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PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

COMMUNITY SURVEY

- statistically valid survey of the community
- 26 questions regarding park and recreation resources and priorities
- 3,500 surveys mailed to households at random during November and December
- 317 completed responses received by December 31
- demographics of 317 completed responses reflect the demographics of the City
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

SOCIAL PINPOINT

- interactive online platform to garner community input
- visitors get to place “pins” on an interactive map of Joplin parks properties
- “pins” are categorized by 5 types of comments: Like it, Don't Like it; Ideas for Improvement, Causes for Concern, and What’s Up with That?
- platform was open to comment for 6 weeks from November to January
- 2612 visits
- 631 unique users
- 65 stakeholders
- 191 comments
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

IN-PERSON EVENTS

- October 13th Pop-up Meetings - conversations with people in parks
- November 22nd Public Meeting - discussion of bicycle and trail amenities
- January 27th Open House - sharing the results of the process
- 6 different locations over 3 different days
- 75 members of the public participated
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT

• January 13th - City Hall - 11am - 4pm
• 4 consultants: a landscape architect, urban planner, park planner, and an architect
• 30 members of City staff as well as elected and appointed officials participated
• Departments of Parks and Rec, Public Works, Planning, Finance, and Administration
• Parks and Rec Advisory Board and City Council Members
• 4 components to the day: sharing collected data, developing plan goals, brainstorming projects, highlighting community priorities
Joplin Park History

- Joplin's parks document the City's history in the landscape
- They tell the stories of your people across different periods of American history: the American Frontier, the Gilded Age, Jim Crow, the Roaring 20s, Urban Renewal, etc.
- Your system is the beneficiary of decades of civic pride and philanthropy
- Your commitment to public open spaces runs more than a century deep.
Commmunity Profile

Joplin Demographics

- Joplin’s population has grown at a rate of 0.42% annually over the past decade
- Joplin is less racially diverse than Missouri
- Joplin’s population exhibits higher rates of poverty and disability than Missouri
- Joplin’s largest population sector by age at 22% is “under 18”
- Joplin’s second largest sector by age at 16.6% is “over 65”
COMMUNITY PROFILE

COMMUNITY AMENITIES

UNIVERSITIES
01. Ozark Christian College
02. Missouri Southern State University

RECREATIONAL AMENITIES
03. Grand Falls
04. Inspiration Point
05. Joplin Family YMCA
06. Twin Hills Golf and Country Club

CHURCHES
07. Victory Ministry & Sports Complex
08. Saint Paul's Church
09. First Christian Church
10. First United Methodist Church
11. Immanuel Lutheran Church Ministries
12. Joplin Calvary Church of the Nazarene
13. First Baptist Church

SCHOOLS
14. Joplin High School
15. Irving Elementary School and Joplin Early Childhood
16. McKinley Elementary School
17. West Central Elementary School
18. Stapleton Elementary School
19. South Joplin Head Start/Early Head Start
20. Cecil Floyd Elementary School
21. Jefferson Elementary School
22. Columbia Elementary School
23. Eastmoreland Elementary School
24. Royal Heights Elementary School
25. Kelsoy Norman Elementary School
26. Thomas Jefferson Independent
27. North Middle School
28. College Heights Christian School

CREEKS
29. Turkey Creek
30. Shoal Creek
31. Joplin Creek
**DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

- Staffing adjustments should be made with an eye towards revenue generation.
- The Department should consider creating a separate Marketing Coordinator position.
- If Joplin renovates Memorial Hall (or not), the Department should consider adding an extra Recreation Coordinator and Recreation Leader.
- The Department could consider developing a mentoring program within the department.
- The Department must consider the impact future minimum wage increases will have on personnel expenses.
FUNDING ANALYSIS

• The Department is financially healthy with a generous subsidy from the general fund
• The golf course achieves an impressive cost recovery rate, and with no driving range
• If the Department proceeds with Memorial Hall renovations, expect to see increased revenues and increased operating expenses, but overall improved cost recovery
• Future investment in the Department should focus on renovating and updating the current inventory of parks and expanding revenue generating opportunities
SYSTEM INVENTORY

PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS

- Joplin’s current core program areas include: rentals, youth sports, adult sports, community events, and aquatics
- Potential new program areas could include: outdoor education, fitness/wellness, and expanded summer camps
- The Department should continue to evaluate rental rates and program fees on an annual or bi-annual basis
- The Department needs to develop a program pyramid that provides cost recovery guidance for current and future programs

Example Program Pyramid. The number of levels should be determined by the Department. For purposes of this master plan, B*K has identified 4 different levels:

- Level 1 – 30% Cost Recovery & Under
- Level 2 – 30-60% Cost Recovery
- Level 3 – 60-90% Cost Recovery
- Level 4 – 90% Cost Recovery
## System Inventory

### City of Joplin, MO

#### Park, Facility, and Trail Assessments

<table>
<thead>
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<th>City of Joplin, MO</th>
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<th>Park, Facility, and Trail Assessments</th>
<th>System Inventory</th>
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**Note:** The table above provides a comprehensive assessment matrix for the city's parks, facilities, and trails, covering various aspects such as accessibility, connectivity, comfort, and amenities. The system inventory includes detailed evaluations across different parameters like visibility, accessibility, usability, and amenity levels, ensuring a holistic approach to the maintenance and improvement of public spaces.
LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

- **POCKET PARKS**: 0.25 to 5 acres in size serving population within a 1/4-mile
- **NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS**: 5 to 20 acres in size serving population within a 1/2-mile
- **COMMUNITY PARK**: 20 to 75 acres in size serving population within 2 miles
- **REGIONAL PARK**: 50 to 250 acres in size serving those within a 30-minute drive

- Joplin is blessed with a great diversity of parkland
- Joplin’s gaps in parkland are found in the northeast, southeast and far west
- Increased connectivity, rather than land acquisition, could be a solution
- 3 nodes: Joplin Creek Corridor, Shoal Creek Corridor, Schifferdecker/Athletic Complex
NRPA & Community Benchmarking

- The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) releases park metrics each year which provide a snapshot of parks in communities across the nation.
- This master plan collected and analyzed similar park metrics from seven cities from across the region which City of Joplin staff deemed to be peer communities.
SYSTEM ANALYSIS
MASTER PARK MAP

PARKS
01. Campbell Parkway Park  
02. Cedar Ridge Park  
03. Crestwood Park  
04. Ewert Park  
05. Garvin Park  
06. Goose Egg Park  
07. Humphrey Park  
08. Cunningham Park  
09. Iron Gates Park  
10. Landreth Park  
11. Leonard Park  
12. McClelland Park  
13. McIndoe Park  
14. McKinley Park  
15. Mercy Park  
16. Mineral Park  
17. Mohaska Park  
18. Parr Hill Park  
19. Roanoke Park  
20. Schifferdecker Park  
21. Spiva Park  
22. Spring Park  
23. Triangle Park  
24. Wildcat Park  
25. Dover Outdoor Recreation Area  
26. Ozark Memorial Park  
27. Gabby Street Practice Field  
28. Frisco Greenway Trail

FACILITIES
29. Fairview Cemetery  
30. Forest Park Cemetery  
31. Joe Becker Stadium  
32. Joplin Athletic Complex  
33. Memorial Hall  
34. Osborne Memorial Cemetery  
35. Parkway Cemetery  
36. Schifferdecker Aquatic Center, Golf Course and Museum  
37. Parks and Recreation Offices  
38. Park Maintenance Facility  
39. Cunningham Aquatic Center  
40. Ewert Park Aquatic Center  
41. Senior Center
STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN
GOAL #1  DEVELOP DESTINATIONS

Objectives
- Improve or enhance the parks and facilities currently in the system
- Create signature improvements at signature parks
- Beautify all park properties

