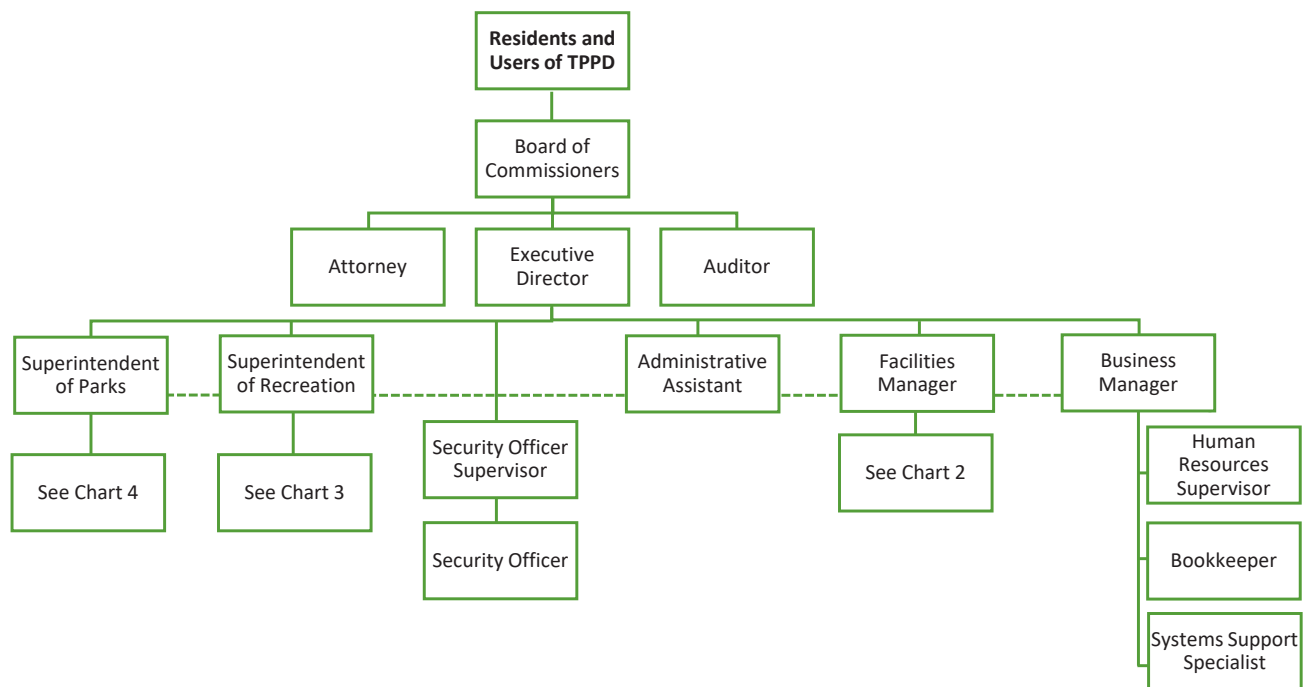
direction, while the management team is empowered to efficiently execute policies, manage operations, and deliver high-quality services to the community.

The organization chart for the Park District shows how the administrative system functions and provides a clear view of the span of control for the Executive Director.



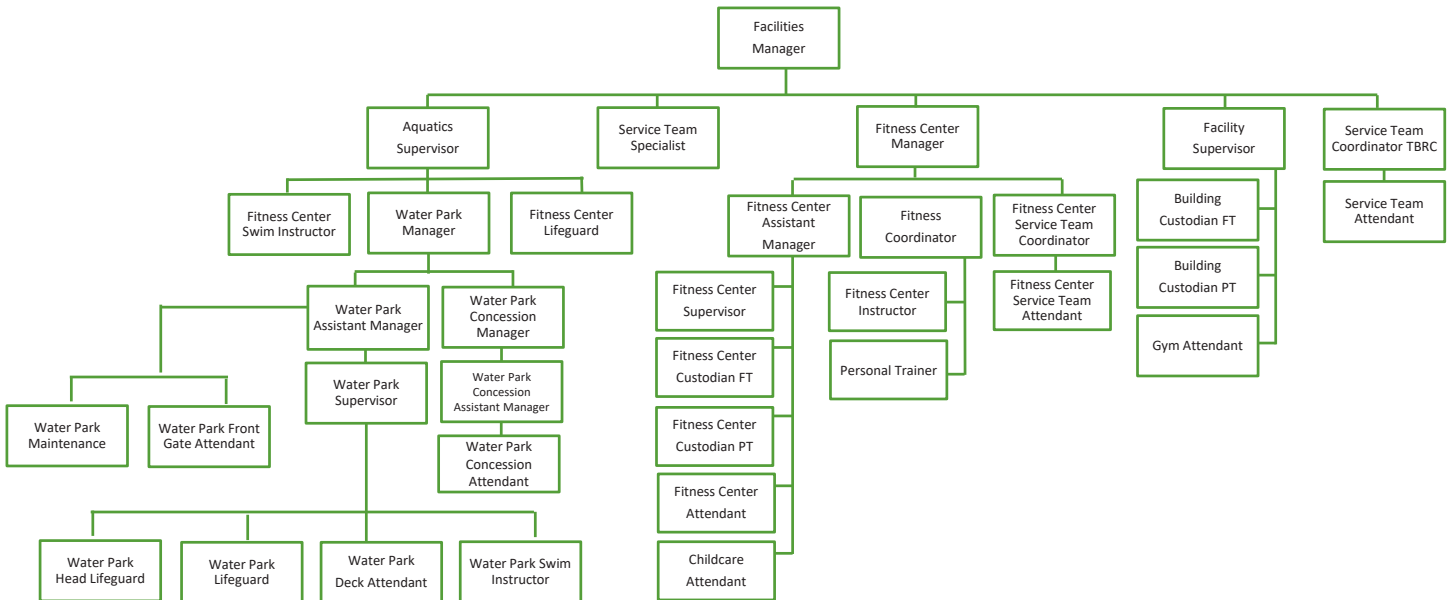


Organizational Chart



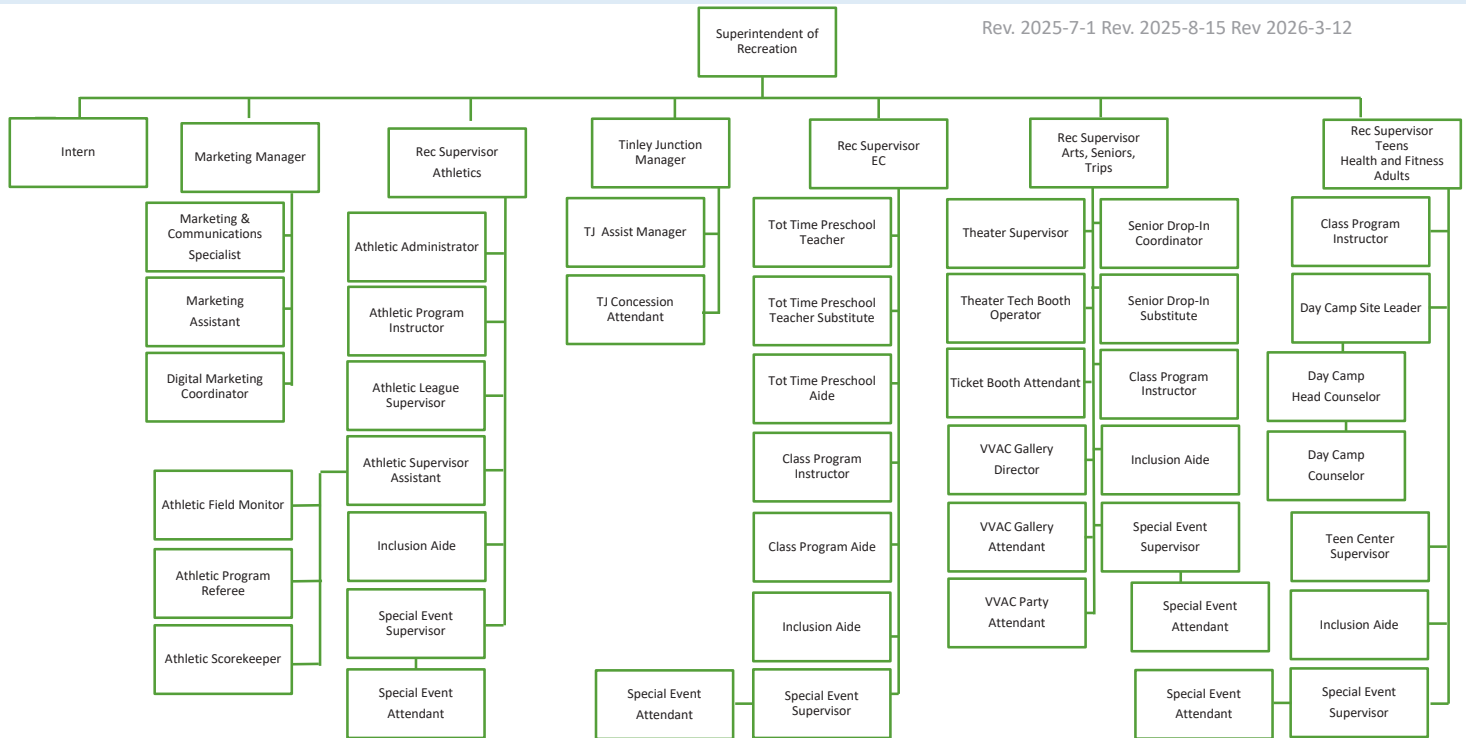


Organizational Chart 2 (Facilities)



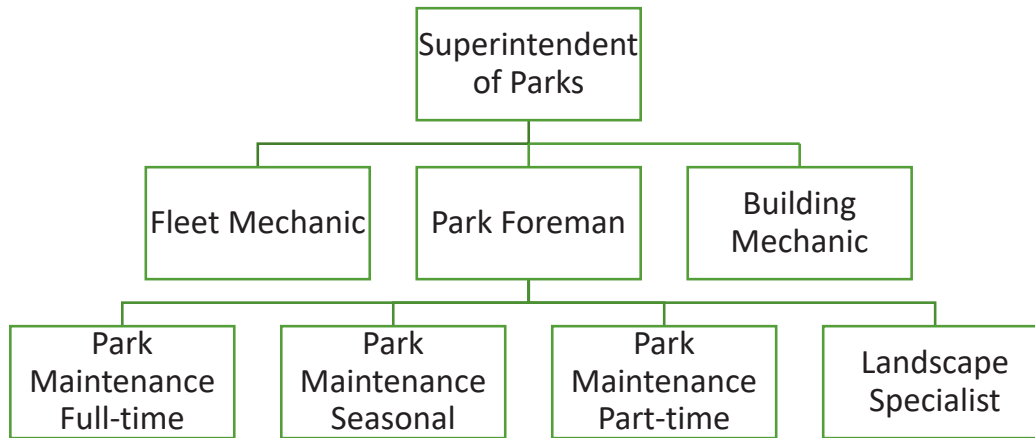


Organizational Chart 3 (Recreation)





Organizational Chart 4 (Parks)

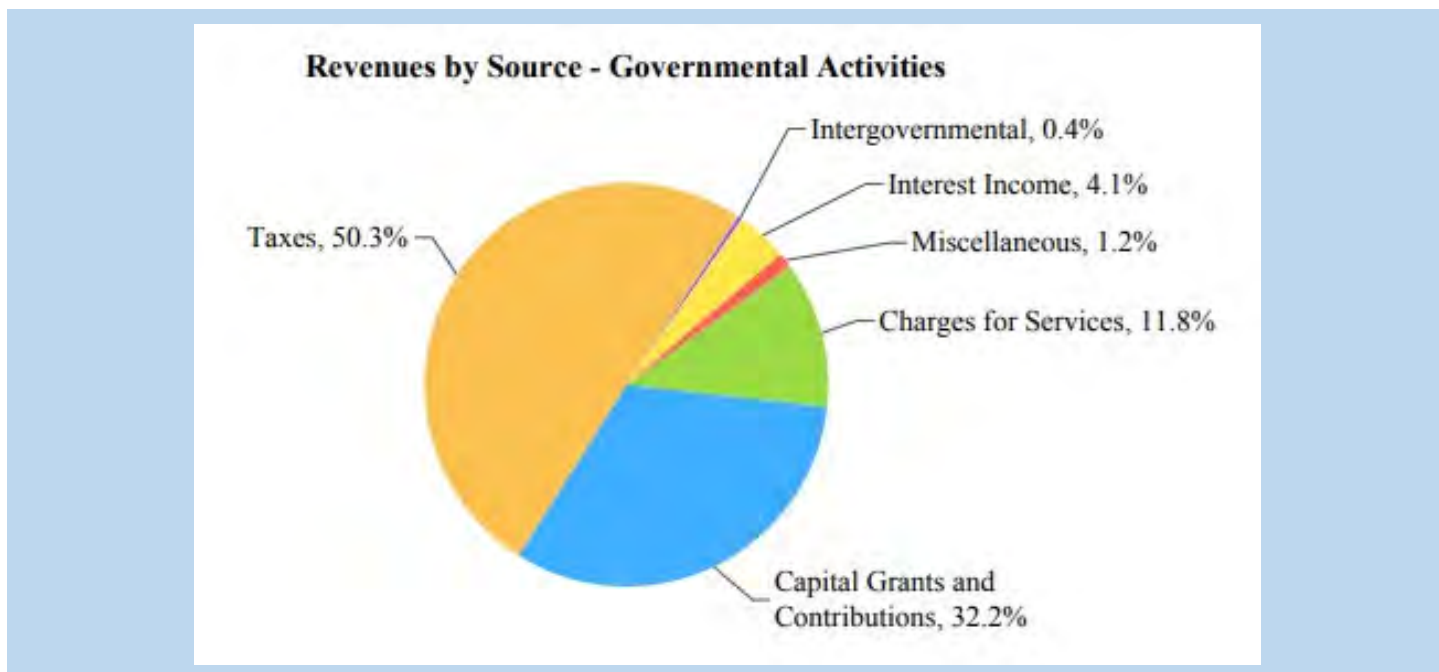


Financial Highlights

The Tinley Park-Park District's financial system is under the direct supervision of the Business Manager and, as is with any organization, an essential operational component of the Park District. The financial health of the agency plays a vital role in what it can accomplish in terms of the recreational opportunities the community can expect it to deliver. The Park District has seen a positive trend with an upward movement in terms of the overall financial position of the Park District. In review of February 28, 2025, fund balances, the Park District had approximately total revenues of \$15,936,451 and total expenses of \$11,993,596. The Park District's net position increased by \$3,942,855.

The Park District's population has remained relatively stable over the past decade, and although the 2024 Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV) increased by 33 percent to approximately \$1.814 billion, significant future growth is not anticipated. The Park District's property tax rate increased slightly to an estimated \$0.3670 per \$100 of assessed valuation, and the tax base remains predominantly residential, with residential properties accounting for 73.4 percent of assessed value and commercial and industrial properties comprising the remaining 26.6 percent.

