



CHAPTER 2 OUTLINE

1. **Grove City's Park System**
 - a. Serving Residents
 - b. Requested Additions to the Park System
 - c. Passive Recreation
 - d. Welcoming and Accessible Parks
 - e. Partnerships
 - f. Keeping the Public Informed
2. **Parks and Open Space by Planning Area**
 - a. Park and Open Space Details
3. **Goals, Objectives and Actions**

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INTRODUCTION

Grove City is home to a diverse system of parks and open space, distributed throughout the community. The city's parks offer a variety of recreational opportunities both active to passive. As the city grows, it will be important to understand what assets the park system currently holds and also to have an idea of potential recreational needs of future residents.

One of the five main themes identified from the public during the planning process is to create parks appropriate for all interests and abilities. Through the public input process of this plan, specific ideas were generated on how to improve the system. This chapter will examine Grove City's parks and open space and identify ways in which the Parks and Recreation Department can work to improve the system to meet the needs and desires of community residents.

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OVERVIEW

The Parks and Recreation Department aims to create and maintain a parks system that pleases all residents with a variety of active and passive recreational opportunities. Part of creating a parks system that meets the needs of residents is ensuring that residents are aware of existing features. Two main goals have been identified by the Parks and Recreation Department related to parks and open space that will guide the contents of this chapter:

1. A community knowledgeable of the City's parks and open space system.
2. A parks system offering the community a variety of park and open space options.

PARKLAND DEFINITIONS

Grove City's parks system is made up of a variety of public parks, which are supplemented by a number of private parks in subdivisions as well as public school parks that provide additional recreational opportunities for neighborhood residents.

Park

A facility designed to serve the recreational, educational or cultural needs of the residents of the community. Such facilities include mini, neighborhood, community, private and school parks as described below.

Mini-Park

Mini-parks address the unique recreational needs of the immediate area around it. Typically, mini-parks are less than one acre in size and serve only the neighborhood directly around it.

Neighborhood Park

Neighborhood parks are the basic unit of the park system and serve the recreational needs of the neighborhood within easy walking distance, uninterrupted by roads and physical barriers.

Community Park

Community parks meet community-based recreation needs.

School Park

Parks on school sites can fulfill the space requirements for other classes of parks, such as neighborhood, community and special-use parks.

Private Park/Recreational Facility

Private parks and recreational facilities are privately owned yet contribute to the public park and recreation system.

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Open Space

Open space is land and/or water areas retained for the preservation of which in its present use would:

1. Conserve and enhance natural or scenic resources; or
2. Protect streams or water supply; or
3. Promote conservation of soils and wetlands; or
4. Enhance neighboring parks, forests, or other open space; or
5. Enhance recreation opportunities.

CHAPTER 2 APPENDICES

An inventory of park features also allows the Parks and Recreation Department to see trends in park development and ensure all parks are developed to their full potential.

GROVE CITY'S PARK AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEM

Grove City is home to 18 uniquely developed parks, one undeveloped park and many additional acres preserved as open space. Each park offers residents a variety of recreational opportunities both active and passive ranging from ball diamonds and playground equipment, to picnic tables and charcoal grills. A number of private parks as well as school properties help to complement the city's public parks to give residents a variety of recreational opportunities.

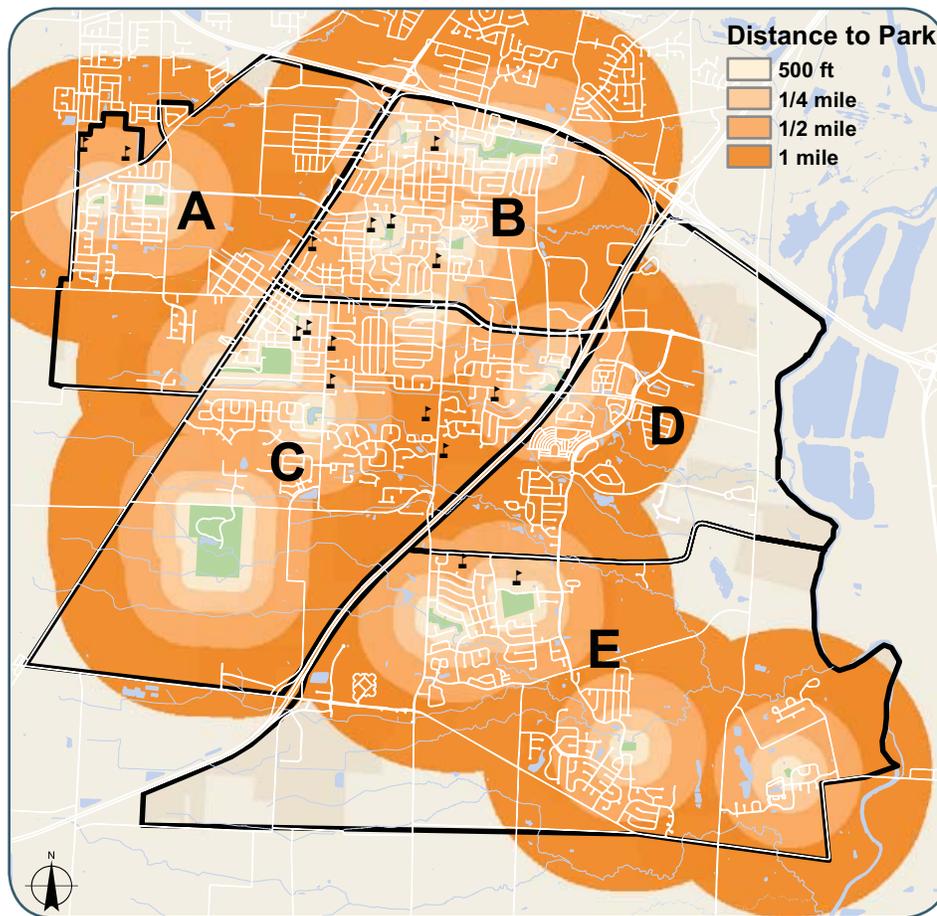
A comprehensive inventory of park features was collected in order to understand what features are in each park and how they can be improved to better serve residents. An inventory of park features also allows the Parks and Recreation Department to see trends in park development and ensure all parks are developed to their full potential. For example, all city-owned parks have uniform entry signs except Concord Lakes Park, Hoover Park and Scioto Meadows Park. These entry features play an important role in increasing awareness of the parks. The inventory also shows that almost all of the city's parks include some form of playground equipment. While play equipment is important to keep young residents active, it is also important to keep some parks in the system for passive use only, such as Sesquicentennial Park. The Parks and Recreation Department can also use park features to convey important messages to the public. For instance, the placement of recycling containers in all of the parks will show residents the city's commitment to sustainability.

Serving Residents

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) suggests that different types of parks have different "service areas," or distances that residents are expected to travel. For example, a small pocket park will likely only attract residents within a couple blocks of the park, while people from across the city will travel to a community park. It should be noted that community-level parks also serve as neighborhood parks for those who live within safe walking distance of that park. For example, residents who live in close proximity to Gantz Park utilize it as their neighborhood park even though it is classified and used by the greater Grove City community as a community park. Fryer Park on the other hand, is not easily accessible to residents without traveling by car and does not serve on a neighborhood level.

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Park Service Area Map



It should be noted that the distances displayed on the service area map are straight-line distances and do not necessarily reflect the actual distance a resident would have to travel to reach a park. For instance, a stream or major roadway might create an obstacle for a resident, making them walk a greater distance around the barrier to reach a park than the figure shows.

Based on the service area map, many residents in Planning Area D are not within reasonable walking distance of a public park. This comes as no surprise as there are no public parks within this planning area. Many residents in Planning Area C are also underserved by parks, primarily in the Hoover Crossing and Briarwood Hills subdivisions. Planning Area A will benefit greatly from the development of the Demorest Road Park, as many of the residents in Concord Park and Elginfield subdivisions are not currently within easy walking distance to a public park.

The public stated in meetings and through the online surveys that, in general, there is a desire for more attention to be dedicated to the larger, community-level parks over the small neighborhood parks. As was discussed in Chapter 1 - Background, Trends and Growth Framework, homes are being developed on larger lots, making it harder for a single park to service as many residents as homes on smaller lots. Making this fact even more challenging is that parkland that is donated to the city is often not desirable for residential development and is in an inconvenient location for residents.

Because of these factors, the Parks and Recreation Department will be making a more focused effort to proactively acquire new land in desirable locations to serve the population at a community level. More information about how the city acquires land for parks can be found in Chapter 7 – Land Acquisition and Parkland Development.

SERVICE AREAS

The type and size of the park greatly impacts the number of residents that utilize that park and from how far away residents will travel to use the park. For the purpose of analyses conducted in this plan, mini-parks are assumed to have a service area of 1/4 mile, neighborhood parks serve a 1/2 mile and community parks serve one mile.

