CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REQUEST FORM

Today's date: 09 / 11 / 20

Date of meeting 09 / 16 / 20

(City Council meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month.)

Name of Elected Official, City Employee, Organization, or Citizen making request:
Kim Woodruff, Parks and Rec Director & Jennifer Stapleton, City Administrator

Address: 1123 Lake St

Phone number and email address: **kwoodruff@sandpointidaho.gov; 208-263-3674**

Authorized by: **Kim Woodruff**
name of City official — *City official's signature*

Subject: **Parks and Recreation Master Plan**

Summary of what is being requested: **Formal Council adoption of Plan that was presented to Council during the Council Meeting on September 2, 2020.**

The following information MUST be completed before submitting your request to the City Clerk:

1. Would there be any financial impact to the city? ☑ Yes or ☐ No Budgeted? ☑ Yes or ☐ No
   If yes, in what way? Planned and systematic management strategy for short, mid, and long-term park and public space development and associated funding.

2. Name(s) of any individual(s) or group(s) that will be directly affected by this action: — Have they been contacted? **Yes or No**

3. Is there a need for a general public information or public involvement plan? **Yes or No**
   If yes, please specify and suggest a method to accomplish the plan: Yes
   This dynamic plan is driven by robust public, special interest, and elected input and will continue so as specific plans and projects are identified to move forward. It is a clear road map for all.

4. Is an enforcement plan needed? ☐ Yes or ☑ No Additional funds needed? ☐ Yes or ☑ No

5. Have all the affected divisions been informed about this agenda item? ☑ Yes or ☐ No

This form must be submitted no later than 5:00pm Tuesday the week prior to the meeting. All pertinent documentation for the Council packet must be included.

ITEMS WILL NOT BE AGENDIZED WITHOUT THIS FORM

No: 20-
Date: September 16, 2020

RESOLUTION
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SANDPOINT

TITLE: PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN ADOPTION

WHEREAS: With the City's desire, as relayed in the 2018-2020 Strategic Plan, to develop a comprehensive vison for the City of Sandpoint parks system, proposals were sought for qualified consultants to develop a master plan, with GreenPlay, LLC, ultimately winning the contract in March 2019;

WHEREAS: Since that time, multiple public workshops have been held and survey data collected from the City's parks users, along with GreenPlay site visits and data collection;

WHEREAS: GreenPlay and City staff have provided updates to City Council on a regular basis throughout the process, with the proposed Sandpoint Parks and Recreation Master Plan presented during their September 2, 2020, regular meeting; and

WHEREAS: Incorporating feedback and suggestions from the Mayor, Council and staff, the Plan has been finalized.

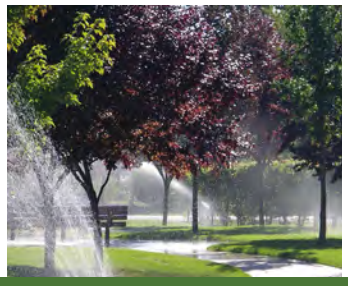
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Sandpoint Parks and Recreation Master Plan, attached hereto and made a part hereof as if fully incorporated herein, is hereby approved and adopted.

_____
Shelby Rognstad, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Melissa Ward, City Clerk

SANDPOINT



Parks and Recreation Master Plan

September 2020

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Mayor and City Council
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Andy Groat, City Council Member
Kate McAlister, City Council Member
John Darling, City Council Member
Deb Ruehle, City Council Member
Joel Aispuro, City Council Member

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Sandpoint
COMMUNITY HALL

I. PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN BACKGROUND

A. PURPOSE OF THIS PLAN

To help guide Sandpoint Parks and Recreation in aligning with the Sandpoint strategic priorities—responsive government, resilient economy, sustainable environment, vibrant culture, and livable community—this Parks and Recreation Master Plan will help direct the future of parks, recreation, trails, and open space. It builds upon the many accomplishments guided by the goals and strategies set forth in the previous Master Plan.

To support and enhance a vibrant quality life, the overarching goal of the 2020 Parks and Recreation Master Plan is to create a comprehensive, system-wide vision for Sandpoint Parks and Recreation which will be environmentally and fiscally sustainable including:

1. Provide a framework for orderly and consistent planning
2. Provide a framework for acquisition and development and Capital Improvement Plan
3. Recommend efficiencies and improvements for administration of the parks and recreation resources, programs, and City of Sandpoint facilities

The Parks and Recreation Master plan, which will be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan Update and Citywide 20-year Capital Improvement Plans (slated for 2020 completion), establishes guiding direction based on the following:

1. Vision and Value Proposition Creation
2. Resources and Core Competencies Assessment
3. Political and Community Engagement
4. Financial Forecasting

In conjunction with this system-wide planning effort, site specific master plans were developed for City Beach Park, Downtown Waterfront, War Memorial Field, and the Travers Park/Great Northern Sports Complex.

B. HISTORY OF PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION

Acknowledging the priority of community recreation, in 1945, Sandpoint established the Recreation Department which offered a broad palette of recreation programming and activities. During this timeframe, the Parks Department led park maintenance, groundskeeping, park improvements, and park development. Looking to future community needs, the parks capital improvement fund was established in 2008, with creation of impact fees in 2011, both of which supported considerable growth and improvement in park facilities and trails.

In 2004, the Parks Department and Recreation Department were joined creating the Parks and Recreation Department to make the exploration and execution of Sandpoint's recreational opportunities a leading priority in enhancing quality of life while also complimenting community health and safety. In 2019, the Parks and Recreation Department was changed to Parks, Recreation

& Open Space Division to reflect its broader responsibility beyond traditional parks and recreation to include open space acquisition and management and non-traditional outdoor recreation such as hiking, mountain biking, etc. The Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Division complements the community's health and safety by enhancing quality of life for residents and visitors.

C. PARKS, RECREATION, & OPEN SPACE DIVISION OVERVIEW

The City of Sandpoint encompasses 4.8 square miles and sits along Lake Pend d'Oreille, Idaho's largest lake, and is surrounded by exceptional outdoor recreational opportunities. Sandpoint Parks and Recreation serves City residents (population est. 9,515 per U.S. Census, American Community Survey, 9,564 based on City estimates), as well as those living in the adjacent cities of Dover, Ponderary, Kootenai, greater Bonner County, and a significant number of tourists visiting the area. U.S. Census modeling indicates that Sandpoint is currently experiencing a five percent growth in population designating it as the 7th fastest growing micropolitan area in the U.S. The cities surrounding Sandpoint and Bonner County are also experiencing population growth of three-to-four percent.

Sandpoint places a high priority on parks and recreation with the division responsible for the provision of services including park and trail management and development, marina operations and maintenance, public buildings, recreation activity and program offerings, community-wide special event support, and collaboration with numerous local non-profits engaging in recreation service delivery. Parks, Recreation & Open Space (PR&O) also provides ancillary support maintaining City rights of way, assisting with downtown revitalization projects, maintaining trees in the downtown core, and assisting with tourism-related projects.

Park space and facilities encompass approximately 130.21 acres of parks within city limits and the Area of City Impact including 12 parks ranging in size from Sand Creek Landing at 0.069 acres to City Beach at over 22 acres, and 10 recreation facilities. Owned by the City Water Fund, another unique City resource includes approximately 3,920 acres in the Little Sand Creek Watershed offering extensive recreational hiking and cycling trails that connect to the network of trails at the Schweitzer Mountain Ski Resort. Additional City property, 32.2 acres on Baldy Mountain Road, owned by the City Sewer Fund, is currently under a short-term lease with the Eureka Institute which operates a disc golf course on site.

Sandpoint PR&O programs and activities encompass a variety of offerings—special events, outdoor aquatics, outdoor recreation, camps, sports, and general instructional classes. Additional services include the community garden, concessions, and shooting range operation.

The following is a listing of parks, facilities and trails managed by the Parks and Recreation Division:

- Over 15 different facilities/locations
- 8 tennis courts
- 4 basketball courts
- 3 softball fields
- 3 baseball fields
- 1 football field/stadium
- 5 playgrounds
- 1 Bandstand
- 4 Picnic Shelters
- 4 Horseshoe Pits
- 2.5+ miles of Walking/Biking Paths
- 1 Skatepark
- 1 Outdoor Shooting Range
- 1 Community Hall
- 2 Marinas
- 1 Boardwalk
- 1 Community Garden

Recreation offerings include:

- 81+ programs offered to the community
- Activity guide published twice a year
- Online catalogue and registration
- Programs in Youth & Adult Sports, Outdoors, Aquatics, Camps, and Enrichment
- Special Events
- Scholarship program to ensure all kids may participate
- Job opportunities for youth as Lifeguards, Swim Instructors, Concessions Workers, and Referees
- Volunteer Opportunities as Coaches, Instructors, and Rangemasters

SANDPOINT PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION

Mission (Developed October 2019)

The Parks and Recreation Division works with the community to provide residents and visitors the highest quality park, program, facility, and event experience.

Vision (Developed October 2019)

To be good stewards of resources and provide outstanding public parks, trails, facilities, programs, and events.

Core Purpose (Developed October 2019)

To provide Sandpoint's residents and visitors with opportunities to enrich quality of life.

Core Values (Developed October 2019)

Accountability	Diversity	Professionalism
Collaboration	Inclusivity	Helpful
Community	Integrity	Friendly

D. RELATED PLANNING EFFORTS AND INTEGRATION

To help guide the Master Planning process the following documents were reviewed:

- 2009 Sandpoint Comprehensive Plan
- 2012 Impact Fee Report - Capital Improvement PLand and Development Fees
- 2012 Downtown Streets Plan and Design Guide
- 2015 A Profile of Demographics
- 2016 Highway 2/200 Corridor
- 2016 Greater Sandpoint Greenprint Final Report
- 2017 City of Sandpoint Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan 2017-2022
- 2016 Bonner County Trails Plan
- 2013 Sandpoint Community Review
- 2015 Pend d'Oreille Bay Trail Master Plan

KEY POINTS IDENTIFIED FROM DOCUMENT REVIEW

Sandpoint Comprehensive Plan

The 2009 Sandpoint Comprehensive Plan advances a 20-year community vision with 2019 marking the ten-year milestone update. A key directive of that plan included ensuring "parks and recreation are a significant component of Sandpoint's makeup" based on the "community's love for outdoor activity" and the importance of preserving and enhancing a diverse array of recreational options as part of Sandpoint's future. In supporting the Comprehensive Plan update, this Parks and Recreation Master Plan will further test and speak to the plan directive, goals, and policies outlined below.

Goal R-1: Parks. Provide integrated and comprehensive parks and recreation facilities to serve Sandpoint's needs.

Policies

A. Maintain and enhance existing parks and recreation facilities and invest in new parks at a pace proportionate with growth on a cost-effective basis.
B. Find opportunities to acquire new park lands near newer, or underserved neighborhoods.
C. Disperse parks and recreation facilities so that parks are located within at most one mile from any housing unit within city limits.
D. Link parks and recreation facilities with a network of safe paths, trails, and/or sidewalks.
E. Explore partnership opportunities with other agencies and the private sector to expand parks and recreation offerings and/or share costs for providing services and land acquisitions.
F. Plan for the parks and recreation system, by establishing long-range priorities to guide investment.
G. Design and work toward a zero waste parks and recreation system.

Goal R-2: **Recreation**. Support recreation as an important component of Sandpoint community life.

Policies

A. Integrate parks and other public community spaces when considering development.
B. Plan for continued and increased public access to the community's shorelines.
C. Consider a variety of alternative uses for community open spaces that may be too small to function as parks, such as plazas or community gardens.

Goal R-3: **Open Spaces**. Incorporate environmentally sensitive areas and public open spaces into the parks and recreation system.

Policies

A. Look for opportunities to incorporate wetlands trails, native plants, and streams into parks.
B. Collaborate with land trusts and other organizations to identify, acquire, and/or preserve open spaces.
C. Encourage the development of a greenbelt trail system extending throughout the ACI, linking natural open space and recreational areas with primary multimodal transportation routes.
D. Consider facilitating purchase or retention of existing open-space lands, through Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) or Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) programs.

Goal LU-1: **Efficient Land Use**. Achieve an efficient use of land in and around Sandpoint, reducing pressure to expand into the Area of City Impact to accommodate population growth.

Policies (related to Parks and Recreation)

E. Create or retain parks and open space areas to complement areas of increased development intensity.

Goal T-1: **Walkability**. Make Sandpoint a walkable community.

Policies (related to Parks and Recreation)

D. Emphasize linkages between prominent activity areas along walking corridors.
E. Plan for increased pedestrian and bicycle use, both for recreation and as an important, viable transportation alternative.
F. Prioritize schools, parks, downtown, libraries, and other civic destinations as non-motorized routes for the transportation network.
G. Ensure that pedestrians, bicyclists, and the physically handicapped are taken into account when developing signalized intersections.

Design Directives

Sandpoint's community planning concept, as rooted in the vision, can be discussed in terms of the design directives outlined here. Each of the directives extends the community's vision into action, launching the plan into public policy. Based on community discussion and the evolution of the plan's vision, these directives reflect the community's desire to temper outward expansion into the Area of City Impact (ACI), to provide for a more compact pattern of land development within city limits, to provide public services at a level that's both sustainable and consistent with community demand, and to promote a healthy and balanced local economy that keeps Sandpoint prosperous.

DIRECTIVE: Ensure that parks and recreation are a significant component of Sandpoint's makeup. Residents wish to enjoy the outdoors, whether by using a City park, taking a bike ride, paddling on the lake, or exploring the nearby woods. Integrating the community's love for outdoor activity is a critical component of this plan.

TRANSPORTATION

Participants also asked for greater connectivity between parks and recreation areas including safe corridors for all types of non-motorized transportation.

E. METHODOLOGY OF THIS PLANNING PROCESS

GreenPlay, LLC, whose project team also consisted of Bernardo Wills Architects and RRC Associates, worked with the staff and residents of the City of Sandpoint in developing this Master Plan. The process offered many opportunities for public input through focus groups, stakeholder meetings, public meetings, an invitation survey, and an open link survey. Many residents consider the Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Division to be an essential element in meeting their family's recreation needs.

The project consisted of the following tasks:

Project Coordination, Strategic Kick-Off, and Determination of Critical Success Factors

- Initial Strategic Kick Off meeting held via conference call
- Detailed work plan discussed and finalized
- Initial startup document package reviewed
- Critical Success Factors identified
- Project schedule approved

Public and Stakeholder Engagement

- Staff Focus Group Meeting
- Staff SWOT Analysis
- Public Focus Group Meetings
- Stakeholder Group Meetings
- Park and Recreation Commissioners
- Staff Debriefing Meeting
- Open Public Forum – Meeting with all stakeholders to share findings, preliminary recommendations, and to gather any remaining thoughts and concerns

Statistically-Valid Random Invitation Community-Wide Survey

- Survey developed based on information gathered during input week and feedback from Sandpoint staff
- Invitation Statistically Valid Survey and Open Link Survey administered

Market Assessment

- Demographics and Population Projections
- Trends Analysis
- Program Analysis

Programs and Services Gaps Analysis

- Park and facility tours
- Reviewed recreation/customer service programs/sports programs, policies, and practices

Operational Analysis

- SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) Analysis

Inventory and Level of Service Analysis

- Site Inventory & Assessment of Parks, Facilities, and Amenities
- Park Classifications & Level of Service (Acreage, Amenities, and Distribution)
- Recommendations (Areas of Focus & Goals and Individual Park Enhancements)

Funding Analysis

- Staff exercise to explore potential funding opportunities for implementation of recommendations

Site Specific Master Plan for Memorial Field

- Conceptual Designs developed and shared with the community

Final Plan, Presentations, and Deliverables

- Results of the Public Input Process
- Results of the Statistically-Valid Random Invitation Survey
- Appropriate written materials and graphics, PowerPoint presentations, slides, and photographs that can be used for public presentations
- Presentation of the final plan

Details for the major tasks are summarized in the following sections.

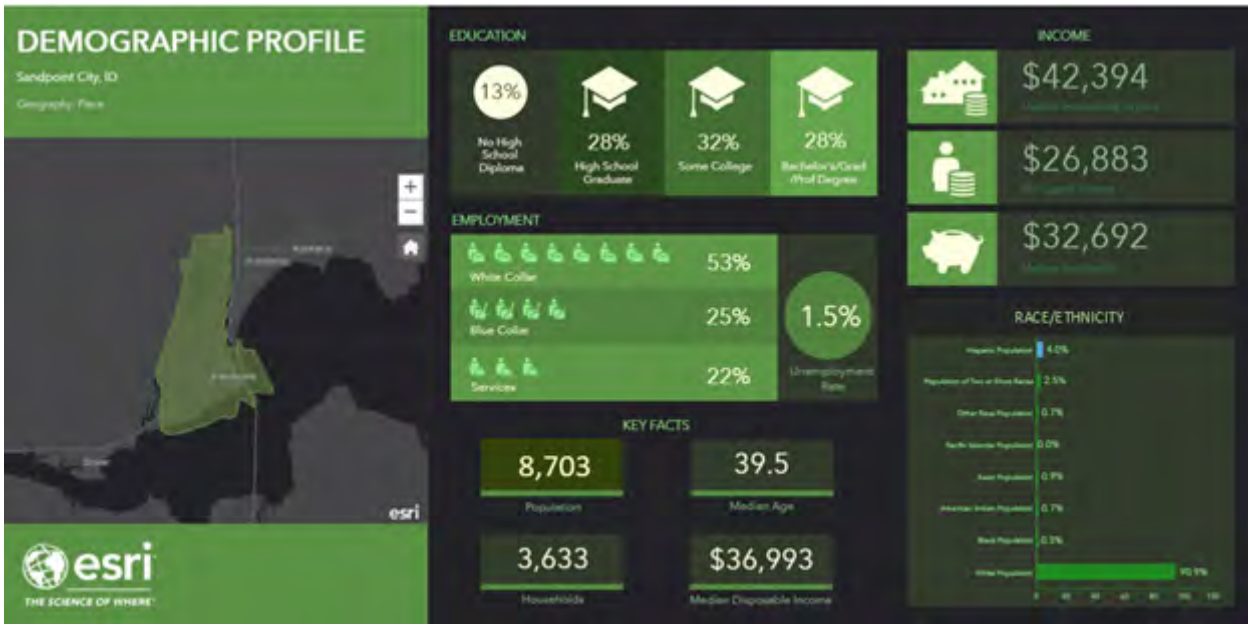
II. SANDPOINT COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

A. SANDPOINT, IDAHO RECREATION AND PARK DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

By analyzing population data, trends emerge that can inform decision making and resource allocation strategies for the provision of parks, recreation, and open space management. This demographic profile was compiled in May 2019 from a combination of sources including the Esri Business Analyst, the American Community Survey, the U.S. Census, and from local sources. The following topics will be covered in detail in this report:

- Population Summary
- Gender and Age Distribution
- Race/Ethnic Character
- Educational Attainment
- Household Data
- Ethnic/racial diversity
- Educational attainment
- State and local health ranking

Figure 1: Sandpoint Demographic Overview



Source: ESRI Business Analyst, U.S. Census, Local Data

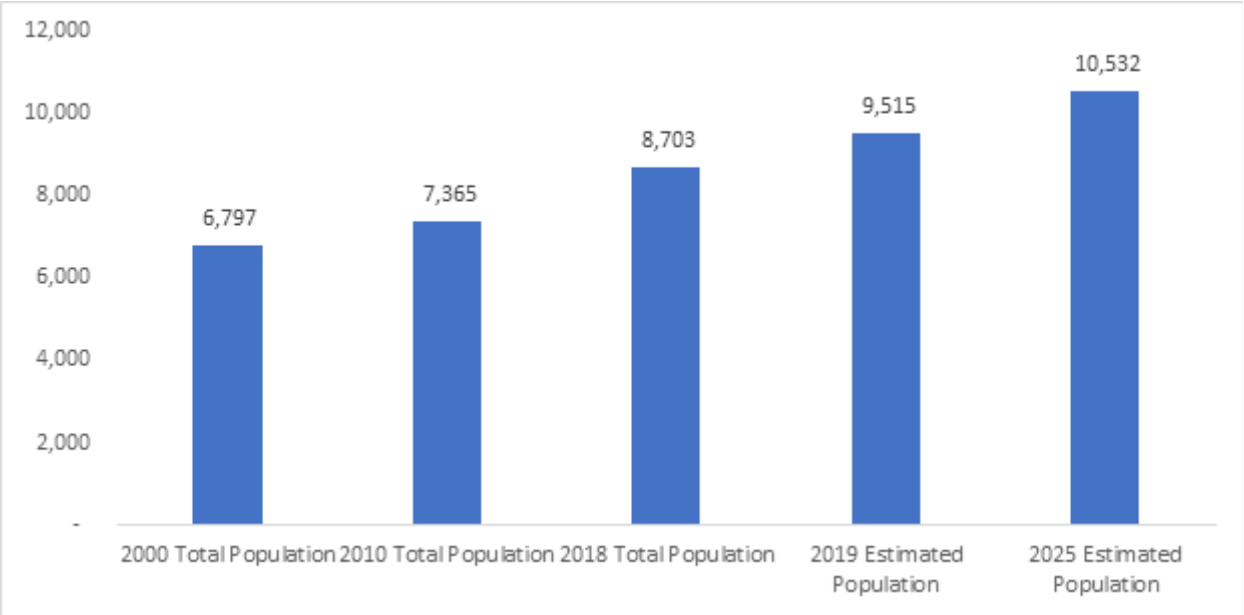
POPULATION

Growth rates can be a strong comparative indicator of an area's potential for economic development. Between 2015 and 2025, Sandpoint is projected to grow 3.40% annually. Knowing that the United States as a whole is only growing at a rate of 0.81 percent, Sandpoint has potential economic opportunities as the community continues to grow and change. The figure below shows a visual representation of the population growth rate between 2010 and 2018. Bonner County had a slightly lower growth rate at 1.28 percent, while the state of Idaho has an annual growth rate of 1.41 percent.

Figure 2: Sandpoint Population Projected Annual Growth Rates (2000 – 2025)

- In 2000, the population was almost 7,000; It grew at a rate of 0.81 percent between 2000 and 2010, only gaining about 568 people. Between 2015 and 2025, Sandpoint is projected to grow 3.40% annually. If that growth continues, it can be expected that the population may reach over 10,000 before 2025.

Figure 3: Projected Population Trends from 2000 to 2025



Source: U.S. Census, American Community Survey, Local Data

AGE & GENDER DISTRIBUTION

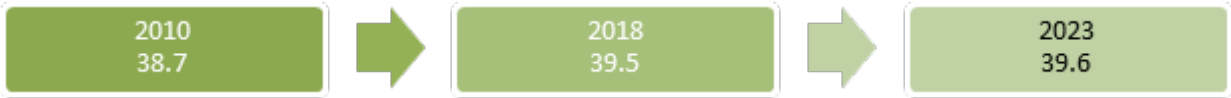
Sandpoint has an even distribution in gender, with slightly more females (51.66%) than males (48.33%). A comparison of state and national data, which shows similar gender distribution, is below.

Table 1: Sandpoint Gender Distribution Compared to State and National Averages

	Sandpoint	Idaho	USA
2018 Female Population (%)	51.66%	49.93%	50.77%
2018 Male Population (%)	48.33%	50.07%	49.23%

The median age in Sandpoint is 2010 was 38.7 years old, slightly older than the State of Idaho at 35.8 years old. The median age is expected to increase between 2010 and 2023, reaching almost 40 years old.

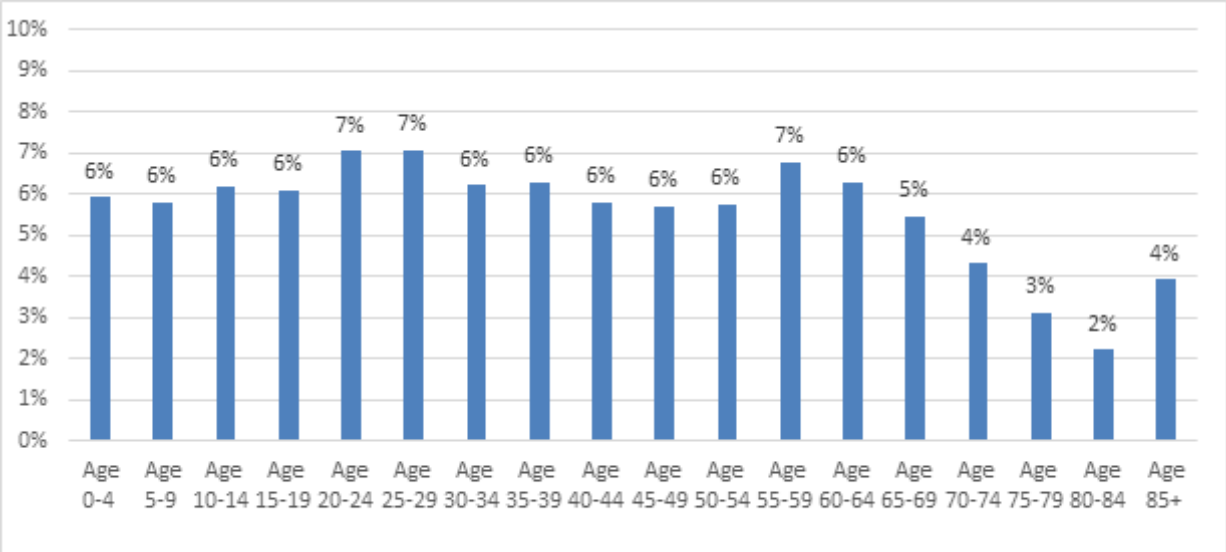
Figure 4: Median Age of Sandpoint between 2010 and 2023



Looking at the population age breakdown by five-year increments in ***Figure 5*** below, there are a few key conclusions.

- Age groups in Sandpoint are relatively evenly distributed, making up between 6 to 7 percent of the population. Significant differences start occurring in the age groups of 65 and older, with each age cohort making up less than five percent of the population.
- The age distribution is expected to stay relatively the same from 2010 to 2023. The major changes that are expected are only within two percentage points. The biggest changes expected are in the 65 to 74-year-old age cohorts, which are both expected to increase by two percent in 2023.

Figure 5: 2018 Age Distribution in Sandpoint



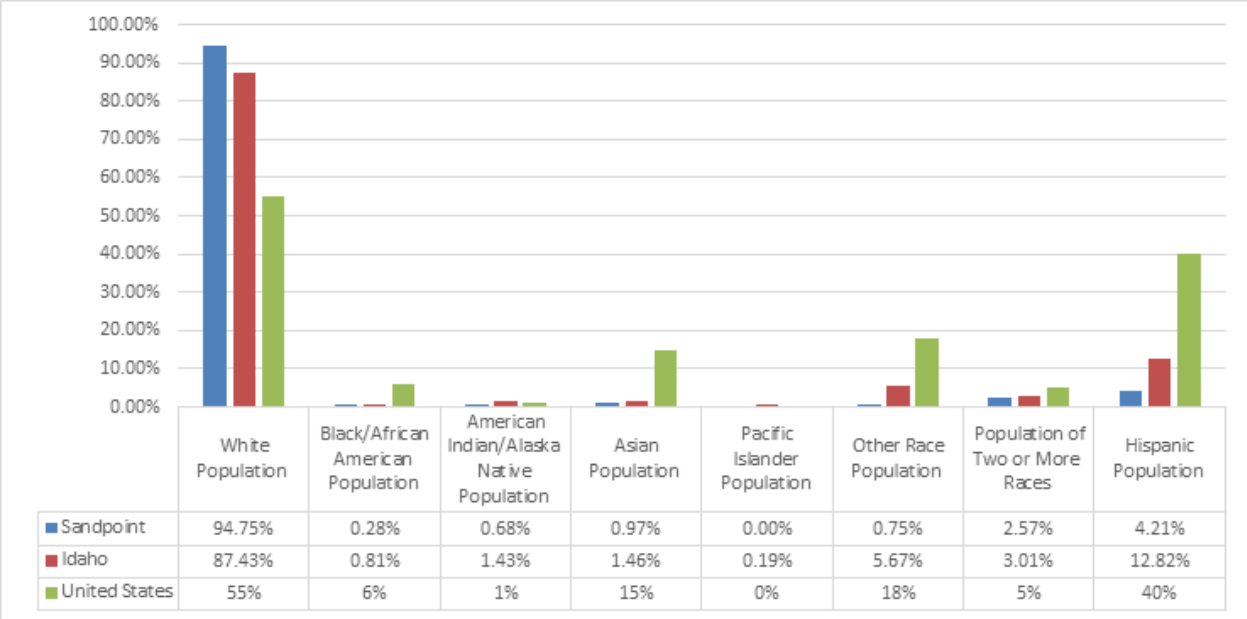
Source: ESRI Business Analyst, U.S. Census

RACE/ETHNIC CHARACTER

In the United States, communities are generally becoming more diverse. Before comparing this data, it is important to note how the U.S. Census classifies and counts individuals who identify as Hispanic. The Census notes that Hispanic origin can be viewed as the heritage, nationality, lineage, or country of birth of the person or the person's parents or ancestors before arrival in the United States. In the U.S. Census, people who identify as Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish are included in all of the race categories. ***Figure 6*** reflects the approximate racial/ethnic population distribution.

- Sandpoint is less diverse than Idaho and the United States, with 95 percent of the population identifying at White/Caucasian. Those that identified as "two or more races" made up almost 3 percent. All other ethnicities had less than one percent.
- Overall, only 4 percent of Sandpoint identified as Hispanic, while that number was 13 percent in the State of Idaho and 40 percent in the United States.

Figure 6: 2018 Racial/Ethnic Diversity of Sandpoint



EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Analyzing the highest levels of educational attainment indicates that Sandpoint had the same attainment level of graduate/professional degrees as the State of Idaho (9%), but fewer than the United States (20%). Sandpoint had a higher percentage of those who earned a Bachelor's degree (19%) compared to the United States (8%). Approximately 13 percent of Sandpoint residents had not completed high school or their GED.

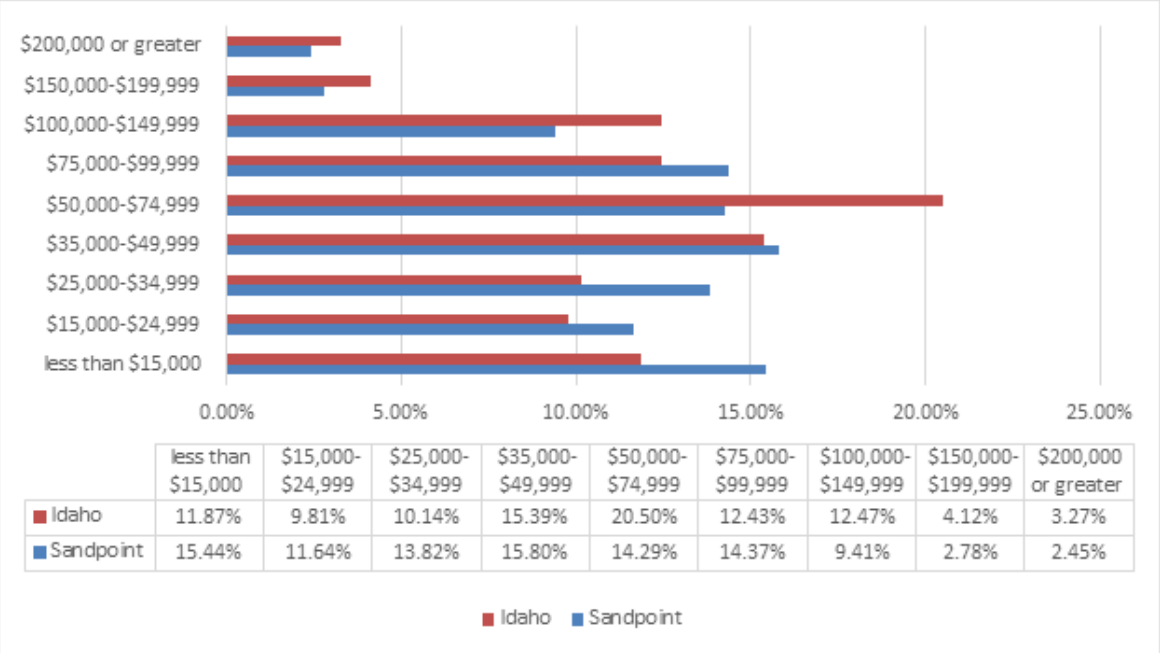
Table 2: 2018 Sandpoint Educational Attainment

Level of Education	Sandpoint	Idaho	USA
Less than 9th Grade (%)	2.18%	2.96%	5.22%
9-12th Grade/No Diploma (%)	10.75%	6.42%	7.07%
High School Diploma (%)	20.32%	22.33%	23.00%
GED/Alternative Credential (%)	7.21%	5.46%	12.18%
Some College/No Degree (%)	25.00%	24.52%	4.00%
Associate Degree (%)	7.02%	9.64%	20.52%
Bachelor's Degree (%)	18.59%	19.44%	8.00%
Graduate/Professional Degree (%)	8.93%	9.21%	19.60%

HOUSEHOLD DATA

- The median home value in Sandpoint is $245,887, higher than the median home value of Idaho overall ($201,162) as well as the United States ($218,492).
- Sandpoint and Idaho have significant differences in income distribution. Over 15 percent of households in Sandpoint make less than $15,000 a year, compared to 12 percent in Idaho. The median income in Sandpoint ($42,394) is approximately $10,000 less than the state ($52,294).
- The average household size is 2.24 in Sandpoint, compared to 2.68 in Idaho, and 2.59 in the United States.
- About 20 percent of households in Sandpoint receive food stamps, compared to the rate in Idaho at approximately 12 percent.
- Approximately one third of residents live with some sort of hearing difficulty, vision difficulty, cognitive difficulty, ambulatory difficulty, self-care difficulty, and/or independent living difficulty. This is eight percent higher than the national average (25%).

Figure 7: Median Household Income Distribution in Sandpoint



	less than $15,000	$15,000-$24,999	$25,000-$34,999	$35,000-$49,999	$50,000-$74,999	$75,000-$99,999	$100,000-$149,999	$150,000-$199,999	$200,000 or greater
Idaho	11.87%	9.81%	10.14%	15.39%	20.50%	12.43%	12.47%	4.12%	3.27%
Sandpoint	15.44%	11.64%	13.82%	15.80%	14.29%	14.37%	9.41%	2.78%	2.45%

EMPLOYMENT

- Roughly 53 percent of the population is employed in white collar positions, which typically performs managerial, technical, administrative, and/or professional capacities. Approximately 25 percent were employed by blue collar positions, such as construction, maintenance, etc. Less than two percent of the population was unemployed in 2018, compared to the rate of Idaho (3.4%) and the United States (4.8%).
- In terms of commuting, about 17 percent of workers spend seven or more hours commuting back and forth to work each week, and 62.3 percent of commuters drive alone in a car to work.

Figure 8: Employment Overview in Sandpoint, Idaho

HEALTH RANKINGS

Understanding the status of the community's health can help inform policies related to recreation and fitness. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's County Health Rankings and Roadmaps provide annual insight on the general health of national, state, and county populations. The 2018 Rankings model shown in ***Figure 9*** highlights the topic areas reviewed by the Foundation.

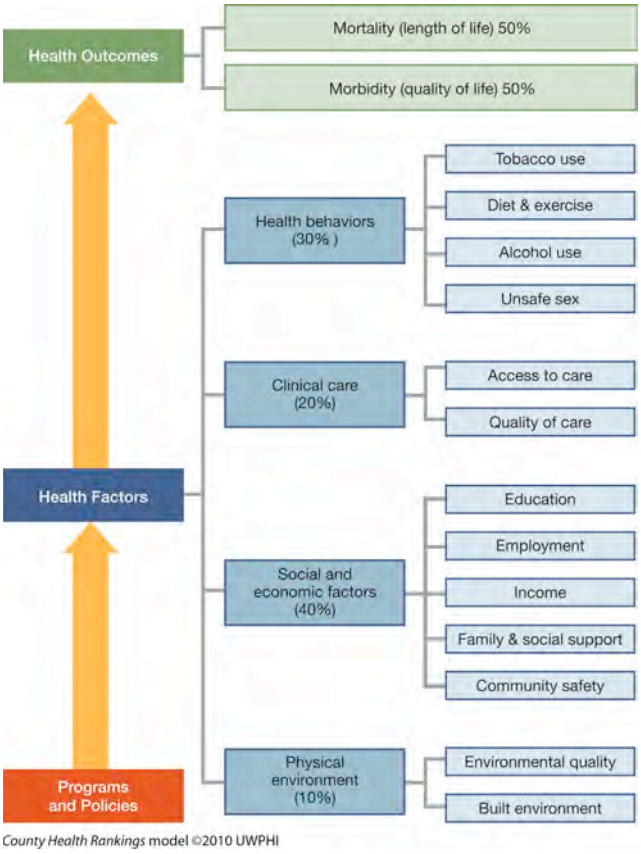
The health ranking for gaged the public health of the population based on "how long people live and how healthy people feel while alive," coupled with ranking factors including healthy behaviors, clinical care, social and economic, and physical environment factors.[1]

1 University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute & Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, County Health Rankings 2018, http://www.Countyhealthrankings.org

State Health Ranking

In 2018, the United Health Foundation's America's Health Rankings Annual Report ranked Idaho as the 16th healthiest state nationally. The health rankings consider and weigh social and environmental factors that tend to directly impact the overall health of state populations as illustrated in ***Figure 10***. The state moved two positions down in the ranking since 2017.