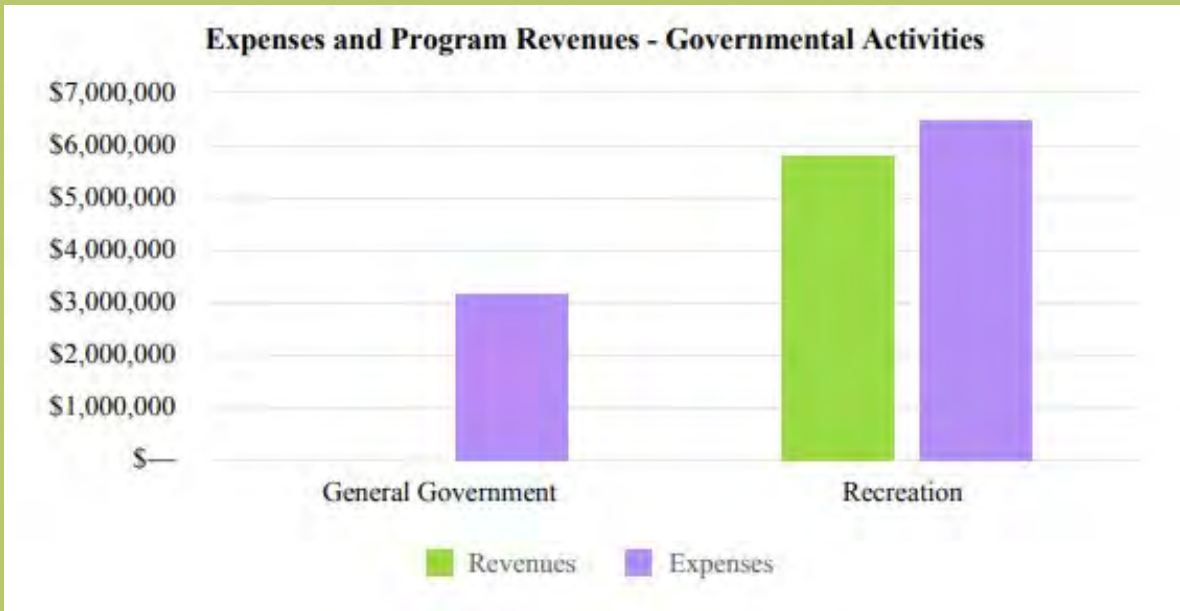
Revenue Sources Overview



The Park District's financial foundation relies heavily on two primary streams: property taxes and charges for services. Property taxes provide a stable base of support, while charges for services, such as program fees, facility rentals, and memberships, generate substantial operational revenue. The following chart illustrates these major revenue sources, highlighting the Park District's dependence on both to sustain its governmental activities and maintain quality services for the community.

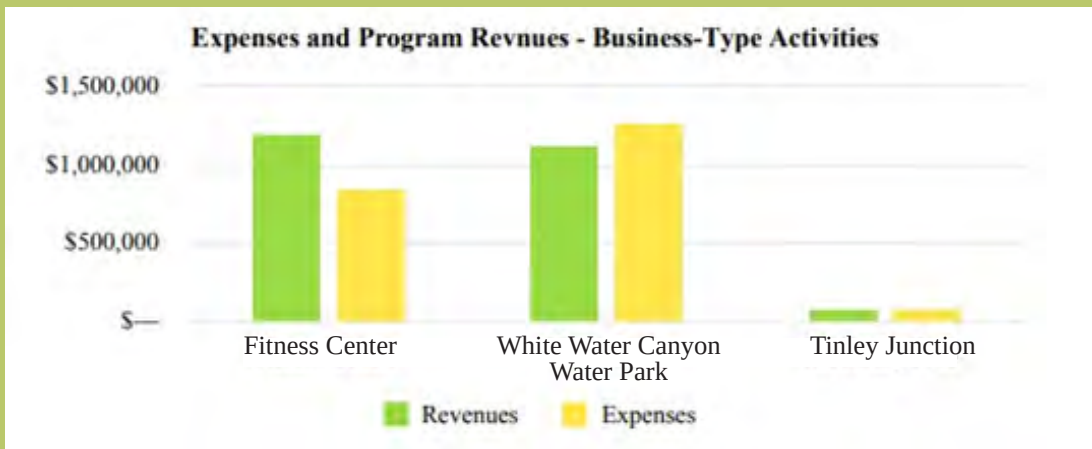
Governmental Activities Revenue & Expenses

The “Expenses and Program Revenues” chart highlights the financial dynamics of the Park District’s governmental functions. It clearly identifies areas where program expenses significantly exceed the revenues generated, underscoring which services rely most heavily on property taxes and other general revenue sources for support. This information provides valuable insight into the cost-to-revenue balance of various operations and helps guide future financial planning.



Business Type Activities Revenue & Expenses

The graph compares program revenues to expenses for the Fitness Center, White Water Canyon Water Park, and Tinley Junction operations. Net position for business-type activities increased by \$456,198. This increase was mainly due to increased program participation and favorable market conditions. Total program revenue for fiscal year 2025 was \$2,422,408. Total expenses were \$2,204,807 which includes the depreciation expense of \$105,593 for Fitness Center Fund and \$178,697 for Water Park Fund.



Park, Open Space and Facility Matrix

The Parks, Open Space and Facility Matrix was completed for the Tinley Park-Park District's existing and undeveloped parks as a part of the Inventory and Analysis phase of the master plan. It reflects the current inventory of the Park District's park acreage, use and amenities. Each park was classified and grouped based on the NRPA park classification standards. The park amenities were tabulated in order to understand the Park District's total recreational offerings.

IDNR LIFESPAN			20		8		20		8		20		8		20		8		20		8		20		8		20	
ACRES OWNED	ACRES LEASED		TRAILS (MILES)	FITNESS STATIONS	BALL FIELD	LIGHTED	BASEBALL (ADA)	LIGHTED	BASKETBALL (HALF COURT)	LIGHTED	BATTING CAGES	FOOTBALL	LIGHTED	FUTSAL COURT	LIGHTED	DISC GOLF	MINI GOLF	LIGHTED	ICE RINK	LIGHTED	LACROSSE	LIGHTED	PICKLEBALL	LIGHTED	SKATE PARK	SOCCER	LIGHTED	
MINI-PARKS																												
BORMET PARK PLAYLOT	0.21																											
CREEKSIDE PARK	1.07																											
FRANK "BILL" GERMAN PARK	0.70																											
JEAN RAUHOFF PARK	0.41																											
ROBERT ALLEN MCALLISTER PARK	0.39		0.03	2021																								
SELBY HIRSCH PARK	0.60																											
TINLEY TERRACE TOT LOT	0.21																											
Mini-Park Total Acreage	3.59	0.00																										
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS																												
ARNIE GUNTHER SPORTS FIELD	8.35		0.29	2012					1	1990																2	1990	
BICENTENNIAL PARK	17.56		0.29	2024		1	2012		1	2024													1	2024				
BUEDINGEN PARK	4.25		0.28	1999																						1	1999	
CHIEF MIKE O'CONNELL PARK	3.50		0.14	2014																								
COMMISSIONERS PARK	2.25		0.21	2016		1	2018		2	2012																		
CORRINE DEINERT PARK	4.60		0.24	1996																								
DR. EDWIN B. THARP PARK	3.40					2	2011																					
ERIC "MOOSE" NASEBANDT PARK	4.40		0.15	1995																								
FRANK W. & NANCY GASIOR PARK	2.67					2	2007	2				1	2022	1						1	2022	1				1	2022	
FREEDOM PARK	15.00		0.18	2013		1	1985																					
JOHN A. BANNES PARK	3.10		0.36	2001		2	2001																			1	2001	
KIWANIS PARK	7.80		0.25	2011		1	2011		2	2011	2			1	2011	1			1	1			2	2019	2			
LEWIS PARK	5.55					2	1988																					
MARY FILSON RECREATION AREA	3.40		0.10	2010		1	2024	1									1	1987	1									
MCCARTHY PARK / JAYCEE GROVE	8.66		0.34	2009		4	2009	1									1	1987	1									
MEMORIAL PARK	5.86		0.43	2021		1	2004		1	1990																		
POTTAWATTOMIE PARK	8.00		0.09	2012		2	1990																					
RICHARD M. GORY PARK	6.82		0.17	1995																								
RONALD CENTANNI PARK	2.20					3	1990	3	1	2014	1			3	2011													
RUTH & HENRY BETTENHAUSEN PARK	8.42		0.25	2020		1	2020		1	2020													1	2020				
ST. BONIFACE PARK	4.62		0.25	2005																						1	2005	
TOWN POINTE PARK	20.58		0.37	2018		1	2018		2	2018													2	2018				
VETERANS PARK	9.43		0.33	2022		1	2022		3	2022																1	1990	
VOLUNTEER PARK	10.70																											
Neighborhood Park Total Acreage	153.56	17.56																										

[illegible]

Park, Open Space and Facility Matrix Continued

SCHOOL PARKS																														
CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL		10.40	0.12	2022			1	2006																			3	2006		
CHRISTA MCAULIFFE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL		3.22																										1	2010	
FERNWAY PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL																														
FULTON SCHOOL PARK		5.20					1	2010	1																					
HELEN KELLER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL																														
JOHN A. BANNES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL							1	2018																						
MEMORIAL SCHOOL PARK		4.20					1	2024																						
MILLENNIUM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL		5.00																										1	2014	
VIRGIL I. GRISSOM MIDDLE SCHOOL							2	2000																						
School Park Total Acreage	0.00	28.02																												
COMMUNITY PARK																														
CENTENNIAL PARK		58.60	1.17	2009	1	2012					2	1990															1	2015		
COMMUNITY PARK	60.00		0.90	2001			2	2000	2		2	2003	2												2	2019			6	2000
SIEMSEN MEADOWS		65.24																	1	2017										
VOGT WOODS	37.90		0.30				1	1990	1						1	1974	1													
Community Park Total Acreage	97.90	123.84																												
GREENWAY																														
COMED PATHWAY		10.90	2.50	2002																										
PAXTON LOT	1.08																													
Greenway Total Acreage	1.08	10.90																												
SPECIAL USE																														
CANINE CAMPUS DOG PARK	10.00																													
LANCASTER WOODS	2.15																													
FORMER MENTAL HEATH SITE	280.00																													
Special Use Total Acreage	292.15	0.00																												
TOTAL ARCEAGES		548.28	180.32	9.74	1	35		1		17		8		2		1		1		1		1		1		8		1	18	
TOTAL OWNED AND LEASED ACRES		728.60																												
			TRAILS (MILES)	FITNESS STATIONS	BALL FIELD	LIGHTED BASEBALL (ADA)	LIGHTED BASKETBALL (HALF COURT)	LIGHTED BATTING CAGES	FOOTBALL	LIGHTED FUTSAL COURT	LIGHTED DISC GOLF	MINI GOLF	LIGHTED ICE RINK	LIGHTED LACROSSE	LIGHTED PICKLEBALL	LIGHTED SKATE PARK	SOCCER	LIGHTED												
10.10 Acres of Developed Open Space per 1,000 Population (236K)																														
(L) = Leased Properties																														
Facilities beyond their useful life per IDNR		4.6	0	28		1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17													
Total facilities recognized by IDNR		5.1	1	7	0		11	8	2	1	1	1	1	1	8	1	1													

Park Scoring System

As a part of each inventory and analysis phase, the planning team visited each park and evaluated the existing facilities and condition. A “Park Scoring System” was developed as a part of the evaluation based on the following criteria: Visibility / Access / Linkages, Amenities, Appearance + Use and an overall inventory data rating. The table below summarizes the results for the Tinley Park-Park District.

	Bornet Park Play lot	Creekside Park	Frank "Bill" German Park	Jean Rauhoff Park	Robert Allen McAllister Park	Selby Hirsch Park	Tinley Terrace Tot Lot	Annie Gunther Sports Field	Bicentennial Park	Buedingen Park	Chief Mike O'Connell Park	Commissioners Park	Corrine Dienert Park	Dr. Edwin B. Tharp Park	Eric "Moose" Nasebandt Park	Frank W. & Nancy Gasior Park	Freedom Park	John A. Bannes Park	Kiwanis Park	Lewis Park	Mary Filson Recreation Area	McCarthy Park / Jaycee Grove	Memorial Park
VISIBILITY / ACCESS / LINKAGES																							
Visibility	2.0	0.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	1.0	2.5	2.0
Pedestrian Connectivity	1.0	0.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	1.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	0.5	3.0	0.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	0.0	1.5	2.5
Vehicular Access	1.0	0.0	2.0	1.5	1.0	2.0	1.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	2.5	2.5
ADA	1.0	0.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.5	1.5	2.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.5	1.0	2.0	2.0	0.0	2.5	2.5
AMENITIES																							
Internal Circulation	1.0	0.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	1.0	0.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	0.0	3.0	2.5
Comfort	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.5	2.0	1.5	1.0	1.5	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.5	1.0	2.0	2.5	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.5	2.0
Program Opportunities	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.5	2.0	1.5	3.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	0.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Green Practices	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	1.0
APPEARANCE + USE																							
Character/Impression	2.0	0.0	1.0	2.5	2.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	1.5	1.5	2.0	2.5	2.0	2.5	1.5	1.0	2.0	2.0
Utilization	2.0	0.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.5	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	2.5	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.5	2.0	2.5	2.5
Maintenance	2.0	1.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.5	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.5	3.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	2.5	2.5
Appropriate Use	1.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	1.5	3.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	2.5	2.5	3.0	2.0	2.5	2.0	2.0	2.5	3.0
Inventory Data Rating	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.5	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.3	2.7	2.3	2.6	1.9	2.0	1.8	2.0	2.5	1.6	2.1	1.7	2.0	2.1	2.0
TOTAL	21.0	9.0	25.0	26.5	20.0	26.0	20.0	30.5	31.3	36.7	29.3	35.1	31.4	19.5	21.8	29.5	31.5	26.6	32.1	30.7	17.0	29.1	29.0

Key

Rating System

3 - Exceeds Expectations

2 - Meets Expectations

1 - Below Expectations

Total Score

39 - 27.1 = Exceeds Expectations

27 - 16.1 = Meets Expectations

16 or less = Below Expectations

Pottawattomie Park	Richard M. Gory Park	Ronald Centanni Park	Ruth & Henry Bettenhausen Park	St. Boniface Park	Town Pointe Park	Veterans Park	Volunteer Park	Central Middle School	Christa McAuliffe Elementary School	Ferney Park Elementary School	Fulton School Park	Helen Keller Elementary School	John A. Bannes Elementary School	Memorial School Park	Millennium Elementary School	Virgil I. Grissom Middle School	Centennial Park	Community Park	Siemens Meadows	Vogt Woods	ComEd Pathway	Paxton Lot	Canine Campus Dog Park	Lancaster Woods	Average
1.5	3.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.5	3.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	1.5	2.4
3.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	3.0	0.5	1.0	2.5	3.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.1
3.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	2.5	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.5	3.0	1.0	2.0	0.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.1
2.0	2.0	2.0	2.5	3.0	1.5	3.0	2.5	0.0	2.0	2.0	1.5	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	3.0	0.0	2.0	3.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	1.7
3.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	0.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.5	1.0	0.0	2.5	3.0	2.0	1.0	3.0	1.0	3.0	0.0	1.8
3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.5	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	0.0	2.0	2.5	2.0	1.5	3.0	2.0	3.0	1.5	2.0
2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	1.5	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.0	2.1
1.0	2.0	0.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	1.0	0.0	0.5	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	1.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	0.0	1.3
3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	1.0	1.5	2.0	1.5	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	2.5	2.5	2.0	1.5	2.0	1.0	3.0	1.0	1.9
3.0	3.0	1.5	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	2.5	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	2.5	2.5	2.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	3.0	0.0	2.2
2.5	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	2.5	2.5	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	1.5	2.4
3.0	3.0	2.5	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	2.5	2.0	1.0	3.0	1.5	2.5
1.9	1.8	1.8	2.0	2.9	2.2	2.4	2.4	1.5	1.7	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.3	1.0	1.8	2.4	2.7	1.9	3.0	0.0	2.8	1.3	2.0
31.9	31.8	24.8	26.5	36.9	31.7	35.4	33.4	19.5	27.2	23.5	25.0	24.0	18.0	29.5	22.8	18.0	28.3	34.9	24.7	24.4	32.0	18.0	31.8	12.3	26.6

Park Scoring Ranking

Key

Rating System

3 - Exceeds Expectations

2 - Meets Expectations

1 - Below Expectations

Total Score

39 - 27.1 = Exceeds Expectations

27 - 16.1 = Meets Expectations

16 or less = Below Expectations

TOTAL

9.0	Creekside Park
12.3	Lancaster Woods
17.0	Mary Filson Recreation Area
18.0	John A. Bannes Elementary School
18.0	Virgil I. Grissom Middle School
18.0	Paxton Lot
19.5	Dr. Edwin B. Tharp Park
19.5	Central Middle School
20.0	Robert Allen McAllister Park
20.0	Tinley Terrace Tot Lot
21.0	Bormet Park Play lot
21.8	Eric "Moose" Nasebandt Park
22.8	Millennium Elementary School
23.5	Fernway Park Elementary School
24.0	Helen Keller Elementary School
24.4	Vogt Woods
24.7	Siemsen Meadows
24.8	Ronald Centanni Park
25.0	Frank "Bill" German Park
25.0	Fulton School Park
26.0	Selby Hirsch Park
26.5	Jean Rauhoff Park
26.5	Ruth & Henry Bettenhausen Park
26.6	John A. Bannes Park
27.2	Christa McAuliffe Elementary School

28.3	Centennial Park
29.0	Memorial Park
29.1	McCarthy Park / Jaycee Grove
29.3	Chief Mike O'Connell Park
29.5	Frank W. & Nancy Gasior Park
29.5	Memorial School Park
30.5	Anrie Gunther Sports Field
30.7	Lewis Park
31.3	Bicentennial Park
31.4	Corrine Dienert Park
31.5	Freedom Park
31.7	Town Pointe Park
31.8	Canine Campus Dog Park
31.8	Richard M. Gory Park
31.9	Pottawattomie Park
32.0	ComEd Pathway
32.1	Kiwanis Park
33.4	Volunteer Park
34.9	Community Park
35.1	Commissioners Park
35.4	Veterans Park
36.7	Buedingen Park
36.9	St. Boniface Park
26.6	Average

Level of Service Assessment

Planning Area 1

Planning Area 1 is zoned residential, commercial, and planned development. The area contains four neighborhood parks, Bannes Park, Buedingen Park, Commissioners Park, and Gory Park. The area is bordered by 171st Street to the South and 80th Ave. to the East.

