



LIBERTY HILL

PARKS MASTER PLAN

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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CHAPTER 1

Introduction & Context

IMPORTANCE OF PARKS AND RECREATION PLANNING

Equipping a community with high-quality, well-maintained parks, trails, open space areas; and recreational opportunities enhances the quality of life, contributes to economic well-being, and adds to the overall attractiveness of the city. Indeed, the provision of these services establishes a higher quality of life which benefits both residents and visitors, alike. As a young, but growing community, it is essential for Liberty Hill to maximize potential for its parks, trails, open-space, and programming so that the community may reap the many benefits of a well-designed parks system.

A parks master plan becomes a guide for decisions made by city leaders. Through the master planning process, factors and characteristics shaping the community are identified and the community's preferences for the future are assessed. This ensures that current and future residents of Liberty Hill are provided a high-quality, inclusive parks and recreation system, tailored to their wants and needs.

PURPOSE OF THE PARKS MASTER PLAN

This Parks Master Plan represents the results of the first assessment of the City's existing park system. The primary function of the plan is to analyze the current state of the City's parks, recreation, and open spaces; identify needs and deficiencies in the system; and determine a series of goals, recommendations, and priorities for improving the system. It is intended to be a preliminary, Phase 1 assessment which allows the City to take advantage of quick wins regarding both investing in and growing the young park system. A Phase 2 detailed assessment is intended to follow in the near future.

Overall, this first-ever Parks Master Plan will:

- Respond to the opinions and needs of the residents and park system users;
- Analyze the potential for growth of the City over the next 10 years and identify associated facility needs in terms of types, locations, and priorities.
- Identify opportunities and recommend alternatives to enhance the parks system.
- Analyze the distribution of existing parkland and determine how the City can best manage its resources.
- Provide clearly prioritized recommendations so that the community's greatest deficiencies are addressed as quickly as possible.
- Guide City staff and leaders in determining how and where parks funding should be first allocated over the next five to 10 years.

By capturing the community's needs and desires, and providing realistic, prioritized implementation actions, this Plan will help provide a preliminary phased plan of action to guide Liberty Hill towards a sustainable, positive future as a great place to live, work, play, and visit.

Benefits of Parks and Recreation

Individual and Community Benefits

- Helps ensure an overall higher quality of life
- Provides refuges of safety for at-risk youth, which can in turn help reduce juvenile delinquency
- Provides opportunities for people of all ages to be physically active, socially engaged, and cognitively stimulated

Economic Benefits

- Increases property value of homes in close proximity to parks
- Can help attract new businesses to the community by improving the standard of living

Environmental Benefits

- Protects and preserves vital green spaces and critical wildlife habitat
- Educates visitors regarding the appropriate use of natural areas as recreational areas
- Contributes to clean air and water

Personal Health Benefits

- Access to parks and nature increases the frequency of exercise and improves psychological and social health
- Play is critical for child development
- Staying active can help reduce the risk of heart disease, diabetes, obesity, depression, and other health problems



PLANNING PROCESS & TIMELINE

In June 2017, Liberty Hill commissioned Halff Associates, Inc., to prepare the City's first-ever Parks Master Plan. The planning process involved a series of steps that allowed for the development of a successful document which outlined the vision, goals, and strategy for the future of parks, recreation, and open space in the City (see Figure 1.1, *Planning Process*). These steps included evaluating and understanding the existing conditions and developing appropriate goals for the parks and recreation system; identifying local resources and opportunities; analyzing parkland, facility, and recreational needs based on population growth and community input; developing recommendations and priorities; and identifying potential implementation strategies.

Through a series of meetings held prior to and throughout the planning process, the community provided valuable input regarding their opinions, wants, and needs for the City's parks and recreation system. Public engagement included meetings with City staff, residents, and stakeholders, and a public survey and open house. Detailed documentation of the public input process, including meeting notices and minutes, sign-in sheets, and the public survey can be found in Appendix A, *Supplemental Information*.

Figure 1.1, Planning Process



PLAN TIME FRAME

This Plan is formulated to address the time frame from 2017 to 2027. Many of the recommendations of this Plan are valid for a period of up to 10 years, but should be evaluated periodically. Local planning requirements issued by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department state that the Plan be updated after a five-year period, or before any major developments occur that significantly alter the parks and recreation needs of the community.

PARTNERSHIPS

While the City of Liberty Hill is the primary governmental entity charged with providing park facilities for its citizens, there are many others which contribute to the City's overall park and recreational offerings. Each of these groups are invested in ensuring the parks system thrives and adapts as the city grows over time:

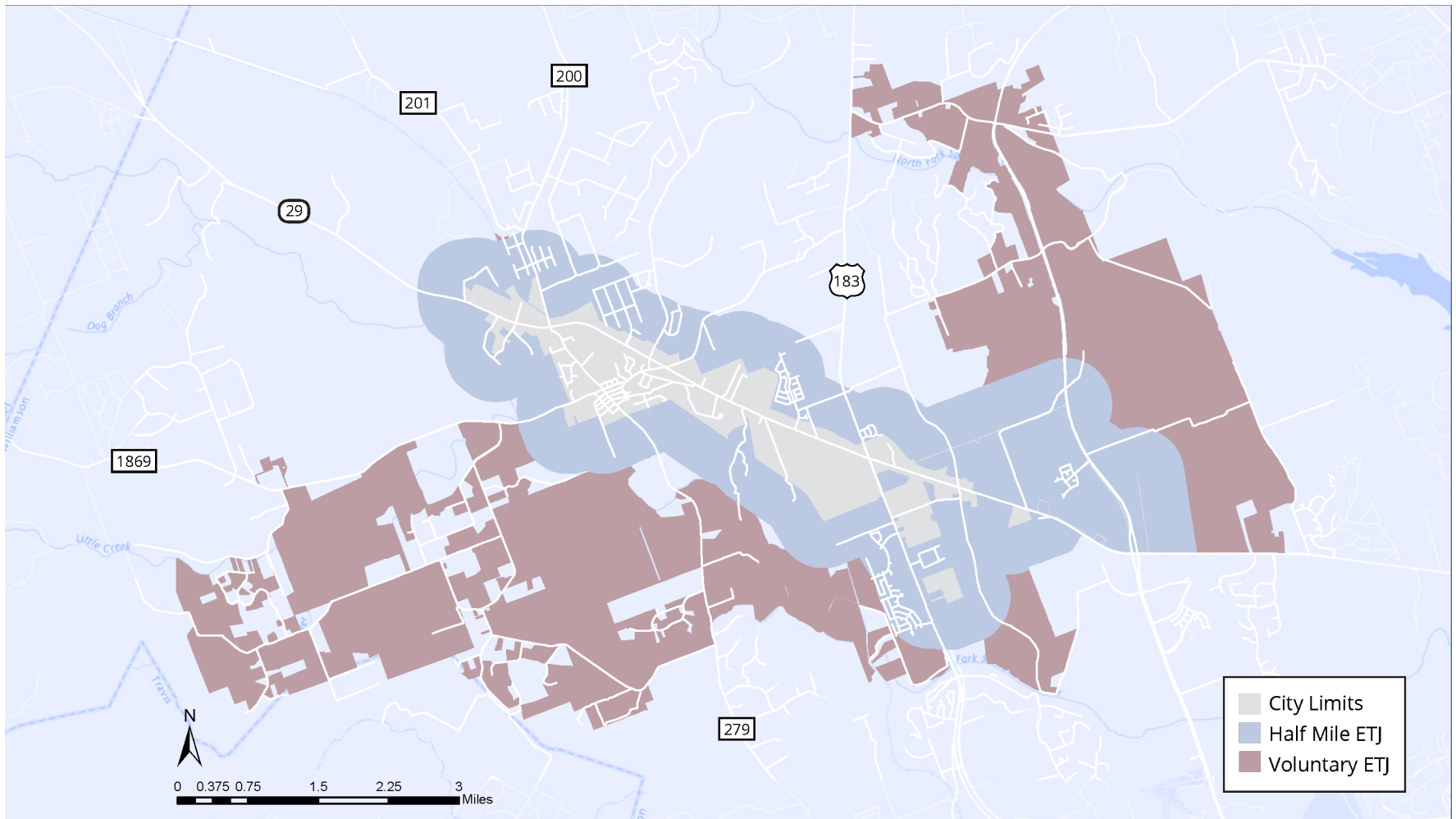
- Williamson County;
- Liberty Hill Economic Development 4B Corporation (LHEDC);
- Liberty Hill Independent School District (LHISD);
- Liberty Hill Chamber of Commerce;
- Area residents and landowners;
- Area Municipal Utility Districts (MUDs);
- and more.

PLANNING AREA

This Plan primarily focuses on the parks, recreation, and open space needs for the residents within Liberty Hill's 3.7 square mile City limits (see Map 1.2, *Planning Area*). As a first-ever parks master plan for a small, but rapidly growing city, the first phase of this planning analysis also starts to evaluate potential needs in the City's half-mile statutory extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ), which encompasses an additional 12.7 square miles of land in the City's direct growth path.

A more detailed evaluation of the City's statutory ETJ could be undertaken in the Phase 2 analysis. Additional, while not fully included in this planning analysis, this Plan incorporates context related to the fact that the City includes almost 29.8 additional miles of non-traditional voluntary ETJ. This means that these landowners already identify as being part of Liberty Hill's future. As the City grows over time, more and more of this voluntary ETJ will become part of the city limits and further analyzed as part of subsequent parks master plan updates.

Map 1.2, Planning Area



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CHAPTER 2

Understanding the Community

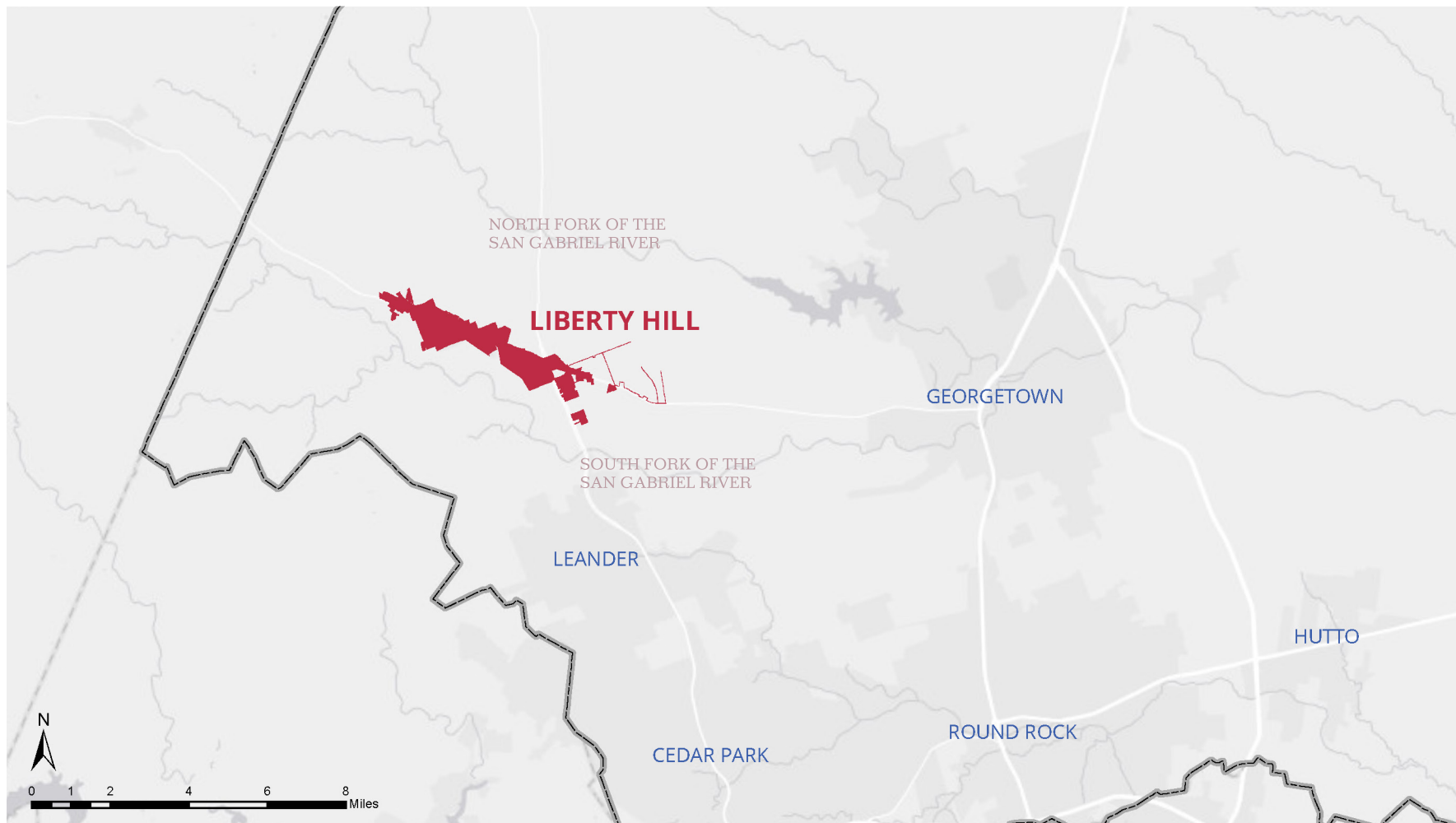
REGIONAL CONTEXT

Liberty Hill is an incorporated small town in northwestern Williamson County, Texas. It is currently estimated to have 1,612 residents¹ and is quickly growing. The City is located about 29 miles north of Austin and is bordered by the cities of Leander (to the south), and Georgetown (to the east). See Map 2.1, *Regional Context*.

¹ U.S. Census Bureau. 2016 Population Estimate.

The City is located between the North and South Forks of the San Gabriel River and is characterized by surrounding farmland and rolling hills along the Shin Oak Ridge. While it still has a small town feel, its location provides convenient access to great dining, shopping, and other entertainment, as well as schools, parks, and other outdoor recreation. Since Liberty Hill is in the Austin metropolitan area's direct growth path, the City will be impacted by the region's growth stemming from being part of one of the state's fastest growing areas.

Map 2.1, Regional Context



HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Some of the earliest mentions of Liberty Hill date back to the 1850s with the establishment of the post office about three miles west of the present downtown area. The original postmaster was Oliver Spencer and he suggested the name Liberty Hill.

Over time, the town migrated eastward three times because of relocations of the post office and a local stage stop. Its final move in 1884 was related to the chartering and establishment of the Austin and Northwestern Railroad. Not too long after, the Liberty Normal and Business College was chartered and population began to increase. Over the next 115 years, Liberty Hill grew at a relative slow pace, never exceeding a population of 500 people. Even as recent as the 1980s, the area's population was only estimated at around 300 people, largely relying on a rural, agricultural existence.²

Despite the area's long history, the City only incorporated in 1999 with a population of approximately 1,400 people.³ In those terms, it is still a relatively young city. Just recently, the City started to feel the growth impacts of a rapidly growing region. It started in the 1990s and 2000s and continues today, where more and more people are looking for a more rural character of living outside of Austin and many of its rapidly suburbanizing outer ring cities.

Considering its long history, the City of Liberty Hill was founded on and maintains a deep-rooted appreciation for the past. This has helped the city to continue to embody a strong, family-friendly atmosphere. Today, this same foundational principle is still evident in the revitalized and growing downtown, and in their excitement for taking next steps with their growing parks and recreation system.



Photo courtesy of the Williamson County Historical Commission



Downtown Liberty Hill today.

² The historical overview is largely based on information obtained by the Texas State Historical Association website at <https://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hll41>.

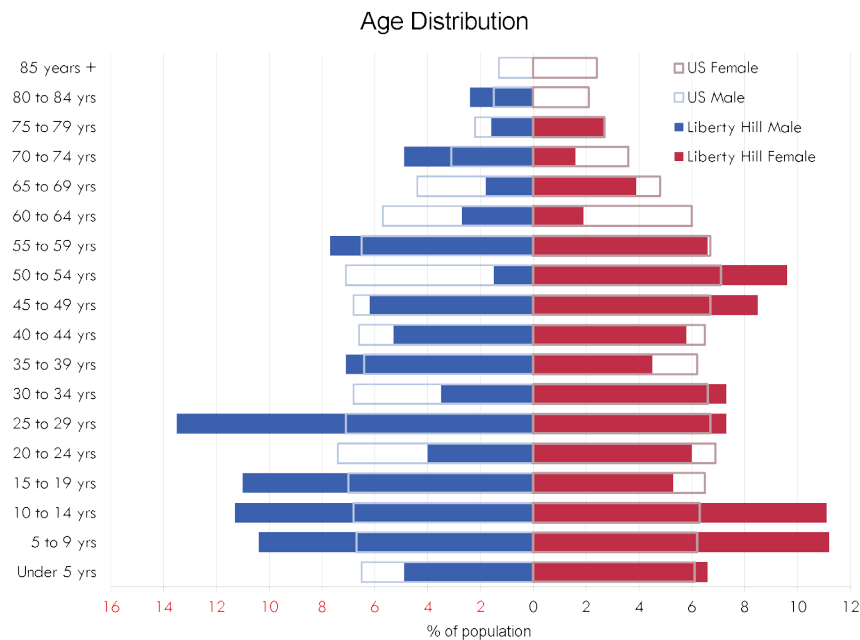
³ According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2000 Decennial Census, Liberty Hill had 1,409 people in the year 2000.

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF LIBERTY HILL

Age Distribution

A key part of planning is a strong understanding of the demographic make-up of a community. Identifying the age distribution, specifically, guides planning for age-appropriate recreation programs and facilities for the future of a community. Compared to the U.S. population, Liberty Hill has a significantly greater percentage of children between the ages 5 and 19, as illustrated in *Figure 2.1, Population by Age and Gender* and *Figure 2.2, Population by Age*. Another notable piece of information is the drop in population of 20 to 24 year old. This may suggest that young adults are leaving the city after graduation.

Figure 2.1, Population by Age and Gender



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Age and Sex, Table S0101

Figure 2.2, Population by Age

Age Range	Texas	Williamson County	Liberty Hill
Under 5 years	7.40%	7.10%	5.90%
5 to 9 years	7.50%	8.30%	10.90%
10 to 14 years	7.40%	7.60%	11.20%
15 to 19 years	7.20%	6.80%	7.80%
20 to 24 years	7.40%	5.40%	5.20%
25 to 34 years	7.30%	6.40%	10.10%
30 to 34 years	7.20%	7.80%	5.60%
35 to 39 years	6.80%	8.30%	5.60%
40 to 44 years	6.80%	8.20%	5.60%
45 to 49 years	6.50%	7.10%	7.50%
50 to 54 years	6.60%	6.50%	6.00%
55 to 59 years	5.90%	5.30%	7.10%
60 to 64 years	5.00%	4.70%	2.30%
65 to 69 years	3.80%	3.70%	3.00%
70 to 74 years	2.70%	2.80%	3.10%
75 to 79 years	2.00%	1.70%	2.30%
80 to 84 years	1.40%	1.10%	1.00%
85 years and over	1.30%	1.10%	0.00%
Median Age	34.1	35.2	29.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Age and Sex, Table S0101

Race & Ethnicity

Liberty Hill's population by race and ethnicity is illustrated in Figure 2.3, *Race and Ethnicity*. Compared to both the county and the state, Liberty Hill has a higher percentage of white population and a lower percentage who are of Hispanic or Latino descent.

Figure 2.3, Race and Ethnicity

Race & Ethnicity	Texas	Williamson County	Liberty Hill
White	74.9%	80.4%	93.20%
Black or African American	11.9%	10.2%	1.80%
American Indian & Alaska Native	0.5%	0.5%	1.20%
Asian	4.2%	2.1%	1.90%
Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.2%	0.00%
Other	6.0%	2.9%	1.40%
Two or More Races	2.5%	3.8%	0.60%
Hispanic or Latino Descent	38.4%	39.9%	28.50%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate, Table DP05: ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates

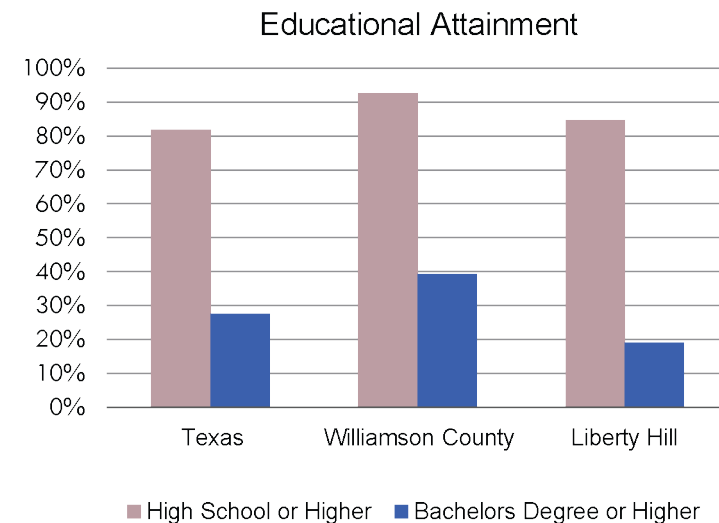
Educational Attainment

Educational attainment in Liberty Hill, as set out in Figure 2.4, *Educational Attainment Comparison*, is comparable, though notably lower than that of Williamson County and the state. The drop in percentage of bachelo'rs degree holders may be a reflection of the recent graduates leaving the city for jobs and/or education elsewhere.

Figure 2.4, Educational Attainment Comparison

Educational Attainment	Texas	Williamson County	Liberty Hill
High School or Higher	81.9%	92.5%	84.7%
Bachelors Degree or Higher	27.6%	39.3%	19.1%

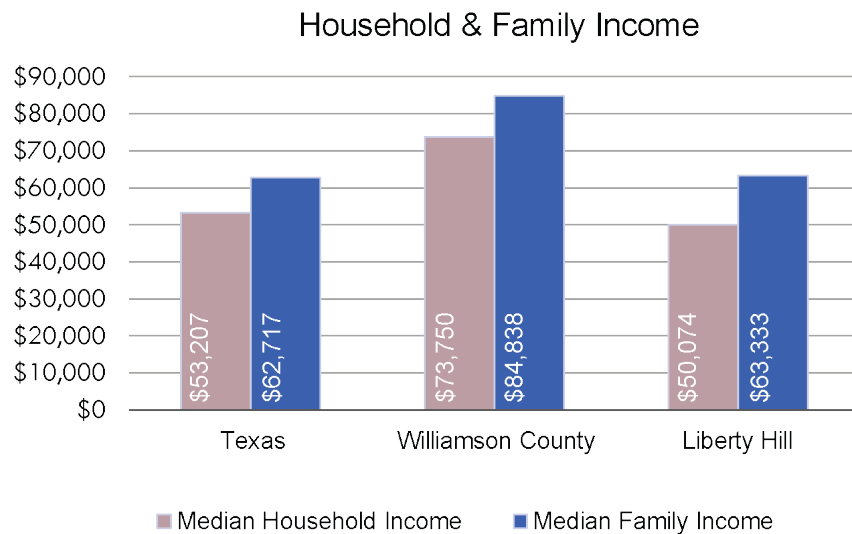
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate, Table S1501: Educational Attainment



Household & Family Income

As set out in Figure 2.5, *Income Comparison*, it indicates that both the median household and median family income are on par with that of Texas; however, both are substantially lower than Williamson County. Understanding a community's income distribution assists in planning for recreational amenities (e.g., understanding the need for free vs. fee-based recreation offerings).

Figure 2.5, Income Comparison

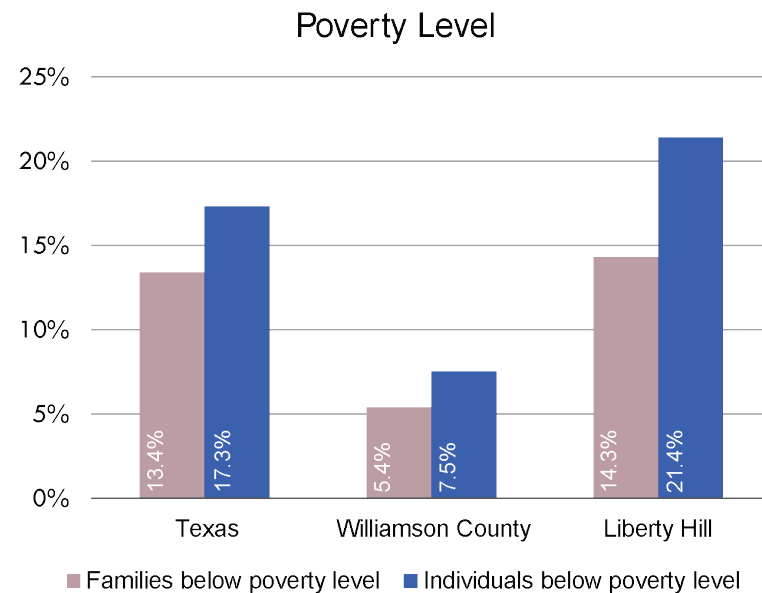


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate, Table DP03: Selected Economic Characteristics

Property Level

Though both the percentage of individuals and families whose income fell below the poverty level are much higher than those of Williamson County, the percentage of families below poverty level in Liberty Hill were similar to that of the state. However, the percentage of individuals below poverty level is somewhat greater than that of the state.

Figure 2.6, Poverty Level Comparison



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-2015 5-Year American Community Survey, DP03: Selected Economic Characteristics

HISTORICAL AND PROJECTED POPULATION GROWTH

One of the core responsibilities of government is to provide safe and adequate services to its citizens and for those who work or visit the Liberty Hill. This becomes more even more critical as the city begins to grow and change. Despite its young existence, Liberty Hill is on the precipice of exponential growth. Indeed, the city is directly in the growth path of the Austin metropolitan area and one of the fastest growing areas in the country.

Overall, Williamson County is projected to grow almost 50 percent over the next 10 years, from approximately 562,000 in 2017 to 835,000 in 2027.¹ As Austin and many of the first-ring cities are being developed, housing prices and traffic congestion have skyrocketed. Today, some first-ring cities are getting close to build out (e.g., Cedar Park) and others are increasingly expensive for the middle class. When combined with improvements in transportation (e.g., the 183A toll road), an increased demand is placed on outer-ring areas with less expensive housing and a more rural character. Accordingly, Liberty Hill is now experiencing that increase in demand.

¹ Williamson County's population projection is from the Texas State Data Center Population Projection (TSDC 1.0).

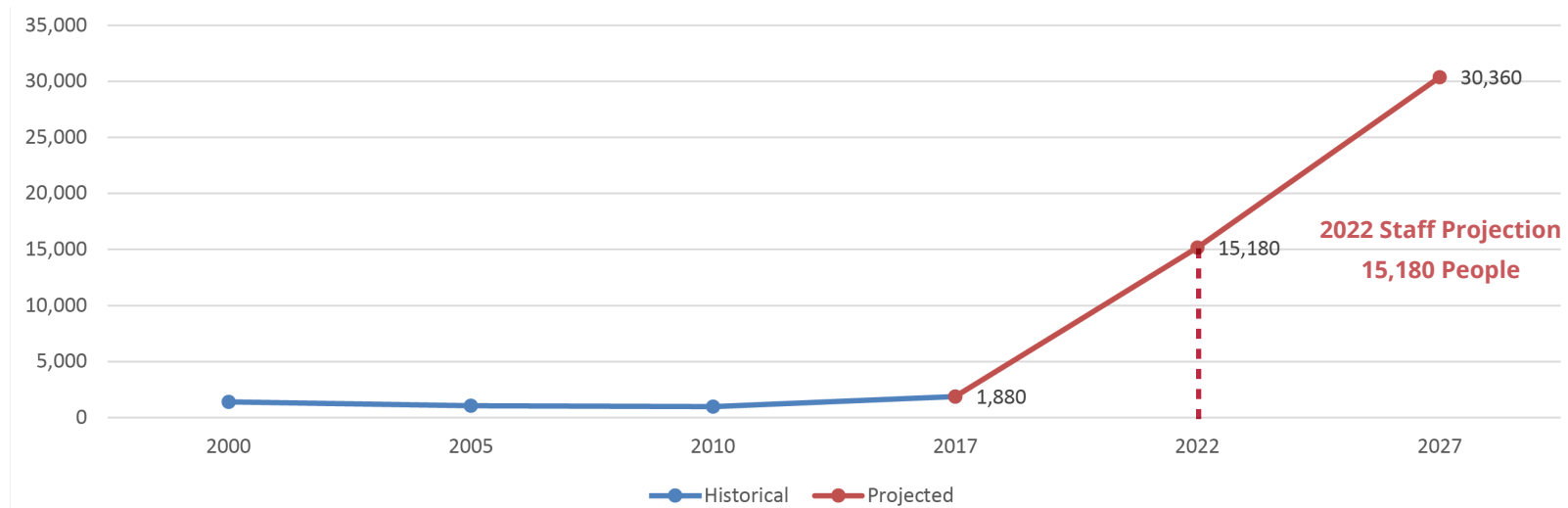
While it is impossible to determine with any great certainty the exact future population of a city, it is important particularly as staff and elected and appointed officials try to determine what levels of infrastructure (e.g., water and wastewater), staffing (e.g., police and firefighters), and quality of life services (e.g., the number of parks) to provide.

In the near-term, City staff have assessed historical and projected demand and determined that Liberty Hill will most likely grow to over 15,000 people (both within the City limits and in the City's ETJ) by 2022. This equates to an increase of almost 700 percent. This is not uncommon when small cities undergo their first initial population expansion on the outskirts of fast-growing metropolitan areas.²

While this exponential growth is possible in the near-term, it will more than likely start to stabilize and become more predictable as the City grows over time. For the purposes of this planning analysis, a further doubling of the population was estimated from 2022 to 2027; but will have to be monitored annually.

² In their first initial population expansions, the cities of Leander, Round Rock, and Cedar Park also grew exponentially (249%, 353%, and 395% respectively) over a decade.

Figure 2.7, Liberty Hill Historical and Projected Population



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CHAPTER 3

Inventory and Needs

INTRODUCTION

The City of Liberty Hill has a young and growing park system. As part of any master planning process, it is necessary and important to thoroughly understand the current conditions of the park system so that informed decisions can be made as to where to go in the future. In essence, an examination of existing conditions provides key context regarding where the system is meeting expectations, and more importantly, where it is falling short.

Once existing conditions are inventoried and analyzed, the information is combined with an analysis of local level-of-service ratios, the opinions voiced by the community, and the local resources available, to develop a clear picture of what is currently lacking and where opportunities exist in the parks system.

Overall, a comprehensive understanding of current facilities, their condition, and potential opportunities, helps determine whether or not the public is being well served with park and recreational opportunities. Accordingly, the need for new or improved recreational facilities can then be determined by comparing the information gathered from the various methods of public engagement with the existing park inventory.

PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

Traditionally, parks have been classified into several common classifications, which are generally based on the classification system established by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA). These classifications help to understand the variations between different park types and how they interrelate with the community they are intending to serve. For the purposes of this planning analysis, park classifications are categorized into two broad categories: City Parks and Non-City Supporting Parks.

City Park Resources

The City's park system oftentimes plays the largest role in providing park and recreation resources for the residents of an incorporated jurisdiction. These parks are generally located close to a resident's home and provide a mix of both active and passive recreational opportunities and amenities. They are typically owned and operated by the City. In general, the City parks system can be categorized into the following classifications:



The City of Liberty Hill park system is comprised of a series of developed and undeveloped parks which can and will serve the citizens of Liberty Hill for years to come.

- **Pocket Parks.** Pocket or mini parks serve sub-portions of an individual neighborhood or serve a concentrated and limited population within an eighth-to quarter-mile proximity of the park. Examples include individual playscape areas in neighborhoods, a plaza downtown, etc. Some cities own and operate pocket parks as part of their system; other cities mandate that they be developed and operated as part of new private development.
- **Neighborhood Parks.** Neighborhood parks predominantly serve individual neighborhoods and are intended to be within a quarter- to half-mile walking distance from residential homes. These parks can be comprised of both active (e.g., individual sport courts and fields) and passive (e.g., walking trails) recreation amenities. As a city's system grows and matures, these parks should be equitably distributed across the system and generally do not serve areas across arterial thoroughfares. Neighborhood parks generally range from one to three acres in size.
- **Community Parks.** Community parks are designed to serve multiple neighborhoods within a one- to two-mile service area and are oftentimes intended to be accessed via a vehicle. These parks oftentimes include many of the same amenities as a neighborhood park, just at a larger scale (e.g., a neighborhood park may include one baseball field, while a community park includes three to four). This larger scale typically means that most community parks are also larger in size (e.g., five to eight acres in size).

