

PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN 2011 - 2020

CITY OF ALLEN



Prepared By:

MHS
PLANNING & DESIGN, LLC

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PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN 2011 - 2020

CITY OF ALLEN, TEXAS

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I. Park Photographs

II. Citizen Survey Results

The City of Allen and MHS Planning & Design, LLC would like to thank the following community leaders and volunteers for their input in the development of this master plan:

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Tricia Losavio, Secretary	Paul Davidson
Todd McIntosh, Chair	Joey Herald, City Council Liason

Community Development Corporation

W. Lee Howard, President	George Chrisman, Vice President
Lonnie Simmons	Rebecca Tudor
Richard Kessler, Secretary	Cheryl Lawson
Ross Obermeyer	



I. INTRODUCTION

In 2009, the City of Allen commissioned MHS Planning and Design, LLC to assist in developing a new Parks and Open Space Master Plan. This plan is a follow-up to Allen's 2000 Parks and Open Space Master which has guided additions to and renovations of the park system over the last 10 years.

The 2011-2020 Parks and Open Space Master Plan is intended to:

- Provide the City of Allen with an information base to help guide decisions related to parks, recreation and open space
- Assist in the implementation of those decisions and set guidelines for future park and open space development
- Provide feasible recommendations to the governmental body and be in accordance with the desires of Allen's residents
- Include all land within the City of Allen
- Provide parks and open space project recommendations through 2020
- Provide emphasis and detailed cost projections for projects recommended for implementation

The following pages of the Master Plan contain:

- Goals and objectives for a comprehensive city wide parks and open space network
- The methodology used in developing the plan
- An inventory of existing facilities which make up the park network
- An analysis of local needs, the adopted parks, recreation and open space priorities
- The implementation program developed to guide the city in accomplishing the proposed projects within the plan's time frame
- Potential funding sources that may assist with the implementation of the proposed projects

Community Profile

The City of Allen is:

- Located in north central Texas in Collin County
- Approximately 24 miles northeast of Dallas, 56 miles northeast of Fort Worth and 260 miles north of Houston
- Neighbored by Plano, Fairview, McKinney, Parker, Frisco and Lucas
- A total of 26.43 square miles
- An average elevation of 650 feet above mean sea level
- Accessed by US Highway 75 and State Highway 121

The City of Allen's climate and average rainfall do not pose significant barriers to outdoor activities due to the fact that the weather is generally mild and any extreme changes are short in duration.

- Temperatures range from a mean minimum in January of 34 degrees Fahrenheit to a mean maximum in July of 96 degrees Fahrenheit.
- The average first freeze is mid-November and the average last freeze is mid March
- The average rainfall is 40.4 inches per year
- The basic soil type is black clay, although much of the northeast section of Allen is occupied by shallow limestone.



The Edge at Allen Station Park

The following are key points regarding the founding, history and important aspects of the unique community of Allen, Texas.

- Allen was originally inhabited by Caddo and Comanche Indian tribes.
- The European and American immigrants arrived in the early 1840's and forced the tribes north of the Red River and the last known conflict occurred along Rowlett Creek in 1844.
- Allen was part of the Peter's Colony Land Grant from the Republic of Texas.
- The Houston and Texas Central Railroad was constructed in 1872 and laid the original township of Allen.
- Southern Pacific Railroad acquired the railroad in 1883 and the Texas Traction Company purchased right-of-way on the west side of the main line track to construct the Interurban street car line through Allen in 1907.
- After a devastating fire in 1915 and the closing of the Interurban line in 1948, the population of Allen steadily declined to 400 residents in 1950.
- Allen was officially incorporated in 1953 and Home Rule Status and a Council/Manager form of government was adopted in 1979.
- In 1960 the construction of US 75 began and impacted the growth of Allen.
- Developmental Learning Materials and InteCom, Inc. moved to Allen in the 1980's and helped the rise of corporate startups.

Allen's Current Demographics

- Population estimate - 85,288 (August 31, 2010)
- Ethnic breakdown -
 - 81.1 % White Non-Hispanic
 - 10.8 % Hispanic
 - 6.9 % African American
 - 8.0 % Asian-Indian
 - 2.4 % Other
- Median household income - \$123,879
- Senior citizen population - +/- 4,000

Information obtained from the Allen Economic Development Corporation.

II. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The following goals and objectives are provided to give direction for future community decisions regarding parks, recreation and open space. These goals and objectives were established based on input from the City of Allen residents, city staff and park planners' professional opinion.

Park and Recreation Goal:

To ensure the provision of a balanced park and open space system that is easily accessible by all residents and meets the recreational needs of the citizens of Allen and helps to create a unique community character.

Objectives:

- To provide new, different and unique recreational opportunities for all age groups.
- To renovate, rehabilitate and upgrade existing parks in Allen.
- To develop and provide public parks throughout the city that are in close proximity to all neighborhoods.
- To forge partnerships with public and private organizations for the development, operation and maintenance of future recreational facilities.
- To provide a trail system that connects parks, residential and commercial areas and schools.
- To be proactive in developing existing properties to include recreational facilities.
- To continue maintaining the existing park system at a high level and increase maintenance capabilities as new facilities are developed.

Open Space Goal:

To identify, protect and preserve quality natural open spaces for unstructured recreational activities, inherent aesthetic value and protection of valuable ecosystems.

Objectives:

- To continually research the viability of developing trail systems along creeks, floodways, and utility easements that will link public and private recreational facilities, neighborhoods, school campuses and neighboring communities.
- To be proactive in the acquisition and protection of unique natural open spaces throughout the City of Allen.
- To limit development in natural open spaces in order to minimize adverse effects on valuable ecosystems.
- To address natural open space needs when developing active recreational facilities to provide citizens with well balanced recreational experiences that include both active and passive opportunities.

III. METHODOLOGY

The current planning effort officially began in 2009 when the City of Allen began to address the parks and open space opportunities throughout the city. A handful of Allen's city staff were appointed to guide the development of the master plan for future park and recreation opportunities. The city staff were involved in each major step of the planning process and provided the local insight needed to produce a successful master plan.

Several steps were taken in order to create a successful and realistic Master Plan.

- The initial step in evaluating the parks and open space system in Allen was to inventory the existing parks, open space and recreational resources.
- The developed park acreage was compared to the existing population in order to establish the current level of service.
- The existing parks were evaluated against national standards published by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) to allow for an objective review of the park system.
- A citizen survey was developed and a total of 1,414 surveys were received online giving input on Allen's existing park system and future park development.
- Focus group meetings were conducted to obtain more information from multiple environmental, civic and athletic groups.

Based on the citizen input, existing inventory, available resources and professional opinion, potential park projects were developed that included additional parks and recreational facilities for the City of Allen. Once the master project list was developed and refined, the projects for the city were prioritized based on local demand and perception of needs. Budget estimates were generated for each project and possible funding sources were identified.

IV. PARK CLASSIFICATION & INVENTORY

The park classification system for all parks in the city is broken down into nine categories and when combined, form a park network that covers the entire spectrum of recreation.

Pocket/Ornamental Park

A pocket or ornamental park is a small park (usually less than two acres) developed for passive recreation. (Example - Liberty Garden Park)

Mini-Neighborhood Parks

A mini-neighborhood park is a site of approximately one to four acres and serves the area with a one-quarter mile radius with both active and passive recreational opportunities. (Example - Green Park)

Neighborhood Parks

A neighborhood park is a site of approximately five to ten acres and serves the area within a one-half mile radius with both active and passive recreational opportunities. Neighborhood parks provide access to different outdoor activities for residents living in close proximity. (Example - Country Meadows Park)

Community Parks

A community park is a site of approximately 40 to 150 acres with a service area radius of two miles and provides both active, passive and often primitive(nature oriented) recreation. Community parks provide a large variety of outdoor activities, opportunities for environmental education and encourage social community activities. (Example - Bethany Lakes Park)

Special Use Parks

The special use park classification covers a broad range of parks and recreation facilities that focus on one or two specific recreational uses; typically sports fields. Facility space requirements are the primary determinants of site size and location. For example, a golf course may require 150 acres, whereas a community center with parking may only require 10 or 15 acres. Special use parks provide areas for specific activities to allow groups with common interests to participate together. (Example - Edge at Allen Station Park)

Regional Parks

Regional parks typically are a minimum of 50 acres and serve a larger area than the community alone. Regional parks typically have the same type of amenities as community parks and focus on community-based recreation but are much larger in size. Regional parks typically have land set aside to preserve as unique landscapes or natural open space. (Example - Celebration Park)

Greenbelts

Greenbelts or greenbelt parkways are linear parks that are typically developed around a natural resource such as a creek, river, utility easement or lake shore. Not only does a greenbelt system preserve valuable open space and natural habitats, it ties the park systems' components together to form a cohesive park environment. Greenbelt corridors of less than fifty (50) "useable" feet wide should be avoided and narrow corridor sections kept to a minimum. One-hundred foot corridor widths and wider give flexibility in design and are encouraged wherever possible. (Example - Bluffs at Lost Creek Park)

Natural Areas

Natural areas are spaces containing ecosystems in a non-disturbed state with minimal man-made intrusions. Natural areas lend a certain aesthetic and functional diversity to a park network and urban landscape. Although the benefits of natural areas are hard to quantify, they are numerous and include preservation of wildlife habitats, opportunities for nature study and encourage environmental health in the community. When flood plains are preserved as natural areas, they offer a resource to aid in the protection from flooding. There are no national standards for natural areas within a city due to the extreme variations found in natural resources from region to region. (Example - Day Springs Nature Preserve)

Indoor Recreation

Indoor recreation centers provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities in a controlled setting which allows citizens to enjoy year round activities. Recreation centers may include both passive and active recreational amenities. The key to a successful recreation center is the flexibility built into the design of the center, which allows for the same facility to be used for multiple activities. This enables the center to accommodate changing interests and trends with little or no physical improvements required to the facility itself. The NRPA national standard has been one indoor recreation center per 20,000 to 30,000 population. (Example - Joe Farmer Indoor Recreation Center)

Each park category serves a unique purpose:

- Pocket and ornamental parks enhance the visual image of the community and can provide a minimal recreational amenity in older neighborhoods where park land was never acquired.
- Neighborhood parks serve as a family-oriented gathering place for neighborhoods.
- Community parks provide a mix of active, passive and primitive recreational opportunities and lighted sports fields.
- Special use parks provide a specific venue and are devoted to one or two uses - typically sports.
- Greenbelts are natural areas usually containing a pedestrian trail that ties other park types together.
- Natural areas provide a visual escape from the built environment.
- Indoor recreation provides recreational opportunities in a controlled environment that are often not available outdoors.

Classification	Service Area	Size	Population Served	Typical Facilities	Development Cost*
Pocket / Ornamental Park	1/4 Mile	2,500 sq.ft. to 2 acres	500-2,500	Landscaping, drinking fountains, sidewalks & benches	\$65,000 - \$80,000 Per Acre
Mini-Neighborhood Park	1/4 Mile	1 acre to 4 acres	500-2,500	Paved area, playground apparatus, landscaping, sidewalks, drinking fountains, lawn area & benches	\$90,000 - \$150,000 Per Acre
Neighborhood Park	1/2 Mile	5 acres to 10 acres	2,000-10,000	Playground apparatus, picnic area(s), pavilion, play courts, play fields, restroom, natural open space & landscaping	\$70,000 - \$100,000 Per Acre
Community Park	2 Miles	40 acres to 150 acres	10,000-50,000	Tennis courts, sports fields, playground apparatus, picnic area(s), pavilions, walking/jogging trails, swimming pools, open space, landscaping, recreation centers, restrooms & parking	\$30,000 - \$50,000 Per Acre
* Development costs are based on 2010 dollars.					

Classification	Service Area	Size	Population Served	Typical Facilities	Development Cost*
Special Use Park	Varies	Determined by primary use	Varies - Dependent on primary use	Concentration of one or two of the following: Baseball/softball complex, soccer fields, tennis centers, sports stadiums, golf courses, performing arts parks, amphitheaters & ornamental gardens	Varies - Dependent on primary use
Regional Park	10 Miles	Varies	Entire urban area	Sports fields, tennis courts, lakes, swimming complexes, campgrounds, hike/bike trails, golf courses, nature areas, play structures, restrooms & ample parking	\$2,000,000 & up
Greenbelts	Varies	Varies	5,000 to entire community	Landscaping, multi-purpose trails, benches, information kiosks, exercise courses & drinking fountains	\$200,000 - \$500,000 per mile
Natural Areas	Varies	Determined by resource	Entire community	Nature trails, multi-purpose trails, benches, picnic areas, wildlife viewing stations, educational components, information kiosks, interpretive signs, exercise courses & drinking fountains	Varies
Indoor Recreation Center	Varies	10,000 sq. ft. Minimum	20,000 - 30,000	Walking track, fitness rooms, gymnasium, weight room, racquetball/squash courts, indoor swimming pool, meeting/convention facilities, arts and crafts rooms & day care facilities	\$3,000,000 - \$10,000,000

* Development costs are based on 2010 dollars.

Existing Parks and Open Space - Inventory

The existing parks in Allen are classified in the Existing Parks and Open Space Inventory shown in the following table. In order to illustrate the geographic distribution and areas of the city currently served by the park system, the service area of each existing park has been shown on the Existing Parks and Open Space Map and the Existing Community Park Map. Ideally, all developed areas of the city should fall within the service area of a neighborhood park and a community park.