Planning Area 2

Planning Area 2 is zoned residential, commercial, and planned development. The planning area contains one mini park, German Park, five neighborhood parks, Bettenhausen Park, Filson Rec. Area, Gunther Sports Field, McCarthy Park, and Veterans Park, along with Centennial Park, and Seimsen Meadows. The area is bordered by 80th Ave. to the West, Harlem Ave. to the East, and 171st Street to the South.

Planning Area 3

Planning Area 3 is zoned residential, commercial, and planned development. The planning area contains Bicentennial Park. The area is bordered by Harlem Ave to the North, 151st Street to the West, Oak Park Ave. to the East, and 171st Street to the South.

Planning Area 4

Planning Area 4 is zoned residential, commercial, and planned development. The planning area contains St. Bonafice Park and Tinley Terrace Tot Lot. The area is bordered by Oak Park Ave. to the West and 167th Ave. to the South.

Planning Area 5

Planning Area 5 is zoned residential, commercial, and planned development. The planning area contains Lewis Park, Memorial Park, Fulton School Park, Vogt Woods and Lancaster Woods. The area is bordered by 167th Street to the North, Oak Park Ave. to the West, and the Rock Island District Metra line to the South.

Planning Area 6

Planning Area 6 is zoned residential, commercial, industrial, and planned development. The area contains seven neighborhood parks, Centanni, Deinert, Gasior, Kiwanis, Pattawattomie, Millennium School Park, Town Pointe, Canine Campus, Volunteer Park, and Community Park. The area is bordered by 171st St. to the North, 80th Ave. to the East, and the Rock Island District Metra line to the South.

Level of Service Assessment Continued

Planning Area 7

Planning Area 7 is zoned residential, commercial, industrial, planned development, and mixed use overlay district. The planning area contains three neighborhood parks, Tharp, O'Connell, and Nasebandt Park. The area is bordered by 171st Street to the North, 80th Ave. to the West, Oak Park Ave. to the East, and the Rock Island District Metra line to the South.

Planning Area 8

Planning Area 8 is zoned residential, industrial, and planned development. The planning area has no parks within its boundaries. The area is bordered by the Rock Island District Metra line to the North and 80th Ave. to the East.

Planning Area 9

Planning Area 9 is zoned commercial, industrial, and planned development. The planning area contains one Neighborhood Park, Freedom Park. The area is bordered by the Rock Island District Metra line to the North, 80th Ave. to the West, Harlem Ave. to the East, and I-80/94 to the South.

Planning Area 10

Planning Area 10 is zoned residential, commercial, industrial, and planned development. The area contains one mini park, Rauhoff Park, and Central Middle School Park. The area is bordered by the Rock Island District Metra line to the North, Harlem Ave. to the West, Oak Park Ave. to the East, and I-80/94 to the South.

Planning Area 11

Planning Area 11 is zoned residential, commercial, industrial, and planned development. The planning area contains one mini park, Hirsch Park, Memorial School Park, and two special-use facilities, Landmark Museum and Church and Vogt Visual Arts Center. The area is bordered by the Rock Island District Metra line to the North, Oak Park Ave. to the West, and I-80/94 to the South.

Planning Area 12

Planning Area 12 is zoned commercial, industrial, and planned development. The planning area has no parks within its boundaries. The area is bordered by I-80/94 to the North and 80th Ave. to the West.

Level of Service

The Level of Service (LOS) guideline is a ratio representing the minimum amount of open space and park land needed to meet the recreation demands of the community as recommended by NRPA. The LOS analysis is an integral step in determining a community’s open space and park land acquisition needs.

“The NRPA recognizes the importance of the Level of Service as: An expression of minimum acceptable facilities for citizens in every community.

A guideline to determine land requirements for various kinds of park and recreation areas and facilities.

A basis of relating recreational needs to spatial analysis with in a community wide system of parks, recreation areas and open spaces.”

- NRPA Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines.

According to the National Recreation and Parks Association, the LOS should:

Be practicable and achievable

Provide for an equitable allocation of park and recreation resources throughout a community

Reflect the real-time demand of the citizens for park and recreation opportunities

The population ratio method (acres/1000 of population) was used to determine the LOS for Tinley Park-Park District. This method is used most often for determining park and recreation space standards. The direct relationship between recreation and people is emphasized when using the population ratio method.

LEVEL OF SERVICE : EXISTING POPULATION							
Classification	Owned Acreage	Leased Acreage	Total Acreage	Existing Level of service (Acres / 1000 Population)	Recommended Acreage	Recommended Level of Service (Acres / 1000 Population)	Acreage Deficiency / Surplus
Mini Park	3.59	0.00	3.59	0.07	24.64	0.5	-21.05
Neighborhood / School Park	153.56	45.58	199.14	4.04	98.54	2.0	100.60
Community Park	97.90	123.84	221.74	4.50	369.54	7.5	-147.80
Greenway	1.08	10.90	11.98	0.24	0.00		11.98
Special Use	292.15	0.00	292.15	5.93	0.00		292.15
Total Parks	548.28	180.32	728.6	14.79	492.72	10.0	235.88

Recommended acreage is based on the existing population of 49,272 (2025)

*The Village of Tinley Park total population is 54,856 based on the 2024 ESRI data. Approximately 5,584 residents (Brookside Glen) live outside of the Tinley Park-Park District boundary, but within the village limits. The Tinley Park-Park District estimates 49,272 residents within the park district limits.



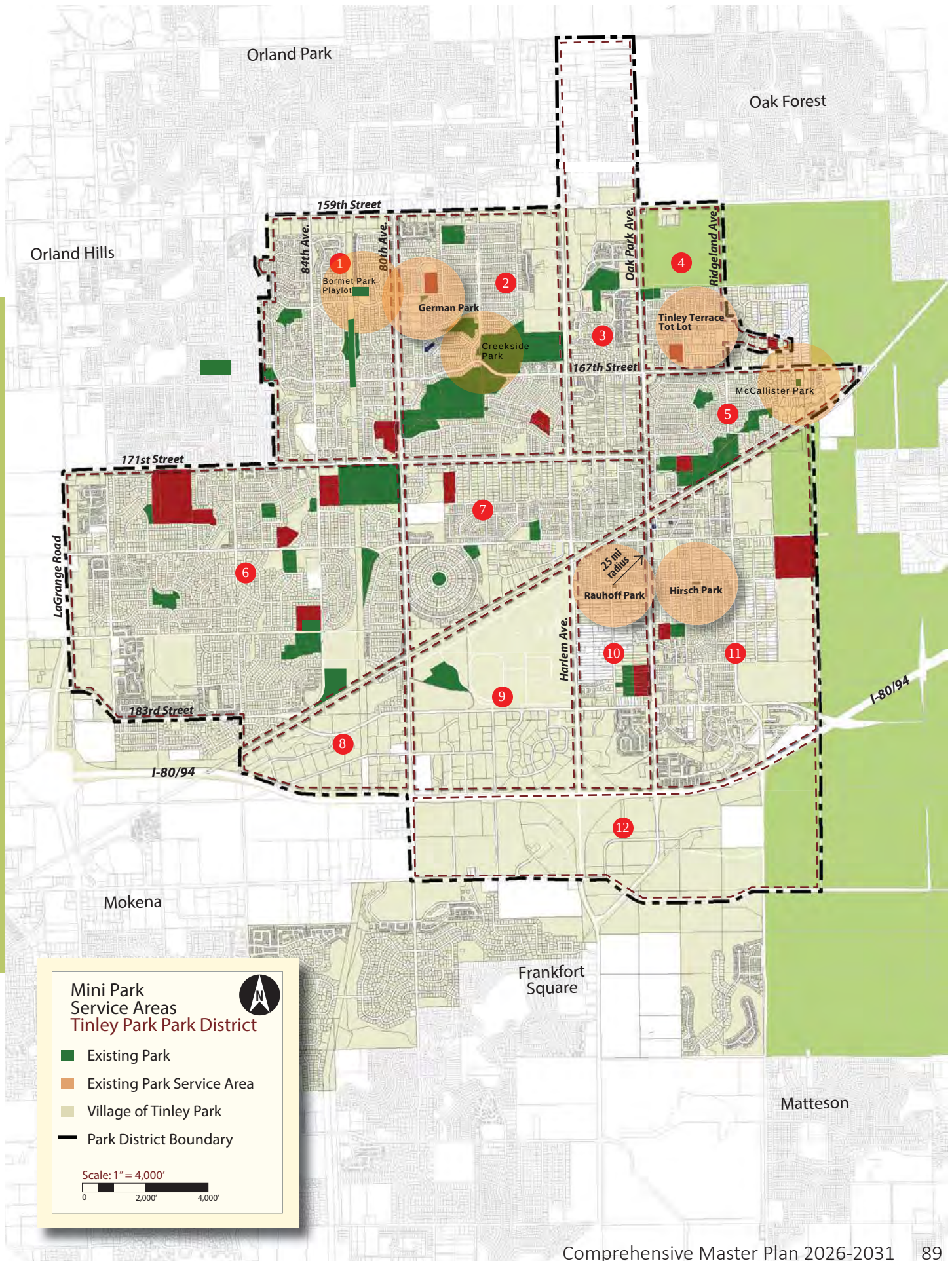
Service Areas

Service Area Maps were utilized to determine three key results. First, the distribution of parks based on the service area they provide, by park classification. Second, the relationship to planning area barriers as identified in the Planning Area section. Finally, to identify the areas that are not effectively served by parks and open space. To best address the needs of Tinley Park-Park District's residents, this study focuses attention on the distribution of parks within residential areas rather than non-residential areas, such as those zoned industrial or commercial. There are three park classifications that are defined in the master plan: mini parks, neighborhood / school parks, and community parks. The following maps locate these parks by classification and identify the service areas within their respective planning area.

Mini Park Service Areas

The Mini Park Service Area study determined which residential areas and planning areas are underserved by the Park District's existing mini park land holdings.

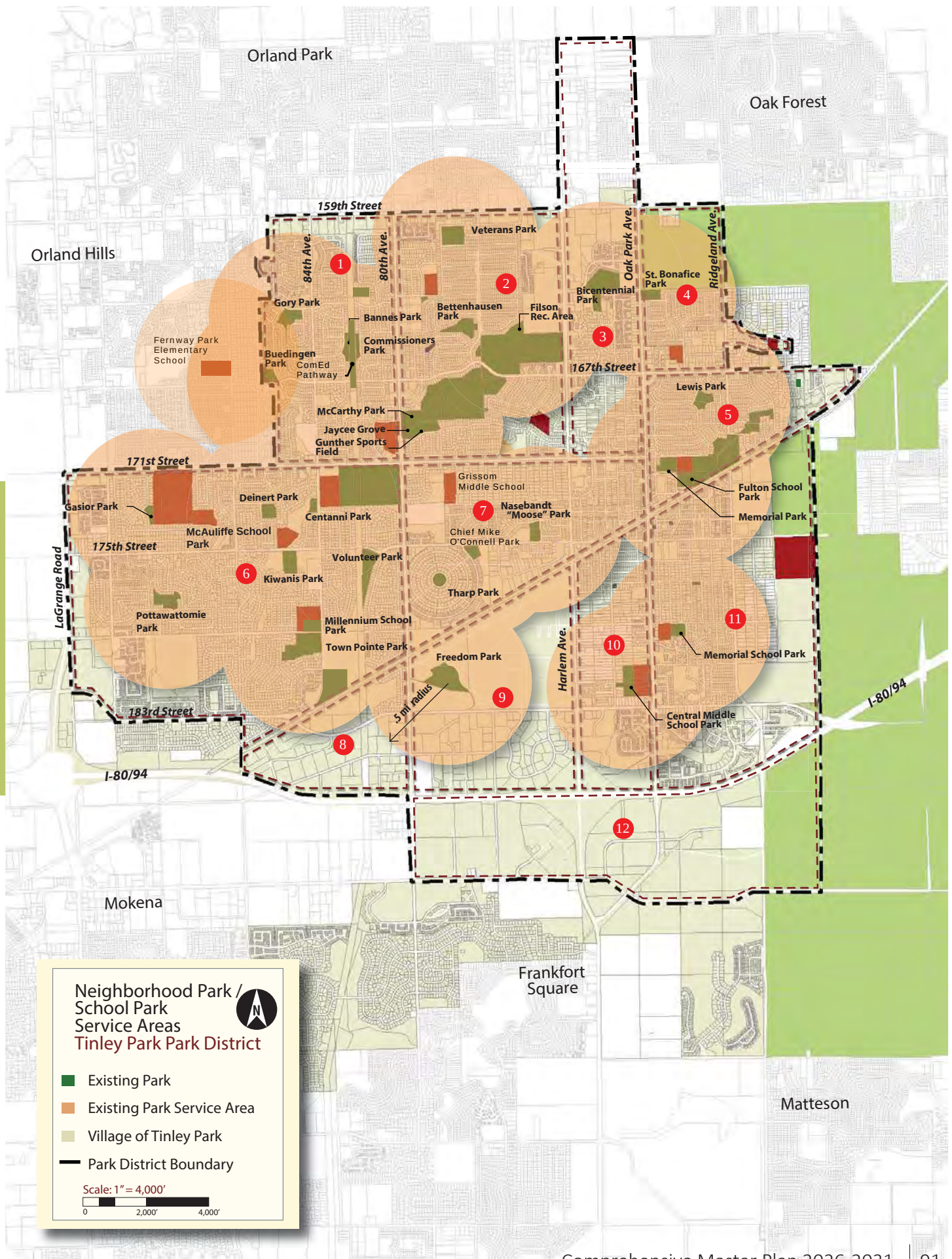
The NRPA Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines recommend that mini parks with active recreation amenities be centrally located within its service areas and encompass a 0.25-mile radius. The Mini Park Service Area Map illustrates this service radius (orange) around each existing and future mini park.



Neighborhood/School Park Service Areas

The Neighborhood Park / School Park Service Area study determined which planning areas are underserved by the Park District's existing neighborhood park land holdings. A typical neighborhood park is 5 to 10 acres.

