

CITY OF

POCATELLO

Agenda Item #7

***Parks, Recreation, Open Space,
and Trails Plan***
2025 – 2035



Acknowledgements

Organizing and facilitating a robust process that results in a creative, forward-looking and inclusive parks master plan is significant endeavor. The Consultant Team would like to thank the numerous members of the community, partner organizations, and city leadership and staff that generously contributed to the development of the *Pocatello Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan*. This includes but is not limited to those listed below.

Mayor and City Council

Brian Blad, Mayor

Councilwoman Linda Leeuwrik

Councilman Cheatum

Councilman Mangum

Councilman Josh Mansfield

Councilman Brent Nichols

Councilman Hayden Paulsen

City Staff

Anne Butler, Parks and Recreation Director

Peter Pruett, Zoo Manager

Brayden Millward, Parks Superintendent

Hannah Sanger, Science and Environment Division Manager

Stacie VanKirk, CRC & RPAC Manager

Jim Anglesey, Long-Range Senior Planner

Cary Rhodes, Outdoor Recreation Program Manager

Brent McLane, Planning & Development Services Director

Richard Henderson, Team Sports Program Manager

Local and Regional Partner Organizations

Pocatello Chamber of Commerce

Shoshone-Bannock Tribal Members

Sagebrush Steppe Land Trust

City of Chubbuck

Portneuf Greenway Foundation

Idaho Fish and Game Department

Portneuf Health Trust

Multiple Sports Organizations

Numerous community members that participated in public forums, interviews, focus groups, and surveys

Thank You!

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Executive Summary

A Roadmap for the Future

The parks and recreation system of Pocatello is among the city's greatest assets, bringing the community together, supporting healthy lifestyles, and elevating overall quality of life for the people that live, work and play here. In many ways, the great recreational opportunities in and around Pocatello are very much a part of the identity of the community and of its residents. In 2024, the Pocatello Parks and Recreation Department ("Department") embarked on the first *Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan* ("PROST Plan") to have been completed by the city. This PROST Plan is a guiding document for the Department on how it can meet the current and emerging needs of residents, and to further enhance the vibrancy of the community. The PROST Plan is built on that vision, embraces the history of the community, is accountable to the present, and looks to the future.

This plan establishes a long-term focus on sustainability and maximizing resources while providing an appropriate level/balance of facilities and amenities throughout the community. The PROST Plan creates a new "roadmap" for the City to follow for the next 10 years.

The City of Pocatello ("City") maintains 3,938 acres of public park and recreation lands within the city which includes developed parklands, undeveloped parklands, open space, trails, and public facilities and rights-of-way. The City operates and maintains several facilities including the Pocatello Community Recreation Center, Ross Park Aquatic Complex, two golf courses, the East Fork Mink Creek Nordic Center, Zoo Idaho, several historic/cultural sites and facilities. Finally, the City also organizes a robust portfolio of recreation programs and services and community events to fully activate these public spaces and assets and bring the community together.

The PROST Plan sought community input to identify and confirm the City's vision and expectations for the future of the park and recreation system. Community input was received via in-person and virtual focus groups, key stakeholder interviews, public meetings, a statistically-valid needs analysis survey, and a community online open survey as well. The information gathered from the community engagement process was combined with technical research to produce the final PROST Plan.



Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan Goals

The PROST Plan establishes a prioritized framework for future development or redevelopment of the City's parks and recreation system over the next 10 years. This plan is a resource to develop policies and guidelines related to location, use, resource allocation, and level of service that will provide direction to City Council, City staff, and the community at large.

The goals of the PROST Plan include:

- **Maximize community engagement that is grounded in inclusivity and accessibility** to ensure the broad interests of the diverse community and stakeholders in Pocatello are heard and can help guide growth and development of parks and recreation sites, facilities, and programs.
- **Create a future strategy for parks, recreation, and open spaces that is equitable to the entire community** regardless of socioeconomic, cultural, racial, or geographic differences, and provides fair community benefit to all.
- **Utilize a wide variety of data sources and best analytical practices** to predict trends and patterns of use, community impact, and how to address unmet needs in the City of Pocatello.
- **Enhance the environmental resiliency of Pocatello by leveraging parks and greenspaces** as green infrastructure that is equitably distributed throughout the community.
- **Shape the financial sustainability and organizational excellence** to achieve the strategic objectives, identify revenue opportunities, dynamic partnerships, and ensure future operational and maintenance needs are addressed.
- **Develop a dynamic and realistic action plan** that is based on unique levels of service, promotes health and safety, supports active lifestyles, builds community connectivity, and creates a road map to ensure long-term success and financial sustainability for Pocatello's parks, recreation programs, and facilities.

Project Process

The PROST Plan followed a process of data collection, public input, on-the-ground study, assessment of existing conditions, market research, and open dialogue with local leadership and key stakeholders. The project process followed a planning path, as illustrated below:

Where Are We Today?

Site and facility review
Levels of services standards
GIS mapping
Benchmarking
Recreation program review

Where Are We Going Tomorrow?

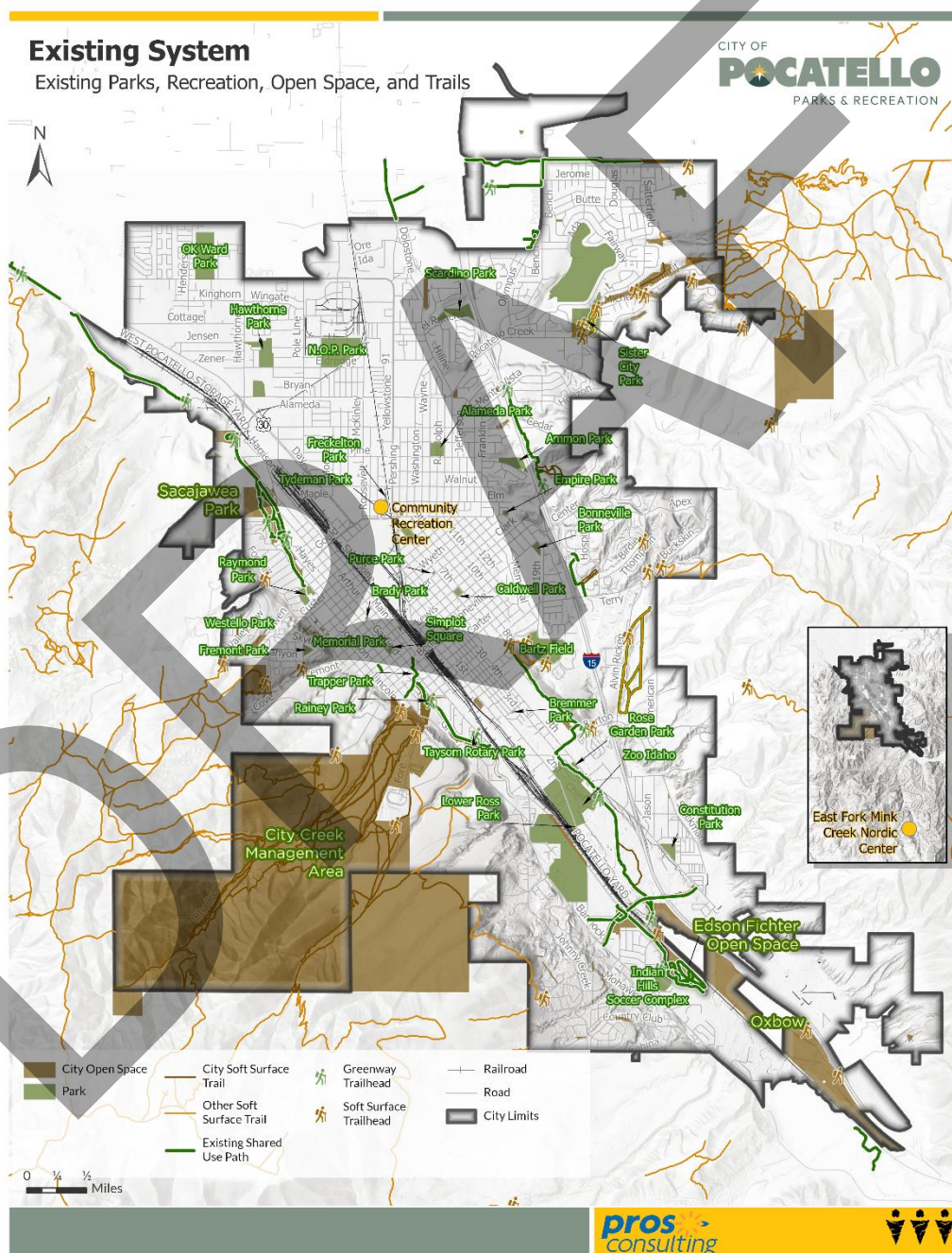
Community engagement needs analysis
Community survey
Demographics & recreation trends analysis review
Operations and staffing review

How Do We Get There?

Needs prioritization
Capital development planning
Financial planning
Funding and revenue planning
Strategic action plan implementation

Parks and Open Space Map and Definition of Planning Area

The planning area for this PROST Plan includes all areas within the boundaries of the City of Pocatello. This plan recognizes the actual service areas of some Pocatello parks and facilities extend beyond the defined boundaries of the defined planning area as Pocatello has parks that have regional draw. Similarly, there are other public parks and lands managed by other agencies within Pocatello that also assist to meet the park and recreation needs of Pocatello residents. The primary purpose of this plan is to first and foremost identify and address the park and recreation needs of Pocatello residents. The map below depicts the planning area and location of city-owned parks and facilities, and the following tables inventory the parks, open space, and trails system by type.



Pocatello Parks and Open Space Inventory

Community Park

Scardino Park	14.0
Hawthorne Park	19.4
Alameda Park	8.3
Ammon Park	10.4
Raymond Park	7.0
Sister City Park	38.5
Bartz Field*	32.2
Terrell and Ifft Park	3.2
Caldwell Park	2.1
Simplot Square	0.7
Tydeman Park	2.2
Optimist Park	2.3
Halliwell Park	8.3
Total (of 13)	148.6 acres

Regional Park

N.O.P. Park	41.9
OK Ward Park	40.4
Lower Ross Park	36.6
Upper Ross Park	23.3
Indian Hills Soccer Complex	14.4
Total (of 5)	156.6 acres

Pocket Park

Freckleton Park	0.7
Brady Park	0.4
Pioneer Park	0.7
Trapper Park	0.4
Pre-History Park	0.5
Bremmer Park	0.1
Purce Park	0.3
Gold Star Park	0.6
Total (of 8)	3.7 acres

Trails (miles)

Existing Paved Shared-Use Trails	22.6
<i>Planned</i> Paved Shared-Use Trails	45.4
Soft Surface City-Owned Trails	30.7
Soft Surface Trails Non-City-Owned (within City Limits)	8.2
Total Existing (City Only)	53.3 miles
Total Existing (City and Non-City)	61.5 miles
Total Planned + Existing	33.8 miles

Open Space

East Bench	
Sister City Park (inc. across road)	30.8
East Bench Gullies	67.2
Pioneer Ridge	210.9
West Bench	
Lupine	35.7
City Creek	2,900.5
River	
Sacajawea (inc. Brennan)	59.5
Douglass Lane	14
Abraszewski Trail	436
Pacific Recycling Trailhead	12.9
Riverside Drive	2.33
Oxbows	306.2
Total (of 11)	3,348.7 acres

Neighborhood Park

Empire Park	0.9
Fremont Park	2.8
Rainey Park	2.5
Centennial Park	4.5
Constitution Park	6.7
Bonneville Park	2.9
Taysom Rotary Park	2.4
Westello Park	3.0
Memorial Park	2.3
Lookout Point Park	1.0
Legacy Park	4.8
Total (of 11)	33.8 acres

Special Use Park

Rose Garden Park	1.0
Ice Rink	1.0
Zoo Idaho	25.6
Band Shell	0.3
Ross Park Aquatic Center	2.6
Bannock Bark Park	0.5
Highland Golf Course	111.9
Riverside Golf Course	104.1
Total (of 8)	247 acres

*Note: Bartz Field is owned and operated by Idaho State University but is open to and heavily used by the public.

Vision, Mission, and Core Values

The process to develop this plan was grounded in inclusive, accessible, and creative public input and engagement. This is a plan that reflects the community, its interests and needs, and its directional growth. In the course of the process, the City of Pocatello has fine-tuned their mission statement as it pertains specifically to the provision of parks and recreation services, which clearly defines how the City intends to serve the community through this plan over the next 10 years.

Vision

"Pocatello envisions a thriving community that embraces its natural beauty, where innovative solutions support healthy lifestyles and create vibrant, accessible public spaces. ."

Mission

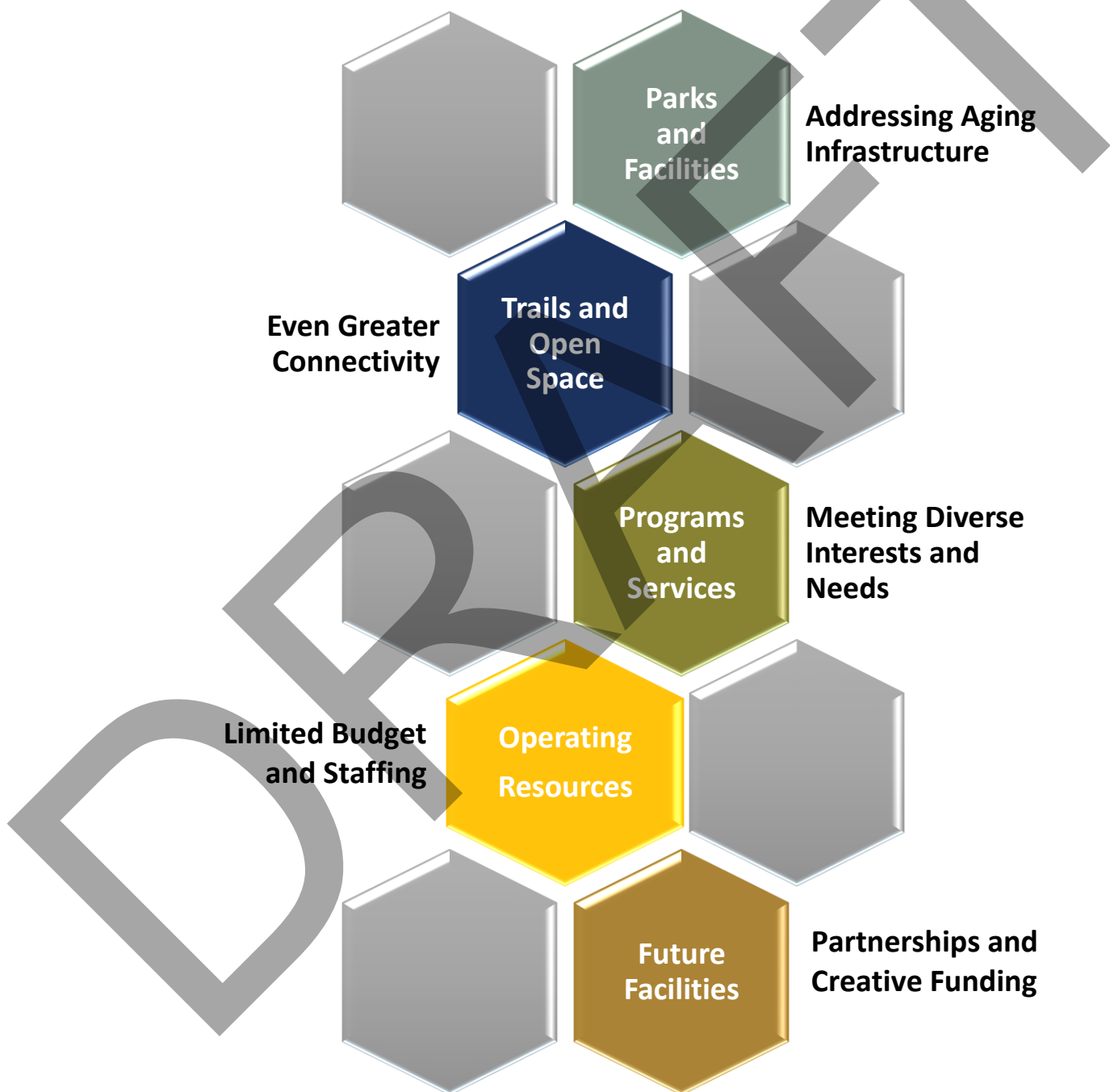
"Pocatello Parks and Recreation is dedicated to creating a fun and vibrant environment that offers high-quality, accessible spaces for all to enjoy. By fostering collaboration and creativity, we aim to elevate our city's reputation as a destination of choice, where everyone has the opportunity to thrive and connect with nature in meaningful ways."

Core Values

Progressive / Visionary
Friendly and Fun
Inclusionary
Consistent High Quality
Collaborative
Innovative
Forward thinking

Key Issues and Themes

Throughout the PROST Plan process there emerged multiple themes and issues that were clear as priorities to address over the next 10 years. These represent input and insights from a broad segment of city residents, leadership, partner organizations, and the observations and assessments of the consultant team. These key issues and themes helped to guide the development of specific recommendations for both individual parks and facilities, but also for the system as a whole.



Key Recommendations

The following key recommendations have been developed through robust community and stakeholder engagement throughout the planning process, consultant analyses, and industry best practices.

REVITALIZATION AND MAINTENANCE OF NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Neighborhood parks are a critical aspect of the Pocatello Parks and Recreation system as these are the parks most residents visit most frequently in their daily lives. They are integral to providing a high quality of life for the neighborhoods in which they sit. While well maintained, the amenities and features of these parks are aged and heavily used. It is a priority area of focus of this PROST Plan to update neighborhood parks presently and over time to meet current and emerging needs. This could include updating and replacing existing features and amenities, adding additional amenities as needed, and overall modernization of these important public spaces.

ENHANCING AND UPGRADING COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL PARKS

Community and regional parks are where not only Pocatello residents come out to play and celebrate; they are regional draws that bring people from around the region and state to enjoy all that Pocatello has to offer. These parks help to maintain Pocatello's reputation as a high-quality park community. These facilities are heavily used and some are considerably older than others, so there are three primary objectives for addressing these sites and facilities in this PROST Plan:

- to improve usability and overall versatility of the sites,
- to better meet current and emerging public needs, and
- to further enhance the local recreational value of these sites while also optimizing their ability to drive economic activity in the city.

TRAILS AND CONNECTIVITY

One of the more prominent areas of public need and interest that was heard in the various forms of community engagement in this planning process was the strong desire for more trail connections (paved and unpaved), improved connectivity and walkability within the city itself, and connections to regional trails. This PROST Plan acknowledges and supports the community's continued interests in these recreational assets and provides guidance on future trail design and development. It is also recommended to develop a city-wide multi-modal plan in the future that incorporates non-motorized transportation infrastructure including sidewalks, bike lanes, and other pathways integrated with the trail system.

GROWING THE SYSTEM TO MEET COMMUNITY NEEDS

As it has for decades, the Pocatello Parks and Recreation system must continue to grow to serve its growing population. Based on our analysis of the system, it's clear that the city is not significantly deficient on park lands; however, there are opportunities to explore potentially establishing new parks and expanding access to existing parks based on community growth patterns and gaps in the current walkable network to parks. The Pocatello community is a very active population with diverse recreational interests and needs. Needs were identified through a variety of methodologies including public forums, targeted public intercept interviews at community events, website/online public comments, social media, a statistically valid community survey, and assessments of existing parks and amenities. As the community continues to grow and evolve, so should the parks and recreation system evolve to stay aligned with both existing community needs as well as those that are emerging.

BIG IDEAS REQUIRE MORE PLANNING AND PARTNERSHIPS

There were several ideas and concepts that emerged out of the community engagement and analysis process of this PROST Plan. These ideas all have merit and are grounded in some level of community needs that are currently not being fully met. These ideas also require substantial investment both in initial capital to design and build, but also to operate. They include an indoor aquatic facility, additional indoor recreation space including a walking/jogging track, multi-purpose indoor space, and an ice rink. All of these ideas are relevant to the current and future parks and recreation needs of Pocatello and its residents, but they are very costly projects to build and operate. It is recommended additional planning such as feasibility studies be considered for these projects on an individual basis, that would include the exploration of creative partnerships both in capital investment as well as operational responsibilities in order to increase the likelihood of any of these projects being a reality in Pocatello in the future.

ACTIVATE THE PORTNEUF RIVER AS A COMMUNITY ASSET

It is very common that cities have traditionally viewed rivers that run through them as a natural feature that must be managed and guarded against. Traditionally, all across the country we saw rivers sections that passed through communities get channelized and leveed to protect against flooding. Today, we are seeing more and more communities turn their eyes to the rivers that run through them with a desire to transform those waterways into more of an asset than just a resource to manage. That certainly is the case with the Portneuf River and Pocatello. While there is already progress being made to create better river access and improve the quality of the waterway, this PROST Plan builds on those efforts and Pocatello continues the journey to elevating the Portneuf River as the recreational, social, economic, and cultural asset it truly has the potential to be.

BETTER RESOURCE PARKS AND RECREATION IN THE FUTURE

Parks and recreation is a highly valued public service in Pocatello and a network of public facilities and programs that is heavily used and enjoyed by residents. The personal recreational activities of residents is central to the identity of what it means to live in Pocatello for most residents. While highly valued, parks and recreation also must compete with the myriad other priorities city leadership is working to support with limited financial resources. This PROST Plan evaluates how investments are being made to support the Parks and Recreation Department, and provides recommendations as to how parks and recreation could be better supported in the future. In addition, alternative funding and revenue strategies have been identified that can further be explored for purposes of increasing the size of the resource pool that supports this important public service in the future.



Strategic Implementation Plan

The successful implementation of this PROST Plan should be focused around five (5) strategic initiatives that correspond to community needs and what was heard in the community engagement process. These initiatives will be forwarded through a series of capital improvement projects as well as more operational actions. In the sections that follow, the recommended strategic initiatives are discussed and then the traditional Capital Improvement Plan is outlined for the 10-year implementation period. **These are not recommended as a linear action plan, but rather these initiatives can and should be pursued concurrently as is possible.**

Strategic Action Plan

The five strategic initiatives identified by the community are:

- Revitalization and Maintenance of Neighborhood Parks
- Enhancing and Upgrading Community and Regional Parks
- Trails and Connectivity
- Growing the System to Meeting Community Needs
- Organizational Excellence

Of note, the five strategic initiatives are not listed in order of priority and were not prioritized by the community insomuch as different users have different needs of the park and recreation system. The City should balance its efforts to advance each strategic initiative rather than focus on them consecutively. In the action plan that follows, specific strategic actions are identified within each initiative, on a temporal scale of “Short Term”, “Mid Term”, and “Long Term”.



REVITALIZATION AND MAINTENANCE OF NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Neighborhood parks are a critical element of the Pocatello Parks and Recreation system. They are integral to providing a high quality of life for the neighborhoods in which they sit. The following neighborhood parks are example of those in need of reinvestment in multiple ways (playground replacement, pavement repair, shelter replacement, signage, lighting, etc.). Making these investments will speak loudly to the residents of these neighborhoods in all corners of the city. Example neighborhood parks with revitalization needs identified in this plan are listed below.

- Centennial Park
- Constitution Park
- Empire Park
- Fremont Park
- Rainey Park
- Westello Park

Strategic Initiative	Strategic Actions	Recommended Timeline
Revitalization and Maintenance of Neighborhood Parks	Identify improvement projects by priority and available funding. Higher priority projects are playgrounds, shade infrastructure (natural and built), pavilions, signage, and inclusive recreational amenities.	Short Term
	Identify and acquire capital funding source(s).	Mid Term
	Initiate public engagement process, site design and competitive bid selection process for construction.	Long Term
	Begin and complete construction within approved budget requirements.	Mid Term
		Long Term



ENHANCING AND UPGRADING COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL PARKS

Community and regional parks are where not only Pocatello residents come out to play and celebrate; some of them are regional draws that bring people from around the region to enjoy all that Pocatello has to offer. The below community and regional parks each require upgrades to ensure that they remain unique and special attractions for Pocatello residents and visitors from other communities. Example community and regional parks with revitalization needs identified in this plan are listed below.

- N.O.P Park
- OK Ward Park
- Lower and Upper Ross Park
- Scardino Park
- Hawthorne Park
- Ammon Park
- Alameda Park

Strategic Initiative	Strategic Actions	Recommended Timeline
Enhancing and Upgrading Community and Regional Parks	Develop strategic approach to updating community and regional parks that is a blend of improvements that may have occurred through other related initiatives of this action plan, and more explicit redevelopment projects that are park-wide.	Short Term
	Identify specific redevelopment projects that meet the overall objectives of this initiative and are aligned with the financial and organizational capacity of the city.	Mid Term
	Develop a phased redevelopment plan for community and regional parks.	Mid Term
	Identify and acquire capital funding source(s).	Mid Term
		Long Term
	Initiate public engagement process, site design and competitive bid selection process for construction.	Mid Term
		Long Term
	Begin and complete construction within approved budget requirements.	Mid Term
		Long Term

TRAILS AND CONNECTIVITY

Trails are consistently listed as the top parks and recreation amenity by the public. The City of Pocatello has an extensive network of trails and greenways. In fact, this portion of the system has its own master plan document. This Prost Plan acknowledges the recommendations of both the Portneuf Greenway Master Plan and BTPO Bike Plan. The project list below considers trail and connectivity improvements that can be made within specific parks.

- General trail improvements and connections
- Neighborhood connections to open spaces
- Upper City Creek Trailhead
- Lower City Creek Trailhead
- City Creek Management Area Open Space Trails
- Simplot River Trail Access Point
- Portneuf River Water Trail
- Pioneer Ridge Trails
- East Bench Area Trails
- Oxbow Open Space Trails
- Cusick Creek Trailhead
- Pioneer Ridge Trailhead – Pocatello Creek Trailhead

Strategic Initiative	Strategic Actions	Recommended Timeline
Trails and Connectivity	Identify specific trail development projects to connect existing and future parks and improve overall connectivity within the community and open spaces. This should be a blend of natural surface and paved surface multi-use trails. This should prioritize connectivity within existing parks and community connections.	Short Term
	Plan for phased development of paved and unpaved trails.	Mid Term
	Identify and acquire capital funding source(s).	Mid Term
		Long Term
	Develop and facilitate appropriate degree of stakeholder engagement for trail design and competitive bid selection process for construction.	Mid Term
		Long Term
	Begin and complete construction within approved budget requirements.	Mid Term
		Long Term
	Grow volunteer trail maintenance process	Short Term

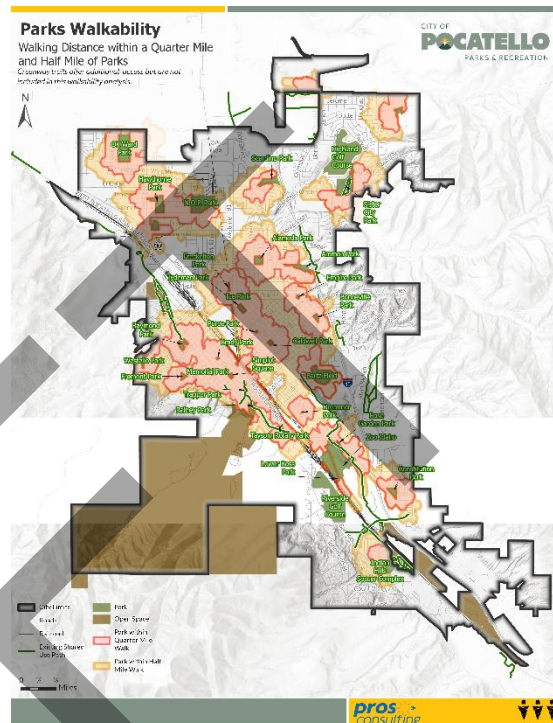
GROWING THE SYSTEM TO MEET COMMUNITY NEEDS

As it has for decades, the Pocatello Parks and Recreation system must continue to grow to serve its growing population. Based on our analysis of the system, it's clear that the city has several areas that currently outside the ¼ and ½ mile service areas of public parks. Those areas are mostly found in:

- Northwest Pocatello
- Northeast Pocatello
- North central Pocatello
- Southern Pocatello

The projects listed below are potential recommendations that could help the city strategically expand its parks, facilities, and amenities across its system.

- Site/amenity accessibility and inclusivity
- 1-2 new community park (15-50 acres)
- 3-5 new neighborhood parks (2-10 acres)
- A new multi-purpose indoor facility
- 2-3 additional multi-purpose rectangular fields
- 2-3 splash pads
- Permanent Farmers Market infrastructure
- Additional multi-purpose sport courts
- Signage and wayfinding standards for all parks, facilities, and trails



Strategic Initiative	Strategic Actions	Recommended Timeline
Growing the System to Meet Community Needs	Develop strategic approach to addressing the park and recreation needs of the community as it grows in population and expands geographically. This includes exploring and developing new or revised policies that engage private developers in the new park acquisition and/or park and trail development process. This will most likely include but not be limited to additional neighborhood parks and a new community park.	Mid Term
	Identify specific growth and expansion projects that meet the overall objectives of this initiative and are aligned with the financial and organizational capacity of the city.	Mid Term
	Develop a phased plan for growth and expansion of the park and trail system	Mid Term

Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan

Strategic Initiative	Strategic Actions	Recommended Timeline
Growing the System to Meet Community Needs	Identify and acquire capital funding source(s).	Mid Term
		Long Term
	Initiate public engagement process, site design and competitive bid selection process for construction.	Mid Term
		Long Term
	Begin and complete construction within approved budget requirements.	Mid Term
		Long Term

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Being a high-quality public service in the parks and recreation field requires the agency to be intentional about its own internal support and standards. It is critical to be reliable and transparent and provide tangible and intangible benefits to the community but also to its employees, partners, and volunteers.

Strategic Initiative	Strategic Actions	Recommended Timeline
Organizational Excellence	Evaluate and implement new funding and revenue strategies including, but not limited to partnerships, greenway utility, dedicated transient tax funds, TIF district, and private philanthropy.	Short Term
		Mid Term
	Complete all policy and ordinance changes that are required to implement new funding and revenue strategies and that support new park acquisition and development.	Short Term
		Mid Term
		Long Term
	Maintain an ongoing public information and engagement process that is both efficient and inclusive.	Short Term
		Mid Term
		Long Term
	Maintain an effective workforce development program that includes opportunities for staff to attend conferences and trainings and grows their skills and abilities.	Short Term
		Mid Term
		Long Term
	Develop and implement a Capital Implement Plan to guide funding strategies and capital investments. The CIP should outline projected costs and revenue sources over time	Short Term

PROST Plan Recommendations

In tandem with the Strategic Implementation Plan and its five (5) imperative strategic initiatives of which this PROST Plan should rely upon, the following recommendations will provide insight into the ongoing daily practices that will support a successful implementation of the PROST. For the sake of brevity, the following recommendations for the plan and the Department have been listed separate from the analyses that founded them; as a result, some sets of recommendations will be paired with the page number of the section within this PROST Plan that has further analysis and explanation.

Site and Facility Recommendations

Parks, open spaces, and trails were assessed by the project team in the Spring of 2024. Based on the analysis the following general and park specific observations and opportunities were created. Further details on these recommendations and their reasonings can be found in the Site and Facilities Analysis section beginning on page 81 of this PROST Plan.

ACCESSIBILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Playgrounds, shelters, tables, and benches in most parks lack accessible routes from adjacent parking or residential areas. Paved walks should be provided to these facilities. In situations where facilities are due for replacement, relocating major amenities within parks to locations closer to points of access should also be considered.
- When replacing aging play equipment, inclusive play elements should be incorporated where possible. Accessible ramps should be added to enter play areas using engineer wood fiber.

FACILITIES RECOMMENDATIONS

- Replace aging indoor and outdoor facilities. Playgrounds (including surfacing) and shelters are dated and in need of repair/replacement in many cases. Improve the branding of the parks system by using a consistent style of shelter.

VEGETATION MODIFICATIONS

- Plant new trees of various species in parks with a large percentage of mature trees (where space allows) to mitigate potential issues with disease or aging.
- Convert portions of irrigated turf areas into naturalized landscape to reduce irrigation and maintenance requirements.

TRAILS IMPROVEMENTS

- Reroute or rehabilitate highly eroded trails.
- Add directional, hike/bike only trails or designations to reduce user conflicts as needed.
- Manage unsanctioned trails to reduce environmental impacts and user conflicts.
- Reroute trails crossing private property to avoid future access/ownership issues
- Connect existing Greenway segments to create a contiguous network.
- Add neighborhood connections to trail system.

GOLF RECOMMENDATIONS

- Improve course plantings, irrigation, practice facilities, and clubhouses.

Capital Improvement Plan Recommendations

The following capital improvement plan (CIP) recommendations originate from multiple sources, including discussions with staff and key stakeholders, site inventories, and staff recommendations.

SYSTEM RECOMMENDATIONS		
Recommendation	Category / Item	Priority Level
Accessibility: Add accessible routes to playgrounds, shelters, tables, and benches from adjacent parking or residential areas in most parks. Paved walks should be provided to these facilities. In situations where facilities are due for replacement, relocating major amenities within parks to locations closer to points of access should also be considered.	Accessibility	Moderate
Accessibility: When replacing aging play equipment, incorporate inclusive play elements, where possible. Add accessible ramps to enter play areas using engineered wood fiber (EWF).	Accessibility	Moderate
Facilities: Replace aging facilities. Playgrounds (including surfacing) and shelters are dated and in need of repair/replacement in many cases. Improve the branding of the parks system by using a consistent style of shelter.	Facilities	High
Funding: Work with Council to develop a potential bond package paid back by property taxes.	Funding	Low-Moderate
Funding: Work with Council to explore the feasibility of a sales tax for land acquisition, park upgrades, and maintenance. Encourage Council to be a champion for future funding.	Funding	Moderate
Golf: Improve course plantings, irrigation, practice facilities, and clubhouses.	Golf facilities	High
New indoor facility. Working with partners investigate the feasibility of a new indoor facility in a fiscally responsible way. Determine specific community needs such as indoor aquatics.	Facilities	Low
Vegetation: Convert portions of irrigated turf areas to naturalized landscape to reduce irrigation and maintenance requirements.	Turf	Moderate
Vegetation: Develop and implement a tree pruning and planting plan in all Parks.	Management Plan	Moderate
Vegetation: Implement the 2025/2026Pocatello Tree Plan's pruning and planting schedule in all parks.	Tree Canopy	Moderate

OPEN SPACE CIP PROJECTS		
Projects	Category / Item	Level
Open Space/Natural Areas: Increase natural areas footprint and habitat preservation.	Acquisition	Moderate
Open Space/Natural Areas: Establish a management plan for treating open space for invasive species, including but not limited to, Crack Willow, Russian Olive, noxious weeds, knapweed, white bryony, houndstongue, and spurge.	Invasive Species Treatment	High
Open Space/Natural Areas: Develop and implement fuel reduction and wildfire mitigation plans in all open space areas.	Wildfire Reduction	Moderate
Open Space/Natural Areas: Implement restoration practices along Portneuf River to reduce erosion and improve stream habitat and floatability.	Restoration	Moderate
City Creek Management Area: Treat open space for invasive species including knapweed, white bryony, houndstongue, and spurge.	Invasive Species Treatment	High
Nordic Center: Construct lodge to accommodate day users, classes, rentals/retail, and composting toilets with solar or grid connectivity	Facility Structure	Low
Nordic Center: Execute recommendations of the previous Nordic Center Master Plans as submitted to the US Forest Service	Management Plan	High - but in process of redoing this plan
Nordic Center: Expand overnight accommodation with the addition of 2-3 ski/snowshoe-in yurts with shared vault toilet	Facility Structure	Moderate
Nordic Center: Expand parking area to accommodate additional vehicles	Parking	High
Nordic Center: Expand winter snowshoe/fatbike-summer mountain bike trail system to increase year-round recreation opportunities	Trails	High
Nordic Center: Pave access road to ease maintenance and snow removal	Paving	High
Open Space along Portneuf River: Treat open space for invasive species Crack willow and Russian Olive.	Invasive Species Treatment	Moderate

OPEN SPACE CIP PROJECTS		
Projects	Category / Item	Level
Oxbow Open Space: Design and implement restoration practices to reconnect oxbows to Portneuf River and provide Greenway Trail access through property.	Restoration	Design - high (funded); Implementation - moderate
Oxbow Open Space: Treat open space for invasive noxious weeds	Invasive Species Treatment	High
Pacific Recycling Trailhead: Develop an open space plan. Consider creating a wetland for treating some of Pocatello Creek.	Management Plan	Low
River Access at Douglass Lane: Develop and implement invasive species treatment plan to treat open space for invasive noxious weeds.	Invasive Species Treatment	High
Sacajawea Park: Develop an open space plan for the area, consider reconnecting the oxbow to the river.	Management Plan	High-Moderate
Water Trail along the Portneuf River: Remove debris jams between the river access points to open flow and improve navigability of the trail	River Corridor	High
Water Trail: Develop and implement a stream restoration plan.	River Corridor	Low

TRAIL CIP PROJECTS		
Projects	Category / Item	Level
Trails: Add directional, hike/bike only trails, and implement designations to reduce user conflicts as needed.	New Trails	Low
Trails: Manage unsanctioned trails to reduce environmental impacts and user conflicts.	Trail Management	Moderate
Trails: Reroute trails crossing private property to avoid future access/ownership issues.	Trail Connections	Moderate
Trails: Connect existing Greenway segments along planned routes as identified on the PROST Plan Map to create a contiguous network.	Trail Connections	Moderate
Trails: Create a consistent trail user experience by updating existing sections and constructing new sections of multi-use pathways according to the design standards outlined in this plan.	Trail Management	Moderate

TRAIL CIP PROJECTS		
Projects	Category / Item	Level
Assess improvement needs for Greenway Trailheads at AMI, Kirkham, Abraszewski, and Edson Fichter.	Access	High
City Creek Management Area Open Space Trails: Acquire key land access between Clark St./Cove Rd. area and BLM land at Lupine Dr. to expand trail connections to City Creek.	Acquisition	High
City Creek Management Area Open Space Trails: Connect trail system to Johnny Creek neighborhood/south Pocatello	Trail Connections	Moderate
City Creek Management Area Open Space Trails: Develop smaller trailhead with 3-4 car parking area and small trail kiosk at Fore Rd	Parking	Moderate
City Creek Management Area Open Space Trails: Pursue an assessment and management planning process to create a plan for the area's soft surface trail network.	Management Plan	High
Cusick Creek Trailhead. Add trailhead amenities.	Trailhead Amenities	Moderate
Cusick Creek Trailhead. Expand and improve parking surface.	Parking	Moderate
East Bench Area Trails: Pursue an assessment and management planning process to create a plan for the area's soft surface trail network.	Management Plan	High
Lower City Creek Trailhead: Add parking area, bathroom, and trailhead amenities.	Trailhead Amenities	High
Lower City Creek Trailhead: Add safe crossing such as pedestrian activated crosswalk at S. Grant Ave to connect trailhead with Centennial Park.	Access	Moderate
Lower City Creek Trailhead: Secure ownership/access easement.	Acquisition	High
Oxbow Open Space Trails: Pursue an assessment and management planning process to create a plan for the area's soft surface trail network.	Management Plan	High (have EPA grant to build trails)
Pioneer Ridge Trails: Create connection to neighborhood with access points at Granite Dr. and Remington Rd.	Trail Connections	Moderate
Pioneer Ridge Trails: Develop Trailhead as established in the 2022 Pioneer Ridge Plan.	Trailhead	Low

TRAIL CIP PROJECTS		
Projects	Category / Item	Level
Pioneer Ridge-Pocatello Creek Trailhead. Add trailhead amenities.	Trailhead Amenities	High - in process
Pioneer Ridge-Pocatello Creek Trailhead. Expand and improve parking surface.	Parking	High - in process
Portneuf River Water Trail: Remove debris jams between the river access points to open flow and improve navigability of the trail	River Corridor	High
Simplot River Trail Access Point: Improve surface and slope of the access points, formalize parking area with signage, add staging area for groups, and install signage in-river to announce take-out.	River Corridor	High (applied for funding 2025)
Upper City Creek Trailhead: Add trailhead amenities including restroom, kiosk, and pavilion.	Trailhead Amenities	High
Upper City Creek Trailhead: Move and expand parking area to south onto City property.	Parking	High
Water Trail Trailheads: Assess improvement needs at other river access trailheads.	Trailhead	Moderate

PARK RECOMMENDATIONS		
Recommendations	Source	Level
Alameda Park: Replace asphalt walk with concrete and increase width.	Walkways	Low
Alameda Park: Replace playground equipment and surfacing.	Playgrounds	High
Alameda Park: Add accessible walkways to playground.	Walkways	High
Alameda Park: Add tables/benches.	Tables/Benches	High
Ammon Park: Relocate playground when replacing to reduce distance and topography between amenities and access points.	Playgrounds	Low
Ammon Park: Relocate shelter when replacing to reduce distance and topography between amenities and access points.	Shelters	Low
Ammon Park: Grade parking lot and pave or add road base including accessible parking spaces.	Parking	Moderate

PARK RECOMMENDATIONS		
Recommendations	Source	Level
Ammon Park: Align with proposed development to formalize access from Lakeview Drive. Formalize informal paths from neighborhood by improving signage and/or creating a paved path.	Walkways	High
Bonneville Park: Relocate playground nearer to public access point when replacing	Playgrounds	Low
Brady Park: Grind heaving slabs or replace internal walks and increase width.	Walkways	Low
Brady Park: Upgrade chain link fence around concrete monolith/foundation.	Fencing	Low
Brady Park: Complete connection of internal walk to sidewalk at south corner of park adjacent to Wyeth St.	Walkways	Low
Bremmer Park: Plant succession trees.	Vegetation	Low
Bremmer Park: Create accessible connection to play area.	Walkways	Low
Caldwell Park: Add accessible ramp into play area.	Ramp	Moderate
Caldwell Park: Repair/repaint worn furnishings.	Repair	Moderate
Centennial Park: Replace parking lot or restripe parking area.	Parking	Moderate
Centennial Park: Replace playground safety surfacing (EWF)	Playground	Low
Centennial Park: Add amphitheater down to the river.	Amphitheater	Moderate
Enable access to Centennial Park at northernmost point of park, through lot at end of Idaho St after intersection with Hayes Ave., then build trail or formalized access from that point towards park body.	Walkways	High
Constitution Park: Add curb cut at accessible parking spaces.	Parking	Low
Constitution Park: Add accessible walk connecting to play area.	Walkways	Low
Constitution Park: Repair/replace damaged furnishings.	Repair	Low
Constitution Park: Allow access from north border of the park in same manner as along off-shoots of Opal Ave along east border. At least provide gate access at Samuel St. and 5 th Ave. intersection.	Access	Low

PARK RECOMMENDATIONS		
Recommendations	Source	Level
Empire Park: Add safety surfacing or remove slide.	Playgrounds	Moderate
Empire Park: Add accessible walk to connect shelter to street and neighborhood.	Walkways	Low
Freckleton Park: Add accessible parking spaces to north end of Community Recreation Center parking.	Parking	Low
Freckleton Park: Add walks to connect to park amenities.	Walkways	Low
Freckleton Park: Confirm fall zones are adequate for slide and swings and expand safety surfacing or replace structures as necessary.	Playground	Moderate
Freckleton Park: Add fence or vegetation buffer between park and UPRR.	Fencing	Low
Fremont Park: Connect swings to walk.	Walkways	Low
Fremont Park: Add accessible ramp into play area.	Ramp	Low
Ensure future development surrounding Gold Star Park offers trail connections to the park.	Access	Moderate
Halliwell Park: Replace press box/concessions structure	Facility Structure	High
Additional pedestrian facilities along Alameda Rd. would allow neighborhoods along Jones Dr. and Bryan Rd. to access Halliwell Park .	Access	Low
Hawthorne Park: Add accessible seat areas at fields connected to parking and street.	Tables/Benches	Low
Hawthorne Park: Improve crossing of W Eldridge Rd. connecting to Halliwell Park.	Access	Moderate
Improve access Indian Hills Soccer complex by connecting trails to Edison Fichter Trail along houses on Arapahoe St	Access	Moderate
Ensure future development allows trail and pedestrian access between homes to Legacy Park .	Access	High
Legacy Park. Add new restroom.	Restroom	High
Legacy Park. Add new pavilion.	Shelter	High

PARK RECOMMENDATIONS		
Recommendations	Source	Level
Memorial Park: Add accessible walk connection to swings and table(s).	Walkways	Low
Add additional pedestrian crossings to connect between the road- and river-separated areas that make up Memorial Park .	Access	Low
N.O.P. Park: Delineate parking spaces and improve accessible parking.	Parking	High
N.O.P. Park: Add restroom at baseball fourplex.	Restroom	High
N.O.P. Park: Add lights to softball fields (2) and baseball fields (4).	Lighting	Moderate
Ensure safe access to N.O.P. Park by pedestrian UPRR Crossing at Eldredge Rd. and Everett Ave. Allow additional access to N.O.P. Park at end of Nixon Rd.	Access	Moderate
OK Ward Park: Extend accessible walk at softball complex to concession stand and backstop viewing areas.	Walkways	Moderate
OK Ward Park: Add new restrooms.	Restroom	Moderate
OK Ward Park: Replace concession stands.	Facility Structure	Moderate
OK Ward Park: Recruit local food trucks once a week to host a “Food Truck” day	Program	Low
Optimist/Tydeman Park: Designate accessible parking near backstops.	Parking	Moderate
Pioneer Park: Grind heaving slabs or replace internal walks.	Walkways	Low
Rainey Park: Improve river access. Stabilize surface, reduce slope, increase width. New wetland, river access, & parking area.	River Access	High
Raymond Park: Add accessible connections to individual picnic tables.	Walkways	Low
Raymond Park: Add accessible ramp into play area.	Ramp	Low
Continue Greenway trail through Raymond Park to improve access.	Walkways	Moderate
Create safe pedestrian crossing to Rose Garden Park across 4 th and 5 th Aves.	Access	Moderate

PARK RECOMMENDATIONS		
Recommendations	Source	Level
Upper Ross Park: Provide connection to accessible parking.	Walkways	Moderate
Upper Ross Park: Designate accessible parking spaces near sidewalks to restroom.	Parking	Moderate
Upper Ross Park: Continue maintenance by inspecting and replacing bolted climbs at Sunnyside and Shadyside Climbing Areas.	Maintenance	Moderate
Lower Ross Park: Replace carousel shelter roof.	Shelter	Moderate
Lower Ross Park: Add accessible ramp to playground.	Ramp	Moderate
Lower Ross Park: Add accessible sidewalks to individual picnic tables	Walkways	Low
Ensure pedestrian facilities along 2 nd Ave. through Lower Ross Park , bring greenway trail south from Fredregill Rd. along border of Upper Ross to ease access from those north of both Ross Parks. Create additional Greenway UPRR crossing to neighborhoods south/west of the tracks.	Access	High
Sacajawea Park: Designate accessible parking spaces near opening in fence.	Parking	Low
Scardino Park: Relocate play area closer to west end of park.	Playground	Low
Scardino Park: Build new structure closer to west end of park.	Shelter	Low
Scardino Park: Connect shelter and play area to street and neighborhood with accessible walk.	Walkways	Low
Scardino Park: Develop new parking area on recently acquired land on other side of the park.	Parking	Moderate
Formalize the informal access to Scardino Park at the northeast border of the park from Park Lane, add trail access from Marinus Lane to connect adjacent neighborhoods north of the park.	Access	Low
Simplot Square: Repair heaving/differential setting in paver areas.	Walkways	High
Sister City Park: Provide accessible sidewalk to playground from parking area.	Walkways	Low

PARK RECOMMENDATIONS		
Recommendations	Source	Level
Sister City Park: Control or improve access on steep slopes in disc golf area to control erosion.	Access	Low
Sister City Park: Ensure pedestrian access by improving pedestrian facilities along Satterfield, crossing from Kirkwood Meadows. Improve trail connection to northernmost part of Sister City Park so that neighborhoods adjacent to the north can access without a car.	Access	Low
Taysom Rotary Park: Add accessible sidewalks to individual picnic tables.	Walkways	Low
Taysom Rotary Park: Add a pedestrian bridge to connect with neighborhood west of the river.	Access	Low
Westello Park: Replace play equipment.	Playground	Low
Westello Park: Add accessible ramp into play area.	Ramp	Low
Westello Park: Extend sidewalk around playground to Highland Blvd connect to swings and shelter.	Walkways	Low
Connect to Westello Park across Trail Creek Rd. to the neighborhood along Balboa Rd.	Access	Low

Future Planning and Code Recommendations

COMPLETE A COMPREHENSIVE TRAILS PLAN

One of the more prominent areas of public need and interest that was heard in the various forms of community engagement in this planning process was the strong desire for more trail connections (paved and unpaved), improved connectivity and walkability within the city itself, and connections to regional trails. This PROST Plan continues to acknowledge and support the community's interests in these recreational assets and provides guidance on future trail design and development. As a result, the consulting team recommends that the Department complete a comprehensive trails plan that includes an extensive community engagement process to identify a multi-use systemwide pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure network. Tasks may include the following:

Existing Conditions and Plan Alignment

- Review and Summary of Existing Plans, Reports, and Studies
- Inventory location and condition of existing multi-use trails and on street active transportation facilities; geodatabase update
- Inventory location and condition of existing soft surface facilities; geodatabase update
- Inventory location of trailheads and access points.
- Inventory of wayfinding and signage.
- Complete maintenance assessment of existing trails, including ownership/maintenance responsibilities; create geodatabase

- Create Opportunities and Challenges Map to summarize inventory and assessment results
- Map scenic, historical, and natural features associated with soft surface trail systems

Trail Gap Analysis & Field Verification

- Reconcile the existing GIS data, updated during the inventory phase, with incomplete or desired trail projects identified in previous planning efforts
- Identify new connections and on-street facilities that emerge from community engagement and previous benchmark or level of service analyses, observed social trails, and examination of connectivity to key community destinations
- Develop preliminary routes map for off street (multi-use trails), on-street active transportation, and soft surface facilities (re-routes or new routes) that will also identify the location of surface and grade-separated crossings (streets, railroads, water (bridges/culverts))
- Field verify proposed alignments for viability and revised based on the results of ground-truthing and any additional landowner outreach conducted by City staff

Options and Recommendations

- Identify new location of new access points and trailheads
- Identify major improvements to existing trailheads, parks, and open space facilities to support the trail system
- Develop estimates of Probable Cost
- Develop wayfinding and signage standards
- Map future improvements for wayfinding and signage
- Analysis of capital improvement scenarios to identify alternative levels of investment in facilities to achieve build-out of the proposed system
- At-grade Crossing recommendations
- Grade Separated Crossing recommendations
- Soft surface recommendations including management scenarios such as directional or single use trails

Funding and Implementation Strategies

- Project Prioritization Framework and Results
- Funding Strategies Matrix
- Development Code and Fee Assessment Report
- List of Partnership Opportunities and Organizations

Plan Production

- Draft Plan Outline
- Administrative Draft Plan
- Implementation Action Plan
- Public Draft Plan and Appendices
- Final Plan for Adoption (digital file package and one bound, hard copy)
- Geodatabase and Map Packages of all GIS data associated with the Plan
- Final maps and supporting visual exports (PDF)

CODE RECOMMENDATIONS

The following code recommendations are founded in analysis from the consulting team based on the City of Pocatello's codes, requirements, and standards.

