

little rock parks and recreation master plan

july 2001

little rock parks and recreation master plan

city of little rock, arkansas

july 2001



project team


 Wallace Roberts & Todd, LLC
Russell & Roberts, LTD
Leon Younger & PROS
Stone & Ward

table of contents

executive summary	9
introduction	15
chapter one: existing conditions	21
Project Setting	23
Existing Parks and Recreation System	23
Natural Setting	34
Cultural and Historical Resources	40
Political and Planning Districts	44
chapter two: plan development process	51
Vision and Goals	53
Parks Planning Districts	54
chapter three: guiding principles	69
General Principles	71
Open Space Principles	78
Park Land Principles	83
Recreation Facilities Principles	87
chapter four: standards and needs analyses	89
Park Land Standards and Analysis	91
Recreation Facilities Standards and Analysis	98
Programs Analysis	106
chapter five: the grand design	113
Plan Framework: Linkages	115
Development Concept: Three-Trail Loop System	116
Neighborhood Service: Eight-Block Radius	120
Signature Facilities	125

chapter six: policy framework and action plan ..	129
Four-Point Strategy	131
Goal One: Citywide Linkage of Parks, Open Space, and Natural Areas	132
Goal Two: Facilities and Programs to Serve All User Groups	142
Goal Three: Advocate, Build, and Maintain	157
chapter seven: acquisition	167
Target Areas	169
Relationship to the Four-Point Strategy	171
Acquisition Criteria	175
chapter eight: value and phasing	177
Value and Phasing	179
Funding Strategies	185
Benchmark Cities Comparison	188
appendix a: glossary of terms	191
appendix b: soils	195
appendix c: parks planning area demographics ..	201
appendix d: recreation facilities maps	211
appendix e: value assessment	225
acknowledgements	233

list of figures and tables

chapter one: existing conditions	21
Figure 1.1: Existing Parks	27
Table 1.2: Inventory of Developed Parks	28, 29
Table 1.3 Inventory of Undeveloped Parks	30
Figure 1.4: Topography and Hydrology	35
Figure 1.5: Land Use and Land Cover	37
Figure 1.6: Soils	39
Figure 1.7: Historic Districts	43
Figure 1.8: Wards	45
Figure 1.9: Planning Districts	47
Figure 1.10: Future Land Use	49
chapter two: plan development process	51
Figure 2.1: Parks Planning Districts	55
Demographics Figures	62, 63
chapter three: guiding principles	69
Figure 3.1: Open Space Opportunities and Issues	82
chapter four: standards and needs analyses	89
Table 4.1: Comparative Park Standards	94
Table 4.2: Comparative Park Standards - Little Rock 1983 & 2001 Comparison	95
Table 4.3: Park Land Needs Analysis	96
Table 4.4: Active-Use Park Land Comparison by Parks Planning Area	97
Table 4.5: Current Levels of Service	99
Table 4.6: Levels of Service Standards	100
chapter five: the grand design	113
Figure 5.1: Three-Trail Loop System	117
Figure 5.2: Secondary Trails	119
Figure 5.3: Eight-Block Strategy: Existing Parks	121
Figure 5.4: Eight-Block Strategy: All Recreational Providers	122

chapter five: the grand design, continued

Figure 5.5: Eight-Block Strategy: All Recreational Providers & Future Land Use 123
Figure 5.6: Eight-Block Strategy: Neighborhood Service Deficit Areas 124
Figure 5.7: Special Facilities 127

chapter eight: implementation 177

Table 8.1: Phase One 181
Table 8.2: Phase Two 182
Table 8.3: Phase Three 183
Table 8.4: Phase Four 184
Table 8.5: Phase Five 184
Table 8.6: Benchmark Cities Comparison 189

appendices 191

Table B1: Soils Suitability 196, 197
Figure B2: Soil Suitability: Built Uses 198
Figure B3: Soils Suitability: Recreational Uses 199

Park Planning Areas - Demographics Figures 203-209

Figure D1: Community Centers and Fitness Centers 213
Figure D2: Swimming Pools 214
Figure D3: Baseball and Softball Fields 215
Figure D4: Soccer Fields 216
Figure D5: Football Fields 217
Figure D6: Tennis Courts 218
Figure D7: Indoor Basketball Courts 219
Figure D8: Outdoor Basketball Courts 220
Figure D9: Playgrounds 221
Figure D10: Community Gardens 222
Figure D11: Golf 223

Table E1: Value Assessment 230, 231

