

PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN



January 2015



RESOLUTION NO. 3772

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARROLLTON, TEXAS, APPROVING THE UPDATED PARK MASTER PLAN; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Carrollton, Texas (“City”), hired Dunaway and Associates (“Dunaway”) to update the City’s comprehensive Park Master Plan and to include current park inventory, action plan, national standards, and consultant recommendations; and

WHEREAS, Dunaway met with Parks & Recreation staff and the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, and reviewed National Recreation & Park Association standards; and

WHEREAS, Dunaway has developed an Updated Parks Master Plan, based upon such information and review; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board considered and recommends adoption of the Updated Park Master Plan and;

WHEREAS, Park and Recreation staff will implement management innovations and policy recommendations based upon the approved Updated Park Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of the Updated Park Master Plan authorizes the City submit the Updated Master Plan to Texas, Park and Wildlife to apply for grant funding; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Carrollton finds that it is in the best interest of the citizens of the City to adopt the Updated Park Master Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF CARROLLTON, TEXAS, THAT:

SECTION 1.

The above and foregoing premises are true and correct and are incorporated herein and made part hereof for all purposes.

SECTION 2.

The City of Carrollton Updated Park Master Plan is hereby approved by the City Council.

SECTION 3.

The City Manager is authorized to take those steps reasonable and necessary to comply with the intent of this Resolution.

SECTION 4.

This Resolution and the Updated Parks Master Plan shall be in full force effective from and after its passage and approval.

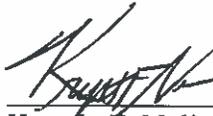
DULY PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Carrollton, Texas this 20th day of January, 2015.

CITY OF CARROLLTON, TEXAS



Matthew Marchant, Mayor

ATTEST:



Krystle F. Nelinson, City Secretary

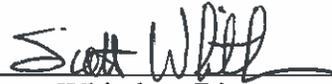


APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Meredith A. Ladd, City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:



Scott Whitaker, Director,
Parks and Recreation

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Carrollton Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan would not be possible without the support of the following individuals:

CITY COUNCIL

Matthew Marchant

Mayor

Jeff Andonian

Councilmember

Place 1, NORTHEAST

Anthony Wilder

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem

Place 2, AT-LARGE

Doug Hrbacek

Councilmember

Place 3, SOUTHWEST

Bob Garza

Mayor Pro Tem

Place 4, AT-LARGE

Kevin Falconer

Councilmember

Place 5, NORTHWEST

Steve Babick

Councilmember

Place 6, AT-LARGE

Lisa Sutter

Councilmember

Place 7 SOUTHEAST

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD

Gerry Lalima

Michael Vertz

Russell Tether

Lorri Goddard

Dave Hermon

Maytelin Herrera-Batista

Orrin Russell

Jeff Sailer

John Campbell

PARKS DEPARTMENT STAFF

Scott Whitaker

Director

Susan Gibson Bruckhoff

Administrative Specialist

Jason Chadock

Manager - Leisure Services

Kim Bybee

Manager - Athletics

Bobby Brady

Manager - Parks

DUNAWAY TEAM

Philip Neeley, ASLA

Project Manager

Elizabeth McIlrath, ASLA

Landscape Architect

Anita Beard, ASLA

Landscape Architect

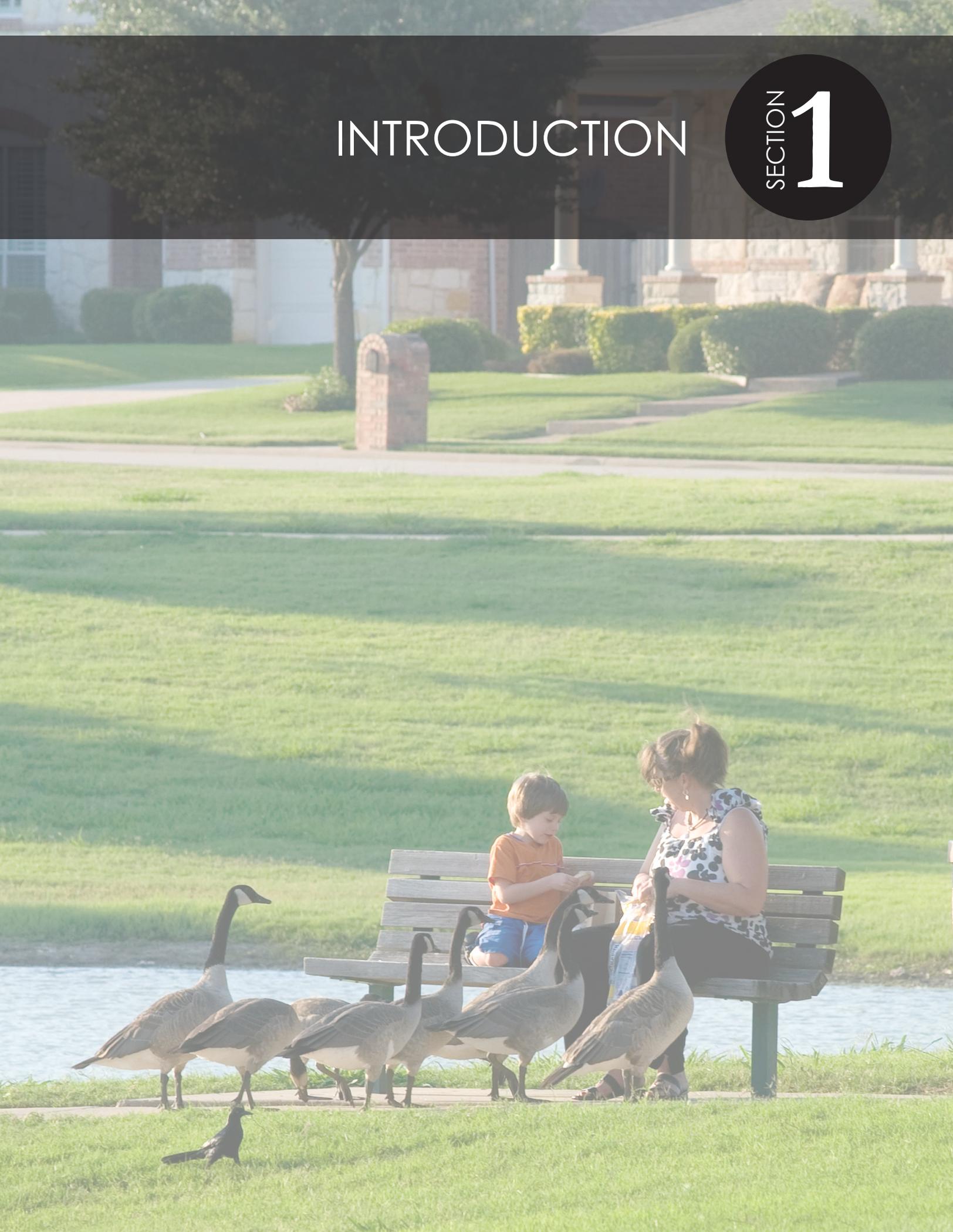
TABLE OF CONTENTS



SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION	1
SECTION 2: METHODOLOGY	3
SECTION 3: INVENTORY	6
SECTION 4: STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES	56
SECTION 5: NEEDS ASSESSMENT	64
SECTION 6: RECOMMENDATIONS/PRIORITIES FOR MASTER PLAN	66
SECTION 7: IMPLEMENTATION	70

INTRODUCTION

SECTION 1



SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

I. PURPOSE OF THE MASTER PLAN

The City of Carrollton continues to provide a broad range of dynamic parks and recreational facilities throughout the community. But with steady growth and new trends in recreation, the demand increases for new and expanded park facilities, recreation programs, and open space areas. To frame a new vision for this the City selected the planning consultant of Dunaway Associates to update the Comprehensive Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan (Master Plan).