LAND USE CODE ASSESSMENT

- Much of the parks, open space, and trails related language in the City's current Development Code does not address the establishment of new lands. Some language in the section detailing Development Standards (Chapter 17, Section 5) refers to the establishment of common open space for development, but there are no specific standards addressing land dedication for parks.
- The Development Code does establish a committee to review land use and development requests prior to permitting development, which would be the group along with the Parks and Recreation Director who would review plans against new established dedication and design standards.

PROPOSED LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE AMENDMENTS

- Incorporate the Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan (PROST Plan) by reference in Chapter 17, Section 5: Development Standards, using specific language establishing the Plan.
- Integrate language into the general development standards to identify how these standards and development should follow the recommendations of the PROST Plan. Specifically;
- Add a new Section **17.05.640 "Parks, Open Space, and Trails Standards"** to establish:
 - Recognition of the current PROST Plan as guidelines for standard development.
 - Public land dedication standards and minimum criteria for approval or acceptance of dedicated land:
 - Specific dedication standards should be determined by a separate nexus study analyzing the public impacts of development to establish quantity of land required for dedication.
 - The nexus impact study would establish land dedication amounts and a fee-in-lieu program for smaller parcels to maintain the existing level of service of parks, open space, and trails for Pocatello residents. A separate impact study process must be completed to determine the specific number of acres for minimum lot size. The impact study should be repeated annually to update fee in lieu and minimum lot standards.
 - Include section on Design Standards, describing how all land dedicated should meet certain requirements including functional purposes, contiguousness with the existing system, and size.
 - Note that the City has the power to either accept or reject the dedication of land based on the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Director.
 - Application procedures and review criteria, similar to the language in [17.04.160 Portneuf River Development Standards](#) describing application submittal requirements and review criteria.

Examples of Code Language that could be used to model Pocatello's land dedication standards:

- Westminster, CO [Public Land Dedication](#)
- Erie, CO [Open Space And Trail Dedications And Fees In-lieu](#)
- Whitefish, MT [Park Land and Open Space Requirements](#)

Recommended Code Language for Pocatello can be found in Appendix D.

Recreation Programming Recommendations

The recreational programming of Pocatello's Parks and Recreation Department is strong with over 54 individual programs and offerings that are provided within seven (7) core program areas. Based on some of the Recreation Program Analysis results (found beginning on page 69), there are opportunities to continue to grow and evolve these programs to meet current and potential future community needs. A large aspect that will affect this evolution is growth in capacity, both from a staff perspective and a facility perspective. Based on this analysis, community input, and insights from Department staff, the core program area recommendations detailed below were developed for this PROST Plan.

In general, the Department program staff should continue the cycle of evaluating recreation programs on both individual merit as well as the program mix as a whole. This can be completed at one time on an annual basis, or in batches at key seasonal points of the year, as long as each program is checked once per year. Also based on findings from the Recreation Program Analysis (found on page 65), the following tools and strategies can help facilitate this evaluation process and are recommended by the consulting team:

CORE PROGRAM AREA MINI-BUSINESS PLANS

The consulting team recommends that Mini Business Plans (2-3 pages) for each Core Program Area be updated on a yearly basis. These plans should evaluate the Core Program Area based on meeting the outcomes desired for participants, cost recovery, percentage of the market and business controls, Cost-of-Service, pricing strategy for the next year, and marketing strategies that are to be implemented. If developed regularly and consistently, they can be effective tools for budget construction and justification processes in addition to marketing and communication tools.

These Core Program Area business plans should include but not be limited to the following areas of focus:

- A. Name of Core Program Area**
- B. Core Program Area Overview**
 - a. Desired outcomes/participant and community benefits
 - b. General program description(s)
 - c. Target participation levels
 - d. Length of program offerings (session duration)
 - e. Frequency of programs (reoccurring, one-time, seasonal, etc.)
- C. Target Audience:**
 - a. Age(s)/other unique demographic identifiers
 - b. Program location(s)
- D. Marketing and Communications**
 - a. Methods of promotion
 - b. Frequency of promotions
- E. Financial Performance**
 - a. Estimated cost-of-service
 - b. Target cost recovery
 - c. Estimated cost to user(s)
- F. Lifecycle Management**
 - a. Schedule of evaluation
 - b. Additional performance measures

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT & DECISION-MAKING MATRIX

When developing program plans and strategies, it is useful to consider all of the Core Program Areas and individual program analysis discussed in this Program Assessment. Lifecycle, Age Segment, Classification, and Cost Recovery Goals should all be tracked, and this information, along with the latest demographic trends and community input, should be factors that lead to program decision-making. Community input can help staff focus in on specific program areas to develop new opportunities for various target markets including the best marketing methods to use.

A simple, easy-to-use tool similar to the figure below will help compare programs and prioritize resources using multiple data points, rather than relying solely on cost recovery. In addition, this analysis will help staff make an informed, objective case to the public when a program in decline, but beloved by a few, is retired. If the program/service is determined to have strong priority, appropriate cost recovery, good age segment appeal, good partnership potential, and strong market conditions the next step is to determine the marketing methods by completing a similar exercise as the one seen below.

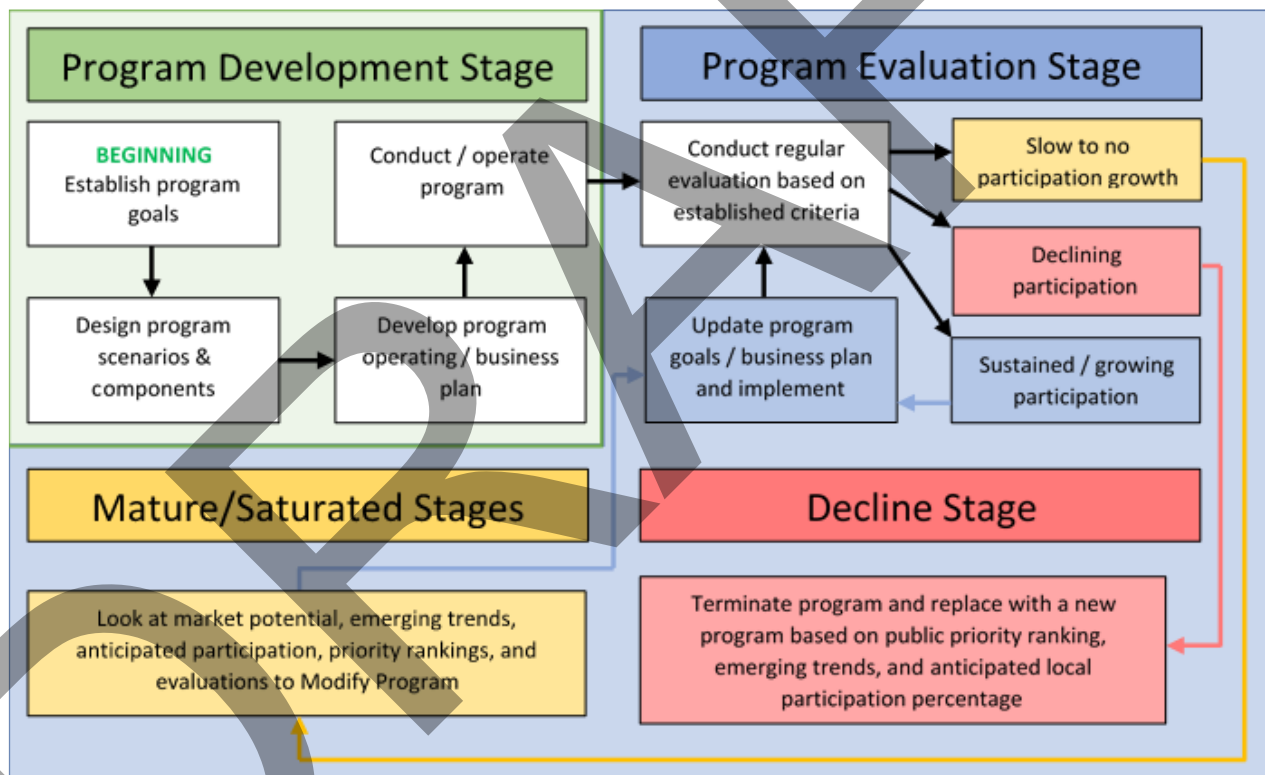
Marketing & Promotion Methods			
Program Idea (Name or Concept): _____			
Marketing Methods	Content Developed	Contact Information	Start Date
Activity Guide			
Website			
Newspaper Article			
Radio			
Social Media			
Flyers - Public Places			
Newspaper Ad			
Email Notification			
Event Website			
School Flyer/Newsletter			
Television			
Digital Sign			
Friends & Neighbors Groups			
Staff Promotion @ Events			

Internal Factors			
Priority Ranking:	High	Medium	Low
Program Area:	Core	Non-core	
Classification	Essential	Important	Discretionary
Cost Recovery Range	0-40%	60-80%	80+%
Age Segment	Primary	Secondary	
Sponsorship/Partnership			
Potential Partnerships	Monetary	Volunteers	Partner Skill
Potential Sponsors	Monetary	Volunteers	Sponsor Skill
Market Competition			
Number of Competitors			
Competitiveness	High	Medium	Low
Growth Potential	High	Low	

PROGRAM EVALUATION CYCLE (WITH LIFECYCLE STAGES)

Using the Age Segment and Lifecycle analysis, and other established criteria, program staff should evaluate programs on an annual basis to determine program mix. This can be incorporated into the Program Operating/Business Plan process. A diagram of the program evaluation cycle and program lifecycle is found in the figure below. During the Introductory Stages, program staff should establish program goals, design program scenarios and components, and develop the program operating/business plan. Regular program evaluations will help determine the future of a program.

If participation levels are still growing, continue to provide the program. When participation growth is slowing (or non-existent) or competition increases, staff should look at modifying the program to re-energize the customers to participate. When program participation is consistently declining, staff should terminate the program and replace it with a new program based on the public's priority ranking and/or program areas that are trending nationally/locally, while taking into consideration the anticipated local participation percentage.



CORE PROGRAM AREA RECOMMENDATIONS

Youth Programming

Some of the national trends in youth programming are centered around both new technology and a new understanding of how children play, accessibility for all participants, and the role of parents within that space.

In terms of accessibility, **interactive and sensory play** has become much more important and widely available across parks and recreation agencies in the United States. Some of the national trends in interactive and sensory play include:

- **Nature Immersion:** Partner with an educational farm or nature center to offer a full-day or half-day program where children play and learn in a natural environment, fostering connection with nature, sensory development, and gross motor skills.
- **Sensory Play Oasis:** Dedicate a designated park space or indoor room filled with various sensory experiences like light projections, textured surfaces, bubble blowers, and calming soundscapes for exploration and self-regulation.
- **"Build Your Own Adventure Trail":** Create an interactive trail where children can use recycled materials and natural elements to build bridges, tunnels, and play structures, encouraging collaborative building and creative problem-solving.

Many agencies are turning to technology to advance the way that participants play. This **technology and play fusion**, while costly, can allow an agency to become a leading competitor in a region by offering exclusive experiences based on technology that allows for new and improved playing. This includes:

- **Augmented Reality (AR) Scavenger Hunts:** Facilitate the use of an AR app for families to explore designated parks or historical sites, encounter virtual creatures, or learn local history through interactive prompts.
- **STEAM Play Zone:** Combine science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics through interactive exhibits, robotics challenges, coding workshops, and creative STEAM-themed play spaces.
- **Family Drone Coding and Piloting Workshops:** Offer introductory workshops where families learn to code and control small drones in a fun and engaging way.

Lastly, **Intergenerational and Community-Oriented Programs** are becoming more popular in and out of the Parks and Recreation space. Allowing parents and grandparents to get involved in the way their children and grandchildren play is often the optimal method of ensuring repeat participation in programming. Some of the trends around this include:

- **"Grandparents and Grandkids Get Wild" Program:** Organize nature walks, gardening workshops, or storytelling sessions where seniors share their knowledge and experiences with younger children, fostering intergenerational bonding and cultural exchange.
- **"Junior Park Rangers" Program:** Train older children as "junior park rangers" to assist park staff with tasks like trail maintenance, birdwatching surveys, or educational activities, promoting environmental stewardship and leadership skills.

- **"Tiny Chefs" Cooking Classes:** Partner with local farmers markets or restaurants to offer cooking classes for young children and their families, focusing on healthy ingredients, local agriculture, and basic culinary skills.

Teen and Young Adult Programming

Posing a completely different challenge within itself, teen and young adult programming has seen evolving trends centered around finding ways to get participants in the door. Meeting this demographic in the middle can prove difficult; however, many agencies have worked to find a balance of what teens and young adults want to see within Parks and Recreation programming, including ideas like the following:

Entrepreneurship programming:

- Partner with local businesses and entrepreneurs to provide mentorship, resources, and workspace for teens interested in starting their own businesses.
- Offer workshops on business planning, marketing, finance, and legal aspects of starting a business.
- Organize pitch competitions and networking events for teens to connect with potential investors and collaborators.

Maker Spaces:

- Provide access to instruction, technology, equipment, and supplies for different skilled trades including those that are technology, art and design, music, and carpentry focused through classes or workshops.
- Organize events and competitions that are challenged based for makers to display their skills.

Mental Health & Wellness Initiatives:

- Partner with mental health professionals and organizations to offer workshops and resources on topics like stress management, anxiety reduction, and positive self-image.
- Create a peer support network and connect teens with mentors who have overcome similar challenges.
- Organize mindfulness workshops and yoga classes to promote mental well-being and relaxation.

Media & Technology Academies:

- Partner with media professionals and technology companies to offer workshops and training in areas like video production, podcasting, social media management, and coding.
- Provide access to equipment and software for teens to create their own media projects and content.
- Organize contests to highlight teen talent and creativity.

Environmental Stewardship Programs:

- Partner with environmental organizations and local businesses to lead projects like tree planting, river cleanups, and sustainable gardening.
- Offer educational workshops on environmental issues and sustainable practices.
- Organize eco-tours and outdoor adventures to connect teens with nature and inspire environmental awareness.

Arts & Culture Exchange Programs:

- Partner with international organizations and local artists to offer cultural exchange programs and workshops for teens.
- Provide opportunities for teens to learn about different cultures through art, music, dance, and language immersion.
- Organize international exchange trips and cultural festivals to promote global understanding and collaboration.
- Set up a recording studio for teens and young adults to learn to record music for themselves or a singing group. This can also be a space to learn to play an instrument.

Adaptive Programming

One of the most impactful areas of programmatic growth for Pocatello Parks and Recreation Department is in the provision of adaptive programs for residents with a full range of special needs. This could include, but is not limited to, those with mobility challenges, as well as programs that are more focused on having sensory and/or behavioral accommodations. Programs in this realm should focus on social interaction, health and fitness, self-direction, movement, expanded competencies, speech and language, and community involvement. Examples of these types of programs include, but are not limited to, fitness, arts and crafts, adaptive sports, educational programs, and outings.

This can be a challenging program area for some municipalities because of the special skill set, training and experience that is required in order to provide these programs in a high-quality manner. If the availability of trained and experienced staff is an issue, it is recommended to explore partnerships with neighboring cities as well as specialized community organizations to better serve residents with special needs throughout the region. One potential partner that the Department should consider working with or offering programming with is nearby Idaho State University's *CW HOG* (Cooperative Wilderness Handicapped Outdoor Group); this partnership could provide opportunities to bolster the Department's own adaptive programming efforts while allowing both the Department and *CW HOG* to have access to shared resources (like programming spaces and staffing) for adaptive recreation.



Arts and Culture Programming

Arts and cultural programs, especially for agencies serving a relatively diverse community, have seen an increased demand and importance over the past decade. Some recent trends in the field include:

Youth Arts and Cultural Programming

- Local universities or research institutions can help agencies to offer STEM-focused workshops, science demonstrations, or robot-building sessions led by scientists and engineers.
- Museums and art galleries can allow agencies to offer interactive learning experiences for children within museum exhibits or organize art workshops based on current exhibitions.
- Children's theatre companies can be partnered with to offer drama and theatre workshops led by professional actors and directors, fostering creativity and self-expression in young children.

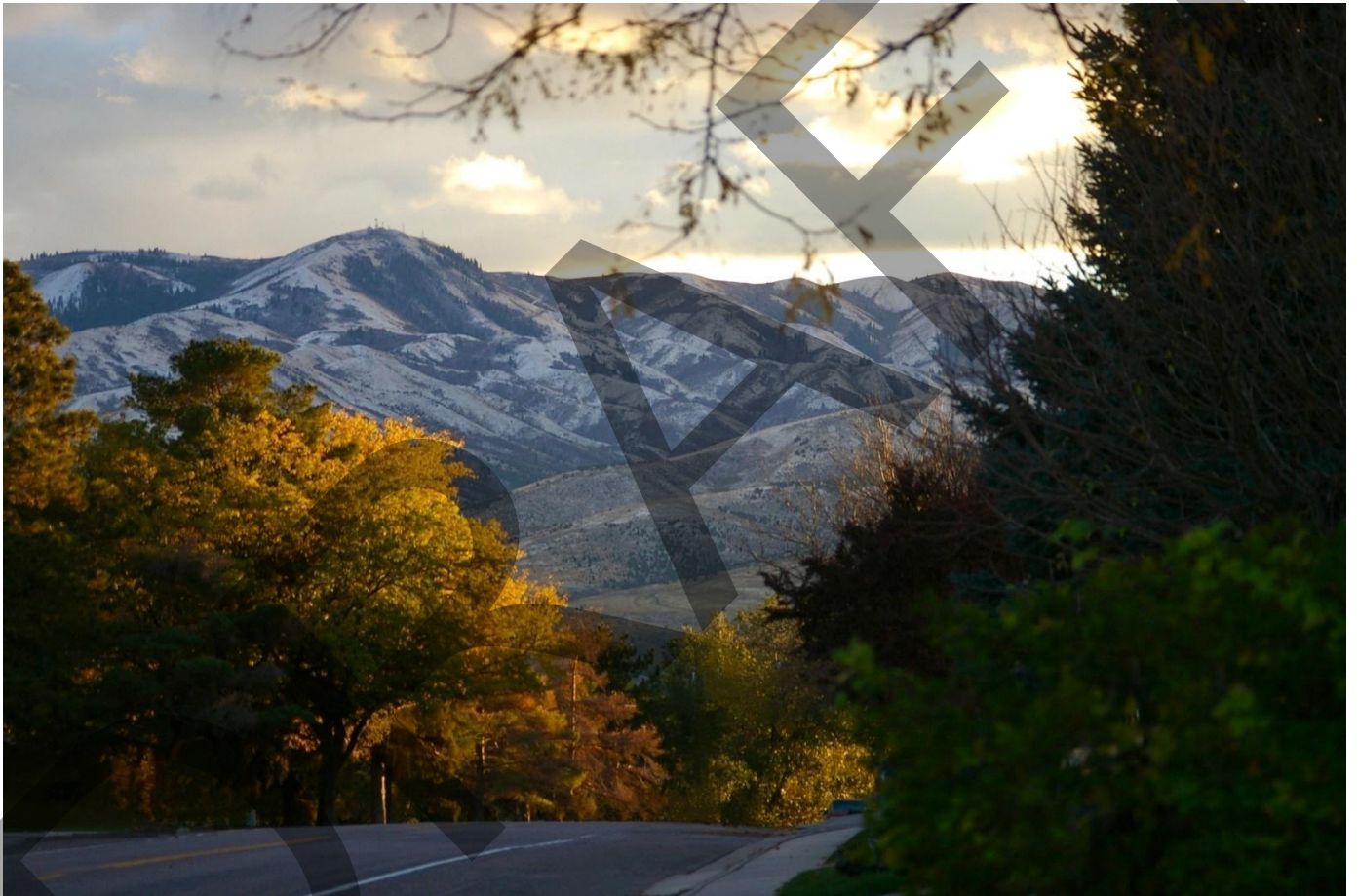
Young Adult Arts and Cultural Programming

- Active & Creative Expression:
 - Collaborate with local sports teams and dance studios by offering fitness classes or sports programs with a creative twist, like dance aerobics or parkour training.
 - Partner with local organizations and nonprofits centered around the Arts to plan workshops on filmmaking, music production, or creative writing with renowned artists.
- Civic Engagement & Leadership:
 - Work with Museums and local historic and cultural organizations to organize volunteer projects related to local history preservation or oral history documentation.
 - Connect with environmental organizations to build trails, plant trees, or conduct clean-up projects with teens, fostering environmental awareness and leadership skills.
- Tech Innovation & Entrepreneurship:
 - Partner with universities or local businesses to offer workshops on coding, app development, or startup basics. Host competitions and connect teens with mentors.

Adult and Senior Arts and Cultural Programming

- Wellness & Fitness Adventures:
 - Partner with yoga studios and outdoor outfitters to organize guided hikes or paddleboarding trips with yoga or mindfulness sessions incorporated.
 - Collaborate with senior centers and health organizations to offer gentle exercise classes like chair yoga or water aerobics in community centers.
- Lifelong Learning & Cultural Immersions:
 - Work with local Community Theatres to organize acting workshops or host theater nights focusing on mature themes and historical periods.
 - Connect with the local Orchestras to offer music appreciation classes or behind-the-scenes tours of the orchestra for active adults.

- Intergenerational Activities & Mentorship:
 - Partner with schools and youth organizations to organize workshops where active adults can share their skills and experiences with teens, like gardening or cooking classes.
 - Connect with local historical societies or museums to develop programs where active adults can interview and record the stories of senior citizens, preserving local history and fostering intergenerational bonds.



Operational Recommendations

Aside from the robust recommendations within this PROST Plan pertaining to parks, trails and open spaces, the Consultant Team also spent significant time with Department staff reviewing operational needs and current practices. This section of the plan contains recommendations derived from those work sessions and based on best practices gleaned by the planning team from around the region and the country.

BUILDING ON EXISTING STRENGTHS

The Department has recently made great strides in elevating its stature and effectiveness in the community as an innovative public service. The sheer magnitude of successful grant awards the City has received attributed to the efforts of the Parks and Recreation Department is impressive and has enabled many new capital projects to be pursued especially in trail projects, accessibility to the Portneuf River, restroom upgrades, and green infrastructure projects. The recent expansion of the Community Recreation Center, upgrade to the Ross Park Aquatic Complex, new pickleball courts, and the development of a new skate park also are great examples of ways in which the Department is working to systematically improve and modernize the parks and recreation system. Other great aspects of the current system include outstanding outdoor recreation programs, the extensive inventory of trails and open spaces, team sports programming, and the culture of partnership within the Department to work with other entities for expanded service opportunities.

AREAS NEEDING ATTENTION

Addressing Aging Infrastructure

One of the largest areas of attention needed for the Department as also noted in the CIP recommendations of this plan is the need to systematically upgrade and modernize the aging infrastructure, facilities and amenities across the system. This includes but is not limited to:

- Restrooms
- Pavilions/shelters
- Playgrounds/play equipment
- Irrigation systems
- Signage
- Fences
- Sidewalks
- Parking areas
- Tree canopy

It is recommended to develop a multi-year, phased strategy over the period of the next 10 years to address these issues across the system.

Staffing Needs

There are several areas in which the Department is understaffed or in some cases not staffed at all. That noted, it is also understood that the Department has a difficult time recruiting new talent due to a number of factors outside of its control. It is also noted this issue is not just with the Parks and Recreation Department but afflicts most City departments on the whole. This issue is largely based on non-competitive compensation levels, low unemployment within the region, and a lack of affordable housing within the community. Having a more competitive salary structure would benefit the Parks and Recreation Department in recruitment and retention.

Aside from modernizing the City as an employer of choice overall, the specific areas that could use additional staff support within the Department are detailed below:

- **Outdoor Recreation Programs** – this is highly demanded area of programming for the Department and is currently inhibited with lack of staff in order to expand those programs.
- **Adaptive Programs** – this is a program area in which the Department wants to grow and develop more offerings, but a lack of specialty trained staff currently prevents this.
- **Older Youth Programs** – this is also a program area in which there is known community needs but requires both additional staffing and a designated facility in order to develop further.
- **Events/Volunteer Coordinator** – the Department currently plans and facilitates numerous special and community events throughout the year. In order to support additional capacity within existing staff, it is recommended to hire a dedicated position focused on events and volunteer coordination.
- **Marketing/Communications** – many parks and recreation departments are realizing the need for a dedicated marketing and communications position and Pocatello is no different. Parks and recreation is the closest thing the City has to a retail service based on the nature in which develops and provides services and offerings to the community. These require regular and modern methods of marketing and promotion in order to create the necessary awareness for residents.
- **Park Planner** – currently there is no dedicated park planner within the Department or within the Planning Department. Given the breadth of the park system infrastructure and upcoming capital projects, it is recommended the City support a dedicated park planner position.
- **Parks, Trails and Facility Maintenance** – this is always an area where parks and recreation departments struggle to maintain proper staff capacity. Specifically in Pocatello, additional resources are needed in forestry and general maintenance.
- **Administrative Support** – there is need for additional administrative support in the Community Recreation Center and supporting team sports programs.

To address current and future staffing issues, the Department should form stronger partnerships with the school district and Idaho State University in Pocatello. Both of these partnerships could help to create a workforce “pipeline” for the Department for future staffing needs across all divisions – maintenance, programming, administration, marketing, etc.. These partnerships would require some accommodation in order to be successful including but not limited to more competitive seasonal wages for college-aged workers and flexible work hours for workers still attending high school.

MAINTENANCE FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Annual maintenance expenses that are a component of total Parks and Recreation Departmental expenditures as well as those annual maintenance allocations in the Facilities Department were identified from the FY 2025 budget. These maintenance expenses were evaluated in two major categories:

1. Park Operations / Maintenance
2. Annual Capital Improvements

Additionally, the scale of each area of maintenance was identified based on the total number of acres maintained (developed park lands and special use facilities) each year. Maintenance of park acres includes all developed public parks such as neighborhood, community, and regional parks, as well as sports and athletic complexes. Maintenance of open spaces was not included in this analysis as it requires considerably less focus per acre than that of developed parks.

The annual maintenance recommendations featured in this PROST Plan are based on a review of current site and facility conditions, national site and facility maintenance best practices, and discussions with Department staff regarding current operational and maintenance needs. The City of Pocatello maintains a high standard of care for its parks and facilities even though so much of the infrastructure is aged, and this is reflective of that same expectation from residents. There are many unique park and recreation sites and facilities within the City's portfolio including:

- 3.7 acres of pocket parks
- 33.8 acres of neighborhood parks
- 148.6 acres of community parks
- 156.6 acres of regional parks
- 247.0 acres of special use facilities/parks (includes 216 acres of golf courses)

All of the park and non-park lands outdoor sites are completely maintained by the Department under the current budget of \$554,153. While all these sites and facilities are currently well maintained, these amenities are aging, heavily used, and deteriorating under normal expected impacts (weather, etc.). The costs associated with maintaining these sites and facilities will increase over time as these assets continue to age and get heavily used. As a result, it is recommended there be a nominal increase in annual maintenance expenses stair-stepped over the next five years to better resource the Parks and Recreation Department in meeting these needs.

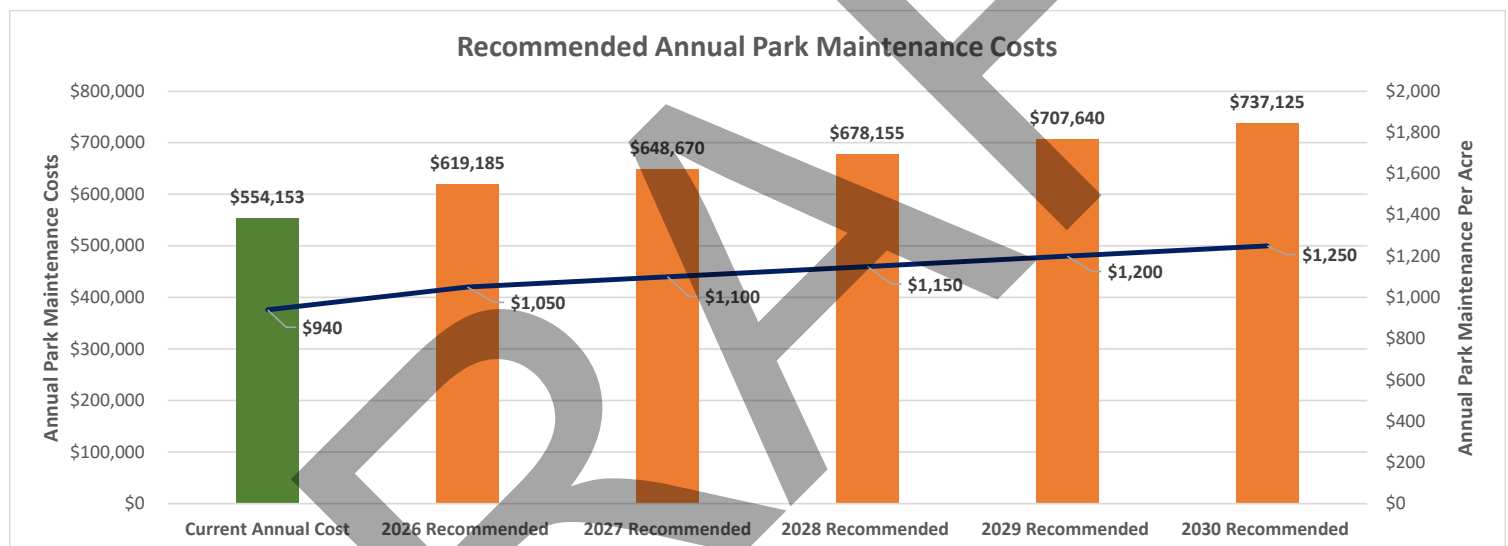
To further understand both the overall and incremental costs associated with annual park and facility maintenance, the average annual unit cost was calculated. Annual park maintenance unit costs were calculated by acre. The table below depicts the annual maintenance unit costs based on the FY 2025 budget. The data in this table indicates that as of FY 2025, the **average annual maintenance cost of the park system \$940/acre.**

There is no national standard for average annual maintenance costs for public park and recreation systems because the maintenance portfolios of each park system vary wildly. With that said, PROS Consulting performs this analysis on public park and recreation systems regularly and over the last 2-3 years has noticed an emerging trend or pattern to the findings. In most cases, average annual park maintenance costs fall between \$2,000 - \$5,000/acre. Pocatello is considerably lower than these trends.

The tables and graphs below outline the recommendation that annual park maintenance funding increase incrementally over the next several years. While it is unrealistic to assume the City can afford to fund park maintenance several orders of magnitude greater than they do currently, a modest and incremental increase year over year of annual maintenance funding that is grounded in this unit cost methodology is highly justified. **It is recommended that average annual maintenance cost be increased from \$940 in FY2025 to \$1,050/acre in FY2026, and eventually to \$1,250/acre in FY2030.** This would represent a 33% increase in annual maintenance funding from FY2025 to FY2030.

Annual Maintenance Cost Recommendations

	Current Inventory	Unit Type	Current Annual Unit Cost	2026 Recommended Annual Unit Cost	2027 Recommended Annual Unit Cost	2028 Recommended Annual Unit Cost	2029 Recommended Annual Unit Cost	2030 Recommended Annual Unit Cost
Current Park Maintenance	589.7	acres	\$940	\$1,050	\$1,100	\$1,150	\$1,200	\$1,250
			Current Annual Cost	2026 Recommended Annual Cost	2027 Recommended Annual Cost	2028 Recommended Annual Cost	2029 Recommended Annual Cost	2030 Recommended Annual Cost
Recommended Park Maintenance			\$554,153	\$619,185	\$648,670	\$678,155	\$707,640	\$737,125

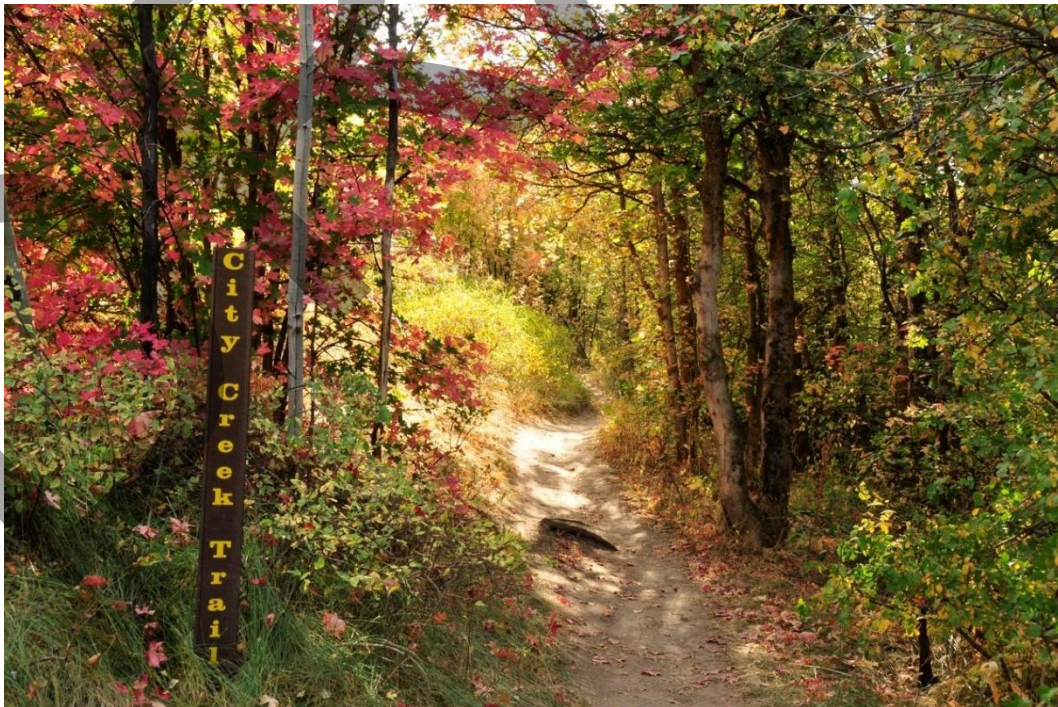


Recommended Funding and Revenue Strategies

Through the consulting team's experience in funding and analysis of potential revenue strategies (found in the Funding and Revenue Strategies beginning on page 95), multiple funding strategies fit Pocatello's specific needs and requirements. However, based on discussions with City leadership in the master planning process, there are specific alternative funding recommendations that are more preferred for consideration over the next 10 years. These include, but are not limited to:

- The expanded use of **Corporate Sponsorships** to support more facilities and programs beyond just special and community events as it is utilized currently. The value of these sponsorships can be developed based on annual "impressions" that are rooted in overall visitation and participation levels. That recommended value should be calculated on \$0.35 to \$0.50 per impression point on an annual basis. This could also be considered a form of **Advertising Sales** as well.
- **Partnership with a Non-profit Conservancy or Friends Group** for assistance in the management of land, amenities and programming are commonly a strong methodology for a municipality to significantly leverage its annual operations and maintenance responsibilities. These are organized fund raising and operational groups who raise money for individual signature parks and or attractions such as zoo's and regional parks. There are over two thousand conservancies in the United States now. This could be a helpful strategy for Idaho Zoo, Memorial Park, or even Ross Park because of its size. The existing organizations such as Friends of the Zoo, Greenway Foundation, and Sagebrush Steppe Foundation could be strengthened if engaged more strategically to assist the parks and recreation system more intentionally with fundraising support.
- **Health Care/Hospital Partnerships** are becoming a major partner for park and recreation agencies to help support the development of community centers that have health related amenities in them like fitness centers, therapy pools and walking tracks. Some health care providers put in rehab centers inside of the community center and pay the development cost associated with the ongoing building costs. While the City is not likely to solely pursue additional indoor fitness and wellness facilities at this time because of the recent expansion of the Community Recreation Center, a partnership with the local healthcare network could stimulate the possibility of such a facility coming about sooner than if the City where funding it on its own.
- **Tax Incremental Financing (TIF)** can be used with an established "TIF District" in which incremental increases in property taxes over a 20-25 year period is utilized to pay or reimburse initial development costs. Establishing a TIF district in areas that are anticipated to experience significant economic development and growth over the next 20 years can fund initial park/trail/greenway development that initially serves as a catalyst for that development.
- A **Public Improvement District (PID)** or **Special Improvement District** can support new developments when authorized by the City Council and legally set up according to state law. This taxing district provides funds especially for the operation and maintenance of public amenities such as parks and major boulevards.
- **Capital Fees** are added to the cost of revenue producing facilities such as golf courses, pools, recreation centers, hospitality centers and sports complexes and are lifted off after the improvement is paid off. Currently this is done in a limited fashion solely with the golf course, but could be considered for most or all of the facilities that have rental, admission or membership fees associated with them.

- **Pouring Rights** are when private soft drink companies execute agreements with the City for exclusive pouring rights within park facilities. A portion of the gross sales goes back to the City. The City of Westfield, IN recently signed a 10 year, \$2 million pouring rights deal at their sports complex with Pepsi.
- **Catering Permits and Fees** are licenses to allow caterers to work in the park system on a permit basis with a set fee or a percentage of food sales returning to the City. Also many cities have their own catering service and receive a percentage of dollars off the sale of their food. This could be something considered in the future with food trucks servicing special and community events. This also includes the use of **Private Concessionaires** for operating select facilities/amenities within certain parks or facilities.
- **BUILD Grants** (Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development) of the U.S. Department of Transportation, formerly known as TIGER grants, can be sizeable federal funds that can be utilized for large development projects that involve transportation infrastructure. This intersects well with Parks and Recreation on the potential development of trails/greenways and blueways, or water trails.
- **Developer Impact Fees** are used to support neighborhood park development in the property near or in their development as a way of enticing new homeowners to move into the development. The developer pays the impact fee at the time of the permit like impact fees for roads, sewers, and general utilities based on the value of the homes that are being built.
- **Developer Land Dedication Ordinances** can be a productive manner in which to acquire new land for park, trail and greenspace development. As new development is planned and occurs, private developers are required to dedicate a certain amount of land for these purposes to be managed by the city. This methodology requires specific criteria to ensure the quality of land dedication.



- The current **Transient Tax** collected in Pocatello to support tourism and economic development should have a portion dedicated to parks and recreation needs. The Mountain View Events Center (MEC) currently receives these proceeds, but Pocatello Parks and Recreation facilities are major drivers of regional, statewide and national tourism in the area through events, tournaments, and special programs. Dedicated hotel/motel tax funds could strongly support the needs of the system in continuing to do this well. It is recommended to re-evaluate the distribution of these funds to also support specific parks and recreation sites or facilities (i.e. OK Ward athletic complex or Indian Hills Soccer Complex).
- **Greenway Utilities** allow options to develop the infrastructure within the trail easement. Terms for notification, minimal impact to users and replacing/repairing damage caused by utility company is important. Greenway utilities are used to finance acquisition of greenways and development of the greenways by selling the development rights underground for the fiber optic types of businesses.
- **Naming Rights** have already been a very successful strategy many parks and recreation agencies have used to help support capital and/or operational costs of major facilities in their community. Many cities and counties have been successful selling the naming rights for new buildings or renovation of existing buildings and parks for the development cost associated with the improvement. Thoughtful policies around naming rights is important to maintain the integrity of the program.
- **Lease of Development Rights** below ground specifically along trails have been very successful in many communities to assist with the development costs associated with trail system expansion. This involves leasing the land under or along trails for fiber optics or utilities alongside of trails to support capital and maintenance costs.
- **Interlocal Agreement** with the local school district in particular can dramatically improve both the public accessibility to specific school sites and assets for public recreation, but also improve inequity in a community through increased facility access. These are typically contractual relationships entered into between two or more local units of government and/or between a local unit of government and a non-profit organization for the joint usage/development of sports fields, regional parks, or other facilities.

Community Profile

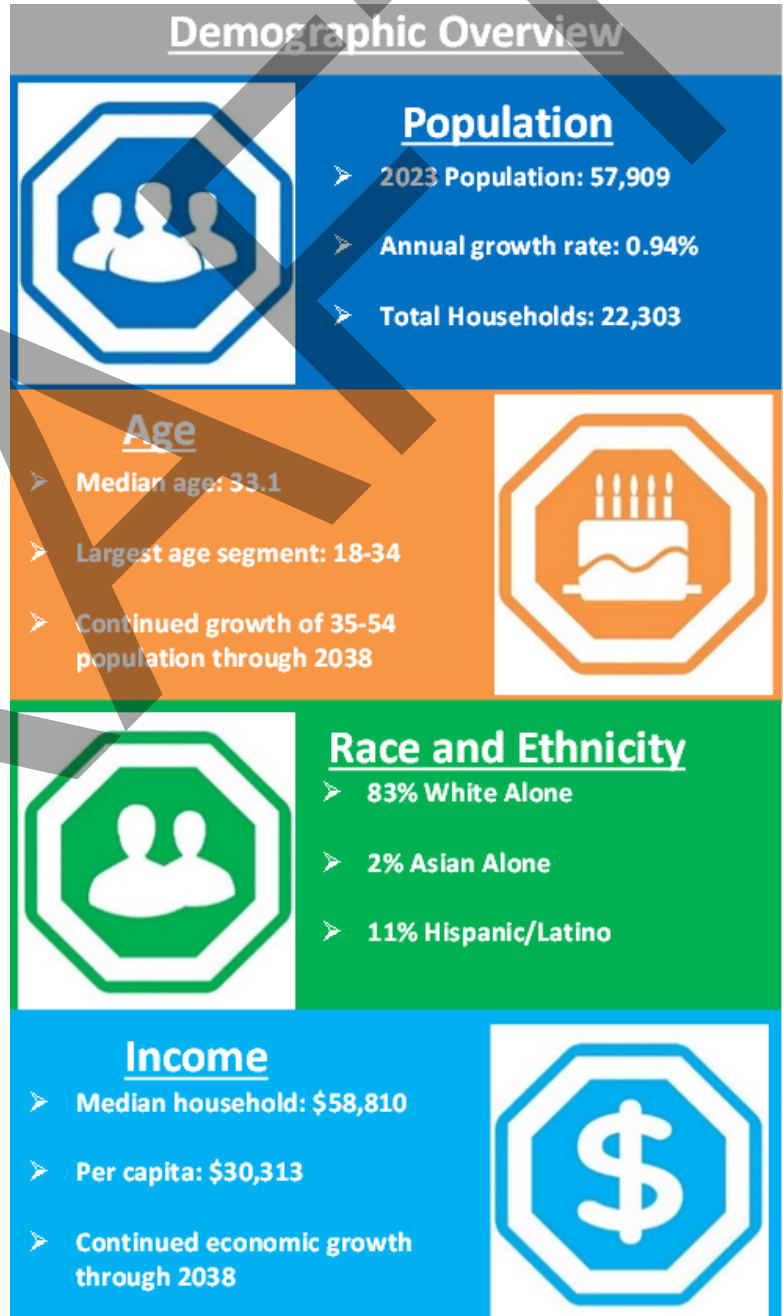
Introduction

A key component of the Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan is a Demographics and Recreation Trends Analysis. The purpose of this analysis is to provide the Department insight into the makeup of the population they serve and identify market trends in recreation. The report also helps to quantify the market in and around the City and assists in providing a better understanding of the types of parks, facilities, and services used to satisfy the needs of residents.

This analysis is two-fold; it aims to identify the *who* and the *what*. First, it assesses the demographic characteristics and population projections of Pocatello residents to understand *who* the Department serves. Second, recreational trends are examined on a national and local level to understand *what* the population may want to do. Findings from this analysis establish a fundamental understanding that provides a basis for prioritizing the community need for parks, trails, facilities, and recreation programs.

Demographic Analysis

The Demographic Analysis describes the population in Pocatello. This assessment is reflective of the City's total population and its key characteristics such as age, race, and income levels. It is important to note that future projections are based on historical patterns and unforeseen circumstances during or after the time of the analysis could have a significant bearing on the validity of projected figures. The table to the right provides an overview of Pocatello's populace based on current estimates of the 2023 population. A further analysis of each of these demographic characteristics can be found in in this chapter.



METHODOLOGY

Demographic data used for the analysis was obtained from U.S. Census Bureau and from Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI), the largest research and development organization dedicated to Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and specializing in population projections and market trends. All data was acquired in June 2023 and reflects actual numbers as reported in the 2020 Census. ESRI then estimates the current population (2023) as well as a 5-year projection (2028). PROS then utilized straight line linear regression to forecast demographic characteristics for 10 and 15-year projections (2033 and 2038). ***Please note: Some data has yet to be released from the 2020 Census, resulting in certain analyses utilizing 2010 Census data instead (e.g., age segmentation).***

Race and Ethnicity Definitions

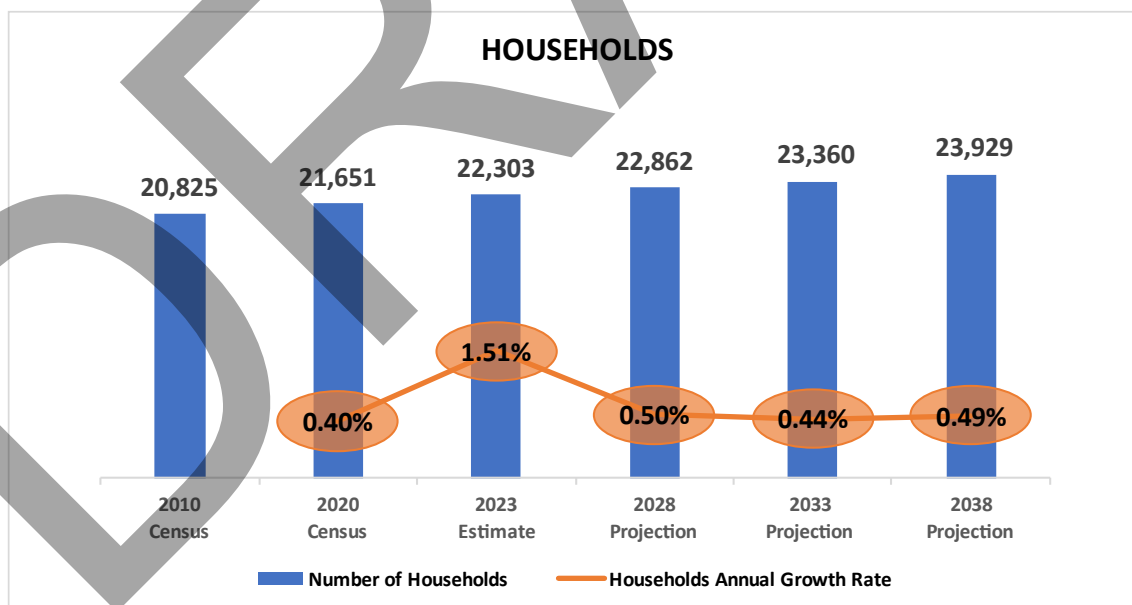
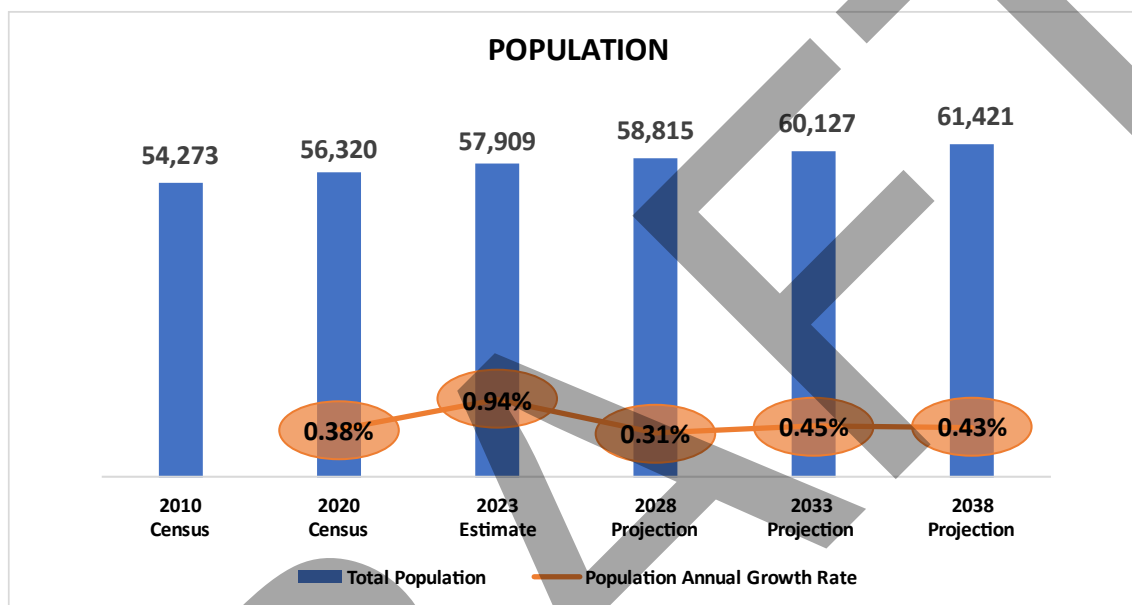
The minimum categories for data on race and ethnicity for Federal statistics, program administrative reporting, and civil rights compliance reporting are defined below. The Census 2020 data on race are not directly comparable with data from the 2010 Census and earlier censuses; therefore, caution must be used when interpreting changes in the racial composition of the US population over time. The latest (Census 2020) definitions and nomenclature are used within this analysis.

- **American Indian or Alaska Native:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.
- **Asian:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.
- **Black or African American:** A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.
- **Hispanic or Latino:** A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
- **Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.
- **White:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.

Please note: The Census Bureau states that the race and ethnicity categories generally reflect social definitions in the U.S. and are not an attempt to define race and ethnicity biologically, anthropologically, or genetically. We recognize that the race and ethnicity categories include racial, ethnic, and national origins and sociocultural groups. They define Race as a person's self-identification with one or more of the following social groups: White, Black, or African American, Asian, American Indian, and Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, some other race, or a combination of these. Ethnicity is defined as whether a person is of Hispanic / Latino origin or not. For this reason, the Hispanic/Latino ethnicity is viewed separate from race throughout this demographic analysis.