Actions
- Facilitate a public art program to feature the works of local and regional art in parks
- Select and execute improvement projects that enhance the identity of the City’s primary recreational nodes: the Joplin Creek Corridor, the Shoal Creek Corridor, and the Schifferdecker/Athletic Complex
- Establish sales tax-funded operations, maintenance, and beautification programs
Objectives
- Improve trail connections around and across Joplin
- Improve accessibility for all park users
- Upgrade vital utilities and infrastructure

Actions
- Standardize trail construction details and material specifications
- Commission an accessibility audit for all parks, cemeteries, and facilities
- Bring electrical power to Mercy Park
- Complete trail connections to link the City’s three primary recreational nodes
STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

GOAL #3  PRIORITIZE SAFETY

Objectives

• Develop security infrastructure at all parks
• Improve safety through park design
• Improve safety through park programing

Actions

• Develop a park ranger division within the department
• Install security cameras at 11 parks
• Install security lighting at 11 parks
GOAL #4  EDUCATE THE MASSES

Objectives

• Develop park signage guidelines
• Improve park and trail wayfinding system
• Improve departmental marketing capacity
• Highlight the natural and cultural resources of Joplin parks

Actions

• Develop wayfinding signage guidelines for parks and trails
• Install new entry signs at 5 parks
• Install interpretive signage at 4 parks
• Revamp the departmental website
• Increase departmental staffing to increase marketing and development capacity
• Partner with a smartphone app to provide citizens with mapping and facility data
STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

GOAL #5  CULTIVATE HEALTH & WELLNESS

Objectives

- Develop wellness programming to compliment what is offered in the community
- Promote the idea of health and wellness outdoors in parks
- Improve multi-generational play opportunities
- Promote environmentally sustainable operations practices

Actions

- Develop and initiate bike safety programing for families
- Install fitness trail at Landreth Park
- Overlay 28 sports courts across 9 parks
- Add outdoor game equipment at 7 parks
- Initiate recycling program in Schifferdecker, Landreth, and Cunningham Parks
- Reduce mowing across park properties by expanding prairie partnership with USFWS
**Goal #1: Develop Destinations**

Projects:

1. Ewert Aquatic Center splash park $5,000,000
2. East Park covered basketball court $550,000
3. Schifferdecker roadway, parking, sidewalk, and improvements $2,500,000
4. Schifferdecker Municipal Golf Course driving range $850,000
5. Cunningham Aquatic Center slide replacement $1,000,000
6. Cunningham Park playground to sand volleyball conversion $90,000
7. Campbell Parkway parking, sidewalk, and trail improvements $850,000
8. Joplin Athletic Complex falling, pond and trail $1,750,000
9. Gene Bassman Softball Complex synthetic turf $800,000
10. Harshawee Soccer Complex synthetic turf $1,500,000
11. Miracle Field turf replacement $400,000
12. Wendel Redden Stadium synthetic turf installation $200,000
13. Wendel Redden Stadium infield synthetic turf replacement $150,000
14. Dover Outdoor Recreation Area bicycle park $300,000
15. Joe Becker Stadium infield synthetic turf $1,550,000
16. Joe Becker Stadium outfield synthetic turf installation $1,350,000
17. Joe Becker Stadium outfield synthetic turf replacement $400,000
18. Joe Becker Stadium infield synthetic turf and improvements $200,000
19. Landreth Park football field lighting replacement $1,450,000
20. Landreth Park football field lighting, replacement $1,450,000
21. McClelland Park roadway, sidewalk, and shelter improvements $105,000
22. Midtown Park restroom $150,000
23. Wildfire Park restroom $150,000
24. Humphrey Park splash pad $750,000
25. Perfor playground enhancements across 15 parks $1,350,000
26. Establish Park Rescission Program $2,500,000
27. Renew Annual Park Maintenance Program $1,700,000
28. Joplin History & Mineral Museum Strategic Plan $700,000

**Total:** $22,690,000

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**Goal #2: Improve Connectivity**

Projects:

1. Install electrical facilities in Mercy Park $250,000
2. Katy Trailhead Park at W. Perkins St $500,000
3. Katy Trailhead Park at W. Perkins St to N. Lone Elm Rd $1,750,000
4. Katy Trail east segment - from W. Perkins St to N. Lone Elm Rd $650,000
5. Dover Outdoor Rec to Landreth Park connector $750,000
6. Landreth Park Main Street underpass $250,000
7. Landreth Park to Frisco Trailhead connector $200,000
8. Creekside Plaza improvements $2,500,000
9. Spring Greenway Trail $180,000
10. Parr Hill Park 15th Street underpass $1,100,000
11. E. 44th St. shared use path $250,000
12. S. Main St. shared use path $500,000
13. Tim Cup Trail Phase 2 $750,000
14. Tim Cup Trail 30th Street underpass $1,200,000
15. W. Jungle Blvd. shared use path $490,000
16. N. Schifferdecker Ave. shared use path $180,000
17. W. Perkins St. shared use path $180,000
18. Install trail wayfinding signage package $150,000
19. Install or replace benches across trail network $250,000

**Total:** $11,720,000

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**Goal #3: Prioritize Safety**

Projects:

1. Install security cameras at 11 parks $60,000
2. Interpretive signage at 4 parks $80,000
3. Update lettering on both Landreth Park entry signs $10,000
4. Install information kiosks at all 28 parks and cemeteries $300,000

**Total:** $450,000

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**Goal #4: Educate the Masses**

Projects:

1. Install security lighting at 10 parks $1,510,000

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**Goal #5: Cultivate Health and Wellness**

Projects:

1. Install fitness equipment on trails at Landreth Park $350,000
2. Install fitness equipment across 28 sport courts at 9 parks $440,000
3. Add outdoor games at 7 parks $105,000

**Total:** $585,000

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**MASTER PLAN TOTAL**

$43,565,000
NAME: SCHIFFERDECKER PARK IMPROVEMENTS
GOAL: DEVELOP DESTINATIONS
COMPONENTS: ROADWAY, PARKING, SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS, NEW GOLF DRIVING RANGE
TOTAL COST: $3,350,000
JUSTIFICATION:

• The park currently features limited sidewalks and accessible parking
• Internal roadways are nearing end of lifespan
• Park attractions are difficult to access and poorly signed
• The park does not take capitalize upon its historical identity
• The golf course lacks the programming offered by a driving range
NAME: CAMPBELL PARKWAY IMPROVEMENTS

GOAL: DEVELOP DESTINATIONS

COMPONENTS: PARKING, SIDEWALK, & TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

TOTAL COST: $850,000

JUSTIFICATION:

- Existing parallel parking on Murphy Blvd. is limited and inaccessible
- Trail access in southern portion of park is limited
- The park does not provide enough access to or emphasis on Joplin Creek
- The community has expressed a desire for more outdoor educational and recreation and this park has the potential to provide more of both
PROJECT LIST

NAME: JOPLIN ATHLETIC COMPLEX FISHING POND
GOAL: DEVELOP DESTINATIONS
COMPONENTS: POND, ROADWAY, PARKING, RESTROOM, SHELTER & TRAIL
TOTAL COST: $1,750,000
JUSTIFICATION:

- The community prioritizes investment in trails
- The department does not currently have a fishing venue in the system
- A fishing pond would provide additional program and event opportunities for the department
- These western 40 acres of the Athletic Complex currently convey the stormwater runoff from Schifferdecker Municipal Golf Course
NAME: JOPLIN ATHLETIC COMPLEX UPGRADES
GOAL: DEVELOP DESTINATIONS
COMPONENTS: BASSMAN SOFTBALL TURF, HERSHEY WE
SOCCER TURF, MIRACLE FIELD TURF, WENDELL
REDDEN TURF, TENNIS CENTER RESTROOM
TOTAL COST: $3,450,000
JUSTIFICATION:
• Turf replacement will improve playability, drainage, and reduce annual
  operational costs due to reduced mowing
• The tennis facility does not have a dedicated restroom building
• These improvements help to keep the Athletic Complex a premier des-
  tination for youth sports players and families across the region
PROJECT LIST

