

CITY OF TEMPLE

PARKS & TRAILS 2020

M A S T E R P L A N

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PLACES & SPACES

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A large red canopy structure covers a playground area. Underneath the canopy, there are several red slides and a yellow and red car-shaped play structure. The playground is set on green grass. In the background, there is a wooden fence and some trees.

1

INTRODUCTION



1.1 INTRODUCTION

Temple has a longstanding tradition of parks and recreational activities enjoyed by the community. For many years City leaders have recognized the importance of providing recreation, social gathering places, and green spaces close to residents that contribute to a better quality of life. Temple is currently experiencing population growth pressure and an ongoing need to expand and improve the parks and open space system to accommodate this demand. An updated Temple Parks and Trails Plan in 2019 provides an assessment of the existing Temple parks and trails and offers a prioritized action plan for the future, based on community desires and needs.

In 2014, the City of Temple completed the Temple Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan. This plan of action led to a successful bond program and \$27.6 million of park and trail improvements throughout the community, as detailed in Section 1.7, *Accomplishment Since 2014*. By late 2018, that program was largely complete and the time had come to think about future park improvements, potential acquisition and trail extensions to keep pace with Temple's growth.

The City's 2014 Trails Master Plan, adjusted periodically since adoption, was in need of an update by 2019 and the City of Temple elected to integrate trails into parks planning efforts into a single consolidated document.

The term "parks" commonly refers to land dedicated to outdoor spaces prioritized for active and passive recreation including organized play, impromptu play, passive outdoor enjoyment, and formal gathering spaces, among others.

The term "trail" commonly refers to linear areas designated primarily for recreational activities including, jogging, walking, and riding a bike, whether within a defined park area or linear connections throughout the community. This plan seeks to address trail facilities in each setting.

The City of Temple is embarking on an ambitious plan for the future, embracing growth and new ideas while striving to maintain its small-city charm and unique character. This plan will identify issues, opportunities and solutions to ensure the community's parks and trails system is on solid footing for the future of Temple, Texas.

1.2 PURPOSE OF THE PARKS AND TRAILS PLAN

The 2019 Temple Parks and Trails Plan provides updated guidance for the provisions of parks, recreational facilities, and trails for the next five to ten years. This plan addresses multiple aspects of the parks and trails system to ensure that all users are represented, amenities are both well-maintained and improved, and future facilities can accommodate the growth of the community.

Specifically, this plan seeks to:

- *Identify trends for parks and trail facilities at the local, regional, and national levels*
- *Determine the needs and desires of residents for parks and trail facilities*
- *Identify ways the City of Temple can address identified needs*
- *Examine potential growth of Temple and assess where potential new parks and trail facilities may need to be located*
- *Prioritize key recommendations to address the most significant deficiencies immediately*
- *Establish standards for parks and trail facilities*
- *Define the role of the City of Temple in providing parks and trail facilities.*

1.3 IMPORTANCE OF PLANNING

Parks and open spaces add to the vibrancy of the community through contributions to economic development, preservation of green space, providing community gathering spaces for social interaction, and retaining active play areas for children of all ages. Future residents of Temple will have an expectation of certain recreational opportunities and open space destinations that past residents did not. This will offer both a challenge and an opportunity to use the parks and trails system as a recruitment and retention tool, especially for younger professionals. Temple has worked hard to bolster its reputation as a health and wellness community, with physical activity a primary goal to ensure positive health and well-being. Both active and passive parks and trails provide opportunities to achieve a healthier and more enjoyable environment for those that call Temple home.

Continued planning and goal-setting keeps the community actively engaged in the process of designing and funding park improvements, while also keeping the City leaders at the forefront of contemporary trends and ideas. In the following sections, additional information is provided regarding the benefits and trends in parks and recreational amenities. By consistently and continuously creating a dialogue with the citizens during master planning processes, the City of Temple will not only understand what is most important to users but also discover ways to improve service delivery based on best practices from other communities.

1.4 BENEFITS OF PARKS AND TRAILS

A strong parks and recreation system enhances the quality of life of citizens by providing community green spaces to be shared and enjoyed by all. There are many benefits to maintaining and extending parks and trail facilities in Temple including:



IMPROVE HEALTH & WELL-BEING

Parks, recreational facilities, and trails provide opportunities for both active and passive recreation. Active recreation includes organized sports and physical activities and passive recreation activities include hiking, wildlife viewing, etc.



PROVIDE A SAFE HAVEN FOR YOUTH

Parks and recreation programs can have a positive social impact as young people have the opportunity to socialize through organized or unstructured activities which assist in developing life skills.



CONTRIBUTE TO THE LOCAL ECONOMY

Parks and trails improve local economies by increasing residential property values through the Proximate Principle which states, people will pay more for a home when it is next to a park or green space.



PROMOTE CONSERVATION

Parks and open spaces provide areas for native plantings and reclamation projects which can address issues with storm water runoff, retaining wildlife corridors, and linking built areas of the community to natural spaces.



PROVIDE SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Parks, recreational facilities, and trails are places to socialize, engage members of the community, and meet new people. Social interactions help build safe, connected, and friendly communities.



INCREASE TOURISM

People are increasingly likely to visit a community because of local attractions which may include parks, trails, or event venues. Attracting visitors to Temple via concerts, festivals, tournaments, etc. is a way to increase local revenue.

1.5 TRENDS IN PARKS AND RECREATION

A. PUBLIC RECREATION



In order to develop a parks plan that responds well to the needs and desires of the public, it is critical to be cognizant of contemporary trends in park and recreation planning. Today, cities across the nation are integrating planned recreational areas within accessible distances to residents. The provision of parks and recreational areas result in intrinsic ecological, aesthetic, and health-related benefits to urban areas and the people who live within them. Improved economic benefits are another reason why cities across the nation are prioritizing public recreation like never before.

B. PASSIVE RECREATION



Increased demand for passive recreation is one of the strongest current trends in park planning. Passive recreation includes outdoor recreational activities such as nature observation, hiking, and kayaking, that require a minimum of facilities or development and that have minimal environmental impact on the recreational site. This type of organic recreation, which is already popular within Central Texas and the Hill Country, is experiencing increased nationwide popularity. Passive recreation elements can be incorporated at a small scale within most parks and in large conservation-based parks as well.

C. ACTIVE RECREATION



Traditionally, active recreation, including areas for sports such as baseball, soccer and basketball has been an important component of community and regional parks. Recent studies suggest that the participation in youth league sports could be decreasing from historical levels due to factors such as a lack of quality practice fields and league fees. Ensuring accessible recreational facilities allows more young people to participate in organized youth programs.

D. REGIONAL TRAILS



One of the most popular recreational amenities within park systems in Central Texas and nationwide are pedestrian and bicycle trails. Incorporating trail systems within reach of residential communities results in enhanced access to natural environments, community parks, and other destinations, including places of work. According to contemporary public feedback, access to trails is a top priority for citizens in many cities in Texas, particularly for younger generations.

1.6 PAST PLANNING INITIATIVES

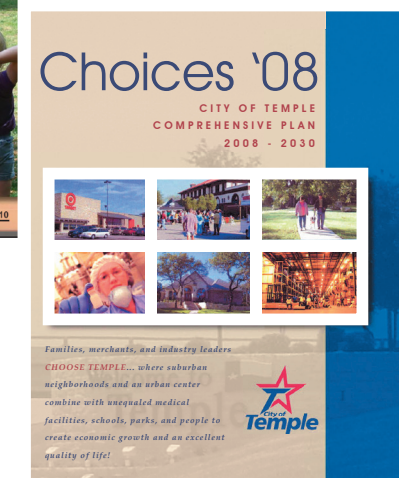
The City of Temple has a history of engaging in planning initiatives, including special studies and plans for targeted needs, districts, corridors, and the parks system.

The *2014 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan for the City of Temple* was adopted in December of 2014 with an eye on the future of parks and recreational facilities. The plan led to recommendations for improvements to parks and recreational facilities throughout the community.

Connecting the Community: Citywide Trails Master Plan (2012) established key goals and recommendations that were prioritized into three categories. These categories included: 1) trails that connected key destinations, 2) safe pedestrian routes to and from schools, and 3) trails within park lands.

The *Killeen-Temple MPO Regional Thoroughfare and Pedestrian/Bicycle Plan* promoted continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning within Central Texas. The three main goals of the plan were 1) the promotion of the increased use and safety of bicycles, 2) the promotion of pedestrian safety, and 3) to increase awareness by policy makers regarding pedestrian transportation.

Choices '08: The City of Temple Comprehensive Plan stated the importance of community image and beautification to the residents of Temple, with beautiful parks and public spaces included as an important component of that priority. The plan recommended establishing a formal neighborhood program to develop enhancement plans for streets, parks, common areas, neighborhood gardens, and gateways.





1.7 ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE THE 2014 MASTER PLAN

The City of Temple Parks and Recreation Department has worked to implement recommendations made in the 2014 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan. The following provides the action and status from the 2014 plan:

6-1 LAND ACQUISITION		
ACTION ID	ACTION	STATUS
1	Downtown Linear Park - Per Downtown Master Plan	Land has been acquired for the Downtown Linear Park
2	Future neighborhood parks - Acquire through donations lands for additional parks in fast growing areas of the city	Ongoing
3	Blackland Prairie Park - Land acquisition (cost to be determined)	Land has been acquired for Prairie Park
4	New Southwest Temple community park - Acquire through trade or purchase land to expand city owned lands in the area (20 to 50 acres)	Land has been acquired for Southwest Temple Park
5	Bend O' the River Park - Evaluate acquisition to enlarge (via potential donation)	Completed
6-2 NEW PARK DEVELOPMENT		
ACTION ID	ACTION	STATUS
1	Downtown Linear Park - Per Downtown Master Plan, enhances linear park, adds key trail, interpretive features, public art, pavilions, event area, play features	Current plan has been completed
2	West Temple Athletics Park/Community Park - Development	Crossroads - Ongoing
3	Develop new football fields (add two football fields to Wilson South Park)	One field has been completed and named for "Mean Joe" Greene
4	Develop 5+ miles of linkage trails	Linkage trails have been developed for Wyndham Hill, Echo Vista, and Crossroads parks
5	Bend O' the River Park: Develop program and master plan, initial phase development	Still to be completed
6	Develop Prewitt Park (new park, currently undeveloped)	Still to be completed
7	Blackland Prairie Park (includes outdoor education classroom, interpretive features, learning pavilion, natural surface trails, landscape restoration)	Amenities will include a crushed granite parking area and nature trail

6-3 EXISTING PARK IMPROVEMENTS

ACTION ID	ACTION	STATUS
1	Improve Athletic Facilities throughout Temple	
1a	Wilson South - Create area for football fields, improve restrooms and pavilions, add landscape features	One football field has been completed and is in use and a new concession / announcement area has been designed
1b	Northam	A new concession / announcement area has been designed
1c	AJ Mercer	A new concession / announcement area has been designed
1d	Baker Field	Improvements have been planned for the playground and dugout
1e	Scott and White Park Fields - Bleachers, restrooms, improve parking	Design for a new concession stand has been completed
1f	Ferguson - Minor improvements to athletic facilities	A new playground area has been installed and is now open
1g	Korompai - Improve soccer and football fields	Improvements to the athletic fields include new sod and improved drainage
1h	West Temple Park - Additional soccer fields and lighting, second restroom	
2	Jefferson Park - Add trail, benches, pavilion, fitness stations, upgrade and cover playground, add irrigation and landscaping	Newly installed amenities include a new playground, in-park trail, shade sails, new benches, pavilion, and parking area
3	Lions Park - Improve roadway and drainage, add soccer fields, shade shelters, cover basketball court, update playgrounds, improve parking, add overlook feature, add wildflower areas and additional trails.	Ongoing
4	Oak Creek Park - Add trail, parking, exercise stations, upgrade playground and cover, add restrooms, add splash pad (in high cost range)	Newly completed and installed amenities include a trail, benches, trail exercise stations, a bridge, playground with shade, bleachers, and pavilion
5	Lions Junction Expansion - Add teen features to the facility	Deep water pool has been completed and includes multiple amenities for teens
6	Conner Park - Add large pavilion, exercise stations, cover play area, add basketball court (full size), add restroom building, extend trail, add landscape, add small splash pad	Incomplete
7	Optimist Park - Add trail and benches, restroom, upgrade and cover playground, parking area, pavilion, field lights	Newly installed amenities include a trail, benches, restrooms, playground with shade, bleachers, and pavilion
8	Carver Park - Upgrade playground, add 1/2 basketball court, add picnic shelters, improve irrigation and landscaping	Completed
9	Jaycee Park - Add exercise stations, pavilions, trail, upgrade playground with shade, add splash pad	Splash pad has been installed at Jaycee Park
10	Wilson Park - Extend trail, cover basketball court, add landscape features	Only the basketball courts have been completed
11	Von Rosenberg Park - Trail with benches, 1/2 basketball court, picnic shelters	Not complete or started
12	Freedom Park - Add trail, benches, exercise stations, expand parking, pavilion, add small splash pad	Not complete
13	West Ridge Park - Add trail with benches, restroom, parking, field with lights, wildflower area, pavilion	Incomplete
14	Western Hills Park - Add trail, benches, upgrade and cover play area, add pavilion, add play features, upgrade landscape, wildflower area, irrigation, add parking	Complete
15	Walker Park - Add pavilion, covered playground, trail and restroom building	Incomplete
16	Waterford Park - Upgrade and cover playground, add trail and benches	Incomplete

6-4 INDOOR FACILITIES RECOMMENDATIONS

ACTION ID	ACTION	STATUS
1	Enhance Wilson Recreation Center (per master plan recommendations)	Improvements to the classrooms and entrance lobby have been designed
2	Sammons Community Center	Space reconfiguration and additions have been designed
3	Develop West Temple Recreation Center (include gymnasium, walking track, weight/fitness room, multipurpose classrooms, etc.)	Incomplete
3a	Feasibility study (for both center and pool) to confirm location	Incomplete
3b	Design and Development of center	Incomplete
4	Enhance Summit Recreation Center (tennis courts renovation and lighting, additional interior enhancements, consider covering pool)	Incomplete
5	Develop family aquatic center in West Temple (associated with proposed recreation center)	Incomplete

6-5 RECREATIONAL TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

ACTION ID	ACTION	STATUS
1	Jaycee Park Trail Loop	Complete
2	Prewitt Park Trail	Incomplete
3	West Ridge Park Trail	Incomplete
4	Waterford Park Trail	Incomplete
5	Von Rosenberg Trail	Incomplete
6	Oak Creek Park Trail	Complete
7	Canyon Creek Trail	Incomplete
8	Bird Creek Interceptor Trail	Incomplete
9	Walker Park Trail	Incomplete

ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM PREVIOUS PLAN

As a testament to the benefit of planning for parks and recreation improvement, the following are some of the successes accomplished from the 2014 Temple Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan.



New football fields were proposed for James B. Wilson Park in the 2014 Parks Master Plan. One of the recommended fields was opened and named after local football legend Mean Joe Greene.



Oak Creek Park received updated playground equipment and the playground includes two shaded areas to protect children from the sun.



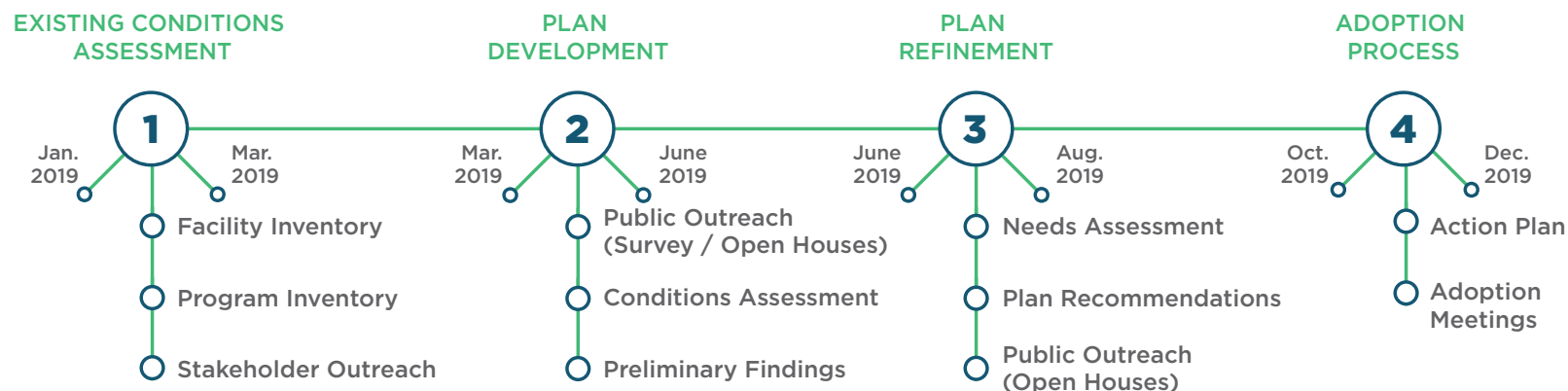
A deep water pool was completed as part of improvements to the water park at Lions Junction.



1.8 PLANNING PROCESS AND TIMELINE

The 2019 Parks and Trails Plan was initiated in December 2018 and completed in December 2019. The plan was prepared in conjunction with a consultant team selected by the City of Temple with support from the Temple Parks and Recreation Department. Parks and Recreation staff provided data, document review assistance, and assistance with public engagement. The most important element of the planning process is interaction with the public, including residents and stakeholders, City of Temple staff, and appointed/elected officials. This plan seeks to capture the needs, concerns, and aspirations of the Community. *Figure 1.1, Planning Process* represents the phases of preparation and actions taken during the 2019 planning process.

FIGURE 1.1: PLANNING PROCESS



1.9 PLAN ELEMENTS

The 2019 Parks and Trails Plan incorporates multiple elements of the master planning process. The Plan is separated into chapters that address existing facilities, needs identification, and recommendations for the parks and trails system. Figure 1.2, *Plan Elements* illustrates the plan outline.

Introduction:

This section provides an introduction to the plan and information regarding the importance of parks and trails planning, in addition to the varying types of recreational facilities.

Community Profile:

The Temple profile section provides information about the community context of existing parks and recreational facilities within Temple.

Existing Conditions:

This section identifies and categorizes each park and trail in the Temple Parks system which provides the foundation for the needs assessment.

Needs Assessment: This section provides the current state of parks, recreational activities, and trails and presents potential needs of each.

Vision, Goals, and Objectives: This section contains the community agreed upon vision, goals, and objectives of the Parks and Trails Master Plan.

Parks Recommendations: The results of analysis, vision statement, goals and objectives are used to produce a series of recommendations for parks.

Trails Recommendation: The results of analysis, vision statement, goals and objectives are used to produce a series of recommendations for trails.

Implementation: This section provides implementation measures with a prioritized action plan for achievement of the plan goals and recommendations.

FIGURE 1.2 PLAN ELEMENTS



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2

COMMUNITY PROFILE

2.1 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

FOUNDING

Temple was founded in 1880 when the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe Railway purchased 187 acres from Jonathan E. Moore to develop a railroad junction point for the hundreds of miles of tracks that were spreading throughout the state.

In January 1881, a post office was established and the town was officially named Temple after the company's chief construction engineer, Bernard M. Temple. By June 1881, the land had been surveyed and divided into 157 business lots and 28 residential lots, and on June 29, passengers were brought in from five different cities for a land auction.

EARLY GROWTH

The railway company was instrumental in the early development of the City. The company built its shops in Temple and the population and industry grew rapidly. The City of Temple, Texas was incorporated in 1882, and by 1884 had 3,000 residents. In 1890, Temple had a reported population of approximately 7,065 people.

Along with its growing and diverse population came a variety of industries. In 1891 the railway built the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe Railway Hospital to provide medical services to the railroad workers. The railway officials hired Dr. Arthur Scott as chief surgeon in 1892, who hired on Dr. Raleigh White in 1885. The two formed a partnership in 1897 and opened their first hospital in 1904 as they recognized a need to extend medical services beyond the railway workers to the town residents. This practice eventually evolved into Scott and White Memorial, giving way to the rise of one of the fastest growing healthcare systems in the 20th century: Baylor, Scott & White Health.

DIVERSIFYING AND FLOURISHING INDUSTRIES

In 1930, Temple had a reported population of 15,345 people. The Great Depression slowed what had been a steady growth, but between 1940 and 1960 the population nearly doubled again to 30,419 people. While growth continued to be led by the expanding medical industry, proximity to the rail and highway network attracted and contributed to the growth of other economies, such as agriculture, education, manufacturing, and transportation.

From an industry stand point, the 1920s brought American Desk Company (in 1921), a Coca-Cola bottling plant (1925), and Temple Junior College (1926); in the 1950s and 1960s Wilson art and McLane Company were established in Temple, two of Temple's largest non-medical employers that have gone on to have international reach.

By the 1970s, the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station (Texas A&M AgriLife) established a research substation in Temple, and the City became home to the offices of the United States Soil Conservation Service.

RECENT HISTORICAL GROWTH

By 1980, the population had risen to 42,483 people and to 46,483 by 1990. The 1990s saw a slowing of growth and even loss of population, but by 2000 the population had surpassed the 1990 population and increased to 54,514 people. Centrally located in the state and among major Texas cities, Temple today remains a geographic and economic center of Texas that can anticipate continued growth in the city and surrounding areas.



COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

2018 TOTAL POPULATION



76,256

Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Comm. Survey

2038 PROJECTED POPULATION



112,056

Source: Templeton Demographics

2017 MEDIAN AGE



32.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau & American Comm. Survey

2017 MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME



\$52,416

Source: U.S. Census Bureau & American Comm. Survey

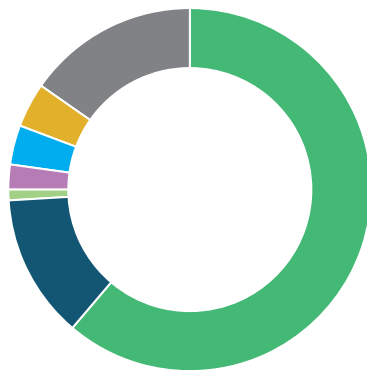
2017 POVERTY LEVEL



14.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau & American Comm. Survey

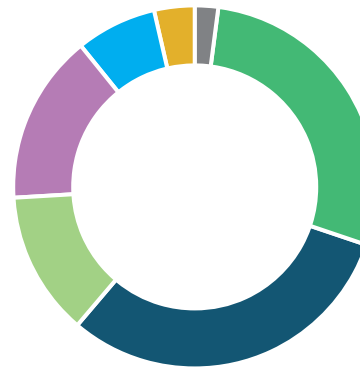
2017 RACIAL / ETHNIC COMPOSITION



74.5 %	Caucasian
17.3 %	African-American
.4 %	American Indian / AK Native
2 %	Asian
2.7 %	Some other race
1.2%	Two or more races
26.6	Hispanic ethnicity

Source: U.S. Census Bureau & American Community Survey

2017 EDUCATION



25.7%	Less than 9th Grade
23.7%	9th to 12th Grade, no diploma
13%	High school graduate (includes equivalency)
18.3%	Some college, no degree
11.4%	Associates degree
5.3%	Bachelor's degree
2.6%	Graduate or professional degree

Source: U.S. Census Bureau & American Community Survey

2.2 DEMOGRAPHICS

POPULATION

The historic populations of Temple, Bell County, and Texas are illustrated in Figure 2.1, *Historic Population 1980-2017*. The population of Temple has grown at a slower pace than Bell County and Texas, but recent trends show that Temple is growing at a much faster rate than previous decades (15.4% since 2010).

The 2018 population at three miles, five miles, and ten miles from the Temple City Limits is illustrated in Figure 2.2, *Population Profile By Radius*. The population increase by distance is indicative of the proximity of the City of Belton which is entirely located within the ten mile radius.

POPULATION PROJECTION

The population projections for Temple, Bell County, and Texas are illustrated in Figure 2.3, *Population Projections 2020-2040*. Temple is projected to grow at the same rate as Bell County through the year 2040. The growth rate of Texas is significantly lower during the same time frame.

The growth rate of Temple and Bell County, in comparison to the state, indicates growth in Central Texas is greater than Texas as a whole. This is due in part to the location of both Temple and Bell County within the “Texas Triangle” along the I-35 corridor. As mentioned in Section 2.2, *Regional Context*, the proximity of Temple to the four largest metropolitan areas in Texas will have an impact on Temple’s future growth and development.

FIGURE 2.1: HISTORIC POPULATION 1980-2018

YEAR	CITY OF TEMPLE	BELL COUNTY	TEXAS
1980	42,483	157,889	14,229,191
1990	46,109	191,088	16,986,510
2000	54,514	237,974	20,851,820
2010	66,102	310,235	25,145,561
2018	76,256	355,642	28,701,845
% Change	79%	125%	102%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey

FIGURE 2.2: POPULATION PROFILE 3 MILE/5 MILE/10 MILE RADIUS

YEAR	3 MILE RADIUS	5 MILE RADIUS	10 MILE RADIUS
2018 Estimated Population	41,023	64,468	117,346
Daytime Population	68,302	86,673	139,957
% Change	33.0%	33.0%	11.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey

FIGURE 2.3: POPULATION PROJECTIONS 2020-2040

YEAR	CITY OF TEMPLE ¹	BELL COUNTY ²	TEXAS ²
2020	84,700	371,956	27,238,610
2030	102,028	430,647	28,994,210
2030 ¹ / 2040 ²	112,056	494,582	30,305,304
% Change	32.3%	33.0%	11.3%

Source: ¹Templeton Demographics & ²2016 Regional Water Plan, Texas Water Development Board.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

The educational attainment for individuals 25 and older are listed in *Figure 2.4*. Temple and Bell County both have a significantly higher high school graduation rate than the state of Texas. The number of people in Temple who attended college is lower than Bell county’s rate, but higher than Texas.

There is also a substantially higher rate of individuals with graduate or professional degrees in Temple than in Bell County or Texas. Temple and Bell County’s overall higher rate of educational attainment could be partially attributed to its location within Central and East Texas, which is home to a higher number of state and private universities compared with the Western half of the state.

RACE

The racial composition of Temple, Bell County, and the State of Texas is illustrated in *Figure 2.5*. The population of Temple is predominately Caucasian and the second largest racial population is African-American. The racial composition of Temple is similar to the State of Texas, however, Bell County has a lower percentage of Caucasians, while there is greater representation of all other listed groups within the county.

An analysis of racial composition from 1990 - 2017 has shown that the Caucasian population has increased in the City of Temple, while the number of African-Americans has decreased. County data indicates an increase in African-American population during the same time period.

FIGURE 2.4: EDUCATION ATTAINMENT OF POPULATION IN 2017

EDUCATION LEVEL	CITY OF TEMPLE	BELL COUNTY	TEXAS
Did not graduate from High School	8%	8%	16%
High School Graduate	92%	92%	84%
Some College/Bachelor’s Degree	55%	58%	48%
Graduate or Professional Degree	11%	9%	10%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey

FIGURE 2.5 RACIAL COMPOSITION IN 2017

RACE	CITY OF TEMPLE	BELL COUNTY	TEXAS
Caucasian	80.7%	63.7%	73.9%
African-American	14.1%	23.3%	12.1%
American Indian / AK Native	0.3%	0.7%	0.5%
Asian	1.0%	3.3%	4.8%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Island	0.0%	0.8%	0.1%
Some Other Race Alone	2.8%	3.1%	5.9%
Two or More Races	1.2%	5.1%	2.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey

INCOME & POVERTY

The median household income for Temple is approximately equivalent to Bell County, which is significantly less than Texas. This dramatic income level disparity between the state and local level could be attributed to higher than average household income levels of some of the largest urban areas in Texas (Dallas-Ft. Worth, Houston, San Antonio & Austin).

The income levels represented in Bell County are not at the levels represented in larger metropolitan areas and skews incomes levels of smaller cities. The poverty level represented in Bell county and the City of Temple is similar to the State of Texas at 15 percent.

FIGURE 2.6: MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

JURISDICTION	2017 HOUSEHOLDS	2017 MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME
Temple	27,395	\$52,416
Bell County	122,333	\$52,479
Texas	9,623,874	\$59,206

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey

FIGURE 2.7: POVERTY

JURISDICTION	2017 TOTAL POPULATION	2017 BELOW POVERTY LINE	2017 % BELOW POVERTY LINE
Temple	73,395	10,912	14.9%
Bell County	336,805	47,084	14.0%
Texas	27,676,343	4,076,905	14.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey



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A photograph of a modern playground. In the background, a tall, cone-shaped tower with a red top and a metal cage-like structure. The foreground shows a playground with blue and red equipment, including slides and climbing structures. There are two large, rock-like sculptures on the left. The ground is covered in wood chips. A green text box is overlaid on the right side of the image.

3

EXISTING CONDITIONS



3.1 PURPOSE OF EXISTING CONDITIONS CHAPTER

The City of Temple contains a wide range of parks, trails, and recreational facilities which allow for active and passive recreational opportunities for residents and visitors. Determining the degree to which these parks and recreation facilities meet the needs and preferences of Temple residents requires an understanding of the quantity and distribution of park properties and facilities owned and maintained by the City of Temple.

This chapter identifies each park and recreational facility asset and categorizes them according to National Recreation and Parks Association standards. This evaluation of existing conditions provides the foundation for the Needs Analysis (Chapter 4, page 50). This evaluation provides Temple's elected officials, appointed officials, administration, and staff the information needed to make informed decisions to manage the park system.

3.2 PARK & TRAIL CLASSIFICATIONS

The City's parks and trail system is comprised of a variety of different types and scales of parks and trails serving both the residents of Temple and the greater region. Understanding that each park serves different areas and functions helps identify gaps and overlaps in the overall system. This, in turn, helps to determine whether or not existing facilities are addressing the current park and trail needs of the City. It also helps to determine how and where the City needs to expand or redevelop its parks system in the future.

PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

This master plan identifies six broad categories of parks and recreational space categories. The six park types (see at right) include:

- Regional Parks
- Community Parks
- Neighborhood Parks
- Greenspace & Natural Areas
- Special-Use Facilities
- Pocket Parks



REGIONAL PARKS 50 - 1,000+ ACRES

Regional parks can serve entire cities or multiple cities and accommodate festivals and other special events. Other activities can include fishing, hiking and wildlife viewing.



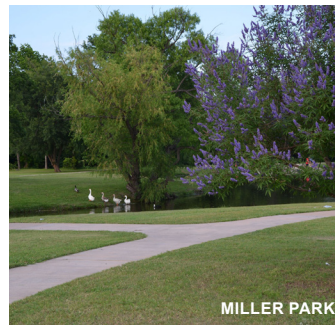
COMMUNITY PARKS 10-50 ACRES

Community parks primarily serve multiple neighborhoods and contain athletic fields and large playgrounds. They offer both active and passive recreation. Better vehicular accessibility than neighborhood parks.



NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS 3-10 ACRES

Neighborhood parks primarily serve individual neighborhoods and are typically within walking or biking distance.



GREENSPACE & NATURAL AREAS 50 - 1,000+ ACRES

Greenspace and natural areas typically include passive recreation and conservation lands. These facilities vary in size and do not serve a specific geographic region and serve as ecological habitat areas for wildlife and water quality control.



SPECIAL-USE FACILITIES SIZE VARIES

Special use facilities are constructed to accommodate specific recreational activities. Entrance fees are sometimes charged and some include community centers, golf courses, aquatic facilities or stadiums.



POCKET PARKS LESS THAN 3 ACRES

Pocket parks are designed for passive recreation and are typically within walking or biking distance.

TRAIL CLASSIFICATIONS

This master plan identifies four trail categories. The four trail types (see at right) include:

- Greenway Trails
- Thoroughfare Connector Trails
- Neighborhood Connector Trails
- In-Park Trails

In addition, sidewalks provide essential connectivity to the citywide trail system. Sidewalks provide on-street pedestrian connectivity to schools, recreational facilities, and employment areas.



GREENWAY TRAILS

Greenway trails are intended for off-street linear parks and are often regional in nature and may connect parks with neighborhoods.



NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTOR TRAILS

On-street and off-street trail connections serve neighborhoods and provide safe access to multiple locations throughout the city.



THOROUGHFARE CONNECTOR TRAILS

Thoroughfare connector trails are intended as active transportation corridors to move people from point A to point B.



IN-PARK TRAILS

This category contains trails within parks that provide walking paths through individual parks primarily used for exercise.

3.3 OVERVIEW OF THE TEMPLE PARKS & TRAILS SYSTEM

Temple residents are fortunate to have a significant amount of parkland available in close proximity. This includes access to 65 City-owned parks comprised of almost 1,500 acres of open space and recreational amenities (see *Figure 3.1, Temple Parks and Trail System, on the next page; and Map 3.1, Temple Parks and Trail System, on page 26*). Approximately nine percent of the total City-owned parkland is currently undeveloped.

The Temple parks system is overlaid by approximately 403 acres of accessible homeowner association (HOA) parks, trails, and recreational areas. 267 acres of parkland is also leased from the United States Corps of Engineers, at Miller Springs Park. Park development and use partnership are regularly negotiated with the City. Combined, these parks and recreational resources provide the residents of Temple a diverse and accessible system of active and passive facilities and amenities.

The City of Temple is served by a broad range of developed parks and recreational facilities that allow for both active (e.g., *sports courts and fields*) and passive recreation (e.g., *picnic facilities and trails*) (see *Figure 3.1, Temple Parks and Trails System on the next pages; and Map 3.1, Temple Existing Parks and Trails System, on page 31*). The city continues to develop undeveloped properties which are in various stages of planning. The residents of the City of Temple are served by hundreds of acres of beautifully developed parkland which residents continue to enjoy.



FIGURE 3.1: TEMPLE PARKS & TRAILS SYSTEM

MAP #	PARK NAME	ADDRESS	TOTAL ACRES
1	Crossroads Regional Park	Prairie View Rd.	306.00
2	Miller Springs Park ¹	1472 FM 2271	267.62
3	Wilson Park	2205 Curtis B Elliott Dr.	109.04
4	Lions Park	4320 Lions Park Rd.	108.57
TOTAL REGIONAL PARKS			791.23
5	Miller Park	1919 North 1st St.	29.98
6	South Temple Park	5000 South 5th St.	49.03
7	South West Community Park	Poison Oak	92.93
8	West Temple Park	121 Montpark Rd.	28.03
TOTAL COMMUNITY PARKS			169.99
9	Connor Park	408 Old Waco Rd.	6.38
10	Draughon Park	701 South 34th St.	3.93
11	Von Rosenberg Park	7918 Tarver Dr.	13.23
12	Ferguson Park	1203 East Adams Ave.	10.11
13	Freedom Park	8456 Tarver Dr.	9.35
14	Hodge Park	1902 South 61st St.	4.42
15	Jackson Park	925 North 4th St.	6.84
16	Jefferson Park	2310 Monticello Rd.	2.40
17	Jaycee Park	2302 West Ave. Z	8.33
18	Jeff Hamilton Park	501 South 14th St.	3.27
19	Jones Park	Robinhood Dr.	3.32
20	Kiwanis Park	3102 Anacacho Dr.	2.73
21	Meadow Creek Park	2018 Fawn Creek Dr.	15.10
22	Oak Creek Park	2304 Forest Tr.	4.17
23	Optimist Park	820 West Munroe Ave.	3.56
24	Scott & White Park	1601 South 19th St.	12.21
25	Silverstone Park	404 Waters Dairy	4.95
26	Spanish Southwest Park	1414 Paseo Del Plata	3.28
27	Valley Ranch Park	7211 Dubose Rd.	7.65
28	Walker Park	2615 North 3rd St.	7.20
29	Waterford Park	5001 Warwicke Dr.	10.63
30	West Ridge Park	309 East Ridge Blvd.	19.17
31	Western Hills Park	4420 Gazelle Tr.	3.59
32	Woodbridge Park	3620 Whispering Oaks	4.95
TOTAL NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS			175.16

MAP #	PARK NAME	ADDRESS	TOTAL ACRES
33	Alta Vista Park ²	5530 Stonehaven Dr.	0.25
34	Bentwood Park	2173 Butterfly Dr.	0.78
35	Carver Park	1412 South 4th St.	0.61
36	Colquitt Park	3501 Hickory Rd.	0.92
37	Doctor's Park	250 South 34th St.	2.97
38	Echo Village Park	5030 Stonehaven Dr.	4.39
39	Fred Springer Park	315 West Ave. B	7.96
40	Freedom Village Park	700 Freedom Dr.	0.57
41	Little Bluestem Park	1 Troy St.	1.13
42	Nettles Park	1615 North 11th St.	1.30
43	Northwest Hills Park	813 Brandywine Dr.	1.58
44	Oaks at Westwood Park	8423 Skyview	0.13
45	Temple South Rotary Park	4306 Lone Star Trail	0.79
46	Terrace Gardens Park	2015 Linwood Rd.	1.25
TOTAL POCKET PARKS			21.66
47	Bird Creek	4718 Arrowhead Dr.	1.24
48	Camden	706 Camden Dr.	0.61
49	Canyon Creek	2715 Hemlock Blvd.	26.92
50	Hickory Heights	3601 Robinhood Dr.	1.42
51	King Circle	401 King Circle	0.38
52	Prairie Park	Tower Rd.	10.00
53	Prewitt	1511 French Ave.	8.21
54	Ramblewood	3203 Aspen Trail	9.90
55	Southern Oaks	3510 Melrose Ln.	2.58
56	Tanglewood	Tanglewood Rd.	2.20
57	Trailwood	3911 Valley View	2.80
TOTAL OPEN SPACES			66.26

²Alta Vista Park is scheduled to be open in the near future

¹Miller Springs Park is maintained by the City of Temple and City of Belton

FIGURE 3.1: TEMPLE PARKS AND TRAILS SYSTEM (CONTINUED)

MAP #	PARK NAME	ADDRESS	TOTAL ACRES
58	Baker Baseball Field	420 East Barton Ave.	5.58
60	Reuben D. Talasek Bend O' The River	South General Bruce Dr.	87.36
61	Kenny Martin Park	Highway 314	10.00
62	Marvin Fenn Recreation Area	702 South 57th St.	3.00
63	MLK Festival Grounds	301 S 4th St.	11.87
64	Sammons Park Links (Golf Course)	2727 West Adams Ave.	112.57
65	Saulsbury Community Gardens	2130 Saulsbury Dr.	2.66
66	Whistle Stop Playground	22 South 11th St.	0.75
TOTAL SPECIAL USE FACILITIES			233.79

MAP #	TRAIL NAME	ADDRESS	TOTAL MILES
9	Conner Park	408 Old Waco	0.33
1	Crossroads Park	Prairie View Rd.	1.40
15	Jackson Park	925 N. 4th St.	0.50
17	Jaycee Park	2302 W. Ave. Z	0.43
16	Jefferson Park	2310 Monticello Rd.	0.25
19	Jones Park	1102 W. Ave. F	0.33
4	Lions Park	4320 Lions Park Rd.	2.00
5	Miller Park	1919 N. 1st St.	0.75
22	Oak Creek Park	2304 Forest Trail	0.25
23	Optimist Park	820 W. Munroe Ave.	0.25
25	Silverstone Park	404 Waters Dairy Rd.	0.50
6	South Temple Park	5000 S. 5th St.	0.75
45	Terrace Gardens Park	2015 Linwood Rd.	0.25
27	Valley Ranch Park	7211 Dubose Rd.	0.37
8	West Temple Park	121 S. Montpark Rd.	1.00
31	Western Hills Park	4420 Gazelle Trail	0.25
3	Wilson Park	2205 Curtis B. Elliot Dr.	1.75
32	Woodbridge Park	3620 Whispering Oaks	0.50
TOTAL PARK TRAILS			11.86
68	FM 2305 Hike & Bike Trail	W. Hwy 2305	5.00
37	Echo Village Trail	5030 Stone Haven	0.50
69	Friar's Creek Hike & Bike Trail	5000 S. 5th St.	4.35
70	Pepper Creek Trail	Adams Ave.	3.50
TOTAL COMMUNITY TRAILS			17.60

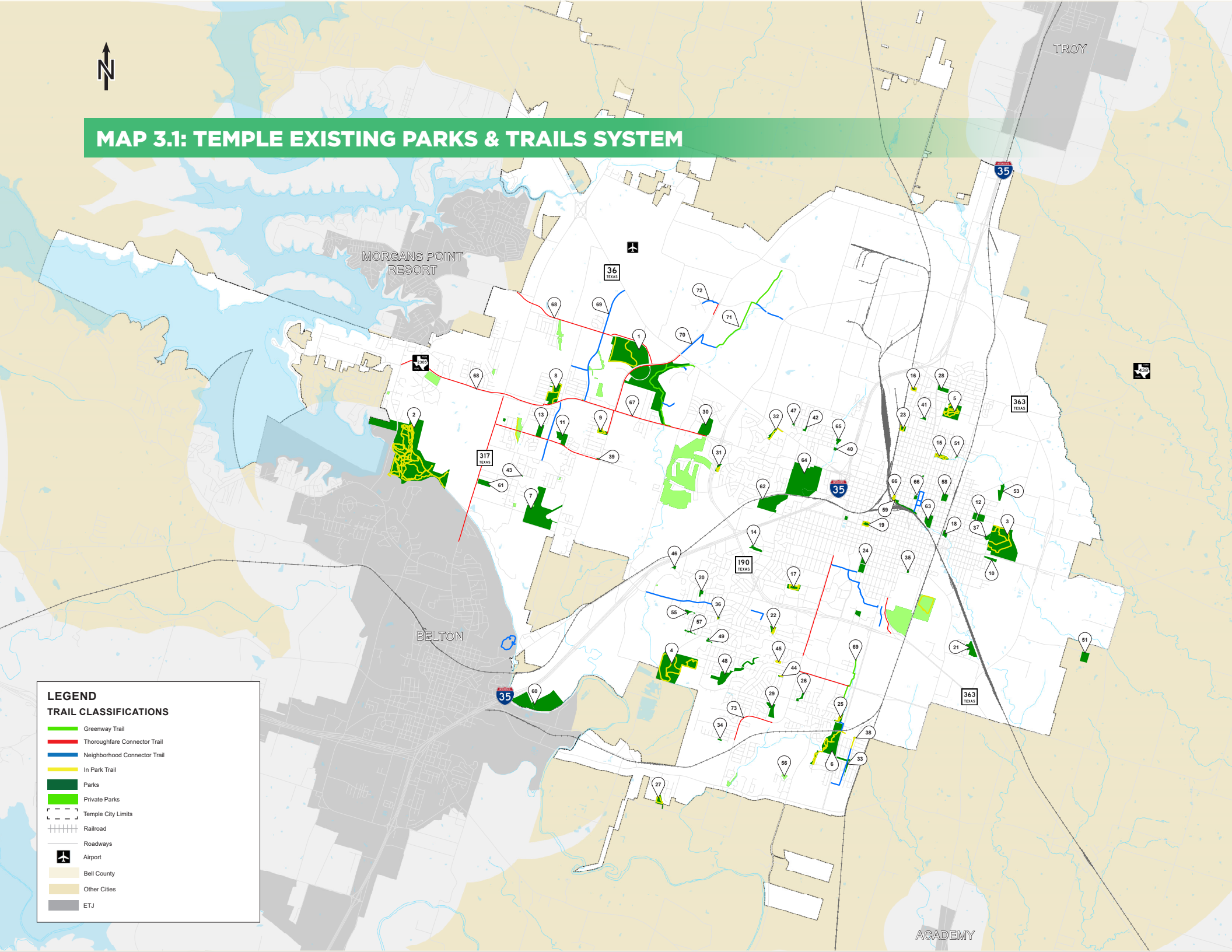


MAP 3.1: TEMPLE EXISTING PARKS & TRAILS SYSTEM

LEGEND

TRAIL CLASSIFICATIONS

- Greenway Trail
- Thoroughfare Connector Trail
- Neighborhood Connector Trail
- In Park Trail
- Parks
- Private Parks
- Temple City Limits
- Railroad
- Roadways
- Airport
- Bell County
- Other Cities
- ETJ



REGIONAL PARKS

Regional parks are created with the intent to serve the entire city or region and are typically comprised of an expansive amount of land containing a variety of amenities. These parks provide an ideal staging ground for outdoor events, athletic tournaments, and festivals. Due to the typically larger size of regional parks they may often contain natural resources and preserved land in conjunction with active and passive recreational amenities.