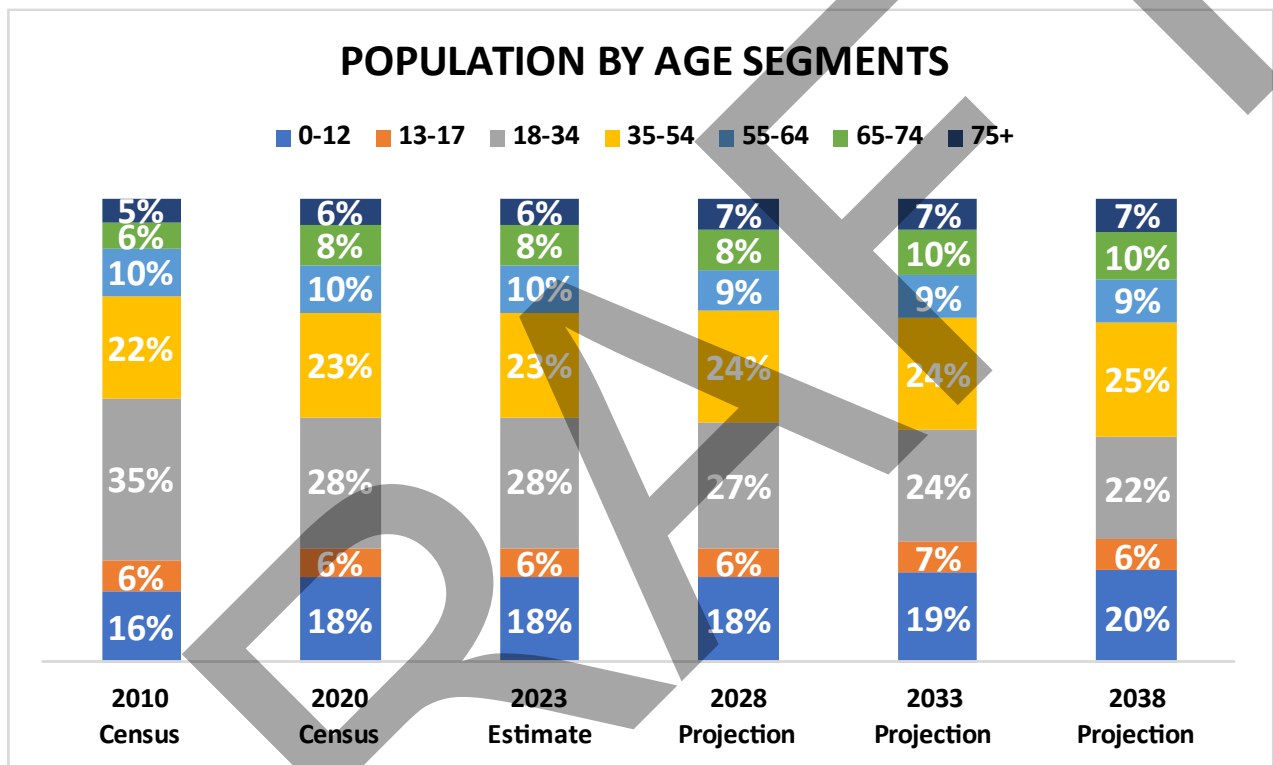
POPULATION

Pocatello has a steadily growing population that ranges from light to moderate yearly increases; in fact, the population has increased from 54,273 in 2010 to an estimated **57,909 in 2023**. Pocatello's population is expected to continue to steadily grow in the following 15 years, where it is projected to reach **61,421 residents by 2038**. The total number of households has also grown at a consistent rate proportional to population growth, increasing from 20,825 in 2010 to an estimated **22,303 in 2023**. By 2038, it is estimated that there will be **23,929 total households** within Pocatello, which is likely to continue growing.



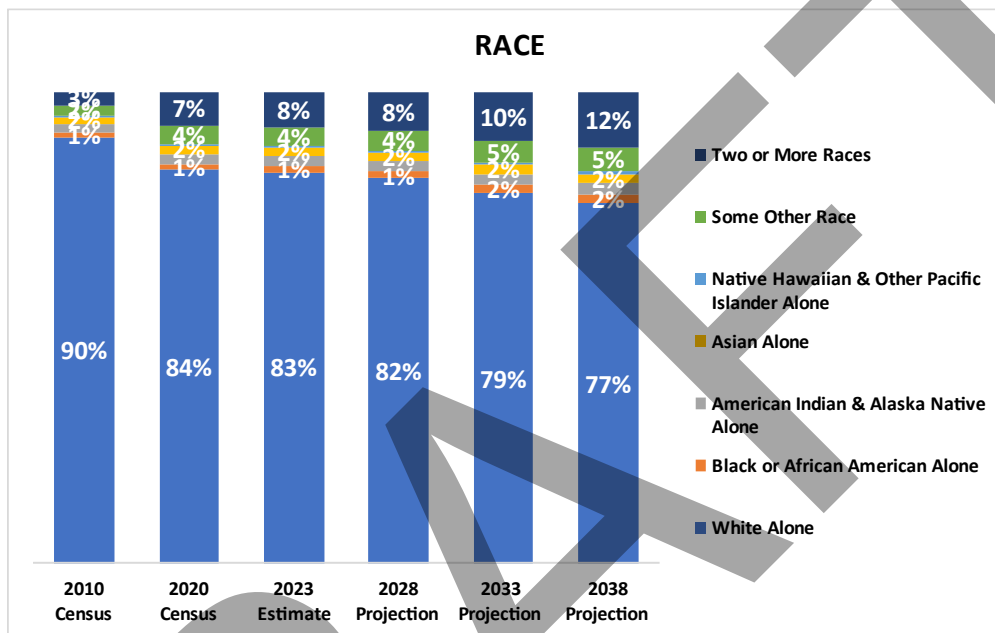
AGE SEGMENTATION

The largest age segments of Pocatello's current population are **18-34** (28%), **35-54** (23%), and **0-12** (18%), comprising a relatively middle-aged City population. Within the community, there is an aging trend with people between the ages of 18-34, decreasing from making up 35% of the population in 2010 to making up **22% of the population by 2038**; however, the 35-54 age range will inherit a subsequent **3%** growth by **2038** as the population shifts. The median age has risen from 30.2 in 2010 to **33.1 in 2023**, where it projects to continue to increase slightly in the coming years. Therefore, the amenities updated and developed for Pocatello should likely be designed to be appealing for an increasing middle-aged demographic, while also remaining accessible for the elderly and young children.



RACE

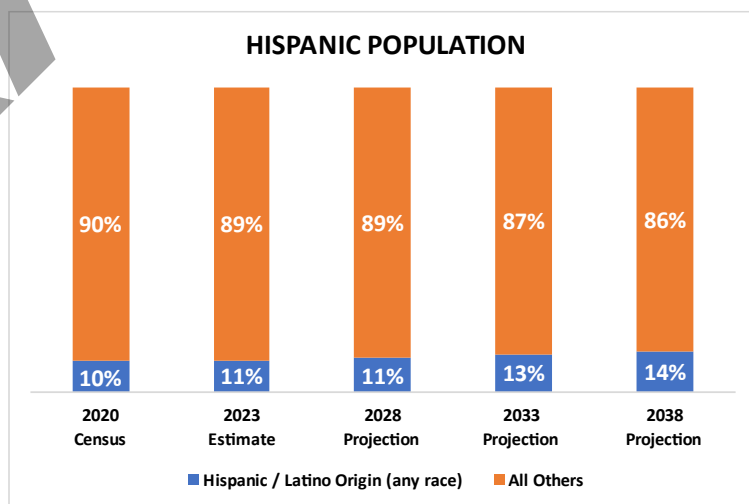
Analyzing race, Pocatello's current population makeup is **mostly 'White Alone'**, with the 2023 estimate showing 83% of the population falling into the White Alone category, along with **'Two or More Races'** (8%), and **'Some Other Race'** (4%), representing the second and third largest categories. Predictions for 2028 and beyond expect the population to steadily diversify, with a decrease in the White Alone population, and minor increases to all other race categories. Within this change, the **'Two or More Races'** category will increase the most from **8% to 12% by 2038**.



ETHNICITY

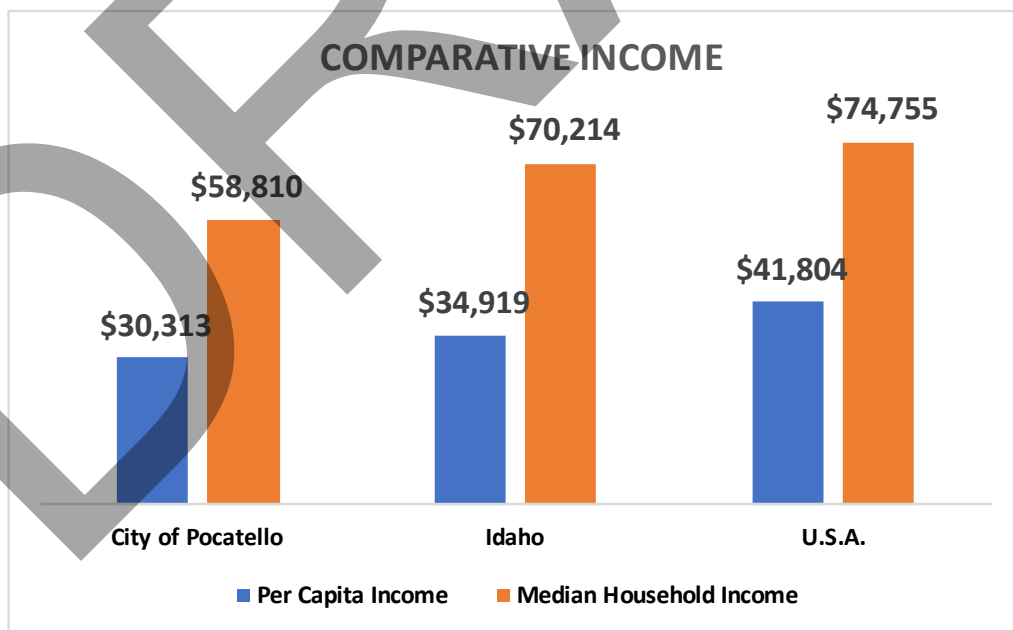
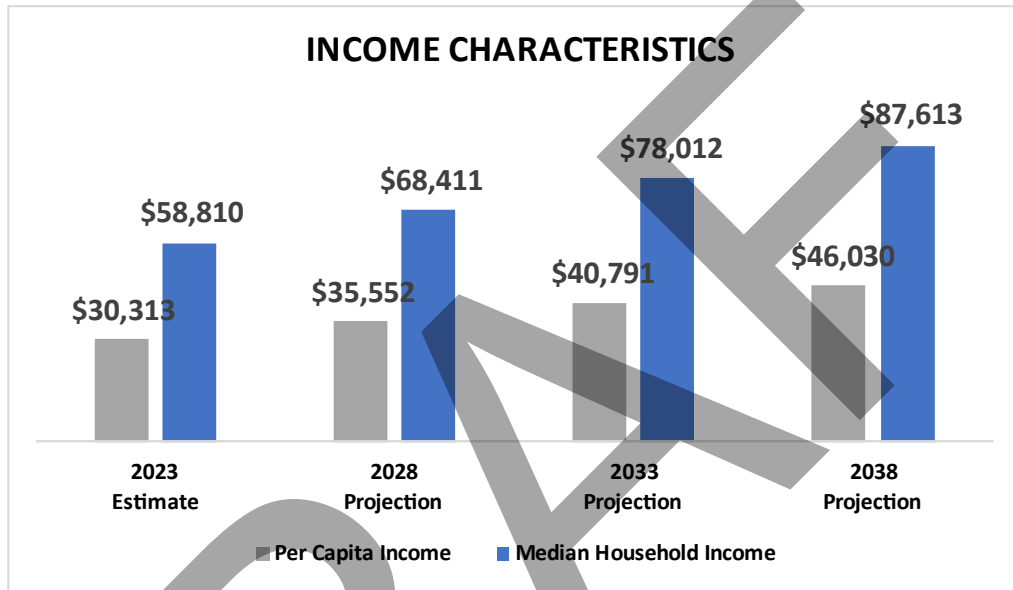
Pocatello's population was also assessed based on Hispanic/Latino ethnicity, which by the Census Bureau definition is viewed independently from race. **It is important to note that individuals who are Hispanic/Latino in ethnicity can also identify with any racial categories identified above.**

Based on the current 2023 estimate, people of Hispanic/Latino origin represent **11% of Pocatello's population**, which is well below the national average (19% Hispanic/Latino) and slightly below the state of Idaho average (13.5% Hispanic/Latino). The City's Hispanic/Latino population has experienced a minor increase over time and is expected to continue growing slightly to **14% of Pocatello's total population by 2038**.



INCOME CHARACTERISTICS

When analyzing income, the per capita income is that earned by an individual while the median household income is based on the total income of everyone over the age of sixteen living within the same household. Pocatello's **per capita income** (\$30,313) and **median household income** (\$58,810) are both well under the state of Idaho averages (\$34,919 and \$70,214) and national averages (\$41,804 and \$74,755). Pocatello projects to increase in both median household and per capita income, where the averages are expected to increase to **\$46,030 and \$87,613 respectively by 2038**. These relatively significant income projections should be taken into consideration when the Department is pricing out programs, calculating cost recovery goals, or planning out amenities for potential parks and trail systems.



DEMOGRAPHIC IMPLICATIONS

While it is important not to generalize recreation needs and priorities based solely on demographics, the analysis suggests some potential implications for Pocatello, Idaho:

- Pocatello's relatively static population trends indicate a need to identify and understand the interests of all ages, especially **middle-aged** and **adolescent populations**. Adding more recreational activities for the active adult population, such as exercise classes or recreational leagues, may prove to be beneficial in keeping many populations active. In addition to adults, the increasingly high percentage of children under the age of 13 may also give the City a better idea of what offerings may serve the community best.
- Pocatello's below average per capita income and household income characteristics suggest **low disposable income at the individual and family level**. The Department should be mindful of this when pricing out programs and events and considering amenities, while staying aware of the projected upward income trend that they can expect over the next decade.
- In comparison to the United States average (0.61%), Pocatello had a **relatively high annual growth rate from 2020 to 2023** (0.94%). However, the annual growth rate is projected to decrease to 0.31% from 2023 to 2038 but anticipated to climb again in years to come. This population growth should be considered and accounted for when planning new amenities and offerings for the community, as well as the maintenance and upkeep of current offerings.
- Finally, Pocatello should ensure its **diversifying population is reflected in its offerings, marketing/communications, and public outreach**. With increasing diversity in both race and age, Pocatello should remain prepared to change its offerings over time.

Recreation Trends Analysis

The Trends Analysis provides an understanding of national, regional, and local recreational trends as well recreational interest by age segments. Trends data used for this analysis was obtained from Sports & Fitness Industry Association's (SFIA), National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), and Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI). All trend data is based on current and/or historical participation rates, statistically valid survey results, or NRPA Park Metrics. The full dataset utilized for this Recreation Trends Analysis can be found in **Appendix A**.

LOCAL SPORT AND LEISURE MARKET POTENTIAL

The following charts show sport and leisure market potential data for Pocatello residents, as provided by ESRI. Market Potential Index (MPI) measures the probable demand for a product or service within the defined service areas. The MPI shows the likelihood that an adult resident will participate in certain activities when compared to the U.S. national average. The national average is 100; therefore, numbers below 100 would represent lower than average participation rates, and numbers above 100 would represent higher than average participation rates. The service area is compared to the national average in four (4) categories – general sports, fitness, outdoor activity, and commercial recreation.

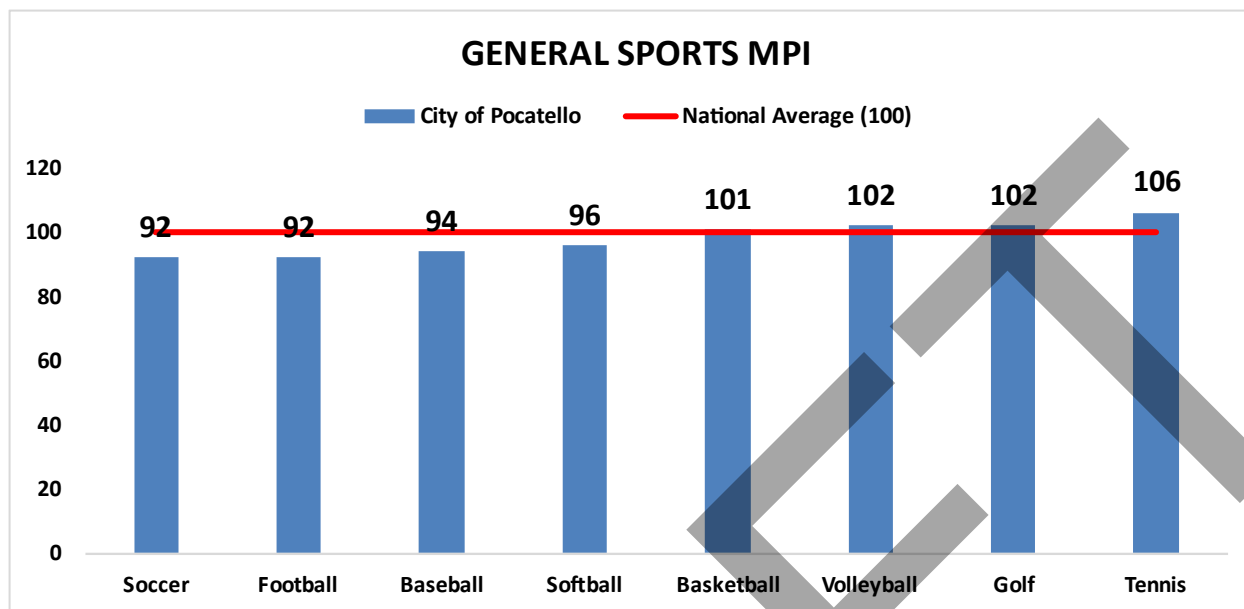
It should be noted that MPI metrics are only one data point used to help determine community trends; thus, programmatic decisions should not be based solely on MPI metrics.

Overall, when analyzing Pocatello's MPIs, the data demonstrates mostly above average market potential index (MPI) numbers in all assessed areas, with high potential in several more specific activities. For example, Tennis and Archery both scored above the national average, while also outperforming most of their other General Sports or Outdoor Activities counterparts according to the analysis. Something to note about Pocatello's MPI scores is that there are very few activities below the national average, with only 14 of the measured 46 activities scoring less than 100. This becomes significant when the Department considers starting up new programs or building new facilities, giving them a strong tool to estimate resident attendance and participation.

The following charts compare MPI scores for 46 sport and leisure activities that are prevalent for residents within Pocatello. The activities are categorized by activity type and listed in descending order, from highest to lowest MPI score. High index numbers (100+) are significant because they demonstrate that there is a greater likelihood that residents within the service area will actively participate in those offerings provided by the Department.

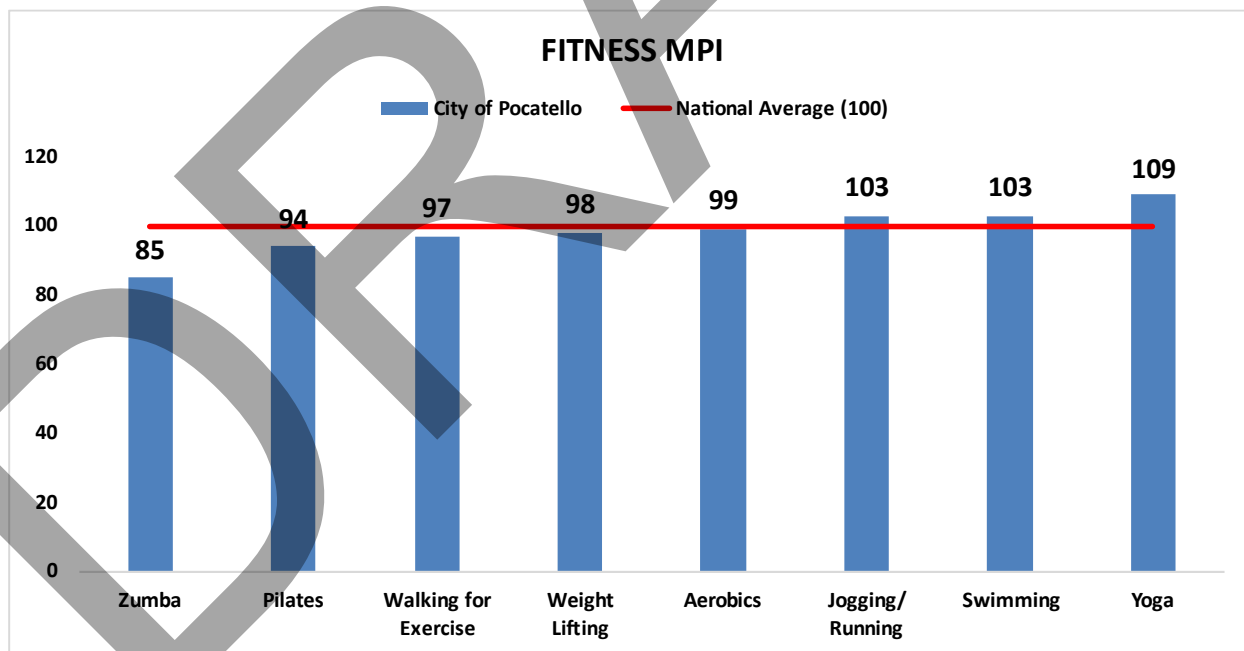
General Sports Market Potential

The chart on the following page shows that four of Pocatello's recorded General Sports are above the national average regarding MPI: Tennis (106, Golf (102), Volleyball (102), and Basketball (101). Pocatello's other General Sports scores are all below the national average of 100, however, the lowest scoring activities (Soccer and Football, both scoring at 92) still scored above 90. Something important to note is that the scores for General Sports combined make up the lowest average MPI score out of all the service areas in the entire MPI analysis for Pocatello at **98.1**.



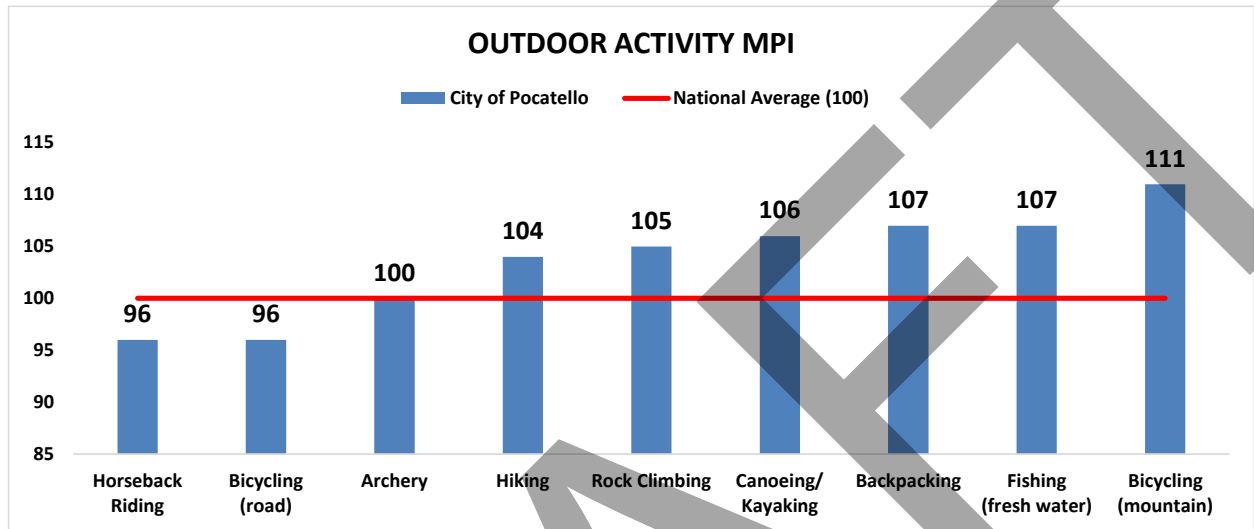
Fitness Market Potential

Assessing MPI scores for the Fitness Activity category reveals that Pocatello's fitness activities are **mostly below the national average**. Of these activities, Yoga (109), Swimming (103), and Jogging/Running (103) scored the highest, while the rest of the City's activities scored below the national average with Zumba scoring the lowest mark of the entire MPI analysis at 85.



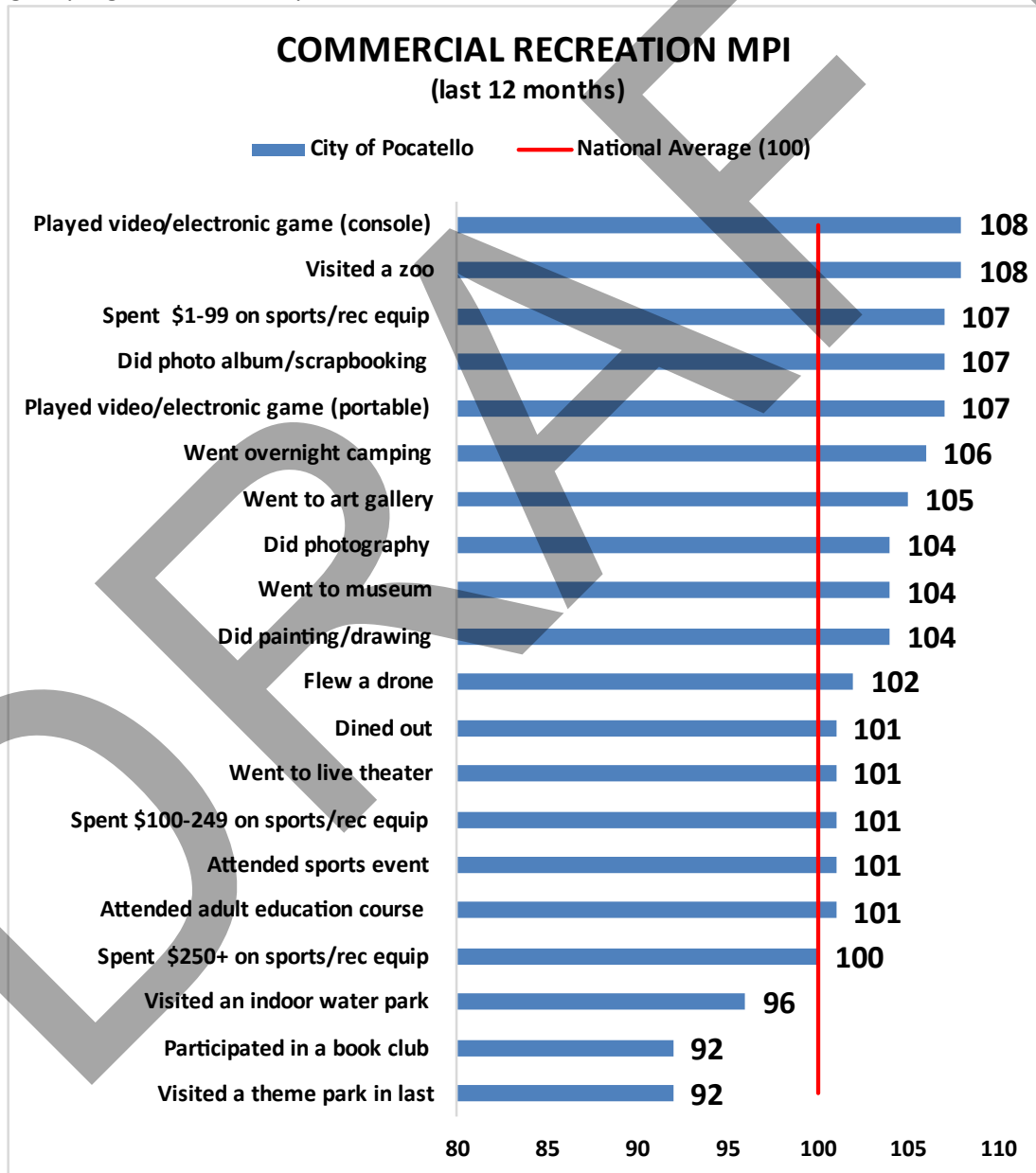
Outdoor Activity Market Potential

Pocatello's Outdoor Activity MPI chart reflected some similarly strong scores to that of its Fitness MPI; the City is mostly **above the national average**, with the most popular activities being Mountain Biking (111), Freshwater Fishing (107), and Backpacking (107). Alternatively, the lowest scores in the City's Outdoor Activity MPI belonged to Archery (100), Road Biking (96), and Horseback Riding (96).



Commercial Recreation Market Potential

The Commercial Recreation MPI category reveals that most of the City's recorded Commercial Recreation activities are also **above the national average**, with only a few exceptions. The most popular activities in the service area were 'Played Console Video/Electronic Game' and 'Visited a Zoo', which both scored at 108. The types of activities that are popular in Pocatello are diverse; artistic activities and outdoor activities alike have similarly **high ratings across the board**, though sport/outdoor activities seem to be the strongest user base. One thing to note is the relatively **high willingness to spend money on sports or recreational equipment**, as the 'Spent \$1-\$99' category scored at 107, the 'Spent \$100-249' category scored at 101, and the 'Spent \$250+' category scored at 100. Paired with the other MPI ratings (General Sports, Fitness, and Outdoor Activity), these activities could signal potential target areas for new facilities, funding, or programs for the Department.





Community Engagement Summary

The Pocatello PROST Plan was launched in January 2024, which included a robust public engagement process to inventory the current conditions of the system and to help determine the needs and priorities for the future. The planning process incorporated a variety of input from the community, including a series of key stakeholder interviews, staff input, an online survey and interactive map, and a community-wide statistically valid survey. Details on specific strategies included the following outreach methods:

- Stakeholder interviews with City Council, the Mayor, City Advisory Boards, and other community leadership
- Stakeholder interviews with multiple community groups, including regular users of parks and recreation amenities
- Staff SWOT analysis
- Statistically valid survey
 - Goal was 350 responses, received 582
 - Precision of +/-4.0% at the 95% level of confidence
 - Residents were able to return the survey by mail, by phone or completing it online

The following sections in this chapter summarize and highlight the key findings from each stage of the community engagement process.

Key Stakeholder and Focus Group Summary

As part of the PROST Plan, key stakeholder interviews were conducted from February through May 2024 to provide a foundation for identifying community issues and key themes. The interviews provided valuable insight and assisted in the development of question topics that were beneficial for the statistically valid community survey. A series of questions that spurred conversation and follow up questions were asked when appropriate. Invited stakeholders were identified by the Department and included representatives from the following major stakeholder groups and community leaders:

- Sports Organizations
- Community Organizations
- Business Organizations
- Regional Governmental Partners
- Advisory Committees and Elected Officials
- City of Pocatello Staff

After speaking with these stakeholders and interest groups, it is apparent that the community possesses pride in the performance of the System and the Department.

VISION FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION SYSTEM

Users of Pocatello Parks and Recreation, including individuals and community groups alike, commended the system for what it means to the community and the service it provides to residents. As a result, each stakeholder and community group had their own vision for what could be improved in the system via this PROST Plan. One common vision for the system was to foster more communication with the public regarding system inventory, funding, and programming. Additionally, an emphasis was placed on the system's current need for more connectivity, both through its recreational trail system and the Portneuf river. Finally, the community reinforced the importance of continued transparency from Department leadership, increased awareness, and promotion to the community about what the Department offers,

increased accessibility to Parks and Recreation amenities, and continued presence in the community via partnerships with local businesses, corporations, and organizations.

RESIDENTS VALUE THE MOST

Residents understand that the park system contributes to the overall quality of life, and they value the size and scope of the park system and the investment the City has made in parks. The current trail system seemed to be a widely used favorite among stakeholders, as well as the amount of open space offered to the community. Additionally, community groups and individual users alike greatly appreciate the amount of free or affordable programming for all ages.

PARKS AND RECREATION AMENITIES NEEDED

Community organizations also had some specific requests for amenities that they feel would be welcome additions to the parks system in Pocatello. Multiple community members felt that a focus on a local and regional trail system would be widely beneficial, with a higher volume of neighborhood parks, restroom facilities within system offerings (parks and trails), more disc golf courses, a food truck plaza, an ice rink, and a formalized skate park system being desired outcomes for certain community groups as well.



Benchmark Analysis

The Department identified operating metrics to benchmark against comparable parks and recreation agencies. The goal of this analysis is to evaluate how Pocatello is positioned amongst peer best-practice agencies, therefore, the information sought was a combination of operating metrics that factor budgets, staffing levels, programming, and inventories.

Information used in this analysis was obtained directly from each participating benchmark agency (when available) and information available through the National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) Park Metrics Database.

METHODOLOGY

Due to differences in how each system collects, maintains, and reports data, variances may exist. These variations can impact the per capita and percentage allocations, and the overall comparison must be viewed with this in mind. The benchmark data collection for all systems was complete as of August 2024, and it is possible that information in this report may have changed since the original collection date. **In some instances, the information was not tracked or not available from the participating agencies, which is indicated by a blank space in the data tables where the information was missing.**

The agencies listed below were selected for benchmarking because they are communities of varying sizes, from various parts of the country, and possess varying socioeconomic characteristics. The variety of the populations served by these agencies will allow Pocatello to benchmark itself against communities of similar size as well as communities that they may strive to measure up against in the future. These benchmarked agencies include the following:

- Coppell Parks & Recreation Department (TX)
- Hoffman Estates Parks & Recreation Department (IL)
- Kettering Parks & Recreation Department (OH)
- Missoula Parks & Recreation Department (MT)
- Ogden Parks & Recreation Department (UT)

The table below lists each benchmark agency in the study, arranged by population per square mile.

Agency	State	Jurisdiction Type	Population	Jurisdiction Size (Sq. Mi.)	Population per Sq. Mi.
Missoula Parks & Recreation	MT	City	76,955	35.40	2,174
Pocatello Parks & Recreation	ID	City	56,320	34.29	1,642
Ogden Parks & Recreation	UT	City	86,825	26.60	3,264
Hoffman Estates Parks & Recreation	IL	Parks District	51,744	21.25	2,435
Kettering Parks & Recreation	OH	City	57,862	18.70	3,094
Coppell Parks and Community Services	TX	City	42,026	14.73	2,853

Of all agencies examined, Pocatello's served population (56,320) falls roughly in the middle of the benchmarked agencies. Pocatello's jurisdiction size served (34.29 square miles), landed near the top of the analysis, giving the community a population per square mile on the lower end (approximately 1,642 residents per square mile) as a result.

Benchmark Comparison

SYSTEM INVENTORY

The following tables provide a general overview of each system's inventory, including total park acreage, trail mileage, and recreation facilities. Assessing the level of service for park acres, Pocatello manages the second highest amount of total park acres with 3,691.36 total acres owned or managed. In terms of acres per population, Pocatello has 65.54 total acres per 1,000 residents, which also ranks second in this analysis and easily meets the NRPA median for agencies serving similar sized communities (11.2 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents). Pocatello also owns and manages 53.61 total miles of trails resulting in 0.95 total trail miles per 1,000 residents, which is the second highest value of any agency in this analysis.

Agency	Total Acres Owned or Managed	Total Miles of Trail Owned or Managed	Acres per 1,000 residents	Trail Miles per 1,000 residents
Missoula Parks & Recreation	5,440	97	70.69	1.26
Pocatello Parks & Recreation	3,691.36	53.61	65.54	0.95
Ogden Parks & Recreation	987.23	75	11.37	0.86
Coppell Parks and Community Services	643.85	29.60	15.32	0.70
Hoffman Estates Parks & Recreation	934	11.50	18.05	0.22
Kettering Parks & Recreation	416	1	7.19	0.02
NRPA Median for agencies serving 50,000 to 99,999: 11.2 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents				

This analysis also included a breakdown of each agency's parkland acres that are developed (and/or regularly maintained) or undeveloped (mostly considered natural areas or open space), as well as the amount of mileage that is paved/hard surface trail and the amount that is unpaved/soft surface trail. Pocatello owns more undeveloped (natural areas or open space) acres (3,257) than acres of developed or regularly maintained parkland (342.66), while also owning more miles of unpaved/soft surface trail (31) than paved/hard surface trail (22.61). The NRPA median is 19 total miles of trail, which Pocatello and most other benchmarked agencies surpass.

Agency	Acres Developed/ Regularly Maintained	Acres of natural areas/ open space	Total miles of paved/hard surface trail	Total miles of unpaved/soft surface trail
Coppell Parks and Community Services	485.55	158.30	23.50	6.10
Pocatello Parks & Recreation	342.66	3,348.7	22.61	31
Missoula Parks & Recreation	740	4,700	22	75
Ogden Parks & Recreation	560.12	600	17	58
Hoffman Estates Parks & Recreation	921	130	11	0.50
Kettering Parks & Recreation	383	33	0	1
NRPA Median for agencies serving 50,000 to 99,999: 19 total miles of trail				

Each agency was also assessed for their total number of developed parks, playgrounds, rectangular sports fields, and diamond sports fields. Pocatello is firmly in the middle of this section of the analysis, with 27 developed parks, 22 playgrounds, 11 rectangular sports fields, and 26 diamond sports fields.

Agency	Total Developed Parks	Total Playgrounds	Total Rectangular sports fields	Total Diamond Sports Fields
Hoffman Estates Parks & Recreation	70	46	20	22
Missoula Parks & Recreation	55	42	13	30
Ogden Parks & Recreation	44	30	14	12
Pocatello Parks & Recreation	27	22	11	26
Kettering Parks & Recreation	22	14	15	25
Coppell Parks and Community Services	17	10	25	25

The analysis also included the number of indoor recreation facilities and outdoor aquatic centers/pools owned or managed by each agency. Pocatello has 1 indoor recreation facility that is 29,747 square feet, resulting in a relatively low total square footage for indoor facilities and indoor recreation square footage per 1,000 residents. Alternatively, Pocatello's outdoor recreation facility is quite substantial (105,000 square feet) and lands on the upper end of the analysis resulting in a similarly high outdoor recreation square footage per 1000 residents. The full list of facilities and square footage can be found in the table below.

Agency	Number of Indoor Recreation Facilities	Total Indoor Recreation Facility Square Footage	Number of Outdoor Aquatic Centers/ Pools	Total Outdoor Aquatic Center/Pool Square Footage	Indoor Recreation Sq Footage per 1,000 residents	Outdoor Recreation Sq Footage per 1,000 residents
Missoula Parks & Recreation	1	22,882	1	163,800	297.34	2,128.52
Kettering Parks & Recreation	2	191,000	1	120,000	3,300.96	2,073.90
Pocatello Parks & Recreation	1	29,747	1	105,000	528.18	1,864.35
Ogden Parks & Recreation	1	68,000	1	55,360	783.18	637.60
Coppell Parks and Community Services	1	53,000	1	22,000	1,261.12	523.49
Hoffman Estates Parks & Recreation	3	53,000	1	22,000	1,024.27	425.17

STAFFING

This section compares staffing levels for each system by comparing each agency's Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs, or an agency's equivalent of full-time workers), total FTEs dedicated to recreation programming, and total part-time and/or seasonal employees.

In general, agencies participating in the benchmark study ranged widely from heavily staffed to more limited staffing. Pocatello has 229 total employees, equaling 34 total FTEs and 6.08 total FTEs per 10,000 residents, which is near the bottom of the analysis for both categories and does not exceed the NRPA median for similar sized communities (75.8 total FTEs and 11.1 FTEs per 10,000 residents). **Pocatello is also on the lower side of the NRPA population spectrum (50,000-99,999), therefore not meeting the median can be expected.**

Agency	Total Employees	Total Full-Time Equivalent (FTEs)	Total FTEs per 10,000 Residents
Hoffman Estates Parks & Recreation	644	163	31.52
Coppell Parks and Community Services	265	129	30.67
Kettering Parks & Recreation	400	144	24.89
Missoula Parks & Recreation	104	64	8.30
Pocatello Parks & Recreation	229	34	6.08
Ogden Parks & Recreation	191	49	5.64
NRPA Median for agencies serving 50,000 to 99,999: 75.8 Total FTEs, 11.1 FTEs per 10,000 residents			

OPERATING EXPENSE

The table below details each agency's total FY2023 operating expenses, operating expenses in terms of their system acreage, operating expenses in terms of their system acreage, and total operating expenses in terms of staffing.

Pocatello has a relatively low rank among peer agencies for total operating expense (\$7.16M), a relatively low position in expense per acre due to the high amount of acreage in the system (\$1,988), and the highest expense per FTE (\$208,943) in the analysis. Pocatello is performing below the NRPA Median of \$9,108 expense per acre, but well above the NRPA median of \$99,944 expense per FTE. Lastly, Pocatello had a 37% cost recovery (the amount of operating expenses recovered by earned revenue), which was second highest when compared to the other agencies in the analysis. **It is important to note these results are based on and only as good as the data provided by the benchmark agencies.**

Agency	Total Acres	Total FTEs	Total Operating Expenses (FY23)	Total Fees, Charges, and Earned Revenue (FY23)	Operating Expense per Acre	Operating Expense per FTE	Cost Recovery
Hoffman Estates Parks & Recreation	934.00	163.12	\$ 14,687,112	\$ 10,736,173	\$ 15,725	\$ 90,039	73%
Pocatello Parks & Recreation	3599.66	34.25	\$ 7,156,286	\$ 2,662,583	\$ 1,988	\$ 208,943	37%
Kettering Parks & Recreation	416.00	144.00	\$ 11,272,300	\$ 3,393,000	\$ 27,097	\$ 78,280	30%
Coppell Parks and Community Services	643.85	128.89	\$ 13,000,356	\$ 2,753,471	\$ 20,192	\$ 100,864	21%
Missoula Parks & Recreation	5,440.00	63.88	\$ 13,340,000	\$ 2,670,000	\$ 2,452	\$ 208,829	20%
Ogden Parks & Recreation	987.23	49.00	\$ 6,670,713	\$ 475,048	\$ 6,757	\$ 136,137	7%
NRPA Median for Agencies Serving 50,000-99,999 Residents: \$9,108 per acre, \$108,000 per FTE, \$8.00 million in annual operating expenditures							

Additionally, the table below reveals the last three years of capital expenditures from FY2021, FY2022, and FY2023. These figures were then utilized to show the average annual capital investment for each agency.

In this analysis, the top performing benchmark agencies are investing significant dollars into Capital Improvement Program (CIP) efforts each year, with all agencies except Coppell having average annual capital expenditures of over \$250,000 in the past fiscal year. Pocatello itself is averaging \$304,846 annually in CIP expenses, though the City saw a slight decrease in capital spending from FY22 to FY23 by roughly \$90,000. In relation to population, Pocatello sits near the middle of the other benchmarked agencies in terms of average annual capital expenditures per capita with a spending of only \$5.41 per resident. **Missoula did not provide budget data for this section of the analysis.**

Agency	Population	FY21 Capital Budget	FY22 Capital Budget	FY23 Capital Budget	Avg. Annual Capital Expenditures	Avg. Annual Capital Expenditures per Resident
Ogden Parks & Recreation	86,825	\$ 7,684,585	\$ 2,095,504	\$ 4,353,173	\$ 4,711,087	\$ 54.26
Hoffman Estates Parks & Recreation	51,744	\$ 2,093,152	\$ 1,114,846	\$ 2,040,037	\$ 1,749,345	\$ 33.81
Kettering Parks & Recreation	57,862	\$ 1,731,000	\$ 563,000	\$ 1,340,000	\$ 1,211,333	\$ 20.93
Pocatello Parks & Recreation	56,320	\$ 373,159	\$ 325,086	\$ 216,293	\$ 304,846	\$ 5.41
Coppell Parks and Community Services	42,026	\$ 138,338	\$ 34,485	\$ 97,795	\$ 90,206	\$ 2.15
Missoula Parks & Recreation	76,955	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Although Pocatello's **programming specific** data was not collected in this particular analysis, financial programming data from other agencies was available and included in this report, as it may still be beneficial for the Department to observe. This section includes **programming specific** operating expenditures, earned revenue, and cost recovery. This analysis calculated programming cost recovery, which was derived from specific program related operating expenditures and the revenue generated by those programs.

Agency	Total Operating Expenditures/ Budget for Programs	Revenue Generated by Programs	Programming Cost Recovery
Pocatello Parks & Recreation	-	-	-
Hoffman Estates Parks & Recreation	\$ 1,380,000	\$ 10,736,173	777.98%
Kettering Parks & Recreation	\$ 2,400,000	\$ 1,000,000	41.67%
Coppell Parks and Community Services	\$ 1,658,525	\$ 504,812	30.44%
Ogden Parks & Recreation	\$ -	\$ -	-
Missoula Parks & Recreation	\$ -	\$ -	-

PROGRAMMING

Lastly, the benchmarked agencies were analyzed by the number of participants (or contacts) they had in FY2023 at recreation offerings. Pocatello performed well in this section, scoring near the top of the analysis in total number of participations/registrations, as well as the number of contacts or participants per population (with 159,150 total individual participations/registrations and 2.83 individual participations/registrations per population).

Agency	Number of Participations/ Registrations (FY2023)	Participations/ Registrations per Population
Hoffman Estates Parks & Recreation	418,380	8.09
Pocatello Parks & Recreation	159,150	2.83
Kettering Parks & Recreation	110,650	1.91
Ogden Parks & Recreation	60,100	0.69
Coppell Parks and Community Services	18,500	0.44
Missoula Parks & Recreation	-	-

It is important to note that each agency likely measures contacts or participations differently, resulting in potentially misleading data. For example, some agencies have water parks or other ventures that were considered when counting the number of participations and registrations, potentially inflating those numbers. **Missoula specifically did not provide data for their number of participations or registrations.**

Benchmarked Communities Analysis Summary

While each of the agencies included in this analysis are high performing parks and recreation systems, it is important to note that **each agency varies significantly in the size and scope of the parks and services they provide, making direct comparisons difficult.** The power in this analysis is to identify areas where these agencies may most excel, providing opportunities for further discussion to better understand the factors to their success. For example, it is worth learning more about what drives The Hoffman Estates Parks District to achieve a programmatic cost recovery of 777% (roughly \$10.7M in revenue), over 700% higher than the other agencies that had data in that segment. Similarly, it would be helpful to learn more about having the right balance of FTEs to residents and how it can be possible to increase the number of employees without overbudgeting per resident. These are all questions that, through analysis such as this one, we may be able to get a better grasp of. Having Pocatello staff examine the areas of greatest contrast, especially as it pertains to programs and services, is where this benchmark is ultimately most meaningful.

Specific areas where Pocatello itself performs well include total acreage, total acreage of natural areas/open space, total miles of unpaved/soft surface trail, operating expense cost recovery, trail miles per 1,000 residents, program participations/registrations, and total trail miles.

While Pocatello does well in many categories, areas of which Pocatello has room for improvement include capital budget expenditures, indoor recreation facilities (particularly in square footage), number of FTEs/FTEs per 10,000 residents, and acres managed and owned by the department. In terms of FTEs, the Department is short of the median FTEs recommended by the NRPA by a significant amount; however, given the current operating expense per FTE, the City's budget may not support a large influx of FTEs. Additionally, when it comes to capital budget expenditures, Pocatello came in relatively low with \$304,846 in average annual capital expenditures. While maintaining a sustainable budget is a top priority, investing in more capital expenditures can prove beneficial in the growing advancement of a community, as an increase in capital investments in the coming years could lead to improved infrastructure, additional space for programming, and new offerings that will likely translate to more participations/registrations.

Overall, this benchmark analysis reveals that Pocatello is a stable, well performing parks and recreation system when measured against its peers, but not without a healthy amount of growth still possible. The perspective gained through the peer comparison is valuable in identifying areas for improvement and establishing strategic goals to pursue. Ultimately, Pocatello should utilize these findings as a baseline comparison that provides key performance indicators (KPIs) to be tracked and measured over time.



Recreation Program Analysis

Overview

As part of the Pocatello PROST Plan the consulting team conducted a Recreation Program Analysis of the services offered by the Department. This assessment offers an in-depth perspective of program and service offerings and helps identify strengths, challenges, and opportunities regarding programming. The assessment also assists in identifying Core Program Areas, program gaps within the community, key system-wide issues, areas of improvement, and future programs and services for residents and visitors.

The consulting team based these program findings and recommendations based on a review of information provided by the Department including program descriptions, financial data, website content, and discussions with staff. This report addresses the program offerings from a systems perspective for the entire portfolio of programs.

FRAMEWORK

A current goal of the Department is to “help provide opportunities, activities and the facilities to bring pleasure to people’s lives.”. To help achieve this, the Department provides a broad range of youth and adult public recreational activities. These program offerings are supported with dedicated spaces which include parks, trail systems, indoor athletic facilities, an aquatic center, a zoo, and more.



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PROGRAM ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

Below are some overall observations that stood out when analyzing the program assessment sheet:

- Overall, the **program descriptions/goals** do a good job of effectively communicating to the public key benefits and desired outcomes of each Core Program Area, though some Core Program Areas could use more detailed goals.
- **Age segment distribution** is aligned with the community's current population but needs to be monitored annually to ensure program distribution continues to match evolving Pocatello demographics.
- **Program lifecycles:** Approximately 33% of the system's current programs are categorized in the Growth Stage, while 31% of the programs fall into the Mature Stage. A more complete description of Lifecycle Stages can be found later in this analysis.
- **Pricing strategies** are varied across the board. Currently, the most frequently used approaches are pricing based on age segment and by the customer's ability to pay, though several other pricing strategies are in use across the 7 Core Program Areas. These strategies should be continued in addition to implementing some new and additional pricing strategies which can be found later in this analysis. Furthermore, it is essential to understand current cost of service in order to determine ideal cost recovery goals.
- From a **marketing and promotions** standpoint, the staff utilizes a variety of marketing methods when promoting their programs including online program guide, the Department's website, flyers/posters, email blasts, in-facility signage, e-news updates, and a couple social media platforms as a part of the marketing mix.
 - Increased variety in social media usage should be considered, as only Facebook and Instagram are currently in use.
 - The Department should considering an increase in the number of its cross-promotions.
 - Dual language marketing content in certain or all media may be important given the steady growth of the Latino population in Pocatello.
- **Financial performance measures** such as cost recovery goals are currently not being consistently utilized across Core Program Areas based on different program types. Moving forward, it is recommended for staff to consider tracking cost recovery for all program areas. When doing so, the staff should factor in all direct and indirect costs pertaining to programming. A focus on developing consistent earned income opportunities would be beneficial to the Department's overall quest for greater fiscal sustainability.

Core Program Areas

To help achieve the Department's mission, it is important to identify Core Program Areas based on current and future needs to create a sense of focus around specific program areas of greatest importance to the community. Public recreation is challenged by the premise of being all things to all people. The philosophy of the Core Program Area is to assist staff, policy makers, and the public to focus on what is most important to the community. Program areas are considered as Core if they meet a majority of the following criteria:

- The program area has been provided for a long period of time (over 4-5 years) and/or is expected by the community.
- The program area consumes a relatively large portion (5% or more) of the agency's overall budget.
- The program area is offered 3-4 seasons per year.
- The program area has wide demographic appeal.
- There is a tiered level of skill development available within the program area's offerings.
- There is full-time staff responsible for the program area.
- There are facilities designed specifically to support the program area.
- The agency controls a significant percentage (20% or more) of the local market.

EXISTING CORE PROGRAM AREAS

Through discussions with the Department staff, seven (7) Core Program Areas were identified that are currently being offered.

Across and within each of the Core Program Areas there are major program types that are designed to meet current and emerging needs of Pocatello residents. Those are described in the table below and on the following page including some example programs in each core program area.

Adult Sports	Description: Various adult sports leagues. Goals: 1. Provide adult sports leagues for the health and wellbeing of Pocatello residents.	• Adult Basketball • Adult Softball • Adult Flag Football • Adult Volleyball
Health & Wellness	Description: To provide exercise options to the community at low cost and to promote healthy lifestyle options for adults and seniors. Goals: 1. Provide a wide variety of classes (both in water and on land) that will provide the community affordable options to increase their overall physical and mental wellness at low cost.	• Adult Fitness Classes • Adult Aquacise Classes • River Walk • Personal Training

Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan

Outdoor Recreation	Description: Outdoor recreation activities and events to promote healthy lifestyles and engagement with the natural world. These programs are offered year-round in a variety of activities with options for both youth and adults. Goals: 1. Provide quality adventure programs to residents and visitors to Pocatello. 2. Provide programs that offer skill building, adventure, and group comradery.	• Fun Runs • Youth/Adult Rock Climbing • Nordic Center Skiing • Snowshoe • Adult Yoga Hikes
Special Events	Description: Sporting events outside of recreational leagues. Goals: 1. Provide weekend sports activity opportunities.	• Junior Jazz Fun Shot • Pitch, Hit, and Run
Youth Educational Classes	Description: Programs and classes that help provide youth opportunities to gain skills and experience participating in recreational programs at low or no cost. Goals: To provide ample and affordable programs and opportunities for members of the community to grow and learn with one another.	• Swim Lessons (group and private) • Dance Classes
Youth Sports	Description: Various activities and programs geared toward adults and kids in the community to help promote personal growth and healthy lifestyles. Goals: 1. Provide recreational opportunities promoting health and well being 2. Create continued interest in sports so that participants stay involved in sports after they have aged out of our programs	• Bannock Baseball (Fall and Spring) • Girls' Volleyball • Junior Jazz Basketball • D League Basketball
Zoo	Description: The Zoo, as a core program area, focuses on visitors, educational programming, outreach, volunteers, special programming (programming that does not fit under educational programming), and on ground events (which includes both regular admission events and special events outside of regular admission). Goals: 1. Bring in 30,000 regular visitors annually. 2. Hold 2-3 well planned and highly attended special programs and 2-3 on ground events. 3. Grow volunteer program large enough that the petting zoo can remain open during hours of operation. 4. Raise \$5,000 to \$10,000 from zoo fundraising efforts.	• Animal Care • Zoo for Tots • Summer Camps • Military Family Day • PokeFest • Jr. Zookeeper • Enrichment Day

Program Strategy Analysis

AGE SEGMENT ANALYSIS

For this report, an Age Segment Analysis was completed by Core Program Area, exhibiting an over-arching view of the age segments served by different program areas, and displaying any gaps in segments served. It is also useful to perform an Age Segment Analysis by individual programs to gain a more nuanced view of the programming data.