Existing Parks and Open Space

	Name	Type of Park	Developed Acres	Total Acres	Facilities
1	Allen Senior Center	Special-Use	5.6	8.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lounge • Computers • Ballroom • Multi-purpose rooms • Cafeteria • Fitness rooms and machines • Table games/video room
2	Allen Station Park	Community	44	95	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five baseball fields • Four softball fields • Multi-purpose trails • Playground • Horseshoe/washer pits • The Allen Heritage Village • The Allen Water Station Site (Allen Dam) • Natural areas • Picnic facilities • Two restroom/concession facilities
3	Allenwood Park	Neighborhood	3.9	3.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground • Multi-purpose trail • Pavilion • Picnic facilities
4	Bethany Lakes Park	Community	47.8	47.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joe Farmer Recreation Center <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gym - Two classrooms - Fitness room (weights/machines) - Two racquetball courts - Amphitheater - Game room • Fishing ponds with pier • Multi-purpose trail • Playground • Disc golf course • Baseball/softball practice field • Restroom/concession facility • Open lawn areas for practice • Veterans Memorial • Cancer Walk of Hope • Clubhouse • Pavilion • Picnic facilities
5	Bethany Ridge Park	Neighborhood	7.1	7.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishing pond with pier • Playground • Multi-purpose trail • Open space • Undeveloped picnic area

	Name	Type of Park	Developed Acres	Total Acres	Facilities
6	Bluffs at Lost Creek	Greenbelt	5	13.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-purpose trails Pavilion Picnic facilities
7	Bolin Park	Special-Use	11	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two baseball fields Two soccer fields Restroom/concession facility
8	Bradford Crossing Park	Neighborhood	4	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseball/softball practice field Basketball court Playground Multi-purpose trail Pavilion Picnic facilities
9	Bridgewater Crossing	Greenbelt	12.3	12.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open lawn area for practice Playground Pavilion
10	Celebration Park	Regional	99.4	99.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four baseball fields Nineteen soccer fields Two basketball courts Four tennis courts Two ponds Multi-purpose trail (1.5 mi.) Sprayground Playground Three Pavilions Wooded open space Horseshoe/washer pits Picnic facilities Two restroom/concession facilities
11	Chase Oaks Golf Club*	Special-Use	260.9	260.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Golf course
12	Collin Square Greenbelt	Greenbelt	.4	8.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open space
13	Cottonwood Bend Park	Mini-Neighborhood	3.9	3.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Two baseball/softball practice fields Picnic facilities Open lawn areas for practice
14	Country Meadows Park	Neighborhood	7.4	7.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-purpose trails Playground Open lawn areas for practice Pavilion Picnic facilities
15	Custer Meadows	Greenbelt	2.3	2.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural open space Multi-use trails Playground
16	Day Spring Nature Preserve	Natural Area	1.6	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural areas Playground Pavilion Multi-use trails Creek overview Wildflower planting area
<p>* Chase Oaks Golf Club is maintained by its own staff and not included in any assessment of maintenance needs throughout the parks and open space system.</p>					

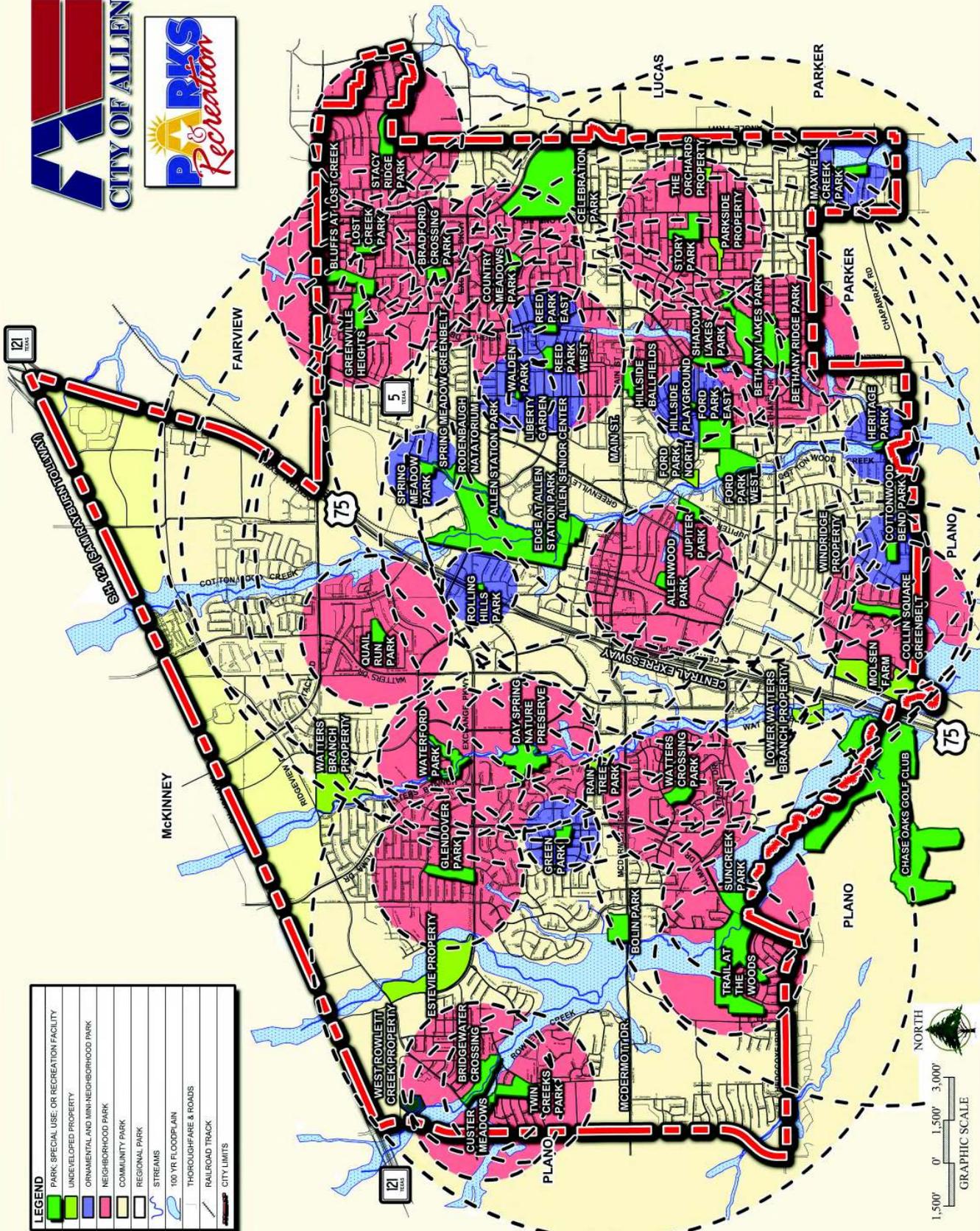
	Name	Type of Park	Developed Acres	Total Acres	Facilities
17	Edge at Allen Station Park	Special-Use	11.3	11.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors/Youth Center • Skate parts shop • Game room/indoor theater • Video game room • Computer lab • Concessions • Skate park • BMX track • Hockey rink • Multi-use trail • Creek overview • Picnic facilities • Restroom/concession facility
18	Estevie Property	Community	0	70.2	
19	Ford Park East	Community	24	24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two lacrosse practice fields • Two football fields • Three softball fields • Playground • Picnic facilities • Pavilion • Restroom/concession facility
20	Ford Park North	Mini-Neighborhood	0	5.6	
21	Ford Park West	Community	19.7	19.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming pool • Hockey rink • Two basketball courts • Four tennis courts • Baseball/softball practice fields • Open lawn areas for practice • Playground • Pavilion • Multi-purpose trails • Picnic facilities
22	Glendover Park	Neighborhood	10.1	10.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishing pond with pier • Multi-use trail • Playground • Open lawn areas for practice • Pavilion • Picnic facilities
23	Green Park	Mini-Neighborhood	5.1	5.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground • Multi-purpose trail • Open lawn areas for practice • Pavilion • Picnic facilities
24	Greenville Heights	Greenbelt	5	12.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural open space • Playground • Multi-use trails
25	Heritage Park	Mini-Neighborhood	1.6	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground • Multi-use trail • Natural areas • Picnic facilities
26	Hillside Ballfields (Currently under renovation - future name change)	Special-Use	9	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blue Sky Indoor Soccer Complex - Currently under construction • Neighborhood park improvements in the future

	Name	Type of Park	Developed Acres	Total Acres	Facilities
27	Hillside Play Area	Mini-Neighborhood	.5	.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground
28	Jupiter Park	Special-Use	7.9	7.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two lighted football fields
29	Liberty Garden	Pocket	.14	.14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perennial garden
30	Lost Creek Park	Neighborhood	5	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basketball court • Baseball/softball practice field • Perimeter side walks • Playground • Open lawn areas for practice • Pavilion • Picnic Facilities
31	Lower Watters Branch Property	Neighborhood	0	10.7	
32	Molsen Farm	Community	0	61.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree farm • Two ponds • Six Cities Trail site
33	Morgan Crossing Park	Mini-Neighborhood	.25	4.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground • Picnic facilities
34	Orchards Property	Mini-Neighborhood	0	2.7	
35	Parkside Property	Mini-Neighborhood	0	4.3	
36	Quail Run Park	Neighborhood	5.1	5.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basketball court • Playground • Baseball/softball practice field • Multi-use trail • Pavilion • Picnic facilities
37	Raintree Park	Neighborhood	0	6.1	
38	Reed Park East	Mini-Neighborhood	3.4	3.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tennis court • Lacrosse field • Picnic facilities • In-line hockey rink
39	Reed Park West	Neighborhood	5.8	5.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseball/softball practice field • Three playgrounds • Trail with interpretive signage • Open lawn areas for practice • Picnic facilities
40	Rodenbaugh Natatorium	Special-Use	8.3	10.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor swimming pool- 25m x 25yds • Competition and leisure areas • Rock climbing wall • Aerobics room • Fitness Center
41	Rolling Hills Park	Mini-Neighborhood	.5	.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground • Interpretive signage • Landscaping • Picnic facilities

	Name	Type of Park	Developed Acres	Total Acres	Facilities
42	Shadow Lakes Park	Natural Area	5.6	5.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural open space Multi-purpose trail Pavilion Picnic facilities
43	Spring Meadow Greenbelt	Greenbelt	2	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural areas Multi-purpose trails
44	Spring Meadow Park	Mini-Neighborhood	4.7	4.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Multi-purpose sports court Multi-purpose trail Pavilion Picnic facilities
45	Stacy Ridge Park	Neighborhood	14.7	14.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two half court basketball courts Playground Multi-purpose trail Large open lawn areas for practice Large wooded area Pavilion Picnic facilities
46	Story Park	Neighborhood	10.1	10.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Two half court basketball courts Open lawn areas Multi-purpose trail Pavilion Picnic facilities
47	Suncreek Park	Neighborhood	13.2	13.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sand volleyball court Playground Multi-purpose trail Cricket practice pitch Open lawn areas for practice Pond with viewing deck Pavilion Picnic facilities
48	Trail at The Woods	Greenbelt	14.7	68	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural open space Multi-purpose trail Soft surface interpretive trail
49	Twin Creeks Park	Neighborhood	11	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-purpose trail Playground Open lawn areas for practice Pole barn Pavilion Picnic facilities
50	Walden Park	Pocket	.5	.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small multi-purpose sports court Playground Picnic facilities
51	Waterford Park	Neighborhood	2.5	10.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Native drought tolerant garden Multi-purpose trail Picnic facilities
52	Watters Branch Property	Community	0	50.4	

	Name	Type of Park	Developed Acres	Total Acres	Facilities
53	Watters Crossing Park	Neighborhood	8.1	8.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground • Multi-purpose sports court • Open lawn areas for practice • Pavilion • Picnic facilities
54	Windridge Property	Pocket	0	.4	
	Total Park Acres			1,094.2	
	Total Developed Acres		726.3		

LEGEND	
	PARK, SPECIAL USE, OR RECREATION FACILITY
	UNDEVELOPED PROPERTY
	ORNAMENTAL AND MINI-NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
	NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
	COMMUNITY PARK
	REGIONAL PARK
	STREAMS
	100-YR FLOODPLAIN
	THOROUGHFARE & ROADS
	RAILROAD TRACK
	CITY LIMITS



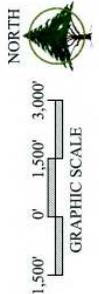
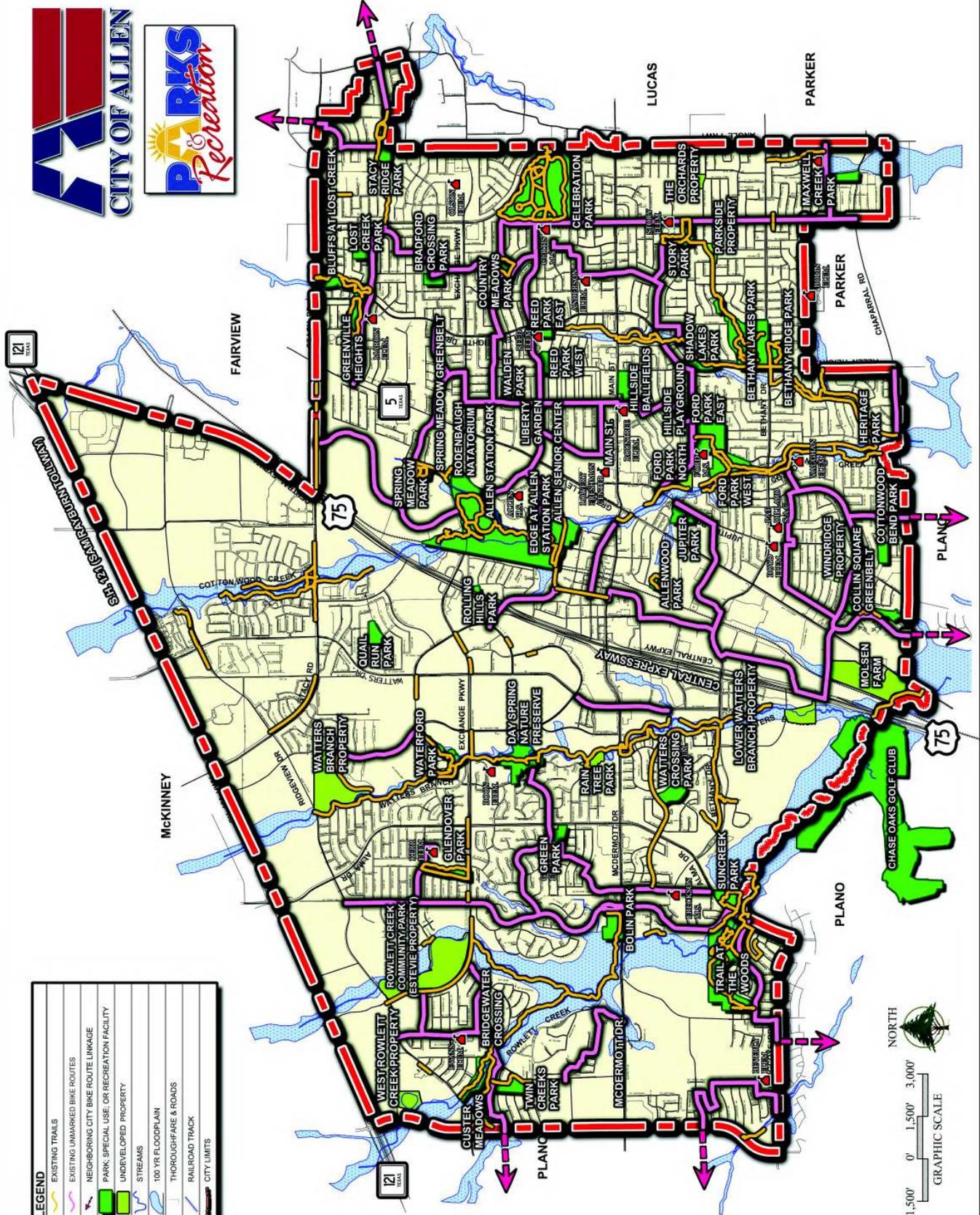
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MHS
 PLANNING & DESIGN, LLC

EXISTING PARKS & OPEN SPACES
 CITY OF ALLEN
 COLLIN COUNTY, TEXAS

DRAWN: DEL	OF
CHECKED: MHS	
DATE: APRIL 2010	
SCALE: AS SHOWN	
JOB NO.: 10-006	

LEGEND	
	EXISTING TRAILS
	EXISTING UNMARKED BIKE ROUTES
	NEIGHBORING CITY BIKE ROUTE LINKAGE
	PARK, SPECIAL USE, OR RECREATION FACILITY
	UNDEVELOPED PROPERTY
	STREAMS
	100 YR FLOODPLAIN
	THOROUGHFARE & ROADS
	RAILROAD TRACK
	CITY LIMITS



EXISTING TRAIL & BICYCLE ROUTE MAP
CITY OF ALLEN
COLLIN COUNTY, TEXAS

MHS
PLANNING & DESIGN, LLC

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7501 Texas, Texas
212 West Ninth Street

DRAWN: DEL
CHECKED: MHS
DATE: APRIL 2010
SCALE: AS SHOWN
JOB NO.: 10-006

OF

V. LEVEL OF SERVICE

Level of service is the term used to describe the importance or the role of a park system in a community and is expressed in acres of useable park land per 1,000 persons. For the last forty years, the targeted level of service for communities nationwide has been ten acres of park land for every 1,000 residents. Based on the specific needs of a community, levels of service ranging from five acres of developed park land per 1,000 people to 15 acres of developed park land per 1,000 people are typically targeted.

It is important to note that the level of service for parks and open space is based on useable space and, therefore, undeveloped park land should not be a factor in the level of service calculation. Although private recreational facilities and golf courses should be considered when establishing the desired level of service for that activity to be provided by the community, the actual acreage is not typically used in the calculation because they are not owned by the city.