Regional parks are generally 50 to 1000+ acres and there are currently four regional parks in Temple totaling 791 acres which comprises approximately 55 percent of Temple's total parkland (see Map 3.2, *Regional Parks*, on the next page).

TEMPLE REGIONAL PARKS

Crossroads Regional Park

Wilson Park

Miller Springs¹ Park

Lions Park

¹Miller Springs is owned by the Corp of Engineers and maintained by the City of Temple and City of Belton



Lions Park



Wilson Park

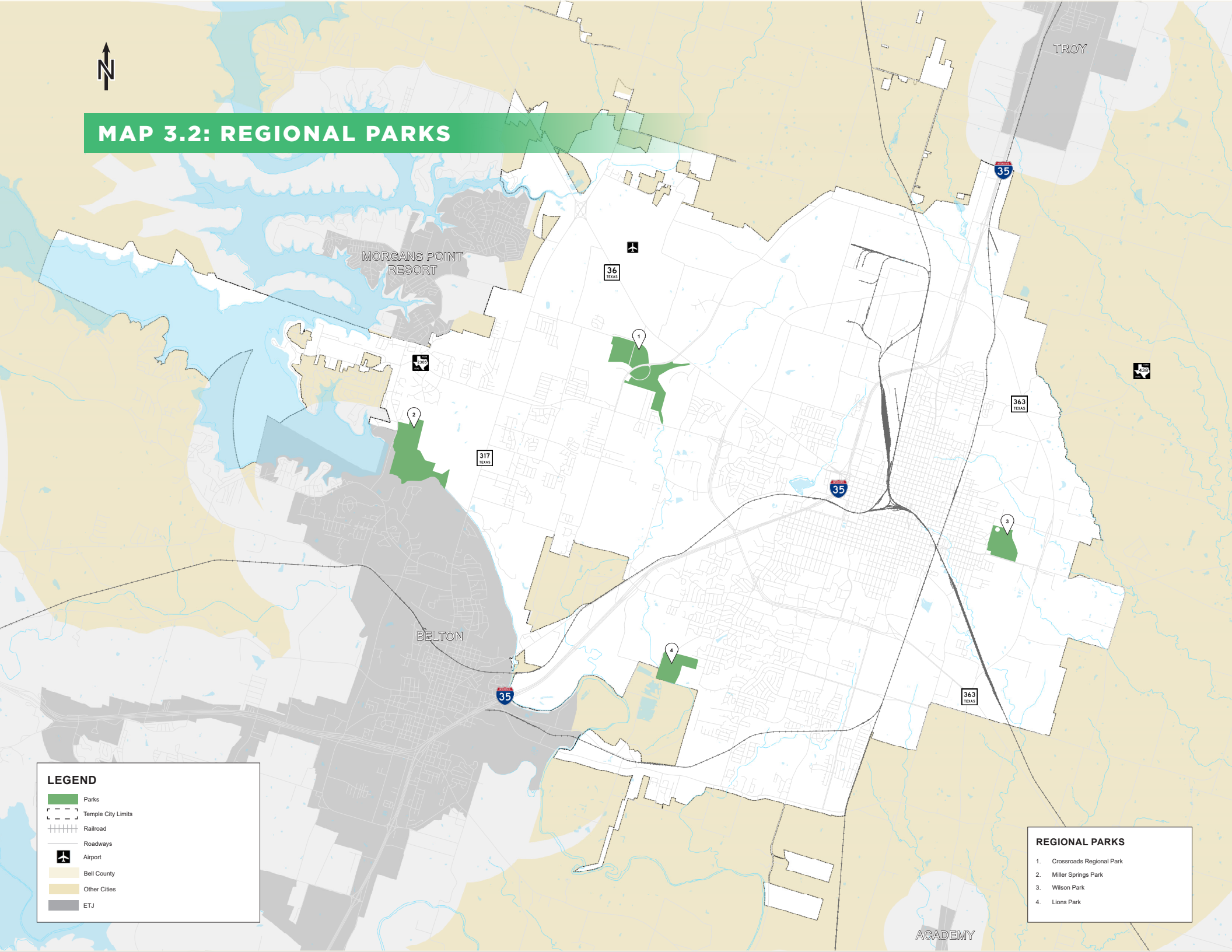
REGIONAL PARKS COMPARISON



Crossroads Regional Park



MAP 3.2: REGIONAL PARKS



LEGEND

- Parks
- Temple City Limits
- Railroad
- Roadways
- Airport
- Bell County
- Other Cities
- ETJ

REGIONAL PARKS

1. Crossroads Regional Park
2. Miller Springs Park
3. Wilson Park
4. Lions Park

COMMUNITY PARKS

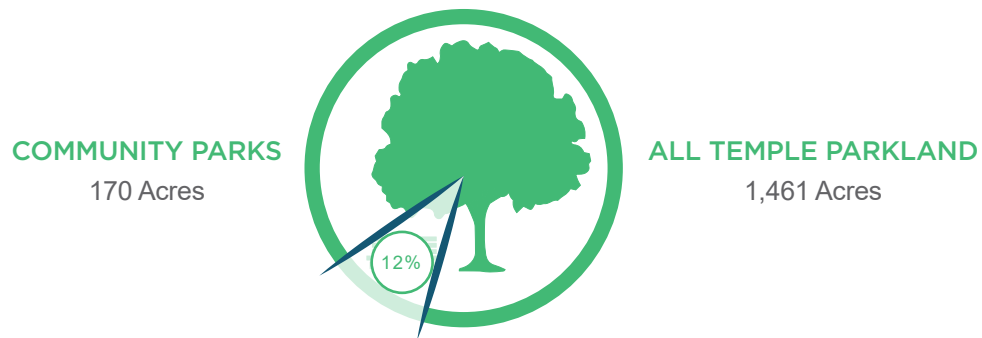
Community parks are large scale parks that serve multiple neighborhoods. Amenities within community parks typically include athletic fields, aquatic facilities, sports courts, and indoor facilities. These facilities provide visitors the opportunity to participate in active and passive activities. Areas within a community park may also include natural areas, open spaces for unstructured recreational activities, and landscaped area for beautification.

Community parks typically contain 10 to 50 acres of land. Temple has four community parks totaling 170 acres of parkland, which comprises approximately 12 percent of Temple's total parkland. These parks are located throughout the city (see Map 3.3, *Community Parks*, on the next page).

TEMPLE COMMUNITY PARKS

Miller Park
South Temple Park
Southwest Community Park
West Temple Park

COMMUNITY PARKS COMPARISON



South Temple Park



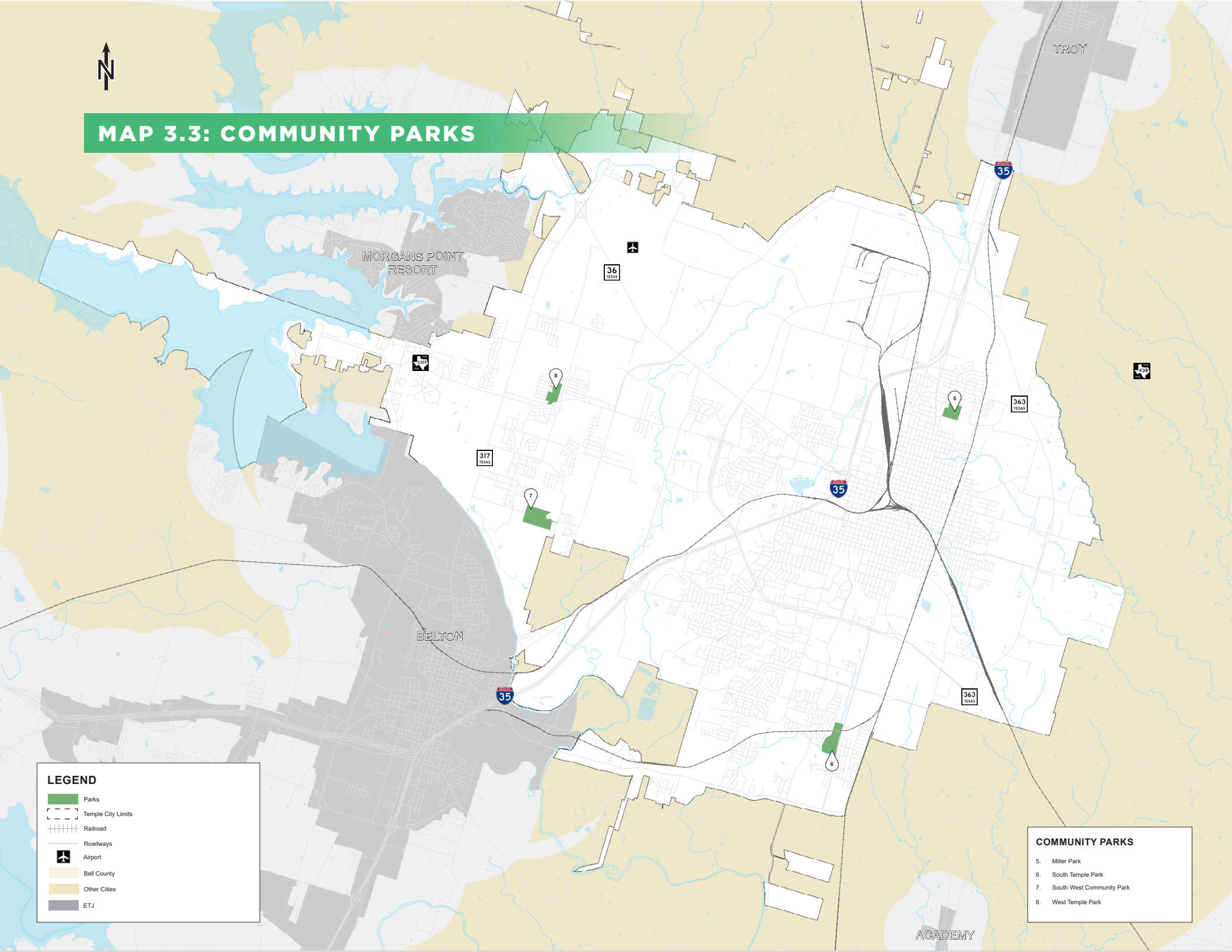
Miller Park



West Temple Park



MAP 3.3: COMMUNITY PARKS



NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Neighborhood parks are generally smaller in scale than other park classifications and are meant to serve one or two neighborhoods. These parks are often within walking or cycling distance of nearby patrons. Neighborhood park are typically three to 10 acres. Temple has 24 neighborhood parks totaling 175 acres of park, which comprises approximately 12 percent of Temple's total parkland (see Map 3.4, *Neighborhood Parks*, on the next page).

TEMPLE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Conner Park	Jaycee Park	Silverstone Park
Draughon Park	Jeff Hamilton Park	Spanish Southwest Park
Von Rosenberg Park	Jones Park	Valley Ranch Park
Ferguson Park	Kiwanis Park	Walker Park
Freedom Park	Meadow Creek Park	Waterford Park
Hodge Park	Oak Creek Park	West Ridge Park
Jackson Park	Optimist Park	Western Hills Park
Jefferson Park	Scott & White Park	Woodbridge Park

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS COMPARISON



Jaycee Park



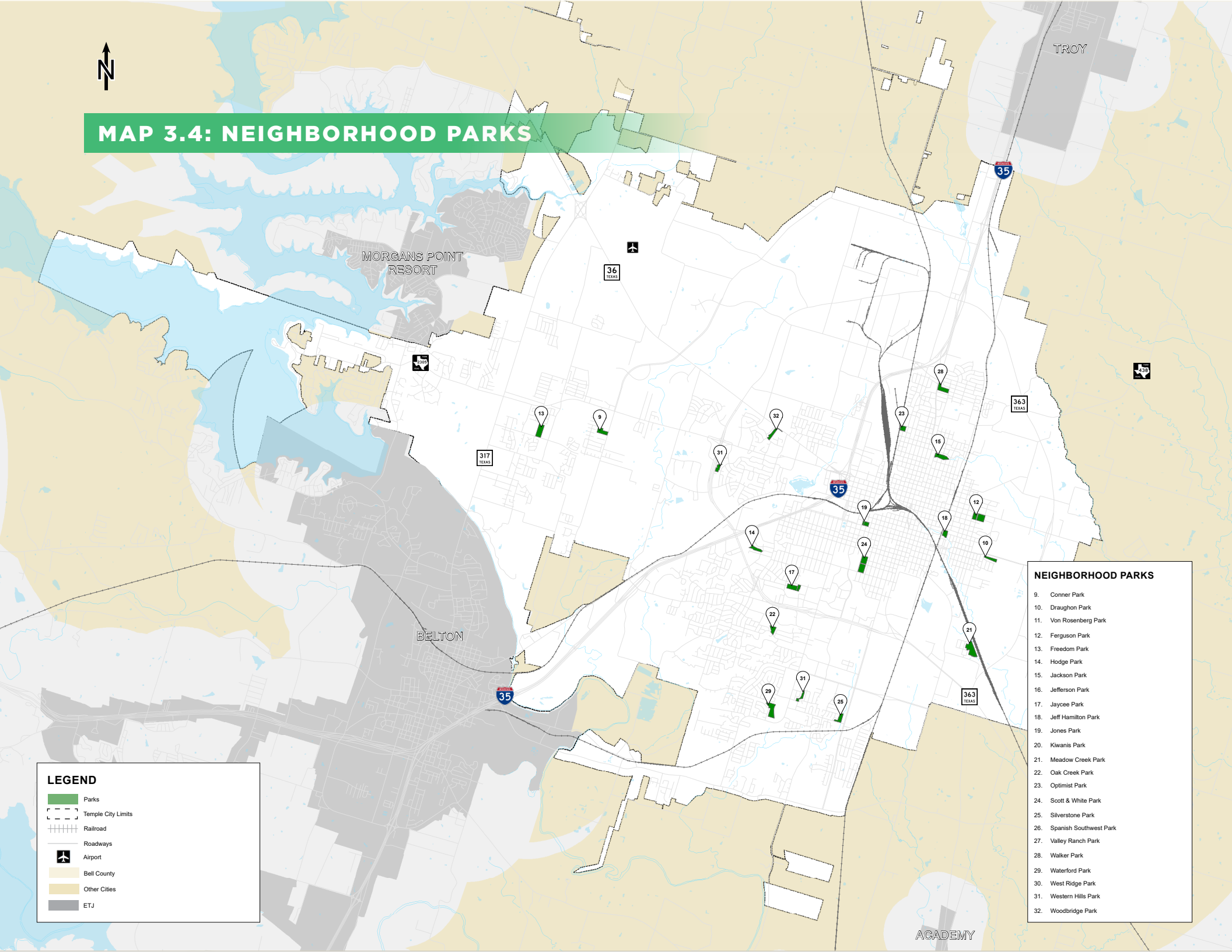
Optimist Park



Western Hills Park



MAP 3.4: NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS



LEGEND

- Parks
- Temple City Limits
- Railroad
- Roadways
- Airport
- Bell County
- Other Cities
- ETJ

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

- Conner Park
- Draughon Park
- Von Rosenberg Park
- Ferguson Park
- Freedom Park
- Hodge Park
- Jackson Park
- Jefferson Park
- Jaycee Park
- Jeff Hamilton Park
- Jones Park
- Kiwanis Park
- Meadow Creek Park
- Oak Creek Park
- Optimist Park
- Scott & White Park
- Silverstone Park
- Spanish Southwest Park
- Valley Ranch Park
- Walker Park
- Waterford Park
- West Ridge Park
- Western Hills Park
- Woodbridge Park

POCKET PARKS

Pocket parks are small-scale parks that provide visitors a place to relax and enjoy a natural environment with very close proximity to home. These parks are generally less than three acres. Pocket parks typically contain landscaping and amenities that provide for passive recreation and, oftentimes, amenities for children (e.g., playscapes).

Temple has 14 pocket parks totaling 25 acres of park, which comprises approximately 1.7 percent of Temple's total parkland. The location of pocket parks are located throughout the community (see Map 3.5, *Pocket Parks*, on the next page).

TEMPLE POCKET PARKS

Alta Vista Park	Freedom Village Park
Bentwood Park	Little Bluestem Park
Carver Park	Nettles Park
Colquitt Park	Northwest Hills Park
Doctor's Park	Oaks at Westwood Park
Echo Village Park	Temple South Rotary Park
Fred Springer Park	Terrace Gardens Park

POCKET PARKS COMPARISON



Carver Park



Fred Springer Park



Brentwood Park



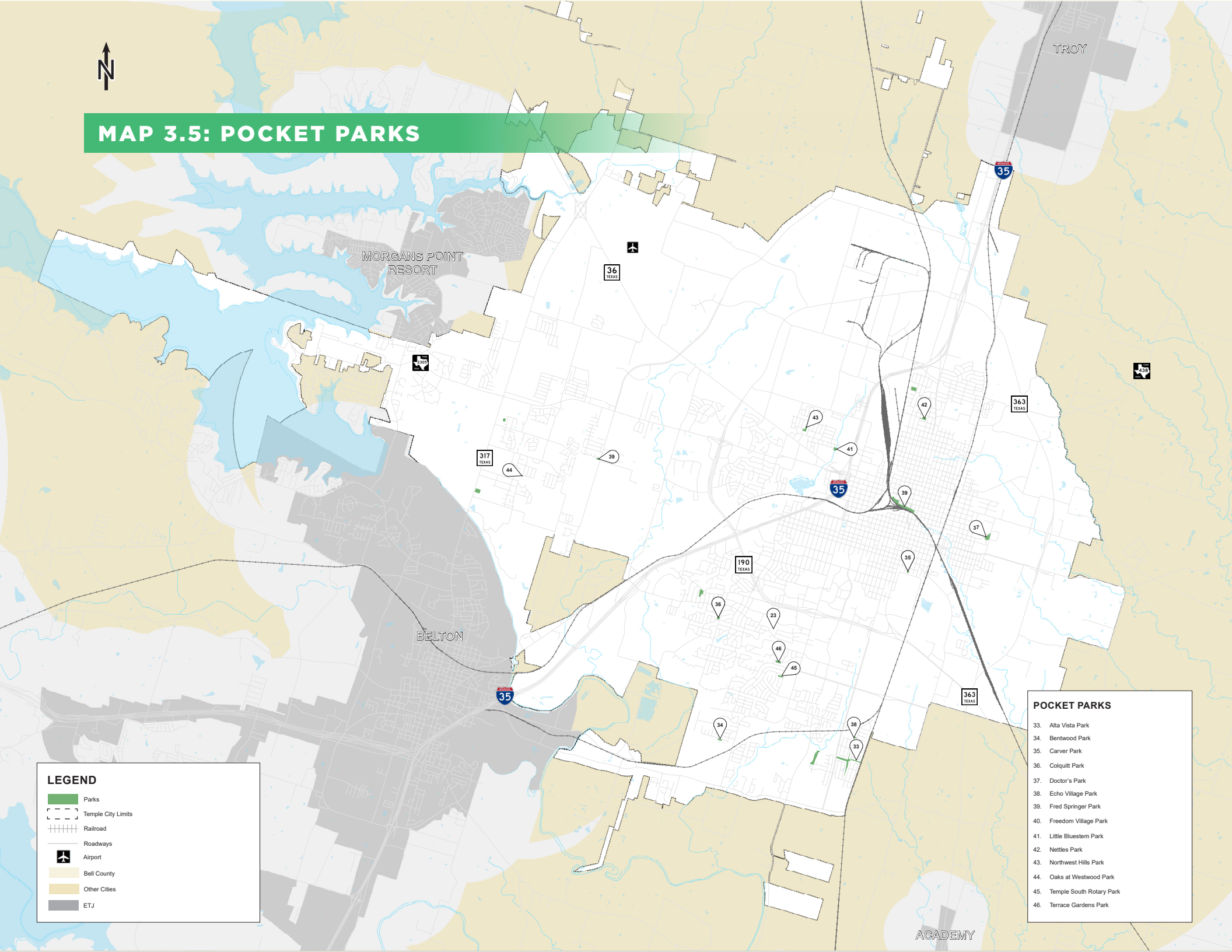
MAP 3.5: POCKET PARKS

LEGEND

- Parks
- Temple City Limits
- Railroad
- Roadways
- Airport
- Bell County
- Other Cities
- ETJ

POCKET PARKS

- 33. Alta Vista Park
- 34. Bentwood Park
- 35. Carver Park
- 36. Colquitt Park
- 37. Doctor's Park
- 38. Echo Village Park
- 39. Fred Springer Park
- 40. Freedom Village Park
- 41. Little Bluestem Park
- 42. Nettles Park
- 43. Northwest Hills Park
- 44. Oaks at Westwood Park
- 45. Temple South Rotary Park
- 46. Terrace Gardens Park



OPEN SPACES & NATURAL AREAS

Open spaces are unprogrammed areas created to provide the opportunity for visitors to enjoy natural areas. Open spaces provide landscaped and natural areas for non-organized play and passive recreational activities. Amenities may or may not be included, but frequently they include walking paths, landscaped areas, or gardens.

Temple has 11 open spaces totaling 66 acres, which comprises approximately 4.6 percent of Temple’s total parkland. These spaces are located throughout the community (see Map 3.6, *Open Spaces*, on the next page).



TEMPLE OPEN SPACES

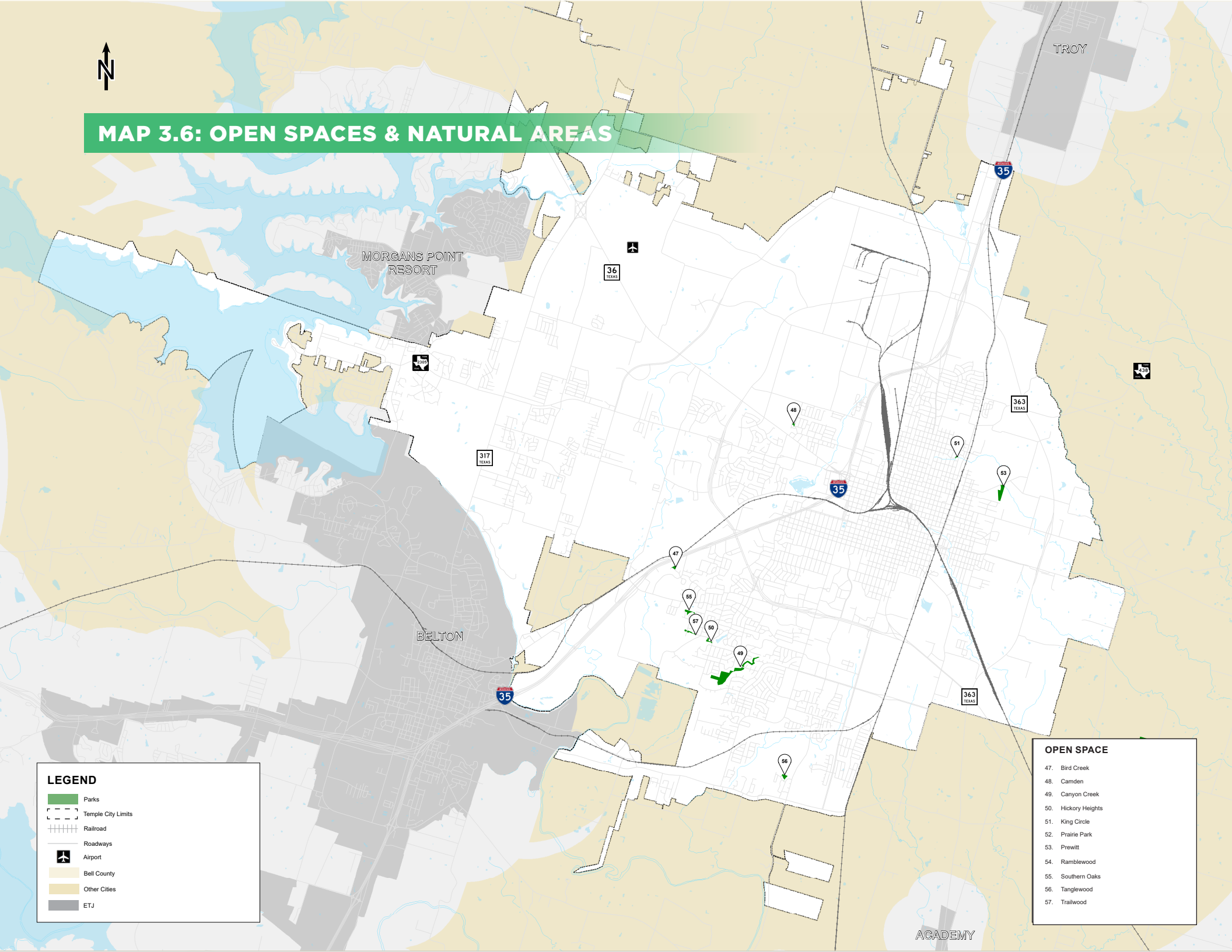
- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Bird Creek | Prewitt |
| Camden | Ramblewood |
| Canyon Creek | Southern Oaks |
| Hickory Heights | Tanglewood |
| King Circle | Trailwood |
| Blackland Prairie | |

OPEN SPACES COMPARISON





MAP 3.6: OPEN SPACES & NATURAL AREAS



LEGEND

- Parks
- Temple City Limits
- Railroad
- Roadways
- Airport
- Bell County
- Other Cities
- ETJ

OPEN SPACE

- 47. Bird Creek
- 48. Camden
- 49. Canyon Creek
- 50. Hickory Heights
- 51. King Circle
- 52. Prairie Park
- 53. Prewitt
- 54. Ramblewood
- 55. Southern Oaks
- 56. Tanglewood
- 57. Trailwood

SPECIAL USE FACILITIES

Special use facilities vary in size and type of amenities to accommodate the use for which they have been established. Special use facilities provide a space for a specific activity such as golf courses, aquatic facilities, stand-alone sport fields, and memorial space. These facilities may have a supervisor and other specialized staff.

Temple has eight special use facilities totaling 234 acres, which comprises approximately 16 percent of Temple's total parkland. Special use facilities are located throughout the city (see Map 3.7, *Special Use Facilities*, on the next page).

TEMPLE SPECIAL USE FACILITIES

Baker Baseball Field	MLK Festival Grounds
Reuben D. Talasek Bend O' The River	Sammons Park Links (Sammons Golf)
Marvin Fenn Recreation Area	Saulsbury Community Gardens
Kenny Martin Park	Whistle Stop Playground



Whistle Stop Playground



Marvin Fenn Recreational Area

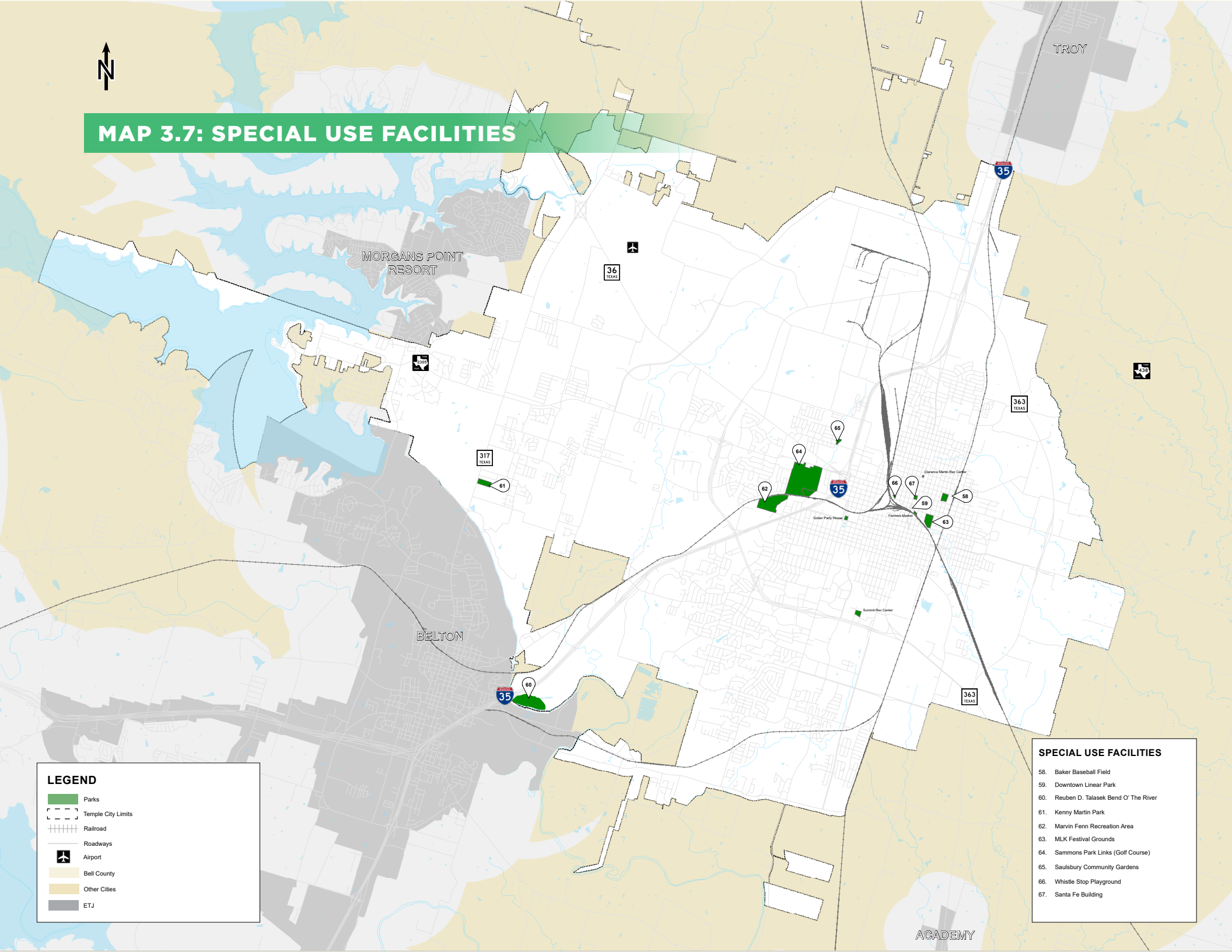
SPECIAL USE FACILITIES COMPARISON



Reuben D. Talasek Bend O' River Park



MAP 3.7: SPECIAL USE FACILITIES



LEGEND

- Parks
- Temple City Limits
- Railroad
- Roadways
- Airport
- Bell County
- Other Cities
- ETJ

SPECIAL USE FACILITIES

- 58. Baker Baseball Field
- 59. Downtown Linear Park
- 60. Reuben D. Talasek Bend O' The River
- 61. Kenny Martin Park
- 62. Marvin Fenn Recreation Area
- 63. MLK Festival Grounds
- 64. Sammons Park Links (Golf Course)
- 65. Saulsbury Community Gardens
- 66. Whistle Stop Playground
- 67. Santa Fe Building

HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION PARKS / PRIVATE PARKS

Homeowner Association (HOA) and private parks provide similar amenities to neighborhood and pocket parks. These parks are located in neighborhoods and reduce congestion at City-operated and maintained parks. These parks are sometimes described as semi-public, in that they allow the general public of certain geographic areas (e.g., within specific neighborhoods).

Private parks in Temple include golf courses, aquatic facilities, and trail facilities, in addition to neighborhood parks. There are 21 HOA and private parks in Temple containing over 400 acres of land.



HOA PARKS / PRIVATE PARK FACILITIES

Battle Drive	Windmill Farms
Carriage House Trails Park	The Groves at Lakewood
Carriage House Village Park	Lake Pointe Terrace
D'Antoni's Crossing	Westfield
Lake Pointe Park	Sage Meadows
Lakewood Park	Southern Draw
Northcliff Pocket Park	Von Rosenberg Private Pool
Southern Draw Park	Wyndham Hill
Wildflower Country Club	Prairie Ridge
Village of Sage Meadows Park	Pecan Pointe
Village of Westfield Park	



FIGURE 3.2 INVENTORY OF TEMPLE PARK SYSTEM

						ACTIVE FACILITIES																				
PARK		ADDRESS	DEVELOPED (AC)	UNDEVELOPED (AC)	NATURAL/UNPROGRAMMED (AC)	TOTAL ACRES	BASEBALL FIELDS	SOFTBALL FIELDS	SOCCER PADS	FOOTBALL FIELDS	BASKETBALL FIELDS	BASKETBALL FULL COURTS	BASKETBALL HALF COURTS	BASEBALL/SOFTBALL INDOOR COURTS	MULTI-PURPOSE PRACTICE FIELDS	DISC GOLF COURSE	TENNIS COURTS	VOLLEYBALL COURTS	FITNESS COURTS (SAND)	FITNESS CENTERS	PLAYGROUNDS	SKATING FACILITIES	HORSESHOE PITS	LIGHTNING DETECTION	GYMNASIUMS	CRICKET
1	Crossroads Regional Park	Prairie View Rd.	306.00			306.00	4	4	7						1	6				1			1			
2	Miller Springs Park¹	1919 N. 1st St.	267.62			267.62																				
3	Wilson Park	2205 Curtis B. Elliot Dr.	102.04	7.00		109.04	4	4	6	1	2				2	1										
4	Lions Park	4320 Lions Park Rd.	104.57	4.00		108.57		4						1	1					3 (1 ADA)		10	1			
	Total Regional Parks		780.23	11.00	0	791.23	8	12	13	1	2	0	0	0	1	2	8	1		4		10	2			
1	Miller Park	1919 N. 1st St.	29.98			29.98					1			1	2				1	1						1
2	South Temple Park	5000 S. 5th St.	49.03			49.03									1					1			1			
3	Southwest Community Park	S. Pea Ridge Rd.	92.93			92.93																				
4	West Temple Park	121 Montpark Rd.	28.03			28.03					1			2	1			1		1			1			
	Total Community Parks		169.99	0	0	169.99	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	3	3	1	0	1	0	1	3	0	0	2	0	1
1	Conner Park	408 Old Waco Rd.	6.38			6.38								1						1						
2	Draughon Park	701 South 34th St.	3.93			3.93														1						
3	Echo Village Park	5030 Stonehaven Dr.	4.39			4.39																				
4	Rosenberg Park	7918 Tarver Dr.	13.23			13.23																				
5	Ferguson Park	1203 East Adams Ave.	10.11			10.11	2													1						
6	Freedom Park	8456 Tarver Dr.	9.35			9.35								1						1						
7	Hodge Park	1902 South 61st St.	4.42			4.42														1						
8	Jackson Park	925 North 4th St.	6.84			6.84					2									1						
9	Jefferson Park	2310 Monticello Rd.	2.40			2.40														1						
10	Jaycee Park	2302 West Ave. Z	8.33			8.33					2									1						
11	Jeff Hamilton Park	501 South 14th St.	3.27			3.27					1							1		1						
12	Jones Park	Robinhood Dr.	3.32			3.32						2								1						
13	Kiwanis Park	3102 Anacacho Dr.	2.73			2.73						1		1	1					1						
14	Meadow Creek Park	2018 Fawn Creek Dr.	15.10			15.10														1						
15	Oak Creek Park	2304 Forest Tr.	4.17			4.17					1									1						
16	Optimist Park	820 West Munroe Ave.	3.56			3.56			1											1						
17	Scott & White Park	1601 South 19th St.	12.21			12.21	2				1			1		1				1						
18	Silverstone Park	404 Waters Dairy	4.95			4.95					1									1						

¹Miller Springs Park is maintained by the Temple Parks and Recreation Department

		WATER RELATED FACILITIES										PASSIVE FACILITIES									
PARK		FISHING POND	FISHING PIER/OBSERVATION DECK	WATER SPRAY POOL	FITNESS/ LAP POOL	LEISURE POOL	AMPHITHEATER	COVERED PICNIC TABLE	GAZEBO	LARGE PAVILIONS	SMALL PAVILIONS	PICNIC UNITS	BBQ GRILLS	BENCHES	BLEACHERS	DRINKING FOUNTAINS	MEETING ROOM(S) W/ TABLES & CHAIRS	STAGE	FOOT BRIDGES		
1	Crossroads Regional Park	1								1											
2	Miller Springs Park¹																				
3	Wilson Park				1	1				3			2	3	40	3					
4	Lions Park	2					1	8		2			2	15	16	5			2		
	Total Regional Parks	3	0	0	0	0	1	8	0	6	0	0	4	18	56	8	0	0	2		
1	Miller Park	1		1				2		3			5	10		3			2		
2	South Temple Park													2					3		
3	Southwest Community Park																				
4	West Temple Park			1				5								1			1		
	Total Community Parks	1	0	2	0	0	0	7	0	3	0	0	5	12	0	4	0	0	6		
1	Conner Park													5		1			1		
2	Draughon Park							2													
3	Echo Village Park																				
4	Rosenberg Park																				
5	Ferguson Park			1					2		6	3	4	6	3						
6	Freedom Park							1								1					
7	Hodge Park							1					1	1		1					
8	Jackson Park									2	3	2	7			1			4		
9	Jefferson Park							3			1		1	4		1					
10	Jaycee Park			1				8		1		11	1	11		1					
11	Jeff Hamilton Park							9		1	1		1	3		1			1		
12	Jones Park							1		1		3	1	4		2					
13	Kiwanis Park							1			1		1			1					
14	Meadow Creek Park																				
15	Oak Creek Park							3			1					1					
16	Optimist Park							3			1			4	1	1					
17	Scott & White Park										1		1		4						
18	Silverstone Park										1		2	4		1					

¹Miller Springs Park is maintained by the Temple Parks and Recreation Department outside of the city limits