The table below depicts each Core Program Area and the most prominent age segments they serve. Under each Core Program Area, a 'P' was indicated if that program serves a certain age segment as its Primary demographic, an 'S' as its Secondary demographic, or a 'P/S' if it serves both.

Age Segment Analysis						
Core Program Area	Preschool (5 and Under)	Elementary (6-12)	Teens (13-17)	Adult (18+)	Senior (55+)	All Ages Programs
Adult Sports				P	S	
Health & Wellness			S	P	P	
Outdoor Recreation		P/S	P/S	P/S	P/S	P
Special Events						P
Youth Educational Classes	P	P	P			
Youth Sports		P	P			
Zoo	P	P	P/S	S	S	P

Based on the age demographics of the Pocatello community, current program offerings seem to be well-aligned with the community's age profile. Pocatello does a great job of having offerings for all ages, as well as offering programs for more specific age groups. While Core Program Areas like Youth Educational Classes and Adult Sports focus on more specific age groups, other Core Program Areas like Outdoor Recreation and the Zoo serve most, if not all of Pocatello's age segments.

The Department has also done a great job catering to the remainder of the community by ensuring all age segments have dedicated programming geared towards them. Moving forward, it is recommended that the Department continues introducing new programs in order to address any potential unmet needs in the future. Particularly, dedicated senior programs, as the community's population is projected to continue aging over the next decade.

Staff should continue to monitor demographic shifts and program offerings to ensure that the needs of each age group are being met. It would be best practice to establish a plan including what age segment to target, establish messaging, identify which marketing method(s) to utilize, create a social media campaign, and determine what to measure for success before allocating resources towards a particular effort.

PROGRAM LIFECYCLE ANALYSIS

A Program Lifecycle Analysis involves reviewing each program offered by the Department to determine the stage of growth or decline for each. This provides a way of informing strategic decisions about the overall mix of programs managed by the Department to ensure that an appropriate number of programs are "fresh" and that relatively few programs, if any, need to be discontinued. This analysis is not based on objective and/or quantitative programming data, but rather, is based on staff members' knowledge of

their programs as they were asked to categorize programs into a lifecycle stage based on their knowledge of the program.

The following table shows the percentage distribution of the various lifecycle categories of the Department's programs. These percentages were obtained by dividing the number of programs in each individual stage with the total number of programs listed by staff members.

Lifecycle Analysis				
Stages	Description	Actual Programs Distribution		Recommended Distribution
Introduction	New programs; modest participation	8%	52%	50%-60% Total
Take-Off	Rapid participation growth	11%		
Growth	Moderate, but consistent participation growth	33%		
Mature	Slow participation growth	31%	31%	40%
Saturated	Minimal to no participation growth; extreme competition	6%	17%	0%-10% Total
Decline	Declining participation	11%		
No-Go	Cancelled programs	0%		

Overall, the Lifecycle Analysis depicts a majority concentration of programs in their early lifecycle stages. Approximately 52% of all programs fall within the beginning stages (Introduction, Take-Off, & Growth), with 33% of those programs being specifically in the Growth stage. It is recommended to have 50%-60% of all programs within these beginning stages as they provide the Department an avenue to energize its programmatic offerings. These stages ensure the pipeline for new programs is there prior to programs transitioning into the Mature stage which, according to staff, 31% of all program offerings in Pocatello fall into. This stage anchors a program portfolio, and it is recommended to have roughly 40% of programs within this stage in order to achieve a stable foundation.

Additionally, 17% of the assessed programs are identified as being Saturated, Declining, or Cancelled altogether with 11% of programs falling in "Decline" alone. It is a natural progression for programs to eventually transition into Saturation and Decline Stages. However, it is recommended to have only 0%-10% of programs in the decline stage, as if programs reach these stages rapidly, it could be an indication that the quality of the programs does not meet expectations or have as much of a demand. As programs enter into the Decline Stage, they must be closely reviewed and evaluated for repositioning or elimination. When this occurs, the Department should modify these programs to begin a new lifecycle within the Introductory Stage or replace the existing programs with new programs based upon community needs and trends.

Staff should complete a Program Lifecycle Analysis on an annual basis and ensure that the percentage distribution closely aligns with desired performance. Furthermore, the Department could include annual performance measures for each Core Program Area to track participation growth, customer retention, and percentage of new programs as an incentive for innovation and alignment with community trends.

PROGRAM CLASSIFICATION

Conducting a classification of services analysis informs how each program serves the overall organization mission, the goals and objectives of each Core Program Area, and how the program should be funded regarding tax dollars and/or user fees and charges. How a program is classified can help to determine the most appropriate management, funding, and marketing strategies.

Program classifications are based on the degree to which the program provides a public benefit versus a private benefit. Public benefit can be described as everyone receiving the same level of benefit with equal access, whereas private benefit can be described as the user receiving exclusive benefit above what a general taxpayer receives for their personal benefit.

For this exercise, the Department used a classification method based on three categories: Essential Services, Important Services, and Value-Added Services. Where a program or service is classified depends upon alignment with the organizational mission, how the public perceives a program, legal mandates, financial sustainability, personal benefit, competition in the marketplace, and access by participants. The following graphic describes each of the three program classifications.

Value-Added Services

Department Could Provide; with additional resources, it adds value to community, it supports Essential & Important Services, it is supported by the community, it generates income, has an individual benefit, can be supported by user fees, it enhances the community, and requires little to no subsidy.

Important Services

Department Should Provide; if it expands & enhances core services, is broadly supported & used, has conditional public support, there is a economic / social / environmental outcome to the community, has community importance, and needs moderate subsidy.

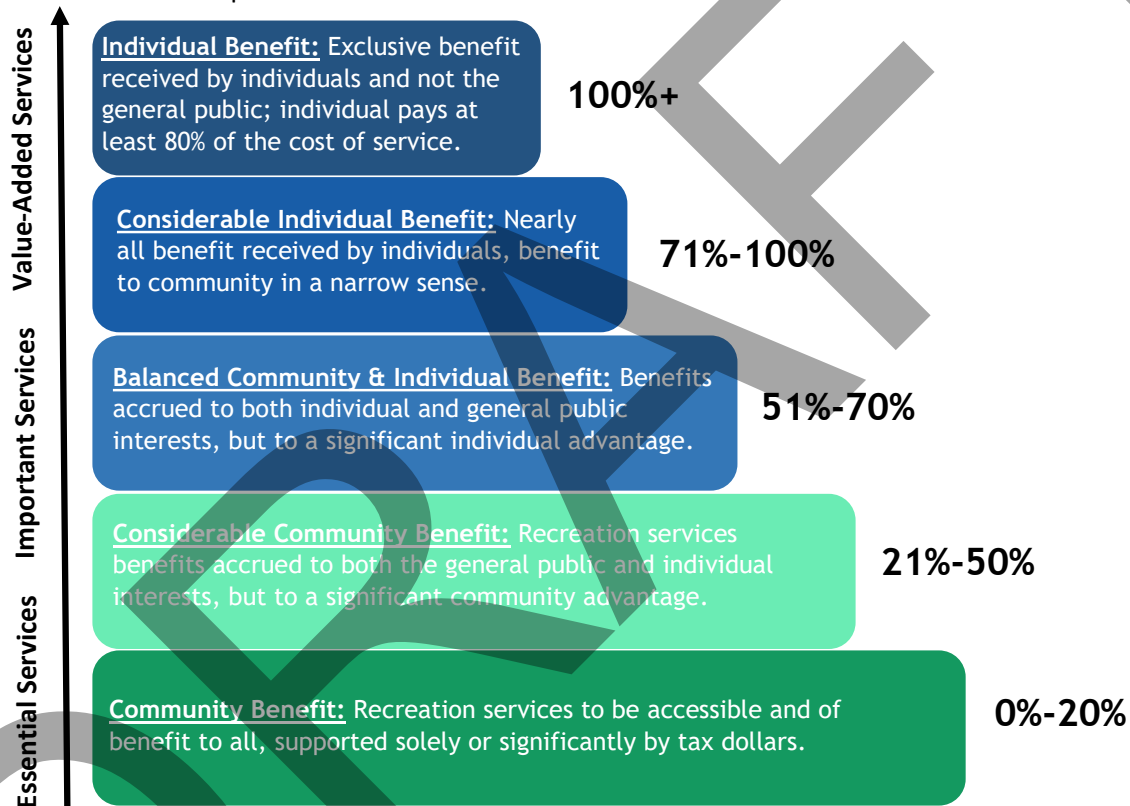
Essential Services

Department Must Provide; if it protects assets & infrastructure, is expected and supported, is a sound investment of public funds, is a broad public benefit, there is a negative impact if not provided, is part of the mission, and needs significant (or complete) subsidy.

With assistance from staff, a classification of programs and services was conducted for all of the recreation programs offered by the Department. The results presented in the following table represent the current classification distribution of recreation program services. Programs should be assigned cost recovery goal ranges within those overall categories.

Program Classification Distribution		
Essential	Important	Value-Added
40%	30%	30%

As the Department continues to evolve to better meet the community's needs, there could be an added benefit to managing the services if they all were classified according to the Cost Recovery Model for Sustainable Services depicted below.



Given the broad range of cost recovery goals (i.e., 0%-40% for Essential Services or 40%-80% for Important Services), it would be helpful to further distribute programs internally within sub-ranges of cost recovery as depicted above. This will allow for programs to fall within an overall service classification tier while still demonstrating a difference in expected/desired cost recovery goals based on a greater understanding of the program's goals (e.g., Pure Community Services versus Mostly Community Services or Community and Individual Mix versus Mostly Individual Mix). For example, within Pocatello's current programming portfolio, swim lessons would be a **Community Benefit** (earning 0 to 20% cost recovery), adult sports leagues would be more of a **Balanced Community & Individual Benefit** (earning between 51 to 70% cost recovery), and personal training would be **Individual Benefit** (ideally earning over 100% cost recovery).

COST OF SERVICE AND COST RECOVERY RECOMMENDATIONS

Cost recovery targets should at least be identified for each Core Program Area at a minimum, and for specific programs or events when realistic; currently cost recovery targets are being set minimally, and for some Core Program Areas, there are zero cost recovery goals in place. To create this, the identified Core Program Areas would serve as an effective breakdown for tracking cost recovery metrics including administrative costs. Theoretically, staff should review how programs are grouped for similar cost recovery and subsidy goals to determine if current practices still meet management outcomes.

Determining cost recovery performance and using it to make informed pricing decisions involves a three-step process:

1. Classify all programs and services based on the public or private benefit they provide (as completed in the previous section).
2. Conduct a Cost-of-Service Analysis to calculate the full cost of each program.
3. Establish a cost recovery percentage, through Department policy, for each program or program type based on the outcomes of the previous two steps and adjust program prices accordingly.

The following section provide more details on steps 2 & 3.

Understanding the Full Cost of Service

To develop specific cost recovery targets, full cost of accounting needs to be created on each class or program that accurately calculates direct and indirect costs. Cost recovery goals are established once these numbers are in place, and the Department's program staff should be trained on this process. A Cost-of-Service Analysis should be conducted on each program, or program type, that accurately calculates direct (i.e., program-specific) and indirect (i.e., comprehensive, including administrative overhead) costs. Completing a Cost-of-Service Analysis not only helps determine the true and full cost of offering a program, but it also provides information that can be used to price programs based upon accurate delivery costs. The below figure illustrates the common types of costs that must be accounted for in a Cost-of-Service Analysis.



The methodology for determining the total Cost-of-Service involves calculating the total cost for the activity, program, or service, then calculating the total revenue earned for that activity. Costs (and revenue) can also be derived on a per unit basis. Program or activity units may include:

- Number of participants
- Number of tasks performed
- Number of consumable units
- Number of service calls
- Number of events
- Required time for offering program/service

Agencies use Cost-of-Service Analyses to determine what financial resources are required to provide specific programs at specific levels of service. Results are used to determine and track cost recovery as well as to benchmark different programs provided by the Department between one another. Cost recovery goals are established once Cost-of-Service totals have been calculated. Program staff should be trained on the process of conducting a Cost-of-Service Analysis and the process should be undertaken on a regular basis.

Actual cost recovery can vary based on the Core Program Type, and even at the individual program level within a Core Program Area. Several variables can influence the cost recovery target, including lifecycle stage, demographic served, and perhaps most important, program classification. It is normal for programs within each Core Program Area to vary in price and subsidy level. The program mix within each Core Program Area will determine the cost recovery capabilities.

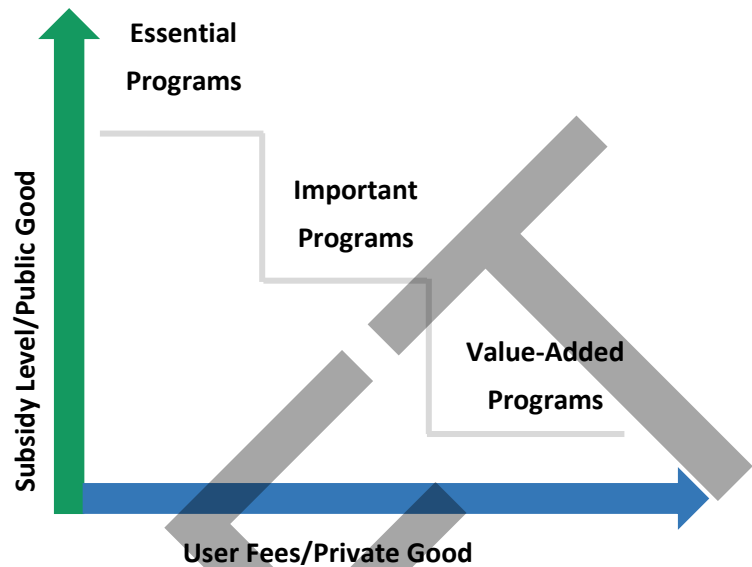
With approved cost recovery goals, annual tracking, and quality assurance, actual cost recovery will improve. Each Core Program Type can be benchmarked against itself on an annual basis.

Cost Recovery Best Practices

Cost recovery targets should reflect the degree to which a program provides a public versus individual good. Programs providing public benefits (i.e., Essential programs) should be subsidized more by the Department; programs providing individual benefits (i.e., Value-Added programs) should seek to recover costs and/or generate revenue for other services. To help plan and implement cost recovery policies, the consulting team has developed the following definitions to help classify specific programs within program areas.

- **Essential** programs category is critical to achieving the organizational mission and providing community-wide benefits and therefore, generally receive priority for tax-dollar subsidization.
- **Important** or **Value-Added** program classifications generally represent programs that receive lower priority for subsidization.
 - **Important** programs contribute to the organizational mission but are not essential to it; therefore, cost recovery for these programs should be high (i.e., at least 80% overall).
 - **Value-Added** programs are not critical to the mission and should be prevented from drawing upon limited public funding, so overall cost recovery for these programs should be near or in excess of 100%.

Classification of Programs and Cost Recovery Expectations



PRICING

Pricing strategies are one mechanism agencies can use to influence and generate cost recovery. The table below details pricing methods currently in place by each Core Program Area and additional areas for strategies to be implemented over time.

Pricing Strategies										
Core Program Area	Age Segment	Family/ Household Status	Residency	Weekday/ Weekend	Prime / Non- Prime Time	Group Discounts	By Location	By Competition (Market Rate)	By Cost Recovery Goals	By Customer's Ability to Pay
Adult Sports										
Health & Wellness			X							
Outdoor Recreation	X	X				X				X
Special Events										
Youth Educational Classes	X		X						X	X
Youth Sports	X		X							X
Zoo	X	X				X	X		X	X

Overall, the degree to which the Department uses various pricing strategies is varied with usage of 7 different pricing strategies throughout all Core Program Areas. However, pricing tactics are primarily concentrated in age segments, residency status, and customer's ability to pay.

Currently, the Core Program Area that utilizes the largest variety of pricing strategies is the Zoo (6 out of 10) followed by Outdoor Recreation and Youth Educational Classes (both with 4 out of 10 each). Moving forward, the Department should consider implementing some additional strategies, when deemed appropriate, such as weekday/weekend rates and by competition, as they are both valuable strategies when setting prices, especially in an area like Adult Sports or Special Events that currently utilize no pricing strategies. These pricing strategies are useful to help stabilize usage patterns and help with cost recovery for higher quality amenities and services.

Staff should continue to monitor the effectiveness of the various pricing strategies they employ and adjust as necessary. It is also important to regularly monitor for local competitors and other similar service providers as an increase in competition may alter program pricing.

MARKETING AND PROMOTION

When forming new and maintaining existing programs and services, utilizing effective marketing strategies is an integral step in securing appropriate and significant attendance and engagement from the community. Based on the feedback from staff of the Department, the table below illustrates which methods are currently being used in at least one Core Program Area, though some strategies are used in more than one, or even all Core Program Areas.

It should be noted that the Consulting Team observed Pocatello Parks and Recreation Department is progressive in its marketing and promotions efforts, utilizing several strategies across a diverse set of media. However, the Department's presence on social media is currently limited to Facebook and Instagram; this could be boosted by using other forms of social media including Twitter, YouTube, or NextDoor to increase online engagement and advertisements for programming, services, and events.

Marketing Strategies		
Strategies	Present	Not Present
Program guides (print)	X	
Program guides (online)	X	
Website	X	
Smart/mobile phone enabled site	X	
Apps	X	
Flyers and/or brochures	X	
Direct mail		X
Email blasts and/or listserv	X	
Public Service Announcements	X	
Roadsign marquees	X	
Paid advertisements	X	
Radio (paid or free)	X	
TV (paid or free)	X	
On-hold pre-programmed phone messages		X
SMS/MMS/Text Message marketing	X	
Newsletters (print)	X	
Newsletters (online)	X	
In-facility signage	X	
Facebook	X	
Instagram	X	
Twitter		X
Flickr		X
YouTube channel		X
Blogs / vlogs		X
Webinars		X
QR Codes	X	

Site and Facilities Analysis

Over Spring of 2024, the project team assessed Pocatello's parks, open spaces, and trails system both in person and through map analysis. These analyses guided the development of system-wide and park-specific observations. A summary of the general recommendations is listed below. Further details of the site analyses and park-specific observations can be found in **Appendix C**.

Site and Facilities Recommendations

Parks, open spaces, and trails were assessed by the project team in the Spring of 2024. Based on the analysis the following general and park specific observations and opportunities were created. Further details on these recommendations and their reasonings can be found in the Site and Facilities Analysis section beginning on page 81 of this PROST Plan.

- **Upgrades to accessibility**, including in playgrounds, shelters, tables, and benches in most parks. This also includes paved walks to facilities and accessible ramps to play areas.
- **Replacements of aging facilities**, including playgrounds and shelters.
- **Increased vegetation**, including planting new trees of various species in parks with a large percentage of mature trees (where space allows) to mitigate potential issues with disease or aging.
- **Convert portions of irrigated turf areas into naturalized landscape** to reduce irrigation and maintenance requirements.
- **Trail improvements** that result in more connectivity, less unsanctioned trails, and more options directionally to reduce user conflicts.
- **Improvements to golf course** plantings, irrigation, practice facilities, and clubhouses.

GIS Analysis

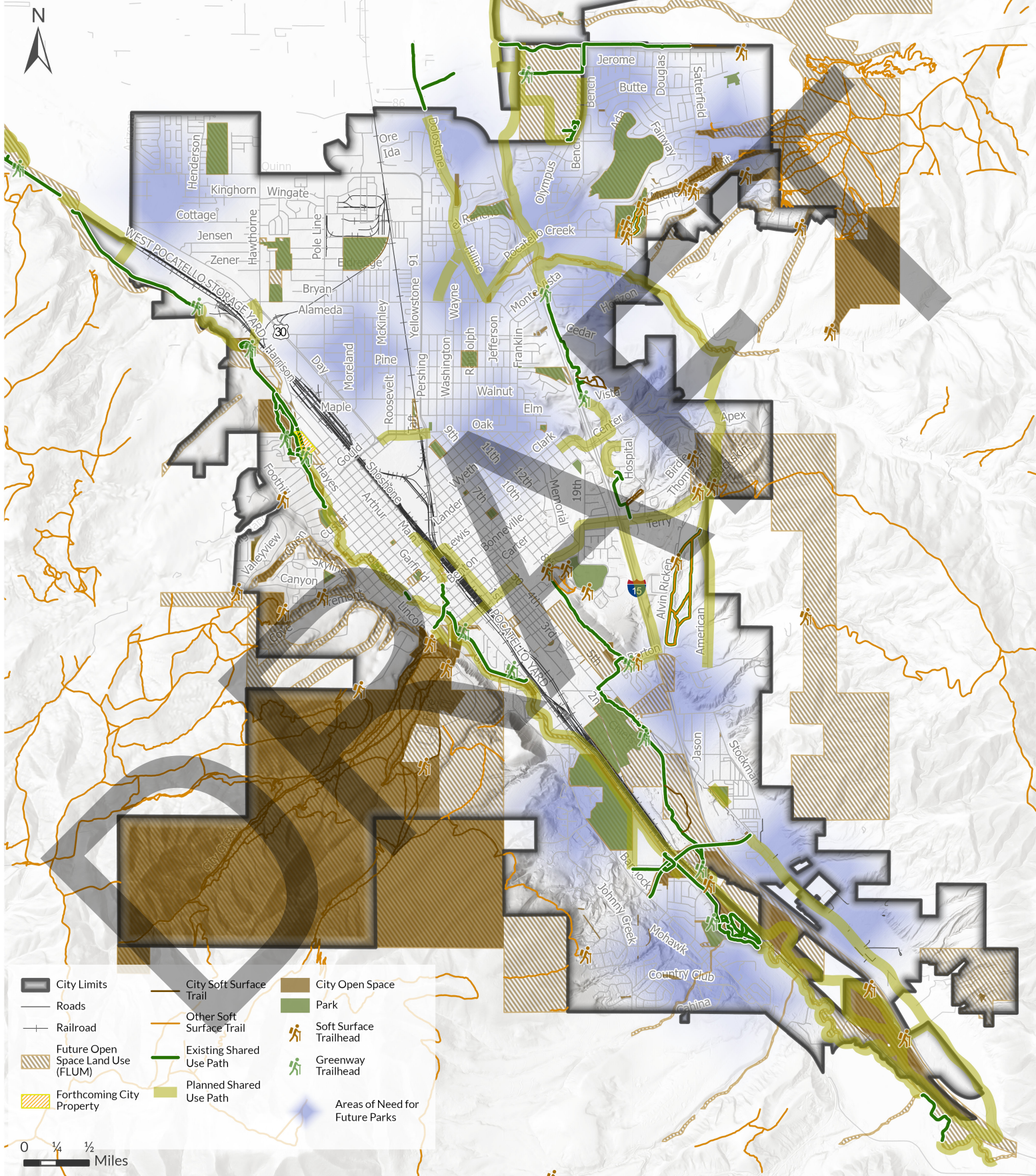
Service area maps and standards assist Pocatello in assessing where services are offered, how equitable the service distribution and delivery is across the community, and how effective the service is as it compares to the demographic densities. In addition, looking at the community's population demographics enables the Department to assess gaps in services, where amenities are needed, or where an area is over saturated. This allows the Department to make appropriate capital improvement decisions based upon need for a system as a whole and the ramifications those decisions may have on a specific area.

The maps on the following pages contain several different types of metrics that measure walkability across the community to multiple types of amenities (like parks, trails, and open spaces). There are legends in the bottom left corner of each map indicating walkability.

PROST System Plan

Existing, planned, and proposed system

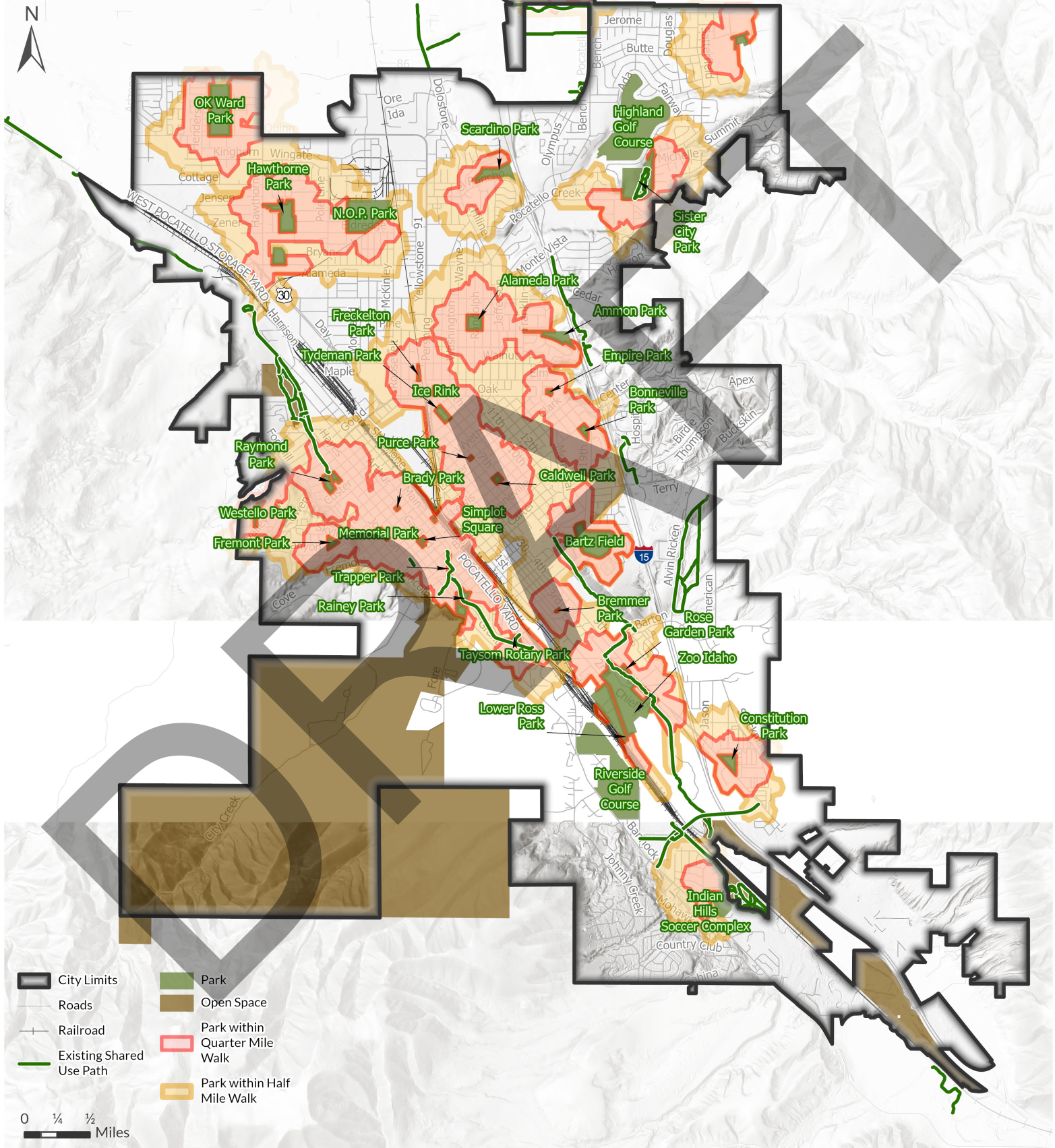
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Parks Walkability

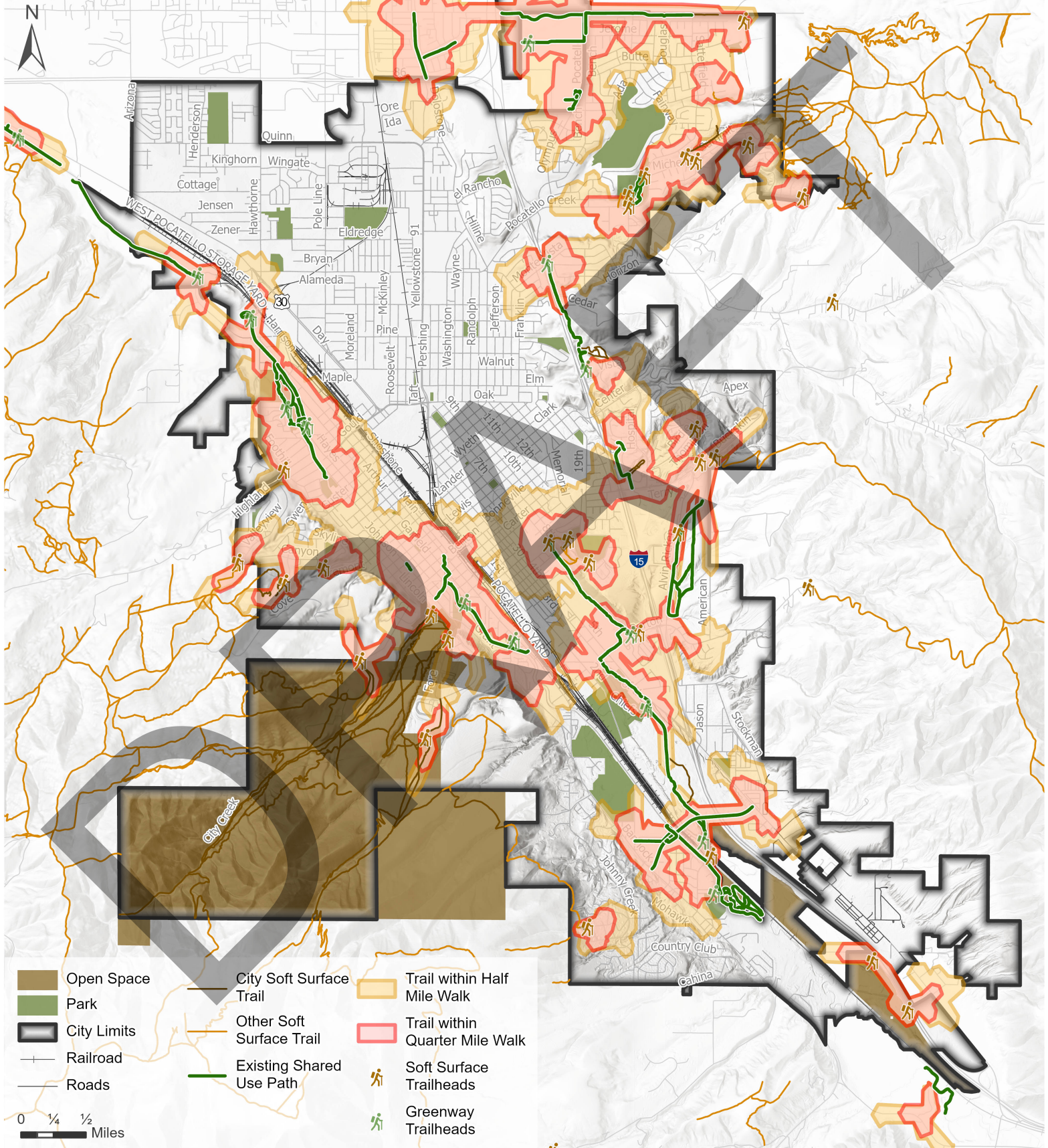
Walking Distance within a Quarter Mile and Half Mile of Parks

Greenway trails offer additional access but are not included in this walkability analysis.



Trail Walkability

Walking Distance within a Quarter Mile
and Half Mile of a Shared Use Path
Access Point or Soft Surface Trailhead

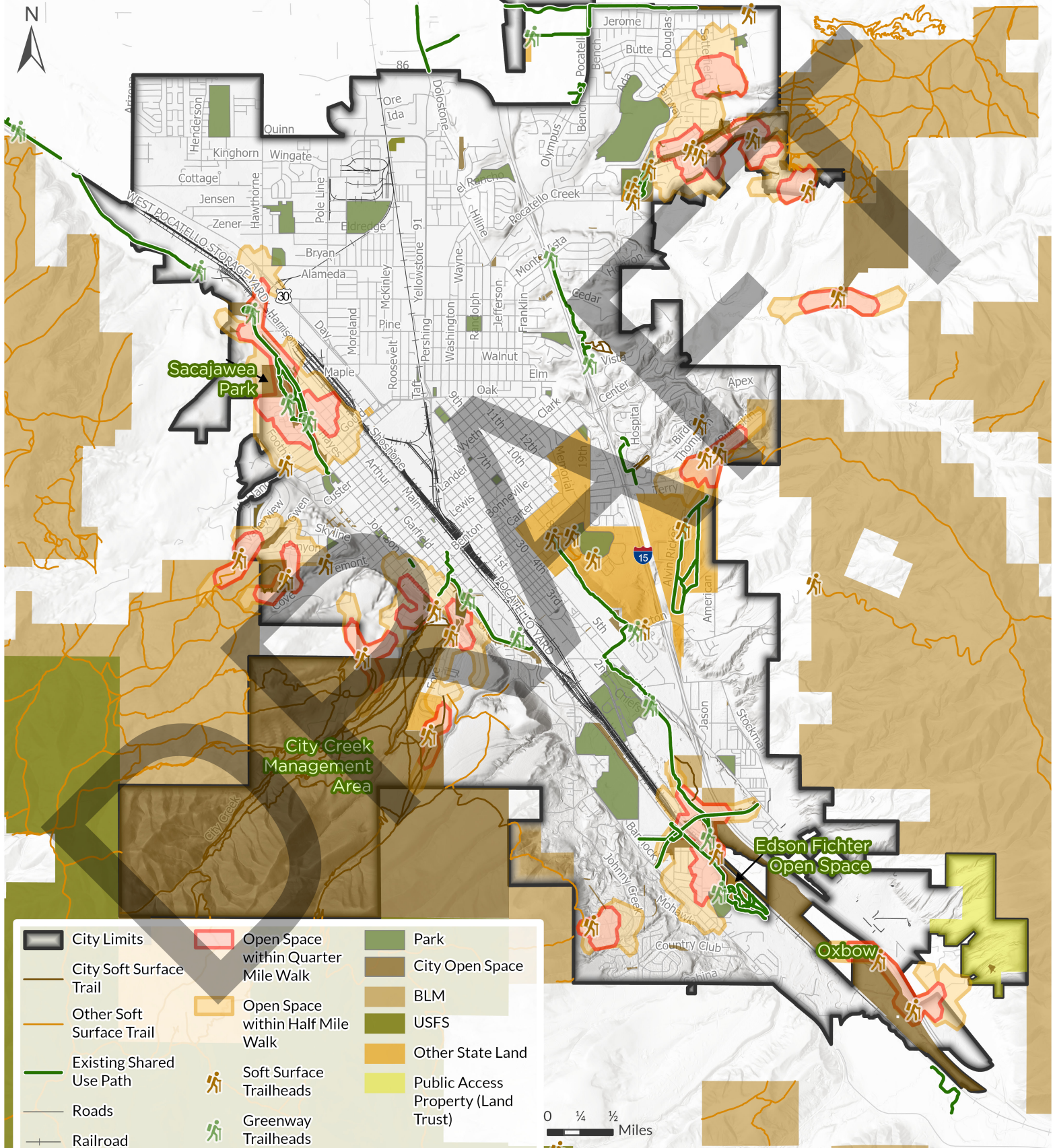


Open Space Walkability

Walking Distance within a Quarter Mile and Half Mile of Open Space.

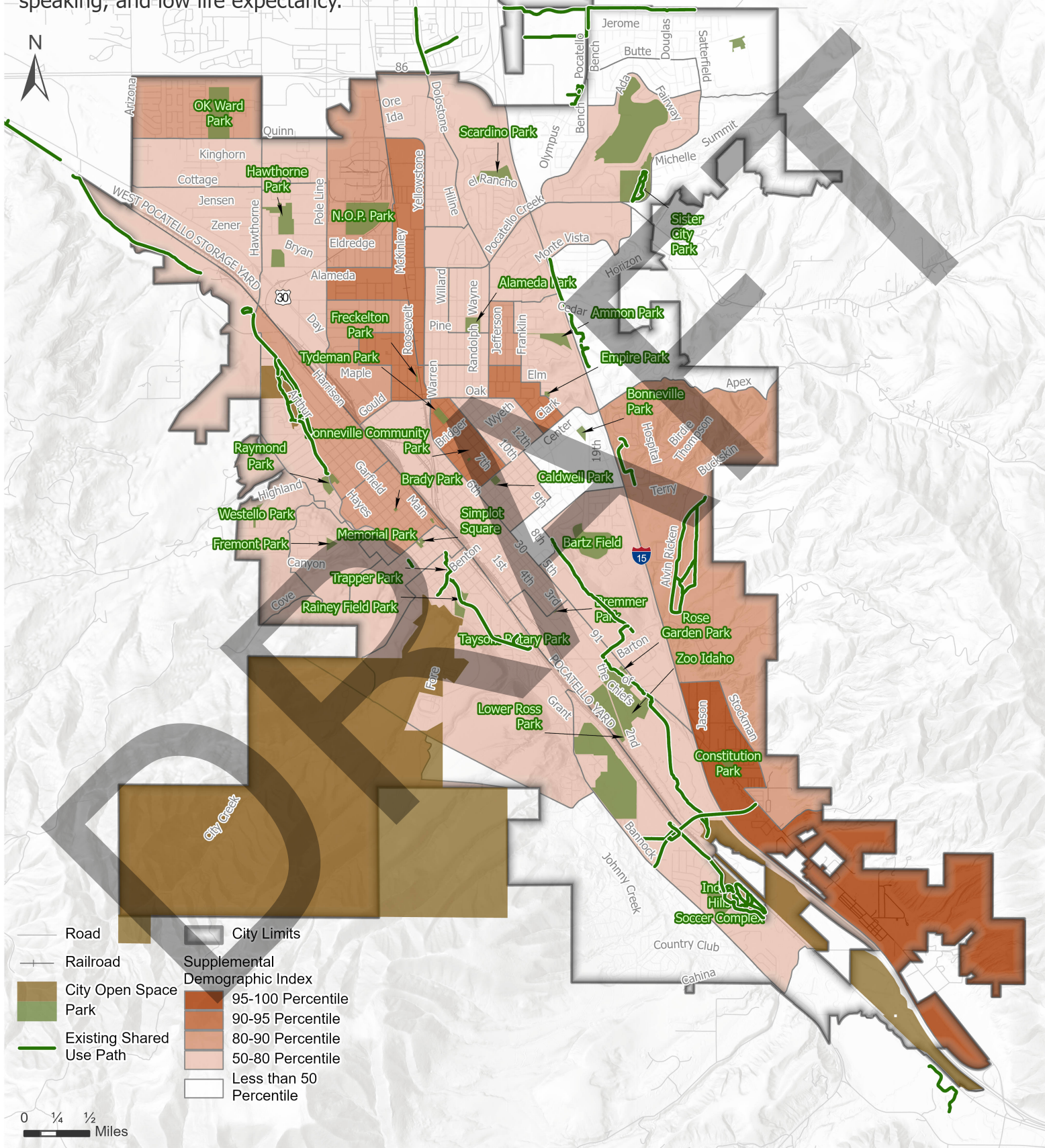
Greenway trails offer additional access but are not included in this walkability analysis.

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POCATELLO
PARKS & RECREATION



Supplemental Demographic Index

Index averaging socio-economic indicators including low-income, persons with disabilities, less than high school education, limited English speaking, and low life expectancy.



Level of Service Analysis

OVERVIEW

Level of Service (LOS) standards are guidelines that define service areas based on population that support investment decisions related to parks, facilities, and amenities. LOS standards are updated over time as industry trends and community demographics change.

The consulting team evaluated Parks and Recreation amenity standards using a combination of resources. These resources included market trends, demographic data, community and stakeholder input, the statistically valid community survey, and general observations. The existing level of service detailed on the following page is based on current inventory and on analysis of the system and other service providers in the City, which information allowed standards to be customized to Pocatello.

It is important to note that these LOS standards should be viewed as a guide. The standards are to be coupled with conventional wisdom and judgment related to the system's specific inventory and needs of the community. By applying these standards to the population of Pocatello, gaps or surpluses in park and facility types are revealed.

PER CAPITA GAPS

According to the LOS, there are not a large number of deficiencies in the Pocatello Parks and Recreation System. **The current LOS for total park acres is 65 acres per 1,000 residents, which includes 6.34 acres per 1,000 residents of developed park lands and 57.83 acres per 1,000 residents of natural areas/open space.** While the system is above the recommended national standard of 8.0 total park acres per 1,000 residents provided by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) for municipal park systems, the large inventory of natural areas/open space skews the system's total park acres above the national best practice. That said, **it is recommended that over the next 10 years the City of Pocatello work to increase the current LOS of developed park acres from 6.34 to 7.0 acres per 1,000 residents.** It is recommended this be achieved through a nominal addition of park lands in the Neighborhood Park and Community Park classifications.

Though there is a limited inventory of existing parks, most recreation facilities and amenities are currently adequately serving the resident population of Pocatello. There could be additional amenities developed such as rectangular multi-purpose fields and splashpads, but overall, the system inventory is fairly strong.

The existing level of service meets and exceeds best practices and recommended service levels for many items; however, as the community is projected to grow over the next 10 years there are several areas that will not meet recommended standards. This is particularly the case in the consideration of more costly indoor facilities such as special/multi-use spaces and indoor aquatic facilities. These larger projects are likely to only be successful if pursued in partnership with other entities such as the school district, university, and health care system.

The service standards for Pocatello are based upon population figures for 2024, 2029, and 2034, the latest estimates available at the time of analysis. **The full level of service standards for Pocatello can be found on the following page.**

Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan

2024 Inventory - Developed Facilities						Current Facility Standards		Five Year Projected Facility Standards		10-year Projected Facility Standards	
Amenities	Pocahontas Inventory	School Inventory	Total Inventory	Current Service Level based upon population	Recommended Service Levels Revised for Local Service Area	Meet Standard/ Need Exits	Additional Facilities/ Amenities Needed	Meet Standard/ Need Exits	Additional Facilities/ Amenities Needed	Meet Standard/ Need Exits	Additional Facilities/ Amenities Needed
PARK TYPE:											
Mini Pocket Parks	372		372	0.06 acres per 1,000	0.05 acres per 1,000	Meets Standard	- Acres(s)	Meets Standard	- Acres(s)	Meets Standard	- Acres(s)
Neighborhood Parks	3376	72.60	5796	1.00 acres per 1,000	1.45 acres per 1,000	Need Exits	26.01 Acres(s)	Need Exits	27.32 Acres(s)	Need Exits	29.22 Acres(s)
Community Parks	148.58		148.58	2.57 acres per 1,000	3.00 acres per 1,000	Need Exits	25.15 Acres(s)	Need Exits	27.87 Acres(s)	Need Exits	31.80 Acres(s)
Regional Parks	156.60		156.60	270 acres per 1,000	2.50 acres per 1,000	Meets Standard	- Acres(s)	Meets Standard	- Acres(s)	Meets Standard	- Acres(s)
Special Use Parks				1,000 acres per 1,000	- acres per 1,000	Meets Standard	- Acres(s)	Meets Standard	- Acres(s)	Meets Standard	- Acres(s)
Total Developed Park Acres	342.66	72.60	366.86	6.34 acres per 1,000	7.00 acres per 1,000	Need Exits	38.50 Acres(s)	Need Exits	44.85 Acres(s)	Need Exits	54.03 Acres(s)
Undeveloped (Natural Areas/Open Spaces)	3,348.70		3,348.70	57.83 acres per 1,000	1.00 acres per 1,000	Meets Standard	- Acres(s)	Meets Standard	- Acres(s)	Meets Standard	- Acres(s)
Total Park Acres	3,691.36	72.60	3,763.96	65.00 acres per 1,000	8.00 acres per 1,000	Meets Standard	- Acres(s)	Meets Standard	- Acres(s)	Meets Standard	- Acres(s)
TRAILS:											
Paved Park Trails	22.61		22.61	0.39 miles per 1,000	0.50 miles per 1,000	Need Exits	6.34 Miles(s)	Need Exits	6.80 Miles(s)	Need Exits	7.45 Miles(s)
Natural Park Trails	30.70		30.70	0.53 miles per 1,000	1.00 miles per 1,000	Need Exits	27.21 Miles(s)	Need Exits	28.12 Miles(s)	Need Exits	29.43 Miles(s)
Total Park Trail Miles	53.31		53.31	0.92 miles per 1,000	1.50 miles per 1,000	Need Exits	33.55 Miles(s)	Need Exits	34.91 Miles(s)	Need Exits	36.88 Miles(s)
On-Street Pedestrian/Bicycle Trail Miles				0.00 miles per 1,000	1.00 miles per 1,000	Meets Standard	- Miles(s)	Meets Standard	- Miles(s)	Meets Standard	- Miles(s)
OUTDOOR AMENITIES:											
Small pavilions	17.00		17.00	1.00 site per 3,406	1.00 site per 3,500	Meets Standard	- Sites(s)	Meets Standard	- Sites(s)	Meets Standard	- Sites(s)
Large pavilions	3.00		3.00	1.00 site per 19,303	1.00 site per 20,000	Meets Standard	- Sites(s)	Meets Standard	- Sites(s)	Meets Standard	- Sites(s)
Ball Fields	26.00	9.00	35.00	1.00 field per 7,655	1.00 field per 2,000	Meets Standard	- Field(s)	Meets Standard	- Field(s)	Meets Standard	- Field(s)
Rectangular Multi-Purpose Fields	11.00		11.00	1.00 field per 5,264	1.00 field per 4,500	Need Exits	2 Field(s)	Need Exits	2 Field(s)	Need Exits	2 Field(s)
Outdoor Basketball Courts	6.00		6.00	1.00 court per 9,652	1.00 court per 12,000	Meets Standard	- Courts	Meets Standard	- Courts	Meets Standard	- Courts
Tennis Courts	4.00		4.00	1.00 court per 14,477	1.00 court per 15,000	Meets Standard	- Courts	Meets Standard	- Courts	Meets Standard	- Courts
Pickleball Courts	9.00		9.00	1.00 court per 6,434	1.00 court per 7,000	Meets Standard	- Courts	Meets Standard	- Courts	Meets Standard	- Courts
Playgrounds	22.00	10.00	32.00	1.00 site per 1,810	1.00 site per 2,500	Meets Standard	- Sites(s)	Meets Standard	- Sites(s)	Meets Standard	- Sites(s)
Sand Volleyball Courts	2.00		2.00	1.00 court per 28,955	1.00 court per 35,000	Meets Standard	- Courts	Meets Standard	- Courts	Meets Standard	- Courts
Dog Parks	2.00		2.00	1.00 site per 28,955	1.00 site per 35,000	Meets Standard	- Sites(s)	Meets Standard	- Sites(s)	Meets Standard	- Sites(s)
Skateparks	1.00		1.00	1.00 site per 57,909	1.00 site per 65,000	Meets Standard	- Sites(s)	Meets Standard	- Sites(s)	Meets Standard	- Sites(s)
Slipstaps	1.00		1.00	1.00 site per 57,909	1.00 site per 20,000	Need Exits	2 Sites(s)	Need Exits	2 Sites(s)	Need Exits	2 Sites(s)
Indoor Pools	1.00		1.00	1.00 site per 57,909	1.00 site per 65,000	Meets Standard	- Sites(s)	Meets Standard	- Sites(s)	Meets Standard	- Sites(s)
INDOOR AMENITIES:											
Indoor Recreation Space (Square Feet)	29,747.00	32,886.71	62,643.71	0.51 SF per person	1.00 SF per person	Meets Standard	- Square Feet	Meets Standard	- Square Feet	Meets Standard	- Square Feet
Indoor Special Use Space (Square Feet)	-	-	-	- SF per person	0.50 SF per person	Need Exits	28,955 Square Feet	Need Exits	29,408 Square Feet	Need Exits	30,064 Square Feet
Indoor Aquatic Space (Square Feet)	5,000.00		5,000.00	0.09 SF per person	0.50 SF per person	Need Exits	23,955 Square Feet	Need Exits	24,408 Square Feet	Need Exits	25,064 Square Feet
Summary Totals:											
Current Estimated Population	57,909		57,909								
5-Year Projected Population	58,815		58,815								
10-Year Projected Population	60,127		60,127								

Facility Prioritization Analysis

The purpose of the Facility/Amenity and Program Priority Rankings is to provide a prioritized list of facility/amenity needs for the community served by the Department. Quantitative data was used from the statistically valid community survey as the most heavily weighted variable as this is the most representative sample of the community at large. Additional variables include the qualitative input received through public forums, stakeholder interviews and focus groups, as well as the prioritization scores received from City staff and the Consultant Team. Of all these methodologies, the results of the statistically valid survey receives the greatest weighting when determining prioritized needs because it is most representative of the entire Pocatello community. This culminates into a weighted scoring system is used to determine the priorities for Pocatello's facilities/amenities as detailed below.

Data Source	Component	Weighting
Quantitative Community Input	Importance Rankings Reported by the Community Survey – This is used as a factor from the importance allocated to a facility/amenity by the community.	50%
Qualitative Community Input	Relative importance of park and recreation facilities/amenities as communicated in public forums, stakeholder interviews, and focus groups.	25%
City Staff Input and Consultant Team Input	Relative importance of park and recreation facilities/amenities as ranked by leadership staff of the City of Pocatello.	25%

The prioritization scoring on the following page depicts ranked facility/amenity priorities overall for the 35 facility/amenities evaluated in the community input process.

Facility / Amenity	Priority Ranking
Multi-use paved trails	12.00
Restrooms	12.00
Multi-use unpaved trails	12.00
Indoor walking/jogging track	12.00
Water access	12.00
Outdoor pools/water parks	10.80
Skateboard park	10.40
Open space and conservation areas	10.00
Adaptable playground	9.50
Indoor aquatic center	8.80
Outdoor tennis/pickleball courts	8.60
Picnic areas	8.60
Outdoor exercise/fitness equipment	8.60
Shelters/pavilions	8.60
Indoor gym space	8.60
Disc golf	8.40
Small neighborhood parks	8.20
Large community parks	8.00
Dog park	8.00
Indoor tennis/pickleball courts	8.00
Splash pads	8.00
Fishing areas	8.00
Outdoor rectangular fields	7.20
Indoor multi-purpose sports fields	6.60
Hockey/ice rink	6.60
Outdoor amphitheater/performance venue	6.00
Outdoor basketball courts	6.00
Community gardens	5.40
Open fields/sports practice areas	5.20
Sand volleyball courts	5.20
BMX park/pump track	5.20
Outdoor adventure park	5.10
Golf course	4.80
Park equipment for senior adults	4.80
Outdoor cricket fields/pitches	4.60
Baseball/softball diamonds	4.30

Priority Ranking	Score
High Priority	8.0-12.0
Moderate Priority	5.0-7.9
Low Priority	1.0-4.9

Classifications and Design Standards

Trail Classifications and Design Standards

The following classifications provide guidance on future development of all types of trails in Pocatello. Direction for the definitions and principles builds on past planning efforts including the 2010 Open Space Management Plan and the 2009 Portneuf Greenway Master Plan, in addition to current best practices across the industry. There is no national standard for trail classifications.