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“

I believe that Grove City needs a water park for adults that is deeper than 5 feet and has fun activities that can pertain to adults. It would be wonderful if the facility had an indoor and outdoor pool that also the whole family could enjoy.

- Planning Area C Resident

”

OBJECTIVE 4

Facilities should be able to support multiple activities.

“

The Veterans Memorial is a great idea... Grove City is and always will be a huge veterans supporter.

- Planning Area C Resident

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FUTURE ADDITIONS TO THE PARK SYSTEM

Throughout the public input portion of the planning process, residents voiced their desire for various additions to the parks system. Some of these requested items include a dog park, recreation center, adult swimming pool, more traditional playground equipment and a performing area.

Dog Park

Dog parks were the fourth most mentioned item during the public input process of the plan, accounting for almost 9 percent of all comments. A number of potential locations for a dog park have been identified, but significant consideration must be given to the impact it would have on neighboring properties. A suitable site will be appropriately screened from neighboring properties, be large enough to accommodate separate areas for small breeds and large breeds and have adequate room for parking. It should also be located in an area that is connected to the trail network so residents can safely walk their dogs to the park.

Recreation Center

Having a public recreation center in the city was the fifth most mentioned topic during the public input process of the plan. More than 60 comments were generated relating to recreation centers. Although the Grove City YMCA and the Vaughn E. Hairston Southwest Community Center YMCA in Urbancrest provide recreational amenities similar to a public recreation center, residents voiced their desire to have a separate public facility to meet the growing recreational demands of the community. A more detailed look at recreation centers is found in Chapter 5 – Recreation.

Adult Swimming

The Big Splash at Evans Park provides great recreational opportunities for families. During the public input portion of the plan, residents requested a separate adult swimming facility. An additional swimming facility would expand programming options and increase the number of classes offered.

Memorial Park

Grove City is proud of its veterans and takes pride in honoring their time and dedication to their country. During the public input portion of the plan, residents were asked if they would prefer to see a memorial park located in an existing park or a new park. The answers received were split, with half the responders wishing for a new park to be designed with a memorial in it. Half of the responders felt locating a memorial in an existing park was more appropriate. Residents had positive comments regarding the potential memorial park, regardless of its location.

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PASSIVE RECREATION

A complete parks system is one that offers both active and passive recreation opportunities. Grove City currently has examples of both active and passive recreation in its parks and open spaces. Many of the existing park features are considered active recreational features, such as ball fields and playgrounds. Trails through wooded areas and opportunities for bird watching are examples of passive recreation.

More natural areas was the sixth most popular comment received from the public during the planning process, with almost 50 individual comments. It will be important to identify significant natural resources to protect and preserve as the city grows to potentially integrate into passive recreational areas. Information about the natural resources located in Grove City and their importance to the parks system are outlined in Chapter 3 – Natural Resources and Management.

In addition to identifying land in future parks to be used for passive recreation, land in existing parks should be set aside for passive recreation. For example, Fryer Park has approximately 15 acres of preserved woods with trails leading through them. This passive recreational amenity could be expanded by creating a garden area at the north entrance to the trails. The garden area could have a variety of passive recreational and educational opportunities such as a community garden, naturalist stations or educational signage.

Community Gardens

Community gardens offer residents recreational and educational opportunities. Many central Ohio communities offer community gardens, including Urbancrest, with multiple garden plots behind the Vaughn E. Hairston Southwest Community Center YMCA. The gardens promote wellness and nature education and are a great place for community members to connect. Anyone in the community may utilize community gardens, but they are particularly important for people who don't have space at home, such as people who live in condominiums or apartments. Communities typically rent out plots a season at a time to allow gardeners the ability to plant and watch their gardens grow the entire season.

The location of a community garden should be carefully considered. Good soil and access to water are the two most important features, and there should be room for the garden to expand as demand increases. Several plot sizes and costs should be offered.

WELCOMING AND ACCESSIBLE PARKS

The Grove City Parks and Recreation Department prides itself on a parks system that may be enjoyed by all users. Examples of full-interaction park features are Braille and sign language features in the Windsor Park play area, accessible parking spaces at community parks and ramps into play areas. Perhaps the most accessible element of Grove City's park system is Discovery Frontier at Fryer Park. The playground was specially designed for people of all abilities, and the play equipment is wheelchair accessible and stimulating for people of all development levels. The parks system also

OBJECTIVE 5

Create areas in the parks system for peaceful, passive, non-active recreation

ACTIVE RECREATION

Leisure activities, usually performed with others, often require equipment and take place at prescribed places, sites or fields. The term active recreation includes but is not limited to swimming, court games such as tennis, field sports such as baseball, golf and playground activities.

PASSIVE RECREATION

Recreational activities that generally do not require a developed site and that can be carried out with little alteration or disruption to the area in which they are performed.

OBJECTIVE 2

Make all parks welcoming and accessible for all levels of users.

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offers recreational opportunities for all levels of athleticism ranging from passive trails through wooded areas to active exercise equipment in Henceroth Park.

Welcoming and accessible parks are also defined by clean and well-maintained facilities. Many residents stated that running water in more parks was a priority in order to create more sanitary restrooms and install drinking fountains. These features are not always feasible because of a lack of utility lines in the area. However, the Parks and Recreation Department aims to provide clean facilities in the parks whenever possible.

OBJECTIVE 3

Pursue and encourage joint uses with schools.

PARTNERSHIPS

While Grove City has a variety of facilities for recreational programs, a strong partnership with the South-Western City School District provides supplemental ball fields and program facilities, including space for the P.A.R.K. after-school program. However, a rental application must be submitted every time the city wishes to use these facilities. As the city grows, it will be important to maintain and potentially expand this partnership to include more facilities and create a more formal agreement for facility rental and utilization.

Schools are also important because of the informal recreational opportunities they provide. Residents use school property for play equipment, ball fields or the surrounding grounds. Schools act as important additions to the parks system, particularly in Planning Area B, where the majority of Grove City's elementary schools are located and few neighborhood parks exist. In more fully developed planning areas, where land to create new parks is not available, it will be important for the city to partner with schools to ensure the school property meets the needs of nearby residents who use them in place of public parks. To create a more official relationship regarding the utilization of schools for parkland, the city should enter into an agreement with the schools to help maintain and develop school properties to meet the needs of residents.

OBJECTIVE 1

Promote public open space within the community and make the community aware of current parks.

KEEPING THE PUBLIC INFORMED

No matter how expansive a parks system is, if the public is not aware of what the system offers, park attendance will not meet its full potential. Grove City currently publishes information in a variety of forms about the parks system for residents. As the system expands, it will continue to be important to keep the public informed of the variety of parks and recreational opportunities available to them. A variety of tools should be utilized to ensure all residents have access to this information.

The Source Activity Guide

The Grove City Parks and Recreation Department publishes The Source, a tri-annual activity guide that outlines classes, events, city news and general park information. The Source is mailed to all residents in Grove City as well as Evans Center members. In addition to the online edition, hard copies are available at City Hall, the Grove City Library, Grove City Welcome Center and Museum, Grove City Area Chamber of Commerce, Jackson Township Administration Building, Evans Center and Grove City YMCA.

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Grove City Website

The Grove City website offers a wealth of information related to the parks system. Specific information about city parks, programs, recreational facilities, departmental news and more is available at www.grovecityohio.gov. As the system continues to expand, the Parks and Recreation Department will maintain and update website to keep the public informed.

Social Media

The City of Grove City maintains Facebook and Twitter accounts to communicate with the public. These platforms are used to disseminate event and program information, have conversations with followers and post photos and videos.

Communication with the Schools

The partnership with the South-Western City School District opens a line of communication for students and staff in Grove City schools. In addition to making morning announcements at the schools, promotional print pieces may be distributed through the central office.

From the Grove E-News

The Grove City e-news, From the Grove, is a free subscription-based e-mail update for city news. Several thousand subscribers choose the news they are interested in receiving, including sports, events, youth programs, senior programs and more.

Maps

Grove City has maps available for select parks in the system. The trails map contains information about trails and parks in Grove City and maps of some community park features. Maps are also available for other parks such as the Gardens at Gantz Farm.

Rules and Regulations

The majority of public park rules and regulations were approved in 1999 and have not been amended since that time. As the park system grows to meet the needs of residents, it will be important to keep these rules and regulations up-to-date. The rules should also be easy to locate on the city's website to help residents understand what is permitted in the parks.