Non-City Supporting Park Resources

- **School Parks.** Schools generally provide some type of recreational facility or amenity to serve their students during school hours (e.g., an elementary school playscape or a high school running track or tennis courts). While these recreational amenities are not generally available during school hours, they are typically open and accessible outside of school operating hours. As such, school parks are generally included in a park planning analysis as providing some level of recreational amenity in close proximity to residential neighborhoods.
- **Regional or Special Use Parks.** A park system can also include regionally-serving or special use parks. Oftentimes, these parks serve a broader region and include both local and out-of-town visitors. Similarly, special use parks offer a

specialized or single-purpose recreational activity and serves both locals and visitors. A regional park is generally larger in size and can attract visitors from up to a 50-mile range. When cities are small, these types of parks are oftentimes under the purview of non-city entities (e.g., the county). As a city grows and matures over time, they typically acquire or establish these types of parks as part of the City system.

LIBERTY HILL PARK INVENTORY

Currently, Liberty Hill has almost 68.5 acres of overall park land. This is comprised of three developed parks (totaling about 24.2 acres) and about 44.3 acres of additional undeveloped park land. The undeveloped park land consists of three small park properties near downtown and an approximately 43-acre property donated to the City in the City's ETJ (see Figure 3.1, *Liberty Hill Park Inventory* (on the next page and Map 3.1, *Liberty Hill Existing Parks* (on the page after the next page). The City's existing developed parks include:

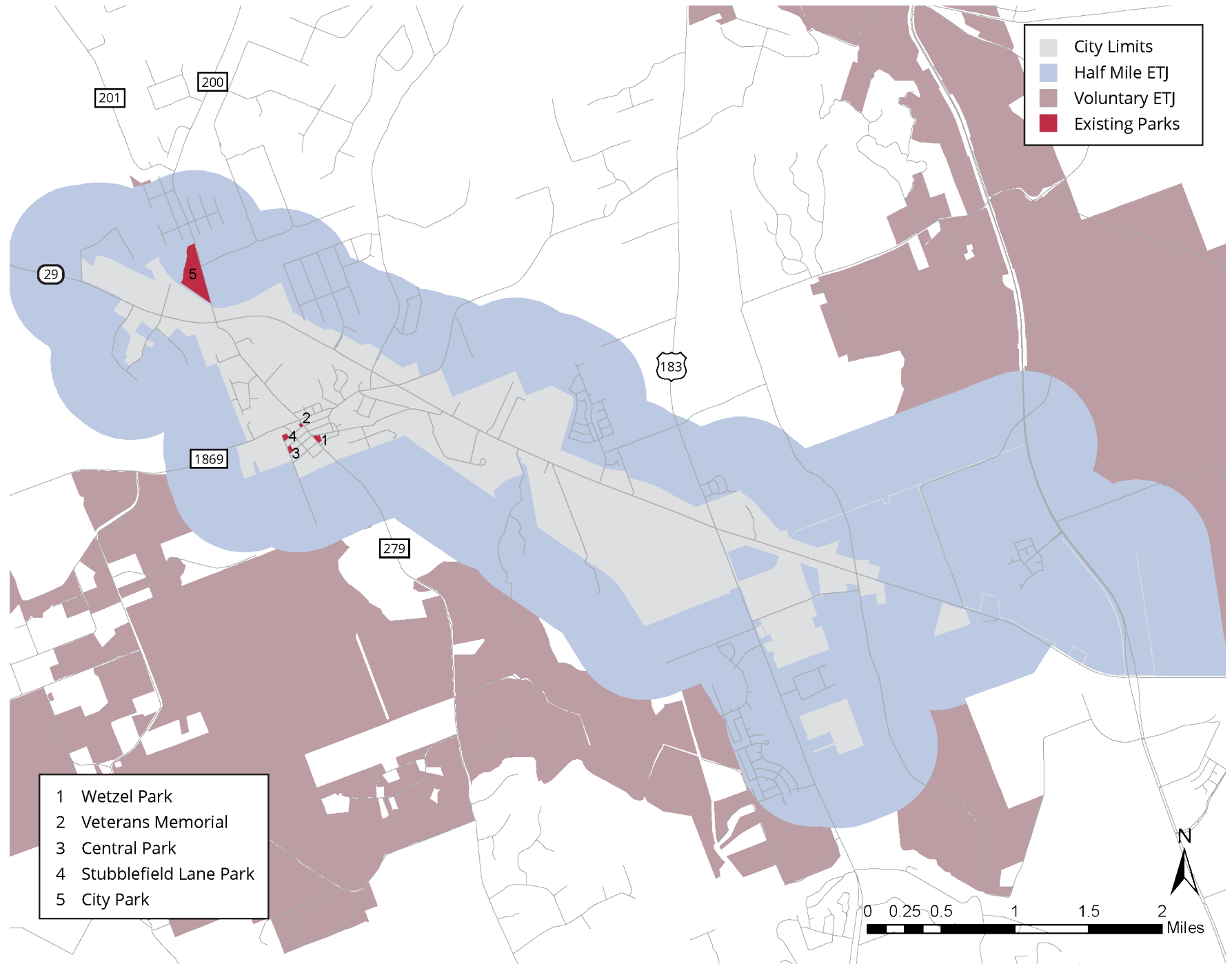
- **City Park.** The City's most prominent and only community park is the 23.1-acre Liberty Hill City Park. City Park offers a few well-maintained athletic facilities including two soccer fields, one full size basketball court and a half court with an adjustable basketball goal, and a junior football field. The football field is fenced and equipped with field goals, scoreboard, team benches, bleachers, and a small concession stand/equipment shed with attached pavilion and picnic tables. This park also offers a covered and fenced-in playscape, as well as restrooms and pavilion-covered picnic tables.
- **Wetzel Park.** The City's only developed neighborhood park is the 0.9 acre Wetzel Park located on the corner of Main Street and CR 279. Wetzel Park is currently comprised of open green space including three picnic tables and trash receptacles located in the shade of the large street-lining trees.
- **Veteran's Memorial Park.** Veteran's Memorial Park could be classified as a pocket park or special use park. It is located at the intersection of Main Street and E. Mrytle Lane and includes a memorial to those who have served our country.

A summary of supporting non-City park resources can be found in Figure 3.1, *Liberty Hill Park Inventory* and Map 3.2, *Non-City Supporting Park Resources*).

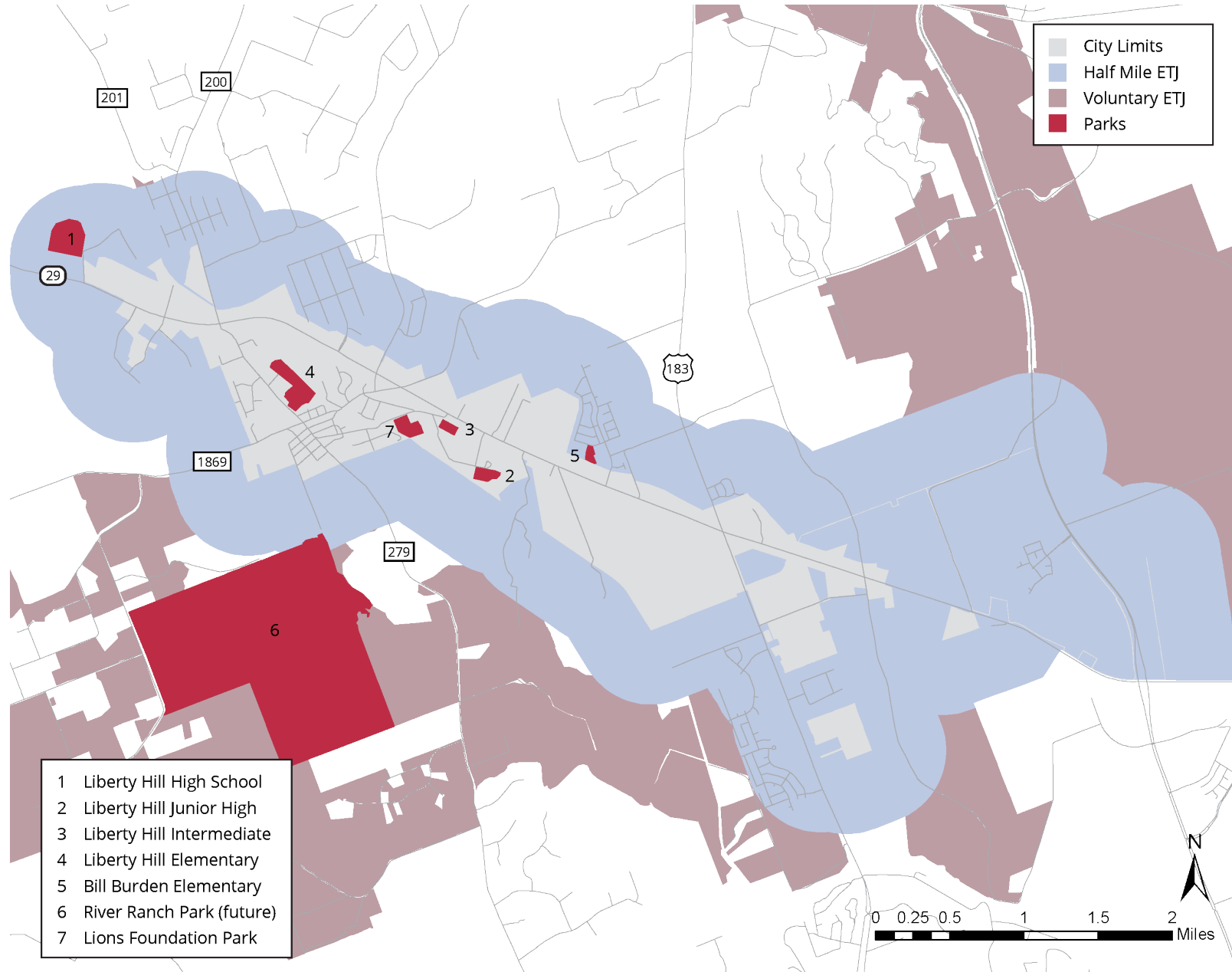
Figure 3.1, Liberty Hill Park Inventory

Park	Park Type ¹	Acreage ²	Baseball/Softball Field	Soccer Field	Football Field	Basketball Court	Multipurpose Practice Field	Disc Golf	Dog Park	Tennis Court	Volleyball Court	Trail	Exercise Stations	Playground	Skate Park	Horseshoes	Swimming Pool	Amphitheater	Covered Pavilion	Picnic Tables	Grills	Benches/Bleachers	Water Fountain	Meeting Space	Concession Stand	Restroom	
City Park Resources																											
City Park	C	23.1	0	2	0	1.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	4	0	0	1	1	
Wetzel Park	N	0.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Veterans Memorial	P	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Stubblefield Lane Park	UN	0.7	Undeveloped																								
Central Park	UP	0.6	Undeveloped																								
Sub-Total		25.5	0	2	0	1.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	4	0	0	1	1	
Non-City Supporting Park Resources																											
Lions Foundation Park	SC	11.7	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	
LH High School	SC	30.4	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	1	0	
LH Jr. High School	SN	7.6	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
LH Intermediate	SN	4.2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	
LH Elementary	SN	25.8	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	11	0	0	1	0	
Bill Burden Elementary	SN	3.74	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
River Ranch Park	UR	1007.6	Undeveloped																								
Sub-Total		1,091.04	6	2	1	2	3	0	0	12	0	2	1	5	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	33	0	0	2	1	
Total		1,116.54	6	4	1	3.5	3	0	0	12	0	2	1	6	0	0	0	0	1	14	0	37	0	0	3	2	
1 Park Types: Regional (R), Community (C), Neighborhood (N), Pocket (P). If the park is identified as (S) with another designation (e.g., SN), it means that there are neighborhood-scale amenities (e.g., a playscape) associated with a school property. If the park is identified as (U) with another designation (e.g., UN), it means it is an undeveloped neighborhood-scale park.																											
2 The park acreage for the school park resources is based on the acreage dedicated to the supporting recreational amenity, not the acreage of the entire school.																											

Map 3.1, Liberty Hill Existing Parks



Map 3.2, Non-City Supporting Park Resources



NEEDS ASSESSMENT

One of the most critical components of a parks planning process is the needs assessment. A needs assessment is a comprehensive analysis of the existing parks and recreation system as it relates to demand, diversity, distribution, and quality. In essence, a needs assessment helps to identify deficiencies in the existing system so that a direct connection can be made to the plan's recommendations for the future.

The needs assessment set out in this section is comprised of three types of analyses which are generally accepted by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for local master plans. The three assessments include:

- **Demand-Based Assessment.** A demand-based assessment uses citizen input to determine the types of activities and/or amenities they would like to see in the park system. This helps to identify which facilities and programs would be most used and supported.
- **Resource-Based Assessment.** A resource-based assessment analyzes the usefulness of local physical and natural features which could potentially be integrated into an overall park and recreation system.
- **Access-Based Assessment.** An access-based assessment analyzes the current quantity and location of parkland (i.e., level of service) and facilities to determine if the needs of the population are being met.

Demand-Based Assessment

Understanding citizen needs and expectations are an important part of any planning process. It is particularly important for quality of life city services such as parks. In this regard, understanding what the citizens want and, more importantly, are willing to support, is essential to determine how best to move forward.

For the Liberty Hill Park Master Plan, assessing demand is based on the various public engagement efforts which were conducted as part of the master planning process. This included two public surveys and various public meetings with community members and stakeholders as part of numerous Parks & Recreation Board of Directors and City Council meetings.

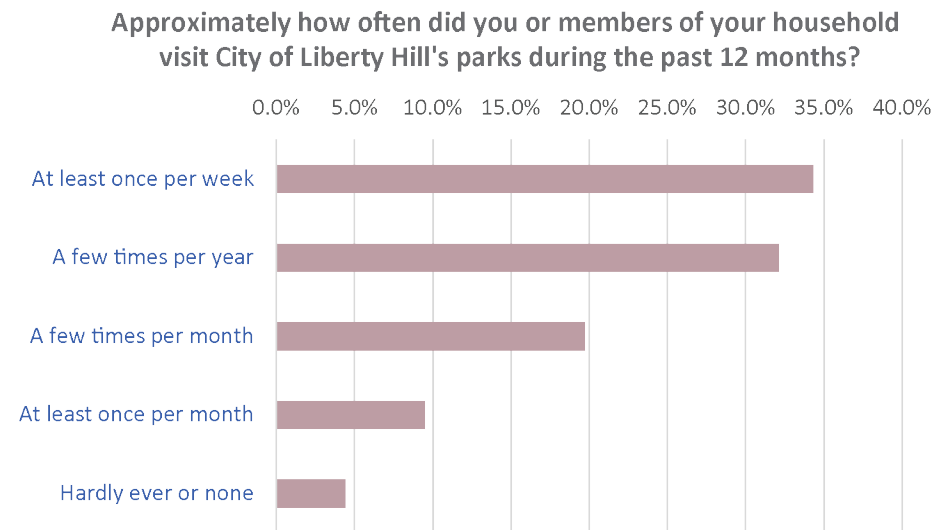
Community Surveys

As part of the public engagement process, two surveys were conducted to determine community preferences for the future of the park system. The first survey was conducted during Spring of 2017 and included 169 respondents. A second survey was conducted by the local Girl Scouts Troop 277 and included 98 responses. An overview of the results are detailed below and on the following pages.

Visitation Trends

As set out in Figure 3.2, *Park Visitation*, survey respondents indicated that there was fairly good visitation to the City's parks, including approximately 34 percent visiting at least once per week. See Figure 3.2, *Park Visitation*, below.

Figure 3.2, Park Visitation



Park Visitation (cont.)

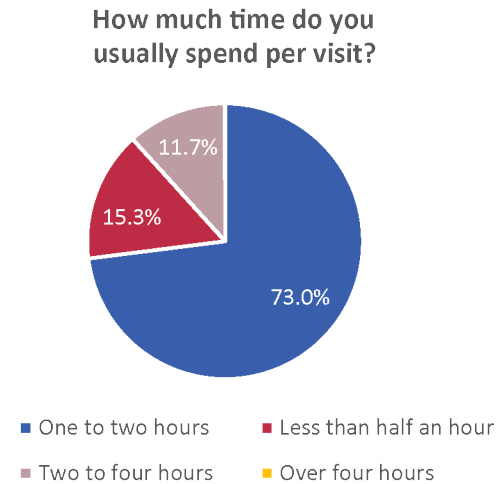
When asked about the reason for visiting one of the City parks, a large majority of survey respondents (approximately 72%) indicated a strong preference for bringing their children. This could indicate the need for multi-generational activities and amenities which serve people of all ages and abilities. Beyond bringing children, survey respondents also indicated a strong preference for visiting parks for exercise (approximately 45%), spending time with family and friends (approximately 29%), and athletics or sports (approximately 15%) (see Figure 3.3, *Reason for Park Visit*, below).

Figure 3.3, Reason for Park Visit



Once in the park, survey respondents indicated, on average, that they stayed for a significant amount of time, including stays of one to two hours (73%) and two to four hours (11.7%)(see Figure 3.4, *Time Spent in Parks*, below).

Figure 3.4, Time Spent in Parks

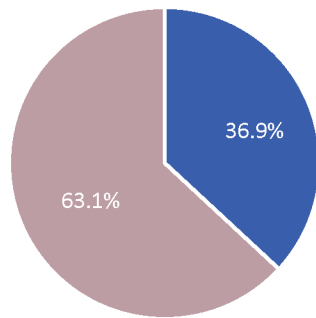


Park Opinions

When thinking of the future of the park system, it is important to understand how the citizens feel about their parks in general. As indicated by the survey responses, over 63 percent of respondents felt that the current park system did not meet their needs (see Figure 3.5, *Percent of Need Met*, below). When asked about the condition of the parks, a majority of respondents felt that they were in good or fair condition (see Figure 3.6, *Condition of City Parks, Generally*, at bottom).

Figure 3.5, Percent of Need Met

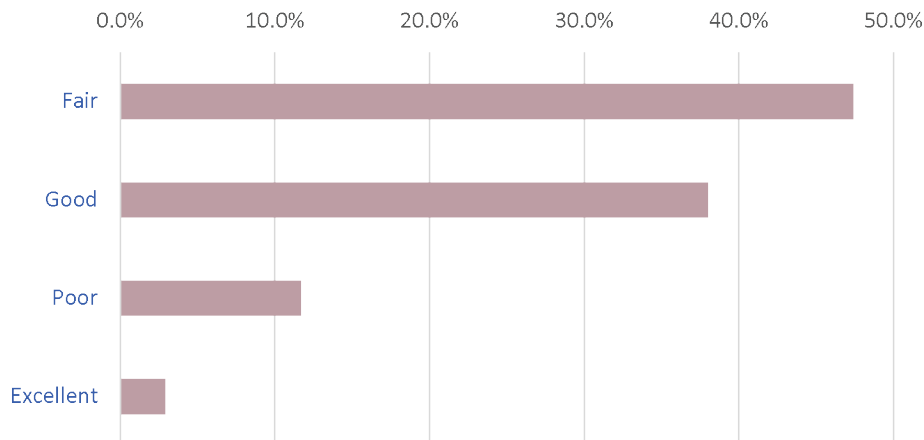
Do existing Liberty Hill facilities and recreation programs currently meet your needs?



■ Yes ■ No

Figure 3.6, Condition of City Parks, Generally

Overall, how would you rate the physical condition of the Liberty Hill City parks you have visited?



When asked specifically about the condition of the City's parks and playgrounds, respondents again generally agreed that they were in good or fair condition (see Figure 3.7, *Condition of Parks and Playgrounds*, below). When asked about volunteering to help with park improvements, approximately 30 percent indicated they would be interested (see Figure 3.8, *Interest in Volunteering*, at bottom).

Figure 3.7, Condition of Parks and Playgrounds

Liberty Hill's parks and playgrounds?

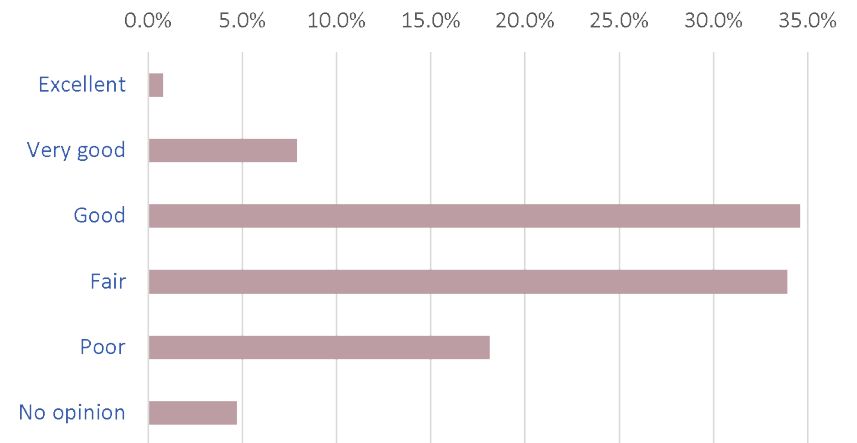
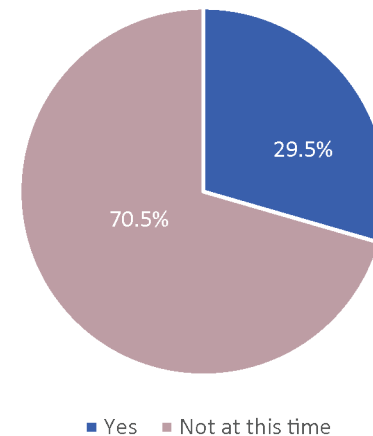


Figure 3.8, Interest in Volunteering

Would you like to volunteer through a City of Liberty Hill volunteer program to help make park improvements?



■ Yes ■ Not at this time

City Park

Two questions specifically focused on City Park. Responses indicated that visits to City Park were to visit the ball fields (approximately 67%), to use the play equipment (approximately 62%), and to use shelters or pavilions (approximately 53%) (see Figure 3.9, *City Park Visits*, below). When asked about the types of facilities at City Park, respondents indicated a general preference for more amenities, but specifically asked for additional play equipment, drinking fountains, benches, and lighting (see Figure 3.10, *City Park Facilities*, at bottom).

Figure 3.9, City Park Visits

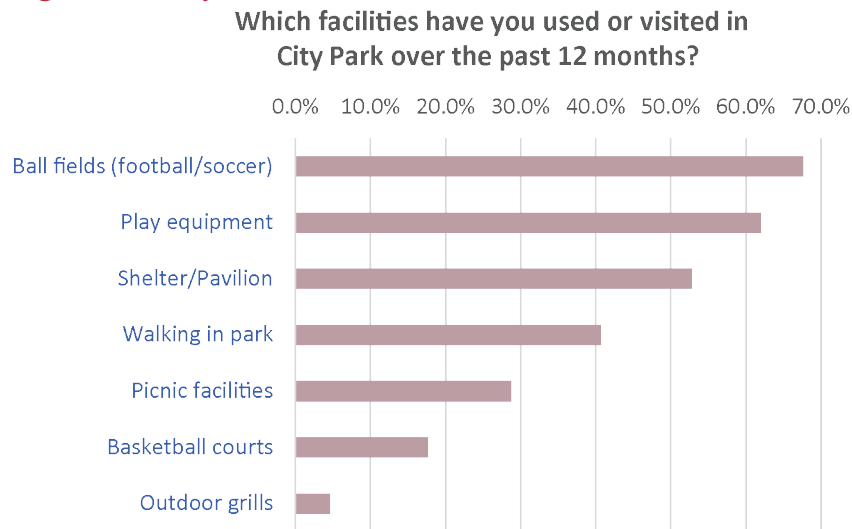
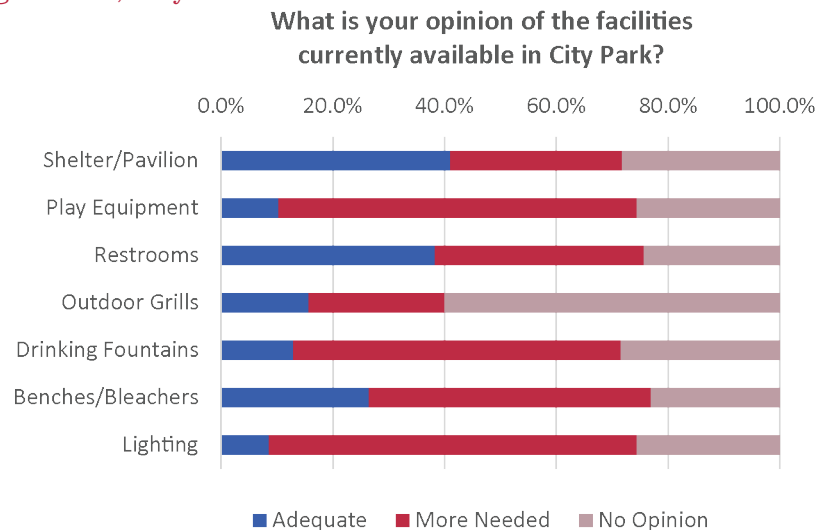


Figure 3.10, City Park Facilities



City Park is the largest developed and most used park in Liberty Hill.

Pool

As part of the Girl Scouts survey, several questions were directly related to community preferences for a publicly accessible City pool. The first question inquired about where people currently swam. In general, respondents indicated that they swam in various places, including a family pool, neighborhood pools, and in pools in other cities (see Figure 3.11, *Swimming History*, below). When asked about why people use pools, respondents indicated a strong preference for play (over 80%), family time (approximately 67%), and other activities (see Figure 3.12, *Reasons for Using a Pool*, below).

Figure 3.11, Swimming History

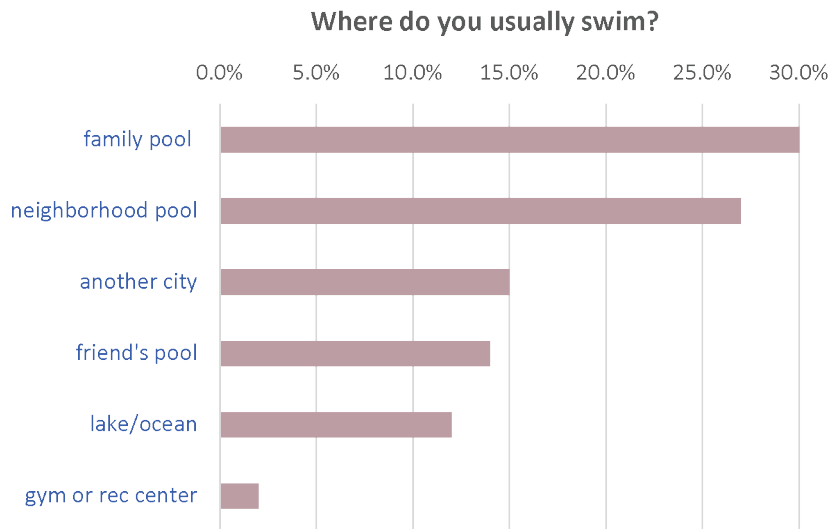
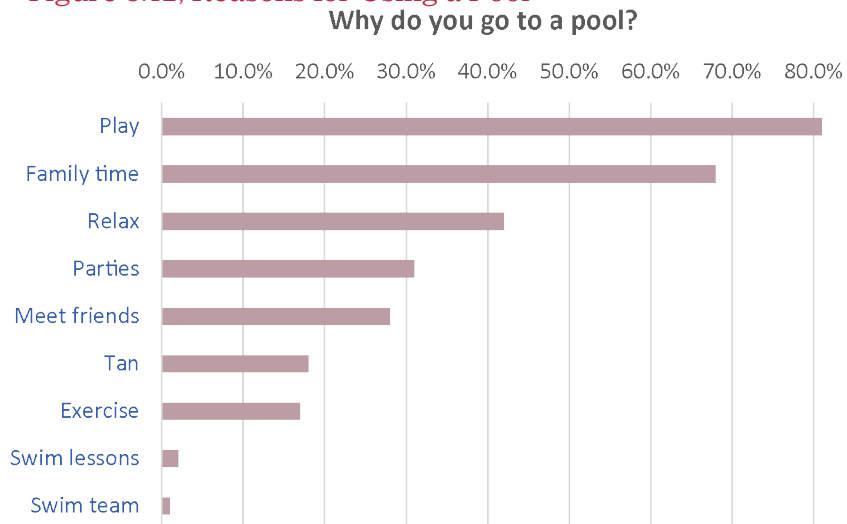


Figure 3.12, Reasons for Using a Pool



One of most important questions asked was community preference for a pool. Respondents overwhelmingly indicated that there was a need for a City pool in Liberty Hill (93%)(see Figure 3.13, *Pool Need*, below). When asked what they would like to see in a pool, respondents indicated a hot tub (60%), diving board (approximately 54%), and snack bar (approximately 51%), and other features (see Figure 3.14, *Ideal Pool Features*, at bottom).

Figure 3.13, Pool Need

Do you think a pool would be good for Liberty Hill?

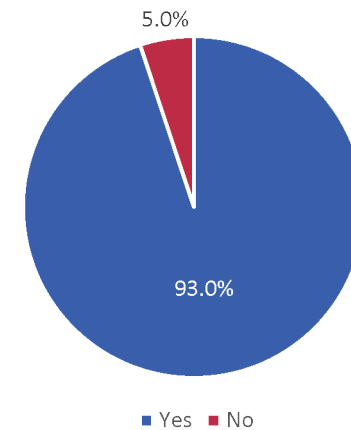
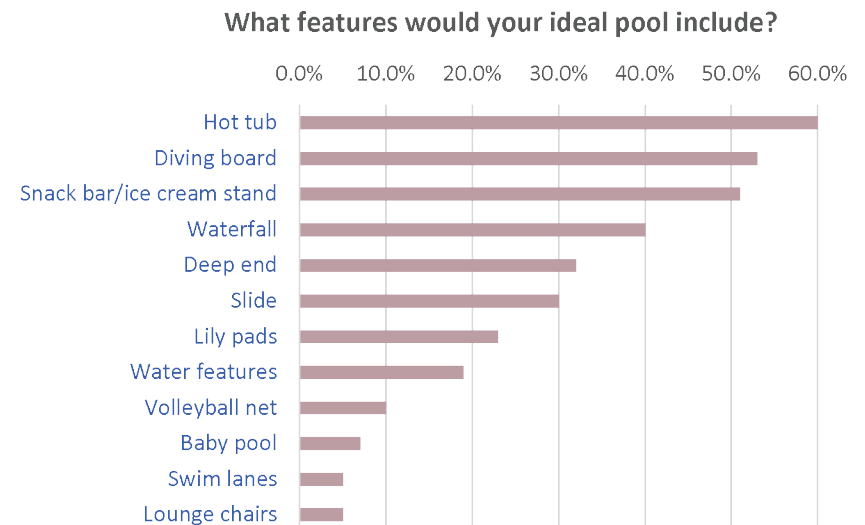


Figure 3.14, Ideal Pool Features



Lions Foundation Park

Similarly, two questions were asked about the Lions Foundation Park. Although the park is a private park, it does provide significant park and recreation resources to the residents of Liberty Hill, and it is mowed by the City.

When asked about which facilities were visited over the previous year, respondents indicated a strong preference for using the walking trail (approximately 64%), soccer fields (approximately 50%) and play equipment (approximately 50%) (see Figure 3.15, *Lions Foundation Park Visits*, at right). When asked about the opinions on the types of facilities available, respondents indicated a general need for more facilities, but specifically requested a greater need for additional play equipment, pavilions, benches, lighting, and drinking fountains (see Figure 3.16, *Lions Foundation Park Facilities*, at right, bottom).



Lions Foundation Park is a private park which contributes to the overall recreational program offerings in the City.

