



City of Auburn

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Master Plan

May 2, 2018

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The City of Auburn would like to thank all the residents, and stakeholders involved in the production of this Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Master Plan. Special thank you to Auburn Parks and Recreation, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and the Auburn Public Library for their assistance in putting together a plan for the City's parks system and the cultural programming that will keep the needs of its citizens' in the forefront.

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OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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Mike Edwards, Budget Manager

PARKS AND RECREATION

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Alison S. Hall, Community and Special Programs Administrator

Sara Hand Custer, Cultural Arts Administrator

AUBURN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Chris Warren, Library Director

PLANNING

Forrest Cotten, Planning Director

Thomas Weintraut, Principal Planner

PUBLIC WORKS/ENGINEERING

Jeff Ramsey, City Engineer

Alison Frazier, Engineering Manager

Brandy Ezelle, Traffic Engineer

WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Dan Ballard, Watershed Division Manager

CITY OF AUBURN RESIDENTS

STAKEHOLDERS

Listed in Appendix A

PREFACE: ABBREVIATIONS

Jurisdictions/Schools:

- Auburn City Schools (ACS)
- Auburn Parks and Recreation Department (APRD)
- Auburn Public Library (APL)
- Auburn University (AU)
- City of Auburn (COA)

Surveys:

- 2015 ETC Parks and Recreation Community Interest and Opinion Survey (2015 Community Survey)
- 2016 ETC Cultural Arts and Library Community Interest and Opinion Survey (2016 Community Survey)
- Annual Citizen Survey (Annual Citizen Survey)
- Program Inventory and Assessment Survey (PIA)

Reports:

- 2016 National Recreation and Park Association (2016 NRPA Field Report)

Plans:

- 2014 Downtown Master Plan (2014 DMP)
- Auburn Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Master Plan (APRC Master Plan)
- South-Central Alabama Development Commission's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (Alabama SCORP)
- The Comprehensive Plan for the City of Auburn (CompPlan 2030)

Departments/Centers:

- Auburn Arts Association (AAA)
- Auburn University Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art (JCSMFA)
- Auburn University Performing Arts Center (AUPAC)
- City of Auburn Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center (JDCAC)
- Dean Road Recreation Center (DRRC)
- Frank Brown Recreation Center (FBRC)
- Louise Kreher Forest Ecology Preserve and Nature Center (KFEP)

Library:

- Auburn Public Library Board (APLB)
- Friends of the Auburn Public Library (FOAPL)
- Library Performance Composite Index (LPCI)

Other:

- Auburn Interactive Growth Model (AIGM)
- Douglas J. Watson Municipal Complex (DJWMC)
- National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)
- Priority Investment Rating (PIR)

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CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of the Auburn Parks, Recreation and Cultural Master Plan (APRC Master Plan) is to provide a comprehensive look at the City of Auburn (COA) parks and recreation and public library system. This comprehensive Parks Master Plan will help to focus upgrades to the quality of the COA's parks, recreation, arts and cultural programming, library, greenspace/greenways, trails, facilities, landscape and natural features.



A comprehensive master plan is important to the COA administrators and directors who must set policy and make financial decisions on the allocation of recreational and cultural resources. The APRC Master Plan is developed as a tool to identify the more pressing needs of the community and to better focus the funding of facilities to those that meet the greatest overall needs of the community. A complete plan becomes an effective tool for budgeting and phasing investments so that the community is properly served and the COA leaders are equipped to make better and more informed decisions.

The COA had previously embarked on collecting data and information about the parks and recreation system in the 2015 ETC Parks and Recreation Community Interest and Opinion Survey (2015 Community Survey). The results revealed a need to broaden the base of the study with a more comprehensive review of cultural facilities and an evaluation of the current library and the services it offers.

The APRC Master Plan will provide the COA leadership with a menu of desired facilities, programs, overall costs for development and maintenance for the next 20 years. It will be used to establish priorities, set schedules, appropriate funds and identify phases for future development.

Since population movement and demographics are fluid and constantly evolving, the APRC Master Plan needs to remain flexible so COA leaders can make the necessary adjustments as conditions change.

1.01 Approach

To address the complexity of developing an effective comprehensive master plan, the COA embarked on a selection process to identify a team of professional planners, engineers, landscape architects and parks experts who could effectively address the local and unique conditions inherent to the COA. A "Request for Proposals" was prepared and sent out by the COA to solicit proposals from interested parties. Submittals were received and reviewed with the four (4) top groups identified for interviews. Each team was asked to present their qualifications and approach to preparing a comprehensive Parks, Recreation and Cultural Master Plan to a selection panel.

Foresite Group Inc., an Auburn firm, assembled a team composed of landscape architects, planners, engineers and specialized sub-consultants with expertise in park planning, park design, public surveys and library consultation to cover all the components of the plan. For the team to effectively determine the needs for the APRC Master Plan, they embarked on the following four (4) phases to identify an approach.

- **What does the COA currently have?** *Take an inventory at what exists: Assemble, review and evaluate available data on existing programs, facilities and sites.*
- **What do the residents want?** *Gather feedback from the community to hear what the citizens want: Meet with COA officials, parks staff, stakeholders and citizens to obtain input and information.*
- **What does the COA need?** *Identify the gaps and determine what needs are not being met: Develop a comprehensive program of the needs for Auburn Parks and Recreation Department (APRD) and the Auburn Public Library (APL) resulting from community input.*
- **What can be developed?** *Prepare a master plan and cost estimates of the identified needs: Develop a master plan to meet the needs of the citizens and the conditions of the land.*

1.02 Analysis of a Master Plan

From the identified “Needs and Gap Analysis”, seventeen parks and greenspaces were identified for recommended upgrades and new facilities to support programming and anticipated growth. These park locations will be shown graphically in Chapter Nine (9) of this document. Each individual park concept plan includes a defined program, a detailed cost estimate and an overall summary of both. A comprehensive list of programming and facilities currently available is included in the document to help the COA leadership to set priorities and plan future allocation of resources. The Community Profile chapter utilizes census data to provide a background on the makeup of the population in and around the COA. Such data, when used in conjunction with comprehensive plans, can be a valuable tool when forecasting future growth and development.

Beginning with the reorganization of the local government in 1982, comprehensive strategic plans have been researched and assembled to help shape the COA. These comprehensive land plans have acted as road maps for infrastructure, economic development and partnerships. As the COA has changed, so too have the approaches changed. A major contribution to the planning that went into the latest land use plan, The Comprehensive Plan for the City of Auburn (CompPlan 2030), has been the City’s use of the rule-based zoning and analytical tool. This modeling technology, the Auburn Interactive Growth Model (AIGM), helps the COA to make informed decisions and focus effort.

This master plan benefits from some of the research provided in the CompPlan 2030. Similarly, a series of public meetings and surveys were conducted to help understand the desires of the residents of the COA. From the synthesis of public input, research in the CompPlan 2030 and a careful analysis of the COA’s existing programs and facilities, conclusions are drawn that help the COA to align the development of park space and cultural needs with that of the COA’s changing demographic. This approach will help to position the City to make informed decisions about current and future needs in the community.

CHAPTER 2: COMMUNITY PROFILE

2.0 Demographics

2.01 Population

The City of Auburn is in Lee County, Alabama and is a principal city of the Auburn-Opelika Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), one of the fastest-growing metropolitan areas in Alabama. The Auburn-Opelika MSA had an estimated combined population of 115,092 in 2000 and 140,247 in 2010, which represents a population growth of almost 22% in ten (10) years.

Auburn is the largest city in eastern Alabama and has more than doubled its population since 1970, which includes measured growth in the student population of Auburn University (AU). However, as noted in the CompPlan 2030, populations of non-students have outpaced those attending AU dating back to 1970. If enrollment numbers are capped at 25,000 as planned, the student proportion of Auburn citizens will continue to decrease.



Auburn has maintained its status as one of the fastest growing communities in Alabama. In Table 1.1, it should also be noted that Auburn is currently challenging the 2010 population number and in fact believes it to be 59,563. From 2000 to 2015 the population of Auburn increased by 44% and is projected to continue to increase. This rate of growth is greater than Lee County at 35.8% between 2000 to 2015, and higher than the State of Alabama during the same period. Using the AIGM population projections, the CompPlan

2030 estimates that the COA will have a population of 87,916 by 2030 using the current City limits. This population growth modeling also implies an increase in household sizes and family housing demand. Due to continued growth and the efforts of the COA to promote economic development, Auburn was named in the top ten (10) for projected job growth by Forbes in 2010.¹

Table 1.1 and Graph 1.2 on the following page illustrate how populations are projected to grow within Auburn and the region.

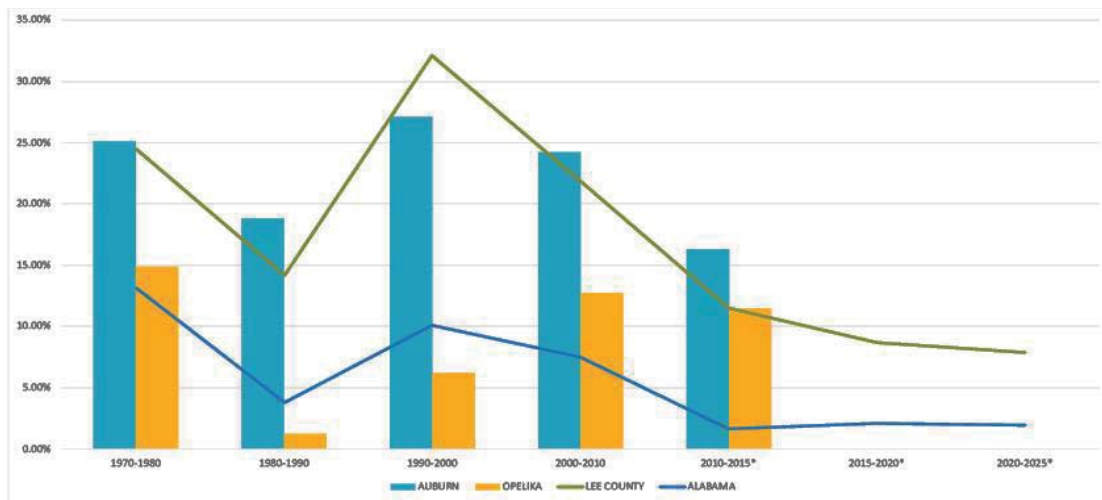
¹ Forbes. https://www.forbes.com/lists/2010/5/business-places-10_Auburn-AL_6159.html

Table 1.1 Population from 1970-2015, Census Place and County

JURISDICTION	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2015*
AUBURN	22,767	28,471	33,830	42,987	53,380	62,059
OPELIKA	19,027	21,869	22,122	23,498	26,477	29,527
LEE COUNTY	61,268	76,283	87,146	115,092	140,247	156,351
ALABAMA	3,444,354	3,894,025	4,040,587	4,447,100	4,779,736	4,855,847

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Estimates

Graph 1.2 Projected Population Change (%) By Census Place and County

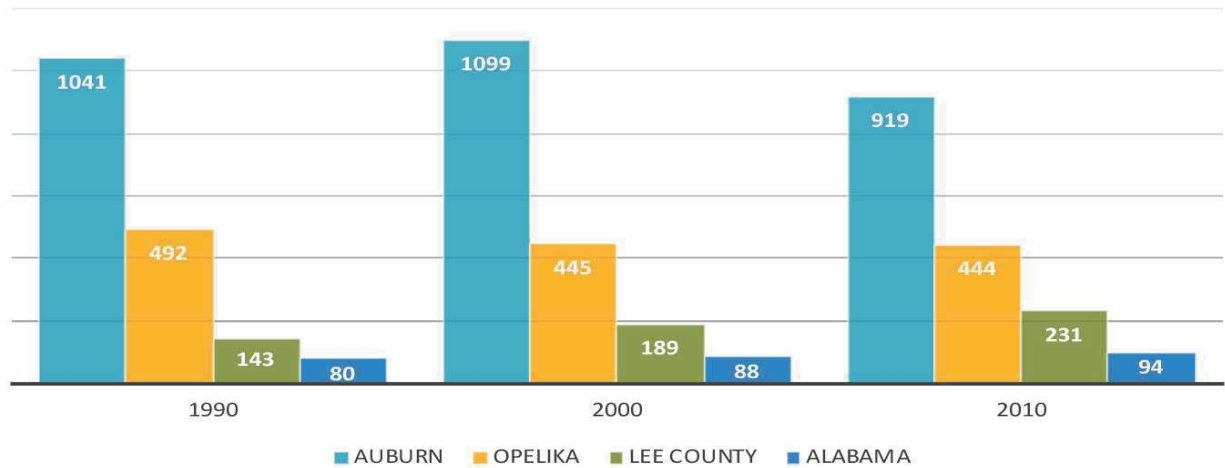


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Estimates

2.02 Population Densities

Population density in the City of Auburn was at its highest in the year 2000 with 1,099 citizens per square mile. Since then, the COA has experienced a decrease in density of over 180 citizens per square mile. This decrease in density is largely due to the numerous annexations of land into the City that have more than doubled the geographic area of Auburn since 1984. The CompPlan 2030 and data from the AIGM detail the mission and purpose behind the importance of continued annexations into the COA. The values shown in Graph 1.3 indicate that densities will continue to be greater than that of the county and the state.

Graph 1.3 Density Projections by Census Place and County (Persons per Acre)

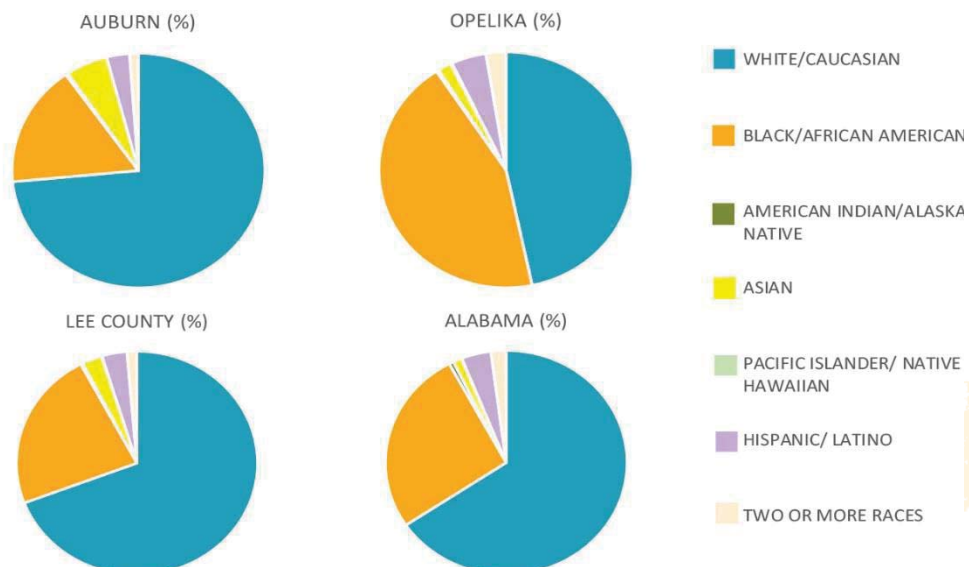


Source: U.S. Census Bureau

2.03 Race/Ethnicity

The 2010 census data, Graph 1.4, indicates 75.1% of citizens in Auburn identify as White/Caucasian, followed by 16.5% Black/African American, 5.3% Asian and 3.0% composed of American Indian/Alaska Native, Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian, or others. Hispanics are noted as 2.9% of the total population and may identify with another group. In general, the COA has a higher percentage of White/Caucasian and a lower percentage of Black/African American than the County and State. Notable increases in citizens identifying with Hispanic origin echo a trend in the southern states. As noted in the CompPlan 2030, the Census shows an 828% increase in the Hispanic population of Lee County between 1990 and 2010.

Graph 1.4 Population by Race and Hispanic Origin by Census Place and County, 2010



Source: U.S. Census 2010

2.04 Household Incomes

The COA and Lee County have similar median household incomes. In 2014, approximately 40.5% of the population of Auburn was projected to have a household income above \$50,000, while in Lee County, 44.1% were over \$50,000. Graph 1.5 provides a breakdown of the household income percentage estimates for 2014. This is primarily due to the large student population.

Graph 1.5 Household Incomes (%), 2014

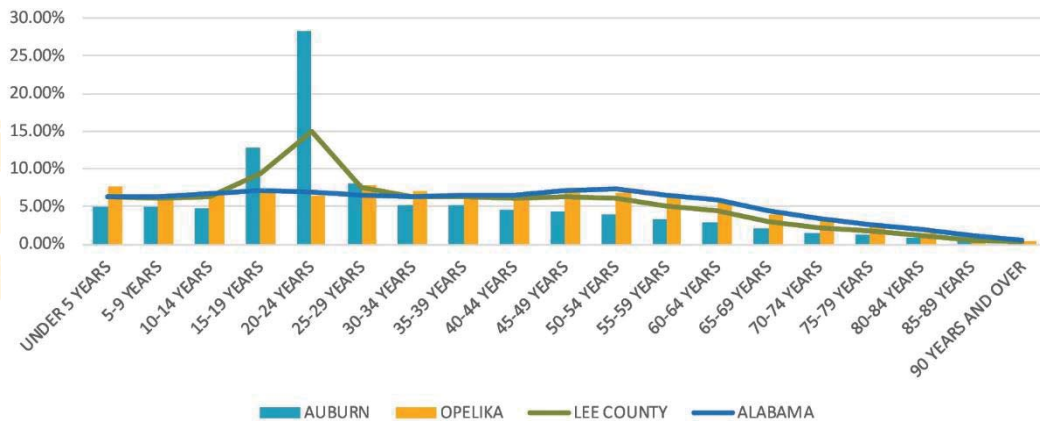


Source: U.S. ACS; Note: Data shown includes college students

2.05 Age

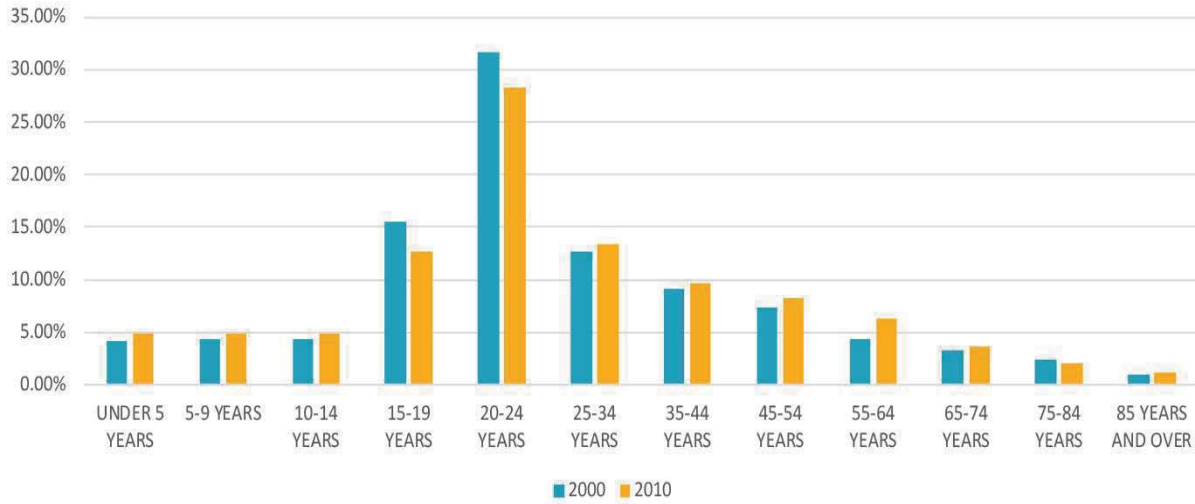
The age distribution of the population within Lee County and the State of Alabama has been very similar. However, the COA had much higher percentages in the age groups 15-19 and 20-24 due to the large number of AU students, as shown in Graph 1.6. Age group distributions for years 2000 and 2010 for the City are shown in Graph 1.7. From 2000 to 2010, the percentage of citizens in the age groups 15-19 and 20-24 has decreased by about 2.8% and 3.5%, respectively. However, age groups 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, and 55-64 have had a greater increase than the remaining age groups from 2000 to 2010.

Graph 1.6 Age of Population, Comparable 2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2010

Graph 1.7 Age of Population, City of Auburn (only), 2000, 2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2010

2.06 Education

Most Auburn residents have a high level of educational attainment as shown in Tables 1.8-1.10, which is partly due to employment by AU. 2009 data shows 93.5% of Auburn’s citizens have a high school education or better. Compared with 88.1% for 1990, the upward trend since 1990 reflects a 5.4% improvement. Similarly, the proportion of citizens with a bachelor’s degree or higher increased by 8.7% from 1990 to 2009.

**Table 1.8 Auburn Educational Attainment
Persons Age 25 and Older, 1990**

ELEMENTARY	HIGH SCHOOL		COLLEGE	
	9TH - 12TH GRADE (NO DIPLOMA)	H.S. GRADUATE (INCLUDES EQUIVALENCY)	SOME COLLEGE/ ASSOCIATE DEGREE	BACHELOR’S/ GRADUATE/ PROFESSIONAL DEGREE
LESS THAN 9TH GRADE				
700	819	1,861	2,996	6,390
5.5%	6.4%	14.6%	23.4%	50.1%

Source: CompPlan 2030

**Table 1.9 Auburn Educational Attainment
Persons Age 25 and Older, 2000**

ELEMENTARY	HIGH SCHOOL		COLLEGE	
LESS THAN 9TH GRADE	9TH - 12TH GRADE (NO DIPLOMA)	H.S. GRADUATE (INCLUDES EQUIVALENCY)	SOME COLLEGE/ ASSOCIATE DEGREE	BACHELOR'S/ GRADUATE/ PROFESSIONAL DEGREE
453	1,049	2,188	3,824	9,546
2.7%	6.1%	12.8%	22.4%	56.0%

Source: CompPlan 2030

**Table 1.10 Auburn Educational Attainment
Persons Age 25 and Older, 2009**

ELEMENTARY	HIGH SCHOOL		COLLEGE	
LESS THAN 9TH GRADE	9TH - 12TH GRADE (NO DIPLOMA)	H.S. GRADUATE (INCLUDES EQUIVALENCY)	SOME COLLEGE/ ASSOCIATE DEGREE	BACHELOR'S/ GRADUATE/ PROFESSIONAL DEGREE
469	991	3,463	4,392	13,268
2.1%	4.4%	15.3%	19.4%	58.8%

Source: CompPlan 2030

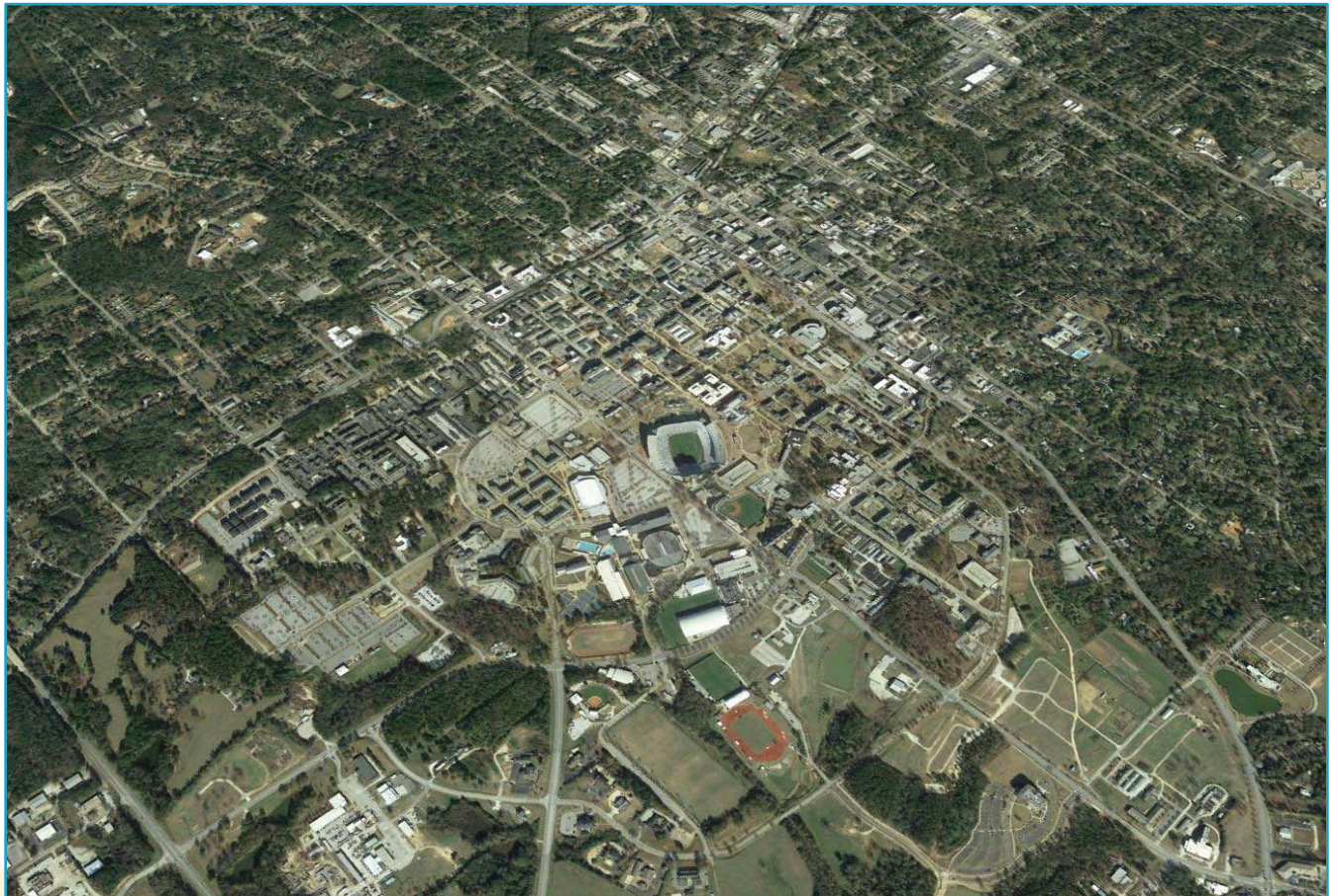
2.1 Conclusions

Though the students of Auburn University (AU) make up a substantive percentage of the residents, demographic analysis showed an increase in the 35 and older population from 2000 to 2010. Coupled with the decrease in percentage of the student population when compared to non-students, it can be concluded that more graduates are calling the COA home as they enter the workforce. This is largely due to the City's approach to managed growth and diverse employment opportunities, as well as the high quality of education, housing and availability of recreational and cultural programming and facilities.

As the City of Auburn plans for parks, recreation and cultural growth and improvements to serve their population, it is recommended to consider not only the demographic changes, but also the economic benefit to their citizens.

With the AIGM predicting a population of 87,916 by 2030, an increase in the size of households and growth in the Hispanic population numbers, attention to programming trends and use of facilities can help to keep recreational and economic opportunities high.

Existing and new parks, recreation centers, cultural arts facilities, and public libraries will need to serve this new and educated population as they settle down and start families. Park programming and facilities should also consider how to accommodate a growing active adult cohort. As land annexations into the COA continue, officials can utilize the AIGM in conjunction with this APRC Master Plan to continue planning quality of life improvements within the community.



CHAPTER 3: COMMUNITY INPUT

3.0 Stakeholders

To begin updating this APRC Master Plan, a list of 54 stakeholders and groups were identified by the City for inclusion in the process. The consultants met with these various groups, held public meetings, and conducted individual interviews and community surveys. From these stakeholder meetings, the “wants and needs” of the community and the feedback from COA residents regarding their Parks, Recreation and Cultural facilities and programs were documented and noted in this report. A full list of stakeholders can be found in Appendix A.

3.1 Public Meetings and Surveys

Public meetings and community surveys are an important part of the master planning process. These forums provide residents, stakeholders and City officials the ability to speak out about wants and needs in the local community. This feedback was used in the preparation of the APRC Master Plan. In addition, for those unable to attend meetings, the City provided an email address where input could be submitted.

3.11 Public Meeting #1: September 15, 2016

On September 15, 2016, the first public meeting was held at the Harris Center. Key notable “wants” from citizens and participants during this meeting included:

- Better connectivity through multi-use trails within the COA in addition to making existing paths safer.
- New theater facility or addition to the current Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center for more usable space.
- Skateboard park that is appropriate, legal and located in a safe place.
- Splash park for younger children, more community pools and an indoor pool facility.
- Increased space for therapeutic facilities.
- More coordination between the Auburn Parks and Recreation Department, Auburn University and Auburn City Schools.



3.12 Public Meeting #2: October 11, 2016

On October 11, 2016, a second public meeting was held at the Harris Center with over 100 citizens in attendance. This meeting featured a small presentation which illustrated the master planning process, an overview of input gathered from the nearly 60 stakeholder interviews, and allowed time for open floor discussions from those in attendance. Key notable “wants” from citizens and participants during this meeting included:

- Outdoor amphitheater

- Indoor pickleball for active seniors.
- More exercise and fitness programs.
- Bike lanes and mountain bike paths.
- More gyms and gym space/multi-use facilities.
- Updating existing playgrounds and adding new playgrounds.
- Expanded therapeutic facilities for increasing special needs population for children and adults.



3.13 Public Meeting #3: *(To Be Scheduled)*

This public meeting is to be scheduled to review findings and present the APRC Master Plan. The results are to be determined.

3.14 Auburn Public Library Public Meeting: October 19, 2016

On October 19, 2016, a public meeting was held to gather information about the Auburn Public Library (APL). Key notable “wants” from citizens and participants during this meeting included:

- Walking trails/pedestrian connectivity.
- Technologically advanced /computer usage lab.
- Outdoor plaza/courtyard/secure space.
- Youth services/story time and tutoring space.
- Update parking lots to be more accommodating.
- ADA modifications - make aisles wider, lower book shelves.
- Small Business Center to allow use of printing and copying.
- Expand the facility’s space to provide more room for citizens.



3.15 Community Surveys

3.15.1 2015 Parks and Recreation Community Interest and Opinion Survey

ETC Institute was retained to conduct the 2015 ETC Parks and Recreation Community Interest and Opinion Survey (2015 Community Survey) focusing on Parks and Recreation. The purpose of the survey was to obtain statistically valid results from households throughout the City to help determine parks, recreation, cultural arts, and library priorities in the community.

The 2015 Community Survey was mailed to a random sampling of local addresses with the goal of receiving a minimum of 500 returns. Over 500 were received giving a 95% confidence rate and a precision rate of +/- 4.3%.

The final report is a 107-page document that cannot be included in its entirety in this report; therefore, the most prevalent findings are listed below. The final report can be found online at the web address <https://www.auburnalabama.org/survey/>.

The following are the top ten (10) survey findings:

- 81% of households visit a park every year and 90% of those visiting say the parks are in good shape.
- The City of Auburn is the primary provider of indoor/outdoor recreation and sports to residents.
- Less than 3% of households used existing facilities more than 50 times a year.
- The City is providing for the needs of youth soccer, baseball, softball and football fields.
- Walking paths, greenways, bike trails, neighborhood parks, and large community parks are desired.
- Indoor facilities for exercise, swimming and fitness are important.
- Downtown events, community events, holiday events and youth sports leagues are highly important.
- Additional programs for adult fitness, wellness, and those for seniors are needed.
- Greenways and trails for walking and biking are on top of the list of desirable new facilities
- Expanded indoor facilities were what citizens felt were the most needed spaces.

Although the survey gave some significant insight to the opinions of the general population of the City, some residents felt it did not address the cultural elements, nor did it address the condition of or demands on the Auburn Public Library. Therefore, the City of Auburn (COA) decided to augment the 2015 Community Survey by developing the 2016 Cultural Arts and Library Community Interest and Opinion Survey (2016 Community Survey). This survey was added as an addendum to the existing data collected by the 2015 Community Survey.

3.15.2 2016 Cultural Arts and Library Community Interest and Opinion Survey

ETC Institute was again retained to conduct the addendum 2016 Community Survey to cover the citizen requested Arts, Cultural and Library Needs Assessment. The purpose of the survey was to obtain statistically valid results from households throughout the COA to help determine arts, culture and library needs in the community.

The survey was mailed to a random sampling of local addresses with the goal of receiving 600 returns. A total 674 residents completed and returned the surveys giving a 95% confidence rate and a precision rate of +/- 3.7%.

3.15.2.1 Arts and Cultural Section of the Survey

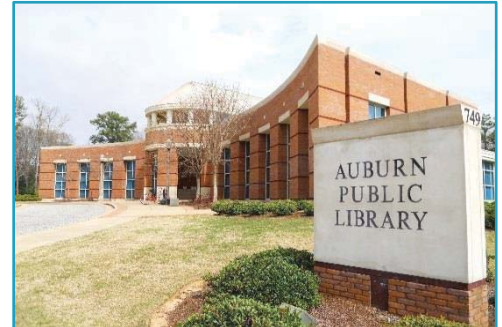
The final report is an 84-page document that cannot be included in its entirety in this report; therefore, the most significant findings are listed below. The final report can be found online at the web address <https://www.auburnalabama.org/survey/>.

- Usage: 49% of households indicated they had attended or used an Auburn arts or cultural facility in the last year. The three (3) most visited types of events were visual arts events, music performances and theater.
- Participation Rates: 34% of households indicated they had participated in cultural arts programs in the last year.
- Barriers to Usage: Out of 16 questions, respondents identified the top four (4) reasons for not participating in cultural arts events or programs: lack of knowing (65%), times not convenient (37%), lack of parking (22%) and traffic congestion (18%).
- Arts and Cultural Needs: Respondents were asked to select from 17 identified arts and cultural events and programs that were not currently being met. The top five (5) responses were:
 - a. Downtown Events.
 - b. Music Performances.
 - c. Photography.
 - d. Performing Arts Events.
 - e. Theater Productions.
- Cultural Arts Importance: The survey assessed the importance of cultural arts to citizens. The top three (3) most important events were: Downtown Events (37%), Auburn CityFest (33%) and Holiday Events (25%).
- Priority Investment Rating (PIR): Based on the results of the survey, ETC placed a priority rating on each of the types of events on a scale with 1 being a low priority and 200 being the highest priority. The top six (6) include the following:
 - a. Downtown Events (PIR = 200).
 - b. Holiday Events (PIR = 151).
 - c. Auburn CityFest (PIR = 146).
 - d. Theater Productions (PIR = 142).

- e. Music Performances (PIR = 141).
- f. Visual Arts Events (PIR = 125).
- Communication: Respondents were asked how they learned about arts and cultural events and programs. The most commonly selected answers were: Friends and neighbors (49%), newspaper (46%) and the City online newsletter (39%).

3.15.2.2 Auburn Public Library Section of the Survey

The COA wanted the survey to also take a careful look at the APL and assess how the citizens perceived and used its facilities, services, and resources. A series of questions were included on the 2016 Community Survey that specifically addressed the APL needs and priorities. The following are the main points concluded from the survey:



- Usage: Sixty-nine (69%) of households indicated they had used the APL in the last year. The three (3) APL resources most used were: print books for adults (57%), print books for children (29%) and DVDs (29%).
- APL Resource Importance: The survey asked respondents to rank the APL resources by importance. The top three (3) were: print books for adults (46%), print books for children (24%) and e-books and digital magazines (17%).
- Priority Investment Rating (PIR): Based on the results of the survey, ETC placed a priority rating on a scale from 1 being a lower priority and 200 being the highest priority on each of the following APL resources:
 - a. Print books for children (PIR = 191).
 - b. Print books for adults (PIR = 162).
 - b. Classes and lifelong learning activities for adults (PIR = 123).
 - c. E-books and digital magazines (PIR = 110).
 - d. Cultural activities for adults (PIR = 108).
 - e. DVDs - including movies and television series (PIR = 106).

3.15.3 Aquatics Survey

APRD determined there was a need to better understand the local desire for improved swimming facilities and programs. The parks staff prepared a short aquatics survey questionnaire and targeted everyone who used the pools during the 2016 season. An email was sent to every person with an email address who signed up for swim lessons, swim class or a Splash Pass with a link to the survey. The swim team coach was recruited to send the link to all the swim team parents on their team roster. Direct emails were sent to 357 citizens which included those who were on the coach's team roster. The campaign also included a published press release on the COA website, Twitter and Facebook accounts which shared the survey link.

Currently, the COA has two (2) active outdoor pools, Drake Pool and Samford Pool. The COA sponsors one (1) recreational swim team with 123 members during the summer season. Originally the swim team was managed privately and was called the Auburn Dragonflies. For the last two (2) years it has been managed by Auburn Aquatics, a private vendor.

After reviewing the results of the aquatics survey, it became apparent that the data was important and had an impact on the APRC Master Plan, so it has been included in this report. The major points learned from the aquatics survey are as follows:

- Opening weekend for the pools was the most popular event of the year.
- There was a heavily weighted positive response for wanting more special events.
- Swim team was by far the most active program of the season followed by swim lessons and lap swim.
- Requested new activities were predominantly adult and senior activities rather than youth.
- 80% of respondents did not purchase a Splash Pass.
- Most respondents were favorable to extended hours of operation.
- Facebook was the most favored source of notifications.
- In the open-ended comments, there were several requests for a covered/enclosed all-season pool.



3.15.4 Program Inventory and Assessment Survey

As part of the APRD Master Plan process, it was necessary for the consultants to have an in-depth understanding of the current recreational programs, finances, organization and staff responsibilities. The data was needed to help guide the consultants through an evaluation process of the functions of APRD. Detailed information was gathered about target audiences, facility use, volunteers, staffing, program frequency, schedule, participation, wait lists, cancellations, customer retention, satisfaction standards, budgets, expenses, subsidies, program sustainability, cost recovery, and park fees, along with information concerning promotional material, pricing, and group partnerships.

After meeting with Parks and Recreation staff, the consultants determined the programs that needed to be evaluated. The decisions were based on a variety of factors, including: program scope, audience served, participation, costs, citizen and stakeholder expectations, program impact and the degree in which a program serves as a standard or “benchmark” for APRD’s overall program services.

A program assessment questionnaire form was assembled and provided to the APRD Director, supervisors, leaders and critical staff within the APRD to complete. Using this criterion, three (3) years of data was compiled and tabulated on 39 separate programs. The data was assembled in a matrix and used to identify strengths and weaknesses in the APRD and programs. Many of the assumptions and recommendations of the APRC Master Plan were generated from information established through this Program Inventory and Assessment Survey (PIA).

The 39 programs reviewed, as provided by APRD, are:

- ABC Little Learners/Small Fry Camp
- Adventures in Art
- Adult Soccer
- All Sports Camp
- Aquatics (Programs, Attendance, Camps, Daycares, Scuba, and Swim Team)
- Aquatics – Swimming and Diving Lessons
- Basketball
- Cheerleading
- Flag Football
- Track
- Volleyball
- Arts and Crafts Literary Arts and Language Classes
- ASA Soccer Camp
- Auburn Baseball-Softball Association
- Auburn Soccer Association
- Auburn Studio Project
- Auburn Tackle Football Association
- Bark in the Park
- Bike Bash
- Camp Kaleidoscope
- Ceramics Classes
- CityFest
- Daddy/Daughter Date Night
- Dance, Music, and Theater
- Downtown Trick or Treat
- Earth Day
- Frank Brown Recreation Center, Fitness Classes
- Frank Brown Recreation Center, Non-fitness Classes
- Fishing Rodeo
- Holiday Art Sale and Polar Express
- Lee County Special Olympics
- Public Relations
- Seniors Field Trips
- Seniors Programs
- Softball Complex
- Spring and Fall Concert Series
- Summer Therapeutic Camp
- SummerNight
- Tennis



CHAPTER 4: PARKS FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

4.0 Overview

4.01 Parks and Recreation

Parks and recreation departments play a vital role in communities beyond the facilities and programs they provide by:

- Promoting a healthier lifestyle by providing opportunities for physical exercise,
- Encouraging overall well-being by providing spaces for social interaction,
- Providing places of beauty where people can rejuvenate and recreate,
- Enhancing property values,
- Promoting economic growth, and
- Providing ecosystem services through natural resource stewardship.

Citizens generally support parks and recreation in their communities. In a National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) study, more than 90% of responding households indicated that local parks provide a community benefit, including 60% of people who were non-program users.² In this survey that included both users and non-users, 80% of respondents indicated parks and recreation services provided by their communities were worth the average tax leveraged per household member. In other national surveys, a third of respondents felt too little was being spent on parks and recreation, with only 6% indicating that too much was being spent.

Nationally, wildlife viewing and nature study consistently rank among the top five (5) most popular activities. This same level of interest was identified in the South-Central Alabama Development Commission's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (Alabama SCORP). The 2015 Community Survey identified greenspace and natural areas as the most important type of cultural facility and program APRD provided to Auburn citizens.

4.01.1 Healthy Communities

NRPA surveys as well as other research studies indicate that parks and recreation services remain at the core of what defines a healthy, prosperous and connected community.

For example:

- In an NRPA 25-year study, exercise, fitness, and conditioning were the most frequently mentioned benefit provided by parks and recreational services.

² *Americans' Use and Perceptions of Local Recreation and Park Services: A Nationwide Reassessment, NRPA (2015).*

- A 2006 Trust for Public Lands³ report indicated people who live in walkable communities will walk more, weigh less, and have less hypertension than people who live in less accessible communities.
- The same study showed seniors living in green, walkable communities live longer, remain more active overall and later in life, and remain physically and mentally healthier when compared to similar groups without such access.
- In a 2015 report on obesity⁴, a third of adults were classified as obese, a third of children were considered overweight, and one (1) in six (6) children suffered from obesity. This study highlights the urgent need to promote physical activity in all segments of a community.
- A study conducted in Atlanta, Georgia found each hour spent in a car correlated to a 6% greater likelihood of becoming obese. The same study indicated that for every 0.6 mile walked each day, the likelihood of obesity declined by 4.8%.⁵
- Further, parks and recreation programs help build self-confidence, a sense of independence, and optimism among youth. Research shows that youth participating in at least one (1) hour per week of after school or extracurricular activities are 49% less likely to use drugs and 37% less likely to become teen parents.⁶

The community need for parks, greenspace, and greenways is even more critical when “nature benefits” are considered.

- One study found that a 20-minute walk in an urban park resulted in improved concentration among youth diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).⁷
- Several national studies have found that contact with nature not only improves overall physical health, but also helps people suffering from injuries or illness recover faster.
- Further, contact with nature also improves psychological health by decreasing stress, improving coping skills, and promoting social interaction.

4.01.2 Economic Benefits

Quality parks and recreation facilities have a positive economic impact on a community.

- In several studies nationwide, quality parks and recreation services are cited as one of the top three (3) items businesses and industry consider when considering whether to relocate.
- Additionally, in 2012 the National Home Builders Association reported that the presence of parks and greenspace increases the value of nearby home property values. It is a significant

³ *The Health Benefits of Parks, Trust for Public Lands (2006).*

⁴ *Prevalence of Obesity Among Adults and Youth: United States, 2011-2014, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2015).*

⁵ *Obesity Relationships with Community Design, Physical Activity, and Time Spent in Cars, American Journal of Preventive Medicine (2004).*

⁶ *The Benefits of Recreational Programming on Juvenile Crime Reduction: A Review of Literature and Data, NRPA (2014).*

⁷ *Taylor, Andrea Fabor et al, Could Exposure to Everyday Green Spaces Help Treat ADHS? Evidence from Children’s Play Setting, Applied Psychology Health and Well-Being (2011)*

consideration for 65% of home buyers, with 50% indicating it is a major reason for a home purchase and that they are willing to pay more for property close to a park.

Parks and recreation agencies also generate economic activity through direct spending in the local economy by attracting visitors. A National Fish and Wildlife Foundation sponsored study⁸ showed:

- Outdoor activities, recreation, conservation, and historic preservation venues and activities generated \$1 trillion dollars in economic stimulus and supported 9.4 million jobs.
- Nationally, capital and operating budget expenditures directly from parks and recreation agencies generated approximately \$140 billion in economic activity and supported almost 1 million jobs.

4.01.3 Management of Natural Resources

Parks and greenspace play a key role in maintaining a community's biodiversity and providing ecosystem services. Locally, urban trees and forests mitigate the heat build-up that occurs in urban environments; the difference between forested lands and downtown streets may be ten (10) or more degrees during the hottest weather. Further, greenways and natural areas within parks:

- Provide critical habitat and wildlife travel corridors essential to maintaining animal and plant diversity.
- Provide rainwater filtration, help reduce flooding, and retain critical moisture needed in the dry summer months.
- Play a key role in maintaining or improving water quality by filtering pollutants out of rainwater or runoff before it enters a stream.
- Play an important role in the reduction of sound and light pollution.



4.01.4 What Defines a Quality Parks and Recreation Program?


The quality of a parks and recreation program can be determined by several factors, including:

- The quantity, type, and location of parks and facilities.
- The quality and diversity of programs.
- Resource stewardship and corrective/preventative maintenance.

Quantity, Type and Distribution of Parks and Recreation Facilities:

A quality parks and recreation department must provide a wide variety of facilities to meet the needs of all citizens and these facilities must be dispersed throughout the community to be accessible. Nationally, 91% of parks and recreation agencies have playgrounds, 85% have basketball courts, greater than 50% have recreation centers and gyms, and 40% have community centers, senior centers,

⁸ Southwick Associates, *The Economics Associated with Outdoor Recreation, Natural Resources Conservation and Historic Preservation in the United States (prepared for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation) (2011).*



and fitness centers.⁹ National studies have found that most residents will use passive parks, playgrounds, greenspace, and trails. In contrast, specialized facilities such as tennis centers, golf courses, or athletic fields are used by less than 10% of the community.

Under generally accepted standards, a park must be within a half mile of a residence or business to be considered accessible by foot and within three (3) to five (5) miles to be accessible by bike. For the master planning process, parks within five (5) miles are considered bikeable. People who live within walking distance of a park are 47% more likely to walk the daily recommended distance and are significantly more likely to participate in programs in that park. Most people with neighborhood access are twice as healthy as people without access to facilities. Walkability is even more important to low income and disadvantaged populations because of their lack of access to cars or public transit.

Quality and Diversity of Programs:

National research has found that people are less likely to use a park if they are not attending a program or participating in an activity. Decreased park usage directly correlates to the health of the community and, in turn, affects the community's long-term support of a parks and recreation department. It is essential that parks and recreation departments provide diverse programs and services, including outdoor recreational programs, sports and athletic programs, and non-traditional and self-directed programs. Further, a department must periodically review and evaluate its programming to ensure it is meeting the needs of the community.

Outdoor recreation programs and facilities are an integral part of a parks and recreation system. On a federal and state level, the United States Forest Service and the Alabama SCORP track trends in outdoor recreation programs and services. Listed among the most highly desired services and greatest community needs are:

- Parks.
- Swimming pools.
- Equestrian trails.
- Nature-based activities.
- Scenic viewing.

These surveys also indicated a need for additional walking, hiking, biking, and multi-use trails for fitness and to provide access to fishing, nature viewing, photography, and other outdoor experiences provided by parks.

Sports and athletics programs are also essential even though, nationally, participation in organized sports has been declining over the past decade. The Sports and Fitness Industry Association tracked participation in 17 sports from 2011 to 2014. During that time, there was a 9% overall decrease in

⁹ 2016 NRPA Field Report: Parks and Recreation Agency Performance Benchmarks, NRPA (2016).

participation. Of the 17 sports tracked, six (6) were gaining participation while the other eleven (11) sports were declining in participation. These trends were also observed by the Physical Activity Council, an organization comprised of sports advocacy agencies and governing bodies. This decline does not eliminate the need for sports and athletic programming, but may play a part in a department's future determination of what type and how many programs to provide.

Non-traditional and self-directed activities have been rapidly gaining popularity across all age groups, with pronounced gains among seniors and millennials born between 1976 and 2004. Examples of non-traditional activities include kickball, pickleball, 5K, half and full marathons, extreme and adventure sports, paddle boarding, disc golf, skateboarding, and camps for adults and families.

Resource Stewardship and Maintenance:

Local parks and recreation systems are typically one of the largest land management stewards of public property in a community. Adequate resources to maintain parks and greenspace and to meet natural area management standards are critical. Although there are no specific national standards for natural resource management, NRPA benchmarks recommend that a parks and recreation department should have:

- Policies and procedures related to land acquisition, development, and boundary encroachment.
- System and site-based natural resource management plans.
- Recycling plans.
- Preventative and corrective maintenance programs.
- Inventory and asset management.

4.02 AUBURN PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

4.02.1 Department Mission

The Mission of APRD is to provide quality leisure services and facilities to the citizens of Auburn and to appropriately manage Auburn's cemeteries. This is accomplished by: *“establishing and organizing quality programs that address the diverse leisure interests of Auburn's citizens; managing safe, well-maintained parks, facilities, and cemeteries; exceeding the needs of citizens, advisory groups, local officials, and media through a commitment to effective and efficient delivery of services and a positive approach to customer service, and continuing to offer innovative programs and up-to-date-facilities.”*

Note: Information was obtained from the City of Auburn (COA) official website, with the mission statement highlighted for emphasis.

4.02.2 Partnerships and Associations

APRD provides these facilities and services both directly and through collaboration and partnerships with other public and private entities.

4.02.2.1 City Council Established Boards and Commissions

The Auburn City Council has established a variety of boards, commissions, and committees to provide advice, help establish and promote a vision, and make recommendations to the City Council, City Departments and the City Manager. Per the official website of the COA, the following boards and commissions have been created by the City Council to continue to assist APRD.

- **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board:** A seven (7)-member, Council-appointed Advisory Board that provides recommendations regarding policy and other parks and recreation related issues.
- **Cemeteries Advisory Board:** A five (5)-member, Council-appointed Advisory Board providing policy and recommendations concerning cemetery fees, services, perpetual care, and related activity areas.
- **The Greenspace Advisory Board:** A seven (7)-member, Council-appointed Advisory Board that provides policy and related recommendations that address the following: preserving greenspace, natural beauty, wildlife habitats, and critical environmental areas; planning for the acquisition and funding of greenspace and its development; investigating ways to create greenspace along roads and major thoroughfares; making roads and neighborhoods more pedestrian-friendly by recommending sidewalk development, and ensuring that sidewalks can accommodate pedestrian and non-motorized vehicular traffic and are coordinated appropriately with existing and future greenways and greenspace. In accordance with the Mission Statement of the COA, the Greenspace Advisory Board encourages planned and managed growth as a means of developing an attractive built environment and protecting and conserving the COA's natural resources.
- **The Tree Commission:** A nine (9)-member, Council-appointed Advisory Board providing policy and related recommendations that address: overseeing the protection of trees on public property; planning to increase the urban tree inventory; promoting the planting of new trees throughout the COA; gathering, compiling, and distributing information to educate the public on the economic and aesthetic benefits of trees; and promoting and administering the Tree Trust in order to maximize the benefits of these funds.

4.02.2.2 Partnerships

With the support and assistance of APRD staff, the following groups generate program fees, obtain non-tax donations and revenue, and provide programs and services in their specific areas of responsibility. Information and a description of each group was taken directly from publications and websites, or from information provided by APRD staff.

These groups include:

- **Auburn Area Community Theatre (AACT):** A non-profit, community-based organization created to provide opportunities for education and participation in theater and to present quality, entertaining, and thought-provoking theater experiences.



- **Auburn Arts Association (AAA):** A non-profit, community-based arts organization created to promote arts education, encourage and support artists and arts initiatives, and to stimulate community interest in the arts.
- **Auburn Baseball/Softball Association (ABSA):** A non-profit organization that provides opportunities for Auburn youth to participate in baseball and softball programs.
- **Auburn Beautification Council (ABC):** A non-profit, volunteer organization that promotes community beautification activities that include raising funds for beautification projects and maintaining gardens and lamppost hanging baskets.
- **Auburn Community Tennis Association (ACTA):** A United States Tennis Association chartered organization dedicated to the promotion and growth of tennis.
- **Auburn University Community Orchestra (AUCO):** A non-profit, community-based performance organization that performs several times each season. Participation is open to all university students and community members, based on the instrumental needs of the group and a successful audition.
- **Auburn Youth Football Association (AYFA):** A non-profit organization that provides tackle and flag football opportunities to youth.
- **Auburn Youth Lacrosse Club (AYLC):** A non-profit organization providing opportunities for youth to participate in lacrosse.
- **Auburn Youth Soccer Association (AYSA):** A non-profit organization that provides opportunities for Auburn youth to participate in soccer programs.
- **Exceptional Outreach Organization (EOO):** A non-profit organization that provides programs for individuals with special needs by fostering growth through recreation, education, and social activities. This organization does not receive program fees, but provides funding to APRD's therapeutic recreation program.
- **Exceptional Foundation of East Alabama:** A non-profit foundation whose mission is to serve special needs adults who have aged out of the Auburn school system (21 years of age and older).
- **I Am My Brother's Keeper (IAMBK):** A non-profit organization that provides family and youth services to enable disadvantaged youth and at-risk families to become self-supportive and thrive in their homes, schools, and communities.
- **Private vendors and contract instructors:** APRD works with area vendors and private contract instructors to provide a full range of educational and recreational programs.

Fees are paid directly to the contracting agency or individual with a portion of the revenue paid to APRD based on arrangements made prior to the start of the program. Private contract instructors receive 90% of the program revenue, while the Department receives the remaining 10%.

4.02.2.3 Department Funded Organizations

APRD provides funding to and works cooperatively with:

- **Louise Kreher Forest Ecology Preserve and Nature Center (KFEP):** The COA provides \$50,000 in support to the KFEP each year in exchange for educational programs and services. The KFEP is owned and operated by Auburn University (AU) and is open to the public.
- **The Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art (JCSMFA):** The COA provides \$50,000 annually to the Museum for art programs and events primarily for K-12 students living in Auburn. The Museum is owned and operated by AU and open to the public.

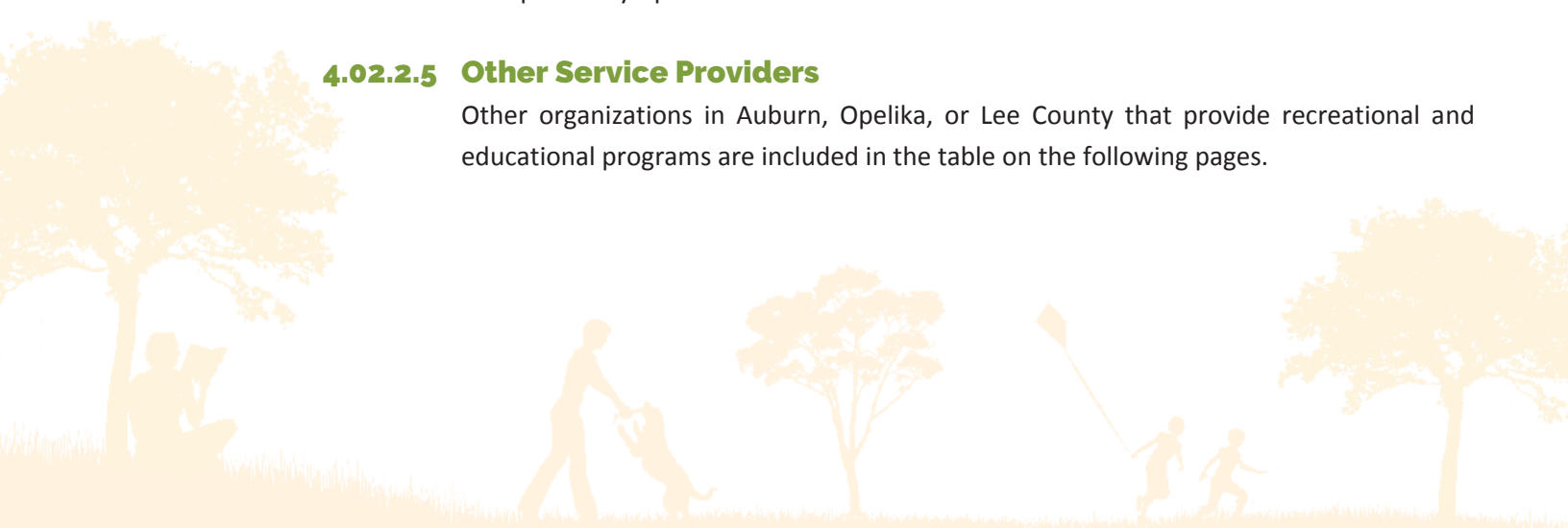
4.02.2.4 Additional Boards and Organizations

APRD works in cooperation with the following groups to provide and enhance programs and services:

- Auburn Chamber of Commerce.
- Auburn Raptors.
- Auburn University Athletics Department.
- Auburn University Department of Kinesiology.
- Auburn-Opelika Tourism Bureau.
- Central Alabama Mountain Pedalers (C.A.M.P.).
- Downtown Merchants Association.
- Lee County Humane Society.
- Master Gardeners.
- Osher Lifelong Learners Institute (OLLI).
- Special Olympics.

4.02.2.5 Other Service Providers

Other organizations in Auburn, Opelika, or Lee County that provide recreational and educational programs are included in the table on the following pages.



PROGRAM AREA	NAME OF AGENCY	OPERATOR
After School Programs	Auburn City Schools	Public
	Boys and Girls Club	Not-for-Profit
AQUATICS		
Aquatics Program/Pool	AU - James E. Martin Aquatics Center	Public (Membership Required)
	Opelika SportsPlex	Public (Monthly Membership)
	HealthPlus	Private (Owned by EAMC Hospital)
	Covington Recreation Center (Opelika Parks and Recreation)	Public
Swim/Dive Lessons	Moore's Mill Club	Private
	Opelika Sportsplex	Public (Membership Required)
	Saugahatchee Country Club	Private
CAMPS		
All Sports	Auburn University	Public
	Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public
	Sports Academy	Private
ASA Soccer Camp	Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public
	Auburn University	Public
Summer Camps	Auburn City Schools	Public
	Auburn University	Public
	Churches	Not-for-Profit
	Daycare Centers	Public, Private, or Home Setting
DAYCARE		
Daycare	Churches	Not-for-Profit
	Daycare Centers	Public, Private, or Home Setting
PARKS		
Parks	AU Ag Heritage Park: Agricultural Education and Alumni Center	Public
	AU Donald E. Davis Arboretum	Public

	Chewacla State Park	Public (Entrance Fee)
	Spring Villa Park - Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public
	Municipal Park - Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public
	Covington Recreation Center and Park - Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public
	Shady Park - Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public
	Floral Park - Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public
	West Ridge Park and Baseball Complex - Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public
	Opelika Wood Duck Heritage Preserve and Siddique Nature Park - Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public
	Denson Drive Recreation Center - Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public
RECREATION, HEALTH, AND FITNESS		
Recreation	Chewacla State Park C.A.M.P.	Not-for-Profit
Fitness Classes	AU Recreation Center	Public
	Opelika SportsPlex	Public (Monthly Membership)
	HealthPlus	Private (Owned by EAMC Hospital)
	Max Fitness	Private (Monthly Membership)
	CrossFit	Private (Monthly Membership)
Non-Fitness Classes	Opelika SportsPlex	Public (Monthly Membership)
	HealthPlus (Owned by EAMC Hospital)	Private (Monthly Membership)
SENIORS		
Trips	Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public
	Becky's Brigade	Private
	Church Groups	Not-for-Profit
Classes	OLLI	Not-for-Profit (Membership Required)
	Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public

SPECIAL EVENTS		
Daddy/Daughter Date Night	Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public
	Saugahatchee Country Club	Private - Membership Required
Downtown Trick or Treat	Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public
	Neighborhood Trick or Treat (Auburn, AL)	Public
	Parkway Baptist Church	Not-for-Profit
Earth day	AU Water Day	Public
	AU Arboretum	Public
Fishing Rodeo	Lee County Lake	Public
SPORTS AND ATHLETICS		
Adult Soccer	Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public
	Auburn Hispanic League	Private
	AU Campus Recreation	Public
Basketball	Travel Teams (Raptors, etc.)	Private
	Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public
	Beauregard	Not-for-Profit
Cheerleading	Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public
	Premier Spirit Academy	Private
	Xtreme Athletics	Private
Flag Football	Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public
	Beauregard	Not-for-Profit
Softball/Adult Kickball	Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public
	Valley Parks and Recreation	Public
	Montgomery Parks and Recreation	Public
	AU Campus Recreation	Public
	Marcus Durrell	Private
Tennis	AU Recreation Center	Public

	Moore's Mill Club	Private
	Saugahatchee Country Club	Private
	Opelika Parks and Recreation Tennis	Public
Track	Auburn City Schools	Public
	Opelika Parks and Recreation	Public
Volleyball	Travel Team	For Profit
THERAPEUTIC/SPECIAL NEEDS		
Therapeutic Summer Camp	AU Kinesiology Camp	Public
	Camp ASCCA is Alabama's Special Camp for Children and Adults	Not-for-Profit
	LCARA Summer Camp	Not-for-Profit
Special Olympics	Opelika SportsPlex	Public (Monthly Membership)



4.1 Establishing an “Auburn Standard”

During the master planning process, APRD’s facilities, programs, and services were compared to national and state trends and standards, as well as to those of other agencies in communities of similar size and demographics. At the end of this section is a list of national and state organizations that provide data, trends, benchmarks, and standards used to evaluate parks and recreation programming, operations, and facilities. This list is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather is representative of the major organizations that compile this type of data.

As valuable as national trends and standards can be used to provide general context, every community is unique. Thus, understanding local conditions is vital to the development of a comprehensive plan. The Auburn Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Master Plan (APRC Master Plan) process gathered information from citizens, staff, stakeholders, administrators, and government officials to establish attainable and appropriate goals for APRD. This information was used to establish an “Auburn Standard” that reflects the unique nature of the COA, its local conditions, and specific needs.

Sources for National and State Standards and Benchmarks:

- American Time Use Survey.
- American Trails.
- American Journal of Preventive Medicine.
- Bureau of Transportation Statistics.
- Forest History Society.
- Harris Interactive, September 2013 Leisure Activities Poll.
- Physical Activity Council, 2016 report.
- President’s Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition.
- National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), field and other reports and studies.
- National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration.
- National Standards for Youth Sports (compiled by the National Alliance for Youth Sports).
- Outdoor Foundation.
- Outdoor Industry Association: Outdoor Recreation Economy.
- Rand Corporation.
- Sports and Fitness Industry Association.
- Statista.
- Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans for Alabama and Georgia.
- The Trust for Public Lands, various reports and studies.
- US Department of Agriculture Forest Service.
- Urban Land Institute.
- World Health Organization.

Sources for Arts and Cultural Programs Information:

- Americans for the Arts.
- National Endowment for the Arts.
- Research and other articles as noted in Arts and Cultural Programs section.

4.2 Inventory and Assessment

4.21 Administration and Operations

4.21.1 Trend Data for The City of Auburn

Over the last 14 years, 79 – 84% respondents in the Annual Citizen Surveys indicated they were either satisfied or very satisfied with the quality of APRD programs and services. Questions related to maintenance and park operations had positive overall trends as well. However, a review of these trends over the past five (5) years reflects the loss of the Five-Mill Property Tax fund previously dedicated to APRD. As revenue from the Five-Mill Property Tax shifted from APRD to ACS, there is a corresponding decline in the community’s satisfaction with the quality of the Department’s facilities. This downward trend reflected the loss of funding for both renovations and to meet the growing need for additional facilities - something the that had previously been addressed by the Property Tax program. Additional downward trends in satisfaction were reflected in responses regarding:

- Bike paths and lanes (highlighting the need for additional bike facilities).
- Ease of bike travel in Auburn.
- Feeling safe while traveling by bike.
- The quality of the COA’s pools and community recreation centers.
- Downtown beautification and greenspace.

Overall, satisfaction with programs generally increased or remained relatively constant. A notable exception has been a decline in the community’s satisfaction with the registration process.

The last five (5) years of Annual Citizen Survey data showed overall satisfaction with APRD’s programs and facilities ranged from 79 to 84%. However, during 2016 stakeholder interviews, public input sessions, and as indicated in the 2016 ETC Cultural Arts and Library Community Interest and Opinion Survey (2016 Community Survey), citizens requested programs be offered at more convenient times, including evenings and weekends.

In the 2015 ETC Parks and Recreation Community Interest and Opinion Survey (2015 Community Survey), the top five (5) needed programs identified by respondents were:

- Farmers' Market (67%).
- Downtown events (65%).
- Large community events (60%).
- Holiday events (49%).
- Adult fitness and wellness programs (38%).



The 2015 Community Survey also determined that 42% of residents surveyed participated in athletic, recreation, or community programs within the previous twelve (12) months. This indicates that Auburn residents have a higher engagement with APRD services as compared to the national benchmark of 35%. The survey indicated that 39% of respondents cited the lack of knowledge regarding program times as the reason they did not participate, while 17% indicated the lack of convenient program times. In the 2016 Community Survey, the top reason residents indicated they did not participate in programs was due to lack of awareness (65%). Communicating with the community is challenging since the proximity of Auburn University (AU) contributes to the transient nature of the population. The various communication tools available through social media and technology and currently being used by Auburn can be enhanced to help address this gap.

As an overview to facility use in Auburn, the 2015 Community Survey showed that 81% of survey respondents had visited a COA park within the preceding twelve (12) months as compared to the national benchmark of 78%. However, the survey also indicated that 22% did not use APRD facilities because they were too far away.

Based on surveys, community-wide plans, stakeholder interviews, and data provided by APRD staff, projected future trends include a continued growth in demand for:

- Additional walking and biking trails/greenways.
- Additional small neighborhood parks and large community parks.
- Additional recreation centers and associated areas (i.e. gyms, cardio rooms, etc.).
- Full-day, full-week summer and school break camps and after school services.
- Special events, both within parks and in the downtown area.
- Additional fitness and health related opportunities.
- Additional aquatics programs.
- Therapeutic programs (will increase with the projected population growth).
- Programming and specialized services for seniors, since Auburn is a popular retirement community.

4.21.2 Community Growth

As identified in the Community Profile found in Chapter 2 on page 15 of the Auburn Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Master Plan (APRC Master Plan), Auburn has grown 44% in the last 15 years and is projected to grow almost 32% in the next ten (10) years. Such rapid growth creates a challenge for local government and APRD to continue to meet the needs of the community. This challenge has been compounded by the loss to ACS of APRD capital investment funding that was previously available through the Five-Mill Property Tax Fund that could be used for parks and recreation improvements. Without additional allocations and/or sources of funding, the gap between available and needed resources will continue to grow and existing facilities will deteriorate.

4.21.3 Operational and Capital Funding

Based on the 2016 population in the COA, APRD receives \$87 in per capita funding for operations. The five (5)-year average for APRD's operating budget was \$5,201,060 with \$5,507,213 designated for operations in FY16 (includes vehicles and equipment expenses).

Capital Improvement Programs (CIP) provide essential funding for long-term maintenance, renovation, and new facility development. As per the 2016 National Recreation and Park Association (2016 NRPA Field Report), the national average CIP expenditure for cities the size of Auburn is \$1.16M annually.

Over the past five (5) years, APRD has received an average of \$1.23M in capital improvement funds, approximately \$73,000 more than the NRPA benchmark. For the first two (2) of that five (5)-year period, however, APRD received dedicated CIP funding through a Five-Mill Property Tax Fund. That funding is now going to the Auburn City Schools (ACS), creating a long-term funding challenge for APRD. Currently, CIP funding is provided annually through General Fund allocations.

4.21.4 Cost Recovery

Parks and recreation departments frequently establish cost recovery goals to use in setting program fees and evaluating program success. Cost recovery is established by calculating revenue as a percentage of operating expenditures. Cost recovery varies with location and diversity of programs. Based on NRPA data:

- The average cost recovery for all reporting agencies is 29%.
 - For communities the size of Auburn, the median cost recovery is around 31%.
- APRD has a cost recovery of 12.37% based on the FY16 budget.

4.21.5 Staff

APRD employs 46 full-time staff members, as well as 214 part-time or seasonal employees, and 190 contract employees. The department is divided into three (3) divisions:

- Administration.
- Park and Facilities Division.
- Leisure Services Division.



All divisions report to APRD Director Rebecca O. Richardson. The director has eleven (11) direct reports. The 19.5% allocation of administrative staff in APRD is in line with the national average of 18%. The chart on the following page shows how the divisions are organized. A detailed Department Organization Chart is in Appendix B.



4.21.5.1 Administration

Administration includes the Financial-Project Management Director and the Public Relations Specialist who report directly to the APRD Director. Staffing for this division includes:

- 5 full-time positions;
- No regular part-time positions, but the division can be assigned up to four (4) part-time, temporary positions.

The Division handles finance and budget, purchasing, grants, contracts, special projects, sponsorships, outside agencies, and board account management.

4.21.5.2 Parks and Facilities Division

The Parks and Facilities Division has four (4) superintendent positions: three (3) report directly to the APRD Director, while the fourth reports to the Financial-Project Management Director. Staffing for this Division includes:

- 26 full-time staff positions.
- No regular part-time positions.
- 17 full-time temporary positions.
- Three (3) part-time temporary positions.

The Division is responsible for athletic field maintenance; cemetery and parks maintenance; cemetery lot purchases; burials; city-wide beautification and landscaping; urban forestry and tree management; special events support; janitorial services; and building, vehicle, and equipment maintenance.

4.21.5.3 Leisure Services Division

The Leisure Services Division has five (5) directors reporting directly to the APRD Director, each overseeing a specific program area. Staffing for this division includes:

- 17 full-time positions.
- 2 regular, part-time.
- 175 part-time temporary positions.

This Division provides a wide range of services that includes cultural arts, athletics, sports, and fitness programming, senior services, special needs/therapeutic services, and special events.

The current allocation of staff resources is generally meeting existing program demands. However, in specific service areas such as day camps and field space, resources are not meeting current demand.

4.22 Facilities Inventory Chart

The Facilities Inventory Chart for APRD can be found in Appendix C.

4.23 Facilities Assessment

During the stakeholder meetings, the planning team received significant feedback concerning the need for indoor space. The most frequently requested indoor spaces included: gyms, multi-purpose rooms, an indoor track, comfortable gathering spaces, kitchen facilities, fitness, classrooms and meeting space, aquatic facilities, and space designed to accommodate the needs of seniors and special needs populations. These findings are consistent with the 2015 Community Survey where indoor fitness, cardio, weight/

exercise facilities and an indoor swimming pools/leisure pool were the top four (4) indoor spaces that residents desired.



The master planning process also identified needed outdoor spaces, including large community parks, small neighborhood parks, greenways, greenspace, and multi-use and athletic fields. The demand for field space affects the availability of fields for use by various athletic and sports programs and dramatically limits casual field use by families and individuals. It is also rapidly exceeding the Parks and Facilities Division’s ability to sustainably maintain them.

4.23.1 Number of Parks and Total Acreage of Parks and Greenspace

The evaluation of parks and greenspaces is based on the number of parks, the number of acres the COA manages as parks, and the number of acres dedicated to greenspace. As illustrated in the Auburn Parks and Greenspace Inventory, By Acres in Appendix C, APRD is currently responsible for 524 acres of land in 26 parks. The NRPA benchmark for recommended parkland in a community as 9.2 acres for every 1,000 residents, or 584 acres for a city the size of Auburn. It also established a benchmark of one (1) park for every 2,396 residents – or 26 parks at Auburn’s current population. APRD currently maintains 26 parks.