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OBJECTIVE 6

Create parks appropriate for the population they serve, while keeping in mind the greater parks system.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE BY PLANNING AREA

Grove City is home to a variety of parks, located throughout the city. Parks are programmed for the population they aim to serve, which varies based on the type of park. For the purpose of this plan, the city was divided into five planning areas in order to better understand the needs of residents. Each park has been examined based on its strengths, weaknesses and future opportunities for development in order to meet the needs of park users. The Grove City Parks and Recreation Department aims to create parks that meet the needs and desires of all city residents.

PLANNING AREA A PARKS:

Concord Lakes Park

Neighborhood Park
1.9 acres

Westgrove Park

Neighborhood Park
5.7 acres

Demorest Road Park

Under Development
23.0 acres

Tanglebrook Park

Township Park
5.5 acres

Total Park Acreage: 36.1

PLANNING AREA A OPEN SPACE:

Public Open Space

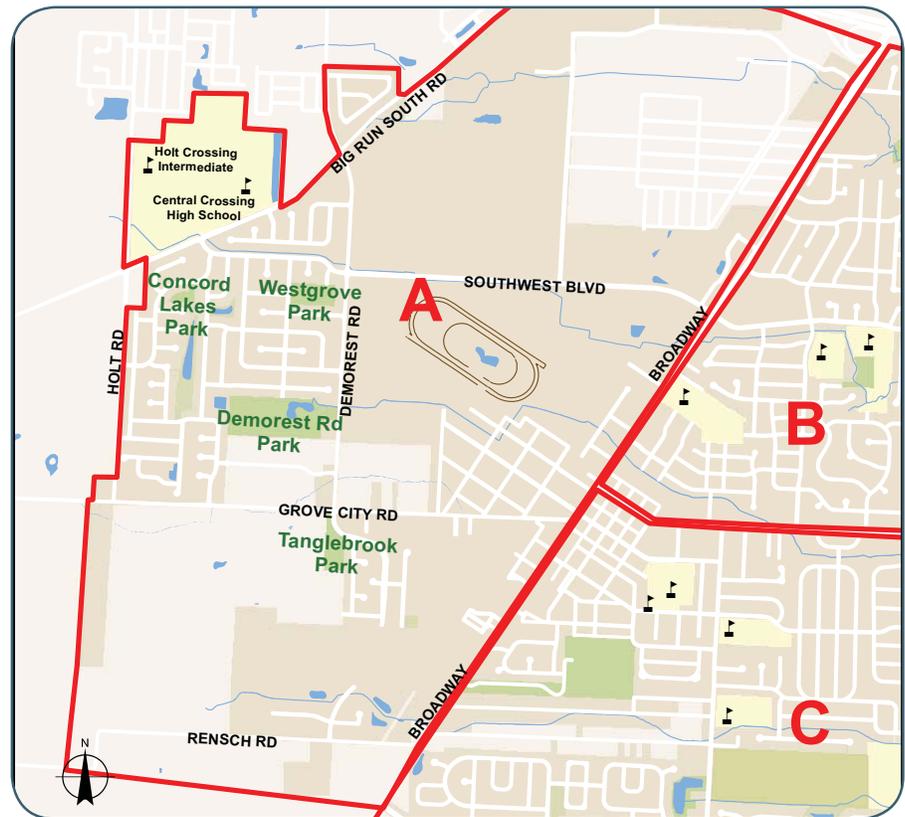
10.3 acres

Private Open Space

11 acres

Total Open Space Acreage: 21.3

PLANNING AREA A



Planning Area A is home to three city parks and one township park for a total of approximately 36 acres of programmed parkland.

During the public input phase of the planning process, approximately half of the residents from Planning Area A who responded to the survey felt their neighborhood was well served by parks, and more than 25 percent felt their neighborhood was not well served by parks. Considering that Planning Areas A is one of only two planning areas without a community park and has the second fewest parks, it is understandable that residents feel this way. However, with the development of the Demorest Road Park, it is the city's intent to provide a multi-use park for residents in this planning area.

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Concord Lakes Park

Concord Lakes is a neighborhood park dedicated to the city with the creation of the Concord Lakes subdivision. It is almost two acres in size and accessible from Lake Mead Drive. Within the park, there is a half basketball court, a shelter house with picnic tables and a grill. A variety of playground equipment is located in this park, as well as a large, open area for free play.

Concord Lakes Park is well developed and receives a lot of traffic on school days because it is located between many houses in the Concord Lakes and Elginfield subdivisions and Central Crossing High School and Holt Crossing Intermediate.

Concord Lakes Park serves the youngest demographic of all the city parks. Its potential service area also has the highest average household size, meaning houses within the Concord Lakes neighborhood are very likely to have children.

Although the park currently offers many amenities, there is room for improvement. Currently, the park does not have any type of signage indicating that it is a city park. While there are trash receptacles, there are no recycling containers in the shelter area to encourage residents to recycle appropriate materials. There is no formal parking for residents who drive to the park, but on-street parking is permitted on Lake Mead Drive. The park is not currently connected to other parks through the trail network. However, this plan will outline possibilities for how to provide this connection in Chapter 4 - Trails and Connectivity.

Actions:

- *Install entry sign*
- *Install recycling containers at shelter*
- *Connect park to trail network (see Chapter 4)*

Westgrove Park

Westgrove Park is a neighborhood park located off of Magnolia Street and was dedicated to the city as part of the Westgrove subdivision, and partially developed with funds from the Land and Water Conservation Grant. It is almost six acres in size and offers a basketball court and large shelter with four picnic tables and a grill. A large playground area offers a variety of equipment and benches. A large open area in this park is used to host soccer games, and a small parking lot is available at the end of Red Oak Street. On-street parking is permitted on Magnolia Street for additional accessibility.

Westgrove Park serves the second youngest demographic of all city parks, only behind Concord Lakes. Its potential service area also has the second highest average household size, meaning houses within the Westgrove neighborhood are very likely to have children.

The playground is the same as that at Concord Lakes. Residents in this planning area and others requested a greater variety of playground equipment be installed in city parks.



CONCORD LAKES PARK SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS (1/2 mile radius around park)

Population: 2,598
Households: 812
Household Size: 3.20
Median Age: 31.2

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WESTGROVE PARK SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS (1/2 mile radius around park)

Population: 2,665

Households: 835

Household Size: 3.19

Median Age: 31.3

While there is a trail leading from the park entrance off of Magnolia Street to the basketball court, there is the potential to extend the trail around the perimeter of the park, creating a walking trail (more than a third of a mile in total distance) for exercise. The addition of drinking fountains to the park would also encourage activity. There are currently no recycling containers in Westgrove Park. To encourage recycling, it is recommended that containers be placed at the shelter and near the basketball court.

Westgrove Park has had minor issues with vandalism, partially due to its size, making it harder to monitor despite its frontage on Magnolia Street and neighboring houses. A potential solution is to install security cameras to deter vandals, as well as install more lighting to improve visibility.

Actions:

- Install recycling containers at the shelter
- Install an entrance sign at the parking area off Red Oak Street
- Install drinking fountain
- Extend the walking trail around the perimeter of the park

Demorest Road Park

The Demorest Road Park is 23 acres of currently undeveloped property located on Demorest Road. The park is also accessible from Magnolia Street and contains a large pond, more than an acre in size. Because of the park's size, there is the potential for multiple uses including walking and leisure trails, a large playground area, a picnic area and remaining land for open space. The development of this park will bring a community park to an area that currently lacks a large-scale park.

Actions:

Develop Demorest Road Park as a community park with a variety of recreational features

Tanglebrook Park

Tanglebrook Park is a township park located on Demorest Road, south of Grove City Road. The park is more than five acres in size and features a variety of playground equipment as well as a jogging trail. A parking lot with more than 20 spaces is available for park users.

Town Center

Grove City's Town Center is a walkable environment with a network of small parks and open spaces and is the site for many festivals and special events. This creates a park atmosphere with the benefit of commercial and civic uses. Grove City Road Park, located at the intersection of Grove City Road and Broadway, offers a picturesque gazebo and a small green space with benches. The Town Center Plaza is located at the northwest corner of Broadway and Park Street. The Plaza is home to a variety to city events such as the Summer Sizzle Concert Series.



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The former Lumberyard site located behind City Hall has been the topic of numerous studies and plans. The 2011 Supplement to the 2008 Grove City Town Center Plan identified this land as prime land for development and states that a major park should not be developed on the lumberyard property. The plan further states that if a permanent park is installed it should be conceived as part of the redevelopment of the immediate surroundings. The plan supplement also identifies the Lumberyard as the potential site of community gardens or a mixed use development with varying amounts of green space.

The 2011 Supplement to the Town Center Plan also identifies multiple locations throughout the Town Center that could act as future pocket parks. One of these locations is the vacant land across the street from the library on Arbutus Avenue.

School Parks

Planning Area A is home to Holt Crossing Intermediate School and Central Crossing High School. These schools offer many acres of open recreational space available to the public as well as ball fields and a track.