Photo courtesy of the Lions Club Foundation

Figure 3.15, Lions Foundation Park Visits

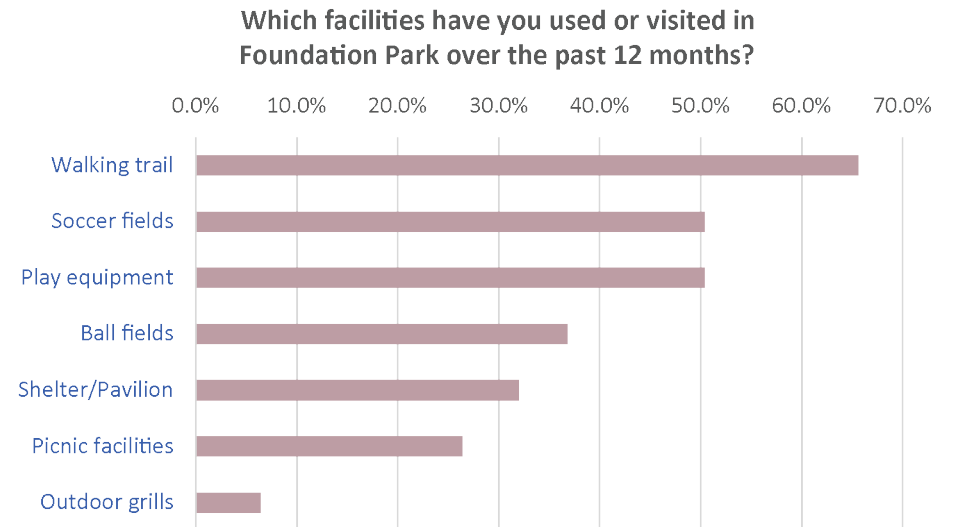


Figure 3.16, Lions Foundation Park Facilities

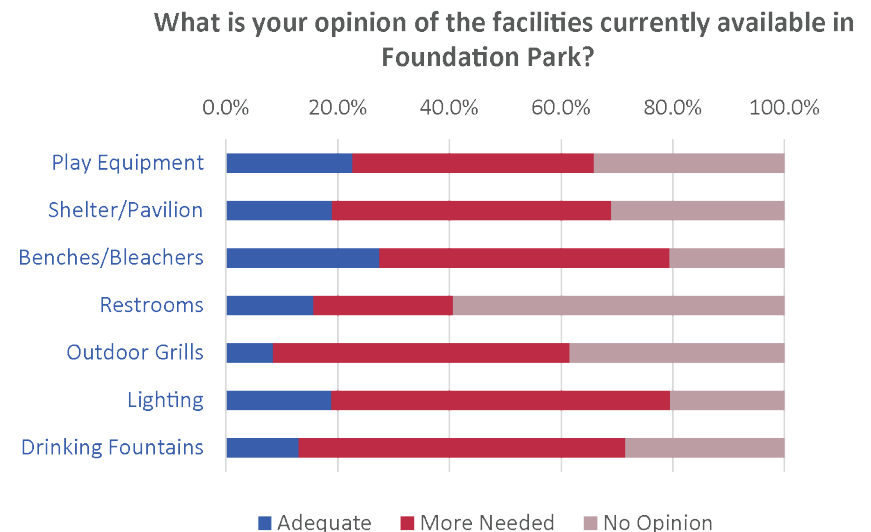
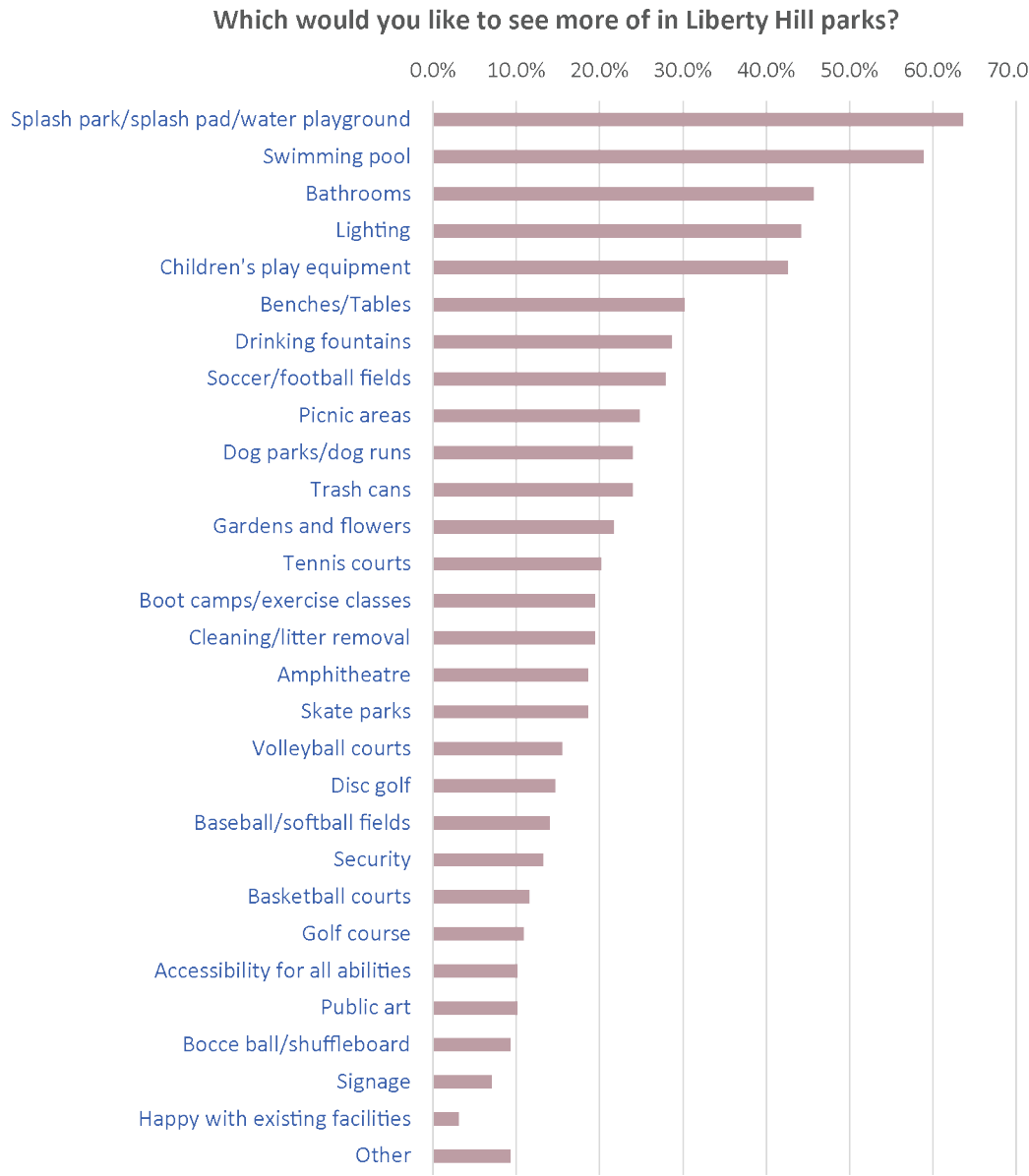


Figure 3.17, Park Needs



Park Needs

When asked specifically about what they would like to see “more of,” respondents indicated a strong preference for splash park/pad or water playground (approximately 64%), swimming pool (approximately 59%), bathrooms, lighting, and children’s play equipment (all over 40%), among additional needs (see Figure 3.17, *Park Needs*, at left).

Summary of Community Survey Results

In general, there is community preference for expanding and improving the park system. Assessing community feedback as part of the two community surveys was an essential component of the City’s overall engagement strategy for assessing future needs of the City’s growing park system. A summary of the community engagement process includes:

- Accessibility for all abilities and ages;
- Additional benches, drinking fountains, and trash cans;
- Basketball courts;
- Boot camps & exercise classes;
- Children’s playscapes;
- Cleaning/litter removal (i.e., a new contracted cleaning service);
- Community garden;
- Disc golf;
- Dog park/dog run;
- Picnic areas;
- Restrooms;
- Security and lighting;
- Shade and landscaping;
- Signage (improved);
- Soccer fields;
- Football field;
- Softball / baseball fields;
- Swimming pool;
- Volleyball courts; and
- Trails.

Resource-Based Assessment

The resource-based assessment identifies key physical features within Liberty Hill, its ETJ, and potential growth path, which may provide potential recreational opportunities over time. These may include both natural resources and man-made opportunities

- **North Fork of the San Gabriel River.** As the City grows to the north, it will pass over the North Fork of the San Gabriel River. The City has the opportunity to protect the river corridor from development to provide the citizens of Liberty Hill with connections to the county-wide trail system and Lake Georgetown. Over time, this river corridor will become a critical piece of the City's recreational amenity offerings.
- **South Fork of the San Gabriel River.** Similarly, as the City grows to the south, it will pass over the South Fork of the Gabriel River. Development of a county-wide greenway is planned along this river corridor. Over the longer-term, the City should prioritize a connection along this river corridor to the County's River Ranch Park property, to Georgetown, and eventually the county-wide trail system. Over time, this river corridor could provide significant recreational amenity offerings to the citizens of Liberty Hill.
- **River Ranch Park.** River Ranch Park will soon be one of the county's largest passive recreational parks. It is located southeast of the current City limits. As the City grows in this direction, priority should be given to providing a quality/dedicated greenway connection to the park so that the citizens of Liberty Hill can benefit from the future amenities that will be constructed at this currently undeveloped park.
- **Additional Natural Resource Opportunities.** Above and beyond the specific natural resources listed above, the City should view the City's numerous natural features as potential opportunities for open space protection and/or for recreational use. The natural resources worth protecting include:
 - » Areas which completely fall within the floodplains of watercourses (e.g., rivers and creeks) and natural or man-made drainageways;
 - » Areas adjacent to natural water bodies (> 1 acre in size) or wetlands;
 - » Areas that preserve natural scenic vistas and views;
 - » Areas that can contribute to Citywide connectivity (e.g., utility easements); and
 - » Areas which contain other historical, botanical, archaeological, geological, or environmental significance.



The South Fork of the San Gabriel River provides a significant opportunity to create a recreational amenity for the citizens of Liberty Hill.

Access-Based Assessment

Over 35 years ago, the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) created guidelines and standards for parks and recreation facilities that were based on population ratios. These guidelines were never intended to be “one size fits all” for all communities, but many communities viewed them that way. Rather, these guidelines were intended to serve as a benchmark which could then be individually tailored to each city’s unique circumstances.

Today, these guidelines are often used as a foundational framework for analysis, particularly for smaller communities who may not yet have developed their own park land and facility benchmarks.

In essence, the access-based assessment is intended to ensure that sufficient area is allocated for all outdoor recreation needs and that it is equitably distributed.

Liberty Hill is still a relatively small, but fast growing city. As development occurs within its City limits and ETJ, there will be significant opportunity to expand the City’s parks and recreation system. Indeed, as set out in Figure 2.1, *Historical and Project Growth in Liberty Hill*, the City is projected to add 13,330 new residents over the next five years, and potentially 28,480 new residents over the next 10 years (see Figure 2.7, *Liberty Hill Historical and Projected Population*, in Chapter 2). With that growth in population will come increased demand and need for recreational amenities and programs. Ideally, the expansion should occur concurrent with new development and include participation from the development community.

In general, an access-based assessment can be delineated into three types of level-of-service analyses, including:

- **Level of Service - Park Acreage.** This analysis defines the quantity of parkland acreage in the City expressed as a ratio of acreage to population. It helps identify if there is sufficient parkland acreage to serve the City’s population now and in the future.
- **Level of Service - Access to Parkland.** This analysis examines the location and distribution of parkland to determine if there is an equitable distribution between all residents. In other words, it helps to identify gaps in the provision of parkland areas.
- **Level of Service - Park Facilities.** This analysis defines the number of facilities recommended to serve each particular need. Facilities are typically expressed as a ratio of units of one particular facility per population size (e.g., one volleyball court per 1,000 people).

Level of Service – Park Acreage

The purpose of the park acreage level of service analysis is to ensure that sufficient area is allocated for all outdoor recreation needs of the community. They allow a City to plan ahead so that appropriate land can be targeted and acquired as the City grows over time.

Currently, the citizens of Liberty Hill are served by 28.4 acres of overall parkland in the City limits and ETJ. Based on level of service standards (which includes a base and ideal level of service range), Liberty Hill should have a approximately 8.9 to 13.2 total acres of parkland today (see Figure 3.16, *Parkland Acreage Level of Service (LOS)*, on the next page). As one looks at the diversity of park resources, there is a current slight deficiency in pocket and neighborhood parkland, but a surplus in community parkland.

As the City undergoes exponential growth over the next five years (looking forward to 2022), the City’s will quickly start to fall behind on meeting target base and ideal level of service standards. Accordingly, the City would need to add between 43.7 (base level of service) and 77.9 acres (ideal level of service) of new parkland over the next five years. More specifically, the City should target approximately 3.0 to



Almost 66 percent of the City’s current parkland area is undeveloped.

Figure 3.16, Parkland Acreage Level of Service (LOS)

Park Classification	Existing Level of Service		Recommended Level of Service (LOS)										
	Existing Acreage (2017)	Current LOS	Recommended Target LOS (2017 - 2027)		2017 Recommended LOS (based on an estimated 1,880 person population)			2022 Recommended LOS (based on an estimated 15,180 person population)			2027 Recommended LOS (based on an estimated 30,360 person population)		
					2017 Recommended Acreage	2017 Surplus / Deficit Acreage		2022 Recommended Acreage	2022 Surplus / Deficit Acreage		2027 Recommended Acreage	2027 Surplus / Deficit Acreage	
Pocket Parks	0.8	0.4 Ac./1,000 Residents	0.25 to 0.5	Ac./1,000 Residents	0.5 to 0.9	0.3 to -0.1	Ac. Surplus to Ac. Deficit	3.8 to 7.6	-3.0 to -6.8	Ac. Deficit to Ac. Deficit	7.6 to 15.2	-6.8 to -14.4	Ac. Deficit to Ac. Deficit
Neighborhood Parks	4.5	2.4 Ac./1,000 Residents	1.0 to 2.0	Ac./1,000 Residents	1.9 to 3.8	2.6 to 0.7	Ac. Surplus to Ac. Surplus	15.2 to 30.4	-10.7 to -25.9	Ac. Deficit to Ac. Deficit	30.4 to 60.7	-25.9 to -56.2	Ac. Deficit to Ac. Deficit
Community Parks	23.1	12.3 Ac./1,000 Residents	3.5 to 4.5	Ac./1,000 Residents	6.6 to 8.5	16.5 to 14.6	Ac. Surplus to Ac. Surplus	53.1 to 68.3	-30.0 to -45.2	Ac. Deficit to Ac. Deficit	106.3 to 136.6	-83.2 to -113.5	Ac. Deficit to Ac. Deficit
Overall Target Acreage (Pocket, Neighborhood, and Community Parks)	28.4	15.1 Ac./1,000 Residents	4.8 to 7.0	Ac./1,000 Residents	8.9 to 13.2	19.5 to 15.2	Ac. Surplus to Ac. Surplus	72.1 to 106.3	-43.7 to -77.9	Ac. Deficit to Ac. Deficit	144.2 to 212.5	-115.8 to -184.1	Ac. Deficit to Ac. Deficit

6.8 acres of new pocket parks, 10.7 to 25.9 acres of neighborhood parks, and 30.0 to 45.2 acres of community parks by 2022 (see Figure 3.16, *Parkland Acreage Level of Service (LOS)*). Looking forward to 2027, the need is even greater.

There are several takeaways from this analysis. First is that the City already has an adequate level of total parkland per capita for the 2017 population. This amount of acreage will serve the future projected growth in population too, provided that the City focuses on development of the currently undeveloped parkland. In the near-term, the City should focus on parkland development, rather than parkland acquisition. Moving forward towards 2022 and 2027, the City will need to pursue additional pocket and neighborhood parkland before pursuing additional community parkland. This will help to fulfill more specific deficiencies in the provision of pocket and neighborhood parkland, while diversifying the overall system.

Level of Service – Access to Parkland

As set out in the previous section, the City of Liberty Hill has sufficient parkland acreage to serve the per capita base or ideal level of service 2017 needs of its citizens. But, this does not mean that all citizens are served equally. To the contrary, not all citizens have easy access to it (see Map 3.1, *Liberty Hill Existing Parks*, in Chapter 3). In this regard, the location and distribution of parkland is equally as important to the overall acreage itself. While a city is small, this may not be an issue. However, when a City is projected to grow as big and as fast as Liberty Hill, this is an essential consideration which must be accounted for during the growth process, rather than after the fact.

The purpose of evaluating access to parkland is to ensure that parkland is in proximity of the citizens who want and need to use it. As the City grows over time, new parkland in areas of need will be added to ensure a long-term and perpetual accessible and equitable park system.

Park Accessibility

- **Pocket and Neighborhood Parks.** Pocket and neighborhood parks are intended to be the most highly accessible and distributable parks in the City's park system. In this regard, pocket parks, and in most cases, neighborhood parks, should be within a five minute walking distance from all City residents. This means that these parks serve a radius or area of about one-quarter mile (ideal) or half-mile (standard) and do not serve areas across major arterial roadways (e.g., CR 200).
- **Community Parks.** Community parks are primarily intended to serve a broader area than neighborhood parks. These parks are generally bigger and include more diversified amenity and program offerings. They are designed and located to accommodate greater numbers of visitors who access the park via their vehicles. This means that these parks serve a community-scale radius of one- (ideal) to two-miles (standard); convenient and easy access for vehicles, but also accessible via a one-mile comfortable walking distance or two-mile biking distance. Since these parks also serve residents who live nearby, they are also designed to include neighborhood-scale amenities and accessibility.
- **School Parks.** Although not counted towards the provision of per-capita park acreage minimums, school recreation-related resources (e.g., playscapes and tennis courts) do help provide recreational amenities in proximity to where people live. As such, these school recreational amenities are denoted as helping to fulfill distribution needs throughout a community, and are shown with a one-quarter and half-mile service area.

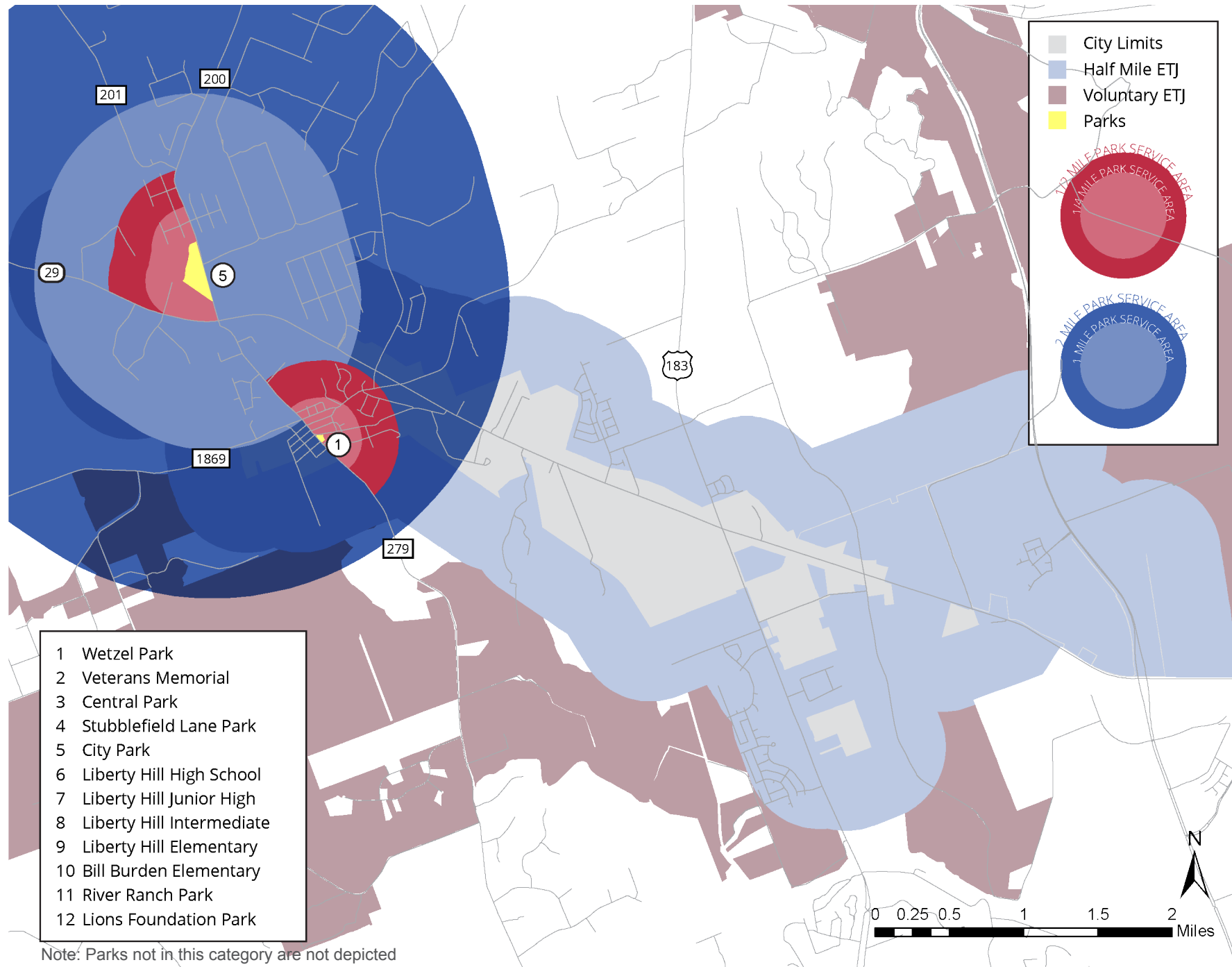
Park Need Areas

A series of maps are shown on the following pages. These maps illustrate the City's current distribution of 'developed' parkland (see Map 3.3, *Park Service Areas - City Developed Parks*), the City's current distribution of 'developed and undeveloped' parkland (see Map 3.4, *Park Services Areas - Developed and Undeveloped City Parks*), and overall park distribution when considering all parks and recreation resources in the area (see Map 3.5, *Park Service Areas - City and Other Developed and Undeveloped Parks*). As illustrated on the maps, the City currently provides limited accessibility to developed parkland. In the near-term, the City will need to prioritize further development and/or redevelopment of existing parkland and new development of the City's undeveloped parks (e.g., the Millstone 43-acre parkland donation area). Over a longer-term, the City will need to pursue additional parkland in other areas of need.

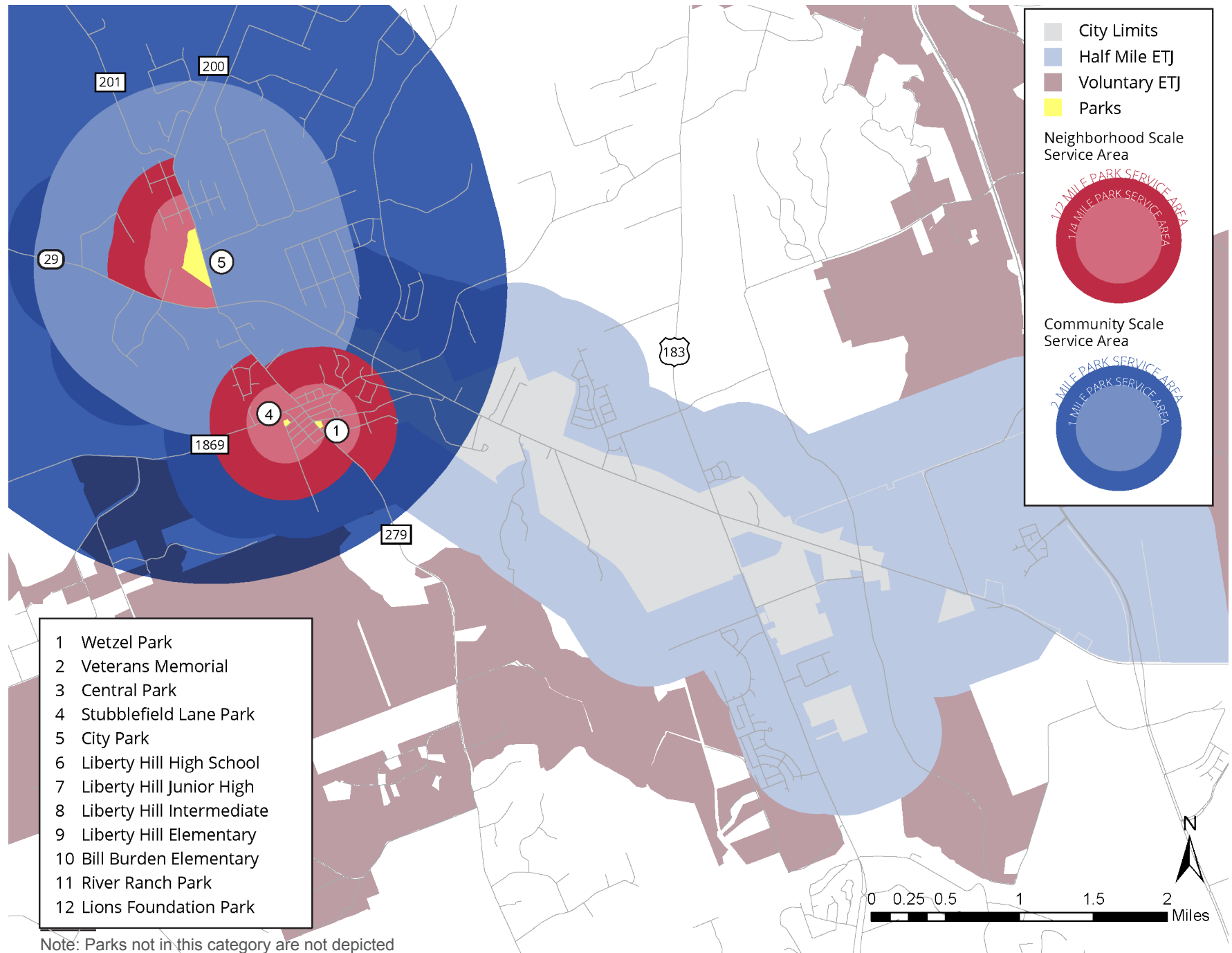


Supporting recreational resources (e.g., tennis courts) provided by the Liberty Hill Independent School District help provide supporting recreational

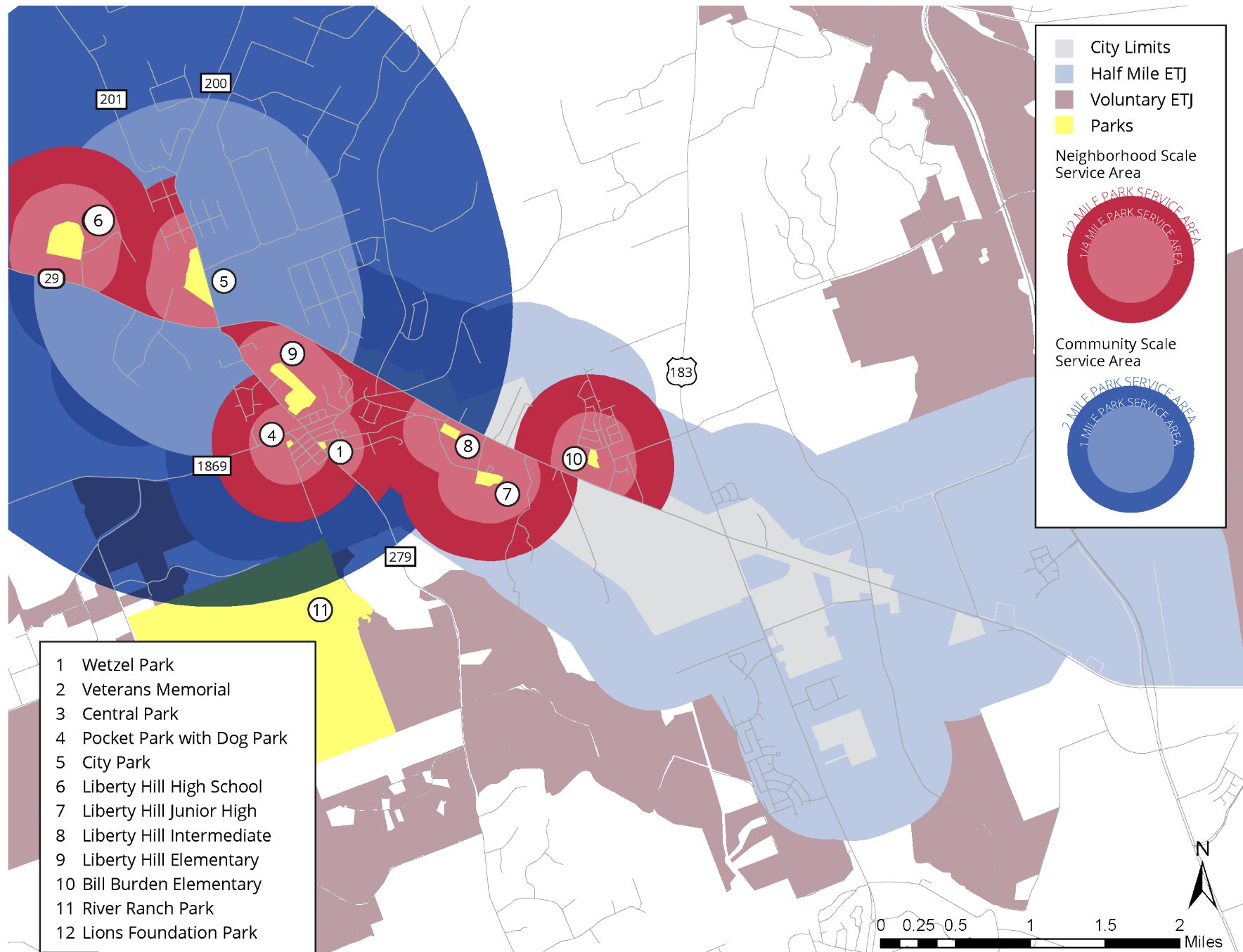
Map 3.3, Park Service Areas – City Developed Parks



Map 3.4, Park Service Areas – Developed and Undeveloped City Parks



Map 3.5, Park Service Areas – City and Other Developed and Undeveloped Parks



Note: Only pocket, neighborhood, and community scale parks show service areas. The county's Regional Park (i.e., River Ranch) is shown, but does not provide Liberty Hill residents with traditional local, close-to-home park amenities (e.g., playscapes, ballfields, etc.).

Level of Service – Facilities

In addition to evaluating the need for adequate acreage and equitable distribution, it is important to understand the current and target levels of service for park and recreation facilities. As the City grows over time, it provides the City with a benchmark or target level of service for individual types of facilities and/or amenities.

As set out in Figure 3.17, *Parkland Facility Level of Service*, on the next page, the City is currently deficient in many of the facility types traditionally available in a municipal parks and recreation system. This deficiency is not atypical for a small, but quickly growing municipality, as young, high-growth cities typically first focus on the provision of basic infrastructure (e.g., streets, utilities, emergency services, etc.). However, as a City grows and matures over time, the demand for quality of life amenities (e.g., parks and recreation) becomes increasingly more important; and oftentimes becomes a determining factor whether new residents (and in many cases, new businesses) choose to relocate to a specific area.

The purpose of Figure 3.17, *Parkland Facility Level of Service*, is not to simply point out deficiencies in types of facilities, but to also acknowledge that as the population grows over time, these deficiencies can quickly become exacerbated. As the City plans for the future of its park and recreation system, it should strive to diversify its facility and programmatic recreational offerings in all City parks. This table, along with the other LOS assessments and community vision for the future, provides a blueprint for planning out future facilities.

Currently, the City is deficient in the provision of baseball, softball, football, and multipurpose practice fields; tennis and volleyball courts; pavilions; and a swimming pool. These are typically staples of a parks and recreation system. The City is also currently deficient in the provision of such ancillary parks and recreational offerings such as a disc golf course, a dog park, a trail system, among others. Looking forward to 2022 and 2027, these deficiencies will continue to grow as the City's population grows exponentially.

To help offset these deficiencies, the City will need to review and improve its parkland dedication and development ordinance and work with area developers, private landowners, and other public entities, to maximize the growing parks system sustainably and efficiently.



Establishing a benchmarking level of service for facilities allows the City to monitor the growth of the parks and recreation system as the City's population grows over time.