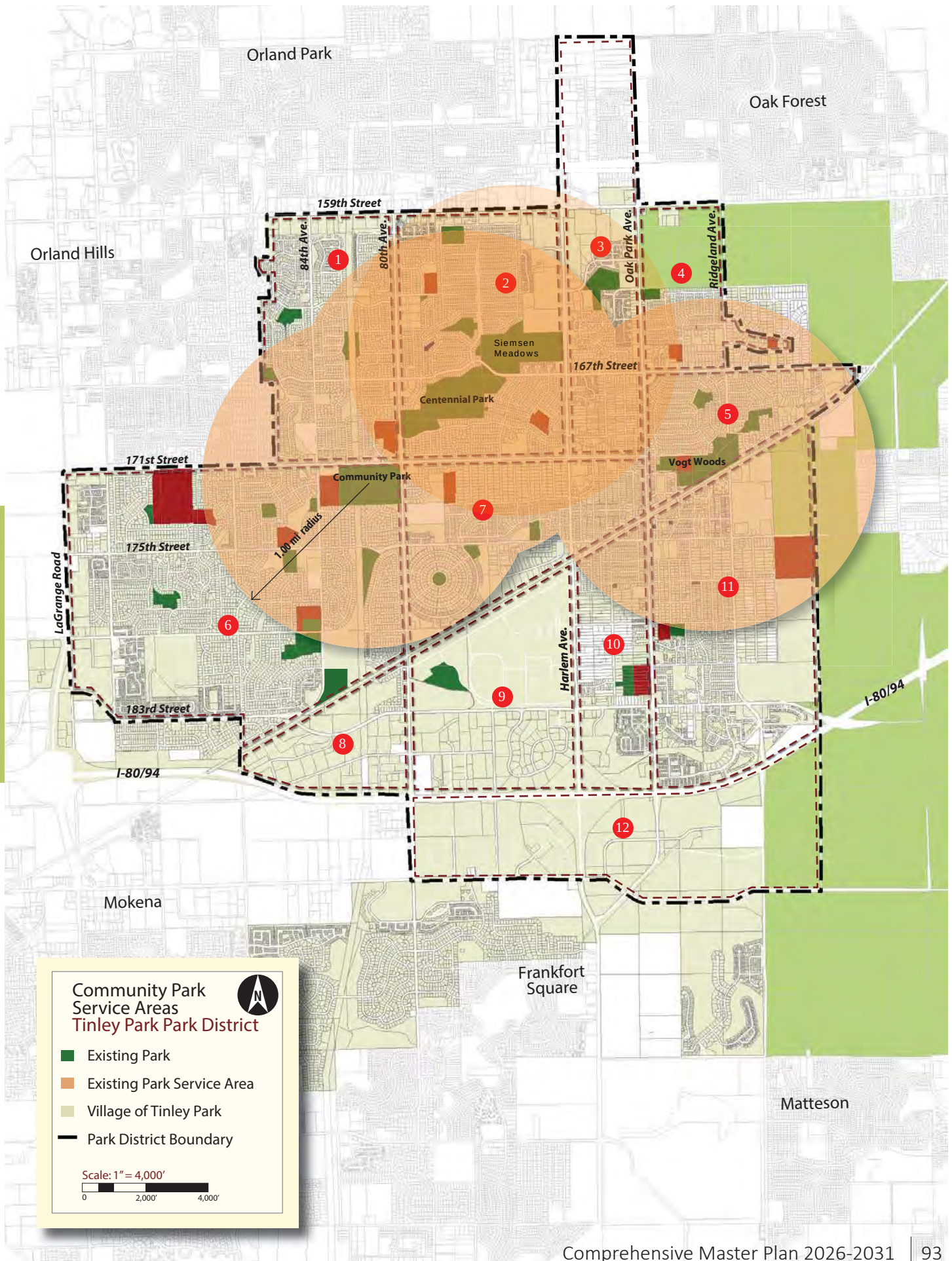
The NRPA Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines recommend that Neighborhood Parks with active recreation amenities be centrally located within its service areas and encompass a 0.5-mile radius. The Neighborhood Park Service Area Map illustrates this service radius (orange) around each existing and planned Neighborhood Park.



Community Park Service Areas

The Community Park Service Area study determined which residential areas are underserved by the Park District's existing community park land holdings.

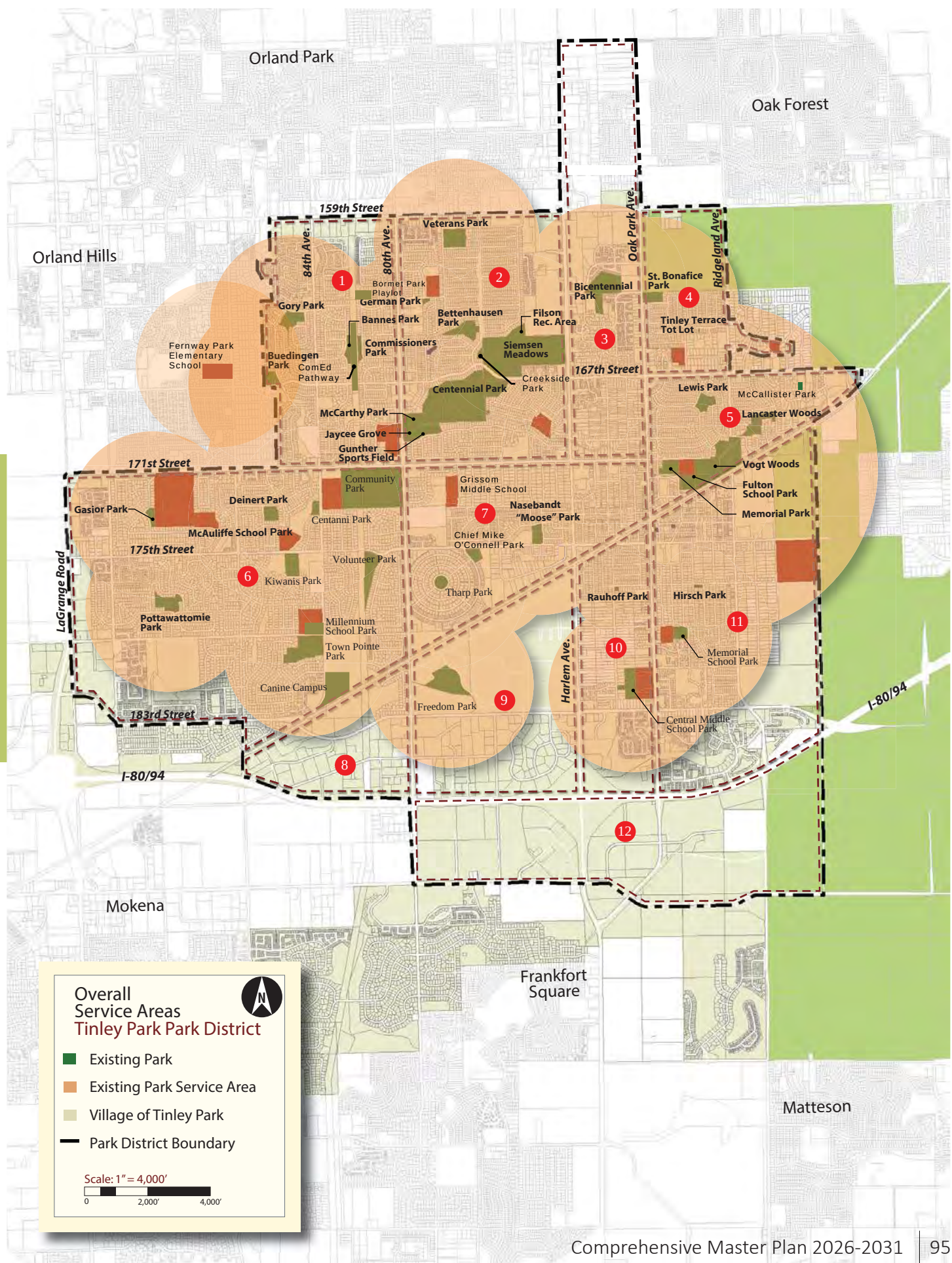
The NRPA Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines recommend that community parks with active recreation amenities be centrally located within its service areas and encompass a 1-mile radius. The Community Park Service Area Map illustrates this service radius (orange) around each existing community park.



Overall Parks Service Areas

The Overall Parks Service Area Map is an overlay of all the service area maps illustrating a comprehensive look at mini, neighborhood / school, and community park service areas. The areas depicted in tan indicate underserved areas within the Park District boundaries.

The coverage for the overall parks service area indicates that the majority of residential areas within the Tinley Park-Park District are adequately served by Tinley Park's parks. Gaps in service that do exist are either at the fringe of the existing service areas; in non-residential areas; or areas served by natural areas or other park providers within the community.



Facility Comparson Analysis

The table below was derived from the Illinois Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). It compares the estimated supply of recreational amenities provided within the State of Illinois to the number of amenities provided by the District on a per 1000 population basis for the existing population of the Tinley Park-Park District. It also compares the Park District’s offerings against available NRPA data. The line items highlighted in blue are amenities the Park District is deficient in comparison to the state average. This table is based on the current population (49,272) in the Tinley Park-Park District service area.

Existing Population 2025

Population : 49,272

Tinley Park Park District			Illinois Facility Average		Surplus / Deficit
Existing # of Facilities (total)	Existing # of Facilities (within their useful life)	Existing # of Facilities per 1,000 population	Total # of Facilities needed to meet IL Average	IL Average # of Facilities per 1,000 population	Surplus / Deficit

WATER-BASED FACILITIES						
Fishing Pier / Docks / Access	2	0	0.04	20.1	0.41	-20.1
Boat Launch Ramps / Access	0	0	0.00	5.9	0.12	-5.9
Marina Slips	0	0	0.00	13.5	0.27	-13.5
Swimming Pools	1	1	0.02	1.4	0.03	-0.4
Swimming Beaches (linear ft.)	0	0	0.00	834.7	16.94	-834.7

TRAILS						
Multi-Use Trails (Miles)	10	5	0.20	8.0	0.16	-2.9
Hiking Trails	0	0	0.00	22.7	0.46	-22.7
Bicycle Trails	0	0	0.00	5.1	0.10	-5.1
Horseback Trails	0	0	0.00	9.4	0.19	-9.4
Physical Fitness Trails (Stations)	1	1	0.02	10.8	0.22	-9.8
Nature/Interpretive Trails (Miles)	0	0	0.00	2.7	0.05	-2.7
Off-road Vehicle Trails	0	0	0.00	0.5	0.01	-0.5
Cross-Country Trails	0	0	0.00	19.7	0.40	-19.7
Snowmobile Trails	0	0	0.00	5.4	0.11	-5.4

DAY USE FACILITIES						
Picnic Shelters	22	8	0.45	10.2	0.21	-2.2
Playgrounds	35	25	0.71	19.9	0.40	5.1
Interpretive Centers	0	0	0.00	0.5	0.01	-0.5

SPORTS COURTS AND FACILITIES						
Tennis Courts	6	4	0.12	1.9	0.04	2.1
Basketball Courts	17	11	0.35	12.3	0.25	-1.3
Volleyball Courts (Sand)	13	2	0.26	8.4	0.17	-6.4
Baseball Fields	35	7	0.71	12.8	0.26	-5.8
Softball Fields	0	0	0.00	6.9	0.14	-6.9
Football Fields	2	2	0.04	2.7	0.05	-0.7
Soccer Fields	18	1	0.37	8.8	0.18	-7.8
Golf Course (18-Hole Course)	0	0	0.00	0.4	0.01	-0.4
Golf Course (9-Hole Course)	0	0	0.00	0.3	0.01	-0.3
Archery Ranges	0	0	0.00	1.0	0.02	-1.0
Rifle Pistol Ranges	0	0	0.00	0.5	0.01	-0.5
Running Tracks	0	0	0.00	2.5	0.05	-2.5
Ice Rinks	1	1	0.02	2.0	0.04	-1.0
Horseshoe Pits	0	0	0.00	11.9	0.24	-11.9
Bocce Court	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
Shuffleboard courts	0	0	0.00	2.2	0.05	-2.2
Canoe only access areas	0	0	0.00	1.9	0.04	-1.9
Ski Trails	0	0	0.00	8.8	0.18	-8.8
Dog Parks	2	2	0.04	0.4	0.01	1.6
Frisbee Golf	1	1	0.02	0.4	0.01	0.6
Skate Park	1	1	0.02	0.8	0.02	0.2
Spray Grounds / Splash Pads	1	1	0.02	1.4	0.03	-0.4
Badminton	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
Handball	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
Combo Skeet/Trap Field 8 stations	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
Field Hockey	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
Golf Driving Range	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
Multiple Use Court	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
Ice Hockey (Indoor)	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0

Major Facility Observations

Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center

The Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center (TBRC) is a 72,000-square-foot community recreation facility built on the site of the historic Bettenhausen family farm. Opened in December 2001, the center honors the Bettenhausen family's racing legacy with a racing museum located in the main lobby.



Serving approximately 500,000 visitors annually, TBRC offers annual memberships to Tinley Park residents and provides a wide variety of recreational opportunities for individuals and families of all ages. The facility features an indoor walking/running track, full-size gymnasium, renovated indoor playground, classrooms, party rooms, and versatile spaces for fitness, recreation, and community programming.

Over the past several years, the Recreation Center has undergone numerous improvements, including new gymnasium flooring with dedicated pickleball court lines, enhanced outdoor landscaping, and a complete renovation of the indoor playground. Planned future enhancements include new flooring throughout the facility, kitchen renovations, upgraded LED lighting, new gymnasium wall padding, and improvements to the front desk area, ensuring TBRC continues to provide a modern, welcoming, and high-quality experience for the community.



Tinley Fitness

Tinley Fitness originally opened in the 1990s at an off-site location in Tinley Park. In November 2013, the facility relocated to its current home in a beautiful 29,000-square-foot expansion connected to the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center, creating a premier destination for health and wellness in the community.

Tinley Fitness offers a comprehensive fitness experience featuring a four-lane, 25-yard lap pool, state-of-the-art strength and cardio equipment, full-service locker rooms with dry saunas, and a variety of group fitness classes held in both a private fitness studio and the indoor pool. Additional services include personal training, swim lessons, and wellness programming designed to meet the needs of members of all fitness levels.



Memberships are available on both a monthly and annual basis, providing flexible options for residents and non-residents alike. Recent facility improvements include renovations to the men's and women's locker room showers and saunas. Planned future enhancements include repainting the lap pool, updating cardio equipment, and updating flooring throughout the facility to ensure Tinley Fitness continues to provide a modern, comfortable, and high-quality fitness experience.



White Water Canyon Water Park

White Water Canyon Water Park opened in the summer of 2002 and has become one of Tinley Park's premier seasonal attractions. Situated on five acres, the water park welcomes approximately 90,000 guests each summer and offers a fun, family-friendly environment for visitors of all ages.

The facility features a zero-depth, beach-entry activity pool with an interactive children's play area, a 12-foot diving well equipped with a diving board and drop slide, a 600-foot lazy river, a tube slide, two body slides, a splash pad, and a full-service concession stand. In addition to daily recreational swimming, White Water Canyon offers water aerobics classes, member appreciation events, and serves hundreds of swim lesson participants each season.



Over the years, the water park has undergone numerous improvements, including the installation of a new red water slide in 2018, an updated children's play structure, replacement pumps, new picnic tables, and renovated bathhouse flooring. Planned future enhancements include upgraded shade structures throughout the facility, repainting of the pools and lazy river, splash pad improvements, and updated landscaping to continue providing a safe, comfortable, and enjoyable experience for all guests.

Tinley Junction Mini Golf & Batting Cages



Tinley Junction opens in mid-Spring through early Fall. It features an 18-hole miniature golf course, 5 batting cage bays and a concession stand. The highlight of the course is a beautifully landscaped model railroad. Recent renovations include updated batting cage netting and greens for the course. Planned renovations include fencing and lighting upgrades and mini golf obstacles updates. Although the facility is a unique feature to the district, revenue has been stagnant and operating costs continue to rise. Aging equipment in the batting cage area is a concern for long-term feasibility.

Vogt Visual Arts Center



Established in 1996, the Vogt Visual Arts Center is in the historic home of Tinley Park's first Mayor, Henry Vogt. The lower-level free gallery displays works of art by various local and well-known artists. The VVAC also offers a variety of art classes, including watercolor, acrylics, youth art programs and oil painting so anyone can explore their creative side. A variety of special events including concerts and artisan festivals as well as birthday parties are hosted in the space. The gallery is open to the public year-round. Basement renovations and storage spaces were recently addressed as well as a floor refinishing project and gallery painting update. Additional storage needs are needed in the upstairs classroom space and the outdoor gazebo needs lighting and deck upgrades.