The existence of parkland does not address the overall need for greenspace in a community. Nationally, the definition of greenspace varies, with some jurisdictions including golf courses and ballfields, while others exclude these areas due to the high degree of maintenance they require, including the use of pesticides and fertilizer. Even the terminology differs between jurisdictions, with agencies referring to what is generally the same type of land as greenspace, open space, natural areas, or greenways. Because of this variability in classification and definition, there is little guidance at the national or international level for establishing acreage standards for greenspace. For the APRC Master Plan, greenspace has been defined as land that:

- is or has the potential to be available to the public,
- is owned or supported by the COA; and
- is available free/no charge to the public.

Based on this definition, Auburn currently has 1,745 acres of greenspace.



Greenways are frequently included as a part of greenspace; they are essentially linear parks - generally with limited development, typically include trails, and provide wildlife habitat and ecosystem services. Currently, the COA has three (3) greenways:

- Charlotte and Curtis Ward Bike Path (construction funded by COA and now maintained by Chewacla State Park).
- Town Creek Greenway (maintained by APRD).
- Joanna Hoit Bikeway (maintained by Environmental Services).
- Roberta Jackel Bikeway (maintained by Environmental Services).

Proposed greenways include:

- Saugahatchee Creek Greenway + Blueway.
- Lake Ogletree Greenway.
- Lake Wilmore Greenway.
- Parkerson Mill Creek Greenway.
- Shug/Drake Greenway.

4.23.2 Park Distribution

Another factor is the distribution of parkland and greenspace. In the Center for Disease Control's (CDC) physical activity related State Indicator Report for 2014, less than 39% of respondents to a national survey indicated they lived within one-half mile of a park, playground, or greenspace, a distance considered to be walkable. For Alabama, the CDC's report indicated less than 15% of the state's population lived within one-half mile of a park.

Under this walkability standard, (41%) of Auburn residents can walk to a park, cemetery, or greenspace – a significantly higher percentage surveyed nationally or in Alabama. These results are highlighted in Appendix G Connectivity Maps, in the Walkability Map G2.

The Bikeability Map G1 in Appendix G Connectivity Maps, shows which parks are located within 5 miles and, therefore, bikeable. The map suggests that Auburn has adequate potential access by bike, but that there is a need for safe, dedicated routes and facilities that provide interconnectivity between parks, neighborhoods, and economic centers.

The evaluation of where future parks should be located to meet the needs of the community requires consideration of:

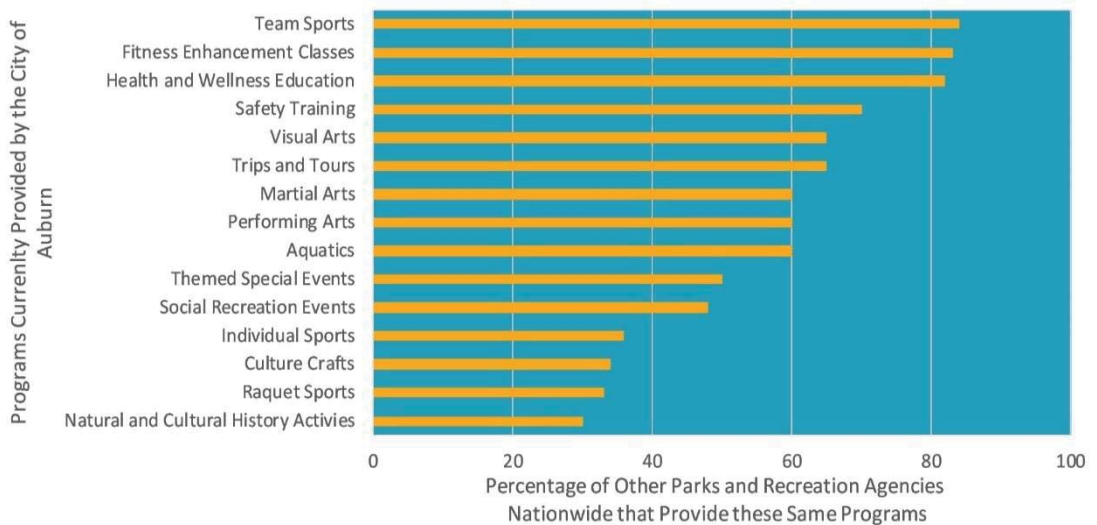
1. The location of existing parks and greenspace, indicated in the Parks and Greenspace Inventory, By Acres in Appendix C and illustrated on the Proposed Park Locations Map F2 in Appendix F.
2. The walkability and bikeability of both existing and proposed park locations.
3. Feedback from the public, stakeholders, and COA staff.
4. The Auburn Interactive Growth Model (AIGM). Note: The Comprehensive Plan for the City of Auburn (CompPlan 2030) defines the AIGM as “a number of separate but linked models, including

demographic, economic, socio-political, spatial relationship, and land resource models” that help predict future growth and guide COA planners.

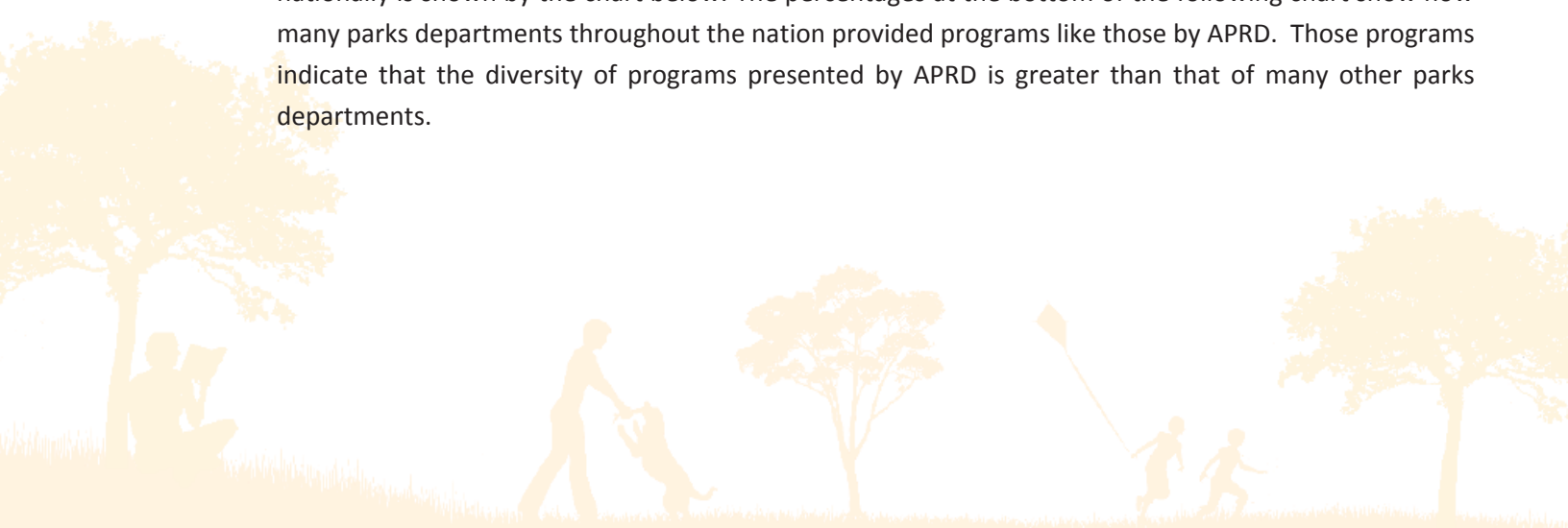
4.24 Program Inventory

The inventory of 2016 programs provided by APRD is listed in Appendix C. Program Inventory on page 156. APRD provides an exceptional variety of programs that reach all segments of the community. The percentages at the bottom of the following chart show how many other parks departments throughout the nation provided programs like those provided by APRD and indicate that the diversity of programs presented by APRD is greater than that of many other parks departments.

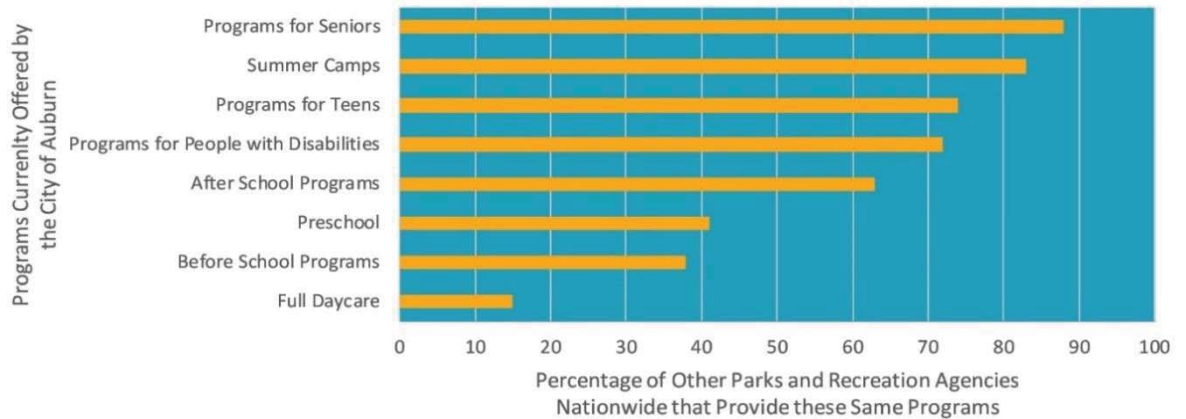
City of Auburn Programs Compared Nationally



Another important national benchmark is a community’s commitment to serving vulnerable populations and is a major factor in the evaluation of parks and recreation departments. The level of APRD’s programming for special populations as compared to that of other parks and recreation departments nationally is shown by the chart below. The percentages at the bottom of the following chart show how many parks departments throughout the nation provided programs like those by APRD. Those programs indicate that the diversity of programs presented by APRD is greater than that of many other parks departments.



City of Auburn Programs for Children, Seniors and People with Disabilities Compared Nationally



The consultants also developed a Program Inventory and Assessment (PIA) survey of 39 programs to evaluate programs in greater depth.

4.25 Program Assessment

4.25.1 Program Assessment Method

A general overview of the PIA process developed by the planning team is included in Chapter 3 of this report.

The PIA analyzed APRD program data on 39 programs from the last three (3) years. The APRD staff provided information on these programs to create a “snapshot” at a fixed point in time. The program analysis included three (3) sections:

1. Program performance, capacity and attendance data that included:
 - a. Program attendance.
 - b. Number of programs provided.
 - c. Day of the week and season programs were scheduled.
 - d. Target age group.
 - e. Evaluation and feedback tools utilized by staff.
 - f. Total number of participants.
 - g. Program “wait” lists.
 - h. Cancellations.
 - i. Customer satisfaction standards.
 - j. Percent of market served.
 - k. Customer retention rates.
2. Staff and volunteer allocation that included:
 - a. The number of full, part-time, seasonal, and contract employees involved in each program.
 - b. Staffing levels and needs.
 - c. Volunteer levels and needs.

3. Budget data that included:
 - a. Revenue.
 - b. Support and sustainability.
 - c. Direct program expenses.
 - d. Direct program costs.
 - e. Established cost recovery goals.

In addition, the assessment also reviewed data concerning program promotions, pricing strategy, and services provided by other agencies.

4.25.2 Program Assessment Findings

4.25.2.1 Overview

Overall, APRD programs are experiencing rapid growth. Of the 39 programs reviewed over the FY14 – FY16 period:

- Participation increased 29%, from 93,111 to 120,284 participants in all programs.
- The number of programs provided by APRD increased 30%, from 299 to 390.

The PIA reviewed programs for preschool, elementary school (grades K–5), middle school (grades 6–8), high school (grades 9–12), young adult (age 18–24), adult (age 25–44), middle age adults (age 45–64), senior adults (65+) and families.



Of the programs reviewed, elementary age students received 15.5% of total programming, while middle school age children received 11.5%. Thus, the combined programming for elementary and middle school age children was 27% of APRD’s total programs. Except for preschoolers, who received approximately 8% of programs provided, each of the remaining age groups generally received 10–11% of total programs. This is typical of most parks and recreation systems, which tend to focus significantly on programs for elementary and middle school age children. The PIA highlights that additional programs are needed for preschool age children, a finding consistent with information provided through the stakeholder meetings.

4.25.2.2 Increases/Decreases in Program Participation

The increase in participation and number of programs provided suggests a high degree of satisfaction with the professionalism of the staff, the diversity of programs being offered, and the maintenance and quality of APRD's facilities. But without a substantial investment in maintenance, staff, facilities, greenspace, and related resources, APRD's ability to meet the demand for quality programming will decline, along with citizen satisfaction. Participation data alone does not indicate the potential growth of a program if additional resources were provided, but it can allow parks and recreation staff to evaluate how resources are or should be allocated. For example, a new tennis facility resulted in a dramatic increase in participation: the tennis programs had the highest single program participation in FY16, with 23,070 participants representing approximately 20% of APRD's total number of program participants.

The PIA indicated a decline in attendance for several programs, which requires further investigation to determine the cause. Demand that exceeds capacity can cause program attendance to decline since customers may become dissatisfied with the:

- Physical environment (example: insufficient parking or too many people in a room).
- Staff's ability to provide service in an over-crowded environment.
- Speed in which programs fill (thus making registration difficult).

For example, the 17% decline in participation in the Fishing Rodeo was potentially due to a lack of available parking. In FY16, Daddy/Daughter Date Night declined by 14% due to space limitations, but the program added a fourth night in 2017 and will add a fifth night in 2018 to accommodate demand. When programs fill quickly, as with day camp, a difficult or inconvenient registration process itself may decrease program participation by discouraging customers from attempting to register.

Data provided by APRD in the PIA, indicated the Bike Bash and the Spring and Fall Concert Series also experienced a 3-year decline in attendance (-27%) and (-14%), respectively. While decline of these programs may be attributable to changing community expectations, a more detailed review is needed to fully discern the causes. Program performance generally goes through a natural life cycle of rapid growth, a period of minimal or no growth, and then decline. This cycle can occur over the course of weeks, months, or even decades. Programs can sometimes be rejuvenated if shifted to new times/days, new topics introduced, etc., but these programs may be entering the last phase of a program life cycle. Ongoing monitoring and review are recommended to determine whether additional resources are needed to rejuvenate them or whether they should be replaced with other types of programming.

4.25.2.3 Scheduling of Programs

The PIA examined the distribution of programs that were scheduled one (1) time or more a week and how program schedules are balanced and distributed. For APRD, the heaviest programming days are Tuesdays and Thursdays, followed closely by Mondays and Wednesdays. There were 40% fewer recurring programs scheduled on Saturday and 77% fewer on Sunday. Thus, weekends represent potential programming capacity if additional staff are hired to provide services.

A review of the seasonal program distribution of programs determined that programs were evenly distributed over the Spring, Summer, and Autumn seasons. Consistent with similar parks and recreation systems, programs decreased by 25% over the winter months as weather effected activities and available space.

4.25.2.4 Other Assessment Factors

Other factors that can be used to evaluate program performance include program cancellations, program evaluation/feedback tools, wait lists, customer retention rates, and surveys.

Program cancellation records were available for many of the 39 programs reviewed. Every cancelled program represents resources that could have been allocated to other programs or services. Although cancellation information was not tracked for all programs, of those reported there were either few cancellations or cancellations were due to weather or other factors out of the control of APRD. Senior classes and programs initially had a high cancellation rate, but experienced a substantial improvement during the three (3)-year period, dropping from 56 to ten (10) per year. This level of improvement reflects APRD's high degree of dedication and attention to customer service and program delivery.

The Auburn Studio Project was the only program reviewed in the PIA that has a formal feedback process, with evaluations ranging from good to excellent. For the other 38 programs, information from evaluation/feedback data, wait lists, customer retention rates, and surveys were either just beginning to be compiled, was not available, or APRD does not have the tools needed to track the data. This information should be collected as it can provide insight into trends, concerns, and community expectations that will allow APRD to enhance programs and services and identify areas where resources can be redirected or reallocated.

Marketing and public relations is an essential support service for programming – people cannot attend programs they don't know about. Currently, social media efforts include Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Current web resources are limited as to their multi-

generational appeal and the use of emails and texts is also limited. Current efforts do not utilize platforms and applications that reach a broad range of ages and interest groups.

As demand for space and programs has continued to increase, both Library and APRD staff have tried to meet community expectations. This has led to programs being “squeezed” into every available space and ultimately, to potential “mission creep” between the two departments. Past program data indicates that the Library scheduled programs better aligned with the mission of APRD, and vice versa. Examples include youth Zumba, youth yoga, youth gym, and youth Pilates programs at the library, while APRD hosted book clubs and language classes that align better with the Library’s mission. While cross-department support is to be commended and encouraged, blurring of the departments’ core missions or an overlap in providing specific types of programming should be avoided.

4.25.3 Specific Program Areas

4.25.3.1 Aquatics

Based on the PIA, aquatics programs and activities were the second highest attended activities with 20,513 participants, or 17% of the departmental total. This does not include swimming and diving lessons, which had 214 participants in FY16 or 0.2% of APRD’s total program participants. Participation from FY14 to FY16 increased by 84%, with an 11% increase in swimming and diving lessons.



4.25.3.2 Camps

APRD currently provides a variety of school break, specialty, and summer camps. Part-day and specialty camps include: art, dance, theater, all sports, soccer, tennis, music, and a junior counselor program. Camp experiences available through Louise Kreher Forest Ecology Preserve and Nature Center (KFEP) generally have multiple sessions, are available for children preschool age to 18 years old, and cover different topics.

However, APRD’s offerings for extended, day-long camps held throughout the summer are limited. Camp Kaleidoscope is the only full-day summer camp and is open to children six (6) to twelve (12) years old. The camp is filled within a few minutes of the opening of registration, indicating a very high degree of interest. A review of other cities similar in size and composition to Auburn indicated these communities offer 8–15 different, day-long summer camps. These camps are provided for children from preschool to 18 years old and included a variety of art, nature, sports, recreation, adventure, leadership, general interest, and other specialty topics.

4.25.3.3 Nature and Outdoor

Nature and outdoor programming is currently provided by KFEP as part of an annual \$50,000 disbursement to the Preserve from APRD. Programs at the Preserve have varied topics and are provided to a range of age groups. The programs are all provided on-site at the Preserve.

4.25.3.4 Recreation, Health and Fitness

The fitness programs at the Frank Brown Recreation Center were the third highest attended program in FY16, with 17,928 citizens participating, or 14.4% of APRD's total program participants. The popularity of fitness programs was also reflected in comments received during stakeholder meetings as well as in community surveys.



4.25.3.5 Seniors

Auburn's reputation as a preferred retirement location has caused a surge in the level of participation in programs and services for seniors. Over the last three (3) years, senior programs have experienced the greatest attendance increase, showing a 219% increase from FY14 to FY16. Trips for seniors showed a 99% increase for the same period.

4.25.3.6 Special Needs and Therapeutic

APRD provides only one (1) special needs camp and funding for the camp is provided, in part, by the Exceptional Outreach Organization. APRD also works with and supports Special Olympics, provides socials and events for special populations, and publicizes a summer camp provided through the Auburn University (AU) School of Kinesiology.

4.25.3.7 Sports and Athletics

National data indicates that organized youth sports have been steadily declining during the last decade. The average number of team sports played per participant has declined more than 6%. In a nationwide sampling of traditional sports activities for 6–17-year-olds from 2009–2014, participation declined as follows:

- Baseball (-4.3%).
- Basketball (-6.8%).
- Tackle football (-17.9%).
- Touch football (-32.4%).
- Indoor soccer (-11.6%).
- Outdoor soccer (-8.4%).

- Slow-pitch softball (-11.2%).
- Track and field (-10.4%).
- Court volleyball (-21.6%).

In this same time, youth participation increased for:

- Lacrosse (28.8%).
- Rugby (100.7%).
- Fast-pitch softball (1.6%).
- Sand/beach volleyball (22.6%).

These trends continued through 2015. However, for the first time in ten (10) years, there was an upward turn in youth sports participation numbers in 2016. Baseball, cheerleading, lacrosse, rugby, indoor soccer, team swimming, flag and tackle football have all increased in participation by approximately 4%. While this reversal does not establish a trend, it is a positive and hopeful sign that youth are once again becoming more active and re-engaging in traditional sports.

Unlike the nationwide statistics, PIA data from APRD indicated that participation in many sports increased from FY14 – FY16. Examples include:

- Court volleyball (92%).
- Adult soccer (80%).
- Basketball (19%).
- Auburn Soccer Association programs (14%).
- Auburn Soccer Association camps (3%).
- Auburn Baseball/Softball Association programs (4%).
- Auburn Youth Tackle Football Association programs (5%).



Although these programs grew in popularity, participation in others declined during this period:

- All Sports Camp (-29%).
- Cheerleading (-19%).
- Track (-11%).
- Adult softball and kickball leagues and tournaments (-7%).

The most likely explanation for the downward trend in some programs is lack of access to facilities. These programs should be annually reviewed to identify potential reasons for the decline in participation and to monitor trends.

4.25.4 Staff and Volunteer Allocation

Based on the PIA, program participants increased by 29% and the number of programs increased by 30% while the number of staff remained relatively stable for almost all program and service areas. As indicated in the previous section, the programming areas that have experienced a rapid increase over the past three (3) years include:

- Special events.
- Aquatics.
- Fitness centers.
- Therapeutic and Special Olympics programs.
- Senior programs and services.

While program growth overall has been significant, growth in some programs has been limited by access to facilities, making the need for staff resources less apparent. Examples include summer camps and outdoor and adventure programs.



Volunteers are critical to parks and recreation departments as they can significantly affect the type and level of programming departmental staff can provide. They can help with or provide services, fill in “gaps” at critical times, provide valuable feedback, and, ultimately, they are also the most dedicated supporters and advocates for the agency. Volunteers are a particularly important resource in university communities such as Auburn, where college students and faculty provide an excellent pool of potential volunteers.

Many programs within APRD benefit from the generosity of volunteers. In program areas that use volunteers, staff does a good job of coordinating and working with them and feedback from the volunteers was excellent. Not all programs reviewed in the PIA utilized volunteers. For those that did:

- The total number of volunteers rose from 1,193 in FY14 to 1,347 in FY15 (13%) and then to 1,361 in FY16 (+1%).
- The total number of hours donated to APRD rose from 27,447 in FY14 to 31,726 in FY15 (16%), but then declined to 31,024 in FY16 (-2.2%).

Under the national standard for the economic value of a volunteer hour as benchmarked by the Points of Light Foundation, the world’s largest, international volunteer organization (<http://www.pointsoflight.org>), in FY16 volunteers contributed \$730,925 in services to APRD. However, volunteer services are currently underutilized and there are opportunities to expand the program.

4.25.5 Budget and Fees

It is not possible to determine the exact expenses and revenues for many of the programs evaluated in the PIA. Program funding is complex since APRD utilizes a wide range of partners to deliver services. For those programs provided with partner agencies or organizations, both APRD and the partner incur expenses, but revenues may be collected by the partnering group or both the partnering group and APRD. Further complicating this question, certain fees/expenses may be waived by one of these entities. Thus, program specific details cannot be ascertained with an appropriate level of accuracy without a more in-depth review that is beyond the scope of this master plan. However, the PIA does indicate several important observations about program cost and revenue.

For the programs included in the PIA:

- Departmental revenue from FY14-FY16 declined by 16%, from \$774,247 to \$651,124.
- Direct program expenses have declined by 25%, from \$1,331,506 to \$1,001,228.
- Program attendance has increased by 29%.
- The number of programs increased by 30%.
- Fees remained essentially the same.

These findings are counter-intuitive as an increase in attendance and in the number of programs would typically correspond with an increase in revenue. However, APRD's dedication to efficient and effective service delivery is evident in the significant decrease in program expenses. Reducing overall program cost by 25% not only illustrates fiscal stewardship, but also substantially offsets the decline in program revenue.

This disparity in attendance vs. revenue data could result from:

- A significant increase in participation in free programs provided directly by APRD, accompanied by a decline in participation in fee-based programs, or
- An increase in participation in programs provided by partners, along with a decrease in participation in programs directly sponsored by APRD.

Since fees for programs provided by partnering groups are paid directly to those organizations, an increase in these programs would increase the total number of programs and attendees, but still result in a decrease in departmental revenues. To evaluate these questions in the context of the existing budget dynamics would require an in-depth study that is beyond the scope of the master planning process.

The PIA did allow evaluation of those programs in which both cost and revenue are borne by APRD. The top three (3) revenue-generating activities were:

- Ceramics classes at \$223/participant.
- Camp Kaleidoscope at \$170/participant.
- ABC Little Learner’s Small Fry Camp at \$155/participant.



Senior programs have become increasingly more popular and revenue over the three (3)-year period rose from \$1,635 to \$4,086. However, the cost per participant also increased from \$319 to \$678, indicating additional review may help staff balance expenses for this popular program series.

During stakeholder meetings, participants indicated a need for additional special events both downtown and in parks. These types of programs generally rely on sponsorships and without such support, programs like the SummerNight/Downtown Art Walk would not be possible. The PIA indicated sponsorship-dependent programs experienced a substantial decrease in funding, highlighting the need for APRD to dedicate more resources to generating donations, sponsorships and grants to provide special events.



CHAPTER 5: NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND GAP ANALYSIS

5.0 Definition and Methodology

A gap analysis identifies the difference between an organization's existing resources and the resources needed to meet the community's needs, both currently and in the future. Thus, the gap analysis of the APRD's programs and facilities analyzes information concerning existing resources, data trends, community needs and desires, and projected needs as the community grows to assist with decision-making regarding priorities and resource allocation.

The methodology used for the APRD gap analysis is based on the inventories and assessments of facilities and programs in Chapter 4. Further, the assessment compared existing facilities and programs to "The Auburn Standard," which was determined by adjusting national and state standards based on public feedback, stakeholder meetings, staff input, and the consultant's expertise. The gap analysis defines both existing needs and those anticipated based on the projected changes in the population over the next ten (10) years.

5.1 Administration and Operations

5.11 Operational and Capital Funding

National benchmarks can be used to determine existing budget gaps and to anticipate the need for potential future budget increases. In the 2016 National Recreation and Park Association (2016 NRPA Field Report):

- Cities with populations between 50,000 and 99,999 generally provided per resident operating expenditures ranging from \$72 to \$120, with a median of \$83 per capita.
- An operating budget for a typical parks and recreation department the size of Auburn is \$5,200,000.

At \$87 per capita, operational funding for APRD is \$4 above the NRPA median benchmark of \$83 for a city the size of Auburn. However, this funding level does not account for the presence of more than 28,200 AU students, many of which are not considered City of Auburn (COA) residents. Yet a significant percentage* of AU students likely utilize APRD facilities, primarily for self-directed activities.

If the impact of AU student use is included, the FY16 per capita operational expenditure for APRD would be \$76, or 9.5% below the national median benchmark of \$83. This translates to a potential funding gap of approximately \$500,000. However, a review of APRD's actual operations budget shows the previous five (5) years have been near the national median of \$5.2M and the FY16 budget (\$5.5M) was 6% above the national average. Using the NRPA benchmark to help predict possible operational funding gaps in the next ten (10) years, APRD's operational budget may need to increase by an additional \$2.5M considering the projected increase in the Auburn population, the increase in the number of potential AU students using APRD facilities, and the number of potential new/renovated facilities to be added to APRD as per this master planning process.

Based on the NRPA benchmark for annual capital budgets (\$1.16M), APRD's current CIP funding level of \$1.23M is adequate to meet the current needs of the COA. Consistent funding at this level indicates an understanding of and a commitment to the long-term maintenance of the community's parks and recreation infrastructure. However, the Five-Mill Property Tax dedicated to capital improvements has been reallocated from APRD to the Auburn City Schools (ACS) until at least 2030. In previous years, this tax provided essential CIP funds to APRD, facilitating renovations as well as funding new facilities. With the loss of this annual funding source to ACS, it is vital that the COA work with ACS to coordinate facility use to meet the needs of the citizens of Auburn in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.

**For this report, the estimated number of AU students using APRD facilities is 33% of the student population, or the equivalent of an additional 9,306 "residents" in 2016 and 11,207 in 2026. Although no specific data for AU is available, this percentage is based on a conservative estimate from a process developed in Athens-Clarke County, Georgia – a community like Auburn.*

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 91.
- See the Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis Chart in Appendix D.

5.12 Cost Recovery

- The NRPA median cost recovery for cities the size of Auburn is 31%. While APRD has not established a cost recovery goal, the FY16 rate was 12.37% based on budget data. Establishing program-specific and/or an overall department cost recovery goal would provide a basis to evaluate program effectiveness and market value.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 91.

5.13 Staff

APRD currently has a total of 46 full-time staff. Under the NRPA benchmark of 7.4 full-time staff per 10,000 residents, APRD currently needs one (1) additional full-time staff member. However, this evaluation does not consider the large population of students at AU that use APRD facilities.

While university students do not generally participate in programs, they significantly impact parks and recreation facilities, dog parks, and special events, and should be considered in evaluating the need for full-time staff. As indicated on page 92, the population total for the COA used in the Auburn Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Master Plan (APRC Master Plan) was increased to account for student use of APRD facilities. The NRPA benchmark for this revised population number indicates that APRD currently

needs six (6) full-time positions - five (5) more than is indicated based only on the current COA population – and will need 17 total positions within ten (10) years.

However, the Auburn Standard will require more staff than the national benchmark anticipates. Through stakeholder meetings, surveys, public meetings/feedback, and staff interviews, the master planning process has identified a need for specialty facilities and activities not typically found in a community the size of Auburn and each will require additional personnel. These include:

- Additional parks based on the desire for both more gym space and community centers.
- A desire for parks to be interconnected, walkable, and distributed throughout the community.
- A natatorium that includes both indoor and outdoor pools.

An analysis of existing parkland indicates Auburn will need three (3) new active parks to accommodate gyms/community centers as well as a site to accommodate a natatorium/community center if APRD is to meet the community’s expressed need. There is also an expectation that the natatorium/community center would operate seven (7) days a week and would include evening hours, and the three (3) new community centers would operate six (6) days a week, also with evening hours of operation. The combination of expanded services and new facilities brings the total to 40 new full-time staff that Auburn can anticipate adding to APRD over the next ten (10) years.

The proposed new parks include:

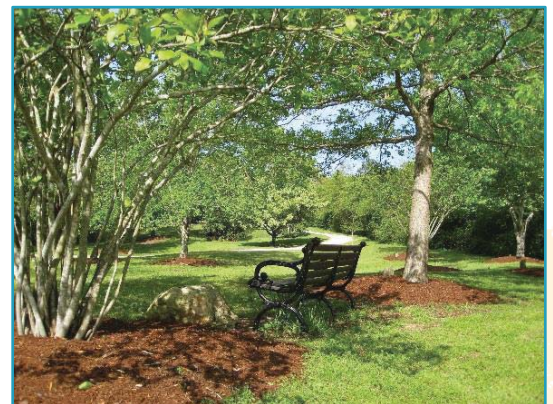
- Lake Wilmore – with community center.
- Richland Road – with community center.
- Boykin/Donahue site with natatorium and community center.
- A new park, yet unidentified, that includes a community center and other facilities.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 92.
- See Park Concept Plans, Narratives, and Cost Estimates in Appendix H.

5.14 Maintenance

As highlighted in Chapter Three (3), 78% - 83% of survey respondents considered the maintenance level of APRD facilities to be good or excellent. However, while the Parks and Facilities Division is well-run and provides excellent service, it faces some operational challenges. For example, the work order system is currently paper-based. The COA maintains an electronic asset management system, but it is limited to large capital items, leaving significant resources out of the inventory (examples include fencing, benches, trash cans, picnic tables, etc.).



An electronic-based work-order and asset inventory system for both capital and non-capital items would enhance planning and facilitate preventative maintenance and replacement cycles that would likely result in significant long-term cost savings. The COA has started the process of equipping and training departments to use CityWorks, an electronic and web-based software system, and APRD is scheduled to be integrated into the program. CityWorks is a GIS-centric asset and data management system that integrates maintenance, operations, life cycle costs and capital planning as part of an inventory, and preventative and corrective maintenance program. Use of this system will allow APRD to more efficiently manage its resources and share data and information across the system. As of the writing of this report the Department’s Urban Forestry Unit has moved onto the system and is actively maintaining a tree inventory through the program.

The maintenance staff is justifiably proud of their achievements, but expressed deep concern about the ability to maintain standards at current levels. This concern was shared by stakeholder group participants and through public feedback as well.

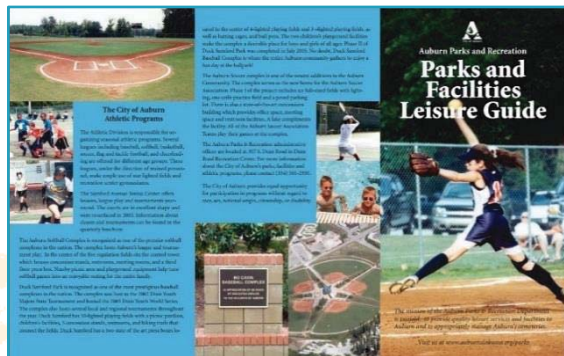
For example, while game fields continue to be well maintained, stakeholders, staff and the public expressed concern with the declining condition of practice fields, a trend that will intensify as the COA’s population grows. APRD game fields are utilized for 1,700 – 2,000 games per year. For baseball and soccer, this translates to an average of two (2) and three (3) games per field respectively for each of 365 days per year. Demand for field space is so intense that routine maintenance like fertilizer and weed control applications, over-seeding, and essential field “resting” is increasingly more difficult to schedule or, once begun, fully accomplish in the time frame available. To this point, the ability to aerate monthly has contributed to APRD’s ability to provide quality fields, but this may not continue to be possible given demand. With the available field space extended beyond a sustainable level, there is a need for additional fields as well as staff and operational resources to be able to continue to provide outstanding service.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 113.

5.15 Public Relations and Marketing

Public relations and marketing are a critical component of a parks and recreation department and are even more important in Auburn, where extensive population turnover is common. APRD has an excellent public relations program that promotes departmental programs and activities. However, there are several key areas where limitations hamper public relations activities. Addressing these limitations will require:



- **Website:** The ability to create an interactive, colorful, flexible, and responsive web presence is vital to park programs and operational success. It is also the key to attracting potential donors and volunteers.
- **Email Blasts:** developing listservs, sending email blasts, and posting events, photographs, and related PR materials builds interest and public support.
- **Social Media:** Extensively using social media to target specific age groups is not only highly effective, but has become critical as people who “live online” comprise an increasingly greater percentage of the community. Concerns were expressed both during stakeholder and public meetings and by the staff about the need to utilize social media, the web, listservs/emails, and related avenues to send and receive information.
- **Other Types of Notifications:** Publishing notices in newspapers, on local radio, posters, billboards, and other means to notify the public of upcoming events and activities.

The public relations staff often must devote time to planning and other activities that are not fully public relations functions. If these duties were shifted to other staff, the public relations staff could devote more time to public relations activities, including the use of social media and web-based materials referred to above, and to the development of sponsorship and donor programs.

Unlike most parks and recreation systems, APRD dedicated \$73,662 in funds for public relations and marketing for 2016. A 2010 survey conducted by the Trust for Public Lands Center for City Park Excellence found that almost half of the agencies responding did not spend any funds on marketing, while those that did spent an average of \$0.46 per resident per year. However, for-profit recreation industry sectors spend 8% or more of their budget on marketing and public relations. APRD spent an average of \$1.16 per capita on public relations and marketing, exceeding the expenditure of the agencies included in the Trust for Public Lands study. But this amount is only a little more than 1% of the APRD budget. Having funds for public relations activities is critical to APRD’s mission, so it is important to not only continue but to increase funding and resources provided.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 95.

5.16 Safety and Security

A major concern of any parks and recreation system is safety and security. Trend data from the Annual Citizen Surveys indicates that, in general, Auburn residents feel safe in COA parks (up from 71.1% in 2013 to 78.3% in 2017 who indicated they felt safe to very safe). During this same time frame, respondents indicated a range of 89.8 – 93% related to their feeling of overall safety in Auburn. The difference in this sense of safety city-wide and in parks highlights an opportunity for APRD to promote safety and situational awareness among park users.

To plan for and address emergencies, representatives from APRD serve on the Business Continuity Team. Up-to-date storm and inclement weather reports and maps are provided every five (5) minutes through

a private company under a government-wide contract. Outdoor athletic facilities should also be equipped with storm detection equipment that can announce an impending weather alert. As needed, APRD representatives work with the Lee County Emergency Management Agency. They also have an outstanding working relationship with the Auburn Police Division and Auburn Fire Division, that has been responsive and takes a cooperative, problem-solving approach to safety issues in parks. This mutually-supportive approach is anticipated to continue as the community grows and the park system expands.

Key information such as the location of fire system control boxes, utility shut-off valves, egress/ingress points, and related information should be available to public safety responders and to APRD staff to enable them to respond to emergencies. While this information is available in different locations for most APRD facilities, it would be beneficial to have the information consolidated into a single map for each site.

In many parks and recreation systems, landscape and maintenance equipment and supplies tend to be especially vulnerable to theft. In the past year, APRD has been the victim of several burglaries, highlighting a potential need for additional security measures. In some situations, crime, vandalism, and inappropriate behavior can be discouraged through facility and landscape design.

Safety is also linked directly to the maintenance and appearance of a park. Well-maintained and visually appealing spaces invite use and discourage inappropriate behavior. As indicated in the 2015 and 2016 Community Surveys and the Annual Citizen Survey trend data, COA parks are currently very well maintained, contributing significantly to the overall safety of the parks system.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 95.

5.17 Effective Utilization of Volunteers

The master planning process included a review of departmental support provided by volunteers. As discussed in Chapter 4, the current level of volunteer commitment and support is both generous and significant. But there is no formal system by which staff can coordinate volunteers or gather and report information regarding volunteers on a department-wide scale. Additionally, there is no formal mechanism that allows staff to communicate with existing volunteers (i.e. a listserv), and no consistent way for community members to learn about or contact staff about potential volunteer opportunities. Having a formal volunteer program and an active and involved staff is essential to a healthy volunteer program. In general, people volunteer for people, places, and causes and a system designed to connect potential volunteers with these areas can be highly successful. Volunteers represent an available resource that needs to be further developed within APRD.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 96.

5.18 Donations and Sponsorships

Donations, sponsorships, and naming rights can be a valuable funding source for a parks and recreation department. Visitors who have had a positive experience with a program or event or those paying for programs or purchasing merchandise will often contribute toward a specific program, service, or piece of equipment if provided with the opportunity to easily do so. Businesses and corporations frequently are willing to donate or undertake a sponsorship for the type of branding opportunity naming rights provide. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board considers naming on a case-by-case basis and makes recommendations to the Mayor and City Council for consideration or approval.

Currently, APRD seeks sponsorships only on a per program basis. APRD has a limited system in place to identify or promote opportunities for potential donations and sponsorships. Identifying and developing these alternative funding opportunities could address both small and large-scale funding needs.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 96.

5.19 Other Factors Affecting Departmental Operations

5.19.1 Auburn Parks and Recreation Department and Auburn City Schools

Among the most commonly asked questions during both public and stakeholder meetings were those regarding the use of school facilities to meet the community's needs for specific types of parks and recreation facilities. The shift three (3) years ago in capital funding from the Five-Mill Property Tax program from APRD to ACS corresponds with a decline in the community's satisfaction with the quality of APRD's facilities as indicated in the Annual Citizen Surveys for the past five (5) years. Both APRD and ACS are providing services to the children of Auburn, so it is vital that the two organizations collaborate to the greatest extent possible to meet the capital development needs of the community.

APRD does not currently schedule regular meetings to facilitate communication with the school system and there is no formal shared-use agreement. Although formalizing such an agreement would require negotiation of complex issues, having such an agreement can help both APRD and ACS meet the needs of the growing population for programs and services.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 97.

5.19.2 Comprehensive Public Transit System

The COA and AU currently have a Bike Share Program underway, that will enable residents to freely use bicycles, providing additional options to reach APRD facilities. Auburn University would like to combine efforts to expand the War Eagle Bike Share (WEBS) program to locations off campus. The program expansion will provide 28 new hubs located at City parks, recreation centers, administration buildings and other off-campus venues which will increase the current system service area. This joint venture creates opportunities for citizens to utilize the WEBS bicycles to travel around and throughout

downtown and other parts of the City. As the demand for parking increases, citizens are looking for other ways to get to their destinations. A bike share system promotes bicycling as an alternative mode of transportation. The WEBS system is free to all users for the first two hours and is open for use by citizens and visitors of Auburn as well as the campus student community.

While beyond the purview of the APRC Master Plan process, having a comprehensive transit system was one of the most consistently stated needs expressed in meetings with stakeholders and the public. As communicated by the participants, a transit system would provide people, especially low-income residents, access to Library and APRD programs and services as well as to other community resources. The number of times this issue was mentioned during the preliminary master planning process prompted the inclusion of a transit question in the 2017 Annual Citizen Survey. In this survey, 52% of the respondents indicated that it was somewhat or extremely important while 31% indicated it was somewhat unimportant or extremely unimportant, while the remainder had no opinion. Reflecting the community's interest in this topic, the need for a transit system was highlighted in the CompPlan 2030.



Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 98.

5.19.3 Wayfinding and Signage Master Plan

The need for a comprehensive wayfinding and sign master plan was expressed during stakeholder meetings, and was also noted by consultants during the park assessment and inventory process. The lack of wayfinding signs can make it difficult for both tourists and new residents to locate parks and other APRD facilities. This is particularly difficult because:

- Some facilities on the same site have different addresses (example: City of Auburn Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center (JDCAC) and Frank Brown Recreation Center).
- Some parks have multiple entrances, some of which lead to different areas of the park that are not connected (ex: Duck Samford Park).

Inside parks signage can be minimal, but is nevertheless important. Directional and wayfinding signs located near entrances help visitors quickly reach their destinations. Rules and regulations and etiquette signs communicate standards of behavior that clarify use expectations and lower liability exposure for APRD. Informational signs and kiosks provide visitors with information about APRD,

upcoming programs and any specific information about the park facilities or scheduled activities. For example, posting information explaining why a game field is “resting” and thus not available for use can promote visitor support and understanding rather than frustration.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 98.

5.19.4 Assessing Park Use

Informal observations by Auburn staff and stakeholders over the course of FY 2016 suggests that tens of thousands of residents visited and used Auburn parks on an informal or self-directed basis. A method of accounting for this use has not been established by APRD. Past efforts have not provided data that meets the standards of accuracy and confidence desired by APRD. Thus, a comparison of general park use to specialty facilities was not possible.

Obtaining accurate self-directed usage data is essential to allocate resources appropriately. Accurate numbers for informal or self-directed park use are difficult to determine and doing so can be expensive if a high degree of accuracy is needed. But obtaining this data is important since attendance records for natural areas, greenspace, or passive parks are generally the largest percentage or among the largest in systems that collect such data. Without this information, the effect these visitors have on APRD’s park facilities and natural resources can become a hidden but substantial cost.

Other agencies have used various techniques for counting visitor use in non-staffed, self-directed/passive parks, including specialized equipment (passive or active infrared counters, seismic counters, road tube counters, and cameras), personal observation and sampling, visitor surveys, trail registration, or data purchased from providers (example: use data from STRAVA*). APRD could consider these methods when determining how to gather data on park and greenspace use, as this information is important to enable APRD to effectively evaluate budgetary and staff resource needs.

* STRAVA is a mobile and web-based app designed primarily for athletes to track routes, work outs and progress. This self-reporting can be converted to a “heat map” enabling community planners and program providers to create a map indicating where self-reporting participants are walking, running, and hiking on roadways as well as undeveloped properties.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 98.

5.19.5 Green Infrastructure Planning

APRD has dedicated internal resources and partnered with several groups in its natural resource stewardship efforts. In 1999, the Auburn City Council appointed a Greenspace Task Force to study sidewalk and open space conditions, land acquisition and funding options, and to propose a greenways master plan that included the identification of alternative transportation corridors,

provided enhanced protection of environmentally sensitive areas, and made recommendations for implementation of the plan. The final report of the Greenspace Task Force had excellent recommendations and proposed projects that provided a foundation for creating a comprehensive “green infrastructure” plan that would support and complement other COA initiatives. In 2011, the map was updated, as was some of the text. To remain relevant, both the map and text should be reviewed and revised periodically.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 99.

5.19.6 Natural Resource Management

The Tree Commission is actively engaged in overseeing and making recommendations concerning urban trees in Auburn. A review of the tree ordinance and Tree Commission goals indicated there is significant protection of and provision for the establishment of trees on public property, rights-of-way, or in developments. However, during the stakeholder interviews Tree Commission members indicated that there is a need to establish an overall community canopy coverage goal. A typical goal is 45%, although many communities have set their canopy coverage goals much higher, reflecting their commitment to a green community.

APRD has three (3) full-time and three (3) temporary positions that are assigned to the management of urban trees and City-wide beautification endeavors. APRD has also partnered with the Tree Commission and the Greenspace Advisory Board to coordinate natural resource stewardship efforts. These partnering agencies provide valuable planning and policy recommendations and guidance to APRD. At the individual, urban tree level, APRD Parks and Facilities Division has adopted the International Society of Arboriculture standards and does an excellent job of routinely assessing and managing urban trees, evaluating risks, and responding to hazard tree issues.

However, at the landscape level, APRD does not have a comprehensive ecological/natural resource management plan that establishes a vision, goals, policies, practices, and acceptable techniques and methods both for APRD generally and for specific sites. Site-based plans document existing conditions and establish specific management regimes and objectives, including removal and management of invasive species, that can dramatically decrease the quality and beauty of properties managed by APRD.

Based on stakeholder, staff, and public input, educational efforts regarding the benefits of natural areas, the need for invasive species eradication, and importance of native tree planting and care has not been as effective or extensive as desired to further the community’s understanding of these



issues. To accomplish the required planning and site management and to continue the educational initiative will tax existing staff resources.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 100.

5.19.7 Policy and Zoning Ordinance Review

APRD properties provide significant conservation and ecosystem services to the community. They also serve as wildlife reserves, providing critical habitat that helps maintain wildlife populations throughout the COA. Policies of APRD as well as the COA Code of Ordinances were reviewed and feedback provided by stakeholder groups and the public regarding natural area buffers and corridors. Currently, ordinances and departmental policies do not fully address the broader ecosystem functions essential to the long-term health of the community or provide benchmarks and guidelines to address ecosystem service concerns.

In addition, domestic animals can significantly affect ecosystem services and the plant and wildlife that rely on these natural areas for survival. The COA Animal Control Division of the Environmental Services Department picks up feral and domestic animals as well as nuisance or injured wildlife within the City limits. Animals are taken to the Lee County Humane Society in exchange for a per animal fee, paid by the COA. Continued monitoring of feral and domestic animals in parks and greenspace will be needed to minimize or eliminate environmental and potential risk to park visitors.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 101.

5.2 Parks and Recreation Facilities

5.21 Introduction and Overview

Auburn has a wide range of outdoor parks and facilities, including large parks, natural areas, community centers, small neighborhood parks, greenspace, bike and walking trails, and soccer, tennis, baseball, and softball complexes. It also provides residents with access to the Louise Kreher Forest Ecology Preserve and Nature Center (KFEP) and the Auburn University Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art (JCSMFA). The most popular request at stakeholder and public meetings was for additional:

- Gym space.
- Multi-use courts and spaces.
- Exercise rooms and associated equipment.
- Game rooms.
- Social gathering areas.
- Teaching kitchens.
- An indoor track.

- Indoor aquatics space.
- Pickleball courts.
- A senior center.
- A therapeutic center.
- Sports fields.
- Greenways and greenspace.
- Walking and biking trails.

In the 2015 ETC Parks and Recreation Community Interest and Opinion Survey (2015 Community Survey), respondents ranked the importance of indoor facilities. The top five (5) most important indoor spaces to responding households were:

- Indoor fitness and exercise facilities (18%).
- Indoor swimming or leisure pool (16%).
- Weight room/cardiovascular equipment areas (15%).
- Indoor running/walking track (14%).
- Aerobic/fitness/dance class space (9%).

The survey also indicated that the top five (5) most important outdoor spaces were:

- Walking and biking trails (45%).
- Small neighborhood parks (30%).
- Large community parks (18%).
- Outdoor swimming pools/splash features (18%).
- Playground equipment (16%).

The Annual Citizen Survey trend data suggests that gaps exist including:

- Enhanced maintenance services for City cemeteries.
- Improvements/renovation of APRD pools, recreation centers.
- The need for additional greenspace, bike paths, and walking trails.
- Enhanced protection and/or bike/walk facilities separate from traffic.

5.22 Parks and Facilities – Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis Chart

The Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis Chart in Appendix D lists existing facilities, compares this data to available national or state benchmarks, and identifies where gaps exist.

5.23 Facilities Gap Analysis

5.23.1 Outdoor Facilities

5.23.1.1 Aquatics



There is an identified need for additional aquatics facilities. Under national benchmarks, a city the size of Auburn should have two (2) outdoor pools; there are no benchmarks for the number of indoor pools. APRD operates two (2) outdoor, non-competition pools: Samford Pool is 40 years old and Drake Pool is twelve (12) years old. Because of

their age, maintenance costs continue to escalate. Additionally, as the pool plaster and concrete surfaces deteriorate, it is difficult to keep the facilities clean and, even when clean, they do not appear to be. The depth of the pools is conducive to exercise, training, and free swim activities. However, they do not meet competitive swim standards, limiting their use for competitive swim and eliminating the option of hosting tournaments or meeting competition standards for training. While a substantial number of people from surrounding neighborhoods walk or bike to these facilities, both pools have significant parking and traffic issues. However, a new outdoor pool could substantially reduce parking and traffic issues at the two (2) existing outdoor pools.

Based on a APRD 2016 Aquatics Survey as well as feedback from stakeholders and staff, the existing pools need:

- Additional deck shade.
- Modernized pool house facilities.
- Storage.
- Space for swim meets and swim team practice.
- Space for multiple, concurrent activities.
- Accommodations for therapeutic and special needs activities.
- Enhanced diving facilities and a children’s splash feature.

Further, the 2015 Community Survey identified outdoor pools/splash features as the 4th most important outdoor facility (18%) to responding Auburn households and indoor aquatic facilities as the 2nd most important (16%) indoor facility. Stakeholder and public meetings also indicated a significant interest in having more and improved aquatics facilities. Although the two (2) pools currently maintained by APRD meet the national benchmark, the information gathered during the master planning process indicates a gap between available and needed aquatics facilities, and supports both the renovation of the two (2) outdoor pools to accommodate competitive and non-competitive activities and the need for an indoor facility to accommodate interest in year-round swimming.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 102.

- See the Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis Chart in Appendix D.

5.23.1.2 Downtown Event Space/Town Green

Stakeholders, staff and public input sessions indicated the greatest facility needs associated with downtown are event space, downtown beautification, landscaped connectivity and greenways between downtown and APRD parks, adequate parking, more open space, wayfinding, and a public transit system. There was also a significant amount of interest expressed in establishing a “town center” or centralized park area to serve as a focal point for activities, highlighting this as a significant community need. These needs were ones identified in the 2014 Auburn Downtown Master Plan (2014 DMP). The 2014 DMP also identified Felton Little Park as a possible location for a town green. In the absence of dedicated event space, the Gay Street Parking Lot is used for event space as well as closing downtown streets for a big event.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 103.

5.23.1.3 Facilities for Non-Traditional Activities

Non-traditional activities provide opportunities for people to discover new hobbies and areas of interest. The master planning process identified the need for two (2) facilities for non-traditional activities: a disc golf course and a skateboard park. Although AU has a small disc golf course, it is not easily accessible to Auburn residents and is not considered adequate or challenging enough for most disc golf players. The stakeholder meetings also identified the need for a skateboard park, as there is currently no facility of this type in Auburn.

Mountain biking was important to specific stakeholders. The level of volunteer investment in this activity indicates that there is also a dedicated and growing constituency in Auburn. There are a significant number of mountain bike trails, located in the COA-owned Lake Wilmore property as well as at Chewacla State Park, although there is an admission fee to the state park. These trails accommodate intermediate to advanced riders. One of the likely impediments to continued development of this sport in Auburn is the lack of beginner to intermediate trails. These types of trails are vital to provide beginners with the opportunity to develop their skills under less demanding, safer conditions. The current mountain bike trails attract a lot of users and bring substantial revenue to the COA through competition meets and tourism.

While the three non-traditional activities indicated above (disc golf, skateboard park, and mountain biking), were represented during the stakeholder and public input phase, facilities for other non-traditional activities were not identified as needed. They should, however, be considered as potential avenues by which APRD could serve the growing interest in non-traditional activities. Facilities that are popular in other communities include sand volleyball courts, ropes courses, rock climbing walls, ultimate Frisbee areas, zip lines, and archery ranges.



An emerging non-traditional activity is flying Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (a.k.a. UAVs or drones.) In the fall of 2016 the FAA released rules governing drone operation, which prompted a rapid increase in the number of drones being flown by enthusiasts. This activity requires specifically designated space to ensure the safety of operators and other park users. As with other activities, drone operators are more likely to follow rules and report those who do not if they have legitimate venues in which to fly their drones and simultaneously meet other enthusiasts.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 104.
- See the Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis Chart in Appendix D.

5.23.1.4 Natural Areas and Other Outdoor Facilities

Community Gardens:

APRD does not currently have a community gardening program. In the 2015 Community Survey, respondents ranked community gardening as an important program. Stakeholder and public input sessions also indicated a strong interest in community gardening. Although AU has a community garden available for faculty, staff, students, and the community, the garden is relatively small and is on the AU campus. The available assistance of groups like the Master Gardeners and the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service can help APRD to develop a program that provides community garden space in areas more geographically accessible to various areas in the community.

Dog Parks:

Dog ownership continues to play a large role in communities, establishing the need for dog parks and other off-leash areas where dogs can roam freely. The need for additional dog parks in Auburn was indicated in feedback gathered during stakeholder meetings. The national standard for dog parks is 1 per 43,000 people. There are currently two (2) authorized off-leash areas managed by APRD, meeting the national standard. However,

given the projected increase in Auburn’s population over the next ten (10) years, additional dog parks/off-leash areas will be needed.

Fishing and Boating:

During stakeholder and public meetings, Auburn residents asked for more opportunities and amenities related to fishing. Respondents wanted greater access to local lakes (example: Lake Ogletree) as well fishing programs, piers, and cleaning stations. There was also notable interest in programs and amenities that facilitate boating, especially ones focusing on canoeing and kayaking. (note: freshwater bank fishing is the seventh most popular outdoor activity in Alabama per the latest Alabama Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2013-2018)

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 105.
- See the Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis Chart in Appendix D.

5.23.1.5 Outdoor Event Venues

Meetings with stakeholders, public input sessions, and staff highlighted the need for outdoor event space. The single largest event hosted by APRD currently is CityFest, an annual program that has been held for the past 16 years. Event attendance has grown by 30% over the past three (3) years, with more than 9,700 people attending the 2016 spring event. Space and event infrastructure now severely limit the growth of this popular program. In addition to CityFest, APRD annually hosts smaller outdoor events such as Bark in the Park and the spring and fall concert series. The number of people attending Bark in the Park has almost doubled over the past three (3) years, while the concert series attendance has remained relatively stable (weather factors excluded). In the 2016 Community Survey, respondents indicated Auburn CityFest (37%) and holiday events (25%) were the second and third most important arts and cultural programs and events.

Because each community is unique, there are no national standards associated with the establishment of a festival or event field. However, the need for outdoor event space that can accommodate a variety of programs was a frequently requested amenity during the information gathering phase of the master plan process. In addition to large event space, there is also a need to have smaller outdoor venue spaces distributed throughout the community.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 105.
- See the Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis Chart in Appendix D.

5.23.1.6 Sports and Athletics

The Gap Analysis Chart in Appendix D highlights the need for basketball and multi-use courts, softball and baseball fields, overlay football/soccer fields, lacrosse fields, and tee-ball fields. Field space was one of the facilities most requested by stakeholders, staff, and during public feedback sessions. Keeping facilities open later in the evening or for longer hours on the weekend would help accommodate the current need, but would require additional staff and maintenance resources not currently available. To be able to continue to provide the current level of service, APRD will need new facilities and additional operational funding to operate and maintain them.



An indoor soccer facility (futsal) was also requested. While gyms can be used for indoor soccer in addition to other sports and activities, the existing gyms in Auburn were not designed to accommodate this activity and are currently fully utilized by other sports and activities. As new gyms are developed there is a need to include space for an indoor soccer program as part of the design and construction process. Utilizing gyms for multiple activities demonstrates flexibility while allowing APRD to provide a variety of athletic activities, saving capital and operational funding in the process.

The Yarbrough Tennis Center hosts an average of twelve (12) tournaments each year, including the State, Southern, and National, and Intercollegiate Tennis Association meets. There were no major facility or program gaps identified or needs associated with tennis.

The lighting for sports fields and facilities is not keeping pace with technology available to ensure efficiency and cost effectiveness. Fully shielded LED sports lighting cost less to operate and are projected to last (or be replaced as part of a warranty) for up to 20 years. This longer life cycle and lower maintenance/replacement costs can produce pay-back periods of 3-5 years.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 106.
- See the Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis Chart in Appendix D.

5.23.2 Indoor Facilities

5.23.2.1 Community Activity/Meeting Space

Stakeholder interviews identified access to community meeting space as an important need. Attendees expressed a desire to have a space where neighborhood groups, home-schoolers, and other smaller groups can meet or host gatherings. The concerns and frustrations expressed about existing resources were:

- High demand for space required reservations be made weeks/months in advance.
- Times of the day that the space is available is limited, especially on weekends.
- Sunday meeting space includes a staff fee which may discourage rentals.
- Stakeholders who had routine meetings felt rental costs for small groups are prohibitive and expressed frustration with being “nickel and dimed to death.”

Although there are existing spaces available for these uses, there is a need for low to no-cost space that is routinely available for public use. The availability of such space would allow APRD to reallocate space currently being used for small group meetings to programs and activities.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 107.

5.23.2.2 Recreation, Health, and Fitness Facilities

Gym space was the most frequently requested indoor space by stakeholders and staff and during public input sessions. It was identified as a need by seniors, special needs stakeholders, athletics groups and others. Since gyms are flexible spaces that can be used for multiple purposes, they are useful in meeting a variety of community needs. Currently, Auburn has three (3) gyms, but, as indicated by both national benchmarks and stakeholder input, is projected to need four (4) additional gyms over the next ten (10) years.

In the 2015 Community Survey, among the top three (3) needed indoor spaces identified were:

- Fitness and exercise facilities.
- Weight room/cardiovascular equipment areas.
- Indoor running track.

Under the Auburn standard and national benchmarks, two (2) additional recreation/fitness centers will be needed over the next ten (10) years, along with one (1) indoor track, two (2) handball courts, and two (2) racquetball courts.

Playgrounds:

Children need places to explore and play. Playgrounds were identified as a need during the stakeholder and public meetings, as well as being ranked as the 5th most important outdoor facility in the 2015 Community Survey. APRD currently has nine (9) playgrounds for children two (2) to five (5) years old and six (6) for children six (6) to twelve (12) years old. National benchmarks and Auburn citizen input establishes an existing need for an additional nine (9) playgrounds for children two (2) to five (5) years old and four (4) for children six (6) to twelve (12) years old. Over the next ten (10) years, that gap increases to eleven (11) and six (6) additional needed playgrounds respectively. There is also a need to renovate and expand the existing playgrounds to provide additional play elements, shade, and access to water and restrooms.

Accessible playgrounds: Currently APRD does not have an accessible playground (i.e. meeting Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations.) At least one (1) ADA accessible playground per age group should be available. A fully accessible playground has been programmed and planned for Town Creek Park, Phase II.

Climbing Wall: Although not identified as a need through community surveys and stakeholder meetings, climbing walls are popular in communities like Auburn. Thus, the addition of one (1) climbing wall facility is supported by the existing and projected population size.


Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 108.
- See the Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis Chart in Appendix D.

5.23.2.3 Facilities for Seniors

The Hubert and Grace Harris Center was constructed in 2013 and includes both senior activity space and APRD Administrative offices. It was part of an overall campus upgrade that included renovations and additions to Frank Brown Recreation Center (FBRC), potential use of the City of Auburn Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center (JDCAC), and upgrades to parking and outdoor site amenities. Shuffleboard courts and two (2) pickleball courts were added in October 2016. Inside the Harris Center, the central foyer provides informal space for seniors to gather. There is also a small computer room, a large multi-purpose room, a warming kitchen, and a meeting/activity room. As part of the planning process, a card room was added to the Frank Brown Recreation Center specifically for seniors, as was space filled with cardio and exercise equipment. With the inclusion of the Arts Center, the campus was designed to provide for the growing needs of the seniors. A key component





of the holistic campus concept was to also provide opportunities for seniors and younger generations to interact and develop friendships through shared interests.

Stakeholder input indicated a need for additional senior space to meet the long-term indoor and outdoor needs of this growing population. Several problems exist with the current facilities:

- When multiple programs or activities occur at the same time within the complex, seniors may have difficulty finding parking. Thus, more parking should be made available for seniors, who may have difficulty walking longer distances to and from facilities, especially after dark.
- Space for both unstructured and structured activities has been limited since senior programs have periodically been moved to other facilities to accommodate higher priority meetings. A principal cause appears to be a combination of an increase in overall facility use and renovations elsewhere in the government that left the Harris Center as the available space for agencies and officials to hold meetings. As renovations are completed and new meeting space becomes available elsewhere in the COA, the intent of APRD to provide senior space will become more feasible.

Additional needs identified by stakeholders were:

- Additional senior program space and for that space to be conveniently located.
- Access to both space and shared facilities such as gyms, tracks, a teaching kitchen, community garden, etc.
- Space to enable staff to provide additional programs for seniors on more days and at varied times throughout the week and weekend to reduce the need to move senior programs because of conflicts with other activities at the complex.
- An air-conditioned APRD bus to use for field trips and events.
- Additional pickleball courts, both indoor and outdoor, and that they be conveniently located close to home.
- Comfortable, well-landscaped outdoor social space that can be used for reading, reflection, fellowship, or just “hanging out.”

While not mentioned in stakeholder meetings or polled through surveys, other activities frequently requested by seniors in communities similar in size and demographics to Auburn are shuffleboard, bocce ball, corn hole, horseshoes, and ladder ball. These are not currently available in Auburn, but given the size of the population and the popularity of these activities nationally, the addition of facilities and equipment to accommodate them should be considered.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 109.
- See the Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis Chart in Appendix D.

5.23.2.4 Special Needs and Therapeutic Recreation



Excellent support services in therapeutic recreation are available in Auburn. As the population continues to grow, the number of residents in need of therapeutic recreation will also increase. In 2014, there was a total of 2,304 special needs students enrolled in area schools, with 815 in Auburn City Schools (ACS), 1,069 in Lee County Schools, and 420 in Opelika City Schools.

During stakeholder interviews and public meetings participants expressed a need for therapeutic recreation space available to serve young people and additional space available to serve adults.

During the stakeholder interviews, participants emphasized the need for therapeutic programs and facilities to be part of other, general population activities/facilities rather than having them “warehoused” away from other program participants and facility users. Program and facility integration will engender a greater sense of understanding, strengthening a sense of community in the process.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 109.

5.23.3 Parks, Greenspace, and Natural Areas

5.23.3.1 Park Development and Acquisition

Based on NRPA population benchmarks, APRD’s current inventory of 26 parks and 524 acres of parkland:

- Meets the current need for the number of parks, but APRD will need to add four (4) additional parks within the next ten (10) years to reach a total of 30 parks.
- Does not meet the current need for parkland as per the NRPA national benchmark of 584 acres (-60 acres).
- Does not meet the 10-year projected need for parkland as per the NRPA benchmark of 672 acres (-148 acres).

However, APRD has undeveloped land currently classified as greenspace that is available to be utilized as parkland. Doing so could meet or exceed the existing and 10-year projected needs for parkland. [Note: total acreage needed does not address the need to have the land appropriately located to serve the community].

National benchmarks consider greenspace properties separately from parkland. Establishing a local standard for greenspace is more challenging. Several large cities and the World Health Organization have independently developed standards for greenspace:

- City of New York (1.5 ac./1000).
- London (6.7 ac./1000).
- Amsterdam (11 ac./1000).
- Stockholm (21.6 ac./1000).
- World Health Organization (2.2 ac./1000).

To establish an “Auburn Standard,” an average between the highest and lowest of these organizations was used, or 11.55 ac./1000 residents. Auburn’s 1,745 acres classified as greenspace/open space exceeds the 733 acres needed to meet the 2016 NRPA benchmark as well as the 843 acres needed to meet APRD needs over the next ten (10) years.

While Auburn exceeds the national benchmark for parkland and greenspace, it is important that these lands be located near population centers. Additional detail related to locating parks and greenspace is discussed in section 5.23.3.2 *Greenways and Trails*, below. The Proposed Park Locations Map can be found in Appendix F.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 111.
- See the Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis Chart in Appendix D.

5.23.3.2 Greenways and Trails

In the 2015 Community Survey, the top three (3) outdoor facilities respondents indicated were needed were:

- Greenways and walking/biking trails (45%).
- Small neighborhood parks (30%).
- Large community parks (18%).

Stakeholder meeting participants also indicated a desire to have:

- More greenways and trails, including separate bike and walking trails (to enhance the safety of both types of trail users).
- Blueways and kayak and canoe facilities.
- Connections between APRD facilities and between these facilities and schools and neighborhoods.

Auburn residents value both walking and biking opportunities. By a significant margin, the 2015 Community Survey identified walking and biking trails as the sports and recreation facility most important to households. In the survey, 45% of respondents selected walking

and biking trails as one of their top four (4) choices. Since walking and biking are popular activities for the residents of Auburn, walking trails, bike trails, and greenways are needed to provide these opportunities for health, recreation, and transportation. As illustrated on the Bikeability Map G1 in Appendix G, all APRD facilities are potentially bikeable from points throughout the COA. These findings were further supported by information and survey data available through the Comprehensive Plan for the City of Auburn (CompPlan 2030) and the Annual Citizen Surveys. Thus, the greatest need is to develop routes to reach and interconnect APRD facilities.

The Walkability Map G2, located in Appendix G, highlights access to parks and greenspace via walking and illustrates the gaps where accessibility is lacking. The population distribution based on mean income has also been included in the map as a consideration in determining the potential location of future parks to make them walkable to a greater segment of the community. The Bikeability Map G1, in Appendix G, highlights access to parks and greenspace by bike, and indicates that Auburn has adequate potential access to parks, cemeteries, and greenspace via bike, but that the gap exists in the location and connectivity of safe bike routes.

A review of the Proposed Park Locations Map F2 in Appendix F identifies where potential greenspace and parks could be located. The map is based on the COA Planning Department AIGM process and feedback.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 112.

5.23.4 Maintenance Facilities

Maintenance equipment, service vehicles, shops, and offices have been located based on availability of space rather than efficiency of service, leading to complications and delays in service response. For example, at the shop located next to the elementary school on South Dean Road, loaded trucks and trailers routinely leave from or arrive at the site when the school day is starting or ending. These vehicles are hampered by school traffic, resulting in loss of productivity for the Parks and Facilities staff. There is also inadequate indoor space to meet maintenance and repair needs and insufficient space for outdoor storage of materials such as dirt, gravel, and sand. Further, as per the initial agreement with the school system, much of the available parking on the site is often utilized for school related functions.

APRD has done an excellent job of adapting to these limitations, but the result has been the dispersal of equipment, shop space, and personnel to various sites around the COA. While this arrangement is currently the only option, it results in a loss of efficiency because of the required increase in travel time to and from these various sites. Bringing these resources together would enhance work unit communication, facilitate resource sharing, provide efficient storage/material purchase options,

decrease travel and wait time, and promote cross-operation cooperation within the Parks and Facilities Division.

Environmental Services Site:

Although not identified as a need through the master planning process, long term plans identified the need for the Environmental Services Department Maintenance Division functions to expand – something that is not possible at its current location. Co-locating the maintenance functions of the two departments will promote savings through bulk purchasing, encourage sharing of resources, and promote teamwork and the exchange of ideas.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 113.

5.23.5 Cemeteries

APRD is responsible for providing complete burial services for four (4) cemeteries and maintenance services for five (5), including two (2) historic cemeteries. These highly sensitive and important services must be provided in an exemplary manner, seven (7) days a week, 363 days each year. Scheduling staff and operations around unpredictable schedules is a challenge that has been compounded by a dramatic rise in the demand for services.



Each burial requires several hours of staff time. Additionally, out of respect for the occasion, routine activities within the cemetery or a large portion of the cemetery cease during the ceremony, making routine maintenance activities throughout the site a challenge. From 2011 to 2015, burials rose from 111 annually to 153 (38%) and dropped to 109 burials in 2016. Full or part-time staff remained constant during the four (4)-year increase, resulting in a decline in maintenance services to all cemeteries in the system.

While there was a substantial drop in burial activities in 2016, Auburn’s reputation as an outstanding place to retire continues to grow. With a four (4) out of five (5)-year trend upward and an anticipated increase in the number of older residents, the projected number of annual burials is anticipated to increase over the next ten (10) years. This situation suggests there is a gap in the number of staff needed as well as the need to create a burial team to that will enable APRD to meet future community burial service and maintenance expectations.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 114.

5.3 Parks and Recreation Programs

5.31 Introduction and Overview

Compared to cities of similar size and composition, Auburn has done an excellent job of providing diverse program opportunities for a wide range of age groups. This achievement has been possible because of the efforts of dedicated professional staff, supporting partners and agencies, committed volunteers, and community support and participation.

However, the program assessment indicated that there are key areas where programming gaps exist. These include:

- After school programs.
- Full-summer/full-day camps.
- Nature and science educational programs.
- Outdoor adventure and skills programs.
- Programs targeting preschool age children.
- Adult fitness and wellness programs.
- Programs for adults 50 years of age and older.
- Non-traditional sports programs, and gardening.

5.32 Inventory of Assessed Programs

A complete list of programs APRD provided to the community in FY16 and when they were offered can be found in Appendix C. A list of the 39 programs that were assessed in the Program Inventory and Assessment Survey (PIA) can be found on page 27.

5.33 Program Gap Analysis

5.33.1 Administration

APRD programs are well managed by dedicated staff who place a high priority on customer service. The master planning process indicated several areas where APRD can implement administrative changes that will enhance its efforts to provide quality programming for the community:

- Stakeholders, staff, and members of the public alike voiced a need for a responsive, online registration system.
- Establishing an avenue by which program attendees, including children, can provide program evaluation and feedback will allow APRD to more effectively assess and improve the quality of its programming.
- Maintaining program cancellation data and wait lists will help staff more effectively and efficiently allocate resources and plan programs.

- Compiling program and service data and producing an annual report will help staff track trends and provide the community with a greater understanding of the scope of services provided by APRD.
- Reviewing the types of programs provided by APRD and the Library can help both departments more effectively allocate resources and match services to their core mission.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 115.

5.33.2 Program Fees

Fees can affect program attendance – fees that are too high discourage participation, especially from middle to low income households. If fees are too low, the agency cannot recover funding needed to provide additional services. Additionally, research has shown that charging no fee, except for special events, can negatively affect program attendance. The lack of a fee creates the impression that the program is not valuable or important and that it is acceptable to sign up and not attend since there is no penalty or cost.