PAVED SHARED USE PATH

Dimensions/Construction Standards

Corridor Width: 50 - 100 ft.

Vertical Clearance: 10 ft. min, 12 ft. desirable

Buffer Width: 2.5 ft.

Horizontal Clearance: 3 ft.+

Tread Width: 10 ft.

Grade: Accessibility, up to 8.3% (ABAAS) or 5% (ADA), ideally 5% or less in most areas

Trailheads: At major access points

Lighting: When appropriate, at trailheads and access points, underpasses, crosswalks, and intersections. All lighting should be compliant with International Dark Sky Association lighting recommendations, including color temperature, full cut-off fixtures, and motion-activation.

Typical Cost

\$900/ linear feet (LF) exclusive of bridges and steep topography

Description:

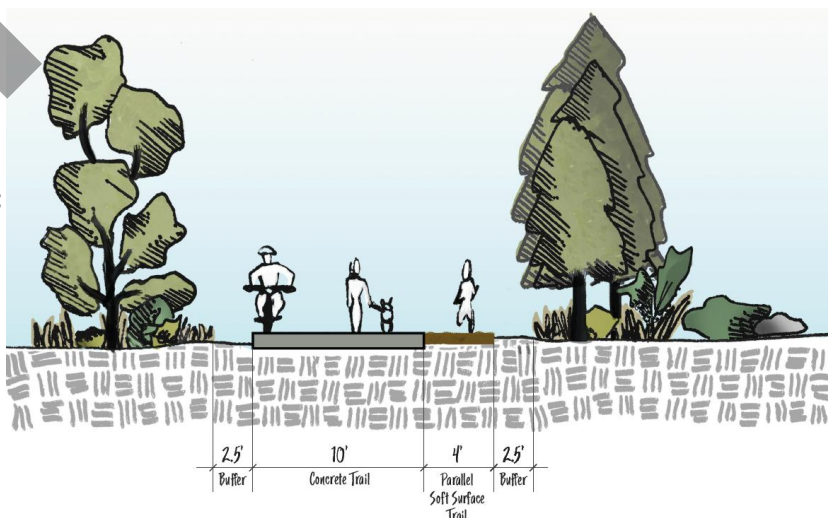
Paved Shared Use Path trails are hard surface trails connecting neighborhoods, parks, open space, and other amenities throughout a city. They typically offer a continuous experience for users to explore, traveling between parks, open spaces, and other areas of interest. These trails typically can accommodate all trail users including walkers, joggers, recreational and commuter cyclists. Paved Shared Use Path trails can be located along existing drainageways, utility easements, and other linear features to separate corridors from roadways. Additionally, parallel soft surface trails of natural surface or crushed gravel can provide even more expanded user experiences.

Examples:

- Portneuf Greenway
- Brennan Trail
- Riverside Trail

Trail Maintenance Responsibility:

City of Pocatello



NEIGHBORHOOD TRAIL

Dimensions/Construction Standards

Corridor Width: ~ 20 ft.

Buffer Width: 2.5 ft

Tread Width: 8ft.

Vertical Clearance: 10 ft.

Horizontal Clearance: 3 ft.+

Grade: ADA accessible, up to 8.3%, ideally 5% or less

Trailheads: When appropriate, at major access points

Lighting: When appropriate for safety, at trailheads and access points, underpasses, crosswalks, and intersections

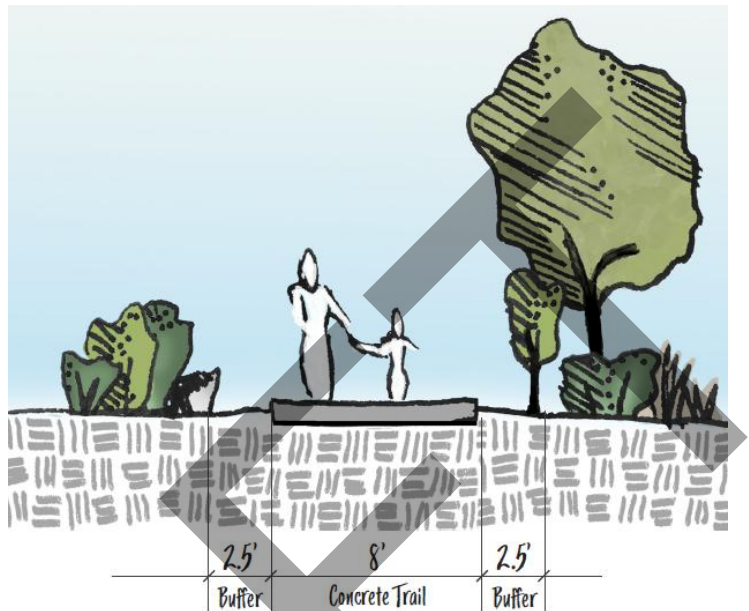
Typical Cost: \$225/LF exclusive of bridges and steep topography

Description:

Neighborhood Trails support the Paved Shared Use Path trails system by providing connections to neighborhoods, parks, open spaces, and activity centers that are not on the greenway system. Like Paved Shared Use Path trails, these trails are designed to accommodate all trail users including walkers, joggers, and recreational and commuter cyclists on the same trail. Neighborhood trails are generally not destinations themselves. They require more narrow corridors and therefore have lower travel speeds. Neighborhood Trails typically are sited along roadway corridors, and while they should be well-separated from vehicle traffic, they may require at-grade road crossings of local and arterial roads. Landscaping and buffers are essential along neighborhood trails to enhance the user experience in the narrower corridor width and provide critical separation from adjacent uses.

Trail Maintenance Responsibility:

City of Pocatello



SOFT SURFACE TRAIL

Dimensions/Construction Standards

Surface: Native surface, crusher fines, or aggregate

Corridor Width: N/A

Vertical Clearance: 8 ft.

Tread Width: 2 - 4 ft.

Horizontal Clearance: 1.5 ft.

Shoulder Width: N/A

Grade: 5-15%; Up to 8.3% for ADA; Steps may be required on hiking-only trails steeper than 10%

Trailheads: None

Lighting: None

Typical Cost: \$16/LF

Description:

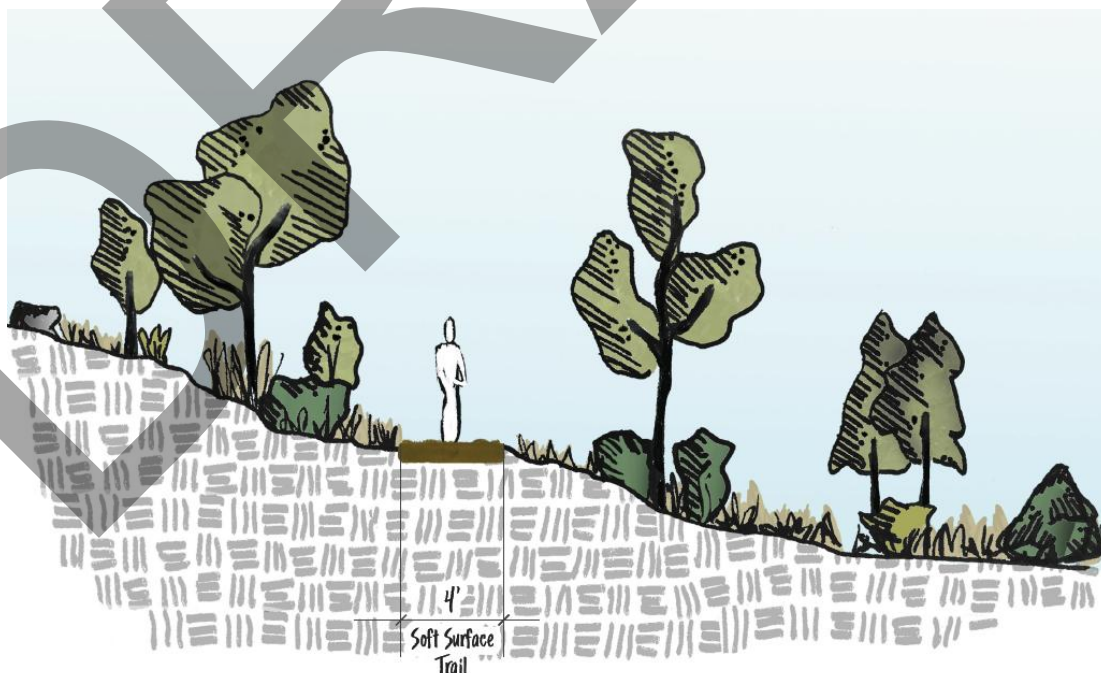
Soft Surface Trails are more narrow corridors with gravel, dirt, or crusher fines surfaces designed for slower speeds and volumes of use. Typical trail users include hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians, and often these trails are sited in open spaces further from urban areas. Nearer to the edges of the city, natural surface trails offer a different kind of user experience than Paved Shared Use Path trails and Neighborhood trails in town. These trails may be designated as hiking trails or designated for use as mountain bike trails only. Drainage, erosion, and dust mitigation are typical construction concerns which can be addressed using soil hardener, water bars, rolling dips, and drainage culverts.

Examples:

- Red Hill Trail
- ISU XC Trails
- City Creek Management Area Trails

Trail Maintenance Responsibility:

City of Pocatello, ISU, BLM, USFS, and any owners of the open space where trails are located



Park Classifications and Design Standards

The following classifications provide guidance on future development of both active and passive recreational amenities including parks, open space, and greenways. Direction for the definitions and principles builds on past planning efforts including the 2010 Open Space Management Plan and the 2009 Portneuf Greenway Master Plan, in addition to current best practices across the industry. There is no national standard for open space, park, or trail classifications.

REGIONAL PARK DESIGN STANDARDS

Typical Size:

20-80 acres, but varies

Description:

Regional Parks are very large multi-use parks that serve several communities within a particular region. They are significantly larger in size and serve those areas within a one-hour driving distance or can be smaller but provide a specific attraction uniquely offered to the region. The Regional Park provides both active and passive recreation opportunities, with a wide selection of facilities for all age groups. They can include both indoor and outdoor activities. They may also include areas of nature preservation for activities such as sightseeing, nature study area, wildlife habitat, and conservation.

Typical Features:

- Sets of sports fields or courts
- Informal fields
- Conservation areas
- Connections to regional trails
- Play Structures or Splashpads
- Picnicking facilities (tables, shelters, barbeque pits, etc.)
- Indoor recreation or community spaces
- Public Art
- Restrooms
- Walking Paths and Trails
- Other Community, Neighborhood, and Pocket Park features
- Various other unique attractions

Examples:

- N.O.P. Park
- OK Ward Park
- Lower Ross Park
- Upper Ross Park
- Indian Hills Soccer Complex

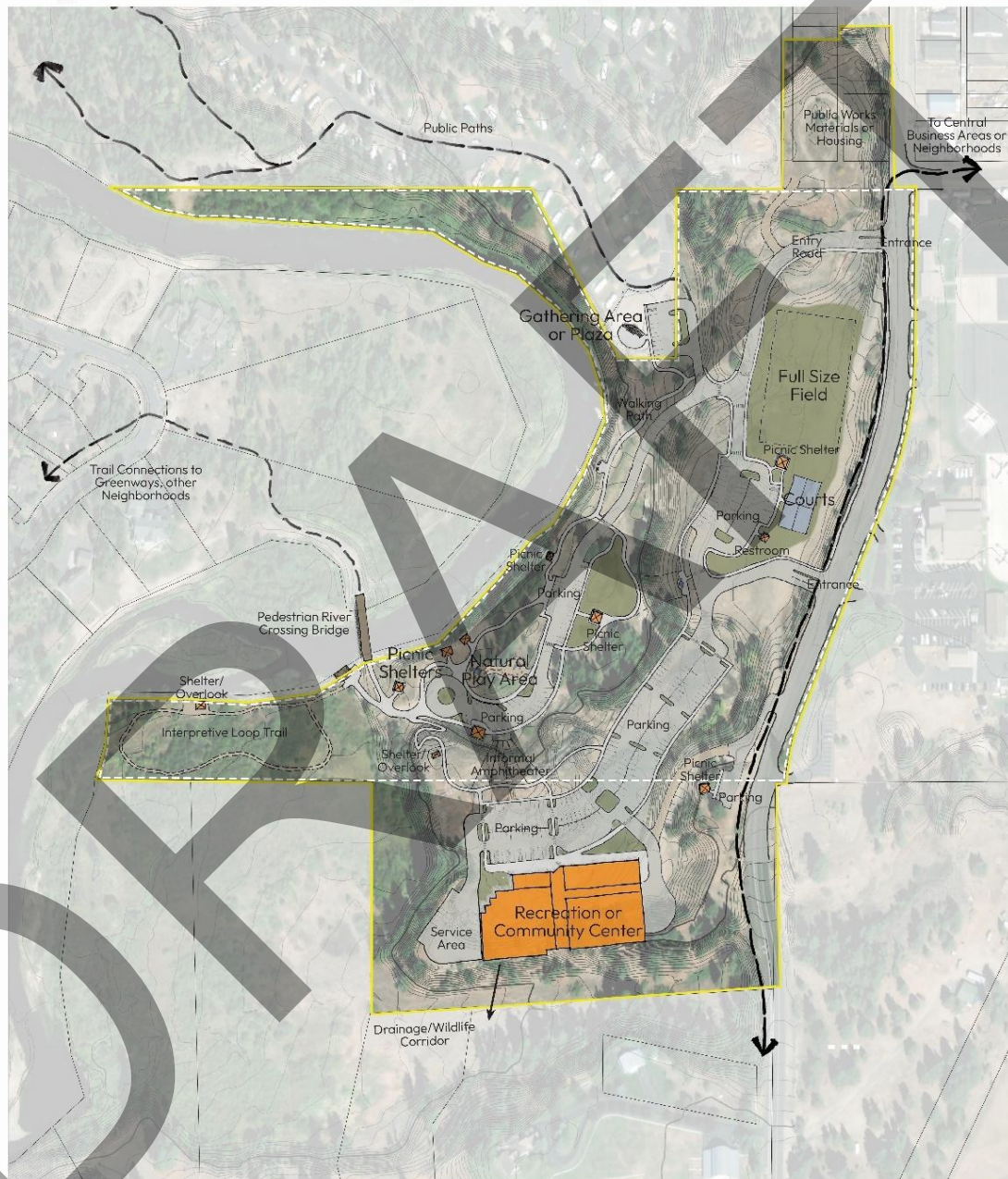
Maintenance Responsibility:

City of Pocatello

REGIONAL PARK DESIGN PLAN

Below is an example of a potential Regional Park layout design that follows these design standards.

Regional Park Example Concept



COMMUNITY PARK DESIGN STANDARDS

Typical Size:

5-40 acres

Description:

Community Parks serve large segments of a city, and sometimes the entire population of the community, as well as the neighborhoods directly adjacent to and beyond the park. These parks offer a wide variety of uses, including active, passive, and recreation facilities. As the features of a community park can vary widely, typical uses of these parks can be diverse, including both indoor and outdoor activities. Community Parks can offer the space and resources for **sitting** facilities or features that are too large for a neighborhood park. With around a **two-to-five-mile** user radius, most park users should be able to drive, bike, or walk from city streets and trails network. When possible, connections to regional trails systems are characteristic of these parks.

Typical Features:

- Sports fields or courts
- Informal fields
- Park maintenance and equipment storage areas
- Play structures/areas
- Picnicking facilities (tables, shelters, barbeque pits, etc.)
- Restrooms
- Concession stands (food and beverage)
- Community Centers and meeting facilities
- Swimming/Water Features
- Dog park areas
- Public Art
- Other Neighborhood Park and Pocket Park features

Examples:

- Scardino Park
- Hawthorne Park
- Alameda Park
- Ammon Park
- Raymond Park
- Sister City Park
- Bartz Field
- Terrell and Ifft Park
- Caldwell Park
- Simplot Square
- Tydeman Park
- Optimist Park
- Halliwell Park

Maintenance Responsibility:

City of Pocatello, or ISU in some instances (Bartz Field)



COMMUNITY PARK DESIGN PLAN

Below is an example of a potential Community Park layout design that follows these design standards.

Community Park Example Concept



NEIGHBORHOOD PARK DESIGN STANDARDS

Typical Size:

2-7 acres, but varies

Description:

Neighborhood Parks are smaller parks close to residents which serve the immediate surrounding neighborhood, depending on the uses and specific needs of that area. These parks offer a common area for family activities, informal play, and socializing with others. Neighborhood Parks can offer various programmed features including courts, picnic areas, gardens, and interpretive exhibits, but these features are not always present. The parks are typically neighborhood focal points and offer space and facilities for family activities that can be enjoyed within walking distance from home. Serving an area within one half to one mile in residential areas, they should be accessible through a **walkable** network of neighborhood trails, sidewalks, and pathways as well as smaller local roads with calm traffic.

Typical Features:

- Play structures
- Picnic tables
- Sports courts
- Lawns/grassy areas
- Restrooms (context dependent)
- Sports fields
- Gardens
- Public art
- Interpretive signs
- Dog parks (context dependent)

Examples:

- Empire Park
- Fremont Park
- Rainey Park
- Centennial Park
- Constitution Park
- Bonneville Park
- Taysom Rotary Park
- Westello Park
- Memorial Park
- Lookout Point Park
- Legacy Park

Maintenance Responsibility:

City of Pocatello



NEIGHBORHOOD PARK DESIGN PLAN

Below is an example of a potential Neighborhood Park layout design that follows these design standards.

Neighborhood Park Example Concept



POCKET PARK

Typical Size:

.5-2 acres or smaller

Description:

Pocket parks are smaller green spaces offering beautification, greening, and unique kinds of sites throughout developed areas. They serve important, unique needs of residents and greatly enhance the character and livability of a community. Typically located in a downtown or densely developed area, users of pocket parks can range depending on the immediate neighborhood, or surrounding businesses. Pocket parks are often sited in city lots, urban plazas, or vacated rights-of-way.

When located in neighborhood areas, pocket parks can include tot lots and playground areas, or other types of recreation facilities. When located downtown or in commercial areas, pocket parks typically serve more passive purposes, and might include memorials, artwork, small social gathering spaces, or scenic views. They can include more hard-scape plazas with benches, signage, and public art. Ideally, these parks and places are connected through designated pedestrian and/or bicycle routes.

Typical Features:

- Picnic tables
- Small play features
- Seating
- Landscaping
- Interpretive signs
- Historical markers or memorials
- Statues and Art
- Shade features
- Drinking fountains
- Bicycle racks

Examples:

- Freckelton Park
- Brady Park
- Pioneer Park
- Trapper Park
- Pre-History Park
- Bremmer Park
- Purce Park
- Gold Star Park

Maintenance Responsibility:

City of Pocatello

POCKET PARK DESIGN PLAN

Below is an example of a potential Pocket Park layout design that follows these design standards.

Pocket Park Example Concept



OPEN SPACE

Typical Size:

Varies

Description:

As defined in the 2010 Pocatello Open Space Plan, open space is natural, cultural, aesthetic, agricultural, and urban resources that warrant protection in an effort to preserve our environment in a manner that results in a high quality of life for present and future generations.

Open space classified parks are lands set aside to provide protected natural resources, forests, wetlands, greenways, scenic viewsheds, unique natural features, and wildlife habitats and corridors. Preserved open spaces may or may not offer public access. These spaces are stewarded to serve natural resource protection primarily, though some offer public access for passive recreation, including waterways, natural surface trails, and picnic areas. Some of these properties may be permanently designated or protected as open space through a conservation easement.

Typical Features:

- Wildlife habitats
- Scenic views
- Wetlands/waterbodies
- Natural surface trails

Examples:

- Oxbow Park
- Sacajawea Park
- City Creek
- Management Area

Maintenance Responsibility: BLM, City of Pocatello, ISU

SPECIAL USE PARK AND FACILITY

Typical Size:

Varies

Description:

Special use parks serve a number of different functions and can be designed for revenue-generating enterprises or created specifically to serve the demand for a particular activity or function.

Special use parks or facilities cover a broad range of types of sites oriented toward specialized or single-purpose use such as cultural or educational facilities, festival space, recreational activity, sports competition, or carrying out support of city operations. The kinds and geographic range of users can vary widely, but typically special use parks can serve residents throughout an entire city.

Typical Features:

Varies

Examples:

- Ross Park Aquatic Center
- Ice Rink
- Zoo Idaho
- Rose Garden Park
- Bannock Bark Park

Maintenance Responsibility:

Varies, based on function of facility

ROSS PARK CONCEPTUAL DESIGN

This conceptual design is currently under review.





Funding and Revenue Strategies

Park systems often rely on the same funding sources for their projects, programs, and capital improvements, as well as the ongoing financial support their agency requires. Funding sources change regarding how they provide funding and what organizations they will support. Pocatello has an opportunity with the implementation of this PROST Plan to explore additional funding and revenue strategies.

Understanding the type of sources and opportunities available can be valuable to the sustainability of a park and recreation system. It is important to expand the range of sources where funding is obtained and develop a strategy to locate new sources. Developing new funding strategies, understanding new potential funding sources, and successfully obtaining new funding can be lengthy and time consuming, yet it can provide capital and operational dollars when normal funding channels change.

Successful Parks and Recreation Funding Options

The following three categories are examples of sources considered to be viable methods used in the parks and recreation industry:

- **Dedicated Funding:** These funds (often in the form of various tax options) are appropriated or set aside for a limited purpose.
- **Earned Income:** Revenue generated by membership fees, facility rentals, program fees and other sources where the agency is paid for services or what they provide.
- **Financial Support:** These monies are acquired by applying for grants, through foundation fundraising, corporations, organizations, as well as state and federal sources.

DEDICATED FUNDING SOURCES

- **Taxable Bonds** through Voter Approved Referenda are used primarily to support the development of large community-based projects like a community center, field house, signature park, trails system
- **Transient Occupancy Tax from Hotels** are used to help pay for recreation facilities that have a high level of tourism involved such as sport tournaments for youth and adults held in the city by the Department and are used to help build and pay for the development and management of those facilities.
- **Land Value Captive Taxes** such as a Tax Increment Finance Funds are used to help support community centers and field houses whereby businesses benefit from higher property values based on their location to these amenities and the difference between the existing property values and the new property value is used to fund the development until the development is paid off.
- **Local Improvement Districts or Business Improvement Districts** are typically established in communities that are in a downtown business district. The BID district requires 60% of the owners to support the BID before it can be put into place and the money is used for improving the aesthetics such as streetscapes, flowers, sidewalk cleaning, signage, sidewalk furniture, hosting concerts and special events that attract people to spend time and money in the downtown area.

- **Developer Impact Fees** are used to support neighborhood park development in the property near or in their development as a way of enticing new homeowners to move into the development. The developer pays the impact fee at the time of the permit like impact fees for roads, sewers, and general utilities based on the value of the homes that are being built.
- **Real-Estate Transfer Fees** are established at usually 1% of the sale price of a home and is paid by the buyer to support ongoing park infrastructure in the area where the house is located.

EARNED INCOME

- **Land Leases** allow park system to lease prime property to developers for restaurants along trails or in parks, retail operations that benefit users in the park to support the ongoing operation of the park over a period of time.
- **Health Care/Hospital Partnerships** are becoming a major partner for park and recreation agencies to help support the development of community centers that have health related amenities in them like fitness centers, therapy pools and walking tracks. Some health care providers put in rehab centers inside of the community center and pay the development cost associated with the ongoing building costs.
- **Fees for Services** are typically used to support the operational cost and capital cost for parks and recreation programs and amenities which is occurring in Brookings now.
- **Room Override Rates** from hotels used for major tournaments. These revenues go back to the city to help pay for the management and cost of hosting the tournament.
- **Establishment/Growth of a Park Foundation** is an appropriate revenue source for the Department to consider especially in a college town. The Park Foundation typically raised money for park related improvements, programs for disadvantaged users and they support the development of new facilities that are needed in the city.
- **Local Not-for-Profit Foundations Gifts** usually help pay for specific music at special events or for helping to provide a running event in the city or a sports tournament.
- **Capital Fee on top of an Access Fee** to pay for a revenue producing facility need. This type of fee is usually associated with an amenity like a golf course where the users help to improve an irrigation system or improve cart paths because they benefit most from the capital fee. The fee is removed once the improvement is paid off.
- **Corporate Sponsorships** help to pay for the operations of signature facilities like sports complexes, indoor community centers, ice rinks and they pay for an impression point usually in the \$0.35 to \$0.50 per impression point on an annual basis.
- **Naming Rights** are used to help to capitalize a community center or special use facility and typically are good for 10 to 20 years before it is removed.
- **Public/ Not-for-Profit/ Private Partnerships** are used to help offset operational costs or capital costs for community-based facilities like trails, nature centers, sport complexes, community centers, ice rinks, signature parks, special event sites that bring in and support a high level of users.
- **Licensing Fees** for a signature park or event that others want to use to make money from can be applied to elements of a park from a user or business as it applies to products sold on site, music, advertising, and ongoing events to be held on site.

- **Outsource Operations** to the private sector to save money where the cost is less costly to provide the same level of service. This can be in any form of service the system provides now from contracting with instructors, managing forestry operations, managing landscapes in the city, care of park related equipment are a few examples.
- **Volunteerism** is an indirect funding source use by many departments to support the operations of parks and recreation services. The time the volunteer gives can be used for in kind support matches on state and federal grants in lieu of money. Best practices agencies try to get 15% of the work force hours from volunteers.
- **Maintenance Endowments** are established as new facilities are developed like all-weather turf to support replacement costs when the asset life is used up and need replaced.
- **User Fees** are currently used by the Department is using now to offset their operational cost based on the private good that the service is providing to the user.
- **Entrance Fees** (pools, community centers, parks)
 - Daily Fees
 - Non-Resident Fees
 - Group Fees
 - Prime Time and Non-Prime Time fees
 - Group and Volume Fees
 - Permit Fees
 - Reservation Fees
 - Catering Fees
 - Food Truck Fees
 - Ticket Sales
 - Photography Fees
 - Price by loyalty, length of stay and level of exclusivity.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- **Land and Water Conservation Fund** is the primary funding source for federal grants and requires a match from the local jurisdiction of 50%.
- **Transportation Alternatives Program** (TAP) provides greenways and trails grants for park systems across the system.
- **Recreation Trails Funding Program** for development of urban linkages, trail head and trailside facilities.
- **Private Donations** can be sought to help develop community-based facilities like community centers, sports complexes, outdoor theatres, and nature education facilities.

Conclusion

Quality of life in Pocatello is a fabric woven through being connected, healthy, well, and economically vibrant. Pocatello parks and recreation programs are a critical part of the ecosystem through which this is possible. It is clear throughout this process that Pocatello is led by strong vision and a commitment to outcomes. The *Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan* has been constructed with all these goals, objectives, and principles as its foundation.

The residents of Pocatello desire and expect a well maintained, modern, creative, and inclusive parks and recreation system. They have said they are willing to invest in parks that enhance their quality of life. The recommendations within this plan are focused on improving existing conditions, creating new opportunities, and meeting current and future needs identified by the community.

A strong parks and recreation strategic plan should be both realistic and ambitious. This plan strives to be both. There are real needs that should be addressed in the present. There are mid-term needs and opportunities that require planning and execution. There are long-term needs and opportunities that require further exploration and discovery. That is what makes this strategic plan a dynamic and living document. It is a road map and framework for the future.

There are important things the community must do to make any of this possible. First and foremost, willingness to take action for continued financial support of high-quality parks and recreation must remain a valued priority. The accomplishments of developing best-in-class parks and facilities over the last 10-20 years have proven Pocatello has the capacity and willingness to make these investments, and the ability to deliver. The overall return on investment in the parks system supports this community in diverse and numerous ways including social, educational, health and wellness, economic, and quality of life benefits. Continued investment in a modern and evolving parks system that mirrors the growth and evolution of the City is critical.

Pocatello loves and heavily uses its parks and recreation system. The vision and recommendations of this plan will continue that tradition and set the community up for continued success in the years that follow.

Appendix A – National Trends In Recreation

NATIONAL TRENDS IN RECREATION

The Sports & Fitness Industry Association's (SFIA) *Sports, Fitness & Leisure Activities Topline Participation Report 2023* was utilized in evaluating the following trends:

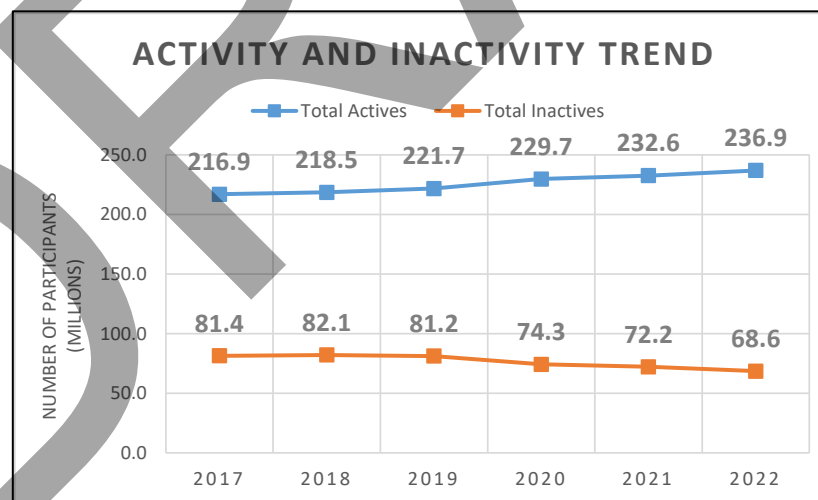
- National Recreation Participatory Trends
- Core vs. Casual Participation Trends

The study is based on findings from surveys conducted in 2022 by the Sports Marketing Surveys USA (SMS), resulting in a total of 18,000 online interviews. Surveys were administered to all genders, ages, income levels, regions, and ethnicities to allow for statistical accuracy of the national population. A sample size of 18,000 completed interviews is considered by SFIA to result in a high degree of statistical accuracy. A sport with a participation rate of five percent has a confidence interval of plus or minus 0.32 percentage points at a 95 percent confidence level. Using a weighting technique, survey results are applied to the total U.S. population figure of 305,439,858 people (ages six and older).

The purpose of the report is to establish levels of activity and identify key participatory trends in recreation across the U.S. This study looked at 120 different sports/activities and subdivided them into various categories including: sports, fitness, outdoor activities, aquatics, etc.

OVERALL PARTICIPATION

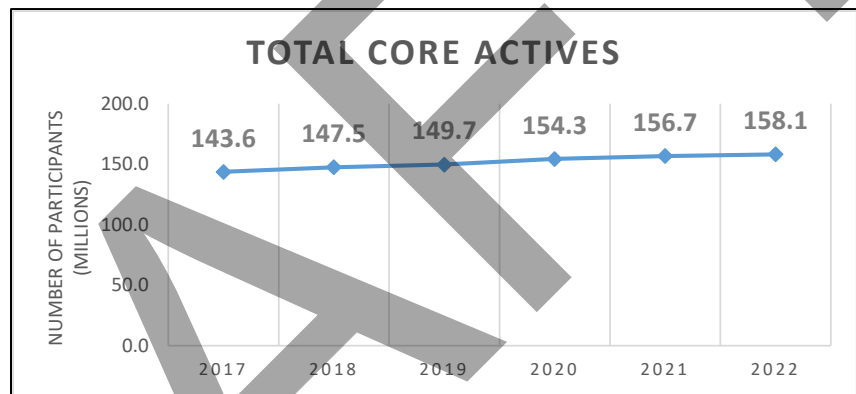
Approximately 236.9 million people ages six and over reported being active in 2022, which is a 1.9% increase from 2021 and the greatest number of active Americans in the last 6 years. This is an indicator that Americans are continuing to make physical activity more of a priority in their lives. Outdoor activities continue to thrive, recreation facilities reopened, fitness at home maintains popularity, and team sports are slowly reaching pre-pandemic participation levels. The chart below depicts participation levels for active and inactive (those who engage in no physical activity) Americans over the past 6 years.



Core vs. Casual Participation

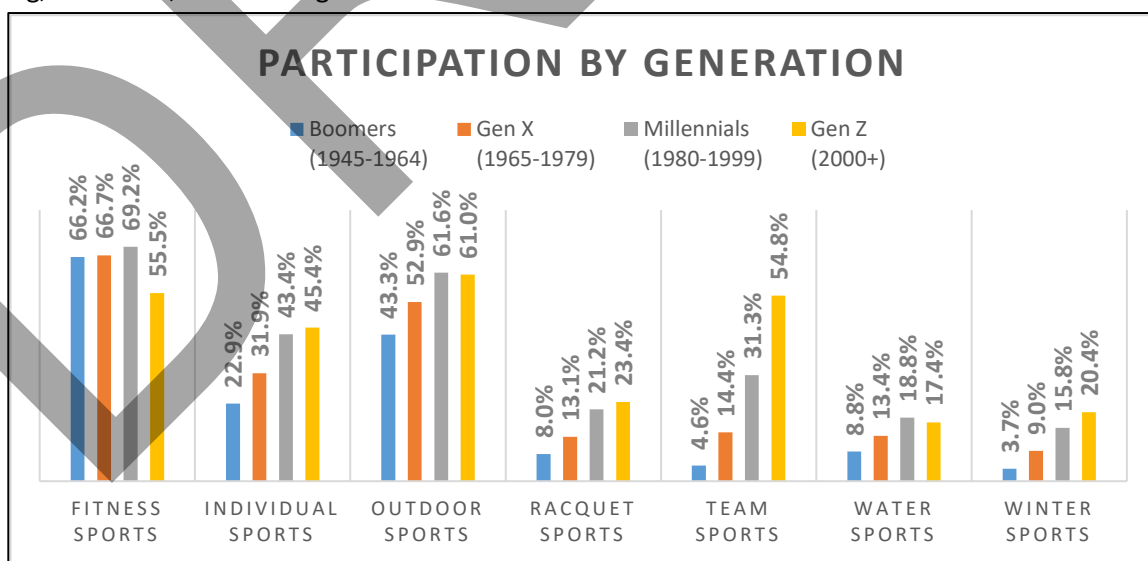
In addition to overall participation rates, SFIA further categorizes active participants as either core or casual participants based on frequency of participation. Core participants have higher participatory frequency than casual participants. The thresholds that define casual versus core participation may vary based on the nature of each individual activity. For instance, core participants engage in most fitness activities more than fifty times per year, while for sports, the threshold for core participation is typically 13 times per year.

In each activity, core participants are more committed and tend to be less likely to switch to other activities or become inactive (engage in no physical activity) than casual participants. This may also explain why activities with more core participants tend to experience less pattern shifts in participation rates than those with larger groups of casual participants. Increasing for the fifth straight year, 158.1 million people were considered CORE participants in 2022.



Participation by Generation

The following chart shows 2022 participation rates by generation. Fitness sports continue to be the go-to means of exercise for Boomers, Gen X, and Millennials. Over half of the Gen X, Millennials, and Gen Z generation participated in one type of outdoor activity. Team sports were heavily dominated by generation Gen Z and nearly a third of Gen X also participated in individual sports such as golf, trail running, triathlons, and bowling.



Highlights

Team sports are continuing to recover due to shutdowns during the pandemic. Team sports participation rate increased to 23.2% which is near 2019 participation levels. Pickleball continues to be the fastest growing sport in America by doubling its participation in 2022. Following the popularity of pickleball, every racquet sport also increased in total participation in 2022.

Americans continued to practice yoga, attend Pilates training, workout with kettlebells, started indoor climbing, and while others took to the hiking trail. The waterways traffic had an increase of stand-up paddlers, kayaks, and jet skis. Gymnastics, swimming on a team, court volleyball, and fast-pitch softball benefited from the participation boom created from the Olympics.

Water sports had the largest gain in participation rates. Activities such as jet skiing, scuba diving, and boardsailing/windsurfing all contributed to the 7% increase. Outdoor sports continued to grow with 55% percent of the U.S. population participating. This rate remains higher than pre-pandemic levels with a 51% participation rate in 2019. The largest contributor to this gain was trail running, having a 45% increase over the last five years.

NATIONAL TRENDS IN GENERAL SPORTS

Participation Levels

The top sports most heavily participated in the United States were basketball (28.1 million), golf (25.6 million), and tennis (23.6 million) which have participation figures well more than the other activities within the general sports category. Baseball (15.5 million), and outdoor soccer (13.0 million) round out the top five.

The popularity of basketball, golf, and tennis can be attributed to the ability to compete with small number of participants, this coupled with an ability to be played outdoors and/or properly distanced helps explain their popularity during the COVID-19 pandemic. Basketball's overall success can also be attributed to the limited amount of equipment needed to participate and the limited space requirements necessary, which make basketball the only traditional sport that can be played at most American dwellings as a drive-way pickup game. Golf continues to benefit from its wide age segment appeal and is considered a life-long sport. In addition, target-type game venues or golf entertainment venues have increased drastically (86.2%) as a 5-year trend, using golf entertainment (e.g., Top Golf) as a new alternative to breathe life back into the game of golf.



BASKETBALL
28.1 MILLION



GOLF
25.6 MILLION



TENNIS
23.6 MILLION



GOLF VENUE
15.5 MILLION



BASEBALL
15.5 MILLION

Five-Year Trend

Since 2017, pickleball (185.7%), golf - entertainment venues (86.2%), and tennis (33.4%) have shown the largest increase in participation. Similarly, basketball (20.3%) and outdoor soccer (9.2%) have also experienced significant growth. Based on the five-year trend from 2017-2022, the sports that are most rapidly declining in participation include ultimate frisbee (-31.5%), rugby (-28.1%), and roller hockey (-25.4%).

One-Year Trend

The most recent year shares some similarities with the five-year trends; with pickleball (85.7%) and golf - entertainment venues (25.7%) experiencing some of the greatest increases in participation this past year. Other top one-year increases include racquetball (8.0%), badminton (7.1%), and gymnastics (7.1%).

Sports that have seen moderate 1-year increases, but 5-year decreases are racquetball (8.0%), gymnastics (7.1%), and court volleyball (4.2%). This could be a result of coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic and team program participation on the rise. Similar to their 5-year trend, rugby (-5.8%), roller hockey (-4.0%), and ultimate frisbee (-2.2%) have seen decreases in participation over the last year.

Core vs. Casual Trends in General Sports

General sport activities, basketball, court volleyball, and slow pitch softball have a larger core participant base (participating 13+ times per year) than casual participant base (participating 1-12 times per year). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, most activities showed a decrease in their percentage of core participants. However, there were significant increases in the percentage of casual participation for basketball, baseball, pickleball, outdoor soccer, flag football, badminton, and indoor soccer in the past year.

National Participatory Trends - General Sports					
Activity	Participation Levels			% Change	
	2017	2021	2022	5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
Basketball	23,401	27,135	28,149	20.3%	3.7%
Golf (9 or 18-Hole Course)	23,829	25,111	25,566	7.3%	1.8%
Tennis	17,683	22,617	23,595	33.4%	4.3%
Golf (Entertainment Venue)	8,345	12,362	15,540	86.2%	25.7%
Baseball	15,642	15,587	15,478	-1.0%	-0.7%
Soccer (Outdoor)	11,924	12,556	13,018	9.2%	3.7%
Pickleball	3,132	4,819	8,949	185.7%	85.7%
Football (Flag)	6,551	6,889	7,104	8.4%	3.1%
Badminton	6,430	6,061	6,490	0.9%	7.1%
Volleyball (Court)	6,317	5,849	6,092	-3.6%	4.2%
Softball (Slow Pitch)	7,283	6,008	6,036	-17.1%	0.5%
Soccer (Indoor)	5,399	5,408	5,495	1.8%	1.6%
Football (Tackle)	5,224	5,228	5,436	4.1%	4.0%
Football (Touch)	5,629	4,884	4,843	-14.0%	-0.8%
Gymnastics	4,805	4,268	4,569	-4.9%	7.1%
Volleyball (Sand/Beach)	4,947	4,184	4,128	-16.6%	-1.3%
Track and Field	4,161	3,587	3,690	-11.3%	2.9%
Racquetball	3,526	3,260	3,521	-0.1%	8.0%
Cheerleading	3,816	3,465	3,507	-8.1%	1.2%
Ice Hockey	2,544	2,306	2,278	-10.5%	-1.2%
Softball (Fast Pitch)	2,309	2,088	2,146	-7.1%	2.8%
Ultimate Frisbee	3,126	2,190	2,142	-31.5%	-2.2%
Wrestling	1,896	1,937	2,036	7.4%	5.1%
Lacrosse	2,171	1,892	1,875	-13.6%	-0.9%
Roller Hockey	1,834	1,425	1,368	-25.4%	-4.0%
Squash	1,492	1,185	1,228	-17.7%	3.6%
Rugby	1,621	1,238	1,166	-28.1%	-5.8%
NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over					
Participation Growth/Decline:					
	Large Increase (greater than 25%)	Moderate Increase (0% to 25%)	Moderate Decrease (0% to -25%)	Large Decrease (less than -25%)	

NATIONAL TRENDS IN GENERAL FITNESS

Participation levels

Overall, national participatory trends in fitness have experienced growth in recent years. Many of these activities have become popular due to an increased interest among Americans to improve their health and enhance quality of life by engaging in an active lifestyle. The most popular general fitness activities in 2022 also were those that could be done at home or in a virtual class environment. The activities with the most participation was walking for fitness (114.8 million), treadmill (53.6 million), free weights (53.1 million), running/jogging (47.8 million), and yoga (33.6 million).



Five-Year Trend

Over the last five years (2017-2022), the activities growing at the highest rate were trail running (44.9%), yoga (23.0%), Pilates training (14.0%) and dance, step & choreographed exercise. Over the same period, the activities that have undergone the biggest decline in participation include group stationary cycling (-33.4%), cross-training style workout (-32.1%) and non-traditional/off road triathlons (-28.1%).

One-Year Trend

In the last year, fitness activities with the largest gains in participation were group-related activities, cardio kickboxing (8.5%), Pilates training (5.8%), and group stationary cycling (5.5%). This 1-year trend is another indicator that participants feel safe returning to group-related activities. Trail running (5.9%) also saw a moderate increase indicating trail connectivity to continue to be important for communities to provide. In the same span, fitness activities that had the largest decline in participation were cross-training style workout (-5.3%), bodyweight exercise (-2.6%) and running/jogging (-2.4%).

Core vs. Casual Trends in General Fitness

Participants of walking for fitness are mostly core users (participating 50+ times) and have seen a 1.5% growth in the last five years.

National Participatory Trends - General Fitness					
Activity	Participation Levels			% Change	
	2017	2021	2022	5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
Walking for Fitness	110,805	115,814	114,759	3.6%	-0.9%
Treadmill	52,966	53,627	53,589	1.2%	-0.1%
Free Weights (Dumbbells/Hand Weights)	52,217	52,636	53,140	1.8%	1.0%
Running/Jogging	50,770	48,977	47,816	-5.8%	-2.4%
Yoga	27,354	34,347	33,636	23.0%	-2.1%
Stationary Cycling (Recumbent/Upright)	36,035	32,453	32,102	-10.9%	-1.1%
Weight/Resistant Machines	36,291	30,577	30,010	-17.3%	-1.9%
Free Weights (Barbells)	27,444	28,243	28,678	4.5%	1.5%
Elliptical Motion/Cross-Trainer	32,283	27,618	27,051	-16.2%	-2.1%
Dance, Step, & Choreographed Exercise	22,616	24,752	25,163	11.3%	1.7%
Bodyweight Exercise	24,454	22,629	22,034	-9.9%	-2.6%
High Impact/Intensity Training	21,476	21,973	21,821	1.6%	-0.7%
Trail Running	9,149	12,520	13,253	44.9%	5.9%
Rowing Machine	11,707	11,586	11,893	1.6%	2.6%
Stair Climbing Machine	14,948	11,786	11,677	-21.9%	-0.9%
Pilates Training	9,047	9,745	10,311	14.0%	5.8%
Cross-Training Style Workout	13,622	9,764	9,248	-32.1%	-5.3%
Martial Arts	5,838	6,186	6,355	8.9%	2.7%
Stationary Cycling (Group)	9,409	5,939	6,268	-33.4%	5.5%
Cardio Kickboxing	6,693	5,099	5,531	-17.4%	8.5%
Boxing for Fitness	5,157	5,237	5,472	6.1%	4.5%
Boot Camp Style Cross-Training	6,651	5,169	5,192	-21.9%	0.4%
Barre	3,436	3,659	3,803	10.7%	3.9%
Tai Chi	3,787	3,393	3,394	-10.4%	0.0%
Triathlon (Traditional/Road)	2,162	1,748	1,780	-17.7%	1.8%
Triathlon (Non-Traditional/Off Road)	1,878	1,304	1,350	-28.1%	3.5%
NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over					
Participation Growth/Decline: Large Increase (greater than 25%) Moderate Increase (0% to 25%) Moderate Decrease (0% to -25%) Large Decrease (less than -25%)					

NATIONAL TRENDS IN OUTDOOR/ADVENTURE RECREATION

Participation levels

Results from the SFIA report demonstrate rapid growth in participation regarding outdoor/adventure recreation activities. Much like general fitness activities, these activities encourage an active lifestyle, can be performed individually, and are not as limited by time constraints. In 2022, the most popular activities, in terms of total participants include day hiking (59.5 million), road bicycling (43.6 million), freshwater fishing (41.8 million), camping (37.4 million), and wildlife viewing (20.6 million).



DAY HIKING

59.6 MILLION



ROAD BICYCLING

43.6 MILLION



FRESHWATER FISHING

41.8 MILLION



CAMPING

37.4 MILLION



WILDLIFE VIEWING

20.6 MILLION

Five-year trend

From 2017-2022, sport/bouldering (174.8%), camping (42.5%), skateboarding (41.3%), day hiking (32.7%), birdwatching (28.6%) has undergone large increases in participation. The five-year trend also shows activities such as indoor climbing (-51.4%), adventure racing (-32.2%) to be the only activities with double-digit decreases in participation.

One-year trend

The one-year trend shows most activities growing in participation from the previous year. The most rapid growth being in sport/boulder climbing (151.1%), BMX bicycling (8.3%), birdwatching (6.8%), and in-line roller skating (4.7%). Over the last year, the only activities that underwent decreases in participation were indoor climbing (-56.9%), adventure racing (-6.1%), and overnight backpacking (-0.9%).

Core vs. casual trends in outdoor / Adventure recreation

Most outdoor activities have experienced participation growth in the last five-years. Although this is a positive trend, it should be noted that all outdoor activities participation, besides adventure racing, consist primarily of casual users. *Please see **Appendix A** for the full core vs. casual participation breakdown.*

National Participatory Trends - Outdoor / Adventure Recreation					
Activity	Participation Levels			% Change	
	2017	2021	2022	5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
Hiking (Day)	44,900	58,697	59,578	32.7%	1.5%
Bicycling (Road)	38,866	42,775	43,554	12.1%	1.8%
Fishing (Freshwater)	38,346	40,853	41,821	9.1%	2.4%
Camping	26,262	35,985	37,431	42.5%	4.0%
Wildlife Viewing (>1/4 mile of Vehicle/Home)	20,351	20,452	20,615	1.3%	0.8%
Camping (Recreational Vehicle)	16,159	16,371	16,840	4.2%	2.9%
Birdwatching (>1/4 mile of Vehicle/Home)	12,296	14,815	15,818	28.6%	6.8%
Fishing (Saltwater)	13,062	13,790	14,344	9.8%	4.0%
Backpacking Overnight	10,975	10,306	10,217	-6.9%	-0.9%
Skateboarding	6,382	8,747	9,019	41.3%	3.1%
Bicycling (Mountain)	8,609	8,693	8,916	3.6%	2.6%
Fishing (Fly)	6,791	7,458	7,631	12.4%	2.3%
Archery	7,769	7,342	7,428	-4.4%	1.2%
Climbing (Sport/Boulder)	2,103	2,301	5,778	174.8%	151.1%
Roller Skating, In-Line	5,268	4,940	5,173	-1.8%	4.7%
Bicycling (BMX)	3,413	3,861	4,181	22.5%	8.3%
Climbing (Indoor)	5,045	5,684	2,452	-51.4%	-56.9%
Climbing (Traditional/Ice/Mountaineering)	2,527	2,374	2,452	-3.0%	3.3%
Adventure Racing	2,529	1,826	1,714	-32.2%	-6.1%
NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over					
Participation Growth/Decline:	Large Increase (greater than 25%)	Moderate Increase (0% to 25%)	Moderate Decrease (0% to -25%)	Large Decrease (less than -25%)	

NATIONAL TRENDS IN AQUATICS

Participation Levels

Swimming is deemed a lifetime activity, which is why it continues to have such strong participation. In 2022, fitness swimming remained the overall leader in participation (26.3 million) amongst aquatic activities.



Five-year trend

Assessing the five-year trend, fitness swimming (-3.2%) and swimming on a team (-3.4%) experienced moderate decreases due to the accessibility of facilities during COVID-19. While aquatic exercise (2.1%) saw a slight increase in participation during this same time period.

One-year Trend

In 2022, all aquatic activities saw moderate increases in participation which can be asserted to facilities and programs returning to pre-COVID-19 pandemic levels. Swimming on a team (2.8%), aquatic exercise (2.7%) and fitness swimming (2.5%) saw moderate increases in participation.

Core vs. Casual Trends in Aquatics

All activities in aquatic trends have undergone an increase in casual participation (1-49 times per year) over the last five years.

National Participatory Trends - Aquatics					
Activity	Participation Levels			% Change	
	2017	2021	2022	5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
Swimming (Fitness)	27,135	25,620	26,272	-3.2%	2.5%
Aquatic Exercise	10,459	10,400	10,676	2.1%	2.7%
Swimming on a Team	3,007	2,824	2,904	-3.4%	2.8%
NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over					
Participation Growth/Decline:	Large Increase (greater than 25%)	Moderate Increase (0% to 25%)	Moderate Decrease (0% to -25%)	Large Decrease (less than -25%)	

NATIONAL TRENDS IN WATER SPORTS/ACTIVITIES

Participation Level

The most popular water sports / activities based on total participants in 2022 were recreational kayaking (13.6 million), canoeing (9.5 million), and snorkeling (7.4 million). It should be noted that water activity participation tends to vary based on regional, seasonal, and environmental factors. A region with more water access and a warmer climate is more likely to have a higher participation rate in water activities than a region that has a long winter season or limited water access. Therefore, when assessing trends in water sports and activities, it is important to understand that fluctuations may be the result of environmental barriers which can influence water activity participation.



Five-Year Trend

Over the last five years, surfing (37.8%), recreational kayaking (28.7%), stand-up paddling (13.6%) and white-water kayaking (9.0%) were the fastest growing water activities. From 2017-2022, activities declining in participation were water skiing (-14.9%), snorkeling (-12.0%), boardsailing/windsurfing (-11.6%), and sea/touring kayaking (10.6%).