Figure 3.17, Parkland Facility Level of Service

	Facility	Current Avail.	Current LOS (1 Facility per # of Residents)	Target LOS (Per # of Residents)	2017 Need (Based on 1,880 Pop.)	2017 Deficit or Surplus	2022 Need (Based on 15,180 Pop.)	2022 Deficit or Surplus	2027 Need (Based on 30,360 Pop.)	2027 Deficit or Surplus
Active Recreation	Baseball/Softball Fields	0	None	1 per 5,000	1	Deficit of 1	3	Deficit of 3	6	Deficit of 6
	Soccer Fields	2	940	1 per 2,000	1	Surplus of 1	8	Deficit of 6	15	Deficit of 13
	Football Fields	0	None	1 per city	1	Deficit of 1	1	Deficit of 1	1	Deficit of 1
	Basketball Courts	1.5	1,253	1 per 3,000	1	Surplus of 0.5	5	Deficit of 3.5	10	Deficit of 8.5
	Multipurpose Practice Fields	0	None	1 per 5,000	1	Deficit of 1	3	Deficit of 3	6	Deficit of 6
	Disc Golf	0	None	1 per city	1	Deficit of 1	1	Deficit of 1	1	Deficit of 1
	Dog Park	0	None	1 per city	1	Deficit of 1	1	Deficit of 1	1	Deficit of 1
	Tennis Courts	0	None	1 per 5,000	1	Deficit of 1	3	Deficit of 3	6	Deficit of 6
	Volleyball Courts	0	None	1 per 5,000	1	Deficit of 1	3	Deficit of 3	6	Deficit of 6
	Trails (miles)	0	None	1 per 2,000	1	Deficit of 1	8	Deficit of 8	15	Deficit of 15
	Exercise Stations	0	None	1 per city	1	Deficit of 1	3	Deficit of 3	6	Deficit of 6
	Playgrounds	1	1,880	1 per 2,000	1	No deficit	8	Deficit of 7	15	Deficit of 15
	Skate Park	0	None	1 per city	1	Deficit of 1	1	Deficit of 1	1	Deficit of 1
	Horseshoes	0	None	2 per city	2	Deficit of 2	2	Deficit of 2	2	Deficit of 2
	Swimming Pool	0	None	1 per city	1	Deficit of 1	3	Deficit of 3	6	Deficit of 6
Passive Recreation	Amphitheater	0	None	1 large outdoor facility	1	Deficit of 1	1	Deficit of 1	1	Deficit of 1
	Picnic Pavilions	0	None	1 per 3,000	1	Deficit of 1	5	Deficit of 5	10	Deficit of 10
	Picnic Facilities (Picnic Tables, Benches, BBQ Grills, Fountains)	11	171	In all parks	In all parks	Surplus of 8	In all parks	TBD based on # of additional parks	In all parks	TBD based on # of additional parks
Other	Restrooms/Portable	1	1,880	Where feasible	Where feasible	Where Feasible	Where feasible	Where Feasible	Where feasible	Where Feasible



CHAPTER 4

Vision, Goals, & Recommendations

INTRODUCTION

One of the most critical components of a park planning process is the recommendations that come out of it. Indeed, the recommendations provide the essential blueprint for moving forward towards implementation. Accordingly, this chapter identifies a community vision for the future of the park system, as well as goals and recommendations to achieve that vision. The recommendations were derived from the public engagement process and needs analysis set out in Chapter 3, *Inventory and Needs*. Identifying the highest priorities for moving forward are set out in Chapter 5, *Implementation Priorities*.

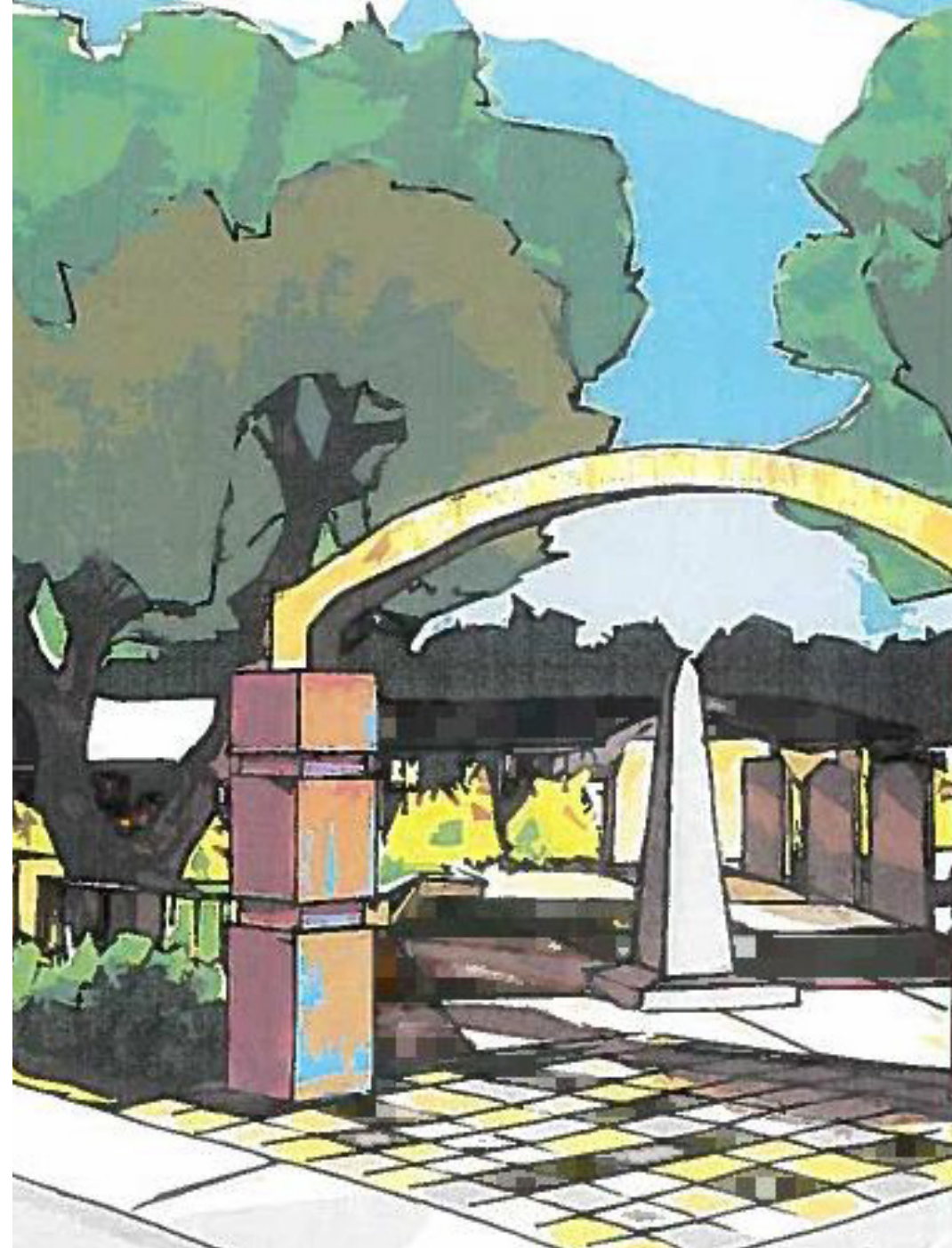
COMMUNITY VISION

A community vision statement embodies the combined aspiration of citizens regarding the future of their park and recreation system. Ideally, it identifies a foundation for moving forward in which all decisions should be evaluated against, from property acquisition; to new facility and amenity selection; to redevelopment of existing facilities and amenities; to budgeting, staffing, and programming.

Based on the assessment of existing inventory and needs, and expressed community preferences for the future, the Liberty Hill parks and recreation vision statement is as follows:

“By the year 2030, the Liberty Hill parks and recreation system will be comprised of diversified, connected, and equitably distributed parks, recreation, and open space amenities which serve people of all ages and abilities and provide opportunities which improve health, fitness, and social connectedness.

Liberty Hill envisions achieving this through strategic development and redevelopment of park amenities in existing and future parks, expansion in association with new residential development, and through targeted acquisitions.



As part of this master planning process, the City of Liberty Hill has proposed a series of Phase 1 and 2 projects (e.g., updating Veteran's Park) which will transform the City's parks and recreational system.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

All of the recommendations in this Plan follow certain key principles which should guide park related decisions in Liberty Hill. These key principles reinforce and expand upon the community's vision for the future.

- **Ensure Park Equality.** Every park should be considered as a signature element in that part of the City. No park is less important than any other. Parks should be prominent features in their respective neighborhoods. Where possible, they should include extensive mature trees and landscaping.
- **Ensure Consistent Park Branding.** While every park should and could be individually themed, all parks should include a unique citywide brand which clearly identifies it as a City park. This creates a consistent and recognizable look for the Liberty Hill park system.
- **Celebrate the City's History and Culture.** Parks should celebrate the history and culture of Liberty Hill. Parks can incorporate historical plaques and features that allude to the area or neighborhood around the park, the circumstances that caused the park to be created, or some other unique event that happened in the City. It could also include including local artist public art in some parks (where appropriate).
- **Serve Multi-generational Users.** Every park should include features for a wide variety of park users. Park facilities should be multi-faceted and varied to provide options for a range of age groups and abilities.
- **Encourage Sustainable and Durable Features.** Parks should be designed so as to reduce maintenance. Automatic irrigation should be a key component throughout the active zones of parks (where necessary), as well as native grasses and landscaping that make every park easier to maintain. Shade should be a standard component of every park. In all parks, playgrounds and picnic areas should be covered, either by trees, shade structure canopies, or pavilions. Bodies of water should be highly valued.

- **Encourage Community Input.** Community input should be welcomed. Input from neighborhoods surrounding each newly developed or renovated park should be included in the design of every park in the City.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Using the community derived vision statement and guiding principles, a series of goals and subsequent action recommendations have been developed to guide the City towards achieving its identified vision for the future.

Collectively, this section identifies a menu of options which could be accomplished during the horizon of this Plan, and beyond. Chapter 5, *Implementation*, then examines and prioritizes all these action recommendations together to develop an Implementation Action Plan that focuses the City on the right near-, mid-, and long-term actions necessary to move forward.

Action Framework

To ensure the goals and action recommendations are comprehensive, an organizational framework has been developed. Accordingly, each goal and action recommendation will be organized using the following five categories.

- **Park Renovations and Development.** Making key improvements and developments to existing parks throughout the City.
- **Parkland Planning, Design, and Maintenance.** Guidelines for the acquisition, design, and maintenance of parkland.
- **Connectivity.** Developing Citywide connectivity and safe pedestrian use areas.
- **Natural Resource and Small-Town Character Preservation.** Preserving and maximizing the potential of the City's natural resources and small-town character.
- **Recreation.** Providing additional recreational opportunities for residents and visitors.

GOAL 1

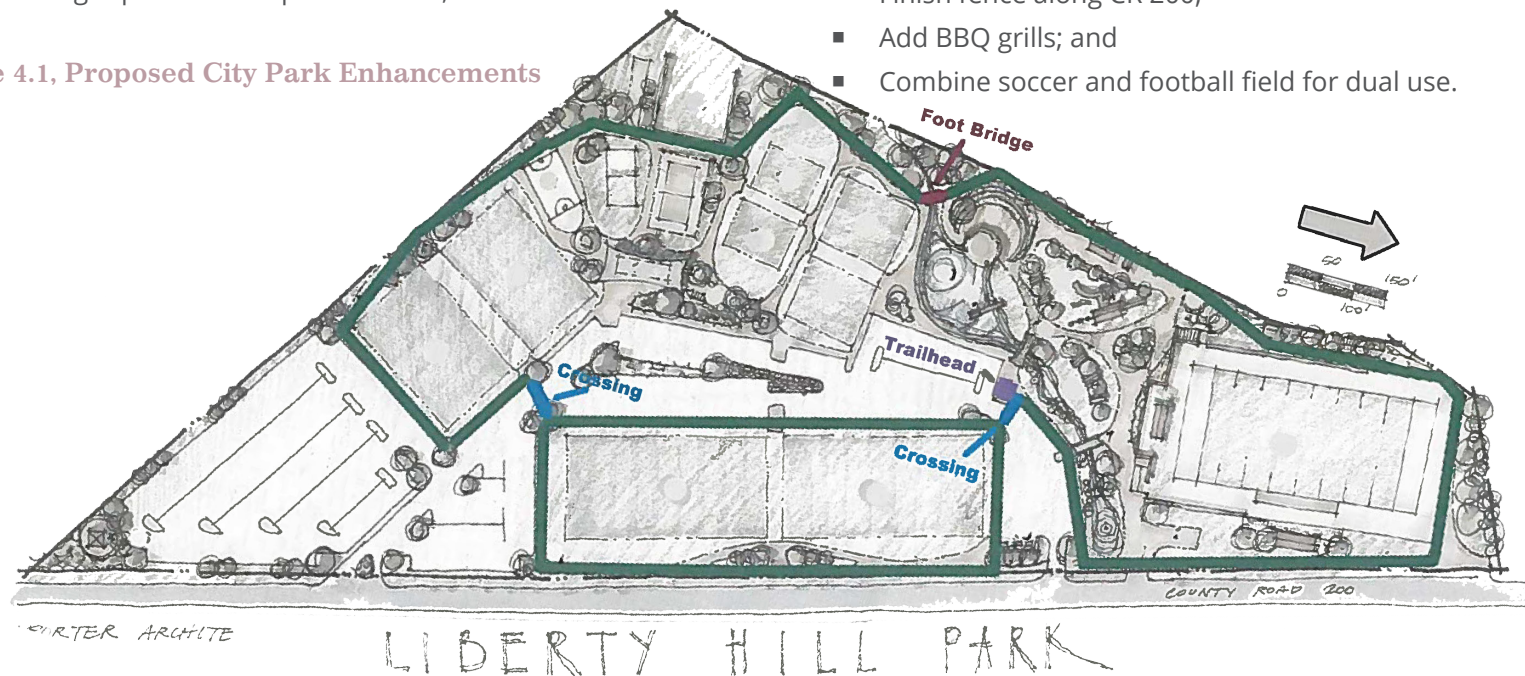
Park Renovations and Development. Make key improvements and developments to existing parks throughout the City.

Action 1.1. Undertake Phase 1 improvements to City Park.

City Park along CR 200 is currently the City's biggest developed park. It is also the City's park with the greatest amount of amenities. Currently, it includes soccer fields, a basketball court, playscape, and a variety of additional amenities. In the nearer-term, the City has identified additional comfort amenities to improve the overall experience of the existing amenities. The following are identified Phase 1 enhancements in order of priority (see Figure 4.1, *Proposed City Park Enhancements*):

- Design and construct a running/ walking trail around City Park;
- Add a dual field CPEC lighted scoreboard;
- Improve turf on soccer fields;
- Add picnic tables and more trash cans;
- Add a larger pavilion for special events;

Figure 4.1, Proposed City Park Enhancements



- Add restrooms;
- Add time sensed lights / good lighting;
- Add a natural-themed playscape for young children; and
- Improve parking.

Action 1.2. Undertake Phase 2 improvements to City Park.

During a longer-term horizon, the City has identified additional comfort improvements (e.g., shade and drainage improvements along the walking trail) and additional amenities (e.g., splash pad and swimming) to diversify the park's overall program offerings. The following are identified Phase 2 enhancements in order of priority:

- Add a splash pad and swimming pool;
- Add a pool house with restroom and changing rooms;
- Pave the entry on the south side;
- Improve drainage issues along walking trail;
- Add trees around the walking trail;
- Improve the City Park entrance sign;
- Finish fence along CR 200;
- Add BBQ grills; and
- Combine soccer and football field for dual use.

Action 1.3. Undertake Phase 1 improvements to Wetzel Park.

Wetzel Park is currently the City's only developed neighborhood park. It is near downtown and includes three picnic tables for the use and enjoyment of citizens of Liberty Hill. In the nearer-term, the City has identified a series of additional comfort amenities (e.g., Wi-Fi, shade water fountains, etc.) to improve the overall experience of this park. The following are identified Phase 1 enhancements in order of priority (see Figure 4.2, *Proposed Wetzel Park Enhancements*).

- Formally reestablish the park as Wetzel Park;
- Extend Wi-Fi to the park;
- Establish a formal picnic area with picnic tables/benches;
- Add ornamental iron fencing around the perimeter of the park to improve overall safety and reduce liability issues;
- Increase the amount of shade in the park;
- Address drainage issues in the park;
- Stripe the parking area along Bagdad Road, but encourage walking to the park;

- Add berms around park and improve overall landscaping;
- Add a water fountain, bicycle racks, and a bicycle refill station;
- Improve lighting for security purposes;
- Formalize greenspaces and walking trails;
- Connect Wetzel Park to downtown Liberty Hill; and
- Add a natural-themed playscape for young children.

Action 1.4. Undertake Phase 2 improvements to Wetzel Park.

The following are identified Phase 2 enhancements in order of priority.

- Enhance the parking area around Wetzel Park;
- Enhance the natural playscape and/or add a splash pad; and
- Add a pavilion for special events.

Figure 4.2, Proposed Wetzel Park Enhancements - Concept Plan



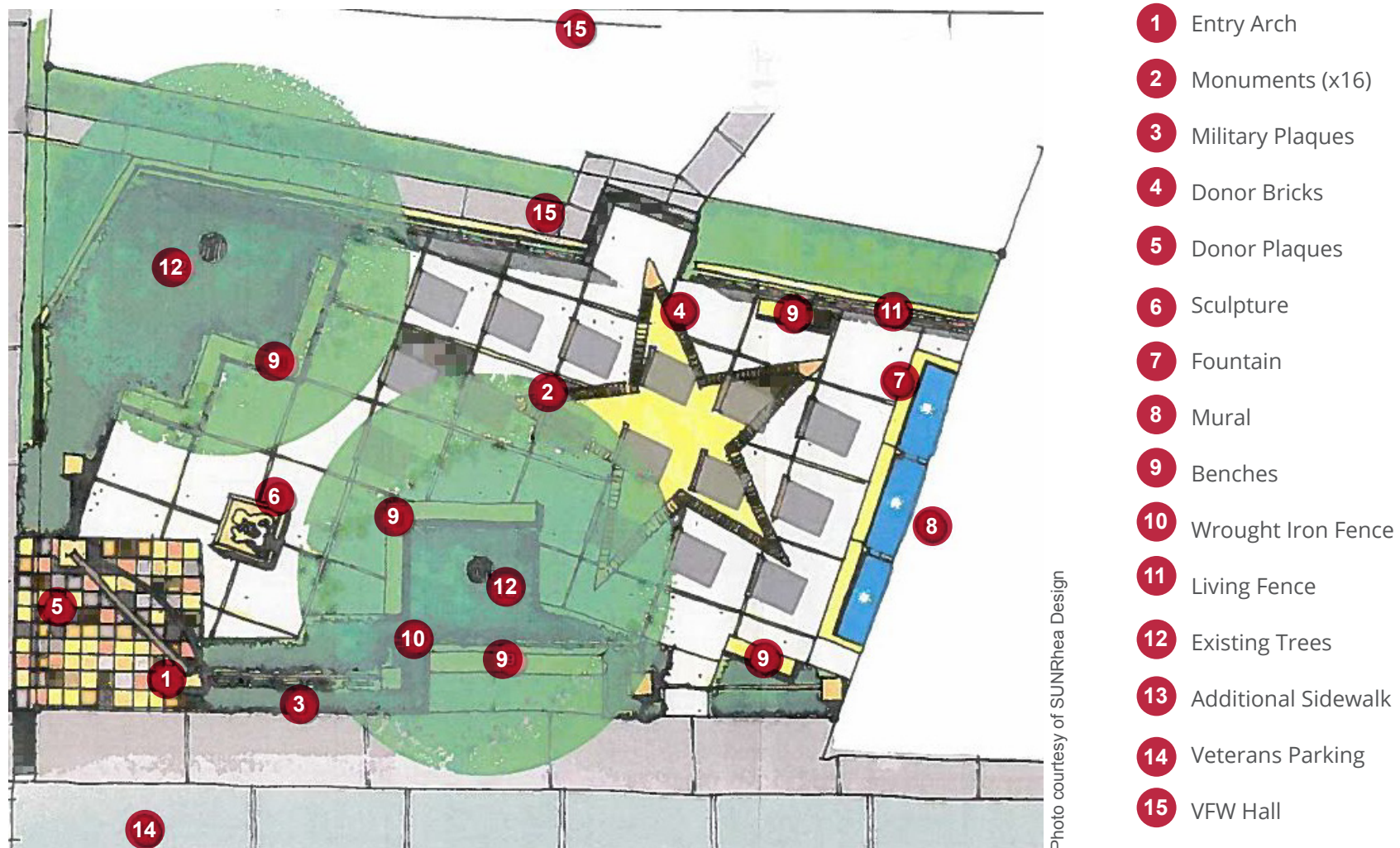
Action 1.5. Undertake Phase 1 Park Design for VFW Memorial Park

Like many communities across Texas, Liberty Hill takes pride in its recognition of service for past service members. As such, the City has proposed a series of improvements to make VFW Memorial Park more walkable and pedestrian-friendly experience. These proposed improvements are commensurate with what would and should be expected of an urban plaza at the edge of a growing downtown.

A conceptual master plan has been prepared for this park (see Figure 4.3, *Proposed VFW Memorial Park Enhancements – Concept Plan*, and Figure 4.4, *Proposed VFW Memorial Park Enhancements – Elevation*, on the next page). The following are identified Phase 1 priorities for VFW Memorial Park:

- Undertake a detailed park design and cost estimates to identify specific upgrades needed for the future of this park.

Figure 4.3, Proposed VFW Memorial Park Enhancements – Concept Plan



Action 1.6. Undertake Phase 2 Improvements to VFW Memorial Park

During Phase 1, the primary focus is moving beyond a conceptual design plan and towards a detailed design. In Phase 2, the identified improvements will be implemented as part of an overall upgrade to VFW Memorial Park. Some of the proposed improvements include: entry arch and parking; military and donor plaques and bricks; sculptures, fountains, and monuments; murals; among other improvements (see Figure 4.3, *Proposed VFW Memorial Park Enhancements – Concept Plan*, on the previous

page, and Figure 4.4, *Proposed VFW Memorial Park Enhancements – Elevation*). The following are identified Phase 2 enhancements in order of priority.

- Implement the design plans identified during Phase 1;
- Connect VFW Memorial Park to the citywide walking trail; and
- Add a kiosk which includes a downtown walking trail map.

Figure 4.4, Proposed VFW Memorial Park Enhancements – Elevation



Photo courtesy of SUNRhea Design

Action 1.7. Undertake Phase 1 Improvements to Stubblefield Lane Park

One of the highest priorities for the Stubblefield Lane Park property was to evaluate the potential of purchasing an abutting 2.9-acre property next to it. This addition would allow adequate room for moving forward with the proposed Phase 2 enhancements (see Action 1.8, below). The following is the identified Phase 1 priority for Stubblefield Lane Park:

- Expand Stubblefield Lane Park by purchasing the 2.9-acre abutting property.

Action 1.8. Undertake Phase 2 Improvements to Stubblefield Lane Park

During Phase 1, the primary focus was to expand the property to allow adequate opportunity to implement Phase 2 enhancements. The following are identified Phase 2 enhancements in order of priority.

- Establish a formal dog park at the park;
- Add additional dog-park related amenities to the park;
- Connect Stubblefield Lane Park to the citywide walking trail; and
- Add a kiosk which includes a downtown walking trail map.

Action 1.9. Undertake Phase 1 Improvements to Central Park

Central Park is located at the intersection of Munro Street and Stubblefield Lane. It is currently undeveloped, but located directly across the street from a recently-built high density apartment complex. Moving forward, Central Park will become the highly-accessible pocket park for this neighborhood and other neighborhoods which will be built nearby. The following are the Phase 1 enhancements identified for this park:

- Add a natural-themed playscape for young children;
- Establish a formal picnic area with picnic tables/benches;
- Connect Central Park to the citywide walking trail; and
- Add a kiosk which includes a downtown walking trail map.

GOAL 2

Parkland Planning, Design, and Maintenance. Establish guidelines for the acquisition, design, and maintenance of parkland.

Action 2.1. Pursue additional parkland acquisition and development in areas of need.

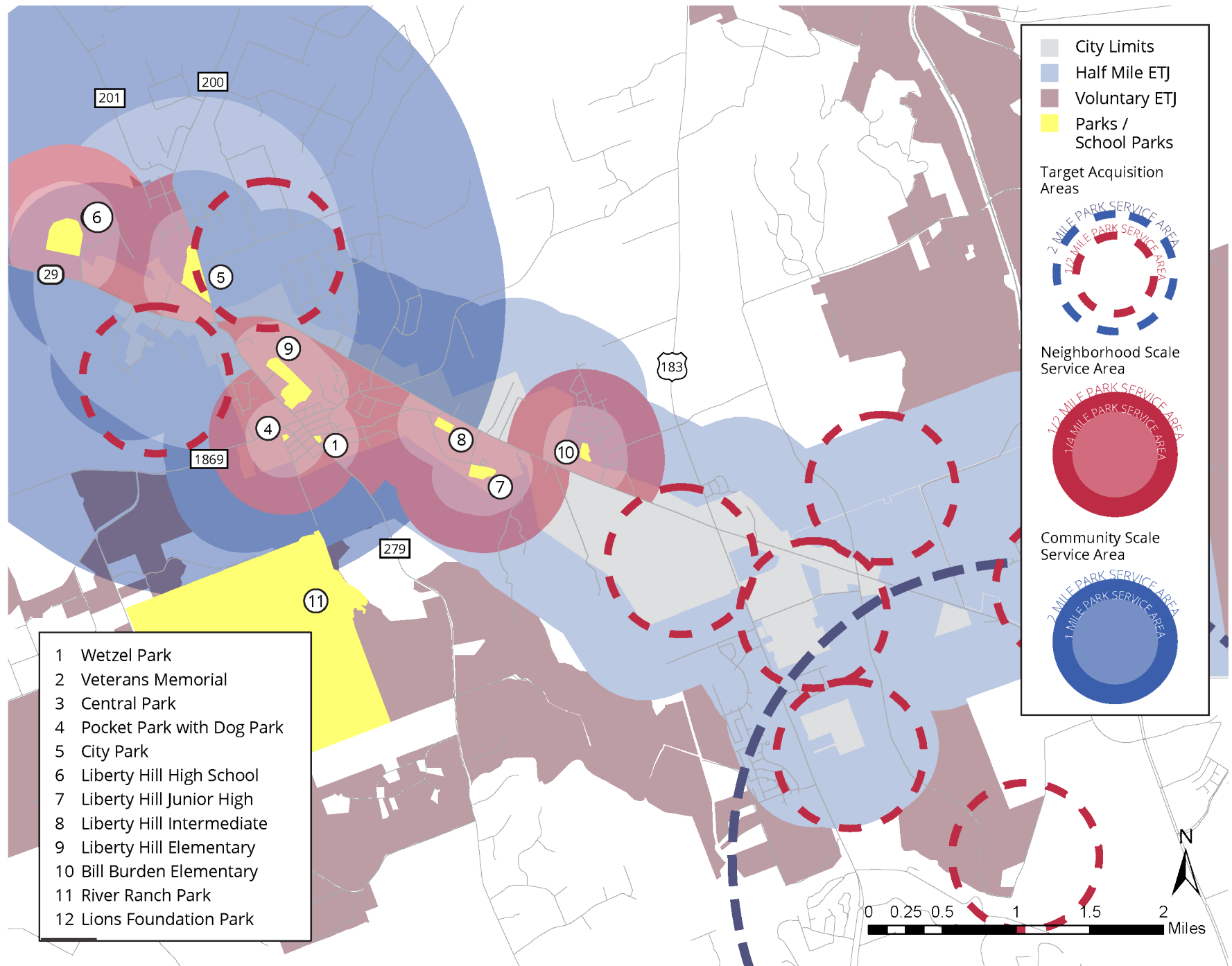
As set out in the Access-Based Assessment, in Chapter 3, the City already has a surplus of existing land to meet the needs of the current 2017 population (see Figure 3.16, *Parkland Acreage Level of Service (LOS)*, in Chapter 3). However, several of its parks are undeveloped (e.g., Stubblefield Lane Park and Central Park) or under-developed with regard to quantities and diversity of amenities (see Figure 3.17, *Parkland Facility Level of Service*, in Chapter 3). Additionally, there are areas in the City which do have adequate access to community- or neighborhood-scale parkland.

Moving forward, the City will need additional parkland to maintain a sufficient level of service as the City grows over time. As set out in Figure 3.16, *Parkland Acreage Level of Service (LOS)*, in Chapter 3), the City should strive to acquire an additional 43.7 to 77.9 acres of parkland by 2022, and 115.8 to 184.1 acres of additional parkland by 2027. The location of these additional parks should be in identified areas of need (see Map 4.1, *Target Parkland Acquisition Areas*, on the next page). In some cases, this may require outright acquisition; in other cases, acquisition should occur concurrent with new residential development (i.e., as part of parkland dedication).



Although Liberty Hill has existing undeveloped or under-developed parkland which can be further improved regarding recreational amenities and programming, the City will need to acquire and develop additional parkland moving forward.

Map 4.1, Target Parkland Acquisition Areas



Action 2.2. Continue to work with Larkspur developer to implement proposed improvements to the 43-acre park.

As part of the proposed Larkspur development near CR 267, the developer has agreed to dedicate approximately 43 acres to the City for park and trail development. The proposed development includes open space throughout the development, including protection of the riverfront along the San Gabriel River, floodplains, and other natural resources. It also includes establishment and connection to the regional trail system which connects to Leander. Moving forward, the City should prepare a development plan and design for this property and continue to work with the developer to implement the proposed improvements. This property should be protected by a non-profit foundation until the improvement can be constructed.

Figure 4.5, Proposed Enhancements to the new 43-acre Park



Action 2.3. Evaluate the existing parkland dedication ordinance.

As the City continues to grow, it will have increasing pressure to concurrently expand its parks and recreation system. This can be through City-initiated acquisition and development, or it can be in partnership with the development community as part of new residential growth. Many communities accomplish this through a parkland dedication / fee-in-lieu ordinance. While the City has a parkland dedication ordinance, it could be improved to require area developers to provide a greater level of support in acquisition and development.

The purpose of a parkland dedication and development ordinance is to allow new growth to contribute their fair share to the overall park and recreation system. In this regard, the ordinance allows for the dedication of land and/or the collection of money for the acquisition, development, and improvement of neighborhood parks within respective park benefit zones. The ordinance should also provide for allocating resources across all park benefit zones to establish or improve community parks which serve a greater area than just individual park zones.

In addition, a portion of the collected funds (if required instead of dedication) should also be used for the revitalization and/or enhancement of any existing parks which may be located within the same park benefit zone.

The following components should be considered when developing an update to the City's parkland dedication:

- Expand the parkland dedication ordinance to become a dedication and development ordinance. This means that there will be two separate fees (one for acquisition and one for development).
- Establish a park benefit zone map that includes zones made up of both developed and undeveloped areas. This allows fee-in-lieu resources to be used for the expansion and/or improvement of other existing parks within the same park benefit zone. The park benefit zone map should be developed with the intent of providing equitable distribution of resources over time.
- Establish different dedication and development requirements for single-family and multifamily residential development. In this regard, separate requirements would be created for per dwelling unit land dedication, fee-in-lieu of land dedication, and fee for parkland development.

- Adopt provisions which allow private amenities to account for only a portion of the requirements. In other words, a new development cannot fulfill all of its requirements solely by providing private amenities to just its own residents.
- Ensure that all proposed off-site improvements are located within the same park benefit zone.

Action 2.4. Update the City's Parks Master Plan by 2022.

Park and recreation system needs, and community preferences for the future, change over time. This is particularly the case in fast-growing areas like Central Texas. To ensure this plan remains relevant in the future, the City should plan on undertaking an update prior to 2022. This will allow the City to remain competitive for Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) grant funding.

Action 2.5. Monitor the City's growth rate annually to ensure an adequate level of service.

Although the City staff prepared population projections in association with this plan, projection estimates are a moving target, particularly in a fast-growth environment with little historical precedent. This means that the per capita level of service (LOS) standards are also a moving target (see Figure 3.16, *Parkland Level of Service (LOS)*, in Chapter 3). As such, the City should continually monitor the City's growth rate and adjust its LOS benchmarks accordingly.

Action 2.6. Develop and implement park and trail design guidelines.

In order to develop a cohesive park and trail brand, the City should consider preparing and adopting a series of park and trail design guidelines. These guidelines should identify the minimum amenity and programming elements which should be included in each of the various park classifications. It should also identify minimum design and construction guidelines that result in park development that is high-quality, low maintenance, and efficient with regard to the City's limited resources (e.g., water and energy efficient). The park design guidelines should also specify an evaluation of up front versus long-term costs. In other words, a cost/benefit analysis should be undertaken to determine the expenditure of initial capital costs versus the City's long-term maintenance and operational costs.

Action 2.7. Evaluate opportunities to address facility deficiencies in existing and future parks.

As set out in Figure 3.17, *Parkland Facility Level of Service*, in Chapter 3, the City has identified facility deficiencies in its existing and future park system. As the City plans expansion and redevelopment of existing parks, and the acquisition and development of new parks, it needs to consider diversifying the types of facilities to better meet the needs of all users. In the near-term, the City should pursue additional amenities such as trails (deficit of 1), swimming pool/splash pad (deficit of 1), baseball/softball fields (deficit of 1), pavilion (deficit of 1), dog park (deficit of 1), amphitheater (deficit of 1), multipurpose play fields (deficit of 1), indoor volleyball court (deficit of 1), among other deficits. Looking forward to mid-term (2022) and longer-term (2027), these facility deficits grow significantly concurrent with the City's projected population growth.