FIGURE 3.2 INVENTORY OF TEMPLE PARK SYSTEM

						ACTIVE FACILITIES																				
PARK	ADDRESS	DEVELOPED (AC)	UNDEVELOPED (AC)	NATURAL/UNPROGRAMMED (AC)	TOTAL ACRES	BASEBALL FIELDS	SOFTBALL FIELDS	SOCCER PADS	FOOTBALL FIELDS	BASKETBALL FULL COURTS	BASKETBALL HALF COURTS	BASEBALL/SOFTBALL INDOOR COURTS	MULTI-PURPOSE PRACTICE FIELDS	DISC GOLF COURSE	TENNIS COURTS	VOLLEYBALL COURTS	FITNESS CENTERS	FITNESS COURSES	PLAYGROUNDS	SKATING FACILITIES	HORSESHOE PITS	LIGHTNING DETECTION	GYMNASIUMS	CRICKET		
19	Spanish Southwest Park	1414 Paseo Del Plata	3.28			3.28					1									1						
20	Valley Ranch Park	7211 Dubose Rd.	7.65			7.65														1						
21	Walker Park	2615 North 3rd St.	7.20			7.20														1						
22	Waterford Park	5001 Warwicke Dr.	10.63			10.63														1						
23	West Ridge Park	309 East Ridge Blvd.	19.17			19.17														1						
24	Western Hills Park	4420 Gazelle Tr.	3.59			3.59														1						
25	Woodbridge Park	3620 Whispering Oaks	4.95			4.95																				
	Total Neighborhood Parks		175.16	0	0	175.16	4	0	1	0	7	5	0	1	4	0	3	1	0	2	22	0	0	0	0	0
1	Alta Vista Park ²	5530 Stonehaven Dr.	0.25			0.25														1						
2	Bentwood Park	2173 Butterfly Dr.	0.78			0.78																				
3	Carver Park	1412 South 4th St.	0.61			0.61																				
4	Colquitt Park	3501 Hickory Rd.	0.92			0.92																				
5	Doctor's Park	250 South 34th St.			2.97	2.97																				
6	Fred Springer Park	315 West Ave. B	7.96			7.96																				
7	Freedom Village Park	700 Freedom Dr.	0.57			0.57																				
8	Little Bluestem Park	1 Troy St.	1.13			1.13														1						
9	Nettles Park	1615 North 11th St.	1.30			1.30														1						
10	Northwest Hills Park	813 Brandywine Dr.	1.58			1.58														1						
11	Oaks at Westwood Park	8423 Skyview	0.13			0.13																				
12	Temple South Rotary Park	4306 Lone Star Tr.	0.79			0.79																				
13	Terrace Gardens Park	2015 Linwood Rd.	1.25			1.25																				
14	Echo Village Park	5030 Stonehaven Dr.	4.39			4.39																				
	Total Pocket Parks		21.66	0	2.97	24.63	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	

²Alta Vista Park is scheduled to be open in the near future

		WATER RELATED FACILITIES										PASSIVE FACILITIES									
PARK		FISHING POND	FISHING PIER/OBSERVATION DECK	WATER SPRAY POOL	FITNESS/ LAP POOL	LEISURE POOL	AMPHITHEATER	COVERED PICNIC TABLE	GAZEBO	LARGE PAVILIONS	SMALL PAVILIONS	PICNIC UNITS	BBQ GRILLS	BENCHES	BLEACHERS	DRINKING FOUNTAINS	MEETING ROOM(S) w/ TABLES & CHAIRS	STAGE	FOOT BRIDGES		
19	Spanish Southwest Park							2													
20	Valley Ranch Park												4						2		
21	Walker Park				1					1		1	3		2						
22	Waterford Park									1		1	1		1						
23	West Ridge Park						1			1					1						
24	Western Hills Park						3			2		1	3						1		
25	Woodbridge Park	1									5	1	3								
	Total Neighborhood Parks	1	0	2	0	1	0	38	0	5	14	28	18	61	11	20	0	0	9		
1	Alta Vista Park ²						1			1											
2	Bentwood Park									1			2								
3	Carver Park																				
4	Colquitt Park										1		2								
5	Doctor's Park																				
6	Fred Springer Park							1			2		15								
7	Freedom Village Park																				
8	Little Bluestem Park										2	2	1								
9	Nettles Park						1														
10	Northwest Hills Park						2					2			1						
11	Oaks at Westwood Park																				
12	Temple South Rotary Park						1														
13	Terrace Gardens Park						2														
	Total Pocket Parks	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	1	0	2	5	5	21	0	1	0	0	0		

²Alta Vista Park is scheduled to be open in the near future

FIGURE 3.2 INVENTORY OF TEMPLE PARK SYSTEM

		ACTIVE FACILITIES																							
PARK	ADDRESS	DEVELOPED (AC)	UNDEVELOPED (AC)	NATURAL/UNPROGRAMMED (AC)	TOTAL ACRES	BASEBALL FIELDS	SOFTBALL FIELDS	SOCCER PADS	FOOTBALL FIELDS	BASKETBALL FIELDS	BASKETBALL FULL COURTS	BASKETBALL HALF COURTS	BASEBALL/SOFTBALL INDOOR COURTS	MULTI-PURPOSE PRACTICE FIELDS	DISC GOLF COURSE	TENNIS COURTS	VOLLEYBALL COURTS	FITNESS CENTERS	FITNESS COURSES	PLAYGROUNDS	SKATING FACILITIES	HORSESHOE PITS	LIGHTNING DETECTION	GYMNASIUMS	CRICKET
1	Bird Creek	4718 Arrowhead Dr.		1.24	1.24																				
2	Camden	706 Camden Dr.		0.61	0.61																				
3	Canyon Creek	2715 Hemlock Blvd.		26.92	26.92																				
4	Hickory Heights	3601 Robinhood Dr.		1.42	1.42																				
5	King Circle	401 King Cir.		0.38	0.38																				
6	Prairie Park	Tower Rd.	10.00		10.00																				
7	Prewitt	1511 French Ave.		8.21	8.21																				
8	Ramblewood	3203 Aspen Tr.		9.90	9.90																				
9	Southern Oaks	3510 Melrose Ln.		2.58	2.58																				
10	Tanglewood	Tenglewood Rd.		2.20	2.20																				
11	Trailwood	3911 Valley View		2.80	2.80																				
	Total Open Spaces		10.00	51.43	12.03	66.26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	Baker Baseball Field	420 East Barton Ave.	5.58		5.58	1												1							
2	Reuben D. Talasek Bend O' The River	South General Bruce Dr.	28.60	58.76	87.36																				
3	Kenny Martin Park	Hwy 317		10.00	10.00																				
4	Marvin Fenn Recreation Area	702 South 57th St.	3.00		3.00													1				1			
5	MLK Festival Grounds	301 S 4th St.	11.87		11.87																				
6	Sammons Park Links (Golf Course)	2727 West Adams Ave.	112.57		112.57																	2			
7	Saulsbury Community Gardens	2130 Saulsbury Dr.	2.66		2.66																				
8	Whistle Stop Playground	22 South 11th St.	0.75		0.75													1							
	Total Special Use Facilities		165.03	68.76	0	233.79	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0

²Alta Vista Park is scheduled to be open in the near future

			WATER RELATED FACILITIES										PASSIVE FACILITIES									
			FISHING POND	FISHING PIER/OBSERVATION DECK	WATER SPRAY POOL	FITNESS/ LAP POOL	LEISURE POOL	AMPHITHEATER	COVERED PICNIC TABLE	GAZEBO	LARGE PAVILIONS	SMALL PAVILIONS	PICNIC UNITS	BBQ GRILLS	BENCHES	BLEACHERS	DRINKING FOUNTAINS	MEETING ROOM(S) w/ TABLES & CHAIRS	STAGE	FOOT BRIDGES		
PARK	ADDRESS																					
1	Bird Creek	4718 Arrowhead Dr.																				
2	Camden	706 Camden Dr.																				
3	Canyon Creek	2715 Hemlock Blvd.																				
4	Hickory Heights	3601 Robinhood Dr.																				
5	King Circle	401 King Cir.																				
6	Prairie Park	Tower Rd.																				
7	Prewitt	1511 French Ave.																				
8	Ramblewood	3203 Aspen Tr.																				
9	Southern Oaks	3510 Melrose Ln.																				
10	Tanglewood	Tenglewood Rd.																				
11	Trailwood	3911 Valley View																				
	Total Open Spaces		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
1	Baker Baseball Field	420 East Barton Ave.													2	1						
2	Reuben D. Talasek Bend O' The River	South General Bruce Dr.							1			10		2	1		1		1			
3	Marvin Fenn Recreation Area	702 South 57th St.	1	1				2			1		1	1		1			1			
4	MLK Festival Grounds	301 S 4th St.																				
5	Sammons Park Links (Golf Course)	2727 West Adams Ave.														1	1					
6	Saulsbury Community Gardens	2130 Saulsbury Dr.																				
7	Whistle Stop Playground	22 South 11th St.								1	1	6	2	2		1				1		
	Total Special Use Facilities		1	1	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	16	3	5	3	4	2	0		3		

²Alta Vista Park is scheduled to be open in the near future

FIGURE 3.2 INVENTORY OF TEMPLE PARK SYSTEM

			ACTIVE FACILITIES																			
PARK		ADDRESS	DEVELOPED (SF)	BASEBALL FIELDS	SOFTBALL FIELDS	SOCCER PADS	FOOTBALL FIELDS	BASKETBALL FULL COURTS	BASKETBALL HALF COURTS	BASEBALL INDOOR COURTS	MULTI-PURPOSE BACKSTOPS	DISC GOLF COURSE	TENNIS COURTS	VOLLEYBALL COURTS	FITNESS COURTS (SAND)	FITNESS CENTERS	PLAYGROUNDS	SKATING FACILITIES	HORSESHOE PITS	LIGHTNING DETECTION	GYMNASIUMS	CRICKET
1	Blackmon Community Center	1807 Curtis B. Elliott Dr.	5,000																			
2	Clarence Martin Recreation Center	102 West Elm Ave.	22,000															1			1	
3	Gober Party House	1516 West Ave. H	5,500													1						
4	Mayborn Civic & Convention Center	3303 North 3rd St.	40,440																			
5	Sammons Recreation Center	2220 West Ave. D	17,000																2			
6	Santa Fe Depot Museum/Visitors Center	315 West Ave. B	29,300																			
7	Summit Fitness Center	620 Fryers Creek Rd.	21,661									8		1								
8	Wilson Park Recreation Center	2205 Curtis B. Elliott Dr.	20,000				1		2			2		1						1		
	Total Recreation Centers / Indoor Facilities		160,901	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

FIGURE 3.2 INVENTORY OF TEMPLE PARK SYSTEM

			WATER RELATED FACILITIES												PASSIVE FACILITIES						
PARK	ADDRESS		DEVELOPED (SF)	FISHING POND	FISHING PIER/OBSERVATION DECK	WATER SPRAY POOL	FITNESS/ LAP POOL	LEISURE POOL	AMPHITHEATER	COVERED PICNIC TABLE	GAZEBO	LARGE PAVILIONS	SMALL PAVILIONS	PICNIC UNITS	BBQ GRILLS	BENCHES	BLEACHERS	DRINKING FOUNTAINS	MEETING ROOM(S) w/ TABLES & CHAIRS	STAGE	FOOT BRIDGES
1	Blackmon Community Center	1807 Curtis B. Elliott Dr.	5,000													1					
2	Clarence Martin Recreation Center	102 West Elm Ave.	22,000														1				
3	Gober Party House	1516 West Ave. H	5,500									1		1			1	1			
4	Mayborn Civic & Convention Center	3303 North 3rd St.	40,440															4	1		
5	Sammons Recreation Center	2220 West Ave. D	17,000														1	1			
6	Santa Fe Depot Museum/Visitors Center	315 West Ave. B	29,300															1			
7	Summit Fitness Center	620 Fryers Creek Rd.	21,661				1						2	1		2	1				
8	Wilson Park Recreation Center	2205 Curtis B. Elliott Dr.	20,000											1	2		1	2			
Total Recreation Centers / Indoor Facilities			160,901	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	0	

FIGURE 3.3 INVENTORY OF TEMPLE TRAIL SYSTEM

IN-PARK TRAIL		ADDRESS	MILES
1	Conner Park	408 Old Waco	0.33
2	Jackson Park	925 N. 4th St.	0.50
3	Jaycee Park	2302 W. Ave. Z	0.43
4	Jefferson Park	2310 Monticello Rd.	0.25
5	Jones Park	1102 W. Ave. F	0.33
6	Lions Park	4320 Lions Park Rd.	2.00
7	Miller Park	1919 N. 1st St.	0.75
8	Oak Creek Park	2304 Forest Tr.	0.25
9	Optimist Park	820 W. Munroe Ave.	0.25
10	Silverstone Park	404 Waters Dairy Rd.	0.50
11	South Temple Park	5000 S. 5th St.	0.75
12	Terrace Gardens Park	2015 Linwood Rd.	0.25
13	Valley Ranch Park	7211 Dubose Rd.	0.37
14	West Temple Park	121 S. Montpark Rd.	1.00
15	Western Hills Park	4420 Gazelle Tr.	0.25
16	Wilson Park	2205 Curtis B. Elliot Dr.	1.75
17	Woodbridge Park	3620 Whispering Oaks	0.50
18	Crossroads Trail	Prairie View Road	1.40
	Total Miles of Trails within Parks		11.86

COMMUNITY PARK		ADDRESS	MILES
1	FM 2305 Hike & Bike Trail	W. Hwy 2305	5.00
2	Echo Village Trail	5030 Stone Haven	0.50
3	Friar's Creek Hike & Bike Trail	5000 S. 5th St.	10.90
4	Pepper Creek Trail	Adams Ave.	1.20
	Total Miles of Community Trails		17.60

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A photograph of a park pavilion with a red metal roof and white support pillars. Inside the pavilion, there are several black picnic tables. In the background, a blue playground slide is visible on the left, and a grassy field with trees and houses is on the right. A green rectangular box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the number 4 and the text 'NEEDS ASSESSMENT'.

4

**NEEDS
ASSESSMENT**

4.1 INTRODUCTION TO NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The residents of Temple have established that parks, recreational facilities, and trails are important to their community. Their appreciation for the parks system is shown through consistent use and support of the Temple Parks and Recreation Department.

City residents also understand that continued city growth means more people and increased demand for new services. Population growth places a burden on existing parks, recreational facilities, recreational programs, and trail systems. How residents participate in recreational activities is also changing as user preferences evolve and new amenities are introduced.

This chapter provides the current state of parks, recreational opportunities, and trails and presents the potential needs of the parks and trails system today and projected to 2038. The understanding of existing deficiencies is important to develop actions to mitigate potential problems.

This chapter also provides an analytical means of assessing facilities and actions that are needed and desired by the residents of Temple. The results of this assessment - the recommendations and actions to address these needs - are created and prioritized with these needs being both quantitative and qualitative.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

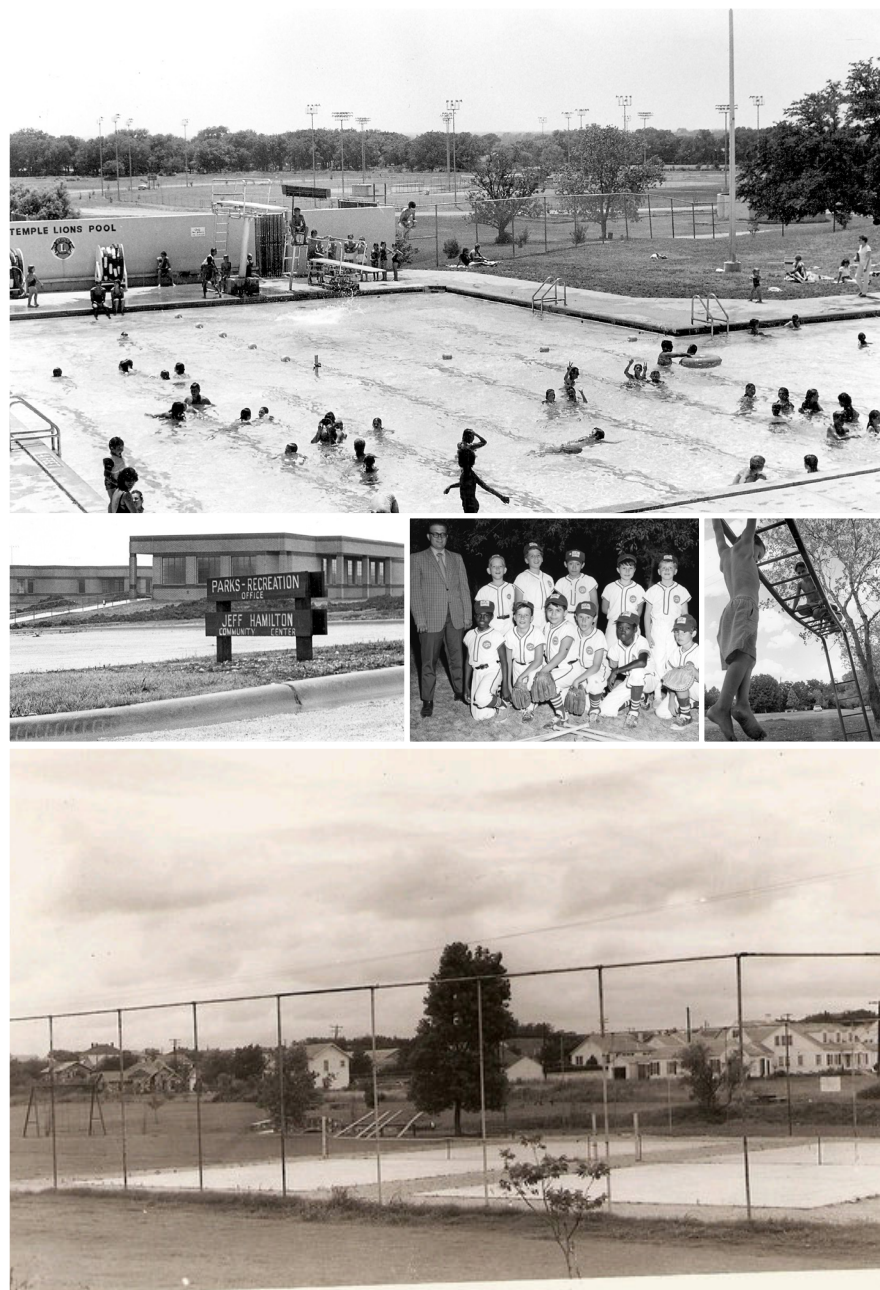
Inputs and techniques used in evaluating Temple's current and future park system needs vary greatly. Three methodologies are included in this assessment: 1) Standard-Based, 2) Demand-Based, and 3) Resource-Based. The following techniques used for this plan are general methodologies accepted by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for local park master plans. These techniques are:

STANDARD-BASED ASSESSMENT: This technique identifies level of service ratios of facilities and amenities to population so as to project where the city is today and where it might be in the future as the population grows.

DEMAND-BASED ASSESSMENT: This technique uses actual and/or anticipated usage growth data and citizen input on the types of activities they would like to engage in, to determine which facilities and programs are most in demand.

RESOURCED-BASED ASSESSMENT: This technique recognizes that Temple has unique physical features and explores how to convert these into recreation or open space assets that help to meet the demand for recreation within Temple.

Each of these three assessments are important in their own regard, however, each individually does not represent the entire picture. The assessment and recommendations resulting from these analyses uses the results to determine what types of recreation facilities and parks are needed in Temple. These needs are ultimately vetted by residents of Temple and, through consensus, determined to best represent the key park, recreational facilities, and trail needs of the city.



4.2 STANDARD-BASED ASSESSMENT

The Standard-Based Assessment uses identified national guidelines and standards as a starting point for park planning. However, cities have their own geography, demographics, and socio-economic composition. These unique properties do not allow an application of arbitrary national standards which do not meet the needs of a particular community. Accordingly, national “one size fits all” standards are no longer used for the projection of facility needs as standards are fine-tuned to meet local conditions.

This parks and trails plan utilizes the current level of service in Temple and determines if that level of service is adequate or if it needs to be increased or decreased. Public input is used to determine how to adjust the current level of service in conjunction with the growth rate, and area currently served versus areas which are under-served. The needs and desires of the municipality are used to shape proposed guidelines to meet the expectations of the residents of Temple in a realistic manner.

THE THREE TYPES OF LEVEL OF SERVICE DETERMINATION

SPATIAL	Defines the quantity context of parkland needs, and is expressed as a ratio of acreage to population. This also defines the distribution of parks throughout Temple.
ACCESS TO PARKLAND	Geographically determines how easy it is for Temple residents to access parkland, and determine where parkland is needed to meet the city's target level.
FACILITY	Defines the number of facilities recommended serving each particular recreation need. Facility standards are usually expressed as a ratio of units of one particular facility per population size.

79%

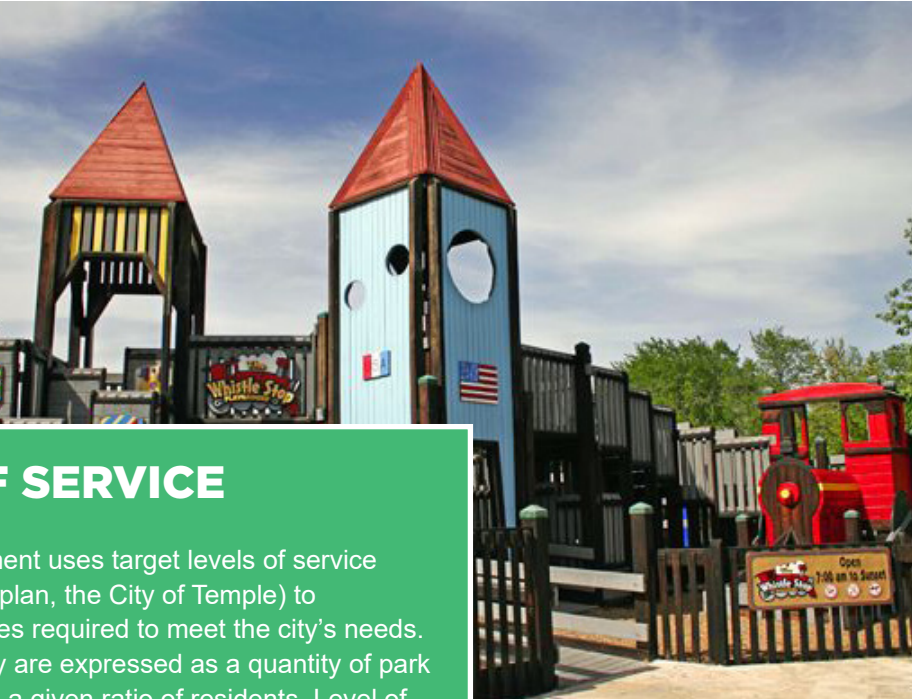
Percent of residential areas within the city limits that are currently within 1/2 mile of a park.

37%

Percent of residential areas within the city limits that are currently within 1/4 mile of a park.

The spatial level of service for parks and recreational facilities ensures sufficient area is allotted for all outdoor recreational needs of the city. This allows the city to plan for the location of parkland prior to land being developed thus restricting an area from future park or recreational facility development. In order to determine an appropriate level of service, a “target” level is provided by this plan. Spatial standards are provided as a ratio of parkland to the number residents of Temple.

The development and application of a target level of service for acreage results in an acreage standard for different types of parks. Primary park types include Neighborhood Parks and Community Parks as these parks are located close to residences and provide the “walk to the park and play” concept for an area. Existing and future populations will require additional acreage to serve the added growth and provide for the creation of additional neighborhood and community parks spaced throughout Temple. The ultimate goal is to provide parks within a 5-10 minute walk of each resident in Temple.



LEVEL OF SERVICE

The Level of Service (LOS) assessment uses target levels of service established by a jurisdiction (for this plan, the City of Temple) to determine the quantity of park facilities required to meet the city's needs. These target levels of service usually are expressed as a quantity of park facilities needed to adequately serve a given ratio of residents. Level of Service is frequently described as a quantity of parkland or facilities per 1,000 residents.

These targets are established to provide the level of service that the particular jurisdiction believes is the most responsive to the amount of use and interest of its residents. This plan establishes individual city specific levels of service for Temple, and does not rely on national standard which may not apply to Temple.



REGIONAL PARKS

The City of Temple provides regional parks capable of accommodating a variety of event types including festivals, concerts, and organized athletic tournaments. The recommended level of service for a regional park ranges from five to ten acres per every 1,000 city residents. There are a total of four regional parks within the City of Temple which contains approximately 791.23 acres and provides a level of service of 10.38 acres per 1,000 residents of the City of Temple.

The 2019 Temple Parks and Trails Master Plan represents the first time regional parks are delineated in the Temple parks classification system. Crossroads Regional Park is currently being completed as a regional park. Lions Park and Wilson Park are reclassified as regional parks due to their size, location, available pedestrian and motor vehicle access, amenities, and facilities.

The reclassification of Lions Park and Wilson Park from community parks to regional parks reclassifies 485 acres of parkland. It is important to note, the reclassification of parkland does not reduce the level of service for the overall Temple park system.

LEVEL OF SERVICE

The City of Temple continues to grow in both population and area. The population of Temple is projected to be 102,028 in 2030 and 112,056 in 2038. Figure 4.1 illustrates the level of services for the current population and projected populations for 2030 and 2038.

The recommended target level of service goal for regional parks is five to ten acres per 1,000 residents. Temple currently exceeds this level of service at both recommended levels at 10.38 acres per 1,000 residents. The city will continue to have a surplus of acreage at the five acres per 1,000 level at the project population levels in 2030 and 2038. Temple will begin to see a deficit of regional park land at the 10 acres per 1,000 residents level by 2030 based on existing acreage. The city will have a deficit of 229 acres by 2030 and 330 acres by 2038 based on existing acreage.

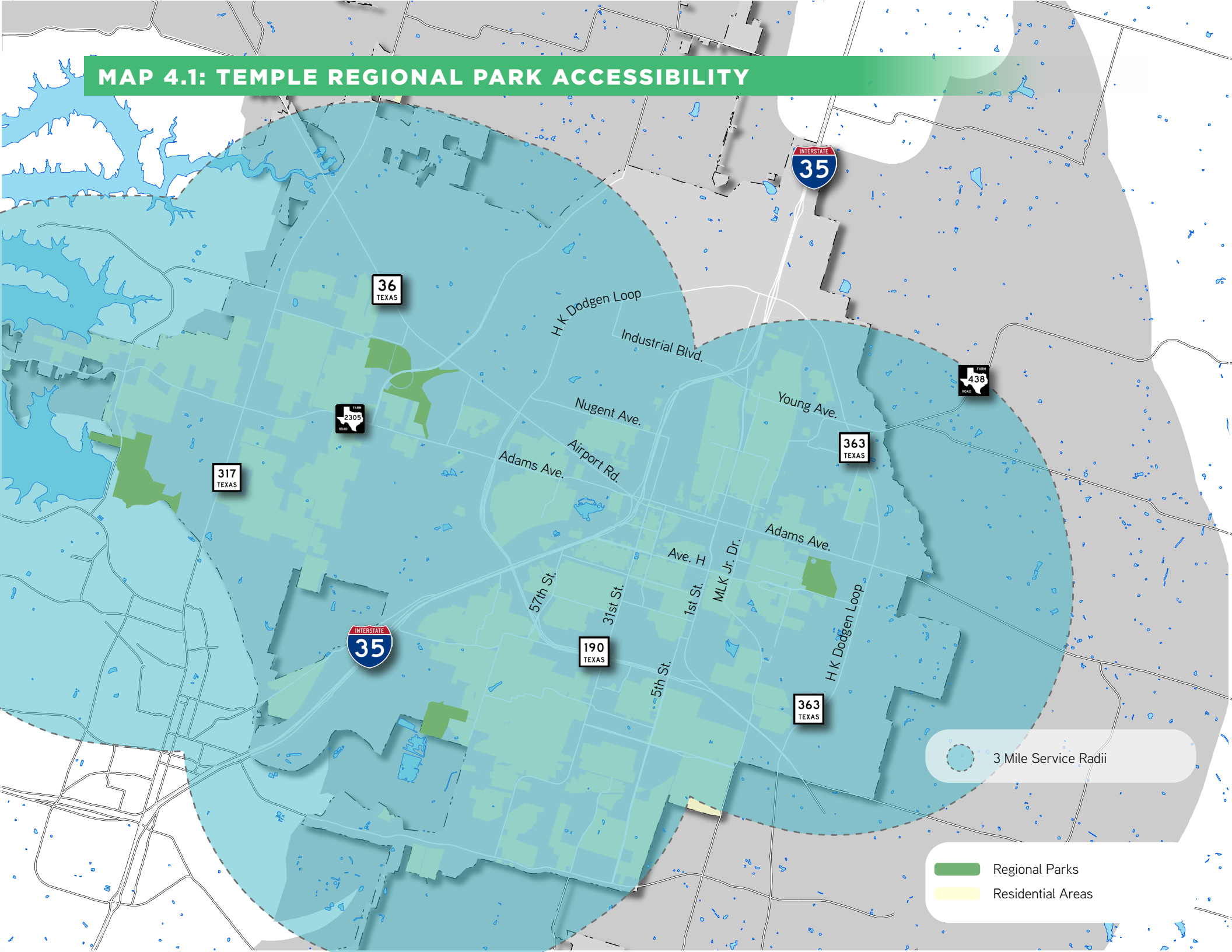
ACCESSIBILITY

In addition to just having sufficient acreage of a park type, it is also important to ensure good distribution across the city. In this regard, both the total acreage and location are important to creating a quality parks system. In general, regional parks have an approximate three-mile service area. In Temple, there are four regional parks equitably distributed across the city (see Figure 4.1, *Temple Regional Park Accessibility*, on the next page).

FIGURE 4.1 TEMPLE PARKS LEVEL OF SERVICES FOR REGIONAL PARKS 2018 - 2038

POPULATION / POPULATION PROJECTION		# OF PARKS	EXISTING ACREAGE	LEVEL OF SERVICE / PROJECTED LEVEL OF SERVICE		RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF SERVICE		RECOMMENDED ACREAGE RANGE		SURPLUS OR DEFICIT
2018	76,256	4	791.23	10.38	acres per 1,000 residents	5-10	acres per 1,000 residents	381 - 762	acres per 1,000 residents	410 - 29 acres
2030	102,028			7.76	acres per 1,000 residents	5-10	acres per 1,000 residents	510 - 1020	acres per 1,000 residents	281 - 229 acres
2038	112,056			7.06	acres per 1,000 residents	5-10	acres per 1,000 residents	560 - 1121	acres per 1,000 residents	231 - 330 acres

MAP 4.1: TEMPLE REGIONAL PARK ACCESSIBILITY



COMMUNITY PARKS

Community parks are large parks with multiple amenities and are generally large enough to host community events, athletic events, tournaments, and other large scale activities. There are four community parks within Temple containing approximately 170 acres of parkland. The recommended levels of service for community parks range from five to eight acres per every 1,000 residents. The current level of service for community parks is 2.23 per 1,000 residents.

Wilson Park and Lions Park were both listed in the prior plan as community parks. These parks were reclassified in this plan as regional parks removing 206 acres of parkland from this category. Additions to the community park classification include South West Community Park and West Temple Park which combined adds approximately 121 acres to community parks.

Although the amount of parkland classified as community parks has been reduced, it is important to note that the overall amount of parkland in Temple has increased with the addition of four regional parks.

LEVEL OF SERVICE

Figure 4.2 illustrates the level of services for the current population and 2030 and 2038 projected populations. The recommended target level of service goal for community parks is five to eight acres per 1,000 residents. Temple currently has a deficit of 41 acres at the five acres per 1,000 residents level and deficit of 270 acres at the eight acres per 1,000 residents level.

The deficit of community parkland will continue as the city is expected to grow in population. Based on population projections, the level of service for community parks will lower to 1.67 acres per 1,000 residents with a deficit range of 170 to 476 acres by 2030. By 2038, the level of service will lower to 1.52 acres per 1,000 residents with a deficit of parkland range of 390 - 726 acres, unless new community parkland is added.

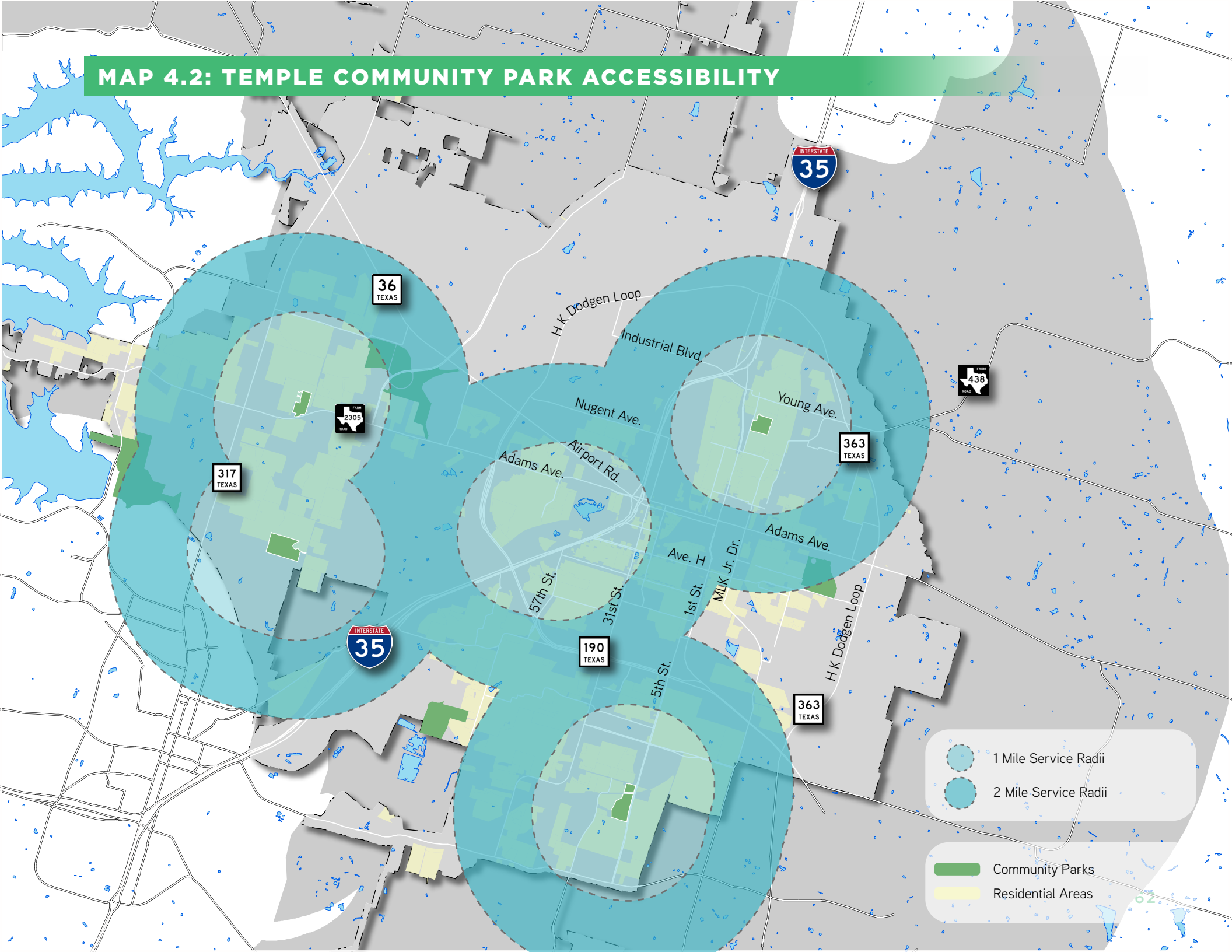
ACCESSIBILITY

In general, community parks have a service area of one- to two-miles, or a reasonable one-mile walking distance and a two-mile biking distance. In Temple, there are four community parks equitably distributed across the city within a comfortable biking distance (see Figure 4.2, Temple Community Park Accessibility, on the next page). As the City continues to grow, additional community-scale parkland will be needed in new growth areas and may be needed, as opportunities arise, to fill in deficiencies in existing areas.

FIGURE 4.2 TEMPLE PARKS LEVEL OF SERVICES FOR COMMUNITY PARKS 2018 - 2038

POPULATION / POPULATION PROJECTION		# OF PARKS	EXISTING ACREAGE	LEVEL OF SERVICE / PROJECTED LEVEL OF SERVICE		RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF SERVICE		RECOMMENDED ACREAGE RANGE		SURPLUS OR DEFICIT
2018	76,256	4	170	2.23	acres per 1,000 residents	5 - 8	acres per 1,000 residents	211 - 440	acres per 1,000 residents	41 - 270 acres
2030	102,028			1.67	acres per 1,000 residents	5 - 8	acres per 1,000 residents	340 - 646	acres per 1,000 residents	170 - 476 acres
2038	112,056			1.52	acres per 1,000 residents	5 - 8	acres per 1,000 residents	560 - 896	acres per 1,000 residents	390 - 726 acres

MAP 4.2: TEMPLE COMMUNITY PARK ACCESSIBILITY



NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Neighborhood parks provide smaller spaces and limited amenities for neighborhoods. There are 25 neighborhood parks located in Temple which contains approximately 175 acres of parkland. The recommended levels of service (LOS) for neighborhood parks range from one to two acres of parkland per every 1,000 resident. Temple currently has a neighborhood LOS of 2.3 acres per 1,000 residents.

LEVEL OF SERVICE

Figure 4.3 illustrates the current LOS for both the current population and the projected 2030 and 2038 populations. Based on the target levels of service, the City of Temple currently has a surplus of 99 acres at one acre per 1,000 residents and 22 acres at two acres per 1,000 residents.

The projected population of Temple in 2030 will decrease the level of service to 1.72 acres per 1,000 residents based on the existing acreage; however, at one acre per 1,000 residents, there remains a surplus of parkland of 73 acres.

The projected population in 2038 will decrease the level of service even further to 1.56 acre per 1,000 residents although a surplus of 63 acres will still remain.

The level of service changes dramatically at the two acres per 1,000 residents level as a deficit occurs based on the 2030 population of 29 acres. This deficit increases to 49 acres based on the 2038 population.

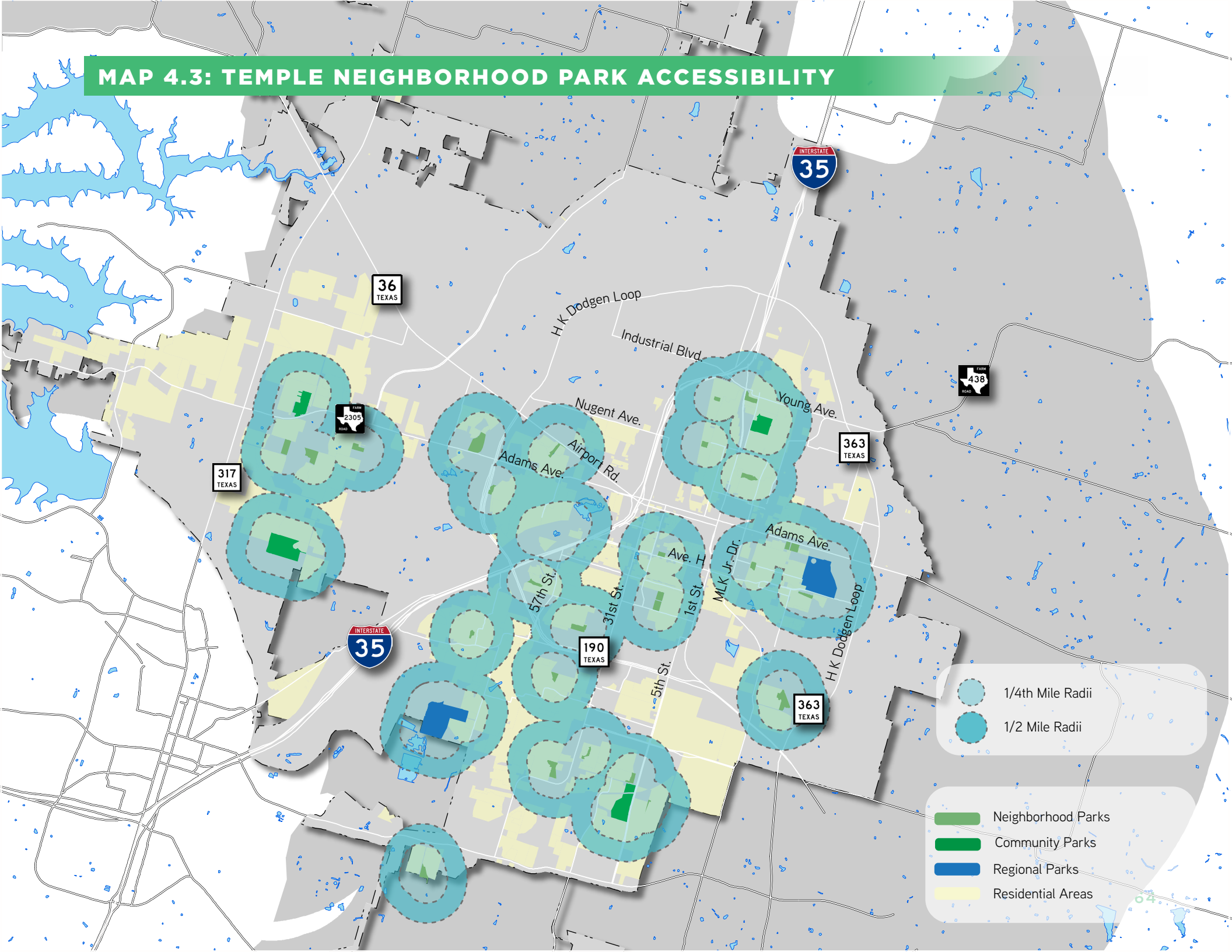
ACCESSIBILITY

In general, neighborhood parks have a service area of one-quarter-mile (ideal) or one-half-mile (standard) and are commonly meant to be accessed on foot. In Temple, there are 25 neighborhood parks. In addition, larger regional or community parks may also serve the immediate needs of abutting residents. As such, the four community parks and two regional parks (i.e., Wilson and Lions Park) are also included in delineation of neighborhood park service areas (see Figure 4.3, Temple Neighborhood Park Accessibility, on the next page). As the City continues to grow, additional neighborhood-scale parkland is needed in both existing and new growth areas.