The City of Allen currently owns 1,094.2 total park acres and a total of 726.3 acres of the 1,094.2 acres are developed. The current level of service for the City of Allen is 8.5 acres of developed park land per 1,000 residents. The City of Allen owns a total of 12.8 acres of total park land per 1,000 people when calculating both developed and undeveloped properties.



Bethany Ridge Park

The following table shows the total park acres, developed park acres and the level of service for each different type of park classification in Allen in 2011.

Park Classification	Total Developed Park Acres	Total Park Acres	Level of Service (Total Developed Park Acres Per 1,000 Residents)
Pocket Park	.64	1.0	.008
Mini- Neighborhood Park	19.9	38.4	.24
Neighborhood Park	108	132.4	1.3
Community Park	135.5	368.2	1.6
Special Use Park	314	319.1	3.8
Regional Park	99.4	99.4	1.2
Greenbelt	41.7	119.1	.50
Natural Area	7.2	16.6	.09
Total Park Acres		1,094.2	12.8
Total Developed Acres	726.3		8.5

2010 Estimated Population - 85,288 - August 31, 2010 - Allen EDC website

2020 Estimated Population - 97,938

Level of Service based on the number of DEVELOPED park acres per 1,000 population

VI. ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS AND CONCLUSIONS

Recreational needs are determined using the following planning approaches:

- Demand Based - what the citizens desire
- Standard Based - what the park standards call for
- Resource Based - what the local natural resources can offer
- Capacity Based - what sport facilities can accommodate based on scheduling and maintenance

This combination allowed the desires for recreational opportunities expressed by citizens with different interests to be compared with NRPA standards and peer cities while at the same time recognizing the unique natural attributes of the area.

The Needs Assessment integrates supply and demand.

- The supply - existing park and recreation facilities and the natural resources of the area
- The demand - identified through the stated goals and objectives, the concept of level of service, national standards and most importantly, input from local citizens.

Local needs were determined through:

- Public meetings
- Focus group meetings
- Citizen survey
- Elected officials interviews
- Parks Board meetings
- Professional city staff interviews

The result is a balanced analysis which reflects the parks and recreation needs and desires of Allen residents through 2020.

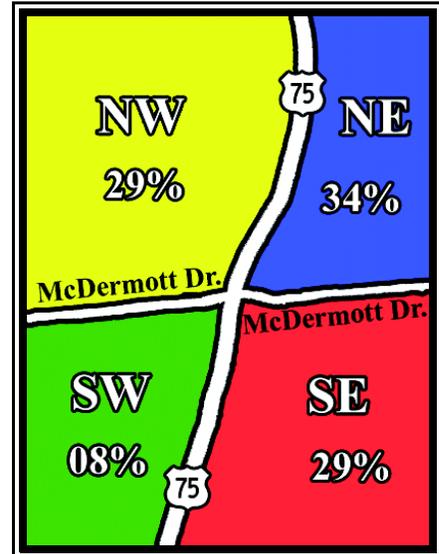
The following table depicts populations for the City of Allen today and projections throughout the planning period.

2010	2015	2020
85,288	90,000	97,938

City of Allen EDC website.

Citizen Survey Results

In January of 2010, the City of Allen posted an online survey regarding the existing park system and the expectations of residents regarding the future park system. A total of 1,414 citizens responded to the survey with opinions about the existing facilities and the need for the future of Allen's Park System. The majority of the respondents (55%) were between the ages of 35-44 and twenty-three percent (23%) were 45-54 years old. In addition, the survey was broken down into different quadrants of the city in order to see how needs differed in the four portions of Allen. The graphic to the right expresses the percentages of returned surveys in each quadrant of the city.



The following list is a summary of the key responses regarding the City of Allen's Park System.

The complete survey results can be found in Appendix II.

- Ninety-eight percent (98%) of the respondents expressed that the role of parks, recreation and open spaces are "extremely important" or "important" in Allen.
- Ninety-six percent (96%) of the respondents "strongly agree" or "agree" that parks and recreation facilities are well worth the cost to taxpayers.
- Eighty-six percent (86%) of the respondents expressed that additional parks and recreational facilities are needed in Allen.
- Seventy-four percent (74%) of the respondents expressed that existing parks should be upgraded and/or improved to include additional facilities.
- Eighty-seven percent (87%) of the respondents expressed that residential neighborhoods, schools and parks should be connected with linear parks such as trails along creeks and corridors.
- Ninety-one percent (91%) of the respondents expressed the Allen park system is good or excellent.

The acquisition and development of park land and the maintenance of park facilities can be expensive. Residents were asked their preferred form of funding in order to develop and maintain parks. Each respondent had the opportunity to choose their top three responses with the number one response being worth three points, number two response worth two points and the number three response worth one point. The following table represents the top answers when asked where funding future parks should come from other than state grants.

Rank	Preferred Form of Funding	Weighted Scores
1	Bond Program	328
2	Donations	280
3	Sales Tax	255
4	Property Tax	172
5	Park User Fees	95

The survey had a question asking citizens what facilities they want added to the Allen park system. Twenty-seven recreational facilities were listed and each respondent was to choose their top five choices and rank them with one being the highest and five being the lowest. Each number was then awarded points to create a weighted score. If a one was chosen, it was worth five points, if a two was chosen, it was worth four points, if a three was chosen, it was worth three points...etc. The following table represents the rank and weighted scores of the non-sports related facility priorities desired by residents.

Non-Organized Sports Related Facility Priorities

Rank	Facilities	Weighted Score
1	Multi-use Paved Trails	1,420
2	Nature Trails	1,317
3	Shade at Playgrounds and Other Facilities	1,290
4	Nature Areas	891
5	Indoor Recreation Centers	626
6	Botanical/Flower Gardens	533
7	Outdoor Swimming Pools	532
8	Dog Parks	528
9	Water Features (creeks, small lakes, etc)	515

Rank	Facilities	Weighted Score
10	Playgrounds	479
11	Picnic Shelters/Pavilions	451
12	Lawn Areas for General Play	428
13	Fishing Piers/Docks	425
14	Sprayground/Small Water Parks	401
15	Sand Volleyball Courts	388
16	Camping/Day Camps	384
17	Indoor Swimming Pools	310
18	Bandstand/Amphitheaters	292
19	Kayak/Canoe Rentals	289
20	Community Gardens	279
21	Disc Golf Courses	207
22	Skate Parks	85
23	Horseshoe/Washer Courts	53

The following table represents the rank and weighted scores of the sports-related facility priorities desired by residents.

Organized Sports-Related Facility Priorities

Rank	Facilities	Weighted Score
1	Sports Practice Fields (Multi-use)	1,473
2	Football Fields	1,190
3	Basketball Courts	848
4	Soccer Fields	807
5	Baseball Fields	666
6	Tennis Centers	558
7	Lacrosse Fields	381
8	Adult Softball Fields	325
9	Youth Softball Fields	189
10	Cricket Fields	68

In order to better understand the desires and needs of senior citizens in Allen, the facility priorities for ages 55 and up were tabulated separately. The following table represents the rank and weighted scores of the senior citizen's top ten priority facilities.

Senior Citizen Facility Priorities

Rank	Facilities	Weighted Score
1	Nature Trails	107
2	Nature Areas	91
3	Botanical/Flower Gardens	79
4	Shade at Playgrounds and other Facilities	65
5	Multi-use Paved Trails	49
6	Water Features (creeks, small lakes, etc)	46
7	Dog Parks	44
8	Bandstand/Amphitheaters	39
8	Sports Practice Fields	39
9	Picnic Shelters/Pavilions	35
10	Football Fields	33

Focus Groups and Public Meetings

In order to better understand the needs of citizens, focus group meetings and public meetings were held in Allen. The public meetings were well attended and the focus groups were informative tools to get specific information regarding different organizations, clubs, groups and sports organizations around town. The following list is representative of the most common comments and concerns heard throughout the meetings.

- The Master Plan needs to address developing new parks on existing properties and upgrading existing parks rather than acquiring new land - focus must remain on what the city already owns.
- The City of Allen needs first class facilities with a high level of maintenance in order to compete with surrounding cities.
- The City of Allen has numerous trails but needs to connect the trail segments in order to create a trail network.

- The city needs more passive parks - areas with shade and benches.
- The City of Allen and Allen ISD have a close working relationship. This relationship needs to be continued and expanded where practical.
- The City of Allen is focused on quality and detail in the park facilities and needs to continue in that direction.
- The city needs to consider an increase in the maintenance budget to continue to have top quality facilities.
- The city needs to provide more programming - educating and encouraging youth to be more active as additional parks come online.
- Greenbelts need to remain in their natural conditions - little to no maintenance is necessary.
- Joe Farmer Recreation Center is too small.
- More practice and game fields are needed for each organized sport.
- The Natatorium needs childcare for parents with young children in order to allow parents to participate.
- Recycling and other green initiatives need to be improved within the park system - especially Celebration Park.

Senior Citizen Focus Group Meeting

Senior citizens are a growing demographic and have their own needs and desires from the Allen Park System and need to be considered when planning and constructing facilities. In order to better understand senior citizen needs, a focus group was held at the Allen Senior Recreation Center. The following are key points from the participants at the senior center.

- The variety of activities, the great staff, Casino Night and the meals are all successes at the Allen Senior Recreation Center.
- The center is beneficial to seniors because it is a great place to interact with friends and they provide transportation within and outside of the community.
- Additional walking trails and security are needed in the park system.
- The Allen Park System needs more:
 - Trails
 - Covered pavilions
 - Community gardens
 - Benches
 - Art opportunities

New Parks - Needs

Based on responses from the citizen survey, input from focus group and public input meetings it is apparent that the City of Allen needs new parks and additional developed park acreage. Each park within the park network has a service radius to identify how far people are typically willing to travel to a particular park from the surrounding area. It is estimated that people are most often willing to walk ½ mile to a neighborhood park. When asked if residents could reasonably and safely walk to a city park in Allen from their home, a total of seventy percent (70%) of the respondents stated yes. The majority of the city is covered by the ½ mile service radii from all the parks. (Reference the Existing Parks and Open Space Map on page 16.) A total of eighty-six percent (86%) of the survey respondents feel that additional parks and facilities are needed in Allen. The City of Allen owns nine undeveloped properties located across the city that can be developed into new parks. These nine undeveloped properties total 217.8 acres. The City of Allen’s primary focus should be on developing the following undeveloped properties. The secondary focus should be to acquire new parkland in unserved areas.

Undeveloped Properties

	Name	Type of Park	Total Acres
1	Rowlett Creek Community Park (Estevie Property)	Community	70.2
2	Ford Park North	Mini-Neighborhood	5.6
3	Lower Watters Branch Property	Neighborhood	10.7
4	Molsen Farm	Community	61.1
5	Orchards Property	Mini-Neighborhood	2.7
6	Parkside Property	Mini-Neighborhood	4.3
7	Raintree Park	Neighborhood	6.1
8	Watters Branch Property	Community	50.4
9	Windridge Property	Pocket	.4
10	Northwest Special Use Property	Special-Use	6.3

New parks are needed in the City of Allen and fortunately the city owns many undeveloped properties that can satisfy that need. However, if land becomes available at a reasonable price or by donation, then the city should not hesitate to purchase or accept the land as long as it follows the goals and objectives of this plan. For instance, the city needs to continue acquiring additions to West Rowlett Creek Property and the Watters Branch Property in the northwestern part of town.

Existing Parks - Needs

In addition to developing existing undeveloped properties and increasing the parks and open space level of service in the City of Allen, it is imperative to continue upgrading and renovating the existing older parks and continue to maintain all of the parks at a high level. Each neighborhood has individual characteristics and needs. Therefore, each park should reflect those specific characteristics and needs.

A total of seventy-four percent (74%) of the survey respondents expressed the need for upgraded and renovated parks and facilities in the City of Allen. The city has excelled at providing, developing and maintaining the existing park system and needs to continue this approach. The city needs to upgrade and improve the oldest existing facilities e.g. Watters Crossing Park, to continue satisfying local needs.. Additional walking trails, playgrounds, benches, shaded areas, picnicking shelters/pavilions and enhanced landscaping are all examples of upgrades to the existing park system that are needed.



The Chase Oaks Golf Course is in need of re-development to encourage more youth, female and recreational players. The Chase Oaks Master Plan was previously completed and needs to be implemented in order to create a more playable and less maintenance intensive course. The current driving range at the course is undersized and needs to be re-developed to allow for more participants to practice at a time.

In addition, each park playground needs to be reviewed for compliance with the current safety guidelines established by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). Also, all existing park and recreation facilities need to be evaluated in terms of accessibility and upgraded (if needed) to meet the accessibility standards under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Athletic Facilities - Needs

Since athletic organizations have different recreational needs than the general public, a carrying capacity analysis was used to determine the true needs of the different sport associations. The carrying capacity is the number of games one athletic field can accommodate each week. In addition to the carrying capacity analysis, focus group meetings were specifically held with different sports organizations. These meetings gave insight into how sports organizations are managed in Allen and what each different organization needs to better provide recreational opportunities for the growing population.

Youth Athletics

Football - Youth football is a popular sport in the City of Allen and is currently growing at a fast rate and should continue to grow into the future. The youth football league plays at Ford Park, Jupiter Park, Lovejoy High School and Allen High School. Currently, a total of 46 teams play on four 80-yard fields and 36 teams play on two 100 yard fields. This past 2010 Spring season, the youth football league had a total of 82 teams participating on a total of six fields. Lovejoy High School officials charge the youth football league to play on their football field. Ideally, a youth football field can support 12 teams per week. (*6 games per Saturday*)

The following table represents the current and future needs of the youth football program based on the number of teams per field. (Assumes Lovejoy High School fields will be available in 2020)

Field Sizes	Number of Existing Game Fields 2010	Number of Teams 2010	Number of Required Game Fields 2010	Number of Teams 2020*	Number of Required Game Fields 2020
80 Yards	4	46	4	58	5
100 Yards	2	36	3	45	4
Total	6	82	7	103	9

*The estimated number of teams in 2020 is based on double the City of Allen's 1.2% population growth per year - a total of 2.4% increase per year.

Youth football is currently lacking one 100-yard football field if they continue to play at Lovejoy. If Lovejoy is no longer an option or available then two 100 yard football fields will be needed. By the year 2020, youth football will need one additional 80 yard field and two 100 yard fields.

In addition, if the City of Allen develops Jupiter Park into a dog park then two additional 80-yard football fields will be needed to replace the existing fields.

Soccer - Youth soccer currently plays most of their games at Celebration Park and occasionally at Bolin Park. The City of Allen has a total of 23 soccer fields and they are broken down into different sizes for different age groups as follows:

- 8 - 60' x 90' fields (U6)
- 6 - 90' x 120' fields (U8)
- 6 - 150' x 240' fields (U10)
- 2 - 180' x 300' fields (U15)
- 1 - 240' x 300 field (U16-U19)



Soccer games are typically played on Saturdays and each team plays one game per week. Ideally the carrying capacity of a soccer field is 12 teams per week (six games per Saturday). The Spring and Fall seasons vary in which has the most participants in each age group. In order to calculate the current use of the fields, the highest number of teams was used in each age group, regardless of the season.

The following table represents the current and future needs of youth soccer based on providing one game field for each 12 teams in an age group.