Open Space

A number of public open spaces are located in Planning Area A, particularly in the Concord Lakes subdivision. Many of these open spaces have ponds, some with trails around them.

Vaughn E. Hairston Southwest Community Center YMCA and Park

The Vaughn E. Hairston Southwest Community Center YMCA is located on First Avenue in Urbancrest. This facility has an outdoor walking track, an indoor swimming pool, two basketball courts, baseball/softball diamonds and a variety of cardiovascular and strength equipment. There is facility space such as a library, kiln and kitchen for additional programming opportunities.

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PLANNING AREA B PARKS:

Grove City Skate Park

Community Park
4.0 acres

Gantz Park

Community Park
27.5 acres

The Big Splash at Evans Park

Community Park
3.4 acres

Walden Bluff Park

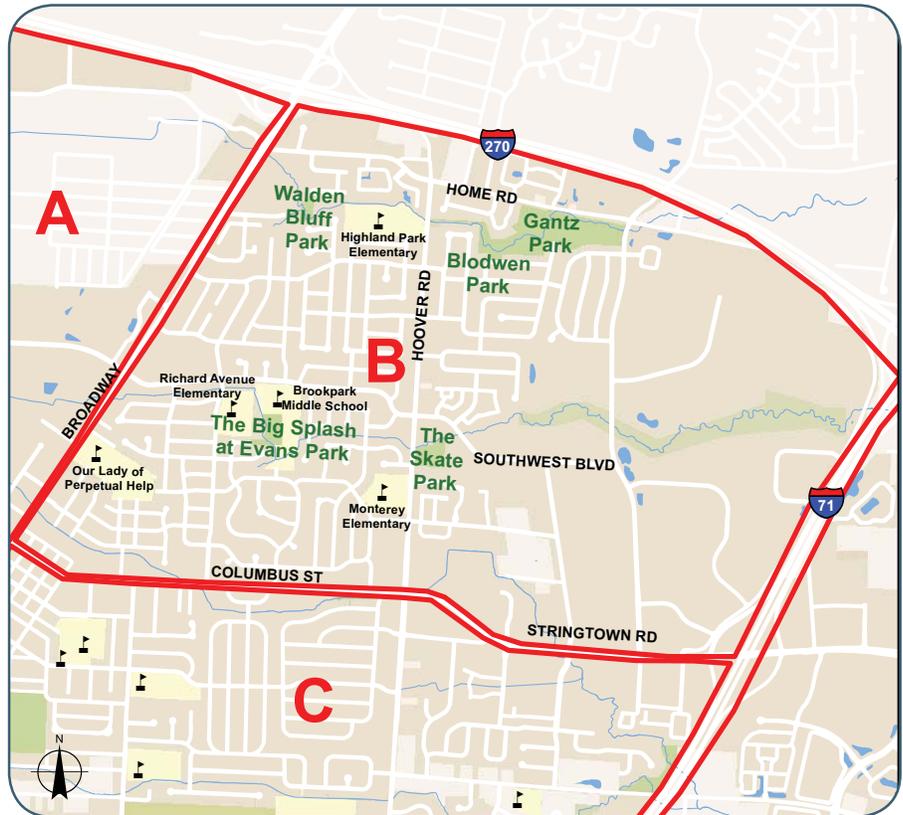
Neighborhood Park
1.8 acres

Blodwen Park

Mini Park
0.6 acres

Total Park Acreage: 37.3

PLANNING AREA B



PLANNING AREA B OPEN SPACE:

Public Open Space

44.5 acres

Private Open Space

0 acres

Total Open Space Acreage: 44.5

Planning Area B is home to five city parks including the Grove City Skate Park, Gantz Park and the Big Splash, with a total of roughly 37 acres of programmed parkland.

Planning Area B had the overall highest opinion of parks from residents during the public input process, with only 14 percent of residents not satisfied with the parks in their neighborhood. Planning Area B is home to the most community parks of all the planning areas, and the compact neighborhoods make the parks more accessible to residents.

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It would be wonderful if our neighborhood had a small city park. At this point we have to drive to other parks to enjoy the city parks. Having one in the neighborhood would give our children access to a park and promote better health by being outside playing.

- Planning Area B Resident

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Grove City Skate Park

The Grove City Skate Park was constructed in 2006 and is approximately 4 acres in size. The 11,000 square foot park is made up of a street skating area with ramps, rails and boxes and multiple bowls with side heights varying from 3 to 18 feet. The park is the location of annual competitions and attracts users of all abilities. Rollerblading and skateboarding are permitted in the skating area, but the use of bikes is prohibited.

The park is located off of Hoover Road, just south of Southwest Boulevard, and has a parking lot with almost 40 parking spaces. There are bike racks, multiple trash receptacles and drinking fountains for park users. There are currently no permanent restroom facilities at this park.

Actions:

- *Install permanent restroom facilities*
- *Install a shelter area*

Gantz Park

Gantz Park is a 27-acre community park offering residents and visitors a variety of features, including The Gardens at Gantz Farm, the Gantz Park Arboretum, approximately 1 mile of leisure trails through wooded areas and rolling terrain, and a variety of traditional recreational opportunities including tennis courts and a half basketball court. The park also features a large shelter house and playground. The main entrance to the park is located on Home Road, but the park is also accessible from Park Ridge Drive. Gantz Park is connected by a leisure path to Blodwen Park, a neighborhood park located off Blodwen Circle.

A two-story barn located at the main park entrance accommodates a variety of youth activities, including the RecSchool early childhood program, as well as many other youth activities and programs. In addition to the large shelter house at the main entrance, there is also a gazebo and smaller shelter house with six picnic tables, a grill and trash receptacles located at the Arboretum.

The Gardens at Gantz Farm is a public herb garden with an estimated 10,000 visitors per year. The brick farmhouse, built in the 1840's, is the headquarters for the herb garden staff and volunteers and educational programs. The gardens have been developed into three main themes to demonstrate a wide range of gardening styles – The Garden of Yesterday, The Garden of Today and the Garden of Tomorrow. Various events are held throughout the year at the Gardens at Gantz Farm.

The Gantz Park Arboretum offers residents the opportunity to learn about different tree species with more than 50 marked trees throughout the Arboretum.

A large parking lot is available at the main entrance to Gantz Park, providing more than 70 parking spaces. An additional 11 spaces are available in a small parking



GROVE CITY SKATE PARK SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS

(1 mile radius around park)

Population: 13,734
Households: 5,635
Household Size: 2.40
Median Age: 39.6



GANTZ PARK SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS

(1 mile radius around park)

Population: 14,255
Households: 5,460
Household Size: 2.59
Median Age: 36.5

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BIG SPLASH AT EVANS PARK SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS (1 mile radius around park)

Population: 14,096
Households: 5,973
Household Size: 2.33
Median Age: 38.9

lot at the end of Park Ridge Drive. The Gardens at Gantz Farm also has a separate parking lot with more than a dozen parking spaces.

Actions:

- *Install entrance sign at Park Ridge Drive entrance*
- *Repair damaged tree markings in Arboretum*
- *Implement recently adopted Gantz Park Arboretum Plan*

The Big Splash at Evans Park

The Big Splash at Evans Park is a seasonal, municipal, family aquatic facility that features a zero-depth entrance, interactive water toys, a large body slide, tot slide, two-drop slides, an aquatic climbing wall and a six-lane lap pool. In addition to the water features, the Big Splash at Evans Park also features a sand volleyball area and a sand play area with toys. The park is located behind Brookpark Middle School and utilizes the school’s parking lot for park attendees.

Possibilities for future redevelopment within this park include installing a sprayground in the existing sand play area. There are also small areas of green space within the fenced park, leaving room for future expansion and development.

Actions:

- *Install a sprayground/baby pool play area*
- *Install a shelter house*



WALDEN BLUFF PARK SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS (1/2 mile radius around park)

Population: 3,730
Households: 1,533
Household Size: 2.43
Median Age: 35.6

Walden Bluff Park

Walden Bluff Park is a mini park located at the end of Walden Bluff Court. It offers a half basketball court, playground and swing set. This park is fairly undeveloped, but offers great potential in terms of natural areas and trail connectivity. More than half of the park is made up of a stream corridor, offering the potential for nature trails and connectivity to other trails. There is also space in the park for a shelter.

The stream that currently runs through the park creates a barrier for residents to the south, mainly the Walden Bluff subdivision. This barrier limits residents’ direct access the park. This park could be better utilized if a connection was established to the surrounding neighborhoods and the greater parks system through trails. Walden Bluff Park extends to the west to connect to Harrisburg Station Lane, off of Broadway. However, the existing path through the wooded area is not safe. Creating a safe connection point at this location would open up the Broadway Corridor to residents as far away as Hoover Road. More detail on this proposed new trail can be found in Chapter 4 – Trails and Connectivity.