FIGURE 4.3 TEMPLE PARKS LEVEL OF SERVICES FOR NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS 2018 - 2038

POPULATION / POPULATION PROJECTION		# OF PARKS	EXISTING ACREAGE	LEVEL OF SERVICE / PROJECTED LEVEL OF SERVICE		RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF SERVICE		RECOMMENDED ACREAGE RANGE		SURPLUS OR DEFICIT
2018	76,256	25	175	2.30	acres per 1,000 residents	1 - 2	acres per 1,000 residents	76 - 152	acres per 1,000 residents	99 - 22 acres
2030	102,028			1.72	acres per 1,000 residents	1 - 2	acres per 1,000 residents	102 - 204	acres per 1,000 residents	73 - 29 acres
2038	112,056			1.56	acres per 1,000 residents	1 - 2	acres per 1,000 residents	112 - 224	acres per 1,000 residents	63 - 49 acres

MAP 4.3: TEMPLE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK ACCESSIBILITY



4.3 FACILITY ASSESSMENT LEVEL OF SERVICE

Standards for facilities and target levels of service define the number of facilities recommended to serve each type of recreational activity found within the Temple parks system. Facilities are usually expressed as usage capacity served by a recreational unit and the level of access to each type of facility available. The target level of service for facilities shown over the following pages are based on comparisons of standards set forth from the 2014 Temple Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan, and the current number of facilities in Temple.

FIGURE 4.4 TEMPLE EXISTING AND PROJECTED RECREATIONAL FACILITY NEEDS

FACILITY	CURRENT NUMBER	TARGET LEVEL OF SERVICE	CURRENT NEED		PROJECTED NEED BY 2038	
			NUMBER	SURPLUS / DEFICIT	NUMBER	SURPLUS / DEFICIT
Baseball Fields	13	1 per 8,000	10	3	14	-1
Softball Fields	12	1 per 8,000	10	2	14	-2
Basketball Courts	22	1 per 4,000	19	3	28	-7
Soccer Fields	14	1 per 8,000	10	4	14	0
Football Fields	1	1 per 10,000	8	-7	11	-10
Backstops	4	1 per 5,000	15	-11	22	-19
Multi-purpose Practice Fields	8	1 per 5,000	15	-7	22	-15
Tennis Courts	19	1 per 10,000	15	4	22	-1
Sand Volleyball Courts	3	1 per 10,000	8	-5	11	-8
Playground Units	44	1 per 1,500	51	-7	75	-34
Splash Pads	5	1 per 20,000	4	1	6	-1
Pavilions	37	1 per 2,000	38	-1	56	-22
Swimming Pools	3	1 per 15,000	5	-2	7	-3
Dog Parks	1	1 per 20,000	4	-3	6	-5
Skate Park	0	1-2 per city	1	-1	1	-1
Disc Golf	3	1-2 per city	2	1	2	1
Picnic Facilities (Tables, BBQ Grills, Benches, etc.)	Varies	Varies	As Needed	As Needed	As Needed	As Needed
Support Facilities (Restrooms, Sidewalks, Paving)	Varies	Varies	As Needed	As Needed	As Needed	As Needed



Parks and Recreation

Jaycee Park

2302 West Avenue Z

4.4 DEMAND-BASED ASSESSMENT

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES

The Parks and Trails Master Plan process included three open house events at multiple locations throughout Temple. The open houses were attended by a total of 140 members of the public. The open houses began at 5:30 pm and lasted for two hours. The open houses were held at the following locations:

- May 23, 2019 at the Sammons Community Center, 2220 West Ave. D
- May 30, 2019 at the Wilson Community Center, 2205 Curtis B. Elliot
- June 4, 2019 at the Gober Party House, 1516 West Ave H

FIGURE 4.5 DESCRIBE TEMPLE IN ONE WORD

Figure 4.5 Open house attendees were asked to describe the City of Temple in one word. The results are displayed in the word cloud below. The size of the word is based on the number of times the word was presented as an answer.



The locations allowed residents from different areas of Temple to participate.

The first meeting was a joint kick-off meeting which gave the public the opportunity to provide input on the Temple Parks and Trails Master Plan and the Temple Comprehensive Plan. Although the two subsequent meetings provided a focus on either the Temple Comprehensive Plan or the Parks and Trails Master Plan, the public had the opportunity to provide input on the Parks and Trails Master Plan at all meetings.

FIGURE 4.6 WHAT TYPES OF PARKS ARE MOST NEEDED?

Figure 4.6 What Types of Parks are Most Needed: provides the compiled results of voting from all public input from the open house events. Linear Parks / Greenway Parks was ranked highest at 19.1% and Mini / Pocket Park ranked the lowest at 6.6%.

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR MOST-NEEDED TYPES OF PARKS IN TEMPLE? SELECT YOUR TOP 3 CHOICES.

PRIORITIES FOR MOST-NEEDED TYPES OF PARKS IN TEMPLE	# OF RESPONSES	# OF RESPONSES
Linear Parks / Greenways	55	19.1%
Neighborhood Parks	46	16.0%
Community Parks	44	15.3%
Social Spaces	38	13.2%
Indoor Facilities	32	11.1%
Regional Parks	27	9.4%
Special Use Parks	27	9.4%
Mini/Pocket Parks	19	6.6%
TOTAL # OF RESPONSES	288	

ONLINE SURVEY

An online survey was conducted as part of the Temple Parks and Trails Master Plan process. The online survey was opened to the public in March 2019 and closed in June 2019. The survey was taken by 314 respondents. A shorter event survey was created to provide event attendees an opportunity to provide limited input during outdoor festivals; these online event surveys received 420 respondents.

The focus of these online surveys was to gauge residents' perceptions of the Temple park system and evaluate public demand for different amenities and recreational facilities offered.

Figure 4.7 Indicate How Important the Following Actions Are To You. Survey respondents ranked plan actions by level of importance. The two most important actions the public supports are "Work to preserve environmentally sensitive areas such as natural creek corridors" and "More fully develop the parkland and open space that the City already owns"

FIGURE 4.7 INDICATE HOW IMPORTANT THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS ARE TO YOU

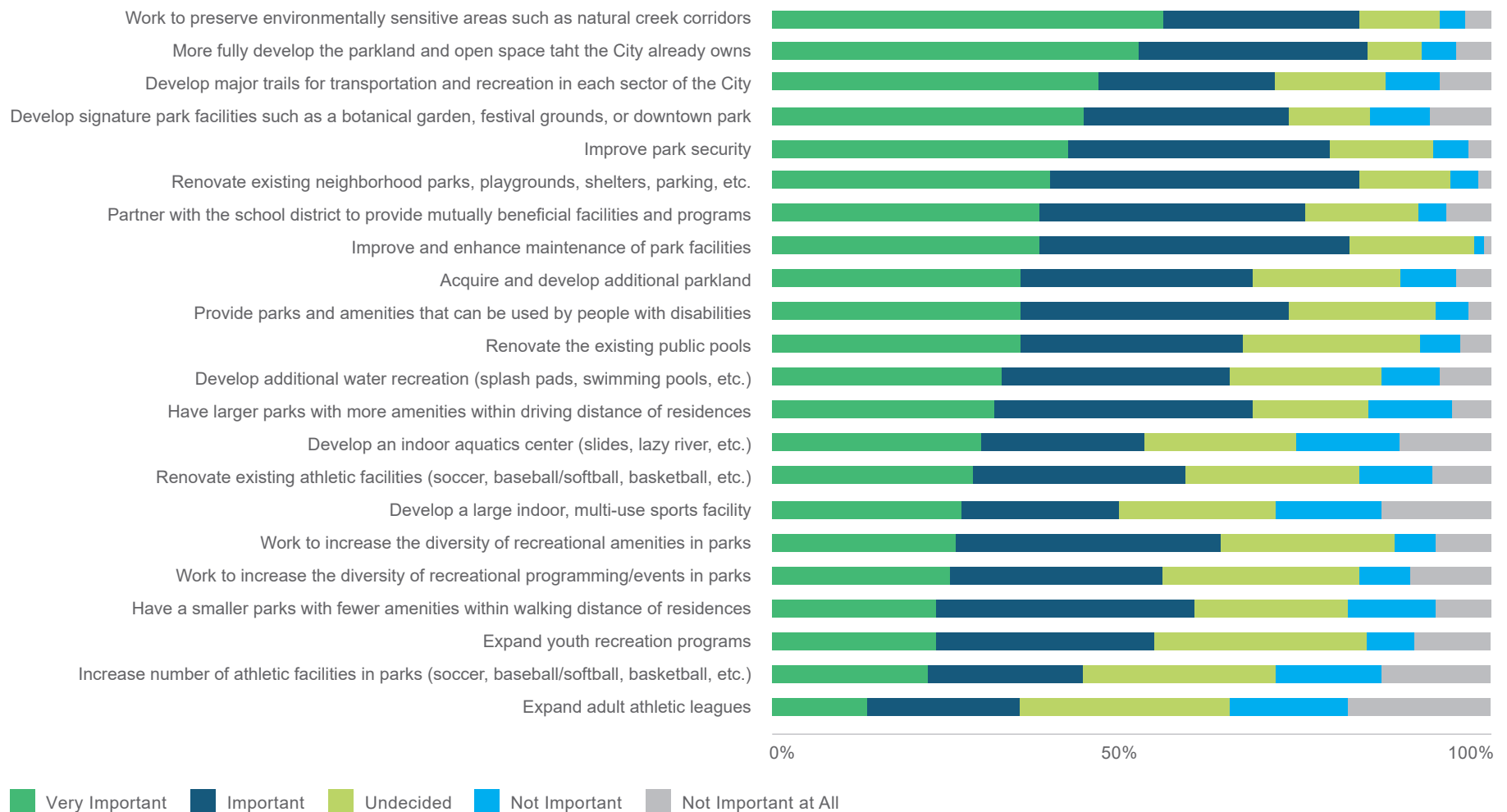


FIGURE 4.8 BARRIERS FROM PARK USAGE

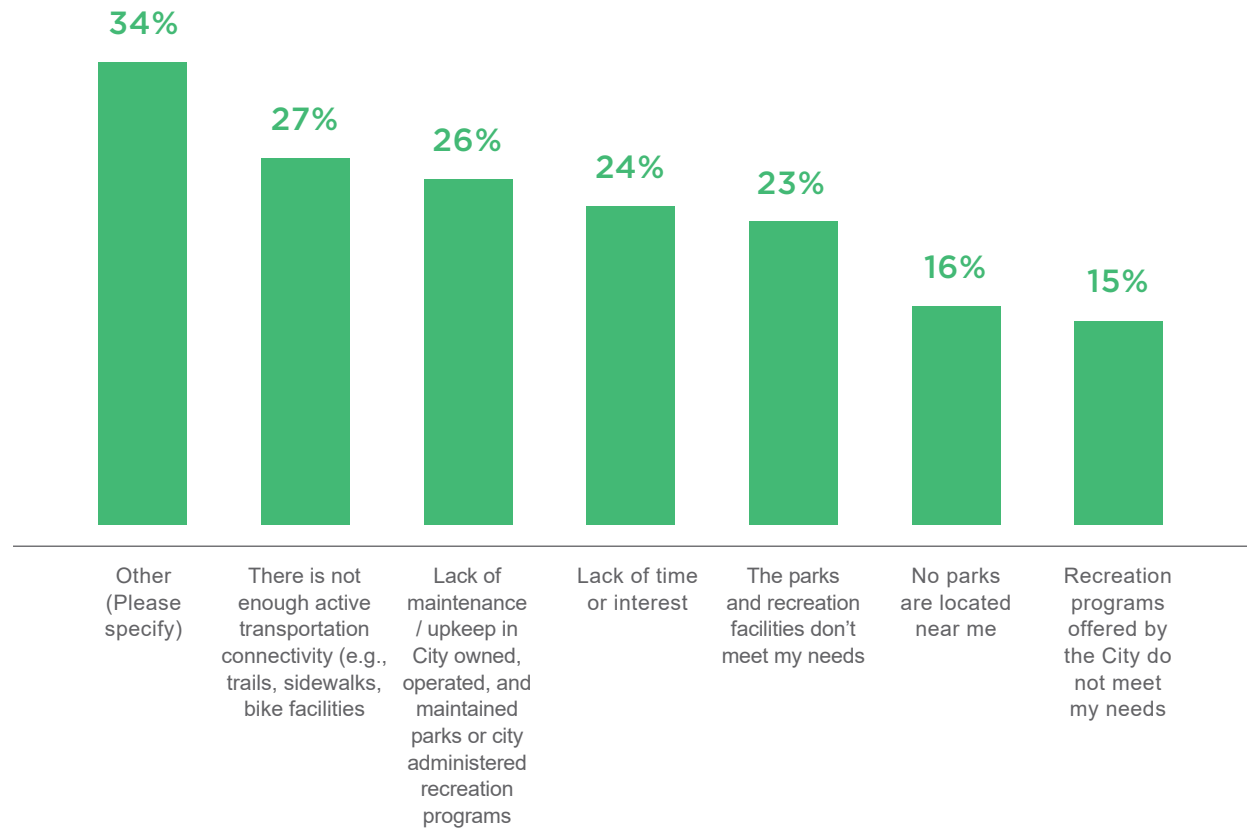


Figure 4.8, *Barriers from Park Usage*, identifies what survey respondents answered when asked “What is keeping you from using the Parks and Recreation facilities in Temple more?”. Besides “other” the top response was “There is not enough active transportation connectivity (e.g., trails, sidewalks, bike facilities)”(27%) indicating a demand for more interconnectivity within the parks system. The third most received answer was “Lack of maintenance/upkeep in City owned, operated, and maintained parks or city administered recreation programs”(26%). This result may indicate a desire by the public for more programmed space within parks. Programmed space within parks may require more maintenance due to the level of usage and type of program.

FIGURE 4.9 WHAT WOULD INTEREST YOU THE MOST FOR THE FUTURE OF TEMPLE PARKS

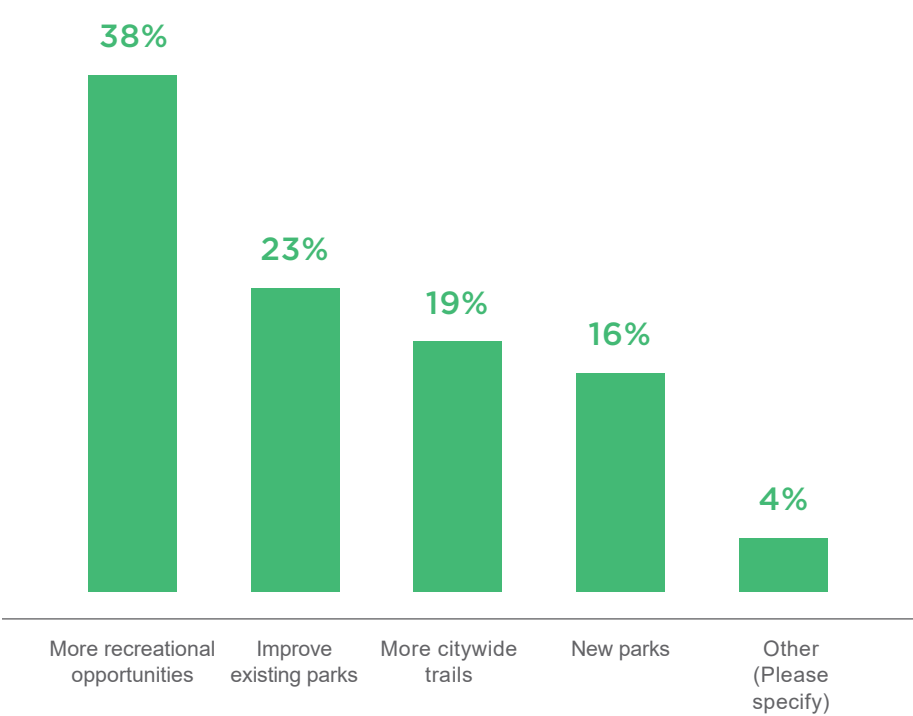


Figure 4.9, What Would Interest You the Most for the Future of Temple Parks, displays the top answer as “More recreational opportunities” (38%) followed by “Improve existing parks” (23%). The least common answer given besides “other” was “New parks” (16%). It may be the public’s opinion that there is a demand for expanding recreational opportunities both in size and in diversity of park offerings as well as to make improvements to existing parks.

4.4 RESOURCE-BASED ASSESSMENT

The resource-based assessment addresses key physical features of the City of Temple which can be incorporated as potential recreational opportunities. Physical features can include rivers and creek corridors including the Leon River, areas near water-bodies including Belton Lake, utility right-of-ways, and railroad right-of-ways which all have potential for recreational uses.

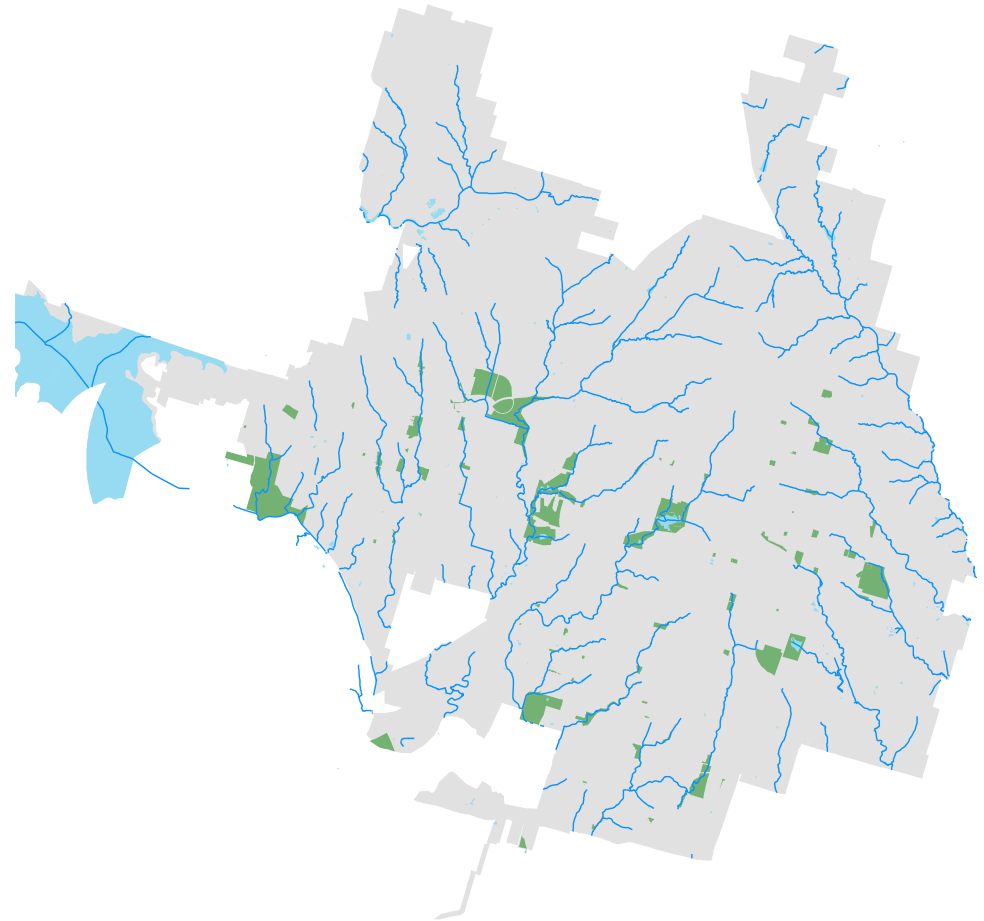
WATER RESOURCES

The development of a new recreational area can address deficiencies in park coverage and provide new recreational activities based on the unique characteristics of the resource (e.g., kayaking on Lake Belton, a new running trail in a utility easement, etc.). The development of these resources as recreational areas should occur as a coordinated effort to provide an efficient system with a variety of options for Temple residents.

The City of Temple is served by 161 miles hydrological streams and 3,132 acres of water bodies (see Figure 4.10 *Waterbodies and Hydrological Streams in Temple*). Major water bodies and major hydrological streams include:

- Belton Lake (within the Temple City limits)
- Leon River
- Little Elm Creek
- Pepper Creek
- Williamson Brook Creek

FIGURE 4.10 WATERBODIES AND HYDROLOGICAL STREAMS IN TEMPLE



FLOODPLAINS

These water bodies and hydrological streams are surrounded by approximately 6,772 acres of floodplains. These areas are also adjacent to water bodies and hydrological streams that experience flooding. (see Figure 4.11, *Floodplains in Temple*, on the next page)

WETLANDS

Wetlands can be defined as land saturated, either permanently or seasonally, that creates an ecosystem that contains characteristic vegetation which has adapted to the unique soil conditions.

Wetlands serve as a unique habitat for fish and wildlife, breeding ground, and home for unique plant and animal species which have adapted to these special conditions. There are approximately 633 acres of wetlands (see Figure 4.12, *Wetlands in Temple*). The following are the designated wetland types found in Temple:

- Freshwater Emergent
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetlands
- Freshwater Pond
- Riverine

Areas surrounding water-bodies, hydrological streams and wetlands should be preserved. Recreational areas and natural trails can offer a opportunity to both preserve these areas and provide unique recreational opportunities including linear parks, lake front recreation, and nature trails.

FIGURE 4.11 FLOODPLAINS IN TEMPLE

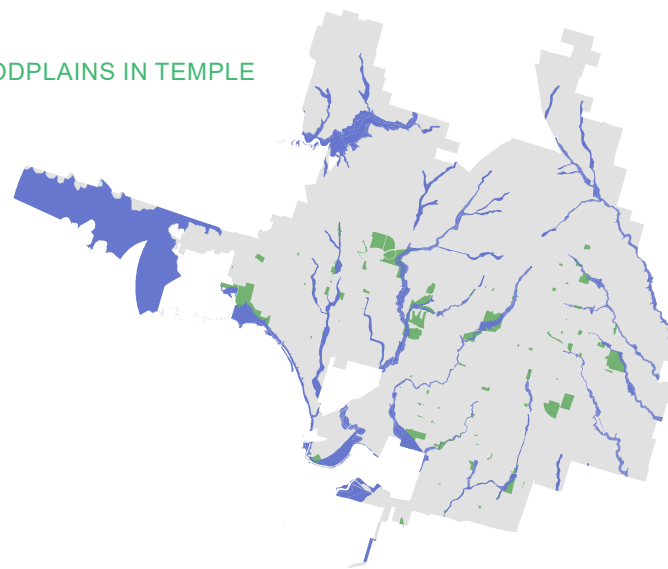
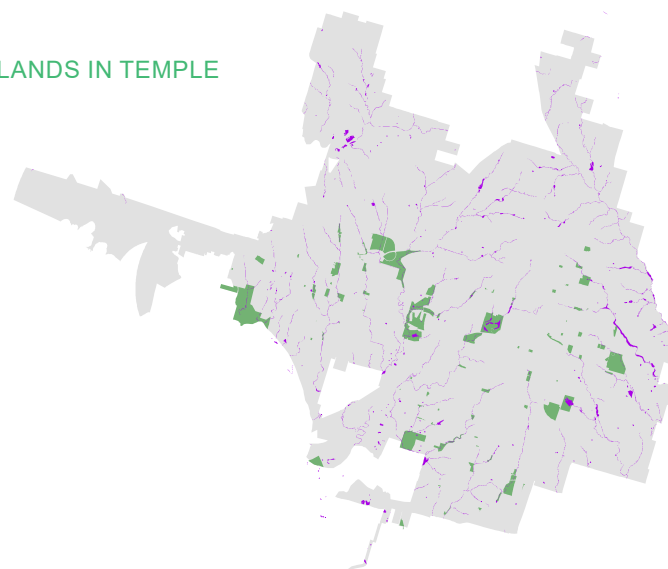


FIGURE 4.12 WETLANDS IN TEMPLE



HISTORICAL SITES

The City of Temple has a total of five sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). These sites include:

- The Barclay-Bryan House: Placed on the NRHP in 1984 for the significance of its Colonial Revival style.
- The Ferguson House: Placed on the NRHP in 1978 for the significance of its Queen Anne architectural style.
- The Kyle Hotel: Placed on the NRHP in 1993 for the role it served in providing health and medicine to the area.
- The Ralph Sr. and Sunny Wilson House: Placed on the NRHP for Modern architectural style.
- The Temple Historic District: Area placed on the NRHP for containing multiple examples of Modern Movement architectural styles.

The historical significance of these sites within the City of Temple can provide an excellent connection for trail linkages to parks or recreational facilities and serve as tourist attractions or points of interest within the city.



The Barclay-Bryan House



The Ferguson House



The Kyle Hotel



Ralph Wilson & Sunny House

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A background image of a playground with a large green number 5 and a green text box. The playground features a wooden structure with a tower and a slide, and a large tire swing. Two children are sitting on the tire swing. The ground is covered in wood chips. The sky is overcast.

5

VISION, GOALS, & OBJECTIVES



5.1 FROM VISION TO ACTION

This chapter contains the visions, goals and objectives that provide a framework to address future needs for Temple's parks and trails system. The vision statement, goals and objectives established in this chapter, frame the specific parks and trails action recommendations provided in *Chapter 6, Parks Recommendations*, and *Chapter 7, Trail Recommendations*.

Participants in the public input process were able to share their personal opinions on what makes Temple a great place to live and work, with many pointing to the parks system as a strong community asset. Key terms and issues were put forth in various forums and conversations, including "conservation," "health," "inclusivity," and "sustainability". The vision statement process integrated these themes into a collaboratively-developed, intentional expression.

The community-driven vision statement (see *Section 5.3, Vision Statement*) forms the basis of the goals, objectives, and subsequent action recommendations that will guide Temple towards achieving its desired outcomes.

The following page (*Section 5.3, Public Engagement Key Issues*) includes a presentation of primary issues raised during discussions with the community. The input provided by the participants in that process provided direction for primary goals and objectives of the plan. These goals and objectives (see *Figure 5.2, Goals and Objectives*) represent the values and desires expressed by Temple residents to achieve and sustain a high-quality, recognized parks and trails system.

5.2 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT RESULTS

Members of the Temple community participated in multiple public engagement events during this planning process to provide their input on Temple's parks and recreational facilities. (see *Appendix A: Public Engagement*). The direction received from the public regarding their desired park and trails amenities helped form the goals, objectives, and actions represented in this master plan.

The following represents a synthesis of key priorities and preferences of Temple residents:

- Trail connectivity to parks and other destinations;
- Continued funding for the Parks and Recreation Department to provide a superior level of maintenance and quality facilities;
- Preservation of trees and tree cover;
- A desire to fully develop the park land and open space the City already owns;
- More active transportation connectivity (trails, sidewalks, bike facilities), including connections to parks, schools, commercial areas, neighborhoods, and civic facilities; and
- A desire to develop dedicated park land while preserving open space.

These key themes were tested over repeat engagement opportunities and discussions with the Parks Advisory Committee over a six-month period. The results generated the Vision Statement on the following page, and the goals and objectives found in this chapter. Support for Temple's parks is expressed in the following word cloud in Figure 5.1. The words that form the cloud are those most expressed by Temple residents who attended focus group discussions as part of the planning process.

Community support, in the development of this plan is at the root of successful efforts to improve and expand the parks and trail system.

FIGURE 5.1: DESCRIBE TEMPLE PARKS IN ONE WORD



5.3 VISION STATEMENT

This vision statement is intended to embody the community's aspiration for the future of Temple's parks, recreation, trails, and open space system. The vision sets the foundation for the goals, objectives and actions described in this plan, and throughout plan implementation. Based on expressed community preferences, the Temple Parks and Trails Master Plan Vision Statement is as follows:

“THE TEMPLE PARKS AND TRAIL SYSTEM EMPHASIZES RECREATION, SUSTAINABILITY, CONSERVATION, HEALTH AND WELL-BEING AND PROVIDES INCLUSIVE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL.”

SECTION 5.4 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

COMMUNITY VISION	WHAT IS OUR VISION?
GOALS	WHAT DO WE WANT TO ACHIEVE?
OBJECTIVES	WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?
ACTIONS	HOW ARE WE GOING TO DO IT?

The above graphic outlines steps from vision to action and helps determine how Temple Parks and Recreation will achieve its desired goals. The goals and objectives show the needs and priorities of the community and help determine broad based action statements. These goals provide the common direction that a diverse citizenry can maintain throughout the next ten years of implementation, even as actions are prioritized or adjusted as necessary.

The six goals of this plan, found on the following pages, are focused on 1) promoting health and wellness, 2) ensuring adequate funding, 3) planning for quality maintenance, 4) connectivity and trails system, 5) equitable access to parks for all, and 6) a conservation-oriented approach. The corresponding objectives to each goal are strategies used to attain the outcomes envisioned by the goals. These are not policies or actions by themselves, but rather means for achieving the ends. The action plan in Chapters 6 and 7 provide the detailed steps needed to implement and validate the goals and objectives.



FIGURE 5.2 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES



GOAL 1: HEALTH AND WELLNESS

PROMOTE THE HEALTH AND WELLNESS OF THE COMMUNITY BY PROVIDING RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN A GROWING PARK SYSTEM.

OBJECTIVES	
1	Plan for future growth by examining new park land acquisition and extension of the trail network to promote the general health and wellness of the community.
2	Ensure the number of outdoor playing fields and active recreational areas meet the demand of future population growth.
3	Add additional unique or creative recreational elements along trails and within parks that help promote a variety of active play opportunities.



GOAL 2: FUNDING

ALLOCATE ADEQUATE FUNDING TO IMPROVE, ENHANCE AND MAINTAIN HIGH QUALITY AMENITIES IN NEIGHBORHOOD, COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL PARKS.

OBJECTIVES	
1	Use the Parks and Trails Master Plan to help determine the priorities for the next community bond package.
2	Prepare for staffing and maintenance needs to ensure necessary funding for construction and ongoing operations and maintenance for existing and proposed parks.
3	Foster partnerships with community organizations and entities to improve access to recreation facilities and pursue cost-sharing opportunities.

FIGURE 5.2 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES, CONT.



GOAL 3: DURABILITY AND MAINTENANCE

MAINTAIN PARKS, RECREATION AND TRAIL FACILITIES AND AMENITIES THROUGH ADHERENCE TO STANDARDS AND BEST PRACTICES TO ENSURE EASE OF USE, SAFETY, EFFICIENCY, AND DURABILITY.

OBJECTIVES	
1	Pursue a formal Parks and Recreation Department strategic plan for operations and staffing, including the parks standards of operation guide.
2	Ensure safety and education in the parks system through lighting, signage, facility upkeep, and continued evaluation of safety officers or rangers.
3	Utilize a consistent, standard design theme for signage within parks and along trails.



GOAL 4: CONNECTIVITY

PROMOTE COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY BY LINKING PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLISTS TO PARKS AND OTHER KEY DESTINATIONS.

OBJECTIVES	
1	Continue to expand and improve the trail system to provide new access to destinations, including places beyond Temple.
2	Ensure primary citywide trails are adequately sized to account for various ages and activity levels for patrons, particularly amongst cyclists.
3	Create linear parks throughout the community that include amenities (e.g., fitness stations, pet walking areas, picnic areas, etc.) to improve the user experience and usability of trails.

FIGURE 5.2 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES, CONT.



GOAL 5: ACCESS AND EQUITABILITY

ENSURE THAT TEMPLE CITIZENS OF ALL AGES AND ABILITIES HAVE CONVENIENT ACCESS AND EQUITABLE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THE PARKS AND TRAILS SYSTEM.

OBJECTIVES	
1	Provide active recreational programming for seniors, adults, and teens.
2	Determine park improvements based on the demand and level of service assessments established in this master plan, to best ensure park and amenity representation throughout Temple.
3	Plan for growth through periodic reviews of the park land dedication ordinance to ensure adequate parks, trails, and amenities are commensurate with new growth in the community.



GOAL 6: CONSERVATION AND NATURE

ADVANCE TEMPLE’S COMMITMENT TO A HEALTHY AND SUSTAINABLE PARK SYSTEM THROUGH CONSERVATION-FOCUSED DESIGN METHODS AND NATURE-BASED EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.

OBJECTIVES	
1	Continuously explore ways to provide passive and moderately active nature-based play in new and existing parks.
2	Incorporate sustainable maintenance and development practices into new parks and to existing parks, as they are updated.
3	Implement greater water quality management planning through preservation and conservation practices.

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6

PARK RECOMMENDATIONS



6.1 INTRODUCTION

Recommendations formed from the planning process are critical components of this Parks and Trails Master Plan. The planning process provided an understanding of desires and needs for recreational facilities and parks throughout Temple. Community participants indicated how they would like to see Temple's parks and trail system grow and noted which actions they would support.

This chapter uses the results of analyses, a proactive vision statement, a series of goals and associated objectives to produce a series of recommended actions grouped in categorized topics. These categorized topics include:

- *Indoor facilities*
- *Park growth and development*
- *Park design and education*
- *Operations and management*
- *Existing park improvements*
- *Community partnerships*
- *Policies and regulations*

This chapter contains a series of actions to improve Temple's parks system. The goals and objectives in Chapter 5 are used as the basis of these recommendations.












Section 6.2, *Recommended Actions*, is on the following page and is shown in a series of summary tables. These recommendations are by the original categorized topics on a series of summary tables. Where further explanation of the action is necessary, additional information is provided.

Recommendations for Trails and Trail Amenities can be found in Chapter 7, *Trail Recommendations*.

6.2 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

A. INDOOR FACILITIES

The following pages provide recommendations and additional details related to indoor facilities.

ACTION		SUMMARY	GOAL
A.1	Make interior Improvements to the Summit Recreation Center	<i>Initiate recommendations from the Summit Recreation Center Master Plan</i>	  
A.2	Make interior Improvements to the Blackmon Community Center	<i>Multiple improvements to audio/visual equipment and interior spaces are needed at Blackmon Center</i>	 
A.3	Expand Sammons Indoor Pool to include a multi-purpose room	<i>Construct a meeting room / party room to primarily be used as a rental facility and a family restroom for the pool area</i>	 
A.4	Reconstruct the restrooms at Clark Pool and Walker Pool	<i>Providing an adequate amount of modern and comfortable restrooms increases user enjoyment of this facility</i>	 
A.5	Construct a new lifeguard room and consider new amenities at Lions Junction Family Water Park	<i>Construction of a new lifeguard room will improve upon existing facilities and other facilities may be installed for greater user enjoyment</i>	
A.6	Construct equipment storage area at Wilson Park	<i>Provides safe and accessible storage for recreational equipment and addresses other storage needs</i>	

GOALS LEGEND



Health and Wellness



Funding



Durability and Maintenance



Connectivity



Access and Equitability



Conservation and Nature

Additional details related to indoor facilities are as follows:

A.1 Make improvements to the Summit Recreation Center

The Summit Recreation Center is an all-encompassing recreational facility for Temple residents with indoor amenities such as climbing walls, racquetball courts, and workout facilities. It also includes a full complement of outdoor amenities such as basketball and tennis courts. During the plan horizon, improvements identified in the master plan will need to be completed to improve this facility to better serve area residents.

A.2 Make improvements to the Blackmon Community Center

The Blackmon Community Center provides a community facility primarily for community meetings and youth programs. The audio/visual system is a key piece of equipment which needs to be improved for continued service. Interior renovations including new windows and new flooring are needed for improved aesthetics. Additionally, the kitchen needs to be remodeled to improve the food preparation area.

A.3 Expand Sammons Indoor Pool to include multi-purpose room

As identified by the public engagement process, a multi-purpose room is needed at the Sammons Park Indoor Pool. The addition of a multi-purpose room will provide a safe and equitable environment for users to enjoy group gatherings (e.g., birthday parties, social gatherings, etc.). This addition also has the potential to provide an additional revenue stream to the City.

A.4 Reconstruct the restrooms at Clark Pool and Walker Pool

New restroom facilities at Clark Pool will provide users upgraded facilities and an improved experience for pool attendees. This recommendation is based on greater demand for pool use by the community and the need to improve facilities.



A.4 (Continued)

Both Walker and Clark Pools are well-used summertime amenities for the Temple community. Walker Pool, with its deep water area, is very popular. One of the identified deficiencies are the outdated restrooms. During this plan horizon, upgraded restroom facilities will be needed to create an improved user experience for pool attendees. This need stems from a combination of these being well-used facilities and the current condition.

A.5 Construct a new lifeguard room and consider new amenities at Lions Junction Family Water Park

The Lions Junction Family Water Park is another popular summertime popular amenity for the Temple community. One of its current deficiencies is the quality of existing lifeguard facilities. As such, a new room is recommended to provide lifeguards a space dedicated to meet their needs. As the popularity of the Lions Junction Family Water Park continues to grow, additional lifeguards may be needed. Additionally, due to the age of the other in-pool amenities, additional upgrades may be needed.

A.6 Construct equipment storage area at Wilson Park

Wilson Park is a large regional park serving the greater Temple community and beyond. Due to its large size and many programs, it has substantial equipment needs. During this plan horizon, the expansion and creation of new park equipment storage space is a priority. This will allow park staff convenient access to recreational equipment and maintenance tools to better serve park patrons.



B. PARK GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

The following pages provide recommendations and additional details related to park growth and development.

ACTION		SUMMARY	GOAL
B.1	Acquire park land and trails to accommodate new growth per the guidance of this master plan	<i>Increase amount of park land in conjunction with population growth to maintain appropriate level of service</i>	  
B.2	Address park land deficit in areas identified in the master plan's level of service analysis	<i>Address areas lacking park facilities</i>	 
B.3	Explore the feasibility of a revenue-generating indoor athletic complex, potentially at Crossroads Park	<i>Potential creation of an indoor athletic facility to provide a revenue generating regional facility for indoor recreational activities</i>	  
B.4	Develop a concrete / in-ground skate park(s) in appropriate locations to be determined	<i>Planning process participants have expressed a desire for a skate park amenity within the city</i>	  
B.5	Determine locations for off-leash dog parks within natural environments in new parks	<i>Provide a list of locations that may be suitable for potential off-leash dog parks throughout Temple</i>	  
B.6	Develop unprogrammed City-owned land following completion of site master plans for the following parks: Blackland Prairie Park, Kenny Martin Park, and Southwest Community Park	<i>Master planning of undeveloped parkland ensures that the City can be efficient with future development of its park properties</i>	  
B.7	Identify opportunities to develop a contained exercise park with poured-in-place surfacing	<i>Development of a consolidated outdoor exercise area</i>	  
B.8	Develop a tennis center (including two new tennis courts) at Crossroads	<i>Continue to expand amenity offerings at Crossroads Park by providing additional tennis courts</i>	  

GOALS LEGEND



Health and
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Maintenance



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Additional details related to park growth and development are as follows:

B.1 Acquire park land and trails to accomodate new growth per the guidance of this master plan

The population of Temple is projected to increase to 112,056 by 2038. Increases in population also come with increased demand for additional parks and recreation resources. This increase brings about additional need for facilities and oftentimes additional need for new park acreage. In communities with established park systems, like Temple, this increase is often more related to improving park distribution and accessibility rather than simply to add more property. Moving forward, the City will need to identify additional park land and trails concurrent with new growth, and in some cases, redevelopment.

B.2 Address park land deficit in areas identified in the master plan's level of service analysis

As set out in Chapter 4, *Needs Assessment*, a level of service analysis per park type was undertaken. This analysis identified that while Temple had fairly good park distribution, there were areas which could use improved accessibility (e.g., the neighborhoods in the vicinity of Scott Elementary School and near the vicinity of 5th Street and Marlanwood Road). In addition, there will be a future need for new park land in areas not currently developed. See Map 6.1, *Future Park Need Areas*, on the next page. It is important that the City continue to evaluate its parks level of service and acquire new park land when necessary to ensure an adequate level of service continues to be provided to the Temple community. The City should give consideration to potential partnerships with other area organizations (e.g., Temple area ISDs, churches, etc.) when planning and designing new park land.