Age Groups	Number of Existing Game Fields 2010	Number of Teams 2010	Number of Required Game Fields 2010	Number of Teams 2020*	Number of Required Game Fields 2020
U5 - U6	8	109	9	136	12
U7 - U8	6	91	8	113	10
U9 - U10	6	52	5	65	6
U11 - U15	2	28	3	35	3
U16 - U19	1	21	2	27	3
Total	23	301	27	376	34

*The estimated number of teams in 2020 is based on double the City of Allen's 1.2% population growth per year - a total of 2.4% increase per year.

There is currently a need for four additional soccer fields in Allen and an additional seven more fields by the year 2020. There is a need for additional fields due to the fact that soccer games are typically only played on Saturdays which limits the amounts of games that can be played per week and because of the large amount of participation in the growing sport.

Baseball - The youth baseball league in Allen has slowly grown over the past few years and is projected to continue to grow over the next ten years. Different age groups play on different sized fields and the City of Allen currently offers eleven fields:



- 4 - 200' fields at Allen Station Park (U4 - U12)
- 2 - 225' fields at Celebration Park (U4 - U12)
- 2 - 250' fields at Bolin Park (U13 - U15)
- 2 - 300' fields at Allen Station Park and Celebration Park (One field per park) (U13 - U15)
- 1 - 325' field at Celebration Park (U16 - U18)

Boys baseball games are typically played five days a week leaving Wednesdays and Sundays available for rest and rainout days. Typically each team plays two games a week and three games can be played per field per night. At this rate a total of 15 games a week can be played on a single field. For this analysis, one game field for each 14 teams is applied as the targeted standard.

The following table represents the carrying capacity of the youth baseball fields based on the number of teams in Allen.

Age Groups	Number of Existing Game Fields 2010	Number of Teams 2010	Number of Required Game Fields 2010	Number of Teams 2020*	Number of Required Game Fields 2020
U4 - U10	6	87	6	110	8
U11 - U12	2	8	1	10	1
U13 - U15	2	4	1	5	1
U16 - U18	1	0	0	1	1
Total	11	99	8	126	11

*The estimated number of teams in 2020 is based on double the City of Allen's 1.2% population growth per year - a total of 2.4% increase per year.

The City of Allen is projected to have a deficit of two U4 - U10 baseball fields by 2020. This particular age group can play on 200' or 225' fields. There is a current surplus of three baseball fields in the system, but the surplus is projected to be absorbed by the end of the planning period - 2020.

Softball - The youth softball program in Allen has remained relatively consistent in the number of teams and players over the past few years. In 2009, a total of 37 teams played on a total of four fields at Allen Station Park. The four fields are all 200' fields and support all the youth softball players. Typically, games are played four nights a week: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. All four fields are lighted which allows for three games to be played per field per night. A total of 48 games can be played per week which accommodates 96 teams using the one game field for each 12 teams standard, playing one game per week or 48 teams playing two games per week. No more youth softball fields are needed at this time or in 2020 at the projected growth rate of youth softball.

Softball Leagues	Number of Existing Game Fields 2010	Number of Teams 2010	Number of Required Game Fields 2010	Number of Teams 2020*	Number of Required Game Fields 2020
Youth Softball	4	37	3	42	4
Total	4	7	3	42	4

*The estimated number of teams in 2020 is based on double the City of Allen's 1.2% population growth per year - a total of 2.4% increase per year.

Adult Athletics

The City of Allen has a large following of participants in the adult leagues that include several different sports. The following recreational sports are all part of the adult leagues and need to be considered when integrating athletics into the park system due to the fact that Allen's adult population is a growing demographic.

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| • Volleyball | • Ultimate Frisbee |
| • Basketball | • Soccer |
| • Flag Football | • Softball |

Adult Softball - It is important to specifically consider the needs of adult softball because of the large number of participants. In 2009, a total of 5,904 residents participated in the adult softball league totaling 328 teams. The summer league typically has the most participants - 112 total teams this 2010 season. Currently, adult softball is played Monday through Friday and four games are played per field per night on the three softball fields at Ford Park. At this usage



level, each field can accommodate 40 teams. A targeted capacity standard of one game field for each 32 teams for adult softball is recommended for Allen. This ratio will help the league accommodate rainouts and provide a small amount of flexibility in game scheduling. Based on the one field per 32 teams ratio, the following table shows the demand for adult softball.

Adult Softball League	Number of Existing Game Fields 2010	Number of Teams 2010	Number of Required Game Fields 2010	Number of Teams 2020*	Number of Required Game Fields 2020
Softball	3	112	4	139	5
Total	3	112	4	139	5

*The estimated number of teams in 2020 is based on double the City of Allen’s 1.2% population growth per year - a total of 2.4% increase per year.

There is currently a deficit of one adult softball field in the City of Allen and a total of two fields will be needed by the year 2020. In order to support the adult softball program, it is necessary to currently provide a total of four softball fields and a total of five by 2020.

In order to provide for the adult leagues in Allen, an adult athletic complex is needed. An area that has soccer fields, a football field, at least two softball fields and multi-purpose fields is needed. This complex is needed not only because of the popularity and projected growth in adult sports but also because it will make other existing athletic fields and general use fields more readily available for youth sports.

Swimming Pool - Needs

The City of Allen currently owns two swimming pools - an indoor pool and an outdoor pool. The indoor swimming facility is named the Don Rodenbaugh Natatorium (constructed in January 2002) and includes a competition swimming pool and leisure swimming areas. The outdoor pool is located at Ford Park West and was constructed in 1986. Indoor aquatics ranked number 17 and



outdoor pools ranked number seven on the citizen survey. Currently, the one indoor facility fulfills the need for indoor aquatic needs and is sufficient for the City of Allen. The existing pool at Ford Park (24 years old) is in fair condition and has been well maintained but needs to be upgraded or re-developed in the near future to overcome continual repairs, provide more aquatic activities and to allow additional access for more users as the population continues to grow in Allen. The city needs to review and implement the “Ford Pool Master Plan” created in May of 2009 in order to fulfill the aquatic needs of the City of Allen residents. The plan suggests three different concepts for upgrades to the Ford Park Pool and they are as follows:

Concept 1 - Construct a new bathhouse in the existing bathhouse location and upgrade the existing pool using as much of the existing pool shell as possible.

Concept 2 - Construct a new bathhouse in the existing bathhouse location, demolish the existing pool and construct a sprayground, lazy river, leisure pool with zero depth entry, waterslides and a separate diving well.

Concept 3 - Construct a new bathhouse to a picturesque location across the creek from the vacant city property which can become the new parking area and entry across a pedestrian bridge. The aquatic features include the construction of a sprayground, lazy river, leisure pool with zero depth entry, waterslides, separate diving well and a drop slide feature.

The implementation of Concept 1 will only provide a temporary fix for an aging and limited facility. The implementation of Concept 2 or Concept 3 at Ford Pool will go a long way toward satisfying the existing and projected demand for outdoor aquatic activities in Allen. It should be noted that home owner association pools are moderately prevalent in Allen. Although these association pools satisfy a portion of the need for outdoor pools, these facilities are typically small and the need for a quality public outdoor pool is still very real.

Trails - Needs

Currently, the City of Allen does a great job in planning and constructing trails throughout the city. However, it is important to make sure all the trails are connected so that the individual trails become a purposeful trail system that connects residential areas, parks and businesses. Multi-purpose trails ranked number one in the citizen survey and a total of eighty-seven percent (87%) of the respondents strongly agreed or agreed that residential neighborhoods,



schools and parks should be connected with linear parks such as trails along creeks and other corridors. The “Six Cities Trail Plan - A Regional Linkage Plan” must be followed in order to connect with trails in neighboring communities. In addition, the “Linear Greenbelt Park Study” developed in 1986, discusses valuable concepts regarding linear greenbelts and trails and how they relate to the natural areas surrounding Allen. It is apparent that more trails and trail connections are needed in the City of Allen. In addition, multi-purpose trails and soft-surfaced trails are needed in and throughout individual parks for walking, jogging and other forms of exercise.

Natural Open Space - Needs

The City of Allen needs to preserve natural open spaces within the community in order to provide spaces for primitive recreation and to preserve valuable ecosystems. Since Allen is located in the Metroplex and surrounded by other built communities, it is important to preserve any and all natural areas. Nature areas ranked as number four on the citizen survey and water features (creeks, ponds, small lakes) ranked as number ten. The existing city-owned property, Molsen Farm, is a



large (+/- 60 acres) plot of land along Rowlett Creek. The Molsen Farm Master Plan proposed the development of small areas while preserving the most valuable natural open spaces found on the site. East Rowlett Creek, West Rowlett Creek, Watters Branch Creek and Cottonwood Creek are all key natural water resources in Allen and need to be preserved. Wood lots containing mature vegetation and trees should also be preserved as practical.

Indoor Recreation Center - Needs

The City of Allen currently has an indoor recreation center - Joe Farmer Recreation Center. It is located in southeast Allen at Bethany Lakes Park. Joe Farmer Recreation Center is relatively small and not centrally located for easy access from all areas of the city space. Indoor recreation centers ranked number five on the citizen survey and were frequently discussed at focus group meetings.. It is apparent that there is a need for an additional recreation center or a larger, more centrally located recreation center. In addition to a new recreation center, the City needs to continue to research its options for an expansion of the existing Joe Farmer Recreation Center by reviewing the “Joe Farmer Recreation Center - Options for Building Enhancement and Expansion” developed in July of 2008. This plan suggests four concepts that provide different functional arrangements and expansion options. Each concept builds on the previous concept - Concept 2 includes all the amenities in Concept 1, Concept 3 includes all the amenities of Concepts 1 and 2 and Concept 4 is the culmination of all the concepts which addresses all of the needs and desires of recreational staff and City of Allen residents.

Concept 1

- Construct additional gymnasium and expand existing walking/running track
- In-fill upper level floor above weight room for a new office space
- Reduce upper level front desk to allow public access to stairs
- Create an open-air covering above the existing entry bridge

Concept 2

- In-fill upper level above weight room for a new game room
- Expand locker rooms into former lower level game room location
- Enclose existing amphitheater stage to create two levels of new space for offices and an aerobics/multi-use area

Concept 3

- Construct enclosed entry which contains the location of the front desk, new monumental stairs and an elevator
- Construct a cardiovascular center located below the newly enclosed entry
- Remove the accessible ramp
- Construct two multi-use spaces (one on each level) at the previous ramp location facing the lake to the south

Concept 4

- Construct an indoor sprayground in the current weight room location along with an adjacent outdoor sprayground
- Expand the enclosed amphitheater stage on the lower level (only) to contain weight room and facility offices
- Locate aerobics/multi-use room above weight room and offices
- Locate game room in lower level multi-use room at south of the facility

The need for an addition recreation center in Allen is apparent and supported by the citizen survey and public input meetings.

Senior Citizens - Needs

Senior citizens play an important role in the City of Allen and have their own needs as a park user group. A focus group meeting was held at the Allen Senior Recreation Center in order to better understand the recreational needs of this growing segment of the community. The Allen Senior Recreation Center satisfies many needs for the older residents of Allen. Many seniors expressed the need for more walking trails, shaded areas, security, benches, community gardens and other outdoor activities. It is important to notice the top priorities of the senior citizens (page 22) all closely match the city's overall priorities (page 21). This is important because by providing specific needs for senior citizens, the City of Allen is also creating areas that are appealing and available to the entire community. Senior citizens are a growing population and frequently use the park system in Allen. Their needs should be considered when upgrading and/or constructing parks and outdoor spaces.

Maintenance - Needs

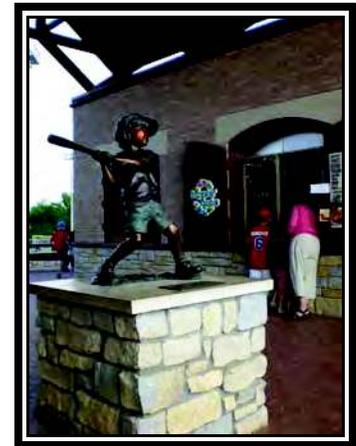
The City of Allen currently has first class park facilities and maintain these spaces very well. The high level of maintenance significantly contributes to the high use of the parks and satisfaction level within the city. It is important to keep all parks and public facilities well maintained and safe. As Allen's population and park system continues to grow, it is necessary for the maintenance crews to grow proportionally so that all outdoor public spaces are safe and aesthetically pleasing to all residents and park visitors. Future park development plans should be prepared with reduced maintenance as a key objective. This can be achieved by the use of native plants and materials and by increasing the amount of natural areas in future parks. The addition of sports facilities and a new recreational center will create a need for additional staff to keep the level of maintenance at its current high level.

Other - Needs

Shade at playgrounds and other facilities ranked number three on the citizen survey. It is important to incorporate shade into the existing park system for play areas as well as along trails and bench areas for children, adults and senior citizens. Future parks need to be constructed with shade in mind: It is imperative to remove less existing vegetation and to plant more trees and/or provide shade structures. An annual tree planting program is needed in the City of Allen to ensure that trees are planted each year in order to have more shade in the parks and to improve the aesthetics of the overall park network.



Art needs to be incorporated into the park system. Public art can be practical or solely for aesthetic purposes. Art in the park system can be in almost unlimited shapes and sizes and serve many different purposes such as: creative signs, climbing/playing elements, artistic bridges, etc. The City of Allen needs to continue to follow the “Public Art Master Plan” developed in August of 2005. The mission of the Public Art Program is to “Articulate the values and vision of the community by enhancing the aesthetics of the City’s civic infrastructure, commissioning site-specific artwork and creating hands-on encounters with art.” Additional attention to public art in the design and remodeling of parks in Allen can contribute significantly to the attainment of this mission.