One-Year Trend

In 2022, water skiing (-0.6%) was the only water activity to see a decrease in participation. Activities which experienced the largest increases in participation in the most recent year include jet skiing (7.6%), scuba diving (7.4%), boardsailing/windsurfing (7.2%), and surfing (6.6%).

Core vs. Casual Trends in Water Sports / Activities

As mentioned previously, regional, seasonal, and environmental limiting factors may influence the participation rate of water sport and activities. These factors may also explain why all water-based activities have drastically more casual participants than core participants, since frequencies of activities may be constrained by uncontrollable factors.

National Participatory Trends - Water Sports / Activities					
Activity	Participation Levels			% Change	
	2017	2021	2022	5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
Kayaking (Recreational)	10,533	13,351	13,561	28.7%	1.6%
Canoeing	9,220	9,199	9,521	3.3%	3.5%
Snorkeling	8,384	7,316	7,376	-12.0%	0.8%
Jet Skiing	5,418	5,062	5,445	0.5%	7.6%
Stand-Up Paddling	3,325	3,739	3,777	13.6%	1.0%
Surfing	2,680	3,463	3,692	37.8%	6.6%
Sailing	3,974	3,463	3,632	-8.6%	4.9%
Rafting	3,479	3,383	3,595	3.3%	6.3%
Water Skiing	3,572	3,058	3,040	-14.9%	-0.6%
Wakeboarding	3,005	2,674	2,754	-8.4%	3.0%
Kayaking (White Water)	2,500	2,587	2,726	9.0%	5.4%
Scuba Diving	2,874	2,476	2,658	-7.5%	7.4%
Kayaking (Sea/Touring)	2,955	2,587	2,642	-10.6%	2.1%
Boardsailing/Windsurfing	1,573	1,297	1,391	-11.6%	7.2%
NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over					
Participation Growth/Decline:	Large Increase (greater than 25%)	Moderate Increase (0% to 25%)	Moderate Decrease (0% to -25%)	Large Decrease (less than -25%)	

DETAILED OUTDOOR RECREATION PARTICIPATION RATES

Below are the findings from the recently completed *2021 Outdoor Recreation Participation Report*, conducted in 2022 by the Outdoor Industry Foundation, used to justify this PROST Plan's Outdoor Recreation Recommendations (found on page 22). The results are shown in the table below. Participation is measured in millions of people and percentage of total U.S. population.

Activity	Participation (millions)	Percent of Population
Running, Jogging and Trail Running	63.8	21.0%
Hiking	57.8	19.0%
Freshwater, Saltwater and Flyfishing	54.7	18.0%
Road Biking, Mountain Biking and BMX	52.7	17.3%
Car, Backyard, Backpacking and RV Camping	47.9	15.8%

The tables below detail the most popular outdoor activities by personal income and age segment.

Interest Level	Under \$25,000	\$25,000-\$49,000	\$50,000-\$74,999	\$75,000-\$99,999	\$100,000+
1	Fishing	Fishing	Hiking	Hiking	Hiking
2	Hiking	Hiking	Fishing	Working out w/weights	Working out w/weights
3	Camping	Camping	Camping	Fishing	Yoga
4	Working out w/weights	Working out w/weights	Working out w/weights	Cardio Fitness	Cardio Fitness
5	Yoga	Yoga	Cardio Fitness	Working out w/ machines	Working out w/ machines

Interest Level	Ages 6-12	Ages 13-17	Ages 18-24	Ages 25-34	Ages 35-44	Ages 45-54	Ages 55-64	Ages 65+
1	Basketball	Basketball	Running	Running	Hiking	Hiking	Hiking	Fishing
2	Soccer	Fishing	Yoga	Hiking	Yoga	Fishing	Fishing	Hiking
3	Fishing	Running	Hiking	Cardio Fitness	Camping	Working out w/weights	Working out w/weights	Working out w/machines
4	Camping	Camping	Working out w/weights	Yoga	Cardio Fitness	Camping	Working out w/machines	Working out w/weights
5	Baseball	Hiking	Cardio Fitness	Working out w/weights	Working out w/weights	Cardio Fitness	Cardio Fitness	Swimming for Fitness

Core vs. Casual Participation Trends – Full Trends Data

GENERAL SPORTS

National Core vs Casual Participatory Trends - General Sports								
Activity	Participation Levels						% Change	
	2017		2021		2022		5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
	#	%	#	%	#	%		
Basketball	23,401	100%	27,135	100%	28,149	100%	20.3%	3.7%
Casual (1-12 times)	8,546	37%	11,019	41%	13,000	46%	52.1%	18.0%
Core(13+ times)	14,856	63%	16,019	59%	15,149	54%	2.0%	-5.4%
Golf (9 or 18-Hole Course)	23,829	100%	25,111	100%	25,566	100%	7.3%	1.8%
Tennis	17,683	100%	22,617	100%	23,595	100%	33.4%	4.3%
Golf (Entertainment Venue)	8,345	100%	12,362	100%	15,540	100%	86.2%	25.7%
Baseball	15,642	100%	15,587	100%	15,478	100%	-1.0%	-0.7%
Casual (1-12 times)	6,405	41%	7,392	47%	7,908	51%	23.5%	7.0%
Core (13+ times)	9,238	59%	8,195	53%	7,570	49%	-18.1%	-7.6%
Soccer (Outdoor)	11,924	100%	12,556	100%	13,018	100%	9.2%	3.7%
Casual (1-25 times)	6,665	56%	7,586	60%	7,666	59%	15.0%	1.1%
Core (26+ times)	5,259	44%	4,970	40%	5,352	41%	1.8%	7.7%
Pickleball	3,132	100%	4,819	100%	8,949	100%	185.7%	85.7%
Casual (1-12 times)	1,923	61%	3,454	72%	6,647	74%	245.7%	92.4%
Core(13+ times)	1,210	39%	1,365	28%	2,302	26%	90.2%	68.6%
Football (Flag)	6,551	100%	6,889	100%	7,104	100%	8.4%	3.1%
Casual (1-12 times)	3,572	55%	4,137	60%	4,573	64%	28.0%	10.5%
Core(13+ times)	2,979	45%	2,752	40%	2,531	36%	-15.0%	-8.0%
Core Age 6 to 17 (13+ times)	1,565	24%	1,574	23%	1,552	22%	-0.8%	-1.4%
Badminton	6,430	100%	6,061	100%	6,490	100%	0.9%	7.1%
Casual (1-12 times)	4,564	71%	4,251	70%	4,636	71%	1.6%	9.1%
Core(13+ times)	1,867	29%	1,810	30%	1,855	29%	-0.6%	2.5%
Volleyball (Court)	6,317	100%	5,849	100%	6,092	100%	-3.6%	4.2%
Casual (1-12 times)	2,939	47%	2,465	42%	2,798	46%	-4.8%	13.5%
Core(13+ times)	3,378	53%	3,384	58%	3,293	54%	-2.5%	-2.7%
Softball (Slow Pitch)	7,283	100%	6,008	100%	6,036	100%	-17.1%	0.5%
Casual (1-12 times)	3,060	42%	2,729	45%	2,666	44%	-12.9%	-2.3%
Core(13+ times)	4,223	58%	3,279	55%	3,370	56%	-20.2%	2.8%
Soccer (Indoor)	5,399	100%	5,408	100%	5,495	100%	1.8%	1.6%
Casual (1-12 times)	2,657	49%	3,054	56%	3,144	57%	18.3%	2.9%
Core(13+ times)	2,742	51%	2,354	44%	2,351	43%	-14.3%	-0.1%
Football (Tackle)	5,224	100%	5,228	100%	5,436	100%	4.1%	4.0%
Casual (1-25 times)	2,145	41%	2,642	51%	3,120	57%	45.5%	18.1%
Core(26+ times)	3,078	59%	2,586	49%	2,316	43%	-24.8%	-10.4%
Core Age 6 to 17 (26+ times)	2,427	46%	2,110	40%	2,088	38%	-14.0%	-1.0%
Football (Touch)	5,629	100%	4,884	100%	4,843	100%	-14.0%	-0.8%
Casual (1-12 times)	3,332	59%	3,171	65%	3,201	66%	-3.9%	0.9%
Core(13+ times)	2,297	41%	1,713	35%	1,642	34%	-28.5%	-4.1%
Gymnastics	4,805	100%	4,268	100%	4,569	100%	-4.9%	7.1%
Casual (1-49 times)	3,139	65%	2,787	65%	3,095	68%	-1.4%	11.1%
Core(50+ times)	1,666	35%	1,482	35%	1,473	32%	-11.6%	-0.6%
Volleyball (Sand/Beach)	4,947	100%	4,184	100%	4,128	100%	-16.6%	-1.3%
Casual (1-12 times)	3,544	72%	2,918	70%	2,977	72%	-16.0%	2.0%
Core(13+ times)	1,403	28%	1,265	30%	1,152	28%	-17.9%	-8.9%
Track and Field	4,161	100%	3,587	100%	3,690	100%	-11.3%	2.9%
Casual (1-25 times)	2,040	49%	1,712	48%	1,896	51%	-7.1%	10.7%
Core(26+ times)	2,121	51%	1,875	52%	1,794	49%	-15.4%	-4.3%
Racquetball	3,526	100%	3,260	100%	3,521	100%	-0.1%	8.0%
Casual (1-12 times)	2,451	70%	2,270	70%	2,583	73%	5.4%	13.8%
Core(13+ times)	1,075	30%	990	30%	938	27%	-12.7%	-5.3%

GENERAL SPORTS (CONTINUED)

National Core vs Casual Participatory Trends - General Sports								
Activity	Participation Levels						% Change	
	2017		2021		2022		5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
	#	%	#	%	#	%		
Cheerleading	3,816	100%	3,465	100%	3,507	100%	-8.1%	1.2%
Casual (1-25 times)	2,164	57%	2,030	59%	2,092	60%	-3.3%	3.1%
Core(26+ times)	1,653	43%	1,435	41%	1,415	40%	-14.4%	-1.4%
Ice Hockey	2,544	100%	2,306	100%	2,278	100%	-10.5%	-1.2%
Casual (1-12 times)	1,227	48%	1,206	52%	1,209	53%	-1.5%	0.2%
Core(13+ times)	1,317	52%	1,101	48%	1,068	47%	-18.9%	-3.0%
Softball (Fast Pitch)	2,309	100%	2,088	100%	2,146	100%	-7.1%	2.8%
Casual (1-25 times)	1,077	47%	934	45%	1,002	47%	-7.0%	7.3%
Core(26+ times)	1,232	53%	1,154	55%	1,144	53%	-7.1%	-0.9%
Ultimate Frisbee	3,126	100%	2,190	100%	2,142	100%	-31.5%	-2.2%
Casual (1-12 times)	2,270	73%	1,441	66%	1,438	67%	-36.7%	-0.2%
Core(13+ times)	856	27%	749	34%	703	33%	-17.9%	-6.1%
Wrestling	1,896	100%	1,937	100%	2,036	100%	7.4%	5.1%
Casual (1-25 times)	1,179	62%	1,290	67%	1,452	71%	23.2%	12.6%
Core(26+ times)	717	38%	647	33%	585	29%	-18.4%	-9.6%
Lacrosse	2,171	100%	1,892	100%	1,875	100%	-13.6%	-0.9%
Casual (1-12 times)	1,142	53%	1,009	53%	999	53%	-12.5%	-1.0%
Core(13+ times)	1,030	47%	883	47%	876	47%	-15.0%	-0.8%
Roller Hockey	1,834	100%	1,425	100%	1,368	100%	-25.4%	-4.0%
Casual (1-12 times)	1,419	77%	1,088	76%	1,065	78%	-24.9%	-2.1%
Core(13+ times)	415	23%	337	24%	303	22%	-27.0%	-10.1%
Squash	1,492	100%	1,185	100%	1,228	100%	-17.7%	3.6%
Casual (1-7 times)	1,044	70%	720	61%	816	66%	-21.8%	13.3%
Core(8+ times)	447	30%	466	39%	413	34%	-7.6%	-11.4%
Rugby	1,621	100%	1,238	100%	1,166	100%	-28.1%	-5.8%
Casual (1-7 times)	1,097	68%	778	63%	758	65%	-30.9%	-2.6%
Core(8+ times)	524	32%	460	37%	408	35%	-22.1%	-11.3%
NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over								
Participation Growth/Decline:	Large Increase (greater than 25%)		Moderate Increase (0% to 25%)		Moderate Decrease (0% to -25%)		Large Decrease (less than -25%)	
Core vs Casual Distribution:	Evenly Divided between Core and Casual Participants (45-55%)		Moderate Amount of Participants (56-74%)		Majority Amount of Participants (75% or greater)			

GENERAL FITNESS

National Participatory Trends - General Fitness								
Activity	Participation Levels						% Change	
	2017		2021		2022		5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
	#	%	#	%	#	%		
Walking for Fitness	110,805	100%	115,814	100%	114,759	100%	3.6%	-0.9%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	35,326	32%	39,036	34%	38,115	33%	7.9%	-2.4%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	75,479	68%	76,778	66%	76,644	67%	1.5%	-0.2%
Treadmill	52,966	100%	53,627	100%	53,589	100%	1.2%	-0.1%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	24,444	46%	25,353	47%	26,401	49%	8.0%	4.1%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	28,523	54%	28,274	53%	27,189	51%	-4.7%	-3.8%
Free Weights (Dumbbells/Hand Weights)	52,217	100%	52,636	100%	53,140	100%	1.8%	1.0%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	18,866	36%	21,560	41%	22,428	42%	18.9%	4.0%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	33,351	64%	31,076	59%	30,712	58%	-7.9%	-1.2%
Running/Jogging	50,770	100%	48,977	100%	47,816	100%	-5.8%	-2.4%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	24,004	47%	23,441	48%	23,776	50%	-0.9%	1.4%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	26,766	53%	25,537	52%	24,040	50%	-10.2%	-5.9%
Yoga	27,354	100%	34,347	100%	33,636	100%	23.0%	-2.1%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	16,454	60%	20,110	59%	20,409	61%	24.0%	1.5%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	10,900	40%	14,237	41%	13,228	39%	21.4%	-7.1%
Stationary Cycling (Recumbent/Upright)	36,035	100%	32,453	100%	32,102	100%	-10.9%	-1.1%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	18,447	51%	15,124	47%	15,424	48%	-16.4%	2.0%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	17,588	49%	17,330	53%	16,678	52%	-5.2%	-3.8%
Weight/Resistant Machines	36,291	100%	30,577	100%	30,010	100%	-17.3%	-1.9%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	14,496	40%	11,953	39%	12,387	41%	-14.5%	3.6%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	21,795	60%	18,624	61%	17,623	59%	-19.1%	-5.4%
Free Weights (Barbells)	27,444	100%	28,243	100%	28,678	100%	4.5%	1.5%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	10,868	40%	12,649	45%	13,576	47%	24.9%	7.3%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	16,576	60%	15,595	55%	15,103	53%	-8.9%	-3.2%
Elliptical Motion/Cross-Trainer	32,283	100%	27,618	100%	27,051	100%	-16.2%	-2.1%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	15,854	49%	14,156	51%	14,968	55%	-5.6%	5.7%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	16,430	51%	13,461	49%	12,083	45%	-26.5%	-10.2%
Dance, Step, & Choreographed Exercise	22,616	100%	24,752	100%	25,163	100%	11.3%	1.7%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	14,867	66%	16,622	67%	17,096	68%	15.0%	2.9%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	7,748	34%	8,130	33%	8,067	32%	4.1%	-0.8%
Bodyweight Exercise	24,454	100%	22,629	100%	22,034	100%	-9.9%	-2.6%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	10,095	41%	9,915	44%	9,514	43%	-5.8%	-4.0%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	14,359	59%	12,714	56%	12,520	57%	-12.8%	-1.5%
High Impact/Intensity Training	21,476	100%	21,973	100%	21,821	100%	1.6%	-0.7%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	12,105	56%	12,490	57%	12,593	58%	4.0%	0.8%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	9,370	44%	9,483	43%	9,228	42%	-1.5%	-2.7%
Trail Running	9,149	100%	12,520	100%	13,253	100%	44.9%	5.9%
<i>Casual (1-25 times)</i>	7,085	77%	10,052	80%	10,792	81%	52.3%	7.4%
<i>Core(26+ times)</i>	2,064	23%	2,468	20%	2,461	19%	19.2%	-0.3%
Rowing Machine	11,707	100%	11,586	100%	11,893	100%	1.6%	2.6%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	7,276	62%	7,111	61%	7,875	66%	8.2%	10.7%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	4,431	38%	4,475	39%	4,017	34%	-9.3%	-10.2%
Stair Climbing Machine	14,948	100%	11,786	100%	11,677	100%	-21.9%	-0.9%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	9,501	64%	7,332	62%	7,569	65%	-20.3%	3.2%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	5,447	36%	4,453	38%	4,108	35%	-24.6%	-7.7%
Pilates Training	9,047	100%	9,745	100%	10,311	100%	14.0%	5.8%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	5,698	63%	6,611	68%	7,377	72%	29.5%	11.6%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	3,348	37%	3,133	32%	2,935	28%	-12.3%	-6.3%

GENERAL FITNESS (CONTINUED)

National Participatory Trends - General Fitness								
Activity	Participation Levels						% Change	
	2017		2021		2022		5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
	#	%	#	%	#	%		
Cross-Training Style Workout	13,622	100%	9,764	100%	9,248	100%	-32.1%	-5.3%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	6,890	51%	4,179	43%	4,281	46%	-37.9%	2.4%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	6,732	49%	5,585	57%	4,968	54%	-26.2%	-11.0%
Martial Arts	5,838	100%	6,186	100%	6,355	100%	8.9%	2.7%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	2,021	35%	2,728	44%	3,114	49%	54.1%	14.1%
<i>Core(13+ times)</i>	3,816	65%	3,458	56%	3,241	51%	-15.1%	-6.3%
Stationary Cycling (Group)	9,409	100%	5,939	100%	6,268	100%	-33.4%	5.5%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	6,023	64%	3,134	53%	3,925	63%	-34.8%	25.2%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	3,386	36%	2,805	47%	2,344	37%	-30.8%	-16.4%
Cardio Kickboxing	6,693	100%	5,099	100%	5,531	100%	-17.4%	8.5%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	4,671	70%	3,328	65%	3,958	72%	-15.3%	18.9%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	2,022	30%	1,771	35%	1,573	28%	-22.2%	-11.2%
Boxing for Fitness	5,157	100%	5,237	100%	5,472	100%	6.1%	4.5%
<i>Casual (1-12 times)</i>	2,738	53%	2,985	57%	3,383	62%	23.6%	13.3%
<i>Core(13+ times)</i>	2,419	47%	2,252	43%	2,089	38%	-13.6%	-7.2%
Boot Camp Style Cross-Training	6,651	100%	5,169	100%	5,192	100%	-21.9%	0.4%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	4,637	70%	3,461	67%	3,691	71%	-20.4%	6.6%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	2,014	30%	1,709	33%	1,500	29%	-25.5%	-12.2%
Barre	3,436	100%	3,659	100%	3,803	100%	10.7%	3.9%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	2,701	79%	2,822	77%	3,022	79%	11.9%	7.1%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	735	21%	837	23%	781	21%	6.3%	-6.7%
Tai Chi	3,787	100%	3,393	100%	3,394	100%	-10.4%	0.0%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	2,329	61%	2,001	59%	2,139	63%	-8.2%	6.9%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	1,458	39%	1,393	41%	1,255	37%	-13.9%	-9.9%
Triathlon (Traditional/Road)	2,162	100%	1,748	100%	1,780	100%	-17.7%	1.8%
Triathlon (Non-Traditional/Off Road)	1,878	100%	1,304	100%	1,350	100%	-28.1%	3.5%
NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over								
Participation Growth/Decline:	Large Increase (greater than 25%)		Moderate Increase (0% to 25%)		Moderate Decrease (0% to -25%)		Large Decrease (less than -25%)	
Core vs Casual Distribution:	Evenly Divided between Core and Casual Participants (45-55%)		Moderate Amount of Participants (56-74%)		Majority Amount of Participants (75% or greater)			

OUTDOOR/ADVENTURE RECREATION

National Participatory Trends - Outdoor / Adventure Recreation								
Activity	Participation Levels						% Change	
	2017		2021		2022		5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
	#	%	#	%	#	%		
Hiking (Day)	44,900	100%	58,697	100%	59,578	100%	32.7%	1.5%
Casual (1-7 times)	35,068	78%	44,183	75%	44,154	74%	25.9%	-0.1%
Core(8+ times)	9,832	22%	14,514	25%	15,424	26%	56.9%	6.3%
Bicycling (Road)	38,866	100%	42,775	100%	43,554	100%	12.1%	1.8%
Casual (1-25 times)	20,212	52%	22,280	52%	23,278	53%	15.2%	4.5%
Core(26+ times)	18,654	48%	20,495	48%	20,276	47%	8.7%	-1.1%
Fishing (Freshwater)	38,346	100%	40,853	100%	41,821	100%	9.1%	2.4%
Casual (1-7 times)	19,977	52%	22,451	55%	23,430	56%	17.3%	4.4%
Core(8+ times)	18,369	48%	18,403	45%	18,391	44%	0.1%	-0.1%
Camping	26,262	100%	35,985	100%	37,431	100%	42.5%	4.0%
Casual (1-7 times)	19,854	76%	27,590	77%	28,459	76%	43.3%	3.1%
Core(8+ times)	6,409	24%	8,394	23%	8,972	24%	40.0%	6.9%
Wildlife Viewing (>1/4 mile of Vehicle/Home)	20,351	100%	20,452	100%	20,615	100%	1.3%	0.8%
Camping (Recreational Vehicle)	16,159	100%	16,371	100%	16,840	100%	4.2%	2.9%
Casual (1-7 times)	9,332	58%	9,688	59%	10,286	61%	10.2%	6.2%
Core(8+ times)	6,826	42%	6,683	41%	6,553	39%	-4.0%	-1.9%
Birdwatching (>1/4 mile of Vehicle/Home)	12,296	100%	14,815	100%	15,818	100%	28.6%	6.8%
Fishing (Saltwater)	13,062	100%	13,790	100%	14,344	100%	9.8%	4.0%
Casual (1-7 times)	7,625	58%	8,543	62%	9,151	64%	20.0%	7.1%
Core(8+ times)	5,437	42%	5,246	38%	5,192	36%	-4.5%	-1.0%
Backpacking Overnight	10,975	100%	10,306	100%	10,217	100%	-6.9%	-0.9%
Skateboarding	6,382	100%	8,747	100%	9,019	100%	41.3%	3.1%
Casual (1-25 times)	3,970	62%	6,181	71%	6,469	72%	62.9%	4.7%
Core(26+ times)	2,411	38%	2,566	29%	2,559	28%	6.1%	-0.3%
Bicycling (Mountain)	8,609	100%	8,693	100%	8,916	100%	3.6%	2.6%
Casual (1-12 times)	4,389	51%	4,517	52%	4,896	55%	11.6%	8.4%
Core(13+ times)	4,220	49%	4,176	48%	4,020	45%	-4.7%	-3.7%
Fishing (Fly)	6,791	100%	7,458	100%	7,631	100%	12.4%	2.3%
Casual (1-7 times)	4,448	65%	4,762	64%	4,993	65%	12.3%	4.9%
Core(8+ times)	2,344	35%	2,696	36%	2,638	35%	12.5%	-2.2%
Archery	7,769	100%	7,342	100%	7,428	100%	-4.4%	1.2%
Casual (1-25 times)	6,602	85%	6,054	82%	6,202	83%	-6.1%	2.4%
Core(26+ times)	1,167	15%	1,288	18%	1,227	17%	5.1%	-4.7%
Climbing (Sport/Boulder)	2,103	100%	2,301	100%	5,778	100%	174.8%	151.1%
Roller Skating, In-Line	5,268	100%	4,940	100%	5,173	100%	-1.8%	4.7%
Casual (1-12 times)	3,853	73%	3,525	71%	3,763	73%	-2.3%	6.8%
Core(13+ times)	1,415	27%	1,415	29%	1,410	27%	-0.4%	-0.4%
Bicycling (BMX)	3,413	100%	3,861	100%	4,181	100%	22.5%	8.3%
Casual (1-12 times)	2,039	60%	2,466	64%	2,792	67%	36.9%	13.2%
Core(13+ times)	1,374	40%	1,396	36%	1,389	33%	1.1%	-0.5%
Climbing (Indoor)	5,045	100%	5,684	100%	2,452	100%	-51.4%	-56.9%
Climbing (Traditional/Ice/Mountaineering)	2,527	100%	2,374	100%	2,452	100%	-3.0%	3.3%
Adventure Racing	2,529	100%	1,826	100%	1,714	100%	-32.2%	-6.1%
Casual (1 time)	899	36%	312	17%	236	14%	-73.7%	-24.4%
Core(2+ times)	1,630	64%	1,514	83%	1,478	86%	-9.3%	-2.4%
NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over								
Participation Growth/Decline:	Large Increase (greater than 25%)		Moderate Increase (0% to 25%)		Moderate Decrease (0% to -25%)		Large Decrease (less than -25%)	
Core vs Casual Distribution:	Evenly Divided between Core and Casual Participants (45-55%)		Moderate Amount of Participants (56-74%)		Majority Amount of Participants (75% or greater)			

AQUATICS

National Participatory Trends - Aquatics								
Activity	Participation Levels						% Change	
	2017		2021		2022		5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
	#	%	#	%	#	%		
Swimming (Fitness)	27,135	100%	25,620	100%	26,272	100%	-3.2%	2.5%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	18,319	68%	17,598	69%	18,827	72%	2.8%	7.0%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	8,815	32%	8,022	31%	7,445	28%	-15.5%	-7.2%
Aquatic Exercise	10,459	100%	10,400	100%	10,676	100%	2.1%	2.7%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	7,222	69%	8,347	80%	8,626	81%	19.4%	3.3%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	3,237	31%	2,053	20%	2,050	19%	-36.7%	-0.1%
Swimming on a Team	3,007	100%	2,824	100%	2,904	100%	-3.4%	2.8%
<i>Casual (1-49 times)</i>	1,664	55%	1,708	60%	1,916	66%	15.1%	12.2%
<i>Core(50+ times)</i>	1,343	45%	1,116	40%	988	34%	-26.4%	-11.5%
NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over								
Participation Growth/Decline:	Large Increase (greater than 25%)		Moderate Increase (0% to 25%)		Moderate Decrease (0% to -25%)		Large Decrease (less than -25%)	
Core vs Casual Distribution:	Evenly Divided between Core and Casual Participants (45-55%)		Moderate Amount of Participants (56-74%)		Majority Amount of Participants (75% or greater)			

WATER SPORTS/ACTIVITIES

National Participatory Trends - Water Sports / Activities								
Activity	Participation Levels						% Change	
	2017		2021		2022		5-Year Trend	1-Year Trend
	#	%	#	%	#	%		
Kayaking (Recreational)	10,533	100%	13,351	100%	13,561	100%	28.7%	1.6%
Canoeing	9,220	100%	9,199	100%	9,521	100%	3.3%	3.5%
Snorkeling	8,384	100%	7,316	100%	7,376	100%	-12.0%	0.8%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	6,721	80%	5,989	82%	6,005	81%	-10.7%	0.3%
<i>Core(8+ times)</i>	1,663	20%	1,326	18%	1,371	19%	-17.6%	3.4%
Jet Skiing	5,418	100%	5,062	100%	5,445	100%	0.5%	7.6%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	3,928	72%	3,780	75%	4,151	76%	5.7%	9.8%
<i>Core(8+ times)</i>	1,490	28%	1,281	25%	1,294	24%	-13.2%	1.0%
Stand-Up Paddling	3,325	100%	3,739	100%	3,777	100%	13.6%	1.0%
Surfing	2,680	100%	3,463	100%	3,692	100%	37.8%	6.6%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	1,705	64%	2,158	62%	2,444	66%	43.3%	13.3%
<i>Core(8+ times)</i>	975	36%	1,305	38%	1,248	34%	28.0%	-4.4%
Sailing	3,974	100%	3,463	100%	3,632	100%	-8.6%	4.9%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	2,720	68%	2,418	70%	2,633	72%	-3.2%	8.9%
<i>Core(8+ times)</i>	1,254	32%	1,045	30%	999	28%	-20.3%	-4.4%
Rafting	3,479	100%	3,383	100%	3,595	100%	3.3%	6.3%
Water Skiing	3,572	100%	3,058	100%	3,040	100%	-14.9%	-0.6%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	2,575	72%	2,209	72%	2,185	72%	-15.1%	-1.1%
<i>Core(8+ times)</i>	997	28%	849	28%	855	28%	-14.2%	0.7%
Wakeboarding	3,005	100%	2,674	100%	2,754	100%	-8.4%	3.0%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	2,101	70%	1,902	71%	2,075	75%	-1.2%	9.1%
<i>Core(8+ times)</i>	903	30%	772	29%	679	25%	-24.8%	-12.0%
Kayaking (White Water)	2,500	100%	2,587	100%	2,726	100%	9.0%	5.4%
Scuba Diving	2,874	100%	2,476	100%	2,658	100%	-7.5%	7.4%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	2,113	74%	1,795	72%	2,012	76%	-4.8%	12.1%
<i>Core(8+ times)</i>	761	26%	680	27%	646	24%	-15.1%	-5.0%
Kayaking (Sea/Touring)	2,955	100%	2,587	100%	2,642	100%	-10.6%	2.1%
Boardsailing/Windsurfing	1,573	100%	1,297	100%	1,391	100%	-11.6%	7.2%
<i>Casual (1-7 times)</i>	1,289	82%	1,002	77%	1,103	79%	-14.4%	10.1%
<i>Core(8+ times)</i>	284	18%	295	23%	288	21%	1.4%	-2.4%
NOTE: Participation figures are in 000's for the US population ages 6 and over								
Participation Growth/Decline:	Large Increase (greater than 25%)		Moderate Increase (0% to 25%)		Moderate Decrease (0% to -25%)		Large Decrease (less than -25%)	
Core vs Casual Distribution:	Evenly Divided between Core and Casual Participants (45-55%)		Moderate Amount of Participants (56-74%)		Majority Amount of Participants (75% or greater)			

Appendix B – Community Engagement Results

Statistically Valid Needs Assessment Survey

ETC Institute administered a Parks and Recreation needs assessment survey for the Parks and Recreation Department from April 2024 through June 2024. This survey was used to gather input to help determine parks and recreation priorities for the community as part of the City's efforts in creating its PROST Plan. In this process, it is important for the City to identify future priorities of recreation and parks amenities, as well as facilities that support the programs and activities provided by the Department. Information gathered from the assessment will provide data that will help determine priorities which leaders can use to make decisions that will meet community and resident needs.

METHODOLOGY

ETC Institute mailed a survey packet to a random sample of households in Pocatello. Each survey packet contained a cover letter, a copy of the survey, and a postage-paid return envelope. Residents who received the survey were given the option of returning the survey by mail or completing it online at PocatelloParksAndRecSurvey.org.

After the surveys were mailed, ETC Institute followed up with residents to encourage participation. To prevent people who were not residents of Pocatello from participating, everyone who completed the survey online was required to enter their home address prior to submitting the survey. ETC Institute then matched the addresses that were entered online with the addresses that were originally selected for the random sample. If the address from a survey completed online did not match one of the addresses selected for the sample, the online survey was not included in the final database for this report.

The goal was to collect a minimum of 350 surveys from residents; that goal was met with 582 surveys collected. The overall results for the sample of those 582 surveys have a precision of at least +/- 4.0 at the 95% level of confidence.

The full survey report from ETC Institute is provided as a supplement report to this strategic plan, and it contains the following:

- Executive Summary (Section 1)
- Charts and graphs showing the overall results of the survey (Section 2)
- Priority Investment Ratings (PIR) Analysis that identifies priorities for facilities/ amenities and programs/ activities in the community (Section 3)
- Importance-Satisfaction Ratings (Section 4)
- Tabular Data showing the overall results for all questions on the survey (Section 5)
- Open-ended responses (Section 6)
- A copy of the survey instrument (Section 7)

The major findings of the survey are summarized below and on the following pages.

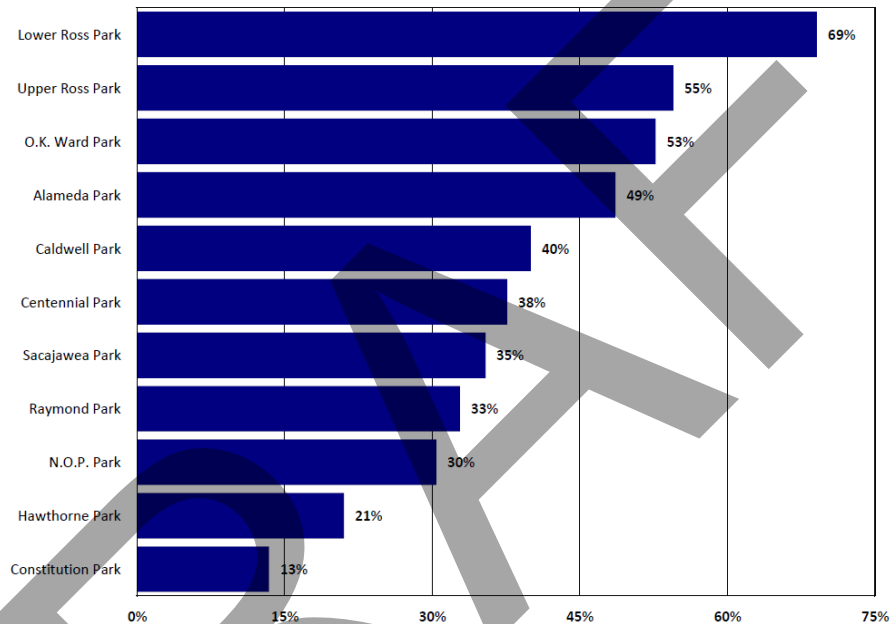
PARKS AND FACILITY USE AND RATINGS

Pocatello Park, Facility, and Greenway/Trail Use

Respondents surveyed were asked, in the last year, if they or members of their household have used any of the parks, facilities, or trails/greenways offered by the Department. Regarding parks, the highest number of respondents (69%) used Lower Ross Park, followed by Upper Ross Park (55%), and O.K. Ward Park (53%). In terms of facilities, most residents used or visited the Ross Park Aquatics Complex (55%), Zoo Idaho (46%), and the East Fork Mink Creek Nordic Center (41%). The most used greenways and/or trails included the City Creek Trail System (60%), the Cheyenne Ave, Eson Fichter, and Beverley Trails group (51%), and the Millward Mile, Sacajawea, and Brennan Trails group (42%).

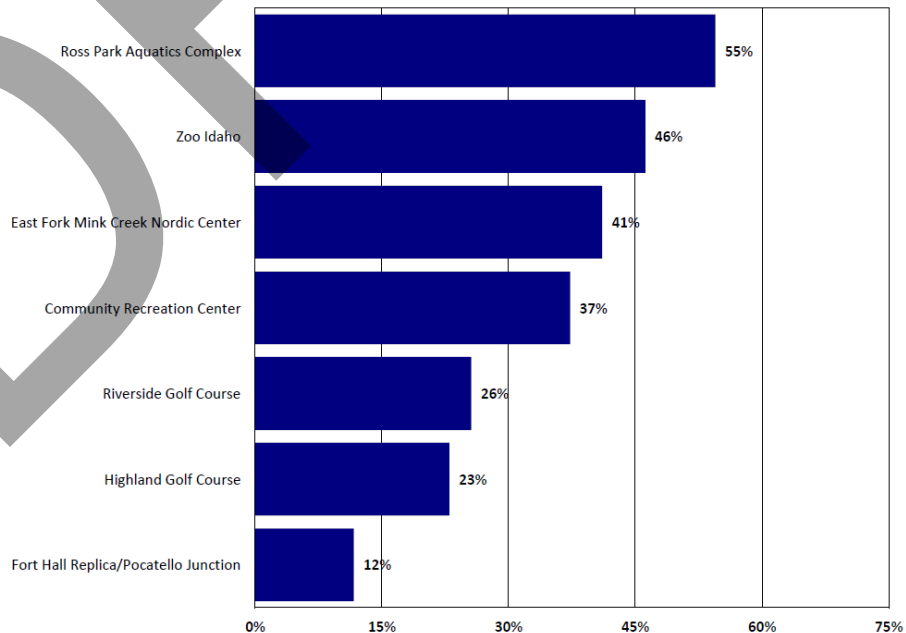
Q1. Use of Parks in the Past 12 Months

by percentage of respondents (multiple selections could be made)



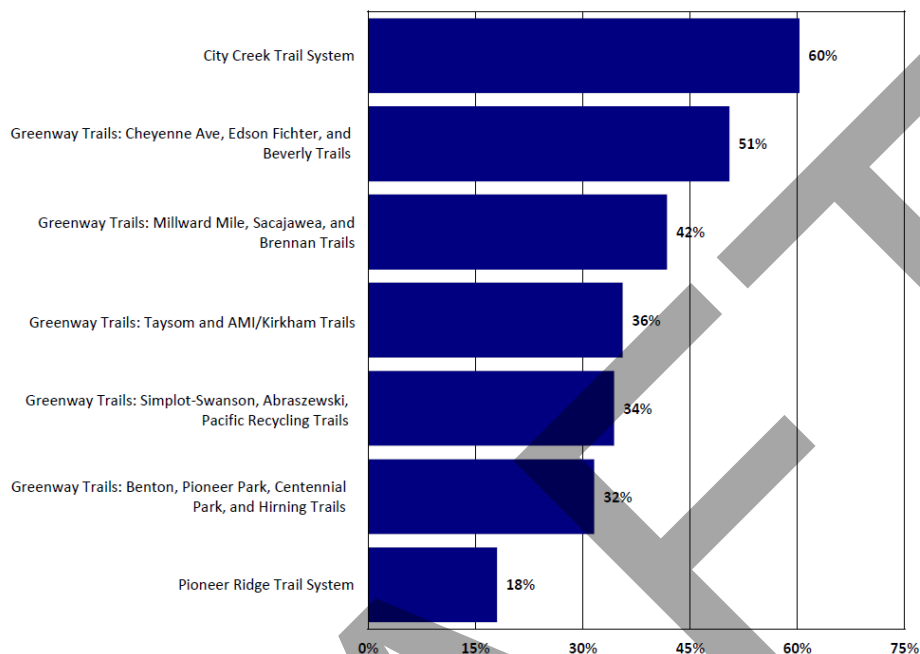
Q1. Use of Facilities in the Past 12 Months

by percentage of respondents (multiple selections could be made)



Q1. Use of Greenways/Trails in the Past 12 Months

by percentage of respondents (multiple selections could be made)

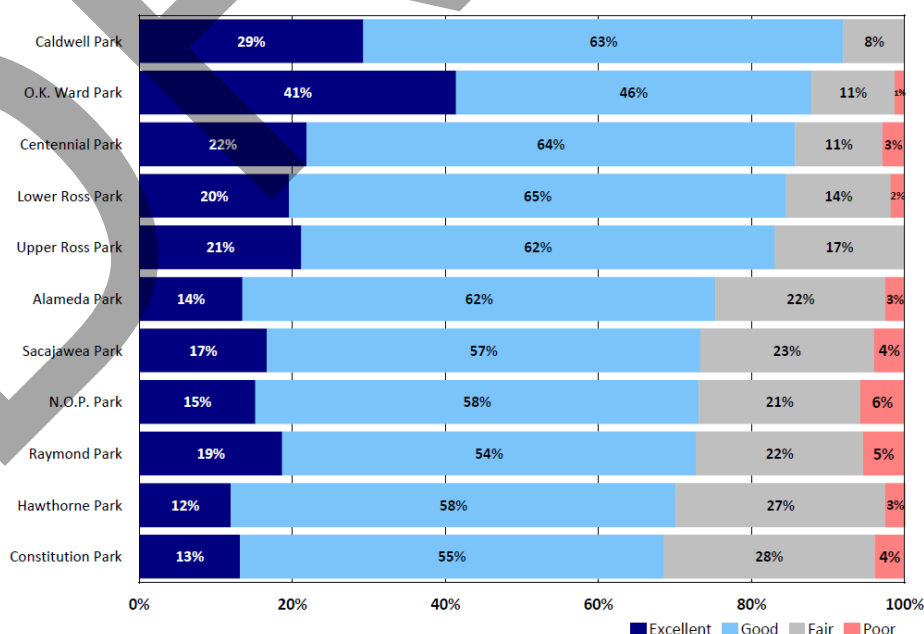


Pocatello Park, Facility, and Greenway/Trail Ratings

Within responses that indicated the respondent had used a park in the last year, the parks scored with the highest condition ratings were Caldwell Park (29% excellent, 63% good), O.K. Ward Park (41% excellent, 46% good), and Centennial Park (22% excellent, 64% good). The highest rated facilities included East Fork Mink Creek Nordic Center (46% excellent, 48% good), Ross Park Aquatic Complex (26% excellent, 56% good), and Highlands Golf Course (32% excellent, 46% good). The highest rated greenways/trails included City Creek Trail System (36% excellent, 52% good), the Cheyenne Ave, Edson Fichter, and Beverly Trails group (33% excellent, 54% good), and the Pioneer Ridge Trail System (33% excellent, 49% good).

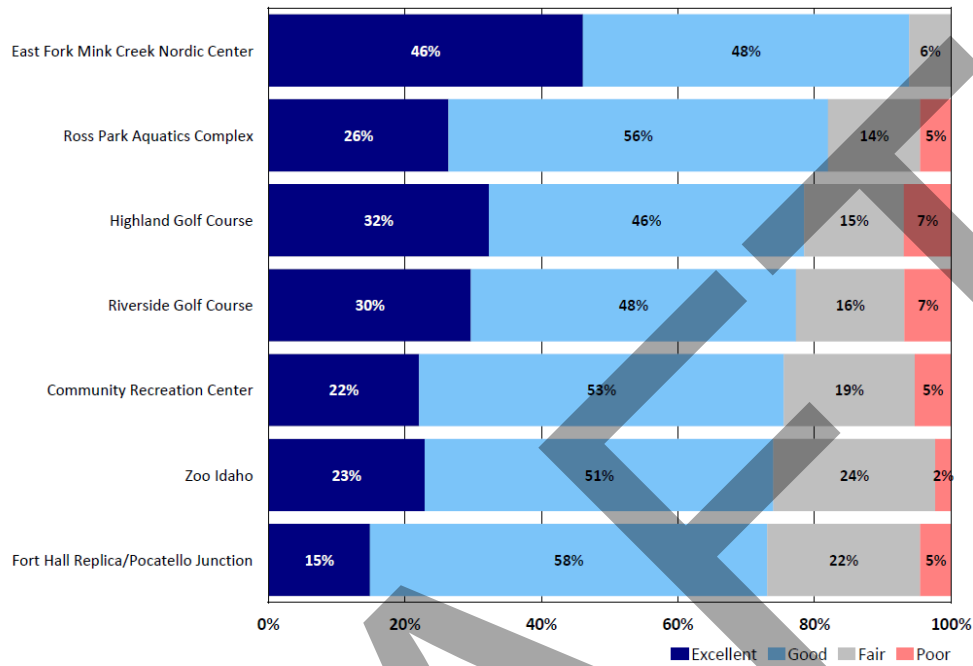
Q1. Rating Condition of Parks

by percentage of respondents who report using the park within the last year (excluding "haven't used")



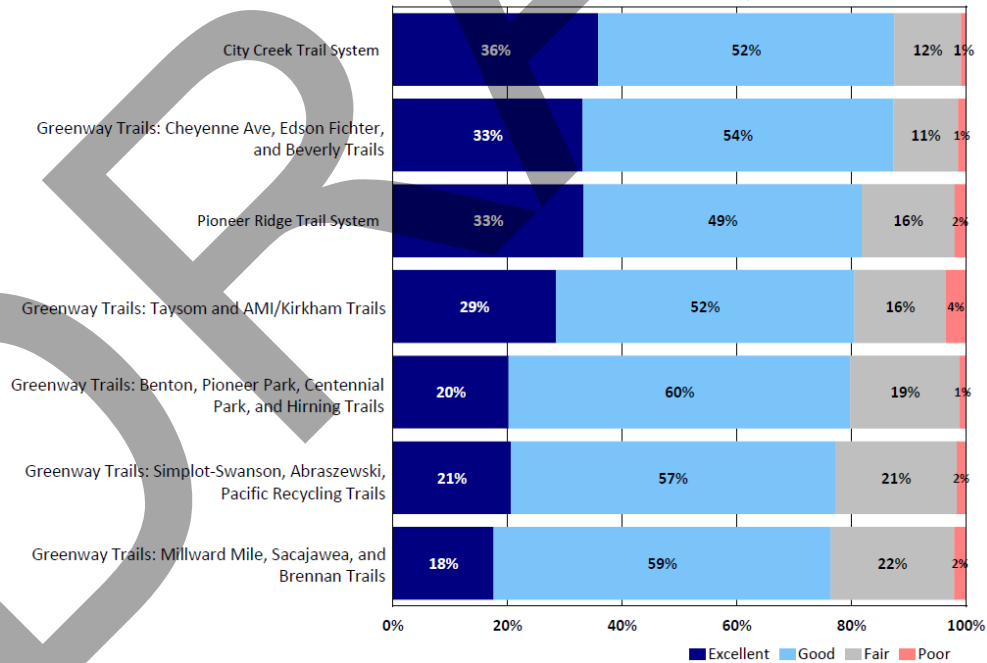
Q1. Rating Condition of Facilities

by percentage of respondents who report using the facility within the last year (excluding "haven't used")



Q1. Rating Condition of Greenways/Trails

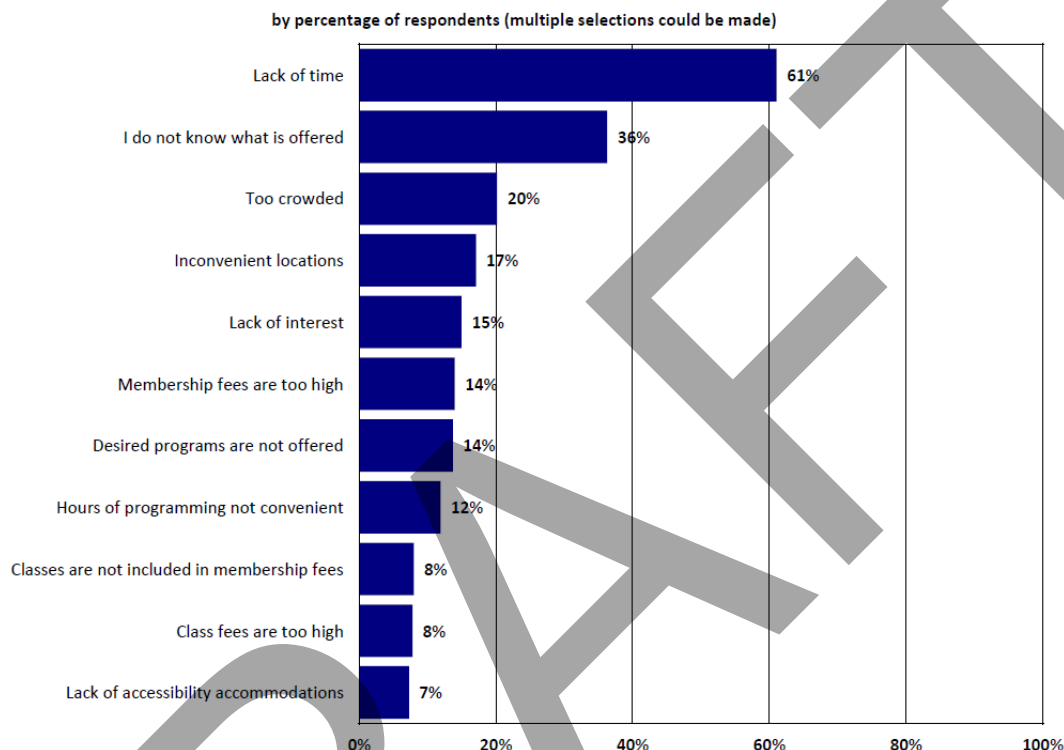
by percentage of respondents who report using the greenway/trail within the last year (excluding "haven't used")



BARRIERS TO PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITY USE

The highest barriers of use, or the top reasons respondents did not utilize Pocatello Parks and Recreation sites is due to a lack of time (61%), a lack of awareness of what was offered (36%), because programming or spaces were too crowded (20%), or inconvenient locations (17%).

Q2. Barriers to Pocatello Parks and Facilities Use in the Past 12 Months



CURRENT AND PREFERRED METHODS OF DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATION

Current Methods of Communication

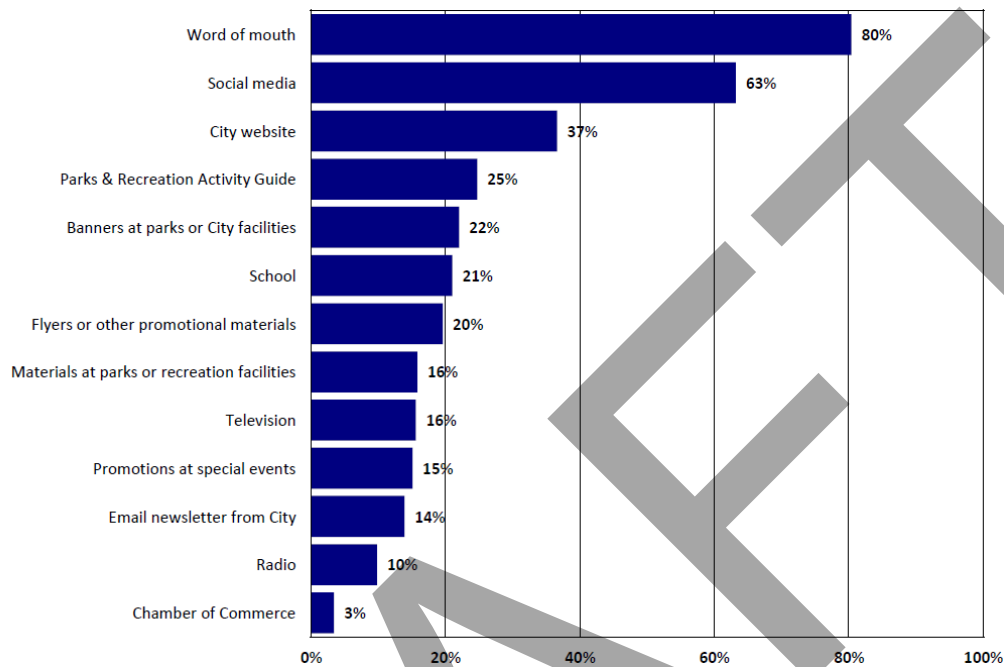
The most common way residents learn about the Department's amenities, events, and recreation programs is from word of mouth (80%), social media (63%), and the City website (37%).

Preferred Methods of Communication

Alternatively, the most preferred forms of communication and information sharing indicated by residents (indicated by the percentage of respondents who selected a methodology as one of their top three choices) were social media (64%), the City website (37%), and the Parks and Recreation Activity Guide (32%).