Figure 9: County Health Rankings Model



Bonner County ranked

11th of 42

Idaho Counties for Health Outcomes.

Figure 10: 2018 Idaho Health Ranking Overview

Challenges to health in Idaho include:

- Lower rate of primary care physicians
- High percentage of uninsured population
- Low percentage of high school graduation

Strengths of health in Idaho include:

- Low violent crime rate
- Low prevalence of diabetes
- High per capita public health funding

Source: United Health Foundation's America's Health Rankings Annual Report 2017

B. PARK AND RECREATION INFLUENCING TRENDS

Parks and recreation agencies have the unique responsibility of providing experienced-based recreation opportunities. Understanding current and future trends in recreation can help facilitate memorable experiences for residents and visitors alike.

The following trends were identified as potential opportunities during the focus group meetings in Sandpoint. Nationally, these recreational trends are also being recognized by many other agencies. The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA), as well as other health, recreation, and nature-based organizations, provide research that supports these recreational trends.

Walkability

- Reducing barriers to walkability starts with undergoing a park usage audit, a walkability audit, and a needs assessment with community engagement. Essential elements of safe routes to parks include comfort, convenience, safety, access/design, and quality of the park.
- One of NRPA's initiatives is a 10-minute walk campaign, which ensures that there is a park within a 10-minute walk of all community residences. Related grant opportunities are available on the NRPA website.

Trails

- Trails, parks, and playgrounds are among the most important community amenities considered when selecting a home.
- The highest priority selected for the greatest impact on community health and physical inactivity was a cohesive system of parks and trails, in addition to accessible neighborhood parks.

Teen Playgrounds

- Favorite activities for teens include climbing equipment, trim trails, ball games, and spinning swings. In addition, playgrounds also act as a safe place for socializing with peers.
- Integrations with technology can enhance a user experience, provide social fitness challenges, and engage teens in new ways on the playground.

Fieldhouses

- Perfect for all seasons, fieldhouses are large buildings that provide space for multiple athletic facilities.
- Multi-purpose spaces are a top programmatic trend in recreation centers.
- Interactive screens, virtual screens, and data tracking apps are all innovations that contribute to a multi-functional space.
- Elevated walking tracks that overlook gymnasiums are also a functional trend in recreation center design.

Dog Parks

- Off-leash dog areas are the fastest growing parks.
- Dog parks are typically community driven; early advocates can assist in all facets from planning to maintenance.
- Special events can bring the community together and can include live music, contests, food and beverages.
- The best dog parks provide a mix of design features for both dogs and people, with some of the creative amenities being agility equipment, splashpads, sandy beaches/sand bunker digging areas.

Snow Play

- To activate a space in the wintertime, an area can be designated as a "Snow Play" area. This is typically a place for a variety of winter activities.
- Activities may include playing in the snow, cross country skiing, making snowmen, and sledding.

Synthetic Turf Fields

- Synthetic fields offer a low-maintenance alternative to natural turf that is not susceptible to damage and cancellations from weather (except snow/ice) extending seasonal playability and weather-related playability.
- Synthetic fields need to be replaced every 10 years or so.
- Innovative products in the synthetic field space have provided more sustainable, safer alternatives than crumb rubber (common choice for the last 20 years).

The recreation trends discussed above will be considered when recommendations, goals, and objectives for the master plan are developed.

C. COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Focus groups, stakeholder interviews, and a public forum were conducted during May 1 - 3, 2019. These meetings were held throughout the City. The goal of these sessions was to gather information that would guide the development of the community recreation needs assessment survey. Participants included:

- Users/community members
- City/Division Staff
- Stakeholders
- Commissioners
- Youth and Teens

Over the course of three days 17 public meetings were held, and 67 community members and stakeholders were interviewed. Additionally, a public forum was held Thursday, May 2nd with an estimated attendance of 100 community members.

A summary of responses follows. Responses are not prioritized. It should be noted that some participants chose not to respond during the sessions.

Years that focus groups participants have been a resident of the City of Sandpoint:
3 Focus Groups – 44 participants
13 Stakeholders
Advisory Committee

<5 years	14%
5-9 years	16%
10-15 years	14%
16-19 years	5%
20+ years	20%
Not a resident but use facilities and participate in programs	32%

FOCUS GROUP Q&A

Strengths of the City of Sandpoint Parks, Recreation, & Open Space Division

Asterisk indicates comments or topics that were heard multiple times

- City Beach*
- Number of outdoor children's playgrounds that fit needs of all the age ranges*
- Marina amenity*
- Nice big parks with lots of fields and open space*
- Good athletic fields*
- Lots for younger youth*
- Department does a good job providing things to do/access in summer
- Summer recreational offer diversity (beach, amenities, services)
- Staff is open and receptive to suggestions
- Quite a few programs for kids to do
- Parks are well-maintained
- Trails plowed in winter
- Parks aren't locked; available for drop-in; accessible/open when not reserved
- Easy to work with staff
- Outdoor shooting range
- Opportunities for kids
- Easy to collaborate with business
- General support from PROS staff to facilities
- Variety of what can do at the parks; amenities vary at the parks
- Parks are well maintained
- Sand volleyball courts
- Political support strong for quality of life projects
- Abundance of parks and activities
- Costs are low or no
- Creates sense of community
- Dedicated, hardworking staff
- Community involvements with parks and recreation
- Coordination and partnership with other organizations
- Act as a clearinghouse for the community (don't need to sponsor everything, but share the information)
- City and division's desire to engage the public
- Excellent job with events and keeping departments involved
- Boat launch is free
- Diversity of programming
- Disc golf

Weaknesses that need to be addressed through the Parks and Recreation Master Plan

- More trail connectivity*
- More for teenagers especially for those not playing an organized sport*
- More field times*
- Better access to fields (with winter, later use access due to weather)*
- Lack of indoor fields or synthetic outdoor fields*
- Lack of winter amenities/activities in the parks*
- Enhance things to do at City Beach property in winter*
- Outdoor court surfaces need improvements (basketball, tennis) *
- Indoor facilities*
- Expand number of volleyball courts*
- Indoor or outdoor ice (Creston BC, pools, meeting rooms, gyms, etc.) *
- Bigger skate park or indoor skate park
- We don't plan for the impact we may have on other City divisions and service groups (better, but could improve…add a restroom, events, etc.)
- City Beach overused on weekends especially and could create a public safety issue; park is over capacity
- Park lighting (e.g., 3rd street pier lacks lighting leaving public perception that area is not light enough)
- Need to assess sense of safety (e.g., park lighting and look at sustainability, efficiency, right locations, and costs of lighting, hazards, etc.) and adequacy
- Lighting on fields and areas to extend time of use options (trails too)

- Playground for teenagers
- Water features for younger children (e.g. water parks)
- More gateway/beginner trails and connectivity
- Bike park
- Restroom facility at marina rather than port-a-john, running water
- Need for quantifiable data about use/ participations
- Perception that parking is an issue at City Beach; need quantifiable data
- Parks not handicap accessible
- Not a lot of winter facilities and programs; parks are seasonal
- Parks not dog friendly
- Shortage of referees
- Need for formal outdoor ice-skating rink
- Maybe…is there enough facilities for a growing town, need more property?
- Maybe a missed opportunity for U of I property
- Lack of water for dust management at outdoor volleyball courts
- Access/routes to parks, connectivity
- Greater WiFi connectivity in parks
- Need to have ability to play year-round (turf)
- Restrictions on field use
- Lack of funding
- Very intentional in planning phase; as city has been in love with planning process but don't always have an implementation plan with cost related operations and maintenance plans (look at capital costs, but not O&M)
- Data to help drive programs (program needs assessment) with proactive development of programs versus reactive/opportunistic
- Generally opportunistic also related to capital projects
- Need for Capital Improvement Plan for entire city
- Data
- Parking of boat vehicles/parking at City Beach and parking at various parks which ties into traffic control; boat launch related to parking; non-event Saturday at City Beach it's busy
- Every activity being held at City Beach…what are our priorities and where (e.g., families at City Beach, people trying to launch boats, Chamber event on beach partnered with Trinity, plus the boat show); who takes precedence; competing types of activities
- Example of Festival where last year parked at HS and buses brought people to festival
- More accessible locations on the water for boat launching, need another space(s) in town for another boat launch
- Need to quantify the economics around tourist use in town especially in downtown area
- Lines around recreation are too black/white
- Lack of year-round parks
- Sunsetting sales tax

Additional recreational activities that should be offered by the City of Sandpoint that are currently not available?

- Skating*More teen activities*
- Indoor tennis programming
- Play year-round sports
- Programs for people with disabilities
- Hockey, curling, free skating
- Concerts (could use greater use for outdoor fields)
- Tournaments, etc. where people come here to play, spend dollars (baseball, soccer, etc.)
- Cross country skiing and snowshoeing
- More to do for activities in winter
- Healthy lifestyle activities
- Arts, drama, etc. programming
- Additional and/or improved programming for retired folks
- Water classes (e.g., kayaking, crew, etc.)
- More swimming lessons
- Sledding
- Snowball fights
- Informal sports
- Mountain biking

New recreational amenities desired

- Indoor and outdoor basketball courts*
- Indoor and outdoor ice rink*
- Multi-use indoor facilities*
- Carousel with an event space*
- Skating rink*
- Need a multi-sports complex for indoor activities; everyone vying for the same spaces in the winter (SB, BB, basketball, soccer, rugby, tennis, summer camps, etc.)*
- Outdoor splash park* (e.g., build in another park to move some of the impact especially for young children)
- Affordable 18-hole public/municipal golf course*
- Climbing wall
- Additional boat launches
- Extension of boardwalk to Cedar Street bridge
- More developed shoreline access (e.g., Coeur d'Alene has extensive)
- Shoreline water trail
- Camping in town (e.g., for bicyclists who come through town) to accommodate organized bike rides and individual riders
- Recreational pool for kids (indoor) with water park
- Mooring buoys at the beach
- More parking for the Ponderay Bay Trailhead
- RV parking (not camping)
- More covered pavilions area
- Indoor tennis courts
- Better walking paths (safe smooth) that connect to parks
- Real dog park
- Indoor concert venue
- Ski and snowshoe area
- Include storage facilities for club gear at actual fields, etc.
- Carousel (e.g., Spokane Riverfront Park with carousel brings in people, handicap accessible, provides community space to meet) combined with an event center
- Mini golf
- Places for community groups to meet (e.g., ~ 50 + people)
- Fenced artificial turf field (e.g., paid 25 cents each time opened fenced) with playground
- Teenage appropriate "playground"
- Splash pad
- Bleachers, walls, benches at parks
- In town biking areas
- Lighting for skatepark to extend use hours, same for grass fields
- Better parking at some facilities
- Waterways trails, buoys to show safety areas for kayaks
- City Beach
  - Add splashpad, carousel, volleyball courts, more accessible benches (handicap accessible)
  - Amphitheater or band shell
- Boardwalk down on other side of creek where's the city owns the property
- Indoor playground/play spaces
- "Shop" spaces for creative technical activities (exist already – Maker Point)
- Indoor walking space
- Need to understand youth and how do they define recreation and what they'd like to do; sports engage many youths; not much for kids not interested in sports and / or organized programming
- Mountain biking

Underserved Portions of the Community

- Underserved in winter activities and shoulder seasons*
- Connectivity of trails in certain areas of town*
- Seniors*
- Lack sidewalks on main street
- Lack of after school activities
- Dog owners: dog parks, places to train off lead (building a new dog park in Ponderay near animal shelter, going to be state-of-the-art facility, opening sometime this summer)
- North Sandpoint underserved
- Kayak access
- Children for fishing access
- Teens

- People with disabilities – access as well as city programs (e.g., city decided to charge special Olympics so resulted in not being able to host; limited availability of opportunities)
- Young adults (e.g., early 20s) drop-in basketball
- Youth not involved in sports and organized activities

Financial Support

- Create a Recreation District*
- Bed tax (this is called a local option tax, when reach 10,000 population cannot have this tax)*
- Sales tax – extend the current one so doesn't sunset*
- User fees (city residents pay for facilities used by those living in the surrounding areas – currently charge different rates for residents and non-residents)*
- Paid parking at City Beach for non-residents*
- Grants*
- Widen range of revenue – county kids use huge portions of facilities, but City paying so much of the costs, maybe use School District boundaries to create Recreation District
- Extension of sales tax that's currently used for the bleachers, need to "finish" project and improve playability (this is called a local option tax, when reach 10,000 population cannot have this tax)
- Donate (e.g., lockboxes for donations)
- Look to tourists as possible source of funding and making facilities that they would also use
- City go out to community organizations that aren't currently supporting them and see if could help provide greater support
- How to generate revenue
- General fund

Key Partners and Stakeholders in the Community

- Bonner County*
- Cities of Ponderay, Dover, Kootenai*
- YMCA*
- School District*
- University of Idaho*
- Sports association*
- Schweitzer Mountain Resort*
- Kochava
- Lighthouse
- Idaho Forest Group
- Railroads
- Idaho Department of Transportation
- Land conservation groups
- Developers

Key Issues and Values

- Local factor*
- Small town feel*
- Accessibility/affordability*
- Sustainable growth*
- Inclusivity*
- Lake, mountain, geography
- Zero population growth
- Environmentally sustainable
- Balance of tourism and potential impact to real estate, etc.
- Balance of retirees
- Health
- Inclusion of all areas (e.g., socio-economic)
- Drawing home schoolers to this area because of homeschool laws
- Making programs available to working families
- Need greater support from City for non-profits that run sports
- Limited field maintenance funding provided by School District
- Limited field maintenance funding provided by Festival
- Adults and youth spending less time outdoors
- Kanisku Land Trust
- Ralph Sletager/Waterfront Property Management
- County Fairgrounds
- Carousel of Smiles
- Jacklin Grass
- Local businesses
- Library
- Kaniksu Health Services
- SPOT Transportation
- Sandpoint Nordic Club
- Pend d' Oreille Peddlers
- Eureka Institute
- Look at every possible collaboration opportunity which opens up funding opportunities
- Concern is "turning Sandpoint into a Tahoe" – balance small town feel, home town sense, not too crowded, etc.
- Neighborhood impact on Memorial Field
- Tourist impact on Memorial Field
- Changing demographics
- City needs consistent brand
- Who pays for improvements?
- Growth

Top Priorities

- Multi-purpose indoor facility for all ages of kids and adults*
- Improve communication and connection between Sandpoint and Schweitzer*
- Turf fields*
- Indoor recreation options (fieldhouse for soccer, basketball, lacrosse, football, softball, rugby, baseball, etc.)*
- Retention of open space*
- Ice skating arena*
- Indoor tennis*
- Outdoor fields – greater playability*
- Indoor pool*
- Infrastructure at City Beach*
- Trail connectivity*
- City Beach heavily used; maybe consider spreading out the uses to additional areas*
- Strategic placement and planning of ice rink, sports, etc. helping grow local businesses (e.g., 12 months stronger business versus 7 months)
- Boating access – lake = biggest draw of Sandpoint
- In good shape now for walking and biking paths, but need to consider the future so ensure planning
- Figuring out priorities at City Beach and then activating to be a benefit year round

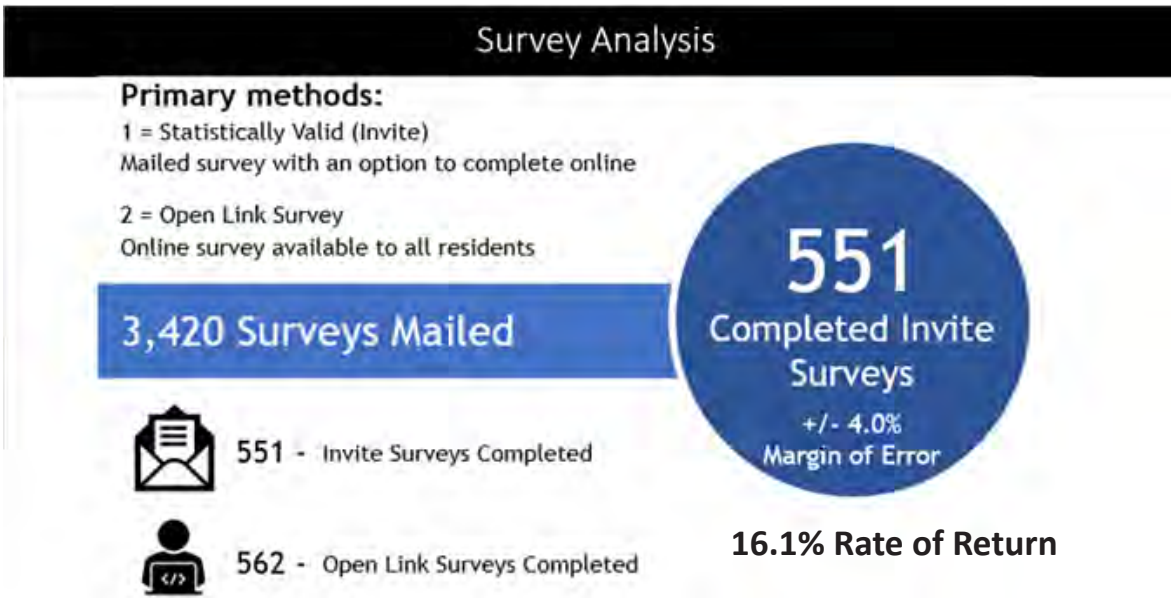
Other Suggestions/Comments

- There's a lot of poverty in our area, need to address the need through sliding fee scale (e.g., user fees, etc.)*
- Spreading the cost of improved/new facilities among the many County users through fees*
- Lots of Bonner County uses City facilities*
- Create a "city campus" for the various offices, etc. and include a recreation center in that facility
- Disappointed that City didn't move waste-water treatment plant to allow for another water front access
- Individual has a City address but lives outside City limits; doesn't feel like has a say in what goes on in the City
- Do a real survey of City Beach with cameras, etc., to count what goes on at the park (e.g., parking, use of facilities, etc.) so have quantified data rather than perception; find out the reality
- Set up Master Plan as a prioritization and phasing realistic to available funding (short, medium and long term)
- Tap into students not engaged in current programming and sports
- Need to understand what are the kids who drive out of town doing? (e.g., go to Coeur d'Alene)
- Need for Boys & Girls Club here
- Partner with other entities to achieve efficiencies for facilities and services
- Example of Festival where last year parked at high school and buses brought people to Festival

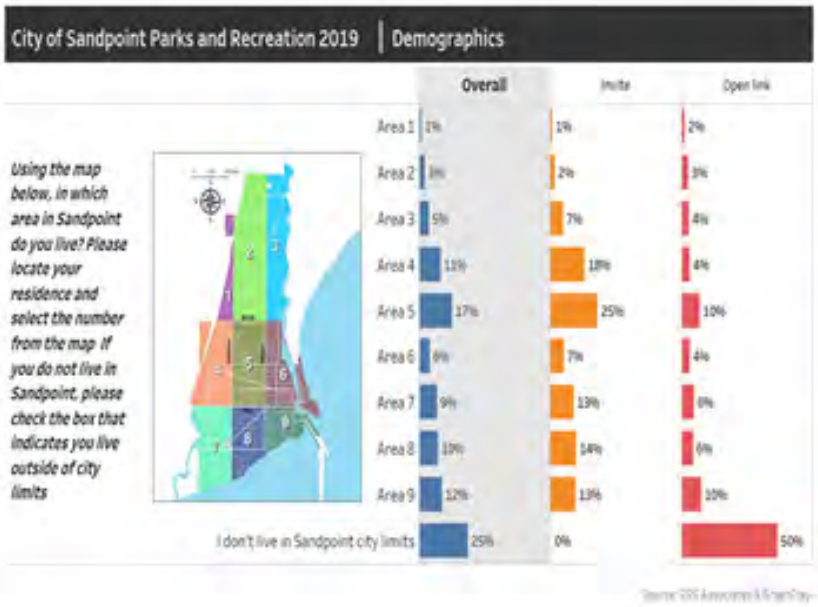
The information collected during the community and stakeholder engagement discussed will be considered when recommendations, goals, and objectives for the master plan are developed.

D. COMMUNITY SURVEY SUMMARY

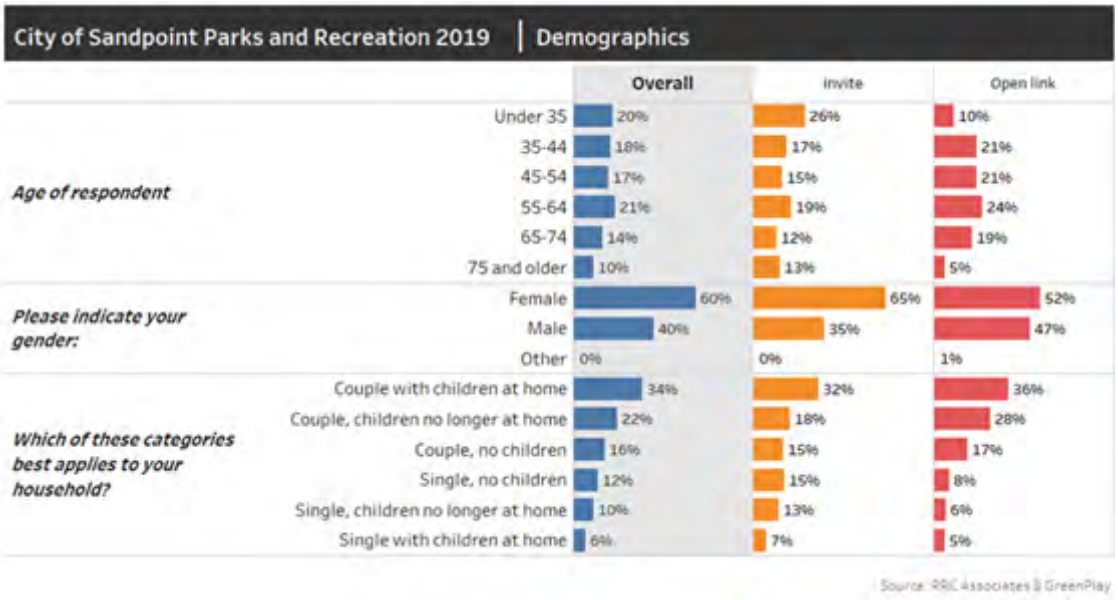
A total of 3,420 surveys were mailed to households determined to be within the City of Sandpoint Boundaries. Additional promotions were provided by the City to assist in increasing the response rate in addition to providing paper copies of the survey in facilities and at events. In addition to the mailed invitation survey, an open link on-line survey was made available to all City residents through the City's open.gov link. Combined, over one thousand surveys were completed.



The demographic profile of the survey closely resembled the demographic profile of the City. Respondents were asked to state where they lived using the map below. The largest area, among invite respondents is Area 5 (25%), followed by Area 4 (18%) and Areas 7-9 (13 and 14%). About 50 percent of open link respondents do not live in Sandpoint City limits.

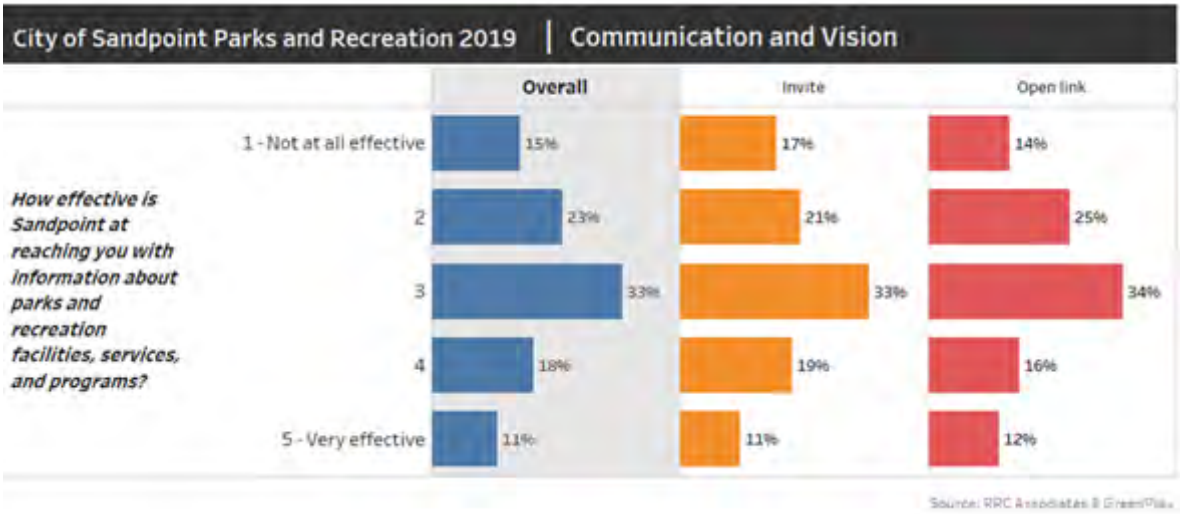


The graphic below shows among invite respondents, more identified as females (65%), a finding commonly seen in survey research. Furthermore, age, a weighted variable, indicated a wide range of age groups with those under 35 best represented (26%). Finally, 32 percent of households are couples with children at home with an additional 7% as singles with children at home.



The graphic below shows that the most attended events among invitation respondents were: Annual Turkey Trot (33%), Unplug and Be Outside (30%), Trick or Treat at City Hall (24%). The most attended events among open link respondents were: Unplug and Be Outside (38%), Sand Creek Paddlers Challenge (32%), Annual Turkey Trot (27%).

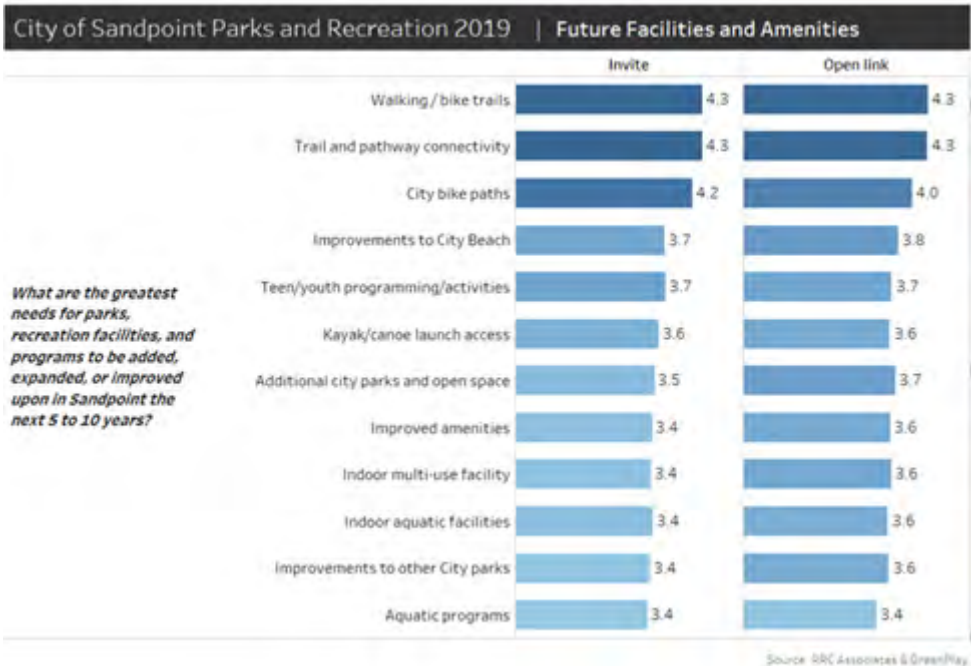
The graphic below shows that when asked how effective communication efforts are for Sandpoint, respondents are rather split. Among invite respondents, 33% rate the effectiveness a 3 out of 5, 30 percent rate a 4 or 5, and 38 percent rate a 1 or 2. Similar results are found with open link respondents. Thus, a key finding is that Sandpoint could improve their communication effectiveness throughout the community.



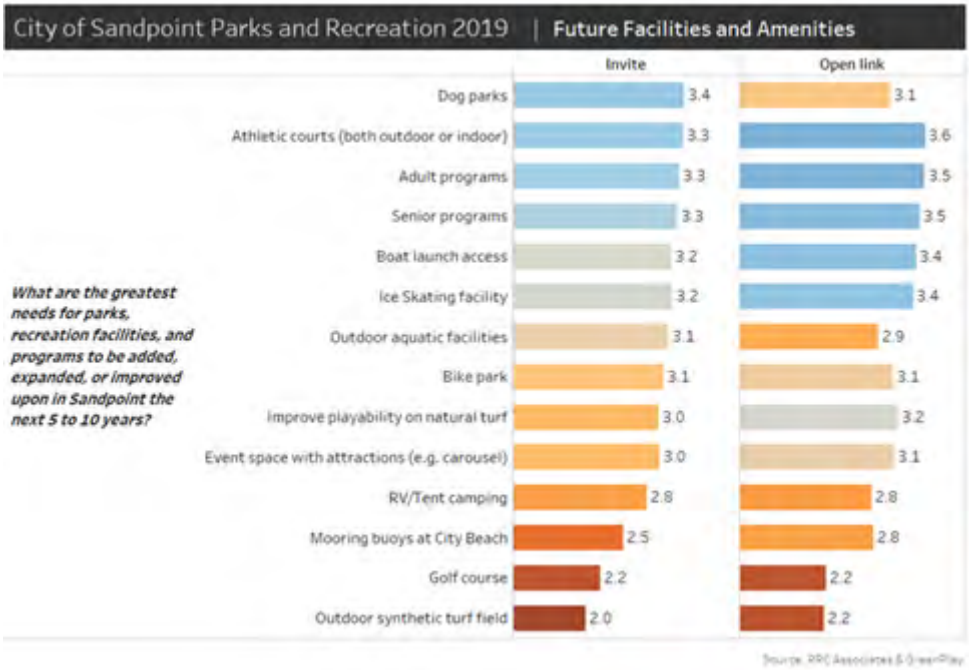
The following graphic shows the respondents top five preferred methods for receiving communication from the City.

The following graphic shows that on a scale of 1-5 in importance, respondents see providing affordable programs and facilities is most important for the future. Furthermore, “protecting environmental resources and preserving land in its natural state” along with “maintenance of current amenities and facilities,” and “focusing on family-oriented activities” is important.

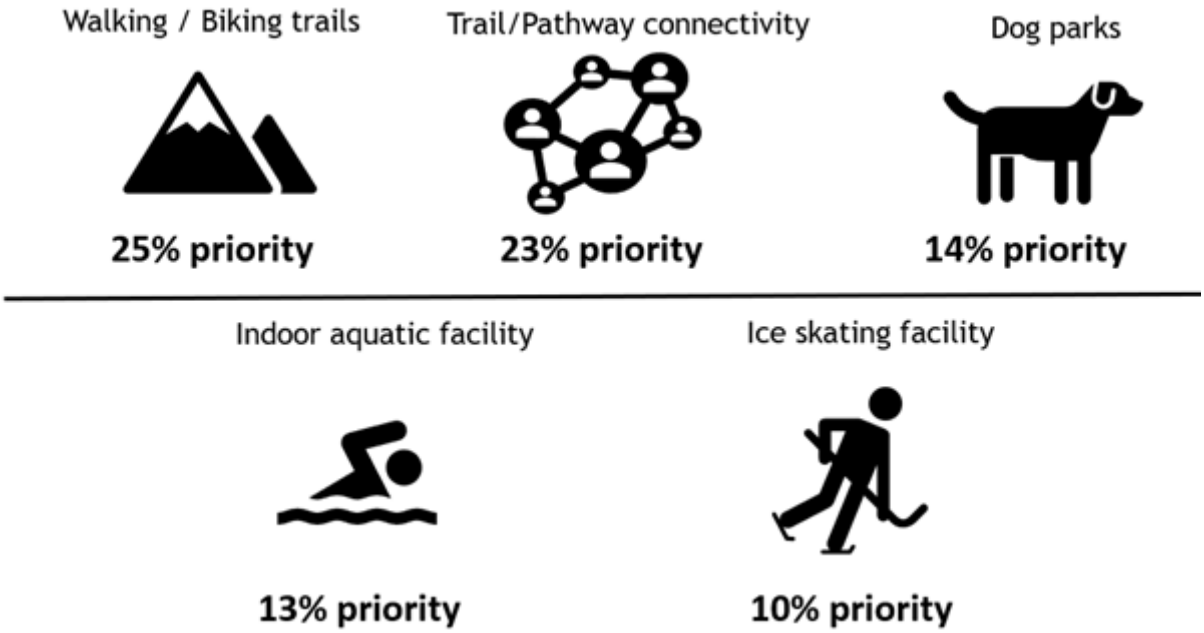
For the future, respondents place the most importance on walking/bike trails and trail/pathway connectivity. This follows a continual trend of placing high importance on trail systems throughout Sandpoint. Improvements to City Beach and teen/youth programming followed in importance.



Other priority items for future improvements include outdoor synthetic turf fields (2.0), golf course (2.2), and mooring buoys at City Beach (2.5). These were the lowest priority for future improvements currently.



The following graphics show the survey respondents top priorities for parks and recreation.



The following main themes were identified during the entirety of the community and stakeholder engagement.

Top Priorities Identified during Focus Groups, Stakeholder Meetings, and Public Forums

- Previous park planning has been reactionary and opportunistic
- Maintain what we have
- Improve City Beach and Waterfront Area
- Improve playability at Memorial Field
- Improve communication
- Improve playability of athletic fields
- Retain open space
- Trail and bike path connectivity
- Consider indoor facility (aquatics/gym/fitness…)
- Consider ice rink
- Enhance special events
- Enhance programs for adults and art programs

Top Priorities Identified Through Surveys

- Multi-purpose indoor facility for all ages of kids and adults*
- Improve communication and connection between Sandpoint and Schweitzer*
- Turf fields*
- Indoor recreation options (fieldhouse for soccer, basketball, lacrosse, football, softball, rugby, baseball, etc.) *
- Retention of open space*
- Ice skating arena*
- Indoor tennis *
- Outdoor fields – greater playability*
- Indoor pool+
- Infrastructure at City Beach*
- Trail connectivity*
- City Beach heavily used; maybe consider spreading out the uses to additional areas*
- Strategic placement and planning of ice rink, sports, etc. helping grow local businesses (e.g., 12 months stronger business versus 7 months)
- Boating access – lake = biggest draw of Sandpoint
- In good shape now for walking and biking paths, but need to consider the future so ensure planning
- Figuring out priorities at City Beach and then activating to be a benefit year round

The information collected during the entire community and stakeholder engagement including the survey will be considered when recommendations, goals, and objectives for the master plan are developed.

E. ORGANIZATIONAL AND MARKETING ANALYSIS

VISIONING STRATEGIES DEVELOPMENT

The existing Parks and Recreation mission and vision statements were reviewed and updated during a Mission, Vision, and Values workshop conducted with the Parks and Recreation staff during the Master Planning process. The updated Mission, Vision, and Values were developed to reflect the 2018 City of Sandpoint Strategic Plan's mission, vision, and core values as well as National Recreation and Parks Association standards.

STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND THREATS (SWOT) ANALYSIS

Organizational Analysis

To determine effectiveness and efficiency in meeting current and future divisional responsibilities related to community needs, GreenPlay broadly assessed the organization and management structure of the Parks, Recreation & Open Space Division. Based on the needs assessment—including staff interviews, community and stakeholder feedback, and level of service analysis along with the consultant's expertise—several opportunities have been identified for operational enhancement. Staff interviews, consultant observations, and conversations with patrons along with a review of the 2017 Organizational Chart reveals a well thought out, functional, and efficient organization.

Sandpoint Recreation Programming Analysis

Measuring the success of Sandpoint recreation programs includes the commonly used analysis of participation numbers combined with an understanding of how well the program is meeting community needs, developing and enhancing partnerships, and filling programming gaps not served by other providers. Through extensive planning, analysis and trial, the Division has identified programs that match well with community needs and continues to annually identify and offer new opportunities. Overall, the Division coordinates offerings so the programs cover direct costs with a subsidy of approximately $6,000 annually to support new programs or existing programs.

Participation in Current Offerings

The Division offers the following program categories—events, aquatics, drop-in, camp/outdoor recreation, sports, general programs, and ancillary activities. Sports, youth, and adult, encompasses the largest number of participation units, over 1,800, with events involving nearly 1,500 participation units annually. Sports programs are held throughout the year with the largest participation numbers in the summer when people can engage in outdoor sports such as tennis, disc golf, softball, golf, football, and volleyball. The most popular events include Movies in the Park, which is carried out in conjunction with the Bonner County Museum, and the Turkey Trot, targeted to all ages. The majority of events are jointly hosted through partnerships which allows the Division to keep charges minimal. The most popular drop-in activities are youth and adult open gym basketball which are held at the Sandpoint High School during winter months.