The purpose of the Master Plan is to:

- A. Provide the framework for orderly and consistent planning and development within the overall park system.
- B. Evaluate the current system and the role of parks and recreation to serve all citizens.
- C. Establish guidelines and priorities to meet the parks and recreation needs over the next 5 to 10 years.
- D. Provide direction in the area of park land acquisition and new park development to meet future needs.
- E. Conform to the preparation guidelines for local Park, Recreation and Open Space Master Plans, as prepared by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

This document outlines the methods, results and recommendations of the Master Plan and is intended to be used as a guide for future Park, Recreation and Open Space development within the City of Carrollton.

II. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The City has identified the following goals and objectives for the Carrollton Parks and Recreation Department:

- A. Provide a parks and recreation system to meet the diverse needs of the citizens of Carrollton.
 - 1. Provide immediate, short term improvements within the park system
 - 2. Provide long term planning of improvements within the park system
 - 3. Provide creative recreation facilities, opportunities, and programs for all ages of the community

- B.** Determine practical means of maintaining and upgrading existing parks and recreational facilities to a prescribed standard and purpose.
- C.** Acquire park land and develop outdoor recreational facilities, including enhanced updates at existing park areas.
- D.** Engage community interest by encouraging individuals, citizen groups, and local businesses to provide funds, property, manpower, and input for the development and operation of parks and recreational facilities, i.e. look to start Friends of the Dog Park.
- E.** Offer new and traditional parks and recreation experiences for current and future Carrollton residents.

The Master Plan is a result of a collaborative effort among the Parks & Recreation Department staff, the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, and park planners from Dunaway Associates.

III. USE OF MASTER PLAN

The Master Plan addresses specific recommendations for future land acquisition, park expansion, and park development to serve the growing population and needs of Carrollton. Section 3 includes a complete inventory of existing parks and recreational facilities. Section 4 provides a review of park industry standards and comparisons to the current Carrollton facilities. Section 5 documents the results of the Needs Assessment as identified by the Parks & Recreation Department staff, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, and Dunaway team. In Section 6, the Master Plan identifies the recommended priorities and budget estimates for actual park development. Section 7 provides implementation guidelines including potential funding sources and a proposed ten-year action plan for implementing the Master Plan.

This Master Plan will serve as the guideline for the future development and fiscal planning for the Carrollton park system for the next five to ten years. Annual reviews of the Master Plan will be beneficial to ensure that the implementation is on course to address specific changes in priorities and/or special needs.

METHODOLOGY

SECTION 2



SECTION 2: METHODOLOGY

The Master Plan was prepared using a two phase planning process. Phase 1 included the inventory/supply analysis, standards analysis and overall needs assessment. Phase 2 included the recommended priorities, expenditure analysis, and action plan.

I. STEPS OF THE MASTER PLAN

The process of preparing the Master Plan consisted of the following steps:

A. PHASE 1

Step 1 - Inventory

The first step involved a site tour by Dunaway staff and Parks and Recreation Department staff of all the existing parks and recreation facilities in Carrollton. The City provided an updated inventory of all existing parks owned by the City and all existing recreation associations and organizations.

Step 2 - Standards

This step involved a comparison of Carrollton's existing park facilities to standards developed by the National Recreation & Park Association (NRPA). Acreage standards and facility standards were analyzed based upon population numbers.

Step 3 - Needs Assessment

The needs assessment evaluation involved extensive interaction between the Parks & Recreation department staff, the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, and staff from Dunaway. This process involved evaluating the inventory and standards analysis to note deficits in recreational facilities. City staff and Parks & Recreation Advisory Board members provided specific input on community needs based upon the demand for updated parks, new parks, and new recreational facilities to meet the ever-increasing use within the park system.

B. PHASE 2

Step 4 - Recommendations/Priorities for Master Plan

This critical step involved ranking the priorities for future park facilities from highest to lowest needs. After a summary of priorities was established, recommendations were established to guide and direct the acquisition, development, and maintenance of parks, recreation areas, and open spaces. An expenditure analysis was generated in considering facility cost and park improvements.

Step 5 - Implementation

The final step establishes the framework and methods for public officials to use in implementation of the Master Plan. The proposed Ten-Year Action Plan provides priorities for years 1-10 of the Plan. The proposed Ten-Year Action Plan Map graphically illustrates the priorities recommended in the Master Plan.

II. PLANNING PROCESS

A. Phase 1 – Inventory & Needs Assessment

1. Base Map Preparation

- a. Obtain latest digital mapping of the entire City
- b. Preparation of a digital base map

2. Inventory/Supply Analysis

- a. Kick-off meeting with City staff
- b. Obtain current inventory of the entire park system
 - i. Public parks and recreational facilities owned by the City
 - ii. Land targeted for open space
 - iii. Land and programs by other service providers
 - iv. Youth and adult sports association data
 - v. Recreation programs offered by the City
- c. Conduct citywide tour of the park system

3. Standard Analysis

- a. Review current standards and guidelines
- b. Update standards for park acreage and park facilities

4. Demand Analysis and Needs Assessment

- a. Work session with City staff
- b. Work session with Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
- c. Draft list of priorities
- d. Work session with City staff to finalize priorities

B. Phase 2 – Parks Master Plan Update

1. Priority Ranking Analysis

- a. Prepare a summary of priorities identified
- b. Complete priority ranking chart

2. Action Plan

- a. Prepare a preliminary action plan
- b. Prepare digital maps depicting action plan recommendations

3. Expenditure Analysis

- a. Prepare expenditure analysis for the action plan recommendations
- b. Identify funding recommendations for the action plan

4. Preliminary Master Plan

- a. Prepare preliminary master plan document
- b. Prepare exhibits/maps
- c. Submit preliminary master plan for City review
- d. Obtain written comments from City

5. Final Master Plan

- a. Prepare final Master Plan document
- b. Submit hard copies and electronic disk
- c. Present Master Plan to Parks & Recreation Advisory Board and City Council