B.3 Explore the feasibility of a revenue-generating indoor athletic complex, potentially at Crossroads Park

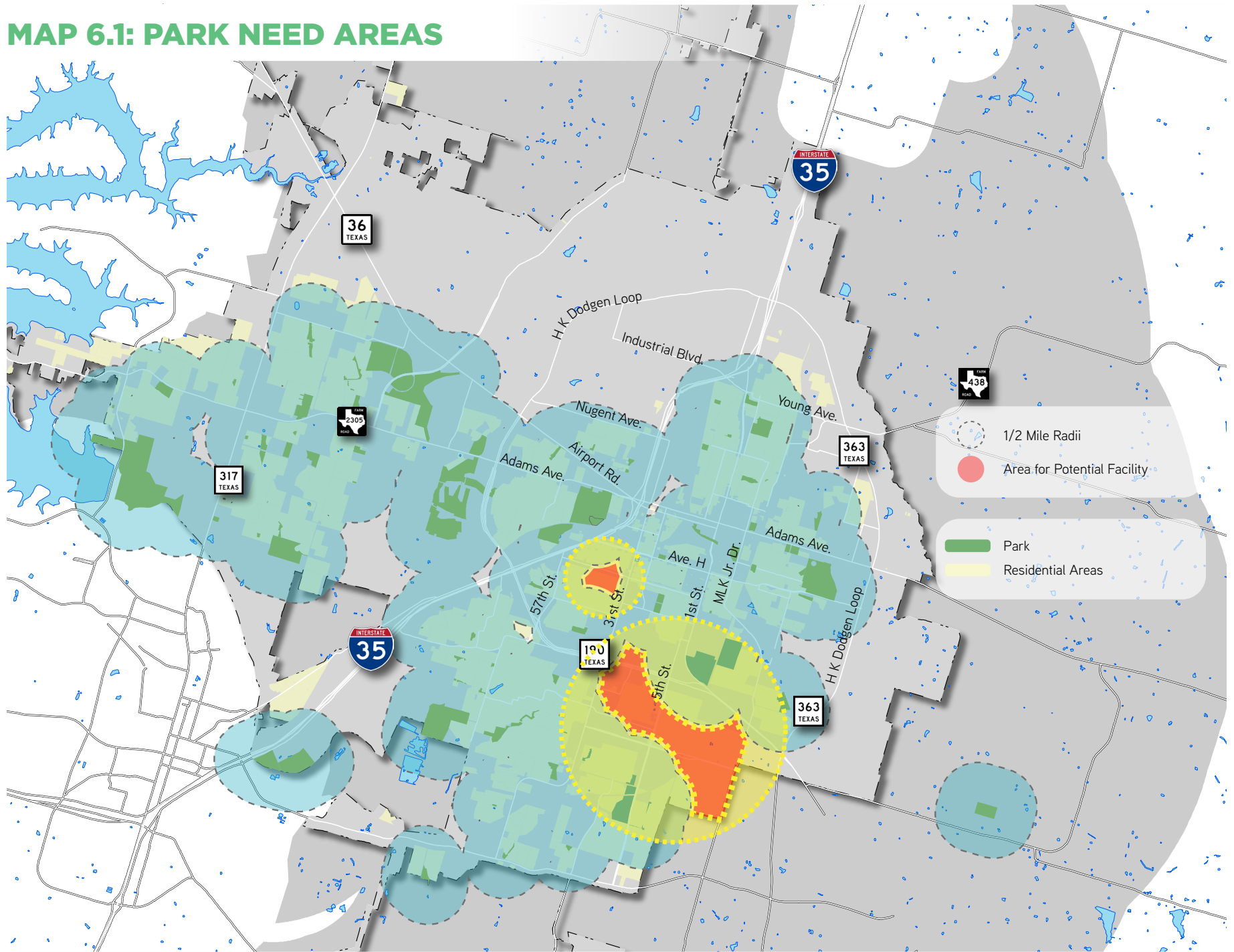
As identified by the public engagement process, there is need for indoor recreational facilities in Temple. These types of facilities are becoming increasingly popular and provide for year-round activity. Many Texas communities are also trying to identify additional ways to generate revenue

to better serve their citizens. Specialty facilities, like an indoor sports complex, provide opportunities to explore the benefit versus cost implications related to making them more revenue neutral, or in some cases, revenue generating. As part of this plan horizon, the City should initiate a feasibility study for an indoor recreational facility at Crossroads Park to further assess the need and opportunities for increased revenue generation.

B.4 Develop a concrete/in-ground skate park(s) in an appropriate location to be determined

Special interest sports like skate parks require unique facilities which sometimes only serve small portions of the City's recreational users. This doesn't mean that these types of amenities are not important. To the contrary, offering targeted amenities for specific user groups diversifies the City's parks and recreation assets and makes for a more well rounded park system. The development of a skate park is one of those types of special interest facilities. Cities like Temple could establish more temporary facilities (e.g., metal skate ramps in an existing park) to create a foundation and determine demand. Once the level of demand can be determined (and sustained), many cities will then establish a more formal, permanent skate park. During this plan horizon, the City should pursue the establishment of a permanent in-ground skate park in a location that maximizes benefit to the greatest number of users. In particular with skate parks, the planning and design of these types of facilities should be done in partnerships with both experts in the field and the City's user groups. Usually, these types of projects start with a community workshop between the City, the designer, and end users.

MAP 6.1: PARK NEED AREAS



B.5 Determine locations for off-leash dog parks within natural environments in new parks

The growth in the number of dog parks is exponentially increasing nationwide. These spaces are more commonly being classified as “third places,” which are social gathering spaces separate from the two usual social environments of home and the workplace. Despite being in an age where everyone is “connected,” we are increasingly becoming more socially isolated. In this regard, many cities are reinvesting in opportunities to facilitate face-to-face connection in these third places, particularly in places like parks, trails, and libraries. Some of the most successful examples of third places are dog parks because they provide dedicated facilities to bring people and their pets together. This type of activity typically occurs every day, or at least every weekend. As identified by the public engagement process, members of the Temple community were looking for additional opportunities for leash-free dog areas. Due to the recent adoption of a new animal ordinance, the City should pursue identifying new potential leash-free areas within the natural spaces of new parks.



















B.6 Develop unprogrammed City-owned land following completion of site master plans for the following parks: Blackland Prairie Park, Kenny Martin Park, and Southwest Community Park

Creation of a conceptual site master plan provides the City with the opportunity to pre-plan the future of a particular park property. These site master plans detail a schematic layout of all planned uses on the property and are oftentimes tied to cost estimates for full development. During this plan horizon, Blackland Prairie Park, Kenny Martin Park, and Southwest Community Park should be conceptually master planned and targeted for partial or full development.



C. PARK DESIGN & EDUCATION

The following pages provide recommendations and additional details related to park design and education.

	ACTION	SUMMARY	GOAL
C.1	Design park landscaping to include educational prairie and pollinator fields in appropriate locations of the park system	<i>Prairie and pollinator fields provide an opportunity for the community to improve the environment and improve park aesthetics</i>	 
C.2	Use conservation-oriented new parks as an education tool for the natural beauty of the prairie and/or prairie meadow plants, for example, Blackland Prairie Park	<i>Blackland Prairie Park has a unique environment that can provide a wonderful education experience for visitors</i>	 
C.3	Provide new wayfinding signage in parks and along trails, where appropriate, consistent with the City's existing standards and design theme	<i>The installation of wayfinding signage to trails, parks, and other recreational facilities assist users with finding their way; improving the experience of the user</i>	  
C.4	Add additional signage along trails and within parks to educate the public on the health benefits of an active lifestyle, being in nature, staying hydrated, applying sunscreen, and other outdoor health tips	<i>Provides additional information for facility users to understand the benefits of physical activity and healthy habits while participating in these activities</i>	  
C.5	Evaluate emergency preparedness throughout the parks and trails system by considering access, egress, emergency response, blue-light beacons, etc.	<i>Identifying locations within the parks and trail system to potentially locate emergency beacons to call emergency response</i>	   
C.6	Review lighting throughout the parks system for security, light-sensitive amenities, and after hour uses	<i>Initiate a study to understand priorities for areas for lighting including potential parks and dog park facilities</i>	 
C.7	Apply environmental design principles as a key component of crime prevention to provide patrons a greater sense of safety and comfort	<i>Incorporating certain design principals as part of new park development or redevelopment can create a safer environment for users</i>	 

GOALS LEGEND



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Additional details related to park design and education are as follows:

C.1 Design park landscaping to include educational prairie and pollinator fields in appropriate locations of the park system

Across Texas and the country, many parks and recreation departments are starting to appreciate the value of using natural and native landscaping to accentuate their traditional areas of soft and hardscaped features. In many instances, these natural areas are used to educate visitors of the area's native ecosystems. For Temple, the City should identify appropriate areas in the park system to include pollinator fields and educational information on prairies. Both historically and today, pollinator fields and prairies provide diverse ecosystems and contribute to environmental improvement.

C.2 Use conservation-oriented new parks as an education tool for the natural beauty of the prairie and/or prairie meadow plants, for example, Blackland Prairie Park

Similar to the benefits identified in *recommendation C.1*, above, many communities are identifying ways to further connect their residents to nature. In some instances, entire parks are designed in a conservation-oriented manner that maximizes educational opportunities and connections to nature. Blackland Prairie Park provides a unique opportunity to design and orient an entire park around the Texas Blackland Prairie eco-region, which only 1% exists in its natural state in Texas. Further, this park provides a unique opportunity to capitalize on existing scenic vistas and for an educational center.

C.3 Design park landscaping to include educational prairie and pollinator fields in appropriate locations of the park system

As the City continues to enhance its parks and trail system, it is important to consider a unique, well-planned signage and wayfinding system. Wayfinding signage helps both residents and visitors navigate the City and becomes increasingly important as the City continues to develop destination sites and amenities like Crossroads Park. Overall, wayfinding signage provides residents and visitors with an improved sense of comfort, safety, and security as they navigate between important City destinations. The signage should be located at key points (e.g., at entry points) and be associated with a series of maps, brochures, and a landing webpage. Trail wayfinding signage should occur at distances no greater than a half mile. All wayfinding signage should be consistent with the City's existing standards and design theme.

C.4 Add additional signage along trail and within parks to educate the public on the health benefits of an active lifestyle, being in nature, staying hydrated, applying sunscreen, and other outdoor health tips

Access to recreation provided by parks and open spaces has positive impacts on the emotional and physical well-being of a community. Physical exercise is associated with increased activity levels and helps to reduce heart disease, diabetes, obesity, and depression. Play in natural environments can also influence beneficial child development. The connection between parks and recreation and physical health is well documented. During this plan horizon, the City should prioritize providing additional signage which educates the public on the health benefits of an active lifestyle. This educational signage could be jointly developed with the Baylor Scott & White Medical Center and other area partners.

C.5 Evaluate emergency preparedness throughout the parks and trails system by considering access, egress, emergency response, blue-light beacons, etc.

Providing users of the parks and trails system an environment in which they feel safe to utilize the facilities is paramount. This is particularly important for less visible areas such as off-street greenway trails. As such, the City should consider emergency management considerations at the same time they are considering operational decisions. These considerations should include identifying appropriate ingress and egress for both system users and emergency responders. It should also consider appropriate areas for blue-light safety beacons and video surveillance, increased “eyes on the ground” (e.g., safety patrols or law enforcement), and other important safety considerations. This should also include identification and training on how PARD staff is expected to respond to various types of emergencies.

C.6 Review lighting throughout the parks system for security, lightsensitive amenities, and after hour uses























While most parks and trails are closed dusk to dawn, there is oftentimes an unmet demand for use before dawn and long after dark. This is particularly important during the temperate Texas winters where it is nice out, but largely dark before most people even leave work. In specific parks and along trails, the City should evaluate and fund improvements to establish adequate lighting in all parking lots, trails, tunnels and underpasses, restrooms, and other areas where users will commonly be after dark.

C.7 Apply environmental design principles as a key component of crime prevention to provide patrons a greater sense of safety and comfort

There is a well-established framework for using environmental design principles to reduce the potential for crime. In this regard, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles use design to increase safety of parks and recreation facilities by increasing natural surveillance of high and low use areas, controlling access, and by improving management and maintenance. During this plan horizon, the City should consider CPTED principles in the development of all new conceptual master site plans and in other project considerations.

D. OPERATIONS & MANAGEMENT

The following pages provide recommendations and additional details related to operations and management. .

ACTION		SUMMARY	GOAL
D.1	Develop a plan for water harvesting, re-use, or recirculation where feasible and manageable	<i>Water re-use has the ability to reduce water usage and reduce water cost for the parks system</i>	  
D.2	Continue to update and improve communications to the public regarding parks, events, and recreation opportunities in coordination with the Marketing and Communications Department	<i>Improving the marketing of park events and facilities can increase the number of park users and event attendance</i>	 
D.3	Ensure an educated and well-trained staff team through attendance at educational seminars, such as training on the creation of natural and/or low maintenance areas that are seen as both attractive and functional	<i>Improving the marketing of park events and facilities can increase the number of park users and event attendance</i>	  
D.4	Identify and take steps to achieve National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) accreditation from the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) in conjunction with the Performance Excellence Department	<i>Accreditation of the Parks and Recreation Department will acknowledge departmental excellence and increase the chances of attaining grants</i>	 
D.5	Evaluate hours of operation for certain parks and facilities to determine if adjustments could be made for flexibility and usability	<i>Park users are concerned they are unable to use park facilities during late fall and winter due to early onset of nightfall</i>	  
D.6	Adopt a departmental strategic plan along with the standards of operation guide that would include evaluation of ongoing and long-term staff needs	<i>A strategic plan would provide a clear role for Park department employees and direction for the department as a whole</i>	  
D.7	Evaluate the use of park rangers, safety patrol and/or police officers, as needed, to ensure the safety of patrons	<i>The visibility of public safety officers or other official city staff within parks and on trails creates a greater sense of safety for facility users</i>	  
D.8	Purchase a shuttle bus for mobile camps	<i>Purchase buses to transport campers to off-site activities</i>	  

GOALS LEGEND



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Additional details related to operations and management are as follows:

D.1 Develop a plan for water harvesting, re-use, or recirculation where feasible and manageable

As identified by the public engagement process, there is an expressed desire for improved water conservation throughout the park system. Golf courses are oftentimes one of the largest water users in a water distribution system. Parks can also be one of the larger water users, particularly for parks with athletic practice and game fields (e.g., football, baseball, softball, soccer). In this regard, it takes an enormous amount of water to keep fields green and healthy. Unfortunately, most parks rely on a potable water source for irrigation purposes. Moving forward, the City should evaluate opportunities to increase treated recycled wastewater for irrigation. This will require working with other City departments to identify the extension of reuse infrastructure (“purple pipe”) and changes to the City’s design and operational manuals.

D.2 Continue to update and improve communications to the public regarding parks, events, and recreation opportunities in coordination with the Marketing and Communications Department

Under the new departmental policy, all City advertising is now facilitated and managed by the Marketing and Communications Department. To advertise recreation opportunities, PARD should continue to coordinate with marketing to ensure timely postings for updates on programs, services, and events. PARD should also work with marketing to proactively evaluate the effectiveness of advertisements and partner to expand outreach and improve overall response rates.

D.3 Ensure an educated and well-trained staff team through attendance at educational seminars, such as training on the creation of natural and/or low maintenance areas that are seen as both attractive and functional

The staff of the Parks and Recreation Department provides excellent service to the Temple community. This is accomplished through a commitment to quality and continued training and education. All PARD staff should be required to maintain applicable state of Texas licenses and specialized park maintenance personnel should have additional training on topics such as native or natural landscaping, low impact development, and incorporate more preventative maintenance practices that do not use fertilizers and pesticides. Ensuring PARD staff are provided adequate training and educational opportunities will furnish continued excellence within the park system through increased knowledge of new trends and best practices.

D.4 Identify and take steps to achieve National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) accreditation from the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) in conjunction with the Performance Excellence Department

According to their website, the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) provides “quality assurance and quality improvement of accredited park and recreation agencies throughout the United States by providing agencies with a management system of best practices.” They are the only national accreditation group for park and recreation agencies and provide a valuable measure of an agency’s overall quality of operation, management, and service to the community. Having a parks master plan is one of the required elements of the accreditation process and plans must include the following items:

- *Agency mission and objectives*
- *Recreation and leisure trends analysis*
- *Needs assessment*
- *Community inventory*
- *Level of service standards*

The Temple PARD strives to provide a great experience for all users. As set out on their website, achieving CAPRA accreditation is the best way to demonstrate that your agency and your staff provide your community with the highest level of service. Currently, there are only two departments in Central Texas that are CAPRA accredited: Austin and Round Rock. Setting the goal of becoming an accredited parks department will benefit the City by achieving this standard of excellence and potentially improving the department's chance of receiving grants.

D.5 Evaluate hours of operation for certain parks and facilities to determine if adjustments could be made for flexibility and usability

As identified by the public engagement process, there was an expressed need for longer hours at certain parks as many patrons are unable to enjoy recreational pursuits during the work week due to other obligations during the day. Oftentimes, longer hours is simply hindered because of a lack of staffing to open and close park gates. In these instances, many park systems have added such things as automated opening and closing gates. Oso Bay Park in Corpus Christi and Cullinan Park in Sugar Land are good examples of this type automated access control extending hours of operations without disruptions to staffing.

D.6 Adopt a departmental strategic plan along with the standards of operation guide that would include evaluation of ongoing and longterm staff needs

While this plan identifies the community's vision and action agenda for moving forward, a strategic plan directs PARD staff on how they should operate their department and sets a clear set of goals for the future of the organization and staff.

D.7 Evaluate the use of park rangers, safety patrol and/or police officers, as needed, to ensure the safety of patrons

























Ensuring the safety of visitors to the park system is an essential element of operating a park and recreation system. Accordingly, PARD should conduct a study to evaluate appropriate solutions for improving park safety (or the perception of park safety) for patrons. This should include an evaluation of the benefits and cons for using park rangers, police officers, and park ambassadors to provide coverage.

D.8 Purchase a shuttle bus for mobile camps

Safe transportation as part of parks and recreation activities is an essential component of a quality park system. During this plan horizon, PARD should evaluate the feasibility of adding a new shuttle bus for mobile camp activities.

E. EXISTING PARK IMPROVEMENTS

The following pages provide recommendations and additional details related to existing parks improvements.

ACTION		SUMMARY	GOAL
E.1	Replace scoreboards for athletic facilities throughout the park system	<i>Providing operating scoreboards at Temple athletic facilities is essential for a quality experience. The replacement of these scoreboards allows for continued operation of these facilities</i>	  
E.2	Improve facilities and amenities at Lions Park	<i>Improvements to this facility will include curbing, additional parking and parking improvements, trail improvements, field grading, and the addition of lighting to playgrounds and the dog park</i>	  
E.3	Improve facilities and amenities at Woodbridge Park	<i>Park amenities and/or upgrades to existing amenities to be added or improved upon after up-coming park master plan updates</i>	  
E.4	Improve facilities and amenities at Miller Park	<i>Improvements will include the installation of a cover for basketball court(s), improved parking, irrigation to the north of the park, and fencing along First Street</i>	  
E.5	Improve facilities and amenities at Gober Park	<i>Improvements needed include the replacement of playground equipment and the marquee sign. An addition will be the installation of a covered pavilion with tables</i>	  
E.6	Improve facilities and amenities at Ferguson Park	<i>Improvements will include the installation of a canopy over the playground, drainage improvements to the athletic field, a new pavilion, and improvements to the parking area u-turn</i>	  
E.7	Improve facilities and amenities at Von Rosenberg Park	<i>Amenities are to be added to link this park to the Hog Pen Trail</i>	  
E.8	Improve facilities and amenities at Scott and White Park	<i>Improvements include the installation of a pavilion, playground with shade, enhancements to the football field and parking, and a connection to Friars Creek Trail</i>	  

GOALS LEGEND



Health and
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E. EXISTING PARK IMPROVEMENTS

The following provide recommendations additional details related to existing park improvements.

	ACTION	SUMMARY	GOAL
E.9	Improve facilities and amenities at West Temple Park	<i>Improvements needed for West Temple Park include the parking and trails</i>	  
E.10	Improve facilities and amenities at Waterford Par	<i>Improvements needed include a bridge over the drainage channel, installation of a shade cover over the playground, trail lighting, and a dog park</i>	  
E.11	Develop FreedomPark per an updated Master Plan	<i>Use the Freedom Park Master Plan updates to develop this park</i>	  
E.12	Improve facilities and amenities at Conner Park	<i>Improvements to restrooms and the construction of a pavilion and shade cover for the playground are needed for Conner Park</i>	  
E.13	Improve lighting and dog parks throughout the parks system	<i>Improvements to lighting and dog parks are needed throughout the parks system</i>	  
E.14	Replace shade canopy at athletic fields	<i>Replacement of the canopies at athletic fields are needed to provide shade for spectators</i>	  
E.15	Replace or upgrade playground equipment at the following parks: Draughon, West Temple, Gober, Hodge, Waterford, Silverstone, Nettles, Kiwanis, Baker, Walker	<i>Providing safe and upgraded playground equipment is essential to the well-being of younger users</i>	  

E. EXISTING PARK IMPROVEMENTS

The following pages provide recommendations and additional details related to existing parks improvements.

ACTION		SUMMARY	GOAL
E.17	Construct new restrooms at Crossroads Park	Providing an adequate number of restrooms allows users the opportunity to enjoy their time at this facility	  
E.18	Construct new restrooms along the Pepper Creek Trail	Providing an adequate amount of restrooms allow users the opportunity to enjoy their time at this facility	  
E.19	Improve facilities at the Harold P. Rose Tennis Center	Rebuilding the tennis courts provides users a better experience to include laser grading of courts	  
E.20	Improve facilities at Jackson Park	Improvements include the replacement of the pavilion, enhancements to the internal park trail, and a new restroom for users	  
E.23	Implement the next phase of recommendations of the Bend O' the River Park Master Plan	Continue to implement the recommendations of the Reuben D. Talasek Bend O' River Park	  
E.24	Playground, shade structure and exercise facilities at Silverstone Park	Providing safe and upgraded playground equipment is essential to the well-being of younger users and a shade structure to protect from the sun	  
E.25	Improve facilities at Baker Field, including field and dugout improvements	The placement of a bathroom at Mean Joe Green Field will provide easier access at the facility for users	  
E.26	Add a pavilion and playground at Temple South Rotary Park	Provide a pavilion and a new playground for the park	  
E.27	Improve Sammons Golf Course	Initiate multiple improvements to the Sammons Golf Course to improve the property's drainage system, course improvements, and other site improvements such as the clubhouse	  

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Additional details related to existing park improvements are as follows:

Improvements to existing Temple parks represents the most extensive group of recommended actions in this plan, including small and large improvements based on a variety of sources and inputs. Some of these actions are carryovers from the previous planning efforts, some a result of direct public input for their local parks or desired outdoor activities. Some are deferred maintenance projects that are due for replacement or refurbishment. Many of the recommendations of this plan focus on the planning that is needed to accommodate future growth and population. It is these current parks that are the jewels of today's system, the parks that today's residents use and love. This section focuses on those recommendations. Below are some of the highlights:













- *Replacement of scoreboards at all athletic facilities are needed in order to ensure continued, uninterrupted operation with heavy sports usage. The facilities these scoreboards serve are depended upon to facilitate organized team or individual sports within certain venues.*
- *Improvements to amenities throughout parks and recreational facilities are needed in order to repair or replace certain items for facility maintenance. Some are to improve user experience of existing amenities, such as shade canopies over playgrounds. Many of the recommendations are not flashy but are the little details that make parks comfortable, such as benches, lighting, restrooms or pavilions.*
- *Park-specific master plans that have been designed and carried out over the years in Temple have helped lead to many great parks and amenities. Many of these plans have phases yet to be implemented, and are listed here to identify funding sources and take that next step towards new, quality improvements.*

The existing park improvements recommendations are varied and critical for Temple to continue to have safe, durable and enjoyable parks in furtherance of this plan's goals and objectives. As the amount of amenities expand in parks, particularly community and regional parks, more restrooms, parking and lighting will be needed and similar improvements are among those listed in this section.



F. COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The following provide recommendations and additional details related to community partnerships. Potential cost stated below represents an estimated cost of stated recommendation.

ACTION		SUMMARY	GOAL
F.1	Partner with local government entities to establish joint-use facilities on existing and future properties	<i>There are numerous public and semi-public entities that are open to the right opportunities to partner on joint-use facilities and uses</i>	   
F.2	Foster community funding opportunities to provide playground and park amenities	<i>Discussions with community groups may be able to assist the Parks and Recreation Department with donations and sponsorships as an additional revenue source</i>	  
F.3	Continue to build and collaborate with partnership groups for clean ups, tree plantings, and maintenance	<i>The Parks and Recreation Department should continue to work with volunteers to assist with park maintenance and new programs that enhance current and future parks</i>	   
F.4	Partner with Baylor Scott and White and other medical and educational partners to develop a Wellness Program	<i>Initiate a partnership with medical facilities to assist with the development and facilitation of a wellness program for the community</i>	 

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Additional details related to community partnerships are as follows:

F.1 Partner with local government entities to establish joint-use facilities on existing and future properties

The City of Temple has engaged local government entities such as local school districts, non-profit organizations, churches, and various other organizations during this master planning process to ensure collaboration and to seek potential partnerships. These partnerships can provide mutual benefits to both groups, such as cost-sharing on playgrounds, pavilions, parking lots, and even interior facilities in some circumstances.

Often, citizens see community spaces as public whether they are operated and maintained by the City or other entities. Finding joint-use solutions to citizen-desired facilities and amenities that share tax-payer funds can reduce the financial burden of construction and maintenance while delivering exceptional amenities to the public.

F.2 Foster community funding opportunities to provide playground and park amenities

The Temple community has multiple groups which can work with the Parks and Recreation Department to either assist with fundraising or construct amenities for the parks system. These sources can be local non-profits, individual donations, or even local businesses looking to give back to the community. Temple should consider all sources and sponsorships when it comes to new facilities and partnership opportunities.

F.3 Continue to build and collaborate with partnership groups for clean ups, tree plantings, and maintenance


Temple currently enjoys relationships with community groups such as Adopt-a-Park that facilitate parks clean-ups, enhancements, and other volunteer efforts. As the system grows and more user groups are needed, Temple should explore additional ways to get individuals and groups involved in the care of the public parks and trails. Particularly as citywide greenway trails are developed along waterways and former railways, there will be significant maintenance needed to tame vegetation. New tree plantings could be furthered to meet a citizen desire for additional tree canopy throughout the parks and trails system.

F.4 Partner with Baylor Scott and White and other medical and educational partners to develop a Wellness Program

The Parks and Recreation Department should consider a partnership opportunity with Baylor Scott and White or other medical and educational partners to assist with the development of a Wellness Program. Such a program could be implemented in a variety of ways and could utilize community and recreation centers to provide access for local residents. Temple's community has historically prided itself on health and wellness efforts, and its longstanding relationship with Baylor Scott and White will continue to yield positive health opportunities for those who desire to participate.

G. POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

The following provide recommendations and additional details related to policies and regulations.

ACTION		SUMMARY	GOAL
G.1	Use this master plan to assess whether updates and refinements to the park land dedication ordinance are needed	<i>Determine if the current park land dedication ordinance is still serving its purpose by providing sufficient parkland or funding to create park space. Ensure that the land dedication, improvements, fees, and private parks are being distributed appropriately across the city and amongst park classifications</i>	

GOALS LEGEND



Health and Wellness



Funding



Durability and Maintenance



Connectivity



Access and Equitability



Conservation and Nature

Additional details related to policies and regulations are as follows:

G.1 Use this master plan to assess whether updates and refinements to the parkland dedication ordinance are needed to ensure that land, improvements, fees-in-lieu, and private parks are being distributed appropriately across the city and amongst park classifications

The current parkland dedication ordinance was reviewed during this master plan process, a review of comparable cities and high-level recommendations, provided on the following pages. As with other development requirements, the City of Temple should stay up-to-date on its parkland dedication ordinance to ensure that the creation of parks are concurrent with development patterns. The tools to achieve this assurance are varied and each municipality determines the preferred approach based on many factors. Working closely with key stakeholders to discuss the tools and available methods is likely to provide a collaborative working environment and achieve optimal results.

SECTION 6.3 PARKLAND DEDICATION ORDINANCE ASSESSMENT

The City of Temple's parkland dedication ordinance has been amended several times over the years, yet has not gone through an overhaul in quite some time. In the past 10-15 years, most of the new development in Temple has been built with private/HOA parks even though the current ordinance does not layout standards or an approval process for private parks. Parkland dedication is an important component of the subdivision process and practice should be reflective of the ordinance.

Many cities are currently evaluating their own standards and practices for parkland dedication to determine if their fees are appropriate, the land and improvements they are receiving are appropriate, and whether public vs. private ownership and maintenance provides the best product for their citizens. It is a complicated process, as the one-size-fits-all approach often lacks flexibility and context, especially with changing markets and resident preferences.

In high-growth times with increasing land values, many cities fall behind matching their fees to land costs and often see themselves unable to purchase adequate parkland in the desired location with the fee-in-lieu amounts provided. Many cities find that parkland generated with new residential growth becomes costly to develop and maintain, and delivery of amenities often takes time. Solutions to that have been to turn to private parks, improvement requirements tied to subdivision approvals, or development fees.

Recommendations for Temple's ordinance are detailed in the following passages. It is highly recommended that the City pursue some refinements to the ordinance in a process that includes discussion with stakeholders including the development community and residents. As with any requirement, the methods and approach should recognize local context and market realities. This master plan should form the basis for land needs and a community consensus should emerge as to the development community's responsibility regarding costs to develop parks.

- Establish as a requirement in the subdivision ordinance that trails approved in this master plan are to be installed as public infrastructure in the development process. Continue to consider City funds to oversize certain trails above an established baseline developer proportional responsibility.
- Create a defined private/HOA park approval process, including whether 100% private park credit is the desired approach or whether a combination of private park improvements, trails, and fees for Community and Regional Parks should be considered.
- Create a dedication zone map with large-area quadrants for fees-in-lieu of land dedication so that the City can determine where improvement needs exist in a broader variety of parks. Consider a Regional Park or a Community Park improvement fee as a small percentage carve-out of the parkland requirement so that improvements can be made at larger park facilities that house broader and more desirous community amenities.
- Revise the section of the ordinance that requires park fees to be expended within two years. This is too short a time period to assess needs, allocate the expenditures through a process, bid, and complete construction. Expand this to five years for standard fees-in-lieu and ten years for a potential fee earmarked towards Community or Regional Parks.
- Consider a formula-based assessment for the cost of improving parks and create a new park development fee to ensure adequate facilities. This fee should be reflective of the actual cost of park development and a commensurate constructed park should be allowed in the alternative if meeting City standards. Whether neighborhood parks are allowed as private or public in the future, development fees need to be evaluated so that the amenities the community expressed as desired in this plan can be constructed.

FIGURE 6.1, PARKLAND DEDICATION ORDINANCE COMPARISONS

To understand at a high level how cities of comparable size to Temple within 90 miles of the City limits are currently applying in their communities, *Figure 6.1* provides a comparison of land dedication requirements, fees-in-lieu of land, and development fees, where applicable.

CITY	PARKLAND DEDICATION	FEE IN LIEU OF LAND	PARK DEVELOPMENT FEE	FEE ALLOCATION TIMEFRAME
TEMPLE	1 ACRE PER 133 DWELLING UNITS	\$225 PER DWELLING UNIT	N/A	
Bryan	1 acre per 74 dwelling units(single family) 1 acre per 90 dwelling units(multi-family)	\$162 per dwelling unit(single family) \$133 per dwelling unit (multi-family)	\$358 per dwelling unit (single family) \$292 per dwelling unit (multi-family)	7 years
College Station	1 acre per 117 dwelling units (single family) 1 acre per 128 dwelling units (multi-family)	\$274 per dwelling unit (single family) for Neighborhood Parks + \$250 per dwelling unit (single family) for Community Parks	\$362 per dwelling unit for Neighborhood Parks + \$375 per dwelling unit for Community Parks (applies to both single family and multi-family)	10 years
Georgetown	1 acre per 80 dwelling units (single family) 1 acre per 110 dwelling units (multi-family)	\$650 per dwelling unit(single family) \$475 per dwelling unit (multi-family)	\$1000 per dwelling unit (single family) + \$750 per dwelling unit (multi-family)	10 years
New Braunfels	1 acre per 168 dwelling units	\$208 per dwelling unit	Year 1 at 75% (\$1,528) Year 2 at 85% (\$1,732) Year 3 at 100% (\$2,038)	7 years
Waco	Open space up to 5% of subdivision land area if accepted by City Council	N/A	N/A	N/A

A large, bold, green number 7 is positioned on the left side of the image, partially overlapping a green rectangular box. The background of the entire image is a photograph of a park with a winding concrete path, trees, and a grassy field under a blue sky with clouds.

7

TRAIL RECOMMENDATIONS



7.1 INTRODUCTION

Trails are having continued growth in popularity throughout the country and are increasingly an implementation goal for community planning efforts. Trails improve the quality of life of users and provide alternative commuting options. Additionally, trails facilitate potential public and private development, which benefit from proximity and access to the trails.

There are approximately 28 miles of existing trails within the city limits, which are used by residents for exercise and access between different destinations. During the public engagement process for this plan, residents expressed desire to expand the Temple trails system.

This chapter provides the City of Temple an update to the 2010 Citywide Trails Master Plan. The updated plan envisions a trail system that will allow residents to connect at a local and regional level, enjoy the outdoors, and enhance their health and well-being.

Chapter 7 includes recommendations for trail classifications, trail design and dimensions, trail amenities, etc. If implemented, this could create a well-connected and enjoyable user experience for both recreational use and as a mode of transportation. The intent of the plan is to provide guidance for public entities and private developers to collaboratively build the trail network of the future.

WHY PLAN FOR TRAILS IN TEMPLE?

As desired by the residents of Temple, trails should be planned and constructed for the benefits of today's and tomorrow's population. Trails have the following benefits:

- Trails can support and assist the facilitation of economic development through the creation of green ways which can be used to revitalize existing areas, improve neighborhoods, provide access to local businesses and restaurants and provide tourism opportunities;
- Trails encourage a healthy lifestyle by creating opportunities to participate in exercise whether by walking, running, and biking;
- Trails can offer a variety of options for recreation for multiple age groups;
- Trails can provide pedestrian access to Lake Belton and other regional parks;
- Trails help preserve and enhance the natural beauty of an area and can beautify street corridors;
- Trails can improve the transportation system by providing alternative ways to get to important destinations and provide regional connections.

7.2 CITYWIDE TRAILS MASTER PLAN

The new citywide trails master plan is a connected system of various types of trails that provide access and user choice throughout the community. The citywide plan focuses beyond parkland and promotes connectivity for residents to community destinations along corridors designed to promote differing experiences. During this planning process, the community expressed a strong desire for a Temple trail system that provides for transportation, recreation, and a connection to nature.

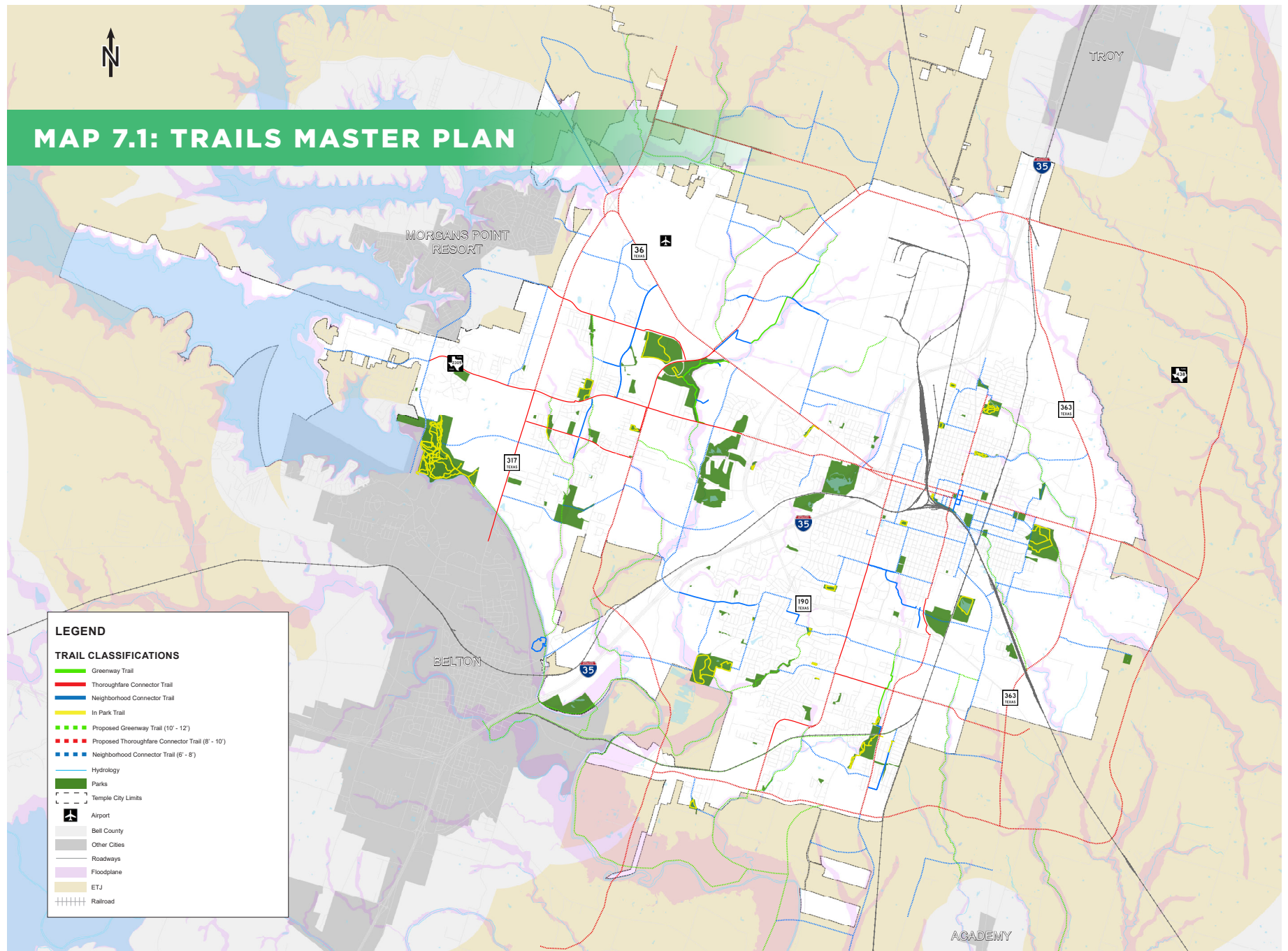
The locations and linkages of the trails plan are presented as long-term and provide connections to all quadrants of the community. If constructed, Temple will have a first-rate trails system for the community to enjoy. This plan will not be built overnight, however, and will take attention and discretion to ensure that each trail link is considered within the context of land ownership, timing, and cost of construction. This document provides a guide for decision-makers to consider the optimal long-term outcomes during the development process, consideration of trail corridor acquisition, and street design.

This trails plan includes three primary city-wide trail types, including recommendations for trail design (size and material), in addition to typical amenities that enhance the trail experience. These trail classifications provide for a functional hierarchy for community-wide connections. The trail classifications are as follows:

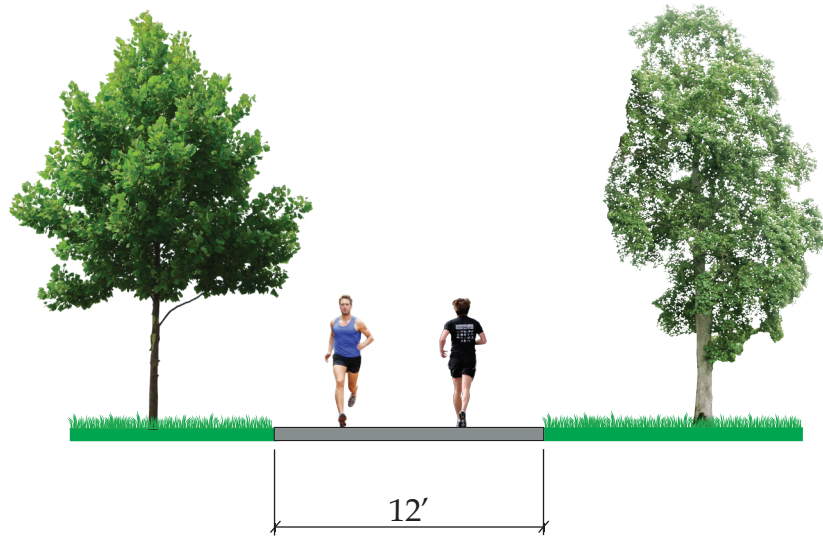
- **Greenway Trails** - The Greenway Trails are intended for off-street greenways, often located in linear parks near neighborhoods. Greenways are predominantly recreational-based trails, offering larger, multi-use facilities with limited traffic conflict points. Greenway trails are often regional in nature and may connect parks with neighborhoods and major streets, often following floodplains and other greenways throughout the community. Greenways in this context, while nature-based, are not intended to include single-track (narrow width, one directional) nature trails.
- **Thoroughfare Connectors** - These trails are intended as active transportation corridors to connect people from point A to point B, including everyday usage and commercial access. These trails are street corridor based and are located on one side or both sides of a street, depending on conditions. These corridors connect community destinations, employment, shopping and neighborhoods on select major corridors throughout the community.
- **Neighborhood Connectors** - These trails offer both on-street and off-street trail connections, primarily serving neighborhoods. These avenues provide safe access to schools, neighborhood parks and connect locally to thoroughfare trails and greenway trails. Neighborhood Connectors are likely used most by pedestrians but can accommodate multi-use where feasible.