For the programs in the PIA, fees have remained stable for the past three (3) years. They are comparable to those found in other communities of similar size and demographics, with some being higher and some lower. In the 2016 Community Survey, only 12% of the Auburn respondents felt the fees were too high and were a barrier to participation. This response suggests that current fee levels are not a major barrier to program attendance. Even though Auburn has a poverty rate of 31%*, APRD offers income-based scholarships, which reduces the potential that program costs are limiting participation, especially among vulnerable populations.

*Note: Data obtained from US Census Bureau. Since many Auburn University students receive financial support from sources other than wages, this data obtained from the US Census Bureau likely does not reflect the actual poverty rate in Auburn.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 116.

5.33.3 Specific Program Areas

5.33.3.1 Aquatics

That aquatics programs are increasing in popularity is established by the 84% increase in participants from FY14 (11,165) to FY16 (20,513) and the 11% increase in the number of swimming and diving lessons for the same period (193 to 214 participants). Currently,



aquatics staff has a full program schedule. In the 2016 Aquatics Survey, users indicated a need for additional programs, more available times each day, more days of the week, and for a longer time during the year. There is also a need to provide additional related classes and activities, such as lap swim, water aerobics, water polo, Aqua Zumba, and aquatic basketball.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 116.

5.33.3.2 Camps

APRD provides a wide variety of camps for diverse ages. These camps offer outstanding summer enrichment opportunities in the areas of sports, art, dance, theater, music, outdoor, and recreation. However, the program assessment revealed a gap in providing full-day summer camps scheduled for the entire summer to accommodate working parents and families. The need for this service was demonstrated by registration for the single, full-day camp, Camp Kaleidoscope. The camp fills the 330 camp slots (55 per week) within minutes of APRD opening registration.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 116.

5.33.3.3 Downtown/Special Events

In the 2015 Community Survey, the top four (4) programs ranked by the respondents were a farmers' market, downtown events, large community events (such as CityFest), and holiday events. The 2016 Community Survey focusing on arts, culture, and libraries had similar results, with downtown events ranked as the most needed by respondents (37%), followed by Auburn CityFest (33%), holiday events (25%), and SummerNight Downtown Art Walk (23%). Although APRD provides several special and large events, the level of community interest in these types of programs indicates a need to expand in this area.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 117.

5.33.3.4 Nature and Outdoor

Nature and environmental education programs were listed as among the top most needed programs in the 2015 Community Survey. Currently, these programs and services are provided primarily through the Louise Kreher Forest Ecology Preserve and Nature Center



(KFEP). A very limited number of public programs are provided through the Auburn University (AU) Arboretum.



APRD manages some outstanding natural areas that provide the potential for developing environmental education programs. Given the demand for nature-based and environmental education programs as indicated in the 2015 Community Survey, APRD should explore developing programs on these natural areas.

While there are currently many APRD programs that allow participants to enjoy outdoor activities, there are only a limited number that focus on outdoor adventure skills. There is a need for programming that includes hiking, camping, archery, fishing, boating, and other similar outdoor skills. The beautiful natural areas managed by APRD and the state park that is within the City limits provide opportunities to expand and develop these types of programs.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 117.

5.33.3.5 Recreation, Health, and Fitness

The 2015 Community Survey indicated that adult fitness and wellness programs were among the top four (4) programs most important to households in Auburn. These programs help reduce obesity, increase overall community health and well-being, and help people live longer and more mobile lives. Given the high demand for these programs, APRD should explore ways to expand fitness and wellness programs for a range of age groups, including scheduling programs at a greater variety of times and on additional days.

Walking Trails: Walking ranks as the single most popular activity in the country, and Auburn is no exception. The 2015 Community Survey identified walking and biking trails as the type of sports and recreation facility most important to respondents, with 45% of respondents selecting walking and biking trails as one of their top four (4) choices. This level of popularity indicates a programming gap since the current program opportunities for walking and biking are limited. There are several opportunities to extend and connect existing trails and develop internal trails and loops within the COA.

Boating facilities: There are no boating programs currently offered by APRD, but feedback from both stakeholders and the public indicated interest in having such programs and facilities. Lake Ogletree, managed by Auburn Water Works Board, is large enough to potentially address this need. The Saugahatchee Greenway + Blueway proposal will create new opportunities to canoe, kayak, or float in the future. APRD may also be able to utilize Chewacla Lake for limited boating opportunities if an agreement to do so can be reached with the State. Additionally, several other boating and fishing destinations (Lee County Lake, Lake Martin, Lake Ogletree, West Point Lake, and the Chattahoochee River) are within driving distance and could provide opportunities for APRD to offer more advanced boating trips.

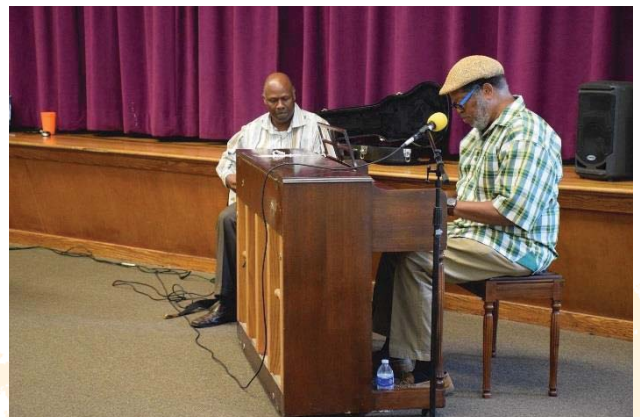
Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 118.

5.33.3.6 Seniors

The demand for senior programming includes several different aspects. Feedback from stakeholders indicated the following needs in programming for seniors:

- Offering more programs.
- Scheduling programs throughout the day/week to accommodate both working and non-working seniors.
- Expanding trip offerings to include over-night trips.
- Utilizing buses more suitable for trips involving seniors (i.e. buses designed for long distance travel (sometimes referred to as a “coach”) rather than a transit bus).
- Tailoring program publicity by using avenues that reach senior populations.
- Having the senior center connected to greenways, paths, and sidewalks.
- Locating community gardens in connection with other parks and programs.
- Developing opportunities for seniors to volunteer, not only to work with seniors, but to work in other areas of APRD as well.



In developing these programming opportunities, APRD should consider ways to integrate the senior population with other age groups. The stakeholder and public input sessions

indicated a strong desire by seniors to not be “warehoused” or isolated, but rather to have opportunities to interact with different age groups. Creating opportunities that encourage intergenerational interaction will benefit all participants and create a greater sense of community.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 119.

5.33.3.7 Special Needs and Therapeutic Recreation

APRD provides support and services to special populations, including Special Olympics, summer camp, and hosting social events to bring special needs residents together. However, feedback from staff, stakeholders, and the public also indicated a need for:

- Afterschool and weekend programs.
- Expanded summer camps.
- Break and holiday camps.
- Therapeutic swim programs.
- Sports, art/cultural, and nature programs.

This programming should balance addressing the needs of the age group targeted with providing opportunities for inclusion with participants in non-therapeutic activities. APRD should also consider providing year-round therapeutic programs for people 21 years and older since ACS are no longer allowed to provide services for this age group.

Currently, there are several other groups providing some level of service to special needs populations. These include:

- The Exceptional Foundation of East Alabama, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which has plans to open programming space in the Fall of 2017.
- The Exceptional Outreach Organization, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which currently focuses on providing summer camp experiences for youth with special needs.
- The Expressions of a BraveHeart (a.k.a BraveHeart), a collaboration between AU’s Social Work Program and Opelika Parks and Recreation Department that provides fine arts programs to youth ages 11-21 years of age. AU School of Kinesiology (in College of Education) provides counseling and therapeutic services.

Since several groups provide therapeutic programs and services, it is important that APRD coordinates its efforts with these groups to efficiently provide therapeutic services.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page INeedsandTherap

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5.33.3.8 Sports and Athletics

The Annual Citizen Survey for the past three (3) years indicated that respondents were satisfied with youth sports programs (between 77% and 78.4%) and generally satisfied with adult sports (approximately 64% each year). This level of satisfaction was also



reflected in stakeholder and public input sessions. However, participants in the stakeholder, staff, and public meetings indicated a few areas where current programming is not sufficient:

- There are few opportunities for preschool-aged children to learn how to tumble, (gymnastics) an activity that can potentially reduce injuries to young children as well as provide the foundation to prepare children for gymnastics.
- The current baseball and softball programs need to be extended into the summer to allow players to maintain and refine their skills in a less competitive environment.
- Programming for indoor soccer needs to be developed to provide opportunities to play throughout the year.

The most significant impediment to expanding sports and athletic programs as the population grows is lack of gym and field space, since current resources are already inadequate as indicated in other sections of this report. To continue to meet the needs of the community, this lack of space must be addressed.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 136.

CHAPTER 6: PARKS AND RECREATION RECOMMENDATIONS

6.0 Administration and Operations

6.01 Operational and Capital Funding

- Continue to fund the APRD Capital Improvement budget at a minimum of \$1.23M per year to meet existing needs.
- Increase existing and projected capital improvement funding with each facility added to the APRD's inventory.
- Anticipate increases of \$2.5M in operational expenses over the next ten (10) years.

6.02 Cost Recovery

- Establish a cost recovery goal and annually review key programs to monitor results; monitor and revise fee schedules as appropriate with a goal of potentially adjusting fees to reflect the actual cost of providing services.
- Consider adopting an approach for establishing fees based on the actual cost of providing the service and then providing local tax payers (i.e. property taxes and Occupational License Fees) with a “discount” if fee adjustment is necessary.



Explanation/Justification:

Evaluating programs using cost recovery data is helpful in determining and monitoring their ongoing success. Further, establishing the actual cost of providing the service helps officials evaluate fees and charges, and providing residents and other local taxpayers with a fee discount benefits these residents, taxpayers, APRD, and the COA:

- There is one (1) price for each service but a discount is offered for local tax payers (i.e. those paying property taxes and Occupational License Fees).
- People who are not local tax payers but are participating in programs/receiving services pay all or most the actual cost of a program or service.
- By offering a discount to tax payers, non-tax payers continue to feel welcome since they are not charged an additional fee while gaining a greater understanding of how much services cost and the need to help pay for the privilege of using COA facilities.

- The COA recovers a greater percentage of a program/service’s actual cost while acknowledging the tax support and contributions provided by tax payers through a discount on services and programs.
- Tax payers receive a “bargain,” a tangible benefit for their tax contributions.

6.03 Staff

- Shift special event duties from the public relations staff and reallocate time to marketing, donor and sponsor development, and volunteer program coordination.
- Based on the gap analysis indicated in Chapter 5, APRD currently has a need for six (6) new full-time positions and will need an additional 34, for a total of 40 new full-time positions over the next ten (10) years. The recommended positions and functional duties are listed below. The first six (6) full-time positions are in recommended priority order, with the remainder based on the order in which facilities are built. Part-time and temporary staff can be added as needed.



10-YEAR PROJECTION FOR NEW STAFF POSITIONS - AUBURN PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

RECOMMENDED DIVISION	GENERAL AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY	NUMBER OF FULL TIME STAFF	NUMBER OF PART TIME STAFF	NUMBER OF TEMPORARY STAFF (SUMMER)	SAMPLE DUTIES/FOCUS
Tier 1 - Existing Need in Priority Order					
Maintenance	Parks and Cemeteries	1	1	2	Allocate one staff member to cemeteries and create a 2-person burial team; have staff help with park maintenance during down times
Maintenance	Beautification and Urban Forestry	1	0	1	Site/land management of all natural areas, invasive species management, community education, interpretation, and programs
Leisure Services	Senior Services	1	2	0	Manage Senior Center and provide programs, activities, special events, and trips
Maintenance	Facilities and Equipment	1	2	0	Building and equipment maintenance services
Tier 2 - Positions to be Funded as Facilities are Built and Activities Added					
Leisure Services	Educational, Interpretive and Cultural History Services	1	0	0	Develop and promote cultural history programs, tours, activities, and events; provide interpretive material, program, exhibit, and display development; coordinate services with Cemetery Board, Parks Services/Beautification and Forestry, and related agencies and groups
	Special Events	1	1	1	Downtown events and special events in parks
	Therapeutic Services (system-wide)	1	4	10	Provide health, recreation and camp programs
	Outdoor Activities and Adventure Sports (system-wide)	1	1	1	Outdoor activities and adventure sports (hiking, camping, archery, boating, biking, etc.)
	Manage 2 New Community Centers	2	4	0	Manage all aspects of recreation center operations; host camps for children and adults: Richland and Lake Wilmore
	Customer Services/ Reception	2	0	0	Provide reception, customer service, program registration, and assist staff with clerical and duties
	Programmer	6	3	35	Provide health, recreation and camp programs
	Manage the Natatorium	1	0	0	Manage all aspects of the operations and administration of a natatorium with minimum of 2 indoor pools, 1 outdoor pool, a splashpad. Donahue
	Customer Service/ Reception	1	0	0	Provide reception, customer service, program registration support, and assist staff with clerical and secretarial duties
	Programmer	6	10	10	Provide lessons and camps, coordinate services and activities, help maintain pools and aquatic equipment, and assist with operations
	Manage Undesignated/ unnamed New Park	1	2	0	Manage all aspects of recreation center operations; host camps for children and adults
	Customer Service/ Reception	1	0	0	Provide reception, customer service, program registration, and assist staff with clerical and duties
Programmer	3	1	15	Provide health, recreation and camp programs	

Cultural Arts	Performing Arts Programs and Services	1	1	10	Provide dance (tap, ballet, modern, line, etc.), theatre, music, and related performing arts programs, activities, camps, and services
	Visual Arts	1	1	10	Provide visual arts programs and services, such as photography, fiber arts, woodworking, sculpture, seasonal art programs, painting/murals, camps, and related
Maintenance	Beautification and Urban Forestry	1	1	1	Site/land management of all natural areas, invasive species management, community education, interpretation, and programs concerning land management and related topics; cross train with parks maintenance and athletics to provide assistance as needed and when available (ex: meadow management, natural areas management, etc.)
	Athletic Facilities	1	1	2	Maintain athletic facilities, cross train with forestry and parks/cemeteries units to provide support and assistance as needed and when available
	Parks and Cemeteries	1	1	2	Allocate one staff member to parks and one to cemeteries; cross train staff to support operations, including athletic field maintenance and natural area maintenance
	Maintenance and/or Custodial	4	8	0	Provide maintenance and custodial services to 3 new community centers; 1 natatorium, and to accommodate proposed park amenities and programs
Total Projected New Staff		40	44	100	

6.04 Maintenance

- Transition to CityWorks and integrate all amenities, non-capital, and other assets that are not currently part of the asset management system.
- Develop a formal training program designed to document and transfer institutional knowledge to subordinate and new staff.
- Within the Parks and Cemetery Unit, create a two-person burial team whose primary focus is on the needs associated with burials. When time permits, this unit can assist with general park maintenance and cemetery needs.
- Provide opportunities for appropriate staff to become a Certified Playground Safety Inspector to provide essential levels of playground inspection and maintenance.
- Provide training for aquatics personnel on the proper way to manage and maintain a splash feature.

Explanation/Justification:

An asset management system will assist staff in their efforts to effectively allocate resources and anticipate needs. Inventories should include asset inventories, blueprints, plat maps, photos, installation history, make/model of assets, and related information. The system should also be capable of being managed by a range of devices including phones, tablets, computers, and related hardware/software. Once the inventory is complete and the system operational, staff will be able to observe trends, anticipate needs and adjust workloads and schedules.

6.05 Public Relations and Marketing

- Consider developing and funding the implementation of a Marketing, Branding and Public Relations plan.
- Create an APRD “microsite” within the COA’s webpage that is inviting, colorful and interactive. It should include videos of events and activities, “news reports”, live Twitter and Facebook event feeds, etc. This would allow the web traffic to continue to be counted in the COA’s webpage activity numbers, while providing direct and specific access to APRD information.
- Fully authorize and require APRD staff to design, maintain, and refresh the site, providing needed responsiveness and flexibility. For this initiative to be successful, APRD staff needs to have full responsibility over the site.
- Identify staff who are interested in and are already using social media and, under the direction of the public relations staff, utilize their skills to develop a social media presence. This recommendation includes the development of training materials, policies, and guidelines to assure that use of social media is responsible and professional. Consider using social media platforms such as Periscope, YouTube, LinkedIn, Pinterest, Google+, Tumblr, Snapchat, Reddit, Flickr, Ask.fm, and Skype.
- Partner with other organizations to utilize their marketing and public relations resources; for example, establish a partnership with health care providers to sponsor hikes, runs, fitness and related “obesity fighting” activities. Continue and expand marketing opportunities through the Auburn and Opelika Tourism Bureau to promote activities and events, especially those that result in over-night stays.
- Develop, maintain, and utilize email lists to communicate with the public and utilize listservs to communicate with volunteers, program participants, athletic associations, and other groups and individuals involved in the same activity or program.

6.06 Safety and Security

- Consider working with safety and risk and law enforcement agencies to develop information and training opportunities that promote safety in the outdoors as well as when using urban parks.
- Work with the GIS Department to assist with the creation of maps of all sites and buildings to include: all fire system control boxes; utility and irrigation shut-off valves; emergency equipment; egress and ingress points (official and unofficial). Have maps available online to appropriate department staff, first responders, and the 911 system.
- Work with emergency management and responder agencies to review disaster response protocols every three (3) years. Include active shooter, search and rescue, storms, flood, fire, use of APRD facilities as shelters, and related potential incidents. Work with these agencies to engage in joint training opportunities.
- Consider having police conduct a security review of APRD facilities, including maintenance buildings and sheds. Allocate funding to install security systems, cameras, and other prevention devices as needed.
- Provide key staff with training in CPTED standards (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) and audit sites to determine potential areas of improvement.
- Provide each staffed outdoor facility with severe weather detection equipment.

Explanation/Justification:

Routinely coordinating with appropriate agencies and practicing emergency response scenarios not only gives staff the confidence and knowledge to respond, but continues to enhance the existing level of cooperation and trust between APRD staff, first responders and other emergency management agencies.

Security systems help reduce the risk of property damage and loss and provide important safety evaluation opportunities when incidents occur. CPTED training focuses on assessing and designing landscapes, buildings, and parks in ways that discourage crime and encourage public use. Additional information about CPTED principles, design standards, and training opportunities are available at <http://www.cptedsecurity.com>.

6.07 Effective Utilization of Volunteers

- Over the next three (3) years, develop a formal volunteer management program that includes recruitment, training, coordination, and management.
- Annually compile the number of volunteers, total volunteer hours donated, and the value of the hours donated. Include this information in publications, social media, and other communication resources.



Explanation/Justification:

Volunteers provide needed assistance, especially during times and in areas that parks and recreation departments do not have adequate resources. It is recommended that the process of developing a volunteer program begin with a volunteer working group of people currently utilizing volunteers. Initially the group would share information and assist each other with recruitment and training, but ultimately should work towards developing a formal volunteer program.

6.08 Donations and Sponsorships

- Although APRD can currently accept donations, also consider developing a Parks and Recreation Foundation Fund as a vehicle to accept donations and gifts and pursue grant opportunities. A foundation provides an avenue for fund-raising while minimizing the need for additional APRD staff resources to do so. Donations and gifts can be deposited into foundation accounts as designated funds for the specific purposes, such as funding for improvements, programs, or for identified needs.
- Consider expanding current opportunities for the community to support APRD through non-tax dollars. These may include:
 - a. Expanding and actively promoting sponsorship and naming rights opportunities. Include a time limit (example: one (1) season, one (1) year, five (5) years - but no more than ten (10) years for the largest donations).
 - b. Installing and promoting donation boxes at major sites that highlight specific facility or program needs and enable visitors to donate immediately.

- c. Where sales occur or program fees are collected, developing or expanding a program that permits and encourages visitors to include a tax-deductible donation to generally support activities of APRD or to donate to specific park activities or improvements.
- Expand grant, major gift, and foundation initiatives. Provide training, support, and guidelines to staff, with a focus on those interested in writing and pursuing grants, donations, and foundation gifts.

Explanation/Justification:

Donors, sponsors, and grantors respond generously when they know their funds will be used specifically for items or activities they wish to support. Having a foundation and advertising the ways in which the foundation supports APRD encourages continued support.

A strong parks and recreation foundation marketing plan can also support larger-scale funding campaigns for projects like building a neighborhood accessible playground, a program to allow “in memory or honor of” benches or picnic tables, or funding a “memorial forest.” It can also be used to secure match funds from private and corporate foundations, as well as from many tax-funded granting agencies.

Grant resources, training, and related information is available online (<http://foundationcenter.org/>) through the Foundation Center or the Foundation Center South located in Atlanta, Georgia, 133 Peachtree Street NE, Lobby Suite 350, Atlanta, GA 30303-1804, (404) 880-0094.

6.09 Other Factors Affecting Departmental Operations

6.09.1 Auburn Parks and Recreation Department and Auburn City Schools

- By late 2017, have an annually renewable, written joint-use agreement between the COA and ACS system that outlines facility use, compensation, communication, a reservation process, and related expectations and understandings.
- Establish an annual planning retreat for the City Council, ACS Board members, and APRD administration to review existing trends and needs, establish criteria and goals for future cooperative efforts, and revise/renew the written joint-use agreement.
- Establish periodic meetings on at least a quarterly basis between the representatives of the COA, APRD, Auburn Public Library (APL), and ACS system to monitor progress and address concerns and challenges.

Explanation/Justification:

The ACS and APRD serve the same children in the community and should be working together to provide facilities and services to these citizens by sharing resources and programs. With the shift in the dedicated Five-Mill Property Tax from APRD to ACS, it is critical that both APRD and ACS refine a cooperative working relationship and work together to meet the community’s long-term facility needs. Written agreements developed through routine communication enhance facility coordination,

facilitate a shared vision, and demonstrate a collaborative problem-solving approach that builds public confidence and support.

6.09.2 Comprehensive Public Transit System

- Establish a cooperative agreement with AU expanding the War Eagle Bike Share program to additional sites within COA and APRD. Provide avenues for public feedback, including the identification of additional locations. Monitor the program’s progress and revise as needed to meet demand.
- The COA should consider developing a city-wide transit master plan that includes a fixed route system integrated with Tiger Transit and provides routes that will enable residents to reach APRD facilities and attend programs and events.

Explanation/Justification:

The level of community interest expressed during stakeholder and public meetings warrants further investigation into the development of a public transit system. Stakeholders and the public indicated a significant need for this service to enable residents to visit parks, participate in programs and attend events. It may be helpful to review transit systems in cities that also host a large university, such as the Athens Transit System in Athens, Georgia.

6.09.3 Wayfinding and Signage Master Plan

Develop a sign master plan to address wayfinding to and within parks, provide information to park visitors, communicate rules and regulations, and identify opportunities for interpretive/educational signs.

Explanation/Justification:

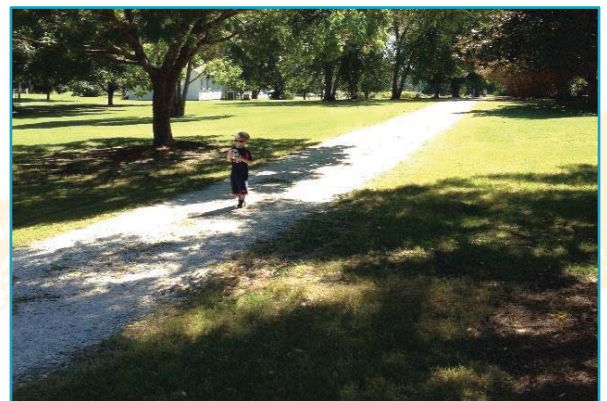
Street, informational, and directional signage needs to be easy to see and follow for out of town visitors and residents new to Auburn. Once in the park, visitors need to be able to quickly orient themselves, locate destinations, and be provided with rules and regulations for the facility.

6.09.4 Assessing Park Use

Within two (2) years, establish an accuracy standard and develop a tool to determine use levels in self-directed, casual use sections of parks and greenspace areas.

Explanation/Justification:

Data concerning visitor access, use, and visitation frequency is an essential part of a parks and recreation system since it allows efficient allocation of resources. Considering the type of equipment and monitoring techniques used by agencies like the US Forest Service and the



National Park Service to collect visitor use data may be helpful in determining the best approach for collecting reliable data for APRD facilities.

6.09.5 Green Infrastructure Planning and Standards

6.09.5.1 Planning

- Recommend that APRD staff work with the Greenspace Advisory Board to:
 - a. Assist with and facilitate the development of the comprehensive, community-wide, “green infrastructure” plan currently underway, integrating parks and natural areas, greenways, bike paths, sidewalks, and habitat corridors with places where people live, work, learn, and play. Note: The need for a comprehensive Green Infrastructure Initiative was identified earlier in the master planning process and was begun shortly thereafter.
 - b. Consider formally adopting a 10-year major revision and five (5)-year interim revision cycle for the plan.
- Consider adopting a goal for having interconnecting paths, bike lanes, and sidewalks, that provide walkable access to parks, greenways and greenspace for 95% of Auburn residents within 20 years, and bikeable greenspace within ten (10) years.
- In collaboration with the other COA departments and staff, create a task force to establish a “safe routes to parks” and “safe routes to play” initiative. This initiative should include regular walkability and bikeability audits that may be facilitated by representatives from community groups, advisory board members, public safety personnel, traffic engineers, and APRD personnel.
- In collaboration with other COA Departments and staff, establish a benchmark targeting the amount of land (by percentage) the COA would like to maintain as permanently protected greenspace. While this percentage varies across communities, 20% is often found to be an achievable goal.
- Identify significant trails and greenway links that will allow the COA to begin to obtain and retain the necessary rights of way to make these connections in the future, as well as ensuring that bridges and culverts scheduled to be built or replaced will accommodate these future routes.

Explanation/Justification:

Establishing a benchmark for the percentage of land the COA would like to keep as permanently protected greenspace facilitates and helps to focus APRD’s efforts regarding land acquisition, conservation, and related activities.

These recommendations expand upon and provide additional context for recommendations of the 2001 Greenspace Task Force Report, The Comprehensive Plan for the City of Auburn (CompPlan 2030), and the Bicycle Master Plan.

6.09.5.2 Standards

- As it relates to the development of riparian and important upland habitat areas located on COA properties:
 - a. Adopt a 100-foot wide conservation corridor to mitigate pollutants and support a 300-foot wide biodiversity and wildlife conservation corridor.
 - b. As part of establishing and acquiring additional greenspace, develop guidelines and preferences for these corridor widths, with a goal of preserving ecosystem functions and promoting biodiversity.
 - c. Consider incorporating these target widths into the COA Code of Ordinances as recommended guidelines, especially as they relate to stream buffers, development standards, and slope protection requirements.
 - d. Incorporate development regulations within the COA and Public Works Department to upgrade bridges and culverts for future trail connections when building, replacing or repairing bridges or culvert. This recommendation includes the potential to accommodate pedestrian and bike traffic both over as well as under the bridge or culvert.
- In cooperation with support groups, develop materials and programs that help landowners understand the importance of such corridors and the importance of APRD efforts to establish this critical habitat.
- In cooperation with support groups, develop incentives that encourage private landowners to participate in the effort to promote biodiversity and “backyard” wildlife habitat, especially those who live adjacent to greenways, natural areas, and parks.

Explanation/Justification:

These recommendations provide preferred benchmarks and further refine the standards and incentives embodied in Article IV: General Regulations of the Zoning Code and those contained in the CompPlan 2030. They are based on the best available science and research and provide a foundation for making decisions that affect community-dependent ecosystem services. However, the above recommendations should include and will require a public/private initiative that provides incentives and encourages collaboration between public and private landowners.

6.09.6 Natural Resource Management

- Develop a comprehensive ecological master plan for APRD managed sites with overall goals, policies, and procedures related to management of the natural and open-space areas.
- Develop site-based master plans for each site managed by APRD to include overall site goals, management regimes, and strategies.
- Identify and map existing areas being mowed. Evaluate and identify areas that can be allowed to develop into and maintained as early successional meadows or wildflower areas.

- Develop an invasive species removal strategy and identify and fund a team whose primary function is to remove and control invasive species on sites managed by APRD.
- Recommend the Tree Commission adopt a minimum canopy cover target goal of 50% for the COA. This goal should be reviewed and, if needed, revised at least once every five (5) years. Adopting such a goal will maximize an urban tree canopy that will conserve ecosystem services, reduce the urban heat island effect, enhance community aesthetics, and preserve wildlife corridors and flyways.
- Consider adopting land use recommendations from the CompPlan 2030 that promote the protection of ecosystem services as well as those recommendations found in Chapter 4 of the CompPlan 2030.
- Recommend APRD and the Tree Commission work with ACS to establish tree canopy and planting standards and benchmarks for school properties.
- Recommend APRD staff and ACS system work together to develop site management plans for ACS that identify and develop accessible greenspace and natural areas. Such areas should be available for public use after school hours, providing additional greenspace options along with associated health benefits. A special focus should be placed on getting children “out in nature” to encourage development of life-long health and learning habits.

Explanation/Justification:

Developing a comprehensive ecological master plan for APRD will clearly define standards and best management practices. Site-based plans will provide benchmarks for existing conditions, ensure management practices on each site are consistent with departmental standards, and facilitate planning, resource allocation, and work flow.

Identifying grass areas that can be converted to meadow or wildflower conditions will enable staff to reduce mowing costs and enhance aesthetics and biodiversity. This technique, that generally involves the cool weather application of either a “meadow mow” (6” or higher) or light harrow (disking) along with spot applications of herbicide, reduces resources currently needed during the warm months to maintain a lawn appearance. This helps balance work flow while reducing costs.

Initiating an invasive species removal program will substantially improve aesthetics, forest health, biodiversity, and ecosystem services. It also provides volunteer opportunities for the community to assist APRD through both volunteer hours and potential funding. Including an educational dimension in the project further involves the community in the initiative and creates opportunities to develop programs like “adopt a park” or “adopt a forest” that encourage individuals, businesses and local organizations to become involved.

6.09.7

Policy and Zoning Ordinance Review

- Zoning policies focusing on preserving greenspace located in the CompPlan 2030 should be considered for adoption.

- Part of the COA Zoning Ordinance, Appendix A - Plant Materials, located on the COA’s website, includes a list of landscape plants that can be planted as part of a development. Appendix A of the Zoning Ordinance should be reviewed and revised to:
 - a. Remove all invasive plants from the approved list of landscape plants, as identified in the national and/or the Alabama Invasive Species Council’s database.
 - b. Require the planting of native plants or related cultivars on COA lands.
 - c. Include a statement that encourages developers to install native plants or related cultivars on private land.
 - d. Require that any landscape variance includes a recommendation from a committee composed of people with the expertise to determine if the submitted plant list includes potentially or actual invasive plants. This approval process is to prevent non-native plantings that can “escape” or reproduce elsewhere, disrupting natural systems.
 - e. Assisted by the Urban Forestry Superintendent or his or her designee, the duties of the committee defined above should also include the development and distribution of educational materials regarding the benefits/effects of planting of native/non-native species to residents, developers, students, and others.

6.1 Parks and Facilities

As a guiding principle, facilities should be designed to appropriately address Americans with Disabilities Act access needs as well as the needs associated with an aging population.

6.11 Outdoor Facilities

6.11.1 Aquatics

- As a temporary measure, construct storage buildings on the sites of the two (2) existing outdoor pools (Drake and Samford) to accommodate equipment and supplies.
- Renovate existing outdoor pools to include the addition of aquatic play features (example: slide, basketball goals, etc.), shade structures, upgraded restrooms, a family restroom, landscaping, new movable tables/chairs, storage area, and stackable/telescoping bleachers.
- Construct two (2) to five (5) splash features of various sizes, co-located with pools; maintain splash features to pool standards. The other three (3) splash features can be in other passive parks as an attraction amenity.
- As part of incorporating the splash features recommended above, consider replacing the kiddie pool at Drake with a splash feature.
- As either part of or in addition to the five (5) splash features, consider adding small, interactive fountains in strategic park locations and at the proposed town green.
- Redesign Drake Pool parking and circulation; install plantings and screens as needed.
- Consider moving aquatics equipment into a capital budget line item (example: pumps, lap swim equipment, aquatic play equipment, lane equipment, aerators, etc.).
- Natatorium:

- a. Construct two (2) indoor competitive pools and one (1) diving well to include deck area to accommodate competitive swimming for 150 swimmers, bleachers for spectators, public and family restroom facilities, locker room and related facilities; storage should be sufficient to accommodate aquatic game equipment (water polo, basketball, etc.).
 - b. Include one (1) therapeutic pool designed to accommodate seniors, special needs and instruction within the natatorium.
 - c. Consider co-locating a convertible indoor/outdoor aquatic play feature/splash feature with the natatorium that creates an outdoor play area during the summer months, but can be converted to an indoor play area during colder months.
 - d. Construct an outdoor pool, as part of a natatorium recommended above, that includes aquatic play facilities (example: slides, goals, etc.).
- Consider co-locating the natatorium with a proposed sports complex and recreation center to create a multi-activity complex.

Explanation/Justification:

Natatoriums provide year-round aquatics activities and expand the types of programs that can be offered for the citizens of Auburn. Additional pools will increase the potential for teaching citizens to swim.

- Creating a line item for all pool equipment, including programming equipment, will provide a consistent funding source and help establish a lifecycle replacement program.

Note: Outdoor pools that can be associated with potential summer camp facilities can significantly enhance both pool use and summer camp experiences.

6.11.2 Downtown Event Space/Town Green

In conjunction with the other COA Departments, staff, and elected officials:

- Explore the potential for developing Felton Little Park into a signature city event and gathering space, and the focus of creating a town green. Having such a space/town green will promote a “city center identity.” This recommendation is also supported by the 2014 Downtown Master Plan (2014 DMP) proposal.
- Tie the town green to the Douglas J. Watson Municipal Complex across Glenn Avenue to make a more cohesive and functional town center.
 - a. Continue to expand downtown beautification efforts and the creation of additional downtown open/greenspace that includes more shaded areas with seating. These efforts will facilitate APRD’s efforts to provide outstanding event and park space. This recommendation is also supported by the 2014 DMP.
 - b. Consider potential locations for a farmers’ market in the downtown area or town green.
 - c. Work with businesses and churches to coordinate large APRD event activities and associated parking.
 - d. Using the 2014 DMP and the potential to connect APRD parks as a foundation, acquire right-of-way and develop sidewalks and greenway connections in and through the downtown area.

- e. Utilizing the 2014 DMP as a foundation, work with the other COA departments and downtown merchants to explore potential parking plans that will make more parking available for APRD events.

6.11.3 Facilities for Non-Traditional Activities

- Construct an 18,000–25,000 SF skate board park; consideration should be given to locating the skateboard park so it can be reached by the largest number of non-driving users, with a priority given to locating it near larger parks near neighborhoods rather than near Auburn University (AU).
- Provide enough acreage to accommodate a minimum of ten (10) miles of beginner and intermediate mountain bike trails to be located to serve different quadrants of the COA. Provide room for future expansion in the space allocated. This level of trail can be added to the Lake Wilmore property, but there is a need for mountain bike trails in the northwestern part of the COA.
- Construct an 18-hole (with an additional two (2) practice holes) disc golf course on a 20-40-acre site; location to be at one of the larger passive parks.
- Construct one (1) archery range that can be used for sighting-in and target practice. Partner with Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, outdoor outfitters, and sporting goods stores for donations and sponsorships to offset expenses; location to be at one of the larger passive parks where safety concerns can be addressed.
- Construct one (1) sand volleyball court to replace the one lost to construction at Moores Mill Park and one (1) additional court nearby to encourage group play.
- Create a grouping of sand volleyball courts in one (1) of the recreation parks to encourage tournament potential.
- Investigate designating two (2), five (5)-acre “fly zones” to accommodate unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs); can be in a large park with launch area and access over forest and wetlands and/or a large festival field. Recruit a volunteer team to assist with management and policy development.
- Designate space for the potential future development of:
 - a. Ropes course/zip line; potential to be provided by concessionaire/private vendor.
 - b. Rock climbing walls; potentially located inside a sports facility/recreation center.
 - c. Ultimate Frisbee field, potentially located on multi-purpose/multi-sport fields.

Explanation/Justification:

A skateboard park was mentioned several times during the public hearings and was the subject of several letters of support from citizens. The need for additional mountain biking trails was also raised, especially during the stakeholder sessions. Both facilities were identified as a need by staff. Other activities listed above were not necessarily mentioned by stakeholders, staff, or during public meetings. However, they are popular activities in other jurisdictions. Reserving areas for their potential future development ensures that, if there is a future interest, there is a location already identified for that use.

6.11.4 Natural Areas and Other Outdoor Facilities

- Establish three (3) community gardens: one (1) community garden to be associated with the senior facility, one (1) with special needs, and one (1) at large. Each should be ½-acre in size (expandable to two (2) acres), with access to water, appropriate fencing, compost facilities, restrooms, storage, and education space.
- Construct four (4) off leash dog parks, each to be a minimum of three (3) acres in size. Each park should be constructed with a minimum of three sections, each of which can be closed off from the others; this provides an area for small dogs, an area for large dogs, and an additional section that can “rest” to allow the groundcover to rejuvenate. Improve the existing two (2) dog parks by adding shelters, shade and separated sections.
- Build at least two (2) fishing piers with cleaning stations and support facilities on existing water bodies.
- Identify potential boating and paddleboard sites and construct launch facilities.



6.11.5 Outdoor Event Venues

- Purchase a portable Showmobile stage and sound system for use at large community events, to be stored in the maintenance facility yard.
- Construct three (3) outdoor amphitheaters to be located at Kiesel Park, Felton Little Park, and on the grounds of the main library. (for style type, see the Scott Outdoor Amphitheater, part of the Scott Arboretum at Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA.)
- Create an approximately 4-acre festival area and field, along with associated infrastructure, that accommodates 12,500 people but is expandable to 16,000 people, for attending a day-long community-wide event. Construction would include:
 - a. A festival field designed to be flexible and capable of being used for self-directed activities (example: throwing Frisbees, playing catch, “pick up” ball games, etc.) and/or organized sports (example: practice fields, etc.) during non-event times.
 - b. One (1) 500-1,000-person event pavilion with bathrooms, warming kitchen, and fireplace; design the facility so that it can be enclosed at a future date, either in part or whole. Pavilion would be associated with festival field.
 - c. Two (2) medium-sized outdoor (100-200 person) pavilions with bathrooms, chimney, warming kitchen, and restrooms. Pavilions would also be associated with the festival field and designed so they can be enclosed later.
 - d. Up to six (6) small (12-20 person) picnic pavilions associated near the event area as well as the park.
- Construct one (1) medium-sized outdoor (100 - 200 person) group picnic/event pavilion in each large park.

- Construct 20+ small (12-20 person) picnic pavilions in various parks, with picnic tables, electricity and grills.
- Create flexible outdoor event space in each quadrant of the COA that can accommodate 1,000 people, expandable to 2,000, to be used for outdoor festivals and events. These spaces should include appropriate infrastructure and be designed specifically to accommodate the Showmobile/portable stage. When not scheduled for an event, these spaces will provide open field space for self-directed activities. These smaller open play/event fields should be distributed throughout Auburn, generally in each quadrant and within a major park.
- Construct an informal open space lawn or tree shaded outdoor amphitheater, including appropriately staged restrooms, power, and space for the Showmobile/temporary stage.

Explanation/Justification:

A Showmobile is an “all-in-one” mobile stage and shell that contains a thrust-style stage system that transforms a trailer into a professional stage, including leveling jacks, stairs, stage, acoustical shell, and built-in connections/support for the use of professional light and sound systems. Because it is portable, it can accommodate events in various locations, allowing APRD to promote larger events throughout the COA without the cost of building permanent or temporary stages and facilities. Further, flexibility in festival field design will enable APRD staff and citizens to program and use the space during non-event time for self-directed activities, practice fields, non-programmed (i.e. “pick up”) games and other activities.

6.11.6 Sports and Athletics

- Establish athletic field and parking joint use agreements with ACS.
- Renovate existing athletic and practice fields and associated amenities to
 - a. meet play standards;
 - b. upgrade lighting to a fully shielded LED system for night play;
 - c. provide adequate warm-up areas for baseball and softball; and
 - d. provide patron protection from errant foul balls.
- Consider establishing a standard for future field lighting that includes fully shielded LEDs.
- Consider constructing at least one (1) play field per large complex as an artificial turf field to reduce the number of programs and events lost to rain outs (25%).
- Within the next ten (10) years, construct:
 - a. Six (6) practice diamond sport fields (highest priority - informal grass play fields with backstops - combine some multi-use/fields with backstops in each corner).
 - b. One (1) adult softball field with lights; combine with youth softball field in a complex to reduce the number of fields needed.
 - c. Five (5) youth softball fields with lights.
 - d. Two (2) adult (300 ft.) baseball fields with lights; incorporate into a complex with the potential to share with the youth if portable outfield fences are used to expand play.
 - e. Two (2) youth (200') baseball fields with lights.

- f. Five (5) tee-ball fields; combine two (2) with youth baseball fields and the other three (3) as stand-alone tee-ball fields.
 - g. (14) overlay/multi-sport fields (football, soccer, lacrosse); group the fields to encourage tournament play - construct a minimum of two (2) at Shug Jordan Soccer Complex and scatter the remainder in groups of four (4) (minimum) in other sections of the COA with a minimum of one (1) artificial turf field per cluster group.
 - h. Four (4) multi-use/open play / practice fields; include the ability to accommodate kickball and combine with practice backstops.
 - i. Six (6) outdoor basketball courts with lights; distribute these as individual or double courts in neighborhood parks around the COA.
- Ensure all practice fields have restroom facilities and that they are open during all practices.
 - Consider constructing all fields so they can also be used for large outdoor special events.
 - Add shade for patrons at all parks (trees, awnings, shelters, etc.).
 - Relocate the three (3) girls' softball fields from Felton Little Park to a new park that accommodates other athletic fields and community centers.
 - Tennis Center:
 - a. No additional courts are needed;
 - b. Consider adding four (4) pickleball courts (included in the number recommended under the seniors' section of this chapter) to attract additional people to the site;
 - c. Provide additional shade options for players and spectators.
 - Review existing sports facilities and provide recommendations for better traffic flow to relieve traffic jams during game changes; consider adding parent drop-off and pickup locations to reduce traffic congestion.

6.12 Indoor Facilities

6.12.1 Community Activity/Meeting Space

- Designate and/or construct community activity rooms that can be reserved by the public at low/no cost on a first-come, first-served basis. One of the spaces should be associated with a park, with access to a playground, open fields, and/or trails. Each community meeting room:
 - a. should be approximately 1,400 square feet and accommodate 30-40 people, seated;
 - b. should also include restrooms (ADA accessible, as well as being designed to accommodate children, and to possibly include a "family" restroom);
 - c. should also include storage space, a water fountain, and adequate parking.
- Where feasible, construct up to five (5) of the six (6) needed community activity rooms at existing fire stations throughout the COA. If not feasible at existing sites, consider adding as the stations are renovated or as new ones are constructed. The initial recommended locations are indicated on the Potential Community Meeting Rooms Map G3 in Appendix G and have been located to ensure they are easily accessible by walking or by bike.

- Consider instituting a low-cost fee for use by Auburn residents and a higher, but still affordable fee for non-residents.

Explanation/Justification:

- Some of the benefits of collocating meeting space at fire stations include:
- Fire stations are distributed throughout the COA and are occupied 24 hours a day throughout the year, making the space readily available 24/7 for use.
- Citizens could have a low-cost meeting/program alternative in space generally available on short notice.
- A meeting room would also provide space for Fire Division to host birthday parties, an often-requested service that is currently not available to Auburn residents.
- One (1) of the five (5) fire stations, Auburn Fire Division Station Two, is located next to a park, allowing access to park resources in conjunction with the meeting space. While adding to the existing building is not cost-effective in many cases, the community room can be added when the facility is renovated.
- Locating one (1) of the proposed six (6) community meeting spaces in a park would provide users with access to play fields, open space, trails, playgrounds, and related amenities. This space would provide additional education and recreation options to homeschool groups, garden clubs, OLLI, Master Gardeners, or similar groups. While community meeting space located in a park would have a more restrictive schedule than those in fire stations, it would have some amenities generally not available at a fire station.

An example of a low-cost fee would be \$10 per two-hour rental rate with a \$25 damage deposit for general rental, birthday parties excluded. Separate fees should be established for birthday parties and be set to be comparable to fees charged in APRD. Funding options for low income families should be considered.

6.12.2 Recreation, Health and Fitness Facilities

- Construct two (2) community/recreation centers, with two (2) gyms each. Both centers should also include a:
 - a. Cardio room.
 - b. Weight room.
 - c. Multi-purpose room.
 - d. Two (2) activity/classrooms rooms.
 - e. Arts studio.
 - f. Kitchen.
 - g. Media room.
 - h. One (1) pair of racquetball courts.
 - i. One (1) pair of handball courts.
 - j. Climbing wall.



- In one of the new recreation centers, add one (1) additional fitness and cardio room and an indoor running track.
- Add one (1) additional gym to an existing park and design all gyms to accommodate basketball, indoor soccer (futsal), pickleball, and volleyball.
- Renovate and install new playgrounds:
 - a. For children ages two (2) to five (5), renovate the existing nine (9) and install a total of eleven (11) new playgrounds in the next ten (10) years, with nine (9) of the new playgrounds being installed within the next five (5) years. Each playground should be 4,200-6,000 square feet in size.
 - b. For children six (6) to twelve (12) years old, renovate six (6) and install a total of six (6) new playgrounds with four (4) of the new playgrounds being installed within the next five (5) years. Playgrounds should be 6,000-10,000 square feet
 - c. Consider constructing at least one (1) adult/child adventure playground in a passive park.
 - d. All playgrounds should include shade, access to indoor space and restrooms, water fountains, and appropriate fencing. Play areas should also include space for caregivers to sit, as well as a mix of constructed and natural play elements.
 - e. At least one (1) playground per age group should be fully accessible for special needs populations.
- Sports Complex: Consider consolidating the recommended natatorium with other facilities, which may include gyms, a recreation center, a community meeting room, athletic fields, outdoor courts, playgrounds, etc., into one (1) large, central sports complex and park. The complex could also include a senior center, branch library, multi-purpose fields, and/or trails.

6.12.3 Facilities for Seniors

- At the Harris Center, designate parking spaces during events for seniors to ensure adequate parking is available close to the Center.
- Construct an additional 6,000 square feet of space for senior activities. This space can be added to recreation centers located in various parts of the community. The recreation centers will have a mix of the following with the understanding that some space will be available, as a priority, to serve the needs of seniors while other space, such as gyms, teaching kitchens, etc. will be shared space:
 - a. Gathering/social drop-in space with appropriate “atmosphere” and furniture.
 - b. Access to a gym for pickleball, badminton, and other related activities.
 - c. Multi-purpose room capable of holding up to 150 people that:
 1. is capable of hosting Skype events, webinars, etc.
 2. equipped with a floor that will accommodate exercise, dance classes, social dances, and event gatherings; and
 3. designed to be comfortable when watching movies or listening to webinars, etc.
 - a. Technology/computer lab and learning space capable of holding 30 people during a program or class and available to other groups at certain times of the day.
 - b. Teaching kitchen available for lessons.

- c. Branch or resource library (in conjunction with technology lab and other populations located in the building).
 - d. Arts studio and crafts area, including pottery and ceramics.
 - e. Space designed, built, and equipped with acoustical and climate considerations in mind to ensure senior populations will be comfortable when using the space (seniors may be sensitive to sound or get hotter or colder faster than the general population).
 - f. Fitness center or access to a fitness center that is specifically designed for senior (and special population) needs, including those in wheelchairs or with limited mobility.
 - g. Adequate parking designed specifically for seniors, including access, lighting, space between cars, appropriate number of designated handicapped parking spaces, etc.
 - h. Restroom facilities designed specifically to accommodate seniors.
 - i. In association with the indoor space, develop a shady and inviting outdoor space for gathering, socializing, wildlife watching, reading, etc.
 - j. Access to indoor walking track and pool facilities.
 - k. A community garden area and nature/natural trails adjacent to special needs garden.
 - l. Shaded outdoor gathering social area with adjoining bocce ball court, shuffleboard, (2) horseshoe pits, badminton lawn, and other passive outdoor activities.
 - m. Consider adding a branch library in association with the Senior Center/Community Center if it is added to the Sports Complex.
- Develop media resources that are tailored to the needs of seniors. These may include a newsletter, message board, dedicated email list, and other communication venues, both electronic and utilizing standard paper/flyers that will provide information regarding APRD activities and events. They should also include an avenue that allows interested seniors to communicate regarding ride-sharing needs, etc.

6.12.4 Facilities for Pickleball and Similar Activities

- In the near term, build four (4) outdoor and two (2) indoor pickleball courts, with long-term expansion to eight (8) total outdoor courts and four (4) indoor courts. Construct the courts so they can be repurposed for other uses (example: tennis, outdoor basketball) if future community needs change.
- Have one of the new sites within the COA include facilities for both indoor and outdoor pickleball, allowing for potential pickleball tournaments.
- Place the following court/activities at outdoor sites: four (4) outdoor pickleball courts, one (1) shuffleboard, and one (1) bocce ball court, one (1) horseshoe pit, and open lawn space for corn hole, ladder ball, and other games. Also, include the following:
 - a. Shade covered tables and benches/gathering area.
 - b. Water fountains.



- c. Ready access to restrooms.
- d. Information board to publicize activities.

Explanation/Justification:

When pickleball began, it was primarily an activity enjoyed by seniors. With the sport's growing popularity, younger populations have become increasingly more involved in the game, making it an activity that appeals to all ages rather than just seniors.

6.12.5 Special Needs and Therapeutic Recreation Facilities

- Provide space to accommodate 150 youth, expandable to 250 during socials or programs. Space should include:
 - a. Activity/program rooms.
 - b. Age appropriate game rooms.
 - c. Indoor and outdoor eating area.
 - d. Art room.
 - e. Offices.
 - f. Restrooms with private stalls and private showers.
 - g. Kitchen and washer/dryer area (for teaching life skills).
 - h. Medical treatment and storage area.
 - i. Access to gym.
 - j. Fitness area and track.
 - k. Garden site, potentially in conjunction with the senior center.
 - l. Therapeutic pool (located at the natatorium).
- Design should also include areas both inside and out that are conducive to gathering and “hanging out,” along with controlled access and security systems. Include storage space for the Auburn University (AU) School of Kinesiology equipment used in programs. This space could be used by older special needs residents during times younger residents are in school.
- Consider providing additional space and staff resources in support of Special Olympics.

6.13 Parks, Greenspace, and Natural Areas

6.13.1 Park Development and Acquisition

- Over the next ten (10) years, develop four (4) new parks, on property either already owned by COA or purchased for that purpose.
- To meet this need as well as the need for walkable and bikeable properties, establish a priority to acquire property in areas identified through the AIGM. Potential locations can be found on the Proposed Park Locations Map F2 in Appendix F.

- On each of three (3) large parks distributed throughout the COA, identify and set aside at least one (1) multi-purpose field and one (1) open field area for self-directed/pick-up games or activities or as a family play area. Monitor use and establish a reservation or use etiquette standard if areas become over-used or dominated by a special interest or informal group.
- Watch for opportunities to acquire right-of-way and easements for development of trails, sidewalks and greenways to create a greenway system. Work with local and state transportation departments to ensure that future road bridges and culverts are designed to accommodate potential creek-side trails.



6.13.2 Greenways and Trails

- Several greenway corridors and trail routes were identified during the master planning process that present significant opportunities to connect the community with loop trails. These corridors and trail routes can be found on the Proposed Trail Connections, Map F1 in Appendix F. The letters below correspond with the letters on the map.
 - a. An extension of the Parkerson Mill Greenway south under the interstate at the softball complex and over to the Charlotte and Curtis Ward Bike Path along Shell Toomer Parkway and North to Wire Road and the Joanna Hoit Bikeway.
 - b. A blueway and multi-use trail along the Saugahatchee Creek.
 - c. An overall loop trail system connection between downtown Auburn, Chewacla State Park (in cooperation with CSP), Lake Ogletree, Town Creek Park, AU, the ACS, and as well as trails around Lake Wilmore and Lake Ogletree.
 - d. Close the gaps on the trail along Wire Road and Joanna Hoit Bikeway.
 - e. A connection from the Charlotte and Curtis Ward Bike Path safely into Chewacla Park (in cooperation with CSP) by building a designated bike lane or paved path separate from the road from the point the bike path connects to Wrights Mill Road to the gate house inside the entrance of the park.
 - f. A connection between the new Auburn High School on Samford Avenue to Lake Wilmore Park by going under the interstate and connecting to the trail down Windway Road.
 - g. A connection between the Frank Brown Recreation Center and Felton Little Park via a tunnel and trail under the CSX railroad.
 - h. A connection from Felton Little Park across the Public Safety site and along Town Creek down to Margie Piper Bailey and Town Creek Parks.
 - i. Establish a short trail from Dean Road Recreation Center south behind the elementary school down to Samford tennis courts, Auburn Junior High School and Memorial Park Cemetery.
 - j. Establishment of the historic trail corridor from Town Creek Park under the interstate and down to Lake Wilmore and Chewacla State Park (in cooperation with CSP).

- k. An extension of the Parkerson Mill Greenway south under the interstate at the softball complex and over to the Charlotte and Curtis Ward Bike Path along Shell Toomer Parkway and North to Wire Road and the Joanna Hoit Bikeway.
- l. Evaluate a trail along the creek from the Soccer Complex north to Kiesel Park and Kiesel Park along Chadwick Lane down to the bike path on Wire Road.
- m. Evaluate a trail from Hickory Dickory Park connecting south to Cary Woods Elementary and on to Frank Brown and east to Pick Elementary and over to DeKalb Park.
- n. Evaluate a Greenway trail from Boykin Community Center up to Drake pool, across Westview Park and Sam Harris Park to connect to the Shug Jordan Fields and under Shug Jordan Parkway along the side of AU Club Golf Course over to Richland Elementary School and Yarbrough Tennis Center.
- A review of additional/new bike paths and trails to promote connections to create an overall loop system is needed.

6.14 Maintenance Facilities

- Build a 15-acre, 10-12,000 SF, centrally-located Parks and Facilities maintenance shop. The facility should include:
 - a. A 40 x 40 slip pole barn.
 - b. 10,000 square feet of shop and office space (expandable to 12,500) that includes storage, large bin space, racks, shop and repair space, restrooms, locker, showers, meeting space, break room and offices.
 - c. 1,600 square feet dedicated to chemical storage.
 - d. Vehicle/truck wash and pad area.
 - e. Water fill station.
 - f. Parking for 40 personal vehicles (expandable to 60) and ten (10) trailers.
 - g. Materials storage space.
 - h. Space designated for a nursery, to include irrigation.
- As needed, locate “satellite” equipment and material storage areas in parks to reduce loading and transport time.
- Establish rainwater and condensate water storage facilities at strategically located parks.
- Within the next two (2) years, purchase the following maintenance equipment:
 - a. One (1) field vacuum.
 - b. One (1) covered trailer.
 - c. One (1) landscape trailer.
 - d. One (1) front end loader.
 - e. One (1) skid steer with trailer and attachments (or similar equipment with attachments that cut/mulch invasive plants/brush and can simultaneously spray pesticide/herbicide on the cut plants).
- In addition to the above, within (10) years purchase the following equipment:
 - a. Four (4) mowers.
 - b. One (1) dump truck.

- c. One (1) backhoe.
- d. One (1) forklift.
- e. One (1) landscape trailer.
- f. One (1) covered trailer.
- g. One (1) stump grinder.
- h. One (1) front-end loader and attachments.
- i. One (1) bucket truck.
- j. One (1) walk-behind trencher.
- k. Systematic replacement of the current ten (10). work trucks.

Explanation/Justification:

A centrally-located maintenance shop and yard will significantly enhance operations and communications as well as position APRD to respond to future growth. Locating storage facilities in key locations can allow crews to quickly move to and between sites without the added time and expense of transporting equipment and supplies.



6.15 Cemeteries

- Evaluate cemeteries for the potential of developing walking routes that can be used for exercise/health and/or as part of an historical/educational tour.
- Develop a marketing program to promote the cultural and historical programming and services associated with cemeteries, particularly the historical cemeteries.
- Create donor, membership, and other funding avenues to establish and grow an endowment fund for all aspects of cemetery care, including perpetual care.
- Develop educational programs focused on cultural history, using the cemeteries as a foundation (examples: the frontier, founding the City; community struggles (disease, epidemics) and the rise of health care, the ultimate sacrifice (WWI, WWII, Korea, etc).
- Develop brochures, self-guided and web-based tours, seasonal “living history” events (example: 4th of July), etc. Donations and gifts can also be promoted through this type of educational effort.
- Develop uniform signage and marker system to identify significant persons or places within the cemeteries with associated local history.
- Develop a volunteer program that enables people to get involved in areas such as education, historic research, facility maintenance, signage location, marker restoration, fundraising, etc.
- Consider developing a covered shelter/pavilion like an open chapel where possible in the cemetery to provide a “gathering” or waiting area for friends and family members during inclement weather. It can also be used as part of educational programs, tours, or presentations to potential donors. Develop open air structures where possible.

- Identify and set aside space within each cemetery to be available for memorials that citizens may wish to create at some point in the future.

6.16 Consolidated Facilities

- Consider developing an inter-connected “campus” or complex that brings together most of the facilities recommended into a centrally located facility.
- Identify complimentary facilities that need to be more evenly distributed in small venues/parks throughout the COA.

Explanation/Justification:

Bringing major components into a single complex can provide significant savings as well as expand program and service opportunities. For example, “interweaving” opportunities for seniors, teens, special needs, and general recreation can meet the specific needs of each group while providing opportunities to interact and build a greater sense of community as well as to share resources (such as gyms).

6.2 Parks and Recreation Programs

6.21 Administration

- Adopt a department-wide online program and facility registration system. Consider using a system that charges a percentage of the revenue and in return for keeping the software up to date, solving issues and problems, etc. The online registration system should also be able to provide updates, registration information, and reminders to program participants.
- Create an APRD Annual Report that includes program and facility activity, volunteer participation statistics, program and service performance measures, and related information.
- Establish comprehensive evaluation and feedback system for every program administered by APRD, including those provided by contractors and supporting organizations. Compile data and include as part of an annual report.
- Continue to compile wait-list information to document the number of residents who were unable to participate in a program because it was full. Encourage residents to provide this information even after the program has closed.
- Continue and/or begin tracking program cancellation rates, program participation, and retention rates, and annually review data as part of a program and contract services evaluation.
- While maintaining cooperation and mutual support between the Auburn Public Library (APL) and APRD, establish general program responsibilities and service areas to ensure that programs provided by each stay aligned with each department’s mission and core goals. (example: fitness classes scheduled in recreation facilities and mentor classes scheduled in the library). Schedule quarterly programming meetings to review requests and determine services to be provided.

- Expand hours and days of operation to accommodate families and working individuals, including practice times and games for athletic activities. Weekends and evenings are potential times/days where programs and services can be added or expanded.
- Provide staff and resources to focus on the creation, coordination, and implementation of special events. Expand topics/programs to include both small/targeted venues and community-wide events.

6.22 Fees and Scholarships

- Establish benchmarks that provide a good basis for fee comparison. Compile information from other communities and annually review fees for potential adjustment.
- Publicize and promote scholarships, routinely disseminating information directly to the public as well as through public and private agencies working with target populations. Scholarship information should be available in all APRD buildings and facilities.

6.23 Auburn Parks and Recreation Department Program Transportation

- APRD acquire or retain/lease one (1) touring bus and two (2), 15 passenger vans.

Explanation/Justification:

Having vehicles available that can transport large groups was among the greatest needs expressed by stakeholders and in public meetings. Leasing or retaining these vehicles will enable APRD to provide an appropriate bus for senior trips, transport participants to program locations, support “travel camps” for teens and families, provide transportation for teams/performers, provide a vehicle for cultural/educational tours, and meet other related transportation needs. The buses could also be used by other COA departments for various activities.

6.24 Specific Program Areas

6.24.1 Aquatics

- Expand programs for adults, seniors, special needs/therapeutic, preschool, and homeschool groups.
- Consider adding new/expanding programs such as water polo and aqua basketball.
- Include Water Safety Instruction for training life guards and safety personnel.

6.24.2 Camps

- Add one (1) summer-long, full-day camp each year for the next five (5) years. While the camp may be in a specific discipline area (example: sports or outdoors), establish weekly themes to keep camper interest high.
- Add an adult swimming camp for citizens who need to learn to swim.

- Until APRD can provide an adequate number of summer camps to meet community demand, consider limiting the number of weeks each child can attend so more children can experience day camp.
- Consider adding additional full or half-day specialty camps for areas not currently programmed.
- Consider offering “camps” for families, adults, and seniors (an emerging trend in other communities).

Explanation/Justification:

Additional full-day summer, school break, and specialty camps and afterschool programs could include topic/areas of interest that are currently provided by APRD as half-day camps, as well as new topics, (example: baseball/softball/soccer, dance/music/performance, painting/coloring/art, clay/pottery/ceramic). Additional full or half-day camps could also include areas not currently programmed (job-readiness, computers, or outdoor adventure camps).

While family and adult camps are relatively new, they have generally been popular when offered. These camps can be single or multiple days, both during the week or over a weekend. In the communities where these have been offered, topics have included boat building, wine tasting, fitness, adventure, outdoor challenges, and indoor sports, just to name a few. These camps allow adults to try new things, develop new skills and hobbies, and relive childhood camp experience in an adult venue, as well as providing opportunities for families to spend time together.

Swimming lessons are a civic responsibility that the COA should assume to better protect its citizens. Without such programs, many citizens will never have the chance to learn to swim.

6.24.3 Downtown/Special Events

Reassign the recently created downtown special events staff position to APRD and continue providing special event and activity planning with a focus on recreation, arts/culture, and related programs in the downtown areas.

Explanation/Justification:

This position was identified as needed within APRD during an earlier part of the master planning process. The Department has the event-planning expertise, staff, equipment, and resources needed to coordinate large-scale events. This access to resources would allow the position to provide services in a more effective and efficient manner if located within APRD.

6.24.4 Nature and Outdoor

- Establish a written agreement with Louise Kreher Forest Ecology Preserve and Nature Center (KFEP) that defines responsibilities and expectations. Include a performance standard that the Preserve coordinate or teach at least one (1) nature education program in an APRD facility each month.

- Expand programs to include outdoor skills and adventure programs such as hiking, camping, fishing, archery, tree climbing, “surviving in the woods”, tracking, “reading the woods”, safety in the woods, and related. Include programs that target groups that traditionally have not participated in outdoor activities (example: camping for women, archery for girls/women, etc.).
- Explore opportunities to expand science and natural resource programs/topics on APRD properties.
- Create a community garden program; coordinate efforts with Master Gardeners, OLLI, and Alabama Cooperative Extension System.



Explanation/Justification:

APRD staff can work with KFEP or with other groups/individuals directly to develop a special programs or events. Potential program areas include:

- Astronomy (Auburn Astronomical Society).
- Rocks and gems (East Alabama Gem and Mineral Society - Opelika).
- Wildlife (AU School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences and related AU schools/departments).
- Birding (Wild Birds Unlimited, Birmingham Audubon Society).
- Fishing (Alabama BASS Nation, AU Bass Fishing and Fly Fishing Teams, or various sporting goods stores).
- Hunter safety (Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources).
- Archery Range to expand the variety of outdoor activities available to the community.

Additional potential sources of program leaders and topics include the Alabama Forestry Commission, The US Fish and Wildlife Service, the USDA Forest Service, National Park Service, and AU faculty.

6.24.5 Recreation, Health, and Fitness

- Expand fitness and health programs for all ages to encourage people to develop a life-long interest in staying “on the move.”
- Identify a location for a farmers’ market; devote staff resources to manage/administer or consider establishing a non-profit agency to operate the program. Include the development of written agreements with vendors, as well as policies, procedures, and performance expectations.
- Expand programs that promote walking and biking, including “how to” programs, and those teaching about equipment needed to get started, how to make repairs, and a possible incentive-type programs (example: 100-mile club, “walk Auburn”, etc.).
- Work with the Water Resource Management Department to determine the feasibility of using Lake Ogletree as a boating site, either as a program site or as a site open to the public for boating.

- As boating facilities become available, develop associated boating and paddle board programs, including beginner instruction as well as the use of boats to explore (example: moonlight canoe trips, creatures of the night by canoe, etc.).
- Provide swimming lessons for adults and youth specifically targeted to life safety.
- Consider the potential to develop an agreement with Chewacla State Park to create boating facilities accessible to COA residents.

6.24.6 Seniors

- As space and staff resources become available, diversify program topics and times/days programs are available to include weekends and weekday evenings. Topics suggested during stakeholder and public meetings included “how to” (especially pertaining to electronics), estate planning, cooking, bird watching, gardening, arts and crafts, woodworking, and expanded tai chi, yoga, and Zumba programs.
- Consider expanding senior trip opportunities by increasing the number, offering overnight trips, and using more comfortable buses.
- Continue to expand opportunities for seniors to interact with young people. Examples include “partnering” seniors with youth for reading, gardening, or games and involving seniors as volunteers to help with youth-oriented activities.
- Develop a volunteer program for and by seniors. Senior Centers (also known as “Councils on Aging”) in other communities have developed various volunteer-based programs. Examples include:
 - a. Center for Active Living - this volunteer program helps assist seniors with everyday chores (e.g., changing light bulbs or doing light yard work) with the intent of assisting seniors to live independently in their homes as long as possible;
 - b. Ride share programs; and
 - c. Senior advocates.
- Seniors can also be recruited to greet the public and answer questions in recreation centers, arts centers, and fitness centers.

6.24.7 Special Needs and Therapeutic Recreation Programs

- Develop a therapeutic recreation program that includes both the direct delivery of programs and the coordination of programs with other providers. Include all age groups and provide programs and services throughout the year.
- Explore options with ACS to provide funding to APRD’s therapeutic summer camps for students who have Extended School Year services written into their Individualized Education Programs. APRD may be able to provide services for special populations, helping ACS meet this legal requirement while providing summer services to special needs residents. Investigate the legal obligations and program needs of special populations participating in after-school and extracurricular activities.

- Expand the therapeutic summer camp to be a full week for each week of the summer season. Include camp services for all age groups, either simultaneously or staggered with a target of providing a camp for specific age groups at least once every three (3) weeks.
- Provide appropriate athletic and sport programs such as wheelchair basketball, wheelchair soccer, etc. Open the programs to both those who have a disability and those who do not. Partner with the City of Opelika to promote baseball and softball at the Miracle Field in Opelika.
- Provide programs that focus on life skill development (from cooking to bike repair) for people with special needs; consider developing the program to include a “mentor” element, where special needs residents are partnered with volunteers or peers to help them learn new skills.
- Coordinate facilities and staff resources with Special Olympics to meet program needs for COA residents.
- Consider working with other therapeutic service providers to develop a comprehensive strategy to address therapeutic needs over the next ten (10) years (current organizations include Exceptional Foundation, Exceptional Outreach Organization, and Expressions of BraveHeart.) Elements addressed in the strategy could include available APRD resources and potential funding for services provided to COA residents.

6.24.8 Sports and Athletics

- Extend scheduled play windows for all sports to include Saturdays, allowing additional field maintenance opportunities.
- Expand sports and athletics programs as facilities become available.
- Add lights to unlighted fields to extend the time of play and use of the facilities.
- Develop tumbling, music/movement, skill-development, and related activities and camps for preschoolers.
- Consider expanding summer/off-season athletic and sports programs to include less competitive baseball, softball, and other sports.
- As gym space becomes available, develop an indoor soccer program.
- Expand alternative sports opportunities and clubs for track, lacrosse, field hockey, archery, Ultimate Frisbee, disc golf, cricket and others as popularity arises.
- Consider building at least one (1) artificial turf field to extend play.

Explanation/Justification:

Extending scheduled play/practice times to include Saturdays will provide opportunities for double headers and give APRD maintenance staff more time to appropriately maintain fields. Extending baseball/softball into a summer season allows more practice/playing time for youth in a less competitive environment and provides an additional option for summer youth programming.

CHAPTER 7: ARTS AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

7.0 Introduction

7.01 Importance of Arts and Cultural Activities



Arts and cultural programming significantly enhances one's quality of life by building a sense of community while promoting social cohesion, tolerance, and a celebration of diversity. It contributes to citizen health and well-being and plays an important role in a community's economic structure. A 2012 Survey of Public Participation in the Arts conducted by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the U.S. Census Bureau indicates that people who engage in cultural art activities

or are involved in sports, the outdoors, or exercise, are more likely to be active in other areas. These activities may include volunteering, performing charity work, and being more socially engaged in the community. These findings appear to be independent of age, education level, gender, or ethnicity.¹⁰

Studies have shown that most adults in the United States participate in some type of art or cultural activity. The 2012 NEA survey indicates that approximately half of all adults have been involved in arts learning at some point in their lives and that, in 2012, respondents engaged in a wide variety of cultural arts activities:

- 71.4% used electronic media to view or listen to art.
- 59.4% went to the movies.
- 58.2% read books or literature.
- 51% attended a live visual or performing arts event.
- 44.3% used electronic media to email, post, or share art.
- 43.3% created, practiced, performed, or edited/remixed art.

The survey indicates that in the South Atlantic region, which included Auburn, watching or listening to music was the most popular activity using electronic media. In addition:

- The most attended cultural arts events were:

¹⁰ *How a Nation Engages with Art – Highlights from the 2012 Survey of Public Participation in the Arts, National Endowment for the Arts (2012).*

- a. Art museum or gallery (17.6%).
 - b. Musical plays (12.7%).
 - c. Jazz performances (8.1%).
 - d. Non-musical plays (7%).
 - e. Classical music performances (7%).
- The venues where people most frequently went:
 - a. Park or open-air facility (13.5%).
 - b. Theater, concert hall, or auditorium (12.6%).
 - c. Restaurant, bar, nightclub, coffee shop (11%).
 - d. Church or other religious venue (10.2%).
 - Mediums by which adults created their own artwork included:
 - a. Taking an artistic photograph (10.2%).
 - b. Weaving, crocheting, quilting, needlepoint, knitting, or sewing (9.5%).
 - c. Scrapbooking (6.4%).
 - d. Leatherwork, metalwork, or woodwork (5.7%).
 - e. Creative writing (4.9%).
 - f. Creating any visual art (4.9%).

A 2002 Princeton University working paper concluded that many studies have documented both physical and psychosocial benefits of arts and cultural programming on both participants and audience.¹¹ Dance and theater classes provide health benefits associated with exercise and physical skill development and provide an outlet for personal expression. Visual arts disciplines also develop creative abilities and provide a sense of achievement when the works of participants are showcased in an exhibition or gallery. Studies highlighted in the Princeton report also suggest that people participating in or attending arts and cultural events expand their personal creative abilities, experience an increase in self-esteem, and have a greater sense of belonging to the community.

At the individual level, the Princeton studies show that visual and performing arts and special events not only allow members of the community to enjoy the performance or art exhibition, but also relieve stress, tend to increase tolerance of others, build a sense of community, and positively affect visuospatial reasoning (the ability to comprehend and conceptualize visual input and spatial relationships).