Aquatics programs are all held at City Beach during summer months and include swim lessons/instruction, synchronized swimming, swim instructor training, beach safety, and junior lifeguarding. Camps and Outdoor Recreation often involve partnerships and take advantage of the many natural resources in the Sandpoint area. For example, Panhandle Pickleball Club leads Pickleball for Teens and Pickleball Camp for Adults; the Sandpoint Sailing Association provides sailing instruction; Action Water Sports leads wake surfing, wakeboarding, and water skiing; the Sandpoint Nordic Club provides Cross Country Ski Lessons.

Ancillary activities have proven successful as well. In partnership with the Bonner County Sportsmen's Association, the Department served over 3,400 people spring through fall.

The City currently has very limited indoor recreation facilities and depends on others for indoor facility space. The Division presently markets many programs provided by others, and struggles to maintain instructors and officials for the programs they manage. Historically, the Division operates many programs that are not financially sustainable and should be discontinued, such as martial arts, crafts, and dance. The Division should consider changing its programming strategy to one of partnering with the Sandpoint YMCA and other service providers. This new strategy would eliminate duplication of services and be more efficient for the Division. The management of recreation programming could be reconfigured to maximize seasonal demands with staff resources under the guidance of the Director of Parks and Recreation. The new strategy would be one of partnering with the Sandpoint YMCA and other service providers to offer recreation programs and services. The Division would promote the programs offered by the Sandpoint YMCA and other service providers. The Division would provide access to the limited facilities managed by the Division. Program registrations, collections of fees, and hiring of instructors and officials would all be handled by the Sandpoint YMCA and other service providers. This new programming strategy would eliminate the duplication of services that currently exists between the Sandpoint YMCA and other service providers and continue successful unique programs.

Partnerships

Alternative Facilities Used by Sandpoint Parks and Recreation
(Travel time is from City Hall)
Bonner County Fairgrounds (10-15 min Travel)
Adult Volleyball – Men's, Women's & Coed, October-March
3 courts in the Main Exhibit Building
(Roof leaks, floor in need of repair/upgrade)

Sandpoint High School Gym (2-5minutes Travel)
Open Gym Basketball
Men's Basketball
Full size basketball court, 2 side courts

Sandpoint Middle School Gym (2-5min Travel)
Youth Volleyball Games, 2 courts
Youth Basketball Games
Full size gym, 2 side courts

Farmin Stidwell Elementary Gym (5-7min Travel)
Youth Basketball Practice
Youth Volleyball Practice
¾ size gym

Kootenai Elementary Gym (10-15min travel)
Youth Basketball Practice
Youth Volleyball Practice
Little Dribblers (1st & 2nd Basketball)
¾ Gym, 2 side courts

Sagle Elementary Gym/Cafeteria (15-20min Travel)
Youth Basketball Practice
Youth Volleyball Practice
Outdoor Field Space

Washington Elementary Gym/Cafeteria (5-7min travel)
Youth Basketball Practice
Youth Volleyball Practice
Southside Elementary Café/gym/auditorium (25-30min Travel)
Youth Basketball Practice
Youth Volleyball Practice
Outdoor Field Space

Northside Elementary Café/gym/auditorium (25-30min Travel)
Youth Basketball Practice
Youth Volleyball Practice
Outdoor Field Space

Hope Elementary Café/gym/auditorium (50-60min Travel)
Youth Basketball Practice
Youth Volleyball Practice
Outdoor Field Space

Maintenance and Facilities

A review of parks and facilities has shown that the dedicated staff have done an excellent job maintaining the parks and facilities with the resources available to them. The Sandpoint staff is committed to providing high quality parks and facilities.

Based on conversations with staff and the consultant team, the following Capital Improvement Project items have been identified for consideration and will be included in the recommendation section of the report:

- Vehicle/capital equipment replacement items (tractors, large mowers, etc.)
- Detailed list of what we currently have, exactly what it's used for, and future needs
- Final phase – Windbag marina.
- Relocate Park Shop
- Create parks pathway repair/replacement plan
- Tennis courts – Consolidate and Renovate
- Skatepark – Rebuild or reconfigure/expand kidney bowl
- Replace boat docks – Lakeview and City Beach
- Indoor fieldhouse (court sports)

**Once the additional Specific Master Plans are completed for City Beach, The Downtown Waterfront, and Travers/Centennial/Great Northern Park, capital costs for these projects will be added to this list.*

Existing and Future Facilities and Staffing – Analysis

A review of parks and facilities has shown that the dedicated staff have done an excellent job maintaining the parks and facilities with the resources available to them. The Sandpoint staff is committed to providing high quality parks and facilities.

Government building/grounds and parks have 9.67 FTE positions and recreation has 1.98 FTE positions.

The operations of the concessions stand at City Beach was also problematic for the Division. With the redesign of City Beach being considered as part of the conceptual plan, the City should consider contract out future concessions services with a private vendor. Food Concessions and other concessions providing other service may be an opportunity for the City to generate revenue to offset operational costs rather than simply breaking even.

The City should reassess the staffing structure and staff responsibilities within the Division.

Future Land Acquisition
The Baldy property is currently used as a disc golf course. The City should consider purchasing this property from the City Utility to develop as a park which may include some disc golf, , or consider partnering with the school district for fields improvements at Farmin-Stidwell Elementary that could benefit the broader community. Additionally, the City should look to acquire additional property for park development or additional open space on the north side as development continues to occur. It is recommended that a neighborhood park/playground is needed at the former University of Idaho property along North Boyer to accommodate park needs of that anticipated development. Finally, the City should consider the land swap being discussed with the owners of the Edgewater Resort as identified in the City Beach conceptual plans.

Future Facility Usage and Additions
The Community Hall facility should be used primarily for meetings and informal passive recreation such as quilting and other arts programs, as this would provide some of the additional meeting spaces identified in the needs assessment.

Considerations for adding additional indoor facilities such as gymnasiums and fitness spaces should be done in partnership with or support from the Sandpoint YMCA and other service providers including the school district.

III. PARKS & FACILITIES INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

Parks and facilities were inventoried and assessed for function and quality in May 2019 using the GRASP®-IT audit tool. This tool classifies park features into one of two categories: components and modifiers. A component is a feature that people go to a park or facility to use, such as a tennis court, playground, or picnic shelter. Modifiers are amenities such as shade, drinking fountains, and restrooms that enhance the comfort and convenience of a site. Find further definitions and discussions in ***Appendix A.***

A formula was applied that combines the assessments of a site's components and modifiers to generate a score or value for each component and the entire site. The resulting values can be used to compare sites to each other and to analyze the overall performance of the park system.

A. ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Conclusions based on visits to each park or facility, the following general assessments include:

- Celebrate the water and opportunities to increase views and access
- Good street visibility and frontage
- Opportunities to increase ADA access throughout the system
- Most parks are well maintained, but some need updates (deferred maintenance)
- Many past park projects and development appear to have been reactionary and opportunistic
- Regional resources and partnerships are significant
- Schools provide some limited use opportunities
- Inconsistent signage and comfort feature standards across the system
- Playground structure and surfacing in need of updates
- Skateboard opportunities are limited
- Upgraded sports fields could allow for greater use
- Limited indoor recreation opportunities

Table 3: Summary of Sandpoint Outdoor Locations

LOCATION	GIS Acres	Basketball Court	Basketball, Practice	Bike Course	Concessions	Diamond Field	Disc Golf	Educational Experience	Event Space	Garden, Community	Garden, Display	Horseshoe Court	Loop Walk	Multi-Use Pad	Natural Area	Open Turf	Passive Node	Pickleball Court	Picnic Ground	Playground, Local	Public Art	Rectangular Field, Large	Shelter, Large	Shelter, Small	Skate Feature	Skate Park	Target Range	Tennis Court	Tennis, Practice Wall	Trailhead	Volleyball Court	Water Access, Developed	Water Access, General	Water Feature	Water, Open	Total Components per Park
Baldfoot Disc Golf Course	36.2						1																							1						2
Cedars Park	2.6														1																					1
City Beach and Windbag Marina	22.1	1			1							2				1			1	1	1		1					2			3	3			1	18
Creekside Trail	3.6																1															1			1	3
Fairgrounds Park	0.4		1											1					1	1																4
Farmin Landing	1.4																															1			1	2
Farmin Park	0.3								1							1					1															3
Gateway to Sand Creek	0.1							1													1											2			1	5
Hickory St. Park	2.3	1											1			1				1			1		1											6
Humbird Mill Park	3.4																1													1			1		1	4
Jeff Jones Square	0.3																1				1													1		3
Lakeview Park	12.0	1									1					1		3	1	1			1	1				2	1			1			1	15
Little Sandcreek Watershed	7690.9																													2						2
Mickinnick Trail Head	0.5																													1						1
Old Ninth Grade Center Field	1.5					1				1																										2
Pine St Park	1.8	2				1										1				1																5
Sand Creek Park	1.2																													1					1	2
Sandpoint Community Hall	0.7															1																				1
Selkirk Loop Rest Area	0.1							1																						1						2
Shooting Range	4.4																										1									1
Sports Complex	31.9			1	1	4							8		1	1	1			1		4	2			1		4								29
Third Avenue Pier	0.3																															1			1	2
War Memorial Field	4.6				1	1			1								1					1														5
Totals:	7822.89	5	1	1	3	7	1	2	2	1	1	2	9	1	2	7	5	3	3	6	4	5	5	1	1	1	1	8	1	7	3	9	1	1	8	

Table 4: Summary of Key Regional Resources and Schools

LOCATION	GIS ACRES	Basketball Court	Basketball, Practice	Bike Course	Camping, Defined	Diamond Field	Diamond Field, Practice	Dog Park	Equestrian Facility	Event Space	Multi-Use Pad	Open Turf	Other	Pickleball Court	Playground, Local	Rectangular Field, Large	Rectangular Field, Multiple	Rectangular Field, Small	Track, Athletic	Trailhead	Water Access, General	Water, Open	Total Components per Park
Bonner County Fairgrounds	39.1				32				1	1													34
Dog Beach Park	3.0												1								1	1	3
Dover City Park	2.6							1							1						1		3
Farmin Stidwell	15.2	1	3								1				2		2						9
Lake Pend Oreille Alternative High School	2.2		2									1											3
McNearney Park	5.9			1				1															2
Pine Street Woods	159.3																			1			1
Sandpoint School Campus (MS & HS)	43.9					2										2			1				5
Sherwood Forest	141.1																			1			1
Washington Elementary	3.1	1					1				1				1			2					6
YMCA	3.2		3									1		1									5
Totals:	418.5	2	8	1	32	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	4	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	

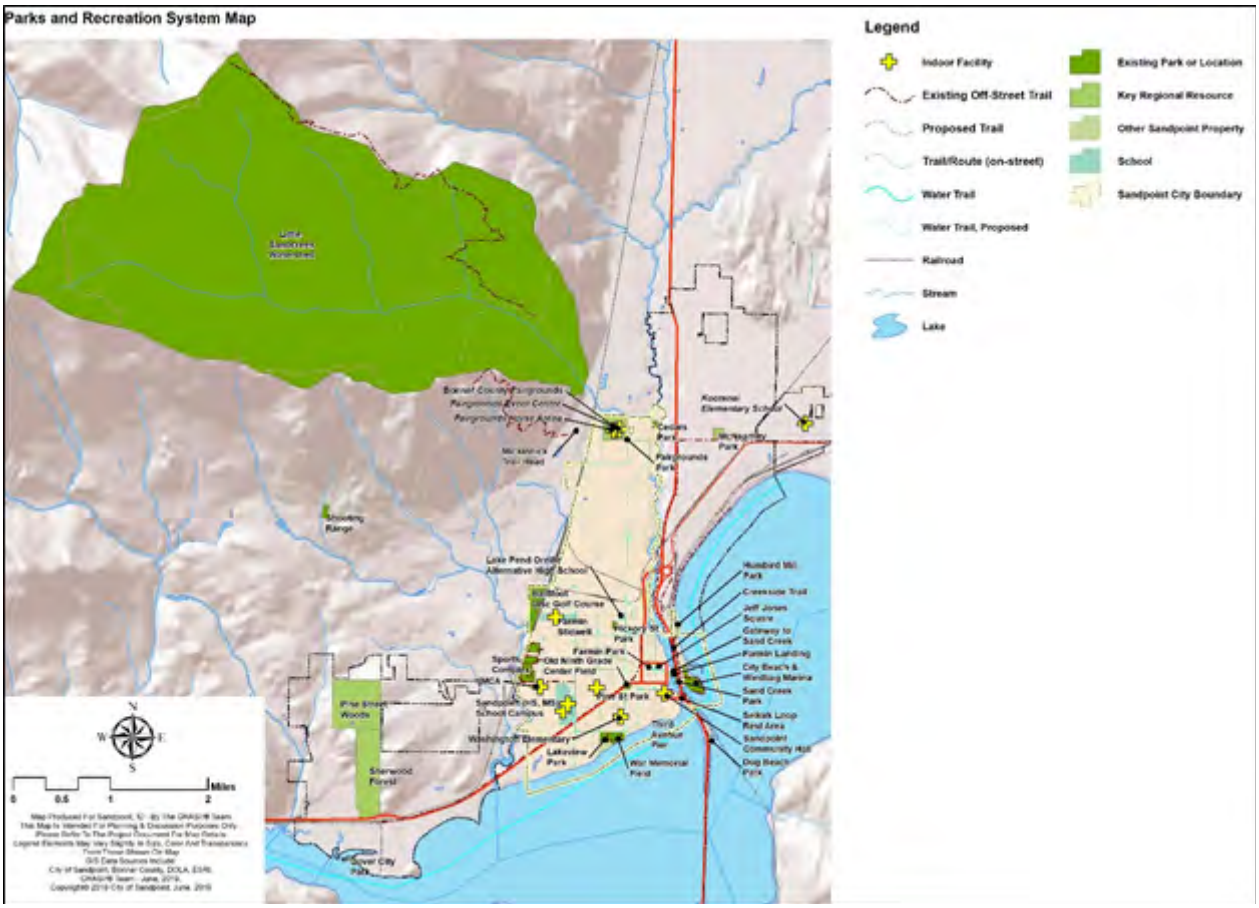
Table 5: Summary of All Indoor Locations

LOCATION	Aquatics, Lap Pool	Childcare/Preschool	Fitness/Dance	Food - Counter Service	Gymnasium	Kitchen - Kitchenette	Lobby/Entryway	Multi-purpose	Sport Courts	Target Range	Weight/Cardio Equipment	Total Components per Facility
Community Hall						1		3				4
Fairgrounds Event Center								1				1
Fairgrounds Horse Arena								1				1
Farmin Stidwell Elementary Gym					1							1
Hope Elementary School Gym					1							1
Kootenai Elementary School Gym					1							1
Northside Elementary School Gym					1							1
Pine St. Park Indoor Range										1		1
Sagle Elementary School Gym					1							1
Sandpoint High School Gym					1							1
Sandpoint Middle School Gym					1							1
Southside Elementary School Gym					1							1
Washington Elementary School Gym					1							1
YMCA	1	1	1	1	1		1		2		1	9
Totals:	1	1	1	1	10	1	1	5	2	1	1	

System Map

The following map shows park and recreation facilities across Sandpoint.

Figure 11: System Map



Find larger scale maps in the Appendix.

Figure 12: Example of GIS inventory Map and Datasheet from Pine Street Park

Pine St Park

Initial Inventory Date: 5/2/2019

21.6 Total Neighborhood GRASP® Score

26.4 Total Community GRASP® Score

Approximate Park Acreage: 1.8

Owner: City of Sandpoint

Drinking Fountains	2	Shade	2	**Design and Ambiance**
Seating	1	Trail Connection	2	**2**
BBQ Grills	0	Park Access	2	
Dog Pick-Up Station	0	Parking	2	
Security Lighting	0	Seasonal Plantings	0	
Bike Parking	2	Ornamental Plantings	0	
Restrooms	1	Picnic Tables	1	

General Comments

Components with Score

MAPID	Component	Quantity	Lights	Neighborhood Score	Community Score	Comments
L011	PARCEL	1		2	2	
C058	Open Turf	1		1	1	Small area under trees is limited
C057	Playground, Local	1		2	2	Newer playground
C056	Diamond Field	1		2	2	
C055	Basketball Court	2	N	2	2	Surfacing is showing age

See the Inventory Atlas, supplemental document to the Master Plan.

Trails

Extensive work was done by parks and recreation staff with support from GIS to identify recreational trails and water trails opportunities available to the community. Over 50 miles of trails were identified in GIS data and used in the mapping for this study. Trail ownership is not indicated and is not assumed to be solely Sandpoint owned and maintained. The highlight of the Sandpoint trails system includes Sandpoint to Dover Community trail, Long Bridge trail, the Pend d'Oreille Bay Trail, the Sand Creek Trails, and several trails within parks such as at the Sports Complex. On-street bike lanes supplement the recreational trail system with multi-modal routes throughout the City.

The City website highlights several trails. They include the following.

Pend Oreille Bay Trail

According to the website, this waterfront trail provides access to the Pend d'Oreille Bay. Along the route, there are educational opportunities. Two historical sites, the Humbird Mill site, and the Panhandle Smelting and Refining Company site provide visitors with the opportunity to gain a glimpse of the life of mill workers during the early 1900s. Native plants and wildlife are also unique to this landscape.

Sherwood Forest Trails

Also known as "Syringa Trails" by the locals, Sherwood Forest offers year-round access to hiking, mountain biking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing throughout this 143-acre conservation easement.

Mickinnick Trail
Mickinnick is a 3.5-mile trail (one-way) that "switchbacks" through 160 acres of rock outcroppings, grassy meadows, and old-growth timber. Trailhead access for this trail is approximately three miles from town on Woodland Drive and is on property owned by the City water utility.

Other trails such as the Gold Hill Trail No. 3, are just out of the mapping limits for this study. The lower trailhead is on Bottle Bay Road and includes a trailhead with parking and a vault toilet. The trail ascends steeply up the north face of Gold Hill, switching back and forth for the first mile and a half before leveling off and trending south and west through a basin.

City Watershed
There are several single track trails, which are part of the "Little Sand Creek Basin Trails" network located on the City-owned watershed adjacent to Schweitzer Mountain Resort and the Selkirk Recreation District. The City currently has no long-term plan or vision for build-out of this trail network but contracts with the nonprofit group, Pend Oreille Pedalers.

Schweitzer Mountain
Schweitzer boasts of over 40 miles of trails and even more mountain bike trails in the surrounding area maintained by the Selkirk Recreation District and Schweitzer Mountain Resort through contract.

Figure 13: Schweitzer Mountain Trail Map

PARK RANKING

In addition to locating components, assessments included the functional quality of each element during the site visits. The following table displays the ranking of each park based on an overall score for its components and modifiers. In general, parks at the top of the list offer more and better recreation opportunities than those ranked lower. The colored bar length reflects a park's score in proportion to that of the highest-ranking park (Sports Complex).

Table 6: Park Ranking Table

LOCATION	GRASP® Score/Ranking
Sports Complex	165.6
City Beach and Windbag Marina	93.6
Lakeview Park	72
Humbird Mill Park	39.6
Hickory St. Park	28.8
Gateway to Sand Creek	28.6
War Memorial Field	27.6
Fairgrounds Park	26.4
Pine St Park	26.4
Creekside Trail	19.2
Jeff Jones Square	19.2
Baldfoot Disc Golf Course	14.4
Selkirk Loop Rest Area	14.4
Farmin Landing	13.2
Little Sandcreek Watershed	13.2
Old Ninth Grade Center Field	13.2
Sand Creek Park	13.2
Third Avenue Pier	13.2
Shooting Range	12
Mickinnick Trail Head	9.6
Cedars Park	8.8
Sandpoint Community Hall	8.8
Farmin Park	8.4

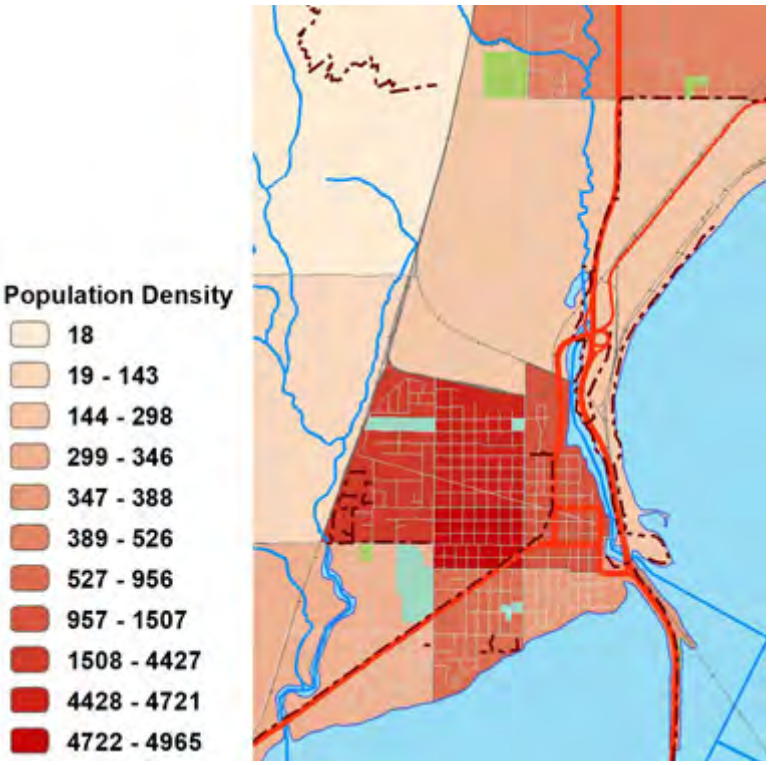
Table 7: Other Providers Ranking Table

LOCATION	GRASP® Score/Ranking
Bonner County Fairgrounds	168
Dog Beach Park	17.6
Dover City Park	16.8
Sandpoint School Campus	13.2
YMCA	12.1
Farmin Stidwell	9.35
McNearney Park	6.6
Pine Street Woods	6.6
Sherwood Forest	6.6
Washington Elementary	4.95
Lake Pend Oreille Alternative High School	2.75

Population Distribution and Density

When discussing access to recreation, it is helpful to understand the population distribution and density in Sandpoint. In ***Figure 14***, areas of higher population density are shown in darker orange, while areas that are less densely populated are lighter in color.

Figure 14: 2019 Population density based on population per square mile by census block group



B. LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

Level of Service (LOS) measurements evaluate how parks, open spaces, and facilities in Sandpoint serve the community. They may be used to benchmark current conditions and to direct future planning efforts.

An analytical technique known as GRASP® (Geo-Referenced Amenities Standard Process) was used to analyze Level of Service provided by assets in Sandpoint. This proprietary process, used exclusively by GreenPlay, yields analytical maps and data that may be used to examine access to recreation across a study area. A detailed history and description of GRASP® Methodology may be found in the Appendix.

Why Level of Service?

Level of Service describes how a recreation system provides residents access to recreational assets and amenities. It indicates the ability of people to connect with nature and pursue active lifestyles. It can have implications for health and wellness, the local economy, and the quality of life. Further, LOS for a park and recreation system tends to reflect community values. It is often representative of people's connection to their communities and lifestyles focused on outdoor recreation and healthy living.

GRASP® Analysis

GRASP® (Geo-referenced Amenities Standards Process) has been applied in more than one hundred communities across the country to evaluate LOS for park and recreation systems. With GRASP®, information from the inventory of parks and facilities described previously was used in combination with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software to produce analytic maps and data that show the quality and distribution of park and recreation services across Sandpoint.

Perspectives

Maps and data produced using the GRASP® methodology are known as perspectives. Each perspective models recreation services across the study area. The model can be further analyzed to derive statistical information about service in a variety of ways. Maps are utilized along with tables and charts to provide benchmarks or insights a community may use to determine its success in providing services. Find further discussion on Perspectives and other GRASP® terminology in the appendix.

Types of Perspectives

The LOS offered by a park or other feature is a function of two main variables: what is available at a specific location and how easy it is for a user to get to it. The inventory performed with the GRASP®-IT tool provided a detailed accounting of what is available at any given location, and GIS analysis was used to measure its accessibility to residents. People use a variety of ways to reach a recreation destination: on foot, on a bike, in a car, via public transportation, or some combination. In GRASP® Perspectives, this variability is accounted for by analyzing multiple travel distances (referred to as catchment areas). Two different travel distances were used to produce two distinct types of Perspectives for examining the park system:

1. Neighborhood Access
2. Walkable Access

A Neighborhood Access perspective uses a travel distance of one mile to the inventory and is assumed to be a suitable distance for a bike ride or short drive in a car, or perhaps a longer walk. This catchment is intended to capture users traveling from home or elsewhere to a park or facility by way of a bike, bus, or automobile.

A Walkable Access perspective uses a shorter catchment distance intended to capture users within a ten to fifteen-minute walk or ½-mile. See ***Appendix A*** for further discussion on walkability standards.

For each perspective, combining the service area for each component, including the assigned GRASP® value into one overlay, creates a shaded map representing the cumulative value of all features.

GRASP® Level of Service perspectives use overlapping catchment areas to yield a “heat map” that provides a measurement of LOS for any location within a study area. Orange shades represent the variation in LOS values across the map.

Assumptions

1. Proximity relates to access. A feature within a specified distance of a given location is considered "accessible" from that location." "Access" in this analysis does not refer to access as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
2. Neighborhood Access relates to the proximity of one mile, a reasonable distance for a drive in a car, or by bicycle.
3. Walkable Access relates to the proximity of ½-mile, a reasonable distance attainable by walking 15 minutes.
4. Walkable access to recreation is affected by barriers, obstacles to free, and comfortable travel on foot.
5. The LOS value of a map point is the cumulative value of all features accessible at that location.

Neighborhood Access to Outdoor Recreation

A series of "heat maps" were created to examine neighborhood access to recreation opportunities. ***Figure 15*** shows Sandpoint outdoor parks and facilities and their amenities account for the level of service values.

Figure 15: Sandpoint Neighborhood Access to Outdoor Recreation

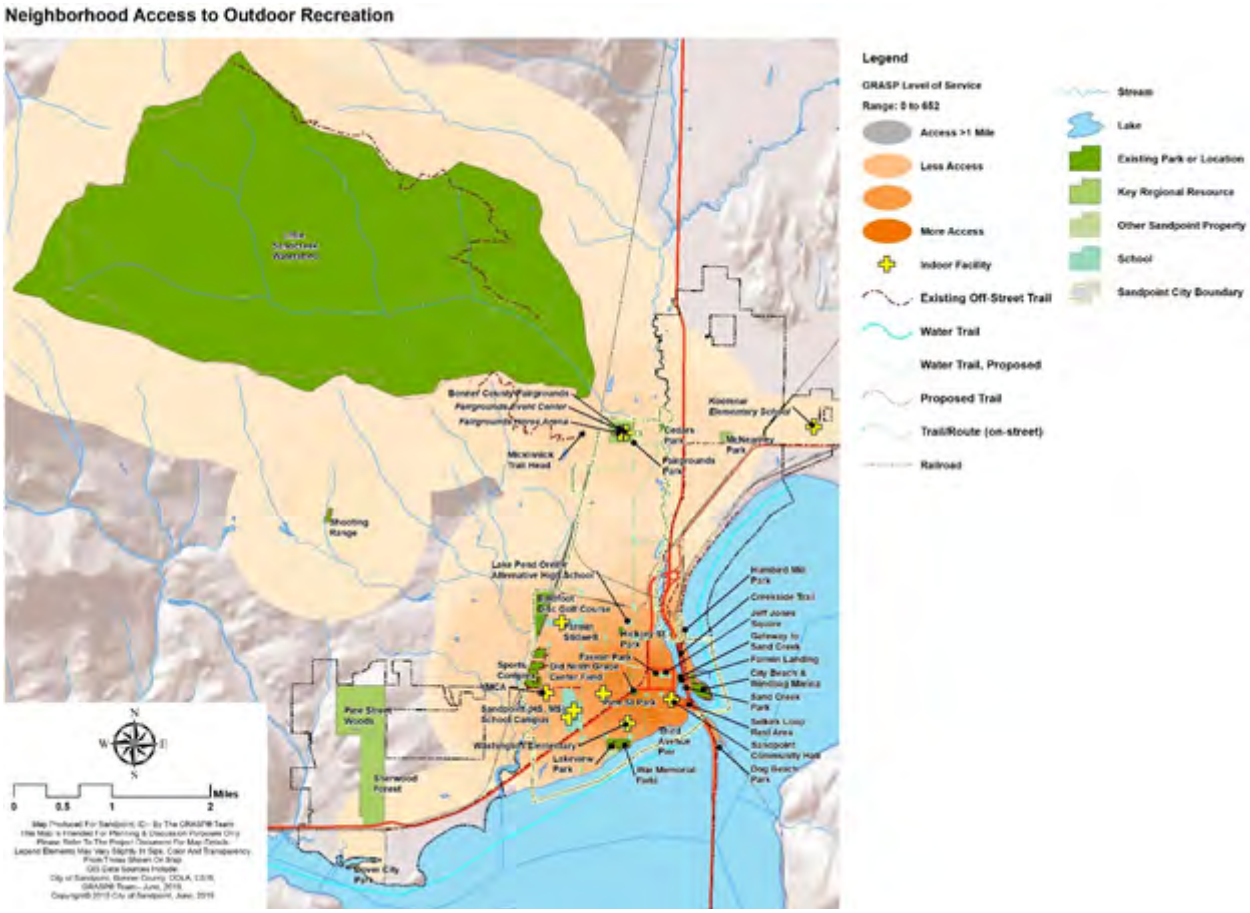


Figure 16 shows an analysis which uses key regional providers and schools.

Figure 16: Other Providers Neighborhood Access to Outdoor Recreation

The third analysis considers the service of all providers. Darker gradient areas on the images indicate where there are more and higher quality recreation assets available based on a one-mile service area. In general, these images also show that Sandpoint has a proper distribution of parks and facilities. White and gray areas on these maps indicate that recreation opportunities are beyond a one-mile service area.

Figure 17 shows analysis of neighborhood access to outdoor recreation.

Figure 17: Neighborhood Access to Outdoor Recreation

Areas of higher concentration are notable in Southeastern Sandpoint near the Old Ninth Grade Field and Community Garden. For example, the highest GRASP® value area (652) is indicated by the red starburst in the image above. A resident located at this point has access to 42 outdoor recreation components in eight different parks, two schools, Community Hall, Pine Street Park Indoor Range, and Washington Elementary School Gym.

Further analysis of this perspective indicates that most of Sandpoint residents are within one mile of an outdoor recreation opportunity. Additional statistics can be found in the following table:

Table 8: Map statistics for Figure 16

	A	B	C	D	E
	Percent of Total City with LOS	GRASP® Value Range	Average LOS per Acre Served	Avg. LOS Per Acre/ Population per acre	GRASP® Index
Sandpoint	100%	4 - 652	289	88	84

Column A: Shows the percentage of the city that has at least some service (LOS >0). 100% coverage is rarely seen in GRASP® analysis, although it is more common in smaller communities such as Sandpoint. Sandpoint has achieved this coverage through a combination of city-owned parks and facilities as well as partnerships with key regional providers.

Column B: For any location on the map, there is a numerical value that corresponds to the shade of orange shown. The GRASP® value results from overlaying the scores of all components accessible from that location. Values for different locations on the map can be compared to one another, so a person in a location with a high value (darker orange) has greater access to quality recreation opportunities than a person in a lower value (lighter orange) area. Sandpoint GRASP® values range from a low of 4.4 to a high of 652.

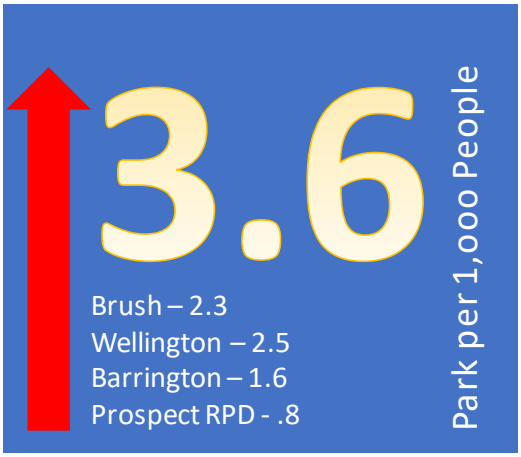
Column C: Shows the value of 289 as the average GRASP® value for the total area and is well above other comparable agencies that have completed GRASP® analysis.

Column D: Shows the results of dividing the number from Column C by the population density of the area. Compared to communities of a similar total population for which GRASP® data is available, Sandpoint's score of 88 ranks highest on the list of similar communities and indicates a high level of service even when factoring population density.

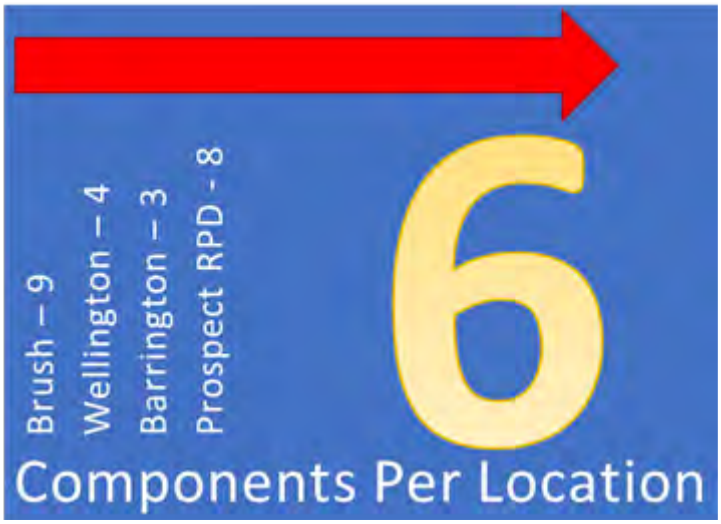
Column E: The GRASP® Index, virtually the GRASP® value per capita, involves dividing the total value of all the components in the system by the population of Sandpoint. Columns C & D differ in two ways. First, the GRASP® Index does not factor in population density. Second, the GRASP® Index is derived using all components and does account for key regional resources residents may access outside those limits. Sandpoint's score of 84 is very high compared to the others in the list of comparable cities.

GRASP® Comparative Data

The table below provides comparative data from other communities of similar population to Sandpoint across the country. Because every community is unique, there are no standards or "correct" numbers. However, there are several interesting similarities and differences when making these comparisons. First, when comparing parks per capita and components per capita, Sandpoint ranks high in these two ratios.



At the same time, Sandpoint and its partners provide similar parks in terms of the number of components per park the average score per park.



In the end, these comparisons would indicate that Sandpoint residents have access to more parks (outdoor facilities) and components than similar-sized agencies. The components and scores of those locations are like other agencies.

Table 9: GRASP® Comparative Data

STATE	CITY	YEAR	POPULATION	STUDY AREA SIZE (Acres)	# OF SITES (Parks, Facilties, etc.)	TOTAL # OF COMPONENTS	AVG. # COMPONENTS per SITE	TOTAL GRASP® VALUE (Entire System)	GRASP® INDEX	AVG. SCORE/SITE	% of TOTAL AREA w/LOS >0	AVG. LOS PER ACRE SERVED	NUMBER OF COMPONENTS PER POPULATION	AVERAGE LOS/POP DEN PER ACRE	Population Density (per acre)	% of Population with Walkable Threshold Access	People per Park	Park per 1k People
CO	Brush	2018	5,699	1,754	13	113	8.7	459	81	35.3	100%	246	20	76	3.2	70%	438	2.3
CO	Wellington	2015	7,453	2,269	19	82	4.3	421	56	22.1	100%	82	11	28	3.0	NA	392	2.5
ID	Sandpoint	2019	9,564	2,917	34	196	5.8	800	84	23.5	100%	289	20	88	3.3	81%	281	3.6
NH	Barrington	2018	8,770	31,117	14	47	3.4	327	37	23.3	NA	NA	5	NA	0.3	NA	626	1.6
CO	Prospect RPD	2018	11,008	5,237	9	72	8.0	528	48	58.7	98%	168	7	80	2.1	62%	1223	0.8

WALKABLE ACCESS TO RECREATION

This analysis measures access to recreation components by walking. One-half mile catchment radii have been placed around each component and shaded according to the component's GRASP® score. Scores are doubled within this catchment to reflect the added value of walkable proximity, allowing direct comparisons between neighborhood access and walkable access.

Walkability is a measure of how user-friendly an area is to people traveling on foot and benefits a community in many ways related to public health, social equity, and the local economy. Many factors influence walkability including the quality of footpaths, sidewalks or other pedestrian rights-of-way, traffic and road conditions, land use patterns, and public safety considerations among others.