FIGURE 7.1: RECOMMENDED TRAIL DESIGN STANDARDS

TRAIL CLASSIFICATION	WIDTH	PREFERRED SURFACE MATERIAL	MINIMUM CORRIDOR WIDTH	POTENTIAL AMENITIES
Greenway Trails	10' - 12' (12' preferred)	Concrete	25'	Parking, signage, lighting, water fountains, benches
Thoroughfare Connections	8' - 10' (10' preferred)	Concrete	15'	Trees, benches, lighting
Neighborhood Connectors	6' - 10' (8' preferred)	Concrete	N/A	Wayfinding signage, crosswalks, lighting



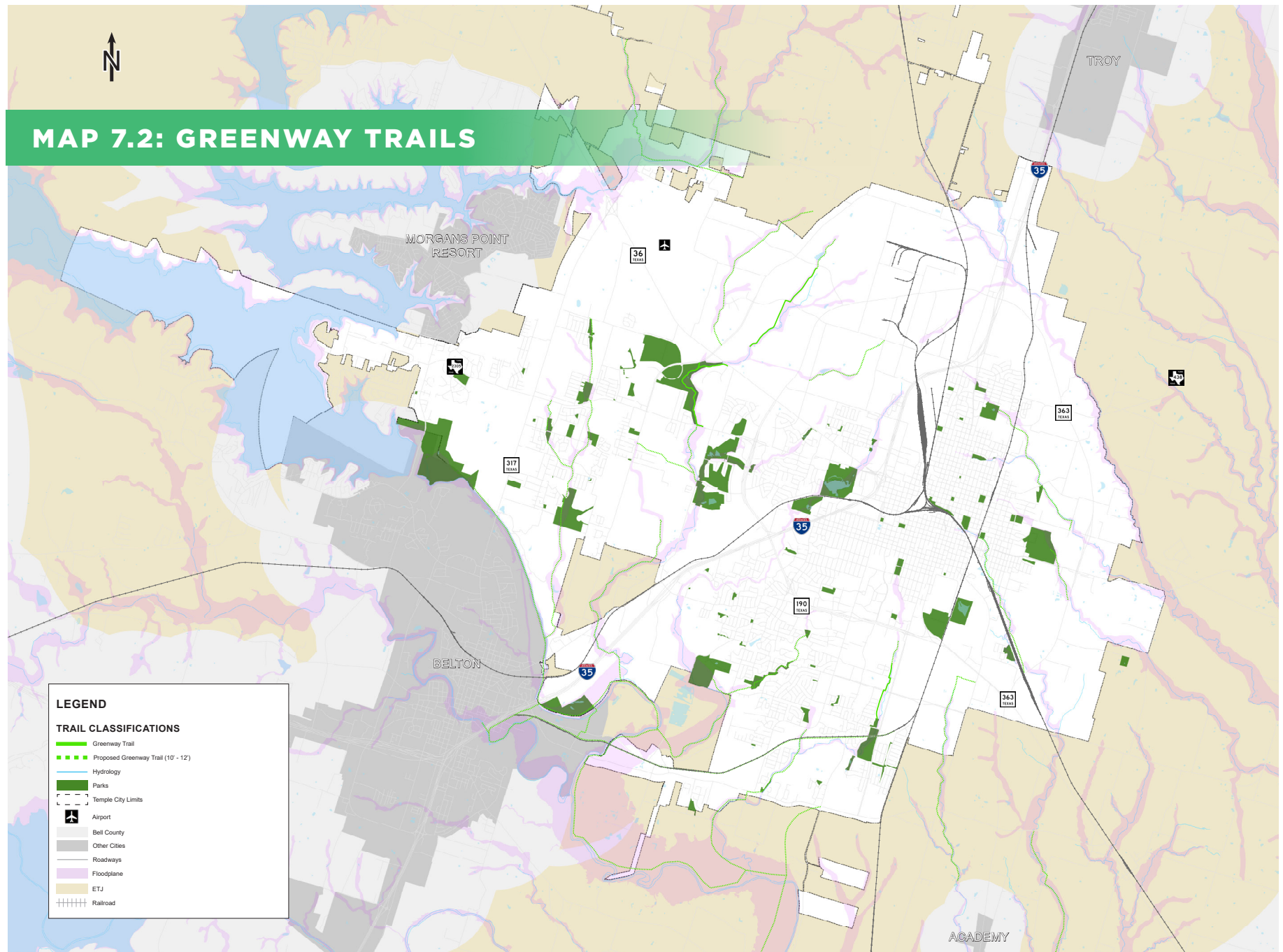
7.3. GREENWAY TRAILS



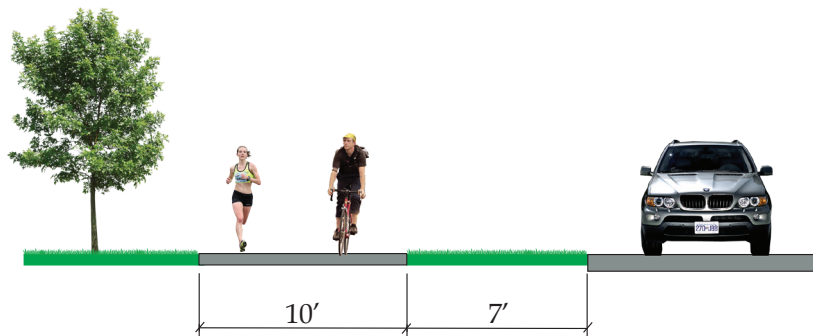
Greenway Trails offer pathways of escape from noise, traffic, and urban conflicts. As a result, greater immersion into nature can be achieved via greenways for all users. Off-street and greenway trails are opportunities to promote outdoor recreation, offer branch connections between residential areas and urban districts, and beautify strips of vacant public land. These facilities should be designated for ample width, in order to allow for multiple users to safely use the path at one time.

Greenway Trails can accommodate a heavy usage pattern with multiple user types. Typically, a greenway trail is 10 to 12 feet with a preferred standard of 12, which should be used if connecting multiple neighborhoods and trail traffic. For long-term durability, concrete is preferred, yet interim trail surface types may be considered depending on topography, flood potential, and location.





7.4. THOROUGHFARE CONNECTOR TRAILS

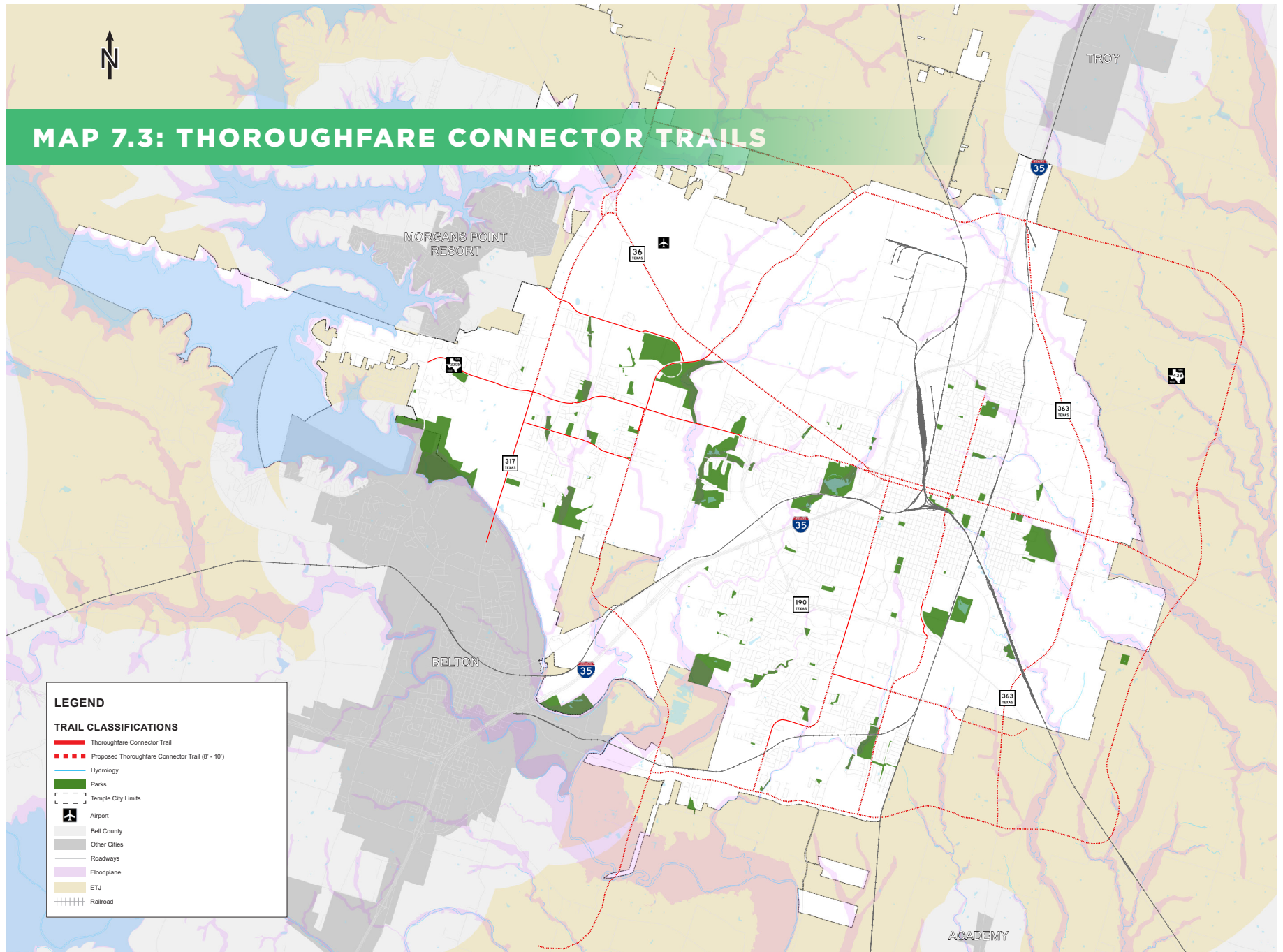


Thoroughfare Connector Trails serve as multi-modal and non-motorized pathways where roadways already deliver connections. Shared-use side-paths achieve their purpose when designed for multiple uses such as recreation, transportation, connection, or leisure. Separation from the roadway and ample width for multiple users, enables the side-path trail to operate optimally in a citywide system.

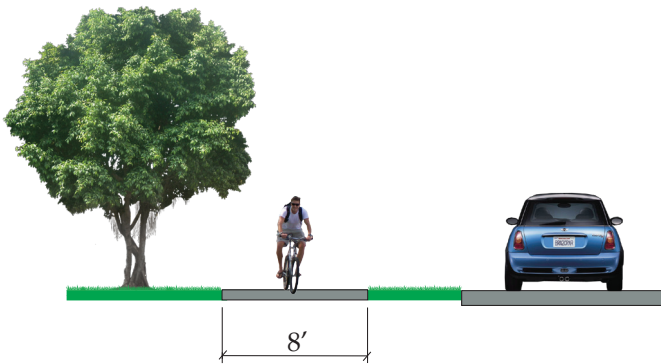
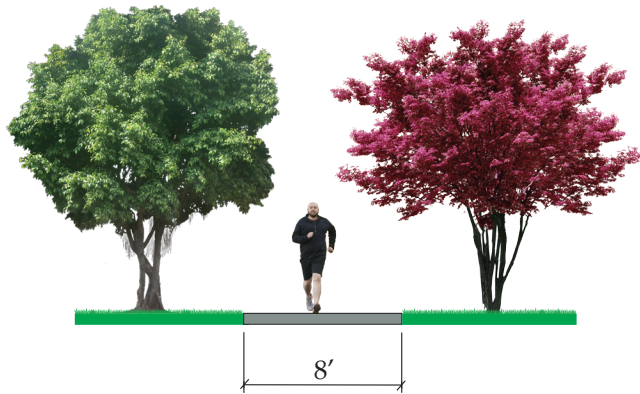
These trails should ideally lead to community destinations or other trail types such as greenways or neighborhood connection trails. These trails can be constructed as development occurs adjacent to major streets, either within the right-of-way or in an easement where buffers from the road may be possible. Shared-use side-paths can also be substituted for a standard sidewalk.

Thoroughfare Connector Trails are typically retrofitted onto major streets or constructed with new streets. They may be developer funded if required along perimeter streets, but are often designed and funded by the City or TxDOT. When planned or desired on a street that is not Temple's jurisdiction, effort should be made to work with the entity to accommodate these facilities into the design.





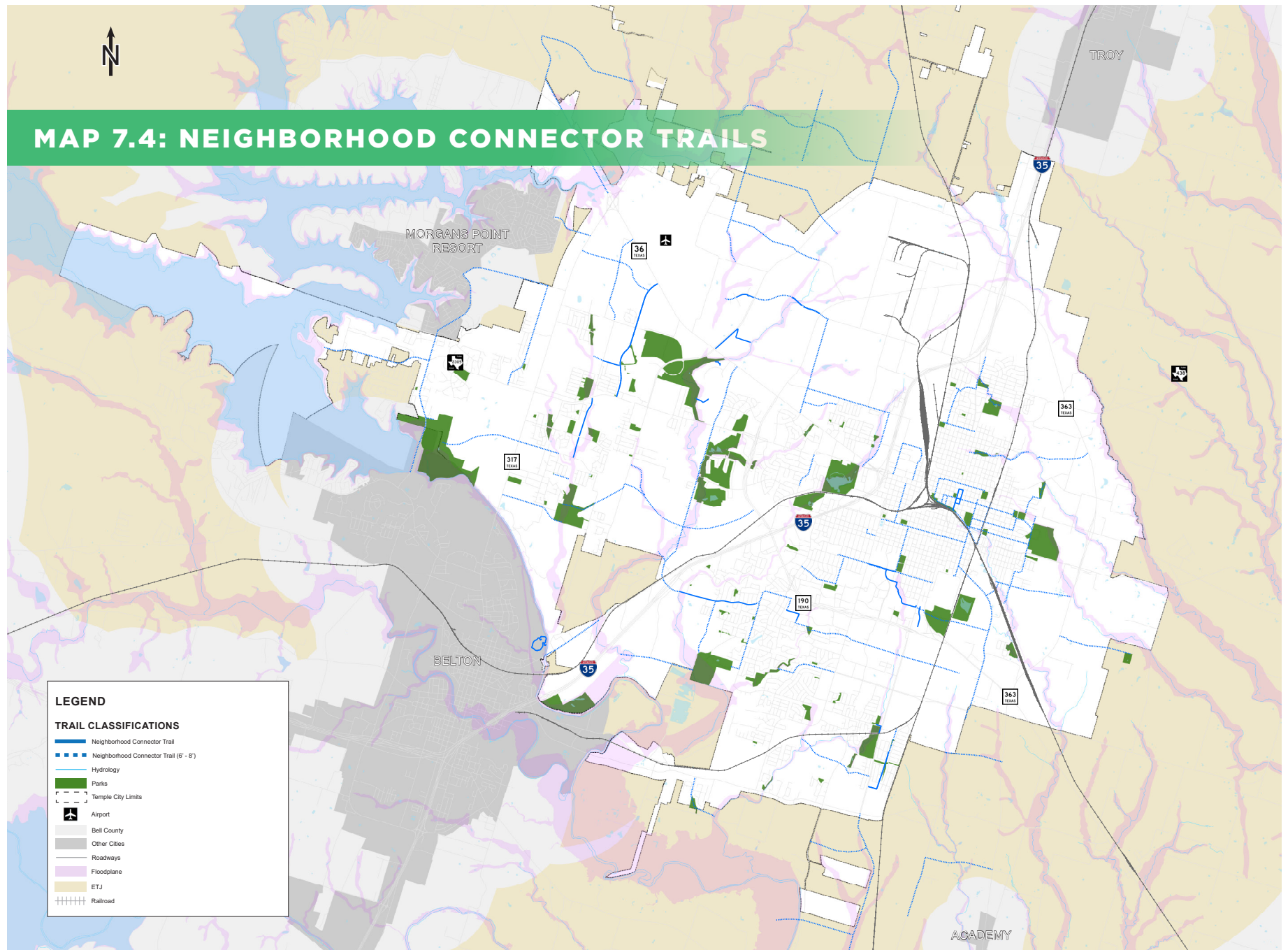
7.5. NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTOR TRAILS



Neighborhood Connector trails are most often located in residential areas. These types of trails are constructed within a neighborhood as means for nearby residents to engage in nearby parks and open space activity, as well as neighborhood services such as restaurants, retail/office space and schools. Neighborhood trails can be seen within and surrounding subdivisions, residential drainage easements, and along collector streets.

These trails are often oversized sidewalks and may also be off-street neighborhood greenways. They are intended for daily usage and may vary in size and materials.





7.6 OTHER SYSTEM CONNECTIONS

IN-PARK TRAILS

In-park trails provide opportunities for walking and exercising inside of a park. Along these types of trails typically are park amenities such as playgrounds, benches, and picnic tables. These trails are confined to the park itself and are frequently designed in a looped system for users. An in-park trail can be a key connector for pedestrians and bicyclists commuting through the trails network.

SIDEWALKS

Sidewalks are important pedestrian facilities that can connect people to parks, trails, and other transportation options. Sidewalks are located adjacent to streets and are not part of the broader trail planning efforts; however, sidewalks do serve as critical local linkages. Sidewalks play an important role in transportation, as they provide safety to both cars and pedestrians by minimizing their interaction. Especially in older areas of town, sidewalks may be non-existent and existing sidewalks may be in need of attention due to disrepair. Temple may want to consider a sidewalk study to determine where additional sidewalk improvements can be made to connect to the trail system.

BIKE LANES

Bike lanes are a great option for cyclists to provide routes to neighborhoods, employment, and public facilities, making riding a bike to work, to transit stops, or for recreation a viable alternative to driving. Having these types of connectors creates less congestion on roads and promotes public health. Bike lanes create safer sidewalk and street environments, by getting the bicyclists off of sidewalks and into a dedicated space. While not depicted in the trails master plan, bike lanes can sometimes be added to streets at minimal costs, and can augment sidewalks where trails are not feasible.



7.7 TRAIL FEATURES AND AMENITIES

For a local or regional trail system, the addition of trail amenities improves the user experience. The list below contains trail amenities that could be added to the trails in Temple, both in-park and citywide trails.

Bike racks: Bike racks let trail users secure their bicycles if they want to stop along the trail, especially at parks and additional attractive locations.

Directional signage/s/kiosks: To help trail users on the trail, directional signage, maps and/or kiosks, which include key trail information could be used.

Drinking fountains: Because of the hot temperatures, the majority of the year in Texas, the addition of water stations along a trail is important to keep trail users and pets hydrated.

Fitness stations: Fitness stations provide unique opportunities for trail users to exercise on equipment while they are using the trail.

Informational signage: Informal signage could contain historic and environmental facts or information on indigenous landscapes and wildlife along the trail.

Lighting: If trails are open to users during dark hours, lighting is recommended to keep trail users safe.

Mile markers: A good way for users who need emergency assistance to determine their location is through the use of mile markers along the trail. Mile markers are also important to hikers and joggers that track their miles manually.

Multi-use trail striping: A safe way to delineate trail user types is through the use of trail striping.

Parking: It is important to provide trail-head parking at trail points for residents and visitors to Temple who need to drive to access the trail. Other amenities may include, pet waste receptacles, rest areas, shade structures and bike repair stations.



7.8 RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

The recommendations for trails and trail amenities, found on the following page, were derived from the findings of the needs assessment analysis and public input. These recommendations contain direction for both citywide trail segments and in-park trail facilities, both of which augment the system and user experience. The goals and objectives established in Chapter 5, are used as the basis for these recommendations.

HOW WILL THE TRAILS MASTER PLAN BE USED?

The Trails Master Plan will be used as an infrastructure planning guide for new developments and capital improvement projects in the coming years. As stated previously, trails systems do not form overnight, but rather are a collaborative effort that is constructed one link at a time and may seem disjointed as it builds out. However, much like a street system that is connected and integrated over time, implementation of the trails system will take patience, persistence, flexibility, and acceptance of imperfection as it grows.

The success of this plan begins with the application of the Trails Master Plan as an integral component of the City's long range infrastructure plans and regulations. Trails function not only as a recreational and open space benefit, but also important transportation infrastructure, as important as streets and utilities. To achieve ultimate success in its trail goals, the City should amend its development code to require trails as part of the subdivision process. This would not necessarily shift the full burden of trail construction to the development community, but would first ensure that trail routes, rights-of-ways, and/or easements are provided during land development.

Cost of construction, up-sizing, and timing can be discussed as to the appropriate proportional cost of the individual project relative to the community benefit.

























City street design standards that reflect thoroughfare connectors should be updated consistent with the recommendations of this plan. Temple's approved street cross-sections form the basis for design for new and rebuild public street projects, developer-driven street construction, and TxDOT improvements to existing facilities. Having these standards in place allow the City to ensure consistency and connectivity in each of these circumstances.

The City needs flexibility to determine which trails are priority projects during the life of this plan and beyond. Funding should be made available, either through a dedicated parks and/or trails fund, reinvestment zone funds, or other sources, in order to acquire and extend trails. A future bond geared towards trail and trail amenities should be strongly considered. Decisions for prioritizing certain trail types and segments should be made with these considerations:

- *proximity to schools and public places*
- *density of residential and/or employment*
- *available land, easements, floodplains, and other green spaces*
- *connections to other trails, pedestrian networks, or transit*

The Trails Master Plan is not a static plan but is meant to be evaluated, adjusted and changed as needed. Each individual alignment is indicative of desired linkages; exact placement will be determined in the field based on conditions and other factors.

The following pages provide recommendations and additional details related to trails and trail amenities.

ACTION		SUMMARY	GOAL
1	Add bike repair stations for trail users.	<i>Bike repair stations would provide cyclists the opportunity to repair their bikes on the trail, particularly long-distance cyclists</i>	  
2	Expand the Friar's Creek Trail to connect neighborhoods, streets, schools and other community destinations where practical	<i>Friar's Creek Trail, on the south east side of town, has been a popular amenity and connects Lion's Junction with neighborhoods</i>	  
3	Consider reconfiguring the 24th Street bridge to two lanes to connect users to destinations	<i>The reconfiguration of the 24th bridge would provide pedestrian, bicycle, and scooter access to the Veteran's Administration hospital for several neighborhoods east of the railroad tracks. Many of these residents are veterans that do not currently have a safe passageway to the V.A.</i>	  
4	Develop the Georgetown Railroad into an extensive and connected rails to trails system	<i>Georgetown Railroad right-of-way can be developed into a community amenity, serving as an east-west corridor in Temple and connect to Belton's future trail system as well</i>	  
5	Work with regional governmental entities to connect Temple to a region-wide trail system	<i>Cooperation with jurisdictions near Temple can lead to trails that extend beyond the city limits. As stated above, Georgetown Railroad is one opportunity but also the Leon River and destinations such as Miller Springs</i>	  
6	Develop trail and exercise stations at Kiwanis Park and West Ridge Park	<i>The installation of trail and exercise stations along the trail will provide park users a variety of exercise options at Kiwanis Park and West Ridge Park</i>	  
7	Add looped park trails at: Prewitt, Waterford, Von Rosenberg, Walker, Freedom, Hodges, and Scott and White parks	<i>In-park trails provide a different user experience than the citywide system. These trails are often close to home, provide for more passive use, and limit conflicts such as traffic and more intense user groups. They are also better suited and more manageable for the younger and older generations</i>	  
8	Develop the Bird Creek Trunk Line Trail between Lion's Park and Midway	<i>The instillation of a trail between Lion's Park and Midway Drive to provide a connection between a regional park and residential area</i>	  

GOALS LEGEND



Health and Wellness



Funding



Durability and Maintenance



Connectivity



Access and Equitability



Conservation and Nature

1. Add bike repair stations for trail users

Installation of bicycle repair stations, where deemed appropriate within the trails system, will provide cyclist the opportunity to make adjustments and repairs while using the trail system. These stations provide an added sense of comfort as cyclist attempt to ride longer distances through the city and potentially the region. These repair stations are usually cost-effective and are the type amenities that users outside of the region will find attractive as the City markets its trail system beyond Temple.

2. Expand the Friar's Creek Trail to connect neighborhoods, streets, schools and other community destinations where practical

Friar's Creek Trail has the potential to connect future neighborhoods to South Temple Community Park and become a link to the Georgetown Railroad trail system, once constructed. The proposed trails master plan provides route extension recommendations to connect the trail to a broader system. Friar's Creek is a great example of a greenway trail that follows a linear park system in a north-south direction. Patrons can get on and off this trail comfortably near their residence, parks, and schools.

3. Consider reconfiguring the 24th Street bridge to two lanes to connect users to destinations

The 24th Street bridge currently connects MLK Street to a residential neighborhood where many veterans live. Providing a pedestrian access over this bridge will provide easier access to the resources of the Veterans Administration facility to the west. Some of the citizens trying to get to the V.A. suffer from disabilities and limitations and the passageway is difficult to traverse. 24th Street is a four-lane facility that is not a thoroughfare and is a candidate for a "lane reduction" that should include a one-side or two-sided non-vehicular facility.

4. Develop Georgetown Railroad into an extensive and connected rails to trails system

Installation of bicycle repair stations, where deemed appropriate within the trails system, will provide cyclist the opportunity to make adjustments and repairs while using the trail system. These stations provide an added sense of comfort as cyclist attempt to ride longer distances through the city and potentially the region. These repair stations are usually cost-effective and are the type amenities that users outside of the region will find attractive as the City markets its trail system beyond Temple.

5. Work with regional governmental entities to connect Temple to a region-wide trail system

The proximity of Temple to other jurisdictions in the region provides an opportunity to form partnerships. The City of Temple should work with regional governmental entities to create a region-wide trail system in order to provide non-vehicular access to multiple destinations. Belton and KTMPO have trails plans that will connect to Temple. This is critical because the future will be a consolidated metro area and Belton, Morgan's Point, and Killeen will have more residents and businesses seeking alternative transportation routes across the region.



6. Develop trail and exercise stations at Kiwanis Park

Kiwanis Park is located within a residential neighborhood. The development of an in-park trail will provide nearby residents a safe area to walk. The addition of exercise stations within the park will provide users options for their exercise routine, which may be combined with the trail experience or stand-alone.

7. Develop trail and exercise stations at West Ridge Park

Exercise stations are becoming more popular with people who enjoy working out in the outdoors and combining their cardio efforts with strength-building. West Ridge Park is an underutilized park that does not currently have a trail. The combination of these two new amenities will provide for additional reasons for residents to spend time at this neighborhood park.

8. Develop trails at: Prewitt, Waterford, Von Rosenberg, Walker, Freedom, Hodges, and Scott and White parks

Park trail improvements are needed at these listed parks in order to provide a better experience for users. Persistent attention to maintenance, new trail extensions, and phased master plans are needed to continue to keep pace with new growth, especially in areas that lag behind on improvements or are being overextended. As these parks attract more and more users, the amount of in-park trails will need to grow. In-park trails often connect to the citywide system and can provide a launching point or destination point for patrons.

In-park trails also serve as a fitness opportunity for parents or guardians who can keep an eye on children as they play in the playground or undefined space while able to exercise. In-park trails can be more efficient from a maintenance and operation standpoint, in addition to emergency services, lighting, and security.

9. Design and construct multiple trails throughout the City of Temple to connect key areas

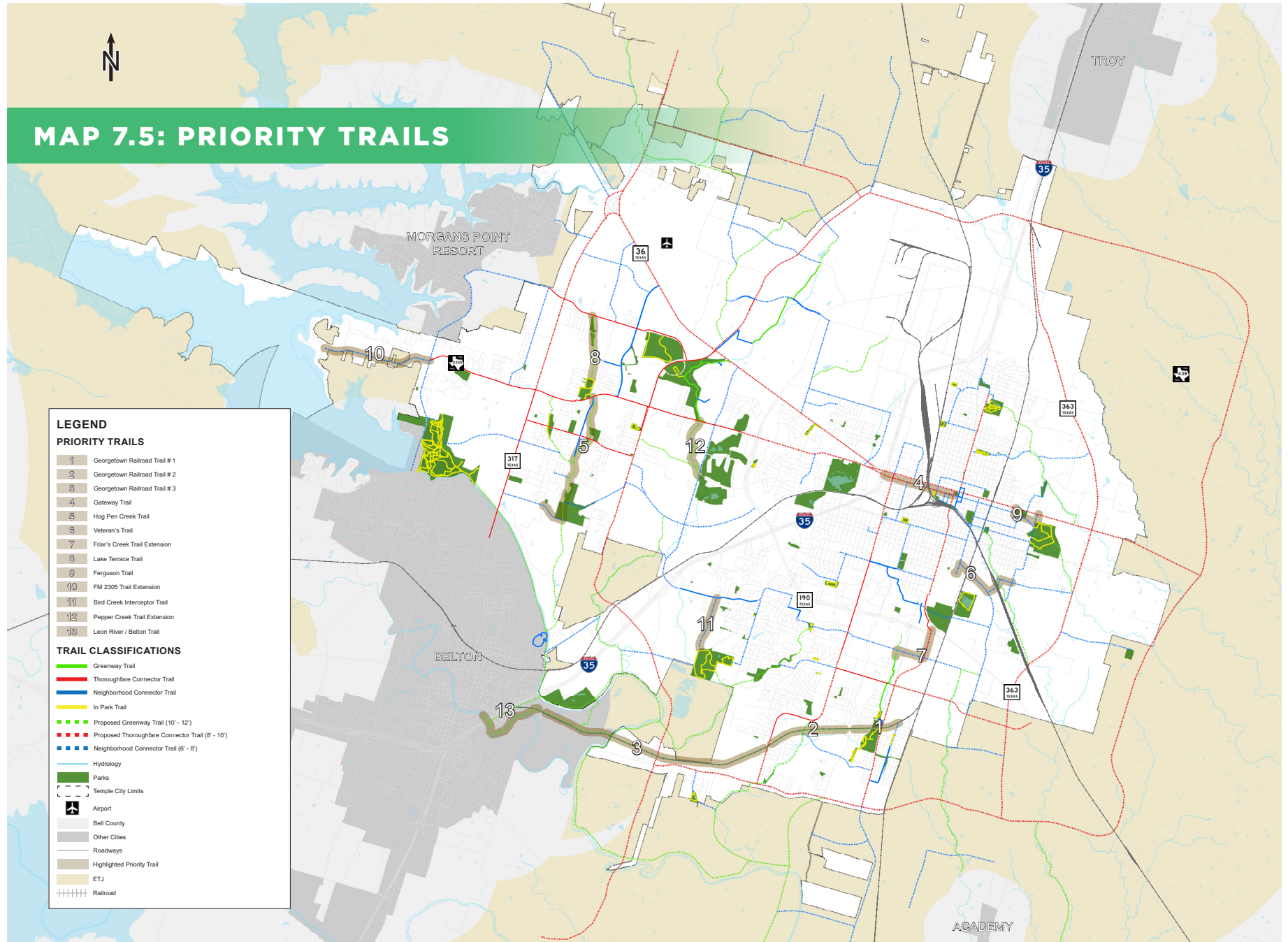
The design and construction of trails prioritized on 7.5 (on following page) to connect multiple key destinations including residential neighborhoods, schools, parks, recreational facilities, and trails is important to provide safe pedestrian connections throughout the City of Temple.

These trails will allow safe pedestrian transportation from residential neighborhoods to schools, commercial areas for shopping, and for recreational activities.





MAP 7.5: PRIORITY TRAILS



The background of the slide is a faded photograph of a construction site. On the left, an orange excavator is visible. In the center and right, there is a playground with yellow slides and red metal structures. The ground is dirt and gravel. The overall image is semi-transparent to allow the text to stand out.

8

IMPLEMENTATION

8.1 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

The Temple Parks and Trails Master Plan is the City's principal guide for providing parks and recreation services to current and future residents in an efficient and equitable manner. The effective implementation of the Temple Parks and Trails Master Plan will require a coordinated effort among community leaders and residents, elected and appointed officials, and external agencies.

In order to offer superior services to the residents of Temple, the City must also partner with local, state, and federal entities that can be of assistance in enhancing the parks and trails system now and in the future.

KEY CONTRIBUTORS IN IMPLEMENTING THIS EFFORT WILL INCLUDE:

- Community volunteers, stakeholders;
- Adjacent communities (on projects that benefit both communities);
- Area property and business owners and the development community;
- Athletic leagues;
- Bell County;
- City Management and staff;
- Local colleges and public school districts;
- Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS);
- Temple Reinvestment Zone #1;
- Temple's elected and appointed officials;
- Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT);
- Texas Master Gardeners;
- Texas Master Naturalists;
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD);
- Texas State Land Office;
- United States Bureau of Land Management;
- Youth associations;
- Additional affected agencies and entities.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTION PLAN

A comprehensive parks and trails implementation action plan is introduced in *Figure 8.1, Prioritized Implementation Action Plan*. Within the figure, all actions recommended in *Chapters 6 and 7* are categorized according to timeframe.

The actions recommended within this plan are represented by one (1) or more of the following five (5) categories:

- **Capital Investment.** *Larger-scale capital improvements incorporated into the greater capital improvement program or five-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).*
- **Non-Capital Investment.** *Smaller-scale improvements which may more likely be funded through the annual budgeting process or a staff-led project.*
- **Operational Change.** *New or altered programs, staffing, or operational procedures.*
- **Policy.** *Official procedures or policies used to make City decisions.*
- **Regulation.** *Council approved regulations used to direct growth or additional actions.*
- **Study.** *Additional study or examination required to determine the best result.*

Some recommended plan actions may meet the definition of multiple implementation categories.

PRIORITIZATION

The actions listed in *Figure 8.1, Implementation Action Plan*, are also divided among three levels of prioritization:

- **High Priority Actions.** *Actions which should be initiated within the next one to two years (2020-2022) although completion may extend across a larger timeframe. These are the City's top priorities for implementation.*
- **Moderate Priority Actions.** *Actions which may be initiated within the next three to five years (2023 - 2025).*
- **Long-Term Priority Actions.** *Most of these actions are projected to be implemented in the long term (2026-2030) and may be further prioritized in following plan updates. These actions are therefore not listed in a numbered order.*

Regardless of suggested priority, it is presumed that many of this plan's recommended actions will require ongoing effort and attention by the City, which are noted as such.

PRIORITIZATION FACTORS

Any action listed in *Figure 8.1* could be initiated sooner than suggested if unique circumstances or opportunities occur. Nonetheless, implementation priority suggested in this plan was informed by the following prioritization factors:

- Level of need based on community and staff input (online survey results, stakeholder meetings, public open houses, etc.);
- Capacity of the City to fund implementation;
- Capacity of the City to sustain operations; and
- Level of need based on the needs assessment.

FIGURE 8.1, PRIORITIZED IMPLEMENTATION ACTION PLAN - PARKS

ACTION		INITIATION TIME FRAME (YRS)				POTENTIAL COST RANGE	ACTION TYPE
		1-2	3-5	6-10+	ONGOING		
INDOOR FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS							
A.1	Make interior improvements to the Summit Recreation Center	√				\$750,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
A.2	Make interior improvements to the Blackmon Recreation Center	√				\$400,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
A.3	Expand the Sammons indoor pool facility to include a multi-purpose room for the swimming pool areas	√				\$350,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
A.4	Reconstruct the restrooms at Clark Pool and Walker Pool	√				\$450,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
A.5	Construct a new lifeguard room and consider new amenities at Lions Junction Park		√			\$250,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
A.6	Construct equipment storage area at Wilson Park			√		\$350,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
PARK GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT							
B.1	Acquire park land and trails to accommodate new growth per the guidance of this master plan	√				Funding to be determined	STUDY / CAPITAL INVESTMENT
B.2	Address park land deficit in areas identified in the master plan's level of service analysis, such as areas that may include: a.) Neighborhood in the vicinity of Scott Elementary School b.) Future development that is currently not within an existing service area				√	Funding to be determined	STUDY / CAPITAL INVESTMENT
B.3	Explore the feasibility of a revenue-generating indoor athletic complex, potentially at Crossroads Park			√		Staff Time	STUDY

ACTION		INITIATION TIME FRAME (YRS)				POTENTIAL COST RANGE	ACTION TYPE
		1-2	3-5	6-10+	ONGOING		
PARK GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT							
B.4	Develop concrete / in-ground skate park(s) in appropriate location's to be determined	√				\$720,000	STUDY / CAPITAL INVESTMENT
B.5	Determine locations for off-leash dog parks within natural environments in new parks	√				Staff Time	STUDY
B.6	Develop unprogrammed City-owned land following completion of site master plans for the following parks: • Kenny Martin Park • Southwest Community Park • Blackland Prairie Park	√	√			Staff Time, Funding to be determined	STUDY / NON-CAPITAL INVESTMENT
B.7	Identify opportunities to develop a contained exercise park with poured-in-place surfacing	√				Funding to be determined	STUDY / CAPITAL INVESTMENT
B.8	Develop a tennis center (to include two new tennis courts at Crossroads)		√			Staff Time, Funding to be determined	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
PARK GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT							
C.1	Design park landscaping to include educational prairie and pollinator fields in appropriate locations of the park system				√	\$1,000 per acre with seeding	POLICY
C.2	Use conservation-oriented new parks as an educational tool for the natural beauty of the prairie and/or prairie meadow plants, for example, Blackland Prairie Park		√			Staff Time	OPERATIONAL CHANGE
C.3	Provide for wayfinding signage in parks and along trails consistent with the existing standards and design theme				√	Funding to be determined	OPERATIONAL CHANGE

FIGURE 8.1, PRIORITIZED IMPLEMENTATION ACTION PLAN - PARKS

ACTION		INITIATION TIME FRAME (YRS)				POTENTIAL COST RANGE	ACTION TYPE
		1-2	3-5	6-10+	ONGOING		
PARK DESIGN & EDUCATION							
C.4	Add additional signage along trails and within parks to educate the public on the health benefits of an active lifestyle, being in nature, staying hydrated, applying sunscreen, and other outdoor health tips	√	√			\$1,000 per sign	NON-CAPITAL INVESTMENT
C.5	Evaluate emergency preparedness throughout the parks and trails system by considering access, egress, emergency response, blue-light beacons, etc.				√	Staff Time	STUDY
C.6	Review lighting throughout the parks system for security, light-sensitive amenities, and after hour uses	√				Staff Time	STUDY
C.7	Apply environmental design principles as a key component of crime prevention to provide patrons a greater sense of safety and comfort				√	Staff Time	REGULATION / OPERATIONAL CHANGE
OPERATIONS & MANAGEMENT							
D.1	Develop a plan for water harvesting, re-use, or recirculation where feasible and manageable				√	Staff Time	STUDY / POLICY
D.2	Continue to update and improve communications to the public regarding parks, events, and recreation opportunities in coordination with the Marketing and Communications Department				√	Staff Time	OPERATIONAL CHANGE
D.3	Ensure an educated and well-trained staff team through attendance at educational seminars, such as training on the creation of natural and/or low maintenance areas that are seen as both attractive and functional				√	Staff Time / Funding to be determined	OPERATIONAL CHANGE
D.4	Identify and take steps to achieve National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) accreditation from the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) in coordination with the Performance Excellence Department			√		Staff Time	STUDY / OPERATIONAL CHANGE

ACTION		INITIATION TIME FRAME (YRS)				POTENTIAL COST RANGE	ACTION TYPE
		1-2	3-5	6-10+	ONGOING		
OPERATIONS & MANAGEMENT							
D.5	Evaluate hours of operation for certain parks and facilities to determine if adjustments could be made for flexibility and usability	√				Staff Time	STUDY / OPERATIONAL CHANGE
D.6	Adopt a departmental strategic plan along with the standards of operation guide that would include evaluation of ongoing and long-term staff needs	√				Staff Time	POLICY
D.7	Evaluate the use of park rangers, safety patrol, and/or police officers, as needed, to ensure the safety of patrons				√	Staff Time	STUDY
D.8	Purchase a shuttle bus for mobile camps		√			\$50,000	NON-CAPITAL INVESTMENT
EXISTING PARK IMPROVEMENTS							
E.1	Replace scoreboards for athletic facilities throughout the park system				√	\$150,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.2	Improve facilities and amenities at Lions Park		√			\$2,125,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.3	Improve facilities and amenities at Woodbridge Park		√			\$670,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.4	Add parking improvements at Miller Park		√			\$1,090,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.5	Construct a picnic pavilion, replace the marquee and replace the playground at Gober House	√				\$527,500	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.6	Improve facilities and amenities at Ferguson Park	√				\$1,012,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.7	Improve facilities and amenities at Von Rosenberg Park			√		\$638,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.8	Construct a pavilion and playground at Scott and White Park	√				\$885,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT

FIGURE 8.1, PRIORITIZED IMPLEMENTATION ACTION PLAN - PARKS

ACTION		INITIATION TIME FRAME (YRS)				POTENTIAL COST RANGE	ACTION TYPE
		1-2	3-5	6-10+	ONGOING		
EXISTING PARK IMPROVEMENTS							
E.9	Construct paved parking and trails at West Temple Park	√				\$838,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.10	Improve facilities and amenities at Waterford Park		√			\$1,610,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.11	Improve facilities and amenities at Walker Park					\$620,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.12	Develop Phase II improvements at Conner Park		√			\$1,150,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.13	Improve lighting throughout the parks system		√			\$4,000 each	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.14	Replace shade canopies at athletic fields throughout the community		√			\$350,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.15	Replace or upgrade playground equipment at the following parks: Draughon, West Temple, Gober, Hodge, Waterford, Silverstone, Nettles, Kiwanis, Baker, Walker	√				\$1,980,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.16	Construct new restrooms at Crossroads Park	√				\$450,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.17	Construct new restrooms along the Pepper Creek Trail	√				\$350,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.18	Construct new restrooms at Clark Pool and Walker Pool	√				\$450,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT

ACTION		INITIATION TIME FRAME (YRS)				POTENTIAL COST RANGE	ACTION TYPE
		1-2	3-5	6-10+	ONGOING		
EXISTING PARK IMPROVEMENTS							
E.19	Replace the slab at the Harold P. Rose Tennis Center	√				\$400,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.20	Improve facilities at Jackson Park		√			\$280,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.21	Implement the next phase of recommendations of the Bend O' the River Park Master Plan			√		Staff Time	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.22	Playground, shade structure and exercise facilities at Silverstone Park		√			\$520,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.23	Improve facilities at Baker Field, including playground and dugout improvements		√			\$225,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.24	Add a pavilion and playground at Temple South Rotary Park		√			\$520,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.25	Construct meeting room / party room to be used as a rental facility			√		\$350,000	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
E.26	Re-design the golf course and create a drainage master plan for Sammons Golf Course		√			\$7,845,000	STUDY / CAPITAL INVESTMENT

FIGURE 8.1, PRIORITIZED IMPLEMENTATION ACTION PLAN - PARKS

ACTION		INITIATION TIME FRAME (YRS)				POTENTIAL COST RANGE	ACTION TYPE
		1-2	3-5	6-10+	ONGOING		
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS							
F.1	Partner with local government entities to establish joint-use facilities on existing and future properties (e.g., parks and schools)				√	Staff Time	OPERATIONAL CHANGE
F.2	Foster community funding opportunities (e.g., donations and sponsorships) to provide playground and park amenities				√	Staff Time	OPERATIONAL CHANGE
F.3	Continue to build and collaborate with partnership groups for clean ups, tree plantings, and maintenance				√	Staff Time	OPERATIONAL CHANGE
F.4	Partner with Baylor Scott and White and other medical and educational partners to develop and initiate a Wellness Program				√	Staff Time	OPERATIONAL CHANGE

FIGURE 8.2, PRIORITIZED IMPLEMENTATION ACTION PLAN - CITYWIDE TRAILS

ACTION		INITIATION TIME FRAME (YRS)				POTENTIAL COST RANGE	ACTION TYPE
		1-2	3-5	6-10+	ONGOING		
TRAILS & TRAIL AMENITIES							
1	Add user amenities along the trail system such as relief areas, fitness and bike repair stations, etc.				√	\$7 per sq. ft.	NON-CAPITAL INVESTMENT
2	Expand the Fryer's Creek Trail to connect neighborhoods, streets, schools and other community destinations where practical		√			\$7 per sq. ft.	STUDY / CAPITAL INVESTMENT
3	Consider reconfiguring the 24th street bridge to a two-lane vehicular street to provide for one-side pedestrian/bicycle/scooter lane and prioritize a pedestrian route on MLK Dr. from Ave. N to the VA	√				Funding to be determined	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
4	Develop the Georgetown Railroad into an extensive and connected rails to trails system	√	√			\$10 per sq. ft.	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
5	Work with regional governmental entities such as KTMPO and the City of Belton to develop a regional trail network				√	Staff Time	STUDY / POLICY
6	Develop trail and exercise stations at Kiwanis Park	√				Funding to be determined	STUDY / CAPITAL INVESTMENT
7	Develop a new trail and install exercise stations at Westridge Park		√			\$7 per sq. ft.	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
8	Add trails within the following parks: Prewitt, Westridge, Waterford, Von Rosenberg, Walker, Hodges, Scott & White, Wilson		√	√		Staff Time	STUDY / CAPITAL INVESTMENT
9	Priority Trails <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Georgetown Railroad Trail #1• Georgetown Railroad Trail #2• Georgetown Railroad Trail #3• Gateway Trail• Hog Pen Creek Trail• Veteran's Trail• Friar's Creek Trail Extension• Lake Terrace Trail• Ferguson Trail• FM 2305 Trail Extension• Bird Creek Interceptor Trail• Pepper Creek Trail Extension• Leon River / Belton Trail	√	√	√	√	\$7 - \$10 per sq. ft.	STUDY / CAPITAL INVESTMENT

8.2 PLAN UPDATE

A long-term vision for Temple's parks and trails system, containing a 10-year plan of prioritized implementation actions, was created through a vigorous public engagement process. Implementation by level of priority and importance guarantees that the City is responding incrementally to community needs and desires. This does not mean that the plan will serve all needs and desires of the public for the entirety of the next 10 years; to the contrary, it is projected to specify direction for implementation actions prioritized to guide decisions through changing conditions and priorities. In this respect, the following recommendations are highlighted as a means to keep this plan up-to-date.