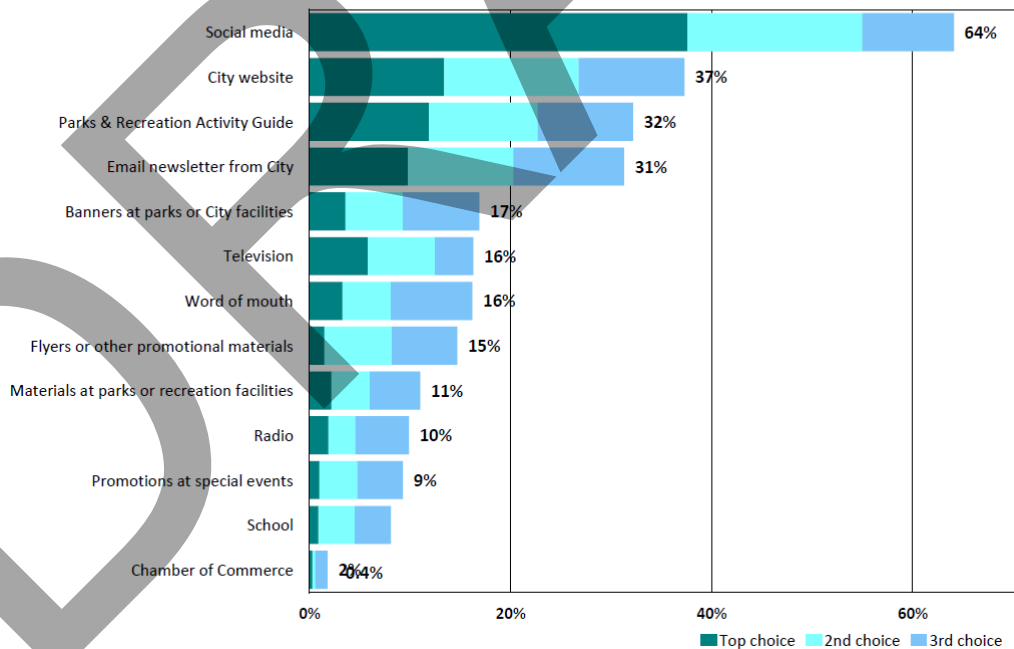
Q4. Ways Respondents Learn About Parks Amenities, Community Events, and Recreation Programs and Events

by percentage of respondents (multiple selections could be made)



Q5. Methods of Communication Respondents Most Prefer the City use to Communicate about Parks, Programs, and Events

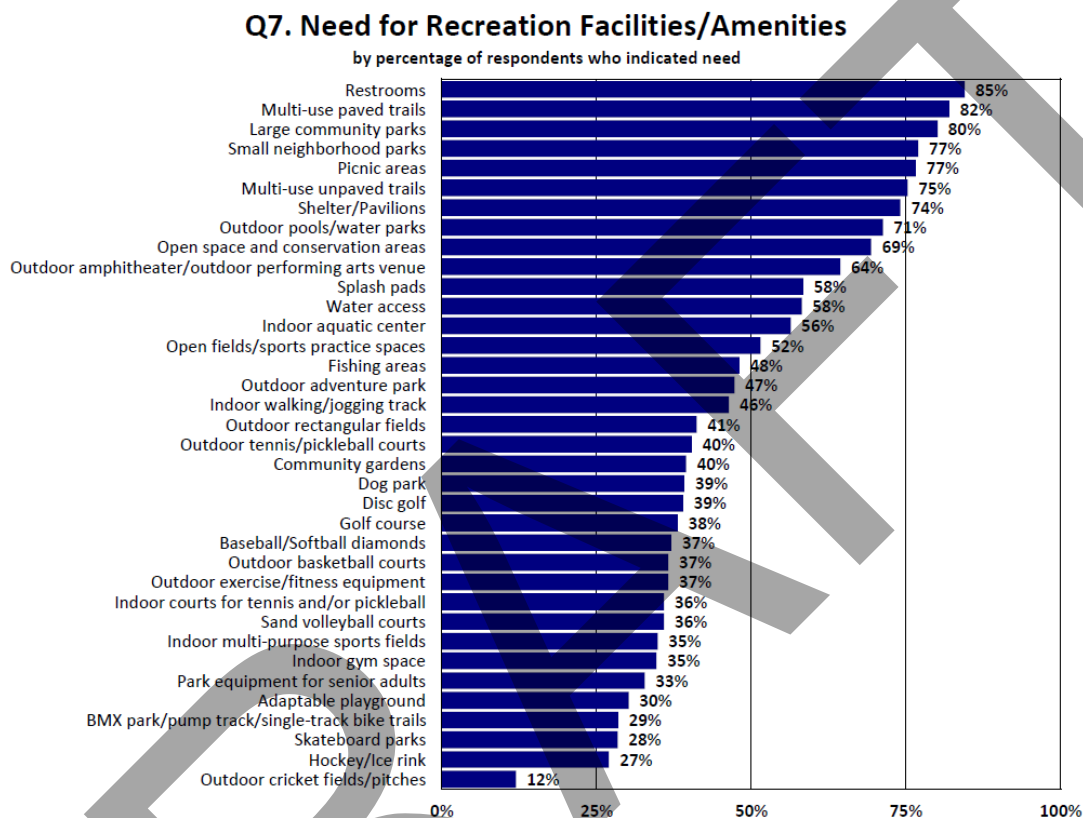
by percentage of respondents who selected the items as one of their top three choices



FACILITY AND AMENITY NEEDS, PRIORITIES, AND IMPORTANCE

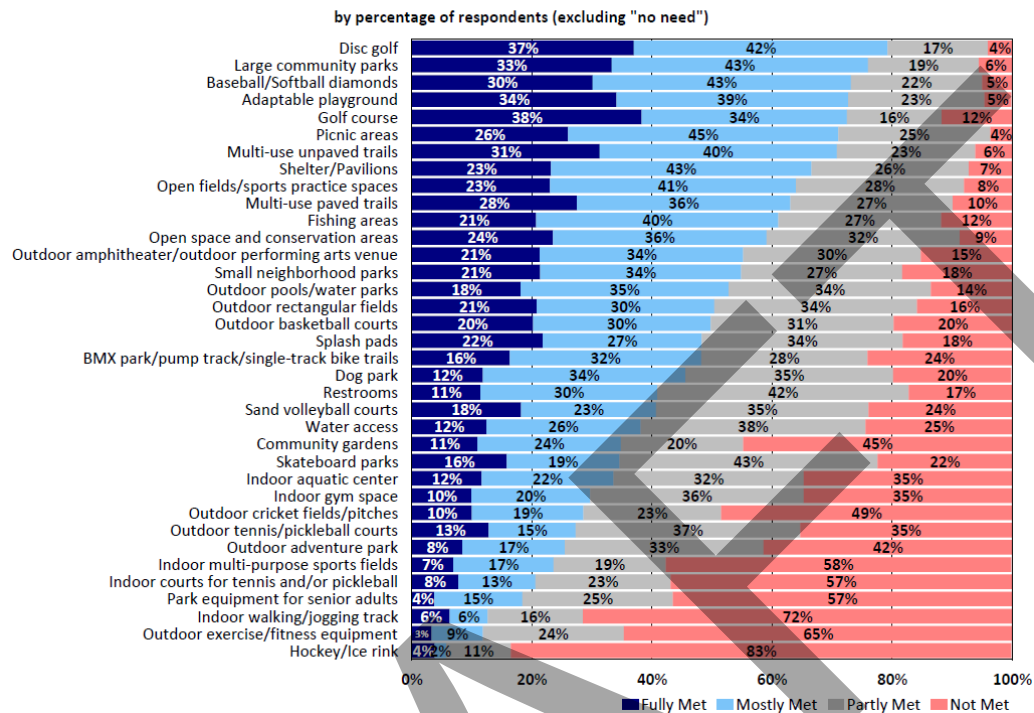
Facility and Amenity Needs

The three parks and recreation facilities/amenities with the highest percentage of households that have an unmet need include restrooms at parks and facilities (85%), multi-use paved trails (82%), large community parks (80%), and small neighborhood parks (77%).



In turn, the chart on the following page shows how well respondents feel that their needs are being met by the Department. The responses with the highest percentage of 'fully met' or 'mostly met' responses include disc golf (37% fully met, 42% mostly met), large community parks (33% fully met, 43% mostly met), and baseball/softball diamonds (30% fully met, 43% mostly met).

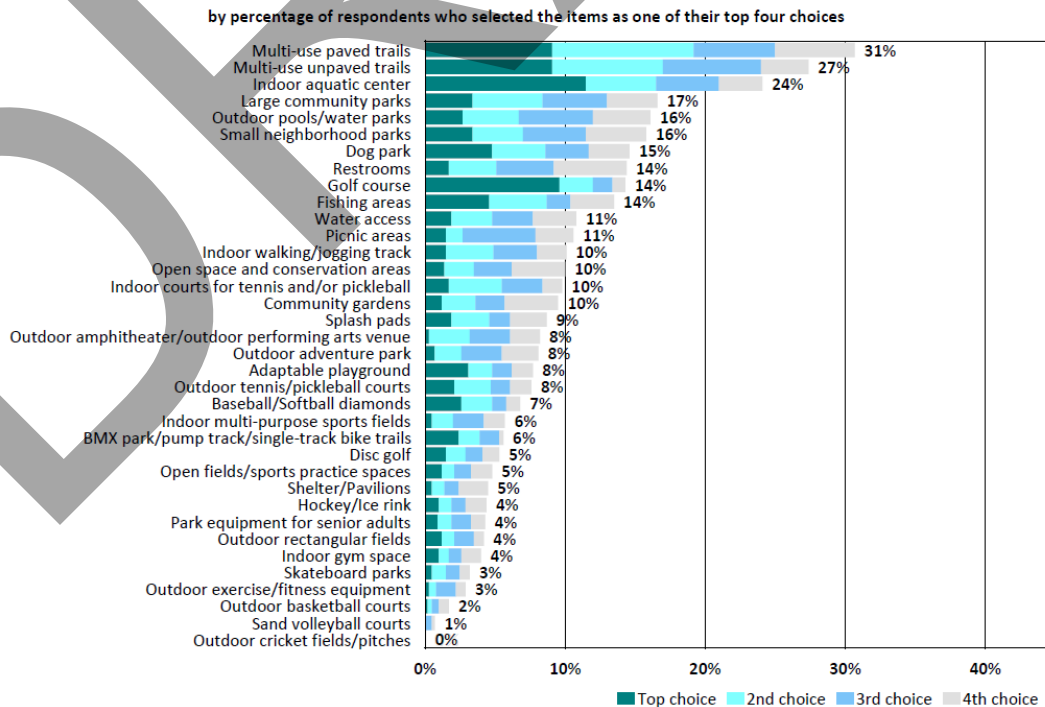
Q7c. Please indicate how well your needs are met for facilities/amenities.



Facility and Amenity Importance

In addition to assessing the needs for each Parks and Recreation facility and amenity, ETC Institute also assessed the importance that residents placed on each item. Based on the sum of respondents' top four choices, the three responses ranked most important to residents were multi-use paved trails (31% total), multi-use unpaved trails (27% total), and indoor aquatic centers (24% total).

Q8. Which four of the facilities/amenities do you think are most important to you/your household?



PRIORITIES FOR FACILITY / AMENITY INVESTMENT

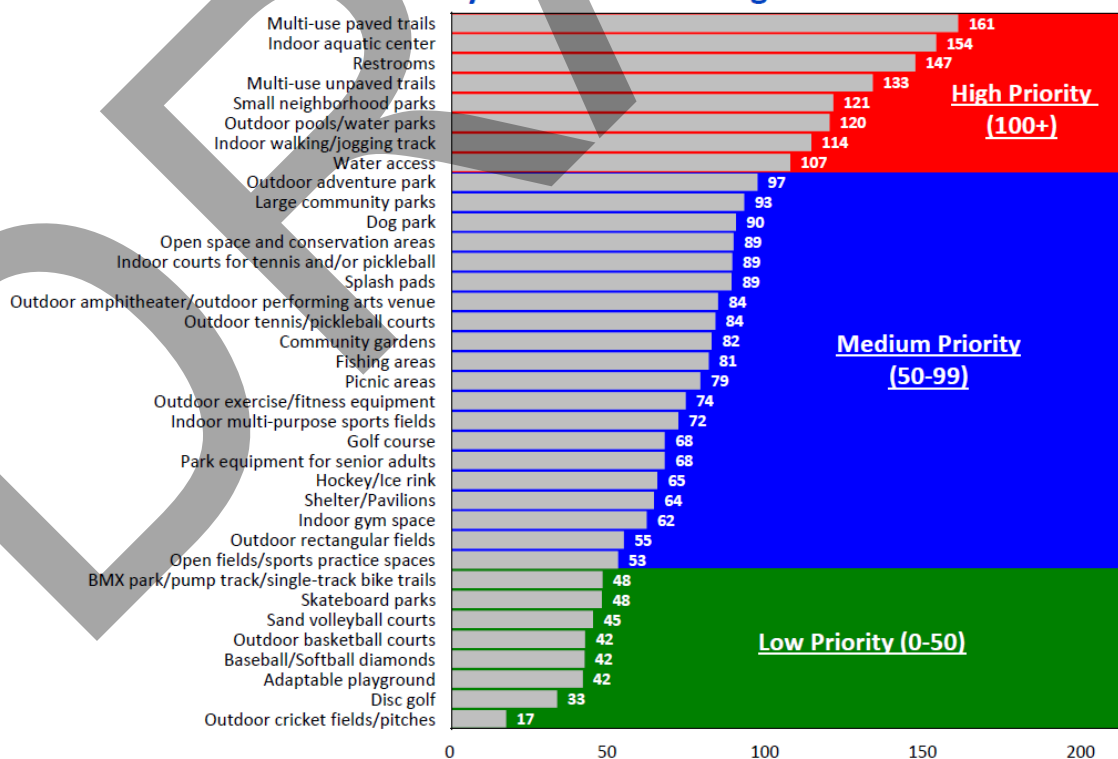
The Priority Investment Rating (PIR) was developed by ETC Institute to provide organizations with an objective tool for evaluating the priority that should be placed on recreation and parks investments. The Priority Investment Rating (PIR) equally weighs (1) the importance that residents place on amenities/facilities and (2) how many residents have unmet needs for the amenity/facility.

Based the Priority Investment Rating (PIR), the following amenities/facilities were rated as high priorities for investment:

- Multi-use paved trails (PIR=161)
- Indoor aquatic center (PIR=154)
- Restrooms (PIR=147)
- Multi-use unpaved trails (PIR=133)
- Small neighborhood parks (PIR=121)
- Outdoor pools/water parks (PIR=120)
- Indoor walking/jogging track (PIR=114)
- Water access (PIR=107)

The chart below shows the Priority Investment Rating for each of the 36 amenities/facilities assessed on the survey.

Top Priorities for Investment for Facilities/Amenities Based on Priority Investment Rating



RECREATION PROGRAM NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

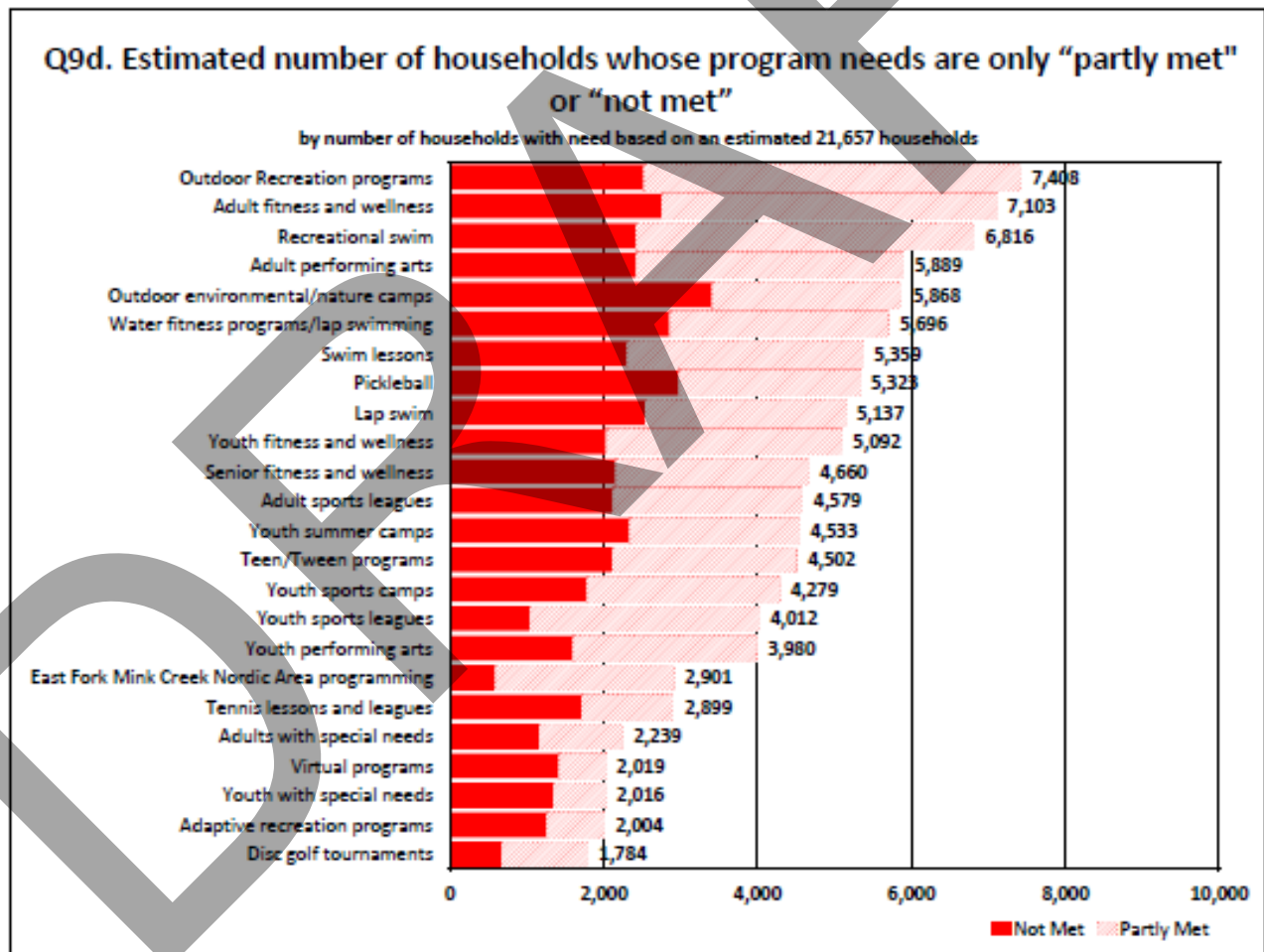
Program Needs

Respondents were asked to identify if their household had a need for 24 recreation programs and to rate how well their needs for each were currently being met. Based on this analysis, ETC Institute was able to estimate the number of households in the community that had the greatest “unmet” need for various programs.

The three programs with the highest number of households that have an unmet need:

1. Outdoor recreation programs – 7,408 households
2. Adult fitness and wellness – 7,103 households
3. Recreational swim – 6,816 households

The estimated number of households that have unmet needs for each of the 24 programs assessed is shown in the chart below.

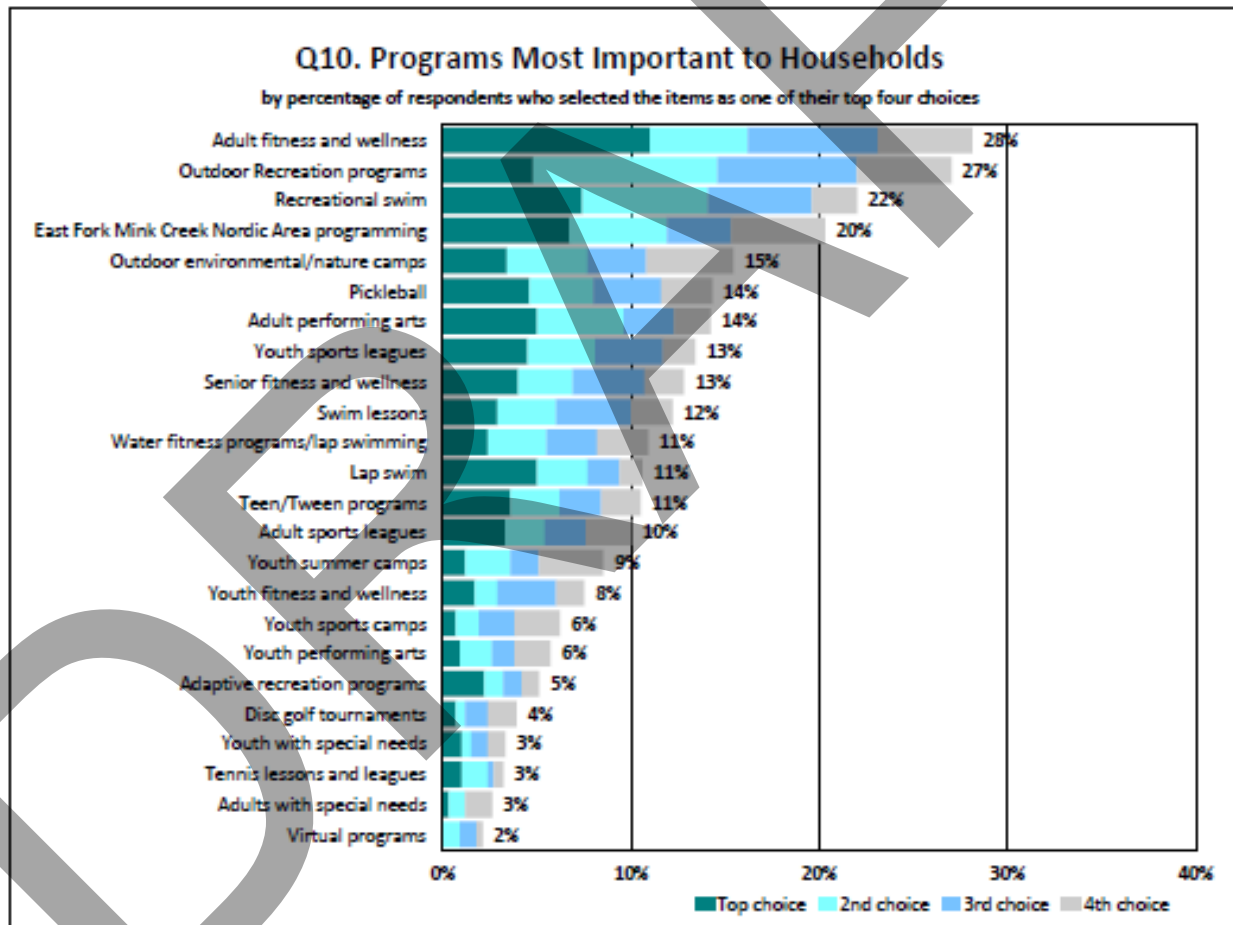


Program Importance

In addition to assessing the needs for each program, ETC Institute also assessed the importance that residents placed on each item. Based on the sum of respondents top four choices, these were the four programs ranked most important to residents:

1. Adult fitness and wellness (28%)
2. Outdoor Recreation Programs (27%)
3. Recreational swim (22%)
4. East Fork Mink Creek Nordic Area programming (20%)

The percentage of residents who selected each program as one of their top four choices is shown in the chart below.



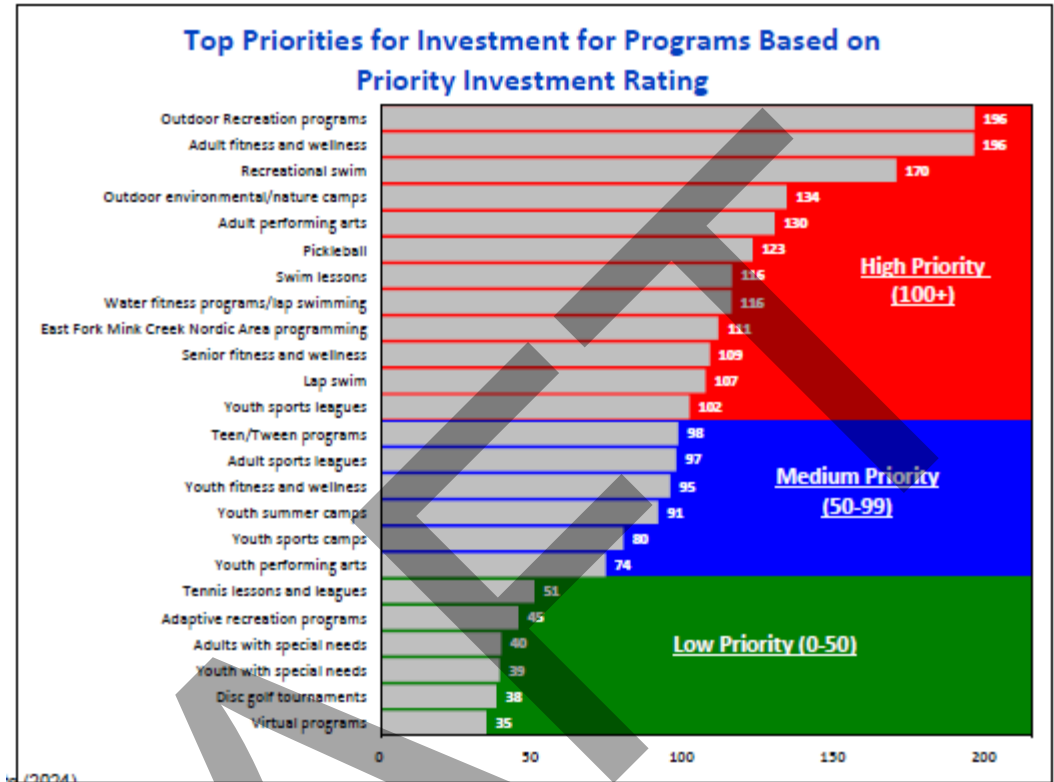
PRIORITIES FOR PROGRAM INVESTMENTS

The Priority Investment Rating (PIR) was developed by ETC Institute to provide organizations with an objective tool for evaluating the priority that should be placed on recreation and parks investments. The Priority Investment Rating (PIR) equally weighs (1) the importance that residents place on programs and (2) how many residents have unmet needs for the program.

Based the Priority Investment Rating (PIR), the following activities/programs were rated as high priorities for investment:

- Outdoor recreation programs (PIR=196)
- Adult fitness and wellness (PIR=196)
- Recreational swim (PIR=170)
- Outdoor environmental (PIR=134)
- Adult performing arts (PIR=130)
- Pickleball (PIR=123)
- Swim lessons (PIR=116)
- Water fitness programs/lap swimming (PIR=116)
- East Fork Mink Creek Nordic Area programming (PIR=111)
- Senior fitness and wellness (PIR=109)
- Lap swim (PIR=107)
- Youth sports leagues (PIR=102)

The chart to the right shows the Priority Investment Rating for each of the 24 programs assessed on the survey.



VALUE VERSUS FUNDING

Perception of Value

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of satisfaction regarding the value they receive from Parks and Recreation. Most respondents said they were either very satisfied (18%) or somewhat satisfied (42%), with only 11% responding that they were dissatisfied and just 3% stating they were very dissatisfied.

Amount of Funding Based on Value Perception

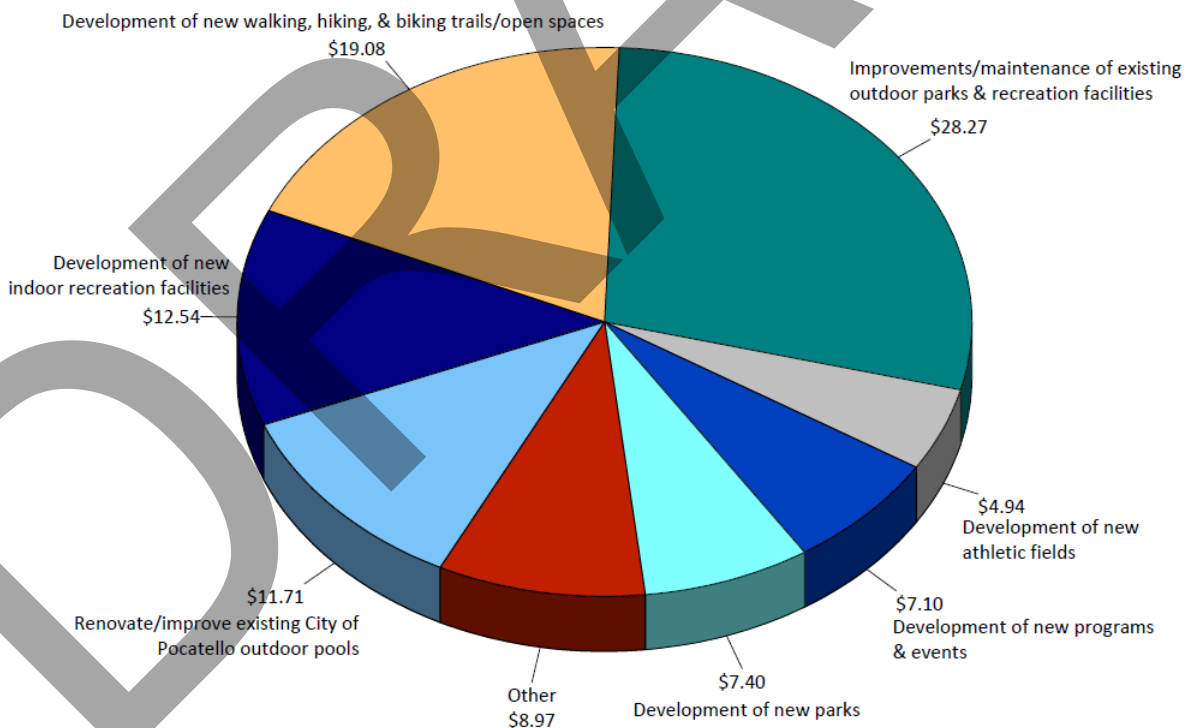
Respondents were also asked to reflect on how they feel the City should fund Parks and Recreation parks, recreation, trails, and open spaces given their perception of the value. 60% felt that funding should increase, 25% felt funding should stay the same, and 1% wanted to reduce funding.

Funding Allocation

Respondents were asked to choose how they would allocate funds for Parks and Recreation improvements if provided a \$100 budget. By average allocated, improvements and maintenance to existing outdoor parks and facilities received the highest amount of funding (\$28.27), followed by new walking, hiking, and biking trails/open spaces (\$19.08), and the development of new indoor recreation facilities (\$12.54).

Q15. If you had a budget of \$100 for parks and recreation improvements in the City of Pocatello, how would you allocate the funds among these categories?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



SUPPORT FOR IMPROVEMENTS

Rating Level of Support

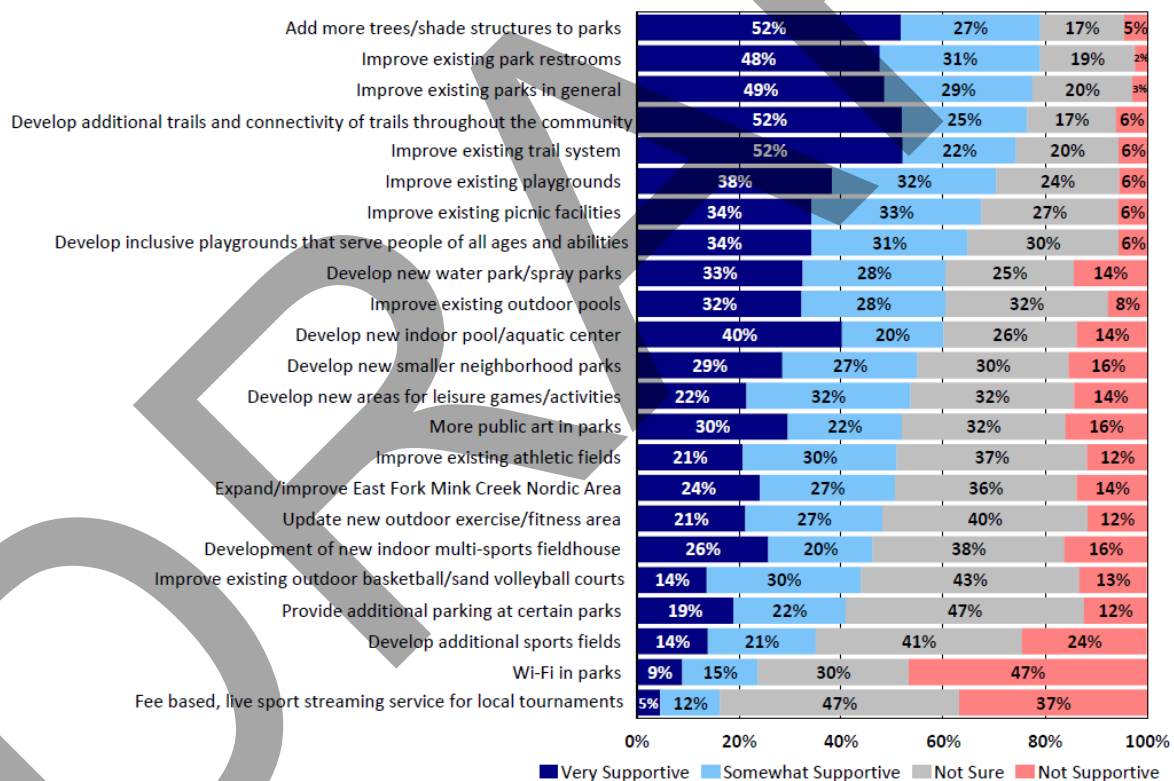
Respondents were asked rate their level of support for potential improvement actions by the City of Pocatello. Respondents most supported the following:

- Adding more trees/shade structures to parks (52% very supportive, 27% somewhat supportive)
- Improving existing park restrooms (48% very supportive, 31% somewhat supportive)
- Improving existing parks in general (49% very supportive, 29% somewhat supportive)
- Developing additional trails and connectivity of trails (52% very supportive, 25% somewhat supportive)
- Improvements to existing trail system (52% very supportive, 22% somewhat supportive).

Respondents were the least supportive of adding a live sports streaming service (37% not supportive) and Wi-Fi in parks (47% not supportive).

Q16. Level of Support for Improvements

by percentage of respondents (excluding "don't know")



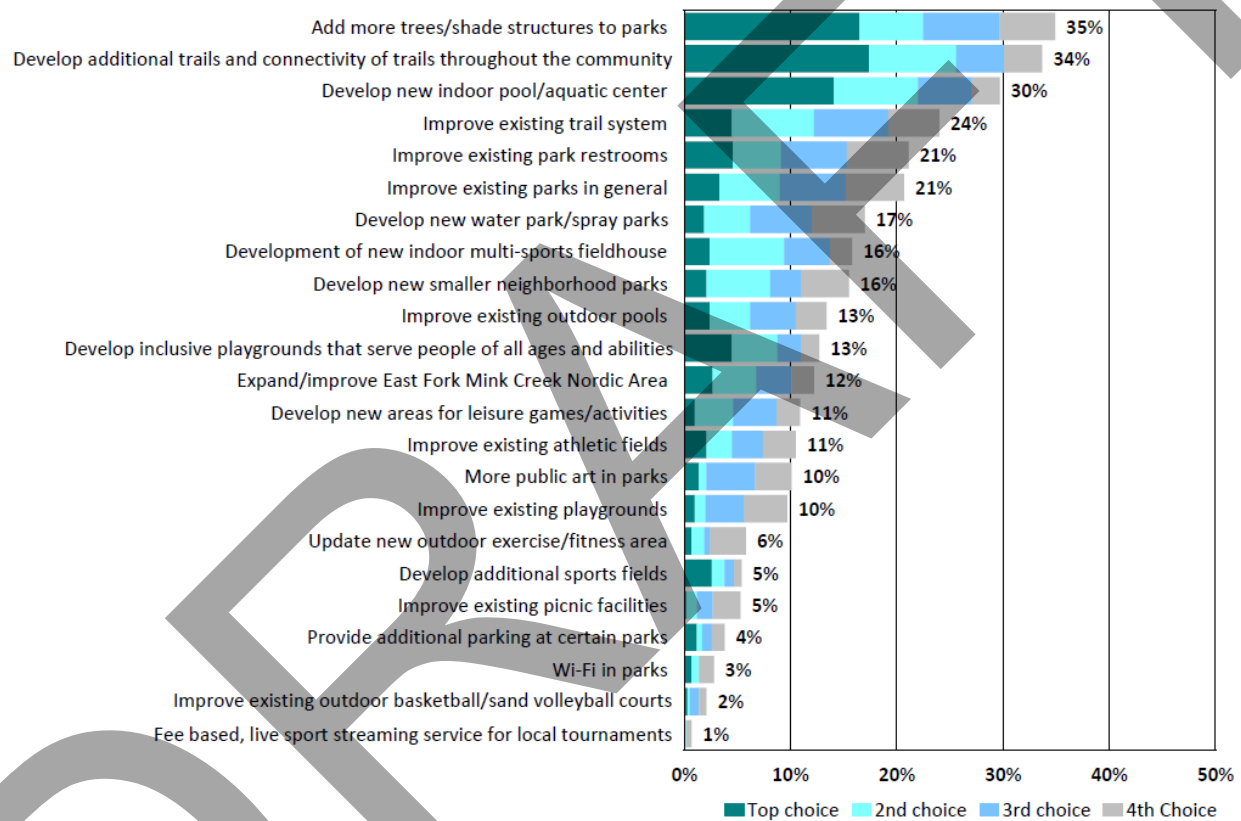
Improvement Funding

Respondents were asked to select the top four potential improvement actions they would be most willing to fund. The top four items chosen by respondents include:

- Add more trees/shade structures to parks (35%)
- Developing additional trails and connectivity of trails (34%)
- Developing a new indoor pool/aquatic center (30%)
- Improve existing trail system (24%)

Q17. Improvements Respondents are Most Willing to Fund

by percentage of respondents who selected the items as one of their top four choices



Online Survey and Interactive Mapping Activity

The consultant team, through the website client *Social Pinpoint*, conducted an online survey to gain a better understanding of the characteristics, preferences, and satisfaction levels of Department users. On the same website, an interactive mapping activity allowed users to provide location-specific feedback on the Department's services. Both the survey and interactive mapping activity's responses were able to give insight into what respondents wanted to see prioritized and funded, as well as their satisfaction with the Department.

Demographically, neither the survey nor the interactive mapping activity collected data on participants' gender, race, economic status, or age. Important to note is that the survey asked respondents to answer several questions in place of their household, meaning that some answers may be indicative of total households rather than individuals.

There were several key takeaways from the survey and interactive mapping activity. For example, most respondents were overwhelmingly satisfied with the parks and facilities that are offered in the community, with several specific parks and facilities receiving nearly exclusively positive reviews. There were also some clear winners in terms of direction that the Department should take with potential actions, including heavy support for the improvement of current parks, facilities, and trails and the development of new trails. It will also be apparent throughout this report that both survey and interactive mapping activity respondents had overwhelmingly positive feedback for the Department, with high levels of satisfaction even if some respondents had some more specific criticisms.

METHODOLOGY

Both the online survey and interactive mapping activity were powered by Social Pinpoint; the online survey was open nearly four months, from February 29th, 2024, through July 5, 2024, and received a total of 257 individual survey responses, while the interactive mapping activity was open from February 29th to December 18th, 2024, and garnered over 100 individual contributions. The survey included 5 questions total, with the 5th and final question being open-ended for respondents to leave any further questions or feedback, while the interactive mapping activity allowed for respondents to provide comments, questions, or suggestions to any aspect of Pocatello Parks and Recreation.

At the same time, survey respondents had the option to skip certain questions, which led to a couple questions having a high number of skipped responses. However, each question was analyzed individually, meaning that skipped responses were typically not considered.

Note: the language used in this document is not always word for word with the survey. Some questions or responses were shortened for the sake of brevity.



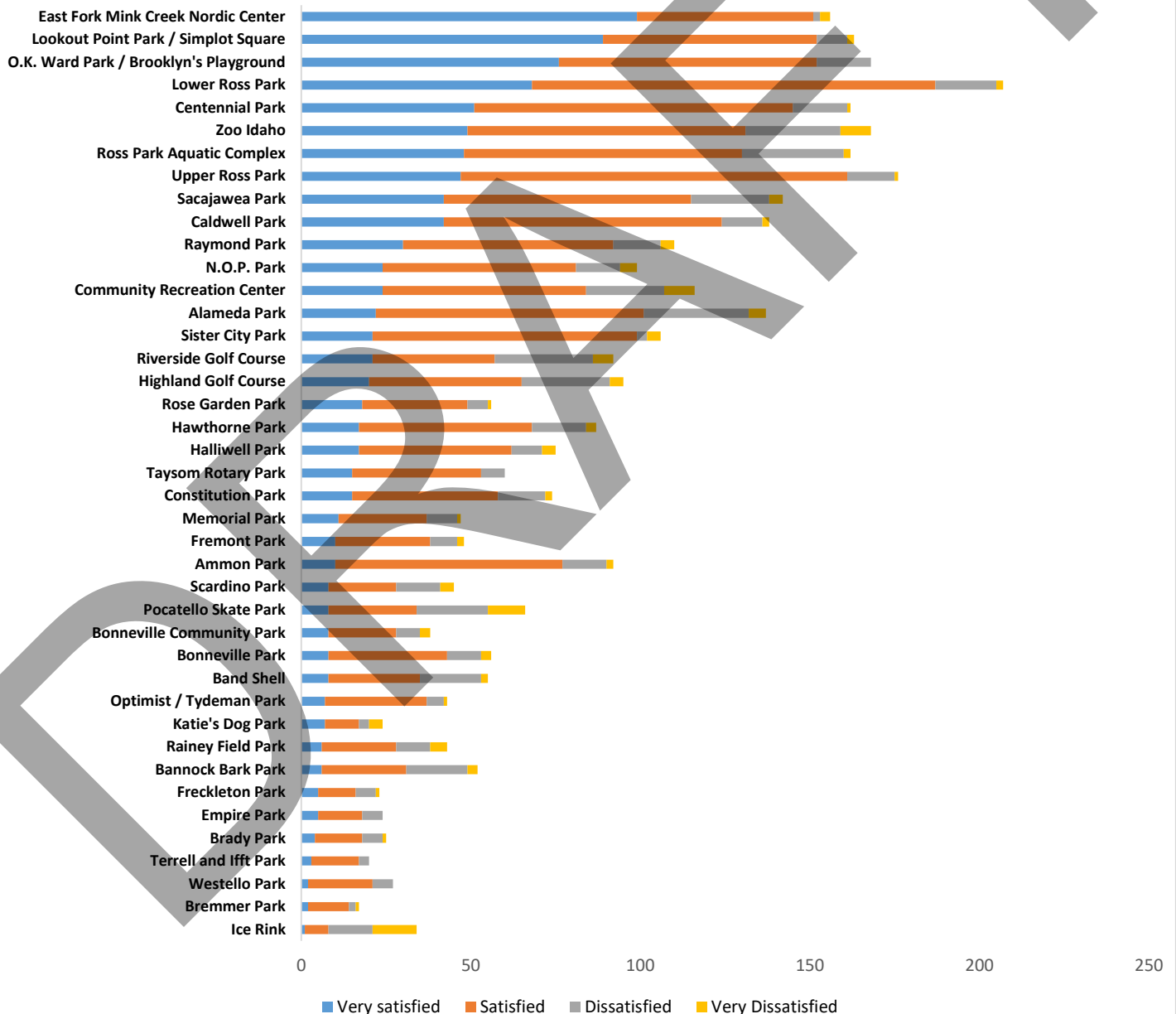
socialpinpoint

ONLINE SURVEY FINDINGS

Question 1: Rated Experience with Pocatello Parks and Facilities

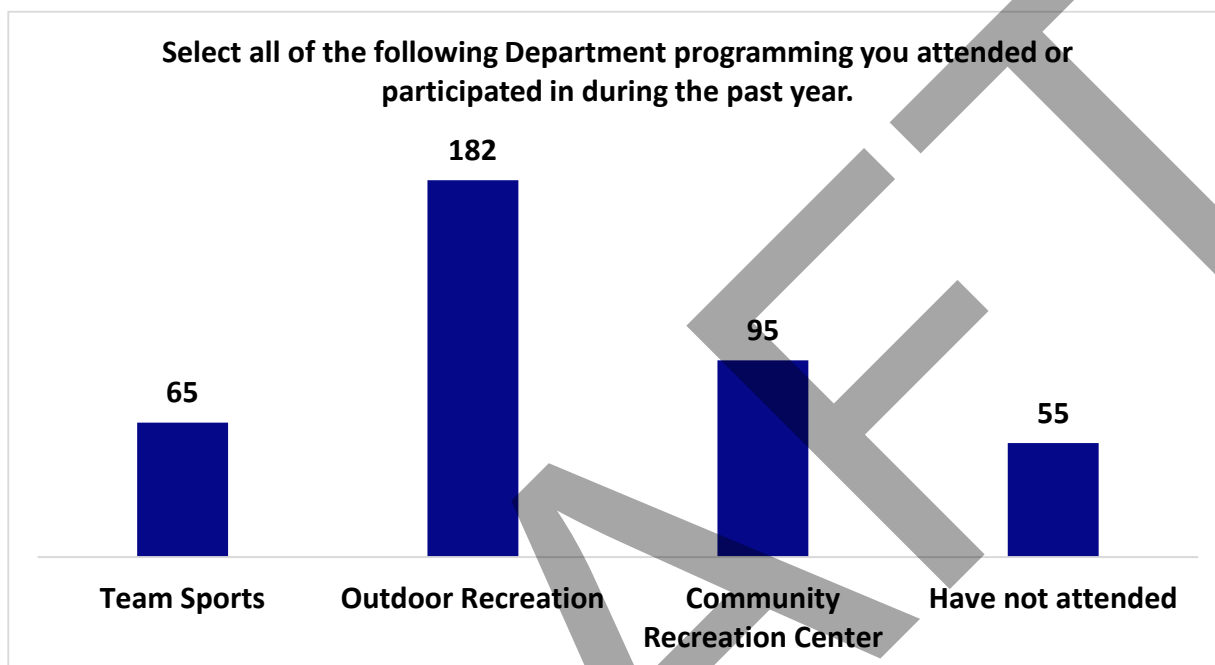
Respondents were first asked to rate their experience with the Department parks and/or facilities from very satisfied to very dissatisfied; as seen below, the response was overwhelmingly positive, with **nearly all parks and facilities receiving over half of their responses as either 'Very Satisfied' or 'Satisfied'**. Of these parks and facilities, the East Fork Mink Creek Nordic Center, Lookout Point Park/Simplot Square, and O.K. Ward Park/Brooklyn's Playground received the highest number of 'Very Satisfied' responses. Alternatively, only one facility received more Dissatisfied and Very Dissatisfied responses than positive responses, which was the Ice Rink. The full results can be seen below.

Rate your experience with each park/facility you've visited in the last year.



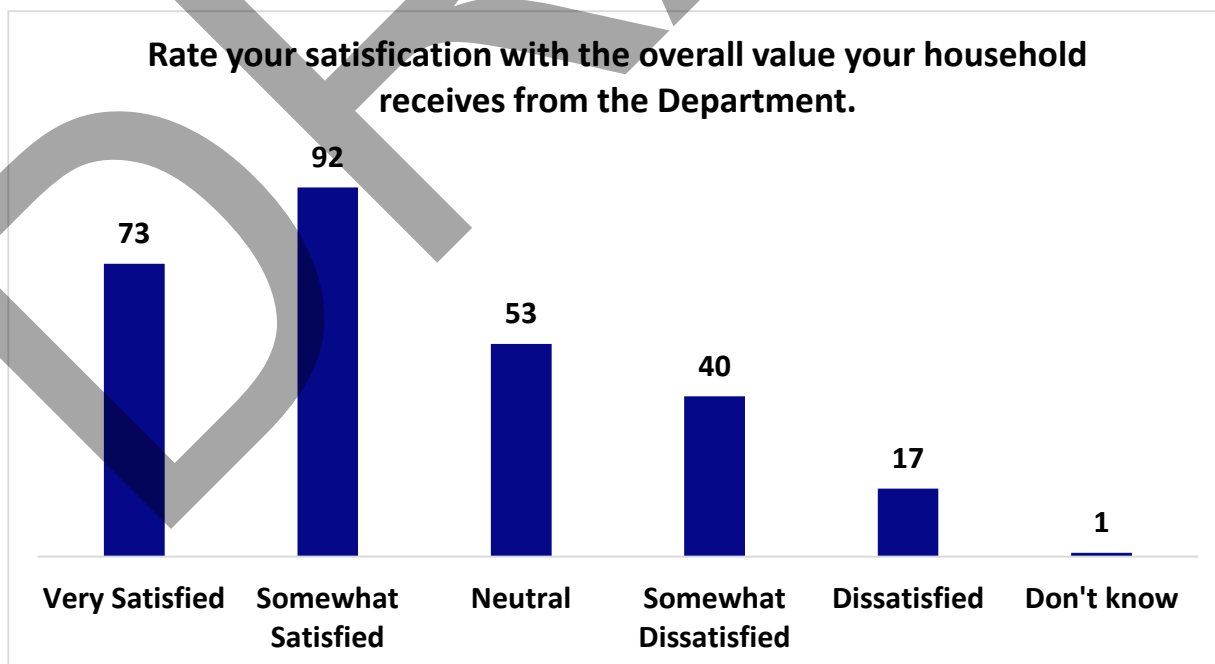
Question 2: Program/Event Participation

Question 2 asked respondents to indicate which Department programming types they had attended in the past year. **Sixty-five (65) respondents indicated that they had attended Team Sports programming, 182 attended Outdoor Recreation programming, 95 had attended the Community Recreation Center, while 55 respondents indicated that they had attended none of those programming types.**



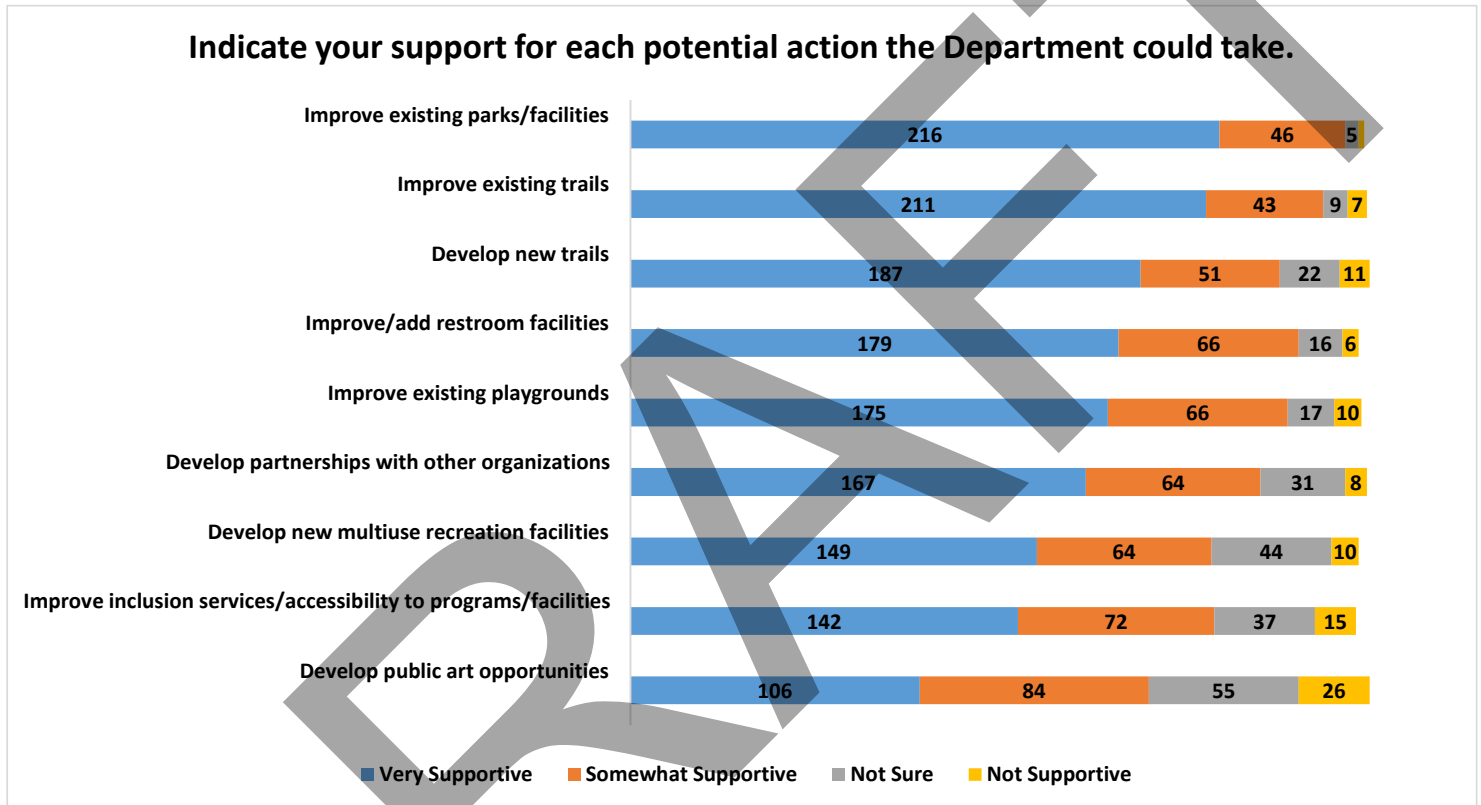
Question 3: Satisfaction Levels

Respondents were also asked about their overall satisfaction with the value their household receives from the Department. This question had feedback that was similarly positive to question 1, with **73 respondents being 'Very Satisfied' and 92 respondents being 'Satisfied'.**



Question 4: Funding allocation

On question 4, respondents were asked to indicate their support levels for 9 potential actions that the Department could take. The actions with the highest amount of 'Very Supportive' responses were **'Improve existing parks and facilities', 'Improve existing trails', and 'Develop new trails' with 216, 211, and 187 1st choice responses respectively.** Alternatively, the actions with the highest amount of 'Not supportive' responses (which were relatively low compared to the supportive responses) included **'Develop public art opportunities', 'Improve inclusion services/accessibility to programs and facilities', and 'Develop new multiuse recreation facilities' with 26, 15, and 10 'Not Supportive' responses respectively.** The full results of the question can be found in the chart below.