Action 2.8. Consider the establishment of an "Adopt a Park" program.

As is common in cities across Texas, there will be residents in Liberty Hill that are interested in taking a more active role in the establishment and upkeep of the City's parks system. As such, the City should consider establishing the parameters of an official "Adopt a Park" program so that it can encourage and then utilize various neighborhood and/or community groups to take an active role in maintenance. As a side benefit, these types of programs oftentimes help to develop community buy-in and ownership of the parks system. This in turn helps to ensure that these types of quality of life improvements have more equal weighting against competing priorities (e.g., streets and other infrastructure).

GOAL 3

Connectivity. Plan and undertake improvements to improve Citywide connectivity.

Action 3.1. Evaluate opportunities to establish a trail from Liberty Hill to Georgetown.

As a follow up to Phase 1 park improvements, the City should begin to evaluate the opportunities to establish a regional trail connection between Liberty Hill and Georgetown.

Action 3.2. Evaluate opportunities to establish a trail from downtown to City Park.

As a follow up to Phase 1 park improvements, the City should begin to evaluate the opportunities to establish a trail connecting downtown Liberty Hill to City Park.

Action 3.3. Proactively plan and implement a citywide trail system.

Like many communities across Texas and the nation, the citizens of Liberty Hill place a high priority on future trail improvements. Successful implementation would include the establishment of multi-use trails within City parks, safe bicycle and pedestrian access to and from City parks to neighborhoods, schools, downtown, and other key destinations, and connectivity to the regional trail system. As a first step, the City should consider developing a trails master plan which can identify the key routes which establish the foundation of the City's trail system. This planning process should identify how Liberty Hill can maximize its internal trail system while connecting and contributing to the regional trail system.

As part of this planning process, a master plan can identify key projects, cost estimates, and potential funding mechanisms to establish a blueprint for moving forward. It can also identify a framework and strategies to maximize trail construction and connectivity as part of new private sector development. For example, the City should be coordinating with the developer of the Larkspur development to establish a multi-use trail along the South San Gabriel River (constructed in accordance with regional trail standards). Accordingly, the developer would establish this trail as part of its proposed 43-acre park dedication to the City. This not only creates a neighborhood amenity, but starts to build Liberty Hill's portion of the overall regional trail network.

GOAL 4

Natural Resource and Small-Town Character Preservation. Utilize the growing parks and recreation system to help preserve and protect Liberty Hill's natural resources and small-town character.

Action 4.1. Identify and preserve important natural resource lands and corridors.

As set out in Chapter 2, *Understanding the Community*, living in Liberty Hill provides residents with a small-town experience with convenient access to great dining, shopping, and entertainment (available in close proximity). Much of this small-town experience is embodied in a quaint, yet vibrant downtown, and a plethora of surrounding farmlands, rolling hills, and other natural and cultural resources. As the City develops over time, many of these positive attributes will be replaced with traditional development patterns. As such, the City should consider using its growing parks, recreation, and trail system as a means to protect these attributes in perpetuity. This could include the acquisition and passive recreation development of such areas as floodplains, naturally occurring water bodies, scenic vistas and steep slopes, as well as areas that have historical, cultural, botanical, geological, or other environmental significance.

GOAL 5

Recreation. Develop a foundation for activating the parks system for recreation and special event programming.

Action 5.1. Evaluate opportunities to increase recreational and special event programming in parks.

Like many small, but fast-growing cities, Liberty Hill is at a point where it can make great strides in adding amenities to its existing parks system while at the same time adding new parks. For a young park system, this means a high emphasis is placed on capital improvements followed closely by park maintenance. As a city continues to grow and mature over time, more emphasis is placed on activating the parks system with recreational programming and special events, which requires adequate staffing and resources. Moving forward, the City should evaluate opportunities for adding recreational programming and more community special events in its park system. This could include developing partnerships with third-party providers (e.g., allowing and promoting a private boot-camp exercise class held in a City park) so as to not overburden Parks and Recreation staff.



CHAPTER 5

Implementation Priorities

INTRODUCTION

By evaluating the needs and preferences of the community, as well as the existing conditions and levels of service, previous chapters of this Plan have facilitated a vision for Liberty Hill’s parks system. In order to implement the resulting recommendations efficiently, this chapter prioritizes the actions and initiatives that are set out by this Plan. It identifies the City’s highest priorities today, as well as guidance for achieving long-term priorities that will provide for the rapid growth of Liberty Hill.

The Master Plan’s implementation program is also intended to inform City staff, administration, and elected and appointed officials of updates to be expected in order to ensure that the Plan is providing for the City’s growth.

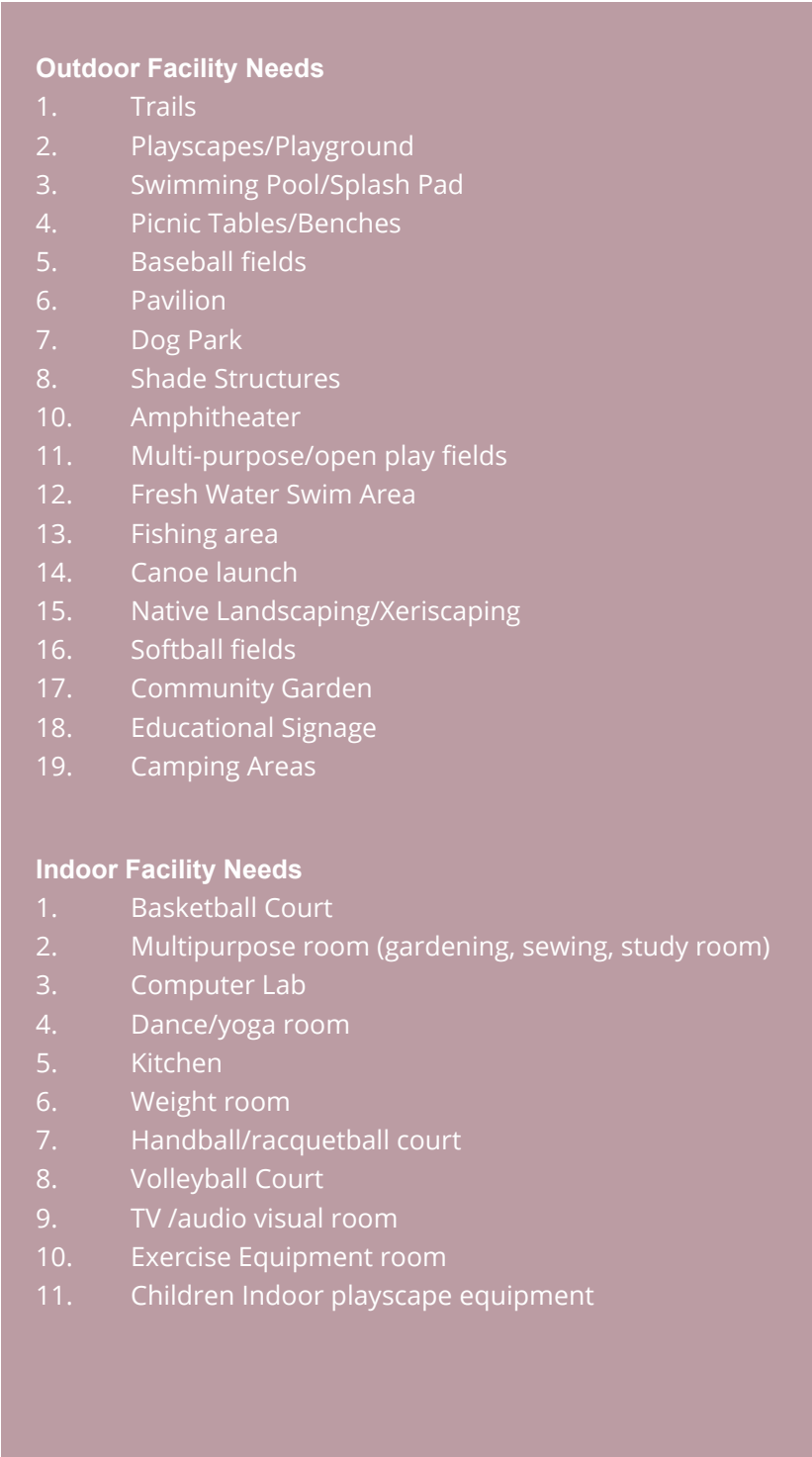
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Compliance

One of the ancillary purposes of this Plan is to serve as a parks, recreation, and open space master plan as defined by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). This is because “qualified” plans increase the City’s competitiveness when applying for TPWD grant funding.

High Priority Needs

Top priorities for Liberty Hill’s growing parks system are set out in Figure 5.1, *Summary of High Priority Needs* (at right). These needs are consistent with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) requirements and have been determined based on community input, needs assessments, site visits, and input from City staff and elected and appointed officials. An effective set of actions, informed by the identified needs, have been recommended to enhance quality of life in the community for purposes of grant applications. The identified priorities have been categorized into two lists: outdoor facilities/amenities and indoor facilities/amenities.

Figure 5.1, Summary of High Priority Needs



PRIORITIZED ACTION PLAN

Implementation Tools

The recommended actions identified in previous chapters of this Plan address a variety of items from parkland development and acquisition to protection of the City's small-town character and natural resources. To effectively implement these actions requires the combination of series of implementation tools, which, when used synergistically, maximize the potential of achieving real results. These implementation tool types are set out in Figure 6.2, *Implementation Tools*, at right.

Prioritization

These implementation tools are then combined with an implementation action plan to identify how and when these actions are intended for implementation. It should be noted, however, that the implementation action plan provides a framework and blueprint for moving forward; but it is just a guide. In other words, the City should seize upon opportunities which grow the parks system (in accordance with this plan), regardless of timeframe. As a starting point, the recommendations found in this plan are categorized into the following three timeframes:

- **Near-Term Priorities.** Near-term priority actions which need to be initiated within the next one to two years. In many cases, these actions will be initiated and completed within this time frame. However, it is not uncommon for projects to be initiated in this time frame and completed over time. These are the City's highest priorities for implementation.
- **Mid-Term Priorities.** Mid-term priorities are actions which need to be initiated within the next three to five years. Many of these are listed as the City's Phase 2 improvements. Based on availability of resources, some of these may become the highest priorities of the City's next Parks Master Plan update.
- **Longer-Term Priorities.** Longer-term priorities are actions which are intended to continually guide the City towards its ideal future parks and recreation vision. Most of these actions are intended to be implemented over the long-term and will be further prioritized in subsequent Plan updates.

Figure 5.2, Implementation Tools

Official procedures or policies used to guide City decisions. In some cases, it includes a movement towards a general direction which may involve a combination of other implementation tool types.

POLICY

New or changed programs, staffing, or operational procedures.

OPERATIONAL CHANGE

An official further-refined study or investigation needed to determine the most appropriate solution.

STUDY

Council-adopted regulations used to guide development of other actions within the City.

REGULATION

Larger scale capital improvements incorporated into the greater capital improvement program or five-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

Smaller scale improvements which may more likely be funded through the annual budgeting process or a staff-led project.

NON-CAPITAL INVESTMENT

Action ID	Action	Time frame			Action Type
		1-2	3-5	6-10+	
Goal 1					
1.1	Undertake Phase 1 improvements to City Park.	■			Capital Investment
1.2	Undertake Phase 2 Improvements to City Park		■		Capital Investment
1.3	Undertake Phase 1 Improvements to Wetzel Park.	■			Capital Investment
1.4	Undertake Phase 2 Improvements to Wetzel Park.		■		Capital Investment
1.5	Undertake Phase 1 Park Design for VFW Memorial Park.	■			Capital Investment
1.6	Undertake Phase 2 Improvements to VFW Memorial Park.		■		Capital Investment
1.7	Undertake Phase 1 Improvements to Stubblefield Lane Park.	■			Capital Investment
1.8	Undertake Phase 2 Improvements to Stubblefield Lane Park.		■		Capital Investment
1.9	Undertake Phase 1 Improvements to Central Park.	■			Capital Investment
Goal 2					
2.1	Pursue additional parkland acquisition and development in areas of need.		■	■	Policy / Capital Investment
2.2	Continue to work with Larkspur developer to implement proposed improvements to the 43-acre park.	■	■		Capital Investment
2.3	Evaluate the existing parkland dedication ordinance.	■	■		Regulation
2.4	Update the City's Parks Master Plan by 2022		■		Study
2.5	Monitor the City's growth rate annually to ensure an adequate level of service.	■	■	■	Non-Capital Investment
2.6	Develop and implement park and trail design guidelines.	■			Policy
2.7	Evaluate opportunities to opportunities to address facility deficiencies in existing and future parks.		■	■	Capital Investment / Non-Capital Investment
2.8	Consider the establishment of an "Adopt a Park" program.		■		Policy

Action ID	Action	Time frame			Action Type
		1-2	3-5	6-10+	
Goal 3					
3.1	Evaluate opportunities to establish a trail from downtown to City Park.	■			Capital Investment
3.2	Evaluate opportunities to establish a trail from downtown to City Park.	■			Capital Investment
3.3	Proactively plan and implement a citywide trail system.	■			Capital Investment
Goal 4					
4.1	Identify and preserve important natural resource lands and corridors.	■	■	■	Policy / Regulation
Goal 5					
5.1	Evaluate opportunities to increase recreational and special event programming in parks	■	■	■	Non-Capital Investment

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CITY OF LIBERTY HILL

APPENDIX A

Potential Funding Sources

FEDERAL FUNDING SOURCES

Corporation For National And Community Service

AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps seeks to strengthen communities through projects that address education, public safety, the environment, and other unmet human needs. AmeriCorps grants are awarded to eligible organizations proposing to engage AmeriCorps members in evidence-based or evidence-informed interventions to strengthen communities.

Amount: Vary, may be awarded as fixed amount or cost reimbursement

Deadline: January 18, 2017

Website: <http://www.nationalservice.gov/build-your-capacity/grants/funding-opportunities/2017/ameri-corps-state-and-national-grants-fy-2017>

Department of Agriculture — Agricultural Marketing Service

Farmers Market Promotion Program

The purpose of the Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) is to increase domestic consumption of, and access to, locally and regionally produced agricultural products, and to develop new market opportunities for farm and ranch operations serving local markets by developing, improving, expanding, and providing outreach, training, and technical assistance to, or assisting in the development, improvement, and expansion of, domestic farmers markets, roadside stands, community-supported agriculture programs, agri-tourism activities, and other direct producer-to-consumer market opportunities.

Website: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/fmpp>

Amount: Varies

Deadline: 2016 grants closed; 2017 grants pending

Contact:

USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 4534-South Building
Washington, DC 20250-0269

E-mail: USDAFMPPQuestions@ams.usda.gov

Phone: 202-720-0933

Fax: 202-690-4152

Grants Management Specialists:

Earlene Henderson-Samuels, Earlene.Henderson-Samuels@ams.usda.gov

Theresa (Teri) Davis, Theresa.Davis@ams.usda.gov

Camia (Mia) Lane, Camia.Lane@ams.usda.gov

Christy Wipperfurth, Christy.Wipperfurth@ams.usda.gov

Department of Agriculture — Food Nutrition Service

Child Nutrition-Technology Innovation Grant

The 2016 Consolidated Appropriations Act, Public Law 114-113 December 18, 2015, authorized funding to be used for grants to States for the purpose of developing or improving current automated information systems used to operate and manage the Child Nutrition Programs (CNPs). The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has approximately \$4.4 million available in fiscal year (FY) 2017 to be used for grants under this funding. This Request for Applications (RFA) invites State agencies that administer the CNPs to apply for grant funding to implement innovative technology solutions that will improve program accountability, data accuracy, program performance measurement, and the capacity to identify and target error-prone areas (locations or program functions) within and across the CNPs at the State and Local Educational Agency (LEA) or Sponsor Organization (SO) levels. The Child Nutrition Technology Innovation Grant (CN TIG) funds will be available on a competitive basis to State agencies administering the CNPs (i.e., National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Child and Adult Care Food Program, and Summer Food Service Program). FNS is offering two types of CN TIGs: Planning Grants and Implementation Grants. States may apply for either a Planning Grant or an Implementation Grant, as described within this RFA, but not both under this 2017 RFA solicitation.

Website: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/child-nutrition-technology-innovation-grant-cn-tig>

Amount: \$100,000 to \$2 million

Deadline: January 25, 2017

Contact: Carla Garcia, Grant Officer: Carla.garcia@fns.usda.gov

Child And Adult Care Food Program

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) offers funds for meals and snacks for children in low-income areas during after-school and summer hours. Through the Child and Adult Care Food Program, USDA administers Afterschool Snacks, a program that offers reimbursement for snacks to after-school care program providers. For eligibility, the after-school programs must offer educational or enrichment activities in an organized, structured, and supervised environment after school, on weekends or holidays during the school year. The organization will be reimbursed at the highest level, currently 55 cents a snack per child per day. For more information, please visit: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/child-and-adult-care-food-program>.

National website: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/cacfp-contacts>

Texas Office:

Administered by Texas Department of Agriculture
1700 N. Congress Ave., 11th Floor
Austin, TX 78701

Phone: 877-839-6325

Website: <http://www.squaremeals.org>

Farm To School Grant

The purpose of the USDA Farm to School Grant Program is to assist eligible entities in implementing farm to school programs that improve access to local foods in eligible schools. On an annual basis, USDA awards up to \$5 million in competitive grants for training, supporting operations, planning, purchasing equipment, developing school gardens, developing partnerships, and implementing farm to school programs.

The Program offers three types of grants: Planning awards range from \$20,000 - \$45,000; implementation and support service awards range from \$65,000 - \$100,000; training awards range from \$15,000 - \$50,000. Matching funds of 25% are required for all four grant types.

Website: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/farmtoschool/farm-school-grant-program>

Amount: \$15,000 to \$100,000; Total program funding estimated to be \$5 million.

Deadline: December 8, 2016

Contact: farmtoschool@fns.usda.gov

Summer Food Service Program

The Summer Food Service Program is a federally-funded, state-administered program that provides free meals to children throughout the summer months when school is not in session. Approved sponsors, including school districts, park agencies, nonprofit organizations, and camps, organize the program and provide the meals to a group of children (18 or under) at a central site(s). Children can receive either one or two reimbursable meals each day. For more information on the program, go to: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/summer-food-service-program>.

Contact the state administering agency: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/sfsp-contacts>

Texas Office:

Administered by Texas Department of Agriculture
1700 N. Congress Ave., 11th Floor
Austin, TX 78701

Phone: 877-839-6325

Website: <http://www.squaremeals.org>

Department of Agriculture — National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Community Food Projects (CFP) Competitive Grants Program

The primary goals of the CFP are to: Meet the food needs of low-income individuals through food distribution, community outreach to assist in participation in Federally assisted nutrition programs, or improving access to food as part of a comprehensive service; Increase the self-reliance of communities in providing for the food needs of the communities; Promote comprehensive responses to local food access, farm, and nutrition issues; and Meet specific state, local or neighborhood food and agricultural needs including needs relating to: Equipment necessary for the efficient operation of a project; Planning for long-term solutions; or The creation of innovative marketing activities that mutually benefit agricultural producers and low-income consumers. This grant requires 100% matching.

Examples of CFP Projects include, but are not limited to, community gardens with market stands, value chain projects, food hubs, farmers' markets, farm-to-institutions projects, and marketing & consumer cooperatives. All projects must involve low-income participants.

Examples of PPs include, but are not limited to, community food assessments' coordination of collaboration development plan, GIS analysis, food sovereignty study, and farm-to-institution exploration. All projects must involve low-income participants

Website: <https://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/community-food-projects-cfp-competitive-grants-program>

Amount: Total program funding: \$8.64 million; Maximum award of \$125,000 for Community Food Projects and \$35,000 for Planning Projects

Deadline: November 30, 2016

Contact: Jana Clary Loveless, National Program Leader,

Email: jclary@nifa.usda.gov

Location: 2322 Waterfront Centre

Phone Number: (202) 720-3891

Fax Number: (202) 401-4888

Beginning Farmer And Rancher Development Program (BFRDP)

The Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program provides grants to organizations for education, mentoring, and technical assistance initiatives for beginning farmers or ranchers. According to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service's most recent Ag Census data, the number of young people entering farming continues to decline, but the number of new farmers and ranchers over the age of 35 rises, as does the number of smaller farms and ranches nationwide. Ensuring there will be a "new generation" of beginning farmers and ranchers—regardless of age or production choice—is especially important to the continuation of agricultural production in the United States.

In accordance with the authorizing legislation, priority will be given to partnerships and collaborations led by or including nongovernmental, community-based organizations and school-based agricultural educational organizations with expertise in new agricultural producer training and outreach. At least 5 percent of the funds will support programs and services that address the needs of limited resource beginning farmers or ranchers; socially disadvantaged beginning farmers or ranchers; and farm workers desiring to become farmers or ranchers. At least 5 percent of the funds will support programs and services that address the needs of veteran farmers and ranchers. The term "farmer" is used in the broadest sense and should be interpreted to include traditional agricultural farmers, ranchers, and tree farmers. As far as possible, geographical diversity will also be ensured.

A 25% match is required.

Website: <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/beginning-farmer-and-rancher-development-program-bfrdp>

Amount: Maximum of \$200,000 for 3-year program; estimated total program funding: \$17.7 million

Deadline: December 8, 2016

Contact: Jill Auburn, National Program Leader, Division of Agricultural Systems

Email: jauburn@nifa.usda.gov

Location: 3430 Waterfront Centre

Phone Number: (202) 720-2635

Fax Number: (202) 401-1782

Department of Agriculture — Natural Resources Conservation Service

Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)

EQIP provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers in order to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, reduced soil erosion and sedimentation or improved or created wildlife habitat.

Eligible program participants receive financial and technical assistance to implement conservation practices, or activities like conservation planning, that address natural resource concerns on their land. Payments are made to participants after conservation practices and activities identified in an EQIP plan of operations are implemented. Contracts can last up to ten years.

National website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/financial/eqip/?cid=stelprdb1242633>

Texas website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/tx/programs/financial/eqip/>

Texas Office:

Texas State Office

101 S Main St.

Temple, , TX 76501-7602

Phone: (254) 742-9800

Fax: (254) 742-9819

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/>

Mark Habiger, Assistant State Conservationist-Programs

Phone: (254) 742-9881

Email: Mark.habiger@tx.usda.gov

Troy Daniell, Financial Program Manager

Phone: (254) 742-9525

Email: Troy.daniell@tx.usda.gov

Local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office Locations:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/contact/local/>

Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG)

Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) are competitive grants that stimulate the development and adoption of innovative approaches and technologies for conservation on agricultural lands. CIG uses Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funds to award competitive grants to non-Federal governmental or nongovernmental organizations, American Indian Tribes, or individuals. Producers involved in CIG funded projects must be EQIP eligible.

Through CIG, NRCS partners with public and private entities to accelerate technology transfer and adopt promising technologies. These new technologies and approaches address some of the Nation's most pressing natural resources concerns. CIG benefits agricultural producers by providing more options for environmental enhancement and compliance with Federal, State, and local regulations.

States can also award project that benefit a limited geographical area. Participating states will announce their funding availability for CIG competitions through their state NRCS offices.

National website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/cig/>

Texas website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/tx/programs/financial/cig/>

Amount: Total program funding averages \$20 million per year.

Contact:

National Office:

Program Contact: nrcscig@wdc.usda.gov

Phone: (202) 720-1895

Melleny Cotton, CIG Program Analyst

Phone: (202) 720-7412

Email: Melleny.cotton@wdc.usda.gov

Texas Office:

Texas State Office

101 S Main St.

Temple, , TX 76501-7602

Phone: (254) 742-9800

Fax: (254) 742-9819

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/>

Mark Habiger, Assistant State Conservationist-Programs

Phone: (254) 742-9881

Email: Mark.habiger@tx.usda.gov

Troy Daniell, Financial Program Manager

Phone: (254) 742-9525

Email: Troy.daniell@tx.usda.gov

Local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office Locations:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/contact/local/>

Regional Conservation Partnership Program

The Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) promotes coordination between NRCS and its partners to deliver conservation assistance to producers and landowners. NRCS provides assistance to producers through partnership agreements and through program contracts or easement agreements.

RCPP combines the authorities of four former conservation programs – the Agricultural Water Enhancement Program, the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Program, the Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative and the Great Lakes Basin Program. Assistance is delivered in accordance with the rules of EQIP, CSP, ACEP and HFRP; and in certain areas the Watershed Operations and Flood Prevention Program.

Funding for RCPP is allocated to projects in three different categories:

- Critical Conservation Areas receive 35% of the funding.

These are projects in eight geographic areas chosen by the Secretary of Agriculture.

- Nationwide and multistate projects receive 40 percent of funding.

- Projects in a single state receive 25 percent of funding.

Texas Office:

Texas State Office

101 S Main St.

Temple, TX 76501-7602

Phone: (254) 742-9800

Fax: (254) 742-9819

Website: [http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/)

[home/](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/)

Mark Habiger, Assistant State Conservationist-Programs

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Email: Mark.habiger@tx.usda.gov

Troy Daniell, Financial Program Manager

Phone: (254) 742-9525

Email: Troy.daniell@tx.usda.gov

Local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office Locations:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/contact/local/>

Air Quality Initiative

The NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Air Quality Initiative provides financial assistance to implement conservation practices that address air resource issues for designated locations throughout the nation. Agricultural atmospheric related concerns include greenhouse gas emissions, ozone precursors, volatile organic compounds, airborne particulate matter, and some odor-related volatile compounds. For more information about agricultural air quality concerns, see the Air Quality topic.

Deadline: NRCS accepts applications for assistance on continuous basis, but states may establish application periods.

Texas office:

Texas State Office

101 S Main St.

Temple, TX 76501-7602

Phone: (254) 742-9800

Fax: (254) 742-9819

Website: [http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/)

[home/](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/)

Local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office Locations:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/contact/local/>

Conservation Stewardship Program

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) offers assistance to land owners who are already implementing conservation practices to enhance those practices. For example, if you have been practicing prescribed grazing, CSP would give you options to enhance that practice with activities such as grazing management to improve plants for wildlife, or grazing management to reduce soil compaction, or grazing management to improve riparian function, just to name a few.

With enrollment in CSP, the local NRCS conservation planner will have a one-on-one consultation with the property owner(s) to evaluate your current management system and the natural

resources on your land. The NRCS conservation planner will present a variety of CSP enhancement alternatives for implementation on the land, based on existing conservation practices. CSP offers annual incentive payments for installing these enhancement practices.

National website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/csp/>

Texas website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/tx/programs/financial/csp/>

Award: varies based on implementation of conservation practices

Deadline: Applications are accepted throughout the year. Specific deadlines are set for ranking and funding opportunities. The next application deadline for funding consideration is February 3, 2017.

Texas office:

Texas State Office
101 S Main St.
Temple, TX 76501-7602

Phone: (254) 742-9800

Fax: (254) 742-9819

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/>

Contact:

Mark Habiger, Assistant State Conservationist-
Programs

(254) 742-9881
Mark.habiger@tx.usda.gov

Troy Daniell, Financial Program Manager
(254) 742-9525
Troy.daniell@tx.usda.gov

Local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office Locations:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/contact/local/>

Conservation Technical Assistance

The purpose of the program is to assist land—users, communities, units of state and local government, and other federal agencies in planning and implementing conservation systems. The purpose of the conservation systems are to reduce erosion, improve soil and water quality, improve and conserve wetlands, enhance fish and wildlife habitat, improve air quality, improve pasture and range condition, reduce upstream flooding, and improve woodlands. The program is also used as a means to collect, analyze, interpret,

display, and disseminate information about the condition and trends of the Nation's soil and other natural resources so that people can make good decisions about resource use and about public policies for resource conservation. Information collected through the program is used to develop effective science-based technologies for natural resource assessment, management, and conservation.

For more information about the Conservation Technical Assistance program go to: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/technical/cta/>

Technical assistance is provided at the state level by State Conservationists. Contact information for each State Conservationists is available at: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/>

Texas office:

Texas State Office
101 S Main St.
Temple, TX 76501-7602

Phone: (254) 742-9800

Fax: (254) 742-9819

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/>

Local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office Locations:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/contact/local/>

Emergency Watershed Protection Program

The Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWPP) is designed to help people and conserve natural resources by relieving imminent hazards to life and property caused by floods, fires, windstorms, and other natural occurrences. EWP is an emergency recovery program. All projects undertaken, with the exception of the purchase of floodplain easements, must have a project sponsor.

NRCS may bear up to 75 percent of the construction cost of emergency measures. The remaining 25 percent must come from local sources and can be in the form of cash or in-kind services. Funding is subject to Congressional approval.

City and county governments, flood and water control districts, and soil and water conservation districts are the most common sponsors of EWP projects. Activities include providing financial and technical assistance to:

- remove debris from stream channels, road culverts, and bridges,
- reshape and protect eroded banks,
- correct damaged drainage facilities,
- establish cover on critically eroding lands,
- repair levees and structures, and
- repair conservation practices.

NRCS may purchase EWP easements “in lieu of recovery” on any floodplain lands that have been impaired within the last 12 months or that have a history of repeated flooding (i.e., flooded at least two times during the past 10 years). If it is more cost effective, EWP-Floodplain Easement (FPE) can be used as an alternative to EWP. See the comparison of EWP and EWP-FPE.

National website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/landscape/ewpp/>

Texas website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/tx/programs/financial/ewp/>

Award: state-administered. Texas received over \$21 million in FY2016 to restore conditions from heavy rains and flooding in 2015.

National contact:

National Emergency Watershed Protection Program
Manager

Phone: 202-690-0793

Texas contact:

Claude Ross, State Easement Program Manager
claudeross@tx.usda.gov
Phone: 254-742-9822

Watershed And Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO) Program

The Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO) Program provides technical and financial assistance to States, local governments and Tribes (project sponsors) to plan and implement authorized watershed project plans for the purpose of:

- watershed protection
- flood mitigation
- water quality improvements
- soil erosion reduction
- rural, municipal and industrial water supply
- irrigation
- water management
- sediment control
- fish and wildlife enhancement
- hydropower

Under the Watershed Program NRCS cooperates with States and local agencies to carry out works of improvement for soil conservation and for other purposes including flood prevention; conservation, development, utilization and disposal of water; and conservation and proper utilization of land.

National website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/landscape/wfpo/>

Texas website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/>

Contact:

Kevin Farmer

Phone: 202-720-3413

kevin.farmer@wdc.usda.gov

Watershed Surveys And Planning (WSP)

The purpose of the program is to assist Federal, State, and local agencies and tribal governments to protect watersheds from damage caused by erosion, floodwater, and sediment and to conserve and develop water and land resources. Resource concerns addressed by the program include water quality, opportunities for water conservation, wetland and water storage capacity, agricultural drought problems, rural development, municipal and industrial water needs, upstream flood damages, and water needs for fish, wildlife, and forest-based industries.

Types of surveys and plans include watershed plans, river basin surveys and studies, flood hazard analyses, and flood plain

management assistance. The focus of these plans is to identify solutions that use land treatment and nonstructural measures to solve resource problems.

No funding has been authorized since 2008.

National website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/landscape/wsp/>

Texas website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/>

Watershed Rehabilitation Program

The Watershed Rehabilitation Program helps project sponsors rehabilitate aging dams that are reaching the end of their 50-year design lives. This rehabilitation addresses critical public health and safety concerns. Since 1948, NRCS has assisted local sponsors in constructing more than 11,900 dams.

National website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/landscape/wr/>

Texas website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/>

Resource Conservation And Development

The RC&D Program was established in the Agriculture Act of 1962, with responsibility for the administration of the program placed within the Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Successive Farm Bills have provided for the further development of the program, including deepening the partnership between RC&D Councils and the NRCS.

RC&D Councils are 501(C)3 non-for-profit corporations. They are not governmental entities, so the typical policies and constraints of local, state, and federal government programs do not limit the types of issues they address or the means they use. Within their respective areas (typically covering 5-8 counties), RC&D Councils have a high degree of independence to carry out activities that will achieve their most important goals. RC&D Council volunteers are leaders and community stakeholders involved in multiple roles in local government, school boards, churches, and other civic activities. At RC&D Council meetings, they draw from their professional expertise and community connections to determine the needs of their RC&D Council areas, address those needs, and make their communities better places to live, work, and play. Nationwide, over 25,000 volunteers serve on local RC&D Councils.

Collaborators and financial supporters of the RC&D Council include: Ensavé, International Code Council, USDA-National Resource

Conservation Service, USDA-Forest Service, US Department of Homeland Security, and US Government Grant.