7.02 Benefits for Specific Populations

Participating in or attending cultural arts programs are particularly important for children. In preschool age children, research suggests that children from low income homes who regularly participated in arts

¹¹ *How the Arts Impact Communities: An Introduction to the Literature on Arts Impact Studies, Princeton University Working Papers Series (2002).*

and cultural programs had higher school-readiness levels: they were better prepared to start and keep up in school and demonstrated higher levels of achievement in language development, non-verbal intelligence tasks (example: solving a puzzle), spatial cognition, and understanding mathematical concepts.¹²

Further, research on youth and adolescents suggests that for students who regularly participate in arts and cultural programs:

- Those from low-income homes showed substantial improvement in math and reading skills.
- Special education students showed improved academic performance.
- Students who were struggling academically improved their performance and learning with a standard curriculum.¹³
- At-risk children and youth who were either from low socio-economic backgrounds, were involved with the judicial system, or had engaged in behaviors that identified them as at-risk for judicial involvement also showed improvement in behavior when compared to a control group or peers.¹⁴

For youth and adolescents, positively interacting with an adult to explore and creatively express emotions and experiences in a safe, supportive environment provides new avenues of expression and encourages pro-social behavior and increased social interaction. For children who have experienced trauma, being able to explore negative experiences or trauma through arts and cultural programs can enhance inner strength, build emotional resiliency, and teach positive coping mechanisms to help them transition from seeing themselves as victims to seeing themselves as survivors.



Arts and cultural programs also benefit the senior community. Research suggests that seniors who actively participate in such programs are more optimistic, enjoy better overall health, report higher morale, tend to live longer, and suffer less from depression or a sense of isolation and loneliness.¹⁵ Seniors who

¹² Brown et al, *Arts Enrichment and School Readiness for Children at Risk*, *Early Childhood Research Quarterly* 25 (2010); Neville et al, *Effects of Music Training on Brain and Cognitive Development in Under-Privileged 3 – 5-Year-Old Children - Preliminary Results, Learning, Arts, and the Brain* (2008); *The Arts in Early Childhood: Social and Emotional Benefits of Arts Participation – A literature Review and Gap-Analysis* (2000 – 2015).

¹³ Pittsburgh, PA Public Schools – *Profile of Greater Arts Integration Initiative*, U.S. Department of Education Publication Arts Model and Development and Dissemination Grants Program (2005).

¹⁴ *Arts-Based Programs and Arts Therapies for At-Risk, Justice-Involved, and Traumatized Youths (Literature Review)*, Development Services Group from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and the National Endowment for the Arts (2016); Brown et al, *Arts Enrichment and School Readiness for Children at Risk*, *Early Childhood Research Quarterly* 25 (2010).

¹⁵ Noice and Noice, *An Arts Intervention for Older Adult Living in Subsidized Retirement Homes*, *Aging Neuropsychology and Cognition* (2009); Fritach, et al, *Impact of Timeslips, a Creative Expression Intervention Program, on Nursing Home Residents with Dementia and Their Caregivers*, *The Gerontologist* (2009); *The Arts and Aging – Building the Science*, National Endowment for the Arts and the U.S.

participated in board games or played musical instruments on a weekly basis had a reduced risk of developing dementia.¹⁶ For those suffering from dementia, a 2009 study on nursing home residents found patients who participated in arts and cultural programming were more alert, interacted more frequently with others, and exhibited significant improvement in interactions between patient and caregiver.¹⁷

7.03 Economic Benefits

Arts and cultural programming also contributes to the economic stability and well-being of the community by:

- Generating income through the sale of art work and supplies.
- Enhancing the community's image.
- Making the community more attractive to relocating businesses.
- Attracting tourism that generates additional economic activity.

Additional Resources:

- Catterall et al, *Doing Well and Doing Good by Doing Art – a 12-year Longitudinal Study of Arts Education – Effects on the Achievements and Value of Young Adults, I* – Group Books (Los Angeles 2009).
- *The Arts and Smart Growth: The Role of Arts in Placemaking*, Funders Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities and Grantmakers in the Arts (2003).

Other relevant publications by the National Endowment for the Arts:

- *The Arts and Civic Engagement – Involved in Arts, Involved in Life* (An analysis based on data from the 2002 Survey of Public Participation in the Arts).
- *The Arts and Human Development – Framing a National Research Agenda for the Arts, Lifelong Learning, and Individual Well-being*, with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2011).
- *The National Endowment for the Arts Guide to Community-Engaged Research in the Arts and Health*, with the NEA Interagency Task Force on the Arts and Human Development (2016).
- *The Summit on Creative and Aging in America*, co-presented with the National Center for Creative Aging (2015).

7.04 Overview of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department Arts and Cultural Unit

Department of Health and Human Services (2012); Cohen, et al, The Impact of Professionally Conducted Cultural Program on Physical Health, Mental Health, and Societal Functioning of Older Adults, The Gerontologist (2006).

¹⁶ *Leisure Activities and the Risk of Dementia in the Elderly, The New England Journal of Medicine (2003); The Arts and Aging – Building the Science, National Endowment for the Arts and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2012).*

¹⁷ *Fritach, et. al., supra note 6.*

APRD's master planning process included a specific emphasis on the review of arts and cultural programs and services. APRD currently provides a variety of cultural arts programming to the Auburn community, including classes and performances in the traditional performing disciplines of drama and dance, as well as classes, studios, and exhibitions in other art forms like drawing, painting, ceramics, creative writing, and photography. The cultural programs draw upon the rich history of the area and include historical as well as more contemporary offerings. The assessment of the administration, facilities and programs are set out below.

7.04.1 Staff Organization and Responsibilities

Arts and cultural activities are principally the responsibility of the Cultural Arts Unit under the Leisure Services Division of APRD. The unit consists of the Cultural Arts Administrator, who reports to the APRD Director, a full-time Art Education Specialist, one (1) part-time temporary Recreation Supervisor, seven (7) part-time temporary Recreation Leaders, and one (1) full-time facility maintenance worker.

7.04.2 Staff and Volunteer Allocation

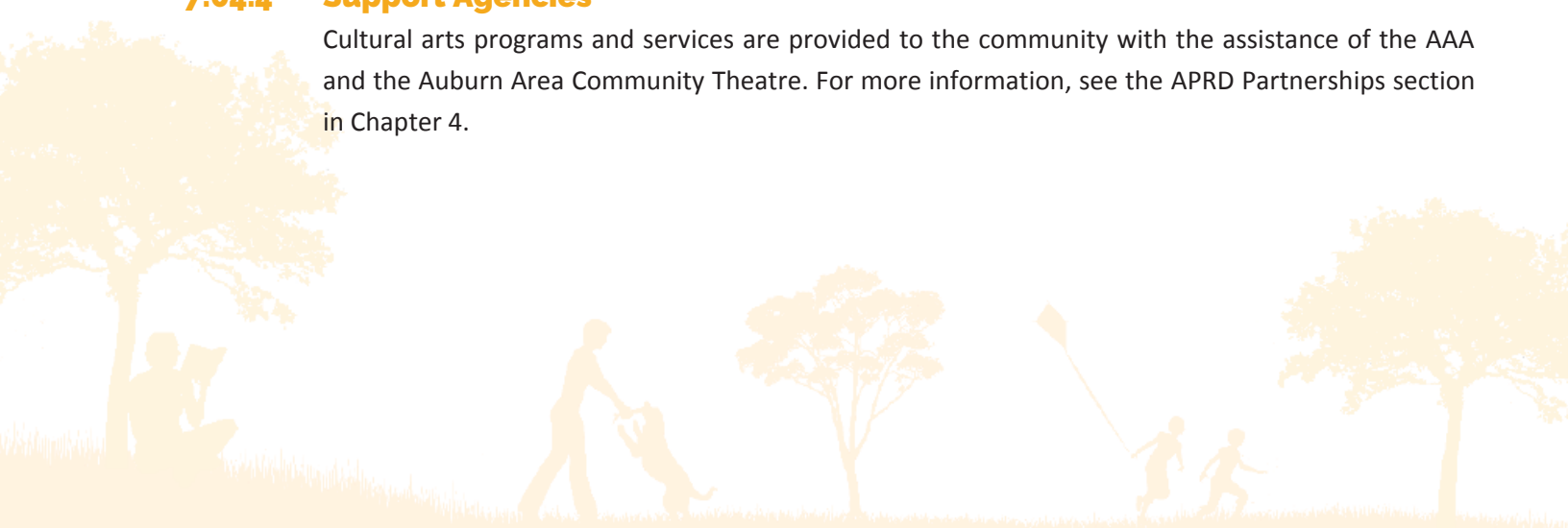
The Cultural Arts Unit has one of the most extensively developed volunteer programs in the Department. In Fiscal Year 2016, 127 volunteers donated 3,330 hours to arts and cultural programs. While there are opportunities to expand and enhance this valuable program, the dedicated volunteers in this unit contribute significantly to the success of its programming efforts.

7.04.3 Funding

The Cultural Arts Unit staff and programs are funded through the APRD Leisure Services Division's budget that dedicates line items for the arts. APRD provides \$50,000 annually to the Auburn University Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art (JCSMFA) for the programs and services primarily aimed at K-12 aged residents of the COA. Programs and services are also supported through the assistance of volunteers and funding assistance from the Auburn Arts Association (AAA).

7.04.4 Support Agencies

Cultural arts programs and services are provided to the community with the assistance of the AAA and the Auburn Area Community Theatre. For more information, see the APRD Partnerships section in Chapter 4.



7.1 Arts and Cultural Facilities and Program Inventory

7.11 Facilities

7.11.1 Inventory Table – See Facilities Inventory in Appendix C.

7.11.2 Existing Auburn Parks and Recreation Department Facilities

Programs and activities are generally held at the City of Auburn Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center (JDCAC) and the Ceramics Studio located in the Dean Road Recreation Center. Programs are also presented downtown as well as at various parks and other locations, particularly special events. The JDCAC has offices, both an art gallery and a children’s art gallery, two (2) classrooms, and a large, multi-purpose performance space. The performance area is currently being used as both a black box theater and as a multi-purpose space. Thus, the sets for productions must be constructed and disassembled for every show. Performances use a portable stage and folding chairs for seating. The floating wood floor was constructed by a firm that specialized in dance floors and is designed to accommodate dance as well as theater classes and productions. There is a single backstage restroom, basic light and sound control platform, and a dressing room that is primarily being used for theater storage.



The Ceramic Studio has recently been renovated and expanded and now has seven (7) professional pottery throwing wheels, a stainless-steel extruder, a slab roller, commercial-grade firing kilns, and a pug mill. There is a separate hand-building and throwing room. A studio membership allows artists to use the equipment when it is not needed for programs.

7.11.3 Other Area Arts and Cultural Facilities

Other area facilities providing arts and cultural programming include:

- **Auburn City Schools’ Julie and Hal Moore Center for the Performing Arts:** A reorganized 1,250 seat performance area with an updated sound system and orchestra pit. This facility is in the current high school, which will become the junior high school during the 2017-2018 school year.
- **Auburn University Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art (JCSMFA):** Provides exhibitions, lectures, museum education, and special events. Includes both a café and gift shop. Since the Museum provides free programs to the community, it competes to some degree for participants in programs and classes, as well as for donors and memberships (i.e. the AAA).
- **Auburn University Performing Arts Center (AUPAC):** Currently being designed. The overall project cost is \$65M for the planned LEED Silver 85,000 SF Center, including a 1,200-seat multi-purpose event hall. This includes an amphitheater connected to a second adaptable venue for 200 (which may be bid as an alternate), new access roads, sustainable multi-use parking areas and

public outdoor spaces that will connect AUPAC to the JCSMFA across College Street. This new Cultural Gateway will be used by and serve the Arts Community within Auburn University (AU), the COA, and the region.

- **Biggin Gallery:** <http://www.cla.auburn.edu/art/galleries/exhibitions/>
Mission is to present a stimulating, innovative program of exhibitions, lectures and special events that: develop understanding of artist expression in all its diversity; encourage cultural and intellectual awareness within the academic and civic communities; and, complement the Department of Art and Art History curriculum while contributing to the broader goals of the College of Liberal Arts and Auburn University.
- **Fieldwork Projects/Gallery:** <http://www.cla.auburn.edu/art/galleries/fieldwork-projects/>
Fieldwork Projects is an extension of the Department of Art and Art History at Auburn University, which will continue the department's ongoing mission to support the arts by creating opportunities for faculty, students, alumni, and artists. The gallery will extend instructional reach, provide career preparation and practical experience to students, provide collaborative and outreach opportunities for faculty and students, encourage student entrepreneurship and initiative, and create revenue in support of departmental goals. Fieldwork Projects is supported by Auburn University and the College of Liberal Arts.
- **Opelika Parks and Recreation's Denson Drive Recreation Center:** This Center houses the Potters of Rockybrook, a community organization that encourages members of the community to participate in ceramic art.
- **Opelika Performing Arts Center:** A 1,200 seat facility located on the Opelika High School Campus and home of The Arts Association of East Alabama, a performance and arts education organization.
- **Pebble Hill:** A historic house built in 1847 and the current home of the AU Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts and Humanities. The facility hosts programs on art, history, literature, and more.
- **Telfair B. Peet Theater:** A theater owned and operated by AU. The theater provides training for AU undergraduates and presents original productions year-round.
- **The Southside Center for the Arts:** A cooperative venture between the Arts Association of East Alabama, Envision Opelika, and the City of Opelika. This facility, located in a restored 1929 school, provides performing arts, visual arts, literary arts, lectures, arts education activities, and community engagement events. The facility has administrative offices, a 300-seat auditorium, meeting/conference spaces, and galleries for student and professional art. This organization provides many services and programs comparable to the ones provided by the APRD Cultural Arts Unit.

Other cultural facilities that focus primarily on historic interpretation include:

- Civil War Digital Tour.
- Museum of East Alabama.
- Opelika Train Depot.

7.12 Programs

7.12.1 Trend Data

The 2016 Community Survey used a Priority Investment Rating system, to determine programs with the highest priority to respondents. These were, listed from highest to lowest priority:

- Downtown events.
- Holiday events.
- Auburn CityFest.
- Theater productions.
- Music performances.
- Visual arts events.

The Program Inventory and Assessment (PIA) review of three (3) years of data (FY14-FY16) indicated:

- Arts, literary arts, and language class participation rose from 787 participants to 888 (+13%).
- Gallery attendance decreased from 1804 to 1114 (-38%).
- Dance, music, and theater production class participation grew from 1,539 to 1,645 participants (+7%).
- The number of people participating in or watching performances rose from 3,055 to 3,491 (+14%).
- Of the classes provided, the largest increase was through the Ceramics Studio, which provided programs for 940 people in FY14 and 1,871 in FY16 (+99%).
- The two (2) art programs provided to ACS students, Adventures in Art and the Auburn Studio Project, experienced a significant decrease in participation:
 - a. the Adventures in Art program decreased from 1,255 to 620 participants (-51%).
 - b. the Studio Project decreased from 300 to 155 students (-48%).

The dramatic reduction in attendance in the ACS programs resulted from a lack of space to accommodate the growth in student population, rather than a lack of interest in the program. While there has been support for the program, there were also concerns expressed related to funding, since APRD provided the transportation for ACS students to attend these free programs.

These findings, combined with the 2016 Community Survey and stakeholder meetings suggest there is a growing interest in classroom and educational instruction and a need to address the funding concerns for school programs.

Participation has also risen for special events. Holiday events like the Polar Express and Holiday Art Sale have become a tradition for many families, with attendance holding steady at around 550 participants each year. The two (2) largest art related special events, Auburn CityFest and SummerNight Downtown Art Walk, have experienced explosive growth over the past three (3) years:

- Attendance at CityFest increased from 7,500 to 9,723 (+30%); and
- Attendance at SummerNight increased from 2,000 to 4,000 (+100%).

The 2016 Community Survey indicated that among the top five (5) barriers that prevent survey respondents from using APRD cultural arts programs and facilities were:

- Lack of knowledge about programs (65%).
- Convenient program times (37%).
- Lack of parking (22%).
- Traffic (18%).
- Lack of online registration (13%).

7.12.2 Current Auburn Parks and Recreation Department Arts and Cultural Programs and Services

The Cultural Arts Unit is responsible for a wide range of programs and classes covering visual arts; literary arts; dance, music, and theater; and ceramics. The Cultural Arts Unit also provides support for theater performances and shows installed in the gallery of the Arts Center. Programs are provided for all ages, as well as for special populations. For a detailed list of arts and cultural programs see the Program Inventory provided in Appendix C.

In FY16 the Cultural Arts Unit provided programs, classes, and productions for 7,388 participants including:

- Arts, literary, and language classes for 888 participants.
- Gallery exhibitions that involved 1,114 participants.
- Dance, music, and theater classes serving 1,645 participants.
- Dance, music, and theater productions involving 3,491 participants.
- Ceramics classes for 250 participants.

Consistent with other programming by APRD, programs administered through the Cultural Arts Unit were evenly distributed over the seasons. While a significant number of programs were for elementary and middle school aged children, the Cultural Arts Unit does a good job of balancing programs across all age groups, including preschool age children. As compared to other programming areas, the Cultural Arts Unit schedules more Saturday events, although most of these were exhibits or special events rather than classes.

In FY16 the Cultural Arts Unit also provided a variety of special events reaching 16,108 participants*, including:

- **Adventures in Art:** a four (4)-day long community-based art education program for 5th grade students in ACS. Prior to 2015 and 2016, the program accommodated 4th and 5th grade students. Due to program growth and space constraints, 4th grade students can no longer be served.
- **Auburn Studio Project:** an art education program for 6th grade students in ACS. The program is a partnership between the COA and the JCSMFA.
- **Holiday Art Sale and Polar Express Holiday Celebration:** Both events serve as fundraisers for the Auburn Arts Association. The Polar Express is held in December and allows children to enjoy hot

chocolate, make Christmas crafts, ride a trackless train, meet Santa and Mrs. Claus, and enjoy a performance by the East Alabama Community Ballet. The Holiday Art Sale is also held in December and allows local and regional artists to display and sell their work.

- **SummerNight Downtown Art Walk:** A free downtown art walk for the Auburn community held on one night in June. It features live music, culinary contests, art vendors, a parade and children’s activities.
- **Auburn CityFest:** A day-long, free event sponsored by the COA and business community and is held at Kiesel Park. It features fine arts, performances, arts and crafts, and children’s activities.



*At the time Program Inventory and Assessment Survey (PIA) data was being compiled by APRD staff, FY16 data was not available for all programs. FY15 attendance data was used in these situations.

7.2 Gap Analysis

7.21 General

7.21.1 Use of Auburn Parks & Recreation Department Arts & Cultural Facilities

The 2016 Community Survey also found 34% of respondents had participated in at least one (1) cultural arts program or event in the preceding twelve (12) months. Of those attending the events, 96% rated the quality of the services provided excellent (37%) or good (59%). This support was also evident in feedback from stakeholders who expressed their appreciation for the efforts of the staff to provide excellent customer service and outstanding cultural arts programs.

In the 2016 Community Survey, 49% respondents indicated they had used COA cultural facilities, with 90% indicating the facilities were either in good or excellent condition. The survey also indicated that the most visited cultural arts facilities were Kiesel and Town Creek Parks. The next three (3) most visited facilities were:

- Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art (54.5%).
- Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center (39.6%).
- Opelika Performing Arts Center (26%).

Thus, Auburn residents regularly visit not only APRD arts and cultural facilities, but also those provided by other organizations. This data indicates a need to coordinate with other agencies to minimize competition and to ensure that the widest possible range of services are provided.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 136.

7.21.2 Marketing and Public Relations

The 2016 Community Survey found the number one barrier to program usage was lack of knowledge regarding programs (65%). Stakeholder meetings indicated that some stakeholders were unaware there is a local arts association. Others expressed a need to have greater communication and coordination of services between APRD, JCSMFA, and the community orchestra. There was also interest in developing a closer connection between art “communities” and encouraging greater community involvement in arts activities overall.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 95.

7.21.3 Community Art Experiences

Arts and cultural experiences are a universal yet sometimes overlooked part of every community. Whether it is the architecture of a beautiful building or the mural painted on a passing car, citizens encounter art every day. During stakeholder and staff meetings, respondents indicated a need to have art become more visible, especially in the downtown area. There was a need expressed to have more places to display art, space for artists to work, and more places/opportunities to sell local art.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 140.
- See recommendations on page 136.

7.22 Facilities-Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis Chart

The Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis Chart in Appendix D inventories existing facilities and identifies where gaps exist.

7.23 Facilities Gap Analysis

There are no national standards to assess arts and cultural facilities since every community integrates its arts and culture in a unique way. The arts and cultural identity of a community is determined at the local level by the energy, dedication, and commitment of people who are actively engaged and the resources each community has to develop creative spaces. Thus, facility assessment for APRD was based on stakeholder, staff and public meetings, and information provided by various community surveys.

7.23.1 Performance Facility Space

Auburn had 42,987 residents in 2000 as compared to a projected 63,460 in 2016. This represents a 47.8% increase in the population of the COA, along with a corresponding need to expand arts and cultural programs and services.

Built in 1999, the JDCAC is the primary APRD facility for both visual and performing arts. While still structurally in good shape, the building can no longer accommodate the current level of public demand and the age of the facility requires an investment in renovation. Feedback from stakeholders, staff, and the public corroborates this finding.

Additionally, the Arts Center does not meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility standards. The Dean Road Ceramics Studio has been reorganized to add a hand-building space, but even this relatively recently expanded facility is inadequate due to the rapid growth of the popularity of ceramics programs.



The physical constraints of the available space already limit performances, rehearsals, and the number of classes; this limitation will intensify as the population continues to grow. While the main room was originally designed as a black box theater, program growth has required this area to accommodate diverse performance disciplines and multiple classes. Other difficulties with the current facility include:

- Lack of space has required that one (1) of the two (2) dressing rooms be converted to an office, while the second is used for storage. During performances, the second dressing room must be cleared and stored materials stacked backstage.
- Space limitations also necessitate that dance classes are periodically moved from the wooden floating dance floor to a space with a concrete floor.
- Storage is very limited, leaving set and other related materials unsecured and accessible by other groups using the facility.
- There is limited “pre-event” space available.
- During recitals or performances, the audience space is often filled, including the available standing room. Overcrowding not only requires some audience members to stand for the performance, but the room becomes uncomfortably warm, detracting from the overall performance experience.

7.23.1.1 Dance Facility Space

Dance classes, as well as rehearsals and performances, are currently held in spaces with either a floating wood floor or a concrete floor. Concrete floors for all dance disciplines should be avoided whenever possible. While the floating floor meets the needs of some dance disciplines, others, such as ballet, need a higher-quality, sprung floor to protect dancers from injury. Given the level of routine physical impact dancers of every discipline

experience, floor covering and design is critical to both the quality of the performance and the health of the dancers.

7.23.1.2 Music Facility Space

As indicated above, the current performance space is not adequate for rehearsals or performances. The same is also true for musical performances.

7.23.1.3 Theater Facility Space

Currently, both performances and theater classes are constrained by the space available. Rehearsal space is limited and, as currently configured, is used at the same time sets are being built and installed. Space for set construction (including needed equipment) and storage, as well as for prop and costume laundering and storage is limited if available at all. These constraints limit the type and number of performances that can be accommodated since the use of private space for construction and storage increases the potential for damage or injury and requires additional time and personnel to transport sets and costumes to and from the site.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 137.

7.23.2 Visual Arts Facility Space

Galleries: There are two (2) galleries at JDCAC, one of which is primarily for children. The size of the existing space limits the scope and type of visual art displayed and prevents it from being a community “art destination.” Thus, visitors to these galleries are generally either in the building to attend a class or a performance or “pop in” for a visit while on their way to or from a nearby building. Having adequate gallery space to become a community art destination is essential to nurturing a vibrant arts and cultural element within the community.

Gift Shop: A gift shop is an important aspect of a gallery or exhibit space as it allows artists to sell their works and sells supplies and materials that promote art within the community. A gift shop associated with a well-presented gallery is an exciting and powerful community attraction that can generate economic activity by not only serving residents, but also by attracting visitors from outside the area.

Ceramics Studio: To meet the needs of the ceramics program, the ceramics studio in the Dean Road Recreation Center was recently reorganized. Although the space is in excellent condition, due to the growing popularity of this activity it is not adequate to accommodate the demand for programs and classes. There is also insufficient space for individuals to work on ceramics projects outside of a class setting.

Artists Guilds: Currently, there is limited if any space within APRD facilities available to accommodate guilds and/or programs in visual arts disciplines that are currently unserved or underserved in the community. Examples of disciplines that could be served if space were available include textile arts, photography, metalworking, blacksmithing, sculpture, jewelry-making, woodworking, and multimedia arts.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 137.

7.23.3 Performing and Visual Arts Space - Options and Considerations

As indicated above, the space available to APRD is not adequate to meet current needs for all the performing and visual arts disciplines. However, several options could provide at least short-term access to facilities to meet some of these needs. A concerted effort should be put forth between AU, ACS and COA to utilize these resources.

- Auburn University Performing Arts Center (AUPAC): AU is in the process of developing a \$65M, 1,200 seat, state-of-the-art performing center that will include a smaller, 200-seat space. Since COA has been asked to contribute funding to the project, it is anticipated the facility will be available to APRD and other local performing arts agencies.
- The Julie and Hal Moore Center for the Performing Arts: The JHMCPA at the current junior high school provides another option to use a recently upgraded facility at a reasonable cost.
- In the future, a performance arts center should be considered as opportunities arise for redevelopment in the downtown area.
- Old City Hall: Plans are underway to develop a new government campus along North Ross Street that may include the relocation of City Hall. If City Hall functions move to the new site, the old City Hall space could be repurposed/renovated as a visual arts center. Such a center would promote economic development, downtown vitality, and contribute significantly to a sense of place and downtown identity. Landscaped connections can be made between the public safety campus, the “new” visual arts center, and AU – further promoting and integrating the arts, the downtown area, AU, and the community.
- Amphitheater: The outdoor amphitheater that has been considered for several parks will also add to the available performing arts venues. See page 105.



7.24 Program Gap Analysis

7.24.1 Program Analysis - General

The 2016 Community Survey suggests that citizens are more interested in attending events rather than learning/expanding personal skills or talents. These findings support those of the 2016 Community Survey and highlight the need to expand and enhance special events and performances. However, stakeholder meetings indicated that one of the greatest needs was for additional and more diverse classes and educational activities, especially those targeting children six (6) years old and under. Both the Program Inventory and Assessment (PIA) and feedback from stakeholders indicated a need for more arts and performance programs.

Program information is limited as to wait lists, customer retention rates, and overall customer satisfaction. As with most of the programs reviewed, arts programs have not implemented participant evaluation and feedback forms. The two (2) notable exceptions were the Adventures in Art and Auburn Studio Project, both of which were given an overall excellent evaluation (4 or 5 out of a 5 scale). This information would be valuable in assessing the types of programs, quality, and scheduling of the other arts and cultural programs.

The cancellation rate is high for some programs. The PIA indicated that between 25 and 30 performing arts programs were cancelled for each of the three (3) years, and between 10 and 15 dance programs were cancelled for the same period. A review is needed to determine how to lower the cancellation rate, with consideration given to rescheduling at more diverse days/times or cancelling programs that have a consistently high cancellation rate.

The 2016 Community Survey also ranked barriers that limit cultural arts facility use and participation in events and programs:

- Lack of knowledge regarding programs (65%).
- Inconvenient program times (37%).
- Lack of parking (22%).
- Traffic at facilities (18%).

These barriers could discourage those with a casual interest from seeking out new experiences by attending classes.

Art camps allow both children and adults to develop their talents and explore new interests. While there is a diversity of arts and cultural camps available, there are no all-day/all-summer camps, family camps, or adult camps available. While short, specialty art camps provide the opportunity to focus on a single discipline. A summer-long art camp that involves youth in a variety of visual and performing arts can awaken interests and talents that will last a lifetime.

APRD currently does not provide programming regarding the history of the COA or area. A community is built upon the lives and dreams of the citizens that have come before; their influence can be seen in a city's buildings, farms, gardens, parks, and cemeteries. As referenced previously in section 6.15 of this report, cemeteries also play an important role in the cultural history every community. Without a dedicated effort to conserve, preserve, and educate, the rich cultural history of the past and the lives of those who came before are destined to fade. Auburn values and remembers its rich and diverse cultural history and the need for cultural history programs was referenced during the stakeholder meeting with the Cemetery Advisory Board.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 139.

7.24.2 Coordination with Other Arts and Cultural Program Providers

While art-related programs are growing in popularity and attendance, there is competition for participants and funding from several area art organizations. The JCSMFA has an expansive program that overlaps in some cases with programs provided by the Cultural Arts Unit. The Southside Center for the Arts also provides similar services, hosting performances, school programs, gallery space, and artists' work space.

Details and Recommendations:

- See recommendations on page 136.

7.24.3 Other Program Analysis Factors

The gap analysis presented earlier in this chapter regarding programs generally also applies to arts and cultural programs, since improvements to APRD's system for providing and evaluating programs generally will benefit programs of all types:

- Stakeholders, public feedback attendees, and staff alike voiced a need for a responsive online registration system.
- Compiling program and service data and producing an annual report will help staff track trends and provide the community with a greater understanding of the scope of services provided by the Cultural Arts Unit.

7.31 Arts and Cultural Recommendations

7.31 General

7.31.1 Define Long-Term Relationships Among Arts and Cultural Organizations

- Consider developing a city-wide arts and cultural council to serve as a facilitator and "clearing house" to help coordinate arts and cultural programs and services. The council should meet regularly to:

- a. Create open dialogue as to what is being provided to the community.
- b. Evaluate the resources and strengths of arts and cultural organizations providing programs and services.
- c. Determine which organization(s) might best be positioned to offer specific types of programs.
- d. Determine how the organizations can reduce competition for the same services.
- e. Promote diverse arts and cultural opportunities for the community through targeted, coordinated, and cooperative programming.

7.31.2 Encourage Greater Participation with The Auburn Arts Association

- Consider encouraging the Auburn Arts Association (AAA) to include a liaison or ex-officio representative from all arts and cultural resource agencies on the board to facilitate information sharing and promote cooperative planning and service coordination.
- Encourage all members of the arts community to actively participate in the AAA.

7.32 Facilities

7.32.1 Performance and Visual Arts Facilities

- Negotiate an agreement with ACS for the use of the Julie and Hal Moore Center for the Performing Arts to meet the current and near-term performance needs of APRD.
- Consider negotiating a use agreement with AU in return for a financial contribution to the proposed AUPAC by the COA to meet future demand for larger performance space for both local and regional performances presented or sponsored by APRD. The agreement should define times/seasons available, unit costs, access to the facility, and associated details.
- If City Hall functions move to the Douglas J. Watson Municipal Complex (DJWMC), renovate the space as a visual arts center. Create landscape/path connections to Felton Little, Auburn University, and the DJWMC.
- To meet the long-term (10 years and beyond) needs of the community for a performing and visual arts venue, the COA will need to build 42,000 square feet of space for visual and performing arts. Consideration should be given to locating this facility/complex in a redevelopment area in or convenient to downtown.

Note: The amount of overall square footage can be lowered to 38,500 SF if a single facility is built, as this would allow for shared space, such as multi-purpose rooms, changing rooms, general use/education space, office space, and kitchens. Assuming the full 42,000 sq. ft. performing arts center is built, the space should be allocated as follows to accommodate each discipline:

- **Theater:** Approximately 12,000 square feet: 500-seat auditorium expandable to 1,000 seats along with back-of-stage amenities (dressing rooms, prop storage, costume storage/laundry/repairs), pre-event space, set construction and storage area, education/general purpose rooms, locker/shower/restroom facilities, offices, general storage, and warming kitchen.
- **Musical Performance:** Approximately 3,000 square feet: multi-discipline practice room with 16' ceilings and risers (choral, orchestra, band, and related activities), rooms designed for individual

lessons, instrument/music storage, offices, restrooms, changing/dressing rooms, and warming kitchen.

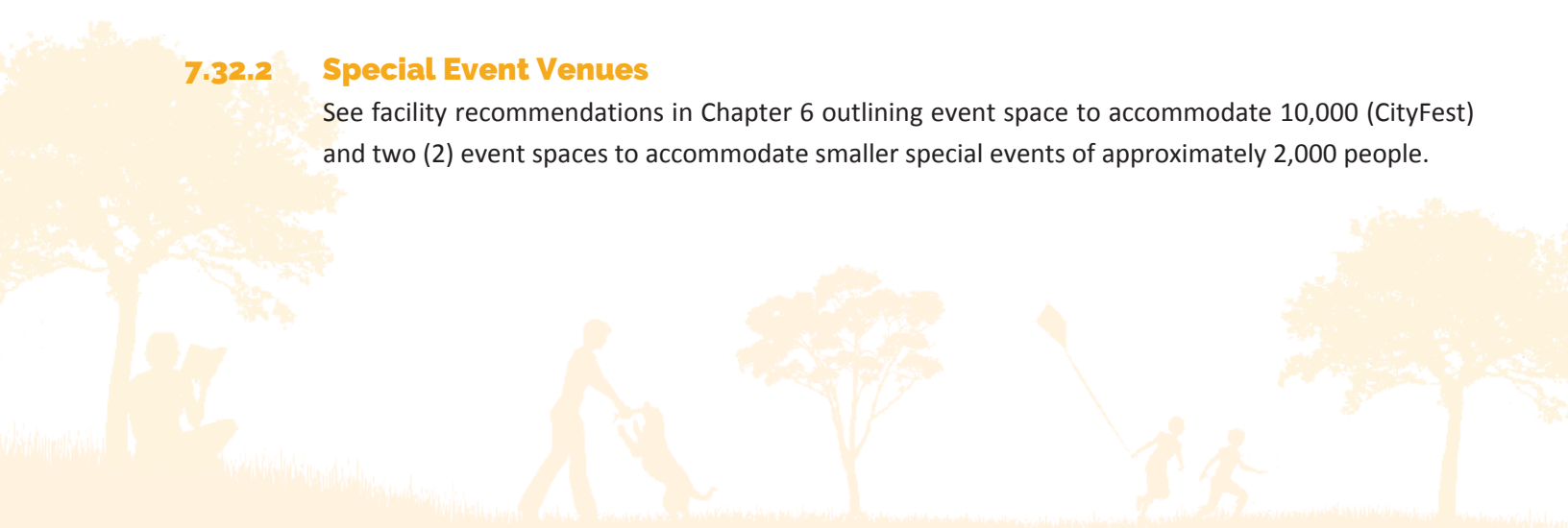
- **Dance:** Approximately 12,000 square feet: three (3) dance studios with sprung floors, 1 multi-use dance studio (line, ballroom, etc.), general purpose rooms, costume storage/repair/laundry, locker/shower area, restrooms, offices, and warming kitchen.
- **Visual Arts:** Approximately 15,000 square feet: gallery space, multi-purpose space, educational/work areas for guilds (textile arts, multimedia art, drawing/painting, wood working area, metalworking), gift shop, storage, offices, restrooms, general purpose/education classrooms, warming kitchen, and children’s art area and gallery area.
- **Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center:** With the construction of the new Visual and Performing Arts Center, the JDCAC could be converted to accommodate the greatest need, such as expanded use as a ceramics center, offices, or community meeting/classroom space.
- **Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Expansion:** If a new center is not constructed, there is space designated on the current site to accommodate a 7,800 square foot expansion building and a 2,400 square foot addition to the side of the existing building. The inside of the existing building would need to be renovated and reconfigured to accommodate the program as described above. Until visual and performing arts functions can be brought together in a single facility/campus, when the visual and theater functions currently located in the JDCAC are moved to interim sites as described above, consider expanding and renovating the facility to:
 - a. Accommodate classes for diverse dance disciplines.
 - b. Accommodate the Dean Road Ceramics Studio that could be relocated to the site to provide needed additional studio and classroom space.

Explanation/Justification:

Negotiating with ACS and, to the extent possible, AU for access to performance space will provide an immediate but potentially short-term solution to ease the pressure on the current APRD performance space. However, an APRD facility that will meet the long-term needs for both visual and performing arts will ensure that the arts and cultural community can continue to grow and develop without dependence on resources provided by other agencies.

7.32.2 Special Event Venues

See facility recommendations in Chapter 6 outlining event space to accommodate 10,000 (CityFest) and two (2) event spaces to accommodate smaller special events of approximately 2,000 people.



7.33 Programs

7.33.1 Outdoor Arts and Cultural Events

- Utilizing the Showmobile recommended for purchase previously in section 6.11.5 of this report, develop an outdoor performance series designed to bring arts and cultural experiences to audiences throughout Auburn.
- As new event space is developed, expand the number and diversity of arts and cultural, outdoor, and special event programs. Depending on the community’s interest and the assessment of the staff, these may include various musical forms (folk, bluegrass, country, etc.), dance performances, theater productions, and others.

Explanation/Justification:

The Showmobile is a portable, professional stage that can be set up in a variety of places, including schools, parks, and open spaces. Bringing performances “close to home” for Auburn residents not only highlights arts and culture in the community, but can encourage people to become aware of and utilize nearby facilities.

7.33.2 Expand Number and Diversity of Programs

- As facilities become available and opportunities arise, the Cultural Arts Unit should expand both the number and the types of arts and cultural programs to include all mediums and ability levels and make classes available in a variety of disciplines to participants from three (3) years old and up, from hobbyist to professional. Examples include:
 - a. Theater (acting, voice, movement, speech, and related).
 - b. Dance (ballet, tap, modern, hip-hop, line, ballroom, and related).
 - c. Music (instrumental, vocal, performance, and related).
 - d. Visual (textile arts, multimedia arts, woodworking, photography, carving, sculpture, murals, graffiti and street art).
 - e. Historic and folklife arts (puppetry arts, poetry, storytelling, crafts, and blacksmithing).
- Schedule programs to make them available to citizens with diverse schedules, including weekends.
- Implement the use of a feedback mechanism to determine customer satisfaction within specific programs.
- Review programs with high cancellation rates to determine if resources should be allocated elsewhere.
- Expand the number and types of special events and performances.
- Provide for more visual arts and performance programs aimed specifically at children six (6) years old and under.
- Develop family art camps; art camps for adults; all-day/all-summer camps, especially for middle and high school-aged children/youth.
- Develop cultural history programs for all ages.

7.33.3 Cross-Generational and Cultural Programming Opportunities

- Consider developing formal partnerships between artist/art organizations and seniors/senior center to share programming and learning opportunities. As part of this partnership, develop opportunities for seniors to mentor others, especially youth, in various art disciplines.
- Consider developing a program initiative to develop, coordinate, and promote traditional and folklife crafts.

Explanation/Justification:

Creating a program initiative focused on preserving traditional and folklife activities opens new program opportunities that can bridge generations and enhance the economic vitality of the community. Additional information can be found at the Alabama State Council on the Arts, including information related to folklife apprenticeships and grants.

7.34 Other Potential Arts and Cultural Initiatives

7.34.1 Downtown and Area Businesses

- Consider working with downtown and area businesses to provide space for artists to display works and/or provide sales opportunities.

Explanation/Justification:

Area businesses often have wall and other space that is suitable to display various types of art. These may include reception areas, lobbies, and hallways inside banks, government buildings, and other office areas, as well as dining areas in restaurants and coffee shops. Once agreements and standards are established, artists can rotate works into these spaces, introducing local art to the community and allowing artists potential sales opportunities. This type of arrangement also benefits businesses that can advertise participation in a program that supports the local art community.

7.34.2 Health Care Initiative

- Consider establishing partnerships with health care organizations to provide arts and cultural programs, installations, artwork, performances, etc. In other communities, funding from these types of activities is routinely provided through the health care organization's operational budget.

Explanation/Justification:

Health care institutions that utilize and integrate arts and culture into their facilities found that staff were more satisfied with their working conditions and patients healed faster, had fewer complications, required fewer medications, and had shorter hospital stays. Thus, these arrangements benefit not only the community, but the organization as well.

7.34.3 Artists “Incubator”

- Consider working with area businesses and realtors to investigate the feasibility of developing low cost rental space for artists’ studios. If grouped together, these areas can also provide opportunities for artists to collaborate and share resources.

Explanation/Justification:

Many communities have buildings that have been unoccupied or underutilized for long periods of time. These areas frequently have large spaces that can be converted to “incubator” studios, bringing together diverse cultural arts disciplines and providing opportunities for cooperation and collaboration. An artist incubator can also serve as the pilot initiative of a long-range plan to develop a comprehensive arts and cultural center or community.

7.34.4 Art in Unexpected Places

- Establish a program to have arts and cultural programs take place in everyday spaces.

Explanation/Justification:

Creating opportunities for people to encounter arts and cultural programs in unexpected places not only evokes interest, but highlights the importance of art in people’s everyday lives. Quartets performing on street corners, artists sketching near a busy intersection, a downtown street performance, or a musical or dance “gathering” for a “spontaneous” performance in a public place can change the way people view art. Some examples of past and current trends include:

- “flash mobs” (see “Ode to Joy”- Flash Mob).
see: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=87qT5BOI2XU>
- “pop up events.”
see: <http://blog.bryantpark.org/2010/12/kate-spade-holiday-pop-up.html>

7.34.5 Sculpture Garden

- In cooperation with AU or other partners, explore the potential to establish one (1) or more sculpture or art gardens where local artists can display works of art. Consider locating the sculpture garden in conjunction with the town green/plaza and at the future site of the visual and performing arts center.

Explanation/Justification:

Venues for a sculpture garden can be small like the grounds of the library, or larger like the Auburn University Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art (JCSMFA) grounds at AU. These spaces provide opportunities to highlight local talent, help the APRD Cultural Arts generate donations, and facilitate the efforts of artists and educators to obtain grants for providing public art and art education.

CHAPTER 8: AUBURN PUBLIC LIBRARY

8.0 Department Mission

In March 2016, the Auburn Public Library (APL) adopted the following as its organizational mission statement: The APL inspires people to explore new ideas, pursue their dreams, and change their lives. We help people build connections with their world and with each other. We contribute in meaningful ways to an engaged and informed community. We embrace principles of equality, inclusivity, and diversity in our collections, programs, and services.

In addition, as part of the library's strategic planning process for FY 2017 – FY 2020, the APL has identified five (5) library service roles to describe the various ways in which the library positively impacts the community:

8.01 Collection

The APL will make available a collection that reflects the varied interests of our dynamic community, in a variety of mediums. Our collection will enable minimal wait times, serendipitous discovery, and lucky days.

8.02 Community Connector

The APL will be the first choice for reliable information for Auburn residents. The library will be an integral and vital partner in our community, one that connects Auburn residents with local agencies and with each other, so that our city can be a great place to live, work, learn, and play.

8.03 Literacy and Learning Leader

The APL will help cultivate a community that is active, engaged, and informed. The library will help children enter school ready to learn, help adults pursue their personal interests, help job-seekers find employment, and help all residents feel socially included.

8.04 Place

The APL will be a welcoming, safe, and comfortable destination, both in person and online. Our spaces will support and foster a variety of activities, including independent study, collaborative work, meetings, and recreation. Library spaces will be flexible and adaptive to address the needs of our growing and dynamic community.

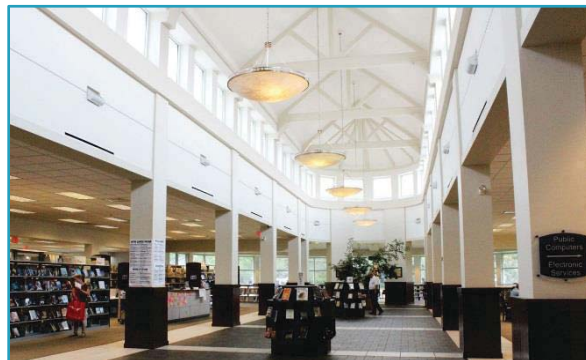
8.05 Technology Resource

The APL will provide our community with the best public technology possible so that people can achieve their personal, professional, and educational goals. The library will connect people with the online world

and help them navigate the information landscape of the 21st century. Additionally, library staff will use technology effectively to help them deliver excellent library service.

8.06 The Auburn Public Library Board

The Auburn Public Library Board (APLB) is a 5-member, Council-appointed advisory board. The library board engages in the development of policies for the APL, works with the Library Director in reviewing and formulating policies for providing the community with the best possible library service, and works with the Library Director in strategic planning for the library's continued quality and sustainability.



8.07 The Friends of The Auburn Public Library

The Friends of The Auburn Public Library (FOAPL) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, whose sole purpose is to support the library through volunteer service and fundraising. The Friends raise most of their funds through semiannual book sales and an annual letter campaign. Currently, the FOAPL is an entirely volunteer-run organization.

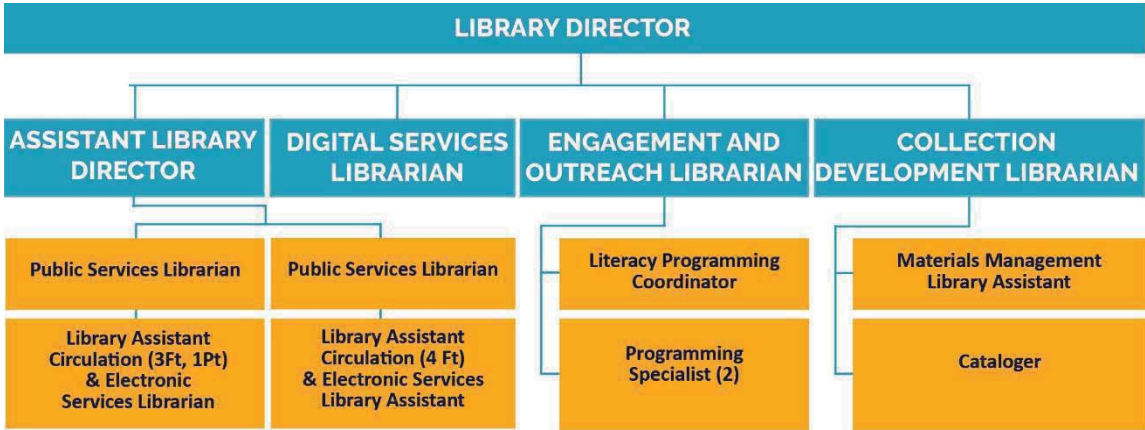
8.08 Staffing

The APL has 20 full-time staff positions and two (2) part-time staff positions. These positions include the following:

- The Library Director:
This position, as Department head, is responsible for the overall operations of the APL, including budgeting and strategic planning, and for coordinating the various activities of library staff, the APLB, and the FOAPL.
- The Assistant Library Director:
This position is responsible for assisting in the day-to-day operations of the library, including administration of the ILS (integrated library system) and for supervising the activities of Public Services, which includes circulation, reference, readers' advisory, and technology assistance. The Assistant Library Director supervises two (2) Public Services Librarians, who supervise and coordinate the activities of frontline Public Services staff in providing customer service to library patrons.
- The Engagement and Outreach Librarian:
This position plans, coordinates, and implements the library's programs, events, and activities; seeks out and applies for grants to fund help library services and resources; and coordinates the library's public relations and publicity efforts. The Engagement and Outreach Librarian also supervises three (3) full-time employees, who are primarily responsible for planning and implementing library programs for children, teens, adults, and general audiences.

- The Collection Development Librarian:
This position supervises and coordinates the activities of Materials Management, which includes acquisitions, processing, cataloging, and deselection. Currently, this position is also responsible for ordering office supplies and janitorial supplies. The Collection Development Librarian supervises one (1) full time employee and one (1) part-time employee, who both assist with the processing and cataloging of new library materials.
- The Digital Services Librarian:
This position manages the library’s various online resources, including downloadable e-books, digital magazines, research databases, and the library website. Currently, this position is also responsible for developing signage and publicity materials for various library activities and announcements.

The divisions are organized in the chart below:



8.09 Library

Himmel and Wilson, Library Consultants has completed the following steps in its assessment of long-term facility needs:

- Reviews of background documents and library statistics.
- Participation in a meeting of the entire project team (on-site in Auburn).
- Tour of the existing library facility.
- Personal interview of the Library Director.
- Personal interviews with key library staff.
- Interview with the Community and Special Programs Director for APRD.
- Virtual meeting/ focus group with the APLB.
- Mapping (electronic pin maps) of library usage based on a one-month sample of circulation records.
- Participation in the development of the 2016 Community Survey.
- Two (2) initial public sessions to discuss library future needs (two (2) sessions on-site in Auburn).
- Two (2) follow-up public sessions to explore potential service model options (two (2) sessions on-site in Auburn).
- Review of 2016 Community Survey responses.

Based on the activities listed above, Himmel and Wilson submits the following findings:

- The APL is a vital asset to the greater Auburn community.
- The APL is a “library on the rise” rather than being a library in decline:
 - a. Usage is increasing.
 - b. Door-counts are increasing.
 - c. Public perceptions of the library are changing for the positive.
- The existing library is well located to serve most (but not all) current Auburn residents.
- Existing cooperation between/among the library, APRD, and other community cultural institutions is very good and is, in fact, increasing.
- There is a willingness on the part of both the library and APRD to explore joint-use facilities.
- The existing library is too small to meet the long-term needs of the growing Auburn community.
- The existing facility lacks the quantity of public meeting space typically provided by a public library in a community of the size of Auburn; however, adding meeting space would exacerbate an already challenging parking problem.
- Space utilization within the existing library facility is not ideal and could be improved.
- There is an active local Genealogical Society that has extensive collections but not a good place to store them for access or hold their monthly meetings.
- Expanding the existing library facility would be problematic without the acquisition of additional property.
- The northwest Auburn area of the Auburn community is currently under-served.
- The library lacks the staffing and facility capacity to adequately serve the public in the future if anticipated population growth continues.

8.1 Auburn Public Library Research and Inventory

8.11 Activities and Methodology

As part of the methodology for the needs assessment and gap analysis for the Auburn Public Library, Himmel and Wilson, Library Consultants completed a thorough investigation of the library.

8.12 Findings

In addition to the findings identified by the public input surveys, the library consultant identified the following additional findings:

- The APL has a growing deficit of public library space.
 - a. Contemporary standards would suggest between 0.75 and 1.00 square feet per capita of public library space. Auburn currently has approximately 0.55 square feet per capita, although the library met the lower ratio at the time the building was built.
- The existing library alone is too small to meet the long-term needs of the growing Auburn community.
- There is a genuine desire by the citizens to have branch libraries in the underserved areas.
- The APRD is willing to locate branch libraries into the new community centers where reasonable.

- Several local organizations have expressed a desire to have better facilities and access to the library for their meetings and events.
- There is a location in front of the main library that can be developed into an outdoor reading garden.
- There are issues related to Americans with Disabilities Act guidelines that need to be addressed.
- The northwest Auburn area of the Auburn community is currently under-served.



8.13 Peer Institutions and Performance Measurement

This master planning process also evaluates the performance of the APL against public libraries that serve communities that meet both following criteria:

- The legal service area of the public library has a population of less than 100,000.
- The community is home to a college or university from the Southeastern Conference, the Atlantic Coastal Conference, the Big Ten, the Big Twelve, or the PAC-12.

Using these criteria, the 14 institutions that comprise our sample for this analysis are shown on the following page. The analysis considers several inputs (most importantly total expenditures per capita) and several outputs (including circulation per capita, program attendance per capita, and visitors per capita) as recorded in the Public Library Data Survey for FY 2015, the most recent year for which comprehensive data is available.

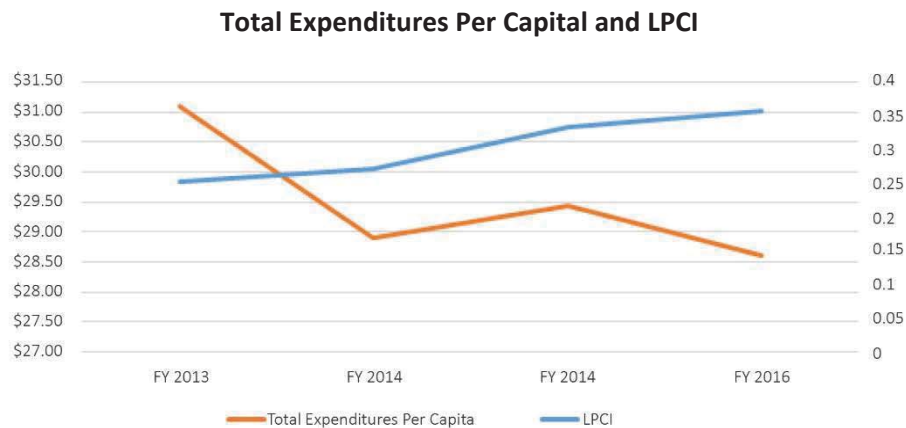
To evaluate the 14 institutions' performance, this analysis takes the sum of circulation per capita, program attendance per capita, and visitors per capita and divides this number by total expenditures per capita, as illustrated with the formula below:

$$\frac{(\text{circulation per capita} + \text{visitors per capita} + \text{program attendance per capita})}{(\text{total expenditures per capita})}$$

The resulting metric represents an institution's Library Performance Composite Index (LPCI), which illustrates how effectively the library performs with its available resource on a per capita basis. Even though the communities served by the 14 public libraries in our analysis have their own unique dynamics and demographics, the LPCI allows for the leveled evaluation of public libraries that serve college towns and university communities.

Library name	Home of...	Population (LSA)	Total Income Per Capita	Total Expenditures from Other Sources Per Capita	Total Materials Expenditures Per Capita	Total Circulation Per Capita	Annual Visits Per Capita	Total Program Attendance Per Capita	LPCI
Ames (IA) Public Library	Iowa State University	58,965	\$67.87	\$3.40	\$9.11	21.300	7.410	0.481	0.430
Auburn (AL) Public Library	Auburn University	58,582	\$29.45	\$0.24	\$2.46	5.757	3.704	0.380	0.334
Brookline (MA) Public Library	Boston College	59,128	\$67.36	\$2.81	\$8.77	19.158	10.869	0.497	0.453
Chapel Hill (NC) Public Library	University of North Carolina	59,653	\$42.07	\$3.55	\$4.18	22.814	9.485	0.569	0.781
Corvallis-Benton County (OR) Public Library	Oregon State University	90,005	\$64.30	\$3.53	\$7.08	18.776	7.551	0.584	0.419
East Lansing (MI) Public Library	Michigan State University	48,579	\$73.44	\$35.08	\$4.69	6.285	4.023	0.453	0.147
Evanston (IL) Public Library	Northwestern University	74,486	\$92.43	\$11.07	\$9.15	14.384	8.445	0.519	0.253
Fayetteville (AR) Public Library	University of Arkansas	81,450	\$49.62	\$5.91	\$5.20	14.654	7.601	1.003	0.469
Iowa City (IA) Public Library	University of Iowa	78,214	\$77.83	\$9.27	\$9.14	17.039	10.564	0.786	0.365
Lawrence (KS) Public Library	University of Kansas	92,763	\$41.66	\$2.35	\$5.91	14.772	7.457	0.554	0.547
Manhattan (KS) Public Library	Kansas State University	56,078	\$54.27	\$4.33	\$7.39	14.125	6.466	0.552	0.390
Schlow Centre (PA) Region Library	Pennsylvania State University	92,096	\$27.02	\$5.84	\$4.21	9.236	2.971	0.313	0.463
Stillwater (OK) Public Library	Oklahoma State University	78,399	\$18.99	\$0.76	\$2.30	4.185	3.121	0.295	0.400
Urbana (IL) Free Library	University of Illinois	41,250	\$79.48	\$6.46	\$9.14	19.492	8.107	0.730	0.356

Based on total expenditures per capita, the APL ranks 12th out of the 14 institutions in our analysis, with \$29.45 per capita dedicated to the public library, \$29.83 below the median of \$59.28. However, even though the APL's total expenditures per capita is well below median, the APL's performance, as measured with the LPCI, has increased for four (4) consecutive years, from 0.253 in FY 2013, to 0.271 in FY 2014, to 0.334 in FY 2015, to 0.357 in FY 2016. This is true even as total funding per capita has trended downward, from \$31.11 in FY 2013 to \$28.61 in FY 2016, an 8% decrease over four (4) years.



In this context, the LPCI helps illustrate three (3) realities of the APL:

- The APL represents a good investment of community resources. Even as the APL has received below-median financial resources, the library consistently demonstrates a positive return on investment in terms of its collections, services, resources, and programs – even outperforming other public libraries with more resources.
- Even while funding has remained relatively level, demand for library services has continued to increase in recent years. Circulation of library materials has increased from 241,497 items in FY 2014 to 402,219 items in FY 2016. Similarly, program attendance has increased significantly, from 15,631 attendees in FY 2014 to 18,299 attendees in FY 2016.
- The APL could perform better in terms of key outputs (circulation, program attendance, and visitor count) if the APL had more resources. Even though library performance has increased as library funding has remained relatively unchanged from year to year, the APL could deliver more value to the community if the library had more resources for materials, programming, and personnel. This is especially relevant given Auburn's significant ongoing growth.

This analysis, coupled with the results of the 2016 Community Survey and Priority Investment Ranking (PIR) conducted by the ETC Institute and feedback obtained during stakeholder group interviews, provides a clearer understanding of what the APL's strategic community priorities should be over the next ten (10) to 20 years, as well as what resources will be necessary to address these needs.

8.2 Auburn Public Library Recommendations

8.21 Collection

Based on a subset of the LPCI analysis, the APL ranks 13th out of the 14 institutions in terms of Materials Expenditures per Capita, with \$2.46 per capita allocated for the library collection. This expenditure level falls \$4.04 below the median of \$6.50.

Additionally, the community needs survey facilitated by the ETC Institute identifies the following library services, resources, and facilities among the City of Auburn’s “high priorities” for investment:

- Print books for adults (PIR = 162).
- E-books and digital magazines (PIR = 110).
- DVDs (including movies and television series) (PIR = 106).
- Print books for children (PIR = 101).

Explanation/Justification:

- The APL should hire one (1) additional FTE as an Assistant Collection Development Librarian in Materials Management. This position would assist the Collection Development Librarian in the selection, acquisition, processing, and cataloging of new library materials. As a cost saving measure, this position could be filled by reclassifying an existing position or transferring an employee from an equivalent pay grade to fill this role.
- The APL should increase its local appropriation dedicated to materials to \$290,800 (an increase of \$134,994 over FY 2017), bringing the total budget for library materials closer to the per capita median for the LPCI sample. The increased allocation would be divided between those areas identified as highest priority, including print books for adults, e-books and digital magazines, DVDs, and print books for children. Funds would also be allocated to what have been identified as “medium priority” collection categories, including audiobooks on CD. To keep pace with increasing demand, the materials budget would increase by 3% to 5% each year commensurate with population growth.
- Total additional cost: \$134,994 annually beginning in FY 2018, with incremental increases to the materials budget as described above. Please note that this assumes the reclassification of an existing position, for a net zero change in personnel expenditures to fill the Assistant Collection Development Librarian position.

8.22 Literacy and Learning

The 2016 Community Survey identified the following library services, resources, and facilities among the COA’s “high priorities” for investment:

- Classes and lifelong learning activities for adults (PIR = 123).
- Cultural activities for adults (PIR = 108).

Explanation/Justification:

- The APL should hire one (1) additional FTE as a Programming Specialist in Engagement and Outreach, for a total of five (5) employees providing library programs, events, and classes.
- The APL should hire seasonal temporary part-time employees to assist with program preparation, setup, and takedown. The total annual cost for these positions would not exceed \$9,000.
- The APL should establish a formal budget line for programs, activities, and outreach, as currently no formal budget line exists. The total allocated budget for library programs, events, classes, and outreach activities would be \$80,000 for FY 2018, with a 3% to 5% increase each year commensurate with population growth.
- Total cost: \$185,304 annually beginning in FY 2018, with incremental increases to the programming budget as described above.

8.23 General Operations

In many cases, various duties have been tacked onto the job descriptions of professional staff. For example, the Collection Development Librarian is primarily responsible for managing the library's various collections, including ordering new materials and reviewing items for deselection. However, this position is also responsible for ordering office supplies and janitorial supplies, a secondary responsibility that, while important, can be quite time-consuming. As another example, the Digital Services Librarian is primarily responsible for maintaining the library's e-book collections and online databases, but this position is also responsible for designing many of the library's fliers, posters, and promotional materials. Again, while these secondary responsibilities are important, they also detract from an individual employee's ability to focus on their primary goals and can be detrimental to the overall effectiveness of the library.

Explanation/Justification:

- The APL should hire one (1) additional FTE as an Administrative Assistant. This position would be responsible for ordering office and janitorial supplies, administering payroll, managing requisitions and purchase orders, maintaining Library Board records and minutes, and other general administrative duties. This position would report to the Library Director and would support the operations of the entire library.
- The APL should establish a paid internship opportunity for a Graphic Designer. This position would be responsible for designing promotional materials for the library, including fliers, brochures, posters, and graphics for websites and social media, and would work in collaboration with the Director of Public Affairs.
- Total cost: \$57,472 annually beginning in FY 2018.

8.24 Development Plan

The clear majority (between 95% and 97%) of the APL's operating budget derives from a local appropriation by the COA. In addition, the APL receives financial support from the State of Alabama via the Alabama Public Library Service, from the federal government through the Library Services and Technology Act, and from the FOAPL through book sales and donations. In fact, in recent years, the FOAPL

have raised and provided funding for almost all the library's community events, such as the Summer Reading Program and One Book One Village.

As a 501(c)3 organization, the FOAPL represent a critical opportunity for increased library revenue. This is especially true given that the national library funding landscape has changed dramatically in recent years. Public libraries must explore new ways of delivering library services, resources, and programs to growing, dynamic communities. Private funding can be an effective supplement to (although not a replacement for) public funding and can allow libraries to innovate and grow in ways that most effectively address community needs.

Per the Aspen Institute's report *Rising to the Challenge: Re-Envisioning Public Libraries*,¹⁸

Sustainable funding means more than an annual operating budget to carry out the library's mission and deliver services annually. It also means providing a foundation for the long-term planning needed to continue to offer leading-edge learning opportunities, develop and maintain expertise, keep pace with changes in the knowledge and creative economies and invest in the future.

In addition:

Moving toward financial sustainability requires a willingness to explore new avenues for funding, including opening discussions about endowing public libraries in ways like other educational and cultural institutions. Libraries themselves must look at alternatives to traditional funding models, such as revenue or resource sharing, which require new or different skills that some libraries currently do not have.

Being an entirely volunteer organization, the FOAPL can currently provide only limited financial support. In fact, based on FY 2015 PLDS data for Total Income from Other Sources (i.e., funding from Friends groups, foundations, and other private sources, as opposed to local, state and federal government), the APL ranks 14th out of the 14 institutions in our analysis, receiving \$0.24 per capita from non-government sources (\$3.70 below median).

Explanation/Justification:

- COA, the Auburn Public Library Board (APLB), and the Friends of the Auburn Public Library should work with a nonprofit fundraising consultant to prepare a strategic organizational review of the APL's private fundraising efforts. This review would include the collection, analysis, and interpretation of data relevant to developing effective fundraising activities and would justify recommendations for changes that will strengthen the organization. This review will then lay the groundwork for a development plan that will strategically align private fundraising in support of specific library goals and objectives, especially those outlined in the Auburn Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Master Plan (APRC Master Plan).

¹⁸ *Rising to the Challenge: Re-Envisioning Public Libraries*: <https://csreports.aspeninstitute.org/documents/AspenLibrariesReport.pdf>

- Total cost: \$10,000 in FY 2018. Additional funds may be required in future years to follow through on the recommendations generated by this review.

8.25 Facilities

- Renovate the existing APL facility within its existing footprint to maximize its potential.
 - a. Address all ADA guideline compliance issues as part of the renovation including but not limited to the following: height of parking lot accessible parking signage, location of automatic door opener switch, accessible benches in entry area, slope of approach sidewalks, accessibility of book drop boxes, circulation desk height, restroom issues, clear floor space requirements at patron technology stations, aisle widths, percentage of accessible table seating, accessible work stations, and water fountain design (projection from wall).
 - b. Add amenities to the exterior including benches, trash and recycling containers, cigarette urns, bicycle racks, and bicycle repair station.
 - c. Develop exterior spaces to expand programming potential.
- Creation of amphitheater with seating for approximately 50 to serve as adjunct meeting space/performance space as well as a passive park for general community use.
- Develop one (1) full-service branch of approximately 10,000 SF in the vicinity of the Boykin Community Center.
 - a. Increase in Library budget to support expanded collections in keeping with survey results and addition of a branch facility.
 - b. Expansion of Library staff to support expanded lifelong learning programming in keeping with survey results.
 - c. Expansion of Library staff to support materials management responsibilities in line with expanded collections in keeping with survey results.
- Develop a second full-service branch library of approximately 15,000 - 20,000 SF to meet the COA's population growth needs.
 - a. Branch could include joint-use space with Parks and Recreation and might include a significant meeting/performance space component. Size of facility is designed to fall between the 0.75 and 1.00 square foot per capita contemporary standard. Branch would house a collection of approximately 45,000 – 50,000 items.
 - b. Increase in Library budget to support expanded collections in keeping with survey results and addition of new branch facility.
 - c. Expansion of Library staff to support expanded lifelong learning programming in keeping with survey results and new programming space available in the new branch.
 - d. Expansion of Library staff to support materials management responsibilities in line with expanded collections in keeping with survey results and the addition of a branch library.
- Develop a third full-service branch of approximately 15,000 square feet to meet the COA's ongoing population growth needs.
 - a. Again, the branch would include joint-use space with Parks and Recreation and might include a significant meeting/performance space component.
 - b. Size and timing of the second branch would be dependent on the speed of population growth.
 - c. Size of facility is designed to keep the COA between the 0.75 and 1.00 square foot per capita contemporary standard.

- d. Like the first added branch, the second branch would house a collection of approximately 45,000 – 50,000 items.



APPENDIX A: STAKEHOLDERS

Auburn Area Community Theatre

Auburn Arts Association

Auburn Beautification Council

Auburn Bike Committee

Auburn City Schools

Auburn Community Orchestra

Auburn Community Tennis Association

Auburn Day Care

Auburn - Opelika Tourism Bureau

Auburn Soccer Association

Auburn Tree Commission

Auburn University Athletic Department

Auburn University Swing Dance Association

Auburn Youth Football Association

Boys and Girls Club of Lee County

Bridge Club

Cemetery Advisory Board

Central Alabama Mountain Peddlers (CAMP)

City of Auburn Chamber of Commerce

Councilman Brent Beard

Councilman Clemon Byrd

Councilman Dick Phelan

Councilman Gene Dulaney

Councilman Ron Anders

Councilman Tommy Dawson

Councilwoman Beth Witten

Councilwoman Lynda Tremaine

Councilwoman Verlinda White

Dean Road Ceramics Studio

Downtown Merchants Association

Exceptional Foundation

Exceptional Outreach Organization

Friends of the Auburn Public Library

Genealogical Society of East Alabama

Greenspace Advisory Board

Homeschool Parents

Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art

Louise Kreher Forest Ecology Preserve and Nature Center

Lee County Humane Society

Lee County Literacy Coalition

Library Families with Young Children

Library Volunteers

Master Gardeners

Mayor William Ham, Jr.

Osher Lifelong Learners Institute (OLLI)

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Parks and Recreation Staff

Pickleball Players

Auburn Public Library Board

Raptors Basketball

Readers Book Club

School of Kinesiology, Auburn University

Senior Citizens, Various Groups

Swim Parents

Special Olympics of Lee County

Youth Lacrosse

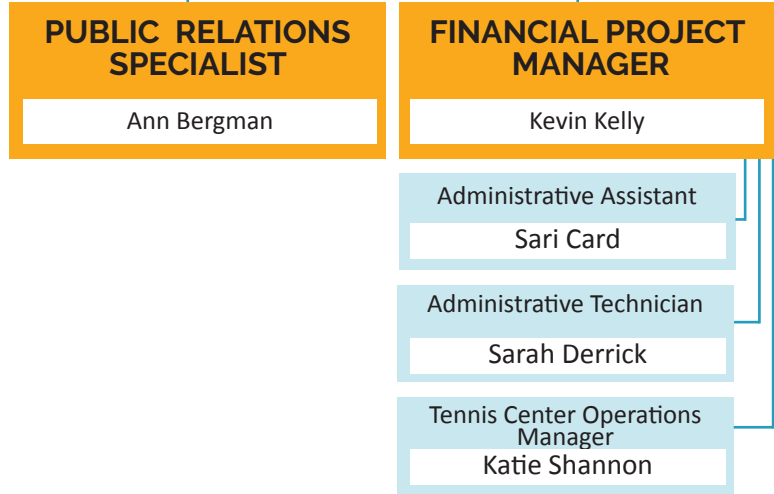
APPENDIX B: DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION CHART



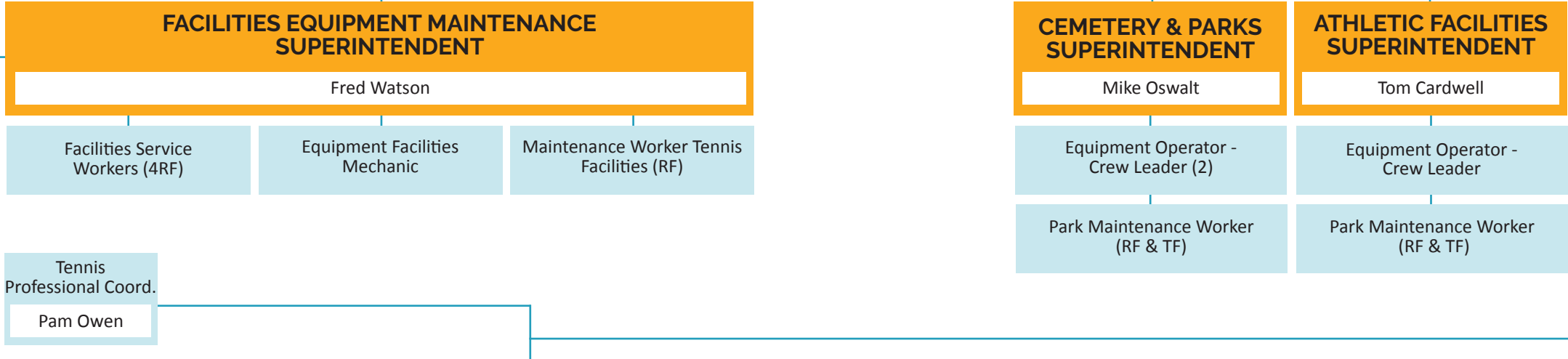


APRD
 Rebecca O. Richardson | Director of Parks and Recreation | (334) 501-2930

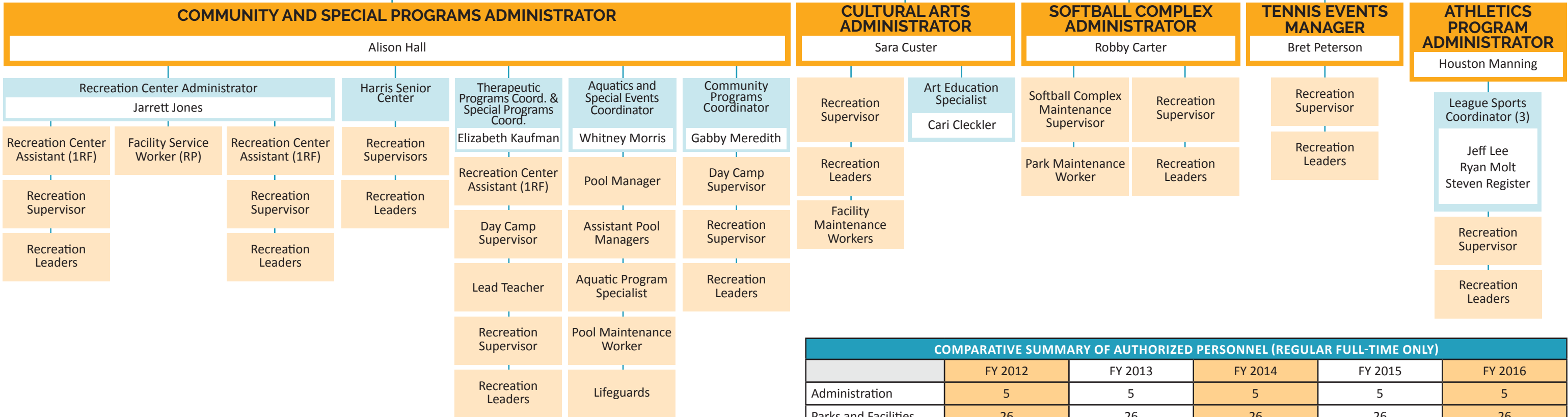
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION



PARKS AND FACILITIES DIVISION



LEISURE SERVICES DIVISION



COMPARATIVE SUMMARY OF AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL (REGULAR FULL-TIME ONLY)					
	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Administration	5	5	5	5	5
Parks and Facilities	26	26	26	26	26
Leisure Services	15	15	15	15	17
TOTAL	46	46	46	46	48

APPENDIX C: INVENTORY TABLES

The planning team conducted an on-site facilities inventory of all the existing facilities within each park in the APRD system. It is important that the team understand exactly what the city has as existing facilities when recommending what facilities are needed for the city. The chart identifies the facilities by each park independently with a total tally at the bottom. The existing facilities will be subtracted from the recommended facilities to establish a gap analysis of what is needed for a city the size of Auburn.