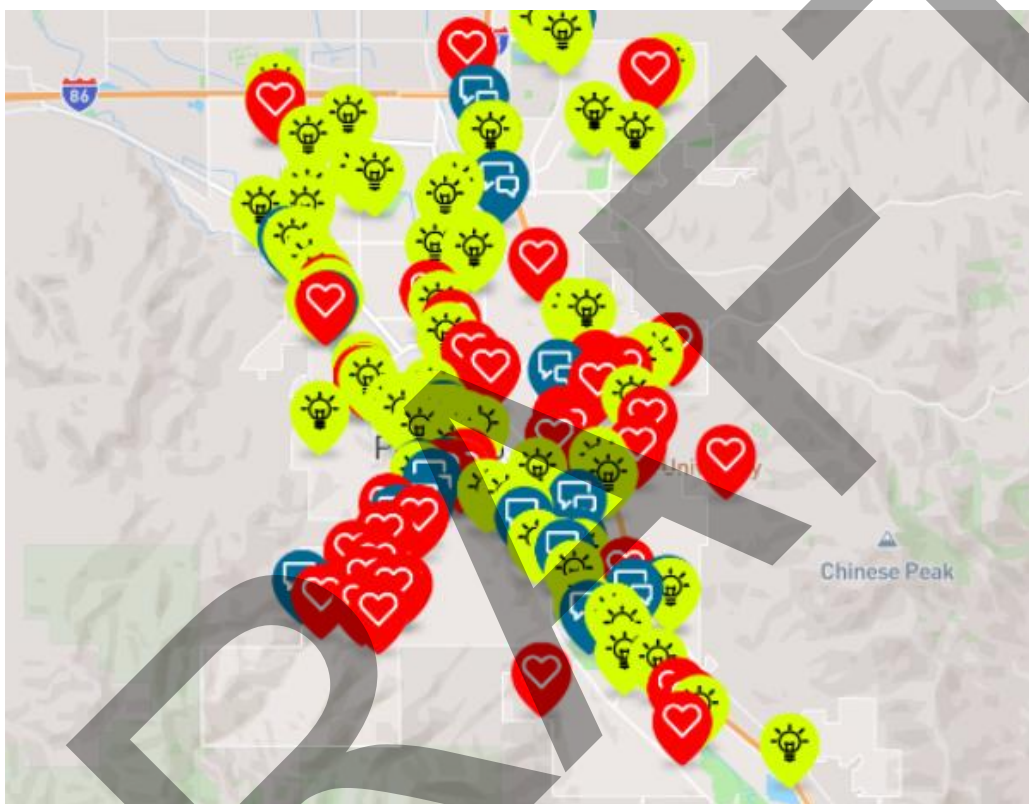
Question 5: Additional Questions and Comments

The fifth and final question of the survey asked for respondents to leave and further questions and/or comments they had for the Department. The full 160 responses to this question can be found in **Appendix B - Online Survey, Question 5: Full Results**. Some of the reoccurring themes from responses to this question included:

- Several respondents indicated that they would like an increase in the total number of parks within the community and near their homes. This was paired with a desire for more inclusivity and accessibility to users with disabilities, including accessible park paths, entries, playgrounds, and increased safety barriers.
- Additional restrooms and renovations to current restrooms were a common ask.
- Many respondents wanted to see the Department's maintained golf courses receive some renovations, new irrigation systems, and clubhouses.

INTERACTIVE MAPPING ACTIVITY RESULTS

As a result of the interactive mapping activity on the project's Social Pinpoint website, 133 open-ended comments, questions, and suggestions were submitted on Pocatello's Parks and Recreation system; these comments ranged from park location suggestions to compliments on Department programming. The interactive mapping activity utilized an online mapping tool that allowed respondents to pinpoint exact locations that they wanted to provide comments, suggestions, or praise to. The map utilized, along with a visualization of all the received responses, is pictured below.



The full results of interactive mapping activity can be found in **Appendix B - Interactive Mapping Activity: Full Results**. The interactive mapping activity received some sentiments that were similar to the open-ended survey question 5, including:

- Respondents would like to see an increased number trees and intentional protections for current trees within parks, trails, and other areas of the Pocatello community. Similarly, there were several comments asking for trees in different areas to be pruned regularly.
- Increased trail connectivity was a priority for multiple respondents, with specific connections near or along the river being the most commonly asked for.
- Multiple respondents had suggestions for the Portneuf River, including suggestions to make the river usable, swimmable, and enjoyable for all members of the community.
- Several respondents indicated a desire for more parks and recreational spaces, including some suggestions to revamp older buildings around Pocatello or redesignate the purpose of empty or unused lots in the community to become parks, recreation facilities, or community gathering spaces.

Online Survey, Question 5: Full Results

The following chart shows the full 160 responses for Question 5 on the PROST plan's online survey.

I often accompany clients with disabilities to Pocatello Parks and I am disappointed in the accessibility, inclusivity and safety. Parks need paths, accessible entry, shade, safety barriers to roads, teen spaces, etc.
keep open spaces accessible and un-encroached upon by developments, especially new housing divisions. Prioritize housing developments in already used spaces (like abandoned buildings, etc.) Need bathroom access at most parks
I would like more parks with wheelchair accessible playgrounds, such as wheelchair swings and terrain friendly substrate for children dependent on mobility aids.
We need to keep all the current green space and parks as well as creating additional spaces.
distributed access to existing trails that may require access/right-of-way agreements to reach surrounding public lands are really important to me as the City continues to grow; staff does so much good work on a limited budget - thanks!
Leave Ammon park alone. It is a great neighborhood park. The townhouses will ruin the park and neighborhood. You can put them on sleigh hill. The parks need better maintenance for the taxes we pay
Bonneville Park at 7th and Fremont st has been neglected for years. Broken equipment not repaired or replaced, minimal play equipment that still functions. The park is used by many locals and desperately needs an upgrade. PLEASE !!!
Please fix and update casino park! And a sidewalk leading up to it!
Please update the play structure at Scardino Park and add a sidewalk leading to it.
We need the playground structure repaired at Scardino park and a sidewalk that leads to the playground. Alameda doesn't feel safe.
I don't live in Pocatello but have 3 grandchildren there. We have enjoyed the parks and swimming pool. Their closest park is Scardino, and it is in real need for some improvements - the play equipment is ancient!!!
I love parks that are NOT surrounded by roads. Ammon Park is an absolute favorite of ours because it is so safe for wandering kids. Scardino Park would be fabulous if it could have similar things to other parks—play equipment, a restroom.
Scardino Park desperately needs a new playground. A sidewalk to it would also be helpful for increased access.
I feel that I'm satisfied with most of the parks. However, I really wish Scardino Park would get an update. Please consider adding a new play structure and a paved pathway to it so it's easier pushing a stroller. Thank you
Some attention is needed at upper Sister City to re-direct runoff from the upper parking lot towards the adjacent, flatter grassy area. Said runoff is damaging infrastructure.

Please fix Bonneville park, it's broken. And falling apart, a lot of kids use this park, it needs improvement and addition equipment like swings.
A lot of these things I'm very supportive of with additional information. I don't feel the city is very transparent. I also think the price of these things is very important. If we can do something that economically makes sense, I'm all for it.
Improve splash pad & playgrounds. Vegas communities have some amazing public playgrounds Poky should use as examples. Mini zip lines, shaded structures, water pads that have rock areas for sit down play. Would like to see more rock-climbing programs
Please fix the pickleball courts at Raymond Park!!
Ross park Skatepark needs attention and cleanup
I love the different "styles" of parks in town. More variety that way would be great.
A park by the Marinus Ln area would be amazing!
Sister City park needs a permanent restroom. The men's s shower at the Community Recreation should be kept cleaner. I frequently see mildew on the shower curtains and ceiling. Also, the rec center should not provide shower facilities for the homeless.
There is so much room for positive improvement. We just need to invest in making our parks the absolute best they can be.
I pay high taxes and yet I'm 2 miles from the nearest park. The kids in my neighborhood have nowhere to gather and play.
Fixing the channeled river in town could really be what this city needs to take its next step. The time has come for action on this.
Pocatello needs to maintain the public tennis courts in the community, and we are in desperate need of more tennis facilities. We have over 450 tennis players in our community, and we are in desperate need of decent facilities for tennis
More dog areas
I've seen homeless people sleeping right next to a school bus stop in Alameda Park. That's a problem.
Conflict with Sacajawea monarch milkweed garden and FROLF course. Better future planning?
Sacajawea and Edson Fichter are the only two parks that have a primary focus on nature. The disc golf course will damage Monarch breeding and endanger children on the trails. It could be moved to an open area in the park. .

Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan

Covered areas to shelter from the harsh winters and harsh summers would be very helpful. Also having functional restrooms at every park with a playground would be greatly appreciate to moms of young children like myself.
Helping create Greenways that serve as cycling transportation thoroughways would be helpful. Cut off points push people to underserved roads and sidewalks which creates a safety hazard.
Add trashcans to the parks to promote a clean park space. Add community garden spaces for neighborhoods. Allow neighborhood associations as part of NeighborWorks to use facilities FREE of charge. Offer nonprofit organizations a reduce rate fee.
As new communities are planned and built it would be nice to know that accessibility to parks is taken into consideration, and that Parks and Recreation is part of the planning and development.
Playgrounds need serious attention. The areas with new growth need to have parks planned in them.
It would be nice to have a vault toilet at one of the city creek trail heads. Also, a community garden at a park might be kind of nice
Improve and maintain current facilities before beginning new projects. The tube at Fremont Park was still split a couple of weeks ago. The makeshift repair is not safe for children and the outhouse and broken water fountain are ridiculous.
I don't trust our community to keep nice restrooms. Don't waste money there.
Parks in general need more trees and natural shade, improve park walking paths for walking and running.
Might not be for P&R but more bike lanes to get around the city
Build a year-round or seasonal indoor ice rink please
Leash laws for dogs are posted everywhere but are not enforced. This is a safety hazard for trail walkers. Some people and many dogs do not do well with off leash dogs running up to them. I'd suggest a way to report this and have regular patrols to enforce
Focus on improvements to current venues. Remove invasive trees and replace them with native trees. Look at the equity of park quality across neighborhoods. Seems like wealthier areas have better park conditions (i.e. Sacajawea & Edson or Wellness).
We usually travel to parks in other towns because the parks in the Pocatello/Chubbuck area are in such disrepair. Parks in other places have come a long way since I was young, and Pocatello is not keeping with the times.
Improvement of parks and recreation will draw in businesses to relieve tax burden. Start to market out world class biking, skiing rock climbing in the area. Utilize the river in town!!
All of these sound like amazing ideas. I would really love a safer cross walk by Brooklyn's playground on Quinn and northern lights before the stop light is finished

Parks and Recreation is an economic driver in Pocatello. Should try to capitalize on what we have - mountain biking/hiking, skiing, and rock climbing and really improve these. Need more beginner mountain bike areas (summer trails at xc ski area?)).
I would love to see more natural park spaces like the Edson Fichter Nature Area.
Very supportive of developing beginner friendly trails, skills park and developed trailhead(s). This should be a high priority.
Update the skate park! Like, REALLY update it. Don't just resurface the old janky ramps. Expand it.
please turn on the water fountains at the parks
It is very important that the city considers habitat preservation and re-establishment in their planning. Recreation is important to community health and spirit, but habitat preservation is critical for future generations.
We really need to put money back into the golf courses. Both clubhouses need a major overhaul. The amount of play increased during the pandemic and has not tapered off. It is great to see new people as well as families using both courses.
We have two fine golf courses which are tremendous assets to our community. The entrance and clubhouse of each should be improved to represent the prosperity of our community. Also the sprinkler systems maintained and upgraded in order to save water.
Golf course clubhouses are old and in disrepair.
Golf courses need attention
Golf courses need more attention with club houses and driving ranges. Blackfoot, Idaho Falls golf clubhouses and practice facilities are much better and seems the not a lot of recourses are being put back into the courses. And the zoo is boring!
The golf courses make more money for the parks department than any other activity; It needs touch ups via improved/replaced irrigation system that's 20+ years old. The Riverside clubhouse needs updated as well. The zoo wastes resources. can be removed.
Highland and Riverside Golf Courses are extremely out of date. The clubhouses need significant upgrades, the golf courses and equipment need upgrades. Blackfoot, IF, Preston all have better facilities than Pocatello.
Overall, it seems like the city just pays for enough staff to complete the bare minimum of maintenance of our parks. I'd love to see more accessible options, city-hosted activities throughout the summer at various parks, and native plant life as a staple.
The golf courses need funds put towards irrigation and maintenance needs. Both clubhouses could use a facelift. Riverside should probably be replaced.

Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan

I would like to see Highland Golf Course have an updated irrigation system. I would also like to see Riverside Golf Course update their clubhouse.
Put money gotten from the golf courses into maintaining the golf courses. A new irrigation system for Highland Golf course and a new club house for Riverside Golf course.
New irrigation system for Highland golf course and new club house at Riverside
Please look into new irrigation systems for highland golf course and riverside golf course. Riverside is in desperate need of a new clubhouse. That place is no safe for people to be in all day.
My family and I like to play golf and walk the port of river. My primary concern is the golf courses. The irrigation systems are old and need to be replaced. And the club houses are very old and do not meet the needs of the public.
It would be nice to have updated irrigation at the local golf courses. Install efficient water saving sprinklers. Update the pro shop at highland and design a new pro shop at riverside that will help with flow of traffic.
Riverside golf course needs a new clubhouse
I would like to see some funds put into both city golf courses. Both need a new club house and new watering systems.
Both city golf courses are in desperate need of a change. The irrigation systems at both are WELL past due for a renovation. Riverside clubhouse needs to be rebuilt as the exciting clubhouse is very unsafe for not only players but employees as well!
Replace trees on golf course that have died or been blown over
I'd like to see some money go into the golf courses. Greg needs to be let go. Riverside needs a new clubhouse. Highland needs irrigation. So much money is earned at these courses and it's about time to actually put money into them and improve them.
Being the main sponsor for one of the biggest golf tournaments in the city, it's embarrassing the facilities in place at both golf courses. Specifically, the Riverside club house is a disaster. Please address both facilities as they are an embarrassment.
The golf course club houses need updated. As a Varsity golf coach, the size and condition riverside clubhouse is in, is inexcusable. The clubhouse is an old barn with insufficient space for a course. The bathrooms are outdated and need of repairs
Golf courses need some help, Way too much play for the little amount of maintenance done. Also its time to let Greg go, he clearly doesn't give a shit and it shows!
We need to upgrade the Golf Courses. They are on of the most used recreations in Pocatello. Both water systems are far below average. The club house at Riverside needs a tear down and rebuild. There needs to be major upgrades at both places.

Both Riverside and Highland golf courses could use a lot of work. Both need upgraded irrigation systems and Riverside needs a new clubhouse. The current conditions make me question getting a yearly season pass.
The need for Riverside Golf Course to build a new clubhouse is long overdue. The golf course are the only profitable operation in the Parks & Rec Department and can only stay that way by improving the facilities. New irrigation is needed at both courses.
Our city golf courses . . . PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE!!! Let's PRIOTITIZE our irrigation system at both courses! Also, we're out growing the 2 we have. Let's plan to build another!
We need pickleball courts, a park for Highland residents (not just the Portneuf center), and the Golf Courses need newer facilities (they are profitable!).
Please, no more disc golf courses in natural areas such as at Sacajawea. The flowering crabapple trees at Caldwell Park could be healthy and beautiful if not for the poor grounds work that has damaged them.
Would love to see more biking paths and parks with dirt tracks for kids to learn on. The trail at the Wellness center needs expansion and improvements
I would like to see Pocatello be more bicycle friendly including the routes between parks.
Bathrooms at parks need to be open during winter. Finish the sidewalk at Brooklyn's playground in front of the shelter so children don't have to ride their bikes & walk through the parking lot-- I've seen many almost get hit.
Please keep working to improve/develop quality, accessible recreational spaces for the community
I took this survey already, but I wanted to add that Alameda Park would be a great spot for a splash pad. So many families in the area, and I've heard the water pump in that area can handle a splash pad
There is a need to resolve the ownership issue of the City Creek Trails area with the Tribe.
Most of our parks look dumpy. It's embarrassing.
I would love a park in the lower highland area
Big trail user here. I would love to see better trails and trail development on the east bench. I also want to ride those zip lines!
Would love to have more safe, nice, dog friendly parks where dogs are allowed off leash.
The Portneuf Trust could really be of more help in this area. It is nice to see them helping this year at the Rec Center, but they typically throw us peanuts each year and expect us to be so thankful for their generosity. They have amassed more than \$100M.
Pocatello is an amazing city with an already robust trail network. It has a strong cycling committee that supports building further trails. It's also becoming a destination spot for people to visit to enjoy the mountain biking trails we have.

Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan

The more our community is accommodated for outdoor activities the better the community health and wellbeing is.
I would love to see some improvements made to the rec center!!!! We need a larger space. More competitive pricing. Better swimming pool.
Pocatello needs to build a pump track/dirt jump area for BMX riders alongside another skate park built for BMX and skateboards.
Plant more flowers and trees. Improve additional Greenway paths and connect existing paths.
Something MUST be done regarding the water quality of Mink Creek Rec area. The cattle feces has made the water quality hazardous. The Portneuf needs more trash removal/cattle bank damage initiatives
I do not feel safe hiking my dogs on the trails
The rec center is a joke. If you go anywhere else in the United States, they have very nice facilities for families to use. The building needs to be torn down and redone. It's in horrible condition.
A summer camp that runs most of the summer would be a great help for working families. Moon Township, PA runs one that was wonderful when we lived there, if you'd like an example program. They did something different week.
Invest to improve current structures kids frequent like the pool and skate park, then focus on improving all other existing parks with bathrooms and additional amenities.
Partnerships should not be moneymakers for businesses like the golf courses because it is too pricey. However, ICCU donations and connections credit union are good.
We need a trail system from one end of Pocatello to the other for walking and biking
Restroom facilities need improvement and regular maintenance at almost every park
I am concerned with homeless people sleeping in Alameda Park right next to a school bus stop.
Stricter rules on off leash dogs, so others can walk their dogs
Please reach out to the golfing community to get their input on the current state of care and investment at the golf courses. What are the short and long-term goals for Sacajawea park? Recent disconnected projects blur use goals.
I don't know if you have jurisdiction over the Portneuf Wellness Complex, but their grass could be better taken care of, especially on the soccer fields.
Please maintain fields and mow the grass. It is so awful to try to play ball or just enjoy the parks with mounds of cut grass everywhere. Either mow more often or rake
Parks and recreation are among Pocatello's greatest attributes. Please take the opportunity to further develop and enhance very seriously. I really love this element of Pocatello.

The city could really use multi-use paths. The majority of the city is flat and would be accessible by bike but riding a bicycle in town is quite dangerous on the road even in designated bike lanes.
A splash pad is NEEDED in central/south Pocatello. I'm very excited to have the new one at OK Ward park, but it's close to the one at Stuart Park in Chubbuck.
Continue to develop trails and require leash laws.
I would love to see the parks cleaned/fixed more regularly. Brooklyn's playground often has trash in it. Alameda park has a lot of dog droppings. I think maintaining our current parks and trails is way more important than building new ones.
Make trails better, need better signage on trail system. Regular trail maintenance and improvement.
Fund the maintenance and oversight of the City Creek Management Area and the Pocatello Creek Landfill Trail. This city loves to point out the recreation opportunities our bench trails provide, however, no funding is available for their maintenance.
I only marked less than satisfied because I feel some of these parks/facilities are in significant need of maintenance. I appreciate what you do. I wish you were better funded.
Signage for trails, better maps, rec center needs total overhaul, move hot tub somewhere else for easier access and less problems with swimmers
user friendly trail guides
Please devote resources to hiring a trail person and/or provide resources to plan, maintain, and grow our trail system!!!
We are so blessed to live where we are in this little gem of Idaho
Please invest in what we have. Halliwell Park's baseball field, the Rec Center and the pool need expanding, and Alameda park should have more picnic areas
The trees at most all parks are needing improved. The March 1 snowstorm revealed the hazards that the old trees pose. Maintenance of the parks is a big issue on lawn and facilities. The city needs better football and baseball facilities for youth sports.
We need to invest in trails! If we ever did a use study, city creek use would likely far exceed use at most parks. It's a year-round use area and an amenity which needs money to support!
Improve and add more walking/bike trails
Adaptive bike trails....
would like to see the city develop some mountain bike flow trails with big berms and jumps similar to the bike parks in the foothills of Boise. Cussak creek or the back side of Chinese peak would be an ideal location.

Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan

Build MTB flow trails and maintain the trails that are here already. The trails at the wellness complex are in such bad condition they aren't really worth riding. Reach out to Draper Utah, 2nd best trail system in the country.
Trail signage is needed, more trashcans on trails or compost
getting tired of ICCU and Lookout CU taking over this town, we need to rely less on these corporations that just want their branding all over the city. If people want nice things I think we should all contribute more to fund Parks & Rec. improvements
Would like to see more natural habitats in our parks and less turf. I feel we have enough sports parks. We also need another skate park.
The existing amenities are great and offer a lot of variety, but most need updating and some minor to major improvements. Investing in the existing will go a long way vs creating new.
I think Lower Ross Park would be vastly improved if S 2nd Street was closed to through traffic. Imagine the possibilities!
I love the outdoor rec. in the area and think local parks and green spaces are important for neighborhoods. Love the river and wish we had a better river walk. Thank you for all your hard work.
Making the greenway continuous south of town would a big benefit to the community
More inclusive parks please!!!! Also, Brooklyn's playground needs maintenance really bad.
Some of the parks have houses bordering the parks and their yards are junk yards filled with crap and garbage that detracts from the park
We have lived in many communities around the country, and it is embarrassing how so few small green areas and parks Pocatello has in its neighborhoods. There are none in the Satterfield and Ridgewood communities or others. Build them!
Bonneville Community Park is in dire need of sidewalk repair and grading.
More disc golf courses
The Sagewood Hills area east of the hospital needs a place for children to play. There is no park close by. A car is needed to get to a playground.
We need a free-access water splash pad that is easily accessible to Pocatello's children. Alameda or Caldwell Park. Pocatello kids can't ride their bikes or walk to the splash pad in Chubbuck.
Have more advanced mountain bike trails
Several playgrounds are old and are falling apart. Alameda park is a prime example. That park is always busy, but the playground is not used as often because it is small and is much older.

I feel like an inclusive, easy to read, Pocatello parks Guide for Dummies would be awesome. Yes, we're new here. Making sense of all the maps of trails and what they are used for is somewhat daunting. Dummy User-Friendly maps/info :)
Dog poop on trails is an ongoing problem. Wish there was a way to hold people accountable. Graffiti is a never-ending problem. Hidden cameras?
Pocatello has the best trail system. We would love it preserved and available to the public.
Develop more walking trails.
Please bring better dog parks. We have a few small and very run down/dirty dog parks. So many people in the area have dogs and have nowhere to go to a dog park specific for just dogs.
Need lots of pickleball courts to keep up with other communities.
More shade, updated bathrooms and bigger rock gym.
If improving trails, please make them for pedestrians- it's hard for strollers or seniors and young families to enjoy these trails when they are mudded from bike and 4-wheeler tracks
I often accompany clients with disabilities to Pocatello Parks and I am disappointed in the accessibility, inclusivity and safety. Parks needs paths, accessible entry, shade, safety barriers to roads, teen spaces, etc.
Keep open spaces accessible and un-encroached upon by developments, especially new housing divisions. Prioritize housing developments in already used spaces (like abandoned buildings, etc.) Need bathroom access at most parks
I would like more parks with wheelchair accessible playgrounds, such as wheelchair swings and terrain friendly substrate for children dependent on mobility aids.
We need to keep all the current green space and parks as well as creating additional spaces.
distributed access to existing trails that may require access/right-of-way agreements to reach surrounding public lands are important to me as the City continues to grow; staff does so much good work on a limited budget - thanks!

Interactive Mapping Activity: Full Results

The following table shows the full 133 responses of the Social Pinpoint website's interactive mapping activity, where respondents were asked to provide a comment, question, or suggestion to any Department service or location.

Comment, Suggestion, or Question	Address
If the fairways for the disc course were mowed just once per year, it would be usable. Unfortunately, now, the invasive weeds, mainly thistle, are way to high to play. Thank you	2250 North Arthur Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
We could use a dog park. There is hardly a time that there is not dogs walking on the path. It would be safer and bring many more people to our park. Thank you.	750 East Poplar Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
The neighborhood surrounds this park perfectly with lots of young kids, but no good play area or walking path to easily get to it. Or perhaps some better play fields, or something to make it more usable.	1024 El Rancho Boulevard, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
I love the city creek trails!!!	City Creek Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
If shade trees were added, it would increase the usability of this part of the green way during hot summer months	2041 South Main Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Could we improve the stairway to heaven so pedestrians can walk to upper city creek without having to uses the road (which has a lot of blind spots)	1059 City Creek Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Please don't cut down the trees or remove the play structure at this park! It's one of the few usable parks in the summer because of all of the great shade!	902 South Grant Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
The trees in this park are so beautiful! Please help them to continue to thrive!	828 West Young Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
The disc golf course has hurt the natural beauty of this park and has injured greenway users. Not only is it a hazard, but it encourages people to walk on important wetland habitat. In addition, it's not well maintained and has already become an eyesore.	2250 North Arthur Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Creating some more pedestrian and bicyclist friendly crossings along Garrett Way between the neighborhoods to the north and the downtown district to the south, so as to allow pedestrians to commute while avoid high traffic intersections like this.	262 Hoffman Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Somehow Connecting the Abraszewski Trail to the Pacific Recycling trailhead along the Portneuf River.	Abraszewski Trail, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
More people are walking along this road and sidewalks are desperately needed so pedestrian and vehicle safety, Mostly on the west side, adjacent to the residential neighborhoods	3521 Pole Line Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Parking is absolutely horrendous here when large events are being held, ie: flag football. Add additional parking, there is already an empty lot that people park illegally at across the street that could be purchased for additional parking space.	Jerome Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
The Trees that line the downtown district are a valuable asset but some are growing to the point of exceeding the metal cages that surround them, any plans to replace these would be of benefit to the local community	159 South Main Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Quaint little park. Great place to wait for kids at the rec center.	173 Wilson Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83201

A small walking bridge across the river, in the middle of Raymond Park, would connect the two sides of the park much better and would attract more people to the park.	810 West Young Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Large indoor facility for walking/jogging and sports fields during colder months. Elderly use the mall but not for long.	884 Northgate Drive, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Hoping they update the aquatic center one day, take note from Rexburg Rapids	2901 S 2 Ave, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Love biking areas. Kids biking area would be great	City Creek Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Love E.F. I hope we can keep places like this one. Dog area is fun. Could use a bench and dog bags for poop.	5500 Bannock Highway, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Love having a bike park at Wellness but would like to see this one improved and add more bike parks in our community.	391 Arabian Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
This is a large open area of City property that would be well suited for a dog park.	South Valley, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Great place to swim and enjoy the outdoors	Ross Park Aquatic Center, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Replace rocky beach with actual sand.	Olympus Drive, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
It feels wasteful to have a greenway next to a channelized river and train tracks. Improve the river. Spend the money	3920 South 2nd Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Pocatello would turn into a DESTINATION if our river was even 50% of what Boise has	2766 Bannock Highway, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Water quality would improve by restoring natural river flow	1554 South Grant Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
The channel has ruined what could be a blue ribbon river.	722 West Lewis Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
The city should be running these courses. Missing out on revenue. The courses need minor updates to make them nice.	2409 South Fairway Drive, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Golf popularity is exploding. Taking ownership back from ForeGolf could increase city revenue.	3356 Lundburg Lane, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Start marketing our great trails surrounding this city. Maybe a bike manufacturer would want to call this biking Mecca home?	902 South Grant Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Look to Salmon, ID as a great example of what can be done with a river in town. They did a great job.	805 West Young Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Take the channel out. Make the river usable. It's such a great possibility for this town. Take as much of the channel as you can.	810 West Young Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
The type of landscaping around the new Pocatello sign is awesome and should be utilized around town. Now just maintain the darn thing.	2100 East Center Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Convert the turn middle turn lane to a median with shrubs/grasses/trees. This is truly a barren, ugly part of town.	540 Yellowstone Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Plant natural plants/trees/pines/aspen. Less grass that needs constant maintenance.	198 Yellowstone Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
It would be nice to see the beautification of city property. Less grass, more sustainable natural plants/grasses/rocks	Gould Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
This new park made possible by private business donations is an awesome addition to downtown. Please maintain it.	155 South Arthur Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Rerouting the river back to its normal flow path through the Riverside golf course would help with river quality and add new and exciting elements to the golf course.	456 Brassie Circle, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Please start working on making this river swim able, and enjoyable. It could be such a draw for this community.	625 South Garfield Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204

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Mountain bike trails	3003 Lois Lane, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Mountain bike trails	1444 Stoneridge Drive, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
City Creek is a gem. Accessible and beautiful	City Creek Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Install dog poop bags and receptacle at the trail heads for lower Rollercoaster	1987 Mariah Way, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Three years ago this was a beautiful grassy area with ducks and wild life. Now its full of dirt, weeds, and branches all over left from when the city had the trees all cut down. A mess and great welcome to Pocatello coming off I-15	1101 Pocatello Creek Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Great short hikes right in city limits. However, ORV riders damage the trails even though posted no ATV	American Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Remove the gravel from trail and never do that again!	1445 City Creek Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
More trail building support from the city is needed and the local BLM needs new leadership to better align with public interests	City Creek Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
City creek has great trails but they are poorly maintained and need better trailhead amenities	1531 City Creek Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Add drinking fountains and bathrooms to this parking lot or make centennial park more clearly a trailhead parking area with a push button pedestrian walking path across the street, more parking spaces, and better bathrooms.	902 South Grant Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Plant a row of trees on the west side of NOP park to protect from wind!	737 West Eldredge Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
I think a Benton bike path is in the long term works, but I recommend a short term paint marking of a protected bike lane so someone doesn't die before the permanent one is built!	325 West Benton Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Keep some of the Greenway unpaved.	2766 Bannock Highway, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Finish Greenway, using eminent domain all the way to Edison Fickter end	2141 South Main Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Wherever there is a dog waste bag dispenser, place a bucket 200 yards up the trail so people can deposit the waste in the bucket rather than along the trail	800 South Lincoln Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
The disc golf course put 3 of 9 holes in historic Monarch breeding habitat after publicly promising they would avoid said habitat. Please move holes 5, 7, 8 to protect endangered Monarchs.	2250 North Arthur Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Eliminate parking area expand trailhead parking further from City creek	Lower City Creek Trailhead, 577-1299 S Lincoln Ave, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
More limitations on vehicle access for a greater part of the spring and fall.	City Creek Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
I think there is plenty of space for additional amenities for this park.	Parkway Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
I don't know how you'd pull this off, but in the spring, it's all but impossible to use the greenway through Sacajawa due to flooding. I'm sure this can be remedied by someone much smarter than myself.	2250 North Arthur Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Centennial Park is my favorite in town!	Centennial Park, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
At the end of the Edson Fichter greenway, when you hit the golf course, it's not clear that the trail continues on as it appears to in the map. This should be clearer and these two should connect.	5688 Bannock Highway, Pocatello, Idaho 83204

Canals make perfect greenways and are a great way to use unutilized space.	1041 Meadowbrook Lane, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
This part of the greenway is just the sidewalk, which is not safe for cyclists or pedestrians.	801-991 Barton Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
This area is experiencing a lot of growth. There are a lot of young families moving into this area. It would be nice if improvements were made to the nearby Scardino Park, or if a new park was planned for this area.	716 Rustic Rd, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
This is the only park for the area besides the elementary school. The playground is old and too hard to access. The space has a lot of potential to benefit the area.	926 El Rancho Boulevard, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Across the river here is a little cul-de-sac and open field perfect for a walking bridge. It would be awesome to have an access point between that neighborhood and Taysome park/Greenway.	1721 Walkabout Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
LOVE the river and Greenway access here and each point on the river. I've floated, paddled, and walked the Greenway many times alone and with my students.	Centennial Park, Centennial Park, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Having trail access so close to town is a true blessing.	1635 City Creek Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Please consider taking away the concrete channel at Raymond Park. A clean, accessible river is always an asset to the community. This would be a social, cultural, environmental, and financial benefit to Pocatello.	1222 North Grant Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
I would like for the city to make this a priority to open up the river at memorial and take away the concrete channel. This would help immensely in improving the communities view of the river and be a boost to the area.	802 West Fremont Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
City creek is amazing! Need more investment in our trail system. Better trailheads, more trail maintenance, etc.	City Creek Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Clean up dead trees in river	2250 North Arthur Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Why place Frisbee golfing in a common flood area and disrupt the native monarch butterflies that thrive here?	500 Aspen Lane, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
These trails and trail access are one of my favorite perks of living in this area. I run here several times a week	2013 Sunrise Way, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Many dead/diseased trees on the courses. Dangerous to players. Frequent falling limbs.	3900 Tech Farm Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
A little maintenance is needed on Abrezewski/Simplot trail. Weeds coming through pavement.	8650 Kraft Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Sacajawea park is important for both community recreation and a flood zone. Consider moving some of the paths out of the regular flood area to higher ground - where people create their own trails each spring. This may eliminate erosion.	1220 North Gathe Drive, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Doggy park	3385 Hawthorne Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Would love a little play area	2800 North Main Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Water needs to be cleared of trash	8650 Kraft Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Zip line for kids would be an awesome addition	1433 West Quinn Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83202

Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan

Parent and me swing	1433 West Quinn Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83202
This park often floods in heavy rain events and during snow melt in the spring. The runoff from the park courses down El Rancho and into the Hilina canal. I wonder if a retention pond/wetland area could be constructed here to control runoff and provide a habitat for pollinator-friendly plants like milkweed.	962 El Rancho Boulevard, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Many trees in this park are in need of pruning, and it seems that there are no young trees growing here to replace those that will one day die or need cutting down. It would be nice to see some young trees started.	962 El Rancho Boulevard, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
I love the mature shade trees in this park!	962 El Rancho Boulevard, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Sidewalks.. There are sporadic sections along this stretch of road specifically. Easier walkability, It seems that there continues to be more people walking along this road.	3771 Hawthorne Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Grateful to have access to the track for walking during weekends and summer!	2271 East Terry Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Let's love on the river more - what can we do to make the channel kinder / gentler to the river?	539 North Johnson Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Light pollution from practice field lighting is a bummer. For any and all-night lighting for any facility anywhere in town, please put some effort into appropriate lighting design for the neighborhood.	805 South 19th Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Love this new trail! Too bad the project only covered the pavement, and not the repair of the disturbed ground. Lots of weeds now. But still a little bit of good sagebrush and a great loop to walk!	Don E. McInturff, 1151 Hospital Way, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Sidewalks along Terry often are not cleared in winter, blocked by mailboxes (and cars on north) - this is key connection to trails/open space uphill from the factory.	2302 East Terry Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Can't wait for the new levee reconstruct and new wetlands!!!	900 South Arthur Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
So grateful for ISU to provide multi-use of this area for the community!	Bartz Field, Bartz Dr, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Seems like only the trail is protected here. The appeal here is the amazing open sky and views - can the wider area be protected? Seems like the mining keeps chewing up more and more of the sage flats.	3920 South 2nd Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Drainage is a problem at the parking lot. Need to move water further into park - this can help water the trees!	4020 South 5th Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
No sidewalks on S 5th!! If you open either end of park chain link fence, you could make a path along the entire park away from traffic.	South 5th Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Functionally, the hospital and farm bureau trails don't work because of the break where you have to detour up onto Hospital Way and E Clark. Need to continue / connect paths through back of hospital / Tuscano's and across E Clark.	Advantage Plus Federal Credit Union, 2133 E Center St, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Terry sidewalk ends at Alvin Ricken. Can the city connect sidewalk to BLM trailhead?	2450 East Terry Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
ISU open spaces (frisbee, xc course and adjacent open land) are heavily used but NOT PROTECTED FROM DEVELOPMENT. Is there a	2350 East Terry Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83201

way to partner with them to formalize protection for these important rec areas?	
Red Hill (Bartz Wy to Barton Rd) is an iconic, heavily used but unofficial trail loop with private & ISU ownership. Both access and land are at risk of development conversion. PLEASE partner w/ ISU, Greenway & private to protect this beloved resource!	845 Barton Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
The parking lot where the old Albertsons used to be is a gigantic eyesore, and dangerous to travel through. Horribly maintained. Something must be done.	925 Meadowbrook Lane, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Maybe working with public health to turn some of their grounds into a community park could also increase people's awareness and access to services they provide?	1901 Alvin Ricken Drive, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
A great park with lots of opportunity for growth.	Caldwell Park, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
There's a great little area next to Trinity church that could be revitalized and utilized in cooperation with the church.	210 North Arthur Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
The Monarch is a huge downtown eyesore, and something needs to be done with it. Assisting owners with grants and other funding opportunities could help them restore and improve.	244 West Center Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
This old building had been vacant for a long time. The area could be turned into more greenery and natural plants instead of a lot of grass. The abandoned building is a real eyesore.	560 South Arthur Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
The library is a fantastic resource and should be invested in by making sure there's more community activities, engagements, and employees to offer help to the community. Right now they really seem understaffed and leaderless.	113 South Garfield Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
A great local park, but maintenance here is an issue, including restrooms and care for things like the horseshoe pits and the path in winter.	Alameda Park, 601-699 E Poplar St, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Bartz Field is a great community place to go with dogs, and I would also love to see the parking lot and road leading to it taken better care of, maybe even paved.	Bartz Field, Bartz Dr, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
A bridge here going over the river connecting the most recently constructed path on the east side of the river to the older, existing path on the west side of the river. Creating an additional loop through the park	North Arthur Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
I LOVE City Creek and our trails	City Creek Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Great Public Bike trails, if we could maintain this as an asset, it could only be beneficial	1916 Satterfield Drive, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Continue trail along the river if possible while continuing to respect property owners along the River.	2490 South Grant Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
The median on North Main Street, Could be reverted to a more natural look and filled with native plants or something more attractive than asphalt. It would help promote a more welcoming entrance to downtown rather than the current dreary entrance	2652 North Main Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
It needs more trees around the perimeter of the park for shade and general enjoyment, Also, could serve as a barrier between the grass field and drivers in the winter who enjoy driving through the expanse of the open field.	1532 Jade Drive, Pocatello, Idaho 83202
This is a great park with many amenities like a great walking path, covered picnic area and children's playground	1433 West Quinn Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83202

Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan

This was a nice trail to the foothills until a single land owner cut off access. Any way to work with him to allow access to the foothills? I know that most of the land is city owned. Any way to protect what is left from private ownership?	1676 Gwen Drive, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Add trail here in back of Red Hill	Interstate 15, Pocatello, Idaho 83402
Replace Bridge with a walking bridge to be able to get from AMI Trail to Edison Fitcher.	432 Cheyenne Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Make parking lot here for access to the highway pond.	8480 West Hildreth Drive, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Make trail go to Abrasweski trail, trim and maintain the trees, build a bridge across Pocatello creek.	2800 North Main Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Return of Portneuf River to Blue Ribbon Condition	8655 Kraft Road, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
The Ross Park master plan was well done, I hope the results of that plan are incorporated into this plan.	2700 South 2nd Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
One of the best sled hills in town, please allow sledding to continue here.	1585 Ammon Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
The playground is an asset, but there are maintenance issues that distract from the park.	725 East Pine Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83201
Love the splash pad!!	5138 Stuart Avenue, Chubbuck, Idaho 83202
Love this spot - maybe more trees if that is an option	Portneuf Wellness Complex, Chubbuck, Idaho 83202
Love this park! Took the kids fishing here - the best time!	Edson Fichter Trail & Nature Preserve, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
So big and open! Love the tall trees	810 West Young Street, Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Its easy and walkable! The ducks are fun for my kids!	500 Aspen Lane, Pocatello, Idaho 83204

Appendix C – Detailed Site Assessment Findings

Park	Condition/Inventory	Recommendations
Alameda Park	- Shelter is dated but in fair condition and has accessible connection to street (parking) and neighborhood. - Playground dated but in fair condition. Gravel surfacing and older play structures should be removed to improve safety and accessibility.	- Replace asphalt walk with concrete, increase width - Replace playground equipment and surfacing - Add accessible walks to playground and some tables/benches
Ammon Park	- Large open space with topographic difference to adjacent houses – possible good location for louder facilities (basketball/pickleball) - Dirt parking and road to upper parking area are in poor condition - Winter use (sledding)	- Relocate playground and shelter when replacing to reduce distance and topography between amenities and access points. - Grade parking lot, pave or add road base including accessible parking spaces.
Bonneville Park	- Accessible walk to playground, no marked accessible parking - Playground located far public access - Play equipment in fair condition - Mix of tree species and ages	- Relocate playground nearer to public access point when replacing
Brady Park	- Cracking and heaving of internal walks. - Good variety of tree species and ages.	- Grind heaving slabs or replace internal walks (increase width) - Upgrade chain link fence around concrete monolith/foundation - Complete connection of internal walk to sidewalk at south corner of park adjacent to Wyeth St
Bremmer Park	- All mature trees of same species - No accessible parking or connection to neighborhood. - Play equipment in fair condition.	- Room to plant succession trees. - Create accessible connection to play area

Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan

Caldwell Park	- Play area has accessible connection to street but not into play area. - Mix of tree species and ages.	- Add accessible ramp into play area - Repair/repaint worn furnishings
Centennial Park	- Play area has accessible curb cut - Off street parking provided (Used for City Creek Trails access) - Pedestrian Bridge to Rainey Field	- Restripe parking area - Replace playground safety surfacing (EWF)
Constitution Park	- Accessible parking spaces are not accessible - Off-street parking - Mix of tree species and ages.	- Add curb cut at accessible parking spaces and walk connecting to play area. - Repair/replace damaged furnishings
City Creek Trailhead, Upper	- Large open parking area providing access to City Creek Trail System	- Plans in progress to move and expand park area to south onto City property and add trailhead amenities including primitive campground
City Creek Trailhead, Lower	- Small parking area providing access to City Creek Trail System - Used for direct hike/bike access to trails (users who hike/bike to trailhead)	- Secure ownership/access easement
Empire Park	- No safety surfacing for existing slide - Mix of tree ages and species. - Shelter in fair condition.	- Add safety surfacing or remove slide. - Add accessible walk to connect shelter to street and neighborhood.
Freckleton Park	- Adjacent to Community Recreation Center, shares off-street parking - Large number of mature trees. - Adjacent to UPRR	- Add accessible parking spaces to north end of Community Recreation Center parking and add walks to connect to park amenities. - Confirm fall zones are adequate for slide and swings and expand safety surfacing or replace structures as necessary.
Fremont Park	- Accessible walk to shelter and playground - Mix of tree species and ages	- Add accessible ramp into play area and connect swings to walk.

Halliwell Park	- Field used by City high schools and semi-pro team - Dugouts and steps recently upgraded	- Replace pressbox/concessions structure
Hawthorne Park	- Playground and fields used by adjacent Wilcox Elementary School - Backstops and bleachers in fair condition. - Large off-street parking area located in southern park of park	- Add accessible seat areas at fields connected to parking and street. - Improve crossing of W Eldridge Rd connecting to Halliwell Park -
Memorial Park	- Variety of mature trees, limited space for new planting.	- Add accessible walk connection to swings and table(s).
N.O.P. Park	- Fields and facilities in good condition. - 2 U12 baseball, 2 U15 baseball, and 4 adult softball fields. 2 softball fields lit. - Concession stand at softball complex	- Delineate parking spaces - Improve accessible parking - Add restroom at baseball fourplex - Add lights to softball fields (2) and baseball fields (4)
O.K. Ward	- Accessible connection to shelter, playground, and new splash pad (2024) from off-street parking. - Playground resurfaced (poured-in-place) in 2024	- Extend accessible walk at softball complex to concession stand and backstop viewing areas.
Optimist Park/ Tydeman Park	- Fields and amenities in good condition. - Good mix of tree species and ages.	- Extend accessible walks to backstop viewing areas. - Designate accessible parking near backstops.
Pioneer Park	- Collection of regional rocks with interpretive signage	- Grind heaving slabs or replace internal walks
Pre-History Park	- Greenway access - River Overlook - Pedestrian Bridge - Historic/interpretive materials	-
Rainey Field	- Pedestrian Bridge to Centennial Park - River access, last float take out before channelized section - Greenway access	- Improve river access. Stabilize surface, reduce slope, increase width. - Refinish bleachers
Raymond Park	- Accessible Parking space has curb cut and connection to playground and shelter - Playground condition fair	- Add accessible connections to individual picnic tables - Add accessible ramp into play area

Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan

Ross Park, Upper	- Shelter adjacent to parking. Accessible parking is designated but appears to exceed accessible slopes. - Dated playground structures - Disc Golf Course	- Replace playground, provide connection to accessible parking. - Designate accessible park spaces near walk to restroom
Ross Park, Lower	- Playground in good condition. - New pickleball courts - Bandshell	- Replace carousel shelter roof. - Add accessible ramp to playground. - Add accessible walks to individual picnic tables.
Sacajawea Park	- Greenway access - Frequent flooding - Disc golf course - Vegetation naturalized	- Designate accessible spaces in paved parking area near opening in fence.
Scardino Park	- Slides and climbing structure with no safety surfacing - Small shelter in poor condition. - Shelter and play equipment are located far into the park with access limited by private property.	- Shelter condition poor enough to warrant removal before a replacement is available. - Relocate play area and structure closer to west end of park. - Connect shelter and play area to street and neighborhood with accessible walk.
Simplot Square	- Interpretive/historical materials.	- Repair heaving/differential setting in paver areas.
Sister City Park	- Topography offers isolation and views out of park - Larger percentage of naturalized vegetation than most parks (on steep slopes) - Disc golf course - Playground separated from parking area by topography and distance but can also be accessed from adjacent neighborhood to west.	- Provide accessible walk to playground from parking area. - Control or improve access on steep slopes in disc golf area to control erosion. - Increase height of railing around parking lot
Taysom Rotary Park	- Newer shelter, possible standard model/style for other parks. - Greenway access	- Add accessible walks to individual picnic tables

Westello Park	- Accessible walk connects street to play area and picnic table. - Play equipment in poor condition.	- Replace play equipment. - Add accessible ramp into play area. - Extend walk around playground to Highland Blvd connect to swings and shelter.
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Appendix D: Recommended Code Language

RECOMMENDED LANGUAGE

17.05.640 Public Parks, Open Space, and Trails Dedication

A. Dedication of land for public parks, trails, and open space shall be required in the amount of ___ percent (___%) of the gross acreage of the subdivision development property for use as open space, public trails, neighborhood or community parks that can include sport fields, playgrounds, picnic areas, or passive recreation features, etc.

B. Design Standards. All land dedicated to the City for public parks, trails, or open space shall meet the following requirements:

1. Land dedicated for use as a recreational park shall be no smaller than ____ (___) acres in size, accessible to the public from a public or private street and follow design standards as defined in the most current PROST Plan.
2. Land dedicated for trails shall connect the proposed subdivision to the adjacent properties or greenway or area trails and follow design standards as defined in the most current PROST Plan.
3. Land dedicated for open space shall serve a functional purpose such as buffering for drainages, wildlife connectivity, native vegetation, passive recreation (soft surface trails), or other similar uses. Co-location with stormwater management may be considered.

C. A fee in lieu of the parks, trails, and open space dedication shall be paid by all subdivision developments that do not dedicate land in accordance with this Section.

1. The required fees shall be per the adopted City fee schedule based upon one or more studies commissioned and approved by the City Council.
2. Revenues from such fees shall be used only to acquire park or open space land or construct park, recreation, or open space related capital improvements that are necessary to serve the community.

Development Review Procedure

Application Procedures:

1. General: All applications for development requiring dedication of land for parks, open space, or trail uses shall be subject to review by the site plan review committee and the parks department.
2. Submittal Requirements: In addition to the submittal requirements for the proposed use as established elsewhere in this title and this code, the applicant shall supply the following information:
 - a. A plan showing:
 - i. The area of the proposed park, open space, or trail;
 - ii. The location and description of the proposed park, open space, or trail use;
 - iii. The proposed area's connections to the rest of the City's park, open space, or trail system;
 - b. Explanations, drawings, or photo simulations of the proposed park, open space, or trail

c. Any additional information deemed necessary by the site plan review committee and Parks and Recreation Director.

Review Criteria:

Submitted plans shall address the following criteria:

1. Public access to the park, open space, or trail.
2. Physical accessibility of facilities.
3. Transportation connections for pedestrians and bicycles.
4. Parking capacity consistent with park features and neighborhood accessibility.
5. How the park, open space, or trail aligns with the design standards as established by the 2025 Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan.
6. How the park, open space, or trail contributes to a Level of Service standard for residents served, as established by the 2025 Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan.
7. Protection of floodways, floodplains, and wetlands in their natural state to maintain their natural, physical, and biological functions.
8. Compatibility of any public recreational use or facility with established uses on adjoining property.

Compatibility of any new or modified development with existing uses on the site and in the surrounding area.