National Association of RC&D Areas: <http://narcdc.org/rcd-program.html>

Texas Association of RC&D Programs: <http://www.texasrcd.org/>

Department of Agriculture — Rural Development

Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program

This program provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. An essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area, and does not include private, commercial or business undertakings.

Eligible areas include rural cities, villages, townships, or towns with no more than 20,000 residents. Funding types include low-interest loans, grants, or a combination of the two. Grants are awarded on a need-basis, based on community size and median household income. Grant assistance share of total eligible project costs is limited depending on community size and median household income.

Website: <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program/tx>

Contact:

Texas USDA Rural Development State Office
101 South Main Street, Suite 102
Temple, TX 76501
Phone: 254-742-9700
Fax: (844) 496-8123

Rural Community Development Initiative Grants

This program provides funding to help non-profit housing and community development organizations support housing, community facilities, and community and economic development projects in rural areas.

Funds may be used to improve housing, community facilities, and community and economic development projects in rural areas.

Eligible areas include rural cities, villages, townships, or towns with no more than 20,000 residents. Funding types include low-interest loans, grants, or a combination of the two. Grants are awarded on a need-basis, based on community size and median household income. Grant assistance share of total eligible project costs is limited depending on community size and median household income.

100% matching is required.

Website: <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program/tx>

Amount: Minimum grant award is \$50,000; maximum grant award is \$250,000

Deadline: Applications are accepted year round.

Contact:

Texas USDA Rural Development State Office
101 South Main Street, Suite 102
Temple, TX 76501

Phone: 254-742-9700

Fax: (844) 496-8123

Department of Agriculture — US Forest Service

Community Forest Program

The Community Forest Program (CFP) protects forests that are important for people and the places they call home. Community forests provide many benefits such as places to recreate and enjoy nature; they protect habitat, water quality and other environmental benefits, and they can provide economic benefits through timber resources. Community Forests have also long been sites for environmental and cultural education.

50% match is required.

Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/cooperativeforestry/programs/loa/cfp.shtml>

Amount: Proposed Administration funding for community forest project is \$2 million for fiscal year 2017. Individual grant applications may not exceed \$400,000.

Deadline: January 13, 2017

Contact: http://www.fs.fed.us/cooperativeforestry/library/cfp_regional_contact.pdf

Southern Regional Office:

Mike Murphy

U.S. Forest Service

1720 Peachtree Rd., NW

Suite 700B North

Atlanta, GA 30309

Phone: 404-347-5214

Fax: 404-347-2776

mwmurphy@fs.fed.us

communityforest@fs.fed.us

Urban And Community Forestry Program, Council & 10-Year Action Plan

The Urban and Community Forestry program assists state forestry agencies, local and tribal governments, and private sector entities improve natural resource management of trees and forests in urban areas and community settings. The program encourages and facilitates the active involvement of volunteers in the management and protection of their community's natural resources. The program also analyzes, develops, disseminates, and demonstrates scientific information about protecting, managing, and maintaining community forest resources. States are encouraged to offer competitive grants that involve partnerships with local governments, nonprofit organizations, and the private sector for the purpose of establishing effective community forestry programs. Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/managing-land/urban-forests/ucf>

The National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC) is a Congressionally designated advisory council to the Secretary of Agriculture on urban forestry and related issues. The 1990 Farm Bill created NUCFAC to bring together the wide variety of voices raised about a common concern: the present health and future preservation of America's urban forests. NUCFAC was founded to synthesize the full spectrum of views into a consistent vision, as a foundation for practical policy on urban forestry and related natural resources.

Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/managing-land/urban-forests/ucf/nucfac>

The Ten Year Urban Forestry Action Plan developed by and for the urban forestry community. The plan's purpose is to expand awareness of the benefits that our urban forests, including green infrastructure, provide to communities throughout the nation, and increase investments in these urban forest resources for the benefit of current and future generations. The plan provides specific goals, actions, and recommendations for improving the status of urban and community forestry for the United States and its territories. The plan also identifies research needs, messaging and communications needs, and innovative funding and collaborative opportunities for urban forestry initiatives. Notably, this plan also serves as a framework for funding and recommendation priorities developed by the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC) for the U.S. Forest Service's National Urban and Community Forestry program and National Challenge Cost Share Grants. The urban forestry community, including the Forest Service and other applicable Federal agencies, are to use the Action Plan as a guide to implement and expand urban and community forestry for the next ten years.

Website: <http://urbanforestplan.org/>

Contact:

Nancy Stremple, Urban Forestry Program Specialist

Phone: 202-309-9873

nstremple@fs.fed.us

Department of Commerce – Economic Development Administration

Planning Program And Local Technical Assistance Program

Through its Planning and Local Technical Assistance programs, EDA assists eligible recipients in developing economic development plans and studies designed to build capacity and guide the economic prosperity and resiliency of an area or region. The Planning program helps support organizations, including District Organizations, Indian Tribes, and other eligible recipients, with Short Term and State Planning investments designed to guide the eventual creation and retention of high-quality jobs, particularly for the unemployed and underemployed in the Nation's most economically distressed regions. As part of this program, EDA supports Partnership Planning investments to facilitate the

development, implementation, revision, or replacement of Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDs), which articulate and prioritize the strategic economic goals of recipients' respective regions. The Local Technical Assistance program strengthens the capacity of local or State organizations, institutions of higher education, and other eligible recipients to undertake and promote effective economic development programs through projects such as feasibility studies and impact analyses.

Website: <https://www.eda.gov/funding-opportunities/>

Award: up to \$300,000

Deadline: Continuing basis

Contact:

EDA Headquarters

U.S. Department of Commerce

1401 Constitution Avenue, NW

Suite 71014

Washington, DC 20230

Main Line: 202-482-2000

Texas Office:

Austin Regional Office

903 San Jacinto

Suite 206

Austin, Texas 78701

Regional Director:

Jorge Ayala

Phone: 512-381-8150

Fax: 512-499-0478

jayala@eda.gov

Public Works And Economic Adjustment Assistance Program

EDA solicits applications from applicants in rural and urban areas to provide investments that support construction, non-construction, technical assistance, and revolving loan fund projects under EDA's Public Works and EAA programs. Grants and cooperative agreements made under these programs are designed to leverage existing regional assets and support the implementation of economic development strategies that advance new ideas and creative approaches to advance economic prosperity in distressed communities.

Website: <https://www.eda.gov/funding-opportunities/>

Award: up to \$300,000

Deadline: Continuing basis

Contact:

EDA Headquarters
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Suite 71014
Washington, DC 20230
Main Line: 202-482-2000

Texas Office:

Austin Regional Office
903 San Jacinto
Suite 206
Austin, Texas 78701

Regional Director:

Jorge Ayala
Phone: 512-381-8150
Fax: 512-499-0478
jayala@eda.gov

Department of Health and Human Services — Administration for Children and Families

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is a division of the Department of Health & Human Services that aims to promote the economic and social well-being of children, families, individuals and communities with leadership and resources for compassionate, effective delivery of human services.

Announcements for funding opportunities can be found at: <https://ami.grantsolutions.gov/>

National Collaborative On Childhood Obesity Research Funding Opportunities

The National Collaborative on Childhood Obesity Research (NCCOR) brings together four of the nation's leading research funders — the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) — to address the problem of childhood obesity in America. These leading national organizations: work in tandem to manage projects and reach common goals; coordinate funding to make the most of available resources; and share insights and expertise to strengthen research. NCCOR focuses on efforts that have the potential to benefit children, teens, and their families, and the communities in which they live.

NCCOR publishes the funding opportunities from the partners to fund a range of project types. Visit the following website for more information on the opportunities: <http://nccor.org/news/funding-opportunities/>

Child Care And Development Fund

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) made available \$5.2 billion to States, Territories, and Tribes in Fiscal Year (FY) 2012. CCDF is authorized by the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act and Section 418 of the Social Security Act. CCDF assists low-income families in obtaining child care so they can work or attend training/education. The program also improves the quality of child care, and promotes coordination among early childhood development and afterschool programs.

Initiatives of the CCDF include:

- Strengthening Family Child Care, a special initiative to strengthen family child care (FCC). The purpose of this initiative is to promote pathways and progressions to build the supply and stability of high quality FCC providers.
- Early Learning Initiative, which includes projects and grants that bring child care and early learning partners together at federal, state, and local levels for greater collaboration and more effective services throughout the country.
- Let's Move! Child Care promotes children's health by encouraging and supporting physical activity and healthier nutrition practices in early care and education settings.

- Emergency Preparedness, which addresses emergency preparation and response as it relates to the children in the event of a major disaster or emergency.

Website: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/resource/child-care-and-development-fund>

Contact:

CCDF Grantee State and Territory Contacts

Texas Workforce Policy and Program Assistance
Workforce Development Division
Texas Workforce Commission
Room 440-T
101 East 15th Street
Austin, TX 78778
Phone: 512-463-6022

Website: <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/childcare/ccinfo>.

html

OCC Regional Program Managers, Region VI

Gwendolyn Jones
OCC/ACF/HHS
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1301 Young Street
Dallas, TX 75202
Phone: (214) 767-3849

Fax: (214) 767-8890

E-mail: gwendolyn.jones@acf.hhs.gov

Head Start Program

The Office of Head Start (OHS) promotes the school readiness of young children from low-income families through local programs. Head Start and Early Head Start programs support the mental, social, and emotional development of children from birth to age 5.

Head Start grants are awarded directly to public or private non-profit organizations, including community-based and faith-based organizations, or for-profit agencies within a community that wish to compete for funds. The same categories of organizations are eligible to apply for Early Head Start, except that applicants need not be from the community they will be serving. Funding opportunities: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/ohs/funding>

Website: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/ohs>

Contact:

Texas Head Start Collaboration Office

Alferma Giles, Director

Phone: 713-500-3835

Fax: 713-500-3820

Email: alferma.crawford@uth.tmc.edu

Texas Head Start Collaboration Office

Tracy Jones, Program Coordinator

Phone: 713-500-3832

Fax: 713-500-3820

Email: tracy.a.jones@uth.tmc.edu

Texas Head Start State Collaboration Office The

Children's Learning Institute

University of Texas Houston

7000 Fannin, Suite 1920

Houston, TX 77030

Website: <http://www.uth.tmc.edu/thssco>

CCDF Grantee State and Territory Contacts

Texas Workforce Policy and Program Assistance
Workforce Development Division
Texas Workforce Commission
Room 440-T

101 East 15th Street

Austin, TX 78778

Phone: 512-463-6022

Website: <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/childcare/>

ccinfo.html

OCC Regional Program Managers, Region VI

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Community Services Block Grant

The Office of Community Services (OCS) partners with states, communities and agencies to reduce the causes of poverty, increase opportunity and economic security of individuals and families and revitalize communities. The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) provides funds to alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty in communities.

Website: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs/programs/csbg>

Administered in Texas by: Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs: www.tdhca.state.tx.us

Contact:

Tim Irvine, Executive Director
Department of Housing and Community Affairs
Texas Dept. of Housing & Community Affairs
221 East 11th, PO Box 13941
Austin, Texas 78711-3941
Phone: 512- 475-3897
Fax: 512-475-4624
Email: tim.irvine@tdhca.state.tx.us

Rita Gonzales-Garza, Project Manager for Planning and Contracts

Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
221 East 11th, PO Box 13941
Austin, Texas 78711-3941
Phone: (512) 475-3905
Fax: (512) 475-3539
Email: rita.garza@tdhca.state.tx.us
Federal Staff by Region- Region VI
Program Specialist: Isaac Davis
Phone: (202) 401-5335
Email: Isaac.Davis@acf.hhs.gov

Community Economic Development Program

Community Economic Development (CED) is a federal grant program funding Community Development Corporations that address the economic needs of low-income individuals and families through the creation of sustainable business development and employment opportunities.

CED awards funds to private, non-profit organizations that are community development corporations (CDCs), including faith-based organizations, and Tribal and Alaskan Native organizations.

CDCs must be governed by a three-party board of directors that includes residents of the community served, and local business and civic leaders. CDCs must have as their principle purpose planning, developing or managing low-income housing or community development projects.

CED programs also provide technical and financial assistance for economic development activities.

Website: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs/programs/ced>

Contact:

Community Economic Development Program
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Office of Community Services
370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W.
Washington, DC 20447
Phone: (202) 401-5663
Email: CED@acf.hhs.gov

Social Services Block Grants

Social Services Block Grants (SSBG) enables each state or territory to meet the needs of its residents through locally relevant social services. SSBGs support programs that allow communities to achieve or maintain economic self-sufficiency to prevent, reduce or eliminate dependency on social services. Each state administers the program locally, determining which services to provide and who is eligible to receive these services.

Website: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs/programs/ssbg>

Contact:

Region VI
Program Specialist: Edwin Patout
Phone: (202) 401-4838
Email: Edwin.Patout@acf.hhs.gov

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Community Development Programs

The activities of the Community Planning and Development Program build stronger and more resilient communities through an ongoing process of identifying and addressing needs, assets, and priority investments. Community development activities may support infrastructure, economic development projects, installation

of public facilities, community centers, housing rehabilitation, public services, clearance/acquisition, microenterprise assistance, code enforcement, homeowner assistance and many other identified needs. Federal support for community development encourages systematic and sustained action by State, and local governments. The Office of Block Grant Assistance administers funds, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), allocated to State and local governments to address locally identified community development needs through the following programs (only showing those applicable in Texas):

- CDBG Entitlement Program provides annual grants on a formula basis to entitled cities and counties to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.
- CDBG State Program allows States to award grants to smaller units of general local government that develop and preserve decent affordable housing, to provide services to the most vulnerable in our communities, and to create and retain jobs.
- CDBG Program Colonias Set-Aside requires the border states of Arizona, California, New Mexico and Texas to set aside a percentage of their annual State CDBG allocations for use in the Colonia to help meet the needs of the Colonias residents in relationship to the need for potable water, adequate sewer systems, or decent, safe and sanitary housing.
- Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program is the loan guarantee provision of the CDBG Program and provides communities with a source of financing for economic development, housing rehabilitation, public facilities, and large-scale physical development projects.
- CDBG Disaster Recovery Program provides flexible grants to help cities, counties, and States recover from Presidentially declared disasters, especially in low-income areas, subject to availability of supplemental appropriations.
- The Neighborhood Stabilization Program provides grants to communities that have suffered from foreclosures and abandonment to purchase and redevelop foreclosed and abandoned homes and residential properties.
- Brownfields Economic Development Initiative provides grants to assist cities with the redevelopment of abandoned,

idled and underused industrial and commercial facilities where expansion and redevelopment is burdened by real or potential environmental contamination.

Each fiscal year (FY), HUD publishes a General Section that contains requirements for all of HUD's competitive grant programs. To be considered for funding, applications must meet all applicable requirements of the General Section and the requirements in the Program NOFA.

Website: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail/nofa2017/gensec

To identify funding opportunities through HUD, visit the following website: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail

Award: Varies

Deadline: Varies

Contact:

Hope Vi Revitalization Grants

The specific elements of public housing transformation that have proven key to HOPE VI include: Changing the physical shape of public housing; establishing positive incentives for resident self-sufficiency and comprehensive services that empower residents; lessening concentrations of poverty by placing public housing in non-poverty neighborhoods and promoting mixed-income communities; and forging partnerships with other agencies, local governments, nonprofit organizations, and private businesses to leverage support and resources. Only public housing authorities are eligible to apply for these funds, but park and recreation agencies can contract to develop recreation facilities at public housing sites and to provide community and supportive service programs for residents, including those relocated as a result of revitalization efforts. For more information, go to: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/ph/hope6

Historically Black Colleges And Universities Program

The HBCU Program helps HBCUs expand their role and effectiveness in helping their communities with neighborhood revitalization, housing, and economic development. HUD views HBCUs as key partners in rebuilding America's neighborhoods, and annually invites HBCUs to compete for funds to assist in revitalization efforts. This program awards grants to historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) to address community development needs in their localities.

Website: <http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/programdescription/hbcu>

To identify funding opportunities through HUD, visit the following website: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail

Award: Closed

Deadline: Closed

Contact:

Houston Regional Office:

Sandra H. Warren
Director, CPD
1301 Fannin Street
Suite 2200

Houston, TX 77002

Phone: 713-718-3279

Email: Sandra.H.Warren@hud.gov

Fort Worth Regional Office:

Shirley J. Henley
Director, CPD
801 Cherry Street
Unit #45 - Suite 2500
Ft. Worth, TX 76102

Phone: 817-978-5951

Email: Shirley.J.Henley@hud.gov

San Antonio Regional Office:

Elva F. Garcia
Director, CPD
Hipolito Garcia Federal Building
615 E. Houston Street
Suite 347

San Antonio, TX 78205

Phone: 210-475-6866

Email: Elva.Garcia@hud.gov

Department of the Interior — Fish and Wildlife Service

Aquatic Resource Education Program

The Aquatic Resource Education Program helps people understand, enjoy and conserve the aquatic natural resources of the nation. States have the option of using up to 15 percent of their annual Sport Fish Restoration apportionment for aquatic resource education programs and outreach and communications projects. The Sport Fish Restoration Program, created in 1950, provides funding for fish management, conservation, restoration, aquatic education, and boating access. The program is funded by a 10 percent Federal excise tax on fishing rods, reels, creels, lures, flies and artificial baits and a 3 percent tax on electronic fishing motors and sonar fish finders; duties on imported fishing tackle, pleasure boats and yachts; and a portion of the Federal fuel tax receipts from motorboats and small gasoline engines. The funds are apportioned annually to the states and territories by the Department of the Interior on the basis of formulas set forth in the Act. Apportionments are determined for each state by land area and number of fishing license owners. All funds are disseminated through State Fish and Wildlife Departments.

Website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/grantprograms/AquaticEd/AE.htm>

Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>

Southwest Regional Office

Kelly Oliver-Amy

Phone: 505-248-7457

Email: Kelly_oliver-amy@fws.gov

Website: <https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

Boating Access Program

The Boating Access (BA) Program provides grant funds to the states, the District of Columbia and insular areas fish and wildlife agencies for projects that provide access to America's waterways by developing new access facilities or renovation and/or improvement of existing facilities.

Today more than 16.8 million boats use U.S. waterways. A large percentage of these are operated by anglers and recreational boaters.

The Boating Access Program is part of the Sport Fish Restoration Program. Spending for the BA is authorized in the Sport Fish Restoration Act.

The Sport Fish Restoration Act mandates each state, the District of Columbia and insular area to allocate at least 15 percent of their annual Sport Fish Restoration apportionment to boating access projects. The allocation is averaged over a five year period for each U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service region.

The funds apportioned annually are derived from excise taxes on fishing equipment, motorboat and small engine fuels, import duties, and interest collected in the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund. These funds are apportioned to the states, the District of Columbia and insular areas based on a formula which includes land area, number of paid license holders, minimums and maximums.

Website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/GrantPrograms/BoatAccess/BA.htm>

Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>

Southwest Regional Office

Buddy Fazio

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Email: Buddy_Fazio@fws.gov

Website: <https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

Boating Infrastructure Grant Program

The Boating Infrastructure Grant Program (BIG) provides grant funds to the states, the District of Columbia and insular areas to construct, renovate, and maintain tie-up facilities with features for transient boaters in vessels 26 feet or more in length, and to produce and distribute information and educational materials about the program. The BIG Program includes two funding tiers, Tier One (non-competitive) and Tier Two (nationally competitive). Under Tier One each state, the D.C. and insular area may receive funding for eligible projects up to \$200,000 annually. Tier Two funds are made available through a nationally competitive process. Tier Two proposals received are reviewed, evaluated and ranked by a national panel with the final decision for funding made by the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The ranking criteria, eligible projects and regulations are listed in 50 CFR 86.

Funds for the BIG Program are provided annually from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund. The amount provided is

4% of the funds (split between the BIG and CVA programs) in the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund after deducting amounts for WSFR administration, the Multistate Conservation Grant Program, the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council and fisheries commissions.

Website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/GrantPrograms/BIG/BIG.htm>

Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>

Southwest Regional Office

Buddy Fazio

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Email: Buddy_Fazio@fws.gov

Website: <https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

Clean Vessel Act Grant Program

The Clean Vessel Act Grant Program (CVA) provides grant funds to the states, the District of Columbia and insular areas for the construction, renovation, operation, and maintenance of pump-out stations and waste reception facilities for recreational boaters and also for educational programs that inform boaters of the importance of proper disposal of their sewage.

Website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/GrantPrograms/CVA/CVA.htm>

Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>

Southwest Regional Office

Buddy Fazio

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Email: Buddy_Fazio@fws.gov

Website: <https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

Coastal Impact Assistance Program

The Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) provides federal grant funds derived from federal offshore lease revenues to oil producing states for conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas including wetlands; mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, or natural resources; planning assistance and the administrative costs of complying with these objectives; implementation of a federally-approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan; and mitigation of the impact of outer Continental Shelf activities through funding of onshore infrastructure projects and public service needs.

Statewide CIAP plans that include proposed projects have been prepared by the affected states: Alabama, Alaska, California, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas. The federally approved CIAP plans have also been coordinated through a public review process.

Federal grant funds must be used to directly benefit an authorized use to conserve, restore, enhance, and protect renewable natural resources. Non-federal matching funds are not required for approved grant projects associated with this federal grant program.

National website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/GrantPrograms/CIAP/CIAP.htm>

State website: <http://www.glo.texas.gov/coast/grant-projects/ciap/index.html>

Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>

Southwest Regional Office
Susan MacMullin

Phone: 505-248-7476

Email: Susan_MacMullin@fws.gov

Website: <https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

Hunter Education Program

The Hunter Education Program provides grant funds to the states and insular areas fish and wildlife agencies for projects to provide instruction in firearm operations and safety, wildlife management, nature conservation, ethics, game laws, outdoor survival and wilderness first aid. Funds may also be used for the development and operations of archery and shooting range facilities.

The goal is to teach students to be safe, responsible, conservation-minded hunters. Most States require completion of a hunter education course prior to purchasing a hunting license.

Website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/GrantPrograms/HunterEd/HE.htm>

Contact: <http://www.glo.texas.gov/coast/grant-projects/ciap/index.html>

Southwest Regional Office
Andrew Ortiz

Phone: 505-248-7459

Email: Andrew_Ortiz@fws.gov

Website: <https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

Landowner Incentive Program (Non-Tribal Portion) - Overview

The Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) provides federal grant funds to grant funds to the states, the District of Columbia and insular areas to protect and restore habitats on private lands, to benefit Federally listed, proposed or candidate species or other species determined to be at-risk.

Grant funds must be used to establish or supplement State landowner incentive programs to benefit species identified in the State's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (State Wildlife Action Plan) or classified as Special Concern by the State, or Federally listed, proposed, or candidate species or other species determined to be at-risk. These grant funds may also be used to provide technical and financial assistance to private landowners for habitat protection and restoration.

The LIP Program includes two funding tiers, Tier One (non-competitive) and Tier Two (nationally competitive). Under Tier One each state may receive funding for eligible projects up to \$200,000 annually and the District of Columbia and insular areas up to \$75,000 annually. If there is adequate funding in the appropriation, WSFR will rank Tier Two grants and award grants through a national competition. The competition will be announced separately.

Website: https://www.fws.gov/southwest/federal_assistance/ri.html#contactfedaidd

Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>

Southwest Regional Office
Susan MacMullin

Phone: 505-248-7476

Email: Susan_MacMullin@fws.gov

Website: <https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

Multistate Conservation Grant Program - Overview

The MSCGP provides funding for wildlife and sport fish restoration projects identified as priority projects by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA). These high priority projects address problems affecting states on a regional or national basis. Project types that are generally selected for funding are: biological research/training, species population status, outreach, data collection regarding hunter/angler participation, hunter/aquatic education, economic value of fishing/hunting, and regional or multistate habitat needs assessments.

The AFWA and the Division of Wildlife Sport Fish Restoration Program (WSFR) work together to manage the MSCGP. The AFWA administers the grant application process, providing oversight, coordination, and guidance for the MSCGP while the WSFR awards and manages the grants.

Website: https://www.fws.gov/southwest/federal_assistance/ri.html#contactfedaid

Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>

Southwest Regional Office

500 Gold SW, Suite 8514, Albuquerque, NM 87102

Website: <https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

National Coastal Wetlands Grant Program

The National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grants Program is authorized by the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to grant funds to coastal states to carry out coastal wetlands conservation projects. Participants in the program include state, county, and municipal governments as well as non- government partners.

Funds for the Coastal Wetlands Grant Program are provided annually from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund. The Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) receives 18.5 percent of the funds in the Trust Fund after deducting amounts for WSFR administration, the Multistate Conservation Grant Program, the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council and fisheries commissions.

Website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/GrantPrograms/CW/CW.htm>

Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>

Southwest Regional Office

Susan MacMullin

Phone: 505-248-7476

Email: Susan_MacMullin@fws.gov

Website: <https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

Sport Fish Restoration Program

The Act, approved by Congress on August 9, 1950, provides funding for fish management, conservation, and restoration. The program is funded by a 10 percent Federal excise tax on fishing rods, reels, creels, lures, flies and artificial baits and a 3 percent tax

on electronic fishing motors and sonar fish finders. The funds are apportioned annually to the states and territories (except Puerto Rico) by the Department of the interior on the basis of formulas set forth in the Act. Apportionments are determined for each state by land area and number of fishing license owners. All funds are disseminated through State Fish and Wildlife Departments.

Website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/GrantPrograms/SFR/SFR.htm>

Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>

Southwest Regional Office

Kelly Oliver-Amy

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State Wildlife Grant Program

The State Wildlife Grant (SWG) Program provides Federal grant funds to State fish and wildlife agencies for developing and implementing programs that benefit wildlife and their habitats, including species that are not hunted or fished.

Grant funds may be used to address a variety of conservation needs--such as research, fish and wildlife surveys, species restoration, habitat management, and monitoring—that are identified within a State's Wildlife Action Plan. These funds may also be used to update, revise, or modify a State's Plan.

Congress appropriates funds for the State Wildlife Grant Program on an annual basis. Funds are apportioned to States, commonwealths, and U.S. territories based on a formula that considers each State's population and total geographical area.

Grant funds are disbursed to States for approved grants at a maximum federal share of 75% for planning grants and 65% for Plan implementation grants. Congress also allocates a portion of appropriated funds to a competitive SWG subprogram. State Wildlife Grant funds administered by the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program provide a unique source of funding, helping States to focus on targeted species in a proactive fashion, to help identify and reverse species population declines before restoration becomes more difficult and costly.

Website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/GrantPrograms/SWG/SWG.htm>

Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>

Southwest Regional Office

Vanessa Martinez

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Email: Vanessa_Martinez@fws.gov

Website: <https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

Wildlife Restoration Program

Approved by Congress on September 2, 1937, the Act provides funding for the selection, restoration, rehabilitation and improvement of wildlife habitat, wildlife management research and the distribution of information produced by the projects. Congress amended the Act on October 23, 1970, to include funding for hunter training programs and the development, operation and maintenance of public target ranges. Funds are derived from

an 11 percent Federal excise tax on handguns. Funds are also collected from a 12.4 percent tax on archery equipment. A certain amount of funds (section 4) must be used on hunter education before additional funds (section 10) can be attained. The section 10 funds can be used for additional hunter education programs or for wildlife restoration. These funds are apportioned each year to the states and territories (except Puerto Rico) by the Department of the Interior on the basis of formulas set forth in the Act. Apportionments are determined for each state by land area and number of hunting license owners.

Website: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/GrantPrograms/WR/WR.htm>

Contact: <https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/subpages/ContactUs/ContactUs.htm>

Southwest Regional Office

Nicole Jimenez

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Email: Nicole_Jimenez@fws.gov

Website: <https://www.fws.gov/southwest/index.html>

Department of the Interior — National Park Service

Challenge Cost Share Program

The Challenge Cost Share Program supports local projects that promote conservation and recreation, environmental stewardship, education, and engaging youth in the outdoors. Local project partners work with National Park Service (NPS) staff to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes. Applications are submitted by NPS staff in collaboration with project partners. This partnership challenge rewards those proposals that highlight long lasting benefits while developing new partnerships.

The program requires equal matching share. Cash, goods, or services from non-federal sources can be considered as a cost share. The maximum Challenge Cost Share project support is \$25,000. If selected our national partner, Outdoor Foundation, forms an agreement and provides project funds directly to the local partner. Applications are submitted by NPS staff in collaboration with project partners.

Website: <https://www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/ccsp/>

Award: up to \$25,000 (FY2017)

Deadline: July 1, 2016 (FY2017)

Contact:

National office:
National Coordinator
Stephan Nofield
Email: Stephan_nofield@nps.gov

Southeast Region:
John Barrett
National Park Service
100 Alabama Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: 404-507-5689
Fax: 404-562-3282
Email: nps_flpsouth@nps.gov

Federal Lands To Parks

The Federal Lands-to-Parks (FLP) enables states and local governments to establish park and recreation areas and adapt historic buildings for public uses. Through FLP, state and local agencies may acquire land and facilities once used for federal purposes at no cost to meet park and recreation needs.

Amount: N/A. Program based on existing inventory of federal lands and transferring it to state or local governments for park and recreation use.

Annual Deadline: As land becomes available, 25 days from the "notice of availability"

Information about the program is available at: <https://www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/flp/index.htm>

Contacts: https://www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/flp/flp_contact.html

National office:
Wendy Ormont
State and Local Programs Division
National Park Service
1201 I Street, NW
Mail Stop 2225
Washington, DC 20005
Phone: 202-354-6915
Fax: 202-371-5179
Email: nps_flpnational@nps.gov

Southeast Region:
John Barrett
National Park Service
100 Alabama Street, SW

Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: 404-507-5689
Fax: 404-562-3282
Email: nps_flpsouth@nps.gov

Land And Water Conservation Fund

The Land and Water Conservation Fund was enacted in 1964 (Public Law 88-578) to "create and maintain a nationwide legacy of high quality recreation areas and facilities." LWCF provides funding for: (1) land acquisition for federal land managing agencies; and (2) matching grants to state and local governments for planning (states only), acquisition and development of park and recreation areas and resource based facilities. Specifics for federal land acquisition projects are determined each fiscal year by Congress and the Administration. Of the amounts appropriated in any given fiscal year for each State and Territory is determined based on a formula set in the LWCF Act, and is subsequently approved by the Secretary of the Interior. The grantee assumes all operation and maintenance costs in perpetuity. In Texas, the LWCF allocation funds a number of grant programs available to local communities, including

Amount: In 2016, Texas was allocated a total of \$5,415,887. All state and local grants require at least a 50 percent match by the non-federal partner.

Annual Deadline: Varies depending on state grant program.

Information about the program is available at: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/stateside.htm>

Contacts: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/contact-list.htm>

Rivers, Trails, And Conservation Assistance

The RTCA program offers local groups staff assistance and consultations for locally-led conservation projects. Projects may include developing trails and greenways or protecting rivers and open space. Regional RTCA offices provide application information and assistance.

Amount: Funding or grants not offered.

Annual Deadline: June 30

Information about the program is available at: <https://www.nps.gov/orgs/rtca/index.htm>

Contact: <https://www.nps.gov/orgs/rtca/contactus.htm>

National Office:

Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program
1201 Eye Street NW Washington, DC 20005

Texas Office:

RTCA, National Park Service
1901 E. Ben White Blvd.
Austin, Texas 78741
Phone: (512) 744-1940

Marta de la Garza Newkirk
Email: marta_newkirk_de_la_garza@nps.gov
Phone: (512) 784-3134

Erich Melville
Email: erich_melville@nps.gov
Phone: (512) 688-0652

Justin Bates
Email: justin_bates@nps.gov
Phone: (512) 878-7463

Intermountain Region:

Alan Ragins
Phone: 303-969-2855
Email: alan_ragins@nps.gov

Urban Parks & Recreation Recovery Program

The Urban Park and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) program was authorized in November 1978 by Public Law 95625, providing direct federal matching assistance to cities and urban counties for rehabilitation of existing recreation facilities. The law encourages systematic local planning and commitment to continuing operation and maintenance of recreation programs, sites, and facilities.

Project proposals are submitted to the appropriate National Park Service Regional Office by eligible local units of government (selected cities and urban counties). Grants are awarded on a nationally competitive basis with regional offices having the primary responsibility for monitoring progress and post-completion requirements.

Amount: Currently unfunded.