Pedestrian Barriers

Environmental barriers can limit walkability. To account for this, walkability service areas in the Level of Service analysis have been "cut-off" by identified barriers where applicable. Pedestrian barriers such as major streets, highways, railroads, rivers, and lakes, impact the analysis. Zones created by identified barriers, displayed as dark red lines, serve as discrete areas within which any facilities are accessible without crossing a major street or another barrier. Green parcels represent existing parks and open space; teal parcels indicate schools.

The analysis is intended to show the LOS available across Sandpoint based on a fifteen-minute walk. This map indicates that Sandpoint has pockets of concentration in walkable access to outdoor recreation near downtown and Sports Complex. As this walkability analysis accounts for pedestrian barriers, levels of service are notably cut off in many areas such as along the highway, other major streets, and railroads.

Figure 18 uses key regional providers and schools.

Walkability barriers were used to "cut-off" service areas where applicable

Figure 18: Walkable Access to Outdoor Recreation – Sandpoint Parks/Facilities Only

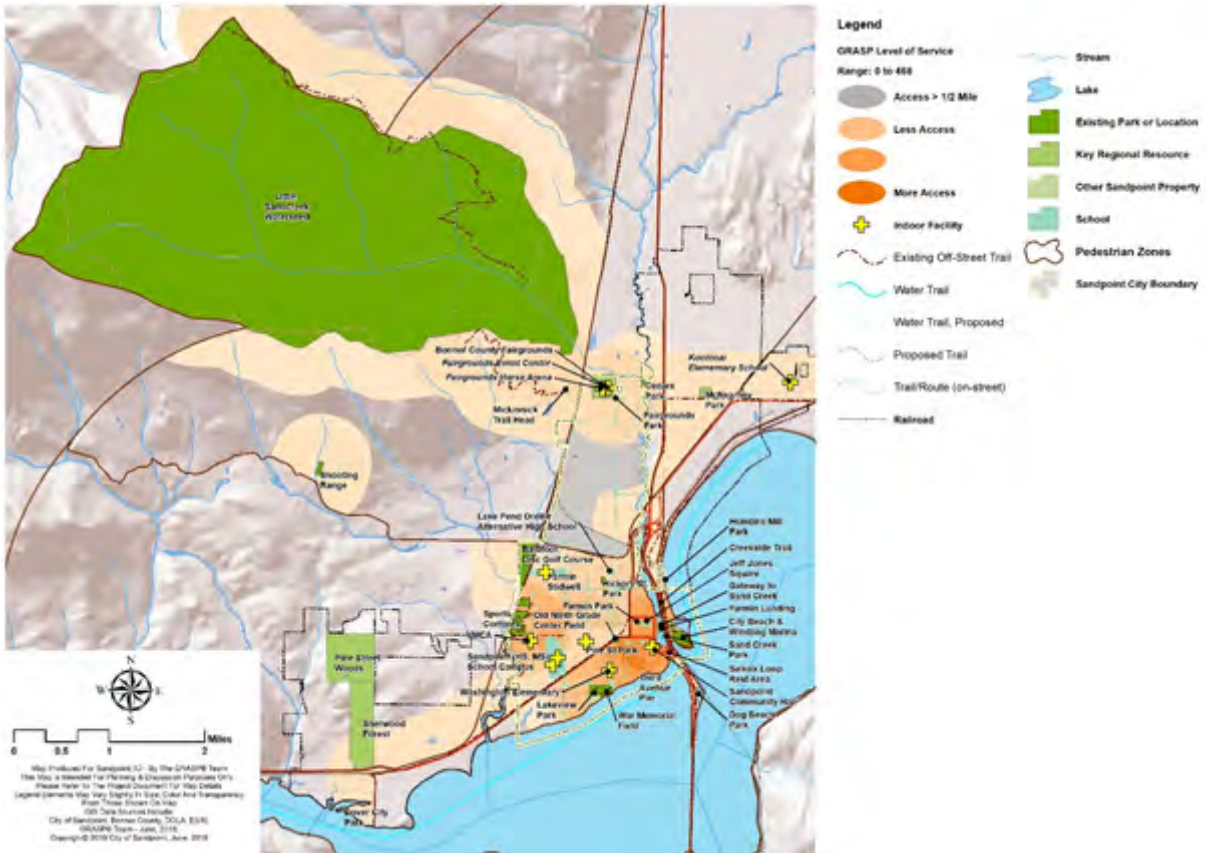


Figure 19 shows the level of service of all providers. Darker gradient areas on the images indicate where there are more and higher quality recreation assets available based on a one-mile service area. In general, these images also show that Sandpoint has an acceptable distribution of parks and facilities. White and gray areas on these maps indicate that recreation opportunities are beyond a one-mile service area.

Figure 19: Other Providers Neighborhood Access to Outdoor Recreation

Figure 20 shows an analysis of neighborhood access to outdoor recreation.

Figure 20: Neighborhood Access to Outdoor Recreation

Areas of higher concentration are notable in southeastern Sandpoint south of the Old Ninth Grade Field and Community Garden. For example, the highest GRASP® value area (468) is indicated by the red starbursts in the image above located, a resident has access to 46 outdoor recreation components at seventeen different outdoor locations, Community Hall, and Washington Elementary School Gym. Further analysis of this perspective indicates that most of Sandpoint residents are within ½-mile of an outdoor recreation opportunity. Find additional statistics in the ***Table 10***.

The following table shows the statistical information derived from perspective Walkable Access to Recreation analysis.

Table 10: Statistics for Figure 17

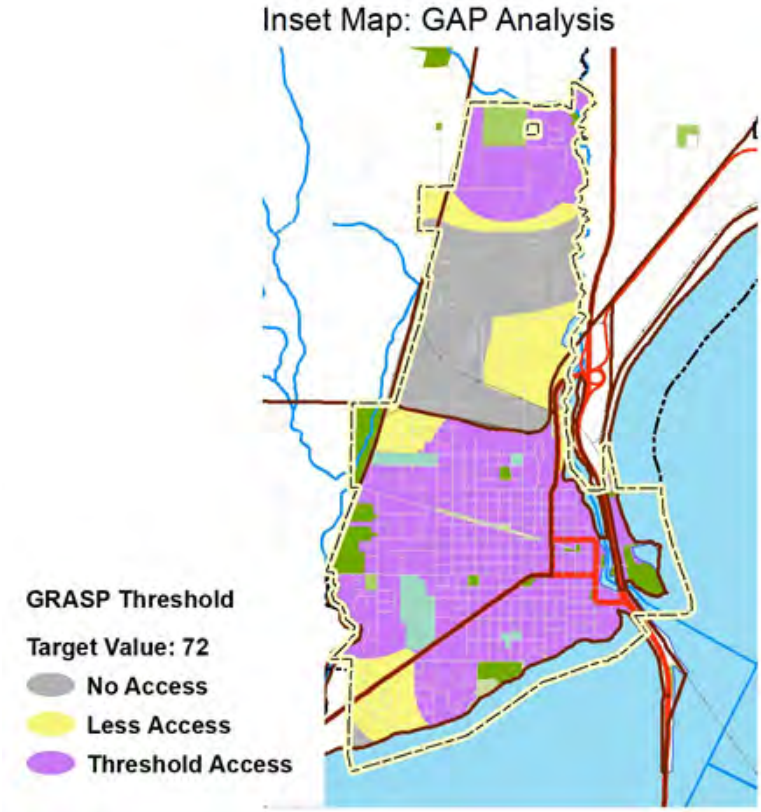
	A	B	C	D
	Percent of Total with LOS	GRASP® Value Range	Average LOS per Acre Served	Avg. LOS Per Acre/ Population per acre
Sandpoint	73%	0 to 468	143	44

The numbers in each column are derived as described in the explanation for the neighborhood access. The GRASP® Index does not apply to walkability analysis. LOS value for a person who must walk to assets is about one-half of that for someone who can drive. The GRASP® value range of 0 to 468 indicates that there are portions of Sandpoint with a high level of service compared to other portions.

The orange shading in the maps allows for a quick understanding of LOS distribution across the City. It is not intended to show where LOS is adequate or inadequate. Deriving that information from the map requires additional steps. First, we must determine what constitutes an adequate level of service for Sandpoint residents. Using Pine Street Park as a target standard neighborhood park plus access to a typical trail is known as the target (or threshold) score for Sandpoint. GIS was used to show where LOS is above or below the target value.

On the following map (***Figure 21***), purple areas indicate where walkable LOS values meet or exceed the target. Areas shown in yellow on the map can be considered areas of opportunity. These are areas where land and assets are currently available but do not provide the threshold value. It may be possible to improve the LOS value in such areas by improving the quantity and quality of features in existing parks without the need to acquire new lands or develop new parks. Other options might be to address pedestrian barriers in the immediate area or partner with other service providers (School District, land trusts etc.).

Figure 21: Walkable Access to Recreation Gap Identification



In ***Figure 21***, areas shown in purple have LOS that exceeds the threshold value. 57 percent of Sandpoint's land area is above the threshold, and only 17 percent of the City falls below it. 27 percent of Sandpoint has no service within walking distance.

Figure 22: Walkable Access to Outdoor Recreation

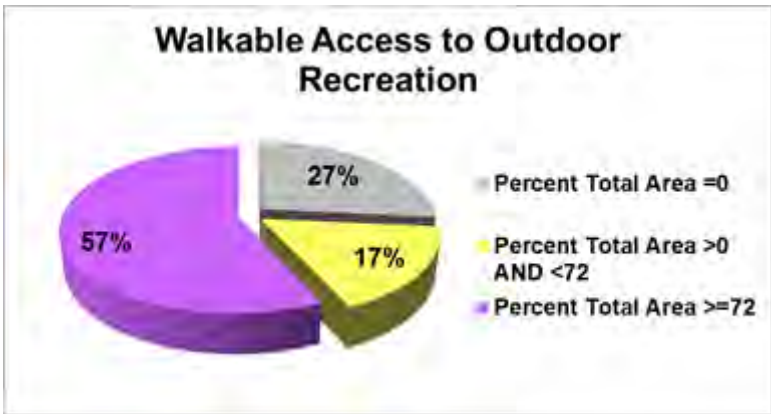


Figure 22 shows walkable access to assets based on the percentage of land within the city boundary that scores above threshold (purple) or below threshold (yellow), respectively.

Figure 23: Walkable Access to Assets Based on Population

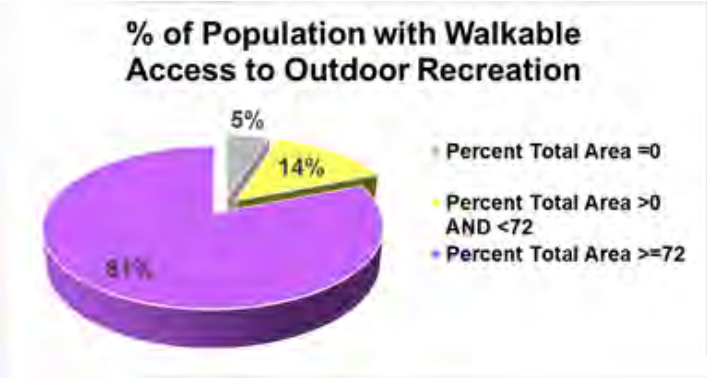


Figure 23 displays the level of service based on where people live. It was produced using the walkable level of service data shown in Walkable Access to Recreation Gap Identification, as compared to census data provided by Esri GIS data enrichment techniques. The analysis would indicate that parks are generally well placed in or close to residential areas and capture a more significant percentage of the population than land area. With only nineteen percent of residents outside of walkable access to any outdoor recreation opportunities, Sandpoint is better positioned than the previous analysis indicated. When comparing to other cities from ***Table 9***, Sandpoint ranks highest of all the comparable cities.

Access to Indoor Recreation

As in the other analyses, a series of "heat maps" were created to examine Access to Indoor Recreation Opportunities. These maps show where there are indoor recreation assets available based on a one-mile service area. In general, the maps show that Sandpoint has a variety of indoor facilities distributed around the city. Still, these facilities consist mostly of alternative providers and partners such as schools and the YMCA. ***Figure 24*** shows the analysis for neighborhood access to indoor recreation.

Figure 24: Sandpoint Neighborhood Access to Indoor Recreation

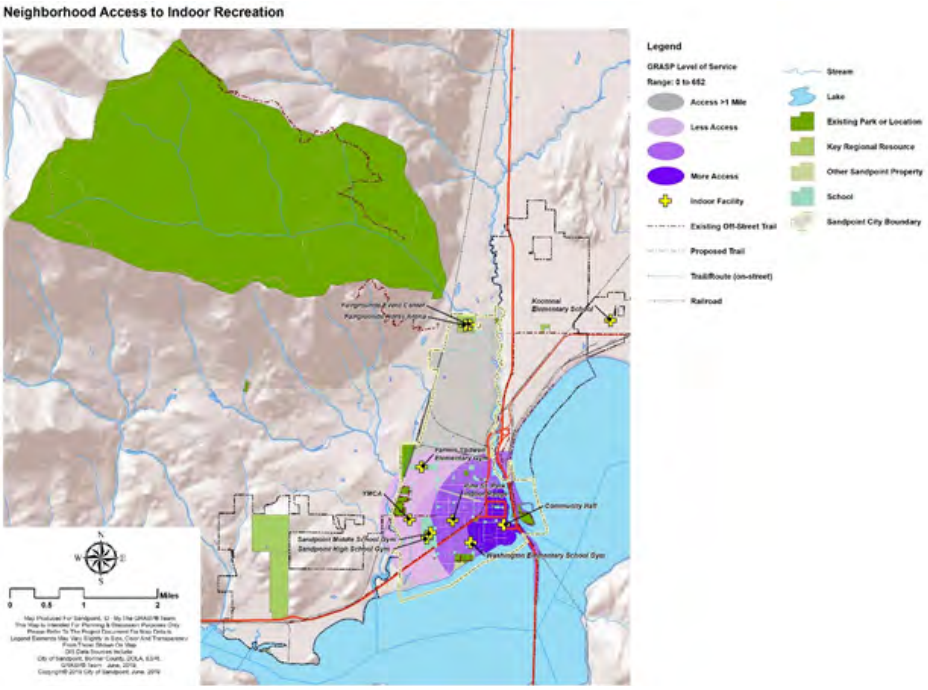


Figure 25 uses key regional providers and schools.

Figure 25: Other Providers Neighborhood Access to Indoor Recreation

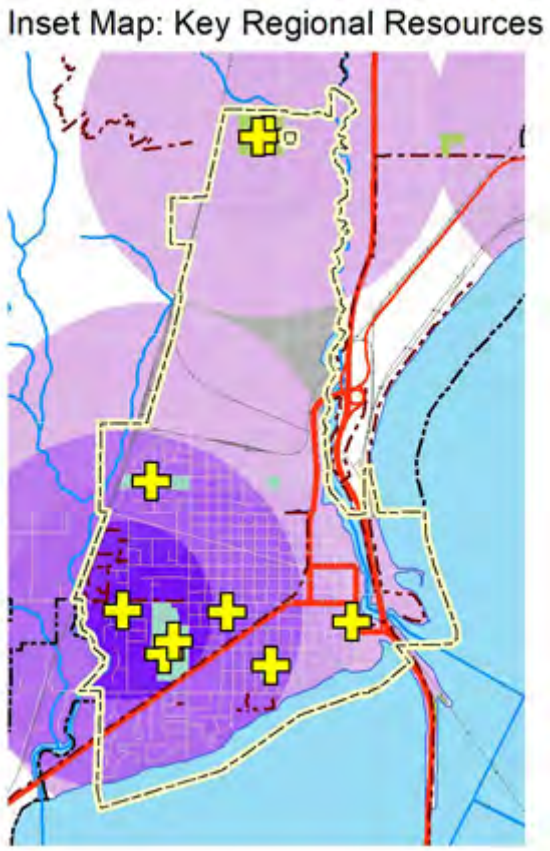
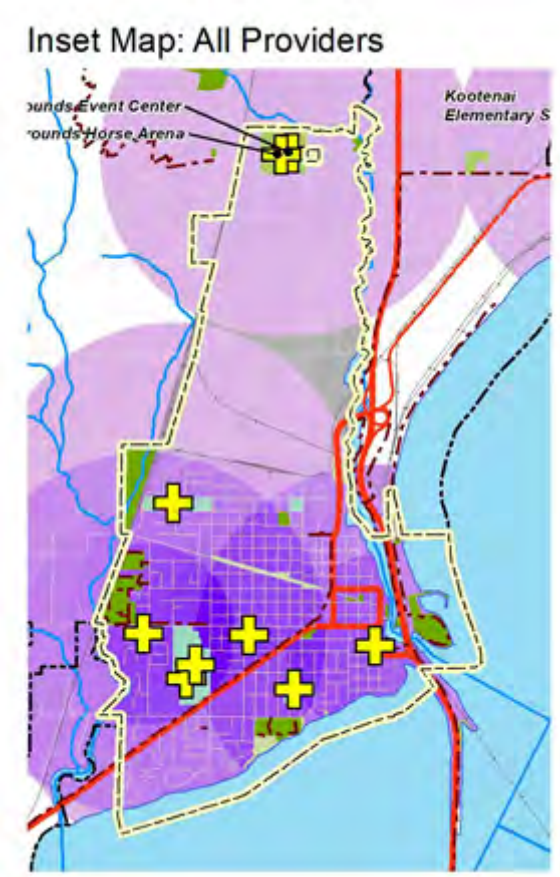


Figure 26 considers that the level of service of all providers. Darker gradient areas on the images indicate where there are more and higher quality recreation assets available based on a one-mile service area. In general, these images also show that Sandpoint has an appropriate distribution of parks and facilities. White and gray areas on these maps indicate that recreation opportunities are beyond a one-mile service area.

Figure 26: Neighborhood Access to Indoor Recreation – All Providers



Areas of higher concentration are notable near the High School and Middle School gymnasiums.

MORE ON UTILIZING GRASP® PERSPECTIVES

GRASP® perspectives are used to evaluate the level of service throughout a community from various points of view. Their purpose is to reveal possible gaps in service and provide a metric to use in understanding a recreation system. However, it is not necessarily beneficial for all parts of the community to score equally in the analyses. Desired Level of Service for a location should depend on the type of service, the characteristics of the location, and other factors such as community need, population growth forecasts, and land use issues. For example, commercial, institutional, and industrial areas might reasonably be expected to have lower Levels of Service for parks and recreation opportunities than residential areas.

GRASP® perspectives are intended to focus attention on gap areas for further scrutiny.

Used in conjunction with other assessment tools such as community needs surveys and a public input process, perspectives can be used to determine if current levels of service are appropriate in a given location. Plans can then be developed that provide similar levels of service to new, developing neighborhoods. Or it may be determined that different Levels of Service are adequate or suitable and therefore a new set of criteria may be utilized that differs from existing community patterns to reflect these distinctions.

OTHER TYPES OF ANALYSIS

Traditional analyses used to evaluate the recreational level of service are also valuable. A few of these follow.

Capacities Analysis

One tool for evaluating service for parks and recreation is the capacity analysis. It compares the number of assets to population and projects future needs based on providing the same ratio of components per population (i.e., as the population grows over time components may need to be added to maintain the same ratio).

Table 11: Sandpoint Capacities

	Population	Basketball Court	Basketball, Practice	Camping, Defined	Concessions	Diamond Field	Event Space	Loop Walk	Multi-Use Pad	Open Turf	Passive Node	Pickleball Court	Picnic Ground	Playground, Local	Public Art	Rectangular Field, All Sizes	Shelter, All Sizes	Tennis Court	Trailhead	Volleyball Court	Water Access, Developed	Water Access, General	Water, Open
INVENTORY																							
City of Sandpoint		5	1		3	7	2	9	1	7	4	3	3	6	4	5	6	8	3	3	8	1	6
Key Regional Providers			3	32			1			1	1	1		1					6		1	2	3
Schools		2	5			2			2	1				3		6							
System Totals:		**7**	**9**	**32**	**3**	**9**	**3**	**9**	**3**	**9**	**5**	**4**	**3**	**10**	**4**	**11**	**6**	**8**	**9**	**3**	**9**	**3**	**9**
CURRENT RATIO PER POPULATION																							
CURRENT POPULATION 2019	**9,514**																						
Current Ratio per 1000 Population		**0.74**	**0.95**	**3.36**	**0.32**	**0.95**	**0.32**	**0.95**	**0.32**	**0.95**	**0.53**	**0.42**	**0.32**	**1.05**	**0.42**	**1.16**	**0.63**	**0.84**	**0.95**	**0.32**	**0.95**	**0.32**	**0.95**
Population per component		**1,359**	**1,057**	**297**	**3,171**	**1,057**	**3,171**	**1,057**	**3,171**	**1,057**	**1,903**	**2,379**	**3,171**	**951**	**2,379**	**865**	**1,586**	**1,189**	**1,057**	**3,171**	**1,057**	**3,171**	**1,057**
PROJECTED POPULATION - 2025	**10,532**																						
Total # needed to maintain current ratio of all existing facilities at projected population		**8**	**10**	**35**	**3**	**10**	**3**	**10**	**3**	**10**	**6**	**4**	**3**	**11**	**4**	**12**	**7**	**9**	**10**	**3**	**10**	**3**	**10**
Number that should be added by all providers to achieve current ratio at projected population		***1***	***1***	***3***	***0***	***1***	***0***	***1***	***0***	***1***	***1***	***0***	***0***	***1***	***0***	***1***	***1***	***1***	***1***	***0***	***1***	***0***	***1***

The following components currently are only present in a quantity of 1 or 2 and therefore do not have a projected need based on anticipated population growth: Bike Course, Practice Diamond Field, Disc Golf, Dog Parks, Educational Experience, Equestrian Facility, Community Garden, Display Garden, Horseshoe Court, Natural Area, Rectangular Field Complex, Skate Feature, Skate Park, Target Range, Tennis Practice Wall, Athletic Track, and Water Features.

The capacity table can also be used to project future facility needs based on population growth if the future population's interests and behaviors are the same as today's, and today's capacities are in line with today's needs.
The capacities table bases recommendations on the number of assets without regard to distribution, quality, or functionality. Higher LOS is achieved only by adding assets, regardless of the location, condition, or quality of those assets In theory, basing LOS provided by assets on their location and quality, as well as their quantity, is preferred. This table should be used with discretion, and only in combination with the other analyses presented.

Table 12: Outdoor Park and Recreation Facilities – Median Population Served per Facility

2019 NRPA Agency Performance Review: Park and Recreation Agency Performance Benchmarks			
Outdoor Park and Recreation Facilities			
Outdoor Facility	Agencies Offering this Facility	Median Number of Residents per Facility	Sandpoint, TX Residents per Facility
Residents Per Park*	NA	1,231	815
Acres of Park Land per 1,000 Residents*	NA	11.8	13
Playgrounds	92.0%	3,163	956
Basketball Courts	83.0%	5,971	1,366
Dog Park	55.0%	47,000	4,782
Tennis Courts	77.0%	4,296	1,196
Swimming pools (outdoor only)	52.0%	34,035	NA
Diamond Fields: baseball - youth	75.0%	6,597	1,063
Diamond Fields: softball fields - youth	59.0%	11,917	
Diamond Fields: softball fields - adult	66.0%	12,527	
Diamond Fields: baseball - adult	55.0%	20,033	
Rectangular Fields: multi-purpose	63.0%	7,469	869
Rectangular Fields: soccer field - youth	47.0%	7,000	
Rectangular Fields: soccer field - adult	42.0%	13,173	
Rectangular Fields: football field	38.0%	25,320	
**Comparison based on median for less than 20,000 population comparison and includes only Sandpoint existing parks/facilities*			
The remaining comparisons are based on similar residents per square mile (1,501 to 2,500) and all provider components including key regional providers and schools			
Red indicates Sandpoint exceeds the median value for residents per feature			
Green indicates Sandpoint meets the median value for residents per feature ratio			

Comparing the Sandpoint system to recent national statistics published by the National Recreation and Park Association in its "2019 NRPA Agency Performance Review: Park and Recreation Agency Performance Benchmarks" is another method of analysis.

Similar calculations can also be made based on acres of land and parks per 1,000 residents. The following table includes all the properties included in the GIS mapping. It includes current Sandpoint Parks acreage in the calculation. Based on this calculation, Sandpoint needs 14 new park acres to provide similar LOS based on population projections. Both residents per park and acres of parkland per 1,000 people are better than NRPA published benchmarks for similar size cities or density. Please refer to ***Table 12*** above for NRPA benchmarks.

Table 13: Acres of Park Land per 1,000 Residents

		2019 GIS Acres*
INVENTORY		
City of Sandpoint		127
Key Regional Providers		398
Schools		65
System Totals:		590
CURRENT RATIO PER POPULATION		
CURRENT POPULATION 2019	9,514	
Current Ratio per 1000 Population		13.3
Population per acre		75
PROJECTED POPULATION - 2025	10,532	
Total acres needed to maintain current ratio of City of Sandpoint existing facilities at projected population		141
Acres that should be added to maintain current ratio at projected population		*14*

*Projected needs only includes Sandpoint properties. Does not include 28.4 acres of other city owned properties or the 7691 acres of the Watershed

This capacity table indicates that Sandpoint provides approximately 13 acres per 1,000 people or 75 people per acre of "park" and does not include other provider parks such as the schools, fairgrounds, or other critical regional provider lands.

KEY CONCLUSIONS

- Recreation opportunities are reasonably equitable.
- Alternative providers and key regional resources provide an essential supplement.
- Proximity, available sidewalks, and pedestrian barriers are relevant factors affecting the level of service.
- Pedestrian barriers hinder walkable access in some portions of the city.
- Gaps in walkable service exist in several locations.
- Improving walkable access to recreation opportunities may take a variety of methods or approaches.
- Future residential development should ensure walkable access to recreation opportunities.

IV. SITE-SPECIFIC CONCEPT PLANS

There are five Design Principals/Community Values that have shaped and influenced the Concept Master Plans for War Memorial Field, City Beach, Downtown Waterfront, and Travers/Centennial/Great Northern Sports Complex. They are: To the greatest extent practical, maintain and enhance park space and public waterfront as family and community gathering spaces, Maximize the value of the waterfront for the public's recreational use, Reinforce connectivity between parks and to other recreational opportunities and community and downtown locations, Consider repurposing underutilized areas to introduce new or needed amenities, Explore improvements that encourage activities that contribute to the economic vitality of Sandpoint.

A. WAR MEMORIAL FIELD

The Concept Master Plan created for War Memorial Field was a culmination of multiple public workshop sessions, public presentations at various local venues, and meetings with key Stakeholders, City Staff, and Parks and Recreation Division grounds/maintenance staff. Design goals garnered from these interactions that guided the development of the Concept focused on the following four key objectives:

- Create a sports and recreational venue that can better serve the needs of community recreation programs and Sandpoint High School (SHS) outdoor athletic programs and competitions
- Recommend a playing surface (natural grass or artificial turf) that accounts for the planned increase in use, addresses drainage concerns, and has measurable durability
- Accommodate to the greatest extent practical, the continued use of the field as the preferred home of The Festival at Sandpoint
- Improve and expand the parking lot east of the field to better serve field events, boating activities, and accommodates The Festival needs

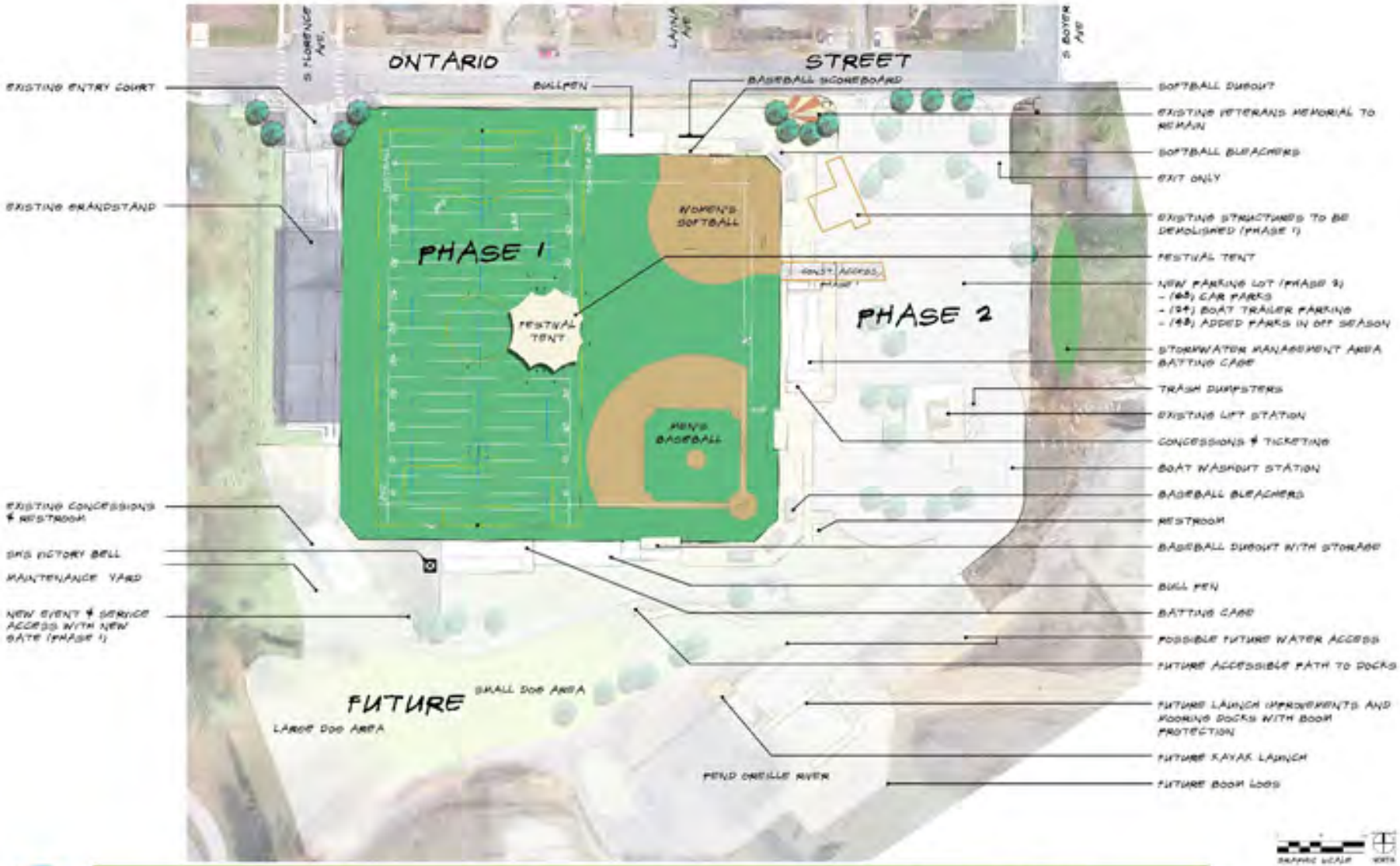
War Memorial Field is currently used by SHS for home football, soccer, and men's baseball. To comply with Title Nine, guaranteeing equal access for men's and women's sports, the concept plan has introduced a women's fast pitch softball field. This field is proposed to be located in the general location and orientation of the existing men's baseball diamond, with a southwest orientation. It will have a maximum 230 ft. outfield. The men's baseball field is relocated to the south with a new northwest orientation. Its dimensions have also increased, with a 320 ft. left field, a 380 ft. center field, and 305 ft. right field. Preferred field solar orientations were confirmed with SHS athletics and coaches. Both baseball and softball will have new dugouts and backstops with bleacher seating. A new field lighting plan will allow for full coverage of all sport fields.

With the multi-sport arrangement and overlap of the proposed improvements, the question of the proper playing surface became the most significant decision influencing the concept plan. There was considerable community support to maintain the field as a natural grass field. This option was previously explored independently of this master plan process in 2015. That study compared field use and operations, maintenance requirements, and development cost against developing artificial turf. This planning effort also revisited these comparisons, focusing on three major considerations; the lack of permeability of the existing site soils, annual maintenance costs and staffing, and the durability of the playing surface. With the goal of Parks and Recreation to increase community programs and SHS's goal of more sports, practices, and competition use combined with a need for superior drainage, and less annual maintenance, artificial turf was recommended as the most appropriate surface choice. This recommendation was presented to the public during a formal Master Plan presentation on October 1, 2019. It was formally adopted by the City Council late that month.

Of special concern by both the City and the community was to allow The Festival to remain at Memorial Field. This summer The Festival completed its 38th year of performances at Memorial and it is considered an iconic community and regional event. With the recommendation of redeveloping the field with artificial turf there was the fear that the event could not be conducted properly. Supporters and members of The Festival staff noted that it would take an entirely new approach to accessing the field with oversized vehicles, setting up the performance tent and food court, porta johns, hospitality tents, and other required appurtenances. All of these assumptions and observations are correct. However, the City is committed to working with The Festival to accommodate their performances on artificial turf. To that end, the Master Plan team met with the festival board and operations staff to create the following approach.

The Festival operations and performances will have to follow strict adherence to utilizing City-approved Event Decking – specialized turf protection panels – for areas of heavy vehicular traffic and areas of substantial wear. Serving of food and drink products at the food court will require protection as well. The of staking tents will not be allowed due to permanent damage to the artificial turf product. The Concept discussions addressed how the securing of the performance tent could be accomplished by utilizing below grade anchors that can be accessed via a removable turf plug combined with above grade water filled containers. To limit the number of anchor access plugs in the football/soccer/lacrosse fields, the performance tent is planned to move eastward of its traditional location. Other tents would also use water filled containers for securing guy ropes. Smaller gator type vehicles could be used to move smaller items on the field without event deck protection. Large tour buses could utilize dedicated space in the enlarged parking lot during festival performances, as could festival staff. The porta johns would move to a hard surfaced area at the west of the field and an improved patron gate/entry would be developed at the south west corner of the field. Electrical services are anticipated to be unchanged. Depending on the cleaning needs of the field following the concert events, the City may see the need to address the food and beverage policies currently used during the festival.

The final major goal of the master plan was to address how the existing parking east of the field could be improved and expanded to add both more car parking stalls and added and more accessible boat trailer parking. Additionally, the new design should take into account how the delivery vehicles supporting The Festival maneuver through the lot and access the field. The new layout increased the car park stalls from 44 to 68 and increases the boat trailer stalls from 18 to 22. The boat trailer stalls are now set at a 45 degree angle vs. 90 degree for ease of entering and exiting. Accessible stalls are located in correct locations to serve the field use, the parking lot will follow the City's landscape ordinance and the new lights will be installed. Storm water collection and treatment would be developed to allow for enlarged parking lot, utilizing City owned property east of the parking area. The intent of the Master Plan was to also pursue grants that would allow for additional funding needed for improvements to the boat launch as well. Such improvements would address the installation of a new restroom near the southwest end of the lot and improved launch pads at low water conditions. Additional mooring docks, and a boat washout station are also part of the desired additions to the boating facilities.



WAR MEMORIAL FIELD PHASE 1 PRELIMINARY DESIGN

B. CITY BEACH

The five primary design principals/community values that shape the City Beach Concept Plan are:

- Maintain the park and waterfront as a family and community gathering space
- Maximize the value of the waterfront for public use
- Reinforce connectivity within the park and to other recreation and downtown activities
- Consider repurposing underutilized areas within the park
- Explore improvements that encourage activities that contribute to the economic vitality of the community

The City Beach park was created in 1922 following the ground being donated by Northern Pacific Railroad, although substantial improvements were not immediate. Flooding wiped out early improvements and continued to be problematic until the property's elevation was raised 8 feet to alleviate this condition and the creation of the Albany Falls Dam allowed for permanent flood control. Major improvements were not seen until the mid-1950's when the local Lion's Club initiated work on creation of a beach house, grass areas and walks. Other improvements were added over the years as funding became available resulting in the current City Beach Park. However, the lack of a master plan to coordinate these improvements has resulted in amenities located in the most convenient places and consuming larger areas than necessary to accommodate them.

Paramount to the concept plan is to maintain the beach/waterfront as a passive, family-oriented space. All major uses along the shoreline have been retained – Children's play area, concessions building/restroom/lifeguard office, large picnic shelter, restroom, swimming areas. Enhancements include an enlarged, accessible children's playground with splash pad.

Following the goal of maximizing the value of waterfront for public use, the plan suggests more significant changes. Currently located at the southern end of the beach is a city boat launch, along with parking and a Parks, Recreation & Open Space Division maintenance shop. The maintenance shop and parking are recommended to be relocated with the shop being moved from City Beach. The boat launch is recommended to be relocated further west on property being considered for trade between the City and a local developer/resort owner. This land swap would allow for a new boat launch and trailer parking that does not compete with beach/park users for waterfront and vehicle parking. This change would double the current boat trailer parking and increase the launch by one lane while eliminating activity conflicts in the park's core. Accessible parking and a fire lane turnaround would still be maintained at the park's southern end. The land swap would allow the City to acquire additional permanent public waterfront and accessibility.