PARKS INVENTORY

PARK	ADDRESS	SIZE/ACREAGE	PARK MAP AT FACILITY	COMMUNITY CENTER	SENIOR CENTER	PAVILION	BATHROOMS	ACTIVITY/CLASS ROOMS	OFFICES	MEETING ROOMS	KITCHENS	FITNESS CENTER	GYM	BASKET-BALL	POOL	BASEBALL	SOFTBALL
280 Rest Area Park		8.61				2	Old Building										
Auburn Softball Complex	2560 S College St	23.17					Yes										5
Bo Cavin Fields	335 Airport Rd	-					Yes									4-200'	
Bowden Park	340 Bowden Dr	1.43					No										
Boykin Community Center	400 Boykin St	10.64		1	1		Yes (7)	15	6	2	2	1	1	1			
Dean Road Recreation Center	307 S Dean Rd	3.16					Yes (2)	3	10	1	1		1	1			
Drake Pool	653 Spencer Ave	0.96					Yes								1 big, 1 kids, outdoor, lit		
Duck Samford Baseball Park	334 Airport Rd	54.44					Yes (2)									2-200', 1-300', 1-315', 1-175'	
Dinius Park	-	4.92															
Felton Little Park	341 E Glenn Ave	8.29					Yes										3 (180' to fence)
Frank Brown Recreation Center	235 Opelika Rd	-		1	1		Yes (4 - 2 are locker rooms)	6 - 1 is game room		1		4 - 1 is weight room	1	2 outdoor 1 indoor			
Graham McTeer Park	200 Chewacla Dr	1.79					No										
Herbert and Grace Harris Center and Admin Office	425 Perry St	-			1		Yes (2)	3		2							
Hickory Dickory Park	1400 Hickory Lane	3.66				1	Yes										
Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center	222 E Drake Ave	-				1	Yes (3)	4	2	1	1						
Kiesel Park	520 Chadwick Ln	124.16	1			2	No										
Lake Wilmore Property	737 Ogletree Rd	208.38															
Margie Piper Bailey Park	910 Wrights Mill Rd	2.65					Yes										1 Backstop
MLK Park	190 Byrd St	8.75				1	Yes							Single Basketball goal			Backstop
Moore's Mill Park	900 E University Dr	2.14															
Nunn-Winston House	521 Chadwick Ln	-				1	Yes										
Salmon Park	1000 S Gay St	3.27					No										
Sam Harris Park	850 Foster St	30.14				1	Yes										
Samford Pool	465 Wrights Mill Rd	1.53					Yes								1 regular, 1 diving, 1 kid		
Shug Jordan Soccer Fields	950 Pride Ave	19.81					Yes										
Soccer Complex	2340 Wire Rd	74.27					Yes										
Society Hill Property	-	61.8															
Town Creek Park	1150 S Gay St	70.2				4	Yes					Outdoor exercise structures					
Westview Park	657 Westview Dr	18.12					No							2 outdoor (lit)			
Yarbrough Tennis Center	777 S. Yarbrough Farms Blvd	17.5					1 - office 1-indoor building										
PARKS TOTALS		771.8	1	2	4	13		27	18	7	4	5	3	7	5	11	8

PARKS INVENTORY (CONT.)

PARK	Soccer	Multi-Use Fields	Tennis	Field/Track	Trails	Bike Paths	Playground	Racquetball	Pickleball	Theater	Dog Park	Volleyball	Notes
280 Rest Area Park													
Auburn Softball Complex							1 (5-12 yrs)						
Bo Cavin Fields													
Bowden Park							1 swingset, 1 (5-12 yr), climbing dome						
Boykin Community Center							2			1			The center is made up of two buildings, three playgrounds, and outdoor basketball court. There is an auditorium with a stage. There are currently vacant classrooms (208, 212). There are Boys and Girls Club facilities throughout the buildings along with three other non-profits.
Dean Road Recreation Center													Auburn Parks and Rec offices at this facility. Ceramics course work and equipment is available. The facility has one main building and one workshop.
Drake Pool													One standard size pool and one baby pool.
Duck Samford Baseball Park		2		1/4 Mile			2 (2-5 yrs)						10 baseball/softball/t-ball fields, two small playgrounds, and a paved and gravel trail around two multi-use fields that have four backstops.
Dinius Park													
Felton Little Park							1 (2-5 yrs) 1 (5-12 yrs) 1 Swingsets						3 - 180' softball/t-ball fields, small playground, a few picnic tables and benches. Small parking area. Small area with backstop for warm-up plus batting cages.
Frank Brown Recreation Center								1 (40'x20')	4 - new				
Graham McTeer Park													Sidewalk and a small bench-like structure.
Herbert and Grace Harris Center and Admin Offices													
Hickory Dickory Park							1 (2-5 yrs) 1 (5-12 yrs) 2 Swingsets						Has large playground, areas for older children, and several picnic tables. Access is from the street behind and Shug Jordan.
Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center										1			There is a theater area but no stage in the large activity room/multipurpose space.
Kiesel Park					2.25 Mi Paved 2.25 Mi Nature						Large		Large off-leash dog area and separate dog training/obstacle area.
Lake Wilmore Property						2 Mi Mtn Bike							
Margie Piper Bailey Park		1											Large multipurpose field and one backstop.
MLK Park		Fenced-in Field					1						Large baseball/multi-use field. Short gravel path that has a trail through the woods to the playground. Pavilion
Moore's Mill Park												1	
Nunn-Winston House													
Salmon Park													A couple of benches, picnic tables, and a circular cement bench
Sam Harris Park					.16 Mi Paved .16 Mi Nature		1 Small (2-5 yrs)						Includes a small playground, pavilion, short walking trail, several picnic tables and benches. Has a lot of unused greenspace. Property backs up to practice soccer fields
Samford Pool													One normal swimming pool plus diving board pool and kid pool
Shug Jordan Soccer Fields	2.5	2.5											As stated in stakeholder interviews, the fields are in poor condition and very lumpy. Parking is a gravel lot.
Soccer Complex	7						1 (5-12 yrs)						
Society Hill Property													
Town Creek Park					1.3 Mi Gravel		2 (2-5 yrs)				Small		Includes a trail, small playground, multiple pavilions, and an off-leash dog park.
Westview Park													Two outdoor basketball courts. Has a lot of unused greenspace.
Yarbrough Tennis Center			12 Hard 16 Clay 6 In-door										Typically at full capacity in the afternoons. The University has offices and locker rooms in the indoor facility. The indoor facility is only used when it is raining or cold outside. Includes a trainer room (only for University events), storage room, and P.A. system room in the indoor facility. Desks, store, bathrooms are in the office building.
PARKS TOTALS	9.5	6.5	34	.25 Mi	6.12 Mi	2 Mi	16	1	4	2	2	1	

AUBURN PARKS AND GREENSPACE INVENTORY, BY ACRES

CURRENT PROPERTIES CLASSIFIED AS PARKLAND	ACRES
Auburn Park and Recreation Main Campus: Frank Brown, Jan Dempsey, Harris Center	7.48
Auburn Softball Complex	23.70
Boykin Community Center	10.64
Bowden Park	1.43
Dean Road Recreation Center	3.16
Dekalb Street Park	9.45
Dinius Park	12.79
Drake Pool	0.96
Drake Middle School Gym	3.86
Duck Samford Park	54.44
Felton Little Park	8.29
Graham McTeer Park	1.79
Hickory Dickory Park	3.66
Margie Piper Bailey Park	2.65
MLK Park	8.75
Moore's Mill Park	2.14
Pick Elementary School Multipurpose Field	1.50
Salmon Park	3.27
Sam Harris Park	30.14
Samford Avenue Tennis Center (maintained by APRD under a 99 year lease with ACS beginning in 1976)	1.94
Samford Pool	1.53
Samford Pool Site - Picnic Area (Nearby)	2.70
Shug Jordan Soccer Fields	19.81
Soccer Complex	74.27
Town Creek Park	70.20
Westview Park	18.12
Yarbrough Tennis Center; City of Auburn/Auburn University	17.50
TOTALS	396.17

CURRENT PROPERTIES CLASSIFIED AS GREENSPACE	ACRES	STATUS
Baptist Hill Cemetery	3.65	Open to Public
Kiesel Park (Largest Park)	124.16	Open to Public
Lake Ogletree Reservoir	831.91	Open to Public
Lake Wilmore Property	208.38	Open to Public
Louise Kreher Ecology Forest Preserve and Nature Center (owned by AU)	116.11	Open to Public
Memorial Park Cemetery	16.90	Open to Public
North Auburn Park (280 Rest Stop)	8.61	Open to Public
Pine Hill Cemetery	6.20	Open to Public
Society Hill Road	61.80	Potential for Development
Town Creek Park (Cemetery)	70.20	Open to Public
Westview Park (Cemetery)	18.12	Open to Public
Richland - Yarbrough Site	159.00	Potential for Development
Unspecified Acres Managed as Open Space/Greenspace**	259.19	Varies
TOTALS	1872.75	

*Note: Chewacla State Park is an asset to the community. However, it does not meet the definition of greenspace and was, therefore, excluded from greenspace calculations.

	Benchmark 8.5 Acres/1,000		
	2016	2021	2026
# Acres	63,460.00	68,536.00	72,979.00
697.93	539.41	582.56	620.32
Surplus	+ 158.52	+ 115.37	+ 77.61

	Benchmark 9.2 Acres/1,000		
	2016	2021	2026
# Acres	63,460.00	68,536.00	72,979.00
298.81	583.83	630.53	671.41
Deficit	- 285.02	- 331.72	- 372.60

**UNSPECIFIED ACRES MANAGED AS OPEN SPACE/ GREENSPACE	ACRES	CATEGORY
Asheton Park Property	11.90	Open Space
Auburn Tech Park North (Lake)	8.70	Industrial Board Property
Auburn Tech Park South (Lake)	14.30	Industrial Board Property
Boy Scout Hut	2.30	COA owns land, Scouts own hut
Forestdale Drive Lot	0.9	Neighborhood Park
Hughston Donation (Richland Road)	65	Open Space
Janet Drive Lot	2	Open Space
Longleaf Properties	33.80	Open Space
O'steen (near Yarbrough)	4	Undesignated
Parkerson Mill Creek (North of Veterans and South of Longleaf)	62.79	Open Space
Ross Street Lot	0.80	Open Space
Stoker Street Lot	2	Open Space
Windward Property	2.70	Open Space
Properties with Full Access Easement for Trail/Recreation Use	20	Open Space
TOTALS	231.19	

FACILITIES INVENTORY - SCHOOLS

PARK	ADDRESS	SIZE/ACREAGE	PAVILION	GYM	BASEBALL	FOOTBALL	MULTI-USE FIELDS	TENNIS	FIELD/TRACK	PLAYGROUND
Auburn Early Education Center	721 E University Dr	14.38								1
Auburn High School (Old)	405 S Dean Rd	35.73		2	1	1	2		.25 Mi	
Auburn Jr. High School	332 E Samford Ave	13.74		2			1			
Cary Woods Elementary School	715 Sanders St	12.99					1			
Dean Road Elementary School	335 S Dean Rd	15.1								
Drake Middle School	655 Spencer Ave	20.53		1			1			
Duck Samford Stadium	1600 E University Dr	5.34				1			.25 Mi	
Ogletree Elementary School	737 Ogletree Rd	19.6					1 (Backstop)			
Performing Arts Center	405 S Dean Rd		1							
Pick Elementary School	1320 N College St	24.89					1			
Richland Elementary School	770 Yarbrough Farms Blvd	13.27					1			1
Samford Ave Tennis Center	901 E Samford Ave	2.12						6 Hard		
Wrights Mill Elementary School	807 Wrights Mill Rd	13.35								
Yarbrough Elementary School	1555 N Donahue Dr	31.91								
SCHOOLS TOTALS		323.05	1	5	1	2	8	6	.5 Mi	2

FACILITIES INVENTORY - AUBURN UNIVERSITY

PARK	ADDRESS	SIZE/ACREAGE	PAVILION	POOL	FOOTBALL	MULTI-USE FIELDS	TENNIS	PAVED TRAILS	NATURE TRAILS
Campus Rec Center	601 Heisman Dr								
Campus Tennis Courts	770 Yarbrough Farms Blvd	2.18					13		
Campus Track (Old Husell)	530 Biggio Dr	4.12							
Intramural Fields	601 Heisman Dr	14.59				6			
James E Martin Aquatic Center	664 Biggio Dr			1					
Jordan Hare Stadium	251 S Donahue Dr				1				
Jule Collins Museum of Fine Arts	901 S College St	23.35						0.4 Mi	
Kreher Preserve and Nature Center	222 N College St	116.11							5 Mi
Performing Arts Center (Proposed)	-		1						
Student Activity Building	456 Biggio Dr								
Telfair Peet Theater	350 W Samford Ave		1						
AUBURN UNIVERSITY TOTALS		160.35	2	1	1	6	13	0.4 Mi	5 Mi

FACILITIES INVENTORY - OTHER

PARK	ADDRESS	SIZE/ACREAGE	PAVILION	ACTIVITY ROOMS	OFFICES	MEETING ROOM	POOL	TENNIS	PAVED TRAILS	BIKE PATHS
Auburn Public Library	749 E Thach Ave	3.62				1				
Baptist Hill Cemetery	S Dean Road	3.65								
Charlotte & Curtis Ward Bike Path	23260 Wrights Mill Road								1.5 Mi	1.5 Mi
Chewacla State Park	124 Shell Toomer Pkwy	547.52								1
Indian Pines Golf Course	900 Country Club Dr	102.4						4 Hard		
Memorial Park Cemetery	1000 E Samford Ave	16.9							.66 Mi	
Opelika Sportsplex	1001 Andrews Rd, Opelika, AL	76.18					1			
Pine Hill Cemetery	Hare Ave	6.2							.40 Mi	
Town Creek Cemetery	S. Gay Street	23.25	1						.80 Mi	
Westview Cemetery	657 Westview Dr	17.3							.25 Mi	
OTHERS TOTALS		797.02	1	8	2	1	1	4	3.61 Mi	2

FACILITIES INVENTORY - BUILDINGS

FACILITY	SIZE/SQ FT	USE
Boykin Community Center	42,500	Two Daycares, Senior Space, Boys & Girls Club, Fitness, and Auditorium
	16,500	Gym and Classrooms for Boys and Girls Club
Dean Road Recreation Center	15,500	Gym, Classroom, Ceramics, Offices
Duck Samford Park	6,000	Concessions, Bathrooms, Scoreboard Operators
	3,600	Concessions, Bathrooms, Scoreboard Operators
	2,000	Concessions, Bathrooms
	2,000	Maintenance
Felton Little Park	3,200	Concessions, Bathrooms, Scoreboard Operators
	1,500	Restrooms, Storage
Frank Brown Recreation Center	25,000	Gymnasium, Fitness Rooms, Activity Rooms
Harris Senior Center	10,000	Meeting Rooms, Offices, Computer Cafe
Hickory Dickory Park	1,000	Restrooms
Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center	10,000	Multipurpose Performance Space, Classrooms, Gallery
Kiesel Park	7,500	Nunn Winston House, Pavilion
Library	35,000	Library, Computer Lab, Classrooms
Margie Piper Bailey Park	1,500	Restrooms
MLK Park	1,200	Restrooms
Sam Harris Park	500	Restrooms
Samford Pool	4,000	Restrooms, Showers, Concessions
Shug Jordan Soccer Fields	1,700	Concessions, Bathrooms
Soccer Complex	7,000	Concessions, Bathrooms, Meeting Room
Softball Complex	3,000	Concessions, Bathrooms, Scoreboard Operators
Town Creek Park	1,000	Pavilion, Restrooms
Yarbrough Tennis Center	6,000	Office, Bathrooms, Showers
	47,000	Offices, Bathrooms, Indoor Courts
BUILDINGS TOTALS	254,200	



PROGRAMS INVENTORY

PROGRAM	CITY OF AUBURN		OTHER AGENCIES										
	Parks and Recreation Staff	Contract Instructor	Auburn Advisory Board	Auburn Area Community Theater	Auburn Arts Association	Auburn Community Tennis Association	Auburn Dixie Baseball	Auburn Soccer Association	Auburn Youth Football Association	Auburn Youth Lacrosse Club	I am My Brother's Keeper	Kreher Preserve	Other
ARTS AND CULTURAL													
10th Annual Holiday Art Sale	X				X								
18th Annual Juried Art Exhibition	X				X								
Annual Graphic Design Juried Exhibition	X				X								
Auburn Photo Art (15+)	X												
Forty 2 Fifty Plus	X				X								
Photo Invitational	X				X								
Photo XVIII Juried Exhibition	X				X								
Spring Photography Show	X				X								
Summer Invitational 2016	X				X								
The September Show: Walkabout	X				X								
Winter Invitational, Paint	X				X								
Artworks - Preschool Intro to Movement & Art (3-5)	X				X								
Chinese Painting & Calligraphy for the Young Artist (8-15)	X	X											
Creative Kids (4-6)	X	X											
Kids Can Draw-Expressionism (8-12)	X	X											
Kids Can Draw-People (8-12)	X	X											
Kids Can Draw-various topics (8-12)	X	X											
Kids Can Paint-various topics (8-12)	X	X											
Origami (6-10)	X	X											
Private & Semi-Private Art Lessons (6-adult)	X	X											
Teens Can Draw (various topics) (11-18)	X	X											
Teens Can Draw-Fantasy Characters (12-17)	X	X											
Anime Drawing: Chiba Manga (8-12)	X	X											
Anime Drawing: Fantasy Manga (12-17)	X	X											
Anime Drawing: Manga People (12-17)	X	X											
Drawing and Painting (6-8))	X	X											
Illustration Geeks Fan Club (12-17)	X	X											
Kids Can Paint: Impressionism (8-12)	X	X											
Sketching With Pencil (8-12)	X	X											
Adventures in Writing: Folktales (8-12)	X	X											
Knitting for Beginners (8-14)	X	X											
Write Your Own Adventure (8-12)	X	X											
Summer Arts Program:Acrylic Painting(10-14)	X	X											
Summer Arts Program-As You See It (10-14)	X	X											
Summer Arts Program-Chinese Painting, Calligraphy, Origami and Learn Chinese (10-14)	X	X											
Summer Arts Program-Creative Kids (7-10)	X	X											
Summer Arts Program-People You Know (10-14)	X	X											
Adult Acrylic Studio	X	X											
Adult Drawing Studio	X	X											
Adult Painting Studio	X	X											

Program offered in: ● Winter ● Spring ● Summer ● Fall

PROGRAMS INVENTORY (CONT.)

PROGRAM	CITY OF AUBURN		OTHER AGENCIES										
	Parks and Recreation Staff	Contract Instructor	Auburn Advisory Board	Auburn Area Community Theater	Auburn Arts Association	Auburn Community Tennis Association	Auburn Dixie Baseball	Auburn Soccer Association	Auburn Youth Football Association	Auburn Youth Lacrosse Club	I am My Brother's Keeper	Kreher Preserve	Other
Advanced Studio (15+)	X				X								
Artworks - Not Just Another Art Class (adults)	X	X											
Beginning and Intermediate Painting (adults)	X				X								
Come Knit With Us	X												
Jewelry Making (adults)	X	X											
Open Studio (15+)	X												
Open Studio Night (adults)	X												
Your Fun Knitting & Crafting Projects	X												
Zentangle - Basics (adult)	X	X											
Zentangle - Beyond the Basics (adult)	X	X											
Adult Beginning Wheel Throwing	X		X										
Artists' Style, in Clay (7-14)	X	X											
Beginner Mug Makin' for Adults (adults)	X		X										
By the Book:Animal Antics (4-6)	X	X											
Continental Drift Clay Creations (7-12)	X	X											
Fantasy in Clay (7-12)	X	X											
Flowers that Bloom (4-6)	X	X											
Give it a Whirl Section 1 (16+)	X	X											
Give it a Whirl Section 2 (16+)	X	X											
Hand Building as an Independent Study (adults)	X	X											
Handbuilt Sculpture Workshop (adults)	X	X											
Help Bowl Over Hunger (8-14)	X	X											
Independent Studio I for Adults	X		X										
Next Steps (adults)	X	X											
Private Hand Building Lessons (adults)	X	X											
Private Throwing Lessons (adults)	X	X											
Under the Sea (7-12)	X												
Welcoming Winter Clay Class (4-6)	X												
Wheel Thrown Pottery for the Young Potter (12-17)	X	X											
Wild Things, Made from Clay (4-6)	X	X											
Advanced Lindy Hop (Level 3) (13+)	X	X											
Advanced Square Dancing (15+)	X												
Argentine Tango Practice (16+)	X												
Argentine Tango-Beginner/Advanced Beginner Class (Adult)	X	X											
Argentine Tango-Intermediate/Advanced Class (Adult)	X	X											
Auburn Danceworks Pre-Ballet (5-6) (APRD & Auburn Danceworks)	X												X
Auburn Danceworks Pre-school Ballet (3-4) (APRD & Auburn Danceworks)	X												X
Ballet for Adults with Ballet Intermezzo	X	X											
Beginner Lindy Hop (13+)	X	X											
Beginning Ballroom Dance (14+)	X	X											
Dance at Your Wedding Class	X	X											

Program offered in: ● Winter ● Spring ● Summer ● Fall

PROGRAMS INVENTORY (CONT.)

PROGRAM	CITY OF AUBURN		OTHER AGENCIES										
	Parks and Recreation Staff	Contract Instructor	Auburn Advisory Board	Auburn Area Community Theater	Auburn Arts Association	Auburn Community Tennis Association	Auburn Dixie Baseball	Auburn Soccer Association	Auburn Youth Football Association	Auburn Youth Lacrosse Club	I am My Brother's Keeper	Kreher Preserve	Other
Friday Night Swing with AUSDA (APRD & AUSDA) (Teen-Adult)	X												X
IAMBK Creative Dance I (6-10)	X										X		
IAMBK Creative Dance II (11-18)	X										X		
Intermediate Lindy Hop (13+)	X	X											
Intermediate Village Rounds (Adult)	X												
Learn to Round Dance (Adult)	X	X											
Lindy Wednesday (13+)	X												
Line Dance with the Village Stompers (Adult)	X												
Square and Line Dance/Auburn Allemanders (15+)	X	X											X
Square Dance with the Village Squares (APRD & Village Squares) (16+)	X	X											X
Square Dance/Auburn Allemanders (APRD & Auburn Allemanders) (15+)	X												X
Adult Rhythm Guitar Lessons	X	X											
AU Music Project (3rd-5th)(APR & AU)	X												X
Auburn Univ String Class (3-6)	X	X											X
B Flat Clarinet Ensemble (8-17)	X	X											
Clarinet Ensemble (9-18)	X	X											
Joy's Voice/Piano Studio (5+)	X	X											
Mommy and Me Music Class (infant-4)	X	X											
Private Guitar Lessons (12+)	X	X											
Private Instrument Lessons/Masterclass (4th-12th)	X	X											
Rhythm Guitaring (8-18)	X	X											
Act I (5-8)	X			X									
Act II (9-12)	X			X									
Act III (teens)	X			X									
Elect Performing Arts Drama Class (10-18)	X									X			
Set Design and Production (13-18)	X			X									
AACT "Proof" - auditions (adult)	X			X									
AACT "Proof" - performance	X			X									
AACT Fall Jr Show-Tut-Tut - auditions (5-12)	X			X									
AACT Fall Jr Show-Tut-Tut - performance	X			X									
AACT: An Evening of Summer Shorts Performance	X			X									
Monty Python's Spamalot - auditions (adult)	X			X									
Peter Pan - auditions (12-18)	X			X									
Peter Pan - performance	X			X									
The Red Velvet Cake War - auditions (Adults)	X			X									
The Red Velvet Cake War - performance	X			X									
Art Camp: Art for Young Children (4-6)	X				X								
Art Camp: Visual Arts Workshop for Children (7-12)	X				X								
Camp: Circus Arts	X	X											
Camp: Lights! Camera! Action! Movie Making Camp (8-12)	X	X											

Program offered in: ● Winter ● Spring ● Summer ● Fall

PROGRAMS INVENTORY (CONT.)

PROGRAM	CITY OF AUBURN		OTHER AGENCIES										
	Parks and Recreation Staff	Contract Instructor	Auburn Advisory Board	Auburn Area Community Theater	Auburn Arts Association	Auburn Community Tennis Association	Auburn Dixie Baseball	Auburn Soccer Association	Auburn Youth Football Association	Auburn Youth Lacrosse Club	I am My Brother's Keeper	Kreher Preserve	Other
Camp: Mommy & Me Music & Art (2-3)	X				X								
Camp: Mommy & Me Music & Art (4-5)	X				X								
Camp: Musical Theatre I, II, III (5-18)	X			X									
Camp: Unicycle Camp	X	X											
Camp:AACT Summer Intensive (5-18)	X			X									
Dance Camp: Pirates and Princesses Dance Theatre (4-8) (APRD & Auburn Danceworks)	X												X
AQUATICS													
American Red Cross Lifeguard Training	X	X											
Auburn Diving (APR & Auburn Diving)	X	X											X
Auburn Dragonflies Swim Team	X												
Early Bird Recreation Swim	X												
End of Summer Luau & Movie	X												
Float-N-Movie	X												
Friday Night Splash	X												
Private Swim Lessons	X	X											
SCUBA (12+)(APR & Adventure Sports)	X	X											X
Swim Lessons - all ages/levels	X												
Swim Team (APR & Auburn Aquatics)	X												X
Water Workout for Women (16+)	X	X											
NATURE, OPEN SPACE, AND OUTDOORS - THROUGH THE KREHER NATURE PRESERVE AND AUBURN UNIVERSITY													
Awesome Amphibians & Reptiles (with Auburn Opelika Tourism Bureau)	X											X	X
Birthday Parties	X											X	
Camp: Entomology Camp (9-18)	X											X	
Creepy Wonderful Critters "Spiders"	X											X	
Discovery Hikes & Nature Walks-various topics	X											X	
Discovery Hikes (5-12)	X											X	
Elements, Art in Nature (adults)	X											X	
Fall Family Fun Day at the Kreher Preserve & Nature Center	X											X	
Fall Forest Friends (3-4)	X											X	
Forest Friends Pre-School Spring Session	X											X	
Go Native Plant Workshop	X											X	
Ho! Ho! Ho! Hike (children)	X											X	
Hunger Games Survival Camp (10-13)	X											X	
Nature Walks	X											X	
Nature's Explorers (for homeschoolers)	X											X	
Science on Saturday	X											X	
Science on Saturdays (5+)	X											X	
S'More Fun with Mom	X											X	
Spring Break Camp (6-12)	X											X	
Summer Ecology Camps(7-13)	X											X	

Program offered in: ● Winter ● Spring ● Summer ● Fall

PROGRAMS INVENTORY (CONT.)

PROGRAM	CITY OF AUBURN		OTHER AGENCIES										
	Parks and Recreation Staff	Contract Instructor	Auburn Advisory Board	Auburn Area Community Theater	Auburn Arts Association	Auburn Community Tennis Association	Auburn Dixie Baseball	Auburn Soccer Association	Auburn Youth Football Association	Auburn Youth Lacrosse Club	I am My Brother's Keeper	Kreher Preserve	Other
Summer Forest Friends (3-4)	X											X	
The Unhuggables	X											X	
RECREATION, HEALTH, AND FITNESS													
Aikido (13+)	X	X											
Auburn Community Tennis Assoc Grand Slam Event	X					X							
Auburn Stride Walkers	X												
Bounce Physical Fitness Class (10+)	X										X		
Camp Kaleidoscope (6-12)	X												
Circuit Style Boot Camp (16+)	X	X											
Couch to 5K Beginning Running (8+)	X	X											
Fitness Training (adults)	X	X											
Frank Brown Recreation Center Racquetball Tournament	X												
Fuel Your Fitness 6 Wk Challenge (16+)	X	X											
Fuel Your Fitness Method: 12 Wk Challenge (16+)	X	X											
Guided Mindful Meditation (Adults)	X	X											
Happy Losers Weight Loss Program (Adults)	X	X											
Jeet Kune Do (Adults)	X	X											
Junior Camp Counselor Program (13-15)	X												
Kids Play (5-11)	X	X											
Maculele Capoeira (10+)	X	X											
Personal Training (13+)	X	X											
Pilates (16+)	X	X											
PIYO (16+)	X	X											
Small Fry Camp (3-5)	X												
Tai-Chi for Health (Adults)	X	X											
Tai-Chi for Health Yang Simplified 24 and More (Adults)	X	X											
Tai-Chi: Exploring Yang Style Long (Adults)	X	X											
Tai-Chi:Yang Simplified 24 (Adults)	X	X											
Traditional Yang Tai Chi (Adults)	X	X											
Turbo Kick (16+)	X	X											
Warrior Strength Circuit (Adults)	X	X											
X-Bar Fitness Boot Camp (16+)	X	X											
Xbar Fitness for Adults	X	X											
XBar Fitness for Youth (7-15)	X	X											
Xbar Fitness Preview Party (16+)	X												
Yoga Shine (12+)	X	X											
Yoshukai Karate - Adults	X	X											
Yoshukai Karate - Children's Class (5-12)	X	X											
Zumba with Allison (16+)	X	X											
SENIORS													
Community Taiji Qigong at Town Creek Park (APRD & Auburn Tai-Chi)	X												X

Program offered in: ● Winter ● Spring ● Summer ● Fall

PROGRAMS INVENTORY (CONT.)

PROGRAM	CITY OF AUBURN		OTHER AGENCIES										
	Parks and Recreation Staff	Contract Instructor	Auburn Advisory Board	Auburn Area Community Theater	Auburn Arts Association	Auburn Community Tennis Association	Auburn Dixie Baseball	Auburn Soccer Association	Auburn Youth Football Association	Auburn Youth Lacrosse Club	I am My Brother's Keeper	Kreher Preserve	Other
Functional Fitness	X	X											
Gentle Vinyasa Yoga Flow	X												
Guided Mindful Meditation	X	X											
Health and Healing Through Mindful Movement	X	X											
Tai-Chi for Health and Fall Prevention	X												
Xbar Fitness for 50+	X	X											
Yin Yoga for Health and Happiness	X	X											
Zumba Gold	X												
Zumba Gold for Wheelchair/Walker Users	X												
50+ Chinese Painting Ongoing Workshop	X	X											
AARP Tax Aide	X												X
Artworks-Not Just Another Art Class	X				X								
Creative Writing for Anyone	X	X											
Masters Games teams (APRD & Masters Games of Alabama)	X												X
Money Smart: Financial Education for Adults (APRD & BBVA Compass)	X												X
Not Your High School English Class	X	X											
"Krewe of the Timeless" Mardi Gras Party	X		X										
AU Men's Basketball v. Mercer	X		X										
Bunco Tournament	X												
Drop-in Free Play and Fellowship	X												
Food for Thought - a 50+ Breakfast Speaker Series (APRD & other community partners)	X												X
Lunch & Bingo	X												
Movie Night at the Harris Center	X		X										
Munch and Mingle Lunch Club	X												
Read and Reflect: Book Club for Seniors (APRD & Auburn Library)	X												X
Wednesday Morning Bridge Club	X												
White Elephant Gift Exchange and Holiday Lunch	X												
50+ Field Trips for Fall (6 trips to various locations in AL & GA)	X		X										
50+ Field Trips for Spring (6 trips to various locations in AL & GA)	X		X										
50+ Field Trips for Summer (6 trips to various locations in AL & GA)	X		X										
50+ Winter Field Trips (8 trips to various locations in AL & GA)	X		X										
Get Out and Go Local Advent	X		X										
50+ Tennis Clinic and Match Play	X												
Book and Media Swap	X												
Circuits for Seniors	X	X											
Cornhole Tournament and Cookout	X												
Easter Egg Hunt and Lunch	X		X										
Halloween Hoopla and Costume Contest	X		X										
Hand and Foot Card Club	X												
How Souper is Your Soup? Chili and Soup Cookoff	X												

Program offered in: ● Winter ● Spring ● Summer ● Fall

PROGRAMS INVENTORY (CONT.)

PROGRAM	CITY OF AUBURN				OTHER AGENCIES								
	Parks and Recreation Staff	Contract Instructor	Auburn Advisory Board	Auburn Area Community Theater	Auburn Arts Association	Auburn Community Tennis Association	Auburn Dixie Baseball	Auburn Soccer Association	Auburn Youth Football Association	Auburn Youth Lacrosse Club	I am My Brother's Keeper	Kreher Preserve	Other
iPhone/iPad Tech Camp	X	X											
Mother's Day Brunch Buffet	X												
The Brain Games	X		X										
The Crafty Crew	X		X										
SPORTS AND ATHLETICS													
Academy of Starz Basketball Training (9-11)	X	X											
High School Basketball	X												
Youth Basketball	X												
Youth Free-Play Basketball (7-15)	X												
Adult League Softball	X												
Dixie Boys Baseball (13-14)	X						X						
Dixie Majors Baseball (15-19)	X						X						
Dixie Softball (7-12)	X						X						
Dixie Youth Baseball/T-Ball (5-12)	X						X						
Start Smart Baseball (4 yrs)	X												
Adult Basketball	X		X										
Adult Kickball League	X												
Adult Open Soccer League	X		X										
Auburn Youth Lacrosse Club (6-18)	X									X			
Pickleball Private Lessons (12+)	X	X											
Pickleball (adults)	X	X											
Pickleball -Organized Open-Play (12+)	X												
Youth and High School Lacrosse League (6-18)	X									X			
Youth Recreational Soccer Leagues (4-15)	X							X					
ACTA First Friday Night Tennis Mixers (adults)	X					X							
Drills, Skills, & Thrills (adults)	X												
Drive Time Tennis (adults)	X												
Future Stars Tennis (8-10)	X												
Half Volleys Tennis (5-7)	X												
High School Tennis (14-18)	X												
Match Play (9-18)	X												
Morning Match Play (adults)	X												
Munchkins Tennis (3-4)	X												
Players Tennis (11-18)	X												
Private Tennis Instructor (APRD & Yarbrough Tennis Center)	X	X											X
Tots Tennis and Fitness (2-3)	X												
Tuesday Tennis Clinic (Adults)	X												
Wednesday Morning Beginners Play Day (APRD & Yarbrough Tennis Center Adults)	X												X
2016 Youth Track	X		X										
2016 Youth Volleyball League (5th-10th)	X		X										X

Program offered in: ● Winter ● Spring ● Summer ● Fall

PROGRAMS INVENTORY (CONT.)

PROGRAM	CITY OF AUBURN		OTHER AGENCIES										
	Parks and Recreation Staff	Contract Instructor	Auburn Advisory Board	Auburn Area Community Theater	Auburn Arts Association	Auburn Community Tennis Association	Auburn Dixie Baseball	Auburn Soccer Association	Auburn Youth Football Association	Auburn Youth Lacrosse Club	I am My Brother's Keeper	Kreher Preserve	Other
Auburn Youth Wrestling Program (APRD & Auburn Takedown)	X												X
Golf Lessons (APR & Indian Pines Golf Course)	X	X											X
Intermediate/Advanced Co-ed Volleyball (Adult)	X												
APRD Sports Camp (9-12)	X												
ASA Advanced Soccer Camp (10-18)	X							X					
ASA Fitness & Skillz Camp (10-18)	X							X					
ASA Goalkeeper Soccer Camp (10-18)	X							X					
ASA Junior Soccer Camp (9-13)	X							X					
ASA Rising Tiger Soccer Camp (6-8)	X							X					
ASA Thunder Tykes Camp (4-5)	X							X					
Tennis Camp (6+) (APRD & TNI Tennis)	X												X
Adult Coed Kickball	X												
Auburn Youth Tackle Football (8-12) (APRD & Auburn Youth Tackle Association)	X								X				
Cheerleading (1st-6th)	X		X										
Fall Baseball-12-13 Year Olds	X												
Fall Baseball-Youth (6-11)	X												
Fall Instructional Camp-Baseball (7-12) (APRD & Sports Academy)	X												X
Flag Football (6-7)	X												
Girls Fall Softball (7-15)	X												
SPECIAL NEEDS AND THERAPEUTICS													
Therapeutics-Aquatics	X												
Therapeutics-Bingo and Fitness (12+)	X												
Therapeutics-Bingo and Fitness (6-12)	X												
Therapeutics-Bowling	X												
Therapeutics-Drama Class (12+)	X												
Therapeutics-Easter Egg Hunt & Cookout	X												X
Therapeutics-Exploring Art (6+)	X												
Therapeutics-Family Fitness Challenge (APRD & AU Pediatric Movement & Physical Activity Lab)	X												X
Therapeutics-Game Nights	X												
Therapeutics-Pediatric Movement & Physical Activity Lab at AU (APRD & AU) (6+)	X												X
Therapeutics-Peers for Teens (13-18)	X												
Therapeutics-Play Group (6-12)	X												
Therapeutics-Softball	X												
Therapeutics-Special Olympics Teams (8+)	X												
Therapeutics-Track & Field	X												
Abilities Unlimited Summer Camp (13-22) (APRD & AU School of Kinesiology)	X												X
Therapeutics-Summer Day Camp (15+)	X												
SPECIAL INTEREST													
A Ball of a Party	X	X											
All About Showers	X	X											

Program offered in: ● Winter ● Spring ● Summer ● Fall

PROGRAMS INVENTORY (CONT.)

PROGRAM	CITY OF AUBURN		OTHER AGENCIES										
	Parks and Recreation Staff	Contract Instructor	Auburn Advisory Board	Auburn Area Community Theater	Auburn Arts Association	Auburn Community Tennis Association	Auburn Dixie Baseball	Auburn Soccer Association	Auburn Youth Football Association	Auburn Youth Lacrosse Club	I am My Brother's Keeper	Kreher Preserve	Other
Music Birthday Party	X	X											
Painting Party	X	X											
Homeschool-1st Grade Reading & Handwriting (6-7)	X	X											
Homeschool-1st-2nd Grade Reading, Handwriting, and Grammar (6-8)	X	X											
Homeschool-2nd Grade Reading & Handwriting Composition (7-9)	X	X											
Homeschool-Art (6-16)	X				X								
Homeschool-Chemistry Basics (10-13)	X	X											
Homeschool-Composition (preschool-elementary)	X	X											
Homeschool-Creative Writing (5th-8th)	X	X											
Homeschool-Historical Archaeology	X	X											
Homeschool-Knitting for Beginners (8-14)	X	X											
Homeschool-Nature's Explorer-Fall Session (k-12)	X										X		
Homeschool-Planet Earth, Rock, Minerals (5-11)	X	X											
Homeschool-Rainbow Phonics & Handwriting (5)	X	X											
Homeschool-Reading and Handwriting (5-8)	X	X											
Homeschool-Shakespeare's Spy Literature Group (11-14)	X	X											
Homeschool-Southeastern Archaeology (9-16)	X	X											
Homeschool-Spanish for Beginners (5-8)	X	X											
Homeschool-The Scientific Method-Science Fair Workshop (11-14)	X	X											
Homeschool-The Science of Soil (6-9)	X	X											
Homeschool-Writing Made Easy Through IEW (11-14)	X	X											
Homeschool-Writing Workshop: Non-fiction (10-13)	X	X											
Leap for the Stars Literacy & Academic Tutoring (4-17)	X										X		
Little Learners Preschool Program (3-5)	X												
Private Reading & Writing Instruction (8-18)	X	X											
WAMM Camp Academic; Writing & Math & More (8-12)	X	X											
Learning Computer Programming (14+)	X	X											
Work to Excel Job Readiness Program (12+)	X										X		
Birth Village Comprehensive Childbirth Preparation (APRD & Birth Village)	X												X
Bradley Method Childbirth Prep Classes	X	X											
East Alabama Birth Village BiMonthly Breastfeeding Support Group (APRD & Birth Village)	X												X
East Alabama Birth Village Gatherings (APRD & Birth Village)	X												X
East Alabama Birth Village Monthly Mom Support Group (APRD & Birth Village)	X												X
IAMBK Parent Café (16+)	X										X		
AARP Tax Aide (seniors & low income)	X												X
Money Smart: Financial Education for Adults (APRD & BBVA Compass)	X												X
Auburn Afternoon Bridge Club (Adult)	X												
Auburn Board Gamers (16+)	X												
Auburn Duplicate Bridge Club (APRD & Auburn Duplicate Bridge Club) (Adult)	X												X

Program offered in: ● Winter ● Spring ● Summer ● Fall

PROGRAMS INVENTORY (CONT.)

PROGRAM	CITY OF AUBURN		OTHER AGENCIES										
	Parks and Recreation Staff	Contract Instructor	Auburn Advisory Board	Auburn Area Community Theater	Auburn Arts Association	Auburn Community Tennis Association	Auburn Dixie Baseball	Auburn Soccer Association	Auburn Youth Football Association	Auburn Youth Lacrosse Club	I am My Brother's Keeper	Kreher Preserve	Other
Bridge Lessons (Adult) ●●●●	X												
Fly Fishing Lessons (10+)	X	X											
ESL: Advanced (Adult) ●●●	X	X											
ESL: All Clear (Adult) ●●●	X	X											
ESL: Beginning English ●●●	X	X											
ESL: Book I (Adult) ●●●	X	X											
ESL: Book II (Adult) ●●●●	X	X											
ESL: Book III (Adult) ●●●●	X	X											
ESL: Book IV (Adult) ●●●●	X	X											
ESL: High Beginner (16+)	X	X											
Beginning English (special topics) (Adult)	X	X											
ESL (Adults) ●●●●	X												
ESL: Advanced Conversational English (Adults)	X	X											
ESL: Conversation High Intermediate ●●●	X	X											
ESL: Conversation: Intermediate (Adult)	X	X											
Basic Dog Good Behavior and Obedience ●●●	X	X											
Canine Good Citizen Class ●●●	X	X											
SPECIAL EVENTS													
12th Auburn Cityfest Juried Art Preview Exhibition & Reception (APR, AAA, and Auburn-Opelika Tourism Bureau)	X				X								X
16th Annual Downtown Trick or Treat	X												X
2016 Auburn Bike Bash (APRD, Auburn Bicycle Committee & Auburn City Schools)	X												X
2016 Summernight Downtown Art Walk (APRD, AAA, Center for Arts & Humanities & Downtown Merchants)	X												X
24th Annual Fishing Rodeo (APRD & Evans Realty)	X												X
27th Annual Daddy-Daughter Date Night	X												
27th Annual Love Your Heart Run (APR & Special Olympics, Best Buddies, and Others)	X												X
35th Annual Easter Egg Hunt (APRD, Wells Fargo & Kiwanis)	X												X
4th Annual Polar Plunge (APRD & Special Olympics)	X												X
9th Annual Crank Your Heart Ride (APRD & Special Olympics, Best Buddies, and Others)	X												X
Annual 4th of July Celebration (APRD & Briggs & Stratton)	X												X
Auburn CityFest (APRD & various community partners)	X												X
Auburn University School of Nursing Health Promotion Clinics ●●●●	X												X
Bark in the Park (APRD & Other Community Partners)	X												X
Day in Clay (APRD & Dean Road Ceramics Studio)	X				X								X
Empty Bowls to Benefit the East Alabama Food Bank (APRD & Dean Road Ceramics Studio)	X												X
Fit as a Fiddle: A 50+ Lifestyle and Health Fair (APR D& Other Community Partners)	X												X
Polar Express Holiday Event 2016	X												
Scale Back Alabama-Lee County #Drop10LeeCo (APRD & Scale Back Alabama)	X												X
Summer Outdoor Movie "Star Wars: The Force Awakens"	X												
Sundown Concert Series at Town Creek Park ●●●	X												

Program offered in: ● Winter ● Spring ● Summer ● Fall

APPENDIX D: NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND GAP ANALYSIS CHART



NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND GAP ANALYSIS CHART

		NATIONAL STANDARDS			PROJECTED FACILITY NEEDS BASED ON NATIONAL STANDARDS		2016			2026	
		NATIONAL STANDARDS/ GUIDELINES (USING MEDIAN)					AUBURN FACILITY NEEDS			PROJECTED AUBURN FACILITY NEEDS	
AREAS REVIEWED	ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF ITEMS OR ELEMENTS	UNIT	PER NUMBER OF RESIDENTS	2016 NATIONAL STANDARD	2026	2016 AUBURN INVENTORY	2016 AUBURN STANDARD	2016 AUBURN EXISTING NEEDS	2026 PROJECTED NEEDS	10-YEAR PROJECT-EDNEEDS
General Operations and Administration											
*Note: Dollar amounts will need to be adjusted for inflation and as new facilities are added	*Park and Recreation Operating expenditures per capita (median)	\$83	Per Capita	1	\$83	No Standard	\$87	\$87	\$87	N/A	N/A
	*Park and Recreation 5-Year Capital Budget Expenditures (median)	\$5.8 M	5 Years	N/A	\$1.16 M/Yr	\$11.6 M	\$1.23 M	\$1.23 M	\$1.23 M	\$12.3 M	\$0
	Full Time Staff Members/ 10,000 Residents	7.4	Staff Members	10,000	47	54	46	52	6	63	17
	Parks per Resident	1	Park	2,396	26	30	26	26	0	30	4
	Acres of Park Land	9.2	Acre	1,000	584	672	744	744	0	0	0
	Acres of Open Space/Natural Resource Areas (Average of 8.5 ac/1000)	11.55	Acre	1,000	733	843	No Standard	1,395	0	0	0
	Agency Funding - Cost Recovery (Expenses less Revenue); based on Park and Recreation funding for Departments in cities with similar Characteristics	29	Percent of Budget	N/A	16%	N/A	16%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Annual Park and Recreation Budget	\$5,200,000	General Fund Operations	N/A	\$5,200,000	N/A	\$5,507,213	\$5,507,213	0	0	0

NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND GAP ANALYSIS CHART

		NATIONAL STANDARDS			PROJECTED FACILITY NEEDS BASED ON NATIONAL STANDARDS		2016			2026			
		NATIONAL STANDARDS/ GUIDELINES (USING MEDIAN)					AUBURN FACILITY NEEDS EXISTING CURRENT NEED			PROJECTED AUBURN FACILITY NEEDS			
AREAS REVIEWED	ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF ITEMS OR ELEMENTS	UNIT	PER NUMBER OF RESIDENTS	2016 NATIONAL STANDARD	2026	2016 AUBURN INVENTORY	2016 AUBURN STANDARD	2016 AUBURN EXISTING NEEDS	2026 PROJECTED NEEDS	10-YEAR PROJECTED NEEDS		
Recreation	Aquatics												
		Swimming Pools, Outdoor	1	Pool	34,686	2	2	2	2	0	2	0	
		Swimming Pools, Indoors	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	0	2	2	2	2	
		Splash Pad	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	0	0	1	5	5	
		Outdoor/Recreation											
		Basketball courts, Outdoor	1	court	7,000	9	10	4	9	5	10	6	
		Multi-use Courts: Basketball/Volleyball, (Indoor)	1	court	13,736	5	5	3	7	4	7	4	
		Diamond Fields: Softball Fields, Adult	1	field	12,463	5	6	5	5	0	6	1	
		Diamond Fields: Softball Fields, Youth	1	field	9,687	7	8	3	7	4	8	5	
		Diamond Fields, Baseball, Adult (300'+)	1	field	19,694	3	4	2	3	1	4	2	
		Diamond Fields: Baseball, Youth (200' or less)	1	field	6,599	10	11	7	7	0	9	2	
		Diamond Fields: Baseball, Practice Fields, Youth (200' or less)	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	4	8	4	9	5	
		Diamond Fields: Tee-Ball	1	field	12,771	5	6	1	5	4	6	5	
		Playgrounds (6 - 12 year olds)	1	play-ground	3,560	18	20	9	18	9	20	11	
		Playgrounds, Tot Lots (2 - 5 year olds)	1	play-ground	12,112	5	6	6	10	4	11	5	
		Overlay Field/ Multipurpose: Football/ Soccer/Lacrosse Overlay	1	field	7,257	9	10	2	9	7	10	8	
	Soccer, Indoor Facility (2 fields)	No Standards	No Standards	No Standards	No Standard	No Standard	0	1	1	1	1		
	Rectangular Fields: Multipurpose	1	field	8,060	8	9	4	8	4	9	5		
	Rectangular Fields: Lacrosse Field	1	field	26,639	2	3	0	2	2	3	3		

NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND GAP ANALYSIS CHART

		NATIONAL STANDARDS			PROJECTED FACILITY NEEDS BASED ON NATIONAL STANDARDS		2016			2026	
		NATIONAL STANDARDS/ GUIDELINES (USING MEDIAN)					AUBURN FACILITY NEEDS			PROJECTED AUBURN FACILITY NEEDS	
AREAS REVIEWED	ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF ITEMS OR ELEMENTS	UNIT	PER NUMBER OF RESIDENTS	2016 NATIONAL STANDARD	2026	2016 AUBURN INVENTORY	2016 AUBURN STANDARD	2016 AUBURN EXISTING NEEDS	2026 PROJECTED NEEDS	10-YEAR PROJECTED NEEDS
Non-Traditional Activities											
	Archery Range	1	.65 ac	50,000	1	1	0	1	1	1	1
	Disk Golf Course	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	0	1	1	1	1
	Sand Volleyball	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	0	1	1	1	1
	Skate Park	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	0	1	1	1	1
	Festival Field	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	0	1	1	1	1
	Ropes Course - Low Ropes	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	0	1	1	1	1
	Rock Climbing Wall	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	0	1	1	1	1
	Trails, Mountain Bike	No Standard	miles	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	2	12	10	10	10
	Ultimate Frisbee Area	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	0	2	2	2	2
	Zip Line	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	0	1	1	1	1
Indoor/Outdoor											
	Tennis Courts, Outdoor	1	court	4,295	15	17	28	28	0	28	0
	Tennis Courts, Indoor		court		No Standard	No Standard	6	6	0	6	0
	Pickleball: Outdoor Courts	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	4	6	2	8	4
	Pickleball: Indoor Courts	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	0	4	4	6	6
	Shuffleboard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	1	1	0	2	1
	Badminton	1	1620 sqft court	5,000	13	15	0	0	0	0	0
Indoor											
	Gym	1	gym	26,418	2	3	3	6	3	7	4
	Courts, Racquetball	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	1	1	0	3	2
	Indoor Track	1	track	49,715	1	1	0	1	1	1	1
	Recreation Center (Boykin, Dean, F. Brown)	1	center	25,650	2	3	2	2	0	3	1
	Teen Center	1	center	62,700	1	1	0	1	1	1	1

NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND GAP ANALYSIS CHART

		NATIONAL STANDARDS			PROJECTED FACILITY NEEDS BASED ON NATIONAL STANDARDS		2016			2026	
		NATIONAL STANDARDS/ GUIDELINES (USING MEDIAN)					AUBURN FACILITY NEEDS			PROJECTED AUBURN FACILITY NEEDS	
AREAS REVIEWED	ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF ITEMS OR ELEMENTS	UNIT	PER NUMBER OF RESIDENTS	2016 NATIONAL STANDARD	2026	2016 AUBURN INVENTORY	2016 AUBURN STANDARD	2016 AUBURN EXISTING NEEDS	2026 PROJECTED NEEDS	10-YEAR PROJECTED NEEDS
	Open Space/Natural Area										
	Dog Parks	1	park	43,183	1	2	2	6	4	4	4
	Trails, Natural Surface	No Standard	miles	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	2.5	1	0	10	9
	Trails, Paved, multi-use or walking	No Standard	miles	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	2.91	3	0	20	17
	Fishing Facilities	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	0	4	4	4	4
	Community Gardens	1	garden	32,376	2		0	2	2	3	3
Enfronmental Education Facilities	Nature Center/ Science Center	1	center	114,620	1	1		1	1	1	1
Senior Center	Senior Centers (Harris)	1	center	49,500	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
Arts Facilities	Performing Arts Theater (includes stage, backstage, dressing rooms, storage, prop construction and storage, laundry room, supporting amenities)	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	0	1	1	1	1
	Performing Arts, Dance (includes dance spaces with sprung floor, multipurpose space, costume storage, storage, laundry room, supporting amenities)	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	No Standard	0	1	1	1	1



APPENDIX E: SURVEY EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The City of Auburn Community Interest and Opinion Survey Executive Summary

Overview

ETC Institute administered a needs assessment survey for the City of Auburn during the fall of 2016. The survey was administered as part of the City's efforts to develop a Master Plan to ensure they are providing the programs and facilities that best meet the needs of residents. The survey and its results will guide the City of Auburn in setting the direction for the future. The survey will also help the City identify areas in the City where they might improve parks, recreation, and cultural service delivery.

Methodology

ETC Institute mailed a survey packet to a random sample of households in the City of Auburn. 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 on-line.

Ten days after the surveys were mailed, ETC Institute sent emails and placed phone calls to the households that received the survey to encourage participation. The emails contained a link to the on-line version of the survey to make it easy for residents to complete the survey. To prevent people who were not residents of the City of Auburn from participating, everyone who completed the survey on-line was required to enter their home address prior to submitting the survey. ETC Institute then matched the addresses that were entered on-line with the addresses that were originally selected for the random sample. If the address from a survey completed on-line did not match one of the addresses selected for the sample, the on-line survey was not counted.

The goal was to obtain completed surveys from at least 600 residents. The goal was exceeded with a total of 674 residents completing the survey. The overall results for the sample of 674 households have a precision of at least +/-3.77% at the 95% level of confidence.

This report contains the following:

- Charts showing the overall results of the survey (Section 1)
- Priority Investment Rating (PIR) that identifies priorities for cultural arts programs and events and library services, resources, and facilities (Section 2)
- Benchmarking analysis comparing the City's results to national results (Section 3)
- Tabular data showing the overall results for all questions on the survey (Section 4)
- A copy of the survey instrument (Section 5)

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

Overall Facility and Event Use

Overall Use: Forty-nine percent (49%) of households surveyed indicated they had attended or used any City of Auburn cultural arts facilities or events over the past 12 months. The three most visited types of events were: visual arts events, music performances, and theater performances. Ninety percent (90%) of respondents indicated that the overall quality of the cultural arts facilities they have attended or used were either “excellent” (31%) or “good” (59%). Only 9% indicated the facility was “fair” and roughly 1.5% indicated the facility was “poor”. The overall quality of the facilities is very much in line with the national averages which can be found in section three of this report. The three most visited parks and facilities were: Kiesel Park, Town Creek Park, and Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art.

Program Participation and Ratings

Overall Participation: Thirty-four percent (34%) of households surveyed indicated that they had participated in cultural arts programs or events offered by the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation department during the past 12 months. This number mirrors the national average for program participation.

Ratings: When asked to rate the overall quality of the cultural arts programs and events they have participated in 96% of respondents indicated they were either “excellent” (37%) or “good” (59%). Only 3% of respondents indicated the program or event they participated in was “fair” and 1% indicated the program or event was “poor”.

Barriers to Park, Facility and Program Usage

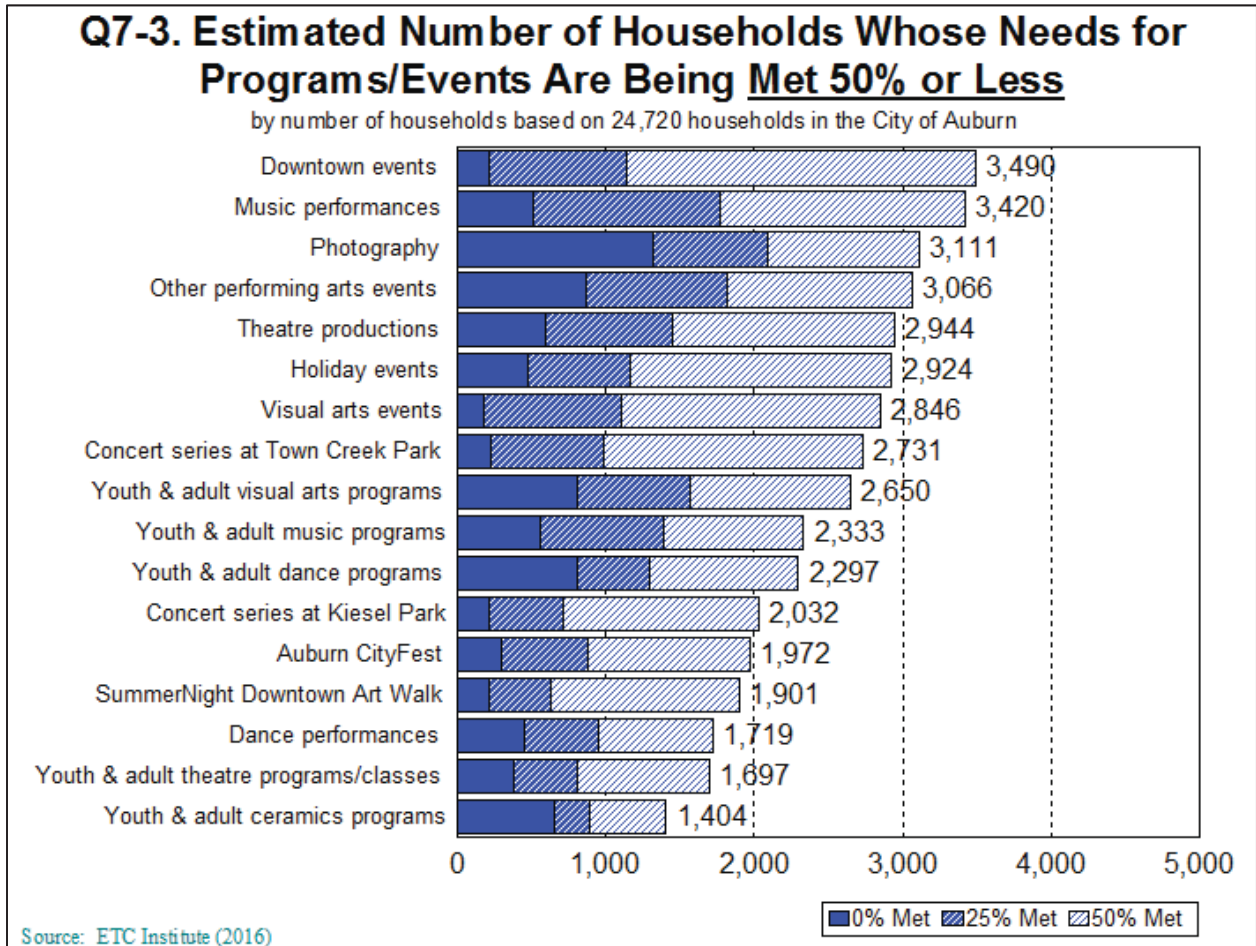
Respondents were asked from a list of 16 potential reasons to identify what prevents them from using cultural arts facilities, events, and programs offered by the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department more often. The top four reasons selected were: lack of knowledge regarding programs (65%), program times are not convenient (37%) lack of parking (22%), and traffic at facilities (18%).

Cultural Arts Programs and Events Needs and Priorities

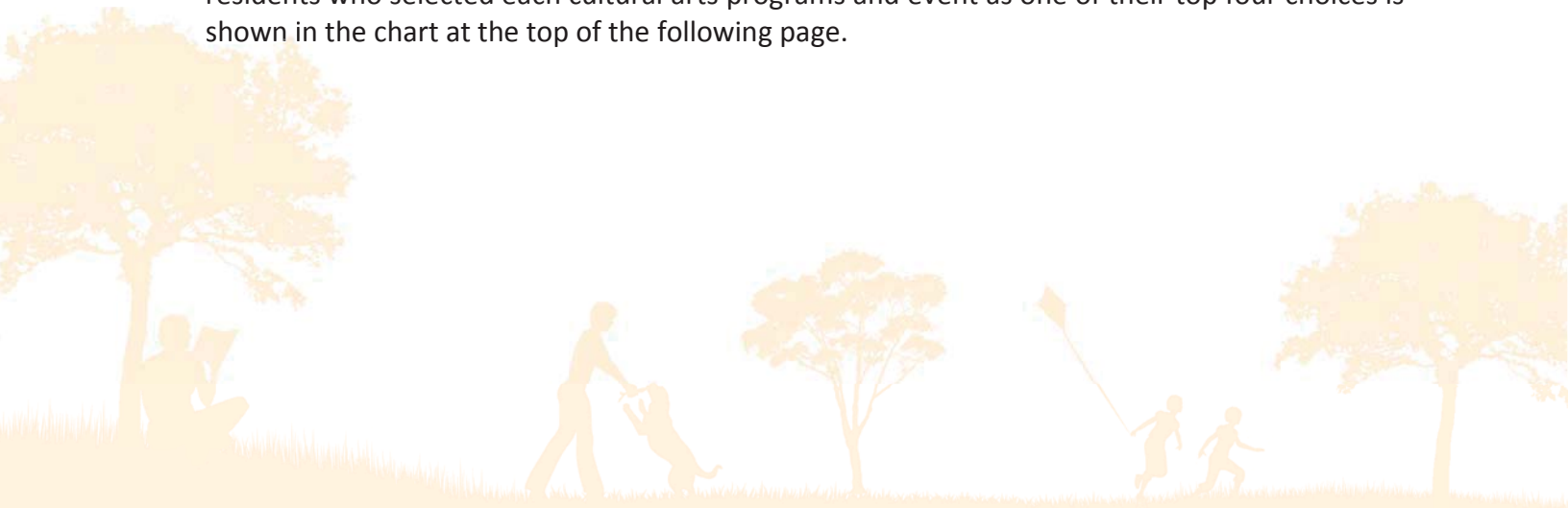
Cultural Arts Programs and Event Needs: Respondents were asked to identify if their household had a need for 17 cultural arts programs and events and rate how well their needs for each were currently being met. Based on this analysis, ETC Institute was able to estimate the number of households in the community that had the greatest “unmet” need for various facilities.

The three cultural arts programs and events with the highest percentage of households that indicated a need for the cultural arts programs and events were: downtown events (57%), Auburn CityFest (52%), and SummerNight Downtown Art Walk (45%). When ETC Institute analyzed the needs in the community, only one cultural arts programs and event, downtown events, had a need that affected more than 14,000 households. ETC Institute estimates a total of 3,490 of the 24,720 households in the City of Auburn have unmet needs for downtown events.

The estimated number of households that have unmet needs for each of the 17 cultural arts programs and events that were assessed is shown in the chart below.

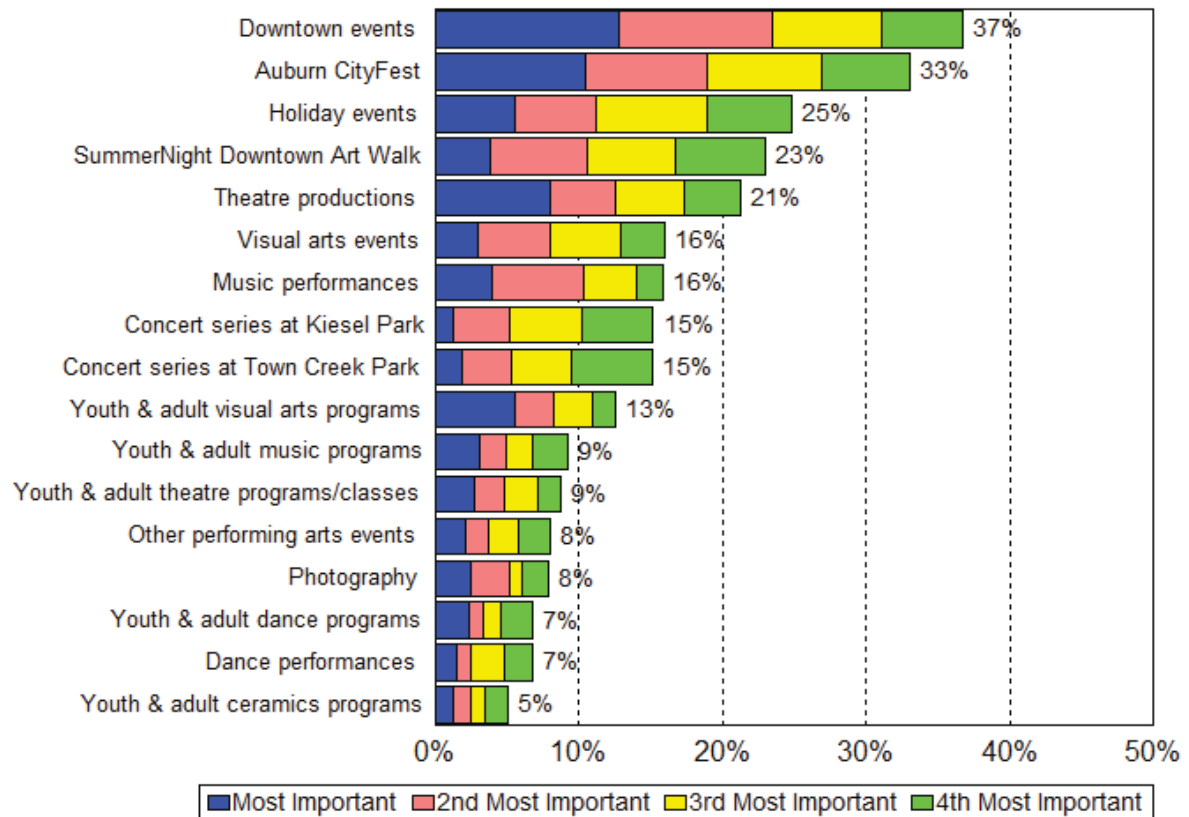


Cultural Arts Programs and Event Importance: In addition to assessing the needs for each cultural arts programs and event, ETC Institute also assessed the importance that residents placed on each cultural arts programs and event. Based on the sum of respondents’ top four choices, the three most important cultural arts programs and events to residents were: downtown events (37%), Auburn CityFest (33%), and Holiday Events (25%). The percentage of residents who selected each cultural arts programs and event as one of their top four choices is shown in the chart at the top of the following page.



Q8. Programs/Events Most Important to Households

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



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

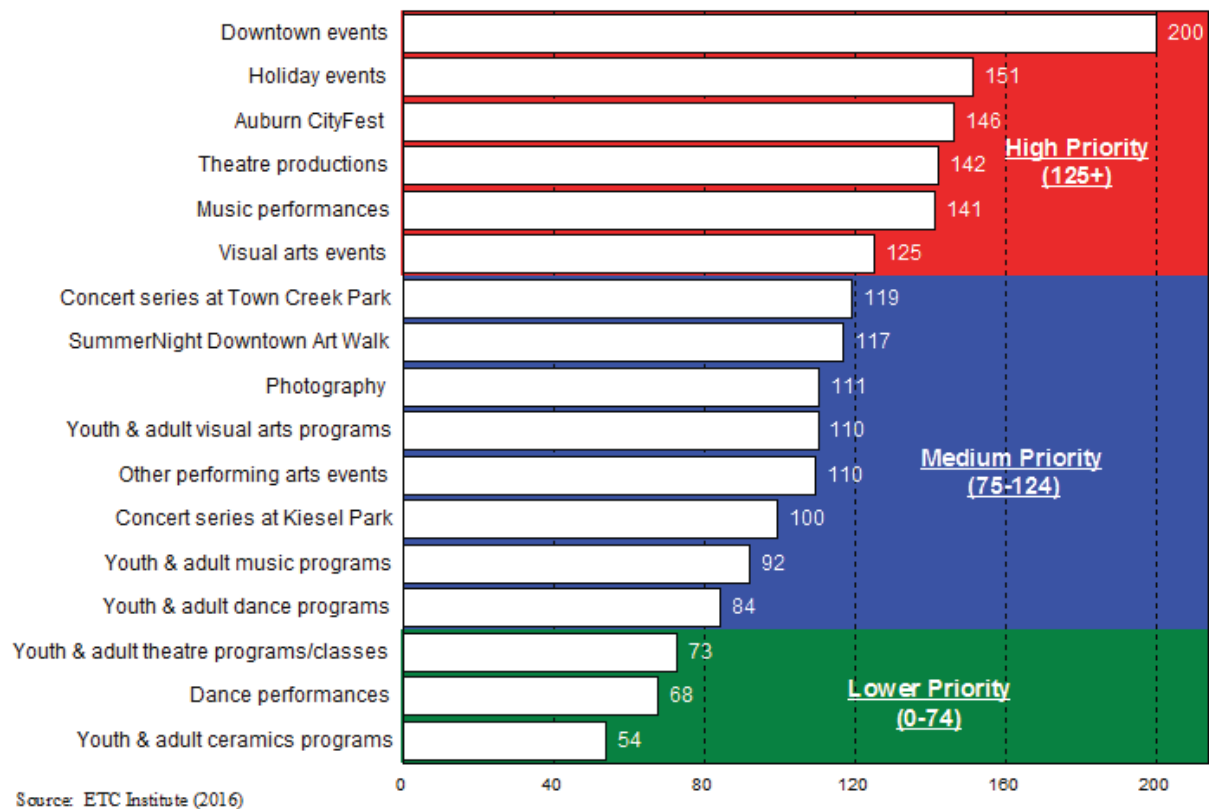
Priorities for Cultural Arts Programs and Event Investments: The Priority Investment Rating (PIR) was developed by ETC Institute to provide organizations with an objective tool for evaluating the priority that should be placed on Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts investments. The Priority Investment Rating (PIR) equally weights (1) the importance that residents place on cultural arts programs and events and (2) how many residents have unmet needs for the cultural arts programs and events. [Details regarding the methodology for this analysis are provided in Section 2 of this report.]