Conclusions

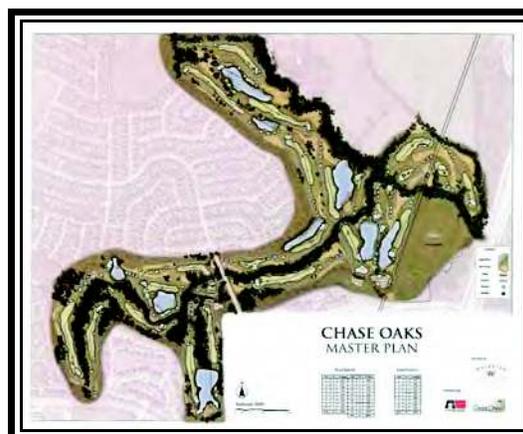
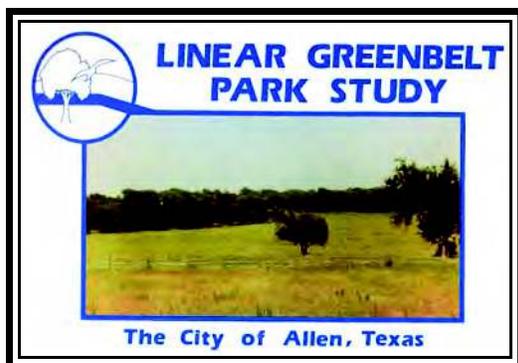
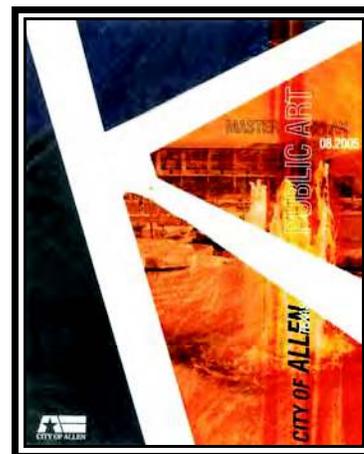
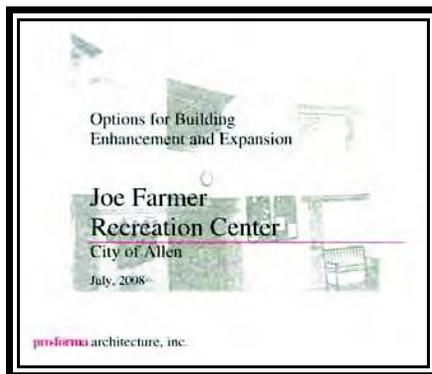
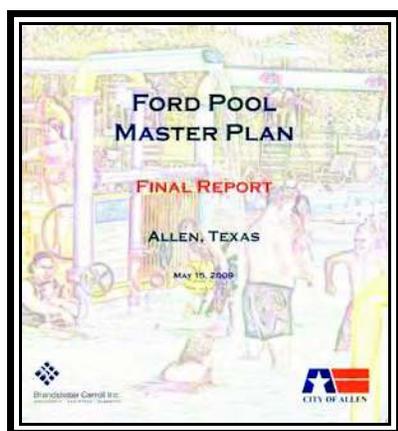
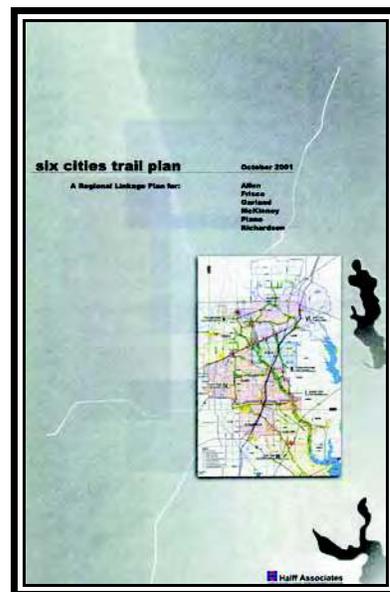
It is important to analyze the actual needs of the community so that the recommendations and future development of Allen's park system are representative of what the residents desire. The city has been successful in providing recreational amenities and maintaining them at a high level. Multi-purpose trails were the number one priority on the citizen survey and were discussed in detail at several focus group meetings and public input meetings. It is evident that both multi-purpose trails and nature trails are needed in Allen for recreation and connectivity. According to participants at the focus group meetings and the survey results, the natural areas and water features (East Rowlett Creek, West Rowlett Creek, Cottonwood Creek and Watters Branch Creek) all need to be preserved as Allen continues to grow. An indoor recreation center ranked number five and outdoor swimming pools ranked as number eight on the citizen survey and were both popular points of interest during many discussions at public input meetings.

The following list consists of key points from the needs analysis:

- Trails are needed for more connectivity throughout the community.
- The existing open space and vacant land owned by the city needs to be developed into trail corridors, neighborhood parks and community parks.
- Existing parks and facilities need to continually be upgraded and maintained at a high level in order to keep Allen's park system up to local standards and safe for all users. This includes making all public parks and facilities compliant with the ADA guidelines.
- There is a need to redevelop the Chase Oaks Golf Course.
- Multi-purpose sports practice fields need to be constructed in existing parks and parks scheduled for development.
- There is a need for additional football fields for both youth and adults.
- There is a need for two additional baseball fields within the next ten years.
- There is a need for additional youth soccer fields.
- An expansion of Joe Farmer Recreation Center and/or an additional indoor recreation center needs to be constructed in Allen.
- An additional or upgraded outdoor swimming facility is needed.
- Nature trails, nature areas, enhanced landscaping, shade at the parks and multi-use paved trails are all needed to satisfy senior citizen's recreational needs.
- Shade, both natural and constructed, should be incorporated into existing and future parks.

Many of the park needs herein identified have been studied in detail in the past. To fully understand the concepts and solutions proposed for the needs in the parks and open space system, the following reports should be consulted:

- ▶ Six Cities Trail Plan - A Regional Linkage Plan
- ▶ Ford Pool Master Plan
- ▶ Public Art Master Plan
- ▶ Chase Oaks Golf Course Master Plan
- ▶ Linear Greenbelt Park Study
- ▶ Molsen Farm Master Plan
- ▶ Joe Farmer Recreation Center - Options for Building Enhancement and Expansion



VII. PRIORITIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The following table represents the projected recreational facilities priorities for the Allen Park System. These priorities are based on the needs analysis, citizen survey, public input meetings, focus group input, city staff, the City of Allen Parks Board and professional opinion.

Priority	Facility
1	Trails
2	Sports Practice Fields
3	Nature Areas
4	Shade at Playgrounds and Other Facilities
5	Adult Softball Fields
6	Botanical/Flower Gardens
7	Football Fields
8	Indoor Recreation Center
9	Outdoor Swimming Facility
10	Soccer Fields
11	Dog Parks
12	Water Features (creeks, small lakes, etc)
13	Playgrounds
14	Picnic Shelters/Pavilions
15	Lawns for General Play

Recommendations

The following actions are recommended to be implemented within the next ten years to ensure that the parks and open space system continues to meet the recreational needs of the city.

New Parks

- ▶ **Develop the Watters Branch Property into a community park.**
 - Preserve the most valuable and aesthetically pleasing natural areas
 - Construct open lawn areas for sports practice fields/general play
 - Construct hard surfaced and soft surfaced trails
 - Construct playground
 - Construct sprayground
 - Construct pavilions and picnic stations
 - Plant trees for shade and landscape

- ▶ **Develop the Molsen Farm Property**
 - Construct hard and soft surfaced interpretive trails
 - Construct pedestrian overlooks
 - Enlarge existing pond
 - Construct community garden area
 - Construct environmental education center (adaptive re-use of existing buildings)
 - Create a working children's garden
 - Enlarge city tree farm
 - Restore prairie habitats

- ▶ **Develop the Estevie Property into an adult league sports facility**
 - Construct adult softball fields, football fields, soccer fields and multi-purpose fields
 - Construct trails along the creek
 - Preserve the creek corridor
 - Construct nature-oriented play area

Existing Parks

- ▶ Reconstruct Jupiter Park into a dog park.
- ▶ Plant trees and construct pavilions for shade and aesthetic purposes.
- ▶ Continue re-development of the Chase Oaks Golf Course according to the master plan.

- ▶ Develop Phase 3 of Allen Station Park - Currently master planned as lake and plaza.
- ▶ Replace playgrounds (older than 15 years old).

Athletic Facilities

- ▶ Construct an adult league sports facility at the existing Estevie Property(See “New Parks”)
- ▶ Construct one additional 100 yard lighted football field.
- ▶ Construct two 200' youth baseball fields.
- ▶ Construct additional soccer fields - Four currently needed and seven additional fields by 2020.

<i>Current Need:</i>	- 1 - 60' x 90' field (U6)	<i>2020 Need:</i>	- 3 - 60' x 90' fields (U6)
	- 1 - 90' x 120' fields (U8)		- 2 - 90' x 120' fields (U8)
	- 1 - 180' x 300' field (U12)		- 1 - 150' x 240' field (U10)
	- 1 - 240' x 300' field (U16-U19)		- 1 - 240' x 300' field (U6-U19)

Swimming Pool

- ▶ Follow Concept Number 3 in the Ford Pool Master Plan - Construct a new pool and a new bathhouse in the existing bathhouse location; implementing as much of the proposed additional water and site features as possible.

Natural Open Space

- ▶ Preserve the most valuable and aesthetically pleasing natural open spaces - especially along East Rowlett Creek, West Rowlett Creek, Cottonwood Creek, Watters Branch Creek and their tributaries and in new parks - Watters Branch, Molsen Farms and the Estevie Property.

Indoor Recreation Center

- ▶ Expand Joe Farmer Recreation Center - Option 4 in the “Options for Building Enhancement and Expansion - Joe Farmer Recreation Center” study.

Senior Citizens

- ▶ Provide facilities such as: trails, nature areas, shade, botanical gardens, benches and picnic areas for senior citizens at all new and upgraded parks.
- ▶ Construct pedestrian bridge and trail to link the Allen Senior Recreation Center to the Allen Station Park trail system.

Maintenance

In 2000, the City of Allen had one maintenance employee for every six acres of developed park land and currently has one maintenance employee for every 19 developed park acres. In addition, the city maintains 28 facilities (387,000 sq.ft.) and employs only one building technician for every 55,000 sq.ft. It is apparent that the staffing levels have slowly been falling behind and need to increase in order to keep the maintenance of parks and facilities at its current high level. The following two bullets are necessary in order for the city to provide well maintained areas at an efficient cost.

- ▶ Prepare and adopt a statistically- based maintenance study that will increase the maintenance staff and budget as the park system continues to grow.
- ▶ Develop parks that are not overly maintenance intensive by including more natural areas, native plantings and natural play (play opportunities with limited or no playground equipment).

Trails

- ▶ Develop trail linkages throughout Allen to connect schools, residential areas, commercial areas, parks and adjacent communities.
- ▶ Construct trail connections at the following locations in order to connect large segments of trails for better access throughout the community (See map on following page)
 - Construct +/- ½ mile of trail connections along Cottonwood Creek in order to create a +/- 7 mile trail loop that will connect residential neighborhoods, commercial areas and seven different parks.
 - Construct +/- 1.75 miles of trail along Exchange Parkway in areas without trail to connect the Estevie Property to Allen Station Park and to connect the west side of Allen to the east. The Exchange Parkway connections will create a +/- 6 mile trail loop that will connect residential neighborhoods, commercial areas and nine city parks.

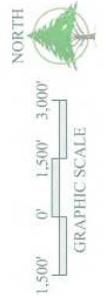
By constructing a total of +/- 2.25 miles of trail, the City of Allen can create two loops (+/- 6 mi. & +/- 7 mi.) and connect the western half of town to the eastern portion. This route will connect 16 different parks, residential neighborhoods, commercial centers, neighborhoods and create more connectivity throughout Allen. (See map on following page)

LEGEND	
	EXISTING TRAILS
	EXISTING UNMARKED BIKE ROUTES
	NEIGHBORING CITY BIKE ROUTE LINKAGE
	PARK, SPECIAL USE, OR RECREATION FACILITY
	UNDEVELOPED PROPERTY
	STREAMS
	100 YR FLOODPLAIN
	THOROUGHFARE & ROADS
	RAILROAD TRACK
	CITY LIMITS

Construct a total of +/- 2.25 miles of trail

Construct 0.5 miles of trail connections along Cottonwood Creek to create a +/- seven mile loop

Construct +/- 1.75 miles of trail to along Exchange Parkway in order to connect East Allen and West Allen and create a +/- six mile loop trail



1212 West Ninth Street
 Tyler, Texas 75701
 903-597-0174

MHS
 PLANNING & DESIGN, LLC

EXISTING TRAIL & BICYCLE ROUTE MAP
 CITY OF ALLEN
 COLLIN COUNTY, TEXAS

DRAWN: DEL	OF
CHECKED: MHS	
DATE: APRIL 2010	
SCALE: AS SHOWN	
JOB NO.: 10-006	

VIII. IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

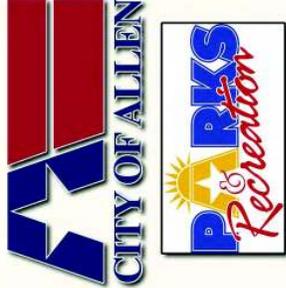
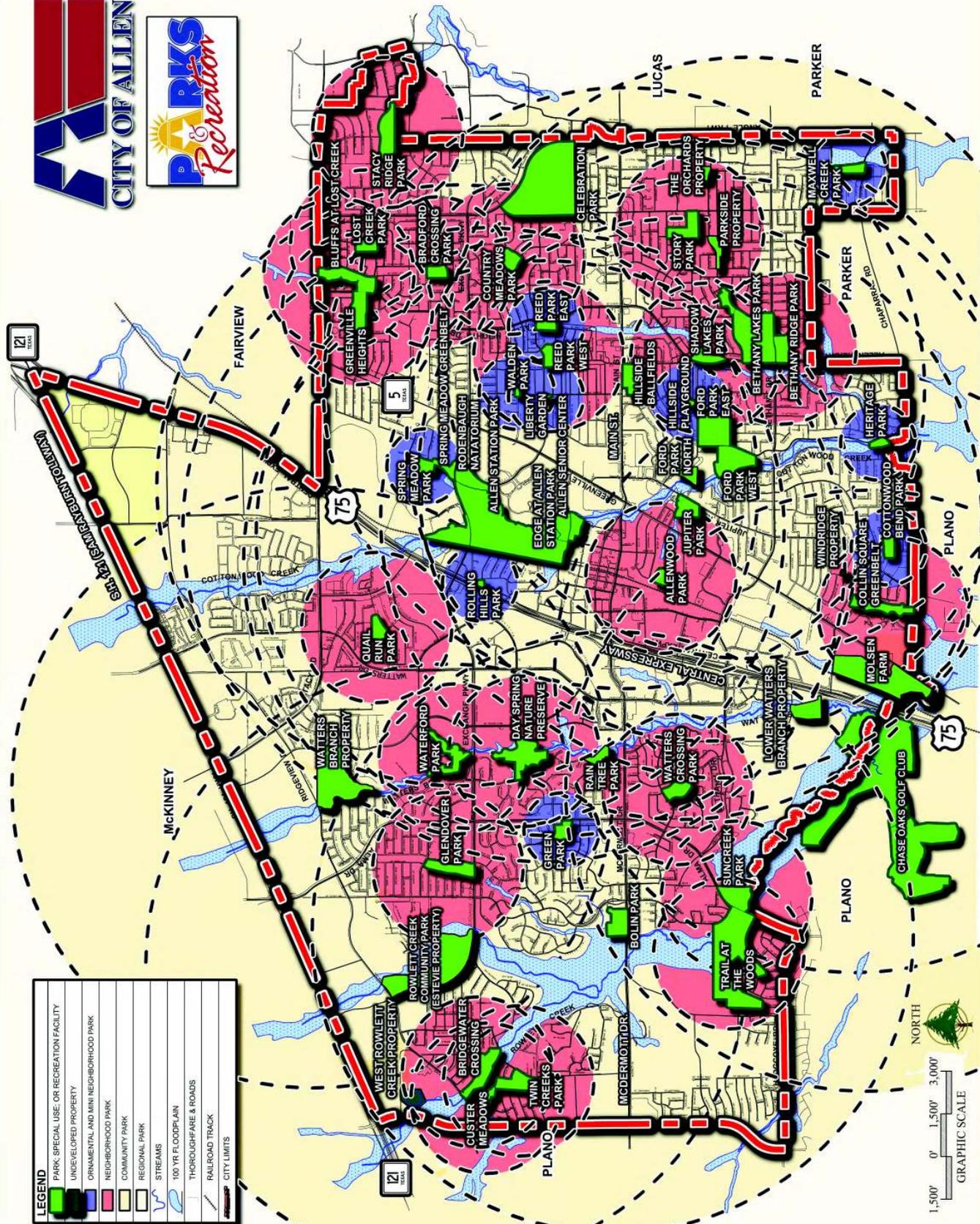
Allen currently owns several undeveloped properties and it is highly recommended that the city develop those properties into parks. A list of 14 projects was created regarding the parks and open space system. The following list includes the ten year project priorities that should be implemented.