Connectivity shown in the plan illustrates new or upgraded pedestrian paths to allow users to move comfortably and safely through the park and parking lot. Enhanced connectivity is envisioned to the north for access to the Windbag Marina and beyond to the Ponderay Bay Trail via a new Ponderay Bay Trail Trailhead near the entrance to the park with dedicated parking. This trailhead is in accordance with the Ponderay Bay Trail master plan. To allow for waterfront connectivity, a boardwalk is proposed to flow below the railroad and HWY 95 Bypass to Sand Creek with eventual connections to downtown. The opportunity also exists to increase day use moorage along this boardwalk, increasing water access to downtown.

An underutilized grass area in the northern area of the park currently exists, surrounded by travel lanes and parking. This area is rarely used for gatherings, picnics, or even free play activities. The concept plan recommends that this area be considered for the introduction of a special community activity, such as the proposed carrousel (adding to the economic vitality) and added parking.

With this alteration, the plan reorients parking and adds over 125 car parking stalls to the park. Parking maneuverability would be improved, landscape enhancements added per ordinance, and areas to collect and treat stormwater would all be addressed with this concept. This change would also allow for parking adjacent the beach to be relocated, freeing up valuable space for beach goers.

To encourage economic vitality for the community, the concept plan calls for the introduction of a performance structure and activity pad located on the western side of the park. Utilities improvements could be extended to this location to support various sized concerts or other performances. The hard surface would be organized to allow for use seasonally as a basketball courts, or other court games with sleeved backstops or net/goals. This hardscape surface could also serve as an ice rink during winter months adding activity and use during the winter months. The area directly east would be opened up to allow for large gatherings of viewers by removal of selected trees, relocating existing tennis courts to another city park location, and relocating the existing volleyball courts to the southeast grass area near the beach reserved for boats only. This open area would become the largest uninterrupted open space within the park, forming a central green with views eastward to the lake. Utilizing what is now a roadway and parking, a proposed pedestrian promenade along the park's west side would provide for fairs, markets, and other gatherings while serving as a required fire access lane to a remodeled concessions/ restroom building.

CITY BEACH CONCEPT

C. DOWNTOWN WATERFRONT

For purposes of this study, the Downtown Waterfront is defined as both sides of Sand Creek from the Hwy 95 Bypass bridge north to the Cedar Street Bridge. The east side of this channel incorporates the gateway to City Beach and shoreline improvements completed during the construction of the bypass in 2008 that included the Sand Creek Trail, public art, landscape enhancements, lighting, shoreline access/seating areas, and development of a 32-stall public parking lot/trailhead south of Bridge ST. The west side has an elevated pier supported, pedestrian boardwalk/boat tie-up dock that is a 1000 ft in length, extending from Oak ST to the south side of the Sandpoint Marina. It provides a pleasant waterfront pathway and boater access to the downtown. A ramp/stair structure on the north end of this boardwalk provides for an accessible route to the waterfront and is used as a launch site for paddleboards, kayaks, and canoes. Pedestrian connectivity to City Beach is via a pedestrian bridge that parallels Bridge ST or utilizing the Cedar Street Bridge to the north to access the east shore and the Sand Creek trail. Access from the boardwalk to Bridge ST and City Beach is only accessed by negotiating a steep grade through the parking/access drive.

Waterfront property with public access directly adjacent a downtown, is rare in any community. It brings with it the opportunity for increased activities, water access, and enhanced aesthetics that most Cities and towns can only aspire to. But like many communities, Sandpoint has not taken full advantage of this remarkable asset. Businesses along the western shore have mostly neglected to use this waterfront to their full advantage other than for vehicular access and parking. It is currently unorganized and unkempt with a degraded alley-like appearance from Cedar ST to Bridge ST.

To encourage economic development within the downtown, the Concept plan suggests that property owners (from Cedar ST to Bridge ST along 1st Avenue) should explore development opportunities to the east, expanding structures with increased square footage and orientation to Sand Creek. The natural grade change from 1st Avenue to the access road would allow for two levels of increased square footage, or an upper expansion with open or enclosed parking below. Except for a conceptual mixed use development currently proposed to replace structures on the SW corner of Bridge ST and 1st Avenue that were recently destroyed by fire, no properties have looked to have any significant orientation to the waterfront or expand to their eastern property line.

The Farmin's Landing property that extends from Bridge ST north to the Panida Theater along Sand Creek's west shore has long been viewed as an underutilized section of waterfront. Past studies have suggested that it could provide an enhanced public space with increased access to Sand Creek. Both vehicular and pedestrian access from 1st Avenue is from Oak ST where a colorful gateway arch denotes the entry and acts as a public art piece. Access from Bridge ST utilizes a steep drive with no sidewalk. It can be difficult to negotiate during winter months and allows for limited views of oncoming, eastbound traffic. In 2018 Consultants were retained by the City to evaluate Farmin's Landing as a potential site for an underground collection/treatment location for downtown stormwater prior to being released to Sand Creek. The plan incorporated limited pedestrian improvements while retaining 27 car parks, and some seating. In response to this area being designated as a bike route, the plan proposed a 120 ft long ramp to negotiate the grade differences from the parking to Bridge ST. A stair was also proposed at the ramp's south end.

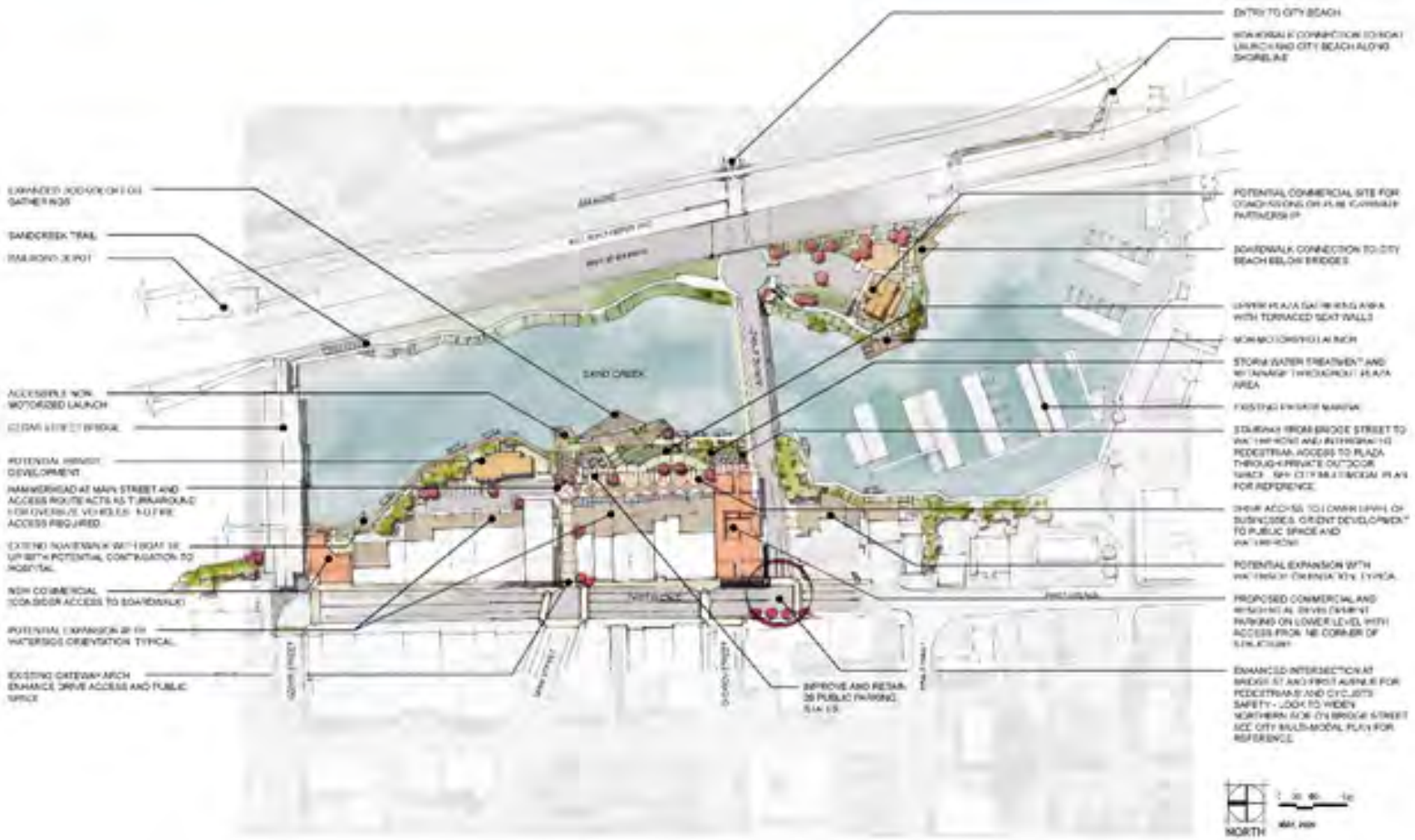
Addressing the goal of creating recreational opportunities on publicly owned waterfront, the concept plan suggests that the redevelopment of Farmin's Landing could be enhanced beyond the 2018 study recommendations. It envisions a small venue public gather spot be created by establishing the access road's development incorporate a plaza-like feel, expanding seating and congregation space toward the water. The slope would be terraced with seat high walls facing the water, with stairs to negotiate the slope. To allow for more activity on the water the pier dock system would be expanded as a location for gatherings or performances, with special lighting features and seating. The existing non-motorized launch dock should be converted to accommodate ADA use. The pier supported boardwalk is proposed to expand northward, possibly as far as the hospital to accommodate more boat access to downtown. Improvements such as these would present a more festive and aesthetic view of the downtown from the Hwy 95 Bypass and provide a more fitting view for business and properties to orient toward. To accommodate business owners' concerns of close proximity parking, the concept plan recommends improving and retaining 20 parking stalls. This should be considered a short-term solution with future studies initiated for development of a downtown parking facility to free up the waterfront from parking.

To maximize the value of publicly owned waterfront, the concept suggests that the existing 32-car parking lot on the east shoreline be converted to a use that is not fully focused on parking cars on the waterfront.

This location seems appropriate for consideration of a revenue generating concession, preferably water oriented, such as kayak/canoe/paddleboard rentals. It would also be a logical location for an accessible launch. Or consider a public/private partnership development or long-term lease for possible retail use in this location. To increase connections to City Beach from this location the plan recommends creation of a public pier supported boardwalk that would follow the shoreline eastward below the Hwy 95 Bypass and railroad bridges for connection to the proposed boat launch area.

Lastly, there should be an emphasis put on the redevelopment of the intersection of Bridge ST and 1st Avenue as a city center orientation point and wayfinding route to City Beach. Special attention should be paid to vision triangles, truck turning radii, and consideration for reorientation of the parking in the lot on the SE corner of the intersection that serves retail.

SAND CREEK DOWNTOWN WATERFRONT CONCEPT



D. TRAVERS/CENTENNIAL/GREAT NORTHERN SPORTS COMPLEX

Pine Street borders the south side of the 32 acre 18-acre site that makes up the Travers/Centennial/Great Northern Sports Complex (TSC) that was opened in 1986. The initial phase was 5 acres and constructed over an abandon landfill, with following phases being the result of added acreage from a Louisiana Pacific Corporation land trade and a purchase from a private party. The Park is the city's major sports venue providing competitive opportunities for youth and adults with softball, little league baseball, tennis, football, soccer, skate park, picnicking, and multiple trail loops. There are two shelters and a restroom, an accessible children's play area, and off-street parking in two locations. The TSC is definitely a well-used sports complex and provides for not only community recreation, but also serves to provide facilities for Sandpoint High School's use for tennis. The skate park is heavily used through most of the year when snow is not present. The soccer and softball fields are in high demand for league play and tournaments. The playground is popular and used constantly by area neighborhood residents. The perimeter trail system that offers multiple length loop options is used by both bikers and walkers, providing easy access to all areas of the complex.

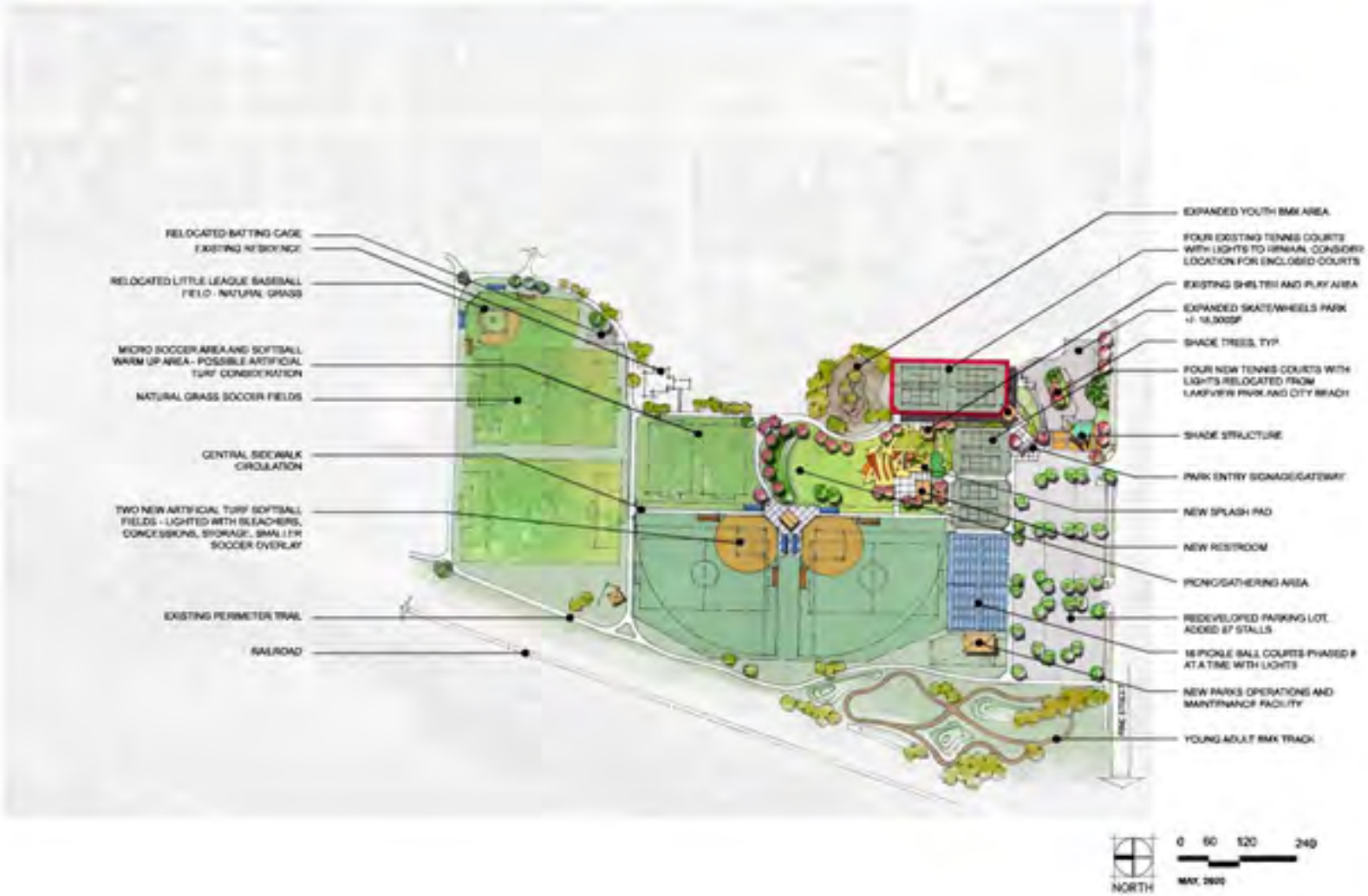
This is not to say that the TSC is problem free. There are a number of critical deficiencies that limit it being used to its highest efficiency. The southern third of the complex was the first phase of construction and built over an abandoned landfill. The surrounding terrain to the northeast also was a drainage way flowing in a southwesterly orientation. The softball fields and surrounding areas over the landfill that received fill material during construction to create properly graded fields has continued to settle, causing severe grade changes in the playing surfaces, primarily the outfields. These grade changes are in some instances as much as 8-10 inches. There are similar grade issues on the Centennial fields directly to the north of the softball complex where soccer and baseball occur. This condition continues to worsen due to the decay of trash and debris within the landfill. During the spring, the softball, soccer, and baseball fields are so wet that they are not usable for long periods of time. This is influenced by the naturally 'heavy' soils of the Sandpoint area that are high in silt content and drain poorly. Additionally, ground water from the original drainage way directs any subsurface water directly below these fields.

The correction of this condition will require significant improvements that will entail excavation of unsuitable soils and replacement with more free draining soils, combined with a subsurface drain system that will collect both surface and subsurface water, and directing it to a location that does not impact use of the complex. These corrective measures must be employed whether reconstructing to natural grass fields or to artificial turf fields. The advantages of converting at least some of the fields to artificial turf are much more efficient surface and subsurface drainage, considerably more scheduled field uses per day and extended seasonal use, especially if the fields are lighted. Based on these considerations, the concept plan recommends that the three softball fields be reduced to two, both converted to artificial turf, allowing for more use throughout the year. The little league baseball field is proposed to be relocated to the northeast corner of the Centennial fields. The concept master plan for City Beach recommends that its two existing tennis courts be relocated to another park location. This is also the recommendation for the two existing tennis courts at Lakeview Park. The TSC concept plan proposes that these displaced courts be reconstructed on the south end of the complex, along with the introduction of pickleball courts.

The addition and location of both tennis and pickleball courts also condenses the useable space on the south end of the complex, also contributing to the reduction of softball fields. This consolidation of tennis and pickleball facilities will provide Sandpoint with an accessible location for community and tournament play. The two existing tennis courts are proposed for a possible future enclosed tennis facility. Locating the enclosure or structure here, will preserve the northerly view 'window' into the park. Pickleball courts are anticipated to be phased with eight courts per phase.

Total parking stalls are deficient for tournament use of the facilities, especially on the south side of the complex. The concept plan calls for a full reorganization and reconstruction of the south parking lot, extending it further westward to provide a total count for parking on the west side of 220 vehicles. The existing skate park should be more aptly termed a skate pad. This venue is proposed to triple in size with added apparatus, lighting, and possibly shade structures. The existing children's play structure will remain, and a new splash pad proposed just north of the play area. The existing restrooms are proposed to be replaced with a new facility, shifted slightly north of the current location to allow room for tennis and pickleball courts. An enlarged open natural grass area is proposed north of the splash pad for gatherings and picnicking. The existing youth BMX facility to the east the play structure will remain and be enhanced. A new BMX for young adults is proposed to be located to the far southwest corner of the complex near the railroad R.O.W. A new maintenance facility dedicated to TSC will be relocated slightly west and north of its present location.

TRAVERS-CENTENNIAL-GREAT NORTHERN SPORTS COMPLEX CONCEPT



V. FUNDING ANALYSIS

GreenPlay has compiled a list of potential funding sources for public parks and recreation identified through over 35 years of consulting with agencies across the United States. Sandpoint staff reviewed this list and identified potential funding sources specific to implementation of the recommendations included in this Master Plan. Many may already be in place, and some may not be permissible in Sandpoint; however, others may be useful.

Understanding potential funding sources can be very beneficial to allow the City of Sandpoint access to additional funding opportunities that may be available to fund future capital improvements identified during this planning effort.

There are a variety of mechanisms that local governments can employ to provide services and to make public improvements. Parks and recreation operating, and capital development funding typically comes from conventional sources such as sales, use, and property tax referenda voted upon by the community, along with developer exactions. Operating funds are typically capped by legislation; may fluctuate based on the economy, public spending, or assessed valuation; and may not always keep up with inflationary factors. In the case of capital development, “borrowed funds” sunset with the completion of loan repayment and are not available to carry-over or re-invest without voter approval. Many of these strategies may be currently in use to some extent by the City of Sandpoint.

GreenPlay conducted a funding analysis exercise with staff. The following provides a summary of most easily used funding sources to assist with implementation of the implementation of the recommendations included in this Master Plan:

Traditional Operations and Capital Development Funding Sources

- Traditional Tax and Exactions-Based Funding Resources
  - General or Operating Fund
  - Property Tax
  - Sales Tax

- Development Funding
  - Development Impact Fees

- Traditional Earned Revenue Resources
  - Registration Fees

- Alternative Operations and Capital Development Funding Sources
  - Revenue Bonds

- Alternative Service Delivery and Funding Structures
  - Commercial Property Endowment Model - Operating Foundation

- Partnership Opportunities
  - YMCA/YWCA
  - School Districts
  - Medical Centers/Hospitals
  - Service/Civic Organizations
  - Chamber of Commerce
  - Youth Sports Associations
  - Adult Sports Associations

- Neighboring Counties/Cities
- Private Alternative Providers
- Churches
- Professional Sports Teams/Organizations
- Senior Citizen Groups

- Community Resources
  - Fundraising
  - Program or Support Grants
  - Land and Water Conservation Fund
  - Naming Rights
  - Philanthropic Gifts
  - Volunteers/In-Kind Services
  - Adopt-A-Park or Trail
  - Life Estates
  - Maintenance Endowments

- Community Services Fees and Assessments
  - Capital Improvement Fee
  - Lighting Fee
  - Real Estate Transfer – Tax/Assessment/Fee
  - Utility Roundup Program

- Contractual Services
  - Concession Management

- Permits, Licensing Rights, and Use of Collateral Assets
  - Land Swap
  - Licensing Rights
  - Recycling Centers
  - Rental Houses and Buildings for Private Citizens
  - Surplus Sale of Equipment by Auction

- Funding Resources and Other Options
  - Enterprise Funds
  - Cost Avoidance

- Cost Saving Measures
  - Cost Avoidance

- Green Trends and Practices
  - Use Light, Water, and Motion Sensors
  - Conduct Energy Audits
  - Update to Energy Efficient Ballasts, Motors, Appliances
  - Develop “Pack It Out” Trash Program

- Administrative
  - Recycle Office Trash
  - Go Paperless
  - Conserve Resources

- Operating Standards
  - Preventative Maintenance
  - Reduce Driving
  - Eliminate Environmentally Negative Chemicals and Materials
  - Green Purchasing Policies
  - LEED® Design Principles
  - Purchase More Efficient Equipment, reduce maintenance

- Sustainable Stewardship
  - Re-analyze and Revised Practices and Standards Reduce Driving
  - Monitor and Report Results
  - Lead by Example
  - Public Education
  - Incorporate Stewardship Principles in all Park and Recreation Services
  - Seek Available Grant Funding and Initiative Awards

VI. KEY ISSUES AND RECURRING THEMES

Generally, findings from the public input process consistently identified an appreciation of existing parks, programs, and services being offered by the City of Sandpoint.

The following key Issues were identified:

- Plan for Sandpoint for the next 50 years
- Keep affordability
- Make sure all facilities and services are accessible
- Improve communication
- Ensure appropriate staffing levels
- Maintain necessary infrastructure
- Future of the Festival
- Outdoor fields – greater playability
- Turf fields
- Improve City Beach and Waterfront – make year-round
- Improve trail connectivity
- Boating and water access
- Parking
- Signage
- Fiscal Sustainability
- Multi-purpose indoor facility for all ages of kids and adults (fieldhouse for soccer, basketball, lacrosse, football, softball, rugby, baseball, etc.)
- Retention of open space
- Ice skating arena
- Indoor tennis
- Indoor pool
- Infrastructure at City Beach
- Trail connectivity

The following key demographics were identified:

- Sandpoint's potential population growth
- Sandpoint's population changes

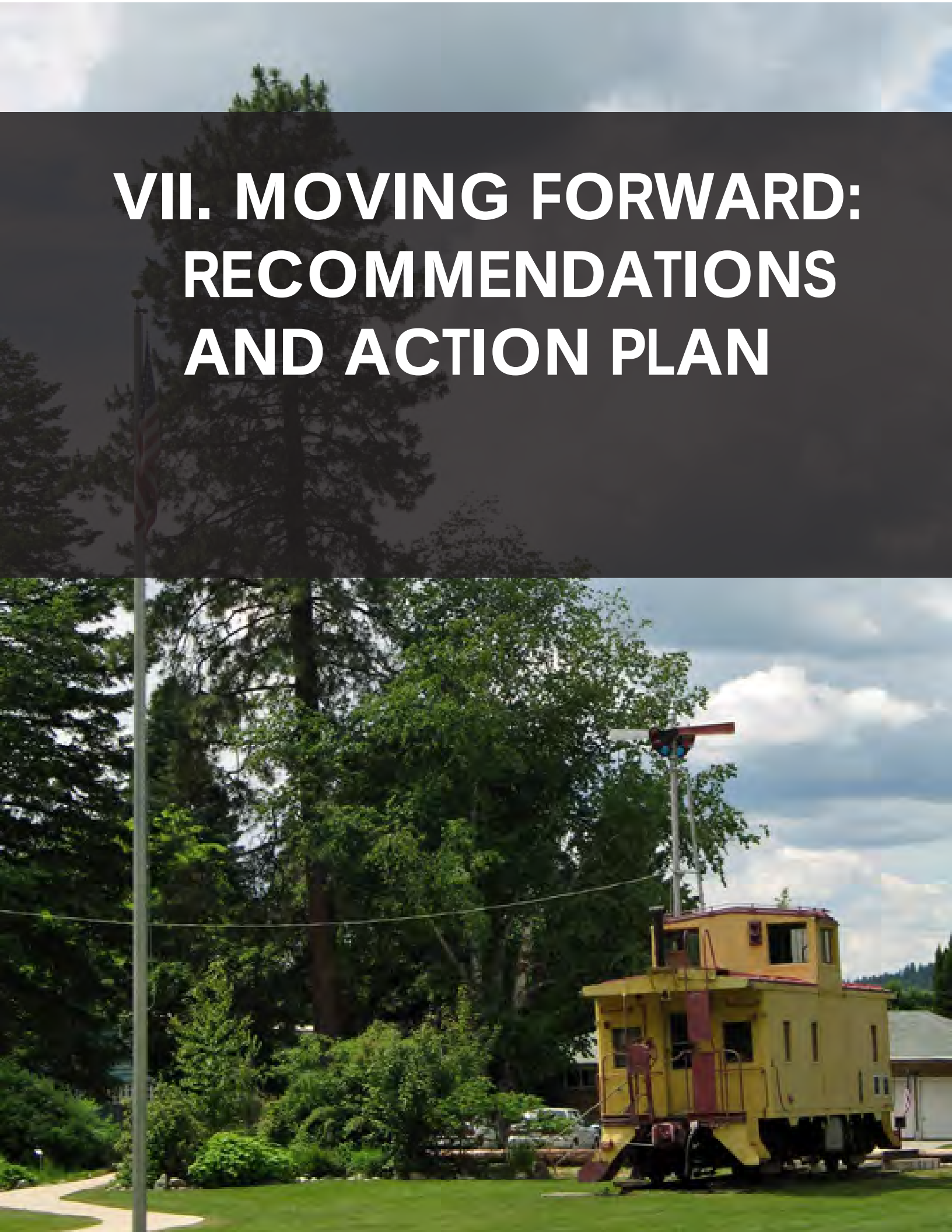
The following key recreation trends were identified:

- Walkability
- Winter activities
- Arts and cultural activities

The following recurring themes were identified as priorities:

- Maintain what we have, improve condition and maintenance of parks and facilities
- Do more to serve teens/adults/seniors
- Improve connectivity of trails and pathways
- Preserve green space and appropriate land acquisition
- Environmental conservation
- Sustainability
- Previous park planning has been reactionary and opportunistic
- Improve City Beach and Waterfront Area
- Improve playability at Memorial Field
- Improve communication
- Improve playability of athletic fields
- Retain open space
- Trail and bike path connectivity
- Consider indoor facility (aquatics/gym/fitness…)
- Consider ice rink
- Enhance special events
- Enhance programs for adults and art programs

VII. MOVING FORWARD: RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTION PLAN



Residents and community leaders are increasingly recognizing that parks and recreation facilities, programs, and services are essential to creating and maintaining communities where people want to live, work, play, socialize, recreate, learn, and visit. These amenities should be investments in the long-term vitality and economic sustainability of any active and desirable community. The City of Sandpoint Parks, Recreation & Open Space Division is committed to providing comprehensive, high quality parks, programs, facilities, and services to the community.

A. RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are made based on the entirety of the master plan which was inclusive of members of the community, and the public was given many opportunities to participate through focus groups, stakeholder meetings, public meetings, an invitation survey, an open link survey, and several community forums. A Level of Service (LOS) analysis was also conducted.

This section describes ways to enhance the level of service and the quality of life with improvement through improved parks, services, facilities, programs, and amenities, a dedication to customer service, improved programming and service delivery, organizational efficiencies, and increased financial opportunities.

Goal 1: Provide integrated and comprehensive parks and recreation facilities to serve Sandpoint's needs.

Objective 1.1: Maintain and enhance existing facilities, parks, trails, and open spaces
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and public input including the statistically valid survey.

The Division should continue to monitor the condition of existing parks, trails and pathways, facilities, and open spaces, as these facilities have been identified by residents as being of high importance. Standardized evaluation methods should be implemented to measure and track the level of quality of service of these areas. Continuously evaluate staffing needs and develop sustainable funding to ensure continuous maintenance should be considered as the recommendations for development of new and enhance facilities and amenities are implemented. Maintenance staffing should be monitored and adjusted as needed to meet current demand for services, and a staffing plan for future growth developed. Regular inspections of all facilities, parks, trails, and open spaces should continue. Maintenance projects and annual maintenance needs should be funded on a regular schedule to minimize backlog. Priorities for future maintenance projects for existing areas should be developed and reviewed regularly. Capital improvement plans, costs, and phasing recommendations and implementation plans should continue to be developed to prioritize items/projects. Appropriate funding should be provided to address the capital improvement plans. The following low scoring outdoor components should be addressed.

City Beach and Windbag Marina

- Implement the site-specific master plan. In the short term, consider improving the horseshoe courts and adding picnic areas. Also consider upgrades to the existing playground but these should reflect the future redevelopment of the entire park and playground area. Consider adding permanent restrooms at Windbag Marina.

City Dog Park

- Consider development of a dog park somewhere within North Sandpoint to address limited access and existing opportunities in addition to the one planned for Memorial Field (Lakeview Park).

Euclid Ave End

- Work with neighbors to consider adding a public water access point at this property like the 3rd Ave Pier.

Fairgrounds

- Continue to work with the County Fairgrounds and Fair Board for recreational opportunities.

Farmin Park

- Consider overall park updates and refresh ground cover and turf to improve the design and ambiance of this property. Include in a sustainable urban forest plan.

Farmin Stidwell Elementary School

- Consider partnership to improve playgrounds and rectangular fields and insuring access to the public outside of school time. Consider working with school to improve access to low scoring adjacent neighborhood to the north. Implement a safe route to school plan to increase access from the neighborhood. Consider adding additional park-like components to increase walkable level of service in this neighborhood (For example, shade shelter, loop walk, and picnic grounds.)

Hickory Street Park

- Consider upgrades to the limited skate feature, replace existing skate features with new street skate features, and upgrade playground including ADA access and expanded play opportunities. Also consider increasing shade opportunities and picnic tables.

Lake Pend Oreille Alternative School

- Consider partnership to improve the open turf and basketball hoops on the parking lot and insuring access to the public outside of school time.

Lakeview Park

- Develop a site specific conceptual plan specifically for Lakeview Park in the near term as War Memorial Field Conceptual plan and Waste Water Treatment area are upgraded.

Little Sandcreek Watershed

- Develop a site specific recreation master plan as a component of a broader watershed master plan.

Mickinnick Trialhead

- Add seating, picnic tables, and a shade shelter. Consider future master planning of the open space located here, possibly for a dog park, and additional trails.

Old Ninth Grade Field

- Add seating opportunities at this park. Consider portable restrooms for events/games. Consider possible trail connection to main trail system. Add irrigation to improve playability of turf and visual appearance as a gateway to the City. Consider seasonal use of this park for dogs - October - March.

Pend d'Oreille Bay Trail Connection

- Continue to monitor the status and partnership opportunities with Ponderay on this development and impact on Pend d'Oreille Bay Trail within Sandpoint's City limits. Implement the recommendations of the Master Plan developed by Friends of Pend d'Oreille Bay Trail, specifically parking, permanent restroom, trailhead located at City Beach and water access.

Pine Street Park

- The limited area at this park makes it difficult to address the open turf area. Add seating opportunities. Consider seasonal use of this park for dogs - October - March.

Ponderay Field of Dreams

- Continue to monitor the status and partnership opportunities with Ponderay on the development of this facility and correlating impacts and opportunities for Sandpoint's field.

Sandcreek Parking Lot

- Implement the downtown and City Beach plans to address uses at this property.

Travers/Great Northern/Centennial Sports Complex

- Implement the site-specific master plan to address low scoring components at this park. If a phased approach is used, prioritization should be given to the skate park and the bike park. Consider adding tennis courts to replace removal of courts at Lakeview Park. In the short-term, addressing maintenance issues to the railing at the east side pedestrian access at Centennial Field address ADA maintenance issues. Consider adding dogs on leash access to trails and pathways at this location.

War Memorial Field

- Implement site-specific master plan to improve field conditions and playability, as well as multi purpose aspects of park to include, dog park, boat launch, parking, etc.

Washington Elementary School

- Consider partnership to improve playgrounds, multi-use pad, basketball court and rectangular fields and ensuring access to the public outside of school time.

Objective 1.2: Explore improving/adding trail and pathway connectivity, making Sandpoint a walkable community

Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and public input including the statistically valid survey.

Linking parks and recreation facilities with a network of safe paths, trails, and/or sidewalks were identified as a high priority during the engagement process. Based on trends and demand, the Division should look for opportunities to improve/add trail and pathway connectivity and continue working with other City divisions to develop and expand trails and pathways to connect communities, neighborhoods, and parks. Connect existing parks to the Sandpoint to Dover Community Trail (War memorial, Lakeview, Travers/Great Northern Sports Complex). Development of a safe neighborhood connection to the Baldy property across the railroad tracks should be considered in the City's Multi-Modal Transportation Plan in the event the City choses to maintain this property as a park. Work with the developer that purchased University of Idaho property to continue trail connectivity along Sand Creek and between the communities of Sandpoint and Ponderay. Connecting to trails within the watershed using trailheads. Support efforts by the City of Ponderay to extend the Pend d'Oreille Bay Trail. Add connectivity between

City Beach and the downtown waterfront conceptual plans. The City should ensure connectivity to any new recreational properties through the broader trail network. Add connectivity to the Cedar Park open space at the Schweitzer Cutoff Roundabout and consider expansion opportunities which would provide more public access to the waterfront and protect the adjacent wetlands. Complete the North Boyer pathway infill to allow access to the Cedar Park property and envisioned connectivity to the Little Sand Creek Basin Trails.

Objective 1.3: Protect environmentally sensitive areas and protect them by incorporating them into the parks and recreation system
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and public and staff input obtained during focus groups and stakeholder interviews.

Future planning efforts should incorporate the following:

- When appropriate develop connectivity to areas outside of City limits
- Collaborate with land trusts, and other organizations to identify, acquire, and/or preserve open spaces
- Encourage the development of a greenbelt trail system extending throughout the ACI, linking natural open space and recreational areas with primary multimodal transportation routes
- Consider facilitating purchase or retention of existing open-space lands, through Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) or Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) programs
- Consider acquisition of additional property adjacent to the Cedar Park open space.

Objective 1.4: Explore additional land acquisition for new parks near newer or underserved neighborhoods
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews. Based on Level of Service Analysis Sandpoint needs to add 14 acres of park or open space to maintain current level of service with projected population growth through 2025.

The Division should follow the recommendations detailed in the Level of Service Analysis which identified potential gaps in service within the community. The Division should continue to assess available land for future park development. Opportunities to increase open space and passive recreation through the development of new parks should be considered.

Objective 1.5 Continue to address ADA accessibility for all facilities
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews.

The Division should continue to work to make its facilities, programs, and services accessible to people with disabilities. The regional playground currently identified in the City Beach Conceptual Plan should be fully accessible for all participants based on the latest standards at the time of installation. Ongoing self-evaluation and updates to the ADA Transition Plan must be an ongoing high priority for the Division especially in terms of access. Specific marketing and promoting of the updates to the City's ADA Transition Plan should be ongoing. Specific promotion of the parks all access playgrounds and facilities should be a priority.

Objective 1.6: Upgrade existing playgrounds
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and public input including the statistically valid survey.

As identified by focus groups and survey respondents, making upgrades to, and improving existing playgrounds should be a considered. The Division should explore opportunities to enhance the playground structures and the surfacing surrounding playgrounds. Additional playgrounds should be added near the former University of Idaho property to serve that neighborhood when developed, The City should partner with the schools to add more parklet settings at Farmin Stidwell Elementary School.