- **Five-Year Update.** Undertaking an official plan update every five years allows the City to remain competitive in the TPWD grants process, as 5 year updates are needed for the grant scoring and/or point system. This can be prepared and adopted in a short report format and attached as a supplement to this plan.
- **10-Year Update.** Towards the end of this plan's time horizon, it is recommended that the City prepare for a new master plan with an assessment of facilities and priorities. While neither the 5-year or 10-year updates are strict requirements by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) to continue qualification for grant funding, TPWD does place a higher point value on creating a new plan every 10 years.

ANNUAL PROGRESS
REPORT AND UPDATE



FIVE-YEAR UPDATE



TEN-YEAR UPDATE



8.3 FUNDING SOURCES AND NEXT STEPS

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

Since funding is the overarching prerequisite to implement any of the recommended actions, this plan identifies a series of potential funding sources which may be helpful in achieving implementation in the most cost-effective manner. Due to potential limitations of funding, it is recommended to pursue outside sources whenever possible. Outside sources include grants, partnerships with public agencies, and partnerships with private entities.

CITY GENERATED FUNDING SOURCES

General fund expenditures (i.e., non-capital expenditures) are primarily used for improvements or repairs to existing parks and facilities. Typical general fund expenditures are for smaller repair and replacement efforts. These include the following:

- *General fund expenditures*
- *Municipal bonds*
- *Temple Reinvestment Zone #1*
- *Public Improvement Districts*
- *Park donation funds*
- *Park improvement fee funds*
- *Cash in lieu of conveyance of land*
- *Utility bill contributions*
- *Tree restoration funds*

GOVERNMENT GRANT SOURCES

Grants are non-repayable funds or products disbursed or gifted by a grantee (e.g., a government agency or department, business or corporation, foundation or trust) to a recipient (e.g., a nonprofit entity, educational institution, business or an individual). Typically, these grants are for a defined project and may or may not come with special requirements. A comprehensive list of available grant opportunities is available in Appendix B, *Potential Funding Opportunities*.

NEXT STEPS

Now that the master planning process is complete with a prioritized list of action steps, the City of Temple should determine how to proceed in the first step to implement this plan. This conversation should start with an evaluation of the highest-priority projects and refinement of costs, consideration of other Temple, jurisdictional or partnership projects that may overlap or effect design and construction, and a 12-24 month plan of attack to fund or consider additional revenue sources. The City is poised for success as it looks ahead to future growth and prosperity in the community spurring quality open space and amenities for those who call it home.

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APPENDIX

A

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT



TEMPLE BY DESIGN PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY APPENDIX

TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Technical Review Committee (TRC) is made up of representatives from the Planning Office, Police Department, Fire Department, Public Works, Code Enforcement, and Public Health. Several meetings were held with the TRC during the kickoff phase of the planning process to gather input and steer the direction of the plan.

Key takeaways include:

- Much of the city's most suitable residential land is zoned industrial or light industrial
- Tree preservation is a priority
- City core infrastructure utilities need rehab
- The city needs more mixed-use development
- Parks are most needed in the western portion of the city
- Gateways into the city are in need of improvement
- The City should capitalize on the major highways passing through Temple
- The I-35 corridor built environment is in need of improvement
- Water quality is an issue in the southern portion of the city

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee is made up of 15-18 members of the public, selected by City Council, to represent the views of people from each council district. Several meetings were held with this Committee to gather input and steer the desired direction of the plan.

Key takeaways include:

- Gateways into the city are in need of improvement
- The City should capitalize on the major highways passing through Temple

- Growth of the city going south should be controlled
- Major growth and redevelopment is trending eastward
- Access to the railroad should be increased
- Access to the lake should be increased
- Mixed-use development is needed

MOBILITY STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

Several meetings were held with the various mobility stakeholders in the City of Temple. This group of individuals was comprised of transportation planners and engineers who are familiar with Temple's transportation infrastructure.

Key takeaways include:

- The public needs to be educated on the use of bike lanes and crosswalks
- There is a need for more bike lanes citywide
- There is a need for more crosswalks citywide
- There is a need for running trails citywide
- The City needs to fix gaps in its existing trails system
- New parks should be constructed within walking distance of schools; Infrastructure to safely walk to school from parks is also needed
- There is a general need for stacking lanes
- Many existing roads need to be updated to handle current level of traffic
- Older areas of the city are in need of updated transportation infrastructure

PUBLIC MEETING OPEN HOUSE SERIES (MAY 23 - SEPTEMBER 3, 2019)

The City of Temple held a series of public open house meetings that gathered input on community preferences, existing issues, and future opportunities. These meetings were used to help develop the updates to the Parks & Trails Master Plan and Comprehensive Plan.

Five public open house events were held between May 23rd and September 3rd, 2019 at various locations throughout the city. Evening open houses were held between 5:30 and 7:30 pm at: Sammons Community Center, 2220 W. Ave D; Wilson Park Recreation Center, 2205 Curtis B. Elliott Drive; and, the Gober Party House, 1516 W. Ave. H. The first meeting was a joint kickoff meeting and input was taken relating to both the Parks & Trails Plan and the Comprehensive Plan. In the subsequent four meetings, one was focused on the Comprehensive Plan, and the remaining three, the Parks and Trails Master Plan.

Several members of the public attended the five combined events. All events were staffed by multiple members of the consultant team and City staff and included/unnecessary public information boards, voting 'preference' boards, comment cards, and stations to complete the on-line public survey.

All results provided in this appendix are cumulative – reflecting all five combined events.



TELL US YOUR VISION

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR YOUR VISION OF THE FUTURE OF TEMPLE? SELECT YOUR TOP 3 CHOICES.

PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE OF TEMPLE	# OF RESPONSES	% OF RESPONSES ¹
Downtown as a Destination	61	16.5
Strong Economy	57	15.4
Public Safety	52	14.1
Community Character	49	13.2
Parks & Trails	44	11.9
Jobs	36	9.7
Community Gathering Spaces	29	7.8
Traffic Congestion	21	5.7
Housing Affordability	20	5.4
(Other comments)		
Something Else - Other	1	0.3
Total # of Responses	370	

¹Due to rounding, total % of responses may not equal 100%

HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOODS

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE OF HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOODS IN TEMPLE? SELECT YOUR TOP 3 CHOICES.

PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE OF HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOODS IN TEMPLE	# OF RESPONSES	% OF RESPONSES ¹
Single-Family Neighborhood	65	22.6
Downtown Lofts	49	17.0
Retirement Living	44	15.3
Patio/garden Homes	40	13.9
Large Lot Single-Family	26	9.0
Town Homes	25	8.7
Cottages	23	8.0
Apartments	10	3.5
Duplex	4	1.4
(Other comments)		
Historic District	1	0.3
Community First Village (for former homeless)	1	0.3
Total # of Responses	288	

¹Due to rounding, total % of responses may not equal 100%

TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY IN TEMPLE? SELECT YOUR TOP 3 CHOICES.

PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY IN TEMPLE	# OF RESPONSES	% OF RESPONSES ¹
Trails & Sidewalks	77	23.1
Street Maintenance	75	22.5
Street Design for All Users	63	18.9
Ease Congestion	34	10.2
Bus Service	34	10.2
Traffic Calming & Safety	25	7.5
Improved Highway Access	14	4.2
Traffic Enforcement	12	3.6
Total # of Responses	334	

¹Due to rounding, total % of responses may not equal 100%

DO THE EXISTING GUIDING PRINCIPLES REMAIN IMPORTANT FOR THE FUTURE OF TEMPLE? (PART 1 - IMPORTANCE)

PLACE 1 STICKY DOT IN THE COLUMN THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR FEELINGS ON EACH OF THE FOLLOWING GUIDING PRINCIPLES

PRINCIPLES		ARE THESE GUIDING PRINCIPLES STILL IMPORTANT?		
		IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	NOT IMPORTANT
Community Character	Provide policies that effectively plan for future growth, development and redevelopment with the intent of maintaining and strengthening the existing character of the community	100% (55)	0% (0)	0% (0)
Economic Development	Gain allies with guidance for pursuing opportunities to achieve employment growth and economic vitality for the City of Temple	98% (49)	2% (1)	0% (0)
Growth	Guide how growth, new development, and redevelopment within and surrounding Temple should occur in an orderly and beneficial manner consistent with fiscal and community considerations	94% (46)	6% (3)	0% (0)
Housing	Establish a variety of housing options to meet the needs of varying income levels within the city while sustaining the integrity of neighborhoods and quality of existing older homes	98% (43)	0% (0)	2% (1)
Transportation	Achieve a well-balanced and comprehensive transportation system that offers a choice of modes and be appropriately designed for safety and visual appeal	78% (32)	17% (7)	5% (2)
Total Responses		94% (225)	5% (11)	1% (3)

DO THE EXISTING GUIDING PRINCIPLES REMAIN IMPORTANT FOR THE FUTURE OF TEMPLE? (PART 2 - PERFORMANCE)

PLACE 1 STICKY DOT IN THE COLUMN THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR FEELINGS ON EACH OF THE FOLLOWING GUIDING PRINCIPLES

PRINCIPLES		HOW IS TEMPLE DOING IN MEETING THESE PRINCIPLES?		
		SUCCEEDING	NOT SURE	FALLING BEHIND
Community Character	Provide policies that effectively plan for future growth, development and redevelopment with the intent of maintaining and strengthening the existing character of the community	53% (23)	33% (14)	14% (6)
Economic Development	Gain allies with guidance for pursuing opportunities to achieve employment growth and economic vitality for the City of Temple	59% (22)	32% (12)	8% (3)
Growth	Guide how growth, new development, and redevelopment within and surrounding Temple should occur in an orderly and beneficial manner consistent with fiscal and community considerations	51% (20)	33% (13)	15% (6)
Housing	Establish a variety of housing options to meet the needs of varying income levels within the city while sustaining the integrity of neighborhoods and quality of existing older homes	21% (9)	48% (20)	31% (13)
Transportation	Achieve a well-balanced and comprehensive transportation system that offers a choice of modes and be appropriately designed for safety and visual appeal	7% (3)	26% (11)	67% (28)
Total Responses		38% (77)	34% (70)	28% (56)

PARK ELEMENT IMPROVEMENTS

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR NEW/IMPROVED PARK ELEMENTS IN TEMPLE PARKS? SELECT YOUR TOP 3 CHOICES.

PRIORITIES FOR NEW/IMPROVED PARK ELEMENTS IN TEMPLE	# OF RESPONSES	% OF RESPONSES ¹
Trail Connectivity to Parks and Other Destinations	55	15.9
Lighting	48	13.9
Restrooms	44	12.8
Community Gardens	44	12.8
Natural Areas	40	11.6
Internal Park Loop Trail	26	7.5
Athletic Fields	21	6.1
Performance Spaces	19	5.5
Separated Play Areas for Different Age Groups	17	4.9
Sports Courts	16	4.6
Open Play Areas	8	2.3
Picnic Facilities	7	2.0
Total # of Responses	334	

¹Due to rounding, total % of responses may not equal 100%

WHAT TYPES OF PARKS ARE MOST NEEDED?

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR MOST-NEEDED TYPES OF PARKS IN TEMPLE? SELECT YOUR TOP 3 CHOICES.

PRIORITIES FOR MOST-NEEDED TYPES OF PARKS IN TEMPLE	# OF RESPONSES	% OF RESPONSES ¹
Linear Parks/Greenways	55	19.1
Neighborhood Park	46	16.0
Community Park	44	15.3
Social Spaces	38	13.2
Indoor Facilities	32	11.1
Regional Park	27	9.4
Special Use Parks	27	9.4
Mini/Pocket Park	19	6.6
Total # of Responses	288	

¹Due to rounding, total % of responses may not equal 100%

ARE THE GOALS FROM THE 2014 MASTER PLAN STILL IMPORTANT? (#1)

PLACE 3 STICKY DOTS IN THE COLUMN THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR FEELINGS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF EACH GOAL.
(1 VERY IMPORTANT - 5 LEAST IMPORTANT)

GOALS	# OF VOTES				
	1	2	3	4	5
The parks system will be environmentally sustainable	91%	0%	3%	6%	0%
Preserve open space, cultural landscapes, and natural resources within Temple	82%	12%	0%	0%	6%
Expand the parks system to meet the needs of all future residents in Temple, and develop neighborhood parks as central recreation on green spaces within the neighborhoods they serve	76%	6%	9%	0%	9%
Continue to fund the Parks and Recreation Department to provide a superior level of maintenance and quality facilities	64%	27%	2%	0%	7%
Work towards transforming Temple's parks, recreation, and open spaces into one of the best systems in the State of Texas	61%	21%	6%	3%	9%
Create a citywide trails network that connects parks, schools, businesses, neighborhoods, civic facilities, and key destinations with a series of on-street pedestrian and bicycle facilities	71%	4%	9%	4%	13%
Create a unique, customized "Temple" look within parks	35%	22%	9%	4%	30%
Total Responses	70%	38%	5%	2%	10%

ARE THE GOALS FROM THE 2014 MASTER PLAN STILL IMPORTANT? (#2)

PLACE 1 STICKY DOT IN THE COLUMN THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR FEELINGS ON EACH OF THE FOLLOWING GUIDING PRINCIPLES

GOALS	IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	NOT IMPORTANT
Work towards transforming Temple's parks, recreation, and open spaces into one of the best systems in the State of Texas	93%	7%	0%
Continue to fund the Parks and Recreation Department to provide a superior level of maintenance and quality facilities	100%	0%	0%
Preserve open space, cultural landscapes, and natural resources within Temple	91%	9%	0%
Create a citywide trails network that connects parks, schools, businesses, neighborhoods, civic facilities, and key destinations with a series of on-street pedestrian and bicycle facilities	91%	9%	0%
Expand the parks system to meet the needs of all future residents in Temple, and develop neighborhood parks as central recreation on green spaces within the neighborhoods they serve	100%	0%	0%
Create a unique, customized "Temple" look within parks	100%	0%	0%
The parks system will be environmentally sustainable	100%	0%	0%
Total Responses	96%	4%	0%

TRAILS

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR TRAILS IN TEMPLE? SELECT YOUR TOP CHOICE.

WHICH TYPE OF TRAIL DO YOU USE MOST OFTEN?	% OF RESPONSES ¹
Regional Trails	49.5
Neighborhood Trails	28.6
Park Trails	22.0
Total Responses	

WHICH TYPE OF TRAIL WOULD YOU LIKE TO USE MORE, BUT DON'T CURRENTLY?	% OF RESPONSES ¹
Regional Trails	43.5
Neighborhood Trails	29.0
Park Trails	27.5
Total Responses	

¹Due to rounding, total % of responses may not equal 100%

TRAIL FACILITIES

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR TRAIL FACILITIES IN TEMPLE? SELECT YOUR TOP 3 CHOICES.

PRIORITIES FOR FACILITY TYPES IN TEMPLE	% OF RESPONSES ¹
Shared-Use Paths	34.6
Sidewalks/Sidepaths	27.6
Off-Road Trails	22.2
Walkway Connections	15.7
Total Responses	

PRIORITIES FOR FACILITY MATERIALS IN TEMPLE	
Concrete	30.7
Crushed Granite	27.1
Natural Surface	21.7
Asphalt	20.5
Total Responses	

¹Due to rounding, total % of responses may not equal 100%

PARK BEAUTIFICATION

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR PARK BEAUTIFICATION IN TEMPLE PARKS? SELECT YOUR TOP 3 CHOICES.

PRIORITIES FOR PARK BEAUTIFICATION IN TEMPLE	% OF RESPONSES ¹
Preservation of Existing Trees	19.1
Repair/Replace Amenities	15.3
Water-wise Landscaping	13.4
Plant Native Species	12.4
High Quality Signage	10.8
Shade Structure Over Playgrounds	10.2
High Quality Landscaping	9.9
Additional Waste Receptacles	6.4
Irrigate Actively Used Areas	1.9
Total Responses	
(OTHER COMMENTS)	
Add Recycling Bins in Parks	0.3
Fix Damaged Trashcans	
Remove Trash from Pool	
Dog Park	0.3
Add Water Fountains in Parks	
Add Signs that have Fun Facts about the Area	
Total Responses	

¹Due to rounding, total % of responses may not equal 100%

INDOOR FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR INDOOR FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS IN TEMPLE? SELECT YOUR TOP 3 CHOICES.

ACTION	% OF RESPONSES ¹
Make interior improvements to the Summit Recreation Center	33.3
Make interior improvements to the Blackmon Recreation Center	19.4
Expand the Sammons indoor pool facility to include a multi-purpose room for the swimming pool areas	13.9
Reconstruct the restrooms at Clark Pool and Walker Pool	13.9
Construct a new lifeguard room and consider new amenities at Lions Junction Park	11.1
Construct a parks equipment storage area at Wilson Park	8.3
Total Responses	
¹ Due to rounding, total % of responses may not equal 100%	

PARK GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR PARK GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT IN TEMPLE? SELECT YOUR TOP 2 CHOICES.

ACTION	% OF RESPONSES ¹
Address park land deficit in areas identified in the master plan's level of service analysis, such as areas that may include: a.) Neighborhood in the vicinity of Scott Elementary School b.) Neighborhood in the vicinity of 5th Street and Marlanwood Road c.) Future development that is currently not within an existing service area"	21.3
Develop unprogrammed City-owned land following completion of site master plans for the following parks: Kenny Martin Park, Southwest Communtiy Park, Backland Praire Park	21.3
Determine locations for off-leash dog parks within natural environments in new parks	17.3
Acquire park land and trails to accommodate new growth per the guidance of this master plan	14.7
Develop tennis center (to include two new tennis courts at Crossroads)	9.3
Explore the feasibility of a revenue-generating indoor athletic complex, potentially at Crossroads Park	8.0
Develop a concrete / in-ground skate park(s) in an appropriate location to be determined	6.7
Identify opportunities to develop a contained exercise park with poured-in-place surfacing	1.3
Total Responses	
¹ Due to rounding, total % of responses may not equal 100%	

PARK DESIGN & EDUCATION

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR PARK DESIGN & EDUCATION IN TEMPLE? SELECT YOUR TOP 2 CHOICES.

ACTION	% OF RESPONSES ¹
Review lighting throughout the parks system for security, light-sensitive amenities, and after hour uses	17.2
Design park landscaping to include educational prairie and pollinator fields in appropriate locations of the park system	14.9
Apply environmental design principles as a key component of crime prevention to provide patrons a greater sense of safety and comfort	14.9
Use conservation-oriented new parks as an education tool for the natural beauty of the prairie and/or prairie meadow plants, for example, Blackland Prairie Park	12.6
Create master plans for additional undeveloped or underdeveloped parkland (e.g., Southwest Community Park, Kenny Martin Park, Blackland Prairie Park, etc.)	11.5
Add additional signage along trails and within parks to educate the public on the health benefits of an active lifestyle, being in nature, staying hydrated, applying sunscreen, and other outdoor health tips	10.3
Provide for wayfinding signage in parks and along trails consistent with the existing standards and design theme	9.2
Evaluate emergency preparedness throughout the parks and trails system by considering access, egress, emergency response, blue-light beacons, etc	9.2

Total Responses

¹Due to rounding, total % of responses may not equal 100%

OPERATIONS & MANAGEMENT

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR OPERATIONS & MANAGEMENT IN TEMPLE? SELECT YOUR TOP 2 CHOICES.

ACTION	% OF RESPONSES ¹
Evaluate the use of park rangers, safety patrol, and/or police officers, as needed, to ensure the safety of patrons	24.3
Develop a plan for water harvesting, re-use, or recirculation where feasible and manageable	20.3
Continue to update and improve communications to the public regarding parks, events, and recreation opportunities in coordination with the Marketing and Communications Department	17.6
Identify and take steps to achieve National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) accreditation from the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) in coordination with the Performance Excellence Department	10.8
Ensure an educated and well-trained staff team through attendance at educational seminars, such as training on the creation of natural and/or low maintenance areas that are seen as both attractive and functional	9.5
Adopt a departmental strategic plan along with the standards of operation guide that would include evaluation of ongoing and long-term staff needs	9.5
Evaluate hours of operation for certain parks and facilities to determine if adjustments could be made for flexibility and usability	5.4
Purchase a shuttle bus for mobile camps	2.7

Total Responses

¹Due to rounding, total % of responses may not equal 100%

EXISTING PARK IMPROVEMENTS

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR EXISTING PARK IMPROVEMENTS IN TEMPLE? SELECT YOUR TOP 3 CHOICES.

ACTION

% OF RESPONSES¹

Construct new restrooms along the Pepper Creek Trail	10.9
Implement the next phase of recommendations of the Reuben D. Talasek Bend O' the River Park Master Plan	6.5
Construct paved parking and trails at West Temple Park	5.5
Improve lighting throughout the parks system	5.5
Construct trail and install exercise stations at Westridge Park	5.0
Improve facilities and amenities at Lions Park	4.5
Replace shade canopies at athletic fields throughout the community	4.5
Add a pavilion and playground at Temple South Rotary Park	4.5
Improve facilities and amenities at Ferguson Park	4.0
Develop Phase II improvements at Conner Park	4.0
Replace or upgrade playground equipment at the following parks: Draughon, West Temple, Gober, Hodge, Waterford, Silverstone, Nettles, Kiwanis, Baker, Walker	4.0
Re-design golf course and create a drainage master plan for Sammons Golf Course	4.0
Construct new restrooms at Crossroads Park	3.5
Develop a new trail and install exercise stations at Kiwanis Park	3.5
Add parking improvements at Miller Park	3.0

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR EXISTING PARK IMPROVEMENTS IN TEMPLE? SELECT YOUR TOP 3 CHOICES.

ACTION	% OF RESPONSES ¹
Construct a pavilion and playground at Scott & White Park	3.0
Construct new restrooms at Clark Pool and Walker Pool	3.0
Construct an additional football field, additional restrooms, and extend the park trail at Wilson Park	2.5
Construct a picnic pavilion, replace the marquee and replace the playground at Gober House	2.5
Improve facilities at Jackson Park	2.5
Playground, shade structure and exercise facilities at Silverstone Park	2.5
Replace scoreboards for athletic facilities throughout the park system	2.0
Improve facilities and amenities at Woodbridge Park	2.0
Replace the slab at the Harold P. Rose Tennis Center	2.0
Improve facilities and amenities at Waterford Park	1.5
Improve facilities at Baker Field, including field and dugout improvements	1.5
Develop Phase II of the master plan at Freedom Park	1.0
Improve facilities and amenities at Walker Park	1.0
Improve facilities and amenities at Von Rosenberg Park	0.5
Total Responses	
¹ Due to rounding, total % of responses may not equal 100%	

TRAILS & TRAIL AMENITIES

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR TRAILS AND TRAIL AMENITIES IN TEMPLE? SELECT YOUR TOP 2 CHOICES.

ACTION	% OF RESPONSES ¹
Develop linkage trails based on trails master plan priorities	22.7
Develop the Georgetown Railroad into an extensive and connected rails to trails system	21.6
Work with regional governmental entities such as KTMPO and the City of Belton to develop a regional trail network	18.2
Add user amenities along the trail system such as relief areas, fitness and bike repair stations, etc.	10.2
Add trails within the following parks: Prewitt, West Ridge, Waterford, Von Rosenberg, Walker, Freedom, Hodges, Scott & White, Wilson	10.2
Consider reconfiguring the 24th street bridge to a two-lane vehicular street to provide for one-side pedestrian/bicycle/scooter lane and prioritize a pedestrian route on MLK Dr. from Ave. N to the VA	9.1
Expand the Fryer's Creek Trail to connect neighborhoods, streets, schools and other community destinations where practical	8.0
Total Responses	
¹ Due to rounding, total % of responses may not equal 100%	

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS IN TEMPLE PARKS? SELECT YOUR TOP 2 CHOICES.

PRIORITIES FOR NEW/IMPROVED PARK ELEMENTS IN TEMPLE	# OF RESPONSES	% OF RESPONSES ¹
Continue to build and collaborate with partnership groups for cleanups, tree plantings, and maintenance	15	29.4
Partner with local government entities to establish joint-use facilities on existing and future properties (e.g., parks and schools)	14	27.5
Partner with Baylor-Scott and White and other medical and educational partners to develop and initiate a Wellness Program	14	27.5
Foster community funding opportunities (e.g., donations and sponsorships) to provide playground and park amenities	8	15.7
Total # of Responses	51	

¹Due to rounding, total % of responses may not equal 100%

DESCRIBE TEMPLE IN ONE WORD

PARKS MASTER PLAN OPEN HOUSE RESPONSES



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OPEN HOUSE RESPONSES



JOINT OPEN HOUSE RESPONSES



JOINT MEETING ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

IF YOU HAVE ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, PLEASE WRITE THEM ON A COMMENT CARD.

CONSOLIDATED COMMENTS (ALL COMMENTS LISTED WERE RECEIVED MULTIPLE TIMES BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC)

Canyon Creek; Hickory; All of Stratford needs traffic calming and speed control methods

Relieve street congestion on 31st and South 190

Connect city with hike & bike trails to all parks

Overall quality of life

Desire for diversity in housing such as multi-family and townhomes to combat single family sprawl

Need more trails with natural surfacing

Desire to keep small town feel

Desire for low-income affordable housing

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN MEETING ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

IF YOU HAVE ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, PLEASE WRITE THEM ON A COMMENT CARD.

CONSOLIDATED COMMENTS (ALL COMMENTS LISTED WERE RECEIVED MULTIPLE TIMES BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC)

Desire to keep small town feel

Dissatisfaction with duplexes

Desire for urban feel and walkability

Desire for diversity in housing such as multifamily and townhomes to combat single family sprawl

Desire for low-income affordable housing

Implement recycling in parks; Increase amount of park amenities provided in parks and trails such as water fountains, benches, and trash cans

Maintenance of existing park facilities is needed

Desire to expand bus transit system

Concern about rising crime rates and safety in Temple

Desire to increase enforcement of existing laws and building codes; Increase safety in Temple

Desire for citywide trails system that provides multi-modal options for transportation

Need more trails with natural surfacing

General need for sidewalks across all of the City

Desire for a new dog park; Existing dog park is flood prone

Character development is a priority that is currently lacking

Desire for parks for people with disabilities

Overall quality of life

PARKS MASTER PLAN MEETING ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

IF YOU HAVE ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, PLEASE WRITE THEM ON A COMMENT CARD.

CONSOLIDATED COMMENTS (ALL COMMENTS LISTED WERE RECEIVED MULTIPLE TIMES BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC)

Skatepark lighting is needed

Additional skatepark or addition to current skatepark is needed

Signage in parks needs improvement

Implement recycling in parks/Increase amount of park amenities provided in parks and trails such as water fountains, benches, and trash cans

Plant additional trees in Temple parks

Need more trails with natural surfacing

Maintenance of existing park facilities is needed

Desire for parks for people with disabilities

Trails are most needed in north Temple

Connect city with hike & bike trails to all parks

PUBLIC ONLINE SURVEY (MARCH 26 - JUNE 21, 2019)

Two on-line community surveys were administered for Temple by Design, one for the comprehensive plan and one for the parks and trails master plan, both open from March to June 2019. The focus of the comprehensive plan survey was to gauge residents' perceptions of Temple today, and gain an understanding of the desires of citizens for the future. The surveys were available online and were provided on computer stations and tablets at various public events. The focus of the parks and trails master plan survey was to gauge residents' perceptions of the Temple park system and their preferences for park space, trails, and facilities. This section includes a breakdown of key findings from the community surveys. Although this summary highlights the key inputs and priorities derived from the survey results, ideas that were not reflected as priorities will also be considered in the subsequent goals and actions of both plans.

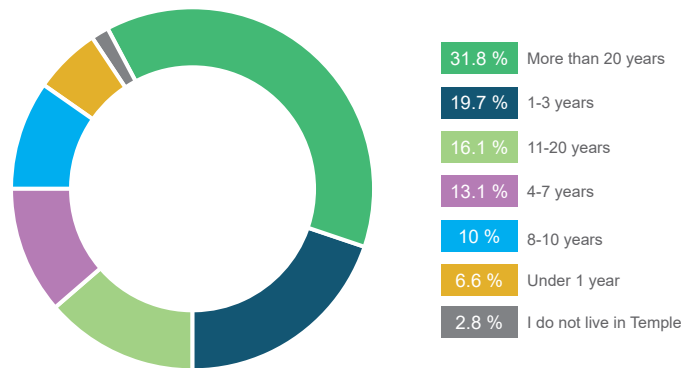
A total of 474 survey responses were received for the comprehensive plan survey and 316 responses for the parks and trails master plan survey. Note that the number of responses varies for each question depending on how many people answered that question (some respondents skipped questions due to time constraints or may have preferred not to answer).

Some demographic questions and open-ended responses are not included in this summary. For full survey results, please contact the City of Temple.

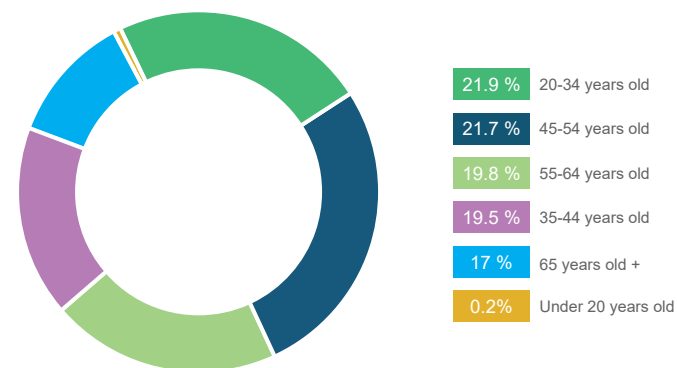


COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SURVEY RESULTS

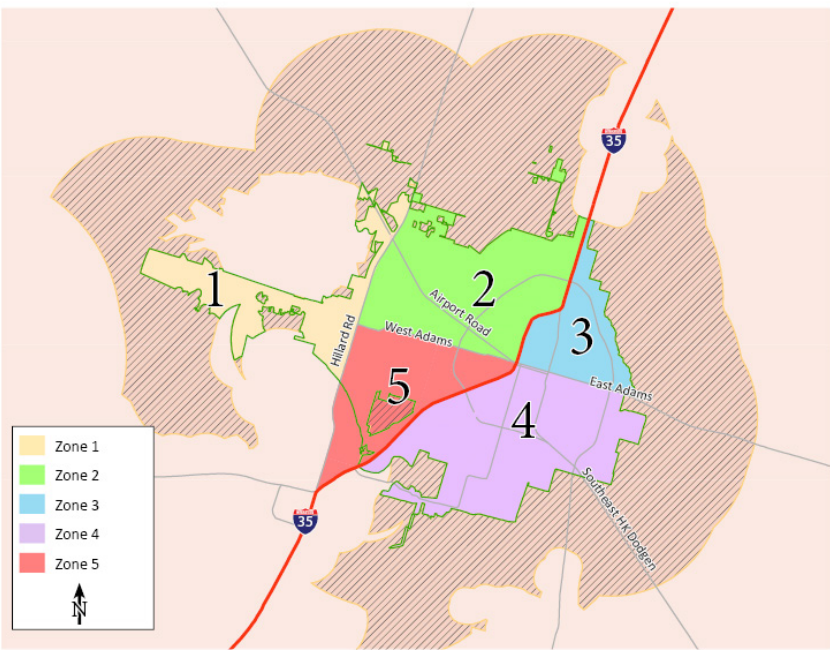
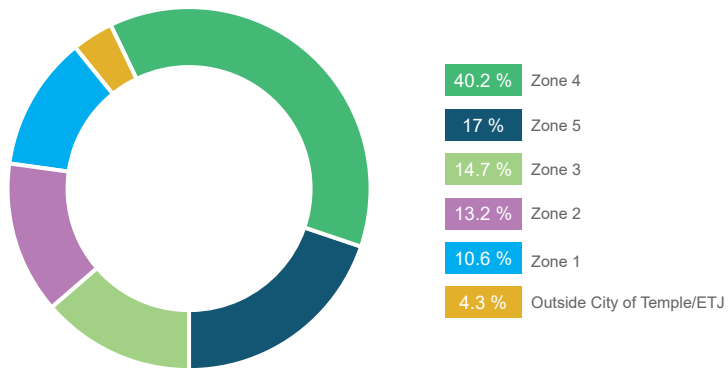
HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN TEMPLE? (472 RESPONSES)



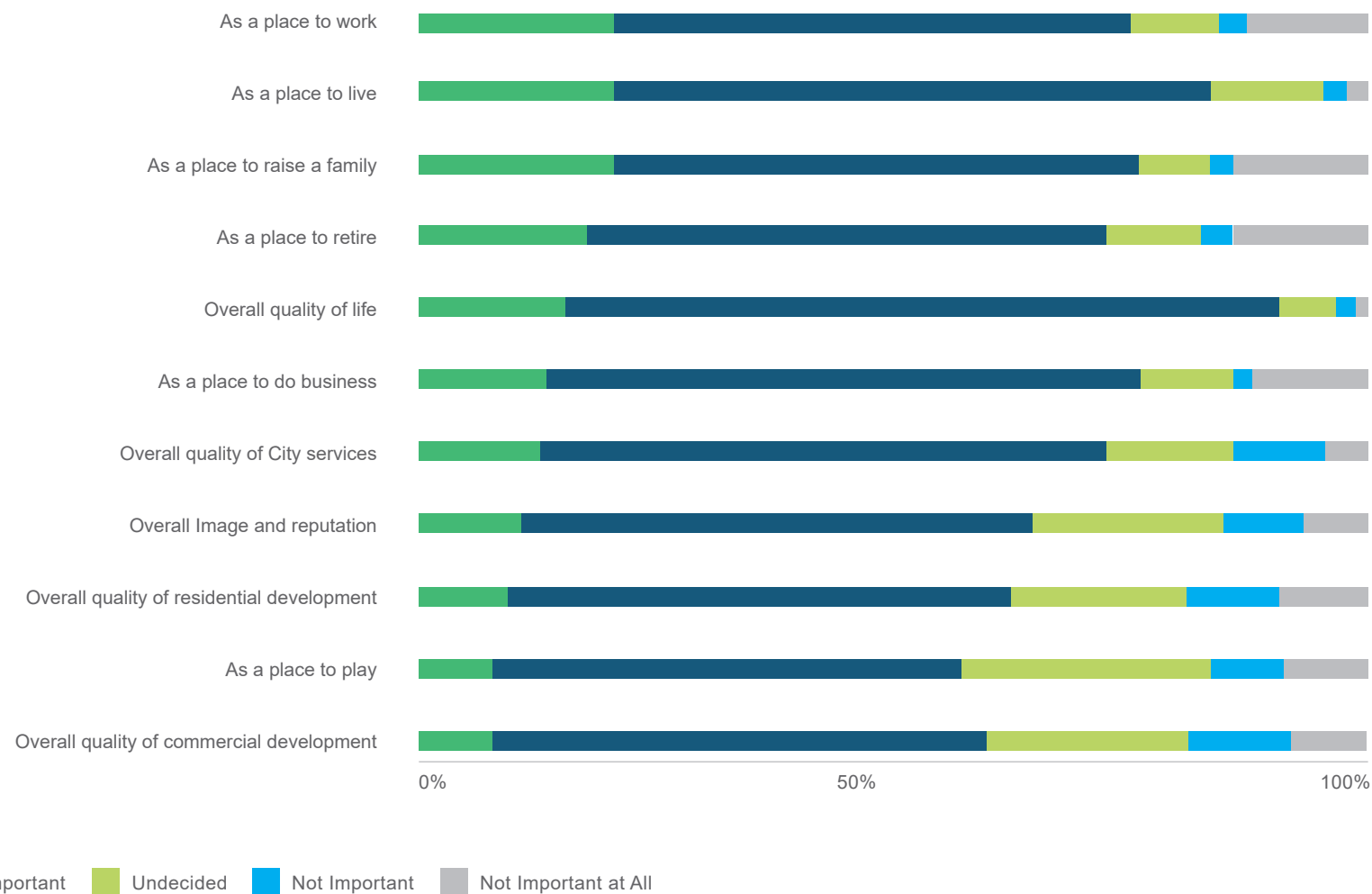
WHAT IS YOUR APPROXIMATE AGE? (471 RESPONSES)



WHAT AREA OF TEMPLE DO YOU LIVE? (470 RESPONSES)



HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH THE CITY OF TEMPLE? (473 RESPONSES)