YOUTH SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS

Carrollton Farmers Branch Baseball Association

Spring 2013: 1,439 participants

League games: Use McInnish Baseball Fields #6, 7, 8, 9, 12 & 15

Carrollton Farmers Branch Girls Softball Association

Spring 2013: 273 participants

League Games: Use Josey Ranch Fields #1, 2, 3 & 4

Carrollton Farmers Branch Soccer Association

Spring 2013: 2,311 participants

League Games: Use RE Good Fields #1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 and McInnish Fields A, B, C, D & E

Carrollton Little League

Spring 2013: 547 participants

League Games: Use McInnish Fields #10, 11, 12, 13, 14 & 15 and Thomas Fields #1 & 2

Carrollton Youth Football

Fall 2013: 257 participants

Practices: Use Josey Ranch #5 & 6, Thomas #1, 2 & 3 and Jimmy Porter #1

League Games: Use Josey Ranch #5 and Thomas #3

ADULT SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS

North Texas Coed Soccer Association

Fall 2012: 41 teams

Spring 2013: 42 teams

League Games: Use RE Good Fields #1, 2, 3, 4 & 5

North Texas Premier Soccer Association

Fall 2012: 191 teams

Spring 2013: 193 teams

League Games: Use RE Good Fields #1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 and McInnish Fields A, B, & C

North Texas Women's Soccer Association

Spring 2013: 67 teams

League Games: Use RE Good Fields #1, 2, 3, 4 & 5

Dallas Forth Worth Adult Baseball Association

Fall 2012: 30 teams

Spring 2013: 22 teams

League Games: Use McInnish Fields #10 & 11

CITY LEAGUES

Youth Basketball

Winter 2013-2014: 855 participants

League Games: Use Rosemeade Rec, Crosby Rec and various school gyms in LISD and CFBISD.

Practices: Use various school gyms in LISD and CFBISD.

Youth Volleyball

Spring 2013: 333 participants

League Games: Use Rosemeade Rec, Crosby Rec and various school gyms in LISD and CFBISD.

Practices: Use various school gyms in LISD and CFBISD.

Youth Track & Field

Summer 2013: 84 participants

Use CFBISD track for practices.

Adult Basketball

Spring 2013: 30 teams

Summer 2013: 30 teams

Fall 2013: 32 teams

Use gyms at Rosemeade Rec (Sunday) and Crosby Rec (Tuesdays).

Adult Flag Football

Winter 2012: 7 teams

Summer 2012: 7 teams

Fall 2012: 11 teams

Spring 2013: 11 teams

Winter 2013: 6 teams

Use fields at McInnish and Josey Ranch (Thursdays).

Adult Kickball

Spring 2013: 6 teams

Summer 2013: 8 teams

Fall 2012: 6 teams

Use fields at McInnish (Thursdays).

Adult Softball

Winter 250' 2013: 24 teams

Spring Single Games & Double Headers 2013: 85 teams

Summer I Double Headers 2013: 41 teams

Summer Single Games 2013: 58 teams

Summer II Double Headers 2013: 45 teams

Fall I Double Headers 2013: 38 teams

Fall Single Games 2013: 39 teams

Fall II Double Headers 2013: 41 teams

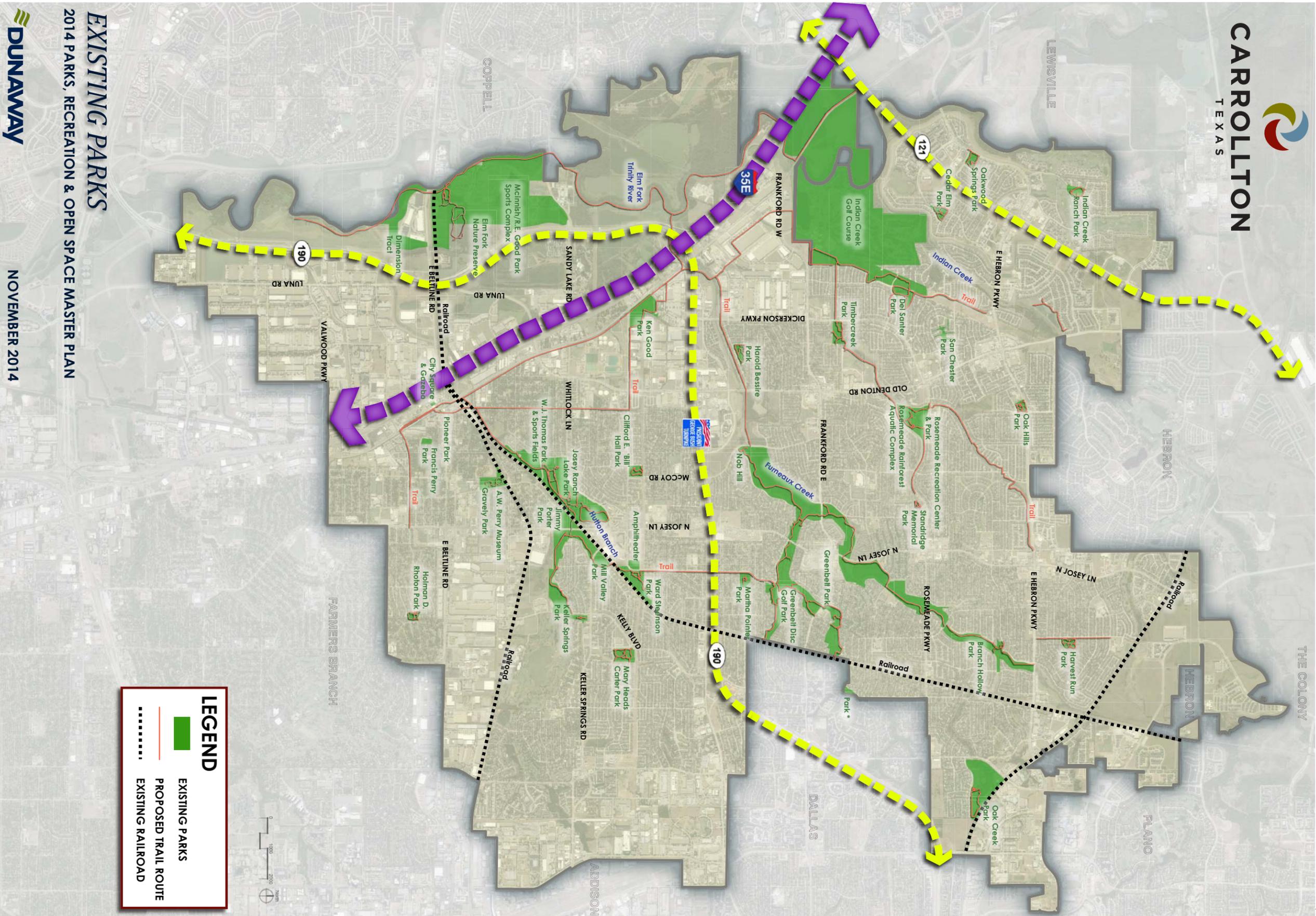
Use fields at McInnish (Sunday – Friday).