Tinley Park Performing Arts Center

The former McCarthy Recreation Center was remodeled in 2010 to become the Tinley Park Performing Arts Center. Home to improv, community and youth productions and rental space, the 120-seat theater is a hub of performing arts in the community. Additional projects to be addressed include remodel of kitchen to a green room and stage lighting upgrades. Potential increased rentals of this space could be key to assist with continued improvements.



McCarthy Recreation Center Building

Home to the first administrative offices, the now named McCarthy Recreation Center was renovated to programming space in 2009 and hosts a variety of recreation programs including summer camp, theater programs, music lessons and rental space. Recent renovations include new windows and tile flooring. Additional upcoming renovations include updating closet and storage facilities to better suit programs held in the space.



Envision the Future

The purpose of the Master Plan is to establish a clear and inspiring vision for the future by identifying realistic and achievable goals that guide the agency toward meaningful and measurable improvements. The initial phase of the planning process focused on gathering and analyzing information from a variety of sources to develop a comprehensive understanding of existing conditions, community needs, and organizational priorities. Through the evaluation of the data collected, several key themes and priorities emerged. These interconnected themes provide the foundation for the Master Plan and will help guide future decision-making, investments, and service enhancements.



Strategic Atlas

All these sources have been taken into consideration to determine the overall needs for the Park District. The goals and objectives are the cornerstone of this plan that will address those needs. The goals for this planning effort were developed into three core function categories of the Park District that focus on the following:

Administration
Parks & Facilities
Recreation

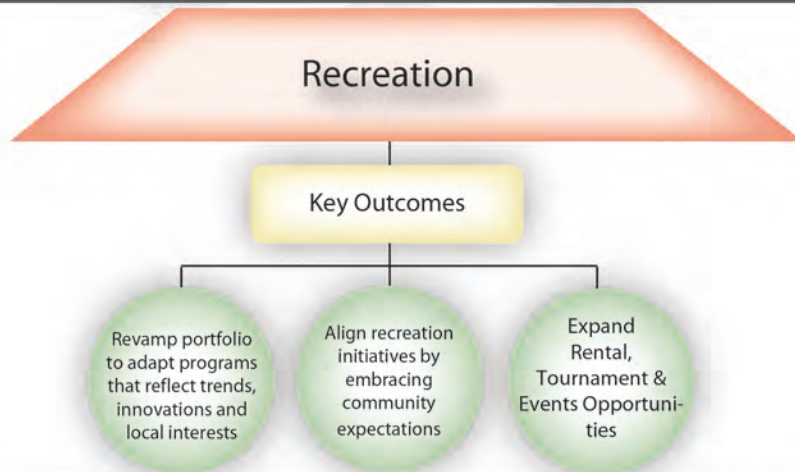
The strategic atlas illustrates the overview of the anticipated major outcomes of the master plan. This is accomplished by assigning a level of importance to these three categories from the plan's goals and objectives, based on their level of importance which include:

(High Priority) Tier 1 – Parks & Facilities
(Mid Priority) Tier 2 – Recreation
(Low Priority) Tier 3 – Administration

Tier 1.0



Tier 2.0



Tier 3.0



Goals & Objectives Development

The goals and objectives surrounding the park and recreation facilities should be viewed as the highest priorities. These goals also should be viewed as a series of interrelated activities with respect to programming and finance as each will have a profound and direct effect on each other.

Ultimately, this Master Plan should be viewed as a guide to the future and needs to be evaluated on a regular basis to stay relevant. The community as well as the agency environment will change as the plan goes through the implementation process and updates will be required to address unknown opportunities that will present themselves over the next five years.

1. The Tinley Park-Park District will maintain and develop facilities and parks to meet the current and future needs of our residents. (Parks and Facilities)
2. Provide quality recreation programs/services and customer support that will enhance the quality of life for all citizens in the Tinley Park-Park District. (Customer Service/Experience)
3. Provide staff with a working environment that fosters personal and professional growth. (Staff Environment)
4. Effectively administer the revenues and expenditures of the Tinley Park-Park District to maximize programs, facilities and parks. (Fiscal Responsibility)
5. Effectively administer environmental polices/programs to expand open space and conserve natural resources for present and future populations of the Tinley Park-Park District. (Environmental Impact)

Through the current planning initiative, a new goal should be added.

6. Develop an effective community engagement process to aid the Park District in the continuous development of priorities. (Community Engagement)

These six overarching goals should be re-classified as “Agency Goals” which provide the overarching support for the following Goals & Objectives. Every goal is correlated to the six cornerstones as well as the primary data collection driver for its development. These include:

- Community Survey
- Delphi Committee
- Staff Visioning
- Board Visioning
- Universal (Combination of All of Them)

Parks & Facility Goals & Objectives

The ability to access recreational spaces is important to the overall quality of life of any community. To fulfill this civic need, parks and facilities play a critical role. The costs of developing and maintaining parks and facilities are always increasing. These goals and objectives provide enough direction to get targeted capital investments started within the next five years.

Summary of Parks & Facility Topics facing the Park District

The Parks & Facilities Goals focus on strategic growth, modernization, and long-term sustainability of the Park District's assets, while strengthening community connection and operational efficiency.

A major priority is initiating the planning process for the former Tinley Park Mental Health Center, including establishing a name, developing a unified community-driven vision, engaging residents through an inclusive planning process, and securing early-phase capital funding to transform the site into a vibrant, accessible recreation space.

The plan also emphasizes reimagining existing facilities through targeted renovations that improve accessibility, user experience, and multi-use flexibility while reducing long-term maintenance costs and aligning with current recreation trends. Complementing this is a broader goal to create distinctive, culturally reflective parks and facilities, including implementation of a Capital Asset Replacement Program and strategic capital improvements that balance active and passive recreation.

Financial sustainability is addressed through efforts to secure alternative funding sources, including grants such as OSLAD, PARC, DCEO, and other partnerships, sponsorships, and capital campaigns. Operational resilience is further reinforced by strengthening behind-the-scenes infrastructure, including maintenance facility evaluation, preventative maintenance systems, staff training, and a structured equipment replacement plan.

Additional priorities include strategic land acquisition for future park development, expanding and connecting the community trail system through partnerships and gap identification, and aligning capital planning with recreation programming to ensure facilities are designed to support meaningful, feasible, and high-impact programming opportunities.

Overall, the goals collectively aim to create a more connected, efficient, and forward-looking park system that reflects community identity while supporting long-term fiscal and operational sustainability.

Goal 1

Start the planning process for the former Tinley Park Mental

Short Term

- Discuss and select a name for the property.
- Assemble a unified vision to transform the undeveloped parcel into a vibrant community recreation space.
- Engage the local community in an immersive planning process to ensure the park meets the needs and desires and is accessible to people of all ages and abilities.

Long Term

- Work proactively to vet the vision of the new park space and secure the initial phase of capital funding to start the transformation of the park into a vibrant community hub with diverse recreational offerings.

Agency Goal 1: Parks and Facilities

Data Driver: Universal



Goal 2

Envision fresh possibilities for the existing facilities with targeted renovations that thoughtfully enhance recreational experiences.

Annual

- Enhance user experience by upgrading amenities, accessibility, and overall comfort for all age groups and abilities.
- Seek to modernize facilities through targeted renovations that incorporate current recreation trends and flexible, multi-use spaces.
- Maximize operational efficiency by optimizing layouts and reducing long-term maintenance costs.
- Strengthening community connection by designing spaces that support social interaction, wellness, and local identity.

Agency Goal 1: Parks and Facilities

Data Driver: Universal

Goal 3

Create unique parks & recreation facilities that reflect the culture of the community.

Annual

- Develop park and recreation amenities that enhance quality of life for residents and visitors.
- Create distinctive, site-specific designs that establish a unique identity for each park and facility.
- Foster partnerships with special interest groups and affiliates to strengthen and enhance recreational offerings.
- Pursue capital improvements that balance active and passive uses while incorporating emerging industry trends.
- Continue the development and implementation of Capital Asset Replacement Program.

Agency Goal 1: Parks and Facilities

Data Driver: Universal

Goal 4

Seek alternative revenue for capital improvements.

Short Term

- Identify and apply for possible grants that can assist in the construction of park and facility improvements.

Mid Term

- Capital projects that have been identified as potential OSLAD, PARC and DCEO grant opportunities candidates.

Long Term

- Seek out other revenue sources that include ComED grants, local capital campaigns, sponsorships and/or partnerships for select parks improvements.

Agency Goal 4: Fiscal Responsibility

Data Driver: Staff & Board



Goal 5

Strengthen Critical Behind-the-Scenes Infrastructure.

Annual

- Continue implementing proactive inspection and preventative maintenance practices that protect District assets, reduce costly repairs, and minimize operational downtime.
- Invest in skilled maintenance staff and provide the training, tools, and equipment necessary to effectively maintain Park District assets.
- Conduct regular assessments of key equipment, including condition and remaining useful life, and prioritize needs based on urgency, safety, operational impact, and budget.
- Fund high-priority short-term equipment needs while establishing a long-term, systematic replacement plan to guide future investments.

Short Term

- Evaluate the need for a modest maintenance facility and yard space expansion to support efficient park operations.

Agency Goal 1: Parks and Facilities

Agency Goal 3: Staff Environment

Data Driver: Staff & Board

Goal 6

Be forward thinking to potential acquisition of strategic parkland & recreation facilities.

Annual

- Explore and fund future purchases of strategic parks, buildings and/or open space land parcels opportunities that become available, that is useable space, fits the Park District and is financially feasible.
- Perform a master plan on those opportunities to define a vision for the project as well as develop cost estimates.

Agency Goal 5: Environmental Impact

Data Driver: Staff & Board



Goal 7

Work with local partners to advance the trail system throughout the community

Annual

- Continue to explore opportunities to improve accessible pedestrian connections within park spaces and to surrounding community destinations that are currently non-accessible.
- Promote the trail system through joint marketing and programming initiatives that encourage usage, wellness, and enjoyment.

Short Term

- Strengthen local partnerships to collaboratively plan, fund, and implement trail connections that extend beyond jurisdictional boundaries.
- Identify and prioritize key trail gaps and connectivity opportunities that link neighborhoods, parks, schools, and commercial areas to create a cohesive and accessible network.

Agency Goal 1: Parks and Facilities

Data Driver: Universal

Goal 8

Coordinate capital plan development with recreation programming opportunities.

Annual

- Develop a Park District desk review of all future park & facility plans with the design consultant to discuss what recreation needs could be included in the capital project for possible programming activities.
- Define what is feasible within target budget parameters for the capital project.
- Review the project requests with the design consultant and select projects that can be included in the upcoming capital project.

Agency Goal 1: Parks and Facilities

Agency Goal 2: Customer Service/Experience

Data Driver: Universal

Recreation Goals

Developing timely, affordable, and diverse program offerings is a core challenge for recreational agencies. Program development should remain flexible and responsive so the Park District can effectively meet the evolving needs and interests of the community while maintaining accessibility and variety.

Summary of Parks & Facility Topics facing the Park District

The Recreation Goals focus on adapting programming to better reflect changing community needs, improving customer experience, and ensuring long-term program relevance and innovation.

A primary focus is evaluating and potentially phasing out declining or underperforming programs to make room for new, innovative offerings. This approach acknowledges that while program changes may generate some community concern, gradual transitions can help reduce disruption while better aligning services with current interests and participation trends.

A significant emphasis is placed on expanding programs for active adults in response to shifting demographics. This includes enhancing fitness, wellness, educational, and social opportunities, improving accessibility and inclusivity, and creating intergenerational programming that strengthens community connection. Partnerships with healthcare and senior organizations, along with flexible scheduling and pricing, are also key strategies to support healthy aging and engagement.

The goals also call for expanding special events and tournaments across all age groups by identifying new opportunities, collaborating with local partners, and refining rental policies to maximize facility use and community engagement.

Finally, the plan prioritizes ongoing innovation in programming by tracking industry trends, leveraging survey and participation data, forming a forward-thinking program committee, and using tools such as GIS analysis to identify service gaps and geographic demand shifts. The intent is to build a flexible, data-informed recreation system that evolves alongside community expectations and emerging trends.

Goal 9

Explore the removal of the fading recreation programs within the portfolio.

Annual

- The elimination of fading programs can create space for new, innovative offerings that better meet the evolving needs and interests of the community.
- Consider phasing out those fading programs that have been long standing programs but with declining participation gradually to minimize disruption and allow for adjustments.

Agency Goal 2: Customer Service/Experience

Data Driver: Universal



Goal 10

Adapt programs, services, and facilities to meet the evolving needs of active adults and shifting age demographics within the community

Annual

- Expand and diversify programming for active adults, including fitness, social, educational, and wellness opportunities that reflect current interests and abilities.
- Enhance accessibility and inclusivity in facilities and programs to accommodate varying mobility levels and abilities.
- Foster social connection and community engagement through targeted events, clubs, and volunteer opportunities for active adults.
- Develop intergenerational programs that encourage interaction between age groups and strengthen community bonds.
- Evaluate and adapt program schedules, pricing structures, and formats (e.g., daytime, hybrid, drop-in) to better serve participants.
- Incorporate lifelong learning and enrichment opportunities that support mental, physical, and social well-being.
- Plan for future facility and amenity needs based on projected demographic shifts and aging population trends.
- Highlight the health and wellness opportunities throughout the Park District.



Short Term

- Develop targeted marketing campaigns that increase awareness and participation among older adults through diverse outreach methods, community partnerships, and age-friendly messaging.
- Regularly assess demographic trends and participation data to proactively align services with changing age distributions.
- Partner with healthcare providers, senior organizations, and community groups to support healthy aging initiatives.

Agency Goal 1: Parks and Facilities

Agency Goal 2: Customer Service/Experience

Data Driver: Universal

Goal 11

Expand special events for all ages across the Park District

Short Term

- Identify and evaluate underutilized or unthought of special events.
- Continue to Collaborate with local organizations to offer unique programs and special events.

Agency Goal 2: Customer Service/Experience

Data Driver: Universal

Goal 12

Develop programs that can align with industry trends and meet local needs

Annual

- Regularly evaluate peer and industry publications, and actively engage in professional events to stay informed on emerging trends.
- Continue leveraging participation surveys to assess recreation program performance and community satisfaction.
- Identify and implement programs that offer flexibility and can be easily adapted to evolving community needs.

Long Term

- Utilize GIS tools to analyze program usage patterns and identify potential geographic shifts in demand.

Agency Goal 2: Customer Service/Experience

Data Driver: Universal



Administrative Goals & Objectives:

Administrative goals establish a strong foundation for organizational effectiveness by clearly defining roles between day-to-day operational leadership, managed by the Executive Director, and policy oversight provided by the elected Board of Commissioners. Together, this structure supports sound decision-making and accountability. Moving forward, the Park District aims to foster a culture of continuous improvement, with visible enhancements in operations, service delivery, and targeted capital investments that respond to community needs and long-term priorities.

Summary of Administrative Topics facing the Park District

The administrative and organizational goals emphasize strengthening communication, collaboration, innovation, fiscal responsibility, and long-term sustainability across all levels of the Park District.

A major focus is enhancing community engagement and transparency by leveraging tools such as community mapping, digital platforms, and social media to gather input and communicate effectively. The plan also calls for stronger collaboration with the Village and community partners through regular coordination meetings, joint planning efforts, and improved information sharing to support shared priorities.

Internal alignment and organizational culture are also key priorities. This includes fostering ongoing dialogue among staff, the Board, and partners; promoting Master Plan implementation; recognizing contributions through appreciation efforts; and ensuring structured planning through annual retreats and quarterly progress reviews.

Workplace culture is further strengthened through efforts to support staff development, competitive compensation, wellness initiatives, updated policies, recognition programs, and improved internal processes. In addition, the Park District seeks to maintain accreditation through IAPD Distinguished Agency status and expand legislative relationships through targeted outreach, events, and participation in state and regional advocacy efforts.