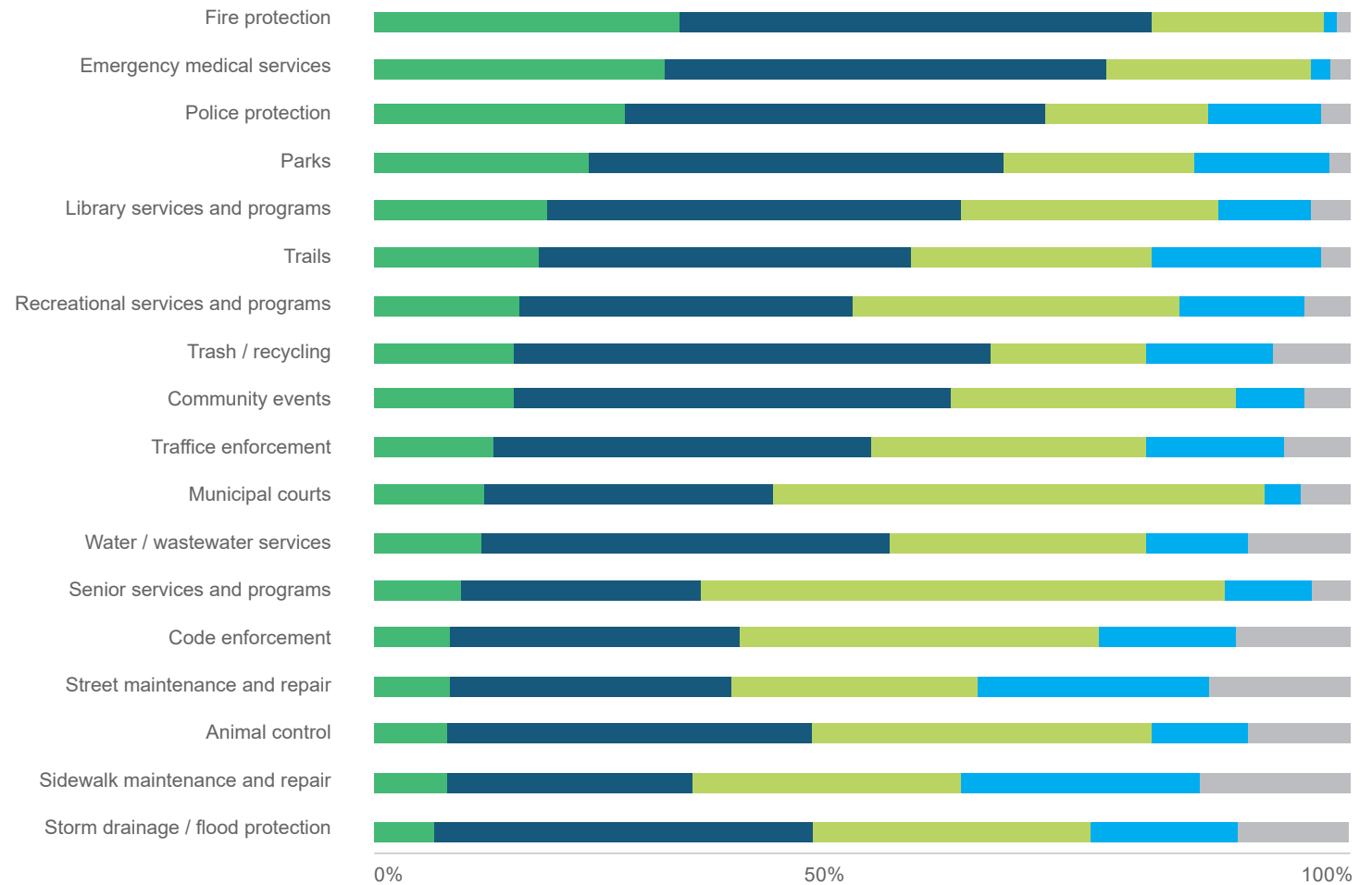


HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH THE CITY OF TEMPLE'S PERFORMANCE IN EACH OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS? (472 RESPONSES)



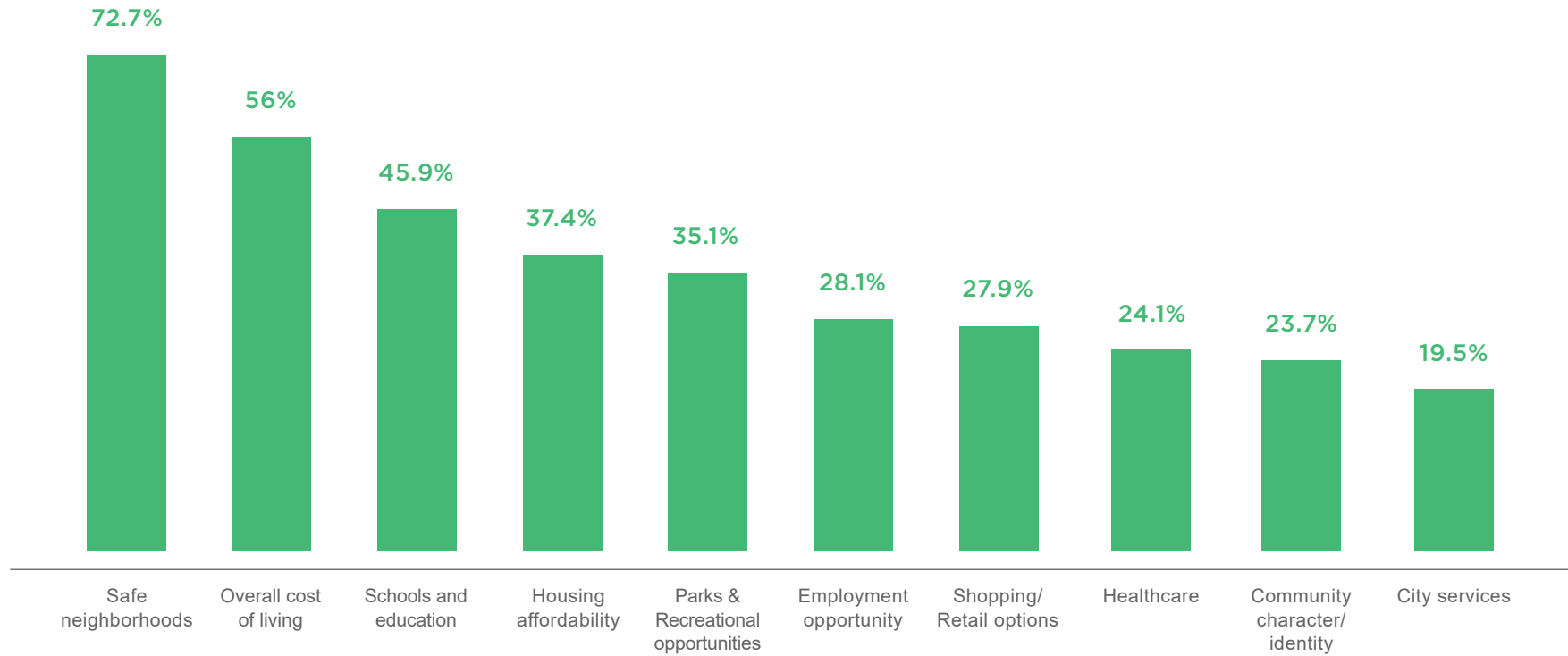
■ Very Satisfied
 ■ Satisfied
 ■ Dissatisfied
 ■ Very Dissatisfied
 ■ No opinion

HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH EACH OF THE SERVICES LISTED? (405 RESPONSES)

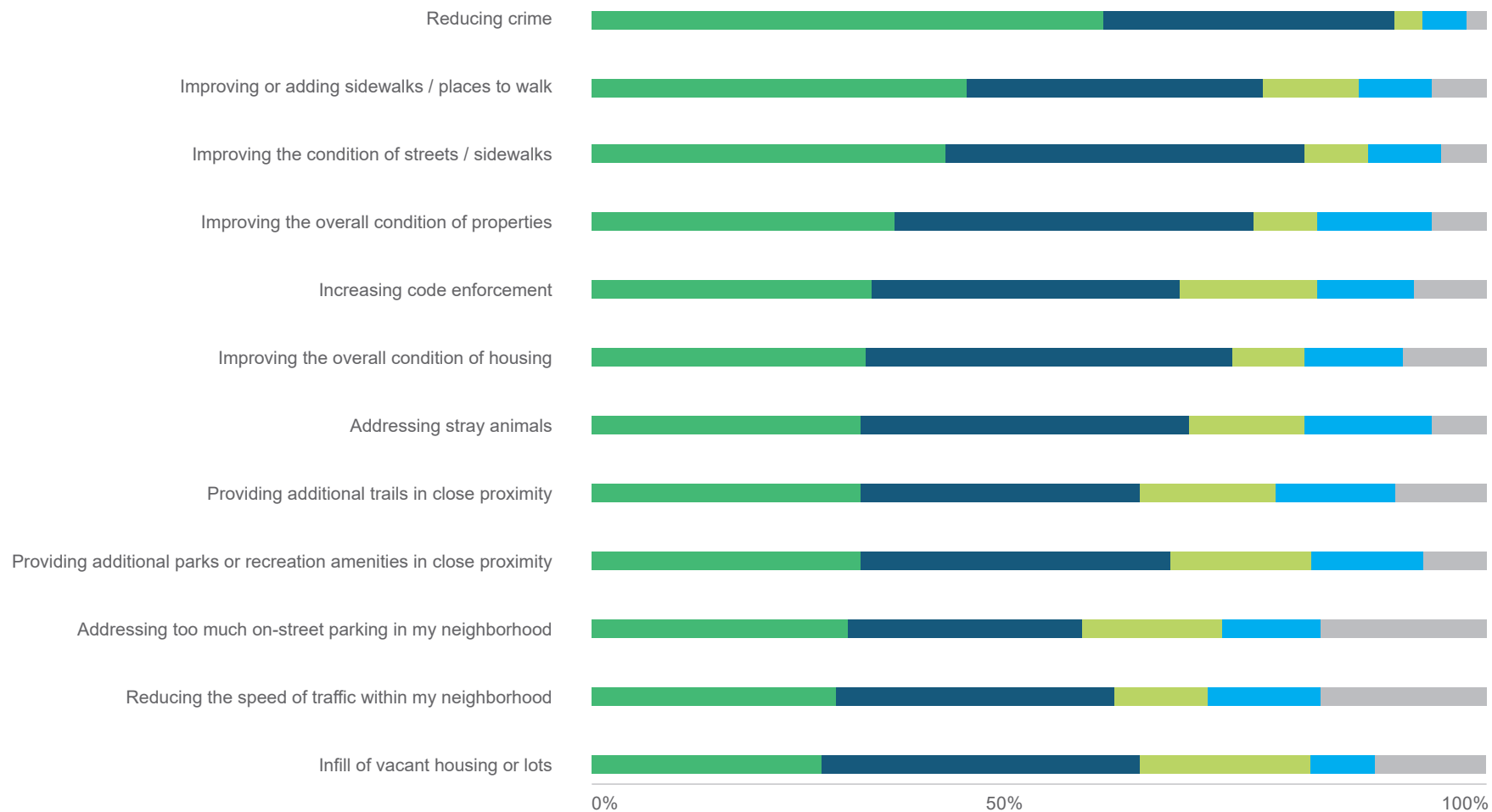


■ Very Satisfied
 ■ Satisfied
 ■ Neutral
 ■ Somewhat Dissatisfied
 ■ Dissatisfied

OF THE FOLLOWING QUALITY OF LIFE FACTORS, PICK A MINIMUM OF THREE WHICH ARE MOST IMPORTANT. (465 RESPONSES)

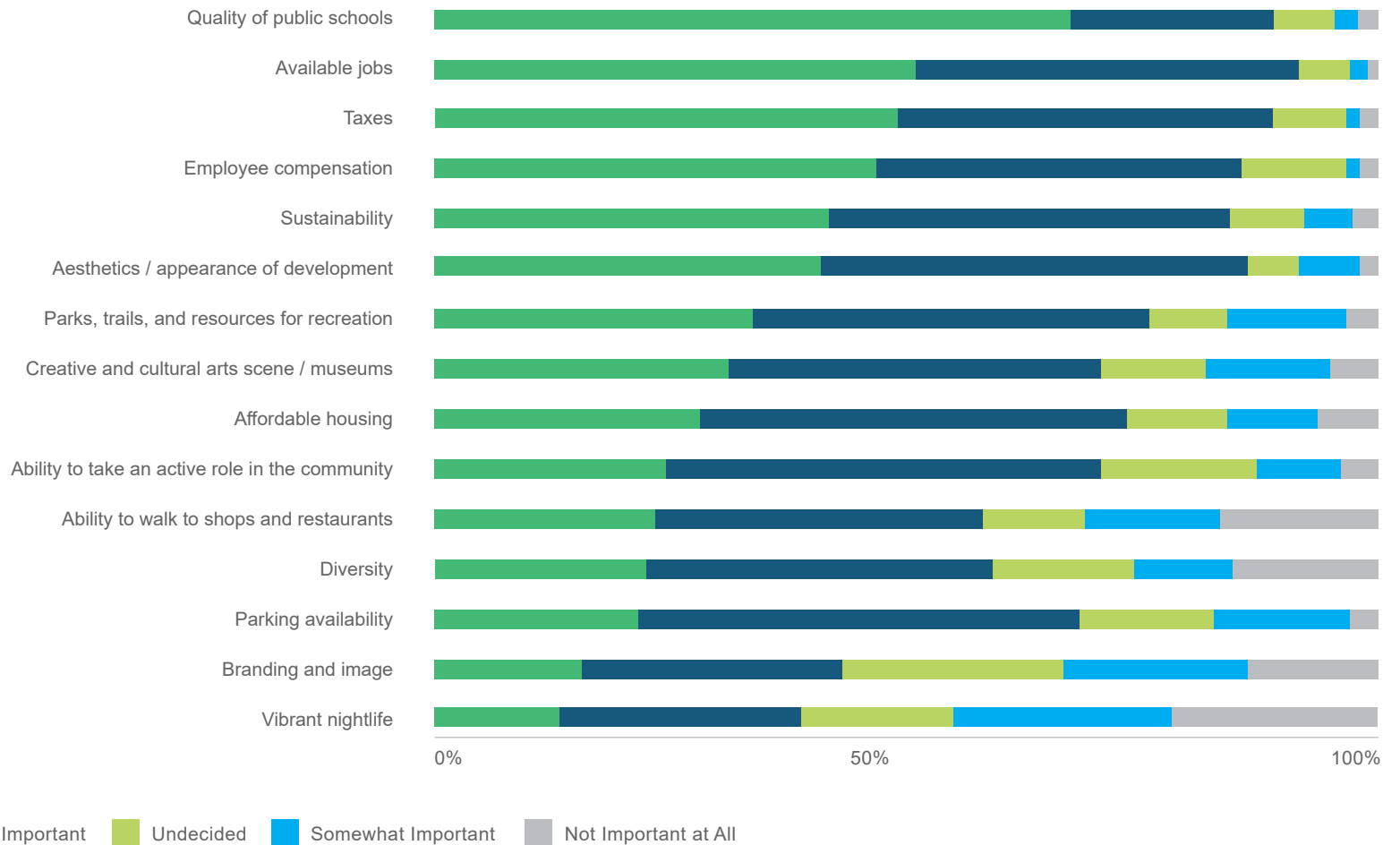


HOW IMPORTANT IS IT FOR THE CITY OF TEMPLE TO ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING ISSUES IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD IN THE NEAR FUTURE? (472 RESPONSES)

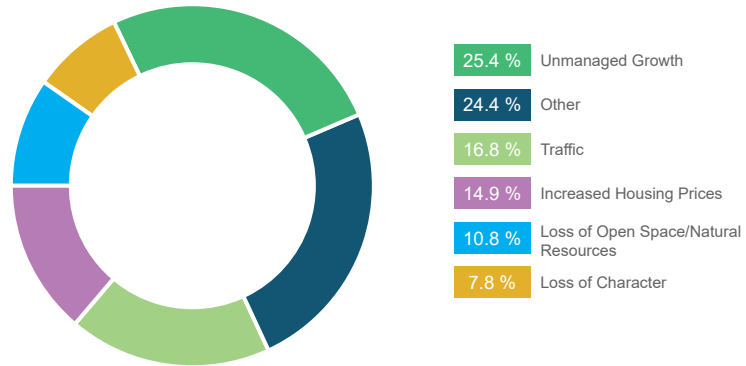


■ Very Important
 ■ Important
 ■ Undecided
 ■ Somewhat Important
 ■ Not Important at All

HOW IMPORTANT ARE THE FOLLOWING ECONOMIC FACTORS TO YOU? (471 RESPONSES)

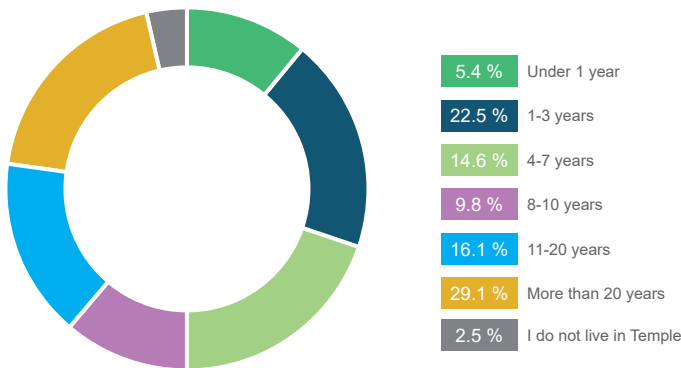


WHAT CONCERNS YOU MOST ABOUT THE FUTURE OF TEMPLE? (464 RESPONSES)

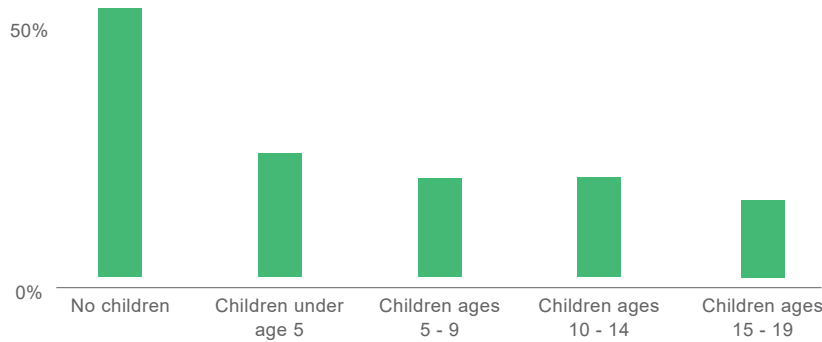


PARKS & TRAILS MASTER PLAN SURVEY RESULTS

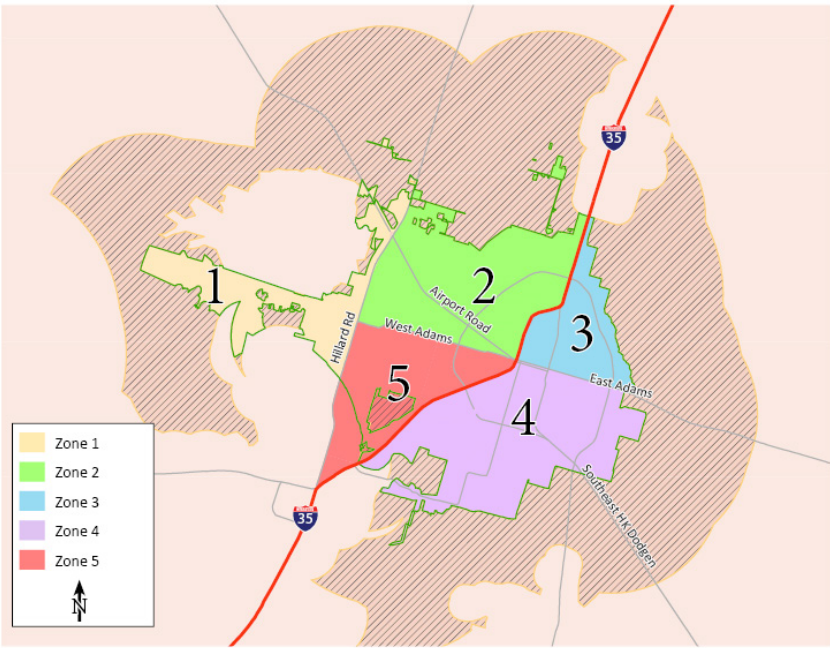
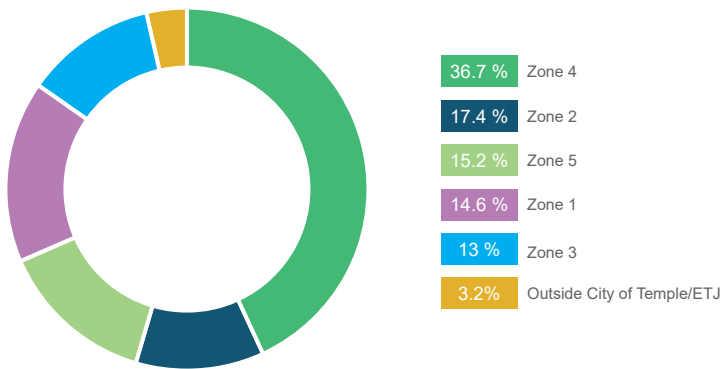
HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN TEMPLE? (316 RESPONSES)



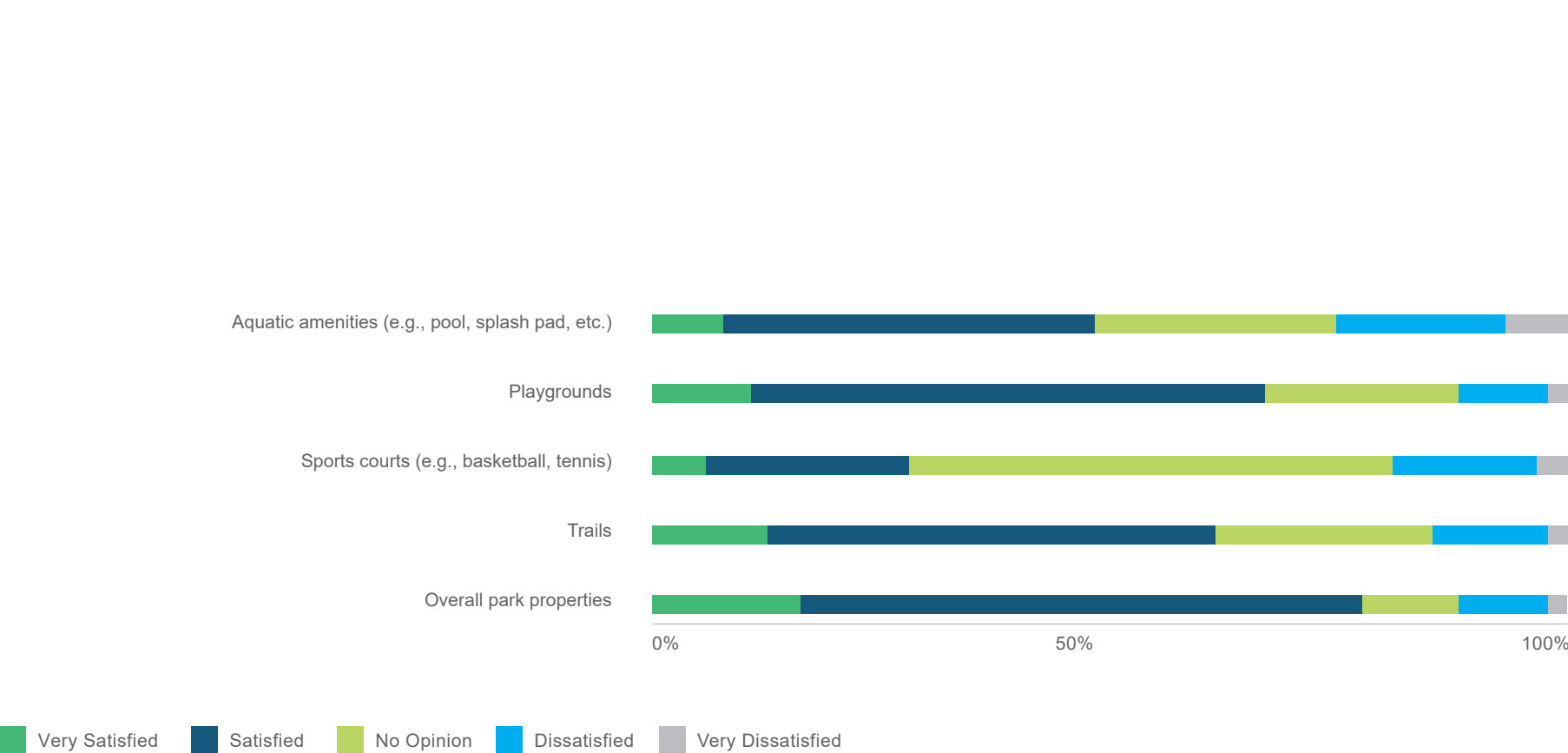
DO YOU HAVE ANY CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE 19 LIVING IN YOUR HOME? (311 RESPONSES)



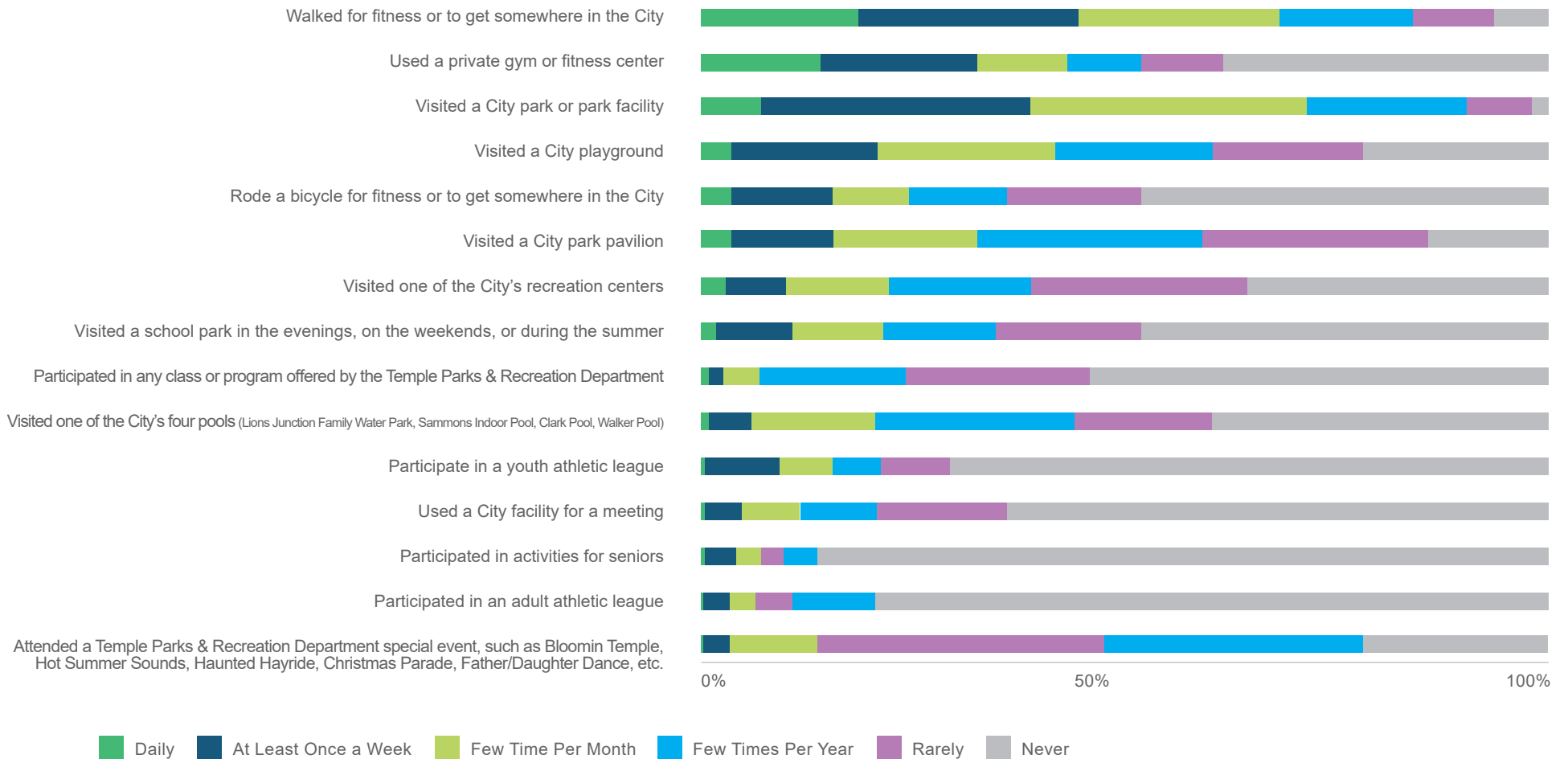
WHAT AREA OF TEMPLE DO YOU LIVE? (316 RESPONSES)



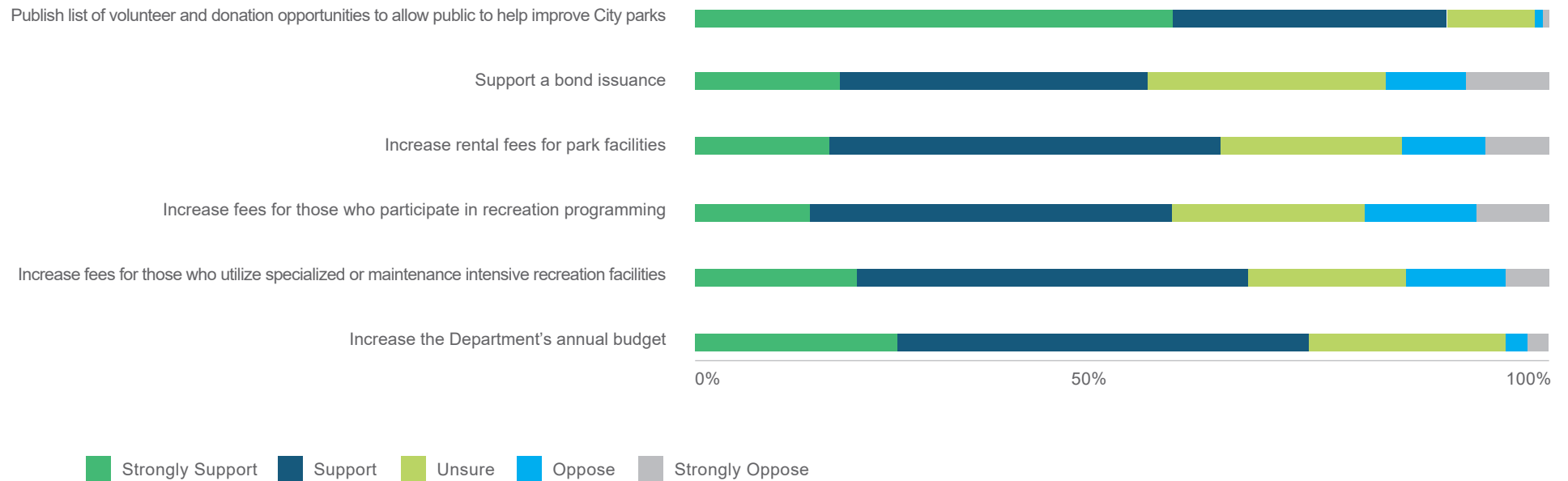
HOW SATISFIED OR DISSATISFIED ARE YOU WITH THE QUALITY, APPEARANCE, AND MAINTENANCE OF THE FOLLOWING PARKS AND REC ELEMENTS? (315 RESPONSES)



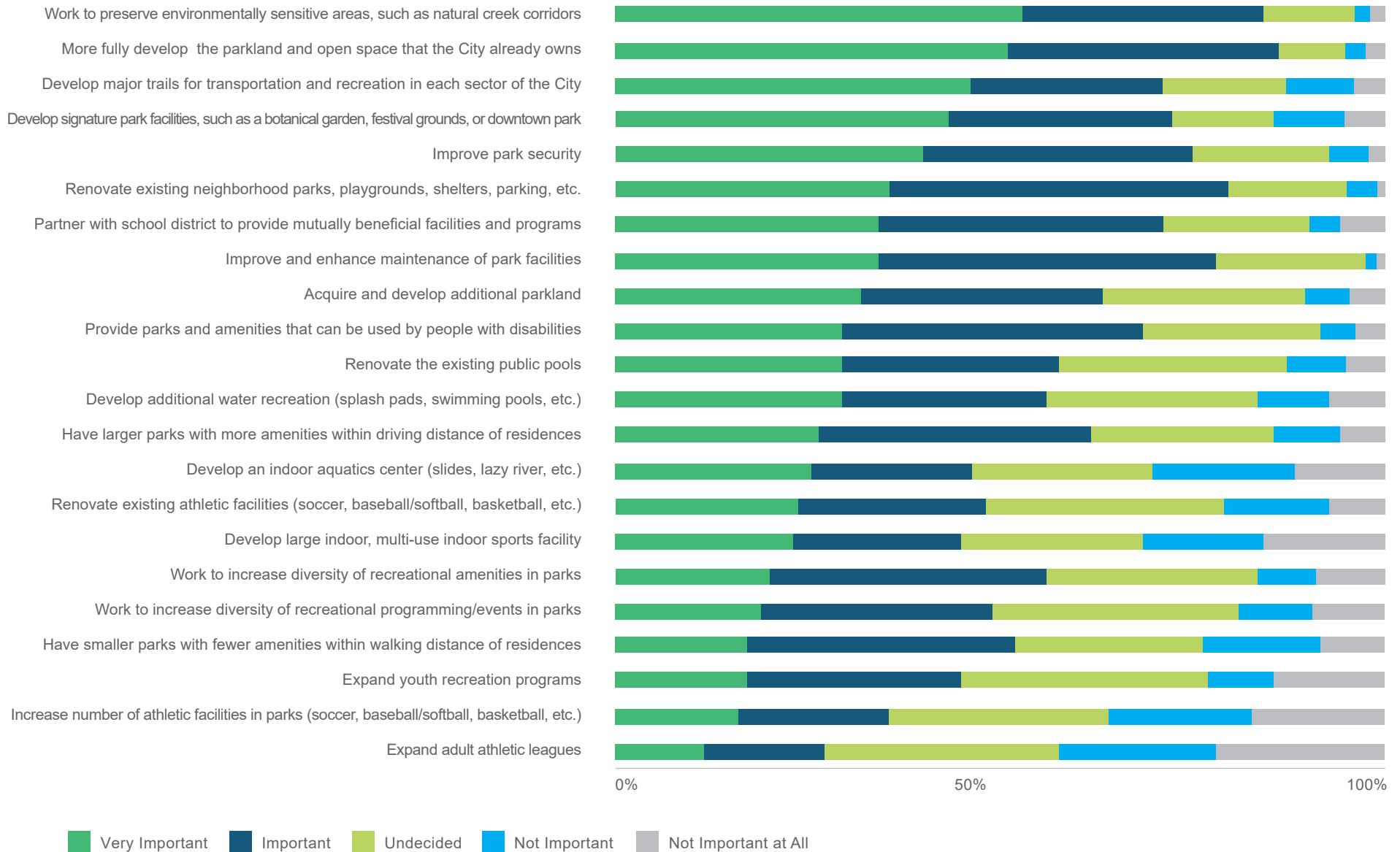
IN THE PAST YEAR, HOW OFTEN HAVE YOU OR YOUR FAMILY PARTICIPATED IN OR USED THE FOLLOWING? (314 RESPONSES)



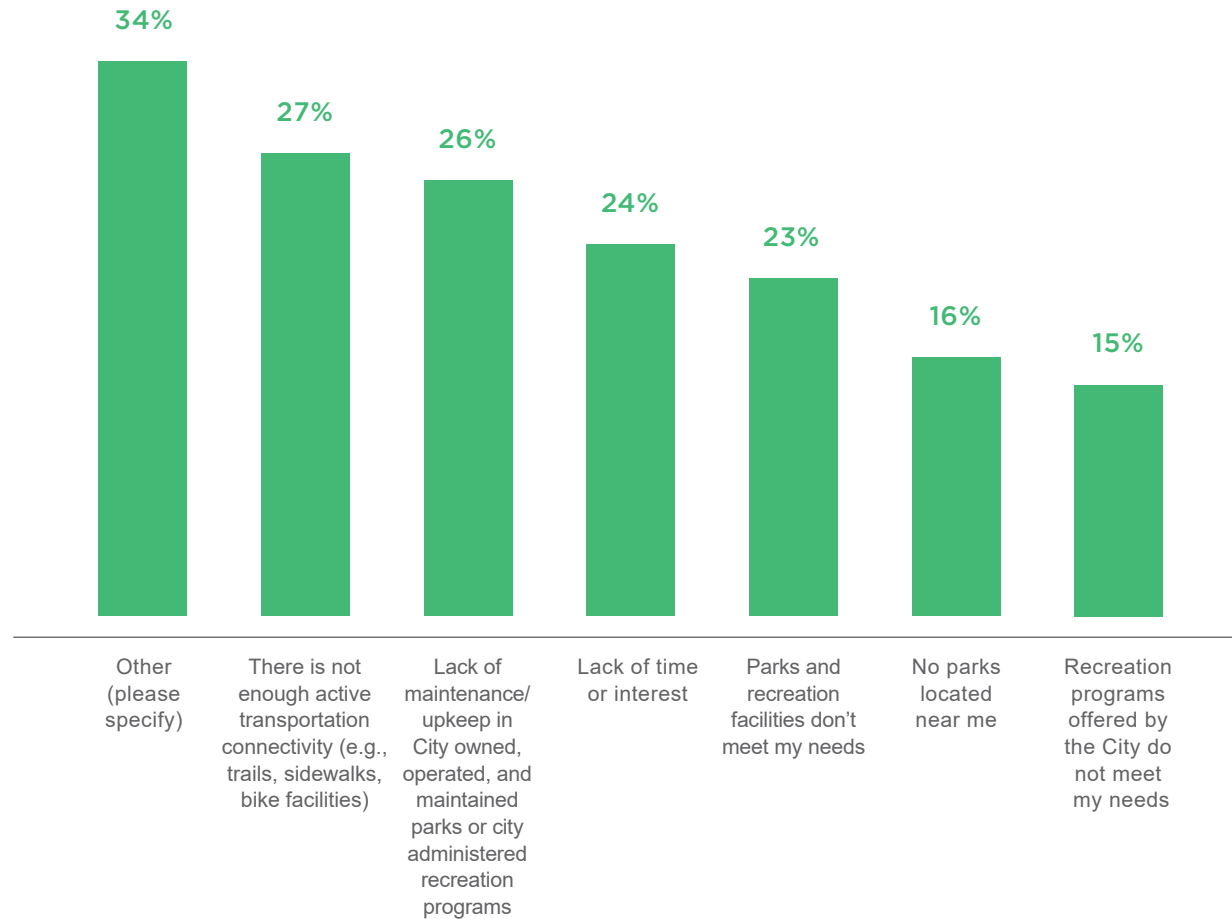
TO MEET THE NEEDS OF ITS GROWING POPULATION, THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT MAY REQUIRE ADDITIONAL FUNDING, HOW STRONGLY WOULD YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE THE CITY CONSIDERING THE FOLLOWING FINANCIAL STRATEGIES? (308 RESPONSES)



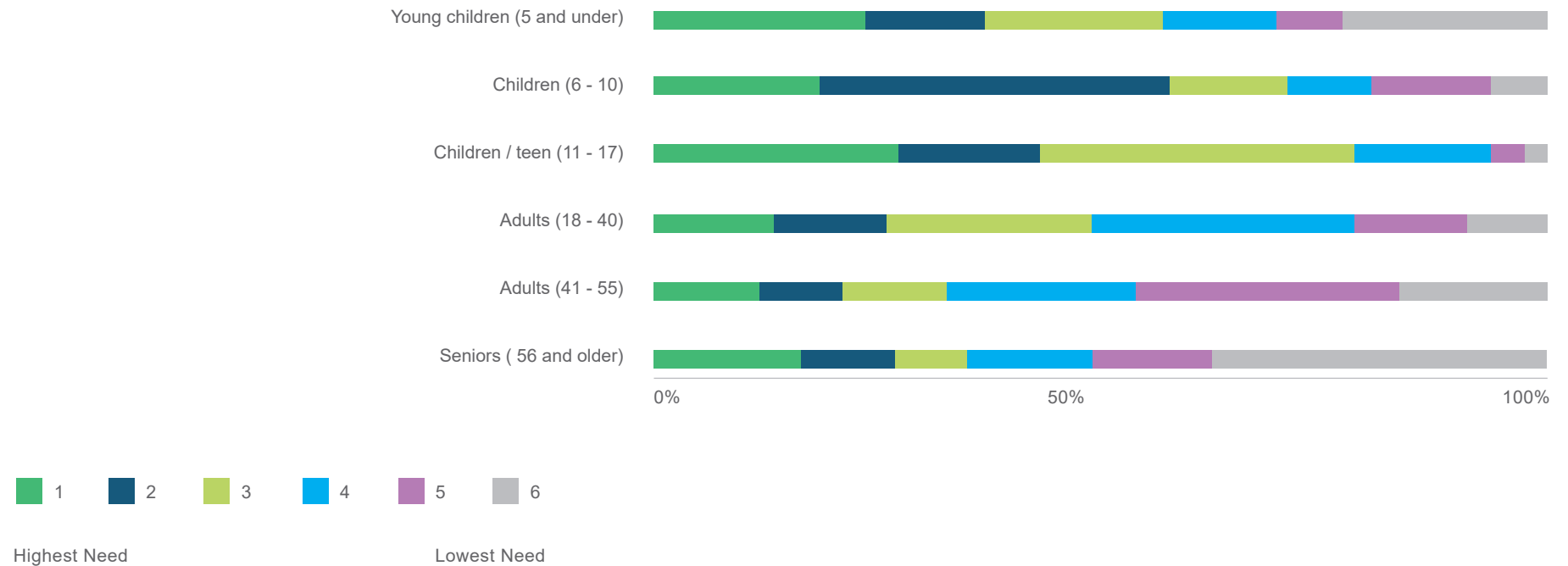
THE CITY IS ESTABLISHING A SERIES OF PRIORITIES TO DIRECT FUTURE ACTIONS FOR PARKS, TRAILS, AND OPEN SPACE. PLEASE INDICATE HOW IMPORTANT THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS ARE TO YOU. (306 RESPONSES)



WHAT IS KEEPING YOU FROM USING THE PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES IN TEMPLE MORE? (253 RESPONSES)



WHICH AGE GROUP NEEDS MORE ATHLETIC OR RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS (1 HIGHEST NEED - 6 LOWEST NEED)? (251 RESPONSES)



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