Objective 1.7: Develop additional recreational facilities and amenities in partnership with or by supporting others
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews. The City should continue to support YMCA efforts to develop a community recreation facility. Ongoing assessment of the success of the YMCA in meeting the needs of the Sandpoint community should be conducted. Future considerations should include the development of an indoor facility for tennis and pickleball, and a fieldhouse (other court sports) at the Travers Sports Complex.

An existing priority for Sandpoint residents expressed prior to this study and again during this study is the need for improvement of facilities and amenities. The City should offer to support others in the goal of developing additional recreation facilities.

Objective 1.8: Plan for continued and increased public access to the community's shorelines
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and public and staff input obtained during focus groups and stakeholder interviews, look for opportunities to multi-purpose water access for all water related activities.

Implement the conceptual plans developed for City Beach, Memorial Field, and the waterfront area, as well as other publicly owned waterfront areas. Work with future developers to maintain and expand trails, lake and water access. Include adding parking at Cedars Park. With upgrades and rebuild of the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant water access should be included in the design. In the near term, the City should consider options and usability of Grey Way ROA and. Consider elements of the Pend d'Oreille Bay Trail Master Plan in Humbird Park.

Objective 1.9: Explore alternative uses for community open spaces such as plazas or community gardens
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews.

Consider a variety of alternative uses for community open spaces that may be too small to function as parks, such as plazas or community gardens. Based on trends and demand, the Division should look for opportunities to improve these spaces and promote their uses as special event spaces Small parklet spaces, splash pads, small performance areas, small social gathering settings should be developed in these open spaces.

Objective 1.10: Future land acquisition
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews.

The City should consider purchasing the Baldy property which is currently being used as a disc golf course from the City Water Fund to develop as a park which may include some disc golf, among other recreation opportunities and comfort and convenience amenities, such as picnic tables. If the City were to acquire this park, a plan to improve pedestrian access across the railroad tracks must also be considered and implemented.

Additionally, the City should look to acquire additional property for park development or open space in north Sandpoint, and consider a dog park at this location.

The City should encourage the developer of the former University of Idaho property to put in a neighborhood park to serve that development.

Finally, the City should consider the land swap being discussed with the owners of the Edgewater Resort as identified in the City Beach conceptual plans.

Objective 1.11: Implement Site Specific Master Plans for War Memorial Field, City Beach and Downtown Waterfront, Travers Great Northern Centennial Sports Complex once completed
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and public input including the statistically valid survey.

The City should implement the site-specific master plans for War Memorial Field, City Beach and Downtown Waterfront, and Travers Great Northern Centennial Sports Complex once completed. Implementation of these plans will address many of the low scoring components identified in the level of service analysis in this report.

Goal 2: Support and improve recreation programs and services as an important component of Sandpoint community life.

Objective 2.1 Monitor the participation and usage of the programs, facilities, and services and make appropriate adjustments based on collected data
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews.

The Division should partner with and support others to provide programming. The Division should develop Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) defining roles, expectations, and reporting methods. The Division should promote the programs offered by other service providers. The Division would provide access to the limited facilities managed by the Division. Program registrations, collections of fees, hiring of instructors and officials would all be handled by other service providers.

Objective 2.2 Enhance special event programming
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and public and staff input obtained during focus groups, stakeholder interviews and the statistically valid survey.

As identified by focus groups and survey respondents, expanding opportunities, and enhancing special event programming was identified as a priority. The Division, through partnerships or solely, should explore new special events, possibly themed by the community or season of the year as part of its Arts, Culture and Preservation Master Plan. The City, through partnerships or solely, should continue to look for opportunities to expand community events and activities based on community demand and trends. The community would like to see more opportunities at City Beach, downtown, and at the waterfront, and more arts and cultural events in the parks. As new events are developed, continue to monitor trends to stay current with programming and demand. Look to add new events that will attract all members of the Sandpoint community and support economic development.

Objective 2.3: Explore opportunities to increase recreational programming and service delivery based on demand and trends by partnering with others and providing distinctive, unduplicated programming through the City only
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews.

Continue to evaluate the current relationship with contract providers, looking for increased access to additional facilities. Expand program opportunities for fitness/wellness, environmental education, winter activities, and adult non-sport programs. Add programs for teens, adults, and seniors. As new programs and services are developed and implemented, continue to create a balance between passive and active recreation. Moving forward the Division should consider changing its programming strategy to one of partnering with other service providers and only providing distinctive, unduplicated programming itself.

Objective 2.4 Continue to monitor affordability of programs and services
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews.

As the Division shifts to changing its programming strategy to one of partnering with other service providers, the Division needs to monitor the affordability of the programs offered.

Objective 2.5: Continue to work with the community recreation, arts, culture and preservation organizations to ensure appropriate facilities are available
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews.

Continue to look for opportunities to provide facilities for events such as the Festival and other culture, recreational, and art activities.

Objective 2.6: Continue to explore partnerships to enhance programming opportunities
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and public and staff input obtained during focus groups, stakeholder interviews and the statistically valid survey.

Develop a structure to look for opportunities to partner with YMCA, School Districts, Medical Centers/ Hospitals, Service/Civic Organizations, Chamber of Commerce, Youth Sports Associations, Adult Sports Associations, Neighboring Counties/Cities, Private Alternative Providers, and Churches to enhance programming for the Sandpoint community.

Goal 3: Continue to improve organizational efficiencies

Objective 3.1 Implement the new Mission and Vision Statements
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews.

The Mission and Vision statements developed through this master planning process should be used to guide the development and delivery of parks and recreation services for the next 50 years. It should be reviewed and updated upon completion of the Arts, Culture and Preservation Master Plan in late 2020.

Objective 3.2 Ensure the Organizational Structure of the Division remains efficient
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews.

The Division should regularly review its organization structure and performance to ensure the maximum level of staff efficiency and greatest usage of available resources to provide the best facilities, programs, and services to the Sandpoint community.

Objective 3.3 Enhance and improve external communication regarding Division activities, programs, and services to increase community awareness
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and public and staff input obtained during focus groups, stakeholder interviews and the statistically valid survey.

The Division utilizes a number of effective marketing tools and strategies actively promoting parks and recreation services in the community. These tools include, but are not limited to, City emails, printed booklet, calendars, website, social media, local media, and newsletters. Enhance communication strategies to target youth and young adults. Implement a Youth Council/Advisory Group to provide ideas, feedback and promote recreational activities for youth. Continue and expand use of community surveys and other feedback tools and platforms available through the City to refresh community needs, desires, and priorities.

Objective 3.4: Staff appropriately to meet current demand and maintain established quality of service
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews.

As the new conceptual plans are implemented and as parks and facility upgrades are made, it is important to ensure that staffing levels are adequate to maintain current performance standards. The intensity of maintenance practices required for upgraded facilities and amenities requires additional staff resources be focused in this area. This would indicate additional resources and most likely new maintenance positions within the Division. It is important to evaluate staffing levels to maintain current and desired performance standards. The Division should consider changing its programming strategy to one of partnering with other service providers. The operations of the concessions should be considered for outsourcing to a private vendor.

Objective 3.5 Develop Joint Operating Agreements (JOA) with the school district and identify how it will benefit the Parks and Recreation Division – maximize potential
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews.

The Division should look to maximize potential usage of school facilities as a key goal of any joint operating agreement. As discussed earlier, the use of school facilities is a key component of Sandpoint's recreation programming. School partnerships can be valuable throughout the Sandpoint community. Existing partnerships should be strengthened because as school assets improve the level of service provided to city residents also improves. Schools could prove to be important in the development of a city-wide indoor recreation facility.

Objective 3.6 Explore additional partnerships to assist with funding, volunteering, and marketing
R***ationale*** – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews.

The Division should look to develop relationships with local business, service agencies, clubs, and organizations to seek funding, gifts -of-kind, volunteers, and marketing support to expand programming, enhance facilities and provide ongoing operating support.

Objective 3.7 Work with other divisions to increase safety and security
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews.

The Division should work with the Police and other City divisions to develop strategies to enhance safety and security in the parks. Improved lighting and increased police and security presence should be explored. Schedule semi- annual walk thru to conduct a security and safety audit, involving City Divisions (Parks, Recreation, and Open Space, City Central Services, Building Official, and Public Safety (Police, Fire).

Objective 3.8 Design and work toward a zero waste parks and recreation system
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews.

Designing and working toward a zero waste parks and recreation system. Develop "Pack It Out" Trash Program. Increase recycling and other sustainable practices.

Goal 4: Increase Financial Opportunities

Objective 4.1 Explore additional funding options
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and public and staff input obtained during focus groups, stakeholder interviews and the statistically valid survey.

The Division should continue to explore additional funding sources and develop strategies to seek alternative funding sources that include donations, grants, and sponsorships. Communication with current sponsors and donors should be conducted on a regular basis to ensure their continued positive relationships with the Division.

Objective 4.2 Explore opportunities to increase partnerships
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and public and staff input obtained during focus groups, stakeholder interviews and the statistically valid survey.

Explore partnership opportunities with other agencies and the private sector to expand parks and recreation offerings and/or share costs for providing services and land acquisitions.

Objective 4.3: Pursue grant and philanthropic opportunities
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and public and staff input obtained during focus groups, stakeholder interviews and the statistically valid survey.

Working in concert with City grant staff, the Division should consider new grant opportunities available for programming and parks and facility improvements and should continue to pursue any and all grant opportunities at the federal, state, regional, and local levels.

Objective 4.4: Review current user fees for residents/non-residents
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and public and staff input obtained during focus groups, stakeholder interviews and the statistically valid survey.

The City should review its current fee structure for parks and recreation programming and consider adjusting the fees charged to align with current and future maintenance and capital improvement needs. Affordability must be considered and balanced with maintenance and operational costs.

Objective 4.5: Pursue alternative funding opportunities
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and public and staff input obtained during focus groups, stakeholder interviews, and the statistically valid survey.

The Division should explore new and alternative funding sources. Conversations with other City divisions to explore partnerships and alternate funding sources should be conducted.

Objective 4.6: Explore capital funding opportunities
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews.

The Division should explore the possibility of a bond referendum, a new local option sales tax and public-private partnerships to develop address recommendations for new facilities and enhanced parks as identified in this Master Plan. Equipment replacement funds, and repair and reserve funds for facilities should also be reviewed.

Objective 4.7: Explore dedicated funding sources for parks maintenance
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews.
The Division should explore the possibility of partnering with local businesses to sponsor the park maintenance for specific parks in exchange for specific event advertising opportunities. Field and facility use fees and attendee fees should also be revisited as discussed above.

Objective 4.8: Park specific conceptual plans implementation funding
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews.

The Division should make implementation of the Park Specific Conceptual Plans a priority.

Objective 4.9: Review cost recovery policies
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews.

The Division should explore conducting a Cost Recovery study to look at its expenses and revenues to determine if an appropriate cost recovery goal and strategies to accomplish said goal.

Objective 4.10: Explore additional funding sources
Rationale – Based on feedback from consultant's observations and staff input obtained during stakeholder interviews.

The Division should explore the additional funding sources identified in the Funding Analysis section of this Master Plan. In partnering with others or solely, the Division should seek revenue opportunities through food or other service concessions and potential ground or facility leases for activities such as the carousel or recreation-focused businesses who may be interested in operating at City-owned sites such as the Sand Creek bank and parking area.

B. ACTION PLAN AND PRIORITIZATION

The following detailed cost estimates will be referred to in the action plan that follows.

City Beach Detail 2020 Costs

Program	$ Price
Site Improvements	
Site Prep	$3.75 SF
Clearing and Grubbing	$0.75 SF
Earthwork & Grading	$6 CY
Electrical, Gas, Water, Sewer, Storm Utilities	TBD in final design
Asphalt Concrete	$3.50 SF
Concrete Curb (6")	$22 LF
Vehicular Concrete Paving (6")	$10 SF
Pedestrian Concrete Paving (4")	$7 SF
Pedestrian Colored Concrete Paving (4")	$17 SF
4' ht Black Vinyl Coated Chainlink Fencing	$80 LF
4' ht Black Vinyl Coated Chainlink Gate (4' wide)	$850 EA
Fence Concrete Edging/Mow Strip	$9 SF
Parking Lot Lights	$4,800 EA
Pedestrian Lights	$3,500 EA
Landscape Improvements	$3.50/$8.50 SF (depending on detail)
Trees	$750 EA
Existing Group Shelter Improvements	$60,000-80,000 LS
Existing Restroom Improvements	$75,000 LS
Existing Restroom/Concessions Remodel	$150,000-$200,000 LS
Furnishing & Misc. Improvements	TBD in final design
Amenities	
Relocated Sand Volleyball	$60,000 LS
Plazas and Outdoor Patios	$100 SF
Outdoor Playgrounds	$150 SF
(2) Basketball Half Courts (surfacing, striping, goals and lighting)	$370,000 LS
Walking Trail	$5 SF
Restrooms (CXT)	$75,000-$125,000 LS
Boat Wash Station	$25,000-$30,000 LS
Concrete Boat Launch (4 lanes)	$400,000-$500,000 LS
Outdoor Splashpad	$500,000 LS
Protected Swimming/Sunbathing Area & Accessible Launch	$80,000.00
Dock Expansion	$65,000 LS
Pedestrian Boardwalk	$65,000 LS
Primary Covered Event Space	$900,000-$1,200,000 LS
New Edgewater Resort	TBD
Bridge Street Improvements/Intersection Work	TBD
Landscape Buffer/Perimeter/Stormwater	$5 SF

Sand Creek Downtown Detail 2020 Costs

Program	$ Price
Site Improvements	
Site Prep	$3.75 SF
Clearing and Grubbing	$0.75 SF
Earthwork & Grading	$6 CY
Electrical, Gas, Water, Sewer, Storm Utilities	TBD in final design
Asphalt Concrete	$3.50 SF
Concrete Curb (6")	$22 LF
Vehicular Concrete Paving (6")	$10 SF
Pedestrian Ramp w/Detectable Warning Domes	$3,800 EA
Pedestrian Concrete Paving (4")	$7 SF
Pedestrian Colored Concrete Paving (4")	$17 SF
Pedestrian Lighting	$3500 EA
Parking Lot Lighting	$4800 EA
Turf Sod	$0.70 SF
Landscape Improvements (includes irrigation)	$3.50/$8.50 SF (depending on detail)
Trees	$750 EA
Furnishing & Misc. Improvements & Signage	TBD in final design
Amenities	
Plazas and Outdoor Patios	$100 SF
Terraced Seatwall/Steps	$150 CY
Walking Trail	$5 SF
Pedestrian Board Walk	TBD
Concrete Stairway	$100 CY
Expanded Dock/Deck	$400,000-500,000 LS
Non-Motorized Boat Launch (2 lanes)	$225,000-$350,000 LS
Landscape Buffer/Perimeter/Stormwater	$5 SF

Travers-Centennial-Great Northern Sports Complex Detail 2020 Costs

Program	$ Price
Site Improvements	
Site Prep	$3.75 SF
Clearing and Grubbing	$0.75 SF
Earthwork & Grading	$6 CY
Electrical, Gas, Water, Sewer, Storm Utilities	TBD in final design
Pedestrian Ramp w/Detectable Warning Domes	$3,800 EA
Asphalt Concrete	$3.50 SF
6" Concrete Curb & Gutter	$25 LF
Vehicular Concrete Paving (6")	$10 SF
Pedestrian Concrete Paving (4")	$7 SF
Pedestrian Colored Concrete Paving (4")	$17 SF
Parking Lot Lights	$4,800 EA
8' ht Galvanized Chainlink Fencing	$45 LF
8' ht Galvanized Chainlink Gate (4' wide)	$850 EA
Fence Concrete Edging/Mow Strip	$9 SF
Concrete Seatwall	$150 CY
Turf Sod	$0.70 SF
Grass Seed (drilled)	$0.30 SF
Topsoil	$30 CY
Artificial Turf Drainage System (rock & drainage pipe)	$2.50 SF
Landscape Improvements (Includes Irrigation)	$3.50-$8.50 SF (depending on detail)
Trees	$750 EA
Entryway Gateway/Signage	$18,000-$20,000 LS
Furnishing & Misc. Improvements	TBD in final design
Amenities	
Parks Operating and Maintenance Facility Building	$175 SF
(16) Pickle Ball Courts	$17,500 EA
Lights for Pickle Ball & Softball Field	$5,000 EA
BMX Bike Trail (young adult or youth)	$7.50 LF
Expanded Skate/Wheels Park (+18,000 sf)	$85 SF
(4) Tennis Courts	$70,000 EA
Relocated Lights for Tennis Court	TBD
Restroom Building	$250 SF
(2) Soccer Fields (striping, goals, corner flags)	$3.50 SF
(2) Micro Soccer Areas (possible artificial turf & striping)	$6-$8 SF
(2) Softball Fields (artificial turf & soccer striping overlay)	$6-$8 SF
(6) Softball Bleachers	$12,000 EA
(2) Softball Backstop - Galvanized Chainlink Fence	$27,000 EA
(2) Softball Dugout (chainlink w/metal roof)	$16,000 EA
(4) Softball Dugout (player's bench 27' l w/built-in shelf)	$3,850 EA
(2) Softball Base Set	$650 EA
Concession Stand with Storage	$175 SF
Splash Pad	$500,000 LS
Upgrade Play Structure	TBD
Shade Structure	$28,000-$40,000 LS
Relocated Little League Baseball Field (dugouts, bleaches, fencing)	TBD
Relocated Little League Batting Cages	$5,000-7,000 EA
Landscape Buffer/Perimeter/Stormwater	$5 SF

The following Goals, Objectives, and Action Items for the recommendations are drawn from the public input, inventory, level of service analysis, findings feedback, and all of the information gathered during the master planning process. The primary focus is maintaining, sustaining, and improving the City of Sandpoint's parks, facilities, programs, and services. Funding availability, staff buy-in, and political and community support will play significant roles in future planning efforts. All cost estimates are in 2019 figures where applicable. Most costs are dependent on the extent of the enhancements and improvements determined.

Timeframe to complete is designated as:

- Short-term (up to 3 years)
- Mid-term (4-6 years)
- Long-term (7-10 years)
- Ongoing (occurs on a continuous basis)

Goal 1: Provide integrated and comprehensive parks and recreation facilities to serve Sandpoint's needs.				
Objective 1.1 Maintain and enhance existing facilities, parks, trails, and open spaces				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
1.1.a The Division should continue to monitor the condition of existing parks, trails and pathways, facilities, and open spaces, as these facilities have been identified by residents as being of high importance. Address low scoring components and amenities from the Master Plan inventory by upgrading, replacing, or repurposing components or amenities where appropriate.	Will vary based on amenities added	TBD	Ongoing	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS
Baldfoot Disc Golf Course (if this property remains solely a disc golf course) • Make improvements and set standards at this property including additional recreation opportunities and comfort and convenience amenities such as picnic tables.	Will vary based on amenities added	TBD	Short-Term	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS
City Beach and Windbag Marina. • Implement the site-specific master plan. In the short term, consider adding picnic areas. Also make upgrades to the existing playground but these should reflect the future redevelopment of the entire park and playground area. Add permanent restrooms at Windbag Marina.	Will vary based on amenities added – refer to project cost table	$21,000,000-$29,000,000	Short-Term	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS
City Dog Park • Develop a dog park somewhere within North Sandpoint in addition to the one planned for Memorial Field to address limited access and existing opportunities.	Will vary based on amenities added	$185,000 - $200,000	Short-Term	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS

Euclid Ave End • Work with neighbors to add a water access point at this property like the 3rd Ave Pier.	Will vary based on amenities added TBD	$150,000	Short-Term	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS
Fairgrounds • Continue to work with the County Fairgrounds and Fair Board for recreational opportunities.	Will vary based on amenities added	TBD	Ongoing	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS
Farmin Park • Implement overall park updates and refresh ground cover and turf to improve the design and ambiance of this property. Include in a sustainable urban forest plan.	Will vary based on design elements	TBD	Short-Term	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS
Farmin Stidwell Elementary School (should be a priority) • Consider partnership to improve playgrounds and rectangular fields and ensuring access to the public outside of school time. Work with the school to improve access to low scoring adjacent neighborhood to the north. Implement a safe route to school plan to increase access from the neighborhood to enhance park accessibility in that area. Add additional park-like components to increase walkable level of service in this neighborhood (for example, shade shelter, loop walk, and picnic grounds).	Will vary based on amenities added	$200,000	Short-Term	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS
Hickory Street Park • Implement upgrades to the limited skate feature and replace existing skate features with new street skate features, upgrade playground including ADA access and expanded play opportunities. Also consider increasing shade opportunities and picnic tables.	Will vary based on amenities added -refer to Travers, Centennial, Great Northern cost table	TBD	Short-Term	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS

Lake Pend Oreille Alternative School • Consider partnership to improve the open turf and basketball hoops on the parking lot and ensure access to the public outside of school time.	Will vary based on amenities added	TBD	Ongoing	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP®LOS
Lakeview Park • Develop a site-specific conceptual plan specifically for Lakeview Park in the near term as War Memorial Field Conceptual plan and Wastewater Treatment area are upgraded.	Will vary based on amenities added	TBD	Short-Term	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP®LOS
Little Sandcreek Watershed • Develop trailheads with proper amenities at various locations to increase access to trails for Sandpoint residents. Recreation in the watershed will be considered and managed through overall Watershed Master Plan.	Will vary based on amenities added	TBD	Short-Term	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP®LOS
Mickinnick Trailhead • Add seating, picnic tables and a shade shelter. Consider future master planning of the open space located here, possibly for a dog park, and additional trails.	Will vary based on amenities added	TBD	Short-Term	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP®LOS
Old Ninth Grade Field • Add seating opportunities at this park. Add portable restrooms for events/games. Add trail connection to main trail system. Consider adding irrigation to improve playability of turf and visual appearance as a gateway to the City. Consider seasonal use of this park for dogs, October through March.	Will vary based on amenities added	TBD	Short-Term	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP®LOS

Pend d'Oreille Bay Trail Connection • Continue to monitor the status and partnership opportunities with Ponderay on this development and impact on Pend d'Oreille Bay Trail within Sandpoint's City limits. Implement the recommendations of the Master Plan developed by Friends of Pend d'Oreille Bay Trail, specifically parking, permanent restroom, trailhead located at City Beach, and water access.	Will vary based on amenities added	TBD	Mid-Term	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS
Pine Street Park • The limited area at this park makes it difficult to address the open turf area. Add seating opportunities. Consider seasonal use of this park for dogs, October through March.	Will vary based on amenities added	TBD	Short-Term	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS
Ponderay Field of Dreams • Continue to monitor the status and partnership opportunities with Ponderay on the development of this facility.	TBD	TBD	Ongoing	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS
Sandcreek Park • Implement the downtown and City Beach plans to address uses at this property.	Will vary based on amenities added – refer to project cost table	$13,000,000-$15,000,000	Short-Term	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS
Travers/Centennial/ Great Northern/ Sports Complex • Implement the site-specific master plan to address low scoring components at this park including the skate park, and the bike park. Add tennis courts to replace removal of courts at Lakeview Park. In short- term, address maintenance issues to the railing at the east side pedestrian access at Centennial Field address ADA maintenance issues. Consider adding dogs on leash access to trails and pathways at this location.	Will vary based on amenities added – refer to project cost table	$7,000,000-10,000,000	Short-Term	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS

War Memorial Field • Implement site-specific master plan to improve field conditions and playability as well as multi-purpose aspects of park to include, dog park, boat launch, parking, etc. Washington Elementary School • Consider partnership to improve playgrounds, multi-use pad, basketball court and rectangular fields and ensure access to the public outside of school time.	Phase II will vary based on amenities added Will vary based on amenities added	$1,500,000 TBD	Short-term Ongoing	Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP®LOS Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP®LOS
1.1.b Implement standardized evaluation methods and instruments to measure and track the level of quality of maintenance of facilities and amenities on a regular basis.	TBD	Staff time – may increase with addition of new or expanded facilities	Ongoing	Leadership Interviews Consultant Team
1.1.c Continuously evaluate staffing needs and develop sustainable maintenance funding for development of new and enhanced facilities and amenities implemented. Maintenance staffing should be monitored and adjusted as needed to meet current demand for services, and a staffing plan for future growth should be developed.	TBD	Cost of one additional FTE	Short-Term	Staff Input Leadership Interviews Consultant Team
1.1.d Maintenance staffing should be moni-tored and adjusted as needed to meet cur-rent demand for services.	TBD	Staff time, potential costs for additional FTEs, PTEs and/ or seasonal staff	Ongoing	Staff Input Leadership Interviews Consultant Team
1.1.e Maintenance projects and annual maintenance needs should be funded on a regular schedule. • Priorities for future maintenance projects for should be developed and reviewed regularly.	Will vary based on level of maintenance project	TBD	Short-Term	Staff Input Leadership Interviews Other City Documents Consultant Team

1.1.f Capital improvement plans, costs, and phasing recommendations and implementation plans should continue to be developed to prioritize items/projects. • Appropriate funding should be provided to address the capital improvement plans.	Will vary based on projects	Ongoing maintenance costs	Short-Term	Staff Input Leadership Interviews Other City Documents Consultant Team
1.1.g Complete final phase of Windbag Marina renovation – replace wooden docks with steel and concrete docks.	$200,000	Staff time or possible contract with consultant	Short-Term	Staff Input Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team
1.1.h Create parks pathway repair/ replacement plan.	$30,000	Staff Time	Short-Term then Ongoing	Staff Input Public Input Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS

Objective 1.2: Explore improving/adding trail and pathway connectivity, making Sandpoint a walkable community				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
1.2.a Continue working with other City Divi-sions to develop and expand trails and pathways to connect communities, neighborhoods, and parks. Linking parks and recreation facilities with a network of safe paths, trails, and/or sidewalks were identified as a high priority during the engagement process. Based on trends and demand, the Division should look for opportunities to improve/add trail and pathway connectivity and continue working with other City divisions to develop and expand trails and pathways to connect communities, neighborhoods, and parks. Connect existing parks to the Sandpoint to Dover Community Trail (War memorial, Lakeview, Travers/Great Northern Sports Complex). Development of a safe neighborhood connection to the Baldy property across the railroad tracks should be considered in the City's Multi-Modal Transporta-tion Plan in the event the City choses to maintain this property as a park. Work with the developer that purchased University of Idaho property to continue trail connectivity along Sand Creek and between the communities of Sandpoint and Ponderay. Connecting to trails within the watershed using trailheads. Support efforts by the City of Ponderay to extend the Pend d'Oreille Bay Trail. Add connectivity between City Beach and the downtown waterfront conceptual plans. The City should ensure connectivity to any new recreational properties through the broader trail network. Add connectivity to the Cedar Park open space at the Schweitzer Cutoff Roundabout and consider expansion opportunities which would provide more public access to the waterfront and protect the adjacent wetlands. Complete the North Boyer pathway infill to allow access to the Cedar Park property and envisioned connectivity to the Little Sand Creek Basin Trails.	Will vary based on material and construction	TBD	Ongoing	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Other City Documents Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS

1.2.b Develop and maintain a priority list for improving and adding trails and pathways. Continually update and consider conducting a future trails master plan or multi-modal plan. On-street connections may need to be considered for connecting to parks in developed neighborhoods.	TBD	Staff Time	Ongoing	Staff Input Leadership Interviews Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS
1.2.c Change policy to permit on leash dogs in parks strictly limited to non-permeable pathways.	TBD	Staff Time	Short-Term	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey
Objective 1.3: Protect environmentally sensitive areas and by incorporating them into the parks and recreation system				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
1.3.a Look for opportunities to incorporate wetlands trails, native plants, and streams into parks. When appropriate develop connectivity to areas outside of City limits. Encourage the development of a greenbelt trail system extending throughout the ACI, linking natural open space and recreational areas with primary multimodal transportation routes.	Will vary based on complexity of each project	TBD	Short-Term	Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS
1.3.b Develop an Open Space Preservation Policy that identifies appropriate types of use and limits development of existing open spaces.	TBD	Additional Staff Time	Short-Term	Staff Input Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team

1.3.c Identify and explore opportunities to acquire open space to provide level of service in low or no services areas identified in the Master Plan. Collaborate with land trusts, and other organizations to identify, acquire, and/or preserve open spaces. Consider facilitating purchase or retention of existing open space lands, through Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) or Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) programs. Consider acquisition of additional property adjacent to the Cedar Park open space.	Will vary based on projects	Additonal Staff Time	Short-Term	Staff Input Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS
Objective 1.4: Explore additional land acquisition for new parks near newer or underserved neighborhoods				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
1.4.a The Division should follow the recommendations detailed in the Level of Service Analysis which identified potential gaps in service within the community. Based on Level of Service Analysis Sandpoint needs to add 14 acres of park or open space to maintain current level of service with projected population growth through 2025. The Division should continue to assess available land for future park development. Opportunities to increase open space and passive recreation through the development of new parks, or partner with others to improve existing should be considered.	Will vary based on complexity of each project	Will vary based on location and future amenities added	Mid-Term/Long-Term	Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS
Objective 1.5: Continue to address ADA accessibility for all facilities				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
1.5.a The Division should continue to work to make its facilities, programs and services accessible to people with disabilities. Ongoing self-evaluation must be a high priority for the Division especially in terms of access. The regional playground currently identified in the City Beach Conceptual Plan should be fully accessible for all participants based on the latest standards at the time of installation. Specific promotion of the parks all access playgrounds and facilities should be a priority.	Will vary based on complexity of each project	TBD	Ongoing	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Other City Documents Consultant Team

1.5.b Continue to review and follow the ADA Transition Plan. Ongoing self-evaluation and updates to the ADA Transition Plan must be an on-going high priority for the Division especially in terms of access. Specific marketing and promoting of the updates to the City's ADA Transition Plan should be on-going.	TBD	Staff Time or possible contract with consultant	Short-Term	Staff Input Leadership Interviews Other City Documents Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team
Objective 1.6: Upgrade existing playgrounds				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
1.6.a Explore opportunities to enhance the playground structures and surfacing surrounding playgrounds. Additional playgrounds should be added near the former University of Idaho property to serve that neighborhood when developed, The City should partner with the schools to add more parklet settings at Farmin Stidwell Elementary School.	Will vary based on complexity of each project	TBD	Short-Term	Staff Input Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS
Objective 1.7: Develop additional recreational facilities and amenities in partnership with or by supporting others				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
1.7.a Improvement of facilities and amenities. • Conduct a Feasibility/Conceptual Study to determine the feasibility and best method to gain community support for an indoor community recreation center with an aquatic component in partnership with others. • Develop priorities for a community recreation center along with conceptual plans, financial projections for construction, O&M budget projections, and pro-forma for operations. • Partnership funding and obtaining community support should be a focus of this study.	$35,000 - $40,000	Staff Time	Mid-Term	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Other City Documents Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS

1.7.b Future considerations should include the development of an indoor facility for tennis and pickleball, and a fieldhouse (other court sports) at the Sports Complex.	TBD	Staff Time	Mid-Term	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Other City Documents Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS
1.7.c The City should offer to support others in the goal of developing additional recreation facilities.	TBD	Staff Time	Ongoing	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Other City Documents Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS

Objective 1.8: Plan for continued and increased public access to the community's shorelines				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
1.8.a Implement the conceptual plans developed for City Beach, Memorial Field, and the waterfront area, as well as other publicly owned waterfront areas. Continue to explore opportunities for additional public water access. Work with future developers to maintain and expand trails, lake and water access. Include adding parking at Cedars Park. With upgrades and rebuild of the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant, water access should be included in the design. In the near term, the City should consider options and usability of Grey Way ROA and consider elements of the Pend d'Oreille Bay Trail Master Plan in Humbird Park.	Refer to the cost table for the City Beach and Memorial Field estimates	Staff Time	Mid-Term	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Other City Documents Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS
Objective 1.9: Explore alternative uses for community open spaces such as plazas or community gardens				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
1.9.a Consider a variety of alternative uses for community open spaces that may be too small to function as parks, such as plazas or community gardens identified as a goal in the Sandpoint Comprehensive Plan. Based on trends and demand, the Division should look for opportunities to improve these spaces and promote their uses as special event spaces. Small parklet spaces, splash pads, small performance areas, small social gathering settings should be developed in these open spaces.	Will vary based on amenities added	Staff Time	Short-Term	Staff Input Public Input Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS

Objective 1.10: Future land acquisition				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
1.10.a The City should consider purchasing the Baldy property which is currently being used as a disc golf course from the City Water Fund to develop as a park which may include some disc golf, among other recreation opportunities and comfort and convenience amenities, such as picnic tables. If the City were to acquire this park, a plan to improve pedestrian access across the railroad tracks must also be considered and implemented. Additionally, the City should look to acquire additional property for park development or open space in north Sandpoint and consider a dog park at this location. The City should encourage the developer of the former University of Idaho property to put in a neighborhood park to serve that development. Finally, the City should consider the land swap being discussed with the owners of the Edgewater Resort as identified in the City Beach conceptual plans. Make improvements and standards at this property including additional recreation opportunities and comfort and convenience amenities such as picnic tables. • Improve pedestrian access across the railroad tracks.	Will vary based on amenities added	TBD	Short-Term	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS

Objective 1.11: Implement Site Specific Master Plans for War Memorial Field, City Breach and Downtown Waterfront, Travers Great Northern Centennial Sports Complex once completed				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
1.11.a The City should implement the site-specific master plans for War Memorial Field, City Beach, Sandcreek Downtown Waterfront and Travers/Centennial/Great Northern Sports Complex once completed. Implementation of these plans will address many of the low scoring components identified in the level of service analysis in this report.	Refer to the cost tables for the respective projects	TBD	Mid-Term	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Other City Documents Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS

Goal 2: Support and improve recreation programs and services as an important component of Sandpoint community life.				
Objective 2.1: Monitor the participation and usage of the programs, facilities, and services and make appropriate adjustments based on collected data				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
2.1.a The Division should partner with and support others to provide programming. • The Division should develop Memorandum of Agreements (MOA) when appropriate defining roles, expectations, and reporting methods to increase efficiencies.	TBD	Staff Time	Ongoing	Staff Input Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS

Objective 2.2: Enhance special event programming				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
2.2.a Based on trends and demand, look for opportunities, either solely or with partners, to expand and enhance special event programming. Look for new special events, possibly community, or season of the year themed.	TBD	Staff Time	Ongoing	Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team GRASP® LOS
2.2.b Expand community events and activities, either solely or through alternative providers, adding more opportunities at City Beach, downtown, and at the waterfront, and more Arts and Cultural events in the parks as part of its Arts, Culture and Preservation Master Plan. As new events are developed, continue to monitor trends to stay current with programming and demand. Look to add new events that will attract all members of the Sandpoint community and support economic development.	TBD	Varies based on events and event management	Ongoing	Staff Input Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team
Objective 2.3: Explore opportunities to increase recreational opportunities based on demand and trends by partnering with others and providing distinctive, unduplicated programming through the City only				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
2.3.a Expand program opportunities for fitness/wellness, environmental education, winter activities, and adult non-sport programs by partnering with other service providers. The new strategy would be one of partnering with other service providers to provide recreation programs and services. The Division would promote the programs offered by other service providers. Program registrations, collections of fees, hiring of instructors and officials would all be handled by other service providers and only providing distinctive, unduplicated programming itself.	TBD	Varies based on programs and contracted services	Short-Term	Staff Input Public Input Community Survey Consultant Team
2.3.b As new programs and services are developed and implemented, continue to create a balance between passive and active recreation.	TBD	Staff Time	Ongoing	Consultant Team

Objective 2.4: Continue to monitor affordability of programs and services				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
2.4.a As the Division shifts to changing their programming strategy to one of partnering with other service providers, the Division needs to monitor the affordability of the programs offered.	TBD	Staff Time	Ongoing	Staff Input Public Input Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team
Objective 2.5: Continue to work with the community recreation, arts, culture, and preservation organizations to ensure appropriate facilities are available				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
2.5.a Continue to look for opportunities to provide facilities for events such as the Festival and other culture, recreational, and art activities.	Will vary depending on the specific needs of each event	Staff Time	Ongoing	Staff Input Public Input Community Survey Other City Documents Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team
Objective 2.6: Develop a structure to explore partnerships to enhance programming opportunities through an RFP process				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
2.6.a Develop a structure to look for opportunities to partner with YMCA, School Districts, Medical Centers/Hospitals, Service/Civic Organizations, Chamber of Commerce, Youth Sports Associations, Adult Sports Associations, Neighboring Counties/ Cities, Private Alternative Providers, and Churches to enhance programming for the Sandpoint community.	TBD	Staff Time	Ongoing	Staff Input Public Input Community Survey Other City Documents Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team