Parks	Acres	Type	Developed/Undeveloped	Water Access Ramp (Lanes)	Baseball/Softball Fields (Game)	Practice Baseball Backstops	Basketball Courts	Basketball Courts (Unlighted) 1/2	Benches	Concession Stand	Conference Center / Meeting Facility	Clubhouse	Cricket Field	Disc Golf (Holes)	Drinking Fountain	Fishing Pier	Football	Grills	Horseshoe Pits	Hole Golf Course	Lake, Pond, or Stream	Multi-Purpose Court	Multi-Purpose Fields	Outdoor Learning Center	Parking (Lots)	Pavilions	Picnic Tables	Practice Fields	Playground	Recreation Center	Rental Opportunities	Restrooms	Soccer / Football Fields (Game)	Signage	Structures (Buildings, Exist Homestead, etc.)	Splash Pad	Stage	Swimming Pool	T-Ball	Tennis Courts (Lighted)	Trails & Walking Paths (in Miles)	Trail Heads / Rest Points	Volleyball Court (Sand or Lighted)										
Amphitheater	.5	S	D						15						1						stream				1									1		1																	
A. W. Perry Museum	10	S	D																												1					2																	
Branch Hollow Park	3.5	N	D						8						1		3								1	1	6	1													2												
Cedar Elm Park	5	N	D						2						1		1									1	2	1															0.36										
City Square and Gazebo	.3	S	D						12																1					1						1																	
Clifford E. "Bill" Hall Park	6.4	N	D						4						1		2									1	8	1						1											0.31								
Crosby Recreation Center	5	C	D				1			2					2														1	5	2																						
Del Santer Tract	3.2	L	U														1				lake								1																								
Dimension Tract	39	L	U	1					2												pond						2																										
Eisenhower Trail	est .40	L	D						1								1									4																				1.5							
Elm Fork Nature Preserve	40.28	C	D						13															1		1	2							1	1											0.78							
Francis Perry Park	3	N	D				1		2								3								1	4	1																1										
Furneaux Creek Trail Segments	4.25	L	D																																												3.25						
Gravley Park	13	N	D						17						1										1																						0.25						
Greenbelt Park (Areas 1 - 9)	180	L	D						42						4		14					1		1+	1	19	2															6	3.2		1								
Harold K Bessire Park	5.4	N	D				1		4						1		4								1	4	1									1											0.39						
Harvest Run Park	6	N	D				1		4						1		5								1	6	1								1												0.33						
Holman D. Rhoton Park	4.5	N	D				1		5						1		9					1			1	10	1																2				0.45						
Indian Creek Golf Course	415	S	D								1									36					1						1																0.29						
Indian Creek Ranch Park	6.6	N	D						6							1	1							1	1	6	1																				0.29						
Jimmy Porter Park	5	N	D				1		4				18	1		4						1	2		1	9	1					1																					
Josey Ranch Lake Park	100	R	D						38	1						1	6				lake				1	7	1								2		1									1+							
Josey Ranch Sports Complex	50	R	D		1 and 4				3					3		1								1							1+	2																1.65					
Keller Springs Park	3	N	D				1		3						1		3						1			3	1																										
Ken Good Park	20	C	D						3								3				lake					3																											
Martha Pointer Park	6	N	D				1	1	7						1		4						2			6	1					1												2			0.38						
Mary Heads Carter Park	12.3	N	D						5						1		3								1	1	19	1					1															0.33					
McInnish Park and Sports Complex	220	M	D	1	10 and 5				3	5					5	1	3				lake		1		7	1	12	1		1+	5	7																1+					
Mill Valley Park	12	N	D				1		1														1																						1			1+					
Nob Hill	102	C	D						3												ponds																											1					
Oak Creek Park	39.75	C	D				2		2								1								1	4	1	1																					0.5				
Oak Creek Tennis Center	.25	S	D						14																1	8																					1			12			
Oak Hills Park	4.5	N	D				1		10						1		4								1	1	10	1																					0.25		1		
Oakwood Springs Park	6	N	D						9						1		1								1	4	1																					1+		1			
Pioneer Park	0.5	S	D						7																																												
R. E. Good Soccer Complex	14	M	D							1		1			1		12								2	1	24	1		1+	1	5			1														1				
Rosemeade Rainforest Aquatic Complex	11		D							1					2		1								1	24					1+	1				1	1			3										0.6			
Rosemeade Recreation Center and Park	28	C	D				2		6	2					3		2								1	2	2	1	8	4																							
San Chester Tract	6	L	U																		pond																																
Senior Center	3	S	D				1			2					1																1	4	1																				
Standridge Memorial Park	2.5	N	D						4																																									0.18			
Timbercreek Park	7	N	D				1		3						1		1								1	6	1																							1			
Ward Steenson Park	15	N	D		a		1		5						1		2								1	7	1									1															1.73		
W.J. Thomas Park and Sports Fields	24.75	C	D			2			12	1					1		1	8							2	1	1	1		1+	1																			3			
W.J. Thomas Splash Park	.25	C	D												1										1	8																											
Totals	1444.23			2	13 and 9	1	17	0	279	9	6	1	1	18	39	3	2	102	2	36	6	7	3	1	25	19	230	1	26	3	25+	24	12	3	12	2	1	3	0	29	24.02	0	3										

1+ : multiple, but unknown at this point - <http://cityofcarrollton.com/index.aspx?page=380>

N = Neighborhood Park C = Community Park L = Linear Park M = Metropolitan Park R = Regional Park S = Special Use Park

CARROLLTON
TEXAS



LEGEND

- EXISTING PARKS
- PROPOSED TRAIL ROUTE
- EXISTING RAILROAD

EXISTING PARKS
2014 PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN
DUNAWAY
NOVEMBER 2014



STANDARDS AND
GUIDELINES

SECTION **4**



SECTION 4: STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

The adequacy of existing parks, recreation facilities and open spaces can be evaluated by comparing the needs of the present and forecasted populations of Carrollton to specific goals and standards. This Master Plan includes the traditional standards established by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). The NRPA standards have generally been the most widely accepted and used standards of their type, especially by local governments. This section includes a comparison of Carrollton to national standards based upon park acreage per population and facilities per population.

I. CRITERIA FOR STANDARDS

The most common standards for park planning guidelines, as recognized by park and recreation professionals, are the published standards by the NRPA. As written in the introduction, the NRPA recognizes the importance of establishing and using park and recreation standards as:

- A. A national expression of minimum acceptable facilities for the citizens of urban and rural communities.
- B. A guideline to determine land requirements for various kinds of park and recreation areas and facilities.
- C. A basis for relating recreation needs to spatial analysis within a community wide system of parks and open space areas.
- D. One of the major structuring elements that can be used to guide and assist regional development.
- E. A means to justify the need for parks and open space within the overall land use pattern of a region or community.