Information about the program: <https://www.nps.gov/uparr/>

Contact: <https://www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/uprr/contact.html>

National Office:

National Park Service
1849 C Street NW, Org-2225
Washington, D.C. 20240
Phone: 202-354-6900
Website: <https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1600/index.htm>

Midwest Region:

National Park Service
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE 68102
Phone: 402-661-1540

Department of Transportation

Tiger Discretionary Grants

The Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, or TIGER Discretionary Grant program, provides a unique opportunity for the DOT to invest in road, rail, transit and port projects that promise to achieve national objectives. Since 2009, Congress has dedicated nearly \$4.6 billion for seven rounds of TIGER to fund projects that have a significant impact on the Nation, a region or a metropolitan area. The eligibility requirements of TIGER allow project sponsors at the State and local levels to obtain funding for multi-modal, multi-jurisdictional projects that are more difficult to support through traditional DOT programs.

Website: <https://www.transportation.gov/tiger>

Deadline: 2016 grant deadlines have passed.

Contact:

Office of Infrastructure Finance and Innovation
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590
Email: TIGERgrants@dot.gov
Phone: 202-366-0301

Department of Transportation - Federal Highway Administration

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) was signed into law in December 2015, authorizing \$305 billion over fiscal years 2016 through 2020 for highway, highway and motor vehicle safety, public transportation, motor carrier safety, hazardous materials safety, rail, and research, technology, and statistics programs. Funds are apportioned to states to administer programs or further allocate funds.

Accelerated Innovation Deployment (AID) Demonstration Grant

The AID Demonstration program is one initiative under the multi-faceted Technology and Innovation Deployment Program (TIDP) approach providing funding and other resources to offset the risk of trying an innovation. The AID Demonstration program provides funding as an incentive for eligible entities to accelerate the implementation and adoption of innovation in highway transportation. The FAST Act authorized funding for the continuation of these programs and opportunities. Entities eligible to apply (Applicants) are State DOTs, Federal Land Management Agencies, and tribal governments. Metropolitan planning organizations and local governments may apply through the State DOT as a sub-recipient.

Website: <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovation/grants>

Amount: \$50,000 to \$1 million; Estimated Total Program Funding: \$50 million

Deadline: Sep 30, 2020; Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis.

Contact:

Mr. Thomas Harman, Director
Center for Accelerating Innovation, Federal Highway
Administration

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE.
Washington, DC 20590

Phone: (202) 366-6377

Ewa Flom, Program Coordinator, AID Demonstration

Phone: (202) 366-2169

Email: Ewa.Flom@dot.gov

Congestion Mitigation And Air Quality Improvement Program

The purpose of the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality improvement program (CMAQ) is to realign the focus of transportation planning toward a more inclusive, environmentally sensitive, and multi-modal approach. The CMAQ program provides funding for programs and projects in air quality non-attainment and maintenance for ozone, carbon monoxide (CO), and small particulate matter (PM-10), which reduces transportation related emissions. Grants are provided through a reimbursement process that varies state by state. Funds may be used for either the construction of bicycle transportation facilities and pedestrian walkways, or non-construction projects (such as maps, brochures, and public service announcements) related to safe bicycle use. In general, however, a sponsor would submit expenses to the state department of transportation, which would then reimburse at 80 percent of the project cost. The CMAQ Program was reauthorized for 2016 through 2020 through the FAST Act.

Amount: FAST Act provides for \$2.3 M to \$2.5 M in CMAQ funding each year from 2016 through 2020. It is estimated the State of Texas will receive an average of \$853 million in CMAQ funds annually.

Applications and information about CMAQ grants are available at: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/air_quality/cmaq/

Recreational Trails Program

The Recreational Trails Program, was reauthorized by the FAST Act, provides funds to develop and maintain recreational trails for motorized and non-motorized recreational trail users. Eligible project categories as defined in the act are: maintenance and restoration of existing recreational trails; development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages; purchase and lease of recreational trail construction and maintenance equipment; construction of new recreational trails (with restrictions on new trails on Federal land); acquisition of easements or property for recreational trails or recreational trail corridors; state administrative costs related to program administration (up to 7 percent of a state's funds); and operation of educational programs to promote safety and environmental protection as these objectives relate to the use of recreational trails (up to 5 percent of a state's funds). Each state has its own procedures and timelines to solicit, select, and fund Recreational Trails projects.

In Texas, the Recreational Trails program is administered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Amount: \$200,000 Requires 80/20 match

Deadline: February 1, 2017

Program website: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/recreational_trails/

Website: <http://www.americantrails.org/ee/index.php/nationalrecreationtrails>

Texas website: <https://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/recreational-trails-grants>

Contact: For more information about project funding contact your State Trail Administrator. For a list of administrators go to: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/recreational_trails/rtpstate.cfm

National Office:

FHWA
Christopher Douwes
Community Planner
Recreational Trails Program
Transportation Alternatives
Federal Highway Administration
FHWA HEPH-10 Rm E74-474
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington DC 20590-0001
Phone: 202-366-5013

Texas Office:

Trey Cooksey, State Parks Trails Coordinator
Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept
4200 Smith School Road
Austin TX 78744-3291
Phone: 512-389-8743
Fax: 512-389-8242
Email: trey.cooksey@tpwd.state.tx.us

Safe Routes To School Program

The Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) Program is a Federal-Aid program of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The Program was created by Section 1404 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users Act (SAFETEA-LU). The SRTS Program was funded at \$1.162 billion for Federal fiscal years (FY) 2005-2012 and is administered by State Departments of Transportation (DOTs).

The SRTS Program received dedicated funding through 2012. The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) authorized the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), which replaced the funding from pre-MAP-21 programs including the Transportation Enhancement Activities, Recreational Trails Program, and Safe Routes to School Program (SRTS). MAP-21 did not provide specific funding for SRTS, but SRTS projects are eligible for TAP funds and for Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds. Under Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act), the TAP program was rolled into the Surface Transportation Program.

Safe Routes to School initiatives may be eligible under the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program or Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside.

Website: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/safe_routes_to_school/

Surface Transportation Block Grant Program

The FAST Act converted the Surface Transportation Program to a block grant program that folds in the Transportation Alternative Program. The program provides funding to states and localities for projects to preserve and improve the conditions and performance on any Federal-aid highway, bridge and tunnel projects on any public road, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, and transit capital projects, including intercity bus terminals.

Amount: The FAST Act provides for an estimated average of \$4.796 million allocated to Texas for the STBG Program funding each year from 2016 through 2020

Website: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/factsheets/stbgfs.cfm>

Contact: <https://www.transportation.gov/fastact/>

National Office:

Office of the Under Secretary for Policy
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590
United States
Phone: 202-366-4540

Texas Office: Administered by TXDOT

Online form: <http://www.txdot.gov/contact-us/form.html>

[html](#)

Transportation Alternatives, Stbg Set-Aside

The FAST Act amended the Surface Transportation Program to include a set aside for the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program, which is replacing the MAP-21 Transportation Alternative Program. Similar to its predecessors, the Transportation Alternative Program and Transportation Enhancement Activities, the STBG Program, or TA Set-Aside, authorizes funding for The TA Set-Aside authorizes funding for programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities such as historic preservation and vegetation management, and environmental mitigation related to stormwater and habitat connectivity; recreational trail projects; safe routes to school projects; and projects for planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former divided highways.

Amount: In Texas, The FAST Act provides for an estimated average of \$386 million set-aside from the STBG Program funding each year from 2016 through 2020

Website: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/factsheets/transportationalternativesfs.cfm>

Contact: <https://www.transportation.gov/fastact/>

National Office:

Office of the Under Secretary for Policy
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590
United States
Phone: 202-366-4540

Texas Office: Administered by TXDOT

Online form: <http://www.txdot.gov/contact-us/form.html>

Department of Transportation – Coast Guard

Recreational Boating Safety

The RBS grant program provides funding to assist states with program administration, law enforcement and search and rescue capability, boater education, vessel numbering and titling systems, aids to navigation, and public boating access sites. Allowable uses of the RBS Program funds include a wide spectrum of activities that fall into six broad categories – program administration, law enforcement and search and rescue capability, boater education, vessel numbering and titling systems, aids to navigation, and public boating access sites. States with approved boating safety programs that meet the participation requirements are eligible.

Information about the program is available at: <http://www.uscgboating.org/grants/index.php>

Amount: In 2016, Texas received approximately \$3.8 million in state grant funding

Contact: <http://www.uscgboating.org/php-contact-form/contactC.php>

Commandant (CG-BSX-2)
U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters
2703 Martin Luther King, JR Ave SE
Stop 7501
Washington, DC 20593-7501
Phone: 202.372.1062

Environmental Protection Agency

Every year, EPA awards over \$4 billion in funding for grants and other assistance agreements. From small non-profit organizations to large state governments, EPA works to help many visionary organizations achieve their environmental goals. With countless success stories over the years, EPA grants remain a chief tool in the advancement of human health and the environment.

Website: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/specific-epa-grant-programs>

Air Grants & Funding

EPA's Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) announces competitive funding announcements for projects and programs relating to air quality, transportation, climate change, indoor air and other related topics.

Website: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/air-grants-and-funding>

Contact:

National Office:

Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Grants and Debarment
Mail Code: 3901
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue,
N.W. Washington, D.C. 20460
Email: GAD_OGDWEB@epa.gov
Phone: (202) 564-5315

Region 6 Office:

Environmental Protection
Fountain Place 12th Floor, Suite 1200
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
Phone: (214) 665-2200 or (800) 887-6063

Brownfields Assessment Grants

Brownfields Program provides funds to empower states, communities, tribes, and nonprofits to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse brownfield sites. Under Brownfields Assessment Grants, EPA is seeking proposals for Assessment Grants only, to provide funds to inventory, characterize, assess, and conduct planning (including cleanup planning) and community involvement related to brownfield sites.

Website: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/fy17-guidelines-brownfields-assessment-grants>

Award: varies \$200,000 to \$600,000, cost sharing not required, but encouraged

Deadline: December 20, 2016

Contact:

National Office:

Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Grants and Debarment
Mail Code: 3901
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue,
N.W. Washington, D.C. 20460
Email: GAD_OGDWEB@epa.gov
Phone: (202) 564-5315

Region 6 Office:

Environmental Protection
Fountain Place 12th Floor, Suite 1200
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
Phone: (214) 665-2200 or (800) 887-6063

Brownfields Cleanup Grants

EPA's Brownfields Program provides funds to empower states, communities, tribes, and nonprofits to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse brownfield sites. Under the Brownfields Cleanup Grants, EPA is seeking proposals for Cleanup Grants only to provide funds to carry out cleanup activities at a specific brownfield site owned by the applicant.

Website: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/fy17-guidelines-brownfields-cleanup-grants>

Award: varies \$200,000; 20% cost share required.

Deadline: December 20, 2016

Contact:

National Office:

Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Grants and Debarment
Mail Code: 3901
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue,
N.W. Washington, D.C. 20460
Email: GAD_OGDWEB@epa.gov
Phone: (202) 564-5315

Region 6 Office:

Environmental Protection
Fountain Place 12th Floor, Suite 1200

1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
Phone: (214) 665-2200 or (800) 887-6063

Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grant

EPA's Brownfields Program provides funds to empower states, communities, tribes, and nonprofits to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse brownfield sites. Under the Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grant, the EPA solicits proposals from eligible entities to conduct research and/or technical assistance activities that culminate in an area-wide plan for brownfields assessment, cleanup and subsequent reuse. Grant-funded activities must be directed to one or more catalyst, high priority brownfield site(s) located within a specific project area, such as a neighborhood, downtown, business or arts district, a local commercial or industrial corridor, a community waterfront, one or more city blocks, etc. Each recipient that receives a grant under this funding opportunity must develop an area-wide plan for the brownfield(s) within the project area, and include in that plan specific implementation strategies for assessing, cleaning up and reusing the brownfield(s) and related project area revitalization strategies.

Website: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/fy2017-brownfields-area-wide-planning-grant>

Award: varies \$200,000; cost sharing not required, but encouraged.

Deadline: FY2017 grant deadline has passed.

Contact:

National Office:

Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Grants and Debarment
Mail Code: 3901
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue,
N.W. Washington, D.C. 20460
Email: GAD_OGDWEB@epa.gov
Phone: (202) 564-5315

Region 6 Office:

Environmental Protection
Fountain Place 12th Floor, Suite 1200
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
Phone: (214) 665-2200 or (800) 887-6063

Environmental Education Grants Program

The EPA Environmental grant program supports environmental education projects that enhance the public's awareness, knowledge, and skills to make informed and responsible decisions that affect environmental quality. The program provides financial support for projects that design, demonstrate, or disseminate environmental education practices, methods, or techniques. Each year, EPA's Office of Environmental Education releases a solicitation notice in the Federal Register that provides instructions for obtaining a grant. Educational agencies at the state, local and tribal level, state environmental agencies, college and universities, not-for-profit organizations, and noncommercial educational broadcasting entities are eligible to apply. Individuals are not eligible to apply. Although government agencies cannot apply directly, they are encouraged to work with other entities on developing and implementing environmental education programs.

Website: <https://www.epa.gov/education/environmental-education-ee-grants>

Award: closed

Deadline: closed

Contact:

National Office:

Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Grants and Debarment
Mail Code: 3901
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue,
N.W. Washington, D.C. 20460
Email: GAD_OGDWEB@epa.gov
Phone: (202) 564-5315

Region 6 Office:

Bonnie King
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
Email: king.bonita@epa.gov
Phone: (214) 665-2200

Environmental Justice Grants

With these grants, the EPA aims to provide financial assistance to grassroots community—based groups to support projects to design, demonstrate or disseminate practices, methods or techniques related to environmental justice. Specifically, EPA will grant funding assistance to be used for: environmental justice education and awareness programs; environmental Justice Programs (for example, river monitoring and pollution prevention programs); technical assistance in gathering and interpreting existing environmental justice data; and technical assistance to access available public information. Community-based grassroots organizations, other incorporated nonprofit organizations and federally recognized Tribal Governments are eligible. Applications are usually due at the beginning of March each year. Awardees are notified in August of each year.

Website: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice>

Award: closed

Deadline: closed

Contact:

National Office:

Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Grants and Debarment
Mail Code: 3901
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue,
N.W. Washington, D.C. 20460
Email: GAD_OGDWEB@epa.gov
Phone: (202) 564-5315

Region 6 Office:

Israel Anderson
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
Email: anderson.israel@epa.gov
Phone: 214-665-3138

Multipurpose Grants To States And Tribes

For states and territories, this funding is available to support implementation of air and state-led climate activities and other state-defined high priority activities. Funding is also available to tribes that have obtained authorization to develop water quality standards.

Website: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/multipurpose-grants-states-and-tribes>

Award: closed

Deadline: closed

Contact:

National Office:

Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Grants and Debarment
Mail Code: 3901
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue,
N.W. Washington, D.C. 20460
Email: GAD_OGDWEB@epa.gov
Phone: (202) 564-5315

Region 6 Office:

Environmental Protection
Fountain Place 12th Floor, Suite 1200
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
Phone: (214) 665-2200 or (800) 887-6063

Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) Program

This EPA program seeks to provide financial assistance to States, Local agencies, and Indian Tribes for chemical accident prevention activities that relate to the Risk Management Program under the Clean Air Act Section 112(r). Additionally, through this program the EPA provides financial assistance to Tribes for chemical emergency planning, and community right-to-know programs, which are established to prevent or eliminate unreasonable risk to the health and environment of communities within the State. Eligible applicants include States, Local agencies in the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, US. Virgin Island, Northern Mariana Islands, and Federally Recognized Indian Tribes. Recipients must match 25 percent of the grant funds (including in-kind services).

Website: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/technical-assistance-grant-tag-program>

Award: up to \$50,000, 20% match required

Deadline: closed

Contact: Region 6 Office:

Janetta Coats, Regional TAG Coordinator
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
Phone: (214) 665-7308
Email: coats.janetta@epa.gov

STATE FUNDING SOURCES

Texas Parks and Wildlife

Boat Sewage Pumpout Grants

Federal funds through the Clean Vessel Act of 1992 allow private marinas and local governments to receive grants to install boat sewage pumpout stations in Texas. Pumpout Grants can constitute up to 75% of all approved project costs. These grants provide funds for the construction and/or renovation, operation and maintenance of pumpout and portable toilet dump stations.

Website: <http://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/boat-sewage-pumpout>

Award: Competitive

Deadline: Continuous

Contact:

Trey Cooksey, State Parks Trails Coordinator
Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept
4200 Smith School Road
Austin TX 78744-3291
Phone: 512-389-8743
Fax: 512-389-8242
Email: trey.cooksey@tpwd.state.tx.us

Boating Access Grant

The Boating Access Grant Program provides 75% matching fund grant assistance to construct new, or renovate existing, public boat ramps that provide public access to public waters for recreational boating. The State Boating Access Program receives funding from the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act. Funds for the federal program are derived from the federal gasoline tax generated by sales of gasoline for recreational motorboats and a federal excise tax on the sales of fishing tackle and trolling motors. Fifteen percent of the state's annual apportionment from this federal program must be used to provide public recreational boating access.

Website: <http://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/boating-access>

Award: \$500,000

Deadline: October 1, 2016

Contact:

Trey Cooksey, State Parks Trails Coordinator
Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept

4200 Smith School Road
Austin TX 78744-3291

Phone: 512-389-8743

Fax: 512-389-8242

Email: trey.cooksey@tpwd.state.tx.us

Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) Grant

The Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) grant provides funding to local governments and non-profit organizations for programming that introduces under-served populations to environmental and conservation programs as well as TPWD mission oriented outdoor activities.

Grants are available to tax-exempt organizations and local governments introducing non-traditional constituents to TPWD related outdoor recreation, conservation and environmental education programs. The success of this program lies in the partnerships created between TPWD and grass-roots organizations who have already established a relationship with these identified targeted audiences; females, physically/mentally challenged, ethnic minorities, low income and youth.

CO-OP provides grants to tax-exempt organizations ranging from \$5,000 to \$50,000. This is a reimbursement grant program. Recipients must purchase eligible items and submit proper documentation before being reimbursed. Eligible organizations can apply to use these funds for programming expenses such as equipment, leasing transportation, staff, liability insurance, food, program materials, etc.

Website: <http://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/community-outdoor-outreach-program-co-op-grants>

Award: \$50,000

Deadline: February 1, 2017

Contact:

Cappy Smith, Program Manager
Phone: (512) 389-8254
Email: cappy.smith@tpwd.texas.gov

Local Parks Grant

The Local Park Grant Program consists of 5 individual programs that assist local units of government with the acquisition and/or development of public recreation areas and facilities throughout the State of Texas. The Program provides 50% matching grants on a reimbursement basis to eligible applicants. All grant assisted sites must be dedicated as parkland in perpetuity, properly maintained and open to the public.

The Local Park Grant Program consists of 5 individual programs that assist local units of government with the acquisition and/or development of public recreation areas and facilities throughout the State of Texas. The Program provides 50% matching grants on a reimbursement basis to eligible applicants. Once funded, all grant assisted sites must be dedicated as parkland in perpetuity, properly maintained and open to the public.

Eligible applicants include political subdivisions of the State of Texas legally responsible for providing public recreation services to their citizens. This includes cities, counties, river authorities, municipal utility districts, and other special districts.

Website: <http://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/about-local-parks-grants>

Award: Varies

Deadline: October 1, 2016

Contact:

Dana Lagarde, Program Manager

Phone: (512) 389-8175

Email: dana.lagarde@tpwd.texas.gov

Recreational Trails Program

TPWD administers the National Recreational Trails Fund in Texas under the approval of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). This federally funded program receives its funding from a portion of federal gas taxes paid on fuel used in non-highway recreational vehicles. The grants can be up to 80% of project cost with a maximum of \$200,000 for non-motorized trail grants and currently there is not a maximum amount for motorized trail grants (call 512-538-4427 for motorized trail grant funding availability). Funds can be spent on both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail projects such as the construction of new recreational trails, to improve existing trails, to develop trailheads or trailside facilities, and to acquire trail corridors.

Website: <http://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/>

[recreational-trails-grants](#)

Award: \$200,000

Deadline: February 1, 2017

Contact:

Trey Cooksey, State Parks Trails Coordinator

Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept

4200 Smith School Road

Austin TX 78744-3291

Phone: 512-389-8743

Fax: 512-389-8242

Email: trey.cooksey@tpwd.state.tx.us

Texas Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Division

Special Nutrition Programs

The Texas Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Division administers 12 federal child and special nutrition programs for the State of Texas. TDA supports providers of nutrition assistance by helping ensure accountability and the efficient use of taxpayer dollars to nourish Texans in need. These nutrition programs exemplify "eating right" for Texans of every age and background and help them build a bridge to success. Everyone plays a role in teaching children the 3E's of Healthy Living - Education, Exercise and Eating Right.

Financial grants from organizations may help advance nutrition efforts in our schools and communities. On this page you will find descriptions of specific grants with upcoming deadlines, as well as a list of organizations that make grants on an ongoing basis to support local nutrition, fitness, health, education, and community initiatives.

Program Website: <http://www.squaremeals.org/Programs.aspx>

Grant opportunities: <http://www.squaremeals.org/FandNResources/FundingGrants.aspx>

Contact:

Texas Department of Agriculture

Mail: P.O. Box 12847

Austin, Texas 78711-2847

Physical: 1700 North Congress Avenue, 10th Floor

Austin, Texas 78701

Phone: (877) TEX MEAL (839-6325)

Fax: (888) 203-6593

Email: squaremeals@texasagriculture.gov

Texas Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service

Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG)

Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) are competitive grants that stimulate the development and adoption of innovative approaches and technologies for conservation on agricultural lands. CIG uses Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funds to award competitive grants to non-Federal governmental or nongovernmental organizations, American Indian Tribes, or individuals. Producers involved in CIG funded projects must be EQIP eligible.

Through CIG, NRCS partners with public and private entities to accelerate technology transfer and adopt promising technologies. These new technologies and approaches address some of the Nation's most pressing natural resources concerns. CIG benefits agricultural producers by providing more options for environmental enhancement and compliance with Federal, State, and local regulations.

States can also award project that benefit a limited geographical area. Participating states will announce their funding availability for CIG competitions through their state NRCS offices.

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/tx/programs/financial/cig/>

Amount: Total program funding averages \$20 million per year.

Contact:

Conservation Stewardship Program

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) offers assistance to land owners who are already implementing conservation practices to enhance those practices. For example, if you have been practicing prescribed grazing, CSP would give you options to enhance that practice with activities such as grazing management to improve plants for wildlife, or grazing management to reduce soil compaction, or grazing management to improve riparian function, just to name a few.

With enrollment in CSP, the local NRCS conservation planner will have a one-on-one consultation with the property owner(s) to evaluate your current management system and the natural resources on your land. The NRCS conservation planner will present a variety of CSP enhancement alternatives for implementation

on the land, based on existing conservation practices. CSP offers annual incentive payments for installing these enhancement practices.

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/tx/programs/financial/csp/>

Award: varies based on implementation of conservation practices

Deadline: Applications are accepted throughout the year. Specific deadlines are set for ranking and funding opportunities. The next application deadline for funding consideration is February 3, 2017.

Texas Office:

Texas State Office

101 S Main St.

Temple, TX 76501-7602

Phone: (254) 742-9800

Fax: (254) 742-9819

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/>

[home/](#)

Mark Habiger, Assistant State Conservationist-
Programs

Phone: (254) 742-9881

Email: Mark.habiger@tx.usda.gov

Troy Daniell, Financial Program Manager

Phone: (254) 742-9525

Email: Troy.daniell@tx.usda.gov

Local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office Locations:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/contact/local/>

Emergency Watershed Protection Program

The Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWPP) is designed to help people and conserve natural resources by relieving imminent hazards to life and property caused by floods, fires, windstorms, and other natural occurrences. EWP is an emergency recovery program. All projects undertaken, with the exception of the purchase of floodplain easements, must have a project sponsor.

NRCS may bear up to 75 percent of the construction cost of emergency measures. The remaining 25 percent must come from local sources and can be in the form of cash or in-kind services. Funding is subject to Congressional approval.

City and county governments, flood and water control districts, and soil and water conservation districts are the most common sponsors of EWP projects. Activities include providing financial and technical assistance to:

- remove debris from stream channels, road culverts, and bridges,
- reshape and protect eroded banks,
- correct damaged drainage facilities,
- establish cover on critically eroding lands,
- repair levees and structures, and
- repair conservation practices.

NRCS may purchase EWP easements “in lieu of recovery” on any floodplain lands that have been impaired within the last 12 months or that have a history of repeated flooding (i.e., flooded at least two times during the past 10 years). If it is more cost effective, EWP-Floodplain Easement (FPE) can be used as an alternative to EWP. See the comparison of EWP and EWP-FPE.

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/tx/programs/financial/ewp/>

Award: state-administered. Texas received over \$21 million in FY2016 to restore conditions from heavy rains and flooding in 2015.

Contact:

National office:

National Emergency Watershed Protection Program

Manager

Phone: 202-690-0793

Texas office:

Claude Ross, State Easement Program Manager

Email: claudio.ross@tx.usda.gov

Phone: 254-742-9822

Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)

EQIP provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers in order to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, reduced soil erosion and sedimentation or improved or created wildlife habitat.

Eligible program participants receive financial and technical assistance to implement conservation practices, or activities like conservation planning, that address natural resource concerns on their land. Payments are made to participants after conservation practices and activities identified in an EQIP plan of operations are implemented. Contracts can last up to ten years.

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/tx/programs/financial/eqip/>

Texas Office:

Texas State Office

101 S Main St.

Temple, TX 76501-7602

Phone: (254) 742-9800

Fax: (254) 742-9819

Website: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/tx/home/>

Mark Habiger, Assistant State Conservationist-Programs

Phone: (254) 742-9881

Email: Mark.habiger@tx.usda.gov

Troy Daniell, Financial Program Manager

Phone: (254) 742-9525

Email: Troy.daniell@tx.usda.gov

Local Natural Resources Conservation Service Office Locations:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/contact/local/>

PRIVATE FUNDING SOURCES

Advocacy Advance, Rapid Response Grants

Advocacy Advance is a dynamic partnership of the Alliance for Biking & Walking and the League of American Bicyclists to boost local and state bicycle and pedestrian advocacy efforts. With support from SRAM Cycling Fund, the Every Body Walk Collaborative, REI, and New Belgium Brewing, Advocacy Advance provides targeted trainings, reports, grants and assistance to equip advocates with the specific tools they need to increase biking and walking in their communities.

Rapid Response Grants help state and local organizations take advantage of unexpected opportunities to win, increase, or preserve funding for biking and walking. Applications are not currently being accepted for Rapid Response Grants.

BIG Idea Grants are available to organizations that are pushing forward on some of the most important areas of bicycling and walking advocacy in the areas of equity; safety / Vision Zero; health / walking; and innovative local or state funding campaigns. "Big Idea" Grants are intended to help with unforeseen opportunities, short-term campaigns or to push campaigns into the end zone to win funding for biking and walking infrastructure and programs.

Website: <http://www.advocacyadvance.org/grants>

***Note:** Web and social media activity has been silent since 2014/2015.

Aegon Transamerica Foundation

Aegon Transamerica Foundation grant dollars go to non-profit organizations in the following categories:

- Arts & Culture: Programs that foster creativity in the areas of music and the performing arts, including venues for artistic expression.
- Civic & Community: Programs that strive to promote community development, encourage civic leadership, and enhance work and business opportunities.
- Education & Literacy: Programs with a mission to provide knowledge and to expand individuals' capabilities, especially in the areas of financial literacy.
- Health & Welfare: Programs committed to improving the condition of the human body through nutrition, housing for the homeless, disease prevention and more.
- United Way: In addition to leading an annual campaign, employees' contributions are matched by at least 50%.

Grant requests are considered if they relate to the Aegon Transamerica Foundation's key focus areas and mission, and are designated for a community where there is a significant company and employee presence. In Texas, Transamerica is located in Plano, Texas.

Website: <https://www.transamerica.com/individual/about-us/who-we-are/aegon-transamerica-foundation/>

Award: varies

Timeframe: Applications for Foundation grants are reviewed upon receipt by local committee representatives. The timing of responses will vary by location.

Contact:

Gregory Tucker

Email: greg.tucker@transamerica.com

Margaret Sherry,

Email: margaret.sherry@transamerica.com

2700 West Plano Parkway

Plano, TX 75075

Phone: (972) 881-6000

Aetna Foundation, GoLocal: Cultivating Healthier Communities Program

The Aetna Foundation is dedicated to improving health in local communities and large populations alike. How do we make it happen? Through community-based programs, dynamic partnerships and proven models that can help people accelerate progress everywhere. Through its GoLocal: Cultivating Healthier Communities program, Aetna Foundation supports local non-profit groups that advance healthy eating and active living in their communities.

Website: <https://www.aetna-foundation.org/grants-partnerships/grants.html>

Timeframe: In 2016, grant RFPs closed on April 15, 2016. Information for the 2017 cycle is not available.

Allen Foundation

Grants are limited under the terms of the foundation's charter to projects that primarily benefit programs for human nutrition in the areas of health, education, training, and research. Preferences are given to proposals that train children and young adults to improve their health and development so they can form good nutritional habits at an early age. Proposals will need to contain a nutritional focus.

Website: <https://www.allenfoundation.org/commoninfo/aboutus.asp>

Award: varies

Timeframe: Rolling. Deadline is December 31st. Applications received after this date will be considered for the following year.

Allstate Foundation

The Allstate Foundation supports organizations dedicated to addressing two issues: Domestic Violence and Youth Empowerment. Applications for grants are by invitation only.

Website: https://www.allstatefoundation.org/foundation_overview.html

Contact: grants@allstate.com

American Academy of Dermatology, Shade Structure Grant Program

The AAD Shade Structure Grant Program awards grants of up to \$8,000 to public schools and non-profit organizations for installing permanent shade structures for outdoor locations that are not protected from the sun, such as playgrounds, pools or recreation spaces. In addition to the grant, the AAD also provides a permanent sign for display near the shade structure.

Website: <https://www.aad.org/ssp/>

Award: Up to \$8,000

Timeframe: The application process runs from September through November, with winners announced in February. The 2016 deadline is November 28, 2016.

Contact: ShadeStructure@aad.org

Bank of America Foundation

Bank of America Foundation helps improve communities by addressing issues fundamental to economic health and sustainability. We address needs related to workforce development and education, community development, and basic needs.

Website: <http://about.bankofamerica.com/en-us/global-impact/charitable-foundation-funding.html>

Amount: Varies

Timeframe: The Foundation issues RFPs at various points throughout the year: Check funding opportunities on website

Contact: Foundation@bankofamerica.com

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Grand Challenges

The Grand Challenges family of initiatives fosters innovation to solve key health and development problems. See below for Grand Challenges grant opportunities with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as sole or contributing funder. Grant opportunities have defined issues or activities to address.

Website: <http://gcgh.grandchallenges.org/about>

Opportunities: <http://gcgh.grandchallenges.org/challenges>

Contact: grandchallenges@gatesfoundation.org

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas Healthy Kids, Healthy Families initiative

Healthy Kids, Healthy Families (HKHF) began in 2011 as a three-year initiative designed to improve the health and wellness of at least one million children through community investments. We extended the program, making HKHF part of our ongoing commitment to the health and well-being of the children and families across Texas. To date, we've helped nearly three million children.

The Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas Healthy Kids, Healthy Families initiative invests and partners with nonprofit organizations that offer sustainable, measurable programs. The programs must address health and wellness in the following areas:

- Nutrition
- Physical activity
- Disease prevention and management
- Supporting safe environments

In addition to aligning with one or more of our four areas of focus, the following criteria are required for review of all grant proposals:

- The organization must hold a 501(c)(3) tax status
- The grant must primarily target individuals in Texas
- The program must be measurable and demonstrate how the goals will be met as defined in the grant proposal

Website: <http://www.bcbstx.com/company-info/community-involvement/healthy-kids-healthy-families>

Award: up to \$250,000

Timeframe: Grant applications accepted from March 1, 2017 – March 31, 2017

Contact: healthykidshealthyfamilies@hscs.net

BNSF Railway Foundation

The Foundation is dedicated to supporting the communities they serve and in which their employees live, work, and volunteer. Generally, the foundation will consider grant requests that clearly fall within one or more of the following categories:

- Civic services including organizations which are concerned with the environment, as well as local community issues such as crime prevention, parks and recreation, diversity and community development.
- Cultural organizations that include performing, visual, and fine arts, museums and other related activities that offer opportunities for underserved children to experience cultural learning events, or preserve their cultural heritage.
- Educational institutions, both public and private, primarily at the college level. Grants of an exceptional nature may be made to vocational and non-college schools. Preferably, contributions will be directed toward the improvement of the quality of education. Ordinarily, grants will not be made to finance the expansion of a student body or the payment of scholarships (BNSF's scholarship programs, as well as the Employee Matching Gift Program, are governed by separate policies.)
- Health and Human Service organizations such as YMCA/ YWCA, programs that address chemical dependency treatment and prevention, spouse and child abuse, women's and children's aid and transitional shelters. This category also includes hospitals and medical programs.
- Youth organizations such as Boys & Girls Clubs, Camp Fire, Scouts, Junior Achievement and similar groups.
- Federated organizations such as United Way and American Red Cross.
- A federally recognized tribal government, listed in the Federal Register by the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Website: <http://www.bnsffoundation.org/>

Timeframe: Applications accepted continuously

Contact:

Manager BNSF Railway Foundation
BNSF Railway Foundation
2500 Lou Menk Dr.
Fort Worth, TX 76131-2830
BNSFFoundation@bnsf.com

Build-A-Bear Foundation Grant

The Build-A-Bear Foundation mission is to add a little more to life by providing opportunities for children of all ages to better their communities and share their heart with others.