Goal 3: Continue to improve organizational efficiencies.				
Objective 3.1: Implement new mission and vision statements				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
3.1.a Implement and publicize the new Mission and Vision statements developed as part of this master plan. It should be reviewed and updated upon completion of the Arts, Culture and Preservation Master Plan in late 2020.	TBD	Staff Time	Short-Term	Staff Input Leadership Interviews Consultant Team
Objective 3.2: ensure the organizational structure of the Division remains efficient				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
3.2.a Perform regular review of organization structure and performance to ensure the maximum level of staff efficiency and greatest usage of available resources to provide the best facilities, programs, and services to the Sandpoint community.	TBD	Staff Time	Short-Term	Staff Input Leadership Interviews Consultant Team
Objective 3.3: Enhance and improve external communication regarding Division activities, programs, and services to increase community awareness				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
3.3.a Develop a Marketing Plan for the Division that includes but is not limited to: • Branding of the Division • Use of social media • Use and development of the Division's website • Partnership opportunities Specifically enhance communication strategies to target youth and young adults. Implement a Youth Council/Advisory Group to provide ideas, feedback and promote recreational activities for youth.	TBD	Staff Time	Ongoing	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Consultant Team

3.3.b Continue and expand use of community surveys and other feedback tools and platforms available through the City to refresh community needs, desires, and priorities.	TBD	Staff Time	Ongoing	Staff Input Leadership Interviews Consultant Team
3.3.c Review Marketing Plan annually. Update every 5 years.	TBD	Staff Time	Ongoing	Consultant Team
Objective 3.4: Staff appropriately to meet current demand and maintain established quality of service				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
3.4.a As the new conceptual plans are implemented and as parks and facility upgrades are made, it is important to ensure that staffing levels are adequate to maintain current performance standards. The intensity of maintenance practices required for upgraded facilities and amenities requires additional staff resources be focused in this area. It is important to evaluate staffing levels to maintain current and desired performance standards.	TBD	Additional FT or PT or seasonal staff	Ongoing	Staff Input Leadership Interviews Consultant Team
3.4.b The Division should consider changing their programming strategy to one of partnering with other service providers. The management of recreation programming could be managed seasonally as staff resources permit under guidance of Director of Parks and Recreation.	TBD	TBD	Ongoing	Staff Input Leadership Interviews Consultant Team
3.4.c The operations of the concessions should be considered for outsourcing to a private vendor.	TBD	Staff Time	Short-Term	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Consultant Team
3.4.d Review current volunteer program and look for additional volunteer opportunities.	TBD	Staff Time	Short-Term	Staff Input Consultant Team

Objective 3.5: Review current Joint Operating Agreements (JOA) with the school district and identify how it is benefiting the Parks and Recreation Division – maximize potential				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
3.5.a Review current Joint Use Agreements with schools to maximize potential.	TBD	Staff Time	Ongoing	**Staff Input** **Leadership Interviews** **Community Survey** **Consultant Team**
3.5.b Ensure all existing and future partnerships are accurately portrayed in a signed agreement.	TBD	Staff Time	Ongoing	**Staff Input** **Leadership Interviews** **Community Survey** **Consultant Team**
Objective 3.6: Explore additional partnerships to assist with funding, volunteering, and marketing				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
3.6.a Explore additional partnership opportunities to assist with funding programs, facilities, and events and provide ongoing operating support.	TBD	Staff Time	Ongoing	Staff Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Consultant Team
3.6.b Explore additional partnership opportunities to assist with volunteering for programs, facilities, and events.	TBD	Staff Time	Ongoing	Staff Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Consultant Team
Objective 3.7: Work with other Divisions to increase safety and security				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
3.7.a Work with the Police and other Divisions to improve safety and security in the parks. • Improve lighting • Improve police presence	TBD	TBD	Ongoing	Staff Input Leadership Interviews Consultant Team

3.7.b Schedule semi- annual walk thru to conduct a security and safety audit, involving City divisions (Parks, Recreation, and Open Space, City Central Services, Building Official, and Public Safety, Police and Fire).	TBD	TBD	Ongoing	Staff Input Leadership Interviews Consultant Team
Objective 3.8: Design and work toward a zero waste parks and recreation system				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
3.8.a Develop a proactive "Pack It Out" Trash Program.	TBD	Staff Time	Short-Term	Staff Input Consultant Team
3.8.b Work to Increase recycling and other sustainable practices.	TBD	Staff Time	Short-Term Ongoing	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Consultant Team
Goal 4: Increase Financial Opportunities				
Objective 4.1: Explore additional funding options				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
4.1.a Continue to seek alternative funding sources that include donations, grants, and other. • Communication with current sponsors and donors should be conducted on a regular basis to ensure their continued positive relationships with the Division.	TBD	Staff Time	Short-Term Ongoing	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Consultant Team

Objective 4.2: Explore opportunities to increase sponsorships				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
4.2.a Explore additional sponsorship opportunities and build on existing sponsorships.	TBD	Staff Time TBD Potential increased revenue or decreased expenses	Ongoing	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Consultant Team
4.2.b Ensure all existing and future sponsorships are accurately portrayed in a signed sponsorship agreement.	TBD	Staff Time	Short-Term Ongoing	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Consultant Team
Objective 4.3: Pursue grant and philanthropic opportunities				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
4.3.a Continue to pursue grant opportunities and philanthropic donations.	TBD	Staff Time	Short-Term Ongoing	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Consultant Team
Objective 4.4: Review current user fees for residents/non-residents				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
4.4.a The City should review its current fee structure for parks and recreation programming and consider adjusting the fees charged to align with current and future maintenance and capital improvement needs. Affordability must be considered and balanced with maintenance and operational costs.	TBD	Staff Time	Short-Term	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Consultant Team

Objective 4.5: Pursue alternative funding opportunities				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
4.5.a The Division should explore new and alternative funding sources with the other City divisions to explore partnerships and alternate funding sources.	TBD	Staff Time	Short-Term	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Consultant Team
Objective 4.6: Explore capital funding opportunities				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
4.6.a Consider use of new local option tax as a funding source	TBD	TBD	Short-Term	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Consultant Team
4.6.b Consider a bond referendum as a funding source	TBD	TBD	Short-Term	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Consultant Team
4.6.c Consider public-private partnerships as a funding source	TBD	TBD	Short-Term	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Consultant Team
4.6.d Additional opportunities that should be explored are equipment replacement funds, and repair and reserve funds for facilities.	TBD	TBD	Short-Term	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Consultant Team

Objective 4.7: Explore dedicated funding sources for parks maintenance				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
4.7.a The Division should explore the possibility of partnering with local businesses to sponsor the park maintenance for specific parks in exchange for specific event advertising opportunities.	TBD	Staff Time	Short-Term	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Consultant Team
4.7.b Field and facility use fees and attendee fees should also be revisited as discussed above.	TBD	Staff Time	Short-Term Ongoing	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Consultant Team
Objective 4.8: Park specific conceptual plans implementation funding				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
4.8.a The Division should make funding implementation of the Park Specific Conceptual Plans a priority. Phasing should be considered.	TBD	TBD	Short-Term	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team
Objective 4.9: Review cost recovery policies				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
4.9.a The Division should explore conducting a Cost Recovery study to look at the Division's expenses and revenues to determine if an appropriate cost recovery goal and strategies to accomplish said goal.	$35,000-$50,000	TBD	Mid-Term	Staff Input Public Input Leadership Interviews Community Survey Other City Documents Facility Assessment/ LOS Consultant Team

Objective 4.10: Explore additional funding sources				
Actions	**Capital Cost Estimate**	**Operational Budget Impact**	**Timeframe to Complete**	**Source**
4.10.a The Division should explore the additional funding sources identified in the Funding Analysis section of this Master Plan. In partnering with others or solely, the Division should seek revenue opportunities through food or other service concessions and potential ground or facility leases for activities such as the carousel or recreation-focused businesses who may be interested in operating at City-owned sites such as the Sand Creek bank and parking area.	TBD	Staff Time	Short-Term	Staff Input Leadership Interviews Consultant Team

APPENDIX A: GRASP® COMPONENT BASED METHOD FOR LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

A. GRASP® GLOSSARY

Buffer: see catchment area

Catchment area: a circular map overlay that radiates outward in all directions from an asset and represents a reasonable travel distance from the edge of the circle to the asset. Used to indicate access to an asset in a level of service assessment

Component: an amenity such as a playground, picnic shelter, basketball court, or athletic field that allows people to exercise, socialize, and maintain a healthy physical, mental, and social wellbeing

Geo-Referenced Amenities Standards Process® (GRASP®): a proprietary composite-values methodology that takes quality and functionality of assets and amenities into account in a level of service assessment

GRASP® Level of service (LOS): the extent to which a recreation system provides community access to recreational assets and amenities

GRASP®-IT audit tool: an instrument developed for assessing the quality and other characteristics of parks, trails, and other public lands and facilities. The tested, reliable, and valid tool, is used to conduct inventories of more than 100 park systems nationwide.

Low-score component: a component given a GRASP® score of "1" or "0" as it fails to meet expectations

Lower-service area: an area of a city that has some GRASP® level of service but falls below the minimum standard threshold for the overall level of service

Modifier: a basic site amenity that supports users during a visit to a park or recreation site, to include elements such as restrooms, shade, parking, drinking fountains, seating, BBQ grills, security lighting, and bicycle racks among others

No-service area: an area of a city with no GRASP® level of service

Perspective: a map or data quantification, such as a table or chart, produced using the GRASP® methodology that helps illustrate how well a given set of recreational assets serves a community

Radius: see catchment area

Recreational connectivity: the extent to which community recreational resources are transitionally linked to allow for easy and enjoyable travel between them.

Recreational trail: a soft or hard surface, an off-street path that promotes active or passive movement through parklands or natural areas. Recreational trails are typically planned and managed by parks and recreation professionals or departments.

Service area: all or part of a catchment area ascribed a particular GRASP® score that reflects a level of service provided by a recreational asset, a set of assets, or an entire recreation system

Threshold: a minimum level of service standard typically determined based on community expectations

Trail: any off-street or on-street connection dedicated to pedestrian, bicycle, or other non-motorized users

Trail network: a functional and connected part of a trail system within which major barrier crossings, including such things as crosswalks, pedestrian underpasses, or bridges. Typically separated from other trail networks by missing trail connections or by such barriers as roadways, rivers, or railroad tracks.
Trail system: all trails in a community that serve pedestrian, bicycle, and alternative transportation users for purposes of both recreation and transportation

Transportation trail: a hard surface trail, such as a city sidewalk, intended for traveling from one place to another in a community or region. Typically runs outside of parklands and is managed by Public Works or another city utility department.

B. GRASP® COMPONENTS AND DEFINITIONS

GRASP® OUTDOOR COMPONENT LIST

GRASP® Outdoor Component Type	Definition
Adventure Course	An area designated for activities such as ropes courses, zip-lines, challenge courses. The type specified in the comments.
Amusement Ride	Carousel, train, go-carts, bumper cars, or other ride-upon features. The ride has an operator and controlled access.
Aquatics Complex	An aquatic complex has at least one immersion pool and other features intended for aquatic recreation.
Aquatics, Lap Pool	A human-made basin designed for people to immerse themselves in water and intended for swimming laps.
Aquatics, Leisure Pool	A human-made basin designed for people to immerse themselves in water and intended for leisure water activities. May include zero-depth entry, slides, and spray features.
Aquatics, Spray Pad	A water play feature without immersion intended for interaction with moving water.
Aquatics, Therapy Pool	Temperature controlled pool intended for rehabilitation and therapy.
Basketball Court	A dedicated full-sized outdoor court with two goals.
Basketball, Practice	A basketball goal for half-court play or practice that includes goals in spaces associated with other uses.
Batting Cage	A stand-alone facility that has pitching machines and restricted entry.
Bike Complex	A facility that accommodates various bike skills activities with multiple features or skill areas.

Bike Course	A designated area for non-motorized bicycle use, constructed of concrete, wood, or compacted earth. May include a pump track, velodrome, skills course.
Camping, Defined	Defined campsites that may include a variety of facilities such as restrooms, picnic tables, water supply. Quantity based on official agency count.
Camping, Undefined	Indicates allowance for users to stay overnight in the outdoors in undefined sites. Undefined camping receives a quantity of one for each park or location. Use this component when the quantity of sites is not available or for dispersed camping.
Climbing, Designated	A designated natural or human-made facility provided or managed by an agency for recreation climbing not limited to play.
Climbing, General	Indicates allowance for users to participate in a climbing activity. Use a quantity of one for each park or other location.
Concession	A facility used for the selling, rental, or other provision of goods and services to the public.
Diamond Field	Describes softball and baseball fields of all kinds suitable for organized diamond sports games. Not specific to size or age-appropriateness.
Diamond Field, Complex	Many ballfields at a single location suitable for tournaments.
Diamond Field, Practice	An open or grassy area used for the practice of diamond sports. Distinguished from ballfield in that it doesn't lend itself to organized diamond sports games and from open turf by the presence of a backstop.
Disc Golf	Describes a designated area for disc golf. Quantities: 18 hole course = 1; 9 hole course = .5
Dog Park	An area explicitly designated as an off-leash area for dogs and their guardians.
Educational Experience	Signs, structures, or features that provide an educational, cultural, or historical experience. Assign a quantity of one for each contiguous site. Distinguished from public art by the presence of interpretive signs or other information.
Equestrian Facility	An area designated for equestrian use. Typically applied to facilities other than trails.
Event Space	A designated area or facility for an outdoor class, performance, or special event, including an amphitheater, bandshell, stage.
Fitness Course	One or more features intended for personal fitness activities. Assign a quantity of one for each complete grouping.
Game Court	Outdoor court designed for a game other than tennis, basketball, volleyball, as distinguished from a multi-use pad, including bocce, shuffleboard, lawn bowling. The type specified in the comments. Quantity counted per court.
Garden, Community	Describes any garden area that provides community members a place to have a personal vegetable or flower garden.

Garden, Display	Describes any garden area that is designed and maintained to provide a focal point or destination, including a rose garden, fern garden, native plant garden, wildlife/habitat garden, an arboretum.
Golf	A course designed and intended for the sport of golf. Counted per 18 holes. Quantities: 18 hole course = 1; 9 hole course = .5
Golf, Miniature	A course designed and intended for use as a multi-hole golf putting game.
Golf, Practice	An area designated for golf practice or lessons, including driving ranges and putting greens.
Horseshoe Court	A designated area for the game of horseshoes, including permanent pits of regulation length. Quantity counted per court.
Horseshoes Complex	Several regulation horseshoe courts in a single location suitable for tournaments.
Ice Hockey	Regulation size outdoor rink explicitly built for ice hockey games and practice. General ice skating included in "Winter Sport."
Inline Hockey	Regulation size outdoor rink built specifically for in-line hockey games and practice.
Loop Walk	Opportunity to complete a circuit on foot or by non-motorized travel mode. Suitable for use as an exercise circuit or leisure walking. Quantity of one for each park or other location unless more than one distinct course is present.
Multi-Use Pad	A painted, paved area for games such as hopscotch, 4 square, tetherball. Often found in schoolyards. As distinguished from "Games Court," which is typically single-use.
Natural Area	Describes an area in a park that contains plants and landforms that are remnants of or replicate undisturbed native regions of the local ecology. It can include grasslands, woodlands, and wetlands.
Open Turf	A grassy area that is not suitable for programmed field sports due to size, slope, location, or physical obstructions. May be used for games of catch, tag, or other informal play and uses that require an open grassy area.
Other	An active or passive component that does not fall under any different component definition. Specified in comments.
Passive Node	A place that is designed to create a pause or particular focus within a park and includes seating areas, plazas, overlooks. Not intended for programmed use.

Pickleball Court	A designated court designed primarily for pickleball play.
Picnic Ground	A designated area with a grouping of picnic tables suitable for organized picnic activities. Account for individual picnic tables as Comfort and Convenience modifiers.
Playground, Destination	A destination playground is intended to attract families from the entire community. Typically has restrooms and parking on-site. May include special features like a climbing wall, spray feature, or adventure play.
Playground, Local	A playground that is intended to serve the needs of the surrounding neighborhood. Includes developed playgrounds and designated nature play areas. Park generally does not have restrooms or on-site parking.
Public Art	Any art installation on public property. Assign a quantity of one for each contiguous site.
Rectangular Field Complex	Several rectangular fields in a single location suitable for tournament use.
Rectangular Field, Large	Describes a specific field large enough to host one adult rectangular field sports game such as soccer, football, lacrosse, rugby, and field hockey. The approximate field size is 180’ x 300’ (60 x 100 yards). The field may have goals and lines specific to an individual sport that may change with the permitted use.
Rectangular Field, Multiple	Describes an area large enough to host one adult rectangular field sports game and a minimum of one other event/game, but with an undetermined number of actual fields. This category describes a large open grassy area arranged in any manner of configurations for any number of rectangular field sports. Sports may include but are not limited to: soccer, football, lacrosse, rugby, and field hockey. The field may have goals and lines specific to an individual sport that may change with the permitted use.
Rectangular Field, Small	Describes a specific field too small to host a regulation adult rectangular field sports game but accommodates at least one youth field sports game. Sports may include but are not limited to: soccer, football, lacrosse, rugby, and field hockey. A field may have goals and lines specific to a particular sport that may change with a permitted use.
Shelter, Large	A shade shelter or pavilion large enough to accommodate a group picnic or other event for a minimum of 13 seated. Address lack of seating in scoring.
Shelter, Small	A shade shelter, large enough to accommodate a family picnic or other event for approximately 4-12 persons with seating for a minimum of 4. Covered benches for seating up to 4 people included as a modifier in comfort and convenience scoring and should not be included here.
Skate Feature	A stand-alone feature primarily for wheel sports such as skateboarding, in-line skating. The component may or may not allow freestyle biking. May be associated with a playground but is not part of it. Categorize dedicated bike facilities as Bike Course.
Skate Park	An area set aside primarily for wheel sports such as skateboarding, in-line skating. The park may or may not allow freestyle biking. May be specific to one user group or allow for several user types. It can accommodate multiple abilities. Typically has a variety of concrete or modular features.

Target Range	A designated area for practice or competitive target activities. The type specified, such as archery or firearms, in comments.
Tennis Complex	Multiple regulation courts in a single location with amenities suitable for tournament use.
Tennis Court	One standard regulation court is suitable for recreation or competitive play. Quick Start or other non-standard types specified in comments.
Tennis, Practice Wall	A wall intended for practicing tennis.
Track, Athletic	A multi-lane, regulation-sized running track appropriate for track and field events.
Trail, Multi-Use	A trail, paved or unpaved, is separated from the road and provides recreational opportunities or connection to walkers, bikers, rollerbladers, and equestrian users. Paths that make a circuit within a single site are Loop Walks.
Trail, Primitive	A path, unpaved, located within a park or natural area that provides recreational opportunities or connections to users. Minimal surface improvements that may or may not meet accessibility standards.
Trail, Water	A river, stream, canal, or other waterway used as a trail for floating, paddling, or other watercraft.
Trailhead	A designated staging area at a trail access point. May include restrooms, an information kiosk, parking, drinking water, trash receptacles, seating.
Volleyball Court	One full-sized court. May be hard or soft surface, including grass and sand. May have permanent or portable posts and nets.
Wall Ball Court	Walled courts associated with sports such as handball and racquetball. The type specified in the comments.
Water Access, Developed	A developed water access point that includes docks, piers, kayak courses, boat ramps, fishing facilities. Specified in comments, including quantity for each unique type.
Water Access, General	Measures a user's general ability to access the edge of open water. May include undeveloped shoreline. Typically receives a quantity of one for each contiguous site.
Water Feature	A passive water-based amenity that provides a visual focal point that includes fountains and waterfalls.
Water, Open	A body of water such as a pond, stream, river, wetland with open water, lake, or reservoir.
Winter Sport	An area designated for a winter sport or activity such as a downhill ski area, nordic ski area, sledding hill, toboggan run, recreational ice. The type specified in the comments.

GRASP® Indoor Component Type	Definition
Arts and Crafts	A room with a non-carpeted floor, built-in storage for materials, and a sink. Often adjacent to a kiln room.

Auditorium/Theater	A large room explicitly designed as a performance/lecture space that includes a built-in stage, seating and can accommodate stage lighting and sound amplification.
Childcare/Preschool	A room or space with built-in secure entry and cabinets, a small toilet, designated outdoor play area. Intended for short-term child watch or half or full-day preschool use.
Fitness/Dance	A room with resilient flooring and mirrors.
Food - Counter Service	Staffed food service with a commercial kitchen and no waiter services.
Food - Full Service	Staffed food service with a commercial kitchen and dining room with waiter services.
Food - Vending	A non-staffed area with vending machines or self-service food options.
Gallery/Exhibits	A space intended for the display of art, interpretive information, or another type of exhibit. Typically has adequate lighting, open wall space, and room for circulation.
Sport Court	An active recreation space that can accommodate basketball, volleyball, or other indoor court sports with one or more courts designated in quantity.
Track, Indoor	Course with painted lanes, banked corners, resilient surface, and marked distances suitable for exercise walking, jogging, or running.
Kitchen - Kitchenette	Area for preparing, warming, or serving food.
Kitchen - Commercial	A kitchen that meets local codes for commercial preparation food services.
Lobby/Entryway	An area at the entry of a building intended for sitting and waiting or relaxing.
Multi-Purpose Room	A space that can host a variety of activities, including events, classes, meetings, banquets, medical or therapeutic uses, etc. It also includes rooms or areas designated or intended as games rooms, libraries, or lounges. Rooms may be dividable.
Patio/Outdoor Seating	Outdoor space or seating area designed to be used exclusively in conjunction with indoor space and primarily accessed through an indoor space.
Retail/Pro-shop	An area for retail sales of sporting equipment, gifts. Typically has direct access from outdoors and can be secured separately from the rest of a building or facility.
Sauna/Steam Room	A facility with built-in seating and a heat source intended for heat therapy. May be steam or dry heat.
Specialty Services	Any specialty services available at an indoor location.
Specialty Training	Any specialty training available at an indoor location that includes gymnastics and circuit training.
Weight/Cardio Equipment	A room or area with weight and cardio equipment, resilient or anti-bacterial flooring, adequate ventilation, and ceiling heights appropriate for high-intensity workouts.
Woodshop	A room with wood-working equipment that contains an adequate power supply and ventilation.
Note: Include any component from the outdoor component list as an indoor component	

C. INVENTORY METHODS AND PROCESS

The series of detailed GIS (Geographic Information System) inventory conducted by the planning team first prepared a preliminary list of existing components using aerial photography and GIS data. Components identified in aerial photos were located and labeled.

Next, the consulting team conducted field visits to confirm or revise preliminary component data, make notes regarding sites or assets, and develop an understanding of the system. The inventory for this study focused primarily on components at public parks. Each element was evaluated to ensure it was serving its intended function, noting any parts in need of refurbishment, replacement, or removal.
The inventory also included recording of site comfort and convenience amenities such as shade, drinking fountains, restrooms, called modifiers.

Collection of the following information during site visits:

- Component type and geo-location
- Component functionality
  - Based assessment scoring on the condition, size, site capacity, and overall quality. The inventory team used the following three-tier rating system to evaluate these:
    - 1 = Below Expectations
    - 2 = Meets Expectations
    - 3 = Exceeds Expectations
- Site modifiers
- Site design and ambiance
- Site photos
- General comments

ASSET SCORING

All components were scored based on condition, size, site capacity, and overall quality as they reflect the expected quality of recreational features. Beyond quality and functionality of components, however, GRASP® Level of Service analysis also considers important aspects of a park or recreation site. Not all parks are created equal, and their surroundings may determine the quality of a user's experience. For example, the GRASP® system acknowledges the essential differences between identical playground structures as displayed in the following images:

In addition to scoring components, GRASP®-IT assesses each park site or indoor facility for its comfort, convenience, and ambient qualities. These qualities include the availability of amenities such as restrooms, drinking water, shade, scenery. These modifier values then serve to enhance or amplify component scores at any given location.

Compiled GIS information collected during the site visit includes all GIS data and staff input. This review packet consists of the most recent GIS data displayed by location on an aerial photograph. An accompanying data sheet for each site lists modifier and component scores as well as observations and comments.

Analysis of the existing parks, open space, trails, and recreation systems are often conducted to determine how the systems are serving the public. Level of Service (LOS) in parks and recreation master plans defines the capacity of the various components and facilities that make up the system to meet the needs of the public in terms of the size or quantity of a given facility per unit of population.

D. LIST OF LOW-SCORING COMPONENTS AND MODIFIERS

Outdoor Low Scoring Components

Location	Component	Quantity	Score	Comments
City Beach and Windbag Marina	Horseshoe Court	2	1	Needs repairs
City Beach and Windbag Marina	Playground, Local	1	1	Limited play features for a signature park
City Beach and Windbag Marina	Picnic Ground	1	1	Limited picnic areas
Dover City Park	Dog Park	1	1	Balto Dog Park has limited area and amenities
Fairgrounds Park	Multi-Use Pad	1	1	Shared with basketball
Farmin Park	Open Turf	1	1	Turf in rough shape
Farmin Stidwell	Playground, Local	1	1	Typical school playgrounds score low
Farmin Stidwell	Playground, Local	1	1	Typical school playgrounds score low
Farmin Stidwell	Rectangular Field, Multiple	1	1	This field is rougher than the other field at this school
Hickory St. Park	Skate Feature	1	1	Very limited
Hickory St. Park	Playground, Local	1	1	No ADA accessible ramp play, limited play structure
Hope Elementary School Gym	Rectangular Field, Small	1	1	Used for flag football practice
Lake Pend Oreille Alternative High School	Open Turf	1	1	Limited area
Lake Pend Oreille Alternative High School	Basketball, Practice	2	1	Poor condition and on parking lot
Lakeview Park	Playground, Local	1	1	Pea gravel surfacing and plastic edging but structure is probably OK
Lakeview Park	Shelter, Large	1	1	Shelter near treatment plant. Not ADA accessible
Lakeview Park	Basketball Court	1	1	Overlay
Lakeview Park	Picnic Ground	1	1	Limited tables and grills
Lakeview Park	Tennis, Practice Wall	1	1	Overlay
Little Sandcreek Watershed	Trailhead	1	0	Potential trailhead at third switchback
Northside Elementary School Gym	Rectangular Field, Small	1	1	Used for flag football practice
Pine St Park	Open Turf	1	1	Small area under trees is limited
Pine Street Woods	Trailhead	1	1	Pine street woods trailhead. Sledding hill
Ponderay Field of Dreams Site	Rectangular Field, Complex	1	0	Future Field of dreams, synthetic, indoor facility possibility
Sagle Elementary School Gym	Rectangular Field, Small	1	1	Used for flag football practice
Sherwood Forest	Trailhead	1	1	Currently limited
Southside Elementary School Gym	Rectangular Field, Small	1	1	Used for flag football practice
Sports Complex	Skate Park	1	1	Edge is damaged. Small
Sports Complex	Bike Course	1	1	Could be formalized and improved
Sports Complex	Passive Node	1	1	Poor railing and access
Syringa Heights Trailhead	Trailhead	1	1	Currently limited
War Memorial Field	Rectangular Field, Large	1	1	Overlay
War Memorial Field	Event Space	1	1	Overlay
Washington Elementary	Multi-Use Pad	1	1	Poor condition and limited access
Washington Elementary	Playground, Local	1	1	Typical school playgrounds score low
Washington Elementary	Rectangular Field, Small	1	1	Poor condition and limited access
Washington Elementary	Rectangular Field, Small	1	1	Poor condition and limited access
Washington Elementary	Basketball Court	1	1	Poor condition and limited access
YMCA	Open Turf	1	1	Poor condition and limited access

Low Scoring Outdoor Modifiers

Park or Location	Design and Ambiance	Drinking Fountains	Seating	BBQ Grills	Dog Stations	Security Lighting	Bike Racks	Restrooms	Shade and Shade Trees	Connections to Trails	Park Access	On-Site Parking	Seasonal Plantings	Ornamental Plantings	Picnic Tables
Baldfoot Disc Golf Course	2	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	3	3	2	2	0	0	1
Bonner County Fairgrounds	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	2
Boyer Ave End	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cedars Park	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chamber of Commerce Land	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
City Beach and Windbag Marina	2	2	2	2	0	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	0	0	1
Creekside Trail	2	0	2	0	2	2	0	0	1	3	2	2	0	0	0
Dog Beach Park	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dover City Park	2	2	2	0	2	0	0	2	2	2	2	2	0	0	2
Euclid Ave End	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fairgrounds Park	2	2	2	0	0	0	2	2	2	0	2	1	0	0	2
Farmin Landing	2	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	0
Farmin Park	1	2	2	2	0	2	2	0	2	0	2	2	0	0	2
Farmin Stidwell	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	2	0	0	0
Gateway to Sand Creek	2	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0
Grey Way	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hickory St. Park	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	1	0	2	2	0	2	1
Humbird Mill Park	3	0	2	0	2	0	0	1	2	3	2	2	0	0	0
Jeff Jones Square	2	2	2	0	0	2	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Lake Pend Oreille Alternative High School	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1
Lakeview Park	2	2	1	2	2	0	0	2	2	2	2	1	0	2	1
Little Sandcreek Watershed	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	1	0	0	0	0
Main Street	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
McNearney Park	1	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
Mickinnick Trail Head	2	2	1	0	2	0	2	2	1	3	2	2	0	0	1
Old Ninth Grade Center Field	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	1
Pine St Park	2	2	1	0	0	0	2	1	2	2	2	2	0	0	1
Pine Street Woods	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ponderay Field of Dreams Site	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ponderay Lakeshore Connection Project	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sand Creek Park	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	2	2	2	0	0	0
Sandpoint Community Hall	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	2	1	0	1	0
Sandpoint School Campus	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0
Selkirk Loop Rest Area	2	0	1	0	2	2	2	2	0	3	2	2	0	2	0
Senior Center	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0
Sewer Treatment Plant	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sherwood Forest	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shooting Range	2	2	2	2	0	2	0	1	2	0	2	2	0	0	0
Sports Complex	2	2	2	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	0	0
Third Avenue Pier	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	1
U of I Property	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
War Memorial Field	2	2	2	0	0	0	2	2	2	1	2	1	0	0	0
Washington Elementary	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	2	1	0	0	0
YMCA	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0

Red highlighted modifiers scored low. Modifiers, in yellow that was not present at the time of site visits, scored a zero. These scores are not meant to imply that all parks and facilities should have all modifiers but instead that the presence of modifiers positively impacts the user experience.

E. COMPOSITE-VALUES LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS METHODOLOGY

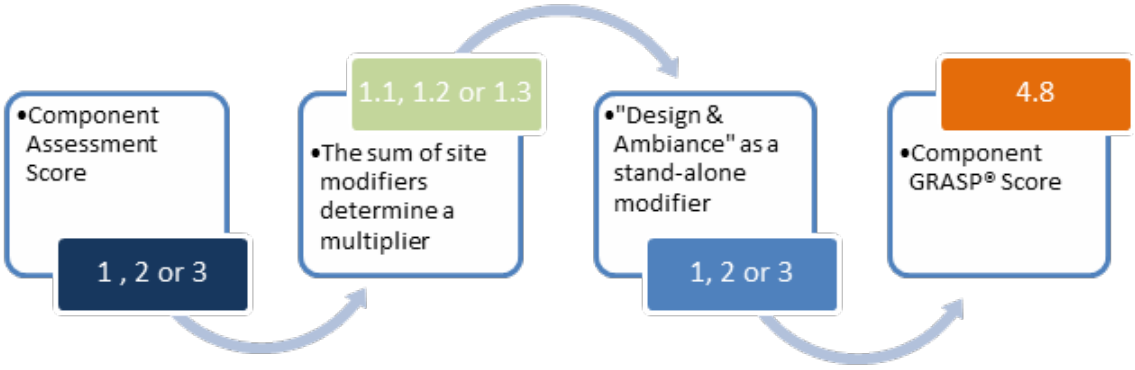
Level of Service (LOS) measures how parks, open spaces, trails, and facilities in Sandpoint serve the community. They may be used to benchmark current conditions and to direct future planning efforts.

Why Level of Service?

LOS indicates the ability of people to connect with nature and pursue active lifestyles. It can have implications for health and wellness, the local economy, and the quality of life. Further, LOS for a park and recreation system tends to reflect community values. It is often representative of people's connection to their communities and lifestyles focused on outdoor recreation and healthy living. Analysis of the existing parks, open space, trails, and recreation systems are often conducted to determine how the systems are serving the public and the capacity of the various components and facilities to meet the needs of the people.

GRASP® Score

Each park or recreation location, along with all on-site components, has been assigned a GRASP® Score. The GRASP® Score accounts for the assessment score as well as available modifiers and the design and ambiance of a park. The following illustration shows this relationship. A basic algorithm is used to calculate scoring totals, accounting for both component and modifier scores, every park and facility in the inventory. The resulting ratings reflect the overall value of that site. Scores for each inventory site and its components may be found in the GRASP® Inventory Atlas, a supplemental document. Figure X: GRASP® Score calculation.



Catchment Areas

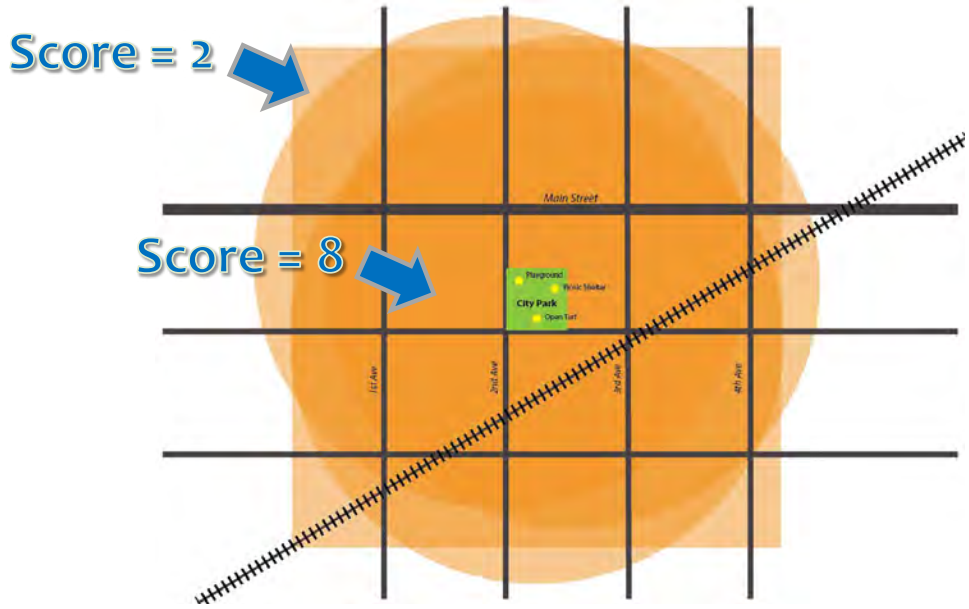
Catchment areas, also called buffers, radii, or service area, are drawn around each component. The GRASP® Score for that component is then applied to that buffer and overlapped with all other component catchment areas. This process yields the data used to create perspective maps and analytical charts.

Perspectives

Maps and data produced using the GRASP® methodology are known as perspectives. Each perspective models service across the study area. The system can be further analyzed to derive statistical information about service in a variety of ways. Maps are utilized along with tables and charts to provide benchmarks or insights a community may use to determine its success in delivering services.

Plotting service areas for multiple components on a map produces a picture that represents the cumulative level of service provided by that set of elements in a geographic area.

This example graphic illustrates the GRASP® process, assuming all three components and the park boundary itself, is scored a "2". The overlap of their service areas yields higher or lower overall scores for different parts of a study area.



On a map, darker shades result from the overlap of multiple service areas and indicate areas served by more or higher quality components. For any given spot, there is a GRASP® Value for that reflects cumulative scoring for nearby assets. Image A, below, provides an example.

Example of GRASP® Level of Service (LOS)

MORE ON UTILIZING GRASP® PERSPECTIVES

GRASP® perspectives are used to evaluate the level of service throughout a community from various points of view. Their purpose is to reveal possible gaps in service and provide a metric to use in understanding a recreation system. However, it is not necessarily beneficial for all parts of the community to score equally in the analyses. Desired Level of Service for a location should depend on the type of service, the characteristics of the place, and other factors such as community need, population growth forecasts, and land use issues. For example, commercial, institutional, and industrial areas might reasonably be expected to have lower Levels of Service for parks and recreation opportunities than residential areas. GRASP® perspectives are intended to focus attention on gap areas for further scrutiny.

Perspectives used in conjunction with other assessment tools such as community needs surveys and a public input process to determine if current levels of service are appropriate in a given location. Plans provide similar levels of service to new, developing neighborhoods. Or it may be determined that different Levels of Service are adequate or suitable. Therefore a new set of criteria may be utilized that differs from existing community patterns to reflect these distinctions.