The purpose of this document is to present park and recreation space standards that are applicable for planning, acquisition, and development of parks, recreation, and open space lands, at the community level. "These standards should be viewed as a guide. They address minimum, not maximum, goals to be achieved. The standards are to be coupled with conventional wisdom and judgment relating to the particular situation to which they are applied and specific local needs." (Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines, p. 11).

II. PARK CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

When evaluating existing or future parks in Carrollton, it is necessary to classify each park by type, size, service area, and acres per 1,000 population. The following seven NRPA classifications for parks have been used in this Master Plan:

MINI-PARK

The mini-park is used to address limited, isolated or unique recreational needs of concentrated populations. Typically less than 1/4 mile apart in a residential setting, the size of a mini-park ranges between 2500 square feet and one acre in size. These parks may be either active or passive, but speak to a specific recreational need rather than a particular population density.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

Neighborhood parks serve a variety of age groups within a limited area or “neighborhood”. They range in size from 1-15 acres and generally serve residents within a 1/4 to 1/2 mile radius. The neighborhood park is an area for active recreation such as field games, court games, playgrounds, picnicking, etc. Facilities are generally unlighted and there is limited parking, if any, on site. NRPA standards for these parks are 1.0 - 2.0 acres per 1,000 population.

COMMUNITY PARK

Community parks are larger than neighborhood parks and serve several neighborhoods. They range in size from 16-99 acres and serve the entire city. The community park may be a natural area or developed area for a variety of outdoor recreation such as ballfields, playgrounds, boating, fishing, swimming, camping, picnicking, and trail systems. NRPA standards for these parks are 5-8 acres per 1,000 population.

METROPOLITAN PARK

Metropolitan parks are large park facilities that serve several communities. They range in size from 100-499 acres and serve the entire city. The metropolitan park is a natural area or developed area for a variety of outdoor recreation such as ballfields, playgrounds, boating, fishing, swimming, camping, picnicking, and trail systems. NRPA standards for these parks are 5-10 acres per 1,000 population.

REGIONAL PARK

Regional parks are very large multi-use parks that serve several communities within a particular region. They range in size from 500 acres and above and serve those areas within a one hour driving distance. The regional park provides both active and passive recreation, with a wide selection of facilities for all age groups. They may also include areas of nature preservation for activities such as sight-seeing, nature study area, wildlife habitat, and conservation areas. NRPA standards for regional parks vary due to the specific site and natural resources.

SPECIAL USE AREAS

Special use areas and parks are for specialized or single purpose recreation activities. NRPA defines these as areas such as historical areas, nature centers, marinas, zoos, conservatories, arboretums, arenas, amphitheaters, plazas or community squares. There are no specific standards for size or acreage since each community will vary.

LINEAR PARK/LINKAGES

Linkages and linear parks are built connections or natural corridors that link parks together. Typically, the linear park is developed for one or more modes of recreational travel such as walking, jogging, biking, in-line skating, hiking, horseback riding, and canoeing. NRPA does not have any specific standards for linear parks other than they should be sufficient to protect the resource and provide maximum usage.

NRPA PARK ACREAGE GUIDELINES

TYPE	SIZE/ACRES	SERVICE AREA	ACRES PER 1,000 POPULATION
Mini-Park	2500 S.F. - 1 Acre	Less Than 1/4 Mile Distance in Residential Setting	.25 - .5 ac/1,000
Neighborhood Park	1 - 15 Acres	One Neighborhood 1/4 to 1/2 Mile Radius	1.0 - 2.0 ac/1,000
Community Park	16 - 99 Acres	Several Neighborhoods	5.0 - 8.0 ac/1,000
Metropolitan Park	100 - 499 Acres	Several Communities Under 1 Hour Driving	5.0 - 10.0 ac/1,000
Regional Park	500 +	Several Communities Within 1 Hour Driving	Variable
Special Use Areas	Varies Depending on Desired Size	No Applicable Standard	Variable
Linear Park	Sufficient Width to Protect the Resource and Provide Maximum Usage	No Applicable Standard	Variable
TOTAL			11.25 - 20.5 Ac/1,000 Population

Standards from *Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines*, p. 56-57 and p.68-69, 4th Printing, 1990, a publication of the National Recreation and Park Association.

NRPA PARK ACREAGE GUIDELINES COMPARED TO 2012 POPULATION IN CARROLLTON

ZONE	EXISTING ACREAGE	NRPA GUIDELINES FOR 2012 POPULATION OF 121,150 ^A	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NRPA GUIDELINES AND EXISTING CARROLLTON PARKS
		RANGE	RANGE
Mini Parks	0	30.28 - 60.57	(30.28) - (60.57)
Neighborhood Parks	127.20	121.15 - 242.30	+6.05 - (115.10)
Community Parks	274.30	605.75 - 969.20	(331.45) - (694.90)
Metropolitan Park	268.00	605.75 - 1,211.5	(337.75) - (943.50)
Regional	150.00	N/a	n/a
Special Use Park	464.00	n/a	n/a
Linear Parks	258.00	n/a	n/a
Totals	1,541	1,362 - 2,483	+ 178 - (942)

NRPA PARK ACREAGE GUIDELINES COMPARED TO FUTURE POPULATION IN CARROLLTON

ZONE	EXISTING ACREAGE	NRPA GUIDELINES FOR POPULATION OF 124,000 ^A	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NRPA GUIDELINES AND EXISTING CARROLLTON PARKS
		RANGE	RANGE
Mini Parks	0	31 - 62	(31) - (62)
Neighborhood Parks	127.20	124 - 248	+3.2 - (120.8)
Community Parks	274.30	620 - 992	(345.7) - (717.7)
Metropolitan Park	268.00	620- 1,240	(352) - (972)
Regional	150.00	N/a	n/a
Special Use Park	464.00	n/a	n/a
Linear Parks	258.00	n/a	n/a
Totals	1,541	1,395 - 2,542	+ 146 - (1,001)

A. Population number provided by North Central Texas Council of Governments

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKLAND ACQUISITION RECOMMENDATIONS

For many years, the City of Carrollton has been a leading municipality in terms of overall park acreage based upon the total population. This trend has helped establish a very diverse park and open space system throughout the City. An example of this foresight is the amount of open space land associated with the various drainage corridors in Carrollton. One cannot help but take special notice when touring the City and seeing the wide open areas along and adjacent to the creek corridors. This provides citizens a wonderful opportunity to enjoy open space areas with tree clusters, natural water bodies, and wildlife habitats that are associated with this natural system. The recreational opportunities range from trails, to sightseeing, to picnicking, to the popularity of disc golf.