The population within Walden Bluff Park’s service area is younger than average for Grove City’s neighborhood parks so it is important to develop this park with families in mind. Creating a trail through the park will give school-age children a safe route to school, as the connection trail would connect the neighborhood to Highland Park Elementary School.

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Actions:

- *Install a trail through the south and southwest portion of the park connected to the trail network*
- *Install a shelter and picnic tables*
- *Install new playground equipment*

Blodwen Park

Blodwen Park is located off Blodwen Circle and offers neighborhood residents a playground with benches and a shelter house with two picnic tables. There is also considerable open space in the rear of the park. A trail leads from Blodwen Park to Gantz Park, providing connectivity to larger facilities and trails. The park offers a more intimate park experience for residents not wishing to utilize Gantz Park’s playground.

Providing delineation of the park boundaries might encourage residents to use the entire park, particularly the open space at the rear of the park, which could be easily mistaken for private property belonging to the neighboring houses. Installing a portion of white fencing to match the existing corner fencing at the park entrance would better define the park boundaries and improve the overall park usage. While Blodwen Park offers a well-maintained shelter house with picnic tables, there is no grill. Installing a similar charcoal grill to those throughout the parks system would allow families to enjoy a full picnic experience at the park.

Actions:

- *Install a charcoal grill*
- *Install fencing at the northwest corner of the park to delineate park boundary*

School Parks

School parks play a particularly important role in Planning Area B because many of the neighborhoods in the area do not have access to neighborhood parks. Residents with children likely utilize the play areas and open space on school property in place of a neighborhood park.

Three elementary schools are located in Planning Area B: Highland Park Elementary, Monterey Elementary and Richard Avenue Elementary. Each of these schools have playgrounds and open space. Brookpark Middle School offers additional open space.

Private Park

The Regency Arms apartment complex has three small playgrounds for residents.

Open Space

More than 40 acres of public open space is located along Brown Run within the Southpark Industrial Park. This land is heavily wooded and is currently inaccessible for residents. Chapter 4 outlines the possibility of locating a series of trails through this open space along the stream.



BLODWEN PARK SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS (1/4 mile radius around park)

Population: 985
Households: 378
Household Size: 2.61
Median Age: 40.7

parks and open space

PLANNING AREA C PARKS:

Fryer Park

Community Park
111.5 acres

Windsor Park

Community Park
34 acres

Hoover Park

Neighborhood Park
6 acres

Keller Farms Park

Neighborhood Park
5.5 acres

Creed Lawless Park

Mini Park
0.3 acre

Sesquicentennial Park

Mini Park
1 acre

Swearingen Park

Mini Park
1 acre

Total Park Acreage: 159.3

PLANNING AREA C OPEN SPACE:

Public Open Space

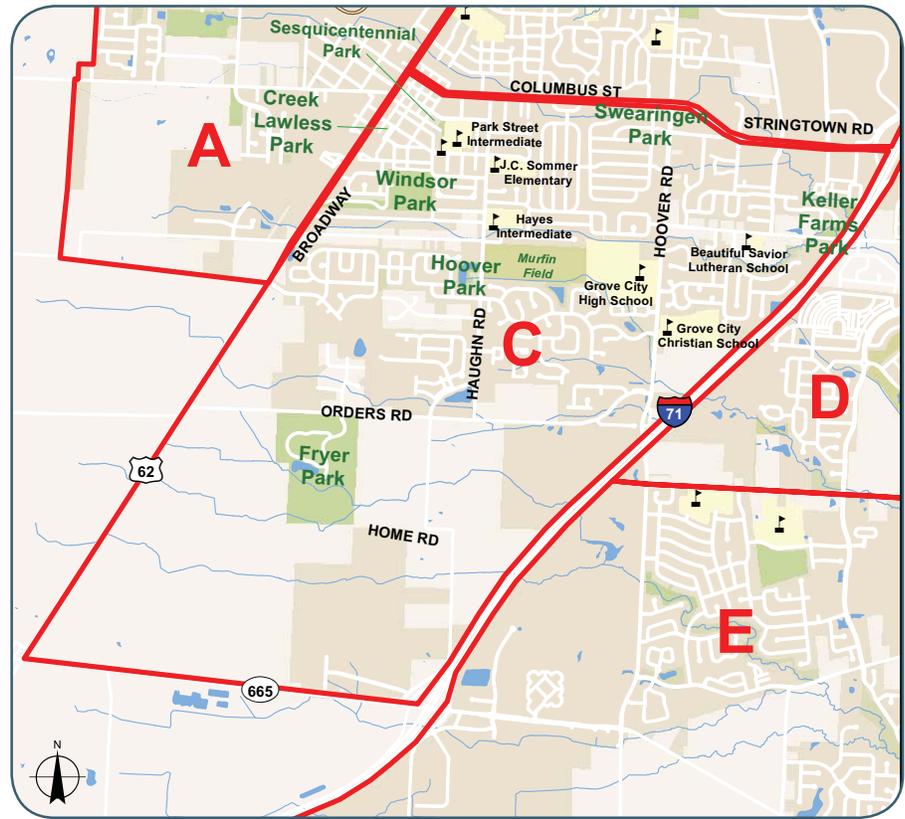
18.8 acres

Private Open Space

20.5 acres

Total Open Space Acreage: 39.9

PLANNING AREA C



Planning Area C is home to seven parks including Windsor Park and Fryer Park, with a total of approximately 160 acres of programmed parkland.

Planning Area C has the most parks of all the planning areas, and all park types are represented. Almost 60 percent of residents said they felt their neighborhood was well served by parks, the highest percentage of all the planning areas.

parks and open space

Fryer Park

Fryer Park is the largest city-owned park in Grove City. It is home to the Grove City YMCA, Century Village, Discovery Frontier, Rotary Lake and eight softball diamonds. Fields at the park are also used for soccer, and a large hill on the west side of the park serves as a sledding hill in the winter.

Discovery Frontier is an all-accessible playground with a space theme. A wide variety of play equipment is available for children of all ages and abilities, including a horizontal climbing wall.

Century Village is a turn-of-the-century historic area featuring a number of historic buildings including a one-room schoolhouse, log crib barn, barn with animal pen, log houses and an outhouse.

Rotary Lake offers scenic views as well as catch-and-release fishing without a license. A trail wraps around the lake with benches and picnic areas along the way. Distances are marked around the trail, making this loop very popular with walkers and joggers. Trails can also be found through the park’s nearly 14 acres of naturally wooded area to the east of Discovery Drive.

Many comments were received from the public regarding running water in the park. With the installation of a new water tower at Fryer Park, water is now available. The public also voiced a desire to have lights at the softball fields.

Fryer Park is somewhat isolated from residential areas, so it will be very important as the city grows to consider what the neighboring population requires from a park. Currently, the median age within Fryer Park’s one-mile service area is the highest of all community parks at 40.5. This means that while the park will likely attract younger residents for the playground and sporting facilities, it is also important to develop the park to be attractive for an older population. Providing more information about the wooded trails and installing a scenic garden area to the north of the preserved wooded area are possibilities for attracting a population more interested in passive recreation and interaction with nature.

Actions:

- *Install lights at the softball diamonds*
- *Install restrooms and concessions with running water near the softball diamonds*
- *Promote the wooded trails*
- *Create a scenic natural garden area to between the former mud volleyball courts behind the Fryer House and wooded area*
- *Continue to develop Legacy Grove*
- *Complete Century Village*
- *Install a three-season pavilion*
- *Install a sprayground in Discovery Frontier*
- *Expand acreage to the south and west*
- *Install outdoor amphitheater*
- *Install multi-sport playing fields*



FRYER PARK SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS (1 mile radius around park)

Population: 2,584
Households: 914
Household Size: 2.78
Median Age: 40.5



A glass blowing furnace, pottery wheel and blacksmith shop at the historical site would be nice.

- Planning Area C Resident



parks and open space



**WINDSOR PARK
SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS
(1 mile radius around park)**

Population: 12,363
Households: 4,921
Household Size: 2.48
Median Age: 39.6

Windsor Park

Windsor Park is home to 11 baseball fields, four tennis courts and an interactive playground. There is also a large shelter with many picnic tables and a grill nearby for gatherings. This park is also the location of the Evans Center where many classes and events for seniors are held.

In 2010, a new road, Babbert Way, and leisure trail were installed providing access to Windsor Park from Broadway and additional parking near the southern baseball diamonds. The parkland next to Babbert Way is currently undeveloped. Preliminary plans for this area suggest the installation of more ball fields. However, the final plans of installation have not yet been determined.