	Project	Date	Estimated Cost*	Potential Funding Source
1	Develop Watters Branch Property into a community park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nature trails - Lighted baseball game fields (2 @ 200') - Open lawns for general play/sports practice fields - Nature areas - Pavilion - Picnic stations - Playground - Sprayground - Trees for shade 	2011	\$3,000,000 - \$4,000,000	Allen Sports Association TP&W Grant (Outdoor) General Fund General Obligation Bond
2	Construct .5 mi. of trail connections along Cottonwood Creek to create a +/- 7 mi. trail loop	2011	\$250,000 - \$550,000 per mile	TP&W Grant (Trail Grant) General Fund General Obligation Bond
3	Continue development of the Chase Oaks Golf Course	2011-2012	\$6,000,000 - \$8,000,000	4(b) Sales Tax Private Donations General Fund General Obligation Bond
4	Develop the Estevie Property into an adult league sports complex with general park amenities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Softball fields - Football field - Multi-sports fields for general use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Soccer - Lacrosse - Ultimate Frisbee 	2012-2013	\$3,500,000 - \$4,500,000	Allen Sports Association General Fund General Obligation Bond Other Grants & Partnerships
5	Construct a dog park at Jupiter Park	2013	\$300,000	General Fund General Obligation Bond
6	Construct seven additional youth soccer fields at Celebration Park in the great lawn area	2014	\$700,000	Allen Sports Association General Fund General Obligation Bond

	Project	Date	Estimated Cost*	Potential Funding Source
7	Construct +/- 1.75 mi. of trail along Exchange Parkway in order to connect East Allen and West Allen and create a +/- 6 mi. trail loop	2014	\$250,000 - \$550,000 per mile	TP&W Grant (Trail Grant) General Fund General Obligation Bond
8	Expand Joe Farmer Recreation Center - Option 4 in the "Options for Building Enhancement and Expansion - Joe Farmer Recreation Center" study	2015-2016	\$6,000,000 - \$7,000,000	General Fund General Obligation Bond
9	Re-develop Ford Pool - Option 3 in the Ford Park Pool Master Plan	2017	\$6,000,000 - \$7,000,000	General Fund General Obligation Bond
10	Develop the Molsen Farm Property in accordance with the Molsen Farm Master Plan	2018		General Fund General Obligation Bond
11	Develop trail linkages	2011-2020	\$250,000 - \$550,000 per mile	TP&W Grant (Trail Grant) General Fund General Obligation Bond
12	Acquire and preserve land along East and West Rowlett Creeks, Cottonwood Creek, Watters Branch Creek and their tributaries	2011-2020	Market Price	Land Dedication Collin County Trust for Public Land General Fund General Obligation Bond
13	Implement art into the parks in accordance to the Public Art Master Plan	2011-2020	N/A	Donation General Obligation Bond
14	Plant trees throughout all parks for shade and aesthetic purposes	2011-2020		General Fund General Obligation Bond

Note: Costs are preliminary estimates only and prepared without the benefit of detailed engineering. All costs shown are based on 2010 dollars and do not include fees associated with planning, engineering and/or architectural work that may be required. Final construction costs will vary. Land acquisition is not included in the cost estimate.

LEGEND	
	PARK, SPECIAL USE, OR RECREATION FACILITY
	UNDEVELOPED PROPERTY
	ORNAMENTAL AND MINI-NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
	NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
	COMMUNITY PARK
	REGIONAL PARK
	STREAMS
	100-YR FLOODPLAIN
	THOROUGHFARE & ROADS
	RAILROAD TRACK
	CITY LIMITS



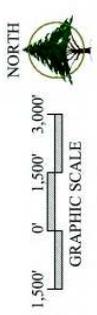
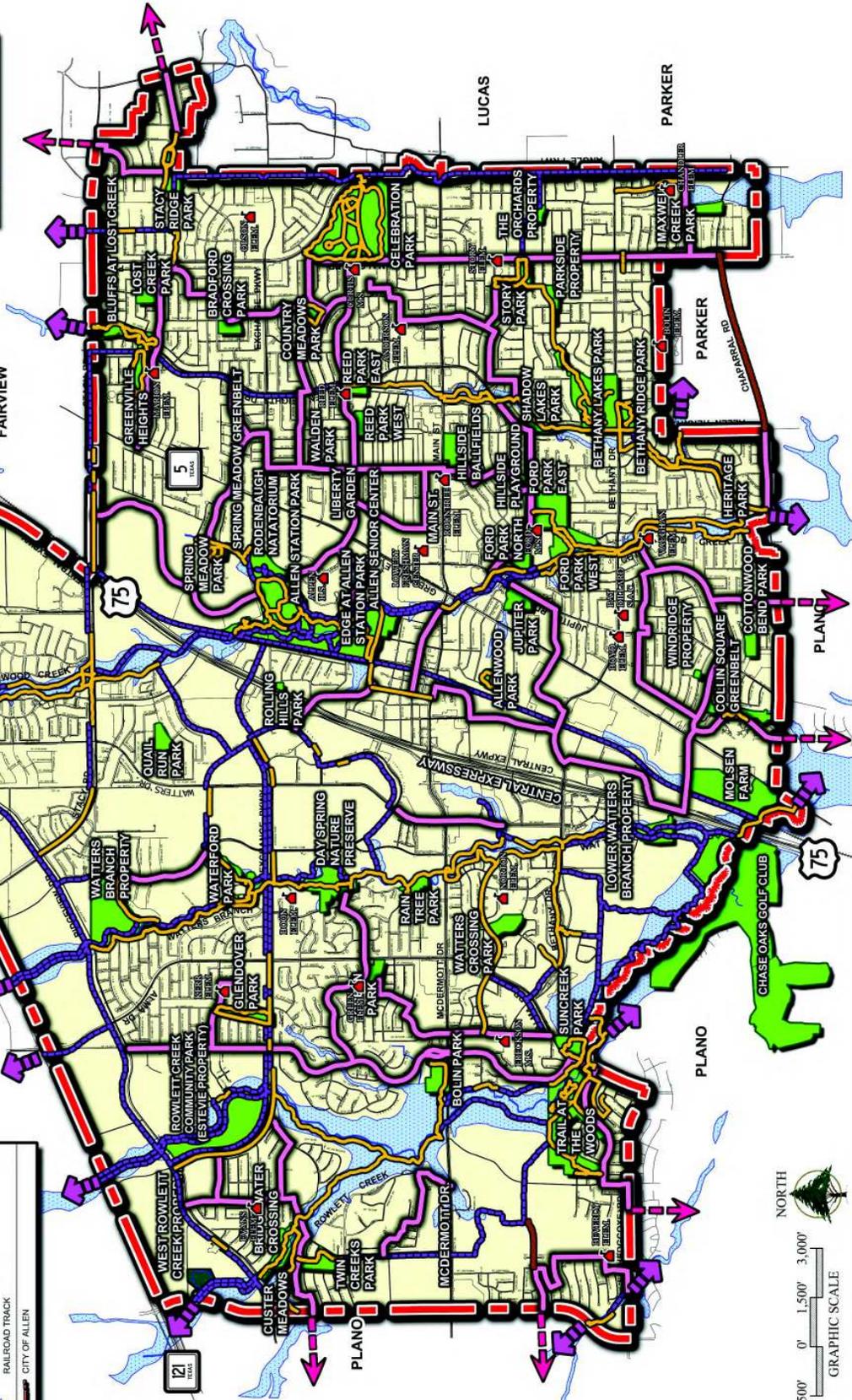
212 West Ninth Street
 Tyler, Texas 75701
 903-597-6600
 903-597-0517 Fax

MHS
 PLANNING & DESIGN, LLC

FUTURE PARKS & OPEN SPACES
 CITY OF ALLEN
 COLLIN COUNTY, TEXAS

DRAWN: DJL	OF
CHECKED: MHS	
DATE: APRIL 2010	
SCALE: AS SHOWN	
JOB NO.: 10-006	

LEGEND	
	FUTURE TRAILS
	EXISTING TRAILS
	FUTURE UNMARKED BIKE ROUTES
	EXISTING UNMARKED BIKE ROUTES
	NEIGHBORING CITY BIKE ROUTE LINKAGE
	FUTURE NEIGHBORING CITY TRAIL LINKAGE
	PARK, SPECIAL USE, OR RECREATION FACILITY
	STREAMS
	100-YR FLOODPLAIN
	THOROUGHFARE & ROADS
	RAILROAD TRACK
	CITY OF ALLEN



FUTURE TRAIL & BICYCLE ROUTE MAP
CITY OF ALLEN
COLLIN COUNTY, TEXAS

DRAWN: DEL	OF
CHECKED: MHS	
DATE: APRIL 2010	
SCALE: AS SHOWN	
JOB NO.: 10-006	

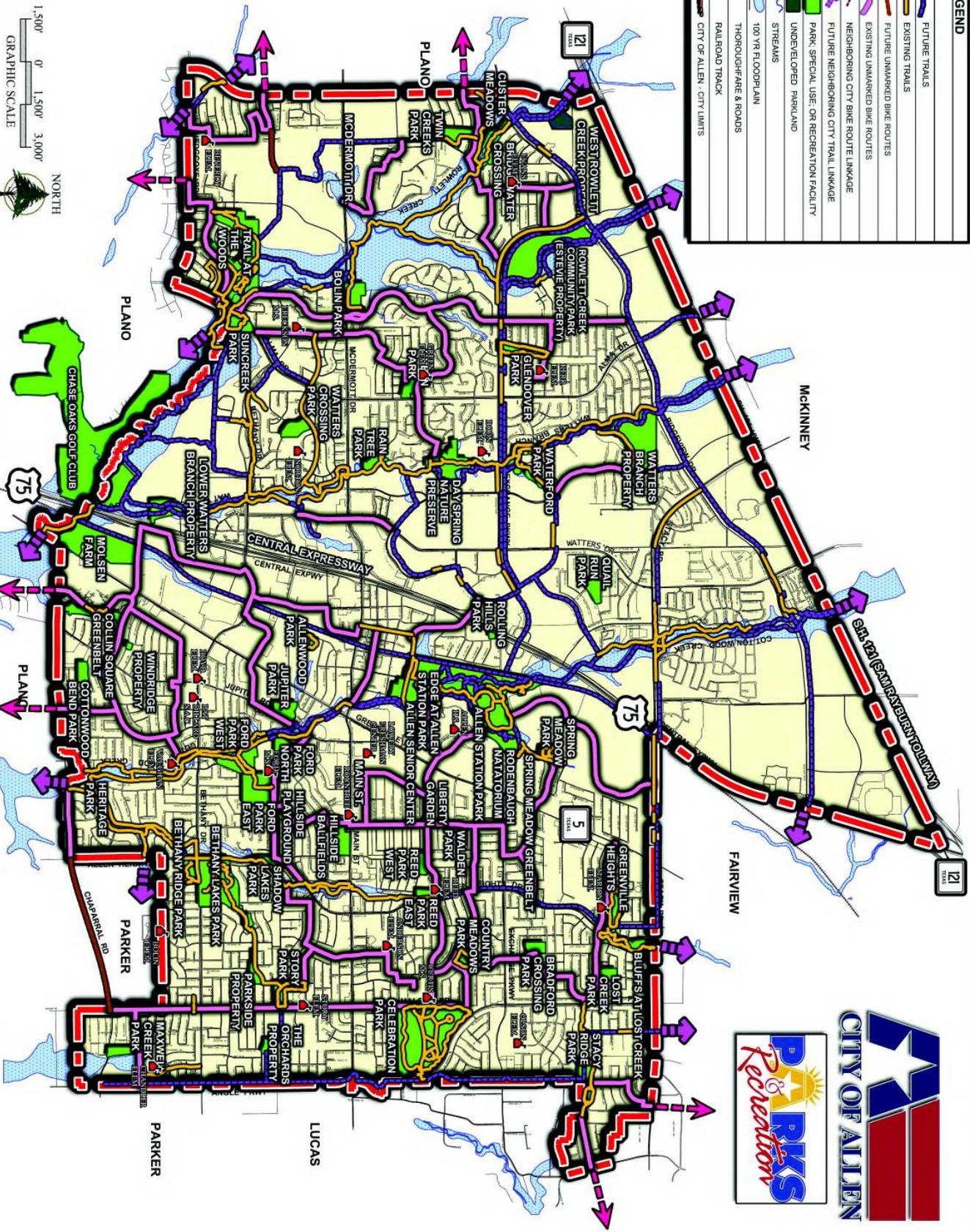
MHS
PLANNING & DESIGN, LLC

212 West Ninth Street
Tyler, Texas 75701
903-597-6606
903-597-0517 FAX

REVISED

LEGEND

	FUTURE TRAILS
	EXISTING TRAILS
	FUTURE UNMARKED BIKE ROUTES
	EXISTING UNMARKED BIKE ROUTES
	NEIGHBORING CITY BIKE ROUTE LINKAGE
	FUTURE NEIGHBORING CITY TRAIL LINKAGE
	PARK, SPECIAL USE, OR RECREATION FACILITY
	UNDEVELOPED PARGLAND
	STREAMS
	100 YR FLOODPLAIN
	THOROUGHFARE & ROADS
	RAILROAD TRACK
	CITY OF ALLEN - CITY LIMITS



FUTURE PARK & TRAIL SYSTEM
CITY OF ALLEN
 COLLIN COUNTY, TEXAS

MHS
 PLANNING & DESIGN, LLC

212 West Ninth Street
 Tyler, Texas 75701
 903-597-6606
 903-597-0517 Fax

DRAWN: DEL
CHECKED: MHS
DATE: APRIL 2010
SCALE: AS SHOWN
JOB NO.: 10-006
OF

IX. EXISTING AND AVAILABLE MECHANISMS

In order to implement this park and open space plan update, there are a variety of funding mechanisms and tools available for use by the City of Allen. These include:

SENATE BILL 376-4B - SALES TAX REVENUES - Funds generated by this special sales tax can be used for developing and maintaining public recreational facilities.

TEXAS RECREATION & PARKS ACCOUNT PROGRAM - This program, administered by Texas Parks and Wildlife, is a matching grant program which may be used to aid communities in acquisition and development of parks and open space. This grant program includes the Outdoor Recreation Acquisition and Development Program and the Texas Recreation & Parks Account Indoor Recreation Program.

TEXAS RECREATIONAL TRAILS FUND - The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department administers the National Recreational Trail Fund through a provision in the Federal Highway Bill. The National Recreational Trail Grants provides 80% matching funds (maximum \$100,000) for both motorized and non-motorized trail projects in local communities for hikers, cyclists, horseback riders, off-road motor vehicles, and nature enthusiasts. Funds can be utilized to construct new recreational trails, improve/maintain existing trails, develop/improve trail heads or trail side facilities, and acquire trail corridors. Eligible sponsors include city and county governments, state agencies, river authorities, water districts, MUDs, school districts, federal land managers, non-profit organizations, and other private organizations.

NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION - The national Fish and Wildlife Foundation promotes healthy populations of fish, wildlife, and plants by generating new commerce for conservation. The foundation leverages public dollars with corporate, private, and other non-profit funds. Funds are available on an as-need basis.

PAY AS YOU GO - This method of financing park improvements involves budgeting for land acquisition, development, and maintenance of park facilities through the city's annual budget process. Allocations for park improvements are made and spent annually through the standard budget process.

GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS - These bonds are issued by the city following an election in which the voters authorize their issuance for specific stated purposes, as well as the necessary tax increases to support them. These bonds pledge the property or ad valorem taxing power of the city.

CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION - These certificates have basically the same effect as general obligation bonds except they do not require an election to authorize them. An election can be petitioned by five percent of the registered voters of the city. These certificates are issued on the authorization of the City Council. Repayment is based on the property taxing power of the city, utility system revenues, or a combination of the two.

USER FEES - This method of financing requires the eventual user of each park to pay a fee for the use of each facility. Fees to be charged users can be established to pay for debt service, maintenance, and operation of the park system.

PRIVATE OR CORPORATE DONATIONS - Donations from foundations, corporations, and/or private individuals are often used to acquire and develop parks. The city should constantly identify and pursue opportunities to receive such funding for parks. One avenue for receiving donations is through the use of the Texas Parks & Recreation Foundation. This foundation has been developed to help all communities in the State of Texas to maximize the benefits of donations of land, property, and money.