When evaluating Carrollton's park service areas, the only area of need for additional parkland is in the category of Neighborhood Parks. This is particularly true in the northern part of Carrollton. Existing residential neighborhoods north of Hebron Parkway have a limited number of neighborhood park facilities. Even though some other park classifications do provide recreational amenities, City leaders need to pursue strategic acquisition of new parkland in the north. New neighborhood park sites will expand localized recreation to citizens who live close by and can access them by walking.

To meet the need for neighborhood parks, there are various methods for obtaining additional parkland. This includes land that is donated by developers within the requirements of the current park dedication ordinance. Where available, the purchase of residential lots can also be an option the City considers. To maximize public resources, expanded opportunities for joint-use sites and facilities with the local school district provide for year round use of public facilities. When considering the current school district land that exists in north Carrollton, this offsets some of the need to acquire additional parkland. Through creative joint-use agreements with the school districts, both the City and the schools can expand recreational variety and opportunities throughout the entire community while maximizing the citizens tax dollars.

FACILITY DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS APPLIED TO CITY OF CARROLLTON

ACTIVITY/ FACILITY	NRPA RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES: FACILITIES PER POPULATION	EXISTING FACILITIES IN CARROLLTON	NRPA RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES: FACILITIES FOR 2012 POPULATION OF 121,150 ^D	NRPA RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES: FACILITIES FOR PROJECTED POPULATION OF 124,000 ^D
Baseball Fields (league)	1 per 5,000 ^B	13	24	25
Basketball Courts (outdoor)	1 per 5,000 ^B	4	24	25
Football Fields	1 per 20,000 ^B	2	6	6
Pavilion/Picnic Shelter	1 per 2,000 ^A	20	60	62
Picnic Tables	1 table per 300 ^C	222	404	413
Playgrounds	1 area per 1,000 ^C	25	121	124
Recreation Center	1 per 20,000 - 30,000 ^C	2	4 - 6	4 - 6
Soccer Fields (league)	1 per 10,000 ^B	17	12	12
Soccer Fields (practice)	1.5 per each league facility ^C	0	17	18
Softball Fields (league)	1 per 5,000 ^B	9	23	24
Softball Fields (practice)	1.5 per each league facility ^C	0	34	36
Swimming Pool (outdoor)	1 per 20,000 ^B	3	6	6
Tennis Courts	1 court per 2,000 ^B	25	60	62
Trails	½ - 1 mile per 10,000 ^C	19	5.6 - 12.11	6.2 - 12.4
Volleyball Areas (outdoor)	1 per 5,000 ^B	2	24	25

A. Guidelines from Kansas City Metropolitan Region Public Parks Standards in Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines, p. 67, 4th printing 1990, a publication of the National Recreation and Park Association.

B. Guidelines from Appendix A in Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines, p. 60-61, 4th printing 1990, a publication of the National Recreation and Park Association.

C. Guideline from Carrollton Parks & Recreation Department (March 2004).

D. Population numbers provided by North Central Texas Council of Governments.



NEEDS ASSESSMENT

SECTION 5



SECTION 5: NEEDS ASSESSMENT

I. INTRODUCTION

An important aspect of the Master Plan was to conduct a needs assessment to identify priorities for the overall park system. The Dunaway team facilitated a series of key meetings to get input on the desires and needs for park improvements throughout Carrollton. The first step involved interacting with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and letting them identify needs based upon a survey instrument. From this input, Dunaway then facilitated a work session with staff from the Parks Department to get specific input on park needs at various sites. Then the Dunaway team did their own ranking of needs based upon evaluating the current park system and trends in recreation that are impacting the City of Carrollton. The final priorities were summarized and again discussed in work sessions with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and staff from the Parks Department, which both groups shared their community feedback as well to integrate in the needs assessment.

The results of the priority rankings were tabulated into three categories: high priority, moderate priority, and low priority. These priorities provide a clear direction for the Master Plan and its strategic implementation over the next five to ten years.

A bond election in 2013 addresses some of these priorities.

Staff is finalizing a department report card as a tool to evaluate and prioritize all amenities within the park system. This report card will be reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to determine future funding. City Council has committed funds to address some of the lower graded scores.

Two elements moving forward will be (1) having dedicated funds to replace and repair existing facilities and (2) determining locations and funding sources to acquire park land in the northern sections of the city which are currently under-served.

SUMMARY OF PRIORITY ITEMS

FACILITY		HIGH	MODERATE	LOW
1.	Hike/Bike/Walk Trails	●		
2.	Splash Pad	●		
3.	Dog Parks	●		
4.	Updated/Maintain Existing Parks	●		
5.	Citywide Landscape Improvements	●		
6.	Practice Fields (Baseball/softball, football/soccer)	●		
7.	Parkland Acquisition	●		
8.	Expand Senior Center	●		
9.	Multi-Purpose Courts	●		
10.	Playgrounds		●	
11.	Nature Areas/Preserves		●	
12.	Picnic Shelters/Pavilions		●	
13.	Expand Rosemeade Rain Forest		●	
14.	Crosby Recreation Center - Fitness Area		●	
15.	Fishing Areas			●
16.	Garden Areas			●
17.	Bird-watching Areas			●



RECOMMENDATIONS/
PRIORITIES FOR
MASTER PLAN

SECTION 6



SECTION 6: RECOMMENDATIONS/ PRIORITIES FOR MASTER PLAN

The recommendations and priorities in this section are a result of incorporating the parks inventory, standards analysis, and needs assessment into a ranking of priority needs. From the priority needs, an Action Plan has been established that can help guide the thoughtful **growth, development,** and **maintenance** of the parks system in Carrollton over the next five to ten years. This can be accomplished through a range of funding sources, including creative partnering with other public and private organizations.

HIGH PRIORITY ITEMS

RANK	ACTION PLAN	LOCATION	BUDGET
1	Hike/Bike/Walk Trails	Ken Good to Beltline DART Corridors Along Trinity River (McInnish Park to Coppell & Farmers Branch) Josey to Scott Mill	\$400,000-500,000 per mile
2	Splash Pads	Central Location in the City	\$500,000 - 650,000
3	Dog Parks	Possible location near Animal Shelter North location	\$90,000 - 250,000
4	Update/Maintain Existing Parks	Yearly upgrades and enhancements	\$125,000-250,000
5	Citywide Landscape Improvements	City Council initiatives already underway	\$100,000+
6	Practice Fields (Baseball/Softball, Football/Soccer)	Location - citywide Rosemeade Recreation Center City park land	\$50,000+
7	Parkland Acquisition	Acquire new neighborhood park site in North Carrollton	\$100,000+
8	Expand Senior Center	Already planned and funded	\$2,000,000
9	Multi-Purpose Courts	Thomas Park Other un-used tennis courts	\$25,000