Windsor Park is located near Grove City’s Town Center and is bordered by well-established neighborhoods. The average household size is small, and the median age is higher than average, meaning that many of the park features are likely not utilized by those residents directly bordering it. Windsor Park is used for many travel baseball tournaments for both residents and visitors.

Actions:

- *Keep the public informed of development on park addition off of Broadway*
- *Install a three-season pavilion*
- *Redevelop parking areas*
- *Install an all-accessible playing field*
- *Continue to acquire property to expand the park as it becomes available*



**HOOVER PARK
SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS
(1/2 mile radius around park)**

Population: 3,850
Households: 1,461
Household Size: 2.61
Median Age: 40

Hoover Park

Hoover Park is an 8-acre park home to a large pond with a trail around the perimeter and benches along the way to view the scenery. It is accessible on foot from Haughn Road and Windrow Drive. The park also has a small playground area.

The median age within the park’s service area is higher than most neighborhood parks and has one of the lowest household sizes. This park is well programmed for its somewhat high median age, given its passive recreational amenities such as trails and benches.

Although this park offers great recreational opportunities, the park is not visible from any public area. Acquiring land on Haughn Road would not only improve the visibility of the park, but would also provide land for the installation of a shelter house and the potential for other park development. Currently, there is no signage for the park indicating that it is a public park. Installing signs at the entrance off Haughn Road and Windrow Drive would improve awareness of the park.

Actions:

- *Install entry signs at both the entrance off Haughn Road and Windrow Drive*
- *Acquire property on Haughn Road to expand the park and improve visibility*

parks and open space

Keller Farms Park

Keller Farms Park is located off of White Road, bordered by I-71 on the east. It is also accessible from a walkway from Michelle Court. The park offers a small playground area, a shelter and a half basketball court. Republican Run bisects the park, creating a natural corridor in the park. This corridor is currently inaccessible from the rest of the park. Makeshift trails have been created through the wooded area but are not safe for the public unless access to them is improved.

Keller Farms' service area has the highest median age of all the neighborhood parks, but the median household size is about average. The half basketball court is a heavy draw for this park, but the playground equipment is designed for very young children. Installing playground equipment for a wider age bracket might improve park usage.

There are no markings from Michelle Court directing residents to the park. The park is only visible from White Road. While area residents are likely aware of the park, it might be difficult for new residents to locate it.

Improvements to White Road will create a trail connection from Keller Farms Park to the Buckeye Parkway Trail. However, White Road blocks residents to the south who could potentially walk to the park. Creating a safe crossing point along White Road would improve the park's accessibility. This will be discussed further in Chapter 4 – Trails and Connectivity.

Actions:

- *Install a bridge over Republican Run to access the natural corridor in the park*
- *Clean the existing informal trails through the natural areas*
- *Install signage at the Michelle Court entrance*

Creed Lawless Park

Creed Lawless Park is a mini park located on Arbutus Avenue, fronting Kingston Avenue. It offers a small playground area as well as a gathering area with a grill and small gazebo.

The median age of this park's service area is fairly low with a small average household size. The park offers a variety of play equipment as well as passive gathering places to suit nearby residents.

Actions:

- *Install recycling container near shelter*



KELLER FARMS PARK SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS (1/2 mile radius around park)

Population: 2,946
Households: 1,039
Household Size: 2.82
Median Age: 41.9



CREED LAWLESS PARK SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS (1/4 mile radius around park)

Population: 771
Households: 344
Household Size: 2.24
Median Age: 35.4

parks and open space



SESQUICENTENNIAL PARK SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS (1/4 mile radius around park)

Population: 915
Households: 423
Household Size: 2.16
Median Age: 36.4

Sesquicentennial Park

Sesquicentennial Park is located on Park Street next to Park Street Intermediate School. It is a 1-acre passive park with a short walking path through a garden setting. While the park is small in size, there is a small amount of open space to the west of the developed garden area.

Sesquicentennial Park's service area has an average household size of just more than two people per household. This likely means that there are many couples with no children. Sesquicentennial Park is appropriate for this demographic, who would not have use for a park with play fields and playground equipment.

Actions:

- *Maintain the existing passive character of the park*

Swearingen Park

Swearingen Park is located on Columbus Street near the intersection of Hoover Road. It offers a small playground and two shelter houses with grills. Republican Run runs along the south edge of the park, making the park inaccessible to residents bordering the park to the south. The city owns property that crosses Republican Run and connects to Queensway Drive, but the land has not been utilized. In order to make the park accessible to more residents, the city should reclaim its property extending to Queensway Drive and install a bridge over Republican Run to connect the neighborhood to the park.

Swearingen Park's service area has the highest median age of all Grove City parks' service areas at almost 47 years old. This park appears to be appropriately developed for this demographic, given the two pavilions for gathering with friends and family. Due to its location along Columbus Street, Swearingen Park would also be a prime location for public art.

Actions:

- *Reclaim the city's property fronting Queensway Drive connecting to the park*
- *Install a bridge over Republican Run to access the park from the south*
- *Install public art within the park*



SWEARINGEN PARK SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS (1/4 mile radius around park)

Population: 1,263
Households: 442
Household Size: 2.60
Median Age: 46.8

School Parks

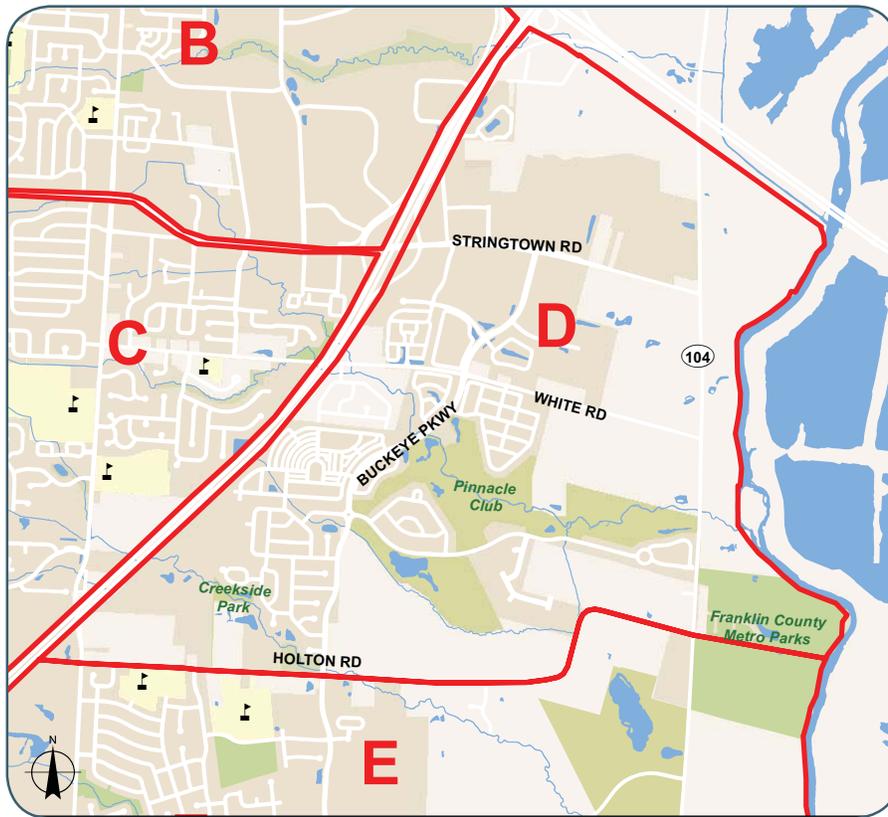
Planning Area C has many schools, including one elementary school, two intermediate schools and a high school. The elementary school has a large playground and open space for free recreation. The intermediate and high schools also have large amounts of open space.

Open Space

Many of the residential subdivisions in Planning Area C have dedicated open space in them for residents to enjoy. Hoover Park, Claybrooke Crossing, Hoover Crossing and Margie's Cove are all subdivisions in this area with open space, many of which offer connectivity to the trail network. Slightly less than half of the open space in the area is public, with the remaining open space owned by homeowners associations.

parks and open space

PLANNING AREA D



PLANNING AREA D OPEN SPACE:

Public Open Space

7.0 acres

Private Open Space

27.2 acres

Total Open Space Acreage: 34.2

Planning Area D does not contain any public parks. The recreation center and golf course for the Pinnacle Club are located here, but there are no public recreation facilities in this area. The Creekside subdivision contains a neighborhood park, and multiple pocket parks are located throughout Pinnacle, but these too are not public parks.

Less than a quarter of the residents from Planning Area D who participated in the public input portion of the plan felt their neighborhood was well served by parks. Many comments from Planning Area D residents expressed a desire for a public park in their neighborhood. This planning area is expected to grow considerably in the coming years, and it will be important to plan for public parks for current and future residents of this area.