Based on the Priority Investment Rating (PIR), the following six cultural arts programs and events were rated as high priorities for investment:

- Downtown events (PIR=200)
- Holiday events (PIR=151)
- Auburn CityFest (PIR=146)
- Theatre productions (PIR=142)
- Music performances (PIR=141)
- Visual arts events (PIR=125)

The chart on the following page shows the Priority Investment Rating for each of the 17 cultural arts programs and events that were assessed on the survey.

Top Priorities for Investment for Cultural Arts Programs and Events Based on the Priority Investment Rating

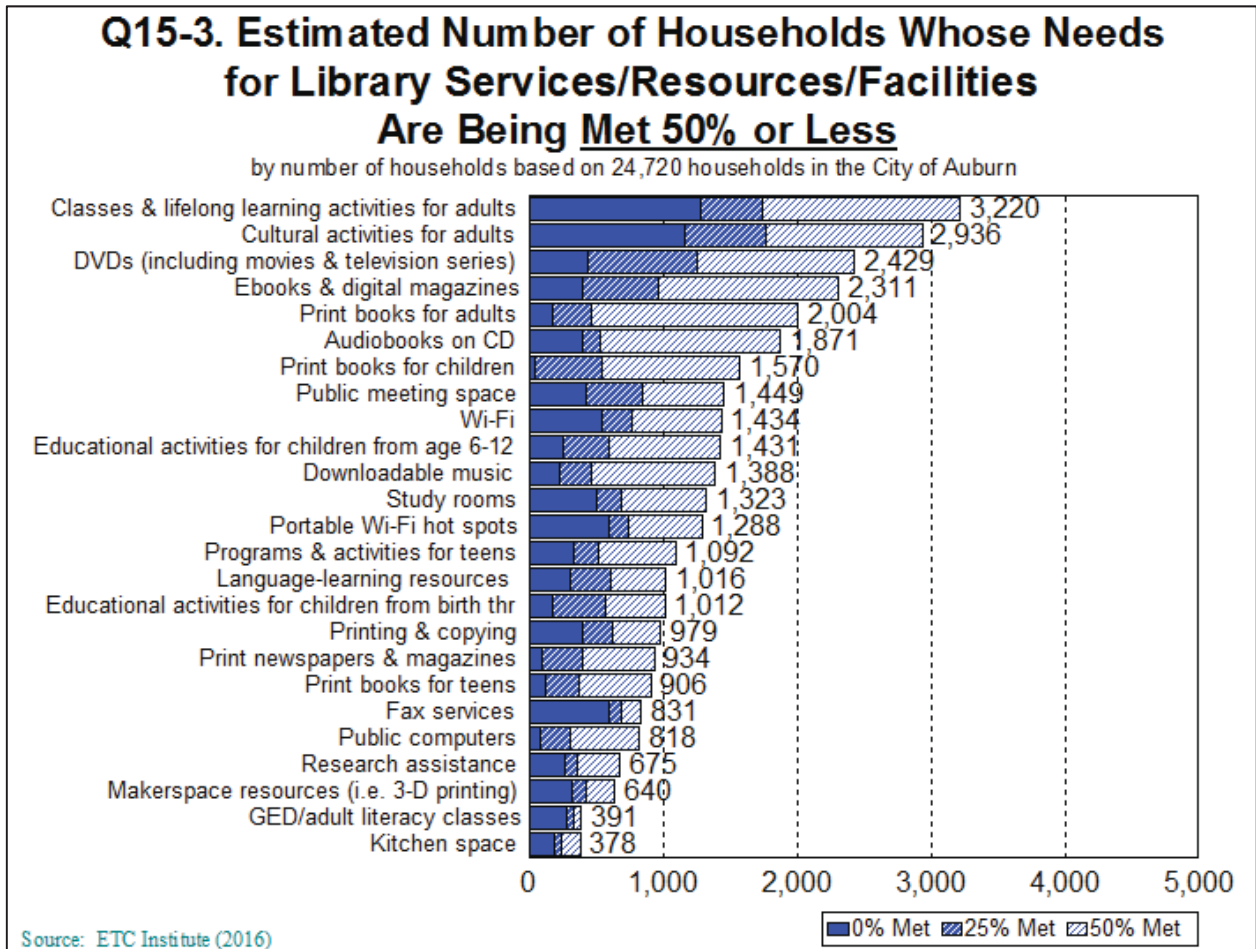


Library Services, Resources, and Facilities Needs and Priorities

Library Services, Resources, and Facility Needs. Sixty-nine percent (69%) of respondents indicated they have visited the Auburn Public Library in the past 12 months. Of those who have visited the Library within the past 12 months 9% visit more than once per week, 14% visit 3-4 times per month, 25% visit 1-2 times per month, 31% visit 4-6 times per year, and 21% visit 1-3 times per year. Respondents were also asked to identify if their household had a need for 25 library services, resources, and facilities and rate how well their needs for each library service, resource, and facility were currently being met. Based on this analysis, ETC Institute was able to estimate the number of households in the community that had “unmet” needs for each library service, resource, and facility.

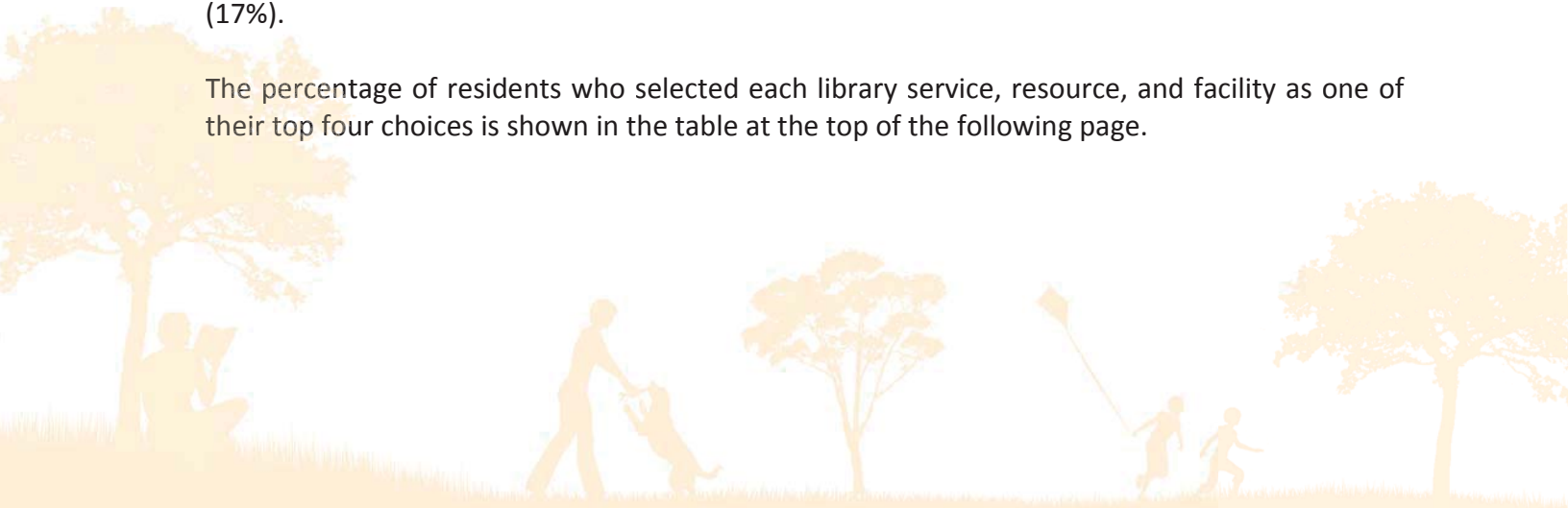
The three library services, resources, and facilities with the highest percentage of households that had needs were: print books for adults (57%), print books for children (29%), and DVDs (including movies & television series) (29%). In addition to having the third highest total need, the need for DVDs also has the third highest unmet need among the 25 library service, resource, and facility-related areas that were assessed. ETC Institute estimates a total of 2,429 households have unmet needs for DVDs. The other two library services, resources, and facilities that have the highest levels of unmet need include: classes & lifelong learning activities for adults (3,220 households) and cultural activities for adults (2,936 households). The estimated number of

households that have unmet needs for each of the 25 library services, resources, and facilities that were assessed is shown in the chart below.



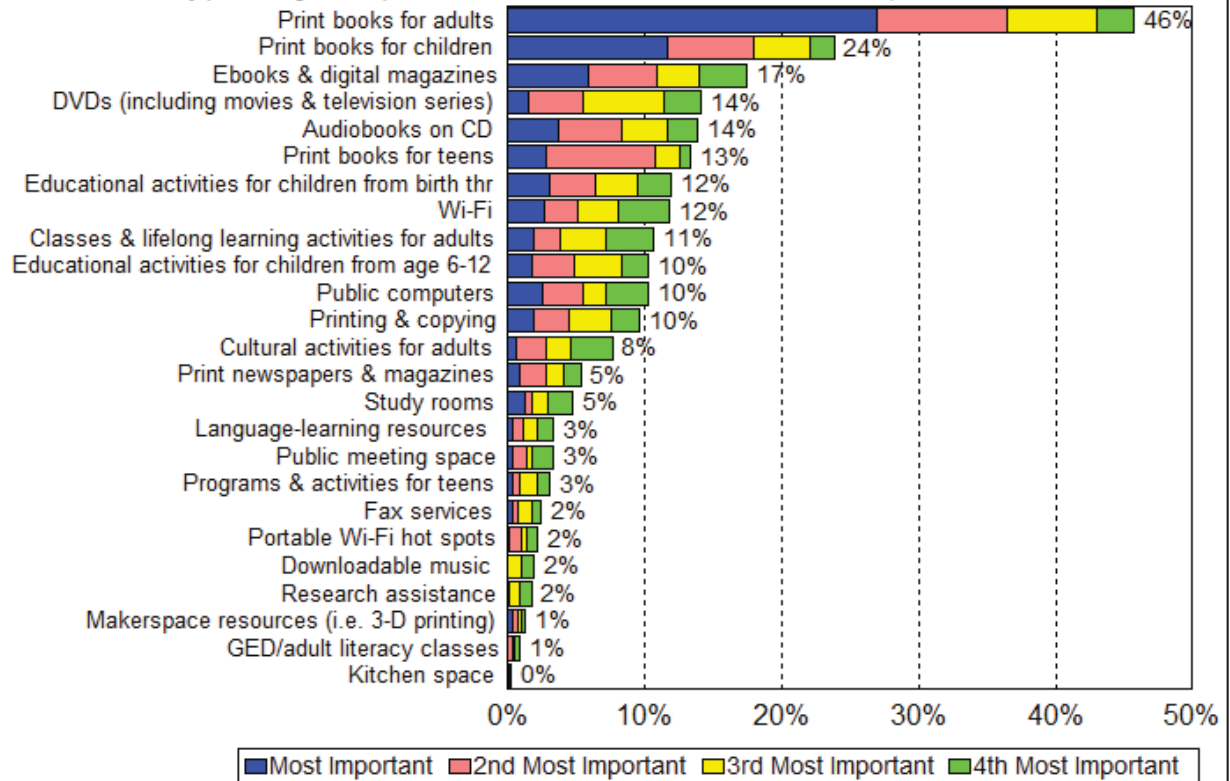
Library Services, Resources, and Facility Importance. In addition to assessing the needs for each library service, resource, and facility, ETC Institute also assessed the importance that residents place on each library service, resource, and facility. Based on the sum of respondents’ top four choices, the three most important library services, resources, and facilities to residents were: print books for adults (46%), print books for children (24%), and Ebooks & digital magazines (17%).

The percentage of residents who selected each library service, resource, and facility as one of their top four choices is shown in the table at the top of the following page.



Q16. Library Services/Resources/Facilities That Are Most Important to Households

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



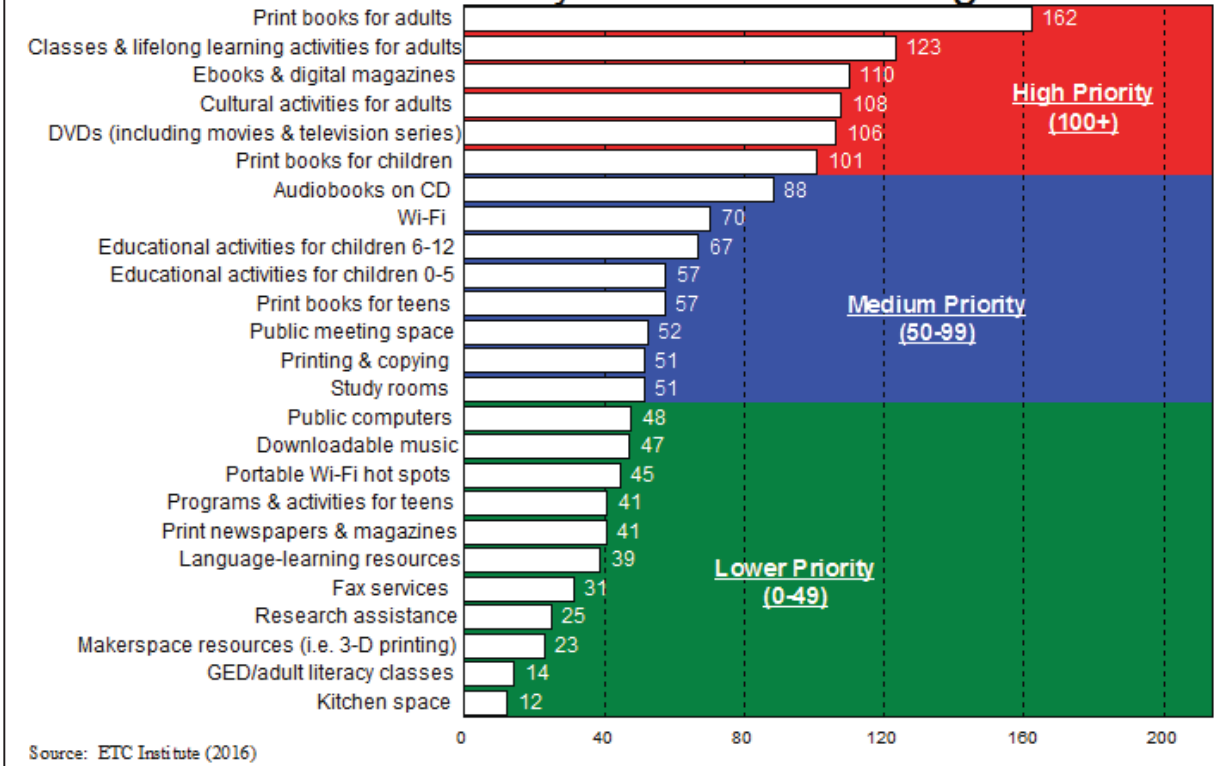
Source: ETC Institute (2016)

Priorities for Library Services, Resources, and Facility Investments. Based on the Priority Investment Rating (PIR), which was described briefly on page iv of this Executive Summary and is described in more detail in Section 2 of this report, the following six library services, resources, and facilities were rated as “high priorities” for investment:

- Print book for adults (PIR=162)
- Classes & lifelong learning activities for adults (PIR=123)
- Ebooks & digital magazines (PIR=110)
- Cultural activities for adults (PIR=108)
- DVDs (including movies & television series) (PIR=106)
- Print books for children (PIR=101)

The chart on the following page shows the Priority Investment Rating (PIR) for each of the 25 library services, resources, and facilities that were rated.

Top Priorities for Investment for Library Services/ Resources/ Facilities Based on the Priority Investment Rating



Additional Findings

Respondents were asked to indicate the ways in which they learn about Auburn cultural arts facilities, events, and programs. From the list of 14 the following were the most selected: from friends and neighbors (49%), newspaper (46%), and the City’s Open Line newsletter (39%).

When asked to rate their satisfaction with the overall value their household receives from the City of Auburn cultural arts facilities, events, and programs over half (53%) were at least somewhat satisfied. Twenty-four percent (24%) of respondents were neutral about the overall value their household receives from the City of Auburn cultural arts facilities, events, and programs, and only 5% were dissatisfied.

Respondents were then asked to rate their satisfaction with the overall value their household receives from the City of Auburn Public Library.

Conclusions and Recommendations

When analyzing the library services, resources, and facilities offered by the City of Auburn it interesting to note that print books for adults and children are both the most needed and most important library resources to households in Auburn. However, when analyzing the items whose needs are being met 50% or less print books for adults and children are not among the top three. The City of Auburn is doing a great job of ensuring that the highest needs within the community

are being met, and this gives the City the unique opportunity to focus on other priorities. Focusing on adding classes, cultural, and lifelong learning activities for adults would provide the greatest benefit for the largest number of residents within the City of Auburn. Downtown events is the one parks and recreation program or event that the highest number of respondents indicated they had a need for, and also had the greatest number of households who have an unmet need. Downtown events are also the most important programs and events to households, and the program and event that households participate in most often. The City of Auburn is in a unique position to reach a large group of households within the City by focusing attention on one aspect of their parks and recreation programs and events.

In order to ensure that the City of Auburn continues to meet the needs and expectations of the community, ETC Institute recommends that the Parks and Recreation Department sustain and/or improve the performance in areas that were identified as “high priorities” by the Priority Investment Rating (PIR). The cultural arts programs and events and library services, resources, and facilities with the highest PIR ratings are listed below.

Cultural Arts Programs and Events Priorities

- Downtown events (PIR=200)
- Holiday events (PIR=151)
- Auburn CityFest (PIR=146)
- Theatre productions (PIR=142)
- Music performances (PIR=141)
- Visual arts events (PIR=125)

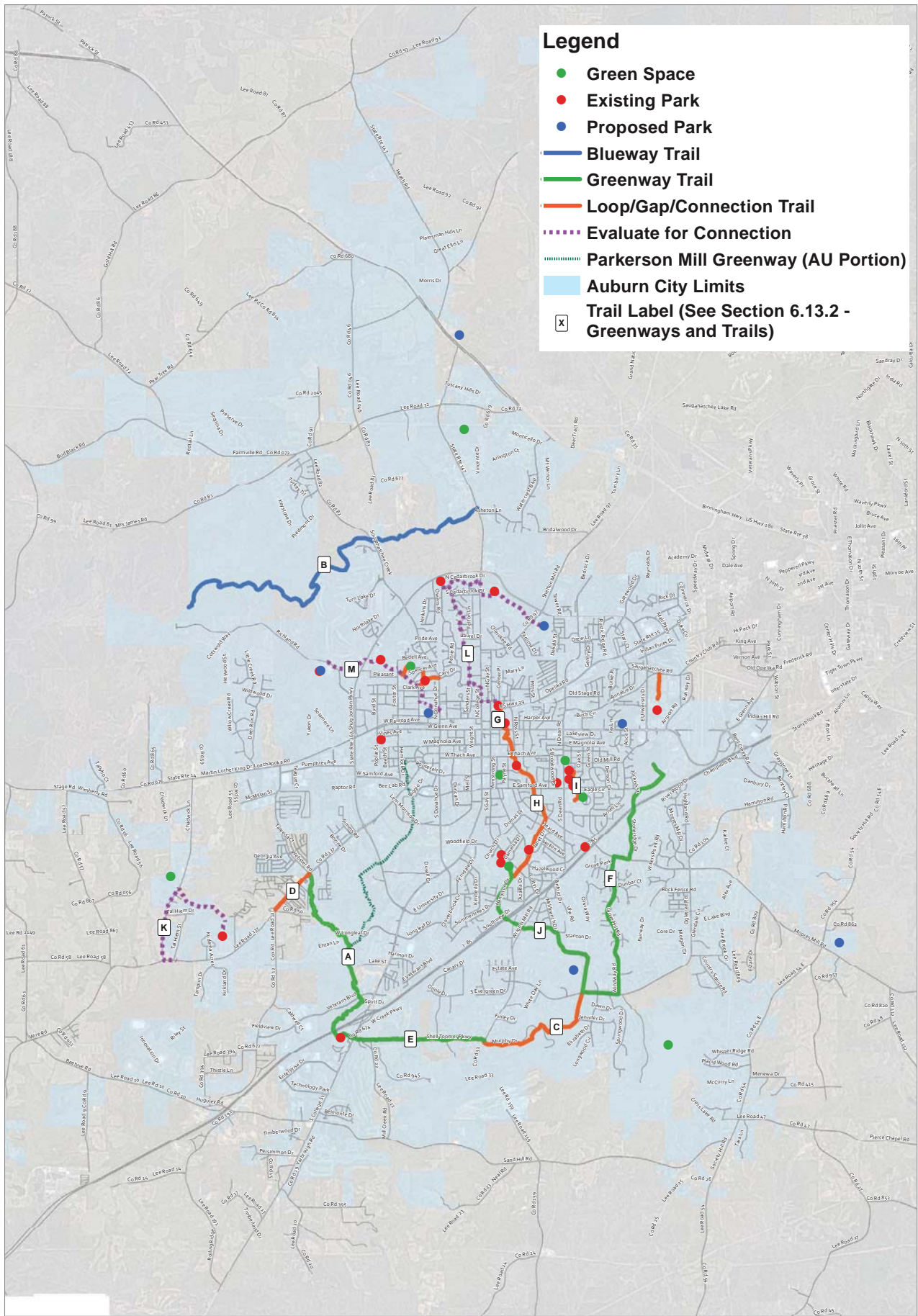
Library Services, Resources, and Facility Priorities

- Print book for adults (PIR=162)
- Classes & lifelong learning activities for adults (PIR=123)
- Ebooks & digital magazines (PIR=110)
- Cultural activities for adults (PIR=108)
- DVDs (including movies & television series) (PIR=106)
- Print books for children (PIR=101)



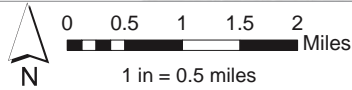
APPENDIX F: PROPOSED PARK LOCATIONS AND TRAIL CONNECTIONS MAPS





Legend

- Green Space
- Existing Park
- Proposed Park
- Blueway Trail
- Greenway Trail
- Loop/Gap/Connection Trail
- - - Evaluate for Connection
- Parkerson Mill Greenway (AU Portion)
- ▭ Auburn City Limits
- ▭ Trail Label (See Section 6.13.2 - Greenways and Trails)



All information displayed on this map is a general representation only and should be verified by a professional registered surveyor. Contour information is provided by the City of Auburn GIS system and is subject to verification.

City of Auburn Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Master Plan
Proposed Trail Connections

MAP F1



AIGM - Proposed Parks by Year

Community Parks

- 2025
- 2035

Neighborhood Parks

- 2020
- 2025
- 2035

Parks Legend

Park Locations

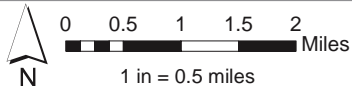
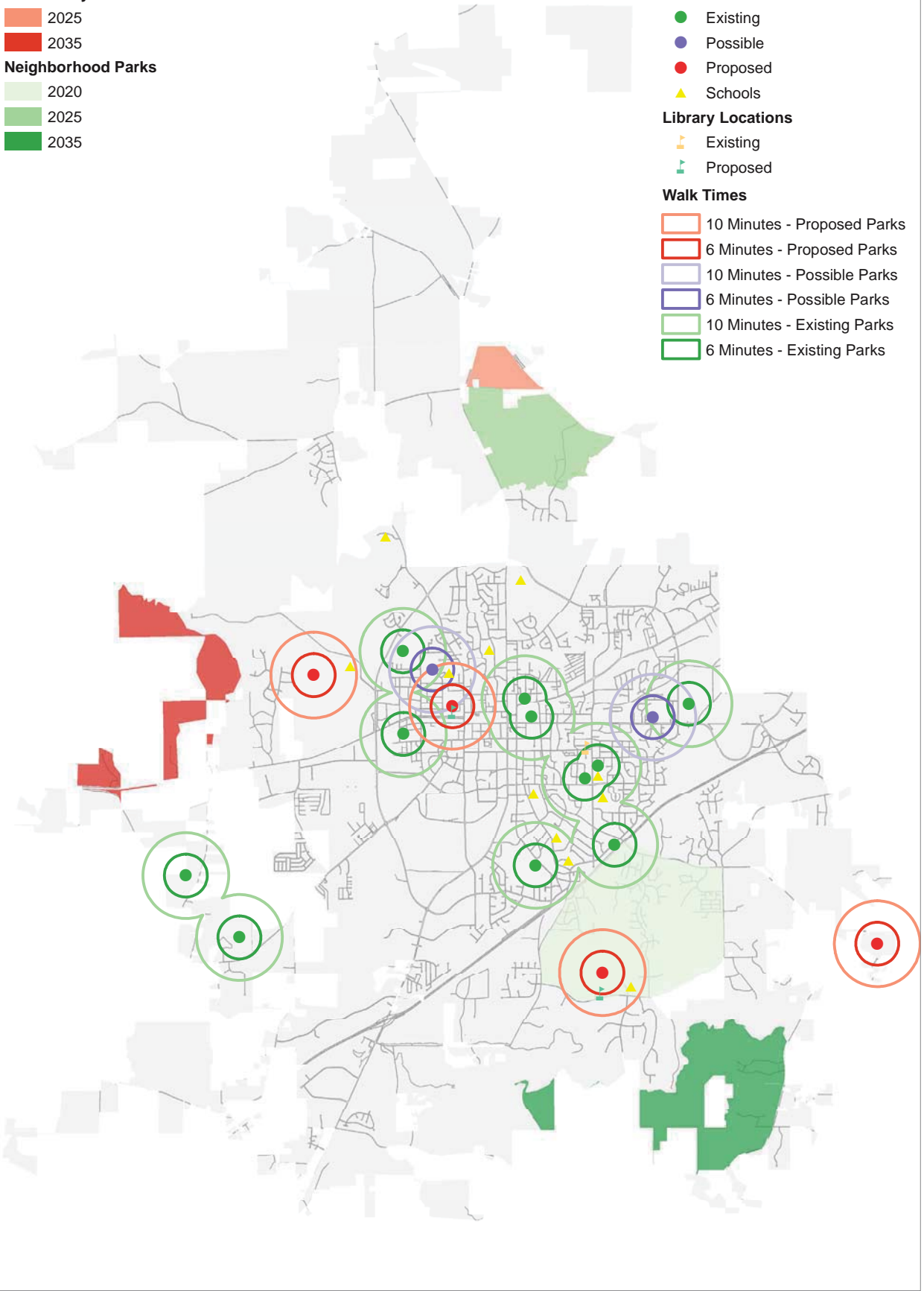
- Existing
- Possible
- Proposed
- Schools

Library Locations

- Existing
- Proposed

Walk Times

- 10 Minutes - Proposed Parks
- 6 Minutes - Proposed Parks
- 10 Minutes - Possible Parks
- 6 Minutes - Possible Parks
- 10 Minutes - Existing Parks
- 6 Minutes - Existing Parks



All information displayed on this map is a general representation only and should be verified by a professional registered surveyor. Countour information is provided by the City of Auburn GIS system and is subject to verification.

City of Auburn Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Master Plan

Proposed Park Locations

MAP F2



APPENDIX G: CONNECTIVITY MAPS

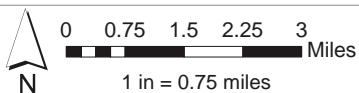
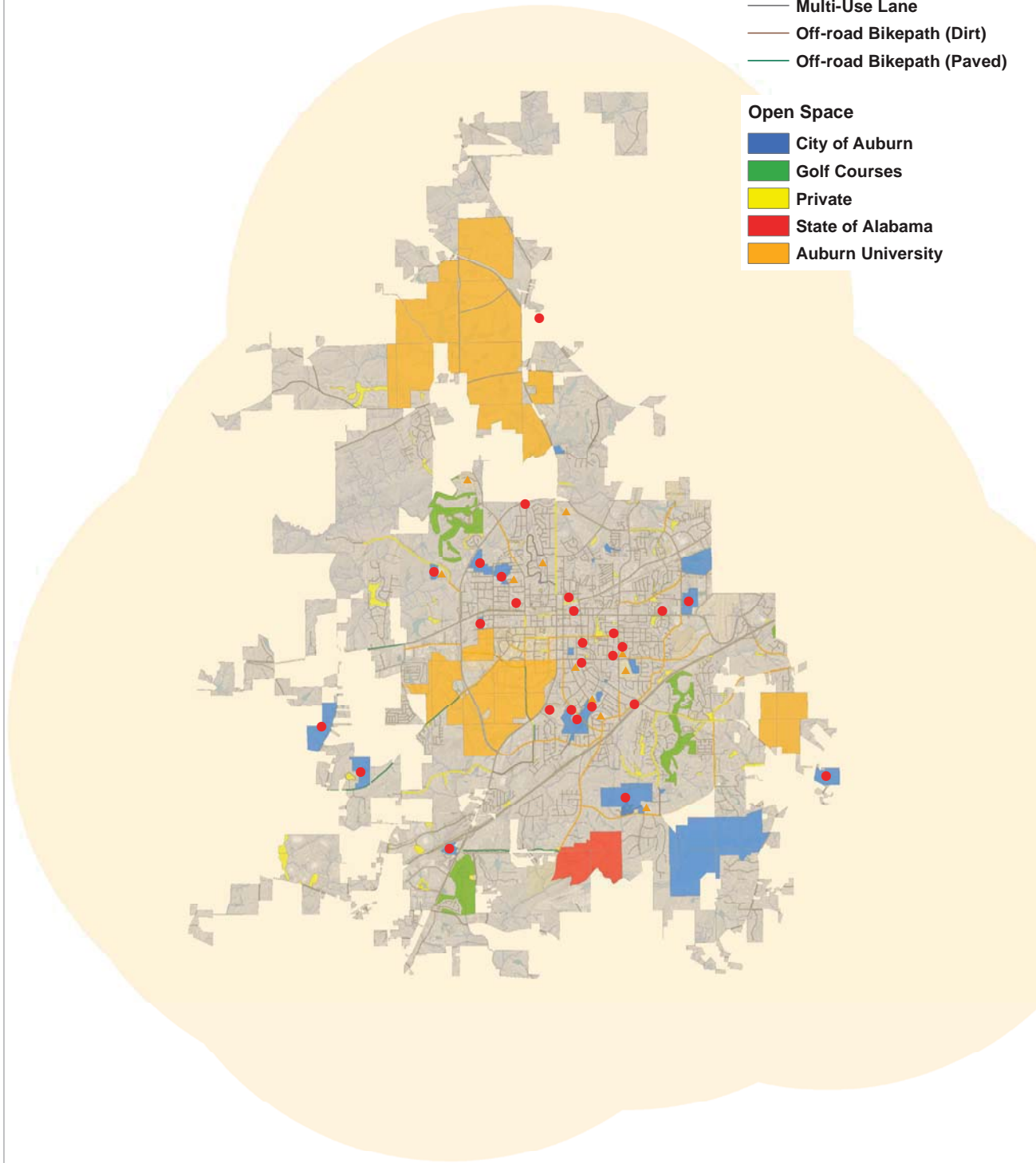


Legend

- Park Properties
- ▲ School
- Bikeable Rings
- Bike Facilities**
- Bike Lane
- Concrete Multi-Use Path
- Multi-Use Lane
- Off-road Bikepath (Dirt)
- Off-road Bikepath (Paved)

Open Space

- City of Auburn
- Golf Courses
- Private
- State of Alabama
- Auburn University

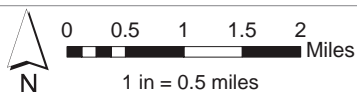
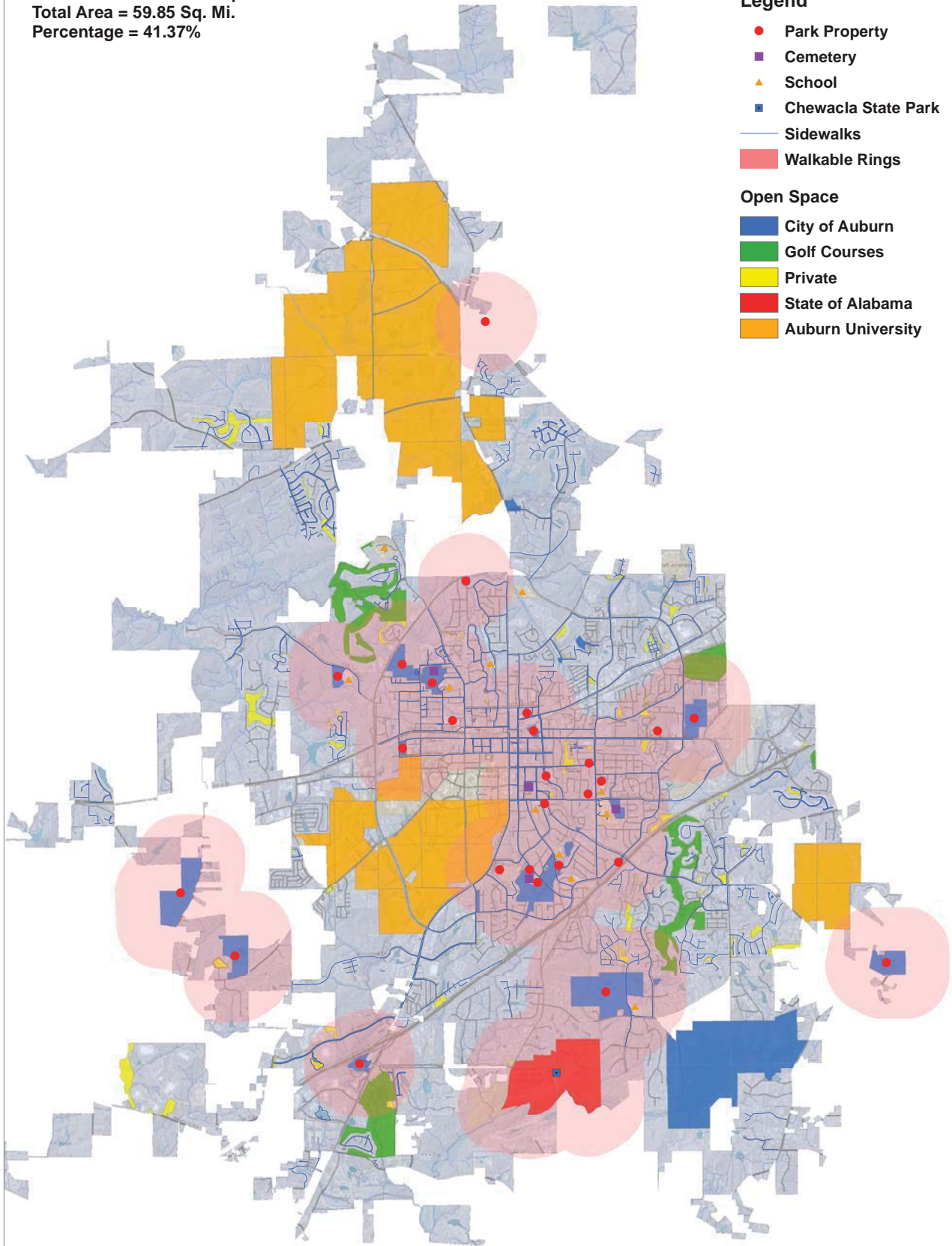


All information displayed on this map is a general representation only and should be verified by a professional registered surveyor. Contour information is provided by the City of Auburn GIS system and is subject to verification.

Walkable Area = 24.76 Sq. Mi.
 Total Area = 59.85 Sq. Mi.
 Percentage = 41.37%

Legend

- Park Property
 - Cemetery
 - ▲ School
 - Chewacla State Park
 - Sidewalks
 - Walkable Rings
- Open Space**
- City of Auburn
 - Golf Courses
 - Private
 - State of Alabama
 - Auburn University



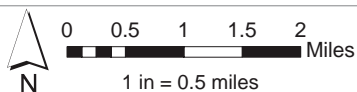
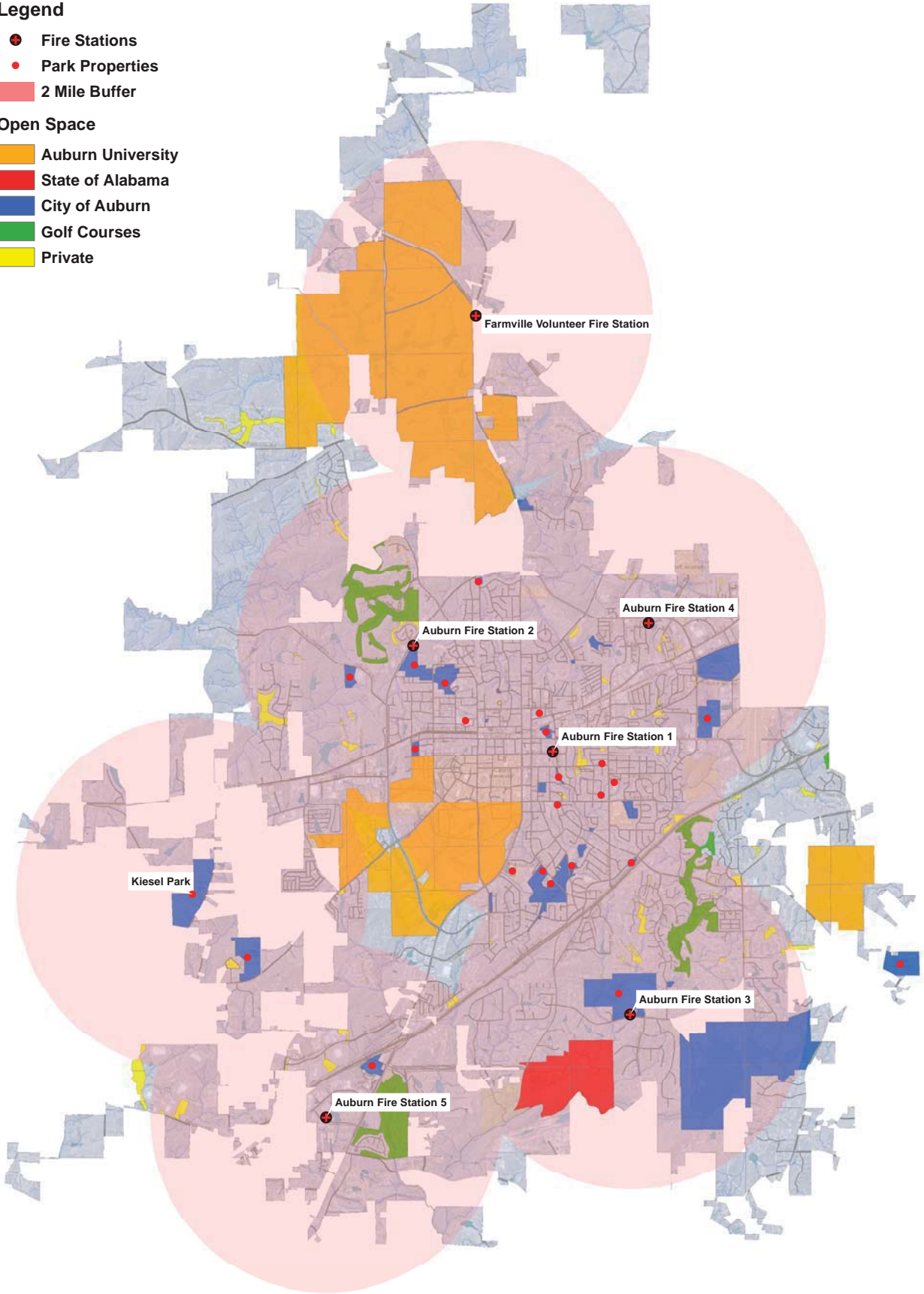
All information displayed on this map is a general representation only and should be verified by a professional registered surveyor. Contour information is provided by the City of Auburn GIS system and is subject to verification.

Legend

-  Fire Stations
-  Park Properties
-  2 Mile Buffer

Open Space

-  Auburn University
-  State of Alabama
-  City of Auburn
-  Golf Courses
-  Private



All information displayed on this map is a general representation only and should be verified by a professional registered surveyor. Contour information is provided by the City of Auburn GIS system and is subject to verification.

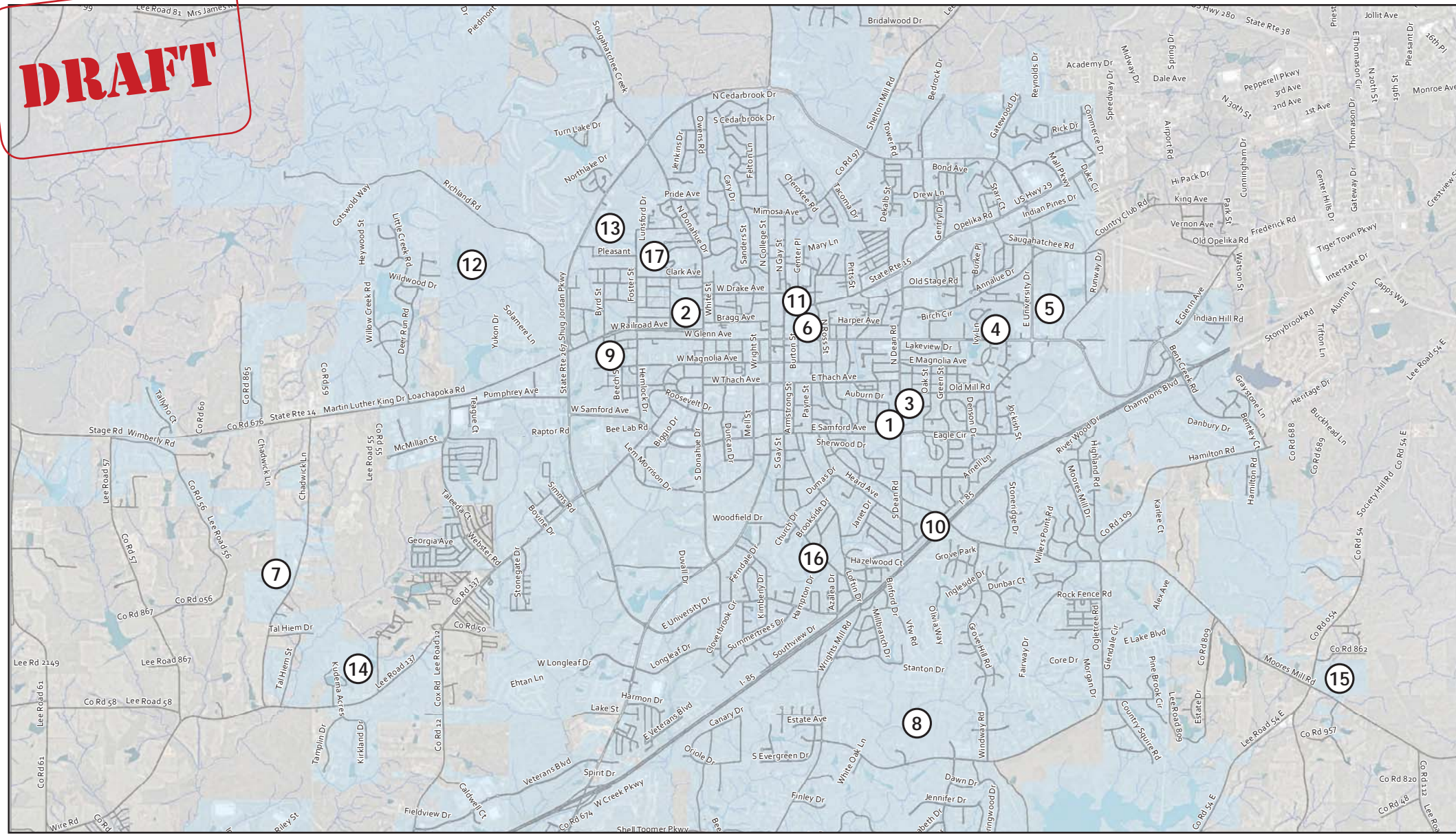
City of Auburn Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Master Plan
Potential Community Meeting Rooms



APPENDIX H: PARK CONCEPT PLANS, NARRATIVES, AND COST ESTIMATES



DRAFT



LEGEND

-  GREENWAY TRAIL
-  PAVED TRAIL
-  NATURAL SURFACE TRAIL
-  MIDSIZE/LARGE SHELTER
-  SMALL SHELTER
-  VEHICLE BRIDGE CROSSING
-  PICNIC TABLES
-  SHADE TREES

This chapter provides a program site layout map and narrative description of the improvements recommended for each park as identified in the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Master Plan. The planning team used the list of recommendations for physical facilities as identified in Chapter 6 of the study and dispersed the facilities to the various parcels of land and parks that are owned by the Auburn Parks and Recreation Department (APRD).

Some of the parks are already developed and have existing facilities in place. The site plans and recommendations are designed to improve, enhance or add to the facilities and uses of those parks. Some of the parks are still raw land that have not been developed so the recommendations were organized on the sites as general development programs and facilities for development.

None of the maps or narratives should be construed as absolute or completed designs, but as recommendations and programs for development. The APRD should commission the preparation of a detailed site plan and construction documents for each identified park independently, using these plans and narrative recommendations as a program and directive for the development of each park.

PARKS

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ① BOWDEN PARK | ⑥ FELTON LITTLE PARK | ⑪ PARKS & RECREATION MAIN CAMPUS | ⑫ TOWN CREEK & SALMON PARK |
| ② BOYKIN / DONAHUE CAMPUS | ⑦ KIESEL PARK | ⑬ RICHLAND PARK | ⑬ WESTVIEW PARK |
| ③ DEAN ROAD RECREATION CENTER | ⑧ LAKE WILMORE PARK | ⑭ SAM HARRIS PARK | |
| ④ DINIUS PROPERTY | ⑨ MARTIN LUTHER KING PARK | ⑮ SOCCER COMPLEX - CITY OF AUBURN | |
| ⑤ DUCK SAMFORD PARK | ⑩ MOORES MILL PARK | ⑯ SOCIETY HILL PARK | |

MASTER PLAN CONCEPT KEY



City of Auburn



CONCEPT PLAN #1

LEGEND

- ① PICNIC TABLE
- ② EXISTING PLAYGROUND
- ③ IMPROVE LAWN AREA
- ④ ADJUST DRAIN STRUCTURE TOP TO BELOW GRADE
- ⑤ REMOVE INVASIVES AND DENSE UNDERGROWTH
- ⑥ REMOVE SHRUBS AT ENTRANCE TO IMPROVE VIEW INTO PARK
- ⑦ LIMB UP TREES AROUND PARK
- ⑧ INSTALL REMOVABLE BOLLARDS ALONG STREET



BOWDEN PARK

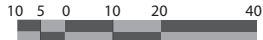
AUBURN, ALABAMA - 340 BOWDEN DRIVE

1.43 ACRES



City of Auburn

FORESITE
group



OCT · 06 · 2017
063.003

NARRATIVE #1

Bowden Park is an existing 1.43-acre neighborhood park on a vacant corner lot at 340 Bowden Drive. The park is generally used by neighborhood residents and currently has no connection to a greenway or trail system. It is surrounded by residential lots and is enclosed by a dense perimeter of large trees and underbrush.

Recommendations:

1. **Picnic Table:** Add a single table in the park so residents can hold birthday parties, families can have picnics, students can study, friends can meet and parents or guardians can visit while their children play on the existing playground and open lawn.
2. **Existing Playground:** There is a recently installed children’s play structure on the site. This is to remain. Maintain the base surface.
3. **Improve Lawn Area:** The existing small open area in the park is a great space for free play and open activities. The turf cover is a mixture of various grasses and weeds. The open area needs to be regraded and sodded with a shade tolerant grass to make the space more usable and attractive.
4. **Adjust Drain Structure Top to Below Grade:** There is a drainage pipe running under the open space that drains into an existing swale. A drainage structure sits on top of the pipe as an open culvert. The structure sits up-hill so that no water drains into the structure, yet it is located in the middle of the open play area. This structure can be set below grade and covered with turf so that it no longer presents a physical hazard to children playing games in the open space.
5. **Remove Invasive and Dense Undergrowth:** The dense woodlands around the perimeter of the park are overgrown with Japanese privet and other invasive species. This undergrowth obstructs the view into the park and limits the usable space available to patrons. Remove this vegetation to allow more visibility into the park for security reasons and broaden the spaces available for play.
6. **Remove Shrubs at Entrance to Improve Views into Park:** Landscape buffer plantings placed along the street front of the park obstruct the view into the park. The plants are overgrown and limit visibility from the street. These plantings are not necessary and should be removed to allow for more open observation into the park, thus creating more “Eyes on the Park” for safety and security reasons.
7. **Limb Up Trees Around the Park:** Remove low hanging branches to allow better views into the park and for more sunlight to reach the turf. This also opens more space for additional benches under the trees.

8. **Install Removable Bollards Along the Street:** The slope down to the park from Bowden Drive is steep and eroded by people driving down the slope into the park. Install bollards along the curb to prevent this unwarranted access. Install several removable bollards to allow access for city maintenance and emergency crews.

COST ESTIMATE #1

#	ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL \$
1	PICNIC TABLE	1	EA	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00
2	EXISTING PLAYGROUND, INSPECTION AND REPAIR	1	LS	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00
3	IMPROVE LAWN AREA 110' X 60'	6,600	SF	\$ 2.00	\$ 13,200.00
4	ADJUST DRAIN STRUCTURE TOP TO BELOW GRADE	1	LS	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
5	REMOVE INVASIVES AND DENSE UNDERGROWTH	1	LS	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
6	REMOVE SHRUBS AT ENTRANCE TO IMPROVE VIEWS INTO PARK	1	LS	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
7	LIMB UP TREES WITHIN THE PARK	1	LS	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
8	INSTALL REMOVABLE BOLLARDS ALONG THE ROADWAY	8	EA	\$ 900.00	\$ 7,200.00
SUB-TOTAL					\$ 30,950.00
25% CONTINGENCY					\$ 7,737.50
ENGINEERING AND FEES 10%					\$ 3,095.00
#1	TOTAL COSTS				\$ 41,782.50

BOWDEN PARK

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 340 BOWDEN DRIVE

CONCEPT PLAN #2

LEGEND

- ① WOODLAND NATURE PARK AND TRAIL
- ② OUTDOOR CLASSROOM & WOODLAND CLEANUP
- ③ BUILDING EXPANSION - 40' X 60' CLASSROOM
- ④ SMALL SHELTER AT MULTI-PURPOSE FIELD
- ⑤ IMPROVE 100' X 180' OPEN PLAY FIELD
- ⑥ PROTECTIVE FENCE - 6' TALL
- ⑦ (2) FENCES ON EXISTING BASKETBALL COURTS
- ⑧ 10' X 12' SHELTER FOR BASKETBALL
- ⑨ FUTURE COMMUNITY CENTER WITH NATATORIUM
- ⑩ RENOVATE BUILDING INTO NEW GYM
- ⑪ OUTDOOR POOL
- ⑫ EXPAND EXISTING BUILDING AS MAINTENANCE FACILITY
- ⑬ PUBLIC ART
- ⑭ FUTURE GREENWAY LINK TO DRAKE & WESTVIEW PARK
- ⑮ EXPANDED PARKING LOT
- ⑯ PLAY STRUCTURE
- ⑰ 10,000 SF BRANCH LIBRARY
- ⑱ NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
- ⑲ MAINTENANCE YARD / COMPLEX
- ⑳ CONVERT TO RECYCLING DROP-OFF FACILITY
- ㉑ CONVERT THE WHITE STREET DETENTION POND TO PRACTICE FIELD
- ㉒ MULTI-PURPOSE FIELD
- ㉓ LAND EXPANSION



BOYKIN / DONAHUE CAMPUS

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 400 BOYKIN STREET

10.64 ACRES



City of Auburn

FORESITE
group



50 0 50 100 150

OCT - 06 - 2017
063.003

NARRATIVE #2

Boykin Community Center is a former elementary school converted into a community center that sits on 10.64-acres on Boykin Street. The center includes a gymnasium, facilities for the Auburn Boys and Girls Club, senior center and a variety of other community services. The Donahue tract is an adjacent 8.17-acre site used for the Auburn Environmental Services facility and the fleet maintenance shop on the opposite side of Donahue Drive. In the future, the activity on this site may be moved to a new location, leaving this valuable and centrally located site available for potential parks and recreation development. Behind the fleet maintenance shop site are two lots on White Street that currently function as open detention ponds.

Recommendations:

1. **Woodland Nature Park and Trail:** A large, depressed, area in the woodlands behind the existing gym is proposed to be a nature park with a soft surface loop trail under the trees. The trail and area can be made accessible from the Community Center and Gym.
2. **Outdoor Classroom and Woodland Cleanup:** The woodland site is thick with invasive undergrowth that needs to be removed for the health of the forest and to open views into the space. The slopes around the edges of the space are perfect for developing a small wooden amphitheater as an outdoor classroom for the Community Center and others.
3. **Building Expansion - 40 x 60 Classroom:** The Boys and Girls Club space is currently too small to accommodate their demand. The club has been spilling over into the adjacent community center building spaces to accommodate their needs. There is space on the east side of the gym to add a 2400 square foot expansion for classrooms and activity space that also opens out onto the adjacent site.
4. **Small Shelter at Multi-Purpose Field:** The small turf field adjacent to the parking lot is used by the Boys and Girls Club to hold games and events. A small shelter at the end of the field is needed as a meeting, post-up, teaching space for the various activities that occur on the field.
5. **Improve 100' x 180' Field:** The small grass field is in poor condition and has no defined edges. A simple turf renovation and irrigation system on the field will improve the quality of the turf and the use of the field.
6. **Protective Fence Six (6) Feet Tall.** The small grass field and basketball courts border on Mary Brooks Drive. A six (6) foot fence along the end of the grass field will keep activities and balls from spilling out onto the street.
7. **Fence Existing Basketball Courts (Outdoor) - Two (2):** The city recently completed construction of two (2) new outdoor basketball courts. They are flanked on two sides by tall retaining walls but are open on the remaining two (2) sides. Cars parking on the street and fronting into the unprotected side of the basketball courts are so close that they become a boundary for play. A six (6) foot containment fence between the cars and courts protects the cars, keeps players off the vehicles, and keeps balls out of the street.
8. **Shelter for Basketball.** The new courts are squeezed between a tall retaining wall and Mary Brooks Drive with little gathering, waiting or viewing space around the courts. A small space at the open end of the courts is an excellent location for a small (10 x 12) shade structure for post-up and waiting.
9. **Future Community Center with Natatorium:** The central location of the Donahue site within the city is a perfect location for any of the more high-end expensive recreational facilities such as covered courts or a natatorium. Such expensive facilities need to be better located near the population center so they can better serve more citizens. The Donahue site is the perfect location for a larger recreation center combined with a natatorium and other facilities. The proposed complex contains two (2) indoor pools, indoor gym / courts, classrooms and support facilities.
10. **Renovate Building into a New Gym:** There is a large metal building on the Donahue site that can be converted into covered courts and be incorporated into the overall recreation center building.
11. **Outdoor Pool:** The natatorium is best served by including an outdoor pool and splash pad water feature.
12. **Expand Existing Building as Maintenance:** The current Environmental Services office building is being expanded by 1,000 square foot. When the overall site becomes available for development, this building is best converted into a satellite parks maintenance facility.
13. **Public Art:** The site development program includes a wide variety of uses and attracts a wide spectrum of patrons. Public Art is identified as a potential enhancement and improvement to the site by placing it in strategic locations around the park. The art can also be set on a rotating schedule.
14. **Future Greenway Link to Drake School and Westview Park:** A greenway is identified along the northern edge of the Donahue site that connects eastward across N. Donahue Drive past the Fleet Services building, along the White Street detention ponds and over to Canton Avenue where it can continue up Fraizer Street to West Drake Avenue. The greenway route goes westward across the north side of the Donahue site, through the woodland nature park and along the stream bank over to Boykin Street. The route turns north along Boykin Street until it connects to the greenway in Westview Park and Drake Middle School.
15. **Expanded Parking Lot:** Parking is expanded around the site to serve the increased demand on the new facilities.
16. **Play Structure:** The new Donahue site is centrally located so that a neighborhood destination play structure / playground is a very desirable addition to this facility. It is best located adjacent to the proposed library to make it more available to patrons and to add a sense of security.
17. **Branch Library:** This section of the city is in dire need of a branch library. A 10,000-square foot building is designated for this site and should have a visible presence from Donahue Drive. See the Library Section of the report for additional data.
18. **Neighborhood Park:** There is a small neighborhood park on the Donahue Drive frontage of the site that serves residents in the area. It needs to be improved and maintained to continue to serve the residents in the same capacity.
19. **Maintenance Yard / Complex:** A portion of the site is fenced off adjacent to the former office building to serve as a maintenance yard for this park and others.
20. **Recycling Drop-off Facility:** The Fleet Services facility is to become a recycling center or parking. It is not good to locate recreational assets on the opposite side of a street which may encourage youth to carelessly cross a traffic artery without looking.
21. **Convert the White Street Detention Pond:** It is possible to clear out the bottom of the White Street detention ponds and grade them to become informal practice fields. They can still function as a detention ponds but most of the time they will be available for open play and practice.
22. **Multi-Purpose Field:** A full size multipurpose athletic field can be incorporated into the site plan adjacent to the Boykin small grass field. The presence of a large multi-purpose field accommodates a variety of games and practices including use by patrons of the Boykin Community Center.
23. **Land Expansion:** The city should consider trying to acquire land south of the site fronting on Martin Luther King Drive and convert Mary Brooks Drive into an internal parks road.

COST ESTIMATE #2

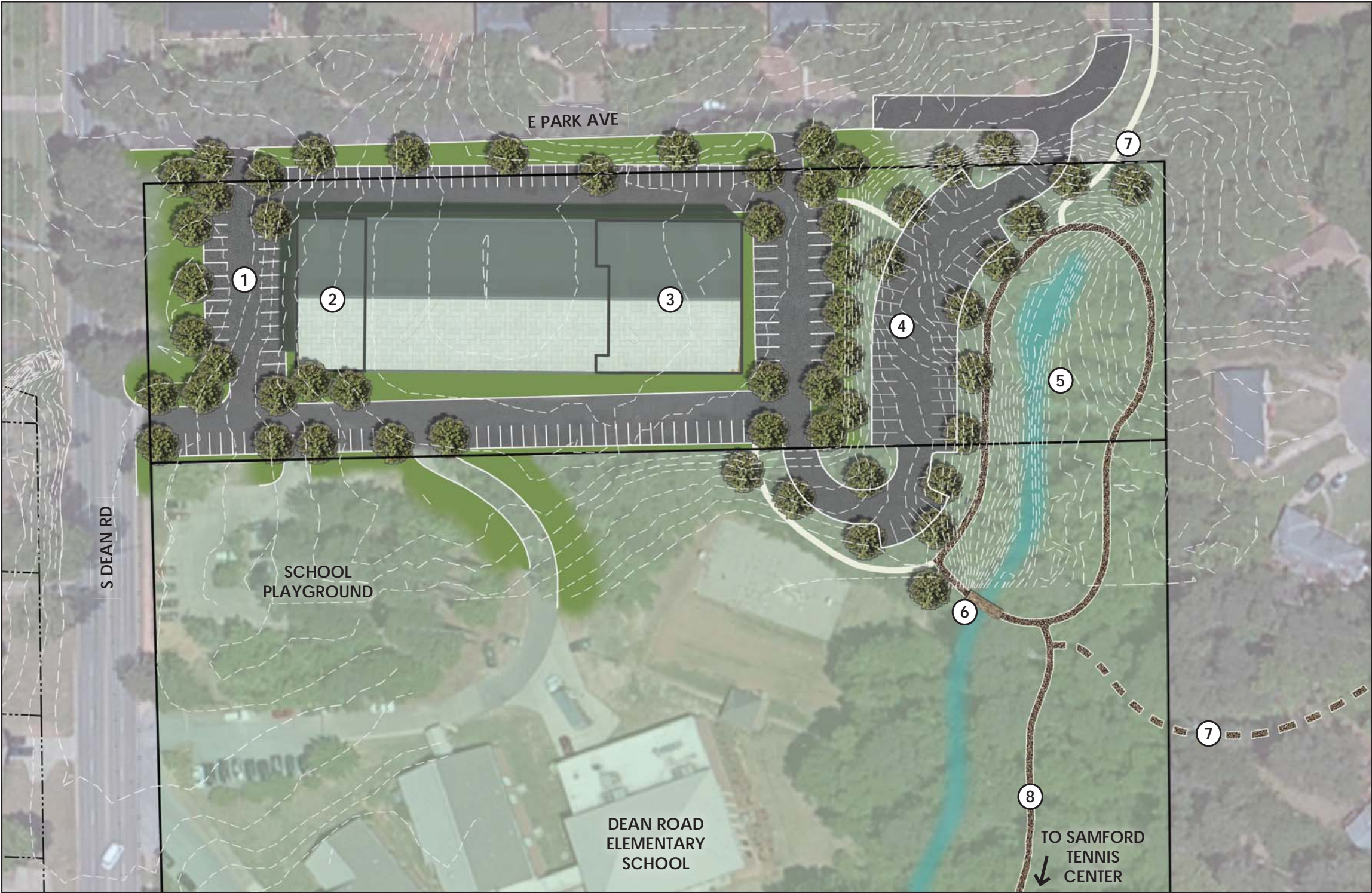
#	ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL \$
1	WOODLAND NATURE PARK	1	ALLOW	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
	A. TRAIL SYSTEM SOFT SURFACE 8' WIDE	900	LF	\$ 12.00	\$ 10,800.00
2	OUTDOOR CLASSROOM	1	LS	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
	A. WOODLAND CLEANUP AND UNDERBRUSHING	4	AC	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 12,250.00
3	BUILDING EXPANSION - 40' X 60' CLASSROOM	2,400	SF	\$ 150.00	\$ 360,000.00
4	SMALL SHELTER AT MULTI-PURPOSE FIELD (PREFAB)	1	LS	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
5	IMPROVE 100' X 180' FIELD (TURF AND IRRIGATION)	18,000	SF	\$ 1.00	\$ 18,000.00
6	PROTECTIVE FENCE 6' TALL	100	LF	\$ 28.00	\$ 2,800.00
7	FENCE (6') EXISTING OUTDOOR BASKETBALL COURTS (OUTDOOR)	280	LF	\$ 28.00	\$ 7,840.00
8	SHELTER - 10' X 12' FOR BASKETBALL (PREFAB)	1	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
9	FUTURE COMMUNITY CENTER W NATATORIUM	1	ALLOW	\$ 6,000,000.00	\$ 6,000,000.00
10	RENOVATE BUILDING INTO NEW GYM 90' X 110'	9,900	LS	\$ 130.00	\$ 1,287,000.00
11	OUTDOOR POOL- OLYMPIC (82' X 164')	13,500	SF	\$ 125.00	\$ 1,687,500.00
	A. POOL DECK	8,900	SF	\$ 7.50	\$ 66,750.00
	B. SPLASH PAD	1	ALLOW	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
	C. FENCE (300') AND SITE ELEMENTS	1	ALLOW	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
12	EXPAND EXISTING BUILDING AS MAINTENANCE	1,000	SF	\$ 130.00	\$ 130,000.00
13	PUBLIC ART	10	EA	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
14	FUTURE GREENWAY LINK TO DRAKE & WESTVIEW PARKS 12'	2,100	LF	\$ 50.00	\$ 105,000.00
15	EXPANDED PARKING LOT SPACES	450	EA	\$ 900.00	\$ 405,000.00
16	PLAY STRUCTURE	1	EA	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00
17	BRANCH LIBRARY	10,000	SF	\$ 160.00	\$ 1,600,000.00
18	NEIGHBORHOOD PARK (RECONSTRUCT)	1	ALLOW	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00
19	MAINTENANCE YARD/COMPLEX	1	LS	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
20	RECYCLING DROP-OFF FACILITY (RENOVATION FOR REUSED)	8,000	SF	\$ 40.00	\$ 320,000.00
21	CONVERT THE WHITE STREET DETENTION POND	1	LS	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
22	TRAIL TO NEIGHBORHOOD 10' WIDE SIDEWALKS	800	LF	\$ 350.00	\$ 280,000.00
23	MULTI-PURPOSE FIELD 110' X 336' (GRADING, SOIL, GRASS, IRRIGATION)	37,000	SF	\$ 2.25	\$ 83,250.00
	A. LIGHTS	1	LS	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 110,000.00
24	LAND EXPANSION (COST OF LAND UNKNOWN)	1	LS	\$ -	\$ -
GENERAL ITEMS					
	A. LANDSCAPE / IRRIGATION ALLOWANCE	1	ALLOW	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 125,000.00
	B. UTILITY UPGRADES AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS	1	ALLOW	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00
	C. STAKING, DEMOLITION, EROSION CONTROL, SITE WORK, GRADING ETC.	1	ALLOW	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00
SUB-TOTAL					\$ 15,436,190.00
25% CONTINGENCY					\$ 3,859,047.50
ENGINEERING AND FEES 10%					\$ 1,543,619.00
#2	TOTAL COSTS				\$ 20,838,856.50

BOYKIN / DONAHUE CAMPUS
AUBURN, ALABAMA - 400 BOYKIN STREET

CONCEPT PLAN #3

LEGEND

- ① PARKING IN FRONT OF THE BUILDING
- ② SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAMS
- ③ EXPAND THE BUILDING WITH SECOND GYM
- ④ PARKING BEHIND THE BUILDING
- ⑤ WOODLAND CLEANUP AND TRAIL
- ⑥ BRIDGE OVER THE CREEK
- ⑦ POSSIBLE NEIGHBORHOOD TRAIL LINKS
(PENDING JOINT USE AGREEMENT)
- ⑧ PEDESTRIAN TRAIL TO SAMFORD TENNIS CENTER
(PENDING JOINT USE AGREEMENT)
- ⑨ RELOCATE CERAMICS
- ⑩ MEMORIAL PARK CEMETERY IMPROVEMENTS
- ⑪ SAMFORD TENNIS CENTER IMPROVEMENTS
- ⑫ JOINT USE AGREEMENTS WITH AUBURN CITY SCHOOLS



DEAN ROAD RECREATION CENTER

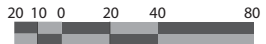
AUBURN, ALABAMA - 307 S. DEAN ROAD

3.16 ACRES



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NARRATIVE #3

Dean Road Recreation Center is a 3.16-acre recreation center adjacent to Dean Road Elementary School. It currently includes a gymnasium, classrooms, offices and the Auburn Ceramics Studio. It is also within walking distance of the Auburn Public Library which is a major asset to the programs at the Recreation Center.

Behind the building is the maintenance facility for APRD. The presence of the maintenance facility creates unsightly conditions and safety conflicts between children and maintenance traffic. The maintenance site is too small for its current use and too valuable as recreational real estate to be left as maintenance. The proximity of Dean Road Elementary School, Samford Tennis Center, Auburn Junior High School, The Auburn Public Library and Memorial Park Cemetery presents this site with the opportunity to be linked together as a single campus connected by pedestrian trails.

Recommendations:

1. **Parking in Front of the Building:** There is a small open area in front of the building that gets some occasional outdoor use and can act as a parking lot. This frees up the existing parking lot, which can be used to expand the building toward the street.
2. **Special Needs Programs:** APRD needs additional space to provide Special Needs Programs. Expanding Dean Road Recreation Center provides additional classroom space for this purpose. The proximity of Dean Road Elementary School makes this an even more viable location for these programs.
3. **Expand the Building:** The APRD is in critical need of additional gymnasiums and indoor courts. There is adequate space to add another gymnasium in the back of the building by relocating the maintenance area.
4. **Parking Behind the Building:** The increase demand by adding more facilities precipitates a need to use the area behind the building for additional parking. An additional parking lot may be possible if a retaining wall is used and a joint use agreement with the school is acquired to access the parking lot.
5. **Woodland Cleanup and Trail:** The depressed woodland area behind the center is full of invasive species undergrowth. Cleaning this area of invasive plants makes it more available to the community as a natural park with woodland trails connecting to an overall trail system.
6. **Bridge over Creek:** There is a depressed wooded area in the far back of the site that is the headwaters of the small stream. A small pedestrian bridge is needed to link the community center across the drain swale over to the proposed trail alignment.
7. **Neighborhood Trail Links:** There are several locations where trail spurs can be linked out to neighborhood streets providing residents with safe access to any of the facilities along the trail.
8. **Pedestrian Trail to Samford Tennis Center:** The property south of the Dean Road Recreation Center down to the Samford Tennis Center is owned by Auburn City Schools. The junior high

school is across East Samford Avenue from the tennis courts and is adjacent to Memorial Park Cemetery. These facilities can be linked together by a linear trail system from Dean Road Community Center, past the elementary school, down to the tennis center, over to the crosswalk at East Samford Avenue and across to the junior high school. The linear trail is routed on the east of the stream to serve as a buffer between the elementary school and the trail users. Dean Road Elementary School and the Community Center are linked to the trail by a single pedestrian foot bridge to minimize direct access. The linear trail provides a safe and secure route for students and their siblings to move between the schools and facilities without being adjacent to vehicular traffic. This recommendation will require a joint use agreement with ACS.

9. **Relocate Ceramics:** Relocate Ceramics over to the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center on the Parks and Recreation Main Campus. Ceramics would be better served at the Arts Center, which frees up space in the Dean Road Community Center to accommodate more youth and special needs programs.
10. **Memorial Park Cemetery:** The cemetery needs a small open air pavilion / chapel for gatherings and services. It can sit just inside the gate under the tall pines. More parking spaces can be set between the trees along the loop road to better serve the families and visitors without inhibiting vehicular circulation.
11. **Samford Tennis Center:** Shaded seating is needed along East Samford Avenue and on the back side of the courts for patrons to observe play, socialize and wait their turns.
12. **Joint Use Agreements:** It is in the best interest of Auburn City Schools and APRD to seek joint use agreements to share facilities and parking especially at this site. Part of those agreements should include the proposed trail system, shared parking and playground facilities on these adjoining properties.