Website: <http://www.buildabear.com/shopping/workshop/Charitable%20Donations/3100023/10500018>

Timeframe: The 2016 application period is closed.

Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation, Quality of Life Grant

The Reeve Foundation Quality of Life Grants Program awards grants to nonprofit organizations that serve the disability community. Grants are awarded to organizations that address the needs of people living with paralysis caused by spinal cord and other injuries, diseases or birth conditions, including (but not limited to) stroke, spina bifida, multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

Website: <https://www.christopherreeve.org/get-support/grants-for-non-profits/program-overview>

Award: Up to \$25,000

Timeframe: There are two application cycles each year. In 2016, the first cycle opened January 11 and closed February 16; the second cycle opened July 1 and closed August 15. Applications will open again in January 2017.

Contact:

Email: QoL@christopherreeve.org
Phone: 1-800-539-7309

CVS Caremark Community Grant

These grants provide funds to aid health-focused nonprofit organizations in their mission. Organizations must be invited to participate in the grant process, and are required to provide services in at least one of the following areas:

- Access to health care for underserved populations
- Chronic disease management programs
- Tobacco cessation and prevention services

Application for a Community Grant is by invitation only. For information about other giving programs, please contact the Community Relations team.

Contact:

Jennifer Leigh

Email: Jennifer.Leigh@cvshealth.com

Phone: 401-770-2935

David & Lucile Packard Foundation

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation has worked with partners around the world to improve the lives of children, families, and communities, and to restore and protect the planet. Applicable programs funded by the Packard Foundation include:

- The Conservation and Science Program invests in action and ideas that conserve and restore ecosystems while enhancing human well-being.
- The Children, Families, and Communities Program strives to ensure that all children have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Website: <https://www.packard.org/what-we-fund/>

Award: varies

Timeframe:

Contact: Online form - <https://www.packard.org/contact-us/>

343 Second Street

Los Altos, CA 94022 USA

Phone: +1 (650) 948-7658

Esping Family Foundation Grant

The Esping Family Foundation exists to help people and institutions of Dallas, Texas, specifically Dallas County to help themselves and future generations. Under the terms of its charter, the Foundation can distribute grants only to qualified public entities or 501(c)(3) charities serving the people of Texas. Grants are made in four

categories:

- Education
- Human Services
- Health
- Arts and Culture

Website: <http://www.espingfamilyfoundation.org/grant-guidelines/>

Award:

Timeframe: There are two grant cycles each year:

- Spring Grant Cycle: You begin the grant application process by completing a Letter of Inquiry(LOI) which is due on or before February 15 each Spring. You will be notified on or before March 1st if you have been selected to proceed to the second phase of the grant process. Grant requests are due April 1st.
- Fall Grant Cycle: You begin the grant application process by completing a Letter of Inquiry(LOI) which is due on or before July 15 each Summer. You will hear on or before September 1st if you have been selected to proceed to the second phase of the grant process. Grant requests are due October 1st.

Contact:

Heather Esping, President

Esping Family Foundation

2828 Routh St., Suite 500

Dallas, TX 75201

Phone: 214.849.9808

Fax: 214.849.9807

Email: hesping@espingfamilyfoundation.org

Jenny Kirtland, Vice-President

Email: jkirtland@espingfamilyfoundation.org

Finish Line Youth Foundation

The Youth Foundation is a philanthropic outlet for Finish Line to make a difference in the lives of youth in the communities it serves. Through the years, the Youth Foundation has fine-tuned its mission and grown its philanthropic presence including its grant giving capacity.

To date, the Youth Foundation has awarded more than \$14.5 million in funding to support youth and Special Olympics athletes across the country. The generosity of our customers who donate online and in-store is what enables Finish Line to continually make an impact in the communities where our employees live, work and play.

FL Youth Foundation offers grants in three categories:

- Programmatic Grant: Up to \$5,000 to fund opportunities for kids to participate in community-based youth athletic programs and camps that emphasize active lifestyles, especially programs that serve disadvantaged and special needs kids.
- Legacy Grant: \$10,000 to \$75,000 to fund new facilities improvements and/or renovations to existing buildings, grounds, and property.
- Founder's Grant: \$5,000 to \$25,000 to fund emergency needs that would somehow be keeping the organization from providing current services, such as natural disasters or other unforeseen fiscal circumstances.

Website: <http://www.finishline.com/store/corporate/youthFoundation.jsp>

Award: varies

Timeframe: There are four grant submission cycles through the year, accepted and reviewed on a quarterly basis.

Fuel Up to Play 60

Fuel Up to Play 60 is an in-school nutrition and physical activity program launched by National Dairy Council and NFL, in collaboration with the USDA, to help encourage today's youth to lead healthier lives.

Up to \$4,000 per year is available to qualified K-12 schools enrolled in Fuel Up to Play 60 to jumpstart healthy changes.

Website: <https://www.fueluptoplay60.com/>

Award: Up to \$4,000

Timeframe: November 2, 2016

Contact: Online contact form - <https://www.fueluptoplay60.com/about/contact-us>

General Mills Foundation Grants

General Mills Foundation philanthropy focuses on:

- Increasing community food security worldwide.
- Advancing the sustainability of agriculture.
- Protecting the natural resources upon which food and people depend.

GM partners with employees to strengthen our hometown communities worldwide through volunteerism and grant-making addressing local community needs.

Website: <https://www.generalmills.com/en/Responsibility/general-mills-foundation/grants>

GO! Grant

GO! Grants are \$1,000 to \$5,000 grants to elementary schools to spark and sustain physical activity programs that take place before, during or after the school day. The funds may be used for equipment, facilities, professional development for adults and programs that increase students' physical activity to the recommended 60 minutes or more per day. Grants are available in all states and the District of Columbia.

PHIT America GO! Grants have been awarded to almost 300 schools getting children 5-12 years old physically active and healthier. GO! Grants help get children active for the first time or increase their physical activity & fitness level. Leading brands like Nike, adidas, Brooks, ETS, Life Fitness, Wilson, Mizuno, the USTA and many more are investing in the GO! Grants programs.

GO! Grant programs are implemented by three-year partner, KIDS in the GAME, which excels in managing programs which get more kids off the couch and physically active. This program is the ideal way to fight the 'Inactivity Pandemic' which is creating health issues for our children.

Website: <https://www.kidsinthegame.org/go-grant-school-activity-grants/>

Amount: \$1,000 to \$5,000

Timeframe: 2016-2017 deadline has ended

Contact:

875 SE 3rd Street
Suite #240, Bend, OR 97702

Phone: 541-508-3966

Fax: 541-639-3645

Email: info@kidsinthegame.org

Home Depot Foundation, Community Impact Grant

Grants up to \$5,000 are available to IRS-registered 501c designated organizations and tax-exempt public service agencies in the U.S. that are using the power of volunteers to improve the physical health of their community. Grants are given in the form of The Home Depot gift cards for the purchase of tools, materials, or services.

The primary goal is to provide grants and volunteer opportunities to support the renovation, refurbishment, retrofitting, accessibility modifications, and/or weatherization of existing homes, centers, schools and other similar facilities.

Website: <https://corporate.homedepot.com/grants/community-impact-grants>

Amount: up to \$5,000

Timeframe: Rolling deadline. Will receive decision 6 weeks after submission. Last day to submit applications in 2016 is December 31, 2016.

Contact: small_grants@homedepot.com

Houston Endowment

Houston Endowment works to help create a vibrant community where all people have the opportunity to thrive.

Jesse H. and Mary Gibbs Jones established Houston Endowment in 1937 to improve life for the people of greater Houston. Since its creation the Foundation has focused on our community's most compelling needs.

Today, the Foundation's mission encompasses two overarching and interconnected areas:

- Enhancing the vibrancy of greater Houston
- Advancing equity of opportunity for the people who live

here

Houston Endowment invests in sound organizations, proven programs and innovative approaches that align with our mission and vision. Houston Endowment accepts applications from eligible organizations through five programs: Arts & Culture, Education, Environment, Health and Human Services.

Houston Endowment makes six general types of investments. Most commonly, applications to the Foundation are for General Operating Support or toward Project Support for a specific project or onetime event. Houston Endowment also considers grants toward Capital Improvement, Building Capacity, Public Policy and Engagement, and Research. Applying organizations will need to select the application that fits the type of grant they seek.

Website: <http://www.houstonendowment.org/GrantGuidelines/Overview.aspx>

Award: varies

Timeframe: Houston Endowment accepts applications throughout the year and has no designated deadlines for the submission of requests.

Contact:

Houston Endowment
600 Travis, Suite 6400
Houston, TX 77002-3000

Phone: 713-238-8100

Fax: 713-238-8101

Email: info@houstonendowment.org

Kerr Foundation Grants

The Kerr Foundation, Inc. supports 501(c)3 organizations, programs and institutions that provide new or enhanced opportunities in the areas of education, health, cultural development and community service. Preference is given to Oklahoma organizations and institutions, although they recognize that such located outside the state and region can also have a beneficial impact on the economic, social and cultural growth and development of Oklahoma. Grant requests are limited to the following states: Oklahoma, Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, and Texas.

Website: <http://www.thekerrfoundation.org/guidelines.php>

Award: varies

Timeframe: Friday, January 13, 2017 - Grant Applications Due for consideration at the March 2017 trustee meeting

Contact:

The Kerr Foundation, Inc.
12501 North May Avenue
Oklahoma City, OK 73120
Phone: (405) 749.7991
Fax: (405) 749.2877

Lockheed Martin Community Contributions

Lockheed Martin is committed to a program of philanthropy that supports the Corporation's strategic business goals and invests in the quality of life in the communities where Lockheed Martin employees work and live.

In general, philanthropic contributions to national initiatives and organizations are made from corporate headquarters and contributions to local programs are made by Lockheed Martin sites close to the program.

Website: <http://www.lockheedmartin.com/us/who-we-are/community/philanthropy.html>

Amount: varies

Timeframe: Applications are accepted year-round. Evaluations are typically performed quarterly. Some grant applications may not be able to be considered until the next year's budget cycle, particularly those received in the second half of the year.

Contact: Community Relations - community.relations@lmco.com

L.L. Bean Community Charitable Giving

The L.L. Bean Community Charitable Giving program focuses giving on national and local outdoor conservation and recreation organizations. L.L.Bean has given more than \$14 million to local, state, regional and national conservation organizations in the last ten years. Grants are made only to qualified, federal tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organizations.

Grants are made in these four categories:

Conservation and Outdoor Recreation: Primary activities include the maintenance and protection of our natural resources; efforts to engage more young people in activities that are relevant to our product line, such as camping, hiking, cycling, canoeing, kayaking, fly fishing, hunting, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing; and programs that have proximity to L.L.Bean Retail Stores. Some of our recipients include the National Park Foundation, the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, The Student Conservation Association, The Nature Conservancy, Maine Audubon, Trout Unlimited and National Wild Turkey Federation. For a more comprehensive list, click [here](#).

Health and Human Services: L.L.Bean has donated over \$6 million to health and human service organizations in the past ten years, primarily through the United Way in communities where we have a physical presence. These donations reflect our confidence in the United Way allocation process and our belief in supporting the physical and emotional well-being of our employees, their families and our neighbors. Because of our significant leadership gifts in this area, we are not accepting requests from health and human service organizations at this time.

Education (*only available in Maine): L.L.Bean has contributed over \$4 million to statewide initiatives in Maine such as Junior Achievement and Jobs for Maine's Graduates, as well as local education partnerships. Our support is limited to the following Maine school systems: Freeport, Portland, Lewiston, Brunswick and Bangor. We do not fund education initiatives outside of Maine.

Culture and the Arts (*only available in Maine): We support organizations that enrich the cultural development of our local Maine communities, including the Portland Museum of Art, Maine State Music Theatre and the American Folk Festival in Bangor. We only offer support to arts organizations in Freeport, Portland, Lewiston, Brunswick and Bangor, Maine.

Website: http://www.llbean.com/customerService/aboutLLBean/charitable_giving.html

Amount: varies

Timeframe: Ongoing.

Contact: donationrequest@llbean.com

Lowe's Community Partners Grant

Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation funds nonprofit organizations and public agencies that support our charitable goals. The foundation's primary philanthropic focus centers on K-12 public education and community improvement. Within these areas, Lowe's Foundation is committed to supporting projects that have the greatest impact on our communities and align with their core business.

Lowe's Community Partners grant program helps build better communities by providing monetary assistance to nonprofit organizations and municipalities looking for support of high-need projects such as: building renovations/upgrades, grounds improvements, technology upgrades as well as safety improvements.

Website: https://www.lowes.com/cd_Corporate+Citizenship_674540029_

Website: <https://newsroom.lowes.com/serving-communities/>
Grant applications: <https://newsroom.lowes.com/apply-for-a-grant/>

Amount: \$2,000 to \$100,000

Timeframe: There are two grant application cycles a year:

Spring Cycle: March 19, 2017 – May 11, 2017

Fall Cycle: July 2, 2017 – August 24, 2017

Contact:

Community Relations

Phone: 704-758-2917

Email: Community@Lowes.com

Lowe's Small Grants

The small grants program is an outlet for organizations seeking smaller-scale assistance for non-educational focused projects. These grants range from \$100 to \$2,000. Small grant project requests must also fit within the Giving Guidelines. These requests are received on a rolling basis, with no specific cycle dates.

Website: <https://newsroom.lowes.com/serving-communities/>

Grant applications: <https://newsroom.lowes.com/apply-for-a-grant/>

Amount: \$100 to \$2,000, distributed as a Lowe's gift card.

Timeframe: Continuous

Contact:

Community Relations

Phone: 704-758-2917

Email: Community@Lowes.com

Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grant

Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation funds nonprofit organizations and public agencies that support our charitable goals. The foundation's primary philanthropic focus centers on K-12 public education and community improvement. Within these areas, Lowe's Foundation is committed to supporting projects that have the greatest impact on our communities and align with their core business.

The Lowe's Toolbox for Education program is designed to help build better schools and communities by offering schools the opportunity to apply for a grant between \$2,000 and \$5,000. Playground projects are eligible under the grant program. Schools can use funding to build a new playground or refurbish old equipment. The Toolbox for Education program also allows for schools to pad the ground with wood chips or rubber matting to make playgrounds safe. In addition, schools may use funding to enhance a playground with handicapped—accessible configurations and build pathways for wheelchair accessibility.

Website: <http://www.toolboxforeducation.com/index.html>; <https://newsroom.lowes.com/apply-for-a-grant/>

Amount: \$2,000 to \$5,000

Timeframe: There are two grant application cycles a year:
Spring Cycle: December 18, 2016 – February 9, 2017
Fall Cycle: August 6, 2017 – September 28, 2017

Contact:

Community Relations

Phone: 704-758-2917

Email: Community@Lowes.com

Email: info@toolboxforeducation.com

Mattel Children's Foundation

The Mattel Children's Foundation focuses its strategic grant making on one major objective: Improving the lives of children in need. The Mattel Children's Foundation has developed partnerships with exemplary nonprofit partners that demonstrate this ideal through both compassionate outreach to children and strong financial accountability.

The foundation is driven by the belief that play is essential for all children because it is fundamental to development and learning but millions of children lack access to play. Currently, the foundation is dedicated to supporting nonprofit organizations around the world that make a meaningful difference in the lives of children, and with an emphasis on programs that support or enhance the opportunity for children to play.

Not accepting unsolicited applications at this time.

Website: <http://philanthropy.mattel.com/focus#time>

MetLife Foundation

MetLife Foundation has committed \$200 million over five years to help low-income individuals and families get access to safe and affordable financial products and services. MetLife Foundation works in both developing and developed economies to expand and improve financial services. We fund approaches that help low- and moderate-income people:

- improve basic cash flow management
- prepare for life's inevitable challenges
- take advantage of opportunities
- achieve their short- and long- term goals

In addition, MetLife sponsors initiatives in other philanthropic areas, expanding beyond the financial health of communities to support for medical research, arts and cultural institutions, disaster relief, and civic initiatives.

Website: https://www.metlife.com/about/corporate-responsibility/metlife-foundation/index.html?WT.ac=GN_about_corporate-responsibility_metlife-foundation

Contact: metlifefoundation@metlife.com

Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

The Mott Foundation supports nonprofit organizations that are working to strengthen our hometown of Flint and communities around world. The foundation seeks to fulfill its mission of supporting efforts that promote a just, equitable, and sustainable society through these four programs:

Civil Society: efforts to increase civic engagement, encourage charitable giving and help communities make positive change.

Education: efforts to expand learning opportunities and supports for children, particularly those from low- and moderate-income communities.

Environment: programs around the world that protect communities and the ecosystems upon which they depend.

Flint Area: efforts to help our hometown of Flint solve problems, create opportunities and build a vibrant future for the community and its residents.

Funding for unsolicited requests is very limited. Interested entities wanting to submit an idea for funding should first complete a letter of inquiry (LOI) form. Your LOI will help our program staff determine the relevance of proposed project and offer advice on whether to submit a full proposal.

Website: <https://www.mott.org/>

Contact:

Office of Proposal Entry
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
Mott Foundation Building
503 S. Saginaw Street, Suite 1200
Flint, MI 48502-1851

Muscle Milk Recovery Grant

The MUSCLE MILK® team awards grants to revitalize high school athletic departments around the country that demonstrate a financial need. The Muscle Milk Recovery Grant™ program helps athletic programs solve immediate needs like purchasing new uniforms, replacing broken equipment or restoring facilities in disrepair.

CytoSport, Inc. (“Sponsor”) believes strongly that sports and exercise are essential to the health, well-being and happiness of children and adults of all ages. As a result, we want to give back to our audience by providing grant money to worthy school or community programs that have a specific need for resources to improve athletic opportunities for kids and young adults. To facilitate this goal, we developed the Muscle Milk® Brand Recovery Grant Program (“Grant Program”), which will provide a series of grants to deserving programs at least four times a year, and maybe more. Each grant will represent a self-contained giveaway with an entry period as defined below.

Website: <http://www.musclemilkrecoverygrant.com/>

Award: varies

Timeframe: Ongoing. In 2016, three grant periods, ending on (i) September 15, 2016; (ii) October 31, 2016; and (iii) December 31, 2016.

Contact: Mail:

1340 Treat Blvd. Suite 350
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
Phone: 1-888-298-6629

National Swimming Pool Foundation Grants

The National Swimming Pool Foundation® is a non-profit foundation whose mission is to encourage healthier living by increasing aquatic activity through education and research. The National Swimming Pool Foundation has established the NSPF Fellowship Program to encourage and support graduate students and post-doctoral fellows who focus research in two areas associated with aquatic venues that are treated to maintain a sanitary condition (e.g. swimming pools, spas/hot tubs, therapy pools, water parks, etc.):

- Research to reduce the risk to people associated with - but not limited to - physical facility design, exposure to chemical or pathogenic contaminants, air quality, drowning, or entrapment, etc.
- Research to investigate and document the positive health consequences of aquatic activities against maladies such as - but not limited to - high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity, heart disease, cancer, aging, physical therapy, arthritis, etc.

Website: <https://www.nspf.org/NSPF-Scholarship-Program-and-Research-Fellowship-Grants>

Award: minimum of \$1,000 and \$2,000

Timeframe: Scholarships are awarded for the fall semester of each year. In order to be considered for the fall 2017 semester, the complete application package must be received by the National Swimming Pool Foundation no later than June 1, 2017.

Contact:

NSPF Fellowship Program
National Swimming Pool Foundation
4775 Granby Circle
Colorado Springs, CO 80919-3131
Email: Service@nspf.org

Nature Works Everywhere Grant

The Nature Works Everywhere program is administered by The Nature Conservancy, a leading conservation organization working around the world to protect ecologically important lands and waters for nature and people. Nature Works Everywhere gives teachers, students and families everything they need to start exploring and understanding nature around the globe alongside Nature Conservancy scientists. The program offers a grant opportunity to schools across the U.S. to build, amend or revitalize school garden projects with the core principal that gardens model nature on a relatable scale. By combining project-based learning

curriculum with a school garden space, students learn conservation-mindedness.

In 2016, the Nature Works Everywhere grant broadened its support for all kinds of projects that involve students in developing a nature-based, green infrastructure solution to an environmental challenge in their community. Whether addressing issues surrounding access to healthy food, air quality, heat island effect, climate change or storm water collection, youth will be empowered as social innovators to model solutions in their school communities through project design and implementation. To accomplish this, the Nature Works Everywhere grant will support projects that implement green infrastructure to address local environmental challenges.

Website: <https://www.natureworkseverywhere.org/home/>

Timeframe: 2016-2017 deadline has ended.

Contact: natureworks@tnc.org

People for Bikes Community Grant Program

The PeopleForBikes Community Grant Program supports bicycle infrastructure projects and targeted advocacy initiatives that make it easier and safer for people of all ages and abilities to ride. Please review the following information carefully before submitting a grant application. Proposals that are incomplete or do not fall within our funding priority areas will not be considered. Visit our Grants Awarded database for examples of funded projects.

PeopleForBikes accepts grant applications from non-profit organizations with a focus on bicycling, active transportation, or community development, from city or county agencies or departments, and from state or federal agencies working locally. PeopleForBikes only funds projects in the United States. Requests must support a specific project or program; we do not grant funds for general operating costs.

PeopleForBikes focuses most grant funds on bicycle infrastructure projects and will also fund some advocacy projects.

Website: <http://www.peopleforbikes.org/pages/community-grants>

Award: Up to \$10,000

Timeframe: PeopleForBikes generally holds 1-2 open grant cycles every year. The 2016 grant cycles have closed.

Contact:

Zoe Kircos, Director of Grants and Partnerships

Phone: 303-449-4893 x106

Email: zoe@peopleforbikes.org

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) funds program and policy initiatives in four areas which are each critical to health equity—enabling everyone in our nation to live a healthier life:

- Health Systems: Catalyzing fundamental changes in health and health care systems to achieve measurably better outcomes for all.
- Healthy Kids, Healthy Weight: Enabling all children to attain their optimal physical, social and emotional well-being, including growing up at a healthy weight.
- Healthy Communities: Creating the conditions that allow communities and their residents to reach their greatest health potential.
- Health Leadership: Engaging a diverse array of leaders in all sectors with the vision, experience, and drive to help build a Culture of Health.

Specific grant programs are developed by RWJF program staff, in consultation with leading experts in our fields of interest, and with guidance and final approval from our board of trustees.

In many cases, a competitive call for proposals (CFP) is issued that defines the challenges to address, activities RWJF will support to achieve desired outcomes, and eligibility criteria. In addition, funding is also provided through open calls for ideas and different types of challenges and prize competitions.

Website: <http://www.rwjf.org/en/how-we-work/grants.html>

Funding opportunities: <http://www.rwjf.org/en/how-we-work/grants/funding-opportunities.html>

Award: varies

Timeframe: ongoing

Contact:

Office of Proposal Management

Email: mail@rwjf.org

Phone: 877-843-7953

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Evidence for Action

Evidence for Action (E4A), a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, funds research that expands the evidence base needed to build a Culture of Health. Our mission is to support rigorously designed quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods research that yields convincing findings regarding the population health, well-being, and equity impacts of specific policies, programs and partnerships. We are especially interested

in research examining the health impacts of programmatic or policy interventions that address factors outside the domain of health care services or public health practice.

Website: <http://www.rwjf.org/en/library/funding-opportunities/2015/evidence-for-action-investigator-initiated-research-to-build-a-culture-of-health.html>

Program website: <http://www.evidenceforaction.org/>

Award: varies. E4A was allocated \$6.6 million in grant funding to award through July 2017.

Timeframe: Rolling basis.

Contact:

Erin Hagan, MBA, PhD, deputy director

Email: evidenceforaction@ucsf.edu

Phone: 415-502-3490

Rotary, District Grants

District grants fund small-scale, short-term activities that address needs of a community of a qualified Rotary district. Each district chooses which activities it will fund with these grants. You can use district grants to fund a variety of district and club projects and activities, including:

- Humanitarian projects, including service travel and disaster recovery efforts
- Scholarships for any level, length of time, location, or area of study
- Youth programs, including Rotary Youth Exchange, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), Rotaract, and Interact
- Vocational training teams, which are groups of professionals who travel abroad either to teach local professionals about their field or to learn more about it themselves

Website: <https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/take-action/apply-grants/district-grants>

Saucony Run for Good Foundation

The Saucony Run For Good Foundation donates funds to causes aimed at keeping kids healthy and offers grants to reduce the childhood obesity epidemic. Grants are open to community nonprofit organizations that initiate and support running programs for kids.

Website: <http://www.saucony.com/en/runforgood/>

Award: up to \$10,000

Timeframe: Grants are issued twice per year, once in February and once in August. The deadline to apply for those grants are 12/15 and 6/15.

Contact:

191 Spring Street
Mail Drop 318S
Lexington, MA 02420-9191
Email: runforgood@saucony.com

Shane's Inspiration

Shane's Inspiration is a non-profit organization committed to the creation of inclusive, sensory rich, developmentally appropriate, fun, safe, and challenging playgrounds where children of all abilities can play together at their highest level of ability. Shane's Inspiration offers assistance for the installation of inclusionary playgrounds.

Website: <http://shanesinspiration.org/build/>

Award:

Timeframe: ongoing

Contact:

Brad Thornton,
Phone: 818-988-5676
Email: brad@shanesinspiration.org

USA Swimming Make A Splash Grant

One of the guiding principles of Make a Splash is to spread the word and mission of the USA Swimming Foundation to every community in the nation. In order to reach the widest audience possible, Make a Splash will partner with learn to swim providers across the country that are willing to promote water safety education to their communities and or provide scholarships for children to participate in their swim lesson programs.

The USA Swimming Foundation awards grants on an annual basis to Make a Splash Local Partners who provide services to young people who, otherwise, would not have the opportunity to participate in

water safety instructional programs and/or swimming lessons.

Website: <http://www.usaswimming.org/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabId=2092&Alias=Rainbow&Lang=en>

Award: Up to \$4,000

Timeframe: November 2, 2016

Contact:

Shweta Shreyarathi
Email: sshreyarathi@usaswimming.org
Phone: 719-866-3546

Voya Unsung Heroes

Each year, 100 educators are selected to receive \$2,000 to help fund their innovative class projects. Three of those are chosen to receive the top awards of an additional \$5,000, \$10,000 and \$25,000. The program is administered by Scholarship America, the nation's largest designer and manager of scholarship, tuition assistance and other education support programs for corporations, foundations, associations and individuals.

Applicants to the Voya Unsung Heroes Awards Program must be:

- Employed by an accredited K-12 public or private school located in the United States.
- Full-time educators, teachers, principals, paraprofessionals, or classified staff with effective and innovative projects that improve student learning.

Website: <https://www.scholarsapply.org/unsungheroes/>

Award: \$2,000 and opportunity to receive "top awards" of an additional \$5,000, \$10,000 and \$25,000

Timeframe: application must be submitted on or before April 30, 2017.

Contact:

Email: unsungheroes@scholarshipamerica.org
Phone: 1-507-931-1682

Walmart Community Grant Program

Through the Community Grant Program, store associates are proud to support the needs of their communities by providing grants to local organizations. Funds must benefit the facility's service area: potential grantees should be nonprofit organizations with programs that benefit communities within the service area of the Walmart store, Sam's Club or Logistics facility from which they are requesting funds.

Walmart and the Walmart Foundation have identified four core areas of giving: Hunger Relief & Healthy Eating, Sustainability, Women's Economic Empowerment and Opportunity. To ensure that your application has the best chance of being funded, the proposed use of the grant should fit within one of these areas of giving.

Website: <http://giving.walmart.com/walmart-foundation/community-grant-program>

Award: \$250 to \$2,500

Timeframe: The 2016 grant cycle begins Feb. 1, 2016 and the application deadline is Dec. 31, 2016.

Walmart State Giving Program

The State Giving Program invests in all 50 states, Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico. The Walmart Foundation has a State Advisory Council in each state, made up of Walmart associates representing local communities. Each Council helps identify local needs within its state, reviews all eligible grant applications and makes funding recommendations to the Walmart Foundation. Councils base recommendations on alignment with Foundation focus areas, state or community needs and program eligibility criteria.

Website: http://corporate.walmart.com/_foundation/_apply-for-grants/state-giving-program

Award: \$25,000 to \$200,000

Timeframe: All states have two application cycles annually. The State Giving Program application is currently closed. The application will reopen early 2017.

Walmart National Giving Program

The National Giving Program supports organizations working across one or more states to address social issues strongly aligned with our focus areas. This program often provide funds to organizations that have local affiliates around the country, and the majority of grants from this program include re-grants to implement programs in local communities.

Website: <http://giving.walmart.com/apply-for-grants/national-giving>

Award: \$250,000 and above

Wells Fargo, Community Giving

Wells Fargo and the Wells Fargo Foundation provide monetary support, expertise, and volunteers to national and local nonprofit organizations and causes that align with our business priorities, values, business expertise, and geographies. Wells Fargo works with a wide range of nonprofits and community organizations to stabilize

and strengthen low-to-moderate income neighborhoods, as well as address global social, economic, and environmental challenges. Wells Fargo focuses giving in the following areas:

- **Community Development:** programs that help provide affordable housing for low and moderate income individuals; promote economic development by financing small businesses or small farms; provide job training for low and moderate income individuals Provide financial education and promote economic empowerment; help to revitalize low and moderate income communities
- **Education:** Programs that promote academic achievement for low- and moderate-income students with a priority emphasis on K-12; provide training for teachers and administrators working with low- and moderate-income students; encourage school partnerships with parents and guardians, the local community, and the business community.
- **Human Services:** social and human service organizations whose work chiefly benefits low- and moderate-income individuals.
- **Arts and Culture:** Projects and requests that work to enhance community diversity through access to cultural experiences for low- and moderate-income individuals, availability of a broad array of artistic opportunities and venues that reflect the community's diversity, and educational programs.
- **Civic Engagement:** projects that enhance a community's quality of life through projects involving public policy, community beautification, civic leadership, citizen education, and cultural diversity.
- **Environment:** including natural resources conservation, environmental education, and support the transition to a sustainable environment.

Website: <https://www.wellsfargo.com/about/corporate-responsibility/texas-grant-guidelines/>

Amount: Varies

Timeframe: Ongoing.

Contact: Each region in Texas manages its own application process and accordingly has its own contact.

Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation

The Weyerhaeuser Company is deeply connected to the communities where we operate and have a long history of doing our part to help them thrive. Through the Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation, awards are made to programs in the communities where the company operates. The majority of their funding focuses on affordable housing and shelter, education and youth development, environmental stewardship, and human services, civic, and cultural growth.

Website: <http://www.weyerhaeuser.com/sustainability/communities/community-investment/giving-fund/>

Timeframe: The 2016 grant cycle has closed. Information on the 2017 grant cycle will be available January 2017

Contact: Anne.Leyva@weyerhaeuser.com

RESOURCES

GRANTS.GOV

The Grants.gov program management office was established in 2002 and is managed by the Department of Health and Human Services. Grants.gov is an E-Government initiative operating under the governance of the Office of Management and Budget.

Grants.gov is a resource for those seeking grants through federal funding opportunities. The site makes it simple to find grants based on Keyword searches, Categories, Agencies, or Eligibilities.

Website: www.grants.gov

CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE (CFDA)

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) provides a full listing of all Federal programs available to State and local governments (including the District of Columbia); federally-recognized Indian tribal governments; Territories (and possessions) of the United States; domestic public, quasi- public, and private profit and nonprofit organizations and institutions; specialized groups; and individuals.

Website: <https://www.cfda.gov/?s=program&mode=list&tab=list>



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PARKS MASTER PLAN

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