NAME: DOVER OUTDOOR REC AREA BICYCLE PARK
GOAL: DEVELOP DESTINATIONS
COMPONENTS: ROADWAY, PARKING, SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS, SHELTER, RESTROOM, PUMP TRACK, BIKE PLAYGROUND, MTB TRAIL
TOTAL COST: $1,350,000
JUSTIFICATION:

• The community prioritized bike and running trails as its top facility
• Natural parks and preserves and outdoor rec also rated highly
• This park property features 95 acres of mostly undeveloped land with 40 feet of grade change and access to Joplin and Turkey Creek
• Development of this property as shown would make it an anchor for the Joplin Creek Corridor and attract visitors from outside Joplin
PROJECT LIST

NAME: MCCLELLAND PARK IMPROVEMENTS
GOAL: DEVELOP DESTINATIONS
COMPONENTS: ROADWAY, PARKING, SIDEWALK, AND SHELTER IMPROVEMENTS
TOTAL COST: $1,450,000
JUSTIFICATION:

• The park lacks a destination entry experience for visitors
• Picnic areas on the bluff offer no accessible parking
• The park features no accessible pedestrian trails
• This park is the largest park in the Shoal Creek Corridor and has been a community destination for decades
• Providing upgrades roadway infrastructure, new shelters, and picnic spaces will keep it a destination for years to come
PROJECT LIST

NAME: HUMPHREY PARK SPLASH PAD
GOAL: DEVELOP DESTINATIONS
COMPONENTS: NEW SPLASH PAD
TOTAL COST: $750,000
JUSTIFICATION:

• Humphrey is the only park serving the historic northeast
• A splash pad is a simple way to add an aquatic amenity without adding significant aquatic operational and personnel costs
• These amenities not only provide fun during the summer; with proper design they can add to the cultural or historic identity of the park and provide year-round play opportunities and event space
PROJECT LIST

NAME: PLAYGROUND ENHANCEMENTS
GOAL: DEVELOP DESTINATIONS
COMPONENTS: REPLACEMENT PARTS, NEW EQUIPMENT, AND NEW SURFACING
TOTAL COST: $1,300,000

JUSTIFICATION:

• Playgrounds are a requisite amenity for Joplin’s youth and young families
• They must be repaired, updated, or replaced once a decade to remain safe, accessible, and up to community standards
• This project would positively impact 21 separate playgrounds across 15 parks including: Joplin Athletic Complex, Cunningham, Garvin, Humphrey, Leonard, Iron Gates, Landreth, Cedar Ridge, McClelland, Mineral, Parr Hill, Roanoke, Schifferdecker, Ewert, and Wildcat Parks
**PROJECT LIST**

**NAME:** KATY TRAIL DEVELOPMENT  
**GOAL:** IMPROVE CONNECTIVITY  
**COMPONENTS:** TRAIL HEAD PARK, WESTERN & EASTERN SEGMENTS  
**TOTAL COST:** $2,700,000  
**JUSTIFICATION:**

- This project would provide 11,800 linear feet of multi-use bike and pedestrian trail  
- It would connect the Schifferdecker/Athletic Complex to the Joplin Creek Corridor  
- It takes advantage of vacant railroad right-of-way  
- It highlights Joplin railroad history along Missouri-Kansas-Texas railway  
- It offers safe access to wild landscapes of north Joplin
NAME: LANDRETH PARK TRAIL CONNECTIONS
GOAL: IMPROVE CONNECTIVITY
COMPONENTS: DOVER PARK CONNECTOR, MAIN STREET UNDERPASS, & FRISCO TRAIL CONNECTOR
TOTAL COST: $1,280,000
JUSTIFICATION:

• These are 3 separate trail projects which could safely connect Landreth Park to adjacent park and trail properties
• A Main Street underpass would allow pedestrians and cyclists to avoid the dangerous intersection of Murphy Boulevard and Main Street
• The Frisco Connector would improve existing failing neighborhood sidewalks and link Landreth with Mineral Park as well as the Frisco Trail
**PROJECT LIST**