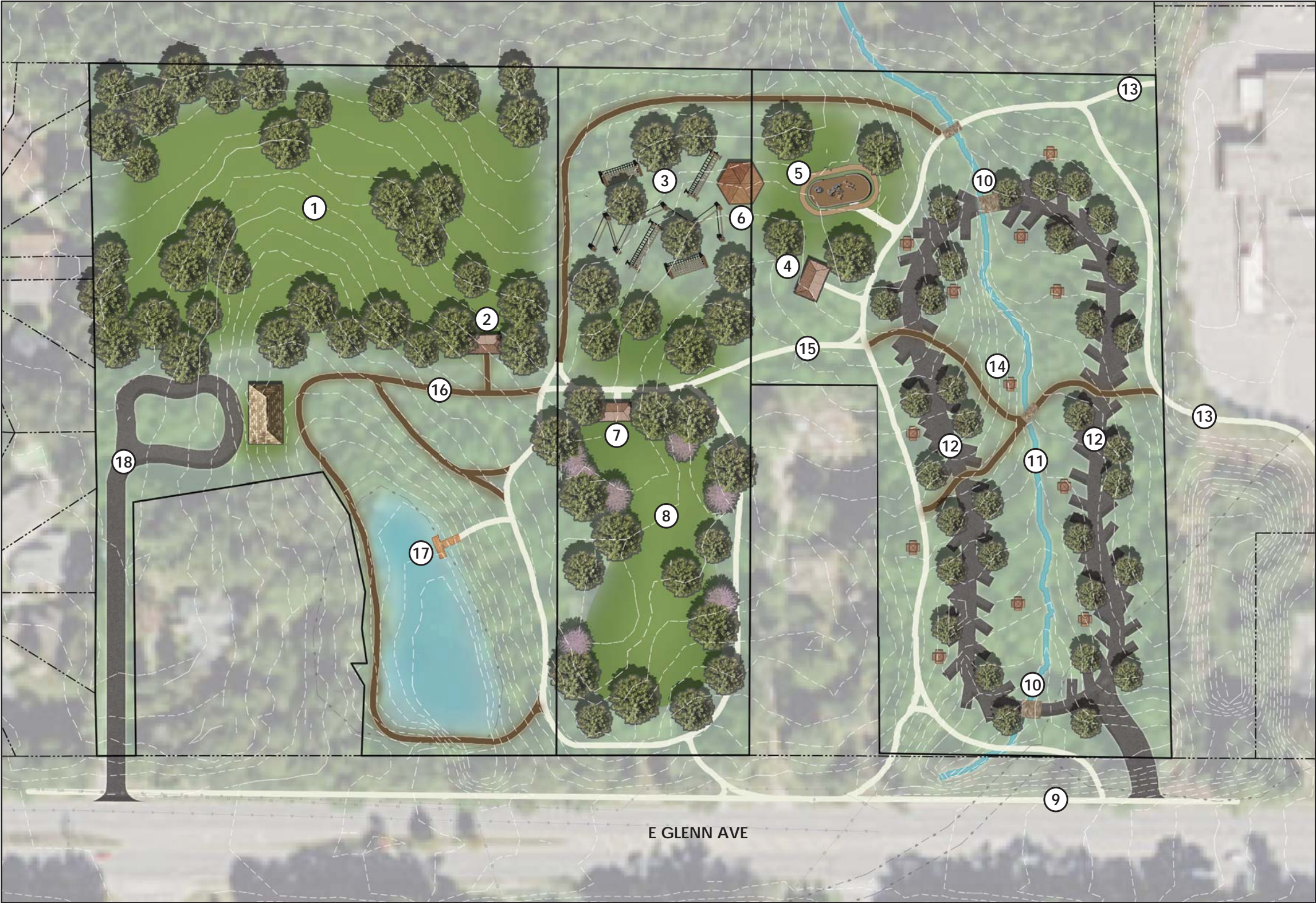
COST ESTIMATE #3

#	ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL \$
1	PARKING SPACES IN FRONT OF THE BUILDING	40	EA	\$ 750.00	\$ 30,000.00
2	SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAMS - RENOVATION INSIDE 45' X 100'	4,500	SF	\$ 75.00	\$ 337,500.00
3	EXPAND THE BUILDING IN BACK (90' X 110')	9,900	SF	\$ 150.00	\$ 1,485,000.00
4	PARKING SPACES BEHIND THE BUILDING	75	EA	\$ 900.00	\$ 67,500.00
	A. RETAINING WALL	200	LF	\$ 300.00	\$ 60,000.00
5	WOODLAND CLEANUP (UNDERBRUSHING AND REMOVING INVASIVES)	3	AC	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 10,500.00
	A. SOFT SURFACE TRAIL 10' X 600'	600	LF	\$ 12.50	\$ 7,500.00
6	FOOTBRIDGE OVER THE CREEK 8' WIDE (WOODEN)	1	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
7	NEIGHBORHOOD TRAIL LINKS (PENDING JOINT USE AGREEMENT)	400	LF	\$ 35.00	\$ 14,000.00
8	PED-TRAIL TO SAMFORD TENNIS CENTER (PENDING JOINT USE AGREEMENT)	1,800	LF	\$ 15.00	\$ 27,000.00
9	RELOCATE CERAMICS	1	LS	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
10	MEMORIAL PARK CEMETERY IMPROVEMENTS (SEE OTHER PARKS)	0	ALLOW	\$ -	\$ -
11	SAMFORD TENNIS CENTER IMPROVEMENTS (SHADE BENCHES)	8	EA	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 14,400.00
12	JOINT USE AGREEMENTS	1	LS	\$ -	\$ -
	GENERAL ITEMS				
	A. LANDSCAPE / IRRIGATION ALLOWANCE	1	ALLOW	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
	B. CLEARING, DEMOLITION, EROSION CONTROL, SITE WORK, GRADING ETC.	1	ALLOW	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL				\$ 2,268,400.00
	25% CONTINGENCY				\$ 567,100.00
	ENGINEERING AND FEES 10%				\$ 226,840.00
#3	TOTAL COSTS				\$ 3,062,340.00

DEAN ROAD RECREATION CENTER

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 307 S. DEAN ROAD

CONCEPT PLAN #4



LEGEND

- ① DOG PARK UNDER TREES
- ② 10' X 20' MIDSIZE SHELTER AT DOG PARK
- ③ ADVENTURE PLAY STRUCTURE IN TREES
- ④ FAMILY PAVILION WITH RESTROOMS
- ⑤ TOT LOT / TRICYCLE TRACK
- ⑥ TREEHOUSE
- ⑦ 10' X 12' PICNIC SHELTER
- ⑧ OPEN PLAY FIELD UNDER TREES
- ⑨ SIDEWALK CONNECTION TO DUCK SAMFORD PARK
- ⑩ VEHICLE BRIDGE CROSSING
- ⑪ ENHANCED STREAM BED
- ⑫ PARKING UNDER THE TREES / ONE-WAY
- ⑬ TRAIL TO SHOPPING CENTER
- ⑭ PICNIC TABLES UNDER THE TREES, (2) ADA
- ⑮ INTERNAL PAVED TRAIL SYSTEM
- ⑯ SOFT SURFACE WOODLAND TRAILS
- ⑰ DOCK ON POND
- ⑱ MAINTENANCE AREA

DINIUS PROPERTY

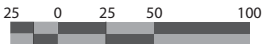
AUBURN, ALABAMA - 1403 E. GLENN AVENUE

12.79 ACRES



City of Auburn

FORESITE group



OCT - 06 - 2017
063.003

NARRATIVE #4

The Dinius Property is an undeveloped 12.79-acre parcel of wooded land on East Glenn Avenue that was donated to the city to become a passive park. It is within walking distance of Duck Samford Stadium and has been mandated to be used only as a passive park.

Recommendations:

1. **Dog Park:** There is a strong demand for dog parks in the various quadrants of the city. The dog park identified at Dinius is large enough to handle dogs with a minimal impact on the site. The area selected is in a far corner within easy walking distance from the parking and is very shady for both the pets and their owners.
2. **Shelter at Dog Park:** Every dog park needs a shelter where owners can sit, visit and enjoy the time while their dogs play. The shelter is a midsize (12 x 20) shelter with benches and a table.
3. **Adventure Play Structure:** The natural character of the site lends itself to including a creative adventure play structure that can be enjoyed by youth and adults. The structure is placed so that it blends with the existing tree canopy which provides shade for its users.
4. **Family Pavilion:** A large group pavilion (20 x 40) with restrooms is located between the parking lot and play area to better serve the entire park.
5. **Tot Lot / Tricycle Track:** To increase the attraction of the park to all members of the family, a small playground and tricycle track are placed near the family pavilion to accommodate young children.
6. **Treehouse:** The Park lends itself to unique types of amenities and play structures. A treehouse is included in the playground area near the Adventure Play Structure to add another exciting dimension to the park amenities.
7. **Picnic Shelter:** A midsize (12 x 20) shelter is located at the end of the open space to serve as a post-up or gathering space for people using the open space play field.
8. **Open Play Field:** The site of a previous residence is the only open space on the site. Remove the underbrush, debris and thin the trees around the perimeter of the old yard to open the space to function as a larger open play field.
9. **Sidewalk to Duck Samford Park:** The proximity to Duck Samford Park and the shortage of parking spaces at the stadium makes parking at Dinius desirable during games. An 8' sidewalk is aligned with East Glenn Avenue from the park to the stadium to accommodate that need.
10. **Vehicle Bridges:** The one-way loop road crosses the stream at two (2) locations. Wooden vehicular bridges cross over the stream to allow it to flow unimpeded and retain the natural character of the site.
11. **Enhanced Stream Bed:** The stream bed inside the parking loop is a natural attraction and improves the ambiance of the settings for the tables. The stream bed is enhanced with native plants, rocks and stilling pools to give it a more natural character and appeal.
12. **Parking Under the Trees:** The park is served by a one-way loop road parking lot that is spread out under the trees so that the tree canopy is not removed. The one-way loop encompasses a small stream that becomes a natural amenity to the park. The one-way route makes it easy to navigate the parking lot to find a space. ADA parking spaces will be designated near the shelter for better access.
13. **Trail to Shopping Center:** The proximity of the shopping center is a bonus for park users who may need to make a quick trip to the store or let the children play while they shop. Paved connector trails link the shopping center to the internal trail system of the park.
14. **Picnic Tables under the Trees:** The space between the loop road and the edges of the parking lot are designated to have picnic tables placed randomly under the trees and close to the parking spaces. Patrons often want to picnic close to their vehicles so this arrangement with the parking spaces provides that opportunity in an informal and accessible setting. Several tables also include ADA parking spaces.
15. **Internal Paved Trails:** A system of paved 8' trails thread through the park connecting the parking and amenities together. The paved trail allows for ADA access to all the park amenities. The trails are laid out to allow for loop walking and access to the shopping center and Samford Stadium.
16. **Woodland Trails:** A series of woodland connecting trails are laced through the forest and connected to the paved trails to provide a variation of surfaces for park patrons.
17. **Dock on Pond:** There is a small farmer pond on the site. A small dock is added to the pond to allow access for fishing and small craft boating.
18. **Maintenance Area:** A less accessible area on the far side of the site is designated as a satellite maintenance area. The driveway approaching the area is also used by a private residence and is only usable by the maintenance crew and parks staff.

COST ESTIMATE #4

#	ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL \$
1	DOG PARK UNDER TREES (FENCING, CLEANUP, EQUIPMENT)	1	ALLOW	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
2	SHELTER AT DOG PARK - MIDSIZE 12' X 20'	1	EA	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
3	ADVENTURE PLAY STRUCTURE	1	ALLOW	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
4	FAMILY PAVILION - 20' X 40' W RESTROOMS (STICK BUILD)	1	EA	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
5	TOT LOT / TRICYCLE TRACK	200	LF	\$ 35.00	\$ 7,000.00
6	TREEHOUSE	1	LS	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
7	PICNIC SHELTER - MIDSIZE 12' X 20' (PREFAB)	1	EA	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
8	OPEN PLAY FIELD 100' X 200'	20,000	LS	\$ 1.50	\$ 30,000.00
9	SIDEWALK TO DUCK SAMFORD PARK 12' PAVED TO INTERSECTION	1,000	LF	\$ 42.00	\$ 42,000.00
10	VEHICLE BRIDGES (ONE WAY 14' WIDE X 30' = 420 SF @ 2 EA.)	840	SF	\$ 75.00	\$ 63,000.00
11	ENHANCED STREAM BED	600	LF	\$ 75.00	\$ 45,000.00
12	PARKING UNDER TREES / ONE-WAY	100	EA	\$ 750.00	\$ 75,000.00
13	TRAIL TO SHOPPING CENTER 12' WIDE PAVED	400	LF	\$ 42.00	\$ 16,800.00
14	PICNIC TABLES UNDER THE TREES	12	EA	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 19,200.00
15	INTERNAL PARK PAVED TRAILS (10' PAVED)	2,000	LF	\$ 35.00	\$ 70,000.00
16	WOODLAND TRAILS 10' SOFT SURFACE	1,500	LF	\$ 12.00	\$ 18,000.00
17	DOCK ON POND (WOODEN)	1	EA	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
18	MAINTENANCE AREA W (20 X 40 BUILDING)	1	ALLOW	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
	GENERAL ITEMS				
	A. LANDSCAPE / IRRIGATION ALLOWANCE	1	ALLOW	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
	B. NEW UTILITIES AND DRAINAGE	1	ALLOW	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
	C. CLEARING, DEMOLITION, EROSION CONTROL, SITE WORK, GRADING ETC.	1	ALLOW	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL				\$ 1,457,000.00
	25% CONTINGENCY				\$ 364,250.00
	SURVEY				\$ 10,400.00
	ENGINEERING AND FEES 10%				\$ 145,700.00
#4	TOTAL COSTS				\$ 1,977,350.00

DINIUS PROPERTY

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 1403 E. GLENN AVENUE

CONCEPT PLAN #5



LEGEND

- ① PAVED PERIMETER TRAIL COMPLETION
- ② SHADE STRUCTURES OVER ALL BLEACHERS
- ③ PAVED TRAIL CONNECTOR WITH FOOTBRIDGE
- ④ TRAIL CONNECTION TO SAUGAHATCHEE RD
- ⑤ 20' X 20' PICNIC SHELTER
- ⑥ PICNIC TABLES
- ⑦ 20' X 40' PAVILION
- ⑧ WOODLAND TRAIL CONNECTOR WITH FOOTBRIDGE
- ⑨ PRACTICE FIELD / GRASS OVERFLOW PARKING
- ⑩ TRAIL CONNECTION TO STADIUM
- ⑪ WOODLAND PARK WITH NATURAL SURFACE TRAILS, BENCHES AND SMALL SHELTER STRUCTURES
- ⑫ LAKE / DETENTION AREA
- ⑬ PARKING FOR STADIUM AND FIELDS
(PENDING JOINT USE AGREEMENT)
- ⑭ RENOVATED PRACTICE FIELD AND PARKING
- ⑮ SHADED BENCH SEATING
- ⑯ ACCESSIBLE RAMP FOR STAIRS AND TRAIL
- ⑰ ADDITIONAL PARKING
- ⑱ BULKHEAD ON LOW SIDE OF LAKE
- ⑲ PIER AND SMALL PAVILION ON LAKE

DUCK SAMFORD PARK

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 1720 E. UNIVERSITY DRIVE

54.44 ACRES



City of Auburn

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OCT - 06 - 2017
063.003

NARRATIVE #5

Duck Samford is a 54.44-acre baseball park adjacent to Duck Samford Stadium and two (2) informal practice fields. The site is almost completely developed. The following recommendations are designed to enhance the user experience for patrons during games and practice and to increase usage of the fields.

Recommendations:

- Perimeter Trail:** Complete the paved perimeter trail around the ballfields so that patrons can walk the loops while teams are practicing or playing games.
- Shade Structures Over the Bleachers:** Shade is a premium during games. The bleachers are completely exposed to the sun and need shade coverings to make them more comfortable for parents and spectators.
- Trail and Bridge Connection:** A shortcut path over the creek with a pedestrian bridge makes movement between the two (2) groups of fields easier and quicker.
- Trail to Saugahatchee Road:** The Duck Samford property extends northward to Saugahatchee Road. A link from the internal park trail system up to the road is needed to provide safe and quicker access from the residential areas to the north of the park.
- Picnic Shelter:** A small picnic shelter (10 x 12) is placed adjacent to the play area and parking for use during games and other activities. It provides a space for team meetings, post-up, and birthday parties.
- Picnic Tables:** Picnic tables are always good spots for team meetings, families gathering, picnics, birthday parties and other uses. These tables are strategically located throughout the park to encourage those uses during the season and year-round.
- Pavilion:** There are no large shelters in the park for team meetings, social events or activities to support the teams and families. A large (20 x 40) pavilion is strategically placed close to the lake, playground and parking to make it an attraction to teams and families.
- Woodland Trail Connector:** A trail and bridge connector across the creek ravine and through the woodlands connects the three (3) upper fields over to the lower fields to make it easier to move between the two (2) field complexes and parking lots. The bridge could be a suspension bridge to add more interest and attraction to the park and woodland area.
- Practice Field:** There is a great need for adequate practice, warmup and team preparation space before and after games. The open space near the maintenance building is designated to be graded and grassed to meet these needs. It can also be used for overflow parking during games in Duck Samford Stadium or during tournaments.
- Trail to the Stadium:** There is a shortage of parking to service Duck Samford Stadium during games and events. A paved access trail from the north side parking lot along East University Drive down to the stadium will greatly improve access to the parking lots. The trail connects to the lower gates that access the stadium.
- Woodland Park:** The large forested area in the ravine between the fields is basically unused. The space makes a great woodland park with nature trails, benches, picnic tables, and small shelters to encourage use of the space. This new amenity will attract people to the park year-round.
- Lake / Detention:** The lower ravine is well suited to become a permanent lake and serve as detention for the additional paved surfaces recommended for the park. The lake is an amenity to the park and adds to the aesthetic value and viability of the woodland park.
- Parking for Stadium and Fields:** One (1) of the two (2) practice fields is converted to permanent parking for the stadium. The parking is connected to the internal park sidewalk system and the upper stadium gates. This recommendation is pending a joint use agreement with the ACS for dual use, access and location of other facilities.
- Practice Field / Parking:** The practice field is renovated to improve the surface and usability of the field. Substantial improvement of the subgrade for support allows the field to be used for periodic overflow parking.
- Shaded Bench Seating:** There is not enough shaded seating around the practice field for players or patrons during practice or games. These benches add comfort and protection for people watching or waiting on practices or games.
- Accessible Ramp:** The sidewalk between the practice fields and ballfields is not accessible due to a set of tall steps at one location. An accessible ramp as an alternate route is added at this location to eliminate the barrier.
- Additional Parking:** More parking spaces are added along the access road to increase the number of cars that can be accommodated on the site.
- Lake Access:** The existing lake is currently fenced off and inaccessible due to steep banks on two (2) of the three (3) sides. Adding a boardwalk /bulkhead along the water's edge on the low side of the lake provides access to the water and increases the passive amenities available in the park.
- Pier and Pavilion:** A small pavilion (15 x 15) attached to the boardwalk / bulkhead and a pier is intended to increase potential use of the lake for passive recreation.

COST ESTIMATE #5

#	ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL \$
1	PERIMETER TRAIL (12' CONCRETE)	1,100	LF	\$ 42.00	\$ 46,200.00
2	SHADE STRUCTURES OVER BLEACHERS	20	EA	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 70,000.00
3	TRAIL BRIDGE CONNECTION 10' WIDE WOODEN	50	LF	\$ 500.00	\$ 25,000.00
4	TRAIL TO SAUGAHATCHEE ROAD 10' WIDE	1,200	LF	\$ 42.00	\$ 50,400.00
5	PICNIC SHELTER - 10' X 12' (PREFAB)	1	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
6	PICNIC TABLES	12	EA	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 19,200.00
7	PAVILION - FAMILY 20' X 40' (NO RESTROOMS, STICK BUILD)	1	EA	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
8	WOODLAND TRAIL CONNECTOR (8' SOFT SURFACE)	200	LF	\$ 12.00	\$ 2,400.00
	A. SWINGING BRIDGE 6' WIDE	100	LF	\$ 360.00	\$ 36,000.00
9	PRACTICE FIELD (150' X 300')	45,000	SF	\$ 2.00	\$ 90,000.00
10	TRAIL TO THE STADIUM (12' PAVED)	2,200	LF	\$ 42.00	\$ 92,400.00
	A. WOODEN FOOT BRIDGES	2	EA	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
11	WOODLAND PARK (SITE WOODLANDS CLEANUP)	3	AC	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 10,500.00
	A. SOFTSURFACE TRAILS IN WOODS 8' WIDE	4,400	LF	\$ 12.00	\$ 52,800.00
	B. PAVILION 18' X 18' OVERLOOKING NEW LAKE W RESTROOMS (STICK BUILD)	1	EA	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
	C. BENCHES, TABLES, SWINGS THROUGH WOODLAND PARK	18	EA	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 21,600.00
12	LAKE/DETENTION (2 ACRES)	1	ALLOW	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
13	PARKING SPACES FOR STADIUM	100	EA	\$ 900.00	\$ 90,000.00
14	PRACTICE FIELDS / AND OVERFLOW PARKING (200' X 425')	85,000	SF	\$ 3.00	\$ 255,000.00
15	SHADE BENCH SEATING	10	EA	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 25,000.00
16	ACCESSIBLE RAMP 10' X 240' @ 5%	240	LF	\$ 35.00	\$ 8,400.00
17	ADDITIONAL PARKING (SPACES ONLY, NO ROAD INCLUDED)	40	EA	\$ 500.00	\$ 20,000.00
18	LAKE ACCESS / BULKHEAD BOARDWALK 12' WIDE	250	LF	\$ 650.00	\$ 162,500.00
19	PAVILION 20 X 40 FAMILY (NO RESTROOMS, STICK BUILD)	1	EA	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
	GENERAL ITEMS				
	A. FISHING PIER (WOODEN)	600	SF	\$ 55.00	\$ 33,000.00
	B. STAKING, CLEARING, EROSION CONTROL, SITE WORK, TRAIL GRADING	1	ALLOW	\$ 350,000.00	\$ 350,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL				\$ 1,850,400.00
	25% CONTINGENCY				\$ 462,600.00
	ENGINEERING AND FEES 10%				\$ 185,040.00
#5	TOTAL COSTS				\$ 2,498,040.00

DUCK SAMFORD PARK

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 1720 E. UNIVERSITY DRIVE



CONCEPT PLAN #6

LEGEND

- ① TUNNEL FOR THE GREENWAY / BIKE PATH
- ② GREENWAY TRAIL TO TOWN CREEK
- ③ EXISTING VEHICULAR ACCESS ROAD
- ④ (3) LAKES
- ⑤ (3) TRAILS/FOOTBRIDGES AND (4) ROCK WATERFALLS
- ⑥ AMPHITHEATER, STAGE AND BANDSHELL
- ⑦ EVENT LAWN
- ⑧ TERRACED AMPHITHEATER WITH TREE CANOPY
- ⑨ DOG PARK WITH 12' X 12' OPEN PAVILION
- ⑩ 30' X 60' FAMILY PAVILION
- ⑪ 10' X 10' SMALL SHELTER
- ⑫ (4) BENCH SWINGS AT OVERLOOK
- ⑬ MULTI-AGE PLAY AREA WITH TRICYCLE TRACK
- ⑭ LAWN FOR SMALL EVENTS AND OPEN PLAY
- ⑮ RENOVATE EXISTING RESTROOM BUILDING
- ⑯ ENTRY PLAZA WITH CLOCK TOWER
- ⑰ DROP-OFF ENTRY PLAZA AND TURNAROUND
- ⑱ (2) PARK ENTRANCES AND PARKING LOTS
- ⑲ TREE LINED PARKING
- ⑳ FARMERS MARKET AND 12' X 120' SHADE ARBOR
- ㉑ PASSIVE PARK WITH PICNIC TABLES, BENCHES AND TOT LOT
- ㉒ GREENWAY SOUTH TO TOWN CREEK PARK / UNDERPASS
- ㉓ GREENWAY NORTH TO FRANK BROWN REC. CENTER

FELTON LITTLE PARK

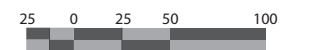
AUBURN, ALABAMA - 341 E. GLENN AVENUE

8.29 ACRES



City of Auburn

FORESITE
group



OCT - 06 - 2017
063.003

NARRATIVE #6

Felton Little Park is an 8.29-acre in-town urban area softball and neighborhood park on East Glenn Avenue. It also has a large detention pond system that sits on the west side south of the Norfolk Southern railroad track and is north of the DJWMC site. The detention area sits at the headwaters of the upper drainage basin for Town Creek.

The park is identified in the Downtown Master Plan as the best location for an outdoor entertainment venue and amphitheater. A concept plan was included in the downtown master plan which was well received by the citizens and stakeholders.

Recommendations:

- Tunnel for the Greenway:** The raised railroad bed cuts Felton Little Park off from access to the Parks and Recreation Campus to the north. The existing drainage culvert under the railroad bed needs repair due to the increased runoff passing through the culvert. It is recommended that the culvert be replaced with a large arched culvert tunnel that accommodates a bike trail. The objective is to link the two (2) parks and extend the Greenway north to the Parks and Recreation Campus and south to Town Creek Park.
- Greenway on Town Creek:** The tunnel under the railroad and a larger culvert under East Glenn Avenue opens the route for a greenway from Frank Brown Recreation Center along Town Creek south to Town Creek Park. If additional culverts are incorporated, it is possible to have a bike route that does not cross any serious traffic arteries from Frank Brown to Town Creek.
- Existing Access Road:** The existing west side road serves the adjacent residential area. A joint use agreement is needed so stage performers can use the road to access the back of the band shell of the amphitheater.
- Lakes:** The existing detention pond is converted into a wetland that is tiered into three (3) levels with rock waterfalls at each level. The movement and sound of the water adds to the ambiance of the park.
- Trails and Waterfalls:** The terraced lake levels create grade changes that are enhanced with waterfalls. Pedestrian trail access bridges to the park are specifically located to take advantage of the waterfalls.
- Amphitheater, Stage and Bandshell:** The performance stage for the amphitheater is located at the lowest point of the amphitheater to make it visible from most areas within the park. The bandshell includes a backstage restroom, dressing room and roof. The overall amphitheater includes the event lawn and the terraced seating.
- Event Lawn:** The large flat area in front of the stage in the amphitheater serves as a crowd space, dance floor and seating area for events.

- Terraced Seating for Amphitheater:** The sloping hill is terraced with seat walls and shade trees for patrons to enjoy the view of the stage and to make the amphitheater feel more like a park when not occupied.
- Dog Park:** The urban location of Felton Little Park makes it a desirable place to bring dogs. A dog park is added to provide this amenity to the residents. It is in the NE corner of the site to partially isolate it from other amenities in the park.
- Family Pavilion:** A large open pavilion (30 x 60) is located at the top of the terraced seating to serve as a group or family event space, covered seating or a mezzanine for the amphitheater
- Small Shelters:** Two (2) small shelters (10 x 10) are placed on the back side of the amphitheater to accommodate the sound crews or be used for informal activities and picnics. Underground conduits run from the shelters to the band shell to accommodate a variety of wires and controls as needed for an event. One is attached to the dog park and the other to the playground area.
- Bench Swings:** Bench swings are set along the greenway in strategic locations to enjoy the views.
- Playground Area:** The playground is divided into three (3) separate age levels with a tricycle track as the perimeter sidewalk.
- Small Event Lawn:** A smaller event lawn on the upper level adjacent to the play area is for smaller events or for added seating during larger events.
- Existing Restrooms:** The existing restrooms are in an excellent location to be renovated to serve the park and events.
- Clock Tower:** An iconic element placed at the entrance to the park, such as a clock tower, sculpture, art work or some other item, can help identify the park and give it a sense of presence.
- Drop-off Entry Plaza:** A vehicle drop off / turnaround located in front of the park allows for easy drop-off and pickup without vehicles stopping in the parking lots and blocking traffic flow.
- Parking Lots:** There is only room for one double-sided bay of parking in the current space available. The central road serves as the entrance lane up to the park and drop-off.
- Tree Lined Parking:** There is not enough room to add another single loaded bay in the current space available for parking. The remaining space along the edge of the parking lot is planted with large trees for shade and buffer.
- Farmer's Market:** A long, open-air shelter along the sidewalk adjacent to the parking lot is shown overlooking the passive park area. It is used by merchants to set their products under the arbor and back their trucks up along the curb for merchandise display. The arbor also serves as a covered seating area to view the passive park.

- Passive Park:** The small area adjacent to the Farmer's Market is developed into a small passive park with tables, benches and other amenities for families and patrons.
- Greenway South Connection:** The greenway trail continues south from Felton Little Park along Town Creek. It crosses the DJWMC site and continues along Town Creek through Graham McTeer Park, beside Forestdale lot, across the Scout Hut site, adjacent to Margie Bailey Park, across Janet Drive lot and into Town Creek Park. The greenway is the upper end of the proposed Town Creek Greenway.

- Greenway North Connection:** The greenway connects north through the proposed railroad tunnel, across to the edge of the Post Office site and on to Frank Brown Recreation Center. From there it connects to the trail system that leads west to Boykin / Donahue and north to Westview Park and Drake middle school creating a continuous greenway / bike trail through the middle of Auburn.

COST ESTIMATE #6

#	ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL \$
1	TUNNEL FOR THE GREENWAY	1	ALLOW	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 2,000,000.00
2	GREENWAY 12' X 650'	7,800	SF	\$ 42.00	\$ 327,600.00
3	EXISTING VEHICULAR ACCESS ROAD, SKIM COAT SURFACE	15,600	SF	\$ 0.50	\$ 7,800.00
4	LAKES (REWORK THE LAKES TO BE PERMANENT POOLS)	1	LS	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00
5	TRAIL BRIDGES 12' X 40' (WOODEN)	3	EA	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 90,000.00
	A. ROCK DAM WATERFALLS (4 EACH) @ (40' + 50' + 50' + 75')	215	LF	\$ 500.00	\$ 107,500.00
6	AMPHITHEATER, STAGE, RESTROOM, AND BANDSHELL	1	LS	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
7	EVENT LAWN (GRAVEL BASE COURSE)	35,000	SF	\$ 4.50	\$ 157,500.00
8	TERRACED SEATING WALLS W 5' FRONT WALK	800	LF	\$ 150.00	\$ 120,000.00
	A. TERRACED SEATING TURF AREA 600' X 15' (GRAVEL BASE COURSE)	9,000	SF	\$ 4.50	\$ 40,500.00
	B. PERIMETER WALKWAYS AND STAIRS 12' WIDE	1,000	LF	\$ 48.00	\$ 48,000.00
	C. AMPHITHEATER ELECTRICAL AND LIGHTING	1	LS	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00
9	DOG PARK	1	ALLOW	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
10	FAMILY PAVILION - 30' X 60' (STICK BUILD)	1,800	EA	\$ 75.00	\$ 135,000.00
11	PLAYGROUND AREA RUBBERIZED PLAY SURFACE & SUBDRAIN	3,500	SF	\$ 20.00	\$ 70,000.00
	A. PLAY STRUCTURES	3	ALLOW	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 300,000.00
	B. PERIMETER PAVING AND ARRIVAL PLAZA (CONCRETE)	25,000	SF	\$ 3.50	\$ 87,500.00
12	BENCH SWINGS	4	EA	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 10,000.00
13	SMALL SHELTERS - 10' X 10' SPECIAL FINISH TO MATCH BANDSHELL (STICK BUILD)	2	EA	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
14	SMALL EVENT LAWN 75' X 165'	11,375	SF	\$ 4.50	\$ 51,187.50
15	EXISTING RESTROOMS (RENOVATED AND UPGRADE)	1	LS	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
16	CLOCK TOWER (ICON)	1	ALLOW	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
17	DROP-OFF ENTRY PLAZA (ASPHALT AND CURBS) 24' WIDE 80' DIA.	4,000	SF	\$ 8.00	\$ 32,000.00
18	PARKING LOT SPACES	45	EA	\$ 750.00	\$ 33,750.00
	A. RESURFACE EXISTING PARKING LOT SPACES (300 SF PER CAR)	72	EA	\$ 150.00	\$ 10,800.00
19	TREES FOR TREE-LINED PARKING	20	EA	\$ 500.00	\$ 10,000.00
20	FARMERS MARKET (20' X 100') ARBOR / SHELTER	2,000	SF	\$ 65.00	\$ 130,000.00
21	PASSIVE PARK AND AMENITIES	1	ALLOW	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
22	GREENWAY SOUTH CONNECTION (FUTURE TOWN CREEK GREENWAY)	1	LF	\$ -	\$ -
22	A. RAISE E. GLENN AVE. AND REBUILD CULVERT UNDERPASS	1	ALLOW	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
23	GREENWAY NORTH CONNECTION (12' X 300') ACROSS POST OFFICE	3,600	SF	\$ 3.50	\$ 12,600.00
GENERAL ITEMS					
	A. LANDSCAPE / IRRIGATION ALLOWANCE	1	ALLOW	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
	B. UTILITY UPGRADES AND DRAINAGE	1	ALLOW	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 90,000.00
	C. DEMOLITION, STAKING, CLEARING, EROSION CONTROL, SITE WORK, GRADING	1	ALLOW	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL				\$ 5,666,737.50
	25% CONTINGENCY				\$ 1,416,684.38
	SURVEY				\$ 6,632.00
	ENGINEERING AND FEES 10%				\$ 566,673.75
#6	TOTAL COSTS				\$ 7,656,727.63

FELTON LITTLE PARK

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 341 E. GLENN AVENUE



CONCEPT PLAN #7

LEGEND

- ① ADDITIONAL ENTRANCE / GATE AT FESTIVAL FIELD
- ② SOFT SURFACE LOOP TRAIL
- ③ FESTIVAL FIELD
- ④ 10' X 12' SMALL SHELTER AT EXISTING DOG PARK
- ⑤ OVERFLOW PARKING FOR AMPHITHEATER
- ⑥ AMPHITHEATER WITH STAGE
- ⑦ BENCH SWINGS
- ⑧ PERMANENT PARKING LOT
- ⑨ OVERFLOW PARKING
- ⑩ WOODLAND TRAIL WITH BRIDGE
- ⑪ ORCHARD PLANTINGS
- ⑫ OPEN PLAY FIELD
- ⑬ WOODLAND TRAILS WITH BRIDGE
- ⑭ AUDUBON CERTIFIED WILDFLOWER / WILDLIFE FOOD PLOT
- ⑮ 6' X 8' WILDLIFE VIEWING SHELTER
- ⑯ BIKE TRAIL CONNECTION TO WIRE ROAD
- ⑰ REMOTE RESTROOM
- ⑱ ENLARGE CULVERT AS UNDERPASS FOR TRAIL
- ⑲ GREENWAY ALONG CREEK TO AUBURN SOCCER COMPLEX

KIESEL PARK

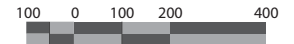
AUBURN, ALABAMA - 520 CHADWICK LANE

124.16 ACRES



City of Auburn

FORESITE
group



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063.003

NARRATIVE #7

Kiesel Park is a 124.16-acre passive park at 520 Chadwick Lane that was donated to the City of Auburn under the condition that it remain passive and permit no active athletics inside the park. The park currently includes a large open festival field and is the site of the annual CityFest. There is a community garden, historic house, large pavilion, trails, dog park and other amenities on the site.

Recommendations:

1. **Additional Gate:** The festival field needs a second gate off Chadwick Lane to handle the traffic.
2. **Soft Surface Loop Trail:** A loop trail around the festival field defines the edges of the space and provides a longer soft surface walking trail for patrons to the park and Dog Park.
3. **Festival Field:** This existing large field functions well for festivals and remains unchanged as a recommendation.
4. **Shelter at Dog Park:** The existing dog park needs a small (10 x 12) shade structure for pet owners. The dog park is in the open and in desperate need of shade for both the pets and their owners.
5. **Overflow Parking:** A section of the festival field near the proposed amphitheater, with access from the main driveway, is designated as an overflow parking area for events in the amphitheater.
6. **Natural Amphitheater:** A natural bowl shaped area planted as an arboretum has natural terraces that form an excellent outdoor amphitheater. The trees need to be limbed up to open the lower view lines to the stage. A permanent stage structure with power, sound, and lighting is placed at the lowest point for the best views.
7. **Bench Swings:** Old-fashioned porch swings are added around the park at strategic locations for resting and to enjoy the park's natural amenities.
8. **Permanent Parking:** A permanent paved parking lot is located at the gate and near the road to accommodate the regular traffic and day to day use of the park.
9. **Overflow Parking:** The grass areas around the paved parking lot are reinforced for overflow parking.
10. **Woodland Trail and Bridge:** A shortcut route from the parking area across the creek to the park trails system and open fields.
11. **Orchard Plantings:** Fruit and nut trees added around the edges of the open fields attract wildlife and create another dimension to the park's experience.
12. **Open Play Field:** Existing open field for informal use and play.
13. **Woodland Trails:** Develop several soft surface alternative connection trails that cut through the forests and across the wetlands and creeks using pedestrian bridges. These trails provide other unique experiences along the trails and alternative routes around the park.

14. **Audubon Food Plot:** Convert the open field to a wildflower meadow and wildlife food plot to attract birds and fauna to the park. The entire park should become Audubon certified.
15. **Wildlife Viewing Shelter:** Shelter (6 x 8) hidden in the edge of the woodlands overlooking wildlife food plots to be used for bird watching and wildlife viewing.
16. **Bike Trail:** Paved bike trail along Chadwick Lane down to Wire Road to connect with the other trail.
17. **Remote Restroom:** Additional restroom on the far side of the park to serve patrons that are at a distance from the existing restrooms.
18. **Culvert Underpass:** Rebuild and enlarge the culvert under Chadwick Lane to allow the bike trail / greenway from the Soccer Complex to pass under the road and into the park.
19. **Greenway to Soccer Complex:** Paved bike trail along the existing creek to the Auburn Soccer Complex.

COST ESTIMATE #7

#	ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL \$
1	ADDITIONAL GATE (FENCE, GATE, LOCK, CONTROL, SIGNAGE)	1	EA	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
2	SOFT SURFACE LOOP TRAIL 12' WIDE	3,600	LF	\$ 18.00	\$ 64,800.00
3	FESTIVAL FIELD (UNCHANGED)	0		\$ -	\$ -
4	SHELTER AT DOG PARK (10' X 12')	1	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
5	OVERFLOW PARKING (GRASS 120' X 220') GRAVEL REINFORCED	26,400	SF	\$ 1.50	\$ 39,600.00
6	NATURAL AMPHITHEATER W WOODEN DECK / SOUND SYSTEM	1	LS	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
7	BENCH SWINGS (THROUGHOUT THE PARK)	12	EA	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 21,600.00
8	PERMANENT PARKING SPACES - ASPHALT PAVING, NO CURBS	240	EA	\$ 750.00	\$ 180,000.00
9	OVERFLOW PARKING (GRASS 120' X 600') GRAVEL REINFORCED	72,000	SF	\$ 1.50	\$ 108,000.00
10	WOODLAND TRAIL - SOFT SURFACE 12' WIDE	250	LF	\$ 18.00	\$ 4,500.00
	A. WOODLAND BRIDGE	1	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
11	ORCHARD TREE PLANTINGS	100	EA	\$ 250.00	\$ 25,000.00
12	OPEN PLAY FIELD (UNCHANGED)	0		\$ -	\$ -
13	WOODLAND TRAILS SOFT SURFACE 10' WIDE	900	LF	\$ 15.00	\$ 13,500.00
	A. WOODLAND BRIDGE	3	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
14	AUDUBON FOOD PLOT	7	AC	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
15	WILDLIFE VIEWING SHELTER 6' X 8' (CUSTOM BUILD)	3	EA	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 36,000.00
16	BIKE TRAIL 12' ASPHALT TO WIRE ROAD TO MAIN GATE	5,800	LF	\$ 35.00	\$ 203,000.00
17	REMOTE RESTROOM (UNISEX 8' X 8')	64	SF	\$ 250.00	\$ 16,000.00
18	CULVERT UNDERPASS	1	LS	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
19	TRAIL TO SOCCER COMPLEX (10' PAVED GREENWAY TRAIL)	4,500	LF	\$ 50.00	\$ 225,000.00
	GENERAL ITEMS				
	A. LANDSCAPE / IRRIGATION ALLOWANCE	1	ALLOW	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
	B. UTILITY UPGRADES (REMOTE RESTROOM)	1	ALLOW	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
	C. STAKING, CLEARING, EROSION CONTROL, SITE WORK, TRAIL GRADING	1	ALLOW	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL				\$ 1,982,000.00
	25% CONTINGENCY				\$ 495,500.00
	ENGINEERING AND FEES 10%				\$ 198,200.00
#7	TOTAL COSTS				\$ 2,675,700.00

KIESEL PARK

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 520 CHADWICK LANE

CONCEPT PLAN #8

LEGEND

- ① MOUNTAIN BIKING / HIKING TRAILS AREA
- ② DISC GOLF COURSE AND SHELTER
- ③ ARCHERY RANGE, SHELTER AND PARKING
- ④ COMMUNITY CENTER / SENIOR AREA
- ⑤ (2) GYMNASIUMS
- ⑥ OUTDOOR POOL
- ⑦ DOG PARK WITH PERIMETER NATURE TRAIL
- ⑧ GREENWAY BIKE TRAIL ON GAS LINE EASEMENT
- ⑨ MIDSIZE SHELTERS
- ⑩ (4) BASEBALL FIELDS / (1) T-BALL FIELD / CONCESSIONS
- ⑪ OPEN PLAY / PRACTICE FIELD WITH SMALL SHELTER
- ⑫ OUTPARCEL FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT
- ⑬ (4) MULTI-USE ATHLETIC FIELDS AND CONCESSIONS
- ⑭ GREENWAY TRAIL CONNECTIONS TO NEIGHBORHOODS
- ⑮ PARKING LOTS
- ⑯ PARKING UNDER TREES FOR BIKES AND DISC GOLF
- ⑰ VEHICULAR BRIDGE STREAM CROSSING AND TRAIL UNDERPASS
- ⑱ (3) MULTI-USE OUTDOOR COURTS
- ⑲ 10,000 SF BRANCH LIBRARY
- ⑳ CONNECTION TO KENTWOOD DRIVE TO WINDWAY ROAD
- ㉑ GROVE HILL ROAD EXTENSION
- ㉒ NATURE TRAILS THROUGHOUT PARK



LAKE WILMORE PARK

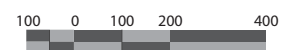
AUBURN, ALABAMA - 737 OGLETREE ROAD

208.38 ACRES



City of Auburn

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NARRATIVE #8

Lake Wilmore is a 208.38-acre tract of undeveloped land on the south side of the City across I-85 on Ogletree Road. The site is heavily wooded with steep topography along Moores Mill Creek. A local mountain bike club has developed a variety of bike trails within the site but no other amenities exist. There are very few parks or athletic facilities on the south side of the city. Lake Wilmore is a prime location to provide a variety of both passive and active recreational amenities for the City.

Recommendations:

- Mountain Bike Park:** A remote and rugged area of the park is set aside for development of mountain biking and hiking trails. A small (10 x 20) shelter is included in the area as a home base for the users. The site is across Town Creek from the rest of the park and is accessed by a single pedestrian / bike bridge from the shelter and parking area.
- Disc Golf:** A disc golf course with parking and (10 x 20) shelter is provided in another remote section of the site between the two creeks. The area is more conducive to a natural style sporting facility and will be the domain of the disc golfers. It needs to be a tournament quality facility.
- Archery Range:** An archery range is located across the creek away from the other amenities of the park. It is accessible only by trail and has a separate driveway with associated parking. It has a (10 x 20) shelter as the post-up, meeting, training, and gathering point. The range is directed toward a small hillside to limit the range of the arrows. The entire facility is intentionally isolated to make it safer for the rest of the park patrons.
- Community Center / Senior Facilities:** The south side of the city does not have a community center, so one is located here, with the gymnasiums, classrooms and additional facilities for local seniors.
- Gymnasiums:** Two (2) gymnasiums are incorporated into the community center to provide multiple court space.
- Pool:** An outdoor pool and sun deck are set off the back side of the community center above the slope overlooking Moores Mill Creek and the wetlands beyond.
- Dog Park:** A dog park is needed on the south side of the city and is located adjacent to the community center overlooking the creek. It is connected to the park and community center by a series of walking tails. The dog park is located on the undevelopable part of the flood plain and includes a small (10 x 12) shelter for the pet owners.
- Greenway Parallel to the Gas Line:** There is a major natural gas line cutting through the site that limits what can be built over the right-of-way. The easement is used to develop a greenway through the park that connects the park from north to south and out to the northern and southern residential communities.
- Midsized Shelters:** Shelters are located throughout the park to provide additional amenities to be used by teams during the sports season and other groups throughout the year.
- Baseball Fields:** A cluster of four (4) baseball fields with one (1) T-ball field and a concession stand make up the baseball complex for this quadrant of the city.

- Open Play Field:** An open play field allows for practice and other group activities. A small shelter is included with this open space as a post-up / shade / picnic spot.
- Outparcel:** The corner parcel adjacent to the fire station is reserved for future development.
- Athletic Fields:** A four (4) athletic fields complex with a concession stand is included to provide additional space for field sports and practices.
- Future Greenway Connections North and South:** The greenway over the gas line continues south to Chewacla State Park and north to the local residential neighborhoods.
- Parking:** The multiple facilities of the park need several parking lots to accommodate the demand.
- Parking under Trees:** Specially designed parking lots that disperse the cars underneath the natural tree canopy are in the disc golf and mountain bike sections.
- Bridge and Trail Underpass:** A series of soft surface nature trails connect the community center to the rest of the park by passing under the proposed Grove Hill Road Bridge and connecting to the ball fields and park amenity areas.
- Outdoor Courts:** Three (3) multi-use outdoor courts are included at the community center.
- Branch Library:** A 10,000-square foot branch library adjacent to the community center is located along the Kentwood Drive extension.
- Kentwood Drive Extension:** The road north of Ogletree Elementary School is extended eastward to connect to Windway Road as a better access route to the park and school from the adjacent residential areas.
- Grove Hill Road Extension:** Grove Hill Road is extended north via a highway bridge across the Moores Mill Creek. The bridge is also an overpass for the trails and bikeways beneath.
- Nature Trails:** Additional trails on both sides of Moores Mill Creek and throughout the park connect the overall park amenities together.

COST ESTIMATE #8

#	ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL \$
1	MOUNTAIN BIKE PARK (TRAILS AND JUMPS)	1	ALLOW	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 125,000.00
	A. SHELTER MIDSIZE 10' X 20' W COMPOST TOILET (PREFAB)	1	EA	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
	B. BRIDGE (PEDESTRIAN / WOODEN)	50	LF	\$ 500.00	\$ 25,000.00
2	DISC GOLF HOLES (TEE PAD, BASKET, CLEARING, SIGNAGE, TRAILS)	18	EA	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 90,000.00
	A. SHELTER MIDSIZE 10' X 20' W COMPOST TOILET (PREFAB)	1	EA	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
	B. BRIDGE (PEDESTRIAN / WOODEN)	50	LF	\$ 500.00	\$ 25,000.00
3	ARCHERY RANGE	1	ALLOW	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00
	A. SHELTER (MIDSIZE 10' X 20' W TWO HOLE TOILET, STICK BUILD)	1	EA	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
4	COMMUNITY CENTER / SENIOR FACILITIES	12,000	LS	\$ 175.00	\$ 2,100,000.00
	A. SIDEWALK AND PAVED TRAILS 10'	2,800	LF	\$ 35.00	\$ 98,000.00
	GYMNASIUMS W 2 INDOOR BASKETBALL COURTS	20,000	SF	\$ 160.00	\$ 3,200,000.00
6	POOL OLYMPIC (82' X 164')	136,000	SF	\$ 125.00	\$ 17,000,000.00
	A. POOL DECK	9,500	SF	\$ 7.50	\$ 71,250.00
	B. SPLASH PAD	0	ALLOW	\$ 250,000.00	\$ -
	C. FENCE (350')	350	LF	\$ 48.00	\$ 16,800.00
7	DOG PARK	1	ALLOW	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
	A. SHELTER 10' X 12' (PREFAB)	1	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
	B. SOFT SURFACE DOG TRAILS 12'	2,000	LF	\$ 18.00	\$ 36,000.00
8	GREENWAY PARALLEL TO THE GAS LINE 12' WIDE PAVED	2,400	LF	\$ 48.00	\$ 115,200.00
9	MIDSIZED SHELTERS 12' X 20' (PREFAB)	5	EA	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
10	BASEBALL FIELDS	5	EA	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00
	A. FIELD LIGHTS	5	EA	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 500,000.00
	B. CONCESSIONS BUILDING	1	EA	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 225,000.00
11	OPEN PLAY FIELD 200' X 400'	80,000	SF	\$ 3.50	\$ 280,000.00
	A. SHELTER (MIDSIZE 12' X 20' W RESTROOM, STICK BUILD)	1	EA	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
	B. SIDEWALK AND PAVED TRAILS 10'	1,200	LF	\$ 35.00	\$ 42,000.00
12	OUTPARCEL (NO CHANGE)	0	EA	\$ -	\$ -
13	ATHLETIC FIELDS 160' X 336' + 54,000 SF EACH	4	EA	\$ 135,000.00	\$ 540,000.00
	A. FIELD LIGHTS	4	EA	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 440,000.00
	B. CONCESSIONS BUILDING	1	EA	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 225,000.00
	C. FENCE (2400') 10' HT.	2,400	LF	\$ 45.00	\$ 108,000.00
	D. SIDEWALK AND PAVED TRAILS 10'	2,600	LF	\$ 35.00	\$ 91,000.00
14	GREENWAY NORTH AND SOUTH (FUTURE EXTENSIONS)	0	LF	\$ -	\$ -
15	PARKING SPACES	950	EA	\$ 900.00	\$ 855,000.00
16	PARKING SPACES UNDER TREES	100	EA	\$ 650.00	\$ 65,000.00
17	BRIDGE (GROVE HILL ROAD HIGHWAY BRIDGE 32' X 150')	4,800	SF	\$ 250.00	\$ 1,200,000.00
18	OUTDOOR COURTS (10,000 SF EA) W FENCES	3	EA	\$ 55,000.00	\$ 165,000.00
19	BRANCH LIBRARY	10,000	SF	\$ 160.00	\$ 1,600,000.00
20	KENTWOOD DRIVE EXTENSION 25' X 1,000' NO CURB	1,000	LF	\$ 260.00	\$ 260,000.00
21	GROVE HILL ROAD EXTENSION 25' X 1,400' NO CURB	1,400	LF	\$ 260.00	\$ 364,000.00
22	NATURE TRAILS 10' WIDE IN WOODLANDS	8,000	LF	\$ 15.00	\$ 120,000.00
	GENERAL ITEMS				
	A. LANDSCAPE / IRRIGATION ALLOWANCE (FIELDS AND CENTER)	1	ALLOW	\$ 95,000.00	\$ 95,000.00
	B. UTILITY UPGRADES AND DRAINAGE	1	ALLOW	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 125,000.00
	C. OVERALL STAKING, CLEARING, EROSION CONTROL, SITE WORK, TRAIL GRADING	1	ALLOW	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL				\$ 32,882,250.00
	25% CONTINGENCY				\$ 8,220,562.50
	SURVEY				\$ 166,400.00
	ENGINEERING AND FEES 10%				\$ 3,288,225.00
#8	TOTAL COSTS				\$ 44,557,437.50

LAKE WILMORE PARK

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 737 OGLETREE ROAD

CONCEPT PLAN #9

LEGEND

- ① NATURAL SURFACE PERIMETER WALKING TRAIL
- ② RENOVATE BALLFIELD AND FENCING
- ③ TOT LOT
- ④ OPEN PLAY FIELD
- ⑤ SHADE TREES ALONG EXISTING PARKING
- ⑥ (3) 12' X 20' PICNIC SHELTERS
- ⑦ ACCESS TRAILS TO NEIGHBORING PROPERTIES



MARTIN LUTHER KING PARK

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 190 BYRD STREET

8.75 ACRES



City of Auburn

FORESITE
group



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NARRATIVE #9

Martin Luther King Park is an 8.75-acre neighborhood park at the west end of West Glenn Avenue. It includes a play structure, restroom, pavilion, trails, picnic area, practice ball diamond and parking.

Recommendations:

1. **Natural Surface Perimeter Walking Trail:** There is a short trail connecting the playground to the picnic area on the back side of the park. This trail needs to be extended around the entire park as a perimeter loop walking trail.
2. **Renovate Ballfield and Fencing:** The ball diamond is in poor condition and needs to be upgraded by renovating the turf and replacing the fence and backstop so the field can accommodate more use.
3. **Tot Lot:** The existing play structure does not accommodate small children. A small tot lot is added for small children who accompany their families to the park.
4. **Open Play Field:** The turf space in front of the pavilion has been overused and needs to be renovated, irrigated and better maintained.
5. **Shade Trees along the Existing Parking:** The parking lot has no shade cover and the viewing area along the left field line of the ball diamond has no shade. Trees along both sides of the parking lot will provide needed shade.
6. **Picnic Shelters- Three (3):** One (1) small (10 x 12) shelter is needed near the play structure for smaller groups to use and two (2) more are needed in the picnic area to enhance and encourage use of the park.
7. **Access Paths from the Neighboring Properties:** There are several large housing projects and neighborhoods adjacent to the park. Access paths with gate controls from these properties encourages more use of the park by the residents.

COST ESTIMATE #9

#	ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL \$
1	NATURAL SURFACE PERIMETER WALKING TRAIL 12' WIDE	2,400	LF	\$ 18.00	\$ 43,200.00
2	RENOVATE BALLFIELD AND FENCING	1	LS	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
3	TOT LOT	1	EA	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
4	OPEN PLAY FIELD (RENOVATION & IRRIGATE 120' X 180')	21,600	SF	\$ 1.50	\$ 32,400.00
5	SHADE TREES IN THE EXISTING PARKING	14	EA	\$ 350.00	\$ 4,900.00
6	PICNIC SHELTERS 10' X 12' (PREFAB)	3	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
7	ACCESS PATHS FROM THE NEIGHBORING PROPERTIES - SIDEWALKS 8' WIDE	300	LF	\$ 28.00	\$ 8,400.00
	GENERAL ITEMS				
	A. CONTROL GATES	3	EA	\$ 800.00	\$ 2,400.00
	B. LANDSCAPE / IRRIGATION ALLOWANCE (FIELDS AND SHELTER)	1	ALLOW	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL				\$ 341,300.00
	25% CONTINGENCY				\$ 85,325.00
	ENGINEERING AND FEES 10%				\$ 34,130.00
#9	TOTAL COSTS				\$ 460,755.00

MARTIN LUTHER KING PARK
AUBURN, ALABAMA - 190 BYRD STREET

CONCEPT PLAN #10

LEGEND

- ① BIKE TRAIL EXTENSION
- ② OPEN PLAY FIELD WITH PROTECTIVE FENCES
- ③ 12' X 20' MIDSIZE SHELTER
- ④ (3) SAND VOLLEYBALL COURTS
- ⑤ REINFORCED GRASSPAVE PARKING
- ⑥ 12' X 20' PICNIC PAVILION WITH RESTROOMS
- ⑦ NATURAL WOODLAND PARK AND TRAILS
- ⑧ PICNIC TABLES UNDER TREES
- ⑨ DROP-OFF / TURNAROUND
- ⑩ BIKE RACK
- ⑪ PARK ENTRANCE



MOORES MILL PARK

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 900 E. UNIVERSITY DRIVE

2.14 ACRES



City of Auburn

FORESITE
group



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NARRATIVE #10

Moores Mill Park is a 2.14-acre neighborhood park on the corner of East University Drive and Moores Mill Road. It is currently being used as a staging area for the construction of the Moores Mill Road Bridge over Interstate 85.

Recommendations:

1. **Bike Trail Extension:** The Moores Mill Road Bridge project includes a bike lane over on the bridge that turns and continues down East University Drive to the park. The trail is to extend further down East University Drive to the end of the park. It can be extended further as needed in the future.
2. **Open Play Field:** APRD needs open turf areas where teams can practice and other events can occur. There is adequate room in the park to provide a small practice field with a protective fence around it.
3. **Small Shelter:** A small (12 x 20) shelter is strategically placed at the end of the practice field and adjacent to the sand volleyball courts to provide shade and a gathering space for the players on the field and courts.
4. **Sand Volleyball Courts:** Before the bridge construction began, there was a sand volleyball court in the park that was very popular. Three (3) sand volleyball courts have been placed in the park adjacent to parking lot with a shelter to encourage more use of the park for this activity.
5. **Grasspave Parking Lot:** A parking lot built with pervious grasspave is provided to give more order and control of parking on the site.
6. **Picnic Pavilion and Restrooms:** The wooded area on the opposite end of the park is very popular for picnics and free play. A family pavilion (20 x 40) near the parking lot and under the trees is provided to enhance this use. The pavilion includes restrooms for the park.
7. **Natural Woodland Park and Trails:** The natural wooded area of the site is under brushed and improved as a natural park and extension of the family pavilion. A soft surface trail system is laid out to connect the elements of the woodland area.
8. **Picnic Tables Under the Trees:** Picnic tables are scattered in the woodland park under the trees to enhance the use of the space.
9. **Drop-off / Turnaround:** To improve circulation and access to the facilities, a drop-off is provided near the family pavilion and a turnaround at the end of the parking lot to accommodate the single entrance off East University Drive.
10. **Bike Rack:** The park is on a bike trail so the bike rack is to accommodate bikers coming to the park.
11. **Park Entrance:** It would not be prudent to have two (2) driveways off East University Drive so the parking lot is designed with one (1) entrance and a loop turnaround to accommodate traffic movement in the parking lot.

COST ESTIMATE #10

#	ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL \$
1	BIKE TRAIL EXTENSION (12' WIDE FROM THE BRIDGE TO END OF PARK)	800	LF	\$ 42.00	\$ 33,600.00
2	OPEN PLAY FIELD 90' X 240'	21,600	SF	\$ 2.50	\$ 54,000.00
	A. 6' PERIMETER FENCE	650	LF	\$ 28.00	\$ 18,200.00
3	MIDSIZE SHELTER - 12' X 20' (PREFAB)	1	EA	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
	A. SIDEWALKS 10' WIDE CONCRETE	1,800	SF	\$ 3.50	\$ 6,300.00
4	SAND VOLLEYBALL COURTS	3	EA	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
5	PARKING LOT - GRASSPAVE SPACES	10,800	EA	\$ 6.50	\$ 70,200.00
6	PICNIC PAVILION 20' X 40' W RESTROOMS (STICK BUILD)	1	EA	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
7	NATURAL WOODLAND PARK	1	ALLOW	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
8	PICNIC TABLES UNDER THE TREES	10	EA	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 16,000.00
9	DROP-OFF / TURNAROUND 5000 SF EA ASPHALT W CURBS	2	EA	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
10	BIKE RACK	1	EA	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
11	PARK ENTRANCE SIGNAGE	1	LS	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
	GENERAL ITEMS				
	A. LANDSCAPE / IRRIGATION ALLOWANCE (FIELDS AND CENTER)	1	ALLOW	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
	B. UTILITY UPGRADES AND DRAINAGE	1	ALLOW	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
	C. OVERALL STAKING, CLEARING, EROSION CONTROL, SITE WORK, FIELD GRADING	1	ALLOW	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL				\$ 555,300.00
	25% CONTINGENCY				\$ 138,825.00
	ENGINEERING AND FEES 10%				\$ 55,530.00
#10	TOTAL COSTS				\$ 749,655.00

MOORES MILL PARK

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 900 E. UNIVERSITY DRIVE



CONCEPT PLAN #11

LEGEND

- ① PARKING EXPANSION
- ② 7,800 SF ART CENTER EXPANSION
- ③ RENOVATE JDCAC INTERIOR
- ④ ART CENTER ADDITION
- ⑤ 12' X 12' SHADE STRUCTURE AT PICKLEBALL COURT
- ⑥ SIDEWALK CONNECTION
- ⑦ SHADE AWNING FOR PLAYERS
- ⑧ FRANK BROWN RECREATION CENTER HALLWAY ADDITION
- ⑨ PUBLIC ART PIECES
- ⑩ PATIO EXTENSION WITH SHADE ARBOR
- ⑪ BOCCE BALL COURTS
- ⑫ TRAIL CONNECTION TO DONAHUE
- ⑬ TRAIL TO FELTON LITTLE PARK AND TOWN CREEK PARK

PARKS & RECREATION MAIN CAMPUS

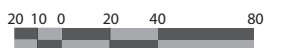
AUBURN, ALABAMA - 425 PERRY STREET

7.48 ACRES



City of Auburn

FORESITE
group



OCT - 06 - 2017
063.003

NARRATIVE #11

The Parks and Recreation Main Campus is a 7.48-acre facility that includes the Frank Brown Recreation Center, Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center, the Hurbert and Grace Harris Senior Center and the APRD offices. There is also a small historic Girl Scout hut near the senior center. The site is almost completely covered by facilities with only small pockets of space available for additional items. The following recommendations are intended to be enhancements to the existing facilities and programs on site.

Recommendations:

1. **Parking lot Expansion:** Because of the demand these facilities attract, there is a shortage of parking on the site. The area in the NW corner is identified to expand the parking to better serve the park.
2. **Art Center Expansion:** The City of Auburn Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center (JDCAC) building is overcrowded with programs and events. There is space on site to build a 7,800-square foot addition to the art center to accommodate more programs.
3. **Renovate JDCAC Interior:** The interior of the current building needs to be renovated to meet ADA code requirements and be reconfigured to fit the expansion for maximum benefit from the expansion. The renovation and expansion includes space for relocating the Ceramics Studio from the Dean Road Community Center to JDCAC.
4. **Art Center Addition:** There is inadequate space for storage and backstage activities in the building. There is adequate space on the west side of the JDCAC building to add a 2,400-square foot addition.
5. **Shade Structure at Pickleball Courts:** The Pickleball courts attract a lot of seniors and is as much a social activity as a sport. The courts need a small (12 x 12) shelter for queuing and social gatherings adjacent to the courts.
6. **Trail Connection:** The Pickleball courts and parking lot are connected to the existing trail route to provide better access and to accommodate ADA requirements.
7. **Shade Awning for Players:** An awning attached to the back wall of the Frank Brown Recreation Center can provide a shady place for players waiting to use the courts and spectators watching the games.
8. **Frank Brown Recreation Center Hallway Addition:** An addition to the building to create a hallway from the front door to the gymnasium solves many interior management and circulation problems.
9. **Public Art Pieces:** There are numerous spots on the site where public art can be displayed. The spaces can be used for permanent pieces or for rotating exhibits of local art. The presence of such art work identifies a site as a home for the arts community.

10. **Patio Extension with a Shade Arbor:** There is a need for more outdoor space for the seniors and others who use the senior center space. There is adequate space outside to extend the patio and cover it with a shade arbor as an expansion of the social space for seniors and others.
11. **Bocce Ball Courts:** There is space to add two (2) to three (3) bocce ball courts behind the senior center and near the new patio as an extension of programs for the seniors and community.
12. **Trail to Drake:** The sidewalk along East Drake Avenue can be extended over to Frazier Street, down to Canton Avenue, through the detention area, across White Street and over to the proposed new recreation facilities between N Donahue Drive and Boykin Street. This creates an important link between these two (2) major facility sites.
13. **Trail to Felton Little Park:** The existing trail on the site that crosses Opelika Road at a crosswalk can be extended along the edge of the Post Office site and under the railroad to Felton Little Park. From there it can continue along Town Creek down to Town Creek Park.

COST ESTIMATE #11

#	ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL \$
1	EXPAND PARKING SPACES - ASPHALT W CURBS	26	EA	\$ 650.00	\$ 16,900.00
2	ART CENTER EXPANSION	7,800	SF	\$ 160.00	\$ 1,248,000.00
3	RENOVATE JDCAC (INTERIORS)	8,000	SF	\$ 50.00	\$ 400,000.00
4	ART CENTER ADDITION	2,400	SF	\$ 140.00	\$ 336,000.00
5	PICKLEBALL COURTS SHADE STRUCTURES 12' X 12' (PREFAB)	1	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
6	TRAIL CONNECTION 12' X 120'	1,440	SF	\$ 3.50	\$ 5,040.00
7	SHADE AWNING FOR PLAYERS 18' X 40'	2	EA	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
8	FRANK BROWN HALLWAY ADDITIONS 20' X 160'	3,200	SF	\$ 150.00	\$ 480,000.00
9	PUBLIC ART PIECES	10	EA	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
10	EXTEND PATIOS ON EXISTING SENIOR CENTER	1,200	SF	\$ 8.00	\$ 9,600.00
	A. SHADE ARBOR	600	SF	\$ 50.00	\$ 30,000.00
11	BOCCE BALL COURTS	2	EA	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
12	TRAIL TO DRAKE (FUTURE SIDEWALKS)	0	LF	\$ -	\$ -
13	TRAIL TO FELTON LITTLE PARK (SHOWS IN FELTON PARK COSTS)	0	LF	\$ -	\$ -
	GENERAL ITEMS				
	A. LANDSCAPE / IRRIGATION ALLOWANCE (FIELDS AND CENTER)	1	ALLOW	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
	B. UTILITY UPGRADES	1	ALLOW	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
	C. OVERALL STAKING, EROSION CONTROL, SITE WORK, FOUNDATION GRADING	1	ALLOW	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL				\$ 2,745,540.00
	25% CONTINGENCY				\$ 686,385.00
	ENGINEERING AND FEES 10%				\$ 274,554.00
#11	TOTAL COSTS				\$ 3,706,479.00

PARKS & RECREATION MAIN CAMPUS

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 425 PERRY STREET

CONCEPT PLAN #12

LEGEND

- ① (4) ATHLETIC FIELDS AND CONCESSIONS BUILDING
- ② TURF FIELD WITH STADIUM SEATING
- ③ PARKING AREAS
- ④ MAIN ROAD AND PARK ENTRANCE
- ⑤ COMMUNITY CENTER WITH (2) GYMS & POOL
- ⑥ (2) OUTDOOR COURTS
- ⑦ (2) PLAYGROUNDS WITH SHELTER
- ⑧ DOG PARK WITH SMALL SHELTER
- ⑨ OPEN PLAY FIELD AND WALKING TRACK
- ⑩ (4) SAND VOLLEYBALL COURTS / SHELTER / RESTROOMS
- ⑪ (2) LAKE VIEW PARK PAVILIONS
- ⑫ LARGE PAVILION WITH DOCK
- ⑬ EXISTING LAKE
- ⑭ WALKING TRAILS AND LOOP TRAILS
- ⑮ WETLANDS AND FOOTBRIDGE
- ⑯ (4) BASEBALL FIELDS AND CONCESSIONS BUILDING
- ⑰ (2) T-BALL FIELDS
- ⑱ PARKING UNDER TREES
- ⑲ EXTEND ROAD TO HWY #14
- ⑳ HIGH SCHOOL SITE
- ㉑ YARBROUGH TENNIS CENTER
- ㉒ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



RICHLAND PARK

AUBURN, ALABAMA - RICHLAND ROAD

159 ACRES



City of Auburn

FORESITE
group



100 0 100 200 400

OCT - 06 - 2017
063.003

NARRATIVE #12

Richland Park is a 159-acre undeveloped tract of land recently acquired by the city on Richland Road adjacent to the Yarbrough Tennis Center. Two (2) adjacent parcels have been designated for a new High School and Elementary school. The site was acquired to develop facilities and amenities to support the new schools and the growing population on the northwest side of the city.

Recommendations:

- Athletic Fields:** A four (4) athletic field multi-purpose complex with a concession stand is included to provide facilities for play and practice for a variety of field sports.
- Turf Field:** An artificial turf field with stadium seating and concession facilities is included to provide a durable multi-use athletic field to support the demand for competitive play.
- Parking:** A large parking lot is centrally located to better serve all the various facilities included in the park.
- Main Road and Entrance:** A main connector road between Richland Road and Highway #14 cuts through the site and connects the park and high school to the overall transportation network of the city in the future. The exact location of the entrance will be coordinated with the new elementary school entrance on the north side of Richland Road.
- Community Center and Gyms:** The NW quadrant of the city needs a community center and multi-use indoor courts for the residents and to support the needs of the adjacent three (3) schools. The building includes two (2) gyms, classrooms, community room, and support facilities.
- Outdoor Courts:** The need for multi-use courts is augmented by adding two (2) multi-use outdoor courts adjacent to the community center.
- Playgrounds:** One playground near the community center is a destination playground for the community and the other is located near the sports fields as an amenity for siblings during play and practice. Both include a family (12 x 20) shelter to augment use of the playgrounds.
- Dog Park:** The NW quadrant of the city needs a dog park which is located near the community center for ease of access and use. The dog park includes all the necessary amenities for the pets and a small (10 x 12) shelter for the pet owners.
- Open Play Field:** The community center includes an adjacent open play field to accommodate various activities and events, and is encompassed by a paved surface walking trail.
- Sand Volleyball Courts:** A group of four (4) sand volleyball courts with a (10 x 20) shelter and restrooms are provided to accommodate the growing demand for courts and to provide a tournament capable facility.

- Lake View Picnic Pavilions:** Two (2) small (10 x 12) picnic pavilions are included in the passive park area as amenities.
- Large Pavilion and Dock:** The small lake on the site is a major passive amenity and is enhanced by adding a family pavilion (20 x 40), restrooms and small dock on the water.
- Existing Lake:** The existing lake is retained as an amenity in the passive area of the park.
- Walking Trails:** Loop walking trails are included throughout the park and around the sports field complexes to provide walking and exercise opportunities for patrons and players.
- Wetlands:** The creek that borders the site includes a large wetland below the lake and along the drainage channel. These wetlands are enhanced with vegetation and boardwalks as a learning laboratory for the schools and a view amenity for the trails.
- Baseball Fields:** Four (4) baseball fields with a restroom / concession building is included as a complex. They are carefully located so the home plates are uphill from the outfields to accommodate drainage.
- T-Ball Fields:** Two (2) T-Ball fields are included as part of the baseball complex to support the need for younger players.
- Parking in the Trees:** The passive park around the lake needs adequate parking to provide access to the passive amenities. The parking is designed to weave between the trees and preserve the natural overhead canopy of the site.
- Highway #14 Connection:** The main entrance road extends through the park south to Highway #14.
- High School Site:** There is a future high school identified for the area south of the park across the creek. Future connecting trails and bridges may be needed to be considered when the school is built.
- Yarbrough Tennis Center:** The tennis center is immediately east of the park and needs trail connections to the park and high school in the future.
- Elementary School:** A future elementary school is located across Richland Road to the north. The school entrance and main road need to line up to allow for a potential traffic light.

There are numerous variables and conditions that must be addressed before this specific park and program can be effectively planned and developed. Both active and passive facilities are recommended for this site. Both can be effected by the adjacent new schools and future transportation network identified for the area. This park layout should be considered only as a program schematic to identify uses, programs and facilities to serve the NW area of the city. More detailed program evaluations and site analysis are needed before a site master plan can be effectively finalized.