X. SUMMARY

The City of Allen owns a total of 1,094.2 total park acres and 726.3 of those acres are developed. When compared to Allen's existing population of 85,288 residents, the resultant level of service of developed park land is 8.5 acres per 1,000 residents.

This Parks and Open Space Master Plan provides a total of thirteen different projects throughout the next 10 years. The City of Allen should follow all the projects in the implementation schedule over the next ten years in order to keep up with the growing population.

If the first thirteen projects are completed in the ten year time period then the City of Allen will increase its total park acreage from 1,094.2 to approximately 1,275.9. After developing portions of these properties, it is very likely that the developed park acres will increase from 726.3 to 851.3. The additional 125 developed acres will result in a new level of service of 8.9 acres per 1,000 residents in the year 2020.

This plan is to be utilized as a flexible tool which should be reviewed annually and updated every five years with input from citizens-at-large, city boards and commission members, city staff and City Council to continue to reflect the unique recreational needs of the area. The city should take advantage of any unforeseen opportunities not identified in the plan that may arise, such as donations of land and/or facilities as long as the actions meet the intent of the goals and recommendations of this plan.

With the proposed improvements to the park system that are outlined in this plan will come additional maintenance and operational needs in order to utilize, manage and care for both the new facilities and those that exist today. The proposed improvements contained in this plan will enhance the quality of life in the region and help ensure that the City of Allen is able to keep pace with the growing recreational needs of its citizens. The resulting benefits of this plan include: increased quality of life, tourism potential, economic value, increasing property values and pride in the residents of the area.

APPENDIX I
PARK PHOTOGRAPHS

Recreational Facilities [for internet links to various facilities, begin at <http://www.allenparks.org>]:



The **Allen Community Ice Rink** opened in 2009 and is a full-size, state-of-the-art ice rink measuring 85' by 200' with a general seating capacity for over 300 spectators. Amenities include locker rooms, equipment shop, meeting rooms, off-ice training areas, and skate rental. An on-ice harness is available as well to meet special instructional needs. Open skating times, private rentals, and learn to skate programs are available for all types of figure skating and hockey classes.

200 E. Stacy Rd., 75002

Constructed in 2005, the 22,000 square foot **Allen Senior Recreation Center** The facility houses a state of the art fitness room, craft room, game room, classrooms and a 6,000 square foot multi-purpose room.

Future plans for the Allen Senior Recreation Center include the linkage of the facility to the Allen Station Park trail system.

451 E. St. Mary Drive, 75002



Chase Oaks Golf Course was purchased in 2005 and is one of the finest public facilities in the United States. Chase Oaks Golf Club offers 27 holes of championship golf.

The 9-hole Sawtooth course provides a short game while the 18-hole Blackjack championship course rewards strategic shot-making rather than strength. Chase Oaks Golf Course is currently scheduled to be renovated in 2011.

7201 Chase Oaks Blvd., 75025



The **Don Rodenbaugh Natatorium** is a joint venture with the Allen Independent School District. The facility is approximately 47,000 square feet in size and contains 7,000 square feet of leisure waters, a 25-yard by 25-meter pool, a 5,000 square foot fitness facility, aerobics room, a climbing wall, and related support facilities. The facility opened in January of 2002. *110 E. Rivercrest Blvd., 75002*

Ford Pool was completed in June of 1988 with Land and Water Conservation Fund dollars administered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and is open from the end of May through Labor Day each year. A master plan for redevelopment and expansion of the facility was completed in May of 2009.

704 Whitman Dr., 75002



The **Joe Farmer Recreation Center** has a fitness room, full-size gym, two racquetball courts, walking/jogging track, game room, locker rooms, meeting rooms and a hillside amphitheater. Membership is required to use the facility. The recreation center also offers a variety of youth and adult classes and activities. Additional information about fitness classes and wellness activities is available through the Activity Guide.

1201 E. Bethany Dr., 75002



The **Allen Heritage Center** was constructed in 2003 as a Houston & Texas Central Railway station replica in the location of Allen's original train depot. The Allen Heritage Center is located at 100 E. Main Street and is reportedly the location of the first train robbery in Texas by Sam Bass and Gang in 1878.

100 E. Main St., 75002

The Edge Visitors Center (formerly the Youth Center) is a 4000 sq. ft. facility with a media room, computer lab, game room and snack bar. The central open area of the center is open to parents and youth visiting or utilizing The Edge. The computer lab and media room are limited access areas for youth 10 - 17 years of age or up to 18 years of age if still enrolled in high school. An annual membership fee for use of these areas is charged.

201 E. St. Mary Dr., 75002



The **Recreation Hall** is located at 105 South Anna, and is an adaptive reuse of the large bay area of the old Central Fire Station. The facility originally served as the City of Allen offices, then Central Fire Station and in recent years, the Interim Allen Senior Center. The Recreation Hall can accommodate large groups and comes with a full kitchen.

102 N. Allen Dr., 75013

Pocket Parks:



Hillside Play Area is part of the Traveling Texas theme and is called the “Dinosaurs in Texas.” The park is composed of .3 acres and is bordered by houses to the north and to the east. The amenities in the park include a playground, water fountain, and benches. The highlight of the park is the recreation of the Pauluxy River Bottom with actual replicas of Dinosaur footprints found in Texas. This park is to be renovated in 2011.

711 Rolling Ridge Dr., 75002

Rolling Hills Park is part of the Traveling Texas theme and is called the “East Texas Piney Woods”. The park is composed of .3 acres and is bordered by houses to the north and an alley to the east. The amenities in the park are a playground, water fountain, and benches. The highlight of the park is the renovation of the drainage canal that bisects the park. The canal has been used to display native plants grown in the piney woods and has substantially enhanced the neighborhood.

222 Glenwick Dr., 75013



Walden Park was constructed and dedicated to the City of Allen in 1985 and renovated in 2010. The facility now includes a miniature basketball court, swing set, picnic tables, seating.

901 Thoreau Dr., 75002

Windridge Park is .4 acres in size and is located at the corner of Cambridge Drive and Hanover Drives. The property is in one of Allen's older neighborhoods that were developed before park land dedication or developer fees were assessed. When the corner residence burned, the City purchased the land and an adjacent rental home property to create the site for this future neighborhood amenity.

***1015 Cambridge Dr. and
543 Hanover Dr., 75002***



Neighborhood Parks:



Allenwood Park was constructed in 2009 when the City purchased two residential lots in an older neighborhood that had no recreation facilities. Amenities include covered pavilion, playground, swings and a perimeter loop trail with benches. Future plans include a pond and additional amenities.

603 Keith Dr., 75002

Bethany Ridge Park is located at 1218 East Bethany (Allen Heights and Bethany). The park consists of 7 acres and contains a playground, trail, picnic sites, fishing pier, and a lake. Bethany Ridge is part of the Traveling Texas theme, and is called “Coastal Bend”. Future enhancements to the west side of the park are planned.

1218 E. Bethany Dr., 75002



Bradford Crossing Park is a neighborhood park within the Lost Creek Development and its amenities include a large covered pavilion, picnic tables, playground, basketball court, baseball/softball field, and a perimeter loop trail.

1405 Bradford Trace Dr., 75002



Bridgewater Crossing Park is located in the greenbelt along West Rowlett Creek and includes a picnic pavilion and playground.

1919 Deercreek Dr., 75013

Cottonwood Bend Park was originally constructed in 1989 and was renovated in 2003. Cottonwood Bend offers amenities such as picnic tables, a play-ground, open play area, and two back-stops. During the youth sport seasons, this park is used for practice for soccer, baseball, softball, and football. Future enhancements include a pavilion, enhanced picnic area, backstop, and signage.

630 Meadowbrook Dr., 75002



Country Meadows Park was originally constructed in 1993 and was renovated in 2009. Amenities include a pavilion, swings, and play-ground, open play area, hike / bike trail, and picnic tables. During the youth sport seasons, this park is used for practice for soccer and football.

1511 Home Park Dr., 75002

Dayspring Nature Preserve is a 23.264 acre, heavily wooded greenbelt park along Watters Branch Creek. Existing amenities include hike and bike trails, and a pavilion and a playground. Future amenities include a looped pedestrian trail, pavilion and site furnishings just south of Boon Elementary School. Park amenities are proposed to be designed as a tribute to the craftsmanship of the Civilian Conservation Corps of the Great Depression era.

622 Rainforest Ln., 75002



Fox Hollow Recreation Area (aka Parkside Property) is 4.33 acres and provides a functional drainage channel as well as an open space area. In 2010, irrigation, sidewalks, accessible ramps, and solid sod were installed.

1460 Pine Bluff Dr., 75002

Ford Park North is an undeveloped 5.5 open space acreage where future enhancements will include hike & bike trail connections.

620 Park Place Dr., 75002





Glendover Park is a 10 acre neighborhood park and its amenities include open space, picnic tables, a playground, covered pavilion, fishing pier, pond, and perimeter trail.

1290 Scottsman Dr., 75013

Green Park is 5 acres in size and is located at 1305 Comanche (Comanche and Alma). Amenities include a playground, pavilion and picnic tables.

1305 Comanche Dr., 75013



The **Kennedy Property** is an undeveloped 10.5 acre property located along Watters Branch and U.S. 75. Its dense woods and adjacency to the creek and future phases of the Watters Creek retail development will all have an influence on its ultimate use and level of development which is yet undetermined.

No street address available.



Lost Creek Park is 5 acres in size. Amenities include picnic tables, playground, pavilion, grills, softball / base-ball field, basketball court, and hike and bike trails.

1525 Charleston Dr., 75002

Morgan Crossing Park is 4.5 acres in size and its amenities include benches and a playground. Future enhancements will include a pavilion, hike and bike trails, sport court, and park signage.

1719 Chaparral Rd., 75002



The Orchards is a 2.6 acre undeveloped property which will ultimately be developed as a small neighborhood park.

1705 Lake Travis Dr., 75002



Quail Run Park is 5 acres in size and its amenities include a covered pavilion, picnic tables, playground, basketball court, baseball / softball field, and perimeter loop trail.

920 Pelican Dr., 75002

Reed Park is one large park that flanks Reed Elementary School and is referred to as Reed East and Reed West. Reed East is approximately three acres that includes soccer fields, a tennis court, and an in-line hockey court. Reed West is six acres includes a playground, pavilion, trail and open space. The park also includes a six-flag monument area depicting the six flags that have flown over Texas.

1250 Rivercrest Blvd., 75002



Spring Meadow Park is 4.7 acres in size and its amenities include a covered pavilion, playground, swings, multi-use sport court, perimeter loop trail with benches, and picnic nodes.

1405 Summerplace Dr., 75002



Stacy Ridge Park is 14.7 acres in size. Park amenities include a covered pavilion, picnic tables, playground, basketball courts, and perimeter loop trail. Construction of the Celebration Pass Pedestrian Trail in 2011 will link this park and Celebration Park through the greenbelt.

1900 Country Brook Ln., 75002

Ten acre **Story Park** is adjacent to Story Elementary School. It was constructed in 1988 and renovated in 2004. The facility contains four picnic tables, a play structure, open field play area, an arbor at the play structure, and two multi-sport courts. The overall condition of the park is excellent. Currently the park is used for youth sport practice.



1540 Edelweiss Dr., 75002



Suncreek Park is 13 acres and located on the north bank of Rowlett Creek. Amenities include picnic tables, playground, pavilion, hike and bike trails, volleyball courts, and ponds.

601 Alma Dr., 75013

Twin Creeks Park was constructed in 2008 and is 11 acres in size. Amenities include a covered pavilion, playground (including a shade structure over the smaller play unit); swings, hike and bike trail, picnic tables and benches.

803 Shallowater Dr., 75013



Waterford Park is 10 acres in size and is informally referred to as the “rocket ship” park because of its space shuttle styled play equipment. Amenities include the playground, plus swings, a greenbelt overlook and park entry trellis, native plant specimen garden, picnic tables, benches, and hike and bike trails.

1225 Hueco Dr., 75013

Watters Crossing Park was developed in 1994. The park is composed of nine acres. Park amenities are located in the northern portion of the park. The amenities include a covered pavilion, play structure and a multipurpose court. Future enhancements will include a playground upgrade, hike and bike trails, and park signage.

1201 Bel Air Dr., 75013



Community Parks:

Allen Station Park is a City-Wide (regional) park that includes baseball and softball fields, a playground, trails, washer courts, a concrete skate park, bmx track, and roller hockey rinks. Allen's 1874 stone dam and railroad water station is located north of Exchange in Allen Station Park. Phase III is to include a recreational lake.

1120 N. Cedar Dr. and 1020 S. Cedar Dr., 75002



Constructed in 2005 on the south end of Allen Station Park, **The Edge @ Allen Station Park** features a 37,915 square foot concrete skate park, two roller-hockey rinks, BMX track and visitor center. Hours of operation for outdoor skate areas are from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. for all skate areas. BMX track hours are from 8 a.m. to dusk. Use of the outdoor amenities is free and open to the public.

210 E. St. Mary Dr., 75002

Allen Water Station: In 1874, the Houston & Texas Central Railway Company constructed a stone dam, water tower, and pump house on Cottonwood Creek, now in Allen Station Park just north of Exchange Parkway. The stone dam created a pond for the water storage tank that was adjacent to the railroad tracks. This location became the birthplace of Allen. The dam was designated a State Architectural Landmark in 2001. The Allen Water Station was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in December 2009.

Cottonwood Creek north of Exchange Parkway





Developed in 1991, **Bethany Lakes Park** is a 40-acre community park with passive recreation amenities. The park is host to the Joe Farmer Recreation Center and offers a play area, four ponds, a baseball/softball backstop, clubhouse for indoor rentals, an open-air pavilion, fourteen picnic sites, hike and bike trails, and a fishing pier. Future amenities will include erosion control drainage improvements and signage.

745 S. Allen Heights Dr., 75002

Completed in 2003, **Celebration Park** is 99 acres in size and is Allen's newest Community Park. Phase I was completed in 2003 in time for the 50th Anniversary of Allen's charter; Phase II was completed in 2010. Notable facilities include lighted baseball and soccer fields, the enormous kidMania community-built playground and adjoining sprayground, lighted tennis courts, a large sport court and a 1.5 mile perimeter trail.



701 Angel Parkway, 75002





Ford Park East was developed in 1986 as the City's first athletic complex. Amenities include lighted adult softball fields and a lighted soccer facility.

700 Park Place Dr., 75002

Ford Park West include picnic sites, a pavilion, playground, open play areas, three lighted multipurpose courts, four lighted tennis courts, one lighted inline hockey court, a 25 yard outdoor swimming pool, and hike and bike trails connecting to the greenbelt system.

700 Park Place Dr., 75002



Molsen Farm is a 52 acre farm property acquired with the assistance of the Trust for Public Land and is currently held in trust by the Allen Parks Foundation for Texas Parks and Wildlife Outdoor Recreation grant purposes. This property has been master planned as a heritage farm to preserve Allen's agrarian heritage. Design is scheduled to be completed in 2011.

1220 S. Greenville Ave., 75002



The **Watters Branch Community Park** is an undeveloped 50 acre property, acquired and held in trust by the Texas Parks and Recreation Foundation for Texas Parks and Wildlife Outdoor Recreation grant purposes. The Watters Branch Community Park is scheduled to be master planned, designed and constructed in the 2011-2016 timeframe.

Bray Central Dr., between Ridgeview Dr. and Arches Park Dr., 75013

The Estievie Property community park property on the west side of Rowlett Creek was acquired in part through a Collin County Parks and Open Space grant and placed in trust with the Texas Parks and Recreation Foundation for future TP&WD grant purposes. Additional land was dedicated by Briar Ridge Corporation. Also referred to as the **West Side Community Park**, the property is scheduled to be master planned, designed and constructed in the 2011-2016 timeframe.