MODERATE PRIORITY ITEMS

RANK	ACTION PLAN	LOCATION	BUDGET
10	Playgrounds	Updates/ Replacements Rosemeade Recreation Center (younger children) Del Santer Park	\$75,000+ per unit
11	Nature Areas/ Preserves	Future T.C. Rice Park development Along trail corridors	\$100,000+
12	Picnic Shelters/ Pavilions	New park site in North Carrollton Perry Museum Evaluate/Enhance existing shelters	\$50,000-70,000
13	Expand Rosemeade Rainforest	New aquatic elements at Rosemeade Rainforest	\$600,000- 2,500,000
14	Crosby Recreation Center	Additional fitness space	\$600,000- 2,500,000

LOW PRIORITY ITEMS

RANK	ACTION PLAN	LOCATION	BUDGET
15	Fishing Areas	Future T.C. Rice Park development Elm Fork Nature Preserve/McInnish Park	\$100,000
16	Garden Areas	Community Garden sites	N/A
17	Bird-watching Areas	Future T.C. Rice Park development Elm Fork Nature Preserve	\$50,000 - 150,000

**CITY OF CARROLLTON
PARKS & RECREATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**
(\$) Thousands

CIP	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	TOTALS
Downtown trail: Beltline to Trinity Mills		\$ 70	\$ 605								\$ 675
Senior Center Upgrades		\$ 2,000									\$ 2,000
Mary Heads Carter Improvements			\$ 575								\$ 575
Thomas Athletic Complex Improvements				\$ 475							\$ 475
Mary Heads Carter Sprayground			\$ 530								\$ 530
Dudley Branch Trail: Transit Center to Santa Fe					\$ 1,500						\$ 1,500
Furneaux Trail: Trinity Mills to Old Denton					\$ 1,525						\$ 1,525
Pioneer Park		\$ 97									\$ 97
RRC Dog Park		\$ 108									\$ 108
RRC Practice Fields		\$ 378									\$ 378
McInnish Dog Park		\$ 240									\$ 240
TOTALS		\$ 2,893	\$ 1,710	\$ 475	\$ 3,025						\$ 8,103



IMPLEMENTATION

SECTION 7

SECTION 7: IMPLEMENTATION

This portion of the Master Plan addresses methods of implementing the Master Plan recommendations. There are three avenues of implementation that are important to this Master Plan: Policies and Ordinances, Funding Sources, and a Proposed Ten-Year Action Plan. As the implementation of the Master Plan moves forward, yearly updates and adjustments should be made to confirm the overall priorities, development activity, and funding strategies for the Carrollton parks systems.

I. POLICIES AND ORDINANCES

A. Policies

Policies are tools which aid the citizens, staff, and public officials to communicate and coordinate on all matters related to the Carrollton parks system. The elected officials and boards, City staff, local school districts, adjacent municipalities, and citizens of Carrollton must all communicate and work toward common goals. This will ensure the continued development of the park system for many generations to come.

1. Elected City Council & Boards and Commissions

Continue to facilitate review and comment procedures to coordinate communications between the Park and Recreation Board, City Staff, the Planning and Zoning Commission, and the City Council.

2. City Staff

City of Carrollton departments should regularly communicate to keep a holistic approach to City initiatives and infrastructure. Ongoing input from all of the departments will provide the best possible solutions and create a team approach to getting the best parks, recreation, and open space system for Carrollton. Teams from operating departments should be formed to periodically review and recommend methods by which the implementation and continued support of the Master Plan is achieved.

3. Adjacent Municipalities

Surrounding cities offer opportunities for partnerships and connectivity. The Carrollton Parks Department should continue communications with the adjacent municipalities on planned improvements. Trail connections along drainage ways, open space connections, and joint use agreements can benefit all citizens in the region.

4. School Districts

Joint use initiatives between the City of Carrollton and the various Independent School Districts is an excellent way to share facilities. The City and School Districts serve many of the same citizens and perform some of the same tasks. A joint-use program of cooperation between the City and the School Districts saves tax payers money and maximizes local resources.

The City and School Districts should annually review agreements to include use of athletic fields and practice fields. These agreements should address maintenance, construction and liability issues for the proposed construction of amenities at school sites by the City and further use of existing indoor and outdoor school district owned facilities.

5. Carrollton Citizens

Keeping an open dialogue with the citizens of Carrollton will allow a clear understanding of recreational needs. A primary source of citizen involvement is through the various sports associations and organized groups. These types of associations can support the implementation of this plan by volunteering for maintenance and recreations programs in their local parks. They can also provide unified support for fund raising activities, bond issues, partnership agreements, and park issues that come before the City Council.

B. Ordinances

Ordinances provide the legal framework to support the implementation of the Master Plan. The following ordinances will assist the City of Carrollton in meeting the goals and objectives for the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan:

1. City/School/Other Cooperative Programs

Joint-use agreements and programs for the cooperative sharing of facilities and maintenance saves the taxpayers of Carrollton money and allows for maximum use of facilities.

2. Landscape Ordinance

The City of Carrollton has a Landscape Ordinance which includes a tree ordinance. It promotes the following: preservation, protection, and enhancement of the ecological and aesthetic attributes of the City; ecological stabilization through urban forest management; protection, preservation and enhancement of the urban forest's appearance; and protection and preservation of native and specimen vegetative species.

3. Park Dedication Ordinance

For years, the City of Carrollton has had a Park Dedication Ordinance which provides for neighborhood park land dedication or payment of cash in lieu of as a condition to subdivision plat approval. Neighborhood parks provide a variety of outdoor recreational opportunities, and a significant portion of the cost can be shared with the residential property owners who will be the primary users of the park.

C. Funding Sources

There are several sources for funding the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan. The following sources of funding are available and may be utilized by the City depending on specific projects undertaken:

1. Bonds

General Obligation Bonds – Finance capital improvements for which general fund monies are not wholly available and for projects that do not produce enough revenue to cover the cost of bond retirement. These bonds are based on the 'full faith and credit' of the issuing city and are, therefore, primarily based on the city's tax revenues in order to retire them. Examples of such improvements include streets, public safety facilities, and certain park projects.

Revenue Bonds – Finance projects that produce revenue to retire their bond debt. Examples of applicable projects include utility improvements and special community facilities such as golf courses, convention centers, and park projects.

2. General Fund

The general fund continues to be the primary source of funds for providing capital programs and improvements within the parks system. The various park grant programs that award matching funds to municipalities should be continued as a way to garner public support while stretching the general fund dollars.

3. Grants-In-Aid

A range of grant programs provide funding from sources other than municipal sources. The following list identifies potential grant programs:

- a.** Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) – TPWD has several matching grant programs for the acquisition and development of park and recreational facilities, including Outdoor Grants, Indoor Grants, and Recreational Trail Grants.
- b.** Dallas County Park and Open Space Program – Provides grant funding to entities that "preserve naturally significant and environmentally

sensitive open space” and to unite resources in a “comprehensive and coordinated” open space system throughout Dallas County.