COST ESTIMATE #12

#	ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL \$
1	ATHLETIC FIELDS 160' X 336' + 54,000 SF EACH	4	EA	\$ 135,000.00	\$ 540,000.00
	A. CONCESSION BUILDING	1	EA	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 225,000.00
	B. PERIMETER FENCE 10'	2,500	LF	\$ 48.00	\$ 120,000.00
	C. LIGHTING STRUCTURE	4	EA	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 440,000.00
2	TURF FIELD 165' X 336' ARTIFICIAL TURF	55,440	SF	\$ 8.50	\$ 471,240.00
	A. CONCESSION BUILDING	1	EA	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 225,000.00
	B. STADIUM SEATING BLEACHERS	2	EA	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
	C. LIGHTING STRUCTURE	4	EA	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 440,000.00
3	PARKING LOT SPACES	540	EA	\$ 650.00	\$ 351,000.00
4	MAIN ROAD AND ENTRANCE	4,000	LF	\$ 250.00	\$ 1,000,000.00
	A. ENTRANCE FEATURE	1	LS	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
5	COMMUNITY CENTER AND GYMS	28,000	SF	\$ 150.00	\$ 4,200,000.00
	A. SIDEWALKS AND TAILS (SITE) PAVED 10' X 12,000'	12,000	LF	\$ 35.00	\$ 420,000.00
6	OUTDOOR COURTS / FENCED	2	EA	\$ 55,000.00	\$ 110,000.00
7	PLAYGROUNDS	2	EA	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
	A. SHELTER 10' X 12' (PREFAB)	2	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
8	DOG PARK	1	ALLOW	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
	A. SHELTER 10' X 12' (PREFAB)	1	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
9	OPEN PLAY FIELD 250' X 600'	150,000	SF	\$ 1.50	\$ 225,000.00
10	SAND VOLLEYBALL COURTS	4	EA	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
	A. PAVILION 20' X 40' W RESTROOMS (STICK BUILD)	1	EA	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
11	LAKE VIEW PICNIC PAVILIONS 10' X 12' (PREFAB)	2	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
12	LARGE PAVILION 20' X 40' W RESTROOMS (STICK BUILD)	1	EA	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
	A. DOCK 12' X 50'	600	SF	\$ 25.00	\$ 15,000.00
13	EXISTING LAKE (UNCHANGED)	0	LS	\$ -	\$ -
14	WALKING TRAILS 10' SOFT SURFACE	6,000	LF	\$ 18.00	\$ 108,000.00
	A. FOOTBRIDGES	8	EA	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
15	WETLAND ENHANCEMENT (OUTDOOR LABORATORY)	1	ALLOW	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
	A. BOARDWALK 12' X 400'	4,800	SF	\$ 25.00	\$ 120,000.00
16	BASEBALL FIELDS	4	EA	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 800,000.00
	A. FIELD LIGHTS	5	EA	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 500,000.00
	B. CONCESSIONS BUILDING 35' X 35' + UPSTAIRS	1	EA	\$ 210,000.00	\$ 210,000.00
17	T-BALL FIELDS	2	EA	\$ 160,000.00	\$ 320,000.00
	A. FIELD LIGHTS	2	EA	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 130,000.00
18	PARKING SPACES IN THE TREES	80	EA	\$ 750.00	\$ 60,000.00
19	HIGHWAY# 14 CONNECTION			\$ -	\$ -
	GENERAL ITEMS				
	A. LANDSCAPE / IRRIGATION ALLOWANCE (FIELDS AND CENTER)	1	ALLOW	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
	B. UTILITY UPGRADES	1	ALLOW	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
	C. OVERALL STAKING, EROSION CONTROL, SITE WORK, TRAILS AND FIELD GRADING	1	ALLOW	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 1,000,000.00
20	HIGH SCHOOL SITE	1	LS	\$ -	\$ -
21	YARBROUGH TENNIS CENTER	1	LS	\$ -	\$ -
22	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1	LS	\$ -	\$ -
	SUB-TOTAL				\$ 13,310,240.00
	25% CONTINGENCY				\$ 3,327,560.00
	SURVEY				\$ 127,200.00
	ENGINEERING AND FEES 10%				\$ 1,331,024.00
#12	TOTAL COSTS				\$ 18,096,024.00

RICHLAND PARK

AUBURN, ALABAMA - RICHLAND ROAD

CONCEPT PLAN #13

LEGEND

- ① RENOVATED BUILDING FOR SOCCER COMMUNITY CENTER - PENDING RELOCATED FIRE STATION
- ② BIKE TRAIL TO GREENWAY
- ③ 12' X 12' PICNIC SHELTER
- ④ PLAYGROUND
- ⑤ SHADE BENCHES FOR FIELDS
- ⑥ GREENWAY TRAIL CULVERT
- ⑦ (3) TRAIL BRIDGES
- ⑧ WALKING TRAILS
- ⑨ BIKE TRAIL LOOP AND TRAIL CONNECTOR
- ⑩ DOG PARK
- ⑪ PARKING UNDER TREES OFF WARE ROAD
- ⑫ (3) 12' X 20' SHELTERS OVERLOOKING PARK
- ⑬ TRAIL TO HUMANE SOCIETY AND DOG PARK
- ⑭ WEST SIDE PARKING WITH ACCESS TO HUMANE SOCIETY
- ⑮ ACCESS DRIVE TO GARDENS & PAVILION
- ⑯ 20' X 40' FAMILY PAVILION WITH RESTROOMS
- ⑰ (3) PARKING AREAS
- ⑱ COMMUNITY GARDEN
- ⑲ GREENWAY TRAIL TO WESTVIEW PARK
- ⑳ 12' X 12' PICNIC SHELTER
- ㉑ OPEN PLAY FIELDS
- ㉒ TOT LOT / PLAYGROUND
- ㉓ TREES IN EXISTING PARKING LOT



SAM HARRIS PARK / SHUG JORDAN SOCCER FIELDS

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 850 FOSTER STREET

SAM HARRIS PARK - 30.14 ACRES
 SHUG JORDAN FIELDS- 19.81 ACRES



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OCT - 06 - 2017
063.003

NARRATIVE #13

Sam Harris Park is a 30.14-acre partially developed park between Shug Jordan Parkway and Foster Street. It is adjacent to the 19.81-acre Shug Jordan Soccer Fields and across Foster Street from Westview Park.

Recommendations:

1. **Potential Community Center:** Relocate the existing fire station at the entrance to Shug Jordan Fields and convert the building into a community center and recreation facility for the neighborhood and to support the soccer community.
2. **Bike Trail:** A paved bike trail from the proposed community center over to Sam Harris Park connects the soccer complex to the greenway trail in Sam Harris and Westview Parks.
3. **Picnic Shelter:** A small (10 x 12) picnic shelter adjacent to the Shug Jordan concessions building provides patrons a place to meet, assemble, and watch the children on the playground.
4. **Playground:** A small playground by the proposed picnic shelter provides alternative activity for siblings during games and practices.
5. **Shade Benches:** Shade benches between the fields provide much-needed shade for the players and spectators using the park.
6. **Culvert Under Shug Jordan Parkway:** Enlarging the storm culvert under Shug Jordan Parkway allows the Westview Greenway to continue westward under the parkway and over to the Richland schools and park complexes along Richland Road.
7. **Trail Bridges:** Sam Harris Park is effectively divided by a creek that runs through the site. The condition is mediated by providing three (3) bike / pedestrian bridges across the creek to better facilitate circulation within the park.
8. **Walking Trails:** A series of soft surface walking trails are incorporated with the greenway and bike trail system to give patrons alternative routes for walking and exercising in the park.
9. **Bike Loop and Trail Connectors:** A paved bike trail within the park connects to the Westview Greenway and allows bikers to circulate around the park without leaving the park or crossing any roads.
10. **Dog Park:** A large dog park is located adjacent to the Lee County Humane Society site to provide an additional amenity in the park for the community and humane society.
11. **Parking off Ware Road:** A forested hilltop accessed off Ware Road is identified as a passive picnic area with parking spread under the trees to preserve the woodland canopy. The hilltop commands great views and has a climax tree canopy for shade and natural ambiance.

12. **Picnic Shelters:** Three midsize (12 x 20) picnic shelters are associated with the parking lot off Ware Road creating a small passive park on the hilltop overlooking Sam Harris Park.
13. **Humane Society Trail:** A trail spur off the greenway to the dog park and humane society links the west side parking lot to the facilities.
14. **West Side Parking:** Additional parking is added on the west side of the park to accommodate patrons coming from Shug Jordan Parkway. The driveway passes through the humane society property into the parking lot that is spread under the trees to preserve the existing canopy.
15. **Access Drive:** A small driveway off the Foster Street parking lot extends along the north property line up to the parking lot for the large pavilion and community garden.
16. **Family Pavilion:** A large (20 x 40) pavilion with restrooms is located on the hillside in the woodlands overlooking the park. It provides space for large group activities and events within the park.
17. **Parking Lots:** Three (3) small parking lots are strategically located within the park to better accommodate use of the park facilities; one (1) off Foster Street, one (1) at the open play field and one (1) on the wooded hillside by the family pavilion.
18. **Community Garden:** A plot of land in an open sunny area near the large pavilion and parking is designated as a community garden. It is easily accessible by the trail system.
19. **Greenway / Trail:** The bike trail along the creek is also part of a greater Westview Greenway going east to Westview Park and continuing south to Boykin Community Center. It can continue west to the Richland schools and park complex by passing under Shug Jordan Parkway via an enlarged culvert. There is a potential need for stream enhancement/restoration due to excessive lateral migration and poor conditions along the banks.
20. **Picnic Shelter:** Another small (10' x 12') shelter is located adjacent to the open play area on the south to provide a post-up and meeting area for teams or groups using the field.
21. **Open Play Fields:** Several open areas in the park along the creek are converted into open play fields for events and activities. These fields can also be used for informal practices.
22. **Tot Lot / Playground:** A tot lot / playground is located near the existing shelter and restrooms to accommodate the children of families and groups who are using the shelter.
23. **Trees in Parking Lot:** Shade is a premium even in a parking lot. Trees are added around the parking lot at Shug Jordan Fields to provide additional shade for cars.

COST ESTIMATE #13

#	ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL \$
1	POTENTIAL COMMUNITY CENTER (RENOVATION OF FIRE STATION)	1	ALLOW	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
2	BIKE TRAIL 12' WIDE	1,200	LF	\$ 42.00	\$ 50,400.00
3	PICNIC SHELTER - 10' X 12' (PREFAB)	1	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
4	PLAYGROUND	1	EA	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
5	SHADE BENCHES	6	EA	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 21,000.00
6	CULVERT UNDER SHUG JORDAN PARKWAY	1	LS	\$ 350,000.00	\$ 300,000.00
7	TRAIL BRIDGES 10' X 50' = 500 SF @ \$50 = \$25000	3	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
8	WALKING TRAILS 10' SOFT SURFACE	5,200	LF	\$ 15.00	\$ 78,000.00
9	BIKE LOOP AND TRAIL CONNECTORS 12' PAVED TRAILS	2,200	LF	\$ 42.00	\$ 92,400.00
10	DOG PARK	1	ALLOW	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
	A. SHELTER 10' X 12' (PREFAB)	1	LS	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
11	PARKING SPACES OFF WARE ROAD	75	EA	\$ 650.00	\$ 48,750.00
12	PICNIC SHELTERS - 12' X 20' (PREFAB)	3	EA	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
13	HUMANE SOCIETY TRAIL PAVED 12' X 300'	500	LF	\$ 42.00	\$ 21,000.00
14	WEST SIDE PARKING SPACES	60	EA	\$ 650.00	\$ 39,000.00
15	ACCESS DRIVE 20' WIDE NO CURBS	300	LF	\$ 180.00	\$ 54,000.00
16	FAMILY PAVILION 20' X 40' W RESTROOM (STICK BUILD)	1	EA	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
17	PARKING LOT SPACES (3 SMALL LOTS)	75	EA	\$ 650.00	\$ 48,750.00
18	COMMUNITY GARDENS	1	ALLOW	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
19	GREENWAY / TRAIL 12' PAVED	2,200	LF	\$ 42.00	\$ 92,400.00
	A. GREENWAY EXTENDED TO ADJACENT PARKS	0	LF	\$ 42.00	\$ -
20	PICNIC SHELTER - 10' X 12' (PREFAB)	1	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
21	OPEN PLAY FIELDS	220,000	SF	\$ 1.50	\$ 330,000.00
22	TOT LOT / PLAYGROUND	1	EA	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
23	TREES IN PARKING LOT	12	EA	\$ 350.00	\$ 4,200.00
	GENERAL ITEMS				
	A. LANDSCAPE / IRRIGATION ALLOWANCE (FIELDS AND CENTER)	1	ALLOW	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
	B. UTILITY UPGRADES	1	ALLOW	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
	C. OVERALL STAKING, EROSION CONTROL, SITE WORK, TRAIL AND FIELD GRADING	1	ALLOW	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL				\$ 2,354,900.00
	25% CONTINGENCY				\$ 588,725.00
	ENGINEERING AND FEES 10%				\$ 235,490.00
#13	TOTAL COSTS				\$ 3,179,115.00

SAM HARRIS PARK / SHUG JORDAN SOCCER FIELDS

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 850 FOSTER STREET

CONCEPT PLAN #14

LEGEND

- ① DOG PARK IN THE WOODS WITH SMALL SHELTER
- ② TRAIL TO RESIDENTIAL AREAS
- ③ TRAIL TO KIESEL PARK ALONG STREAM BED
- ④ WOODLAND PARK WITH TRAILS
- ⑤ 20' X 40' FAMILY PAVILION WITH RESTROOMS
- ⑥ PARKING EXPANSION
- ⑦ LAKE PAVILION
- ⑧ (4) 10' X 12' SMALL PICNIC SHELTERS FOR TEAMS
- ⑨ INDOOR SOCCER COMPLEX
- ⑩ (3) MULTI-PURPOSE FIELDS
- ⑪ TERRACED VIEWING SLOPE WITH SHADE TREES
- ⑫ (3) 12' X 20' TEAM SHELTERS ADJACENT SHADE TREES
- ⑬ COMPLETE PAVED PERIMETER WALKING TRAIL
- ⑭ NEW RESTROOM AND SMALL PAVILION BUILDING
- ⑮ IMPROVED PARKING AREAS
- ⑯ PEDESTRIAN / BIKE ENTRANCE
- ⑰ PAVED LAKE LOOP TRAIL
- ⑱ FAMILY PICNIC SHELTER
- ⑲ MAINTENANCE AREA



SOCCER COMPLEX

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 2340 WIRE ROAD

74.27 ACRES



City of Auburn

FORESITE
group



60 30 0 60 120 240

OCT - 06 - 2017
063.003

NARRATIVE #14

The Soccer Complex is a 74.27-acre recreational park on Wire Road that includes seven (7) lighted soccer fields and associated infrastructure.

Recommendations:

1. **Dog Park:** A large fenced dog park is in the wooded area on the NE corner of the site. A dog park is needed in this quadrant of the city and will include a small (10 x 12) shelter for the pet owners.
2. **Trail to Residential Area:** A spur trail connects several residential developments north of the facility to the soccer complex.
3. **Trail to Kiesel Park:** A spur trail along an unnamed creek bed runs northwest to Kiesel Park as a paved bike trail to tie the two (2) facilities together.
4. **Woodland Park:** A woodland park with a natural soft surface walking trail system is recommended for the steep areas along the no name creek bed.
5. **Family Pavilion:** A large (20 x 40) pavilion with restrooms is placed in the woodland park as a passive amenity for the park and soccer complex.
6. **Parking Expansion:** The parking lot is expanded to handle the demand generated by the additional playing fields, indoor soccer complex and Dog Park.
7. **Lake Pavilion:** An open-air picnic shelter is placed on the existing lake to attract more local passive use of the pond and park.
8. **Picnic Shelters:** Four (4) small (10 x 12) shelters are placed between the lake edge and the bus parking to serve as team assembly areas and queuing locations as well as family picnic sites.
9. **Indoor Soccer Complex:** The existing soccer facility is expanded by adding an enclosed soccer facility that can be converted into smaller multi-use spaces and courts.
10. **Multi-purpose Fields:** Three (3) multi-purpose fields are terraced into the hillside to provide more practice and play space for a variety of different field sports.
11. **Terraced Viewing Slopes:** The site topography requires that the additional fields be terraced into the slope. The associated edge slopes are converted into smaller terraces and planted with shade trees to make them functional as informal shaded stadium viewing locations.
12. **Shelters and Shade:** The long unused space within the perimeter fence around to the existing fields is an ideal location for three (3) shelters and shade trees for players, teams and spectators.
13. **Perimeter Walking Trail:** The existing paved trails to the fields are now linked together to form a perimeter walking trail system usable for measured walking or exercise.

14. **Additional Restroom:** A second smaller restroom is located on the south end of the park to serve the patrons and players using the fields furthest from the existing restroom.
15. **Improved Parking:** The current informal dirt parking area is paved and converted into a parking lot.
16. **Pedestrian / Bike Entrance:** A spur trail and pedestrian entrance connects the loop trail around the lake to the adjacent residential area to promote more passive local use of the park.
17. **Lake Loop Trail:** A loop trail around the lake provides an additional amenity for patrons and players while in the park.
18. **Family Picnic Shelter:** A midsize shelter (12' x 20') is located adjacent to the existing play structure for families, teams and groups to meet and have activities closer to the fields. It also serves as an alternative for family activities in the park when the fields are not in play.
19. **Maintenance Area:** The existing maintenance area is retained on the site with a storage yard fenced off for security.

COST ESTIMATE #14

#	ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL \$
1	DOG PARK	1	LS	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
	A. SHELTER 10' X 12' (PREFAB)	1	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
2	TRAIL TO RESIDENTIAL AREA (FUTURE)	0	LF	\$ -	\$ -
3	TRAIL TO KIESEL (IN THE KIESEL PARK ESTIMATE)	0	LF	\$ -	\$ -
4	WOODLAND PARK	1	ALLOW	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
	A. SOFT SURFACE TRAILS 8' X 2,600'	2,600	LF	\$ 12.00	\$ 31,200.00
5	FAMILY PAVILION 20' X 40' W RESTROOMS (STICK BUILD)	1	EA	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
6	PARKING EXPANSION LOT SPACES	250	EA	\$ 750.00	\$ 187,500.00
7	LAKE PAVILION - FAMILY (STICK BUILD)	1	EA	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
8	PICNIC SHELTERS 10' X 12' (PREFAB)	4	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
9	INDOOR SOCCER COMPLEX 160' X 350'	56,000	SF	\$ 150.00	\$ 8,400,000.00
10	MULTI-PURPOSE ATHLETIC FIELDS 160' X 336' + 54,000 SF EACH	3	EA	\$ 135,000.00	\$ 405,000.00
	A. PERIMETER FENCE 10'	2,200	LF	\$ 48.00	\$ 105,600.00
	B. LIGHTING	3	LF	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 330,000.00
11	TERRACED VIEWING SLOPES	800	LF	\$ 50.00	\$ 40,000.00
12	SHELTERS 10' X 12' (PREFAB)	3	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
	A. SHADE TREES	20	LS	\$ 350.00	\$ 7,000.00
13	PERIMETER WALKING TRAIL AROUND FIELDS 10' X 3,500'	3,500	LF	\$ 35.00	\$ 122,500.00
14	ADDITIONAL RESTROOM	1	EA	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 110,000.00
15	IMPROVED PARKING SPACES	110	EA	\$ 550.00	\$ 60,500.00
16	PEDESTRIAN / BIKE ENTRANCE	1	EA	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
17	LAKE LOOP TRAIL 10' X 1,600' PAVED	1,600	LF	\$ 35.00	\$ 56,000.00
18	FAMILY PICNIC SHELTER MIDSIZE 12' X 20' (PREFAB)	1	EA	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
19	MAINTENANCE AREA IMPROVEMENTS	1	LS	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
	GENERAL ITEMS				
	A. LANDSCAPE / IRRIGATION ALLOWANCE (FIELDS AND CENTER)	1	ALLOW	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 65,000.00
	B. UTILITY UPGRADES	1	ALLOW	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
	C. OVERALL STAKING, EROSION CONTROL, SITE WORK, TRAIL AND FIELD GRADING	1	ALLOW	\$ 450,000.00	\$ 450,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL				\$ 10,936,500.00
	25% CONTINGENCY				\$ 2,734,125.00
	ENGINEERING AND FEES 10%				\$ 1,093,650.00
#14	TOTAL COSTS				\$ 14,764,275.00

SOCCER COMPLEX

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 2340 WIRE ROAD

CONCEPT PLAN #15

LEGEND

- ① PAVED PERIMETER WALKING TRAILS
- ② (4) SOFTBALL FIELDS (RELOCATED FROM FELTON LITTLE PARK)
- ③ PLAY STRUCTURE
- ④ DROP-OFF
- ⑤ PARKING AREAS
- ⑥ OVERHEAD UTILITY EASEMENT
- ⑦ (2) CONCESSIONS BUILDING / BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL
- ⑧ ATHLETIC FIELDS, CONCESSION AND MEETING ROOM
- ⑨ PLAYGROUND AND SHELTER
- ⑩ (3) 12' X 20' PICNIC SHELTERS
- ⑪ VEHICLE BRIDGE - STREAM CROSSING - TRAIL UNDERPASS
- ⑫ (3) FOOT BRIDGE STREAM CROSSINGS
- ⑬ (5) MULTI-PURPOSE ATHLETIC FIELDS
- ⑭ (4) BASEBALL FIELDS WITH RESTROOM / CONCESSIONS



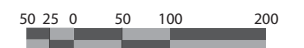
SOCIETY HILL PARK

AUBURN, ALABAMA - SOCIETY HILL RD & MOORES MILLS RD 61.8 ACRES



City of Auburn

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OCT · 06 · 2017
063.003

NARRATIVE #15

Society Hill Park is an undeveloped 61.8-acre tract of raw land on the south side of the city beyond Interstate 85. There are few recreation facilities for the citizens in this quadrant of the city. Society Hill site is chosen to provide some of the needed facilities in this section of the city and to offset the softball fields lost at Felton Little Park.

Recommendations:

1. **Paved Perimeter Trails:** Perimeter loop trails around the athletic fields offer an additional activity for the patrons of the park. The loop trails provide an alternative activity for family members as they wait during games and practices as well as an added amenity to the park.
2. **Softball Fields:** The three (3) softball fields lost at Felton Little Park are replaced with an additional field to expand and accommodate the softball program. The fields are located on the site so that they can be sloped downhill from home plate.
3. **Play Structures:** Play structures are added to all athletic parks for use by siblings while players are playing games or at practice.
4. **Drop-off:** A vehicle drop-off where parents can drop and pick up players greatly reduces the congestion caused in parking lots by vehicles stopping in the roadways to drop off or pick up players.
5. **Parking:** The multiple fields provided in this park require a lot of parking spaces. The main lot is located on a gentle slope so it can be stair stepped up the hill to the fields without excessive alteration of the land by mass grading. The space between the parking bays is for tree canopy and shade.
6. **Overhead Utility Easement:** An overhead power line crossing the site is used as a trail route for part of the perimeter trail system.
7. **Concessions Buildings:** One (1) concession building for each of the two (2) ballfield ballfields.
8. **Athletic Fields Concession Building:** A larger concession building with restrooms and a team / community meeting room is associated with the athletic fields.
9. **Playground and Shelter:** A larger destination playground and shelter is included in the park to expand the passive use amenities of the site for the local neighborhood.
10. **Picnic Shelters:** A picnic area is located by the creek to be a passive park for the local neighborhood and a place for teams and families to meet. Three (3) 12 x 20 shelters (12 x 20) are located along the creek.
11. **Vehicle Bridge:** A vehicular bridge is used to cross the creek so that trails can pass under the bridge as part of the overall network of park trails.
12. **Footbridges:** Three (3) pedestrian footbridges complete the loop trail system by crossing the creek and improving accessible access to the shelters.

13. **Multi-purpose Athletic Fields:** This quadrant of the city has no large athletic fields available for the citizens. Five (5) athletic fields in an adjacent configuration are included on this site to meet that need. They are aligned so that the field stripping can be shifted and adjusted to minimize wear on the heavy use spots.
14. **Baseball Fields:** A four (4) field baseball complex is located on the top of a hill so all the fields can be graded to slope away from home plate.

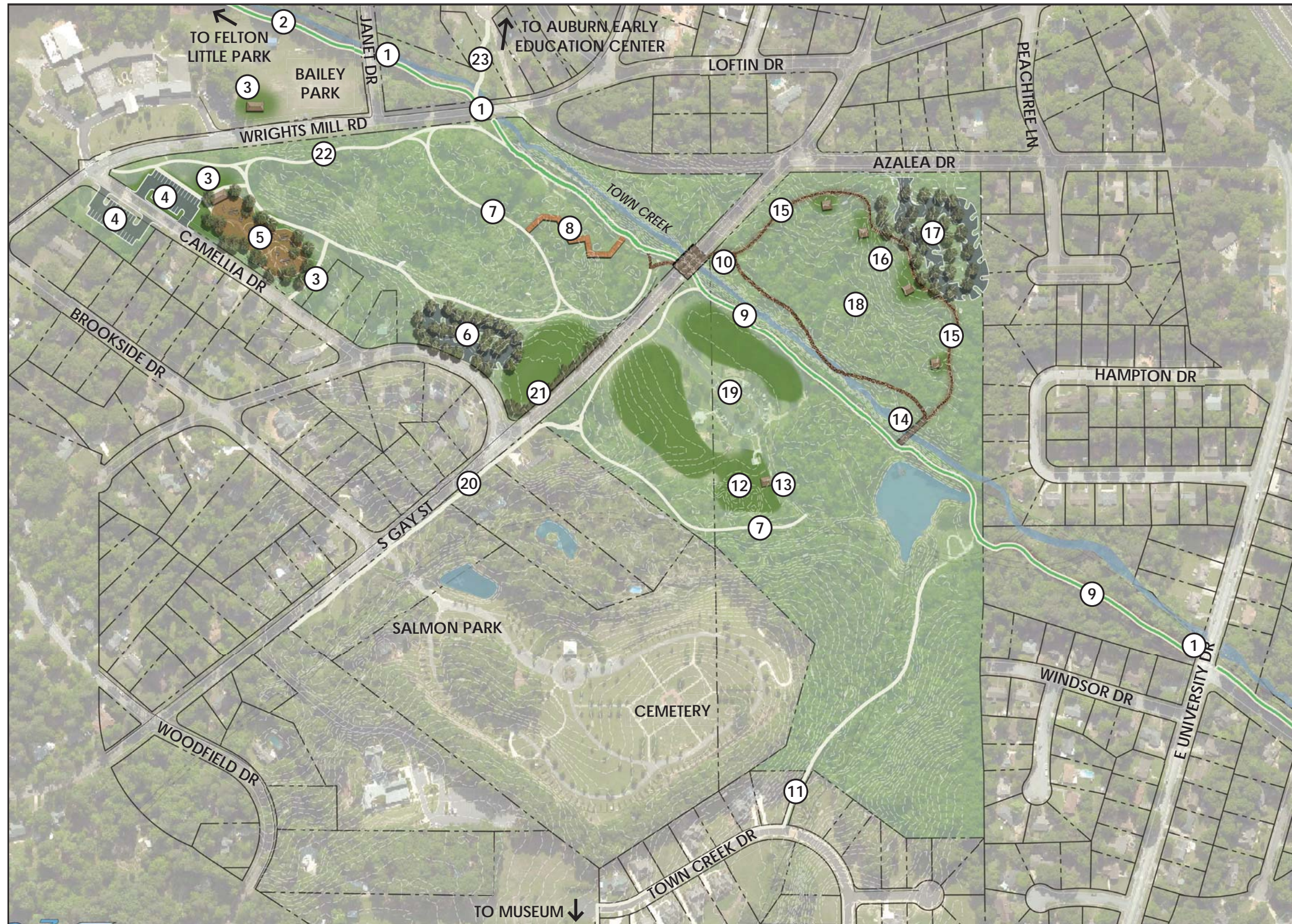
COST ESTIMATE #15

#	ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL \$
1	PERIMETER TRAILS 10' PAVED	8,600	LF	\$ 35.00	\$ 301,000.00
2	SOFTBALL FIELDS	4	EA	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 800,000.00
	A. FIELD LIGHTS	5	EA	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 500,000.00
3	PLAY STRUCTURE (SOFTBALL)	1	EA	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
4	DROP-OFF	1	LS	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
5	PARKING LOT SPACES (TERRACED)	440	EA	\$ 750.00	\$ 330,000.00
6	OVERHEAD UTILITY EASEMENT (CLEANUP) 2,000' X 50'	100,000	SF	\$ 0.20	\$ 20,000.00
7	CONCESSION BUILDINGS 35 X 35 = 1225 + UPSTAIRS =1,400 @ \$210,000	2	EA	\$ 210,000.00	\$ 420,000.00
8	ATHLETIC FIELDS CONCESSION BUILDING 25' X 50'	1,250	EA	\$ 160.00	\$ 200,000.00
9	PLAYGROUND (BASEBALL / FOOTBALL)	1	LS	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
	A. SHELTER 10' X 12' (PREFAB)	1	LS	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
10	PICNIC SHELTERS - 12'X 20' (PREFAB)	3	EA	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
11	VEHICLE BRIDGE 35' X 60'	2,100	LS	\$ 200.00	\$ 420,000.00
12	FOOTBRIDGES 10' X 40' = 400	2	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
13	MULTI-PURPOSE ATHLETIC FIELDS 160' X 336' + 54,000 SF EACH	3	EA	\$ 135,000.00	\$ 405,000.00
	A. PERIMETER FENCE 10'	2,200	LF	\$ 48.00	\$ 105,600.00
	B. LIGHTING	3	LF	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 330,000.00
14	BASEBALL FIELDS	4	EA	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 800,000.00
	A. FIELD LIGHTS	5	EA	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 500,000.00
	GENERAL ITEMS				
	A. LANDSCAPE / IRRIGATION ALLOWANCE (FIELDS AND CENTER)	1	ALLOW	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
	B. UTILITY UPGRADES	1	ALLOW	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
	C. OVERALL STAKING, EROSION CONTROL, SITE WORK, TRAIL AND FIELD GRADING	1	ALLOW	\$ 750,000.00	\$ 750,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL				\$ 6,435,100.00
	25% CONTINGENCY				\$ 1,608,775.00
	SURVEY				\$ 55,200.00
	ENGINEERING AND FEES 10%				\$ 643,510.00
#15	TOTAL COSTS				\$ 8,742,585.00

SOCIETY HILL PARK

AUBURN, ALABAMA - SOCIETY HILL RD & MOORES MILLS RD

CONCEPT PLAN #16



LEGEND

- ① RAISE ROADS / ENLARGE CULVERT FOR GREENWAY
- ② GREENWAY TRAIL NORTH TO FELTON LITTLE PARK
- ③ (2) 12' X 20' MIDSIZE SHELTERS
- ④ PARKING FOR INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND
- ⑤ INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND WITH TOT LOT
- ⑥ PARKING UNDER TREES FOR TRAILS
- ⑦ PAVED SURFACE TRAILS / BIKES
- ⑧ WETLAND BOARDWALK
- ⑨ GREENWAY SOUTH ALONG TOWN CREEK
- ⑩ BRIDGE AT S. GAY STREET, OVER TRAIL
- ⑪ PAVED TRAIL CONNECTION TO MUSEUM
- ⑫ EXPAND DOG PARK INTO TREES
- ⑬ 10' X 12' SMALL SHELTER FOR DOG PARK
- ⑭ SWINGING BRIDGE ACROSS TOWN CREEK
- ⑮ LOOP TRAIL
- ⑯ (4) 10' X 12' SMALL PICNIC SHELTERS
- ⑰ PARKING ON AZALEA DRIVE
- ⑱ POTENTIAL ROPES COURSE (FUTURE)
- ⑲ RELOCATE PLAY STRUCTURE TO INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND
- ⑳ PAVED TRAIL CONNECTION TO SALMON PARK
- ㉑ LANDSCAPE BUFFER ALONG S. GAY STREET
- ㉒ TRAIL TO WRIGHTS MILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- ㉓ TRAIL TO AUBURN EARLY EDUCATION CENTER

TOWN CREEK & SALMON PARKS

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 1150 S. GAY STREET

70.2 ACRES



City of Auburn

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OCT - 06 - 2017
063.003

NARRATIVE #16

Town Creek Park is a 70.2-acre passive park adjacent to Salmon Park, 3.27 acres, Margie Bailey Park, 2.65 acres and Town Creek Cemetery 23.25 acres. The park lies along Town Creek and close to Wrights Mill Elementary School, Auburn Early Education Center and the Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art.

Recommendations:

- Raise the roads and enlarge culverts:** Town Creek passes under Janet Drive, Wrights Mill Road, S. Gay Street and E. University Drive. The bridges over these roads and the culverts under them can be raised or enlarged to accommodate the Town Creek Greenway. This will effectively separate vehicular and greenway traffic from Margie Piper Baily Park south past East University Drive. Going north, the same thing can be done at Heard Avenue, Moores Mill Road, E. Samford Avenue, East Thach Avenue and East Magnolia Avenue to connect to Felton Little Park without crossing a traffic artery. All bridges and culverts scheduled for repair or replacement should be considered for this purpose.
- Greenway Trail North:** The trail along Town Creek in the park is extended north along Town Creek past the Scout Hut, Forestdale Park, through Graham McTeer Park, and along the creek up to Felton Little Park. This route forms the north section of the Town Creek Greenway and Trail system as a major trail connector through the middle of the City of Auburn.
- Shelters Midsize:** Two (2) midsize (12 x 20) shelters are placed at the inclusive playground and Margie Piper Bailey Park to provide shade and assembly space for families, groups, teams and others who use the facilities.
- Parking for Playground:** The inclusive playground is a major destination amenity that needs lots of parking to accommodate the expected demand. An additional parking lot is added across Camellia Drive on a vacant lot.
- Inclusive Playground:** A large inclusive playground located near Wrights Mill Elementary School is a major destination playground and will become an after school hot spot for children.
- Additional Parking:** A small parking lot off Salmon Drive is needed for park patrons who want to use the amenities on the east side of S. Gay Street. The parking spaces are weaved under the trees to make them less visible or intrusive to the neighbors. A 50' buffer of undisturbed vegetation will remain to screen the cars from the adjacent residences.
- Paved Surface Trails:** Paved trails are added throughout the park to areas that are currently inaccessible. The objective is to create loops and alternative routes that make all the amenities of the park connected and accessible to all users.
- Wetland Boardwalk:** A wetland area along the existing tree walk is not currently accessible by patrons of the park. A boardwalk across the wetlands over to a new trail is added to provide another opportunity for a different experience on the walking trails in the park.

- Greenway Trail South:** There was an old historic trail that existed along Town Creek. The goal is to restore and extend the routing of this trail south along the creek until it passes under I-85 and continues toward Chewacla State Park. The trail will extend north until it connects to Felton Little Park. This route becomes the central spine greenway that connects a variety of other parks and amenities within this densely-developed area of the city. There is a potential need for stream enhancement/restoration due to excessive lateral migration and poor conditions along the banks.
- Bridge Improvement at S. Gay Street:** The Town Creek Bridge at S. Gay Street is not high enough to allow for a bike trail to pass underneath. The bridge is scheduled for repair and could be raised with a ledge added at creek level to allow a bike trail to pass underneath the road. This effectively separates vehicular traffic from trail use by tying the two halves of Town Creek Park together. The trail is ramped down gradually along the bank of the creek on both sides of the bridge to make it accessible. This improvement should be done even if the road crossings identified in recommendation #1 are not executed.
- Trail to Museum:** The Auburn University Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Arts is near the park and is connected by a spur trail along Town Creek Drive to tie the two facilities together. This connection expands the passive recreation opportunities for the park and museum.
- Expanded Dog Park:** There is always need for shade in a dog park for both the pets and their owners. Expanding the dog park over just enough to include some trees on the west side will provide the greatly needed shade.
- Shelter for Dog Park:** A dog park always needs a small (10 x 12) shelter where owners can meet and socialize in the shade while their pets run free.
- Swinging Bridge across the Creek:** A pedestrian bridge across the creek ties to a soft surface woodland loop trail that makes this section of the park more accessible to patrons. The crossing could be made with a swinging bridge or some other form or bridge to add another dimension of adventure to the park.
- Loop Trail:** The area across Town Creek to the south is isolated from the rest of the park by the creek. The densely-forested area is perfect for a natural woodland loop trail with access from Azalea Drive to the bridge across the creek.
- Small Picnic Shelters:** Four (4) small (10 x 12) picnic shelters are added along the loop trail at the Azalea Drive parking to expand the use and availability of this section of the park to residents.
- Parking on Azalea Drive:** The loop trail and small shelters need associated parking. An entrance off Azalea Drive to a tree covered parking lot adds another entry point for park patrons and expands this section of the park for more users.

- Potential Ropes Course:** The woodland area inside the loop trail off Azalea Road is a very good location for a future ropes course. The location is inside the city and near Auburn University which can generate a lot of demand.
- Relocated Play Structure:** The existing play structure is in a damp area and sits across the main entrance drive from the existing shelter. That creates a hazardous situation for children crossing the driveway between the shelter and play structure. The play structure is removed and relocated to become part of the new inclusive playground.
- Trail to Salmon Park:** An 8' wide paved trail from the park along S. Gay Street to Salmon Park connects the two parks together and improves the sidewalk along S. Gay Street.
- Landscape Buffer:** The open play field east of S. Gay Street is adjacent to the street and elevated above the traffic level. This

creates a hazard for many activities on the open field due to balls or other objects passing down into the street. A dense evergreen landscape buffer is located along the edge of the open field to protect against this potential hazard.

- Trail to Wrights Mill Elementary School:** The elementary school is across the street from the park and the inclusive playground. The Historic Tree Trail currently stops short of the school at Janet Drive. The recommended trail extends along the west side of Wrights Mill Road up to the inclusive playground and a crosswalk over to the school. This alignment provides easier and safer access from the school to the park and playground.
- Trail to Auburn Early Education Center:** A spur trail connector from the Town Creek Greenway connects over to the Auburn Early Education Center which provides these students with easy and safe access to the park and greenway.

COST ESTIMATE #16

#	ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL \$
1	ENLARGE CULVERTS AND BRIDGE (JANET DR., WRIGHTS M. RD, E UNIV. DR.)	3	EA	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 600,000.00
2	GREENWAY TRAIL NORTH (FUTURE TOWN CREEK GREENWAY)	0	LF	\$ -	\$ -
3	SHELTERS - MIDSIZE 12' X 20' W PLAYGROUND (PREFAB)	2	EA	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
4	PARKING SPACES FOR PLAYGROUND	25	EA	\$ 650.00	\$ 16,250.00
5	LARGE INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND	1	ALLOW	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
6	ADDITIONAL PARKING SPACES	25	EA	\$ 650.00	\$ 16,250.00
7	PAVED SURFACE TRAILS 12' X 1,600'	1,600	LF	\$ 42.00	\$ 67,200.00
8	WETLAND BOARDWALK CONNECTION 8' X 400'	3,200	SF	\$ 30.00	\$ 96,000.00
9	GREENWAY TRAIL SOUTH 12' FUTURE TOWN CREEK GREENWAY EXTENSION	0	LF	\$ -	\$ -
10	BRIDGE IMPROVEMENT AT SOUTH GAY STREET	1	LS	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
11	TRAIL TO MUSEUM 12' TRAIL / SIDEWALK	6,000	LF	\$ 3.50	\$ 21,000.00
12	EXPANDED DOG PARK (INTO THE WOODED AREA)	1	LS	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
13	SHELTER AT DOG PARK 10' X 12' (PREFAB)	1	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
14	PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE ACROSS THE CREEK	80	LF	\$ 500.00	\$ 40,000.00
15	LOOP TRAIL - SOFT SURFACE 10' X 1,900'	1,900	LF	\$ 15.00	\$ 28,500.00
16	SMALL PICNIC SHELTERS (PREFAB)	1	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
17	PARKING SPACES ON AZALEA DRIVE	50	EA	\$ 600.00	\$ 30,000.00
18	POTENTIAL ROPES COURSE	1	LS	\$ -	\$ -
19	RELOCATED PLAY STRUCTURE	1	LS	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
20	TRAIL TO SALMON PARK 12' X 1,800' CONCRETE	1,800	LF	\$ 42.00	\$ 75,600.00
21	LANDSCAPE BUFFER	400	LF	\$ 15.00	\$ 6,000.00
22	TRAIL TO WRIGHTS MILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 12' X 1,400' CONCRETE	1,400	LF	\$ 42.00	\$ 58,800.00
23	TRAIL TO EARLY EDUCATION CENTER 10' X 800' CONCRETE	800	LF	\$ 35.00	\$ 28,000.00
GENERAL ITEMS					
A.	LANDSCAPE / IRRIGATION ALLOWANCE (FIELDS AND CENTER)	1	ALLOW	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
B.	UTILITY UPGRADES	1	ALLOW	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
C.	OVERALL STAKING, EROSION CONTROL, SITE WORK, TRAIL GRADING	1	ALLOW	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00
SUB-TOTAL					\$ 2,061,600.00
25% CONTINGENCY					\$ 515,400.00
ENGINEERING AND FEES 10%					\$ 206,160.00
#16	TOTAL COSTS				\$ 2,783,160.00

TOWN CREEK & SALMON PARKS

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 1150 S. GAY STREET

CONCEPT PLAN #17

LEGEND

- ① TRAIL CONNECTION TO WESTVIEW CEMETERY
- ② EXPAND CULVERT FOR GREENWAY CROSSING
- ③ 10' X 20' MIDSIZE SHELTERS
- ④ PAVED TRAIL CONNECTIONS
- ⑤ SOFT SURFACE LOOP TRAILS
- ⑥ WILDLIFE NATURE PRESERVE
- ⑦ PLANT RESCUE SITE
- ⑧ PARK ACCESS & PARKING
- ⑨ CHILDREN'S GARDEN WITH SMALL SHELTER
- ⑩ (3) FOOT BRIDGES
- ⑪ GREENWAY TRAIL
- ⑫ SIDEWALK TRAIL CONNECTION TO BOYKIN COMMUNITY CENTER
- ⑬ TRAIL CONNECTION TO N. DONAHUE DRIVE
- ⑭ SPLASH FEATURE OVER KIDDIE POOL



WESTVIEW PARK

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 657 WESTVIEW DRIVE

18.12 ACRES



OCT - 06 - 2017
063.003



City of Auburn

NARRATIVE #17

Westview is an undeveloped 18.12-acre park beside the Westview Cemetery and between Sam Harris Park and Drake Middle School.

Recommendations:

1. **Trail to Westview Cemetery:** The trail system identified for this park is connected to Westview Cemetery to make it easier for people to move between the cemetery and the park. The cemetery needs a small open air pavilion / chapel for family gathering and services. Additional parking is needed at the entrance and just inside the gate. The city has completed a master plan that addresses these needs.
2. **Raise Foster Street and rebuild the culvert:** The Foster Street culvert is an impediment for the proposed Westview Greenway to extend along the creek into Same Harris Park. Raise the street and enlarge the culvert so the greenway can extend under Foster Street and tie Westview Park to Sam Harris Park without any vehicle / bicycle conflicts.
3. **Midsized Shelters:** Place two (2) small (10 x 12) picnic shelters in the park near the basketball courts and one (1) in the parking area to encourage more use of the park by residents.
4. **Paved Trails:** A series of paved walking trails connect various amenities of the site and make them ADA accessible.
5. **Soft Surface Loop Trail:** A soft surface nature trail loops through the park to provide easier access around the site to be used for school outings or classes.
6. **Wildlife Nature Preserve:** A preserved area is designated in the middle of the park to protect and enhance wildlife by adding habitat, shelter and food sources.
7. **Plant Rescue Site:** A special ecological site set aside to receive unique and endangered plants relocated from construction sites.
8. **Park Access and Parking:** Access off Foster Street is designed with parking spread under the trees to avoid loss of tree canopy.
9. **Children's Garden:** A special area designed as a children's learning garden and associated with the school as an outdoor classroom. A small (10 x 12) shelter is included to be used for assembly and instruction.
10. **Foot Bridges:** To accommodate the trail system through the park and to connect the amenities to the school, there is a need for at least three (3) pedestrian trail bridges across the creeks.
11. **Greenway Trail:** A greenway trail system along the existing creek connects Foster Street to Spencer Avenue and extends over to Drake Gym.
12. **Sidewalk Trail to Boykin Community Center:** A sidewalk trail along Spencer Avenue is routed to connect down to the Boykin Community Center.

13. **Trail to North Donahue Drive:** A greenway trail from Drake Gymnasium over to North Donahue Drive is included to provide more neighborhood access to the park, pool and school.
14. **Splash Pad:** Remove the kiddie pool and replace it with a splash pad water feature. The splash pad will attract more users to the facility than the kiddie pool.

COST ESTIMATE #17

#	ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL \$
1	TRAIL TO WESTVIEW CEMETERY 10' SOFT SURFACE	225	LF	\$ 18.00	\$ 4,050.00
2	REBUILD FOSTER STREET CULVERT	1	LS	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
3	MIDSIZE SHELTERS - 10' X 20' (PREFAB)	3	EA	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
4	PAVED TRAILS 10' X 1,600'	1,600	LF	\$ 35.00	\$ 56,000.00
5	SOFT SURFACE LOOP TRAIL 8' X 1,800'	1,800	LF	\$ 12.00	\$ 21,600.00
6	WILDLIFE NATURE PRESERVE	1	LS	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
7	PLANT RESCUE AREA	1	LS	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
8	PARK ACCESS PARKING SPACES	45	EA	\$ 650.00	\$ 29,250.00
9	CHILDREN'S GARDEN	1	EA	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
10	FOOTBRIDGES	3	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
11	GREENWAY TRAIL 12' PAVED	1,500	LF	\$ 42.00	\$ 63,000.00
12	TRAIL TO DONAHUE DRIVE 12' PAVED	1,600	LF	\$ 42.00	\$ 67,200.00
13	SPLASH PAD	1	LS	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
	GENERAL ITEMS				
	A. LANDSCAPE / IRRIGATION ALLOWANCE (FIELDS AND CENTER)	1	ALLOW	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
	B. OVERALL STAKING, EROSION CONTROL, SITE WORK, TRAIL AND FIELD GRADING	1	ALLOW	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL				\$ 1,106,100.00
	25% CONTINGENCY				\$ 276,525.00
	ENGINEERING AND FEES 10%				\$ 110,610.00
#17	TOTAL COSTS				\$ 1,493,235.00

WESTVIEW PARK

AUBURN, ALABAMA - 657 WESTVIEW DRIVE

NARRATIVE #18

The study assembled an inventory of existing recreational and cultural facilities against a gap analysis of needed facilities to develop a recommendations list to fill the projected gaps in the current facilities. These recommendations are explained and identified in Chapter 6 of this study. The various recommendations were dispersed to the numerous parks and tracts of land currently owned by the APRD.

Some of the recommended facilities did not have an appropriate location or there was not enough available space to accommodate the specific recommendation. Listed below are recommendations from Chapter 6 that do not currently have a recommended location on any of the existing ARPD properties.

1. **Turf Field with Lights:** The gap analysis revealed the need for at least two (2) multi-purpose artificial turf athletic fields with lights. Such a field needs to be available for a variety of sports, tournaments, championships and be located near a high school or school cluster. Turf fields are expensive additions to a parks program and should be carefully located to obtain maximum use from the investment. Stadium seating and expansive parking should be closely associated with the location of the field. One (1) such field is in the proposed Richland Park adjacent to a future high school site. Another field needs to be considered elsewhere in the city or convert an existing athletic field to artificial turf.
2. **Splash Pad:** The gap analysis revealed a need and demand for four (4) splash pads around the city. The park specific master plans converted the kiddie pools at Samford Pool and Drake Pool to splash pads and included a splash pad as part of the program for the proposed natatorium at the Donahue site. A fourth splash pad is needed and would be best located in a passive park closer to the urban center.
3. **Community Meeting Rooms:** Community Meeting rooms are valuable and versatile additions to a cultural and recreational program and should be associated with Senior Centers, Community Centers, or Recreation Centers. The gap analysis revealed a need for six (6) more community meeting rooms throughout the city. The study locates one each at the proposed new recreation centers at Richland, Donahue and Lake Wilmore sites. A fourth meeting room is identified as part of the redevelopment of the fire station at Shug Jordon Soccer Fields. Two (2) more similar community rooms are needed that can be incorporated as part of the recommended Senior Center or Performing Arts Center. It is also recommended that a community room be included as part of the development of any new fire stations within the city.
4. **Senior Activity Center:** The gap analysis revealed that a 6,000-square foot senior activity center is needed to meet the growing demands of the senior community. The identified community meeting rooms could be incorporated as part of this facility. The gap analysis also revealed a need for the following recreation facilities that would best be associated with a Senior Center.
 - a. Shuffleboard Courts 2 each
 - b. Horseshoe Pits 2 each
 - c. Badminton Lawn 1 each

5. **Large Group Pavilion:** There is a growing need for a large corporate size outdoor pavilion to seat 500-1,000 people. Such a facility is important to attract major events, festivals, and large groups to a park. Such a pavilion is best associated with a large passive park and / or lake.

6. **Skate Park:** There was a lot of interest and demand for a skate park identified in the survey and during the public meetings. The gap analysis revealed that there is a genuine need for a skate park in a city the size of Auburn. A successful skate park is best located in a large multi-use park with easy access, visibility and near a Recreation Center.

7. **Community Garden:** The gap analysis revealed a lack of community gardens within the city. Auburn could sustain up to three (3) such gardens if carefully located to reach the maximum users. The master plan located one community garden in Sam Harris Park in an open area near a family pavilion and parking. Community Gardens need to be easily accessible and in open sunlight for best results.

8. **Performing Arts Center:** The City of Auburn has a very strong and active arts and culture community, but lacks the facilities needed to support the demand. Performing arts facilities can be costly to develop and need to be centrally located to best serve the population. The gap analysis revealed that there is sufficient user demand for a 42,000-square foot facility that includes a 3,000-square foot music performance room and a 500-1,000 seat performance theater.

COST ESTIMATE #18

#	ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL \$
1	TURF FIELD 165' X 336' ARTIFICIAL TURF	55,440	SF	\$ 8.50	\$ 471,240.00
	A. CONCESSION BUILDING	1	EA	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 225,000.00
	B. STADIUM SEATING	2	SETS	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
	C. LIGHTING STRUCTURE	1	EA	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 110,000.00
2	SPLASH PAD	1	LS	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
3	COMMUNITY MEETING ROOMS 1,500 SF @ \$150 SF	2	EA	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 450,000.00
4	SENIOR CENTER 6,000 SF	6,000	SF	\$ 160.00	\$ 960,000.00
	A. SHUFFLEBOARD COURTS	2	EA	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
	B. HORSESHOE PITS	2	EA	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
	C. BADMINTON LAWN	1,600	LF	\$ 42.00	\$ 67,200.00
5	LARGE GROUP PAVILION 50' X 150' (CUSTOM DESIGN)	7,500	SF	\$ 120.00	\$ 900,000.00
6	SKATE PARK	1	LS	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
7	COMMUNITY GARDENS	1	ALLOW	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
8	PERFORMING ARTS CENTER	42,000	SF	\$ 160.00	\$ 6,720,000.00
	A. SITE WORK 10%	1	ALLOW	\$ 670,000.00	\$ 670,000.00
	B. PARKING LOT SPACES	500	EA	\$ 650.00	\$ 325,000.00
	GENERAL ITEMS				
	A. LANDSCAPE / IRRIGATION ALLOWANCE (FIELDS AND CENTER)	1	ALLOW	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
	B. UTILITY UPGRADES	1	ALLOW	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
	C. STAKING, EROSION CONTROL, SITE WORK, GRADING	1	ALLOW	\$ 350,000.00	\$ 350,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL				\$ 12,135,440.00
	25% CONTINGENCY FOR UNKNOWN ITEMS				\$ 3,033,860.00
	FIELD SURVEYS - 3 @ \$50,000 EACH				\$ 150,000.00
	ENGINEERING AND FEES 10%				\$ 1,213,544.00
#18	TOTAL COSTS				\$ 16,532,844.00

UNASSIGNED FACILITIES

AUBURN, ALABAMA

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NARRATIVE #19

The following parks and facilities are part of the APRD inventory and were evaluated during the process of the study. Maps were not produced for these parks, but some proposed improvements and additions were recommended for the respective properties.

- Auburn Public Library:** A 3.65-acre site and building at 749 East Thach Avenue. See the Library Section of the report for a more detailed description of the recommendations for the library. The public library needs an outdoor space, such as an amphitheater or outdoor classroom, that can be used for programs for youth and adults or as a passive space for patrons who want to escape the indoors and have a quiet place outside to read, study or visit. Additionally, the library needs to undergo a renovation to its interior spaces.
- Auburn Softball Complex:** A 23.7-acre site at 2560 South College Street that is home for the area softball leagues. The fields are well used but lack tree canopy shade and shade structures within the viewing spaces for the fields.
 - The shade additions can be added in the open areas of the pavement and in the common areas between the fields.
 - The playground needs shade either by trees or with a canopy to make it more usable during the hot seasons.
 - Relocate the dumpsters and add a small shelter by the creek as a post-up staging place for teams arriving by bus.
 - The materials storage bins need to be relocated to the curb along the creek and near the maintenance building.
 - The parking lot needs to be reconfigured and stripped to eliminate conflicts between patron parking and parks maintenance.
 - The parking lot can also become a trail head for the Parkerson Mill Creek Greenway by extending the trail under Interstate 85 at the large culvert to the parking lot.
 - The upper parking lot entrance can be reconfigured with access on the north side of the lot to better facilitate traffic.
 - A traffic light is recommended at Shell Toomer Intersection to facilitate traffic and allow bikers on the Charlotte and Curtis Ward bike path to safely cross South College Street. This would effectively connect Parkerson Mill Creek Greenway all the way to Chewacla State Park.
- Cary Elementary Multi-Purpose Field:** A 0.7-acre new multi-purpose field adjacent to Carey Elementary School at 715 Sanders Street. This small multi-purpose field is used primarily for practices. Add benches under the adjacent trees and a small shelter at the access point to provide shade and space for people waiting at the fields. Add a perimeter soft surface trail

around the field as an additional amenity for people waiting at the park who want to walk or exercise during their wait.

- DeKalb Street Park:** A 9.45-acre green space on DeKalb Street that is primarily a detention pond and forests. The site is between several residential sub-divisions and is well located to become a neighborhood park.
 - The bottom of the detention pond to be cleared and graded to serve as an open space / practice field for residents.
 - A trail system can be developed around the park that extends along the creek up to Shelton Mill Road to cross at Tacoma Drive and continue past St. Michaels Catholic Church to Pick Elementary School, and under North College Street to Hickory Dickory Park.
 - A number of residential developments along the route that can develop private spurs over to the trails giving the residents easy access to the school, churches and parks. The trail can extend east across DeKalb Street and pick up a north south power line easement to connect to more housing developments.
- Duncan Wright Fitness Trail:** A 2.71-acre open space and fitness trail park at 342 East Samford Avenue. The park does not belong to the ARPD, but can be a part of the parks / greenway network.
 - A small shelter added under the trees just inside the trail to give users and groups a place to meet.
 - A sidewalk connector trail extends east along East Samford Avenue to Graham McTeer Park to connect with the proposed Town Creek Greenway.
- Graham McTeer Park:** A 1.79-acre strip of land at 200 Chewacla Drive on both sides of Town Creek. The park is a narrow strip of land along both sides of the creek with a near complete tree Canopy.
 - The park can be best used as part of the Town Creek Greenway to connect Felton Little Park to Town Creek Park.
 - Raise the road and enlarge the culverts on E. Thach Avenue to create an underpass for the greenway.
 - Add some benches, swings, picnic tables and trash receptacles overlooking the creek.
 - Place a small tot lot in the park as a place for mothers to take their small children during the day.
 - Add a pedestrian bridge from Hare Avenue to Chewacla Drive.

f. Add a pedestrian bridge from W. Chewacla Drive to Chewacla Drive to make both sides of the park accessible to residents.

- Hickory Dickory Park:** A 3.66-acre play-structure park at 1400 Hickory Lane and of Shug Jordan Parkway. The park has a restroom and extensive playground.
 - There needs to be at least two (2) small 10 x 12 shelters on the edge of the open space to accommodate birthday parties, groups, families and patrons to the park.
 - A third shelter is placed in the trees at the top of the ramp to the play-structure. This shelter better serves groups that are using the play-structure as a party or event activity.
 - Add a set of steps from the parking lot up to the midway platform on the ramp.
 - Add a large set of stairs from the parking lot up to the top of the ramp. This is a shortcut without creating footpath desire lines that cause erosion.
 - Add a tricycle track around the open lawn for children to ride their own tricycles.
 - Add more parking spots on the cul-de-sac on Hickory Lane to give residents a closer place to park.
 - Consider a woodland path along the creek and connect it to Hickory Lane as the beginning of a trail / sidewalk down to Cary Elementary School.
 - Consider a possible greenway route going eastward along the south side of Shug Jordan Parkway, pass under North College Street over to Pick Elementary School, and down to DeKalb Street Park and trailhead.
- Indian Pines Golf Course:** A 102.39-acre public golf course at 900 Indian Pines Drive. The study did not identify any improvements or recommendations to the golf course. The ARPD may consider a tree replacement / landscape master plan for the golf course to replace trees and beautify the course.
- Indian Pines Tennis / Pickleball Courts:** There are four (4) tennis courts at Indian Pines Golf Course that do not get significant use. It is recommended that these courts be converted to 4-6 pickleball courts and made available to the public. The parking lot can be sectioned off so that pickleball users do not interfere with parking and access for golfers. A small area adjacent to the courts can be developed as a few additional parking spaces and a small shelter for post up or waiting.
- Lake Ogletree Reservoir:** An 831.9-acre site that includes the city water reservoir. The site is accessible to citizens on limited conditions. The recommendation is to consider developing

a series of trails around the lake and connecting them to the trails at Chewacla State Park. The city should consider opening the lake up to more water related activities and sports without risking contamination or damage to the lake. Ideas include a canoe / kayak training base, fishing docks, remote camp sites, picnic sites, and other passive recreational opportunities.

- North Auburn Park (Hwy 280):** An 8.61-acre old rest stop on Highway 280 north of the city. There are some buildings on the site that are in poor condition. The maintenance building and some of the existing picnic shelters are usable. The study considered a variety of recommendations for the site but did not find any that were viable at the time. The final decision is to reserve this remote site as a staging area for the DOT until later.
- Pick Elementary Multi- Use field:** A 1.5-acre multi-purpose field adjacent to Pick Elementary School. The field was recently constructed and given to the ARPD. The field can be lighted because it is not near any adjacent residential lots. The field sits below the elevation of North College Street which screens it from view by the homes along the west side of North College Street.
 - Light the fields to extend their use for a variety of sports and activities.
 - Add a restroom / changing room / concession building on the existing slab to accommodate the users and families.
 - Install bleachers on each side of the field to increase the viability of the field.
 - Connect a trail and pedestrian bridge across the small creek over to Cary Elementary School to better tie the facilities together.
 - APRD and ACS to work out a joint use agreement to share the parking for games and the fields for school activities.
 - The field and school sit on a potential greenway trail route between Hickory Dickory Park and DeKalb Park / Trailhead.
- Samford Pool and Park:** A 1.53-acre pool and 2.7-acre park at 465 Wrights Mill Road connected to the Auburn Junior High School.
 - Kiddie pool to be converted to a splash pad to attract more users.
 - The small park at the entrance off Wrights Mill Road needs a small picnic shelter under the trees on the edge of the park.
 - The old tables, grills and benches in the middle to be removed and new ones added around the forested edges of the park under the tree canopy.
 - The center of the park to convert to open space to be used for a variety of activities and events.

OTHER PARKS AND FACILITIES

AUBURN, ALABAMA

NARRATIVE #19

- e. The trees and perimeter vegetation to be trimmed up and pruned to open views into the park and prepare locations for the new tables and benches.
14. **Yarborough Tennis Center:** A 17-acre tennis facility developed through a joint use agreement between the APRD and Auburn University. Recommendations for this facility include:
- Adding small shade / benches along the sides of the courts for people waiting to play.
 - Add two small (10 x 10) shelters on the grass corners of the center court area. These will provide shade as well as operations for tournaments and events.
 - Extend the patio of out 12 feet beyond the eaves of the building overlooking the clay court as a viewing area.
 - Add a shade arbor over the patio. This area will become the hangout, waiting and viewing area for patrons of the center.
 - Add a shade awning along the south side of the covered courts building and behind the terraced seating to provide shade.
 - Add some trees in the lowest terrace that will be tall enough to view under and still provide shade on the terraces.
 - Add two pickleball courts on the NE corner of the site.
 - Trail connectors to the future park and high school from the center.

CEMETERIES:

The city of APRD is responsible for the care and maintenance of the local cemeteries. The ones included are as follows:

15. **Baptist Hill Cemetery:** A 3.65-acre historic African-American Cemetery on Dean Road near the Auburn Public Library. The site is the first separate African-American cemetery in the city and was established in 1870. The park is still in use today. The site is covered with a mature canopy of trees and maintains its historic ambiance. The local citizens group responsible for the care of the cemetery has asked that the city make no changes to the cemetery. The only recommendation is that some of the trees need to be assessed for their health, treated, pruned or removed for safety reasons. A fund should be established to replace trees as they die to maintain the ambiance and appearance of the site. Otherwise, there are no other recommendations.
16. **Memorial Cemetery:** A 16.9-acre cemetery at 1000 East Samford Avenue adjacent to Auburn Junior High School. A better description of the recommendations for this cemetery can be found under Dean Road Recreation Center site plan #3 in this chapter.

17. **Pine Hill Cemetery:** A 6.2-acre cemetery at 303 Armstrong Street north of the old Auburn Junior High School. The cemetery was established in 1837 and is the oldest in Auburn. Because of the wealth of local history that resides in the park, the cemetery should be kept as a local attraction and place of historic interest.
- Add a few more benches throughout the site.
 - Install a small shelter for tour groups and visitors to gather or meet.
 - Prepare a complete historic record and guide to the graves of the notable people interred in the cemetery.
 - Maintain the record at the Auburn Public Library for public access.
18. **Town Creek Cemetery:** A 23.25-acre cemetery off Brookside Drive adjacent to Town Creek and Salmon Parks. The site needs a few more small shade structures for families waiting in the cemetery. Better identify the parking spaces on the grounds used for funerals. A trail connection to Town Creek Park is recommended in the Town Creek / Salmon Park site plan #16.
19. **Westview Cemetery:** A 17.6-acre cemetery at 700 Westview Drive adjacent to Westview Park and Drake Elementary School. The master plan is published on the City website. See the Westview Park site plan #17 in this chapter for more detail on the Westview Cemetery.

COST ESTIMATE #19

#	ITEM	QTY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL \$
1	RENOVATION OF EXISTING AUBURN PUBLIC FACILITY	1	ALLOW	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,500,000.00
	A. AUBURN PUBLIC LIBRARY - OUTDOOR CLASSROOM / AMPHITHEATER	1	ALLOW	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00
2	AUBURN SOFTBALL COMPLEX			\$ -	\$ -
	A. SHADE STRUCTURES (PREFAB)	10	EA	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
	B. TREES OVER PLAYGROUND	8	EA	\$ 350.00	\$ 2,800.00
	C. SMALL SHELTER BY CREEK / MOVE DUMPSTER (PREFAB)	1	ALLOW	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
	D. MATERIALS STORAGE BINS	1	LS	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
	F. PARKING RESTRIPIING	1	LS	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
	G. RECONFIGURE PARKING ENTRANCE	1	LS	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
3	CARY ELEMENTARY MULTI-PURPOSE FIELD			\$ -	\$ -
	A. BENCHES UNDER TREES	12	LS	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 14,400.00
	B. SMALL SHELTER 10' X 10' (PREFAB)	1	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
	C. PERIMETER WALKING TRAIL - 8' SOFT SURFACE	800	LF	\$ 15.00	\$ 12,000.00
4	DEKALB STREET PARK			\$ -	\$ -
	A. GRADE OUT DETENTION POND AND GRASS THE BOTTOM	30,000	SF	\$ 2.00	\$ 60,000.00
	B. TRAIL SYSTEM TO HICKORY DICKORY PARK	0		\$ -	\$ -
	C. SPURS AND NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTORS	0		\$ -	\$ -
5	DUNCAN WRIGHT FITNESS (NOT PART OF THE PARKS SYSTEM)			\$ -	\$ -
6	GRAHAM MCTEER PARK			\$ -	\$ -
	A. 10' WIDE PAVED TRAIL THROUGH PARK	1,000	LF	\$ 35.00	\$ 35,000.00
	B. RAISE ROAD AND REBUILD CULVERT AT E. THACH AVE.	1	LS	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
	C. BENCHES AND SWINGS ALONG THE TRAIL, BOTH SIDES	10	EA	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 15,000.00
	D. TOT LOT	1	LS	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
	E. PEDESTRIAN BRIDGES	2	EA	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
7	HICKORY DICKORY PARK			\$ -	\$ -
	A. SMALL SHELTERS 10' X 12' (PREFAB)	2	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
	B. SHELTER NEAR THE PLAY STRUCTURE (PREFAB)	1	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
	C. STEPS TO MIDSECTION OF RAMP	2	EA	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
	D. STEPS UP FROM THE PARKING LOT TO PLAY STRUCTURE	1	EA	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
	E. TRICYCLE TRACK 10' WIDE PAVED	400	LF	\$ 35.00	\$ 14,000.00
	F. PARKING SPACES AT CUL-DE-SAC	8	EA	\$ 450.00	\$ 3,600.00
	G. SOFT SURFACE PATH ALONG THE CREEK 8' WIDE	500	EA	\$ 12.00	\$ 6,000.00
	H. POSSIBLE GREENWAY TO DEKALB PARK			\$ -	\$ -
8	INDIAN PINES GOLF COURSE LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN	1	LS	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
9	INDIAN PINES PICKLEBALL COURTS - CONVERSION	1	ALLOW	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 28,000.00
10	LAKE OGLETREE RESERVOIR - IMPROVEMENTS, TRAILS,	1	ALLOW	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
11	NORTH AUBURN PARK (FUTURE, NO IMPROVEMENT RECOMMENDED)			\$ -	\$ -
12	PICK ELEMENTARY MULTI-USE FIELD			\$ -	\$ -
	A. LIGHT THE FIELDS	1	LS	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 110,000.00
	B. RESTROOMS / CHANGING, CONCESSIONS	1,000	SF	\$ 165.00	\$ 165,000.00
	C. BLEACHERS BOTH SIDES	2	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
	D. PEDESTRIAN WOODEN BRIDGE	1	ALLOW	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
	E. JOINT USE AGREEMENT			\$ -	\$ -
13	SAMFORD POOL AND PARK			\$ -	\$ -
	A. SPLASH PAD (DEMO KIDDIE POOL)	1	ALLOW	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
	B. MIDSIZE PICNIC SHELTER IN PARK 10' X 20' (PREFAB)	1	EA	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
	C. REMOVE EXISTING FURNISHINGS	1	LS	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
	D. UPGRADE TURF AREA	5,000	SF	\$ 2.00	\$ 10,000.00
	E. PRUNE THE TREES AND VEGETATION AROUND THE EDGES	1	LS	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
14	YARBOROUGH TENNIS CENTER			\$ -	\$ -
	A. SHADE BENCHES AROUND THE COURTS	12	EA	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 42,000.00
	B. SMALL 10' X 10' SHELTERS (PREFAB)	2	EA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
	C. EXTEND PATIO OUT 12' FROM THE EDGE OF BUILDING W SEATWALL	1	ALLOW	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 28,000.00
	D. SHADE ARBOR OVER THE PATIO 8' X 80'	640	LF	\$ 50.00	\$ 32,000.00
	E. SHADE AWNING ON S. SIDE OF COVERED COURTS BUILDING 16' X 330'	5,280	SF	\$ 20.00	\$ 105,600.00
	F. TREES ON LOWER TERRACE	8	EA	\$ 750.00	\$ 6,000.00
	G. PICKLEBALL COURTS	2	EA	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 90,000.00
	H. TRAIL CONNECTORS TO PARK AND SCHOOLS	0	LF	\$ -	\$ -
	SUB-TOTAL				\$ 3,715,100.00
	25% CONTINGENCY				\$ 928,775.00
	ENGINEERING AND FEES 10%				\$ 371,510.00
#19	TOTAL COSTS				\$ 5,015,385.00

OTHER PARKS AND FACILITIES

AUBURN, ALABAMA

NARRATIVE #20

The following list of properties belong to the APRD but were not evaluated for future use or facilities.

<u>PARK</u>	<u>SIZE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>CURRENT USE</u>
Asheton Park	11.9 Acres	Ashton Lane	Open Site
Auburn Tech Park N.	8.7 Acres	Veterans Blvd	Neighborhood Park
Auburn Tech Park S	14.3 Acres	Technology Pkwy	Neighborhood Park
Boy Scout Hut	2.3 Acres	Heard Drive	Special Use facility
Forestdale Drive Lot	0.9 Acres	Forestdale Dr.	Neighborhood Park
Hughston Property	65.0 Acres	Richland Road	Open Space
Janet Drive Lot	2.0 Acres	Janet Drive	Open Space
Longleaf Properties	33.8 Acres	E. Longleaf Drive	Open Space
McKinley Avenue	0.2 Acres	McKinley Avenue	Greenspace or Small Park
Osteen Property	4.0 Acres	Near Yarborough	Undesignated
Parkerson Mill Creek	62.79 Acres	N. of Veterans Park	Open Space
Ross Street Lot	0.8 Acres	Ross and Opelika	Open Space
Stoker Street Lot	2.0 Acres	Stoker Street	Open Space
Windway Property	2.7 Acres	Windway Road	Open Space

OTHER PROPERTIES

AUBURN, ALABAMA

APPENDIX I: PROPOSED PROJECTS FROM PRCMP RECOMMENDATIONS



Proposed Projects from PRCMP Recommendations	Budget	Description	Reference
Shade covers over all the permanent bleachers at the ballfields.	\$360,000	To provide shade and protection from foul balls.	Rec: 6.11.6
Pickleball courts and shade shelter.	\$300,000	6 pickleball courts with shade shelter connected to Yarbrough Tennis	Rec: 6.12.4
Town Creek Park Inclusive Playground.	\$1,400,000	Playground parking and amenities along with trail addition for connectivity. ADA Accessible.	Rec: 6.12.2
Society Hill Park: road, fields and support facilities.	\$8,742,585	4 softball fields, 4 baseball fields and 5 multiuse fields, support buildings, playgrounds, walking trails and parking.	Rec: 6.11.6 c & g
Dinius Park: First Phase.	Has own funding	First phase with pavilion with restrooms, tot lot, dog park, internal trails, parking, , picnic tables, nature playground.	Rec: 6.13.1
Lake Wilmore Community Center, Gymnasium and Pool.	\$7,100,000	2 gyms, community center, parking, sidewalks and a neighborhood pool.	Rec: 6.12.2 and 6.24.2
Soccer Complex: Improvements and addition.	\$5,187,000	3 outside fields, a restroom building on south side of complex, parking and indoor to be used for basketball and soccer.	Rec: 6.11.6 g
Greenway from Westview to Shug Jordan and Sam Harris Park Expansion.	\$1,250,000	Greenway including needed creek crossings and added pavilions, dog park, open play area, parking and other park improvements.	Rec: 6.09.5.1 & 6.13.2
Library: renovations and outside improvements.	\$1,650,000	ADA work, exterior spaces and amphitheater.	Rec: 8.25
Frank Brown Recreation Center	\$500,000	New entrance and offices/meeting rooms. Will move athletic staff to FBRC and provide additional space at Dean Road for programs.	Rec: 6.12.5 and 6.24.7
Richland Park passive areas.	\$500,000	Passive park area with trails, improvements to lake.	Rec: 6.13.1
Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center: ADA work and expansion.	\$2,031,000	(items 1 through 5 on the cost estimate in the master plan) Expansion for ceramics and other programs and ADA work.	Rec: 7.32.1
Initial work to phase Felton Little Park into a passive park.	\$500,000	Would include taking down fences, light poles, dugouts and bleachers, creating open space and fencing off a dog park.	Rec: 6.11.2

SUBTOTAL:	\$29,020,585
30% CONTINGENCY:	\$7,255,146
10% DESIGN FEES AND TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEYS:	\$2,902,059
PROJECTED TOTAL:	\$39,177,790