Exchange Parkway, south of Ridgeview Dr.



Special Use Parks/Properties:

The 15 acre **Allen Cemetery** was established on April 5, 1884 by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Local Lodge #249. It encompasses almost three acres of land. The oldest legible grave marker is dated 1883. A state historical marker adorns the entrance.

300/400 block of McDermott Dr.



The **Allen Heritage Village** is a 4 acre parcel located along the southern perimeter of Allen Station Park, east of Cedar and south of St. Mary Drive. Cottonwood Creek constitutes the eastern boundary. The Village, which is under the curatorial supervision of the Allen Heritage Guild, was established to preserve Allen’s cultural and architectural history and to educate future generations with a visual and practical presentation of Allen’s past.

450 E. St. Mary Dr., 75002

Bolin Park is an 11 acre sports complex located at 1510 W. McDermott Drive. Amenities include hike and bike trails, soccer fields, and baseball/softball fields as well as fully developed concessions and restrooms.

1510 W. McDermott Dr., 75013



Hillside Park is an 8.5 acre property originally established in 1970. In 2010, and by means of a ground lease agreement the City of Allen and Blue Sky Indoor Soccer partnered in the development of an indoor soccer facility. The building includes the administrative offices of the Allen Sports Association. Future enhancements include additional park amenities and signage.



900 block of E. Main St., 75002



Originally built in 1976, **Jupiter Park** offers two lighted football fields. The ASA football and cheer-leading programs for tackle and flag football leagues use Jupiter fields. The park is identified as the site for the City’s dog park, although a date for development is not determined.

510 S. Jupiter Rd., 75002

Liberty Garden was created in 2002 as a result of Keep America Beautiful’s call for freedom parks. Liberty Garden is located at 430 Roaring Springs Drive and is a .14 acre community-built garden in memory of the Americans who lost their lives in the September 11, 2001 tragedy. Keep America Beautiful requested organizations create special places of natural beauty within their communities where people could honor the memory of those Americans who perished in acts of terrorism and reaffirm the principles of freedom and liberty on which our country was built. Future enhancements will include updated signage.



Rivercrest Blvd. at Roaring Springs Dr.

Greenbelt and Linkage Parks:



Collin Square Greenbelt is classified as a neighborhood park even though the facility functions more as a greenbelt than as a park. It is composed of 8.9 acres of trees and under-story along a drainage way and a four foot wide side-walk that serves the community. The park setting is very natural and has potential applications for future passive recreation development which could include a play area, improved hike and bike trail, and signage.

1401 Collin Dr., 75002

The Bluffs at Lost Creek is 13.5 acres of enhanced greenbelt picnic tables, pavilion, grills, and hike and bike trails. The limestone bluffs of the creek (Mustang Creek) and trees are particularly attractive in the fall.

1608 Allen Heights Dr., 75002



Custer Meadows Greenbelt is located along West Rowlett Creek. Improvements include a small playground at the end of Glenmont Ct. and a recreational trail.

2002 Glenmere Dr., 75013



Greenville Heights Park is a 12 acre enhanced greenbelt. Amenities include a playground, benches, recreational trail, and signage.

1310 Shelborn Dr., 75002

Heritage Park is a 3 acre enhanced greenbelt with playground, picnic area, landscaping and recreational trail.

1230 S. Aylesbury Dr. (Aylesbury and Heritage Parkway).



Raintree Park consists of 6.12 acres and is adjacent to the Watters Branch greenbelt. The park has not been developed and is being maintained as part of the greenbelt system. Future development has yet to be determined.

10 Parkside Circle, 75013

Shadow Lakes Park is composed of seven acres and was constructed in 1999. Improvements include a pavilion, picnic sites, and recreational trail that circles the park. This park, like many others is part of the Traveling Texas theme parks and is called “Red River”.

Allen Heights Dr. at Park Place Dr.



The Woods was acquired by the City of Allen in 1997 and is composed of 76 acres of heavily wooded park land along Rowlett Creek.

Accessible from Alma Drive and Rollins Drive

In 2004, **The Trail at The Woods** was constructed with funding assistance from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Kodak American Greenways. The 3,200 linear foot soft-surface interpretive nature trail along Rowlett Creek. The Trail at The Woods provides outdoor environmental educational opportunities for the public, increases awareness of the dwindling natural open areas remaining in our community, and will in the future be linked to the Six Cities Regional Trail.

1424 Rollins Dr.



APPENDIX II
CITIZEN SURVEY RESULTS*

* Final results may slightly vary from the results in the master plan due to additional responses after the final deadline.

City of Allen Parks & Recreation Survey Form

1. How would you rate the existing parks and recreational facilities in Allen? Facilities include both indoor and outdoor spaces such as Don Rodenbaugh Natatorium, Celebration Park, Joe Farmer Recreation Center, Ford Park, Trail at The Woods, etc. (Please indicate by checking one of the following.)

	Response Percent	Response Count
Excellent 	43.0%	667
Good 	47.8%	742
Fair 	8.1%	125
Poor 	0.8%	12
Don't Know 	0.4%	6
	<i>answered question</i>	1,552
	<i>skipped question</i>	15

2. How would you rate the level of maintenance of parks and recreational facilities in Allen? Facilities include both indoor and outdoor spaces such as the Don Rodenbaugh Natatorium, Allen Station Park, Joe Farmer Recreation Center, Celebration Park, DaySpring Nature Preserve, etc. (Please indicate by checking one of the following.)

	Response Percent	Response Count
Excellent 	41.1%	637
Good 	49.8%	771
Fair 	7.1%	110
Poor 	1.0%	16
Don't Know 	0.9%	14
<i>answered question</i>		1,548
<i>skipped question</i>		19

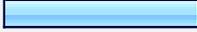
3. Can you reasonably and safely walk to a city park in Allen from your home?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes 	70.0%	1,084
No 	30.0%	465
<i>answered question</i>		1,549
<i>skipped question</i>		18

4. Are additional parks and recreational facilities needed in Allen?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		86.2%	1,323
No		13.8%	211
<i>answered question</i>			1,534
<i>skipped question</i>			33

5. In what area of Allen do you reside? (In reference to the map below)

		Response Percent	Response Count
NW (northwest)		28.5%	442
NE (northeast)		34.4%	533
SW (southwest)		7.7%	120
SE (southeast)		29.4%	456
<i>answered question</i>			1,551
<i>skipped question</i>			16

6. Please indicate your age according to the following age ranges:

	Response Percent	Response Count
Under 18 	0.9%	14
18 - 24 	0.6%	10
25 - 34 	15.2%	235
35 - 44 	54.8%	850
45 - 54 	23.2%	360
55 - 64 	4.1%	64
65 and over 	1.2%	18
	<i>answered question</i>	1,551
	<i>skipped question</i>	16

7. What additional recreational amenities would you like to have in Allen's parks? Please rank by preference your first five choices (#1 being the highest priority and #5 being the lowest priority). (PLEASE CHOOSE ONLY FIVE.)

	Highest Priority	2nd Priority	3rd Priority	4th Priority	5th Priority	Rating Average	Response Count
Adult Softball Fields	35.8% (39)	12.8% (14)	16.5% (18)	10.1% (11)	24.8% (27)	2.75	109
Lacrosse Fields	45.6% (52)	14.9% (17)	9.6% (11)	10.5% (12)	19.3% (22)	2.43	114
Band Stand/Amphitheater	7.5% (10)	16.5% (22)	17.3% (23)	25.6% (34)	33.1% (44)	3.60	133
Multi-Use Paved Trails	35.2% (166)	17.8% (84)	17.6% (83)	16.6% (78)	12.7% (60)	2.54	471
Baseball Fields	26.8% (52)	31.4% (61)	24.7% (48)	12.4% (24)	4.6% (9)	2.37	194
Nature Areas	15.4% (51)	23.5% (78)	21.1% (70)	21.1% (70)	19.0% (63)	3.05	332
Basketball Courts	17.8% (50)	26.3% (74)	25.3% (71)	17.4% (49)	13.2% (37)	2.82	281
Nature Trails	18.5% (89)	27.0% (130)	20.8% (100)	20.0% (96)	13.7% (66)	2.83	481
Botanical/Flower Garden	8.9% (21)	17.0% (40)	23.0% (54)	25.5% (60)	25.5% (60)	3.42	235
Picnic Shelters/Pavilions	5.3% (11)	17.0% (35)	25.7% (53)	28.6% (59)	23.3% (48)	3.48	206
Camping / Day Camps	11.2% (19)	13.0% (22)	23.1% (39)	23.7% (40)	29.0% (49)	3.46	169
Playgrounds	13.8% (27)	19.5% (38)	19.5% (38)	23.1% (45)	24.1% (47)	3.24	195
Community Gardens	6.6% (9)	13.1% (18)	20.4% (28)	32.8% (45)	27.0% (37)	3.61	137
Shade at Playgrounds & Other Areas	25.2% (116)	18.9% (87)	19.3% (89)	18.7% (86)	18.0% (83)	2.85	461
Cricket Fields	36.4% (8)	9.1% (2)	13.6% (3)	18.2% (4)	22.7% (5)	2.82	22

Sand Volleyball Courts	12.5% (20)	17.5% (28)	18.1% (29)	26.9% (43)	25.0% (40)	3.34	160
Disc Golf Course	4.2% (4)	13.7% (13)	23.2% (22)	27.4% (26)	31.6% (30)	3.68	95
Skate Park	18.2% (6)	24.2% (8)	9.1% (3)	30.3% (10)	18.2% (6)	3.06	33
Dog Park	17.1% (35)	15.6% (32)	21.0% (43)	23.4% (48)	22.9% (47)	3.20	205
Soccer Fields	37.6% (86)	27.1% (62)	15.7% (36)	13.1% (30)	6.6% (15)	2.24	229
Fishing Piers / Docks	12.1% (21)	15.6% (27)	26.6% (46)	19.1% (33)	26.6% (46)	3.32	173
Sports Practice Fields	21.1% (97)	34.8% (160)	18.3% (84)	14.1% (65)	11.7% (54)	2.61	460
Football Fields	55.0% (169)	18.9% (58)	12.7% (39)	8.1% (25)	5.2% (16)	1.90	307
Sprayground/Small Water Park	12.0% (18)	22.0% (33)	26.0% (39)	23.3% (35)	16.7% (25)	3.11	150
Horseshoe/Washer Courts	7.4% (2)	7.4% (2)	7.4% (2)	44.4% (12)	33.3% (9)	3.89	27
Indoor Swimming Pools	20.9% (24)	19.1% (22)	13.9% (16)	28.7% (33)	17.4% (20)	3.03	115
Outdoor Swimming Pools	25.4% (46)	22.7% (41)	17.1% (31)	14.4% (26)	20.4% (37)	2.82	181
Indoor Recreation Centers	17.8% (40)	22.2% (50)	23.6% (53)	16.9% (38)	19.6% (44)	2.98	225
Tennis Centers	21.7% (40)	18.5% (34)	30.4% (56)	15.8% (29)	13.6% (25)	2.81	184
Kayak/Canoe Rentals	4.2% (6)	14.0% (20)	18.2% (26)	25.2% (36)	38.5% (55)	3.80	143
Water Features (creeks, small lakes, etc.)	9.8% (21)	14.5% (31)	27.1% (58)	20.1% (43)	28.5% (61)	3.43	214
Lawn Areas for General play	10.3% (20)	13.3% (26)	17.4% (34)	27.7% (54)	31.3% (61)	3.56	195
Youth Softball Fields	23.4% (15)	17.2% (11)	20.3% (13)	18.8% (12)	20.3% (13)	2.95	64

Other	45.2% (38)	16.7% (14)	8.3% (7)	6.0% (5)	23.8% (20)	2.46	84
Please specify other desired facility							201
answered question							1,443
skipped question							124

8. The following series of statements are intended to identify your opinions concerning parks and recreation. Please respond by checking the most appropriate answer:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Response Count
More pocket or ornamental parks are needed. (2500 sq. ft. to 1 acre in size)	10.9% (147)	38.3% (514)	43.7% (587)	7.1% (95)	1,343
More neighborhood parks are needed. (10 acres in size)	22.7% (308)	47.0% (638)	27.7% (376)	2.6% (35)	1,357
More community parks are needed. (40 to 150 acres in size)	25.2% (334)	45.4% (600)	26.7% (353)	2.7% (36)	1,323
Existing parks in Allen should be upgraded and/or improved to include additional facilities.	29.3% (397)	46.0% (624)	22.8% (310)	1.9% (26)	1,357
Residential neighborhoods, schools and parks should be connected with linear parks such as trails along creeks and other corridors.	45.6% (625)	41.2% (565)	11.0% (151)	2.3% (31)	1,372
Parks & recreation facilities are well worth the cost to taxpayers.	51.0% (706)	44.1% (610)	4.0% (56)	0.8% (11)	1,383
The City of Allen provides most citizens with information regarding local parks and recreational opportunities.	26.5% (366)	55.5% (765)	15.2% (209)	2.8% (39)	1,379
answered question					1,412
skipped question					155

9. The following statement is intended to identify your opinion concerning the role of parks and recreation. Please respond by selecting the most appropriate answer:

	Extremely Important	Important	Less Important	Don't Know	Response Count
The role of parks, recreation and open space in Allen today is:	64.9% (915)	33.9% (477)	1.0% (14)	0.2% (3)	1,409
	<i>answered question</i>				1,409
	<i>skipped question</i>				158

10. The most important consideration regarding future parks in Allen is: (PLEASE CHECK YOUR HIGHEST PRIORITY OF THE FOLLOWING - CHOOSE ONLY ONE)

	Response Percent	Response Count	
Quality of facilities in design and construction 	39.4%	554	
Number of facilities 	10.6%	149	
Maintenance of facilities after construction 	25.0%	351	
Preservation of natural areas 	19.6%	276	
Other (please specify) 	5.3%	75	
	<i>answered question</i>		1,405
	<i>skipped question</i>		162

11. How do you gain information on Parks and Recreation programs and events?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Mailings (STUFF Recreation Guide)	51.2%	720
Banners in Park	14.7%	207
Newspaper Articles	13.5%	190
Insert in Water Bills	20.0%	281
Website	51.7%	727
Email	29.0%	408
Other (please specify)	5.3%	75
<i>answered question</i>		1,407
<i>skipped question</i>		160

12. The acquisition of parkland and the development & maintenance of park facilities can be expensive. What funding sources would you support to fund park land acquisition, development, and maintenance of park facilities? PLEASE RANK YOUR TOP THREE PRIORITIES - #1 FIRST CHOICE; #2 SECOND CHOICE; #3 THIRD CHOICE -CHOOSE ONLY THREE)

	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	Rating Average	Response Count
Park User Fees	24.0% (118)	25.1% (123)	50.9% (250)	2.27	491
Donations	50.3% (476)	28.9% (273)	20.8% (197)	1.71	946
Property tax	19.9% (128)	33.3% (214)	46.8% (301)	2.27	643
Sales tax	22.5% (185)	42.5% (349)	35.0% (288)	2.13	822
Bond program	43.1% (452)	34.2% (359)	22.7% (238)	1.80	1,049
Other (please specify)					62
<i>answered question</i>					1,366
<i>skipped question</i>					201

13. Do you favor public / private partnerships to enhance and facilitate development and operations (e.g. capital projects, programs, land acquisition, special events, etc.) of the Parks & Recreation system?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		87.9%	1,166
No		12.1%	161
		<i>answered question</i>	1,327
		<i>skipped question</i>	240