Actions:

- Amend subdivision requirements to require reserves to be given to the city to be developed into public parkland (Details in Chapter 7)

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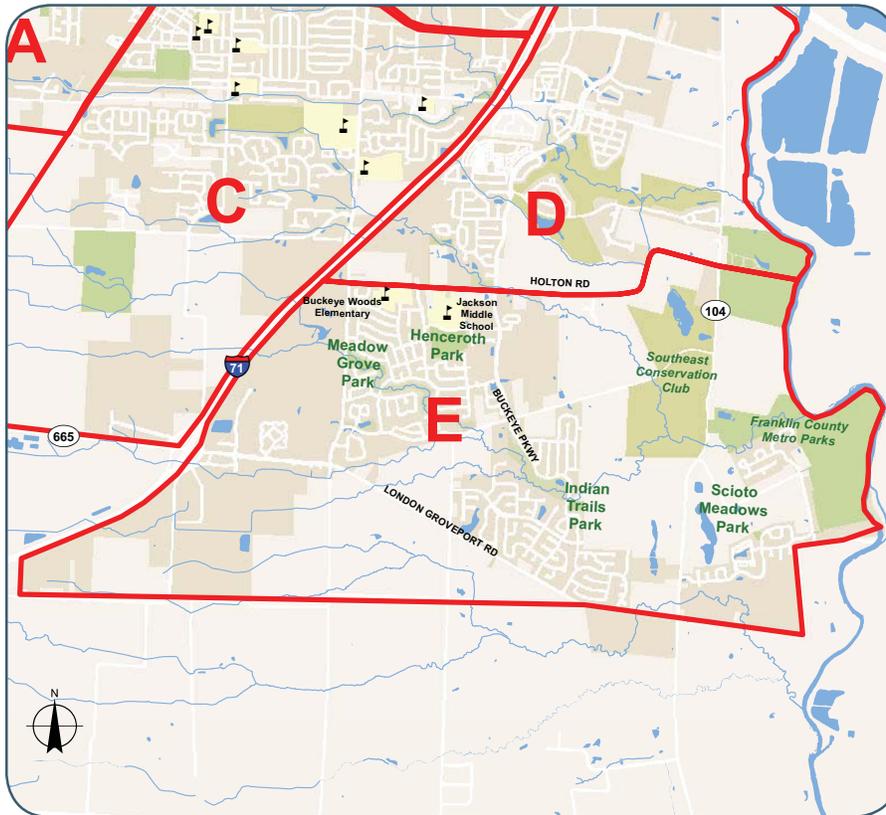
A park in this area of town would be nice. It doesn't have to be a large one but something with a small water feature, walking trail and picnic tables. There are a lot of condos and apartments in this area so we don't have a lot of open space to get outside.

- Planning Area D Resident

”

parks and open space

PLANNING AREA E



PLANNING AREA E PARKS:

Henceroth Park

Community Park
21.3 acres

Indian Trails Park

Neighbor Park
3.8 acres

Meadow Grove Park

Neighborhood Park
9.5 acres

Scioto Meadows Park

Mini Park
1.5 acres

Total Park Acreage: 36.1

PLANNING AREA E OPEN SPACE:

Public Open Space

54.7 acres

Private Open Space

60.1 acres

Total Open Space Acreage: 114.8

Five parks are located in Planning Area E including Henceroth Park, for a total of more than 40 acres of programmed parks. The former Talbott Park, which was recently dedicated to Franklin County Metro Parks to be included as part of a future Metro Park along the Scioto River, is in Planning Area E.

More than half of the residents participating in the public input portion of the plan from Planning Area E responded that they feel the city is well served by parks, but only about a third of the residents feel their neighborhood is. While this planning area does include a community park, two neighborhood parks and a mini park, it is the largest planning area, and many of the parks are on the outskirts of a neighborhood and not easily accessible for residents.

parks and open space



HENCEROTH PARK SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS (1 mile radius around park)

Population: 4,578
Households: 1,670
Household Size: 2.74
Median Age: 35.8

Henceroth Park

Henceroth Park is considered the city’s “green” park and features many sustainable elements such as solar powered lighting fixtures, a rain garden and playground and exercise equipment made of recycled materials. A leisure trail surrounds the perimeter of the park. There are also multiple educational opportunities throughout the park, including a butterfly garden and a trail through the woods with trees identifiers.

The park is well connected to the trail system, with a trail along Mallow Lane connecting to the Buckeye Parkway Trail, and trail access from Blue Star Drive to the south. A parking area is available off Mallow Lane, with 20 spaces.

The interior of the park, more than 5 acres in size, is largely undeveloped and has the potential for the development of a variety of park features. Henceroth Park currently does not have a shelter or picnic area for residents to gather, nor are there any sports fields.

Actions:

- Promote the “green” features of the park*
- Install a shelter with picnic tables and a grill*
- Install recycling containers*



INDIAN TRAILS PARK SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS (1/2 mile radius around park)

Population: 2,136
Households: 687
Household Size: 3.11
Median Age: 37.4

Indian Trails Park

Indian Trails Park is located off of Buckeye Parkway and is accessible from the Buckeye Parkway Trail. It has a large playground area, a shelter house with a grill and a basketball court. It also has a walking trail around the perimeter and a small parking lot with 10 parking spaces.

Grant Run runs along the north edge of the park, creating potential for additional recreational opportunities. Grant Run has been targeted for the future site of a recreational trail, which Indian Trails Park could easily tie into. The proposed Grant Run Trail would create a series of trails starting at Hoover Road and ending at the Scioto River. An informal trail currently leads from Indian Trails Park to Grant Run, but at this time is not safe for all users and would need to be improved for future connectivity or access to Grant Run. Grant Run can also provide an educational opportunity in the park, with signage about natural stream corridors. More details about the Grant Run Trails and Indian Trails Park’s connection to the trail can be found in Chapter 4 – Trails and Connectivity.

Actions:

- Install a path to Grant Run, with educational signage about the natural area and benches for resting*

parks and open space

Meadow Grove Park

Meadow Grove Park is located along Grant Run, accessible on foot from Spring Hill Road or Hoover Road. The park offers a small shelter with a single picnic table, a playground area and an abundance of open space. The park borders Grant Run with many informal paths leading to the stream. No safe trail currently exists to or along Grant Run.

Grant Run bisects Meadow Grove Park, with a portion of the park on the south side of the stream with no connection across. The land on the south side has not been developed, and the residents to the south cannot access the improvements installed on the north side of the park unless they walk to Hoover Road to cross Grant Run.

The city owns land along the length of Grant Run until it crosses Borror Road, making the potential for a trail along the stream viable. Further discussion on the potential Grant Run Trail is discussed in Chapter 4 – Trails and Connectivity. Meadow Grove Park would be an ideal linear park along this trail. The park fronts Hoover Road, with space available to potentially install a small parking area to access both the park and future trails within the park and connecting to the larger trail system.

Actions:

- Install a larger shelter with more picnic tables and a grill and recycling containers*
- Install a bridge across Grant Run, connecting the southern portion of the park to the northern portion*
- Install a trail to and along Grant Run*
- Preserve the southern portion of the park as a passive recreation area, with benches and a walking path*

Scioto Meadows Park

Scioto Meadows Park is the only park located east of Jackson Pike and services the Scioto Meadows subdivision. It is the newest park in the system and offers a half basketball court, small shelter, drinking fountain and interactive playground area.

The park currently appears somewhat unwelcoming due to the lack of vegetation. Adding trees to the western boundary will give the park a more intimate feel. Its location, at the bend in Scioto Meadows Boulevard and the fact that it does not have many houses around it has lead to the park suffering from minor vandalism, including graffiti and pieces broken and taken from the playground. A variety of actions could be taken to reduce vandalism, including installing lighting or security cameras.

Actions:

- Install trees along the western park boundary*
- Install lighting near the playground area*
- Install park signage*



MEADOW GROVE PARK SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS (1/2 mile radius around park)

Population: 3,145
Households: 1,171
Household Size: 2.68
Median Age: 35.6



SCIOTO MEADOWS PARK SERVICE AREA DEMOGRAPHICS (1/2 mile radius around park)

Population: 956
Households: 337
Household Size: 2.84
Median Age: 37.6

parks and open space

School Parks

Buckeye Woods Elementary and Jackson Middle School are located in Planning Area E and offer residents acres of open space, a ball field and a playground area. Access to these school properties can be gained from the Holton Road or Mallow Lane trails and also from the residential streets bordering the sites.

Open Space

Planning Area E contains an abundance of open space located along stream corridors with ponds and wooded areas. Open space in this planning area is primarily owned by the city. The homeowners association for Indian Trails owns much of the open space within its subdivision.