F. BRIEF HISTORY OF LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

To help standardize parks and recreation planning, universities, agencies, and parks & recreation professionals have long been looking for ways to benchmark and provide "national standards" for how much acreage, how many ballfields, pools, playgrounds, a community should have. In 1906 the fledgling "Playground Association of America" called for playground space equal to 30 square feet per child. In the 1970s and early 1980s, the first detailed published works on these topics began emerging (Gold, 1973, Lancaster, 1983). In time "rule of thumb" ratios emerged with 10 acres of parklands per thousand population becoming the most widely accepted norm. Other normative guides also have been cited as traditional standards but have been less widely accepted. In 1983, Roger Lancaster compiled a book called, "Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines," which was published by the National Park and Recreation Association (NRPA). In this publication, Mr. Lancaster centered on a recommendation "that a park system, at minimum, be composed of a core system of parklands, with a total of 6.25 to 10.5 acres of developed open space per 1,000 population (Lancaster, 1983, p. 56). The guidelines went further to make recommendations regarding an appropriate mix of park types, sizes, service areas, and acreages, and standards regarding the number of available recreational facilities per thousand population. While published by NRPA, the table became widely known as "the NRPA standards," but these were never formally adopted for use by NRPA.

Since that time, various publications have updated and expanded upon possible "standards," several of which have been published by NRPA. Many of these publications did benchmark and other normative research to try and determine what an "average LOS" should be. NRPA and the prestigious American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration, as organizations, have focused in recent years on accreditation standards for agencies, which are less directed towards outputs, outcomes, and performance, and more on planning, organizational structure, and management processes. The popularly referred to "NRPA standards" for LOS, as such, do not exist.

In conducting planning work, it is critical to realize that the above standards can be valuable when referenced as "norms" for capacity, but not necessarily as the target standards for which a community should strive. Each city is different, and many factors that are not addressed by the criteria above. For example:

- Does "developed acreage" include golf courses"? What about indoor and passive facilities?
- What are the standards for skateparks? Ice Arenas? Public Art? Etc.?
- What if it's an urban land-locked community? What if it's a small town surrounded by open Federal lands?
- What about quality and condition? What if there's a bunch of ballfields, but they are not maintained?
- And many other questions.

G. GRASP® (GEO-REFERENCED AMENITIES STANDARDS PROGRAM)

A new methodology for determining the level of service is appropriate to address these and other relevant questions. It is called composite-values methods is applied in communities across the nation in recent years to provide a better way of measuring and portraying the service provided by parks and recreation systems. Primary research and development on this methodology were funded jointly by GreenPlay, LLC, a management consulting firm for parks, open space, and related agencies, Design Concepts, a landscape architecture, and planning firm, and Geowest, a spatial information management firm. The trademarked name for the composite-values methodology process that these three firms use is called GRASP® (Geo-Referenced Amenities Standards Program). For this methodology, capacity is only part of the LOS equation. Consider other factors, including quality, condition, location, comfort, convenience, and ambiance.

Parks, trails, recreation, and open space are part of an overall infrastructure for a community made up of various components, such as playgrounds, multi-purpose fields, passive areas. Explanations and characteristics listed above affect the amount of service provided by the parts of the system follow.

Quality – The service provided by anything, whether it is a playground, soccer field, or swimming pool, is determined in part by its quality. A playground with a variety of features, such as climbers, slides, and swings, provides a higher degree of service than one with nothing but an old teeter-totter and some "monkey-bars."

Condition – The condition of a component within the park system also affects the amount of service it provides. A playground in disrepair with unsafe equipment does not offer the same function as one in good condition. Similarly, a soccer field with a smooth surface of well-maintained grass certainly provides more service than one that is full of weeds, ruts, and other hazards.

Location – To be served by something, you need to be able to get to it. The typical park playground is of more service to people who live within easy reach of it than it is to someone living across town. Therefore, service is dependent upon proximity and access.

Comfort and Convenience – The service provided by a component, such as a playground, is increased by having amenities such as shade, seating, and a restroom nearby. Comfort enhances the experience of using a component. Convenience encourages people to use an element, which increased the amount of

service that it offers. Easy access and the availability of trash receptacles, bike rack, or nearby parking are examples of conveniences that enhance the service provided by a component.

Design and Ambiance – Simple observation proves that places that "feel" right, attract people. A sense of safety and security, as well as pleasant surroundings, attractive views, and a sense of place impact ambiance. A well-designed park is preferable to a poorly designed one, and this enhances the degree of service provided by the components within it.

This methodology records a geographic location of components as well as the capacity and the quantity of each element. Also, it uses comfort, convenience, and ambiance as characteristics that are part of the context and setting of a component. They are not characteristics of the element itself, but when they exist in proximity to a component, they enhance the value of the component.

By combining and analyzing the composite values of each component, it is possible to measure the service provided by a parks and recreation system from a variety of perspectives and for any given location. Typically, this begins with a decision on "relevant components" for the analysis, collection of an accurate inventory of those components, analysis. Maps and tables represent the results of the GRASP® analysis.

H. MAKING JUSTIFIABLE DECISIONS

GRASP® stores all data generated from the GRASP® evaluation in an electronic database that is then available and owned by the agency for use in a variety of ways. The database tracks facilities and programs and can be used to schedule services, maintenance, and the replacement of components. In addition to determining LOS, it can be used to project long-term capital and life-cycle costing needs. All portions of the information are in available standard software and can be produced in a variety of ways for future planning or sharing with the public.

It is important to note that the GRASP® methodology provides not only accurate LOS and facility inventory information, but also works with and integrates with other tools to help agencies make decisions. It is relatively easy to maintain, updatable, and creates easily understood graphic depictions of issues. Combined with a needs assessment, public and staff involvement, program, and financial assessment, GRASP® allows an agency to defensibly make recommendations on priorities for ongoing resource allocations along with capital and operational funding.

I. WALKABILITY

Walkability is an essential consideration in recreation. Various walkability metrics and methodologies have emerged to assist park and recreation managers and planners in understanding this dynamic. These include:

- Walk score
- Walkability TM
- Walkonomics
- RateMy Street
- Walkability App
- Safe Routes to Parks
- Safe Routes to Play
- Safe Routes to School
- Sidewalk and Walkability Inventory

It is vital to take bicycles and public transportation users into account as well as pedestrians. The concept of "complete streets" refers to a built environment that serves various types of users of varying ages and abilities. Many associations and organizations guide on best practices in developing walkable and bikeable complete streets infrastructure. One such entity, the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP, www.apbp.org) actively promotes complete streets in cities around the country. Another such organization, the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO, www.nacto.org), recently released the NACTO Urban Street Design Guide, which provides a full understanding of complete streets based on successful strategies employed in various North American cities. This most comprehensive reference on the topic is a valuable resource for all stakeholders involved in city planning. It proves to be a critical reference in building the cities of tomorrow.

Recreational Connectivity

The infrastructure available to get people to and from destinations is of greater importance than ever before as increasingly people have started to prefer a leisurely walk or bike ride to a trip in the car. People increasingly expect easy access to parks, recreation centers, and other community resources. Employing different modes of travel to include walking and bicycling may be referred to as recreational connectivity.

Recreational connectivity is the ability to access a variety of recreational opportunities or amenities by way of multiple modes of transportation. In addition to recreational trails, this may also include city sidewalks, bicycle paths, bicycle routes, and public transit infrastructure. Of course, the scope of creating and maintaining such a network is a substantial undertaking that involves many players. Along with a community expectation for this type of user-friendly network infrastructure comes the hope that stakeholders work together in the interest of the public good. At the municipal level, this might include public works, law enforcement, private land-owners, public transit operators, and user groups, as well as the local parks and recreation department.

This concept of recreational connectivity is essential within the scope of parks and recreation planning but also has more profound implications for public health, the local economy, and public safety, among other considerations. As more and more people look for non-automotive alternatives to get to and from destinations, a complete network of various transportation options is in higher demand than ever to include walking trails, bicycle paths, bicycle routes, and public transit. Other elements of this infrastructure might consist of street/railroad crossings, sidewalk landscaping, lighting, drainage, and even bike-share and car-share availability.

Where to Start?

Recognizing that trail development occurs at a variety of scales, many trails serve park users only while others are of a citywide or regional extent. Also, people with a destination in mind tend to take the most direct route, while recreationists tend to enjoy loop or circuit trails more than linear pathways. An exemplary trail system provides multiple opportunities for users to utilize trail segments to access different parts of Sandpoint directly or enjoy recreational circuits of various sizes. By employing park trails, city trails, and regional trails, users should ideally be able to select from several options to reach a destination or spend time recreating. Simple, early steps such as creating preferred routes and loops on city sidewalks or low traffic streets are a great place to start.

Connecting People to Trails

As the Sandpoint trail system develops, additional resources are desirable to support users. It may be worthwhile to consider signage and wayfinding strategies, trailheads and access points, public trail maps, and smartphone applications as strategies to connect people to trails and affect positive user experience.

Signage and Wayfinding

Signage and wayfinding strategies can enhance the Sandpoint system by promoting ease of use and improved access to recreational resources. An essential aspect of adequate signage and wayfinding markers is branding. An easily identifiable hierarchy of signage for different types of users assists residents and visitors as they navigate between recreation destinations. Further, a strong brand can imply investment and commitment to alternative transit, and which can positively impact city identity and open economic opportunities.

Trailheads & Access Points

It is also vital to provide users access to trails. There are two ways to approach this. First, formal trailheads may be developed to include parking, bike racks, signage, restrooms, drinking water, a trail map, and other amenities. A trailhead is most appropriate to provide access to trails that serve a higher volume of users at destinations reached by automobile. The second approach involves merely providing a trail access point, usually without the extensive amenities found at a trailhead. Trail access points such as this are more appropriate in residential or commercial areas where users are more likely to walk or ride a bicycle to reach the trail. Trailhead and access points should be primary points of interest on any trails mapping. Developing consistent trailheads helps connect residents to the future trail system.

Map & App Resources

By making trail maps, available users may enjoy trails with greater confidence and with a better understanding of distances, access points, amenities, and the system. Even with a developing trail system, such a trail map can provide valuable information to users. A great example is from the City of Farmington, NM. In this case, they created a bike map (see the following graphic) for the community, which includes various trail types to add bike paths and bike routes. In addition to showing streets with bicycle paths and safe on-street bike routes, the Farmington map also includes information about trail ownership, helpful as it displays some trails within easements or even on private land with use

agreements. As the trail system evolves, this map should be updated to produce newer versions for distribution to users.

Example Illustration: trail and bicycle map to users with a host of information about trails, bike paths, and bike routes.

Another way to provide a trail map to users is through web-based smartphone technologies. Maps made available on this type of platform are more dynamic for users, always on hand, and can be easily updated. Upfront investment needed for this type of resource may be cost-prohibitive at present. However, it is likely as technologies advance; these costs become more manageable in the future. It may be worth considering the development of web-based maps in long term planning decisions.

APPENDIX B: GRASP® MAPS

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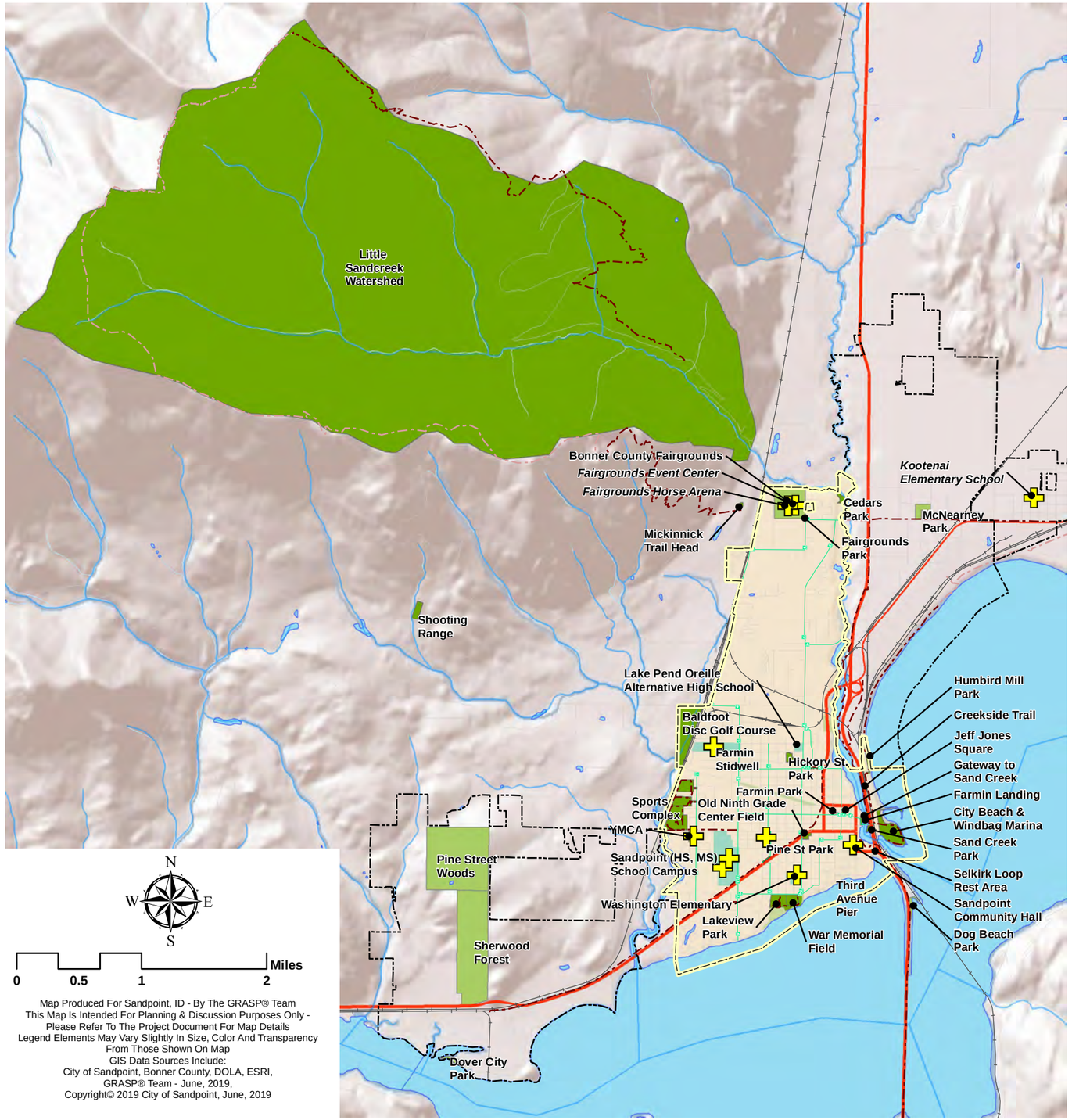
Sandpoint, Idaho

Parks and Recreation System Map



Map Produced For Sandpoint, ID - By The GRASP® Team
This Map Is Intended For Planning & Discussion Purposes Only -
Please Refer To The Project Document For Map Details
Legend Elements May Vary Slightly In Size, Color And Transparency
From Those Shown On Map
GIS Data Sources Include:
City of Sandpoint, Bonner County, DOLA, ESRI,
GRASP® Team - June, 2019,
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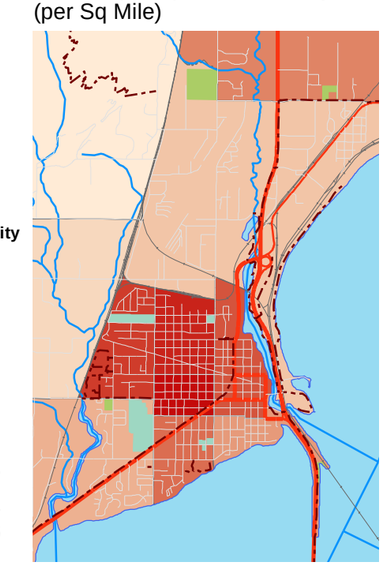
Legend

- Indoor Facility
- Existing Off-Street Trail
- Proposed Trail
- Trail/Route (on-street)
- Railroad
- Stream
- Lake
- Existing Park or Location
- Key Regional Resource
- Other Sandpoint Property
- School
- Sandpoint City Boundary

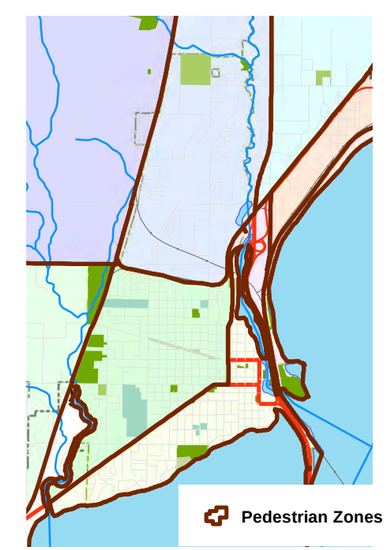
Population Density

- 18
- 19 - 143
- 144 - 298
- 299 - 346
- 347 - 388
- 389 - 526
- 527 - 956
- 957 - 1507
- 1508 - 4427
- 4428 - 4721
- 4722 - 4965

Inset Map: Population Density (per Sq Mile)

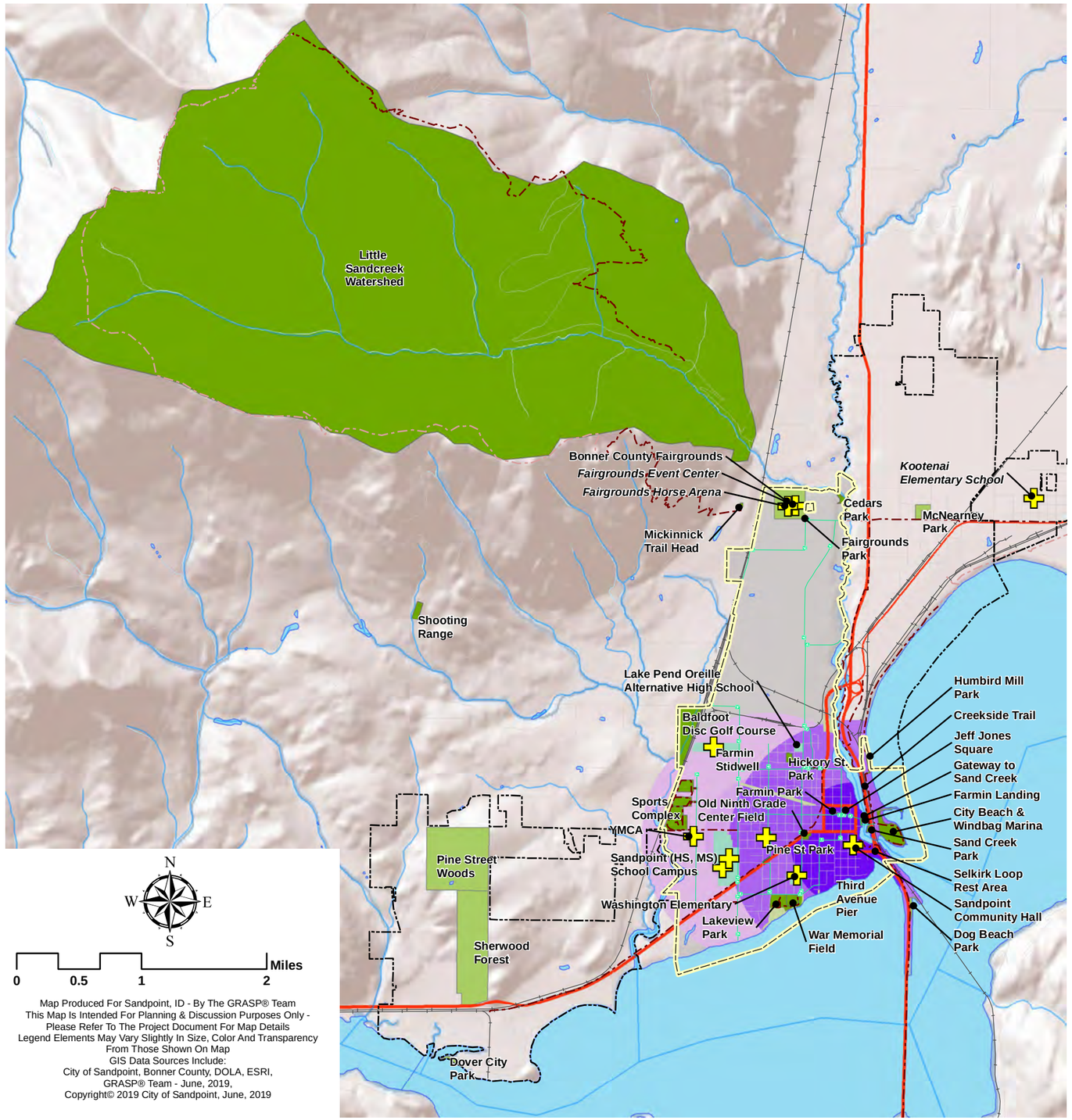


Inset Map: Pedestrian Barriers



Sandpoint, Idaho

Neighborhood Access to Indoor Recreation



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GIS Data Sources Include:
City of Sandpoint, Bonner County, DOLA, ESRI, GRASP® Team - June, 2019,
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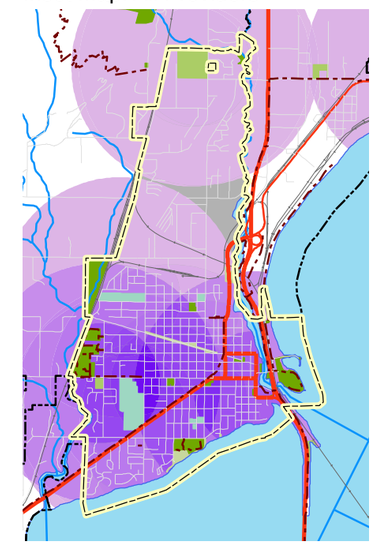
Legend

GRASP Level of Service

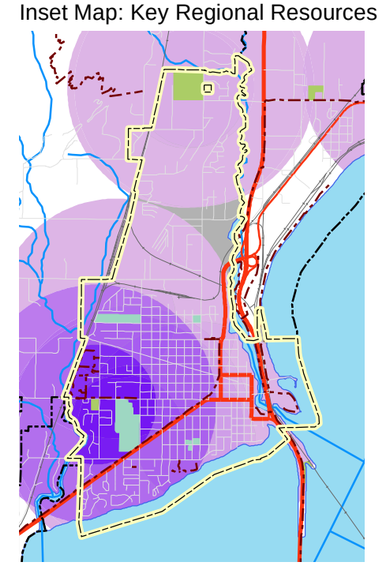
Range: 0 to 652

- Access >1 Mile
- Less Access
- More Access
- Indoor Facility
- Existing Off-Street Trail
- Proposed Trail
- Trail/Route (on-street)
- Railroad
- Stream
- Lake
- Existing Park or Location
- Key Regional Resource
- Other Sandpoint Property
- School
- Sandpoint City Boundary

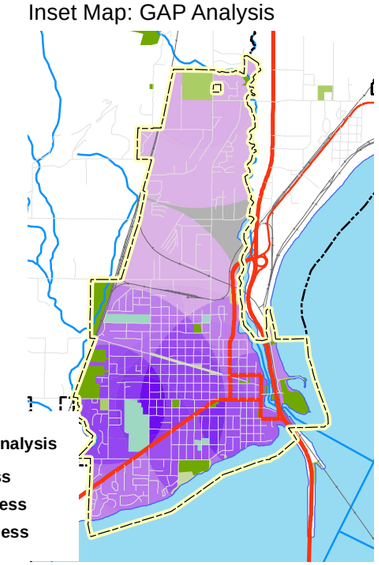
Inset Map: All Providers



Inset Map: Key Regional Resources



Inset Map: GAP Analysis

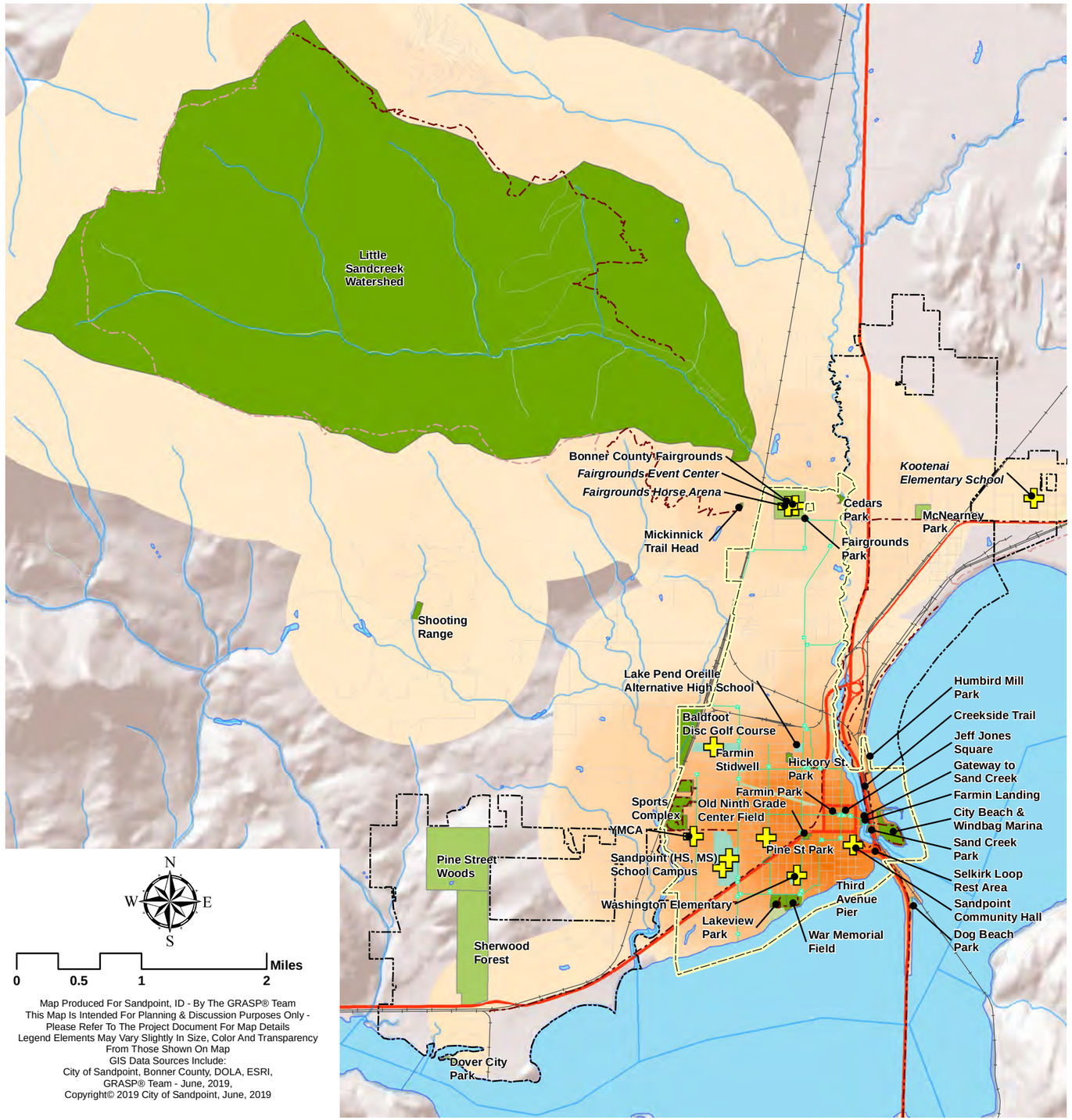


GRASP GAP Analysis

- No Access
- Less Access
- More Access

Sandpoint, Idaho

Neighborhood Access to Outdoor Recreation



Map Produced For Sandpoint, ID - By The GRASP® Team
This Map Is Intended For Planning & Discussion Purposes Only - Please Refer To The Project Document For Map Details
Legend Elements May Vary Slightly In Size, Color And Transparency From Those Shown On Map
GIS Data Sources Include:
City of Sandpoint, Bonner County, DOLA, ESRI, GRASP® Team - June, 2019,
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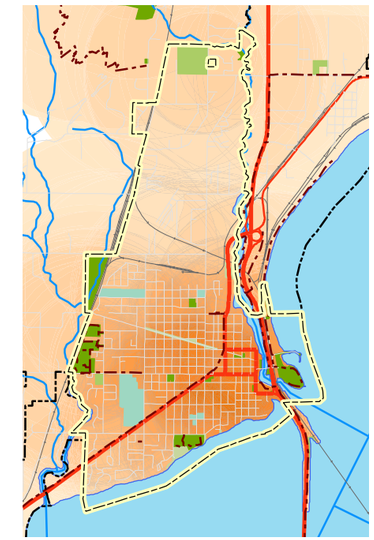
Legend

GRASP Level of Service

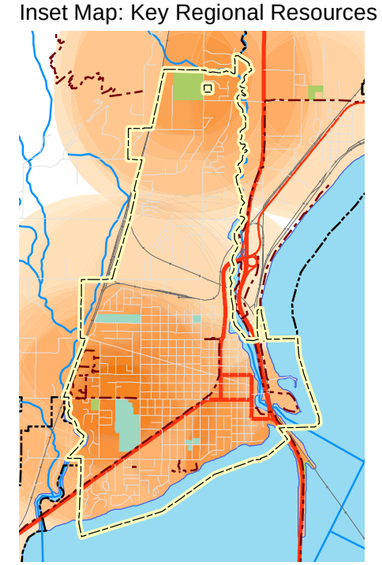
Range: 0 to 652

- Access >1 Mile
- Less Access
- More Access
- Indoor Facility
- Existing Off-Street Trail
- Proposed Trail
- Trail/Route (on-street)
- Railroad
- Stream
- Lake
- Existing Park or Location
- Key Regional Resource
- Other Sandpoint Property
- School
- Sandpoint City Boundary

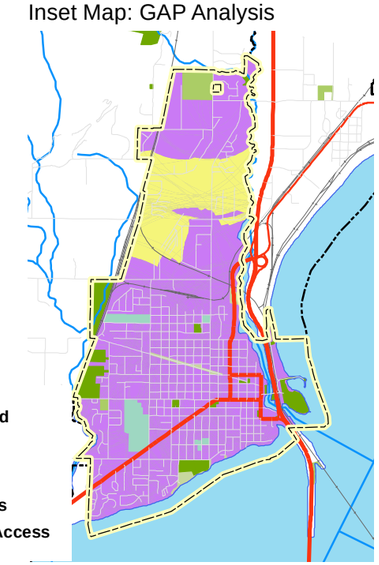
Inset Map: All Providers



Inset Map: Key Regional Resources



Inset Map: GAP Analysis



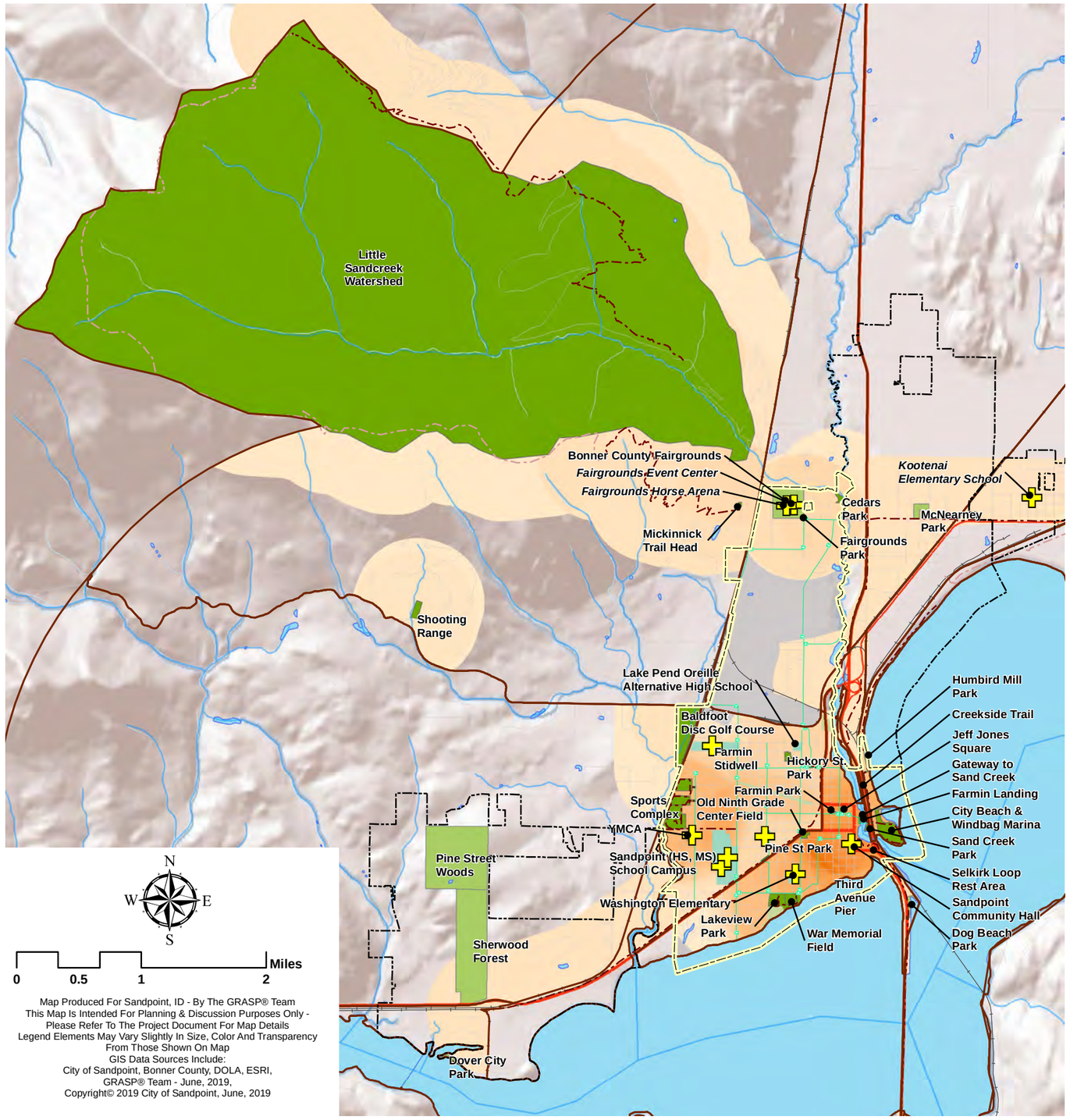
GRASP Threshold

Target Value: 72

- No Access
- Less Access
- Threshold Access

Sandpoint, Idaho

Walkable Access to Outdoor Recreation



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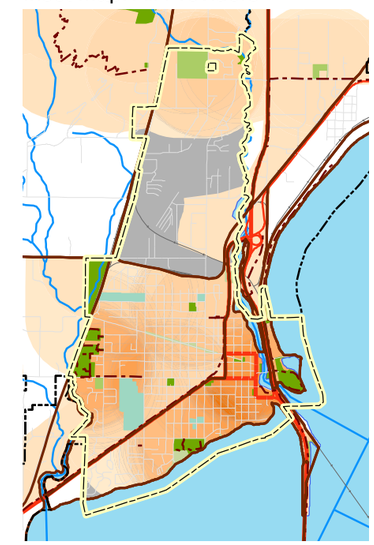
Legend

GRASP Level of Service

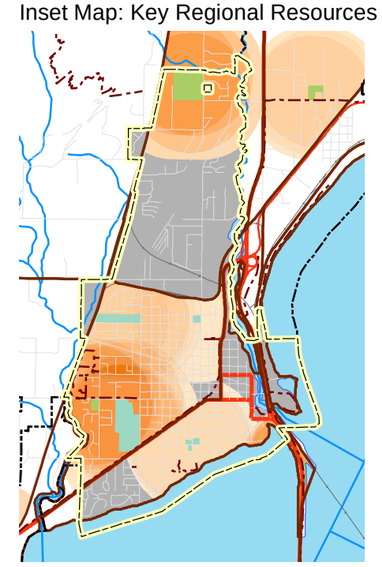
Range: 0 to 468

- Access > 1/2 Mile
- Less Access
- More Access
- Indoor Facility
- Existing Off-Street Trail
- Proposed Trail
- Trail/Route (on-street)
- Railroad
- Stream
- Lake
- Existing Park or Location
- Key Regional Resource
- Other Sandpoint Property
- School
- Pedestrian Zones
- Sandpoint City Boundary

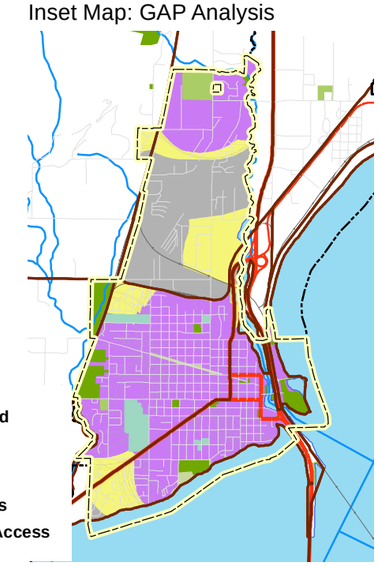
Inset Map: All Providers



Inset Map: Key Regional Resources



Inset Map: GAP Analysis



GRASP Threshold

Target Value: 72

- No Access
- Less Access
- Threshold Access