Operational modernization is addressed through the exploration of new technologies, including data-driven tools and emerging platforms that improve efficiency, service delivery, and communication. Financial sustainability is supported through the development of new revenue sources such as rentals, partnerships, foundation support, land leases, EV charging stations, and long-range financial planning for major projects.

Goal 13

Embrace the effective use of Community Engagement

Annual

- Explore utilizing community mapping tools that create a visual representation of community input process.
- Leverage technology by utilizing online platforms and social media to connect with residents, share information, and facilitate meaningful discussions.
- Host a yearly summit with Park District partners to discuss ideas and collaborate toward common goals.

[Agency Goal 6: Community Engagement](#)

Data Driver: Universal

Goal 14

Strengthen and restore a collaborative, transparent, and productive relationship with the Village to support shared community priorities and long-term success

Annual

- Strengthen regular communication through scheduled coordination meetings to enhance alignment on projects, priorities, and initiatives.
- Identify and pursue mutually beneficial partnerships that enhance services, infrastructure, and community experiences.
- Improve transparency by proactively sharing plans, updates, and key decisions with Village leadership for community recreation and quality of life.
- Develop a framework for joint planning and problem-solving on community-wide issues and opportunities.
- Foster trust and accountability through consistent follow-through and open dialogue.

[Agency Goal 6: Community Engagement](#)

Data Driver: Universal

Goal 15

Foster meaningful and ongoing dialogue with staff, Board members, and community partners to celebrate progress and collaboratively advance Master Plan Initiatives

Annual

- Actively promote implementation of the Master Plan to build momentum and inspire positive change for the community.
- Strengthen organizational transparency by consistently sharing relevant information through clear, proactive communication.
- Recognize and celebrate the contributions of staff, Board members, and community partners through an annual appreciation & celebration event.
- On an annual basis, hold a Park Board retreat where the upcoming year's goals are identified with an action plan in place and any revisions needed are agreed upon by the Park Board for the anticipated changes.
- Discuss the progress of the master plan on a quarterly basis with the Park Board & staff and identify an action plan and revisions needed.
- New board members should read the master plan and meet with the Executive Director to discuss any questions surrounding the plan.

Agency Goal 2: Customer Service/Experience

Data Driver: Universal



Goal 16

Create a workplace culture that empowers all team members to excel.

Annual

- Perform a workplace culture survey on a yearly basis, review the findings and implement logical and beneficial suggestions. Create incentives to reinforce positive behaviors and eliminate unproductive habits.
- Create additional continuing education opportunities and identify training opportunities needed for personal and professional development and budget for participation.
- Modernize business procedures and processes.
- Encourage staff and board attendance at Park District events for informal camaraderie.
- Update affiliated policies as required.

Short Term

- Implement an employee recognition program.
- Develop an Employee Wellness Campaign for bonding and fellowship.

Long Term

- Ensure employee wages are competitive and aligned with like sized agencies.

Agency Goal 2: Customer Service/Experience

Data Driver: Universal

Goal 17

Renew IAPD Distinguished Agency status

Long Term

- Review Distinguished Agency policies & procedures.
- Move forward with the Accreditation process.

Agency Goal 2: Customer Service/Experience

Agency Goal 3: Staff Environment

Data Driver: Universal

Goal 18

Promote the Park District for Legislative Connections

Annual

- Host annual breakfast, inviting local, county, state, and federal participants.
- Promote legislators and influential community members that can assist the Park District.
- Attend IAPD regional legislative breakfasts.
- Attend the IAPD Parks Day at the Capital legislative events.
- Participate in local governmental leader meetings.

Short Term

- Update database of legislators and active community members to invite them to events.

Agency Goal 2: Customer Service/Experience

Agency Goal 3: Staff Environment

Data Driver: Universal



Goal 19

Seek out Technology improvements within the Park District

Annual

- Continuously evaluate and implement innovative technology solutions, such as AI platforms, that enhance operational efficiency, improve service delivery, and elevate customer experiences across the Park District.
- Utilize technology that supports data-driven decision-making.
- Proactively research and pilot new technology initiatives where practical based on private sector influences that improve program registration, facility knowledge, and improve communication with residents and staff.

Agency Goal 3: Staff Environment

Data Driver: Universal

Goal 20

Explore the creation of new sources of Revenue

Short Term

- Develop a long-range financial plan for the Mental Health property that identifies potential funding sources, partnerships, grant opportunities, and phased implementation.
- Investigate the feasibility of generating revenue through the installation of electric vehicle charging stations in Park District parking lots.

Long Term

- Conduct internal rental, food, and beverage operations study to increase usage and revenues.
- Investigate technical infrastructure land lease opportunities for additional revenues.

Agency Goal 4: Fiscal Responsibility

Data Driver: Universal

Goal 21

Remain fiscally responsible in a changing world through effective use of financial data and partnerships while seeking positive voter support for an enhanced taxpayer investment in the Park District.

Annual

- Utilize data-driven financial planning and forecasting to guide responsible budgeting, resource allocation, and long-term sustainability.
- Regularly evaluate operational efficiencies and identify cost-saving opportunities without compromising service quality.
- Maintain transparency by clearly communicating financial performance, needs, and priorities to the community.
- Educate residents on the value and impact of Park District services to build trust and support for future investment initiatives.
- Explore alternative revenue streams, including grants, sponsorships, and program-based funding, to diversify income sources.
- Align capital improvement planning with community priorities and financial capacity to ensure responsible investment in infrastructure and services.

Mid Term

- Strengthen partnerships with local governments, organizations, and private entities to leverage shared resources and funding opportunities.

Agency Goal 4: Fiscal Responsibility

Data Driver: Universal

Capital Projects

The following pages represent the Park District's predicted capital spending over the next five years with the layout of the Tinley Park-Park District's Capital Improvement Plan in a conceptual format as a guide for future improvements. This 'how-to' guide is intended to provide a strong starting point to members of the Park Board, Staff and persons responsible for the planning, design, detail and overall maintenance of the park system. This list is dynamic and is continuously changing.

Capital Improvement Implementation Schedule

Estimated costs are based on the detailed year-by-year project allocations in the capital improvement plan and exclude contingency and escalation.

Year	Planned Park / Facility Improvements
2026	District Wide: Equipment and vehicles; IT technology; HVAC work; Paving maintenance
	Tinley Park Mental Health Property: Public engagement
	Bettenhausen Park: Ball Field #2 improvements; Soccer field grading
	Centennial Park: Fit Zone outdoor exercise equipment replacement
	Deinert Park: Half-court basketball court color coating
	McCarthy Recreation Center: Wall and door renovation; 80th Avenue signage improvements
	Memorial Park: Pryor Field sports lighting
	Tinley Fitness: Cardio equipment replacement
	Tinley Park Performing Arts Center: Stage lighting renovation
	Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center: Sensory room development
	Vogt Visual Arts Center: Gazebo decking; General building repairs
	Vogt Woods: Concession roof replacement
	Annual Total
2027	District Wide: Equipment and vehicles; IT technology; HVAC work; Paving maintenance
	Bettenhausen Park: Ball Field #1 improvements
	Centennial Park: Playground replacement; Pathway and paver replacement; Drinking fountain improvements; Site furnishings replacement
	Freedom Park: Ball field wall renovation; Security lighting
	McCarthy Recreation Center: Drinking fountain improvements
	Pottawattomie Park: Half-court basketball court development
	Tinley Fitness: Cardio equipment
	Tinley Park Performing Arts Center: Kitchen demolition
	Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center: Kitchen update
	White Water Canyon Water Park: Dumpster enclosure replacement; Caulk replacement; Shade structures and umbrellas; Splash bucket replacement
2028	Annual Total
	District Wide: Equipment and vehicles; IT technology; HVAC work; Paving maintenance
	Bannes Park: Multi-court development

Note Conceptual CIP drawings are included in the appendix of this document. These drawings are intended only as preliminary concepts and a starting point for future planning, design, and implementation of the Capital Improvement Plan. They do not represent final approved designs.

	Estimated Cost
	\$400,000
	\$100,000
	\$450,000
	\$400,000
	\$25,000
	\$90,000
	\$200,000
	\$85,000
	\$30,000
	\$20,000
	\$28,000
	\$10,000
	\$1,838,000
	\$425,000
	\$450,000
	\$524,000
	\$105,000
	\$5,000
	\$20,000
	\$85,000
	\$12,000
	\$180,000
	\$285,000
	\$2,091,000
	\$450,000
	\$150,000

Year	Planned Park / Facility Improvements
	Community Park (OSLAD Candidate): Concrete walk and asphalt pathway renovation
	Deinert Park: Ballfield access pathway development
	Freedom Park: Caboose sandblasting and painting
	German Park: Playground replacement
	Memorial Park: Ball field bleacher and ADA plaza improvements
	Tinley Fitness: Cardio equipment
	Town Pointe Park: Pathway renovation; Parking lot renovation
	White Water Canyon Water Park: Splash pad water feature renovation
2028	Annual Total
2029	District Wide: Equipment and vehicles; IT technology; HVAC work; Paving maintenance
	Bannes Park: Ball field improvements
	Bicentennial Park (Possible TIF): Playground replacement; Boardwalk replacement; Parking lot renovation
	Centennial Park: Pathway and paver replacement; Fishing pier access improvements; Site furnishings replacement
	Freedom Park: Playground replacement
	Kiwanis Park: Parking lot renovation
	Landmark Church, Museum & Schoolhouse: Stained glass window repair
	Lewis Park: Half-court basketball court renovation; Tennis and futsal court renovation; Pathway renovation
	Pottawattomie Park: Parking lot renovation
	Tinley Fitness: Cardio equipment
	Tinley Terrace Tot Lot: Playground replacement
	Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center: Skylight repairs
2029	Annual Total
2030	District Wide: Equipment and vehicles; IT technology; HVAC work; Paving maintenance
	Bannes Park: Pathway renovation; Volleyball court improvements
	Bicentennial Park (Possible TIF): Half-court basketball court renovation
	Centennial Park: Pathway and paver replacement; Site furnishings replacement
	Community Park (OSLAD Candidate): West parking lot renovation
	Kiwanis Park: Pathway renovation; North ball field improvements; North ball field sports lighting; South ball field relocation and improvements
	Memorial Park: Playground replacement; Pathway renovation; Plaza repair and renovation
	O'Connell Park: Pathway renovation

	Estimated Cost
	\$400,000
	\$25,000
	\$15,000
	\$300,000
	\$150,000
	\$85,000
	\$225,000
	\$200,000
	\$2,246,000
	\$475,000
	\$150,000
	\$700,000
	\$316,000
	\$300,000
	\$150,000
	\$50,000
	\$650,000
	\$150,000
	\$85,000
	\$300,000
	\$20,000
	\$3,346,000
	\$400,000
	\$175,000
	\$50,000
	\$116,000
	\$400,000
	\$650,000
	\$500,000
	\$80,000

Year	Planned Park / Facility Improvements
	Tinley Fitness: Cardio equipment
	Vogt Woods (OSLAD Candidate + TIF): Pathway renovation
2030	Annual Total
2031	District Wide: Equipment and vehicles; IT technology; HVAC work; Paving maintenance
	Centennial Park: Site furnishings replacement
	Gory Park (OSLAD Candidate): Playground replacement; Volleyball court improvements; Ball field improvements; Picnic and shelter improvements; Pathway renovation and expansion; Parking lot renovation and expansion
	Landmark Church, Museum & Schoolhouse: Interior painting
	Lewis Park: Playground replacement
	McCarthy Park / Jaycee Grove (OSLAD Candidate): Playground replacement; Parking lot renovation; Volleyball court improvements; Pathway renovation
	Tinley Fitness: Cardio equipment replacement
	Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center: Lower lobby renovation
2031	Annual Total
2032+	District Wide: Equipment and vehicles; IT technology; HVAC work; Paving maintenance
	Centanni Park: Playground replacement; Volleyball court improvements; Picnic and shelter improvements; Pathway renovation
	Centennial Park: Picnic and shelter improvements; Site furnishings replacement
	Community Park (OSLAD Candidate): West parking lot lighting; West pathway lighting; South shelter development; Restroom building; Soccer field lighting
	Deinert Park: Picnic and shelter improvements
	Filson Recreation Area: Ball field and pathway renovations
	Gasior Park: Playground replacement; Volleyball court improvements; Pathway renovation
	Lewis Park: Parking lot renovation
	Nasebandt "Moose" Park: Volleyball court improvements; Ballfield renovation; Loop pathway development; Parking lot development; Picnic and shelter improvements
	Pottawattomie Park: Ball field improvements; Drinking fountain improvements; Site furnishings replacement
	The Meadows Disc Golf Course: Crushed-stone pathway development
	Tinley Fitness: Cardio equipment replacement
	Vogt Woods (OSLAD Candidate + TIF): Ball field improvements; Site furnishings replacement; Drinking fountain improvements
2032+	2032 and Beyond Total
Total	Scheduled Capital Improvements

	Estimated Cost
	\$85,000
	\$75,000
	\$2,531,000
	\$350,000
	\$16,000
	\$1,140,000
	\$50,000
	\$350,000
	\$790,000
	\$85,000
	\$500,000
	\$3,281,000
	\$325,000
	\$610,000
	\$166,000
	\$1,250,000
	\$100,000
	\$150,000
	\$490,000
	\$50,000
	\$600,000
	\$93,000
	\$150,000
	\$85,000
	\$285,000
	\$4,354,000
	\$19,687,000

ADA Transition Summary

The Tinley Park-Park District is committed to providing exceptional parks, recreation facilities, and programs that are welcoming, inclusive, and accessible to residents and visitors of all ages and abilities. As part of this commitment, the Park District commissioned a comprehensive Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Access Audit and Transition Plan to evaluate the accessibility of its parks, facilities, programs, policies, and communications while establishing a practical roadmap for future improvements.

The study represents one of the most comprehensive accessibility evaluations ever completed for the Park District. The project included detailed assessments of 47 parks and facilities, a review of administrative policies and recreation programs, staff training, community engagement, Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping, and the development of a long-range ADA Transition Plan. The assessment identified approximately accessibility deficiencies across the Park District's facilities and park providing a complete inventory of existing barriers and recommendations for corrective action. These findings provide opportunities to continually improve accessibility while ensuring compliance with evolving federal and state standards.

It is important to recognize that the ADA focuses on program accessibility, not simply facility accessibility. The law requires public agencies to ensure that programs, services, and recreational opportunities are accessible when viewed in their entirety. Consequently, every individual facility is not required to be immediately reconstructed. Instead, the District is encouraged to strategically prioritize improvements that maximize accessibility while balancing available financial resources, operational needs, and future capital investments.

Key Findings

Accessibility extends beyond buildings. Creating an inclusive park system requires more than removing architectural barriers. Successful implementation also depends on accessible recreation programs, effective public communications, inclusive policies, staff training, routine maintenance practices, and thoughtful long-term planning.

Many improvements are operational rather than structural. Numerous recommendations involve maintenance procedures, updated policies, staff education, improved signage, parking improvements, website accessibility, and ongoing monitoring. These improvements can often be implemented with relatively modest investments while producing significant benefits for residents.

Capital improvements provide significant opportunities. As parks and facilities are renovated or replaced, accessibility improvements can be efficiently incorporated into existing Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects. Integrating ADA improvements into planned capital investments reduces long-term costs while accelerating overall compliance.

Accessibility benefits the entire community. Many recommended improvements represent principles of universal design that enhance usability for everyone, including older adults, families with young children, individuals recovering from injuries, and visitors using mobility devices, strollers, or bicycles.

A Practical Long-Term Implementation Strategy

Recognizing the size of the Park District's park system and the scope of improvements identified, the Transition Plan recommends a phased implementation strategy extending over approximately 20 fiscal years. This approach allows accessibility improvements to be incorporated into annual budgeting and capital planning while steadily expanding access throughout the community.