Future Metro Park

The former Talbott Park was recently donated to the Franklin County Metro Parks for the creation of a Metro Park along the Scioto River. Plans for the park have not been released. Land has been dedicated along the Scioto River within this park for the installation of a new shared use path and recreational trail. This trail would connect to the existing Scioto Trail to take cyclists from Grove City to downtown Columbus and north, connecting to the Olentangy and 670 trails.

Former Grovebrook Golf Course

The former Grovebrook Golf Course, located between Hoover Road and Interstate 71, was mentioned by many residents participating in the public input portion of the plan as an ideal location for a large park and potential location for a public recreation center. The property is more than 100 acres in size and offers scenic ponds, hills and an abundance of green space.

The presence of two large ponds, streams and the fact that much of the property lies in the floodplain make much of this property undevelopable. Should the property be purchased for development, it is likely that much of it would remain as open space, likely dedicated to the city for parkland. Residents voiced a variety of desires for the park, aside from the potential location for the recreational center, including an off-leash dog area, fishing, playgrounds, shelter houses and natural green space with trails and the opportunity for hiking and passive play. Its location makes it accessible to many residents in the Meadow Grove and Quail Creek subdivisions, with the potential to service many more residents by tying into the city's trail network on the Holton Road Trail and the proposed Grant Run Trail.

“

A tremendous opportunity exists with the former golf course site... It would provide a 'showcase' and positive impression on those driving on I-71.

- Planning Area E Resident

”

parks and open space

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS FOR PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

G1. **A community knowledgeable of the city's parks and open space system.**

Grove City currently publishes information in a variety of forms about the parks system for its residents. As the system expands, it will continue to be important to keep the public informed of the variety of parks available in the city and the recreational opportunities available in them.

O1. **Promote public open space within the community and make the community aware of current parks, their sizes and components.**

In order to ensure that the parks are being utilized to their fullest, it will be important for the Parks and Recreation Department to continue to educate the community on what is available in the parks system. Keeping the public informed through a variety of tools will increase the chances of more residents having access to the information.

- A1. Continue to publish seasonal newsletters about the parks system
- A2. Keep the website updated with park information
- A3. Provide the community with up-to-date maps and descriptions of parks
- A4. Adopt Code revisions for park definitions, such as Greenway, Community Park, Neighborhood Park, and Pocket Park
- A5. Update the rules and regulations for public parks, outlined in Chapter 903 of the Grove City Code of Ordinances
- A6. Brand the parks by creating standards for signage, lighting and site furnishings

G2. **A park system offering the community a variety of park and open space options.**

A successful park system has something for everyone. Grove City's parks are very popular and offer residents a great variety of recreational opportunities. As the city grows, it will be very important for the department to continue to develop parks for all potential users and facilities for a variety of activities.

O2. **Make all parks welcoming and accessible for all levels of users.**

Having parks usable for all levels of users will ensure that the parks are utilized to their full potential. Parks should be welcoming for children and adults of all ages and physical abilities, creating spaces people want to spend time in.

- A7. Provide clean restroom facilities in the parks when feasible
- A8. Provide park features usable for citizens of all abilities in every park

parks and open space

POLICY FOUNDATION DEFINITIONS

Goal

A goal is a broad policy statement expressing a desired outcome in simple terms.

Objective

An objective is a refinement of the goal necessary to give more detailed policy direction to strategies to implement the goal.

Action

An action is a detailed action step, program, project, or policy necessary to initiate and complete an objective.

O3. Pursue and encourage joint uses with schools.

The Parks and Recreation department currently holds an agreement with the South-Western City School district to utilize select ball fields for city use. In the future, the city should consider expanding the facilities shared to offer more opportunities for residents.

A9. Maintain a working relationship with schools for the use of select ball fields

A10. Draft a formal agreement for the utilization of the currently rented South-Western City School facilities/building use

A11. Explore the possibility of using school facilities for a wider variety of recreation and educational offerings

O4. Facilities should be able to support multiple activities.

Grove City is growing quickly and as the population expands it will be important to have facilities that can accommodate a variety of activities to offer the growing population. Throughout the public input process, the public voiced their strong desire to have a public recreation center to house the growing recreational demands of the community.

A12. Create a public recreation center in Grove City

O5. Create areas in the parks system for peaceful, passive, non active recreation.

A13. Create areas in all new parks with no designated programming, for passive, non active recreation

A14. Target areas for passive recreation in existing parks and city-owned property

O6. Create parks appropriate for the population they serve, while keeping in mind the greater parks system.

While it is important to view the park system at a macro level to ensure that the community is served properly, it is also important to target each park individually and examine specific improvements for each park. By examining the information at the neighborhood – level, specific recommendations can be made about each park to better serve the users of the park.

A15. Determine an appropriate location for a Memorial Park

A16. Amend subdivision requirements to require reserves to be given to the City to be developed into public parkland

parks and open space

SPECIFIC PARK RECOMMENDATIONS

The Big Splash

- A17. Install a sprayground/baby pool play area
- A18. Install a shelter area

Blowden Park

- A19. Install a charcoal grill
- A20. Install fencing at the northwest corner of the park to delineate a park boundary

Concord Lakes Park

- A21. Install entry sign
- A22. Install recycling containers at the shelter
- A23. Connect the park to the trail network

Creed Lawless Park

- A24. Install recycling container near shelter

Demorest Road Park

- A25. Develop Demorest Road Park as a community park with a variety of recreational features

Fryer Park

- A26. Install lights at the softball diamonds
- A27. Install restrooms with running water and concessions at softball diamonds
- A28. Promote the wooded trails
- A29. Create a scenic natural garden area between the mud volleyball courts and wooded area
- A30. Install a sprayground at Discovery Frontier
- A31. Complete Legacy Grove
- A32. Install a three season pavilion
- A33. Expand acreage to the south and west
- A34. Continue to develop Century Village
- A35. Install an amphitheater
- A36. Install multi-sport fields

Gantz Park

- A37. Install entrance sign at Park Ridge Drive entrance
- A38. Repair damaged tree markings in Arboretum
- A39. Implement the adopted Arboretum plan

Grove City Skate Park

- A40. Install permanent restroom facilities
- A41. Install a shelter area

parks and open space

Henceroth Park

- A42. Promote the “green” features of the park
- A43. Install a shelter with picnic tables and a grill
- A44. Install recycling containers

Hoover Park

- A45. Install entry signs at both the entrance off Haughn Road and Windrow Drive
- A46. Acquire property on Haughn Road to expand the park and improve visibility

Indian Trails Park

- A47. Install a path to Grant Run, with educational signage about the natural area and benches for resting

Keller Farms Park

- A48. Install a bridge over Republican Run to access the natural corridor in the park
- A49. Clean the existing informal trails through the natural areas
- A50. Install signage at the Michelle Court entrance

Meadow Grove Park

- A51. Install a large shelter with more picnic tables and a grill and recycling containers
- A52. Install a bridge across Grant Run, connecting the southern portion of the park to the northern portion
- A53. Install a trail to and along Grant Run
- A54. Preserve the southern portion of the park as a passive recreation area, with benches and a walking path

Open Space (Planning Area D)

- A55. Amend subdivision requirements to require reserves to be given to the city to be developed into public parkland

Scioto Meadows Park

- A56. Install trees along the western park boundary
- A57. Install lighting near the playground area
- A58. Install park signage

Sesquicentennial Park

- A59. Maintain the existing passive character of the park

Swearingen Park

- A60. Reclaim the city’s property fronting Queensway Drive connecting to the park
- A61. Install a bridge over Republican Run to access the park from the south
- A62. Install public art within the park

parks and open space

SPECIFIC PARK RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUED

Walden Bluff Park

- A63. Install a trail through the south and southwest portion of the park connected to the trail network
- A64. Install a shelter and picnic tables
- A65. Install new playground equipment

Westgrove Park

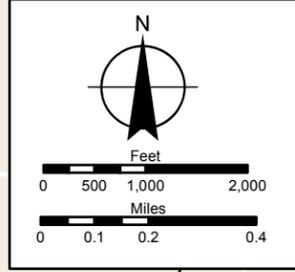
- A66. Install recycling containers at the shelter
- A67. Install entrance sign at the parking area off Red Oak Street
- A68. Install a drinking fountain
- A69. Extend the walking trail around the perimeter of the park

Windsor Park

- A70. Keep the public informed of development on park addition off of Broadway
- A71. Redevelop parking areas
- A72. Install a Miracle Field/all-access field
- A73. Install a three-season pavilion
- A74. Continue to acquire property on Ventura Boulevard to expand the park as it becomes available

Legend

- Public Park
- Public Open Space
- Private Park



CONTINUED ON PG 2

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Franklin County Metro Parks