- c. North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) – NCTCOG periodically sponsors grant programs related to sustainability, use of recycled materials, and improvement of transportation corridors such as trails.
- d. Transportation Enhancement Program Funds (TE Program) – TxDOT administers this program and issues periodic calls for nominations of potential projects including major trail developments.

4. Private Donations

Private Donations may also be received in the form of funds, land, facilities, recreation equipment, art or in-kind services. Donations from local and regional businesses as sponsors for events or facilities should be pursued.

5. Joint Use Agreement/Cost Sharing

Joint use agreements and cost sharing for initial development, purchase of land, use of existing land/facilities, and maintenance and operation costs of facilities can be established to allow for several entities paying and using the same facilities. Joint use agreements with other public agencies and private recreation providers should continue to be creatively pursued.

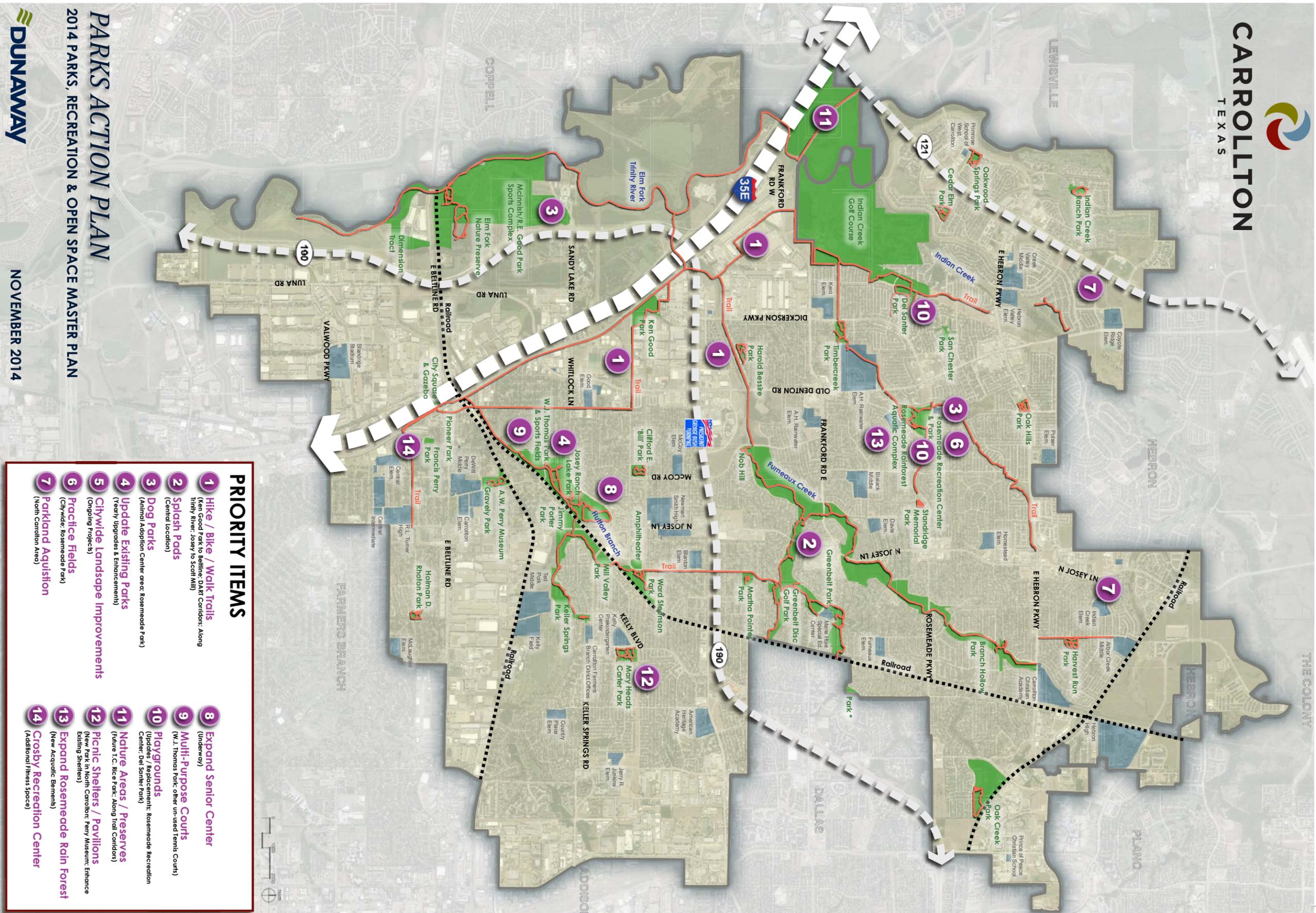
6. Partnerships

Establishing partnerships is essential to new park development and ongoing maintenance. Carrollton should continue to create traditional and non-traditional partnership agreements with public, private, and not-for-profit organizations.

II. PROPOSED TEN-YEAR ACTION PLAN

The Proposed Ten-Year Action Plan responds to the high priority items for facility needs and sets up a proposed time table with respect to the potential funding sources. Working in coordination with the City staff, the plan combines action item recommendations for improvements and new facilities in an effort to enhance the quality of programming and facilities throughout the City of Carrollton.

During the course of the next ten years, if additional funding is received, the schedule of projects may be advanced to move projects up earlier in the Proposed Ten-Year Plan, allowing funding for longer range projects.



CARROLLTON TEXAS

PARKS ACTION PLAN

2014 PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

DUNAWAY

NOVEMBER 2014

- PRIORITY ITEMS**
- 1** **Hike / Bike / Walk Trails**
(Ken Good Park to Belline; DART Corridors; Along Trinity River; Josey to Scott Mill)
 - 2** **Splash Pads**
(Central Location)
 - 3** **Dog Parks**
(Animal Adoption Center area; Rosemeade Park)
 - 4** **Update Existing Parks**
(Yearly Upgrades & Enhancements)
 - 5** **Citywide Landscape Improvements**
(Ongoing Projects)
 - 6** **Practice Fields**
(Citywide; Rosemeade Park)
 - 7** **Parkland Acquisition**
(North Carrollton Area)
 - 8** **Expand Senior Center**
(Underway)
 - 9** **Multi-Purpose Courts**
(W.L. Thomas Park; other un-used Tennis Courts)
 - 10** **Playgrounds**
(Updates / Replacements; Rosemeade Recreation Center; Del Senter Park)
 - 11** **Nature Areas / Preserves**
(Future T.C. Rice Park; Along Trail Corridors)
 - 12** **Picnic Shelters / Pavilions**
(New Park in North Carrollton; Ferry Museum; Enhance Existing Shelters)
 - 13** **Expand Rosemeade Rain Forest**
(New Aquatic Elements)
 - 14** **Crosby Recreation Center**
(Additional Fitness Space)



 **DUNAWAY**