Phase One focuses on high-priority improvements, including major community facilities, unique destinations, parking, restrooms, entrances, and other improvements that provide immediate public benefit. These projects also include many "low-hanging fruit" recommendations that can often be completed using existing staff resources. Planning-level costs for Phase One total approximately \$7.1 million.

Phase Two emphasizes recreation amenities that became subject to accessibility requirements under the 2010 ADA Standards, including playgrounds, athletic fields, sports courts, and related recreation infrastructure. Estimated planning-level costs total approximately \$758,000.

Phase Three addresses larger infrastructure projects, including trails, complex site improvements, and accessibility upgrades associated with the Illinois Accessibility Code. These recommendations are generally more extensive and are intended to coincide with future capital redevelopment projects. Planning-level costs total approximately \$10.8 million.



In total, the recommended phased improvements represent approximately \$18.7 million in planning-level costs, with an overall planning value of approximately \$19.4 million when Park District-option projects and accessibility best practices are included. These figures are intended solely for long-range planning and budgeting purposes and will be refined as individual projects are designed and implemented.

Community Engagment

Accessibility planning was strengthened through meaningful public participation. Community members, Park District staff, and representatives from the South Suburban Special Recreation Association (SSSRA) participated in public meetings and an online survey to help establish implementation priorities. Participants consistently emphasized improving highly utilized facilities, including the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center, Freedom Park, McCarthy Park, Bristol Park, and other signature community destinations. This input helped shape the recommended phasing strategy and reinforce the Park District's commitment to transparent and collaborative planning.

Looking Forward

The ADA Transition Plan should be viewed as a living planning document rather than a one-time compliance exercise. Accessibility is an ongoing organizational commitment that should become part of everyday decision-making, annual budgeting, facility maintenance, capital improvements, and future park development.

By integrating accessibility into the Comprehensive Master Plan, Capital Improvement Program, facility replacement schedules, and operational practices, the Tinley Park-Park District will continue building a park and recreation system that is welcoming, equitable, and accessible for future generations.

This report provides a clear framework for meeting federal and state accessibility requirements while advancing the Park District's mission to deliver exceptional parks, recreation opportunities, and public spaces that improve the quality of life for every member of the community.



Conclusion

The Tinley Park-Park District is guided by the belief that Community is at the Heart of Everything We Do. While residents have long benefited from the exceptional parks, facilities, programs, and services provided by the Park District, the future of these assets depends upon continued collaboration with the community. The Comprehensive Master Planning process recognized that successful parks and recreation systems are shaped not only by sound planning and responsible stewardship but also by the voices of the residents they serve.

For decades, the Park District has enhanced the quality of life in Tinley Park by providing outstanding recreational opportunities and community gathering spaces. As the community continues to evolve, so too must the Park District. This Comprehensive Master Plan establishes a long-term vision that will guide future decision-making, prioritize investments, and provide a flexible framework for managing growth and responding to changing community needs.

The success of this plan will rely on continued partnerships among residents, elected officials, staff, community organizations, and regional stakeholders. Through thoughtful implementation, the Park District will continue to enhance existing parks and facilities, expand recreation opportunities, strengthen community engagement, improve operational effectiveness, and pursue strategic investments that benefit both current and future generations.

Throughout the planning process, several key questions emerged from community discussions. The Comprehensive Master Plan provides a clear direction for addressing each of these priorities.



Continued Conclusion

What is the community timeline for the former Tinley Park Mental Health Center?

One of the strongest themes expressed throughout the planning process was the community's desire to begin the visioning and engagement process for the future of the former Tinley Park Mental Health Center. Residents emphasized the importance of creating a shared vision through a transparent and collaborative public process before development decisions are



made. Establishing this community-driven vision will ensure that future recreation amenities, open spaces, and park improvements reflect the priorities, needs, and aspirations of Tinley Park residents while creating a destination that serves the entire community.

Where Do You Want Us to Go?

The visioning phase of the Comprehensive Master Plan focused on defining the future direction of the Park District. Community surveys, stakeholder interviews, focus groups, public workshops, and Board discussions consistently identified a desire to enhance parks, modernize facilities, expand recreation opportunities, and preserve the high level of service residents have come to expect.

Residents also expressed support for investing in accessible and inclusive amenities, expanding programs for all ages, strengthening partnerships, improving communication, embracing emerging recreation trends, and preserving the community's natural resources. Collectively, these priorities establish a clear vision that forms the foundation for the goals, recommendations, capital improvements, and implementation strategies contained throughout this Master Plan.



Continued Conclusion

Where Are the Revenue Growth Opportunities?

Long-term financial sustainability requires the Park District to diversify revenue sources while remaining committed to affordable and accessible recreation. Opportunities for growth include expanding programs for underserved age groups, introducing innovative recreation offerings, strengthening sponsorships and corporate partnerships, pursuing grants and alternative funding, increasing facility rentals and special event revenues, and periodically evaluating user fees to remain competitive within the marketplace.



Additional opportunities include strategically replacing underperforming programs with new offerings that respond to current recreation trends, expanding fitness and wellness services, increasing indoor recreation opportunities, developing new amenities, and leveraging the future development of the former Tinley Park Mental Health Center as a community destination capable of generating additional programming, rentals, partnerships, and economic activity. These initiatives will strengthen the Park District's financial position while enhancing the overall recreation experience for residents.

The community survey confirmed that the Tinley Park-Park District enjoys an exceptionally strong reputation among residents. Participants consistently praised the quality and diversity of recreation programs, the cleanliness and maintenance of parks and facilities, the professionalism of Park District staff, and the organization's positive contribution to community life. The survey also demonstrated broad public support for continued investment in parks, recreation, and facilities to meet the evolving needs of a growing and changing community.

Like many public agencies, the Park District faces the ongoing challenge of balancing community expectations with limited financial resources. Meeting those expectations will require thoughtful prioritization, innovative funding strategies, strategic partnerships, and continued operational excellence. Equally important is maintaining an authentic and transparent relationship with residents by continuing to engage with the community, communicate openly, and build trust throughout the implementation of this plan.

Ultimately, this Comprehensive Master Plan is more than a planning document—it is a shared vision for the future of the Tinley Park-Park District. It provides a strategic roadmap for enhancing parks, expanding recreation opportunities, strengthening community connections, and making informed investments that will benefit residents for decades to come. By remaining committed to collaboration, innovation, and responsible stewardship, the Park District will continue to fulfill its mission of enriching lives and ensuring that community remains at the heart of everything it does.



Appendix





Survey Instrument



2025 Community Survey

Dear Park District Resident: Since 1967, the Tinley Park-Park District has provided valuable and meaningful recreation programs, facilities, parks and service to our community. Your household was one of a limited number selected at random to receive this survey. The community input collected from this survey will be used in developing a new Comprehensive Park & Recreation Master Plan for the next 5 years which will identify parks and recreation needs and help establish priorities for the future development of Park District facilities, programs and services. The Park District has selected a local, independent consulting company, Public Research Group, to administer this survey. They will compile the data received and prepare a report for Park District use, which will be posted on the District's website upon completion. Your responses to this survey are confidential and anonymous. Please take this opportunity to let your voice be heard! Your input is critical in helping set the future direction of the Tinley Park-Park District. Thank you very much for your time and support. Please start with the survey now by clicking on the Next button below.

Please enter the unique code number provided on the back of your postcard or in your email invitation:

Q1. The Tinley Park-Park District is leading a state-funded, environmental cleanup of the former Tinley Park Mental Health Center site. Once the extensive environmental cleanup is completed on the 280-acre site, the Park District is planning a separate community engagement process on its redevelopment. The Tinley Park-Park District would like to gather preliminary information on which of the following would be important to you and your household in the development of the former Tinley Park Mental Health Center site? (Check all that apply)

1. Garden plots
2. Ice Rink
3. Indoor fieldhouse with athletic fields
4. Natural areas
5. Open green space
6. Outdoor athletic fields (Soccer, Football, Lacrosse)
7. Outdoor baseball/softball diamonds
8. Outdoor courts (Basketball, Tennis, Pickleball)
9. Outdoor volleyball
10. Park shelters
11. Picnic areas
12. Playground
13. Ponds
14. Sled Hill
15. Splash pad
16. Walking and biking paths
17. Other _____

Q2. How familiar are you with the Park District?

1. Very familiar
2. Somewhat familiar
3. Not at all familiar

Q3. How likely would you be to recommend the Park District to a friend or family member? (0 being not at all and 10 being very likely)

1. 0
2. 1
3. 2
4. 3
5. 4
6. 5

2025 Community Survey

7. 6
8. 7
9. 8
10. 9
11. 10

Q3a. What is the most important reason for your score? (Please be as specific as possible)

Q4. Would you agree that the Park District contributes to your quality of life?

1. Agree
2. Disagree
3. No Opinion

Q5. How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the Park District?

1. Satisfied
2. Neutral
3. Unsatisfied
4. Not Applicable

Q5a. If you answered Unsatisfied above, please tell us which area(s) you are displeased with and why? (Choose all that apply)

1. Communication
2. Customer Service
3. Facilities
4. Fees
5. Parks
6. Programs
7. Taxes
8. Transparency
9. Other & Please tell us Why _____

Q6. Please rate your satisfaction with the customer service provided by the Park District staff you have interacted with by circling the number on a scale of 1 to 4, where 4 means "Satisfied" and 1 means "No Opinion".

	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	No Opinion
Knowledge of staff about the Park District (Programs, Events, Parks and Facilities)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Customer assistance by staff	☐	☐	☐	☐
Communications with staff	☐	☐	☐	☐
Friendliness of staff	☐	☐	☐	☐

Q7. What is the one thing you like most about the Park District?

Q8. How do you learn about the Park District? (Choose all that apply)

1. Conversations with Park District staff
2. Flyers/posters at Park District facilities
3. Friends and neighbors
4. Newspaper advertisement
5. Park District e-mail newsletters
6. Park District marquee signs
7. Park District newsletters
8. Park District program guide
9. Park District website
10. Promotions at Park District events
11. School fliers/newsletters
12. Social media
13. Other (Please specify) _____

Q9. Please rate your satisfaction with the following recreation experiences provided by the Park District.

	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	No Opinion
Ease of registration for programs & rentals	☐	☐	☐	☐
Fees charged for programs	☐	☐	☐	☐
Fees charged for rentals	☐	☐	☐	☐
Types of programs and special events	☐	☐	☐	☐
Quality of programs and special events	☐	☐	☐	☐
Variety of programs and special events offered	☐	☐	☐	☐

Q10. Please rate the overall quality of the Park District recreation programs for the following specific age groups below.

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	No Opinion/Did not Participate
Early Childhood (0-4 years old)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Preschool (2-5 years old)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Youth Recreation (6-12 years old)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Youth Sports (6-12 years old)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Camps (All Ages)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Teen Recreation (13-17 years old)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Adult Recreation (18-54 years old)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Adult Sports (18-54 years old)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Trips (All ages)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Special Events/Community Events (All Ages)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Fitness Classes (All ages)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Personal Training (All ages)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Open Pickleball (All ages)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Open Gym (All ages)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Active Adult/Senior (55+ years old)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Q11. Please list one new program, special/community event that the Park District should consider for the future?

Q12. Do you use the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center?

1. Yes
2. No

Q13. Do you have a membership at Tinley Fitness?

1. Yes
2. No

Q13a. If you answered No, please tell us why?

Q13b. What type of activities do you use at Tinley Fitness?

1. Personal Training
2. Cardio Exercise Equipment
3. Weight Lifting Exercise Equipment
4. Open Gym
5. Fitness Classes
6. Open Pickleball
7. Leagues
8. Rentals
9. Walking Track
10. Other _____

Q14. Do you or members of your household go outside the Tinley Park-Park District for recreation programs and/or services?

1. Yes
2. No

Q14a. Where do you or members of your household go for recreation programs and/or services? (Choose all that apply)

1. Local schools
2. Private fitness clubs
3. Neighboring Park Districts
4. YMCA
5. College/University
6. Local church/temple
7. Forest Preserves
8. Local sports organizations
9. Homeowners Association
10. Library
11. Other (Please specify) _____

Q14b. Why do you find it necessary to do so? (Choose all that apply)

1. Programs offered at inconvenient times
2. No interest in recreation programs
3. Lack of parking
4. Other providers have better facilities
5. Believed the program might be cancelled
6. Other providers have better staffing
7. Other providers have lower prices
8. Our friends go there, so we go there
9. Class was full
10. Registration process was difficult
11. Too far to travel
12. I did not know what was being offered
13. Other (Please specify) _____

Q15. How often do you visit the Tinley Park-Park District parks?

1. Daily
2. Weekly
3. Monthly
4. Yearly
5. Never

Q15a. Did any of the following factors prevent you or a household member from visiting a Park District park?(Choose all that apply)

1. Accessibility (ADA)
2. Did not feel safe
3. Did not know where park was
4. No interest in the park elements
5. Parking
6. Poor Park upkeep
7. Transportation was difficult
8. Other (Please specify) _____

Q16. Which of the following Park District parks and facilities do you or other members of your household use?(Choose all that apply)

1. Bannes Park
2. Bettenhausen Park
3. Bicentennial Park
4. Bormet Park Playlot
5. Buedingen Park
6. Canine Campus Dog Park
7. Centanni Park
8. Centennial Park
9. Central Middle School
10. Commissioners Park
11. Community Park
12. Creekside Park
13. Deinert Park
14. Extreme Skate Park
15. Filson Recreation Area
16. Fitness Zone
17. Freedom Park
18. Fulton School Park
19. Gasior Park
20. German Park
21. Gory Park
22. Gunther Park
23. Hirsch Park
24. Jaycee Grove
25. Kiwanis Park
26. Lancaster Woods
27. Landmark Church, Museum and Schoolhouse
28. Lewis Park
29. McAllister Park
30. McCarthy Park
31. McCarthy Recreation Building
32. Memorial Park
33. Memorial School Park
34. Nasebandt "Moose" Park
35. O'Connell Park

2025 Community Survey

36. Paxton Lot
37. Pottawattomie Park
38. Rauhoff Park
39. Siemsen Meadow
40. St. Boniface Park
41. Tharp Park
42. The Band Shell
43. The Meadows Disc Golf Park
44. Tinley Fitness
45. Tinley Junction Mini Golf and Batting Cages
46. Tinley Park Performing Arts Center
47. Tinley Terrace Tot Lot
48. Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center
49. Town Pointe Park
50. Veteran's Park
51. Vogt Visual Arts Center
52. Vogt Woods
53. Volunteer Park
54. White Water Canyon Water Park
55. None

Q17. Which do you most often visit from this list?

- Bannes Park
- Bettenhausen Park
- Bicentennial Park
- Bormet Park Playlot
- Buedingen Park
- Canine Campus Dog Park
- Centanni Park
- Centennial Park
- Central Middle School
- Commissioners Park
- Community Park
- Creekside Park
- Deinert Park
- Extreme Skate Park
- Filson Recreation Area
- Fitness Zone
- Freedom Park
- Fulton School Park
- Gasior Park
- German Park
- Gory Park
- Gunther Park
- Hirsch Park
- Jaycee Grove
- Kiwanis Park
- Lancaster Woods
- Landmark Church, Museum and Schoolhouse
- Lewis Park
- McAllister Park
- McCarthy Park
- McCarthy Recreation Building
- Memorial Park
- Memorial School Park
- Nasebandt "Moose" Park

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- O’Connell Park
- Paxton Lot
- Pottawattomie Park
- Rauhoff Park
- Siemsen Meadow
- St. Boniface Park
- Tharp Park
- The Band Shell
- The Meadows Disc Golf Park
- Tinley Fitness
- Tinley Junction Mini Golf and Batting Cages
- Tinley Park Performing Arts Center
- Tinley Terrace Tot Lot
- Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center
- Town Pointe Park
- Veteran’s Park
- Vogt Visual Arts Center
- Vogt Woods
- Volunteer Park
- White Water Canyon Water Park
- None

Q18. Please rate your feelings about that park or facility from Question 17 for you and your household.

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	No Opinion
Cleanliness of the park/facility	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Condition of the park elements/facility amenities	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Variety of park elements/facility amenities	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Level of safety of the park/facility	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Condition of the turf and landscape of the park (Weed control, trimming, mulching, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Accessibility and access	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Q19. As a follow up to Questions 17 & 18, please tell us why you visit it most often.