**NAME:** Ewert Park Trail Connections  
**GOAL:** Improve Connectivity  
**COMPONENTS:** Joplin Plaza Riverwalk, Spring Greenway Sidewalk Improvements  
**TOTAL COST:** $2,680,000  

**JUSTIFICATION:**
- These projects would provide critical connections between multiple park properties and land uses in the heart of the Joplin Creek Corridor.
- Joplin Plaza Riverwalk would bring 1,100 linear feet of trail on the east bank of Joplin Creek through an established commercial development and connect Ewert Park to Campbell Parkway.
- Spring Greenway sidewalk improvements would connect residential neighborhoods to Ewert Park through an existing park.
**NAME:** TIN CUP TRAIL CONNECTIONS  
**GOAL:** IMPROVE CONNECTIVITY  
**COMPONENTS:** 32ND STREET UNDERPASS, TIN CUP TRAIL PHASE 2 IMPROVEMENTS  
**TOTAL COST:** $1,950,000  

**JUSTIFICATION:**  
- This project would provide safe connections between the Shoal Creek Corridor, Mercy and Cunningham Parks, and Osborne Cemetery  
- Project would provide access to the Tin Cup Creek riparian corridor  
- These improvements build upon current investment in the Tin Cup Trail  
- 32nd Street underpass would offer cyclists and pedestrians a safe way to cross under the intersection of 32nd Street and St. Johns Boulevard
PROJECT LIST

NAME: SECURITY CAMERAS & LIGHTING
GOAL: PRIORITIZE SAFETY
COMPONENTS: SECURITY CAMERAS & LIGHTING
TOTAL COST: $1,810,000

JUSTIFICATION:

• Safety concerns are the #1 barrier to Joplinites visiting their parks
• Parks and trails are open from 7:00am until 11:00pm
• Better lighting increases accessibility and reduces vandalism
• Project would fund the installation of cameras at 11 parks: Joplin Athletic Complex, Mercy, Cunningham, Landreth, Leonard, Humphrey, Parr Hill, Ewert, Schifferdecker, Wildcat, and McClelland
• Project would fund the installation of 300 pole-mounted light fixtures across 11 parks: Humphrey, Leonard, Landreth, Parr Hill, Ewert, Garvin, Spiva, Mercy, Cunningham, Schifferdecker, Iron Gates
NAME: INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE & PARK KIOSKS
GOAL: EDUCATE THE MASSES
COMPONENTS: INTERPRETIVE SIGNS & PARK KIOSKS
TOTAL COST: $380,000
JUSTIFICATION:

• This community prioritizes the programming of history in its parks
• Joplin has multiple park properties with deep connections to local history and ecology
• A community uses its parks more when it knows what is available
• This project would install interpretive signage at 4 parks: Ewert, Schifferdecker, Mineral, and Wildcat Parks
• Project would install park kiosks at all 4 cemeteries and 10 parks: Dover Outdoor Recreation Area, Joplin Athletic Complex, Landreth, Parr Hill, Ewert, Mercy, Cunningham, Schifferdecker, Wilcat and McClelland
NAME: FITNESS TRAIL & OUTDOOR GAMES
GOAL: CULTIVATE HEALTH & WELLNESS
COMPONENTS: LANDRETH PARK FITNESS TRAIL AND OUTDOOR GAMES ACROSS 7 PARKS
TOTAL COST: $455,000
JUSTIFICATION:

• This community wants more opportunities for outdoor adult fitness
• Joplin’s largest demographics are the under-18 and over-65 age brackets
• Outdoor fitness equipment is a natural fit along the mile of existing trail in Landreth Park
• Outdoor games are a simple way to get entire families to spend more time in parks. This project would install games at Leonard, Humphrey, Landreth, McIndoe, McClelland, Cunningham, and Schifferdecker Parks
QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?