Q20. Please rate the following park amenities that are important for you and your household.

	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	No Opinion
Adaptive Play Equipment	☐	☐	☐	☐
Athletic Fields (Soccer, Football, Lacrosse)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Baseball/Softball Diamonds	☐	☐	☐	☐
Basketball Courts	☐	☐	☐	☐
Bike Paths	☐	☐	☐	☐
Bocce Courts	☐	☐	☐	☐
Cricket Pitch	☐	☐	☐	☐
Cross Country Ski Trails	☐	☐	☐	☐
Drinking Fountains - Traditional	☐	☐	☐	☐
Drinking Fountains - Bottle Filler	☐	☐	☐	☐
Fishing Pond	☐	☐	☐	☐
Fitness Trail with Work Out Stations	☐	☐	☐	☐
Garden Plots	☐	☐	☐	☐
Ice Skating Rink	☐	☐	☐	☐
In-Line Hockey Rink	☐	☐	☐	☐
Landscaping	☐	☐	☐	☐
Natural Areas	☐	☐	☐	☐
Ninja Type Playground	☐	☐	☐	☐
Outdoor Pool	☐	☐	☐	☐
Pet Friendly Areas/Dog Parks	☐	☐	☐	☐
Pickleball Courts	☐	☐	☐	☐
Picnic Areas with Park Shelter	☐	☐	☐	☐
Ping Pong Tables	☐	☐	☐	☐
Pump Track (BMX Biking)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Restrooms	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sitting Areas with Park Benches	☐	☐	☐	☐

2025 Community Survey

Shade at Playgrounds (Trees & Covers/Canopies)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Skate Park	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sled Hill	☐	☐	☐	☐
Splash Pad	☐	☐	☐	☐
Tennis Courts	☐	☐	☐	☐
Traditional Playground Equipment	☐	☐	☐	☐
Volleyball Courts	☐	☐	☐	☐
Walking Paths	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐	☐

Q21. Please rate each of the following Park District priorities which would be important to you and your household. (Choose all that apply)

	Very Important	Important	Neutral	Unimportant	No Opinion
Reduce recreation services that no longer have value to the community	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Improve recreation programs	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Expand recreation programs	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Expand special events/community events	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Reduce recreational facilities that no longer have value to the community	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Reduce park amenities that no longer have value to the community	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Improve existing facilities	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Improve existing parks	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Build new facilities	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Build new parks	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Build more pathways	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Acquire more land for parks	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Q22. How much of a tax increase would you be willing to pay to fund the costs to continue to build, operate and maintain our parks, trails and facilities?

1. \$1-5 per month
2. \$6-10 per month
3. No increase
4. Don't know

Q23. How long have you lived within the area serviced by the Park District?

1. Less than 5 years
2. 6-14 years
3. Over 15 years

Q24. What is your gender?

1. Female
2. Male
3. Other
4. Prefer not to say

Q25. Beginning with yourself, what are the ages of those in your household?

Q26. Please tell us from the map below the area of town you live in. Area 1 is East of Harlem Ave and North of 175th Street
Area 2 is East of Harlem Ave and South of 175th Street
Area 3 is West of Harlem Ave and South of 175th Street
Area 4 is West of Harlem Ave and North of 175th Street

1. Area 1 is East of Harlem Ave and North of 175th Street
2. Area 2 is East of Harlem Ave and South of 175th Street
3. Area 3 is West of Harlem Ave and South of 175th Street
4. Area 4 is West of Harlem Ave and North of 175th Street

Q27. Please make any additional comments that you think would be helpful.



Conceptual Designs



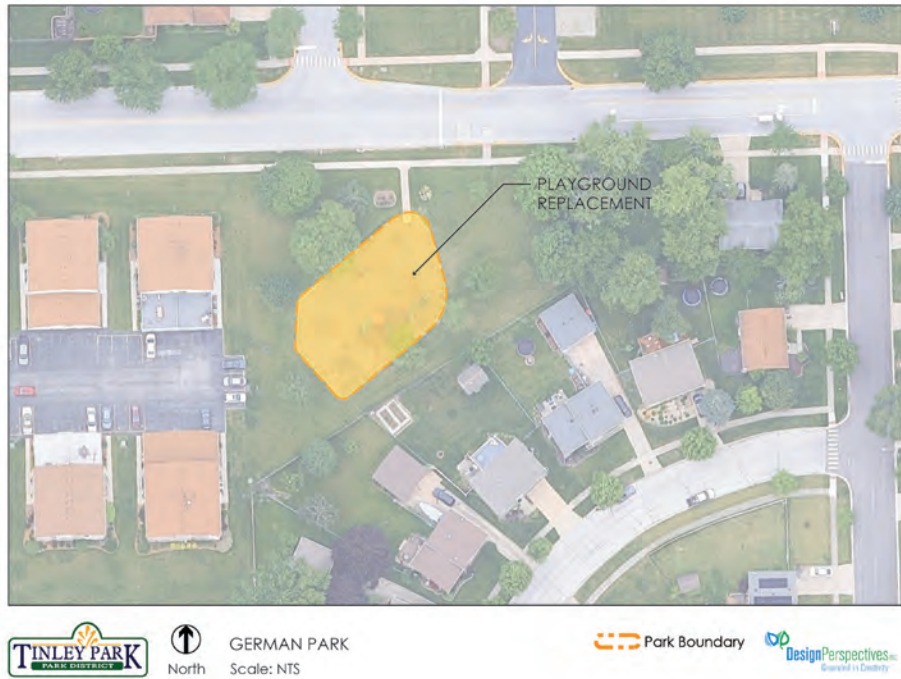






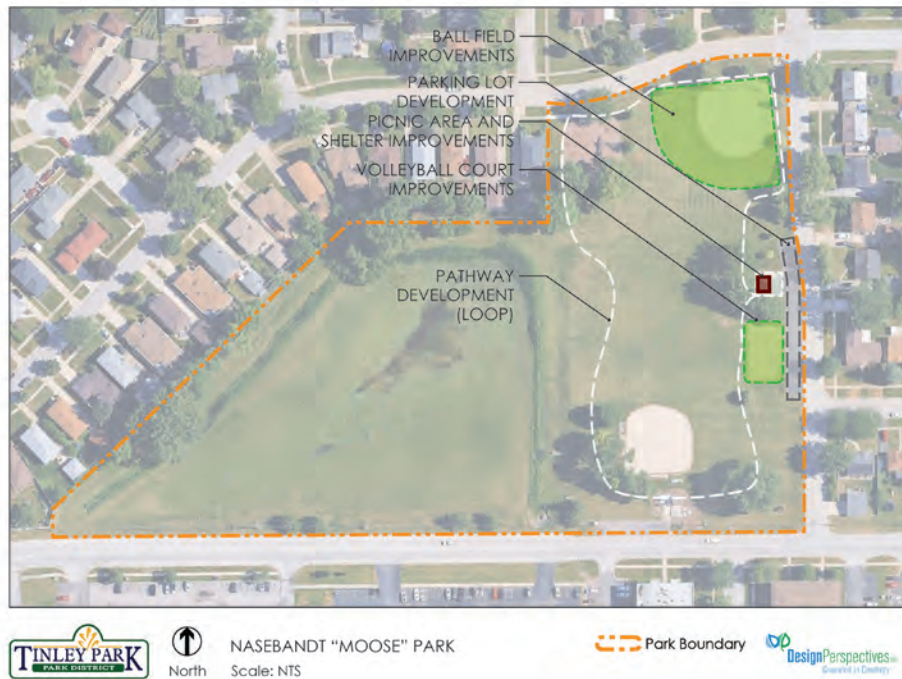
















THE MEADOWS DISC GOLF COURSE
Scale: NTS



TINLEY TERRACE TOT LOT
Scale: NTS







Transition Plan Summary





TINLEY PARK-PARK DISTRICT TRANSITION PLAN SUMMARY July 6, 2026

Summary	Phase		District		Smart	Grand Total
Site Name	1	2	3 Option	Practice		
Bannes Park	\$18,567.50	\$192.50	\$99,155.00	\$11,840.00	\$5,600.00	\$135,355.00
Bicentennial Park	\$144,355.75		\$621,568.75	\$1,776.00	\$658.00	\$768,358.50
Bormet Park Playlot		\$1,470.00			\$2,800.00	\$4,270.00
Buedingen Park	\$109,026.75	\$18,424.25			\$0.00	\$127,451.00
Canine Campus Dog Park	\$8,258.25	\$81,413.15	\$3,637.50	\$0.00	\$778.00	\$94,086.90
Centanni Park	\$14,796.25	\$6,125.00	\$147,397.50	\$2,960.00		\$171,278.75
Centennial Park	\$974,681.90	\$4,943.75	\$4,923,463.00	\$25,702.50	\$1,375.50	\$5,930,166.65
Central Middle School	\$147,528.25	\$33,448.00		\$39,395.00	\$329.00	\$220,700.25
Commissioners Park		\$8,400.00	\$15,655.00		\$3,550.00	\$27,605.00
Community Park	\$250,299.50	\$156,781.50	\$2,604,758.75	\$19,114.50	\$658.00	\$3,031,612.25
Deinert Park	\$34,827.00	\$31,855.30	\$1,680.00	\$6,966.25		\$75,328.55
Filson Recreation Area	\$1,589.00			\$49,508.10		\$51,097.10
Freedom Park	\$1,758,655.50	\$18,250.74	\$58,433.00	\$385.00	\$2,800.00	\$1,838,524.24
Fulton School Park	\$17,856.25			\$6,233.85	\$329.00	\$24,419.10
Gasior Park	\$40,101.25	\$355.20		\$13,568.00	\$7,928.00	\$61,952.45
German Park	\$96.25	\$888.00		\$3,850.00		\$4,834.25
Gory Park	\$68,337.50	\$1,428.00		\$48,329.00		\$118,094.50
Gunther Sports Fields		\$0.00		\$5,920.00		\$5,920.00
Hirsch Park	\$3,158.75	\$2,772.00		\$6,350.00	\$750.00	\$13,030.75
Kiwanis Park	\$754,358.00	\$8,196.00	\$456,540.00	\$13,823.50		\$1,232,917.50
Lancaster Woods			\$840.00			\$840.00
Landmark Church, Museum, and Schoolhouse	\$16,077.40	\$27,414.75	\$312,223.00	\$5,037.00	\$3,500.00	\$364,252.15
Lewis Park	\$302,067.50	\$14,535.51		\$17,561.25		\$334,164.26
McAllister Park	\$27,562.50	\$2,062.00	\$2,264.50			\$31,889.00
McCarthy Park	\$261,716.75	\$78,923.25	\$138,223.65	\$125,931.00	\$1,835.00	\$606,629.65

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TINLEY PARK-PARK DISTRICT TRANSITION PLAN SUMMARY July 6, 2026

Summary	Phase					
Site Name	1	2	District 3 Option	Smart Practice	Grand Total	
McCarthy Recreation Building	\$136,788.05		\$32,217.50			\$169,005.55
Memorial Park	\$401,598.76	\$35,864.25	\$54,141.50	\$26,990.00	\$7,000.00	\$525,594.51
Memorial School Park	\$4,130.00	\$1,092.00	\$1,184.00	\$16,027.00	\$329.00	\$22,762.00
Nasebandt "Moose" Park	\$21,680.75	\$2,138.00		\$40,443.00		\$64,261.75
O'Connell Park	\$69,382.25	\$12,022.00	\$259,297.50	\$0.00		\$340,701.75
Pottawattomie Park	\$179,138.75	\$5,362.00	\$829,764.80	\$23,545.25	\$658.00	\$1,038,468.80
Rauhoff Park	\$96.25	\$5,075.00	\$3,078.00		\$2,800.00	\$11,049.25
Siemens Meadows & Meadows Disc Golf Park		\$10,162.40				\$10,162.40
St. Boniface Park	\$25,200.00	\$4,600.75	\$5,740.00	\$11,690.00		\$47,230.75
Tharp Park			\$3,832.50			\$3,832.50
Tinley Fitness	\$113,391.95	\$1,750.00	\$2,038.75	\$8,660.75		\$125,841.45
Tinley Junction Mini Golf and Batting Cages	\$71,343.30	\$38,599.35	\$9,457.05	\$17,772.00		\$137,171.70
Tinley Park Performing Arts Center	\$85,827.30	\$6,690.25	\$1,750.00			\$94,267.55
Tinley Terrace Tot Lot	\$19,600.00	\$1,470.00		\$12,950.00		\$34,020.00
Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center	\$312,407.65	\$4,130.00	\$31,604.50	\$14,822.50	\$5,750.00	\$368,714.65
Town Pointe Park	\$47,051.00	\$5,834.25	\$76,218.25	\$2,467.50	\$3,458.00	\$135,029.00
Veterans Park	\$118,764.25	\$33,852.01		\$3,550.00	\$329.00	\$156,495.26
Vogt Visual Arts Center	\$137,740.77	\$6,510.00	\$53,771.75	\$4,812.50	\$2,000.00	\$204,835.02
Vogt Woods	\$262,206.75	\$17,922.50	\$62,671.50	\$34,614.35	\$2,125.00	\$379,540.10
Volunteer Park	\$32,884.25	\$3,865.60		\$11,667.20	\$2,800.00	\$51,217.05
White Water Canyon Water Park	\$128,057.80	\$63,604.50	\$7,253.74	\$0.00	\$2,030.00	\$200,946.04
Grand Total	\$7,121,207.63	\$758,423.76	\$10,819,860.99	\$634,263.00	\$62,169.50	\$19,395,924.88

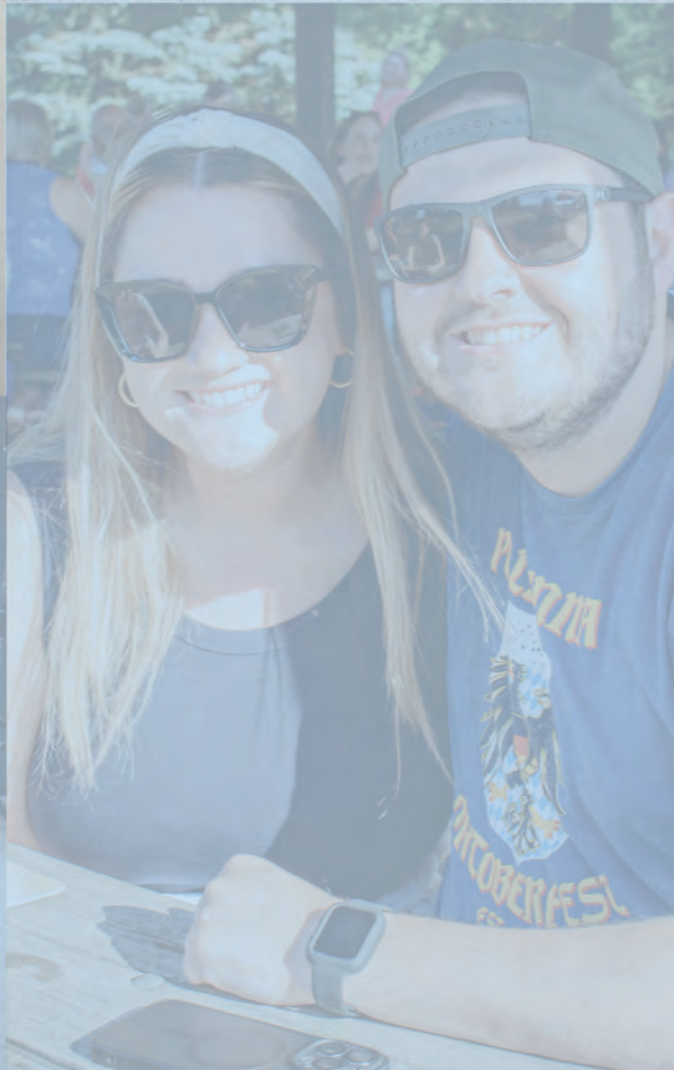
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